

Re: Panic caused by bad memory?

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Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/hackers/2006-10/msg00203.html>

- *From:* Charles Sprickman <spork@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 26 Oct 2006 18:24:33 -0400 (EDT)
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On Wed, 25 Oct 2006, John Baldwin wrote:

On Wednesday 25 October 2006 02:28, Charles Sprickman wrote:

On Tue, 24 Oct 2006 perryh@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

I can't get a kernel dump since it fails like this each time:

```
dumping to dev #da/0x20001, offset
2097152
dump 1024 1023 1022 1021 Aborting dump
due to I/O error.
status == 0xb, scsi status == 0x0
failed, reason: i/o error
```

Bad memory seems unlikely to cause an I/O error trying to write the dump to the swap partition. I'd guess a dicey drive — and bad swap space could also account for the original crash. You might be able to get a backup by booting single user, provided nothing activates the (presumably bad) swap partition.

Just for the record, this box is running an Adaptec raid controller (2005S – ZCR card) and swap is coming off a mirrored array.

Coincidentally, I have a utility box where it had bad blocks on the swap partition (but no others) – what I saw there is that the box would just hang and spit out a bunch of "swap_pager timeout" messages to the console. Quick and dirty remote fix while waiting for a drive? Run file-backed swap on /usr. :)

Re: Panic caused by bad memory?

Let's pretend for a minute it's not the drive that's the root cause...
Not saying it isn't – we're none too thrilled with these Adaptec RAID
controllers... Do those memory addresses in the panic message point
towards bad memory if they are always the same?

No, they are virtual addresses. Having the same EIP means you are crashing in
the same place. Did you recently kldunload a module before it crashed?

Same place == same code? The only change on this box was a massive portupgrade which included apache,
php, mysql, postgres and most of the additional gnu tools.

There is one module that someone set to load on boot, and that's the linuxolator. I have disabled that in rc.conf
for now and we'll see what happens after the next panic.

We also have a few sticks of RAM on order now...

Thanks,

Charles

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John Baldwin

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