
Subject: Re: Question on IDL Error: Unable to free memory: from array descriptor
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 17 Apr 2003 14:00:52 GMT

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In article <3E8D9A8F.D04B00A3@noaa.gov>, Ken Knapp <Ken.Knapp@noaa.gov> wrote:

> But, it worked fine before and I never saw this error until the 5.6
> upgrade. I suspect there is cross talk between IDL and some other
> process, but I don't know how to test that or figure out what is causing
> it.

I've been getting the same kind of messages, sometime arrays, sometimes other things:

```
% Unable to free memory: freeing string memory.  
Interrupted system call
```

```
IDL> PRINT, !VERSION  
{ x86 linux unix linux 5.6 Oct 26 2002    32    64}
```

This is a non-reproducible error. Re-running the same program in a new IDL session (usually) results in no errors.

While I was writing this message, this happened to a different IDL process on the same Linux system.

```
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```

This is really not good.

Ken Bowman
