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Subject: Re: 32 vs 64 bit idl memory acces

Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Tue, 07 Feb 2012 17:27:56 GMT

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On Feb 7, 5:21 pm, Christopher <c.bonn...@gmail.com> wrote:

> I running snow-leopard 64 bit on mac with i7 intel processor.  
> Am then right in assuming idl(32 bit) can acces more then ~4gb of  
> memory?

32 bit programs use 32 bit pointers. Memory is byte addressable, so 32 bit pointers can address 4GB at most. You can determine the maximum size of available memory experimentally by running MEMTEST (<http://www.exelisvis.com/Support/HelpArticleDetail/ArticleId/3441/Program-to-assess-memory-fragmentation-memtest-pro.aspx>).

Use 64 bit IDL, I think it runs fine on snow leopard and you'll be able to access all your memory.

regards,  
Lajos

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