
Subject: Re: turn a string value into variable name

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2008 13:34:29 GMT

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loebasboy writes:

> On 23 okt, 23:56, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

>> Nick writes:

>>> I am restoring over 100 .sav files and creating structures for

>>> analysis. =A0Each .sav represents a differencnt scenario and ideally I

>>> would like to name the created structure in sequential format (case1,

>>> case2...casen).

>>

>>> To pull the data in I am using a for loop (all .sav have identical

>>> array names) and I'd like to use the counter to name the variable. =A0I=

> s

>>> it possible to turn a string into a variable name?

>>

>> The EXECUTE command can do this:

>

> Thank you David, I had the same question !

I'm glad the answer is helpful, but I would say in general that 9 people out of 10 who are writing code like this are *probably* doing the wrong thing. That is to say, the good reasons for creating variables on the fly, inside a procedure, are few and far between. I'd look pretty hard for alternatives before I ever coded something like this up.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Seppure ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
