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Subject: Re: Generating keyword parameters from strings  
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 22 Jul 2009 22:55:06 GMT  
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Eric Hudson wrote:

```
> Hi,  
>  
> I guess I was unclear, sorry.  
>  
> What I mean is that I want to take a string and turn it into a  
> keyword. So continuing my above example:  
>  
>  
> function GetProperty, object, propertyName  
> ; The below line is pseudocode -- what I want  
> object->GetProperty, 'propertyName'=value  
> ; using execute I'd say:  
> ; ok = execute('object->GetProperty, '+propertyName+'=value')  
> ; but I'm wondering if there is another way to do this  
> ; that will work when execute is forbidden  
> return, value  
> end  
>  
> pro TestGet  
> myObj = obj_new('IDLgrPalette')  
> myvalue = GetProperty(myObj, 'N_COLORS')  
> ; Should be functionally equivalent to  
> ; myObj->GetProperty, N_colors=myValue  
> end  
>  
> That is, my 'GetProperty' function has to take the string 'N_COLORS'  
> and then call the GetProperty method using that STRING as a reference  
> keyword. It is this functionality that I'm interested in (I'm just  
> using GetProperty as an example).
```

I don't think this is possible without a) using EXECUTE or b) writing a temporary IDL .pro file. I messed around with the REF\_EXTRA keyword to SCOPE\_VARFETCH, but I couldn't get what you wanted.

Mike

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