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Subject: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief description and test interface

Posted by [Masahiko Takahashi](#) on Mon, 29 Jan 2007 22:46:37 GMT

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Hi everyone,

I would like to post a small patch that implements pipe checkpoint and restart functionality.

The patch supports pipe buffers used with splice/vmsplice systemcall. Usually, spliced buffers' pages are in memory cache because their data are read from an filesystem. However the patch doesn't treat buffers' pages as cached memory when restoring. If trying to treat as cached memory, each buffer's page should be tagged with its filename when checkpointing. This is not a difficult implementation, but I'm still wondering this is worth implementing...

[RFC][PATCH 1/2] pipe: header file and removal of dupfd()'s static  
[RFC][PATCH 2/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart entity

The patch is for kernel 2.6.19.2 and tested with pipe, splice and vmsplice systemcalls.

Interfaces:

```
int ckpoint_pipe(struct file *filp, struct cr_pipe *img)
```

A pipe (specified by "filp") and its information/buffers are checkpointed to image buffer "img". (img must has enough memory)

```
int restore_pipe(int *fd, struct cr_pipe *img)
```

The checkpointed pipe information/buffers "img" is restored to kernel and installed to the current process's file descriptors "fd". fd[0] is pipe for read and fd[1] for write.

TODO:

- Non-blocking (signal delivery) and waiting process list.
- Parameter checks (image buffer size, etc).
- Error checks.
- Support file descriptor sharing.
- More tests.

The attached source is a test/debug interface for pipe checkpoint and restart on Linux 2.6.19.2. I borrowed this from OpenVZ patch with some naming and other changes.

Masahiko.

```

--- /dev/null 2006-05-22 07:25:23.000000000 -0700
+++ linux-2.6.19.2/fs/pipe-cr-debug.c 2007-01-22 15:39:05.000000000 -0800
@@ -0,0 +1,115 @@
+#include <linux/mm.h>
+#include <linux/file.h>
+#include <linux/poll.h>
+#include <linux/slab.h>
+#include <linux/module.h>
+#include <linux/init.h>
+#include <linux/fs.h>
+#include <linux/mount.h>
+#include <linux/pipe_fs_i.h>
+#include <linux/uio.h>
+
+#include <linux/device.h>
+
+#include <asm/uaccess.h>
+#include <asm/ioctls.h>
+
+#include <linux/cr.h>
+
+static struct class *crctl_class;
+
+#define CRCTL_MAJOR 200
+#define CRCTL_NAME "crctl"
+
+extern int ckpoint_pipe(struct file *filp, struct cr_pipe *img);
+extern int restore_pipe(int *fd, struct cr_pipe *img);
+
+
+static int cr_open(struct inode *inode, struct file *filp)
+{
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static int cr_release(struct inode *inode, struct file *filp)
+{
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static int crctl_ioctl(struct inode *pino, struct file *filp,
+ unsigned int cmd, unsigned long arg)
+{
+ int fd[2];
+ struct mig_arg {
+ void *arg1;

```

```

+ void *arg2;
+ } i;
+
+ switch(cmd) {
+ case 246:
+ {
+ struct file *pipefp;
+ int r, fput;
+
+ if (copy_from_user (&i, (void __user *) arg,
+ sizeof(i))) return -EFAULT;
+ pipefp = fget_light((int) i.arg1, &fput);
+ r = ckpoint_pipe(pipefp, (struct cr_pipe *) i.arg2);
+ fput_light(pipefp, fput);
+ return r;
+ }
+ case 245:
+ if (copy_from_user(&i, (void __user *) arg,
+ sizeof(i))) return -EFAULT;
+ if (copy_from_user(fd, (void __user *) i.arg1,
+ sizeof(int) * 2)) return -EFAULT;
+ return restore_pipe(fd, (struct cr_pipe *) i.arg2);
+ }
+ return 0;
+}
+
+static struct file_operations crctl_fops = {
+ .open = cr_open,
+ .release = cr_release,
+ .ioctl = crctl_ioctl,
+};
+
+static void __exit crctl_exit(void)
+{
+ class_device_destroy(crctl_class, MKDEV(CRCTL_MAJOR, 0));
+ class_destroy(crctl_class);
+ unregister_chrdev(CRCTL_MAJOR, CRCTL_NAME);
+}
+
+static int __init crctl_init(void)
+{
+ int ret;
+ struct class_device *class_err;
+
+ ret = register_chrdev(CRCTL_MAJOR, CRCTL_NAME, &crctl_fops);
+ if (ret < 0)
+ goto out;
+
+}

