
Subject: Re: Inaccuracies

Posted by [lpmix](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 1995 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <30A7BC4D.7018@cdc.noaa.gov>, Andy Loughe <afl@cdc.noaa.gov> wrote:

>

>

> TRIAL #1

> =====

> IDL> a = findgen(15)*.2 - 1.4

> IDL> print, total(a)

> 7.15256e-07

Stuff deleted*****

>

> Maybe I am missing something here, but this kind of behavior

> makes IDL a bit problematical for scientific use. With only 15

> numbers and double precision arithmetic, I can't believe this

> would fail in FORTRAN or C!

>

> --

> Andrew F. Loughe (afl@cdc.noaa.gov)

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Try

IDL> a = findgen(8)*0.2

IDL> a = [-rotate(a(1:*), 2), a]

IDL> print, total(a, /double)

0.0000000

I'm not sure what you want to do, but expecting perfect math with floats is not generally possible.

Paul

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L. Paul Mix

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