
Subject: sys time is longer than real time

Posted by [justasp](#) on Fri, 27 Nov 2009 17:38:59 GMT

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Hello,

I was doing some benchmarking for different ways of handling text and output of time command got me thinking - how systime can be longer than realtime? Am I missing something?

```
root@php5:~# time ./test_grep.sh
```

```
real    0m0.502s
```

```
user    0m0.136s
```

```
sys     0m0.644s
```

Then I ran it once again to see maybe there were an error:

```
root@php5:~# time ./test_grep.sh
```

```
real    0m0.479s
```

```
user    0m0.134s
```

```
sys     0m0.674s
```

How this is possible? I am using:

```
root@php5:~# uname -a
```

```
Linux php5.dev 2.6.18-20-ovz-686-pae #1 SMP Mon Nov 9 23:06:15 UTC 2009 i686 GNU/Linux
```

PS: the files I ran can be found in:

<http://rntmns.com/2009/11/get-exact-line-from-stdout-file-and-a-small-benchmark/>
