Subject: Re: turn a string value into variable name
Posted by Markus Schmassmann on Fri, 02 Jun 2017 09:59:53 GMT

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On 06/02/2017 12:48 AM, laura.hike@gmail.com wrote:
> So now I want to do this in order to use a loop to add lines to a plot and then make a legend. I need the plot names to all be different so I can use them in the "target" argument, but I can otherwise make the plot commands identical, e.g.,
>
> p1 = plot(xbin, pdf, color = linecolors[nsea], thick = 2, name = seanames[nsea], /overplot)
>
> Based on David's comment, I tried
>
> execute('p5 = plot(xbin, pdf, color = linecolors[nsea-1], thick = 2, name = seanames[nsea-1], /overplot)')
>
> but this didn't do anything except return a "1". I'm really not excited about putting in a plot command (with an 'if' statement' for each of the lines I want to overplot.

I don't see why you'd use an EXECUTE here, try the code below

```
pp=objarr(n_lines)
for nsea=0,n_lines-1 do if <condition> then pp[nsea]=plot( xbin, pdf, $
    color = linecolors[nsea-1], thick = 2, name = seanames[nsea-1], $
    /overplot )
l=legend(target=pp)
```

If this doesn't help, please explain in more detail what you want to do, it's now fully clear from your post.

Good Luck,   Markus

PS: The main topic of this thread is mostly obsolete as of IDL 8.0 with the introduction of HASH