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Subject: [RFC][PATCH 0/7] Resource controllers based on process containers  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 14:42:52 GMT  
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This patchset adds RSS, accounting and control and limiting the number of tasks and files within container.

Based on top of Paul Menage's container subsystem v7

RSS controller includes per-container RSS accounter, reclamation and OOM killer. It behaves like standalone machine - when container runs out of resources it tries to reclaim some pages and if it doesn't succeed in it kills some task which mm\_struct belongs to container in question.

Num tasks and files containers are very simple and self-descriptive from code.

As discussed before when a task moves from one container to another no resources follow it - they keep holding the container they were allocated in.

The difficulties met during using of Pauls' containers were:

1. Container fork hook is placed before new task changes. This makes impossible of handling fork properly. I.e. new mm\_struct should have pointer to RSS container, but we don't have one at that early time.
2. Extended containers may register themselves too late. Kernel threads/helpers start forking, opening files and touching pages much earlier. This patchset workarounds this in not-so-cute manner and I'm waiting for Paul's comments on this issue.

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Subject: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 14:47:25 GMT  
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Introduce generic structures and routines for resource accounting.

Each resource accounting container is supposed to aggregate it, container\_subsystem\_state and its resource-specific members within.

```

diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,83 @@
+ #ifndef __RES_COUNTER_H__
+ #define __RES_COUNTER_H__
+ /*
+  * resource counters
+  *
+  * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+  *
+  * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+  *
+  */
+
+ #include <linux/container.h>
+
+ struct res_counter {
+  unsigned long usage;
+  unsigned long limit;
+  unsigned long failcnt;
+  spinlock_t lock;
+ };
+
+ enum {
+  RES_USAGE,
+  RES_LIMIT,
+  RES_FAILCNT,
+ };
+
+ ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
+  const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
+ ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
+  const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
+
+ static inline void res_counter_init(struct res_counter *cnt)
+ {
+  spin_lock_init(&cnt->lock);
+  cnt->limit = (unsigned long)LONG_MAX;
+ }
+
+ static inline int res_counter_charge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
+  unsigned long val)
+ {
+  if (cnt->usage <= cnt->limit - val) {
+    cnt->usage += val;
+    return 0;

```

```

+ }
+
+ cnt->failcnt++;
+ return -ENOMEM;
+}
+
+static inline int res_counter_charge(struct res_counter *cnt,
+ unsigned long val)
+{
+ int ret;
+ unsigned long flags;
+
+ spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
+ ret = res_counter_charge_locked(cnt, val);
+ spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
+ return ret;
+}
+
+static inline void res_counter_uncharge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
+ unsigned long val)
+{
+ if (unlikely(cnt->usage < val)) {
+ WARN_ON(1);
+ val = cnt->usage;
+ }
+
+ cnt->usage -= val;
+}
+
+static inline void res_counter_uncharge(struct res_counter *cnt,
+ unsigned long val)
+{
+ unsigned long flags;
+
+ spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
+ res_counter_uncharge_locked(cnt, val);
+ spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
+}
+
+ #endif
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -265,6 +265,10 @@ config CPUSETS

```

Say N if unsure.

+config RESOURCE\_COUNTERS

```

+ bool
+ select CONTAINERS
+
config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
default y
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -51,6 +51,7 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_RELAY) += relay.o
obj-$(CONFIG_UTS_NS) += utsname.o
obj-$(CONFIG_TASK_DELAY_ACCT) += delayacct.o
obj-$(CONFIG_TASKSTATS) += taskstats.o tsacct.o
+obj-$(CONFIG_RESOURCE_COUNTERS) += res_counter.o

ifneq ($(CONFIG_SCHED_NO_NO_OMIT_FRAME_POINTER),y)
# According to Alan Modra <alan@linuxcare.com.au>, the -fno-omit-frame-pointer is
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,72 @@
+/*
+ * resource containers
+ *
+ * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+ *
+ * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+ *
+ */
+
+#include <linux/parser.h>
+#include <linux/fs.h>
+#include <linux/res_counter.h>
+#include <asm/uaccess.h>
+
+static inline unsigned long *res_counter_member(struct res_counter *cnt, int member)
+{
+ switch (member) {
+ case RES_USAGE:
+ return &cnt->usage;
+ case RES_LIMIT:
+ return &cnt->limit;
+ case RES_FAILCNT:
+ return &cnt->failcnt;
+ };
+
+ BUG();
+ return NULL;

```

```

+}
+
+ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
+ const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
+{
+ unsigned long *val;
+ char buf[64], *s;
+
+ s = buf;
+ val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
+ s += sprintf(s, "%lu\n", *val);
+ return simple_read_from_buffer((void __user *)userbuf, nbytes,
+ pos, buf, s - buf);
+}
+
+ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
+ const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
+{
+ int ret;
+ char *buf, *end;
+ unsigned long tmp, *val;
+
+ buf = kmalloc(nbytes + 1, GFP_KERNEL);
+ ret = -ENOMEM;
+ if (buf == NULL)
+ goto out;
+
+ buf[nbytes] = 0;
+ ret = -EFAULT;
+ if (copy_from_user(buf, userbuf, nbytes))
+ goto out_free;
+
+ ret = -EINVAL;
+ tmp = simple_strtoul(buf, &end, 10);
+ if (*end != '\0')
+ goto out_free;
+
+ val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
+ *val = tmp;
+ ret = nbytes;
+out_free:
+ kfree(buf);
+out:
+ return ret;
+}

```

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Subject: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 14:53:26 GMT  
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This includes setup of RSS container within generic process containers, all the declarations used in RSS accounting, and core code responsible for accounting.

```
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rss_container.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rss_container.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rss_container.h 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rss_container.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,68 @@
+#ifndef __RSS_CONTAINER_H__
+#define __RSS_CONTAINER_H__
+/*
+ * RSS container
+ *
+ * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+ *
+ * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+ */
+
+struct page_container;
+struct rss_container;
+
+#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
+int container_rss_prepare(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *vma,
+ struct page_container **);
+
+void container_rss_add(struct page_container *);
+void container_rss_del(struct page_container *);
+void container_rss_release(struct page_container *);
+
+int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk);
+void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm);
+
+unsigned long container_isolate_pages(unsigned long nr_to_scan,
+ struct rss_container *rss, struct list_head *dst,
+ int active, unsigned long *scanned);
+unsigned long container_nr_physpages(struct rss_container *rss);
+
+unsigned long container_try_to_free_pages(struct rss_container *);
+void container_out_of_memory(struct rss_container *);
+
+void container_rss_init_early(void);
+#else
+static inline int container_rss_prepare(struct page *pg,
+ struct vm_area_struct *vma, struct page_container **pc)
```



```

diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/mm/Makefile
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/Makefile 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -29,3 +29,5 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_MEMORY_HOTPLUG) += memory_h
obj-$(CONFIG_FS_XIP) += filemap_xip.o
obj-$(CONFIG_MIGRATION) += migrate.o
obj-$(CONFIG_SMP) += allocpercpu.o
+
+obj-$(CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER) += rss_container.o
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rss_container.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rss_container.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,307 @@
+/*
+ * RSS accounting container
+ *
+ * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+ *
+ * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+ *
+ */
+
+#include <linux/list.h>
+#include <linux/sched.h>
+#include <linux/mm.h>
+#include <linux/res_counter.h>
+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
+static struct container_subsys rss_subsys;
+
+struct rss_container {
+ struct res_counter res;
+ struct list_head page_list;
+ struct container_subsys_state css;
+};
+
+struct page_container {
+ struct page *page;
+ struct rss_container *cnt;
+ struct list_head list;
+};
+
+static inline struct rss_container *rss_from_cont(struct container *cnt)
+{
+ return container_of(container_subsys_state(cnt, &rss_subsys),
+ struct rss_container, css);
+}
+

```



```

+int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk)
+{
+ struct rss_container *cnt;
+
+ cnt = rss_from_cont(task_container(tsk, &rss_subsys));
+ if (css_get(&cnt->css))
+ return -EBUSY;
+
+ mm->rss_container = cnt;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm)
+{
+ css_put(&mm->rss_container->css);
+}
+
+int container_rss_prepare(struct page *page, struct vm_area_struct *vma,
+ struct page_container **ppc)
+{
+ struct rss_container *rss;
+ struct page_container *pc;
+
+ rcu_read_lock();
+ rss = rcu_dereference(vma->vm_mm->rss_container);
+ css_get_current(&rss->css);
+ rcu_read_unlock();
+
+ pc = kmalloc(sizeof(struct page_container), GFP_KERNEL);
+ if (pc == NULL)
+ goto out_nomem;
+
+ while (res_counter_charge(&rss->res, 1)) {
+ if (container_try_to_free_pages(rss))
+ continue;
+
+ container_out_of_memory(rss);
+ if (test_thread_flag(TIF_MEMDIE))
+ goto out_charge;
+ }
+
+ pc->page = page;
+ pc->cnt = rss;
+ *ppc = pc;
+ return 0;
+
+out_charge:
+ kfree(pc);

```

```

+out_nomem:
+ css_put(&rss->css);
+ return -ENOMEM;
+}
+
+void container_rss_release(struct page_container *pc)
+{
+ struct rss_container *rss;
+
+ rss = pc->cnt;
+ res_counter_uncharge(&rss->res, 1);
+ css_put(&rss->css);
+ kfree(pc);
+}
+
+void container_rss_add(struct page_container *pc)
+{
+ struct page *pg;
+ struct rss_container *rss;
+
+ pg = pc->page;
+ rss = pc->cnt;
+
+ spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
+ list_add(&pc->list, &rss->page_list);
+ spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
+
+ page_container(pg) = pc;
+}
+
+void container_rss_del(struct page_container *pc)
+{
+ struct page *page;
+ struct rss_container *rss;
+
+ page = pc->page;
+ rss = pc->cnt;
+
+ spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
+ list_del(&pc->list);
+ res_counter_uncharge_locked(&rss->res, 1);
+ spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
+
+ css_put(&rss->css);
+ kfree(pc);
+}
+
+unsigned long container_isolate_pages(unsigned long nr_to_scan,

```

```

+ struct rss_container *rss, struct list_head *dst,
+ int active, unsigned long *scanned)
+{
+ unsigned long nr_taken = 0;
+ struct page *page;
+ struct page_container *pc;
+ unsigned long scan;
+ struct list_head *src;
+ LIST_HEAD(pc_list);
+ struct zone *z;
+
+ spin_lock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
+ src = &rss->page_list;
+
+ for (scan = 0; scan < nr_to_scan && !list_empty(src); scan++) {
+ pc = list_entry(src->prev, struct page_container, list);
+ page = pc->page;
+ z = page_zone(page);
+
+ list_move(&pc->list, &pc_list);
+
+ spin_lock(&z->lru_lock);
+ if (PageLRU(page)) {
+ if ((active && PageActive(page)) ||
+ (!active && !PageActive(page))) {
+ if (likely(get_page_unless_zero(page))) {
+ ClearPageLRU(page);
+ nr_taken++;
+ list_move(&page->lru, dst);
+ }
+ }
+ }
+ spin_unlock(&z->lru_lock);
+
+ list_splice(&pc_list, src);
+ spin_unlock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
+
+ *scanned = scan;
+ return nr_taken;
+}
+
+unsigned long container_nr_physpages(struct rss_container *rss)
+{
+ return rss->res.usage;
+}
+
+static void rss_move_task(struct container_subsys *ss,

```

```

+ struct container *cont,
+ struct container *old_cont,
+ struct task_struct *p)
+{
+ struct mm_struct *mm;
+ struct rss_container *rss, *old_rss;
+
+ mm = get_task_mm(p);
+ if (mm == NULL)
+ goto out;
+
+ rss = rss_from_cont(cont);
+ old_rss = rss_from_cont(old_cont);
+ if (old_rss != mm->rss_container)
+ goto out_put;
+
+ css_get_current(&rss->css);
+ rcu_assign_pointer(mm->rss_container, rss);
+ css_put(&old_rss->css);
+
+out_put:
+ mmput(mm);
+out:
+ return;
+}
+
+static int rss_create(struct container_subsys *ss, struct container *cont)
+{
+ struct rss_container *rss;
+
+ rss = kzalloc(sizeof(struct rss_container), GFP_KERNEL);
+ if (rss == NULL)
+ return -ENOMEM;
+
+ res_counter_init(&rss->res);
+ INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
+ cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static void rss_destroy(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ kfree(rss_from_cont(cont));
+}
+
+static ssize_t rss_read(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,

```

```

+ struct file *file, char __user *userbuf,
+ size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
+{
+ return res_counter_read(&rss_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
+ userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
+}
+
+static ssize_t rss_write(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
+ struct file *file, const char __user *userbuf,
+ size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
+{
+ return res_counter_write(&rss_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
+ userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
+}
+
+
+static struct cftype rss_usage = {
+ .name = "rss_usage",
+ .private = RES_USAGE,
+ .read = rss_read,
+};
+
+static struct cftype rss_limit = {
+ .name = "rss_limit",
+ .private = RES_LIMIT,
+ .read = rss_read,
+ .write = rss_write,
+};
+
+static struct cftype rss_failcnt = {
+ .name = "rss_failcnt",
+ .private = RES_FAILCNT,
+ .read = rss_read,
+};
+
+static int rss_populate(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ int rc;
+
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_usage)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_failcnt)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_limit)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+
+ return 0;

```

```

+}
+
+static struct rss_container init_rss_container;
+
+static __init int rss_create_early(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ struct rss_container *rss;
+
+ rss = &init_rss_container;
+ res_counter_init(&rss->res);
+ INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
+ cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
+ ss->create = rss_create;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static struct container_subsys rss_subsys = {
+ .name = "rss",
+ .create = rss_create_early,
+ .destroy = rss_destroy,
+ .populate = rss_populate,
+ .attach = rss_move_task,
+};
+
+void __init container_rss_init_early(void)
+{
+ container_register_subsys(&rss_subsys);
+ init_mm.rss_container = rss_from_cont(
+ task_container(&init_task, &rss_subsys));
+ css_get_current(&init_mm.rss_container->css);
+}

```

---

Subject: [RFC][PATCH 3/7] Data structures changes for RSS accounting

Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 14:55:46 GMT

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Adds needed pointers to mm\_struct and page struct,  
places hooks to core code for mm\_struct initialization  
and hooks in container\_init\_early() to preinitialize  
RSS accounting subsystem.

```

diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/mm.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/mm.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/mm.h 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/mm.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -220,6 +220,12 @@ struct vm_operations_struct {
 struct mmu_gather;

```

```
struct inode;
```

```
+#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
+#define page_container(page) (page->rss_container)
+#else
+#define page_container(page) (NULL)
+#endif
+
+#define page_private(page) ((page)->private)
+#define set_page_private(page, v) ((page)->private = (v))
```

```
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/mm_types.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/mm_types.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/mm_types.h 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/mm_types.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -62,6 +62,9 @@ struct page {
    void *virtual; /* Kernel virtual address (NULL if
                   not kmapped, ie. highmem) */
    #endif /* WANT_PAGE_VIRTUAL */
    #ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
    + struct page_container *rss_container;
    #endif
};
```

```
    #endif /* _LINUX_MM_TYPES_H */
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -373,6 +373,9 @@ struct mm_struct {
    /* aio bits */
    rwlock_t ioctx_list_lock;
    struct kiocx *ioctx_list;
    #ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
    + struct rss_container *rss_container;
    #endif
};
```

```
struct sighand_struct {
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/fork.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/fork.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/fork.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/fork.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -57,6 +57,8 @@
    #include <asm/cacheflush.h>
    #include <asm/tlbflush.h>

    #include <linux/rss_container.h>
    +
    /*
    * Protected counters by write_lock_irq(&tasklist_lock)
```

```

*/
@@ -325,7 +328,7 @@ static inline void mm_free_pgd(struct mm

#include <linux/init_task.h>

-static struct mm_struct * mm_init(struct mm_struct * mm)
+static struct mm_struct * mm_init(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk)
{
    atomic_set(&mm->mm_users, 1);
    atomic_set(&mm->mm_count, 1);
@@ -341,10 +344,18 @@ static struct mm_struct * mm_init(struct
    mm->free_area_cache = TASK_UNMAPPED_BASE;
    mm->cached_hole_size = ~0UL;

- if (likely(!mm_alloc_pgd(mm))) {
-     mm->def_flags = 0;
-     return mm;
- }
+ if (unlikely(mm_init_container(mm, tsk)))
+     goto out_cont;
+
+ if (unlikely(mm_alloc_pgd(mm)))
+     goto out_pgd;
+
+ mm->def_flags = 0;
+ return mm;
+
+out_pgd:
+ mm_free_container(mm);
+out_cont:
    free_mm(mm);
    return NULL;
}
@@ -359,7 +370,7 @@ struct mm_struct * mm_alloc(void)
    mm = allocate_mm();
    if (mm) {
        memset(mm, 0, sizeof(*mm));
-     mm = mm_init(mm);
+     mm = mm_init(mm, current);
    }
    return mm;
}
@@ -373,6 +384,7 @@ void fastcall __mmdrop(struct mm_struct
{
    BUG_ON(mm == &init_mm);
    mm_free_pgd(mm);
+ mm_free_container(mm);
    destroy_context(mm);
}

```



```

    free_mm(mm);
}
@@ -493,7 +505,7 @@ static struct mm_struct *dup_mm(struct t
    mm->token_priority = 0;
    mm->last_interval = 0;

- if (!mm_init(mm))
+ if (!mm_init(mm, tsk))
    goto fail_nomem;

    if (init_new_context(tsk, mm))
@@ -520,6 +532,7 @@ fail_nocontext:
    * because it calls destroy_context()
    */
    mm_free_pgd(mm);
+ mm_free_container(mm);
    free_mm(mm);
    return NULL;
}
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/container.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/container.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/container.c 2007-03-06 13:35:48.000000000 +0300
@@ -60,6 +60,8 @@
#include <asm/atomic.h>
#include <linux/mutex.h>

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
#define CONTAINER_SUPER_MAGIC 0x27e0eb

static struct container_subsys *subsys[CONFIG_MAX_CONTAINER_SUBSYS];
@@ -1721,6 +1725,8 @@ int __init container_init_early(void)
}
init_task.containers = &init_container_group;

+ container_rss_init_early();
+
return 0;
}

```

---

Subject: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
 Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 14:57:51 GMT  
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---

Pages are charged to their first touchers which are determined using pages' mapcount manipulations in rmap calls.

```

diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/exec.c linux-2.6.20-0/fs/exec.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/exec.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/fs/exec.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -58,6 +58,8 @@
#include <linux/kmod.h>
#endif

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
int core_uses_pid;
char core_pattern[128] = "core";
int suid_dumpable = 0;
@@ -309,27 +311,34 @@ void install_arg_page(struct vm_area_str
    struct mm_struct *mm = vma->vm_mm;
    pte_t *pte;
    spinlock_t *ptl;
+ struct page_container *pcont;

    if (unlikely(anon_vma_prepare(vma)))
        goto out;

+ if (container_rss_prepare(page, vma, &pcont))
+     goto out;
+
    flush_dcache_page(page);
    pte = get_locked_pte(mm, address, &ptl);
    if (!pte)
-     goto out;
+     goto out_release;
    if (!pte_none(*pte)) {
        pte_unmap_unlock(pte, ptl);
-     goto out;
+     goto out_release;
    }
    inc_mm_counter(mm, anon_rss);
    lru_cache_add_active(page);
    set_pte_at(mm, address, pte, pte_mkdirty(pte_mkwrite(mk_pte(
        page, vma->vm_page_prot))));
- page_add_new_anon_rmap(page, vma, address);
+ page_add_new_anon_rmap(page, vma, address, pcont);
    pte_unmap_unlock(pte, ptl);

    /* no need for flush_tlb */
    return;
+
+out_release:
+ container_rss_release(pcont);

```

out:

```
__free_page(page);
force_sig(SIGKILL, current);
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rmap.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rmap.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rmap.h 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rmap.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -69,9 +69,13 @@ void __anon_vma_link(struct vm_area_stru
/*
 * rmap interfaces called when adding or removing pte of page
 */
-void page_add_anon_rmap(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *, unsigned long);
-void page_add_new_anon_rmap(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *, unsigned long);
-void page_add_file_rmap(struct page *);
+struct page_container;
+
+void page_add_anon_rmap(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *,
+ unsigned long, struct page_container *);
+void page_add_new_anon_rmap(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *,
+ unsigned long, struct page_container *);
+void page_add_file_rmap(struct page *, struct page_container *);
void page_remove_rmap(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *);

/**
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/fremap.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/fremap.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/fremap.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/fremap.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -20,6 +20,8 @@
#include <asm/cacheflush.h>
#include <asm/tlbflush.h>

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
static int zap_pte(struct mm_struct *mm, struct vm_area_struct *vma,
 unsigned long addr, pte_t *ptep)
{
@@ -57,6 +59,10 @@ int install_page(struct mm_struct *mm, s
 pte_t *pte;
 pte_t pte_val;
 spinlock_t *ptl;
+ struct page_container *pcont;
+
+ if (container_rss_prepare(page, vma, &pcont))
+ goto out_release;

pte = get_locked_pte(mm, addr, &ptl);
if (!pte)
@@ -81,13 +87,16 @@ int install_page(struct mm_struct *mm, s
flush_icache_page(vma, page);
```

```

    pte_val = mk_pte(page, prot);
    set_pte_at(mm, addr, pte, pte_val);
- page_add_file_rmap(page);
+ page_add_file_rmap(page, pcont);
    update_mmu_cache(vma, addr, pte_val);
    lazy_mmu_prot_update(pte_val);
    err = 0;
unlock:
    pte_unmap_unlock(pte, ptl);
out:
+ if (err != 0)
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
+out_release:
    return err;
}
EXPORT_SYMBOL(install_page);
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/memory.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/memory.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/memory.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/memory.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -60,6 +60,8 @@
#include <linux/swapops.h>
#include <linux/elf.h>

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
#ifdef CONFIG_NEED_MULTIPLE_NODES
/* use the per-pgdat data instead for discontigmem - mbligh */
unsigned long max_mapnr;
@@ -1126,7 +1128,7 @@ static int zeromap_pte_range(struct mm_s
    break;
}
    page_cache_get(page);
- page_add_file_rmap(page);
+ page_add_file_rmap(page, NULL);
    inc_mm_counter(mm, file_rss);
    set_pte_at(mm, addr, pte, zero_pte);
} while (pte++, addr += PAGE_SIZE, addr != end);
@@ -1234,7 +1236,7 @@ static int insert_page(struct mm_struct
/* Ok, finally just insert the thing.. */
get_page(page);
inc_mm_counter(mm, file_rss);
- page_add_file_rmap(page);
+ page_add_file_rmap(page, NULL);
    set_pte_at(mm, addr, pte, mk_pte(page, prot));

    retval = 0;
@@ -1495,6 +1497,7 @@ static int do_wp_page(struct mm_struct *
    pte_t entry;

```

```

int reuse = 0, ret = VM_FAULT_MINOR;
struct page *dirty_page = NULL;
+ struct page_container *pcont;

old_page = vm_normal_page(vma, address, orig_pte);
if (!old_page)
@@ -1580,6 +1583,9 @@ gotten:
    cow_user_page(new_page, old_page, address, vma);
}

+ if (container_rss_prepare(new_page, vma, &pcont))
+ goto oom;
+
/*
 * Re-check the pte - we dropped the lock
 */
@@ -1607,12 +1613,14 @@ gotten:
    set_pte_at(mm, address, page_table, entry);
    update_mmu_cache(vma, address, entry);
    lru_cache_add_active(new_page);
- page_add_new_anon_rmap(new_page, vma, address);
+ page_add_new_anon_rmap(new_page, vma, address, pcont);

/* Free the old page.. */
new_page = old_page;
ret |= VM_FAULT_WRITE;
- }
+ } else
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
+
if (new_page)
    page_cache_release(new_page);
if (old_page)
@@ -1988,6 +1996,7 @@ static int do_swap_page(struct mm_struct
    swp_entry_t entry;
    pte_t pte;
    int ret = VM_FAULT_MINOR;
+ struct page_container *pcont;

if (!pte_unmap_same(mm, pmd, page_table, orig_pte))
    goto out;
@@ -2020,6 +2029,11 @@ static int do_swap_page(struct mm_struct
    count_vm_event(PGMAJFAULT);
}

+ if (container_rss_prepare(page, vma, &pcont)) {
+ ret = VM_FAULT_OOM;
+ goto out;

```

```

+ }
+
delayacct_clear_flag(Delayacct_PF_SWAPIN);
mark_page_accessed(page);
lock_page(page);
@@ -2033,6 +2047,7 @@ static int do_swap_page(struct mm_struct

if (unlikely(!PageUptodate(page))) {
    ret = VM_FAULT_SIGBUS;
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
    goto out_nomap;
}

@@ -2047,7 +2062,7 @@ static int do_swap_page(struct mm_struct

flush_icache_page(vma, page);
set_pte_at(mm, address, page_table, pte);
- page_add_anon_rmap(page, vma, address);
+ page_add_anon_rmap(page, vma, address, pcont);

swap_free(entry);
if (vm_swap_full())
@@ -2069,6 +2084,7 @@ unlock:
out:
    return ret;
out_nomap:
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
    pte_unmap_unlock(page_table, ptl);
    unlock_page(page);
    page_cache_release(page);
@@ -2087,6 +2103,7 @@ static int do_anonymous_page(struct mm_s
    struct page *page;
    spinlock_t *ptl;
    pte_t entry;
+ struct page_container *pcont;

if (write_access) {
    /* Allocate our own private page. */
@@ -2098,15 +2115,19 @@ static int do_anonymous_page(struct mm_s
    if (!page)
        goto oom;

+ if (container_rss_prepare(page, vma, &pcont))
+ goto oom_release;
+
    entry = mk_pte(page, vma->vm_page_prot);
    entry = maybe_mkdirty(entry, vma);

```

```

    page_table = pte_offset_map_lock(mm, pmd, address, &ptl);
    if (!pte_none(*page_table))
-   goto release;
+   goto release_container;
+
    inc_mm_counter(mm, anon_rss);
    lru_cache_add_active(page);
-   page_add_new_anon_rmap(page, vma, address);
+   page_add_new_anon_rmap(page, vma, address, pcont);
    } else {
        /* Map the ZERO_PAGE - vm_page_prot is readonly */
        page = ZERO_PAGE(address);
@@ -2118,7 +2139,7 @@ static int do_anonymous_page(struct mm_s
        if (!pte_none(*page_table))
            goto release;
        inc_mm_counter(mm, file_rss);
-   page_add_file_rmap(page);
+   page_add_file_rmap(page, NULL);
    }

    set_pte_at(mm, address, page_table, entry);
@@ -2129,9 +2150,14 @@ static int do_anonymous_page(struct mm_s
unlock:
    pte_unmap_unlock(page_table, ptl);
    return VM_FAULT_MINOR;
+release_container:
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
    release:
        page_cache_release(page);
        goto unlock;
+
+oom_release:
+ page_cache_release(page);
    oom:
        return VM_FAULT_OOM;
    }
@@ -2161,6 +2187,7 @@ static int do_no_page(struct mm_struct *
    int ret = VM_FAULT_MINOR;
    int anon = 0;
    struct page *dirty_page = NULL;
+ struct page_container *pcont;

    pte_unmap(page_table);
    BUG_ON(vma->vm_flags & VM_PFNMAP);
@@ -2218,6 +2245,9 @@ retry:
    }
}

```

```

+ if (container_rss_prepare(new_page, vma, &pcont))
+ goto oom;
+
page_table = pte_offset_map_lock(mm, pmd, address, &ptl);
/*
 * For a file-backed vma, someone could have truncated or otherwise
@@ -2226,6 +2256,7 @@ retry:
 */
if (mapping && unlikely(sequence != mapping->truncate_count)) {
pte_unmap_unlock(page_table, ptl);
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
page_cache_release(new_page);
cond_resched();
sequence = mapping->truncate_count;
@@ -2253,10 +2284,10 @@ retry:
if (anon) {
inc_mm_counter(mm, anon_rss);
lru_cache_add_active(new_page);
- page_add_new_anon_rmap(new_page, vma, address);
+ page_add_new_anon_rmap(new_page, vma, address, pcont);
} else {
inc_mm_counter(mm, file_rss);
- page_add_file_rmap(new_page);
+ page_add_file_rmap(new_page, pcont);
if (write_access) {
dirty_page = new_page;
get_page(dirty_page);
@@ -2264,6 +2295,7 @@ retry:
}
} else {
/* One of our sibling threads was faster, back out. */
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
page_cache_release(new_page);
goto unlock;
}
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/migrate.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/migrate.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/migrate.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/migrate.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -134,6 +134,7 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
pte_t *ptep, pte;
spinlock_t *ptl;
unsigned long addr = page_address_in_vma(new, vma);
+ struct page_container *pcont;

if (addr == -EFAULT)
return;
@@ -157,6 +158,11 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
return;

```



```

}

+ if (container_rss_prepare(new, vma, &pcont)) {
+   pte_unmap(pte);
+   return;
+ }
+
+   ptl = pte_lockptr(mm, pmd);
+   spin_lock(ptl);
+   pte = *ptep;
@@ -175,16 +181,19 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
+   set_pte_at(mm, addr, ptep, pte);

+   if (PageAnon(new))
-   page_add_anon_rmap(new, vma, addr);
+   page_add_anon_rmap(new, vma, addr, pcont);
+   else
-   page_add_file_rmap(new);
+   page_add_file_rmap(new, pcont);

+   /* No need to invalidate - it was non-present before */
+   update_mmu_cache(vma, addr, pte);
+   lazy_mmu_prot_update(pte);
+   pte_unmap_unlock(ptep, ptl);
+   return;

+   out:
+   pte_unmap_unlock(ptep, ptl);
+   container_rss_release(pcont);
+ }

+ /*
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rmap.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rmap.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rmap.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rmap.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -51,6 +51,8 @@

#include <asm/tlbflush.h>

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
+struct kmem_cache *anon_vma_cache;

static inline void validate_anon_vma(struct vm_area_struct *find_vma)
@@ -526,14 +528,19 @@ static void __page_set_anon_rmap(struct
+ * @page: the page to add the mapping to
+ * @vma: the vm area in which the mapping is added
+ * @address: the user virtual address mapped

```

```

+ * @pcont: the page beancounter to charge page with
*
* The caller needs to hold the pte lock.
*/
void page_add_anon_rmap(struct page *page,
- struct vm_area_struct *vma, unsigned long address)
+ struct vm_area_struct *vma, unsigned long address,
+ struct page_container *pcont)
{
- if (atomic_inc_and_test(&page->_mapcount))
+ if (atomic_inc_and_test(&page->_mapcount)) {
+ container_rss_add(pcont);
  __page_set_anon_rmap(page, vma, address);
+ } else
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
  /* else checking page index and mapping is racy */
}

@@ -542,27 +549,35 @@ void page_add_anon_rmap(struct page *pag
* @page: the page to add the mapping to
* @vma: the vm area in which the mapping is added
* @address: the user virtual address mapped
+ * @pcont: the page beancounter to charge page with
*
* Same as page_add_anon_rmap but must only be called on *new* pages.
* This means the inc-and-test can be bypassed.
*/
void page_add_new_anon_rmap(struct page *page,
- struct vm_area_struct *vma, unsigned long address)
+ struct vm_area_struct *vma, unsigned long address,
+ struct page_container *pcont)
{
  atomic_set(&page->_mapcount, 0); /* elevate count by 1 (starts at -1) */
+ container_rss_add(pcont);
  __page_set_anon_rmap(page, vma, address);
}

/**
* page_add_file_rmap - add pte mapping to a file page
- * @page: the page to add the mapping to
+ * @page: the page to add the mapping to
+ * @pcont: the page beancounter to charge page with
*
* The caller needs to hold the pte lock.
*/
-void page_add_file_rmap(struct page *page)
+void page_add_file_rmap(struct page *page, struct page_container *pcont)
{

```

```

- if (atomic_inc_and_test(&page->_mapcount))
+ if (atomic_inc_and_test(&page->_mapcount)) {
+   if (pcont)
+     container_rss_add(pcont);
+     __inc_zone_page_state(page, NR_FILE_MAPPED);
+ } else if (pcont)
+   container_rss_release(pcont);
+ }

/**
@@ -573,6 +588,9 @@ void page_add_file_rmap(struct page *pag
*/
void page_remove_rmap(struct page *page, struct vm_area_struct *vma)
{
+ struct page_container *pcont;
+
+ pcont = page_container(page);
+ if (atomic_add_negative(-1, &page->_mapcount)) {
+   if (unlikely(page_mapcount(page) < 0)) {
+     printk (KERN_EMERG "Eeek! page_mapcount(page) went negative! (%d)\n",
page_mapcount(page));
@@ -588,6 +606,8 @@ void page_remove_rmap(struct page *page,
    BUG();
  }

+ if (pcont)
+   container_rss_del(pcont);
+
+/*
+ * It would be tidy to reset the PageAnon mapping here,
+ * but that might overwrite a racing page_add_anon_rmap
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/swapfile.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/swapfile.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/swapfile.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/swapfile.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -32,6 +32,8 @@
#include <asm/tlbflush.h>
#include <linux/swapops.h>

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
+DEFINE_SPINLOCK(swap_lock);
unsigned int nr_swapfiles;
long total_swap_pages;
@@ -507,13 +509,14 @@ unsigned int count_swap_pages(int type,
+ * force COW, vm_page_prot omits write permission from any private vma.
+ */
static void unuse_pte(struct vm_area_struct *vma, pte_t *pte,
- unsigned long addr, swp_entry_t entry, struct page *page)
+ unsigned long addr, swp_entry_t entry, struct page *page,

```

```

+ struct page_container *pcont)
{
    inc_mm_counter(vma->vm_mm, anon_rss);
    get_page(page);
    set_pte_at(vma->vm_mm, addr, pte,
        pte_mkold(mk_pte(page, vma->vm_page_prot)));
- page_add_anon_rmap(page, vma, addr);
+ page_add_anon_rmap(page, vma, addr, pcont);
    swap_free(entry);
    /*
     * Move the page to the active list so it is not
@@ -530,6 +533,10 @@ static int unuse_pte_range(struct vm_are
    pte_t *pte;
    spinlock_t *ptl;
    int found = 0;
+ struct page_container *pcont;
+
+ if (container_rss_prepare(page, vma, &pcont))
+ return 0;

    pte = pte_offset_map_lock(vma->vm_mm, pmd, addr, &ptl);
    do {
@@ -538,12 +545,14 @@ static int unuse_pte_range(struct vm_are
        * Test inline before going to call unuse_pte.
        */
        if (unlikely(pte_same(*pte, swp_pte))) {
- unuse_pte(vma, pte++, addr, entry, page);
+ unuse_pte(vma, pte++, addr, entry, page, pcont);
            found = 1;
            break;
        }
    } while (pte++, addr += PAGE_SIZE, addr != end);
    pte_unmap_unlock(pte - 1, ptl);
+ if (!found)
+ container_rss_release(pcont);
    return found;
}

```

---

Subject: [RFC][PATCH 5/7] Per-container OOM killer and page reclamation

Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 15:01:05 GMT

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\* container\_try\_to\_free\_pages() walks containers page list and tries to shrink pages. This is based on try\_to\_free\_pages() and Co code. Called from core code when no resource left at the moment of page touching.

