

**RANDLIB90**  
Fortran 95 Routines for Random Number Generation  
User's Guide

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## 1 Technicalities

### 1.1 Obtaining the Code

The source for this code (and all code written by this group) can be obtained from the following URL:

<http://odin.mdacc.tmc.edu/anonftp/>

### 1.2 Legalities

We place our efforts in writing this package in the public domain. However, code from ACM publications is subject to the ACM policy (below).

### 1.3 References

#### 1.3.1 Base Generator

The base generator and all code in the `ecuyer_cote_mod` come from the reference:  
P. L'Ecuyer and S. Cote. (1991) "Implementing a Random Number Package with Splitting Facilities." *ACM Trans. on Math. Softw.* 17:1, pp 98-111.

We transliterated the Pascal of the reference to Fortran 95.

### 1.4 The Beta Random Number Generator

R. C. H. Cheng (1978) "Generating Beta Variates with Nonintegral Shape Parameters." *Communications of the ACM*, 21:317-322 (Algorithms B and BC)

## 1.5 The Binomial Random Number Generator

Kachitvichyanukul, V. and Schmeiser, B. W. (1988) "Binomial Random Variate Generation." *Communications of the ACM*, 31: 216. (Algorithm BTPE.)

## 1.6 The Standard Exponential Random Number Generator

Ahrens, J.H. and Dieter, U. (1972) "Computer Methods for Sampling from the Exponential and Normal Distributions." *Communications of the ACM*, 15: 873-882. (Algorithm SA.)

## 1.7 The Standard Gamma Random Number Generator

Ahrens, J.H. and Dieter, U. (1982) "Generating Gamma Variates by a Modified Rejection Technique." *Communications of the ACM*, 25: 47-54. (Algorithm SA.)

## 1.8 The Standard Normal Random Number Generator

Ahrens, J.H. and Dieter, U. (1973) "Extensions of Forsythe's Method for Random Sampling from the Normal Distribution." *Math. Comput.*, 27:927 - 937. Algorithm FL (method=5)

## 1.9 ACM Policy on Use of Code

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Krogh, F. (1997) "Algorithms Policy." *ACM Tran. Math. Softw.* 13, 183-186.

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## 2 Introduction: The `ecuyer_cote_mod` module

The base random generator for this set of programs contains 32 virtual random number generators. Each generator can provide 1,048,576 blocks of numbers, and each block is of length 1,073,741,824. Any generator can be set to the beginning or end of the current block or to its starting value. The methods are from the paper cited immediately below, and most of the code is a transliteration from the Pascal of the paper into Fortran.

Most users won't need the sophisticated capabilities of this package, and will desire a single generator. This single generator (which will have a non-repeating length of  $2.3 \times 10^{18}$  numbers) is the default.

## 3 Initializing the Random Number Generator

You almost certainly want to start the random number generation by setting the seed. (Defaults are provided if the seed is not set, but the defaults will produce the same set of numbers on each run of the program which is generally not what is wanted.)

Make sure that the program unit that sets the seed has

USE `user_set_generator` at its top.

The most straightforward way of setting the values need by the generator is a call to `USER_SET_ALL`.

```
SUBROUTINE USER_SET_ALL( SEED1, SEED2, GENERATOR)
```

### ARGUMENTS

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: SEED1** The first number used to set the generator.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: SEED2** The second number used to set the generator.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN), OPTIONAL :: GENERATOR** The current generator. If this argument is not present, the current generator is set to 1. Input Range: [1 : 32]

It is easier to remember an English phrase, such as your name, than it is to remember two large integer values. The following routine prompts interactively for a phrase (non-blank character string – only the first 80 characters are used) and hashes the phrase to set the seeds of the random number generator. The current generator is set to 1.

```
SUBROUTINE INTER_PHRASE_SET_SEEDS()
```

This routine calls the following routine which is the non-interactive version of the same action.

```
SUBROUTINE PHRASE_SET_SEEDS(PHRASE)
CHARACTER(LEN=*), INTENT(IN) :: PHRASE
```

This in turn calls the lowest level routine:

```
CALL PHRASE_TO_SEED( PHRASE, SEED1, SEED2 )
CHARACTER(LEN=*), INTENT(IN) :: PHRASE
INTEGER, INTENT(OUT) :: SEED1, SEED2
```

In this call, phrase is an (input) character string of arbitrary length and seed1 and seed2 are two (output) integer values that may be used to initialize the seeds of the random number generator.

