
Subject: Re: Conversion Error?

Posted by [m218003](#) on Mon, 16 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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```
>> IDL> size=(double(200-70.1))/0.01
>> IDL> help,size
>> SIZE      DOUBLE   =    12990.000
>> IDL> c=fltarr(size)
>> IDL> help,c
>>
>> I get
>>
>> C          FLOAT    = Array[12989]
>>
>> Does anyone know why???
```

That might be in the FAQ by now? Anyway: try
print,(double(200-70.1))/0.01,format='(f24.14)'
and you'll see what you really get.

Solution: add a tiny little bit to your double number before truncating it by using it as an index (LONG please, not INTEGER !). To determine how much to add, you should compute the ALOG10 and subtract about 9 or 10 from it. In your case that would give you something like -5 which means you would add $10^{-5} = 0.0001$.. hardly noticeable but efficient in getting correct numbers. ****BUT****: as any speed fanatics will tell you: logs and likes are very costly in computer resources, so whenever you know the numerical range of values use a constant rather than the computation above.

Regards,
Martin.
