
Subject: Re: Turning off math error checking for a code block
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2002 00:06:22 GMT
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k-bowman@null.com (Kenneth Bowman) writes:

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> In article <3C47094C.1F1879D2@ssec.wisc.edu>, "Liam E. Gumley"
<Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:
>
>> The FINITE function returns 1 where the argument is finite, and 0 where
>> the argument is infinite *or* NaN (see p. 134 of my book). Try the
>> following:
>>
>> x_min = 2.0
>> index = where(finite(x) eq 1, count)
>> if (count gt 0) then print, where(x[index] lt x_min)
>
> I am aware of that. These are relatively large vectors (10^5 to
> 10^6 elements), however, and this operation is repeated many times,
> so I am trying to avoid extracting the finite values (or creating an
> array index to them). This is my "innermost loop", and efficiency
> is important. I know there are NaN's. I prefer to simply turn off
> the error messages.
```

I have found that an operation on an array which contains NaNs is slowed down considerably. I think it is because each operation causes a floating point exception which is handled in the OS. I use WHERE most of the time when this comes up. Occassionally I get "floating exception" messages, but big whoop.

Craig

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
