NAG C Library Function Document

nag_rngs_discrete_uniform (g05mac)

1 Purpose

nag_rngs_discrete_uniform (g05mac) generates a vector of pseudo-random integers uniformly distributed over the interval $[a, b]$.

2 Specification

```
void nag_rngs_discrete_uniform (Integer a, Integer b, Integer n, Integer x[],
     Integer igen, Integer iseed[], NagError *fail)
```

3 Description

nag_rngs_discrete_uniform (g05mac) generates the next n values y_i from a uniform (0,1) generator (see nag_rngs_basic (g05kac) for details) and applies the transformation

$$x_i = a + [(b - a + 1)y_i],$$

where $[z]$ is the integer part of the real value z. The function ensures that the values x_i lie in the closed interval $[a, b]$.

One of the initialisation functions nag_rngs_init_repeatable (g05kbc) (for a repeatable sequence if computed sequentially) or nag_rngs_init_nonrepeatable (g05kcc) (for a non-repeatable sequence) must be called prior to the first call to nag_rngs_discrete_uniform (g05mac).

4 References

Knuth D E (1981) *The Art of Computer Programming (Volume 2)* (2nd Edition) Addison–Wesley

5 Parameters

1: **a** – Integer *Input*

2: **b** – Integer *Input*

On entry: the end-points a and b of the uniform distribution.

Constraint: **a** $\leq$ **b**.

3: **n** – Integer *Input*

On entry: the number, n, of pseudo-random numbers to be generated.

Constraint: **n** ≥ 0.

4: **x**$[dim]$ – Integer *Output*

Note: the dimension, dim, of the array **x** must be at least $\max(1, \mathbf{n})$.

On exit: the n pseudo-random numbers from the specified uniform distribution.

5: **igen** – Integer *Input*

On entry: must contain the identification number for the generator to be used to return a pseudo-random number and should remain unchanged following initialisation by a prior call to one of the functions nag_rngs_init_repeatable (g05kbc) or nag_rngs_init_nonrepeatable (g05kcc).

6: **iseed**$[4]$ – Integer *Input/Output*

On entry: contains values which define the current state of the selected generator.

On exit: contains updated values defining the new state of the selected generator.

7: **fail** – NagError * *Input/Output*

The NAG error parameter (see the Essential Introduction).

6 Error Indicators and Warnings

NE_INT

On entry, $\mathbf{n} = \langle value \rangle$.
Constraint: $\mathbf{n} \geq 0$.

NE_INT_2

On entry, $\mathbf{a} = \langle value \rangle$ and $\mathbf{b} = \langle value \rangle$.
Constraint: $\mathbf{b} \geq \mathbf{a}$.

NE_BAD_PARAM

On entry, parameter $\langle value \rangle$ had an illegal value.

NE_INTERNAL_ERROR

An internal error has occurred in this function. Check the function call and any array sizes. If the call is correct then please consult NAG for assistance.

7 Accuracy

Not applicable.

8 Further Comments

None.

9 Example

The example program prints five pseudo-random integers from a discrete uniform distribution between -5 and 5, generated by a single call to nag_rngs_discrete_uniform (g05mac), after initialisation by nag_rngs_init_repeatable (g05kbc).

9.1 Program Text

```
/* nag_rngs_discrete_uniform(g05mac) Example Program.
 *
 * Copyright 2001 Numerical Algorithms Group.
 *
 * Mark 7, 2001.
 */

#include <stdio.h>
#include <nag.h>
#include <nag_stdlib.h>
#include <nagg05.h>

int main(void)
{
  /* Scalars */
  Integer  igen, j, m;
  Integer  exit_status=0;
  NagError fail;

  /* Arrays */
```

```
  Integer  *x=0;
  Integer  iseed[4];

  INIT_FAIL(fail);
  Vprintf("g05mac Example Program Results\n\n");

  m = 5;
  /* Allocate memory */
  if ( !(x = NAG_ALLOC(m, Integer)) )
    {
      Vprintf("Allocation failure\n");
      exit_status = -1;
      goto END;
    }

  /* Initialise the seed to a repeatable sequence */
  iseed[0] = 1762543;
  iseed[1] = 9324783;
  iseed[2] = 42344;
  iseed[3] = 742355;
  /* igen identifies the stream. */
  igen = 1;
  g05kbc(&igen, iseed);

  g05mac(-5, 5, m, x, igen, iseed, &fail);
  if (fail.code != NE_NOERROR)
    {
      Vprintf("Error from g05mac.\n%s\n", fail.message);
      exit_status = 1;
      goto END;
    }
  for (j = 0; j < m; ++j)
    {
    Vprintf("%12ld\n", x[j]);
    }
 END:
  if (x) NAG_FREE(x);
  return exit_status;
}
```

9.2 Program Data

None.

9.3 Program Results

```
g05mac Example Program Results

          -5
           5
          -1
           3
           5
```