
Subject: Re: Some IDL_Number documentation quirks

Posted by chris_torrence@NOSPAM on Wed, 07 Dec 2016 22:17:14 GMT

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On Friday, December 2, 2016 at 12:14:52 PM UTC-7, wlandsman wrote:

> A few quirks in the IDL documentation for IDL_Number

>

> http://www.harrisgeospatial.com/docs/IDL_Number.html

>

> 1. The example for IDL_Number::Median method reads

> *****

> Print the median value of a number:

>

> num = -24601

>

> PRINT, num.Median()

>

> IDL prints:

>

> 24601

> *****

> Huh? The median of a negative scalar is its absolute value? I then realized that this example is probably an unfinished copy/paste from the IDL_Number:Signum method. But

>

> 2. The example for IDL_Number::Signum is incorrect

>

> *****

> Print the signum value of a number:

>

> num = -24601

>

> PRINT, num.Signum()

>

> IDL prints:

>

> 24601

> *****

> This is closer but still incorrect. The value of num.signum() should be -1 (the sign of the number).

>

> 3. The documentation of IDL_Number::Total is incomplete.

>

> *****

> Arguments

>

> None.

> Keywords

>

```
> None.  
> *****  
>  
> But in fact, although not documented, the dimension argument and five keywords available to  
the TOTAL() function are also available to IDL_Number::Total. For example  
>  
> IDL> a = indgen(3,3)  
> IDL> a  
>    0    1    2  
>    3    4    5  
>    6    7    8  
> IDL> a.total(1,/integer)  
>           3           12           21
```

Whoops, my bad. Thanks Wayne for catching all of these. They'll be fixed in IDL Next (not 8.6).
You can also use the Dimension argument to the IDL_Number::Product method.

Cheers,

Chris

Harris Geospatial Solutions
