

Re: getting env. variables in gfortran...

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Fortran/comp.lang.fortran/2006-04/msg00440.html>

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On Thu, 13 Apr 2006, icksal@xxxxxxxx wrote:

Hi:

I'm trying to compile a code in gfortran that needs to know the values of several environment variables...I was wondering if there was a function, like `getenv`, that would return the values, something like...

```
path = getenv("PATH") or  
call getenv("PATH",path)
```

Be careful what you ask for.

Rather than ask: "how can I do XXX in gfortan/ifort/icc/...?" it is generally better to ask: "is there a well documented, well engineered, and portable library that provides the functionality I need across a reasonable set of platforms?". This should lead you to consider using:

```
subroutine pxfgetenv( name, lenname, value, lenval, ierror )
```

```
c subroutine pxfgetenv() is described in section 4.6.1. the  
c character length conventions are described in section 2.3.2.4.
```

```
c
```

```
c name [in] environment variable to be matched.
```

```
c lenname [in] length of name. if 0, trim trailing spaces.
```

```
c value [out] value of the variable.
```

```
c lenval [out] length of value. if 0, name was matched but no value.
```

```
c ierror [out] return code. 0 for success.
```

```
c EINVAL if not in the environment list.
```

```
c ETRUNC if value required truncation.
```

```
c -1 for other errors.
```

```
c
```

Google for "pxfgetenv" gives pages of hits (curiously, "libpxf" gets none). SGI's <http://techpubs.sgi.com> is a good place to read the IRIX man pages.

Gfortran almost certainly implements "getenv" functionality in some idiosyncratic, undocumented, and potentially unsafe (in the sense of not checking that the buffer is long enough to hold "\$PATH") way. Walter Spector recently asked on this list for expressions of interest in his implementation of the POSIX bindings for

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Fortran, libpxf.

Ron Shepard also implemented some of the pxf functions. I've used his library wqith g77 on OS/2, Win16, and NeXtStep, assorted unixes, and linux. Now I'm using it with g95 on linux.

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