Solaris Common Messages and Troubleshooting Guide
Contents

Preface. ................................................................. xvii

1. About Error Messages ................................. 1
   Searching for Messages ..................................... 1
   Choosing What To Look For. ................................. 1
      Variable Words and Numbers ......................... 1
      Frequently Duplicated Parts of Messages .............. 2
   Using the Permutated Index ............................... 2
   In the Printed Book .......................................... 3
   In the AnswerBook Navigator ............................... 3
      Using Pattern Matching .................................... 3
      Combining Search Techniques ............................ 4
   Understanding the Message Explanations .................. 5

2. Alphabetical Message Listing ......................... 7
   Numbers and Symbols ....................................... 7
      ***** FILE SYSTEM WAS MODIFIED ***** ............... 7
** Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes .......................... 8
** Phase 1b – Rescan For More DUPS .......................... 8
** Phase 2 – Check Pathnames ................................. 9
** Phase 3 – Check Connectivity ............................... 9
** Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts ........................ 10
** Phase 5 – Check Cyl groups ............................... 10
451 timeout waiting for input during variable .......... 11
550 variable... Host unknown ............................... 11
550 variable... User unknown ............................... 12
554 variable... Local configuration error ................. 12
A ............................................................................. 13
A command window has exited because its child exited. . 13
admintool: Received communication service error 4 .... 13
answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set 14
Arg list too long ................................................. 14
Argument out of domain ........................................ 15
Arguments too long .............................................. 16
assertion failed: variable, file variable, line number .... 16
automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change............. 16
automountd[number]: server variable not responding ... 17
automount[number]: variable: Not a directory ........... 17
B ............................................................................. 18
Bad address ......................................................... 18
BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t ø CLEAR? .......................... 18
Bad file number ............................................. 19
numberBAD I=number ............................. 19
bad module/chip at: variable ...................... 20
BAD SUPER BLOCK: variable ...................... 20
BAD TRAP .................................................. 21
bad trap = number ........................................ 22
/bin/sh: variable: too big ......................... 22
Block device required ................................. 22
Boot device: /iommu/sbus/variable/variable/sd@3,0... 23
Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server [date] 23
Broken pipe ............................................. 24
Bus Error .................................................. 24
C .......................................................... 25
Cannot allocate colormap entry for "variable"........ 25
Can’t create public message device (Device busy) .... 25
Can’t invoke /etc/init, error number ............. 26
can’t synchronize with hayes ....................... 27
cd: Too many arguments............................ 27
Channel number out of range ...................... 27
chmod: ERROR: invalid mode ....................... 28
Command not found ..................................... 28
Connection closed..................................... 29
Connection closed by foreign host. ........................... 29
[Connection closed. Exiting]. ................................. 30
Connection refused ........................................... 30
Connection timed out ......................................... 30
console login: ^J^M^K^K^P .................................... 31
core dumped. .................................................. 32
Could not initialize tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP 33
Could not start new viewer ................................... 33
cpio: Bad magic number/header. ............................. 34
Cross-device link ............................................. 34
D ................................................................. 35
data access exception. ....................................... 35
Data fault ....................................................... 35
Deadlock situation detected/avoided. ....................... 36
Device busy .................................................... 36
/dev/rdsk/variable: CAN'T CHECK FILE SYSTEM. ....... 37
/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN
fsck MANUALLY. ............................................. 37
Directory not empty .......................................... 38
Disc quota exceeded ......................................... 38
dumptm: Cannot open ‘/dev/rmt/variable’: Device busy 39
DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f
  REMOVE? ....................................................... 39
numberDUP I=number ........................................ 39
E ................................................................. 40
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Error Message</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERROR: missing file arg (cm3)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: ‘SCCS/p.variable’ nonexistent (ut4)</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: writable ‘variable’ exists (ge4)</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>esp0: data transfer overrun</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event not found</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=number ø CONTINUE?</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS I=number ø CONTINUE?</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exec format error</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File exists</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File locking deadlock</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filemgr: mknod: Permission denied</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File name too long</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX?</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File table overflow</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File too large</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK ø SALVAGE?</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fsck: Can’t open /dev/dsk/variable</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fsck: Can’t stat /dev/dsk/variable</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>giving up</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type . . . 49

group.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 49

H . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 50

/home/variable: No such file or directory. . . . . . . . . . . . . 50

Host is down . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 50

host name configuration error . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 51

hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 51

I . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52

I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52

ie0: Ethernet jammed. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52

ie0: no carrier . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 53

Illegal Instruction. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 53

Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC
0xnumber . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 54

Illegal seek . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 54

Image Tool: Unable to open XIL Library. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 55

Inappropriate ioctl for device. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 55

INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) ø
CORRECT?. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 55

inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or
directory . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 56

inetd[number]: variable/tcp: unknown service. . . . . . . . . 56

inetd[number]: variable/udp: unknown service. . . . . . . . . 57

inetd: Too many open files . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 57

INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx . . . . . 57
InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb ............ 58
Interrupted system call ........................................ 59
Invalid argument ................................................. 59
Invalid null command ............................................ 60
I/O error .............................................................. 60
Is a directory ......................................................... 61
K ................................................................. 61
kernel read error .................................................... 61
Killed ................................................................. 61
kmem_free block already free ..................................... 62
L ....................................................................... 63
last message repeated number times ......................... 63
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: symbol not found: variable ..................................................... 63
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: variable: can’t open file: errno=2 . 64
le0: Memory error! .................................................. 64
le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled? 65
le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem? ............... 65
LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t COUNT... ø ADJUST? ........................................... 66
LL105W: Protocol error detected ............................... 66
ln: cannot create /dev/fb: Read-only file system .......... 67
lockd[number]: create_client: no name for inet address 0xnumber .................................................... 67
Login incorrect ...................................................... 67
lp hang ......................................................... 68
M ................................................................. 69
mailtool: Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied... 69
mailtool: Could not initialize the Classing Engine .... 69
Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File... 70
mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch) ........................................ 70
Memory address alignment ................................ 71
memory leaks ................................................ 71
mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable is busy, or...................................................... 72
mount: giving up on: /variable ............................. 72
mount: mount-point /variable does not exist........ 73
mount: the state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay .... 73
N ................................................................. 73
/net/variable: No such file or directory ................. 73
Network is down ............................................. 74
Network is unreachable ...................................... 74
NFS getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out ... 75
nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port .......... 75
nfs mount: mount: variable: Device busy .............. 76
NFS mount: /variable mounted OK .................... 76
NFS read failed for server variable ..................... 76
nfs_server: bad getargs for number/number .......... 77
NFS server variable not responding still trying ...... 77
NFS server variable ok ............................................. 78
nfs umount: variable: is busy ................................. 78
NFS write error on host variable: No space left on device. 79
NFS write failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out. . . . 79
NIS+ authentication failure  .................................. 80
No buffer space available  ..................................... 80
No child processes ................................................. 81
No default media available  ..................................... 81
No directory! Logging in with home=/ ........................ 82
No message of desired type ..................................... 83
No recipients specified ............................................ 83
No record locks available ....................................... 83
No route to host .................................................... 84
No shell ø Connection closed ................................. 84
No space left on device .......................................... 85
No such device ..................................................... 85
No such device or address ...................................... 86
No such file or directory ....................................... 86
no such map in server’s domain .............................. 87
No such process ................................................... 87
No such user as variable – cron entries not created ...... 88
Not a directory ....................................................... 88
Not enough space .................................................. 88
not found .............................................................. 89
NOTICE: /variable: out of inodes ......................... 90
Not login shell ............................................. 90
Not on system console .......................... 91
Not owner .............................................. 91
Not supported ......................................... 91
O ......................................................... 92
ok ..................................................... 92
operation failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, variable 92
Operation not applicable ............................. 93
out of memory .......................................... 93
P ......................................................... 94
Panic ..................................................... 94
PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE I=number ø CLEAR? . 95
passwd.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable .......... 95
Password does not decrypt secret key for unix.uid@variable 96
Permission denied ................................. 96
Please specify a recipient ......................... 97
Protocol not supported ..................... 97
Protocol wrong type for socket ............... 97
R ......................................................... 98
Read error from network: Connection reset by peer .... 98
Read-only file system ................................. 98
rebooting ........................................... 99
Recipient names must be specified ............. 99
Contents

Reset tty pgrp from number to number .................. 100
Resource temporarily unavailable....................... 100
Result too large ........................................ 101
rmdir: variable: Directory not empty .................. 101
ROOT LOGIN /dev/console ............................... 102
ROOT LOGIN /dev/pts/number FROM variable ........... 102
rx framing error ......................................... 102
SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error .................. 103
SCSI transport failed: reason ‘reset’ ................... 103
Segmentation Fault ....................................... 104
sendmail[number]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading from variable ........................................... 105
setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing ........... 106
share_nfs: /home: Operation not applicable .......... 106
Soft error rate (number%) during writing was too high ................................. 107
Stale NFS file handle ..................................... 107
statd: cannot talk to statd at variable .................. 108
stty: TGETS: Operation not supported on socket ....... 108
su: No shell ................................................. 109
su: ‘su root’ failed for variable on /dev/pts/number .... 109
su: ‘su root’ succeeded for variable on /dev/pts/number .... 110
syncing file systems........................................ 110
syslog service starting. ........................................ 111

T ................................................................. 111

tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory. ............. 111
tar: directory checksum error .............................. 112
tar: tape write error ..................................... 112

Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. .................................. 113

THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: ............................. 113

The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off. 114

THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN NOW !!! ........... 114

The system will be shut down in number minutes ...... 115

This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. . 115

Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet ........................ 116

Too many links .............................................. 116

Too many open files ........................................ 117

U ................................................................. 117

umount: warning: /variable not in mnttab .............. 117

Unable to install/attach driver 'variable' ............... 118

undefined control ......................................... 118

Unmatched ' ................................................ 118

UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=O MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t \nCLEAR? .................................................... 119

Use "logout" to logout. .................................... 119

/usr/openwin/bin/xinit: connection to X server lost . . . 120
Value too large for defined data type .......................... 120

WARNING: Clock gained number days – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! .................................................. 121

WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change .......................... 121

WARNING: processor level 4 interrupt not serviced ...... 122

WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded 122

WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! .................................................. 123

WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck ... 123

Watchdog Reset ......................................................... 124

Watchdog Reset, Rebooting ........................................ 124

Who are you? .......................................................... 125

Window Underflow ................................................... 125

X connection to variable:0.0 broken (explicit kill or server shutdown) ........................................ 126

xinit: not found ....................................................... 127

XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0" 127

Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server ...... 127

Xlib: connection to "variable:0.0" refused by server ...... 128

xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "variable:0.0" ............................... 128
XView warning: Cannot load font set ‘variable’ (Font Package) ... 129

Y ................................................................. 129

ypbind[number]: NIS server for domain "variable" OK ... 129

ypbind[number]: NIS server not responding for domain "variable"; still trying ........................................ 130

ypwhich: can’t communicate with ypbind ............... 130

Z ................................................................. 131

znumber: silo overflow ..................................... 131

3. **Permutated Index** ........................................ 133

   How to Use this Index ................................... 133

   Alphabetical Index ...................................... 133
Preface

System administrators and advanced users can use the Common Messages and Troubleshooting Guide to find explanations of some of the more common error messages in the Solaris system.

Look up the messages and explanations here when you see a system message that you don’t understand. If the message you’re searching for is fairly common, it might be documented in this book.

How This Book Is Organized

Chapter 1, “About Error Messages,” explains how to find messages in both the AnswerBook Navigator and in the printed book.

Chapter 2, “Alphabetical Message Listing,” lists messages alphabetically, with troubleshooting information following each message listing.

Chapter 3, “Permuted Index,” alphabetizes messages by key words in the message. Use the permuted index to find messages that contain varying words and numbers.
Special Symbols

Three special symbols are used with the message explanations in this book.

Data Corruption Highly Likely

The bomb symbol next to a message explanation warns that data corruption is highly likely. The situations described are often associated with damage to data, and might require serious and immediate remedial action, depending on the importance of data integrity to your task. Please note that “data corruption” is usually differentiated from “data loss.” When data loss is known to be highly likely, it is usually noted in the text of the explanation.

❖ See Also

When further reading is suggested for a topic mentioned in the message explanation, the ❖ symbol appears next to the first mention of the topic. This tells you to look in the message “See Also” section for sources of more information.

New Line

This symbol means that the part of this multi-line message following ↓ appears on a separate line.
Deciphering Type Changes And Prompt Symbols

The following table describes the typographic changes used in this book.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Typeface or Symbol</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AaBbCc123</td>
<td>Functions, commands, filenames, code, screen displays</td>
<td>Edit your .login file. Use <code>ls -a</code> to list all files. The <code>setlogmask()</code> function sets...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AaBbCc123</td>
<td>What you type, contrasted with screen displays</td>
<td>machine_name% su Password:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>name(num)</td>
<td>The manual page in the Solaris 2.5 Reference Manual AnswerBook</td>
<td>See <code>ls(1)</code>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>C shell prompt</td>
<td>% ls -a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>Bourne or Korn shell prompt</td>
<td>$ ls -a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#</td>
<td>Superuser prompt</td>
<td># ls -a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
About Error Messages

This book covers some of the more common error messages in the Solaris 2.5 system. Most messages covered here come from the operating system and the window system, but some come from commands, networking, and system administration (the section 1 and section 1M man pages).

Searching for Messages

Choosing What To Look For

How you choose to look up a particular message depends both on how the message is constructed and on whether you are searching in a printed book or in the AnswerBook documentation.

Variable Words and Numbers

In either case, remember as you are searching that some words and numbers in messages vary when the messages are displayed. For example, the following message uses the name of the server affected, b5server in this case:

NFS read failed for server b5server

When message words or numbers vary, this book uses the words variable and number in the italics type face. So the previous message is listed in this book as:

NFS read failed for server variable
Variable words and numbers can appear anywhere in a message, even at the beginning. Because of this, messages are alphabetized by the first nonreplaced word or number in the message.

Frequently Duplicated Parts of Messages

Many messages you see are actually combined messages, often beginning with a program name. The five error messages in the following example are basically the same even though the command names are different.

- find: out of memory
- grep: out of memory
- ls: out of memory
- mount: out of memory
- fsck: out of memory

Rather than document this message at least five times, it appears in this book as the message “out of memory.” Messages that contain colons (:) are often combined messages, and you might find that explanations of message sections are available separately.

So, if you don’t find the beginning of a message in the book, and the message contains colons, search for other parts of the message, also.

Using the Permuted Index

When you are not sure which message words or numbers have been replaced, look for the message in the permuted index at the end of this book. With the permuted index you can find the original message by searching on any of the key words in the message.

In the permuted index, you can find the message “NFS read failed for server variable” by looking for “NFS,” “read,” “failed,” and “server.”

If you’ve never used a permuted index before, be sure to read the instructions at the beginning of Chapter 3, “Permuted Index.”
In the Printed Book

Methods for finding a particular message vary depending on whether you are looking at a printed book or are searching online with the AnswerBook Navigator.

To find a message in the printed book, you can start with either the alphabetical listing of messages in Chapter 2, “Alphabetical Message Listing,” or with the permuted index in Chapter 3, “Permuted Index.”

In the AnswerBook Navigator

While print search methods work in AnswerBook, too, it’s much faster to search for messages through the search utility in the AnswerBook Navigator.

1. Bring up AnswerBook
   
   $ answerbook

2. Click SELECT on the Search button

3. Enter the words or pattern to search for in the “Search Library For:” pane

4. Double-click SELECT on an entry in the resulting list. Although any of the entries might contain the information you’re looking for, those from this book are most likely to be what you want.

If your first search doesn’t find the message, consider altering the search pattern. Remember, though, that this book contains only a small percentage of possible messages. If you aren’t sure whether or not the message you’re looking for is documented here, check in Chapter 3, “Permuted Index.”

In general, you are most likely to find a documented message in the AnswerBook search pane when you enclose the searched-for words in quotation marks (““) or in parentheses ().

Using Pattern Matching

You can search in the AnswerBook Navigator for text containing specific single words, phrases that contain spaces, words near one another, and word variations.

Table 1-1  AnswerBook Search Pattern Matching

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To search for</th>
<th>Such as</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single words</td>
<td>installing, le0, group</td>
<td>The words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phrases with spaces</td>
<td>Installing Packages</td>
<td>Quotation marks (&quot;&quot;&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words near one another</td>
<td>Installing...Server</td>
<td>Parentheses ( ( ) )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Word variations</td>
<td>delete, deleting, deletion</td>
<td>Asterisks (*) and hyphens (-)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following example shows some of the possible matches for specific AnswerBook Navigator searches.

Table 1-2  AnswerBook Search Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Searching with</th>
<th>Finds these (for example)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Installing</td>
<td>Installing XIL Device Handlers (XIL Device Porting and Extensibility Guide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Installing Packages”</td>
<td>Installing Packages on a Server for... (Application Packaging Developer’s Guide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Installing Server)</td>
<td>Installing Packages for Clients on a Server (Software and AnswerBook Packages...)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delet*</td>
<td>Delete All Silence (Solaris Advanced User’s Guide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deleting a Line (Solaris Advanced User’s Guide)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deletion of the New Selection (OLIT Reference Manual)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you are unable to find an error message documented, please take the time to report it to us by sending e-mail to msgdoc@Eng.Sun.COM (this address is an autoresponder alias, not an actual person).

Combining Search Techniques

Combine the above search techniques to further refine your search. For example, “chang* mail-tool” finds documents containing phrases such as “change mailtool,” “change mail tool,” “change mail-tool,” “changing mailtool,” and so on.
Understanding the Message Explanations

Each message contains at least one of the following areas:

- **Cause**: What might have happened to cause the message
- **Action**: What you can do to fix the problem or, to continue with your work
- **Technical Notes**: Background information that might be interesting or helpful to a technical audience. This often contains information specifically for programmers.

Whenever you see part of a message that says “errno=“ and then a number, look up the number on the Intro(2) man page to see what it indicates. System error messages on the Intro(2) man page are organized numerically.

- **See Also**: Suggests further reading
Messages listed here are in the current Solaris 2.5 system. Many were also present in earlier Solaris 2.x systems.

Messages are listed alphabetically. If you don’t find the message the first time you look, try looking up phrases from the middle of the message in Chapter 3, “Permuted Index.”

Numbers and Symbols

***** FILE SYSTEM WAS MODIFIED *****

Cause
This comment from the fsck(1M) command tells you that it changed the filesystem it was checking.

Action
If fsck was checking the root filesystem, reboot the system immediately to avoid corrupting the / partition. If fsck was checking a mounted filesystem, unmount that filesystem and run fsck again, so that work done by fsck is not undone when in-memory file tables are written out to disk.
**Phase 1 - Check Blocks and Sizes**

*Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command is checking the filesystem shown in the messages that are displayed before this one. The first phase checks the inode list, finds bad or duplicate blocks, and verifies the inode size and format.

*Action*

If more than a dozen errors occur during this important phase, you might want to restore the filesystem from backup tapes. Otherwise it is fine to proceed with `fsck`.

*See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**Phase 1b - Rescan For More DUPS**

*Cause*

The `fsck`(1M) command detected duplicate blocks while checking a filesystem, so `fsck` is rescaning the filesystem to find the inode that originally claimed that block.

*Action*

If `fsck` executes this optional phase, you will see additional DUP/BAD messages in phases 2 and 4.

*See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.
**Phase 2 - Check Pathnames**

*Cause*
The `fsck(1M)` command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now removing directory entries pointing to bad inodes that were discovered in phases 1 and 1b. This phase might ask you to remove files, salvage directories, fix inodes, reallocate blocks, and so on.

*Action*
If more than a dozen errors occur during this important phase, you might want to restore the filesystem from backup tapes. Otherwise it is fine to proceed with `fsck`.

*See Also*
For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**Phase 3 - Check Connectivity**

*Cause*
The `fsck(1M)` command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now verifying the integrity of directories. You might be asked to adjust, create, expand, reallocate, or reconnect directories.

*Action*
You can usually answer yes to all these questions without harming the filesystem.

*See Also*
For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.
**Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts**

*Cause*

The `fsck(1M)` command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now checking link count information obtained in phases 2 and 3. You might be asked to clear or adjust link counts.

*Action*

You can usually answer yes to all these questions without harming the filesystem.

*See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**Phase 5 – Check Cyl groups**

*Cause*

The `fsck(1M)` command is checking a filesystem, and `fsck` is now checking the free-block and used-inode maps. You might be asked to salvage free blocks or summary information.

*Action*

You can usually answer yes to all these questions without harming the filesystem.

*See Also*

For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.
451 timeout waiting for input during variable

Cause
When sendmail(1M) reads from anything that might time out, such as an SMTP connection, it sets a timer to the value of the \( r \) processing option before reading begins. If the read doesn’t complete before the timer expires, this message appears and reading stops. (Usually this is during RCPT.) The mail message is then queued for later delivery.

Action
If you see this message often, increase the value of the \( r \) processing option in the /etc/mail/sendmail.cf file. If the timer is already set to a large number, look for hardware problems such as poor network cabling or connections.

See Also
For more information about setting the timer, see the section describing the sendmail configuration options in the Mail Administration Guide. If you are using the AnswerBook, the term “timeouts” is a good search string.

550 variable... Host unknown

Cause
This sendmail(1M) message indicates that the destination host machine, specified by the address portion after the @ (at-sign), was not found during DNS (Domain Naming System) lookup.

Action
Use the nslookup(1M) command to verify that the destination host exists in that or other domains, perhaps with a slightly different spelling. Failing that, contact the intended recipient and ask for a proper address.

Sometimes this return message indicates that the intended host is merely down, rather than unknown. If a DNS record contains an unknown alternate host, and the primary host is down, sendmail returns a “Host unknown” message from the alternate host.
For uucp mail addresses, the “Host unknown” message probably means that the destination hostname is not listed in the /etc/uucp/Systems file.

**Technical Notes**

❖ This is a known sendmail version 8.6.7 bug.

**See Also**

For information on how sendmail works, see the Mail Administration Guide.

### 550 variable... User unknown

**Cause**

This sendmail(1M) message indicates that the intended recipient, specified by the address portion before the @ (at-sign), could not be located on the destination host machine.

**Action**

Check the e-mail address and try again, perhaps with a slightly different spelling. If this doesn’t work, contact the intended recipient and ask for a proper address.

**See Also**

For information on how sendmail works, see the Mail Administration Guide.

### 554 variable... Local configuration error

**Cause**

This sendmail(1M) message usually indicates that the local host is trying to send mail to itself.

