What's New in Linux on System z

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How Linux on System z is developed

How does the “community” work.
IBM collaborates with the Linux community

- has been an active participant since 1999
- is one of the leading commercial contributors to Linux
- has over 600 full-time developers working with Linux and open source

- Linux Kernel & Subsystem Development
  - Kernel Base
  - Security
  - Systems Mgmt
  - Virtualization
  - Filesystems,
    and more...

- Expanding the Open Source Ecosystem
  - Apache
  - Eclipse
  - Mozilla Firefox
  - OpenOffice.org,
    and more...

- Promoting Open Standards & Community Collaboration
  - The Linux Foundation
  - Linux Standards Base
  - Common Criteria certification,
    and more...

- Foster and Protect the Ecosystem
  - Software Freedom Law Center
  - Free Software Foundation (FSF),
    and more...
The IBM Linux development process

IBM Linux on System z development contributes in the following areas: Kernel, s390-tools, open source tools (e.g. eclipse, ooprofile), gcc, glibc, binutils
Facts on Linux

- Linux kernel 1.0.0 was released with 176,250 lines of code.
  How many lines of code has the kernel version 3.7?
  16191784 lines of code (+1,193,047 since v3.2)

- How many of the world’s top 500 supercomputers run Linux (Nov 2012)?
  453 / 90.6%

- What percentage of web servers run Linux (Nov 2012)?
  64.9% run Unix, of those 50.7% run Linux (47.5% unknown) = 32.9%

- What percentage of desktop clients run Linux (Dec 2012)?
  1.75%

- What is the largest Linux architecture in number of devices?
  ARM, > 100 million activated android devices

- **Linux is Linux**, but … features, properties and quality differ dependent on your platform and your use case

Source:
- http://kernel.org
- http://top500.org/statistics
- http://w3techs.com
- http://www.w3counter.com
Linux kernel development: rate of change

Average for the last 7 3/4 years (without renames): 78 days per release, 5955 lines added, 2623 lines removed and 1251 lines modified per day
Linux kernel development: System z contributions

Changesets per 2.6.x / 3.x kernel release
Linux on System z distributions (Kernel 2.6 based)

- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 9 (GA 08/2004)**
  - Kernel 2.6.5, GCC 3.3.3, Service Pack 4 (GA 12/2007), end of regular life cycle
- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 10 (GA 07/2006)**
  - Kernel 2.6.16, GCC 4.1.0, Service Pack 4 (GA 05/2011)
- **SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 11 (GA 03/2009)**
  - Kernel 2.6.27, GCC 4.3.3, Service Pack 1 (GA 06/2010), Kernel 2.6.32
  - Kernel 3.0.13, GCC 4.3.4, Service Pack 2 (GA 02/2012)
- **Red Hat Enterprise Linux AS 4 (GA 02/2005)**
  - Kernel 2.6.9, GCC 3.4.3, Update 9 (GA 02/2011), end of regular life cycle
  - Kernel 2.6.18, GCC 4.1.0, Update 9 (GA 01/2013)
  - Kernel 2.6.32, GCC 4.4.0 Update 3 (GA 05/2012)
- **Others**
  - Debian, Slackware,
  - Support may be available by some third party
# Supported Linux Distributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>zEnterprise EC12</th>
<th>zEnterprise - z114 and z196</th>
<th>System z10</th>
<th>System z9</th>
<th>zSeries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RHEL 6</td>
<td>✓ (1)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHEL 5</td>
<td>✓ (2)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHEL 4 (*)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>✓ (5)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLES 11</td>
<td>✓ (3)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLES 10</td>
<td>✓ (4)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLES 9 (*)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>✓ (6)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ✓ Indicates that the distribution (version) has been tested by IBM on the hardware platform, will run on the system, and is an IBM supported environment. Updates or service packs applied to the distribution are also supported.
- (1) Recommended level: RHEL 6.3
- (2) Recommended level: RHEL 5.8
- (3) Recommended level: SLES 11 SP2
- (4) Recommended level: SLES 10 SP4 with latest maintenance updates
- (5) RHEL 4.8 only. Some functions have changed or are not available with the z196, e.g. the Dual-port OSA cards support to name one of several. Please check with your service provider regarding the end of service.
- (6) SLES 9 SP4 with latest maintenance updates only. Some functions have changed or are not available with the z196, e.g. the Dual-port OSA cards support to name one of several. Please check with your service provider regarding the end of service.
- X Indicates that the distribution is not supported by IBM on this server.
- (*) The distribution is out of service, extended support is required.

