



Microsoft
SQL Server
Microsoft Dynamics NAV

PERCEPTION



REALITY



STRYK System Improvement
Performance Optimization & Troubleshooting

Introduction Jörg Stryk

MS Dynamics NAV (Navision) since 1997
(MCBMSS)

MS SQL Server since 2003
(MCP, MCPS)

Focus on „**NAV/SQL Performance Optimization**“

STRYK System Improvement (since 2006, Certified Dynamics NAV Solution Provider)
Worldwide support of MS Dynamics Partners & Customers

Microsoft Most Valuable Professional
(MVP MS Dynamics NAV)



Book:	<i>“NAV/SQL Performance Field Guide”</i>	(ISBN 978-3-8370-1442-6)
Software:	<i>“NAV/SQL Performance Toolbox”</i>	http://www.stryk.info/toolbox.html
Blog:	<i>“NAV/SQL Performance – My Two Cents”</i>	http://dynamicsuser.net/blogs/stryk/
MSDynamicsWorld.com:	<i>“NAV/SQL Quickies”</i>	http://msdynamicsworld.com/column/sql-server/nav-sql-quickie

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Agenda

NAV/SQL Performance Optimization:

Automatic Block and Deadlock Detection

Abstract:

Blocking and **Deadlocking** unfortunately are major problems with NAV & SQL Server:

Too **long response times**, **timeouts** and **killed processes** can dramatically slow down the user's daily work. But as blocking conflicts are – besides the program code - a matter of workflow, timing and probability it is hardly possible to **predict** those issues during development. So blocks & deadlocks are mostly to be encountered in real life scenarios, hence, it is crucial to **quickly** implement appropriate solutions.

The first step in solving these issues is to thoroughly **measure** and **investigate** them - to identify, quantify and qualify the problems; then sufficient **solutions** could be developed and deployed.

This session will show how blocks & deadlocks could be efficiently tracked and analyzed with commonly available out-of-the box features of SQL Server.

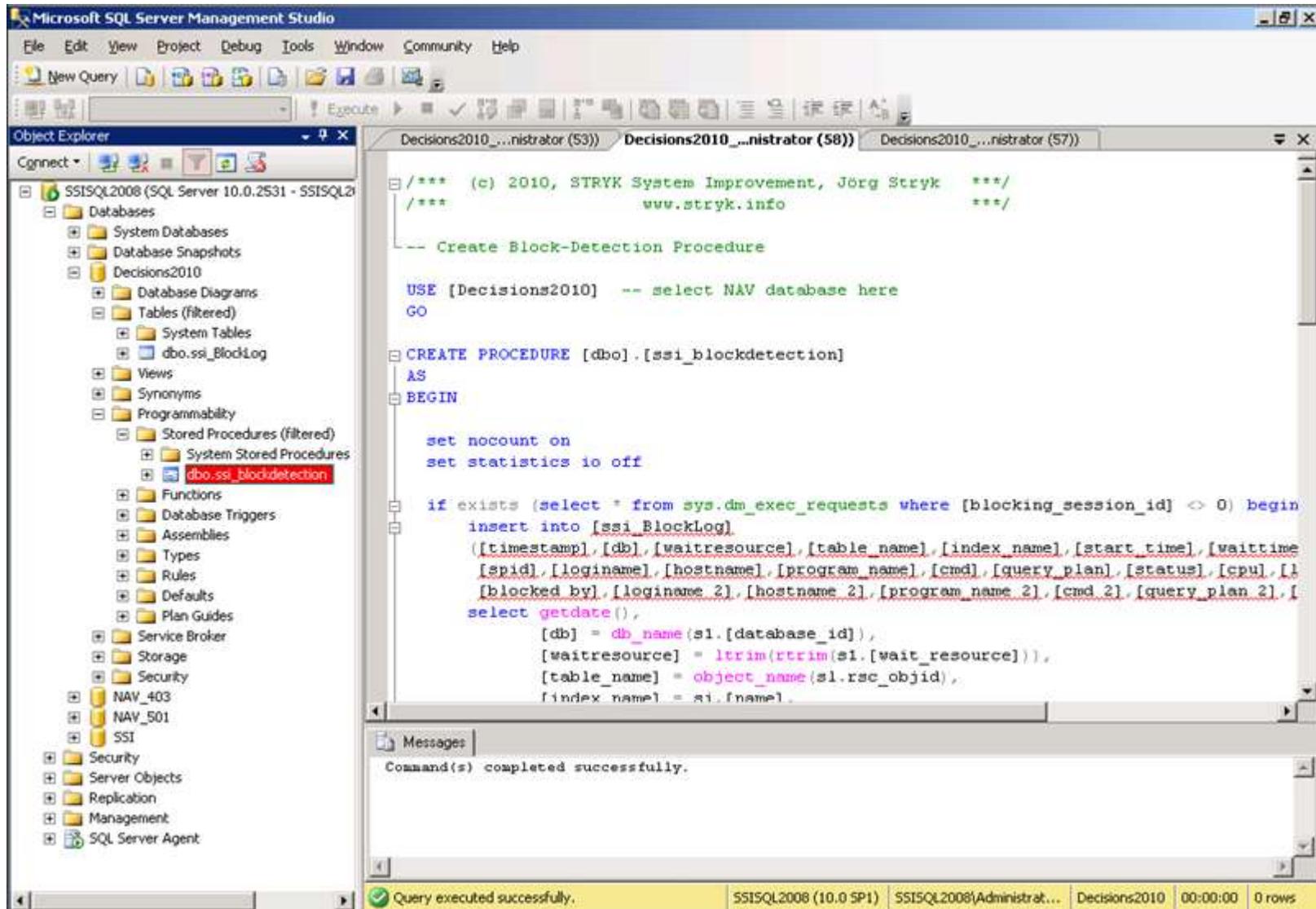
Download this presentation and script templates here:

