
Subject: Re: what is i in idl 4.0 ?

Posted by [Richard G. French](#) on Tue, 10 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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John Stanly Videen wrote:

>
> Help,
>
> Does anyone know what the system variable representation for i is in idl
> 4.0?
>
> [where i = sqrt(-1)]
>
> In idl 3.6, it used to be !j, but this doesn't seem to work in 4.0....
>
> eg. this code works in 3.6, but not 4.0:
>
> phase=atan(imaginary(data_ref), float(data_ref))
> temp=exp(- phase * !j)
> data=temp*data
>
> john

I agree with David Fanning. Try putting this in your startup file:

```
DEFSYSV,'!j',dcomplex([0.d0,1.d0])
```

then, for example, you can do

```
IDL> print,exp(!J*!dpi/4)  
(   0.70710678,   0.70710678)
```

Dick French
