HighLatencyLogin

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Issue

The customer is consistently unable to login to Azure SQL Database. The error messages reported on the customer's side could be 40613 "not currently available" or other, connectivity-related messages.

Investigation / Analysis

The symptoms on the telemetry show as "HighLatencyLogin" in ASC, with OutageReasonLevell as "Unplanned" and OutageReasonLevell as "HighLatencyLogin". The reason appears to be related to blocking on LCK_M_SCH_S locks.

ASC

Login Outage details

In **ASC** -> **Downtime Reasons** -> **Login Outages**, you will see OutageReasonLevel1 as "Unplanned", OutageReasonLevel2 as "HighLatencyLogin" and OutageReasonLevel3 as "LCK_M_S" or "LCK_M_SCH_M" or "LCK_M_SCH_S".

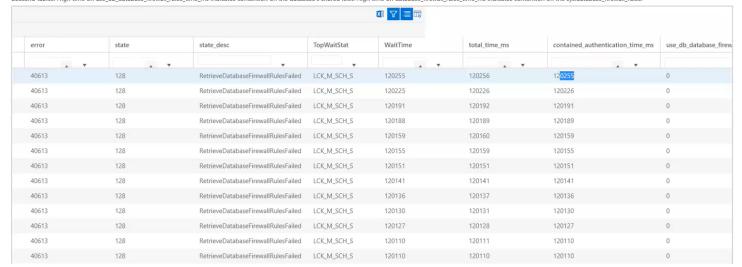
2/10/2021 10:47:12 PM	2/10/2021 10:47:27 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:59.635000
2/10/2021 10:48:42 PM	2/10/2021 10:49:27 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:59.635000
2/10/2021 10:51:12 PM	2/10/2021 10:51:27 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:59.635000
2/10/2021 10:52:12 PM	2/10/2021 10:53:57 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.146000
2/10/2021 10:54:42 PM	2/10/2021 10:55:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.159000
2/10/2021 10:56:13 PM	2/10/2021 10:56:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.159000
2/10/2021 10:57:13 PM	2/10/2021 10:57:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.159000
2/10/2021 10:58:43 PM	2/10/2021 10:59:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.159000
2/10/2021 11:01:13 PM	2/10/2021 11:01:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	LongLogins	login_time_ms	{"package":"sqlserver","No
2/10/2021 11:02:13 PM	2/10/2021 11:02:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	LongLogins	login_time_ms	{"package":"sqlserver","No
2/10/2021 11:03:13 PM	2/10/2021 11:03:58 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:02:00.013000
2/10/2021 11:05:13 PM	2/10/2021 11:05:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:59.970000
2/10/2021 11:06:13 PM	2/10/2021 11:06:28 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:59.970000
2/10/2021 11:07:14 PM	2/10/2021 11:07:29 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.159000
2/10/2021 11:08:44 PM	2/10/2021 11:09:29 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.159000
2/10/2021 11:11:14 PM	2/10/2021 11:11:29 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.115000
2/10/2021 11:12:14 PM	2/10/2021 11:12:29 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.115000
2/10/2021 11:13:14 PM	2/10/2021 11:13:59 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.115000
2/10/2021 11:15:14 PM	2/10/2021 11:15:29 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.115000
2/10/2021 11:16:14 PM	2/10/2021 11:16:29 PM	prod-brazilsouth1-a	srlive000001	prd_live_cbccampogrande	Unplanned	HighLatencyLogin	TopWaitStat_LCK_M_SCH_S	WaitTime: 00:01:50.115000 -

Top Waitstats locks

TopWaitStat_LCKs breakdown

In ASC -> Connectivity -> Data Explorer -> [anypackage_0_0,anypackage_26078, TopWaitStat_LCK] - Slow Logins, SNI ReadTimeout, check "TopWaitStat_LCKs breakdown" for wait type details during login.

