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Subject: Re: Turning off math error checking for a code block  
Posted by [Martin Downing](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2002 17:22:37 GMT  
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craig wrote:

> 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. Occasionally I get "floating  
> exception" messages, but big whoop.

To illustrate craigs point:

```
IDL> a = replicate(!values.f_nan,1024,1024)
```

```
IDL> b = replicate(2.0,1024,1024)
```

```
IDL> help, a,b
```

```
A FLOAT = Array[1024, 1024]
```

```
B FLOAT = Array[1024, 1024]
```

```
IDL> t = systime(1) & for i =0,9 do c = total(a * 2) & print, systime(1) - t
```

```
3.1250000
```

```
IDL> t = systime(1) & for i =0,9 do c = total(a * 2) & print, systime(1) - t
```

```
3.1240001
```

```
IDL> a = replicate(2.0,1024,1024)
```

```
IDL> help, a
```

```
A FLOAT = Array[1024, 1024]
```

```
IDL> t = systime(1) & for i =0,9 do c = total(a * 2) & print, systime(1) - t
```

```
0.71099997
```

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