
Subject: Re: where is idl-fortran.Z by Jeff Valenti
Posted by [John McLeod](#) on Wed, 09 Jan 2002 16:10:04 GMT
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Since posting my query I have been in contact with the author.
Here is a summary of his communication.

1. The article itself is nearly eight years old and no longer very relevant.
2. Consider using SPAWN and interfaces with data files (more portable)
3. Again consider using SPAWN and interfaces with data files (porting applications using these external routines to different platforms/compilers is a pain)
4. IDL's own documentation on communicating with external programs is much improved.
5. There is a good book on the subject of connecting to external routines from IDL: "Calling C from IDL" by Ronn Kling available from the author at <http://www.kilvarock.com/books/callingCfromIDL.htm> under the author's web site at <http://www.rlkling.com/>
6. The IDL distribution contains examples of using CALL_EXTERNAL which should be consulted.

Thanks, John

"John McLeod" <john.mcleod@drea.dnd.ca> wrote in message
news:1010505214.382636@news.drenet.dnd.ca...

> I need a copy of the file idl-fortran.Z mentioned in the following note
from

> the IDL FAQ at

> <http://www.ivsoftware.com/fom/IDL/public/fom-serve/cache/1.html>

>

> <begin extract>

> Jeff Valenti has written a sizable document about

> calling external FORTRAN routines from IDL.

> You can find it at <http://eos.crseo.ucsb.edu/pub/idl/idl-fortran.Z>.

> <end extract>

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> I have been unable to track down either file or the author. Any ideas?

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> Thanks, John

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