

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

## Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

---

*Source:* <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/AIX-L/2007-02/msg00023.html>

---

- *From:* "Davignon, Edward" <[Edward.Davignon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Edward.Davignon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 4 Feb 2007 18:21:59 -0500
- 

Karl,

On second observation, it looks like some of the times are reported in UTC (or "GMT" time) and some are reported in CST. Your TZ variable would be set to CST6CDT. The 6 is the number of hours that CST time is offset from UTC time. This is why in one place it is reported at 21:32 and the other place it is reported as 15:32 CST. Try typing the command:

TZ= date

Or

TZ=UTC date

BTW, many system log files are logged in UTC time. Also, watch out for this when reading logs generated by syslog. Syslog does NOT convert the time to a standard time zone such as UTC or the value of TZ in the syslogd process, so client programs are free to report in whatever time zone they desire. This is why syslog logs are in first-in-first-out order, but the time stamps frequently switch between local time and UTC time.

Sorry about my first answer, I should have read your question a little more carefully.

Edward Davignon  
Lead Analyst – Distributed Systems  
Utility Shared Services – IT  
Energy East Corporation

-----Original Message-----

From: IBM AIX Discussion List [<mailto:aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>] On Behalf Of Karl  
Sent: Sunday, February 04, 2007 12:21 AM  
To: [aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
Subject: Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

No we do not use NTP. Just to stress, I am not concerned about the time being off on our system. It seems accurate to me. Further, we have made no significant changes to

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

our system in months.

What is puzzling to me is how I can have a record of myself signing in from a machine whose time I am also confident of and have a time discrepancy of multiple hours when both are in the same time zone and set as such.

=====

Karl,  
Are you running Network Time Protocol (NTP)? Did you have a misconfigured NTP server in your NTP configuration?

Without Network Time Protocol (or another clock discipline method), most clocks will use the AC cycle (60 HZ in the USA) as their reference frequency and will drift wildly depending on the quality of the power. Power conditioning will help, but NTP should keep the clocks in sync with each other. There are NTP hardware devices (appliances) that receive radio signals that are broadcast by governments that keep your clocks in sync with a national standard clock.

Also, if you lose power and switch to a local generator, the quality of the power from a local generator tends to vary frequency by the load of the generator, this will drive the clocks crazy too. I found this out when I ran my alarm clock off a generator that was running at 62 HZ. By morning, my alarm clock was significantly ahead of my battery-powered clocks!

Edward Davignon  
Lead Analyst – Distributed Systems  
Utility Shared Services – IT  
Energy East Corporation

-----Original Message-----

From: IBM AIX Discussion List [<mailto:aix-l@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>]

On Behalf Of

Karl Jones

Sent: Friday, February 02, 2007 10:03 AM

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

To: aix-1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
Subject: Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

I have not been experimenting with TZ. Further, in one instance, the user is me from a machine which I know is set for the same time zone. Nevertheless it is the only lead I have so far so I will look into it.

Andrew.Townsend@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Let me guess, you're experimenting with the TZ ?

I am testing the chtz command and I have seen that same thing as well.

By the way, if you are looking at this website that shows you how to change the timzone information to reflect the upcoming changes in Daylight Savings

Time (only for those of use that aren't at the supported level):

<http://www-1.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?rs=0&uid=isg3T1000252>

The command on the website shows this command (For EST):

```
chtz TZ=EST5EDT,M3.2.0/2:00:00,M11.1.0/2:00:00
```

The command should be:

```
chtz EST5EDT,M3.2.0/2:00:00,M11.1.0/2:00:00
```

I called IBM and told them so hopefully it will be changed on the website soon.

Once the command is run, check the /etc/environment and look at the TZ=

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

line. If you use the command shown on the website you will see:

```
TZ=EST5EDT,M3.2.0/2:00:00,M11.1.0/2:00:00
```

what you want to see is:

```
TZ=EST5EDT,M3.2.0/2:00:00,M11.1.0/2:00:00
```

Drew

Karl Jones

<kjones@stpaulin

ocpt.com>

To

Sent by: IBM AIX aix-1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Discussion List

cc

<aix-1@Princeton.

EDU>

Subject

Time Puzzle

Re: Time Puzzle (and DST update about the web link)

02/01/2007 04:47

PM

Please respond to

[kjones@stpaulino](mailto:kjones@stpaulino)

[cpt.com](http://cpt.com)

I am puzzled by the date stamps here. How is this possible?

Last unsuccessful login: Thu Feb 1 20:58:34 2007 on ssh from 221.208.160.11

Last login: Thu Feb 1 21:32:06 2007 on ssh from karl-jones

[snip]

F50:/ # date

Thu Feb 1 15:32:40 CST 2007