SQL Event Analyzer

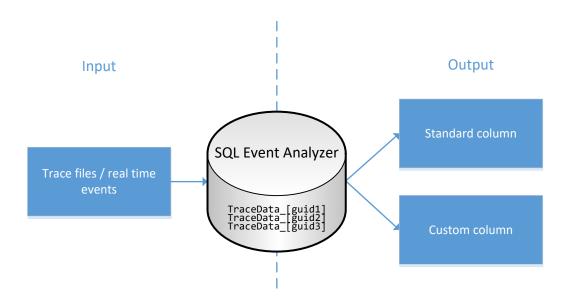
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1. Introduction

SQL Event Analyzer makes it possible to show and work with events on a SQL Server.

Events can be retrieved from trace files or real time events.



When trace files or real time events are imported, they will be imported to a table on the SQL Server. This table is from now on referred to as a "TraceData table". A TraceData table has the following naming format:

TraceData_[Session Id]

where Session Id is a guid.

Example: TraceData_f63631c1-5824-4dce-b631-f45e187c3cc1

Data stored in a TraceData table will be referred to as a "session". This means, that a session can contain one or more imported trace files or real time events.

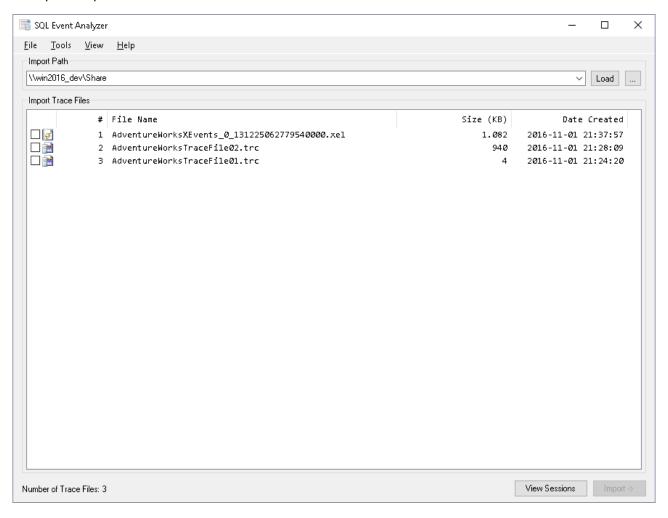
With a TraceData table as input, the events will be presented as output in a list view containing columns. Output columns consists of one or more standard columns optionally combined with custom columns.

Trace files in the following formats are supported:

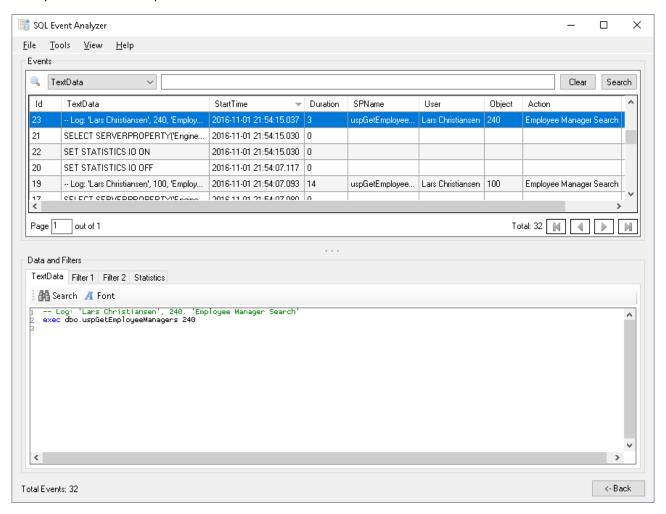
- SQL Server Profiler
- Extended Events

Note, Extended Events are not supported on SQL Server versions older than SQL Server 2012.

Example of input from trace files:



Example of how the output is shown:

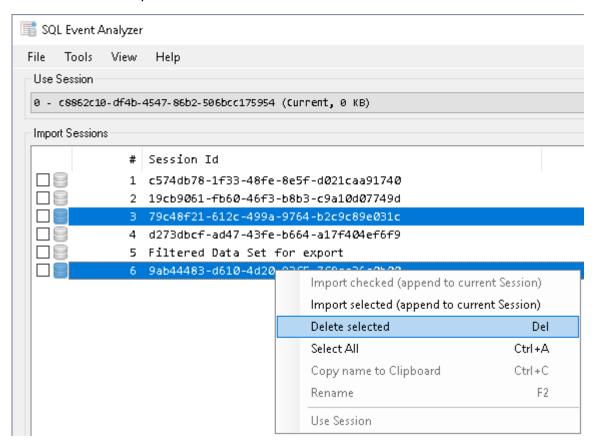


When running SQL Event Analyzer for the first time, a database on the SQL Server with the name "SQLEventAnalyzer" will be created. If the database already exists, this database will be used.

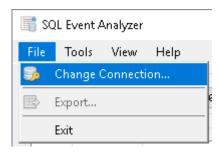
The SQLEventAnalyzer database contains the TraceData tables.

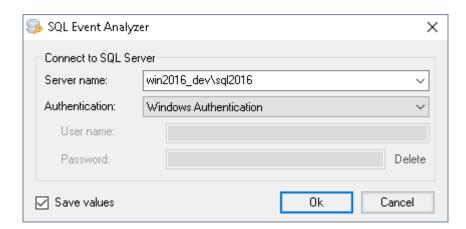
When SQL Event Analyzer closes, it can be chosen to automatically delete the TraceData tables. By default, the TraceData tables will not be deleted, so it is possible to use a already existing sessions with imported data.

Saved sessions can manually be deleted from the session list:

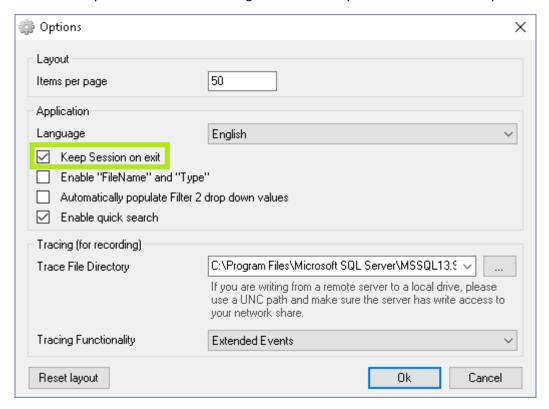


If SQL Event Analyzer is set to delete sessions upon exit, this can be ignore by holding down the Shift key when SQL Event Analyzer closes. The same applies when changing to a new connection from within the application, then holding down the Shift key while choosing "Ok" will keep the session:

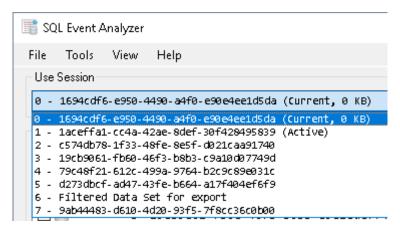




If sessions should be kept or deleted when closing SQL Event Analyzer can be set in the "Options" menu:



If another user is using a session, the session will be marked as "Active" in the session drop down list:



2. Permissions

The user, that connects to the SQL Server where SQL Event Analyzer operates, must have the following permissions:

- "db_owner" rights to the "SQLEventAnalyzer" database
- "Alter any connection" rights on server level

If using SQL Server 2008 R2 or older, the user must have the following permission:

• "Alter trace" rights on server level

If using SQL Server 2012 or newer, the user must have the following permissions:

- "Alter trace" rights on server level
- "View server state" rights on server level

Refer to the "Changing tracing functionality" section for more information about tracing functionality.

