eBPF Implementation for FreeBSD

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About me

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Affiliation: Keio University, Japan (Master student)

Research topic: Network (SDN/NFV), Operating Systems

Misc: Now on GSoC for FreeBSD and job hunting

Agenda

1. Linux eBPF the Basic
2. eBPF implementation for FreeBSD
3. Usecase: VALE-BPF

Agenda

1. Linux eBPF the Basic
2. eBPF implementation for FreeBSD
3. VALE-BPF

What's eBPF?

Extended general perpose BPF virtual machine ISA

- Closer to modern CPU ISA (64bit registers * 11, 64bit wide instructions...)
- C calling convention and LLVM backend
- Call instruction
  - Maps (in-kernel key-value store shared with user space program)
  - Write data to tracing buffer
  - etc…

More performance optimization (JIT, static code analysis)

bpf(2) for loading program, creating maps, manipulating maps ...

Use cases?

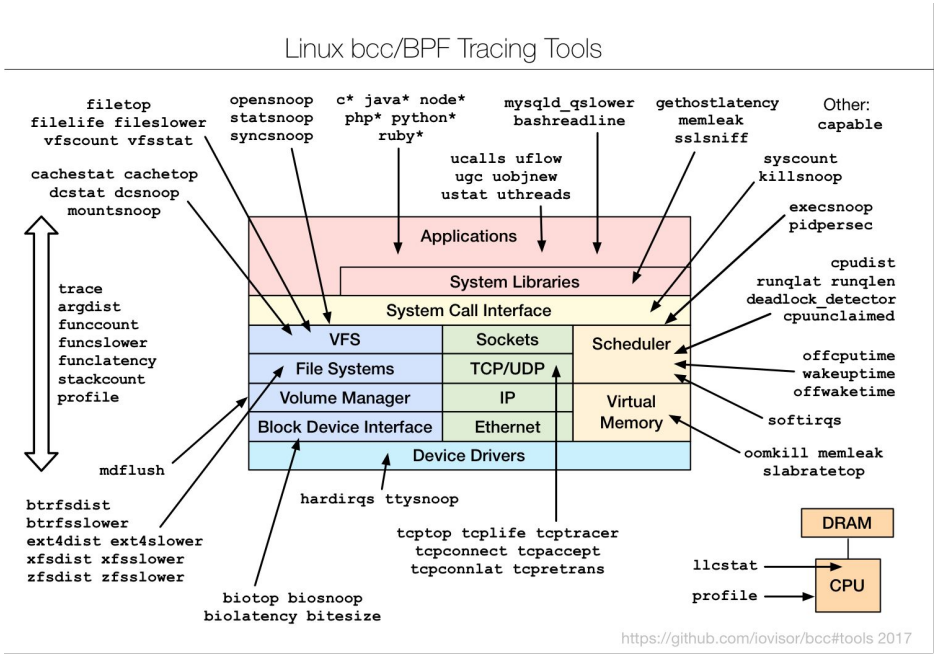
Use cases: Dynamic tracing

Use eBPF as a backend of dynamic tracing (like DTrace)

```
# ./bitehist.py
Tracing... Hit Ctrl-C to end.
^C
     kbytes          : count     distribution
       0 -> 1        : 3        |                                      |
       2 -> 3        : 0        |                                      |
       4 -> 7        : 211      |**********                            |
       8 -> 15       : 0        |                                      |
      16 -> 31       : 0        |                                      |
      32 -> 63       : 0        |                                      |
      64 -> 127      : 1        |                                      |
     128 -> 255      : 800      |****************************************|
```

https://github.com/iovisor/bcc

http://www.brendangregg.com/blog/2015-05-15/ebpf-one-small-step.html



Use cases: XDP (eXpress Data Path)

