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Subject: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production  
Posted by [Dariush Pietrzak](#) on Tue, 22 Nov 2011 08:52:18 GMT

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Hello,  
since 2.6.32 branch is no longer maintained:  
"

Also, from now (30 August 2011) we no longer maintain the following kernel branches:

\* 2.6.27  
\* 2.6.32  
"

we have switched to RHEL6 branch, which seems to run fine, and solves some long-running problems with 2.6.32 ( vSwap, problem with accounting of mmaped files usage ).

All was nice until some heavier loaded servers came online with RHEL6, and - they started crashing. And then came the upgrade train:  
stab036.1 => stab037.1 => stab039.10 => stab040.1 => stab042.1 etc

With one of the problems we caught, we were told to switch from stable to testing kernels ( now I see that that testing kernel later became stable, so while confusing, it makes some sense ).

All those kernels ( and stab039.11, which from description should be latest stable ) exhibit the same problem/class of problems - when put under stress, they crash.

It's quite easy to recreate, now that we've spent some time tracking it down, just start the machine with for example:

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stress --cpu 12 --io 16 --vm 32 -d 24 --hdd-bytes 10G  
and maybe bonnie++ running in loop, and in few minutes/few hours you've got  
dead machines spewing something like:
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```
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[ 1515.250189] PGD 1a27067 PUD 0  
[ 1515.250189] Thread overran stack, or stack corrupted  
[ 1515.250189] Oops: 0000 [#1] SMP
```

or maybe:

```
[ 1876.747809] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 00000006000000bd  
[ 1876.747815] IP: [<ffffffff8105a4fe>] select_task_rq_fair+0x32e/0xa20  
[ 1876.747823] PGD 12d089067 PUD 0  
[ 1876.747826] Oops: 0000 [#1] SMP
```

or