\* container\_out\_of\_memory() selects a process to be killed which mm\_struct belongs to container in question. Called from core code when no resources left and no pages were reclaimed.

```
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/oom_kill.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/oom_kill.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/oom_kill.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/oom_kill.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -24,6 +24,7 @@
#include <linux/cpuset.h>
#include <linux/module.h>
#include <linux/notifier.h>
+#include <linux/rss_container.h>

int sysctl_panic_on_oom;
/* #define DEBUG */
@@ -47,7 +48,8 @@ int sysctl_panic_on_oom;
 * of least surprise ... (be careful when you change it)
 */

-unsigned long badness(struct task_struct *p, unsigned long uptime)
+unsigned long badness(struct task_struct *p, unsigned long uptime,
+ struct rss_container *rss)
{
    unsigned long points, cpu_time, run_time, s;
    struct mm_struct *mm;
@@ -60,6 +62,13 @@ unsigned long badness(struct task_struct
    return 0;
}

+#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
+ if (rss != NULL && mm->rss_container != rss) {
+ task_unlock(p);
+ return 0;
+ }
+#endif
+
/*
 * The memory size of the process is the basis for the badness.
 */
@@ -200,7 +209,8 @@ static inline int constrained_alloc(stru
 *
 * (not docbooked, we don't want this one cluttering up the manual)
 */
-static struct task_struct *select_bad_process(unsigned long *ppoints)
+static struct task_struct *select_bad_process(unsigned long *ppoints,
+ struct rss_container *rss)
```

```
{
    struct task_struct *g, *p;
    struct task_struct *chosen = NULL;
@@ -254,7 +264,7 @@ static struct task_struct *select_bad_pr
    if (p->oomkilladj == OOM_DISABLE)
        continue;

- points = badness(p, uptime.tv_sec);
+ points = badness(p, uptime.tv_sec, rss);
    if (points > *ppoints || !chosen) {
        chosen = p;
        *ppoints = points;
@@ -435,7 +445,7 @@ retry:
    * Rambo mode: Shoot down a process and hope it solves whatever
    * issues we may have.
    */
- p = select_bad_process(&points);
+ p = select_bad_process(&points, NULL);

    if (PTR_ERR(p) == -1UL)
        goto out;
@@ -464,3 +474,27 @@ out:
    if (!test_thread_flag(TIF_MEMDIE))
        schedule_timeout_uninterruptible(1);
}

+
+#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
+void container_out_of_memory(struct rss_container *rss)
+{
+    unsigned long points = 0;
+    struct task_struct *p;
+
+    container_lock();
+    read_lock(&tasklist_lock);
+retry:
+    p = select_bad_process(&points, rss);
+    if (PTR_ERR(p) == -1UL)
+        goto out;
+
+    if (!p)
+        p = current;
+
+    if (oom_kill_process(p, points, "Container out of memory"))
+        goto retry;
+out:
+    read_unlock(&tasklist_lock);
+    container_unlock();
+}
```

```

+#endif
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/vmscan.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/vmscan.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/vmscan.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/vmscan.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -45,6 +45,8 @@

#include "internal.h"

+#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+
struct scan_control {
    /* Incremented by the number of inactive pages that were scanned */
    unsigned long nr_scanned;
@@ -1097,6 +1099,194 @@ out:
    return ret;
}

+#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
+/*
+ * These are containers' inactive and active pages shrinkers.
+ * This works like shrink_inactive_list() and shrink_active_list()
+ *
+ * Two main differences is that container_isolate_pages() is used to isolate
+ * pages, and that reclaim_mapped is considered to be 1 as hitting BC
+ * limit implies we have to shrink _mapped_ pages
+ */
+static unsigned long container_shrink_pages_inactive(unsigned long max_scan,
+ struct rss_container *rss, struct scan_control *sc)
+{
+    LIST_HEAD(page_list);
+    unsigned long nr_scanned = 0;
+    unsigned long nr_reclaimed = 0;
+
+    do {
+        struct page *page;
+        unsigned long nr_taken;
+        unsigned long nr_scan;
+        struct zone *z;
+
+        nr_taken = container_isolate_pages(sc->swap_cluster_max, rss,
+        &page_list, 0, &nr_scan);
+
+        nr_scanned += nr_scan;
+        nr_reclaimed += shrink_page_list(&page_list, sc);
+        if (nr_taken == 0)
+            goto done;
+
+        while (!list_empty(&page_list)) {

```

```

+ page = lru_to_page(&page_list);
+ z = page_zone(page);
+
+ spin_lock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
+ VM_BUG_ON(PageLRU(page));
+ SetPageLRU(page);
+ list_del(&page->lru);
+ if (PageActive(page))
+   add_page_to_active_list(z, page);
+ else
+   add_page_to_inactive_list(z, page);
+ spin_unlock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
+
+ put_page(page);
+ }
+ } while (nr_scanned < max_scan);
+done:
+ return nr_reclaimed;
+}
+
+static void container_shrink_pages_active(unsigned long nr_pages,
+ struct rss_container *rss, struct scan_control *sc)
+{
+ LIST_HEAD(l_hold);
+ LIST_HEAD(l_inactive);
+ LIST_HEAD(l_active);
+ struct page *page;
+ unsigned long nr_scanned;
+ unsigned long nr_deactivated = 0;
+ struct zone *z;
+
+ container_isolate_pages(nr_pages, rss, &l_hold, 1, &nr_scanned);
+
+ while (!list_empty(&l_hold)) {
+   cond_resched();
+   page = lru_to_page(&l_hold);
+   list_del(&page->lru);
+   if (page_mapped(page)) {
+     if ((total_swap_pages == 0 && PageAnon(page)) ||
+         page_referenced(page, 0)) {
+       list_add(&page->lru, &l_active);
+       continue;
+     }
+   }
+   nr_deactivated++;
+   list_add(&page->lru, &l_inactive);
+ }
+
+

```



```

+ while (!list_empty(&l_inactive)) {
+   page = lru_to_page(&l_inactive);
+   z = page_zone(page);
+
+   spin_lock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
+   VM_BUG_ON(PageLRU(page));
+   SetPageLRU(page);
+   VM_BUG_ON(!PageActive(page));
+   ClearPageActive(page);
+
+   list_move(&page->lru, &z->inactive_list);
+   z->nr_inactive++;
+   spin_unlock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
+
+   put_page(page);
+ }
+
+ while (!list_empty(&l_active)) {
+   page = lru_to_page(&l_active);
+   z = page_zone(page);
+
+   spin_lock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
+   VM_BUG_ON(PageLRU(page));
+   SetPageLRU(page);
+   VM_BUG_ON(!PageActive(page));
+   list_move(&page->lru, &z->active_list);
+   z->nr_active++;
+   spin_unlock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
+
+   put_page(page);
+ }
+}
+
+/*
+ * This is a reworked shrink_zone() routine - it scans active pages firsts,
+ * then inactive and returns the number of pages reclaimed
+ */
+static unsigned long container_shrink_pages(int priority,
+ struct rss_container *rss, struct scan_control *sc)
+{
+   unsigned long nr_pages;
+   unsigned long nr_to_scan;
+   unsigned long nr_reclaimed = 0;
+
+   nr_pages = (container_nr_physpages(rss) >> priority) + 1;
+   if (nr_pages < sc->swap_cluster_max)
+   nr_pages = 0;
+
+

```

```

+ while (nr_pages) {
+   nr_to_scan = min(nr_pages, (unsigned long)sc->swap_cluster_max);
+   nr_pages -= nr_to_scan;
+   container_shrink_pages_active(nr_to_scan, rss, sc);
+ }
+
+ nr_pages = (container_nr_physpages(rss) >> priority) + 1;
+ if (nr_pages < sc->swap_cluster_max)
+   nr_pages = 0;
+
+ while (nr_pages) {
+   nr_to_scan = min(nr_pages, (unsigned long)sc->swap_cluster_max);
+   nr_pages -= nr_to_scan;
+   nr_reclaimed += container_shrink_pages_inactive(nr_to_scan, rss, sc);
+ }
+
+ throttle_vm_writeout();
+ return nr_reclaimed;
+}
+
+/*
+ * This functions works like try_to_free_pages() - it tries
+ * to shrink bc's pages with increasing priority
+ */
+unsigned long container_try_to_free_pages(struct rss_container *rss)
+{
+   int priority;
+   int ret = 0;
+   unsigned long total_scanned = 0;
+   unsigned long nr_reclaimed = 0;
+   struct scan_control sc = {
+     .gfp_mask = GFP_KERNEL,
+     .may_writepage = !laptop_mode,
+     .swap_cluster_max = SWAP_CLUSTER_MAX,
+     .may_swap = 1,
+     .swappiness = vm_swappiness,
+   };
+
+   for (priority = DEF_PRIORITY; priority >= 0; priority--) {
+     sc.nr_scanned = 0;
+     nr_reclaimed += container_shrink_pages(priority, rss, &sc);
+     total_scanned += sc.nr_scanned;
+     if (nr_reclaimed > 1) {
+       ret = 1;
+       goto out;
+     }
+   }
+
+   if (total_scanned > sc.swap_cluster_max +

```



```

+{
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static inline void container_proc_uncharge(struct task_struct *tsk)
+{
+}
+
+static inline void container_numproc_init_early(void)
+{
+}
+
+endif
+
+endif
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -1052,6 +1055,9 @@ struct task_struct {
#ifdef CONFIG_FAULT_INJECTION
    int make_it_fail;
#endif
#ifdef CONFIG_PROCESS_CONTAINER
+ struct numproc_container *numproc_cnt;
#endif
};

static inline pid_t process_group(struct task_struct *tsk)
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -265,6 +265,12 @@ config CPUSETS
    Provides a simple Resource Controller for monitoring and
    controlling the total Resident Set Size of the tasks in a container

+config PROCESS_CONTAINER
+ bool "Numproc accounting container"
+ select RESOURCE_COUNTERS
+ help
+   Provides the-number-of-tasks accounting container
+
+config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
+ bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
+ default y
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -51,6 +51,7 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_RELAY) += relay.o
obj-$(CONFIG_TASK_DELAY_ACCT) += delayacct.o

```

```

obj-$(CONFIG_TASKSTATS) += taskstats.o tsacct.o
obj-$(CONFIG_RESOURCE_COUNTERS) += res_counter.o
+obj-$(CONFIG_PROCESS_CONTAINER) += numproc_container.o

ifneq ($(CONFIG_SCHED_NO_NO_OMIT_FRAME_POINTER),y)
# According to Alan Modra <alan@linuxcare.com.au>, the -fno-omit-frame-pointer is
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/exit.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/exit.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/exit.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/exit.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -48,6 +48,8 @@
#include <asm/pgtable.h>
#include <asm/mmu_context.h>

+#include <linux/numproc_container.h>
+
extern void sem_exit (void);

static void exit_mm(struct task_struct * tsk);
@@ -174,6 +176,7 @@ repeat:
write_unlock_irq(&tasklist_lock);
proc_flush_task(p);
release_thread(p);
+ container_proc_uncharge(p);
call_rcu(&p->rcu, delayed_put_task_struct);

p = leader;
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/fork.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/fork.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/fork.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/fork.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -57,6 +57,7 @@
#include <asm/tlbflush.h>

#include <linux/rss_container.h>
+#include <linux/numproc_container.h>

/*
* Protected counters by write_lock_irq(&tasklist_lock)
@@ -986,6 +999,9 @@ static struct task_struct *copy_process(
if (!p)
goto fork_out;

+ if (container_proc_charge(p))
+ goto charge_out;
+
rt_mutex_init_task(p);

#ifdef CONFIG_TRACE_IRQFLAGS
@@ -1302,6 +1318,8 @@ bad_fork_cleanup_count:

```

```

    atomic_dec(&p->user->processes);
    free_uid(p->user);
bad_fork_free:
+ container_proc_uncharge(p);
+charge_out:
    free_task(p);
fork_out:
    return ERR_PTR(retval);
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/numproc_container.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/numproc_container.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/numproc_container.c 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/numproc_container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,151 @@
+/*
+ * Numproc accounting container
+ *
+ * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+ *
+ * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+ */
+
+#include <linux/list.h>
+#include <linux/sched.h>
+#include <linux/mm.h>
+#include <linux/res_counter.h>
+#include <linux/numproc_container.h>
+
+static struct container_subsys numproc_subsys;
+
+struct numproc_container {
+ struct res_counter res;
+ struct container_subsys_state css;
+};
+
+static inline struct numproc_container *numproc_from_cont(struct container *cnt)
+{
+ return container_of(container_subsys_state(cnt, &numproc_subsys),
+ struct numproc_container, css);
+}
+
+int container_proc_charge(struct task_struct *new)
+{
+ struct numproc_container *np;
+
+ rcu_read_lock();
+ np = numproc_from_cont(task_container(current, &numproc_subsys));
+ css_get_current(&np->css);
+ rcu_read_unlock();

```

```

+
+ if (res_counter_charge(&np->res, 1)) {
+  css_put(&np->css);
+  return -ENOMEM;
+ }
+
+ new->numproc_cnt = np;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+void container_proc_uncharge(struct task_struct *tsk)
+{
+ struct numproc_container *np;
+
+ np = tsk->numproc_cnt;
+ res_counter_uncharge(&np->res, 1);
+ css_put(&np->css);
+}
+
+static int numproc_create(struct container_subsys *ss, struct container *cont)
+{
+ struct numproc_container *np;
+
+ np = kzalloc(sizeof(struct numproc_container), GFP_KERNEL);
+ if (np == NULL)
+  return -ENOMEM;
+
+ res_counter_init(&np->res);
+ cont->subsys[numproc_subsys.subsys_id] = &np->css;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static void numproc_destroy(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ kfree(numproc_from_cont(cont));
+}
+
+
+static ssize_t numproc_read(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
+ struct file *file, char __user *userbuf,
+ size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
+{
+ return res_counter_read(&numproc_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
+  userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
+}
+
+
+static ssize_t numproc_write(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,

```

```

+ struct file *file, const char __user *userbuf,
+ size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
+{
+ return res_counter_write(&numproc_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
+ userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
+}
+
+
+static struct cftype numproc_usage = {
+ .name = "numproc_usage",
+ .private = RES_USAGE,
+ .read = numproc_read,
+};
+
+static struct cftype numproc_limit = {
+ .name = "numproc_limit",
+ .private = RES_LIMIT,
+ .read = numproc_read,
+ .write = numproc_write,
+};
+
+static struct cftype numproc_failcnt = {
+ .name = "numproc_failcnt",
+ .private = RES_FAILCNT,
+ .read = numproc_read,
+};
+
+static int numproc_populate(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ int rc;
+
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &numproc_usage)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &numproc_failcnt)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &numproc_limit)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static struct numproc_container init_numproc_container;
+
+static __init int numproc_create_early(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ struct numproc_container *np;

```



```

+
+ np = &init_numproc_container;
+ res_counter_init(&np->res);
+ cont->subsys[numproc_subsys.subsys_id] = &np->css;
+ ss->create = numproc_create;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static struct container_subsys numproc_subsys = {
+ .name = "numproc",
+ .create = numproc_create_early,
+ .destroy = numproc_destroy,
+ .populate = numproc_populate,
+};
+
+void __init container_numproc_init_early(void)
+{
+ container_register_subsys(&numproc_subsys);
+}
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/container.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/container.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/container.c 2007-03-06 13:35:48.000000000 +0300
@@ -60,6 +60,7 @@
#include <linux/mutex.h>

#include <linux/rss_container.h>
#include <linux/numproc_container.h>

#define CONTAINER_SUPER_MAGIC 0x27e0eb

@@ -1721,6 +1725,7 @@ int __init container_init_early(void)
init_task.containers = &init_container_group;

container_rss_init_early();
+ container_numproc_init_early();

return 0;
}

```

---

Subject: [RFC][PATCH 7/7] Account for the number of files opened within container  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 15:05:46 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Simple again - increment usage counter at file open and  
decrement at file close. Reject opening if limit is hit.

```
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/fs/Makefile
```

```

--- linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/Makefile 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/fs/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -19,6 +19,8 @@ else
obj-y += no-block.o
endif

+obj-$(CONFIG_FILES_CONTAINER) += numfiles_container.o
+
obj-$(CONFIG_INOTIFY) += inotify.o
obj-$(CONFIG_INOTIFY_USER) += inotify_user.o
obj-$(CONFIG_EPOLL) += eventpoll.o
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/file_table.c linux-2.6.20-0/fs/file_table.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/file_table.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/fs/file_table.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -21,6 +21,7 @@
#include <linux/fsnotify.h>
#include <linux/sysctl.h>
#include <linux/percpu_counter.h>
+#include <linux/numfiles_container.h>

#include <asm/atomic.h>

@@ -42,6 +43,7 @@ static inline void file_free_rcu(struct

static inline void file_free(struct file *f)
{
+ container_file_uncharge(f);
percpu_counter_dec(&nr_files);
call_rcu(&f->f_u.fu_rcuhead, file_free_rcu);
}
@@ -109,6 +111,10 @@ struct file *get_empty_filp(void)

percpu_counter_inc(&nr_files);
memset(f, 0, sizeof(*f));
+
+ if (container_file_charge(f))
+ goto fail_charge;
+
if (security_file_alloc(f))
goto fail_sec;

@@ -132,7 +138,10 @@ over:
goto fail;

fail_sec:
- file_free(f);
+ container_file_uncharge(f);
+fail_charge:

```

```

+ percpu_counter_dec(&nr_files);
+ kmem_cache_free(filp_cache, f);
fail:
    return NULL;
}
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/numfiles_container.c linux-2.6.20-0/fs/numfiles_container.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/fs/numfiles_container.c 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/fs/numfiles_container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,152 @@
+/*
+ * Numfiles accounting container
+ *
+ * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+ *
+ * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+ */
+
+#include <linux/list.h>
+#include <linux/sched.h>
+#include <linux/mm.h>
+#include <linux/res_counter.h>
+#include <linux/numfiles_container.h>
+
+static struct container_subsys numfiles_subsys;
+
+struct files_container {
+    struct res_counter res;
+    struct container_subsys_state css;
+};
+
+static inline struct files_container *numfiles_from_cont(struct container *cnt)
+{
+    return container_of(container_subsys_state(cnt, &numfiles_subsys),
+        struct files_container, css);
+}
+
+int container_file_charge(struct file *file)
+{
+    struct files_container *fc;
+
+    rcu_read_lock();
+    fc = numfiles_from_cont(task_container(current, &numfiles_subsys));
+    css_get_current(&fc->css);
+    rcu_read_unlock();
+
+    if (res_counter_charge(&fc->res, 1)) {
+        css_put(&fc->css);

```

```

+ return -ENOMEM;
+ }
+
+ file->f_cont = fc;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+void container_file_uncharge(struct file *file)
+{
+ struct files_container *fc;
+
+ fc = file->f_cont;
+ res_counter_uncharge(&fc->res, 1);
+ css_put(&fc->css);
+}
+
+static int numfiles_create(struct container_subsys *ss, struct container *cont)
+{
+ struct files_container *fc;
+
+ fc = kzalloc(sizeof(struct files_container), GFP_KERNEL);
+ if (fc == NULL)
+ return -ENOMEM;
+
+ res_counter_init(&fc->res);
+ cont->subsys[numfiles_subsys.subsys_id] = &fc->css;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static void numfiles_destroy(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ kfree(numfiles_from_cont(cont));
+}
+
+static ssize_t numfiles_read(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
+ struct file *file, char __user *userbuf,
+ size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
+{
+ return res_counter_read(&numfiles_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
+ userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
+}
+
+static ssize_t numfiles_write(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
+ struct file *file, const char __user *userbuf,
+ size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
+{

```

```

+ return res_counter_write(&numfiles_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
+   userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
+}
+
+
+static struct cftype numfiles_usage = {
+ .name = "numfiles_usage",
+ .private = RES_USAGE,
+ .read = numfiles_read,
+};
+
+static struct cftype numfiles_limit = {
+ .name = "numfiles_limit",
+ .private = RES_LIMIT,
+ .read = numfiles_read,
+ .write = numfiles_write,
+};
+
+static struct cftype numfiles_failcnt = {
+ .name = "numfiles_failcnt",
+ .private = RES_FAILCNT,
+ .read = numfiles_read,
+};
+
+static int numfiles_populate(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ int rc;
+
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &numfiles_usage)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &numfiles_failcnt)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+ if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &numfiles_limit)) < 0)
+ return rc;
+
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static struct files_container init_files_container;
+
+static __init int numfiles_create_early(struct container_subsys *ss,
+ struct container *cont)
+{
+ struct files_container *np;
+
+ np = &init_files_container;
+ res_counter_init(&np->res);

```

```

+ cont->subsys[numfiles_subsys.subsys_id] = &np->css;
+ ss->create = numfiles_create;
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static struct container_subsys numfiles_subsys = {
+ .name = "numfiles",
+ .create = numfiles_create_early,
+ .destroy = numfiles_destroy,
+ .populate = numfiles_populate,
+};
+
+void __init container_numfiles_init_early(void)
+{
+ container_register_subsys(&numfiles_subsys);
+}
+
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/fs.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/fs.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/fs.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/fs.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -739,6 +739,9 @@ struct file {
     spinlock_t f_ep_lock;
#ifdef CONFIG_EPOLL
    struct address_space *f_mapping;
#ifdef CONFIG_FILES_CONTAINER
+ struct files_container *f_cont;
#endif
};
extern spinlock_t files_lock;
#define file_list_lock() spin_lock(&files_lock);
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/numfiles_container.h
linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/numfiles_container.h
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/numfiles_container.h 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/numfiles_container.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -0,0 +1,33 @@
+#ifndef __NUMFILES_CONTAINER_H__
+#define __NUMFILES_CONTAINER_H__
+/*
+ * Numfiles container
+ *
+ * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
+ *
+ * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
+ */
+
+#ifdef CONFIG_FILES_CONTAINER
+int container_file_charge(struct file *file);

```

```

+void container_file_uncharge(struct file *file);
+
+void container_numfiles_init_early(void);
+#else
+static inline int container_file_charge(struct file *file)
+{
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static inline void container_file_uncharge(struct file *file)
+{
+}
+
+static inline void container_numfiles_init_early(void)
+{
+}
+#endif
+
+#endif
+
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
@@ -265,6 +265,12 @@ config CPUSETS
     help
         Provides the-number-of-tasks accounting container

+config FILES_CONTAINER
+ bool "Numfiles accounting container"
+ select RESOURCE_COUNTERS
+ help
+     Provides the-number-of-files accounting container
+
+config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
+ bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
+ default y
diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/container.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/container.c
--- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
+++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/container.c 2007-03-06 13:35:48.000000000 +0300
@@ -60,6 +60,7 @@
#include <linux/rss_container.h>
#include <linux/numproc_container.h>
+#include <linux/numfiles_container.h>

#define CONTAINER_SUPER_MAGIC 0x27e0eb

@@ -1721,6 +1725,7 @@ int __init container_init_early(void)

```

```
container_rss_init_early();
container_numproc_init_early();
+ container_numfiles_init_early();
```

```
return 0;
}
```

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Andrew Morton](#) on Tue, 06 Mar 2007 22:00:36 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300  
Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

```
> +struct rss_container {
> + struct res_counter res;
> + struct list_head page_list;
> + struct container_subsys_state css;
> +};
> +
> +struct page_container {
> + struct page *page;
> + struct rss_container *cnt;
> + struct list_head list;
> +};
```

ah. This looks good. I'll find a hunk of time to go through this work and through Paul's patches. It'd be good to get both patchsets lined up in -mm within a couple of weeks. But..

We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via a physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's patches.

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 6/7] Account for the number of tasks within container  
Posted by [Paul Menage](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 02:00:04 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi Pavel,

On 3/6/07, Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

```
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h      2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h      2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
```



```
> @@ -1052,6 +1055,9 @@ struct task_struct {
> #ifdef CONFIG_FAULT_INJECTION
>     int make_it_fail;
> #endif
> +#ifdef CONFIG_PROCESS_CONTAINER
> +     struct numproc_container *numproc_cnt;
> +#endif
> };
```

Why do you need a pointer added to task\_struct? One of the main points of the generic containers is to avoid every different subsystem and resource controller having to add new pointers there.

```
> +
> +     rcu_read_lock();
> +     np = numproc_from_cont(task_container(current, &numproc_subsys));
> +     css_get_current(&np->css);
```

There's no need to hold a reference here - by definition, the task's container can't go away while the task is in it.

Also, shouldn't you have an attach() method to move the count from one container to another when a task moves?

Paul

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/7] Resource controllers based on process containers  
Posted by [Paul Menage](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 02:02:32 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On 3/6/07, Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

```
> 2. Extended containers may register themselves too late.
>   Kernel threads/helpers start forking, opening files
>   and touching pages much earlier. This patchset
>   workarounds this in not-so-cute manner and I'm waiting
>   for Paul's comments on this issue.
>
```

Can we not make sure that each subsystem registers itself before any of its resources become usable? So the file counting subsystem should register at some point before filp\_open() becomes usable, and the process counting subsystem should register before it's possible to fork, etc.

Paul

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 04:03:49 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Pavel Emelianov wrote:

```
> Introduce generic structures and routines for
> resource accounting.
>
> Each resource accounting container is supposed to
> aggregate it, container_subsystem_state and its
> resource-specific members within.
>
>
> -----
>
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -0,0 +1,83 @@
> +#ifndef __RES_COUNTER_H__
> +#define __RES_COUNTER_H__
> +/*
> + * resource counters
> + *
> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
> + *
> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
> + *
> + */
> +
> +#include <linux/container.h>
> +
> +struct res_counter {
> + unsigned long usage;
> + unsigned long limit;
> + unsigned long failcnt;
> + spinlock_t lock;
> +};
> +
> +enum {
> + RES_USAGE,
> + RES_LIMIT,
> + RES_FAILCNT,
> +};
> +
> +ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
> + const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
> +ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
> + const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
```

```

> +
> +static inline void res_counter_init(struct res_counter *cnt)
> +{
> + spin_lock_init(&cnt->lock);
> + cnt->limit = (unsigned long)LONG_MAX;
> +}
> +

```

Is there any way to indicate that there are no limits on this container. LONG\_MAX is quite huge, but still when the administrator wants to configure a container to \*un-limited usage\*, it becomes hard for the administrator.

```

> +static inline int res_counter_charge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
> + unsigned long val)
> +{
> + if (cnt->usage <= cnt->limit - val) {
> + cnt->usage += val;
> + return 0;
> + }
> +
> + cnt->failcnt++;
> + return -ENOMEM;
> +}
> +
> +static inline int res_counter_charge(struct res_counter *cnt,
> + unsigned long val)
> +{
> + int ret;
> + unsigned long flags;
> +
> + spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
> + ret = res_counter_charge_locked(cnt, val);
> + spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
> + return ret;
> +}
> +

```

Will atomic counters help here.

```

> +static inline void res_counter_uncharge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
> + unsigned long val)
> +{
> + if (unlikely(cnt->usage < val)) {
> + WARN_ON(1);
> + val = cnt->usage;
> + }
> +

```

```

> + cnt->usage -= val;
> +}
> +
> +static inline void res_counter_uncharge(struct res_counter *cnt,
> + unsigned long val)
> +{
> + unsigned long flags;
> +
> + spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
> + res_counter_uncharge_locked(cnt, val);
> + spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
> +}
> +
> +#endif
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -265,6 +265,10 @@ config CPUSETS
>
> Say N if unsure.
>
> +config RESOURCE_COUNTERS
> + bool
> + select CONTAINERS
> +
> config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
> bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
> default y
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -51,6 +51,7 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_RELAY) += relay.o
> obj-$(CONFIG_UTS_NS) += utsname.o
> obj-$(CONFIG_TASK_DELAY_ACCT) += delayacct.o
> obj-$(CONFIG_TASKSTATS) += taskstats.o tsacct.o
> +obj-$(CONFIG_RESOURCE_COUNTERS) += res_counter.o
>
> ifneq ($(CONFIG_SCHED_NO_NO_OMIT_FRAME_POINTER),y)
> # According to Alan Modra <alan@linuxcare.com.au>, the -fno-omit-frame-pointer is
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -0,0 +1,72 @@
> +/*
> + * resource containers
> + *
> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
> + *

```

```

> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
> + *
> + */
> +
> + #include <linux/parser.h>
> + #include <linux/fs.h>
> + #include <linux/res_counter.h>
> + #include <asm/uaccess.h>
> +
> + static inline unsigned long *res_counter_member(struct res_counter *cnt, int member)
> + {
> +     switch (member) {
> +     case RES_USAGE:
> +         return &cnt->usage;
> +     case RES_LIMIT:
> +         return &cnt->limit;
> +     case RES_FAILCNT:
> +         return &cnt->failcnt;
> +     };
> +
> +     BUG();
> +     return NULL;
> + }
> +
> + ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
> +     const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
> + {
> +     unsigned long *val;
> +     char buf[64], *s;
> +
> +     s = buf;
> +     val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
> +     s += sprintf(s, "%lu\n", *val);
> +     return simple_read_from_buffer((void __user *)userbuf, nbytes,
> +         pos, buf, s - buf);
> + }
> +
> + ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
> +     const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
> + {
> +     int ret;
> +     char *buf, *end;
> +     unsigned long tmp, *val;
> +
> +     buf = kmalloc(nbytes + 1, GFP_KERNEL);
> +     ret = -ENOMEM;
> +     if (buf == NULL)
> +         goto out;

```

```

> +
> + buf[nbytes] = 0;
> + ret = -EFAULT;
> + if (copy_from_user(buf, userbuf, nbytes))
> + goto out_free;
> +
> + ret = -EINVAL;
> + tmp = simple_strtoul(buf, &end, 10);
> + if (*end != '\0')
> + goto out_free;
> +
> + val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
> + *val = tmp;
> + ret = nbytes;
> +out_free:
> + kfree(buf);
> +out:
> + return ret;
> +}
>

```

These bits look a little out of sync, with no users for these routines in this patch. Won't you get a compiler warning, compiling this bit alone?

--

Warm Regards,  
 Balbir Singh  
 Linux Technology Center  
 IBM, ISTL

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
 Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 05:37:56 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Pavel Emelianov wrote:

```

> This includes setup of RSS container within generic
> process containers, all the declarations used in RSS
> accounting, and core code responsible for accounting.
>
>
> -----
>
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rss_container.h
linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rss_container.h
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rss_container.h 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rss_container.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300

```

```

> @@ -0,0 +1,68 @@
> +#ifndef __RSS_CONTAINER_H__
> +#define __RSS_CONTAINER_H__
> +/*
> + * RSS container
> + *
> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
> + *
> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
> + *
> + */
> +
> +struct page_container;
> +struct rss_container;
> +
> +#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
> +int container_rss_prepare(struct page *, struct vm_area_struct *vma,
> + struct page_container **);
> +
> +void container_rss_add(struct page_container *);
> +void container_rss_del(struct page_container *);
> +void container_rss_release(struct page_container *);
> +
> +int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk);
> +void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm);
> +
> +unsigned long container_isolate_pages(unsigned long nr_to_scan,
> + struct rss_container *rss, struct list_head *dst,
> + int active, unsigned long *scanned);
> +unsigned long container_nr_physpages(struct rss_container *rss);
> +
> +unsigned long container_try_to_free_pages(struct rss_container *);
> +void container_out_of_memory(struct rss_container *);
> +
> +void container_rss_init_early(void);
> +#else
> +static inline int container_rss_prepare(struct page *pg,
> + struct vm_area_struct *vma, struct page_container **pc)
> +{
> + *pc = NULL; /* to make gcc happy */
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +static inline void container_rss_add(struct page_container *pc)
> +{
> +}
> +
> +static inline void container_rss_del(struct page_container *pc)

```

```

> +{
> +}
> +
> +static inline void container_rss_release(struct page_container *pc)
> +{
> +}
> +
> +static inline int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *t)
> +{
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +static inline void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm)
> +{
> +}
> +
> +static inline void container_rss_init_early(void)
> +{
> +}
> +#endif
> +#endif
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -265,6 +265,13 @@ config CPUSETS
> bool
> select CONTAINERS
>
> +config RSS_CONTAINER
> + bool "RSS accounting container"
> + select RESOURCE_COUNTERS
> + help
> + Provides a simple Resource Controller for monitoring and
> + controlling the total Resident Set Size of the tasks in a container
> +

```

The wording looks very familiar :-). It would be useful to add "The reclaim logic is now container aware, when the container goes overlimit the page reclaimer reclaims pages belonging to this container. If we are unable to reclaim enough pages to satisfy the request, the process is killed with an out of memory warning"

```

> config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
> bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
> default y
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/mm/Makefile
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/Makefile 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300

```



```

> @@ -29,3 +29,5 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_MEMORY_HOTPLUG) += memory_h
> obj-$(CONFIG_FS_XIP) += filemap_xip.o
> obj-$(CONFIG_MIGRATION) += migrate.o
> obj-$(CONFIG_SMP) += allocpercpu.o
> +
> +obj-$(CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER) += rss_container.o
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rss_container.c linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rss_container.c
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-06 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -0,0 +1,307 @@
> +/*
> + * RSS accounting container
> + *
> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
> + *
> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
> + *
> + */
> +
> +#include <linux/list.h>
> +#include <linux/sched.h>
> +#include <linux/mm.h>
> +#include <linux/res_counter.h>
> +#include <linux/rss_container.h>
> +
> +static struct container_subsys rss_subsys;
> +
> +struct rss_container {
> + struct res_counter res;
> + struct list_head page_list;
> + struct container_subsys_state css;
> +};
> +
> +struct page_container {
> + struct page *page;
> + struct rss_container *cnt;
> + struct list_head list;
> +};
> +

```

Yes, this is what I was planning to get to -- a per container LRU list.  
But you have just one list, don't you need active and inactive lists?  
When the global LRU is manipulated, shouldn't this list be updated as  
well, so that reclaim will pick the best pages.

```

> +static inline struct rss_container *rss_from_cont(struct container *cnt)
> +{
> + return container_of(container_subsys_state(cnt, &rss_subsys),

```

```

> + struct rss_container, css);
> +}
> +
> +int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk)
> +{
> + struct rss_container *cnt;
> +
> + cnt = rss_from_cont(task_container(tsk, &rss_subsys));
> + if (css_get(&cnt->css))
> + return -EBUSY;
> +
> + mm->rss_container = cnt;
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm)
> +{
> + css_put(&mm->rss_container->css);
> +}
> +
> +int container_rss_prepare(struct page *page, struct vm_area_struct *vma,
> + struct page_container **ppc)
> +{
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> + struct page_container *pc;
> +
> + rcu_read_lock();
> + rss = rcu_dereference(vma->vm_mm->rss_container);
> + css_get_current(&rss->css);
> + rcu_read_unlock();
> +
> + pc = kmalloc(sizeof(struct page_container), GFP_KERNEL);
> + if (pc == NULL)
> + goto out_nomem;
> +
> + while (res_counter_charge(&rss->res, 1)) {
> + if (container_try_to_free_pages(rss))
> + continue;
> +

```

The return codes of the functions is a bit confusing, ideally `container_try_to_free_pages()` should return 0 on success. Also `res_counter_charge()` has a `WARN_ON(1)` if the limit is exceeded. The system administrator can figure out the details from `failcnt`, I suspect when the container is running close to it's limit, `dmesg` will have too many WARNING messages.

How much memory do you try to reclaim in `container_try_to_free_pages()`?

With my patches, I was planning to export this knob to userspace with a default value. This will help the administrator decide how much of the working set/container LRU should be freed on reaching the limit. I cannot find the definition of `container_try_to_free_pages()` in this patch.

```
> + container_out_of_memory(rss);
> + if (test_thread_flag(TIF_MEMDIE))
> + goto out_charge;
> + }
> +
> + pc->page = page;
> + pc->cnt = rss;
> + *ppc = pc;
> + return 0;
> +
> +out_charge:
> + kfree(pc);
> +out_nomem:
> + css_put(&rss->css);
> + return -ENOMEM;
> +}
> +
> +void container_rss_release(struct page_container *pc)
> +{
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> +
> + rss = pc->cnt;
> + res_counter_uncharge(&rss->res, 1);
> + css_put(&rss->css);
> + kfree(pc);
> +}
> +
> +void container_rss_add(struct page_container *pc)
> +{
> + struct page *pg;
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> +
> + pg = pc->page;
> + rss = pc->cnt;
> +
> + spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
> + list_add(&pc->list, &rss->page_list);
```

This is not good, it won't give us LRU behaviour which is useful for determining which pages to free.

```

> + spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
> +
> + page_container(pg) = pc;
> +}
> +
> +void container_rss_del(struct page_container *pc)
> +{
> + struct page *page;
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> +
> + page = pc->page;
> + rss = pc->cnt;
> +
> + spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
> + list_del(&pc->list);
> + res_counter_uncharge_locked(&rss->res, 1);
> + spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
> +
> + css_put(&rss->css);
> + kfree(pc);
> +}
> +
> +unsigned long container_isolate_pages(unsigned long nr_to_scan,
> + struct rss_container *rss, struct list_head *dst,
> + int active, unsigned long *scanned)
> +{
> + unsigned long nr_taken = 0;
> + struct page *page;
> + struct page_container *pc;
> + unsigned long scan;
> + struct list_head *src;
> + LIST_HEAD(pc_list);
> + struct zone *z;
> +
> + spin_lock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
> + src = &rss->page_list;
> +

```

Which part of the working set are we pushing out, this looks like we are using FIFO to determine which pages to reclaim. This needs to be FIXED.

```

> + for (scan = 0; scan < nr_to_scan && !list_empty(src); scan++) {
> + pc = list_entry(src->prev, struct page_container, list);
> + page = pc->page;
> + z = page_zone(page);
> +

```

```

> + list_move(&pc->list, &pc_list);
> +
> + spin_lock(&z->lru_lock);
> + if (PageLRU(page)) {
> +   if ((active && PageActive(page)) ||
> +       (!active && !PageActive(page))) {
> +     if (likely(get_page_unless_zero(page))) {
> +       ClearPageLRU(page);
> +       nr_taken++;
> +       list_move(&page->lru, dst);
> +     }
> +   }
> + }
> + spin_unlock(&z->lru_lock);
> + }
> +
> + list_splice(&pc_list, src);

```

This would lead to LRU churning, I would recommend using `list_splice_tail()` instead. Since this code has a lot in common with `isolate_lru_pages`, it would be nice to reuse the code in `vmscan.c`

NOTE: Code duplication is a back door for subtle bugs and solving the same issue twice :-)

```

> + spin_unlock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
> +
> + *scanned = scan;
> + return nr_taken;
> +}
> +
> + unsigned long container_nr_physpages(struct rss_container *rss)
> +{
> + return rss->res.usage;
> +}
> +
> + static void rss_move_task(struct container_subsys *ss,
> + struct container *cont,
> + struct container *old_cont,
> + struct task_struct *p)
> +{
> + struct mm_struct *mm;
> + struct rss_container *rss, *old_rss;
> +
> + mm = get_task_mm(p);
> + if (mm == NULL)
> + goto out;
> +

```

```

> + rss = rss_from_cont(cont);
> + old_rss = rss_from_cont(old_cont);
> + if (old_rss != mm->rss_container)
> + goto out_put;
> +
> + css_get_current(&rss->css);
> + rcu_assign_pointer(mm->rss_container, rss);
> + css_put(&old_rss->css);
> +

```

I see that the charges are not migrated. Is that good?  
 If a user could find a way of migrating his/her task from one container to another, it could create an issue with the user's task taking up a big chunk of the RSS limit.

Can we migrate any task or just the thread group leader.  
 In my patches, I allowed migration of just the thread group leader. Imagine if you have several threads, no matter which container they belong to, their mm gets charged (usage will not show up in the container's usage). This could confuse the system administrator.

```

> +out_put:
> + mmpu(mm);
> +out:
> + return;
> +}
> +
> +static int rss_create(struct container_subsys *ss, struct container *cont)
> +{
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> +
> + rss = kzalloc(sizeof(struct rss_container), GFP_KERNEL);
> + if (rss == NULL)
> + return -ENOMEM;
> +
> + res_counter_init(&rss->res);
> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
> + cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +static void rss_destroy(struct container_subsys *ss,
> + struct container *cont)
> +{
> + kfree(rss_from_cont(cont));
> +}
> +

```

```

> +
> +static ssize_t rss_read(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
> + struct file *file, char __user *userbuf,
> + size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
> +{
> + return res_counter_read(&rss_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
> + userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
> +}
> +
> +static ssize_t rss_write(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
> + struct file *file, const char __user *userbuf,
> + size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
> +{
> + return res_counter_write(&rss_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
> + userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
> +}
> +
> +
> +static struct cftype rss_usage = {
> + .name = "rss_usage",
> + .private = RES_USAGE,
> + .read = rss_read,
> +};
> +
> +static struct cftype rss_limit = {
> + .name = "rss_limit",
> + .private = RES_LIMIT,
> + .read = rss_read,
> + .write = rss_write,
> +};
> +
> +static struct cftype rss_failcnt = {
> + .name = "rss_failcnt",
> + .private = RES_FAILCNT,
> + .read = rss_read,
> +};
> +
> +static int rss_populate(struct container_subsys *ss,
> + struct container *cont)
> +{
> + int rc;
> +
> + if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_usage)) < 0)
> + return rc;
> + if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_failcnt)) < 0)
> + return rc;
> + if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_limit)) < 0)
> + return rc;

```

```

> +
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +static struct rss_container init_rss_container;
> +
> +static __init int rss_create_early(struct container_subsys *ss,
> + struct container *cont)
> +{
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> +
> + rss = &init_rss_container;
> + res_counter_init(&rss->res);
> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
> + cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
> + ss->create = rss_create;
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +static struct container_subsys rss_subsys = {
> + .name = "rss",
> + .create = rss_create_early,
> + .destroy = rss_destroy,
> + .populate = rss_populate,
> + .attach = rss_move_task,
> +};
> +
> +void __init container_rss_init_early(void)
> +{
> + container_register_subsys(&rss_subsys);
> + init_mm.rss_container = rss_from_cont(
> + task_container(&init_task, &rss_subsys));
> + css_get_current(&init_mm.rss_container->css);
> +}
>

```

--

Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/7] Resource controllers based on process containers  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 06:52:02 GMT  
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---



Pavel Emelianov wrote:

- > This patchset adds RSS, accounting and control and
- > limiting the number of tasks and files within container.
- >
- > Based on top of Paul Menage's container subsystem v7
- >
- > RSS controller includes per-container RSS accountner,
- > reclamation and OOM killer. It behaves like standalone
- > machine - when container runs out of resources it tries
- > to reclaim some pages and if it doesn't succeed in it
- > kills some task which mm\_struct belongs to container in
- > question.
- >
- > Num tasks and files containers are very simple and
- > self-descriptive from code.
- >
- > As discussed before when a task moves from one container
- > to another no resources follow it - they keep holding the
- > container they were allocated in.
- >

I have one problem with the patchset, I cannot compile the patches individually and some of the code is hard to read as it depends on functions from future patches. Patch 2, 3 and 4 fail to compile without patch 5 applied.

Patch 1 failed to apply with a reject in kernel/Makefile I applied it on top of 2.6.20 with all of Paul Menage's patches (all 7).

--

Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 6/7] Account for the number of tasks within container  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 07:10:56 GMT

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---

Paul Menage wrote:

- > Hi Pavel,
- >
- > On 3/6/07, Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:
- >> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h

```

>> linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/sched.h    2007-03-06
>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/sched.h      2007-03-06
>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -1052,6 +1055,9 @@ struct task_struct {
>> #ifdef CONFIG_FAULT_INJECTION
>>     int make_it_fail;
>> #endif
>> +#ifdef CONFIG_PROCESS_CONTAINER
>> +     struct numproc_container *numproc_cnt;
>> +#endif
>> };
>
> Why do you need a pointer added to task_struct? One of the main points
> of the generic containers is to avoid every different subsystem and
> resource controller having to add new pointers there.
>
>> +
>> +     rcu_read_lock();
>> +     np = numproc_from_cont(task_container(current, &numproc_subsys));
>> +     css_get_current(&np->css);
>
> There's no need to hold a reference here - by definition, the task's
> container can't go away while the task is in it.
>
> Also, shouldn't you have an attach() method to move the count from one
> container to another when a task moves?

