
Subject: Re: 0.0/0.0 --> Segmentation Fault
Posted by [Robert Moss](#) on Thu, 27 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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Alex Schuster wrote:

```
>
> A made a slight modification to a program, and it crashed
> with a Segmentation Fault. Yikes! After a while I found the cause:
>
> --> idl
> IDL. Version 4.0.1 (sunos sparc).
> Copyright 1989-1995, Research Systems, Inc.
> All rights reserved. Unauthorized reproduction prohibited.
> Installation number: 3136-0.
> Licensed for use by: MPI Koeln
>
> IDL> helps, !version
> ** Structure !VERSION, 4 tags, length=32:
> ARCH      STRING  'sparc'
> OS        STRING  'sunos'
> OS_FAMILY  STRING  'unix'
> RELEASE    STRING  '4.0.1'
> IDL> print, 0.0 / 0.0
> % Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand
> % Detected at $MAIN$
> Segmentation Fault
>      -->
>
> This seems to happen with Solaris 2.5 only, not with 2.4.
>
> Alex
```

This problem does not occur with !VERSION.RELEASE = '4.0.1c'
running Solaris 2.5.1

```
idl>help,/str,!version
** Structure !VERSION, 4 tags, length=32:
ARCH      STRING  'sparc'
OS        STRING  'sunos'
OS_FAMILY  STRING  'unix'
RELEASE    STRING  '4.0.1c'
idl>print,0.0/0.0
NaN
% Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand
idl>
```

I suggest downloading the latest version of IDL as a start...

--

Robert M. Moss, Ph.D. - mossrm@texaco.com - FAX (713)954-6911

This does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Texaco Inc.

Subject: Re: 0.0/0.0 --> Segmentation Fault
Posted by [wonko](#) on Sun, 02 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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mossrm@texaco.com (Robert Moss) wrote:

```
> Alex Schuster wrote:
[...]
```

```
>> IDL> print, 0.0 / 0.0
>> % Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand
>> % Detected at $MAIN$
>> Segmentation Fault
>>          -->
>>
>> This seems to happen with Solaris 2.5 only, not with 2.4.
```

```
> This problem does not occur with !VERSION.RELEASE = '4.0.1c'
> running Solaris 2.5.1
[...]
```

```
> I suggest downloading the latest version of IDL as a start...
```

Yeah, thanks, I got it! This problem is known (I was told it happens on Sparc Ultras only) and the update to 4.0.1c fixes it.

Alex

--

Alex Schuster Wonko@weird.cologne.de
 alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de

Subject: Re: 0.0/0.0 --> Segmentation Fault
Posted by [Keith Refson](#) on Mon, 03 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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Alex Schuster <alex@rosa.mpin-koeln.mpg.de> writes:

```
> IDL> print, 0.0 / 0.0
```

> % Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand
> % Detected at \$MAIN\$
> Segmentation Fault
> -->
>
> This seems to happen with Solaris 2.5 only, not with 2.4.

And you are running on a Sparc Ultra, right? Since FPS (our IDL reseller) don't really seem to be aware that this is a known problem and that there is a patch for it, I'll chip in with the answer. 4.0.1c fixes it.

It took me more than a week of phone calls to FPS and to Sun to find this out, only to find out

a) That IDL is officially not supported on any version of Solaris after 2.3. (!)

b) They have a fix in the form of 4.0.1c anyway.

It seems a rather inconsistent position to take, but who am I, a mere user to complain?

Keith Refson

--

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