
Subject: Re: using print statement to print to memory or a variable?

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Thu, 16 Aug 2012 20:24:58 GMT

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On 8/16/12 2:03 PM, Mark Q wrote:

> Pardon me if this is general knowledge, but I'm trying to figure out if it's possible to use a print statement to print to a plot, so to speak.

>

> The basic idea is this. I have some complicated code which eventually contains a line:

>

> printf,lun,"some format here", var1,var2,var3

>

> which prints to the screen or a file.

>

> As I recall, in fortran it's possible to print to memory (or print to a variable), and then to read that string from memory, which I could then send to a plot. For obnoxious reasons, I'd rather do this than rewrite the code to actually generate a character string...

>

> Thanks,

>

> Mark

>

STRING and PRINT/PRINTF take arguments and format strings in the same manner, so it's not hard to change between them, i.e.,

```
printf, lun, a, b, c, format=format_string
```

or

```
s = string(a, b, c, format=format_string)
```

Mike

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

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