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Subject: Re: IDL app launched from an icon  
Posted by [hellman](#) on Fri, 25 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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This is easy on MacOS. Write an AppleScript that looks like:

```
tell application "IDL"
  do script " ignoredResult = anyIDLProcedure() "
end tell
```

compile and save as an application. You are done.

If you want the user to supply arguments (like an input file) try this:

```
set inputFile to choose file
tell application "IDL"
  do script " ignoredResult = anyIDLProcedure( path to inputFile ) "
end tell
```

If you are not using a Mac, God help you.

- Olof

>  
> do you know of a way to allow a user to simply double click on an icon on  
> the desktop, which compiles and runs an idl procedure automatically without  
> any further effort by the user?

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Subject: Re: IDL app launched from an icon  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Sat, 26 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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Charlie Solomon ([crsolomon@west.raytheon.com](mailto:crsolomon@west.raytheon.com)) writes:

> do you know of a way to allow a user to simply double click on an icon on  
> the desktop, which compiles and runs an idl procedure automatically without  
> any further effort by the user? in other words, i'd like to make an idl  
> procedure act as a separate application. i searched through the help pages,  
> but didn't find what i was looking for. thanks in advance for any advice!

I presume this is one a Windows machine. Here is how I do this on my WindowsNT machine.

1. I write a "main" program that calls my application program. Suppose I want to run my XSurface program on my web page. The Main program is written like this:

PRO Main

XSurface  
END

2. Open a \*new\* IDL session and type these commands:

```
IDL> .Compile Main  
IDL> Resolve_All
```

Since this is a program that uses objects, I must also explicitly compile all of my 'object'\_\_define.pro files, since Resolve\_All doesn't think about these files:

```
IDL> .Compile Trackball__Define
```

3. Save all the compiled modules in a "save" file:

```
IDL> Save, /Routines, Filename='main.sav'
```

4. Exit IDL.

5. If I just want to run the XSurface application, I can now just double-click the main.sav program name with my mouse. If you have difficulty with this step it may be because the \*.sav file extension is not associated with the run-time version of IDL in the registry. If it is not, open the NT Explorer application, find the View|Options menu, go to the File Types tab, and make sure the association is set up correctly. (I believe, although I am not sure, that in Windows 95 the File Types association may be accessed from a Control Panel program rather from the File Manager. See your Windows 95 documentation.)

6. If I want to make this file have a different icon (I.e., an "application" icon), I make a shortcut to the main.sav file. Then I right-click on the shortcut, select the Properties menu item, select the Shortcut tab, and click the Change Icon button to select an icon more indicative of my application. I probably also give the shortcut a really nifty name, like "PowerVis" or something. :-)

7. When I run the application, I just see my widget program running. There is no evidence of IDL at all.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: IDL app launched from an icon  
Posted by [krieger](#) on Sat, 26 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <6uh076\$7oc@hacgate2.hac.com>, "Charlie Solomon"  
<crsolomon@west.raytheon.com> wrote:  
> Can someone help with this?...

> do you know of a way to allow a user to simply double click on an icon on  
> the desktop, which compiles and runs an idl procedure automatically without  
> any further effort by the user? in other words, i'd like to make an idl  
> procedure act as a separate application. i searched through the help pages,  
> but didn't find what i was looking for. thanks in advance for any advice!

For Windows, create a link to IDL on your desktop (simply copy the IDL  
icon from the start menu folder to the desktop folder).

Write a short IDL script "startapp" to start your program:

=====

```
cd, "appdir" ; needed because IDL 5.1 doesn't recognize the working  
; directory in the link property sheet anymore  
restore, "myapp.sav"
```

```
myapp ; the main routine of your application
```

```
exit
```

=====

In the link property sheet modify the "Target" slot, e.g.:

```
C:\Rsi\idl51\ldlde.exe @appdir\startapp
```

In the "startapp" script you could also, instead of restoring the  
precompiled application, directly run the compilation itself.

Simply replace the line with the restore command by

compile myapp1.pro  
compile myapp2.pro  
etc. pp.

Hope that helps.

Karl

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Disclaimer: I do not speak for the IPP despite my mouth is big enough.

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Subject: Re: IDL app launched from an icon  
Posted by [hellman](#) on Mon, 28 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <hellman-2509981817040001@images.ms.nwu.edu>, hellman@ksan.ms.nwu.edu (Olof Hellman) wrote:

```
> If you want the user to supply arguments (like an input file) try this:  
>  
> set inputFile to choose file  
> tell application "IDL"  
>   do script " ignoredResult = anyIDLProcedure( path to inputFile ) "  
> end tell  
>
```

Silly me. What you want is:

```
set inputFile to path to (choose file)  
tell application "IDL"  
  do script " ignoredResult = anyIDLProcedure(inputFile ) "  
end tell
```

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