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Subject: Re: Max number of elements in an array  
Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Mon, 14 May 2007 12:48:46 GMT  
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Jean H. wrote:

> Hi all,  
>  
> I can't remember this... what is the type of the variable used to index  
> an array? ... in other words, what is the max number of elements an  
> array can hold, provided the memory is available? Is there a way to  
> change that, so I can use, let's say, an unsigned long 64?

In the 32-bits version, signed longs are used.

Thus the max number of elements of a byte array is  $(2^{31}-\text{offset})$ ,  
where offset is a small number (around 10).

IDL 64 bit uses signed double precision longs, and the max number  
of elements in a byte array is  $(2^{63}-\text{offset})$  [here the offset seems  
to be around 512].

For other numeric types, divide the above numbers by the size in  
bytes of one element.

Ciao,  
Paolo

>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Jean

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