
Subject: memory consumed suddenly increases inspite of no activity taking place..

Posted by [sanjooz_2002](#) on Wed, 29 Nov 2006 12:59:00 GMT

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Hi,

I am a newbie. So, kindly bear with me if this sounds silly. I have created 4 virtual servers (all running centos) on a main hardware node (which has got centos). I am using 1GB RAM. Recently I found a strange anomaly in the RAM space utilization. After I booted the main hardware node I did a "free -m" and found this:

```
      total    used    free   shared  buffers   cached
Mem:      942    535    406      0     106     209
-/+ buffers/cache:    219    723
Swap:    1919      0    1919
```

After some time (approx half an hour), inspite of no activity taking place on the machine, I found the following by using the free -m command:

```
      total    used    free   shared  buffers   cached
Mem:      942    536    406      0     106     209
-/+ buffers/cache:    219    723
Swap:    1919      0    1919
```

I tried it again after an hour, and again I found the memory utilization increasing.

```
      total    used    free   shared  buffers   cached
Mem:      942    537    405      0     107     210
-/+ buffers/cache:    219    723
Swap:    1919      0    1919
```

It keeps increasing this way, although the system is idle.

I have read few articles suggested in the forum (FAQ) like the foll:

http://gentoo-wiki.com/FAQ_Linux_Memory_Management

But, I really doubt if this is the case because the cache and buffer size are the same and only the amount of memory getting utilized is increasing.

The only thing that is puzzling me is this that, if there is no activity taking place on my system, how come the memory utilized is increasing???

Can anyone help me in this regard????Thanks in advance!!!

[Moderator: added CODE tags to read free output more easy]
