Subject: Memory Issues
Posted by jgradeck on Fri, 21 Jun 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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Question for PV-WAVE developers. We have some PV-WAVE legacy code which basically loads images, allows users to 'enhance' the images, and displays the image again. The application allows these actions to occur at the user's choice. After several images, we get a memory error saying we are out of display memory. I am checked the code to verify that we release the memory (as a Computer Scientist, I would prefer a free(a) instead of setting an array to 0 indicating the memory has been freed). If we close the applications and start again, we have memory again.

Being somewhat familiar with UNIX and X windows, does it appear we are running into 'c' memory issues or is something happening to the X windows display memory?

I understand the images we import are large but if I release an image and reload it, the system should be doing housekeeping on memory.

Thanks!!

Joe

Subject: Re: Memory Issues
Posted by rivers on Mon, 24 Jun 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <4qedee$grj@hacgate2.hac.com>, jgradeck@redwood.hac.com (Joseph David Gradecki) writes:
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> basically loads images, allows users to 'enhance' the images, and displays
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This is a problem with IDL/PV-WAVE which is discussed in the FAQ. Basically,

PV-WAVE does release the memory with free(a), so it is available to be reallocated later. However, the problem is fragmentation: if after freeing a large array you then allocate a simple scaler, the scaler allocation will use part of the previously freed block, such that it cannot be used to hold an array that large again. One solution is to rewrite your code so you always put your images in the SAME location, so that you never allocate/free memory. Another is to use the TEMPORARY() function whenever possible.

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