Title

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dsign( ) — FORTRAN-like DSIGN( ) function

Description Syntax Conformability Diagnostics Also see

Description

`dsign(`*a*`,` *b*`)` returns *a* with the sign of *b*, defined as $|a|$ if $b \geq 0$ and $-|a|$ otherwise.

This function is useful when translating FORTRAN programs.

The in-line construction

```
(b >=0 ? abs(a) : -abs(a))
```

is clearer. Also, differentiate carefully between what `dsign()` returns (equivalent to the above construction) and `signum(`*b*`)*abs(`*a*`)`, which is almost equivalent but returns 0 when *b* is 0 rather than `abs(`*a*`)`. (Message: `dsign()` is not one of our favorite functions.)

Syntax

real scalar `dsign(`*real scalar a*`,` *real scalar b*`)`

Conformability

`dsign(`*a*`,` *b*`)`:

a:	1×1
b:	1×1
result:	1×1

Diagnostics

`dsign(.,` *b*`)` returns `.` for all *b*.

`dsign(`*a*`, .)` returns `abs(`*a*`)` for all *a*.

Also see

[M-5] **sign( )** — Sign and complex quadrant functions

[M-4] **Scalar** — Scalar mathematical functions

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