```

The idea is:

Task may be "the entity that allocates the resources" and "the entity that is a resource allocated".

When task is the first entity it may move across containers (that is implemented in your patches). When task is a resource it shouldn't move across containers like files or pages do.

More generally - allocated resources hold reference to original container till they die. No resource migration is performed.

Did I express my idea cleanly?

> Paul  
>

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 07:17:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Balbir Singh wrote:

> Pavel Emelianov wrote:

>> Introduce generic structures and routines for  
>> resource accounting.

>>  
>> Each resource accounting container is supposed to  
>> aggregate it, container\_subsystem\_state and its  
>> resource-specific members within.

>>

>>

>> -----

>>

```
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h
>> linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h    2007-03-06
>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h    2007-03-06
>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -0,0 +1,83 @@
>> +#ifndef __RES_COUNTER_H__
>> +#define __RES_COUNTER_H__
>> +/*
>> + * resource counters
>> + *
>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>> + *
>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>> + *
>> + */
>> +
>> +#include <linux/container.h>
>> +
>> +struct res_counter {
>> +    unsigned long usage;
>> +    unsigned long limit;
>> +    unsigned long failcnt;
>> +    spinlock_t lock;
>> +};
>> +
>> +enum {
>> +    RES_USAGE,
>> +    RES_LIMIT,
>> +    RES_FAILCNT,
>> +};
>> +
```

```

>> +ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>> +    const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
>> +ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>> +    const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
>> +
>> +static inline void res_counter_init(struct res_counter *cnt)
>> +{
>> +    spin_lock_init(&cnt->lock);
>> +    cnt->limit = (unsigned long)LONG_MAX;
>> +}
>> +
>
> Is there any way to indicate that there are no limits on this container.

```

Yes - LONG\_MAX is essentially a "no limit" value as no container will ever have such many files :)

```

> LONG_MAX is quite huge, but still when the administrator wants to
> configure a container to *un-limited usage*, it becomes hard for
> the administrator.
>
>> +static inline int res_counter_charge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
>> +    unsigned long val)
>> +{
>> +    if (cnt->usage <= cnt->limit - val) {
>> +        cnt->usage += val;
>> +        return 0;
>> +    }
>> +
>> +    cnt->failcnt++;
>> +    return -ENOMEM;
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline int res_counter_charge(struct res_counter *cnt,
>> +    unsigned long val)
>> +{
>> +    int ret;
>> +    unsigned long flags;
>> +
>> +    spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
>> +    ret = res_counter_charge_locked(cnt, val);
>> +    spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
>> +    return ret;
>> +}
>> +
>
> Will atomic counters help here.

```

I'm afraid no. We have to atomically check for limit and alter one of usage or failcnt depending on the checking result. Making this with atomic\_xxx ops will require at least two ops.

If we'll remove failcnt this would look like

```
while (atomic_cmpxchg(...))  
which is also not that good.
```

Moreover - in RSS accounting patches I perform page list manipulations under this lock, so this also saves one atomic op.

```
>> +static inline void res_counter_uncharge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,  
>> +    unsigned long val)  
>> +{  
>> +    if (unlikely(cnt->usage < val)) {  
>> +        WARN_ON(1);  
>> +        val = cnt->usage;  
>> +    }  
>> +  
>> +    cnt->usage -= val;  
>> +}  
>> +  
>> +static inline void res_counter_uncharge(struct res_counter *cnt,  
>> +    unsigned long val)  
>> +{  
>> +    unsigned long flags;  
>> +  
>> +    spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);  
>> +    res_counter_uncharge_locked(cnt, val);  
>> +    spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);  
>> +}  
>> +  
>> +#endif  
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig  
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300  
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300  
>> @@ -265,6 +265,10 @@ config CPUSETS  
>>  
>>     Say N if unsure.  
>>  
>> +config RESOURCE_COUNTERS  
>> +    bool  
>> +    select CONTAINERS  
>> +  
>> config SYSFS_DEPRECATED  
>>     bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"  
>>     default y  
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile
```

```

>> linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000
>> +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -51,6 +51,7 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_RELAY) += relay.o
>> obj-$(CONFIG_UTS_NS) += utsname.o
>> obj-$(CONFIG_TASK_DELAY_ACCT) += delayacct.o
>> obj-$(CONFIG_TASKSTATS) += taskstats.o tsacct.o
>> +obj-$(CONFIG_RESOURCE_COUNTERS) += res_counter.o
>>
>> ifneq ($(CONFIG_SCHED_NO_NO_OMIT_FRAME_POINTER),y)
>> # According to Alan Modra <alan@linuxcare.com.au>, the
>> -fno-omit-frame-pointer is
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c
>> linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06
>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06
>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -0,0 +1,72 @@
>> +/*
>> + * resource containers
>> + *
>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>> + *
>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>> + *
>> + */
>> +
>> + #include <linux/parser.h>
>> + #include <linux/fs.h>
>> + #include <linux/res_counter.h>
>> + #include <asm/uaccess.h>
>> +
>> + static inline unsigned long *res_counter_member(struct res_counter
>> *cnt, int member)
>> +{
>> + switch (member) {
>> + case RES_USAGE:
>> + return &cnt->usage;
>> + case RES_LIMIT:
>> + return &cnt->limit;
>> + case RES_FAILCNT:
>> + return &cnt->failcnt;
>> + };
>> +
>> + BUG();
>> + return NULL;

```

```

>> +}
>> +
>> +ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>> +    const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
>> +{
>> +    unsigned long *val;
>> +    char buf[64], *s;
>> +
>> +    s = buf;
>> +    val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
>> +    s += sprintf(s, "%lu\n", *val);
>> +    return simple_read_from_buffer((void __user *)userbuf, nbytes,
>> +        pos, buf, s - buf);
>> +}
>> +
>> +ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>> +    const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
>> +{
>> +    int ret;
>> +    char *buf, *end;
>> +    unsigned long tmp, *val;
>> +
>> +    buf = kmalloc(nbytes + 1, GFP_KERNEL);
>> +    ret = -ENOMEM;
>> +    if (buf == NULL)
>> +        goto out;
>> +
>> +    buf[nbytes] = 0;
>> +    ret = -EFAULT;
>> +    if (copy_from_user(buf, userbuf, nbytes))
>> +        goto out_free;
>> +
>> +    ret = -EINVAL;
>> +    tmp = simple_strtoul(buf, &end, 10);
>> +    if (*end != '\0')
>> +        goto out_free;
>> +
>> +    val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
>> +    *val = tmp;
>> +    ret = nbytes;
>> +out_free:
>> +    kfree(buf);
>> +out:
>> +    return ret;
>> +}
>>
>
>

```

> These bits look a little out of sync, with no users for these routines in  
> this patch. Won't you get a compiler warning, compiling this bit alone?  
>

Nope - when you have a non-static function without users in a  
file no compiler warning produced.

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 07:25:25 GMT  
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---

Balbir Singh wrote:

> Pavel Emelianov wrote:

>> This includes setup of RSS container within generic  
>> process containers, all the declarations used in RSS  
>> accounting, and core code responsible for accounting.

>>

>>

>> -----

>>

>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rss\_container.h

>> linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rss\_container.h

>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/rss\_container.h 2007-03-06

>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300

>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/rss\_container.h 2007-03-06

>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300

>> @@ -0,0 +1,68 @@

>> + #ifndef \_\_RSS\_CONTAINER\_H\_\_

>> + #define \_\_RSS\_CONTAINER\_H\_\_

>> + /\*

>> + \* RSS container

>> + \*

>> + \* Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc

>> + \*

>> + \* Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>

>> + \*

>> + \*/

>> +

>> + struct page\_container;

>> + struct rss\_container;

>> +

>> + #ifdef CONFIG\_RSS\_CONTAINER

>> + int container\_rss\_prepare(struct page \*, struct vm\_area\_struct \*vma,

>> + struct page\_container \*\*);

>> +

>> + void container\_rss\_add(struct page\_container \*);

>> + void container\_rss\_del(struct page\_container \*);



```

>> +void container_rss_release(struct page_container *);
>> +
>> +int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk);
>> +void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm);
>> +
>> +unsigned long container_isolate_pages(unsigned long nr_to_scan,
>> +    struct rss_container *rss, struct list_head *dst,
>> +    int active, unsigned long *scanned);
>> +unsigned long container_nr_physpages(struct rss_container *rss);
>> +
>> +unsigned long container_try_to_free_pages(struct rss_container *);
>> +void container_out_of_memory(struct rss_container *);
>> +
>> +void container_rss_init_early(void);
>> +#else
>> +static inline int container_rss_prepare(struct page *pg,
>> +    struct vm_area_struct *vma, struct page_container **pc)
>> +{
>> +    *pc = NULL; /* to make gcc happy */
>> +    return 0;
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline void container_rss_add(struct page_container *pc)
>> +{
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline void container_rss_del(struct page_container *pc)
>> +{
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline void container_rss_release(struct page_container *pc)
>> +{
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct
>> task_struct *t)
>> +{
>> +    return 0;
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm)
>> +{
>> +}
>> +
>> +static inline void container_rss_init_early(void)
>> +{
>> +}
>> +#endif

```

```

>> +#endif
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -265,6 +265,13 @@ config CPUSETS
>>     bool
>>     select CONTAINERS
>>
>> +config RSS_CONTAINER
>> +     bool "RSS accounting container"
>> +     select RESOURCE_COUNTERS
>> +     help
>> +     Provides a simple Resource Controller for monitoring and
>> +     controlling the total Resident Set Size of the tasks in a
>> container
>> +
>
> The wording looks very familiar :-). It would be useful to add
> "The reclaim logic is now container aware, when the container goes
> overlimit
> the page reclaimer reclaims pages belonging to this container. If we are
> unable to reclaim enough pages to satisfy the request, the process is
> killed with an out of memory warning"

```

OK. Thanks.

```

>
>> config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
>>     bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
>>     default y
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/Makefile linux-2.6.20-0/mm/Makefile
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/Makefile 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -29,3 +29,5 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_MEMORY_HOTPLUG) += memory_h
>> obj-$(CONFIG_FS_XIP) += filemap_xip.o
>> obj-$(CONFIG_MIGRATION) += migrate.o
>> obj-$(CONFIG_SMP) += allocpercpu.o
>> +
>> +obj-$(CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER) += rss_container.o
>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rss_container.c
>> linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rss_container.c
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-06
>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000
>> +0300
>> @@ -0,0 +1,307 @@
>> +/*
>> + * RSS accounting container

```

```

>> + *
>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>> + *
>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>> + *
>> + */
>> +
>> + #include <linux/list.h>
>> + #include <linux/sched.h>
>> + #include <linux/mm.h>
>> + #include <linux/res_counter.h>
>> + #include <linux/rss_container.h>
>> +
>> + static struct container_subsys rss_subsys;
>> +
>> + struct rss_container {
>> +     struct res_counter res;
>> +     struct list_head page_list;
>> +     struct container_subsys_state css;
>> + };
>> +
>> + struct page_container {
>> +     struct page *page;
>> +     struct rss_container *cnt;
>> +     struct list_head list;
>> + };
>> +
>
> Yes, this is what I was planning to get to -- a per container LRU list.
> But you have just one list, don't you need active and inactive lists?
> When the global LRU is manipulated, shouldn't this list be updated as
> well, so that reclaim will pick the best pages.
>
>> + static inline struct rss_container *rss_from_cont(struct container *cnt)
>> + {
>> +     return container_of(container_subsys_state(cnt, &rss_subsys),
>> +         struct rss_container, css);
>> + }
>> +
>> + int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk)
>> + {
>> +     struct rss_container *cnt;
>> +
>> +     cnt = rss_from_cont(task_container(tsk, &rss_subsys));
>> +     if (css_get(&cnt->css))
>> +         return -EBUSY;
>> +
>> +     mm->rss_container = cnt;

```

```

>> + return 0;
>> +}
>> +
>> +void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm)
>> +{
>> +    css_put(&mm->rss_container->css);
>> +}
>> +
>> +int container_rss_prepare(struct page *page, struct vm_area_struct *vma,
>> +    struct page_container **ppc)
>> +{
>> +    struct rss_container *rss;
>> +    struct page_container *pc;
>> +
>> +    rcu_read_lock();
>> +    rss = rcu_dereference(vma->vm_mm->rss_container);
>> +    css_get_current(&rss->css);
>> +    rcu_read_unlock();
>> +
>> +    pc = kmalloc(sizeof(struct page_container), GFP_KERNEL);
>> +    if (pc == NULL)
>> +        goto out_nomem;
>> +
>> +    while (res_counter_charge(&rss->res, 1)) {
>> +        if (container_try_to_free_pages(rss))
>> +            continue;
>> +
>
> The return codes of the functions is a bit confusing, ideally
> container_try_to_free_pages() should return 0 on success. Also

```

This returns exactly what try\_to\_free\_pages() does.

> res\_counter\_charge() has a WARN\_ON(1) if the limit is exceeded.

Nope - res\_counter\_uncharge() has - this is an absolutely sane check that we haven't over-uncharged resources.

> The system administrator can figure out the details from failcnt,  
> I suspect when the container is running close to it's limit,  
> dmesg will have too many WARNING messages.

>

> How much memory do you try to reclaim in container\_try\_to\_free\_pages()?

At least one page. This is enough to make one page charge.  
That's the difference from general try\_to\_free\_pages() that  
returns success if it freed swap\_cluster\_max pages at least.

> With my patches, I was planning to export this knob to userspace with  
> a default value. This will help the administrator decide how much  
> of the working set/container LRU should be freed on reaching the limit.  
> I cannot find the definition of container\_try\_to\_free\_pages() in  
> this patch.

This is in patch #5.

Sorry for such a bad split - I'll make it cleaner next time :)

```
>
>
>> +    container_out_of_memory(rss);
>> +    if (test_thread_flag(TIF_MEMDIE))
>> +        goto out_charge;
>> +    }
>> +
>> +    pc->page = page;
>> +    pc->cnt = rss;
>> +    *ppc = pc;
>> +    return 0;
>> +
>> +out_charge:
>> +    kfree(pc);
>> +out_nomem:
>> +    css_put(&rss->css);
>> +    return -ENOMEM;
>> +}
>> +
>> +void container_rss_release(struct page_container *pc)
>> +{
>> +    struct rss_container *rss;
>> +
>> +    rss = pc->cnt;
>> +    res_counter_uncharge(&rss->res, 1);
>> +    css_put(&rss->css);
>> +    kfree(pc);
>> +}
>> +
>> +void container_rss_add(struct page_container *pc)
>> +{
>> +    struct page *pg;
>> +    struct rss_container *rss;
>> +
>> +    pg = pc->page;
>> +    rss = pc->cnt;
>> +
>> +    spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
>> +    list_add(&pc->list, &rss->page_list);
```

>  
> This is not good, it won't give us LRU behaviour which is  
> useful for determining which pages to free.

Why not - recently used pages are in the head of the list.  
Active/inactive state of the page is determined from its flags.

The idea of this list is to decrease the number of pages scanned  
during reclamation. LRU-ness is checked from global page state.

```
>> + spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
>> +
>> + page_container(pg) = pc;
>> +}
>> +
>> +void container_rss_del(struct page_container *pc)
>> +{
>> + struct page *page;
>> + struct rss_container *rss;
>> +
>> + page = pc->page;
>> + rss = pc->cnt;
>> +
>> + spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
>> + list_del(&pc->list);
>> + res_counter_uncharge_locked(&rss->res, 1);
>> + spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
>> +
>> + css_put(&rss->css);
>> + kfree(pc);
>> +}
>> +
>> +unsigned long container_isolate_pages(unsigned long nr_to_scan,
>> + struct rss_container *rss, struct list_head *dst,
>> + int active, unsigned long *scanned)
>> +{
>> + unsigned long nr_taken = 0;
>> + struct page *page;
>> + struct page_container *pc;
>> + unsigned long scan;
>> + struct list_head *src;
>> + LIST_HEAD(pc_list);
>> + struct zone *z;
>> +
>> + spin_lock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
>> + src = &rss->page_list;
>> +
>
```

> Which part of the working set are we pushing out, this looks like  
> we are using FIFO to determine which pages to reclaim. This needs  
> to be FIXED.

This also works exactly like `general try_to_free_pages()` does.  
It scans for active pages first, then for inactive shrinking them.

```
>> + for (scan = 0; scan < nr_to_scan && !list_empty(src); scan++) {
>> +     pc = list_entry(src->prev, struct page_container, list);
>> +     page = pc->page;
>> +     z = page_zone(page);
>> +
>> +     list_move(&pc->list, &pc_list);
>> +
>> +     spin_lock(&z->lru_lock);
>> +     if (PageLRU(page)) {
>> +         if ((active && PageActive(page)) ||
>> +             (!active && !PageActive(page))) {
>> +             if (likely(get_page_unless_zero(page))) {
>> +                 ClearPageLRU(page);
>> +                 nr_taken++;
>> +                 list_move(&page->lru, dst);
>> +             }
>> +         }
>> +     }
>> +     spin_unlock(&z->lru_lock);
>> + }
>> + list_splice(&pc_list, src);
>
> This would lead to LRU churning, I would recommend using list_splice_tail()
> instead. Since this code has a lot in common with isolate_lru_pages, it
> would be nice to reuse the code in vmscan.c
```

I'll look at it.

> NOTE: Code duplication is a back door for subtle bugs and solving the same  
> issue twice :-)

```
>
>> + spin_unlock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
>> +
>> + *scanned = scan;
>> + return nr_taken;
>> +}
>> +
>> +unsigned long container_nr_physpages(struct rss_container *rss)
>> +{
>> +     return rss->res.usage;
```

```

>> +}
>> +
>> +static void rss_move_task(struct container_subsys *ss,
>> +    struct container *cont,
>> +    struct container *old_cont,
>> +    struct task_struct *p)
>> +{
>> +    struct mm_struct *mm;
>> +    struct rss_container *rss, *old_rss;
>> +
>> +    mm = get_task_mm(p);
>> +    if (mm == NULL)
>> +        goto out;
>> +
>> +    rss = rss_from_cont(cont);
>> +    old_rss = rss_from_cont(old_cont);
>> +    if (old_rss != mm->rss_container)
>> +        goto out_put;
>> +
>> +    css_get_current(&rss->css);
>> +    rcu_assign_pointer(mm->rss_container, rss);
>> +    css_put(&old_rss->css);
>> +
>

```

> I see that the charges are not migrated. Is that good?

This is what we came to long time ago - no resource migration.

> If a user could find a way of migrating his/her task from  
> one container to another, it could create an issue with  
> the user's task taking up a big chunk of the RSS limit.  
>  
> Can we migrate any task or just the thread group leader.  
> In my patches, I allowed migration of just the thread  
> group leader. Imagine if you have several threads, no  
> matter which container they belong to, their mm gets  
> charged (usage will not show up in the container's usage).  
> This could confuse the system administrator.

Anyway - page migration may be done later with a  
separate patch.

```

>> +out_put:
>> +    mmput(mm);
>> +out:
>> +    return;
>> +}
>> +

```



```

>> +static int rss_create(struct container_subsys *ss, struct container
>> +cont)
>> +{
>> +    struct rss_container *rss;
>> +
>> +    rss = kzalloc(sizeof(struct rss_container), GFP_KERNEL);
>> +    if (rss == NULL)
>> +        return -ENOMEM;
>> +
>> +    res_counter_init(&rss->res);
>> +    INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
>> +    cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
>> +    return 0;
>> +}
>> +
>> +static void rss_destroy(struct container_subsys *ss,
>> +    struct container *cont)
>> +{
>> +    kfree(rss_from_cont(cont));
>> +}
>> +
>> +
>> +static ssize_t rss_read(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
>> +    struct file *file, char __user *userbuf,
>> +    size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
>> +{
>> +    return res_counter_read(&rss_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
>> +        userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
>> +}
>> +
>> +static ssize_t rss_write(struct container *cont, struct cftype *cft,
>> +    struct file *file, const char __user *userbuf,
>> +    size_t nbytes, loff_t *ppos)
>> +{
>> +    return res_counter_write(&rss_from_cont(cont)->res, cft->private,
>> +        userbuf, nbytes, ppos);
>> +}
>> +
>> +
>> +static struct cftype rss_usage = {
>> +    .name = "rss_usage",
>> +    .private = RES_USAGE,
>> +    .read = rss_read,
>> +};
>> +
>> +static struct cftype rss_limit = {
>> +    .name = "rss_limit",
>> +    .private = RES_LIMIT,

```

```

>> + .read = rss_read,
>> + .write = rss_write,
>> +};
>> +
>> +static struct cftype rss_failcnt = {
>> + .name = "rss_failcnt",
>> + .private = RES_FAILCNT,
>> + .read = rss_read,
>> +};
>> +
>> +static int rss_populate(struct container_subsys *ss,
>> + struct container *cont)
>> +{
>> + int rc;
>> +
>> + if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_usage)) < 0)
>> + return rc;
>> + if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_failcnt)) < 0)
>> + return rc;
>> + if ((rc = container_add_file(cont, &rss_limit)) < 0)
>> + return rc;
>> +
>> + return 0;
>> +}
>> +
>> +static struct rss_container init_rss_container;
>> +
>> +static __init int rss_create_early(struct container_subsys *ss,
>> + struct container *cont)
>> +{
>> + struct rss_container *rss;
>> +
>> + rss = &init_rss_container;
>> + res_counter_init(&rss->res);
>> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
>> + cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
>> + ss->create = rss_create;
>> + return 0;
>> +}
>> +
>> +static struct container_subsys rss_subsys = {
>> + .name = "rss",
>> + .create = rss_create_early,
>> + .destroy = rss_destroy,
>> + .populate = rss_populate,
>> + .attach = rss_move_task,
>> +};
>> +

```

```
>> +void __init container_rss_init_early(void)
>> +{
>> +   container_register_subsys(&rss_subsys);
>> +   init_mm.rss_container = rss_from_cont(
>> +       task_container(&init_task, &rss_subsys));
>> +   css_get_current(&init_mm.rss_container->css);
>> +}
>>
>
>
```

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/7] Resource controllers based on process containers  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 07:27:52 GMT  
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---

Paul Menage wrote:

```
> On 3/6/07, Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:
>> 2. Extended containers may register themselves too late.
>>   Kernel threads/helpers start forking, opening files
>>   and touching pages much earlier. This patchset
>>   workarounds this in not-so-cute manner and I'm waiting
>>   for Paul's comments on this issue.
>>
>
> Can we not make sure that each subsystem registers itself before any
> of its resources become usable? So the file counting subsystem should
```

Actually all the subsystems I've sent became usable very early.  
Much earlier than initcalls started. I didn't find where exactly  
but I can make it if we really need it.

```
> register at some point before filp_open() becomes usable, and the
> process counting subsystem should register before it's possible to
> fork, etc.
>
> Paul
>
```

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/7] Resource controllers based on process containers  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 07:30:00 GMT  
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---

Balbir Singh wrote:

```
> Pavel Emelianov wrote:
>> This patchset adds RSS, accounting and control and
```

>> limiting the number of tasks and files within container.  
>>  
>> Based on top of Paul Menage's container subsystem v7  
>>  
>> RSS controller includes per-container RSS accountter,  
>> reclamation and OOM killer. It behaves like standalone  
>> machine - when container runs out of resources it tries  
>> to reclaim some pages and if it doesn't succeed in it  
>> kills some task which mm\_struct belongs to container in  
>> question.  
>>  
>> Num tasks and files containers are very simple and  
>> self-descriptive from code.  
>>  
>> As discussed before when a task moves from one container  
>> to another no resources follow it - they keep holding the  
>> container they were allocated in.  
>>  
>  
> I have one problem with the patchset, I cannot compile  
> the patches individually and some of the code is hard  
> to read as it depends on functions from future patches.  
> Patch 2, 3 and 4 fail to compile without patch 5 applied.  
>  
> Patch 1 failed to apply with a reject in kernel/Makefile  
> I applied it on top of 2.6.20 with all of Paul Menage's  
> patches (all 7).

This sounds weird for me :( I've taken a stock 2.6.20  
and applied Paul's patches. This is what this patchset  
is applicable for.

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/7] Resource controllers based on process containers  
Posted by [dev](#) on Wed, 07 Mar 2007 09:30:34 GMT

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---

Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> Balbir Singh wrote:

>

>> Pavel Emelianov wrote:

>>

>>> This patchset adds RSS, accounting and control and  
>>> limiting the number of tasks and files within container.

>>>

>>> Based on top of Paul Menage's container subsystem v7

>>>

>>> RSS controller includes per-container RSS accountter,

>>>reclamation and OOM killer. It behaves like standalone  
>>>machine - when container runs out of resources it tries  
>>>to reclaim some pages and if it doesn't succeed in it  
>>>kills some task which mm\_struct belongs to container in  
>>>question.  
>>>  
>>>Num tasks and files containers are very simple and  
>>>self-descriptive from code.  
>>>  
>>>As discussed before when a task moves from one container  
>>>to another no resources follow it - they keep holding the  
>>>container they were allocated in.  
>>>  
>>  
>>I have one problem with the patchset, I cannot compile  
>>the patches individually and some of the code is hard  
>>to read as it depends on functions from future patches.  
>>Patch 2, 3 and 4 fail to compile without patch 5 applied.  
>>  
>>Patch 1 failed to apply with a reject in kernel/Makefile  
>>I applied it on top of 2.6.20 with all of Paul Menage's  
>>patches (all 7).  
maybe Paul's patch should be taken w/o subsystems examples  
(CKRM, UBC), i.e. first 3 patches only?

Kirill

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 6/7] Account for the number of tasks within container  
Posted by [Paul Menage](#) on Thu, 08 Mar 2007 13:49:27 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On 3/6/07, Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:  
> The idea is:  
>  
> Task may be "the entity that allocates the resources" and "the  
> entity that is a resource allocated".  
>  
> When task is the first entity it may move across containers  
> (that is implemented in your patches). When task is a resource  
> it shouldn't move across containers like files or pages do.  
>  
> More generally - allocated resources hold reference to original  
> container till they die. No resource migration is performed.  
>  
> Did I express my idea cleanly?

Yes, but I disagree with the premise. The title of your patch is

"Account for the number of tasks within container", but that's not what the subsystem does, it accounts for the number of forks within the container that aren't directly accompanied by an exit.

Ideally, resources like files and pages would be able to follow tasks as well. The reason that files and pages aren't easily migrated from one container to another is that there could be sharing involved; figuring out the sharing can be expensive, and it's not clear what to do if two users are in different containers.

But in the case of a task count, there are no such issues with sharing, so it seems to me to be more sensible (and more efficient) to just limit the number of tasks in a container.

i.e. when moving a task into a container or forking a task within a container, increment the count; when moving a task out of a container or when it exits, decrement the count.

With your approach, if you were to set the task limit of an empty container A to 1, and then move a process P from B into A, P would be able to fork a new child, since the "task count" would be 0 (as P was being charged to B still). Surely the fact that there's 1 process in A should prevent P from forking?

Paul

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Fri, 09 Mar 2007 16:37:11 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Wed, Mar 07, 2007 at 10:19:05AM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

```
> Balbir Singh wrote:
> > Pavel Emelianov wrote:
> >> Introduce generic structures and routines for
> >> resource accounting.
> >>
> >> Each resource accounting container is supposed to
> >> aggregate it, container_subsystem_state and its
> >> resource-specific members within.
> >>
> >>
> >> -----
> >>
> >> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h
> >> linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h
> >> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h    2007-03-06
> >> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
```

```

>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h 2007-03-06
>>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>>> @@ -0,0 +1,83 @@
>>> +ifndef __RES_COUNTER_H__
>>> +define __RES_COUNTER_H__
>>> +/*
>>> + * resource counters
>>> + *
>>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>>> + *
>>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>>> + *
>>> + */
>>> +
>>> + #include <linux/container.h>
>>> +
>>> + struct res_counter {
>>> +     unsigned long usage;
>>> +     unsigned long limit;
>>> +     unsigned long failcnt;
>>> +     spinlock_t lock;
>>> + };
>>> +
>>> + enum {
>>> +     RES_USAGE,
>>> +     RES_LIMIT,
>>> +     RES_FAILCNT,
>>> + };
>>> +
>>> + ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>> +     const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
>>> + ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>> +     const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
>>> +
>>> + static inline void res_counter_init(struct res_counter *cnt)
>>> + {
>>> +     spin_lock_init(&cnt->lock);
>>> +     cnt->limit = (unsigned long)LONG_MAX;
>>> + }
>>> +
>>
>> Is there any way to indicate that there are no limits on this container.
>
> Yes - LONG_MAX is essentially a "no limit" value as no
> container will ever have such many files :)

```

-1 or ~0 is a viable choice for userspace to communicate 'infinite' or 'unlimited'

> > LONG\_MAX is quite huge, but still when the administrator wants to  
> > configure a container to \*un-limited usage\*, it becomes hard for  
> > the administrator.

> >

```
> >> +static inline int res_counter_charge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
> >> +    unsigned long val)
> >> +{
> >> +    if (cnt->usage <= cnt->limit - val) {
> >> +        cnt->usage += val;
> >> +        return 0;
> >> +    }
> >> +
> >> +    cnt->failcnt++;
> >> +    return -ENOMEM;
> >> +}
> >> +
> >> +static inline int res_counter_charge(struct res_counter *cnt,
> >> +    unsigned long val)
> >> +{
> >> +    int ret;
> >> +    unsigned long flags;
> >> +
> >> +    spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
> >> +    ret = res_counter_charge_locked(cnt, val);
> >> +    spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
> >> +    return ret;
> >> +}
> >> +
> >
```

> > Will atomic counters help here.

>

> I'm afraid no. We have to atomically check for limit and alter  
> one of usage or failcnt depending on the checking result. Making  
> this with atomic\_xxx ops will require at least two ops.

Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,  
so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the  
beginning of whatever resource allocation and the  
accounting once the resource is acquired ...

> If we'll remove failcnt this would look like

> while (atomic\_cmpxchg(...))

> which is also not that good.

>

> Moreover - in RSS accounting patches I perform page list  
> manipulations under this lock, so this also saves one atomic op.



it still hasn't been shown that this kind of RSS limit  
doesn't add big time overhead to normal operations  
(inside and outside of such a resource container)

note that the 'usual' memory accounting is much more  
lightweight and serves similar purposes ...

best,  
Herbert

```
> >> +static inline void res_counter_uncharge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
> >> +    unsigned long val)
> >> +{
> >> +    if (unlikely(cnt->usage < val)) {
> >> +        WARN_ON(1);
> >> +        val = cnt->usage;
> >> +    }
> >> +
> >> +    cnt->usage -= val;
> >> +}
> >> +
> >> +static inline void res_counter_uncharge(struct res_counter *cnt,
> >> +    unsigned long val)
> >> +{
> >> +    unsigned long flags;
> >> +
> >> +    spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
> >> +    res_counter_uncharge_locked(cnt, val);
> >> +    spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
> >> +}
> >> +
> >> +#endif
> >> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig
> >> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig    2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> >> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig    2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> >> @@ -265,6 +265,10 @@ config CPUSETS
> >>
> >>     Say N if unsure.
> >>
> >> +config RESOURCE_COUNTERS
> >> +    bool
> >> +    select CONTAINERS
> >> +
> >> config SYSFS_DEPRECATED
> >>     bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"
> >>     default y
> >> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile
> >> linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile
```

```

>>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000
>>> +0300
>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>>> @@ -51,6 +51,7 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_RELAY) += relay.o
>>> obj-$(CONFIG_UTS_NS) += utsname.o
>>> obj-$(CONFIG_TASK_DELAY_ACCT) += delayacct.o
>>> obj-$(CONFIG_TASKSTATS) += taskstats.o tsacct.o
>>> +obj-$(CONFIG_RESOURCE_COUNTERS) += res_counter.o
>>>
>>> ifneq ($(CONFIG_SCHED_NO_NO_OMIT_FRAME_POINTER),y)
>>> # According to Alan Modra <alan@linuxcare.com.au>, the
>>> -fno-omit-frame-pointer is
>>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c
>>> linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c
>>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06
>>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06
>>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>>> @@ -0,0 +1,72 @@
>>> +/*
>>> + * resource containers
>>> + *
>>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>>> + *
>>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>>> + *
>>> + */
>>> +
>>> +#include <linux/parser.h>
>>> +#include <linux/fs.h>
>>> +#include <linux/res_counter.h>
>>> +#include <asm/uaccess.h>
>>> +
>>> +static inline unsigned long *res_counter_member(struct res_counter
>>> *cnt, int member)
>>> +{
>>> + switch (member) {
>>> + case RES_USAGE:
>>> + return &cnt->usage;
>>> + case RES_LIMIT:
>>> + return &cnt->limit;
>>> + case RES_FAILCNT:
>>> + return &cnt->failcnt;
>>> + };
>>> +
>>> + BUG();
>>> + return NULL;
>>> +}

```

```

>>> +
>>> +ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>> +    const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
>>> +{
>>> +    unsigned long *val;
>>> +    char buf[64], *s;
>>> +
>>> +    s = buf;
>>> +    val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
>>> +    s += sprintf(s, "%lu\n", *val);
>>> +    return simple_read_from_buffer((void __user *)userbuf, nbytes,
>>> +        pos, buf, s - buf);
>>> +}
>>> +
>>> +ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>> +    const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
>>> +{
>>> +    int ret;
>>> +    char *buf, *end;
>>> +    unsigned long tmp, *val;
>>> +
>>> +    buf = kmalloc(nbytes + 1, GFP_KERNEL);
>>> +    ret = -ENOMEM;
>>> +    if (buf == NULL)
>>> +        goto out;
>>> +
>>> +    buf[nbytes] = 0;
>>> +    ret = -EFAULT;
>>> +    if (copy_from_user(buf, userbuf, nbytes))
>>> +        goto out_free;
>>> +
>>> +    ret = -EINVAL;
>>> +    tmp = simple_strtoul(buf, &end, 10);
>>> +    if (*end != '\0')
>>> +        goto out_free;
>>> +
>>> +    val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
>>> +    *val = tmp;
>>> +    ret = nbytes;
>>> +out_free:
>>> +    kfree(buf);
>>> +out:
>>> +    return ret;
>>> +}
>>>
>>
>>
>> These bits look a little out of sync, with no users for these routines in

```

> > this patch. Won't you get a compiler warning, compiling this bit alone?  
> >  
>  
> Nope - when you have a non-static function without users in a  
> file no compiler warning produced.  
>  
> Containers mailing list  
> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
> <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Fri, 09 Mar 2007 16:48:55 GMT  
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On Tue, Mar 06, 2007 at 02:00:36PM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

> On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300  
> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:  
>  
> > +struct rss\_container {  
> > + struct res\_counter res;  
> > + struct list\_head page\_list;  
> > + struct container\_subsys\_state css;  
> > +};  
> > +  
> > +struct page\_container {  
> > + struct page \*page;  
> > + struct rss\_container \*cnt;  
> > + struct list\_head list;  
> > +};  
>  
> ah. This looks good. I'll find a hunk of time to go through this work  
> and through Paul's patches. It'd be good to get both patchsets lined  
> up in -mm within a couple of weeks. But..

doesn't look so good for me, mainly because of the  
additional per page data and per page processing

on 4GB memory, with 100 guests, 50% shared for each  
guest, this basically means ~1mio pages, 500k shared  
and 1500k x sizeof(page\_container) entries, which  
roughly boils down to ~25MB of wasted memory ...

increase the amount of shared pages and it starts

getting worse, but maybe I'm missing something here

- > We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory
- > limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via a
- > physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's patches.

why not do simple page accounting (as done currently in Linux) and use that for the limits, without keeping the reference from container to page?

best,  
Herbert

- > \_\_\_\_\_
- > Containers mailing list
- > Containers@lists.osdl.org
- > <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 5/7] Per-container OOM killer and page reclamation  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Fri, 09 Mar 2007 21:21:11 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi, Pavel,

Please find my patch to add LRU behaviour to your latest RSS controller.

Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 6/7] Account for the number of tasks within container  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 08:34:24 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Paul Menage wrote:

- > On 3/6/07, Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:
- >> The idea is:
- >>
- >> Task may be "the entity that allocates the resources" and "the
- >> entity that is a resource allocated".
- >>

>> When task is the first entity it may move across containers  
>> (that is implemented in your patches). When task is a resource  
>> it shouldn't move across containers like files or pages do.  
>>  
>> More generally - allocated resources hold reference to original  
>> container till they die. No resource migration is performed.  
>>  
>> Did I express my idea cleanly?  
>  
> Yes, but I disagree with the premise. The title of your patch is  
> "Account for the number of tasks within container", but that's not  
> what the subsystem does, it accounts for the number of forks within  
> the container that aren't directly accompanied by an exit.  
>  
> Ideally, resources like files and pages would be able to follow tasks  
> as well. The reason that files and pages aren't easily migrated from  
> one container to another is that there could be sharing involved;  
> figuring out the sharing can be expensive, and it's not clear what to  
> do if two users are in different containers.  
>  
> But in the case of a task count, there are no such issues with  
> sharing, so it seems to me to be more sensible (and more efficient) to  
> just limit the number of tasks in a container.  
>  
> i.e. when moving a task into a container or forking a task within a  
> container, increment the count; when moving a task out of a container  
> or when it exits, decrement the count.

Sounds reasonable.

I'll take this into account when I make the next iteration.

Thanks.

> With your approach, if you were to set the task limit of an empty  
> container A to 1, and then move a process P from B into A, P would be  
> able to fork a new child, since the "task count" would be 0 (as P was  
> being charged to B still). Surely the fact that there's 1 process in A  
> should prevent P from forking?  
>  
> Paul  
>

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 5/7] Per-container OOM killer and page reclamation  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 08:39:18 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Balbir Singh wrote:

> Hi, Pavel,

>  
> Please find my patch to add LRU behaviour to your latest RSS controller.

Thanks for participation and additional testing :)  
I'll include this into next generation of patches.

> Balbir Singh  
> Linux Technology Center  
> IBM, ISTL

>  
>  
> -----

> Add LRU behaviour to the RSS controller patches posted by Pavel Emelianov

>  
> <http://lkml.org/lkml/2007/3/6/198>

>  
> which was in turn similar to the RSS controller posted by me

>  
> <http://lkml.org/lkml/2007/2/26/8>

>  
> Pavel's patches have a per container list of pages, which helps reduce  
> reclaim time of the RSS controller but the per container list of pages is  
> in FIFO order. I've implemented active and inactive lists per container to  
> help select the right set of pages to reclaim when the container is under  
> memory pressure.

>  
> I've tested these patches on a ppc64 machine and they work fine for  
> the minimal testing I've done.

>  
> Pavel would you please include these patches in your next iteration.

>  
> Comments, suggestions and further improvements are as always welcome!

