
Subject: [Bug] Garbage collection with execute?

Posted by [SonicKenking](#) on Wed, 28 Sep 2011 11:30:30 GMT

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It seems to me that the IDL 8.x automatic garbage collection does NOT work for the variables created by the "execute" command. Consider the following very simple procedure.

```
pro test_gc
    ok = execute('a = hash()')
end
```

If I run the above procedure, it ended up with memory leaking as follows:

```
IDL> test_gc
% Compiled module: TEST_GC.
IDL> help, /heap
Heap Variables:
  # Pointer: 1
  # Object : 1
```

```
<ObjHeapVar1> refcount=1
    STRUCT  = -> HASH Array[1]
<PtrHeapVar2> refcount=1
    STRUCT  = -> IDL_HASHTABLEENTRY Array[2]
```

So to fix it, I have to explicitly release the variable 'a' in the procedure, which is not optimal. Is this a known issue/bug? Both 8.0 and 8.1 have the same problem. Or did I miss something?
