
Subject: nearest number

Posted by bressert@gmail.com on Sun, 06 Aug 2006 16:10:53 GMT

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Hello,

Im writing a bit of IDL code where a large array of floating numbers is compared to one floating number. The aim of comparing the array to the floating number to find which the values "closest" match. I had the idea that I could write an algorithm that starts with the following

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index = where(array eq floating_value, count)
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if (size(index, /n_elements) eq 1) AND (index eq -1) then begin ...
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This bit would find the index numbers of the array that would be exactly the same to the floating number. If there is no number the where function returns a -1. From this point, I could try and round off the floating number and numbers in the array with smaller decimal places until there is a match. Would this be the best approach? Or is there already a built code in IDL or from someone else that does this? Any help is appreciated. Thanks!

Eli
