
Subject: Re: my god, it's full of stars....

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 17 Aug 2011 12:05:00 GMT

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If I don't know what the size of the numbers will be (or if their range is many orders of magnitude), I use exponential formats, e.g. e13.6.

cheers,

paulv

polystethylene wrote:

> On Aug 16, 10:29 pm, Paul van Delst <paul.vande...@noaa.gov> wrote:

>> The format used to output the number can't "fit it in". E.g.

>>

>> IDL> x=0.631398

>> IDL> print, format='(f10.6)', x

>> 0.631398

>> IDL> x=1000.0

>> IDL> print, format='(f10.6)', x

>> *****

>>

>> So, if the number being output in your file is >= 1000, you'll get stars.

>>

>> The ">=" is subject to precision of course:

>>

>> IDL> x=999.9999

>> IDL> print, format='(f10.6)', x

>> 999.999878

>> IDL> x=999.99999

>> IDL> print, format='(f10.6)', x

>> *****

>>

>> cheers,

>>

>> paulv

>>

>>

>

>

> Hi Paul, thanks for the swift reply.

>

> Does this mean the solution for situations where the number is unknown

> is to print with format D0.6, and not D10.6?

>

>