
Subject: numfile does not match with number of outputs from lsof

Posted by [johnwu](#) on Thu, 04 Oct 2007 18:09:47 GMT

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All,

I'm new to the openvz. Recently I came across a problem that the VPS exceeded the numfile limit. According to the document, numfile means number of open files. So I ran a lsof command on the VPS, it does not match with the value numfile in /proc/user_beancounters. Right now numfile shows 8000+ files being opened when lsof is showing only 800+ files? Am I missing something here?

thanks,

John

Subject: Re: numfile does not match with number of outputs from lsof

Posted by [khorenko](#) on Fri, 12 Oct 2007 09:51:13 GMT

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Hello John,

this is expected behavior: due to performance reasons we've implemented the files precharging mechanism - at the very beginning a process is created having already 16 files accounted. If it opens a new file, only an internal counter is increased (till it reaches 16), and the heavy operations on UBC (checking it and updating) are executed only when the process wants to open the 17th file. At that moment the next 16 files are precharged to the process (if there is a possibility to do this). Yes, this makes the numfile UBC parameter less accurate, but makes open() call faster.

If you're really unhappy with it and want to disable the precharging mechanism (and the performance decrease is OK for you), I can send you a patch, which will allow you to disable precharging. We've made it some time ago, guess that somebody might be unhappy, but still didn't have complaints.