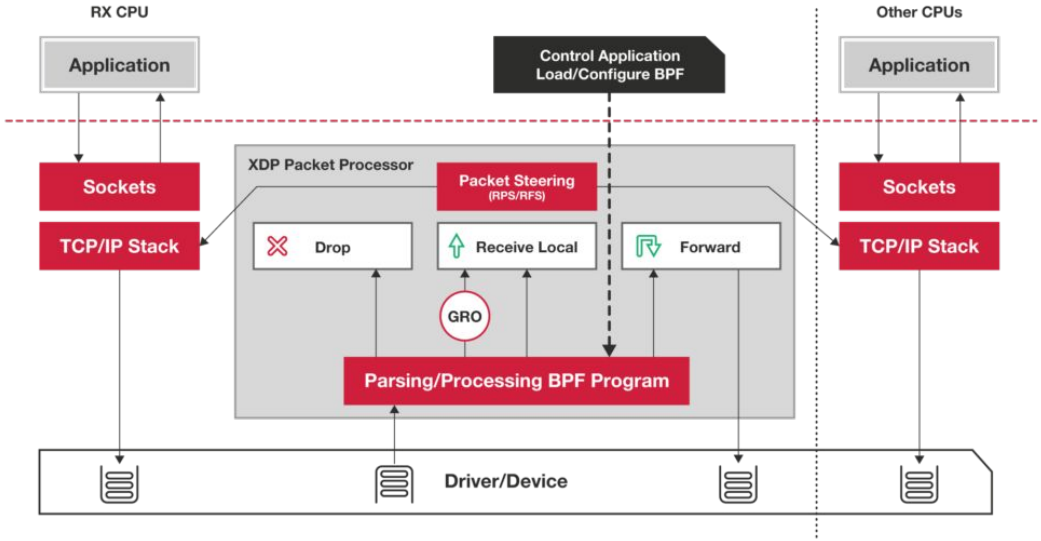
No “kernel bypass” (e.g. DPDK, netmap)

Hook and process packet right after reception inside the driver by eBPF

- DDos mitigation: Droplet
- Load balancing: Katran
- IDS/IPS backend: Surikata

Hardware offloading

- Netronome Agilio



https://www.iovisor.org/technology/xdp

Tooling?

eBPF Tooling

Linux kernel provides only very premitive API to users

- bpf(2)
- Program loader (e.g. Netlink, setsockopt, ioctl...)
- Some useful libraries (but very primitive)

Need tooling for better utilization

Tooling: BCC (BPF Compiler Collection)

Compiler driver and useful libraries for eBPF

- Deal with restricted C, call clang/llvm
- Compiler frontend for various languages (C, P4)
- ELF parsing, Map libraries
- Language bindings (Python, C++, Lua…)

Source: https://github.com/iovisor/bcc

```
# load BPF program
b = BPF(text="""
#include <uapi/linux/ptrace.h>
#include <linux/blkdev.h>

BPF_HISTOGRAM(dist);

int kprobe__blk_account_io_completion(struct pt_regs *ctx, struct request *req)
{
        dist.increment(bpf_log2l(req->__data_len / 1024));
        return 0;
}
""")

# header
print("Tracing... Hit Ctrl-C to end.")

# trace until Ctrl-C
try:
        sleep(99999999)
except KeyboardInterrupt:
        print()

# output
b["dist"].print_log2_hist("kbytes")
```

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Embedded C

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Interact with Map

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Output

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```
except KeyboardInterrupt:
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b["dist"].print_log2_hist("kbytes")
```

Interact with Map

Tooling: PLY

Tracing frontend which is heavily inspired by DTrace

dtrace -n syscall:::entry'{@syscalls[probefunc] = count();}'

Source: https://github.com/iovisor/ply

```
wkz@wkz-x260:~$ sudo ply -c 'kprobe:SyS_*{ @[func()].count(); }'
341 probes active
^Cde-activating probes

