
Subject: Hash auto-instantiation (was IDL8.4 hard crash)

Posted by chris_torrence@NOSPAM on Thu, 19 Feb 2015 18:28:39 GMT

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On Thursday, February 19, 2015 at 8:19:42 AM UTC-7, Fabien wrote:

> On 19.02.2015 15:40, Chris Torrence wrote:

>> But I think in this case, since we're indexing using strings,
>> then we know that we want a hash for the sub-container. I'd hate
>> to complicate it further with a keyword that I have to document.

>

> The argument of the string indexes is true if you have more than one
> nested level.

>

> Just in case you are thinking of a Hash() improvement for a future IDL,
> it would be good not to be limited to default hashes only, as does
> python's defaultdict. The problem of course is that my example is flawed:

>

> a = hash(DEFAULT=list())

>

> is not okay. I shouldn't give an instance of list but rather a "type"

> list or so:

>

> a = hash(DEFAULT='list')

Actually, in my code I am creating the new container based upon my own class. So if you have an IDL Dictionary it will create a Dictionary for the sub-containers. Similarly for the OrderedHash class.

For example:

```
d = Dictionary()
```

```
d['a','b','c'] = 5
```

```
help, d['a']
```

```
<Expression>  DICTIONARY <ID=6216 NELEMENTS=1>
```

Speaking of dictionaries, now I'm wondering whether it should work for the "dot" notation as well as the brackets:

```
d = Dictionary()
```

```
d.a.b.c = 5 ; should this auto-instantiate???
```

I'm thinking that it probably should do the same thing...

-Chris
