
Subject: Re: ISA documentation

Posted by [achim.holtmann](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2017 11:15:10 GMT

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Am Mittwoch, 27. September 2017 20:02:13 UTC+2 schrieb wlandsman:

> I recently had determine if an IDL variable was a hash, so my first thought was to use the ISA()
function. But the ISA documentation does not mention its use to identify a hash -- or an ordered
hash, or a dictionary, or a list

>

> <http://www.harrisgeospatial.com/docs/ISA.html>

>

> Of course, ISA() can be used to identify a hash variable

>

> IDL> x = HASH('key1', 1, 'key2', 2)

> IDL> PRINT, ISA(x, 'HASH')

> 1

>

> Arguably, the ISA documentation can be defended because it does say that objects can be
identified by their class name, and hashes, lists et al. are implemented as IDL objects

>

> IDL> help,/obj,x

> ** Object class HASH, 1 direct superclass, 7 known methods

>

> Still, I would think that the use of ISA() for hashes and lists et al. should be explicitly mentioned
in the ISA() documentation. --Wayne

I agree with your request.

Additionally, it should be mentioned in the documentation that ISA(x, 'HASH') returns 1 and
ISA([x,x], 'HASH') returns 0.

This has been discussed here: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/HP5TBhuP02Y>

--Achim
