

Re: Row size and DBCC SHOWCONTIG

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/SQL-Server/microsoft.public.sqlserver.programming/2004-09/6125.html>

From: Andrew J. Kelly (sqlmvpnoospam_at_shadhawk.com)

Date: 09/27/04

Date: Mon, 27 Sep 2004 17:01:29 -0400

OK I guess that this behavior is noted but not officially documented. See this link:

<http://www.nigelrivett.net/AlterTableProblems.html>

Personally I would have thought the CI rebuild would have fixed it I guess some of the rows can still be wacked. Short of creating a new table and copying all the data in I don't think there is a solid solution.

--

Andrew J. Kelly SQL MVP

"Amy" <XXXNOSPAMXXX__l.a@usa.com> wrote in message

news:uzLTpLGpEHA.2304@TK2MSFTNGP14.phx.gbl...

> Hi andrew,

>

> Thanks again for your reply.

> My original table has >3M rows.

> I have changed the data types drastically - from a total row size of about

> 500 Bytes to less than 200 Bytes.

> There were NUMERICs that i've changed to SMALL/TINY INTs, DATETIMES to

> SMALLDATETIMES etc.

> Judging by the time it took to complete i can say it did alter the physical

> structure. It took several minutes.

> I also see a decrease in the DB and table size (although it's far from

> linear to the the data type size decrease).

> Execution plans for queries run against the altered table DO correctly show

> the new estimated row size.

> Since I had to drop all dependent objects before issuing the ALTER COLUMN,

> the clustered index was dropped and afterwards recreated.

> That too did not update the new row size.

> I provided the script just to demonstrate the issue. It's the same with large tables.

> This is so annoying.

>

> Any more ideas who to fix this? I've ran out...

>

> Thanks again,

>

> Amy

>

> "Andrew J. Kelly" <sqlmvpnoospam@shadhawk.com> wrote in message

> news:%237PTn9BpEHA.3712@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...

> > Amy,

microsoft.public.sqlserver.programming: Re: Row size and DBCC SHOWCONTIG

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> >
> > Sorry but I didn't even see the script the first time<g>. I should have
> > scrolled down but thought that was all there was. I don't know how
> > accurate
> > that test is due to the fact you are only talking about 1 row. That can
> > have several implications and makes showcontig pretty much useless. But
> > in
> > any case SQL Server most likely only changed the meta data and didn't
> > actually touch the row. Some times an alter column does not actually
need
> > to change the physical data on the page directly after an alter. It
> > changes
> > the meta data and will address the actual data later.
> >
> > --
> > Andrew J. Kelly SQL MVP
> >
> >
> > "Amy" <XXXNOSPAMXXX__l.a@usa.com> wrote in message
> > news:e04o7yApEHA.1460@TK2MSFTNGP12.phx.gbl...
> > > Hi Andrew,
> > >
> > > Thanks for your reply.
> > >
> > > Yes, I have a clustered index on my real table.
> > > The script i provided did not create any constraints or indexes only
> > > because
> > > you need to remove dependent objects before you can alter the columns
> > > and
> > > i
> > > wanted to keep it short and simple.
> > > I have checked it before posting.
> > > It behaves the same way with or without a clustered index.
> > >
> > > Amy
> > >
> > > "Andrew J. Kelly" <sqlmvpnoospam@shadhawk.com> wrote in message
> > > news:OUG9nPpEHA.3988@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...
> > > > Do you have a clustered index on that table? If it is a heap you
can
> > > > reindex all you want and it won't affect the rows themselves.
> > > >
> > > > --
> > > > Andrew J. Kelly SQL MVP
> > > >
> > > >
> > > > "Amy" <l.a@usa.com> wrote in message
> > > > news:eo8zdX%23oEHA.3640@TK2MSFTNGP10.phx.gbl...
> > > > > Hi All,
> > > > >
> > > > > I am having a hard time understanding when does SQL Server update
> > > > > metadata
> > > > > in sysindexes.
> > > > >
> > > > > I investigated a given schema and found out that data types were
> > > > > abused
> > > > > and
> > > > > I want to change it.
> > > > > After I execute "ALTER TABLE ALTER COLUMN" to change the
datatypes,
> > > > > DBCC SHOWCONTIG (and other features) seem to still think that the
> > > > > row
```

