Subject: Negative Variance?

Posted by anniebryant@gmail.com on Thu, 19 Mar 2009 22:00:25 GMT

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