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Subject: Re: Problems with curvefit

Posted by [brian.jackel](#) on Wed, 12 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <33267B6E.540@igi.pd.cnr.it> Emilio Martines <martines@igi.pd.cnr.it> writes:

> Hello. I am using curvefit in IDL 4.0.1 for fitting a set of data point  
> with a curve of the form  
>  $y=a*(\exp((x-b)/c)-1)$   
> where x is the dependent variable and a,b,c are the fit parameters.  
> It usually works fine, but sometimes, when the data are really bad, it  
> goes into an infinite loop. Since the fit is embedded into a more  
> complex program, this is very annoying. I would rather like the routine  
> to exit nicely, even without performing the fit. Has anyone found the  
> same problem? Is there a solution? Thanks a lot.

I've run across a problem with Curvefit, due to the use of a "repeat"  
loop terminates with the following condition

```
endrep until chisqr le chisq1
```

that is not always met. By adding some kind of counter

```
nreps= nreps + 1
```

inside the loop, and checking for it

```
endrep until (chisqr le chisq1) or (nreps ge 6)
```

an exit can be forced. Not a great fix, but it seems to work.  
There have been some minor changes to Curvefit in version  
5.0, but the problem with the repeat loop is still there.

Brian Jackel

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