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Subject: Re: problem with IDL statistics

Posted by [hahn](#) on Wed, 28 Jun 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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ectucker@aol.com wrote:

> In my code I have the line:

> result=randomu(seed, binomial=[3.8e7, .72])

> this freezes up the code (acts as if it is in an infinite loop) at the

> statement above.

> If i change the 3.8e7 to 3.9e7, it works fine.

The same here: IDL 5.2, Windows 98. However,

> result=randomn(seed, 256,256,poisson=3.8e7)

> again it freezes up for 3.8e7 but not 3.9e7

This gives an error message:

IDL> result=randomn(seed, 256,256,poisson=3.8e7)

% Program caused arithmetic error: Floating underflow

> Very strange!

Indeed.

Norbert

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