Two options for zSeries machines.
Current Linux on System z Technology

Features & Functionality developed in the past 2 years contained in the SUSE & Red Hat Distributions
Linux on System z features – Core kernel

- **z196 enhanced node affinity support (kernel 2.6.37)**
  - Allows the Linux scheduler to optimize its decisions based on the z196 topology

- **Performance indicator bytes (kernel 2.6.37)**
  - Display capacity adjustment indicator introduced with z196 via /proc/sysinfo

- **QDIO outbound scan algorithm (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - Improve scheduling of QDIO tasklets, OSA / HiperSockets / zfcp need different thresholds

- **Enabling spinning mutex (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - Make use of the common code for adaptive mutexes.
  - Add a new architecture primitive arch_mutex_cpu_relax to exploit sigp sense running to avoid the mutex lock retries if the hypervisor has not scheduled the cpu holding the mutex.

- **Detailed IRQ statistics (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - A detailed, per-cpu list of interrupts in /proc/interrupts
  - Useful to debug interrupt imbalances
Linux on System z features – Core kernel

- **Jump label support (kernel 3.0)**
  - Branch optimization for conditions that are rarely toggled, e.g. tracepoints

- **Two stage dumper / kdump support**
  - Use a Linux kernel to create a system dump
    - Use a preloaded crashkernel to run in case of a system failure
    - Can be triggered either as panic action or by the stand-alone dumper, integrated into the shutdown actions framework
  - **Pro**
    - Enhanced dump support that is able to reduce dump size, shared disk space, dump to network, dump to a file-system etc.
    - The makedumpfile tool can be used to filter the memory of the crashed system
    - Dump disk space sharing is possible for server farms using network dump
  - **Con**
    - kdump is not as reliable as the stand-alone dump tools
    - kdump cannot dump a z/VM named saved system (NSS)
    - For systems running in LPAR kdump consumes memory
Linux on System z features – two stage dumper / kdump support

- Add a crashkernel= to the kernel command line
  
  ```
  crashkernel=<size>@<offset>
  ```

- Boot your system and check the reservation
  
  ```
  # cat /proc/iomem
  00000000-3fffffff : System RAM
  00000000-005f1143 : Kernel code
  005f1144-00966497 : Kernel data
  00b66000-014c4e9f : Kernel bss
  40000000-47ffffff : Crash kernel
  48000000-7fffffff : System RAM
  ```

- Load the kdump kernel with kexec
  
  ```
  # kexec -p kdump.image -initrd kdump.initrd
  --command-line="dasd=1234 root=/dev/ram0"
  ```

- Manually trigger for kdump under z/VM
  
  ```
  # cp system restart
  ```
Linux on System z features – Usability / RAS

- **hyptop (kernel 2.6.35, s390-tools 1.12.0)**
  - A top-like tool that displays a dynamic real-time view of the hypervisor environment
  - It works with both the z/VM and the LPAR hypervisor

- **Address space randomization (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - Enable flexible mmap layout for 64 bit to randomize start address for the runtime stack and the mmap area

- **Get CPC name (kernel 2.6.39)**
  - Useful to identify a particular hardware system in a cluster
  - The CPC name and the HMC network name are provided

- **Module read-only protection (kernel 2.6.39)**
  - The text and the read-only data section of modules are write protected in the kernel page table, this avoids unwanted modification
Linux on System z features – FICON

- **Query DASD reservation status (kernel 2.6.37)**
  - New DASD ioctl to read the 'Sense Path Group ID' data
  - Allows to determine the reservation status of a DASD in relation to the current system

- **Multi-track extension for HPF (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - Allows to read from and write to multiple tracks with a single CCW

- **Access to raw ECKD data from Linux (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - This item allows to access ECKD disks in raw mode
  - Use the 'dd' command to copy the disk level content of an ECKD disk to a Linux file, and vice versa.
  - Storage array needs to support read-track and write-full-track command.

