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Subject: Re: Connecting GPC to IDL  
Posted by [KRDean](#) on Tue, 14 Jun 2011 21:44:59 GMT  
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On Jun 11, 10:07 am, Michael Galloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> kBob <krd...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>> On Jun 10, 7:52 am, Haje Korth <hajeko...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>>> Kelly: I have always found using gcc with IDL on Windows to be a  
>>> difficult endeavor. Also, the use of make\_dll is optional and in the  
>>> past has made life more difficult rather than easier. I suggest  
>>> grabbing the free edition of Visual Studio Express and creating the  
>>> dll this way. Just remember to export the functions you will be  
>>> accessing from IDL. This is definitely an advanced topic, so start  
>>> with the simple examples in the external directory of the IDL distro.  
>>> Haje  
>  
>>> On Jun 9, 10:35 am, kBob <krd...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>>>> On Jun 6, 2:11 pm, kBob <krd...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>>>> > I would like to use the General Polygon Clipper (GPC) thur IDL.  
>  
>>>> > This is a software package written in C that is available from  
>>>> > Manchester that clips polygons.  
>  
>>>> > Has anyone implement this in IDL, already?  
>  
>>>> > I assume MAKE\_DLL is the way to go.  
>  
>>>> > Kelly Dean  
>>>> > Milliken, CO  
>  
>>>> I am still looking into this, as time allows.  
>  
>>>> I ahve reviewed some different ways to implement this, I have  
>>>> determine that the following routines can be used :  
>  
>>>> LINKIMAGE  
>>>> SPAWN  
>>>> MAKE\_DLL  
>>>> CALL\_EXTERNAL  
>>>> CALL\_EXTERNAL/MAKE\_DLL  
>  
>>>> There is a nice example to use CALL\_EXTERNAL/MAKE\_DLL, but MAKE\_DLL is  
>>>> giving me problems as I am trying to use the gcc compiler. There is a  
>>>> ITTVIS Tech Tip that helps, but another problem appears while dealing  
>>>> with the IDL example.  
>

```

>>>> There is a GCP DLL provided thru the MatLab Contrib site. I am playing
>>>> around with this in CALL_EXTERNAL, bypassing the MAKE_DLL.
>
>>>> Sorry, that this is turning into a blog, but I find it helps to scatch
>>>> some notes down once in awhile for future reference.
>
>>>> Kelly Dean
>>>> Milliken, CO- Hide quoted text -
>
>>> - Show quoted text -
>
>> Yes, apparently the ITTVIS example assumes you have Microsoft Visual
>> installed.
>
>> Well, I spent most of the day installing Microsoft Visual C++ 10.0 and
>> regist for the free version.
>
>> So far, here are the problems I am having :
>
>> cl.exe : Solution ?
>> mspdb100.dll pop-up : Solution ?
>> stdio.h 'no such file' : Solution ?
>
>> I am sure the problems are related to path, as all these file are
>> within the new install of MS Visual Studio 10.0.
>
>> Kelly
>
> Make sure to launch IDL from the special command line provided by VS (or
> set your path and possibly other environment variables accordingly).
>
> Mike
> --www.michaelgalloy.com
> Research Mathematician
> Tech-X Corporation- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

```

Becoming a little wiser.

Visual Studio Command Prompt is looking for "vcvarsall.bat"

I did install MinGW. From the MinGW shell prompt I was able to make a DLL -

```
gcc -Wall -shared gpc.c -o gpc.dll
```

However, this is a 32-bit DLL. The IDL 64-bit version using

CALL\_EXTERNAL doesn't like the DLL.

Although, the IDL 32-bit version does like the DLL, but IDL promptly crashes.

Progress!

Kelly

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