

Deep Dive into Memory-Optimized TempDB

Haripriya Naidu

She/Her

Database Administrator

6/9/2025



Meet Your Presenter



Haripriya Naidu

- SQL DBA with 11 years experience
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect
- Performance tuning specialist
- New Stars of Data 2024

Find me at: gohigh.substack.com

Today's Agenda



The Problem

TempDB contention issues



Memory-Optimized TempDB

What it is and how it works



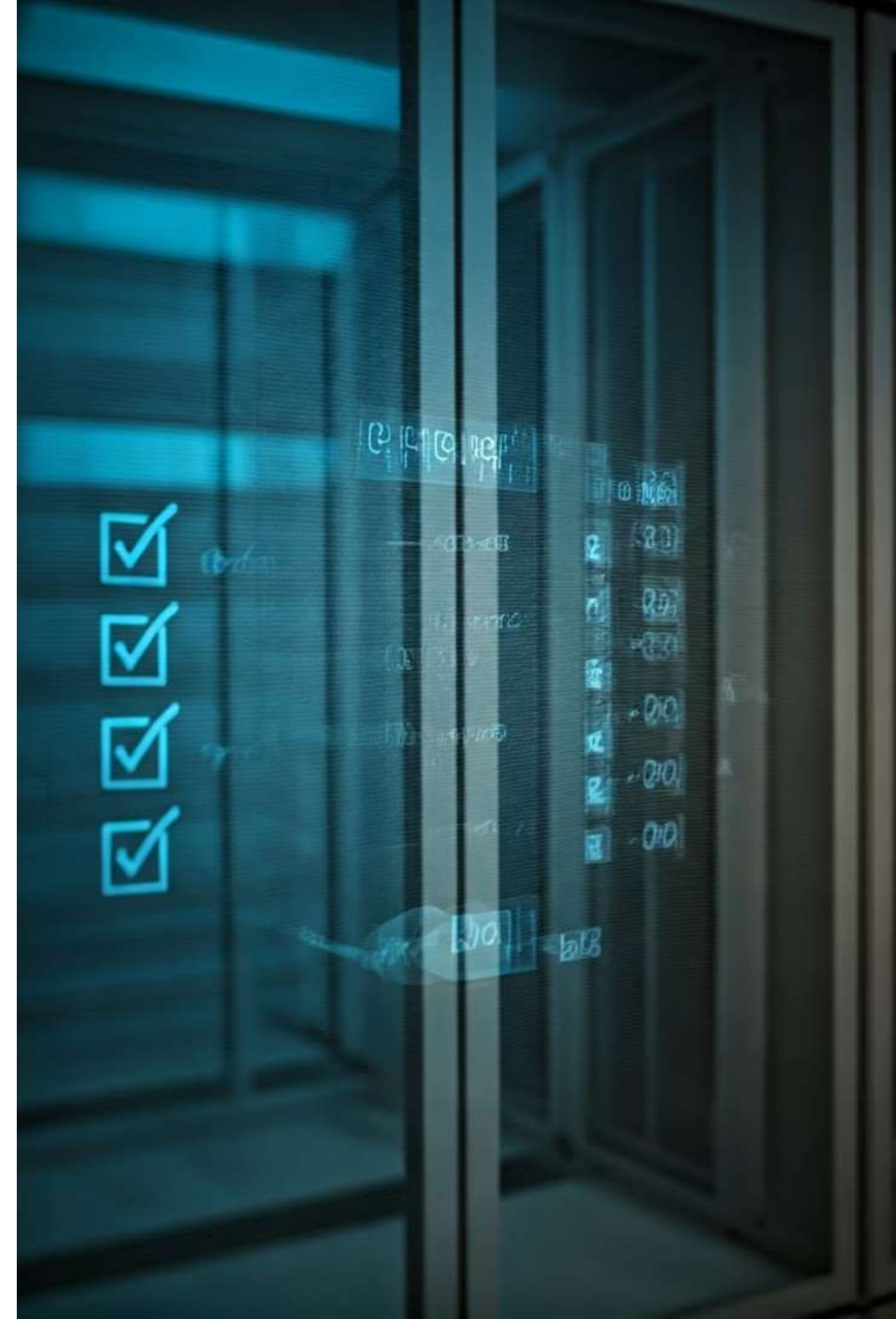
Implementation

How to enable and verify



Performance Impact

Real-world results



The TempDB Problem



TempDB Contention

Common bottleneck in busy systems



Multiple Files Not Helping

Traditional solution insufficient



PAGELATCH Contention

Occurs on system objects



Metadata Bottlenecks

System objects create performance issues



What is Memory-Optimized TempDB?

In-Memory Technology

Uses Hekaton engine

Non-Durable

Optimized for performance

Latch-Free Design

Eliminates contention

System Objects

12 objects moved to memory





Key Feature Benefits

SQL Server 2019+

New feature starting with SQL 2019

12 System Objects

Moves key system tables to memory

Latch-Free Design

Eliminates waiting on metadata operations

Non-Durable

Optimized for TempDB's temporary nature

Technical Implementation

object_id	name	delivered	description
3	sysrscols	RTM	Stores column information like offsets, change frequency, types, and max in-row values.
5	sysrowsets	CU2	Contains a row for each partition rowset for an index or a heap.
7	sysallocunits		Contains a row for each storage allocation unit.
9	sysseobjvalues	RTM	Stores column information like default values.
34	syssehobjs		Stores a row for each object.
40	sysmultiobjvalues		Stores information about entities like column encryption keys.
41	syscolpars		Stores a row for each table/view column and procedure/function parameter.
54	sysidxstats		Stores a row for each index or statistic.
55	sysiscols		Stores a row for each persisted index and statistics column.
60	sysobjvalues		Stores a wide range of properties for entities.
74	syssingleobjrefs		Stores a row for N:1 dependencies (think tying partition schemes to tables).
75	sysmultiobjrefs		Stores a row for N:N dependencies (think sys.sql_dependencies).



