
Subject: Re: Fortran

Posted by [Michael Asten](#) on Fri, 09 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Dont know where the 'just say no' reference comes from - my idl course notes of a couple of years ago (thanks David) list at least 4 ways of doing the link, starting with the ultra-simple approach of using the idl to setup input for a fortran executable, where the said fortran is initiated by the idl code with a system call, and reads its input from the file generated by the idl code.

I have used this ultra-simple way quite sucessfully, since my fortran and idl codes do not have to interact, and my concern has been to get the results, not write code. How sophicated you need to be (and hence how much you use c-wrappers, dlls, and the like) will perhaps depend on how much interaction you need with your core fortran routines.

Regards,
Michael Asten

H T Onishi wrote:

- > I'm just starting a project that requires developing a GUI for a large
 - > FORTRAN code. Work will be done on a PC. We are considering IDL, however,
 - > there is a "Just Say No" warning in one of the IDL reference books.
 - > Developing a C wrapper is formidable because the FORTRAN code is formidable.
 - > Has anyone successfully linked IDL and FORTRAN? Any suggestions (such as
 - > avoid at all costs)? Any comparisons with Visual Basic?
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 - > Thanks,
 - > Howard Onishi
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