## Subject: Re: formatting exponential notation Posted by Kenneth P. Bowman on Fri, 10 Mar 2006 14:28:20 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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

- > Hi all,
- >
- > I need a guick 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 tryed 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.

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