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Subject: Re: Installing IDL 6.0 on RedHat 9 - "Segmentation fault"

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Mon, 22 Dec 2003 09:16:47 GMT

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Milica Medved wrote:

> I tried istalling IDL 6.0 on my RedHat 9 Linux box. The following  
> problems occured:  
>  
> 1) During installation, I am asked for java directories in  
> /usr/local/apache2, which does not exist in my distribution. This is  
> probably not my main problem.

IIRC you only get asked that if you try to install the IDL/Java bridge.

>  
> 2) THIS \_IS\_ MY MAIN PROBLEM: After installation (no license yet), I  
> tried to run idl, and it exits with the following message:  
>  
> IDL Version 6.0 (linux x86 m32). (c) 2003, Research Systems, Inc.  
> Segmentation fault  
>  
> The best I could gather from googling is that it may be an issue  
> with the glibc libraries. I am running glibc-2.3.2-5.  
>  
>  
>> rpm -q glibc  
>  
> glibc-2.3.2-5  
>  
> Did anybody manage a successful installation on RH9? If yes, did you  
> have to do anything special to make it work? What version of glibc are  
> you running?  
>  
> Thank you,  
>  
> Milica

It works here. I've not done much testing on RH9, but it certainly starts  
and I can do very simple plots.

I'm using stock RH9 which has glibc-2.3.2-11.9 - how did you end up with a  
different (earlier) version? IDL was downloaded from RSI, installed on our  
IRIX server, and the disk exported to the RH machine.

--

Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,  
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK  
E-mail : [nmw@ion.le.ac.uk](mailto:nmw@ion.le.ac.uk)

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Subject: Re: Installing IDL 6.0 on RedHat 9 - "Segmentation fault"

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Mon, 22 Dec 2003 19:01:15 GMT

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>> 1) During installation, I am asked for java directories in  
>> /usr/local/apache2, which does not exist in my distribution. This is  
>> probably not my main problem.  
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> IIRC you only get asked that if you try to install the IDL/Java bridge.  
>

I believe you mean ION rather than the IDL-Java Bridge.

>>  
>> 2) THIS \_IS\_ MY MAIN PROBLEM: After installation (no license yet), I  
>> tried to run idl, and it exits with the following message:  
>>  
>> IDL Version 6.0 (linux x86 m32). (c) 2003, Research Systems, Inc.  
>> Segmentation fault

[snip]

>> glibc-2.3.2-5  
>>  
>> Did anybody manage a successful installation on RH9? If yes, did you  
>> have to do anything special to make it work? What version of glibc are  
>> you running?

Once upon a time, I had a successful IDL 5.5 installation on RH9. I moved up to IDL 6.0 at the same time I upgraded the machine to Fedora Core 1. So, I have never tried IDL 6.0 on RH9. But there's nothing that makes me think that the IDL 6.0/RH 9.0 combination *should* cause problems.

Do you get any core file when it segfaults? If so, you can try running gdb on it and see if you can at least determine the library that the fault is occurring in. That might help narrow your search. Good luck.

FWIW, I have glibc-2.3.2-101.1 installed.

Mike W.

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Subject: Re: Installing IDL 6.0 on RedHat 9 - "Segmentation fault"

Posted by [mmedved](#) on Wed, 24 Dec 2003 21:25:17 GMT

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Michael Wallace <mwallace.removethismunge@swri.edu.invalid> wrote in message news:<vuefrs91cq82f6@corp.supernews.com>...

=====  
FOLLOW UP - PROBLEM SOLVED !  
=====

I emailed support@rsinc.com, and they replied:

Please, rename the gl\_driver.so, located in the idl/bin/bin.linux.x86 directory to gl\_driver.old. This will force your system to software rendering.

I don't know what it means, but it worked. I wish it was put in the installation instructions.

Millie

```
>>>
>>> 2) THIS _IS_ MY MAIN PROBLEM: After installation (no license yet), I
>>> tried to run idl, and it exits with the following message:
>>>
>>> IDL Version 6.0 (linux x86 m32). (c) 2003, Research Systems, Inc.
>>> Segmentation fault
>
> [snip]
>
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> fault is occurring in. That might help narrow your search. Good luck.
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> FWIW, I have glibc-2.3.2-101.1 installed.
>
> Mike W.
```

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Subject: Re: Installing IDL 6.0 on RedHat 9 - "Segmentation fault"  
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Tue, 30 Dec 2003 21:57:43 GMT  
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> Please, rename the gl\_driver.so, located in the idl/bin/bin.linux.x86  
> directory to gl\_driver.old. This will force your system to software  
> rendering.  
>  
> I don't know what it means, but it worked. I wish it was put in the  
> installation instructions.

IDL can render images by using the graphics card itself or purely within software. Using hardware rendering is faster, but certain graphics cards don't have the necessary support in their drivers. Software rendering is much slower, but it is supported everywhere.

Depending on the graphics card you have, see if you can find an updated/better driver online. Some Linux distributions don't ship with the actual company provided driver because of licensing issues, so you might just have a general purpose driver.

There's a little more information here:  
<http://www.rsinc.com/services/techtip.asp?ttid=3524>

Finally, I am not a fan of moving the shared object to force software rendering. I've seen this kind of recommendation come from RSI before with other issues, but changes like this should be made in configuration files rather than moving libraries out of their standard locations. I suppose it's a little pet peeve of mine since I come from the software development ranks. Anyway, I believe you can set IDL to always use software rendering by adding the line

```
Idl.renderer = 1
```

to either your ~/.Xdefaults file or to the system-wide  
\$RSI\_DIR/idl/resource/X11/lib/app-defaults/Idl configuration file.

Just another way to skin a cat.

Mike

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