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Subject: spawning Fortran executables

Posted by [Derek Philip Brown](#) on Fri, 17 Dec 2010 18:30:38 GMT

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I'm running IDL 6.4 in a UNIX environment (not my call to make). I often run batch files to call several subroutines that run water vapor models. I also use spawn in those batch files to move other files around, and other things. In general, I find idl (or spawn) waits for the UNIX command to complete before continuing to the next batch file program called.

Ok fine. The question is this. If I use spawn, 'model1' where model1 is an executable that runs a Fortran program, will IDL know to wait for that to finish before continuing to the next batch file command. It is tough for me to test this, since model1 takes about 3/4 of a day to run. I'm actually not terribly gifted at Fortran, so I can't really whip up a test program either. The reason why I want this to work is so that after model1 runs, I can update the F90 files using string processing through the batch file, recompile, and rerun model1 for another scenario. Essentially, model1 will have to run 30 times for 30 different years....and I have other stuff to do :)

I am aware I could use idl's wait to make sure there is enough time, but the time it takes for the model to run varies with other users on the machine....so it would really be a guess.

Does anyone know if IDL will automatically wait for the Fortran model to run?

Cheers

Derek

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