

Linux System Notes

Useful notes on Linux systems.

Linux Kernel

Kernel-related stuffs.

Intel Motherboard

On startup, got a kernel warning regarding a firmware bug, TSC_DEADLINE disabled... or something similar. The required 'fix' is to install intel-microcode package.

On **Devuan**, install the 'parent' package - firmware-linux (which covers both intel-microcode and amd64-microcode)

```
# apt install firmware-linux
```

Initramfs will be auto regenerated.

On **Slackware**, install intel-microcode using script from Slackbuilds.org. Create a new initramfs (initrd) using mkinitrd (with -P /boot/intel-ucode.cpio).

Kernel Error Message 20210328

After an upgrade on Devuan, I got

```
pstore: crypto_comp_decompress failed, ret = -22!  
pstore: decompression failed: -22
```

kernel message after rebooting.

Fixed it by deleting everything in /sys/fs/pstore.

Linux LVM

I have some experience playing with AIX and I am very fascinated by its LVM implementation (which is a MUST-USE). I also found out that Linux also has a slightly different LVM implementation - and obviously optional. I tried it on my home machine and I want to put my personal note here. I will simply put it as it is for now... and maybe discuss with a little more detail later.

[linux_lvm_notes.txt](#)

* DISCLAIMER: this is my personal note. use at your own risk.

* My home machine is running Devuan

- note: `mount | grep -v -E "/sys|tmpfs|proc|devpts|gvfs"`

- current disk layout on `/dev/sda` (GPT):

= p1: UEFI partition (fat32) 127M (1M offset)

= p2: Root partition (ext4) 30G

= p3: Home partition (ext4) ~898G

= p4: Swap partition (swap) 4G

@ TASK: Create a new lv from slice of p3

- make sure basic lvm terms/concepts are covered

= volume group (vg)

= physical volume (pv) [aix:pv MUST BE a disk]

= physical element/extent (pe) [aix:pp=physical partition]

= logical volume (lv)

= logical element/extent (le) [aix:lp=logical partition]

- need to unmount `/home`

= login as root and make sure no user logged in

- target disk layout:

= p1: UEFI partition (fat32) 127M (1M offset)

= p2: Root partition (ext4) 30G

= p3: Home partition (ext4) 600G

= p4: Xtra partition (lvm) ~298G

= p5: Swap partition (swap) 4G

- current p3 content is <500G

* repartition disk to create space for new lv

`umount /home`

`e2fsck -f /dev/sda3`

`resize2fs -p /dev/sda3 500G`

`swapoff /dev/sda4`

`gdisk /dev/sda`

> `delete /dev/sda4`

> note `/dev/sda3` starting sector

> `delete /dev/sda3`

> create new `/dev/sda3` (linux:8300)

= make sure use same starting sector

= specify size +600G

> create new `/dev/sda4` (linux lvm:8e00)

= default starting sector

= specify -4G to leave space for swap

> create new `/dev/sda5` (swap:8200)

= should have 4G remaining

> `exit`

* reclaim `/dev/sda3` space (600G)

