

Lousy virtualization, Happy users:

FreeBSD's jail(2) facility

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*A long time ago, in a university far far away,  
A young Bill Joy were doing release engineering  
on an early version of the Berkeley UNIX  
operating system, and found hardcoded paths  
all over the Makefiles made that a tough job.*

*He feared this would require a major disturbance  
of the source, but found that afterall the problem  
was really terribly simple, once you understood it:*

*"I just need to make the kernel use a different root  
directory for my make(1) process and its children."*

*And thus our adventure begins...*

CHROOT(2) FreeBSD System Calls Manual CHROOT(2)

## NAME

**chroot** -- change root directory

## LIBRARY

Standard C Library (libc, -lc)

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <unistd.h>
```

```
int
```

```
chroot(const char *dirname);
```

Calling chroot(2) in ftpd(1) implemented "anonymous FTP" without the hazzle of file/pathname parsing and editing.

"anonymous FTP" became used as a tool to enhance network security.

By inference, chroot(2) became seen as a security enhancing feature.

...The source were not strong in those.

Exercise 1:

List at least four ways to escape `chroot(2)`.

Then the Internet happened,

...and web-servers,

...and web-hosting

# Virtual hosts in Apache

User get their own "virtual apache" but do not get your own machine.

Also shared:

- Databases

- mailprograms

- PHP/Perl

- etc.

Upgrading tools (PHP, mySQL etc) on virtual hosting machines is a nightmare.

A really bad nightmare:

Cust#1 needs mySQL version  $> N$

Cust#2 cannot use mySQL version  $< M$   
(unless PHP version  $> K$ )

Cust#3 does not answer telephone

Cust#4 has new sysadmin

Cust#5 is just about ready with new version



Wanted: Lightweight virtualization

Same kernel, but virtual filesystem and network address plus root limitations.

Just like chroot(2) with IP numbers on top.

Will pay cash.

Close holes in chroot(2)

Introduce "jail" syscall + kernel struct

Block jailed root in most suser(9) calls.

