
Subject: Re: Testing validity of numerical content of a string
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 07 Dec 2006 01:38:15 GMT
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Y.T. writes:

> Maybe this is a stupid question, but is there a way in IDL to tell
> whether a string contains a valid representation of a particular data
> type? For example an integer? I can do something like
>
> test = fix(str)
>
> which will return zero (and throw an error message) if str is, say,
> "hello". But is there a way to tell whether type conversion of a string
> will work if attempted?
>
> Anybody have something clever at hand?

Clever's not really my thing. You would have to go to JD for that. But FSC_FIELD has a neat little function named "VALIDATE" that validates whether a string is a float or double or an integer, whatever it is suppose to be. You might be able to steal that and do something clever with it. :-)

http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc_field.pro

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
