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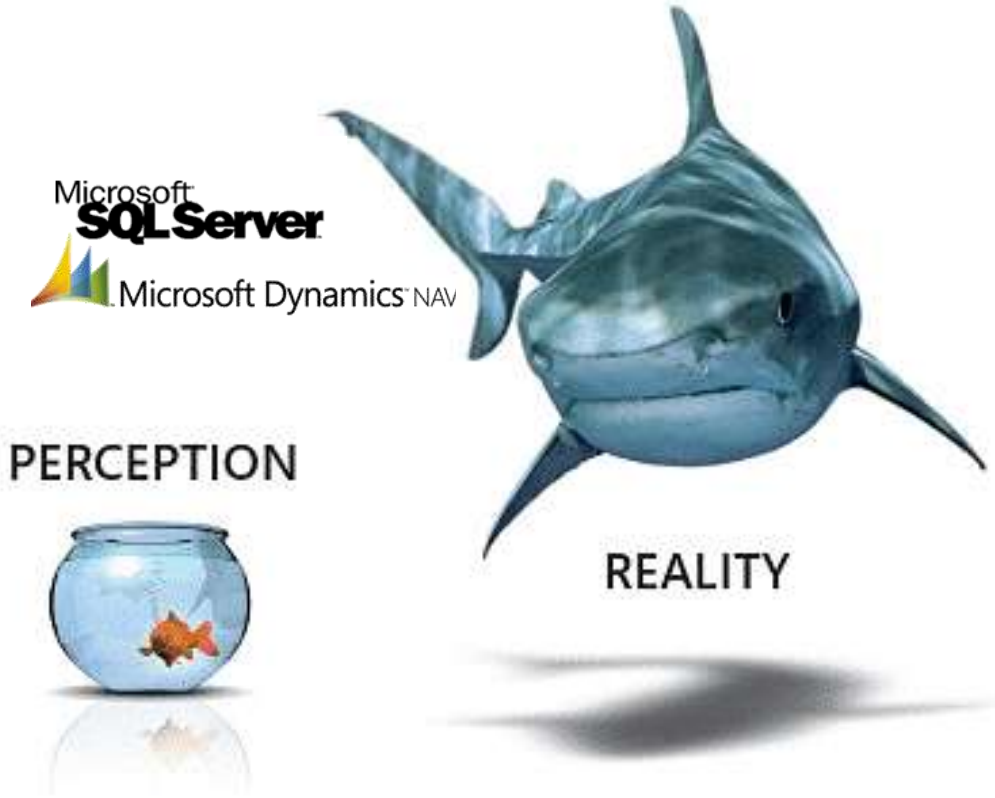

STRYK System Improvement
Performance Optimization & Troubleshooting

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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:	“*NAV/SQL Performance Field Guide*”	(ISBN 978-3-8370-1442-6)
Software:	“*NAV/SQL Performance Toolbox*”	http://www.stryk.info/toolbox.html
Blog:	“*NAV/SQL Performance – My Two Cents*”	http://dynamicsuser.net/blogs/stryk/
MSDynamicsWorld.com:	“*NAV/SQL Quickies*”	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

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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**

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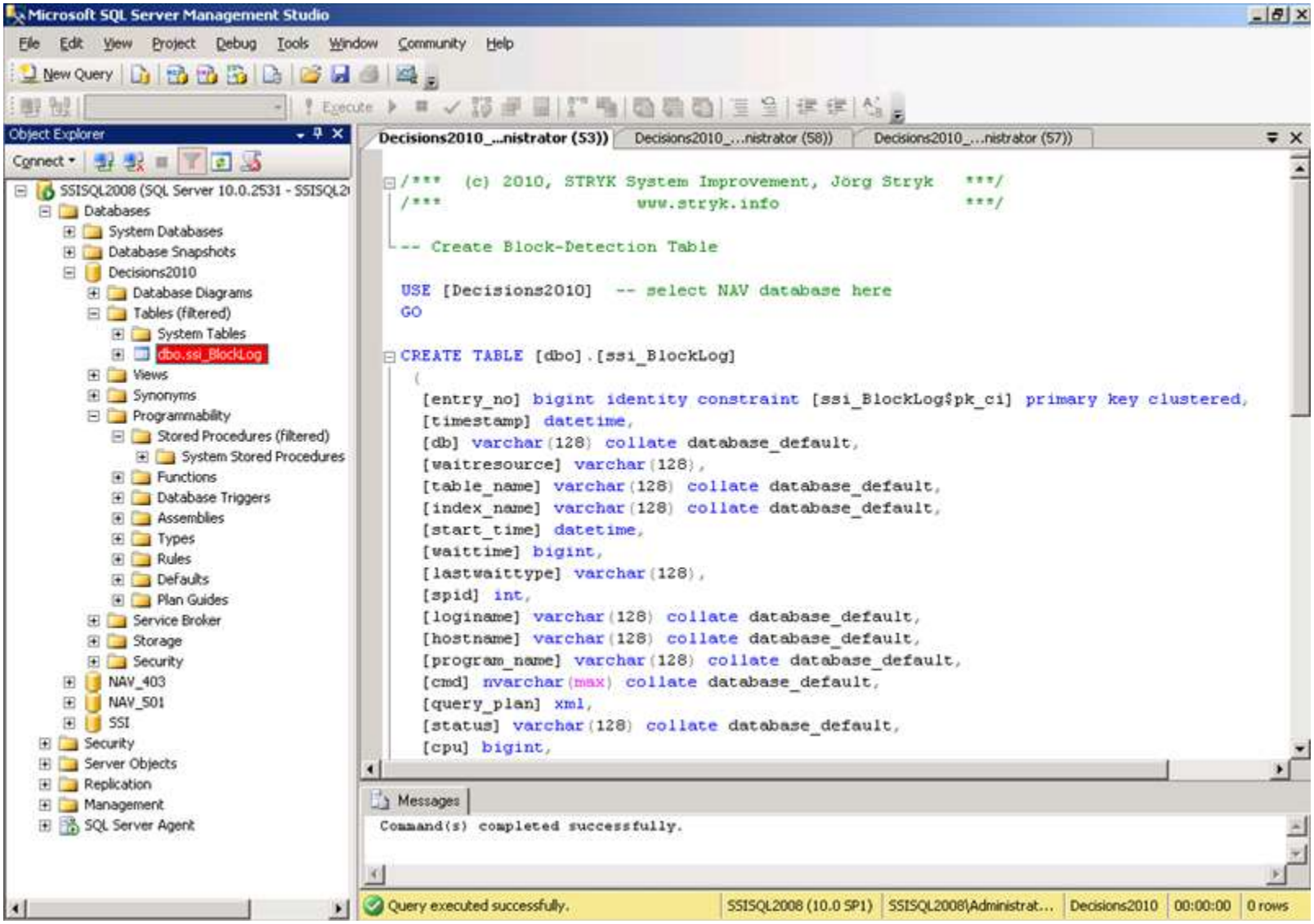
Step 1: Create “container” **table** to store recorded block information



