

Stable Linux kernel hit by ext4 data corruption bug

By *srlinuxx*

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Linux kernel developer Theodore "Ted" Ts'o has released a series of patches for what he has called "a Lance Armstrong bug" in the kernel, meaning behaviour that does not trip up tests but also makes the kernel work differently than intended.

A user had reported a problem that caused them to lose data; the kernel developers quickly narrowed this down to a fault in the ext4 implementation that was introduced with the release of Linux 3.6.2, just over a week ago. Apparently, the data corruption bug was hard to track down as it only manifests itself if a system is rebooted twice in a relatively short period of time.

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[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/63>

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