
Subject: Re: cubic root

Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Tue, 16 Apr 2013 16:44:19 GMT

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On Tuesday, April 16, 2013 5:19:00 PM UTC+2, fawltyl...@gmail.com wrote:

```
> (-1)^1.0/3 gives -0.333333 for me.  
>  
> You have to specify that you want complex roots:  
>  
> IDL> help, complex(-1.0)^(1.0/3)  
> <Expression> COMPLEX = ( 0.500000, 0.866025)  
>
```

Also, here is a function for the real cubic root:

```
function cubic_root, x  
return, x ge 0 ? x^(1/3.0) : -(-x)^(1/3.0)  
end
```

(Change 3.0 to 3.0d for double precision x.)

regards,
Lajos