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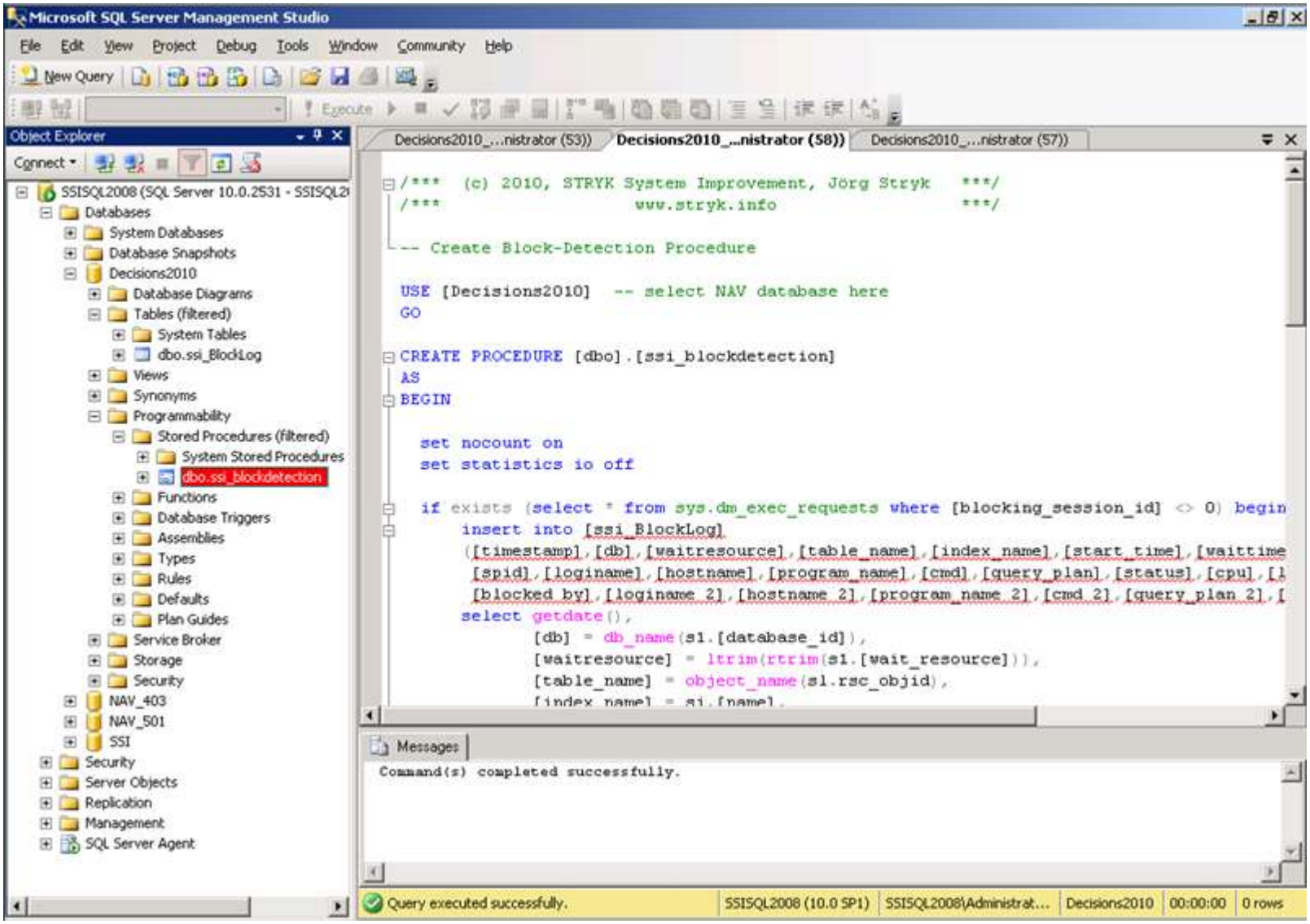
Step 2: Create **procedure** to gather and store block data



