
Subject: Re: Some MAKE_DLL questions

Posted by [Jim Pendleton](#) on Tue, 20 Oct 2015 01:40:56 GMT

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On Monday, October 19, 2015 at 11:36:39 AM UTC-6, nata wrote:

> Thank you Michael for your reply!

>

> About my third question; I just want to know if the variables are copied (duplicated) when they are passed to the C code.

> Thank you,

> Nata

By default, scalar arguments are passed by reference. There's a VALUE keyword to CALL_EXTERNAL to control this. Arrays are always passed by reference.

Strings in particular are a special case. You'll want to understand the differences. (It's generally easier to convert them to byte arrays instead and cast the pointers to char * on the C side.)

As the online help says, "See Chapter 3, "Using CALL_EXTERNAL" (External Development Guide in the help/pdf directory of your IDL installation).

Jim P
