Subject: Re: Large array memory problem.
Posted by Mark Hadfield on Tue, 22 Nov 2005 19:14:39 GMT
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Carolina wrote:
> Yes, I was using Windows. I remember seeing some articles in this
> websites that mentioned how to get a couple of mb more of memory, but
> that is definetly not good enough for what I want to do. I didn't think
> it was related to memory fragmentation, since this problem is present
> even with a new IDL session, without any other arrays defined
> previously. I am currently working in a unix machine and I can now
> access around 4gb of memory, and I can allocate 3 complex square arrays
> with dimensions 11000 by 11000, as long as they aren't double precision
> (these occupied 2.9gb all together). It wouldn't let me allocate 2
> double precision ones (these would take about 4gb).

There is an IDL procedure called memtest (or mem_test) that will report
on the areas of *contiguous* memory available to IDL. You can get it here:

http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3441

You might might want to look here as well:

http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3512

On my system (Windows 2000 Service Pack 4, 1 GiB RAM, a few GiB of swap
space), when IDL is freshly started, memtest reports the following

```
Memory block # 1: 1033 Mb (total: 1033 Mb)
Memory block # 2:  388 Mb (total: 1421 Mb)
Memory block # 3:  203 Mb (total: 1624 Mb)
Memory block # 4:   61 Mb (total: 1685 Mb)
Memory block # 5:   58 Mb (total: 1743 Mb)
Memory block # 6:   48 Mb (total: 1791 Mb)
Memory block # 7:   33 Mb (total: 1824 Mb)
Memory block # 8:   21 Mb (total: 1845 Mb)
Memory block # 9:   20 Mb (total: 1865 Mb)
Memory block #10:   17 Mb (total: 1882 Mb)
```

(where the "Mb"s are supposed to be "MB"s, ie megabytes rather than
megabits).

I doubt that you're goin gto do much better than this in Windows.

--
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