- **Extended DASD statistics (kernel 3.1)**
  - Add detailed per-device debugging of DASD I/Os via debugfs
  - Useful to analyze problems in particular for PAV and HPF
Extended DASD statistics

- **Start data collection**
  ```bash
  # dasdstat -e dasda 0.0.1234
  ```

- **Reset statistics counters**
  ```bash
  # dasdstat -r dasda
  ```

- **Read summary statistics**
  ```bash
  # dasdstat
  statistics data for statistic: 0.0.6527
  start time of data collection: Fri Feb 24 16:00:19 CET 2012

  1472 dasd I/O requests
  with 14896 sectors (512B each)
  0 requests used a PAV alias device
  0 requests used HPF

  __<4 ___8 __16 __32 __64 _128 _256 _512 __1k __2k __4k __8k _16k _32k _64k 128k
  _256 _512 __1M __2M __4M __8M _16M _32M _64M 128M 256M 512M __1G __2G __4G >4G

  Histogram of sizes (512B secs)
  0 0 1441 8 13 5 2 2 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

  Histogram of I/O times (microseconds)
  0 0 0 0 0 0 11160 49 52 61 142 7 0 0 0
  0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
  ```
Linux on System z features – FCP

- **Store I/O and initiate logging (S IOSL) (kernel 2.6.36)**
  - Enhance debug capability for FCP attached devices
  - Enables operating system to detect unusual conditions on a FCP channel

- **SAN utilities (kernel 2.6.36, lib-zfcp-hbaapi 2.1)**
  - Two new utilities have been added: zfcp_ping and zfcp_show
  - They are useful to discover a storage area network

- **Add NPIV information to symbolic port name (kernel 2.6.39)**
  - Add the device bus-ID and the network node to the symbolic port name if the NPIV mode is active.
Linux on System z features – Networking

- **Support for assisted VLAN null tagging (kernel 2.6.37)**
  - Close a gap between OSA and Linux to process null tagged frames correctly
  - z/OS may send null-tagged frames to Linux

- **IPv6 support for the qetharp tool (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - Extend the qetharp tool to provide IPv6 information in case of a layer 3 setup.
  - This is required for communication with z/OS via HiperSockets using IPv6.

- **New default qeth configuration values (kernel 2.6.39)**
  - Receive checksum offload, generic receive offload & number of inbound buffers

- **Add OSA concurrent hardware trap (kernel 3.0)**
  - To ease problem determination the qeth driver requests a hardware trace when the device driver or the hardware detect an error
  - Allows to correlate between OSA and Linux traces.
Linux on System z features – s390-tools

- **Improve memory ballooning with cpuplugd (s390-tools 1.15.0)**
  - A number of improvements to the memory balloon part to cpuplugd to make it more useful.

- **reIPL from device-mapper devices (s390-tools 1.12.0)**
  - The automatic re-IPL function only works with a physical device
  - Enhance the zipl support for device-mapper devices to provide the name of the physical device if the zipl target is located on a logical device
Linux on System z features – Compiler toolchain

- **zEnterprise 196 exploitation (gcc 4.6)**
  - Use option `-march=z196` to utilize the new instructions added with z196
  - Use `-mtune=z196` to schedule the instruction appropriate for the new out-of-order pipeline of z196
  - Re-compiled code/apps get further performance gains through 110+ new instructions

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**Diagram:**

- **In-order core execution**
  - Instrs:
    - 1: L1 miss
    - 2: L1 miss
    - 3: Execution
    - 4: Storage access
    - 5: Execution

- **Out-of-order core execution**
  - Time:
    - L1 miss
    - Execution
    - Storage access
Linux on System z features – Crypto

- **4096 bit RSA fast path (kernel 2.6.38)**
  - Make use of 4096 bit RSA acceleration available with Crypto Express 3 GA2 cards.

