

**NAME**

atof – ascii to floating

**SYNOPSIS**

```
double atof(nptr)  
char *nptr;
```

**DESCRIPTION**

*Atof* converts a string to a floating number. *Nptr* should point to a string containing the number; the first unrecognized character ends the number.

The only numbers recognized are: an optional minus sign followed by a string of digits optionally containing one decimal point, then followed optionally by the letter **e** followed by a signed integer.

**DIAGNOSTICS**

There are none; overflow results in a very large number and garbage characters terminate the scan.

**BUGS**

The routine should accept initial +, initial blanks, and **E** for **e**. Overflow should be signalled.