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A New Open Source SMB2/3 Server Running on Windows in User Mode!

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Introduction – James Westland Cain

- Principal Architect Software @ Grass Valley
- □ I code every day as well as being arm waver in chief!
- Been coding for nearly 40 years, at GV for nearly 20!
- My research interests include file systems innovation and modern video production.
- PhD in Advanced Software Engineering from Reading University
- Visiting Research Fellow at Brunel University



My Previous SDC Presentations

- 2010: RESTful Filsystems: https://www.snia.org/sites/default/orig/sdc_archives/2010_presentations/thursday/JamesCain_RESTful_Filesystems.pdf
- 2011: Hidden Gems in the NAS Protocols: URL Missing
- 2013: Exploiting the High Availability features in SMB 3.0 to support Speed and Scale
- https://www.snia.org/sites/default/files/files2/files2/SDC2013/SMB3/JamesCain_Exploiting_High_Availability_SMB30%20to%20support-v1.pdf
- 2015: A Pausable File System:
- http://www.snia.org/sites/default/files/SDC15_presentations/file_sys/JamesCain_A_Pausable_File_ System.pdf
- 2017: Programming the Path:
- https://www.snia.org/sites/default/files/SDC/2017/presentations/File Systems/Cain James Westland Programming the Path.pdf (Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNqYIQU_QX0)



Agenda I

- Introduction, Rationale & Competition
- Code tour
 - Architecture
 - Building
 - Running
 - Plugins



Agenda II

- What is working
- Research Topics
- □ Debts & To Dos
- Ideas for projects



Learning Objectives I

- Learn how elegant and simple the SMB2/3 protocol really is
- Learn how hard it is to develop an SMB2/3 server.
 - ☐ Hint: we provide solutions for (some of) the hard bits ☺



Learning Objectives II

- Learn how much of Windows can be re-used to develop an SMB2/3 server
- Get some ideas of what you can do with a user mode file system for your own projects



Introduction

- This talk is about writing an SMB2/3 server.
- The server runs on Windows.
 - This has some interesting benefits
- The server runs in user mode.
 - This also has some interesting benefits
- The server is now open source
 - ☐ You can play too ☺



Rationale

- Why implement SMB2/3 on Windows?
 - I have data I'd like to offer as files
 - □ The data is within the Windows eco-system.
 - Writing Kernel mode filesystems is notoriously hard
 - □ This approach is easier honestly!
 - It's a NAS not a DAS!
 - Having direct access to the SMB server offers many interesting benefits for filesystems innovation



Fuse Example Uses (from Wikipedia)

- archivemount
- CloudStore (formerly, Kosmos filesystem): By mounting via FUSE, existing Linux utilities can interact with CloudStore
- EncFS: Encrypted virtual filesystem
- ExpanDrive: A commercial filesystem implementing SFTP/FTP/S3/Swift using FUSE
- FTPFS
- GlusterFS: Clustered Distributed Filesystem having ability to scale up to several petabytes.
- GmailFS: Filesystem which stores data as mail in Gmail
- GVfs: The virtual filesystem for the GNOME desktop
- □ KBFS: A distributed filesystem with end-to-end encryption and a global namespace based on Keybase.io service that uses FUSE to create cryptographically secure file mounts.
- Lustre cluster filesystem will use FUSE to allow it to run in userspace, so that a FreeBSD port is possible.[8] However, the ZFS-Linux port of Lustre will be running ZFS's DMU (Data Management Unit) in userspace.[9]
- MinFS: MinFS is a fuse driver for Amazon S3 compatible object storage server. MinFS[10] lets you mount a remote bucket (from a S3 compatible object store), as if it were a local directory
- MooseFS: An open source distributed fault-tolerant file system available on every OS with FUSE implementation (Linux, FreeBSD, NetBSD, OpenSolaris, OS X), able to store petabytes of data spread over several servers visible as one resource.
- NTFS-3G and Captive NTFS, allowing access to NTFS filesystems
- Sector File System: Sector is a distributed file system designed for large amount of commodity computers. Sector uses FUSE to provide a mountable local file system interface
- □ SSHFS: Provides access to a remote filesystem through SSH
- Transmit: A commercial FTP client that also adds the ability to mount WebDAV, SFTP, FTP and Amazon S3 servers as disks in Finder, via MacFUSE.
- WebDrive: A commercial filesystem implementing WebDAV, SFTP, FTP, FTPS and Amazon S3
- □ WikipediaFS: View and edit Wikipedia articles as if they were real files
- Using FUSE, MacFUSE and Callback File System respectively for file system integration, in addition to a Java-based app accessible from any Java-enabled web browser (service discontinued in 2015).

