Subject: Re: Principal components analysis
Posted by wmc on Wed, 03 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

Mark McGillion <mm@fs1.co.umist.ac.uk> wrote:
> What I need to know is......what contribution is made to these derived
> variables by each of the original 500 variables. Is it possible to
> determine
> which of the original 500 variables provided the greatest contribution
> to each derived variable?

This isn't really an IDL question... there is a lot about principal components
(aka empirical orthogonal functions) in the meteorogical literature. Try,
for example, Richman (1986, J. Climatology) for some examples of how ignorance
can make you go badly wrong ;-). It also has lots of refs to earlier studies...

- William

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Climate Modeller, British Antarctic Survey | Disclaimer: I speak for myself