Subject: Re: WHERE problems (longish)
Posted by Benjamin Panter on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 15:59:50 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:
> Benjamin Panter writes:
>
>
>> The values which have -1 certainly exist - and were generated in exactly
>> the same way as the others. I've put the array online if anyone fancies
>> looking at it - http://www.roe.ac.uk/~bdp/where_problem.idl
>>
>> Am I being stupid again? What is special about 2980,3000 and 3020??
>
>
> There is nothing special about *those* numbers, but those
> are not the numbers you are using in your WHERE statement.
> You are using 2980.0, 3000.0, and 3020.0. While there isn't
> a big difference between integers and floats to you, there
> is a HUGE difference to a computer. Better read these articles:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/sky_is_falling.html
> http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/razoredge.html

Yeup, thanks for that David - I'm still a bit confused though, as the values I give in the test program (3000.) are floats and the values in the look up table are also floats! I nievely thought that would avoid the razors and ints. Is it just by luck that where found the majority and lost those three?

After reading your pages I've come up with a solution though... if I replace the where lines with

print, where(abs(3000. - reform(dust_lookup[*,0])) lt 0.1)

I come out with the right answer.

thanks for you help,

Ben

--
Ben Panter, Edinburgh
My name (no spaces)@bigfoot which is a com.