
Subject: Re: Convert hex string to number

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Fri, 24 Jun 2005 22:29:43 GMT

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Karl Schultz wrote:

> On Fri, 24 Jun 2005 17:02:12 -0500, Michael Wallace wrote:

>

>

>>>> Assume you have a hexadecimal number stored as a string. How do you

>>>> convert this string to a numeric data type? I can easily convert a number

>>>> into a hex string, but how do you go the other way?

>>>>

>>>> -Mike

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>> IDL> s = 'f'

>>>

>>> IDL> reads, s,out,format='(z)'

>>>

>>> IDL> help,out

>>>

>>> OUT FLOAT = 15.0000

>>

>>

>> It seems that when the hex numbers get so big, I start losing precision

>> on the conversion. I have tried a number of different ideas with the

>> format codes, but nothing has worked so far. It appears that reads

>> always stores the output value as a float despite how big the input

>> number is. Is there a way to for it to use double or long on the

>> conversion?

>>

>> IDL> reads, '1234abcd', output, format = '(Z)'

>> IDL> print, output, FORMAT = '(I10)'

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>> IDL> reads, '1234abce', output, format = '(Z)'

>> IDL> print, output, FORMAT = '(I10)'

>> 305441728

>> IDL> reads, '1234abcf', output, format = '(Z)'

>> IDL> print, output, FORMAT = '(I10)'

>> 305441728

>>

>> Something is not right with the above picture...

>>

>> -Mike

>

>

> Docs say:

>
> Note
> If the variable specified for the Vari argument has not been previously
> defined, the input data is assumed to be of type float, and the variable
> will be cast as a float.
>
> So,
>
> output = 1d
>
> before you call READS does the trick.
>
> Karl

Wow. And to think I stared at the reads documentation for so long today
and just missed it. Thanks.

-Mike
