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Subject: Re: [RFC] [-mm PATCH] Memory controller fix swap charging context in unuse\_pte()

Posted by [Hugh Dickins](#) on Sun, 07 Oct 2007 16:57:32 GMT

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On Fri, 5 Oct 2007, Balbir Singh wrote:

>  
> Found-by: Hugh Dickins <hugh@veritas.com>  
>  
> mem\_cgroup\_charge() in unuse\_pte() is called under a lock, the pte\_lock. That's  
> clearly incorrect, since we pass GFP\_KERNEL to mem\_cgroup\_charge() for  
> allocation of page\_cgroup.  
>  
> This patch release the lock and reacquires the lock after the call to  
> mem\_cgroup\_charge().  
>  
> Tested on a powerpc box by calling swapoff in the middle of a cgroup  
> running a workload that pushes pages to swap.

Hard to test it adequately at present, while that call to mem\_cgroup\_charge is never allocating anything new.

Sorry, it's a bit ugly (the intertwining of unuse\_pte and its caller), it's got a bug, and fixing that bug makes it uglier.

The bug is that you ignore the pte ptr returned by pte\_offset\_map\_lock: we could be preempted on to a different cpu just there, so a different cpu's kmap\_atomic area used, with a different pte pointer; which would need to be passed back to the caller for when it unmaps.

I much prefer my patch appended further down: considering how it's safe for you to drop the ptl there because of holding page lock, pushed me into seeing that we can actually do our scanning without ptl, which in many configurations has the advantage of staying preemptible (though preemptible swapoff is not terribly high on anyone's ticklist ;).

But you may well prefer that we split it into two: with me taking responsibility and blame for the preliminary patch which relaxes the locking, and you then adding the mem\_cgroup\_charge (and the exceptional mem\_cgroup\_uncharge\_page) on top of that.

Hugh

>  
> Signed-off-by: Balbir Singh <balbir@linux.vnet.ibm.com>  
> ---  
>  
> mm/swapfile.c | 16 ++++++++-----

```

> 1 file changed, 12 insertions(+), 4 deletions(-)
>
> diff -puN mm/swapfile.c~memory-controller-fix-unuse-pte-charging mm/swapfile.c
> --- linux-2.6.23-rc8/mm/swapfile.c~memory-controller-fix-unuse-pte-charging 2007-10-03
13:45:56.000000000 +0530
> +++ linux-2.6.23-rc8-balbir/mm/swapfile.c 2007-10-05 08:49:54.000000000 +0530
> @@ -507,11 +507,18 @@ unsigned int count_swap_pages(int type,
>  * just let do_wp_page work it out if a write is requested later - to
>  * force COW, vm_page_prot omits write permission from any private vma.
>  */
> -static int unuse_pte(struct vm_area_struct *vma, pte_t *pte,
> - unsigned long addr, swp_entry_t entry, struct page *page)
> +static int unuse_pte(struct vm_area_struct *vma, pte_t *pte, pmd_t *pmd,
> + unsigned long addr, swp_entry_t entry, struct page *page,
> + spinlock_t **ptl)
> {
> - if (mem_cgroup_charge(page, vma->vm_mm, GFP_KERNEL))
> + pte_unmap_unlock(pte - 1, *ptl);
> +
> + if (mem_cgroup_charge(page, vma->vm_mm, GFP_KERNEL)) {
> + pte_offset_map_lock(vma->vm_mm, pmd, addr, ptl);
> return -ENOMEM;
> + }
> +
> + pte_offset_map_lock(vma->vm_mm, pmd, addr, ptl);
>
> inc_mm_counter(vma->vm_mm, anon_rss);
> get_page(page);
> @@ -543,7 +550,8 @@ static int unuse_pte_range(struct vm_are
>  * Test inline before going to call unuse_pte.
>  */
>  if (unlikely(pte_same(*pte, swp_pte))) {
> - ret = unuse_pte(vma, pte++, addr, entry, page);
> + ret = unuse_pte(vma, pte++, pmd, addr, entry, page,
> + &ptl);
> break;
> }
> } while (pte++, addr += PAGE_SIZE, addr != end);

--- 2.6.23-rc8-mm2/mm/swapfile.c 2007-09-27 12:03:36.000000000 +0100
+++ linux/mm/swapfile.c 2007-10-07 14:33:05.000000000 +0100
@@ -507,11 +507,23 @@ unsigned int count_swap_pages(int type,
 * just let do_wp_page work it out if a write is requested later - to
 * force COW, vm_page_prot omits write permission from any private vma.
 */
-static int unuse_pte(struct vm_area_struct *vma, pte_t *pte,
+static int unuse_pte(struct vm_area_struct *vma, pmd_t *pmd,
    unsigned long addr, swp_entry_t entry, struct page *page)

```

```

{
+ spinlock_t *ptl;
+ pte_t *pte;
+ int ret = 1;
+
  if (mem_cgroup_charge(page, vma->vm_mm, GFP_KERNEL))
- return -ENOMEM;
+ ret = -ENOMEM;
+
+ pte = pte_offset_map_lock(vma->vm_mm, pmd, addr, &ptl);
+ if (unlikely(!pte_same(*pte, swp_entry_to_pte(entry)))) {
+ if (ret > 0)
+ mem_cgroup_uncharge_page(page);
+ ret = 0;
+ goto out;
+ }

  inc_mm_counter(vma->vm_mm, anon_rss);
  get_page(page);
@@ -524,7 +536,9 @@ static int unuse_pte(struct vm_area_stru
  * immediately swapped out again after swapon.
  */
  activate_page(page);
- return 1;
+out:
+ pte_unmap_unlock(pte, ptl);
+ return ret;
}

static int unuse_pte_range(struct vm_area_struct *vma, pmd_t *pmd,
@@ -533,21 +547,33 @@ static int unuse_pte_range(struct vm_are
{
  pte_t swp_pte = swp_entry_to_pte(entry);
  pte_t *pte;
- spinlock_t *ptl;
  int ret = 0;

- pte = pte_offset_map_lock(vma->vm_mm, pmd, addr, &ptl);
+ /*
+ * We don't actually need pte lock while scanning for swp_pte:
+ * since we hold page lock, swp_pte cannot be inserted into or
+ * removed from a page table while we're scanning; but on some
+ * architectures (e.g. i386 with PAE) we might catch a glimpse
+ * of unmatched parts which look like swp_pte, so unuse_pte
+ * must recheck under pte lock. Scanning without the lock
+ * is preemptible if CONFIG_PREEMPT without CONFIG_HIGHPTTE.
+ */
+ pte = pte_offset_map(pmd, addr);

```

```
do {
/*
 * swapoff spends a _lot_ of time in this loop!
 * Test inline before going to call unuse_pte.
 */
if (unlikely(pte_same(*pte, swp_pte))) {
- ret = unuse_pte(vma, pte++, addr, entry, page);
- break;
+ pte_unmap(pte);
+ ret = unuse_pte(vma, pmd, addr, entry, page);
+ if (ret)
+ goto out;
+ pte = pte_offset_map(pmd, addr);
}
} while (pte++, addr += PAGE_SIZE, addr != end);
- pte_unmap_unlock(pte - 1, ptl);
+ pte_unmap(pte - 1);
+out:
return ret;
}
```

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