Subject: Floating Point Bug on Intel Pentium CPUs Posted by Liam Gumley on Wed, 23 Nov 1994 17:08:44 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

This is not strictly IDL related, but may affect IDL users on Pentium platforms who run complicated models. Recent discussion in the comp.sys.intel newsgroup has focussed on the discovery of a bug in the floating point unit on Intel Pentium CPUs. The bug is evident during divide operations. The following code reportedly will show the bug. It should give zero (or near enough to it), but on the Pentium it returns z = 256.

```
x = 4195835.

y = 3145727.

z = x - (x/y)*y
```

Apparently some kind of chip replacement strategy is being considered by Intel. For more details, tune to comp.sys.intel

Cheers, Liam. liamg@ssec.wisc.edu