SUSE Linux Enterprise 12 Best Practice for systemd v46

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Agenda 1

- systemd Basics
 - Units, Services, Targets
- Systemctl, systemd-analyze
- #SLES11SP3 SLES12, service comparison
- #Presets
- Understanding service dependencies
- Socket activation
- The system journal
- dracut(used during system shutdown)



Agenda 2

- #Security
- Network
- Unit Generators
- #tmpfiles
- Systemd: Testing and debugging
 - Snapshot, isolate
 - systemd-nspawn
- #Convert A SysV Init Script Into A systemd Service File
- Control groups, slice, scope
- Changes with SLES12 SP2
- Appendix





Apropos unification

- · On SLES12 SP1
- apropos systemd|wc -l
- · 133



The role of systemd

- system- and session manager for Linux
- provides aggressive parallelization capabilities
- uses socket and D-Bus activation for starting services
- keeps track of processes using Linux cgroups
- Started directly by the Kernel
- · Resists signal 9
- Replacement for System V init daemon
 - Fully compatible with System V init
 - Will revert to init scripts if no native config is found



Unit File

- File name extension defines Unit type
- Location: /usr/lib/systemd/system/ and /etc/systemd/system/

Unit	Filename
Service	<pre><service>.service</service></pre>
Targets	<target>.target</target>
Sockets	<socket>.socket</socket>
Path	<pre><path>.path</path></pre>
Timer	<timer>.timer</timer>
Mountpoint	<mount>.mount</mount>
Automount Point	<automount>.automount</automount>
Swap	<swap>.swap</swap>
Device	<device>.device</device>
Scope/Slice	<pre><scope>.scope <slice>.slice</slice></scope></pre>



Unit File Content

Sections:

- [Unit]
- [Service]
- [Install]

Option	Description
Description	Description
After	Start of the unit is delayed until all listed units have started up
Before	Inverse of After
Requires	The units listed here are activated as well



Service Unit Files

Option	Description
Type	Process start-up type Available types: simple, forking, oneshot, dbus, notify, idle
EnvironmentFile	File to read environment variables from
ExecStart	Command line (absolute path, with arguments) that is executed when this service is started
ExecStartPre, ExecStartPost	Additional commands that are executed before or after the command in ExecStart
ExecReload	Commands to trigger a configuration reload in the service
ExecStop	Commands to execute to stop the service
KillMode	How processes of this service shall be killed Available modes: control-group, process, none
Restart	Configures whether the main service process shall be restarted when it exits. Available options: no, on-success, on-failure, on-abort, or always



systemctl

- systemctl is the command to interact with systemd
- Without options, it displays the various units active on the system, with -a also the inactive units
- Some are not defined in files in /usr/lib/systemd/system/, they are created automatically, such as
 - various .mount units based on entries in /etc/fstab
 - other units based on rules in /usr/lib/udev/rules.d/ that contain rules that contain TAG+=systemd entries



Manage Services

	Command
systemd	<pre>systemctl <command/> <service>.service</service></pre>
System V	rc <service> <command/></service>

systemd Command	Description	System V
start	Start service	start
stop	Stop service	stop
restart	Restart service	restart
try-restart	Restart service if it is running	try-restart
reload	Reload configuration without interrupting operation	reload
reload-or-restart	Reload service if it is supported, otherwise restart it	n/a
reload-or-try-restart	Reload service if it is supported, otherwise restart it if it is running	n/a
status	List detailed status information	status
is-active	List short status information	status



Enabling/Disabling Services

systemctl <command> <service>.service or
systemctl <command> <service>

systemd Command	Description	System V
enable	Enable service	insserv
disable	Disable service	insserv -r
is-enabled	Check if service is enabled	chkconfig
reenable	Disable service and enable it afterwards	n/a
mask	After "disabling" a service, it can still be started manually or through a dependency, after masking it cannot be started at all	n/a
unmask	A service that has been masked can only be used again after it has been unmasked	n/a



letc/sysconfig deprecated(1)

- What is in /etc/sysconfig anyway?
- Additional command line parameters for daemon
- Locale settings for daemon
- Shutdown time-out/mode for daemon
- system locale, time zone information, console keyboard
- CPU affinity for daemon
- service should start or not
- Network config
- kernel modules to statically load
- Access modes for device nodes (!)
- user/group ID, umask to run specific daemons as
- Resource limits for daemon
- OOM adjustment for daemon
 - http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/on-etc-sysinit.html



Systemd native alternatives for *l*etc*l*sysconfig

- Use Unit files
 - simple, declarative descriptions
 - Easy to modify
 - understand process context settings
- Use new common configuration files on all distros:
 - /etc/hostname, /etc/vconsole.conf, /etc/locale.conf, /etc/modules-load.d/*.conf, /etc/sysctl.d/*.conf, /etc/tmpfiles.d/*.conf, /etc/binfmt.d/*.conf, /etc/os-release, /etc/machine-id, /etc/machine-info
- Turn settings into native daemon settings
- /etc always intended to be the place for "Host-specific system configuration"(FHS)
- Use compatibility option:
 - EnvironmentFile=-/etc/sysconfig/foobar systemd.exec(5), systemd.service(5)





Target Units

- Targets are synchronization points, similar to runlevels, but more finegrained
- Each target is named instead of numbered and is intended to serve a specific purpose with the possibility of **having multiple ones active at the same time!**
- Some targets are implemented by inheriting all of the services of another target and adding additional services to it
- Create custom target:
 - Take one of the existing runlevels as a base /etc/systemd/system/yourtarget
 - make a directory /etc/systemd/system/yourtarget.wants, and then symlink the additional services from /usr/lib/systemd/system/ that you wish to enable
- Switching:
 - systemctl isolate multi-user.target
 - init 3, init 5, etc. still work
 - systemd.target(5), systemctl(1)



Target Units

Target Unit	Description	System V
default.target	Booted by default	
graphical.target (runlevel5.target)	System with network, multi-user support and a displaymanager	Runlevel 5
multi-user.target (runlevel3.target)	Multi-user system with network	Runlevel 3
multi-user.target (runlevel2.target)	Local multi-user system without network.	Runlevel 2
mail-transfer-agent.target	All services necessary for sending and receiving mails	
rescue.target (runlevel1.target)	Single user system without network	Runlevel 1 Runlevel S
emergency.target	Emergency shell on the console	
reboot.target (runlevel6.target)	Reboot the system	Runlevel 6
halt.target (runlevel0.target, poweroff.target)	Shut down the system	Runlevel 0



Systemctl target units

systemd.special(7)