Architecture

Leverages In-Memory OLTP



System Tables

12 critical objects moved to memory



Performance Impact

Dramatically reduces contention

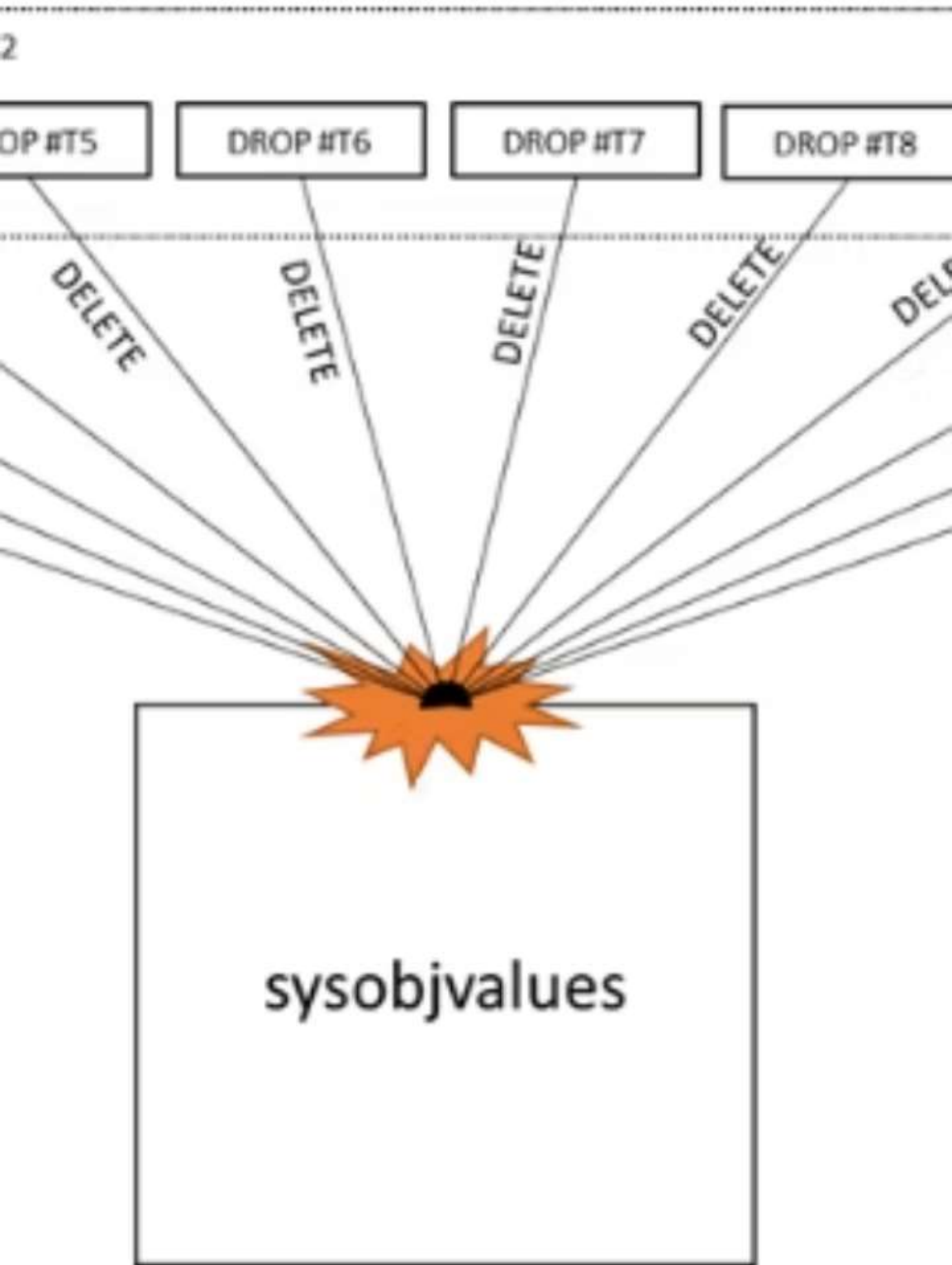
What It Solves (And Doesn't)

Solves

- PAGELATCH on system objects
- Metadata contention
- Temp table creation bottlenecks

Doesn't Solve

- User object contention
- PAGELATCH on user temp tables
- I/O bottlenecks



Identifying Metadata Contention



Look for
PAGELATCH
waits

On system object pages



Temp table
churn

Frequent create/drop
operations



Wait statistics

High PAGELATCH_UP
on TempDB



DMV queries

`sys.dm_os_waiting_tasks`

How to Enable the Feature

Enable Trace Flag

Set TF 13553 at startup

Restart SQL Service

Required for activation

Verify Configuration

Check `sys.dm_os_loaded_modules`

Monitor Performance

Compare before/after metrics

DB META
MEMORY