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Subject: Re: Book Editors Needed. Apply Within  
Posted by [Anne Martel](#) on Thu, 06 Jan 2011 17:09:46 GMT  
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Hi David,

I am an old IDL user (since version 4) and have always found your books to be extremely useful. I would like to edit a whole chapter but time is very tight at the moment and I have too many other commitments. However I would love to go over the section on PCA for images - this is one of my main research interests and the primary reason I use IDL (the matrix notation sucks but memory management is sooo much better than matlab's). If a partial commitment doesn't work for you then please just correct 1 error - it is PrinciPAL components analysis, not principle components analysis!

All the Best,  
Anne

On 1/4/2011 5:40 PM, David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,  
>  
> I am making progress on my new book. A draft is finished.  
> All the chapters have been spell-checked. And I have  
> had a quick read through the entire book, fixing things  
> as I went. Now the real fun begins: chasing errors!  
>  
> If you have downloaded one of the book chapters from  
> my web page, you have been invited to participate  
> in the Feedback Frenzy, wherein people get to read  
> a chapter and unload (metaphorically, of course)  
> on what an idiot the author is. More points are  
> scored with wit than invective, but I'm willing to  
> take any kind of feedback to make this book better. :-)  
>  
> If you would like to participate, I am happy to  
> have you. You can find a table of contents for the  
> book here:  
>  
> [http://www.dfanning.com/misc/guide\\_toc.pdf](http://www.dfanning.com/misc/guide_toc.pdf)  
>  
> Contact me and let me know which chapter you would  
> like to review. I'll send it to you, when you return  
> it with comments, you can select another, etc. There  
> are 11 chapters in the book.  
>  
> My goal would be to have 8-10 people look at each  
> chapter, so the chapter you prefer may not be available.  
> I'll do my best to see you get what you want, but the  
> earlier you respond, the better your chances are.

>  
> Here are the things I am looking for:  
>  
> 1. Typos (lots of these, I am sure)  
> 2. Code that doesn't work as described in the book. (You will  
> need to download the very latest Coyote Library release  
> to check the book's code. You can find it at  
> <http://www.dfanning.com/programs/coyoteprograms.zip>.)  
> 3. Badly explained or poorly written explanations, or  
> anything that in your opinion I have just gotten wrong.  
> 4. Figures that are missing, strange, or have other problems.  
> 5. Any unresolved cross-reference, or a cross-reference to something  
> that doesn't seem to exist.  
> 6. Evidence of bad jokes, ill-temper, or dubious cultural  
> sensitivity.  
> 7. Anything you think I have missed that should have gone into a  
> chapter.  
>  
> What I am NOT looking for:  
>  
> 1. Effusive praise. Please be as critical as possible. You will not  
> hurt my feelings in any way.  
> 2. Bad page breaks. These are always resolved right before the  
> book goes to print.  
>  
> Thank you very much for your help. This kind of book cannot be,  
> and would not be, written without the unbelievable support of  
> the IDL community. I greatly appreciate it.  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David (first\_name AT coyote's place of residence)  
>

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