

## Re: Problem with hdparam

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*Source:* [http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C\\_CPP/comp.lang.c/2008-04/msg02003.html](http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C_CPP/comp.lang.c/2008-04/msg02003.html)

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- *From:* "Default User" <[defaultuserbr@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:defaultuserbr@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 12 Apr 2008 23:46:22 GMT
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Richard Heathfield wrote:

Default User said:

Hardly my fault. I'm doing what I can. The point is, there's a way that Mr. Harter, or you, or anyone other regular doesn't need to read these bothersome messages.

<sigh> Yes, that's true – there is.

Nice of you to acknowledge it, at least.

Yet instead I get a rude and insulting reply from him. A pointless one.

I've answered this already.

I continue to disagree that it was not insulting.

That sentence no verb.

That's pretty weak, going after an obvious typo.

So much for levity.

I guess I'm not in a particularly jolly mood. It did spur me to proofread a bit better.

Re: Problem with hdparam

I think "bandwidth wasting public nuisance" was way beyond non-tactful. He could have opened the discussion with, "Do you really think these are a productive use of your time or the group?" Then we could have had a discussion like real people. Instead, he was an ass about it.

You'll have a much better chance at gaining the moral high ground if you stop calling people "asses". If you perceive that other people's behaviour is unacceptable, is that a reason to indulge in the same behaviour? (And no, I make no claims to perfection in this regard!)

Perhaps. Perhaps he was standing in for someone else that I actually irritated with. I will retract that. I still feel that his behavior was rude, insulting, and unwarranted under the circumstances. Had he behaved in what I feel to be a more appropriate manner, I would have been happy to discuss the matter with him, as I have in the past.

I also think you owe me an apology for implying that I would killfile you or anyone else merely for disagreeing with me on this matter. I won't hold my breath on that.

I don't completely agree with his position on net-copping

Yes, it's that favorite position, "It's ok when I netcop, but not when you do."

That's not what I meant. Whilst it does make sense to remind people about posting in the way most convenient for those from whom they seek help (and thus far I lean more towards your position than his), it does get a bit tedious when that's all you ever seem to do.

If you'd use the mechanism that I put in place, it wouldn't BE tedious. This is a specious argument. Not only that, my number of these posts is actually quite small.

Further, it's not my goal to please the Great Richard Heathfield with entertaining posts. It's to put forth what I feel to be the best contribution I can make at any particular time. If that means providing an answer no one else has, then I'll do it. If it means providing a short, polite, and informative message about top-posting, then that is what I will do.

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The point is, you still seem to think that he was at least partially justified in netcopping me, about netcopping. If you don't think he was, then why defend him?

, but he does have a point, and he was expressing that point.

Really, what point is that?

Read it again if you've forgotten.

The only thing I got from him is that he thinks I'm a waste of bandwidth and a nuisance. So, you think he has a point?

I think he was uncharitable to say that you are a bandwidth-wasting public nuisance. But had he said (what I suspect he actually meant) that a large proportion of your articles are a bandwidth-wasting public nuisance, I'd have agreed.

I don't accept the premise.

<sigh> Yes, I know that. I've snipped your defence of that position not because I'm trying to conceal or ignore it, but because I'm not trying to persuade you or defeat your arguments. I'm only trying to argue that plonking Richard Harter was a mistake on your part.

Has he apologized for his rude remark? That's the only thing that can make me change my mind.

Clueful people are not all that plentiful around here, after all.

I think it unlikely he has unique knowledge. Regardless, I don't excuse rude behavior merely because the person might be useful to me in the future.

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As far as these specific messages, I probably average about one a week.

Would you like me to count them for you?

If you'd like. According to Google (not the most reliable source) I see about six from the start of March. If your numbers differ, then I'll accept that they are probably more correct. I don't doubt there are some periods where I've posted more.

Now, the bit about percentages. What IS the proper Richard Heathfield approved level of other posts before I can post a TPA?

Don't you think that's needlessly confrontational? I simply suggested that you give some thought to this. If you want a fight, go fight someone else.

Why is it your place to say anything about it at all? You seem to have some number in mind. At least Mr. Harter seems to believe that they shouldn't be posted at all. That is a position I can respect and discuss. This nonsense of, "well, that's about all you post" is so vague as to be meaningless. Hence I challenge you to come with a number that would satisfy you.

<snip>

Now, let's go back to what really chaps me. YOU are one of the biggest wasters of bandwidth here. Let's talk percentages. What percentage of your posts are pointless arguments with Jacob Navia? And what do those translate into for total bytes posted each day?

Let's find out, shall we? I'll try to summarise my last hundred posts by dividing them into three groups: "waste of bandwidth" stuff (such as this discussion, and also including techie stuff if it is not specifically C-related), techie stuff (ONLY C-related), and replies of any kind at all to Jacob Navia. I don't have ready access to the byte sizes of articles, but I do have access to line counts, so I'll use those instead.

I chose 100 because it was large enough to be a decent sample without being so large as to be troublesome to collate. Working back from today (not including this article, obviously), it takes us back about six days, to 6 April.

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Posts	Lines	Lines/Post	% of all lines
Non-C articles	21 556	26.5–	11.77+
Technical responses	74 3903	52.7+	82.69+
Jacob Navia	5 261	52.2	5.53–

82% (or even 74%, depending on how you look at it) doesn't seem so bad to me.

So – you asked me to come up with the figures, and I've obliged. Now it's your turn.

Sample error, I'd say, considering there's only five responses to Navia. If you picked a sample range with one those argumentative threads, the numbers would look a lot different. Now, if you've been making an effort of late to avoid answering him (rather than Jacob just not posting much) then I commend your efforts.

The point is, you've got your thing you like to "waste" bandwidth on. I have mine. The difference is, my messages are short and relatively infrequent. The fact that they might be a fairly high percentage of my admittedly low output is irrelevant.

We've probably entertained the trolls enough by now (who does Twink root for, he doesn't like either of us?). If you have further thoughts, I'll read them with interest. Otherwise, I feel I've said all I have to say.

Brian

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