T-SQL static code analysis: Control flow statements "IF", "WHILE" and "TRY" should not be nested too deeply

1 minute

Nested IF...ELSE, WHILE and TRY...CATCH statements is a key ingredient for making what's known as "Spaghetti code".

Such code is hard to read, refactor and therefore maintain.

Noncompliant Code Example

```
With the default threshold of 4:

IF @flag1 = 1 -- Compliant - depth = 1

BEGIN

IF @flag2 = 2 -- Compliant - depth = 2

BEGIN

WHILE @var1 > 0 -- Compliant - depth = 3

BEGIN

IF @flag3 = 3 -- Compliant - depth = 4, not exceeding the limit

BEGIN

IF @flag4 = 4 -- Noncompliant - depth = 5

BEGIN

IF @flag5 = 5 -- Depth = 6, exceeding the limit, but issues are only reported on depth = 5
```

```
BREAK
END
END
SET @var1 = @var1 - 1
END
END
END
```