
Subject: Re: Anonymous Math Functions in IDL like Matlab

Posted by [rtk](#) on Thu, 03 Mar 2011 23:13:33 GMT

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I wrote a bunch of higher-order function stuff for IDL awhile back and included a hack that simulated a lambda function. Basically, it defined the function on the fly and returned a string with the actual name. You then used this with the higher-order function (or any function). So, for your example,

```
square = lambda('x:x^2')
```

but to use it directly:

```
ans = call_function(square, 4)
```

Outside the context of a higher-order function, this isn't really that useful. Still, if you want the code, I'll send it, just email me "oneelkrns" "hotmail" "com". The higher-order functions were DLMS for Linux and Windows, 32-bit only.

Also, you can define a procedure/function in IDL from the command line. No need to quit and type a new file:

```
IDL> .run
- function square, x
-   return, x*x
- end
% Compiled module: SQUARE.
IDL> print, square(4)
```

Perhaps what you are really looking for?

Ron
