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Subject: Re: interface between IDL and Matlab

Posted by [Abraham campbell](#) on Tue, 22 Jan 2008 18:08:54 GMT

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ChiChiRuiz@gmail.com wrote:

> Hi,

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> I've been using IDL for data processing/analysis, so most of my code

> (data readers/writers, and utility code) are in IDL. However, lately

> I was asked to explore possibility to use Matlab's statistical

> visualization toolbox. I don't want to re-write my data processing

> code in matlab or write my own statistical visualization in IDL, what

> other options do I have? Is there a way to call Matlab from IDL or

> vice versa? Thanks in advance.

>

> -Angie

If you are on Windows, there might be a way. I believe that Matlab has an ActiveX control that gives you access to it. So, you could use the IDL-COM import subsystem to create an instance of the Matlab ActiveX control, and issue commands to it from IDL...though, marshaling data back and forth might be tricky. COM data types are fickle; and, the implementation of a particular COM/ActiveX control might limit the supported COM data types.

If you are on Unix, you might have to create a custom IDL DLM that accesses Matlab via entry points in a shared library, or some other Matlab mechanism for C-callable access.

Abraham

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