

kiPrng DLL Demo

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I am open to ways to improve this application, please email me.

Visual Basic 6.0 with Service Pack 6 runtime files required.

To obtain required files (VBRun60sp6.exe):

<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=7B9BA261-7A9C-43E7-9117-F673077FFB3C>

VBRun60sp6.exe installs Visual Basic 6.0 SP6 run-time files.

<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/290887>

This software has been tested on Windows XP through Windows 7.  
Windows 9x, 2000 and NT4 are no longer supported.

NOTE: This application is slow due to the formatting for display purposes and file creation, not the generation of the data. The primary purpose of this application is to introduce you to more secure ways of creating random values.

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All nine algorithms have output within these ranges:

-0.9999999999999999 to 0.9999999999999999	Double Precision
-2147483648 to 2147483647	Long Integer

My observations have been that any of the below listed random number generators will pass or fail any particular test when values are generated because there is no such thing as true randomness without an external reference such as radioactive decay, noise, etc. However, these random number generators will pass all or most of the Diehard and ENT tests the majority of the time. TT800 has been tweaked by me to enhance the quality of output values in order to pass the Diehard test scenarios. See TestResults.zip for results of testing.

See the section "Testing Software Available" below for the various web sites for the testing software.

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Comments about testing of random number generators (RNG)

by George Marsaglia

<http://stat.fsu.edu/pub/diehard/>

"Most of the tests in DIEHARD return a p-value, which should be uniform on [0,1) if the input file contains truly independent random bits. Those p-values are obtained by  $p=F(X)$ , where F is the assumed distribution of the sample random variable X---often normal. But that assumed F is just an asymptotic approximation, for which the fit will be worst in the tails. Thus you should not be surprised with occasional p-values near 0 or 1, such as .0012 or .9983. When a bit stream really FAILS BIG, you will get p's of 0 or 1 to six or more places. By all means, do not, as a Statistician might, think that a  $p < .025$  or  $p > .975$  means that the RNG has 'failed the test at the .05 level'. Such p's happen among the hundreds that DIEHARD produces, even with good RNG's. So keep in mind that 'p happens'."

Intel® states in The Intel® Random Number Generator

<http://www.utdallas.edu/~xinchou/intel-rng-1.pdf>

"Intel has performed testing with Diehard using the output from the hardware RNG. Appendix C contains sample test results from one of the runs of the Diehard test suite performed on a 10-Mbyte sample. A full understanding of

the Diehard output requires detailed knowledge of statistics. However, passing the Diehard tests is not very well defined since Dr. Marsaglia does not provide concrete criteria. An individual test can be considered passing if the p-value is between 0.025 and 0.975, forming a 95% confidence interval around the theoretical value specified within the test. However, to evaluate a data sample against the entire test suite requires consideration of all 250 p-values that are generated and the calculation of the probability that the entire suite passes with 95% confidence. This calculation yields a 95% confidence interval of 0.0001 and 0.9999 for the p-value. Therefore, the RNG fails the Diehard tests if there is a p-value greater than or equal to 0.9999 or less than or equal to 0.0001."

#### Ken's Observation

My observation is when I see any of the following in the Diehard results, I know I have failed that particular series of tests. Especially, if I see asteriks anywhere in the p-value columns.

Failure indicators in the p-value columns:

0.9999	Upper bounds error
1.0000	Upper bounds error
.0000	Lower bounds error
0.0001	Lower bounds error
*****	Asteriks = Back to the drawing board

The below statistics are consistant results of the random number generators.

Diehard Testing results:	CryptoAPI	ISAAC	Mother Of All	KISS	MWC
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Birthday Spacings	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Overlapping Permutations	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Ranks of 31x31 & 32x32 matrices					
Binary rank 1	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Binary rank 2	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Ranks of 6x8 matrices	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Monkey tests on 20-bit words	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Monkey tests OPSO, OQSO, DNA					
OPSO	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
OQSO	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
DNA	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Count_The_1's in a stream	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Count_The_1's specific	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Parking Lot	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Minimum distance	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Random Spheres	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Squeeze	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Overlapping Sums	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Runs	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Craps	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed

Mersenne Twister family (Monte Carlo) generators will pass all Diehard and ENT randomness tests even if cryptographic quality has not been selected. This is due to my personal tweakings within the code. Well documented.

