Subject: Re: Random number generators in IDL
Posted by davidf on Fri, 07 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT

Michael Lefsky <mal3p@faraday.clas.Virginia.EDU> writes:

> As many of you pointed out, I ignored the need to check
> the seed given to the random number generator. I had
> always assumed that the time variable that is used as the
> default "seed" value changed relatively quickly- it
> doesn't- I run a routine that generates 1000 random numbers
> at once, and I can easily call it twenty times or more
> before the default seed changes.

To create 1000 random numbers at once, don't do it in a loop!
This is not Fortran code we are writing, folks! :-)

Do this:

    thousandRandomNumbers = RANDOMU(seed, 1000)

If you want 1000 random numbers between 0 and 100, do this:

    thousandRandomNumbers = RANDOMU(seed, 1000) * 100

Cheers!

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
2642 Bradbury Court, Fort Collins, CO 80521
Phone: 970-221-0438   Fax: 970-221-4762
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com