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Subject: Memory size confusion  
Posted by [Brad Alexander](#) on Thu, 11 Oct 2012 14:38:09 GMT  
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Hi,

I'm running openvz through Proxmox-VE. I have a container (running Debian/sid) that I am using as my puppet master, and am about to add a postgres database for puppetdb, so I was reviewing the amount of memory available to me with an eye toward adjusting it. This is when I noticed wildly differing numbers from various places.

/proc/user\_beancounters says:

|               |           |           |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 105: kmemsize | 88549787  | 120004608 |
| 206116305     | 226727936 | 0         |
| lockedpages   | 0         | 548       |
| 262144        | 262144    | 0         |
| privvmpages   | 200051    | 304016    |
| 524288        | 536788    | 0         |
| shmpages      | 1294      | 2270      |
| 21504         | 21504     | 0         |

The proxmox web UI says:

Memory: 2.00GB  
Swap: 0

But top and free give me different results:

top and free -m:

MiB Mem: 4194303 total, 2976 used, 4191327 free, 0 buffers  
MiB Swap: 0 total, 0 used, 0 free, 2395 cached

free:

|                    | total | used    | free     | shared | buffers | cached  |
|--------------------|-------|---------|----------|--------|---------|---------|
| Mem:               | -4    | 3047456 | -3047460 | 0      | 0       | 2453204 |
| -/+ buffers/cache: |       | 594252  | -594256  |        |         |         |
| Swap:              | 0     | 0       | 0        |        |         |         |

free -g:"

|                    | total | used | free | shared | buffers | cached |
|--------------------|-------|------|------|--------|---------|--------|
| Mem:               | 4095  | 2    | 4093 | 0      | 0       | 2      |
| -/+ buffers/cache: |       | 0    | 4095 |        |         |        |
| Swap:              | 0     | 0    | 0    |        |         |        |

So how do I reconcile this and why are the numbers I am getting so wonky? In essence, which source do I trust?

Thanks,  
--b

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