Note, if the user account that uses SQL Event Analyzer is not member of the local administrators group, the following will not be saved:

- Settings
- Saved searches
- Changes in the user interface

3. Standard columns

Events will by default always include the following data:

Id: Automatically generated increasing Id number

• TextData: The executed SQL statement

FileName: The trace file containing the event

Type: The event type

• SPID: The SPID for the event

• Duration: The execution time for the event in milliseconds

• StartTime: Start time for the event

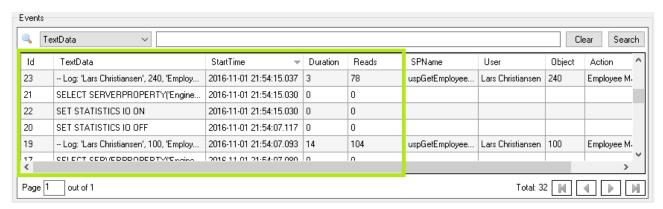
Reads: Number of logical reads for the event

• Writes: Number of writes for the event

CPU: The total CPU time for the event in milliseconds

Rows: Number of rows worked on in the event

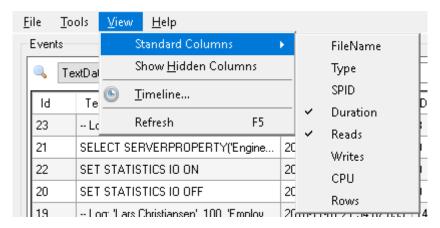
The above data will be shown as standard columns in the output list view:



Note, the following columns are not shown by default:

- FileName
- Type
- SPID
- Writes
- CPU
- Rows

Which standard columns to be shown can be chosen in "View", "Standard Columns":



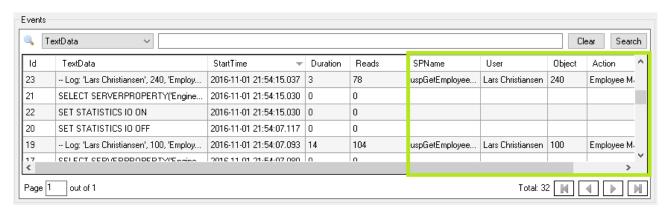
It is not possible to hide the "Id", "TextData" and "StartTime" columns.

A standard column can be used elsewhere in SQL Event Analyzer by using its name. I.e. it is possible to use a standard column in a custom column.

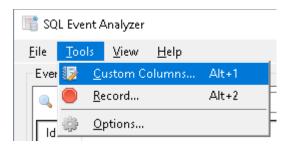
4. Custom columns

It is possible to add extra custom columns besides from the standard columns.

Custom columns are by default shown to the right of the standard columns:



Custom columns can be managed from "Tools", "Custom Columns...":

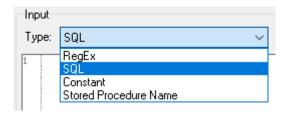


In a custom column, an input criteria can be set. If the input criteria is met, the corresponding output will be shown in the custom column.

A custom column must have an input type and an output type set.

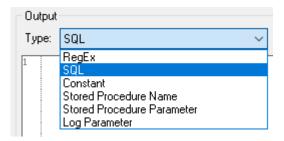
An input type can be:

- RegEx
- SQL
- Constant
- Stored Procedure name



An output type can be:

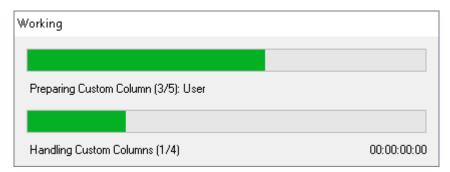
- RegEx
- SQL
- Constant
- Stored Procedure name
- Stored Procedure parameter
- Log parameter



The name of the custom column must be unique, and can be used elsewhere in SQL Event Analyzer. I.e. it is possible to use a custom column from another custom column. The name for the custom column can not be the same name as the name for a statistics column, e.g. "AvgDuration" (see the "Statistics" section for more information). Likewise, the name for a custom column can not be the same as the name of a standard column, e.g. "Reads".

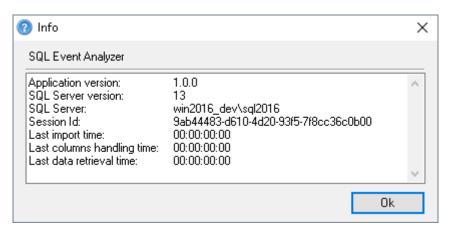
4.1 Generating output from custom columns

Before events can be shown in the output list view, the events must be handled by the values given in the custom columns. If the custom column values are changed, the output list view will be generated again.



Generating the output list view can be a time consuming operation, depending on the number of custom columns and the number of events.

The various durations for the last import, column handling, data import and data retrieval can be seen in "Help", "Info...":



[&]quot;Last import time": The time used for the last import of the chosen trace files to the database.

[&]quot;Last columns handling time": The time used for the custom columns to handle the imported data.

[&]quot;Last data retrieval time": The time used for retrieving the handled data from the database.

4.2 Input- and output types

The following input types are available for custom columns:

RegEx: Regular Expression

SQL: SQL query

Constant: A constant value

Stored Procedure name: Syntax: 'name', occurrence

name is the name of a Stored Procedure and is the value after an "exec" or an "execute". If "exec" or "execute" is not given, the name will not be

found.

occurrence states which Stored Procedure should be used. Normally this value will be 1, but if more than one Stored Procedure are referred in the same batch, this value can be used to state which of the Stored Procedures

that should be used.

Example of an output value for Stored Procedure name: 'S_Proc1', 1

The following output types are available for custom columns:

RegEx: Regular Expression

SQL: SQL query

Constant: A constant value

Stored Procedure name: Syntax: occurrence

occurrence states which Stored Procedure should be used. Normally this value will be 1, but if more than one Stored Procedure are referred in the same batch, this value can be used to state which of the Stored Procedures

that should be returned.

Example of an output value for Stored Procedure name: 1

Stored Procedure parameter: Syntax: position, occurrence

position states a parameter position for a Stored Procedure.

Example: If the 2nd parameter (test) in the following should be retrieved:

```
exec S_Procedure 123, 'test', 456
```

the position parameter must be 2. Note, in text parameters the two single quotes that encapsulates the text parameter will not be returned.

occurrence states which Stored Procedure should be used. Normally this value will be 1, but if more than one Stored Procedure are referred in the same batch, this value can be used to state which of the Stored Procedures that should be used.

Example of an output value for Stored Procedure parameter:

```
'S_Proc1', 1
```

Log parameter:

States a parameter to a log. The value must be a parameter position.

The Log information must be in the following format:

```
-- Log: parameter1, parameter2, ...
```

The parameters for the log information must fulfil the same requirements as the parameters for a Stored Procedure.

Example: If the 2nd parameter (123) int the following should be retrieved:

```
-- Log: 'test', 123
```

the value in output must be 2.

If "SQL" is used as an output type, the SQL query must fulfil the requirements for a SQL sub query. E.g. the following is possible:

```
select
case TextData
  when 'S_ViewOrder' then 'View Order'
end
```

and the following is not possible:

```
if TextData = 'S_ViewOrder'
begin
   select 'View Order'
end
```

"RegEx", "Stored Procedure name", "Stored Procedure parameter" and "Log parameter" can only be used if CLR functionality is enabled on the SQL Server. Refer to the "CLR functionality with the SQL" section for more information.

If the output type for the custom column is "SQL", there will be a limit on the number of characters the returned value contains. If the returned value has more than 50 characters, none of the values in the whole custom column will be set (not even values that are less than or equal to 50 characters).

The following SQL query for a "SQL" output type is exactly 50 characters and is valid:

```
select 1234567890123456789012345678901234567890
```

The following SQL query for a "SQL" output type is 51 characters and is invalid:

```
select 12345678901234567890123456789012345678901
```

If the above invalid SQL query exists, all values in the whole custom column will be empty.

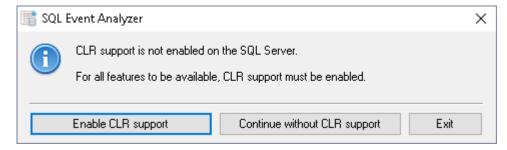
The following shows an example of how an invalid SQL query can be rewritten to only return the first 50 characters, and be valid:

select convert(varchar(50), 12345678901234567890123456789012345678901)

4.3 CLR functionality

To be able to use input- and output types that are not "SQL" and "Constant", CLR functionality must be enabled on the SQL Server.

