
Subject: Re: Large TIFF file question
Posted by [bowman](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2002 22:13:33 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <a228o1\$4n6\$1@news.kodak.com>, "Neil Talsania"
<talsania@kodak.com> wrote:

> So, to make a long story short, my question is how do I open a large TIFF
> file, without exhausting memory?

Ah, the irony. Asking us, the poor downtrodden End Users to provide help
to RSI's corporate overlord.

Sorry ... you'll just have to get used to a certain amount of abuse in
this newsgroup.

If you provide info on the OS and IDL versions you are using, the various
users of said versions can likely tell you about process memory limits,
etc.

Ken Bowman

Subject: Re: Large TIFF file question
Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2002 23:06:25 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Neil Talsania" <talsania@kodak.com> wrote in message
news:a228o1\$4n6\$1@news.kodak.com...

> Hi,
> I have what should be a simple question (I hope!). I am trying to run an
> IDL routine that was given to me. The routine has run successfully on
small
> images, but when I try to run it on my 1.5 Gig image it fails on the
memory
> allocation.
>
> Looking at the code, it does the following:
>
> a = float(read_tiff(filename)).

I might guess that if you did it in two stages, you'd see something
interesting:

1.
aTemp = read_tiff(filename)

- this should use roughly 1.5 GB if it's an ordinary TIFF file with three

bytes per pixel (RGB)

2.

a = float(a)

- this would convert every byte to a 4-byte float, using roughly 6.0 GB!
(The aTemp can be deleted, of course, and your original wouldn't end up with this 1.5 GB hanging around.)

Perhaps this is the problem, and you may need to get creative to find a solution. (subsampling the array for further use?)

Cheers,

--

-Dick

Dick Jackson / dick@d-jackson.com
D-Jackson Software Consulting / http://www.d-jackson.com
Calgary, Alberta, Canada / +1-403-242-7398 / Fax: 241-7392

Subject: Re: Large TIFF file question

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2002 04:39:49 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Dick Jackson" <dick@d-jackson.com> writes:

```
> "Neil Talsania" <talsania@kodak.com> wrote in message
> news:a228o1$4n6$1@news.kodak.com...
>> Hi,
>> I have what should be a simple question (I hope!). I am trying to run an
>> IDL routine that was given to me. The routine has run successfully on
> small
>> images, but when I try to run it on my 1.5 Gig image it fails on the
> memory
>> allocation.
>>
>> Looking at the code, it does the following:
>>
>> a = float(read_tiff(filename).
>
>>
> Perhaps this is the problem, and you may need to get creative to find a
> solution. (subsampling the array for further use?)
```

Or, how about reading only a portion of the image at a time using the SUB_RECT keyword. This is a technique known as tiling, and of course the slightly more difficult part is the logic to stitch together

the tiles at the end.

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response

Subject: Re: Large TIFF file question
Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2002 09:17:04 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Craig Markwardt" <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message
news:ond70alxii.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu...
> "Dick Jackson" <dick@d-jackson.com> writes:
>
>> "Neil Talsania" <talsania@kodak.com> wrote in message
>> news:a228o1\$4n6\$1@news.kodak.com...
>>> Hi,
>>> I have what should be a simple question (I hope!). I am trying to
run an
>>> IDL routine that was given to me. The routine has run successfully on
>> small
>>> images, but when I try to run it on my 1.5 Gig image it fails on the
>> memory
>>> allocation.
>>>
>>> Looking at the code, it does the following:
>>>
>>> a = float(read_tiff(filename).
>>
> ...
>> Perhaps this is the problem, and you may need to get creative to find a
>> solution. (subsampling the array for further use?)
>
> Or, how about reading only a portion of the image at a time using the
> SUB_RECT keyword. This is a technique known as tiling, and of course
> the slightly more difficult part is the logic to stitch together
> the tiles at the end.
>
> Craig
>
> --
> -----
> Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu

> Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
> -----

If you are crazy/unfortunate enough to be doing this on a windows OS, you'll be facing the 1/2Gb limit on process memory, and anyway no matter how much memory you have the chances are you will be watching the grass grow as page faulting takes up most of the time :([I'd be happy for someone to prove me wrong!]. Craig's method is undoubtedly the way to go.

Martin

Subject: Re: Large TIFF file question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2002 13:24:11 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Martin Downing (martin.downing@ntlworld.com) writes:

> If you are crazy/unfortunate enough to be doing this on a windows OS, you'll
> be facing the 1/2Gb limit on process memory, and anyway no matter how much
> memory you have the chances are you will be watching the grass grow as page
> faulting takes up most of the time :([I'd be happy for someone to prove
> me wrong!]. Craig's method is undoubtedly the way to go.

I thought one of the features of IDL 5.4 or 5.5 (I can't recall, since I just woke up and I'm sitting here scratching myself and waiting for the coffee to boil) was an RSI hack that allowed the PCs to exceed these memory limits. I remember this as being one of the most significant, but completely unheralded, items of that release.

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Large TIFF file question

Posted by [Mark Rivers](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2002 14:54:28 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote in message
news:MPG.16af2ce16a9304e39897d3@news.frii.com...

> Martin Downing (martin.downing@ntlworld.com) writes:

>

>> If you are crazy/unfortunate enough to be doing this on a windows OS,
you'll

>> be facing the 1/2Gb limit on process memory, and anyway no matter how
much

>> memory you have the chances are you will be watching the grass grow as
page

>> faulting takes up most of the time :([I'd be happy for someone to
prove

>> me wrong!]. Craig's method is undoubtedly the way to go.

>

> I thought one of the features of IDL 5.4 or 5.5 (I

> can't recall, since I just woke up and I'm sitting

> here scratching myself and waiting for the coffee

> to boil) was an RSI hack that allowed the PCs to

> exceed these memory limits. I remember this as being

> one of the most significant, but completely unheralded,

> items of that release.

If you find anything documenting that I'd be most interested to hear about
it. I routinely bump into this limit on Windows machines with 1GB of RAM,
reading 3-D tomography data sets that are 400-600 MB. .RESET_SESSION_ALL
sometimes helps, but I have to exit/restart IDL very frequently because the
memory gets fragmented.

Question for the group: IDL runs on a number of 64-bit operating systems,
e.g. Solaris 8, etc. But my understanding was that IDL on such platforms
was still 32 bits, so that, for example, the largest array element IDL could
access was still a 32-bit pointer and a 4GB array would be an absolute
limit, with 1-2 GB being more typical system-specific limits. Is this true?

The new 64-bit Itanium processors have arrived, and there is a 64-bit
version (beta) of Windows to support them. I hope IDL releases a version
SOON that can take advantage of the additional memory. Hardware has caught
up to software sooner than we all expected.

Mark