```
[38764.623677] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 000000000001e440  
[38764.623677] IP: [<ffffffff814c8efe>] _spin_lock+0xe/0x30
```

[38764.623677] PGD 12c7b4067 PUD 12c7b5067 PMD 0  
[38764.623677] Oops: 0002 [#2] SMP  
[38764.623677] last sysfs file: /sys/devices/virtual/block/ram9/stat  
[38764.623677] CPU 1

or sometimes strangely affecting HP smart array, and causing it to disconnect it's raids ( I don't understand how that's possible, but it doesn't happen with old openvz )

Under the same load, classic 2.6.32-openvz kernels do just fine ( although my personal feeling is that rhel6 is way more snappy under such a load ).

It usually takes less then few hours for rhel6 kernel to crash, although with lighter load it might take weeks or months.

Should we continue testing 'stable' branch, or maybe fixes are more likely to be expected in testing 042.x?

best regards, Eyck

--

Key fingerprint = 40D0 9FFB 9939 7320 8294 05E0 BCC7 02C4 75CC 50D9  
Total Existance Failure

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [kir](#) on Tue, 22 Nov 2011 10:34:59 GMT

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On 11/22/2011 12:52 PM, Dariush Pietrzak wrote:

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bugzilla.openvz.org so our kernel guys will start working on that?

>  
>  
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> to be expected in testing 042.x?  
Well it depends. What we have in -testing branch is indeed testing, so

there can be more fixes but more bugs. Generally, if you have multiple machines, I recommend to have a few (perhaps less important ones) running rhel6-testing kernels, while having all the other ones at rhel6 (stable) branch.

The thing is, those -testing kernels are actually candidates for stable repo, and as you can see some of them are then moved to stable (after we do some internal testing to make sure there are no regressions etc).

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [MailingListe](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 10:52:11 GMT

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Zitat von Kir Kolyshkin <[kir@openvz.org](mailto:kir@openvz.org)>:

> On 11/22/2011 12:52 PM, Dariush Pietrzak wrote:

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> bugzilla.openvz.org so our kernel guys will start working on that?
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```

Sad but true it looks like the RHEL6 based kernels have many rough edges. We tried to move from some stable Ubuntu 8.04 based OpenVZ server to RHEL6 based ones, primarily to get better IPv6 support. After some test we got different kernel panics like this one [http://bugzilla.openvz.org/show\\_bug.cgi?id=2095](http://bugzilla.openvz.org/show_bug.cgi?id=2095) and another one when using ipt\_recent iptable rules inside the VE. So basically ip(6)tables is not usable inside VE with RHEL6 based kernels :( We have also tried the Debian 6 included openvz kernel which works fine regarding iptables, but got unkillable processes (vsftpd, apache) spinning at 100% CPU from time to time.

So we have to stick with the Ubuntu 8.04 (2.6.24) OpenVZ until RHEL6 based line really reaches "stable".

Regards

Andreas

## File Attachments

1) [smime.p7s](#), downloaded 628 times

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Dariush Pietrzak](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 12:31:52 GMT

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Looking at bugzilla there are many other similiar reports, one of mine has been closed as fixed, but then returned in exactly the same function after just 6 minutes of stress-testing new kernel.

It's easy to reproduce, just put enough load on the system.

It looks really troubling, both vSwap and 042.x branches look very nice feature-wise, even vzmigrate seems to work fine, which is no small feat, but it kinda feels like stability has been sacrificed to get there.

best regards, Eyck

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Total Existance Failure

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [kir](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 14:42:25 GMT

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On 11/23/2011 04:31 PM, Dariush Pietrzak wrote:

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>> [bugzilla.openvz.org](#) so our kernel guys will start working on that?  
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Have you reopened it already? Can you provide bug number?

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> best regards, Eyck

Guys,

I do understand reasons for your frustration, but so far I have only seen one specific bug mentioned in this thread, namely <http://bugzilla.openvz.org/2095> it was filed yesterday and there is a patch already available for testing. Any other statements like "there are many bugs", "this kernel is unstable" are just not specific enough for me to deal with.

If there are bugs, they need to be reported and fixed, and we, OpenVZ team, partly rely on you, our users. We do have internal QA but can't possibly test all the use cases and scenarios.

Specifically, we rely on having bug reports from you, with full kernel logs (see [http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote\\_console\\_setup](http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote_console_setup)), test cases (as specific and reproducible as possible), and ideally your ability to test patches that developers provide and report your results back to bugzilla.

We treat bug reports very seriously, and we do our best to reproduce your bugs locally and fix them. Again, please be specific and refer to exact bugs in bugzilla when you are having problems with kernel stability, otherwise it's not helpful and I can't do much about it.

Kir.

---

Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [MailingListe](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 15:21:57 GMT

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Zitat von Kir Kolyshkin <[kir@openvz.org](mailto:kir@openvz.org)>:

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> your bugs locally and fix them. Again, please be specific and refer  
> to exact bugs in bugzilla when you are having problems with kernel  
> stability, otherwise it's not helpful and I can't do much about it.  
>  
> Kir.

It was no offense intended from my side. I'm totally aware what we got for free from you and your team. I was only wondering way my short poking around revealed two kernel panics without any esoteric configuration/load involved. So i was wondering if i try to upgrade too early or if no one is using the RHEL6 OpenVZ kernels seriously until now. The first panic is already reported the second will follow as soon as my test server has finished fschk.

Regards

Andreas

## File Attachments

1) [smime.p7s](#), downloaded 645 times

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [MailingListe](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 16:59:29 GMT

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Zitat von Kir Kolyshkin <[kir@openvz.org](mailto:kir@openvz.org)>:

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> cases (as specific and reproducible as possible), and ideally your

> ability to test patches that developers provide and report your

> results back to bugzilla.

Okay, can someone with a bugzilla account please confirm and create a

bug with this one:

Kernel (uname -a): 2.6.32-042stab039.11 as x86\_64 installed on CentOS 6 HN

steps to reproduce:

- use a Ubuntu 10.04 i386 (32 bit) template and create a VE
- load ipt\_recent in vz.conf
- start the VE and use something like this "iptables -A INPUT -p tcp --dport 25 -m conntrack --ctstate NEW -m recent --name SMTP --set" inside the VE
- exit the VE and execute vzctl stop <VE-ID> at the HN

The result is the following kernel panic

