
Subject: Re: [PATCH 5/6 mm] memcggroup: fix zone isolation OOM

Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Mon, 12 Nov 2007 06:42:57 GMT

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Hugh Dickins wrote:

> mem_cgroup_charge_common shows a tendency to OOM without good reason,
> when a memhog goes well beyond its rss limit but with plenty of swap
> available. Seen on x86 but not on PowerPC; seen when the next patch
> omits swapcache from memcggroup, but we presume it can happen without.
>
> mem_cgroup_isolate_pages is not quite satisfying reclaim's criteria
> for OOM avoidance. Already it has to scan beyond the nr_to_scan limit
> when it finds a !LRU page or an active page when handling inactive or
> an inactive page when handling active. It needs to do exactly the same
> when it finds a page from the wrong zone (the x86 tests had two zones,
> the PowerPC tests had only one).
>
> Don't increment scan and then decrement it in these cases, just move
> the incrementation down. Fix recent off-by-one when checking against
> nr_to_scan. Cut out "Check if the meta page went away from under us",
> presumably left over from early debugging: no amount of such checks
> could save us if this list really were being updated without locking.
>

It's a spill over from the old code, we do all operations under
the mem_cont's lru_lock.

> This change does make the unlimited scan while holding two spinlocks
> even worse - bad for latency and bad for containment; but that's a
> separate issue which is better left to be fixed a little later.
>
> Signed-off-by: Hugh Dickins <hugh@veritas.com>

For the swapout test case scenario sent by Hugh

Tested-by: Balbir Singh <balbir@linux.vnet.ibm.com>

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Warm Regards,
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