
Subject: Re: Comparing 2 arrays

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 28 Aug 2007 16:52:54 GMT

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Jean H. writes:

- > David, in your example (in this message), you use
- > $\text{NUMBER} = (\text{array_1} > \text{array_2}) * \text{epsilon}$
- > and
- > $\text{NUMBER} = (\text{array_1} > \text{array_2}) * \text{epsilon} * 2$ in your article...

I just thought there should be some multiple to account for possible accumulative round-off errors. Two was an arbitrary selection, but based on something I read in the previous discussion. Naturally, I decided on this after I wrote the note describing it. :-)

- > Also, but that is for pure curiosity, could it be possible to read
- > directly the mantissa and the power (see David's article if it sounds
- > like a foreign language) and to compare them for our 2 numbers? ... 1)
- > look at the power, if they have any difference, the two values can not be
- > equal. Then look at the mantissa and asses if the digit values are the
- > same or not...

I don't think IDL has easy access to the numbers as they are stored. I guess you could do it yourself, but I'm pretty sure it involves "twos complement" arithmetic, which I've never been sufficiently motivated to learn. :-(

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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