Linux for AIX Specialists: Similarities and Differences

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Introduction:

Goals

- To provide a basic introduction of Linux to people with a knowledge of AIX
- To describe
 - Similarities between Linux and AIX
 - Differences between Linux and AIX

Topics Introduced

Linux RPM Utility Starting and Stopping Linux daemons **XINETD** Configuration RSH Configuration AIX Smitty and Linux Linuxconf Linux Modules (device drivers) Network Configuration **XFree86** (X-Windows) Logical Volume Manager (Sistina) Linux RAID Capability Linux Automount Linux Lilo Boot Manager Build a Linux Kernel **___** ...and more...

Linux Distributions

RedHat Linux http://www.redhat.com Suse Linux http://www.suse.com **Caldera Linux** http://www.caldera.com Turbo Linux http://www.turbolinux.com Linux from Scratch http://www.linuxfromscratch.com

Installing Software Packages

smitty install (installp)

Linux

- RPM (http://www.rpm.org)
 - install
 - o query
 - delete
 - build

Download RPMS

- many sites
- http://www.rpmfind.net/linux/RPM/

RPM

Install a Package
 RPM -ivh cdrecord-1.9-2.i386.rpm
 Update a Package
 RPM -Uvh cdrecord-1.9-2.i386.rpm
 Uninstall a Package
 RPM -e cdrecord-1.9-2.i386.rpm

RPM (continued)

Query a Package RPM -qlp cdrecord-1.9-2.i386.rpm list the files in the package RPM -qip cdrecord-1.9-2.i386.rpm prints a description of the package RPM -qa same as AIX Islpp -I RPM -qa | grep cdrecord returns the cdrecord package installed RPM -qf /usr/bin/cdrecord returns the package owning the file

More RPM ...

RPM -qif /usr/bin/cdrecord
 give a description of the package owning the file
 RPM -qdf /usr/bin/cdrecord
 gives a list of all the files documenting the file



Starting and Stopping Daemonsb

On AIX startsrc -s lpd stopsrc -s lpd On Linux cd /etc/rc.d/init.d ./lpd start ./lpd stop ./lpd restart ntsysv utility graphically sets daemons to start on bootup Both /etc/inittab and cron are identical on AIX and Linux

/etc/rc.d/init.d Daemons

amd, crond, httpd, ipchains, iptables, isdn, linuxconf, lpd, named, network, nfs, nfslock, pcmcia, portmap, sendmail, smb, snmpd, sshd, xinetd, ypbind (NIS), ...



Linux XINETD Control

On AIX INETD (On Linux XINETD) controls

- ftp, telnet, rsh, rlogin, imap, pop2, pop3, linuxconf, rexec, echo (ping daemon), ...
- /etc/xinetd.conf references /etc/xinetd.d directory
- /etc/xinetd.d directory has a control file template for each xinetd function
 - these control files are the core of xinetd functions
 - these files replicate the function of /etc/inetd.conf in AIX

Xinetd.d Control Files

Control File Template:

- service shell
 - disable = yes/no
 - WARNING: Several of these control files default to "disable = yes", which is the exact opposite of what you would want in many cases to enable
 - socket_type = stream/dgram
 - wait = yes/on
 - user = root
 - log_on_success += USERID
 - log_on_failure += USERID
 - server = /usr/sbin/in.rshd

RSH Configuration in Xinetd

- Allows a user to rsh between machines without a password prompt
- Essential function for many cluster applications, such as HA, MPI, etc.
- In /etc/xinetd.d need "disable = no" (enable):
 - rsh (enable /usr/sbin/in.rshd daemon)
 - rexec (enable remote command execution)
 - rlogin (enable remote logins)
 - Note: could allow rexec and deny rlogin
- Then the normal stuff:
 - Add hosts to /etc/hosts.allow, /etc/hosts.equiv, /etc/hosts
 - Add .rhosts file to the user home directory