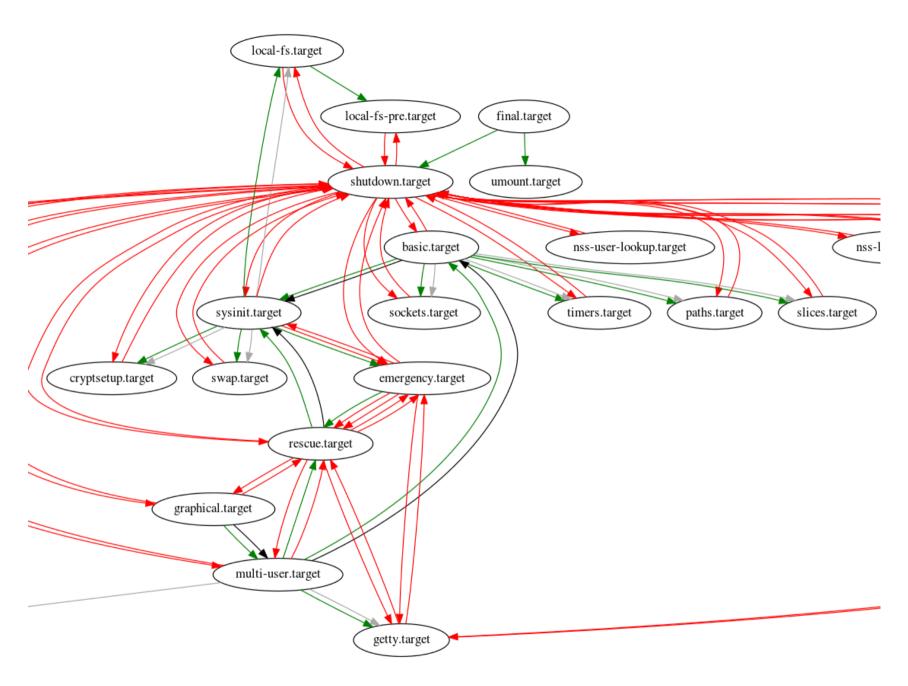
```
sles12migrated:~ # systemctl list-units --type=target
                              ACTIVE SUB
                                            DESCRIPTION
UNTT
                       LOAD
basic.target
                       loaded active active Basic System
cryptsetup target
                       loaded active active Encrypted Volumes
getty.target
                       loaded active active Login Prompts
graphical.target
                       loaded active active Graphical Interface
local-fs-pre target
                       loaded active active Local File Systems (Pre)
local-fs.target
                       loaded active active Local File Systems
multi-user.target
                       loaded active active Multi-User System
network-online.target
                      loaded active active Network is Online
network.target
                       loaded active active Network
nss-lookup.target
                       loaded active active Host and Network Name Lookups
nss-user-lookup.target loaded active active User and Group Name Lookups
paths, target
                       loaded active active Paths
remote-fs-pre.target
                       loaded active active Remote File Systems (Pre)
remote-fs.target
                       loaded active active Remote File Systems
rpcbind.target
                       loaded active active RPC Port Mapper
slices.target
                       loaded active active Slices
sockets.target
                       loaded active active Sockets
swap.target
                       loaded active active Swap
svsinit.target
                       loaded active active System Initialization
time-sync.target
                       loaded active active System Time Synchronized
                       loaded active active Timers
timers.target
       = Reflects whether the unit definition was properly loaded.
ACTIVE = The high-level unit activation state, i.e. generalization of SUB.
       = The low-level unit activation state, values depend on unit type.
SUB
21 loaded units listed. Pass --all to see loaded but inactive units, too.
To show all installed unit files use 'systemctl list-unit-files'.
```



Target dependencies

```
#Shows required and wanted units of the specified unit
systemctl list-dependencies|grep target
       default.target
         └─multi-user.target
              basic target
                -paths.target
                -slices.target
                -sockets.target
                -sysinit.target
                  -cryptsetup.target
                  -local-fs.target
                  -swap.target
                timers.target
              getty.target
              -remote-fs.target
              ∟remote-fs-pre.target
```





systemd-analyze dot --to-pattern='*.target' --from-pattern='*.target' | dot -Tsvg >/tmp/targets.svg



Change Targets

- Change the current target:
 systemctl isolate <target>.target
- Change to the default target:
 systemctl default
- Persistently change the default target:
 systemctl set-default -f <target>.target
- Get the current target:
 systemctl list-units --type=target
- Change the default target for the current boot process:
 systemd.unit=<target>.target at boot prompt
- Show a target's dependencies(which services are pulled in)
 systemctl show -p "Requires" < target > . target
 systemctl show -p "Wants" < target > . target
- examine what gets started when when booted into a specific target

```
systemd --test --system --unit=multi-user.target
```



Systemd: was nun?

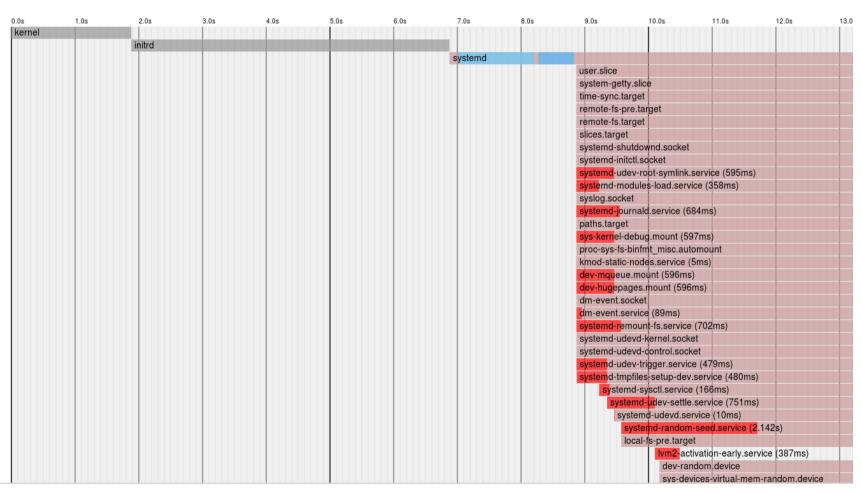
Analyze system boot-up performance systemd-analyze

- systemd-analyze blame
- systemd-analyze critical-chain
- systemd-analyze dump
 - complete server state of all loaded units, regardless of their state, including inactive units
 - systemctl -t service --all



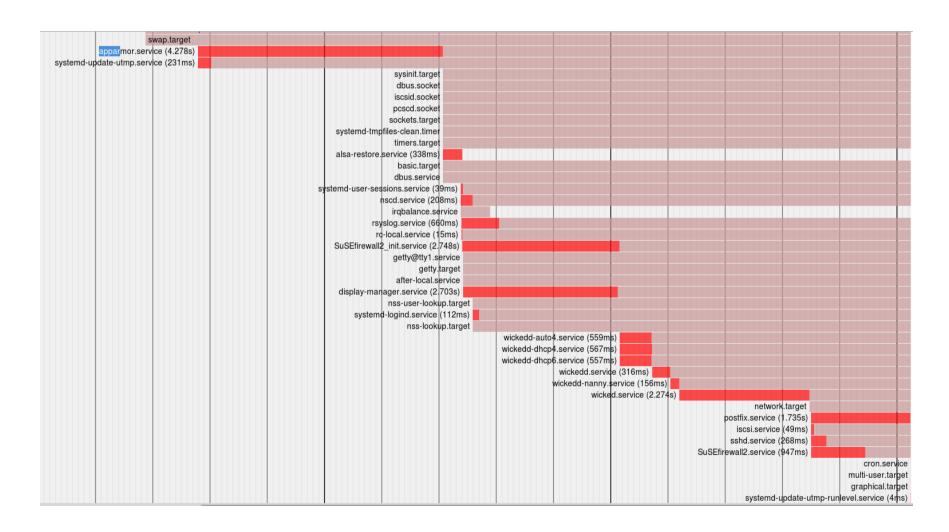
boot-up performance systemd-analyze plot

SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 12 sles12demo (3.12.39-47-default #1 SMP Thu Mar 26 13:21:16 UTC 2015 (a901594)) x86_64 Startup finished in 1.880s (kernel) + 4.994s (initrd) + 18.365s (userspace) = 25.241s



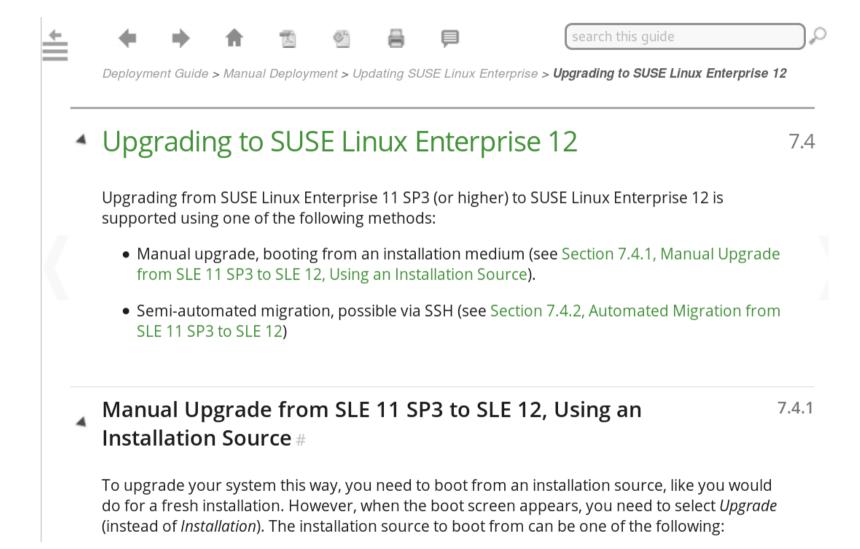


boot-up performance systemd-analyze plot





Upgrading to SLES12



https://www.suse.com/documentation/sles-12/book_sle_deployment/data/sec_update_sle12.html



