
Subject: Call_External and Re-Compiling C programs
Posted by [rmlongfield](#) on Thu, 20 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Hi Everyone,

I've had some success using CALL_EXTERNAL to input IDL data to a C program and receive a result.

My problem is, when I use SPAWN to compile a C program, the executable is not redefined within IDL. When I edit the C program and wish to recompile, it doesn't work. I have to exit IDL to get rid of it.

The IDL program is as follows:

```
PRO test
sh_command = 'testfile.sh'
c_command = 'testp'
SPAWN,sh_command
x=23
y=33
result = CALL_EXTERNAL('testp.so','testp',x,y)
print,'Result passed to IDL: ',result
help,/routines
end
```

++++++The shell program testfile.sh is:

```
rm *.o
rm *.so
echo Object files removed
cc -c -KPIC testp.c
ld -shared -o testp.so testp.o -lm
echo Finished compiling
# produces testp.o and testp.so
```

++++++The output for all of this is:

```
IDL> test
Object files removed
Finished compiling
*
* _____
* ____Value of argc: 2
* ____Value of argv: 23
* ____Value of argv: 33
*
* _____
```

Result passed to IDL: 56
Compiled Procedures:
\$MAIN\$
TEST

Compiled Functions:

Question: Does anyone know how to un-define the compiled procedures?

Thanks

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