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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH][cryo] Save/restore state of unnamed pipes  
Posted by [Matt Helsley](#) on Wed, 18 Jun 2008 02:04:06 GMT  
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On Tue, 2008-06-17 at 17:32 -0700, sukadev@us.ibm.com wrote:

> Matt Helsley [matthltc@us.ibm.com] wrote:

> |

> | On Tue, 2008-06-17 at 17:30 -0500, Serge E. Hallyn wrote:

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

> | > >

> | > > From fd13986de32af31621b1badbcf7bfb5626648e0e Mon Sep 17 00:00:00 2001

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

> | > > Date: Mon, 16 Jun 2008 18:41:05 -0700

> | > > Subject: [PATCH] Save/restore state of unnamed pipes

> | > >

> | > > Design:

> | > >

> | > > Current Linux kernels provide ability to read/write contents of FIFOs

> | > > using /proc. i.e 'cat /proc/pid/fd/read-side-fd' prints the unread data

> | > > in the FIFO. Similarly, 'cat foo > /proc/pid/fd/read-side-fd' appends

> | > > the contents of 'foo' to the unread contents of the FIFO.

> | > >

> | > > So to save/restore the state of the pipe, a simple implementation is

> | > > to read the from the unnamed pipe's fd and save to the checkpoint-file.

> | > > When restoring, create a pipe (using PT\_PIPE()) in the child process,

> | > > read the contents of the pipe from the checkpoint file and write it to

> | > > the newly created pipe.

> | > >

> | > > Its fairly straightforward, except for couple of notes:

> | > >

> | > > - when we read contents of '/proc/pid/fd/read-side-fd' we drain

> | > > the pipe such that when the checkpointed application resumes,

> | > > it will not find any data. To fix this, we read from the

> | > > 'read-side-fd' and write it back to the 'read-side-fd' in

> | > > addition to writing to the checkpoint file.

> | > >

> | > > - there does not seem to be a mechanism to determine the count

> | > > of unread bytes in the file. Current implementation assumes a

> | > > maximum of 64K bytes (PIPE\_BUFS \* PAGE\_SIZE on i386) and fails

> | > > if the pipe is not fully drained.

> | > >

> | > > Basic unit-testing done at this point (using tests/pipe.c).

> | > >

> | > > TODO:

> | > > - Additional testing (with multiple-processes and multiple-pipes)

> | > > - Named-pipes

> | > >

> | > > Signed-off-by: Sukadev Bhattiprolu <sukadev@us.ibm.com>

```

> |>> ---
> |>> cr.c | 215
+++++-----
> |>> 1 files changed, 203 insertions(+), 12 deletions(-)
> |>>
> |>> diff --git a/cr.c b/cr.c
> |>> index 5163a3d..0cb9774 100644
> |>> --- a/cr.c
> |>> +++ b/cr.c
> |>> @@ -84,6 +84,11 @@ typedef struct fdinfo_t {
> |>> char name[128]; /* file name. NULL if anonymous (pipe, socketpair) */
> |>> } fdinfo_t;
> |>>
> |>> +typedef struct fifoinfo_t {
> |>> + int fi_fd; /* fifo's read-side fd */
> |>> + int fi_length; /* number of bytes in the fifo */
> |>> +} fifofdinfo_t;
> |>> +
> |>> typedef struct memseg_t {
> |>> unsigned long start; /* memory segment start address */
> |>> unsigned long end; /* memory segment end address */
> |>> @@ -468,6 +473,128 @@ out:
> |>> return rc;
> |>> }
> |>>
> |>> +static int estimate_fifo_unread_bytes(pinfo_t *pi, int fd)
> |>> +{
> |>> + /*
> |>> + * Is there a way to find the number of bytes remaining to be
> |>> + * read in a fifo ? If not, can we print it in fdinfo ?
> |>> + *
> |>> + * Return 64K (PIPE_BUFS * PAGE_SIZE) for now.
> |>> + */
> |>> + return 65536;
> |>> +}
> |>> +
> |>> +static void ensure_fifo_has_drained(char *fname, int fifo_fd)
> |>> +{
> |>> + int rc, c;
> |>> +
> |>> + rc = read(fifo_fd, &c, 1);
> |>> + if (rc != -1 && errno != EAGAIN) {
> |>>
> |> Won't errno only be set if rc == -1? Did you mean || here?
> |>
> |>> + ERROR("FIFO '%s' not drained fully. rc %d, c %d "
> |>> + "errno %d\n", fname, rc, c, errno);
> |>> + }

