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Subject: lock failed ?

Posted by [fonager](#) on Mon, 08 Nov 2004 14:44:36 GMT

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I very often get this error message :

" (SpamAssassin) Cannot open bayes databases db\bayes\_\* R/W: lock failed: File exists"

What does this mean ?

Regards,  
Tony Fonager, Denmark

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Subject: Re: lock failed ?

Posted by [support](#) on Mon, 08 Nov 2004 17:20:35 GMT

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While SpamAssassin 3.0 is updating a SpamAssassin 2.6 database, or while SpamAssassin expires old tokens, the database is locked. This usually takes a few minutes, and the lock should be removed automatically.

If expiring or rebuilding the database fails, this lock sometimes is not removed. If so you will find a file with the extension "lock" in the base database directory.

To remove this lock, do the following:

- Stop the NoSpamToday! service
- delete the lock file
- open a command line window, and cd to the installation directory
- run the following command (may take several minutes)  
sa\sa-learn -C sa\ruleset --sync
- run the following command (may take several minutes)  
sa\sa-learn -C sa\ruleset --force-expire

Afterwards, restart the service.

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