
Subject: HASH assignment

Posted by [JDS](#) on Fri, 23 Jan 2015 18:35:20 GMT

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One inconvenience of IDL hashes is that nested hash keys do not auto-instantiate. You must test for the presence of a key, and then create a sub-hash if not found. Other languages let you just say the equivalent of:

```
a=hash()  
a['b','c','d']=1
```

and have all the nested hashes (here: a['b'] & a['b','c']) created automatically. While working around this (i.e. defining nested hashes myself and referencing them), I found a segfault but in IDL 8.4:

```
IDL> a=hash() & c=(a['b']=hash())
```

JD
