
Subject: Re: Comparing 2 arrays

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 26 Aug 2007 16:43:46 GMT

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Jean H. writes:

> to get back to a previous discussion we had a few month ago about being
> "sufficiently close to zero", shouldn't it be (data1.A - data2.B) LT
> epsilon * data1.A , with epsilon=(machar()).eps?

Humm, I don't recall that discussion. But I can see how this number might meet the criteria of "sufficiently close". On the other hand, I can also envision situations where the number could be orders of magnitude larger and still work for a particular application. I'm probably mistaken, but it seems to me "sufficiently close" is an arbitrary value that must be picked empirically to match the data and what you are trying to do with it.

Cheers,

David

P.S. I'm just thinking that "sufficiently close" to a black hole, for example, might be a completely different number than "sufficiently close" to my house.

--

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
