# Sybase Repserver Notes

Handy tips for the busy DBA

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## **Document Revision 1.8**

#### Introduction & Disclaimer

The notes contained in this document are intended as a fast find guide to using Sybase Replication server and have been built up over my time using reperver in the real world. It is not intended to be a complete exploration of all of replication server's abilities, nor do I claim that all the notes are without error. If you find errors or would like to submit your own top tip for the next edition of this guide, then please email us at info@ddsafe.co.uk

# **Repserver Components**

SQM (Stable Queue Manager) to manage inserts/deletes and prevent duplicates. One per

LTM, Log Transfer Manager. Reads the transaction log.

Inbound queue. Holds transactions from LTM. 'admin who, sqm' shows these, e.g. 456:1. the ':1' means inbound

Outbound queue. Holds trans. to be replicated 'admin who, sqm' shows these, e.g. 457:0. the ':0' means outbound. Has 2 types of queue. Data Server Interface (DSI) and Replication Server Interface (RSI), used across routes.

Distributor (DIST). Matches repdefs with subscriptions, so messages applied correctly to replicate. One DIST thread per inbound queue.

SQT (Stable Queue Transaction Manager) ensures queues are accessed in transactional manner. SQT has 4 queues:-

- st Open queue that holds transactions until commit or rollback is read from LTM
- \* Closed queue holds completed transactions. \* Read queue holds data that has been read from the Closed queue and a receipt of the transaction received. Tran is then removed from
- \* Truncation queue holds 'begin tran' record. Queue is used to determine which transactions can be deleted.

# More Detailed Look at the Components

Admin who, sqm. First Seg.Block - Last Seg.Block = data in queue (Mb) Next Read is the next segment, block & row to be read from queue. First Trans gives queue status, st=status of 1st command, cmds=no Admin who, sqt. of commands in transaction. qid=seg:block:row where tran starts. Full - if non-zero, sqt\_max\_cache\_size too small. cache available to SQT. Need 1M per queue. (Ensure value of sqt\_max\_xcache\_size \* num. of queues is less than memory\_limit) Sqt\_max\_cache\_size matched repdefs with subs. 3 components. SRE: matched repdefs with Subs. TD: packages transactions. MD: delivers messages if routes Involved. 'admin who, dist' gives totals of commands processed & DIST DSI reads committed commands (in SQT closed queue) and applies them to replicate DB. Prevents dumplicates. Groups transactions to replicate. Grouping defined by dsi\_zact\_group\_size & dsi\_cmd\_batch\_size. RST Routes between repservers across WANs

# Examine replication environment

sp\_setreptable --in pdb admin rssd\_name -- in RS admin who -- in RS admin logical\_status -- in RS -- in RSSD -- in RSSD rs\_helprep rs\_helpdbrep

```
rs_helpdb -- in RSSD
rs_helproute -- in RSSD
rs_helpsub -- in RSSD, details table subscriptions
rs_helpdbsub
rs_helppubsub
rs_helpdbpub
rs_helpuber -- in RSSD, if using publications
-- in RSSD, details publication subscriptions, articles and subscibers
rs_helpuser -- in RSSD, details publication subscriptions, articles and subscibers
rs_helpuser -- in RSSD, details publication subscriptions, articles and subscibers
rs_helpdbub
rs_helpdbub
rs_helpdbub
rs_helpdbub
rs_helpdbub
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rs_
```

# Repserver BASICS

#-----#
If you use rs\_init to configure replication and it fails, you can sometimes get more information out of the rs\_init log files. These are located at \$SYBASE\_REP/init/logs

#### General Install

Use rs\_init to install repserver & set up the RSSD. Create stable queue files first (using 'touch'). Once this is complete, you need to add connections to the primary and replicate dataservers and databases. See the sections below on how to do this. To use the GUI (rs\_init), create a rep maint user in the DB using sp\_adduser. Remove this later and add as alias to dbo using sp\_addalias.

#### Table Defs Install

```
Tn PDB
sp_setreptable prim_tab1, true
1> create replication definition prim_tab1_repdef with primary at SRV01_ASE.pdb1
2> with all tables named prim_tabl (a int, b char(10)) primary key (a)
1> define subscription prim_tab1_sub for prim_tab1_repdef
2> with replicate at SRV01_ASE.rdb1
3> go
1> activate subscription prim_tab1_sub for prim_tab1_repdef
2> with replicate at SRV01_ASE.rdb1
3> go
1> validate subscription prim_tab1_sub for prim_tab1_repdef
2> with replicate at SRV01_ASE.rdb1
3> go
1> check subscription prim_tab1_sub for prim_tab1_repdef
2> with replicate at SRV01_ASE.rdb1
Alter repdef
** This also fixes the subscription automatically alter replication definition prim_tab1_repdef add c char(10) null
Testing
declare @cnt int
declare @b_val char(10)
declare @c_val char(10)
select @cnt=2
while @cnt<10
  -select @b_val='test' + convert(char(5), @cnt)
select @c_val='test' + convert(char(5), @cnt+@cnt)
INSERT INTO pdb1..prim_tab1(a,b,c) values (@cnt, @b_val, @c_val)
  select @cnt=@cnt+1
```

