
Subject: Re: idl process id

Posted by [korpela](#) on Fri, 24 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <353FB8D8.DE9@bial1.ucsd.edu>,

David Foster <foster@bial1.ucsd.edu> wrote:

```
>> IDL> result=call_external('/lib/libc.so.1.9','getpid')
```

```
>> IDL> print,result
```

```
>>     23847
```

```
>
```

```
> Whoa! Does this work in any general sense? Do you have suggestions
```

```
> for getting references on which routines are available in which
```

```
> libraries? How "safe" is this?
```

It works for any libc routine that either takes no parameters, or takes zero or another small integer as the only parameter. For example time(0) works. That's because call_external uses an (argc,void *argv[]) calling system. In the above example the actual call that made is "getpid(0,some_random_pointer)". Since caller removes the arguments under most systems, this works as an equivalent of getpid().

As far as where routines are found, most general unix routines will be in libc. (i.e. anything that doesn't require libraries to be listed on the command line during a C compile.)

Eric

--

Eric Korpela | An object at rest can never be

korpela@ssl.berkeley.edu | stopped.

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