
Subject: Re: Sky is falling, maybe?

Posted by [JohnSmith](#) on Thu, 08 Oct 2009 19:04:31 GMT

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"Lasse Clausen" <lbnc@lbnc.de> wrote in message

news:771d3ad1-2210-4252-87ad-10af20c3f397@m1g2000vbi.googlegroup.com...

> I find the following odd but maybe the sky is just falling and one of

> you guys can explain why this happens. Try running

>

> power = randomu(1001, 150)

> power[77+lindgen(10)*3] = 1e+7

> help, where(~finite(power))

> plot, power, yrange=[.1, 10]

> loadct, 12

> oplot, smooth(power, 12, /nan), thick=3, color=20

> oplot, smooth(power, 12), thick=3, color=120

> end

>

> On my machine

>

> IDL> print, !version

> { x86_64 linux unix linux 7.0 Oct 25 2007 64 64}

>

> I see a distinct difference in the SMOOTH output after the very uppy-

> downy bit of the data. It seems the documentation should be changed

> from

>

> SMOOTH should never be called without the NAN keyword if the input

> array may possibly contain NaN values.

>

> to

>

> SMOOTH should never be called without the NAN. Period.

my guess, and I have not thought hard about it, is that

the NAN keyword forces smooth to work in double precision internally.

Note: the difference goes away if you put a

power = double(power)

right after the randomu() call.
