Subject: Re: curve fitting: works badly?
Posted by vek on Wed, 08 Mar 1995 05:43:44 GMT

Mark Rivers (rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu) wrote:
: I have written a new version of CURVEFIT which will take care of doing the
: derivatives for you numerically.

This is great (really). But has anyone done a (linear) curvefit that
includes both X and Y errors? A much harder problem, but much more
realistic (c'mon, the Real World's *fun*)! NUMERICAL RECIPES has one for
linear fitting (ch. 15.3), but not for non-linear (no surprise, since it's
probably nigh impossible). I don't suppose anyone has translated the NR
routine into IDL?

Also, why does CURVEFIT want weights instead of errors? W = 1/(sig_y)^2.
Whose datasets give them weights? Mine all give me errors!   :-)
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Vincent Kargatis|Rice U.|Houston TX|[http://spacsun.rice.edu/~vek/vek.html]
 "It's in the tradition of parties in darkly lit rooms where men wrestled
  you up against walls and grinded you to death until the break of dawn."
  -- Cassandra Wilson, about her album BLUE LIGHT TILL DAWN