
Subject: Re: learning how to use mpfit,. need help
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2014 04:13:13 GMT
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On Tuesday, February 25, 2014 4:35:53 PM UTC-5, alk...@gmail.com wrote:

```
> IDL> y = 25.*exp(-(x-32.)^2/(2*5.^2))+2.*randomn(0,101)
> % Program caused arithmetic error: Floating underflow
```

Floating underflow is almost never an error. It's just warning you that $\exp(-\text{large_number})$ far from the centroid of the gaussian, has truncated precision or is being set to zero. Plot your data and you will see it's fine.

Craig
