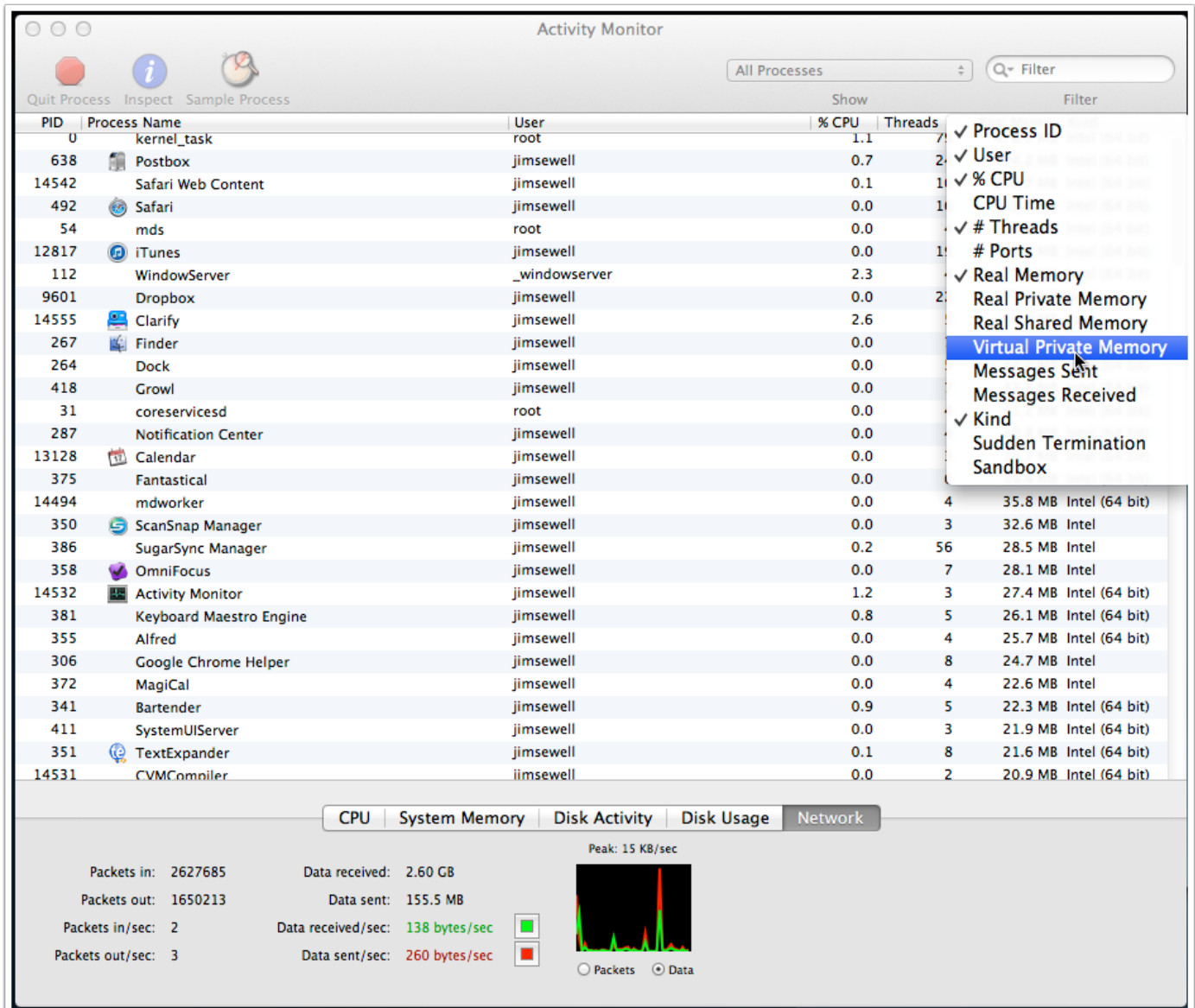


Checking for runaway spotlight indexing.

Step 1. Turn on Virtual Memory by right clicking on the menu bar (PID - Process Name - User - etc.).



Activity Monitor

Click Virtual Memory until the triangle points down (highest at top). Look for mds in the Process Name on the left. If you see it and it's large then it is runaway. In my case it is 1.6 Gigs of memory (using chip memory and disk drive swapping). That's too much.

