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Subject: Re: HASH question

Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 08 Mar 2011 15:56:10 GMT

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On Mar 8, 12:05 pm, Paolo <pgri...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > well i never thought of "where" as being particularly awkward
- > inefficient, yes if used a lot
- > alternatively the stars could be sorted alphabetically by ID
- > to allow for fast search

Sorted arrays would not be any faster with where(). It would take a custom search function to do it.

- >> the arrays cannot have elements dynamically added or removed,
- >
- > you can do concatenation to add, say, another bunch of 100 stars
- > stars can be removed by setting the ID to the empty string or
- > using array concatenation yet again
- > not extremely efficient but works

Yes, but it is awkward. One big reason for using dynamic containers is to avoid all this juggling, allowing one to just do the operation one is interested in doing. Like just adding an element. The same goes for retrieving or setting an element from a hash: one can just do the access, without having to do searches. That way code is not complicated to do a conceptually simple task.

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