

NEODBUG

E L E C T R O N I C

Newsletter of the Northeast Ohio Database Users Group

NEODBUG Presents Terry Purcell at February 13 Education Meeting By Michael James

For our February special educational meeting, we are thrilled to bring in **TERRY PURCELL**. Terry is a senior software engineer with the DB2 for z/OS query technology team for the IBM Silicon Valley Lab, where he works on the design and development of the DB2 z/OS optimizer. Terry has more than 16 years experience with DB2 in database administration and application development, and has been voted best overall speaker at three international IDUG events including IDUG North America in 2007 for his presentation *"More Ways to Challenge the DB2 z/OS Optimizer."*



January, 2008 issue
www.neodbug.org

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* * *

Terry's first presentation for us is *"What's New with SQL Optimization in DB2 V8 for z/OS?"* DB2 V8 has been available for many years, and is no longer the current release with the general availability of DB2 9 for z/OS. But, the reality is that many customers are new to V8 or at least migration to DB2 9 is not in their immediate future. So, while it's nice to know what's coming in DB2 9, it's important to understand what can benefit you today.

This presentation will provide an update on the optimization enhancements delivered in DB2 z/OS for V8, including a focus on "why do you care?" about each. The general availability enhancements include

- Complex join
- Star join optimization
- Predicate sargability
- Visual Explain
- REOPT (ONCE) bind option
- RUNSTATS enhancements
- Materialized query tables
- page range screening

Terry's second presentation of the day will be *"Why Did the Optimizer Choose That Path? Part 1 & 2."*

Ever wondered why the DB2 optimizer chooses a certain access path? The wrong index or a poor table join sequence? Before DB2 V8, you had to be an optimizer expert to answer that question. This presentation will outline a method to utilize the extensive access path detail available with V8 Visual Explain and compare with the actual reality for a given query. We will uncover the challenges that the optimizer faces with choosing the best path for your SQL, and what you can do about it. Topics such as data skew, correlation, when a predicate can be applied and clustering will all be covered in detail.

After lunch, Terry will present *"More Ways to Challenge the DB2 z/OS Optimizer."*

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NEODBUG Treasurer's Report

By Alan Solnick

NEODBUG's year-end financial report for 2007 is listed below. We started 2007 with a net worth of \$11,842.97.

ASSETS

Money Market Account	\$ 6,316.92
Checking Account	\$ 2,193.68
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$ 8,510.60
Projector	\$ 2,089.10

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 10,599.70

LIABILITIES

Membership Prepayment \$ 0.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$ 0.00

NET WORTH **\$ 10,599.70**

2007 INCOME

Corporate Memberships	\$ 1,874.00
February Education Meeting	\$ 15,150.00
May Meeting	\$ 1,558.20
August Meeting	\$ 1,400.00
November Meeting	\$ 1,490.00
Interest	\$ 237.09
Membership Prepayment	\$ 900.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 22,609.29

2007 EXPENSES

February Education Meeting	\$ 14,019.30
May Meeting	\$ 1,870.57
August Meeting	\$ 3,133.11
November Meeting	\$ 3,003.68
Licenses/Permits	\$ 750.00
Web-site/Overhead	\$ 1,075.90

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ 23,582.56

NET INCOME **(\$ 1,243.27)**

In 2007, NEODBUG lost \$1,243.27. The NEODBUG board voted to increase our corporate membership and meeting fees for 2008, our first increase in over six years.

- We will be increasing the corporate membership fees to \$150 (a \$25 increase) for early membership registration and \$175 for late membership registration.
- Our quarterly meeting fees will increase by \$10 to \$40.00 pre-registration, \$50.00 at the door, if your company is a member of NEODBUG, or \$50.00 pre-registration, \$60.00 at the door if not.

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- Our quarterly meetings will occur in May, August and November of 2008.
- We will continue to offer the ability to pre-pay for this year's meetings with your annual corporate membership payment. These 'pre-paid' coupons will continue to be redeemable for the cost of a regular quarterly meeting.
- We will continue with individual memberships, designed for consultants whose companies will not support joining the user group. The cost for these memberships will increase to \$35.
- For every fifth person attending our special educational meeting from a corporate member company, there will be a \$40 discount to be used towards the cost of the meeting.
- To promote company member presentations, member companies that give a presentation at a quarterly meeting receive complimentary registrations for the speaker and four other co-workers from the same company. By giving a 90-minute presentation, you could save your company up to \$200 in registration fees at a quarterly meeting.

Corporate membership invoices have been mailed to the contact person at each company. Contact and mailing list names (including e-mail addresses) are on the back of the invoice and need to be filled out and returned with the invoice so we can keep our newsletter mailing database current. If your contact person has not yet received your invoice, please call me at 216-514-4435 or e-mail me so I could e-mail you a new one. Memberships will be late and will increase if received after **02/29/2008**. Remember, corporate memberships play a large role in keeping this organization afloat, so please be diligent in sending them in.

