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Subject: Re: [PATCH 5/7]: Determine pts\_ns from a pty's inode.  
Posted by [Sukadev Bhattiprolu](#) on Wed, 26 Mar 2008 02:03:28 GMT  
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Serge E. Hallyn [serue@us.ibm.com] wrote:

| Quoting Serge E. Hallyn (serue@us.ibm.com):

| > Quoting sukadev@us.ibm.com (sukadev@us.ibm.com):

| > >

| > > From: Sukadev Bhattiprolu <sukadev@us.ibm.com>

| > > Subject: [PATCH 5/7]: Determine pts\_ns from a pty's inode.

| > >

| > > The devpts interfaces currently operate on a specific pts namespace

| > > which they get from the 'current' task.

| > >

| > > With implementation of containers and cloning of PTS namespaces, we want

| > > to be able to access PTYs in a child-pts-ns from a parent-pts-ns. For

| > > instance we could bind-mount and pivot-root the child container on

| > > '/vserver/vserver1' and then access the "pts/0" of 'vserver1' using

| > >

| > > \$ echo foo > /vserver/vserver1/dev/pts/0

| > >

| > > The task doing the above 'echo' could be in parent-pts-ns. So we find

| > > the 'pts-ns' of the above file from the inode representing the above

| > > file rather than from the 'current' task.

| > >

| > > Note that we need to find and hold a reference to the pts\_ns to prevent

| > > the pts\_ns from being freed while it is being accessed from 'outside'.

| > >

| > > This patch implements, 'pts\_ns\_from\_inode()' which returns the pts\_ns

| > > using 'inode->i\_sb->s\_fs\_info'.

| > >

| > > Since, the 'inode' information is not visible inside devpts code itself,

| > > this patch modifies the tty driver code to determine the pts\_ns and passes

| > > it into devpts.

| > >

| > > TODO:

| > > What is the expected behavior when '/dev/tty' or '/dev/ptmx' are

| > > accessed from parent-pts-ns. i.e:

| > >

| > > \$ echo "foobar" > /vserver/vserver1/dev/tty)

| > >

| > > This patch currently ignores the '/vserver/vserver1' part (that

| >

| > The way this is phrased it almost sounds like you're considering using

| > the pathnames to figure out the ptsns to use :).

| >

| > It's not clear to me what is the sane thing to do.

| >

| > what you're doing here - have /dev/ptmx and /dev/tty always use  
| > current->'s ptsns - isn't ideal.  
| >  
| > It would be nicer to not have a 'devpts ns', and instead have a  
| > full device namespace. However, then it still isn't clear how to tie  
| > /vs/vs1/dev/ptmx to vs1's device namespace, since there is no device  
| > fs to which to tie the devns.  
| >  
| > We could tie the devns to a device inode on mknod, using the devns of  
| > the creating task. Then when starting up vs1, you just have to always  
| > let vs1 create /dev/ptmx and /dev/tty. I can't think of anything  
| > better offhand.  
| >  
| > Other ideas?  
|  
| I suppose you could just create /dev/pts/ptmx and /dev/pts/tty.  
| Recommend that in containers /dev/ptmx and /dev/tty be symlinks  
| into /dev/pts. Applications don't need to change. If  
| ptmx\_open() sees that inode->i\_sb is a devptsfs, it gets the  
| namespace from the sb. If not, then it was a device in /dev  
| and it gets the namespace from current.

But we would still depend on user-space remounting /dev/pts after  
the clone right ? Until they do that we would access the parent  
container's /dev/pts/ptmx ?

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Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org  
<https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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