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Subject: Re: Sound with IDL... HELP!

Posted by [david\[2\]](#) on Wed, 27 Jun 2001 14:43:08 GMT

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Alex Schuster writes:

> Okay, okay. I'm calm. Everything's just fine. I'm sure, someone will  
> tell me that I don't have a BIG, BIG problem.  
>  
> Because, hey, it's 2001, and of course it should be no problem to play  
> .wav files from IDL, right? Right.  
>  
> When I do a  
> spawn, 'wav.exe mywav.wav' ,  
> a big DOS window opens. If I use  
> spawn, 'start /min wav.exe mywav.wav' ,  
> it closes immediately, but it is still opened first for a short time.  
> I also see a small dialog telling me that IDL is spawning a command.  
>  
>  
> And this is just unacceptable! I want to show images to our patients  
> which are being tested, and I just cannot confuse them with appearing  
> and disappearing dialogs. No way.  
>  
> Any ideas? If not, I really don't know what to do now. And I have to  
> explain the doctors why the program I wrote this week is of no use.

Uh, how about the NOSHELL keyword to the SPAWN command.

Works in IDL 5.4. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: Sound with IDL... HELP!

Posted by [Alex Schuster](#) on Wed, 27 Jun 2001 15:16:04 GMT

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Now that was fast!

David Fanning wrote:

> Alex Schuster writes:

```
>> When I do a
>>     spawn, 'wav.exe mywav.wav' ,
>> a big DOS window opens. If I use
>>     spawn, 'start /min wav.exe mywav.wav' ,
>> it closes immediately, but it is still opened first for a short time.
```

Strange. Now, on the same computer, the DOS window doesn't appear. But I still see this:

```
>> I also see a small dialog telling me that IDL is spawning a command.
```

> Uh, how about the NOSHELL keyword to the SPAWN command.

That was my idea in the first place, but according to the help it works with the Unix version only.

> Works in IDL 5.4. :-)

You mean, in 5.4, I really do not get any nasty windows at all? It looks so, I downloaded the [whatsnew.pdf](#) from RSINC's website, and voila, there it is, the noshell keyword!

Okay, we install 5.4, and everything will be fine, I hope. Thanks!

Alex

--

Alex Schuster    Wonko@planet-interkom.de  
alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de

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Subject: Re: Sound with IDL... HELP!

Posted by [david\[2\]](#) on Fri, 29 Jun 2001 02:03:57 GMT

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Alex Schuster wrote the other day:

> Okay, we install 5.4, and everything will be fine, I hope. Thanks!

If you haven't gotten around to installing IDL 5.4, here is another alternative if you are running a Windows machine. I got this little gem in a round-about way (twice), but it comes originally from that Doyen of Dirty IDL Code, Peter Mason, in Australia.

It's a hack, it's not well documented, and you didn't get it from me. But it's fun, and it *\*does\** work just the way he said it would! :-)

It uses a DLL (winclip.dll) to read and execute WAV files, calling the Windows sound routines directly, rather than spawning a WAV player.

Here is a zip file. Extract it and read the directions in the winclip.readme file. Follow them, and then type:

```
IDL> wavdemo
```

Get ready for a trip down memory lane! :-)

You can find the files here:

<ftp://ftp.dfanning.com/pub/dfanning/outgoing/misc/wavdemo.zip>

Enjoy!

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Sound with IDL... HELP!

Posted by [wonko](#) on Fri, 29 Jun 2001 10:44:00 GMT

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David Fanning ([david@dfanning.com](mailto:david@dfanning.com)) writes:

> If you haven't gotten around to installing IDL 5.4,  
> here is another alternative if you are running a  
> Windows machine. I got this little gem in a round-about  
> way (twice), but it comes originally from that Doyen  
> of Dirty IDL Code, Peter Mason, in Australia.

> It's a hack, it's not well documented, and you didn't  
> get it from me. But it's fun, and it *\*does\** work just  
> the way he said it would! :-)

Sounds good :)

- > It uses a DLL (winclip.dll) to read and execute WAV files,
- > calling the Windows sound routines directly, rather than
- > spawning a WAV player.

> <ftp://ftp.dfanning.com/pub/dfanning/outgoing/misc/wavdemo.zip>

Thanks! I will have a look. I'd like to implement other features than sound in the future, but for now that's fine.

The other hint I got was to use Randall Frank's routines at [www.rkling.com/freeware/randallfrank.html](http://www.rkling.com/freeware/randallfrank.html).

Alex

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