
Subject: Re: name a variable with number
Posted by [Fabzi](#) on Tue, 04 Feb 2014 18:00:29 GMT
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On 04.02.2014 18:28, rjp23@le.ac.uk wrote:
> Is there a better (generic) way of doing this?

I am not an expert enough, but if you are using a loop to generate variables dynamically, and then using a loop again somewhere else to read them, then you use the variables as "data holder" and this "data holder" could be anything else. You have created a variable `modelB_variableA`, what do you do with it afterwards? How do you check later in your code that `ModelX_VariableY` is available to continue processing?

This is much easier to test if you have a variable, say, `ModelVar` as a pointer array and check if `ModelVar[X,Y]` is a valid pointer, for example.

For the problem you describe, `HASH()` in IDL 8+ could quite adapted. For earlier versions, I guess a solution based on structures and/or pointers could work.

There is nothing "wrong" in generating variables dynamically, it just makes code difficult to understand and to debug. If you have something that works, it's probably not necessary to change your code now, I guess...
