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Subject: Re: Double precision

Posted by [plim.dreaming](#) on Thu, 19 Mar 2009 05:16:06 GMT

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Later in the program I calculate the separation between points (x1,y1)  
(x2,y2)

And for some of those points the program says that the pairs are the same. But they are only the same if they are rounded off, the difference often only shows up in the last 2 decimal places.

ya, i read that link, most of it at least.

One other thing is: lets say the print out is the issue; a case like you pointed out above, then why is it that if I do:

```
b=string(num)
```

```
print,b will give me the rounded off number?
```

On Mar 18, 9:32 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> plim.dream...@gmail.com writes:

>> Ok, this is probably dumb but I need help with it.

>> So i'm reading in some data which was in string format, several

>> columns of data, and the data in one of the columns is getting

>> truncated, rounded off. I want more significant figures.

>> I have:

>> pixmag = reform(double(dbwork[1,\*]))

>> dbwork is the original data, it has outputs such as 100.261787

>> pixmag, however, rounds that off to 100.26179 which is causing errors.

>> So how do I bump this up to 14 decimal places? Where do I put the

>> "D"??

>

> What evidence do you have that the numbers are being

> "rounded off"?

>

> IDL> str = '6.1234567890'

> IDL> num = double(str)

> IDL> print, num, format='(F12.10)'

> 6.1234567890

>

> However,

>

> IDL> print, num

> 6.1234568

>

> Is the default format of the PRINT command your problem?

>

> This is always a useful article to read:

>

> [http://www.dfanning.com/math\\_tips/sky\\_is\\_falling.html](http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/sky_is_falling.html)

>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>  
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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