Subject: Curious about physpages vs RSS
Posted by devonblzx on Thu, 25 Sep 2008 08:54:17 GMT
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Hello,

I have been trying to figure out the actual RAM usage of some of my containers, I know physpages somewhat represents this but the numbers seem strange.

For example, when I added up all the physpages current values from /proc/user_beancounters of all running VPS's it turns out 1400MB of usage. When I looked at the wiki, I saw about adding kmem and the buffers which took it up to 1460MB, but when I type free -m it turns out...

```
# free -m
             total       used       free     shared    buffers     cached
Mem:          7899       7539        359          0        533       4972
-/+ buffers/cache:       2034       5864
Swap:         4110          0       4109
```

(2034MB Used after +/- buffers/cache)

When I add up the RSS values in 'ps aux' of all running VPS's, it turns out 1950MB, a much closer value.

Any ideas or explanations would be great. Which number is reliable?

Subject: Re: Curious about physpages vs RSS
Posted by kenjy on Thu, 25 Sep 2008 16:00:10 GMT
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is this the output of fee -m insite a VE?

Because as far I know a VE should not display values for buffers/cache and swap in free or top output.

another question, the total ammount of ram in your hardware node its Mem:7899 ?

what distro are you ussing?

Subject: Re: Curious about physpages vs RSS
Posted by devonblzx on Thu, 25 Sep 2008 16:27:54 GMT
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No, that is the free -m on the main node. Free -m inside the VPS would not give me what I

needed as I was adding up the physpages and RSS inside all the VE's not just one...

It's CentOS5 x8664 with 8GB of RAM, what is so surprising?

Subject: Re: Curious about physpages vs RSS
Posted by cdarnell on Fri, 12 Dec 2008 03:11:23 GMT
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From the wiki - the definition states: The sum of the physpages usage for all containers corresponds to the total number of pages used in the system by all containers.

I also found the sum of the containers on one of the openvz servers totalled a mere 3.3 gigs.

	total	used	free	shared	buffers	cached
Mem:	7973	7807	165	0	688	2717
-/+ buffers/cache:		4401	3572			

I would guess RSS to be more acruate for what we understand and need. I would ultimately check meminfo. Interesting though, I've definitely meant to try to take all this in myself and leverage the bean counters more for resource usage.