C/C++ create random noise (gaussian noise/white noise)

By totosugito on January 28, 2011

I was amazed when use randn command at Matlab. randn command will generate random data every we call that command. After I search at google, I found how to make this happen. I get this code at seismic unix source code. This code will generate random noise or white noise with Gaussian method. Code for main.c is :

```
1  #include <stdio.h>
2  #include <stdlib.h>
3  #include "frannor.h"
4
5  int main(int argc, char **argv)
6  {
7      double *noise=NULL;
8      int i;
9      int ndata;
10     unsigned int seed;
11
12     if(argc!=2)
13     {
14         fprintf(stderr, "usage : random 5");
15         exit(0);
16     }
17
18     ndata = atoi(argv[1]);
19
20     if (-1 == (seed = (unsigned int) time((time_t *) NULL
21     {
22         fprintf(stderr, "time() failed to set seed");
23         exit(0);
24     }
25
26     srannor(seed);  //seed random number generator
27     noise = (double*) calloc (ndata, sizeof(double));
28     for(i=0; i<ndata; i++)  //create random data
29     {
30         /* Compute noise vector elements in [-1, 1] */
31         /* GAUSS METHOD. frannor gives elements in N(0,1)
32         noise[i] = (double) frannor();
33     }
34
35     for(i=0; i<ndata; i++)
36         printf("%3.2f   ", noise[i]);
```

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```
    printf("\n");

    free(noise);  //free allocated memory
    return(1);
}
```

This is code for frannor.h :

```
#ifndef FRANNOR_H_
#define FRANNOR_H_

#include <math.h>
#define ABS(x) ((x) < 0 ? -(x) : (x))
#define AA 12.37586
#define Bsu 0.4878992
#define Csu 12.67706
#define C1 0.9689279
#define C2 1.301198
#define PC 0.01958303
#define XN 2.776994
#define OXN 0.3601016
#define NBITS 24

/* macro to generate a random number uni uniform on [0,1)
#define UNI(uni) \
    uni = u[i]-u[j]; if (uni<0.0) uni += 1.0; u[i] = uni;
    if (--i<0) i = 16;  if (--j<0) j = 16

float frannor(void);
void srannor (int seed);

#endif /* FRANNOR_H_ */
```

This is code for frannor.c :

```
/* Copyright (c) Colorado School of Mines, 2010.*/
/* All rights reserved.                       */

/*********************** self documentation **********
/*****************************************************
FRANNOR - functions to generate a pseudo-random float nc
        with N(0,1); i.e., with zero mean and unit varia

frannor     return a normally distributed random float
srannor     seed random number generator for normal dist

*****************************************************
Function Prototypes:
float frannor (void);
void srannor (int seed);

*****************************************************
frannor:
Input:      (none)
Returned:   normally distributed random float

srannor:
Input:
seed        different seeds yield different sequences of

*****************************************************
Notes:
Adapted from subroutine rnor in Kahaner,  Moler and Nash
which in turn was based on  an algorithm by
Marsaglia and Tsang (1984).

*****************************************************
References:
"Numerical Methods and Software", D.
Kahaner, C. Moler, S. Nash, Prentice Hall, 1988.

Marsaglia G. and Tsang, W. W., 1984,
```

```
A fast, easily implemented method for sampling from decr
unimodal density functions:  SIAM J. Sci. Stat. Comput.,
p. 349-359.