#### Warm Standby Install

Setting up warm standby using rs\_init can be a bit tricky, so follow these steps below. Watch out for issues with the 'maint' user.

```
1> create logical connection to "logical_srv"."logical_db"
In ASE (source)
1> use warmsby
2> go
1> sp_reptostandby warmsby, 'all'
2> go
In ASE (target)
1> use warmsby_copy
2> go
1> sp_reptostandby warmsby_copy, 'all'
2> go
Logins
sp_addlogin warmsby_maint, thisisapassword
sp_role 'grant', replication_role, warmsby_maint
qo
USE warmsby
go
sp_addalias 'warmsby_maint','dbo'
Sync syslogins & sysloginroles (make sure that warmsby_maint is on both ASE servers)

* BCP OUT/IN syslogins between servers
create connection to "SRV1"."warmsby"
set error_class rs_sqlserver_error_class
set function string class rs_sqlserver_function_class set username "warmsby_maint" set password "thisisapassword"
with log transfer on as active for "logical_srv". "logical_db"
create connection to "SRV2"."warmsby_copy' set error_class rs_sqlserver_error_class
set function string class rs_sqlserver_function_class set username "warmsby_maint" set password "thisisapassword"
with log transfer on as standby for "logical_srv"."logical_db" use dump marker
Configure the database for replication:
In PDB: Run in $SYBASE/$SYBASE_REP/scripts/rs_install_primary.sql
isql -SSRV1 -Usa -P<pwd> -Dwarmsby -i rs_install_primary.sql
Configure rep agent
In PDB:
use warmsby
sp_stop_rep_agent warmsby
sp_config_rep_agent warmsby, 'disable'
sp_config_rep_agent warmsby, 'enable', 'repserver', 'repserver_ra', 'repserver_ra_ps'
sp_config_rep_agent warmsby, 'priority', '5'
sp_config_rep_agent warmsby, 'send buffer size', '16k'
sp_config_rep_agent warmsby, 'scan batch size', '1000'
sp_config_rep_agent warmsby, 'send warm standby xacts', true
sp_start_rep_agent warmsby
```

# Warm Standby Switch over

```
In PDB (old active database)
sp_stop_rep_agent warmsby
go
In RS
isql -Uuser [-Syourrepserver]
-To switch over to warm standby server..
admin logical_status
--switch active for <logialserver.logicaldb> to <wsserver.wsdb>
switch active for logical_srv.logical_db to SRV2.warmsby_copy
admin logical_status
In RDB (New active database)
sp_configure 'enable rep agent threads', 1 -- if not already set
sp_start_rep_agent warmsby_copy
In RS
resume connection to SRV2.warmsby_copy
Note: if the old primary database has been shutdown or is no longer contactable, the logical status for it will remain as "Suspended/Waiting for Enable Marker" until it is fixed. Once the server comes backon line, resume the connection and 'Operation in
Progress' will go back to 'None
```

# Database (MSA) repdef

```
* Set up Replication server as normal using rs_init
* Add primary database to RS using rs_init
* make sure 'ddl in tran is set on both databases'

In PDB
======

sp_reptostandby $DBNAME, "all"
sp_config_rep_agent pdb1, 'send warm standby xacts', 'true'

In RS
=====

1> create database replication definition pdb1_dbrepdef
2> with primary at SRV1_ASE.pdb1
3> replicate ddl
4> replicate functions
```

```
5> replicate system procedures
6> go

1> create connection to "SRV1_ASE"."test_rep_db"
2> set error class to rs_sqlserver_error_class
3> set function string class to rs_sqlserver_function_class
4> set username to "rep_maint"
5> set password to "rep_maint_ps"
6> go

1> define subscription pdb1_sub
2> for database replication definition pdb1_dbrepdef
3> with primary at SRV1_ASE.pdb1
4> with replicate at SRV1_ASE.test_rep_db
5> subscribe to truncate table
6> use dump marker
7> go

In RDB
=====
To avoid any permission issues in replicate DB
Use test_rep_db
go
sp_addalias 'test_rep_db_maint','dbo'
go
```

At this point the live database should be dumped and loaded into replicate database. When the dumps have completed, resume the connection to the standby sites.

```
In PRS
======
resume connection to SRV1_ASE.test_rep_db
ao
```

# Manually set up connections

```
create connection to server1.dbname
set error class to custom_error_class
set function string class to rs_sqlserver_function_class
set username to dbname_maint
set password to thisisapassword
create connection to server2.dbname
set error class to custom_error_class
set function string class to rs_sqlserver_function_class set username to dbname_maint
set password to thisisapassword
create connection to server3.dbname_copy2
set error class to custom_error_class
set function string class to rs_sqlserver_function_class
set username to dbname_maint
set password to thisisapassword
GO
alter connection to server1.dbname set log transfer on
GO
alter connection to server2.dbname
set log transfer off
GO
alter connection to server3.dbname_copy2 set log transfer off
```

# setup primary db's for rep

```
for SRV in server1
do
isql -Usa -P<password> -S$SRV -D$DBNAME <
$SYBASE/$SYBASE_REP/scripts/rs_install_primary.sql
```

```
isql -Usa -P<password> -S$SRV <<EOF
exec sp_addlogin dbname_maint,thisisapassword
use $DBNAME
go
sp_addalias dbname_maint,dbo
exec sp_reptostandby $DBNAME, "all"
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME,enable.repserver_rs.repserver_rs_ra,repserver_rs_ra_ps
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME, "send warm standby xacts", true
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME, 'priority', '4'
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME, "scan_batch_size", "10000"
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME,"send_buffer_size","16K"
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME,"send_structured_oqids","true"
exec sp_config_rep_agent $DBNAME, "short_ltl_keywords", "true"
sp_start_rep_agent $DBNAME
go
FOF
done
```

## Function Repdefs (stored procedure replication)

```
Implementing Stored procedure replication by example
In PDB & RDB
create table testtable1 (name varchar(10), phone int)
create procedure sp__testtable1_insert @name varchar(10), @phone int
  begin
   insert into testtable1 (name, phone) values (@name, @phone)
-- mark sp for replication (ignore error #9137 if using warm stby)
sp_setrepproc sp__testtable1_insert, function
--If your maint user is not dbo in the replicate db, then execute this in the RDB
grant execute on sp_testtable1_insert to maint user
RS
Applied function = sp is executed by maint user
Request function = sp is executed by same user who executed SP at the primary database
"create function replication definition" deprecated in repserver 15, use 'applied or
requested' instead.
-- Note the repdef name exactly matches the proc name.
create applied function replication definition sp_testtable1_insert_repdef with primary at <logical_srv>.<logical_db> with all functions named 'sp_testtable1_insert'
(@name varchar(10), @phone \overline{int})
-- create subscription
create subscription sp__testtable1_insert_sub
for sp_testtable1_insert_repdef with replicate at SRV2_ASE.test_rep_db without materialization
check subscription sp__testtable1_insert_sub
for sp__testtable1_insert_repdef
with replicate at SRV2_ASE.test_rep_db
```

