Subject: Re: L3 network isolation
Posted by Daniel Lezcano on Thu, 07 Dec 2006 22:08:05 GMT

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Herbert Poetzl wrote:
> On Thu, Dec 07, 2006 at 12:25:45AM +0100, Daniel Lezcano wrote:
>> Hi all,
>>
>> Dmitry and I, we thought about a possible implementation allowing the
>> l2/l3 to coexists.
>>
>> The idea is assuming the l3 network namespaces are the leaf in the l2
>> namespace hierarchy tree. By default, init process is l2 namespace. From
>> a layer 3, it is impossible to do a new network namespace unshare.
>>
>> All the configuration is done into the l2 namespace. When a l3 is
>> created a new IP address should be created into the l2 namespace and
>> "pushed" into the l3. When the l3 dies, the IP is pulled to its parent,
>> aka the l2. In order to ensure security into the l3, the NET_ADMIN
>> capability is lost when doing unsharing for l3.
>> There is no extra code for socket virtualization. It is a common part.
>>
>> How to setup a l3 namespace ?
>> ----------------------------
>>
>>   1 - setup a new IP address in l2 namespace
>>   2 - create a l3 namespace
>>   3 - specific socket ioctl to "push" the IP address from the l2
>> namespace to the newly created l3 namespace
>>
>> The l2 lose visibility on the IP address and l3 gains visibility on
>> the IP address.
>
> why that?
> I consider visibility of the IP addresses on the host
> (what you call l2 space) a feature ...

Perhaps the sentence is malformed. I mean, you set an IP address in the
layer 2, you do ifconfig/ip => you see it. The IP is pushed to l3, you
do again ifconfig/ip in the l2 namespace and you do not see it. This is
related to the section below.
>
>> A ifconfig or a ip command shows only the IP address
>> assigned to the namespace.
>
> that is okay though ...
>
>> Loopback address is always visible.

>
> is it also bindable?

Yes, bindable, usable, isolated. I think the loopback isolation should
be enabled/disabled by configuration in order to let the application to
communicate with portmap.

>
>> How to handle outgoing traffic ?
>> -------------------------------
>>
>> The bind must be checked with the IP addresses belonging to the l3
>> namespace and with all the derivative addresses (multicast, broadcast,
>> zero net, loopback, ...).
>>
>> The IP addresses will rely on aliased IP address.
>
> hmm? please elaborate ...

If you create 5 IP address, 1.2.3.[1-5]/24, the IP 1.2.3.1 will be the
primary address and 1.2.3.[2-4] will be secondaries IP addresses. You
create five l3 namespaces and assign each IP to each namespace. So we have:
namespace 1 -> 1.2.3.1/24
namespace 2 -> 1.2.3.2/24
....

If namespace 2 connects to 1.2.3.100 for example, the routing engine
will choose the primary address as source address if it was not
specified by a bind, which is the usual case for a connection. The peer
1.2.3.100 will answer to 1.2.3.1 instead of 1.2.3.2 => RST

>
>> The source address must be filled with the IP address belonging the l3
>> namespace when not set. This is a trivial operation, because we know
>> which IP addresses are assigned to the l3 namespace.
>>
>> When the route are resolved, the l3 namespace switch the its parent,
>> that is to say the l2 namespace, and the virtualization follows its
>> normal path.
>>
>> How to handle incoming traffic ?
>> -------------------------------
>>
>> Because we can have several sockets listening on the same
>> INADDR_ANY:port, we must find the network namespace associated
>> with the destination IP address.
>> For unicast, this is a trivial operation, because that can be checked
>> with the assigned IP address again. For broadcast and multicast, some

>> extra work should be done in order to store the namespaces which are
>> listening on a broadcast address. As soon as the namespace is found, we
>> switch to it. This can be done with netfilters.
>
> okay ...
>
>> Routes and co.
>> --------------
>>
>>   - Routes: they are not isolated, each l3 namespace can see all the
>> routes from the other namespaces. That allows the routing engine to see
>> all the routes and choose the loopback when two network namespaces in
>> the same host try to communicate.
>>
>>   - Cache: the routing cache must be isolated, otherwise the socket
>> isolation will not work. The l3 namespace code does not impact the l2
>> namespace code and route cache isolation is a common part if the l3
>> namespace switching is done in the right place.
>>
>> Dmitry has posted the l2 namespace relying on the net namespace empty
>> framework, I will post the l3 namespace relying on the l2 namespace
>> today or tomorrow.
>
> looking forward to it ...
>
> best,
> Herbert
>
>>   -- Daniel
>>
>> _____
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