
Subject: Re: print a la C

Posted by [R. Bauer](#) on Wed, 04 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Andrea Spinelli wrote:

```
>
> Hi,
>
> does anybody know whether there is a freely available somewhere a
> function for printing floats in a way similar to the %g
> argument of printf? E.g.:
>
> printf("%g\n",0.02); [C]
> results in
> 0.02
>
> print, 0.01          [IDL]
> 0.0100000
```

Hi Andrea,

I can share one of my functions with you.

num_dec is written by Ray Sterner and you can get it from his library.

<http://fermi.jhuapl.edu/res/>

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```
function number_format,number,format=format,help=help
```

```
  IF keyword_set(help) THEN BEGIN
```

```
    print,'(number_forms) no_string=number_forms(number)'
```

```
    print,'use format=format to get the Format code'
```

```
    return,-1
```

```
  ENDIF
```

```
  ab = strtrim(string(number),2)
```

```
dp = strtrim(string(num_dec(number)),2)
length = strtrim(string(strpos(ab,')+1+long(dp)),2)
```

```
form = "(f"+length+"."+dp+)"
```

```
IF keyword_set(format) THEN BEGIN
  return,form
ENDIF
```

```
return,string(format=form,number)
```

```
END
```

```
--
```

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