Setting the seeds to a fixed value is extremely useful in the debugging phase of a project where exact runs are to be replicated. However, there are occasions in which a random appearing sequence is desired – an example is computer games. The following routine sets the seeds of the generator using the system clock.

```
SUBROUTINE TIME_SET_SEEDS()
```

If the computer doesn't have a clock (unlikely) then the routine queries the user for a phrase to use to set the seeds. The current generator is set to 1.

The next described routine allows the programmer to select setting seeds by time or from a phrase entered interactively.

```
SUBROUTINE SET_SEEDS(WHICH)
INTEGER, OPTIONAL, INTENT(IN) :: WHICH
```

If WHICH is not present, the routine queries the user as to whether time or a phrase is to be used to set the random number seeds. If WHICH is present in the calling list and equals 1 then the seeds are set from the time; if WHICH is present and not equal to 1 then the seeds are set for a phrase prompted from the user..

The current generator is set through

```
SUBROUTINE SET_CURRENT_GENERATOR(G)
INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: G
```

The integer argument G sets the number of the current generator to its value which must be between 1 and 32.

## 4 random\_beta\_mod

FUNCTION RANDOM\_BETA(A,B)

### 4.1 The Distribution

The density of the beta distribution is defined on  $x$  in  $[0, 1]$  and is proportional to

$$x^a(1-x)^b$$

### 4.2 Arguments

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: A.** The first parameter of the beta distribution (a above). Input Range:  $[10^{-37} : \infty]$
- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: B.** The second parameter of the beta distribution (b above). Input Range:  $[10^{-37} : \infty]$

## 5 random\_binomial\_mod

REAL FUNCTION RANDOM\_BINOMIAL(N,PR)

### 5.1 The Distribution

The density of the binomial distribution provides the probability of S successes in N independent trials, each with probability of success PR.

The density is proportional to

$$PR^S(1 - PR)^{N-S}$$

The routine returns values of S drawn from this distribution.

### 5.2 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: N.** The number of binomial trials. Input Range:  $[0 : \infty]$
- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: PR.** The probability of success at each trial. Input Range:  $[0 : 1]$

## 6 random\_chisq\_mod

REAL FUNCTION RANDOM\_CHISQ(DF)

### 6.1 The Distribution

The chi-squared distribution is the distribution of the sum of squares of DF independent unit (mean 0, sd 1) normal deviates.

The density is defined on  $x$  in  $[0, \infty)$  and is proportional to

$$x^{(DF-2)/2} \exp(-x/2)$$

### 6.2 Argument

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: DF.** The degrees of freedom of the chi-square distribution. Input Range:  $[10^{-37} : \infty]$

## 7 random\_exponential\_mod

REAL FUNCTION RANDOM\_EXPONENTIAL(AV)

### 7.1 The Distribution

The density is:

$$1/AV \exp(-x/AV)$$

### 7.2 Argument

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: AV.** The mean of the exponential; see density above. Input Range:  $[10^{-37} : \infty]$

## 8 random\_gamma\_mod

REAL FUNCTION RANDOM\_GAMMA(scale,shape)

### 8.1 The Distribution

The density of the GAMMA distribution is proportional to:

$$(x/SCALE)^{SHAPE-1} \exp(-x/SCALE)$$

### 8.2 Arguments

- **REAL (dpkind), INTENT(IN) :: SHAPE.** The shape parameter of the distribution (See above.)  
Input Range:  $[10^{-37} : \infty]$
- **REAL (dpkind), INTENT(IN) :: SCALE.** The scale parameter of the distribution.  
Input Range:  $[10^{-37} : \infty]$

## 9 random\_multinomial\_mod

SUBROUTINE RANDOM\_MULTINOMIAL(N,P,NCAT,IX)

### 9.1 The Distribution

Each observation falls into one category where the categories are numbered  $1 \dots NCAT$ . The observations are independent and the probability that the outcome will be category  $i$  is  $P(i)$ . There are  $N$  observations altogether, and the number falling in category  $i$  is  $IX(i)$ .

