
Subject: Re: idl running under server...

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Wed, 12 Jun 2002 18:52:43 GMT

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Guillaume Dargaud wrote:

>

> I wrote a perl script that takes form data and executes an idl program,
> returning graphics.

> It works fine when I run it from the command line, but idl doesn't do a
> thing under the server.

> Anyone has an idea ?

>

> The differences I could tell are:

> - different environment variables (no IDL_PATH, IDL_DIR)

> - different user/group (nobody/nobody).

When you execute the script

(1) Does IDL even start up? You may need to explicitly set up the IDL environment in the script , e.g.

```
source /usr/local/rsi/idl/bin/idl_setup
```

or

```
./usr/local/rsi/idl/bin/idl_setup.ksh
```

(2) Is an X client available when the script runs? If your IDL code is creating graphics and you are not using the Z-buffer, then an X-client must be available in order for graphics windows to be created. This is why people often use the Z-buffer instead of graphics windows when running scripts that call IDL in the background.

I recommend trying a very small IDL test program first to make sure your setup is working. For example, create a plot, and save it to a JPEG file.

Cheers,

Liam.

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