- **CP ACF exploitation of System z196 (kernel 3.0)**
  - Add support for new HW crypto modes:
    - cipher feedback mode (CFB), output feedback mode (OFB),
    - counter mode (CTR), Galois counter mode (GCM),
    - XEX based Tweaked Code Book with Cipher Text Stealing (XTS),
    - cipher based message authentication mode (CMAC),
    - and counter with cipher block chaining message authentication (CCM)

- **New libica APIs for supported crypto modes (libica 2.1.1)**
  - Provide a programmatic way to query for supported crypto ciphers, modes and key sizes.
  - Deliver information whether the cryptographic features are implemented in hardware or in software
LNXHC – Linux Health Checker

- The Linux Health Checker is a command line tool for Linux.
- Its purpose is to identify potential problems before they impact your system’s availability or cause outages.
- It collects and compares the active Linux settings and system status for a system with the values provided by health-check authors or defined by you. It produces output in the form of detailed messages, which provide information about potential problems and the suggested actions to take.
- The Linux Health Checker will run on any Linux platform which meets the software requirements. It can be easily extended by writing new health check plug-ins.
- The Linux Health Checker is an open source project sponsored by IBM. It is released under the Eclipse Public License v1.0
- http://lnxhc.sourceforge.net/
Future Linux on System z Technology

Software which has already been developed and integrated into the upstream Linux Kernel - but is not yet available in any Enterprise Linux Distribution
Linux on System z features – zEC12 support

- **Transactional execution (kernel 3.7)**
  - Also known as hardware transactional memory
  - CPU features that allows to execute a group of instructions atomically
  - Optimistic execution, if a transaction conflicts a rollback to a saved state is done

- **Storage class memory – Flash Express (kernel 3.7)**
  - Internal Flash Solid State Disk (SSD)
  - Accessed via Extended Asynchronous Data Mover (EADM) sub-channels
  - Up to four pairs of cards with a maximum capacity of 6.4TB

- **Support for Crypto Express 4S cards (kernel 3.7)**
  - New generation of crypto adapters plug-able into the I/O drawer
  - New type 10 which uses a bit field to indicate capabilities of the crypto card

- **Toolchain support (gcc 4.6)**
  - Add new instructions to the compiler
  - Add description of the new pipeline to generate optimal code
System zEC12 features – Transactional Execution

- Transactional execution is a concurrency mechanism of the CPU comparable to database transactions
  - Several reads and stores from/to memory logically occur at the same time
  - Improves performance for fine-grained serialization
  - Useful for lock-less data structures and speculative compiler optimizations

- Two types of transactions: constraint and non-constraint

- Conflicting memory accesses will cause the transaction to abort
  - Transaction abort is rather expensive
  - Constraint transaction will automatically restart
  - Ratio of successful vs. aborted transaction is important for performance

- Kernel support is required to enable user programs to use transactional execution
  - Control registers setup
  - Debugging support for additional PER controls via ptrace
System zEC12 features – Transactional Execution

Example of a list_add operation

```c
struct spinlock_t list_lock;
struct list_head list_head;
void list_add(struct list_head *new) {
    spin_lock(&list_lock, 0, 1);
    list_add(new, &list_head);
    spin_unlock(&list_lock, 1, 0);
}
```

Traditional code:

```assembly
# spin_lock
larl %r3,list_lock
lhi %r1,1
lock:
    lhi %r0,0
cs %r0,%r1,0(%r3)
ltr %r0,%r0
jne lock
# list_add
larl %r4,list_head
lg %r5,0(%r4)
stg %r4,0(%r2)
stg %r5,8(%r2)
stg %r2,0(%r5)
stg %r2,8(%r4)
# spin_unlock
    cs %r1,%r0,0(%r3)
br %r14
```

