
Subject: Re: Filtering out NaNs

Posted by [Christian Marquardt](#) on Fri, 21 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Peter Webb wrote:

>
> Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan (steinhh@rigil.uio.no) wrote:
>
> : NaNs are characterized by the fact that they are *not* equal
> : to any number (that's what it says, isn't it :-)
>
> : In fact, it's not even equal to itself - and this is the distinguishing
> : feature that must be used to pick them out. I.e.,
>
> : a(where(a ne a)) = missing_flag
>
> I'd like to hereby nominate Stein for the "Cool Tip of the Week" award!

Well - it will result in an error message from IDL if there are _no_
NaN's or +/-Infinities in that array. Better try something like

```
idx = where(a ne a) & if idx(0) ne -1 then a(idx) = missing_flag
```

or

```
idx = where(finite(a) ne 1) & if idx(0) ne -1 then a(idx) =  
missing_flag
```

I wonder if there's a way to use where without checking if the
condition was met at all, given that you do not know this in
advance.

Regards,

Chris.

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