**Action**

Check the value of the $j macro in the /etc/mail/sendmail.cf file to ensure that this value is a fully-qualified domain name.
Technical Notes
When the sending system provides its hostname to the receiving system (in the SMTP HELO command), the receiving system compares its name to the sender’s name. If these are the same, the receiving system issues this error message and closes the connection. The name provided in the HELO command is the value of the $j macro.

See Also
For information on how sendmail works, see the Mail Administration Guide.

A command window has exited because its child exited.

Cause
The argument to a cmdtool(1) or a shelltool(1) window looks like it is supposed to be a command, but the system cannot find the command.

Action
To run this command inside a cmdtool or a shelltool, make sure the command is spelled correctly and is in your search path (if necessary, use a full path name). If you intended this argument as an option setting, use a minus sign (-) at the beginning of the option.

Technical Notes
Both the cmdtool and the shelltool are OpenWindows terminal emulators.

admintool: Received communication service error 4

Cause
AdminTool could not start a display method because a remote procedure call timed out, so it can’t send the request. This error results when admintool tries to access the NIS or NIS+ tables when networking is not enabled.
Action
Verify the system network status with `ifconfig -a` to make sure the system is connected to the network. Make sure the ethernet cable is connected and the system is configured to run NIS or NIS+.

answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set

Cause
The AnswerBook navigator window comes up, but the document viewer window does not. This message appears on the console, and the message “Could not start new viewer” appears in the navigator window. This situation indicates that you have an unknown client or a problem with the network naming service.

Action
Run the `ypmatch(1) or nismatch(1)` command o determine if the client hostname is in the hosts map. If it isn’t, add it to to NIS hosts map on the NIS master server. Then make sure the `/etc/hosts` file on the client contains an IP address and entry for that hostname followed by `loghost` (reboot if you changed the `/etc/hosts` file). Check that the `ypmatch` or `nismatch client hosts` command returns the same IP host address as in the `/etc/hosts` file. Finally, quit all existing AnswerBooks and restart.

See Also
For more information on the NIS hosts map, see the section on the default search criteria in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “NIS hosts map” is a good search string.

Arg list too long

Cause
The system could not handle the number of arguments given to a command or program when it combined those arguments with the environment’s exported shell variables. The argument list limit is the size of the argument list plus the size of the environment’s exported shell variables.
Action

The easiest solution is to reduce the size of the parent process environment by unsetting extraneous environment variables. (See the man page for the shell you’re using to find out how to list and change your environment variables.) Then run the program again.

Technical Notes

An argument list longer than ARG_MAX bytes was presented to a member of the exec() family of system calls.

The symbolic name for this error is E2BIG, errno=7.

Argument out of domain

Cause

This is a programming error or a data input error.

Action

Ask the program’s author to fix this condition, or supply data in a different format.

Technical Notes

This indicates an attempt to evaluate a mathematical programming function at a point where its value is not defined. The argument of a programming function in the math package (3M) is out of the domain of the function. This could happen when taking the square root, power, or log of a negative number, when computing a power to a non-integer, or when passing an out-of-range argument to a hyperbolic programming function.

To help pinpoint a program’s math errors, use the matherr(3M) facility.

The symbolic name for this error is EDOM, errno=33.
Arguments too long

Cause
This C shell error message indicates that there are too many arguments after a command. For example, this can happen by invoking `rm *` in a huge directory. The C shell cannot handle more than 1706 arguments.

Action
Temporarily start a Bourne shell with `sh` and run the command again. The Bourne shell dynamically allocates command line arguments. Return to your original shell by typing `exit`.

assertion failed: variable, file variable, line number

Cause
A condition in the program that was never expected to happen has happened.

Action
Contact the vendor or author of the program to ask why it failed. If you have the source code for the program, you can look at the file and line number where the assertion failed. This might give you an idea of how to run the program differently.

Technical Notes
This message results from a diagnostic macro called `assert()` that a programmer inserted into the specified line of a source file. The expression that evaluated untrue precedes the file name and line number.

automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change

Action
See the similar message “WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change” for details. If the server is not changed, data loss is possible in applications that depend on locking.
automountd[number]: server variable not responding

**Cause**
This automounter message indicates that the system tried to mount a filesystem from an NFS server that is either down or extremely slow to respond. In some cases this message indicates that the network link to the NFS server is broken, although that condition produces other error messages as well.

**Action**
If you are the system administrator responsible for the non-responding NFS server, check it out to see whether the machine needs repair or rebooting. Encourage your user community to report such problems quickly but only once. When the NFS server is back in operation, the automounter will be able to access the requested filesystem.

**See Also**
For more information on NFS failures, see the section on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, a good search string is “NFS Service.”

automountd[number]: variable: Not a directory

**Cause**
The file specified after the first colon is not a valid mount point because it is not a directory.

**Action**
Ensure that the mount point is a directory, and not a regular file or a symbolic link.
Bad address

Cause
The system encountered a hardware fault in attempting to access a parameter of a programming function.

Action
Check if the bad address resulted from supplying the wrong device or option to a command. If that is not the problem, contact the vendor or author of the program for an update.

Technical Notes
This error could occur any time a function that takes a pointer argument is passed an invalid address. Because processors differ in their ability to detect bad addresses, on some architectures passing bad addresses can result in undefined behaviors.

The symbolic name for this error is EFAULT, errno=14.

BAD/DUP FILE i=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?

Cause
While checking inode link counts during phase 4, fsck(1M) found a file (or directory) that either does not exist or exists somewhere else.

Action
To clear the inode of its reference to this file or directory, answer yes. With the -p (preen) option, fsck automatically clears bad or duplicate file references, so answering yes to this question seldom causes a problem.
Bad file number

Cause
Generally this is a program error, not a usage error.

Action
Contact the vendor or author of the program for an update.

Technical Notes
Either a file descriptor refers to no open file, or a read (or write) request is made to a file that is open only for writing (or reading).
The symbolic name for this error is EBADF, errno=9.

numberBAD I=number

Cause
Upon detecting an out-of-range block, fsck(1M) prints the bad block number and its containing inode (after I=).

Action
In fsck phases 2 and 4, you will decide whether or not to clear these bad blocks. Before committing to repair with fsck, you could determine which file contains this inode by passing the inode number to the ncheck(1M) command: by passing the inode number to the ncheck(1M) command:

# ncheck -i inum filesystem

See Also
For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the System Administration Guide, Volume I.
bad module/chip at variable

Cause
This message from the memory management system often appears with parity errors, and indicates a bad memory module or chip at the position listed. Data loss is possible if the problem occurs other than at boot time.

Action
Replace the memory module or chip at the indicated position. Refer to the vendor’s hardware manual for help finding this location.

BAD SUPER BLOCK: variable

Cause
This message from fsck(1M) indicates that a filesystem’s super-block is damaged beyond repair and must be replaced. At boot time (with the -p option) this message is prefaced by the filesystem’s device name. After this message comes the actual damage recognized (see Action). Unfortunately fsck does not print the number of the damaged super-block.

Action
The most common cause of this error is overlapping disk partitions. Do not immediately rerun fsck as suggested by the lines that display after the error message. First make sure that you have a recent backup of the filesystem involved; if not, try to back up the filesystem now using ufsdump(1M). Then run the format(1M) command, select the disk involved, and print out the partition information.

```
# format
  : N
> partition
> print
```

Note whether the overlap occurs at the beginning or end of the filesystem involved. Then run newfs(1M) with the -N option to print out the filesystem parameters, including the location of backup super-blocks.

```
# newfs -N /dev/dsk/device
```
Select a super-block from a non-overlapping area of the disk, but note that in most cases you have only one chance to select the proper replacement super-block, which \texttt{fsck} soon propagates to all the cylinders. If you select the wrong replacement super-block, data corruption will probably occur, and you will have to restore from backup tapes. After you select a new super-block, provide \texttt{fsck} with the new master super-block number:

\begin{verbatim}
# fsck -o b=NNNN /dev/dsk/device
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Technical Notes}

Specific reasons for a damaged super-block include: a wrong magic number, out of range NCG (number of cylinder groups) or CPG (cylinders per group), the wrong number of cylinders, a preposterously large super-block size, and trashed values in super-block. These reasons are generally not meaningful because a corrupt super-block is usually extremely corrupt.

\textbf{See Also}

For more information on bad superblocks, see the sections on restoring bad superblocks in the \textit{System Administration Guide, Volume I}. If you are using the AnswerBook, “superblock” is a good search string.

\textbf{BAD TRAP}

\textbf{Cause}

A bad trap can indicate faulty hardware or a mismatch between hardware and its configuration information. Data loss is possible if the problem occurs other than at boot time.

\textbf{Action}

If you recently installed new hardware, verify that the software was correctly configured. Check the kernel traceback displayed on the console to see which device generated the trap. If the configuration files are correct, you will probably have to replace the device.

In some cases, the bad trap message indicates a bad or down-rev CPU.
Technical Notes
A hardware processor trap occurred, and the kernel trap handler was unable to restore system state. This is a fatal error that usually precedes a panic, after which the system performs a sync, dump, and reboot. The following conditions can cause a bad trap: a system text or data access fault, a system data alignment error, or certain kinds of user software traps.

bad trap = number

Action
See the message “BAD TRAP” for details.

/bin/sh: variable: too big

Cause
This Bourne shell message indicates a classic “no memory” error. While trying to load the program specified after the first colon, the shell noticed that the system ran out of virtual memory (swap space).

Action
See the message “Not enough space” for information on reconfiguring your system to add more swap space.

Block device required

Cause
A raw (character special) device was specified where a block device was required, such as during a call to the mount(1M) command.

Action
To see which block devices are available, use ls -l to look in /devices. Then specify a block device instead of a character device. Block device modes start with a b, whereas raw character device modes start with a c.
**Technical Notes**

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTBLK, errno=15.

**Boot device: /iommu/sbus/variable/variable/sd@3,0**

**Cause**

This message always appears at the beginning of rebooting. If there is a problem, the system hangs, and no other messages appear. This condition is caused by conflicting SCSI targets for the boot device, which is almost always target 3.

**Action**

The boot device is usually the machine’s internal disk drive, target 3. Make sure that external and secondary disk drives are targeted to 1, 2, or 0, and do not conflict with each other. Also make sure that tape drives are targeted to 4 or 5, and CD drives to 6, avoiding any conflict with each other or with the disk drives. You can set a device’s target number using pushbutton switches or a dial on the back near the SCSI cables. If the targeting of the internal disk drive is in question, check it by powering off the machine, removing all external drives, turning the power on, and running the `probe-scsi-all` or `probe-scsi` command from the PROM monitor.

**Broadcast Message from root (pts/ number) on server [date]**

**Cause**

This message from the `wall` command gets transmitted to all users logged into a system. You could see it during a `rlogin` or `telnet` session, or on terminals connected to a timesharing system.

**Action**

Carefully read the broadcast message. Often this broadcast is followed by a shutdown warning.

See the message “The system will be shut down in number minutes” for details about system shutdown.
See Also
For more information on bringing down the system, see the section on halting the system in the System Administration Guide, Volume I. If you are using the AnswerBook, “halting the system” is a good search string.

Broken pipe

Cause
This condition is often normal, and the message is merely informational (as when piping many lines to the head program). The condition occurs when a write on a pipe does not find a reading process. This usually generates a signal to the executing program, but this message displays when the program ignores the signal.

Action
Check the process at the end of the pipe to see why it exited.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is EPIPE, errno=32.

Bus Error

Cause
A process has received a signal indicating that it attempted to perform I/O to a device that is restricted or that does not exist. This message is usually accompanied by a core dump, except on read-only filesystems.

Action
Use a debugger to examine the core file and determine what program fault or system problem led to the bus error. If possible, check the program’s output files for data corruption that might have occurred before the bus error.
Technical Notes
Bus errors can result from either programming error or device corruption on your system. Some common causes of bus errors are: invalid file descriptors, unreasonable I/O requests, bad memory allocation, misaligned data structures, compiler bugs, and corrupt boot blocks.

Cannot allocate colormap entry for "variable"

Cause
This message from libXt (X Intrinsics library) indicates that the system colormap was full even before the color name specified in quotes was requested. Some applications can continue after this message. Other applications, such as Workspace Properties Color, fail to come up when the colormap is full.

Action
Exit the programs that make heavy use of the colormap, then restart the failed application and try again.

Can't create public message device (Device busy)

Cause
This message comes from the lp print scheduler, indicating that it is either extremely busy or hung.

Action
If print jobs are coming out of the printer in question, wait until they are finished and then resubmit this print job. If you see this message again, the lp system is probably hung.

See the message “lp hang” for a procedure to clear the queue.
Technical Notes

If `lp` is unable to create a device for printer messages, the message FIFO could be already in use, or locked by another print job.

See Also

For more information on the print scheduler, see the section on administrating printers in the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*.

Can't invoke `/etc/init`, *error number*

Cause

This message can appear while a system is booting, indicating that the `init` program is missing or corrupted. Note that `/etc/init` is a symbolic link to `/sbin/init`.

Action

Boot the miniroot so you can replace `init`. Halt the machine by typing `Stop-A` or by pressing the reset button. Reboot single-user from CDROM, the net, or diskette. For example, type `boot cdrom -s` at the `ok` prompt to boot from CDROM. After the system comes up and gives you a `#` prompt, mount the device corresponding to the original `/` partition somewhere, with a command similar to the `mount` command below. Then copy the `init` program from the miniroot to the original `/` partition, and reboot the system.

```bash
# mount /dev/dsk/c0t3d0s0 /mnt
# cp /sbin/init /mnt/sbin/init
# reboot
```

If this doesn’t work, other files might be corrupted, and you might need to reinstall the entire system.

Technical Notes

The error number is 2 if `/sbin/init` is missing, or 8 if `/sbin/init` has an incorrect executable format. This is usually followed by a “panic: icode” message. The system tries to reboot itself, but goes into a loop, because rebooting is impossible without `init`. 
See Also
For more information on booting the system, see the section on halting and booting the system in the System Administration Guide, Volume I.

can’t synchronize with hayes

Cause
This message sometimes appears when using a modem that the system regards as a “Hayes” type modem, which includes most modems manufactured today. The message can be caused by incorrect switch settings, by poor cable connections, or by not turning the modem on.

Action
Check that the modem is on and that the cables between the modem and your system are securely connected. Check the internal and external modem switch settings. Turn the modem off and then on again, if necessary.

cd: Too many arguments

Cause
The C shell’s cd(1) command takes only one argument. Either more than one directory was specified, or a directory name containing a space was specified. Directory names with spaces are easy to create with File Manager.

Action
Use only one directory name. To change to a directory whose name contains spaces, enclose the directory name in double (”) or single (’) quotes, or use File Manager.

Channel number out of range

Cause
The system has run out of stream devices. This error results when a stream head attempts to open a minor device that does not exist or that is currently in use.
Action
Check that the stream device in question exists and was created with an appropriate number of minor devices. Make sure that the hardware corresponds to this configuration. If the stream device configuration is correct, try again later when more system resources might be available.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is ECHRNG, errno=37.

chmod: ERROR: invalid mode

Cause
This message from the chmod(1) command indicates a problem in the first non-option argument.

Action
If you are specifying a numeric file mode, you can provide any number of digits (although only the final one to four are considered), but all digits must be between 0 and 7. If you are specifying a symbolic file mode, use the syntax provided in the chmod usage message to avoid the “invalid mode” error message:

Usage: chmod [ugoa][+-=][rwxlstugo] file ...

Note that some combinations of symbolic keyletters produce no error message but fail to have any effect. The first group, [ugoa], is truly optional. The second group, [+-=], is mandatory for chmod to have an effect. The third group, [rwxlstugo], is also mandatory for effect, and can be used in combination when that combination does not conflict.

Command not found

Cause
The C shell could not find the program you gave as a command.
Action
Check the form and spelling of the command line. If that looks correct, echo $path to see if the user’s search path is correct. When communications are garbled, it is possible to unset a search path to such an extent that only built-in shell commands are available. Here is a command to reset a basic search path:

```
% set path = (/usr/bin /usr/ccs/bin /usr/openwin/bin .)
```

If the search path looks correct, check the directory contents along the search path to see if programs are missing or if directories are not mounted.

See Also
For more information about the C shell, see csh(1).

Connection closed.

Cause
This message can appear when using rlogin(1) to another system if the remote host cannot create a process for this user, if the user takes too long to type the correct password, if the user interrupts the network connection, or if the remote host goes down. Data loss is possible if files were modified and not saved before the connection closed.

Action
Just try again. If the other system has gone down, wait for it to reboot first.

Connection closed by foreign host.

Cause
When a user telnets to another system, this message can appear if the user takes too long to type the correct password, if the remote host cannot create a login for this user, or if the remote host goes down or terminates the connection. Data loss is possible if files were modified and not saved before the connection closed.
**Action**  
Just try again. If the other system has gone down, wait for it to reboot first.

**[Connection closed. Exiting]**  

**Cause**  
After using the `talk(1)` command to communicate with another user, the other person enters an interrupt (usually Control-c), and this message appears on your screen.

**Action**  
Sending an interrupt like this is the usual way of exiting the `talk` program. The `talk` session is over and you can return to your work.

**Connection refused**  

**Cause**  
No connection could be made because the target machine actively refused it. This happens either when trying to connect to an inactive service or when a service process is not present at the requested address.

**Action**  
Activate the service on the target machine, or start it up again if it has disappeared. If for security reasons you do not intend to provide this service, inform the user community, possibly suggesting an alternative.

**Technical Notes**  
The symbolic name for this error is ECONNREFUSED, errno=146.

**Connection timed out**  

**Cause**  
This occurs either when the destination host is down or when problems in the network cause lost transmission.
Action
First check the operation of the host system, for example by using `ping(1M)` and `ftp(1)`, then repair or reboot as necessary. If that doesn’t solve the problem, check the network cabling and connections.

Technical Notes
No connection was established in a specified time. A connect or send request failed because the destination host did not properly respond after a reasonable interval. (The timeout period is dependent on the communication protocol.)

The symbolic name for this error is ETIMEDOUT, `errno=145`.

```
close login: ^J^M^Q^K^K^P
```

Cause
This usually occurs because OpenWindows exited abnormally, leaving the system’s keyboard in the wrong mode. The characters that appear when someone attempts to login are garbage transliterations of what someone types.

Action
Find another machine and remote login to this system, then run this command:

```
$ /usr/openwin/bin/kbd_mode -a
```

This puts the console back into ASCII mode. Note that `kbd_mode` is not a windows program, it just fixes the console mode.

Technical Notes
The usual reason for this problem occurring is an automated script run from `cron` that clears out the `/tmp` directory every so often. Ensure that any such scripts do not remove the `/tmp/.X11-pipe` or `/tmp/.X11-unix` directories, or any files therein.
core dumped

Cause
A core file contains an image of memory at the point of software failure, and is used by programmers to find the reason for the failure.

Action
To see which program produced a core file, run either the file(1) command or the adb(1) command. The following examples show the output of the file and adb commands on a core file from the dtmail program.

```bash
$ file core
core: ELF 32-bit MSB core file SPARC Version 1, from 'dtmail'
$ adb core
core file = core - program 'dtmail'
SIGSEGV 11: segmentation violation
^D (use Control-d to quit the program)
```

Ask the vendor or author of this program for a debugged version.

Technical Notes
Some signals, such as SIGQUIT, SIGBUS, and SIGSEGV, produce a core dump. See the signal(5) man page for a complete list.

If you have the source code for the program, you can try compiling it with cc -g, and debugging it yourself using dbx or a similar debugger. The where directive of dbx provides a stack trace.

On mixed networks, it can be difficult to discern which machine architecture produced a particular core dump, since adb on one type of system generally cannot read a core file from another type of system, and will produce an “unrecognized file” message. Run adb on various machine architectures until you find the right one.

The term “core” is archaic – ferrite core memory was supplanted by silicon RAM in the 1970s, although spaceships still employ core memory for its imperviousness to radiation.
See Also
For information on saving and viewing crash information see the System Administration Guide, Volume II. If you are using the AnswerBook, “system crash” is a good search string.

Could not initialize tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP

Cause
Various desktop tools display or print this message when the ttsession(1) process is not available. The ToolTalk service generally tries to restart ttsession if it is not running. So this error indicates that the ToolTalk service is either not installed or is not installed correctly.

Action
Verify that the ttsession command exists in /usr/openwin/bin or /usr/dt/bin. If this command is not present, ToolTalk is not installed correctly. The packages constituting ToolTalk are the runtime SUNWttlk, developer support SUNWttlkd, and the manual pages SUNWttlkkm. CDE ToolTalk packages have the same names with “.2” appended.

Technical Notes
The full TT_ERR_NOMP message string reads as follows: “No ttsession is running, probably because tt_open() has not been called yet. If this is returned from tt_open() it means ttsession could not be started, which generally means ToolTalk is not installed on the system.”

Could not start new viewer

Cause
This message appears in the AnswerBook navigator window, along with an XView error message on the console.

Action
See the message “answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set” for details.
**cpio: Bad magic number/header.**

*Cause*
A cpio(1) archive has either become corrupted or was written out with an incompatible version of cpio.

*Action*
Use the -k option to cpio to skip I/O errors and corrupted file headers. This might permit you to extract other files from the cpio archive. To extract files with corrupted headers, try editing the archive with a binary editor such as emacs. Each cpio file header contains a filename as a string.

*See Also*
For more information on magic numbers, see magic(4).

**Cross-device link**

*Cause*
An attempt was made to make a hard link to a file on another device, such as on another filesystem.

*Action*
Establish a symbolic link using ln -s instead. Symbolic links are permitted across filesystem boundaries.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is EXDEV, errno=18.
**data access exception**

*Cause*
This message can result from running an old version of the operating system that does not support new hardware, or by running an operating system that is not configured for new hardware. It can also result from incorrectly installed DSIMMs or from a disk problem.

*Action*
Upgrade your operating system to a version that supports the new hardware or machine architecture. For example, upgrading a SPARCstation 2 (with sun4c kernel architecture) to a SPARCstation 20 (with sun4m kernel architecture) requires an operating system upgrade or reconfiguration.

*See Also*
For more information on upgrades, see the section describing system and device configuration in the *Solaris 1.x to 2.x Transition Guide*.

**Data fault**

*Cause*
This is a kind of bad trap that usually causes a system panic. When this message appears after a bad trap message, a system text or data access fault probably occurred. In the absence of a bad trap message, this message might indicate a user text or data access fault. Data loss is possible if the problem occurs other than at boot time.

*Action*
Make sure the machine can reboot, then check the log file `/var/adm/messages` for hints about what went wrong.

❖ See the message “BAD TRAP” for more information.
Deadlock situation detected/avoided

Cause
A programming deadlock situation was detected and avoided.

Action
If the system had not detected and avoided a deadlock, a piece of software would have hung. Run the program again. The deadlock might not reoccur.

