
Subject: Re: cubic root

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Tue, 16 Apr 2013 15:27:10 GMT

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You can also use FZ_ROOTS to get all 3 roots to the equation $x^3 + 1 = 0$

```
IDL> print,fz_roots([1,0d,0,1.0d])
(  -1.0000000,    0.0000000)(  0.50000000,  -0.86602540)(  0.50000000,
0.86602540)
```

or use <http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/contrib/freudenreich/cuberoot.pro>

On Tuesday, April 16, 2013 11:08:12 AM UTC-4, fd_...@mail.com wrote:

> Hi all

>

>

>

> I have a question about cubic roots. The cubic roots of a negative number there exists. The cubic root of -1 is -1, of -2 is -1.25 and so on why when I typed in IDL to calculate the cubic root of a negative value it print out NaN which means Not a Number?

>

>

>

> E.g. I typed: $(-1)^{1.0/3}$ and it prints out NaN

>

>

>

> Is there any way to fix it and don't get NaNs but get the actual value?

>

>

>

> Best Wishes

>

> Maria