<http://dynamicsuser.net/blogs/stryk/archive/2010/05/19/decisions-spring-2010-nav-sql-performance-blocks-and-deadlocks.aspx>

Detecting Blocks

- Step 1: Create “container” **table** to store recorded block information
- Step 2: Create **procedure** to gather and store block data
- Step 3: Create SQL Server Agent **Job** for recording
- Step 4: Create SQL Server **Alert** to trigger the recording
- Step 5: Block **Analysis**

Step 2: Create **procedure** to gather and store block data



The screenshot displays the Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio interface. The Object Explorer on the left shows the server structure, with the procedure `dbo.ssi_blockdetection` highlighted in red. The main query window shows the following SQL code:

```

/**** (c) 2010, STRYK System Improvement, Jörg Stryk ****/
/**** www.stryk.info ****/

-- Create Block-Detection Procedure

USE [Decisions2010] -- select NAV database here
GO

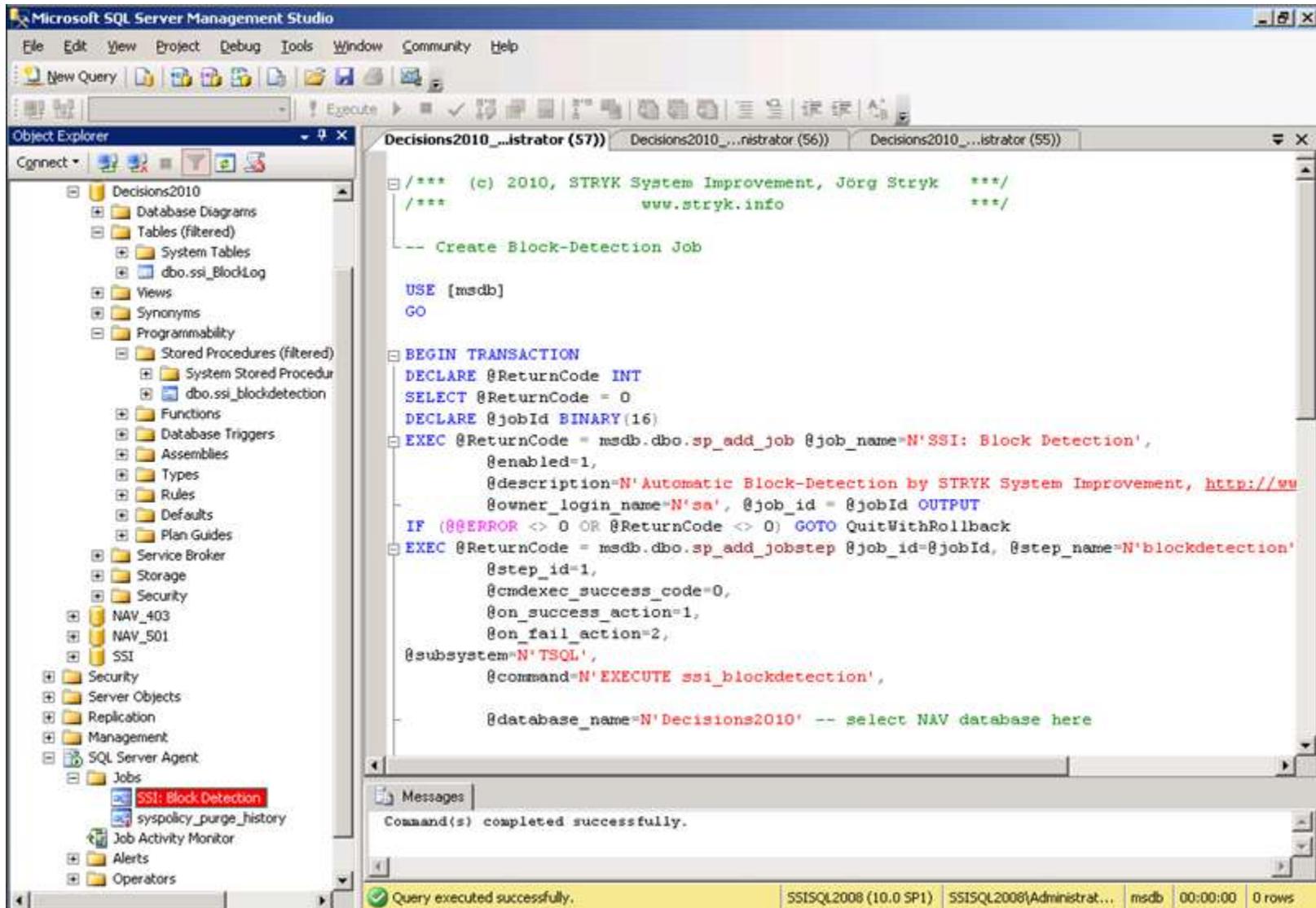
CREATE PROCEDURE [dbo].[ssi_blockdetection]
AS
BEGIN

    set nocount on
    set statistics io off

    if exists (select * from sys.dm_exec_requests where [blocking_session_id] <> 0) begin
        insert into [ssi_BlockLog]
            ([timestamp], [db], [waitresource], [table_name], [index_name], [start time], [waittime],
            [spid], [loginame], [hostname], [program_name], [cmd], [query_plan], [status], [cpu], [
            [blocked by], [loginame 2], [hostname 2], [program_name 2], [cmd 2], [query_plan 2], [
            select getdate(),
                [db] = db_name(s1.[database_id]),
                [waitresource] = ltrim(rtrim(s1.[wait_resource])),
                [table_name] = object_name(s1.rsc_objid),
                [index_name] = s1.[name].
    
```

The Messages pane at the bottom shows the command completed successfully. The status bar at the bottom indicates the query was executed successfully on the SSISQL2008 (10.0 SP1) instance.

Step 3: Create SQL Server Agent Job for recording



The screenshot shows Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio with the following components:

