
Subject: Re: Convolution of Stick Spectra
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sun, 17 Sep 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Hi Todd--

After looking at your problem it looks like the widths of the lines are as wide as your energy range. I guess this would be appropriate if you were using proportional counters to detect X-ray lines :-)
Because of this it doesn't seem like you need a super accurate representation of the gaussian.

The biggest cost appears to be associated with the computation of the EXP() function, so you will need to reduce the number of computations. Vectorizing further probably won't help since you are compute-bound by so many exponentiations. You could have gotten a pretty big savings if the lines were narrow, and you could restrict the computation to a narrow region around the line center (say +/- 10 sigma with WHERE). I recommend that anyway to get rid of underflow errors.

I tried a spline interpolation, based on a precomputed gaussian template, but again given the broadness of your lines, it doesn't really save anything.

If for example your sigma term were
 $((.12 * \sqrt{\text{stick}[0,i]/1000}) / 1.6651) * 10$ [note the last factor is smaller] then things start to look interesting.

Why isn't your energy grid coarser? Why aren't you using an honest to goodness response matrix?

Cheers,
Craig

tclement@ucsd.edu (Todd Clements) writes:

> Hi all...
>
> In my on-going effort to speed up the code in our lab, I have another
> 'challenge' for you (I have to put 'challenge' in quotes because it seems
> that no matter what I ask, someone knows the answer off (or at least
> nearly off) the top of their head!)
>
> We have a situation where we need to convolute (with energy dependent
> gaussians) a number of stick spectra on a well-defined energy axis. The
> stick spectra are read in from another program as a 2-dimensional array,
> using ddread. The [0,*] elements are the energies of the sticks, and the
> [1,*] values are the intensities. These have no inherent spacing, they are

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> just calculated intensities at whatever energy the calculation returns.
>
> We want to convolute these with gaussians on a regular energy axis, so we
> declare our energy array from 0 to 4, as shown below.
>
> The only way I've found to do the convolution, since the x axes don't
> match on the two arrays, is to do the following (slow) for loop:
>
> convoluted = fltarr( 2, 2048 )
> convoluted[0,*] = findgen( 2048 ) / 2047. * 4.
>
> ;; Let's fake a stick spectrum, we usually have at least this many elements
> stick = abs(randomn( systime(1), 2, 5000 ))
> stick[0,*] = stick[0,*] * 4.
> stick[1,*] = stick[1,*] * 1000.
>
> for i=0L, n_elements( stick ) / 2 -1 do $
>   convoluted[1,*] = stick[1,i]*exp(-((convoluted[0,*] - stick[0,i])^2)/ $
>     (((.12*sqrt(stick[0,i]/1000))/1.6651)*1000)^2) $
>     + convoluted[1,*]
>
>
> So the question becomes, is there any way to speed this up? I thought of
> using a larger convoluted array with multiple dimensions and using total()
> somehow, but I couldn't think of how to do that.
>
> Thanks in advance (and in retrospect) for all the help!
> Todd

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Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
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