
Subject: Re: where() and IEEE NaN

Posted by [Pavel Romashkin](#) on Fri, 05 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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I am not sure if trying to use WHERE on NaN is legitimate. NaN is a missing value by definition, and the request to WHERE those values is senseless. However, I'd too better like WHERE to complain than to quietly return some array.

It does not seem to be a *practical* problem because NaNs don't sneak into your arrays unless you place them in. And if you do, then handle them accordingly.

As for whether its right or wrong, I think someone said it before: il am more interested in how to do what I need, not in how I think they did it wrong.

Cheers,
Pavel

Todd Bowers wrote:

```
> IDL> a = [1,2,!Values.F_NaN,4,!Values.F_NaN]
> IDL> print, a
>      1.00000      2.00000      NaN      4.00000      NaN
> IDL> print, where(a EQ !Values.F_NaN)
>      0      1      2      3      4
>
> Hmmmmmm.... is this a known feature? The where() help says
> nothin' about NaN's.
> IDL v5.2a
>
> Thanks
> Todd
```
