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Subject: Re: [BRIDGE] Unaligned access on IA64 when comparing ethernet addresses

Posted by [Stephen Hemminger](#) on Thu, 19 Apr 2007 18:18:57 GMT

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On Thu, 19 Apr 2007 16:14:23 +0200

Eric Dumazet <dada1@cosmosbay.com> wrote:

> On Wed, 18 Apr 2007 13:04:22 -0700 (PDT)

> David Miller <davem@davemloft.net> wrote:

>

> >

> > Although I don't think gcc does anything fancy since we don't  
> > use memcmp(). It's a tradeoff, we'd like to use unsigned long  
> > comparisons when both objects are aligned correctly but we also  
> > don't want it to use any more than one potentially mispredicted  
> > branch.

>

> Again, memcmp() \*cannot\* be optimized, because its semantic is to compare bytes.

>

> memcpy() can take into account alignment if known at compile time, not memcmp()

>

> <http://lists.openwall.net/netdev/2007/03/13/31>

It can if we order bytes in the bridge id properly. See ktime\_t for example.

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