

3.3 Release Notes: ANSI C Libraries

This release note mentions important items with regard to NEXTSTEP's ANSI C libraries.

Notes Specific to Release 3.1

Known Problems:

Reference: 34690

Problem: The **atof(3)** and **strtod(3)** functions produce different results for non-numbers on m68k and i386 architectures.

Description: On the m68k architecture, **atof()** and **strtod()** improperly interpret a leading 'i', 'n', or 's' as representing the floating-point values $\pm\text{Infinity}$, **NaN**, and **SNaN**,

respectively. On the i386 architecture these functions properly return 0.0 for the above cases, as well as for any other non-numeric string. In addition to producing different results, this may surprise users who've been used to typing values like "infinity" in text fields.

Workaround:

To insure consistent results, your code should check that the first non-whitespace, non-sign character of a string is a digit or decimal separator before calling **atof()** or **strtod()**.

If you want to accept string values such as "infinity", your code should explicitly check for them before calling **atof()** or **strtod()**. For example, it should check the return of a Control's or Cell's **stringValue** method rather than rely on the **floatValue** or **doubleValue** methods.