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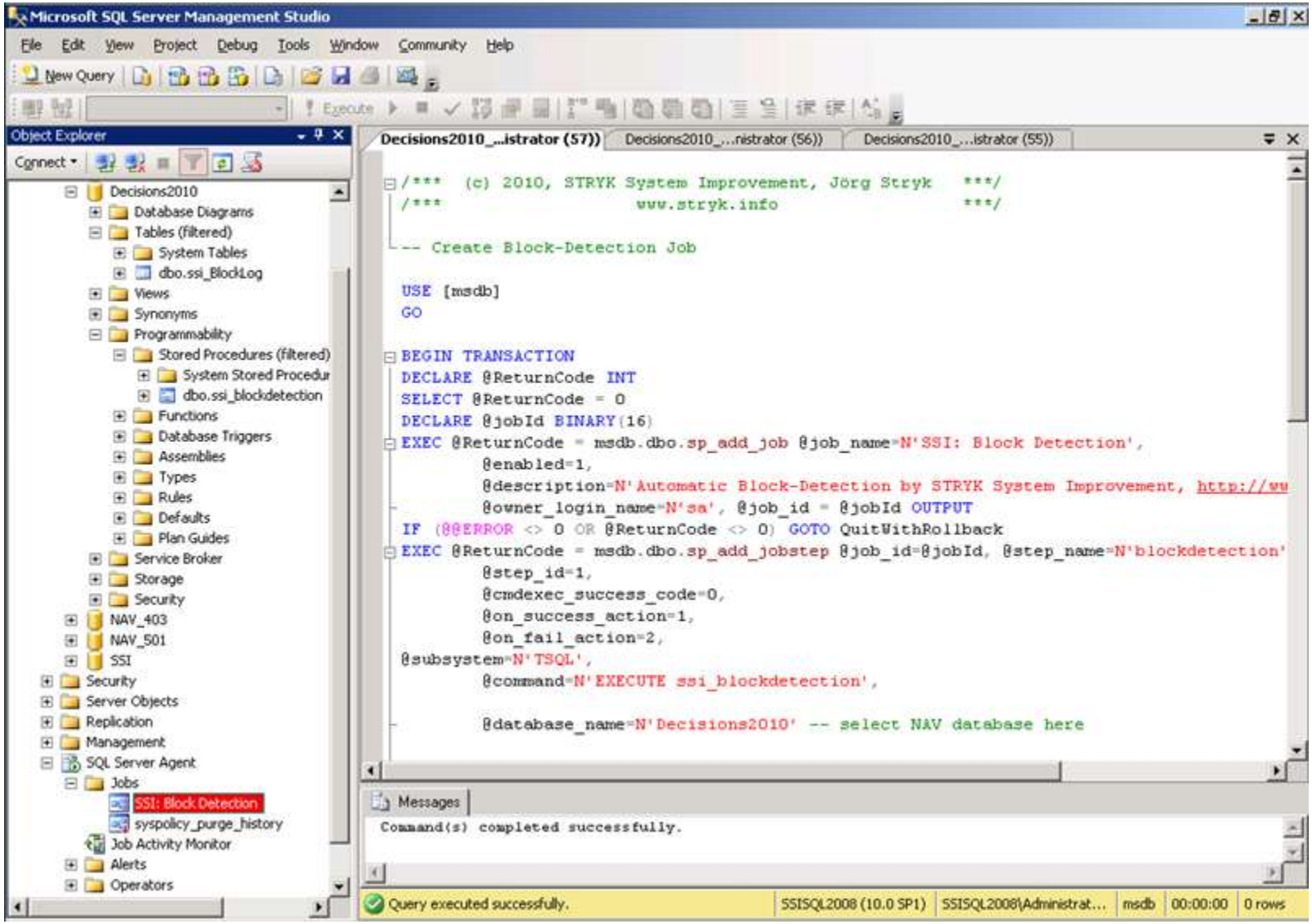
Step 3: Create SQL Server Agent **Job** for recording



