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Linux MTU Change Size

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We've gigabit networks, and large maximum transmission units (MTU) sizes (JumboFrames) can provide better network performance for our HPC environment. How do I change MTU size under Linux?

You need support in both network hardware and card in order to use JumboFrames. If you want to transfer large amounts of data at gigabit speeds, increasing the default MTU size can provide significant performance gains.



[1]

Changing the MTU size with ifconfig command

In order to change the MTU size, use /sbin/ifconfig command as follows:

```
ifconfig ${Interface} mtu ${SIZE} up
ifconfig eth1 mtu 9000 up
```

Note this will only work if supported by both the network interface card and the network components such as switch.

Changing the MTU size permanently under CentOS / RHEL / Fedora Linux

Edit /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0, enter

```
# vi /etc/sysconfig/network-scripts/ifcfg-eth0
```

Add MTU, settings:

```
MTU="9000"
```

Save and close the file. Restart networking:

```
# service network restart
```

Note for IPV6 set dedicated MTU as follows:

```
IPV6_MTU="1280"
```

Changing the MTU size permanently under Debian / Ubuntu Linux

Edit /etc/network/interfaces, enter:

```
# vi /etc/network/interfaces
```

Add mtu as follows for required interface:

```
mtu 9000
```

Save and close the file. Restart the networking, enter:

```
# /etc/init.d/networking restart
```

Changing the MTU size permanently (other Linux distros)

Edit /etc/rc.local and add the following line:

```
/sbin/ifconfig eth1 mtu 9000 up
```

Updated for accuracy!

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