Subject: Re: Testing validity of numerical content of a string Posted by Brian Larsen on Thu, 07 Dec 2006 18:18:03 GMT

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Excellent solution. I haven't played with on_ioerror but certainly will now.

Funny how you get stuck in a rut of how you normally do things even if its not the best, in fact probably never the best way:)

Brian

```
mgalloy@gmail.com wrote:
> Sven Geier wrote:
>> In a pinch one might just force the conversion and catch any resulting
>> error-messages with ON_ERROR -- that's ugly, but might be a lot easier than
>> trying to parse strings...
 So here's some code that does that:
   function validate_numeric, value
>
    compile_opt strictarr
>
>
    on_ioerror, badValue
>
>
    f = float(value)
>
    return, 1B
>
>
    badValue: return, 0B
   end
>
  The odd thing about this is what IDL will do without complaining. IDL
  will do this without any error:
>
>
   IDL> help, float('0.0hello5')
>
   <Expression> FLOAT =
>
                                   0.00000
> but draws the line at:
>
   IDL> help, float('hello5')
   % Type conversion error: Unable to convert given STRING to Float.
   % Detected at: $MAIN$
>
   <Expression> FLOAT
                                   0.00000
                             =
>
> Mike
```

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