
Subject: Re: Sort a HASH

Posted by [Gray](#) on Wed, 22 Jun 2011 15:30:03 GMT

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On Jun 22, 8:06 am, JDS <jdtsmith.nos...@yahoo.com> wrote:

> How can you sort a HASH() in IDL?

>

> IDL> h=hash(['a','c','d','b'],[7,1,5,8])

> IDL> print,h

> c: 1

> a: 7

> b: 8

> d: 5

>

> OK, they are randomly sorted. That's cool, it's a hash. I'll just sort on the hash key...

>

> IDL> s=sort(h->keys())

> IDL> print,s

> 0

>

> Hmmmm, it seems this isn't sorting correctly...

>

> IDL> help, h->keys()

> <Expression> LIST <ID=3175 NELEMENTS=4>

>

> Ahah, the return of Keys() is a list! (Why does SORT pretend it can sort a LIST?). We need an array. Continuing onwards...

>

> IDL> s=sort((h->keys())->toarray())

> IDL> print,(h.keys())[s]

> a

> b

> c

> d

>

> Now we're getting there. Let's just index...

>

> IDL> print,h[(h.keys())[s]]

> c: 1

> a: 7

> b: 8

> d: 5

>

> Uhhh... what? Maybe it has something to do with indexing via a LIST. Let's make it an array first:

>

> IDL> print,((h.keys()).toArray())[s]

> a b c d

>
> Should be perfect...
>
> IDL> print,h[(((h.keys()).toArray())[s])]
> c: 1
> a: 7
> b: 8
> d: 5
>
> But it's not!
>
> Is there any way to index a hash and have the order of the keys be maintained, for example for this sorting problem? Loss of order is a well known feature of hash storage, but when you explicitly specify the order, it should be respected. Am I missing something?

http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/fa55eae4c4be5880/012750823bc9dce2
