
Subject: Re: POLY_FIT 5.0: inaccurate results. use 4.0 if possible.

Posted by [pit](#) on Mon, 30 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <MPG.f859b08896d2aad989765@news.frii.com>,
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

> I submitted this problem to the RSI technical support staff
> to see what they knew about it. Here is their response.
> This is one of those "nice things to do" that cause confusion
> because the change is not communicated carefully enough. I'm
> not sure how to solve this "upgrade" problem, but I do know
> it causes grief from time to time.
>
> *****
> To obtain similar results for the POLY_FIT procedure from IDL 4.0.1 to
> IDL 5.0, please set (/DOUBLE) the DOUBLE keyword when using POLY_FIT in
> IDL 5.0.½ For most of IDL 4.0.1 numerical analysis routines, the
> internal computations are performed on double precision variables.
> However, because of timing feature requests, these routines were changed
> to perform single precision computations.½ Fortunately, the DOUBLE
> keyword was added to these routines to force double precision
> computations.½ Thus, to force IDL 5.0's POLY_FIT to perform like IDL
> 4.0.1's POLY_FIT, please use this DOUBLE keyword.½ Sorry for any
> inconvenience this change may have caused.
> *****

So, why don't they use a keyword /SINGLE and stay backward compatible?
This is bad style, IHMO.

Peter

--

~~~~~  
~~~~~

Peter "Pit" Suetterlin <http://www.uni-sw.gwdg.de/~pit>

Universitaets-Sternwarte Goettingen

Tel.: +49 551 39-5048 pit@uni-sw.gwdg.de

-- * -- * ...-- * -- * ...-- * -- * ...-- * -- * ...-- * --

Come and see the stars! <http://www.kis.uni-freiburg.de/~ps/SFB>

Sternfreunde Breisgau e.V. Tel.: +49 7641 3492
