
Subject: Re: LIST "bug": .Remove on an empty list
Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 14 Dec 2010 15:49:27 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Dec 14, 1:35 pm, Paul van Delst <paul.vande...@noaa.gov> wrote:

> If there
> was a list "Empty" or "IsEmpty" method (like ruby's "empty?" method...for both arrays/lists and
hashes), I would be more
> tempted to use it,
>
> if (l.isEmpty()) then ...return, handle error, whatever...
>
> as opposed to the current IDL idiom,
>
> if (n_elements(l) eq 0) then ...return, handle error, whatever...
>
> For some reason I find this type of mixture of functional and object coding jarring - and this is
from someone who has
> spent most of his life writing Fortran code! (I think it's also why ruby appeals to me more than
python).

I agree there should be an empty() method. Besides the reason you mentioned, it is also more direct and expressive to just test for empty() than to do a comparison with a function call. I will add that to the class I am writing to support assignment in arrays inside lists.
