

SIOCADDRT: File exists Error

I was getting this error on a MFEL, but it is applicable to any Linux server with multiple NICs.

The Problem

I'm typing the following command under Ubuntu Linux:

```
route add default gw 192.168.3.2 eth0
```

But it is giving me out the following error:

```
SIOCADDRT: File exists
```

How do I fix this problem?

The Solution

This error normally displayed when you try to modify or or add a new routing IP address. For example, when you set the same route multiple times you will get this error.

Understanding SIOCADDRT: File exists Message

1. SIOC: Serial Input Output Controller.
2. ADD: ADD (addition).
3. RT: RouTe (routing ip).
4. File exists - Routing is already configured so delete wrong one and add the new one.

Display Current Routing Table

Open a command-line terminal (select Applications > Accessories > Terminal), and then type the following command to see your current routing table:

```
netstat -r  
or  
ip route list
```

Delete Wrong Routing IP Address

Use the following syntax:

```
sudo ip route delete {IP/SUBNET} dev {INTERFACE}
```

To delete default route 192.168.1.0/24 via eth0, enter:

```
sudo ip route delete 192.168.1.0/24 dev eth0
```

Add Correct Routing IP

Type the following command:

```
sudo ip route add default via 192.168.3.2
OR
sudo route add default gw 192.168.3.2 eth0
```

Network Configuration File

Edit, `/etc/network/interfaces` file and setup the correct routing address:

```
auto eth0
iface eth0 inet static
address 192.168.3.10
network 192.168.3.0
netmask 255.255.255.0
broadcast 192.168.3.255
### set router default ip here ###
gateway 192.168.3.2
```

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