SMITTY and linuxconf

- gui tool for generating commands (and scripts) for system configuration
- linuxconf
 - gui tool for system administration
 - user administration
 - networking administration
 - file system administration

Creating Users and Groups

AIX mkuser or mkgroup smitty user or smitty group Linux useradd or groupadd linuxconf

Device Drivers "modules" (the challenge of Linux)

device drivers are taken for granted

Linux

- device drivers can be built into kernel
- Ioadable device drivers are called "modules"
 - Ismod
 - lists the modules loaded
 - modprobe (makefile like module utility)
 - higher level module administration
 - works with "depmod" (modules dependency)
 - insmod command loads the module into running system

More on "modules"

kernelcfg

- graphical tool for configuring the kernel daemon and managing modules
- /etc/modules.conf
 - modules configuration file linking devices with modules
 - read during bootup
 - alias eth0 epic100
 - alias sound-slot-0 sb

pass parameters to modules

options sb io=0x220 irq=5 dma=1 dma16=5

More on "modules"

Special Case of Plug and Play Devices
 isapnp utility configures and installs PNP devices
 pnpdump creates isapnp.conf template file for editing
 /etc/isagone controls excluding irq's, io ports, etc.
 new motherboards do not include ISA slots
 PCI devices configures
 PCI devices can share interrupts
 Ispci lists PCI devices
 AGP (Advanced Graphics Protocol)
 fully supported in Linux

Network Configuration

smitty tcpip

Linux

- netcfg
 - Configure network adapters
 - assign IP address, netmask, static/dhcp
 - Assign host name, domain name
 - Assign name server, default gateway
 - Set IP forwarding on or off
 - Set network default route

Network Performance Tuning

TCP/IP Parameters

- /proc/sys/net/ipv4
 - equivalent to "no" parameters on AIX
- statnet command
 - can monitor network traffic
- netstat command same as on AIX
- route commnd similar to AIX
 - slight difference in syntax
- ifconfig command similar to AIX
- **traceroute**
- ping same as on AIX

Linux Performance Tools

/proc Special Process Directory

- meminfo, cpuinfo, interrupts, ioports, dma
- /proc/sys/net/ipv4 tcpip parameters

📕 top

- similar to AIX Topas or sar
- memory usage, processes %cpu
- %cpu, %idle, %wait

hdparm

- set disk i/o parameters, similar to vmtune
 - read ahead
- vmstat, iostat, netstat same as AIX

statnet

network statistics tool

Linux XFree86 http://www.xfree86.org

/etc/X11/XF86Config X-Window Configuration File sets screen resolution monitor attributes (horiz freq, vert freq) **XFree86** server Xconfigurator (really challenging) XF86Setup (gui) **Commercial X Servers** (reasonable) Metro-X from Metro Link http://www.metrolink.com Accelerated-X from Xi Graphics http://www.xig.com

X-Window Consoles

- Common Desktop Environment
- Linux X Window Consoles
 - Most Vulnerable Component in a Linux install
 - GNOME
 - http://www.gnome.org
 - KDE
 - http://www.kde.org

Linux Capabilities

File Server (NFS and Samba)
Print Server (lpd and Samba)
Mail Server (Sendmail, pop, and imap)
Web Server (Apache)
FTP, Telnet, and ssh server
PPP Dialup Server
Name Server Version 8 (DNS)
Router (NAT Network Address Translation)
FireWall

Linux HOWTO Collection /usr/share/doc/HOWTO

- Collection of files documenting "HOWTO" configure or install various features
 - PPP
 - LVM
 - MAIL
 - Sound
 - FireWall
- **Great Place to get Started!!**
 - nice cookbooks..

