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Subject: Re: A bug in MOD ?

Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Fri, 24 Sep 2004 10:49:51 GMT

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In article <20040924.113053.971899228.25372@buckley.atm.ox.ac.uk>,  
"Christopher Lee" <cl@127.0.0.1> wrote:

```
> IDL> print, 1.0 mod 0.1
>    0.1000000
> ;should be 0.0
> IDL> print, (1.0*!pi) mod (0.1 * !pi)
>    0.00000
```

```
IDL> print, (0.8) mod 0.1
    0.00000
```

```
IDL> print, 1.1 mod 0.1
    7.45058e-09 ; =0.0
```

```
IDL> print, 1.0 mod 0.5
    0.00000
```

On further testing, C++ gives the same answer. So the bug is somewhere in my glibc.

Chris.

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Subject: Re: A bug in MOD ?

Posted by [sandrokan](#) on Fri, 24 Sep 2004 15:00:28 GMT

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"Christopher Lee" <cl@127.0.0.1> ha scritto nel messaggio  
news:20040924.114950.1760281936.25390@buckley.atm.ox.ac.uk..

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> "Christopher Lee" <cl@127.0.0.1> wrote:

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I don't know much about libs, I only have IDL and another s/w:

```
IDL> print, 1.0 mod 0.1
```

```
0.100000
```

but:

```
>> mod(1.0, 0.1)
ans =
    0
>>
```

Any idea?

Ale

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Subject: Re: A bug in MOD ?  
Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Fri, 24 Sep 2004 17:06:53 GMT  
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In article <cj1cqesgut\$1@canarie.caspur.it>, "sandrokan"  
<mura@remove.ifs.rm.cnr.it> wrote:

```
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> print, 1.0 mod 0.1
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```

Hi,

Ah, matlab, wonderful matlab. I think Matlab uses arbitrary precision math. where this answer is correct. I could be wrong of course.

The answer lies in the floating point representation of 1.0 and 0.1, or any number. One of the numbers are really what they appear (not sure which one) and the result is that ..

```
floor(1.0/0.1)=9
1.0 mod 0.1 = 0.1
```

;these may not work in any known language, but they do show what's

happening.

Calculating  $0.8 \bmod 0.1$ , you get the correct answer, because whatever representation error exists in 0.8 also exists in 0.1 .similarly for 1.0 and 0.5|0.25|0.125 (powers of 2).

This is true of the IDL mod, the C++ fmod call (and probably the C library fmodf call, as its used internally in C++), the fortran mod function, the python mod function, etc.

I'm not sure what the correct method would be. I can't really round a value to zero when the value is comparable to the denominator in the 'mod' equation. It gets worse when I realize I've used 'mod' on a floating point before, in FORTRAN code.

Chris.

---

Subject: Re: A bug in MOD ?

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sun, 26 Sep 2004 08:52:46 GMT

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Christopher Lee wrote:

```
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> <mura@remove.ifs.rm.cnr.it> wrote:
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 >  
 > Chris.

Dear Chris,

mod in Fortran and mod in IDL is not the same.

```
; PROCEDURE:
;  modulo(a,b) = a - FLOOR(a/b)*b instead of
;  a MOD b = a - LONG(a/b)*b
```

You could try:

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase  
calc\\_modulo\\_dbase.pro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase_calc_modulo_dbase.pro.html)

cheers

Reimar

--

Forschungszentrum Juelich  
 email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de  
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/>

=====

a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

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Subject: Re: A bug in MOD ?

Well, IDL does give the right answer (modulo 0.1 of course!) within the floating point precision limits...

```
print,(1. mod 0.1),format='(f20.15)'
      0.099999986588955
print,abs((1. mod 0.1)-0.1) LT (machar()).eps
      1
```

and of course 0.09999... is approximately equal 0.0000... (modulo 0.1). So the question would be: why does it matter? The whole point of taking the modulo is to have numbers near 0.1 being "close neighbours" to numbers near 0.0 anyway...

Paolo

Christopher Lee wrote:

```
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