Subject: working with very large data sets
Posted by Steve Carothers on Thu, 18 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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I am working with 71 Mb data file on UNIX server that has 256 Mb RAM and 500
Mb of virtual memory. I'm not doing much data manipulation before I plot
the data, but it doesn't take much manipulation to exceed the memory
allocation. I understand the benefits of chunking up the data, but I would
really like to keep all the data together for plotting purposes. I think my
PV-Wave script could run properly if I can figure out how to minimize or
eliminate memory fragmentation. When I'm done with a variable I set it
equal to 0 to free up the memory. However, if I understand the manual
correctly, this will not free up contiguous memory, which is what I need.
Delstruct and delvar might help me but they can't be used inside a script,
only at the prompt. I have a feeling I'll be forced to chunk up the data.

Also, is there a way to remove a set of records from an array of structures
if the records to delete are known without using the "where" command and
without creating a tempory variable in the memory?

Any advice would be appreciated.

Steve