
Subject: Large Arrays in IDL

Posted by [szoonem](#) on Fri, 12 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi;

This is a question that concerns astronomers once in a while. I have wondered what the limit is to the size of the arrays that IDL can create. Some times IDL fails to read a FITS image complaining:

```
% Unable to allocate memory: to make array.  
not enough core
```

This is not so uncommon if one has to deal with even moderate size cubes. I have tried to use .SIZE to increase the default value for data area but it doesn't seem to work. So the question is if there is a way to open a very large image by IDL. IRAF seems to have no problem with this. Does this problem arise from lack of RAM on the computer?

Any advice will be appreciated.

- Saeid

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