
Subject: Dynamically naming structures in IDL

Posted by [Scheherazade](#) on Wed, 29 Jul 2015 17:08:50 GMT

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I have a structure, 'omni_gen', which is filled with data for 2011, 2012, and 2013. In my program, I pull data out based on year (which is input) using a where statement, create variables for the selected data, and run these variables through a routine which outputs a new set of variables. I want to save these new variables to a structure, so I can later concatenate them together to plot.

I first save my structure to a different filename each time:

```
year=strcompress(string(year), /remove_all)
```

```
new_variables=create_struct('new_globtec_'+year, new_globtec, 'new_day_'+year,  
new_day_numb, 'new_f10_'+year, new_f10_data, $  
  'new_ap_'+year, new_ap_data, 'new_smf10_'+year, new_smf10)
```

```
save, new_variables, filename='/Users/me/Documents/omni_general_'+year+'.sav'
```

When I go to concatenate the structures, I restore these files and manually rename the corresponding new_variables structure each time, like so:

```
restore, '/Users/keleuterio/Documents/omni_2011.sav'  
new_variables=omni_data_2011
```

But this obviously isn't automated. Is there a different way to do this so that the structure itself will have a different name each time (ex: new_structure_2011, new_structure_2012)?
