
Subject: Re: julday() and fractional days

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 31 Oct 2007 15:49:35 GMT

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Ed Hyer <ejhyer@gmail.com> writes:

```
> OK, if you search c.l.i.p for this you'll find a post from Craig
> Markwardt wherein he laments that JULDAY "doesn't handle fractional
> days". Someone replies to say yes it does, but I think that person
> misunderstood.
>
> IDL> print,julday(12,31,2005,0,0,0)
>      2453735.5
> IDL> print,julday(12,31.2,2005,0,0,0)
>      2453735.5
>
> I'm really unhappy with IDL right now.
```

I mostly use my own simple Julian day routine just to avoid all these annoying surprises.

But in your case it would *almost* be easy enough to work around it with something like,

```
IDL> print,julday(12,31,2005,0,0,0) + .2
      2453735.7
```

or programmatically,

```
IDL> print,julday(month,floor(day),year,0,0,0) + (day-floor(day))
```

But the annoyance is in taking the time to discover these quirks, and to remember them.

Craig

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