
Subject: Re: calling a user-named procedure
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 15 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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Eddie Haskell <haskell@ccpo.odu.edu> writes:

- > i would like to be able to call a procedure whose name is
- > given by the user during execution.
- > i have tried different syntaxes of execute and call_procedure but to no avail.
- > either i am just not phrasing things correctly, or i am on the wrong track.
- > does anyone know if this can be done, and if so, how?

Here is an example that works.

```
PRO STUFF, filename, numLines
```

```
    ; Open the file, read and print the specified number of lines.
```

```
OPENR, lun, filename, /GET_LUN
fileInfo = STRARR(numLines)
READF, lun, fileInfo
FREE_LUN, lun
PRINT,fileInfo
END ;-----
```

```
PRO ASK_FOR_STUFF
procedureName = ""
READ, procedureName, PROMPT='Enter name of procedure to call: '
filename = ""
READ, filename, PROMPT='Enter name of file to execute procedure on: '
CALL_PROCEDURE, procedureName, filename, 5
END ;-----
*****
```

I run it like this:

```
IDL> ASK_FOR_STUFF
Enter name of procedure to call: stuff
Enter name of file to execute procedure on: junk.pro

PRO JUNK, color
IF MAX(number) GT 255 OR MIN(number) LT 0 THEN $
MESSAGE, 'Argument values must be in range of 0-255'

base16 = [[1L, 16L], [256L, 4096L], [65536L, 1048576L]]
```

I think from your example, you may have been confused about

whether you wanted the name of the procedure as a string (which is what CALL_PROCEDURE wants) or the name of the file. I have shown both in this example so you can see the difference. Hope this sets you right.

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
2642 Bradbury Court, Fort Collins, CO 80521
Phone: 970-221-0438 Fax: 970-221-4762
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com>
