
Subject: Re: Histogram & Cumulative Distribution Functions

Posted by [Justin\[3\]](#) on Fri, 27 Aug 2004 23:08:17 GMT

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Ooops. Late on a Friday. I was meaning cdf in several places I wrote pdf.
Still would have worked mind you. Soz.

So if h is the output of HISTO then:

cumul = TOTAL(h, /CUMULATIVE)

tot = TOTAL(FLOAT(h))

cdf = cumul/tot

To find the 95th percentile use VALUE_LOCATE on the cdf to get the
index of the array element closest to 0.95

index = VALUE_LOCATE(cdf, 0.95)

If 'l' contains the histo locations then your 95th percentile is at:

l[index]

Justin <kf1zr0y02@sneakemail.com> wrote in

news:Xns9552C1E35BA22kf1zr0y02sneakemail@18.181.0.25:

> To get the CDF from a (discrete) PDF use the TOTAL function with the

> CUMULATIVE keyword:

>

> So if h is the output of HISTO then:

> cumul = TOTAL(h, /CUMULATIVE)

> tot = TOTAL(FLOAT(h))

> pdf = cumul/tot

>

> To find the 95th percentile use VALUE_LOCATE on the pdf to get the

> index of the array element closest to 0.95

>

> index = VALUE_LOCATE(pdf, 0.95)

>

> If 'l' contains the histo locations then your 95th percentile is at:

> l[index]

>

> Make sure you have enough bins in the histogram otherwise the

> percentile value can be coarse. You could even create a new histogram

> (just for the cdf calculation) with nbins >= number of data points to

> give an accurate percentile value.

>

> Hope this helps,

>

> Justin

>

>
>