Creating a File System

- smitty lvm
 - create volume group
 - create logical volume
- smitty jfs
 - create a jfs
 - automatically places entry into /etc/filesystems
 - mount the file system

Linux

- Create a disk partion
 - use either fdisk or cfdisk
- mke2fs (no journaling)
- mount the file system

Logical Volume Manager

- a Physical Volume is an entire disk
- a disk can only contain logical volumes belonging to a single volume group
- a logical volume and a file system can be increased in size, but not decreased
- Iogical volume mirroring and striping are options of logical volume creation

Logical Volume Manager

Linux

- Obtain Linux LVM from Sistina.Com at http://www.sistina.com/lvm
 - developed by Heinz Mauelshagen
- a Physical Volume is a partition on a disk with partition id of "0x08e"
- a physical disk can contain physical volumes belonging to more than 1 volume group
 - not recommended for a production system
- a logical volume and a file system can be both increased and decreased in size
 - Iogical volume analogous to a disk partition
 - a logical volume is a logical device
 - can be mirrored (/dev/md0)
 - mke2fs (create a file system)

Logical Volume Manager (continued)

- Iogical volume file systems have "much better" I/O performance than a file system created from a simple disk partition
 - Performance is great on large sequential reads
 - LVM does 64K read ahead by default
 - can also help Random Reads depending on I/O size
- Iogical volume striping can be accomplished when creating the logical volume (lvcreate)
- mirroring is part of the Linux RAID capability, separate from Linux Logical Volume Manager

Logical Volume Manager (continued)

Linux Logical Volume Manager Supporting Linux Clusters soon to be available

- multiple machines sharing a common set of Linux Volume Groups (with locking)
- Watch http://www.sistina.com for more details, when the information is available.



Linux LVM Commands

Volume Group commands vgcreate, vgchange, vgdisplay, vgextend, vgmerge, vgreduce, vgexport, vgimport, vgremove, vgsplit, vgcfgbackup, vgcfgrestore, vgck, vgmknodes, vgscan Logical Volume Commands Ivcreate, Ivdisplay, Ivchange, Ivextend, lvreduce, lvremove, lvrename, lvscan File System - Logical Volume Re-Sizing up or down e2fsadm (No data loss!)

Linux Software RAID Support

Supports

- RAID-0 (striping)
- RAID-1 (mirroring)
 - I use LVM logical volumes mirrored with Linux RAID-1, then mke2fs on RAID device
- Software RAID-4
 - interleaves stripes with a parity stripe
 - parity disk can be a bottleneck
- Software RAID-5
 - stores a parity stripe on each drive avoids parity stripe bottleneck
 - write performance not as good as mirroring

Linux RAID Mirroring Example

Create /etc/raidtab file defining raid devices

- raiddev /dev/md0 raid-level 1 nr-raid-disks 2 nr-spare-disks $\mathbf{0}$ chunk-size 4 persistent-superblock /dev/westvg/testR1 device raid-disk $\left(\right)$ /dev/westvg/testR2 device raid-disk mkraid /dev/md0 (make the RAID device) startraid /dev/md0 (start the RAID device)
- mount /dev/md0 /RAID (mount the RAID device on a mountpoint)

Linux RAID-1 Mirroring

Mirroring Allows real time backup of data Large Disks today are inexpensive time consuming or difficult to backup Linux RAID-1 Supports multiple copies file system copies are individually complete file systems Mirroring of Linux Logical Volumes provides LVM I/O performance mirroring data protection

Linux RAID-1 Mirroring (continued)

Recovery from a Failed Disk Simple

- add "failed-disk" line to /etc/fstab
- start RAID-1 array with "raidstart"
- mount the degraded RAID-1 array
- Shutdown / Replace the failed disk / Reboot
- Partition new disk identical to old disk
- Remove old Logical Volumes in LVM
- Add new Logical Volumes
- Use "raidhotadd" to add new logical volumes to active RAID-1 Array
 - Array will re-sync
 - No need to reboot
- modify /etc/raidtab file to current LVM configuration

