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Subject: Calling FORTRAN routines from IDL  
Posted by [cruz](#) on Tue, 02 Feb 1993 00:33:22 GMT

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I'm a new user of IDL, so I'm soliciting HELP!!! I'm attempting to call FORTRAN routines from IDL using the 'call\_external' function. In the call, I'm passing a file name to the routine. Basically I have a FORTRAN front-end to the FORTRAN routine. The FORTRAN front-end passes the parameters by 'value' not reference. The IDL commands follow. Note that 'hdr.txt' is my file name.

```
IDL> a=bytarr(1)
IDL> a(0) = 1
IDL> tmp=call_external('readhdr.so', '_readhdr_', 'hdr.txt', value=a)
....then I receive garbage.
```

I've also tried sending the file name by reference and received the same type of results.

Has anyone experienced this type of problem?? Is there a solution or easier method for accessing FORTRAN routines from IDL?

Thanks for all responses,  
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