Subject: Re: Memory overflow in an OpenVZ VPS Posted by dev on Wed, 26 Sep 2007 08:16:42 GMT

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> Hello everybody!

>

- > I'm having problems with OpenVZ memory management. I have (probably)
- > read all the Wiki articles there are that touch that subject, and
- > browsed through the mailing list archives to no avail.

>

- > Most of my OpenVZ VPS'es work just fine after a bit of fiddling, but one
- > of them is misbehaving constantly. It always runs out of memory, no
- > matter how much I give it. It is running 10 instances of a same server
- > to give better interactive responsiveness. I was just wondering if the
- > server program is leaking memory and causing this erratic behavior, or
- > if there is something wrong with my OpenVZ VPS's configuration.

>

- > The physical server runs only this one VPS. The hardware node has 2GB of
- > RAM plus 2GB of swap. The VPS is given roughly 3.5GB of that if
- > available (privvmpages limit). It is guaranteed 2.5GB (vmguarpages
- > barrier). This is FAR more than the server software in question needs,
- > but still it occasionally (and predictably) runs out of memory.

>

- > The strange thing about the VPS is that the HELD values in oomguarpages
- > and privvmpages are _much_ lower than the MAXHELD values almost
- > triple. There should be no usage peaks that should cause this kind of
- > asymmetry, unless an instance of the server software goes amok.

Yes, privvmpages maxheld shows that software tried to allocate lots of memory in reality. And this VE used 874046 pages of RAM+swap (oomguarpages) in the peak, i.e. ~3.4Gb !!! It looks like accounting doesn't lie and your software really tries to allocate that much from time to time.

Have you seen yourself when this was happening and failcounters were increasing? If you can observe this VE being near the limit, run top in host system and sort processes by RSS usage. This will show you which processes consume most of the memory (RSS column).

BTW, have you did something to make VE use less memory (like server restart) or the memory usage drops that low itself after some time of being high?

- > The VPS's resource information is shown below. The parameters are not
- > optimized, as you can see, but that not my biggest problem right now :).
- > So can you see anything wrong with these settings, or should I take a
- > look at the server software that is running on the VPS?

>

```
> [root@VPS_NODE ~]# cat /proc/user_beancounters
> Version: 2.5
> uid resource
                   held maxheld barrier
                                            limit
                                                 failcnt
                   19265157 40765738 183079731 201387704
                                                                  0
> 103: kmemsize
     lockedpages
                                  8939
                                          8939
                      0
                                                    0
>
>
     privvmpages
                   383368
                             930126
                                      917504
                                                930000
                                                           153
                                                         0
     shmpages
                            24239
                                     31099
                                              31099
>
                   21647
                                  0
                                               0
     dummy
                     0
                           0
                                        0
>
                    229
                           524
                                   8000
                                           8000
     numproc
>
                                                     0
     physpages
                   236810
                            485688
                                        0 2147483647
                                                           0
>
>
     vmguarpages
                       0
                             0
                                 655360 2147483647
                     382472
                                        310999 2147483647
                                                               0
     oomquarpages
                              874046
>
                             793
                                            8000
>
     numtcpsock
                     532
                                    8000
                                                      0
     numflock
                    18
                          594
                                  1000
                                          1100
                                                    0
>
                    1
                           4
                                512
                                        512
                                                 0
     numpty
>
     numsiginfo
                           39
                                 1024
                                          1024
>
                     0
                           4236356 28258577 61026577
     tcpsndbuf
                 3524644
                                                              0
>
                          6528712 28258577 61026577
     tcprcvbuf
                 3530300
                                                             0
>
     othersockbuf
                   190060
                            1737340 14129288 46897288
                                                              0
>
>
     dgramrcvbuf
                      0
                          41836 14129288 14129288
                                                          0
                      204
                                                       0
     numothersock
                             1169
                                     8000
                                             8000
>
     dcachesize
                            0 39977755 41177088
                                                        0
>
                     0
     numfile
                 11106
                          22346
                                   71488
                                            71488
                                                       0
>
                                  0
                                         0
     dummy
                     0
                           0
                                               0
>
                     0
                           0
                                  0
                                         0
                                               0
>
     dummy
     dummy
                     0
                           0
                                  0
                                         0
                                               0
>
                                          200
     numiptent
                    10
                           10
                                  200
                                                   0
>
>
> [root@HOST NODE ~]# free
         total
                 used
                         free
                               shared
                                       buffers
                                                cached
>
          2073344
                    2017716
                               55628
                                          0
                                               66928
> Mem:
                                                       954828
> -/+ buffers/cache:
                    995960
                             1077384
> Swap:
          2031608
                     586508
                              1445100
```

> Anyways, thanks for a great Open Source virtualization project! you are welcome :@)

Thanks, Kirill