
Subject: Re: the sky is falling down again
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Thu, 01 Feb 2007 19:10:01 GMT
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On Wed, 31 Jan 2007 15:56:50 -0600, Kenneth Bowman wrote:

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> In article <pan.2007.01.31.20.17.22.400474@as.arizona.edu>,
> JD Smith <jdsmith@as.arizona.edu> wrote:
>
>> On Wed, 31 Jan 2007 11:30:57 -0700, David Fanning wrote:
>>
>>> Where else can people go when they want
>>> to count angles on the head of a pin? :^)
>>
>> I prefer counting them in radians, because !RADEG is single precision
>> floating point.
>
> Thanks for chaffing David, JD. I refrained. ;-)
```

```
>
> IDL has a built-in double precision value of Pi, so I include
>
> DEFSYSV, 'IDDTOR', !DPI/180.0D, 1
> DEFSYSV, 'IDRADEG', 180.0D/!DPI, 1
>
> in my startup.pro.
```

Good idea. I'm always starting programs with RADEG=180.D/!DPI, but a SYSVAR is a better idea. Come to think of it, why don't you suggest to ITTVIS to add those? It's a rare coordinate calculation in astronomy that doesn't require double float precision in radians.

JD