Using machinery to upgrade to SLES12

- Requirements: Separate machine, where new system is set up and tested
- create a full description of SLES11 SP3
 - machinery inspect -x \$host_original
 - machinery copy \$host_original \$host_target
- export the generated AutoYaST profile
 - machinery export-autoyast \$host_target -autoyast-dir=/tmp/my_migration/
- install new system(still SLES11 SP3) using exported AutoYaST profile
- offline in-place upgrade to SLES12
 - machinery inspect -x \$host_target
- Compare SLES12 with SLES11 SP3
 - machinery compare --show-all \$host_original \$host_target
- **Result:** upgraded SLES 12 on a new machine with same functionality as SLES11 SP3
- Adapt AutoYaST profile(delete unused rpms)
 - https://github.com/SUSE/machinery/wiki/How-to-upgrade-a-SLES-11-SP3-system-to-SLES-12



Different options to upgrade to SLES12

- Compare systems after upgrade from SLES11SP3 with pattern Minimal, base, lamp_server, mail_server, x11 to SLES12
- systemd-analyze plot >/tmp/plot.htm
- Using machinery:
- # create a full description
 - machinery inspect -x \$host_original
 - machinery copy \$host_original \$host_target
- export the generated AutoYaST profile
 - machinery export-autoyast \$host_target -autoyastdir=/tmp/my migration/
- Adapt autoyast profile(delete unused rpms)
 - https://github.com/SUSE/machinery/wiki/How-to-upgrade-a-SLES-11-SP3-systemto-SLES-12

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Which Services to enable by Default

- What is a Service
 - A daemon or process started using a systemd service unit
 - A daemon or process that is invoked by socket activation, either by using a systemd socket unit, D-BUS activation or similar behavior
 - A systemd timer unit that runs periodically

Criteria:

- Locally running services
 - No manual configuration to be functional
 - does not listen on a network socket
 - Example: Local D-BUS services
- non-persistent services
 - Example: iptables



Welcome to systemd-presets

Prior SLE12

 whether a service is enabled or disabled after package installation is encoded in the %post scripts of RPM

• SI F12

- rpm systemd-presets-branding-SLE-12.0
- Packages updated to invoke "systemctl preset" in %post script of RPM
- /usr/lib/systemd/system-preset/90-default-SLE.preset

Services enabled by default:

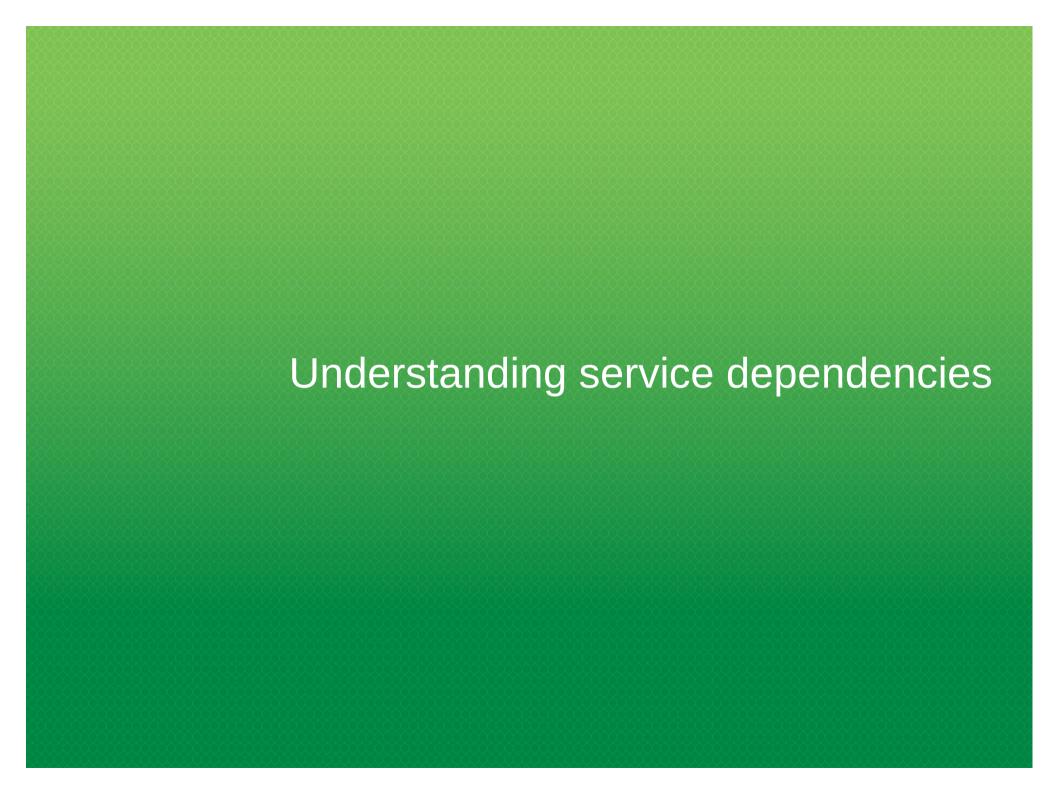
- acpid cron avahi-daemon YaST2-Second-Stage YaST2-Firstboot postfix
- nscd purge-kernels ModemManager iscsid.socket iscsi libvirtd readonly-root
- haveged irqbalance vmtoolsd iprdump iprinit iprupdate lvm2-lvmetad.socket
- rtas_errd wpa_supplicant cio_ignore btrfsmaintenance-refresh
- systemctl preset <service-name>
- Alternatives: Implement policy(Debian style):
 - "echo 'enable *' > /etc/systemd/system-preset/50-foobar.preset"



Example exercise

- After a default installation of SLES12 enable additional service ntp
- Correct answer:
- Check, if RPM is enabled for change
- determine enabled services
- \$ systemctl list-unit-files
- Drop in "enable ntp" in /etc/systemd/system-preset/50foobar.preset
 - Check ntp package, if updated to invoke "systemctl preset" in rpm %post script
- \$ rpm -q --scripts ntp|grep preset
- systemd.preset(5)





Service Dependencies 1

- 2 types of dependencies
- Activation of units(Requires/Wants/Conflicts)
- Show units that the specified unit requires or wants

```
- Systemctl list-dependencies <unit>
```

- Show units that require or want the specified unit
 - Systemctl list-dependencies--reverse <unit>
- Order of units(After/Before)
- List units on which the specified unit has an "After" dependency
- This command show units, that need to be started before the specified unit

```
- Systemctl list-dependencies --after <unit>
```

- This command show units, that need to be delayed until the specified unit starts
 - Systemctl list-dependencies --before <unit>



Unit dependencies Example: nfs-server

```
sles12sp1test:~ # systemctl show -p BindsTo nfs-mountd.service
BindsTo=nfs-server.service
sles12sp1test:~ # systemctl show -p BindsTo nfs-idmapd.service
BindsTo=nfs-server.service
sles12sp1test:~ # systemctl list-dependencies --after nfs-server.service|grep nfs
nfs-server.service
 ⊢nfs-config.service

—nfs-idmapd.service

 ⊢nfs-mountd.service

    proc-fs-nfsd.mount

sles12sp1test:~ # systemctl list-dependencies --before nfs-server.service
nfs-server.service
 ⊢rpc-statd-notify.service

    □remote-fs-pre.target

  ∟remote-fs.target
      ⊢display-manager.service
      ∟systemd-user-sessions.service
sles12sp1test:~ # systemctl show -p After remote-fs.target
After=remote-fs-pre.target
sles12sp1test:~ # systemctl show -p Before remote-fs-pre target
Before=remote-fs.target
```



