
Subject: Re: transforming an array where some values can't
Posted by [S Penzes](#) on Thu, 05 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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How about

```
function xform, input
temp = alog(input)
temp(where(finite(temp) EQ 0))=1e-7
return, temp
end
```

Works for me.

bowler@eisner.decus.org wrote:

```
> I'm trying to write a function that will transform an arbitrary array by taking
> the natural log of every element in the array.
>
> What I have is
>
>     function xform, input
>     temp = alog(input) ; I realize I could combine these 2 statements
>     return, temp      ; but it makes debugging easier
>     end
>
> Unfortunately, I can't guarantee that there won't be some elements that are
> zero and thus invalid arguments to alog.  what's the "most efficient" way to
> take the alog of any element that's greater than 0 and set the value of any
> that are less than or equal to 0 to some small value (1e-7 for example)?
>
> TIA,
> Bruce
```

--

Steven Penzes (Steven.nospamPenzes@dres.dnd.ca)
Note: remove "nospam" from Reply-To and .signature

Subject: Re: transforming an array where some values can't
Posted by [meron](#) on Thu, 05 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <1998Feb5.094807.1@eisner>, bowler@eisner.decus.org writes:
> I'm trying to write a function that will transform an arbitrary array by taking

> the natural log of every element in the array.
>
> What I have is
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> function xform, input
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> zero and thus invalid arguments to alog. what's the "most efficient" way to
> take the alog of any element that's greater than 0 and set the value of any
> that are less than or equal to 0 to some small value (1e-7 for example)?
>

Just do

```
function xform, input
eps = ..some small value here, can make it input parameter too ..
temp = alog(input > eps) ; I realize I could combine these 2 statements
return, temp ; but it makes debugging easier
end
```

Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"

Subject: Re: transforming an array where some values can't

Posted by [offenbrg](#) on Fri, 06 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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bowler@eisner.decus.org writes:

> I'm trying to write a function that will transform an arbitrary array by taking
> the natural log of every element in the array.

> What I have is

```
> function xform, input
> temp = alog(input) ; I realize I could combine these 2 statements
> return, temp ; but it makes debugging easier
> end
```

> Unfortunately, I can't guarantee that there won't be some elements that are
> zero and thus invalid arguments to alog. what's the "most efficient" way to
> take the alog of any element that's greater than 0 and set the value of any
> that are less than or equal to 0 to some small value (1e-7 for example)?

I think what you want is this:

```
function xform, input
temp = alog(input > 1e-7)
return, temp
end
```

The ">" operator in this case sets a floor on the values of "input"...any value less than 1e-7 is replaced with 1e-7.

Good luck,
Joel

--

"...And I am unanimous in this" - Mrs. Slocumbe

| Joel D Offenberg | Joel.D.Offenbrg.1@gssc.nasa.gov |
| Hughes STX, NASA/GSFC/LASP & STScI | UIT, NGST programmer & sysadmin |

Subject: Re: transforming an array where some values can't
Posted by [alpha](#) on Sun, 08 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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offenbrg@fondue.gsfc.nasa.gov (Joel D. Offenberg) writes:
> bowler@eisner.decus.org writes:

>> What I have is

```
>> function xform, input
>> temp = alog(input) ; I realize I could combine these 2 statements
>> return, temp ; but it makes debugging easier
>> end
```

>> Unfortunately, I can't guarantee that there won't be some elements that are
>> zero and thus invalid arguments to alog. what's the "most efficient" way to
>> take the alog of any element that's greater than 0 and set the value of any
>> that are less than or equal to 0 to some small value (1e-7 for example)?

> I think what you want is this:

```
> function xform, input
> temp = alog(input > 1e-7)
> return, temp
> end
```

> The ">" operator in this case sets a floor on the values of "input"...any
> value less than 1e-7 is replaced with 1e-7.

RSI told us, that the alo10 error was corrected in release 5.1!

so wait

Panther

```
--
Panther in the Jungle
-BELIEVE AND DECEIVE-
http://www.ang-physik.uni-kiel.de/~hendrik
```

Subject: Re: transforming an array where some values can't
Posted by [Evilio del Rio](#) on Mon, 09 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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On 6 Feb 1998, Joel D. Offenberg wrote:

```
> bowler@eisner.decus.org writes:
>
>> I'm trying to write a function that will transform an arbitrary array by taking
>> the natural log of every element in the array.
>
>> What I have is
>
>> function xform, input
>> temp = alog(input) ; I realize I could combine these 2 statements
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>> Unfortunately, I can't guarantee that there won't be some elements that are
>> zero and thus invalid arguments to alog. what's the "most efficient" way to
>> take the alog of any element that's greater than 0 and set the value of any
>> that are less than or equal to 0 to some small value (1e-7 for example)?
>
IDL softly handles any math exception (IEEE standard) so you don't need to
worry about the small/negative values for alog() :
```

```
IDL> print,alog(0.0)
-inf
IDL> print,alog(-1.0)
nan0x2000000
```

You just need to handle special case with the function FINITE(). However, many of the standard plot/calculation routines can treat NaN values as missing data, try for example:

```
IDL> plot,alog(randomn(seed,100))
```

Cheers,

Evilio Jose del Rio Silvan Institut de Ciencies del Mar

E-mail: edelrio@icm.csic.es URL: <http://www.ieec.fcr.es/~evilio/>

"Anywhere you choose,/ Anyway, you're gonna lose"- Mike Oldfield