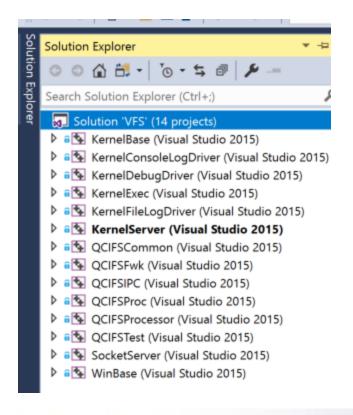


Competition (on Windows)

- Commercial Fuse like offerings on Windows:
 - https://www.callbacktechnologies.com/cbfsconnect/
- Open Source Fuse like offerings on Windows:
 - https://github.com/dokan-dev/dokany
 - https://github.com/billziss-gh/winfsp
- All use Kernel Mode drivers
 - This is hard!
- They are local file systems
 - SMB2/3 is a network protocol ...



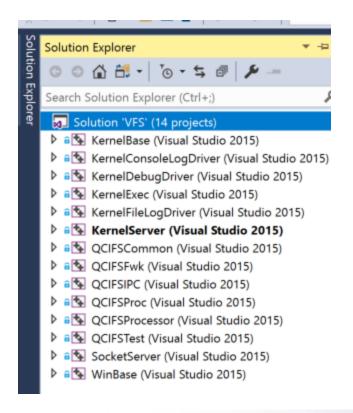
The Code – Architecture I



- □ Approx 80k Lines of code
- 14 projects that build many DLLs, a LIB and one EXE that loads the DLLs.
- Taken from a *much* bigger project that is millions of lines of code.



The Code – Architecture II



- □ Written in C++ (premodern, so own smart pointers etc)
- Uses Windows SDK and The Boost C++ libraries.
- Builds to 64 bit Windows binaries.



The Code – Architecture III

- The Kernel(*) projects have no knowledge of SMB2/3
- They offer useful services that support the layers above
 - KernelServer is an exe that loads the DLLs.
 - KernelServer calls moduleInit on each DLL.
 - The DebugDiver catches GPFs and logs call stacks
 - There are two logging DLLs
 - A Console and A File Based Logger.
 - □ By default, file based logs are written to c:\data\logs



The Code – Architecture IV

- The QCIFS(*) Dlls implement the SMB2/3 server code and offer some simple example file systems to play with.
- QCIFSTest is a simple RAM only file and folder system.
 - QCIFSTest is a good place to start.



Building

- □ README.md is in the root folder start here.
 - □ Get Visual Studio (2015 or better),
 - Get a modern version of Boost (1.65.1 or better),
 - Configure a path to boost in the props file
 - Build a release build



Running I

- How does it work?
 - It's just a Network Server offering a well defined protocol.
 - We bind to port 445 and offer everything that an SMB2/3 server is expected to offer.
- □ Run "RUNME.bat"



Freeing port 445

```
cSocketServer::startListeningSocket - opening listening socket on port 445
cListeningSocket::cListeningSocket() - getsockopt(SO_RCVBUF) 2097152
cListeningSocket::cListeningSocket() - getsockopt(SO_SNDBUF) 2097152
RVER bind failed with error 10013 - An attempt was made to access a socket in a way forbidden by its access permissions.
RVER COULDN'T LISTEN FOR INCOMING CONNECTIONS ON PORT 445
```

- We need to free port 445 in order to bind to it!
- Option 1: kill Server Service!
- Option 2: (less nuclear) unbind the Server Service from port 445.



Free445

- Use NetServerTransportEnum to find
 - "\\Device\\NetbiosSmb"
- Use NetServerTransportDel to delete it.
 - This requires elevated privileges.
- This gets re-set on the next windows reboot.
- □ Free445 is a small project that does this.



