



Why XEvent?

SQLTrace and
SQLProfiler are
deprecated

Faster and
scalable

Designed not
to cause server
problems

More events
than SQLTrace
ever had

Targets and
actions make it
powerful

SSMS includes
the basic UI
tooling

XEvents Objects Explained



Event

- Predefined instrumentation points in the code

Actions

- Event independent data to add to the collection
- Ex. sql_text, create_dump_all_threads

Predicates

- Independent fields for filtering
- Ex. database_id, session_id

Targets

- Ring Buffer, Event Counter, Event File

Maps

- maps "codes" to meaningful names
- Ex. wait_type



Xevents Usage Scenarios

- Slow Query Performance

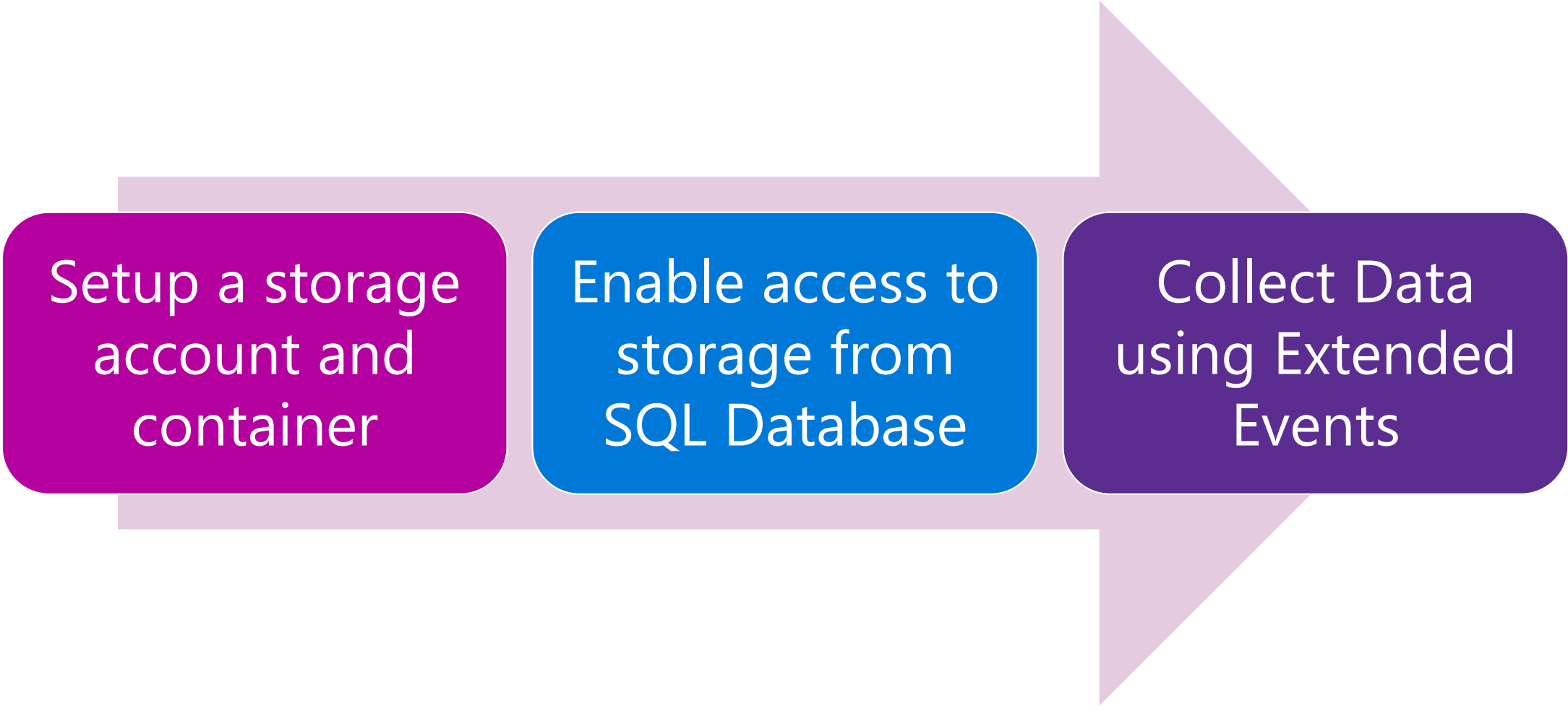
- High Lock Waits

- Blocking

- Deadlocks

- High CPU

How to enable Extended Events



Setup a storage
account and
container

Enable access to
storage from
SQL Database

Collect Data
using Extended
Events



Storage Container Authorizations

- You need to create a Shared Access Signature on the Storage account.
- It provides delegated access to resources in your storage account.
- Grant clients access to resources in your storage account, without sharing your account keys.
- For Xevents you need to Read, Write & List permissions
- Use Azure Storage Explorer or Azure Portal to create SAS Token



Collect Data Using Extended Events

- Create a master key specifying a strong password.

```
CREATE MASTER KEY ENCRYPTION BY PASSWORD = 'xxxxxxx!';
```

- Define the blob storage where the XEL will be save. Use the SAS key that was provided by the definition of the blob storage.

```
CREATE DATABASE SCOPED CREDENTIAL  
[https://xxxx.blob.core.windows.net/xe-container]  
WITH IDENTITY='SHARED ACCESS SIGNATURE',  
SECRET = 'sv=2014-02-14&sr=c&sig=Hz2n9vs%3D&st=2016-01-  
25T23%3A00%3A00Z&se=2016-02-02T23%3A00%3A00Z&sp=rw'
```

- Define the Extended Event
- Start the event and wait to reproduce the issue.
- Once the issue has been reproduced, stop the event.
- You should see XEL files in the storage container in Azure Storage Explorer.
- You can then download to your laptop/local machine