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NAME

      atof − convert 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.