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Subject: Re: [patch 1/2][NETNS][RFD] store the network namespace pointer in the dst\_entry structure

Posted by [Benjamin Thery](#) on Tue, 11 Dec 2007 17:24:07 GMT

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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Daniel Lezcano <dlezcano@fr.ibm.com> writes:

>

>>> Could you please place the struct net \*net pointer up by the  
>>> network device pointer.

>>>> };

>>> I know we need a net pointer in struct rt\_table, because it  
>>> is a hash table that we can't dynamically allocate so we need  
>>> to place a network namespace pointer as part of the hash key.

>>>

>>> For the ipv6 fib tables I don't recall needing a net pointer as we didn't have  
>>> a hash table and could instead have separate  
>>> roots for different namespaces.

>> Yes don't need for the hash table but we used it to pass the network namespace  
>> parameter to the underlying function which need the net parameter.

>>

>> We are facing two problems when removing the fl\_net field from flowi:

>>

>> \* The first one is the fl\_net is used as a key. This problem can be handled  
>> simply in moving the netns to the rtable.

>

> Yes.

>

>> \* The second one is the usage made by the fl\_net to pass through the different  
>> function calls the network namespace pointer without changing all functions  
>> signature. This problem can be solved if we put the netns pointer in the  
>> dst\_entry structure, so when we are in ipv4, we use container\_of on rtable and  
>> when we are in ipv6, we use the container\_of on rt6\_info. So everywhere with the  
>> flowi, we can retrieve the netns.

>

> That doesn't work as rt6\_info does not currently hold a struct flowi.

>

>>> I find this slightly odd as I didn't wind up needing to add  
>>> a struct net pointer in struct dst in my proof of concept tree  
>>> and struct dst doesn't have a struct flowi so that would not  
>>> have prevented it.

>> The idea is to put the net in the dst\_entry because it is accessible from rtable  
>> or rt6\_info and these ones contain a flowi field.

>

> And since that isn't true, the idea seems to fall flat on it's face.

My fault.

While talking with Daniel last week I suggested to put the net in

dst\_entry instead of rtable, because dst\_entry was common to rtable and rt6\_info. I thought we could factorize some code this way. I wrongly assumed IPv6 was pretty similar to IPv4 in the way it handles flowi. I should have checked that more carefully. Crap ;)

Benjamin

>  
> I expect most of the instances of struct flowi that we would be  
> looking things up with would be on the stack so the earlier concerns  
> raised would likely still need to be addressed.  
>  
> Eric  
>

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