
Subject: Re: manipulating structures

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Sun, 08 Apr 2007 18:40:36 GMT

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

In article <MPG.2082e11919d147fa989f1c@news.frii.com>,
David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Kenneth P. Bowman writes:

>

>> There is one special case that you have to watch out for when using
>> TOTAL with the /NAN keyword. If *all* of the elements are NaNs, the
>> result returned is not a NaN, but a zero. I think this is a serious
>> implementation bug because it renders the /NAN keyword useless in
>> most circumstances.

>

> Has this been reported to ITTVIS, Ken?

We discussed this in this group several years ago, and *I think* I
had some communication with them about this. The response was to add
a note in the TOTAL documentation pointing out this behavior.

The rules for IEEE arithmetic say that the result of any operation
involving a NaN is a NaN. That is not true in the case of TOTAL. If
you sum an array that is all NaNs, the result is zero.

Ken
