
Subject: Re: Still missing features in IDL 8
Posted by [JDS](#) on Thu, 04 Nov 2010 23:29:58 GMT
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Lists and hashes, while very welcome (!), are somewhat cumbersome to use with out some syntactic sugar along the lines of what has been discussed. In addition to:

```
list[1,2,3]
```

for a list/array containing another list/array, containing another list/array, we need, e.g.:

```
list[3,'foo',2:5]
```

for a list containing a hash or structure, containing an array or list. Currently you must use

```
(list[3])['foo']
```

A better syntax, if it could be arranged, would be:

```
list[1][2]
```

or

```
list[3]['foo']
```

Even better if these could function correctly on the LHS of an assignment.

I'm actually surprised the analogy of hashes with structures wasn't expressed directly, ala:

```
list[3].foo
```

... but that of course brings in the new (and in my opinion unnecessary and in this case, deleterious) conflation of "." with "->".

JD
