
Subject: Passing > 64Kb arrays to IDL DLL's
Posted by [smd](#) on Mon, 24 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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Hi,

I use IDL v 3.6.1a on a PC. I would like to find out if one can pass arrays larger than 64Kbytes to DLL functions using CALL_EXTERNAL. I have been trying to pass long arrays of size > 16384 elements, which means greater than 64K bytes; so far I haven't been successful. FYI I have used huge pointers to access the array elements.

I know I can do my operations within IDL itself, but I may speed up my total execution time, if I perform some of the processing in C. Most of it involves FOR loops over images. If anybody has experience with writing DLL's for IDL, please advise me.

Thanks

Sandeep Dalal

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Subject: Re: Passing > 64Kb arrays to IDL DLL's
Posted by [Gary Kushner](#) on Tue, 02 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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Karl Krieger <kak@ipp-garching.mpg.de> wrote:

>
> smd@philabs.philips.com (Sandeep Dalal) wrote:
>
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>> pass arrays larger than 64Kbytes to DLL functions using
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>> size > 16384 elements, which means greater than 64K bytes;
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>> ...

>> Thanks
>>
>> Sandeep Dalal
>
> I still hope that I am wrong, but as far as I know, this is not
> possible, because IDL for Windoze3.1 only supports 16bit DLLs.
> That means that you are restricted to 64kb chunks for transferring
> data (or pointers to data) under Win3.1. Inside your DLL you can
> of course allocate larger arrays.
> Apparently, the only solution at the moment is waiting for an
> IDL version which supports 32bit DLLs using Win32s (or switching
> to WinNT). If someone has a better idea, please post it!
>
> Karl Krieger

As far as I know, Karl is correct; 64kb is all you can pass through a windows 16bit DLL.

IDL sent me a note indicating that IDL 4.0 will run under Win32s with 16 bit Windows. Thus you can recompile your DLL for win32 and the DLL should then be able to pass >64kb chunks of data to IDL 4.0.

When I receive my copy of IDL 4.0, I will try this out with some of my code and post an update if I have a chance. We are also thinking of trying out Windows NT.

Gary Kushner
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