Check "if jail, same jail?" in strategic places.

Fiddle socket syscall arguments:

INADDR\_ANY -> jail.ip

INADDR\_LOOPBACK -> jail.ip

Not part of jail(2):

Resource restriction

Hardware virtualization

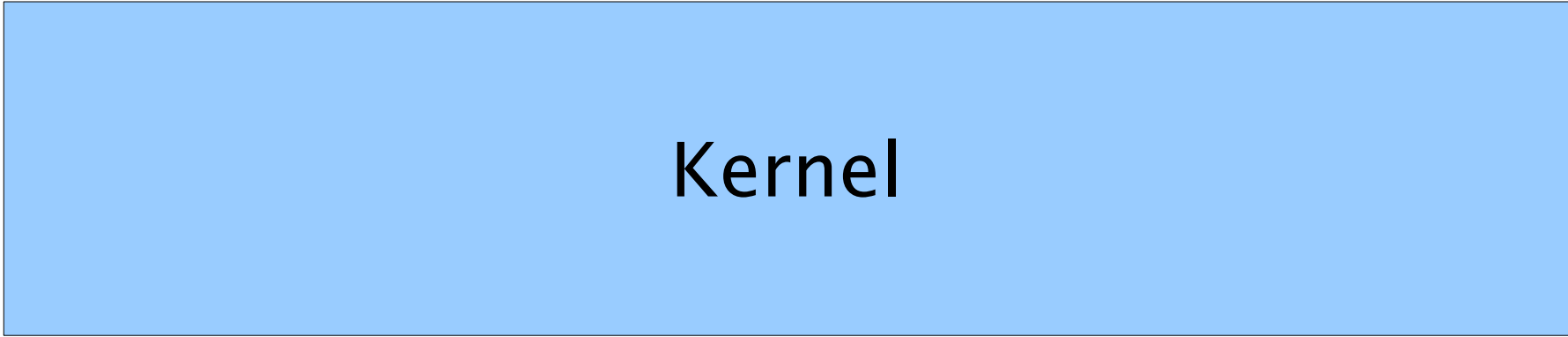
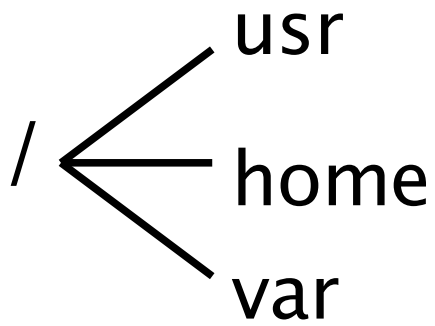
Covert channel prevention  
(the hard stuff)

Total implementation:

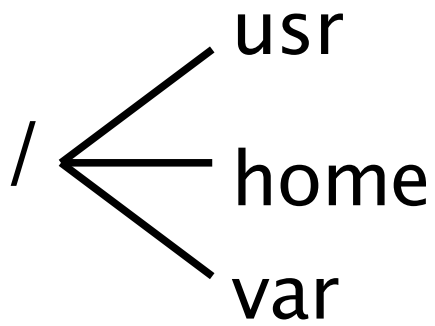
350 changed source lines

400 new lines of code

# FreeBSD without jail



# FreeBSD with jail



process

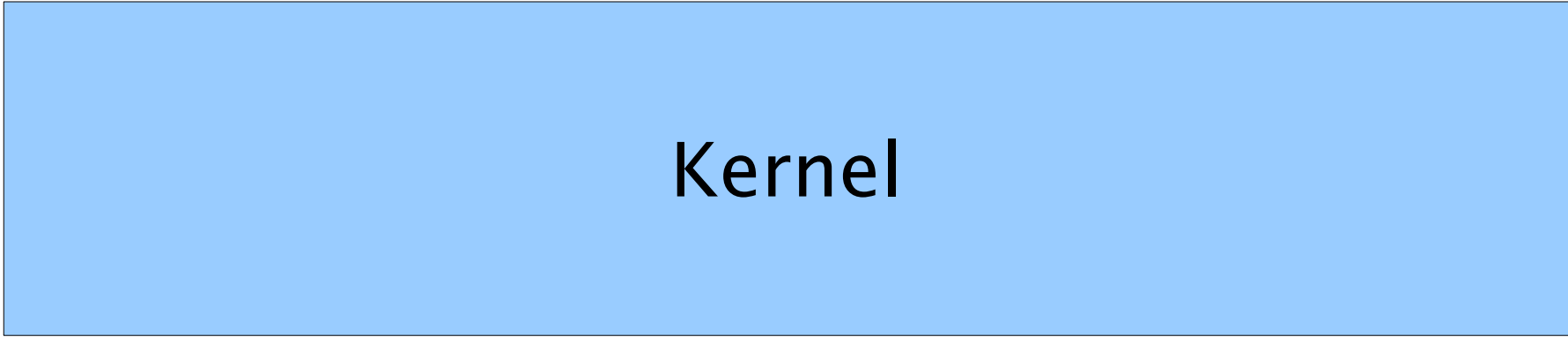
process

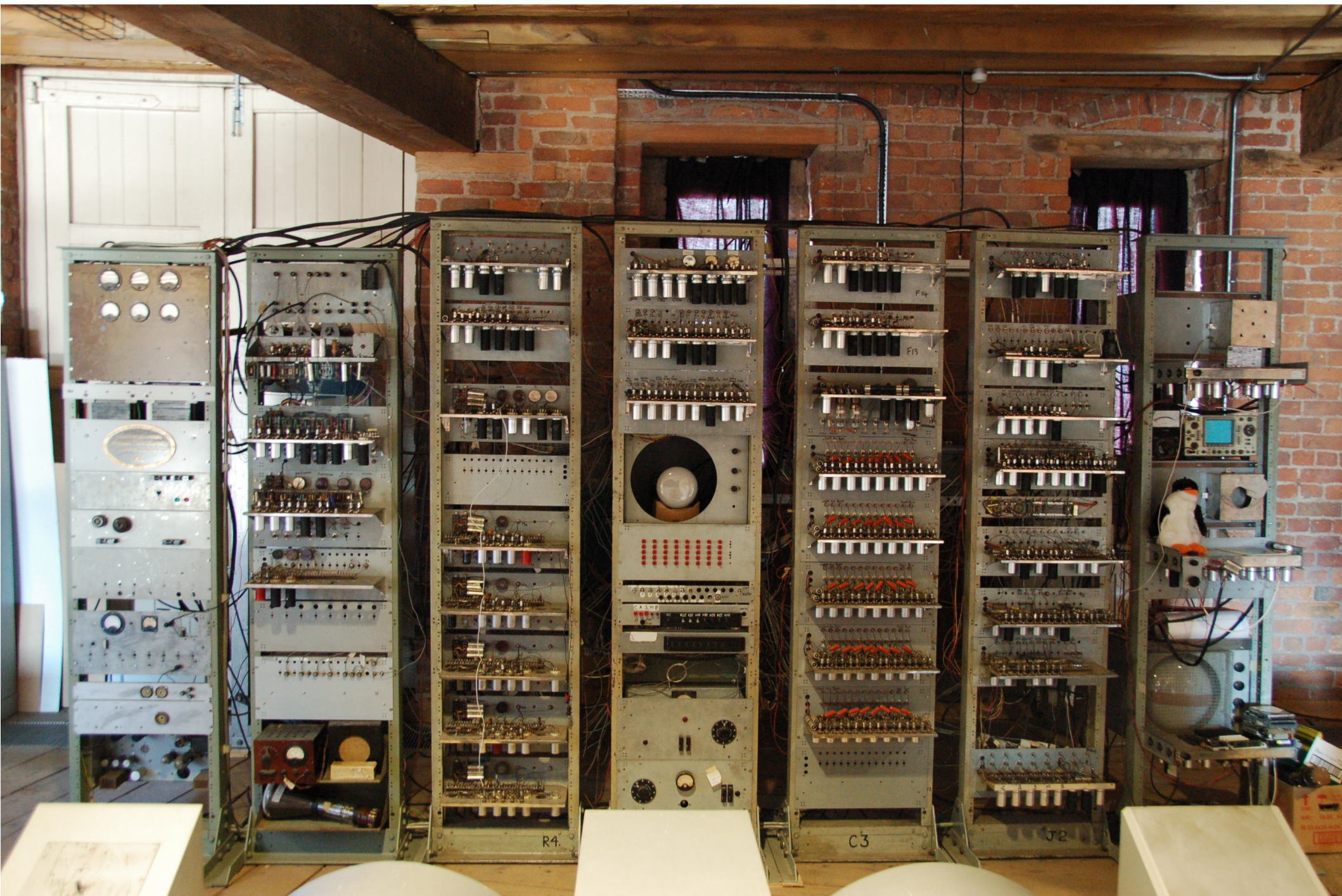
process

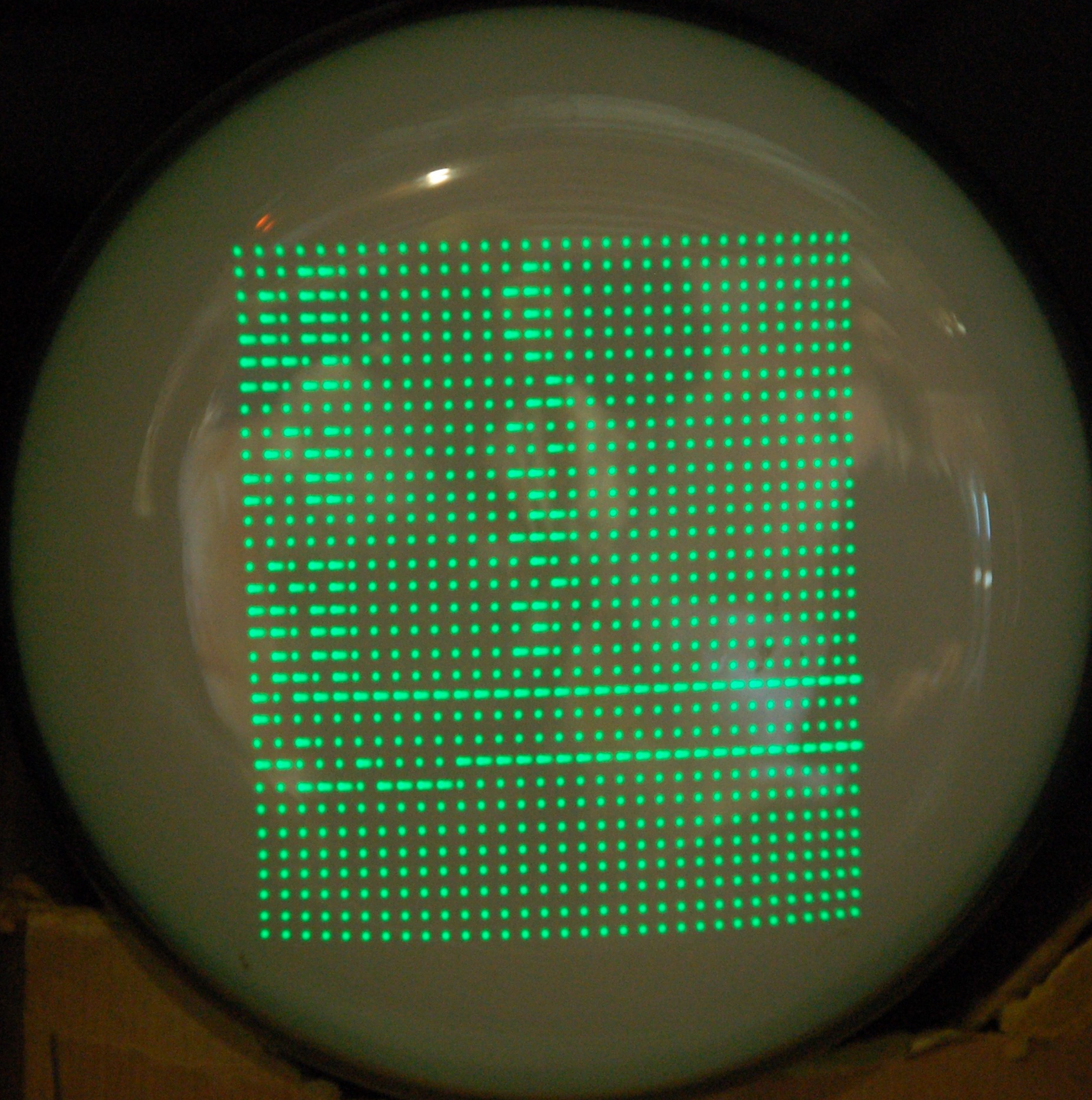
process\*

process

process





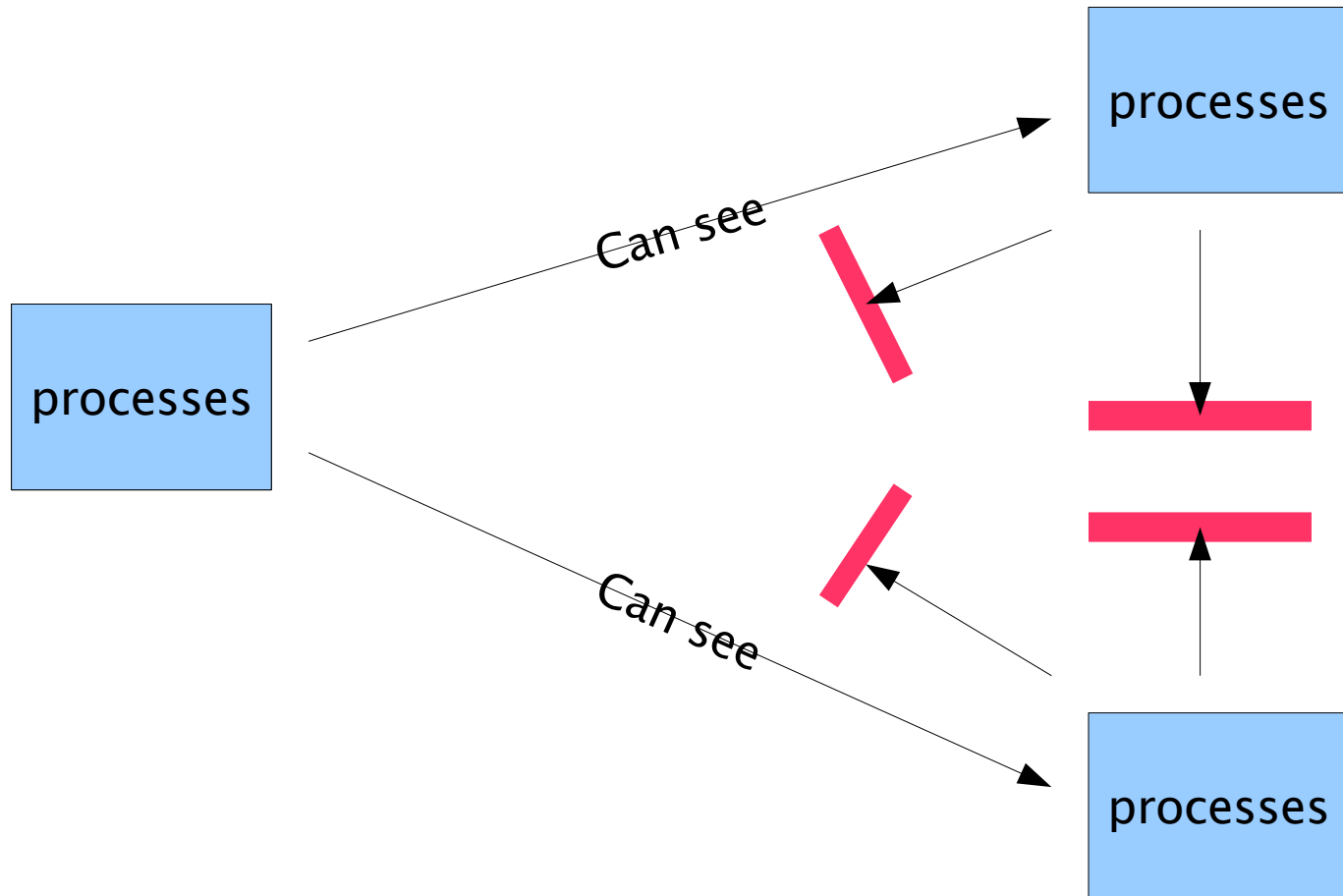


