Article: Find the instance name using Task Manager
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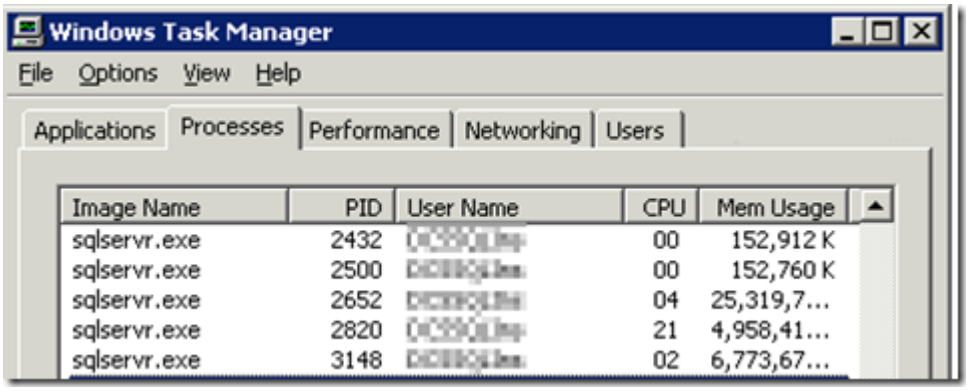
SQL Server – Find the Instance name using Task Manager

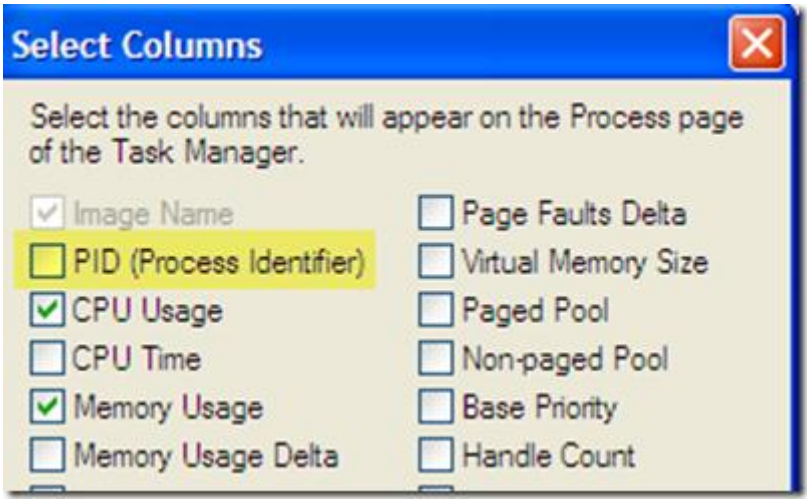
SCENARIO

Yesterday one of the servers which hosts 5 instances of **SQL Server 2005**, the **CPU** constantly hitting **100%** utilization. The Application team using the database on one of the 5 instances started complaining of poor performance.

The **DBA** connected to that instance to find out the ***session(s)*** causing the **CPU** to spike. But none of the processes on that instance were utilizing more CPU time. The **Task Manager** looked like this.



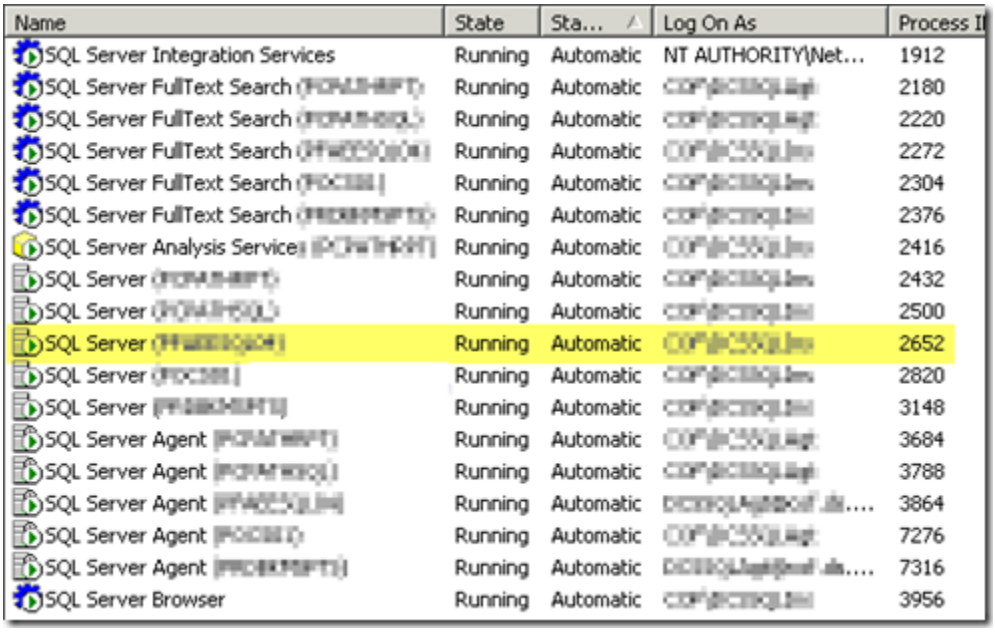
The **PID** column in **Task Manager** is not displayed by default. It needs to be selected via **Task Manager –> View –> Select Columns** menu item.



