
Subject: Re: One ellipse to rule them all

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Mon, 11 Feb 2008 23:55:41 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Feb 11, 5:06 pm, ianpaul.free...@gmail.com wrote:

> On Feb 11, 4:51 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

>

>> ianpaul.free...@gmail.com writes:

>>> I'm hoping someone has done this before and can help me out.

>

>>> I have a bunch of x,y points, and I'd like to find the ellipse (with

>>> minimum area) that encompasses all of them. Any thoughts?

>

>> I can show you how to find an ellipse:

>

>> http://www.dfanning.com/ip_tips/fit_ellipse.html

>

>> To enclose all the points I would, uh, expand it

>> slowly. :-)

>

>> Cheers,

>

>> David

>

>> --

>> David Fanning, Ph.D.

>> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)

>> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

>

> My gut tells me I should be able to do it analytically. I *think* the

> two points that have the largest separation should define the major

> axis and position angle. Then I just need to fit for the minor axis

> from the rest of the points, and the largest one is the winner.

Look here - and references therein:

[http://www-eleves-isia.cma.fr/documentation/CgalDoc2.4/basic
_lib/Optimisation_ref/Class_Min_ellipse_2.html](http://www-eleves-isia.cma.fr/documentation/CgalDoc2.4/basic_lib/Optimisation_ref/Class_Min_ellipse_2.html)
