Subject: call_external, passing string (in unix)
Posted by stl on Thu, 30 Jun 1994 13:27:16 GMT
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hello,

I have been learning/testing/playing with call external the last few
days. PAssing strings, numbers, structures to and from some C routines
on my sparc 10 running Sun OS . My question is this:
 Is it possible to pass a string by reference, and redefine it
 in the shared object library as a longer string? (if so, do you
 use the field stype and set it to 1???) I have made numerous
 attempts at this, but it seems that you are limitted to the size of
 the passed in string (from IDL) or shorter. Even when I 'realloc'
 (char *) s IDL dumps core, or get a bus error. (not surprising
 really)

 I guess i am asking if I have to pass in a large string that is
 bigger then my expected data? Also, if you reduce the size of the
 string, does anyone have experience of weather this will lead to
 large memory fragmentation.

I guess as a side note, I am dreamingly hoping that some version will
someday appear where IDL will allow you to type cast returned variables
from routines called with call external. Anyone ever heasrd of any
plans for this?   (or think its a usefull or really stupid idea?)

thanks for the help/insight with the string struff.

 -stephen
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