
Subject: Re: problem with call_external()
Posted by [steinhh](#) on Thu, 05 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <44va4a\$khrr@apakabar.cc.columbia.edu>, chs11@inibara.cc.columbia.edu (Carl H Sayres) writes:

```
> I'm trying to pass a two dimensional array of floats to an ansi C function.  
> I can successfully pass a 1-d array, but 2-d doesn't want to work.  
> Here's what I'm doing (in an abbreviated form)  
>  
> ;; idlprogram.pro ;;  
> pro idlprogram  
> a=fltarr(400,100)  
> b=fltarr(8)  
> m=long(400)  
> n=long(100)  
> l=long(8)  
> ;some code to put data into a and b...  
> dummy = call_external('cfunc.so','_cfunc',a,b,m,n,l)  
> end  
>  
> /* CFUNC.C  
> */  
> void cfunc(int argc, void **argv)  
> {  
> float ** a;  
> float * b;  
> int m,n,l;  
>  
> a = (float **) argv[0]; /* this doesn't work */
```

A two-dimensional array is still just an array -- no extra level of indirection is implied. You're treating a as if it was passed to your routine in the form of an array of pointers to each row (or column). This is not the case. Only one pointer is passed, and element a(i,j) can be found in your C program by the expression *(a + i + j*n).

Stein Vidar

Subject: Re: problem with call_external()
Posted by [chs11](#) on Fri, 06 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <450kgr\$2tq@hermod.uio.no>,
Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan <steinhh@amon.uio.no> wrote:
> In article <44va4a\$khrr@apakabar.cc.columbia.edu>, chs11@inibara.cc.columbia.edu (Carl H Sayres) writes:

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> can be found in your C program by the expression *(a + i + j*n).

I'm passing the 2-d array to another function which is expecting a
float **. Can I create a *float[], and fill in the values ?

eg. for an m by n matrix:

```
float ** list;  
list = (float **) malloc(sizeof(float *) * m);  
for(i=0;i<m;i++) list[i] = (a + i*m);
```

will that work?

Carl

Subject: Re: problem with call_external()
Posted by [steinhh](#) on Mon, 09 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <4527dn\$a8r@apakabar.cc.columbia.edu>, chs11@aloha.cc.columbia.edu (Carl H Sayres) writes:

```
|>  
|> In article <450kgr$2tq@hermod.uio.no>,  
|> Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan <steinhh@amon.uio.no> wrote:  
|> >In article <44va4a$khrr@apakabar.cc.columbia.edu>, chs11@inibara.cc.columbia.edu (Carl H  
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|> eg. for an m by n matrix:  
|> float ** list;  
|> list = (float **) malloc(sizeof(float *) * m);  
|> for(i=0;i<m;i++) list[i] = (a + i*m);  
|>
```

|> will that work?

|>

If I understand your description correctly, the answer is yes.

The way I understand it is that your function expects a pointer to a table of pointers to floats. Each pointer in the table points to one row or column in the two-dimensional array.

It could be, however, that your function expects a pointer to *just one* pointer that points to the whole, contiguous table of values. In that case, use (float **) &argv[0] as the argument to the function.

Stein Vidar
