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Subject: Re: Reading large arrays of complex numbers  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Sep 2005 03:45:06 GMT  
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acquiredtaste7 writes:

> Hi, everyone. I am fairly new to IDL, and I have a problem that I  
> can't figure out. I have some large 2D arrays of complex numbers that  
> I need to read into a program. I found some code in this group for  
> reading in complex arrays that works by reading the data into a long 1D  
> array of real numbers, then reforming the data into a 2D array of  
> complex numbers. Unfortunately, the arrays I'm dealing with are so  
> large (2048x2048), that IDL won't create a 1D array of the necessary  
> length (2\*2048\*2048). Can anyone tell me how I can read in my arrays?

I guess that's a bigger than normal array, but it doesn't seem  
HUGE to me. In fact, I can easily create that size array on  
my fair to middling machine. How exactly are you trying to do this?

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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Subject: Re: Reading large arrays of complex numbers  
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Tue, 27 Sep 2005 04:32:55 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

> acquiredtaste7 writes:

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> my fair to middling machine. How exactly are you trying to do this?

You (acquiredtaste7) could be running into the old short-integer-overflow problem, eg:

```
IDL> x = complexarr(2*2048S^2)
Array dimensions must be greater than 0.
Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

Try forcing your integers to be long:

```
IDL> x = complexarr(2, 2048L^2)
```

Or just set the DEFINT32 compiler option everywhere.

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Mark Hadfield        "Kei puwaha te tai nei, Hoesa tahi tatou"  
m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz  
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

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