
Subject: Relational Operators on Windows

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Sat, 26 Jun 2010 00:47:03 GMT

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Sometimes as shortcut for explicitly testing for NaN values, I use the fact that NaN is never less than, equal to, or more than a numeric value. So if I need to get the values less than 3 in the following array

```
a = [3.2, !VALUES.F_NAN, 2]
```

I simply say

```
a = a [ where(a lt 3) ]
```

and the NaN values are excluded along with the values larger than 3. This works fine on Linux and Mac OSX. But someone pointed me to the IDL help on relational operators which says,

"On the Windows platform, using relational operators with the values infinity or NaN (Not a Number) causes an "illegal operand" error."

Unfortunately, neither of us has access to a Windows machine. Does one really get an "illegal operand" value on Windows with the above code (so that I need to use the FINITE() function)? Thanks, --Wayne