Technical Notes
This error usually relates to file and record locking, but can also apply to mutexes, semaphores, condition variables, and read/write locks.

The symbolic name for this error is EDEADLK, errno=45.

See Also
See the section on deadlock handling in the System Interfaces Guide. See the section on avoiding deadlock in the Multithreaded Programming Guide.

Device busy

Cause
An attempt was made to mount a device that was already mounted or to unmount a device containing an active file (such as an open file, a current directory, a mount point, or a running program). This message also occurs when trying to enable accounting that is already enabled.

Action
To unmount a device containing active processes, close all the files under that mount point, quit any programs started from there, and change directories out of that hierarchy. Then try to unmount again.

Technical Notes
Mutexes, semaphores, condition variables, and read/write locks set this error condition to indicate that a lock is held.
The symbolic name for this error is EBUSY, errno=16.

/dev/rdsk/variable: CAN'T CHECK FILE SYSTEM.

**Cause**
The system cannot automatically clean (preen) this filesystem because it appears to be set up incorrectly or is having hard disk problems. This message asks that you run fsck(1M) manually, since data corruption might already have occurred.

**Action**
Run fsck to clean the filesystem in question. See the message “/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY.” for proper procedures.

/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY.

**Cause**
At boot time the /etc/rcS script runs the fsck(1M) command to check the integrity of filesystems marked “fsck” in /etc/vfstab. If fsck cannot repair a filesystem automatically, it interrupts the boot procedure and produces this message. When fsck gets into this state, it cannot repair a filesystem without losing one or more files, so it wants to defer this responsibility to you, the administrator. Data corruption has probably already occurred.

**Action**
First run fsck –n on the filesystem, to see how many and what type of problems exist. Then run fsck again to repair the filesystem. If you have a recent backup of the filesystem, you can generally answer “y” to all the fsck questions. It’s a good idea to keep a record of all problematic files and inode numbers for later reference. To run fsck yourself, specify options as recommended by the boot script. For example:

```
# fsck /dev/rdsk/c0t4d0s0
```

Usually the files lost during fsck repair are those that were created just before a crash or power outage, and they cannot be recovered. If you lose important files, you can recover them from backup tapes.
If you don’t have a backup, ask an expert to run `fsck` for you.

See Also
For more information on file checking, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**Directory not empty**

*Cause*
The directory operation that was attempted, such as directory removal with `rmdir`, can be performed only on an empty directory.

*Action*
To remove the directory, first remove all the files that it contains. A quick way to remove a non-empty directory hierarchy is with the `rm -r` command.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOTEMPTY, errno=93.

**Disc quota exceeded**

*Cause*
The user’s disk limit has been exceeded on a user filesystem, usually because a file was just created or enlarged beyond the limit. This almost always refers to a magnetic disk, and not to an optical disc. Any data created after this condition occurs will be lost.

*Action*
The user can delete files to bring disk usage under the limit, or the server administrator can use the `edquota(1M)` command to increase the user’s disk limit.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is EDQUOT, errno=49.
dumptm: Cannot open ‘/dev/rmt/variable’: Device busy

Cause
During filesystem backup, the dump program cannot open the tape drive because some other process is holding it open.

Action
Find the process that has the tape drive open, and either kill(1) the process or wait for it to finish.

```
# ps -ef | grep /dev/rmt
# kill -9 processID
```

DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f REMOVE?

Cause
During phase 1, fsck(1M) found duplicate blocks or bad blocks associated with the file or directory specified after FILE= whose inode number appears after I= (with other information).

Action
To remove this file or directory, answer yes. If you end up removing more than a few files in this manner, data loss will result, so it might be preferable to restore the filesystem from backup tapes.

See Also
For more information on checking filesystems, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the System Administration Guide, Volume I.

numberDUPI=number

Cause
Upon detecting a block that is already claimed by another inode, fsck(1M) prints the duplicate block number and its containing inode (after I=).
Action
In `fsck` phases 2 and 4, you will decide whether or not to clear these bad blocks. Before committing to repair with `fsck`, you could determine which file contains this inode by passing the inode number to the `ncheck(1M)` command:

```
# ncheck -i inum filesystem
```

See Also
For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the `System Administration Guide, Volume I`.

---

**error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed**

Cause
This message appears when trying to run AnswerBook with a generic X11 window server or on a generic X terminal.

Action
Running AnswerBook requires Display PostScript (DPS), or a NeWS server, or the Adobe DPS NS remote display software. In addition, a complete LaserWriterII Type-1 font set (including Palatino) should be installed on the X server. To find out if your X server has DPS, run `xdpyinfo(1)` to verify the presence of an “Adobe-DPS-Extension” line. X servers without this line don’t know about DPS.

---

**ERROR: missing file arg (cm3)**

Cause
An attempt was madd to run some `sccs(1)` operation that requires a filename, such as `create`, `edit`, `delget`, or `prt`.
Action
Supply the appropriate filename after the SCCS operation.

ERROR[SCCS/s.variable]: ‘SCCS/p.variable’ nonexistent (ut4)

Cause
An attempt was made to sccs edit or sccs get a file that is not yet under SCCS control.

Action
Run sccs create on that file to place it under SCCS control.

ERROR[SCCS/s.variable]: writable ‘variable’ exists (ge4)

Cause
An attempt was made to sccs edit a file that is writable, probably because it is already checked out.

Action
Run sccs info to see who has the file checked out. If it is you, go ahead and edit it. If it is somebody else, ask that person to check in the file.

esp0: data transfer overrun

Cause
When a user tries to mount a CDROM on a third-party CD drive, mount(1M) fails with the above error, followed by the “sr0: SCSI transport failed” message. The CD drive probably comes from a vendor unknown to the system.

Action
Third-party CD drives generally have an 8192 block size, as opposed to the 512 block size on supported Sun drives. Check with the vendor to see if any special configuration is possible to allow the drive to operate on a Sun workstation.
**Event not found**

*Cause*
This C shell message indicates that a user tried to repeat a command from the history list, but that command or number does not exist in the list.

*Action*
Run the C shell `history` command to display recent events in the history list. If a user often tries to run commands that have disappeared from the history list, make the list longer by setting `history` to a higher value.

*See Also*
For more information about the C shell, see `csh(1)`.

**EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=number... CONTINUE?**

*Cause*
During phase 1, `fsck(1M)` found more than 10 bad (out-of-range) blocks associated with the specified inode number.

*Action*
With this many bad blocks, it might be preferable to restore the filesystem from backup tapes.

*See Also*
For more information on bad blocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “bad blocks” is a good search string.

**EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS I=number... CONTINUE?**

*Cause*
During phase 1, `fsck(1M)` found more than 10 duplicate (previously claimed) blocks associated with the specified inode number.
Action
With this many duplicate blocks, it might be preferable to restore the filesystem from backup tapes.

See Also
For more information on blocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the System Administration Guide, Volume I. If you are using the AnswerBook, “bad blocks” is a good search string.

Exec formaterror

Cause
This often happens when trying to run software compiled for different systems or architectures, such as when executing Solaris 2.x programs on a SunOS 4.1.x system, or when trying to execute SPARC-specific programs on an x86 machine. On a Solaris 2.x system, it can also occur if the Binary Compatibility Package was not installed.

Action
Make sure that the software matches the architecture and system you’re using. The file(1) command can help you determine the target architecture. If you’re using SunOS 4.1.x software on a Solaris 2.x system, make sure that the Binary Compatibility Package is installed. You can check for it using this command:

$ pkginfo | grep SUNWbcp

Technical Notes
A request was made to execute a file that, although it has the appropriate permissions, does not start with a valid format.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOEXEC, errno=8.

See Also
See the a.out(4) man page for a description of executable files.
fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive

Cause
This message appears on the system console to indicate that the floppy driver fd(7) could not read the label on a diskette. Usually this is either because a new diskette has not yet been formatted, or a formatted diskette has become corrupted. This message often appears along with “read failed” and “bad format” messages after volcheck(1) is run.

Action
If you are certain that the diskette contains no data, run fdformat -d to format the diskette in DOS format. (You can also format a diskette in UFS format if you like, although then it is not transportable to most other systems.) When the diskette is formatted, you can write on it, if it was not corrupted beyond repair.

File exists

Cause
The name of an existing file was mentioned in an inappropriate context. For example, it is not allowed to establish a link to an existing file, or to overwrite an existing file when the csh(1) noclobber option is set.

Action
Look at the names of files in the directory, then try again with a different name or after renaming or removing the existing file.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is EEXIST, errno=17.
File locking deadlock

**Cause**
This is a programming problem, in some cases unavoidable.

**Action**
All a user can do is restart the program and hope deadlock does not reoccur.

**Technical Notes**
In the file locking subsystem, two processes tried to modify some lock at the same time. In the multithreading subsystem, two threads became deadlocked and could not continue. When a program using the threads library encounters this error, it should restart the deadlocked threads.

The symbolic name for this error is EDEADLOCK, errno=56.

filemgr: mknod: Permission denied

**Cause**
File Manager issues this message and fails to come up whenever the /tmp/.removable directory is owned by another user and is not 1777 mode. This can happen, for example, when multiple users share a workstation.

**Action**
Have the original owner change the mode (chmod(1)) of this file back to 1777, its default creation mode. Rebooting the workstation also resolves this problem.

**Technical Notes**
This is a known problem that was fixed in Solaris 2.4.

File name too long

**Cause**
The specified file name has too many characters.
Action
If a file name or path name component is too long, devise a shorter name. If the total path name is longer than PATH_MAX characters, first change to an intermediate directory, then specify a shorter path name. Newly-created data will be lost unless written to another file with a shorter name.

Technical Notes
In a UFS or NFS-mounted UFS filesystem, the length of a path name component exceeds MAXNAMLEN (255) characters, or the total length of the path name exceeds PATH_MAX (1024) characters. In a System V filesystem, the length of a path name component exceeds NAME_MAX (14) characters while no-truncation mode is in effect. These values are defined in the /usr/include/limits.h(4) file.

The symbolic name for this error is ENAMETOOLONG, errno=78.

FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX?

Cause
The fsck(1M) command has just checked a filesystem, and has determined that the filesystem is clean. The filesystem’s superblock, however, still thinks the filesystem is “dirty” in some way.

Action
If you believe that the filesystem is adequately repaired, answer yes to mark the filesystem as clean.

Technical Notes
Different “dirty” filesystem types are listed in /usr/include/sys/fs/ufs_fs.h, and include FSACTIVE, FSBAD, FSFIX, FSLOG, and FSSUSPEND.

See Also
For more information on superblocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the System Administration Guide, Volume I. If you are using the AnswerBook, “bad superblock” is a good search string.
**File table overflow**

*Cause*
The kernel file table is full because too many files are open on the system. Temporarily, no more files can be opened. New data created under this condition will probably be lost.

*Action*
Simply waiting often gives the system time to close files. However, if this message occurs often, reconfigure the kernel to allow more open files. To increase the size of the file table in Solaris 2.x, increase the value of `maxusers` in the `/etc/system` file. The default `maxusers` value is the amount of main memory in MB, minus 2.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENFILE, errno=23.

**File too large**

*Cause*
The file size exceeded the limit specified by `ulimit(1)`, or the file size exceeds the maximum supported by the file system. New data created under this condition will probably be lost.

*Action*
In the C shell, use the `limit` command to see or set the default file size. In the Bourne or Korn shells, use the `ulimit -a` command. Even when the shells claim that the file size is unlimited, in fact the system limit is `FCHR_MAX` (usually 1 gigabyte).

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is EFBIG, errno=27.
**FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK... SALVAGE?**

*Cause*
During phase 5, `fsck(1M)` detected that the actual number of free blocks in the filesystem did not match the superblock’s free block count. The `df(1M)` command accesses this free block count when measuring filesystem capacity.

*Action*
Generally you can answer yes to this question without harming the filesystem.

*See Also*
For more information on superblocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “bad superblock” is a good search string.

**fsck: Can’t open /dev/dsk/ variable**

*Cause*
The `fsck(1M)` command cannot open the disk device, because although a similar filesystem exists, the partition specified does not.

*Action*
Run the `mount(1M)` or the `format(1M)` command to see what filesystems are configured on the machine. Then run `fsck` again on an existing partition.

**fsck: Can’t stat /dev/dsk/ variable**

*Cause*
The `fsck(1M)` command cannot open the disk device, because the specified filesystem does not exist.

*Action*
Run the `mount(1M)` or the `format(1M)` command to see what filesystems are configured on the machine. Then run `fsck` again on an existing filesystem.
giving up

Cause
This message appears in the SCSI log to indicate that a read or write operation has been retried until it timed out. With SCSI disk the timeout period is usually 30 seconds; with tape the period is usually 20 attempts. Timeout periods are generally coded into the drivers.

Action
Check that all SCSI devices are connected and powered on. Make sure that SCSI target numbers are correct and not in conflict. Verify that all cables are no longer than six meters, total, and that all SCSI connections are properly terminated.

Technical Notes
The `scsi_log(9F)` routine usually displays messages on the system console and in the `/var/adm/messages` file. Run the `dmesg(1M)` command to see the most recent message buffer.

Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type

Cause
The `/dev/fb` driver is either missing or corrupted.

Action
See “InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb” for details.

group.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable

Cause
This is the second of three messages that an NIS+ client prints when it cannot locate an NIS+ server on the network.
Action
See the message “hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable” for details.

/home/variable: No such file or directory

Cause
An attempt was made to change to a user’s home directory, but either that user does not exist or the user’s fileserver has not shared (exported) that filesystem.

Action
To check on the existence of a particular user, run the `ypmatch(1)` or `nismatch(1)` command, specifying the user name and then the `passwd` map.

To export filesystems from the remote fileserver, become superuser on that system and run the `share(1M)` command with the appropriate options. If that system is sharing (exporting) filesystems for the first time, also invoke `/etc/init.d/nfs.server start` to begin NFS service.

See Also
For more information on sharing filesystems, see the `share_nfs(1M)` man page.

Host is down

Cause
A transport connection failed because the destination host was down. For example, mail delivery was attempted over several days, but the destination machine was not available during any of these attempts.

Action
Report this error to the system administrator for the host. If you are the person responsible for this system, check to see if the machine needs repair or rebooting.
Technical Notes
This error results from status information delivered by the underlying communication interface. If there is no known connection to the host, a different message usually results. See “No route to host” for details.

The symbolic name for this error is EHOSTDOWN, errno=147.

host name configuration error

Cause
This is an old sendmail message, which replaced “I refuse to talk to myself” and is now replaced by the “Local configuration error” message.

Action
See the message “554 variable... Local configuration error” for details.

hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable

Cause
This is the third of three messages that an NIS+ client prints when it cannot locate an NIS+ server on the network.

Action
If other NIS+ clients are behaving normally, check the Ethernet cabling on the workstation showing this message. On SPARC machines, disconnected network cabling also produces a series of “no carrier” messages. On x86 machines, the NIS+ messages might be your only indication that network cabling is disconnected.

If many NIS+ clients on the network are giving this message, go to the NIS+ server in question and reboot or repair it, as necessary. When the server machine is back in operation, NIS+ clients will give an “NIS server for domain OK” message.
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using?

Cause
The SunView mailtool and pre-3.3 OpenWindows mailtool produce this message when they cannot cope with an attachment. The attachment is probably in MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) format, using base64 encoding.

Action
To read a mail message containing MIME attachments, use mailtool(1) from Solaris 2.3 or later. If you are running an earlier version of Solaris, rlogin(1) to a later version of Solaris, set the DISPLAY environment variable back to the first system, and run mailtool remotely. If those options prove impossible, ask the originator to send the message again using mailtool, or using the CDE dtmail compose File->SendAs->SunMailTool option.

Technical Notes
Standard MIME attachments with base64 encoding, for example, produce this message and fail to display in older mailtools.

See Also
Look into using metamail, available on the Internet, which allows you to send and receive MIME attachments.

ie0: Ethernet jammed

Cause
This message can appear on SPARCservers or x86 machines with an Intel 82586 Ethernet chip. It indicates that 16 successive transmission attempts failed, causing the driver to give up on the current packet.
Action
If this error occurs sporadically or at busy times, it probably means that the network is saturated. Wait for network traffic to clear. If bottlenecks arise frequently, think about reconfiguring the network or adding subnets.

Another possible cause of this message is a noise source somewhere in the network, such as a loose transceiver connection. Use `snoop(1M)` or a similar program to isolate the problem area, then check and tighten network connectors as necessary.

**ie0: no carrier**

*Cause*
This message can appear on SPARC servers or x86 machines with an Intel 82586 Ethernet chip. It indicates that the chip has lost input to its carrier detect pin while trying to transmit a packet, causing the packet to be dropped.

*Action*
Check that the Ethernet connector is not loose or disconnected. Other possible causes include an open circuit somewhere in the network and noise on the carrier detect line from the transceiver. Use `snoop(1M)` or a similar program to isolate the problem area, then check the network connectors and transceivers, as needed.

**Illegal Instruction**

*Cause*
A process has received a signal indicating that it attempted to execute an instruction that is not allowed by the kernel. This usually results from running programs compiled for a slightly different machine architecture. This message is usually accompanied by a core dump, except on read-only filesystems.

*Action*
If you are booting from CDROM or from the net, check README files to make sure you are using an image appropriate for your machine architecture. Run `df` to make sure there is enough swap space on the system; too little swap space
can cause this error. If you recently upgraded your CPU to a new architecture, replace your operating system with one that supports the new architecture (an operating system upgrade might be required).

**Technical Notes**
Sometimes this condition results from programming error, such as when a program attempts to execute data as instructions. This condition can also indicate device file corruption on your system.

**Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC 0xnumber**

**Cause**
The machine is trying to boot from a non-boot device, or from a boot device for a different hardware architecture.

**Action**
If you are booting from the net, check README files to make sure you are using a boot image for that architecture. If you are booting from disk, make sure the system is looking at the right disk, which is usually SCSI target 3. Failing these solutions, connect a CD drive to the system and boot from CDROM.

**Illegal seek**

**Cause**
Using a pipe ("|") on the command line doesn’t work here.

**Action**
Rather than using a pipe on the command line, redirect the output of the first program into a file and then run the second program on that file.

**Technical Notes**
A call to lseek(2) was issued to a pipe. This error condition can also be fixed by altering the program to avoid using lseek().

The symbolic name for this error is ESPIPE, errno=29.
Image Tool: Unable to open XILibrary.

*Cause*
This message follows multiple multi-line “XilDefaultErrorFunc” errors, indicating that ImageTool could not locate the X Imaging Library. Many OpenWindows and CDE deskset programs require XIL.

*Action*
Run *pkginfo* to determine what packages are installed on the system. If the following packages are not present, install them from CDROM or over the net: SUNWxildg, SUNWxiler, SUNWxilow, and SUNWxilrt.

Inappropriate ioctl for device

*Cause*
This is a programming error.

*Action*
Ask the program’s author to fix this condition. The program needs to be changed so it employs a device driver that can accept special character device controls.

*Technical Notes*
The *ioctl()* system call was given as an argument for a file that is not a special character device. This message replaces the traditional but puzzling “Not a typewriter” message.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOTTY, errno=25.

INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) .. CORRECT?

*Cause*
During phase 1, *fsck*(1M) determined that the specified inode pointed to a number of bad or duplicate blocks, so the block count should be corrected to the actual number shown.
**Action**

Generally you can answer yes to this question without harming the filesystem.

**See Also**

For more information on bad blocks, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

---

**inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory**

**Cause**

This message indicates that the Internet services daemon `inetd(1M)` tried to start up the UUCP service without the UUCP daemon existing on the system.

**Action**

The SUNWbnuu package must be installed before the machine can run UUCP. Run `pkgadd(1M)` to install this package from the distribution CDROM or over the network.

---

**inetd[number]: variable/tcp: unknown service**

**Cause**

This message indicates that the Internet services daemon `inetd(1M)` could not locate the TCP service specified after the first colon.

**Action**

Check the current machine’s `/etc/services` file, and the NIS services map, to see if the service is described. To start this service, add an appropriate entry into the `/etc/services` file and possibly the `services` map as well. Note that NIS+ does not consult the local `/etc/services` file unless you put “files” right after “nisplus” on the services line of the system’s `/etc/nsswitch.conf` file.

If you do not want to start this service, edit the system’s `/etc/inetd.conf` file and delete the entry that tries to start it up.
See Also
For more information about NIS+, see the NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide.

**inetd[number]: variable/udp: unknown service**

**Cause**
This message indicates that the Internet services daemon `inetd(1M)` could not locate the UDP service specified after the first colon.

**Action**
See the message “inetd[number]: variable/tcp: unknown service” for a solution.

**inetd: Too many open files**

**Cause**
This message can appear when someone runs a command from the shell or uses a third-party application. The `sar(1M)` command does not indicate that the system-wide open file limit has been exceeded.

**Action**
The probable cause for this is that the shell limit has been exceeded. The default open file limit is 64, but can be raised to 256.

See the message “Too many open files” for a solution.

**INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx**

**Cause**
This console message indicates that `init(1M)` cannot write in the `/var` directory, which is usually part of the `/` (root) filesystem. Some other messages follow, and the system usually comes up single-user. The problem is often that `/` or `/var` is mounted read-only. Sometimes a brief power outage leaves the system believing that many filesystems are still mounted.
Action

If /var is a separate filesystem on the machine, and is not yet not mounted, mount it now. If the filesystem containing /var is mounted read-only, remount it read-write with a command similar to this:

```
# mount -o rw,remount /
```

Then type Control-d and try to bring up the system multi-user. If that fails, the root filesystem is probably corrupted. Run *fsck*(1M) on the root filesystem, halt the machine, power cycle the CPU, and wait for the system to reboot. Should this problem still occur, restore the root filesystem from backup tapes, or re-install the system from net or CDROM to replace the root filesystem.

InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb

Cause

This fatal X server error message indicates that /dev/fb, the “dumb frame buffer,” is either missing or corrupted. It is usually followed by a “giving up” message and a few *xinit* errors.

Action

If other devices on the system are working correctly, the most likely reason for this error is that the SUNWdfb package was removed or never installed. Insert the installation CD-ROM, change to the Solaris_2.x directory, and run the following command to install the packages SUNWdfbh and SUNWdfb (for your machine architecture):

```
pkgadd -d .
```

If other devices on the system are not working correctly, the system might have a corrupt /devices directory. Halt the system and boot using the \(-r\) (reconfigure) option. The system will run *fsck*(1M) if the /devices filesystem is corrupted, most likely fixing the problem.
Interrupted system call

Cause
The user issued an interrupt signal (usually Control-c) while the system was in the middle of executing a system call. When network service is slow, interrupting cd(1) to a remote-mounted directory can produce this message.