NetManService

- A more elegant way is to install a service, that can be run up each time we run KernelServer.
- The NetManService does this.
 - It runs the same code as Free445
 - KernelServer does not normally need elevated privileges to run.
 - □ KernelServer only needs to be elevated when it installs the service - on first boot.



Running II

```
cSocketServer::startListeningSocket - opening listening socket on port 445
cListeningSocket::cListeningSocket() - getsockopt(SO_RCVBUF) 2097152
cListeningSocket::cListeningSocket() - getsockopt(SO_SNDBUF) 2097152
cListeningSocket::cListeningSocket - listening on port 445
```

■ Now we can bind, so we can listen for TCP connections on port 445.



Loopback connection to the SMB2/3 server

```
C:\Users\James>net use * \\127.0.0.1\test
Drive Y: is now connected to \\127.0.0.1\test.
```

The command completed successfully.



Code to Handle SMBs

- Project: QCIFSProcessor
 - (The name is a bit old now ...)
- □ Requests: cSMB2Request.cpp
- ☐ Sessions: cSMB2Session.cpp
- □ Responses: cSMB2Response.cpp

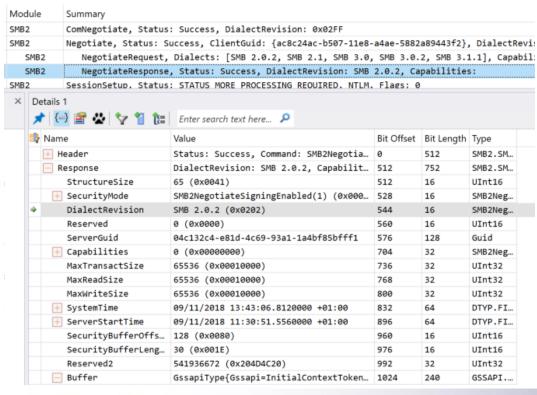


SMB Dispatch & Efficient Routing

- cQCIFSPacketProcessor::AddPacket receives complete SMB packets from the wire.
- Stack based cSMB2Request wrapped around wire payload.
- cSMB2Request::dispatchCommand routes to one of 19 SMB handlers
- cSMB2Request::getResponses uses pre-allocated buffers wrapped by cSMB2Response that formats bytes to go on the wire.
- There are no memcpy calls in the pipeline
- Use of Win32 IOCompletionPort and TransmitPackets API supports high speeds with low overhead. See SocketServer project.



Protocol Version Negotiation



- We need to negotiate a protocol version.
- We choose the simplest (for now)



Session Setup

Summary				
SessionSetup, Status: STATU	S_MORE_PROCESSING_REQUIRED, NTLM, Flags:	: 0		
SessionSetupRequest, NTL	M, Flags: 0, PreviousSessionId: 0x000000	900000000	10	
SessionSetupResponse, St	atus: STATUS_MORE_PROCESSING_REQUIRED, N	NTLM, Sess	ionId: 0x	0000000000001
SessionSetup, Status: Succe	ss, NTLM v1 with extended session securi	ity, Flags	: 0	
SessionSetupRequest, NTL	M v1 with extended session security, Use	er: , Flag	s: 0, Pre	viousSession
SessionSetupResponse, Status: Success, SessionId: 0x000000000010001				
ThenConnect Status: Success Dath: \\127 a a 1\TDCC ThenTD: avagagagaga Conshilities:				
Details 1				
of the state of th	Enter search text here 🔑			
Name	Value	Bit Offset	Bit Length	Туре
Header	Command: SMB2SessionSetup, SessionId:	0	512	SMB2.SM
Request	Flags: 0, PreviousSessionId: 0x000000	512	192	SMB2.SM
StructureSize	25 (0x0019)	512	16	UInt16
+ Flags	0 (0x00)	528	8	SMB2Ses
SecurityMode	SMB2NegotiateSigningEnabled(1) (0x01)	536	8	SMB2Ses
Capabilities	SMB2GlobalCapDfs(1) (0x00000001)	544	32	SMB2Ses
Channel	0 (0x0000000)	576	32	UInt32
SecurityBufferOffs	88 (0x0058)	608	16	UInt16
SecurityBufferLeng	121 (0x0079)	624	16	UInt16
PreviousSessionId	0 (0x0000000000000000)	640	64	UInt64
Buffer	GssapiType{Gssapi=NegTokenResp{NegSta	704	968	GSSAPI
─ Gssapi	NegTokenResp{NegState=1,SupportedMech	0	968	SPNG.Ne
NegState	AcceptIncomplete(1) (0x000000000000000	32	40	Int64
ResponseToken	AuthenticateMessage, NegotiateFlags:	72	736	NLMP.Au
MechListMIC	01,00,00,00,65,05,91,36,13,21,EC,4F,0	808	160	BinaryV

