
Subject: Re: Dynamically naming structures in IDL
Posted by [Scheherazade](#) on Thu, 30 Jul 2015 14:04:58 GMT
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On Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 5:16:43 PM UTC-4, wlandsman wrote:

> Oops that should be

>

> status = execute("save, ' + newname +', file =
'/Users/me/Documents/omni_general_'+year+'.sav' ")

>>

>

> On Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 4:46:02 PM UTC-4, wlandsman wrote:

>> What if you also put the SAVE statement in execute()

>>>

>>> status = execute("save, newname, file = '/Users/me/Documents/omni_general_'+year+'.sav' ")

>>>

>>> On Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 3:12:17 PM UTC-4, Scheherazade wrote:

>>>> On Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 2:23:10 PM UTC-4, wlandsman wrote:

>>>>> If I understand correctly, you could use EXECUTE() to rename your structure:

>>>>>

>>>>> newname = 'new_structure_' + year

>>>>> status = execute(newname + '= TEMPORARY(new_variables)')

>>>>> save, newname, filename = '/Users/me/Documents/omni_general_'+year+'.sav'

>>>>>

>>>>>

>>>>> On Wednesday, July 29, 2015 at 1:08:52 PM UTC-4, Scheherazade wrote:

>>>>> > 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)?
>>>
>>> That successfully renamed the structure while in the program, but it doesn't work when I restore the file later (since it saves newname, not the new structure).

IDL responded with a "syntax error" on the save. I've been removing/adding quotation marks within that line to fix it, but it gives the same error message each time. I also tried saving the two commands as strings, then executing them (which is how execute is used in the Exelis Vis help page <http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/EXECUTE.html>):

```
status = execute( newname + '= TEMPORARY(new_variables)' )  
status1=('save' + "newname + file='/Users/keleuterio/Documents/omni_general_' + year + '.sav'")  
status2=execute("status1")
```

But IDL responds with "% Attempt to call undefined procedure/function: 'STATUS1'". I think that it's mostly a matter of putting the quotation marks in the right place, but I don't fully understand how the Execute command recognizes the difference between a procedure (such as save) and a string (such as the filepath).
