
Subject: Re: Incorrect behavior of /NAN

Posted by [Jaco van Gorkom](#) on Thu, 04 Apr 2002 18:38:20 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Paul van Delst" <paul.vandelst@noaa.gov> wrote in message
news:3CAC9914.B52D1669@noaa.gov...

> Kenneth Bowman wrote:

>>

>> IDL> print, mean([a, a], /nan)

>> NaN

>

> I think the last result *here* is wrong :o) Shouldn't it be 1.0? What is
MEAN in this case

> but:

>

> total([a,a],/NAN) / n_elements(non-nan values only)

>

> Both the numerator and denominator are 0.

So you mean that $0 / 0 = 1.0$? Or $0. / 0. = 1.0$?

In any case, IDL seems to disagree with you here: :-)

IDL> print, 0./0.

-NaN

% Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand

IDL> print, 0/0

0

% Program caused arithmetic error: Integer divide by 0

Jaco
