Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by yi.selab on Thu, 17 May 2007 08:45:56 GMT

IDL's spawn procedure can't get the return value from C program.
Of course, you can get the result using second argument like this :

IDL> spawn, 'basic', result

In this case, the result variable is not the return value of main
function(C Program)
but the output text result of the 'basic' command in Shell(Unix) or
Command Prompt(MS Windows)

The 'result' variable is string array, so it can catch multi lines
text output.

Anyway, if you want to use spawn procedure, the C program should be
modified.

I expect that you can get result if you insert,

printf("%d", n);

into your C code.

> Im running IDL on XP.
>
> I have this basic C code:
>
> #include <stdlib.h>
>
> int main()
> {
>
>   int n=5;
>   n=n*2;
>   return n;}
>
> //This file is basic.c
>
>> From IDL, I just want to call this program and return n.
>
> In IDL, I can write:
>
> SPAWN, 'basic'   ; this of course runs the

> basic.c program.
>
> But this doesnt return anythingof course.. ive tried to add another
> variable after this line such as:
> SPAWN, 'basic', variable
>
> But windows doesnt like any of this...
>
> Can anyone help me with this basic application? With spawn in the past
> ive gotten it to do calculations on a variable and return them, but
> with no input, im unsure how to get the output.
>
> Thanks for any help! Ive also boughten the 'from c->dlm->idl' book but
> it wont be in for a few days.