Action
Proceed with your work, this message is purely informational.

Technical Notes
An asynchronous signal (such as interrupt or quit), which a program was set up to catch, occurred during an internal system call. If execution is resumed after processing the signal, it will appear as if the interrupted programming function returned this error condition, so the program might exit with an incorrect error message.

The symbolic name for this error is EINTR, errno=4.

Invalid argument

Cause
An invalid parameter was specified that the system cannot interpret. For example, trying to mount an uncreated filesystem, printing without sufficient system support, or providing an undefined signal to a signal(3c) library function, can all produce this message.

Action
If you see this message when you are trying to mount a filesystem, make sure that you have run newfs(1M) to create the filesystem. If you see this message when you are trying to read a diskette, make sure that the diskette was properly formatted with fdformat(1), either in DOS format (pcfs) or as a UFS filesystem. If you see this message while you are trying to print, make sure that the print service is configured correctly.
Technical Notes

The symbolic name for this error is EINVAL, errno=22.

Invalid null command

Cause
This C shell message results from a command line with two pipes (|) in a row or from a pipe without a command afterwards.

Action
Change the command line so that each pipe is followed by a command.

I/O error

Cause
Some physical Input/Output error has occurred. If the process was writing a file, data corruption is possible.

Action
First find out which device is experiencing the I/O error. If the device is a tape drive, make sure a tape is inserted into the drive. When this error occurs with a tape in the drive, it is likely that the tape contains an unrecoverable bad spot.

If the device is a floppy drive, an unformatted or defective diskette could be at fault. Format the diskette, or obtain a replacement.

If the device is a hard disk drive, you might need to run fsck(1M) and possibly even reformat the disk.

Technical Notes
In some cases this error might occur on a call following the one to which it actually applies.

The symbolic name for this error is EIO, errno=5.
**Is a directory**

_Cause_
An attempt was made to read or write a directory as if it were a file.

_Action_
Look at a listing of all the files in the current directory and try again, specifying a file instead of a directory.

_Technical Notes_
The symbolic name for this error is EISDIR, errno=21.

**kernel read error**

_Cause_
This message appears when _savecore_(1M), if activated, tries to copy a debugging image of kernel memory to disk but cannot read various kernel data structures correctly. Generally this occurs after a system panic has corrupted main memory. Data corruption on the system is possible.

_Action_
Look at the kernel error messages that preceded this one to try to determine the cause of the problem. Error messages such as “BAD TRAP” usually indicate faulty hardware. Until the problem that caused the kernel panic is resolved, a kernel core image cannot be saved for debugging.

**Killed**

_Cause_
This message is purely informational. If the killed process was writing a file, some data might be lost.
**Action**
Continue with your work.

**Technical Notes**
This message from the signal handler or various shells indicates that a process has been terminated with a SIGKILL. However, if you don’t see this message and cannot terminate a process with a SIGKILL, you might have to reboot the machine to get rid of that process.

**kmem_free block already free**

**Cause**
This is a programming error, probably from a device driver.

**Action**
Determine which driver is giving this message and contact the vendor for a software update, as this message indicates a bug in the driver.

**Technical Notes**
This message is from the DDI programming function `kmem_free(9F)`, which releases a block of memory at address `addr` of size `siz` that was previously allocated by the DDI function `kmem_alloc(9F)`. Both `addr` and `siz` must correspond to the original allocation. If you have source code for the driver, follow `kmem_alloc()` and `kmem_free()` in the code to make sure they allocate and free the same chunk of memory.
last message repeated numbertimes

Cause
This message comes from syslog(1M), the facility that prints messages on the console and records them in /var/adm/messages. To reduce the log size and minimize buffer usage, syslog collapses any identical messages it sees during a 20 second period, then prints this message with the number of repetitions.

Action
Look above this message to see which message was repeated so often. Then consider the repeated message and take action accordingly. If repeated log entries such as “su ... failed” appear, consider the possibility of a security breach.

ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: symbol not found: variable

Cause
This message from the run-time linker ld.so.1 indicates that in trying to execute the application given after the first colon, the specified symbol could not be found for relocation. The message goes on to say in what file the symbol was referenced. Since this is a fatal error, the application terminates with this message.

Action
Run the ldd –d command on the application to show its shared object dependencies and symbols that aren’t found. Probably your system contains an old version of the shared object that should contain this symbol. Contact the library vendor or author for an update.

Technical Notes
This error does not necessarily occur when you first bring up an application. It could take months to develop, if ordinary use of the application seldom references the undefined symbol.
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: variable: can’t open file: errno=2

**Cause**
This message indicates that the run-time linker, ld.so.1, while running the program specified after the first colon, could not find the shared object specified after the third colon. (A shared object is sometimes called a dynamically linked library.) Error number 2 translates to “No such file or directory” (ENOENT).

**Action**
As a workaround, set the environment variable LD_LIBRARY_PATH to include the location of the shared object in question, for example:/usr/dt/lib:/usr/openwin/lib

Better yet, if you have access to source code, recompile the program using the --syspath loader option. Using LD_LIBRARY_PATH is discouraged because it slows down performance.

**le0: Memory error!**

**Cause**
This message indicates that the network interface encountered an access time-out from the CPU’s main memory. There is probably nothing wrong except system overload.

**Action**
If the system is busy with other processes, this error can occur frequently. If possible, try to reduce the system load by quitting applications or killing some processes.

**Technical Notes**
The Lance Ethernet chip timed out while trying to acquire the bus for a DVMA transfer. Most network applications wait for a transfer to occur, so generally no data gets lost. However, data transfer might fail after too many time-outs.
See Also
For more information about the Lance Ethernet chip, see the le(7D) man page.

le0: No carrier- cable disconnected or hub link test disabled?

Cause
Standalone machines with no Ethernet port connection get this error when the system tries to access the network. If the Ethernet cable is disconnected, SPARC machines with the sun4m architecture usually display this message, whereas machines with the sun4c architecture usually display the “le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem” message instead. If the Ethernet cable is connected, this message could result from a mismatch between the machine’s NVRAM settings and the Ethernet hub settings.

Action
If this message is continuous, try to save any work to local disk.

When a machine is configured as a networked system, it must be plugged into the Ethernet with a twisted pair J45 connector.

If the Ethernet cable is plugged in, find out whether or not the Ethernet hub does a Link Integrity Test. Then become superuser to check and possibly set the machine’s NVRAM. If the hub’s Link Integrity Test is disabled, set this variable to false.

```
# eeprom | grep tpe
tpe-link-test?=true
# eeprom 'tpe-link-test?=false'
```

The default setting is true. If for some reason tpe-link-test? was set to false, and the hub’s Link Integrity Test is enabled, set this variable to true.

le0: No carrier- transceiver cable problem?

Cause
Standalone machines with no Ethernet port connection get this error when the system tries to access the network.
**Action**

If this message is continuous, try to save any work to local disk.

When a machine is configured as a networked system, it must be plugged into the Ethernet with either a twisted pair J45 connector or thicknet 10Base-T connector (depending on the building’s Ethernet cable type).

**Technical Notes**

Older workstations have a thicknet connection on the back instead of a twisted pair Ethernet connection, so they require a thicknet to twisted pair transceiver to translate between cabling types.

**LINK COUNTRFILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t COUNT... ADJUST?**

**Cause**

During phase 4, `fsck(1M)` determined that the inode’s link count for the specified file is wrong, and asks if you want to adjust it to the value given.

**Action**

Generally you can answer yes to this question without harming the filesystem.

**See Also**

For more information on `fsck`, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**LL105W: Protocol error detected.**

**Cause**

This error message comes from Lifeline Mail, an unbundled PC compatibility application.

**Action**

The likeliest cause for this problem is that someone set up a user account without a password. Assign the user a password to solve this problem.
**In: cannot create /dev/fb: Read-only file system**

*Cause*
During device reconfiguration at boot time, the system cannot link to the frame buffer because /dev is on a read-only filesystem.

*Action*
Check that /dev/fb is a symbolic link to the hardware frame buffer, such as cgsix or tcx. Ensure that the filesystem containing /dev is mounted read-write.

**lockd[number]: create_client: no name for inet address 0xnumber**

*Cause*
This lock daemon message usually indicates that the NIS hosts.byname and hosts.byaddr maps are not coordinated.

*Action*
Wait a short time for the maps to synchronize. If they don’t, take steps to coordinate them.

*See Also*
For information on updating NIS data, see the section on NIS maps in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “hosts.byaddr” is a good search string.

**Login incorrect**

*Cause*
This message from the login(1) program indicates an incorrect combination of login name and password. There is no way to tell whether what’s wrong is the login name, the password, or both. Other programs such as ftp(1), rexedc(1M), sulogin(1M), and uucp(1C) also give this error under similar conditions.
Action

Check the /etc/passwd file and the NIS or NIS+ passwd map on the local system to see if an entry exists for this user. If a user has simply forgotten the password, su and set a new one with the passwd username command. This command automatically updates the NIS+ passwd map, but with NIS you’ll need to coordinate the update with the passwd map.

The “Login incorrect” problem can also occur with older versions of NIS when the user name has more than eight characters. If this is the case, edit the NIS password file, change the user name to have eight or fewer characters, and then remake the NIS passwd map.

If you cannot log in to the system as root, despite knowing the proper password, it is possible that the /etc/passwd file is corrupted. Try to log in as a regular user and su to root.

If that doesn’t work, see the message “su: No shell” and follow most of the instructions given there. Instead of changing the default shell however, make the password field blank in /etc/shadow.

lp hang

Cause

On a print server, the queue continues to grow but nothing comes out of the printer. The printer daemon is hung.

Action

Here is a simple procedure for flushing a hung printing queue:

1. Login or switch user to root.
2. Issue the reject printername command to make sure no one sends any job to the printer.
3. Turn off power to the printer.
4. If the active job appears to be causing the hang, remove it from the print queue with the cancel jobnumber command, and ask the owner to requeue that print job.
5. Shut down the print queue with the /usr/lib/lpshut command.
6. Remove the lock file `/var/spool/lp/SCHEDLOCK` and the temporary files `!/var/spool/lp/tmp/*/*`.

7. Turn the printer back on.

8. Restart the print queue with the `/usr/lib/lpsched` command.

**See Also**

For more information on print queuing, see the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “print server” is a good search string.

---

**Mailtool:** *Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied*

**Cause**

An attempt was made to send a message with `mailtool(1)` from a directory where the user does not have write permission, and the user’s home directory is currently unavailable.

**Action**

Change to another directory and start `mailtool` again, or use `chmod(1)` to change permissions for the directory (if possible).

**Mailtool:** *Could not initialize the Classing Engine*

**Cause**

When a user runs `mailtool(1)` on a remote machine, setting the DISPLAY environment back to the local machine, this message might appear inside a dialog box window. The dialog box goes on to say that the Classing Engine must be installed to use Attachments. This problem occurs because `rlogin(1)` does not propagate the user’s environment.
Action
Exit `mailtool` and set your OPENWINHOME environment variable to `/usr/openwin`. Then run `mailtool` again. The error message will not appear, and you will be able to use Attachments.

Technical Notes
Classing Engine is a new name for Tool Talk. Earlier versions of `mailtool` said “Tool Talk: TT_ERR_NOMP” instead of Classing Engine.

Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File.

Cause
This message appears in a pop-up dialog box whenever you ask `mailtool` to access messages after another mail reader has modified your inbox. A request follows: “Please Quit this Mail Tool.”

Action
Click “Continue” to close the dialog box, then exit `mailtool`. If you continue trying to read mail, messages deleted by the other mail reader will never appear, and `mailtool` will fail to see any new messages.

mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch).

Cause
This message comes from `mail` or `mailx` whenever it detects messages with a different content length than advertised. The `mail` program tells you which message might be truncated or might have another message concatenated to it.

Two common causes of content length mismatches are the simultaneous use of different mail readers (such as `mail` and `mailtool`), or using a mail reading program (or an editor) that does not update the Content-Length field after altering a message.
Action
The mailx program can usually recover from this error and delineate mail message boundaries correctly. Pay close attention to the message that might be truncated or combined with another message, and to all messages after that one. If a mail file becomes hopelessly corrupted, run it through a text editor to eliminate all Content-Length lines, and ensure that each message has a From (no colon) line for each message, preceded by a blank line.

To avoid mailfile corruption, exit from mailtool without saving changes when you are currently running mail or mailx.

Memory address alignment

Cause
This message can occur when printing large files on a SPARCprinter attached to a SPARCstation 2.

Action
Replace the SPARCstation 2 CPU with one that is at the most recent dash level.

memory leaks

Cause
An application uses up more and more memory, until all swap space is exhausted.

Action
Many developers have found that third party software (such as Purify) can help identify memory leaks in their applications. If you suspect that you have a memory leak, you can use sar(1) to check on the Kernel Memory Allocation (KMA). Any driver or module that uses KMA resources, but does not specifically return the resources before it exits, can create a memory leak.
See Also
For more information on memory leaks, see the section on monitoring system activity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “displaying disk usage” is a good search string. Also, see the section on system resource problems in the *NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide*.

**mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable is busy, or...**

*Cause*
While trying to mount a filesystem, the `mount(1M)` command received a “Device busy” (EBUSY) error code. There are several possible reasons: this /dev/dsk filesystem is already mounted on a different directory, the busy path name is the working directory of an active process, or the system has exceeded its maximum number of mount points (unlikely).

*Action*
Run `/etc/mount` to see if the filesystem is already mounted. If not, check to see if any shells are active in the busy directory (did the user `cd` into the directory?), or if any processes in the `ps(1)` listing are active in that directory. If the reason for the error message isn’t obvious, try using a different directory for the mount point.

**mount giving up on: /variable**

*Cause*
An existing server did not respond to an NFS mount request, so after retrying a number of times (default 1000), the `mount(1M)` command has given up. Nonexistent servers or bad mount points produce different messages.

*Action*
If the “RPC: Program not registered” message precedes this one, the requested mount server probably did not share (export) any filesystems, so it has no NFS daemons running. Have the superuser on the mount server `share(1M)` the filesystem, then run `/etc/init.d/nfs.server start` to begin NFS service.

If the requested mount server is down or slow to respond, check to see whether the machine needs repair or rebooting.
mount: mount-point/ variable does not exist.

*Cause*
Someone tried to mount a filesystem onto the specified directory, but there is no such directory.

*Action*
If this is the directory name you want, run `mkdir(1)` to create this directory as a mount point.

mount: the state of /dev/dsk/ variable is notokay

*Cause*
The system was unable to mount the filesystem that was specified because the super-block indicates that the filesystem might be corrupted. This is not an impediment for read-only mounts.

*Action*
If you don’t need to write on this filesystem, `mount(1M)` it using the `-o ro` option. Otherwise, do as one of the message continuation lines suggests and run `fsck(1M)` to correct the filesystem state and update the super-block.

*See Also*
For more information on using `fsck`, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

/net/ variable: No such file or directory

*Cause*
A user tried to change directory (for example with `cd`) to a network partition on the system specified after `/net/`, but this host either does not exist or has not shared (exported) any filesystem.
Action
To gain access to files on this system, try rlogin(1).

To export filesystems from the remote system, become superuser on that system and run the share(1M) command with the appropriate options. If that system is sharing filesystems for the first time, also run /etc/init.d/nfs.server start to begin NFS service.

Network is down

Cause
A transport connection failed because it encountered a dead network.

Action
Report this error to the system administrator for the network. If you are the person responsible for this network, check to see why the network is dead and what repairs are necessary.

Technical Notes
This error results from status information delivered by the underlying communication interface.

The symbolic name for this error is ENETDOWN, errno=127.

Network is unreachable

Cause
An operational error occurred either because there was no route to the network or because negative status information was returned by intermediate gateways or switching nodes.

The returned status is not always sufficient to distinguish between a network that is down and a host that is down (See the “No route to host” message.)
Action
Check the network routers and switches to see if they are disallowing these packet transfers. If they are allowing all packet transfers, check network cabling and connections.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is ENETUNREACH, errno=128.

NFS getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out

Cause
This message appears on an NFS client that requested a service from an NFS server whose hardware is failing. Often the message “NFS read failed” appears along with this message. If the server were merely down or slow to respond, the “NFS server not responding” message would appear instead. Data corruption on the server system is possible.

Action
Because this message usually indicates server hardware failure, initiate repair procedures as soon as possible. Check the memory modules, disk controllers, and CPU board.

See Also
For more information on NFS tuning, see chapter on monitoring network performance in the System Administration Guide, Volume II.

nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port

Cause
This message appears when a client attempts to NFS mount a filesystem from a server that has more than one Ethernet interface configured on the same physical subnet.
Action
Always connect multiple Ethernet interfaces on one router system to different physical subnetworks.

**nfs mount mount variable: Device busy**

*Cause*
This message appears when the superuser attempts to NFS mount on top of an active directory. The busy device is actually the working directory of a process.

*Action*
Determine which shell on the workstation is currently located below the mount point, and change out of that directory. Be wary of subshells (such as `su` shells) that could be in different working directories while the parents remain below the mount point.

**NFS mount / variable mounted OK**

*Cause*
While booting, the system failed to mount the directory specified after the first colon, probably because the NFS server involved was down or slow to respond. The mount ran in the background and successfully contacted the NFS server.

*Action*
This is a purely informative message to let you know that the mount process has completed.

**NFS read failed for server variable**

*Cause*
This is generally a permissions problem. Perhaps a directory or file permission was changed while the client held the file open. Perhaps the filesystem’s share or netgroup permissions changed. If the server were down or the network saturated, the “NFS server not responding” message would appear instead.
Action
Log in to the NFS server and check the permissions of directories leading to the file. Make certain that the filesystem is shared with (exported to) the client experiencing an NFS read failure.

See Also
For more information, see the chapter on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide*.

**nfs_server: bad getargs for number/number**

**Cause**
This message comes from the NFS server when it gets a request with unrecognized or incorrect arguments. Typically, it means the request could not be XDR decoded properly. This can result from corruption of the packet over the network, or from an implementation bug causing the NFS client to improperly encode its arguments.

**Action**
If this message originates from a single client, investigate that machine for NFS client software bugs. If this message appears all over a network, especially accompanied by other networking errors, investigate the network cabling and connectors.

**NFS server variable not responding still trying**

**Cause**
In most cases this very common message indicates that the system has requested a service from an NFS server that is either down or extremely slow to respond. In some cases this message indicates that the network link to this NFS server is broken, although usually that condition generates other error messages as well. In a few cases this message indicates NFS client set-up problems.
**Action**

Check the non-responding NFS server to see whether the machine needs repair or rebooting. Encourage your user community to report such problems quickly but only once.

Should this message appear when booting a diskless client, make sure that the client’s `/etc/hosts` file and the network naming service (NIS, NIS+, or other `/etc/hosts` files on the network) have been updated.

**See Also**

For more information, see the chapter on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide*.

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**NFS server variable ok**

**Cause**

This message is the follow-up to the “NFS server not responding” error. It indicates that the NFS server is back in operation.

**Action**

When an NFS server first comes up, it will be busy fulfilling client requests for a while. Be patient and wait for your client system to respond. Making many extraneous requests only further slows the NFS server response time.

---

**nfs_umount: variable: is busy**

**Cause**

This message appears when the superuser attempts to unmount an active NFS filesystem. The busy point is the working directory of a process.

**Action**

Determine which shell (or process) on the workstation is currently located in the remotely mounted filesystem, and change (`cd`) out of that directory. Be wary of subshells (such as `su` shells) that could be in different directories while the parent shells remain in the NFS filesystem.
NFS write error on host variable: No space left on device.

**Cause**

This console message indicates that an NFS-mounted partition has filled up and cannot accept writing of new data. Unfortunately, software that attempts to overwrite existing files will usually zero out all data in these files. This is particularly destructive on NFS-mounted /home partitions.

**Action**

Find the user or process that is filling up the filesystem, and get the out-of-control process stopped as soon as you can. Then delete files as necessary to create more space on the filesystem (large core files are good candidates for deletion). Have users write any modified files to local disk if possible. If this error occurs often, redistribute directories to ease demand on this partition.

**See Also**

For more information on disk usage, see the *System Administration Guide, Volume II*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “managing disk use” is a good search string.

NFS write failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out

**Cause**

This error can occur when a file system is soft-mounted, and server or network response time lags. Any data written to the server during this period could be corrupted.

**Action**

If you intend to write on a filesystem, never specify the soft mount option. Use the default hard mount for all the filesystems that are mounted read-write.

**See Also**

For more information, see the chapter on NFS troubleshooting in the *NFS Administration Guide*.
NIS+ authentication failure

*Cause*
This is a Federated Naming Service message. The operation could not be completed because the principal making the request could not be authenticated with the name service involved.

*Action*
Run the `nisdefaults(1)` command to verify that you are identified as the correct NIS+ principal. Also check that the system has specified the correct public key source.

*See Also*
For more information, see the authentication and authorization overview in the NIS+ and FNS Administration Guide.

No bufferspace available

*Cause*
An operation on a transport endpoint or pipe was not performed because the system lacked sufficient buffer space or because a queue was full. The target system probably ran out of memory or swap space. Any data written during this condition will probably be lost.

*Action*
To add more swap area, use the `swap -a` command on the target system. Alternatively, reconfigure the target system to have more swap space. As a general rule, wwap space should be two to three times as large as physical memory.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOBUFS, errno=132.
No child processes

Cause
This message can appear when an application tries to communicate with cooperating process that do not exist.

Action
Restart the parent process so it can create the child processes again. If that doesn’t help, this could be the result of programming error; contact the vendor or author of the program for an update.

Technical Notes
A wait(2) system call was executed by a process that had no existing or unwaited-for child processes. The child processes could have exited prematurely, or might never have been created.

The symbolic name for this error is ECHILD, errno=10.

No default media available

Cause
The volume manager issues this message if a user makes an eject(1) request when the drives contain no diskette or CDROM to eject.

Action
Insert a diskette or CDROM. If the volume manager is confused and there actually is a diskette or CDROM in a drive, run volcheck to update the volume manager. If the system remains confused, try booting with the -r option to reconfigure devices.
No directory! Logging in with home=/

Cause
The `login` program could not find the home directory listed in the password file or NIS `passwd` map, so it deposited the user in the root directory.

Action
Check that the user’s home directory is mounted and is owned by and accessible to that user. Perhaps the automounter tried to mount the home directory, but the NFS server did not respond quickly enough. Try listing the files in `/home/username`. If the NFS server responds to this request, have the user log out and log in again.

