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## Redhat Linux - LVM Volume Attributes

AUGUST 25, 2013 BY LINGESWARAN R — 1 COMMENT

Redhat Linux's Logical volume Manager has many attributes which are available for controlling the behavior LVM objects or to changing the default values of LVM. We may not use those attributes very often in typical production environment but knowing is not a bad thing. As a Unix/Linux admin, we should have capability to explain each and every field of commands output as most of the fields will reflect the attributes value. Here we will see some of LVM attributes.



LVM - Attributes

## Physical volume(PV) attributes:

To check the physical volume attributes, use "pvs" command. The forth column of pvs command output displays the physical volume attributes.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# pvs
        VG
                Fmt Attr PSize PFree
 /dev/sda2 vg_mylinz lvm2 a- 19.51g
 /dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 a- 508.00m 408.00m
 /dev/sde uavg
                lvm2 a- 508.00m 508.00m
 /dev/sdf uavg
                  1vm2 a-
                           5.00g 5.00g
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

The above command output shows "a" in the attribute field which explains that physical volumes can be "allocated" to the volumes.

Front the volume group "uavg" and check pvs output.



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```
VG Fmt Attr PSize PFree
 /dev/sda2 vg_mylinz lvm2 a- 19.51g
 /dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 ax 508.00m 408.00m
 /dev/sde uavg
                  lvm2 ax 508.00m 508.00m
 /dev/sdf uavg
                  lvm2 ax 5.00g
                                  5.00g
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

In attributes field, you can see that "x" is added now. This show that volume group is exported.

We can stop the allocation to the disk by using pvchnage command. By disabling allocation, volume will not be extended using that specific physical volume.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# pvchange -x n /dev/sdd1
 Physical volume "/dev/sdd1" changed
 1 physical volume changed / 0 physical volumes not changed
[root@mylinz ~]# pvs
         VG Fmt Attr PSize PFree
 /dev/sda2 vg_mylinz lvm2 a- 19.51g
 /dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 -- 508.00m 408.00m
 /dev/sde uavg lvm2 a- 508.00m 508.00m
 /dev/sdf uavg lvm2 a- 5.00g 5.00g
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

You can revert the change any time using below mentioned command.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# pvchange -x y /dev/sdd1
 Physical volume "/dev/sdd1" changed
 1 physical volume changed / 0 physical volumes not changed
[root@mylinz ~]# pvs
          VG
                    Fmt Attr PSize PFree
 /dev/sda2 vg_mylinz lvm2 a- 19.51g
 /dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 a- 508.00m 408.00m
 /dev/sde uavg
                    lvm2 a- 508.00m 508.00m
 /dev/sdf uavg
                    lvm2 a- 5.00g 5.00g
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

Some of the useful commands to get the details of physical volume.

1. To get the physical volumes with "UID", use "-v" option.

Note: You can also use "pvs -vv" to get more detailed information.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# pvs -v
Scanning for physical volume names
        VG Fmt Attr PSize PFree DevSize PV UUID
/dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 ax 508.00m 408.00m 511.98m tJ5YhP-VOZV-yfQ6-Uyye-WGT7-VLcl-7M3RMK
/dev/sde uavg lvm2 ax 508.00m 508.00m 512.00m FadWLT-LjD8-v8VB-pboY-eZbK-vYpE-ZWq0i9
/dev/sdf uavg lvm2 ax 5.00g 5.00g GbvgWh-l0w3-wCA6-umkD-zfsS-8yAZ-GeOSKF
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

2. To get all the disks connected to the system ,use "pvs -a"

```
[root@mylinz ~]# pvs -a
 PV
                     VG
                              Fmt Attr PSize PFree
                                         0
 /dev/root
                                   --
                                              0
 /dev/sda1
```



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```
/dev/sde
                  uavg
                            lvm2 ax 508.00m 508.00m
                   uavg
 /dev/sdf
                            lvm2 ax 5.00g 5.00g
                                       0
 /dev/sdg
                                              0
 /dev/vg_mylinz/lv_swap
                                        0
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

/dev/sda1 is not part of LVM but you get the disk list in pvs command.

3. To get the segment wise output, use below command.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# pvs --segments
   VG Fmt Attr PSize PFree Start SSize
 PV
 /dev/sda2 vg_mylinz lvm2 a- 19.51g 0 0 4234
 /dev/sda2 vg_mylinz lvm2 a- 19.51g
                             0 4234 760
 /dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 ax 508.00m 408.00m 0 13
 /dev/sdd1 uavg lvm2 ax 508.00m 408.00m 13 25
 /dev/sde uavg 1vm2 ax 508.00m 508.00m 0 127
 /dev/sdf uavg lvm2 ax 5.00g 5.00g 0 1279
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

#### **Volume Group(VG) Attributes:**

You can see the volume group attributes using vgs command.

table.tableizer-table { border: 1px solid #CCC; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif font-size: 12px; } .tableizertable td { padding: 4px; margin: 3px; border: 1px solid #ccc; } .tableizer-table th { background-color: #104E8B; color: #FFF; font-weight: bold; }

ATTRIBUTES	DESCRIPTION
r,W	(r)ead & (w)rite permissions
Z	resi(z)eable
X	e(x)ported
р	(p)artial
c,n,a,i	allocation policy (c)ontiguous, c(l)ing, (n)ormal, (a)nywhere, (i)nherited
С	(c)luster

Here we will see sample vgs command output.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# vgs
 VG #PV #LV #SN Attr VSize VFree
         3 1 0 wz--n- 5.99g 5.89g
 vg_mylinz 1 2 0 wz--n- 19.51g
[root@mylinz ~]#
[root@mylinz ~]# vgs -v
```



```
vg_mylinz wz--n- 4.00m 1 2 0 19.51g
                                       0 dIgmLP-aoe3-anxY-WHYE-bBtX-u28M-WF6Ye5
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

There are some other volume group attributes which will be useful while creating the new volume group.