```
[ 202.003789] libfcoe_device_notification: NETDEV_UNREGISTER venet0
[ 202.050580] libfcoe_device_notification: NETDEV_UNREGISTER lo
[ 202.089227] BUG: unable to handle kernel NULL pointer dereference
at 0000000000000038
[ 202.089250] IP: [<fffffffa05690ff>] fini_ipt_recent+0x1f/0x50 [xt_recent]
[ 202.089271] PGD 6bcb2067 PUD 64d37067 PMD 0
[ 202.089290] Oops: 0000 [#1] SMP
[ 202.089309] last sysfs file:
/sys/devices/pci0000:00/0000:00:07.0/net/eth0/type
[ 202.089322] CPU 0
[ 202.089329] Modules linked in: netconsole configfs vethdev simfs
vzrst nf_nat vzcpt nfs lockd fscache nfs_acl auth_rpcgss vzdquota
xt_conntrack ip6t_REJECT ip6table_mangle ip6table_filter ip6_tables
nf_conntrack_ftp nf_conntrack_ipv4 nf_conntrack nf_defrag_ipv4
xt_recent xt_length xt_hl xt_tcpmss xt_TCPMSS iptable_mangle
iptable_filter xt_multiport xt_limit xt_dscp ipt_REJECT ip_tables
vzevent fcoe libfcoe libfc scsi_transport_fc scsi_tgt 8021q garp stp
llc sunrpc vznetdev vzmon vzdev ipv6 ppdev parport_pc parport k10temp
hwmon edac_core edac_mce_amd shpchp sg snd_hda_codec_via snd_hda_intel
snd_hda_codec snd_hwdep snd_seq snd_seq_device snd_pcm snd_timer snd
soundcore snd_page_alloc i2c_nforce2 ext4 mbcache jbd2 sr_mod cdrom
sd_mod crc_t10dif pata_amd ata_generic pata_acpi sata_nv forcedeth
nouveau ttm drm_kms_helper drm i2c_algo_bit i2c_core video output
dm_mod [last unloaded: scsi_wait_scan]
[ 202.089691]
[ 202.089696] Modules linked in: netconsole configfs vethdev simfs
vzrst nf_nat vzcpt nfs lockd fscache nfs_acl auth_rpcgss vzdquota
xt_conntrack ip6t_REJECT ip6table_mangle ip6table_filter ip6_tables
nf_conntrack_ftp nf_conntrack_ipv4 nf_conntrack nf_defrag_ipv4
xt_recent xt_length xt_hl xt_tcpmss xt_TCPMSS iptable_mangle
iptable_filter xt_multiport xt_limit xt_dscp ipt_REJECT ip_tables
vzevent fcoe libfcoe libfc scsi_transport_fc scsi_tgt 8021q garp stp
llc sunrpc vznetdev vzmon vzdev ipv6 ppdev parport_pc parport k10temp
hwmon edac_core edac_mce_amd shpchp sg snd_hda_codec_via snd_hda_intel
```

