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Subject: Re: Re: [PATCH 2.6.19-rc3] VFS: per-sb dentry lru list

Posted by [Neil Brown](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 05:44:46 GMT

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On Wednesday November 1, vvs@sw.ru wrote:

>  
> Currently we have 3 type of functions that works with dentry\_unused list:  
>  
> 1) prune\_dcache(NULL) -- called from shrink\_dcache\_memory, frees the memory and  
> requires global LRU. works well in current implementation.  
> 2) prune\_dcache(sb) -- called from shrink\_dcache\_parent(), frees subtree, LRU  
> is not need here. Current implementation uses global LRU for these purposes, it  
> is ineffective, and patch from Neil Brown fixes this issue.  
> 3) shrink\_dcache\_sb() -- called when we need to free the unused dentries for  
> given super block. Current implementation is not effective too, and per-sb LRU  
> would be the best solution here. On the other hand patch from Neil Brown is much  
> better than current implementation.  
>  
> In general I think that we should approve Neil Brown's patch. We (I and Kirill  
> Korotaev) are ready to acknowledge it when the following remarks fill be fixed:

>  
> - it seems for me list\_splice() is not required inside  
> prune\_dcache(),

Yes, the list should be empty when we finish so you are right.

> - DCACHE\_REFERENCED dentries should not be removed from private list to  
> dentry\_unused list, this flag should be ignored if the private list is used,

Agreed.

> - count argument should be ignored in this case too, we want to free all the  
> dentries in private list,

Agreed.

> - when we shrink the whole super block we should free per-sb anonymous dentries  
> too (please see Kirill Korotaev's letter)  
>

Yes. Unfortunately I don't think it is as easy as it sounds.  
I'll have a closer look.

> Then I'm going to prepare new patch that will enhance the shrink\_dcache\_sb()  
> performance:

- > - we can add new list head into struct superblock and use it in
- > shrink\_dcache\_sb() instead of temporal private list. We will check is it empty
- > in dput() and add the new unused dentries to per-sb list instead of
- > dentry\_unused list.

I think that makes sense. It means that you end up doing less work in select\_parent, because the work has already been done in dput.

How is the patch going?

NeilBrown

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