

**NAME**

`carg`, `cargf`, `cargl` – calculate the complex argument

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <complex.h>
```

```
double carg(double complex z);
```

```
float cargf(float complex z);
```

```
long double cargl(long double complex z);
```

Link with `-lm`.

**DESCRIPTION**

These functions calculate the complex argument (also called phase angle) of  $z$ , with a branch cut along the negative real axis.

A complex number can be described by two real coordinates. One may use rectangular coordinates and gets

$$z = x + I * y$$

where  $x = \text{creal}(z)$  and  $y = \text{cimag}(z)$ .

Or one may use polar coordinates and gets

$$z = r * \text{cexp}(I * a)$$

where  $r = \text{cabs}(z)$  is the "radius", the "modulus", the absolute value of  $z$ , and  $a = \text{carg}(z)$  is the "phase angle", the argument of  $z$ .

One has:

$$\tan(\text{carg}(z)) = \text{cimag}(z) / \text{creal}(z)$$

**RETURN VALUE**

The return value is the range of  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

**VERSIONS**

These functions first appeared in glibc in version 2.1.

**ATTRIBUTES**

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see [attributes\(7\)](#).

Interface	Attribute	Value
<code>carg()</code> , <code>cargf()</code> , <code>cargl()</code>	Thread safety	MT-Safe

**CONFORMING TO**

C99, POSIX.1-2001, POSIX.1-2008.

**SEE ALSO**

[cabs\(3\)](#), [complex\(7\)](#)

**COLOPHON**

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