



## NumPy var()

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**Summary:** in this tutorial, you'll learn how to use the `var()` function to calculate the variances of elements in an array.

## Introduction to the NumPy var() function

The variance is a measure of the spread of a distribution. To manually calculate the variance of numbers, you follow these steps:

- First, calculate the average of all numbers.
- Second, calculate the squared difference of each number by subtracting it from the mean and square the result.

- Third, calculate the average of those squared differences.

For example, to calculate the variance of three numbers 1, 2, and 3:

First, calculate the average (or [mean](https://www.pythontutorial.net/python-numpy/numpy-mean/) (https://www.pythontutorial.net/python-numpy/numpy-mean/ )):

$$(1+2+3) / 3 = 2.0$$

Second, calculate the squared difference of each number with the mean:

$$(1-2)^2 + (2-2)^2 + (3-2)^2 = 2$$

Third, calculate the average of these squared differences:

$$2 / 3 \sim 0.667$$

To calculate the variances of numbers in an array, you can use the `var()` function:

```
numpy.var(a, axis=None, dtype=None, out=None, ddof=0, keepdims=<no value>, *, where=<no value>)
```

For example:

```
import numpy as np

a = np.array([1, 2, 3])
result = np.var(a)
print(round(result,3))
```

Output:

```
0.667
```

## Summary

- Use the numpy `var()` function to calculate the variance of elements in an array.