
Subject: Re: SPAWN

Posted by [Nobuyuki Tasaka](#) on Wed, 09 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi Tim,

Tim Patterson wrote:

>
> Hi Nobu,
>
> If you have database retrieval routines already in C,
> have you thought about using CALL_EXTERNAL to link
> the C routines directly into your IDL code and save you
> having to use SPAWNs which will likely be slower.
>
> There's a lot of examples out there for calling up C from
> IDL and it's now a relatively simple thing to set up on
> most platforms.
>
> Tim

Thanks for your recommendation.

CALL_EXTERNAL (and LINKIMAGE also) is useful to link C routines but needs to change codes to be portable to other systems, say, from SunOS 4.1.3 to Solaris 2.5 or SGI etc. SPAWN is slow for parsing data but there is no fear of this kind of problem.

In my case, I'm transferring the main portion of data to memory map file by C routine, and this file is readable as a normal file for any other applications.

My concern is how to use SPAWN for parsing list and errors from that C routine to IDL, data size of which are not so large.

Please let me know your opinion.

Nobu

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