
Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/5] Container Freezer: Implement freezer cgroup subsystem

Posted by [Matt Helsley](#) on Wed, 30 Apr 2008 10:39:45 GMT

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On Thu, 2008-04-24 at 22:51 -0700, Paul Menage wrote:

```
> >+static const char *freezer_state_strs[] = {
> >+ "RUNNING\n",
> >+ "FREEZING\n" ,
> >+ "FROZEN\n"
> >+};
>
```

> I think it might be cleaner to not include the \n characters in this array.

Sure. Though that might produce weird output from
simple_read_from_buffer() -- no newline.

I've switched this and the strcmp() code below.

```
> >+static inline int cgroup_frozen(struct task_struct *task)
> >+{
> >+ struct cgroup *cgroup = task_cgroup(task, freezer_subsys_id);
> >+ struct freezer *freezer = cgroup_freezer(cgroup);
> >+ enum freezer_state state;
> >+
> >+ spin_lock(&freezer->lock);
> >+ state = freezer->state;
> >+ spin_unlock(&freezer->lock);
> >+
> >+ return (state == STATE_FROZEN);
> >+}
```

```
>
> You need to be in an RCU critical section or else hold task_lock() in
> order to dereference the cgroup returned from task_cgroup()
```

What are the rules of using subsystem pointers from the cgroup? Suppose I did:

```
rcu_read_lock();
cgroup = task_cgroup(task, freezer_subsys_id);
freezer = cgroup_freezer(cgroup);
state = freezer->state;
rcu_read_unlock();
```

```
return (state == STATE_FROZEN);
```

(And guard writes to freezer->state with the freezer->lock)

?

> I'm not sure that you need to take freezer->lock here - you're just
> reading a single word.

Doesn't the safety of that assumption depend on the architecture _and_
compiler?

```
> >+
> >+ if (!capable(CAP_SYS_ADMIN))
> >+ return ERR_PTR(-EPERM);
> >+
> >+
>
> Why does everyone keep throwing calls to check CAP_SYS_ADMIN into
> their cgroup create callbacks? You have to be root in order to mount a
> cgroups hierarchy in the first place, and filesystem permissions will
> control who can create new cgroups.
```

Removed.

```
> >+static int freezer_can_attach(struct cgroup_subsys *ss,
> >+      struct cgroup *new_cgroup,
> >+      struct task_struct *task)
> >+{
> >+ struct freezer *freezer = cgroup_freezer(new_cgroup);
> >+ int retval = 0;
> >+
> >+ if (freezer->state == STATE_FROZEN)
> >+  retval = -EBUSY;
> >+
> >+ return retval;
> >+}
>
> You should comment here that the call to cgroup_lock() in the
> freezer.state write method prevents a write to that file racing
> against an attach, and hence the can_attach() result will remain valid
> until the attach completes.
```

OK. I used your comment. :)

```
> >+static ssize_t freezer_write(struct cgroup *cgroup,
> >+      struct cftype *cft,
> >+      struct file *file,
> >+      const char __user *userbuf,
> >+      size_t nbytes, loff_t *unused_ppos)
> >+{
> >+ char *buffer;
> >+ int retval = 0;
```

```
> >+ enum freezer_state goal_state;
> >+
> >+ if (nbytes >= PATH_MAX)
> >+ return -E2BIG;
> >+
> >+ /* +1 for nul-terminator */
> >+ buffer = kmalloc(nbytes + 1, GFP_KERNEL);
> >+ if (buffer == NULL)
> >+ return -ENOMEM;
>
> Given that you're copying a string whose maximum valid length is
> "FREEZING" you don't really need to use a dynamically-allocated
> buffer.
```

Yup. Changed to use a fixed buffer.

```
> But I really ought to provide a write_string() method that handles
> this kind of copying on behalf of cgroup subsystems, the way it
> already does for 64-bit ints.
```

Seems like a good idea for this cgroup subsystem at least.

```
> >+ if (strcmp(buffer, "RUNNING") == 0)
> >+ goal_state = STATE_RUNNING;
> >+ else if (strcmp(buffer, "FROZEN") == 0)
> >+ goal_state = STATE_FROZEN;
>
> Would it make sense to compare against the strings you already have in
> the array earlier in the file?
```

Done.

Cheers,
-Matt Helsley

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