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Subject: Re: [PATCH 0/13] Pid namespaces (OpenVZ view)  
Posted by [Pavel Emelianov](#) on Tue, 29 May 2007 07:47:35 GMT  
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org> writes:  
>  
>> Hmm. I see. So you don't care that the pids in the namespace #2 are still  
>> the same. I can understand that politics for namespace #1, but for #2...  
>  
> I'm confused, I think the statement above is wrong.  
>  
> If we just checkpoint/restart a leaf pid namespace we don't care about  
> the other pids, in other namespace.  
>  
> If we checkpoint/restart a pid namespace with another pid namespace  
> nested inside it we need to preserve the pids in the pid namespace we  
> are checkpointing and in a nested pid namespaces.  
>  
> Pids in namespaces that none of the process we are migrating cannot  
> see we do not care about. (i.e. the init pid namespace, and possibly  
> some of it's children)  
>  
>> OK, if you need this let us go on with such model, but I'd like to see  
>> the CONFIG\_PID\_NS\_MULTILEVEL for this. Or at least CONFIG\_PID\_NS\_FLAT for  
>> my model as we do not need to sacrifice the performance to such generic  
>> behavior.  
>  
> Where is the world would a performance sacrifice come in? If you

Easy! Consider the problem of getting a list of pids for proc. In case of flat layout we just take a number from a known structure. In case of nested pids we have to scan through the list of pid\_elem-s or lookup the hash or something similar.

The same stays true for wait() when we have to compare pids in the eligible\_child(), for setpgid(), terminal ioctl's and so on and so forth.

Not to be unfounded I will measure booth cases with unixbench's spawn, execl and shell tests and with "ps -xaf" and report the results. All will be run in init namespace and in "level one" namespace. If the flat layout wins (with noticeable difference) I would insist having two of them. Agree?

> happen to be using a deeply nested pid namespace I can see a small  
> performance hit, there is fundamentally more to do. However if you  
> don't use a nested pid namespace there should not be more work todo  
> and it should be impossible to measure the over head.  
>

> Further 3 levels should be as simple to implement and as cheap as two  
> levels. Because we can continue to use static allocation.

Wait a bit. Do you mean that there's enough to have only 3 levels of namespaces? I.e. to have a struct pid look like

```
struct pid {  
    int pid;  
    int pid1; /* for first level */  
    int pid2; /* for 2nd level */  
    ...  
}  
?
```

> Eric  
>

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