Subject: nested subroutines and scope
Posted by Christopher W. O'Dell on Thu, 24 Jan 2002 22:56:30 GMT

This is a two-part question from an IDL newbie.

1) Is it possible to nest procedures or functions in IDL?
2) If the answer to (1) is yes, is there anyway to give certain
variables global scope within the primary procedure/function,
so they can be "seen" by all the nested procedures/functions
within the main function?

I used to do this all the time in pascal. Some pseudo-code might be
as follows:

```
function mainfunc, x, a1

  function subfunc, y
    return, a1 * y^2
  end ; subfunc

return, subfunc(x) * subfunc(x^2)

end ; mainfunc
```

If you think this is terrible programming practice (which it probably
is), can anyone suggest a better way, without having to pass
all the global variables as parameters?

Thanks,
Chris O'Dell