
Subject: Re: IDL Segmentation Fault

Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Wed, 04 Oct 2006 18:26:49 GMT

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On Wed, 04 Oct 2006 09:06:26 -0700, mankoff wrote:

> David Fanning wrote:

>> Bill Anderson writes:

>>

>>> Has anyone run into this problem? I have running IDL 6.2 student
>>> edition for the past month with no problems on a MacPro Book (MacOS X
>>> 10.4) notebook. This weekend I updated my MacOS to 10.4.8 and now when
>>> I try to run idl from X11, it crashes with a "Segmentation Fault".

>>>

>>> /Users/wmandersonjr/idl

>>> IDL Student Edition 6.2, Mac OS X (darwin ppc m32). (c) 2005, Research
>>> Systems, Inc.

>>> Segmentation fault

>>> /Users/wmandersonjr/

>>

>> You might find this article helpful:

>>

>> <http://www.dfanning.com/tips/maccrash.html>

>>

>> Also, we discussed this problem right here less than two weeks
>> ago, it seems to me. Check the archives.

>>

>

>

> I've read that article and searched the archives. I'm using IDL 5.6 on
> a Intel MacBook. X11 programs work fine, but IDL is segfaulting
> nonetheless.

>

> If DISPLAY is :0.0 then xeyes works and IDL segfaults

>

> If DISPLAY is 0:0 then IDL will run but provides error messages when
> trying to access the display, like so:

>

> _X11TransSocketINETConnect() can't get address for 0:6000: No address
> associated with nodename

> % Unable to connect to X Windows display: 0:0

>

>

> Any advice?

>

> This just started yesterday when I upgraded to 10.4.8.

>

> -k.

Yes, I've been looking at this recently, and have collected some hopefully useful information.

IDL PPC binaries of any release now appear to crash when running on an Intel Mac under Rosetta emulation with OS X 10.4.8. The problem didn't occur with OS X 10.4.7. The crash logs indicate a crash in libXt. Since the *only* change made to the environment where I observed all of this was upgrading from 10.4.7 to 10.4.8, I am inclined to suspect the Apple update to 10.4.8.

Some web searching reveals that there are more than a few problems with the 10.4.8 upgrade on Intel Macs. One person reported a similar crash with Matlab 7.1 under the same conditions. The report indicated that the Matlab crashes started after the upgrade to 10.4.8 was applied. Same situation, same problem, I think. One could also extend this thought to the possibility that any PPC binary X11 application running under Rosetta on an Intel based OS X 10.4.8 might crash.

Therefore IDL users of versions prior to 6.3 probably should not upgrade their Intel Macs to 10.4.8.

IDL 6.3 users should really get the Intel binaries for IDL that are available from ITTVIS. Not only would this relieve this particular 10.4.8 problem, but the Intel binaries run faster on the Intel Mac.

The PPC-based hardware does not seem to be adversely affected by this OS X upgrade.

I'm going to go ahead and report this problem to Apple, and all we can do is hope that they'll take the time from the Leopard schedule to release a patch for this seemingly defective OS X upgrade.

That's the best I can do for now,

Karl
