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Subject: Is there a fast Complex ATAN in IDL 5.5?  
Posted by [MKatz843](#) on Thu, 15 Aug 2002 23:57:38 GMT  
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I've avoided switching to IDL 5.5 for some time now because I use ATAN() to produce the phase of complex data. In my simple tests with IDL 5.4,

ATAN(x) runs over 30% faster than  
ATAN(imaginary(x),float(x)).

I use ATAN() a great deal, and in real-time feedback applications with 512x512 arrays where time is important.

Does anyone know

(A) Is there a new, fast ATAN() available that can process my complex data a la IDL 5.4?

(B) Is there a way to hack the IDL libraries to put the old ATAN function into the newer IDL library to recover the old behavior?

Thanks,

M. Katz

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Subject: Re: Is there a fast Complex ATAN in IDL 5.5?  
Posted by [the\\_cacc](#) on Wed, 21 Aug 2002 00:43:23 GMT  
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Hey!

Complex support is patchy to say the least in IDL... as I've ranted here before. They should just SORT IT OUT!!! If \*I\* can write CALL\_EXTERNAL commands to mimic IDL functions but also accept complex args, then surely the comp. sci. experts at RSINC can!?!

Let's start with: SVDC and all the other matrix operations, all the sparse array operations, CURVEFIT and other fitting routines.

As always,  
Ciao.

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