- We then need to establish a secure session.
 - ☐ This generates the sessionKey for signing the session payloads.



Session Key Generation I

- Windows Advantage: Use SSPI API!
- PackageName = "NTLM"
- QuerySecurityPackageInfo, AcquireCredentialsHandle, QueryContextAttributes, AcceptSecurityContext, CompleteAuthToken, DeleteSecurityContext, FreeContextBuffer, FreeCredentialsHandle.



Session Key Generation II

- Windows Advantage: Use Bcrypt API!
- BCRYPT_RC4_ALGORITHM,
 BCRYPT_MD5_ALGORITHM,
 BCRYPT_SHA256_ALGORITHM,
 BCRYPT_ALG_HANDLE_HMAC_FLAG,
 BCRYPT_AES_CMAC_ALGORITHM.



NTLM v2 Authentication - Algorithm

- NTOWFv2(Passwd, User, UserDom)
 HMAC_MD5(MD4(UNICODE(Passwd)),
 UNICODE(ConcatenationOf(Uppercase(User),
 UserDom)))
- "NTOWFv2("Password", "User", "Domain") is
 - Oc 86 8a 40 3b fd 7a 93 a3 00 1e f2 2e f0 2e 3f
- □ Taken from [MS-NLMP]: NT LAN Manager (NTLM) Authentication Protocol

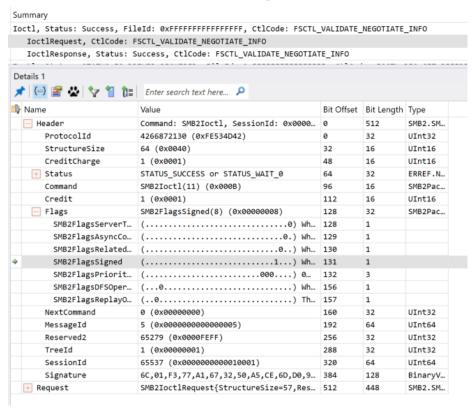


NTLM v2 Authentication - Code

```
Buffer NTOWFv2 (Buffer& password, Buffer& user, Buffer& domain) {
  Buffer md4Psswrd:
  hashVal(BCRYPT MD4 ALGORITHM, password, md4Psswrd);
  Buffer userAndDom:
  NT VERIFY(userAndDom.Create(user.GetSize() +
domain.GetSize()));
 memcpy(userAndDom.GetData(), user.GetData(), user.GetSize());
  memcpy(userAndDom.GetData() + user.GetSize(), domain.GetData(),
domain.GetSize());
  return HMAC MD5 (md4Psswrd, userAndDom);
```



Validate Negotiate Info



- A server must handle this FSCTL or the client will disconnect.
- The SMB is signed, so the reply must be signed too.
- Signing requires the session key.



VFS - Adding Shares I

```
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - IPC$
C Loading module "QCIFSProc"...
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - PROC
C Loading module "QCIFSTest"...
  cTestLoader::cTestLoader
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - TEST
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - SHAREFOLDER1
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - SHAREFOLDER2
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - SHAREFOLDER3
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - SHAREFOLDER3
ESSOR cShareManager::Add() - SHAREFOLDER4
```

- Class iQCIFSProcessor is a singleton (it registers using some KernelExec macros).
- □ iQCIFSProcessor::singleton().attachResource(..) is used to add new share names to the SMB server.



