Subject: Re: slightly shifted plots (?)
Posted by mmiller3 on Fri, 07 Nov 2003 22:51:03 GMT
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>>>> > "Antonio" == Antonio <angaspx@yahoo.it> writes:

   > hi all, I was wondering whether there would be any routine
   > that enable to slightly shift two almost identical
   > functions so that they do not overlap in the same plot.
   > thanks, cheers! a.

One method that can work well to separate overlapping data is to
add a small amount of random noise (jitter) to the data points as
they are plotted. This will tend to move overlapping values
apart on the plot, but does not affect calculations as it is only
added in the plot, not to the actual data. If the random noise
is small compared to the distribution of the data itself, then
the quality of the plot is not changed. This may not work for
calculations that don't include any noise though - it is hard to
add a small amount of 0...

Mike

P.S. For one implementation, see "jitter" from R
 http://stat.ethz.ch/R-manual/R-patched/library/base/html/jit ter.html
http://www.r-project.org

Chambers, J. M., Cleveland, W. S., Kleiner, B. and Tukey, P.A.
(1983) _Graphical Methods for Data Analysis._ Wadsworth; figures
2.8, 4.22, 5.4.

Chambers, J. M. and Hastie, T. J. (1992) _Statistical Models in
S._ Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole.