

Re: another error with md malloc based fs

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/stable/2007-03/msg00672.html>

- *From:* "Michael Schuh" <michael.schuh@xxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 23 Mar 2007 01:01:31 +0100
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hi Chuck,
hi @list

me again, behind the scenes,
i would take over my Server by an hoster from
Linux to FreeBSD on the running system,
while the hoster takes money for pressing 2 buttons and
put a disk in my Server.....so
i create now a mfs based system that can bootet from disk and resides
fully in ram. I have tryed out Colin's depenguinator,
but it fails...some times
now i would do the steps by hand....

thanks

cheers

michael
2007/3/23, Chuck Swiger <cswiger@xxxxxxx>:

On Mar 22, 2007, at 4:17 PM, Michael Schuh wrote:
> i can't understand how malloc can eat all available
> memory, i have 2Gigs of it ;-)
> so it seems to me i know what i doing, if
> i have 1,6 Gigs free Memory, and i say ok get me 750Megs from
> my 1,6 Gigs of free Memory, what was faulty on that????

The two choices involve a swap-based RAMdisk, which can use all of
the available physical RAM it needs to, since this memory is
swappable, or a kernel-memory-based RAMdisk, which uses wired-down
memory from within the kernel.

You shouldn't or can't create huge kernel-based RAMdisks without
expanding the amount of KVM available to the kernel...it's not
reasonable to wire down hundreds of MB or RAM in almost all situations.

> i hope it gave another way to use such ram-disk without using
> swap or other harddisk based backend....otoh my ram is not fully

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- > useful
- > for me and i must, after twelve years of using freebsd, looking
- > back to
- > linux, and that i never would, only for using ramdisks....

If you wanted to create a 10MB RAMdisk, using kernel-based memory would be fine.

For things which are much larger than that, the kernel's global VM management is using techniques like page-fault frequency heuristics and will do a better job of keeping active stuff cached in RAM (regardless of whether the stuff is part of a running process or part of your RAMdisk filesystem), if you let the kernel manage the situation than if you try to configure hundreds of MB which can only be used for a RAMdisk.

Anyway, if you want to use Linux instead, nobody here is going to try to persuade you to do otherwise. Have fun,

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-Chuck

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