AIX Network File System

- NFS Version 3
 - Daemons
 - onfsd on server
 - biod on client
- support synchronous and asynchronous writes
- supports automount capability

Linux Network File System

Linux

- NFS Version 3 common on Linux
 - compatible with AIX
- Linux NFS Version 2 can be mounted on AIX
 - nfso -o nfs_use_reserved_ports=1
 - mount -o vers=2 linux_box:/nfs_dir1 /mydir
- NFS on Linux uses Virtual File System and does not require control through biod daemons
- NFS on Linux uses Block I/O and does not support synchronous writes
- NFS on Linux supports locking
 - on AIX where local locks are required
 - mount -o llock linux:/big1 /big1
 - allows AIX database creation on Linux NFS dir

Linux NFS Implementation

/etc/exports

- lists files to be exported with hosts and permissions
 - /home vale(rw) vstout(rw) vlight(rw)
 - /big1 *(rw)
- exports
 - lists all exported directories
- exports -a
 - reads /etc/exports and adds new directories to the export list

exports -r

compares current export list with /etc/exports, removes missing directories from export list

Linux NFS Tuning

Number of nfsd daemons running

default is 8

Read and Write Block Size Parameters

- tunable
 - rsize defaults to 4K
 - wsize defaults to 8K
 - rsize and wsize be set on mount command
- Infection of the image of th
 - not supported, free shareware
 - http://www.tunelinux.com

Linux Automount Daemon AMD

/etc/amd.conf

- amd configuration file
- mounts reference map files

Can automount all exported directories from an NFS server with a single line in map file



Linux Automount Example

Last few lines of /etc/amd.conf

- # DEFINE AN AMD MOUNT POINT
 - [/net]
 - amd.net

map_type=

map_name= file

/etc/amd.net

- /defaults fs:\${autodir}/\${rhost}/root/\${rfs};opts:=nosuid,nodev
- linux rhost:=linux;type:=host;rfs:=/
- linux2 rhost:=linux2;type:=host;rfs=/

/etc/rc.d/init.d/amd start (starts automount adm daemon)
cd /net

- linux linux2
- Is linux
 - big big1 big2 big3 big4 home opt usr
- Is linux2
 - RAID big cdrom cdrom1 home

AIX Paging Space and Linux Swap Space

- smitty lvm (mkps -s 32 pagingvg)
- Isps -a
- no limit on total size of paging space
 - Iimit of 16 paging space devices
- paging devices can be either active or not active at bootup
- paging devices can be made either active or not active (requires reboot)

AIX Paging Space and Linux Swap Space (continued)

Linux

- mkswap [-c] [-vN] [-f] [-p PSZ] device size
 - older swap version 1 files limited to 128 MB
 - newer swap version 2 limited to 2GB
 - multiple swap devices allowed
 - a swap device in /etc/fstab defaults to active
 - swap device is a disk partition
 - can be a logical volume with some effort
- add swap device to /etc/fstab
 - /dev/hd8 swap swap defaults 0 0
- swapon or swapoff (swapoff requires reboot)
 - turns on or off swap devices in /etc/fstab
- > swapon -s
 - lists active swap devices

The Linux /PROC Directory

- Similar to the AIX ODM
- /proc/cpuifo
 - provides cpu information
- /proc/meminfo
 - provides memory information
 - size of buffer memory for io
- /proc/sys/vm
 - pagecache
 - sets max % mem available for pagecache
 - buffermem
 - sets max % mem available for buffermem

The Linux /PROC Directory (continued)

/proc/sys/net/ipv4
 THIS IS THE TCPIP PARAMETERS ARE !!
 similar to the no parameters on AIX
 /proc/sys/vm
 bdflush

 controls the operation of Linux Virtual Memory
 similar to vmtune on AIX

 /proc/sys/kernel/threads-max

 maximum number of running threads

AIX Domain Name Service

- BIND is Berkeley Internet Name Domain
- NAMED is the DNS daemon
- AIX Supports both BIND Version 4 and BIND Version 8
 - BIND Version 4 uses /etc/named.boot
 - BIND Version 8 uses /etc/named.conf
 - Version selection in AIX is accomplished with softlinks in /usr/sbin of named and named.xfer

