Subject: Re: Memory Headaches
Posted by Mark Rivers on Sat, 03 Aug 2002 00:42:40 GMT
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Ben <crono15m@aol.com> wrote in message
news:fbb3dcd9.0208020603.34689f8f@posting.google.com...
> Thank you everyone who replied.
>
> I would love to add more RAM to my system. Unfortunately I am limited
> at 512 by my motherboard.
>
> I then ran the same test on a machine running NT4 Sp6 (512MB ram)
>
> The largest array on that system was around 528,000,000l independent
> of how high I set the swap. (assuming the swap was big enough)
>
> This makes me think that the limit probably is OS dependant.

This is consistent with my experience with Windows NT. I have 2 machines
with 1 GB of RAM and 3GB of swap space each, and the most memory IDL can
allocate is 1GB. This is also what RSI also told you was the NT limit.

Note however, that this is inconsistent with every piece of Windows NT
documentation I have found, which states that a single NT process can
allocate 2GB (not 1GB). In my case the difference would be very
significant, and if IDL could access 2GB I would go buy a new computer with
2GB of RAM in a heartbeat. (My application is 3-D tomography data sets,
where being able to quickly look at slices in any direction is critical, and
makes re-reading the desired subset data from disk totally impractical.

Of course, I have not yet taken the 10 minutes it would take to test the
following C program

```
main()
{
   char *t = malloc(unsigned long(1024*1024*1024*1.5));
}
```

to see if a C program can allocate more than 1GB of memory as the NT
documentation indicates, or whether a C program is also limited to 1GB.
Just laziness!

Mark Rivers