```

```

+ crctl_class = class_create(THIS_MODULE, "crctl");
+ if (IS_ERR(crctl_class)) {
+ ret = PTR_ERR(crctl_class);
+ goto out_cleandev;
+ }
+
+ class_err = class_device_create(crctl_class, NULL,
+ MKDEV(CRCTL_MAJOR, 0), NULL, CRCTL_NAME);
+ if (IS_ERR(class_err)) {
+ ret = PTR_ERR(class_err);
+ goto out_rmclass;
+ }
+ goto out;
+
+out_rmclass:
+ class_destroy(crctl_class);
+out_cleandev:
+ unregister_chrdev(CRCTL_MAJOR, CRCTL_NAME);
+out:
+ return ret;
+}
+
+fs_initcall(crctl_init);
+module_exit(crctl_exit);
--- linux-2.6.19.2/fs/Makefile.original 2007-01-10 11:10:37.000000000 -0800
+++ linux-2.6.19.2/fs/Makefile 2007-01-22 15:13:59.000000000 -0800
@@ -10,7 +10,7 @@ obj-y := open.o read_write.o file_table.
    ioctl.o readdir.o select.o fifo.o locks.o dcache.o inode.o \
    attr.o bad_inode.o file.o filesystems.o namespace.o aio.o \
    seq_file.o xattr.o libfs.o fs-writeback.o \
- pnode.o drop_caches.o splice.o sync.o utimes.o
+ pnode.o drop_caches.o splice.o sync.o utimes.o pipe-cr-debug.o

ifeq ($(CONFIG_BLOCK),y)
obj-y += buffer.o bio.o block_dev.o direct-io.o mpage.o ioprio.o

```

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## File Attachments

1) [patch0of2.txt](#), downloaded 346 times

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief description and test interface

Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2007 07:09:02 GMT

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Masahiko Takahashi <masahiko@linux-foundation.org> writes:

> Hi everyone,

>

> I would like to post a small patch that implements pipe checkpoint  
> and restart functionality.

>

> The patch supports pipe buffers used with splice/vmsplice systemcall.  
> Usually, spliced buffers' pages are in memory cache because their data  
> are read from an filesystem. However the patch doesn't treat buffers'  
> pages as cached memory when restoring. If trying to treat as cached  
> memory, each buffer's page should be tagged with its filename when  
> checkpointing. This is not a difficult implementation, but I'm still  
> wondering this is worth implementing...

Rewind a little bit please. I can clearly see where checkpoint/restart  
fit into the containers conversation.

However I don't see where this checkpoint/restart patchset fits into  
the checkpoint restart picture.

What ideas are you trying to discuss?

I will say that I am not yet convinced that we need the kernel saving  
and restoring the checkpoint.

Regardless of the approach when we start seriously discussing checkpoint/restart  
one of the big issues is how do we maintain an ABI to user space for all of  
the data so we can migrate applications across kernel version.

Eric

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief  
description and test interface

Posted by [Daniel Lezcano](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2007 09:50:29 GMT

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Eric W. Biederman wrote:

> Masahiko Takahashi <masahiko@linux-foundation.org> writes:

>

>> Hi everyone,  
>>  
>> I would like to post a small patch that implements pipe checkpoint  
>> and restart functionality.  
>>  
>> The patch supports pipe buffers used with splice/vmsplice systemcall.  
>> Usually, spliced buffers' pages are in memory cache because their data  
>> are read from an filesystem. However the patch doesn't treat buffers'  
>> pages as cached memory when restoring. If trying to treat as cached  
>> memory, each buffer's page should be tagged with its filename when  
>> checkpointing. This is not a difficult implementation, but I'm still  
>> wondering this is worth implementing...  
>  
> Rewind a little bit please. I can clearly see where checkpoint/restart  
> fit into the containers conversation.  
>  
> However I don't see where this checkpoint/restart patchset fits into  
> the checkpoint restart picture.

it is a RFC ...

>  
> What ideas are you trying to discuss?  
>  
> I will say that I am not yet convinced that we need the kernel saving  
> and restoring the checkpoint.

I don't get it, do you mean checkpoint/restart should be done in  
userspace ? or simply checkpoint/restart is useless ?

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief  
description and test interface  
Posted by [serue](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2007 15:11:36 GMT  
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Quoting Eric W. Biederman (ebiederm@xmission.com):  
> Masahiko Takahashi <masahiko@linux-foundation.org> writes:  
>  
> > Hi everyone,

Thanks, Masahiko, for getting the discussion on how we want to  
c/r going with a patchset!