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```
-- TESTING in PDB--
sp_testtable1_insert 'gary', 1234
go
--Dropping a function definition
drop function replication definition sp_testtable1_insert_repdef
```

# **Replication Tuning Notes**

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#### Golden rules

1. Never have repdefs, which are not subscribed to. All transactions on replicated tables are sent to the Inbound Queue (IBQ), sorted into commit order and translated to Log Transfer Language(LTL). Only then are they checked for subscriptions. This results in wasted space in the IBQ and processing by the SQT manager.

2. Make sure SQT has enought memory allocated. Also, check memory\_limit rs\_configure 'sqt\_max\_cache\_size' to 'xxxxx'

#### Find Bottlenecks

```
select * from master..syslogshold --check for large uncommitted transactions.
Measure diff between repagent position and end of log (1TP & 2TP)
--rep agent - value of 'Current Marker' column, example (53550,1)
sp_help_rep_agent <db_name>
-- read until end of log
dbcc traceon(3604)
dbcc pglinkage(<dbid>, <current_marker>, 0,2,0,1)
example: dbcc pglinkage(5, 53550, 0,2,0,1)
example outout: "3909 pages scanned"
-- So repagent if 3909 pages behind log truncation marker.
-- We should have very little lag!
(see rs_checklag.ksh in
Measure IBQ & OBQ size
admin who, sqm
Info column of XXX:0 = IBQ
Info column of XXX:1 = OBQ
difference between 'Last Seg.Block" & "Next Read" should be minimal
Example: Last Seg.Block = 226.64
Next Read = 140.50.13
(226-140) = 86 Mb in IBQ
This info is also stored in the RSSD db in rs_diskpartitions, rs_segments This is used in sp_queueinfo (see Appendix A)
Check what is in the queues
Once we know which queues are filling up, use the command below to determine the sql in
the queues.
          sysadmin dump_queue, <q_num>, <q_type>, -1, -2, -1, client
          sysadmin log_first_tran, <srv>, <dbname>
Check ASE activity
If monitoring tables are installed, discover busiest spid and extract SQL.
(Useful tools for this: sp__mon_sql2 & sp__capture_sql)
```

## Sizing caches sizes

#### SQT MAX CACHE SIZE

```
To check if this parameter has been set too low, run an "admin who,sqt" at regular intervals and check if the columns "removed" or "full" contain a non-zero value.

Example:-

configure replication server set sqt_max_cache_size to '115343360' --bytes (110MB)
```

#### DSI SQT MAX CACHE SIZE

"admin who,sqt" also shows the DSI threads. So when "removed" or "full" are non-zero for a DSI thread, change the memory setting at the connection-level using "alter connection to <dataserver.database> set dsi sqt max cache size to '<new-value>'"

It's best to start increasing "sqt\_max\_cache\_size" before changing settings at the connection level. Do not increase sqt\_max\_cache\_size" to much. Oversizing the cache will in fact decrease performance.

# **Tuning**

=====

#### **Tuning Primary DB**

```
sp_help_rep_agent <db_name>, 'config' sp_config_rep_agent <db_name>, scan_batch_size, '10000' --max num records sent to RS sp_config_rep_agent <db_name>, 'batch_ltl, 'true' --LTL cmds batched up then sent to RS sp_config_rep_agent <db_name>, send_buffer_size, '16k' -- network packet size sp_config_rep_agent <db_name>, priority, '2' --default is 5. lower=higher priority WARNING: making changes to the rep agent can cause a warm stby connection to fail, if the replicate DB name is different. Requires a resume connection..skip transaction. And the config changes to be repeated at the replicates rep agent.
```

## **Tuning Rep Server**

```
Note: 1 Repserver = 1 CPU
admin who, sqt
existing values are stored in RSSD. Use:
    select optionname, charvalue from rs_config
configure replication server set sqt_max_cache_size to '20971520' --in RS, or
rs_configure 'sqt_max_cache_size' to 'xxxxx' -- in RSSD,
Ensure value of (sqt_max_cache_size * num. of queues) is less than memory_limit.
Suggest setting sqt_max_cache_size to 20mb (20971520 bytes)
Max memory_limit = 2047 (just under 2Gb)
Use RAW device for Stable Device.
rs_configure 'num_threads', 75 -- if using Open Server (replicating to non Sybase DB)
configure replication server set sqm_write_flush to 'dio' -- only on Unix file systems
```

## **Tuning RSSD**

```
configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_publications to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_queues to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_repdbs to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_routes to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_sites to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_systext to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_translation to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_users to 'on' configure replication server set sts_full_cache_rs_version to 'on' *note: in repserver 15.0, do not cache rs_locater. repserver crash can cause inconsistancies.
```

#### Tuning Replicate DB

change maint user priority in ASE drop referential integrity checks (foriegn keys) use func. strings instead of triggers.

#### **Tuning DSI**

```
Incease replicate-ASE no. of locks
dsi_max_xacts_in_group
alter connection to RDS.rdb set db_packet_size to 'xxx'
switch on replicate minimal columns --use all columns if replicating to non-Sybase DB
Use parrallel DSI threads (do not do this lightly):-
parallel_dsi (sets standard values on multiple settings below)
dsi_num_threads
dsi_serialization_method
{none|wair_for_commit|isolation_level_3|single_transaction_per_origin}
dsi_sqt_max_cache_size
dsi_large_xact_size
dsi_large_xact_size
dsi_num_large_xact_threads
dsi_partitioning_rule

