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Subject: Re: where() and IEEE NaN

Posted by [thompson](#) on Mon, 08 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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korpela@islay.ssl.berkeley.edu (Eric J. Korpela) writes:

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> In article <7vvkuf$hk4@post.gsfc.nasa.gov>,  
> William Thompson <thompson@orpheus.nascom.nasa.gov> wrote:  
>> Isn't it simpler (and faster) to say  
>>  
>> IDL> print,where(a ne a)
```

```
> It is on IEEE compliant platforms. But IDL on some platforms  
> is not IEEE compliant. My solution is not to use those platforms.  
> If forced to use one of those platforms by my employer, my solution would  
> be not to use IDL. Anyone at RSI listening?
```

I thought the only platform that wasn't IEEE compliant was OpenVMS, where the VAX floating point notation doesn't include NaN values. However, didn't RSI recently change the OpenVMS version to use IEEE floating point numbers instead, so that it's now IEEE compliant too. Of course, it may be that I'm missing something more subtle, or there's some non-IEEE platform out there I'm not familiar with.

Actually, the comment that the above command is confusing to people who don't know what's going on is valid. Vincenzo's suggestion of using `FINITE(/NaN)` is probably better, and should be (at least) just as fast.

Cheers,

William Thompson

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