

# ADO – Bad when it is time to Optimize

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I am working on a huge application where the business components are in COM-ATL and the data access is thru ADO to SQL.

We are having major scalability issues with huge user connections and then it was time to see whether are we using the ADO pooling in the right way. But to my surprise I noted that there is no way to monitor the ADO pool and its performance.

1. You cannot set the max pool size.
2. There is no way to disable the pooling
3. You cannot know whether non-pooled connections are happening
4. Donot know whether connection creeping is happening.
5. There are no performance counters to get some data abt pools. But there exists counters for ODBC which microsoft does not support.

The only way to check whether pooling is happening is thru the SQL Profiler where for every connection reused from the pool, you can see SP\_RESET\_CONNECTION stored procedure being called.

Yes ..You can check the pools, the connections, thier life time by taking a hang dump, provided you have ADO private symbols..!

This is with classic ADO.

Dont ask me to use ADO.NET (I already have some.). There there is no way control the time a connection lives in the pool. But there is one in ADO (SPTimeout).

It is really pathethic to find that when you find that there is no way to get an idea about the health of the ADO Pooling.

If anybody knows about any tool, code etc. please do let me know.

Thanks!  
SK