
Subject: Re: Numbers from nowhere?

Posted by [elwood](#) on Sun, 17 Feb 2008 20:19:44 GMT

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I'm glad that the Coyotes have something useful to do, besides keeping me awake
all night in the Anza Borrego desert (it was wonderful to hear them all night actually!)

But my question is more pointed:
if you assign $x=3.3$
and you know apriori that the floating point data type will not have enough bits to store this number precisely, why does "print" show this number as 3.3?

Is it because it is rounding off with some kind of algorithm?
Or am I misinterpreting how this number is being stored?

Curious,
Elisha

On Feb 15, 4:51 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Paul van Delst writes:

>> Cosmic rays randomly flipping the bits beyond the stated precision?

>

> Teams of coyotes, given jobs like this to satisfy
> their playful nature, but still keep them off the
> street, more likely.

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
