
Subject: Re: bug? or how to distinguish between a Hash and an array of Hashes ?
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Mon, 04 Mar 2013 16:28:55 GMT
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The documentation for TYPENAME() explains that it is not exactly the same as SIZE(/TNAME)

"If Variable is a scalar object or a one-element object array, Result will be the object class name. If Variable is an object array with two or more elements, Result will be the IDL basic type name "OBJECT" [because each element of the object array could have a different class name]."

So with a scalar hash, TYPENAME() can return "HASH" but for an array it will return OBJREF (not "OBJECT" as the documentation wrongly says). --Wayne

On Monday, March 4, 2013 11:24:49 AM UTC-5, David Fanning wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

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>> wlandsman writes:

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>

>>> You could use the TYPENAME function to distinguish the two variables

>

>>>

>

>>> IDL> print,typename(a)

>

>>> HASH

>

>>> IDL> print,typename(c)

>

>>> OBJREF

>

>>>

>

>>> although I'm not sure why SIZE(/TNAME) doesn't give the same results.

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>> Oh, dear! Really!?

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> I guess this is right, though, since there are no "type" codes for hash

>

> or list. They are objects, I guess, not real data types.
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>
> Still, awfully confusing to explain to a new user not familiar with the
>
> "IDL Way". ;-)
>
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>
> Cheers,
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>
> David
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>
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> --
>
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
>
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
