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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core

Posted by [dev](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 10:06:48 GMT

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Andrew Morton wrote:

>>>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries  
>>>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory  
>>>> footprint when N identical guests are running

>>>

>>>So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:

>>>

>>> "Guests must be able to share pages."

>>>

>>>Can you give us an idea why this is so?

>>

>>sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to  
>>be similar (or almost identical) which results  
>>in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables  
>>which would otherwise get cached for each guest and  
>>would also be mapped for each guest separately

>

>

> noooooooo. What you're saying there amounts to text replication. There is  
> no proposal here to create duplicated copies of pagecache pages: the VM  
> just doesn't support that (Nick has some protopatches which do this as a  
> possible NUMA optimisation).

>

> So these mmapped pages will continue to be shared across all guests. The  
> problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for each shared page".

>

> A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest which paged  
> it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is insufficient.

I guess by "paged it in" you essentially mean

"mapped the page into address space for the \*first\* time"?

i.e. how many times the same page mapped into 2 address spaces  
in the same container should be accounted for?

We believe ONE. It is better due to:

- it allows better estimate how much RAM container uses.
- if one container mapped a single page 10,000 times,  
it doesn't mean it is worse than a container which mapped only 200 pages  
and that it should be killed in case of OOM.

Thanks,  
Kirill

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