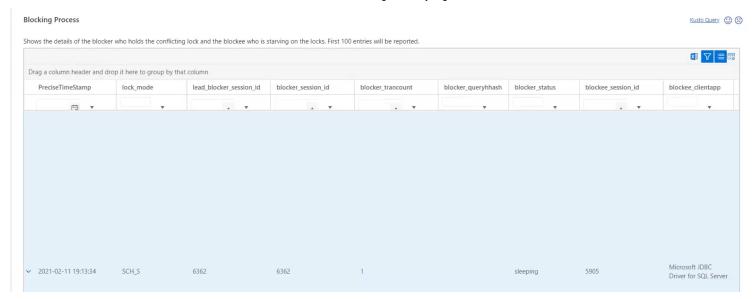
Logins need to lookup users, logins, firewall rules etc from the security cache and/or from the backend tables in the database. So it has to acquire locks on those caches or database objects. If another thread (user txns or background threads like failover, audit etc) is holding a conflicting lock, logins would starve. Following table lists top 100 logins that are starving for locks and it's break down. High time on containued_authentication_time_ms indicates contention on the security cache or the related backend tables. High time on use_db_database_firewall_rules_time_ms indicates contention on the sys.database_firewall_rules.



Blocking process and head blocker

In ASC -> Connectivity -> Data Explorer -> [anypackage_0_0,anypackage_26078, TopWaitStat_LCK] - Slow Logins, SNI ReadTimeout, check "Blocking Process" to understand the blocking header is background process or client process.

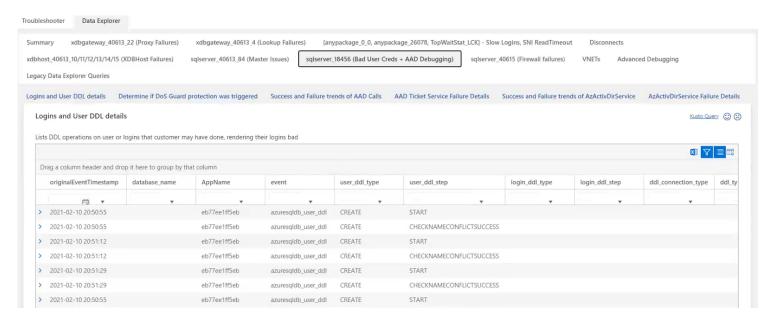
Kusto Query 🙂 🙁



- If it is a background process, check "Lead Blockers Activity Log" to see if this background process has anything logged in the ErrorLog which will help you understand the details. This usually happend during failover, where our backend hold the lock and blocks the login.
- If it is a client process, check with the customer why this client is holding locks for this long. Mitigation should be discussed with customer to kill this session or fix this long running session issue.

Logins and user DDL details

If it is a client process and a contained login is taking long, please go to **ASC** -> **Connectivity** -> **Data Explorer** -> **sqlserver_18456(Bad User Creds +AAD Debugging)** and check "Logins and User DDL details". If customer is modifying the user like create without finish, then it will hold the lock and cause blocking on contained user login.



Kusto

MonLogin

From MonLogin, you can see long login with total time more than 14s due to long wait time on schema lock in message column. The error and stat could be different.

```
let srv = "servername";
let db = "databasename";
let startTime = datetime(2023-02-14 04:00:00Z);
let endTime = datetime(2023-02-14 18:00:00Z);
let timeRange = ago(1d);
MonLogin
 where TIMESTAMP >= startTime
| where TIMESTAMP <= endTime
//| where TIMESTAMP >= timeRange
 where logical_server_name =~ srv
 where database name =~ db
  where package == "sqlserver"
  where total time ms > 14000
  where error > 0
  limit 100
  project originalEventTimestamp, LogicalServerName, database name, AppName, package, error, state, total time
```

MonBlockedProcessReportFiltered

From MonBlockedProcessReportFiltered, you can summarize the blocking count by lock_mode and confirm that the blocking is on schema lock and corresponds to the time when the issue occurred.