- Object Explorer:** Shows the server instance 'Decisions2010'. Under 'SQL Server Agent' > 'Jobs', a new job named 'SSI: Block Detection' has been created and is highlighted in red.
- Query Editor:** Contains the following T-SQL script:


```

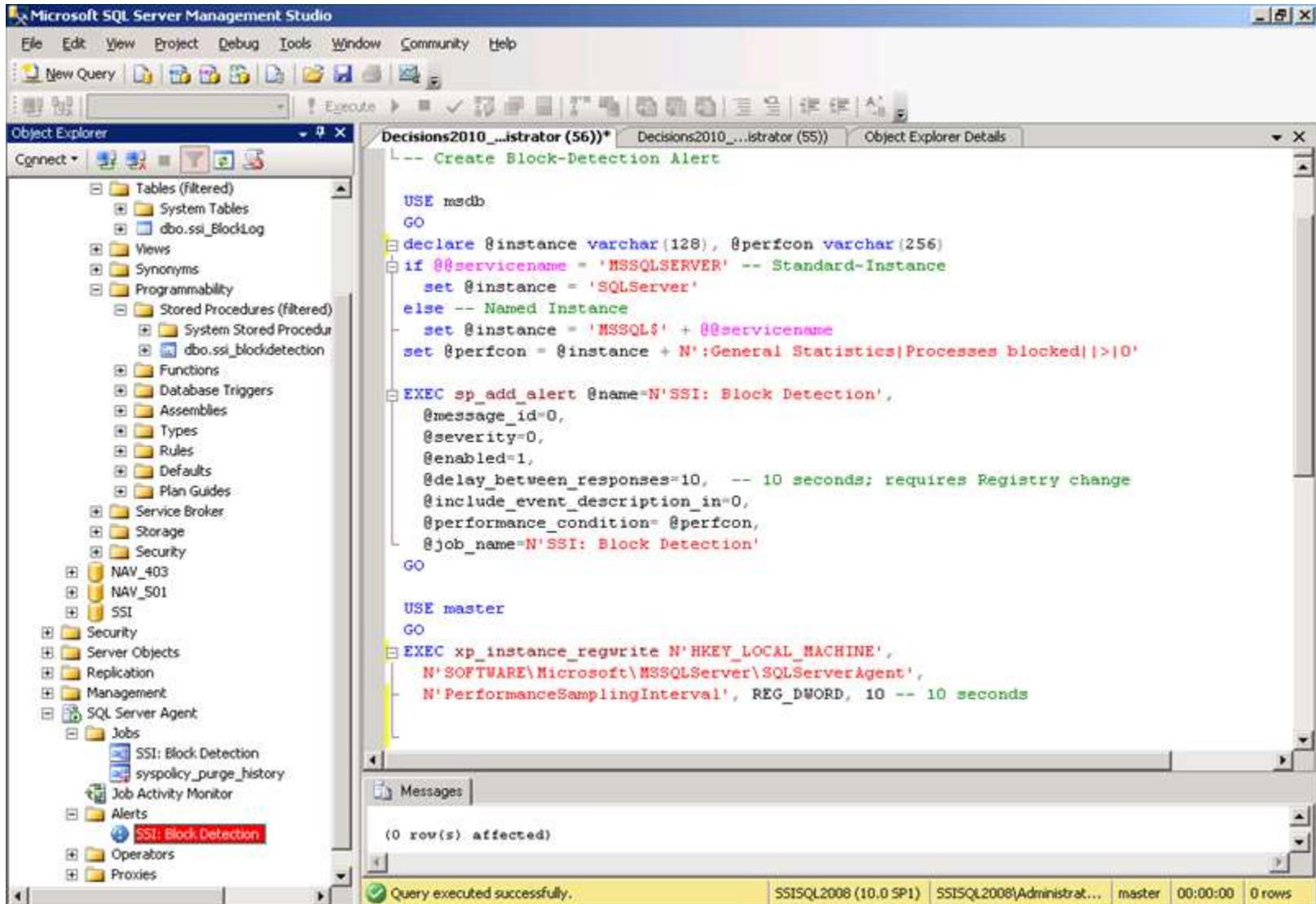
      /-*** (c) 2010, STRYK System Improvement, Jörg Stryk   ***/
      /-***                               www.stryk.info   ***/

      -- Create Block-Detection Job

      USE [msdb]
      GO

      BEGIN TRANSACTION
      DECLARE @ReturnCode INT
      SELECT @ReturnCode = 0
      DECLARE @jobId BINARY(16)
      EXEC @ReturnCode = msdb.dbo.sp_add_job @job_name=N'SSI: Block Detection',
          @enabled=1,
          @description=N'Automatic Block-Detection by STRYK System Improvement, http://www.stryk.info',
          @owner_login_name=N'sa', @job_id = @jobId OUTPUT
      IF (@@ERROR <> 0 OR @ReturnCode <> 0) GOTO QuitWithRollback
      EXEC @ReturnCode = msdb.dbo.sp_add_jobstep @job_id=@jobId, @step_name=N'blockdetection'
          @step_id=1,
          @cmdexec_success_code=0,
          @on_success_action=1,
          @on_fail_action=2,
          @subsystem=N'TSQL',
          @command=N'EXECUTE ssi_blockdetection',
          @database_name=N'Decisions2010' -- select NAV database here
      
```
- Messages:** Shows the message "Command(s) completed successfully."
- Status Bar:** Displays "Query executed successfully." and server information: "SSISQL2008 (10.0 SP1) SSISQL2008\Administrat... msdb 00:00:00 0 rows".

