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Subject: Re: Inconsistent Mean Calculation

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Tue, 21 May 2002 01:00:59 GMT

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"Phil" <plmcelwee@yahoo.com> wrote in message  
news:a3589d11.0205201557.1a92499f@posting.google.com...  
> I have 5000 frames of video in a NetCDF file, and I want to  
> calculate the average of frame 2557. I have read the video file  
> into both IDL v5.1 and Matlab v6.1. Additionally I have extracted  
> frame 2557 and copied it into Excel. Here are the mean calculations  
> I get for this frame:  
>  
> Matlab: 4092.6805  
> Excel: 4092.6805  
> IDL: 4093.6165  
>  
> Can anyone offer any suggestions as to why the IDL calculation is  
> different?

Matlab uses double-precision real numbers whereas IDL by default uses  
single-precision. Try repeating your IDL calculations using  
double precision (for example, if you are using IDL's TOTAL function,  
set its DOUBLE keyword).

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