
Subject: Re: How do I prevent underflow errors?

Posted by [Ethan Alpert](#) on Fri, 19 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Phillip & Suzanne David wrote:

> Unfortunately, our data is NOT all positive, so this doesn't work. However,
> it appears that the really large numbers are due to someone putting a "huge"
> value in where there were holes in the data. We're trying to get them to put
> a smaller "huge" number (1e10?) in instead!

Use the idl operator '<' which can be used to convert every number over a certain threshold.

i.e:

```
IDL> var = [1,2,1e38,1,1e12]
```

```
IDL> print,var
```

```
1.00000 2.00000 1.00000e+38 1.00000 1.00000e+12
```

```
IDL> print,var<1e10
```

```
1.00000 2.00000 1.00000e+10 1.00000 1.00000e+10
```

```
IDL>
```

1e10 is inserted where ever the value of var is greater than 1e10.

-ethan

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