Subject: Re: accuracy problems

Posted by davidf on Thu, 27 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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- > I've a very strange problem: I'm running IDL 5.2.1 on a Pentium III 500 with
- > Windows NT. When I read data from a file into a variable, IDL always makes a
- > truncation. Even when I type it at the IDL prompt.
- > For example:

>

> IDL> a=2.83456

> IDL> print, a

>

> IDL prints: 2.00000

>

- > Its equal if I define the variable as float or double, the result is always
- > the same.

>

> Does anyone have a idea how this can happen,

You have the Student Edition of IDL. All numbers are automatically truncated to the 10 counting digits you have available on your hands. A compiler option will extend this to the toe digits as well.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say there is something seriously wrong with IDL, or you are not telling us *something* about how you created those numbers. You aren't trying to get the variable a by reading it from the keyboard into a integer variable you? :-)

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

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