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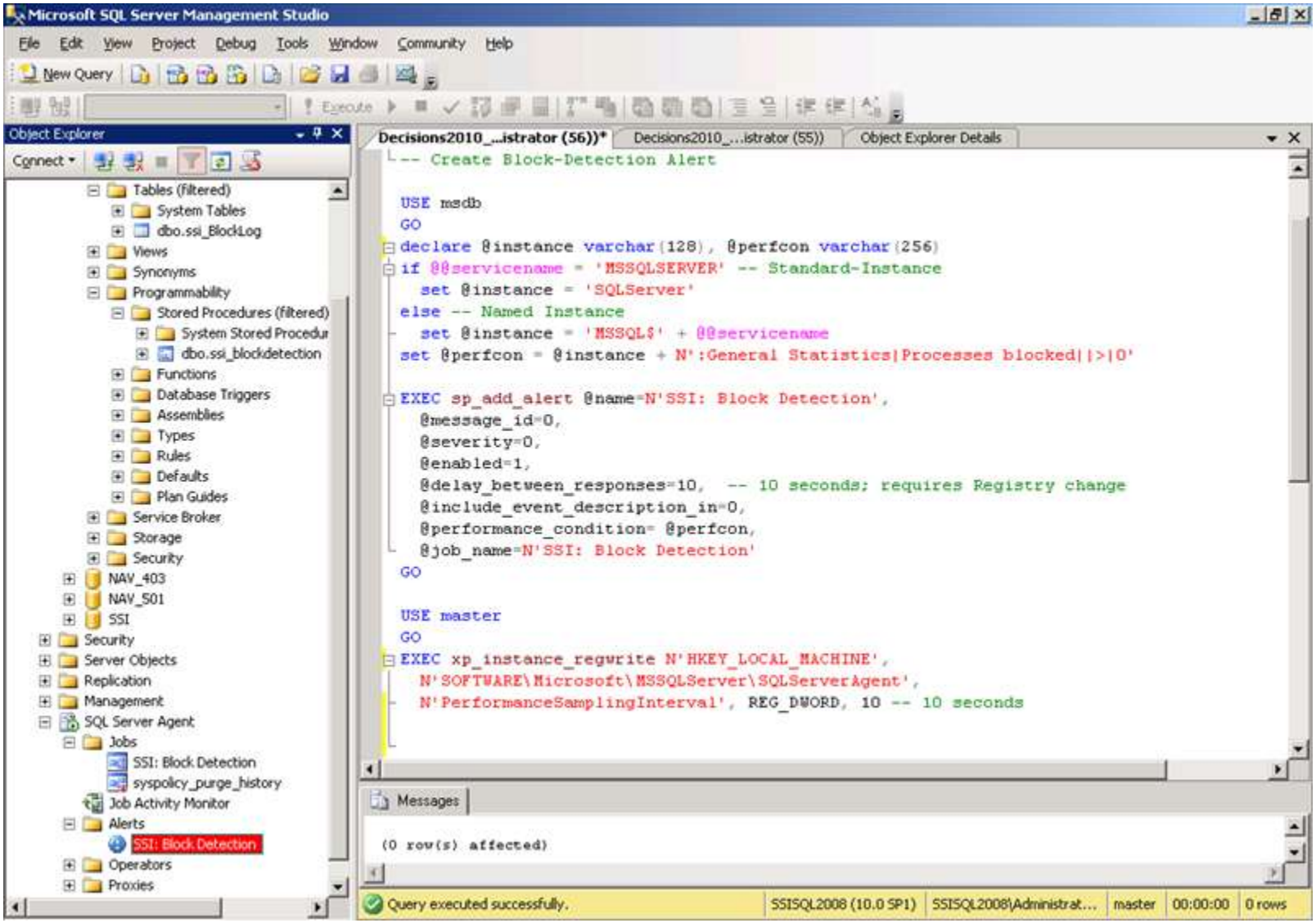
Step 4: Create SQL Server **Alert** to trigger the recording



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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.