Service Dependencies 2

- Design unit file correctly
 - Note that Wants= and Requires= do not imply After=, meaning that if After= is not specified, the two units will be started in parallel!
- Systemctl show -p property>
 - Shows properties of the specified unit
- systemctl cat PATTERN(shell-style globs)
 - Show backing files of one or more units. Prints the "fragment" and "drop-ins"
 - systemctl cat systemd-poweroff.service
 - # /usr/lib/systemd/system/systemd-poweroff.service
- Neue Befehle:
 - systemctl mask link these units to /dev/null, making it impossible to start them

systemd.unit(5)



How to hook units into the start-up of other units

- Along with a unit file foo.service, the directory foo.service.wants/ may exist
- All unit files symlinked from such a directory are implicitly added as dependencies of type Wants= to the unit
- useful to hook units into the start-up of other units, without having to modify their unit files
- systemctl enable NAME
 - create a number of symlinks as encoded in "[Install]" sections of the unit files
- similar functionality exists for **Requires= type** dependencies as well, the directory suffix is .requires/ in this case.
- systemd.unit(5)



Override single entries in unit file

- Example: /usr/lib/systemd/system/tftpd.service
 - [Service]
 - ExecStart=/usr/bin/in.tftpd -s /srv/tftp/
 - don't edit global unit file /usr/lib/systemd/system/tftpd.service, changes will be lost with updates
 - Users don't want to create a full copy of /usr/lib/systemd/system/tftpd.service in /etc/systemd/system, because it will override all settings. Llater updates of /usr/lib/systemd/system/tftpd.service would be masked completely.

- Solution:

- Create drop-in directory and a .conf file in /etc/systemd/system/tftpd.service.d/tftpdir.conf
- [Service]
- #empty string assigned = list of commands to start is reset first
- ExecStart=
- ExecStart=/usr/bin/in.tftpd -s /some_other_directory/
- systemd-delta /etc (identify configuration files, that override)

https://bbs.archlinux.org/viewtopic.php?id=152950





Socket activated services and containers

Mechanism:

- systemd listens on sockets and activate services (again) next time they are connected to
- idling after having processed connections process exit on their own
- Unvisible for clients if service is currently running or not
- service's IP socket stays continously connectable, no connection attempt ever fails, all connects will be processed promptly

Example

- with socket activated OS containers, the host's systemd instance listens on number of ports on behalf of containers, i.e. SSH, web and database
- as first connection comes in, spawns container and pass to it all 3 sockets

Benefit:

- This setup lowers resource usage: services only running when needed, consume resources when required
- Low profile for not often demanded services, i.e. web site hosters
- hosting many sites on a single system only activating services as necessary (overcommit)
- http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/socket-activated-containers.html



Socket activation

Use cases

- Socket activation for parallelization, simplicity, robustness
- On-demand socket activation for singleton services
- On-demand socket activation for per-connection service instances

Advantages

- no explicit dependency configuration necessary
- sockets always available because initialized at boot before all other services
- no userspace ordering of service start-up necessary
- simplification of service development
- Allows restart of services or upgrades while services stay continously available and responsive without losing any message
- systemd.socket(5)
- http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/inetd.html



Socket activation example 1

```
In host:
• sles12:~ # systemctl cat mycontainer
         # /etc/systemd/system/mycontainer.service
         [Unit]
        Description=start nspawn container for sshd
         [Service]
        ExecStart=/usr/bin/systemd-nspawn -bD
         /var/tmp/bootstrap
         opensuse132:~ # cat
         /etc/systemd/system/mycontainer.socket
         [Unit]
        Description=The SSH socket of my little container
         [Socket]
        ListenStream=23
```



Socket activation example 2

sshd service and socket in container

```
nspawn-container:~ # systemctl cat
                                        nspawn-container:~ # systemctl cat
                                        sshd
sshd.socket
                                        # /usr/lib/systemd/system/sshd.service
# /etc/systemd/system/sshd.socket
                                        [Unit]
[Unit]
                                        Description=OpenSSH Daemon
Description=SSH Socket for Per-
                                        After=network.target
Connection Servers
                                        [Service]
[Socket]
                                        EnvironmentFile=-/etc/sysconfig/ssh
ListenStream=23
                                        ExecStartPre=/usr/sbin/sshd-gen-keys-
Accept=yes
                                        start
                                        ExecStart=/usr/sbin/sshd -D $SSHD OPTS
                                        ExecReload=/bin/kill -HUP $MAINPID
                                        KillMode=process
                                        Restart=always
                                        [Install]
                                        WantedBy=multi-user.target
```



The system journal

systemd-journald.service

- systemd-journald is a system service
- maintains structured, indexed journals
- Received from kernel, user processes(syslog call), standard error of system services, numerous metadata fields
- /run is used when /var/log/journal is not available
- log data is lost at reboot



Journal configuration

- journald.conf Journal service configuration file
 - where to store journal data:
 - Storage=none #all log data received will be dropped
 - Storage=persistent #below /var/log/journal hierarchy
 - Storage=auto #as persistent only if /var/log/journal exists
 - Storage=volatile #/run/log/journal/
 - ForwardToSyslog=, ForwardToKMsg=, ForwardToConsole=
 - overridden at boot time with the kernel command line options
 "systemd.journald.forward_to_syslog="
 - systemd.log_level=debug equivalent debug
 - turns on the debug output from both the system manager and the kernel

- in grub2

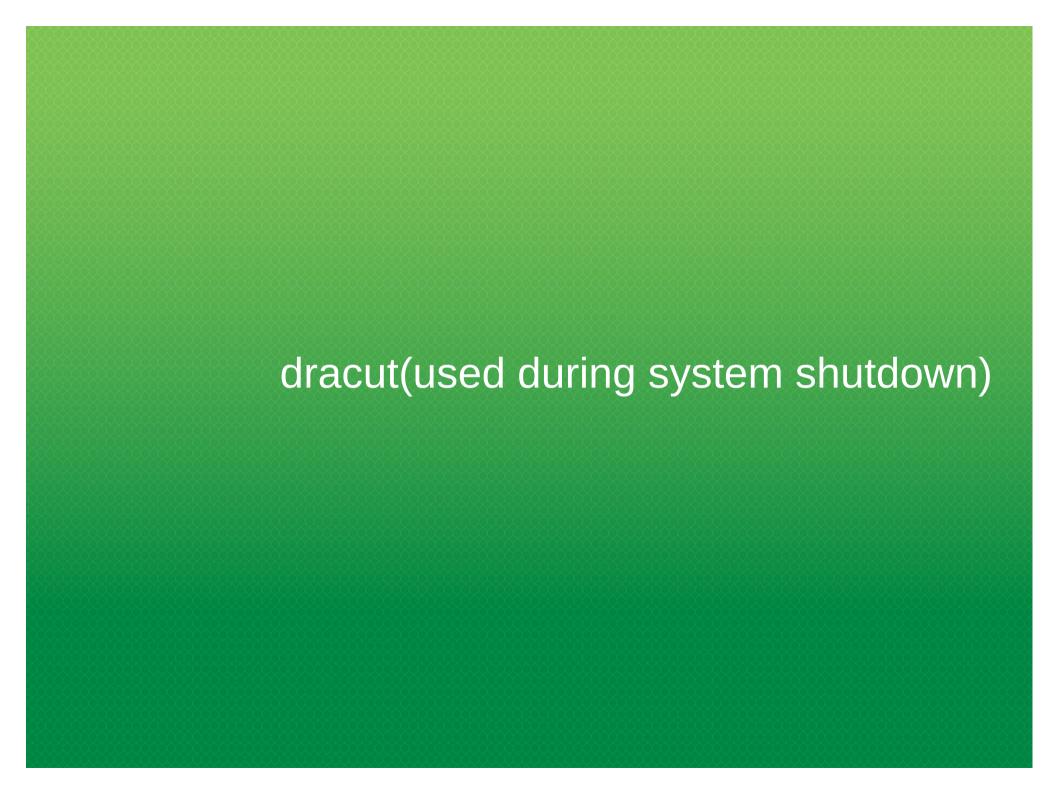
- GRUB_CMDLINE_LINUX="systemd.log_level=debug systemd.log_target=console systemd.journald.forward_to_console=yes"
- journald.conf(5), systemd-journald.service(8), systemd(1)