By default, CLR functionality is not enabled on a SQL Server. If CLR functionality is not enabled, SQL Event Analyzer will give an option to enable it upon start:



It is possible to start SQL Event Analyzer without CLR functionality. If doing so, the following input- and output types will not be available:

- RegEx
- Stored Procedure name
- Stored Procedure parameter
- Log parameter

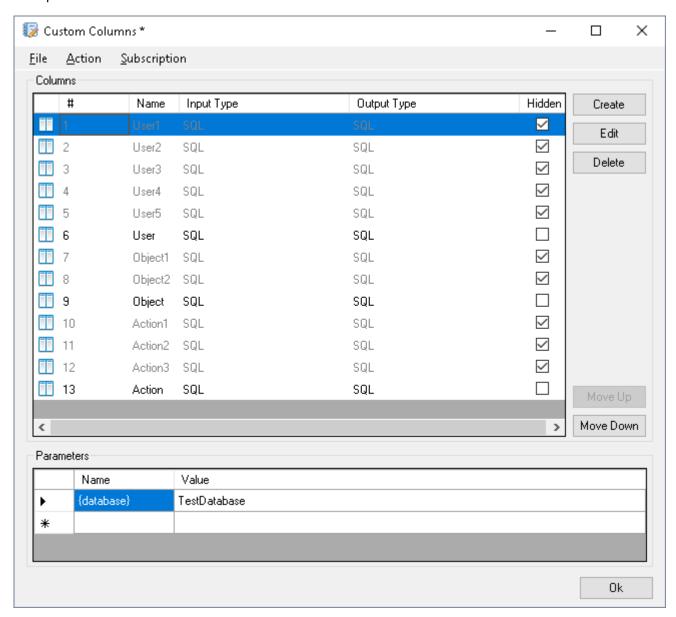
It is possible to enable temporary CLR functionality by holding down the Shift key while choosing "Enable CLR support". If temporary CLR functionality is enabled, CLR functionality will be disabled again when SQL Event Analyzer closes or a connection is made to another SQL Server.

Note, if temporary CLR functionality is enabled and SQL Event Analyzer is not properly closed (e.g. power outage), CLR functionality will not be disabled again.

4.4 Working with custom columns

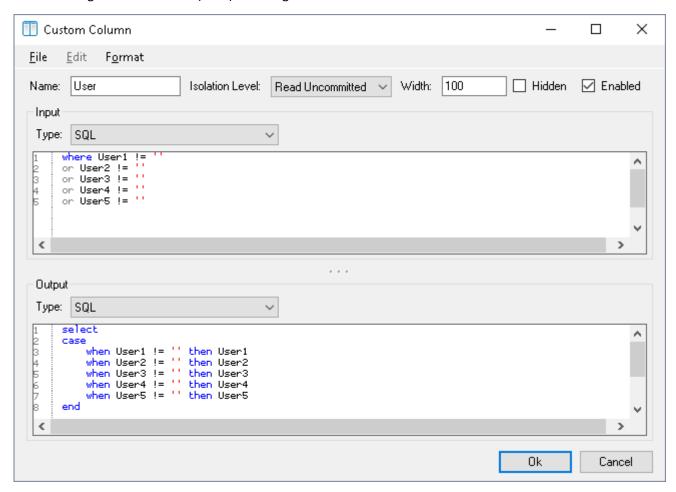
Custom columns can refer each other. A reference to another custom column is only possible if the referred custom column has a lower number than the current column.

Example:



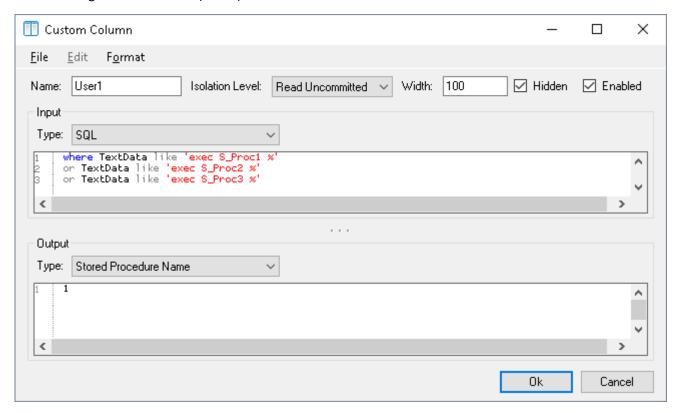
In the above, column number 6 (User) can refer the columns from number 1 to 5, but not refer the columns from 7 to 13.

The following shows column 6 (User) referring column number 1 to 5:

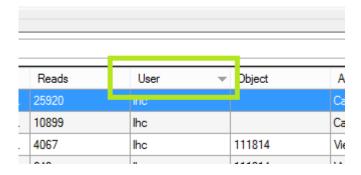


A custom column can always refer a standard column.

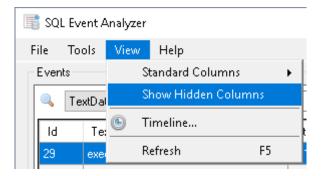
The following shows column 1 (User1) refer the standard column "TextData":



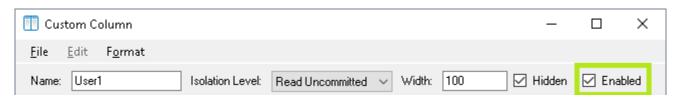
In the above examples are column 6 (User) shown in the output list view and column 1 (User1) is hidden:



It is possible to show hidden columns in the output list view by choosing "View", "Show Hidden Columns":

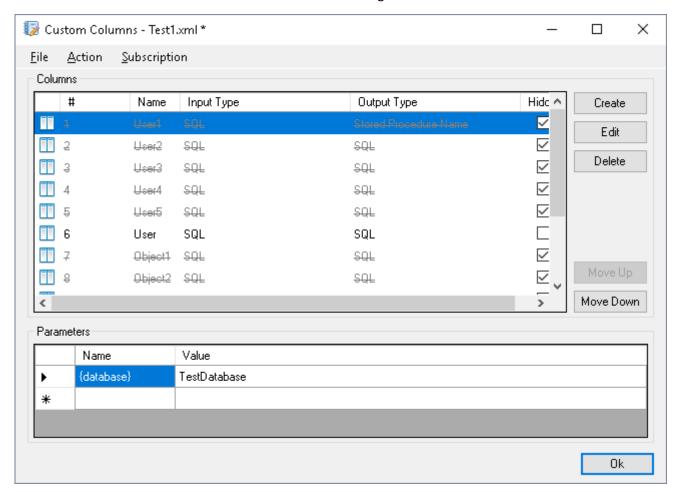


A custom column can be marked a active or inactive:



If a column is inactive, it is not possible to refer it from another custom column, and it will not be included in the output list view.

Inactive columns are shown with the column text strikethrough:



If CLR functionality is not enabled on the SQL Server, columns that are using CLR functionality will be inactive, and it will not be possible to activate these columns.

4.5 CLR functionality with the SQL type

The following functions can be used if the input- or output type are "SQL":

Returns RegEx group 1, that matches the given RegEx GetRegEx: MatchRegEx: Returns a boolean value indicating if the given RegEx can be matched Returns the name of a Stored Procedure found in a search text GetStoredProcedureName: MatchStoredProcedureName: Returns a boolean value indicating if the name of a Stored Procedure is found in a search text GetStoredProcedureParameter: If a parameter is found on the given position it is returned MatchStoredProcedureParameter: Returns a boolean value indicating if a Stored Procedure in a search text contains a given value on a given position GetLogParameter: If a parameter is found on the given position it is returned MatchLogParameter: Returns a boolean value indicating if a log in a search text contains a given value on a given position

Input- and output values for the above CLR functions:

```
    string GetRegEx(string input, string regExPattern)
```

- bool MatchRegEx(string input, string regExPattern)
- string GetStoredProcedureName(string input, int occurrence)
- bool MatchStoredProcedureName(string input, string name, int occurrence)
- string GetStoredProcedureParameter(string input, int position, int occurrence)
- bool MatchStoredProcedureParameter(string input, int position, string value, int occurrence)
- string GetLogParameter(string input, int position)
- bool MatchLogParameter(string input, int position, string value)

The following examples shows various usages of the above CLR functions. It is wanted to return all events from a TraceData table, where the first parameter to a Stored Procedure must be "lhc". Furthermore is it wanted that the first column in the result set is the actual name of the found Stored Procedure:

```
select dbo.GetStoredProcedureName(t.TextData, 1), t.*
from dbo.TraceData_f63631c1-5824-4dce-b631-f45e187c3cc1 t
where dbo.GetRegEx(t.TextData, 'exec S_Get.+ ''(.+?)''') = 'lhc'

select dbo.GetStoredProcedureName(t.TextData, 1), t.*
from TraceData_f63631c1-5824-4dce-b631-f45e187c3cc1 t
where dbo.MatchStoredProcedureParameter(t.TextData, 1, 'lhc', 1) = 1

select dbo.GetStoredProcedureName(t.TextData, 1), t.*
from TraceData_f63631c1-5824-4dce-b631-f45e187c3cc1 t
where dbo.GetStoredProcedureParameter(t.TextData, 1, 1) = 'lhc'
```

If GetStoredProcedureParameter, MatchStoredProcedureParameter, GetLogParameter or MatchLogParameter is used with 0 as the position parameter, the following will be returned:

• GetStoredProcedureParameter: Number of parameters

 MatchStoredProcedureParameter: Boolean value indicating if the number of parameters are equal to value

GetLogParameter: Number of parameters

• MatchLogParameter: Boolean value indicating if the number of parameters are equal to value

For GetStoredProcedureName, MatchStoredProcedureName, GetStoredProcedureParameter and MatchStoredProcedureParameter, an occurrence parameter must be given. This value states which Stored Procedure that should be used if more than one Stored Procedure exists in the same batch. Example, by executing the following two Stored Procedures in the same batch:

```
exec s_proc1
exec s_proc2
```

the returned value will be s_proc1 if the occurrence parameter is 1, and s_proc2 if the occurrence parameter is 2.