Transactional code

```assembly
# begin transaction
    tbeginc 0,0
# list_add
larl %r4,list_head
lg %r5,0(%r4)
stg %r4,0(%r2)
stg %r5,8(%r2)
stg %r2,0(%r5)
stg %r2,8(%r4)
# end transaction
    tend
    br %r14
```

Typical pattern:
1) lock, 2) a short operation, 3) unlock
System z kernel features – Core kernel

- **Add support for physical memory > 4TB (kernel 3.3)**
  - Increase the maximum supported memory size from 4TB to 64TB.
  - Memory sizes large than 4TB require a 4-level page table
  - Makes memory accesses by the kernel slightly slower, the kernel will automatically use a 3-level page table for memory sizes $\leq 4TB$

- **Add support for System z hardware counters (kernel 3.4)**
  - Enables hardware counters for Linux running in an LPAR
  - Available counters are: basic counter set, problem-state counter set, crypto-activity counter set, extended counter set with System z10
  - System zEC12 counter set with kernel version 3.7

- **Allow to compare dump system with boot system**
  - With z/VM 6.2 Single-System-Image it is possible to move active Linux instances between different z/VM instances
  - To aid debugging a log of past live-guest-relocations is made available in both the live system and in the dump of a system
System z kernel features – Core kernel

- **Fuzzy Live Dump (kernel 3.5)**
  - Add the capability to generate a dump of a live system.
  - Not all data structures will be consistent but the dump may still be useful.

- **BPF JIT compiler for System z (kernel 3.7)**
  - The Berkeley Packet Filter is an interface and a language definition that allows to pass a filter to the kernel to select network packets to send on a socket.
  - The BPF JIT compiler in the kernel translates the interpreted BPF code to System z code.
  - A secondary use of the BFP language is system call filtering.

- **Expose CPU cache topology in sysfs (kernel 3.7)**
  - Add an interface to expose the CPU cache topology to user space.
  - System z only provides information about CPU caches which are private to a CPU, information about shared caches is not exposed.

- **Add page table dumper (kernel 3.7)**
  - Add a sysfs interface to read the current layout of the kernel address space.
  - Useful information for the kernel developer.
System z kernel features – Core kernel / crypto

- **Transparent huge page support (kernel 3.7)**
  - Make the common code transparent huge page support available for Linux on System z.
  - With THP 1MB pages will be used to back normal anonymous memory mappings.
  - Any application will benefit from using huge pages.
  - Not as effective as using the large pages directly, no memory savings for page tables due to huge page splitting.

- **AP adapter resiliency (kernel 3.7)**
  - Improve RAS capabilities of the AP bus and the zcrypt devices.
  - External AP bus configuration changes are now handled correctly.
System z kernel features – Storage FICON / FCP

- **DASD sanity check to detect path connection errors (kernel 3.3)**
  - An incorrect physical connection between host and storage server which is not detected by hardware or microcode can lead to data corruption
  - Add a check in the DASD driver to make sure that each available channel path leads to the same storage server

- **FICON Express8S hardware data router support for FCP (kernel 3.2)**
  - Hardware data router support requires an adapted qdio request format.
  - Improves performance by reducing the path length for data.

- **FCP support for DIF/DIX (kernel 3.2)**
  - End to end data checking (aka data integrity extension) is no longer experimental.
  - Can be used with either direct I/O with a file system that fully supports end-to-end data consistency checking. Currently XFS only.

- **No automatic port rescan on events (kernel 3.7)**
  - The rescan of a zfcp port following a fabric change event can cause high fabric traffic, especially when many Linux images share an FCP channel over multiple subchannels with NPIV enabled. This can lead to errors due to timeouts.
  - Ports are still scanned when the adapter is set online and on manual user triggered writes to the port_rescan sysfs attribute.
System z kernel features – Networking

- **Add support for AF_IUCV HiperSockets transport (kernel 3.2)**
  - Use HiperSockets with completion queues as transport channel for AF_IUCV sockets

- **Allow multiple paths with netiucv between z/VM guests (kernel 3.3)**
  - Adds support for multiple point-to-point netiucv interfaces between guests
  - Speed up netiucv by using parallel IUCV paths.

