
Subject: Re: Fitting a function with multiple independent variables

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 20 Apr 2005 18:31:44 GMT

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Sean Davis <seand@colorado.edu> writes:

> Actually, CURVEFIT does not work for that task. CURVEFIT fits a function
> with multiple parameters (a,b,c), like

>

> $y = a*x + b*x^2 + c*\exp(x)$,

>

> but not functions with multiple independent variables AND parameters, like

>

> $y = a*x1 + b*x2^2 + c*\exp(x3)$

This is not true. CURVEFIT does nonlinear least squares, such as your second expression. The number of independent variables is irrelevant. You can have no independent variables if you want! The comments here:

<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/fitqa.html#multivar>

apply to CURVEFIT as well as MPFIT. Not that I am defending CURVEFIT. :-)

Craig

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