
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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