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Subject: Re: Help needed!!

Posted by [bala murugan](#) on Fri, 16 Apr 2010 16:39:15 GMT

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On Apr 16, 10:23 am, Craig Markwardt <craig.markwa...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Apr 16, 12:18 pm, bala murugan <bala2...@gmail.com> wrote:

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>> On Apr 16, 10:10 am, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>>> On Apr 16, 12:49 pm, bala murugan <bala2...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>>>> I am new to IDL. This is my first program in IDL. Can somebody point

>>>> out the errors in my code. I have been struggling to get it right.

>

>>> If you do not say what you want to do, and what the problem is, we are

>>> unlikely to guess it.

>

>>>> FUNCTION poissondist,fLambda,N

>>>>     r = RANDOMU(SEED,1)

>>>>     FOR j=1,N,1 DO BEGIN

>>>>         x=poisson(j,fLambda)

>>>>         if (x EQ r) THEN a[i]=j

>>>>     ENDFOR

>>>> RETURN,a

>>>> END

>

>>> a is never defined, which would cause an error when you try to do

>>> a[i]=j. However, you seem to avoid this occurring with a condition

>>> that looks like may never happen (x eq r).

>

>> My aim is to do the following,

>

>> To write an IDL routine that takes as input the mean of a Poisson

>> distribution (fLambda = a floating point number >= 0.0) and a number

>> of realizations (N), and generates N samples from the Poisson

>> distribution with mean fLambda. The output samples should be provided

>> as a vector (list) of integers (each >= 0). I will also want to plot

>> a histogram of the samples (IDL probably has a built-in histogramming

>> routine).

>

>> My subroutine/program will look something like this...

>

>> piSamples = PoissonDist(fLambda, N)

>> piSamples = vector of N integer samples returned by the routine  
>> fLambda = mean of the Poisson distribution  
>> N = number of samples to generate  
>  
>> This routine will need to loop n = 1..N Each time through the loop,  
>> it will need to call RANDOMU to get a random number between 0.0 and  
>> 1.0. It will then need to call IMSL\_POISSONCDF (probably repeatedly)  
>> to determine which integer in the Poisson distribution corresponds to  
>> the random number gotten from RANDOMU. This integer is then placed in  
>> the output vector, etc.  
>  
>> I am not using IMSL\_POISSONCDF. Rather I am calculating the poisson  
>> probability myself.  
>  
>> Can you please help me with this?  
>  
> You might also want to check out an existing and well-tested Poisson  
> deviate generator in the IDL Astronomy Library, called POIDEV.  
>  
> <http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/math/poidev.pro>  
>  
> Craig

Does the poidev do the same thing as what I want to accomplish?

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