It is possible that the automounter daemon is not running. Run the `ps` command to see if `automountd` is present. If not, run the second command; if it appears to be wedged, run both these commands:

```
# /etc/init.d/autofs stop
# /etc/init.d/autofs start
```

When the automounter daemon is running, verify that the `/etc/auto_master` file has a line like this:

```
/home auto_home
```

Verify that the `/etc/auto_home` file has a line like this:
```
+auto_home
```

These entries depend on the NIS `auto_home` map.

It is also possible that the NFS server has not shared (exported) this `/home` directory, or that the NFS daemons on the server have disappeared.

See Also
For more information on NFS, see the `NFS Administration Guide`. 
**No message of desired type**

*Cause*
An attempt was made to receive a message of a type that does not exist on the specified message queue. See the `msgop(2)` man page for details.

*Action*
This indicates an error in the System V IPC message facility. Generally the message queue is empty or devoid of the desired message type, while IPC_NOWAIT is set.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOMSG, errno=35.

**No recipients specified**

*Cause*
This message comes from the `mailx(1)` command whenever a user doesn’t provide an address in the To: field.

*Action*
See the message “Recipient names must be specified” for details.

**No record locks available**

*Cause*
No more record locks are available. The system lock table is full.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOLCK, errno=46.

Perhaps a process called `fcntl(2)` with the F_SETLK or F_SETLKW option, and the system maximum was exceeded. The system contains several different locking subsystems, including `fcntl`, the NFS lock daemon, and mail locking, all of which can produce this error.
**Action**
Try again later, when more locks might be available.

**No route to host**

**Cause**
An operational error occurred because there was no route to the destination host, or because of status information returned by intermediate gateways or switching nodes. The returned status is not always sufficient to distinguish between a host that is down and a network that is down (See the “Network is unreachable” message.)

**Action**
Check the network routers and switches to see if they are disallowing these packet transfers. If they are allowing all packet transfers, check network cabling and connections.

**Technical Notes**
The symbolic name for this error is EHOSTUNREACH, errno=148.

**No shell ▶ Connection closed**

**Cause**
A user has attempted to remote login to the system, and has a valid account name and password, but the shell specified for their account is not available on that system. For example, the seventh field could request the GNU Bourne-again shell /bin/bash, which does not exist on standard Solaris distributions.

**Action**
If you have a copy of the requested shell, become superuser and install the missing shell on that system. Otherwise, change the user’s password file entry (perhaps only in the NIS+ or NIS passwd map) to specify an available shell such as /bin/csh or /bin/ksh.
**No space left on device**

*Cause*
While writing an ordinary file or creating a directory entry, there was no free space left on the device. The disk, tape, or diskette is full of data. Any data written to that device during this condition will be lost.

*Action*
Remove unneeded files from the hard disk or diskette until there is space for all the data you are writing. It might be advisable to move some directories onto another filesystem and create symbolic links accordingly. When a tape is full, continue on another one, use a higher density setting, or obtain a higher-capacity tape.

To create multi-volume tapes or diskettes, use the `pax(1)` or `cpio(1)` command; `tar(1)` is still limited to a single volume.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOSPC, errno=28.

**No such device**

*Cause*
An attempt was made to apply an operation to an inappropriate device, such as writing to a nonexistent device.

*Action*
Look in the `/devices` directory to see why this device does not exist, or why the program expects it to exist. The similar “No such device or address” message tends to indicate I/O problems with an existing device, whereas this message tends to indicate a device that does not exist at all.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENODEV, errno=19.
No such device or address

*Cause*
This can occur when a tape drive is off-line or when a device has been powered off or removed from the system.

*Action*
For tape drives, make sure the device is connected, powered on, and toggled on-line (if applicable). For disk and CDROM drives, check that the device is connected and powered on.

With all SCSI devices, ensure that the target switch or dial is set to the number where the system originally mounted it. To inform the system of a change to the target device number, reboot using the `-r` (reconfigure) option.

*Technical Notes*
This message results from I/O to a special file’s subdevice that either does not exist or that exists beyond the limit of the device.

The symbolic name for this error is ENXIO, errno=6.

No such file or directory

*Cause*
The specified file or directory does not exist. Either the file name or path name was entered incorrectly.

*Action*
Check the file name and path name for correctness and try again. If the specified file or directory is a symbolic link, it probably points to a nonexistent file or directory.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOENT, errno=2.
no such map in server’s domain

Cause
A user or an application tried to look up something using Network Information Services (NIS), but NIS has no corresponding database for this request.

Action
Make sure the NIS map name is spelled correctly. To see a list of nicknames for the various NIS maps, run the `ypcat -x` command. To see a full list of the various NIS maps (databases), run the `ypwhich -m` command. If the NIS service were not running on the current machine, these commands would result in a “can’t communicate with ypbind” message.

No such process

Cause
This process cannot be found. The process could have finished execution and disappeared, or it might still be in the system under a different numeric ID.

Action
Use the `ps(1)` command to check that the process ID you’re supplying is correct.

Technical Notes
No process corresponds to the specified process ID (PID), light-weight process ID, or thread_t.

The symbolic name for this error is ESRCH, errno=3.
No such user as variable - cron entries not created

*Cause*
A file exists in `/var/spool/cron/crontabs` for the specified user, but this user is not in `/etc/passwd` or the NIS passwd map. The system cannot create cron entries for nonexistent users.

*Action*
To eliminate this message at boot time, remove the `cron` file for the nonexistent user, or rename it if the user’s login name has changed. If this is a valid user, create an appropriate password entry for this name.

Nota directory

*Cause*
A non-directory was specified where a directory is required, such as in a path prefix or as an argument to the `chdir(2)` system call.

*Action*
Look at a listing of all the files in the current directory and try again, specifying a directory instead of a file.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is ENOTDIR, `errno`=20.

Not enough space

*Cause*
This message indicates that the system is running many large applications simultaneously, and has run out of swap space (virtual memory). It could also indicate that applications failed without freeing pages from the swap area. Swap space is an area of disk set aside to store portions of applications and data not immediately required in memory. Any data written during this condition will probably be lost.
Action
Reinstall or reconfigure the system to have more swap space. A general rule of thumb is that swap space should be two to three times as large as physical memory. Alternatively, use `mkfile(1M)` and `swap(1M)` to add more swap area. This example shows how to add 16 MB of virtual memory in the `/usr/swap` file (any filesystem with enough free space would work):

```
# mkfile 16m /usr/swap
# swap -a /usr/swap
```

To make this automatic at boot time, add the following line to the `/etc/vfstab` file:

```
/usr/swap - - swap - no -
```

Technical Notes
In calling the `fork(2)`, `exec(2)`, `sbrk(2)`, or `malloc(3C)` routine, a program asked for more memory than the system could supply. This is not a temporary condition; swap space is a system parameter.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOMEM, errno=12.

notfound
Cause
This message indicates that the Bourne shell could not find the program name given as a command.

Action
Check the form and spelling of the command line. If that looks correct, `echo $PATH` to see if the user’s search path is correct. When communications are garbled, it is possible to unset a search path to such an extent that only built-in shell commands are available. Here is a command to reset a basic search path:

```
$ PATH=/usr/bin:/usr/ccs/bin:/usr/openwin/bin:.
```

If the search path looks correct, check the directory contents along the search path to see if programs are missing or if directories are not mounted.
NOTICE: /variable: out of inodes

Cause
The filesystem specified after the first colon probably contains many small files, exceeding the per-filesystem limit for inodes (file information nodes).

Action
If many small files were created unintentionally, removing them will resolve the problem.

Otherwise, follow these steps to increase filesystem capacity for small files. Make several backup copies of the filesystem on different tapes (for safety), then bring the machine down to single-user mode. Use the newfs(1M) command with the -i option to increase inode density for this filesystem. Here is an example:

`# newfs -i 1024 /dev/rdsk/partition`

Finally, restore the filesystem from a backup tape. Note that increasing the inode density slightly reduces total filesystem capacity.

Not login shell

Cause
This message results when a user tries to logout(1) from a shell other than the one started at login time.

Action
To quit a non-login shell, use the exit(1) command. Continue doing so until you have logged out.

See Also
For more general information on the login shell, see the section on customizing your work environment in the Solaris Advanced User’s Guide.
Not on system console

Cause
A user tried to `login(1)` to a system as the superuser (uid=0, which is not necessarily root) from a terminal other than the console.

Action
Login to that system as a normal user, then run `su(1M)` to become superuser. To allow superuser logins from any terminal, comment out the CONSOLE line in `/etc/default/login` (this is not recommended for security reasons).

Not owner

Cause
Either an ordinary user tried to do something reserved for the superuser, or the user tried to modify a file in a way restricted to the file’s owner or to the superuser.

Action
Switch user to root and try again.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is EPERM, errno=1.

Not supported

Cause
This version of the system does not support the feature requested, although future versions of the system might provide support.

Action
This is generally not a system message from the kernel, but an error returned by an application. Contact the vendor or author of the application for an update.
Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is ENOTSUP, errno=48.

ok

Cause
This is the OpenBoot PROM monitor prompt. From this prompt, you can boot the system (from disk, CDROM, or net), or you can use the go command to continue where you left off.

Action
If you suddenly see this prompt, look at the messages above it to see if the system crashed. If no other messages appear, and you just typed Stop-A or plugged in a new keyboard, type go to continue. You might need to Refresh the window system from its Workspace Menu.

Technical Notes
Never invoke sync from the ok prompt without first running the fsck(1M) command, especially if the filesystem has changed.

operation failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, variable

Cause
When you use admintool to add a user to a newly-created group, admintool issues this error.

Action
Apply patch 101384-05 to fix bug ID 1151837 and to provide a workaround for bug ID 1153087.
Operation not applicable

*Cause*
This error indicates that no system support exists for some function that the application requested.

*Action*
Ask the system vendor for an upgrade, or contact the vendor or author of the application for an update.

*Technical Notes*
This message indicates that no system support exists for an operation. Many modules set this error when a programming function is not yet implemented. If you are writing a program that produces this message while calling a system library, try to find and use an alternative library function. Future versions of the system might support this operation; check system release notes for further information.

The symbolic name for this error is ENOSYS, errno=89.

out of memory

*Cause*
Hundreds of different programs can produce this message when the system is running many large applications simultaneously. This message usually means that the system has run out of swap space (virtual memory).

*Action*
See the message “Not enough space” for details. Any data written during this condition will probably be lost.
Panic

Cause
A system panics and crashes when a program exercises an operating system bug. Although the crash might seem unfriendly to a user, the sudden stop actually safeguards the system and its data from further corruption.

Along with bringing the operating system to a stop, the panic routine copies the memory contents in use to a dump device, recording critical information about the current state of the CPU from which the panic routine was called.

Because the primary swap device is usually the default dump device, the primary swap device should be large enough to hold a complete image of memory. The system tries to reboot after the memory image is saved.

If the system does not reboot successfully, consider these possibilities:

- Catastrophic hardware failure, such as faulty memory or a crashed disk
- Major kernel configuration faults, such as a buggy device driver
- Major kernel tuning errors, such as a too-large value for maxusers
- Data corruption, including corruption of the operating system files
- Manual intervention is needed, as when fsck(1M) expects answers to its queries

Action
To find out why a system crashed, you can

- look in the /var/adm/message* log files,
- record on paper the information displayed on the console during the crash (if you’re sitting at the console at the time), or
- use the savecore(1M) program.

Of these methods, using the savecore program is the most informative. The savecore command transfers the system crash dump image generated by the panic routine from the dump device to a file system. The image can then be analyzed with a debugger such as adb(1).
Correctly setting up savecore and interpreting the results can be difficult. For full information about debugging system panics, read *Panic! UNIX System Crash Dump Analysis* by Chris Drake and Kimberley Brown (ISBN: 0-13-149386-8).

**PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE i=number CLEAR?**

*Cause*
During phase 1, `fsck(1M)` found that the specified inode was neither allocated nor unallocated. The reason is probably that the system crashed in the middle of a `sync(2)` or `write(2)` operation.

*Action*
Should you answer yes to this question, “UNALLOCATED” messages might result during phase 2, if any directory entries point to this inode. If you are being careful, exit `fsck(1M)` and run `ncheck(1M)` (specifying the inode number after the `-i` option) to determine which file or directory is involved here. You might be able restore this file or directory from another system. It is also possible that `fsck` will copy this file to the `lost+found` directory in a later phase.

*See Also*
For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**passwd.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable**

*Cause*
This is the first of three messages that an NIS+ client prints when it cannot locate an NIS+ server on the network.

*Action*
See the message “hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable” for details.
**Password does not decrypt secret key for unix.uid@variable**

*Cause*
This message appears at login time when a user’s password is not identical to the user’s `keylogin` network password. When a system is running NIS+, the login program first performs UNIX authentication, and then attempts a `keylogin(1)` for secure RPC authentication.

*Action*
To gain credentials for secure RPC, users can run `keylogin` (after login) and type in their secret key. To stop this message from appearing at login time, users can run the `chkey -p` command and set their network password to be the same as their NIS+ password. If a user doesn’t remember the network password, the system administrator should delete and re-create the user’s credentials table entry so the user can establish a new network password with `chkey`.

**Permission denied**

*Cause*
An attempt was made to access a file in a way forbidden by the protection system.

*Action*
Check the ownership and protection mode of the file (with a long listing from the `ls -l` command) to see who is allowed to access the file. Then change the file or directory permissions as needed.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is EACCES, errno=13.
Please specify a recipient

_Cause_
With _mailtool_, this message comes up in a dialog box whenever a user tries to deliver a message with no address in the To: field.

_Action_
See the message “Recipient names must be specified” for details.

Protocol not supported

_Cause_
The requested networking protocol has not been configured into the system, or no implementation for it exists. (A protocol is a formal description of the messages to be exchanged and the rules to be followed when systems exchange information.)

_Action_
Verify that the protocol is in the `/etc/inet/protocols` file and in the NIS protocols map, if applicable. If the protocol is not listed, and you want to permit its use, configure the protocol as documented or as required.

_Technical Notes_
The symbolic name for this error is EPROTONOSUPPORT, errno=120.

Protocol wrong type for socket

_Cause_
This message indicates either application programming error, or badly configured protocols.
Action
Make sure that the /etc/protocols file corresponds number-for-number with the NIS protocols map. It it does, ask the vendor or author of the application for an update.

Technical Notes
A protocol was specified that does not support the semantics of the socket type requested. This amounts to a request for an unsupported type of socket. Look at the source code that made this socket request and check that it requested one of the types specified in /usr/include/sys/socket.h.

The symbolic name for this error is EPROTOTYPE, errno=98.

Read error from network: Connection reset by peer

Cause
This message appears when a user is remotely logged into a machine that crashes or gets rebooted during the rlogin(1) or rsh(1) session. Any data changes that were not saved are probably lost. Sometimes this message appears only when the user types something, even though the system went down hours before.

Action
Try to rlogin again, perhaps after waiting a few minutes for the system to reboot.

Read-only file system

Cause
Files and directories on filesystems that are mounted read-only cannot be changed.
Action
If you only modify these files and directories occasionally, *rlogin*(1) to the
servers from which the filesystems are mounted and change the files or
directories there. If you change these files and directories frequently,
*mount*(1M) the filesystems read/write.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is EROFS, errno=30.

rebooting...

Cause
This message appears on the console to indicate that the machine is booting,
either after the superuser issued a *reboot* command, or after a system panic if
the EEPROM’s *watchdog-reboot?* variable is set to true.

Action
Allow the machine to boot itself. In case of a system panic, look above this
message for other indications of what went wrong.

Recipient names must be specified

Cause
Somebody sent mail without a valid recipient in the To: field, so *sendmail*
could not deliver the mail message. Using *mail*(1), the recipient’s address
might have been specified using spaces or non-alphanumeric characters. The
*mailtool*(1) and *mailx*(1) commands try to prevent this by issuing “Please
specify a recipient” or “No recipients specified” messages instead. If there is at
least one valid recipient, each invalid recipient address will generate a “User
unknown” message.

Action
Look in the sender’s *dead.letter* file for the automatically saved message,
and have the originator send it again, this time specifying a recipient.
**See Also**
For more information about `sendmail`, see the *Mail Administration Guide*.

**Reset tty pgrp from number to number**

*Cause*
The C shell sometimes issues this message when it clears away the window process group after the user exits the window system. This can happen when the window system doesn’t clean up after itself.

*Action*
Proceed with your work. This message is purely informational.

**Resource temporarily unavailable**

*Cause*
This indicates that the `fork(2)` system call failed because the system’s process table is full, or that a system call failed because of insufficient memory or swap space. It is also possible that a user is not allowed to create any more processes.

*Action*
Simply waiting often gives the system time to free resources. However if this message occurs often on a system, reconfigure the kernel and allow more processes. To increase the size of the process table in Solaris 2.x, increase the value of `maxusers` in the `/etc/system` file. The default `maxusers` value is the amount of main memory in MB, minus 2.

If one user is not allowed to create any more processes, that user has probably exceeded the `memorysize` limit; see the `limit(1)` man page for details.

*Technical Notes*
The symbolic name for this error is EAGAIN, errno=11.
Result too large

Cause
This is a programming error or a data input error.

Action
Ask the program’s author to fix this condition.

Technical Notes
This indicates an attempt to evaluate a mathematical programming function at a point where its value would overflow or underflow. The value of a programming function in the math package (3M) is not representable within machine precision. This could occur after floating point overflow or underflow (either single or double precision), or after total loss of numeric significance in Bessel functions.

Note that this message can indicate “Result too small” in the case of floating point underflow.

To help pinpoint a program’s math errors, use the `matherr(3M)` facility.

The symbolic name for this error is ERANGE, `errno`=34.

rmdir: variable: Directory not empty

Cause
The `rmdir(1)` command can remove empty directories, only. The directory whose name appears after the first colon in the message still contains some files or directories.

Action
Use `rm(1)` instead of `rmdir`. To remove this directory and everything underneath it, use the `rm -ir` command to recursively descend the directory, being asked if you want to delete each element. To remove the directory and all its contents without being asked for approval, use the `rm -r` command.
**ROOTLOGIN / dev/console**

*Cause*
This syslog message indicates that someone has logged in as `root` on the system console.

*Action*
If you have just logged in as root, don’t worry. If this is not you, consider the possibility of a security breach. The best site-wide policy is for all system administrators to su instead of logging in as root.

**ROOTLOGIN / dev/pts/ number FROM variable**

*Cause*
This syslog message indicates that someone has remote logged in as root on a pseudo-terminal from the system specified after the FROM keyword.

*Action*
For security reasons, it is a bad idea to allow root logins from anywhere besides the console. To restrict superuser logins to the console, remove the comment from the CONSOLE line in `/etc/default/login`.

**rx framing error**

*Cause*
Usually this error indicates a hardware problem.

*Action*
Check the Ethernet cabling and connectors to locate a problem.
Technical Notes

A framing error occurs when the Ethernet I/O driver receives a non-integral unit of octets, such as 63 bytes and then 3 bits. (Ethernet specifies the use of octets.) Framing errors are caused by corruption of the starting or ending frame delimiters. These can be corrupted by some violation of the encoding scheme.

Framing errors are a subset of CRC errors, which are usually caused by anomalies on the physical media. An “alignment/framing error” is a type of CRC error where octet boundaries do not line up.

SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error

Cause

The most common cause of this problem is unapproved hardware. Some SCSI devices for the PC market do not meet the high I/O speed requirements for the UNIX market. Other possible causes of this problem are improper cabling or termination, and power fluctuations. Data corruption is possible but unlikely to occur, because this parity error prevents data transfer.

Action

Check that all SCSI devices on the bus are Sun approved hardware. Then verify that all cables are no longer than six meters, total, and that all SCSI connections are properly terminated. If power fluctuations are occurring, invest in an uninterruptible power supply.

SCSI transport failed: reason ‘reset’

Cause

This message indicates that the system sent data over the SCSI bus, but the data never reached its destination because of a SCSI bus reset. The most common cause of this condition is conflicting SCSI targets. Data corruption is possible but unlikely to occur, because this failure prevents data transfer.
Action
Verify that all cables are no longer than six meters, total, and that all SCSI connections are properly terminated. If power surges are a problem, acquire a surge suppressor or uninterruptible power supply.

A machine’s internal disk drive is usually SCSI target 3. Make sure that external and secondary disk drives are targeted to 1, 2, or 0, and do not conflict with each other. Also make sure that tape drives are targeted to 4 or 5, and CD drives to 6, avoiding any conflict with each other or with disk drives. If the targeting of the internal disk drive is in question, power off the machine, remove all external drives, turn the power on, and from the PROM monitor run the probe-scsi-all or probe-scsi command.

If SCSI device targeting is acceptable, memory configuration could be the problem, especially for machines with the sun4c architecture. Ensure that high-capacity memory chips (such as 4MB SIMMs) are in lower banks, while lower-capacity memory chips (such as 1MB SIMMs) are in the upper banks.

Note that SPARC systems do not always support third party CDROM drives, and might generate a similar “unknown vendor” error message. Check with the CDROM vendor for specific configuration requirements.

Some third party disk drives have a read-ahead cache that interferes with Solaris device drivers. Make sure that any existing read-ahead cache facility is turned off.

See Also
❖ For more information on SCSI targets, see the section on device naming conventions in the Solaris 1.x to 2.x Transition Guide. If you are using the AnswerBook, “scsi targets” is a good search string.

Segmentation Fault

Cause
Segmentation faults usually result from programming error. This message is usually accompanied by a core dump, except on read-only filesystems.
**Action**

To see which program produced a core file, run either the `file(1)` command or the `adb(1)` command. The following examples show the output of the `file` and `adb` commands on a core file from the `dtmail` program.

```bash
$ file core
core: ELF 32-bit MSB core file SPARC Version 1, from 'dtmail'
$ adb core
core file = core - program 'dtmail'
SIGSEGV 11: segmentation violation
*D (use Control-d to quit the adbrogram)
```

Ask the vendor or author of this program for a debugged version.

**Technical Notes**

A process has received a signal indicating that it attempted to access an area of memory that is protected or that does not exist. The two most common causes of segmentation faults are attempting to dereference a null pointer or indexing past the bounds of an array.

```
sendmail[number]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: nethang reading from variable
```

**Cause**

This is a `sendmail` message that appears on the console and in the log file `/var/adm/messages`. If this message occurs once for a particular user, it is possible that a mail message from this user ends with a partial line (having no terminating newline character). If this message appears frequently or at busy times, especially along with other networking errors, it could indicate network problems.

**Action**

Check the user’s mail spool file to see if a message ends without a newline character. If so, talk with the user and determine how to prevent the problem from occurring again. If these messages are the result of network problems, you could try moving the mail spool directory to another machine with a faster network interface.
Technical Notes

During the SMTP receipt of DATA phase, a message-terminating period on a line of its own never arrived, so sendmail timed out and produced this error.

**setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing**

*Cause*

The system is having problems writing to `/etc/mnttab`. It is possible that the filesystem containing `/etc` is mounted read-only, or is not mounted at all.

*Action*

Check that this file exists and is writable by root. If so, ensure that the `/etc` filesystem has been mounted, and is mounted read-write rather than read-only.

**share_nfs: /home: Operation not applicable**

*Cause*

This message usually indicates that the system has a local filesystem mounted on `/home`, which is where the automounter usually mounts users’ home directories.

*Action*

When a system is running the automounter, do not mount local filesystems on the `/home` directory. Mount them on another directory, such as `/disk2`, which on most systems you will have to create. You could also change the automounter `auto_home` entry, but that is a more difficult solution.

**Soft error rate (number%) during writing was too high**

*Cause*

This message from the SCSI tape drive appears when Exabyte or DAT tapes generate too many soft (recoverable) errors. It is followed by the advisory “Please, replace tape cartridge” message. Soft errors are an indication that hard errors could soon occur, causing data corruption.
Action
First clean the tape head with a cleaning tape as recommended by the manufacturer. If that doesn’t work, replace the tape cartridge. You might need to replace the tape drive if the problem still occurs with new tape cartridges.

**Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too high**

*Cause*
This message from the SCSI tape drive appears when Archive tapes generate too many soft (recoverable) errors. It is followed by the advisory “Periodic head cleaning required and/or replace tape cartridge“ message. Soft errors are an indication that hard errors could soon occur, causing data corruption.

*Action*
First clean the tape head with a cleaning tape as recommended by the manufacturer. If that doesn’t work, replace the tape cartridge. You might need to replace the tape drive if the problem still occurs with new tape cartridges.

**Stale NFS file handle**

*Cause*
A file or directory that was opened by an NFS client was either removed or replaced on the server.

*Action*
If you were editing this file, write it to a local filesystem instead. Try remounting the filesystem on top of itself or shutting down any client processes that refer to stale file handles. If neither of these solutions works, reboot the system.

*Technical Notes*
The original vnode is no longer valid. The only way to get rid of this error is to force the NFS server and client to renegotiate file handles.

The symbolic name for this error is ESTALE, errno=151.
statd: cannot talk to statd at variable

Cause
This message comes from the NFS status monitor daemon statd, which provides crash recovery services for the NFS lock daemon lockd. The message indicates that statd has left old references in the /var/statmon/sm and /var/statmon/sm.bak directories. After a user has removed or modified a host in the hosts database, statd might not properly purge files in these directories, which results in its trying to communicate with a nonexistent host.

Action
Remove the file named variable (where variable is the hostname) from both the /var/statmon/sm and /var/statmon/sm.bak directories. Then kill the statd daemon and restart it. If that doesn’t get rid of the message, kill and restart lockd as well. If that doesn’t work, reboot the machine at your convenience.

stty: TCGETS: Operation not supported on socket

Cause
This message results when a user tries to remote copy with rcp(1) or remote shell with rsh(1) from one machine to another, but has an stty(1) command in the remote .cshrc file. This error results in failure of the rcp or rsh command.

Action
The solution is to move the stty command to the user’s .login (or equivalent) file. Alternatively, execute the stty command in .cshrc only when the shell is interactive. Here is a test to do just that:

if ($?prompt) stty ...

Technical Notes
The rcp and rsh commands make a connection using sockets, which do not support stty’s TCGETS ioctl.
su: No shell

Cause
This message indicates that someone changed the default login shell for root to a program missing from the system. For example, the final colon-separated field in /etc/passwd could have been changed from /sbin/sh to /usr/bin/bash, which does not exist in that location. Possibly an extra space was appended at the end of line. The outcome is that you cannot login as root or switch user to root, and so cannot directly fix this problem.

Action
The only solution is to reboot the system from another source, then edit the password file to correct this problem. Invoke sync(1M) several times, then halt the machine by typing Stop-A or by pressing the reset button. Reboot single-user from CDROM, the net, or diskette, such as by typing boot cdrom -s at the ok prompt.

After the system comes up and gives you a # prompt, mount the device corresponding to the original / partition somewhere, such as with a mount(1M) command similar to the one below. Then run an editor on the newly-mounted system password file (use ed(1) if terminal support is lacking):

```
# mount /dev/dsk/c0t3d0s0 /mnt
# ed /mnt/etc/passwd
```

Use the editor to change the password file’s root entry to call an existing shell, such as /usr/bin/csh or /usr/bin/ksh.

Technical Notes
To keep the “No shell” problem from happening, habitually use admintool or /usr/ucb/vipw to edit the password file. These tools make it difficult to change password entries in ways that make the system unusable.

su: ’su root’ failed for variable on /dev/pts/ number

Cause
The user specified after “for” tried to become superuser, but typed the wrong password.
Action
If the user is supposed to know the root password, wait to see if the correct password is supplied. If the user is not supposed to know the root password, ask why he or she is attempting to become superuser.

su: 'su root' succeeded for variable on /dev/pts/ number

Cause
The user specified after “for” just became superuser by typing the root password.

Action
If the user is supposed to know the root password, this message is purely informational. If the user is not supposed to know the root password, change this password immediately and ask how the user learned it.

syncing file systems...

Cause
This indicates that the kernel is updating the super-blocks before taking the system down, to ensure filesystem integrity. This message appears after a halt(1M) or reboot(1M) command. It can also appear after a system panic, in which case the system might contain corrupted data.

Action
If you just halted or rebooted the machine, don’t worry – this message is normal. In case of a system panic, look up the panic messages that appear above this one. Your system vendor might be able to help diagnose the problem. So that you can describe the panic to the vendor, either leave your system in its panicked state or be sure that you can reproduce the problem.

Technical Notes
Numbers that sometimes display after the three dots in the message show the count of dirty pages that are being written out. Numbers in brackets show an estimate of the number of busy buffers in the system.
syslog service starting.

Cause
During system reboot, this message might appear and the boot seems to hang. After starting syslogd(1M) service, the system runs /etc/rc2.d/S75cron, which in turn calls ps(1). Sometimes after an abrupt system crash /dev/bd.off becomes a link to nowhere, causing the ps command to hang indefinitely.

Action
Reboot single user (for example with boot -s) and run ls -l /dev/bd* to see if this is the problem. If so, remove /dev/bd.off, then run bdconfig off or reboot with the -r (reconfigure) option.

This is the most commonly reported situation that causes ps to hang.


tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory

Cause
The default tape device /dev/rmt/0, or possibly the device specified by the TAPE environment variable, is not currently connected to the system, is not configured, or its hardware symbolic link is broken.

Action
List the files in the /dev/rmt directory to see which tape devices are currently configured. If none are configured, ensure that a tape device is correctly attached to the system, and reboot with the -r option to reconfigure devices.

If tape devices other than /dev/rmt/0 are configured, you could specify one of them after the -f option of tar(1).
**tar: directory checksum error**

*Cause*
This error message from `tar(1)` indicates that the checksum of the directory and the files it has read from tape does not match the checksum advertised in the header block. Usually this indicates the wrong blocking factor, although it could indicate corrupt data on tape.

*Action*
To resolve this problem, make certain that the blocking factor you specify on the command line (after `-b`) matches the blocking factor originally specified. If in doubt, leave out the block size and let `tar` determine it automatically. If that doesn’t help, tape data could be corrupted.

**tar: tape write error**

*Cause*
A physical write error has occurred on the `tar(1)` output file, which is usually a tape, although it could be a diskette or disk file. Look on the system console, where the device driver should provide the actual error condition. This might be a write-protected tape, a physical I/O error, an end-of-tape condition, or a File too large limitation.

*Action*
In the case of write-protected tapes, enable the write switch. For physical I/O errors, the best course of action is to replace the tape with a new one. For end-of-tape conditions, try using a higher density if the device supports one, or use `cpio(1)` or `pax(1)` for their multi-volume support. When encountering File too large limitations, use the parent shell’s `limit(1)` or `ulimit` facility to increase the maximum file size.

*See Also*
For more information on tar tapes, see the section on copying UFS files in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*. 
Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded.

Cause
This message appears at the beginning of a cmdtool(1) session after 100,000 characters have gone by in the scrolling window. Clicking on the top rectangle of the scrollbar might display this message. No data were lost, but the user cannot scroll back before this wraparound point.

Action
To increase the maximum size of the Command Tool log file, use cmdtool with the -M option, specifying more than 100,000 bytes.

The following file system(s) had an unexpected inconsistency:

Cause
At boot time the /etc/rcS script runs the fsck(1M) command to check the integrity of filesystems marked “fsck” in /etc/vfstab. If fsck cannot repair a filesystem automatically, it interrupts the boot procedure and produces this message. When fsck gets into this state, it cannot repair filesystems without losing one or more files, so it wants to defer this responsibility to you, the administrator. Data corruption has probably already occurred.

Action
First run fsck -n on the filesystem, to see how many and what type of problems exist. Then run fsck again to repair the filesystem. If you have a backup of the filesystem, you can generally answer “y” to all the fsck questions. It’s a good idea to keep a record of all problematic files and inode numbers for later reference. To run fsck yourself, specify options as recommended by the boot script. For example:

```
# fsck /dev/rdsk/c0t4d0s0
```

Usually, files lost during fsck repair were created just before a crash or power outage, and cannot be recovered. If important files are lost, you can recover them from backup tapes.

If you don’t have a backup, ask an expert to run fsck for you.
See Also
For more information, see the section on checking filesystem integrity in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off.**

*Cause*
This message appears near the beginning of rebooting, immediately after a “Boot device: ...” message, and then the system hangs. The problem is conflicting SCSI targets for a non-boot device. Having an external device turned off is unlikely to cause this problem.

*Action*
See the message “Boot device: /iommu/sbus/variable/variable/sd@3,0” for a solution.

See Also
For more information, see the section on halting and booting in the *System Administration Guide, Volume I*.

**The system is being shutdown now!!!**

*Cause*
This message means the system is going down immediately and it’s too late to save any changes.

*Action*
This message is often preceded by messages telling you that the system is going down in 15 minutes, 10 minutes, and so on. When you see these initial broadcast shutdown messages, save all your work, send any e-mail you’re working on, and close your files. Fortunately, *vi* sessions are automatically saved for later recovery, but many other applications have no crash protection mechanism. Data loss is likely.
See Also
For more information on shutting down the system, see the System Administration Guide, Volume I. If you are using the AnswerBook, “halting the system” is a good search string.

The system will be shut down in number minutes

Cause
This message from the system shutdown(1M) script informs you that the superuser is taking down the system.

Action
Save all changes now or your work will be lost. Write out any files you were changing, send any e-mail messages you were composing, and close your files.

See Also
For more information on shutting down the system, see the System Administration Guide, Volume I. If you are using the AnswerBook, “halting the system” is a good search string.

This mail file has been changed by another mail reader.

Cause
This message appears in a pop-up dialog box whenever you start mailtool(1) while another mail reader has the inbox locked. A question follows: “Do you wish to ask that mail reader to save the changes?” You are given three choices.

Action
If you choose “Save Changes” mailtool will request the other mail reader to relinquish its lock and write out any changes it has made to your inbox. If you choose “Ignore” mailtool will read your inbox without locking it. If you choose “Cancel” mailtool will exit.
Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet

*Cause*
This problem can occur while booting from the net, and indicates a network connection problem.

*Action*
Make sure the Ethernet cable is connected to the network. Check that this system has an entry in the NIS ethers map or locally on the boot server. Then check the IP address of the server and the client to make sure they are on the same subnet. Local /etc/hosts files must agree with each other and with the NIS hosts map.

If those are not causing the problem, go to the system’s PROM monitor ok prompt and run test net to test the network connection. (On older PROM monitors, use test-net instead.) If the network test fails, check the Ethernet port, card, fuse, and cable, replacing them if necessary. Also check the twisted pair port to make sure it is patched to the correct subnet.

*See Also*
For more information on packets, see *SPARC: Installing Solaris Software on the Desktop*. If you are using the AnswerBook, “ARP/RARP” is a good search string.

Too many links

*Cause*
An attempt was made to create more than the maximum number of hard links (LINK_MAX, by default 32767) to a file. Because each subdirectory is a link to its parent directory, the same error results from trying to create too many subdirectories.

*Action*
Check to see why there are so many links to the same file. To get more than the maximum number of hard links, use symbolic links instead.
Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is EMLINK, errno=31.

Too many open files

Cause
A process has too many files open at once. The system imposes a per-process soft limit on open files, OPEN_MAX (usually 64), which can be increased, and a per-process hard limit (usually 1024), which cannot be increased.

Action
You can control the soft limit from the shell. In the C shell, use the limit command to increase the number of descriptors. In the Bourne or Korn shells, use the ulimit command with the -n option to increase the number of file descriptors.

If the window system refuses to start new applications because of this error, increase the open file limit in your login shell before starting the window system.

Technical Notes
The symbolic name for this error is EMFILE, errno=24.

umount: warning: /variable not in mnttab

Cause
This message results when the superuser attempts to unmount a filesystem that is not mounted. Note that subdirectories of filesystems, such as /var, cannot be unmounted.

Action
Run the mount(1M) or df(1M) command to see what filesystems are mounted. If you really want to unmount one of them, specify the existing mount point.
Unable to install/attach driver ‘variable’

*Cause*
These messages appear in `/var/adm/messages` at boot time, when the system tries to load drivers for devices the machine does not have.

*Action*
Despite the alarmist tone, this message is intended as purely informational. You probably don’t want all these device drivers, because they make your system kernel larger, requiring more memory.

**undefined control**

*Cause*
This message, prefaced by the file name and line number involved, is from the C preprocessor `/usr/ccs/lib/cpp`, and indicates a line starting with a sharp (#) but not followed by a valid keyword such as `define` or `include`.

*Action*
A piece of software might be running the C preprocessor on an initialization file that you thought was interpreted by a shell. In most shells, the sharp (#) indicates a comment. The C preprocessor considers comments to be anything between /* and */ delimiters.

**Unmatched ‘**

*Cause*
This message from the C shell `csh(1)` indicates that a user typed a command containing a backquote symbol (’`) without a closeing backquote. Similar messages result from an unmatched single quote (‘) or an unmatched double quote (”’). Other shells generally give a continuation prompt when a command line contains an unmatched quote symbol.
Action
Correct the command line and try again. To continue typing on another line, give the C shell a backslash right before the newline.

UNREF FILE i=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?

Cause
During phase 4, fsck(1M) discovered that the specified file was orphaned because the inode had no record of its pathname. In other words, the file was not connected into any directory.

Action
Answer yes to reconnect the file into the lost+found directory. Then contact the file’s owner to ask whether they want it back, and where they want you to place it.

See Also
For more information, see the chapter on checking filesystem integrity in the System Administration Guide, Volume I.

Use "logout" to logout

Cause
This C shell message might come as a surprise to Bourne or Korn shell users accustomed to logging out with a Control-d.

Action
When ignoreeof is set, the C shell requires users to logout by typing logout or exit. Write any modified files to disk before exiting.
/usr/openwin/bin/xinit: connection to X server lost

**Cause**
This means that the `xinit(1)` program, which sets up X11 resources and starts a window manager, failed to locate the X server process. Perhaps the user interrupted window system startup, or exited abnormally from OpenWindows (for example, by killing processes or by rebooting). It is possible that the X server crashed. Data loss is possible in some cases. Depending on process timing, this message might be normal when OpenWindows exits during a system reboot.

**Action**
The only solution is to exit and restart OpenWindows. You do not need to reboot the system unless it hangs and fails to give you a console prompt. To exit OpenWindows, select Workspace->Exit. To restart OpenWindows, type `openwin` at the system prompt.

Value too large for defined data type

**Cause**
The user ID or group ID of an IPC object or file system object was too large to be stored in an appropriate member of the caller-provided structure.

**Action**
Run the application on a newer system, or ask the program’s author to fix this condition.

**Technical Notes**
This error occurs only on systems that support a larger range of user or group ID values than a declared member structure can support. This condition usually occurs because the IPC or file system object resides on a remote machine with a larger value of type `uid_t`, `off_t`, or `gid_t` than that of the local system.
The symbolic name for this error is EOVERFLOW, errno=79.

**WARNING: Clock gained numberdays - CHECK AND RESET THE DATE!**

**Cause**
Each workstation contains an internal clock powered by a rechargeable battery. After the system is halted and turned off, the internal clock continues to keep time. When the system is powered on and reboots, the system notices that the internal clock has gained time since the workstation was halted.

**Action**
In most cases, especially if the power has been off for less than a month, the internal clock keeps the correct time, and you do not have to reset the date. Use the `date(1)` command to check the date and time on your system. If the date or time is wrong, become superuser and use the `date(1)` command to reset them.

**WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change**

**Cause**
The Solaris 2.x `mount(1M)` command issues this message whenever it mounts a filesystem that doesn’t have NFS locking, such as a standard SunOS 4.1.x exported filesystem. Data loss is possible in applications that depend on locking.

**Action**
On the remote SunOS 4.1.x system, install the appropriate `rpc.lockd` jumbo patch to implement NFS locking. For SunOS 4.1.4, install patch #102264; for SunOS 4.1.3, install patch #100075; for earlier 4.1 releases, install patch #101817.
**WARNING: processor level 4 interrupt not serviced**

*Cause*
This message is basically a diagnostic from the SCSI driver. Especially on machines with the sun4c architecture, it can appear on the console every 10 minutes or so.

*Action*
To reduce the frequency of this message, add this line near the bottom of the `/etc/system` file and reboot:

```
set esp:esp_use_poll_loop=0
```

*Technical Notes*
You might also see this message repeatedly after manually removing a CD when it was busy. Don’t do this! To get the system back to normal, reboot the system with the `-r` (reconfigure) option.

**WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded**

*Cause*
The system swap area (virtual memory) has filled up. You need to reduce swap space consumption by killing some processes or possibly by rebooting the system.

*Action*
See the message “Not enough space” for information about increasing swap space.
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized - CHECK AND RESET THE DATE!

Cause
This message indicates that the Time Of Day (TOD) clock reads zero, so its time is the beginning of the UNIX epoch: midnight 31 December 1969. On a brand-new system, the manufacturer might have neglected to initialize the system clock. On older systems it is more likely that the rechargeable battery has run out and requires replacement.

Action
First replace the battery according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Then become superuser and use the `date` command to set the time and date. On SPARC systems the clock is powered by the same battery as the NVRAM, so a dead battery also causes loss of the machine’s Ethernet address and host ID, which are more serious problems for networked systems.

WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck

Cause
This message comes at boot time from the `/etc/rcS` script whenever it gets a bad return code from `fsck` after checking a filesystem. The message recommends an `fsck` command line, and instructs you to exit the shell when done to continue booting. Then the script places the system in single-user mode so `fsck` can be run effectively.

Action
For information about repairing UFS filesystems, see the message “/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY.”

For information about repairing non-UFS filesystems, see the message “THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY:”
Watchdog Reset

Cause

This fatal error usually indicates some kind of hardware problem. Data corruption on the system is possible.

Action

Look for some other message that might help diagnose the problem. By itself, a watchdog reset doesn’t provide enough information; because traps are disabled, all information has been lost. If all that appears on the console is an ok prompt, issue the PROM command below to view the final messages that occurred just before system failure:

```
ok f8002010 wector p
```

Yes, that word is wector, not vector.

The result is a display of messages similar to those produced by the dmesg(1M) command. These messages can be useful in finding the cause of system failure.

Technical Notes

This message doesn’t come from the kernel, but from the OpenBoot PROM monitor, a piece of Forth software that gives you the ok prompt before you boot UNIX. If the CPU detects a trap when traps are disabled (an unrecoverable error), it signals a watchdog. The OpenBoot PROM monitor detects the watchdog, issues this message, and brings down the system.

Watchdog Reset, Rebooting.

Action

See the message “Watchdog Reset” for details. This rebooting message occurs under the same conditions, but when the EEPROM’s watchdog-reboot? variable is set to true, causing the machine to automatically reboot itself. Data corruption on the system is possible.
Who are you?

Cause
Many networking programs can print this message, including `from(1B), lpr(1B), lprm(1B), mailx(1), rdist(1), sendmail(1M), talk(1), and rsh(1).` The command prints this message when it cannot locate a password file entry for the current user. This might occur if a user logged in just before the superuser deleted that user’s password entry, or if the network naming service fails for a user who has no entry in the local password file.

Action
If a user’s password file entry was accidentally deleted, restore it from backups or from another password file. If a user’s login name or user ID was changed, ask that user to logout and login again. If the network naming service failed, check the NIS server(s) and repair or reboot as necessary.

Technical Notes
There is a known problem (bug 1138025) with starting hundreds of `rsh` processes on another machine. This message appears because `rsh` hangs while binding to a reserved port, and responds too slowly to interact with the network naming service.

Window Underflow

Cause
This message often occurs at boot time, sometimes along with a “Watchdog Reset” error. It comes from the OpenBoot PROM monitor, which was passed a processor trap from the hardware. This error indicates that some program tried to access a SPARC register window that wasn’t accessible from the processor.

Action
On some system architectures, specifically sun4c, the problem could be that different capacity memory chips are mixed together. Someone might have placed 1MB SIMMs in the same bank with 4MB SIMMs. If this is so, rearrange
the memory chips. Make sure to put higher-capacity SIMMs in the first bank(s), and lower-capacity SIMMs in the remaining bank(s); never mix different capacity SIMMs in the same bank.

The problem could also be that cache memory on the motherboard has gone bad and needs replacement. If main memory is installed correctly, try swapping the motherboard.

Technical Notes
The best way to isolate the problem is to look at the $pc register to see where it got its arguments from, and why the arguments were bad. If you can reproduce the condition causing this message, your system vendor might be able to help diagnose the problem.

X connection to variable:0.0 broken (explicit kill or server shutdown).

Cause
This means that the client has lost its connection to the X server. The “0.0” represents the display device, which is usually the console. This message can appear when a user is running an X application on a remote system with the DISPLAY set back to the original system and the remote system’s X server disappears, perhaps because someone exited X windows or rebooted the machine. It sometimes appears locally when a user exits the window system. Data loss is possible if applications were killed before saving files.

Action
Try to run the application again in a few minutes after the system has rebooted and the window system is running.
xinit: not found

Cause
OpenWindows was probably not installed properly, and the openwin(1) program could not find xinit(1) to start up the X windows system. If the user is running another version of X windows, such as the MIT X11 distribution, the startx program serves the same function as xinit.

Action
Check the PATH environment variable to make sure it contains the appropriate X windows install directory. Verify that xinit is in this directory as an executable program.

XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0"

Cause
This means that I/O with the X server has been broken. The “0.0” represents the display device, which is usually the console. This message can appear when a user is running Display PostScript applications and the X server disappears or the client is shut down. Data loss is possible if applications disappeared before saving files.

Action
Try to run the application again in a few minutes after the system has rebooted and the window system is running.

Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server

Action
See the message “Xlib: connection to "variable:0.0" refused by server” for details.
**X**

---

**Xlib: connection to "variable:0.0" refused by server**

*Cause*

This message is immediately followed by the “Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server” message. These messages indicate that an X windows application tried to run on the X server specified inside double quotes, which did not allow the request. The “0.0” represents the display device, which is usually the console. If no server name appears, the superuser probably tried to run an X application on the current machine in an X session that was owned by somebody else.

*Action*

To allow this client to connect to the X server, run `xhost +clientname` on the X server system. Only the owner of the current X session (who is not necessarily the superuser) is allowed to run the `xhost` command. If somebody else is running X windows on the server, ask them to log out and then start your own X session on that server; remote X connections are usually allowed for the same user ID.

---

**xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "variable:0.0"**

*Cause*

This means that `xterm(1)` has lost its connection to the X server. The “0.0” represents the display device, which is usually the console. This message can appear when a user is running `xterm` and the X server disappears or the client gets shut down. Data loss is possible if applications were killed before saving files.

*Action*

Try to run the terminal emulator again in a few minutes after the system has rebooted and the window system is running.
XView warning: Cannot load fontset ’variable’ (FontPackage)

Cause
This message from the XView library warns that a requested font is not installed on the X server. Often multiple warnings appear about the same font. The set of available fonts can vary from release to release.

Action
To see which fonts are available on the X server, run the xlsfonts(1) program. Then specify another font name that you see in the output of xlsfonts. Sometimes it is possible to locate a similar font from a different vendor.

Technical Notes
There are two packages of X windows fonts: the common but not required fonts (SUNWxwcft), and the optional fonts (SUNWxwoft). Run pkginfo(1) to see if both these packages are installed, and add them to the system as you wish.

ypbind[number]: NIS server for domain ”variable” OK

Cause
This message appears after an “NIS server not responding” message to indicate that ypbind(1M is able to communicate with an NIS server again.

Action
Proceed with your work. This message is purely informational.
ypbind[\textit{number}]: NIS server not responding for domain "\textit{variable}"; still trying

\textbf{Cause}

This means that the NIS client daemon \texttt{ypbind(1M)} cannot communicate with an NIS server for the specified domain. This message appears when a workstation running the NIS naming service has become disconnected from the network, or when NIS servers are down or extremely slow to respond.

\textbf{Action}

If other NIS clients are behaving normally, check the Ethernet cabling on the workstation that is getting this message. On SPARC machines, disconnected network cabling also produces a series of “no carrier” messages. On x86 machines, the above message might be your only indication that network cabling is disconnected.

If many NIS clients on the network are giving this message, go to the NIS server in question and reboot or repair as necessary. To locate the NIS server for a domain, run the \texttt{ypwhich(1)} command. When the server machine comes back in operation, NIS clients give an “NIS server for domain OK” message.

\textbf{See Also}

For more information about \texttt{ypbind}, see the section on administering secure NFS in the \textit{NFS Administration Guide}.

\texttt{ypwhich: can't communicate with ypbind}

\textbf{Cause}

This message from the \texttt{ypwhich(1)} command indicates that the NIS binder process \texttt{ypbind(1M)} is not running on the local machine.

\textbf{Action}

If the system is not configured to use NIS, this message is normal and expected. Configure the system to use NIS if necessary.

If the system is configured to use NIS, but the \texttt{ypbind} process is not running, invoke the following command to start it up:

\begin{verbatim}
# /usr/lib/netsvc/yp/ypbind -broadcast
\end{verbatim}
Z

Z

zsnumber: silo overflow

Cause
This message means that the Zilog 8530 character input silo (or serial port FIFO) overflowed before it could be serviced. The zs(4S) driver, which talks to a Zilog Z8530 chip, is reporting that the FIFO (holding about two characters) has been overrun. The number after zs shows which serial port experienced an overflow:

zs0 - tty serial port 0 (/dev/ttya)
zs1 - tty serial port 1 (/dev/ttyb)
zs2 - keyboard port (/dev/kbd)
zs3 - mouse port (/dev/mouse)

Action
Silo overflows indicate that data in the respective serial port FIFO has been lost. However, consequences of silo overflows might be negligible if the overflows occur infrequently, if data loss is not catastrophic, or if data can be recovered or reproduced. For example, although a silo overflow on the mouse driver (zs3) indicates that the system could not process mouse events quickly enough, the user can perform mouse motions again. Similarly, lost data from a silo overflow on a serial port with a modem connection transferring data using uucp(1C) will be recovered when uucp discovers the loss of data and requests retransmission of the corrupted packet.

Frequent silo overflow messages can indicate a zs hardware FIFO problem, a serial driver software problem, or abnormal data or system activity. For example, the system ignores interrupts during system panics, so mouse and keyboard activity result in silo overflows.

If the serial ports experiencing silo overflows are not being used, a silo overflow could indicate the onset of a hardware problem.
Technical Notes

Another type of silo overflow is one that occurs during reboot when an HDLC line is connected to any of the terminal ports. For example, an X.25 network could be sending frames before the kernel has been told to expect them. Such overflow messages can be ignored.
Permutted Index

How to Use this Index

This permuted index provides an alphabetized list of words (except variables) in all error messages documented in this book. Pick an important word from the message you see, and look it up in the listing below. Then read backwards to the first word on the line, and look up that word in the Error Messages chapter, or turn to the page number that appears at the end of line.

Alphabetical Index

***** FILE SYSTEM WAS MODIFIED
THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN NOW
Unmatched
bad trap = number
Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too high
***** FILE SYSTEM WAS MODIFIED

WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck

operation failed [error 185], unknown group error
Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC
lockd[number]: create_client: no name for inet address

0, variable
0xnumber
0xnumber
Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC 0xnumber 54

** Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes 8
operation failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, variable 92

** Phase 1b – Rescan For More DUPS 8
** Phase 2 – Check Pathnames 9
** Phase 3 – Check Connectivity 9

XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0" 127
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "variable:0.0" 128
admintool: Received communication service error 4 13

** Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts 10
WARNING: processor level 4 interrupt not serviced 122
451 timeout waiting for input during variable 11

** Phase 5 – Check Cyl groups 10
5 – Check Cyl groups 10
550 variable... Host unknown 11
550 variable... User unknown 12
554 variable... Local configuration error 12
A command window has exited because its child exited. 13

automount[number]: variable: Not a directory 17
Is a directory 61
Not a directory 88
Please specify a recipient. 97
Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File. 70
data access exception 35
Graphics Bad

lockd[number]: create_client: no name for inet address 0xnumber 67
MEMORY address alignment 71

automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change 16
WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact 121
admintool: Received communication service error 4 13

MEMORY address alignment 71
Cannot allocate colormap entry for "variable" 25
PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE I=number 95
ALLOCATED INODE I=number CLEAR? 
MEMORY already free 62
already mounted, /variable is busy, or... 72
an external device is turned off. 114

THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
WARNING: Clock gained number days – CHECK 113
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK 113
** Phase 1 – Check Blocks 113
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. 115
answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set 14
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operation not applicable</th>
<th>applicable 93</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>share_nfs: /home: Operation not applicable</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can't read your attachments. What mailer are you using?</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arg (cm3)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invalid</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argument out of domain</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cd: Too many arguments</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arguments too long</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No such user</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assertion failed: variable, file variable, line number 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegal instruction &quot;0x[number]&quot; was encountered at PC 0x[number] 54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad module/chip</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>statd: cannot talk to statd at variable 108</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can't read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>authentication failure</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>automount[number]: variable: Not a directory 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>automountd[number]: server variable not responding 17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No buffer space available</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No default media available</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No record locks available</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad address</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=number CONTINUE? 42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad file number</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nfs_server: bad getargs for number/number 77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad I=number</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad magic number/header.</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad module/chip at: variable 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD SUPER BLOCK: variable 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD TRAP 21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bad trap = number 22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch). 70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>be number CONTINUE? 55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The system will be shut down in number minutes 115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipient names must be specified 99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A command window has exited because its child exited. 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. 115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN NOW !!! 114
/bin/sh: variable: too big 22
nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port 75
/bin/sh: variable: too big 22
FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK ↵ SALVAGE? 48
EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=number ↵ CONTINUE? 42
EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS I=number ↵ CONTINUE? 42
kmem_free block already free 62
INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) ↵ CORRECT? 55
BAD SUPER BLOCK: variable 20
Blocks and Sizes 20
** Phase 1 – Check
Boot device: /iommu/sbus/variable/variable/sd@3,0 23
Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server [date] 23
broken (explicit kill or server shutdown). 126
Broken pipe 24
(Broken pipe) on X server “variable:0.0” 127
xterm: fatal IO error 32
(Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server “variable:0.0” 128
No SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error 103
Bus Error 24
The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off. 114
Can’t create public message device (Device busy) 25
Device busy 36
dumptm: Cannot open ‘/dev/rmt/variable’: Device busy 39
nfs mount: mount: variable: Device busy 76
nfs umount: variable: is mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable is busy, or... 72
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. 115
Connection closed by foreign host. 29
by peer 98
cable disconnected or hub link test disabled? 128
cable problem? 128
cannot allocate colormap entry for “variable” 25
In: cannot create /dev/fb: Read-only file system 67
INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx 57
XView warning: Cannot load font set ‘variable’ (Font Package) 129
dumptm: Cannot open ‘/dev/rmt/variable’: Device busy 39
setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing 106
statd: cannot talk to statd at variable 108
/dev/rdsk/variable: CAN’T CHECK FILE SYSTEM. 37
ypwhich: can’t communicate with ypbind 130
mailtool: Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied 69
Can’t create public message device (Device busy) 25
Can’t invoke /etc/init, error number 26
fsck: Can’t open /dev/dsk/variable 48
can’t open file: errno=2 64
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
fsck: Can’t stat /dev/dsk/variable 48
can’t synchronize with hayes 27
ie0: no carrier 53
le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled? 65
carrier – transceiver cable problem? 65
cd: Too many arguments 27

No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server
WARNING: No network locking on variable:
  contact admin to install server
    This mail file has been
    changed by another mail reader. 115
    changed by another mail reader. 121
    Channel number out of range 27
    CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 27
    CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 27
    Clock gained number days – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 27
    WARNING: Clock gained number days –
    WARNING: TOD clock not initialized –
      Check Blocks and Sizes 27
      Check Connectivity 27
      Check Cyl groups 27
      Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes 27
      Phase 3 – Check Connectivity 27
      Phase 5 – Check Cyl groups 27
      Phase 2 – Check Pathnames 37
      Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts 37
    CHECK FILE SYSTEM. 37
    `/dev/rdsk/variable': CAN'T
    CHECK FILE SYSTEM. 37
    Phase 2 – Check Pathnames 37
    Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts 37
    tar: directory checksum error 112
    A command window has exited because its
    child exited. 13
    No child processes 81
    chmod: ERROR: invalid mode 28
    Classing Engine 69
    mailtool: Could not initialize the
    BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m
    SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 18
    PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE I=number CLEAR? 95
    UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 119
    Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server 127
    WARNING: Clock gained number days – CHECK AND
    RESET THE DATE! 121
    WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND
    RESET THE DATE! 123
    clock not initialized – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 123
    closed. 29
    No shell Connection closed 84
    closed by foreign host. 29
    closed. Exiting] 30
    (cm3) 40
    ERROR: missing file arg
colormap entry for "variable" 25
    Cannot allocate
    Invalid null
    Command not found 28
A command window has exited because its child exited. 13

communicate with ypbind 130

communication service error 4 13

configuration error 12

configuration error 51

confused about the state of your Mail File. 70

connect to Server 127

Connection closed. 29

Connection closed 84

Connection closed by foreign host. 29

[Connection closed. Exiting] 30

connection failed 40

Connection refused 30

Connection timed out 30

X connection to variable:0.0 broken (explicit kill
or server shutdown). 126

Xlib: connection to “variable:0.0” refused by server 128

connection to X server lost 120

Connection to X server lost 120

automountd[number]: No network locking on variable:

WARNING: No network locking on variable:

mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted

EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=number ↓

EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS I=number ↓

undefined

INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) ↓

mail: Your mailfile was found to be

mailtool: Not on system

console login: ^J^M^K^K^P 31

contact admin to install server change 16

contact admin to install server change 121

(Content-length mismatch). 70

CONTINUE? 42

CONTINUE? 42

control 118

core dumped 32

INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) ↓

CORRECT? 55

corrupted (Content-length mismatch). 70

Could not initialize the Clasping Engine 69

Could not initialize tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP 33

Could not start new viewer 33

Couldn’t bind to reserved port 75

nfs mount:

LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t

COUNT... ↓ ADJUST? 66

COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s

MTIME=t COUNT... ↓ ADJUST? 66

INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) ↓ CORRECT? 55

Counts 55

COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK ↓ SALVAGE? 48

cpio: Bad magic number/header. 34

cannot create dead letter: Permission denied 69

create /dev/fb: Read-only file system 67
Can’t create public message device (Device busy) 25
create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx 57
create_client: no name for inet address 0xnumber 67
created 67
cron entries not created 67
Cross-device link 34
Cyl groups 34
(lockd[number]: create_client: no name for inet address 0x
number 67)
No such user as variable – cron entries not created 67
No such user as variable –

** Phase 5 – Check

Soft error rate

Cyl groups 34

(number%) during writing was too high 106
data access exception 35
Data fault 35

SCSI bus
eosp0:

Value too large for defined
data type 120

Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server

WARNING: Clock gained number days –

CHECK AND RESET THE

WARNING: TOD clock not initialized –

CHECK AND RESET THE

WARNING: Clock gained number
days – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE!

mailtool: Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied 69
deadlock 45
Deadlock situation detected/avoided 36
decrypt secret key for unix.uid@variable 96
default media available 81

defined data type 120
denied 45
denied 69
denied 96
desired type 83
detected. 66
Deadlock situation detected/avoided 36
ROOT LOGIN
/dev/console 102
fsck: Can’t open
/dev/dsk/variable 48
fsck: Can’t stat
/dev/dsk/variable 48
mount:
/dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable
is busy, or... 72
mount: the state of

InitOutput: Error loading module for

Graphics Adapter device

In: cannot create

Inappropriate ioctl for
device. 79
device 55
device 85
device 85
Device busy 36
NFS write error on host variable: No space left on
No space left on
No such

Can’t create public message device
dumptm: Cannot open '/dev/rmt/variable': Device busy
nfs mount: mount: variable: Graphics Adapter
Can’t create public message device
Boot
The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off.
No such device
Block
su: ‘su root’ failed for variable on /dev/pts/number 109
su: ‘su root’ succeeded for variable on /dev/pts/number 110
ROOT LOGIN

tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111

dumptm: Cannot open '/dev/rmt/variable': Device busy
automount[number]: variable: Not a directory
/home/variable: No such file or directory
inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory
Is a directory
/net/variable: No such file or directory
No such file or directory
Not a directory

tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111
tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111

directories:
directory 17
directory 50
directory 56
directory 61
directory 73
directory 86
directory 88
directory 111
directory not empty 82

rmdir: variable:
le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled? 101
le0: No carrier – cable disconnected? 101
disconnected or hub link test disabled? 38
diskette in the drive 44
diskette not in the drive 44
does not decrypt secret key for variable

fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive 44
does not exist. 73
domain "variable" OK 129
domain "variable"; still trying 130
down 50
down 74
down in number minutes 115

THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN
error:
fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive
Unable to install/attach driver "variable" 118
core dumped
dump: Cannot open '/dev/rmt/variable': Device busy
EXCESSIVE BLKS I=number
DUP I=number
DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f REMOVE?
** Phase 1b – Rescan For More DUPS
451 timeout waiting for input
Soft error rate (number\%)
Soft error rate (retries = number)
Text is lost because the maximum Directory not empty
rmdir: variable: Directory not empty
Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC 0xnumber
mailtool: Could not initialize the Classing Engine
Not enough space
No such user as variable – cron
Cannot allocate colormap
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: variable: can’t open file:
554 variable... Local configuration error
Bus
Exec format
host name configuration error
I/O
kernel read
le0: Memory
rx framing error
SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error
tar: directory checksum
operation failed [error 185], unknown group error
operation failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, variable
tar: tape write
operation failed [error 185], unknown group error
XIO: fatal IO
xterm: fatal IO
admintool: Received communication service error
Can’t invoke /etc/init, error
LL105W: Protocol error
error detected.
error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed
error from network: Connection reset by peer
ERROR: invalid mode
InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb
ERROR: missing file arg (cm3)
answerbook: XVView
NFS write error
Soft error rate (number\%) during writing was too high
** Permutated Index**

Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too high 107
ERROR [SCCS/s. variable]: 'SCCS/p. variable'
nonexistent (ut4) 41
ERROR [SCCS/s. variable]: writable 'variable' exists (ge4) 41
error: symbol not found: variable 63
esp0: data transfer overrun 41
/etc/init, error number 26
/etc/nnntab for writing 106
Event not found exceeded 42
exceeded. 113
exceeded 122
exception 35
EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS I=number CONTINUE? 42
EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS I=number CONTINUE? 42
Exec format error 43
inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory 56
File does not exist. 73
exists 44
A command window has exited because its child exited. 13
A command window has exited because its child exited. 13
Exit[ing] 30
(implicit kill or server shutdown). 126
external device is turned off. 114
failed 40
failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, variable 92
failed for variable on /dev/pts/number 109
failed for server variable 76
failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 75
failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 79
SCSI transport failed: reason ‘reset’ 103
failed: variable, file variable, line number 16
NIS+ authentication failure 80
XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0” 127
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient
on X server "variable:0.0” 128
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: symbol not found: variable 63
ld.so.1: variable: can’t open file: errno=2 64
fault 35
Segmentation Fault 104
fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive 44
Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail
File. 70
ERROR: missing file arg (cm3) 40
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: variable: can’t open file: errno=2 64
File exists 44
Stale NFS file handle 107
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. 115
LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t COUNT... ADJUST? 66
BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 18
UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 119
File locking deadlock 45
File name too long 45
Bad file number 19
/home/variable: No such file or directory 50
inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory 56
/net/variable: No such file or directory 73
No such file or directory 86
tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111
assertion failed: variable, file variable, line number 16
/dev/rdsk/variable: CAN'T CHECK FILE SYSTEM. 37
FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX? 46
WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded 122
TIME OUT 7
syncing file systems... 110
THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX? 46
DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f REMOVE? 39
filemgr: mknod: Permission denied 45
inetd: Too many open files 57
Too many open files 117
WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck 123
FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
XView warning: Cannot load font set ‘variable’ (Font Package) 129
XView warning: Cannot load font set ‘variable’ (Font Package) 129
Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet 116
for defined data type 120
for device 55
for domain "variable" OK 129
for domain "variable"; still trying 130

Permuted Index
lockd[number]: create_client: no name
  451 timeout waiting
  ** Phase 1b – Rescan
  Cannot allocate colormap entry
    su: ‘su root’ failed
    su: ‘su root’ succeeded
  NFS read failed
  NFS getattr failed
  NFS write failed
  Protocol wrong type
  Password does not decrypt secret key
  setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mtab
  Connection closed by
    Exec
    Command not found
    Event not found
    xinit: not found
  ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: symbol not found: variable
  mail: Your mailfile was not found (Content-length mismatch).
  rx
  kmem_free block already
  mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch).
  nfs_server: bad getargs for number/number
  NFS getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out
  giving up
  mount: giving up on: /number
  Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type

for inet address 0xnumber 67
for input during variable 11
for "variable" 25
for variable on /dev/pts/number 109
for variable on /dev/pts/number 110
for server variable 76
for server variable: RPC: Timed out 75
for server variable: RPC: Timed out 79
for socket 97
for unix.uid@variable 96
for writing 106
foreign host. 29
format error 43
free 62
FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK
SALVAGE? 48
Reset tty pgrp
Read error
Broadcast Message
ROOT LOGIN /dev/pts/number
sendmail[number]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading
WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck 123
fsck: Can’t open /dev/dsk/variable
fsck: Can’t stat /dev/dsk/variable
/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY;
RUN fsck MANUALLY. 37
WARNING: /tmp: File system gained number days – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 121
(error 4)
ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: writable ‘variable’ exists
nfs_server: bad
NFS
getreqs for number/number 77
getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out

full, swap space limit exceeded 122
gained number days – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 121
(error 4)
giving up on: /variable 72
Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type
group error 0, variable 92
group.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable

operation failed [error 185], unknown

** Phase 5 – Check Cyl
THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
Permuted Index

Stale NFS file handle
S stere
lp
sendmail[number]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader.
Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded.
A command window error: DPS can’t synchronize with
Soft error rate (number%) during writing was too soft.
Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too soft.
No directory! Logging in with share_nfs:
Connection closed by foreign host.
Connection closed by foreign host.
Home network.
Home network.
A command window has exited because its child exited.
Error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed.
Can’t synchronize with Hayes.
Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too high.
Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too high.
Home=/
/home: Operation not applicable.
/home/variable: No such file or directory.
To host.
Host is down.
Host: No such file or directory.
NFS write error on host.
550 variable...
le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled?
The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off.
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using?
PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE
EXCESSIVE BAD BLKS
EXCESSIVE DUP BLKS
INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT
LINK COUNT FILE
BAD/DUP FILE
UNREF FILE
DUP/BAD
LINK COUNT FILE
BAD/DUP FILE
UNREF FILE
DUP/BAD
The system will be shut down in
umount: warning: /variable not
SCSI bus DATA
no such map

Permutated Index
FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG
FILE SYSTEM STATE
fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette
No directory! Logging

THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY:
/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED Login

INCONSISTENCY: 113
INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsck MANUALLY. 37
incorrect 67
INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number (should be number) ↵ CORRECT? 55

lockd[number]: create_client: no name for
inetd: Too many open files 57
inetd[number]: exec /usr/sbin/in.uucpd:
   No such file or directory 56
inetd[number]: variable/tcp: unknown service 56
inetd[number]: variable/udp: unknown service 57
INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx 57

mailtool: Could not initialize the Classing Engine 69
Could not initialize tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP 33
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND RESET THE DATE! 123
initialized or server connection failed 40
InitOutput: Error loading module for /dev/fb 58

