
Subject: Talking with my C data

Posted by [Eric Williams](#) on Thu, 12 Nov 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Howdy,

This group has helped so much in the past I hope you all can help me prove to my bosses, once again, that IDL will do most anything.

I am collecting images with a CCD using C code I wrote with some supplied C libraries we purchased with the camera. Right now once the data is readout from the camera it is stored in a data stream in memory and is then put into a file using fwrite. I have a couple of questions:

I would like to write IDL code to manage the taking and displaying of the data. Should I use call_external or linkimage? Is there a speed difference or just a level of complexity difference?

Once the data is read out of the camera into memory can I use IDL to read the data from the memory or should I continue to have C write the data with fwrite and then can I have IDL read that data from the file created with fwrite? In either case I am not sure how to make IDL get the data.

I've got to believe this is done frequently and I will continue to look through the RSI documentation and David Fanning's great book, but at this point I haven't figured it all out.

Thanks for any help.

Eric
