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Subject: Re: [LTP] [PATCH 1/8] Scaling msgmni to the amount of lowmem  
Posted by [Subrata Modak](#) on Tue, 19 Feb 2008 08:50:55 GMT  
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> Nadia Derby wrote:  
> > Andrew Morton wrote:  
> >  
> >> On Mon, 11 Feb 2008 15:16:47 +0100 Nadia.Derbey@bull.net wrote:  
> >>  
> >>  
> >>> [PATCH 01/08]  
> >>>  
> >>> This patch computes msg\_ctlmni to make it scale with the amount of  
> >>> lowmem.  
> >>> msg\_ctlmni is now set to make the message queues occupy 1/32 of the  
> >>> available  
> >>> lowmem.  
> >>>  
> >>> Some cleaning has also been done for the MSGPOOL constant: the msgctl  
> >>> man page  
> >>> says it's not used, but it also defines it as a size in bytes (the code  
> >>> expresses it in Kbytes).  
> >>>  
> >>  
> >>  
> >> Something's wrong here. Running LTP's msgctl08 (specifically:  
> >> ltp-full-20070228) cripples the machine. It's a 4-way 4GB x86\_64.  
> >>  
> >> <http://userweb.kernel.org/~akpm/config-x.txt>  
> >> <http://userweb.kernel.org/~akpm/dmesg-x.txt>  
> >>  
> >> Normally msgctl08 will complete in a second or two. With this patch I  
> >> don't know how long it will take to complete, and the machine is horridly  
> >> bogged down. It does recover if you manage to kill msgctl08. Feels like  
> >> a terrible memory shortage, but there's plenty of memory free and it  
> >> isn't  
> >> swapping.  
> >>  
> >>  
> >>  
> >  
> > Before the patchset, msgctl08 used to be run with the old msgmni value:  
> > 16. Now it is run with a much higher msgmni value (1746 in my case),  
> > since it scales to the memory size.  
> > When I call "msgctl08 100000 16" it completes fast.  
> >  
> > Doing the following on the ref kernel:  
> > echo 1746 > /proc/sys/kernel/msgmni

```

> > msgctl08 100000 1746
> >
> > makes th test block too :-(
> >
> > Will check to see where the problem comes from.
> >
>
> Well, actually, the test does not block, it only takes much much more
> time to be executed:
>
> doing this:
> date; ./msgctl08 100000 XXX; date
>
>
> gives us the following results:
> XXX      16  32  64 128 256 512 1024 1746
> time(secs)  2   4   8  16  32  64  132  241
>
> XXX is the # of msg queues to be created = # of processes to be forked
> as readers = # of processes to be created as writers
> time is approximative since it is obtained by a "date" before and after.
>
> XXX used to be 16 before the patchset ---> 1st column
> --> 16 processes forked as reader
> --> + 16 processes forked as writers
> --> + 16 msg queues
> XXX = 1746 (on my victim) after the patchset ---> last column
> --> 1746 reader processes forked
> --> + 1746 writers forked
> --> + 1746 msg queues created
>
> The same tests on the ref kernel give approximatly the same results.
>
> So if we don't want this longer time to appear as a regression, the LTP
> should be changed:
> 1) either by setting the result of get_max_msgqueues() as the MSGMNI
> constant (16) (that would be the best solution in my mind)
> 2) or by warning the tester that it may take a long time to finish.
>
> There would be 3 tests impacted:
>
> kernel/syscalls/ipc/msgctl/msgctl08.c
> kernel/syscalls/ipc/msgctl/msgctl09.c
> kernel/syscalls/ipc/msgget/msgget03.c

```

We will change the test case if need that be. Nadia, kindly send us the patch set which will do the necessary changes.

Regards--  
Subrata

>  
> Cc-ing ltp mailing list ...  
>  
> Regards,  
> Nadia  
>  
>  
>  
> -----  
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