
Subject: Re: Calling Fortran program
Posted by [rivers](#) on Mon, 06 Jun 1994 03:00:31 GMT
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In article <2sl3sr\$2o1q@itsa.ucsf.edu> aki@itsa.ucsf.edu (Andreas Kiefer) writes:

> Hi

>

> I have to call a Fortran program that returns a vector. The IDL function CALL_EXTERNAL
> allows to return a scalar value only. So it seems I have to use LINKIMAGE.

>

> Is there anybody who knows how to use LINKIMAGE in particular who has any idea how to
> pass a vector to IDL using LINKIMAGE ? (I am using a SUN and I studied the manual for
> dlopen() already. This was not very helpful.)

It is NOT true that CALL_EXTERNAL can only return a scalar, it can return vectors as well. The vector needs to be allocated in IDL before calling CALL_EXTERNAL, so it does require that you know a (maximum) size for the vector in advance. IDL will just pass the address of the beginning of the vector to your external FORTRAN or C code. I do this all the time.

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