```

```

> |>> +
> |>> +}
> |>> +
> |>> +static int save_process_fifo_info(pinfo_t *pi, int fd)
> |>> +{
> |>> + int i;
> |>> + int rc;
> |>> + int nbytes;
> |>> + int fifo_fd;
> |>> + int pbuf_size;
> |>> + pid_t pid = pi->pid;
> |>> + char fname[256];
> |>> + fdinfo_t *fi = pi->fi;
> |>> + char *pbuf;
> |>> + fifofdinfo_t fifofdinfo;
> |>> +
> |>> + write_item(fd, "FIFO", NULL, 0);
> |>> +
> |>> + for (i = 0; i < pi->nf; i++) {
> |>> + if (! S_ISFIFO(fi[i].mode))
> |>> + continue;
> |>> +
> |>> + DEBUG("FIFO fd %d (%s), flag 0x%x\n", fi[i].fdnum, fi[i].name,
> |>> + fi[i].flag);
> |>> +
> |>> + if (!(fi[i].flag & O_WRONLY))
> |>> + continue;
> |>> +
> |>> + pbuf_size = estimate_fifo_unread_bytes(pi, fd);
> |>> +
> |>> + pbuf = (char *)malloc(pbuf_size);
> |>> + if (!pbuf) {
> |>> + ERROR("Unable to allocate FIFO buffer of size %d\n",
> |>> + pbuf_size);
> |>> + }
> |>> + memset(pbuf, 0, pbuf_size);
> |>> +
> |>> + sprintf(fname, "/proc/%u/fd/%u", pid, fi[i].fdnum);
> |>> +
> |>> + /*
> |>> + * Open O_NONBLOCK so read does not block if fifo has fewer
> |>> + * bytes than our estimate.
> |>> + */
> |>> + fifo_fd = open(fname, O_RDWR|O_NONBLOCK);
> |>> + if (fifo_fd < 0)
> |>> + ERROR("Error %d opening FIFO '%s'\n", errno, fname);
> |>> +
> |>> + nbytes = read(fifo_fd, pbuf, pbuf_size);

```

```

> |>> + if (nbytes < 0) {
> |>> + if (errno != EAGAIN) {
> |>> +     ERROR("Error %d reading FIFO '%s'\n", errno,
> |>> +         fname);
> |>> + }
> |>> + nbytes = 0; /* empty fifo */
> |>> + }
> |>> +
> |>> + /*
> |>> +  * Ensure FIFO has been drained.
> |>> +  *
> |>> +  * TODO: If FIFO has not fully drained, our estimate of
> |>> +  * unread-bytes is wrong. We could:
> |>> +  *
> |>> +  * - have kernel print exact number of unread-bytes
> |>> +  *   in /proc/pid/fdinfo/<fd>
> |>> +  *
> |>> +  * - read in contents multiple times and write multiple
> |>> +  *   fifobufs or assemble them into a single, large
> |>> +  *   buffer.
> |>> +  */
> |>> + ensure_fifo_has_drained(fname, fifo_fd);
> |>> +
> |>> + /*
> |>> +  * Save FIFO data to checkpoint file
> |>> +  */
> |>> + fifofdinfo.fi_fd = fi[i].fdnum;
> |>> + fifofdinfo.fi_length = nbytes;
> |>> + write_item(fd, "fifofdinfo", &fifofdinfo, sizeof(fifofdinfo));
> |>> +
> |>> + if (nbytes) {
> |>> +     write_item(fd, "fifobufs", pbuf, nbytes);
> |>> +
> |>> + /*
> |>> +  * Restore FIFO's contents so checkpointed application
> |>> +  * won't miss a thing.
> |>> +  */
> |>> +     errno = 0;
> |>> +     rc = write(fifo_fd, pbuf, nbytes);
> |>> +     if (rc != nbytes) {
> |>> +         ERROR("Wrote-back only %d of %d bytes to FIFO, "
> |>> +             "error %d\n", rc, nbytes, errno);
> |>> +     }
> |>> + }
> |>> +
> |>> + close(fifo_fd);
> |>> + free(pbuf);
> |>> + }

