
Subject: translating an array name to a string

Posted by [David Williams](#) on Thu, 19 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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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

Say I want to display a frame from a movie of images, called MOVIE. I use tvim, and I currently say something like:

```
tvim,MOVIE[*,*],i,$
title='frame No.'+ARR2STR(i,/trim)+' of your datacube'.
```

(ARR2STR is a SolarSoftWare IDL routine which turns variable values into strings, and the TRIM keyword removes unnecessary spaces - very handy!)

What I'd like to be able to do is say:

```
...
title='frame No.'+ARR2STR(i,/trim)+' of '+ARRNAME2STRING(movie)
```

so that I can instantly show which array I'm looking at, as well as which frame.

Nothing obvious springs to my mind, so I thought I'd ask this newsgroup.

Thanks in advance for any help,
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