Subject: Re: Calculate convex hull of scattered data?
Posted by sterner on Fri, 17 Mar 1995 18:10:46 GMT
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art.croucher@jhuapl.edu writes:

> I'm trying to calculate the convex hull which encloses a scattered data
> set. The JHU/APL CONVEXHULL routine didn't work, presumably because
> the data set isn't a polygon. Does anyone have a routine that will
> calculate either a convex hull or a polygon suitable for input to
> CONVEXHULL?

I posted a solution to this but just recieved email from David Stern with a much simpler and faster solution. Here it is:

I saw your messages RE convex hulls on the newsgroup. The TRIANGULATE procedure returns the indices of the points on the convex hull as an optional parameter. It is efficient, O(n log(n)), and simple. Here's an example:

```
n = 1000                    ;Make some random data
x = randomn(seed, n)
y = randomn(seed, n)

triangulate, x, y, tr, b    ;b contains the vertices on the hull
plot, x, y, psym=1
b = [b, b(0)]               ;Close the polygon
plots, x(b), y(b)           ;Plot the convex hull
end
```

Hope this helps...
David

I tried 10000 points and it only took a few seconds (unlike my convexhull routine which takes a few minutes for that number of points).

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