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Subject: Re: Multiple Spawn Commands

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sat, 15 Jul 2006 14:22:34 GMT

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"Ryan." <[rchughes@brutus.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:rchughes@brutus.uwaterloo.ca)> writes:

> Dear IDL Gurus,

>

> Is it possible to issue multiple Spawn commands in Unix IDL without  
> closing the shell? What I want to do is issue a very simple foreach  
> loop but i cannot call spawn long enough to input all the commands. I  
> think i might have to use the Unit keyword of spawn but i'm not sure  
> how it works. Due to the simplicity of what I want to do I might be  
> able to do it in fewer commands in Unix but I don't have enough  
> experience in Unix to know how. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

I agree with you that this can't be done with semicolons as the other posters suggested.

> I want the following commands issued in Unix:

> change to desired directory

> foreach i ( file1 file2 file3 ... )

> ...file\_dump.pl -\$i ...

> end

>

> To do this I have the following:

> spawn, foreachcommand

> spawn, filedumpcommand

> spawn, endcommand

I have to ask, why are you trying to directly transliterate a c-shell script? You're in IDL, why not use it?

```
files = ['file1', 'file2', 'file3', '...']
for i = 0, n_elements(files)-1 do begin
  cmd = string(files[i], format='("...file_dump.pl -",A0," ... ")')
  spawn, cmd
end
```

Or, you could make a single shell script with all the commands you want to run, give the file executable permissions, and then run it with a single command from IDL.

Good luck!

Criag

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Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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