Linux Plumbers Conference 2019



Contribution ID: 343

Type: not specified

Do we need a Livepatch Developers Guide?

Wednesday, 11 September 2019 16:20 (10 minutes)

Over the past few years, kernel engineers have been busy implementing livepatch support features (the consistency model, atomic replace, shadow variables, etc.) to increase potential livepatch patch coverage. At the same time, more and more vendors have adopted livepatching to solve continuous uptime/update problems.

As the livepatch feature set grows and matures and demand for livepatch patches rise, developers will be seeking guidance and best practices when writing livepatch patches. The kpatch project addressed this with a "Patch Author Guide" on its github site. This document covers several common patch writing FAQ and techniques, but it is currently very kpatch-specific.

The kernel livepatch subsystem has some great technical documentation in Documentation/livepatch. Talk about the state of those docs and whether they are approachable and complete enough for livepatch patch authors. Do we need a wholesale "Patch Author Guide" or can we adopt some of the same FAQ and technique details from the kpatch guide.

I agree to abide by the anti-harassment policy

Yes

Primary author: LAWRENCE, Joe (Red Hat)Presenter: LAWRENCE, Joe (Red Hat)Session Classification: Live Patching MC