
Subject: Re: sky is falling, again ?

Posted by [Norbert Hahn](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 14:54:00 GMT

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nata <bernat.puigdomenech@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> Hi folks,
>
> I'm converting julian dates to text, using the calendar format. So,
> for example:
> time_text=2455636.937500d
>
> PRINT, STRING(time_text,FORMAT='(C(CDI2.2,"/",CMOI2.2,"/",CYI,"
> ",CHI2.2,".",CMI2.2))')
>
> CALDAT, time_text, mo, dd, yy, hh, mm
> PRINT, STRTRIM(dd,2)+"/"+STRTRIM(mo,2)+"/"+STRTRIM(yy,2)+"
> "+STRTRIM(hh,2)+":"+STRTRIM(mm,2)
>
> 16/03/2011 10:29
> 16/03/2011 10:30
>
> Lol ! There is 1 minute difference !!!! Do you know why ?
```

If you use

```
PRINT, STRING(time_text,FORMAT='(C(CDI2.2,"/",CMOI2.2,"/",CYI,"
",CHI2.2,".",CMI2.2,".",CSI2.2))')
```

to print time_text

you'll get

```
16/03/2011 10:29:59
```

with the number of milliseconds missing. But you are close to the next minute.

As usual with quantized values, the last digit may be wrong.

Norbert

Subject: Re: sky is falling, again ?

Posted by [Fabzou](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 16:52:48 GMT

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On 03/16/2011 03:54 PM, Norbert Hahn wrote:

```
> nata<bernat.puigdomenech@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> with the number of milliseconds missing. But you are close to
> the next minute.
> As usual with quantized values, the last digit may be wrong.
>
```

> Norbert

Because of this problem, we now defined our own time system based on "milliseconds since ..." (working with LONG64 formats to be sure). It works nice, but it was a long (and a bit boring) work to make it flexible and stable.

I was wondering what are you people doing?

Fab

Subject: Re: sky is falling, again ?

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 17:06:55 GMT

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In article <8uc870F5jqU1@mid.dfncis.de>,
Fabzou <fabien.maussion@tu-berlin.de> wrote:

> On 03/16/2011 03:54 PM, Norbert Hahn wrote:

>> nata<bernat.puigdomenech@gmail.com> wrote:

>>

>> with the number of milliseconds missing. But you are close to

>> the next minute.

>> As usual with quantized values, the last digit may be wrong.

>>

>> Norbert

>

> Because of this problem, we now defined our own time system based on

> "milliseconds since ..." (working with LONG64 formats to be sure). It

> works nice, but it was a long (and a bit boring) work to make it

> flexible and stable.

>

> I was wondering what are you people doing?

>

> Fab

I have a small library to do date and time calculations that are exact to the second using structures and integer arithmetic. It could be modified to add a millisecond or microsecond field.

You can download it here

<http://idl.tamu.edu/idl/Downloads.html>

(see bowman_lib.zip)

Ken Bowman

```
IDL> date1 = MAKE_DATE(2011, 3, 16, 12, 4, 0)
IDL> date2 = MAKE_DATE(2011, 3, 17, 12, 4, 0)
IDL> print, TIME_DIFF(date2, date1)
      86400
IDL> print, MAKE_ISO_DATE_STRING(date1)
2011-03-16 12:04:00
IDL>
```

Subject: Re: sky is falling, again ?
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 17:38:46 GMT
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Am 16.03.2011 17:52, schrieb Fabzou:

```
>
> On 03/16/2011 03:54 PM, Norbert Hahn wrote:
>> nata<bernat.puigdomenech@gmail.com> wrote:
>>
>> with the number of milliseconds missing. But you are close to
>> the next minute.
>> As usual with quantized values, the last digit may be wrong.
>>
>> Norbert
>
> Because of this problem, we now defined our own time system based on
> "milliseconds since ..." (working with LONG64 formats to be sure). It
> works nice, but it was a long (and a bit boring) work to make it
> flexible and stable.
>
> I was wondering what are you people doing?
>
```

We use julian seconds, defined as "seconds since 2000-01-01 00:00:00" by Ray Sterner (JHUAPL). It is a double precision number.

Works very well. We also have timeaxis, setup_time_axis routines and lots of conversion routines in our library.

Reimar

Subject: Re: sky is falling, again ?
Posted by [Fabzou](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 17:53:27 GMT
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On 03/16/2011 06:06 PM, Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:

```
>> Because of this problem, we now defined our own time system based on
>> "milliseconds since ..." (working with LONG64 formats to be sure). It
>> works nice, but it was a long (and a bit boring) work to make it
>> flexible and stable.
```

```
>>
>> I was wondering what are you people doing?
```

```
>>
>> Fab
```

```
>
> I have a small library to do date and time calculations that are
> exact to the second using structures and integer arithmetic. It
> could be modified to add a millisecond or microsecond field.
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```
>
> You can download it here
>
> http://idl.tamu.edu/idl/Downloads.html
```

```
>
> (see bowman_lib.zip)
```

```
>
> Ken Bowman
```

```
>
>
> IDL> date1 = MAKE_DATE(2011, 3, 16, 12, 4, 0)
> IDL> date2 = MAKE_DATE(2011, 3, 17, 12, 4, 0)
> IDL> print, TIME_DIFF(date2, date1)
>          86400
> IDL> print, MAKE_ISO_DATE_STRING(date1)
> 2011-03-16 12:04:00
> IDL>
```

Yeah, once again I re-did something that already exists thousands of time ;-)

Reading this newsgroup regularly, I learned the most important thing ever: "first look if someone didn't do it for you"

Nice community, by the way...

Fab

Subject: Re: sky is falling, again ?
Posted by [natha](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 18:25:01 GMT
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Thank you for all of these replies.

Now, I know where I have the problem...

My julian date is exactly what I want. The problem is when I convert the date to local time.

I am doing something like: `julian_time+=(SYSTIME(/UTC,/JUL)-SYSTIME(/JUL))`

The problem is this line. If I use the calendar format, sometimes works, sometimes not.

nata
