
Subject: Re: Function compiles, but get message as if it's not
Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Tue, 21 Sep 2004 23:58:00 GMT
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If you do ".compile taco", IDL will search for a file "taco.pro" in your path and compile it, recognizing all procedures and functions in the file.

If you do "taco, parameters, /keywords", IDL will search for a file "taco.pro" in your path and compile everything until it finds a PROCEDURE taco. Anything following that won't be compiled. A FUNCTION taco won't be recognized.

If you do "result = taco(...)", IDL will search for a file "taco.pro" in your path and compile everything until it finds a FUNCTION taco. Anything following that won't be compiled. A PROCEDURE taco won't be recognized.

So, make sure the function / procedure which has the same name as the file is the last one in the file. This will normally be your "main" function / procedure. If other functions / procedures are called (needed) exclusively by that "main" one, put them into the same file, but above. If any function / procedure might be needed more often, put them into their own file.

Good luck,
Benjamin

Pesto wrote:

> Hello,
> I'm having a problem with an IDL program. Within the program I have a
> function that converts a number into a string in the return value. The first
> time I compile and run the program (everything is in a single .PRO file), it
> stops with an error when the call to that function it encountered. It claims
> the function is not recognized. I stop the program, recompile, and upon
> rerunning the program, it does not stop with that error, but executes the
> function as expected. Is there some required sequence of functions and
> procedures within the program? Or is there something else I don't understand
> (I'm pretty new at IDL programming)?
> Thanks for any clues.
> Chris
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