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Subject: large memory server (32GB) :: 64bit kernel advantageous?

Posted by [rickb](#) on Fri, 10 Aug 2007 18:46:43 GMT

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Hi, I have a new server with 32GB of memory, my VEs are all 32bit and always will be. In this situation is there any performance or other benefit to running a 64bit kernel?

thanks!

Rick

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Subject: Re: large memory server (32GB) :: 64bit kernel advantageous?

Posted by [vaverin](#) on Sat, 11 Aug 2007 08:30:35 GMT

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Hi Rick,

In general we can recommend to use 64-bit kernel for 32-bit-only VEs.

You really should have some performance benefits (I heard about ~20%, but of course it depends on usage scenario).

However you will have some drawbacks too:

- memory consumption overhead. Pointers in `_kernel_` structures will be 64-bit now vs 32-bit on 32-bit kernels. I.e. `kmemsize` on true 32-bit kernels and on 64-bit kernels can vary.
- you have some risk to find some new issue in 32-bit compat layer on 64-bit kernels. This chance is really very low but it is a greater than one to find some new bug on plain 32-bit kernels.

thank you,

Vasily Averin

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