Subject: Re: Math Question
Posted by Jean H. on Mon, 30 Oct 2006 20:32:15 GMT
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Jo Klein wrote:
>> Just out of curiosity, has anyone tried this on Matlab? I'd expect the
>> same (or similar) results, but it'd be interesting if they weren't.
>
> Matlab returns the real part of the argument if it's a real number you
> put in:
>>> -0.1^2.0
>
> ans =
> -0.0100
>
>>> -0.1^2.01
> ans =
> -0.0098
>
>>> complex(-0.1,0)^2.01
> ans =
> 0.0098 + 0.0003i
> Hmm - I don't know if this is more desirable than IDL's behaviour, I
> think it's fair enough to warn people who try to do something like that
> with their data. In Matlab, try and invert the second operation ... this
> can't be good. Suppose there are arguments for both approaches.
> Jo

It depends indeed...

```
 >> -0.1^2.1
ans =
   -0.0079

 >> (-0.1)^2.1
ans =
   0.0076 + 0.0025i
```

You don't have to specify the complex() statement!

Jean