
Subject: Re: functions considered as variables
Posted by [Selwyn Yee](#) on Fri, 06 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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I've seen this before. It happens when, in your .pro file, you are trying to call a function which has not yet been compiled. Either the function is in a different module, or is in the same .pro file, but below your calling statement.

Because IDL is an interpretive language, it executes and/or compiles the code in your .pro file from top to bottom. Your function call:

```
junk = getlatlon(alt_gps)
```

looks just like you are subscribing an array, if IDL hasn't yet compiled your function getlatlon.

The solution is to use the forward_function command in IDL. The syntax is:

```
forward_function function1, function2, ...
```

So for you, you would precede your function call with:

```
forward_function getlatlon
```

Hope this does the trick for you.

--

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gbust@arlut.utexas.edu wrote:

```
>  
> This might be related to my previous post - I don't know. Anyway, I am  
> buzzing away, my driver code calling other routines just fine. I have  
> compiled a .pro file that has a bunch of routines in it, and all of a sudden,  
> I am stopped in my driver routine at:  
>           junk = getlatlon(alt_gps)  
> with the error notice: variable getlatlon not found.  
>
```

> So I do a help, and sure enough it says getlatlon is a function. So, before
> returning to main, i.e. right where the code stopped, I just type the above
> from the command line - and it works fine. What gives?
>
> Thanks a lot in advance.
>
> -Gary
>
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