Subject: Re: randomn problem
Posted by David Fanning on Sun, 11 Mar 2007 19:41:03 GMT

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askemer@gmail.com writes:

> I was playing around with randomn and noticed some weird behavior:
>
> IDL> print, stddev(randomn(seed, 1e7))
>
> I consistently get back numbers around ~0.992. I've tried it on a
> different computer, and the result was not exactly the same, but
> similar. If I change 1e7 to 1e8, the problem gets worse, and I get
> ~0.853. I've tried the syntax with floats, integers, and longs, and I
> still get the same answer. Does anyone know what could be going on?

IDL> print, !version
{ x86 Win32 Windows Microsoft Windows 6.3 Mar 23 2006   32   64}

IDL> print, stddev(randomn(seed, 1e7))
    0.999961
IDL> print, stddev(randomn(seed, 1e7, /double))
     1.0000060

Don't know. :-(

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")