Systemd boot parameters

- systemd.unit=
 - Overrides the unit to activate on boot, i.e.: rescue.target or emergency.target
- systemd.crash_shell=
 - Spawns a shell when crashes
- systemd.log_target=
 - Argument: console, syslog, kmsg, syslog-or-kmsg, null
- systemd.log_level=
 - Argument: emerg, alert, crit, err, warning, notice, info, debug





initrd or initramfs

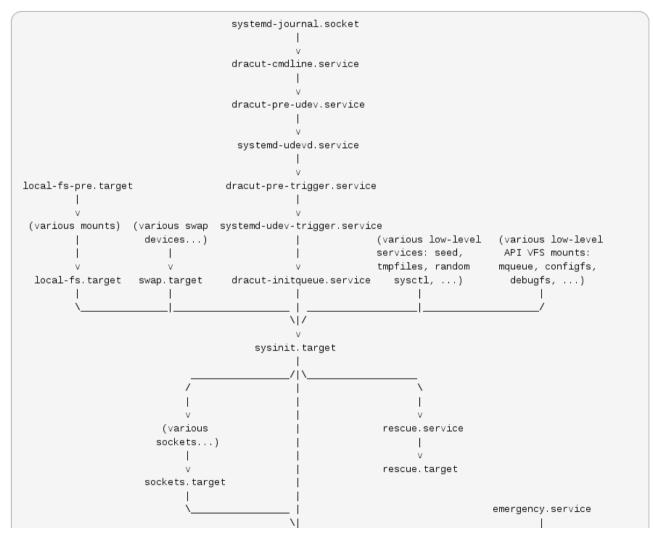
- initial ramdisk: temporary file system used in the boot process of the Linux kernel
- loading this file system into memory.
- used to make preparations before the real root file system can be mounted
 - HW detection
 - Device drivers as loadable modules
 - Tools used: udev, md scans, LVM, mount NFS



Load module in initrd



ordering of services systemd used in dracut initramfs



https://www.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/boot/dracut/dracut.html#dracutbootup7



dracut-shutdown.service

On a systemd driven system, the dracut initramfs is also used for the shutdown procedure!

- systemd switches to the shutdown.target
- systemd starts /usr/lib/systemd/system/shutdown.target.wants/dracut-shutdown.service
- dracut-shutdown.service executes /usr/lib/dracut/dracut-initramfs-restore which unpacks the initramfs to /run/initramfs
- systemd finishes shutdown.target
- systemd kills all processes
- systemd tries to unmount everything and mounts the remaining read-only
- systemd checks, if there is a /run/initramfs/shutdown executable
- if yes, it does a pivot_root to /run/initramfs and executes ./shutdown
- The old root is then mounted on /oldroot
- /usr/lib/dracut/modules.d/99shutdown/shutdown.sh is the shutdown executable.
- shutdown will try to umount every /oldroot mount and calls the various shutdown hooks from the dracut modules
- This ensures, that all devices are disassembled and unmounted cleanly.



debug the shutdown process exercise

- get a shell in the shutdown procedure

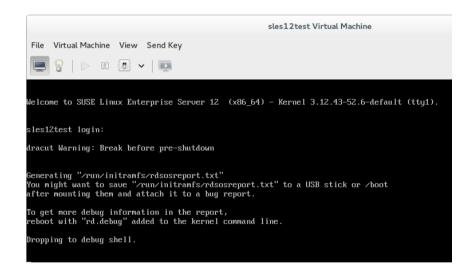
```
- $ mkdir -p /run/initramfs/etc/cmdline.d
- $ echo "rd.break=pre-shutdown rd.shell" >
   /run/initramfs/etc/cmdline.d/debug.conf
- $ touch /run/initramfs/.need_shutdown
```

- And provide the output of all of these commands:

```
- $ systemctl start dracut-shutdown.service
- $ systemctl status dracut-shutdown.service
- $ journalctl -u dracut-shutdown.service
- $ bash -x /usr/lib/dracut/dracut-initramfs-restore
```

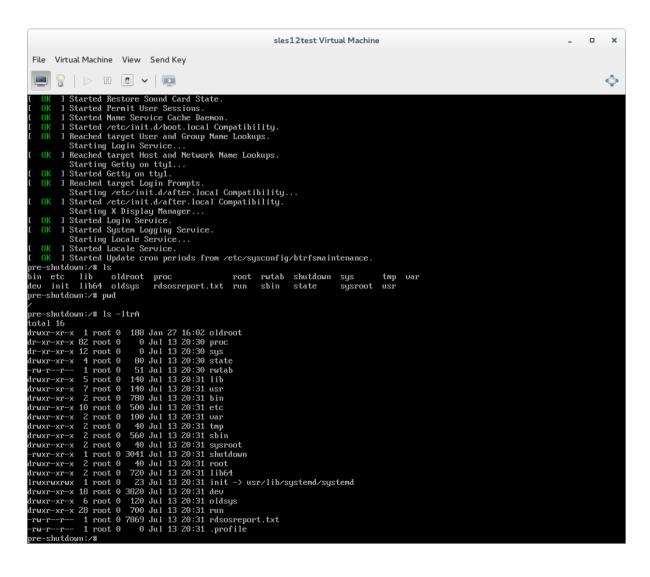


Late shell during shutdown process





Late shell during shutdown process



- Make note of:
- oldsys
- shutdown
- rdsosreport.txt



Security

Securing Services with systemd

- Isolating services from the network
- Service-private /tmp
 - new file system namespace for the executed processes
 - temporary data created by service will be removed after service is stopped
- Making directories appear read-only or inaccessible to services
 - Taking away capabilities from services
- Disallowing forking, limiting file creation for services
- Controlling device node access of services
- http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/security.html
- systemd.exec(5), capabilities(7)



Unit File Sections: Secure Services

- Applies to [Service], [Socket], [Mount], [Swap] sections / unit types
 - Limit network access (namespace)
 - PrivateNetwork=yes
 - Private /tmp
 - PrivateTmp=yes
 - Restrict access to directories
 - InaccessibleDirectories=/home
 - ReadOnlyDirectories=/var
 - Restrict capabilities
 - CapabilitiesBoundingSet=CAP_CHOWN CAP_KILL
 - CapabilitiesBoundingSet=-CAP_PTRACE (all but this one)





Network Concepts In Systemd

- network.target
 - guarantees that the network service has been started
 - Undefined if network interfaces are already configured when reached
 - primary purpose: ordering things properly at shutdown
- network-online.target
 - target that actively waits until the nework is "up"
- network-pre.target
- systemd.special(7)



network-online.target

- network-online.target is a target that actively waits until the nework is "up", where the definition of "up" is defined by the network management software.
- Definition: configured, routable IP address
- Purpose: actively delay activation of services until the network is set up
- active target: pulled in by the services requiring the network to be up
 - but not pulled in by the network management service itself
 - remote mounts defined in /etc/fstab pull this service in
 - make sure network is up before it is attempted to connect to a network share.
 - http://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/NetworkTarget/



network-pre.target

- pulled in by services that want to run before any network is set up,
 i.e.: setting up a firewall(shorewall)
- passive unit(cannot start directly)
- not pulled in by network management service, but by the service that wants to run before it
- Network management services should set After=networkpre.target
- Services that want to be run before the network is configured should place Before=network-pre.target and also set Wants=network-pre.target to pull it in
- Result: avoid unnecessary synchronization points



Systemd unit generators

Systemd generators

- should only be used to generate unit files
- execute binaries early at bootup and at configuration reload time before unit files are loaded
- dynamically generate unit files
- create symbolic links to unit files to add additional dependencies
 - extending or overriding existing definitions
 - main purpose: convert configuration files that are not native unit files dynamically into native unit files.
 - /usr/lib/systemd/system-generators/
- systemctl daemon-reload
 - systemd.generator
 - systemd-fstab-generator (8)
 - systemd.mount(5)

http://www.freedesktop.org/software/systemd/man/systemd.generator.html



Mount unit configuration

- /etc/fstab mount options understood by systemd
- systemd will create a dependency of type Wants from either local-fs.target or remote-fs.target, depending whether the file system is local or remote

nofail

- this mount will be only wanted, not required, by the local-fs.target
- boot will continue even if this mount point is not mounted successfully

