
Subject: CALL_EXTERNAL simple problem ?
Posted by [the_cacc](#) on Wed, 14 Nov 2001 12:41:02 GMT
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Hi,

OK - I've finally bitten the bullet and am calling C from IDL. So far, it hurts a lot. I have the following simple code which gives a seg. fault and I'm really hoping someone can help !

C code

```
-----  
void test(float f[])  
{  
    f[0]=0.0;  
}
```

IDL code

```
-----  
PRO test  
f=[1.0,1.0]  
s=call_external('image.so','test',f)  
PRINT,f  
END
```

The C code compiles alright using the same flags as in the CALL_EXTERNAL examples, which incidentally work fine. I'm using IDL5.4 under Linux on Alpha.

Thanks,
Ciao.

Subject: Re: CALL_EXTERNAL simple problem ?
Posted by [the_cacc](#) on Fri, 16 Nov 2001 15:27:25 GMT
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> ...all of the examples I can find in chapter 7 of the IDL 5.3
> External Development Guide (EDG) show the C routines to have the form:
>
> function_name (int argc, void* argv[])
>

The IDL 5.0 advanced development guide p.57 was what stumped me (yeah,

old manual but the only one I had). It has a beautiful `sum_array` program that accepts arguments directly rather than by the command line type interface so I just assumed this was OK.

Now with **the knowledge** I notice that all other examples are in `(argc,argv)` form and a sentence on p.49 telling me that "Any routines called by `CALL_EXTERNAL` should be defined with a prototype similar to...[the `(argc,argv)` format]." Note "should" rather than "MUST AT ALL COSTS AND WITHOUT FAIL" and "similar to" rather than "EXACTLY, COMPLETELY IDENTICAL TO" !!

Ciao.
