Subject: Re: Problems with spawn on Linux
Posted by Craig Markwardt on Thu, 16 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

ftjec@uaf.edu writes:
> Hello,
> I am having problems with the spawn command on Linux. I am using the
> unit parameter to spawn to obtain a pipe to the child process and use
> this pipe to moniter the child's progress. The code I have works fine
> on the sun I coded it for originally -- but on linux I get very
> unpredictable results. Sometimes the process is spawned, yet no output
> is generated, sometimes it works fine, and sometimes it crashes idl
> completely with a "bus error" message.
>
> Does anyone know of a solution to this problem?
>
> Also any advice on the general state of idl on Linux would be greatly
> apprecated.

I can't reproduce your problem either:

RedHat 6.1
IDL> print, !version
{ x86 linux unix 5.2.1 Jun 4 1999}

What you describe is very strange.

However, I did discover that the ON_IOERROR procedure interferes with
reads from SPAWNed pipes. In particular, ON_IOERROR occasionally
causes the input buffer to be lost (along with your data of course).
Usually this can be solved by moving ON_IOERROR outside of your read
loop, which in your case you have done already. Perhaps you could try
CATCH just to see if anything different happens.

Craig

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