

Torvalds Is Unconvinced By LTO'ing A Linux Kernel

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LTO'ing the Linux kernel has the potential of reducing the size of the Linux kernel image along with generating a faster and more efficient binary. Link-time optimizations within GCC allow the whole program to be optimized at link-time stage across the entire binary. Previous results showed that an LTO'ed kernel could be over 10% smaller in size and a few percent faster by optimizing the kernel in this manner, but it currently results in much greater system memory usage and a much longer compilation process.

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