
Subject: Re: IDL - EXP fitting function

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Fri, 27 Mar 2009 13:50:53 GMT

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Vince Hradil wrote:

> On Mar 27, 8:27 am, Paolo <pgri...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> Vince Hradil wrote:

>>> On Mar 26, 5:55 pm, Christopher Thom <ct...@odjjob.uchicago.edu>

>>> wrote:

>>>> Quoth glen_a...@hotmail.com:

>>

>>>> > On Mar 26, 5:12 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

>>>> > > glen_a...@hotmail.com writes:

>>>> > > > Greetings everyone! My first post! I have some data x, y, that i would

>>>> > > > like to fit to a fitting function of the kind $y_{fit} = \text{EXP}(a + b \cdot x)$.

>>>> > > > where a and b are constants which i would like found. Any ideas on how

>>>> > > > to do this?

>>

>>>> > > $ab = \text{LinFit}(x, y)$

>>>> > > $a = ab[0]$

>>>> > > $b = ab[1]$

>>

>>>> > > 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 for getting back to me David,

>>

>>>> > Does the linfit function work when i would like my data to be fitted to

>>>> > an $\text{EXP}(a + bx)$ function? I didn't think that a linear function would be

>>>> > correct when considering the EXP? Or am i getting confused going from

>>>> > real space to log space!

>>

>>>> No, linfit() fits a linear model of the form $y = A + B \cdot x$, so it will not

>>>> "just work". why don't you just fit a linear model in logspace?

>>

>>>> $res = \text{linfit}(x, \text{alog}(y_{fit}))$

>>>> $a = res[0]$

>>>> $b = res[1]$

>>

>>>> cheers

>>>> chris

>>

```
>>> I'll second that. This is really a linear problem, so no need to
>>> solve the non-linear equation.
>>
>> I disagree. If you have negative measurements, or positive
>> but very small measurements, you will get bad results.
>> Also the result will not be the least-squares best fit.
>>
>> Ciao,
>> Paolo
>
> It can still be fit as a linear system - just weight the residuals by
> the measured values, like this: http://mathworld.wolfram.com/LeastSquaresFittingExponential.html
```

Interesting... but I still do not see how they handle negative values...

Ciao,
Paolo
