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* Tests for prctl(PR_GET_TSC, ...) / prctl(PR_SET_TSC, ...)
 * Tests if the control register is updated correctly
 * when set with prctl()
 * Warning: this test will cause a very high load for a few seconds
 * /
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <unistd.h>
#include <signal.h>
#include <inttypes.h>
#include <wait.h>
#include <sys/prctl.h>
#include <linux/prctl.h>
/* Get/set the process' ability to use the timestamp counter instruction */
#ifndef PR_GET_TSC
#define PR_GET_TSC 25
#define PR_SET_TSC 26
                               /* allow the use of the timestamp counter */
# define PR_TSC_ENABLE
                            1
# define PR_TSC_SIGSEGV
                            2 /* throw a SIGSEGV instead of reading the TSC */
#endif
/* snippet from wikipedia :-) */
uint64_t rdtsc() {
uint32_t lo, hi;
/* We cannot use "=A", since this would use rax on x86_64 */
 _asm__ __volatile__ ("rdtsc" : "=a" (lo), "=d" (hi));
return (uint64_t)hi << 32 | lo;
int should_segv = 0;
void sigsegv_cb(int sig)
    if (!should_segv)
        fprintf(stderr, "FATAL ERROR, rdtsc() failed while enabled\n");
        exit(0);
    if (prctl(PR_SET_TSC, PR_TSC_ENABLE) < 0)</pre>
        perror("prctl");
        exit(0);
    should_segv = 0;
    rdtsc();
void task(void)
    signal(SIGSEGV, sigsegv_cb);
    alarm(10);
    for(;;)
        rdtsc();
        if (should_segv)
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fprintf(stderr, "FATAL ERROR, rdtsc() succeeded while disabled\n");
            exit(0);
        if (prctl(PR_SET_TSC, PR_TSC_SIGSEGV) < 0)</pre>
            perror("prctl");
            exit(0);
        should_segv = 1;
int main(int argc, char **argv)
    int n_tasks = 100, i;
    fprintf(stderr, "[No further output means we're allright]\n");
    for (i=0; i<n_tasks; i++)</pre>
        if (fork() == 0)
            task();
    for (i=0; i<n_tasks; i++)</pre>
        wait(NULL);
    exit(0);
}
```

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