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

Posted by [serue](#) on Wed, 26 Mar 2008 02:50:38 GMT

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Quoting [sukadev@us.ibm.com](mailto:sukadev@us.ibm.com) ([sukadev@us.ibm.com](mailto:sukadev@us.ibm.com)):

> Serge E. Hallyn [[serue@us.ibm.com](mailto:serue@us.ibm.com)] wrote:

> | Quoting Serge E. Hallyn ([serue@us.ibm.com](mailto:serue@us.ibm.com)):

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

> | > >

> | > > From: Sukadev Bhattiprolu <[sukadev@us.ibm.com](mailto: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 ?

Yes. Which is the right thing to do imo.

-serge

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

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