
Subject: Re: IDL 4.0.1, best way to deal with missing/bad data

Posted by [thompson](#) on Sat, 17 Feb 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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rfinch@toe.CS.Berkeley.EDU (Ralph Finch) writes:

(stuff deleted)

> I've talked to RSI about this problem; they think that the next
> release, all computational routines will recognize missing data with
> the /NAN keyword, so all you have to do is replace your missing values
> with NANs. For now I guess I will use the following construct:

The trouble with using NaN values is that not all computers use IEEE floating point notation. Specifically, I'm talking about the VAX floating point notation used in VMS, which is still an extremely important platform to us. (As far as I'm aware, that may be the only exception among modern computers.)

Perhaps RSI has figured out a way around this difficulty.

Bill Thompson
