
Subject: Re: Incorrect behavior of /NaN

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 05 Apr 2002 21:53:00 GMT

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Kenneth Bowman <k-bowman@null.tamu.edu> writes:

> In article <onofgz74jo.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu>,
> Craig Markwardt <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:
>
>> If all the data are missing, how can the sum be NaN? Neither a return
>> value of 0, nor a return value of NaN, seems to be appropriate to
>> me. This appears to be an undefined case.
>
> If NaN represents missing data, and all of the data are missing, then the
> total is missing also, so it seems reasonable to me to return NaN.

:-)

I could easily argue the other way, in terms of reasonableness. The
sum of "no" numbers is zero.

Craig

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Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