Thanks for your support.

Alan P. Solnick
Treasurer

Letter FROM the Editor By Jim Szabo

Partially Wired

NEODBUG received much positive feedback for distributing our last meeting's handouts electronically in advance. Our "green" action allowed many attendees to bring their laptops to the meeting and follow along with the presentations, without using paper. Some attendees could not, as they stated that their laptops have a limited battery life.

NEODBUG has committed to distributing future meeting handouts in this manner, but we have heard your cries and we are going to do something about it.

At the February special education meeting, we will have a limited number of power strips placed under tables for you to plug your laptop into. Please answer the "bringing a laptop?" question on the registration form (and the email you send to us) so we can plan for what we need. Note: we may ask attendees that do not have laptops to sit at "non-wired" tables, so that may split up your company's group.

Sorry, NEODBUG can't convince your boss to get you a laptop, if you don't have one :-)

Snow in our Forecast?

Last February's special education meeting was a challenge, with our speaker coming in from out-of-town amidst inclement weather. That issue should be solved this year, as our speaker Terry Purcell is expected in Cleveland a few days before our meeting for internal IBM business.

(Continued from page 1) Terry Purcell

This presentation tells us more about “Why the optimizer chose that access path?” This presentation was voted “best overall” at IDUG North America 2007, and covers more than just the simple correlation and data skew challenges for optimal access path selection.

We close out the day with “*What’s New for SQL Optimization in DB2 9 for z/OS?*” This presentation will provide an overview of the optimization enhancements delivered in DB2 9 for z/OS. These enhancements include

- Global optimization
- Generalized sparse index
- Index on expression
- Dynamic index ANDing
- Autonomic reoptimization
- Histogram statistics
- Page range screening
- Optimization Service Center

* * *

This first meeting of 2008 will be on February 13, 2007 at the DoubleTree Cleveland South, formerly the Hilton Inn Cleveland South on Rockside Road. The deadline for pre-registration is **Friday, February 8th**, so don't delay. As always, registration is on a first come, first served basis.

The costs for the meeting are:

\$225 for pre-registered members, \$250 at the door.

\$275 for pre-registered non-members, \$325 at the door.

We are offering two ways to reduce the cost for this education. First, there is a \$40 credit offered for every fifth pre-registered attendee from the same company. Second, if you have coupons for prepaying 2008 meeting fees, you can apply one of them for \$40 off the price of the class.

I hope all of you can attend.

Michael James
NEODBUG Chairman

Chairman's Corner By Michael James

I hope all of you had a great holiday season. This year, it was especially difficult for me to come back after vacation. Not enough time off for the holidays! And the Browns are (not) in the playoffs! Oh well, there's always next year! At least the weather has been good in 2008, so far.

Once again, I feel honored to be returning as a member of the Board of Trustees and Chairman of NEODBUG for 2008. I will work hard to continue the fine work performed by the last year's Board. I want to thank the members of 2007's Board of Trustees for all of their hard work.

2007 review

- We brought in **Bonnie Baker** to present our special education meeting in February. She gave us a full day of training by presenting “*V8 for Developers and DBAs.*” Bonnie provided a great deal of tips and techniques for DB2 v8.
- We had a jam-packed day for May's meeting. Our day began with **Paul Wirth**, a Senior Data Management Technical Sales Specialist with IBM Corporation, who talked to us about “*DB2 v9 for z/OS.*” This presentation revealed how the combined power of the upcoming release of DB2 for z/OS data server and DB2 tools can provide an unmatched IT infrastructure to help solve your information-intensive business problems.

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Paul's second presentation was titled: *"DB2 v9 .Net 2005 Add-ins."* In addition to the many enhancements for database operation, DB2 9 provides support for Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 as well as significant enhancements to application development using DB2 databases, tight integration with Microsoft Server Explorer, and enhanced debugging.

For the afternoon, we began with another talk from Paul Wirth *".NET Support in DB2 UDB."* Very informative for those using their DB2 systems as a data repository.

We ended the day with **Ulf Mattson** of Protegrity Corp. Ulf created the initial architecture of Protegrity's database security technology, for which the company owns several key patents. He gave us a presentation on *"Database Encryption - How to Balance Security and Performance."* We learned that encryption can provide strong security for data at rest, but developing a database encryption strategy must take many factors into consideration.

- In August, we started the first half of the day with Paul Wirth. His presentation was titled: *"DB2 Connections to DB2 for z/OS,"* and provided an "end-to-end" overview of distributed connections to DB2 for z/OS.