AIX Domain Name Service (continued)

■ AIX Support IPV4 and IPV6

- AIX name resolution checks IPV6 and IPV4
 - this is a problem when AIX uses a Linux DNS
 - export NSORDER=BIND4,LOCAL4
 - /etc/netsvc.conf
 - rarely does anyone use IPV6 addresses
 - presence of /etc/netsvc.conf file sometimes causes problems with gethostbyname

A DNS Name Server returns both

- Address Record
- Mail Record (mx) contains mail destination and mail forwarder information
 - essential info for some mail servers

Linux Domain Name Service

- Today's Linux uses BIND Version 8
- **Excellent HOWTO**
 - /usr/share/doc/HOWTO/DNS-HOWTO
 - Nicolai Langfeldt janl@math.uio.co
- /etc/named.conf
 - Defines "zone" DNS database files
 - 4 basic zones
 - "root zone" is the internet
 - "local zone" is the loopback address on local machine
 - "local domain zone" is forward lookup file
 - locate address given a hostname
 - "local address zone" is reverse lookup file
 - local a hostname given an address

Linux DNS Name Service

Linux DNS Configuration Files

- /etc/named.conf
 - Defines "zone" DNS database files
 - my /etc/named.conf references the following files in /var/named
 - named.ca
 - information on internet root name servers
 - named.hosts
 - provides addresses for hostnames on local domain
 - named.rev
 - provides hostnames for addresses on local domain (reverse lookup)
 - named.local
 - defines local loopback 127.0.0.1 information

nslookup utility

 Available on both AIX and Linux
 Excellent unix tool for querying a name server and identifying problems in a DNS configuration



Point-to-Point-Protocol PPP

- RedHat Linux provides simple tools for configuring a dialout PPP connection
 /usr/share/doc/HOWTO/PPP-HOWTO describes how to manually configure a PPP Client and a PPP Server
 - PPP Server Configuration not too complicated
 - configure PAP (Password Authentication Protocol)
 - configure a getty on a serial tty
 - configure a ppp user to activate pppd
 - modify modules.conf for ppp modules

PPP-HOWTO is a good "cookbook"

What's New in the Linux 2.4 Kernel?

1. Goal to improve processor performance number of threads scalable with memory size 512 MB of RAM can support 16,000 threads **2.** Goal to change the Process Scheduler to be more efficient with more processes running **3.** Goal to increase System Resource Capacity Up to 4 GB memory on Intel platforms Up to 16 EtherNet Adapters Up to 10 IDE Controllers (20 devices) 2 GB file system limit removed **Download the latest Linux kernel (about 25 MB)** directly from http://www.kernel.orgb

Compiling and Building a Linux Kernel

make xconfig

[make oldconfig (if you have an old .config file)]

choices are:

- Y select the option to compile in kernel
- M compile the option as a loadable module
- N (decline the option)
- make dep
 - generates dependencies for options chosen
- make bzlmage

Build kernel in /usr/src/linux/arch/i386/boot/bzimage

make modules

- make modules_install
 - Installs modules in /lib/module/(kernel_version_ number)
 - i.e. /lib/modules/2.4.5

Lilo Linux Loaderbbb

- Allows booting from multiple kernels
 - Easy to maintain several versions of Linux
 - Easy to experiment with new versionS
- Can boot into Windows as well as Linux
- Provides cabability to pass options to kernels
 - Controls boot process
 - initrd image files provides SCSI module loading during bootup
- Controls writing master boot record
 - similar to bosboot on AIX

