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Subject: procedure with arbitrary parameter  
Posted by [Evianis Cruz](#) on Mon, 30 May 2011 16:53:38 GMT  
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So in my procedure call I have something like this

```
pro test, filename, var
```

```
restore, filename  
plot, var
```

```
end
```

var will be the name of the variable I want to plot from restoring the file. I'm thinking of giving var as a string in the procedure call. My question is how would I do this and is it possible?

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Subject: Re: procedure with arbitrary parameter  
Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Mon, 30 May 2011 17:12:19 GMT  
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On Mon, 30 May 2011, Evianis Cruz wrote:

```
> So in my procedure call I have something like this  
>  
> pro test, filename, var  
>  
> restore, filename  
> plot, var  
>  
> end  
>  
> var will be the name of the variable I want to plot from restoring the  
> file. I'm thinking of giving var as a string in the procedure call. My  
> question is how would I do this and is it possible?  
>
```

Look up SCOPE\_VARFETCH in IDL help:

```
plot, scope_varfetch('my_var_name')
```

```
regards,  
Lajos
```

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Subject: Re: procedure with arbitrary parameter

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 30 May 2011 17:13:45 GMT

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On 5/30/11 10:53 AM, Evianis Cruz wrote:

```
> So in my procedure call I have something like this
>
> pro test, filename, var
>
> restore, filename
> plot, var
>
> end
>
> var will be the name of the variable I want to plot from restoring the
> file. I'm thinking of giving var as a string in the procedure call. My
> question is how would I do this and is it possible?
```

Like this?

```
function mg_getsavvar, filename, varname
  compile_opt strictarr

  restore, filename=filename
  result = execute('plot, ' + varname)
end
```

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

[www.michaelgalloy.com](http://www.michaelgalloy.com)

Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>

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Subject: Re: procedure with arbitrary parameter

Posted by [Evianis Cruz](#) on Mon, 30 May 2011 18:29:05 GMT

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On May 30, 1:13 pm, Michael Galloy <[mgal...@gmail.com](mailto:mgal...@gmail.com)> wrote:

```
> On 5/30/11 10:53 AM, Evianis Cruz wrote:
>
>> So in my procedure call I have something like this
>
>> pro test, filename, var
>
>> restore, filename
>> plot, var
```

```
>
>> end
>
>> var will be the name of the variable I want to plot from restoring the
>> file. I'm thinking of giving var as a string in the procedure call. My
>> question is how would I do this and is it possible?
>
> Like this?
>
> function mg_getsavvar, filename, varname
>   compile_opt strictarr
>
>   restore, filename=filename
>   result = execute('plot, ' + varname)
> end
>
> Mike
> --
> Michael Galloywww.michaelgalloy.com
> Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL:http://modernidl.idldev.com
> Research Mathematician
> Tech-X Corporation
```

Thank you!! :)

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Subject: Re: procedure with arbitrary parameter  
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 30 May 2011 20:03:42 GMT  
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On 5/30/11 12:29 PM, Evianis Cruz wrote:

> On May 30, 1:13 pm, Michael Galloy<mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> On 5/30/11 10:53 AM, Evianis Cruz wrote:

>>
>>> So in my procedure call I have something like this

>>
>>> pro test, filename, var

>>
>>> restore, filename
>>> plot, var

>>
>>> end

>>
>>> var will be the name of the variable I want to plot from restoring the
>>> file. I'm thinking of giving var as a string in the procedure call. My
>>> question is how would I do this and is it possible?

>>
>> Like this?

```
>>
>> function mg_getsavvar, filename, varname
>>   compile_opt strictarr
>>
>>   restore, filename=filename
>>   result = execute('plot, ' + varname)
>> end
>>
>> Mike
>> --
>> Michael Galloywww.michaelgalloy.com
>> Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL:http://modernidl.idldev.com
>> Research Mathematician
>> Tech-X Corporation
>
> Thank you!! :)
```

No problem, but use the solution from Lajos; using EXECUTE is bad practice unless you have to (and I forgot about SCOPE\_VARFECTCH).

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

www.michaelgalloy.com

Modern IDL, A Guide to Learning IDL: <http://modernidl.idldev.com>

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