
Subject: Re: CALL_EXTERNAL simple problem ?
Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Wed, 14 Nov 2001 13:17:22 GMT
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A few important suggestions:

- 1) Put away all sharp objects (scissors, pencils, etc.)
- 2) Read through the entire external development guide.
- 3) Read through the entire external development guide (again!).
- 4) Send RSI a feature request for providing asking for C API documentation for heap variable access (ok, so this is one is for my own personal benefit).
- 5) Buy Ronn's book on calling C from IDL using DLMs.

If you are convinced that call_external is what you want, try:

```
-- test.c --  
void test(int argc, void* argv[])  
{  
    float* f;  
    f = argv[0];  
    f[0] = 0.0;  
}  
--
```

compile with something like: 'gcc -fpic -shared -o test.so test.c'

```
-- test.pro --  
PRO test  
f=[1.0,1.0]  
PRINT,f  
s=call_external('test.so','test',f)  
PRINT,f  
END  
--
```

On 14 Nov 2001, trouble wrote:

```
> Hi,  
>  
> OK - I've finally bitten the bullet and am calling C from IDL. So far,  
> it hurts a lot. I have the following simple code which gives a seg.  
> fault and I'm really hoping someone can help !  
>  
> C code  
> -----  
> void test(float f[])
```

```
> {  
> f[0]=0.0;  
> }  
>  
>  
> IDL code  
> -----  
> PRO test  
> f=[1.0,1.0]  
> s=call_external('image.so','test',f)  
> PRINT,f  
> END  
>  
>  
>  
> The C code compiles alright using the same flags as in the  
> CALL_EXTERNAL examples, which incidentaly work fine. I'm using IDL5.4  
> under Linux on Alpha.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Ciao.  
>
```