Step 4: Create SQL Server **Alert** to trigger the recording



The screenshot shows the Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio interface. The Object Explorer on the left displays the server hierarchy, with the 'Alerts' folder expanded to show a newly created alert named 'SSI: Block Detection'. The main query window contains the following T-SQL script:

```

-- Create Block-Detection Alert

USE msdb
GO

declare @instance varchar(128), @perfcon varchar(256)
if @@servicename = 'MSSQLSERVER' -- Standard-Instance
    set @instance = 'SQLServer'
else -- Named Instance
    set @instance = 'MSSQL$' + @@servicename
set @perfcon = @instance + N':General Statistics|Processes blocked|>|0'

EXEC sp_add_alert @name=N'SSI: Block Detection',
    @message_id=0,
    @severity=0,
    @enabled=1,
    @delay_between_responses=10, -- 10 seconds; requires Registry change
    @include_event_description_in=0,
    @performance_condition= @perfcon,
    @job_name=N'SSI: Block Detection'
GO

USE master
GO

EXEC xp_instance_regwrite N'HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE',
    N'SOFTWARE\Microsoft\MSSQLServer\SQLServerAgent',
    N'PerformanceSamplingInterval', REG_DWORD, 10 -- 10 seconds
    
```

The Messages pane at the bottom shows "(0 row(s) affected)". The status bar at the bottom indicates "Query executed successfully." and shows the current context as "SSISQL2008 (10.0 SP1) SSISQL2008\Administrat... master 00:00:00 0 rows".

Detecting Blocks

How it works ...

Whenever a process gets blocked the *Performance Counter* “**SQL Server: General Statistics – Processes blocked**” will count them.

If this number raises above the value 0 (zero) the *Alert* “**SSI: Block Detection**” is triggered. The Alert responds with running the *Job* “**SSI: Block Detection**” which executes the *Stored Procedure* “**ssi_blockdetection**”.

This SP collects all relevant information about the block – *who is blocking whom, where, when and how* - and saves this into *Table* “**ssi_BlockLog**”.

Hence, a fully automatic and event-triggered block detection process is established!

Then the recorded data could be **analyzed** to determine frequent/recurring problems, affected queries and users and much more.

Step 5: Block Analysis

Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio

File Edit View Query Project Debug Tools Window Community Help

Decisions2010 Execute

Object Explorer Details

```

-- Investigate Blocks

USE [Decisions2010] -- select NAV database here
GO

-- Blocks per Resource, Blocked User and Blocking User
SELECT [db],

```

Results Messages

	db	timestamp	waitresource	table_name	index_name	blocked_login	blocking_login	count	max_duration	avg_duration
1	Decisions2010	2010-03-09 14:25:00.000	KEY: 8:720575941122...	SSI 501\$Sales Header	\$1	User_2	User_1	1	45968	25132
2	Decisions2010	2010-03-09 14:26:00.000	KEY: 8:720575941139...	SSI 501\$Purchase Line	\$1	User_1	User_2	1	24946	20057
3	Decisions2010	2010-03-09 14:27:00.000	KEY: 8:720575941135...	SSI 501\$Purchase Header	\$1	User_2	User_1	1	37654	23332
4	Decisions2010	2010-03-09 14:28:00.000	KEY: 8:720575941128...	SSI 501\$Sales Line	\$1	User_1	User_2	1	11315	6311

	db	time	blocks_per_hour
1	Decisions2010	2010-03-09 14:00:00.000	4

	query	occurrence
1	[@P1 int,@P2 varchar(20)]SELECT 'timestamp','Document Type','No.','Sell-to Customer No.','Bill-to Customer No.','Bill-to Name','Bill-to Name 2...	5
2	[@P1 int,@P2 varchar(20)]SELECT * FROM "Decisions2010"."dbo"."SSI 501\$Purchase Header" WITH (UPDLOCK, REPEATABLEREAD) WHERE ...	4
3	[@P1 int,@P2 varchar(20),@P3 int]SELECT * FROM "Decisions2010"."dbo"."SSI 501\$Purchase Line" WITH (UPDLOCK, REPEATABLEREAD) WH...	2
4	[@P1 int,@P2 varchar(20),@P3 int]SELECT * FROM "Decisions2010"."dbo"."SSI 501\$Sales Line" WITH (UPDLOCK, REPEATABLEREAD) WHER...	2

Query executed successfully.

