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

Posted by [H. Evans](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 2010 14:30:07 GMT

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On Mar 16, 2:57 pm, Carsten Lechte <c...@toppoint.de> wrote:

> F LDY Lajos wrote:

>> I think SIGNOF() should not cause an arithmetic error for finite numbers.

>

> I use the expression

>

> (x GT 0) -1* (x LT 0)

>

> to get the sign of e.g.

>

> x = [-2e4, 5, 0, 1d/0, -1d/0, 0d/0]

>

> but it uses 2 comparisons and even a multiplication. Does anyone have

> a simpler/faster version? Furthermore, what should the sign of NaN be?

>

> chl

Could be either + or -ve:

IDL> print,!values.f_nan, - !values.f_nan

NaN -NaN
