Subject: Re: Memory Hard Limits in IDL5?
Posted by Stein Vidar Hagfors H on Fri, 17 Oct 1997 07:00:00 GMT

Elaine Chapin wrote:
>
> I am using a machine with 4 Gigabytes of RAM. I enter idl5 and
> say
>
> aa=fltarr(23170,23170)
>
> which should use only 23170*23170*4=2147395600 bytes=1.99 Gigabytes
> and yet I get the message
>
> % Unable to allocate memory: to make array.
>   Not enough space
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
> I thought that all the hard limits were supposed to be gone from
> idl5? Any suggestions or comments?

It would be nice to know what platform you're using.. but:

My guess is that you're having trouble with the memory limit
set by your shell, effective for its child processes:

To see the limits that are in effect, just type

    unix> limit

Try e.g.,

    unix> limit memoryuse 4096m
    unix> limit vmemoryuse 4096m
    unix> limit datasize 4096m

and restart IDL.

Speaking of limit(1), how many times has any one of you *looked*
at the contents of a core file?

Try

    unix> limit coredumpsize 0

and you'll never need to wait for a core to be dumped again,
and you won't get your disk space eaten up by huge dumps.

Stein Vidar