> > I would like to post a small patch that implements pipe checkpoint  
> > and restart functionality.  
> >  
> > The patch supports pipe buffers used with splice/vmsplice systemcall.  
> > Usually, spliced buffers' pages are in memory cache because their data  
> > are read from an filesystem. However the patch doesn't treat buffers'  
> > pages as cached memory when restoring. If trying to treat as cached  
> > memory, each buffer's page should be tagged with its filename when  
> > checkpointing. This is not a difficult implementation, but I'm still  
> > wondering this is worth implementing...  
>  
> Rewind a little bit please. I can clearly see where checkpoint/restart  
> fit into the containers conversation.  
>  
> However I don't see where this checkpoint/restart patchset fits into  
> the checkpoint restart picture.

I agree without a basic infrastructure to initiate checkpoints it  
\*feels\* a little out of place, but presumably we can test this with any  
of the existing c/r solutions out there?

> What ideas are you trying to discuss?  
>  
> I will say that I am not yet convinced that we need the kernel saving  
> and restoring the checkpoint.

Some things will make sense to just do in userspace, but other things,  
i.e. certainly remapped memory, and, perhaps pipes, should have help from  
the kernel.

Or can the program driving the checkpoint just cat the pipe fd to get  
the unread contents out to save in the checkpoint? If not, an  
alternative might be to just add an f\_op 'checkpoint', which for pipes  
spits out unread contents, and for ordinary files just spits out pos  
and flags... Though one problem with that is how to tell which two  
processes were sharing the pipe? pipefile\_fops->checkpoint() spits out  
the pipefs inode number?

> Regardless of the approach when we start seriously discussing checkpoint/restart  
> one of the big issues is how do we maintain an ABI to user space for all of  
> the data so we can migrate applications across kernel version.

I had planned on waiting until pidspace was more complete to start that  
discussion, but by all means lets start talking about a preferred  
mechanism and api now.

Dave, does this pipe c/r module conflict with how you were seeing memory

checkpoint happen?

Thanks again, Masahiko.

-serge

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief description and test interface

Posted by [Cedric Le Goater](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2007 15:28:22 GMT

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Masahiko Takahashi wrote:

>

> I would like to post a small patch that implements pipe checkpoint  
> and restart functionality.

so do you have some test programs that uses it ? It would most interesting to see how all fits together.

It seems to me that we need to think about the whole framework of file checkpoint and restart before anything else. sure pipes are kinda a special case because they are created by pairs (just like socketpair).

but all files have things in common, they have an fd which requires to be the same at restart. they can be shared between processes to start with which needs to be optimized at checkpoint and taken into account. they have flags, etc.

then, some have pending data, like socket and pipes.

did you start to work on such a framework ?

> The patch supports pipe buffers used with splice/vmsplice systemcall.  
> Usually, spliced buffers' pages are in memory cache because their data  
> are read from an filesystem. However the patch doesn't treat buffers'  
> pages as cached memory when restoring. If trying to treat as cached  
> memory, each buffer's page should be tagged with its filename when  
> checkpointing. This is not a difficult implementation, but I'm still  
> wondering this is worth implementing...

>

> [RFC][PATCH 1/2] pipe: header file and removal of dupfd()'s static

> [RFC][PATCH 2/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart entity

```

>
> The patch is for kernel 2.6.19.2 and tested with pipe, splice and
> vmsplice systemcalls.
>
> Interfaces:
> int ckpoint_pipe(struct file *filp, struct cr_pipe *img)
>     A pipe (specified by "filp") and its information/buffers are
>     checkpointed to image buffer "img". (img must has enough memory)
>
> int restore_pipe(int *fd, struct cr_pipe *img)
>     The checkpointed pipe information/buffers "img" is restored
>     to kernel and installed to the current process's file
>     descriptors "fd". fd[0] is pipe for read and fd[1] for write.
>
> TODO:
> - Non-blocking (signal delivery) and waiting process list.
> - Parameter checks (image buffer size, etc).
> - Error checks.
> - Support file descriptor sharing.
> - More tests.
>
>
> The attached source is a test/debug interface for pipe checkpoint and
> restart on Linux 2.6.19.2. I borrowed this from OpenVZ patch with some
> naming and other changes.
>
>
> Masahiko.
>
>
>
> -----
>
> --- /dev/null 2006-05-22 07:25:23.000000000 -0700
> +++ linux-2.6.19.2/fs/pipe-cr-debug.c 2007-01-22 15:39:05.000000000 -0800
> @@ -0,0 +1,115 @@
> +#include <linux/mm.h>
> +#include <linux/file.h>
> +#include <linux/poll.h>
> +#include <linux/slab.h>
> +#include <linux/module.h>
> +#include <linux/init.h>
> +#include <linux/fs.h>
> +#include <linux/mount.h>
> +#include <linux/pipe_fs_i.h>
> +#include <linux/uio.h>
> +
> +#include <linux/device.h>