```

```

> |>> +
> |>> + write_item(fd, "END FIFO", NULL, 0);
> |>> +
> |>> + return 0;
> |>> +}
> |>> +
> |>> static int save_process_data(pid_t pid, int fd, lh_list_t *ptree)
> |>> {
> |>> char fname[256], exe[256], cwd[256], *argv, *env, *buf;
> |>> @@ -587,6 +714,8 @@ static int save_process_data(pid_t pid, int fd, lh_list_t *ptree)
> |>> }
> |>> write_item(fd, "END FD", NULL, 0);
> |>>
> |>> + save_process_fifo_info(pi, fd);
> |>> +
> |>> /* sockets */
> |>> write_item(fd, "SOCK", NULL, 0);
> |>> for (i = 0; i < pi->ns; i++)
> |>> @@ -839,6 +968,29 @@ int restore_fd(int fd, pid_t pid)
> |>> }
> |>> if (pfd != fdinfo->fdnum) t_d(PT_CLOSE(pid, pfd));
> |>> }
> |>> + } else if (S_ISFIFO(fdinfo->mode)) {
> |>> + int pipefds[2] = { 0, 0 };
> |>> +
> |>> + /*
> |>> +  * We create the pipe when we see the pipe's read-fd.
> |>> +  * Just ignore the pipe's write-fd.
> |>> +  */
> |>> + if (fdinfo->flag == O_WRONLY)
> |>> + continue;
> |>> +
> |>> + DEBUG("Creating pipe for fd %d\n", fdinfo->fdnum);
> |>> +
> |>> + t_d(PT_PIPE(pid, pipefds));
> |>> + t_d(pipefds[0]);
> |>> + t_d(pipefds[1]);
> |>> +
> |>> + if (pipefds[0] != fdinfo->fdnum) {
> |>> + DEBUG("Hmm, new pipe has fds %d, %d "
> |>> + "Old pipe had fd %d\n", pipefds[0],
> |>> + pipefds[1], fdinfo->fdnum); getchar();
> |>
> |> Can you explain what you're doing here? I would have expected you to
> |> dup2() to get back the correct fd, so maybe I'm missing something...
> |
> | Yes, I agree.
> |

