
Subject: Re: name a variable with number
Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Tue, 04 Feb 2014 14:09:16 GMT
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Hi,

On 04.02.2014 14:57, David Fanning wrote:

> I think in the hands of someone who knows what they are doing this can
> be a powerful programming technique. I rarely see it used in those kind
> of hands.:-)

what David means is that most experienced programmers probably never even **needed** to create a variable dynamically.

If the technique is available, this does not mean this technique is suitable for your problem. If you think you need X variables named var_0, var_1, ---, var_X than the algorithm you are thinking of is probably not the best one.

In this case, a list (for IDL8+) or a pointer array (all versions) is probably a better solution.

For example:

```
var = PTRARR(25)
for j=0, 24 do var[j]=PTR_NEW(whatever_you_want_to_put_inside)
```

Fab
