<http://killspid.blogspot.com/2006/07/using-fndblog.html>

...my own personal experience with SQL Server...

**Thursday, July 06, 2006**

**Using fn\_dblog**

I like the fn\_dblog function even if it is undocumented. It enables you to read from you transaction log which contains very valuable information about stuff that is happening in your database. It is for example the only way I now at this time to determin which object experienced a page split if you search for the LOP\_DELETE\_SPLIT operation.  
  
SELECT \*  
FROM ::fn\_dblog(NULL, NULL)  
WHERE operation = 'LOP\_DELETE\_SPLIT'  
  
This is the usage of that system function you see everywhere, just passing NULL's for the @start and @end parameters, which could limit the LSN's (Log Sequence Number) to be searched. It took me some time to figure it out because just passing the output of the function as a parameter simply doesn't work. You can't use a LSN like for example 00000073:000020fa:0001 as a value for the parameters, you have to translate the hexadecimal values into its numeric equivalent (115:8442:1).  
  
Let's show this with some code and because there's no easy way to make this conversion, I came up with something quick & dirty. At last an example of the actual usage of the parameters of fn\_dblog on the web ;-)  
  
SET NOCOUNT ON  
DECLARE @LSN NVARCHAR(46)  
DECLARE @LSN\_HEX NVARCHAR(25)  
DECLARE @tbl TABLE (id INT identity(1,1), i VARCHAR(10))  
DECLARE @stmt VARCHAR(256)  
  
SET @LSN = (SELECT TOP 1 [Current LSN] FROM fn\_dblog(NULL, NULL))  
PRINT @LSN  
  
SET @stmt = 'SELECT CAST(0x' + SUBSTRING(@LSN, 1, 8) + ' AS INT)'  
INSERT @tbl EXEC(@stmt)  
SET @stmt = 'SELECT CAST(0x' + SUBSTRING(@LSN, 10, 8) + ' AS INT)'  
INSERT @tbl EXEC(@stmt)  
SET @stmt = 'SELECT CAST(0x' + SUBSTRING(@LSN, 19, 4) + ' AS INT)'  
INSERT @tbl EXEC(@stmt)  
  
SET @LSN\_HEX =  
(SELECT i FROM @tbl WHERE id = 1) + ':' + (SELECT i FROM @tbl WHERE id = 2) + ':' + (SELECT i FROM @tbl WHERE id = 3)  
PRINT @LSN\_HEX  
  
SELECT \*  
FROM ::fn\_dblog(@LSN\_HEX, NULL)

Posted by [killspid](https://www.blogger.com/profile/11533524781006430827) at [8:55 PM](http://killspid.blogspot.com/2006/07/using-fndblog.html) [https://resources.blogblog.com/img/icon18_edit_allbkg.gif](https://www.blogger.com/post-edit.g?blogID=25407276&postID=115221490266363372&from=pencil)

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[**deepvoids**](https://www.blogger.com/profile/04096767192159170731) **said...**

Thanx KillSpids's

[3:15 AM](http://killspid.blogspot.com/2006/07/using-fndblog.html?showComment=1270948529475#c1783134198099111337) [https://resources.blogblog.com/img/icon_delete13.gif](https://www.blogger.com/delete-comment.g?blogID=25407276&postID=1783134198099111337)

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[**mor deror**](https://www.blogger.com/profile/06003806853925240042) **said...**

it would be great to see how to pass the second param as well, so that let's say one could view top 50 last transactions

[3:06 PM](http://killspid.blogspot.com/2006/07/using-fndblog.html?showComment=1314018405126#c1010671578163105347) [https://resources.blogblog.com/img/icon_delete13.gif](https://www.blogger.com/delete-comment.g?blogID=25407276&postID=1010671578163105347)

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[**Rama Charan**](https://www.blogger.com/profile/03730900434726966433) **said...**

i was not able to understand how i can use this to read\interpret the transaction logs.  
  
If you can explain it in detail it can help us better.  
  
thanks

[1:03 PM](http://killspid.blogspot.com/2006/07/using-fndblog.html?showComment=1321445008982#c3438064576132579872) [https://resources.blogblog.com/img/icon_delete13.gif](https://www.blogger.com/delete-comment.g?blogID=25407276&postID=3438064576132579872)

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[**Unknown**](https://www.blogger.com/profile/00983073438500699742) **said...**

Does it work for MS SQL Server 2008 R2?

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[**Sergii Volchkov**](https://www.blogger.com/profile/18192053680384879805) **said...**

It seems that now hexadecimal values can be passed directly to fn\_dblog by just prefixing them with '0x':  
SELECT \* FROM ::fn\_dblog('0x0000005b:0000002a:0003', NULL)

[4:14 PM](http://killspid.blogspot.com/2006/07/using-fndblog.html?showComment=1437747284211#c7495019769387368150)