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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [wmconnolley](#) on Thu, 06 Nov 2003 17:05:24 GMT  
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J.K. <ellips@yahoo.com> wrote:  
> idl \$1 >& log.\$1 &

Possibly replace with:

( idl \$1 >& log.\$1 & ) &

that leaves the inner process more disconnected.

-W.

--

William M Connolley | [wmc@bas.ac.uk](mailto:wmc@bas.ac.uk) | <http://www.antarctica.ac.uk/met/wmc/>  
Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself  
I'm a .signature virus! copy me into your .signature file & help me spread!

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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 06 Nov 2003 17:11:11 GMT  
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Hi

I know this problem too. My solution is to start the session without the X-Server. If I did only a ssh -C then it works while ssh -XC doesn't.

If you have only a terminal connection then nothing which requires X is started. I think the problem belongs more to the OS or user environment as to idl.

regards  
Reimar

J.K. wrote:  
> I have some processing that takes about 12hrs so  
> I'd like to run this in the background. I'm on  
> IRIX. It must be something simple that I'm doing  
> wrong. After I log out and close my X11 connections,  
> I'll get a message in my log file:  
>

```

> XIO: fatal IO error 131 (Connection reset by peer) on X server "xxxxxxx:0.0"
>   after 116 requests (116 known processed) with 0 events remaining.
>
> Am I not redirecting standard out properly?
> Below is what I'm doing. Any help appreciated.
>
> idlstartbg.pro startup file, I only set the path, no device commands.
> !PATH=!PATH+":~/idl:~/wave/wvproc:~/wave/fermi98
>
> runidl batch file:
> #!/bin/csh
> setenv IDL_STARTUP idlstartbg.pro
> idl $1 >& log.$1 &
>
> runback.pro
> .run sdsnan
> exit
>
> sdsnan.pro is a main
> filelist = strarr(600)
> openr, unit, "list",/get_lun
> i = -1
> fn = ''
> while (not eof(unit)) do begin
>   i = i + 1
>   readf, unit, fn
>   filelist(i) = fn
>   print, i,filelist(i)
> endwhile
> close, unit
> ; do lots of other stuff with some print statments
> end
>
> How I execute:
> nohup runidl runback >& out &
>
> exit (close X window)
>
>
> Produces:
> out: empty
> log.runback has standard out but also the X11 message and job does not
>   complete.
>
> What am I doing wrong?
> If I change all print to printf in sdsnan.pro to write to a file it
> works but why can't I capture the standard out?
>

```

> Thanks,  
> John K.

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-I)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

-----  
a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)  
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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 07 Nov 2003 05:32:11 GMT  
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Reimar Bauer <R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de> writes:

> Hi  
>  
> I know this problem too. My solution is to start the session without the  
> X-Server. If I did only a ssh -C then it works while ssh -XC doesn't.  
>  
> If you have only a terminal connection then nothing which requires X is  
> started. I think the problem belongs more to the OS or user environment  
> as to idl.

And, why not SET\_PLOT, 'NULL' or SET\_PLOT, 'Z' to \*really\* prevent IDL  
from doing anything with X?

Craig

--

-----  
Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.    EMAIL: [craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu)  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Fri, 07 Nov 2003 09:52:45 GMT  
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J.K. wrote:

```

> I have some processing that takes about 12hrs so
> I'd like to run this in the background. I'm on
> IRIX. It must be something simple that I'm doing
> wrong. After I log out and close my X11 connections,
> I'll get a message in my log file:
>
> XIO: fatal IO error 131 (Connection reset by peer) on X server "xxxxxxx:0.0"
>   after 116 requests (116 known processed) with 0 events remaining.
>
> Am I not redirecting standard out properly?
> Below is what I'm doing. Any help appreciated.

```

No, that's the X client (IDL) complaining it's lost its connection to the X server.

```

>
> idlstartbg.pro startup file, I only set the path, no device commands.
> !PATH=!PATH+":~/idl:~/wave/wvproc:~/wave/fermi98
>
> runidl batch file:
> #!/bin/csh
> setenv IDL_STARTUP idlstartbg.pro
> idl $1 >& log.$1 &
>
> runback.pro
> .run sdsnan
> exit
>
> sdsnan.pro is a main
> filelist = strarr(600)
> openr, unit, "list",/get_lun
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> fn = ''
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>   i = i + 1
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> close, unit
> ; do lots of other stuff with some print statments
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>
> How I execute:
> nohup runidl runback >& out &
>
> exit (close X window)
>

```

>  
> Produces:  
> out: empty  
> log.runback has standard out but also the X11 message and job does not  
> complete.  
>  
> What am I doing wrong?  
> If I change all print to printf in sdsnan.pro to write to a file it  
> works but why can't I capture the standard out?  
>  
> Thanks,  
> John K.

Does your IDL code do any plotting? I didn't think IDL actually opened any connection to the X server unless you issued a command which initiates graphics.

Anyway, try issuing the command 'unset DISPLAY' before running IDL (assuming you are using sh/ksh). And, for good measure, in IDL use the command SET\_PLOT,'PS' to change the default display device to PostScript.

--

Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,  
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK

E-mail : nmw@ion.le.ac.uk

Phone : +44 (0)116 2523548, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Fri, 07 Nov 2003 20:01:40 GMT  
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"Nigel Wade" <nmw@ion.le.ac.uk> wrote in message  
news:bofq1e\$t73\$1@south.jnrs.ja.net...

...

>  
> Does your IDL code do any plotting? I didn't think IDL actually opened any  
> connection to the X server unless you issued a command which initiates  
graphics.  
>

As a guess, perhaps you have some commands in your startup  
that initiate the X server connection.

I don't know if the following commands do this:

device,true=24 ; i do not think i need this

device,retain = 2

device,decomposed=0

Cheers,  
bob

---

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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sun, 09 Nov 2003 09:56:13 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt wrote:

```
>
> Reimar Bauer <R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de> writes:
>> Hi
>>
>> I know this problem too. My solution is to start the session without the
>> X-Server. If I did only a ssh -C then it works while ssh -XC doesn't.
>>
>> If you have only a terminal connection then nothing which requires X is
>> started. I think the problem belongs more to the OS or user environment
>> as to idl.
>
> And, why not SET_PLOT, 'NULL' or SET_PLOT, 'Z' to *really* prevent IDL
> from doing anything with X?
>
> Craig
>
```

Most time you are right but what is if you don't like to change your normal startup file.  
The problem is e.g. device,decompose=0 or a window command and so on.

Reimar

```
--
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/
=====
a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
```

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Subject: Re: Problems with long IDL background jobs  
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Mon, 10 Nov 2003 09:37:44 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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R.G. Stockwell wrote:

```
> "Nigel Wade" <nmw@ion.le.ac.uk> wrote in message
> news:bofq1e$t73$1@south.jnrs.ja.net...
> ...
>
>> Does your IDL code do any plotting? I didn't think IDL actually opened any
>> connection to the X server unless you issued a command which initiates
>
> graphics.
>
>
>
> As a guess, perhaps you have some commands in your startup
> that initiate the X server connection.
> I don't know if the following commands do this:
> device,true=24 ; i do not think i need this
> device,retain = 2
> device,decomposed=0
>
> Cheers,
> bob
>
>
>
```

I think that any DEVICE command has the potential to open a graphics channel as it may well need it to perform the requested operation. For example, a device,true=24 will almost certainly do so as it's requesting a 24bit TrueColor visual from the X server and will need to communicate with the X server to do so. I think retain=2 will also, as it's asking for use of the X servers backing store.

--

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Phone : +44 (0)116 2523548, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

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