** Recommend using dsi_serialization_method 'none' followed by 'isolation_level_3'
** Recommend using 'time' partioning
```

## Configure for SMP systems

-----

When replication server runs on a multiprocessor machine you can take advantage of the multithreaded capability of RepServer. Run this command:configure replication server set smp\_enable to 'on'

## Minimal Column Replication

Repserver wants to replicate all columns for a modified row, even the values that have not been changed. Example:

```
UPDATE customer SET firstname="joe" where ID=202 Results in this getting replicated UPDATE customer SET firstname="joe", surname='bloggs', address="22 archia ave", tel="020 123 4567" where ID=202
```

but with minimal column replication set on only the 'firstname' data change is replicated. This reduces the queue size, processing time of the repserver and increases throughput.

To enable define 'replicate minimal replication' in your table repdef or at the connection level.

```
For more tuning advice, see http://www.petersap.nl/SybaseWiki/index.php?title=Performance_Tuning&printable=yes
```

#### **Monitor Counters**

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Not requiring Setup

```
rs_helpcounter (ref's table rs_statcounters) admin statistics, SQM, ByteSize admin statistics, reset admin statistics, sysmon "00:00:10"
```

#### Requiring Setup

```
select * from rs_statdetails, rs_statrun
setup:
set stat_sampling to 'on'
admin stats_intrusive_counter, 'on'
stats_flush_rssd to on
stat_reset_afterflush to on
stat_daemon_sleep_time to '600'
admin stat_config_module, 'all_modules', 'on'
admin stat_config_connections
admin statatistics, flush_statistics
See White paper: "Sybase Replication Preformance and Tuning" by Jeff Tallman
http://my.sybase.com/detail?id=1015811
```

# Disaster Recovery Notes

# Recover from reloading Primary Database

```
once loaded and onlined.
## on pdb:
dbcc settrunc(ltm, ignore)
--move log trunc marker (1TP) to new page
create table dummy_table (a char(255), b char(255))
go
insert dummy_table values ('a', 'b')
go 40 drop table dummy_table
dump transaction <pdb> with truncate_only
--re-establish 2TP:
dbcc settrunc(ltm, valid)
go
--Now set it to zero
use <rssd>
rs_zeroltm <ase>, <pdb>
admin get_generation, <ase>, <pdb>
## on pdb:
--update generation no. (new number >= old number)
--however, setting to 0, is normally ok
dbcc settrunc(ltm, gen_id, <new number>)
# now resync data with replicate db #
#on RS:
resume connection to <ase>.<pdb>
# on pdb:
```

```
exec sp_start_rep_agent <pdb>
**If only a few tables are out of sync, you can use Sybase command-line utility called
rs_subcmp
```

# Skipping transactions

```
--If we encounter a duplicate insert error #on RS:
resume connection to <ase>.<rdb> skip transaction #on RSSD:
--find transaction id
rs_helpexception
--get SQL
rs_helpexception <tran_id>, v
```

## Stop Replication

```
-------
##on pdb:
select * from master..syslogshold where dbid=db_id(<pdb>)
go
sp_stop_rep_agent <pdb>
go
dbcc settrunc(ltm, ignore)
go
```

# Replaying Transaction Logs

```
restart RS in single user mode (-M switch)
#on RS:
set log recovery for <ase>.<pdb>
allow connections
-- Method shows the use of temporary database to hold database. create database called 'temp_rep' then configure for replication.
use temp_rep
exec sp_config_rep_agent temp_rep, 'enable', '<RS>', 'sa', '<passwd>'
űse master
go
load database temp_rep from '<dump_file>'
go -- the "connect database" refers to <pdb>
exec sp_start_rep_agent temp_rep, recovery, '<ase>', '<pdb>', '<RS>'
--Once complete, RepAgent will shutdown
--Now repeat these steps for each tran. log. Load and start RepAgent.
--** Check replication Server errorlog for any messages about "loss detection". If none
found..
 --restart RS in normal mode.
#on pdb
 --put back 2TP
dbcc settrunc(ltm, valid)
sp_start_rep_agent <pdb>
 --drop temp_rep!
```

# Rebuild a Stable Device - with tran log

```
If all threads are down, it may be because the Stable Device is corrupt or missing. Check for OFFLINE disk partitions #on RS: admin disk_space go Oh dear! the transactions on the SD IBQ have gone but fear not, they are still in the transaction logs. on the RS, threads are DOWN, resume and suspended connecions. Should still show DOWN.
```

```
#on RS:
drop partition <partition name>
--In Unix touch the new file
add partition <part_name> on '<phycical_name>' with size <size in Mb>
--You should see old disk as DROPPED and your new disk ONLINE
--Now rebuild SD from the transaction logs
rebuild queues
resume connection to <ase>.<rdb>
--Check RS errorlog and wait for msg "Rebuild Queues: Complete" & "DSI: detecting loss for dataserver <ase>.<rdb>"
#on pdb:
exec sp_start_rep_agent pdb
--Check RS errorlog for "loss detection" messages. If none found, normal replication will
continue.
--You can force replication to continue using
#on RS:
ignore loss from <ase>.<pdb> to <ase>.<rdb>
go
#on RS:
--Old partition should have disappeared from server. You can drop file/device. admin disk_space
```

# Rebuild a Stable Device - without tran log

Once again the SD has disappeared but this time the transaction log has been TRUNCATED. #on the RS, threads are DOWN, resume the suspended connecions. Should still show DOWN.