VFS - Adding Shares II

- QCIFSProcessor module receives and returns payload bytes to the SocketServer.
- iQCIFSFwk::singleton().createTreeResourceFactory() returns iTreeResourceFactory instances suitable to be passed to iQCIFSProcessor::attachResource().
- QCIFSFwk module offers lots of boiler plate code to support default implementations – enabling easy File System Development.



QCIFSTest – An Example File System I

- A very simple basic file system driver.
- It can offer readonly files from local disk and RAM only mutable files and folders.
- □ Its small ...

```
      column | column |
```



QCIFSTest – An Example File System II

- □ createTreeResourceFactory expects an iChildLoader instance.
- QCIFSTest implements a class cTestLoader : public cChildLoader, public iCreate, public iRename, public cRefCount
- Inherit from:
 - cChildLoader Base implementation that returns the children of this folder by implementing void registerListener(const vfs::cPtr<iChildLoaderVisitor> pChildListener)
 - □ iCreate adds creation support for files and folders
 - □ iRename adds rename support
 - □ cRefCount mixin reference count to enable our smart pointer



QCIFSTest – An Example File System III

- The iChildLoaderVisitor interface offers lots of ways to add files and folders to this folder, using various overloads on updateFolder and updateFile.
- □ Variations on types of folder functionality can be built using interfaces previously mentioned (iChildLoader, iCreate, iRename, etc).
- □ Variations on types of files can be built by inheriting from interfaces such as iReadCallback or iWriteCallback.



Example File System – Adding Folders

```
virtual void iChildLoaderVisitor::updateFolder(const vfs::String& sName
   , const vfs::cPtr<iChildLoader> pChildLoader
   , const vfs::cPtr<iRename> pRename
   , const vfs::cPtr<iCreate> pFolderCreate
   , const vfs::cConstPtr<vfs::cMemoryView> pIconMem
   , const vfs::cPtr<iFileEvent> pFileEvent = vfs::cPtr<iFileEvent>()
   , const bool bDeletable=false
   , const bool bNotify = true) = 0;
```



Example File System – Adding Files

```
virtual void iChildLoaderVisitor::updateFile(
    const vfs::String& sName
    , vfs::cPtr<iReadCallback> readCallback
    , const vfs::cPtr<iFileEvent> pFileEvent = vfs::cPtr<iFileEvent>()
    , bool bDeletable = true
    , const bool bNotify = true) = 0;
  virtual void iChildLoaderVisitor::updateFile(
    vfs::cPtr<iWriteCallback> writeCallback
    , const vfs::String& sName
    , bool bDeletable = true
    , const bool bNotify = true) = 0;
```



Example File System – Readonly Files

```
class iReadCallback {
public:
  virtual ~iReadCallback() {}
  virtual unsigned int64 getSize(ULONGLONG fid) = 0;
  virtual DWORD readBytes (tTransmitList &krTPM, DWORD& nBytes, const
LARGE INTEGER &nOffset, const int sessionID, ULONGLONG fid) = 0;
  virtual bool canExecute() { return false; }//defaults to no execution rights
  virtual bool canCache() { return true; }//defaults to SMB2 BATCH OPLOCK
  virtual DWORD registerChangeListener(vfs::cPtr<iCallbackChangeListener>
listener) = 0;
  virtual DWORD close(ULONGLONG fid) {return 0;}
};
```



Example File System – Mutable Files

```
class iWriteCallback : public iReadCallback {
public:
  virtual DWORD setSize(unsigned int64 newSize) = 0;
  virtual DWORD writeBytes (vfs::cConstPtr<vfs::cMemoryView> buffer, const
LARGE INTEGER & offset, const int sessionID) = 0;
};
class iFileEvent {
public:
  virtual ~iFileEvent(){}
  virtual DWORD notifyDelete() = 0;
```



Example file implementation classes

- □ class cBasicFile : public iReadCallback, public cRefCount
 - Takes a path to a local file and offers it to the VFS as a read only byte range.
- class cTestWriteCallback : public iWriteCallback, public iRename, public iFileEvent, public vfs::cRefCount
 - ☐ Created inside cTestLoader::File, added to iChildLoaderVisitor USing updateFile.
- cTestLoader::Directory creates extra instances of cTestLoader to support sub directories.