	MT19937	MT11231A	MT11231B	TR800
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Birthday Spacings	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Overlapping Permutations	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Ranks of 31x31 & 32x32 matrices				
Binary rank 1	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Binary rank 2	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Ranks of 6x8 matrices	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Monkey tests on 20-bit words	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Monkey tests OPSO, OQSO, DNA				
OPSO	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
OQSO	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
DNA	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Count_The_1's in a stream	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Count_The_1's specific	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Parking Lot	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Minimum distance	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Random Spheres	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Squeeze	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Overlapping Sums	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Runs	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
Craps	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed

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Testing software available  
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The easiest way to create a test file is to check the Diehard checkbox on the main screen of the demo program. This option will create an 11mb (approx) binary file with an extension of ".BIN". Use this binary file as the input for your tests with Diehard, ENT, or NIST.

Diehard software  
<http://stat.fsu.edu/pub/diehard/>

Ent Software  
<http://www.fourmilab.ch/random/>  
download file Random.zip

NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) testing software  
<http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/rng/index.html>

1. Download source code  
<http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/rng/documents/sts-2.1.zip>  
or  
<http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/rng/documents/sts-2.1.1.zip>
2. Compile software using Cygwin. If anyone gets this to compile for Windows, please email me. I would like to get the binaries so I can start testing with the newer version of the NIST software. Thank you.  
<http://sourceware.org/cygwin/>
3. If you are not a C programmer then download an older version with the binaries at:  
<http://www.cs.sunysb.edu/~algorithm/implement/rng/distrib/sts-1.6.zip>
4. Warning! The NIST testing suite is very thorough but time consuming. The process may take a few hours to longer than a day to complete. The reports are very detailed.

April 27, 2010: NIST Special Publication 800-22rev1a (dated April 2010), A Statistical Test Suite for the Validation of Random Number Generators and Pseudo Random Number Generators for Cryptographic Applications, that describes the test suite.  
<http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/rng/documents/SP800-22rev1a.pdf>

Read PDF file Prng\_Testing.pdf distributed with this application concerning the parameters for NIST testing.

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If you want to use the Visual Basic random number generator, then here are some references.

#### References:

Randomize Statement Doesn't Re-initialize Rnd Function  
<http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;120587>

"To re-initialize the random-number generator, use the Rnd function with a value of -1 and then use the Randomize and then use the Randomize statement with the value you want to for the Rnd function."

Mark Hutchinson article about the Microsoft Visual BASIC random number generator  
<http://www.15seconds.com/issue/051110.htm>

VBA's Pseudo Random Number Generator  
<http://www.noesis.net.au/prng.php>

INFO: How Visual Basic Generates Pseudo-Random Numbers for the  
RND Function  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/231847/en-us>

RND and RANDOMIZE Alternatives for Generating Random Numbers  
<http://support.microsoft.com/kb/28150/EN-US/>

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Other sites to visit (This should get you started)  
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Ciphers By Ritter  
<http://www.ciphersbyritter.com/>

Counterpane Internet Security  
<http://www.counterpane.com/labs.html>

Cryptographic Randomness  
<http://world.std.com/~cme/html/randomness.html>

ISAAC: a fast cryptographic random number generator  
<http://burtleburtle.net/bob/rand/isaacafa.html>

Mersenne Twister Home Page  
<http://www.math.keio.ac.jp/~matumoto/emt.html>

Random Number Generators  
<http://www.npac.syr.edu/projects/random/>

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)  
documentation and software:  
[http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/rng/documentation\\_software.html](http://csrc.nist.gov/groups/ST/toolkit/rng/documentation_software.html)

The Scalable Parallel Random Number Generators Library (SPRNG)  
<http://sprng.cs.fsu.edu/>

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