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Subject: Re: How to determine the WEIGHTS in MPFITFUN for distribution function fit?

Posted by [duxiyu@gmail.com](mailto:duxiyu@gmail.com) on Fri, 07 Sep 2007 05:26:48 GMT

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On 9/7/2007, Craig Markwardt

<craigm...@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:

>

> If Y is measured counts, then the YERR should be  $\sim \text{SQRT}(Y)$ , right?

>

> But overall I agree, the original poster needs to specify how the

> numbers were measured in order to estimate the measurement error.

>

> Craig

>

The effect of  $\text{Yerr}=\text{SQRT}(Y)$  is the same as the effect of  $\text{WEIGHTS}=1/Y$  for the procedure MPFITFUN, isn't it?

The array named D in IDL means the original measured data.

$Y = \text{histogram}(D, \text{locations} = X)$

I want use a specified function to fit this curve in the x-y plane.

The computed function is the distribution function for the measured data D, isn't it?

If there are not the measurement errors for the data D, I should set the  $\text{Yerr} = \text{SQRT}(Y)$  when I use the MPFITFUN to fit the curve.

If there are the measurement errors Derr which have the same dimensions as the data D, how do I calculate the Yerr?

The another question is how to determine the START\_PARAMS in the procedure MPFITFUN?

When I use the matlab to fit the curve, the procedure can select the start\_value automatically.

The START\_PARAMS in MPFITFUN must be given by user.

The START\_PARAMS is set to some values, and the procedure can return the results without any error.

But when the START\_PARAMS change a little, the procedure gives the warning "Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand" and return the different results.

I do not know the criterion of its selection.

I am looking forward to your reply.

Best regards,  
jdu

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