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Subject: Re: Evaluate a string as a variable name  
Posted by [laurel](#) on Tue, 04 May 2010 14:48:28 GMT  
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Brilliant! Thanks so much.  
-Laurel

On May 3, 4:24 pm, mgalloy <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

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> On 5/3/10 4:02 PM, laurel wrote:
>
>
>
>> I have a structure that has multiple name/value pairs, and I want to
>> extract the value that corresponds with the name. However, I am only
>> passing in a string of the name, not the structure.name, so I need a
>> way to combine the two such that I am evaluating the string. It might
>> be easier to explain with an example:
>
>> ***
>> ;create a simple structure
>> struct={name1:9, $
>>         name2:5, $
>>         name3:1}
>
>> ;variable that matches the part of the structure I want
>> x='name2'
>
>> ;create a string that if it were a variable, it would be part of the
>> structure, 'struct.name2'
>> y='struct'+ '.'+x
>
>> ;want to have z=5, or z=struct.name2 rather than z='struct.name2'
>> ;Here evaluate stands in for whatever I would do to make that happen
>> z=evaluate(y)
>> ***
>
>> Does anyone know how to make z equal to the value corresponding with
>> struct.name2?
>
> How about this:
>
> x = 'name2'
> struct = { name1:9, $
>          name2:5, $
>          name3:1 }
> names = tag_names(struct)
> ind = where(strucase(x) eq names, count)
> if (count gt 0L) then z = struct.(ind[0])
```

>  
> Mike  
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