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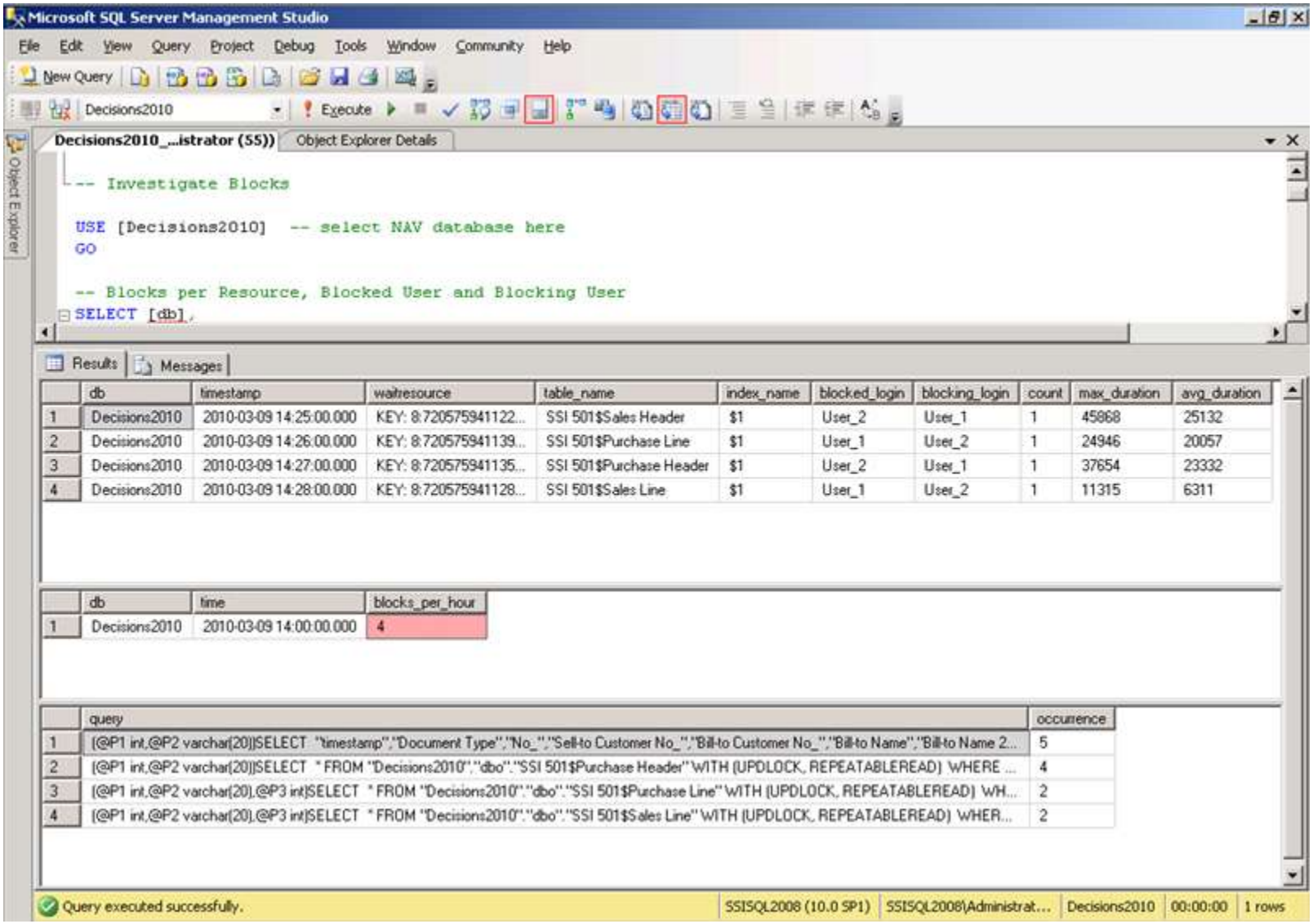
Step 5: Block **Analysis**



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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**

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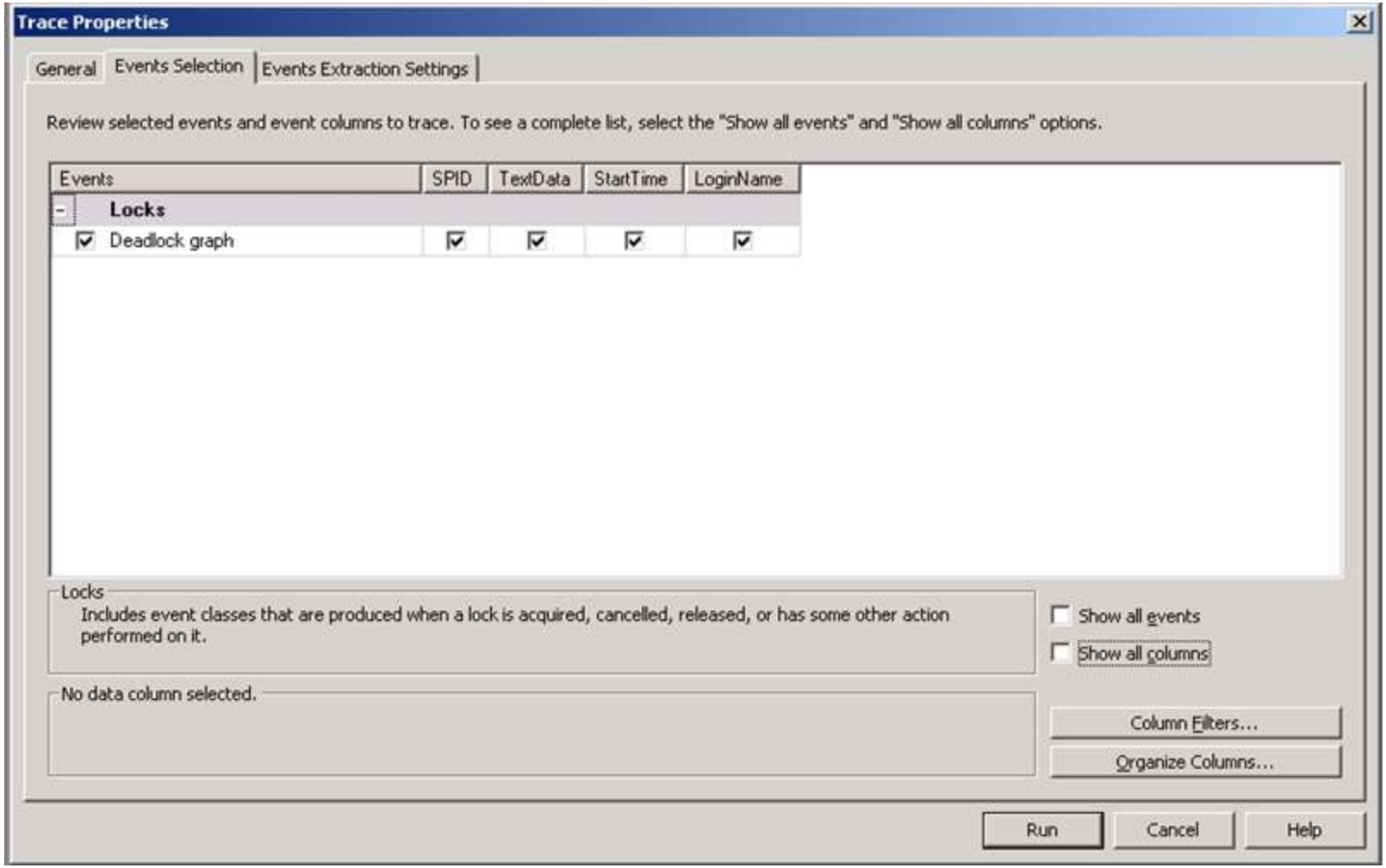
Step 1: Create SQL Profiler **Trace** for Deadlocks



