
Subject: Re: IDL- variable variable names
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 07 Nov 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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I wrote in a previous article:

```
> But..., I got about this close:
>
> FUNCTION MAGIC, file
> number = 0
> ok = EXECUTE(file + ' = 0')
> RESTORE, file
> RETURN, number
> END
>
> IDL> a = 10
> IDL> number = a
> IDL> Save, a, number, Filename='a'
> IDL> b = 'a'
> IDL> c = Magic(b)
> IDL> IF c EQ 10 THEN Print, "It's magic!"
>
>     It's magic!
```

Here is an obvious modification that I overlooked that nudges it even closer. And I added some help for the 8.3 crowd! :-)

```
FUNCTION MAGIC, file
number = 0
RESTORE, file + '.sav'
RETURN, number
END

IDL> a = 10
IDL> number = a
IDL> Save, number, Filename='a.sav'
IDL> b = 'a'
IDL> c = Magic(b)
IDL> IF c EQ 10 THEN Print, "It's magic!"

     It's magic!
```

This almost borders on the useful now. What do you have in mind for this, Hendrik?

David

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* Sometimes I go about pitying myself, and all along my
* soul is being blown by great winds across the sky.
* -- Ojibway saying
