

Re: Connection issues between .Net framwok and SQL Express 2005

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2007-11/msg02739.html>

- *From:* RGF <Raf.Figueroa@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 29 Nov 2007 09:02:50 -0800 (PST)
-

On Nov 20, 11:12 pm, "Cowboy \((Gregory A. Beamer\)" <NoSpamMgbwo...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Look up sp_attachdb in the books online with SQL Server Express. That will show you how to attach the database to the server rather than have it as a user instance. The connection string will then look something like:

```
server=.\SQLEXPRESS;database={YourDatabaseName};Integrated Security=SSPI
```

You will no longer need the database MDF file name in the connection string.

—
Gregory A. Beamer
MVP, MCP: +I, SE, SD, DBA

```
*****  
| Think outside the box!  
|  
*****"RGF"  
<Raf.Figue...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
```

news:fc7bc83d-d90a-4563-98ef-693322dd93df@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

On Nov 20, 9:18 am, "Norman Yuan" <NoAddr...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

OK, it is, as I expected, because of using SQL Server Express USER INSTANCE.

To solve your problem, the simplest way is to not use USER INSTANCE. You simply attach the ASPNETDB.mdf to SQL Server permanently, and change the connection slightly (i.e. remove "AttachDBFile=..." and

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"User
Instance=True"
from the ConnectionString, and use SSMS to attach the
ASPNETDB.mdf to the
SQL Server/Express, if it has been detached previously,
automatically or
not.

Study on SQL Server Epxress USER INSTANCE is always
good if you are to
use
it (but as I said in previous post, it does not have much
chance in web
application).

"RGF" <Raf.Figue...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:2c627856-c3bd-413f-aadc-11d4d953282a@xx

On Nov 19, 3:42 pm, "Norman Yuan"
<NoAddr...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Since you use SQL Server
Express USER INSTANCE
(hope you know what
does
that
mean. Unfortunately,
ASP.NET management
wizard create ASPNETDB
automatically
as USER INSTANCE on
existing SQL Server
Express, assuming the
developer
knows USER INSTANCE.
The reality is most newbie
have no idea on USER
INSTANCE at all and most
ASP.NET book do not
explain that), your call
to
the

"sqlcmd" (i do not know why you need to run that) only runs when the calling process is under the same user account as the ASP.NET application, because USER INSTANCE only allow single user access (not neccesarily single connection, though), which is the user account used to run your ASP.NET application, by default, it is ASPNET or Network Service, or any other account you may have impersonated to.

If your application will be deployed to a host service provider's web server, the host provider would most likely not support SQL Server Express at all, so no USER INSTANCE will be available. If you know USER INSTANCE well, and have no difficulty understanding how to change ASPNETDB to a full SQL Server, that would be fine. If you don't, better spend some time on SQL Server, and its Express USER INSTANCE. You'd discover there is most likely no need to use USER INSTANCE for a web application/website.

Also, using
VS2005 I
wrote a
simple web
based
calendar
scheduling
application
which I am
testing by
launching it
via Visual
Studio
2005
(using the
built in
ASP.Net
Development
Server), the
web
application
seems to
work
correctly as
well.

The
Problem
Found:

When I run
the VS2005
web
application
the sqlcmd
fails to
login
(note
that the web
application
and the
sqlcmd
access the
same db
(C:\App_Data

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\\ASPNETDB.MDF)).

The following is the error I get from SQL 2005 Express when running the sqlcmd while the web application is running:

Msg 5120,
Level 16,
State 101,
Server
BLUEBOX\SQLEXPRESS,
Line 1
Unable to open the physical file "C:\App_Data\aspnetdb.mdf". Operating system error 32: "32(The process cannot access the file because it is being used by another process.)".
Msg 5120,
Level 16,
State 101,
Server
BLUEBOX\SQLEXPRESS,
Line 1
Unable to open the physical file "C:\App_Data\aspnetdb_log.ldf". Operating

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system error
32: "32(The
process
cannot
access the
file
because it is
being used
by another
process.)".
File
activation
failure. The
physical file
name
"C:\App_Data
\aspnetdb_log.ldf"
may be
incorrect.
Msg 4060,
Level 11,
State 1,
Server
BLUEBOX\SQLEXPRESS,
Line 1
Cannot
open
database
"C:\App_Data\ASPNETDB.MDF"
requested
by the
login. The
login failed.
Msg 18456,
Level 14,
State 1,
Server
BLUEBOX\SQLEXPRESS,
Line 1
Login failed
for user
'MyUserCount'.

Questions:

Shouldn't
SQL 2005

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Express
allow more
than one
user to
connect and
authenticate
to the db by
default? Are
there any
settings I
need to
modify in
Visual
Studio 2005
or SQL
Express
2005 in
order to
allow
my
web app
and the
sqlcmd
command to
co-exist
and execute
without
interfering
with each
other?

