Subject: Re: translating an array name to a string Posted by Craig Markwardt on Thu, 19 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

David Williams <d.williams@qub.ac.uk> writes:

> Alex Schuster wrote:
>> David Williams wrote:
>> Hi. This is probably a very basic IDL question, so apologies if that's >>> the case. I'm looking for a way to translate the name of an array (e.g. >>> "DATACUBE1") into a string that I can use in titles and/or in feedback >>> at the prompt. I want to make my routines more user-friendly, and I hate >>> forcing a title
>> Have a look at the OUTPUT keyword to HELP: >>
> Vielen Dank, Alex! That was just what I needed.
Pardon me, but if you know the name of your variable already, then it seems that you don't really have a problem. If you know the variable name is MOVIE, then why not hardcode that into the output string?
On the other hand, if you are in a procedure or function, it might indeed be useful to know the name of variable at the *caller's* level. In that case you would want to use the ROUTINE_NAMES function, which is unfortunately undocumented.
I have documented what I and the newsgroup have discovered about this very useful function. You will find it here:
http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html
listed under Introspection.
Good luck! Craig
Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives Remove "net" for better response