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Subject: Infinity matrix determinant

Posted by [amin farhang](#) on Mon, 17 Nov 2014 08:23:52 GMT

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Dear all,

I have a big matrix (2000x2000) which every elements of my matrix is of the order of  $1.0e12$  and i want to compute its inverse. since the data are too big, IDL could not determine the matrix determinant (even with `determ(A,/double)` command) and return Inf. Is there a way to compute its inverse and determinant?

Cheers,

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Subject: Re: Infinity matrix determinant

Posted by [Sergey Anfinogentov](#) on Mon, 17 Nov 2014 09:57:16 GMT

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Dear Amin,

Try to divide every element of the matrix by a big factor like  
factor =  $1e12$ . Then you can calculate the determinant of a new matrix and use the properties known from linear algebra to restore the determinant of the original one.

IDL code:

```
factor = 1d12
matrix = matrix/factor
det = determ(matrix,/double)
det = det * factor^2000d ; here 2000d is the size of the matrix
```

Cheers, Sergey

> Dear all,

>

> I have a big matrix (2000x2000) which every elements of my matrix is of the order of  $1.0e12$  and i want to compute its inverse. since the data are too big, IDL could not determine the matrix determinant (even with `determ(A,/double)` command) and return Inf. Is there a way to compute its inverse and determinant?

>

> Cheers,

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Subject: Re: Infinity matrix determinant

Posted by [amin farhang](#) on Mon, 17 Nov 2014 10:10:32 GMT

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Dear Sergey,

Thank you for answer.  
The point is here that the factor^2000d return Infinity

```
IDL> print,(1.0d12)^2000d  
Infinity
```

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Subject: Re: Infinity matrix determinant  
Posted by [Sergey Anfinogentov](#) on Mon, 17 Nov 2014 11:24:17 GMT  
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If But you can calculate inverse matrix.  
because for inverse matrix

$$(kA)^{-1} = 1/k*(A^{-1})$$

and

$$A^{-1} = k*(kA^{-1})$$

IDL code:

```
factor = 1d12  
matrix = matrix/factor  
inverse = invert(matrix) ; invert is a built in function of IDL  
inverse = inverse/factor
```

This should work fine.  
For the determinant of such a matrix double precision is not enough. You should probably just memorize that you have a multiplier 1e24000.

```
> Dear Sergey,  
>  
> Thank you for answer.  
> The point is here that the factor^2000d return Infinity  
>  
> IDL> print,(1.0d12)^2000d  
>      Infinity
```

I made a mistake

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Subject: Re: Infinity matrix determinant  
Posted by [Sergey Anfinogentov](#) on Mon, 17 Nov 2014 11:27:58 GMT  
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You can still calculate inverse matrix.

because for inverse matrix you have

$$(kA)^{-1} = 1/k(A^{-1})$$

and

$$A^{-1} = k(kA^{-1})$$

Try the following IDL code:

```
factor = 1d12
matrix = matrix/factor
inverse = invert(matrix) ; invert is a built in function of IDL
inverse = inverse/factor
```

This should work fine.

For the determinant of such a matrix double precision is not enough. You should probably just memorize that you have a multiplier 1e24000.

```
> Dear Sergey,
>
> Thank you for answer.
> The point is here that the factor^2000d return Infinity
>
> IDL> print,(1.0d12)^2000d
>      Infinity
```

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