```
snd_hda_codec snd_hwdep snd_seq snd_seq_device snd_pcm snd_timer snd
soundcore snd_page_alloc i2c_nforce2 ext4 mbcache jbd2 sr_mod cdrom
sd_mod crc_t10dif pata_amd ata_generic pata_acpi sata_nv forcedeth
nouveau ttm drm_kms_helper drm i2c_algo_bit i2c_core video output
dm_mod [last unloaded: scsi_wait_scan]
[ 202.090036] Pid: 25, comm: netns Not tainted 2.6.32-042stab039.11
#1 042stab039_11 To Be Filled By O.E.M.
[ 202.090047] RIP: 0010:[<ffffffffffa05690ff>] [<ffffffffffa05690ff>]
fini_ipt_recent+0x1f/0x50 [xt_recent]
[ 202.090065] RSP: 0018:ffff88006f115ce0 EFLAGS: 00010282
[ 202.090073] RAX: 0000000000000000 RBX: ffff8800378b3800 RCX:
0000000000000000
[ 202.090083] RDX: 0000000000000003 RSI: 0000000000000000 RDI:
ffffffffffa056a3ac
[ 202.090094] RBP: ffff88006f115cf0 R08: 0000000000000000 R09:
000000000000001f8
[ 202.090103] R10: ffff8800378a6000 R11: 0000000000000000 R12:
ffff88006bb058e0
[ 202.090112] R13: ffff88006bb05000 R14: ffff88006bb058e0 R15:
0000000000000080
[ 202.090123] FS: 00007f22b35fe700(0000) GS:ffff880002600000(0000)
kniGS:00000000b772b8d0
[ 202.090193] CS: 0010 DS: 0018 ES: 0018 CR0: 000000008005003b
[ 202.090193] CR2: 0000000000000038 CR3: 00000000372e1000 CR4:
000000000000006f0
[ 202.090193] DR0: 0000000000000000 DR1: 0000000000000000 DR2:
0000000000000000
[ 202.090193] DR3: 0000000000000000 DR6: 00000000ffff0ff0 DR7:
0000000000000400
[ 202.090193] Process netns (pid: 25, veid=0, threadinfo
ffff88006f114000, task ffff88006f112ec0)
[ 202.090193] Stack:
[ 202.090193] ffff88006bb058e0 ffff8800378b3800 ffff88006f115d30
ffffffffffa05692e9
[ 202.090193] <0> ffff88006b099800 00000000000000158 ffff88006b099958
ffff88006b099800
[ 202.090193] <0> ffff88006b099800 fffffffffffa0545660 ffff88006f115d60
ffffffffffa05222c5
[ 202.090193] Call Trace:
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffffa05692e9>] recent_mt_destroy+0x149/0x150 [xt_recent]
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffffa05222c5>] cleanup_match+0x45/0x60 [ip_tables]
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffff810a3f77>] ? uncharge_beancounter+0x57/0x70
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffffa05223d5>] cleanup_entry+0x65/0xc0 [ip_tables]
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffffa0524def>] ipt_unregister_table+0x5f/0x90
[ip_tables]
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffffa054502c>] iptable_filter_net_exit+0x2c/0x30
[iptable_filter]
[ 202.090193] [<ffffffffff8140a94e>] cleanup_net+0x8e/0xe0
```

