
Subject: Re: linfit with string time array (x)
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 11 Nov 2008 08:38:56 GMT
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lbnc@lbnc.de schrieb:

> On 10 Nov, 16:43, Reimar Bauer <R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:
>> if the numbers are written in a time format it is better to show an
>> example. Those need to be converted into a number. I would suggest to
>> use julian seconds (seconds since 2000-01-01 00:00:00 UTC)
>
> But why?! Why go through the bother when IDL has JULDAY and CALDAT?
> With the LABEL_DATE function you get nice annotations of axes and you
> don't need to worry about whether the routines you download somewhere
> of the web are actually right.

Well you have to write your own tests for nearly everything you use or
program by your own (or have been by others). A simple doctest example
in the code does help a lot. (idl has no unittest framework)
Sometimes you should use a calculator or/and look into some book of
tables. And if you look into books it is better to not believe only on
one book. ;)

I never have seen any unit tests by idl developing team in the last 15
years. But I have send them some test examples for every bug I found. So
we can assume they do unittests. But they are not part of the product.

Sometimes it is better to use your own well tested routine. ;)

>
> To answer the original question, as Reimar already said, you need to
> convert the strings to some sort of numeric value, for example julian
> day. For that you need to parse the year, month, day, hour, minute,
> second from your string and pass the to, for example, JULDAY. The IDL
> documentation knows more about how to use JULDAY and LABEL_DATE.

If you like julday just use julday. :)

cheers
Reimar