4.6 TextData Cleaned

The same SQL statement can be executed in different ways. E.g. the following two Stored Procedure executions are the same:

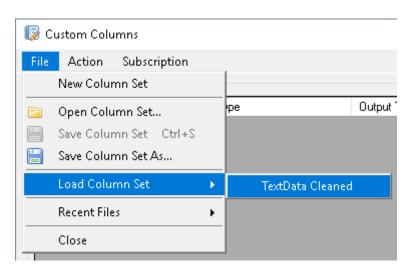
```
exec s_proc1
execute [s_proc1]
```

SQL Event Analyzer contains functionality to "clean" the TextData so it appears as unified as possible. After cleaning the two above Stored Procedure executions, both of them will be presented as:

```
s_proc1
```

This makes it possible to e.g. view statistics for how many times a SQL query has been executed.

The TextData cleaning functionality can be used by choosing "Load Column Set", "TextData Cleaned" in the "Custom Columns" editor:



4.7 Example of index creation on a custom column

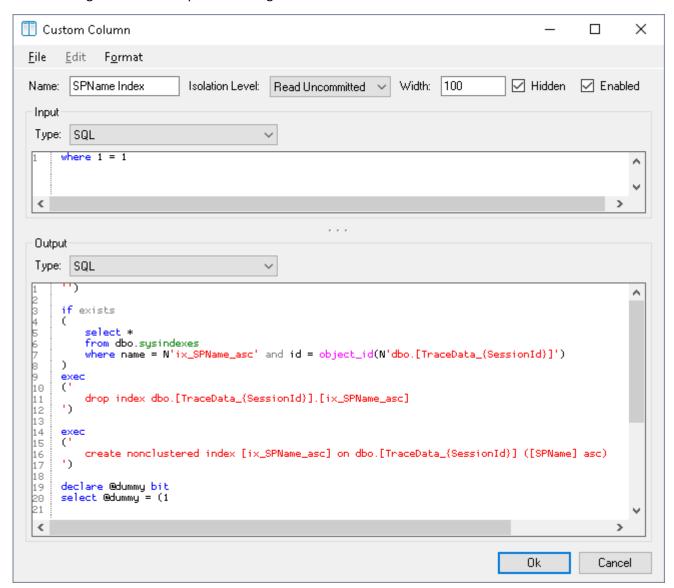
It is possible to operate on either DML or DDL from the custom columns. This is possible by breaking the functionality in the SQL output type:

Breaking the SQL output type can be done by inserting the following:

```
'')
...
declare @dummy bit
select @dummy = (1
```

Where ... contains the SQL statement that is wanted to be executed.

The following shows an example of creating an index on a custom column with the name SPName:



Note, in the above the parameter {SessionId} is used. This parameter will be replaced with the correct session id when handling the custom columns.

The SQL statement in the above screenshot is:

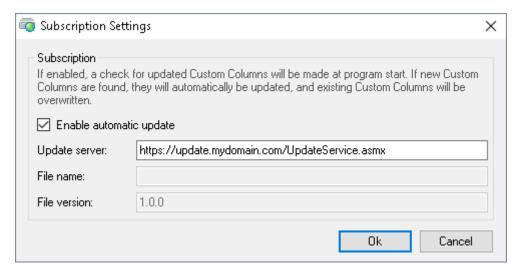
4.8 Subscription

It is possible to subscribe to custom columns, and automatically download new versions of a custom columns set from a centralized server.

The subscription functionality can be activated in "Subscription", "Settings..." in the "Custom Columns" editor:



In the settings, the server can be entered and it can be chosen to activate or deactivate the functionality:



The subscription functionality is attached to the active custom columns set, i.e. it is possible to define different servers for different custom columns sets.

Signature for the web service communication:

public string GetDownloadUrl(string productName, string machineName, string userName, string domainName, string allowUpdateCriteria)

public string GetLatestVersion(string productName, string currentVersion, string
machineName, string userName, string domainName, string allowUpdateCriteria)

public string GetChangelogUrl(string productName, string allowUpdateCriteria)

Changelog format is:

1.0.1

Feature X implemented.

1.0.0

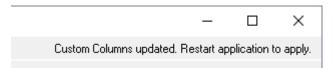
Initial version.

When the subscription functionality is activated, a check for a newer version will be performed upon program start and when loading a new custom columns file.

It is also possible to perform a manual update check from "Subscription", "Check for updates...":



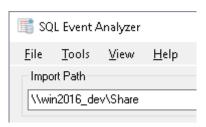
If an update is found for the custom columns set, it will be shown in the user interface:



The new custom columns will not be active until the application has been restarted.

5. Events from trace files

Trace files can be imported from the path given in "Import Path":



For a trace file to be able to be imported in SQL Event Analyzer, it must contain a least the following data:

- TextData
- EventClass
- StartTime

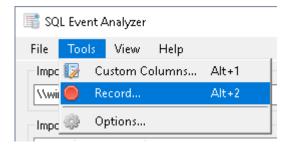
E.g. a trace file from SQL Server Profiler can be imported.

If SQL Server 2012 or newer is used, then it is also possible to import Extended Event Trace files (.xel).

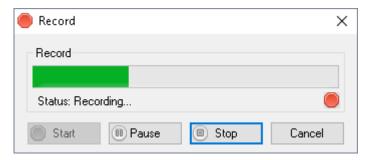
6. Real time events

Instead of importing events from a trace file, the events can be recorded in real time.

To start a recording, choose "Tools", "Record...":



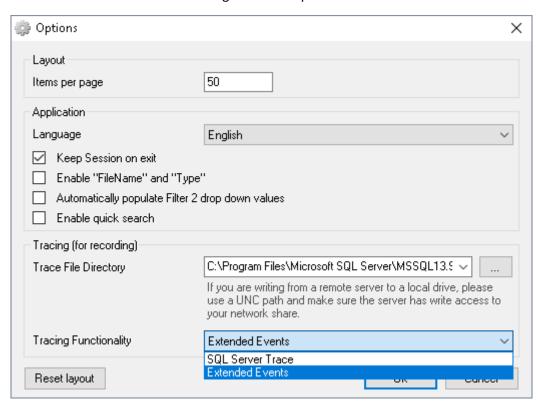
When recording, all events on the SQL Server will be registered.



6.1 Changing tracing functionality

If using SQL Server 2012 or newer, it is possible to change the tracing functionality to be used when recording real time events.

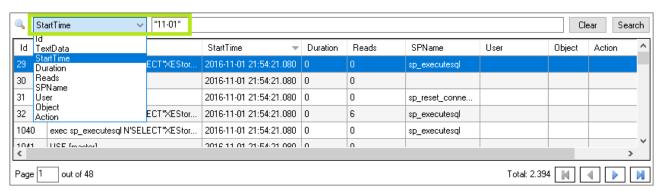
If SQL Event Analyzer is connected to a SQL Server 2012 or newer, the tracing functionality will by default be set to "Extended Events". This can be changed in the "Options" menu:



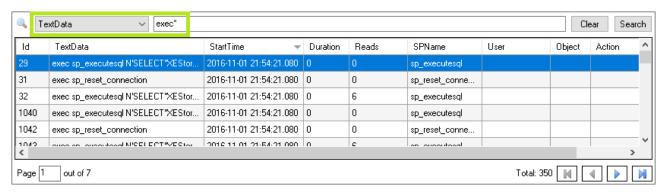
Note, it is not possible to choose "Extended Events" if using a SQL Server version older than SQL Server 2012.