```
error = priv_check_cred(  
        cred, PRIV_VFS_LINK,  
        SUSER_ALLOWJAIL);  
if (error)  
    return (error);
```



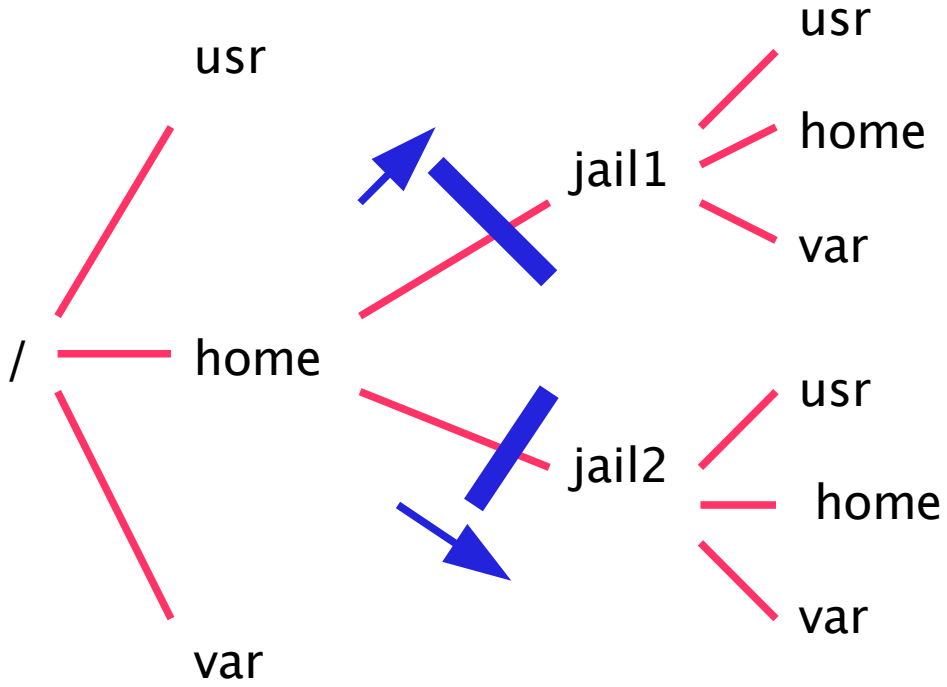
The unjailed part of the system.

One jailed part of the system



Other jailed part of the system

# First jail



# Second jail

fxp0

10.0.0.1

fxp1

192.168.1.1

lo0

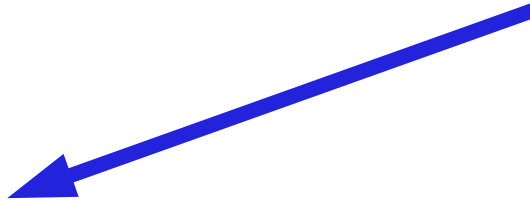
127.0.0.1

10.1.0.1

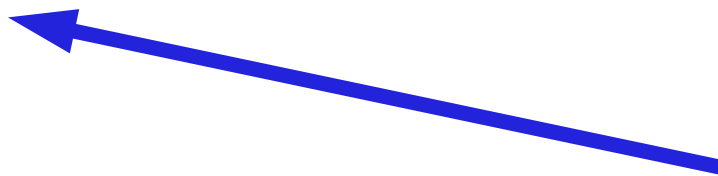
10.1.0.2

10.1.0.3

First jail



Second jail



## Corner cases:

pid 1: /sbin/init

/var/run/log

/dev/tty

named / resolv.conf

/dev/console

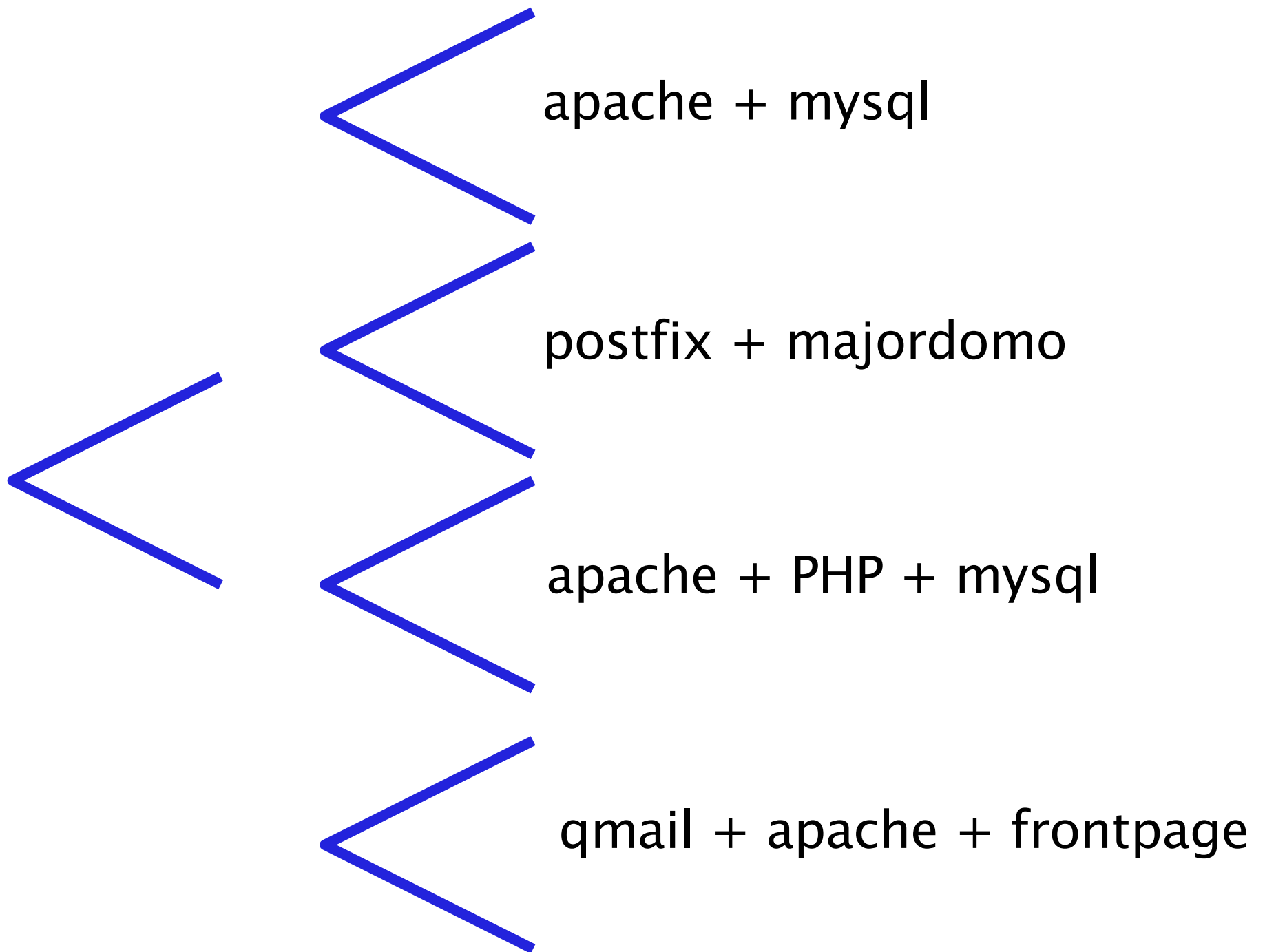
Disk Quotas

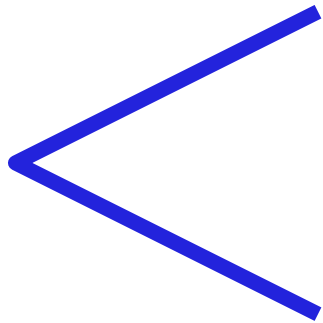
127.0.0.1

df(1)

0.0.0.0

ptys

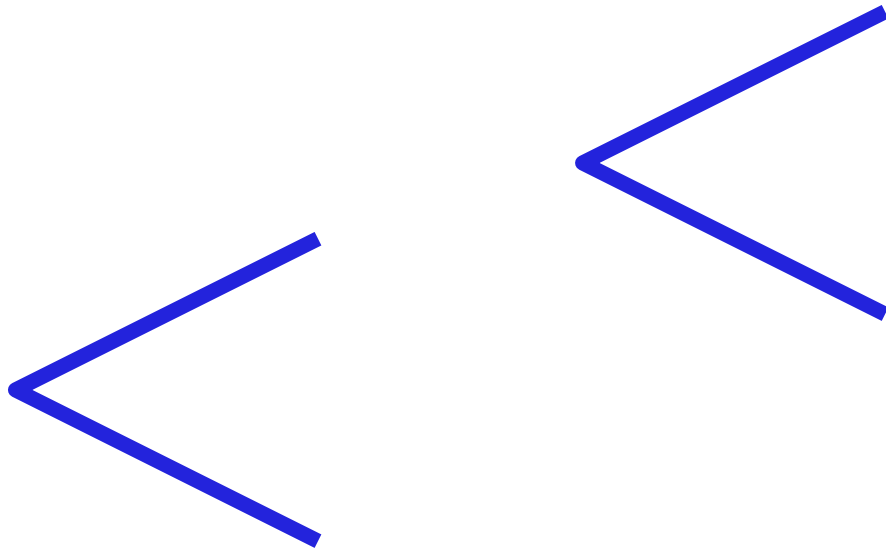




apache webserver  
lousy php scripts

