

Re: Restoring database with different COLLATION

Source:

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From: Andrea Montanari (*andrea.sqlDMO_at_virgilio.it*)

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hi Jorge,

"Jorge Brizuela" <jorge_brizuela@spymac.com> ha scritto nel messaggio
news:OckM6w\$peHA.2948@TK2MSFTNGP11.phx.gbl

- > *I make backup from SQL Server 2000 and distribute this backup to our*
- > *customers.*
- > *They install MSDE 2000, and I can't guarantee what COLLATION they will*
- > *use.*
- >
- > *How I can modify the COLLATION of the database after restoring it?*
- >
- > *Thanks in advance.*

as SQL Server 2000 supports different collations and sort orders for each database, and even different collations at column level granularity, you should not require altering that setting for your distributed database...

you can however use the
ALTER DATABASE db_name
COLLATE new_collation...

```
ALTER TABLE tname
ALTER COLUMN colname type
COLLATE new_collation
```

so you have to alter the database setting, and then modify all varchar(n), char(n) and text datatype columns accordingly...

that's to say

```
SET NOCOUNT ON
SELECT DATABASEPROPERTYEX( 'master' , 'Collation') AS [master an sys
databases collation]
GO
CREATE DATABASE TEST
GO
USE TEST
GO
CREATE TABLE dbo.TestTB (
ID INT NOT NULL ,
```

```
name VARCHAR(10) NOT NULL
)
INSERT INTO dbo.TestTB VALUES ( 1 , 'Andrea')

CREATE TABLE dbo.TestTB2 (
  ID INT NOT NULL ,
  name VARCHAR(10) NOT NULL
)

GO
SELECT DATABASEPROPERTYEX( 'TEST' , 'Collation') AS [TEST database collation
original]
GO
ALTER DATABASE TEST
  COLLATE Latin1_General_CS_AI_KS_WS
GO
SELECT DATABASEPROPERTYEX( 'TEST' , 'Collation') AS [TEST database collation
after changing]
GO
PRINT 'alter each varchar(n), char(n) to the defined collation by HAND'
ALTER TABLE dbo.TestTB2
  ALTER COLUMN [name] VARCHAR(10)
  COLLATE Latin1_General_CS_AI_KS_WS

ALTER TABLE dbo.TestTB
  ALTER COLUMN [name] VARCHAR(10)
  COLLATE Latin1_General_CS_AI_KS_WS
GO
PRINT "
PRINT '----'
PRINT 'alter each varchar(n), char(n) to the defined collation using a
cursor'
PRINT 'an ALTER TABLE ALTER COLUMN script will be written (not executed)'
DECLARE @sql VARCHAR(2000)

DECLARE @table_schema VARCHAR(255),
  @table_name VARCHAR(255),
  @column_name VARCHAR(255),
  @is_nullable VARCHAR(255),
  @data_type VARCHAR(255),
  @character_maximum_length VARCHAR(255)

DECLARE myCur CURSOR FOR
  SELECT TABLE_SCHEMA,
    TABLE_NAME,
    COLUMN_NAME,
    IS_NULLABLE,
    DATA_TYPE,
    CHARACTER_MAXIMUM_LENGTH
  FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS
  WHERE TABLE_CATALOG = 'TEST'
```

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```
AND DATA_TYPE IN ('varchar', 'char', 'nvarchar', 'nchar')
AND TABLE_NAME NOT LIKE 'sys%'
```

```
OPEN myCur
FETCH NEXT FROM myCur INTO @table_schema,
    @table_name,
    @column_name,
    @is_nullable,
    @data_type,
    @character_maximum_length

WHILE @@FETCH_STATUS <> -1
BEGIN
    SET @sql = 'ALTER TABLE ' + @table_schema + '.' + @table_name
        + ' ALTER COLUMN ' + @column_name + '
        + @data_type + '(' + @character_maximum_length + ')'
        + 'COLLATE Latin1_General_CS_AI_KS_WS '
        + CASE @is_nullable WHEN 'No' THEN 'NOT NULL' ELSE 'NULL' END
    PRINT @sql
    FETCH NEXT FROM myCur INTO @table_schema,
        @table_name,
        @column_name,
        @is_nullable,
        @data_type,
        @character_maximum_length
END

CLOSE myCur
DEALLOCATE myCur
GO
PRINT 'drop all'
USE master
GO
DROP DATABASE TEST
```

as you can see... you can do it by hand, changing each column setting or doing something handy like letting SQL Server writing the actual Transact-SQL ALTER TABLE ALTER COLUMN ... statements you have to execute to perform the desired result... the actual statements will be

```
---
ALTER TABLE dbo.TestTB ALTER COLUMN name varchar(10) COLLATE
Latin1_General_CS_AI_KS_WS NULL
ALTER TABLE dbo.TestTB2 ALTER COLUMN name varchar(10) COLLATE
Latin1_General_CS_AI_KS_WS NULL
I do not love cursors, but this is one of the cases I could not find another
way to have the job done...
by the way, the problem you describe (it's no more a problem in SQL Server
2000) is one of the reasons I do not deploy my databases using restore
and/or sp_attach_db features... you are not "inheriting" all users database
settings like general sort order, model database specific settings and
objects the end user placed in that template database...
```

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Andrea Montanari (Microsoft MVP - SQL Server)

<http://www.asql.biz/DbMgr.shtm> <http://italy.mvps.org>

DbMgr2k ver 0.9.1 - DbMgr ver 0.55.1

(my vb6+sql-dmo little try to provide MS MSDE 1.0 and MSDE 2000 a visual interface)

----- remove DMO to reply