Subject: best way to find the variable name of a structure from RESTORE-ing a sav file
Posted by Robert Stockwell on Fri, 20 Sep 2002 15:54:29 GMT

anyone have good ideas on how to programatically find
the name of a variable in memory, that happens to be
a structure. The reason I don't know the name is that I
am restoring a structure from an IDL sav file. The structure
is the only thing in the sav file.

For instance, I am writing a function like:

function readsavdata, filename

restore,filename=filename

; here I have a structure in memory, with a variable name I do not know.

help
; next line is the result of the help command
; IDL> NWS_MMT_FCAST_TEMPERATURE_ARRAY   STRUCT   = -> <Anonymous>
Array[950040]

return, ?????? ; i need the name of this structure

end ; end of function

How do I get this variable name "NWS_MMT_FCAST_TEMPERATURE_ARRAY" so I can
put in a line like

return,NWS_MMT_FCAST_TEMPERATURE_ARRAY

at the end of the function. I suppose I can capture and parse the help
command and issue an execute command, but there must be a way to find that info
that is a little nicer.

Cheers,

bob