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Subject: Re: Convolution, IDL & Numerical Recipes  
Posted by [aceves](#) on Thu, 07 Nov 2002 01:02:59 GMT  
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JD Smith <jdsmith@as.arizona.edu> wrote in message  
news:<pan.2002.11.05.22.42.57.734458.26650@as.arizona.edu>...

> On Tue, 05 Nov 2002 06:34:42 -0700, R.G. Stockwell wrote:

>

>> Hector Aceves wrote:

>>> "R.G. Stockwell" <sorry@noemail.now> wrote in message

>>> news:<3DC28954.7060605@noemail.now>...

>>>

>>>> Perhaps you want to use the following keywords: Check out the help file

>>>> to see the effects the keywords have on how the arrays line up to be

>>>> convolved. (Note: you must explicitly set center=0, or else it defaults

>>>> to 1)

>>>>

>>>> z=convol(a,k,center=0,edge\_wrap=1)

>>>>

>>>> a 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 k 1 0 0 0 0 0 0

>>>> 0 0

>>>>

>>>> z 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0

>>>>

>>>>

>>>> Cheers,

>>>> bob stockwell

>>>

>>>

>>> Dear Bob...

>>>

>>> It works well with the kernel [1,0,...] But when I tried the actual

>>> examples of Numerical Recipes it did not give me the same results:

>>>

>>> a=[0,0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,0]

>>> k=[0,0,1,1,1,1,0,0,0]

>>>

>>> z=convol(a,k,center=0,edge\_wrap=1)

>>> IDL> print,z

>>>     0    0    0    0    0    0    0    0    1 2 3

>>>     4    4    3    2    1    0

>>> IDL>

>>>

>>> With Numerical Recipes gives..

>>>

>>>     0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 2 3 3 3 2 1 0 0

>>>

>>> which seems ok!

```

>>
>> If by "ok" you mean "completely wrong" then I agree with you. :)
>>
>> Correllating two "boxcars" gives you a "triangle". Perhaps you typed in
>> the wrong "k" in your numrec code?
>>
>> a=[0,0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0]
>> k=[1,1,1,0,0,0,0,0,1]
>>
>> z=convol(a,k,center=1,edge_wrap=0,edge_trunc=1)
>>
>> 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 1
>>
>> 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 2 3 3 3 2 1 0 0
>>
>> Also, keep in mind, as J.D. mentioned, that IDL convol is a correlation
>> with center=0, and a convolution with center = 1 (among other things).
>>
>> You'd probably be better off to write your own 10 line piece of code to
>> perform the exact operation you want. Actually, I might even do that,
>> but I have a lot of other work to do, so it's gonna be a while.
>>
>> I'd use an fft to do it, and if you want no edge wrap, just zeropad.
>
> Have a look at the NASA-library's CONVOLVE, which explicitly takes all
> these IDL-native "features" into account, uses FFT when appropriate, and
> may save you the trouble of writing one yourself.
>
> JD

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Thanks to everyone... I think I got it now.

Hector

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