On Wed, 11 Oct 2006 15:11:05 -0700, Dometz wrote:

> I guess I wasnt clear enough... I mean something that I can run in a
> bash script to test if a .pro file has valid syntax.
>
> something like:
> echo '.compile foo.pro' | idl
> and then checking if there are any syntax error messages and if there
> are act accordingly.
>
> But is there a better way than using .compile for this?

I guess I didn't do all your homework for you ;). You could use this
idea to write a function called check_syntax, ala:

```
function check_syntax,routine
  catch,err
  if err ne 0 then return,err
  resolve_routine,routine,/EITHER,/COMPILE_FULL_FILE
  return,0
end
```

Then a batch file which uses this function, like do_check.pro:

```
;===============
status=check_syntax((command_line_args())[0])
if status ne 0 then print,!ERROR_STATE.MSG
exit,STATUS=status
;===============
```

then call, from your shell script:

idl -arg routine do_check.pro

and check the exit status. You might need to monkey IDL_PATH to ensure
it attempts to compile the correct version of the routine, like:

idl -IDL_PATH "$(pwd):+/other/libs:<IDL_DEFAULT>" -arg routine do_check.pro

JD