
Subject: comparing numbers using WHERE doesn't work
Posted by [Miklos Z. Kiss](#) on Sat, 02 Jun 2001 19:15:16 GMT
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Hi folks:

I have noticed a strange occurrence when I try to compare a number with all the elements of an array. I'll show my situation in an example.

Consider the following array:

a = [2.0000, 2.1000, 2.2000, 2.3000, 2.4000, 2.5000, 2.6000].

Let, x = 2.2000, y = 2.4000

So, I want to find which elements of a match up with x and y.
Naturally, I do the following:

```
index0 = WHERE(a EQ x)
index0 = index[0] ; convert from 1-D array to single integer.
index1 = WHERE(a EQ y)
index1 = index[0]
```

So, when I execute, I may get the following:

```
PRINT, index0
```

```
2
```

```
PRINT, index1
```

```
-1
```

The output clearly tells me that x occurs at a[2] and that y does not exist in a at all. By inspection, IDL should return the value 4. Does anyone have any idea why this happens? Thanks,

Mik Kiss