- **Add query OSA address table support (kernel 3.4)**
  - The new qethqoat command queries the OSA address table and displays physical and logical device information.
  - Viewing the OSA address table is a low level diagnostic requirement.
Linux on System z features – tools

- **Extend lscpu tool and add new chcpu tool (util-linux 2.21)**
  - Improve the lscpu tool to display CPU topology and CPU state
  - Add the new chcpu tool to change CPU state, rescan CPUs and change the CPU dispatching mode (horizontal vs. vertical polarization)

- **SCSI device management tool (> s390-tools 1.14.0)**
  - Implement a tool analog chccwdev which allows to enable/disable a SCSI LUN addressed by HBA/target port/LUN.
System z toolchain

- **64 bit register in 31 bit compat mode (gcc 4.6, glibc 2.11)**
  - Make use of 64 bit registers in 31 bit application running in z/Architecture mode.
  - Allows to use instruction operating on 64 bits, e.g. 64 bit multiplication
  - Needs kernel support for asynchronous signals

- **Exploitation of zEC12 instructions (gcc 4.6)**
  - Use option -march=zEC12 to utilize the new instructions added with zEC12
  - Use -mtune=zEC12 to schedule the instruction appropriate for the pipeline of zEC12

- **ATLAS support (libatlas 3.9.52)**
  - Add support for System z to the “Automatically Tuned Linear Algebra Software”.
  - Improve performance of the library functions for System z.
System z toolchain

- **Oprofile support for hardware sampling introduced with z10 (2.6.39)**
  - Provide CPU measurement data to applications for performance tuning
  - Based on hardware counters and samples built into the CPU
  - Use oprofile to communicate the information to user space programs

- **Oprofile z196 hardware customer mode sampling (kernel 3.3)**
  - Extend the hardware sampling to support z196.

- **Valgrind System z support**
  - Valgrind is a generic framework for creating dynamic analysis tools and can be used for memory debugging, memory leak detection and profiling (e.g. cachegrind)
  - Valgrind is in essence a virtual machine using just-in-time (JIT) compilation techniques
  - Memory debugging is available with Valgrind version 3.7.0
Valgrind System z support

- Several tools, selected with \texttt{--tool=xxx}
  - Memcheck (default): detects memory and data flow problems
  - Cachegrind: cache profiling
  - Massif: heap profiling
  - Helgrind: thread debugging
  - DRD: thread debugging
  - None: no debugging (for valgrind JIT testing)
  - Callgrind: codeflow and profiling

- System z support since version 3.7 (SLES-11-SP2)
- Backports into 3.6 (SLES-10-SP4, RHEL6-U1)
s390-tools package: what is it?

- s390-tools is a package with a set of user space utilities to be used with the Linux on System z distributions.
  - It is the essential tool chain for Linux on System z
  - It contains everything from the boot loader to dump related tools for a system crash analysis.

- This software package is contained in all major (and IBM supported) enterprise Linux distributions which support s390
  - RedHat Enterprise Linux version 4, 5, and 6
  - SuSE Linux Enterprise Server version 9, 10, and 11

- Website:

