
Subject: Re: Strange memory problem

Posted by [Mark D. Williams](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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"R. Kyle Justice" wrote:

```
>
> When I do the following:
>
> temp=bytarr(1000,1000,25)
> temp(*)=10
>
> my computer (a Sparc20 with 128MB of *available* ram) grinds
> to a halt. Actually it starts using swap. Don't tell me
> PV-Wave is making 5 or 6 copies of the array just to do this
> simple process!
>
> Has anyone else seen this curious behavior on PV-Wave? IDL? I have
> verified it on a PC, and using different versions of PV-Wave(6.1,7.0).
>
> I have played around with the z-value and 25 (i.e. 25MB) is roughly
> the cutoff for going into swap for a 128MB system.
>
> Kyle
```

I don't have access to a Sparc, but I tried this on PV-WAVE 7.0 on both Windows NT 4.0 and RedHat Linux 6.0 on a system with 256 Mb of physical RAM and didn't experience any problem: i.e., no swapping, returned to the prompt within 3-4 seconds.

FWIW, if you want to save time and memory, a faster way to do the above is as follows:

```
WAVE> temp = BYTARR(1000,1000,25, /NoZero) + 10B
```

Note, was it your intent to end up with temp being an INTARR? By assigning 10 instead of 10B, that is what you're ending up with.

Regards,
Mark Williams
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