```

```

> +
> + #include <asm/uaccess.h>
> + #include <asm/ioctls.h>
> +
> + #include <linux/cr.h>
> +
> + static struct class *crctl_class;
> +
> + #define CRCTL_MAJOR 200
> + #define CRCTL_NAME "crctl"
> +
> + extern int ckpoint_pipe(struct file *filp, struct cr_pipe *img);
> + extern int restore_pipe(int *fd, struct cr_pipe *img);
> +
> +
> + static int cr_open(struct inode *inode, struct file *filp)
> + {
> + return 0;
> + }
> +
> + static int cr_release(struct inode *inode, struct file *filp)
> + {
> + return 0;
> + }
> +
> + static int crctl_ioctl(struct inode *pino, struct file *filp,
> + unsigned int cmd, unsigned long arg)
> + {
> + int fd[2];
> + struct mig_arg {
> + void *arg1;
> + void *arg2;
> + } i;
> +
> + switch(cmd) {
> + case 246:
> + {
> + struct file *pipefp;
> + int r, fput;
> +
> + if (copy_from_user (&i, (void __user *) arg,
> + sizeof(i))) return -EFAULT;
> + pipefp = fget_light((int) i.arg1, &fput);
> + r = ckpoint_pipe(pipefp, (struct cr_pipe *) i.arg2);
> + fput_light(pipefp, fput);
> + return r;
> + }
> + case 245:

```

```

> + if (copy_from_user(&i, (void __user *) arg,
> + sizeof(i))) return -EFAULT;
> + if (copy_from_user(fd, (void __user *) i.arg1,
> + sizeof(int) * 2)) return -EFAULT;
> + return restore_pipe(fd, (struct cr_pipe *) i.arg2);
> + }
> + return 0;
> +}
> +
> +static struct file_operations crctl_fops = {
> + .open = cr_open,
> + .release = cr_release,
> + .ioctl = crctl_ioctl,
> +};
> +
> +static void __exit crctl_exit(void)
> +{
> + class_device_destroy(crctl_class, MKDEV(CRCTL_MAJOR, 0));
> + class_destroy(crctl_class);
> + unregister_chrdev(CRCTL_MAJOR, CRCTL_NAME);
> +}
> +
> +static int __init crctl_init(void)
> +{
> + int ret;
> + struct class_device *class_err;
> +
> + ret = register_chrdev(CRCTL_MAJOR, CRCTL_NAME, &crctl_fops);
> + if (ret < 0)
> + goto out;
> +
> + crctl_class = class_create(THIS_MODULE, "crctl");
> + if (IS_ERR(crctl_class)) {
> + ret = PTR_ERR(crctl_class);
> + goto out_cleandev;
> + }
> +
> + class_err = class_device_create(crctl_class, NULL,
> + MKDEV(CRCTL_MAJOR, 0), NULL, CRCTL_NAME);
> + if (IS_ERR(class_err)) {
> + ret = PTR_ERR(class_err);
> + goto out_rmclass;
> + }
> + goto out;
> +
> +out_rmclass:
> + class_destroy(crctl_class);
> +out_cleandev:

