
Subject: Re: cumulative function?

Posted by [David Foster](#) on Mon, 27 Jul 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Alex Schuster wrote:

```
>
> dschmidt@lanl.gov (David M. Schmidt) wrote:
>
>> Anyone know of a fast (e.g. built-in) way to construct a cumulative
>> vector from a given input vector?
>>
>> The slow way is:
>>
>> Given A(100)
>> C=fltarr(100)
>> C(0)=A(0)
>> For i=1,99 do C(i)=C(i-1)+A(i)
>
> You could use an index array:
>
> index = indgen( 99 ) + 1
> C(0) = A(0)
> C(index) = C(index-1) + A(index)
>
> Or the shift function:
>
> C(99) = 0
> C = shift( C, 1 ) + A ; or was it -1 ?
>
> Alex
```

Just wanted to point out that I don't think this is what David is after, as it won't get you a *cumulative* density function:

```
ind=indgen(20)+1
a=indgen(20)+50
c[0]=a[0]
c[ind] = c[ind-1] + a[ind]
print, c
   50   101   53   55   56   57
   58   60   62   63   64   65
   67   68   69   70   71   72
   73   74   74
```

I checked the code for HIST_EQUAL.PRO, and there is a /HISTOGRAM_ONLY keyword that is supposed to return the cumulative distribution histogram. Of course, you won't know about this keyword from reading the OnLine help because IT ISN'T MENTIONED!! You have to set the

BINSIZE, MAXV, MINV, and TOP keywords explicitly. The problem is, the routine uses the same "slow method" that David lists earlier!

```
; HISTOGRAM_ONLY: If set, return the cumulative distribution
; histogram,
; rather than the histogram equalized array. MAXV, MINV, and
; BINSIZE will be set, describing the scaling of the histogram,
; if not specified.
```

Sorry, but given that it is Monday and I just got back from vacation, I cannot think of a faster way. If it was really critical you could write a short C function and call it using CALL_EXTERNAL. I've done this a lot so feel free to email me if you want help.

Dave

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~~~~~
```