```
Repeat steps for "Rebuild a Stable Device - with tran log" but this time ou will see "loss detection" in the RS errorlog. This time we must ignore the loss.
#on RS:
ignore loss from <ase>.<pdb> to <ase>.<rdb> go
#------#
# now resync data with replicate db #
```

# Restore the RSSD from backup

```
#on pdb:
sp_stop_rep_agent pdb
go
#on RS:
shutdown
--restore RSSD from backup. Once complete, proceed
--If RSSD had rep agent, start RS (or skip to --else)
#on RSSD:
dbcc settrunc(ltm, valid)
#on RS:
admin get_generation, <ase>, <rssd_db>
ao
shutdown
--else,
restart RS in single user mode (-M)
#on RS:
resume connection to <ase>.<rdb>
rebuild queues
go
#on pdb:
exec sp_start_rep_agent <pdb>, recovery
go
--** Check replication Server errorlog for any messages about "loss detection". Hoefully,
you have none.
```

# **General Troubleshooting**

#### Stable Queue Full

```
Double check queue is full
Tn RSSD
rs_helppartition
restart rep agent and connections
In PDB
sp_help_rep_agent pdb
sp_stop_rep_agent pdb
sp_start_rep_agent pdb (status should be not active)
In RS
Suspend connection to server1.pdb
Resume connection to pdb
Increase stable queue
In RS
admin disk_space (shows existing partitions)
touch /usr/replication/queue10.dat
add partition sq_part10 on '/usr/replication/queue10.dat' with size 1000 (in Mb)
You can use "drop partition sq_part10" online at a later time
```

## Ignoring duplicate keys – when we have a lot, use error class!

Sybase's Replication Server allows you to replicate data entry from one database into another (there can be more than one replicate database). They don't necessarily have to be even from the same vendor.

Duplicate rows will occur when an application inserts data into the primary and replicate database(s), if the data being entered in a replicated table. Replication Server's DSI connection will stop saying that it has detected a duplicate key and requires a DBA to tell it what to do. If this duplicate key can be ignored, then the DBA will skip the transaction, which will make a note of the transaction and will skip it (go on to the next transaction) next transaction).

- 1: REP\_SERVER> resume connection to MYSERVER.MYDB skip transaction 2: REP\_SERVER> go
- The problem with this approach is that if there are a lot of duplicate keys, not only could you be sitting for a while skipping the transactions, you run the risk of skipping a transaction that isn't a duplicate key. Say if someone deleted the table on the replicate database.. You could easily make a mess of things if you arbitrarily skip transactions.

Replication Server has a feature called error classes that you can define the course of action if an error occurs with a DSI connection. The only real issue is that the lowest level of granularity is at the DSI connection level and the highest is all insert dbms type (i.e. ASE) replicated systems. To create an error class:

- 1: REP\_SERVER> create error class ASEallowdupsErrorClass
- 2: REP\_SERVER> go

The error classes can be inherited so if you wanted an error class to ignore duplicate keys and another to stop replication on a duplicate key, you would do something like so:

1: RSSD> rs\_init\_erroractions ASEallowdupsErrorClass, rs\_sqlserver\_error\_class 2: RSSD> go

Sybase ASE's error number for a duplicate key is 2601, but ASE will also raise the 3621 (aborted transaction) error. We need to set the error class ASEallowdupsErrorClass to ignore duplicate keys:

- 1: REP\_SERVER> assign action ignore for ASEallowdupsErrorClass to 2601 2: REP\_SERVER> go
- 1: REP\_SERVER> assign action ignore for ASEallowdupsErrorClass to 3621

#### 2: REP\_SERVER> go

2: REP\_SERVER> go

Now that we've created the error class and set it to ignore duplicates, we need to do two last things:
alter the DSI connections to use the new error class
suspend and then resume the DSI connections for the DSIs to use the new error class

1: REP\_SERVER> alter connection to MYSERVER.MYDB
2: REP\_SERVER> set error class to ASEallowdupsErrorClass
3: REP\_SERVER> go
1: REP\_SERVER> suspend connection to MYSERVER.MYDB
2: REP\_SERVER> go
1: REP\_SERVER> resume connection to MYSERVER.MYDB

Generally, applications should not be performing data entry of the same data across the replicated databases as Replication Server is made for it.

## Reverse Engineering an Error Class

Sometimes we want to recreate an existing error class, for example, taking one from production into a new UAT environment. It is not really possible to do this but we can work out the modified error codes in the user defined error class and then manually recreate the class. Run the SQL, in the RSSD, below and pipe the output into 2 files

```
First file
select ds_errorid, action=v.name
from rs_erroractions e, rs_classes c, rs_tvalues v where e.errorclassid=c.classid
and e.action=v.value
and v.type='ERR' and c.classname='rs_sqlserver_error_class' order by 1
go
Second File
select ds_errorid, action=v.name
from rs_erroractions e, rs_classes c, rs_tvalues v
where e.errorclassid=c.classid
and e.action=v.value
and v.type='ERR
and c.classname='ASEallowdupsErrorClass'
order by 1
Now do a 'diff' against these files and any different codes will be displayed. To find
out what the codes are, in RSSD
rs_helperror 2601, 'v'
```

# HowTo determine the error class configured for a connection

To determine the error class configured for a connection, run this query in the RSSD:

```
select dsname, dbname, classname 'Error class'
from rs_databases d, rs_classes c
where d.errorclassid = c.classid
```

# Row count mismatch – use a replication server error class. V15.2+

You may get this error in the errorlog:

"Row count mismatch for the command executed on 'dataserver.database'. The command impacted x rows but it should impact y rows."