```
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff8140a8c0>] ? cleanup_net+0x0/0xe0
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff8108c220>] worker_thread+0x190/0x2d0
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff81092680>] ? autoremove_wake_function+0x0/0x40
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff8108c090>] ? worker_thread+0x0/0x2d0
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff810920a6>] kthread+0x96/0xa0
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff8100c2ca>] child_rip+0xa/0x20
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff81092010>] ? kthread+0x0/0xa0
[ 202.090193] [<ffffff8100c2c0>] ? child_rip+0x0/0x20
[ 202.090193] Code: 1c 24 c9 c3 0f 1f 84 00 00 00 00 00 55 48 89 e5
53 48 83 ec 08 0f 1f 44 00 00 48 8b 87 70 03 00 00 48 89 fb 48 c7 c7
ac a3 56 a0 <48> 8b 70 38 e8 68 68 c8 e0 48 8b bb 20 02 00 00 e8 ec 9f
c0 e0
[ 202.090193] RIP [<ffffffa05690ff>] fini_ipt_recent+0x1f/0x50 [xt_recent]
[ 202.090193] RSP <ffff88006f115ce0>
[ 202.090193] CR2: 0000000000000038
[ 202.120364] ---[ end trace 6b08bce91c3d45d5 ]---
[ 202.121379] Kernel panic - not syncing: Fatal exception
[ 202.122386] Pid: 25, comm: netns Tainted: G    D
----- 2.6.32-042stab039.11 #1
[ 202.122389] Call Trace:
[ 202.122398] [<ffffff814c3a31>] ? panic+0x78/0x143
[ 202.122402] [<ffffff814c7d14>] ? oops_end+0xe4/0x100
[ 202.122407] [<ffffff81040c5b>] ? no_context+0xfb/0x260
[ 202.122410] [<ffffff81040ed5>] ? __bad_area_nosemaphore+0x115/0x1e0
[ 202.122413] [<ffffff81040fb3>] ? bad_area_nosemaphore+0x13/0x20
[ 202.122417] [<ffffff8104168d>] ? __do_page_fault+0x31d/0x480
[ 202.122420] [<ffffff814c427a>] ? thread_return+0x4e/0x854
```

Thanks

Andreas

## File Attachments

1) [smime.p7s](#), downloaded 585 times

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [kir](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 17:13:27 GMT

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---

On 11/23/2011 08:59 PM, Ist\_hoe02@kwsoft.de wrote:

> Zitat von Kir Kolyshkin<kir@openvz.org>:

>

>> On 11/23/2011 04:31 PM, Dariush Pietrzak wrote:

>>> I am very sad to hear this. Could you please file a bug to

>>> [bugzilla.openvz.org](#) so our kernel guys will start working on that?

>>> Looking at bugzilla there are many other similiar reports, one of mine has  
>>> been closed as fixed, but then returned in exactly the same function after  
>>> just 6 minutes of stress-testing new kernel.  
>>> It's easy to reproduce, just put enough load on the system.  
>> Have you reopened it already? Can you provide bug number?  
>>  
>>> It looks really troubling, both vSwap and 042.x branches look very nice  
>>> feature-wise, even vzmigrate seems to work fine, which is no small feat,  
>>> but it kinda feels like stability has been sacrificed to get there.  
>>>  
>>> best regards, Eyck  
>> Guys,  
>>  
>> I do understand reasons for your frustration, but so far I have only  
>> seen one specific bug mentioned in this thread, namely  
>> <http://bugzilla.openvz.org/2095> it was filed yesterday and there is  
>> a patch already available for testing. Any other statements like  
>> "there are many bugs", "this kernel is unstable" are just not  
>> specific enough for me to deal with.  
>>  
>> If there are bugs, they need to be reported and fixed, and we,  
>> OpenVZ team, partly rely on you, our users. We do have internal QA  
>> but can't possibly test all the use cases and scenarios.  
>>  
>> Specifically, we rely on having bug reports from you, with full  
>> kernel logs (see [http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote\\_console\\_setup](http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote_console_setup)), test  
>> cases (as specific and reproducible as possible), and ideally your  
>> ability to test patches that developers provide and report your  
>> results back to bugzilla.  
> Okay, can someone with a bugzilla account please confirm and create a  
> bug with this one:

Pardon my curiosity, but why you need someone to act as your proxy filing bugs into bugzilla? I mean, I could create a bug, then a developer will ask you for some additional info, and I will have to ask you and then copy/paste your reply to the bug report, and so on and so forth. Why make things more complicated?

Bugzilla accounts are free and instant, just go to <http://bugzilla.openvz.org/createaccount.cgi> and enter your email.

---

Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Sharp](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 17:20:06 GMT

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---

On Wed, Nov 23, 2011 at 8:59 PM, <[lst\\_hoe02@kwsoft.de](mailto:lst_hoe02@kwsoft.de)> wrote:

> Okay, can someone with a bugzilla account please confirm and create a bug  
> with this one:

You should sign up there and create the bug yourself.

That's the whole point of bug reporting -- interaction with devs. They can ask you to provide some more details or they can give you a patch to test. They will need \*you\* directly to make things fast, not the middleman.

--

SY, Ilya A. Otyutskiy aka Sharp

---

---

Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [MailingListe](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 17:25:13 GMT

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---

Zitat von Kir Kolyshkin <[kir@openvz.org](mailto:kir@openvz.org)>:

> On 11/23/2011 08:59 PM, [Ist\\_hoe02@kwsoft.de](mailto:Ist_hoe02@kwsoft.de) wrote:

>> Zitat von Kir Kolyshkin<[kir@openvz.org](mailto:kir@openvz.org)>:

>>>

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>>> Guys,

>>>>

>>>>> I do understand reasons for your frustration, but so far I have only

>>>>> seen one specific bug mentioned in this thread, namely

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>> Okay, can someone with a bugzilla account please confirm and create a  
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> filing bugs into bugzilla? I mean, I could create a bug, then a  
