
Subject: About many connections in SMTP
Posted by [jbravo](#) on Thu, 10 May 2007 14:35:31 GMT
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Sorry if this mail don't concerns to OVZ, but I need to discard possibilities

```
-bash-3.00# uname -a
Linux exodo.colombiahosting.com.co 2.6.8-022stab078.14-smp #1 SMP Wed
Jul 19 16:          13:15 MSD 2006 i686 i686 i386 GNU/Linux
```

Im using Exim 4.60, that comes with DirectAdmin. I have smtp_accept_max in 130 and sometimes Im getting this error: "421 Too many concurrent SMTP connections; please try again later."

I used exiwhat and netstat and I determine that yahoo servers have many incoming connections to my server. Trying to determine the problem I used an sniffer, its an example:

SNIFFER OUTOUT

```
250 OK
250 Accepted
354 Enter message, ending with "." on a line by itself
250 OK id=1HlpNN-0000Rm-7w
QUIT
221 exodo.colombiahosting.com.co closing connection
14  FIN-WAIT-1    209.191.125.35:29978 > 66.128.49.69:smtp
14  TIME-WAIT    209.191.125.35:29978 > 66.128.49.69:smtp
14  RESET       209.191.125.35:29978 > 66.128.49.69:smtp
```

```
-bash-3.00# netstat -an | grep 209.191.125.35
tcp    0    0 66.128.49.69:25
209.191.125.35:27139    ESTABLISHED
tcp    0    0 66.128.49.69:25
209.191.125.35:39853    ESTABLISHED
```

```
-bash-3.00# exiwhat | grep 209.191.125.35
7549 handling incoming connection from web38404.mail.mud.yahoo.com
[209.191.125.35] id=1Hlow6-0001xl-It
23792 handling incoming connection from web38404.mail.mud.yahoo.com
[209.191.125.35] id=1HloZ6-0006Bk-UK
```

and 20 minutes later I do netstat again and I get the same info. Then the connections never close

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I upgraded to exim 4.66 and I get the same problem.

I'll really thanks if you can help me!

Subject: Re: About many connections in SMTP
Posted by [dev](#) on Thu, 10 May 2007 14:41:42 GMT
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plz check that you do not hit any UBC limits via
/proc/user_beancounters

Thanks,
Kirill

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> 23792 handling incoming connection from web38404.mail.mud.yahoo.com
> [209.191.125.35] id=1HloZ6-0006Bk-UK
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Subject: Re: About many connections in SMTP
Posted by [rkagan](#) on Fri, 11 May 2007 10:31:48 GMT
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```

This log seems incomplete; however, the 'QUIT' command is processed correctly, and the connection is closed.

```
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> 209.191.125.35:39853    ESTABLISHED
```

209.191.125.35:29978 doesn't appear on this list: everything's fine.

```
> -bash-3.00# exiwhat | grep 209.191.125.35
> 7549 handling incoming connection from web38404.mail.mud.yahoo.com
> [209.191.125.35] id=1Hlow6-0001xl-lt
> 23792 handling incoming connection from web38404.mail.mud.yahoo.com
> [209.191.125.35] id=1HloZ6-0006Bk-UK
>
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```

In the normal SMTP flow the session termination is initiated by the client by sending 'QUIT' command, and, AFAICS, it's processed correctly. Thus what you observe - the connections remaining in ESTABLISHED state - can be due to either of the two reasons

- your exim has too big timeouts for idle sessions
- the client keeps the session alive by talking to the server

To be sure, however, you can try the following:

- 1) identify the stalled connection
- 2) note the remote address and port number, and the pid of the process that serves this connection (you can use netstat -tp for that)
- 3) run

`strace -v -p server_pid`

and watch the output

4) (at the same time, in another terminal) run

`tcpdump -A -n -v host remote_addr and port remote_port`

and watch the output.

HTH,
Roman.