```
More details available on
```

http://infocenter.sybase.com/help/index.jsp?topic=/com.sybase.infocenter.dc00783.1550/html/nfg\_rs/CDD HIGGE.htm

```
create replication server error class composer_repserver_error_class
Following row added to rs_classses
-- composer_repserver_error_class 0x010000650100006b R
0x00000000000000000
                                                                                                 0
rs_init_erroractions composer_repserver_error_class,rs_repserver_error_class
--you will see the following rows inserted into rs_erroractions

-- 5185 0x010000650100006b 3 16777317

-- 5186 0x010000650100006b 2 16777317

-- 5187 0x010000650100006b 3 16777317
           5193 0x010000650100006b
                                                 16777317
assign action ignore for composer_repserver_error_class to 5185
--This row updated in rs_erroractions
-- 5185 0x010000650100006b
                                                   16777317
alter connection to AGSIT_DB_CW.AG_SIT_ComposerWeb
set replication server error class to composer_repserver_error_class
suspend connection to AGSIT_DB_CW.AG_SIT_ComposerWeb
resume connection to AGSIT_DB_CW.AG_SIT_ComposerWeb
-- rs_helpdb now shows connection with new Rep Server Error Class:-
dsname
                                   dbname
                                                                                   controlling_prs
                errorclass
                                                    repserver_errorclass
                                                                                       funcclass
                    status
                                      AG_SIT_ComposerWeb
                                                                                  148
-- AGSIT_DB_CW
                                                                      composer_repserver_error_cl
```

# Displays all Replication Server configuration parameters.

# **Determine Latency**

RDB
===
Select PrimaryDBID=origin, datediff(ss, origin\_time, dest\_commit\_time) 'Latency (sec)',
LastXactOriginTime = origin\_time
FROM rs\_lastcommit where origin > 0
qo

# **Dropping Subscriptions Fast**

If you drop a subscription 'without purge' and it is still taking a very long time to dematerialize, check the stable queues (admin disk\_space & admin who, sqt), then sometimes the only alternative is to hack the tables in RSSD.

```
In PDB
=====
Use <pdb>
```

```
go
Sp_config_rep_agent, <pdb>, 'disable' --check master..syslogshold to confirm
go
In RSSD
======
delete from rs_subscriptions where subname='<subname>'
go
delete from rs_dbreps where dbrepname='<db_repdef_name>'
go
Now you can drop connections!
```

# **Detecting loss**

Sometimes replication stops without an error. This could happen after a restore of the primary database. If message loss occurs we will not always see this using 'admin who' and repserver might not print a 'detecting loss' message to the errorlog. Check the rs\_oqid and rs\_exceptslast in the RSSD and to see if some of the queues show a status of '2' which indicates that the queue is suspended due to lost messages.

If repserver has not correctly recognised that loss has occurred, then in order for repserver to ignore these errors, we must get it to 'find' them. Restart repserver and check the error loss for less for database.

DSI: detecting loss for database

In RS
====
Ignore loss from prim\_server.prim\_db

## Repserver Trace Flags

The following Rep Server traceflags will track the commands being written to the stable queue, and being passed to the Replicate dataserver.

```
Flag: SQM, SQM_TRACE_COMMANDS
This flag is used when you want to know what commands have been written to the stable queue.
```

Flag: DSI, DSI\_BUF\_DUMP
Use this flag when you want to know what is in the language command buffer passed to

Replication Server accepts on-line trace command from isql as follows:

```
trace { "on" | "off" }, module, trace_flag
```

e.g., trace "on", sqm, sqm\_trace\_commands

both module and trace flag can be either upper or lower case.

Replication Server accepts trace flags from the config file. The syntax is trace=module,trace\_flag

e.g., trace "on", dsi,dsi\_buf\_dump

Keep in mind that these will trace ALL commands, so will produce large amounts of output.

# Configure the rep agent to trace LTL--write output to a trace file (not to ASE log)

```
isql -Uxx -Pxx -SActive_Server
>use PDB
>go
>sp_stop_rep_agent PDB
>go
```

#### Turn on Rep Agent tracing and DSI/function string tracing

```
(in the following command, supply full path and filename for trace
filename--trace_log_file is required and must be enclosed in double quotes"
>sp_config_rep_agent PDB, "trace_log_file", "<trace_filename>"
>go
>sp_config_rep_agent PDB, "traceon", "9201"
>go
>sp_start_rep_agent PDB
>go

When the Rep Agent appears to stop responding, collect

sp_who
go
get spid of RA

dbcc pss
dbcc stacktrace (<spid>)
```

## Turn off Rep Agent tracing and DSI/function string tracing

```
>sp_stop_rep_agent
>go
(to disable, replace the trace file name with "")
>sp_config_rep_agent <dbname>, "trace_log_file", ""
>go
>sp_config_rep_agent <dbname>, "traceoff","9201"
>go
>sp_start_rep_agent
>go
```

# **Handy Tips**

# Renaming a replicate database

Repserver used a ID to track databases but it also holds the database name in 3 tables. rs\_databases, rs\_repdbs, rs\_idnames

Run 'select \*' against these 3 tables and then depending on the DBID, run the examples below (obviously, change the values)
update rs\_databases set dbname=" NEW\_DatabaseName " where dbid=152
go
update rs\_repdbs set dbname="NEW\_DatabaseName" where dbid=152
go
update rs\_idnames set name2="NEW\_DatabaseName" where id=152
go
shutdown
go

Now rename the ASE database using 'sp\_renamedb' (in single user mode)

Restart repserver. The name change should be complete.

# rs ticket Feature

Run this at the primary database and collect information about the 'ticket' progress at the replicates.

## Setup

Assuming you have added the databases to the repserver using rs\_init, all the necessary objects will be in the database. If you added your databases in a different way, you will need to use either rs\_init and execute "Upgrade an existing database in the replication system" or manually run the scripts manually from %Sybase%\REP-15\_5\scripts\rs\_install\_primary.sql (I have not tested the using the scripts method).

# Exclude rs\_ticket\_history from replication

You must exclude the rs\_ticket table from replication for MSA and warm standby. Do this by modifying the database repdef

Database Replication - example of exclusion DDL:

To stop the rs\_ticket\_history getting excluded from **Warm Standby** replication you need to use a different method than MSA. Since repserver 15.2 you can use the 'never' option at the primary database:-sp\_setreptable rs\_ticket\_history, 'never'

'never' – Disables replication on the table, regardless of the database replication setting.

# Send your first 'ticket'

