
Subject: Re: allocating memory

Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Thu, 18 Oct 2007 18:52:24 GMT

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

R.G. Stockwell <noemail@please.com> wrote:

>
> <jtmcahill@gmail.com> wrote in message
> news:1192673434.544923.139390@i38g2000prf.googlegroups.com...
>> So, I have this large model file that I need to open. Although it is
>> 650MB I should be able to open it in IDL on my pc computer which has
>> ~4GB of Memory. However, it keeps telling me insufficient memory.
>> However, if I try to open it in IDL on a linux machine with ~2GB
>> memory I can open it no problem. Is there a way to make my windows
>> based pc cooperate and allow me to open this file that should be no
>> problem to open?
>>
>> Thanks,
>> Hawaiianite
>
>
> The problem may be fragmentation of your ram by the many
> dlls loaded by windows and other programs. I'd remove everything
> you can from the startup (and other automatically loading programs)
> and reboot (remove spyware, antivirus, firewalls, mail programs, but
> be careful not to forget to turn them back on). That may help.

Each Windows process gets its own 32-bit virtual address space. So, eliminating other processes won't help the IDL process in terms of virtual address space fragmentation, but might help overall system performance by reducing paging demand.

What you do need to look out for is various types of "junkware" that causes extra DLL's to get loaded either for every process on the machine or only for processes with windows. The Windows OS does a pretty good job of placing system DLL's in the virtual address space of each process in order to leave a big contiguous free space in the middle. But these non-Microsoft add-ons are sometimes notorious for plopping themselves into the middle of this free space, which directly effects the size of the biggest chunk you can allocate later from IDL.

One of the biggest problem programs used to be the software that you could optionally install with nVidia and ATI video cards. Some of these "value-add" packages would add items and do-dads to the window title bar to let you tweak things, etc. I found that by turning these off or rebasing the offending DLL's, I could ease the problem. I don't know if these sorts of programs are causing these problems today, but it's worth turning off these extra gadgets just to see if it helps.

--

Karl Schultz kws@frii.com

There are 844,739 ways to enjoy a Waffle House hamburger.
