
Subject: Re: Arithmetic error

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 31 Jan 2002 10:11:39 GMT

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Ed Wright wrote:

>
> To: IDL
> From: Ed Wright, JPL
>
> I require assistance with an odd problem. My current projects involves
> creating a dlm module of some 200+ routines from a library of 1500+
> routines. Several of the IDL callable routines replicate intrinsic IDL
> calls. While testing one such routine that calculates determinate of a 3X3
> I encountered a problem. The numerical result between my determinant
> function and determ matches to $10^{(-16)}$.
>
> Now the odd thing. Under certain circumstances the use of my determinant
> function as an argument in another routine call causes an error:
>
> % Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand.
>

That error means somewhere in your code you have generated a NaN (Not a Number). The operations which generate NaNs include 0/0, Inf*0, sqrt(<0) Inf-Inf, Inf/Inf (there may be others...).

Since you don't have a preceding 'Floating divide by zero', it's a fair bet your error doesn't involve Inf. So, all you have to do is look through your code to find where you might have a 0/0 or sqrt(<0). ;-)

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