
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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