My Setup:

VS 2005
.Net
Framework
2.0
XP
Professional
SP2
SQL 2005
Express
web.config
connection
string looks
like this:
<add

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```
name="ASPNETDBConnectionString"  
connectionString="Data  
Source=.  
\SQLEXPRESS;AttachDbFilename=|DataDirectory|\ASPNETDB.MI  
Security=SSPI;User  
Instance=True"  
providerName="System.Data.SqlClient"/
```

I have been
going
around in
circles on
this issue,
any help
would be
greatly
appreciated!

Sincerely,
-ralph

Norman,
If you've been working in the tech field long
enough you should know
by now that as technology evolves you
become a newbie again, yup I am
a newbie to the VS2005 and SQL 2005
Express beasts. I did not
encounter user instance issues in previous
projects I did (older gen.
of MS technology).

You are correct in that, I used the helpful
wizard, I mean, that is
what is there for.. and as far as I can
remember, it did not give me
an option as to the USER INSTANCE
option. Just to clarify, the
account used (impersonation) to run the
ASP.Net page is different than
the account used by the sqlcmd call, I would
presume that the separate
accounts would spawn their own access and

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process threads .. If I understood your comment correctly "USER INSTANCE only allow single user access" this would mean that only one account (or one user) would be able to access and lock everyone out from a site that was created using the connecting wizard in VS2005, right? that would strike me as odd, but I will to some googling on "USER INSTANCE"...thanks for the lead.

Also, with regards to the usage of sqlcmd. I resolved to use "sqlcmd" because as you are probably are aware SQL 2005 Express does not come with SSIS, and DTS (SQL 2000) refused to run against my instance of SQL 2005 Express. So in order to schedule a SQL task to run periodically, it is valid to batch out a sqlcmd call, it beats executing the a store proc manually...:)

Thanks for your feedback Norman..

I read a bit more regarding "User Instance", the notion that it only works on SQL 2005 Express and it is not supported on other versions of SQL 2005, is enough of an incentive not to use UI. I am hopeful the tool I am developing grows beyond the 4GB cap placed on SQL 2K5 Express, at which point I will need to get a full SQL 2K5 version and I rather not have to revisit the connection strings because of the upgrade.

The DB has been permanently attached to SQL Express server for a while, as long as VS2005 is not running I don't experience any collisions when accessing the DB using SSMS.

With regards to your suggested connection string solution, the existing web.config connection string looks like:

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```
<add name="ASPNETDBConnectionString" connectionString="Data
Source=
\SQLEXPRESS;AttachDbFilename=|DataDirectory|\ASPNETDB.MDF;Integrated
Security=SSPI;User Instance=True"
providerName="System.Data.SqlClient"/
```

With your suggested changes the mod string looks as follows:

```
<add name="ASPNETDBConnectionString" connectionString="Data
Source=
\SQLEXPRESS;Integrated Security=SSPI"
providerName="System.Data.SqlClient"/>
```

I noticed that there would be no reference to the database to be defaulted to, thus when I run the tool I get the error listed below, which basically is stating that it does not know where where table "UserJobs" is found:

Invalid object name 'UserJobs'.

Description: An unhandled exception occurred during the execution of the current web request. Please review the stack trace for more information about the error and where it originated in the code.

Exception Details: System.Data.SqlClient.SqlException: Invalid object name 'UserJobs'.

Source Error:

```
Line 6929: }
Line 6930: DataSet2.UserJobsDataTable dataTable = new
DataSet2.UserJobsDataTable();
Line 6931: this.Adapter.Fill(dataTable);
Line 6932: return dataTable;
Line 6933: }
```

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So I tried adding an initial catalog argument as follows:

```
<add name="ASPNETDBConnectionString" connectionString="Data  
Source=.  
\SQLEXPRESS;Initial Catalog=ASPNETDB.MDF;Integrated  
Security=SSPI"
```

...

read more >>

I was out of town, sorry for not getting back to you folks sooner..

I was able to attach the db to the server and implement the connection string as you suggested and I am now able to connect to the web application, and run the external sqlcmd commands without db access concurrency issues....Many thanks for you (and Norm's) pointers... your advice kept me from going boinkers..)

I did encounter a side effect which I wanted to share with you;

While in VS2005's Server Explorer I detached and deleted the older connection to ASPNETDB.MDF (the one using AttachedDbFileName version) so that the older connection will be there no more. I took advantage of the detachment from VS2005 and copied the DB (.MDF & .LDF files) to a bigger drive to allow it to grow (so copied from H:\Inetpub\wwwroot\Vocalico\App_Data\ASPNETDB.MDF, copied to C:\Database\ASPNETDB.MDF)

I went to SSMS Express attached the ASPNETDB.MDF (found at C:\Database\ASPNETDB.MDF) to SQL Server 2005 Express using the store proc, everything went ok!

In VS2005's Server Explorer I created the new data connection to the DB that is attached to SQL 2005 Server Express, the connection string looks as follows:

```
Data Source=.\SQLEXPRESS;Initial Catalog=ASPNETDB;Integrated  
Security=True
```

The connection worked so far! I generated a few transactions and the data was correctly committed to the DB attached to SQL Server (physically located at C:\Database\ASPNETDB.MDF).

What seems odd is that, I noticed that when launching the Web app, VS2005 automatically recreated the older ASPNETDB.MDF connection

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pointing to H:\Inetpub\wwwroot\Vocalico\App_Data\ASPNETDB.MDF, thus, from VS2005's Server Explorer I have two connection instances of ASPNETDB.MDF, that is, 1) The older connection at H:\Inetpub\wwwroot\Vocalico\App_Data\ASPNETDB.MDF and 2) The newer connection to the SQL Sever DB.

I ran my web application in order to test the end to end scenario, everything works correctly, and there are no concurrency issues when running external sqlcmd commands. On close inspection seems that ASP.Net is using the older .MDF file (H:\Inetpub\wwwroot\Vocalico\App_Data\ASPNETDB.MDF) to add and retrieve the Membership and Roles information exclusively, and is using the SQL Server attached db to store the transactions performed by an authenticated user... While everything works ok, it would seem rather odd to have two instances of the db to support a single app.

While using SQL 2005 Server Express, is there a way to tell ASP.Net (VS2005) to use one db (the db attached to SQL Server) for all transactions? and not to auto recreate the connection to the older H:\Inetpub\wwwroot\Vocalico\App_Data\ASPNETDB.MDF?

Regards

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