7. Searching and sorting

It is possible to search in all columns. Search supports wild cards by using *. All columns except from the "TextData" column supports the use of wildcards before- and after the search term:

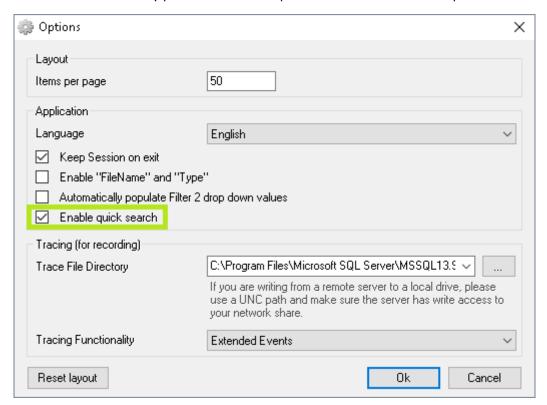


When searching in the "TextData" column, wildcards are only supported after the search term:



All columns can be sorted, so it is possible to e.g. see the event with the longest duration.

Note, the shown searches are only possible if "Enable quick search" is enabled in "Options":

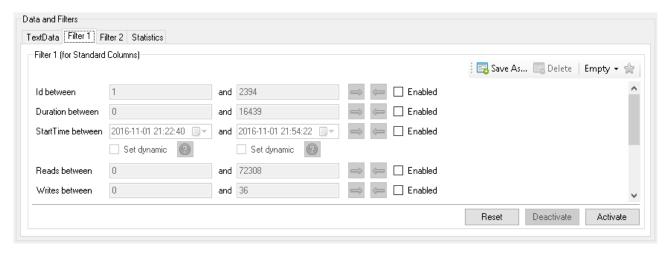


If "Enable quick search" is not enabled, searches are performed in the filtering section instead. See the "Filters" section for more information.

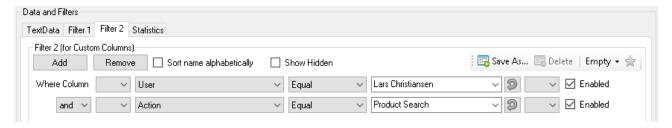
8. Filters

The events can be filtered by using two filters:

Filter 1: Filtering data from standard columns:



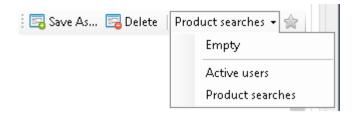
Filter 2: Filtering data from custom columns:



When a filter is active, the name of the filter will be marked with a *:



Searches defined in Filter 1 or Filter 2 can be saved so they can be reused. To save a search, choose "Save As..." and enter a name. Then the saved search will be shown in the list as shown in the following:



Likewise, the searches can be deleted or modified.

Saved searched can be marked as system objects. If a saved search is marked as a system object, then it is not possible to delete, modify or overwrite the search.

Saved searched can be marked as system objects by adding the name of the saved searches to the registry key for SQL Event Analyzer. The name for the saved searched must be separated by | like:

SystemObjects_Filter1	REG_SZ	MostRecentDay MostRecentWeek MostRecentMonth
SystemObjects_Filter2	REG_SZ	NoRebuild
SystemObjects_Statistics	REG_SZ	Actions

The name for the saved search can not contain any of the following characters:

,'&[]

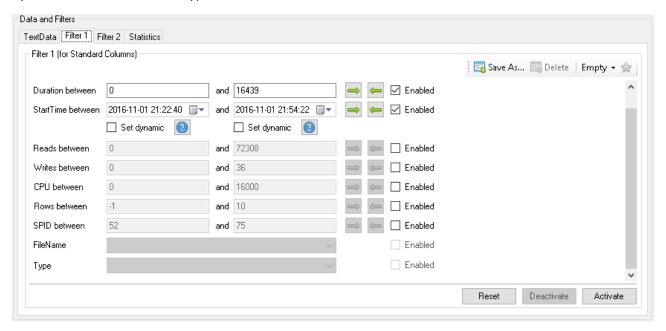
Likewise, the name can not be "Empty" or contain any character that is not allowed in a file name.

8.1 Filter 1

When starting SQL Event Analyzer, the values for Filter 1 will be prefilled with the minimum, maximum and unique values for data. E.g. the first "StartTime" value will be prefilled with the time for the first of the events, and the second "StartTime" will be prefilled with the time for the last of the events.

Likewise, the "Type" will be prefilled with unique values for "Type" among the events.

By default, "FileName" and "Type" are deactivated:

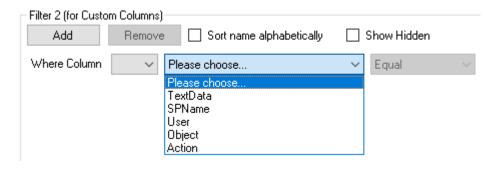


"FileName" and "Type" can be activated in "Options". Note that if "FileName" and "Type" is activated, the handling of the TraceData tables will take more time. If "FileName" and "Type" is not activated, the values will still be saved in the TraceData tables.

By clicking on the "Reset" button, the values will be set to their initial prefilled values.

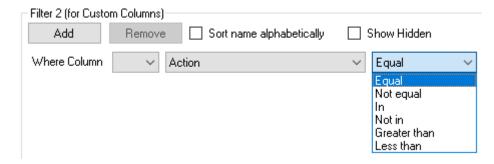
8.2 Filter 2

It is possible to add filters to custom columns. First choose the custom column:

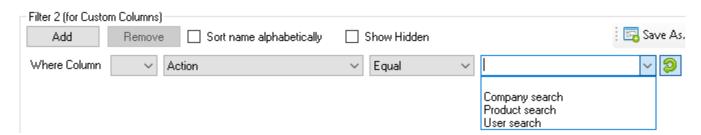


Note, "TextData" will always be at the top of the list and is not influenced by "Sort name alphabetically".

Choose criteria:

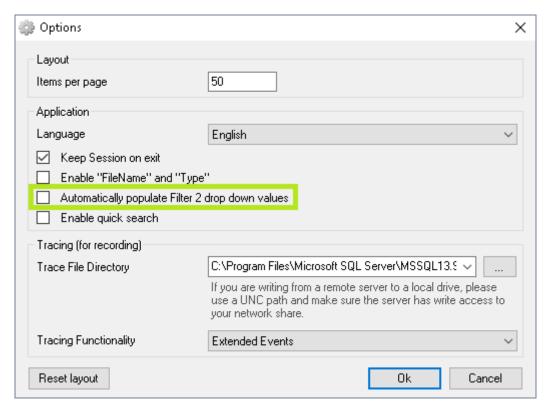


Value is chosen or entered:

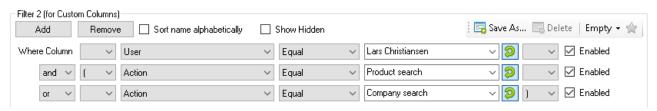


It is possible to manually enter a value in the value list or choose one of the unique values for the custom column. The unique values are always shown alphabetically.

Note, by default the unique values are not set to be automatically populated. This can be changed in "Options":



It is possible to add as many search criteria as wanted:



Note the use of parentheses in the above.

By using the "Equal" and "Not equal" operators, wildcards can be used. Wildcards can be used both beforeand after the search term:



The following characters can be used as wildcard characters: "%" and "*".

When using the "In" or "Not in" operators, it is possible to search for a list of values. The values must be separated by comma:

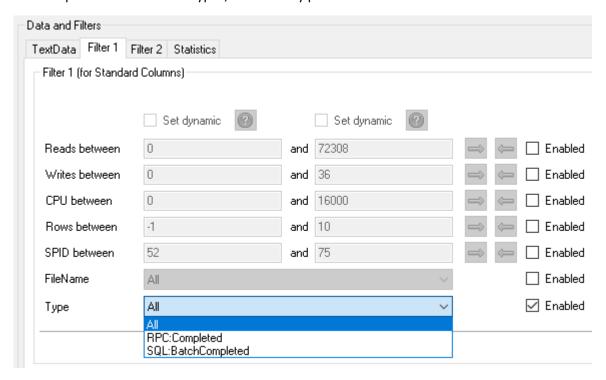


The "Active" option defines if the corresponding filter is used or not.

