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Subject: Re: mpfit of parametric data?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 28 Jul 2004 20:05:51 GMT

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"jamiesmyth\_uni@yahoo.ca" <jamiesmyth\_uni@yahoo.ca> writes:

> I suppose this is really a question for Craig but I figure here is as  
> good a place to ask as any... Does anyone know how I can go about  
> fitting parametric data using MPFIT? I have done a fair bit of 1d  
> fitting with mpfit (MPFITEXPR) but I'm really stumped on this one. I  
> want to fit to the following parametric parameterisation:  
>  
>  $x = (a_0 + a_1 t) + \sin(a_2 t + \text{phase})$   
>  $y = (b_0 + b_1 t) + \cos(b_2 t + \text{phase})$   
>  
> where,  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$ ,  $a_3$ ,  $b_0$ ,  $b_1$ ,  $b_2$  and phase are all fit parameters.  
>  
> The intention is to try and fit the motion of a spinning top that  
> precesses. I have very long running (but noisy) time series data for  
> the x and y values. Alternatively, you can think of me having  $x(t)$  and  
>  $y(t)$  sampled at identical times. I am mainly interested in the phase  
> parameter.  
>  
> This is proving considerably more difficult than I expected it to be!

Greetings,

This is actually really easy.

You are actually trying to fit two functions simultaneously, X and Y.  
On the other hand, you could consider this to be one \*single\* function  
which has twice as many elements.

Your independent variable is still T, but your new function would be  
the concatenation of X and Y. For example,

$$U = [X, Y]$$

You do the same for your error or weight values. Within your  
function, you need to perform the same operations to join the model X  
and Y values into a single model function.

You may be worried that U and T are not of the same size, but that  
doesn't matter! Formally you don't even need an independent variable  
at all. It's just there as a convenience.

That's it. Happy fitting!  
Craig

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Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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