

Irritation regarding precision of ping(8)...

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/net/2004-10/0311.html>

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Date: 10/31/04

To: freebsd-net@freebsd.org

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This has long bugged me and tonight I finally snapped and had to do something about it. Example output:

```
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=935 ttl=126 time=33.824 ms
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=936 ttl=126 time=29.138 ms
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=937 ttl=126 time=28.262 ms
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=938 ttl=126 time=29.67 ms
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=939 ttl=126 time=30.963 ms
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=940 ttl=126 time=30.283 ms
64 bytes from a.b.c.d: icmp_seq=941 ttl=126 time=29.455 ms
```

The source of irritation being line seq 930. The time should be 29.670 since we are accurately measuring the precision to the thousands place.

On a less scientific basis (and the actual reason this bothered me), not having the trailing zero disrupts the continuity of a stream of ping times. The attached patch simply fixes the various formatting statements introduced in version 1.2(!!!!) to use `%.30f` instead of `%.3f`. It's now possible to see '28.200' ms ping times instead of just '28.2 ms'.

Anyone mind if I commit the attached patch? I'm sure I'm not the only one who's wanted to commit the following. -sc

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Sean Chittenden

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<http://lists.freebsd.org/mailman/listinfo/freebsd-net>

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freebsd-net: Irritation regarding precision of ping(8)...

- text/plain attachment: [patch.txt](#)