SSISQL2008 (10.0 SP1) SSISQL2008\Administrat... Decisions2010 00:00:00 1 rows

Detecting Deadlocks

- Step 1: Create SQL Profiler **Trace** for Deadlocks
- Step 2: Create SQL Server Agent **Job** to start trace
- Step 3: Extract “**Deadlock Graphs**”
- Step 4: Deadlock **Analysis**

Step 1: Create SQL Profiler Trace for Deadlocks

Trace Properties [X]

General | Events Selection | **Events Extraction Settings**

Review selected events and event columns to trace. To see a complete list, select the "Show all events" and "Show all columns" options.

Events	SPID	TextData	StartTime	LoginName
Locks				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deadlock graph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Locks
Includes event classes that are produced when a lock is acquired, cancelled, released, or has some other action performed on it.

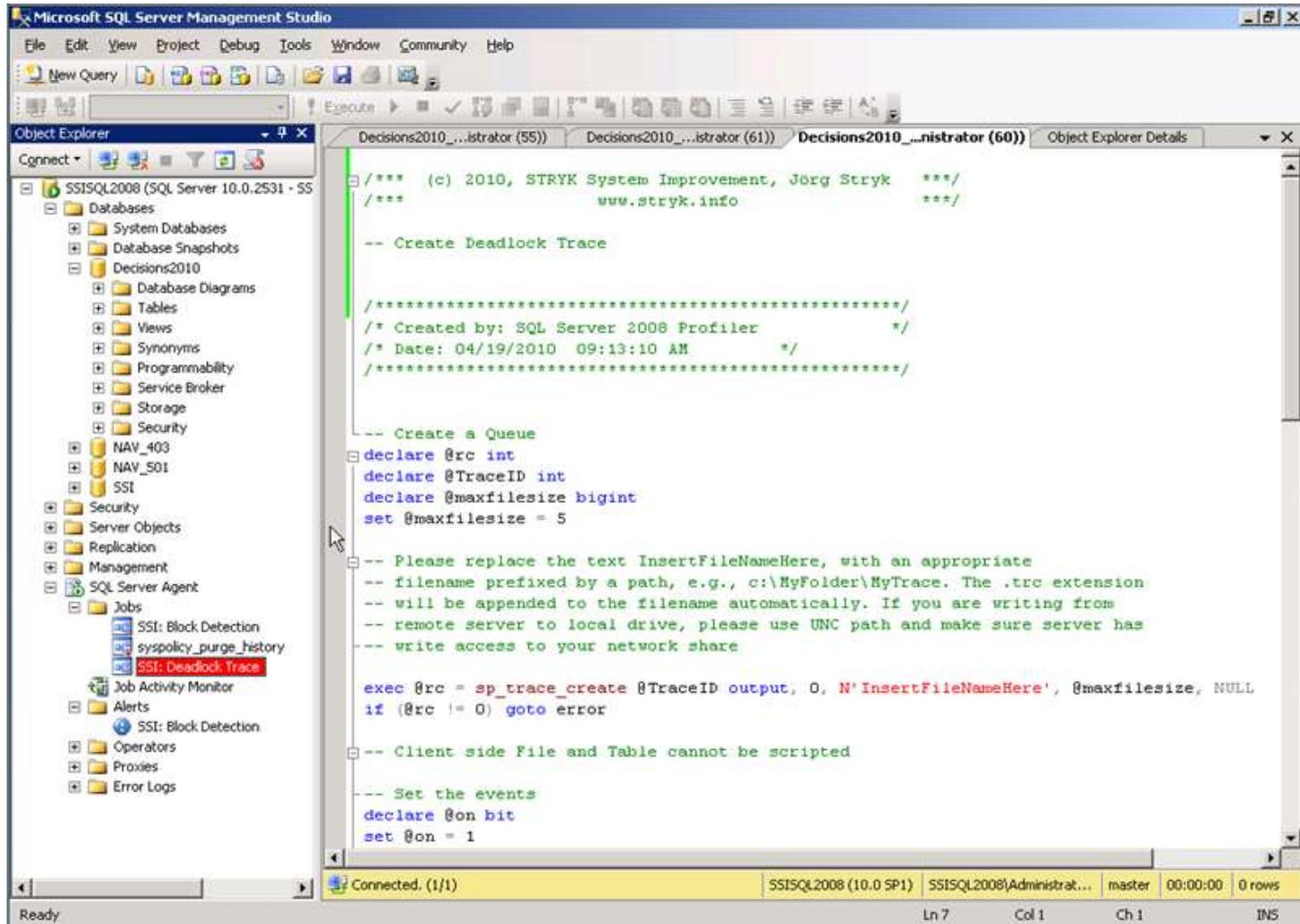
No data column selected.

