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

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 16 Aug 2011 21:29:34 GMT

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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 " \geq " 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

polystethylene wrote:

> Quick question - some of my data files are being written with the
> likes of:

```
>
> 5484.487603  0.533930  1.274879
> 5484.488112  1.378365  0.433342
> 5484.488610  0.631398  1.682024
> 5484.489131  *****  0.913028
> 5484.489628  0.968477  0.610894
> 5484.490126  0.819817  0.674836
> 5484.490635  1.502081  0.369167
```

>

>

> I rarely see this, but due to the nature of searching for '*****'

> - I can't google this one at all...

>

>

> Any ideas?