
Subject: Re: Smooth()

Posted by [jeyadev](#) on Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:44:25 GMT

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In article <3A385A8B.B4CCE3C5@wellesley.edu>,

Richard G. French <rfrench@wellesley.edu> wrote:

> Out of curiosity, can anyone think of a good reason that the

> smooth() function bombs when you ask it to smooth something by 1?

>

> Ex:

>

> print,smooth([1.,3.,4.,2.],3)

> 1.00000 2.66667 3.00000 2.00000

> print,smooth([1.,3.,4.,2.],1)

> % SMOOTH: Width must be > 2 and smaller than array dimensions: <INT

> (1)>

> % Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

>

> I have lots of instances where the amount of smoothing I want to

> do is a variable, and it seems silly to have to do my own checking

> to see if I actually need any smoothing or not.

> It certainly makes sense to me that if the

> smoothing width is only one bin, the smooth() function should just

> be a no-op and return the input array. This is what the REBIN()

> function does, after all - it does not complain if you tell it you

> want the array to be rebinned to its actual size!

>

> I've had to construct a 'mysmooth()' function that checks to see

> if the number of points by which to smooth things is less than 2,

> in which case I just return the calling array.

>

> Are there other functions out there that you can think of that

> don't have a sensible default evalution for limiting cases like this?

> I would love to see this one changed.

See my posting yesterday about the AVG function. When it gets a scalar, it spews out an error message as the argument expected is an array. Yes, one would assume that some elementary checking to catch degenerate cases is done. I am using PV-Wave CL Version 6.01.

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