Subject: Re: Inaccuracies
Posted by wclodius on Wed, 15 Nov 1995 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <48djg2$b85@post.gsfc.nasa.gov>,
thompson@orpheus.nascom.nasa.gov (William Thompson) wrote:

> <snip>
> ...Round-off errors are determined solely by the floating point
> processing done by the CPU. It was stated earlier, without testing, that IDL
> was deficient in this repect relative to Fortran or C--I showed in an earlier
> message that this was not the case.

Round off errors are the result of the algorithm, the process of translating this algorithm into CPU and FPU operations, and FPU floating point processing. For simple algorithms, as in the example that prompted this thread, the translation of the algorithm for reasonable implementations is liable to produce the same FPU processing. In such a case you are correct. For more complicated algorithms, with optimizing translations, that need not be the case.

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