



**1.** Open the file descriptor `/dev/kvm`. This is used by the user space program so that it can perform various KVM related operations such as creating ,configuring the virtual machine.The `KVM_GET_API_VERSION` is used to know the kvm api version .This is performed by the `ioctl` call which takes three parameter :

- virtual machine device fd
- `KVM_GET_API_VERSION`:It is macro defined in kvm header file.It specifies the `ioctl` operation
- 0 : no additional parameters are passed

**2.** To Create a virtual machine we use the `ioctl` call

`ioctl` call is ; `ioctl(vm->dev_fd,KVM_CREATE_VM,0);`

- `vm->dev_fd` : It is a file descriptor by opening `/dev/kvm`
- `KVM_CREATE_VM`: It denotes the `ioctl` operation which is requested
- 0: It denotes that there is no need for additional parameter for this `ioctl` call

**3.** To map files or devices to memory we use the `mmap` function

It is defined as:

`mmap(NULL ,mem_size, PROT_READ | PROT_WRITE, MAP_PRIVATE | MAP_ANONYMOUS | MAP_NORESERVE ,-1,0)`

- `NULL` :ldkfn
- `Mem_size`: This parameter states the amount of memory to be allocated in bytes.
- `PROT_READ | PROT_WRITE`:This parameter specifies that the memory allocated can be read and write both.
- `MAP_PRIVATE`:This flag specifies that the memory will be private to the mapping process
- `MAP_ANONYMOUS`:This flag specifies that memory should not be associated with any kind of file instead it is set to zero.
- `MAP_NORESERVE` : This parameter specifies that the memory is not reserved .It is allocated on demand of the process.
- -1 : This parameter specifies the file descriptor to be mapped .In our program we have used `map_anonymous` so it is set to -1.
- 0: This parameter specifies the offset within the file from which the mapping should start.

**4.** To setup memory region for the VM we use the `KVM_SET_USER_MEMORY_REGION` `ioctl` call

`ioctl` call : `ioctl(vm->vm_fd , KVM_SET_USER_MEMORY_REGION , &memreg);`

- `vm->vm_fd`: This parameter specifies the file descriptor of the virtual machine for which the memory region to be setup.
- `KVM_SET_USER_MEMORY_REGION`: This parameter specifies the memory region is being seup for the user memory.
- `&memreg`: This parameter is a structure which denotes the where to set the memory region .The structure contain the starting physical address, flags size etc.

**5.** To retrieve the memory mapped needed for virtual cpu which is required for communication between user and kernel space

ioctl call is : `ioctl(vm->dev_fd,KVM_GET_VCPU_MMAP_SIZE,0);`

- First parameter is file descriptor of /dev/kvm
- Specific request for type of operations
- No additional parameters are required
- It returns the `vcpu_mmap_size` which will contain size of memory mapped area needed for vcpu state.

**6.**

To get the special registers value in the long mode we use the below ioctl call:

`ioctl(vcpu->vcpu_fd,KVM_GET_SREGS,&sregs)`

- The first parameter is the current virtual cpu fd
- The second parameter is a constant which denotes the type of operation to be performed.
- The Third parameter is a structure of type `struct kvm_sregs` which contain the different registers like `cr0,cr1,cr2,cr3` etc.

**7.** To get the general purpose register we use the below ioctl call:

`ioctl(vcpu->vcpu_fd,KVM_SET_REGS,&regs)`

- The first parameter is the current virtual cpu fd
- The second parameter is a constant which denotes the type of operation to be performed in this case it is for GPR.
- The Third parameter is a structure of type `struct kvm_sregs` which contain the different registers like `rax,rbx,rsi,rdi,r12,rip` etc.

**8.** To copy the guest64 code into the vm memory area we can use the function `memcpy`.

`memcpy(vm->mem, guest64, guest64_end - guest64)`

- The first parameter is the memory area allocated for virtual machine it is a pointer.
- The second parameter is a pointer to the guest code that we want to copy into virtual machine.
- The third parameter is calculating the size of the memory region that we need to copy

**9.** To Instruct the hypervisor to start the virtual cpu and it also used by hypervisor to the guest code on the vcpu.

The ioctl call is: `ioctl(vcpu->vcpu_fd,KVM_RUN,0);`

- The first parameter is virtual cpu fd
- The second parameter is `KVM_RUN` which is a command that hypervisor will execute.
- The third parameter is 0 it means no additional parameter is passed.

**10.** To retrieve the general purpose register when the KVM\_HLT instruction is executed we use the ioctl call

```
ioctl(vcpu->vcpu_fd, KVM_GET_REGS, &regs);
```

- The First parameter is virtual cpu fd
- The second Parameter is command to retrieve the register value.
- The third parameter is the structure in which the register value will be stored.