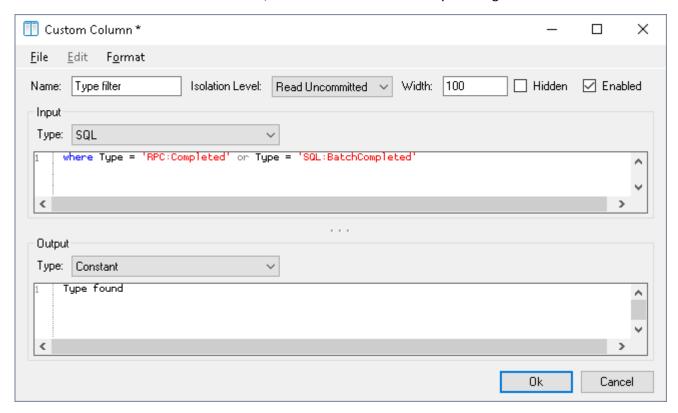
8.3 Filtering example

For a set of events, it is wanted to find all events where the "Type" is either "RPC:Completed" or "SQL:BatchCompleted".

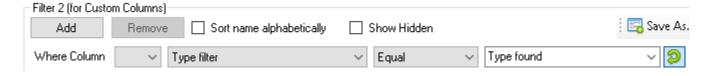
In Filter 1 it is possible to filter on "Type", but it is only possible to choose one value at a time:



Filter 2 can not filter on standard columns, so the task must be solved by creating a custom column:



In Filter 2 it is now possible to choose the value from the custom column, and the filtering can be performed:



9. Unattended execution

SQL Event Analyzer can be executed unattended. The unattended mode can be activated by starting SQL Event Analyzer with the following command line parameters:

```
[-l:"Import Path"]
                        or
                        [-u:"Session Id" (-v (-a:"Application name")) (-x)]
                        or
                        [-r]
                       (-c:"Custom Column Set File name")
                       (-t:"SQL Server Connection String" (-ms:"SQL"))
                       (-\circ)
                       (-w:"Web service")
                       (-b:"Database name")
                       (-m:"Text")
[]: Mandatory parameter
(): Optional parameter
     (-p:"Post Script File"):
             Full path to SQL Script File.
             The script will be executed after importing the Trace Files.
     (-e:"Post Script"):
             SQL Script.
             The script will be executed after importing the Trace Files.
     (-z:"Number of Files"):
             Compress Trace Files after import. The newest "Number of Files" will be kept and the rest
             will be deleted.
             Use 0 to keep all files.
             Delete Trace Files after import.
     [-n:Number of Trace Files]:
             The top N most recent Trace Files to import.
             Use 0 to import all Trace Files.
     [-f:"Trace File name"]:
             Import all Trace Files newer than the given Trace File.
             The events in the given Trace File will not be imported.
     (-s:"Session Id"):
             Append events to specified Session.
```

or

Parameters:

(-d):

[-i:"Session Id" (-x)]

```
If -s is not specified, the events will be imported to a new Session.
[-i:"Session Id"]:
        Import all Trace Files newer than the last imported Trace File found in
        the "FileName" column in the TraceData table for the Session Id specified.
        If -i is specified, the events will be appended to the specified Session.
[-l:"Import Path"]:
        Location of Trace Files to import.
[-u:"Session Id"]:
        Use the given Session upon start.
(-√):
        Disable TraceData table changes.
(-a:"Application name"):
        Use given application name instead of "SQL Event Analyzer".
(-b:"Database name"):
        Use given application database name instead of "SQLEventAnalyzer".
(-m:"Text"):
        Add the given text to the execution log.
(-ms:"SQL"):
        Add output from the given SQL to the execution log. Output will be returned from the first
        row in the column "Message".
        The -t parameter determines the SQL Server connection used.
(-x):
        Force deletion of the TraceData table for the Session Id specified when exiting.
[-r]:
        Start in recording mode.
(-c:"Custom Column Set File name"):
        Full path to file that should be used as Custom Column Set.
(-t:"SQL Server Connection String"):
        Connect using the given SQL Server Connection String.
        If a password is used in the given SQL Server Connection String, it must be encrypted.
        If -t is not used, the last successful connection will be used.
(-\circ):
        Execution log will be saved in execution path.
(-w:"Web service"):
        Send execution log to the specified web service.
(-g:"Statistics names"):
        Generate statistics using the saved statistics with the given names.
```

If -s is specified, the events will be appended to the specified Session.

Names can be separated by comma.

```
(-f1:"Filter 1 names"):
```

Apply the Filter 1 with the given names to be used when generating statistics. Names can be separated by comma.

```
(-f2:"Filter 2 names"):
```

Apply the Filter 2 with the given names to be used when generating statistics. Names can be separated by comma.

```
(-sw:"Statistics names"):
```

Requires the use of -w. Will send the generated statistics with the given names to the given web service.

The statistics names must be included in the names from the -g parameter.

```
(-sp:"Path")
```

Will save the generated statistics in the given path.

```
Example 1 (import the two most recent Trace Files and run script afterwards):
```

```
SQLEventAnalyzer.exe -p:"C:\SomeDir\PostScript.sql" -n:2 -l:"C:\TraceFiles"
```

```
Example 2 (import all Trace Files newer than "LastImported.trc"):
```

```
SQLEventAnalyzer.exe -f:"C:\SomeDir\LastImported.trc" -l:"C:\TraceFiles"
```

Example 3 (import all Trace Files newer than the last imported Trace File found in the "FileName" column in the TraceData table and append the events to an existing Session): SQLEventAnalyzer.exe -i:"collect" -l:"C:\TraceFiles"

SQL query will be executed in the same database where the TraceData table resides.

The post script file and the post script are optional and can be either empty or contain a SQL query that will be executed after the TraceData table has been created and the custom columns has been generated. The

The post script file and the post script can use parameters by following the same principle as described in the "Parameters" section. E.g. {SessionId} or custom parameters can be used.

It is possible to use the -p and -e parameters at the same time. In this case, the post script file given with -p will be executed first, and the post script given with -e will be executed afterwards.

"Trace File name" can be either of the type SQL Server Trace (.trc) or, if supported, Extended Event Trace files (.xel).

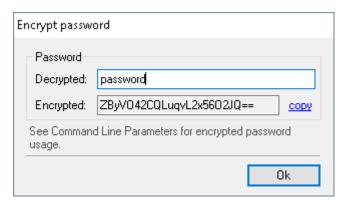
The -u parameter can be used to invoke a session directly when starting SQL Event Analyzer. This can be useful if access is only wanted to the events and where trace file import is irrelevant. Furthermore, the -v parameter can be given together with -u to start SQL Event Analyzer in a mode where it is only possible to see events, but all functionality to modify events are deactivated.

The following functionality are deactivated when using the $\neg v$ parameter:

- The "Custom Columns" menu
- The "Change Connection" menu
- Recording functionality
- The "Back" button
- "Show Hidden Columns"

If the -z parameter is used, the imported trace file will be compressed to a 7zip archive.

If the -t parameter is used, a password can be used in the given SQL Server Connection String. This password can be encrypted. To encrypt a password, choose "Help", "Command Line Parameters...", "Tools", "Generate encrypted password...":



If the -m parameter is used, the given user defined text will be added to the end of the execution log.

The output will be added to the execution log in the following format:

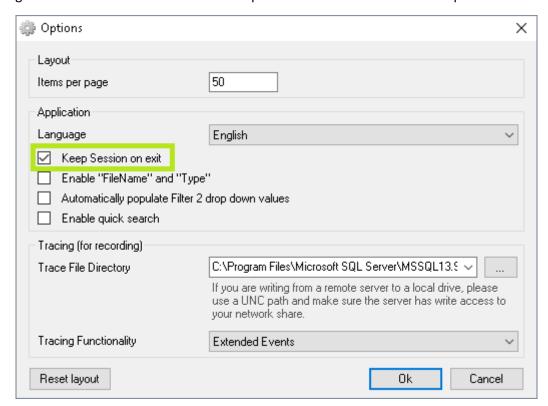
```
2015-05-18T08:48:43: Custom Message:
[BEGIN Custom Message]
...
[END Custom Message]
```

If the -ms parameter is used, the output from the given SQL query will be added to the end if the execution log. The name for the output column must be "Message" (without quotes). Output will only be returned from the first row.

