
Subject: Re: Negative Variance?

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Thu, 19 Mar 2009 22:08:11 GMT

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anniebryant@gmail.com wrote:

> I am using the VARIANCE comand in IDL and am getting negative values.
> The description in the HELP menu for IDL doesn't provide much
> information, but from what I know, I thought variance was either an
> absolute value or a deviation from a squared number, neither of which
> could yield a negative value.

>
> I am looking at the variance for 2 different bands in an AVIRIS
> image. I use the same .pro, just change the band I am looking at.
> The results for Band 1 (lets call it) make sense: all positive
> values. For Band 2, I get a lot of negatives.?! How is this
> possible.

>
> These are the values for Band 1:

>
> integer mean std dev minimum maximum n_elements
> 2633.3 2059.3 0.0000 9367.0 (160686) =
> 160686

>
> These are the values for Band2:

>
> integer mean std dev minimum maximum n_elements
> 1167.5 18269. -32768. 32767. (160686) =
> 160686

I don't see any variance here. The only negative number is the minimum.

Ciao,
Paolo
