Subject: Re: Q: Efficient Memory handling and deallocation
Posted by rutledge on Thu, 04 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <3oaptn$oee@news.doit.wisc.edu>, Paul Probert <probert@uwmfe.neep.wisc.edu> writes:

> operating system's fault. But we figured out, as you did, that IDL
> doesn't deallocate the memory. One workaround is, at the beginning of
> your program, create and then immediately delete an array 2 or 3 times
> the size of your needs, and this will leave a hole big enough for many
> future reallocations.

Excuse my ignorance, and this is probably stating the obvious, but this makes it appear that IDL keeps the heap memory allocated and cannot free it up (until exiting). When I run my programs, that indeed seems to be the case -- I can allocate my 200M worth of variables, deallocate them, and IDL keeps the heap a monstrous size. This is silly (and wasteful of my computer resources) as I don't use 200M for more than 5 sec, and there are other applications on my computer which could use that.

Is there really no way to de-allocate the heaped IDL memory? I may have to quit using it and go back to C and X, where I have some measure of control.

Bob