Our second presentation was from **William Arledge** of BMC Software. He presented *"Dynamic SQL and the Dynamic Statement Cache."* He pointed out that dynamic SQL offers potential benefits as well as new management challenges.

Finally, to wrap up that August day, **Henry Parnell**, a Solutions Architect with Lumigent Technologies, talked about *"The Three Best Approaches to Database Security & Data Auditing: Strengths and Weaknesses."* This presentation discussed the alternative technological solutions that can potentially be used to collect reliable audit trail data on the operations of a DBMS system with a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of each approach.

- November's meeting brought our annual elections, and our membership approved the slate of candidates that were presented.

To start the day, **Patrick Bossman** from IBM made two presentations beginning with *"Introduction to the Optimizer."* This presentation provided an overview of the DB2 for z/OS query optimization engine and walked through different query transformations optimizer performs, what access paths are available, query costing, and parallelism.

Patrick followed up with *"What Statistics Does the Optimizer Need?"* This presentation discussed what statistics are available to help DB2 accurately estimate the cost of a query as well as how a user can collect these statistics.

After lunch, our speaker was **Chih-Jieh (CJ) Chang**, a developer from IBM's Silicon Valley Lab. He talked about *"A Guide to Visual Explain Version 8."* This presentation provided users the background into the different capabilities of Visual Explain V8 - how to graph static SQL, dynamic SQL and snap the statement cache. The presentation also showed users how to read the access plan graph, and answer questions they've always wanted the answer to: is my predicate matching, screening, stage 1 non-indexable or stage 2?

For our last presentation of the day, Patrick presented *"Optimization Service Center Overview."* During this presentation, we got an overview of Optimization Service Center's capabilities.

Thank you

None of these fine programs would have occurred without the support and assistance of the 2007 Board of Trustees. I would like to especially commend the efforts of Kirk Bailey, Jim Budka and Sue Birgeles for their relentless efforts to provide an exceptional program of database topics at each and every quarterly meeting, as well as securing our educational meeting speaker. Thanks to Barry Noble for being our liaison with the meeting facility, and to Jim Szabo and Al Solnick for their efforts to

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(Continued from page 5) Chairman's Corner

keep us on track and under budget. Bill Moran deserves thanks for his good council at a difficult time, and Jason Sperko and Phil Sherman get kudos for all of their work on our website. We welcome Jane Holloway to the board and I am sure that her input will be invaluable. Jane will assist us in several areas including the agenda committee for some of our meetings.

NEODBUG officers and Board members for 2008 are listed in a box on the front page of this newsletter.

The primary contact at each member company will be receiving the invoice for 2008 corporate dues. Please contact either Al Solnick or myself to get one if you have not received it before the end of January. There is only one primary contact for each member company. All checks for either annual membership dues or quarterly meeting fees must be made out to:

NEODBUG
35000 Chardon Rd., Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44094

If your company is reluctant to purchase a NEODBUG corporate membership, inform them that this year, there are the 3 quarterly meetings and a special education event. Membership also provides special discounts for members at the IDUG conference and IBM's DB2 Technical Conference.

New pricing structure

While all of our efforts to cut our expenses have been successful, our expenses have continued to increase. After two consecutive years of losses, the Board of Trustees decided we needed to implement an increase in the fees we charge, the first since 1995. We are adjusting both the annual corporate fees and the quarterly meeting fees for 2008 to help cover the increases we anticipate this year and into the future. You can find the detail in our Treasurer's Report.

Communication

NEODBUG is online at www.neodbug.org. We are planning to upgrade the site and provide more functionality (like on-line registration) over the course of the year. Watch for the latest NEODBUG information on the site.

If you have any comments about our programs or anything else, please email the Board of Trustees at neodbugquestion@sps-solutions.com to share your thoughts and suggestions. We really read your thoughts. We will continue to issue email blasts with information about the upcoming meetings, events, IDUG information, etc. This is the only way we will be communicating with you, so if you have not given us your email address, please let us know that you would like to be added to that list. Just send an email to neodbug@sps-solutions.com to request to be added to the mailing list.

We continue to accept email registrations for all of our meetings. However, your registration for any meeting is not confirmed until we receive payment. If payment is not received before the meeting, you will be charged the "at the door" rate for the meeting. We are required to pay for reserved but unused lunches and must guarantee the number of attendees to the hotel three business days before the meeting.

Remember, NEODBUG is still the only area independent users group dedicated to presenting information about heterogeneous databases.

Hope to see you at all of our 2008 events!

