

Memory usage with linked servers

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I have written an OLEDB driver that acts as a linked server within SQL2000 (in process).

Now when I issue a query to retrieve data from the linked server, the SQLServer memory usage in task manager will go up. This is fine and is what you would expect, however, if I issue the same query again then SQLServer memory usage goes up again and will continue to go up each time you issue the same query.

I understand SQL dynamic memory and for SQL databases controlled by SQLServer I can see that the server will allocate memory to bring new pages in from disk, but bringing in the same pages won't result in more memory being allocated – it will just use that memory.

So for linked servers, I guess that SQLServer isn't aware that it is receiving the same information that it has already received from the previous query and just allocates some more memory for the "new" results.

My question is "is this normal behaviour or can I somehow give SQLServer enough information for it to determine if it has already cached the data from the linked server in order to stop it allocating more memory".

BTW I am fairly sure that this isn't a memory leak in the OLEDB driver ..DLL – after SQLServer unloads the OLEDB driver .DLL the memory allocated to SQLServer in task manager does not go down (despite the fact that the DLL no longer exists in any process).

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Best regards
Mark