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Re: [PATCH/RFC] KVM: track pid for VCPU only on KVM_RUN ioctl

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- *Subject:* Re: [PATCH/RFC] KVM: track pid for VCPU only on KVM_RUN ioctl
- *From:* Paolo Bonzini <pbonzini@xxxxxxxxxx>
- *Date:* Wed, 03 Dec 2014 14:20:34 +0100
- *Cc:* KVM <kvm@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Gleb Natapov <gleb@xxxxxxxxxx>, Rik van Riel <riel@xxxxxxxxxx>, Raghavendra K T <raghavendra.kt@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Michael Mueller <mimu@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, David Hildenbrand <dahi@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
- *In-reply-to:* <1407249854-2953-1-git-send-email-borntraeger@de.ibm.com>
- *References:* <1407249854-2953-1-git-send-email-borntraeger@de.ibm.com>
- *User-agent:* Mozilla/5.0 (X11; Linux x86_64; rv:31.0) Gecko/20100101 Thunderbird/31.2.0

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On 05/08/2014 16:44, Christian Borntraeger wrote:

```

> We currently track the pid of the task that runs the VCPU in
> vcpu_load. Since we call vcpu_load for all kind of ioctls on a
> CPU, this causes hickups due to synchronize_rcu if one CPU is
> modified by another CPU or the main thread (e.g. initialization,
> reset). We track the pid only for the purpose of yielding, so
> let's update the pid only in the KVM_RUN ioctl.
>
> In addition, don't do a synchronize_rcu on startup (pid == 0).
>
> This speeds up guest boot time on s390 noticeably for some configs, e.g.
> HZ=100, no full state tracking, 64 guest cpus 32 host cpus.
>
> Signed-off-by: Christian Borntraeger <borntraeger@xxxxxxxxxx>
> CC: Rik van Riel <riel@xxxxxxxxxx>
> CC: Raghavendra K T <raghavendra.kt@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
> CC: Michael Mueller <mimu@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
> ---
> virt/kvm/kvm_main.c | 17 ++++++++-----
> 1 file changed, 9 insertions(+), 8 deletions(-)
>
> diff --git a/virt/kvm/kvm_main.c b/virt/kvm/kvm_main.c
> index 9ae9135..ebc8f54 100644
> --- a/virt/kvm/kvm_main.c

```

```

> +++ b/virt/kvm/kvm_main.c
> @@ -124,14 +124,6 @@ int vcpu_load(struct kvm_vcpu *vcpu)
>
>     if (mutex_lock_killable(&vcpu->mutex))
>         return -EINTR;
> -     if (unlikely(vcpu->pid != current->pids[PIDTYPE_PID].pid)) {
> -         /* The thread running this VCPU changed. */
> -         struct pid *oldpid = vcpu->pid;
> -         struct pid *newpid = get_task_pid(current, PIDTYPE_PID);
> -         rcu_assign_pointer(vcpu->pid, newpid);
> -         synchronize_rcu();
> -         put_pid(oldpid);
> -     }
>     cpu = get_cpu();
>     preempt_notifier_register(&vcpu->preempt_notifier);
>     kvm_arch_vcpu_load(vcpu, cpu);
> @@ -1991,6 +1983,15 @@ static long kvm_vcpu_ioctl(struct file *filp,
>     r = -EINVAL;
>     if (arg)
>         goto out;
> +     if (unlikely(vcpu->pid != current->pids[PIDTYPE_PID].pid)) {
> +         /* The thread running this VCPU changed. */
> +         struct pid *oldpid = vcpu->pid;
> +         struct pid *newpid = get_task_pid(current, PIDTYPE_PID);
> +         rcu_assign_pointer(vcpu->pid, newpid);
> +         if (oldpid)
> +             synchronize_rcu();
> +         put_pid(oldpid);
> +     }
>     r = kvm_arch_vcpu_ioctl_run(vcpu, vcpu->run);
>     trace_kvm_userspace_exit(vcpu->run->exit_reason, r);
>     break;
>

```

Applied with rewritten commit message:

KVM: track pid for VCPU only on KVM_RUN ioctl

We currently track the pid of the task that runs the VCPU in `vcpu_load`. If a yield to that VCPU is triggered while the PID of the wrong thread is active, the wrong thread might receive a yield, but this will most likely not help the executing thread at all. Instead, if we only track the pid on the KVM_RUN ioctl, there are two possibilities:

- 1) the thread that did a non-KVM_RUN ioctl is holding a mutex that the VCPU thread is waiting for. In this case, the VCPU thread is not runnable, but we also do not do a wrong yield.
- 2) the thread that did a non-KVM_RUN ioctl is sleeping, or doing something that does not block the VCPU thread. In this case, the VCPU thread can receive the directed yield correctly.

Signed-off-by: Christian Borntraeger <borntraeger@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 CC: Rik van Riel <riel@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 CC: Raghavendra K T <raghavendra.kt@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 CC: Michael Mueller <mimu@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 Signed-off-by: Paolo Bonzini <pbonzini@xxxxxxxxxxx>

Thanks,

Paolo

--

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- **References:**

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 - *From:* Christian Borntraeger
- Prev by Date: [Re: \[PATCH RFC 0/2\] assign each vcpu an owning thread and improve yielding](#)
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