PARTIALLY ALLOCATED NOTICE: /variable: out of
451 timeout waiting for automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to
WARNING: No network locking on variable:
contact admin to install server change 16
Unable to contact admin to install server change 121
Illegal Instruction 53
Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC 0xnumber 54
interrupt not serviced 122
Interrupted system call 59
Invalid argument 59

chown: ERROR: invalid mode 28
Can't invoke /etc/init, error number 26
I/O error 60

XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0" 127
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "variable:0.0" 128
Inappropriate ioctl for device 55

Boot device: /iommu/sbus/variable/variable/sd@3,0 23
 Is a directory 61
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Error Message</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable is busy, or...</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN NOW !!!</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: /dev/dsk/variable is busy</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount is busy or...</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail Tool</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host down</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network down</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device was turned off.</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFS umount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable is busy, or...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type.</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device was turned off.</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A command window has exited because its child exited.</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE0: Ethernet                    jammed</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>console login: ^J^M^K^P^K^P</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kernel read error</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Password does not decrypt secret</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X connection to variable:0.0 broken</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>explicit error       Error 32 (Broken Pipe)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xterm: fatal IO error</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled?</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem?</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File too</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result too</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value too</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>large</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>large for defined data type</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last message repeated number times</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: symbol not found: variable</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ld.so.1: variable: fatal: variable: can’t open file: errno=2</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le0: Memory error!</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled?</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem?</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>memory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFS write error on host variable: No space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mailtool: Can’t create dead</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARNING: processor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Image Tool: Unable to open XIL Library.</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assertion failed: variable, file variable, Cross-device</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARNING: processor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assertion failed: variable, file variable, Cross-device</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARNING: processor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LINK COUNT FILE**

- **I=i** OWNER=o MODE=m
- **SIZE=s** MTIME=t COUNT... 66

le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled? 65
Too many links 116
Arg list too long 14
LL105W: Protocol error detected. 66
In: cannot create /dev/fb: Read-only file system 67
load font set ‘variable’ (Font Package) 129
loading module for /dev/fb 58
Local configuration error 12
lockd[number]: create_client: no name for inet address 0x[number] 67

File locking deadlock 45
automount[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change 16
WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change 121
No record locks available 83

Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113
Logging in with home=/ 82
ROOT LOGIN /dev/console 102
ROOT LOGIN /dev/pts[number] FROM variable 102
Login incorrect 67
console login: ^J^M^Q^K^K^P 31
login shell 90
Use “logout” to log out. 119
Use “logout” to logout. 119
Arg list too long 14
Arguments too long 16
File name too long 45

/usr/openwin/bin/xinit: connection to X server lost 120
Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113
lp hang 68
cpio: Bad magic number/header. 34
Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File. 70
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. 115
mailreader: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted
(Content-length mismatch). 70
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
mailfile was found to be corrupted
(Content-length mismatch). 70
mailtool: Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied 69
mailtool: Could not initialize the Classing Engine 69

/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY; RUN fsk MANUALLY. 37

cd: Too many arguments 27
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Error Message</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Too many links</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inetd: Too many open files</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too many open files</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no such map in server’s domain</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded.</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No default media available</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>out of memory</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory address alignment</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>le0: Memory error!</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>memory leaks</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t create public message device (Device busy)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server [date]</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No message of desired type</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last message repeated number times</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The system will be shut down in number minutes</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mail: Your mailfile was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch).</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERROR: missing file arg (cm3)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chmod: ERROR: invalid</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>umount: warning: /variable not in chmod: ERROR: invalid</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t COUNT... ADJUST?</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f REMOVE?</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>***** FILE SYSTEM WAS</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>InitOutput: Error loading bad</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>** Phase 1b – Rescan For</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More DUPS</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted, /variable is busy, or...</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: giving up on: /variable</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nfs mount:</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: mount: variable: Device busy</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: mount-point /variable does not exist.</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nfs mount: variable</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: /variable mounted OK</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: the state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mounted OK</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: /variable is busy, or...</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount-point /variable does not exist.</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFS mount: /variable</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mount: mount-point /variable does not exist.</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t ADJUST?</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t FILE=f REMOVE?</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recipient names</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>must be specified</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
host name configuration error
File name too long
Recipient names must be specified
net hang reading from variable
/ net /variable: No such file or directory
network: Connection reset by peer
Network is down
Network is unreachable
automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change
WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change
Could not start new viewer
Stale NFS file handle
NFS getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out
nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port
nfs mount: mount: variable: Device busy
NFS mount: / variable mounted OK
NFS read failed for server variable
NFS server variable not responding still trying
NFS server variable ok
nfs umount: variable: is busy
NFS write error on host variable: No space left on device.
NFS write failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out
nfs_server: bad getargs for number / number
NIS+ authentication failure
ypbind[ number]: NIS server for domain “variable” OK
ypbind[ number]: NIS server not responding for domain “variable”; still trying
group.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable
hosts.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable
passwd.org_dir: NIS+ servers unreachable
No buffer space available
ie0: no carrier
le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled?
le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem?
No child processes
No default media available
No directory! Logging in with home=/
fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive
lockd[ number]: create_client: no name for inet address 0xnumber
automountd[ number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change
WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change
No recipients specified 83
No record locks available 83
No route to host 84

su: No shell 109
No shell -J Connection closed 84
No space left on device 85

NFS write error on host variable:
No space left on device. 79
No such device 85
No such device or address 86
No such file or directory 86

NFS write error on host variable:
No such file or directory 50

/home/variable:
No such file or directory 56

/net/variable:
No such file or directory 73

No such file or directory 111

No such map in server's domain 87
No such process 87
No such user as variable – cron entries not created 88

ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: ‘SCCS/p.variable’
nonexistent (ut4) 41

sendmail[number]:
NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading from variable 105
Not a directory 88

automount[number]:
Not a directory 17
Operation not applicable 93
Share_nfs: /home: Operation not applicable 106
Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server 127

No such user as variable – cron entries not created 127
Password does not decrypt secret key for unix.uid@variable 96
Directory not empty 38
Directory not empty 101

mount: mount-point /variable does not exist. 73
Command not found 28
Event not found 42

xinit: not found 127

ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: symbol
umount: warning: /variable
mailtool: Could not initialize the Clasping Engine 69
Could not initialize tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP 33
WARNING: TOD clock error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed 40
Not login shell 90

mount: the state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay 73
Not on system console 91
Not owner 91

automountd[number]: server variable not responding 17
ypbind[number]: NIS server not responding for domain "variable"; still trying 130
NFS server variable not responding still trying 77
not serviced 122
not start new viewer 33
Not supported 91
not supported 97
Protocol not supported on socket 108
NOTICE: /variable: out of inodes 90
NOW !!! 114
null command 60
answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set 14
number 19
Bad file number out of range 27
epio: Bad magic number/header. 34
of desired type 83
mount: the state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay 73
of domain 15
Argument out NOTICe: /variable: out of inodes 90
out of memory 93
Channel number out of range of unknown type 49
of your Mail File. 70
off. 114
ok 92
NFS mount: /variable mounted OK 76
NFS server variable ok 78
ypbind[number]: NIS server for domain "variable" OK 129
good 73
mount: the state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay on device. 79
No space left on device 85
su: 'su root' failed for variable on /dev/pts/number 109
su: 'su root' succeeded for variable on /dev/pts/number 110
NFS write error on host variable: No space left on host variable: No space left on device. 79
mount: giving up on: /variable 108
on variable: contact admin to install server change 16
automountd[number]: No network locking on variable: contact admin to install server change 121
Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server [date] 23
on variable: contact admin to install server change 121
on socket 108
Not on system console 91
XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0" 127
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "variable:0.0" 128
fck: Can't open /dev/dsk/variable 48
dumptm: Cannot open '/dev/rmt/variable': Device busy 39
setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing 106
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: variable: can't open file: errno=2 64
inetc: Too many open files 57
too many open files 117
Image Tool: Unable to open XIL Library. 55
operation failed [error 185], unknown group error 0, variable 92

share_nfs: /home: Operation not applicable 93

mount: /dev/dsk/variable is already mounted,
/virtual is busy,
No such device or address 86

/home/variable: No such file or directory 50

inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory 56
/net/variable: No such file or directory 73

No such file or directory 86
tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111

le0: No carrier – cable disconnected or hub link test disabled? 111

xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) 44

fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in the drive 44

error: DPS has not initialized or server connection failed 40

X connection to variable:0.0 broken (explicit kill or server shutdown). 126

INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp Connection timed out 30

out 75
NFS getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 79
NFS write failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 79

Argument out of domain 15
NOTICE: /variable: out of inodes 90
out of memory 93

Channel number out of range 27
File table overflow 47
zsnumber: silo overflow 131
esp0: data transfer overrun 41
Not owner 91

LINK COUNT FILE I=i
OWNER=0 MODE=0 SIZE=0 MTIME=0
COUNT... ADJUST? 66
BAD/DUP FILE I=i
OWNER=0 MODE=0 SIZE=0 MTIME=0 CLEAR? 18
UNREF FILE I=i
OWNER=0 MODE=0 SIZE=0 MTIME=0 CLEAR? 119
DUP/BAD I=i
OWNER=0 MODE=0 SIZE=0 MTIME=0 FILE=f CLEAR? 39

REMOVE? 39

XView warning: Cannot load font set ‘variable’ (Font Package) 129

Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet 116

Panic 94

Parity error 103

PARTIALLY ALLOCATED INODE I=number CLEAR? 95

Passed to xv_set 14

Password does not decrypt secret key for unix.uid@variable 96

Pathnames 96
Illegal instruction "0xnumber" was encountered at PC 0xnumber
Read error from network: Connection reset by peer 0xnumber
The SCSI bus is hung.
filemgr: mknod: Permission denied
mailtool: Can’t create dead letter: Permission denied
Reset tty from number to number
** Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes
** Phase 1b – Rescan For More DUPS
** Phase 2 – Check Pathnames
** Phase 3 – Check Connectivity
** Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts
** Phase 5 – Check Cyl groups
SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error
Broken pipe on X server "variable:0.0"
XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server "variable:0.0"
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on X server "variable:0.0"
Please specify a recipient.
answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set
answerbook: Can’t create public message device (Device busy)
Broadcast Message from root
nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to reserved port
le0: No carrier – transceiver cable problem?
No such file or directory
No child processes
WARNING: processor level 4 interrupt not serviced
Protocol error detected.
Protocol not supported
Protocol wrong type for socket
Broadcast Message from root
Can’t create public message device (Device busy)
Disc quota exceeded
Channel number out of range
Soft error rate (number%) during writing was too high
Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing was too high
read error
Read error from network: Connection reset by peer
read failed for server variable
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using?
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader.
sendmail[number]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang
In: cannot create /dev/fb: nl: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang
SCSI transport failed: reason ‘reset’
Watchdog Reset, rebooting...
Received communication service error 4
Please specify a recipient.
Recipient names must be specified
No recipients specified
No record locks available
** Phase 4 – Check Reference Counts
Reference Counts refused
Xlib: connection to "variable:0.0"
Id.so.1: variable: fatal:
DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=m MODE=m SIZE=s
MTIME=t FILE=f
WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck
REMOVED? 39
removal error: symbol not found: variable 63
DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=m MODE=m SIZE=s
WARNING: Unable to
last message
Block device
** Phase 1b – Rescan For More DUPS
nfs mount: Couldn’t bind to
reserved port 75
SCSI transport failed: reason ‘reset’ 103
Watchdog
Reset 124
Read error from network: Connection refused
Watchdog
WARNING: Clock gained number days – CHECK AND
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND
automountd[number]: server variable not responding 17
ypbind[number]: NIS server not responding for domain "variable"; still trying 130
NFS server variable not responding still trying 77
Result too large 101
Soft error rate too high (retries = number) during writing was too high 107
rmdir: variable: Directory not empty 101
su: ‘su’ root’ failed for variable on /dev/pts/number 109
ROOT LOGIN /dev/console 102
ROOT LOGIN /dev/pts/number FROM variable 102
Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server [date] 23
su: ‘su’ root’ succeeded for variable on /dev/pts/number 110
No route to host 84
NFS getattrib failed for server variable:
RPC: Timed out 75
NFS write failed for server variable:
RPC: Timed out 79
WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem.
Run fsck 123
/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY;
RUN fsck MANUALLY. 37
rx framing error 102
FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN SUPERBLK
ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: ‘SCCS/p.variable’ nonexistent (ut4) 41
ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: ‘SCCS/p.variable’ nonexistent (ut4) 41
ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]: writable ‘variable’ exists (ge4) 41
SCSI bus DATA IN phase parity error 103
The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off. 114
SCSI transport failed: reason ‘reset’ 103
Password does not decrypt secret key for `unix.uid@variable`

Illegal seek

Segmentation Fault

Server `sendmail[number]`: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading from `variable`

automountd[number]: No network locking on `variable`

Server change

Broadcast Message from root (pts/number) on server [date]

ypbind[number]: NIS server for domain `variable`

server lost

server not responding for domain `variable`; still trying

server variable

NFS read failed for `variable`

server variable not responding

server variable not responding still trying

server variable ok

server variable: RPC: Timed out

server “variable:0.0”

server “variable:0.0”

server shutdown)

server’s domain

servers unreachable

servers unreachable

servers unreachable

service

service error 4

service starting.

serviced

set ‘variable’ (Font Package)

setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing

share_rfs: /home: Operation not applicable

shut down in number minutes

SHUT DOWN NOW !!!

shutdown)

siro overflow

INCORRECT BLOCK COUNT I=number

The system will be THE SYSTEM IS BEING

X connection to `variable:0.0` broken (explicit kill or server `znumber`)

Deadlock

situation detected/avoided
Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113

Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes

** Phase 1 – Check Blocks and Sizes 

LINK COUNT FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t COUNT... ADJUST? 66

BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 18

UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 119

DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m FILE=f REMOVE? 39

Protocol wrong type for socket 97

BAD/DUP FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?

UNREF FILE I=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR?

DUP/BAD I=i OWNER=o MODE=m FILE=f REMOVE?

stty: TCGETS: Operation not supported on socket 108

Not enough space 88

No buffer space available 80

NFS write error on host variable: No space left on device. 79

No space left on device 85

WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded 122

No recipients specified 83

Files limit exceeded 99

Recipient names must be specified 99

Please specify a recipient. 97

Could not start new viewer 33

stty: TCGETS: Operation not supported on socket 108

FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX? 46

STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX? 46

state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay 73

state of your Mail File. 70

still trying 77

FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS WRONG; FIX?

Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File.

NFS server variable not responding for domain "variable";

No such device 85

No such device or address 86

/home/variable: No such file or directory 50

/inetd[number]: execv /usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory 56

/net/variable: No such file or directory 73

No such file or directory 86

tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111

no such map in server's domain 87
No such process 87
No such user as variable – cron entries not created 88
SUPER BLOCK: variable 20
FREE BLK COUNT(S) WRONG IN FILE SYSTEM STATE IN
Not supported 91
Protocol not supported 97
stty: TCGETS: Operation not supported on socket 108
WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded 122
ld.so.1: variable: fatal: relocation error: can’t synchronize with Hayes 27
syncing file systems... 110
sendmail[number]: NOQUEUE: SYSERR: net hang reading from variable 105
syslog service starting. 111
/dev/rdsk/variable: CAN’T CHECK FILE SYSTEM. 37
ln: cannot create /dev/fb: Read-only file system 67
Read-only file system 98
Interrupted system call 59
Not on system console 91
WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded 122
THE FILE SYSTEM WAS MODIFIED 7
The system will be shut down in number minutes 115
syncing file systems... 110
THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
File system table overflow 47
talk to statd at variable 108
tar: tape write error 112
tar: /dev/rmt/0: No such file or directory 111
tar: directory checksum error 112
tar: tape write error 112
stty: TCGETS: Operation not supported on socket 108
temporary unavailable 100
test disabled? 100
Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113
WARNING: Unable to repair mailtool: Could not initialize
WARNING: Clock gained number days – CHECK AND RESET
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND RESET
fd0: unformatted diskette or no diskette in
the / filesystem. Run fscck 123
the Classing Engine 69
THE DATE! 69
THE DATE! 69
the drive 44
THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
Text is lost because the maximum edit log size has been exceeded. 113
The SCSI bus is hung. Perhaps an external device is turned off. 114
Mount: the state of /dev/dsk/variable is not okay 73
Mail Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File. 70
THE SYSTEM IS BEING SHUT DOWN NOW !!! 114
The system will be shut down in number minutes 115
This mail file has been changed by another mail reader. 115

Connection timed out 30
NFS getattr failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 75
NFS write failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 79
Timeout waiting for ARP/RARP packet 116
timeout waiting for input during variable 11
times 63
WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit exceeded 122
to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch). 70
to connect to Server 127
to number 100
to host 84
automountd[variable]: No network locking on variable: contact admin
WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact admin
Unable to install server change 16
to install server change 121
to install/attach driver 'variable' 118
Use "logout" to logout. 119
to open XIL Library. 55
to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck 123
to reserved port 75
to "variable:0.0" broken (explicit kill or server shutdown). 126
to "variable:0.0" refused by server 128
to variable 108
to X server lost 120
to xv_set 14
answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND RESET
THE DATE! 123

/bin/sh: variable: too big 22
too high 106
too high 107
File too large 47
Result too large 101
Value too large for defined data type 120
Arg list too long 14
Arguments too long 16
File name too long 45
cd: Too many arguments 27
Too many links 116

Permutated Index
Too many open files 117
inetd: Too many open files 57
Tool is confused about the state of your Mail File. 70
Mail Tool: Unable to open XIL Library. 55
tooltalk (tt_open): TT_ERR_NOMP 33
transceiver cable problem? 33
transfer overrun 41
transport failed: reason 'reset' 103
TRAP 21
BAD
bad
trap = number 22
trying 77

NFS server variable not responding still trying 130
ypbind[number]: NIS server not responding for domain "variable"; still trying 100
turned off. 114
type 49
type 83
type 120
type for socket 97
nfs
umount: variable is busy 78
umount: warning: /variable not in mnttab 117
Unable to install/attach driver 'variable' 118
Unable to open XIL Library. 55
Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck 123
undefined control 118

Window
Resource temporarily unavailable 100
Underflow 125

THE FOLLOWING FILE SYSTEM(S) HAD AN UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY:
/dev/rdsk/variable: UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY: 113
UNEXPECTED INCONSISTENCY;
RUN fsck MANUALLY. 37

Password does not decrypt secret key for unix.uid@variable 96
unknown 11
unknown 12
unknown group error 0, variable 92
unknown service 56
unknown service 57
unknown type 49
Unmatched ‘ 118

inetd[number]: variable/tcp: 185
inetd[number]: variable/udp: 185
Graphics Adapter device /dev/fb is of unknown type
Bad:

Network is unreachable 95
UNREF FILE i=i OWNER=o MODE=m SIZE=s MTIME=t CLEAR? 119
giving up 49
mount: giving up on: /variable 72
Use "logout" to logout. 119
No such user as variable – cron entries not created 88
User unknown 12
I can't read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
/usr/openwin/bin/xinit: connection to X server lost 120
/usr/sbin/in.uucpd: No such file or directory 56
(ut4) 41
Value too large for defined data type 120
 INIT: Cannot create /var/adm/utmp or /var/adm/utmpx 57
/var/adm/utmpx 57
Could not start new viewer 33
waiting for ARP/RARP packet 116
waiting for input during variable 11
451 timeout warning: Cannot load font set 'variable' (Font Package) 129
WARNING: Clock gained number days – CHECK
AND RESET 121 THE DATE! 121
WARNING: No network locking on variable: contact
admin to install server 121
WARNING: processor level 4 interrupt not serviced 122
umount: warning: /variable not in mnttab 117
WARNING: /tmp: File system full, swap space limit
exceeded 122
WARNING: TOD clock not initialized – CHECK AND
RESET 123 THE DATE! 123
WARNING: Unable to repair the / filesystem. Run fsck 123
was encountered at PC 0xnumber 54
was found to be corrupted (Content-length mismatch). 70
was MODIFIED ***** 7
Illegal instruction "0xnumber" mail: Your mailfile
***** FILE SYSTEM
Soft error rate (number%) during writing
was too high 106
Soft error rate (retries = number) during writing
was too high 107
Watchdog Reset 124
Watchdog Reset, Rebooting. 124
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
Who are you? 125
The system
The system will be shut down in number minutes 115
A command
A command window has exited because its child exited. 13
Window Underflow 125
can’t synchronize
with hayes 27
No directory! Logging in
with home=/ 82
ypwhich: can’t communicate
with ypbind 130
ERROR [SCCS/s.variable]:
tar: tape
write error 112
***** FILE SYSTEM
NFS write error on host variable: No space left on device. 79
write failed for server variable: RPC: Timed out 79
NFS
write 106
writing was too high 106
writing was too high 107
Soft error rate (number%) during
FILE SYSTEM STATE IN SUPERBLOCK IS
FREE BLK COUNT(S)
 Protocol
setmnt: Cannot open /etc/mnttab for writing 106
Soft error rate (retries = number) during
Wrong type for socket 97
WRONG; FIX? 46
WRONG IN SUPERBLK ☛ SALVAGE? 48
wrong type for socket 97
X connection to variable:0.0 broken (explicit
kill or server shutdown). 126
/usr/openwin/bin/xinit: connection to
XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on
Image Tool: Unable to open

X server lost 120
X server "variable:0.0" 127
X server "variable:0.0" 128
XIL Library. 55
xinit: not found 127
XIO: fatal IO error 32 (Broken pipe) on X server
"variable:0.0" 127
Xlib: Client is not authorized to connect to Server 127
Xlib: connection to "variable:0.0" refused by server 128
xterm: fatal IO error 32 (Broken Pipe) or KillClient on
X server 128

answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set 14
XView warning: Cannot load font set 'variable'
(Font Package) 129

Who are you? 125
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are
you using? 52
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
Mail Tool is confused about the state of
your Mail File. 70
Your mailfile was found to be corrupted
(Content-length mismatch). 70

Who are you? 125
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are
you using? 52
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
Mail Tool is confused about the state of
your Mail File. 70
Your mailfile was found to be corrupted
(Content-length mismatch). 70

answerbook: XView error: NULL pointer passed to xv_set 14
XView warning: Cannot load font set 'variable'
(Font Package) 129

Who are you? 125
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are
you using? 52
I can’t read your attachments. What mailer are you using? 52
Mail Tool is confused about the state of
your Mail File. 70
Your mailfile was found to be corrupted
(Content-length mismatch). 70

ypwhich: can’t communicate with
ypbind [number]: NIS server for domain "variable" OK 129
ypbind [number]: NIS server not responding for
domain "variable"; still trying 130
ypwhich: can’t communicate with ypbind 130
zsnumber: silo overflow 131