· fail

- opposite meaning and is default

noauto

- mount will not be added as a dependency for local-fs.target
- will not be mounted automatically during boot, unless pulled in by some other unit

· auto

- stricter handling of failing "auto" mounts during boot
- failing to mount an "auto" mount (without "nofail" option), systemd will drop to an emergency shell rather than continuing the boot!
- systemd.mount(5) systemd.mount(5)



lvm2-activation-generator(1)

- The Ivm2 activation generator generates systemd units conditionally based on the global/use_lvmetad Ivm.conf setting
- If use_lvmetad=0, the lvm2-activation-early.service and lvm2-activation.service units will be generated
- These units are responsible for direct volume activation by calling "vgchange
 -aay --sysinit" (this is actually the original on-boot activation as it was used before)
- If use_lvmetad=1, no units will be generated as we're relying on autoactivation
- Important thing to note is that the lvm2-activation units normally bring in the udevsettle ("storage-wait") service that waits for udev to settle (with block devices)
- We don't need this if lymetad is used in conjunction with autoactivation feature...
 but systemd units can't be enabled or disabled (or dependencies added/removed) dynamically based on external configuration
- Therefore, we need the unit generator which adds support for such situations: the units as a whole either exist or not based on the external configuration



lvm2-activation-generator(2)

- systemd units generated by lvm2-activation-generator:
- lvm2-activation-early.service
 - responsible for direct activation of LVM2 logical volumes if lymetad daemon is not used
 - Direct LVM2 activation requires udev to be settled
- lvm2-activation.service
 - activation of LVM2 volumes ordered after cryptsetup.target(layered on top of encrypted devices)
- lvm2-activation-net.service
 - activation of LVM2 volumes ordered after remote-fs.target(layered on attached remote devices)

lvm2-activation-generator(8)



Lvm activation

- exclude LVs or VGs from being started automtically
 - https://www.suse.com/support/kb/doc.php?id=7016683
- Do not activate other VGs or LVs, that are not listed in the activation filter:
- in /etc/lvm/lvm.conf define _both_ parameters with the VGs or LVs you want activated on boot

```
activation {
  volume_list = [ "vgtest" ]
  auto_activation_volume_list = [ "vgtest" ]
}
```

- # systemctl status lvm2-activation-early.service
- Oct 22 21:19:26 sles12 lvm[657]: 0 logical volume(s) in volume group "vg1" now active
- Oct 22 21:19:26 sles12 lvm[657]: 1 logical volume(s) in volume group "vgtest" now active



tmpfiles

Clear tmp directories separately

 systemd-tmpfiles creates, deletes, and cleans up volatile and temporary files and directories

- systemd-delta

- [OVERRIDDEN] /etc/tmpfiles.d/tmp.conf → /usr/lib/tmpfiles.d/tmp.conf
- # Clear tmp directories separately, to make them easier to override
- # SUSE policy: we don't clean those directories

```
-d /tmp 1777 root root -
```

- d /var/tmp 1777 root root -
- # Exclude namespace mountpoints created with PrivateTmp=yes

```
- x /tmp/systemd-private-%b-*
```

- X /tmp/systemd-private-%b-*/tmp
- x /var/tmp/systemd-private-%b-*
- X /var/tmp/systemd-private-%b-*/tmp
- #OWNER_TO_KEEP_IN_TMP="root"
- tmpfiles.d(5), systemd-tmpfiles(8)



Systemd: Testing and debugging

Debugging with systemd

- systemctl snapshot
 - saved state of the systemd manager
 - useful for testing various targets
- systemctl isolate
 - changing runlevel in a traditional init system
 - isolate command will immediately stop processes that are not enabled in the new unit
- Fix problem in emergency target and return to previous target
 - \$ systemctl snapshot saved.snapshot
 - \$ systemctl|grep "loaded units" #49 loaded units listed.
 - \$ systemctl isolate emergency.target
 - \$ systemctl|grep "loaded units" #13 loaded units listed.
 - \$ systemctl isolate saved.snapshot
 - \$ systemctl|grep "loaded units" #50 loaded units listed.
- systemctl(1)



Systemd-nspawn

- spawn a namespace container for debugging, testing and building
- not suitable for secure container setups
- set up minimal OS directory tree

```
- mkdir -p /var/tmp/bootstrap/etc/repos.d
- cp /etc/zypp/repos.d/SLES12-12-0.repo
  /var/tmp/bootstrap/etc/repos.d/
```

- zypper --root /var/tmp/bootstrap/ install --no-recommends systemd syslinux perl-Bootloader-YAML zypper
- rm /var/tmp/bootstrap/etc/securetty
- systemd-nspawn -bD /var/tmp/bootstrap 3
- From host:
 - systemd-analyze -M <nspawn_container_name>
 - Startup finished in 675ms (userspace) = 675ms
- Test your services in container



Understand boot process with systemdnspawn using debug

- -\$ /usr/bin/systemd-nspawn -D <rootfs_dir>
 /bin/systemd systemd.log_level=debug
 - spawned /usr/lib/systemd/system-generators/systemd-fstab-generator
 - Priority of unit files
 - load configuration failures
 - Creation of private D-Bus server
 - Activating default.target
 - Ignoring failed dependency jobs
 - Installing targets, service, sockets, mounts,...



Systemd general debugging guidelines

- discover journals of local containers and interleave them on display
 - \$ journalctl -m
 - Useful for debugging of cluster or combined web/DB setups
- Change current log level of systemd daemon
 - \$ systemd-analyze set-log-level debug
- Booting into Emergency Target
 - #remount root filesystem read-write
 - systemctl isolate emergency.target
 - mount -o remount,rw /
- Run a copy of the host system in a btrfs snapshot
 - btrfs subvolume snapshot / /.tmp
 - systemd-nspawn --private-network -D /.tmp -b

http://freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/Debugging/http://www.it3.be/2015/05/15/systemd-spawn-rear/



Systemd general debugging guidelines

- test rear rescue image
 - -d option in rear keeps temporary directories intact
 - \$ rear -vd mkrescue
 - rootfs directory contains a full populated rescue image
 - \$ systemd-nspawn -bD /tmp/rear.6PzAIYKf22D4uOL/rootfs/



Journal: Filtering output

- Show all messages from this boot

```
- $ journalctl -b
- $ journalctl -b -1 #from the previous boot
- $ journalctl --since="2015-05-30 12:10:11"
```

- Show all messages by a specific executable:

```
- $ journalctl /usr/lib/systemd/systemd
```

- Show all messages by a specific process:

```
- $ journalctl _PID=1
```

- Show all messages by a specific unit:

```
- $ journalctl -u postfix
```

- Show kernel ring buffer aka dmesg

```
- $ journalctl -k
```

- journal options based on metadata: trusted journal fields
- systemd.journal-fields(7)



Early Debug Shell

- enable shell access to be available very early in the startup process to fall back on and diagnose systemd related boot up issues
 - \$ systemctl enable debug-shell.service
- enable service manually

```
- $ cd $PATH_TO_YOUR_ROOT_FS/etc/systemd/system
- mkdir -p sysinit.target.wants
```

- ln -s /usr/lib/systemd/system/debug-shell.service sysinit.target.wants/
- Have root shell
- Warning:
- After debugging is finished
 - \$ systemctl disable debug-shell.service

