Subject: Re: function in function Posted by Mark Hadfield on Thu, 11 Oct 2001 21:14:13 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

From: "Steve Smith<steven_smith>" <nobody@nowhere.com>

- > I wrote a function in my IDL program which opens a proprietary file format
- > and dumps the data into an array, as I had to do it many times, I wrote this
- > as a function. In this function, I find I had to convert fixed-point binary
- > numbers to floats, so I wrote a second function wich does this. it is
- > within the first function. it all works fine, but when I first start IDL, and
- > compile, the program fails with an undefined reference to the second function.
- > after the second compile, it works fine. I inserted the FORWARD FUNCTION
- > statement in the 1st function, and then the problem went away.

To avoid these problems, either

* Put each function in a separate .pro file (with name = <function_name>.pro) and make sure both are on your path.

or if you don't want to call the second function from anywhere but inside your first function

* Put the first function in a .pro file (name = first_function.pro) then add the code for your second function BEFORE THIS in the file. In this case it's best to give the second function a name based on the first function name so it won't clash with anything else (eg first_function_binary_to_float)

The reason for putting auxiliary functions first is that when IDL is trying to resolve first function it searches for first function.pro then compiles it, stopping when it has found the code for first function. Any later code in the file is ignored.

Mark Hadfield m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research

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