- Feedback: linux390@de.ibm.com
s390-tools package: the content

**CHANGE**
- chccwdev
- chchp
- chreipl
- chshut
- chcrypt
- chmem

**DASD**
- dasdfmt
- dasdinfo
- dasdstat
- dasdview
- fdasd
- tunedasd

**MONITOR**
- mon_fsstatd
- mon_procd
- zimon
- hyptop

**NETWORK**
- ipWatcher
- osasnpmd
- qetharp
- qethconf

**DISPLAY**
- lsccs
- lschp
- lsdasd
- lslns
- lsqqeth
- lsreipl
- lsshut
- lstape
- lszcrypt
- lszfcp
- lsmem

**TAPE**
- tape390_display
- tape390_crypt

**DUMP**
- dbginfo
- dumpconf
- zfcpdump
- zfcpdbf
- zgetdump
- scsi_logging_level

**DEBUG**
- vmconvert
- vmcp
- vmur
- cms-fuse

**z/VM**
- cpuplugd
- iucvconn
- iucvtty
- ts-shell
- ttyrun

**MISC**
- zipl

**BOOT**
Kernel news – Common code

- **Linux version 3.2 (2012-01-04)**
  - btrfs improvements: faster scrubbing, automatic backup of tree roots
  - ext4: support for bigger block sizes up to 1MB
  - Process bandwidth controller
  - I/O less dirty throttling
  - New architecture: Hexagon

- **Linux version 3.3 (2012-03-18)**
  - Open vSwitch – software multilayer network switch
  - Teaming – better bonding of network interfaces
  - Network transmit queue limits – bufferbloat fighting
  - New architecture: TI C6X
Kernel news – Common code

- **Linux version 3.4 (2012-05-20)**
  - Btrfs improvements: better error handling, repair and recovery tools
  - New X32 ABI: 64-bit mode with 32-bit pointers
  - perf tool improvements
  - YAMA security module
  - QNX6 filesystem

- **Linux version 3.5 (2012-07-21)**
  - Filesystem improvements: ext4 metadata checksums, btrfs latency reduction
  - Uprobes: userspace probes
  - Bufferbloat improvements: CoDel queue management
  - TCP: connection repair, early retransmit
  - SCSI over FireWire and USB
Kernel news – Common code

- **Linux version 3.6 (2012-09-30)**
  - Btrfs: subvolume quotas, quota groups, snapshot diff, cross-subvolume file clones
  - TCP Fast Open (client side)
  - Bufferbloat fight: TCP small queues
  - Safe swap over NFS/NBD

- **Linux version 3.7 (2012-12-10)**
  - ARM multi-platform support, 64-bit support
  - Btrfs updates: fsync speedups, hole punching, per-file no-cow support
  - TCP Fast Open (server side)
  - Experimental SMB 2 protocol support
More information: Developer Works

Documentation for Development stream

Introduction
The 'Documentation'-tab of the 'Development stream' has the same information as the

Linux on System z documentation for 'Development stream'

Base documentation

- Device Drivers, Features, and Commands (kernel 3.7) - SC33-8412-11 (PDF, 4.8MB) | December 2012
- Using the Dump Tools (kernel 3.5) - SC33-8412-11 (PDF, 0.8MB) | November 2012

How to documents

- How to Improve Performance with PAV (kernel 2.6.35) - SC33-8412-11 (PDF, 0.1MB) | September 2010
- How to use FC-attached SCSI devices with Linux on System z (PDF, 0.9MB) | March 2011
- How to use Executable-In-Place Technology with Linux on zVM - SC33-8412-11 (PDF, 5.9MB) | March 2010
- Download a tarball with sample scripts.
- How to Set up a Terminal Server Environment - SC33-8412-11

New Redbooks

IBM

Linux on IBM System z
Performance Measurement and Tuning

Understanding Linux performance on System z
z/VM performance concepts
Tuning z/VM Linux guests

Lydia Parziale
Ed Lopes Alves
Linda Caroll
Mario Held
Karen Reed

Redbooks

An introduction to z/VM Single System Image (SSI) and Live Guest Relocation (LGR)

Learn about the business benefits of SSI and LGR
Understand important concepts and planning
Step through implementation and practical approaches

Lydia Parziale
Anthony Borglomo
Howard Charfey
Jo Jahnsen
Volker Masen
Cloris Pereira
Sreehari Samasundarar
Srivatsan Venkatesan

Redbooks

Visit http://www.redbooks.ibm.com
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Please Evaluate!