On next boot switch to tty9 using CTRL+ALT+F9

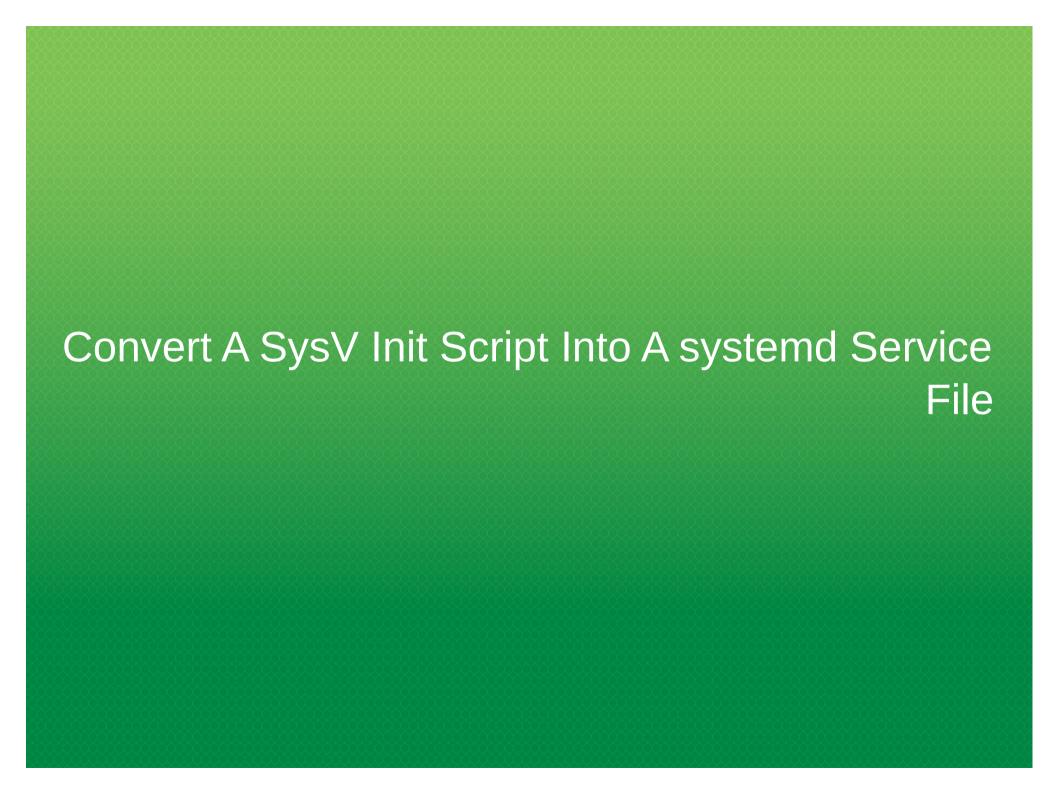
https://freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/Debugging/



systemd-halt.service

- pulled in by halt.target
- responsible for the actual system halt
 - PID 1 is replaced by /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-shutdown
 - unmount all remaining file systems
 - disable all remaining swap devices
 - detach all remaining storage devices
 - kill all remaining processes
 - run all executables in /usr/lib/systemd/system-shutdown/
 - executables in this directory are executed in parallel
 - execution of the action is not continued before all executables finished





Adapting SysV Init script

- Example: /etc/init.d/named starts
 - /usr/sbin/named -t /var/lib/named -u named
- Although not a native systemd service, standard adaptations apply, here:
 convert to use IPv4 only
 - cat /etc/systemd/system/named.service.d/named.conf (drop-in directory)
 - ExecStart=
 - ExecStart=/usr/sbin/named -4 -t /var/lib/named -u named
 - Last line will override default after
 - systemctl daemon-reload
 - systemctl restart named.service
- How Do I Convert A SysV Init Script Into A systemd Service File?
- http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/systemd-for-admins-3.html
- daemon(7) Writing and packaging system daemons



systemd conversion

Use case: upgrade from SLES-11-SP3

- automatic conversion of sysv boot init scripts is too dangerous
- Macros provided when a package installs systemd unit files
- Save and Restore SysV Service Runlevel Information
- service migration uses helper script in %pre and %post section

```
- /usr/sbin/systemd-sysv-convert --save $services_to_migrate
```

- if initial install is under systemd, migration is disabled
- touch /var/lib/systemd/migrated/\$sysv_service
- sles12test:~ # Is /var/lib/systemd/migrated/|wc -l
- 69
- systemd reloads its unit files on installation



Example: rpm -q --scripts ipvsadm preinstall scriptlet

- test -n "\$FIRST_ARG" || FIRST_ARG=\$1
- # disable migration if initial install under systemd
- [-d /var/lib/systemd/migrated] || mkdir -p /var/lib/systemd/migrated || :
- if [\$FIRST_ARG -eq 1]; then
- for service in ipvsadm.service; do
- sysv service=\${service%.*}
- touch "/var/lib/systemd/migrated/\$sysv_service" ||:
- done
- else
- if [\$FIRST ARG -gt 1]; then
- for service in ipvsadm.service; do
- if [!-e "/usr/lib/systemd/system/\$service"]; then
- touch "/run/rpm-ipvsadm-update-\$service-new-in-upgrade"
- fi
- done
- fi

- for service in ipvsadm.service; do
- sysv service=\${service%.*}
- if [!-e "/var/lib/systemd/migrated/ \$sysv_service"]; then
- fi
- done
- if [-n "\$services_to_migrate"]; then
- /usr/sbin/systemd-sysv-convert --save \$services_to_migrate >/dev/null 2>&1 || :
- fi
- fi



New-Style Daemons Writing and packaging system daemons

- Provide correct exit code
 - LSB recommendations for SysV init scripts
- integration in systemd
 - provide a .service unit file(start, stop, maintain)
 - systemd.service(5)
- rely on systemd's resource limit control
 - systemd.exec(5)
- D-Bus service activation guarantees:
 - on-demand starting of services
 - may be started in parallel
 - Restarts on failure without losing any bus requests
 - all requests are queued while the daemon cannot process them
 - socket stays bound and accessible during restart
 - Daemon(7), systemd-notify(1)



init scripts: legacy actions

- What: init scripts that have historically defined custom actions
- Init scripts sometimes implemented additional actions besides the usual start/stop/status etc. For systemd service files that extra feature doesn't exist!
- actiondir="/usr/lib/initscripts/legacy-actions"

Example:

- Old: init script "foo" had an action "frob"
- **New:** service file is now called "foo.service"
- To support "frob" action implement feature here:
- /usr/lib/initscripts/legacy-actions/foo/frob
- legacy actions are called by /usr/sbin/service

best practice:

- Don't package a legacy action for new scripts or actions that were not supported by the prior init script
- intended for compatibility with existing scripts only
- https://en.opensuse.org/openSUSE:Systemd_packaging_guidelines



Control group, slice, scope

Systemd and control groups

Service, scope and slice units directly map to objects in the cgroup tree!

· Slice unit

- organize a hierarchy in which scopes and services are placed
- set defaults for the whole tree

Scope unit

- manage externally created processes
- started and stopped by arbitrary processes via fork()
- registered by systemd at runtime using bus interfaces

system.slice

- service and scope units

machine.slice

- All virtual machines and containers registered with systemd-machined

· user.slice

- all user processes and services started on behalf of the user, including the per-user systemd instance
- user sessions handled by systemd-logind

systemd.special(5), systemd.slice(5) /usr/src/linux/Documentation/cgroups/cgroups.txt



Transient units - systemd-run

- wrapper around StartTransientUnit()
- run process as a transient service in the background invoked from PID 1
- · alternatively run as a scope unit in foreground run from the systemd-run process itself

```
-sles12:~ # systemctl cat limits.slice
-# /etc/systemd/system/limits.slice
- [Unit]
- Description=Limited resources Slice
- DefaultDependencies=no
- Before=slices.target
- [Slice]
- CPUShares=512
- MemoryLimit=256M
- # /etc/systemd/system/limits.slice.d/90-MemoryLimit.conf
- [Slice]
- MemoryLimit=104857600
-sles12:~ # systemctl show -p MemoryLimit limits.slice
- MemoryLimit=104857600
```



Systemd-run example

```
- systemd-run --unit=mem_hung --scope --slice=limits python
- sles12:~ # systemd-cgls
- |-limits.slice
- | --mem_hung.scope
- | --3461 /usr/bin/python
```



systemd.slice(2)

· machinectl

- -M, --machine=
- Execute operation on a local container
- machinectl may be used to introspect and control the state of the systemd(1) virtual machine and container registration manager systemd-machined.service(8).

systemctl

- -- M, --machine=
- Execute operation on a local container. Specify a container name to connect to.
- -H, --host=
- Execute the operation remotely. Specify a hostname, or username and hostname separated by "@", to connect to. This will use SSH to talk to the remote machine manager instance.

