

---

Subject: Re: [PATCH, v3 2/2] cgroups: introduce timer slack subsystem  
Posted by [Kirill A. Shutemov](#) on Mon, 07 Feb 2011 18:32:24 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mon, Feb 07, 2011 at 09:20:40AM -0800, Jacob Pan wrote:

> On Mon, 7 Feb 2011 13:06:03 +0200

> "Kirill A. Shutemov" <[kirill@shutemov.name](mailto:kirill@shutemov.name)> wrote:

>

> > On Fri, Feb 04, 2011 at 09:27:55AM -0800, Jacob Pan wrote:

> > > On Fri, 4 Feb 2011 15:34:39 +0200

> > > "Kirill A. Shutemov" <[kirill@shutemov.name](mailto:kirill@shutemov.name)> wrote:

> > > > What's mean "original timer slack" if you are free to move a task

> > > > between a lot of cgroups and process itself free to change it

> > > > anytime?

> > > >

> > >

> > > I need to manage tasks by a management software instead of letting

> > > the task change timer\_slack by itself. The goal is to make

> > > management transparent and no modifications to the existing apps.

> > > Therefore, it is desirable to automatically enforce timer\_slack

> > > when the apps are in the cgroup while automatically restore it when

> > > it is no longer under cgroup management.

> >

> > Tasks are always under cgroup management. Root cgroup is still cgroup.

> >

> > > So the "original timer slack" can be the default 50us or whatever

> > > value chosen by the task itself. But the app itself should not care

> > > or even be aware of which cgroup it is in.

> > >

> > > So here are two options i can think of

> > > 1. add a new variable called cg\_timer\_slack\_ns to struct

> > > task\_struct{} cg\_timer\_slack\_ns will be set by cgroup timer\_slack

> > > subsystem, then we can retain the original per task value in

> > > timer\_slack\_ns. timer code will pick max(cg\_timer\_slack\_ns,

> > > timer\_slack\_ns) if cg\_timer\_slack\_ns is set.

> > >

> > > 2. leave task\_struct unchanged, add a current\_timer\_slack to the

> > > cgroup. timer\_slack cgroup does not modify per task timer\_slack\_ns.

> > > similar to option #1, let timer code pick the timer\_slack to use

> > > based on whether the task is in timer\_slack cgroup.

> > >

> > > Any thoughts?

> >

> > I think it's over-engineering.

> >

> We do have a real use case that cannot be solved by the current logic,

> I only want to find a solution.

> > What about configuration like this:

```

> >
> > root_cgroup
> > |--timer_slack.min_slack_ns = 0
> > |--timer_slack.max_slack_ns = ULONG_MAX
> > |--50us
> > | |--timer_slack.min_slack_ns = 50000
> > | |--timer_slack.max_slack_ns = 50000
> > |--500us
> > |--timer_slack.min_slack_ns = 500000
> > |--timer_slack_max_slack_ns = ULONG_MAX
> >
> > If you want a task allow to drive its timer_slack, just leave it in
> > root_cgroup.
> >
> > It you want to drive timer_slack of a task, move it between 50us and
> > 500um based on your policy.
> >
> > I surely agree with the dummy root configuration. But when the
> > management software moves task among 50us or 500us cgroups, or back to
> > dummy root, the timer slack cannot be automatically changed.
> >
> > consider the following scenarios.
> > 1. task_A has timer_slack = ts1 = 3us when it is running in the
> > foreground by window manager
> > 2. then it is moved to 50us cgroup because it is no longer in the
> > foreground, so now ts1 = 50us.
> > 3. After a while, the system is running in the low power state, so
> > task_A is moved to 500us cgroup, ts1 = 500us. Then the user switch the
> > device into normal running state and put task_A in foreground again.
> > 4. Management software then moves task_A from 500us cgroup to dummy
> > root, but it will not be able to restore the 3us timer slack as needed
> > by task_A. Task can surely drive its timer_slack but it breaks the
> > cgroup-transparency desired by the management scheme.

```

Can you use 3us cgroup instead of moving to root cgroup? :)

I understand your use-case, but I can't provide sane interface to implement this.

```

> > The key is that tasks being managed are not aware of cgroup
> > involvement. The management software is the one that moves tasks
> > around, but we don't want the management software keeps track of very
> > timer slacks value of every tasks.
> >
> > Thanks,
> > Jacob

```

--

Kirill A. Shutemov

---

Containers mailing list

Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org

<https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---