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Subject: [RFC PATCH 1/6] IPC/sem: RCU-protect the process semundo list  
Posted by [Nadia Derby](#) on Wed, 25 Jun 2008 13:49:11 GMT  
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PATCH [01/06]

Today, 'current' has an exclusive access to its sem\_undo\_list (anchored at current->sysvsem.undo\_list):

- . it is created during a semop() if the SEMUNDO flag is specified for one of the semaphores.
- . it can also be created during a copy\_process() operation if the CLONE\_SYSVSEM flag is specified (in that case the undo\_list is created/ copied from 'current' into the target task but that target task is not running yet).
- . it is freed during an unshare() or an exit() operation, if the caller (current) is the last task using it.

In order to allow a third party process to read a process' undo list, without a too big performance impact on the existing operations, this patch proposes to make the sem\_undo\_list structures rcu protected.

They can then be safely accessed by any task inside read critical section, this way:

```
struct sem_undo_list *undo_list;
int ret;
...
rcu_read_lock();
undo_list = rcu_dereference(task->sysvsem.undo_list);
if (undo_list)
    ret = atomic_inc_not_zero(&undo_list->refcnt);
rcu_read_unlock();
...
if (undo_list && ret) {
    /* section where undo_list can be used quietly */
    ...
}
...
```

Signed-off-by: Pierre Peiffer <pierre.peiffer@bull.net>  
Signed-off-by: Nadia Derby <Nadia.Derbey@bull.net>

---  
include/linux/sem.h | 4 +++-  
ipc/sem.c | 22 ++++++-----  
2 files changed, 21 insertions(+), 5 deletions(-)

Index: linux-2.6.26-rc5-mm3/include/linux/sem.h

```
=====
--- linux-2.6.26-rc5-mm3.orig/include/linux/sem.h 2008-06-24 09:04:21.000000000 +0200
+++ linux-2.6.26-rc5-mm3/include/linux/sem.h 2008-06-24 10:01:50.000000000 +0200
@@ -112,7 +112,8 @@ struct sem_queue {
};

/* Each task has a list of undo requests. They are executed automatically
- * when the process exits.
+ * when the last refcnt of sem_undo_list is released (ie when the process
+ * exits in the general case).
*/
struct sem_undo {
    struct list_head list_proc; /* per-process list: all undos from one process. */
@@ -131,6 +132,7 @@ struct sem_undo_list {
    atomic_t refcnt;
    spinlock_t lock;
    struct list_head list_proc;
+ struct rcu_head rcu;
};
```

```
struct sysv_sem {
```

Index: linux-2.6.26-rc5-mm3/ipc/sem.c

```
=====
--- linux-2.6.26-rc5-mm3.orig/ipc/sem.c 2008-06-24 09:05:03.000000000 +0200
+++ linux-2.6.26-rc5-mm3/ipc/sem.c 2008-06-24 09:37:33.000000000 +0200
@@ -939,6 +939,10 @@ static inline int get_undo_list(struct s
{
    struct sem_undo_list *undo_list;

+ /*
+ * No need to have a rcu read critical section here: no one but
+ * current is accessing the undo_list.
+ */
    undo_list = current->sysvsem.undo_list;
    if (!undo_list) {
        undo_list = kzalloc(sizeof(*undo_list), GFP_KERNEL);
@@ -948,7 +952,7 @@ static inline int get_undo_list(struct s
        atomic_set(&undo_list->refcnt, 1);
        INIT_LIST_HEAD(&undo_list->list_proc);

- current->sysvsem.undo_list = undo_list;
+ rcu_assign_pointer(current->sysvsem.undo_list, undo_list);
    }
    *undo_listp = undo_list;
    return 0;
@@ -1268,10 +1272,15 @@ void exit_sem(struct task_struct *tsk)
{
```

```

struct sem_undo_list *ulp;

- ulp = tsk->sysvsem.undo_list;
- if (!ulp)
+ rcu_read_lock();
+ ulp = rcu_dereference(tsk->sysvsem.undo_list);
+ if (!ulp) {
+ rcu_read_unlock();
  return;
- tsk->sysvsem.undo_list = NULL;
+ }
+ rcu_read_unlock();
+ rcu_assign_pointer(tsk->sysvsem.undo_list, NULL);
+ synchronize_rcu();

  if (!atomic_dec_and_test(&ulp->refcnt))
    return;
@@ -1349,6 +1358,11 @@ void exit_sem(struct task_struct *tsk)

  call_rcu(&un->rcu, free_un);
}
+ /*
+ * No need to call synchronize_rcu() here: we come here if the refcnt
+ * is 0 and this has been done into exit_sem after synchronizing. So
+ * nobody else can be referencing to the undo_list.
+ */
  kfree(ulp);
}

--

```

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

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