
Subject: Re: [Q]: ID analog to FORTRAN "sign" function
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Mon, 09 Oct 2000 21:45:57 GMT
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"Alex Schuster" <alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de> wrote in message
news:39E1C067.16F7488E@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de...

> Rostyslav Pavlichenko wrote:

>

>> Does the IDL have something close to Fortran SIGN (DSIGN... so on...)

>> functions

>> ...

>> result = SIGN (a, b)

>> a (Input) Must be of type integer or real.

>>

>> b Must have the same type and kind parameters as a.

>>

>> 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

The following is more compact and works when b is an array

```
return, abs(a) * (fix(b ge 0) - fix(b lt 0))
```

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