
Subject: Re: Fortran + IDL

Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Tue, 14 Aug 2001 15:05:35 GMT

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In my opinion you are best to use C to wrap your Fortran functions as dynamic linked modules (DLMs). Ronn Kling has a nice book which introduces the concepts of DLM programming in IDL (<http://www.kilvarock.com/>) but it assumes you are somewhat familiar with some C. Calling Fortran functions from C is well discussed in the Sun Workshop documents (<http://tulip.atm.ox.ac.uk/~rhskelto/documents/fortran/fortran-C.pdf>). I don't think there are too many differences for Windows programming, but I am not sure.

If you aren't feeling that brave, you can look through the examples of 'call_external' in the IDL external development guide. At least this will avoid the writing of text files...

Cheers,
Randall

On 14 Aug 2001, Helena Kruger wrote:

> I am working in Fortran (with a complicated program) and IDL. Up to
> now I put the output of the fortran data in a text file, go to IDL,
> read the text file in IDL and draw the graphs. For every small change
> in fortran I have to go in and out the fortran program and IDL
> program. Will it be easier and better to use ActiveX or Callable IDL
> under Windows? How and where can I learn to make the linkage?
>