```
in the PDB
======
- Basically, you can put anything into the 4 custom arguments for rs_ticket.
-- We normally use a client ID for the 1st argument and the PDB details in the 4th
-- but you can use anything.
-- The 4th argument can contain more text.
exec rs_ticket "UK-1.2", "", "", "<servername>.<dbname>"
```

# Checking the results of your ticket

```
in the RDB
-------
select * from rs_ticket_history
-- or use this to get the last entry
select * from rs_ticket_history where cnt=(select max(cnt) from rs_ticket_history)
```

## How to implement

Write a script to insert a 'ticket' at the primary DB by running the rs\_ticket command every x minutes. See Appendix A for an example rs\_ticket.sh script

#### Get data from the RDB to trend the latency

The results of the rs\_ticket process are stored in a tabled called rs\_ticket\_history, at each replicate. Below is a query to see latency for replication to a particular replicate over the last 24 hours – summarised by average and maximum latency by hour (hour relative to when you run the query).

This shows the breakdown of the ticket's journey:

```
p2r=PDB to RDB (i.e. whole trip)
p2e=PDB to Executor thread on the PRS – where the LTL is received.
e2d=Executor to DIST thread
d2d=DIST to DSI thread
d2r=DSI to RDB
```

#### For replication to RDB – Summarise by Hour part I:

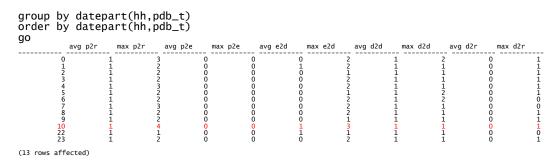
In RDB select datedi avg(datediff( avg(datediff( avg(datediff( avg(datediff( from rs_ticke where pdb_t > group by date order by date go	ss,pdb_iss,pdb_iss,exec_ss,dist_ss,dsi_it_histoddiff(hhddiff(h	t,rdb_t) t,exec_t _t,distt,dsi_t t,rdb_t) ry d( hh, - ,pdb_t,g ,pdb_t,g	) 'avg   )) 'avg   t)) 'avg   )) 'avg   ) 'avg   24, get   etdate(	p2r', ma p2e', n g e2d', d2d', n d2r', ma date() ) )) )) desc	ax(dated nax(date max(dat nax(date ax(dated					', 2e', e2d', 2d',
Hours Ago avg p2r		avg p2e	max p2e	avg e2d	max e2d			avg d2r	max d2r	
23 22 22 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 0	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	322322223222332223223223223224	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0	2213221112222222222222233	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	11111211111111211111121111	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	100001111111111111111111111111111111111

So we had a maximum latency of 4 seconds within the last hour – though clearly by the appearance of some negative numbers the host clocks are not in sync with a high precision.

#### For replication to RDB – Summarise by Hour part II:

Or you can do something similar but relative to the last hour of the clock e.g. for the last 12 clock hours:

```
In RDB
----
select datepart(hh,pdb_t),
avg(datediff(ss,pdb_t,rdb_t)) 'avg p2r', max(datediff(ss,pdb_t,rdb_t)) 'max p2r',
avg(datediff(ss,pdb_t,exec_t)) 'avg p2e', max(datediff(ss,pdb_t,exec_t)) 'max p2e',
avg(datediff(ss,exec_t,dist_t)) 'avg e2d', max(datediff(ss,exec_t,dist_t)) 'max e2d',
avg(datediff(ss,dist_t,dsi_t)) 'avg d2d', max(datediff(ss,dist_t,dsi_t)) 'max d2d',
avg(datediff(ss,dsi_t,rdb_t)) 'avg d2r', max(datediff(ss,dsi_t,rdb_t)) 'max d2r'
from rs_ticket_history
where pdb_t > dateadd( hh, -12, getdate() )
```



The red row is for 10am-11am, 22 and 23 are for last night.

Apart from time there is also information in the tickets for commands & bytes processed at various points through the RS – it should be possible to get meaningful information on replication load/throughput by computing successive differences between these and then to put this against the latency stats.

#### From replication to RDB – Recent Latency Report:

Here is an example of latency and data sizes for every ticket (we submitted a ticket every minute). Change the value of \$PERIOD to the number of minutes you wish to go back

# Appendix A - Shell scripts

# rs\_checkreplag.ksh

