
Subject: Re: Anyone link GSL into IDL?

Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 16:02:22 GMT

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On Fri, 4 Apr 2008, Allan Whiteford wrote:

>> I am working on the DLM support for FL and my example program is FFTW3.
>> I plan to release the DLM source under GPL. Is this enough? What is your
>> opinion?

>

> Some people would certainly assert that that would make all of FL GPL but
> that's not to say they'd be right (although I think within open source
> software circles they will be in the majority).

>

Now I see why GPL is called viral: a few dozen lines long interface can
infect a 200,000 lines program :-)

> My personal opinion and understanding of the GPL would be that this would be
> a violation but I'm not an expert on these things by any stretch of the
> imagination.

>

> I would be very cautious about releasing a FFTW3 plug-in for FL.

>

OK, to be on the safe side. I will drop FFTW3, it was meant as a useful
example program only. I will choose an other library with a more friendly
licence. And probably FL users will write their own FFTW3 DLM, they can
not infect FL :-)

> You can always write to the FSF for advice and/or contact the FFTW3 people to
> see if they'll make an exception for FL.

>

The FSF advice would be to release FL under GPL. And after reading the
FFTW pages I think the chance of obtaining an exception is exactly 0%.
So, I will not use FFTW.

thanks,
lajos

> Thanks,

>

> Allan

>