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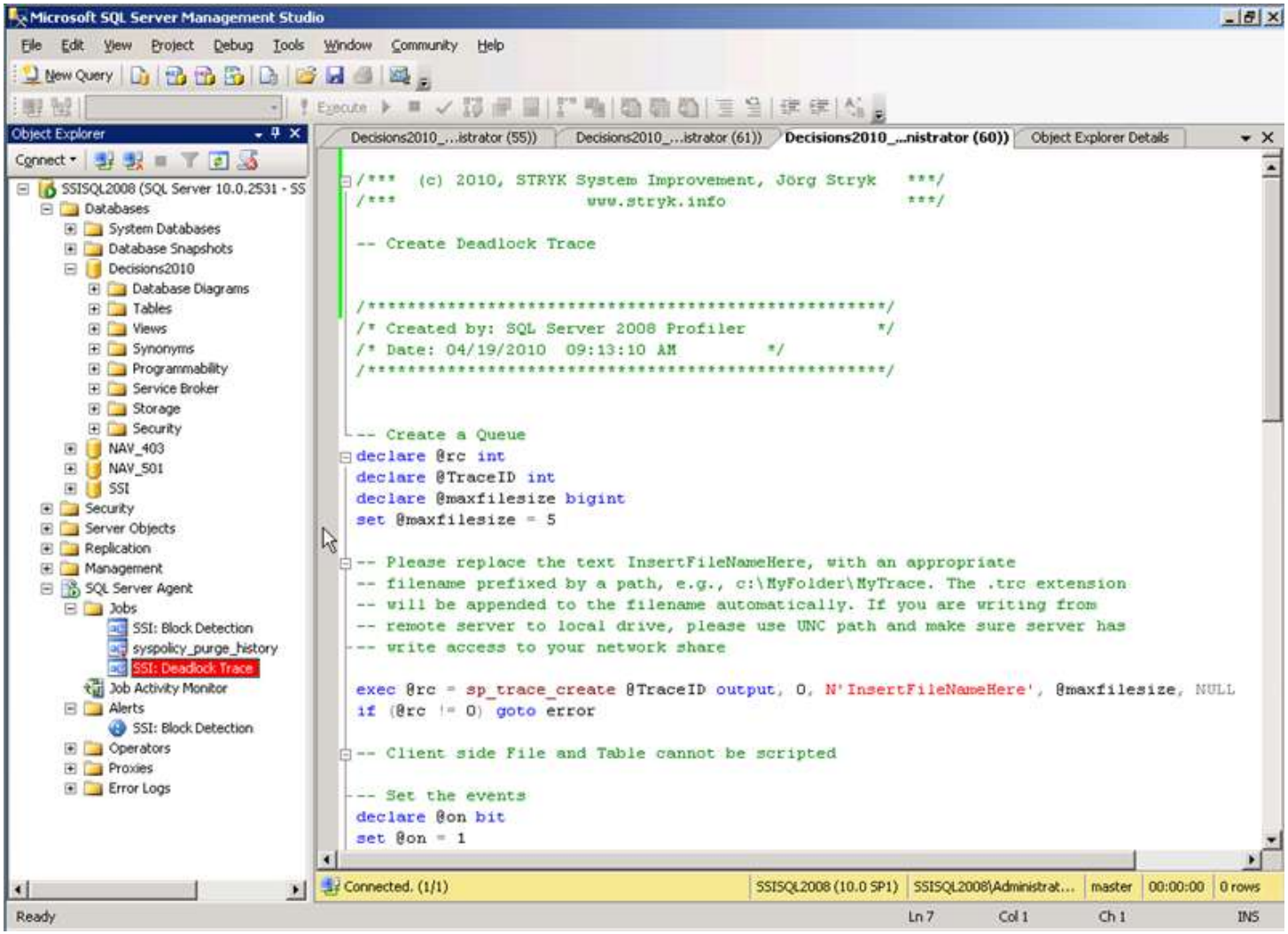
Step 2: Create SQL Server Agent **Job** to start trace



