
Subject: Re: Reading large arrays of complex numbers
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Tue, 27 Sep 2005 04:32:55 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> acquiredtaste7 writes:

>

>

>> Hi, everyone. I am fairly new to IDL, and I have a problem that I
>> can't figure out. I have some large 2D arrays of complex numbers that
>> I need to read into a program. I found some code in this group for
>> reading in complex arrays that works by reading the data into a long 1D
>> array of real numbers, then reforming the data into a 2D array of
>> complex numbers. Unfortunately, the arrays I'm dealing with are so
>> large (2048x2048), that IDL won't create a 1D array of the necessary
>> length (2*2048*2048). Can anyone tell me how I can read in my arrays?

>

>

> I guess that's a bigger than normal array, but it doesn't seem
> HUGE to me. In fact, I can easily create that size array on
> my fair to middling machine. How exactly are you trying to do this?

You (acquiredtaste7) could be running into the old
short-integer-overflow problem, eg:

```
IDL> x = complexarr(2*2048S^2)
Array dimensions must be greater than 0.
Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

Try forcing your integers to be long:

```
IDL> x = complexarr(2, 2048L^2)
```

Or just set the DEFINT32 compiler option everywhere.

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