

C Code For Allan Variance

```
/* allanvar.c */
*****
* AllanVariance on an array of data x, size N
* Return N/2 points into y
*
* The Allan Variance gives us a measure of the optimal number of averages
* for a set of data. If only white noise is present, then the noise will be
* reduced by the square root of the number of points used for the average. But
* if there is 1/f or low frequency drift in the data, then after a certain
* number of averages the value is shifted because of the drift of the data.
*
* Display allan variance using a log-log plot. Variance on the Y axis and
* number of averages on the X axis.
*
* Reference: "The Limits of Signal Averaging in Atmospheric Trace-Gas
* Monitoring by Tunable Diode-Laser Absorption Spectroscopy (TDLAS)"
* P. Werle, R. Mucke, F. Slemr, Applied Physics B 57, 131-139 (1993)
*****/

/*
* k = size of subgroup, from 1 to N
* m = number of subgroups = N/k
*/

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <malloc.h>
#include <string.h>

void allanvar(float *y, float *x, int N) {
    float *A,*B;
    double temp,acc;
    int k,m,s,l;

    A=(float*)malloc(N*4);          /* space for N floats */
    if (A==NULL) {
        printf ("\nCould not allocate A...");
        exit (1);
    }
    B=(float*)malloc(N*4);          /* space for N floats */
    if (B==NULL) {
        printf ("\nCould not allocate B...");
        exit (1);
    }

    printf("\n Computing Allan variances");
    for(k=1;k<=N/2;k++) {           /* k=N/2 means minimum of 2 subgroups */
        m=N/k;                       /* number of subgroups */
        for(s=0; s<m; s++) {         /* average subgroups */
            acc=0.0;
            for(l=s*k; l<s*k+k; l++) {
                acc+=x[l];
            }
            A[s]= (float) acc/k;
        }
        acc=0;
        m--;
        for(s=0; s<m; s++){ /* short term variance, use adjacent groups */
            temp=(A[s+1]-A[s]);
            acc+=temp*temp;
        }
        B[k-1]= (float) acc/(2*m);
        if (k%100 == 0) {
            printf(".");
        }
    }
    for(k=0;k<N/2;k++)
        y[k]=B[k];
    free(A);
}
```

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        free(B);
    }

/*****
* Main program
*
* This program asks for the name of the source data file. The output file
* name is the same as the source file but with an extension of av,
* i.e. input: source.dat, output: source.av
* The input data file and the output data file are ASCII files
*
* The fread/fwrite commands which are commented out could be used for
* reading/writing binary 4 byte floating point data
*****/
void main(void) {
    FILE *infile,*outfile;
    char in[15], out[15];
    static float x[256000], inval;
    double sqr,sum;
    int N;
    long int i;

    printf("input file >");
    gets(in);
    i = 0;
    while ((out[i] = in[i]) != '.')
        i++;
    out[++i] = 'a';
    out[++i] = 'v';
    out[++i] = '\0';

    infile=fopen(in,"r");
    fseek(infile,0,0);
    printf("\n Reading data...");
    inval = 0.0;
    for (i=0; (fscanf(infile, "%f",&inval) != EOF) && i<256000; i++)
        /* Read up to 256,000 points unless EOF */
        {
            printf("%ld) = %f\n",i,inval);
            x[i] = inval;
        }
    N=i++;

    printf("\n Data points read = %i",N);
    fclose(infile);
    printf("\n first point: %f",x[0]);
    printf("\n last point: %f",x[N-1]);
    sqr=0; sum=0;
    for (i = 0; i < N; i ++ ) {
        if (x[i]==-99)
            printf ("\n wrong data read.  i = %i  x[i] = %f", i, x[i]);
        sqr+=x[i]*x[i];
        sum+=x[i];
    }
    printf("\nvariance = %f",sqr/N - (sum/N)*(sum/N));

    allanvar(x,x,N);          /* Compute Allan Variance for data */

    printf("\nfirst allan variance %g",x[0]);
    outfile=fopen(out,"wb");

    /*****
    * Output Allan Variance in two columns.
    * First column the number of averages,
    * second column the allan variance
    *****/
    for (i=0; i<N/2; i++) {
        fprintf(outfile,"%d\t%g\r\n",i+1,x[i]);
    }
    fclose(outfile);
    printf("\n Finished.\n");
}

```