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Subject: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance desaster

Posted by [futureweb](#) on Mon, 15 Jan 2018 13:15:35 GMT

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Hey there,

I know it's about Virtuozzo 7 (already got Support Ticket #18222 because of this) and not OpenVZ - but I'm interested if same Performance Problems are observed with OpenVZ ...

Since Meltdown/Spectre Patches the Performance dropped to unuseable levels. I patched one of our Root Servers which is running 1 (ONE) productive Container with EZ CMS (Apache 2.4.6, PHP 5.6.32) and MySQL/MariaDB DB (5.5.56) to latest VZ Kernel (3.10.0-693.11.6.vz7.40.4) Root Server is HPE Gen9 Blade Server (Xeon CPU E5-2640 v3 @ 2.60GHz), Storage is Virtuozzo Storage running on SSD only (1-2GB/s Performance) - so rather good Hardware Specs

...

So here what happened when I bootet to patched Kernel:

completely unusable ... Load AVG spiked up to 150 and more (peaks up to over 200)

Disabling the Security Patches brings the Load down to normal:

Quote:tee /sys/kernel/debug/x86/\*enabled <<< 0

Answer from Virtuozzo Support:

Essentially this means I can either patch Virtuozzo against Spectre and cripple the Performance that much that the Server is unuseable - or I decide to not patch the Server - keep good Performance but stay vulnerable to Spectre ...

Both options not really satisfactory ...

Anyone else observed similiar issues on OpenVZ? Or got a good Tip for me?

thx, bye from sunny Austria  
Andreas Schnederle-Wagner

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Subject: Re: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance desaster

Posted by [viadck](#) on Mon, 15 Jan 2018 17:00:08 GMT

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Hi,

We run openvz6 on our nodes and we have also seen an important performace impact as explained here: [https://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=tree&goto=53129&S=e69f527aaf3966212d966f6e92e8180f#msg\\_53129](https://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=tree&goto=53129&S=e69f527aaf3966212d966f6e92e8180f#msg_53129)

I suppose it's all quite related, independent of which exact OS used.

Disabling the problematic software in this case (clamav) has stabilized things on that particular node but I understand that this is only a workaround. But we can't really think of anything else if we want be protected..

Regards!

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Subject: Re: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance desaster

Posted by [wishd](#) on Tue, 16 Jan 2018 14:47:48 GMT

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I have not personally seen the impact on openvz6 accross many servers. However openvz7 (not virtuozzo) I did experience something posted at <https://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=tree&th=13427&s tart=0> which perhaps is related to what you are seeing.

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Subject: Re: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance desaster

Posted by [futureweb](#) on Tue, 16 Jan 2018 19:09:04 GMT

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wishd wrote on Tue, 16 January 2018 15:47 I have not personally seen the impact on openvz6 accross many servers. However openvz7 (not virtuozzo) I did experience something posted at <https://forum.openvz.org/index.php?t=tree&th=13427&s tart=0> which perhaps is related to what you are seeing.

Haven't noticed similiar Problems on any of our Nodes ... just the Problem I described in my inital post.

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Subject: Re: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance desaster

Posted by [wishd](#) on Wed, 17 Jan 2018 15:33:32 GMT

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futureweb - out of curiosity do you have kmemsize limits set?

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Subject: Re: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance desaster

Posted by [futureweb](#) on Wed, 17 Jan 2018 15:40:11 GMT

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wishd wrote on Wed, 17 January 2018 16:33 futureweb - out of curiosity do you have kmemsize limits set?  
nope

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Quote:[root@xxx ~]# cat /proc/user\_beancounters

Version: 2.5

uid resource	held	maxheld	barrier	limit	failcnt
xxx: kmemsize	1107066880	2246660096	9223372036854775807		
9223372036854775807	0				

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Subject: Re: Virtuozzo 7 - Meltdown/Spectre Patch Performance disaster

Posted by [bjdea1](#) on Tue, 23 Jan 2018 23:45:05 GMT

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Spectre and Meltdown: Linux creator Linus Torvalds criticises Intel's 'garbage' patches

Updated: 'We are actively engaging with the Linux community, including Linus,' says Intel.

Linus Torvalds is not happy about the patches that Intel has developed to protect the Linux kernel from the Spectre and Linux flaws.

In a posting on the Linux kernel mailing list, the Linux creator criticised differences in the way that Intel approached patches for the Meltdown and Spectre flaws. He said of the patches: "They do literally insane things. They do things that do not make sense."

Torvalds added: "And I really don't want to see these garbage patches just mindlessly sent around."

<http://www.zdnet.com/article/spectre-and-meltdown-linux-creator-linus-torvalds-criticises-intels-garbage-patches/>

Stop using our faulty patches: Intel

Intel is updating patches to fix security holes in its chips that leave users exposed to the Meltdown and Spectre flaws and help hackers steal information.

Updated Updated 1 day ago

Intel Corp has asked computer makers to stop rolling out a set of faulty patches it issued to fix security flaws in its chips and instead start testing an updated version.

The company said on Monday that it wanted computer manufacturers and data centre owners to stop using the current fixes for the so-called Meltdown and Spectre security flaws, which can let hackers steal sensitive information from computers made with its processors.

The patches, which the company spent months crafting, cause computers to reboot more often than normal.

Instead, Intel asked customers to start testing an updated version of its patches that it began

sending out on Saturday and Sunday. Intel also said it had identified the root cause of the reboot problem in its older Broadwell and Haswell processors.

[https://www.sbs.com.au/news/stop-using-our-faulty-patches-in tel](https://www.sbs.com.au/news/stop-using-our-faulty-patches-in-tel)

Looks like Intel has made bit of a mess of this. Does this affect Openvz?

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