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BPF is not a -rt debugging tool

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Xenomai offers a wonderful debugging feature: whenever a realtime thread calls a non-rt safe syscall, SIGXCPU is delivered. That is particularly helpful for users which build their application on top of libraries. Often it is not clear what the side effects of a library call is.

What options are there to implement something similar to SIGXCPU? A simple prototype using BPF showed the limits of BPF (similar experience as Joel describes in “BPFd: Running BCC tools remotely across systems and architectures” <https://lwn.net/Articles/744522/>).

A short brainstorming session with Steven, Julia and Clark showed that there are a few options to achieve the goal. In this session I would like to discuss the options (or even show what has been achieved so far).

Key participants:

- Steven Rostedt
- Julia Cartwright
- Clark Williams
- Sebastian Andrzej Siewior
- Thomas Gleixner

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Yes

Primary author: DANIEL, Wagner (Siemens AG)

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