
Subject: Re: [Q]: ID analog to FORTRAN "sign" function
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 09 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Alex Schuster <alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de> writes:

```
>> Results:
>> =====
>> The result type is the same as a.
>> The value of the result is
>> | a | if b >= zero
>> and -| a | if b < zero.
>
> No, but you can easily write it:
>
> function sign, a, b
>   if ( b ge 0 ) then $
>     return, abs( a ) $
>   else $
>     return, -abs( a )
>   end
```

And, after the vector elf is done with it:

```
function sign, a, b
  s = 2*(b GE 0) - 1 ;; +1 or -1
  return, s*abs(a)
end
```

This function works with B as a scalar or a vector. If it's a vector then it must have the same dimensions as A.

Craig

P.S. Recovering from pneumonia, Ugh.

--

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