
Subject: Confusion about Burst RAM..

Posted by [akbsol](#) on Tue, 30 Dec 2008 13:03:37 GMT

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Hi everyone,

I have a small 128 MB VPS with 1 GB burstable ram. 128 MB seemed more than sufficient to me as its for personal use and I intend to run just lighttpd, tinydns and xmail on it. The memory usage shown in HyperVM when only the former 2 applications are run remains between 20-30MB. But as soon as I run Xmail, the usage jumps to 115-120MB with just 4-5 MB free RAM. The ps command shows that it allocates about 70-80 MB of RAM (VSZ) although uses just 1-2MB (RSS).

Currently used oomguarpages = 9681

Currently used privvmpages = 32358

So in such a scenario in which "free" command shows 120MB used and 4MB free, what will happen if I start another application like for example mysql which demands 5-15 MB in low configuration? Will it start using burstable memory?

My basic question is that: is memory allocated (and not used) by an application counted against my total memory usage? If I kill this one application, my usage drops to 20-25 MB. Some applications like XMail, MSQl etc allocate a huge memory but use only 1-2MB in real. This is how they work. So tell me how do I check whether I am going over my limits or not.

Please help me overcome these confusions.

Thanks.

-Regards,
Akash

Subject: Re: Confusion about Burst RAM..

Posted by [kir](#) on Tue, 30 Dec 2008 13:50:29 GMT

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We in OpenVZ do not use the "Burst RAM" term. This is something HyperVM specific, so you have better chances asking HyperVM support.

From the other side, if you want to know more about User Beancounters, check <http://wiki.openvz.org/UBC>
