
Subject: Re: Casting floating point number into e-notation
Posted by [Tim Hammond](#) on Fri, 09 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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cavanaugh@uars1.acd.ucar.edu (Charles Cavanaugh) wrote:

>
> Please, please, please somebody tell me what I'm doing wrong with
> my attempt to cast a floating point value into e-notation (using
> our old buddy IDL) :
>

I'm not sure if this is exactly what you were asking, but to read a float value into a string in exponential form you can simply use:

```
IDL> a=3.567
IDL> b=strtrim(string(a,format='(e11.4)'),2)
IDL> print,b
3.5670e+00
IDL> help,b
B          STRING    = '3.5670e+00'
```

If you actually want to force the numbers themselves to appear in this format whatever their value then I'm afraid I can't help, sorry...

All the best,

Tim Hammond.