@:
sys_tgkill                      1
sys_mprotect                    1
sys_lseek                       1
sys_readv                       1
sys_rename                      1
sys_statfs                      1
sys_bind                        2
sys_access                      4
sys_fdatasync                   5
sys_times                       6
<REDACTED LINES>
sys_epoll_wait               7211
sys_ppoll                    9836
sys_poll                    13446
sys_futex                   20034
sys_ioctl                   23806
sys_recvmsg                 23989
sys_write                   24791
sys_read                    32168
```

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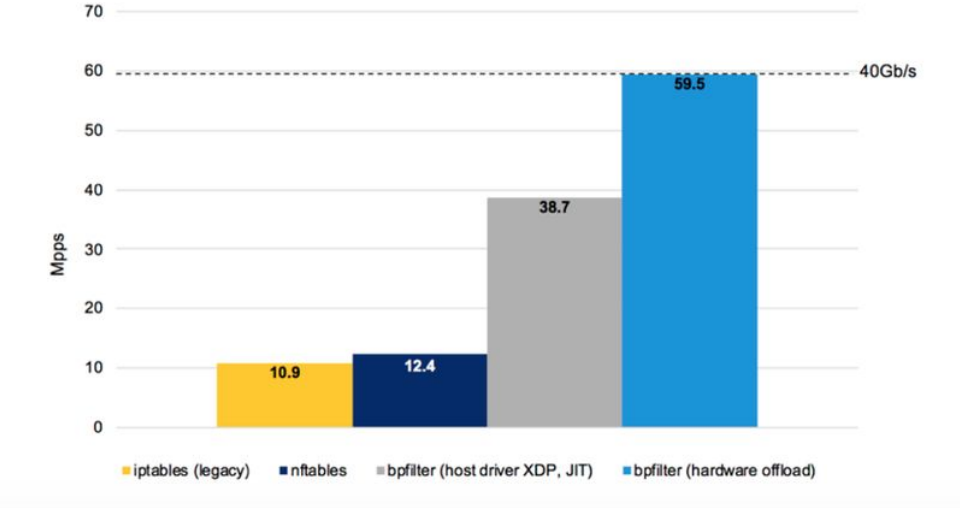
sys_recvmsg                 23989
sys_write                   24791
sys_read                    32168
```

Tooling: bpfilter

iptables (Linux's ipfw or pf) which uses XDP as a backend

Transparently accerelates existing iptables

RFC patch: https://www.mail-archive.com/netdev@vger.kernel.org/msg217095.html



https://www.netronome.com/blog/bpf-ebpf-xdp-and-bpfilter-what-are-these-things-and-what-do-they-mean-enterprise/

Conclusion for this section

Recent Linux implements a lot of interesting features using eBPF

- Dynamic tracing
- Very fast packet processing framework
- etc ...

The community also introduces a lot of interesting tools

- BCC, PLY, bpfilter

More information

- https://qmonnet.github.io/whirl-offload/2016/09/01/dive-into-bpf/
- Really useful collection of links

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generic-ebpf

Generalized multi-platform eBPF implementation

- Currently supports FreeBSD user/kernel, Linux user/kernel and macOS user
  - About 200 lines of glue code for each platform
  - Shares most of the code (easy to test in userspace)
- Interpreter and JIT compiler for x86-64 based on ubpf
- Maps which uses tommyds as a backend
- Verifier is not yet implemented...

Source: https://github.com/YutaroHayakawa/generic-ebpf

Current status

/dev/ebpf + ioctl(2) interface (Linux bpf(2))

