
Subject: Re: how can i call a compiled fortran code from IDL?
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 06 Feb 2003 18:02:04 GMT
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mads wrote:

```
>  
> hi all,  
>      what if i have to use,  
> spawn, 'c:\hi\something.exe'
```

what about something like:

```
execution_string = 'c:\hi\' + execution_directory + '\something.exe'  
spawn, execution_string
```

You have to specify (somehow, e.g. via an argument with a default?) what is the directory that contains the executable, but you would have to identify it somehow in any case.

E.g.:

Given a utility routine:

```
FUNCTION Valid_String, Input_String  
  IF ( N_ELEMENTS( Input_String ) EQ 0 ) THEN RETURN, 0  
  IF ( STRLEN( Input_String ) EQ 0 ) THEN RETURN, 0  
  RETURN, 1  
END
```

then:

```
PRO myidlpro, Execution_Directory = Execution_Directory
```

```
  Default_ExeDir = 'what_now'  
  IF ( Valid_String( Execution_Directory ) ) THEN $  
    ExeDir = Execution_Directory $  
  ELSE $  
    ExeDir = Default_ExeDir
```

```
...do some other stuff...
```

```
  Execution_String = 'c:\hi\' + ExeDir + '\something.exe'  
  SPAWN, Execution_String
```

```
...do some more stuff
```

```
END
```

So if you don't specify the "Execution_Directory" optional argument, it will default, but you can specify an alternative if required.

You should search the IDL online docs for "noninteractive use of spawn".

paulv

> now the space that is in "what now" causes a problem. That's the reason I was
> against spawning. I can solve that by just moving all the files into the
> working directory and just use
> spawn,'something.exe'
> that's how I have solved the problem now
> sincerely
> madhu

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