
Subject: IDL call_external to sprlib ?

Posted by [zweimuel](#) on Thu, 30 Mar 1995 08:00:00 GMT

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I would like to include a C-library into a IDL-program via the call_external function. The sprlib is a library which does a lot of classification tasks, which I need and I would like to visualize the results in IDL.

Now to the problem:

I compiled the library (sprlib.a) and made a shared library with "ld -shared -all sprlib.a -o sprlib-so". Then I wrote a little C-program, which calls the desired function of the sprlib and is itself called from IDL with call_external.

IDL can find all functions and starts the sprlib. So far no problem. When I want to read a dataset, the program crashes with a segmentation fault and core dumped, but only if the dataset has more than about 5 samples. With a little dataset everything works fine and the program ends properly.

When I call my little testprogram from another C-program without IDL, it can load all datasets without any problem.

As far as I could trace the problem the routine crashes within sprlib when it gets memory for a vector (malloc_sample()).

I use IDL Version 3.6.1a (IRIX mipseb) and the newest sprlib on a SGI IRIS Indigo.

My questions:

Has anybody successfully included sprlib into IDL?

Are there any limitations to the call_external function? (I could allocate MB's of memory without any problem)

How can I find the source of the problem, how to debug ?

Which problems did you have with call_external and C ?

Any help is welcome.

BTW, I have read the docs in ../misc/dynamic_link and chapter 18 of the user-documentation.

Hoping for help, Charly

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