The output will be added to the execution log in the following format:

```
2015-05-18T08:48:43: Custom SQL Message:
[BEGIN Custom SQL Message]
...
[END Custom SQL Message]
```

Note, the given session will be deleted if not "Keep Session on exit" is enabled in "Options":



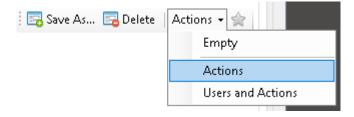
If the -u, -i or -s parameters are used, the session will not be deleted even though "Keep Session on exit" is not enabled. The session can be forced deleted by using the -x parameter.

9.1 Automatically generating aggregated statistics

If the $\neg g$ parameter is used together with $\neg sp$ and/or $\neg sw$, there will be generated aggregated statistics (for more information see the "Statistics" section).

If the -sw parameter is used together with the -g parameter, the statistics will be send to the web service given in the -w parameter (for more information see the "Send execution log to web service" section). If the -sp parameter is used, the statistics will be saved in the given path with the file name Statistics.zip.

The statistics used for the automatically generated statistics, is determined from the given name from the – g parameter. The name must correspond to a saved search from the Statistics tab:



Here it is possible to create the wanted column groups to be used for the aggregation. To use the above group, "Actions", the -g parameter must be given as the following:

⁻g:"Actions"

If it is wanted to create multiple statistics for multiple saved searches, these can be given by separating the names of the saved searches with comma:

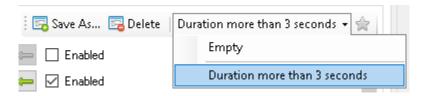
```
-g:"Actions, Users and Actions"
```

It is possible to use Filter 1 and Filter 2 to filter the data used to generating the statistics (for more information see the "Filtered statistics" section).

Filters can be set by using the -£1 parameter for Filter 1 and the -£2 parameter for Filter 2. The following shows an example of how to use Filter 1:

```
-f1:"Duration more than 3 seconds"
```

The name of Filter 1 must likewise exist as a saved search for Filter 1:



If multiple statistics are given in the $\neg g$ parameter, optional filters to be used for each statistics can be given likewise by using the $\neg f1$ parameter and the $\neg f2$ parameter. The filter names must be separated by comma. Example:

```
-f2:"Customer Actions, Users in Department ABC"
```

The following example shows three statistics where Filter 1 should be applied on the first statistics and on the last statistics:

```
-g:"SomeStat1, SomeStat2, SomeStat3" -f1:"SomeFilter1,,SomeFilter2"
```

The generated statistics will be saved in the CSV file format, and can be directly opened in Microsoft Excel. The files names are in the following format:

```
[Statistics name][Period begin][Period end][Filter 1 name][Filter 2 name][TotalRows].CSV
```

[Period begin] and [Period end] defines the begin- and end time for the events that are used as the basis for the statistics.

[TotalRows] defines the total number of events that are used as the basis for the statistics.

The final statistics will be delivered in a compressed format in a file with the name Statistics.zip. Statistics.zip contains the wanted statistics in the CSV file format.

The exported statistics will contain all columns, no matter which columns are chosen to be shown in the statistics view. The column order will be determined by the order of the saved statistics searches, and not by the shown column order as when exporting the statistics from the user interface.

The following shows an example of automatically generated statistics of two statistics with the same name ("Actions"), where two different Filter 1 ("All days" and "Last week") are applied, and where the statistics with "Last week" is send to a web service and both statistics are saved to a path:

```
-g:"Actions, Actions" -f1:"All days, Last week" -sw:", Actions" -sp:"C:\somedir"
```

Note the parameter:

```
-sw:", Actions"
```

where it is stated, that it is the second generated statistics (using Filter 1 "Last week") that must be send to the web service.

9.2 Service context execution

If SQL Event Analyzer runs in an unattended mode e.g. from the Windows Task Scheduler, the execution will take place in the service context of the Task Scheduler.

When executing in a service context, the graphical user interface will not be shown. Execution logs from a service context execution can be found in the path where SQL Event Analyzer is installed.

Log files from execution in a service context will be saved from the last 10 executions. When the 11th execution takes place, the oldest of the 10 existing log files will be deleted. The following shows an example of a log file name:

```
SQL Event Analyzer 25082014-110831.log
```

SQL Event Analyzer automatically detects if it is executing in a service context. E.g. if SQL Event Analyzer is started from the command prompt in unattended mode, the graphical user interface will be shown since it is not running in an actual service context.

When executing in a service context, the −o parameter will be ignored, since it will always create an execution log in when running in a service context.

9.3 Unattended mode return codes

When executing SQL Event Analyzer in unattended mode, a return code is set when the execution has ended.

Description of the return codes:

Return code	Description
0	Execution successful
-1	Error when running in unattended mode, where SQL Event Analyzer is not started with
	the -r or -u command line parameters
-2	Error when running in recording mode (command line parameter: -r)
-3	Error when running where a session is set to be used when starting SQL Event Analyzer
	(command line parameter: -u)
-4	Error when executing post script
-5	Error when deleting imported trace files
-6	Error when importing trace files
-7	Error when compressing imported trace files
-8	Error when communicating with the web service
-9	Error when generating statistics
-10	Error when executing SQL script used for output to the execution log (command line
	parameter: -ms)

9.4 Send execution log to web service

The execution log can be send to a web service if the -w parameter is used.

Signature for the web service communication without an attached file:

```
public bool RegisterLogEvent(string productName, string currentVersion, string machineName,
string userName, string domainName, int statusCode, string message)
```

Signature for the web service communication without an attached file (used if the -g and -sw parameters are used. For more information see the "Automatically generating aggregated statistics" section):

public bool RegisterLogEventWithAttachment(string productName, string currentVersion, string
machineName, string userName, string domainName, int statusCode, string message, byte[]
attachment)

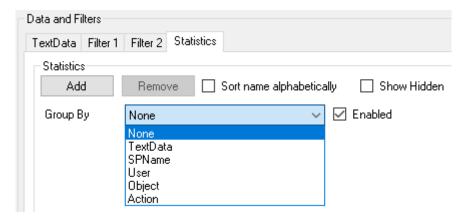
10. Running in recording mode

SQL Event Analyzer can be set to start directly in recording mode. Recording mode can be activated by starting SQL Event Analyzer with the command line parameter -r:

SQLEventAnalyzer.exe -r

11. Statistics

Statistics for the events can be seen from the "Statistics" tab:



Here it is possible to show statistics for user defined grouping of data.

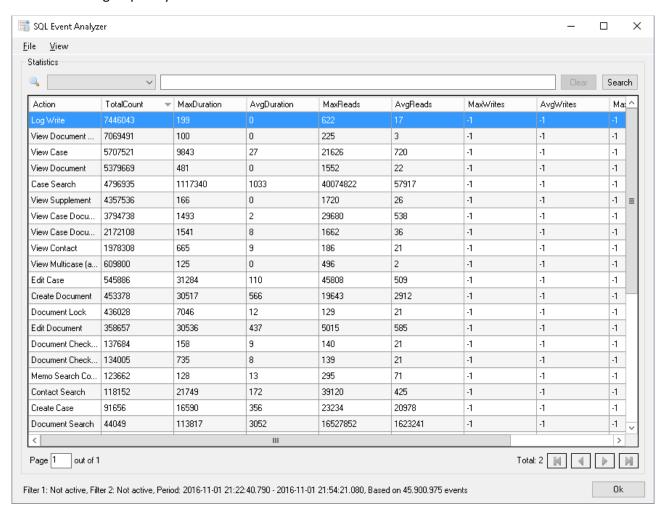
If no grouping is chosen, the overall statistics for all events are shown.

Note, "TextData" will always be at the top of the list and is not influenced by "Sort name alphabetically".

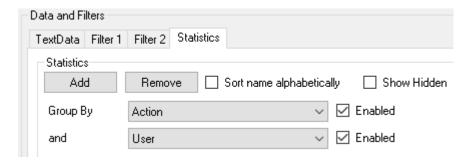
Likewise Filter 1 and Filter 2, searches can be saved, deleted and modified (for more information se the "Filters" section).