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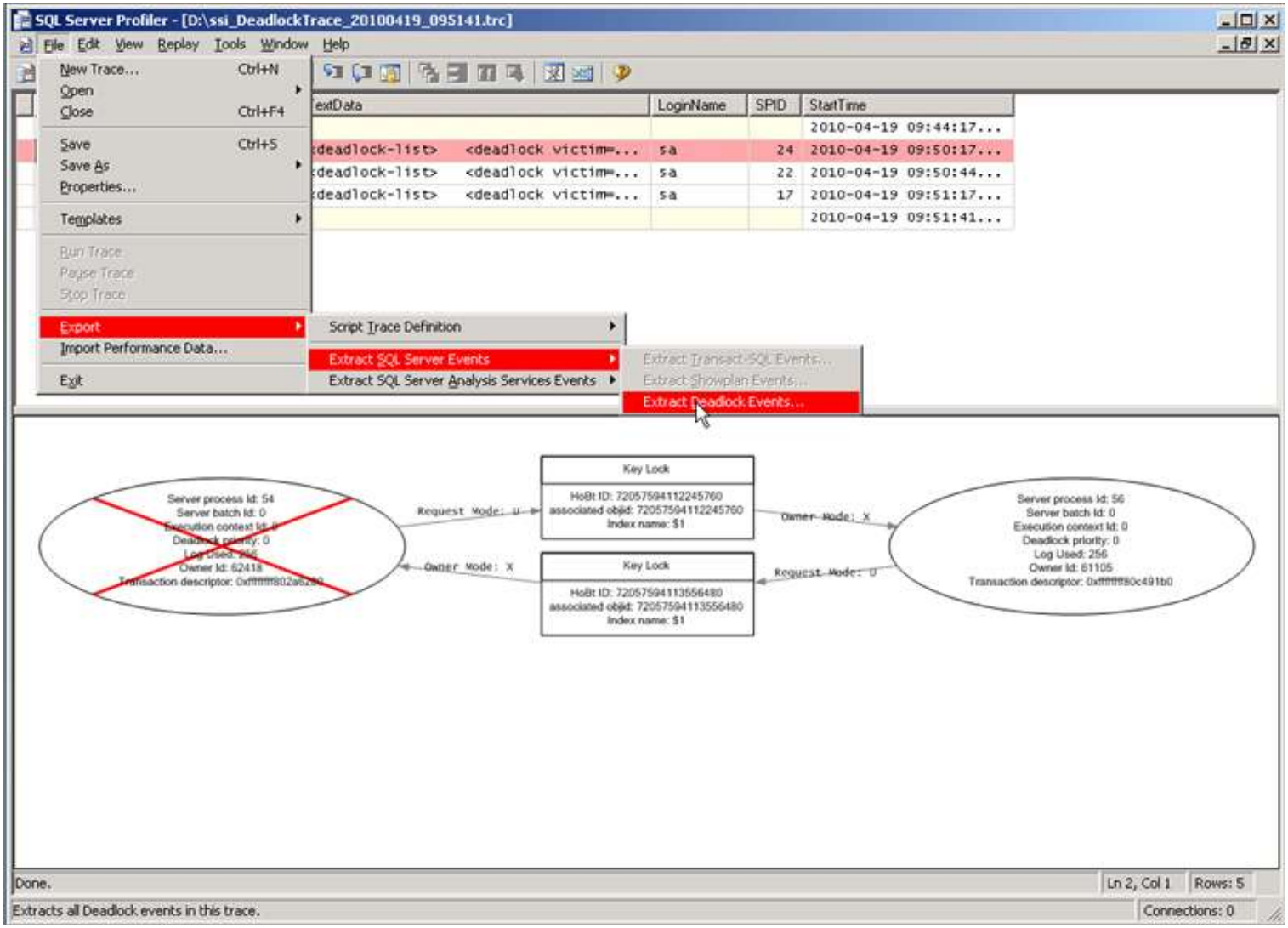
Step 3: Extract "**Deadlock Graphs**"



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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.).

