
Subject: Re: qualifying object classes on the fly

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 15 Mar 2013 18:41:30 GMT

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On 3/15/13 11:00 AM, kagoldberg@lbl.gov wrote:

> Is there an accepted method, or an available function, for determining if an object class exists. I'd like to declare an object with the class specified as the argument to `obj_new()`, and if it fails to find a known class, have the object return as `!null` or `obj_new()`. This is the behavior I would like.

>

> `o = OBJ_NEW('testclass', /RETURN_NULL_ON_FAIL)`

>

> Currently, asking for a non-existent class breaks the program. Some part of me thinks it would be too inelegant to use CATCH for something like this.

>

> Alternately, is there a routine like this:

> `result = TEST_OBJ_CLASS('testclass') ?`

>

> Thanks

>

Inelegant or not, I think CATCH is the solution for this:

```
function test_class, classname, _extra=e
  compile_opt strictarr
```

```
  catch, error
```

```
  if (error ne 0L) then begin
```

```
    catch, /cancel
```

```
    return, obj_new()
```

```
  endif
```

```
  return, obj_new(classname, _extra=e)
```

```
end
```

Mike

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

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