
Subject: Re: Number format

Posted by [Wout De Nolf](#) on Sat, 11 Sep 2010 09:45:58 GMT

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On Fri, 10 Sep 2010 20:43:57 -0700 (PDT), mahesh <mkmvarma@gmail.com> wrote:

> How do I change the format of numbers. For example : from '9.5600' to
> '9.56E+00'. I need to write the numbers in this format into a text
> file. I know there is 'FORMAT' function in IDL. I tried using it right
> after the printf statement. But it is not converting it to the format
> I wanted.
> Thanks,
> Mahesh

```
IDL> print,9.56,format='(E10.2)'  
9.56E+000
```

This means: scientific notation, 2 digits after the decimal point and a string length of 10 characters. Make sure this string length is large enough (depends on the numbers you're printing). On a windows platform, the exponent has 3 digits, on Linux it has 2. I don't think you can change that (off course you can manipulate the string itself before printing it).