```
#!/bin/ksh
# work out the lag in Mb between 1TP & 2TP markers in a replicated database
# By G. Devine
if [ $# -ne 3 ]
then
       echo Usage: $(basename $0) LOCAL_SERVER TARGET_SERVER DBNAME
       exit 1
else
       LOCALSRV=$1
       TRGSRV=$2
       DBNAME=$3
  /opt/home/sybase/admin/.syb_cfg.sh $LOCALSRV
USERNAME=sa
PWD=`grep ${LOCALSRV}, /opt/home/sybase/admin/.servers | awk -F',' '{print $4}'`
OUTFILE=`basename $0`.out.$$
                  MAIN
# Get the Current Marker for the rep agent
isql -U$USERNAME -S$TRGSRV -D$DBNAME -w1024 <<-EOF | egrep -v "Password:|return status" |
sed -e '1,3d' > $OUTFILE
$PWD
       --set nocount on
       {\tt sp\_help\_rep\_agent \$\{DBNAME\}, scan}
CURRMARKER=`cat $OUTFILE | awk '{print $4}' | sed -e 's/(//g' -e 's/)//g' |awk -F',' '{print $1}'` rm $OUTFILE
# Now work out the pages scanned between 1TP & 2TP isql -U$USERNAME -S$TRGSRV -D$DBNAME -w1024 <<-E0F | egrep -v "Password:|return status" >
$OUTFILE
       $PWD
       set nocount on
       dbcc traceon (3604)
       declare @dbid_num int
select @dbid_num=db_id('$DBNAME')
dbcc pglinkage(@dbid_num, $CURRMARKER, 0,2,0,1)
       ĔOF
PAGESCANS=`cat $OUTFILE | grep 'pages scanned' | awk '{print $1}'`
rm $OUTFILE
# Determine server page size
isql -U$USERNAME -S$TRGSRV -D$DBNAME -w1024 <<-EOF | egrep -v "Password:|return status" >
       select 'ABCDEFG' + convert (varchar (7), @@maxpagesize) + 'ABCDEFG'
PAGESIZE=`cat $OUTFILE | grep 'ABCDEFG' | sed -e 's/ABCDEFG//g'`
rm $OUTFILE
### Do the calculations ####
BYTESCAN=`expr $PAGESCANS \* $PAGESIZE`
LAGSCAN=$(echo "scale=5; $BYTESCAN / 1024 / 1024" | bc)
### Result ####
echo " Difference between 1TP & 2TP for database $DBNAME is $LAGSCAN MB"
```

## sp\_\_queueinfo

#### rs ticket.sh

group by q\_number,q\_type
having q\_number != 0
order by count(\*) desc

```
#!/bin/sh
# Description:
# Runs rs_ticket on the PDS.PDB's specified as arguments.
# Intended to be called from crontab on a regular basis.
# History:
                 Who
# Date
                                  Issue
                                              Description
# 01/11/2013
                  Alex Vickers
                                                Initial Writing.
# 12/12/2013
                  Garrett Devine
                                     1.1
                                                 add fnDisplayUsage & minor
changes
set +x
set +e
set +u
#source environment
. /home/dds/.sybenv local
USERNAME=sa
SCRIPTDIR=/home/dds/scripts
SYBASE=/opt/sybase_15_5_0_esd3
SYBASE_OCS=OCS-15_0
# FUNCTIONS
########
fnDisplayUsage()
set +x
# function: Displays usgae of command
```

```
echo " Usage: `basename $0` <set of pdb/rdb pairs"
 echo " Examples:"
 echo "
                ./`basename $0` AGUAT_DB_CMP.AG_UAT_Composer AGUAT_DB_CW.AG_UAT_ComposerWeb"
# Check if anything has been past at the command line
if [ $# -le 1 ]
then
        fnDisplayUsage
for arg in $*; do
   SRV=$(echo $arg| cut -f1 -d.)
   DB=$(echo $arg| cut -f2 -d.)
   PASSWORD= grep "^$SRV,sa," ${SCRIPTDIR}/servers.txt.sa | /bin/awk 'BEGIN{FS=","};{print}
$3};'
  echo "Running for $SRV.$DB"
$ISQL -U$USERNAME -S$SRV -D$DB -P$PASSWORD <<-EOD
  set nocount on
  set proc_return_status off
if db_name() = "$DB"
  begin
    declare @arg4 varchar(50)
select @arg4=@@servername+'.'+db_name()
exec rs_ticket 'UK-1.2', "", "", @arg4
  end
ĔŌD
Done
Example crontab entry
O-59 * * * * /home/bin/rs_ticket.sh <prim_srv1>.<prim_db1> <prim_srv2>.<prim_db2> >/home/log/rs_ticket.sh.UAT.log 2>&1
```

# Appendix B - troubleshooting

# Uninstall repserver program

if you want to trash your repserver and start over agin, you may find that it will not uninstall. If that is the case, follow these instructions

The installer reads and maintains version information in a file called "vpd.properties", which is probably still located in the "C:\Windows" directory; removing the install directory of repserver won't remove this file.

Please do the following:

- rename the vpd.properties file at C:\windows or the drive where your Windows is installed
- 2. go into Control Panel, create a new system environment variable "INSTALL\_ALL\_PATCH", and give it any value (e.g. "1")
- 3. install the repserver
- 4. remove the "INSTALL ALL PATCH" variable

# Logical Connection will not Drop

```
If you get an error like the following
"1> drop logical connection to COMPOSER_DS.SIT_Composer
2> go
Msg 15236, Level 12, State 0:
Server 'AGSIT_DB_REP_RS':
```

Can not drop logical connection to COMPOSER\_DS.SIT\_Composer because either subscriptions of repdefs exist for it  $\$ 

Check
select \* from rs\_databases
select \* from rs\_object

if the rs\_databases.. dist\_status or src\_status are greater than 1, then this indicates an issue. The connection could have any of the following

Status of the connection. Can be:

- 0x1 valid
- 0x2 suspended
- 0x4 suspended by a standby-related action
- 0x8 waiting for a marker
- 0x10 will issue dbcc ('ltm', 'ignore')
- 0x20 waiting for dump marker to initialize a standby database
- 0x40 switching related duplicate detection when ltype is equal to 'P'
- 0x40 allow switching when ltype is equal to 'L'
- 0x80 temporarily not doing any grouping

#### Example:-

1> select \* from rs\_databases 2> go

dsname dbname dbid dist\_status src\_status attributes errorclassid funcclassid prsid rowtype sorto\_status ltype ptype ldbid enable\_seq rs\_errorclassid

\_\_\_\_\_\_

-----

Checked for orphaned rows in rs objects

select prsid, convert(char(30),objname), convert(char(30),phys\_tablename), objid, dbid, convert(char(30),deliver\_as\_name) from rs\_objects go

go "16777317 rs\_drp0x010000650000007a rs\_drp0x010000650000007a 0x010000650000007a 102 rep\_latency\_tracking"

rs\_drp0x0 is an internal repdef which belongs to 102. you can manually delete it, then, issue drop logical connection.