

NAME

vmsplice - splice user pages into a pipe

SYNOPSIS

```
#define _GNU_SOURCE /* See feature_test_macros(7)
*/
#include <fcntl.h>
#include <sys/uio.h>

ssize_t vmsplice(int fd, const struct iovec *iov,
                unsigned long nr_segs, unsigned int flags);
```

DESCRIPTION

The **vmsplice()** system call maps *nr_segs* ranges of user memory described by *iov* into a pipe. The file descriptor *fd* must refer to a pipe.

The pointer *iov* points to an array of *iovec* structures as defined in *<sys/uio.h>*:

```
struct iovec {
    void *iov_base; /* Starting address */
    size_t iov_len; /* Number of bytes */
};
```

The *flags* argument is a bit mask that is composed by ORing together zero or more of the following values:

SPLICE_F_MOVE	Unused for vmsplice() ; see splice(2) .
SPLICE_F_NONBLOCK	Do not block on I/O; see splice(2) for further details.
SPLICE_F_MORE	Currently has no effect for vmsplice() , but may be implemented in the future; see splice(2) .
SPLICE_F_GIFT	The user pages are a gift to the kernel. The application may not modify this memory ever, otherwise the page cache and on-disk data may differ. Gifting pages to the kernel means that a subsequent splice(2) SPLICE_F_MOVE can successfully move the pages; if this flag is not specified, then a subsequent splice(2) SPLICE_F_MOVE must copy the pages. Data must also be properly page aligned, both in memory and length.

RETURN VALUE

Upon successful completion, **vmsplice()** returns the number of bytes transferred to the pipe. On error, **vmsplice()** returns -1 and *errno* is set to indicate the error.

ERRORS**EAGAIN**

SPLICE_F_NONBLOCK was specified in *flags*, and the operation would block.

EBADF

fd either not valid, or doesn't refer to a pipe.

EINVAL

nr_segs is greater than **IOV_MAX**; or memory not aligned if **SPLICE_F_GIFT** set.

ENOMEM

Out of memory.

VERSIONS

The **vmsplice()** system call first appeared in Linux 2.6.17; library support was added to glibc in version 2.5.

CONFORMING TO

This system call is Linux-specific.

NOTES

vmsplice() follows the other vectorized read/write type functions when it comes to limitations on the number of segments being passed in. This limit is **IOV_MAX** as defined in `<limits.h>`. Currently, this limit is 1024.

SEE ALSO

[splice\(2\)](#), [tee\(2\)](#)

COLOPHON

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