
Subject: 1e38 limit?

Posted by [paulartcoelho](#) on Fri, 27 Feb 2009 15:55:52 GMT

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hello,

i read float numbers from a text file, and eventually i need to multiply them by large numbers $\sim 1e40$.

'result' is the array that i read from the text file, and 'chi' is the array i'm analysing. i extract it with:

```
chi = double(reform(result[3,*]))
```

and then i do something like:

```
chi = chi * 1e40
```

but the routine apparently enters into an infinite loop, lots of CPU, RAM and HD usage, and i end up having to kill the process after a while. trial-and-error showed me that as long as i keep the multiplicative factor $\leq 1e38$, everything runs smoothly.

i tried even a stupid:

```
chi = chi * 1e38
```

```
chi = chi * 1e2
```

but the routine still gets crazy with that.

what is going on? how can i work it around?

many thanks,
paula
