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Subject: Re: How Inactive may be much greather than cached?

Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Thu, 18 Oct 2007 06:27:27 GMT

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Hi,

On Thursday 18 October 2007 16:24, Vasily Averin wrote:

> Hi all,

>

> could anybody explain how "inactive" may be much greater than "cached"?

> stress test (<http://weather.ou.edu/~apw/projects/stress/>) that writes into

> removed files in cycle puts the node to the following state:

>

> MemTotal: 16401648 kB

> MemFree: 636644 kB

> Buffers: 1122556 kB

> Cached: 362880 kB

> SwapCached: 700 kB

> Active: 1604180 kB

> Inactive: 13609828 kB

>

> At the first glance memory should be freed on file closing, nobody refers

> to file and `ext3_delete_inode()` truncates inode. We can see that memory is

> go away from "cached", however could somebody explain why it become

> "invalid" instead be freed? Who holds the references to these pages?

Buffers, swap cache, and anonymous.

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