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How to increase the retention time of /var/lib/systemd/coredump

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Environment

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15
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Situation

An application exists abnormally and a core dump is reported in the systemd journal. The file was requested in the course of a support request, e.g.:

```
miniontest:~ # coredumpctl list
TIME                          PID   UID   GID SIG PRESENT EXE
Fri 2019-02-01 08:53:11 CET   32346   0    0   7   /usr/bin/top
```

but when trying to extract it according to the information in <u>TID 7017137 - How to obtain systemd core dumps (https://www.suse.com/support/kb/doc/?id=7017137)</u>
the command returns "`No such file or directory`":

```
miniontest:~ # coredumpctl -o core.top dump /usr/bin/top
           PID: 32346 (top)
           UID: 0 (root)
           GID: 0 (root)
        Signal: 7 (BUS)
     Timestamp: Fri 2019-02-01 08:53:11 CET (4 days ago)
  Command Line: top
    Executable: /usr/bin/top
 Control Group: /user.slice/user-0.slice/session-667.scope
          Unit: session-667.scope
         Slice: user-0.slice
       Session: 667
     Owner UID: 0 (root)
       Boot ID: 93ce963772084db699b11679c13034b7
    Machine ID: 68fab2bd0879e9143c8210f55c4b0978
      Hostname: miniontest
       Message: Process 32346 (top) of user 0 dumped core.
Cannot retrieve coredump from journal nor disk.
Coredump retrieval failed: No such file or directory
```

Resolution

Create a file like `/etc/tmpfiles.d/core.conf` with the following content:

```
d /var/lib/systemd/coredump 0755 root root 14d
```

Keep in mind though, that depending on the failing application the `/var/` file system may require additional monitoring as disk space usage may increase due to the longer retention time. For further details on the settings please see "`man 5 tmpfiles.d`".

Cause

The default retention policy for `/var/lib/systemd/coredump` is configured in `/usr/lib/tmpfiles.d/systemd.conf` and according to "`man 5 tmpfiles.d`" may get overridden by creating respective *.conf files in `/etc/tmpfiles.d/`. For systems operating in enterprise environments a retention time of three days may not be suffcient.

Additional Information

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