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Subject: Re: [-mm PATCH] Memory controller improve user interface

Posted by [Dave Hansen](#) on Wed, 29 Aug 2007 22:36:40 GMT

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On Thu, 2007-08-30 at 03:57 +0530, Balbir Singh wrote:

> True, mmap() is a good example of such an interface for developers, I  
> am not sure about system admins though.  
>  
> To quote Andrew  
> <quote>  
> Reporting tools could run getpagesize() and do the arithmetic, but we  
> generally try to avoid exposing PAGE\_SIZE, HZ, etc to userspace in this  
> manner.  
> </quote>

Well, rounding to PAGE\_SIZE exposes PAGE\_SIZE as well, just in a non-intuitive fashion. :)

If we're going to modify what the user specifies, we should probably at least mandate that writes are only a "suggestion" and users must read back the value to ensure what actually got committed.

If we're going to round in any direction, shouldn't we round up? If a user specifies 4097 bytes and uses two pages, we don't want to complain when they hit that second page.

-- Dave

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Containers mailing list

[Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org](mailto:Containers@lists.linux-foundation.org)

<https://lists.linux-foundation.org/mailman/listinfo/containers>

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Subject: Re: [-mm PATCH] Memory controller improve user interface

Posted by [Balbir Singh](#) on Wed, 29 Aug 2007 22:44:15 GMT

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Dave Hansen wrote:

> On Thu, 2007-08-30 at 03:57 +0530, Balbir Singh wrote:  
>> True, mmap() is a good example of such an interface for developers, I  
>> am not sure about system admins though.  
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>> To quote Andrew  
>> <quote>  
>> Reporting tools could run getpagesize() and do the arithmetic, but we  
>> generally try to avoid exposing PAGE\_SIZE, HZ, etc to userspace in this  
>> manner.

>> </quote>

>

> Well, rounding to PAGE\_SIZE exposes PAGE\_SIZE as well, just in a  
> non-intuitive fashion. :)

>

Agreed, but the user might choose to ignore it altogether.

> If we're going to modify what the user specifies, we should probably at  
> least mandate that writes are only a "suggestion" and users must read  
> back the value to ensure what actually got committed.

>

Agreed, excellent suggestion!

> If we're going to round in any direction, shouldn't we round up? If a  
> user specifies 4097 bytes and uses two pages, we don't want to complain  
> when they hit that second page.

>

Absolutely, I used rounding to mean round up, truncation for rounding down.

--

Warm Regards,  
Balbir Singh  
Linux Technology Center  
IBM, ISTL

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