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Subject: Re: memory allocation on Macs

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Thu, 01 May 2008 18:15:49 GMT

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pgrigis wrote:

- > Hi folks,
- >
- > we have pretty much exhausted the topic of memory
- > allocation on Windows and Linux, but I don't remember
- > any discussion about this on Mac OS.
- >
- > So, I am using IDL 6.3 on Mac OS X 10.4.11.
- >
- > I tried allocating as many 1GB array as possible,
- > and it failed after 3 successful allocations.
- > Now, the "Activity Monitor" indicates that at this point
- > I have 3.6 GB of memory used and 3.4 GB free.
- > So I am wondering why cant'I allocate a couple more
- > of 1GB arrays?

I'm not a macatista, but a quick google search reveals that as of 10.3, the per process memory limit in OS X is 4GB. That squares with what you're seeing. Someone more in the know might be able to tell you if/how this can be tuned. For instance using "setrlimit".

-Rick

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