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Subject: unknown source of system load

Posted by [coolcold](#) on Sun, 27 Feb 2011 14:19:03 GMT

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System is experiencing very strange high load - uptime says it near 40-50, vmstat says there are around 40 blocked processes while there almost noone with blocked state (from HN):

```
root@beta:~# vmstat 1 10 && echo "" && ps aux|grep ' D ' && echo && uptime
procs -----memory----- ---swap-- -----io----- -system-- ----cpu----
 r b swpd free buff cache si so bi bo in cs us sy id wa
0 37  0 476252 102404 5950924  0  0  71  36  0  5  2  1 89  8
0 39  0 471012 102452 5955228  0  0 4864  24 2108 3046  3  3  0 95
0 38  0 468028 102460 5958752  0  0 3392  32 1779 3222  3  2  1 93
0 35  0 463636 102488 5963332  0  0 4328 112 1950 2509  2  2  0 96
0 34  0 461548 102516 5967700  0  0 4636  0 1933 2668  2  2  0 96
0 34  0 457956 102524 5973324  0  0 5452  12 1715 2038  2  1  0 97
0 35  0 447856 102524 5976828  0  0 3692  16 1799 1904  4  2  1 93
0 37  0 443300 102560 5981656  0  0 4628  20 1744 2253  7  2  2 90
0 39  0 439156 102592 5986348  0  0 4728  56 1817 2272  2  2  0 96
0 38  0 434012 102616 5991188  0  0 5024  0 2058 2738  3  2  0 96
```

```
www-data 8752 0.1 0.1 26876 9800 ?    D   15:45  0:05 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
root    11171 0.0 0.1 116968 8244 ?    D   16:42  0:00 svn status
www-data 12656 0.5 0.2 34640 17392 ?    D   17:04  0:01 /usr/sbin/apache2 -k start
root    12717 0.1 0.0 18032 6988 ?    D   17:05  0:00 svn status
root    13009 0.0 0.0  5368  792 pts/1  S+  17:09  0:00 grep --color=auto D
```

17:09:49 up 16 days, 10:34, 7 users, load average: 42.99, 47.23, 48.43

pidstat -d doesn't show a lot of processes doing read/write, usually 4-5, but load is somehow io bound - iowait is near 95-100%

iostat showed near 100% disk usage.

Looks like this load is caused by one of VEs - while HN has LA 42, it has LA 40. UBC is almost clean, dmesg too.

```
krabrss2:~# grep -v '0$' /proc/user_beancounters
```

Version: 2.5

uid	resource	held	maxheld	barrier	limit	failcnt
	dgramrcvbuf	0	262096	262144	262144	
2983						

Now load is decreasing on it's own, but it's very strange to get such situation without any clear reasons.

Systeminfo:

```
root@beta:~# cat /proc/version && cat /proc/vz/version
```

Linux version 2.6.18-194.26.1.el5.028stab079.2-nekotaz2-kernel05gcc4.1

(root@nekoz2.coolcold.org) (gcc version 4.1.3 20080704 (prerelease) (Debian 4.1.2-25)) #1  
SMP Thu Dec 23 12:52:35 MSK 2010  
028stab079.2

## File Attachments

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1) [hwnode\\_beta\\_la\\_graph.png](#), downloaded 597 times

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**Subject:** Re: unknown source of system load  
**Posted by** [nuno](#) on Tue, 15 Mar 2011 08:10:44 GMT  
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coolcold wrote on Sun, 27 February 2011 14:19  
root@beta:~# vmstat 1 10 && echo "" && ps aux|grep ' D ' && echo && uptime

That grep has an extra space. It doesn't catch states like D+ or Ds.

My guess is that one of your HDs was retrying a failed read, and stuck everything else. smartctl -l /dev/sdX

Regards,

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