>  
> Signed-off-by: <balbir@in.ibm.com>

> ---

>  
> include/linux/rss\_container.h | 1  
> mm/rss\_container.c | 47 ++++++-----  
> mm/swap.c | 5 ++++  
> mm/vmscan.c | 3 ++  
> 4 files changed, 44 insertions(+), 12 deletions(-)

>  
> diff -puN include/linux/rss\_container.h~rss-container-lru2 include/linux/rss\_container.h

> --- linux-2.6.20/include/linux/rss\_container.h~rss-container-lru 2 2007-03-09

22:52:56.000000000 +0530

> +++ linux-2.6.20-balbir/include/linux/rss\_container.h 2007-03-10 00:39:59.000000000 +0530

> @@ -19,6 +19,7 @@ int container\_rss\_prepare(struct page \*,

```

> void container_rss_add(struct page_container *);
> void container_rss_del(struct page_container *);
> void container_rss_release(struct page_container *);
> +void container_rss_move_lists(struct page *pg, bool active);
>
> int mm_init_container(struct mm_struct *mm, struct task_struct *tsk);
> void mm_free_container(struct mm_struct *mm);
> diff -puN mm/rss_container.c~rss-container-lru2 mm/rss_container.c
> --- linux-2.6.20/mm/rss_container.c~rss-container-lru2 2007-03-09 22:52:56.000000000 +0530
> +++ linux-2.6.20-balbir/mm/rss_container.c 2007-03-10 02:42:54.000000000 +0530
> @@ -17,7 +17,8 @@ static struct container_subsys rss_subsy
>
> struct rss_container {
>     struct res_counter res;
> - struct list_head page_list;
> + struct list_head inactive_list;
> + struct list_head active_list;
>     struct container_subsys_state css;
> };
>
> @@ -96,6 +97,26 @@ void container_rss_release(struct page_c
>     kfree(pc);
> }
>
> +void container_rss_move_lists(struct page *pg, bool active)
> +{
> + struct rss_container *rss;
> + struct page_container *pc;
> +
> + if (!page_mapped(pg))
> +     return;
> +
> + pc = page_container(pg);
> + BUG_ON(!pc);
> + rss = pc->cnt;
> +
> + spin_lock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
> + if (active)
> +     list_move(&pc->list, &rss->active_list);
> + else
> +     list_move(&pc->list, &rss->inactive_list);
> + spin_unlock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
> +}
> +
> void container_rss_add(struct page_container *pc)
> {
>     struct page *pg;
> @@ -105,7 +126,7 @@ void container_rss_add(struct page_conta

```



```

> rss = pc->cnt;
>
> spin_lock(&rss->res.lock);
> - list_add(&pc->list, &rss->page_list);
> + list_add(&pc->list, &rss->active_list);
> spin_unlock(&rss->res.lock);
>
> page_container(pg) = pc;
> @@ -141,7 +162,10 @@ unsigned long container_isolate_pages(un
> struct zone *z;
>
> spin_lock_irq(&rss->res.lock);
> - src = &rss->page_list;
> + if (active)
> + src = &rss->active_list;
> + else
> + src = &rss->inactive_list;
>
> for (scan = 0; scan < nr_to_scan && !list_empty(src); scan++) {
> pc = list_entry(src->prev, struct page_container, list);
> @@ -152,13 +176,10 @@ unsigned long container_isolate_pages(un
>
> spin_lock(&z->lru_lock);
> if (PageLRU(page)) {
> - if ((active && PageActive(page)) ||
> - (!active && !PageActive(page))) {
> - if (likely(get_page_unless_zero(page))) {
> - ClearPageLRU(page);
> - nr_taken++;
> - list_move(&page->lru, dst);
> - }
> + if (likely(get_page_unless_zero(page))) {
> + ClearPageLRU(page);
> + nr_taken++;
> + list_move(&page->lru, dst);
> }
> }
> spin_unlock(&z->lru_lock);
> @@ -212,7 +233,8 @@ static int rss_create(struct container_s
> return -ENOMEM;
>
> res_counter_init(&rss->res);
> - INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->inactive_list);
> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->active_list);
> cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
> return 0;
> }

```

```

> @@ -284,7 +306,8 @@ static __init int rss_create_early(struc
>
> rss = &init_rss_container;
> res_counter_init(&rss->res);
> - INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->page_list);
> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->inactive_list);
> + INIT_LIST_HEAD(&rss->active_list);
> cont->subsys[rss_subsys.subsys_id] = &rss->css;
> ss->create = rss_create;
> return 0;
> diff -puN mm/vmscan.c~rss-container-lru2 mm/vmscan.c
> --- linux-2.6.20/mm/vmscan.c~rss-container-lru2 2007-03-09 22:52:56.000000000 +0530
> +++ linux-2.6.20-balbir/mm/vmscan.c 2007-03-10 00:42:35.000000000 +0530
> @@ -1142,6 +1142,7 @@ static unsigned long container_shrink_pa
> else
>     add_page_to_inactive_list(z, page);
>     spin_unlock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
> + container_rss_move_lists(page, false);
>
>     put_page(page);
> }
> @@ -1191,6 +1192,7 @@ static void container_shrink_pages_activ
> list_move(&page->lru, &z->inactive_list);
> z->nr_inactive++;
> spin_unlock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
> + container_rss_move_lists(page, false);
>
>     put_page(page);
> }
> @@ -1206,6 +1208,7 @@ static void container_shrink_pages_activ
> list_move(&page->lru, &z->active_list);
> z->nr_active++;
> spin_unlock_irq(&z->lru_lock);
> + container_rss_move_lists(page, true);
>
>     put_page(page);
> }
> diff -puN mm/swap.c~rss-container-lru2 mm/swap.c
> --- linux-2.6.20/mm/swap.c~rss-container-lru2 2007-03-10 00:42:38.000000000 +0530
> +++ linux-2.6.20-balbir/mm/swap.c 2007-03-10 01:20:39.000000000 +0530
> @@ -30,6 +30,7 @@
> #include <linux/cpu.h>
> #include <linux/notifier.h>
> #include <linux/init.h>
> +#include <linux/rss_container.h>
>
> /* How many pages do we try to swap or page in/out together? */
> int page_cluster;

```

```

> @@ -140,6 +141,7 @@ int rotate_reclaimable_page(struct page
> void fastcall activate_page(struct page *page)
> {
>     struct zone *zone = page_zone(page);
>     bool moved = false;
>
>     spin_lock_irq(&zone->lru_lock);
>     if (PageLRU(page) && !PageActive(page)) {
> @@ -147,8 +149,11 @@ void fastcall activate_page(struct page
>     SetPageActive(page);
>     add_page_to_active_list(zone, page);
>     __count_vm_event(PGACTIVATE);
>     moved = true;
> }
> spin_unlock_irq(&zone->lru_lock);
> if (moved)
>     container_rss_move_lists(page, true);
> }
>
> /*
> _

```

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
 Posted by [xemul](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 09:01:42 GMT  
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---

Herbert Poetzi wrote:

```

> On Wed, Mar 07, 2007 at 10:19:05AM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:
>> Balbir Singh wrote:
>>> Pavel Emelianov wrote:
>>>> Introduce generic structures and routines for
>>>> resource accounting.
>>>>
>>>> Each resource accounting container is supposed to
>>>> aggregate it, container_subsystem_state and its
>>>> resource-specific members within.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> -----
>>>>
>>>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h
>>>> linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h
>>>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/res_counter.h    2007-03-06
>>>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
>>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/res_counter.h    2007-03-06
>>>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>>>> @@ -0,0 +1,83 @@

```

```

>>>> + #ifndef __RES_COUNTER_H__
>>>> + #define __RES_COUNTER_H__
>>>> + /*
>>>> + * resource counters
>>>> + *
>>>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>>>> + *
>>>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>>>> + *
>>>> + */
>>>> +
>>>> + #include <linux/container.h>
>>>> +
>>>> + struct res_counter {
>>>> +     unsigned long usage;
>>>> +     unsigned long limit;
>>>> +     unsigned long failcnt;
>>>> +     spinlock_t lock;
>>>> + };
>>>> +
>>>> + enum {
>>>> +     RES_USAGE,
>>>> +     RES_LIMIT,
>>>> +     RES_FAILCNT,
>>>> + };
>>>> +
>>>> + ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>>> +     const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
>>>> + ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>>> +     const char __user *buf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos);
>>>> +
>>>> + static inline void res_counter_init(struct res_counter *cnt)
>>>> + {
>>>> +     spin_lock_init(&cnt->lock);
>>>> +     cnt->limit = (unsigned long)LONG_MAX;
>>>> + }
>>>> +
>>> Is there any way to indicate that there are no limits on this container.
>> Yes - LONG_MAX is essentially a "no limit" value as no
>> container will ever have such many files :)
>
> -1 or ~0 is a viable choice for userspace to
> communicate 'infinite' or 'unlimited'

```

OK, I'll make ULONG\_MAX :)

```

>>> LONG_MAX is quite huge, but still when the administrator wants to
>>> configure a container to *un-limited usage*, it becomes hard for

```

```

>>> the administrator.
>>>
>>>> +static inline int res_counter_charge_locked(struct res_counter *cnt,
>>>> +      unsigned long val)
>>>> +{
>>>> +  if (cnt->usage <= cnt->limit - val) {
>>>> +    cnt->usage += val;
>>>> +    return 0;
>>>> +  }
>>>> +
>>>> +  cnt->failcnt++;
>>>> +  return -ENOMEM;
>>>> +}
>>>> +
>>>> +static inline int res_counter_charge(struct res_counter *cnt,
>>>> +      unsigned long val)
>>>> +{
>>>> +  int ret;
>>>> +  unsigned long flags;
>>>> +
>>>> +  spin_lock_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);
>>>> +  ret = res_counter_charge_locked(cnt, val);
>>>> +  spin_unlock_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);
>>>> +  return ret;
>>>> +}
>>>> +
>>> Will atomic counters help here.
>> I'm afraid no. We have to atomically check for limit and alter
>> one of usage or failcnt depending on the checking result. Making
>> this with atomic_xxx ops will require at least two ops.
>
> Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,
> so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the
> beginning of whatever resource allocation and the
> accounting once the resource is acquired ...

```

This works quite fine on non-preempted kernels.

```

>From the time you checked for resource till you really
account it kernel may preempt and let another process
pass through vx_anything_avail() check.

```

```

>> If we'll remove failcnt this would look like
>>  while (atomic_cmpxchg(...))
>> which is also not that good.
>>
>> Moreover - in RSS accounting patches I perform page list
>> manipulations under this lock, so this also saves one atomic op.
>

```

> it still hasn't been shown that this kind of RSS limit  
 > doesn't add big time overhead to normal operations  
 > (inside and outside of such a resource container)  
 >  
 > note that the 'usual' memory accounting is much more  
 > lightweight and serves similar purposes ...

It OOM-kills current int case of limit hit instead of  
 reclaiming pages or killing \*memory eater\* to free memory.

> best,  
 > Herbert  
 >  
 >>>> +static inline void res\_counter\_uncharge\_locked(struct res\_counter \*cnt,  
 >>>> + unsigned long val)  
 >>>> +{  
 >>>> + if (unlikely(cnt->usage < val)) {  
 >>>> + WARN\_ON(1);  
 >>>> + val = cnt->usage;  
 >>>> + }  
 >>>> +  
 >>>> + cnt->usage -= val;  
 >>>> +}  
 >>>> +  
 >>>> +static inline void res\_counter\_uncharge(struct res\_counter \*cnt,  
 >>>> + unsigned long val)  
 >>>> +{  
 >>>> + unsigned long flags;  
 >>>> +  
 >>>> + spin\_lock\_irqsave(&cnt->lock, flags);  
 >>>> + res\_counter\_uncharge\_locked(cnt, val);  
 >>>> + spin\_unlock\_irqrestore(&cnt->lock, flags);  
 >>>> +}  
 >>>> +  
 >>>> +#endif  
 >>>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig  
 >>>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300  
 >>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/init/Kconfig 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300  
 >>>> @@ -265,6 +265,10 @@ config CPUSETS  
 >>>>  
 >>>> Say N if unsure.  
 >>>>  
 >>>> +config RESOURCE\_COUNTERS  
 >>>> + bool  
 >>>> + select CONTAINERS  
 >>>> +  
 >>>> config SYSFS\_DEPRECATED  
 >>>> bool "Create deprecated sysfs files"

```

>>>> default y
>>>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile
>>>> linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile
>>>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000
>>>> +0300
>>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/Makefile 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>>>> @@ -51,6 +51,7 @@ obj-$(CONFIG_RELAY) += relay.o
>>>> obj-$(CONFIG_UTS_NS) += utsname.o
>>>> obj-$(CONFIG_TASK_DELAY_ACCT) += delayacct.o
>>>> obj-$(CONFIG_TASKSTATS) += taskstats.o tsacct.o
>>>> +obj-$(CONFIG_RESOURCE_COUNTERS) += res_counter.o
>>>>
>>>> ifneq ($(CONFIG_SCHED_NO_NO_OMIT_FRAME_POINTER),y)
>>>> # According to Alan Modra <alan@linuxcare.com.au>, the
>>>> -fno-omit-frame-pointer is
>>>> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c
>>>> linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c
>>>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06
>>>> 13:39:17.000000000 +0300
>>>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/kernel/res_counter.c 2007-03-06
>>>> 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>>>> @@ -0,0 +1,72 @@
>>>> +/*
>>>> + * resource containers
>>>> + *
>>>> + * Copyright 2007 OpenVZ SWsoft Inc
>>>> + *
>>>> + * Author: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@openvz.org>
>>>> + *
>>>> + */
>>>> +
>>>> +#include <linux/parser.h>
>>>> +#include <linux/fs.h>
>>>> +#include <linux/res_counter.h>
>>>> +#include <asm/uaccess.h>
>>>> +
>>>> +static inline unsigned long *res_counter_member(struct res_counter
>>>> *cnt, int member)
>>>> +{
>>>> + switch (member) {
>>>> + case RES_USAGE:
>>>> + return &cnt->usage;
>>>> + case RES_LIMIT:
>>>> + return &cnt->limit;
>>>> + case RES_FAILCNT:
>>>> + return &cnt->failcnt;
>>>> + };
>>>> +

```

```

>>>> + BUG();
>>>> + return NULL;
>>>> +}
>>>> +
>>>> +ssize_t res_counter_read(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>>> +    const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
>>>> +{
>>>> +    unsigned long *val;
>>>> +    char buf[64], *s;
>>>> +
>>>> +    s = buf;
>>>> +    val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
>>>> +    s += sprintf(s, "%lu\n", *val);
>>>> +    return simple_read_from_buffer((void __user *)userbuf, nbytes,
>>>> +        pos, buf, s - buf);
>>>> +}
>>>> +
>>>> +ssize_t res_counter_write(struct res_counter *cnt, int member,
>>>> +    const char __user *userbuf, size_t nbytes, loff_t *pos)
>>>> +{
>>>> +    int ret;
>>>> +    char *buf, *end;
>>>> +    unsigned long tmp, *val;
>>>> +
>>>> +    buf = kmalloc(nbytes + 1, GFP_KERNEL);
>>>> +    ret = -ENOMEM;
>>>> +    if (buf == NULL)
>>>> +        goto out;
>>>> +
>>>> +    buf[nbytes] = 0;
>>>> +    ret = -EFAULT;
>>>> +    if (copy_from_user(buf, userbuf, nbytes))
>>>> +        goto out_free;
>>>> +
>>>> +    ret = -EINVAL;
>>>> +    tmp = simple_strtoul(buf, &end, 10);
>>>> +    if (*end != '\0')
>>>> +        goto out_free;
>>>> +
>>>> +    val = res_counter_member(cnt, member);
>>>> +    *val = tmp;
>>>> +    ret = nbytes;
>>>> +out_free:
>>>> +    kfree(buf);
>>>> +out:
>>>> +    return ret;
>>>> +}
>>>>

```



>>>  
>>> These bits look a little out of sync, with no users for these routines in  
>>> this patch. Won't you get a compiler warning, compiling this bit alone?  
>>>  
>> Nope - when you have a non-static function without users in a  
>> file no compiler warning produced.  
>>  
>> \_\_\_\_\_  
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>> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
>> https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers  
>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 09:08:16 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Herbert Poetzl wrote:

> On Tue, Mar 06, 2007 at 02:00:36PM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:  
>> On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300  
>> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:  
>>  
>>> +struct rss\_container {  
>>> + struct res\_counter res;  
>>> + struct list\_head page\_list;  
>>> + struct container\_subsys\_state css;  
>>> +};  
>>> +  
>>> +struct page\_container {  
>>> + struct page \*page;  
>>> + struct rss\_container \*cnt;  
>>> + struct list\_head list;  
>>> +};  
>> ah. This looks good. I'll find a hunk of time to go through this work  
>> and through Paul's patches. It'd be good to get both patchsets lined  
>> up in -mm within a couple of weeks. But..  
>  
> doesn't look so good for me, mainly because of the  
> additional per page data and per page processing  
>  
> on 4GB memory, with 100 guests, 50% shared for each  
> guest, this basically means ~1mio pages, 500k shared  
> and 1500k x sizeof(page\_container) entries, which

> roughly boils down to ~25MB of wasted memory ...  
>  
> increase the amount of shared pages and it starts  
> getting worse, but maybe I'm missing something here

You are. Each page has only one page\_container associated with it despite the number of containers it is shared between.

>> We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory  
>> limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via a  
>> physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's patches.  
>  
> why not do simple page accounting (as done currently  
> in Linux) and use that for the limits, without  
> keeping the reference from container to page?

As I've already answered in my previous letter simple limiting w/o per-container reclamation and per-container oom killer isn't a good memory management. It doesn't allow to handle resource shortage gracefully.

This patchset provides more grace way to handle this, but full memory management includes accounting of VMA-length as well (returning ENOMEM from system call) but we've decided to start with RSS.

> best,  
> Herbert  
>  
>> \_\_\_\_\_  
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>> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
>> <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>  
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> the body of a message to majordomo@vger.kernel.org  
> More majordomo info at <http://vger.kernel.org/majordomo-info.html>  
> Please read the FAQ at <http://www.tux.org/lkml/>  
>

\_\_\_\_\_  
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---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core

Posted by [dev](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 12:13:08 GMT

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---

Andrew Morton wrote:

> On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300

> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

>

>

```
>>+struct rss_container {
>>+ struct res_counter res;
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>>+ struct container_subsys_state css;
>>+};
```

>>+

```
>>+struct page_container {
>>+ struct page *page;
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```

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>

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> We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory limitation via  
> these data structures, or whether we do it via a physical scan of some  
> software zone, possibly based on Mel's patches.

i.e. a separate memzone for each container?

imho memzone approach is inconvenient for pages sharing and shares accounting.  
it also makes memory management more strict, forbids overcommitting  
per-container etc.

Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?

Thanks,

Kirill

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core

Posted by [Andrew Morton](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 12:51:11 GMT

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---

> On Sun, 11 Mar 2007 15:26:41 +0300 Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru> wrote:

> Andrew Morton wrote:

> > On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300

> > Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

> >

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```
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> it also makes memory management more strict, forbids overcommitting
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```

umm, who said they were requirements?

```
> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?
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We need to work out what the requirements are before we can settle on an implementation.

Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?

You can actually do a form of overcommitment by allowing multiple containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements, and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 14:32:55 GMT

On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 12:08:16PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> Herbert Poetzl wrote:

>> On Tue, Mar 06, 2007 at 02:00:36PM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

>>> On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300

>>> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

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>> in Linux) and use that for the limits, without

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>

> As I've already answered in my previous letter simple

> limiting w/o per-container reclamation and per-container

> oom killer isn't a good memory management. It doesn't allow  
> to handle resource shortage gracefully.

per container OOM killer does not require any container  
page reference, you know `_what_` tasks belong to the  
container, and you know their `_badness_` from the normal  
OOM calculations, so doing them for a container is really  
straight forward without having any page 'tagging'

for the reclamation part, please elaborate how that will  
differ in a (shared memory) guest from what the kernel  
currently does ...

TIA,  
Herbert

> This patchset provides more grace way to handle this, but  
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> to start with RSS.

>

>> best,

>> Herbert

>>

>>>

---

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>> More majordomo info at <http://vger.kernel.org/majordomo-info.html>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 15:04:28 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Herbert Poetzl wrote:

> On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 12:08:16PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

>> Herbert Poetzl wrote:

>>> On Tue, Mar 06, 2007 at 02:00:36PM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

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>>>> On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300
>>>> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:
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>>>>> + struct page *page;
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>>>>> +};
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>>>
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>> with it despite the number of containers it is shared
>> between.
>>
>>>> We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory
>>>> limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via
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>> to handle resource shortage gracefully.
>
> per container OOM killer does not require any container
> page reference, you know _what_ tasks belong to the
> container, and you know their _badness_ from the normal
> OOM calculations, so doing them for a container is really
> straight forward without having any page 'tagging'

```

That's true. If you look at the patches you'll find out that no code in oom killer uses page 'tag'.

> for the reclamation part, please elaborate how that will  
> differ in a (shared memory) guest from what the kernel  
> currently does ...

This is all described in the code and in the discussions we had before.

> TIA,  
> Herbert

>  
>> This patchset provides more grace way to handle this, but  
>> full memory management includes accounting of VMA-length  
>> as well (returning ENOMEM from system call) but we've decided  
>> to start with RSS.

>>  
>>> best,  
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>>>  
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>>>  
>

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 15:51:30 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On 3/11/07, Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org> wrote:  
> > On Sun, 11 Mar 2007 15:26:41 +0300 Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru> wrote:  
> > Andrew Morton wrote:  
> > > On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300



> > > Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:

> > >

> > >

```
> > >+struct rss_container {
> > >+ struct res_counter res;
> > >+ struct list_head page_list;
> > >+ struct container_subsys_state css;
> > >+};
> > >+
> > >+struct page_container {
> > >+ struct page *page;
> > >+ struct rss_container *cnt;
> > >+ struct list_head list;
> > >+};
```

> > >

> > >

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> > > up in -mm within a couple of weeks. But..

> > >

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> > > these data structures, or whether we do it via a physical scan of some  
> > > software zone, possibly based on Mel's patches.  
> > i.e. a separate memzone for each container?

>

> Yep. Straightforward machine partitioning. An attractive thing is that it  
> 100% reuses existing page reclaim, unaltered.

We discussed zones for resource control and some of the disadvantages at  
<http://lkml.org/lkml/2006/10/30/222>

I need to look at Mel's patches to determine if they are suitable for  
control. But in a thread of discussion on those patches, it was agreed  
that memory fragmentation and resource control are independent issues.

>

> > imho memzone approach is inconvenient for pages sharing and shares accounting.  
> > it also makes memory management more strict, forbids overcommitting  
> > per-container etc.

>

> umm, who said they were requirements?

>

We discussed some of the requirements in the RFC: Memory Controller  
requirements thread

<http://lkml.org/lkml/2006/10/30/51>

> > Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?  
>  
> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can settle on an  
> implementation.  
>  
> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?  
>

All the stake holders involved in the RFC discussion :-) We've been talking and building on top of each others patches. I hope that was a good answer ;)

> You can actually do a form of overcommitment by allowing multiple  
> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is sufficient  
> or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements, and we haven't  
> even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.  
>

There are other things like resizing a zone, finding the right size, etc. I'll look at Mel's patches to see what is supported.

Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 19:00:15 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:

>  
> Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,  
> so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the  
> beginning of whatever resource allocation and the  
> accounting once the resource is acquired ...

Atomic operations versus locks is only a granularity thing.  
You still need the cache line which is the cost on SMP.

Are you using `atomic_add_return` or `atomic_add_unless` or are you performing your actions in two separate steps which is racy? What I have seen indicates you are using a racy two separate operation form.

>> If we'll remove `failcnt` this would look like  
>> `while (atomic_cmpxchg(...))`

>> which is also not that good.  
>>  
>> Moreover - in RSS accounting patches I perform page list  
>> manipulations under this lock, so this also saves one atomic op.  
>  
> it still hasn't been shown that this kind of RSS limit  
> doesn't add big time overhead to normal operations  
> (inside and outside of such a resource container)  
>  
> note that the 'usual' memory accounting is much more  
> lightweight and serves similar purposes ...

Perhaps....

Eric

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/7] Data structures changes for RSS accounting  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 19:13:26 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> writes:

> Adds needed pointers to mm\_struct and page struct,  
> places hooks to core code for mm\_struct initialization  
> and hooks in container\_init\_early() to preinitialize  
> RSS accounting subsystem.

An extra pointer in struct page is unlikely to fly.  
Both because it increases the size of a size critical structure,  
and because conceptually it is ridiculous.

If you are limiting the RSS size you are counting the number of pages in  
the page tables. You don't care about the page itself.

With the rmap code it is relatively straight forward to see if this is  
the first time a page has been added to a page table in your rss  
group, or if this is the last reference to a particular page in your  
rss group. The counters should only increment the first time a  
particular page is added to your rss group. The counters should only  
decrement when it is the last reference in your rss subsystem.

This allow important little cases like glibc to be properly accounted  
for. One of the key features of a rss limit is that the kernel can

still keep pages that you need in-core, that are accessible with just a minor fault. Directly owning pages works directly against that principle.

```
> diff -upr linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/mm_types.h
> linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/mm_types.h
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/include/linux/mm_types.h 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000
> +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/include/linux/mm_types.h 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -62,6 +62,9 @@ struct page {
> void *virtual; /* Kernel virtual address (NULL if
> not kmapped, ie. highmem) */
> #endif /* WANT_PAGE_VIRTUAL */
> +#ifdef CONFIG_RSS_CONTAINER
> + struct page_container *rss_container;
> +#endif
> };
>
> #endif /* _LINUX_MM_TYPES_H */
```

Eric

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 19:14:55 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> writes:

```
> Pages are charged to their first touchers which are
> determined using pages' mapcount manipulations in
> rmap calls.
```

NAK pages should be charged to every rss group whose mm\_struct they are mapped into.

Eric

---

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<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

Andrew Morton <[akpm@linux-foundation.org](mailto:akpm@linux-foundation.org)> writes:

> Yep. Straightforward machine partitioning. An attractive thing is that it  
> 100% reuses existing page reclaim, unaltered.

And misses every resource sharing opportunity in sight. Except for filtering the which pages are eligible for reclaim an RSS limit should not need to change the existing reclaim logic, and with things like the memory zones we have had that kind of restriction in the reclaim logic for a long time. So filtering out ineligible pages isn't anything new.

>> imho memzone approach is inconvenient for pages sharing and shares accounting.  
>> it also makes memory management more strict, forbids overcommitting  
>> per-container etc.  
>  
> umm, who said they were requirements?  
>  
>> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?  
>  
> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can settle on an  
> implementation.

If you are talking about RSS limits the term is well defined. The number of pages you can have mapped into your set of address space at any given time.

Unless I'm totally blind that isn't what the patchset implements. A true RSS limit over multiple processes has a lot of potential to be generally useful, is very understandable, doesn't affect kernel cache decisions so largely performance should not be affected. There is a little more overhead in the fault logic but that is a moderately expensive path anyway.

> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?

Someone is supposed to run the show? :)

> You can actually do a form of overcommitment by allowing multiple  
> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is sufficient  
> or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements, and we haven't  
> even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.

Another really nasty issue is the container term as the resource guys are using the term in a subtlety different way then it has been used with namespaces leading to several threads where the participants talked

past each other. We need a different term to designate the group of tasks a resource controller is dealing with.

The whole filesystem interface also is over general and makes it too easy to express the hard things (like move an existing task from one group of tasks to another) leading to code complications.

On the up side I think the code the focus is likely in the right place to start delivering usable code.

Eric

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 00:41:52 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 06:04:28PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> Herbert Poetzl wrote:

> > On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 12:08:16PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> >> Herbert Poetzl wrote:

> >>> On Tue, Mar 06, 2007 at 02:00:36PM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

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> > straight forward without having any page 'tagging'  
>  
> That's true. If you look at the patches you'll  
> find out that no code in oom killer uses page 'tag'.

so what do we keep the context -> page reference  
then at all?

> > for the reclamation part, please elaborate how that will  
> > differ in a (shared memory) guest from what the kernel  
> > currently does ...  
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> This is all described in the code and in the  
> discussions we had before.

must have missed some of them, please can you  
point me to the relevant threads ...

TIA,  
Herbert

> > TIA,  
> > Herbert

> >  
> >> This patchset provides more grace way to handle this, but  
> >> full memory management includes accounting of VMA-length  
> >> as well (returning ENOMEM from system call) but we've decided  
> >> to start with RSS.  
> >>  
> >>> best,  
> >>> Herbert  
> >>>  
> >>>> \_\_\_\_\_  
> >>>> Containers mailing list  
> >>>> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
> >>>> https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers  
> >>>> -  
> >>> To unsubscribe from this list: send the line "unsubscribe linux-kernel" in  
> >>> the body of a message to majordomo@vger.kernel.org  
> >>> More majordomo info at http://vger.kernel.org/majordomo-info.html  
> >>> Please read the FAQ at http://www.tux.org/lkml/  
> >>>  
> >

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 01:00:39 GMT  
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On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 04:51:11AM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:  
> > On Sun, 11 Mar 2007 15:26:41 +0300 Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru> wrote:  
> > Andrew Morton wrote:  
> > > On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300  
> > > Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> wrote:  
> > >  
> > >  
> > >>+struct rss\_container {  
> > >>+ struct res\_counter res;  
> > >>+ struct list\_head page\_list;  
> > >>+ struct container\_subsys\_state css;  
> > >>+};  
> > >>+  
> > >>+struct page\_container {  
> > >>+ struct page \*page;  
> > >>+ struct rss\_container \*cnt;  
> > >>+ struct list\_head list;  
> > >>+};



> > >  
 > > >  
 > > > ah. This looks good. I'll find a hunk of time to go through  
 > > > this work and through Paul's patches. It'd be good to get both  
 > > > patchsets lined up in -mm within a couple of weeks. But..  
 > > >  
 > > > We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory  
 > > > limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via  
 > > > a physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's  
 > > > patches.  
 > > i.e. a separate memzone for each container?  
 >  
 > Yep. Straightforward machine partitioning. An attractive thing is that  
 > it 100% reuses existing page reclaim, unaltered.  
 >  
 > > imho memzone approach is inconvenient for pages sharing and shares  
 > > accounting. it also makes memory management more strict, forbids  
 > > overcommitting per-container etc.  
 >  
 > umm, who said they were requirements?

well, I guess all existing OS-Level virtualizations  
 (Linux-VServer, OpenVZ, and FreeVPS) have stated more  
 than one time that \_sharing\_ of resources is a central  
 element, and one especially important resource to share  
 is memory (RAM) ...

if your aim is full partitioning, we do not need to  
 bother with OS-Level isolation, we can simply use  
 Paravirtualization and be done ...

> > Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?  
 >  
 > We need to work out what the requirements are before we can  
 > settle on an implementation.

Linux-VServer (and probably OpenVZ):

- shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries and libraries) to allow for reduced memory footprint when N identical guests are running
- virtual 'physical' limit should not cause swap out when there are still pages left on the host system (but pages of over limit guests can be preferred for swapping)
- accounting and limits have to be consistent

and should roughly represent the actual used memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go into detail here, if necessary)

- OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some out of memory condition in guest A must not affect guest B

HTC,  
Herbert

> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?  
>  
> You can actually do a form of overcommitment by allowing multiple  
> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is  
> sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements,  
> and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.  
>  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 01:16:13 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 01:00:15PM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Herbert Poetzl <[herbert@13thfloor.at](mailto:herbert@13thfloor.at)> writes:  
>  
> >  
> > Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,  
> > so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the  
> > beginning of whatever resource allocation and the  
> > accounting once the resource is acquired ...  
>  
> Atomic operations versus locks is only a granularity thing.  
> You still need the cache line which is the cost on SMP.  
>  
> Are you using `atomic_add_return` or `atomic_add_unless` or  
> are you performing you actions in two separate steps  
> which is racy? What I have seen indicates you are using  
> a racy two separate operation form.

yes, this is the current implementation which is more than sufficient, but I'm aware of the potential issues here, and I have an experimental patch sitting here which removes this race with the following change:

- doesn't store the accounted value but  
limit - accounted (i.e. the free resource)
- uses `atomic_add_return()`
- when negative, an error is returned and  
the resource amount is added back

changes to the limit have to adjust the 'current' value too, but that is again simple and atomic

best,  
Herbert

PS: `atomic_add_unless()` didn't exist back then (at least I think so) but that might be an option too ...