Using Lilo with NT Boot.ini

- NT and Windows 2000 PE use a boot.ini file for user boot selection

Linux FireWall

2.4.0 Kernel has NetFilter Cabability

Packet Filtering based on ports and network

- Uses IPTABLE Command
 - replaces IPCHAINS and IPFWADM
 - very flexible source/destination filtering

RedHat 7.1

- uses 2.4.1 Kernel
 - kernel configured to support netfilter
 - Not Trivial

configured to provide netfilter firewall with IPTABLE

Other Linux Capabilities

Shadow Password Capability Standard Encrypted Connectivity (ssh, ...) Network Information System have a common password/group repository RedHat installer supports network install NFS Server FTP Server High Availability Linux Cluster http://www.linux-ha.org RedHat Piranah many commercial options

Program Development on Linux

GNU Compilers

- C Compiler (gcc)
 - Linux is written in C
- C++ Compiler (c++)
- GNU Fortran (g77)
- **GNU Debuggers**
 - gdb, xxgdb
- Perl 5 on Linux
- awk, glimp, python, tcl, bash, ...
- Compilers and Debuggers included with most Linux distributions

Linux Share Library Maintanance

LDCONFIG

executed at every boot, and many RPM installs

- Creates the links and cache for shared libraries
- Scans directories specified in /etc/ld.so.conf
- Cache is stored in /etc/ld.so.cache (binary)
- Idconfig -P will print out a list of all shared libraries with their version numbers

Note: soft links are not processed by Idconfig

- LDCONFIG is a very important command
 - Find more info on Idconfig on the web
 - this will make or break a successful build on Linux

Message Passing Interface (MPI)

- MPI is an ANSI Standard developed in 1994 with the contributions and active involvement from IBM
- SP MPI Sample Codes OK under Linux
 SP Multi-Threaded MPI Sample Codes run OK
 In home office of 3 Linux PC's, 100 MBit EtherNet, and EtherNet Switch
 - "bounce" code measured my mpi network at
 - 259 microseconds of latency
 - 6.48 MB/second bandwidth

Microsoft Windows and Linux

Multi-boot Linux and Windows

Really simple with boot.ini in NT or 2000 PE

VMWARE

- Simultaneously boot Linux and Windows
- Boot Windows in a Linux Window, or vice versa
- Shares Processor Cycles
 - Slows everything down almost a factor of 2
 - interesting justification for faster processors...
- Reasonably stable
- Fairly functional

Microsoft Windows and Linux (continued)

NetTraverse

- See http://www.nettraverse.com for info
- Runs Windows 95/98 in a Linux x-window
- Similar in function to vmware
 - networking support
 - popular Windows 95/98 application support
- Heard Good Reviews on it...

Microsoft Windows and Linux (continued)

- A software package before it's time
 - more like a near beer...
- Run Windows applications natively in Linux
- Windows API's rewritten in Linux
 - great idea with much potential
 - needs more development
- Run Windows applications without Microsoft
- Lotus Notes (WINE) package available
 - almost works well...
 - crashes occasionally...

FUN WITH LINUX

Large amount of CD Creation Software

- mkisofs and cdrecord
 - developed by Joerg Schilling
 - works great !
 - See http://www.cdrecord.org for info
 - Runs on both AIX and Linux

Music with Linux

- "Linux Music & Sound" by Dave Phillips
 - Midi with Timidity++
 - MP3 with xmms

FUN WITH LINUX (continued)

Sound Format Conversion Software

- CD to MP3
- MP3 to WAVE
- WAVE to CD
- MIDI TO WAVE
- Digital Image Software
 - Several digital viewers
 - xv by John Bradley is popular
 - montage is popular
 - http://www.imagemagick.org/

Summary

Linux presents

- Capability
- Challenges
- Opportunity
- AIX 5.1 (5 L) introduces Linux GNU Tools to AIX
 - Provides a path for Linux developers to market Linux solutions to IBM RS/6000 customers.
- Stay tuned... more to come !