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Subject: Re: [PATCH] mark read\_crX() asm code as volatile  
Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Tue, 02 Oct 2007 12:14:54 GMT  
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On Wednesday 03 October 2007 04:27, Chuck Ebbert wrote:

> On 10/02/2007 11:28 AM, Arjan van de Ven wrote:

> > On Tue, 02 Oct 2007 18:08:32 +0400

> >

> > Kirill Korotaev <dev@openvz.org> wrote:

> >> Some gcc versions (I checked at least 4.1.1 from RHEL5 & 4.1.2 from

> >> gentoo) can generate incorrect code with read\_crX()/write\_crX()

> >> functions mix up, due to cached results of read\_crX().

> >

> > I'm not so sure volatile is the right answer, as compared to giving the

> > asm more strict constraints....

> >

> > asm volatile tends to mean something else than "the result has

> > changed"....

>

> It means "don't eliminate this code if it's reachable" which should be

> just enough for this case. But it could still be reordered in some cases

> that could break, I think.

>

> This should work because the result gets used before reading again:

>

> read\_cr3(a);

> write\_cr3(a | 1);

> read\_cr3(a);

>

> But this might be reordered so that b gets read before the write:

>

> read\_cr3(a);

> write\_cr3(a | 1);

> read\_cr3(b);

>

> ?

I don't see how, as write\_cr3 clobbers memory.

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