Subject: Re: Comparison operators and floating-point errors
Posted by penteado on Mon, 19 Apr 2010 19:18:45 GMT
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On Apr 19, 3:31 pm, Ed Hyer <ejh...@gmail.com> wrote:
> IDL> nan=1/0.0
> % Program caused arithmetic error: Floating divide by 0
> IDL> print, -0.1 > nan
> Inf
> IDL> print, -0.1 < nan
> -0.100000
> IDL> print, 1 gt nan
> 0
> IDL> print, 1 lt nan
> 1
>
> I thought the rule was "Any calculation involving a NaN will produce
> NaN."
> Has it been this way since the dawn of time? I'm sure it has.
>
> I have found a few uses for NaN in IDL over the years, and now I have
> to come up with new ones.
>
> For instance (the one that led me to track this down), I use NaN to
> exclude areas from contour plots. There are other ways, but none quite
> as simple and flexible.

This all looks right to me, for one thing because there are no NaNs
around. The variable you called nan is infinity, no NaN.