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Subject: "Share data with external processes"

Posted by [Ken Stone](#) on Thu, 16 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Hello,

Does anyone know of a fast way to transfer a large array (say `fltarr(2000)`) from another process? My first thought was to write the data to a file, and then read it back into IDL. But time is of a critical nature in this case. Then I found `CALL_EXTERNAL`, but it seems to only return a scalar (Is that true?). `LINKIMAGE` now looks like the way to go. Has anyone had any luck using `LINKIMAGE` to pass around arrays like this? What `_is_` the best way to "share data with external processes"? (I put that in quotes because it's in the RSI advertisement for IDL. :-))

Thanks,

Ken

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