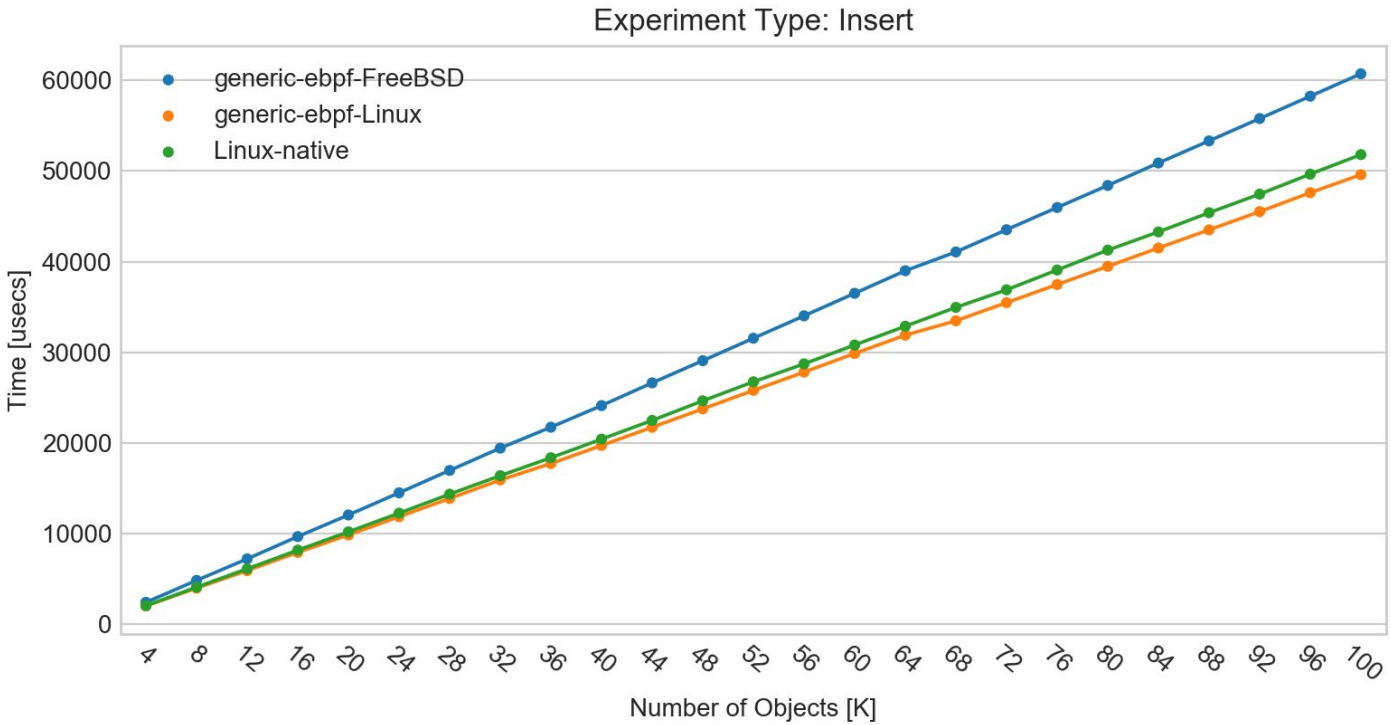
- load program, create and manipulate maps, run simple test

Interpreter and JIT compiler for x86-64

- Most of the instructions are implemented
    - atomic operations are missing

Array, Hashtable maps

Hashtable map benchmark

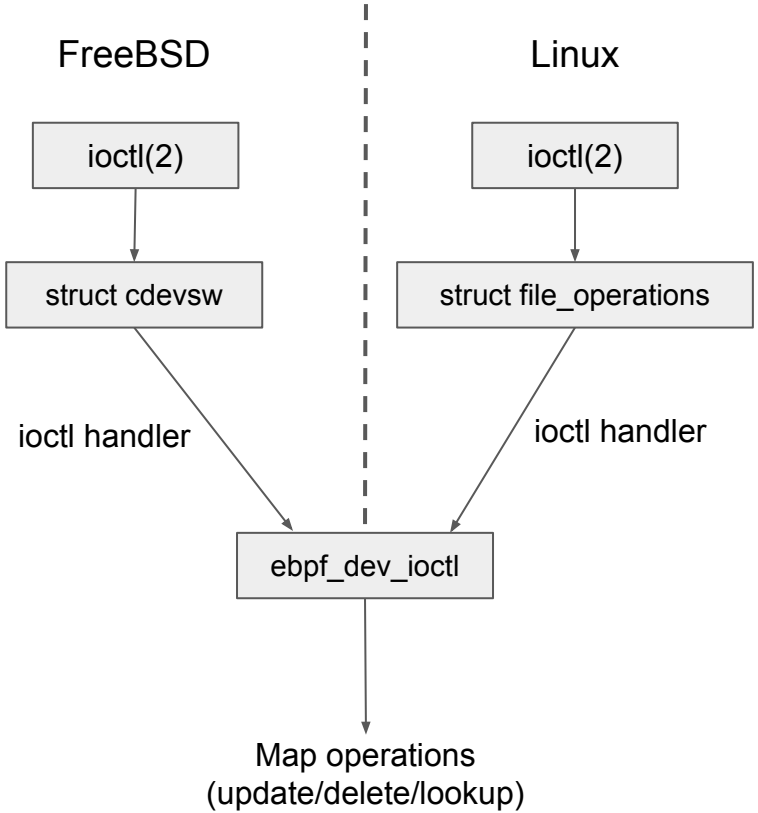


For more details: https://github.com/YutaroHayakawa/generic-ebpf/tree/master/benchmark

