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Subject: Re: [RFC][PATCH 3/5] Use pid namespace from struct pid\_nrs list  
Posted by [ebiederm](#) on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 17:52:52 GMT  
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"Serge E. Hallyn" <serue@us.ibm.com> writes:

> Quoting Eric W. Biederman (ebiederm@xmission.com):  
>> sukadev@us.ibm.com writes:  
>>  
>> > From: Sukadev Bhattiprolu <sukadev@us.ibm.com>  
>> > Subject: [RFC][PATCH 3/5] Use pid namespace from struct pid\_nrs list  
>> >  
>> > Stop using task->nsproxy->pid\_ns. Use pid\_namespace from pid->pid\_nrs  
>> > list instead.  
>> >  
>> > To simplify error handling, this patch moves processing of CLONE\_NEWPID  
>> > flag, currently in copy\_namespaces()/copy\_process(), to alloc\_pid() which  
>> > is where the process association with a pid namespace is established.  
>> >  
>> > i.e when cloning a new pid namespace, alloc\_pid() allocates a new pid\_nr  
>> > for both the parent and child namespaces.  
>>  
>>  
>> This patch seems to do a bit much, it is hard to follow what changes you  
>> are making.  
>  
> Is this a design comment, or do you mean you'd like to see it broken  
> into two or more patches?

The latter. There is no reason for the changes to remove the use  
of nsproxy->pid\_ns need to be all in one patch.

>> It probably makes sense to modify things so alloc\_pid can do everything  
>> it needs to.  
>>  
>> It looks like we can safely move alloc\_pid into copy\_process and  
>> just dig out the pid number and place it in nr if copy\_process succeeds.  
>>  
>> Which should allow the special case for setting the child reaper to go  
>> away, because we can allocate the task\_struct before allocating the struct  
>> pid.  
>  
> That would be nice. That little reaper setting helper bugs me.

Which is why I suggested the reorganization....

>> > Index: lx26-20-mm2b/kernel/pid.c

```

>> > =====
>> > --- lx26-20-mm2b.orig/kernel/pid.c 2007-03-09 19:00:42.000000000 -0800
>> > +++ lx26-20-mm2b/kernel/pid.c 2007-03-09 19:01:09.000000000 -0800
>> > @@ -221,8 +221,13 @@ fastcall void free_pid(struct pid *pid)
>> > hlist_del_rcu(&pid->pid_chain);
>> > spin_unlock_irqrestore(&pidmap_lock, flags);
>> >
>> > - hlist_for_each_entry(pid_nr, pos, &pid->pid_nrs, node)
>> > + hlist_for_each_entry(pid_nr, pos, &pid->pid_nrs, node) {
>> > free_pidmap(pid_nr->pid_ns, pid_nr->nr);
>> > +
>> > + /* put the reference we got in kref_init() in clone_pid_ns() */
>> > + if (pid_nr->nr == 1)
>> > + put_pid_ns(pid_nr->pid_ns);
>>
>> Ok. This seems to make sense, but why restrict this to only pid 1?
>> I'm almost certain this will be the case, but... this seems a like
>> a unwarranted special case at the moment.
>>
>> Basically why is it safe to restrict this to pid == 1. Is it possible
>> that we can race here?
>
> I think he's dropping an extra reference due to the pid_ns count being
> set to 1 then alloce'd for each pid. Rather than worry about a race
> here i'd prefer the extra reference be gotten rid of.

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This is the only put\_pid\_ns I could find, and free\_pid is the only place I could find it.

Regardless casual inspection of the code is not showing what is going on and why so this part of the patch needs to be addressed.

```

>> > -struct pid *alloc_pid(void)
>> > +struct pid *alloc_pid(int flags)
>> > {
>> > struct pid *pid;
>> > enum pid_type type;
>> > - int nr = -1;
>> > - struct pid_nr *pid_nr;
>> > + struct pid_nr *pid_nr[2] = { NULL, NULL};
>> I would rather not see pid_nr special cased this way at all (a loop?)
>> but if we are going to I think two separate variables makes more
>> sense than this array.
>
> Yes, the plan is for it to become a loop, with another CLONE flag to
> specify whether all parent pid_namespaces should get a pid entry for
> these processes or not. I'd love to just make that always the case, but
> I'm afraid the clone flag is necessary else kernel memory use is going

```

> to skyrocket too quickly.

I doubt kernel memory will sky rocket. The normal case is just two pids. We can have an arbitrary nesting limit to prevent the worst abuses.

If you don't create all of the pids you get into weird semantic problems, and a lot more complex kernel/user space interface.

Eric

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Containers mailing list  
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