
Subject: Re: dynamic memory in call_external
Posted by [David Foster](#) on Mon, 25 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Vapuser wrote:

>
> I have someone in my office who wants to know:
>
> Is it advisable to create and destroy memory within a CALL_EXTERNAL
> routine? (that is, can one safely use malloc and free?) Or must one
> make the routine(s) in question LINKIMAGE routines and the idl memory
> management routines (IDL_MEMAlloc, IDL_MEMfree and IDL_GetScratch)
> available in that environment.

I have used [m]c[alloc]() and free() in CALL_EXTERNAL modules with no problems, usually for relatively small chunks of memory. But of course this is only for variables within the C module; you can't allocate memory within the C module and pass it back to IDL.

Dave

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David S. Foster      Univ. of California, San Diego  
Programmer/Analyst   Brain Image Analysis Laboratory  
foster@bial1.ucsd.edu   Department of Psychiatry  
(619) 622-5892      8950 Via La Jolla Drive, Suite 2240  
                    La Jolla, CA 92037  
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