Why is FreeBSD case so slow?

Experiment

- Simply returns immediately from ioctl handler
- See latency of ioctl



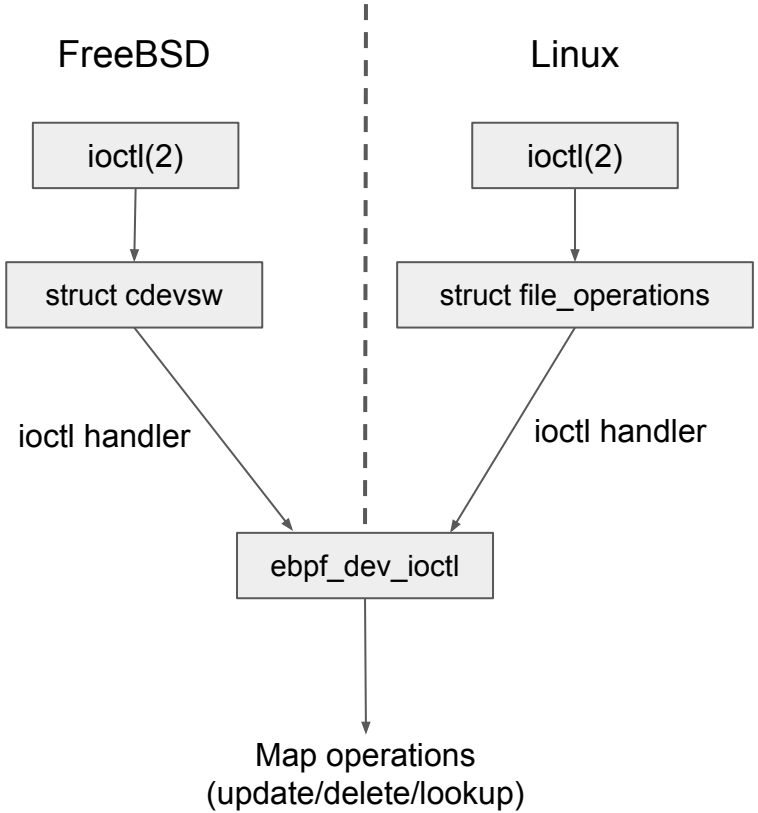
Why is FreeBSD case so slow?

Experiment

- Simply returns immediately from ioctl handler
- See latency of ioctl

About 85% of the difference comes from ioctl

Need more precise analysis...



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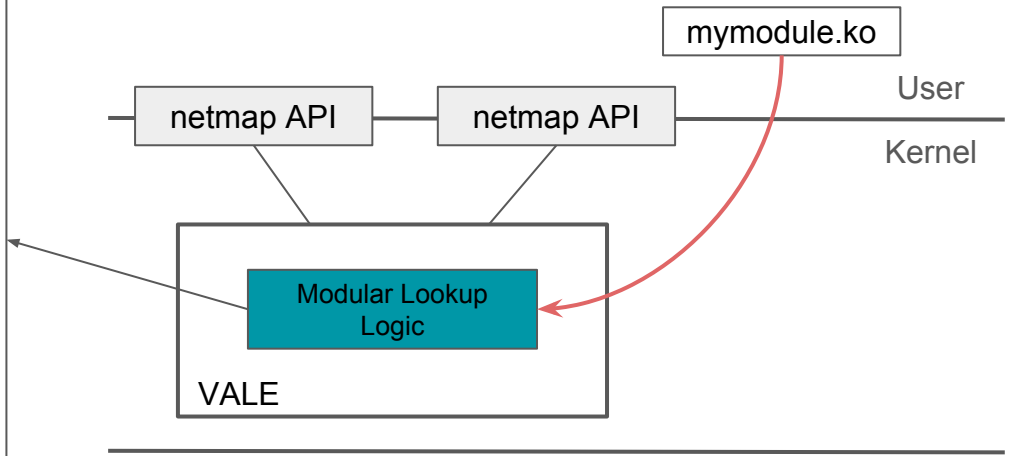
VALE (Virtual Local Ethernet)

