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Subject: Re: [Q]: ID analog to FORTRAN "sign" function  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 09 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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Alex Schuster <[alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de](mailto:alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de)> writes:

```
>> Results:
>> =====
>> The result type is the same as a.
>> The value of the result is
>> | a | if b >= zero
>> and -| a | if b < zero.
>
> No, but you can easily write it:
>
> function sign, a, b
>   if ( b ge 0 ) then $
>     return, abs( a ) $
>   else $
>     return, -abs( a )
>   end
```

And, after the vector elf is done with it:

```
function sign, a, b
  s = 2*(b GE 0) - 1 ;; +1 or -1
  return, s*abs(a)
end
```

This function works with B as a scalar or a vector. If it's a vector then it must have the same dimensions as A.

Craig

P.S. Recovering from pneumonia, Ugh.

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: [craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu)  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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Subject: Re: [Q]: ID analog to FORTRAN "sign" function  
Posted by [Alex Schuster](#) on Mon, 09 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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Rostyslav Pavlichenko wrote:

```
> Does the IDI have something close to Fortran SIGN (DSIGN... so on...)
```

> functions  
>  
> IN FORTRAN:  
> Elemental Intrinsic Function (Generic):  
> Returns the absolute value of the first argument times the sign of the  
> second argument.  
>  
> Syntax:  
> =====  
> result = SIGN (a, b)  
>     a (Input) Must be of type integer or real.  
>  
>     b Must have the same type and kind parameters as a.  
>  
> Results:  
> =====  
> The result type is the same as a.  
> The value of the result is  
> | a | if b >= zero  
> and -| a | if b < zero.

No, but you can easily write it:

```
function sign, a, b
  if ( b ge 0 ) then $
    return, abs( a ) $
  else $
    return, -abs( a )
end
```

It works for both integer and float data types

Alex

--

Alex Schuster    Wonko@weird.cologne.de  
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PGP Key available