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Subject: Re: Recognizing double precision?

Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Tue, 09 Oct 2007 15:24:04 GMT

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On Oct 9, 3:11 pm, "edward.s.mei...@aero.org" <mei...@aero.org> wrote:

> On Oct 8, 9:18 am, wlandsman <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> Except that single precision or even a long integer (e.g. 2441636)

>> \*could\* be valid, if the user was not interested in fractional

>> days. I agree that it is probably safest to force the user to

>> input double precision, but this does not feel like the "IDL way".

>> Thanks, --Wayne

>

> Actually, it gets rounded:

>

> IDL> jd = 2441636.1

> IDL> print, jd, f='(f10.2)'

> 2441636.00

> IDL> jd = 2441636.9

> IDL> print, jd, f='(f10.2)'

> 2441637.00

>

> You're right, that is not a good thing. Mathematica has been doing it

> correctly for a long time, why can't IDL?

Well, we have

compile\_opt defint32

what I want is

compile\_opt defdouble

to have floating point constants on the command line and in code be in double precision by default. If needed, one can use float() to explicitly downcast a double, the other way round is impossible.

Best,

Maarten

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