
Subject: Casting floating point number into e-notation
Posted by [cavanaugh](#) on Thu, 08 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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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) :

```
IDL> a = 3.567
IDL> print, size(a)
      0      4      1
IDL> print, a
      3.56700
IDL> b = strtrim (a, 2)
IDL> print, size(b)
      0      7      1
IDL> print, b
      3.56700
IDL> print, format = '(e11.4)', a
      3.5670e+00
IDL> print, format = '(e11.4)', b
      3.5670e+00
IDL> c = 0.0
IDL> reads, format = '(e11.4)', a, c
IDL> print, size(c)
      0      4      1
IDL> print, c
      3.56700
IDL> reads, format = '(e11.4)', b, c
IDL> print, size(c)
      0      4      1
IDL> print, c
      3.56700
IDL> c = "
IDL> reads, format = '(e11.4)', a, c
IDL> print, size(c)
      0      7      1
IDL> print, c
      3.5670000
IDL> reads, format = '(e11.4)', b, c
IDL> print, size(c)
      0      7      1
IDL> print, c
      3.5670000
```

The print command works as expected when given a format, but when reads is used, the variable "c", afraid of being labelled as an e-type by his f-type

friends, refuses, with all his strength, to be cast into e-notation. Why?

Charles

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Charles Cavanaugh | "Words are very unnecessary, they can only do harm"

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NCAR Boulder, CO, USA | "Facts all come with points of view"

My opinions | - Talking Heads
