
Subject: Re: How to locate a "NaN"?

Posted by [fanxing_gis](#) on Tue, 09 Oct 2007 07:36:35 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 10 9 , 2 12 , mystea <idllear...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hello All,

>

> I have a array of length 100. A significant portion of them is
> recorded as NaN. Now I want to figure out what is the largest index of
> the element that contains a valid number, then assign its value to
> these NaN entries.

>

> I thought it would be easy and tried:

>

> IDL> k=max(where(myarray[*] ne !VALUES.D_NAN))

>

> but it does not work! k equals to 99 in this case. what's really
> strange is the following:

>

> IDL> help, myarray[50]

> <Expression> DOUBLE = NaN

>

> IDL>print, (myarray[50] eq !VALUES.D_NAN)

> 0

> (so I think this means myarray[50] is double, is NAN, yet is not !
> VALUES.D_NAN)

>

> In short, the problem is, how to locate array elements whose values
> are NaN?

you could use `finite()` to do it, and try this:

```
IDL> k=max(where(finite(myarray) eq 0))
```

k is the largest index of elements whose values are valid.

By the way, `!VALUES.D_NAN` in not equal to `!VALUES.F_NAN`, your data type is long or float?

best wishes

fanxing

Subject: Re: How to locate a "NaN"?

Posted by [lasse](#) on Tue, 09 Oct 2007 08:26:46 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 9 Oct, 07:12, mystea <idllear...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hello All,

>

> I have a array of length 100. A significant portion of them is
> recorded as NaN. Now I want to figure out what is the largest index of
> the element that contains a valid number, then assign its value to
> these NaN entries.
>
> I thought it would be easy and tried:
>
> IDL> k=max(where(myarray[*] ne !VALUES.D_NAN))
>
> but it does not work! k equals to 99 in this case. what's really
> strange is the following:
>
> IDL> help, myarray[50]
> <Expression> DOUBLE = NaN
>
> IDL>print, (myarray[50] eq !VALUES.D_NAN)
> 0
> (so I think this means myarray[50] is double, is NAN, yet is not !
> VALUES.D_NAN)
>
> In short, the problem is, how to locate array elements whose values
> are NaN?

It might be worth noting here that *nothing* is equal to NaNs. Even

```
!values.f_nan eq !values.f_nan and  
!values.d_nan eq !values.d_nan
```

returns false (at least on my machine, there might be differences between different platforms, although there shouldn't). This result is obvious, really, because if it is a NaN (=Not A Number), how can it be equal to anything?

And fanxing is right, only the finite() function will tell you where NaNs are.

Cheers
Lasse

Subject: Re: How to locate a "NaN"?
Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Tue, 09 Oct 2007 12:22:28 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)