```
> >> If we'll remove failcnt this would look like
> >>  while (atomic_cmpxchg(...))
> >> which is also not that good.
> >>
> >> Moreover - in RSS accounting patches I perform page list
> >> manipulations under this lock, so this also saves one atomic op.
> >
> > it still hasn't been shown that this kind of RSS limit
> > doesn't add big time overhead to normal operations
> > (inside and outside of such a resource container)
> >
> > note that the 'usual' memory accounting is much more
> > lightweight and serves similar purposes ...
>
> Perhaps....
>
> Eric
>
> _____
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> Containers@lists.osdl.org
> https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers
```

---

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[snip]

>>>>> We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory  
>>>>> limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via  
>>>>> a physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's  
>>>>> patches.  
>>>> why not do simple page accounting (as done currently  
>>>> in Linux) and use that for the limits, without  
>>>> keeping the reference from container to page?  
>>> As I've already answered in my previous letter simple  
>>> limiting w/o per-container reclamation and per-container  
>>> oom killer isn't a good memory management. It doesn't allow  
>>> to handle resource shortage gracefully.  
>> per container OOM killer does not require any container  
>> page reference, you know \_what\_ tasks belong to the  
>> container, and you know their \_badness\_ from the normal  
>> OOM calculations, so doing them for a container is really  
>> straight forward without having any page 'tagging'  
>> That's true. If you look at the patches you'll  
>> find out that no code in oom killer uses page 'tag'.  
>  
> so what do we keep the context -> page reference  
> then at all?

We need this for

1. keeping page's owner to uncharge to IT when page goes away. Or do you propose to uncharge it to current (i.e. ANY) container like you do all across Vserver accounting which screws up accounting with pages sharing?
2. managing LRU lists for good reclamation. See Balbir's patches for details.
3. possible future uses - correct sharing accounting, dirty pages accounting, etc

>>> for the reclamation part, please elaborate how that will  
>>> differ in a (shared memory) guest from what the kernel  
>>> currently does ...  
>> This is all described in the code and in the  
>> discussions we had before.  
>  
> must have missed some of them, please can you  
> point me to the relevant threads ...

lkml.org archives and google will help you :)

> TIA,  
> Herbert

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 09:02:01 GMT  
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---

>>> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?  
>> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can  
>> settle on an implementation.

>  
> Linux-VServer (and probably OpenVZ):  
>  
> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries  
> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory  
> footprint when N identical guests are running

This is done in current patches.

> - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause  
> swap out when there are still pages left on  
> the host system (but pages of over limit guests  
> can be preferred for swapping)

So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?  
OOM-kill current task?

> - accounting and limits have to be consistent  
> and should roughly represent the actual used  
> memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go  
> into detail here, if necessary)

This is true for current implementation for  
booth - this patchset and OpenVZ beancounters.

If you sum up the physpages values for all containers  
you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.

> - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some  
> out of memory condition in guest A must not  
> affect guest B

This is done in current patches.

Herbert, did you look at the patches before sending this mail or do you just want to 'take part' in conversation w/o understanding of what is going on?

> HTC,  
> Herbert

>  
>> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?

>>  
>> You can actually do a form of overcommitment by allowing multiple  
>> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is  
>> sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements,  
>> and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.

>>  
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>

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---

Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Kirill Korotaev](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 09:10:22 GMT  
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---

Eric,

> And misses every resource sharing opportunity in sight.

that was my point too.

> Except for  
> filtering the which pages are eligible for reclaim an RSS limit should  
> not need to change the existing reclaim logic, and with things like the  
> memory zones we have had that kind of restriction in the reclaim logic  
> for a long time. So filtering out ineligible pages isn't anything new.

exactly this is implemented in the current patches from Pavel.  
the only difference is that filtering is not done in general LRU list,  
which is not effective, but via per-container LRU list.

So the pointer on the page structure does 2 things:

- fast reclamation
- correct uncharging of page from where it was charged  
(e.g. shared pages can be mapped first in one container, but the last unmap done from another one).

>>We need to work out what the requirements are before we can settle on an  
>>implementation.

>

>

> If you are talking about RSS limits the term is well defined. The  
> number of pages you can have mapped into your set of address space at  
> any given time.

>

> Unless I'm totally blind that isn't what the patchset implements.

Ouch, what makes you think so?

The fact that a page mapped into 2 different processes is charged only once?

Imho it is much more correct then sum of process' RSS within container, due to:

1. it is clear how much container uses physical pages, not abstract items
2. shared pages are charged only once, so the sum of containers RSS is still about physical RAM.

> A

> true RSS limit over multiple processes has a lot of potential to be  
> generally useful, is very understandable, doesn't affect kernel cache  
> decisions so largely performance should not be affected. There is a  
> little more overhead in the fault logic but that is a moderately  
> expensive path anyway.

100% agree here.

>>You can actually do a form of overcommitment by allowing multiple  
>>containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is sufficient  
>>or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements, and we haven't  
>>even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.

>

>

> Another really nasty issue is the container term as the resource guys  
> are using the term in a subtlety different way then it has been used  
> with namespaces leading to several threads where the participants talked  
> past each other. We need a different term to designate the group of  
> tasks a resource controller is dealing with.

taskgrp? resgrp?

> The whole filesystem interface also is over general and makes it too  
> easy to express the hard things (like move an existing task from one  
> group of tasks to another) leading to code complications.

the things which are not supported are easy to disable.

> On the up side I think the code the focus is likely in the right place  
> to start delivering usable code.

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 09:55:07 GMT  
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> doesn't look so good for me, mainly becaus of the  
> additional per page data and per page processing  
>  
> on 4GB memory, with 100 guests, 50% shared for each  
> guest, this basically means ~1mio pages, 500k shared  
> and 1500k x sizeof(page\_container) entries, which  
> roughly boils down to ~25MB of wasted memory ...  
>  
> increase the amount of shared pages and it starts  
> getting worse, but maybe I'm missing something here  
>  
> > We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory  
> > limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via a  
> > physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's patches.  
>  
> why not do simple page accounting (as done currently  
> in Linux) and use that for the limits, without  
> keeping the reference from container to page?  
>  
> best,  
> Herbert  
>

Herbert,

You lost me in the cc list and I almost missed this part of the thread. Could you please not modify the "cc" list.

Thanks,  
Balbir

---

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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> writes:

>

>

>>Adds needed pointers to mm\_struct and page struct,  
>>places hooks to core code for mm\_struct initialization  
>>and hooks in container\_init\_early() to preinitialize  
>>RSS accounting subsystem.

>

>

> An extra pointer in struct page is unlikely to fly.  
> Both because it increases the size of a size critical structure,  
> and because conceptually it is ridiculous.

as it was discussed multiple times (and according OLS):

- it is not critical nowadays to expand struct page a bit in case accounting is on.
  - it can be done w/o extending, e.g. via mapping page <-> container using hash or some other data structure.
- i.e. we can optimize it on size if considered needed.

> If you are limiting the RSS size you are counting the number of pages in  
> the page tables. You don't care about the page itself.

>

> With the rmap code it is relatively straight forward to see if this is  
> the first time a page has been added to a page table in your rss  
> group, or if this is the last reference to a particular page in your  
> rss group. The counters should only increment the first time a  
> particular page is added to your rss group. The counters should only  
> decrement when it is the last reference in your rss subsystem.

You are fundamentally wrong if shared pages are concerned.

Imagine a glibc page shared between 2 containers - VE1 and VE2.

VE1 was the first who mapped it, so it is accounted to VE1

(rmap count was increased by it).

now VE2 maps the same page. You can't determine whether this page is mapped to this container or another one w/o page->container pointer.

All the choices you have are:

- a) do not account this page, since it is already accounted to some other VE.
- b) account this page again to current container.

(a) is bad, since VE1 can unmap this page first, and the last user will be VE2.

Which means VE1 will be charged for it, while VE2 uncharged. Accounting screws up.

b) is bad, since:

- the same page is accounted multiple times, which makes impossible to understand how much real memory pages container needs/consumes

- and because on container enter the process and it's pages are essentially moved to another context, while accounting can not be fixed up easily and we essentially have (a).

> This allow important little cases like glibc to be properly accounted  
> for. One of the key features of a rss limit is that the kernel can  
> still keep pages that you need in-core, that are accessible with just  
> a minor fault. Directly owning pages works directly against that  
> principle.

Sorry, can't understand what you mean. It doesn't work against.  
Each container has it's own LRU. So if glibc has the most  
often used pages - it won't be thrashed out.

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [dev](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 16:23:25 GMT  
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---

Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> writes:

>

>

>>Pages are charged to their first touchers which are  
>>determined using pages' mapcount manipulations in  
>>rmap calls.

>

>

> NAK pages should be charged to every rss group whose mm\_struct they  
> are mapped into.

For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,  
otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page in question being mapped  
in its processes' address spaces or not.

1. This was discussed before and considered to be ok by all the resource management involved people.
2. this can be done with a-la page beancounters which are used in OVZ for shared fractions accounting. It's a next step forward.

If you know how to get "pages should be charged to every rss group whose mm\_struct they are mapped into" w/o additional pointer in struct page, please throw me an idea.

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/7] Data structures changes for RSS accounting  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 16:48:04 GMT  
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On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:16 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
> now VE2 maps the same page. You can't determine whether this page is mapped  
> to this container or another one w/o page->container pointer.

Hi Kirill,

I thought we can always get from the page to the VMA. rmap provides this to us via page->mapping and the 'struct address\_space' or anon\_vma. Do we agree on that?

We can also get from the vma to the mm very easily, via vma->vm\_mm, right?

We can also get from a task to the container quite easily.

So, the only question becomes whether there is a 1:1 relationship between mm\_structs and containers. Does each mm\_struct belong to one and only one container? Basically, can a threaded process have different threads in different containers?

It seems that we could bridge the gap pretty easily by either assigning each mm\_struct to a container directly, or putting some kind of task-to-mm lookup. Perhaps just a list like mm->tasks\_using\_this\_mm\_list.

Not rocket science, right?

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 16:50:08 GMT  
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---

On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:

>  
> For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,  
> otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page in question being mapped  
> in its processes' address spaces or not.

What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm not sure I get it.

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [dev](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 17:07:42 GMT  
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> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
>  
>>For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,  
>>otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page in question being mapped  
>>in its processes' address spaces or not.

>  
>  
> What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a  
> particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm  
> not sure I get it.

When we do charge/uncharge we have to answer on another question:  
"whether \*any\* task from the \*container\* has this page mapped", not the  
"whether \*this\* task has this page mapped".

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

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---

Dave Hansen wrote:

> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:16 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
>> now VE2 maps the same page. You can't determine whether this page is mapped  
>> to this container or another one w/o page->container pointer.  
>  
> Hi Kirill,  
>  
> I thought we can always get from the page to the VMA. rmap provides  
> this to us via page->mapping and the 'struct address\_space' or anon\_vma.  
> Do we agree on that?

Not completely. When page is unmapped from the \*very last\*  
user its \*first\* toucher may already be dead. So we'll never  
find out who it was.

> We can also get from the vma to the mm very easily, via vma->vm\_mm,  
> right?  
>  
> We can also get from a task to the container quite easily.  
>  
> So, the only question becomes whether there is a 1:1 relationship  
> between mm\_structs and containers. Does each mm\_struct belong to one

No. The question is "how to get a container that touched the  
page first" which is the same as "how to find mm\_struct which  
touched the page first". Obviously there's no answer on this  
question unless we hold some direct page->container reference.  
This may be a hash, a direct on-page pointer, or mirrored  
array of pointers.

> and only one container? Basically, can a threaded process have  
> different threads in different containers?  
>  
> It seems that we could bridge the gap pretty easily by either assigning  
> each mm\_struct to a container directly, or putting some kind of  
> task-to-mm lookup. Perhaps just a list like  
> mm->tasks\_using\_this\_mm\_list.

This could work for reclamation: we scan through all the  
mm\_struct-s within the container and shrink its' pages, but  
we can't make LRU this way.

> Not rocket science, right?  
>  
> -- Dave

>  
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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/7] Data structures changes for RSS accounting  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 17:21:30 GMT  
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---

On 3/12/07, Dave Hansen <hansendc@us.ibm.com> wrote:  
> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:16 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
> > now VE2 maps the same page. You can't determine whether this page is mapped  
> > to this container or another one w/o page->container pointer.  
>  
> Hi Kirill,  
>  
> I thought we can always get from the page to the VMA. rmap provides  
> this to us via page->mapping and the 'struct address\_space' or anon\_vma.  
> Do we agree on that?  
>  
> We can also get from the vma to the mm very easily, via vma->vm\_mm,  
> right?  
>  
> We can also get from a task to the container quite easily.  
>  
> So, the only question becomes whether there is a 1:1 relationship  
> between mm\_structs and containers. Does each mm\_struct belong to one  
> and only one container? Basically, can a threaded process have  
> different threads in different containers?  
>  
> It seems that we could bridge the gap pretty easily by either assigning  
> each mm\_struct to a container directly, or putting some kind of  
> task-to-mm lookup. Perhaps just a list like  
> mm->tasks\_using\_this\_mm\_list.  
>  
> Not rocket science, right?  
>  
> -- Dave  
>

These patches are very similar to what I posted at

<http://lwn.net/Articles/223829/>

In my patches, the thread group leader owns the mm\_struct and all threads belong to the same container. I did not have a per container LRU, walking the global list for reclaim was a bit slow, but otherwise my patches did not add anything to struct page

I used rmap information to get to the VMA and then the mm\_struct. Kirill, it is possible to determine all the containers that map the page. Please see the page\_in\_container() function of <http://lkml.org/lkml/2007/2/26/7>.

I was also thinking of using the page table(s) to identify all pages belonging to a container, by obtaining all the mm\_structs of tasks belonging to a container. But this approach would not work well for the page cache controller, when we add that to our memory controller.

Balbir

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/7] Data structures changes for RSS accounting  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 17:27:51 GMT

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On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 20:19 +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> Dave Hansen wrote:

> > On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:16 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:

> >> now VE2 maps the same page. You can't determine whether this page is mapped  
> >> to this container or another one w/o page->container pointer.

> >

> > Hi Kirill,

> >

> > I thought we can always get from the page to the VMA. rmap provides

> > this to us via page->mapping and the 'struct address\_space' or anon\_vma.

> > Do we agree on that?

>

> Not completely. When page is unmapped from the \*very last\*

> user its \*first\* toucher may already be dead. So we'll never

> find out who it was.

OK, but this is assuming that we didn't \*un\*account for the page when the last user of the "owning" container stopped using the page.

> > We can also get from the vma to the mm very easily, via vma->vm\_mm,

> > right?  
> >  
> > We can also get from a task to the container quite easily.  
> >  
> > So, the only question becomes whether there is a 1:1 relationship  
> > between mm\_structs and containers. Does each mm\_struct belong to one  
>  
> No. The question is "how to get a container that touched the  
> page first" which is the same as "how to find mm\_struct which  
> touched the page first". Obviously there's no answer on this  
> question unless we hold some direct page->container reference.  
> This may be a hash, a direct on-page pointer, or mirrored  
> array of pointers.

Or, you keep track of when the last user from the container goes away,  
and you effectively account it to another one.

Are there problems with shifting ownership around like this?

-- Dave

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 17:33:16 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 20:07 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
> > On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
> >> For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,  
> >> otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page in question being mapped  
> >> in its processes' address spaces or not.  
> >  
> > What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a  
> > particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm  
> > not sure I get it.  
> When we do charge/uncharge we have to answer on another question:  
> "whether \*any\* task from the \*container\* has this page mapped", not the  
> "whether \*this\* task has this page mapped".

That's a bit more clear. ;)

OK, just so I make sure I'm getting your argument here. It would be too  
expensive to go looking through all of the rmap data for \_any\_ other



task that might be sharing the charge (in the same container) with the current task that is doing the unmapping.

The requirements you're presenting so far appear to be:

1. The first user of a page in a container must be charged
2. The second user of a page in a container must not be charged
3. A container using a page must take a diminished charge when another container is already using the page.
4. Additional fields in data structures (including 'struct page') are permitted

What have I missed? What are your requirements for performance?

I'm not quite sure how the page->container stuff fits in here, though. page->container would appear to be strictly assigning one page to one container, but I know that beancounters can do partial page charges. Care to fill me in?

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 18:42:59 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

How about we drill down on these a bit more.

On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 02:00 +0100, Herbert Poetzl wrote:

- > - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries
- > and libraries) to allow for reduced memory
- > footprint when N identical guests are running

So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:

"Guests must be able to share pages."

Can you give us an idea why this is so? On a typical vserver system, how much memory would be lost if guests were not permitted to share pages like this? How much does this decrease the density of vservers?

- > - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause
- > swap out when there are still pages left on

- > the host system (but pages of over limit guests
- > can be preferred for swapping)

Is this a really hard requirement? It seems a bit fluffy to me. An added bonus if we can do it, but certainly not the most important requirement in the bunch.

What are the consequences if this isn't done? Doesn't a loaded system eventually have all of its pages used anyway, so won't this always be a temporary situation?

This also seems potentially harmful if we aren't able to get pages \*back\* that we've given to a guest. Tasks can pin pages in lots of creative ways.

- > - accounting and limits have to be consistent
- > and should roughly represent the actual used
- > memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go
- > into detail here, if necessary)

So, consistency is important, but is precision? If we, for instance, used one of the hashing schemes, we could have some imprecise decisions made but the system would stay consistent overall.

This requirement also doesn't seem to push us in the direction of having distinct page owners, or some sharing mechanism, because both would be consistent.

- > - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some
- > out of memory condition in guest A must not
- > affect guest B

I'll agree that this one is important and well stated as-is. Any disagreement on this one?

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 21:11:11 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 12:02:01PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> >>> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?  
> >> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can  
> >> settle on an implementation.  
> >  
> > Linux-VServer (and probably OpenVZ):  
> >  
> > - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries  
> > and libraries) to allow for reduced memory  
> > footprint when N identical guests are running  
>  
> This is done in current patches.

nice, but the question was about `_requirements_`  
(so your requirements are?)

> > - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause  
> > swap out when there are still pages left on  
> > the host system (but pages of over limit guests  
> > can be preferred for swapping)  
>  
> So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?  
> OOM-kill current task?

when the RSS limit is hit, but there `_are_` enough  
pages left on the physical system, there is no  
good reason to swap out the page at all

- there is no benefit in doing so (performance wise, that is)

- it actually hurts performance, and could become a separate source for DoS

what should happen instead (in an ideal world :)  
is that the page is considered swapped out for  
the guest (add guest penalty for swapout), and  
when the page would be swapped in again, the guest  
takes a penalty (for the 'virtual' page in) and  
the page is returned to the guest, possibly kicking  
out (again virtually) a different page

> > - accounting and limits have to be consistent  
> > and should roughly represent the actual used  
> > memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go  
> > into detail here, if necessary)  
>  
> This is true for current implementation for  
> booth - this patchset and OpenVZ beancounters.

>  
> If you sum up the physpages values for all containers  
> you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.

hmm, including or excluding the host pages?

> > - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some  
> > out of memory condition in guest A must not  
> > affect guest B

>  
> This is done in current patches.

> Herbert, did you look at the patches before  
> sending this mail or do you just want to  
> 'take part' in conversation w/o understanding  
> of hat is going on?

again, the question was about requirements, not  
your patches, and yes, I had a look at them \_and\_  
the OpenVZ implementations ...

best,  
Herbert

PS: hat is going on? :)

> > HTC,  
> > Herbert  
> >  
> >> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?  
> >>  
> >> You can actually do a form of overcommittment by allowing multiple  
> >> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is  
> >> sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements,  
> >> and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.  
> >>  
> >> \_\_\_\_\_  
> >> Containers mailing list  
> >> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
> >> <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>  
> >

\_\_\_\_\_  
Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 22:41:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 11:42:59AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:

> How about we drill down on these a bit more.

>

> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 02:00 +0100, Herbert Poetzl wrote:

> > - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries

> > and libraries) to allow for reduced memory

> > footprint when N identical guests are running

>

> So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:

>

> "Guests must be able to share pages."

>

> Can you give us an idea why this is so?

sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to be similar (or almost identical) which results in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables which would otherwise get cached for each guest and would also be mapped for each guest separately

> On a typical vserver system,

there is nothing like a typical Linux-VServer system :)

> how much memory would be lost if guests were not permitted

> to share pages like this?

let me give a real world example here:

- typical guest with 600MB disk space
- about 100MB guest specific data (not shared)
- assumed that 80% of the libs/tools are used

gives 400MB of shared read only data

assumed you are running 100 guests on a host, that makes ~39GB of virtual memory which will get paged in and out over and over again ...

.. compared to 400MB shared pages in memory :)

> How much does this decrease the density of vservers?

well, let's look at the overall memory resource function with the above assumptions:

with sharing:  $f(N) = N \cdot 80M + 400M$   
without sharing:  $g(N) = N \cdot 480M$

so the decrease  $N \rightarrow \infty$ :  $g/f \rightarrow 6$  (factor)

which is quite realistic, if you consider that there are only so many distributions, OTOH, the factor might become less important when the guest specific data grows ...

> > - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause  
> > swap out when there are still pages left on  
> > the host system (but pages of over limit guests  
> > can be preferred for swapping)  
>  
> Is this a really hard requirement?

no, not hard, but a reasonable optimization ...

let me note once again, that for full isolation you better go with Xen or some other Hypervisor because if you make it work like Xen, it will become as slow and resource hungry as any other paravirtualization solution ...

> It seems a bit fluffy to me.

most optimizations might look strange at first glance, but when you check what the limiting factors for OS-Level virtualizations are, you will find that it looks like this:

(in order of decreasing relevance)

- I/O subsystem
- available memory
- network performance
- CPU performance

note: this is for 'typical' guests, not for number crunching or special database, or pure network bound applications/guests ...

> An added bonus if we can do it, but certainly not the  
> most important requirement in the bunch.

nope, not the \_most\_ important one, but it

all summs up :)

- > What are the consequences if this isn't done? Doesn't
- > a loaded system eventually have all of its pages used
- > anyway, so won't this always be a temporary situation?

let's consider a quite limited guest (or several of them) which have a 'RAM' limit of 64MB and additional 64MB of 'virtual swap' assigned ...

if they use roughly 96MB (memory footprint) then having this 'fluffy' optimization will keep them running without any effect on the host side, but without, they will continuously swap in and out which will affect not only the host, but also the other guests ...

- > This also seems potentially harmful if we aren't able
- > to get pages \*back\* that we've given to a guest.

no, the idea is not to keep them unconditionally, the concept is to allow them to stay, even if the guest has reached the RSS limit and a 'real' system would have to swap pages out (or simply drop them) to get other pages mapped ...

- > Tasks can pin pages in lots of creative ways.

sure, this is why we should have proper limits for that too :)

- > > - accounting and limits have to be consistent
- > > and should roughly represent the actual used
- > > memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go
- > > into detail here, if necessary)
- >
- > So, consistency is important, but is precision?

IMHO precision is not that important, of course, the values should be in the same ballpark ...

- > If we, for instance, used one of the hashing schemes,
- > we could have some imprecise decisions made but the
- > system would stay consistent overall.

it is also important that the lack of precision cannot be exploited to allocate unreasonable ammounts of resources ...

at least Linux-VServer could live with +/- 10%  
(or probably more) as I said, it is mainly used  
for preventing DoS or DoR attacks ...

> This requirement also doesn't seem to push us in the  
> direction of having distinct page owners, or some  
> sharing mechanism, because both would be consistent.

> > - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some  
> > out of memory condition in guest A must not  
> > affect guest B

>  
> I'll agree that this one is important and well stated  
> as-is. Any disagreement on this one?

nope ...

best,  
Herbert

> -- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 23:02:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 23:41 +0100, Herbert Poetzl wrote:  
> On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 11:42:59AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:  
> > How about we drill down on these a bit more.  
> >  
> > On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 02:00 +0100, Herbert Poetzl wrote:  
> > > - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries  
> > > and libraries) to allow for reduced memory  
> > > footprint when N identical guests are running  
> >  
> > So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:  
> >  
> > "Guests must be able to share pages."  
> >  
> > Can you give us an idea why this is so?  
>  
> sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to



> be similar (or almost identical) which results  
 > in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables  
 > which would otherwise get cached for each guest and  
 > would also be mapped for each guest separately  
 >  
 > > On a typical vserver system,  
 >  
 > there is nothing like a typical Linux-VServer system :)  
 >  
 > > how much memory would be lost if guests were not permitted  
 > > to share pages like this?  
 >  
 > let me give a real world example here:  
 >  
 > - typical guest with 600MB disk space  
 > - about 100MB guest specific data (not shared)  
 > - assumed that 80% of the libs/tools are used

I get the general idea here, but I just don't think those numbers are very accurate. My laptop has a bunch of gunk open (xterm, evolution, firefox, xchat, etc...). I ran this command:

```
lsdf | egrep '/(usr/|lib.*\.so)' | awk '{print $9}' | sort | uniq | xargs du -Dcs
```

and got:

```
113840 total
```

On a web/database server that I have (ps aux | wc -l == 128), I just ran the same:

```
39168 total
```

That's assuming that all of the libraries are fully read in and populated, just by their on-disk sizes. Is that not a reasonable measure of the kinds of things that we can expect to be shared in a vserver? If so, it's a long way from 400MB.

Could you try a similar measurement on some of your machines? Perhaps mine are just weird.

> > > - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause  
 > > > swap out when there are still pages left on  
 > > > the host system (but pages of over limit guests  
 > > > can be preferred for swapping)  
 > >  
 > > Is this a really hard requirement?  
 >

- > no, not hard, but a reasonable optimization ...
- >
- > let me note once again, that for full isolation
- > you better go with Xen or some other Hypervisor
- > because if you make it work like Xen, it will
- > become as slow and resource hungry as any other
- > paravirtualization solution ...

Believe me, \_I\_ don't want Xen. :)

- > > It seems a bit fluffy to me.
- >
- > most optimizations might look strange at first
- > glance, but when you check what the limiting
- > factors for OS-Level virtualizations are, you
- > will find that it looks like this:
- >
- > (in order of decreasing relevance)
- >
- > - I/O subsystem
- > - available memory
- > - network performance
- > - CPU performance
- >
- > note: this is for 'typical' guests, not for
- > number crunching or special database, or pure
- > network bound applications/guests ...

I don't doubt this, but doing this two-level page-out thing for containers/vservers over their limits is surely something that we should consider farther down the road, right?

It's important to you, but you're obviously not doing any of the mainline coding, right?

- > > What are the consequences if this isn't done? Doesn't
- > > a loaded system eventually have all of its pages used
- > > anyway, so won't this always be a temporary situation?
- >
- > let's consider a quite limited guest (or several
- > of them) which have a 'RAM' limit of 64MB and
- > additional 64MB of 'virtual swap' assigned ...
- >
- > if they use roughly 96MB (memory footprint) then
- > having this 'fluffy' optimization will keep them
- > running without any effect on the host side, but
- > without, they will continuously swap in and out
- > which will affect not only the host, but also the

> other guests ...

All workloads that use \$limit+1 pages of memory will always pay the price, right? :)

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 23:43:35 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 03:25:07PM +0530, Balbir Singh wrote:

> > doesn't look so good for me, mainly becaus of the  
> > additional per page data and per page processing  
> >  
> > on 4GB memory, with 100 guests, 50% shared for each  
> > guest, this basically means ~1mio pages, 500k shared  
> > and 1500k x sizeof(page\_container) entries, which  
> > roughly boils down to ~25MB of wasted memory ...  
> >  
> > increase the amount of shared pages and it starts  
> > getting worse, but maybe I'm missing something here  
> >  
> > > We need to decide whether we want to do per-container memory  
> > > limitation via these data structures, or whether we do it via  
> > > a physical scan of some software zone, possibly based on Mel's  
> > > patches.  
> >  
> > why not do simple page accounting (as done currently  
> > in Linux) and use that for the limits, without  
> > keeping the reference from container to page?  
> >  
> > best,  
> > Herbert  
> >  
>  
> Herbert,  
>  
> You lost me in the cc list and I almost missed this part of the  
> thread.

hmm, it is very unlikely that this would happen,

for several reasons ... and indeed, checking the thread in my mailbox shows that akpm dropped you ...

---

Subject: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
From: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>  
To: Andrew Morton <akpm@osdl.org>, Paul Menage <menage@google.com>, Srivatsa Vaddagiri <vatsa@in.ibm.com>, Balbir Singh <balbir@in.ibm.com>  
Cc: containers@lists.osdl.org, Linux Kernel Mailing List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
Date: Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
From: Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>  
To: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>  
Cc: Kirill@smtp.osdl.org, Linux@smtp.osdl.org, containers@lists.osdl.org, Paul Menage <menage@google.com>, List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
Date: Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:36 -0800

---

that's the one I 'group' replied to ...

> Could you please not modify the "cc" list.

I never modify the cc unless explicitly asked to do so. I wish others would have it that way too :)

best,  
Herbert

> Thanks,  
> Balbir  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
> Containers mailing list  
> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
> <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 12 Mar 2007 23:54:52 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 09:50:08AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:

> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:

> >

> > For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,

> > otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page

> > in question being mapped in its processes' address spaces or not.

> What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a

> particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm

> not sure I get it.

OpenVZ wants to account \_shared\_ pages in a guest different than separate pages, so that the RSS accounted values reflect the actual used RAM instead of the sum of all processes RSS' pages, which for sure is more relevant to the administrator, but IMHO not so terribly important to justify memory consuming structures and sacrifice performance to get it right

YMMV, but maybe we can find a smart solution to the issue too :)

best,  
Herbert

> -- Dave

>

>

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> Containers@lists.osdl.org

> <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

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Containers@lists.osdl.org

<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 01:57:06 GMT

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> hmm, it is very unlikely that this would happen,

> for several reasons ... and indeed, checking the

> thread in my mailbox shows that akpm dropped you ...

>

But, I got Andrew's email.

```

> -----
> Subject: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core
> From: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>
> To: Andrew Morton <akpm@osdl.org>, Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,
>      Srivatsa Vaddagiri <vatsa@in.ibm.com>,
>      Balbir Singh <balbir@in.ibm.com>
> Cc: containers@lists.osdl.org,
>      Linux Kernel Mailing List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>
> Date: Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300
> -----
> Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core
> From: Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>
> To: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>
> Cc: Kirill@smtp.osdl.org, Linux@smtp.osdl.org, containers@lists.osdl.org,
>      Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,
>      List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>
> Date: Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:36 -0800
> -----
> that's the one I 'group' replied to ...
>
> > Could you please not modify the "cc" list.
>
> I never modify the cc unless explicitly asked
> to do so. I wish others would have it that way
> too :)
>

```

Thats good to know, but my mailer shows

```

Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>
to Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>
cc
  Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,
  Srivatsa Vaddagiri <vatsa@in.ibm.com>,
  Balbir Singh <balbir@in.ibm.com> (see I am <<HERE>>),
  devel@openvz.org,
  Linux Kernel Mailing List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>,
  containers@lists.osdl.org,
  Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru>
date   Mar 7, 2007 3:30 AM
subject Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core
mailed-by vger.kernel.org
On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300

```

and your reply as

Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>,

Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>,  
Kirill@smtp.osdl.org,  
Linux@smtp.osdl.org,  
containers@lists.osdl.org,  
Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
to Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>  
cc  
Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>,  
Kirill@smtp.osdl.org,  
Linux@smtp.osdl.org,  
containers@lists.osdl.org,  
Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
date Mar 9, 2007 10:18 PM  
subject Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
mailed-by vger.kernel.org

I am not sure what went wrong. Could you please check your mail client, cause it seemed to even change email address to smtp.osdl.org which bounced back when I wrote to you earlier.

> best,  
> Herbert  
>

Cheers,  
Balbir

---

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Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Srivatsa Vaddagiri](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 02:24:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 07:27:06AM +0530, Balbir Singh wrote:  
> I am not sure what went wrong. Could you please check your mail  
> client, cause it seemed to even change email address to smtp.osdl.org  
> which bounced back when I wrote to you earlier.

I have a problem doing a group-reply in mutt to Herbert's mails. His email id gets dropped from the To or Cc list. Is that his email setting? Don't know.

--

Regards,  
vatsa

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [akpm](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 06:04:39 GMT  
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> On Mon, 12 Mar 2007 23:41:29 +0100 Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> wrote:  
> On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 11:42:59AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:  
> > How about we drill down on these a bit more.  
> >  
> > On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 02:00 +0100, Herbert Poetzl wrote:  
> > > - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries  
> > > and libraries) to allow for reduced memory  
> > > footprint when N identical guests are running  
> >  
> > So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:  
> >  
> > "Guests must be able to share pages."  
> >  
> > Can you give us an idea why this is so?  
>  
> sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to  
> be similar (or almost identical) which results  
> in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables  
> which would otherwise get cached for each guest and  
> would also be mapped for each guest separately

nooooooooo. What you're saying there amounts to text replication. There is no proposal here to create duplicated copies of pagecache pages: the VM just doesn't support that (Nick has some protopatches which do this as a possible NUMA optimisation).

So these mmapped pages will continue to be shared across all guests. The problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for each shared page".

A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest which paged it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is insufficient.

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/7] Data structures changes for RSS accounting  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 07:10:43 GMT  
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Dave Hansen wrote:

> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 20:19 +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:  
>> Dave Hansen wrote:  
>>> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:16 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
>>>> now VE2 maps the same page. You can't determine whether this page is mapped  
>>>> to this container or another one w/o page->container pointer.  
>>> Hi Kirill,  
>>>  
>>> I thought we can always get from the page to the VMA. rmap provides  
>>> this to us via page->mapping and the 'struct address\_space' or anon\_vma.  
>>> Do we agree on that?  
>> Not completely. When page is unmapped from the \*very last\*  
>> user its \*first\* toucher may already be dead. So we'll never  
>> find out who it was.  
>  
> OK, but this is assuming that we didn't \*un\*account for the page when  
> the last user of the "owning" container stopped using the page.

That's exactly what we agreed on during our discussions:  
When page is get touched it is charged to this container.  
When page is get touched again by new container it is NOT  
charged to new container, but keeps holding the old one  
till it (the page) is completely freed. Nobody worried the  
fact that a single page can hold container for good.

OpenVZ beancounters work the other way (and we proposed this  
solution when we first sent the patches). We keep track of  
\*all\* the containers (i.e. beancounters) holding this page.

>>> We can also get from the vma to the mm very easily, via vma->vm\_mm,  
>>> right?  
>>>  
>>> We can also get from a task to the container quite easily.  
>>>  
>>> So, the only question becomes whether there is a 1:1 relationship  
>>> between mm\_structs and containers. Does each mm\_struct belong to one  
>> No. The question is "how to get a container that touched the  
>> page first" which is the same as "how to find mm\_struct which  
>> touched the page first". Obviously there's no answer on this  
>> question unless we hold some direct page->container reference.  
>> This may be a hash, a direct on-page pointer, or mirrored  
>> array of pointers.  
>  
> Or, you keep track of when the last user from the container goes away,  
> and you effectively account it to another one.

We can migrate page to another user but we decided to implement it later after accepting simple accounting.

> Are there problems with shifting ownership around like this?

>

> -- Dave

>

>

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 07:17:54 GMT

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---

Herbert Poetzl wrote:

> On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 12:02:01PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

>>>> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?

>>>> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can

>>>> settle on an implementation.

>>> Linux-VServer (and probably OpenVZ):

>>>

>>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries

>>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory

>>> footprint when N identical guests are running

>> This is done in current patches.

>

> nice, but the question was about \_requirements\_

> (so your requirements are?)

>

>>> - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause

>>> swap out when there are still pages left on

>>> the host system (but pages of over limit guests

>>> can be preferred for swapping)

>> So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?

>> OOM-kill current task?

>

> when the RSS limit is hit, but there \_are\_ enough

> pages left on the physical system, there is no

> good reason to swap out the page at all

>

> - there is no benefit in doing so (performance

> wise, that is)

>  
> - it actually hurts performance, and could  
> become a separate source for DoS  
>  
> what should happen instead (in an ideal world :)  
> is that the page is considered swapped out for  
> the guest (add guest penalty for swapout), and

Is the page stays mapped for the container or not?  
If yes then what's the use of limits? Container mapped  
pages more than the limit is but all the pages are  
still in memory. Sounds weird.

> when the page would be swapped in again, the guest  
> takes a penalty (for the 'virtual' page in) and  
> the page is returned to the guest, possibly kicking  
> out (again virtually) a different page  
>  
>>> - accounting and limits have to be consistent  
>>> and should roughly represent the actual used  
>>> memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go  
>>> into detail here, if necessary)  
>> This is true for current implementation for  
>> booth - this patchset and OpenVZ beancounters.  
>>  
>> If you sum up the physpages values for all containers  
>> you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.  
>  
> hmm, including or excluding the host pages?

Depends on whether you account host pages or not.

>>> - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some  
>>> out of memory condition in guest A must not  
>>> affect guest B  
>> This is done in current patches.  
>  
>> Herbert, did you look at the patches before  
>> sending this mail or do you just want to  
>> 'take part' in conversation w/o understanding  
>> of what is going on?  
>  
> again, the question was about requirements, not  
> your patches, and yes, I had a look at them \_and\_  
> the OpenVZ implementations ...  
>  
> best,  
> Herbert

>  
> PS: hat is going on? :)  
>  
>>> HTC,  
>>> Herbert  
>>>  
>>>> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?  
>>>>  
>>>> You can actually do a form of overcommittment by allowing multiple  
>>>> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is  
>>>> sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements,  
>>>> and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.  
>>>>  
>>>> \_\_\_\_\_  
>>>> Containers mailing list  
>>>> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
>>>> https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers  
>

\_\_\_\_\_  
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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 09:09:06 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:

> On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 01:00:15PM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>> Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:  
>>  
>> >  
>> > Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,  
>> > so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the  
>> > beginning of whatever resource allocation and the  
>> > accounting once the resource is acquired ...  
>>  
>> Atomic operations versus locks is only a granularity thing.  
>> You still need the cache line which is the cost on SMP.  
>>  
>> Are you using atomic\_add\_return or atomic\_add\_unless or  
>> are you performing you actions in two separate steps  
>> which is racy? What I have seen indicates you are using  
>> a racy two separate operation form.  
>

> yes, this is the current implementation which  
> is more than sufficient, but I'm aware of the  
> potential issues here, and I have an experimental  
> patch sitting here which removes this race with  
> the following change:  
>  
> - doesn't store the accounted value but  
> limit - accounted (i.e. the free resource)  
> - uses `atomic_add_return()`  
> - when negative, an error is returned and  
> the resource amount is added back  
>  
> changes to the limit have to adjust the 'current'  
> value too, but that is again simple and atomic  
>  
> best,  
> Herbert  
>  
> PS: `atomic_add_unless()` didn't exist back then  
> (at least I think so) but that might be an option  
> too ...

I think as far as having this discussion if you can remove that race  
people will be more willing to talk about what vserver does.

That said anything that uses locks or atomic operations (finer grained locks)  
because of the cache line ping pong is going to have scaling issues on large  
boxes.

So in that sense anything short of per cpu variables sucks at scale. That said  
I would much rather get a simple correct version without the complexity of  
per cpu counters, before we optimize the counters that much.

Eric

---

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---

Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 09:26:53 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Kirill Korotaev <dev@openvz.org> writes:

> Eric,  
>

>> And misses every resource sharing opportunity in sight.

>

> that was my point too.

>

>> Except for

>> filtering the which pages are eligible for reclaim an RSS limit should

>> not need to change the existing reclaim logic, and with things like the

>> memory zones we have had that kind of restriction in the reclaim logic

>> for a long time. So filtering out ineligible pages isn't anything new.

>

> exactly this is implemented in the current patches from Pavel.

> the only difference is that filtering is not done in general LRU list,

> which is not effective, but via per-container LRU list.

> So the pointer on the page structure does 2 things:

> - fast reclamation

    Better than the rmap list?

> - correct uncharging of page from where it was charged

> (e.g. shared pages can be mapped first in one container, but the last unmap

> done from another one).

    We should charge/uncharge all of them, not just one.

>>>We need to work out what the requirements are before we can settle on an

>>>implementation.

>>

>>

>> If you are talking about RSS limits the term is well defined. The

>> number of pages you can have mapped into your set of address space at

>> any given time.

>>

>> Unless I'm totally blind that isn't what the patchset implements.

>

> Ouch, what makes you think so?

> The fact that a page mapped into 2 different processes is charged only once?

> Imho it is much more correct then sum of process' RSS within container, due to:

> 1. it is clear how much container uses physical pages, not abstract items

> 2. shared pages are charged only once, so the sum of containers RSS is still

> about physical RAM.

No the fact that a page mapped into 2 separate mm\_structs in two separate accounting domains is counted only once. This is very likely to happen with things like glibc if you have a read-only shared copy of your distro. There appears to be no technical reason for such a restriction.

A page should not be owned.

Going further unless the limits are draconian I don't expect users to hit the rss limits often or frequently. So in 99% of all cases page

reclaim should continue to be global. Which makes me question messing with the general page reclaim lists.

Now if the normal limits turn out to be draconian it may make sense to split the first level of page lists by some reasonable approximation to their rss group, so we don't normally scan unnecessary pages.

>> The whole filesystem interface also is over general and makes it too  
>> easy to express the hard things (like move an existing task from one  
>> group of tasks to another) leading to code complications.  
> the things which are not supported are easy to disable.

Maybe. The extra locking complexity gives me fits. But in the grand scheme of things it is minor as long as it is not user perceptible we can fix it later. I'm still wrapping my head around the weird fs concepts.

Eric

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 09:27:15 GMT  
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---

Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:

>

>> On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 01:00:15PM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:

>>> Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:

>>>>

>>>> Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,  
>>>> so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the  
>>>> beginning of whatever resource allocation and the  
>>>> accounting once the resource is acquired ...

>>> Atomic operations versus locks is only a granularity thing.

>>> You still need the cache line which is the cost on SMP.

>>>>

>>>> Are you using atomic\_add\_return or atomic\_add\_unless or

>>>> are you performing you actions in two separate steps

>>>> which is racy? What I have seen indicates you are using

>>>> a racy two separate operation form.

>> yes, this is the current implementation which

>> is more than sufficient, but I'm aware of the

>> potential issues here, and I have an experimental

>> patch sitting here which removes this race with

>> the following change:

>>>>

>>>> - doesn't store the accounted value but

>>>> limit - accounted (i.e. the free resource)

>> - uses atomic\_add\_return()  
>> - when negative, an error is returned and  
>> the resource amount is added back  
>>  
>> changes to the limit have to adjust the 'current'  
>> value too, but that is again simple and atomic  
>>  
>> best,  
>> Herbert  
>>  
>> PS: atomic\_add\_unless() didn't exist back then  
>> (at least I think so) but that might be an option  
>> too ...  
>  
> I think as far as having this discussion if you can remove that race  
> people will be more willing to talk about what vserver does.  
>  
> That said anything that uses locks or atomic operations (finer grained locks)  
> because of the cache line ping pong is going to have scaling issues on large  
> boxes.

BTW atomic\_add\_unless() is essentially a loop!!! Just  
like spin\_lock() is, so why is one better than another?

spin\_lock() can go to schedule() on preemptive kernels  
thus increasing interactivity, while atomic can't.

> So in that sense anything short of per cpu variables sucks at scale. That said  
> I would much rather get a simple correct version without the complexity of  
> per cpu counters, before we optimize the counters that much.  
>  
> Eric  
>

---

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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [dev](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 09:36:08 GMT  
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---

>> - doesn't store the accounted value but  
>> limit - accounted (i.e. the free resource)  
>> - uses atomic\_add\_return()  
>> - when negative, an error is returned and



>> the resource amount is added back  
>>  
>>changes to the limit have to adjust the 'current'  
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>>PS: atomic\_add\_unless() didn't exist back then  
>>(at least I think so) but that might be an option  
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>  
> That said anything that uses locks or atomic operations (finer grained locks)  
> because of the cache line ping pong is going to have scaling issues on large  
> boxes.

> So in that sense anything short of per cpu variables sucks at scale. That said  
> I would much rather get a simple correct version without the complexity of  
> per cpu counters, before we optimize the counters that much.  
fully agree with it. We need to get a working version first.

FYI, in OVZ we recently added such optimizations: reserves like in TCP/IP,  
e.g. for kmemsize, numfile these reserves are done on task-basis for  
fast charges/uncharges w/o involving lock operations.  
On task exit reserves are returned back to the beancounter.

As it demonstrated atomic counters can be replaced with  
task-reserves on the next step.

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 09:43:02 GMT  
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Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 20:07 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
>> > On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
>> >>For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,  
>> >>otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page in question  
> being mapped

>> >> in its processes' address spaces or not.  
>> >  
>> > What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a  
>> > particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm  
>> > not sure I get it.  
>> When we do charge/uncharge we have to answer on another question:  
>> "whether \*any\* task from the \*container\* has this page mapped", not the  
>> "whether \*this\* task has this page mapped".  
>  
> That's a bit more clear. ;)  
>  
> OK, just so I make sure I'm getting your argument here. It would be too  
> expensive to go looking through all of the rmap data for \_any\_ other  
> task that might be sharing the charge (in the same container) with the  
> current task that is doing the unmapping.

Which is a questionable assumption. Worse case we are talking a list several thousand entries long, and generally if you are used by the same container you will hit one of your processes long before you traverse the whole list.

So at least the average case performance should be good.

It is only in the case when you a page is shared between multiple containers when this matters.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 09:58:05 GMT  
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Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:

> On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 09:50:08AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:  
>> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:  
>> >  
>> > For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,  
>> > otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page  
>> > in question being mapped in its processes' address spaces or not.  
>  
>> What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a  
>> particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm

>> not sure I get it.  
>  
> OpenVZ wants to account \_shared\_ pages in a guest  
> different than separate pages, so that the RSS  
> accounted values reflect the actual used RAM instead  
> of the sum of all processes RSS' pages, which for  
> sure is more relevant to the administrator, but IMHO  
> not so terribly important to justify memory consuming  
> structures and sacrifice performance to get it right  
>  
> YMMV, but maybe we can find a smart solution to the  
> issue too :)

I will tell you what I want.

I want a shared page cache that has nothing to do with RSS limits.

I want an RSS limit that once I know I can run a deterministic application with a fixed set of inputs in I want to know it will always run.

First touch page ownership does not guarantee give me anything useful for knowing if I can run my application or not. Because of page sharing my application might run inside the rss limit only because I got lucky and happened to share a lot of pages with another running application. If the next I run and it isn't running my application will fail. That is ridiculous.

I don't want sharing between vservers/VE/containers to affect how many pages I can have mapped into my processes at once.

Now sharing is sufficiently rare that I'm pretty certain that problems come up rarely. So maybe these problems have not shown up in testing yet. But until I see the proof that actually doing the accounting for sharing properly has intolerable overhead. I want proper accounting not this hand waving that is only accurate on the third Tuesday of the month.

Ideally all of this will be followed by smarter rss based swapping. There are some very cool things that can be done to eliminate machine overload once you have the ability to track real rss values.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [dev](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 10:06:48 GMT  
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Andrew Morton wrote:

```
>>>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries
>>>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory
>>>> footprint when N identical guests are running
>>>
>>> So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:
>>>
>>> "Guests must be able to share pages."
>>>
>>> Can you give us an idea why this is so?
>>
>> sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to
>> be similar (or almost identical) which results
>> in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables
>> which would otherwise get cached for each guest and
>> would also be mapped for each guest separately
>
>
> nooooooooo. What you're saying there amounts to text replication. There is
> no proposal here to create duplicated copies of pagecache pages: the VM
> just doesn't support that (Nick has some protopatches which do this as a
> possible NUMA optimisation).
>
> So these mmaped pages will continue to be shared across all guests. The
> problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for each shared page".
>
> A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest which paged
> it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is insufficient.
I guess by "paged it in" you essentially mean
"mapped the page into address space for the *first* time"?
```

i.e. how many times the same page mapped into 2 address spaces  
in the same container should be accounted for?

We believe ONE. It is better due to:

- it allows better estimate how much RAM container uses.
- if one container mapped a single page 10,000 times,  
it doesn't mean it is worse than a container which mapped only 200 pages  
and that it should be killed in case of OOM.

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 10:25:49 GMT  
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:

>

>

>>On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 09:50:08AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:

>>

>>>On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 19:23 +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:

>>>

>>>>For these you essentially need per-container page->\_mapcount counter,

>>>>otherwise you can't detect whether rss group still has the page

>>>>in question being mapped in its processes' address spaces or not.

>>

>>>What do you mean by this? You can always tell whether a process has a

>>>particular page mapped. Could you explain the issue a bit more. I'm

>>>not sure I get it.

>>

>>OpenVZ wants to account \_shared\_ pages in a guest

>>different than separate pages, so that the RSS

>>accounted values reflect the actual used RAM instead

>>of the sum of all processes RSS' pages, which for

>>sure is more relevant to the administrator, but IMHO

>>not so terribly important to justify memory consuming

>>structures and sacrifice performance to get it right

>>

>>YMMV, but maybe we can find a smart solution to the

>>issue too :)

>

>

> I will tell you what I want.

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> I want a shared page cache that has nothing to do with RSS limits.

>

> I want an RSS limit that once I know I can run a deterministic

> application with a fixed set of inputs in I want to know it will

> always run.

>

> First touch page ownership does not guarantee give me anything useful

> for knowing if I can run my application or not. Because of page

> sharing my application might run inside the rss limit only because

> I got lucky and happened to share a lot of pages with another running

> application. If the next I run and it isn't running my application

> will fail. That is ridiculous.

Let's be practical here, what you're asking is basically impossible.

Unless by deterministic you mean that it never enters the a non trivial syscall, in which case, you just want to know about maximum RSS of the process, which we already account).

> I don't want sharing between vservers/VE/containers to affect how many  
> pages I can have mapped into my processes at once.

You seem to want total isolation. You could use virtualization?

> Now sharing is sufficiently rare that I'm pretty certain that problems  
> come up rarely. So maybe these problems have not shown up in testing  
> yet. But until I see the proof that actually doing the accounting for  
> sharing properly has intolerable overhead. I want proper accounting  
> not this hand waving that is only accurate on the third Tuesday of the  
> month.

It is basically handwaving anyway. The only approach I've seen with a sane (not perfect, but good) way of accounting memory use is this one. If you care to define "proper", then we could discuss that.

--

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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Andrew Morton](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 10:49:26 GMT  
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---

> On Tue, 13 Mar 2007 13:19:53 +0300 Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru> wrote:  
> Andrew Morton wrote:  
> >>>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries  
> >>>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory  
> >>>> footprint when N identical guests are running  
> >>>  
> >>> So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:  
> >>>  
> >>> "Guests must be able to share pages."  
> >>>  
> >>> Can you give us an idea why this is so?  
> >>  
> >> sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to  
> >> be similar (or almost identical) which results

> >>in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables  
> >>which would otherwise get cached for each guest and  
> >>would also be mapped for each guest separately  
> >  
> >  
> > noooooooo. What you're saying there amounts to text replication. There is  
> > no proposal here to create duplicated copies of pagecache pages: the VM  
> > just doesn't support that (Nick has some protopatches which do this as a  
> > possible NUMA optimisation).  
> >  
> > So these mmaped pages will continue to be shared across all guests. The  
> > problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for each shared page".  
> >  
> > A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest which paged  
> > it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is insufficient.  
> I guess by "paged it in" you essentially mean  
> "mapped the page into address space for the \*first\* time"?

Not really - I mean "first allocated the page". ie: major fault(), read(), write(), etc.

> i.e. how many times the same page mapped into 2 address spaces  
> in the same container should be accounted for?  
>  
> We believe ONE. It is better due to:  
> - it allows better estimate how much RAM container uses.  
> - if one container mapped a single page 10,000 times,  
> it doesn't mean it is worse than a container which mapped only 200 pages  
> and that it should be killed in case of OOM.

I'm not sure that we need to account for pages at all, nor care about rss.

If we use a physical zone-based containment scheme: fake-numa, variable-sized zones, etc then it all becomes moot. You set up a container which has 1.5GB of physical memory then toss processes into it. As that process set increases in size it will toss out stray pages which shouldn't be there, then it will start reclaiming and swapping out its own pages and eventually it'll get an oom-killing.

No RSS accounting or page accounting in sight, because we already \*have\* that stuff, at the physical level, in the zone.

Overcommitment can be performed by allowing different containers to share the same zone set, or by dynamically increasing or decreasing the size of a physical container.

This all works today with fake-numa and cpusets, no kernel changes needed.

It could be made to work fairly simply with a multi-zone approach, or with  
resizeable zones.

I'd be interested in knowing what you think the shortcomings of this are  
likely to be,.

---

Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 14:59:38 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 03:48:34AM -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

> > On Tue, 13 Mar 2007 13:19:53 +0300 Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru> wrote:

> > Andrew Morton wrote:

> > >>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries

> > >>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory

> > >>> footprint when N identical guests are running

> > >>>

> > >>> So, it sounds like this can be phrased as a requirement like:

> > >>>

> > >>> "Guests must be able to share pages."

> > >>>

> > >>> Can you give us an idea why this is so?

> > >>>

> > >>> sure, one reason for this is that guests tend to

> > >>> be similar (or almost identical) which results

> > >>> in quite a lot of 'shared' libraries and executables

> > >>> which would otherwise get cached for each guest and

> > >>> would also be mapped for each guest separately

> > >>>

> > > noooooooo. What you're saying there amounts to text replication.

> > > There is no proposal here to create duplicated copies of pagecache

> > > pages: the VM just doesn't support that (Nick has some protopatches

> > > which do this as a possible NUMA optimisation).

> > >

> > > So these mmaped pages will continue to be shared across all

> > > guests. The problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for

> > > each shared page".

> > >

> > > A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest

> > > which paged it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is

> > > insufficient.

> > I guess by "paged it in" you essentially mean

> > "mapped the page into address space for the \*first\* time"?

>

> Not really - I mean "first allocated the page". ie: major fault(),

> read(), write(), etc.



>  
> > i.e. how many times the same page mapped into 2 address spaces  
> > in the same container should be accounted for?  
> >  
> > We believe ONE. It is better due to:  
> > - it allows better estimate how much RAM container uses.  
> > - if one container mapped a single page 10,000 times,  
> > it doesn't mean it is worse than a container which mapped only 200  
> > pages and that it should be killed in case of OOM.  
>  
> I'm not sure that we need to account for pages at all, nor care about  
> rss.  
>  
> If we use a physical zone-based containment scheme: fake-numa,  
> variable-sized zones, etc then it all becomes moot.

sounds good to me, just not sure it provides what we  
need, but I'm sure I'll figure that with your help ...

> You set up a container which has 1.5GB of physial memory then toss  
> processes into it. As that process set increases in size it will  
> toss out stray pages which shouldn't be there, then it will start  
> reclaiming and swapping out its own pages and eventually it'll get an  
> oom-killing.

okay, let me ask a few naive questions about this scheme:

how does this work for a `_file_` which is shared between  
two guests (e.g. an executable like bash, hardlinked  
between guests) when both guests are in a different  
zone-based container?

+ assumed that the file is read in the first time,  
will it be accounted to the first guest doing so?

+ assumed it is accessed in the second guest, will  
it cause any additional cache/mapping besides the  
dentry stuff?

+ will container A be able to 'toss out' pages  
'shared' with container B (assumed sharing is  
possible :)

+ when the container A tosses out the pages for this  
executable, will guest B still be able to use them?

+ when the pages are tossed out, will they require  
the system to read them in again, or will they

stay available ala swap cache?

- > No RSS accounting or page accounting in sight, because we already \*have\*
- > that stuff, at the physical level, in the zone.

I'm fine with that ...

- > Overcommitment can be performed by allowing different containers to
- > share the same zone set, or by dynamically increasing or decreasing
- > the size of a physical container.

here the question is, can a guest have several of those 'virtual zones' assigned, so that there is a container specific and a shared zone for example?

- > This all works today with fake-numa and cpusets, no kernel changes
- > needed.

sounds good!

- > It could be made to work fairly simply with a multi-zone approach, or
- > with resizeable zones.
- >
- > I'd be interested in knowing what you think the shortcomings of
- > this are likely to be,.

will do so once I have a better understanding how this approach will work ...

TIA,  
Herbert

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:05:10 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 10:17:54AM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

- > Herbert Poetzl wrote:
- > > On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 12:02:01PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:
- > >>>> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?
- > >>>> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can
- > >>>> settle on an implementation.
- > >>> Linux-VServer (and probably OpenVZ):
- > >>>
- > >>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries
- > >>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory
- > >>> footprint when N identical guests are running

```

> >> This is done in current patches.
> >
> > nice, but the question was about _requirements_
> > (so your requirements are?)
> >
> >>> - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause
> >>> swap out when there are still pages left on
> >>> the host system (but pages of over limit guests
> >>> can be preferred for swapping)
> >> So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?
> >> OOM-kill current task?
> >
> > when the RSS limit is hit, but there _are_ enough
> > pages left on the physical system, there is no
> > good reason to swap out the page at all
> >
> > - there is no benefit in doing so (performance
> > wise, that is)
> >
> > - it actually hurts performance, and could
> > become a separate source for DoS
> >
> > what should happen instead (in an ideal world :)
> > is that the page is considered swapped out for
> > the guest (add guest penalty for swapout), and
> >
> > Is the page stays mapped for the container or not?
> > If yes then what's the use of limits? Container mapped
> > pages more than the limit is but all the pages are
> > still in memory. Sounds weird.

```

sounds weird, but makes sense if you look at the full picture

just because the guest is over its page limit doesn't mean that you actually want the system to swap stuff out, what you really want to happen is the following:

- somehow mark those pages as 'gone' for the guest
- penalize the guest (and only the guest) for the 'virtual' swap/page operation
- penalize the guest again for paging in the page
- drop/swap/page out those pages when the host system decides to reclaim pages (from the host PoV)

```

> > when the page would be swapped in again, the guest
> > takes a penalty (for the 'virtual' page in) and
> > the page is returned to the guest, possibly kicking
> > out (again virtually) a different page

```

> >  
> >>> - accounting and limits have to be consistent  
> >>> and should roughly represent the actual used  
> >>> memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go  
> >>> into detail here, if necessary)  
> >> This is true for current implementation for  
> >> booth - this patchset and OpenVZ beancounters.  
> >>  
> >> If you sum up the physpages values for all containers  
> >> you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.  
> >  
> > hmm, including or excluding the host pages?  
>  
> Depends on whether you account host pages or not.

you tell me? or is that an option in OpenVZ?

best,  
Herbert

> >>> - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some  
> >>> out of memory condition in guest A must not  
> >>> affect guest B  
> >> This is done in current patches.  
> >  
> >> Herbert, did you look at the patches before  
> >> sending this mail or do you just want to  
> >> 'take part' in conversation w/o understanding  
> >> of hat is going on?  
> >  
> > again, the question was about requirements, not  
> > your patches, and yes, I had a look at them \_and\_  
> > the OpenVZ implementations ...  
> >  
> > best,  
> > Herbert  
> >  
> > PS: hat is going on? :)  
> >  
> >>> HTC,  
> >>> Herbert  
> >>>  
> >>>> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?  
> >>>>  
> >>>> You can actually do a form of overcommittment by allowing multiple  
> >>>> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is  
> >>>> sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements,  
> >>>> and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.

> >>>>  
> >>>>  
> >>>> Containers mailing list  
> >>>> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
> >>>> https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers  
> >

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [dev](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:10:55 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

>>So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?  
>>OOM-kill current task?  
>  
>  
> when the RSS limit is hit, but there are enough  
> pages left on the physical system, there is no  
> good reason to swap out the page at all  
>  
> - there is no benefit in doing so (performance  
> wise, that is)  
>  
> - it actually hurts performance, and could  
> become a separate source for DoS  
>  
> what should happen instead (in an ideal world :)  
> is that the page is considered swapped out for  
> the guest (add guest penalty for swapout), and  
> when the page would be swapped in again, the guest  
> takes a penalty (for the 'virtual' page in) and  
> the page is returned to the guest, possibly kicking  
> out (again virtually) a different page

great. I agree with that.  
Just curious why current vserver code kills arbitrary  
task in container then?

>>> - accounting and limits have to be consistent  
>>> and should roughly represent the actual used  
>>> memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go  
>>> into detail here, if necessary)  
>>

>>This is true for current implementation for  
>>booth - this patchset ang OpenVZ beancounters.  
>>  
>>If you sum up the physpages values for all containers  
>>you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.  
>  
>  
> hmm, including or excluding the host pages?

depends on whether you will include beanocunter 0 usages or not :)

Kirill

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:11:55 GMT  
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On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 06:10:55PM +0300, Kirill Korotaev wrote:

> >>So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?  
> >>OOM-kill current task?  
> >  
> >  
> > when the RSS limit is hit, but there \_are\_ enough  
> > pages left on the physical system, there is no  
> > good reason to swap out the page at all  
> >  
> > - there is no benefit in doing so (performance  
> > wise, that is)  
> >  
> > - it actually hurts performance, and could  
> > become a separate source for DoS  
> >  
> > what should happen instead (in an ideal world :)  
> > is that the page is considered swapped out for  
> > the guest (add guest penalty for swapout), and  
> > when the page would be swapped in again, the guest  
> > takes a penalty (for the 'virtual' page in) and  
> > the page is returned to the guest, possibly kicking  
> > out (again virtually) a different page  
> >  
> great. I agree with that.

> Just curious why current vserver code kills arbitrary

> task in container then?

because it obviously lacks the finesse of OpenVZ code :)

seriously, handling the OOM kills inside a container has never been a real world issue, as once you are really out of memory (and OOM starts killing) you usually have lost the game anyways (i.e. a guest restart or similar is required to get your services up and running again) and OOM killer decisions are not perfect in mainline either, but, you've probably seen the FIXME and TODO entries in the code showing that this is work in progress ...

> >>> - accounting and limits have to be consistent  
> >>> and should roughly represent the actual used  
> >>> memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go  
> >>> into detail here, if necessary)  
> >>  
> >>This is true for current implementation for  
> >>booth - this patchset and OpenVZ beancounters.  
> >>  
> >>If you sum up the physpages values for all containers  
> >>you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.  
> >  
> >  
> > hmm, including or excluding the host pages?  
>  
> depends on whether you will include beancounter 0 usages or not :)

so that is an option then?

best,  
Herbert

> Kirill

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:21:50 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 03:09:06AM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> Herbert Poetzl <[herbert@13thfloor.at](mailto:herbert@13thfloor.at)> writes:

>  
> > On Sun, Mar 11, 2007 at 01:00:15PM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> >> Herbert Poetzl <herbert@13thfloor.at> writes:  
> >>  
> >> >  
> >> > Linux-VServer does the accounting with atomic counters,  
> >> > so that works quite fine, just do the checks at the  
> >> > beginning of whatever resource allocation and the  
> >> > accounting once the resource is acquired ...  
> >>  
> >> Atomic operations versus locks is only a granularity thing.  
> >> You still need the cache line which is the cost on SMP.  
> >>  
> >> Are you using atomic\_add\_return or atomic\_add\_unless or  
> >> are you performing you actions in two separate steps  
> >> which is racy? What I have seen indicates you are using  
> >> a racy two separate operation form.  
> >  
> > yes, this is the current implementation which  
> > is more than sufficient, but I'm aware of the  
> > potential issues here, and I have an experimental  
> > patch sitting here which removes this race with  
> > the following change:  
> >  
> > - doesn't store the accounted value but  
> > limit - accounted (i.e. the free resource)  
> > - uses atomic\_add\_return()  
> > - when negative, an error is returned and  
> > the resource amount is added back  
> >  
> > changes to the limit have to adjust the 'current'  
> > value too, but that is again simple and atomic  
> >  
> > best,  
> > Herbert  
> >  
> > PS: atomic\_add\_unless() didn't exist back then  
> > (at least I think so) but that might be an option  
> > too ...  
>  
> I think as far as having this discussion if you can remove that race  
> people will be more willing to talk about what vserver does.

well, shouldn't be a big deal to brush that patch up  
(if somebody actually is interested)

> That said anything that uses locks or atomic operations (finer grained  
> locks) because of the cache line ping pong is going to have scaling



> issues on large boxes.

right, but atomic ops have much less impact on most architectures than locks :)

> So in that sense anything short of per cpu variables sucks at scale.  
> That said I would much rather get a simple correct version without the  
> complexity of per cpu counters, before we optimize the counters that  
> much.

actually I thought about per cpu counters quite a lot, and we (Linux-VServer) use them for accounting, but please tell me how you use per cpu structures for implementing limits

TIA,  
Herbert

> Eric

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [dev](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:30:40 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Eric,

>>>And misses every resource sharing opportunity in sight.  
>>  
>>that was my point too.  
>>  
>>  
>>>Except for  
>>>filtering the which pages are eligible for reclaim an RSS limit should  
>>>not need to change the existing reclaim logic, and with things like the  
>>>memory zones we have had that kind of restriction in the reclaim logic  
>>>for a long time. So filtering out ineligible pages isn't anything new.  
>>  
>>exactly this is implemented in the current patches from Pavel.  
>>the only difference is that filtering is not done in general LRU list,  
>>which is not effective, but via per-container LRU list.  
>>So the pointer on the page structure does 2 things:  
>>- fast reclamation

>  
> Better than the rmap list?  
>  
>>- correct uncharging of page from where it was charged  
>> (e.g. shared pages can be mapped first in one container, but the last unmap  
>> done from another one).  
>  
> We should charge/uncharge all of them, not just one.  
>  
>  
>>>>We need to work out what the requirements are before we can settle on an  
>>>>implementation.  
>>>  
>>>  
>>>If you are talking about RSS limits the term is well defined. The  
>>>number of pages you can have mapped into your set of address space at  
>>>any given time.  
>>>  
>>>Unless I'm totally blind that isn't what the patchset implements.  
>>  
>>Ouch, what makes you think so?  
>>The fact that a page mapped into 2 different processes is charged only once?  
>>Imho it is much more correct then sum of process' RSS within container, due to:  
>>1. it is clear how much container uses physical pages, not abstract items  
>>2. shared pages are charged only once, so the sum of containers RSS is still  
>> about physical RAM.  
>  
>  
> No the fact that a page mapped into 2 separate mm\_structs in two  
> separate accounting domains is counted only once. This is very likely  
> to happen with things like glibc if you have a read-only shared copy  
> of your distro. There appears to be no technical reason for such a  
> restriction.  
>  
> A page should not be owned.

I would be happy to propose OVZ approach then, where a page is tracked with page\_beancounter data structure, which ties together a page with beancounters which use it like this:

page -> page\_beancounter -> list of beanocunters which has the page mapped

This gives a number of advantages:

- the page is accounted to all the VEs which actually use it.
- allows almost accurate tracking of page fractions used by VEs depending on how many VEs mapped the page.
- allows to track dirty pages, i.e. which VE dirtied the page and implement correct disk I/O accounting and CFQ write scheduling

based on VE priorities.

- > Going further unless the limits are draconian I don't expect users to
- > hit the rss limits often or frequently. So in 99% of all cases page
- > reclaim should continue to be global. Which makes me question messing
- > with the general page reclaim lists.

It is not that rare when containers hit their limits, believe me :/  
In trusted environments - probably you are right, in hosting - no.

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:32:08 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Herbert Poetzl wrote:

- > On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 10:17:54AM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:
- >> Herbert Poetzl wrote:
- >>> On Mon, Mar 12, 2007 at 12:02:01PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:
- >>>>> Maybe you have some ideas how we can decide on this?
- >>>>> We need to work out what the requirements are before we can
- >>>>> settle on an implementation.
- >>>>> Linux-VServer (and probably OpenVZ):
- >>>>>
- >>>>> - shared mappings of 'shared' files (binaries
- >>>>> and libraries) to allow for reduced memory
- >>>>> footprint when N identical guests are running
- >>>> This is done in current patches.
- >>> nice, but the question was about \_requirements\_
- >>> (so your requirements are?)
- >>>
- >>>>> - virtual 'physical' limit should not cause
- >>>>> swap out when there are still pages left on
- >>>>> the host system (but pages of over limit guests
- >>>>> can be preferred for swapping)
- >>>> So what to do when virtual physical limit is hit?
- >>>> OOM-kill current task?
- >>> when the RSS limit is hit, but there \_are\_ enough
- >>> pages left on the physical system, there is no
- >>> good reason to swap out the page at all
- >>>
- >>> - there is no benefit in doing so (performance
- >>> wise, that is)
- >>>
- >>> - it actually hurts performance, and could

```

>>> become a separate source for DoS
>>>
>>> what should happen instead (in an ideal world :)
>>> is that the page is considered swapped out for
>>> the guest (add guest penalty for swapout), and
>> Is the page stays mapped for the container or not?
>> If yes then what's the use of limits? Container mapped
>> pages more than the limit is but all the pages are
>> still in memory. Sounds weird.
>
> sounds weird, but makes sense if you look at the full picture
>
> just because the guest is over its page limit doesn't
> mean that you actually want the system to swap stuff
> out, what you really want to happen is the following:
>
> - somehow mark those pages as 'gone' for the guest
> - penalize the guest (and only the guest) for the
>   'virtual' swap/page operation
> - penalize the guest again for paging in the page
> - drop/swap/page out those pages when the host system
>   decides to reclaim pages (from the host PoV)

```

Yeah! And slow down the container which caused global limit hit (w/o hitting it's own limit!) by swapping some others' pages out. This breaks the idea of isolation.

```

>>> when the page would be swapped in again, the guest
>>> takes a penalty (for the 'virtual' page in) and
>>> the page is returned to the guest, possibly kicking
>>> out (again virtually) a different page
>>>
>>>>> - accounting and limits have to be consistent
>>>>> and should roughly represent the actual used
>>>>> memory/swap (modulo optimizations, I can go
>>>>> into detail here, if necessary)
>>>> This is true for current implementation for
>>>> booth - this patchset and OpenVZ beancounters.
>>>>
>>>> If you sum up the physpages values for all containers
>>>> you'll get the exact number of RAM pages used.
>>> hmm, including or excluding the host pages?
>> Depends on whether you account host pages or not.
>
> you tell me? or is that an option in OpenVZ?

```

In OpenVZ we account resources in host system as well. However we have an opportunity to turn this off.

> best,  
> Herbert  
>  
>>>>> - OOM handling on a per guest basis, i.e. some  
>>>>> out of memory condition in guest A must not  
>>>>> affect guest B  
>>>> This is done in current patches.  
>>>> Herbert, did you look at the patches before  
>>>> sending this mail or do you just want to  
>>>> 'take part' in conversation w/o understanding  
>>>> of hat is going on?  
>>> again, the question was about requirements, not  
>>> your patches, and yes, I had a look at them \_and\_  
>>> the OpenVZ implementations ...  
>>>  
>>> best,  
>>> Herbert  
>>>  
>>> PS: hat is going on? :)  
>>>  
>>>>> HTC,  
>>>>> Herbert  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> Sigh. Who is running this show? Anyone?  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> You can actually do a form of overcommittment by allowing multiple  
>>>>>> containers to share one or more of the zones. Whether that is  
>>>>>> sufficient or suitable I don't know. That depends on the requirements,  
>>>>>> and we haven't even discussed those, let alone agreed to them.  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> \_\_\_\_\_  
>>>>>> Containers mailing list  
>>>>>> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
>>>>>> https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers  
>

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:41:05 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

>>> PS: atomic\_add\_unless() didn't exist back then

>>> (at least I think so) but that might be an option  
>>> too ...  
>> I think as far as having this discussion if you can remove that race  
>> people will be more willing to talk about what vserver does.  
>  
> well, shouldn't be a big deal to brush that patch up  
> (if somebody actually `_is_` interested)  
>  
>> That said anything that uses locks or atomic operations (finer grained  
>> locks) because of the cache line ping pong is going to have scaling  
>> issues on large boxes.  
>  
> right, but atomic ops have much less impact on most  
> architectures than locks :)

Right. But `atomic_add_unless()` is slower as it is essentially a loop. See my previous letter in this sub-thread.

>> So in that sense anything short of per cpu variables sucks at scale.  
>> That said I would much rather get a simple correct version without the  
>> complexity of per cpu counters, before we optimize the counters that  
>> much.  
>  
> actually I thought about per cpu counters quite a lot, and  
> we (Linux-VServer) use them for accounting, but please  
> tell me how you use per cpu structures for implementing  
> limits

Did you ever look at how `get_empty_filp()` works?  
I agree, that this is not a "strict" limit, but it limits the usage with some "precision".

*/\* off-the-topic \*/* Herbert, you've lost Balbir again:  
In this sub-thread some letters up Eric wrote a letter with Balbir in Cc:. The next reply from you doesn't include him.

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [dev](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:54:39 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Herbert,

>>Just curious why current vserver code kills arbitrary

>>task in container then?  
>  
>  
> because it obviously lacks the finesse of OpenVZ code :)  
>  
> seriously, handling the OOM kills inside a container  
> has never been a real world issue, as once you are  
> really out of memory (and OOM starts killing) you  
> usually have lost the game anyways (i.e. a guest restart  
> or similar is required to get your services up and  
> running again) and OOM killer decisions are not perfect  
> in mainline either, but, you've probably seen the  
> FIXME and TODO entries in the code showing that this  
> is work in progress ...

I'm talking not about the finesse of the code,  
but rather about the lack of isolation,  
i.e. one VE can affect others.

Kirill

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 16:01:54 GMT  
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---

Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:

> Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>>  
>> First touch page ownership does not guarantee give me anything useful  
>> for knowing if I can run my application or not. Because of page  
>> sharing my application might run inside the rss limit only because  
>> I got lucky and happened to share a lot of pages with another running  
>> application. If the next I run and it isn't running my application  
>> will fail. That is ridiculous.  
>  
> Let's be practical here, what you're asking is basically impossible.  
>  
> Unless by deterministic you mean that it never enters the a non  
> trivial syscall, in which case, you just want to know about maximum  
> RSS of the process, which we already account).

Not per process I want this on a group of processes, and yes that

is all I want just. I just want accounting of the maximum RSS of a group of processes and then the mechanism to limit that maximum rss.

>> I don't want sharing between vservers/VE/containers to affect how many  
>> pages I can have mapped into my processes at once.

>

> You seem to want total isolation. You could use virtualization?

No. I don't want the meaning of my rss limit to be affected by what other processes are doing. We have constraints of how many resources the box actually has. But I don't want accounting so sloppy that processes outside my group of processes can artificially lower my rss value, which magically raises my rss limit.

>> Now sharing is sufficiently rare that I'm pretty certain that problems  
>> come up rarely. So maybe these problems have not shown up in testing  
>> yet. But until I see the proof that actually doing the accounting for  
>> sharing properly has intolerable overhead. I want proper accounting  
>> not this hand waving that is only accurate on the third Tuesday of the  
>> month.

>

> It is basically handwaving anyway. The only approach I've seen with  
> a sane (not perfect, but good) way of accounting memory use is this  
> one. If you care to define "proper", then we could discuss that.

I will agree that this patchset is probably in the right general ballpark. But the fact that pages are assigned exactly one owner is pure non-sense. We can do better. That is all I am asking for someone to at least attempt to actually account for the rss of a group of processes and get the numbers right when we have shared pages, between different groups of processes. We have the data structures to support this with rmap.

Let me describe the situation where I think the accounting in the patchset goes totally wonky.

Gcc as I recall maps the pages it is compiling with mmap.

If in a single kernel tree I do:

```
make -jN O=../compile1 &
```

```
make -jN O=../compile2 &
```

But set it up so that the two compiles are in different rss groups. If I run the concurrently they will use the same files at the same time and most likely because of the first touch rss limit rule even if I have a draconian rss limit the compiles will both be able to complete and finish. However if I run either of them alone if I use the most draconian rss limit I can that allows both compiles to finish I won't be able to compile a single kernel tree.



The reason for the failure with a single tree (in my thought experiment) is that the rss limit was set below the what is actually needed for the code to work. When we were compiling two kernels and they were mapping the same pages at the same time we could put the rss limit below the minimum rss needed for the compile to execute and still have it complete because of with first touch only one group accounted for the pages and the other just leached of the first, as long as both compiles grabbed some of the pages they could complete.

No I know in practice most draconian limits will simply result in the page staying in the page cache but not mapped into processes in the group with the draconian limit, or they will result in pages of the group with the draconian limit being pushed out into the swap cache. So the chances of actual application failure even with a draconian rss limit are quite unlikely. (I actually really appreciate this fact).

However the messed up accounting that doesn't handle sharing between groups of processes properly really bugs me. Especially when we have the infrastructure to do it right.

Does that make more sense?

Eric

---

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---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 16:06:32 GMT  
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---

On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 07:27:06AM +0530, Balbir Singh wrote:

> > hmm, it is very unlikely that this would happen,  
> > for several reasons ... and indeed, checking the  
> > thread in my mailbox shows that akpm dropped you ...  
>  
> But, I got Andrew's email.  
>  
> > -----  
> > Subject: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
> > From: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>  
> > To: Andrew Morton <akpm@osdl.org>, Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
> >     Srivatsa Vaddagiri <vatsa@in.ibm.com>,  
> >     Balbir Singh <balbir@in.ibm.com>

> > Cc: containers@lists.osdl.org,  
> > Linux Kernel Mailing List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
> > Date: Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300  
> > -----  
> > Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
> > From: Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>  
> > To: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>  
> > Cc: Kirill@smtp.osdl.org, Linux@smtp.osdl.org, containers@lists.osdl.org,  
> > Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
> > List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
> > Date: Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:36 -0800  
> > -----  
> > that's the one I 'group' replied to ...  
> >  
> > > Could you please not modify the "cc" list.  
> >  
> > I never modify the cc unless explicitly asked  
> > to do so. I wish others would have it that way  
> > too :)  
>  
> Thats good to know, but my mailer shows  
>  
>  
> Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>  
> to Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>  
> cc  
> Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
> Srivatsa Vaddagiri <vatsa@in.ibm.com>,  
> Balbir Singh <balbir@in.ibm.com> (see I am <<HERE>>),  
> devel@openvz.org,  
> Linux Kernel Mailing List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>,  
> containers@lists.osdl.org,  
> Kirill Korotaev <dev@sw.ru>  
> date Mar 7, 2007 3:30 AM  
> subject Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
> mailed-by vger.kernel.org  
> On Tue, 06 Mar 2007 17:55:29 +0300  
>  
> and your reply as  
>  
> Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>,  
> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>,  
> Kirill@smtp.osdl.org,  
> Linux@smtp.osdl.org,  
> containers@lists.osdl.org,  
> Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
> List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
> to Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>

> cc  
> Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>,  
> Kirill@smtp.osdl.org,  
> Linux@smtp.osdl.org,  
> containers@lists.osdl.org,  
> Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
> List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
> date Mar 9, 2007 10:18 PM  
> subject Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
> mailed-by vger.kernel.org  
>  
> I am not sure what went wrong. Could you please check your mail  
> client, cause it seemed to even change email address to smtp.osdl.org  
> which bounced back when I wrote to you earlier.

my mail client is not involved in receiving the emails,  
so the email I replied to did already miss you in the cc  
(i.e. I doubt that mutt would hide you from the cc, if  
it would be present in the mailbox :)

maybe one of the mailing lists is removing recipients  
according to some strange scheme?

here are the full headers for the email I replied to:

-8<-----  
>From containers-bounces@lists.osdl.org Tue Mar 6 23:01:21 2007  
Return-Path: containers-bounces@lists.osdl.org  
X-Original-To: herbert@13thfloor.at  
Delivered-To: herbert@13thfloor.at  
Received: from smtp.osdl.org (smtp.osdl.org [65.172.181.24])  
    (using TLSv1 with cipher EDH-RSA-DES-CBC3-SHA (168/168 bits))  
    (No client certificate requested)  
    by mail.13thfloor.at (Postfix) with ESMTP id 0CD0F707FC  
    for <herbert@13thfloor.at>; Tue, 6 Mar 2007 23:00:52 +0100 (CET)  
Received: from fire-2.osdl.org (localhost [127.0.0.1])  
    by smtp.osdl.org (8.12.8/8.12.8) with ESMTP id I26M0eqA023167;  
    Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:47 -0800  
Received: from shell0.pdx.osdl.net (fw.osdl.org [65.172.181.6])  
    by smtp.osdl.org (8.12.8/8.12.8) with ESMTP id I26M0bq8023159  
    (version=TLSv1/SSLv3 cipher=EDH-RSA-DES-CBC3-SHA bits=168 verify=NO);  
    Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:37 -0800  
Received: from akpm.corp.google.com (shell0.pdx.osdl.net [10.9.0.31])  
    by shell0.pdx.osdl.net (8.13.1/8.11.6) with SMTP id I26M0ate010730;  
    Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:36 -0800  
Date: Tue, 6 Mar 2007 14:00:36 -0800  
From: Andrew Morton <akpm@linux-foundation.org>  
To: Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru>

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Message-Id: <20070306140036.4e85bd2f.akpm@linux-foundation.org>  
In-Reply-To: <45ED80E1.7030406@sw.ru>  
References: <45ED7DEC.7010403@sw.ru>  
<45ED80E1.7030406@sw.ru>  
X-Mailer: Sylpheed version 2.2.7 (GTK+ 2.8.6; i686-pc-linux-gnu)  
Mime-Version: 1.0  
X-Spam-Status: No, hits=-1.453 required=5  
+tests=AWL,OSDL\_HEADER\_LISTID\_KNOWN,OSDL\_HEADER\_SUBJECT\_BRACKETED  
X-Spam-Checker-Version: SpamAssassin 2.63-osdl\_revision\_\_1.119\_\_  
X-MIMEDefang-Filter: osdl\$Revision: 1.176 \$  
Cc: Kirill@smtp.osdl.org, Linux@smtp.osdl.org, containers@lists.osdl.org,  
Paul Menage <menage@google.com>,  
List <linux-kernel@vger.kernel.org>  
X-BeenThere: containers@lists.osdl.org  
X-Mailman-Version: 2.1.8  
Precedence: list  
List-Id: Linux Containers <containers.lists.osdl.org>  
List-Unsubscribe: <<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>>,  
<<mailto:containers-request@lists.osdl.org?subject=unsubscribe>>  
List-Archive: <<http://lists.osdl.org/pipermail/containers>>  
List-Post: <<mailto:containers@lists.osdl.org>>  
List-Help: <<mailto:containers-request@lists.osdl.org?subject=help>>  
List-Subscribe: <<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>>,  
<<mailto:containers-request@lists.osdl.org?subject=subscribe>>  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable  
Sender: containers-bounces@lists.osdl.org  
Errors-To: containers-bounces@lists.osdl.org  
Received-SPF: pass (localhost is always allowed.)  
Status: RO  
X-Status: A  
Content-Length: 854  
Lines: 27

-8<-----

> > best,  
> > Herbert  
> >  
>  
> Cheers,  
> Balbir  
>  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
> Containers mailing list  
> Containers@lists.osdl.org  
> <https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [Srivatsa Vaddagiri](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 16:07:07 GMT  
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---

On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 06:41:05PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> > right, but atomic ops have much less impact on most  
> > architectures than locks :)  
>  
> Right. But atomic\_add\_unless() is slower as it is  
> essentially a loop. See my previous letter in this sub-thread.

If I am not mistaken, you shouldn't loop in normal cases, which means  
it boils down to a atomic\_read() + atomic\_cmpxch()

--

Regards,  
vatsa

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 16:32:54 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 06:41:05PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

> >>> PS: atomic\_add\_unless() didn't exist back then  
> >>> (at least I think so) but that might be an option  
> >>> too ...  
> >> I think as far as having this discussion if you can remove that race  
> >> people will be more willing to talk about what vserver does.  
> >  
> > well, shouldn't be a big deal to brush that patch up  
> > (if somebody actually \_is\_ interested)  
> >  
> >> That said anything that uses locks or atomic operations (finer grained  
> >> locks) because of the cache line ping pong is going to have scaling  
> >> issues on large boxes.  
> >

> > right, but atomic ops have much less impact on most  
> > architectures than locks :)  
>  
> Right. But atomic\_add\_unless() is slower as it is  
> essentially a loop. See my previous letter in this sub-thread.

fine, nobody actually uses atomic\_add\_unless(), or am I  
missing something?

using two locks will be slower than using a single  
lock, adding a loop which counts from 0 to 100 will  
eat up some cpu, so what? don't do it :)

> >> So in that sense anything short of per cpu variables sucks at scale.  
> >> That said I would much rather get a simple correct version without the  
> >> complexity of per cpu counters, before we optimize the counters that  
> >> much.  
> >  
> > actually I thought about per cpu counters quite a lot, and  
> > we (Llinux-VServer) use them for accounting, but please  
> > tell me how you use per cpu structures for implementing  
> > limits  
>  
> Did you ever look at how get\_empty\_filp() works?  
> I agree, that this is not a "strict" limit, but it  
> limits the usage wit some "precision".  
>  
> /\* off-the-topic \*/ Herbert, you've lost Balbir again:  
> In this sub-thread some letters up Eric wrote a letter with  
> Balbir in Cc:. The next reply from you doesn't include him.

I can happily add him to every email I reply to, but he  
definitely isn't removed by my mailer (as I already stated,  
it might be the mailing list which does this), fact is, the  
email arrives here without him in the cc, so a reply does  
not contain it either ...

best,  
Herbert

---

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Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core

---

Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 17:05:33 GMT

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---

On Tue, 2007-03-13 at 03:48 -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

> If we use a physical zone-based containment scheme: fake-numa,  
> variable-sized zones, etc then it all becomes moot. You set up a container  
> which has 1.5GB of physical memory then toss processes into it. As that  
> process set increases in size it will toss out stray pages which shouldn't  
> be there, then it will start reclaiming and swapping out its own pages and  
> eventually it'll get an oom-killing.

I was just reading through the (comprehensive) thread about this from last week, so forgive me if I missed some of it. The idea is really tempting, precisely because I don't think anyone really wants to have to screw with the reclaim logic.

I'm just brain-dumping here, hoping that somebody has already thought through some of this stuff. It's not a bitch-fest, I promise. :)

How do we determine what is shared, and goes into the shared zones? Once we've allocated a page, it's too late because we already picked. Do we just assume all page cache is shared? Base it on filesystem, mount, ...? Mount seems the most logical to me, that a sysadmin would have to set up a container's fs, anyway, and will likely be doing special things to shared data, anyway (r/o bind mounts :).

There's a conflict between the resize granularity of the zones, and the storage space their lookup consumes. We'd want a container to have a limited ability to fill up memory with stuff like the dcache, so we'd appear to need to put the dentries inside the software zone. But, that gets us to our inability to evict arbitrary dentries. After a while, would containers tend to pin an otherwise empty zone into place? We could resize it, but what is the cost of keeping zones that can be resized down to a small enough size that we don't mind keeping it there? We could merge those "orphaned" zones back into the shared zone. Were there any requirements about physical contiguity? What about minimum zone sizes?

If we really do bind a set of processes strongly to a set of memory on a set of nodes, then those really do become its home NUMA nodes. If the CPUs there get overloaded, running it elsewhere will continue to grab pages from the home. Would this basically keep us from ever being able to move tasks around a NUMA system?

-- Dave

---

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[Containers@lists.osdl.org](mailto:Containers@lists.osdl.org)

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 17:26:33 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 22:04 -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:

> So these mmapped pages will continue to be shared across all guests. The  
> problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for each shared page".  
>  
> A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest which paged  
> it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is insufficient.

My first worry was that this approach is unfair to the poor bastard that happened to get started up first. If we have a bunch of containerized web servers, the poor guy who starts Apache first will pay the price for keeping it in memory for everybody else.

That said, I think this is naturally worked around. The guy charged unfairly will get reclaim started on himself sooner. This will tend to page out those pages that he was being unfairly charged for. Hopefully, they will eventually get pretty randomly (eventually evenly) spread among all users. We just might want to make sure that we don't allow ptes (or other new references) to be re-established to pages like this when we're trying to reclaim them. Either that, or force the next toucher to take ownership of the thing. But, that kind of arbitrary ownership transfer can't happen if we have rigidly defined boundaries for the containers.

The other concern is that the memory load on the system doesn't come from the first user ("the guy who paged it in"). The long-term load comes from "the guy who keeps using it." The best way to exemplify this is somebody who read(s) a page in, followed by another guy mmap()ing the same page. The guy who did the read will get charged, and the mmap()er will get a free ride. We could probably get an idea when this kind of stuff is happening by comparing page->count and page->\_mapcount, but it certainly wouldn't be conclusive. But, does this kind of nonsense even happen in practice?

-- Dave

---

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---



Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Alan Cox](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 19:09:31 GMT  
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---

> stuff is happening by comparing page->count and page->\_mapcount, but it  
> certainly wouldn't be conclusive. But, does this kind of nonsense even  
> happen in practice?

"Is it useful for me as a bad guy to make it happen ?"

Alan

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 20:28:26 GMT  
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---

On Tue, 2007-03-13 at 19:09 +0000, Alan Cox wrote:

> > stuff is happening by comparing page->count and page->\_mapcount, but it  
> > certainly wouldn't be conclusive. But, does this kind of nonsense even  
> > happen in practice?  
>  
> "Is it useful for me as a bad guy to make it happen ?"

A very fine question. ;)

To exploit this, you'd need to:

1. need to access common data with another user
2. be patient enough to wait
3. determine when one of those users had actually pulled  
a page in from disk, which sys\_mincore() can do, right?

I guess that might be a decent reason to not charge the guy who brings  
the page in for the page's entire lifetime.

So, unless we can change page ownership after it has been allocated,  
anyone accessing shared data can get around resource limits if they are  
patient.

-- Dave

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code

Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 03:51:37 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:

>

>

>>Eric W. Biederman wrote:

>>

>>>First touch page ownership does not guarantee give me anything useful

>>>for knowing if I can run my application or not. Because of page

>>>sharing my application might run inside the rss limit only because

>>>I got lucky and happened to share a lot of pages with another running

>>>application. If the next I run and it isn't running my application

>>>will fail. That is ridiculous.

>>

>>Let's be practical here, what you're asking is basically impossible.

>>

>>Unless by deterministic you mean that it never enters the a non

>>trivial syscall, in which case, you just want to know about maximum

>>RSS of the process, which we already account).

>

>

> Not per process I want this on a group of processes, and yes that

> is all I want just. I just want accounting of the maximum RSS of

> a group of processes and then the mechanism to limit that maximum rss.

Well don't you just sum up the maximum for each process?

Or do you want to only count shared pages inside a container once,  
or something difficult like that?

>>>I don't want sharing between vservers/VE/containers to affect how many

>>>pages I can have mapped into my processes at once.

>>

>>You seem to want total isolation. You could use virtualization?

>

>

> No. I don't want the meaning of my rss limit to be affected by what

> other processes are doing. We have constraints of how many resources

> the box actually has. But I don't want accounting so sloppy that

> processes outside my group of processes can artificially

> lower my rss value, which magically raises my rss limit.

So what are you going to do about all the shared caches and slabs inside the kernel?

>>It is basically handwaving anyway. The only approach I've seen with  
>>a sane (not perfect, but good) way of accounting memory use is this  
>>one. If you care to define "proper", then we could discuss that.  
>  
>  
> I will agree that this patchset is probably in the right general ballpark.  
> But the fact that pages are assigned exactly one owner is pure non-sense.  
> We can do better. That is all I am asking for someone to at least attempt  
> to actually account for the rss of a group of processes and get the numbers  
> right when we have shared pages, between different groups of  
> processes. We have the data structures to support this with rmap.

Well rmap only supports mapped, userspace pages.

> Let me describe the situation where I think the accounting in the  
> patchset goes totally wonky.  
>  
>  
> Gcc as I recall maps the pages it is compiling with mmap.  
> If in a single kernel tree I do:  
> make -jN O=../compile1 &  
> make -jN O=../compile2 &  
>  
> But set it up so that the two compiles are in different rss groups.  
> If I run the concurrently they will use the same files at the same  
> time and most likely because of the first touch rss limit rule even  
> if I have a draconian rss limit the compiles will both be able to  
> complete and finish. However if I run either of them alone if I  
> use the most draconian rss limit I can that allows both compiles to  
> finish I won't be able to compile a single kernel tree.

Yeah it is not perfect. Fortunately, there is no perfect solution, so we don't have to be too upset about that.

And strangely, this example does not go outside the parameters of what you asked for AFAIKS. In the worst case of one container getting all the shared pages, they will still remain inside their maximum rss limit.

So they might get penalised a bit on reclaim, but maximum rss limits will work fine, and you can (almost) guarantee X amount of memory for a given container, and it will work.

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> However the messed up accounting that doesn't handle sharing between  
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I think it is simplistic.

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<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 06:42:06 GMT  
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---

Nick Piggin wrote:

> Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>> Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:  
>>  
>>  
>>> Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>>>

>>>> First touch page ownership does not guarantee give me anything useful  
>>>> for knowing if I can run my application or not. Because of page  
>>>> sharing my application might run inside the rss limit only because  
>>>> I got lucky and happened to share a lot of pages with another running  
>>>> application. If the next I run and it isn't running my application  
>>>> will fail. That is ridiculous.

>>>  
>>> Let's be practical here, what you're asking is basically impossible.

>>>  
>>> Unless by deterministic you mean that it never enters the a non  
>>> trivial syscall, in which case, you just want to know about maximum  
>>> RSS of the process, which we already account).

>>  
>>  
>> Not per process I want this on a group of processes, and yes that  
>> is all I want just. I just want accounting of the maximum RSS of  
>> a group of processes and then the mechanism to limit that maximum rss.

>  
> Well don't you just sum up the maximum for each process?

>  
> Or do you want to only count shared pages inside a container once,  
> or something difficult like that?

>  
>  
>>>> I don't want sharing between vservers/VE/containers to affect how many  
>>>> pages I can have mapped into my processes at once.

>>>  
>>> You seem to want total isolation. You could use virtualization?

>>  
>>  
>> No. I don't want the meaning of my rss limit to be affected by what  
>> other processes are doing. We have constraints of how many resources  
>> the box actually has. But I don't want accounting so sloppy that  
>> processes outside my group of processes can artificially  
>> lower my rss value, which magically raises my rss limit.

>  
> So what are you going to do about all the shared caches and slabs  
> inside the kernel?

>  
>  
>>> It is basically handwaving anyway. The only approach I've seen with  
>>> a sane (not perfect, but good) way of accounting memory use is this  
>>> one. If you care to define "proper", then we could discuss that.

>>  
>>  
>> I will agree that this patchset is probably in the right general  
>> ballpark.

>> But the fact that pages are assigned exactly one owner is pure non-sense.

>> We can do better. That is all I am asking for someone to at least attempt to actually account for the rss of a group of processes and get the numbers right when we have shared pages, between different groups of processes. We have the data structures to support this with rmap.

>

> Well rmap only supports mapped, userspace pages.

>

>

>> Let me describe the situation where I think the accounting in the patchset goes totally wonky.

>>

>> Gcc as I recall maps the pages it is compiling with mmap.

>> If in a single kernel tree I do:

>> make -jN O=../compile1 &

>> make -jN O=../compile2 &

>>

>> But set it up so that the two compiles are in different rss groups.

>> If I run the concurrently they will use the same files at the same time and most likely because of the first touch rss limit rule even if I have a draconian rss limit the compiles will both be able to complete and finish. However if I run either of them alone if I use the most draconian rss limit I can that allows both compiles to finish I won't be able to compile a single kernel tree.

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When that does happen and if a container hits it limit, with a LRU per-container, if the container is not actually using those pages, they'll get thrown out of that container and get mapped into the container that is using those pages most frequently.

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1. For sharing of nodes
2. Resizing nodes
3. May be more

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NOTE: page cache == unmapped page cache here.

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Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 06:57:55 GMT  
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---

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> Nick Piggin wrote:

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reclaim inefficiencies in corner cases, but things will tend to  
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I don't know that it would be particularly harder than any other first-touch scheme. If one container ends up being charged with too much pagecache, eventually they'll reclaim a bit of it and the pages will get charged to more frequent users.

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I'm not saying that you couldn't `_later_` add something that uses rmap or our current RSS accounting to tweak container-RSS semantics. But isn't it sensible to lay the groundwork first? Get a clear path to something that is good (not perfect), but *\*works\**?

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 07:12:11 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Srivatsa Vaddagiri wrote:

> On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 06:41:05PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:

>>> right, but atomic ops have much less impact on most

>>> architectures than locks :)

>> Right. But `atomic_add_unless()` is slower as it is

>> essentially a loop. See my previous letter in this sub-thread.

>

> If I am not mistaken, you shouldn't loop in normal cases, which means

> it boils down to a `atomic_read()` + `atomic_cmpxch()`

>

>

So does the lock - in a normal case (when it's not heavily contented) it will boil down to `atomic_dec_and_test()`.

Nevertheless, making charge like in this patchset requires two atomic ops with `atomic_xxx` and only

one with spin\_lock()).

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code

Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 07:48:35 GMT

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---

Nick Piggin wrote:

> Balbir Singh wrote:

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>

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Exactly!

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> That said, I don't think this patch is terribly intrusive either.

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Thanks, thats one of our goals, to keep it simple, understandable and  
non-intrusive.

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Vaidy, any comments?

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IBM, ISTL

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Vaidyanathan Srinivas](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 13:25:08 GMT  
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---

Balbir Singh wrote:

> Nick Piggin wrote:

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--Vaidy

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 13:49:07 GMT  
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Vaidyanathan Srinivasan wrote:



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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Vaidyanathan Srinivas](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 14:43:12 GMT  
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---

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> Everyone seems to have a plan ;) I don't read the containers list...

> does everyone still have \*different\* plans, or is any sort of consensus

> being reached?

Consensus? I believe at this point we have a sort of consensus on the base container infrastructure and the need for memory controller to control RSS, pagecache, mlock, kernel memory etc. However the

implementation and approach taken is still being discussed :)

--Vaidy

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code

Posted by [Cedric Le Goater](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 15:37:59 GMT

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---

