
Subject: Re: Array has a corrupted discriptor, reliable?

Posted by [Joost Aan de Brugh](#) on Tue, 29 Jul 2008 16:01:04 GMT

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On Jul 29, 3:50 pm, Norbert Hahn <ihates...@nospam.invalid> wrote:

- > Some Fortran compilers allow range checking with arrays as a compile
- > time option. If your compiler support this function you'll get an
- > error condition within the Fortran program. However, I don't know
- > how to handle errors within Fortran code.
- >
- > Norbert

Unfortunately, I don't know that much of Fortran as well. I use `%val(argv(..))` in Fortran to convert from memory address to value, but Fortran has no clue what data type is in there. So if I put an integer variable with value '2' and give it to Fortran. And I use `Call routine(%val(argv(1)))` and in the routine the variable is defined as a real, it becomes a stupid value corresponding to the only the second bit set (or however the integer '2' is stored).

The same way I can pass whole arrays. For example, if I give the memory address of a 10-element floatarray and in Fortran I `Call routine(%val(argv(1)))` and the corresponding variable in the routine is a Real, Dimension(10), it works fine. For safety, I might as well pass the 10 as an integer from IDL to Fortran so that Fortran knows that there are 10 elements.

But if someone with humour sets the flag `-fdefault-real-8` at the Fortran compiler somewhere in an obscure Makefile, Fortran will think it is a double array, taking five values constructed somehow from my floatarray and the next 40 bytes in memory. This though Fortran still thinks that the array is 10 elements long and there is no problem as long as the computer allows me to write (or read) from the 40 extra bytes (God knows what is in there).

In my first example, I was expecting a segmentation fault caused by Fortran and not the nice little "Array has a corrupted discriptor". But now it looks like solved, since I tried this example (Fortran thinking they are doubles while they are floats) and I get my desired Segmentation fault.

Kind regards,
Joost Aan de Brugh
