

# CTERA Edge Filer (Gateway) Connections vs. Sessions

**Q:** Does a *connection* represent a single PC connecting to a gateway?

**A:** Normally, yes, with this PC possibly connecting to multiple shares on the gateway.

**Q:** When can a single PC generate more than one connection?

**A:** One case is multiple users logged in to the same PC, each one accessing the gateway. This can happen on a PC used by multiple users, or an application running as a privileged user on the PC. Also, opening multiple connections for the same user on the same IP but on different ports (as a Citrix server might do) will also create multiple connections. A less common case is access to the same gateway via both IP and name, for example, opening two Windows Explorer windows, one towards, for example, *mygateway.ctera.com*, and the other towards *192.168.10.12*, with both reaching the same device.

**Q:** What is a *session*?

**A:** A session is created for each share browsed on the gateway.

**Q:** I received error messages such as *CIFS connection has almost reached its limit* or *SMB connection dropped*. What does this mean?

**A:** These error messages are due to nearing or exceeding the maximum number of connections for the gateway.

**Q:** Can I review the currently active sessions on my gateway?

**A:** Yes. The gateway user interface shows active sessions, in the **Configuration** tab under **Main > Activity** in the navigation pane.

**Q:** Is the maximum number of users specified in the gateway datasheets the same as the connection limit?

**A:** No. The premise is that not all users are connected and reading from the gateway or writing to the gateway at the same time.

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