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Subject: Re: Bug in STRMID system routine  
Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 20:04:14 GMT  
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Hi David.

On Thu, 13 Dec 2012 12:48:04 -0700, David Fanning wrote:

> The last example, though, completely and utterly locked up  
> my machine. No Task Manager, no nothing, requiring a hard  
> reboot and cost me about an hour's worth of work. Not too  
> excited about that. :-(  
>

Sorry for that. Here I get a simple error message, that IDL is unable to allocate memory. I would have told, if there were serious problems.

Here is the complete output:

```
IDL> strmid_demo
% Compiled module: STRMID_DEMO.
```

Starting with:

```
heap memory used: 728889, max: 753748, gets: 1078, frees:
238
```

The string needs about 10485760 bytes:

```
heap memory used: 11214886, max: 53158085, gets: 1083, frees:
241
```

A small substring needs the same amount of memory as the original string:

```
heap memory used: 21707071, max: 21707071, gets: 1087, frees:
242
```

The memory can be released by a simple operation:

```
heap memory used: 11221313, max: 21707082, gets: 1088, frees:
243
```

The following is slow, but works:

```
heap memory used: 11276405, max: 21762174, gets: 3090, frees:
1243
```

... and this probably runs into a memory allocation error (if you don't have tons of RAM):

```
% Unable to allocate memory: to duplicate string.
```

```
Not enough space
```

```
% Execution halted at: STRMID_DEMO      29
```

```
F:\home\idl\comp.lang.idl-pvwave\strmid_demo.pro
```

%  
IDL> \$MAIN\$

Cheers, Heinz

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