

Talk to Your Crash Dumps: Debugging a Real-Time Kernel Stall with **drgn** and AI

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Linux Plumbers Conference

I debug vmcores rarely enough to forget the tool

crash(8)

- Extremely capable
- Large command set
- Requires re-learning

What I actually want

- Ask a question
- Get a structured answer
- Stay in one conversation

drgn is programmable. I do not want to re-learn the Python API either.

Install (Claude Code / Cursor / any MCP client)

```
{
  "mcpServers": {
    "drgn": {
      "command": "uvx",
      "args": [
        "--from",
        "git+https://github.com/walac/drgn-mcp"
      ]
    }
  }
}
```

Run Command

`uvx --from git+https://github.com/walac/drgn-mcp drgn-mcp`

Requirements

Requires local `vmcore` + `vmlinux`.

Module `.ko.debug` helps.

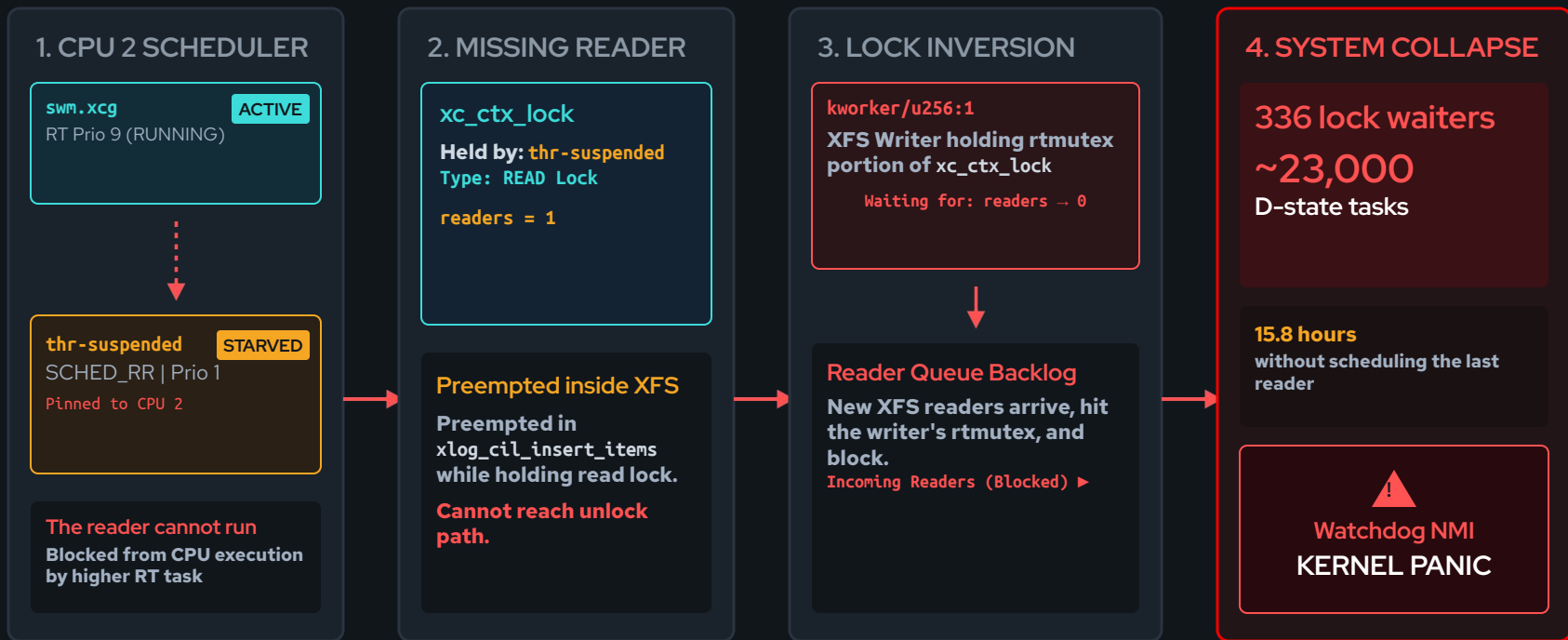
Execution Mode

`stdio` only — `eval_expression` is a full Python interpreter.

Repository URL

<https://github.com/walac/drgn-mcp>

One Starved Reader Stalled an Entire RT System



Root Cause: **RT priority + CPU affinity** starved the one reader needed to release the system.

[illegible]

Thanks

Questions?

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