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Subject: Re: Showing the least-squares line through a set of x,y points

Posted by [bobbylough](#) on Mon, 23 Feb 2009 17:55:17 GMT

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On Feb 22, 4:34 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> bobbylough writes:

>> I was wondering if it could be possible to plot the least-squares line  
>> for a set of points on a 2D plot for a set of x,y points. This would  
>> involve reading the set of points via a textfile initially and then  
>> including additional syntax that would compute the "best-fit" line  
>> (this is correctly called the line of least-squares) through these  
>> points. I'm well capable of doing this in Excel but have had  
>> difficulty tracking the correct commands in IDL. Many thanks for any  
>> help you can give me on this problem.

>

> I would do something like this:

>

> IDL> x = indgen(20)

> IDL> y = 3\*x + 5 + RandomU(-3L, 20) \* 10

> IDL> plot, x, y, psym=2, symsize=2

> IDL> result = linfit(x, y, YFIT=yfit)

> IDL> oplot, x, yfit, thick=2

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>

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

Thanks David, worked a treat!!

Robert.

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