
Subject: Running fortran executable using IDL spawn fails

Posted by [Susanne](#) on Tue, 09 Aug 2016 12:05:10 GMT

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I cannot get a simple Fortran code to execute in my Windows 7 command prompt using the IDL 8.5.1 spawn command. I've googled for solutions, and found one that suggested to cd into the path of the exe file. I tried that and it didn't help.

I was able to re-create the result using this very simple Fortran code (test.f):

```
c This is a test code
  write(*,*) "--- Hello World ---"
  stop
end
```

Using "gfortran -o test test.f, I make the executable test.exe without any warnings. When I run the resulting executable manually in my command prompt, I get the expected "Hello World" output in the command prompt. When however, I run test.exe using a spawn command in IDL, after changing into the directory where the .exe resides, ...

```
cd, path
spawn, 'test.exe & pause'
```

... I only get "Press any key to continue" in the command prompt, but the expected "Hello World" output is missing. Why is the .exe file not running? I've tried simpler spawn commands, e.g., spawn, 'dir & pause', and those produce the expected result. But running the exe file with IDL spawn does not produce the expected output. Hoping that someone can give me a clue what is missing here.