```

```

> | Though I wonder if it's possible that the two fds returned could be
> | swapped during restart. Does anyone know if POSIX makes any guarantees
> | about the numeric relationship between pipefds[0] and pipefds[1] (like
> | "pipefds[0] < pipefds[1]")? If there are no guarantees then it may be
> | possible for a simple dup2() to break the new pipe. Suppose, for
> | example, that the original pipe used fds 4 and 5 in elements 0 and 1 of
> | the fd array respectively and then we restart:
>
> Yes, I was just thinking about this assumption and was wondering if
> I could find the peer fd by walking the list of fds in /proc/pid/fd
> and doing an lstat() and comparing the inode numbers.
>
> Then save the peer fd in fdinfo. On restore, we could create the
> pipe and dup2() both read and write-side fds.
>
> |
> |
> |     t_d(PT_PIPE(pid, pipefds)); /* returns 5 and 4 in elements 0 and 1 */
> |     if (pipefds[0] != fdinfo->fdnum)
> |         PT_DUP2(pid, pipefds[0], fdinfo->fdnum); /* accidentally closes
> |             pipefds[1] */
> |
> |
> | I don't see anything in the pipe man page, at least, that suggests we
> | can safely assume pipefds[0] < pipefds[1].
> |
> | The solution could be to use "trampoline" fds. Suppose last_fd is the
> | largest fd that exists in the final checkpointed/restarting application.
> | We could do (Skipping the PT_FUNC "notation" for clarity):
>
> |
> |
> |     pipe(pipefds); /* returns 5 and 4 in elements 0 and 1 */
> |     /* use fds after last_fd as trampolines for fds we want to create */
> |     dup2(pipefds[0], last_fd + 1);
> |     dup2(pipefds[1], last_fd + 2);
> |     close(pipefds[0]);
> |     close(pipefds[1]);
> |     dup2(last_fd + 1, <orig pipefd[0]>);
> |     dup2(last_fd + 2, <orig pipefd[1]>);
> |     close(last_fd + 1);
> |     close(last_fd + 2);
> |
> |
> | Which is alot more code but should work no matter which fds we get back
> | from pipe(). Of course this assumes the checkpointed application hasn't
> | used all of its fds. :(
> |

```

>

> This sounds like a good idea too, but we could use any fd that has not  
> yet been used in the restart-process right ? It would break if all fds

Yes, but we don't know which fd is available unless we allocate it  
without dup2(). Here's how it could be done without last\_fd (again,  
dropping PT\_FUNC notation):

```
/*
 * Move fds from src to dest. Useful for correctly "moving" pipe fds and
 * other cases where we have a small number of fds to move to their
 * original fd.
 *
 * Assumes dest_fds and src_fds are of the same, small length since
 * this is O(num_fds^2).
 *
 * If num_fds == 1 then use plain dup2().
 *
 * Use this in place of multiple dup2() calls (num_fds > 1) unless you are
 * absolutely certain the set of dest fds do not intersect the set of src fds.
 * Does NOT magically prevent you from accidentally clobbering fds outside the
 * src_fds array.
 */
void move_fds(int *dest_fds, int *src_fds, const unsigned int num_fds)
{
    int i;
    unsigned int num_moved = 0;

    for (i = 0; i < num_fds; i++) {
        int j;

        if (src_fds[i] == dest_fds[i])
            continue; /* nothing to be done */

        /* src fd != dest fd so we need to perform:
         dup2(src fd, dest fd);
         but dup2() closes dest fd if it already exists.
         This means we could accidentally close one of
         the src fds. Avoid this by searching for any
         src fd == dest fd and dup()'ing src fd to
         a different fd so we can use the dest fd.
        */
        for (j = i + 1; j < num_fds; j++) /* This makes us O(N^2) */
            if (dest_fds[i] == src_fds[j])
                /*
                 * we're using an fd for something
                 * else already -- we need a trampoline
                 */
                break;
    }
}
```

```

break;

if (j >= num_fds)
/* dup2() is safe: dest fd is unused by all src fds */
dup2(src_fds[i], dest_fds[i]);
else {
int new_fd;

/* The dest fd is in use by src_fds[j]. Use a
new fd for the src fd */
new_fd = dup(src_fds[j]);
close(src_fds[j]);
src_fds[j] = new_fd;
dup2(src_fds[i], dest_fds[i]);
}
close(src_fds[i]);
}
}

move_fds(oldpipefds, pipefds, 2);

```

This means we need at least  $(\max(\text{num\_fds}) + 1)$  unused fds to be able to restart (likely: 3).

One thing I liked about `last_fd` is it would show us when we've accidentally leaked an fd into the restarted task -- just look for any fd greater than `last_fd` before restarting.

> are used AND one of the pipe fds is the very last one :-)  
>  
> In that case, we could maybe create all pipe fds first and then go  
> back to creating the rest ?

Seems reasonable to me.

Cheers,  
-Matt

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

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