Subject: Re: Numbers from nowhere? Posted by bennette on Fri, 15 Feb 2008 21:12:02 GMT

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On Feb 15, 10:08 am, Conor <cmanc...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > I'm just curious:
- >
- > print,3.3,format='(f30.28)'
- > 3.2999999523162841796875000000

>

- > Obviously float is only good to ~6 decimal places, but IDL will still
- > print out additional digits. It seems that it does reach a point
- > where IDL will only print out zeroes. I'm just curious where do
- > these extra digits come from? Does it come from rounding errors
- > converting binary to decimal? Or does it come from some other
- > nefarious location?

I think that you hit the nail on the head. There is a nice article on decimal to binary conversion on David Fanning's sight. http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/sky_is_falling.html

Eric

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