## **Linux Plumbers Conference 2024**



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## Madvise lazy free

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Conventional wisdom has held that madvise overhead has been mostly the syscall overhead. However, profiling shows this not to be the case.

Even on a medium sized 1 socket system, about half the CPU time spent in MADV\_DONTNEED is spent flushing the TLB, and that is just in the calling CPU. Add in handling of the TLB flush IPIs on the other CPUs, and 90-95% of the MADV\_DONTNEED overhead is TLB flushes.

I would like to propose MADV\_LAZY\_FREE, which can avoid most of the TLB flush overhead through collaborative behavior with the malloc library, and some inspiration from RCU.

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