```
> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/migrate.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/migrate.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
> @@ -134,6 +134,7 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
>  pte_t *ptep, pte;
>  spinlock_t *ptl;
>  unsigned long addr = page_address_in_vma(new, vma);
> + struct page_container *pcont;
>
>  if (addr == -EFAULT)
>    return;
> @@ -157,6 +158,11 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
>    return;
>  }
>
> + if (container_rss_prepare(new, vma, &pcont)) {
> + pte_unmap(ptep);
> + return;
> + }
> +
>  ptl = pte_lockptr(mm, pmd);
>  spin_lock(ptl);
>  pte = *ptep;
> @@ -175,16 +181,19 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
>  set_pte_at(mm, addr, ptep, pte);
>
>  if (PageAnon(new))
> - page_add_anon_rmap(new, vma, addr);
> + page_add_anon_rmap(new, vma, addr, pcont);
>  else
> - page_add_file_rmap(new);
> + page_add_file_rmap(new, pcont);
>
>  /* No need to invalidate - it was non-present before */
>  update_mmu_cache(vma, addr, pte);
```

```

> lazy_mmu_prot_update(pte);
> + pte_unmap_unlock(ptep, ptl);
> + return;
>
> out:
> pte_unmap_unlock(ptep, ptl);
> + container_rss_release(pcont);
> }
>
> /*

```

you missed out an include in mm/migrate.c

cheers,

C.

Signed-off-by: Cedric Le Goater <clg@fr.ibm.com>

---

```

mm/migrate.c | 1 +
1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)

```

Index: 2.6.20/mm/migrate.c

```

=====
--- 2.6.20.orig/mm/migrate.c
+++ 2.6.20/mm/migrate.c
@@ -28,6 +28,7 @@
#include <linux/mempolicy.h>
#include <linux/vmalloc.h>
#include <linux/security.h>
+#include <linux/rss_container.h>

#include "internal.h"

```

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core

Posted by [mel](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 15:38:24 GMT

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On (13/03/07 10:05), Dave Hansen didst pronounce:

```

> On Tue, 2007-03-13 at 03:48 -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:
> > If we use a physical zone-based containment scheme: fake-numa,
> > variable-sized zones, etc then it all becomes moot. You set up a container
> > which has 1.5GB of physial memory then toss processes into it. As that
> > process set increases in size it will toss out stray pages which shouldn't
> > be there, then it will start reclaiming and swapping out its own pages and
> > eventually it'll get an oom-killing.
>
> I was just reading through the (comprehensive) thread about this from

```

> last week, so forgive me if I missed some of it. The idea is really  
> tempting, precisely because I don't think anyone really wants to have to  
> screw with the reclaim logic.  
>  
> I'm just brain-dumping here, hoping that somebody has already thought  
> through some of this stuff. It's not a bitch-fest, I promise. :)  
>  
> How do we determine what is shared, and goes into the shared zones?

Assuming we had a means of creating a zone that was assigned to a container, a second zone for shared data between a set of containers. For shared data, the time the pages are being allocated is at page fault time. At that point, the faulting VMA is known and you also know if it's MAP\_SHARED or not.

The caller allocating the page would select (or create) a zonelist that is appropriate for the container. For shared mappings, it would be one zone - the shared zone for the set. For private mappings, it would be one zone - the shared zone for the set.

For overcommit, the allowable zones for overcommit could be included. Allowing overcommit opens the possibility for containers to interfere with each other but I'm guessing that if overcommit is enabled, the administrator is willing to live with that interference.

This has the awkward possibility of having two "shared" zones for two container sets and one file that needs sharing. Similarly, there is a possibility for having a container that has no shared zone and faulted in shared data. In that case, the page ends up in the first faulting container set and it's too bad it got "charged" for the page use on behalf of other containers. I'm not sure there is a sane way of accounting this situation fairly.

I think that it's important to note that once data is shared between containers at all that they have the potential to interfere with each other (by reclaiming within the shared zone for example).

> Once we've allocated a page, it's too late because we already picked.

We'd choose the appropriate zonelist before faulting. Once allocated, the page stays there.

> Do we just assume all page cache is shared? Base it on filesystem,  
> mount, ...? Mount seems the most logical to me, that a sysadmin would  
> have to set up a container's fs, anyway, and will likely be doing  
> special things to shared data, anyway (r/o bind mounts :).  
>

I have no strong feelings here. To me, it's "who do I assign this fake zone to?" I guess you would have at least one zone per container mount

for private data.

- > There's a conflict between the resize granularity of the zones, and the
- > storage space their lookup consumes. We'd want a container to have a
- > limited ability to fill up memory with stuff like the dcache, so we'd
- > appear to need to put the dentries inside the software zone. But, that
- > gets us to our inability to evict arbitrary dentries.

Stuff like shrinking dentry caches is already pretty course-grained. Last I looked, we couldn't even shrink within a specific node, let alone a zone or a specific dentry. This is a separate problem.

- > After a while,
- > would containers tend to pin an otherwise empty zone into place? We
- > could resize it, but what is the cost of keeping zones that can be
- > resized down to a small enough size that we don't mind keeping it there?
- > We could merge those "orphaned" zones back into the shared zone.

Merging "orphaned" zones back into the "main" zone would seem a sensible choice.

- > Were there any requirements about physical contiguity?

For the lookup to software zone to be efficient, it would be easiest to have them as `MAX_ORDER_NR_PAGES` contiguous. This would avoid having to break the existing assumptions in the buddy allocator about `MAX_ORDER_NR_PAGES` always being in the same zone.

- > What about minimum
- > zone sizes?
- >

`MAX_ORDER_NR_PAGES` would be the minimum zone size.

- > If we really do bind a set of processes strongly to a set of memory on a
- > set of nodes, then those really do become its home NUMA nodes. If the
- > CPUs there get overloaded, running it elsewhere will continue to grab
- > pages from the home. Would this basically keep us from ever being able
- > to move tasks around a NUMA system?
- >

Moving the tasks around would not be easy. It would require a new zone to be created based on the new NUMA node and all the data migrated. hmm

--

Mel Gorman  
Part-time Phd Student  
University of Limerick

Linux Technology Center  
IBM Dublin Software Lab

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [xemul](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 15:43:37 GMT  
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---

Cedric Le Goater wrote:

```
>> --- linux-2.6.20.orig/mm/migrate.c 2007-02-04 21:44:54.000000000 +0300
>> +++ linux-2.6.20-0/mm/migrate.c 2007-03-06 13:33:28.000000000 +0300
>> @@ -134,6 +134,7 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
>>  pte_t *ptep, pte;
>>  spinlock_t *ptl;
>>  unsigned long addr = page_address_in_vma(new, vma);
>> + struct page_container *pcont;
>>
>>  if (addr == -EFAULT)
>>    return;
>> @@ -157,6 +158,11 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
>>    return;
>>  }
>>
>> + if (container_rss_prepare(new, vma, &pcont)) {
>> +  pte_unmap(ptep);
>> +  return;
>> + }
>> +
>>  ptl = pte_lockptr(mm, pmd);
>>  spin_lock(ptl);
>>  pte = *ptep;
>> @@ -175,16 +181,19 @@ static void remove_migration_pte(struct
>>  set_pte_at(mm, addr, ptep, pte);
>>
>>  if (PageAnon(new))
>> -  page_add_anon_rmap(new, vma, addr);
>> +  page_add_anon_rmap(new, vma, addr, pcont);
>>  else
>> -  page_add_file_rmap(new);
>> +  page_add_file_rmap(new, pcont);
>>
>>  /* No need to invalidate - it was non-present before */
>>  update_mmu_cache(vma, addr, pte);
>>  lazy_mmu_prot_update(pte);
>> + pte_unmap_unlock(ptep, ptl);
>> + return;
```

```
>>
>> out:
>> pte_unmap_unlock(ptep, ptl);
>> + container_rss_release(pcont);
>> }
>>
>> /*
>
> you missed out an include in mm/migrate.c
>
> cheers,
```

Thanks! :)

```
> C.
> Signed-off-by: Cedric Le Goater <clg@fr.ibm.com>
> ---
> mm/migrate.c | 1 +
> 1 file changed, 1 insertion(+)
>
> Index: 2.6.20/mm/migrate.c
> =====
> --- 2.6.20.orig/mm/migrate.c
> +++ 2.6.20/mm/migrate.c
> @@ -28,6 +28,7 @@
> #include <linux/mempolicy.h>
> #include <linux/vmalloc.h>
> #include <linux/security.h>
> +#include <linux/rss_container.h>
>
> #include "internal.h"
>
> -
> To unsubscribe from this list: send the line "unsubscribe linux-kernel" in
> the body of a message to majordomo@vger.kernel.org
> More majordomo info at http://vger.kernel.org/majordomo-info.html
> Please read the FAQ at http://www.tux.org/lkml/
>
```

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [dev](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 16:16:26 GMT  
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---

Nick,

