Subject: Re: But why is the RAM gone?!
Posted by kir on Wed, 30 Jan 2008 19:39:07 GMT

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I run this script on my notebook (1G RAM, running Gentoo kernel at the moment, i.e. no VEs, no OpenVZ) and this is what it shows:

pssum: 445684 used: 321684 diff: -124000

I suspect that process RSS is not counting the memory used by kernel on behalf of the process, plus there's memory used by kernel itself. So sum of all RSS only gives you the lower estimation.

Such memory not accounted by RSS (neither 'cached' nor 'buffers' columns of /proc/meminfo) includes page tables, network buffers and other different kernel objects. I am not a kernel expert myself but will try to ask one tomorrow.

In any case, this can't work as an indication of a problem.