It's not just a DAS – it's a NAS I

- The competition listed in the front matter were all using IFSKit style Kernel mode drivers to build loopback filesystems.
- Our VFS is a NAS protocol server.
 - Its so much more than just Loopback!
- Its has been tested against numerous clients, including OS-X, Linux, Solaris and Windows.
 - No warranties though ②



It's not just a DAS – it's a NAS II

- □ The real advantage of being a NAS server comes with more modern SMB3 features.
- SMB3 offers clustering for scale out and failover.
- The SMB3 protocol has been used in very interesting and demanding deployments, such as storage for booting Hyper-V images.



Protocol Research I

- Credits see QCIFSProcessor Main.cpp
 - □ Defaults to 40 plenty for loopback
 - Can be overridden using registry
 - See moduleInit in QCIFSProcessor project.



Protocol Research II

- Protocol Versions #define kUSE_SMB3
 - Enables v3 negotiation
 - SMB3 uses different session key calculation.
- **SMB3 supports:**

```
SMB2_SHARE_CAP_CONTINUOUS_AVAILABILITY, SMB2_SHARE_CAP_CLUSTER, SMB2_SHARE_CAP_SCALEOUT
```



Protocol Research III

- **SMB3 experiments:**
- #define kUSE_SMB_NETWORK_INTERFACE_INFO
 - Supports experiments with FSCTL_QUERY_NETWORK_INTERFACE_INFO



Debts – Signing & Encryption

- Debt: Sign All The Time
- Status: Single packets work.
- □ Multiple (compound) packets don't.
 - Need to configure OS-X to work around
- **□** Debt: Encryption
- Not supported



Things to add – Enum Shares I

- □ Support net share enumerations via 'srvsvc'.
 - OS-X needs srvsvc to re-connect after an error / timeout etc & Finder needs it anyway.
 - □ On Windows loopback try command□ net view 127.0.0.1
 - Use MIDL compiler to make C code for the srvsvc IDL and ms-dtyp.idl.



Things to add – Enum Shares II

- Approach: use local named pipe (so LPC) to our own srvsvc!
- Pump binary using read write IO.
 - Semantics: Transact is blocking, read & write is async.
 - Test approach using: NetShareEnum(NULL, 0, &buf, MAX_PREFERRED_LENGTH, &entries, &total, NULL);



Other Service Function Calls

- □ OX-X calls SRVS: BIND & NetShareEnum.
- Explorer calls SRVS: BIND & NetrShareEnum, NetrServerGetInfo, NetrShareGetInfo.
- Explorer calls WKST: BIND & NetrWkstaGetInfo.



Things to add – RIO?

- Complement IOCompletionPort with RIO
 - Registered I/O API to support high-speed networking for increased networking performance with lower latency and jitter.
 - RIO relies on registering the memory that you will use as data buffers and knowing in advance how many pending operations a given socket will have at any time.



Project: Clustering

- The VFS code base supports some of the SMB3 extensions for multi-channel, scale out and clustering.
- I gave a talk about the semantics of the implied model between a set of SMB3 cluster members here in 2013
- It would be interesting to build a clustered VFS using this code base, as we can again exploit some of the Windows ecosystem to support this.



Project: SMB Direct – In User Mode ???

- SMB3 multi-channel enables different transports, like SMB Direct.
- NDKPI is an MS Kernel Mode API for RDMA access.
- The MS HPC team use NDSPI as user mode equivalent to the Kernel Mode API.
 - NDSPI is very poorly documented, but its API is a mirror of NDKPI, which is well documented.
- □ Ports are either 445 for Infiniband, or 5445 if TCP ports are in use (this new number is registered with IANA).
- We can use the same NetServerTransportEnum techniques to free ports



Legal

- The code is open source.
- ☐ The code is Licensed under the Apache License, Version 2.0 ...
- ... so really ... no WARRANTIES!
- See here for the full terms:
 - http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0



Git Clone

- The Code is hosted on Github.com
- □ The URL to clone from is https://github.com/DrJWCain/VFS
- Please fork freely, and send pull requests if you want to.
- I'm very excited to see what the community make of this!



Questions?

□ Email: james.cain@grassvalley.com

☐ Clone from: https://github.com/DrJWCain/VFS

