
Subject: Renaming a variable in IDL?

Posted by [peterberg79](#) on Fri, 24 Aug 2007 07:28:30 GMT

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Hi,

I am writing a procedure for automatically saving some variables from more advanced programs for easy access later on. Something along the lines of:

```
PRO, SAVPRO, XVAR, Fname  
save, XVAR, filename=Fname  
end
```

So if I want to save the file 'YVAR' to filename 'YVAR.sav' I would call:

```
SAVPRO, YVAR, 'YVAR.sav'
```

The problem is that in the save file the variable would be called XVAR instead of YVAR, which is a problem for me.

I realized that I can retrieve the original variable name as a string and include it to the SAVPRO call. But then I got lost on how to rename a variable to a string name. I was thinking there might be something along the lines of using echo in unix (echo \$STRYVAR=XVAR'), but I have found no such function.

My question is: Is it possible to rename a variable in IDL automatically? Or is there a better way to do all this?
