
Subject: Re: SIGN function: signof(num or array of num)

Posted by [Ding](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 2010 15:43:49 GMT

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On Mar 16, 10:51 am, Ding <gardener_2...@hotmail.com> wrote:

> Dear IDL users,

>

> I cannot find the SIGN function in IDL procedures, but one in

> Solarsoft ssw/maths/ SIGN which occupy the name, but different

> purpose(sign(a)*b). so I wrote the SIGNOF() function which is to get

> the sign of a number or array,

>

> Hopefully I am not repeating someone' work! you are welcome to

> comments!

>

> ; return the sign of the input data in an array of the same size

> ; -1 for negative elements

> ; 1 for positive elements

> ; 0 for 0 and complex number

> ; only works for numerics

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>a=[[1,-2],[0,3]]

> print, signof(a)

1 -1

0 1

>

More notes:

although signof(0) cause algorithm error, since 0/0 is defined as 0,

signof(0)=0, signof(Inf)=0. it can be used in an expression

signof(numeric variable or array)*10.0/5. etc.