Show all events
 Show all columns

Column Filters...
Organize Columns...

Run Cancel Help

Step 2: Create SQL Server Agent Job to start trace



The screenshot shows Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio with a query window open. The query is as follows:

```

/**** (c) 2010, STRYK System Improvement, Jörg Stryk ****/
/****          www.stryk.info          ****/

-- Create Deadlock Trace

/*****
/* Created by: SQL Server 2008 Profiler          */
/* Date: 04/19/2010 09:13:10 AM          */
*****/

-- Create a Queue
declare @rc int
declare @TraceID int
declare @maxfilesize bigint
set @maxfilesize = 5

-- Please replace the text InsertFileNameHere, with an appropriate
-- filename prefixed by a path, e.g., c:\MyFolder\MyTrace. The .trc extension
-- will be appended to the filename automatically. If you are writing from
-- remote server to local drive, please use UNC path and make sure server has
-- write access to your network share

exec @rc = sp_trace_create @TraceID output, 0, N'InsertFileNameHere', @maxfilesize, NULL
if (@rc != 0) goto error

-- Client side File and Table cannot be scripted

-- Set the events
declare @on bit
set @on = 1

```

The Object Explorer on the left shows the server structure, with the SQL Server Agent Jobs folder expanded and 'SSI: Deadlock Trace' selected. The status bar at the bottom indicates the connection is successful and shows the current location in the query (Ln 7, Col 1, Ch 1, INS).

Step 3: Extract “Deadlock Graphs”

SQL Server Profiler - [D:\ssi_DeadlockTrace_20100419_095141.trc]

File Edit View Replay Tools Window Help

TextData	LoginName	SPID	StartTime
			2010-04-19 09:44:17...
<deadlock-list>	<deadlock victim=...	sa	24 2010-04-19 09:50:17...
<deadlock-list>	<deadlock victim=...	sa	22 2010-04-19 09:50:44...
<deadlock-list>	<deadlock victim=...	sa	17 2010-04-19 09:51:17...
			2010-04-19 09:51:41...

Export: Script Trace Definition

Extract SQL Server Events

Extract SQL Server Analysis Services Events

Extract Transact-SQL Events...

Extract Showplan Events...

Extract Deadlock Events...



Server process id: 54
Server batch id: 0
Execution context id: 0
Deadlock priority: 0
Log Used: 256
Owner id: 62413
Transaction descriptor: 0x000000002a62a0

Key Lock
HoBt ID: 72057594112245760
associated objid: 72057594112245760
Index name: \$1

Key Lock
HoBt ID: 72057594113556480
associated objid: 72057594113556480
Index name: \$1

Server process id: 56
Server batch id: 0
Execution context id: 0
Deadlock priority: 0
Log Used: 256
Owner id: 61105
Transaction descriptor: 0x00000000c491b0

Done. Ln 2, Col 1 Rows: 5

Extracts all Deadlock events in this trace. Connections: 0

Detecting Deadlocks

How it works ...

Using **SQL Profiler** a trace which records the “*Locks: Deadlock Graph*” event was assembled and exported as **TSQL script**.

This script has been copied into a SQL Agent **Job** “*SSI: Deadlock Trace*” which starts up automatically whenever the Agent service is started, so this job creates a **persistent background trace** “listening” to Deadlocks.

(some more convenient file management was added)

Hence, a fully automatic and event-triggered deadlock detection process is established!

To investigate the Deadlocks the trace has to be stopped, then the “*Deadlock Graphs*” could be **extracted** into XDL file(s).

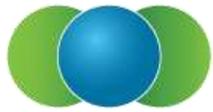
The XDL files contain all relevant information about the deadlock – *who is blocking whom, where, when and how* – as an XML structure, hence the data could be **analyzed** with any utility which is capable to deal with XML (e.g. MS Excel, etc.).

Summary

With 100% **on-board features** of SQL Server at **zero costs**, by simply using little TSQL programming, some completely **automatic** and **convenient** processes to detect and investigate blocking and deadlocking situations could be **easily** established!

The recorded data could be used as **an ideal starting point** for further investigation of NAV's C/AL code and the business processes; thus Dynamics NAV partners and customers could proceed the **troubleshooting** to find and implement **appropriate solutions!**





DECISIONS
SPRING 2010

Questions & Answers

Thanks!

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