The screenshot shows the macOS Activity Monitor application. The top bar includes window controls, a search filter set to "All Processes", and buttons for "Quit Process", "Inspect", and "Sample Process". The main area is a table of processes with columns for PID, Process Name, User, % CPU, Threads, Real Mem, Kind, and Virtual Mem. The "Virtual Mem" column is sorted in descending order. The process "mds" (PID 54) is at the top, using 1.6 GB of virtual memory. Other processes like Safari (PID 492) and Safari Web Content (PID 14542) are also listed. At the bottom, there are tabs for "CPU", "System Memory", "Disk Activity", "Disk Usage", and "Network". The "Network" tab is active, showing statistics for packets and data received/sent, along with a small graph of network activity.

| PID | Process Name | User | % CPU | Threads | Real Mem | Kind | Virtual Mem |
|-------|----------------------|---------------|-------|---------|----------|----------------|-------------|
| 54 | mds | root | 0.2 | 6 | 164.9 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 1.61 GB |
| 492 | Safari | jimsewell | 0.0 | 17 | 259.6 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 518.4 MB |
| 14542 | Safari Web Content | jimsewell | 0.1 | 9 | 270.7 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 513.2 MB |
| 638 | Postbox | jimsewell | 13.8 | 24 | 467.9 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 410.8 MB |
| 418 | Growl | jimsewell | 0.0 | 8 | 42.8 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 217.3 MB |
| 299 | SIMBL Agent | jimsewell | 0.0 | 2 | 16.4 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 184.8 MB |
| 351 | TextExpander | jimsewell | 0.1 | 8 | 21.6 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 174.0 MB |
| 836 | storeagent | jimsewell | 0.0 | 4 | 10.0 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 154.2 MB |
| 9601 | Dropbox | jimsewell | 0.1 | 22 | 57.8 MB | Intel | 137.7 MB |
| 64 | fsevents | root | 0.0 | 77 | 12.7 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 98.0 MB |
| 287 | Notification Center | jimsewell | 0.0 | 4 | 40.8 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 86.4 MB |
| 306 | Google Chrome Helper | jimsewell | 0.0 | 8 | 24.7 MB | Intel | 83.5 MB |
| 12817 | iTunes | jimsewell | 0.0 | 19 | 109.3 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 74.8 MB |
| 112 | WindowServer | _windowserver | 1.7 | 4 | 75.1 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 73.1 MB |
| 386 | SugarSync Manager | jimsewell | 0.2 | 56 | 28.5 MB | Intel | 65.3 MB |
| 267 | Finder | jimsewell | 0.1 | 9 | 46.5 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 64.4 MB |
| 58 | loginwindow | jimsewell | 0.0 | 2 | 18.2 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 62.7 MB |
| 411 | SystemUIServer | jimsewell | 0.0 | 3 | 21.9 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 60.4 MB |
| 14555 | Clarify | jimsewell | 0.0 | 3 | 58.0 MB | Intel | 57.8 MB |
| 375 | Fantastical | jimsewell | 0.0 | 6 | 39.4 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 57.8 MB |
| 350 | ScanSnap Manager | jimsewell | 0.0 | 3 | 32.6 MB | Intel | 53.9 MB |
| 341 | Bartender | jimsewell | 0.9 | 5 | 22.3 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 53.7 MB |
| 225 | mysqld | _mysql | 0.0 | 9 | 14.1 MB | Intel | 50.1 MB |
| 14494 | mdworker | jimsewell | 0.0 | 4 | 36.1 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 48.9 MB |
| 13128 | Calendar | jimsewell | 0.0 | 3 | 39.7 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 47.6 MB |
| 254 | UserEventAgent | jimsewell | 0.0 | 5 | 11.7 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 45.3 MB |
| 378 | HazelHelper | jimsewell | 0.0 | 4 | 20.0 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 45.1 MB |
| 265 | talagent | jimsewell | 0.0 | 2 | 14.7 MB | Intel (64 bit) | 41.6 MB |

Network Activity:

- Packets in: 2627982
- Packets out: 1650604
- Packets in/sec: 81
- Packets out/sec: 90
- Data received: 2.60 GB
- Data sent: 155.6 MB
- Data received/sec: 24.3 KB/sec
- Data sent/sec: 6.32 KB/sec

Peak: 24 KB/sec

Spotlight Out of Control in Mac OS X Mountain Lion 10.8, Keeps on Indexing

Go into terminal and enter this command.

```
sudo mdutil -a -i off
```

change off to on to turn it back on.

This stops Spotlight from trying to index every file on your system. If you never search for files using spotlight you'll never miss it.

```
sudo mdutil -a -i off
```