
Subject: Re: giving input to fortran program using spawn in IDL
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 24 Sep 2008 16:17:48 GMT
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rammaur@gmail.com writes:

> Dear all,
>
> I have some programs written in fortran-77. I want to run them
> in
> the IDL editor. I tried using spawn command. Which is good only if I
> am not worry about input to fortran from IDL itself. The result from
> spawn can be split according our fortran program.
>
> But I am creating some data from IDL, which is required for
> fortran
> as input. I search on the web and tried myself. But I could not make
> it.

If you are using Unix or Mac OS X, you can use the various redirection capabilities of those operating systems. For example, put the inputs in a text file, and then,

```
SPAWN, 'my_fortran_program < inputfile.txt', output_results
```

If you need dynamic control, you will want to use the UNIT keyword for SPAWN, which provides a file unit you can write to. I.e. you would PRINTF your inputs to that file unit. That can be very subtle however, so it's better to use the above construction if you can.

If you have windows, I'm less well informed.

Good luck,
Craig

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