
Subject: Re: [PATCH v4 07/25] memcg: Reclaim when more than one page needed.

Posted by [Glauber Costa](#) on Mon, 25 Jun 2012 14:04:08 GMT

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On 06/25/2012 05:13 PM, Glauber Costa wrote:

```
>
>>>>> +
>>>>>     ret = mem_cgroup_reclaim(mem_over_limit, gfp_mask, flags);
>>>>>     if (mem_cgroup_margin(mem_over_limit) >= nr_pages)
>>>>>         return CHARGE_RETRY;
>>>>> @@ -2234,8 +2235,10 @@ static int mem_cgroup_do_charge(struct
>>>>> mem_cgroup *memcg, gfp_t gfp_mask,
>>>>>     * unlikely to succeed so close to the limit, and we fall back
>>>>>     * to regular pages anyway in case of failure.
>>>>>     */
>>>>> - if (nr_pages == 1 && ret)
>>>>> + if (nr_pages <= (1 << PAGE_ALLOC_COSTLY_ORDER) && ret) {
>>>>> +     cond_resched();
>>>>>     return CHARGE_RETRY;
>>>>> + }
```

>>>>

>>>> What prevents us from looping for unbounded amount of time here?

>>>> Maybe you need to consider the number of reclaimed pages here.

>>>

>>> Why would we even loop here? It will just return CHARGE_RETRY, it is

>>> up to the caller to decide whether or not it will retry.

>>

>> Yes, but the test was original to prevent oom when we managed to reclaim

>> something. And something might be enough for a single page but now you

>> have high order allocations so we can retry without any success.

>>

>

> So,

>

> Most of the kmem allocations are likely to be quite small as well. For

> the slab, we're dealing with the order of 2-3 pages, and for other

> allocations that may happen, like stack, they will be in the order of 2

> pages as well.

>

> So one thing I could do here, is define a threshold, say, 3, and only

> retry for that very low threshold, instead of following COSTLY_ORDER.

> I don't expect two or three pages to be much less likely to be freed

> than a single page.

>

> I am fine with ripping of the cond_resched as well.

>

> Let me know if you would be okay with that.

>
>

For the record, here's the patch I would propose.

At this point, I think it would be nice to Suleiman to say if he is still okay with the changes.

File Attachments

1) [0001-memcg-Reclaim-when-more-than-one-page-needed.patch](#),
downloaded 615 times
