
Subject: Re: Random Numbers

Posted by [John O'Neill](#) on Thu, 25 Oct 2012 15:06:46 GMT

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On Thursday, October 25, 2012 10:37:58 AM UTC-4, David wrote:

> Yngvar Larsen writes:

>

>

>

>>

>

>> On Wednesday, 24 October 2012 23:38:34 UTC+2, John O'Neill wrote:

>

>>> Hello Everyone,

>

>>>

>

>>> I am trying to create a set of random numbers using an Inverse Gaussian Distribution (Wald distribution) but randomu doesn't seem able to do this. Is there anything more general than randomu, or something where I can define what function I want to use to create random numbers?

>

>>

>

>>

>

>> Google and Wikipedia are your friends.

>

>>

>

>> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inverse_Gaussian_distribution#Generating_random_variates_from_an_inverse-Gaussian_distribution

>

>>

>

>> IDL> N = 100

>

>> IDL> mu = 1d0 & lambda = 1d0

>

>> IDL> nu = randomn(seed, N)

>

>> IDL> z = randomu(seed, N)

>

>> IDL> igvariates = dblarr(N)

>

>> IDL> y = nu^2

>

>> IDL> x = mu + mu^2*y/(2*lambda) - mu/2/lambda*sqrt(4*mu*lambda*y + mu^2*y^2)

>

```
>> IDL> ind = where(z le mu/(mu+x), complement=cind)
>
>> IDL> igvariates[ind] = x[ind]
>
>> IDL> igvariates[cind] = mu^2/x[cind]
>
>>
>
>> Include checking for empty index arrays IND and/or CIND if you use IDL version < 8.0.
>
>
> This code is easy enough to implement that I just wrote
>
> a function, cgRandomWald to do it this morning. You can
>
> find it here:
>
>
>
> http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/cgrandomwald.pro
>
>
>
> It works very much like the other RandomX functions in IDL.
>
>
> Cheers,
>
>
> David
>
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
>
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thos speakest truth.")
```

Thank you very much David, Yngvar, and Craig for your help. This is exactly what I was looking for.

John
