
Subject: Re: Idl is greedy, once it gets some memory it will NOT release it.

Posted by [kak](#) on Tue, 16 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

rxr@pacific.jpl.nasa.gov (Ramanujam Raghunath) writes:

> Hello all:

> I have a question on IDL's memory management. My problem could also be in the

> swap space management in the SUNOS and IRIX 5.3, but I doubt it.

> The issue is, after an array is deleted in IDL, the memory it occupied does not

> seem to be released (is the impression you get when you make an enquiry on the

> swap space from the O/S (swap -s in IRIX)) until the IDL session is exited;

> but seems to have been when you make an enquiry on the memory in IDL, using

> help, /memory.

<example session deleted>

Well, I think this feature/bug has been in IDL for UNIX workstations from the beginning as far as I can remember. In a thread a while ago, some people claimed that the internal IDL routines for garbage collection and memory deallocation are flawed.

I once stumbled over a comment from RSI where they said that this has to do with a principal incompatibility of the respective UNIX runtime library routines with their internal memory organization.

Can someone shed more light on this?

On the other hand, I checked this on IDL for Windows 3.1 and it seemed to work there...

Cheers,

Karl

--

IPP, PO Box 1533 | Phone: +49-89-3299-1655 | E-Mail:

D-85740 Garching | FAX : +49-89-3299-1149 | kak@ipp-garching.mpg.de

PGP key available: `finger -l kak@uts.ipp-garching.mpg.de`
