
Subject: Re: Functions calling functions
Posted by [rmmoss](#) on Wed, 25 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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I ran this little snippet of code that you provided, and it worked exactly as expected. I'm running IDL v4.0.1 on SunOS 4.1.3. You did not mention your OS or IDL version... perhaps that has something to do with it.

```
> function get_data, inputs
> ;=====
>
> forward_function define_struct ;define data structure
>
> data = define_struct( inputs )
>
> ; Other Code Goes Here
>
> return, data
>
> end
>
> ;=====
> ;
> ; Support Routines
> ;
> ;=====
> function define_struct, inputs
> ;=====
> data = 'test structures' ;Simplified things for test.
>
> return, data
>
> end
```

I got the following result, as expected:

```
idl>.run ~/idl/get_data
idl>print,get_data( 1 )
test structures
idl>
```

I'm not sure this is much help to you, but there you have it.

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This is not necessarily the opinion of Texaco Inc.

Subject: Re: Functions calling functions
Posted by [David S. Foster/Admin](#) on Thu, 26 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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The easiest way to get around this is to put functions that are referenced by other functions earlier in the source code, before the functions that reference them. In this way, they are compiled first.

If you are going to use the `forward_function` statement, I think you have to give it global scope (don't put it within the context of a function). Just an idea, I've never used this statement. I've just always made sure functions which are called later on in the source file appear first.

David Foster

>
> My question is, why can't I seem to have a function call a function
> that is defined within the same text file. It would seem that this
> should be possible.
>