```

```
> + unregister_chrdev(CRCTL_MAJOR, CRCTL_NAME);
> +out:
> + return ret;
> +}
> +
> +fs_initcall(crctl_init);
> +module_exit(crctl_exit);
> --- linux-2.6.19.2/fs/Makefile.original 2007-01-10 11:10:37.000000000 -0800
> +++ linux-2.6.19.2/fs/Makefile 2007-01-22 15:13:59.000000000 -0800
> @@ -10,7 +10,7 @@ obj-y := open.o read_write.o file_table.
>  ioctl.o readdir.o select.o fifo.o locks.o dcache.o inode.o \
>  attr.o bad_inode.o file.o filesystems.o namespace.o aio.o \
>  seq_file.o xattr.o libfs.o fs-writeback.o \
> - pnode.o drop_caches.o splice.o sync.o utimes.o
> + pnode.o drop_caches.o splice.o sync.o utimes.o pipe-cr-debug.o
>
> ifeq ($(CONFIG_BLOCK),y)
> obj-y += buffer.o bio.o block_dev.o direct-io.o mpage.o ioprio.o
>
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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief description and test interface  
Posted by [Masahiko Takahashi](#) on Fri, 02 Feb 2007 00:32:47 GMT  
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Hi Serge,

On Wed, 2007-01-31 at 09:11 -0600, Serge E. Hallyn wrote:  
> Quoting Eric W. Biederman (ebiederm@xmission.com):  
> > Rewind a little bit please. I can clearly see where checkpoint/restart  
> > fit into the containers conversation.  
> >

> > However I don't see where this checkpoint/restart patchset fits into  
> > the checkpoint restart picture.  
>  
> I agree without a basic infrastructure to initiate checkpoints it  
> \*feels\* a little out of place, but presumably we can test this with any  
> of the existing c/r solutions out there?

That is my intention. My patch wouldn't mention to API or framework yet. Test/debug interface in [PATCH 0/2] is only a sample interface to be tested from userlevel.

> > I will say that I am not yet convinced that we need the kernel saving  
> > and restoring the checkpoint.  
>  
> Some things will make sense to just do in userspace, but other things,  
> i.e. certainly remapped memory, and, perhaps pipes, should have help from  
> the kernel.  
>  
> Or can the program driving the checkpoint just cat the pipe fd to get  
> the unread contents out to save in the checkpoint? If not, an  
> alternative might be to just add an f\_op 'checkpoint', which for pipes  
> spits out unread contents, and for ordinary files just spits out pos  
> and flags... Though one problem with that is how to tell which two  
> processes were sharing the pipe? pipefile\_fops->checkpoint() spits out  
> the pipefs inode number?

Thank you, Serge. I agree with your opinion. Some c/r things can be done only in userlevel but others require kernel support. After I read comments, I guess pipe c/r is not a good example to prove that some c/r functionality really needs help from kernel. We can get some information from /proc/PID/fd but this is not enough. As Serge and Cedric mentioned, sharing file descriptor is one of difficult problems to solve if checkpointing is implemented only in userlevel. For example, consider two file descriptors opening a same ordinary file. From /proc's view, we can get only its filename. Can we distinguish between shared file descriptors and two descriptors just opening the same file independently ?

I believe some c/r components (maybe not pipe) implemented in kernel level could be so simple and sophisticated.

> > Regardless of the approach when we start seriously discussing checkpoint/restart  
> > one of the big issues is how do we maintain an ABI to user space for all of  
> > the data so we can migrate applications across kernel version.  
>  
> I had planned on waiting until pidspace was more complete to start that

> discussion, but by all means lets start talking about a preferred  
> mechanism and api now.

First of all, let me know an assumption. Is there some  
super process (or daemon) to control all checkpoint and  
restart in that environment ? What functionality does it  
have ?

Thanks,

Masahiko.

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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 0/2] pipe: checkpoint and restart for pipe; brief  
description and test interface

Posted by [Masahiko Takahashi](#) on Fri, 02 Feb 2007 01:27:01 GMT

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Hi Cedric,

On Wed, 2007-01-31 at 16:28 +0100, Cedric Le Goater wrote:

> Masahiko Takahashi wrote:

> >

> > I would like to post a small patch that implements pipe checkpoint  
> > and restart functionality.

>

> so do you have some test programs that uses it ? It would most  
> interesting to see how all fits together.

My test program is only for debugging pipe without using namespace.  
So, I'm afraid it is not your interesting "all fits together" one.

> It seems to me that we need to think about the whole framework of  
> file checkpoint and restart before anything else. sure pipes are  
> kinda a special case because they are created by pairs (just  
> like socketpair).

>

> but all files have things in common, they have an fd which requires  
> to be the same at restart. they can be shared between processes  
> to start with which needs to be optimized at checkpoint and taken  
> into account. they have flags, etc.

>

> then, some have pending data, like socket and pipes.

>

> did you start to work on such a framework ?

This is not a kind of framework but my assumption here is to split an entity and descriptor sharing information. In checkpointing, first, saves the entity by its owner (as you mentioned above, special care is needed for pipe and socketpair since there might be a peer) and then saves its sharing information. Same in restoring.

An entity is one of ordinary file, pipe, or socket (socketpair, UDP, TCP, and so on) including buffer (pending data), and its actual processing depends on its type. My first trial was pipe. Since restoring entity is issued by its owner process, PID isn't required in arguments.

Sharing information requires PID as its argument because a file descriptor may be shared between processes. I didn't implement this because I didn't care pid namespace so far.

Thanks,

Masahiko.

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