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Subject: Re: formatting exponential notation  
Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Fri, 10 Mar 2006 15:04:43 GMT  
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Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:

> In article <1141997588.908348.289430@j52g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>,  
> "Steve.Morris@libero.it" <Steve.Morris@libero.it> wrote:

>

>

>> Hi all,

>>

>> I need a quick advice on the way to write number in the exponent format

>> I want.

>> For example, I want the number printed on my screen in the following

>> form

>> -2.3435e-5

>>

>> i.e. 4 digits after the point and as function of e-5

>>

>> Any suggestion? I have tried to use the format='(EX.X)' but without

>> much of a success .... :(

>

>

> I think one reason that the E format works the way it does:

>

> IDL> print, -2.3435E-5, format = "(E12.4)"

> -2.3435E-05

>

> is to ensure that the exponent part of the field is always 4 digits.

> That makes it easy to produce uniformly-aligned tables of numbers.

>

Additionally

```
print,strlowcase('-2.3435E-05')
```

```
-2.3435e-05
```

now you only have to strip the zero...

Ciao,

Paolo

> If you really want the result to appear like this

>

> -2.3435e-5

>

> you could always format it yourself (base-10 logarithms come to mind).

>

> Ken Bowman

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