When attacked:

Take computer offline  
Boot CD-ROM  
Reinstall from backup  
Give up finding bug  
Restart machine



apache webserver  
lousy php scripts

When attacked:

- Spy safely on attacker, find bug
- Make backup copy of jail/evidence
- Nuke jail
- Recreate jail from backup
- Fix bug
- Start jail



apache webserver  
lousy php scripts



.../webserver\_backup.tar

good  
cop  
process:

```
while (1)
  if jail contents is OK
    sleep 5
  else
    blow away jail
    start new jail
```



Things people do with jails:

"I don't trust this script"

```
# jail / myhost 127.0.0.1 sh configure
```

"Only see one of my addresses"

```
# jail / myshost 10.2.3.1 inetd
```

"Don't talk to anybody at all"

```
# jail / myhost 127.0.0.2 make install
```

Common mistake in contemporary products:

Only two levels of trust available:

User (= ruin the users files)

Administrator (= ruin the entire system)

Missing:

Untrusted (= don't ruin anything)

Computer Security IgNobel price suggestion:

Windows Vista:

”Programs named *setup\*.\** or *install\*.\** gets Administrator privilege.”

What I learned from jail:

People love lousy virtualization!

They want more of it!

I want this process to have virtualized:

- network
  - Ipv4  Ipv6  IPX  RFC1149
  - interfaces
  - routing table
  - sockets
- filesystem
  - \_\_\_\_\_ [indicate root directory]
- SYSV-IPC namespace
  - SHM  MSG  SEM
- uid/gid namespace
- disk quotas
- process namespace
- \_\_\_\_\_ [other virtualizations]

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**September 14–15**  
**Copenhagen**