*********************************************************
Author:  Dave Hale, Colorado School of Mines, 01/21/89
*********************************************************
/**************** end self doc ************************/

#include "frannor.h"

static float v[]={
    0.3409450, 0.4573146, 0.5397793, 0.6062427, 0.663169
    0.7136975, 0.7596125, 0.8020356, 0.8417227, 0.879210
    0.9490791, 0.9820005, 1.0138492, 1.0447810, 1.074925
    1.1332738, 1.1616530, 1.1896010, 1.2171815, 1.244451
    1.2982650, 1.3249008, 1.3514125, 1.3778399, 1.404221
    1.4569915, 1.4834526, 1.5100121, 1.5367061, 1.563571
    1.6179680, 1.6455802, 1.6735255, 1.7018503, 1.730604
    1.7896223, 1.8200099, 1.8510770, 1.8829044, 1.915583
    1.9839239, 2.0198430, 2.0571356, 2.0959930, 2.136645
    2.2245175, 2.2725185, 2.3239338, 2.3795007, 2.440221
    2.5834658, 2.6713916, 2.7769943, 2.7769943, 2.776994
};

/* internal state variables for uniform random number ge
static  int i=16,j=4;
static  float u[]={
    0.8668672834288,  0.3697986366357,  0.8008968294805,
    0.4173889774680,  0.8254561579836,  0.9640965269077,
    0.4508667414265,  0.6451309529668,  0.1645456024730,
    0.2787901807898,  0.06761531340295, 0.9663226330820,
    0.01963343943798, 0.02947398211399, 0.1636231515294,
    0.3976343250467,  0.2631008574685
};

float frannor(void)
/*********************************************************
return a normally distributed random float
 *********************************************************
Returned:   normally distributed random float
 *********************************************************
{
    int k;
    float uni,vni,rnor,x,y,s,bmbx,xnmx;

    /* uni is uniform on [0,1) */
    UNI(uni);

    /* vni is uniform on [-1,1) */
    vni = uni+uni-1.0;

    /* k is in range [0,63] */
    k = ((int)(u[i]*128))%64;

    /* fast part */
    rnor = vni*v[k+1];
    if (ABS(rnor)<=v[k]) return rnor;

    /* slow part */
    x = (ABS(rnor)-v[k])/(v[k+1]-v[k]);
    UNI(y);
    s = x+y;
    if (s<=C2) {
        if (s<=C1) return rnor;
        bmbx = Bsu-Bsu*x;
        if (y<=Csu-AA*exp(-0.5*bmbx*bmbx)) {
            if (exp(-0.5*v[k+1]*v[k+1])+y*PC/v[k+1] <=
                    exp(-0.5*rnor*rnor)) return rnor;
            do {
                UNI(y);
                x = OXN*log(y);
                UNI(y);
            } while (-2.0*log(y)<=x*x);
            xnmx = XN-x;
            return (rnor>=0.0 ? ABS(xnmx) : -ABS(xnmx));
```

```
        }
    }
    bmbx = Bsu-Bsu*x;
    return (rnor>=0.0 ? ABS(bmbx) : -ABS(bmbx));
}

void srannor (int seed)
/**************************************************
seed random number generator
 **************************************************
Input:
seed        different seeds yield different sequences of
 **************************************************/
{
    int ii,jj,ia,ib,ic,id;
    float s,t;

    i = 16;
    j = 4;
    ia=ABS(seed)%32707;
    ib=1111;
    ic=1947;
    for (ii=0; ii<17; ii++) {
        s = 0.0;
        t = 0.5;
        for (jj=0; jj<64; jj++) {
            id = ic-ia;
            if (id<0) {
                id += 32707;
                s += t;
            }
            ia = ib;
            ib = ic;
            ic = id;
            t *= 0.5;
        }
        u[ii] = s;
    }
}
```

To compile this source code, use command :

gcc main.c frannor.c -lm -o random

This is output from program :

```
toto@toto-laptop:/home/toto/$ ./random 6
0.08   1.78   -1.35   -1.03   1.62   0.07
toto@toto-laptop:/home/toto/$ ./random 6
1.12   1.32   0.73   -0.34   0.25   -0.58
```

Source : http://www.cwp.mines.edu/cwpcodes/index.html

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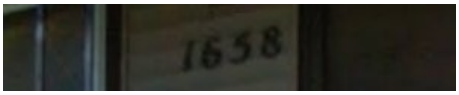

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