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Subject: Re: pth order auto-regressive process with a specified mean and variance  
Posted by [Yngvar Larsen](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2012 15:04:05 GMT  
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On Feb 13, 9:19 am, Tom Van Niel <mookiethe...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi Guys,  
>  
> Does anybody have IDL code that simulates a pth order auto-regressive  
> process with a specified mean and variance? If so, please let me  
> know.  
>

Well. Assuming that the parameters of your AR(p) process is  
chosen such that the process is wide-sense stationary, this should be  
easy:

```
xmean = 0.9
xvariance = 1.2
;; This example vector of AR(4) coefficients
;; results in a WSS process.
;; Homework: make sure this is the case yourself.
;; (Hint: Roots of characteristic polynomial
;;       within unit circle)
;; My model:
;;  $X_t = \sum_{i=1}^p a_i X_{t-i} + n_t$ 
;; with  $n_t$  iid normal.
;; Array A below contains (after reverse)
;;  $A = [a_{p-1}, \dots, a_2, a_1]$ 
A = reverse([2.7607, -3.8106, 2.6535, -0.9238])
p = n_elements(A)
transient = 1000 ; Transient throwaway points
npoints = 10000 + transient

drive_proc = sqrt(xvariance)*randomn(seed, npoints)
ar_proc = fltarr(npoints)
ar_proc[0] = drive_proc[0]
for ii=1, p-1 do $
  ar_proc[ii] = drive_proc[ii] + $
  total(A[p-ii:]*ar_proc[0:ii-1])

for ii=p, npoints-1 do $
  ar_proc[ii] = drive_proc[ii] + $
  total(A*ar_proc[ii-p:ii-1])

;; Remove transient points, where
;; the process isn't WSS yet.
;; Add mean value.
ar_proc = ar_proc[transient:*] + xmean
```

--  
Yngvar

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Subject: Re: pth order auto-regressive process with a specified mean and variance  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2012 15:11:26 GMT  
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Yngvar Larsen writes:

> Well. Assuming that the parameters of your AR(p) process is  
> chosen such that the process is wide-sense stationary, this should be  
> easy

When did this newsgroup get taken over by people  
seemingly speaking gibberish!? :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. I'm looking for my long lost math books now...

--  
David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: pth order auto-regressive process with a specified mean and variance  
Posted by [Yngvar Larsen](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2012 16:18:12 GMT  
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On Feb 13, 4:11 pm, David Fanning <n...@idlcoyote.com> wrote:

> Yngvar Larsen writes:  
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>> easy  
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> seemingly speaking gibberish!? :-(  
>  
> Cheers,

>  
> David  
>  
> P.S. I'm looking for my long lost math books now...

:)

That sentence was maybe a bit too much for this newsgroup, but on purpose since OP asked for a simple answer to a complicated question. (Hence, the "Homework" part of the answer.)

P.S. This is statistical signal processing, so your math books might not be the proper place to look for gibberish-to-english translation :)

--  
Yngvar

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Subject: Re: pth order auto-regressive process with a specified mean and variance  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2012 17:11:31 GMT  
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Yngvar Larsen writes:

> P.S. This is statistical signal processing, so your math books might  
> not be the proper place to look for gibberish-to-english  
> translation :)

Ah, yeah, I was chasing one of those lithe modern dance majors and skipped most of that class! ;-)

Cheers,

David

--  
David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: pth order auto-regressive process with a specified mean and variance  
Posted by [Tom Van Niel](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2012 01:52:57 GMT  
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Hi Yngvar,

That is just what I need. At the moment, I'm only using AR(1), so as long as I keep the parameter  $< 1$ , it should remain WSS. If I use AR(2) or greater, then I'll see if I can figure out the homework you have assigned :)

David, no need to look up your textbooks when Wikipedia is around, although it sounds like it brought back some good memories.

Thanks

Yngvar Larsen wrote:

> On Feb 13, 9:19 am, Tom Van Niel <mookiethe...@gmail.com> wrote:

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>>

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> ar\_proc = fltarr(npoints)

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> for ii=1, p-1 do \$

> ar\_proc[ii] = drive\_proc[ii] + \$

> total(A[p-ii:]\*ar\_proc[0:ii-1])

```
>
> for ii=p, npoints-1 do $
>   ar_proc[ii] = drive_proc[ii] + $
>   total(A*ar_proc[ii-p:ii-1])
>
> ;; Remove transient points, where
> ;; the process isn't WSS yet.
> ;; Add mean value.
> ar_proc = ar_proc[transient:*] + xmean
>
> --
> Yngvar
```

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