Maybe we should start copying from the manual. So here we go:

The DIST function creates an array in which each array element value is proportional to its frequency. This array may be used for a variety of purposes, including frequency-domain filtering.

This routine is written in the IDL language. Its source code can be found in the file dist.pro in the lib subdirectory of the IDL distribution.

(I would post the code too, but it is copyrighted, so you will have to look at RSI\IDLxx\lib\dist.pro yourself. Sorry for the inconvenience)

H.

"lixiaoyao" <lixiaoyao5880@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:1114191092.478578.9120@g14g2000cwa.googlegroups.com...
> Is there anybody who can explain the dist for me?
> I know dist(100) generate a 100X100 matrix,but what is the value for
> it
> come from? In the help file,they said it is the frequency,but I do not
> understand.
> also,what is the purpose for this function?
> Thanks a lot
>