`resize2fs -p /dev/sda3`

* edit `/etc/fstab` accordingly

- e.g. specify new uuid for swap & `/dev/sda3`

* restore swap

`swapon -a`

```
- OR, 'swapon /dev/sda5'

* install lvm
- using lvm2 implementation (uses device mapper)
# apt install lvm2

* create pv
# pvcreate /dev/sda4
* create volume group vg
# vgcreate xtravg /dev/sda4
* playing around (create/remove lv)
# lvcreate -L 100G -n store xtravg
# lvcreate -l +100%FREE -n movie xtravg
# lvremove movie
# lvremove xtravg/store

* create single lv on vg
# lvcreate -l +100%FREE -n share xtravg
# vgdisplay xtravg
* create ext4 fs on lv
# mkfs.ext4 -L LVMSHARE /dev/xtravg/share
* create a mountpoint for the new lv
# mkdir /ext
* check entry in /dev/mapper/
  = should have xtravg-share
* add entry in fstab
  = e.g. /dev/mapper/xtravg-share /ext ext4 defaults 0 2
* manually mount
# mount /ext

@ TASK: Add new disk to existing lv
- got a new disk, using whole disk (1TB)
- extend existing lv

# pvcreate /dev/sdb
# vgdisplay xtravg
# vgextend xtravg /dev/sdb
# vgdisplay xtravg
* use all newly available space
# lvextend -l +100%FREE /dev/xtravg/share

@ TASK: Remove PV from VG
- need to use original /dev/sda4 for something else
- note: pvs -o+pv_used
- PV is in use, so need to free up

# umount /ext
# e2fsck -f /dev/xtravg/share
# resize2fs -p /dev/xtravg/share 800G
# lvreduce -L 850G /dev/xtravg/share
* reclaim space
```

```
# resize2fs -p /dev/xtravg/share
* check usage
# pvs -o+pv_used
- OR, pvdisplay
* IF any PEs still in use
# pvmove /dev/sda4
* remove pv from vg
# vgreduce xtravg /dev/sda4
* remove pv from system (no longer id as pv)
# pvremove /dev/sda4
* reclaim all lv space
# lvextend -l +100%FREE /dev/xtravg/share
# resize2fs -p /dev/xtravg/share
```

Useful Commands

Check physical disks:

```
# pvscan
```

List volume groups / logical volumes:

```
# vgs
# lvs
```

Exporting volume groups:

- unmount
- run lvchange / vgchange (with -an options) to take them offline
- run vgexport

Linux AUFS

Dumped from my personal note on making AUFS-patched Linux kernel.

[linux_aufs_notes.txt](#)

```
-----
How I built an aufs-patched kernel
-----

- get kernel source
  = got 5.4.26 (latest longterm atm)
  $ getlinux 5.4.26 -x
- prepare kernel source
  = extract
```

```
$ tar xf linux-5.4.26.tar.xz
= actually, i got 5.4.25 like a day before 5.4.26 is release
= got patch-5.4.25-26 and apply
$ cd linux-5.4.25
$ patch -p1 < ~/temp/patch-5.4.25-26
= renamed the path as linux-5.4.26

- get the required aufsX
= need aufs5 because i chose kernel v5
$ git clone git://github.com/sfjro/aufs5-standalone.git
- prepare aufs5
$ git checkout -b aufs5.4 origin/aufs5.4

- get aufs-util (for later use)
$ git clone git://git.code.sf.net/p/aufs/aufs-util
- prepare aufs-util
= aufs-util does not have exact kernel version (get closest lower)
$ git checkout -b aufs-5.0 origin/aufs5.0

- apply patches in aufs5-standalone into linux
= not all patches are required
= refer to README in aufs5-standalone
= i use method 1
$ cd linux-5.4.26
$ patch -p1 < ../aufs5-standalone/aufs5-kbuild.patch
$ patch -p1 < ../aufs5-standalone/aufs5-base.patch
$ patch -p1 < ../aufs5-standalone/aufs5-mmap.patch
$ patch -p1 < ../aufs5-standalone/aufs5-standalone.patch
= OR (in a single line command)
$ for a in kbuild base mmap standalone ; do patch -p1 < ../aufs5-standalone/aufs5-$a.patch ; done
- need to copy some files
= still in linux-5.4.26
$ cp -av ../aufs5-standalone/Documentation/* Documentation/
$ cp -av ../aufs5-standalone/fs/* fs/
$ cp -av ../aufs5-standalone/include/uapi/linux/aufs_type.h include/uapi/linux/
- repack this for easy reuse
= rename path as linux-5.4.26_aufs
$ cd .. ; mv linux-5.4.26 linux-5.4.26_aufs
$ cd linux-5.4.26_aufs
$ packthis

- prepare to build
= unpack to /usr/src
$ cd /usr/src ; tar xf linux-5.4.26_aufs.tar.xz
- configure kernel
$ cd linux-5.4.26_aufs
= use make_kernel
$ make_kernel -i -c
= that will run make menuconfig
```

```
= select aufs as module
- build kernel
  = use make_kernel
  $ make_kernel -x
  = wait...

- pack kernel (slackware)
  = use pack_kernel (duh!)
  $ pack_kernel --all
  = by default package will be at $HOME/temp
```

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