
Subject: Re: memory allocation

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Tue, 27 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Craig Markwardt wrote:

```
> You can try either limit (csh or tcsh) or ulimit (sh). By itself,
> "limit" produces this output for me on an alpha machine:
>
> [33]> limit
> ...
> datasize      131072 kbytes
> ...
>
> If you get a small number like I did, then you can try increasing it,
> like so,
>
> limit datasize 2048M      # 2048 megabytes = 2 gigabytes
>
> Usage may vary, depending on your shell and Unix version. If you
> can't increase it yourself, it's time to abase yourself to your
> sysadmin.
```

The 'unlimit' command may also prove useful. Try

```
% limit
% unlimit
% limit
```

and the limits should have increased. I always put 'unlimit' in my .cshrc or .profile login script. In addition, you might want to check the virtual memory allocation on your system using 'swap'. On my SGI system, I get

```
% /sbin/swap -ln
# path      pri  pswap   free maxswap  vswap
1 /dev/swap  0  512.00m 512.00m 512.00m  0.00k
```

which shows I have 512MB of swap space. Check with your sysadmin if this number seems small.

Cheers,
Liam.

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