In my case **Process ID 2652** was using more **CPU**. How to find out to which instance does this **Process** belong to? I find the following two options to track down the Instance Name.

Using SQL Server Configuration Manager:

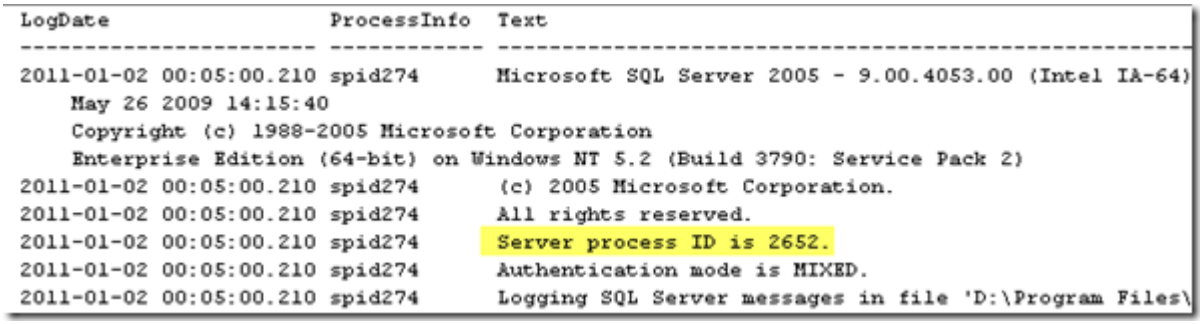
On clicking on the ***SQL Server Services*** in **SQL Server Configuration Manager**, the details of **SQL Server** and related services along with the **Process ID** of each service is listed. The **SQL Server Instance** name is listed as ***SQL Server (InstanceName)***.



Name	State	Sta...	Log On As	Process I
SQL Server Integration Services	Running	Automatic	NT AUTHORITY\Net...	1912
SQL Server FullText Search	Running	Automatic		2180
SQL Server FullText Search	Running	Automatic		2220
SQL Server FullText Search	Running	Automatic		2272
SQL Server FullText Search	Running	Automatic		2304
SQL Server FullText Search	Running	Automatic		2376
SQL Server Analysis Service	Running	Automatic		2416
SQL Server	Running	Automatic		2432
SQL Server	Running	Automatic		2500
SQL Server	Running	Automatic		2652
SQL Server	Running	Automatic		2820
SQL Server	Running	Automatic		3148
SQL Server Agent	Running	Automatic		3684
SQL Server Agent	Running	Automatic		3788
SQL Server Agent	Running	Automatic	....	3864
SQL Server Agent	Running	Automatic		7276
SQL Server Agent	Running	Automatic	....	7316
SQL Server Browser	Running	Automatic		3956

Using the SQL Server Error Log

In **SQL Server 2000**, **SQL Server Configuration Manager** is not available. The information regarding the **Process ID** can be obtained through the **SQL Server Error Log**.



```
LogDate                 ProcessInfo  Text
----------------------- ------------ ------------------------------------------------------------
2011-01-02 00:05:00.210 spid274      Microsoft SQL Server 2005 - 9.00.4053.00 (Intel IA-64)
    May 26 2009 14:15:40
    Copyright (c) 1988-2005 Microsoft Corporation
    Enterprise Edition (64-bit) on Windows NT 5.2 (Build 3790: Service Pack 2)
2011-01-02 00:05:00.210 spid274      (c) 2005 Microsoft Corporation.
2011-01-02 00:05:00.210 spid274      All rights reserved.
2011-01-02 00:05:00.210 spid274      Server process ID is 2652.
2011-01-02 00:05:00.210 spid274      Authentication mode is MIXED.
2011-01-02 00:05:00.210 spid274      Logging SQL Server messages in file 'D:\Program Files\
```

Once the **SQL Server Instance** was located yesterday, the high **CPU** utilization was fixed relatively quickly. One of the scheduled job for **UPDATE STATISTICS** had run outside the **Maintenance Window**.

Stopping this job brought down the **CPU** utilization drastically.