By playing with the 3 commented lines and removing the "summarize" line, you can also narrow down to specific blocked process reports and analyze their details. Typically, the blocking schema lock is on the security cache or another backend tables - see sample output further below.

```
let srv = "servername";
let db = "databasename";
let startTime = datetime(2023-02-14 04:00:00Z);
let endTime = datetime(2023-02-14 18:00:00Z);
let timeRange = ago(1d);
MonBlockedProcessReportFiltered
 where TIMESTAMP >= startTime
 where TIMESTAMP <= endTime
//| where TIMESTAMP >= timeRange
 where logical server name =~ srv
  where database name =~ db
 project TIMESTAMP, LogicalServerName, logical server name, AppName, AppName Ex, event, database id, logical
//| where lock mode == "SCH M" or lock mode == "SCH S"
//| project TIMESTAMP, lock mode, blocked process filtered
//| limit 100
| summarize count(), min(TIMESTAMP), max(TIMESTAMP) by lock mode
```

Sample output:

Sample Telemetry for LCK_M_SCH_M and LCM_M_SCH_S wait on Security Cache

```
where TIMESTAMP > datetime(2020-05-08 13:00) and TIMESTAMP < datetime(2020-05-08 14:00)
  where logical server name =~
                   "saral-appdbserver-al3b66de"
  where database_name =~ "saral_axdb_03a68bfc50632543"
  where is success -- 0
  project priginalEventTimestamp, error, ['state'], is_user_error, database_firewall_rules_time_ms,message
                                       r_firewall_mules_time_ms message
<waitstats><wait name="<mark>LCK_M_SCH_M"</mark> requests="1" time=<mark>"92171"</mark>
<waitstats><wait name="LCK_M_SCH_M" requests="1" time="90862"
 2020-05-08 13:55:22.7140345
2020-05-08 13:55:22.7140857
                    26078
                                       <waitstats><wait@ame="LCK_M_SCH_M" requests="1" time="92088"</pre>
 2020-05-08 13:55:22.7142380
<blocked-process-report monitorLoop="552266">
```

Mitigation

If the head blocker is a background process, it could have occurred during a failover where our backend holds the lock on purpose to block the logins. It should be a quick operation and resolve itself once the failover is complete. If it is occurring for longer and/or is still happening, you should open an IcM and get it investigated further.

If the head blocker is a client process, then check with the customer why this client is holding locks for this long. Mitigation should be discussed with customer to kill this session or fix this long running session issue. Check the blocked process report for open transactions on the blocking header to see why transaction is running too long.

More Information

Locks involved in Login Paths

LCK_M_S

- Mostly refers to the Shared lock on the Database. Sometimes LCK_M_S is also used in caches for thread synchronization. However, I have not noticed LCK_M_S being taken in the later scenario (for caches) during logins.
- LCK_M_S on the DB is taken during logins by various components like security cache, metadata cache while looking up a table in the DB to make sure the DB is not dropped during the lookup.
- Explicitly taken during DB Firewall lookup.
- Audit related code also takes LCK_M_S on the DB to make sure the DB is available.

LCK_M_SCH_M / LCK_M_SCH_S

 Most of these are not really on the DB's schema. This is primarily taken on the security and metadata caches during logins. They are taken to synchronize the threads accessing these caches.

Locks involved in Login Paths

```
// For short term locks held by the cache while CMED is created by catalog.
//
inline static void LockCacheHashEntry(_in const MDDbXact& xdes, const BYTE *pb, int cb)
{LockGenericLocal(xdes, MLT_CacheEntry, pb, cb, LCK_M_SCH_M, MLS_Short); }

// For external (outside-metadata) use.
//
inline static void LockExForSecurityCache(_in const MDDbXact& xdes, const BYTE *pb, int cb)
{LockGenericLocal(xdes, MLT_SecurityCache, pb, cb, LCK_M_SCH_M, MLS_Short); }
```

 On DB, we take only LCK_M_SCH_S during logins, primarily for lookup of users, firewall rules etc



How good have you found this content?

