
Subject: Re: spawning Fortran executables
Posted by [Matt\[2\]](#) on Fri, 17 Dec 2010 18:40:09 GMT
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On Dec 17, 11:30 am, Derek Philip Brown <derekphilbr...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > In general, I find idl (or spawn) waits for
- > the UNIX command to complete before continuing to the next batch file
- > program called.
- >
- > Ok fine. The question is this. If I use spawn, 'model1' where
- > model1 is an executable that runs a Fortran program, will IDL know to
- > wait for that to finish before continuing to the next batch file
- > command.

- > Does anyone know if IDL will automatically wait for the Fortran model
- > to run?

From the IDL 6.4 help system:

"By default, IDL waits for the child process started by SPAWN to finish before it continues. It is possible to have IDL instead continue execution in parallel with the child process. The syntax for this depends on the operating system on your system:
Under UNIX, include an ampersand (&) at the end of your shell command.

Under Windows, specify the NOWAIT keyword to SPAWN."

So by default IDL waits for the child process, and you have to do something extra to get it to continue. If your command to spawn doesn't background the process (have an ampersand at the end), also if that command doesn't in turn spawn further processes in the background, you should be good to go.

HTH.
Matt
