
Subject: Re: Object Method validity

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Mon, 11 Aug 2003 22:08:37 GMT

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Robert Moss wrote:

```
> Is there a way to verify the existance 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'
```

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