### 9.2 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: N** The number of observations from the multinomial distribution. Input Range:  $[1 : \infty]$
- **REAL, DIMENSION(NCAT-1), INTENT(IN) :: P**  $P(i)$  is the probability that an observation falls into category  $i$ . NOTE: The  $P(i)$  must be non-negative and less than or equal to 1. Only the first  $NCAT-1$   $P(i)$  are used, the final one is obtained from the restriction that all  $NCAT$   $P$ 's must add to 1.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: NCAT** The number of outcome categories.  $NCAT$  must be at least 2.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(OUT), IX(NCAT)**

## 10 random\_multivariate\_normal\_mod

## 11 The Distribution

The multivariate normal density is:

$$(2\pi)^{-(k/2)} |COVM|^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(X - MEANV)^T COVM^{-1}(X - MEANV)\right)$$

where superscript T is the transpose operator.

## 12 Use of Routines

First, CALL SET\_RANDOM\_MULTIVARIATE\_NORMAL. This routine processes and saves information needed to generate multivariate normal deviates. Successive calls to RANDOM\_MULTIVARIATE\_NORMAL generate deviates from values specified in the most recent SET routine.

SUBROUTINE SET\_RANDOM\_MULTIVARIATE\_NORMAL(MEANV,COVM,P)

### 12.1 Arguments

- **REAL, INTENT(IN), DIMENSION(:) :: MEANV.** The mean of the multivariate normal. The size of MEANV must be at least P; if it is more than P, entries following the P'th are ignored.
- **REAL, INTENT(IN), DIMENSION(:,:) :: COVM.** The variance covariance matrix of the multivariate normal. Both dimensions must be at least P; if the matrix is bigger than PXP, extra entries are ignored.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: P.** The dimension of the multivariate normal deviates to be generated.

SUBROUTINE RANDOM\_MULTIVARIATE\_NORMAL(X)

### 12.2 Arguments

- **REAL, INTENT(OUT), DIMENSION(:) :: X.** Contains the generated multivariate normal deviate. NOTE. No check on the size of X is made – the programmer must assure that it is big enough.

## 13 random\_nc\_chisq\_mod

FUNCTION random\_nc\_chisq(df,pnonc)

### 13.1 The Distribution

The noncentral chi-squared distribution is the sum of DF independent normal distributions with unit standard deviations, but possibly non-zero means . Let the mean of the  $i$ th normal be  $\delta_i$ . Then PNONC =  $\sum_i \delta_i$ .

### 13.2 Arguments

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: DF.** The degrees of freedom of the noncentral chi-squared.
- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: PNONC.** The noncentrality parameter of the noncentral chi-squared.

## 14 random\_negative\_binomial\_mod

FUNCTION random\_negative\_binomial(s,pr)

### 14.1 The Distribution

The density of the negative binomial distribution provides the probability of precisely F failures before the S'th success in independent binomial trials, each with probability of success PR.

The density is

$$\binom{F + S - 1}{S - 1} PR^S (1 - PR)^F$$

This routine returns a random value of F given values of S and P.

### 14.2 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: S.** The number of successes after which the number of failures is not counted.
- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: PR.** The probability of success in each binomial trial.

## 15 random\_normal\_mod

FUNCTION random\_normal(mean,sd)

### 15.1 The Distribution

The density of the normal distribution is proportional to

$$\exp\left(-\frac{(X - MEAN)^2}{2SD^2}\right)$$

### 15.2 Arguments

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: MEAN.** The mean of the normal distribution.
- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: SD.** The standard deviation of the normal distribution.

## 16 random\_permutation\_mod

SUBROUTINE RANDOM\_PERMUTATION(ARRAY,LARRAY)

### 16.1 Function

Returns a random permutation of (integer) array.

### 16.2 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(INOUT) :: ARRAY.** On input an array of integers (usually 1..larray). On output a random permutation of this array.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN), OPTIONAL :: LARRAY.** If present the length of ARRAY to be used . If absent, all of ARRAY is used – i.e., the SIZE function is invoked to determine the dimensioned size of ARRAY

## 17 random\_poisson\_mod

FUNCTION random\_poisson(lambda)

### 17.1 The Distribution

The density of the Poisson distribution (probability of observing S events) is:

$$\frac{LAMBDA^S}{S!} \exp(-LAMBDA)$$

### 17.2 Argument

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: LAMBDA.** The mean of the Poisson distribution.

### 17.3 random\_uniform\_integer

FUNCTION RANDOM\_UNIFORM\_INTEGER(LOW,HIGH)

### 17.4 Function

Returns a random integer between LOW and HIGH (inclusive of the limits).