```
>>Accounting becomes easy if we have a container pointer in struct page.
>> This can form base ground for building controllers since any memory
```



>>related controller would be interested in tracking pages. However we  
>>still want to evaluate if we can build them without bloating the  
>>struct page. Pagecache controller (2) we can implement with container  
>>pointer in struct page or container pointer in struct address space.

>

>

> The thing is, you have to worry about actually getting anything in the  
> kernel rather than trying to do fancy stuff.

>

> The approaches I have seen that don't have a struct page pointer, do  
> intrusive things like try to put hooks everywhere throughout the kernel  
> where a userspace task can cause an allocation (and of course end up  
> missing many, so they aren't secure anyway)... and basically just  
> nasty stuff that will never get merged.

User beancounters patch has got through all these...

The approach where each charged object has a pointer to the owner container,  
who has charged it - is the most easy/clean way to handle  
all the problems with dynamic context change, races, etc.  
and 1 pointer in page struct is just 0.1% overhead.

> Struct page overhead really isn't bad. Sure, nobody who doesn't use  
> containers will want to turn it on, but unless you're using a big PAE  
> system you're actually unlikely to notice.

big PAE doesn't make any difference IMHO

(until struct pages are not created for non-present physical memory areas)

> But again, I'll say the node-container approach of course does avoid  
> this nicely (because we already can get the node from the page). So  
> definitely that approach needs to be discredited before going with this  
> one.

But it lacks some other features:

1. page can't be shared easily with another container
2. shared page can't be accounted honestly to containers  
as  $\text{fraction} = \text{PAGE\_SIZE} / \text{containers-using-it}$
3. It doesn't help accounting of kernel memory structures.  
e.g. in OpenVZ we use exactly the same pointer on the page  
to track which container owns it, e.g. pages used for page  
tables are accounted this way.
4. I guess container destroy requires destroy of memory zone,  
which means write out of dirty data. Which doesn't sound  
good for me as well.
5. memory reclamation in case of global memory shortage  
becomes a tricky/unfair task.
6. You cannot overcommit. AFAIU, the memory should be granted  
to node exclusive usage and cannot be used by by another containers,

even if it is unused. This is not an option for us.

>>Building on this patchset is much simple and and we hope the bloat in  
>>struct page will be compensated by the benefits in memory controllers  
>>in terms of performance and simplicity.  
>>  
>>Adding too many controllers and accounting parameters to start with  
>>will make the patch too big and complex. As Balbir mentioned, we have  
>>a plan and we shall add new control parameters in stages.  
>  
> Everyone seems to have a plan ;) I don't read the containers list...  
> does everyone still have \*different\* plans, or is any sort of consensus  
> being reached?

hope we'll have it soon :)

Thanks,  
Kirill

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [mel](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 16:47:39 GMT  
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On (13/03/07 10:26), Dave Hansen didst pronounce:  
> On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 22:04 -0800, Andrew Morton wrote:  
> > So these mmapped pages will continue to be shared across all guests. The  
> > problem boils down to "which guest(s) get charged for each shared page".  
> >  
> > A simple and obvious and easy-to-implement answer is "the guest which paged  
> > it in". I think we should firstly explain why that is insufficient.  
>  
> My first worry was that this approach is unfair to the poor bastard that  
> happened to get started up first. If we have a bunch of containerized  
> web servers, the poor guy who starts Apache first will pay the price for  
> keeping it in memory for everybody else.  
>

I think it would be very difficult in practice to exploit a situation where  
an evil guy forces another container to hold shared pages that the container  
is not using themselves.

> That said, I think this is naturally worked around. The guy charged

- > unfairly will get reclaim started on himself sooner. This will tend to
- > page out those pages that he was being unfairly charged for.

Exactly. That said, the "poor bastard" will have to be pretty determined to page out because the pages will appear active but it should happen eventually especially if the container is under pressure.

- > Hopefully,
- > they will eventually get pretty randomly (eventually evenly) spread
- > among all users. We just might want to make sure that we don't allow
- > ptes (or other new references) to be re-established to pages like this
- > when we're trying to reclaim them.

I don't think anything like that currently exists. It's almost the opposite of what the current reclaim algorithm would be trying to do because it has no notion of containers. Currently, the idea of paging out something in active use is a mad plan.

Maybe what would be needed is something where the shared page is unmapped from page tables and the next faulter must copy the page instead of reestablishing the PTE. The data copy is less than ideal but it'd be cheaper than reclaim and help the accounting. However, it would require a counter to track "how many processes in this container have mapped the page".

- > Either that, or force the next
- > toucher to take ownership of the thing. But, that kind of arbitrary
- > ownership transfer can't happen if we have rigidly defined boundaries
- > for the containers.
- >

Right, charging the next toucher would not work in the zones case. The next toucher would establish a PTE to the page which is still in the zone of the container being unfairly charged. It would need to be paged out or copied.

- > The other concern is that the memory load on the system doesn't come
- > from the first user ("the guy who paged it in"). The long-term load
- > comes from "the guy who keeps using it." The best way to exemplify this
- > is somebody who read()s a page in, followed by another guy mmap()ing the
- > same page. The guy who did the read will get charged, and the mmap()er
- > will get a free ride. We could probably get an idea when this kind of
- > stuff is happening by comparing page->count and page->\_mapcount, but it
- > certainly wouldn't be conclusive. But, does this kind of nonsense even
- > happen in practice?
- >

I think this problem would happen with other accounting mechanisms as well. However, it's more pronounced with zones because there are harder limits on memory usage.

If the counter existed to track "how many processes in this container have mapped the page", the problem of free-riders could be investigated by comparing `_mapcount` to the container count. That would determine if additional steps are required or not to force another container to assume the accounting cost.

--

Mel Gorman

Part-time Phd Student

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Linux Technology Center

IBM Dublin Software Lab

---

Containers mailing list

[Containers@lists.osdl.org](mailto:Containers@lists.osdl.org)

<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core

Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Wed, 14 Mar 2007 20:42:18 GMT

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On Wed, 2007-03-14 at 15:38 +0000, Mel Gorman wrote:

> On (13/03/07 10:05), Dave Hansen didst pronounce:

> > How do we determine what is shared, and goes into the shared zones?

>

> Assuming we had a means of creating a zone that was assigned to a container,

> a second zone for shared data between a set of containers. For shared data,

> the time the pages are being allocated is at page fault time. At that point,

> the faulting VMA is known and you also know if it's `MAP_SHARED` or not.

Well, but `MAP_SHARED` does not necessarily mean shared outside of the container, right? Somebody wishing to get around resource limits could just `MAP_SHARED` any data they wished to use, and get it into the shared area before their initial use, right?

How do normal `read/write()`s fit into this?

> > There's a conflict between the resize granularity of the zones, and the

> > storage space their lookup consumes. We'd want a container to have a

> > limited ability to fill up memory with stuff like the dcache, so we'd

> > appear to need to put the dentries inside the software zone. But, that

> > gets us to our inability to evict arbitrary dentries.

>

> Stuff like shrinking dentry caches is already pretty course-grained.

> Last I looked, we couldn't even shrink within a specific node, let alone

> a zone or a specific dentry. This is a separate problem.

I shouldn't have used dentries as an example. I'm just saying that if we end up (or can end up with) with a whole ton of these software zones,

we might have troubles storing them. I would imagine the issue would come immediately from lack of page->flags to address lots of them.

> > After a while,  
> > would containers tend to pin an otherwise empty zone into place? We  
> > could resize it, but what is the cost of keeping zones that can be  
> > resized down to a small enough size that we don't mind keeping it there?  
> > We could merge those "orphaned" zones back into the shared zone.  
>  
> Merging "orphaned" zones back into the "main" zone would seem a sensible  
> choice.

OK, but merging wouldn't be possible if they're not physically contiguous. I guess this could be worked around by just calling it a shared zone, no matter where it is physically.

> > Were there any requirements about physical contiguity?  
>  
> For the lookup to software zone to be efficient, it would be easiest to have  
> them as MAX\_ORDER\_NR\_PAGES contiguous. This would avoid having to break the  
> existing assumptions in the buddy allocator about MAX\_ORDER\_NR\_PAGES  
> always being in the same zone.

I was mostly wondering about zones spanning other zones. We `_do_` support this today, and it might make quite a bit more merging possible.

> > If we really do bind a set of processes strongly to a set of memory on a  
> > set of nodes, then those really do become its home NUMA nodes. If the  
> > CPUs there get overloaded, running it elsewhere will continue to grab  
> > pages from the home. Would this basically keep us from ever being able  
> > to move tasks around a NUMA system?  
>  
> Moving the tasks around would not be easy. It would require a new zone  
> to be created based on the new NUMA node and all the data migrated. hmm

I know we `_try_` to avoid this these days, but I'm not sure how taking it away as an option will affect anything.

-- Dave

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code

---

Kirill Korotaev wrote:

>>The approaches I have seen that don't have a struct page pointer, do  
>>intrusive things like try to put hooks everywhere throughout the kernel  
>>where a userspace task can cause an allocation (and of course end up  
>>missing many, so they aren't secure anyway)... and basically just  
>>nasty stuff that will never get merged.

>

>

> User beancounters patch has got through all these...  
> The approach where each charged object has a pointer to the owner container,  
> who has charged it - is the most easy/clean way to handle  
> all the problems with dynamic context change, races, etc.  
> and 1 pointer in page struct is just 0.1% overhead.

The pointer in struct page approach is a decent one, which I have liked since this whole container effort came up. IIRC Linus and Alan also thought that was a reasonable way to go.

I haven't reviewed the rest of the beancounters patch since looking at it quite a few months ago... I probably don't have time for a good review at the moment, but I should eventually.

>>Struct page overhead really isn't bad. Sure, nobody who doesn't use  
>>containers will want to turn it on, but unless you're using a big PAE  
>>system you're actually unlikely to notice.

>

>

> big PAE doesn't make any difference IMHO  
> (until struct pages are not created for non-present physical memory areas)

The issue is just that struct pages use low memory, which is a really scarce commodity on PAE. One more pointer in the struct page means 64MB less lowmem.

But PAE is crap anyway. We've already made enough concessions in the kernel to support it. I agree: struct page overhead is not really significant. The benefits of simplicity seems to outweigh the downside.

>>But again, I'll say the node-container approach of course does avoid  
>>this nicely (because we already can get the node from the page). So  
>>definitely that approach needs to be discredited before going with this  
>>one.

>

>

> But it lacks some other features:

> 1. page can't be shared easily with another container

I think they could be shared. You allocate `_new_` pages from your own node, but you can definitely use existing pages allocated to other nodes.

> 2. shared page can't be accounted honestly to containers  
> as `fraction=PAGE_SIZE/containers-using-it`

Yes there would be some accounting differences. I think it is hard to say exactly what containers are "using" what page anyway, though. What do you say about unmapped pages? Kernel allocations? etc.

> 3. It doesn't help accounting of kernel memory structures.  
> e.g. in OpenVZ we use exactly the same pointer on the page  
> to track which container owns it, e.g. pages used for page  
> tables are accounted this way.

?

`page_to_nid(page) ~= container that owns it.`

> 4. I guess container destroy requires destroy of memory zone,  
> which means write out of dirty data. Which doesn't sound  
> good for me as well.

I haven't looked at any implementation, but I think it is fine for the zone to stay around.

> 5. memory reclamation in case of global memory shortage  
> becomes a tricky/unfair task.

I don't understand why? You can much more easily target a specific container for reclaim with this approach than with others (because you have an lru per container).

> 6. You cannot overcommit. AFAIU, the memory should be granted  
> to node exclusive usage and cannot be used by by another containers,  
> even if it is unused. This is not an option for us.

I'm not sure about that. If you have a larger number of nodes, then you could assign more free nodes to a container on demand. But I think there would definitely be less flexibility with nodes...

I don't know... and seeing as I don't really know where the google guys are going with it, I won't misrepresent their work any further ;)

>>Everyone seems to have a plan ;) I don't read the containers list...

>>does everyone still have \*different\* plans, or is any sort of consensus  
>>being reached?  
>  
>  
> hope we'll have it soon :)

Good luck ;)

--

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Containers mailing list

[Containers@lists.osdl.org](mailto:Containers@lists.osdl.org)

<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 05:44:27 GMT

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Nick Piggin wrote:

> Kirill Korotaev wrote:

>

>>> The approaches I have seen that don't have a struct page pointer, do  
>>> intrusive things like try to put hooks everywhere throughout the kernel  
>>> where a userspace task can cause an allocation (and of course end up  
>>> missing many, so they aren't secure anyway)... and basically just  
>>> nasty stuff that will never get merged.

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>>

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>> all the problems with dynamic context change, races, etc.

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>

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> liked since this whole container effort came up. IIRC Linus and Alan  
> also thought that was a reasonable way to go.

>

> I haven't reviewed the rest of the beancounters patch since looking  
> at it quite a few months ago... I probably don't have time for a  
> good review at the moment, but I should eventually.

>



This patch is not really beancounters.

1. It uses the containers framework
2. It is similar to my RSS controller (<http://lkml.org/lkml/2007/2/26/8>)

I would say that beancounters are changing and evolving.

>>> Struct page overhead really isn't bad. Sure, nobody who doesn't use  
>>> containers will want to turn it on, but unless you're using a big PAE  
>>> system you're actually unlikely to notice.

>>

>>

>> big PAE doesn't make any difference IMHO

>> (until struct pages are not created for non-present physical memory  
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> The issue is just that struct pages use low memory, which is a really  
> scarce commodity on PAE. One more pointer in the struct page means  
> 64MB less lowmem.

>

> But PAE is crap anyway. We've already made enough concessions in the  
> kernel to support it. I agree: struct page overhead is not really  
> significant. The benefits of simplicity seems to outweigh the downside.

>

>>> But again, I'll say the node-container approach of course does avoid  
>>> this nicely (because we already can get the node from the page). So  
>>> definitely that approach needs to be discredited before going with this  
>>> one.

>>

>>

>> But it lacks some other features:

>> 1. page can't be shared easily with another container

>

> I think they could be shared. You allocate `_new_` pages from your own  
> node, but you can definitely use existing pages allocated to other  
> nodes.

>

>> 2. shared page can't be accounted honestly to containers

>> as `fraction=PAGE_SIZE/containers-using-it`

>

> Yes there would be some accounting differences. I think it is hard  
> to say exactly what containers are "using" what page anyway, though.  
> What do you say about unmapped pages? Kernel allocations? etc.

>

>> 3. It doesn't help accounting of kernel memory structures.

>> e.g. in OpenVZ we use exactly the same pointer on the page

>> to track which container owns it, e.g. pages used for page

>> tables are accounted this way.

>  
> ?  
> page\_to\_nid(page) ~= container that owns it.  
>  
>> 4. I guess container destroy requires destroy of memory zone,  
>> which means write out of dirty data. Which doesn't sound  
>> good for me as well.  
>  
> I haven't looked at any implementation, but I think it is fine for  
> the zone to stay around.  
>  
>> 5. memory reclamation in case of global memory shortage  
>> becomes a tricky/unfair task.  
>  
> I don't understand why? You can much more easily target a specific  
> container for reclaim with this approach than with others (because  
> you have an lru per container).  
>

Yes, but we break the global LRU. With these RSS patches, reclaim not triggered by containers still uses the global LRU, by using nodes, we would have lost the global LRU.

>> 6. You cannot overcommit. AFAIU, the memory should be granted  
>> to node exclusive usage and cannot be used by by another containers,  
>> even if it is unused. This is not an option for us.  
>  
> I'm not sure about that. If you have a larger number of nodes, then  
> you could assign more free nodes to a container on demand. But I  
> think there would definitely be less flexibility with nodes...  
>  
> I don't know... and seeing as I don't really know where the google  
> guys are going with it, I won't misrepresent their work any further ;)  
>  
>  
>>> Everyone seems to have a plan ;) I don't read the containers list...  
>>> does everyone still have \*different\* plans, or is any sort of consensus  
>>> being reached?  
>>  
>>  
>> hope we'll have it soon :)  
>  
> Good luck ;)  
>

I think we have made some forward progress on the consensus.

--

Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

---

Containers mailing list  
Containers@lists.osdl.org  
<https://lists.osdl.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 1/7] Resource counters  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Thu, 15 Mar 2007 16:51:46 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Pavel Emelianov <xemul@sw.ru> writes:

> Srivatsa Vaddagiri wrote:  
>> On Tue, Mar 13, 2007 at 06:41:05PM +0300, Pavel Emelianov wrote:  
>>>> right, but atomic ops have much less impact on most  
>>>> architectures than locks :)  
>>> Right. But atomic\_add\_unless() is slower as it is  
>>> essentially a loop. See my previous letter in this sub-thread.  
>>  
>> If I am not mistaken, you shouldn't loop in normal cases, which means  
>> it boils down to a atomic\_read() + atomic\_cmpxch()  
>>  
>>  
>  
> So does the lock - in a normal case (when it's not  
> heavily contented) it will boil down to atomic\_dec\_and\_test().  
>  
> Nevertheless, making charge like in this patchset  
> requires two atomic ops with atomic\_xxx and only  
> one with spin\_lock().

To be very clear. If you care about optimization cache lines and lock hold times (to keep contention down) are the important things.

With spin locks you have to be a little more careful to put them on the same cache line as your data and to keep should hold times short. With atomic ops you get that automatically.

There is really no significant advantage in either approach. The number of atomic ops doesn't matter. You bring in the cache line and manipulate it. The expensive part is acquiring the cache line exclusively. This is expensive even if things are never contended but there are many users.

Sorry for the rant, but I just wanted to set the record straight.  
spin\_locks vs atomic ops is a largely meaningless debate.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Fri, 16 Mar 2007 00:55:45 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Alan Cox <[alan@lxorguk.ukuu.org.uk](mailto:alan@lxorguk.ukuu.org.uk)> writes:

>> stuff is happening by comparing page->count and page->\_mapcount, but it  
>> certainly wouldn't be conclusive. But, does this kind of nonsense even  
>> happen in practice?  
>  
> "Is it useful for me as a bad guy to make it happen ?"

To create a DOS attack.

- Allocate some memory you know your victim will want in the future, (shared libraries and the like).
- Wait until your victim is using the memory you allocated.
- Terminate your memory resource group.
- Victim is pushed over memory limits by your exiting.
- Victim can no longer allocate memory
- Victim dies

It's not quite that easy unless your victim calls `mlockall(MCL_FUTURE)`, but the potential is clearly there.

Am I missing something? Or is this fundamental to any first touch scenario?

I just know I have problems with first touch because it is darn hard to reason about.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Fri, 16 Mar 2007 16:31:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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On Thu, 2007-03-15 at 18:55 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> To create a DOS attack.  
>  
> - Allocate some memory you know your victim will want in the future,  
> (shared libraries and the like).  
> - Wait until your victim is using the memory you allocated.  
> - Terminate your memory resource group.  
> - Victim is pushed over memory limits by your exiting.  
> - Victim can no longer allocate memory  
> - Victim dies  
>  
> It's not quite that easy unless your victim calls mlockall(MCL\_FUTURE),  
> but the potential is clearly there.  
>  
> Am I missing something? Or is this fundamental to any first touch scenario?  
>  
> I just know I have problems with first touch because it is darn hard to  
> reason about.

I think it's fundamental to any case where two containers share the use  
of the page, but either one can be charged but does not receive a  
full charge for it.

I don't think it's uniquely associated with first-touch schemes.

The software zones approach where there would be a set of "shared" zones  
would not have this problem, because any sharing would have to occur on  
data on which neither one was being charged.

<http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Fri, 16 Mar 2007 18:54:09 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Dave Hansen <[hansenc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansenc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

> On Thu, 2007-03-15 at 18:55 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>> To create a DOS attack.  
>>  
>> - Allocate some memory you know your victim will want in the future,  
>> (shared libraries and the like).  
>> - Wait until your victim is using the memory you allocated.  
>> - Terminate your memory resource group.  
>> - Victim is pushed over memory limits by your exiting.  
>> - Victim can no longer allocate memory  
>> - Victim dies  
>>  
>> It's not quite that easy unless your victim calls mlockall(MCL\_FUTURE),  
>> but the potential is clearly there.  
>>  
>> Am I missing something? Or is this fundamental to any first touch scenario?  
>>  
>> I just know I have problems with first touch because it is darn hard to  
>> reason about.  
>  
> I think it's fundamental to any case where two containers share the use  
> of the page, but either one `_can_` be charged but does not receive a  
> `_full_` charge for it.

Reasonable.

> I don't think it's uniquely associated with first-touch schemes.  
>  
> The software zones approach where there would be a set of "shared" zones  
> would not have this problem, because any sharing would have to occur on  
> data on which neither one was being charged.

True. The "shared" zones approach would simply have the problem that it would make sharing hard and thus reduce the effectiveness of the page cache.

The "shared" zone approach also would seem to interact in very weird ways with real NUMA and memory hotplug or process migration. The fact that we actually have to care about the real memory size on the machine makes me look at it strange.

Zones should definitely be penalized in some category for the reduction in efficiency of the page cache. It took us decades to learn that the most efficient page cache was one that could resize and reallocate memory on demand based on the current usage. Zones and possibly anything else with the concept of page ownership seems to be trying to be ignoring that wisdom.

> <http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>

Looking at your page, and I'm too lazy to figure out how to update it  
I have a couple of comments.

- Why do limits have to apply to the unmapped page cache?
- Could you mention proper multi process RSS limits.  
(I.e. we count the number of pages each group of processes have mapped  
and limit that).  
It is the same basic idea as partial page ownership, but instead of  
page ownership you just count how many pages each group is using and  
strictly limit that. There is no page owner ship or partial charges.  
The overhead is just walking the rmap list at map and unmap time to  
see if this is the first users in the container. No additional kernel  
data structures are needed.

Eric

---

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---

---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Fri, 16 Mar 2007 19:46:52 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Fri, 2007-03-16 at 12:54 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:  
> > <http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>

> Looking at your page, and I'm too lazy to figure out how to update it  
> I have a couple of comments.

You just need to create an account by clicking the Login button. It  
lets you edit things after that. But, I'd be happy to put anything in  
there you see fit.

> - Why do limits have to apply to the unmapped page cache?

To me, it is just because it consumes memory. Unmapped cache is, of  
couse, much more easily reclaimed than mapped files, but it still  
fundamentally causes pressure on the VM.

To me, a process sitting there doing constant reads of 10 pages has the  
same overhead to the VM as a process sitting there with a 10 page file  
mmapped, and reading that.

- > - Could you mention proper multi process RSS limits.
- > (I.e. we count the number of pages each group of processes have mapped
- > and limit that).
- > It is the same basic idea as partial page ownership, but instead of
- > page ownership you just count how many pages each group is using and
- > strictly limit that. There is no page owner ship or partial charges.
- > The overhead is just walking the rmap list at map and unmap time to
- > see if this is the first users in the container. No additional kernel
- > data structures are needed.

I've tried to capture this. Let me know what else you think it needs.

<http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>

-- Dave

---

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---

Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Sun, 18 Mar 2007 16:58:06 GMT  
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---

Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

- > On Mon, 2007-03-12 at 23:41 +0100, Herbert Poetzl wrote:
- >>
- >> let me give a real world example here:
- >>
- >> - typical guest with 600MB disk space
- >> - about 100MB guest specific data (not shared)
- >> - assumed that 80% of the libs/tools are used
- >
- > I get the general idea here, but I just don't think those numbers are
- > very accurate. My laptop has a bunch of gunk open (xterm, evolution,
- > firefox, xchat, etc...). I ran this command:
- >
- > `lsdf | egrep '/(usr/|lib.*\.so)' | awk '{print $9}' | sort | uniq | xargs du`
- > `-Dcs`
- >
- > and got:
- >
- > 113840 total
- >



> On a web/database server that I have (ps aux | wc -l == 128), I just ran  
> the same:  
>  
> 39168 total  
>  
> That's assuming that all of the libraries are fully read in and  
> populated, just by their on-disk sizes. Is that not a reasonable measure  
> of the kinds of things that we can expect to be shared in a vserver? If  
> so, it's a long way from 400MB.  
>  
> Could you try a similar measurement on some of your machines? Perhaps  
> mine are just weird.

Think shell scripts and the like. From what I have seen I would agree that is typical for application code not to dominate application memory usage. However on the flip side it is non uncommon for application code to dominate disk usage. Some of us have giant music, video or code databases that consume a lot of disk space but in many instances servers don't have enormous chunks of private files, and even when they do they share the files from the distribution.

The result of this is that there are a lot of unmapped pages cached in the page cache for rarely run executables, that are cached just in case we need them.

So while Herbert's numbers may be a little off the general principle of the entire system doing better if you can share the page cache is very real.

That the page cache isn't accounted for here isn't terribly important we still get the global benefit.

> I don't doubt this, but doing this two-level page-out thing for  
> containers/vservers over their limits is surely something that we should  
> consider farther down the road, right?

It is what the current VM of linux does. There is removing a page from processes and then there is writing it out to disk. I think the normal term is second chance replacement. The idea is that once you remove a page from being mapped you let it age a little before it is paged back in. This allows pages in high demand to avoid being written to disk, all they incur are minor not major fault costs.

> It's important to you, but you're obviously not doing any of the  
> mainline coding, right?

Tread carefully here. Herbert may not be doing a lot of mainline coding or extremely careful review of potential patches but he does seem to have a decent grasp of the basic issues. In addition to a reasonable amount of experience so it is worth listening to what he says.

In addition Herbert does seem to be doing some testing of the mainline code as we get it going. So he is contributing.

>> > What are the consequences if this isn't done? Doesn't  
>> > a loaded system eventually have all of its pages used  
>> > anyway, so won't this always be a temporary situation?  
>>  
>> let's consider a quite limited guest (or several  
>> of them) which have a 'RAM' limit of 64MB and  
>> additional 64MB of 'virtual swap' assigned ...  
>>  
>> if they use roughly 96MB (memory footprint) then  
>> having this 'fluffy' optimization will keep them  
>> running without any effect on the host side, but  
>> without, they will continuously swap in and out  
>> which will affect not only the host, but also the  
>> other guests ...

Ugh. You really want swap > RAM here. Because there are real cases when you are swapping when all of your pages in RAM can be cached in the page cache. 96MB with 64MB RSS and 64MB swap is almost a sure way to hit your swap page limit and die.

> All workloads that use \$limit+1 pages of memory will always pay the  
> price, right? :)

They should. When you remove an anonymous page from the pages tables it needs to be allocated and placed in the swap cache. Once you do that it can sit in the page cache like any file backed page. So the container that hits \$limit+1 should get the paging pressure and a lot more minor faults. However we still want to globally write thing to disk and optimize that as we do right now.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Sun, 18 Mar 2007 17:42:15 GMT  
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---

Dave Hansen <[hansenc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansenc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

> On Fri, 2007-03-16 at 12:54 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>> Dave Hansen <[hansenc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansenc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

>  
>> - Why do limits have to apply to the unmapped page cache?  
>  
> To me, it is just because it consumes memory. Unmapped cache is, of  
> course, much more easily reclaimed than mapped files, but it still  
> fundamentally causes pressure on the VM.  
>  
> To me, a process sitting there doing constant reads of 10 pages has the  
> same overhead to the VM as a process sitting there with a 10 page file  
> mmaped, and reading that.

I can see temporarily accounting for pages in use for such a  
read/write and possibly during things such as read ahead.

However I doubt it is enough memory to be significant, and as  
such is probably a waste of time accounting for it.

A memory limit is not about accounting for memory pressure, so I think  
the reasoning for wanting to account for unmapped pages as a hard  
requirement is still suspect. A memory limit is to prevent one container  
from hogging all of the memory in the system, and denying it to other  
containers.

The page cache by definition is a global resource that facilitates  
global kernel optimizations. If we kill those optimizations we  
are on the wrong track. By requiring limits there I think we are  
very likely to kill our very important global optimizations, and bring  
the performance of the entire system down.

>> - Could you mention proper multi process RSS limits.  
>> (I.e. we count the number of pages each group of processes have mapped  
>> and limit that).  
>> It is the same basic idea as partial page ownership, but instead of  
>> page ownership you just count how many pages each group is using and  
>> strictly limit that. There is no page ownership or partial charges.  
>> The overhead is just walking the rmap list at map and unmap time to  
>> see if this is the first users in the container. No additional kernel  
>> data structures are needed.  
>  
> I've tried to capture this. Let me know what else you think it  
> needs.

Requirements:

- The current kernel global optimizations are preserved and useful.

This does mean one container can affect another when the  
optimizations go awry but on average it means much better  
performance. For many the global optimizations are what make

the in-kernel approach attractive over paravirtualization.

Very nice to have:

- Limits should be on things user space have control of.

Saying you can only have X bytes of kernel memory for file descriptors and the like is very hard to work with. Saying you can have only N file descriptors open is much easier to deal with.

- SMP Scalability.

The final implementation should have per cpu counters or per task reservations so in most instances we don't need to bounce a global cache line around to perform the accounting.

Nice to have:

- Perfect precision.

Having every last byte always accounted for is nice but a little bit of bounded fuzziness in the accounting is acceptable if it that make the accounting problem more tractable.

We need several more limits in this discussion to get a full picture, otherwise we may to try and build the all singing all dancing limit.

- A limit on the number of anonymous pages.  
(Pages that are or may be in the swap cache).
- Filesystem per container quotas.  
(Only applicable in some contexts but you get the idea).
- Inode, file descriptor, and similar limits.
- I/O limits.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Paul Menage](#) on Sun, 18 Mar 2007 22:44:24 GMT  
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On 3/13/07, Dave Hansen <hansendc@us.ibm.com> wrote:

- > How do we determine what is shared, and goes into the shared zones?
- > Once we've allocated a page, it's too late because we already picked.
- > Do we just assume all page cache is shared? Base it on filesystem,

> mount, ...? Mount seems the most logical to me, that a sysadmin would  
> have to set up a container's fs, anyway, and will likely be doing  
> special things to shared data, anyway (r/o bind mounts :).

I played with an approach where you can bind a dentry to a set of memory zones, and any children of that dentry would inherit the mempolicy; I was envisaging that most data wouldn't be shared between different containers/jobs, and that userspace would set up "shared" zones for big shared regions such as /lib, /usr, /bin, and for specially-known cases of sharing.

> If we really do bind a set of processes strongly to a set of memory on a  
> set of nodes, then those really do become its home NUMA nodes. If the  
> CPUs there get overloaded, running it elsewhere will continue to grab  
> pages from the home. Would this basically keep us from ever being able  
> to move tasks around a NUMA system?

move\_pages() will let you shuffle tasks from one node to another without too much intrusion.

Paul

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Mon, 19 Mar 2007 15:48:08 GMT  
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On Sun, Mar 18, 2007 at 11:42:15AM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> Dave Hansen <hansendc@us.ibm.com> writes:  
>  
> > On Fri, 2007-03-16 at 12:54 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> >> Dave Hansen <hansendc@us.ibm.com> writes:  
> >>  
> >> - Why do limits have to apply to the unmapped page cache?  
> >>  
> >> To me, it is just because it consumes memory. Unmapped cache is, of  
> >> couse, much more easily reclaimed than mapped files, but it still  
> >> fundamentally causes pressure on the VM.  
> >>  
> >> To me, a process sitting there doing constant reads of 10 pages has the  
> >> same overhead to the VM as a process sitting there with a 10 page file  
> >> mmaped, and reading that.  
>  
> I can see temporarily accounting for pages in use for such a

- > read/write and possibly during things such as read ahead.
- >
- > However I doubt it is enough memory to be significant, and as
- > such is probably a waste of time accounting for it.
- >
- > A memory limit is not about accounting for memory pressure, so I think
- > the reasoning for wanting to account for unmapped pages as a hard
- > requirement is still suspect.
  
- > A memory limit is to prevent one container from hogging all of the
- > memory in the system, and denying it to other containers.

exactly!

nevertheless, you might want to extend that to swapping  
and to the very expensive page in/out operations too

- > The page cache by definition is a global resource that facilitates
- > global kernel optimizations. If we kill those optimizations we
- > are on the wrong track. By requiring limits there I think we are
- > very likely to kill our very important global optimizations, and bring
- > the performance of the entire system down.

that is my major concern for most of the 'straight forward'  
virtualizations proposed (see Xen comment)

- > > - Could you mention proper multi process RSS limits.
- > > (I.e. we count the number of pages each group of processes have mapped
- > > and limit that).
- > > It is the same basic idea as partial page ownership, but instead of
- > > page ownership you just count how many pages each group is using and
- > > strictly limit that. There is no page owner ship or partial charges.
- > > The overhead is just walking the rmap list at map and unmap time to
- > > see if this is the first users in the container. No additional kernel
- > > data structures are needed.
- > >
- > > I've tried to capture this. Let me know what else you think it
- > > needs.
- >
- > Requirements:
- > - The current kernel global optimizations are preserved and useful.
- >
- > This does mean one container can affect another when the
- > optimizations go awry but on average it means much better
- > performance. For many the global optimizations are what make
- > the in-kernel approach attractive over paravirtualization.

total agreement here

- > Very nice to have:
- > - Limits should be on things user space have control of.
- >
- > Saying you can only have X bytes of kernel memory for file
- > descriptors and the like is very hard to work with. Saying you
- > can have only N file descriptors open is much easier to deal with.

yep, and IMHO more natural ...

- > - SMP Scalability.
- >
- > The final implementation should have per cpu counters or per task
- > reservations so in most instances we don't need to bounce a global
- > cache line around to perform the accounting.

agreed, we want to optimize for small systems  
as well as for large ones, and SMP/NUMA is quite  
common in the server area (even for small servers)

- > Nice to have:
- >
- > - Perfect precision.
- >
- > Having every last byte always accounted for is nice but a
- > little bit of bounded fuzziness in the accounting is acceptable
- > if it that make the accounting problem more tractable.

as long as the accounting is consistant, i.e.  
you do not lose resources by repetitive operations  
inside the guest (or through guest-guest interaction)  
as this could be used for DoS and intentional unfairness

- > We need several more limits in this discussion to get a full picture,
- > otherwise we may to try and build the all singing all dancing limit.

- > - A limit on the number of anonymous pages.
- > (Pages that are or may be in the swap cache).
- > - Filesystem per container quotas.
- > (Only applicable in some contexts but you get the idea).

with shared files, otherwise an lvm partition does  
a good job for that already ...

- > - Inode, file descriptor, and similar limits.
- > - I/O limits.

I/O and CPU limits are special, as they have the temporal component, i.e. you are not interested in 10s CPU time, instead you want 0.5s/s CPU (same for I/O)

note: this is probably also true for page in/out

- sockets
- locks
- dentries

HTH,  
Herbert

> Eric

>

>

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> Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org

> <https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

---

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Subject: Re: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Mon, 19 Mar 2007 17:41:23 GMT

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"Paul Menage" <menage@google.com> writes:

> On 3/13/07, Dave Hansen <hansenc@us.ibm.com> wrote:

>> How do we determine what is shared, and goes into the shared zones?

>> Once we've allocated a page, it's too late because we already picked.

>> Do we just assume all page cache is shared? Base it on filesystem,

>> mount, ...? Mount seems the most logical to me, that a sysadmin would

>> have to set up a container's fs, anyway, and will likely be doing

>> special things to shared data, anyway (r/o bind mounts :).

>

> I played with an approach where you can bind a dentry to a set of

> memory zones, and any children of that dentry would inherit the

> mempolicy; I was envisaging that most data wouldn't be shared between

> different containers/jobs, and that userspace would set up "shared"

> zones for big shared regions such as /lib, /usr, /bin, and for

> specially-known cases of sharing.

Here is a wacky one.



Suppose there is some NFS server that exports something that most machines want to mount like company home directories.

Suppose multiple containers mount that NFS server based on local policy. (If we can allow non-root users to mount filesystems a slightly more trusted guest admin certainly will be able to).

The NFS code as current written (unless I am confused) will do everything in it's power to share the filesystem cache between the different mounts (including the dentry tree).

How do we handle bit shared areas like that.

Dynamic programming solutions where we discovery the areas of sharing at runtime seem a lot more general then a priori solutions where you have to predict what will come next.

If a priori planning and knowledge about sharing is the best we can do it is the best we can do and we will have to live with the limits that imposes. Given the inflexibility in use and setup I'm not yet ready to concede that this is the best we can do.

Eric

---

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Subject: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Tue, 20 Mar 2007 16:15:34 GMT  
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On Sun, 2007-03-18 at 11:42 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> Dave Hansen <hansenc@us.ibm.com> writes:  
> > To me, a process sitting there doing constant reads of 10 pages has the  
> > same overhead to the VM as a process sitting there with a 10 page file  
> > mmaped, and reading that.  
>  
> I can see temporarily accounting for pages in use for such a  
> read/write and possibly during things such as read ahead.  
>  
> However I doubt it is enough memory to be significant, and as  
> such is probably a waste of time accounting for it.  
>  
> A memory limit is not about accounting for memory pressure, so I think  
> the reasoning for wanting to account for unmapped pages as a hard

> requirement is still suspect. A memory limit is to prevent one container  
> from hogging all of the memory in the system, and denying it to other  
> containers.  
>  
> The page cache by definition is a global resource that facilitates  
> global kernel optimizations. If we kill those optimizations we  
> are on the wrong track. By requiring limits there I think we are  
> very likely to kill our very important global optimizations, and bring  
> the performance of the entire system down.

Let's say you have an mmap'd file. It has zero pages brought in right now. You do a write to it. It is well within the kernel's rights to let you write one word to an mmap'd file, then unmap it, write it to disk, and free the page.

To me, mmap() is an interface, not a directive to tell the kernel to keep things in memory. The fact that two reads of a bytes from an mmap()'d file tends to not go to disk or even cause a fault for the second read is because the page is in the page cache. The fact that two consecutive read()s of the same disk page tend to not cause two trips to the disk is because the page is in the page cache.

Anybody who wants to get data in and out of a file can choose to use either of these interfaces. A page being brought into the system for either a read or touch of an mmap()'d area causes the same kind of memory pressure.

So, I think we have a difference of opinion. I think it's \_all\_ about memory pressure, and you think it is \_not\_ about accounting for memory pressure. :) Perhaps we mean different things, but we appear to disagree greatly on the surface.

Can we agree that there must be \_some\_ way to control the amounts of unmapped page cache? Whether that's related somehow to the same way we control RSS or done somehow at the I/O level, there must be some way to control it. Agree?

> >> - Could you mention proper multi process RSS limits.  
> >> (I.e. we count the number of pages each group of processes have mapped  
> >> and limit that).  
> >> It is the same basic idea as partial page ownership, but instead of  
> >> page ownership you just count how many pages each group is using and  
> >> strictly limit that. There is no page owner ship or partial charges.  
> >> The overhead is just walking the rmap list at map and unmap time to  
> >> see if this is the first users in the container. No additional kernel  
> >> data structures are needed.  
> >  
> > I've tried to capture this. Let me know what else you think it

> > needs.  
>  
> Requirements:  
> - The current kernel global optimizations are preserved and useful.  
>  
> This does mean one container can affect another when the  
> optimizations go awry but on average it means much better  
> performance. For many the global optimizations are what make  
> the in-kernel approach attractive over paravirtualization.  
>  
> Very nice to have:  
> - Limits should be on things user space have control of.  
...  
> - SMP Scalability.  
  
> - Perfect precision.  
...

I've tried to capture this:

<http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>

> We need several more limits in this discussion to get a full picture,  
> otherwise we may try and build the all singing all dancing limit.  
> - A limit on the number of anonymous pages.  
> (Pages that are or may be in the swap cache).  
> - Filesystem per container quotas.  
> (Only applicable in some contexts but you get the idea).  
> - Inode, file descriptor, and similar limits.  
> - I/O limits.

Definitely. I think we've all agreed that memory is the hard one,  
though. If we can make progress on this one, we're set! :)

-- Dave

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 2/7] RSS controller core  
Posted by [mel](#) on Tue, 20 Mar 2007 18:57:39 GMT  
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On (14/03/07 13:42), Dave Hansen didst pronounce:  
> On Wed, 2007-03-14 at 15:38 +0000, Mel Gorman wrote:

> > On (13/03/07 10:05), Dave Hansen didst pronounce:  
> > > How do we determine what is shared, and goes into the shared zones?  
> >  
> > Assuming we had a means of creating a zone that was assigned to a container,  
> > a second zone for shared data between a set of containers. For shared data,  
> > the time the pages are being allocated is at page fault time. At that point,  
> > the faulting VMA is known and you also know if it's MAP\_SHARED or not.  
>  
> Well, but MAP\_SHARED does not necessarily mean shared outside of the  
> container, right?

Well, the data could also be shared outside of the container. I would see that happening for library text sections for example.

> Somebody wishing to get around resource limits could  
> just MAP\_SHARED any data they wished to use, and get it into the shared  
> area before their initial use, right?  
>

They would only be able to impact other containers in a limited sense. Specifically, if 5 containers have one shared area, then any process in those 5 containers could exceed their container limits at the expense of the shared area.

> How do normal read/write()s fit into this?  
>

A normal read/write if it's the first reader of a file would get charged to the container, not to the shared area. It is less likely that a file that is read() is expected to be shared where as mapping MAP\_SHARED is relatively explicit.

> > > There's a conflict between the resize granularity of the zones, and the  
> > > storage space their lookup consumes. We'd want a container to have a  
> > > limited ability to fill up memory with stuff like the dcache, so we'd  
> > > appear to need to put the dentries inside the software zone. But, that  
> > > gets us to our inability to evict arbitrary dentries.  
> >  
> > Stuff like shrinking dentry caches is already pretty course-grained.  
> > Last I looked, we couldn't even shrink within a specific node, let alone  
> > a zone or a specific dentry. This is a separate problem.  
>  
> I shouldn't have used dentries as an example. I'm just saying that if  
> we end up (or can end up with) with a whole ton of these software zones,  
> we might have troubles storing them. I would imagine the issue would  
> come immediately from lack of page->flags to address lots of them.  
>

That is an immediate problem. There needs to be a way of mapping an arbitrary

page to a software zone. `page_zone()` as it is could only resolve the "main" zone. If additional bits were used in `page->flags`, there would be very hard limits on the number of containers that can exist.

If zones were physically contiguous to `MAX_ORDER`, pageblock flags from the anti-fragmentation could be used to record that a block of pages was in a container and what the ID is. If non-contiguous software zones were required, `page->zone` could be reintroduced for software zones to be used when a page belongs to a container. It's not ideal the proper way of mapping pages to software zones might be more obvious then when we'd see where `page->zone` was used.

With either approach, the important thing that occurred to me is be to be sure that pages only came from the same hardware zone. For example, do not mix HIGHMEM pages with DMA pages because it'll fail miserably. For RSS accounting, this is not much of a restriction but it does have an impact on keeping kernel allocations within a container on systems with HighMemory.

> > > After a while,  
> > > would containers tend to pin an otherwise empty zone into place? We  
> > > could resize it, but what is the cost of keeping zones that can be  
> > > resized down to a small enough size that we don't mind keeping it there?  
> > > We could merge those "orphaned" zones back into the shared zone.  
> >  
> > Merging "orphaned" zones back into the "main" zone would seem a sensible  
> > choice.  
>  
> OK, but merging wouldn't be possible if they're not physically  
> contiguous. I guess this could be worked around by just calling it a  
> shared zone, no matter where it is physically.  
>

More than likely, yes.

> > > Were there any requirements about physical contiguity?  
> >  
> > For the lookup to software zone to be efficient, it would be easiest to have  
> > them as `MAX_ORDER_NR_PAGES` contiguous. This would avoid having to break the  
> > existing assumptions in the buddy allocator about `MAX_ORDER_NR_PAGES`  
> > always being in the same zone.  
>  
> I was mostly wondering about zones spanning other zones. We `_do_`  
> support this today

In practice, overlapping zones never happen today so a few new bugs based on assumptions about `MAX_ORDER_NR_PAGES` being aligned in a zone may crop up.

>, and it might make quite a bit more merging possible.  
>  
> > > If we really do bind a set of processes strongly to a set of memory on a  
> > > set of nodes, then those really do become its home NUMA nodes. If the  
> > > CPUs there get overloaded, running it elsewhere will continue to grab  
> > > pages from the home. Would this basically keep us from ever being able  
> > > to move tasks around a NUMA system?  
> >  
> > Moving the tasks around would not be easy. It would require a new zone  
> > to be created based on the new NUMA node and all the data migrated. hmm  
>  
> I know we try to avoid this these days, but I'm not sure how taking it  
> away as an option will affect anything.  
>

--

Mel Gorman  
Part-time Phd Student  
University of Limerick

Linux Technology Center  
IBM Dublin Software Lab

---

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Tue, 20 Mar 2007 21:19:16 GMT  
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---

Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

>  
> So, I think we have a difference of opinion. I think it's all about  
> memory pressure, and you think it is not about accounting for memory  
> pressure. :) Perhaps we mean different things, but we appear to  
> disagree greatly on the surface.

I think it is about preventing a badly behaved container from having a significant effect on the rest of the system, and in particular other containers on the system.

See below. I think to reach agreement we should start by discussing the algorithm that we see being used to keep the system function well and the theory behind that algorithm. Simply limiting memory is not enough to understand why it works....

> Can we agree that there must be some way to control the amounts of  
> unmapped page cache? Whether that's related somehow to the same way we

> control RSS or done somehow at the I/O level, there must be some way to  
> control it. Agree?

At lot depends on what we measure and what we try and control.  
Currently what we have been measuring are amounts of RAM, and thus  
what we are trying to control is the amount of RAM. If we want to  
control memory pressure we need a definition and a way to measure it.  
I think there may be potential if we did that but we would still need  
a memory limit to keep things like mlock in check.

So starting with a some definitions and theory.  
RSS is short for resident set size. The resident set being how many  
of pages are current in memory and not on disk and used by the  
application. This includes the memory in page tables, but can  
reasonably be extended to include any memory a process can be shown to  
be using.

In theory there is some minimal RSS that you can give an application  
at which it will get productive work done. Below the minimal RSS  
the application will spend the majority of real time waiting for  
pages to come in from disk, so it can execute the next instruction.  
The ultimate worst case here is a read instruction appearing on one  
page and it's datum on another. You have to have both pages in memory  
at the same time for the read to complete. If you set the RSS hard  
limit to one page the problem will be continually restarting either  
because the page it is on is not in memory or the page it is reading  
from is not in memory.

What we want to accomplish is to have a system that runs multiple  
containers without problems. As a general memory management policy  
we can accomplish this by ensuring each container has at least  
it's minimal RSS quota of pages. By watching the paging activity  
of a container it is possible to detect when that container has  
to few pages and is spend all of it's time I/O bound, and thus  
has slipped below it's minimal RSS.

As such it is possible for the memory management system if we have  
container RSS accounting to dynamically figure out how much memory  
each container needs and to keep everyone above their minimal RSS  
most of the time when that is possible. Basically to do this the  
memory manage code would need to keep dynamic RSS limits, and  
adjust them based upon need.

There is still the case when not all containers can have their  
minimal RSS, there is simply not enough memory in the system.

That is where having a hard settable RSS limit comes in. With this



we communicate to the application and the users beyond which point we consider their application to be abusing the system.

There is a lot of history with RSS limits showing their limitations and how they work. It is fundamentally a dynamic policy instead of a static set of guarantees which allows for applications with a diverse set of memory requirements to work in harmony.

One of the very neat things about a hard RSS limit is that if there are extra resources on the system you can improve overall system performance by cache pages in the page cache instead writing them to disk.

> <http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>

I will try and take a look in a bit.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 00:51:36 GMT  
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On Tue, Mar 20, 2007 at 03:19:16PM -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Dave Hansen <[hansenc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansenc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

>

> >

> > So, I think we have a difference of opinion. I think it's \_all\_

> > about memory pressure, and you think it is \_not\_ about accounting

> > for memory pressure. :) Perhaps we mean different things, but we

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> I think it is about preventing a badly behaved container from having a

> significant effect on the rest of the system, and in particular other

> containers on the system.

>

> See below. I think to reach agreement we should start by discussing

> the algorithm that we see being used to keep the system function well

> and the theory behind that algorithm. Simply limiting memory is not

> enough to understand why it works....



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> diverse set of memory requirements to work in harmony.  
>  
> One of the very neat things about a hard RSS limit is that if there  
> are extra resources on the system you can improve overall system  
> performance by cache pages in the page cache instead writing them  
> to disk.

that is exactly what we (Linux-VServer) want ...  
(sounds good to me, please keep up the good work in  
this direction)

there is nothing wrong with hard limits if somebody  
really wants them, even if they hurt the sysstem as  
whole, but those limits shouldn't be the default ..

best,  
Herbert

> > <http://linux-mm.org/SoftwareZones>  
>  
> I will try and take a look in a bit.  
>  
>  
> Eric  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
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> <https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 05:57:40 GMT  
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:

>  
>  
>>So, I think we have a difference of opinion. I think it's \_all\_ about  
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>>disagree greatly on the surface.  
>  
>  
> I think it is about preventing a badly behaved container from having a  
> significant effect on the rest of the system, and in particular other  
> containers on the system.

That's Dave's point, I believe. Limiting mapped memory may be mostly OK for well behaved applications, but it doesn't do anything to stop bad ones from effectively DoSing the system or ruining any guarantees you might proclaim (not that hard guarantees are always possible without using virtualisation anyway).

This is why I'm surprised at efforts that go to such great lengths to get accounting "just right" (but only for mmaped memory). You may as well not even bother, IMO.

Give me an RSS limit big enough to run a couple of system calls and a loop...

--

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 10:12:09 GMT  
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Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:

> Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>> Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:  
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> to get accounting "just right" (but only for mmaped memory). You  
> may as well not even bother, IMO.

>

> Give me an RSS limit big enough to run a couple of system calls and  
> a loop...

Would any of them work on a system on which every filesystem was on  
ramfs, and there was no swap? If not then they are not memory attacks  
but I/O attacks.

I completely concede that you can DOS the system with I/O if that is  
not limited as well.

My point is that is not a memory problem but a disk I/O problem which is  
much easier to and cheaper to solve. Disk I/O is fundamentally a slow  
path which makes it hard to modify it in a way that negatively affects  
system performance.

I don't think with a memory RSS limit you can DOS the system in a way  
that is purely about memory. You have to pick a different kind of DOS  
attack.

As for virtualization that is what a kernel is about virtualizing it's  
resources so you can have multiple users accessing them at the same  
time. You don't need some hypervisor or virtual machine to give you  
that. That is where we start. However it was found long ago that  
global optimizations give better system through put then the rigid  
systems you can get with hypervisors. Although things are not  
quite as deterministic when you optimize globally. They should be  
sufficiently deterministic you can avoid the worst of the DOS  
attacks.

The real practical problem with the current system is that nearly  
all of our limits are per process and applications now span more than

one process so the limits provided by linux are generally useless to limit real world applications. This isn't generally a problem until we start trying to run multiple applications on the same system because the hardware is so powerful. Which the namespace work which will allow you to run several different instances of user space simultaneously is likely to allow.

At the moment I very much in a position of doing review not implementing this part of it. I'm trying to get the people doing the implementation to make certain they have actually been paying attention to how their proposed limits will interact with the rest of the system. So far generally the conversation has centered on memory limits because it seems that is where people have decided the conversation should focus. What I haven't seen is people with the limitations coming back to me tearing my arguments apart and showing or telling me where I'm confused. In general I can challenge even the simplest things and not get a good response. All of which tells me the implementations are not ready.

I do have some practical use cases and I have some clue how these subsystems work, and I do care. Which puts in a decent position to at least to high level design review.

My biggest disappointment is that none of this is new, and that we seem to have forgotten a lot of the lessons of the past.

Eric

---

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 10:47:45 GMT  
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Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:  
>  
>  
>>Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>>  
>>>Dave Hansen <[hansendc@us.ibm.com](mailto:hansendc@us.ibm.com)> writes:  
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> system performance.

>

> I don't think with a memory RSS limit you can DOS the system in a way  
> that is purely about memory. You have to pick a different kind of DOS  
> attack.

It can be done trivially without performing any IO or swap, yes.

--

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages

Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 12:21:01 GMT

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Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:

>> Would any of them work on a system on which every filesystem was on  
>> ramfs, and there was no swap? If not then they are not memory attacks  
>> but I/O attacks.

>>

>> I completely concede that you can DOS the system with I/O if that is  
>> not limited as well.

>>

>> My point is that is not a memory problem but a disk I/O problem which is  
>> much easier to and cheaper to solve. Disk I/O is fundamentally a slow  
>> path which makes it hard to modify it in a way that negatively affects  
>> system performance.

>>

>> I don't think with a memory RSS limit you can DOS the system in a way  
>> that is purely about memory. You have to pick a different kind of DOS  
>> attack.

>

> It can be done trivially without performing any IO or swap, yes.

Please give me a rough sketch of how to do so.

Or is this about DOS'ing the system by getting the kernel to allocate  
a large number of data structures (struct file, struct inode, or the like)?

Eric

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages

Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 16:41:12 GMT

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On Fri, 2007-03-23 at 04:12 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Would any of them work on a system on which every filesystem was on  
> ramfs, and there was no swap? If not then they are not memory attacks  
> but I/O attacks.

I truly understand your point here. But, I don't think this thought exercise is really helpful here. In a pure sense, nothing is keeping an unmapped page cache file in memory, other than the user's prayers. But, please don't discount their prayers, it's what they want!

I seem to remember a quote attributed to Alan Cox around OLS time last year, something about any memory controller being able to be fair, fast, and accurate. Please pick any two, but only two. Alan, did I get close?

To me, one of the keys of Linux's "global optimizations" is being able to use any memory globally for its most effective purpose, globally (please ignore highmem :). Let's say I have a 1GB container on a machine that is at least 100% committed. I mmap() a 1GB file and touch the entire thing (I never touch it again). I then go open another 1GB file and r/w to it until the end of time. I'm at or below my RSS limit, but that 1GB of RAM could surely be better used for the second file. How do we do this if we only account for a user's RSS? Does this fit into Alan's unfair bucket? ;)

Also, in a practical sense, it is also a \*LOT\* easier to describe to a customer that they're getting 1GB of RAM than  $\geq 20\text{GB/hr}$  of bandwidth from the disk.

-- Dave

P.S. Do we have an quotas on ramfs? If we have an ramfs filesystems, what keeps the containerized users from just filling up RAM?

---

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages  
Posted by [Herbert Poetzl](#) on Fri, 23 Mar 2007 18:16:26 GMT  
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On Fri, Mar 23, 2007 at 09:41:12AM -0700, Dave Hansen wrote:  
> On Fri, 2007-03-23 at 04:12 -0600, Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
> > Would any of them work on a system on which every filesystem was on  
> > ramfs, and there was no swap? If not then they are not memory attacks  
> > but I/O attacks.  
>  
> I truly understand your point here. But, I don't think this thought  
> exercise is really helpful here. In a pure sense, nothing is keeping



> an unmapped page cache file in memory, other than the user's prayers.  
> But, please don't discount their prayers, it's what they want!  
>  
> I seem to remember a quote attributed to Alan Cox around OLS time last  
> year, something about any memory controller being able to be fair,  
> fast, and accurate. Please pick any two, but only two. Alan, did I get  
> close?

so we would pick fair and fast then :)

> To me, one of the keys of Linux's "global optimizations" is being able  
> to use any memory globally for its most effective purpose, globally  
> (please ignore highmem :). Let's say I have a 1GB container on a  
> machine that is at least 100% committed. I mmap() a 1GB file and touch  
> the entire thing (I never touch it again). I then go open another 1GB  
> file and r/w to it until the end of time. I'm at or below my RSS limit,  
> but that 1GB of RAM could surely be better used for the second file.  
> How do we do this if we only account for a user's RSS? Does this fit  
> into Alan's unfair bucket? ;)

what's the difference to a normal Linux system here?  
when low on memory, the system will reclaim pages, and  
guess what pages will be reclaimed first ...

> Also, in a practical sense, it is also a \*LOT\* easier to describe to a  
> customer that they're getting 1GB of RAM than >=20GB/hr of bandwidth  
> from the disk.

if you want something which is easy to describe for the  
'customer', then a VM is what you are looking for, it has  
a perfectly well defined amount of resources which will  
not be shared or used by other machines ...

> -- Dave

>

> P.S. Do we have an quotas on ramfs? If we have an ramfs filesystems,  
> what keeps the containerized users from just filling up RAM?

tmpfs has hard limits, you simply specify it on mount

none /tmp tmpfs size=16m,mode=1777 0 0

best,  
Herbert

>

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages

Posted by [Nick Piggin](#) on Wed, 28 Mar 2007 07:33:37 GMT

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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Nick Piggin <[nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nickpiggin@yahoo.com.au)> writes:

>> It can be done trivially without performing any IO or swap, yes.

>

>

> Please give me a rough sketch of how to do so.

Reading sparse files is just one I had in mind. But I'm not very creative compared to university students doing their assignments.

> Or is this about DOS'ing the system by getting the kernel to allocate  
> a large number of data structures (struct file, struct inode, or the like)?

That works too. And I don't believe hand-accounting and limiting all these things individually as a means to limit RAM usage is sane, when you have a much more comprehensive and relatively unintrusive page level scheme.

--

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Subject: Re: controlling mmap()'d vs read/write() pages

Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 28 Mar 2007 09:18:21 GMT

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Herbert Poetzl wrote:

>> To me, one of the keys of Linux's "global optimizations" is being able

>> to use any memory globally for its most effective purpose, globally  
>> (please ignore highmem :). Let's say I have a 1GB container on a  
>> machine that is at least 100% committed. I mmap() a 1GB file and touch  
>> the entire thing (I never touch it again). I then go open another 1GB  
>> file and r/w to it until the end of time. I'm at or below my RSS limit,  
>> but that 1GB of RAM could surely be better used for the second file.  
>> How do we do this if we only account for a user's RSS? Does this fit  
>> into Alan's unfair bucket? ;)  
>  
> what's the difference to a normal Linux system here?  
> when low on memory, the system will reclaim pages, and  
> guess what pages will be reclaimed first ...  
>

But would it not bias application writers towards using read()/write()  
calls over mmap()? They know that their calls are likely to be faster  
when the application is run in a container. Without page cache control  
we'll end up creating an asymmetrical container, where certain usage is  
charged and some usage is not.

Also, please note that when a page is unmapped and moved to swap cache;  
the swap cache uses the page cache. Without page cache control, we could  
end up with too many pages moving over to the swap cache and still  
occupying memory, while the original intension was to avoid this  
scenario.

--

Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

---

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 4/7] RSS accounting hooks over the code  
Posted by [Ethan Solomita](#) on Wed, 28 Mar 2007 20:15:20 GMT  
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Nick Piggin wrote:

> Eric W. Biederman wrote:  
>> First touch page ownership does not guarantee give me anything useful  
>> for knowing if I can run my application or not. Because of page  
>> sharing my application might run inside the rss limit only because  
>> I got lucky and happened to share a lot of pages with another running  
>> application. If the next I run and it isn't running my application

>> will fail. That is ridiculous.

>

> Let's be practical here, what you're asking is basically impossible.

>

> Unless by deterministic you mean that it never enters the a non  
> trivial syscall, in which case, you just want to know about maximum  
> RSS of the process, which we already account).

If we used Beancounters as Pavel and Kirill mentioned, that would keep track of each container that has referenced a page, not just the first container. It sounds like beancounters can return a usage count where each page is divided by the number of referencing containers (e.g. 1/3rd if 3 containers share a page). Presumably it could also return a full count of 1 to each container.

If we look at data in the latter form, i.e. each container must pay fully for each page used, then Eric could use that to determine real usage needs of the container. However we could also use the fractional count in order to do things such as charging the container for its actual usage. i.e. full count for setting guarantees, fractional for actual usage.

-- Ethan

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