
Subject: Re: Object Method validity
Posted by [rmmoss](#) on Tue, 12 Aug 2003 13:34:58 GMT
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Mark Hadfield <m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz> wrote in message
news:<bh9457\$ctm\$1@newsreader.mailgate.org>...

```
> Robert Moss wrote:
>> Is there a way to verify the existence of a particular object method?
>> Something like
>>
>> valid = Method_Valid( theObject, "HopedForMethod" )
>>
>> I guess. I've spent a little while rtfm-ing and googling to no avail.
>
> I believe that the only generally valid approach is to call the method
> and trap any errors with a CATCH statement. This has the advantage(??)
> of actually calling the method and checking that your parameters are
> valid. Something like this (Warning: I haven't checked it and haven't
> generalised it to handled function-type methods)...
>
>   catch, err
>   if err ne 0 then begin
>     valid = 0B
>     goto, finished
>   endif
>   call_method, theObject, 'HopedForMethod', param0
>   valid = 1B
>   catch, /CANCEL
>   finished:
>
> But be aware that if HopedForMethod is not bound to the class that
> theObject belongs to, then IDL will spend a significant amount of time
> searching the path for a file with the name
>
>   obj_class(theObject)+'__hopedformethod.pro'
```

That's what I was afraid of. Oh well, time for another minor feature
request. Thanks for taking the time to answer.

Robert
