
Subject: odd behaviour from array_equal() with NaN, Inf values

Posted by [wallabadah](#) on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 04:42:16 GMT

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I've come across the following behaviour while tracking down odd behaviour from NaN and Inf values. I'm trying to use array_equal() to check that arrays contain the same content - but it bombs when the arrays contain NaN. I've tracked it down to the process of copying an array containing NaN values to a new variable. For example:

```
IDL> a = findgen(5)
IDL> a[1] = !values.f_nan
IDL> print, array_equal(a, a)
1
IDL> b = a
IDL> print, array_equal(a, b)
0
IDL> print, array_equal(b, b)
1
```

Repeating the process with !values.f_infinity behaves as expected:

```
IDL> a = findgen(5)
IDL> a[1] = !values.f_infinity
IDL> print, array_equal(a, a)
1
IDL> b = a
IDL> print, array_equal(a, b)
1
IDL> print, array_equal(b, b)
1
```

Is this a bug in make_array() or some artifact of how values are copied to new variables?? Is it reproducible on different platforms (I'm on Mac OS X, IDL 8.1).

thanks in advance,

Will