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ATTRIBUTES	DESCRIPTION
-l	maximum logical volumes
-p	maximum physical volumes
-S	physical extent size (default is 4MB)
-A	autobackup

All the above mentioned attributes can be set while creating the volume group. You can not modify those values after that. In the below example, I have used most the attributes with specific value to create new volume group.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# vgcreate    -1 512 -p 256 -s 32M -Ay newvg /dev/sdf
 Volume group "newvg" successfully created
vgs newvg
 VG #PV #LV #SN Attr VSize VFree
 newvg 1 0 0 wz--n- 4.97g 4.97g
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

You can see the newly set values in vgdisplay command output.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# vgdisplay -v newvg
   Using volume group(s) on command line
   Finding volume group "newvg"
 --- Volume group ---
 VG Name
                     newvg
 System ID
 Format
                     lvm2
 Metadata Areas
                    1
 Metadata Sequence No 1
           read/write
 VG Access
 VG Status
                   resizable
                   512
 MAX LV
 Cur LV
 Open LV
 Max PV
                    256
 Cur PV
                    1
 Act PV
 VG Size
                   4.97 GiB
 PE Size
                    32.00 MiB
 Total PE
                     159
 Alloc PE / Size 0 / 0
```



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```
/dev/sdf
 PV Name
 PV UUID
                      GbvgWh-10w3-wCA6-umkD-zfsS-8yAZ-GeOSKF
 PV Status
                     allocatable
 Total PE / Free PE 159 / 159
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

## Logical Volume (LV) Attributes:

Knowing the logical volume attributes.

```
[root@mylinz ~]# lvs
 LV
        VG
               Attr LSize Origin Snap% Move Log Copy% Convert
 vol1 uavg -wi-ao 100.00m
 lv_root vg_mylinz -wi-ao 16.54g
 lv_swap vg_mylinz -wi-ao 2.97g
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

The below tables covers the "lvs" command attributes. table.tableizer-table { border: 1px solid #CCC; fontfamily: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif font-size: 12px; I tableizer-table td [ padding: 4px; margin: 3px; border: 1px solid #ccc; } .tableizer-table th { background-color: #104E8B; color: #FFF; font-weight: bold; }

VOLUME TYPE ATTRIBUTES(FIRST FIELD OF ATTR)	DESCRIPTION
m	(m)irrored
М	(M)irrored without intial sync
0	(o)rgin
р	(p)vmove
S	(s)napshot
S	invalid (S)napshot
V	(v)irtual
i	mirror (i)mage
l	mirror (I)mage without sync
С	under (c)onstruction
_	Simple Volume

ţable.tableizer-table { border: 1px solid #CCC; font-family: Arial, Helvetica, sans-serif font-size: 12px; } .tableizer-



ATTRIBUTES (SECOND TO SIXTH FIELD OF

#### ATTR) w.r (Second Feild) Permissions '(r)'ead '(w)'rite Allocation policy (c)ontiguous, c(l)ing, (n)ormal, (a)nywhere, c.I.n.a.I (Third Feild) (i)nherited m (Fourth Feild) Fixed (m)inor a.s.l (Fifth Feild) (a)ctive, (s)uspended, (I)nvalid snapshot,, S (Fifth Feild) Invalid (S)uspended snapshot I (Fifth Feild) Mapped device present with (i)nactive table d (Fifth Feild) Mapped (d)evice present with-out tables o (sixth Feild) device (o)pen (Volume is in active state or may be mounted)

**DESCRIPTION** 

While creating the volume can provide various attributes like stripe size, no of extends etc. These are already covered in volume creation.

Here we will see some of the useful "lvs" command options.

1. To display the logical volumes with underlying physical volumes use,

```
[root@mylinz ~]# lvs -a -o +devices
LV
       VG
               Attr LSize Origin Snap% Move Log Copy% Convert Devices
vol1
       uavg
               -wi-ao 100.00m
                                                               /dev/sdd1(13)
lv_root vg_mylinz -wi-ao 16.54g
                                                               /dev/sda2(0)
lv_swap vg_mylinz -wi-ao 2.97g
                                                               /dev/sda2(4234)
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

2. To see the complete physical disks segmnets for logical volumes,

```
[root@mylinz ~]# lvs -a -o +seg_pe_ranges --segments
 LV
      VG Attr #Str Type SSize PE Ranges
 vol1
        uavg
                 -wi-ao 1 linear 100.00m /dev/sdd1:13-37
 lv_root vg_mylinz -wi-ao    1 linear 16.54g /dev/sda2:0-4233
 lv_swap vg_mylinz -wi-ao 1 linear 2.97g /dev/sda2:4234-4993
[root@mylinz ~]#
```

3. For detailed logical volume information,

```
[root@mylinz ~]# lvdisplay --maps /dev/uavg/vol1
 --- Logical volume ---
 LV Name
                         /dev/uavg/vol1
```



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--- Segments ---

Logical extent 0 to 24:

Physical volume /dev/so /dev/sdd1 Physical extents 13 to 37

[root@mylinz ~]#

Hope this post is informative for you. Thank you for reading this article. Please leave a comment if you have any doubt.I will get back to you.

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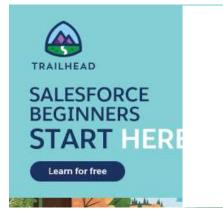
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