### 17.5 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: LOW.** Low limit of uniform integer.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: HIGH.** High limit of uniform integer.

## 18 random\_uniform\_mod

FUNCTION random\_uniform(low,high)

### 18.1 Function

Returns a random real between LOW and HIGH.

### 18.2 Arguments

- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: LOW.** Low limit of uniform real.
- **REAL, INTENT(IN) :: HIGH.** High limit of uniform real.

## 19 The “Standard” Generator Modules

It is not really intended that these modules be used directly. However, for completeness, here is a listing of them.

### 19.1 `random_standard_exponential_mod`

FUNCTION `random_standard_exponential()`

#### 19.1.1 Function

Returns a random value from an exponential distribution with mean one.

### 19.2 `random_standard_normal_mod`

FUNCTION `random_standard_normal()`

#### 19.2.1 Function

Returns a random value from a normal distribution with mean 0 and standard deviation one.

### 19.3 `random_standard_uniform_mod`

FUNCTION `random_standard_uniform()`

#### 19.3.1 Function

Returns a random value from a uniform distribution on zero to one.

## 20 Advanced Use of the `ecuyer_cote_mod` Module

Recall the following information from the Introduction.

The base random generator for this set of programs contains 32 virtual random number generators. Each generator can provide 1,048,576 blocks of numbers, and each block is of length 1,073,741,824. Any generator can be set to the beginning or end of the current block or to its starting value.

## 20.1 Setting the Virtual Random Number Generator

SUBROUTINE `set_current_generator(g)`

Sets the current virtual generator to the integer value  $g$ , where  $1 \leq g \leq 32$ . Before this routine is called, the current generator is 1.

### 20.1.1 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: G.** The number of the virtual generator to be used.

## 20.2 Getting the Virtual Random Number Generator

SUBROUTINE `get_current_generator(g)`

### 20.2.1 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(OUT) :: G.** The number of the virtual generator currently in use.

## 20.3 Reinitializing the Current Virtual Generator

SUBROUTINE `reinitialize_current_generator(isdtyp)`

Reinitializes the state of the current generator.

### 20.3.1 Arguments

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: ISDTYP.** The initialization action to be performed.
  - 1 Sets the seeds of the current generator to their value at the beginning of the current run.
  - 0 Sets the seeds to the first value of the current block of seeds.
  - 1 Sets the seeds to the first value of the next block of seeds.

## 21 Getting the Current Seeds of the Virtual Random Number Generator

SUBROUTINE `get_current_seeds(iseed1,iseed2)`

## 21.1 Arguments

Gets the current value of the two integer seeds of the current generator.

- **INTEGER, INTENT(OUT) :: ISEED1.** The value of the first seed.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(OUT) :: ISEED2.** The value of the second seed.

## 22 Setting the Current Seeds of the Virtual Random Number Generator

SUBROUTINE set\_current\_seeds(iseed1,iseed2)

### 22.1 Arguments

Sets the current value of the two integer seeds of the current generator.

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: ISEED1.** The value of the first seed.
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: ISEED2.** The value of the second seed.

## 23 Producing Antithetic Random Numbers from the Current Generator

SUBROUTINE set\_antithetic(qvalue)

Sets the current generator to produce antithetic values or not. If  $X$  is the value normally returned from a uniform  $[0,1]$  random number generator then  $1 - X$  is the antithetic value. If  $X$  is the value normally returned from a uniform  $[0,N]$  random number generator then  $N - 1 - X$  is the antithetic value. All generators are initialized to NOT generate antithetic values.

### 23.1 Arguments

- **LOGICAL, INTENT (IN) :: qvalue** If **.TRUE.**, antithetic values are generated. If **.FALSE.**, non-antithetic (ordinary) values are generated.

## 24 Bottom Level Support Routines

SUBROUTINE `advance_state(k)`

Advances the current state of the seeds of the current virtual random number generator by  $2^k$  values.

- **INTEGER, INTENT (IN) :: k** The seeds of the current virtual generator are set ahead by  $s^k$  values.

FUNCTION `multiply_modulo(a,s,m)`

Returns  $(A*S)$  modulo  $M$ .

- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: A** First component of product. Must be  $< M$ .
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: S** Second component of product. Must be  $\leq M$ .
- **INTEGER, INTENT(IN) :: M** Integer with respect to which the modulo operation is performed.