Example:

Show statistics grouped by the custom column "Action":



It is possible to group by as many custom columns as wanted:



The following statistical data can be shown:

• TotalCount: Count

MinDuration: Minimum execution time
 MaxDuration: Maximum execution time
 AvgDuration: Average execution time

DevDuration: Standard deviation in execution time

VarDuration: Variance in execution timeSumDuration: Sum of execution time

MinReads: Minimum ReadsMaxReads: Maximum ReadsAvgReads: Average Reads

DevReads: Standard deviation in Reads

VarReads: Variance in Reads
 SumReads: Sum of Reads
 MinWrites: Minimum Writes
 MaxWrites: Maximum Writes
 AvgWrites: Average Writes

• DevWrites: Standard deviation in Writes

VarWrites: Variance in Writes
 SumWrites: Sum of Writes
 MinCPU: Minimum CPU
 MaxCPU: Maximum CPU
 AvgCPU: Average CPU

DevCPU: Standard deviation in CPU

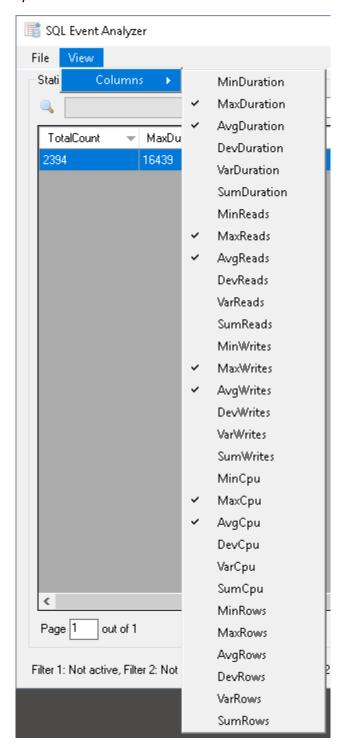
VarCPU: Variance in CPU
 SumCPU: Sum of CPU
 MinRows: Minimum Rows
 MaxRows: Maximum Rows
 AvgRows: Average Rows

DevRows: Standard deviation in Rows

VarRows: Variance in RowsSumRows: Sum of Rows

Execution times are in milliseconds.

Not all columns are shown by default. Which columns to show can be chosen in "View", "Columns":



11.1 Filtered statistics

Filter 1 and Filter 2 can be used to filter the data used for the statistics.

In the bottom left corner on in the statistics view, is shown which filters are active:

Filter 1: Active, Filter 2: Active, Period:

11.2 Improve performance when working with statistics

If working with large data sets, is it advised to use a Columnstore Index on the TraceData table. This is only possible if using SQL Server 2012 or newer.

A Columnstore Index can manually be created by executing the following:

create nonclustered columnstore index ix_CS on dbo.[TraceData_{SessionId}] (ID, [User],
[Object], [Action], Duration, Reads, Writes, CPU, Rows)

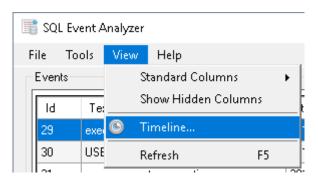
Where {SessionId} must be replaced with the correct session id.

In the above script, the custom columns [User], [Object], [Action] are used. These can freely be changed.

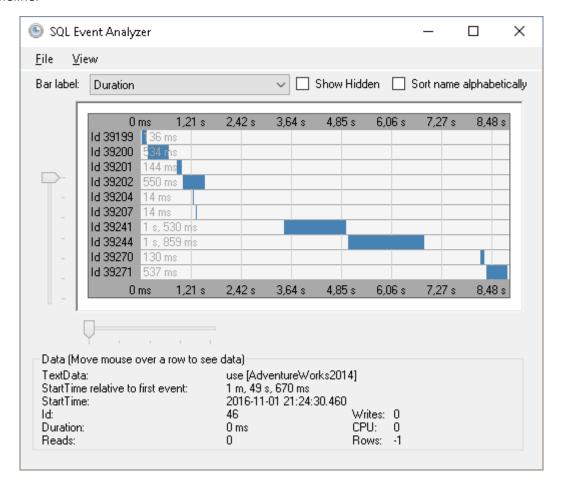
The name for the Columnstore Index must be ix_CS. If another name is used, SQL Event Analyzer will fail.

12. Timeline

A timeline for the events can be seen from "View", "Timeline...":

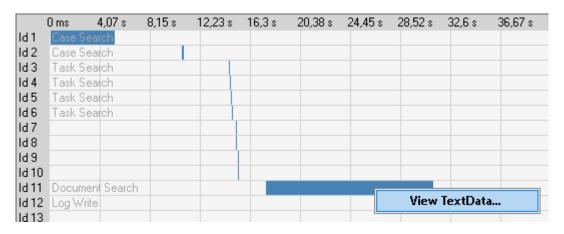


The timeline:



Information about events can be seen by hovering the mouse above the individual events.

It is possible to right click on an event and see the SQL statement for the event:

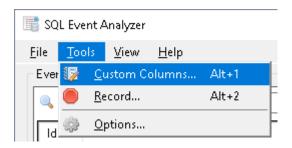


Note, that the timeline can not show more than 1000 events, and only show events where the time span between the first- and last event is maximum 1 day.

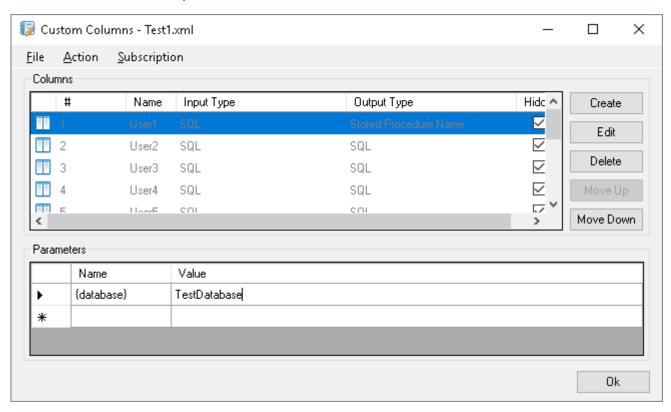
13. Parameters

Parameters can be used to replace values in the text for input- and output types.

Parameters can be set in "Tools", "Custom Columns...":

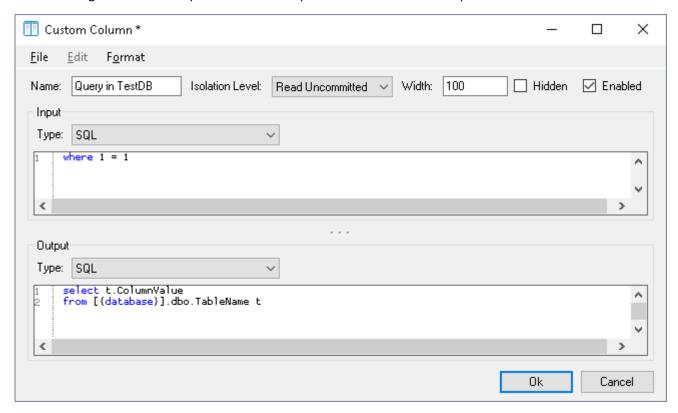


In the "Parameters" section, parameters can be added, modified and deleted:



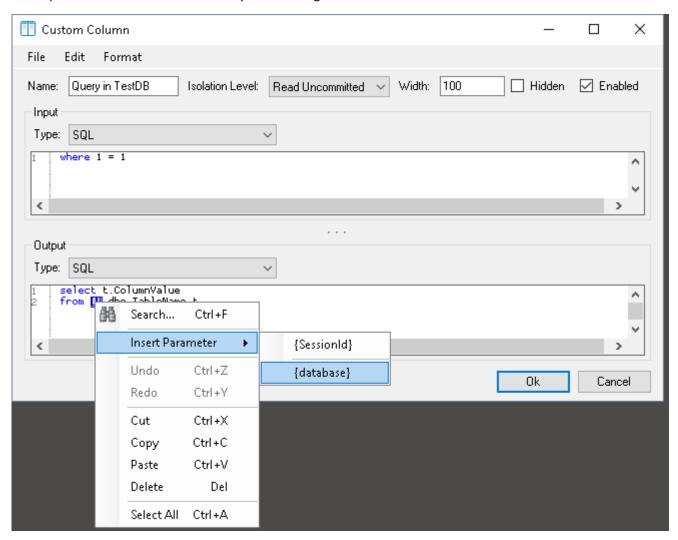
The values given in "Name" will be replaced with the values in "Value" when handling the columns. In the above example, "{database}" will be replaced with "TestDatabase".

The following shows an example of the use of a parameter value in the output text:



Note, the values for "Name" and "Value" can freely be chosen and do not have to be encapsulated by { }.

Given parameters can be insert directly from the right click menu:



The {SessionId} parameter is a standard parameter which contains the active session id.