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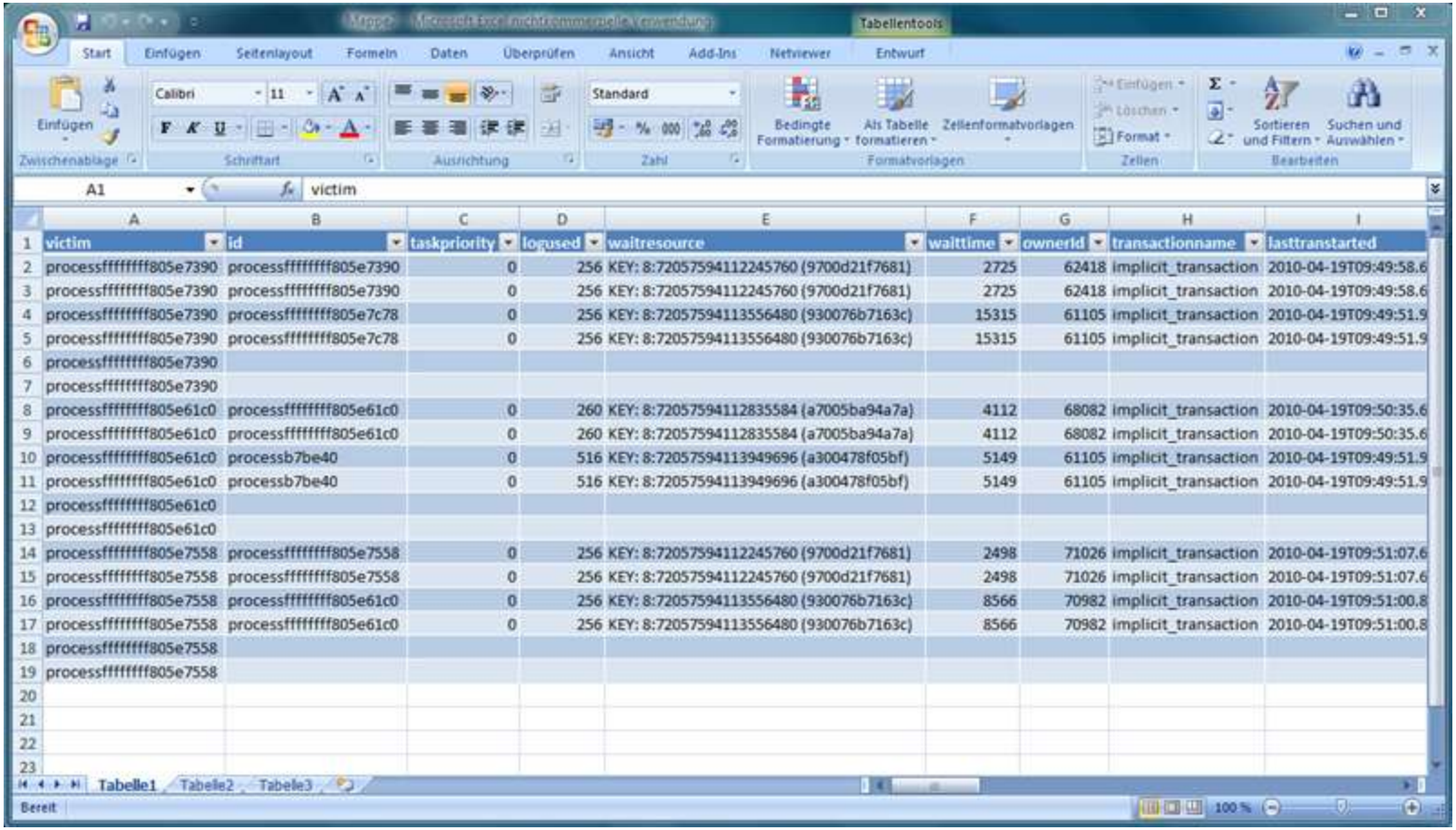
Step 4: Deadlock **Analysis**



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	victim	id	taskpriority	logused	waitresource	waittime	ownerId	transactionname	lasttranstarted
2	processffffffff805e7390	processffffffff805e7390	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594112245760 (9700d21f7681)	2725	62418	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:49:58.6
3	processffffffff805e7390	processffffffff805e7390	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594112245760 (9700d21f7681)	2725	62418	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:49:58.6
4	processffffffff805e7390	processffffffff805e7c78	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594113556480 (930076b7163c)	15315	61105	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:49:51.9
5	processffffffff805e7390	processffffffff805e7c78	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594113556480 (930076b7163c)	15315	61105	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:49:51.9
6	processffffffff805e7390								
7	processffffffff805e7390								
8	processffffffff805e61c0	processffffffff805e61c0	0	260	KEY: 8:72057594112835584 (a7005ba94a7a)	4112	68082	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:50:35.6
9	processffffffff805e61c0	processffffffff805e61c0	0	260	KEY: 8:72057594112835584 (a7005ba94a7a)	4112	68082	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:50:35.6
10	processffffffff805e61c0	processb7be40	0	516	KEY: 8:72057594113949696 (a300478f05bf)	5149	61105	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:49:51.9
11	processffffffff805e61c0	processb7be40	0	516	KEY: 8:72057594113949696 (a300478f05bf)	5149	61105	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:49:51.9
12	processffffffff805e61c0								
13	processffffffff805e61c0								
14	processffffffff805e7558	processffffffff805e7558	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594112245760 (9700d21f7681)	2498	71026	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:51:07.6
15	processffffffff805e7558	processffffffff805e7558	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594112245760 (9700d21f7681)	2498	71026	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:51:07.6
16	processffffffff805e7558	processffffffff805e61c0	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594113556480 (930076b7163c)	8566	70982	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:51:00.8
17	processffffffff805e7558	processffffffff805e61c0	0	256	KEY: 8:72057594113556480 (930076b7163c)	8566	70982	implicit_transaction	2010-04-19T09:51:00.8
18	processffffffff805e7558								
19	processffffffff805e7558								
20									
21									
22									
23									

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**!

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Questions & Answers

Thanks!

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