Michael P. James
Chairman

November 15, 2007 Meeting Agenda

- 8:30 - 9:00** **Registration**
- 9:00 - 9:15** **Opening Remarks**
 - Michael James, NEODBUG Chairman
- 9:15 - 10:30** **“What's New with SQL Optimization in DB2 V8 for z/OS?”**
 - Terry Purcell, IBM Corporation
- 10:30 - 10:45** **Break**
- 10:45 - 12:00** **“Why Did the Optimizer Choose That Path? Part 1 & 2”**
 - Terry Purcell, IBM Corporation
- 12:00 - 1:00** **Lunch**
- 1:00 - 2:15** **“More Ways to Challenge the DB2 z/OS Optimizer”**
 - Terry Purcell, IBM Corporation
- 2:15 - 2:30** **Break**
- 2:30 - 4:00** **“What's New for SQL Optimization in DB2 9 for z/OS?”**
 - Terry Purcell, IBM Corporation
- 4:00 - 4:15** **Closing Remarks, Door Prizes**
 - Michael James, NEODBUG Chairman

Upcoming Database Events

Date	Organization	City
02/13/2008	NEODBUG special education meeting with Terry Purcell	Independence, OH
02/17-22/2008	The Data Warehouse Institute (TDWI) World Conference - Winter	Las Vegas, NV
02/25/2008	SHARE	Orlando, FL
03/05-07/2008	International DB2 Users Group (IDUG) Australasia 2008	Sydney, Australia
04/13-17/2008	Collaborate '08: International Oracle Users Group (IOUG)	Denver, CO
05/2008	NEODBUG quarterly meeting (date tba)	Independence, OH
05/11-16/2008	TDWI World Conference - Spring	Chicago, IL
05/18-22/2008	IDUG North America 2008	Dallas, TX
05/19-22/2008	BMC UserWorld Europe 2008	Lisbon, Portugal
06/01-05/2008	Information Builders User Conference - Summit 2008	Nashville, TN
08/2008	NEODBUG quarterly meeting (date tba)	Location tba
08/17-22/2008	TDWI World Conference - Summer	San Diego, CA
08/21-23/2008	IDUG India 2008	Bangalore, India
10/13-17/2008	IDUG Europe 2008	Warsaw, Poland
10/13-17/2008	BMC UserWorld NA 2008	Miami, FL
11/02-07/2008	TDWI World Conference - Autumn	New Orleans, LA
11/2008	NEODBUG quarterly meeting (date tba)	Location tba
11/16-20/2008	Computer Associates (CA) World	Las Vegas, NV



Searching for the perfect application software can be like wondering in a wasteland. You keep looking around, but you can't find anything!

You may have thought S&P Solutions, Inc. (SPS) only worked with databases & data warehouses! We actually do much more! When you combine our development experience and our database expertise, SPS is uniquely qualified to provide your company with the highest quality applications development available in today's marketplace

SPS provides custom applications development and modifications to application packages for Fortune 1000 companies using the latest technologies, such as C#, C++ and Java, as well as legacy languages including RPG, COBOL & CICS. .

Many companies run their business using custom or home-grown software. For others, it is more economical to use packaged software to run their businesses. Still others purchase a package and modify it to work in their environments. Protect the investments your company has made in technology with the best insurance policy available in today's marketplace. Let SPS develop your mission-critical applications or enhance the packaged applications that run your business.

We have several specialized development services including:

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- Systems Analysis and Design
- Client Server Development
- Project Management
- Website & e-business Systems
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- Outsourced Software Services
 - o Onshore/Offshore Services
 - * Automated Testing & Quality Assurance Services
 - * 24x7 Application Support Services
 - o Applications Development

If you would like more information about our Applications Development Services or other specialized services from S&P Solutions, Inc., please call us at **(440) 918-9111/(800) 978-9113**, visit our website at www.sps-solutions.com or email us at sales@sps-solutions.com.



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(440) 918-9111/ (800) 978-9113
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Email: sales@sps-solutions.com
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Registration Form

NEODBUG Special Education Meeting
WEDNESDAY, February 13, 2008 9am - 4:30pm
DoubleTree Inn Cleveland South
6200 Quarry Lane, Independence, OH

R.S.V.P: Checks and registration forms are encouraged to be sent early due to limited seating.

Cost: If your company is a member of NEODBUG: \$225.00 pre-registration or \$250.00 at the door.
If your company is not a member of NEODBUG: \$275.00 pre-registration or \$325.00 at the door.

Yes, I will be attending the educational meeting; a check for \$ _____ is enclosed for a total of _____ reservations.

YOUR NAME _____ BRINGING A LAPTOP? _____

PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS _____

In addition to myself, the following persons will be attending:

NAME	BRINGING A LAPTOP?	PHONE & EMAIL ADDRESS
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

(5th registrant receives a \$40 discount on the prices above)

(10th registrant receives a \$40 discount on the prices above)

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

Email this form to neodbug@sps-solutions.com to notify us of your intent to attend, then postal mail this form and your check (payable to NEODBUG) no later than February 8, 2008, to:

NEODBUG
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35000 Chardon Rd. Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44094