

# AIX routing - How Do I Compare ODM with the Current Routing Table?

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I'm new to AIX, but not to UNIX in general. My Solaris and IRIX get rustier with each passing day. I've been using RHEL for the last several years, though.

**My task is to write a shell script** that compares the current routing table, from `netstat -rn`, with the ODM. There have been occasions where a new route was manually added, but not to the ODM. Weeks later the system is rebooted and the required route is missing. I want to periodically and automatically (think cron) run my script and report back to my group if there is a difference.

Is there an existing AIX tool to do this non-interactively, a *smitty* command perhaps? I'd love to use it. If not, how does AIX build the routing table at boot time? Can I examine that process to discover how it works?

Since the system has to read the ODM to build the routing table, I am considering using the output of **`lsattr -El inet0 -a route -F value`** or **`odmget -q "name=inet0" CuAt`** to build my own table and compare with the current routing table, **but I do not know how to properly parse the output from those two commands**. (Or even if those commands are general enough to find all the routes.) I found [chginet Method](#) which states the value of the route attribute is

```
route = type, [args,], destination, gateway, [metric]
```

I do not understand how this matches up with output such as this. (I've changed the IPs, but not the other values. Remember I just want to understand the layout of the data and how it builds a routing table, not to verify correctness.)

1. net,-hopcount,0,,0,10.20.225.1
2. net,,0,10.22.226.5

3. host,-hopcount,0,-,if,en1,,,,-static,172.16.25.40,10.22.160.5
4. net,10.20.226.0,-netmask,255.255.254.0,10.20.225.1
5. net,-hopcount,0,-netmask,255.255.255.0,,,10.19.215.0,10.22.160.5
6. net,-hopcount,0,-netmask,255.255.192.0,,,,,10.22.125.0,10.22.160.5

It is obvious that type = netlhost but then how do I determine when the [args,], ends and destination begins? If I should be looking for ,, I've got *way* too many commas.

**Does someone have an explanation that goes into more detail than the link at [chginet Method](#)?**

Some document or decision tree that would tell me something like if **arg** is **-if** or **-netmask** then you should expect this many more fields.

*If I'm following the wrong path to solve my task, please point me in the right direction.* I am **not** a PERL user, so I will not be able to maintain any PERL code. I am pretty darn good with the Bourne and Korn shells. My AIX systems do not have BASH installed. But I can write the code. I just need an understanding of what to look for.

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