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Subject: Re: FORMAT question

Posted by [A. D. & J.C. Cool](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 10:55:51 GMT

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Paul Manusiu wrote:

> Hi,  
> Does anyone if its possible to use a function or variable as a parameter  
> or option to FORMAT ?  
> ;e.g. if I have  
> print, blah, FORMAT = '(2(F6.1))'  
> ; but I want something like this  
> for var = 0, 10 do \$  
> print, blah[var,\*], FORMAT = '(var(F6.1))'  
>  
> Any help please will be much appreciated  
>  
> Paul M.

Hi Paul,

Try building up your format string :-

```
> IDL> var = 2
> IDL> format_str=('+' + string(var,form='(i2)') + '(f6.1))'
> IDL> print,format_str
> ( 2(f6.1))
> IDL> y=[1254.643,643.804]
> IDL> print,y,format=format_str
> 1254.6 643.8
>
```

There's probably a kosher way of doing this, but hey, it works...

Andrew Cool

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Subject: Re: FORMAT question

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 12:15:53 GMT

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Paul Manusiu wrote:

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> ;e.g. if I have

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> for var = 0, 10 do $
> print, blah[var,*], FORMAT = '(var(F6.1))'
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> Any help please will be much appreciated
>
> Paul M.
```

Dear Paul,

this is the first time I am able to give totally the same answer to someone in this newsgroup at the same day. Don't you read others articles?

we have some routines which returns the format code of a value

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/download/find\\_form.tar.gz](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/find_form.tar.gz)

```
; EXAMPLE:
; numbers=[100,2.1345,1000.]
; print,find_form(numbers)
;   F10.4
; print,find_form(numbers,/reduce_accuracy)
;   F10.2
; print,find_form(-40010138.D)
;   I9
; print,find_form(-40010138.D,/force)
;   F10.0
```

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/download/number\\_format.tar.gz](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/number_format.tar.gz)

For further routines and licensing please have a look at  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

regards  
Reimar  
--  
Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

=====

read something about linux / windows

<http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html>

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Subject: Re: FORMAT question

Posted by [Paul Manusiu](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 14:13:44 GMT

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Thanks Andrew it did the job just fine.

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Subject: Re: FORMAT question

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 15:11:19 GMT

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Reimar Bauer wrote:

>  
> Paul Manusiu wrote:  
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>>  
>> Paul M.  
>  
> Dear Paul,  
>  
> this is the first time I am able to give totally the same answer  
> to someone in this newsgroup at the same day. Don't you read others  
> articles?

Actually your reply doesn't directly apply to the problem he's having - i.e. a repeat

specifier in a format statements - although your software might.

In any case, apart from Andrew's solution, I would also try:

```
IDL> var=2
IDL> fmt=('+strtrim(var,2)+'(f6.1))'
IDL> print, fmt
(2(f6.1))
```

to avoid the need for `_another_` format when outputting var into the format string.

paulv

--

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Subject: Re: FORMAT question  
Posted by [Phillip David](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2001 19:45:33 GMT  
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try the even simpler command:

```
x = findgen(10)*!pi
print, x, format=(' + strtrim(n_elements(x),2) + '(f10.6))'
```

This will print out all elements on a single line.

As an additional note, if you use `print, x, format='((f10.6))'`, you'll get each element printed on its own line, but they still all get printed. More useful, perhaps, is the idea that you can get an appropriate line length this way.

```
x = findgen(1000)*!pi
print, x, format=('(10(f10.6))'
```

will give you 100 lines with 10 elements each on them.

You probably knew this, but there may have been some who didn't.

Phillip

Paul Manusiu wrote:

```
>
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```

> or option to FORMAT ?  
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> Paul M.

---

---

Subject: Re: FORMAT question  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Mon, 08 Oct 2001 06:52:48 GMT  
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Paul van Delst wrote:

>  
> Reimar Bauer wrote:  
>>  
>> Paul Manusiu wrote:  
>>>  
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>>> Paul M.  
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>> Dear Paul,  
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>> this is the first time I am able to give totally the same answer  
>> to someone in this newsgroup at the same day. Don't you read others  
>> articles?  
>  
> Actually your reply doesn't directly apply to the problem he's having - i.e. a repeat  
> specifier in a format statements - although your software might.  
>

I agree, I have not seen this problem. The routine could be useful too  
if you don't

know anything about the format of the data.

The online help with the keyword "Format codes" describes much more formatting codes and syntax.

Reimar

```
> In any case, apart from Andrew's solution, I would also try:
>
> IDL> var=2
> IDL> fmt='('+strtrim(var,2)+'(f6.1))'
> IDL> print, fmt
> (2(f6.1))
>
> to avoid the need for _another_ format when outputting var into the format string.
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> paulv
>
> --
> Paul van Delst           Religious and cultural
> CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP       purity is a fundamentalist
> Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274   fantasy
> Fax:(301)763-8545        V.S.Naipaul
```

--

Reimar Bauer

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

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