Subject: IDL_IDLBridge limited to 4?

Posted by don.woodraska on Thu, 04 Nov 2010 16:14:39 GMT

I've been using the IDL_IDLBridge to run tasks in parallel in the background. However, when I increase the number of IDL_IDLBridge objects beyond 4, they don't seem to do anything. Although they are given tasks, the linux top command doesn't show any increase in CPU usage. I've cranked it up from 4 to as many as 14 IDL_IDLBridge objects, but the CPU usage doesn't go beyond 400%.

My box has dual quad cores with hyperthreading, so it looks like 16 CPU cores are available. IDL recognizes all 16 in !CPU, but I can't seem to use them.

```
IDL> help,!cpu,/str
** Structure !CPU, 6 tags, length=32, data length=32:
   HW_VECTOR      LONG            0
   VECTOR_ENABLE  LONG            0
   HW_NCPU        LONG            16
   TPOOL_NTHREADS  LONG           16
   TPOOL_MIN_ELTS  LONG64         100000
   TPOOL_MAX_ELTS  LONG64         0
```

I've split my job into 4 pieces and run 4 separate IDL instances with 4 bridge objects each on 4 separate terminals. There has to be a better way.

Is there some kind of an internal limit in IDL preventing me from using more than 4 bridge objects at the same time? Is there a startup parameter I need to change? I'm running version 7.0.8 (no DE) on Redhat 5.

Thanks!