

# `${}` – variable calling



## Syntax

The value of any **yaml variable** can be retrieve in any file involve in the given operation (for AWI-ESM-2.1, those files are `<your_runscript>.yaml`, `fesom-2.1.yaml`, `oasis3mct.yaml`, `echam.yaml`, `<machine>.yaml`, `<slurm/pbs>.yaml`):

- In the same **section**

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  foo1: bar
  foo2: ${foo1}
```

- Independent of the order

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  foo2: ${foo1}
  ...
  foo1: bar
```

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- In across different files

**fesom-2.1.yaml**

```
fesom:
  foo1: bar
```

**awiesm.yaml**

```
fesom:
  foo2: ${foo1}
```

- Across different sections using the syntax `${<section>.<variable>}`

**<your\_runscript>.yaml**

```
general:
  foo1: bar
fesom:
  foo2: ${general.foo1}
```

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- Independently of the type (as long as it's not a special ESM-Tools functionality)

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  foo1:
    foo2:
      foo3: bar
      foo4: [1, 2, 3]
  new_var: ${foo1}
```

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  a_selector: True
  choose_a_selector:
    True:
      foo1: bar
  new_var: ${choose_a_selector}
```

choose\_ is a ESM-Tools special dictionary

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- Using the dot “.” to call nested variables in **dictionaries**

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  foo1:
    foo2:
      foo3: bar
      foo4: [1, 2, 3]
  new_var1: ${foo1.foo2.foo3}
```

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- To add operate with variables and add together strings

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  a_date: DDMYYYYY
  a_file_name_with_a_date: my_file_name_${a_date}
```

```
<your_runscript>.yaml
fesom:
  unknown: 23
  question: 19
  answer: $(( ${unknown} - ${question} ))
```

More about this in the math  
and calendar operators chapter

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## Use cases

- Store math and calendar operations under a variable
- Use variables inside math and calendar operations
- Define variables to link them to `namelist_changes` in the configuration files so that the front-end users don't have to write the 3-level nested `namelist_changes` dictionary in the runscript
- Avoid conflicts in interdependent `choose_blocks`
- ...

More about this if we get to have a look at the `levante.yaml`, currently in development

More about this in the `namelist_changes` chapter