
Subject: RANDOMU bug?

Posted by [meinel](#) on Sat, 14 Jan 1995 02:47:41 GMT

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I am using IDL 3.6 on a Macintosh, and RANDOMU exhibits some strange behavior. Try this...

```
IDL> randu = random(seed)  
IDL> print, randu, seed
```

Repeat these two commands several times. An example of the results I got:

```
0.741767 1592932020  
0.874194 1877316638  
0.573226 1230993142  
0.206885 444282396  
0.118087 253588953
```

Seems OK so far. Now try it as a procedure...

```
pro test  
; Test random numbers  
randu = random(seed)  
print, randu, seed  
end
```

Compile and run test.pro several times.

```
0.0553956 118961080  
0.0555286 119246799  
0.0556225 119448483  
0.0556773 119566132
```

Definitely _not_ random. So what is going on? Inquiring minds want to know.

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