Subject: Re: functions considered as variables Posted by Andy Loughe on Wed, 04 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

gbust@arlut.utexas.edu wrote:

- > This might be related to my previous post I don't know. Anyway, I am
- > buzzing away, my driver code calling other routines just fine. I have
- > compliled a .pro file that has a bunch of routines in it, and all of a sudden,
- > I am stopped in my driver routine at:
- junk = getlatlon(alt gps) >
- > with the error notice: variable getlation not found.

>

- > So I do a help, and sure enough it says getlation is a function. So, before
- > returning to main, i.e. right where the code stopped, I just type the above
- > from the command line and it works fine. What gives?

What version of IDL are you using? Maybe the getlation function could be "compiled" in your startup.pro. Also, take a look at this paragraph from IDL's on-line help...

This problem can be eliminated by using the FORWARD_FUNCTION statement. This statement has the following syntax:

FORWARD FUNCTION Name1, Name2, ..., NameN

where Name is the name of a function that has not yet been compiled. Any names declared as forward-defined functions will be interpreted as functions (instead of as variable names) for the duration of the IDL session.

For example, we can resolve the ambiguity in the previous example by adding a FORWARD FUNCTION definition:

FORWARD FUNCTION XYZ :Define XYZ as the name of a function that has not yet been compiled.

a = XYZ(1, COLOR=1):IDL now understands this statement to be a function call instead of a bad variable reference.

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"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us with

sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forego their use."

-Galileo