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Subject: Re: Program caused arithmetic error: Floating underflow

Posted by [Chip Helms](#) on Wed, 18 Jun 2014 16:10:40 GMT

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On Wednesday, June 18, 2014 3:38:45 PM UTC, g.na...@gmail.com wrote:

> Why the last iteration will be divided by  $(17000^{283})^{283}$ ? I thought that for each iteration the value be divided by 17000.

If you still find yourself having issues locating the problem, you might double check that the issue isn't occurring somewhere else nearby in the code (I believe the default behavior is for IDL to issue math error warnings only when it returns to interactive prompt). If you set !EXCEPT=2, IDL will issue warnings (complete with line numbers) at the time the error occurs.

[http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/error\\_handling\\_system\\_va.html#sysvars\\_272074529\\_1002623](http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/error_handling_system_va.html#sysvars_272074529_1002623)

Also, currently, your code is dividing the current running total by 17000 at each step (so the division occurs  $284 \times 284$  or 80656 times, granted it's not the same as finding the total and dividing by  $17000^{80656}$ ). I'm guessing this is to converge on the parameter value iteratively?

Cheers,  
Chip

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