· journalctl

- -M, --machine=
- Show messages from a running, local container. Specify a container name to connect to.



control group hierarchy in systemd-nspawn container

```
linux:~ # systemd-cgls
 -1 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd 3
 -system.slice
  I-dbus.service
    `-127 /bin/dbus-daemon --system --address=systemd:
  |-systemd-journald.service
  | `-92 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-journald
 |-systemd-logind.service
  | `-128 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd-logind
  `-dm-event.service
    `-120 /sbin/dmeventd
 -user.slice
  `-user-0.slice
    -session-33.scope
      |-130 login -- root
      I-135 -bash
     |-180 systemd-cgls
      `-181 systemd-cgls
     -user@0.service
      |-129 /usr/lib/systemd/systemd --user
       -131 (sd-pam)
linux:~ # ■
```



Changes with SLES12 SP2

New man pages with version 228

```
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-modules-load.service.8.gz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-poweroff.service.8.gz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-quotacheck.service.8.qz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-remount-fs.8.qz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-system-update-generator.8.gz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-timedated.8.gz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-timesyncd.8.gz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-timesyncd.service.8.gz
usr/share/man/man8/systemd-yconsole-setup.service.8.gz
```



systemd: Support for System V and LSB Init Scripts Has Been Moved Out of Core Daemon

- The support for SysV and LSB init scripts has been removed from the systemd daemon itself
- This functionality is now implemented as a generator that creates systemd unit files from System V/LSB init scripts.
 These unit files are generated at boot or when systemd is reloaded. Therefore, to have changed System V init scripts recognized by systemd, run systemctl daemonreload or reboot the machine.
- For more information, see the man page of systemd-sysv-generator (man systemd-sysv-generator).

https://www.suse.com/releasenotes/x86_64/SUSE-SLES/12-SP2/



Limit directives and their equivalent with ulimit

Directive	ulimit equivalent	Unit
LimitCPU=	ulimit -t	Seconds
LimitFSIZE=	ulimit -f	Bytes
LimitDATA=	ulimit -d	Bytes
LimitSTACK=	ulimit -s	Bytes
LimitCORE=	ulimit -c	Bytes
LimitRSS=	ulimit -m	Bytes
LimitNOFILE=	ulimit -n	Number of File Descriptors
LimitAS=	ulimit -v	Bytes
LimitNPROC=	ulimit -u	Number of Processes
LimitMEMLOCK=	ulimit -l	Bytes
LimitLOCKS=	ulimit -x	Number of Locks
LimitSIGPENDING=	ulimit -i	Number of Queued Signals
LimitMSGQUEUE=	ulimit -q	Bytes
LimitNICE=	ulimit -e	Nice Level
LimitRTPRIO=	ulimit -r	Realtime Priority
LimitRTTIME=	No equivalent	Microseconds

Systemd.exec(5)



The NFS Mount Option bg Is Deprecated

- man systemd.mount(SLES12 SP2)
- The NFS mount option bg for NFS background mounts as documented in nfs(5) is not supported in /etc/fstab entries.
 The systemd mount option nofail provides similar functionality and should be used instead.
- While this mount option is still supported in SLE 12 SP2,it will be removed in the next version of SLE.
- See also man nfs(5)



Systemd: Restart settings

Table 1. Exit causes and the effect of the Restart= settings on them

Restart settings/Exit causes	no	always	on-success	on-failure	on-abnormal	on-abort	on-watchdog
Clean exit code or signal		Х	Х				
Unclean exit code		Х		Х			
Unclean signal		Х		Х	Х	Х	
Timeout		Х		Х	Х		
Watchdog		Х		Х	Х		Х

systemd.service(5) - Service unit configuration



systemctl: is-enabled output

Name	Description	Exit Code
"enabled" "enabled-runtime"	Enabled through a symlink in a .wants/ or .requires/ subdirectory of /etc/systemd/system/ (persistently) or /run/systemd/system/ (transiently).	0
"linked" "linked-runtime"	Made available through one or more symlinks to the unit file (permanently in /etc/systemd/system/ or transiently in /run/systemd/system/), even though the unit file might reside outside of the unit file search path.	> 0
"masked" "masked-runtime"	Completely disabled, so that any start operation on it fails (permanently in /etc/systemd/system/ or transiently in /run/systemd/systemd/).	> 0
"static"	The unit file is not enabled, and has no provisions for enabling in the "[Install]" section.	0
"indirect"	The unit file itself is not enabled, but it has a non-empty <u>Also=</u> setting in the "[Install]" section, listing other unit files that might be enabled.	0
"disabled"	Unit file is not enabled, but contains an "[Install]" section with installation instructions.	> 0
"bad"	Unit file is invalid or another error occured. Note that is-enabled will not actually return this state, but print an error message instead. However the unit file listing printed by list-unit-files might show it.	> 0



systemd.nspawn: new options

--private-users=

- Enables user namespacing. container will run with its own private set of Unix user and group ids (UIDs and GIDs)

--network-veth

- Create a virtual Ethernet link ("veth") between host and container

--template=

- Directory or "btrfs" subvolume to use as template for the container's root directory.

--ephemeral

- If specified, the container is run with a temporary "btrfs" snapshot of its root directory

--overlay=, --overlay-ro=

 Combine multiple directory trees into one overlay file system and mount it into the container.



Changes in systemd man pages

- git@github.com:systemd/systemd.git
- Detailed git log history for man sub directory:
- git log -p --numstat -- man



Appendix

Systemd man-pages shortlist

- bootup (7)System bootup process
- init (1) systemd system and service manager
- journalctl (1) Query the systemd journal
- systemctl (1) Control the systemd system and service manager
- systemd (1)
 systemd system and service manager
- systemd-analyze (1) Analyze system boot-up performance
- systemd-delta (1) Find overridden configuration files
- systemd-fstab-generator (8) Unit generator for /etc/fstab
- systemd-journalctl (1) Query the systemd journal
- systemd-nspawn (1) Spawn a namespace container for debugging, testing and building
- systemd-tmpfiles (8) Creates, deletes and cleans up volatile and temporary files and directories
- systemd.directives (7) Index of configuration directives
- systemd.exec (5) Execution environment configuration
- systemd.mount (5) Mount unit configuration
- systemd.preset (5) Service enablement presets
- systemd.resource-control (5) Resource control unit settings
- systemd-run (1) Run programs in transient scope or service units
- systemd.service (5) Service unit configuration
- systemd.special (7) Special systemd units
- systemd.target (5) Target unit configuration
- systemd.unit (5) Unit configuration
- dracut-shutdown.service (8) unpack the initramfs to /run/initramfs



Links

https://www.suse.com/de-de/documentation/sled-12/book sle admin/data/cha systemd.html

systemd in SUSE Linux Enterprise 12

https://www.suse.com/docrep/documents/huz0a6bf9a/systemd_in_suse_linux_enterprise_12_white paper.pdf

SUSECon: Systemd Intro by Olaf Kirch

www.susecon.com/doc/2014/sessions/TUT7563.pdf

multipath integration in systemd:

https://www.suse.com/documentation/sles-12/stor admin/data/sec multipath trouble.html

Systemd Generators:

http://www.freedesktop.org/software/systemd/man/systemd.generator.html (since systemd 220) https://www.mankier.com/8/lvm2-activation-generator

Systemd Presets:

http://lists.freedesktop.org/archives/systemd-devel/2011-July/002830.html

Systemd network targets

http://www.freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/NetworkTarget/http://freedesktop.org/wiki/Software/systemd/Optimizations/

How Do I Convert A SysV Init Script Into A systemd Service File? http://0pointer.de/blog/projects/systemd-for-admins-3.html

Systemd blog articles by Lennart Poettering http://lmgtfy.com/?q=systemd+site%3A0pointer.net%2Fblog%2F





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