Fast and modular software switch (a.k.a mSwitch)

```
uint32_t
mylookup(struct nm_bdg_fwd *ft, uint8_t *dst_ring,
    struct netmap_vp_adapter *na, void *private_data)
{
    struct ip *iph;

    iph = (struct ip)(buf + ETHER_HDR_LEN);
    if (iph - ft->ft_buf > ft->ft_len) {
        return NM_BDG_DROP;
    }

    return ntohl(iph->ip_dst) & 0xff;
}
```



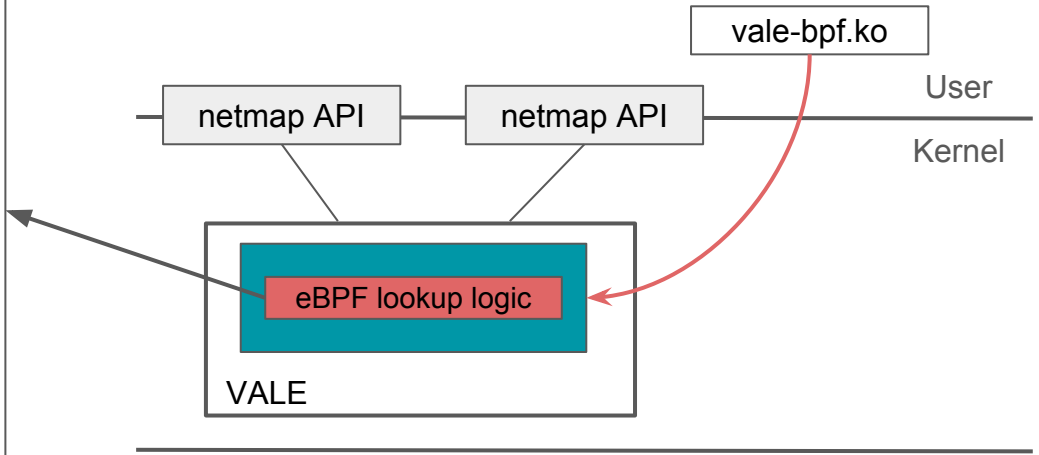
VALE-BPF

VALE module which enhances eBPF programmability to VALE

```
uint32_t
vale_bpf_lookup(struct vale_bpf_md *md)
{
    struct ip iph;

    iph = (struct ip)(md->buf + ETHER_HDR_LEN);
    if (iph > md->buf_end) {
        return VALE_BPF_DROP;
    }

    return ntohl(iph->ip_dst) & 0xff;
}
```



Source: https://github.com/YutaroHayakawa/vale-bpf

Performance evaluation

Forward packets between two virtual ports with different logic

- Learning bridge
- No logic

	Learning Bridge [Mpps]	No Logic [Mpps]
VALE	17.74	27.71
VALE-BPF	8.52	23.66

For more details: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rdrHIeap8gYRh3es4yCnuWkuA6zDDot4UDFgEyiuG3E/edit?usp=sharing

Demo

Miscellaneous ideas

Networking

- ng_ebpf: Netgraph module for eBPF
- XDP emulator: Compatibility with XDP program
- Hardware offloading

Security

- Systemcall filtering like seccomp

Sammary

1. eBPF is a hot technology among Linux community and they introduce a lot of interesting features and useful tools around that

2. eBPF implementation for FreeBSD is going on

3. VALE-BPF, a extension module which enhances eBPF programmability to VALE switch improves the programmability of VALE switch

Questions?