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Subject: Need help understanding kernel version numbers

Posted by [jarcher](#) on Wed, 11 Apr 2007 09:00:42 GMT

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Hi All...

I have always been confused by the kernel version numbers and I finally decided to just look stupid and ask.

I am currently running:

```
actual:/home/jim/openvz/kernels# uname -a
Linux actual.registrationtek.com 2.6.18-openvz-amd64 #1 SMP Mon Mar 12
21:59:13 UTC 2007 x86_64 GNU/Linux
actual:/home/jim/openvz/kernels#
```

The file name for the deb package for this version is:

linux-image-2.6.18-openvz-amd64\_028.18-2.6.18-11-1\_amd64.deb

I see that there is now:

linux-image-2.6.18-openvz-amd64\_028.18.1-2.6.18-12-1\_amd64.d eb

This file has a date of April 11, 2007, so I know it's newer. But how can I tell from the version numbers? Both are 028.18 but the newer one has a lower number, .1-2, than the older one, which has 6. So what's the proper way to parse this?

Also, is there a posted list of changes? I'm running OpenVZ in production now and so prefer not to risk an upgrade and reboot unless necessary.

Thanks!

Jim

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