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Subject: Re: HASH question

Posted by [chris\\_torrence@NOSPAM](mailto:chris_torrence@NOSPAM) on Mon, 07 Mar 2011 21:00:35 GMT

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Hi all,

You could also use a nested hash of hashes. For example:

```
h = HASH('Sirius', HASH('Color': 'blue', 'Size': 'big'), 'Betelgeuse',  
HASH(...), ...)
```

In IDL 8.1 you will be able to index into array/list/hash elements within a Hash (or List) using simple array indexing. So in the above case, you would be able to do:

```
print, h['Sirius', 'Color']
```

And it will print out "blue".

This also works for assignment as well.

```
h['Sirius', 'Color'] = 'white'
```

In IDL 8.0 you could do this, but you would need to use parentheses...

The only problem with using a Hash is that the keys are not predefined like in a named structure - you could easily miss adding a field or spell a field incorrectly.

Just a thought.

Cheers,

Chris

ITTVIS

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