> developer will ask you for some additional info, and I will have to  
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> Bugzilla accounts are free and instant, just go to  
> <http://bugzilla.openvz.org/createaccount.cgi> and enter your email.

I already have countless accounts at numerous  
bugzilla/forums/whatever, so i try to avoid creating throw away  
accounts (Karteileichen) as much as possible. As some of the  
developers must confirm/reproduce the bug anyway it was may impression  
it would be smart to avoid just-another-account-somewhere.

But if it helps, so it be

Regards

Andreas

## File Attachments

1) [smime.p7s](#), downloaded 593 times

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for  
production

Posted by [kir](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2011 20:29:12 GMT

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---

On 11/23/2011 09:25 PM, [Ist\\_hoe02@kwsoft.de](mailto:Ist_hoe02@kwsoft.de) wrote:

> I already have countless accounts at numerous  
> bugzilla/forums/whatever, so i try to avoid creating throw away  
> accounts (Karteileichen) as much as possible. As some of the  
> developers must confirm/reproduce the bug anyway it was may impression  
> it would be smart to avoid just-another-account-somewhere.

I am with you here, and I always wanted to add openid support to our bugzilla instance. Unfortunately it looks like openid support for bugzilla is taking forever to be finished. You can see my name in votes for bugzilla.mozilla.org bug #294608 "Support OpenID as a an account source and login verification method" at [https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/page.cgi?id=voting/bug.html& ;bug\\_id=294608](https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/page.cgi?id=voting/bug.html& ;bug_id=294608)

While this is still a work in progress, I'm afraid registering at our bugzilla is the only way to have the OpenVZ bugs you came across fixed.

> But if it helps, so it be

Thank you!

---

Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Dariush Pietrzak](#) on Thu, 24 Nov 2011 09:44:59 GMT

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---

> Have you reopened it already? Can you provide bug number?

BUG 2080.

I reopened, got told that that is completely different issue, then encountered exactly the same issue on supposedly fixed kernel, so reopened again.

> Any other statements like

> "there are many bugs", "this kernel is unstable" are just not

> specific enough for me to deal with.

That's why I wanted to provide a way to reproduce the problem, I would imagine that overnight stresstest would already be a part of your internal QA.

This got through our own QA probably because we were running only 'stress' app, only when we added parallel bonnie+ ( which we did, because production machines that were crashing all had significant IO on them as common thing ).

> If there are bugs, they need to be reported and fixed, and we,

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> but can't possibly test all the use cases and scenarios.

>

> Specifically, we rely on having bug reports from you, with full

> kernel logs (see [http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote\\_console\\_setup](http://wiki.openvz.org/Remote_console_setup)), test

> cases (as specific and reproducible as possible), and ideally your

> ability to test patches that developers provide and report your

> results back to bugzilla.  
>  
> We treat bug reports very seriously, and we do our best to reproduce  
> your bugs locally and fix them. Again, please be specific and refer

That's very nice and correct, can you please tell me if the issue I can see here has been reproduced and is too hard to fix, or maybe it's not reproducible, and then, how can I help in reproducing them.

As I said, from my point of view, the issue is trivially reproducible, results in crashes manifesting themselves in few different ways, so I assume that means multiple different bugs, or something more fundamental.

best regards, Eyck

--

Key fingerprint = 40D0 9FFB 9939 7320 8294 05E0 BCC7 02C4 75CC 50D9  
Total Existence Failure

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [MailingListe](#) on Thu, 24 Nov 2011 11:27:23 GMT

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---

Zitat von Dariush Pietrzak <ml-openvz-eyck@kuszelas.eu>:

>> Have you reopened it already? Can you provide bug number?

>

> BUG 2080.

> I reopened, got told that that is completely different issue, then  
> encountered exactly the same issue on supposedly fixed kernel,  
> so reopened again.

>

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> 'stress' app, only when we added parallel bonnie+ ( which we did, because  
> production machines that were crashing all had significant IO on them as  
> common thing ).

Just out of curiosity i use my kernel crash-test setup to test with "stress" and "bonnie". I simply use the OpenVZ-Kernel with two container (ubuntu-10.04) and let one run stress and the other bonnie.

The load is at 15 but the machine is humming along since around 4 hours...

Is it possible that your problem arise from the io devices used?

Regards

Andreas

## File Attachments

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1) [smime.p7s](#), downloaded 587 times

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Dariush Pietrzak](#) on Thu, 24 Nov 2011 12:15:39 GMT

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> Just out of curiosity i use my kernel crash-test setup to test with  
> "stress" and "bonnie". I simply use the OpenVZ-Kernel with two  
> container (ubuntu-10.04) and let one run stress and the other  
> bonnie. The load is at 15 but the machine is humming along since  
> around 4 hours...

With such low load we also couldn't crash it in timely matter.  
With lightly loaded machines we endured months without crash.

I use this:

```
stress -c 22 -i 24 -m 8 -d 20 --hdd-bytes 10G
```

and this:

```
while (true)
do
bonnie++ -d /fs/v/bonnie/ -c 8 -b -f -u root
echo next
done
```

in parallel, I don't even have to run it inside containers.

(test machine is single 4-core Xeon E5320, with 4G ram and two 146G raid 1s joined by lvm. With loadavg 50-80 we get crashes after few hours).

> Is it possible that your problem arise from the io devices used?

Possible, but unlikely, we first noticed crashed using FC devices, and then moved to testing on small P400i with 256M ram. One of the most affected machines used P410i controller, which is very similiar and the same generation as P400i.

I can re-test on FC again.

And while IO load seems to be necessary to cause crash, resulting oops-es are similiar, very often account\_system\_time appears:

[38766.228063] panic occurred, switching back to text console  
[38766.228063] BUG: scheduling while atomic: stress/1962/0x10000100  
(this is identical to what we saw in production, only with 'java' instead  
of 'stress')

[38766.227505] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 0000000000021300  
[38766.227509] IP: [<ffffff81050ec4>] update\_curr+0x154/0x200  
[38766.227514] PGD 12c7b4067 PUD 12c7b5067 PMD 0

[38764.623677] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 000000000001e440  
[38764.623677] IP: [<ffffff814c8efe>] \_spin\_lock+0xe/0x30

[38764.599189] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 0000000000019550  
[38764.599189] IP: [<ffffff8105674f>] account\_system\_time+0xaf/0x1f0

[ 1876.747809] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 00000006000000bd  
[ 1876.747815] IP: [<ffffff8105a4fe>] select\_task\_rq\_fair+0x32e/0xa20

[ 1515.270063] BUG: unable to handle kernel paging request at 00000004047118e0  
[ 1515.270063] IP: [<ffffff81050aad>] task\_rq\_lock+0x4d/0xa0

best regards, Eyck

--

Key fingerprint = 40D0 9FFB 9939 7320 8294 05E0 BCC7 02C4 75CC 50D9  
Total Existence Failure

---

Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for  
production

Posted by [MailingListe](#) on Fri, 25 Nov 2011 09:39:39 GMT

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---

Zitat von Dariush Pietrzak <ml-openvz-eyck@kuszelas.eu>:

>> Just out of curiosity i use my kernel crash-test setup to test with  
>> "stress" and "bonnie". I simply use the OpenVZ-Kernel with two  
>> container (ubuntu-10.04) and let one run stress and the other  
>> bonnie. The load is at 15 but the machine is humming along since  
>> around 4 hours...

> With such low load we also couldn't crash it in timely matter.  
> With lightly loaded machines we endured months without crash.

>

> I use this:

> stress -c 22 -i 24 -m 8 -d 20 --hdd-bytes 10G

> and this:

> while (true)

> do

> bonnie++ -d /fs/v/bonnie/ -c 8 -b -f -u root

> echo next  
> done  
> in parallel, I don't even have to run it inside containers.  
> (test machine is single 4-core Xeon E5320, with 4G ram and two 146G raid 1s  
> joined by lvm. With loadavg 50-80 we get crashes after few hours).

So i tried loading the kernel harder. With a load of about 48 it was still stable, if i raise the number for c,i,m,d even more, the OOM killer jumps in and from that point the whole machine freeze, but does not panic???

Regards

Andreas

### File Attachments

1) [smime.p7s](#), downloaded 595 times

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Dariush Pietrzak](#) on Fri, 25 Nov 2011 13:26:02 GMT

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> >(test machine is single 4-core Xeon E5320, with 4G ram and two 146G raid 1s  
> >joined by lvm. With loadavg 50-80 we get crashes after few hours).

>

> So i tried loading the kernel harder. With a load of about 48 it was  
> still stable, if i raise the number for c,i,m,d even more, the OOM  
> killer jumps in and from that point the whole machine freeze, but  
> does not panic???

That would be good first sign, maybe the parameters I provided are specific for that DL360 machine, will test again on something larger.

regards, Eyck

--

Key fingerprint = 40D0 9FFB 9939 7320 8294 05E0 BCC7 02C4 75CC 50D9  
Total Existence Failure

---

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Dariush Pietrzak](#) on Wed, 30 Nov 2011 09:34:27 GMT

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---

> still stable, if i raise the number for c,i,m,d even more, the OOM

Just an update - with 042stab039.11 + bdi patch I was also unable to re-create the original problem, we also tried much higher loads ( memtester 52G 100 + stress -c 240 -i 24 -m 48 --vm-bytes 1024MB -d 20 --hdd-bytes 12G + bonnie++ ) and the problem does not return.

We did encounter another 'hp smartarray disconnecting raids' problems on another test machine, but no kernel oops, and the problem seems hardware-related, thanks.

best regards, Eyck

--

Key fingerprint = 40D0 9FFB 9939 7320 8294 05E0 BCC7 02C4 75CC 50D9  
Total Existance Failure

---

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Stephen Balukoff](#) on Thu, 01 Dec 2011 22:03:55 GMT

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---

We're also seeing a big increase in instability since moving to the RHEL 6 kernels. Specifically, our typical platform consists of a Supermicro motherboard with dual 12-core AMD procs (ie. 24 in one system); The most frustrating part is that the symptom we're seeing is highly intermittent (sometimes it takes 10 minutes to trigger, sometimes several days), and doesn't result in a kernel panic or dump per se. Instead what we're seeing is an unresponsive system (still responding to ping, but all services on the box are unresponsive), with this scrolling by on the console:

```
BUG: soft lockup - CPU#22 stuck for 67s! [node:585441]
```

```
BUG: soft lockup - CPU#23 stuck for 68s! [node:585419]
```

(multiple times per second, repeating all the different process numbers and many different processes running within containers).

We're going to file a bug report on this, of course, but wondered if there was anything else we can do here to get any other information which can help the devs to come up with the cause and hopefully fix for the above? (Again, we're not getting a panic, and we're not able to do anything on the console.)

Thanks,  
Stephen

--

Stephen Balukoff  
Blue Box Group, LLC

---

Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Stephen Balukoff](#) on Thu, 01 Dec 2011 22:06:48 GMT

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---

Oh! And for what it's worth, we're seeing this on both the latest stable RHEL6 kernel, as well as the latest testing RHEL6 kernel available in the repositories for download. (That is, 042stab39.11 and 042stab044.1 respectively).

Stephen

On Thu, Dec 1, 2011 at 2:03 PM, Stephen Balukoff <[sbalukoff@bluebox.net](mailto:sbalukoff@bluebox.net)> wrote:

> We're also seeing a big increase in instability since moving to the  
> RHEL 6 kernels. Specifically, our typical platform consists of a  
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>

> Thanks,

> Stephen

>

>

> --

> Stephen Balukoff

> Blue Box Group, LLC

> (800)613-4305 x807

--

Stephen Balukoff  
Blue Box Group, LLC  
(800)613-4305 x807

---

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Subject: Re: Is there a stable OpenVZ kernel, and which should be fit for production

Posted by [Stephen Balukoff](#) on Fri, 02 Dec 2011 00:39:57 GMT

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Ok, y'all:

We managed to get a call trace. I've opened the following bug on this issue: [http://bugzilla.openvz.org/show\\_bug.cgi?id=2110](http://bugzilla.openvz.org/show_bug.cgi?id=2110)

Anything else I can do or provide to get traction on getting a developer to look at this? (This is a complete show-stopper for our Scientific Linux 6.1 OpenVZ roll-out.)

Stephen

On Thu, Dec 1, 2011 at 2:06 PM, Stephen Balukoff <[sbalukoff@bluebox.net](mailto:sbalukoff@bluebox.net)> wrote:

> Oh! And for what it's worth, we're seeing this on both the latest  
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>> Stephen Balukoff  
>> Blue Box Group, LLC  
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>

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