

## openSUSE admin - tickets #94381

### mailman3: need the root filesystem doubled

2021-06-21 18:19 - pjessen

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	2021-06-21
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>	opensuse-admin	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Category:</b>	Core services and infra	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>			
<b>Description</b>			
The root filesystem on mailman3 keeps running out of space, can we please have it doubled in size?			

#### History

##### #1 - 2021-06-21 18:19 - pjessen

- Private changed from Yes to No

##### #2 - 2021-06-21 20:30 - Irupp

- Status changed from New to Workable

pjessen wrote:

The root filesystem on mailman3 keeps running out of space, can we please have it doubled in size?

We can. But before we just simply try to circumvent the symptoms, I like to know if we shouldn't check what exactly is filling it up.

1. The current `/var/log/nginx/error.log` is full of:

```
client intended to send too large body: 2134614 bytes, client: 127.0.0.1, server: lists.opensuse.org, request: "POST /archives/api/mailman/archive?key=dC762xPViFbHtF4hRYSu45Xp HTTP/1.1", host: "localhost"
```

IMHO this should be checked and fixed.

2. `/var/lib/mailman` (more detail: `/var/lib/mailman/messages/`) needs 1.6G size. Does that make sense? - It looks to me like mailman is storing the mails in some crippled format inside these directories (instead of doing it like mlmmj in normal postfix format aka plain-text). Note: I'm fine with that, but in such a case we should think about moving this into a dedicated partition or separate drive.

3. If I run

```
du -sxch * | sort -h
```

on '/', I get a total of 5.2G used. But `df -h` reports 8.7G used. I guess the difference of 3.5G is hidden below `/var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index`, which is now on a dedicated disk.

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Suggestion:

1. Additional disk with 20G for `/var/lib/mailman/`
2. Short downtime for mailman to
  - see if `/var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index` on vda2 still contains data
  - `sync /var/lib/mailman/` do the new disk
3. someone will look after the error from nginx.

I could do 1&2 for you, but 3 is something for a mailman expert.

Pro:

- `/var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index` and `/var/lib/mailman/` will be on dedicated disks, allowing to attach them over to another machine quickly
- / will mainly just contain logs and very little other moving data and can stay "as is"

Con:

- short downtime needed for the move
- unknown at the moment, if there might be other resource hungry stuff popping up. Worst case, we need to do a similar exercise again.

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What do you think?  
Other ideas?

Regards,  
Lars

### #3 - 2021-06-22 07:52 - pjessen

lrupp wrote:

pjessen wrote:

The root filesystem on mailman3 keeps running out of space, can we please have it doubled in size?

We can. But before we just simply try to circumvent the symptoms, I like to know if we shouldn't check what exactly is filling it up.

Thank for the fast feedback, Lars.

We definitely should find out what's going on, but it might be easier if we fix the symptoms first :-)

1. `/var/lib/mailman` (more detail: `/var/lib/mailman/messages/`) needs 1.6G size. Does that make sense? - It looks to me like mailman is storing the mails in some crippled format inside these directories (instead of doing it like `mlmmj` in normal postfix format aka plain-text).

Mailman does things in weird and wonderful ways - I think those messages might be those that have been held back for moderation, typically either spam or from non-members. Currently 14935. I'm deleting some now (via the web interface), but they don't immediately disappear, maybe there is a regular tidy-up routine.

1. If I run `~~~ du -sxc * | sort -h ~~~ on '/',` I get a total of 5.2G used. But `df -h` reports 8.7G used. I guess the difference of 3.5G is hidden below `/var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index`, which is now on a dedicated disk.

Oh, that's not good.

Suggestion:

1. Additional disk with 20G for `/var/lib/mailman/`
2. Short downtime for mailman to
  - see if `/var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index` on `vda2` still contains data
  - sync `/var/lib/mailman/` do the new disk

1) `/var/lib/mailman` is currently only 1.6Gb, of which `/var/lib/mailman/messages` is 1.2Gb. I would hope those will disappear as we look through messages held for moderation.

2) good idea, I'll do that now.

### #4 - 2021-06-22 07:57 - pjessen

pjessen wrote:

lrupp wrote:

1. If I run `~~~ du -sxc * | sort -h ~~~ on '/',` I get a total of 5.2G used. But `df -h` reports 8.7G used. I guess the difference of 3.5G is hidden below `/var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index`, which is now on a dedicated disk.

Oh, that's not good.

Have just stopped mailman, unmounted and checked -

```
mailman3 (lists.o.o):/var/log # umount /var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index
mailman3 (lists.o.o):/var/log # 1 /var/lib/mailman_webui/xapian_index
total 8
drwxr-xr-x 2 mailman mailman 4096 Mar  9 15:37 ./
drwxr-xr-x 6 mailman mailman 4096 Apr 21 12:34 ../
```

### #5 - 2021-06-22 13:16 - pjessen

I don't understand why we should have such a discrepancy between what 'du' and 'df' reports - 3.5Gb is a third of the filesystem.

### #6 - 2021-06-22 14:23 - pjessen

FWIW, I don't know what is being stored in `/var/lib/mailman/messages` - some of the messages are definitely pending review by a moderator, but some of them are very old and don't show as pending at all. I have discarded maybe a thousand messages today, does not seem to affect `/var/lib/mailman/messages` at all.

**#7 - 2021-06-22 16:32 - pjessen**

pjessen wrote:

FWIW, I don't know what is being stored in `/var/lib/mailman/messages` - some of the messages are definitely pending review by a moderator, but some of them are very old and don't show as pending at all. I have discarded maybe a thousand messages today, does not seem to affect `/var/lib/mailman/messages` at all.

I forgot I'd opened issue [#90653](#) on the above, back in April.

**#8 - 2021-06-22 16:52 - Irupp**

- % Done changed from 0 to 30

FYI:

```
/dev/vdc      20G  1.7G  19G   9% /data
```

Has a first sync of `/var/lib/mailman/`. `/etc/fstab` also contains the correct entry, but is currently commented out.

Regards,  
Lars

**#9 - 2021-06-23 07:40 - pjessen**

Yeah, I saw that `/dev/vdc` the other day :-)

I don't know if it is worth doing much about `/var/lib/mailman` - the only thing that is growing is `/var/lib/mailman/messages`, and that seems to be due to a lack of deleting messages. Sasi suggested maybe a missing cronjob. See [#90653](#). When we get that going, `/var/lib/mailman/` will only have maybe 400-500Mb.

**#10 - 2021-07-19 08:58 - Irupp**

- Status changed from *Workable* to *Closed*

- % Done changed from 30 to 100

As the initial request is done, let's close this.