

How to fix "imapd-ssl: Maximum connection limit reached for ::ffff:xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx" imapd-ssl error

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One of the mail server clients is running into issues with secured SSL IMAP connections (he has to use a multiple email accounts on the same computer).

I was informed that part of the email addresses are working correctly, however the newly created ones were failing to authenticate even though all the **Outlook Express** email configuration was correct as well as the username and password typed in were a real existing credentials on the vpopmail server.

Initially I thought, something is wrong with his newly configured emails but it seems all the settings were perfectly correct!

After a lot of wondering what might be wrong I was dumb enough not to check my imap log files.

After checking in my `/var/log/mail.log` which is the default log file I've configured for vpopmail and some of my qmail server services, I found the following error repeating again and again:

imapd-ssl: Maximum connection limit reached for ::ffff:xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx" imapd-ssl error

where `xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx` was the email user computer IP address.

This issues was caused by one of my configuration settings in the imapd-ssl and imap config file:

`/usr/lib/courier-imap/etc/imapd`

In `/usr/lib/courier-imap/etc/imapd` there is a config segment called **Maximum number of connections to accept from the same IP address**

Right below this commented text is the variable:

MAXPERIP=4

As you can see it seems I used some very low value for the maximum number of connections from one and the same IP address.

I suppose my logic to set such a low value was my desire to protect the IMAP server from Denial of Service attacks, however 4 is really too low and causes problem, thus to solve the mail connection issues for the user I raised the `MAXPERIP` value to 50:

MAXPERIP=50

Now to force the new **imapd** and **imapd-ssl** services to reload it's config I did a restart of the courier-

imap, like so:

```
debian:~# /etc/init.d/courier-imap restart
```

That's all now the error is gone and the client could easily configure up to 50 mailbox accounts on his PC :)