
Subject: Evaluate a string as a variable name

Posted by [laurel](#) on Mon, 03 May 2010 22:02:57 GMT

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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?
