
Subject: HELP NEEDED! to fit a linear equation containing 2 independant variables
Posted by [antoine.dlc](#) on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 17:17:06 GMT

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Dear fellow IDL programmers,

I'm trying to fit the parameters of a linear equation of type:

$$z = a*x + b*y + c$$

where a, b, c are constant parameters and x, y are two independant variables.

In the past, I used the procedures LMFIT, LINFIT, CURVEFIT to fit equations but these only accept 1 independant variable.

Can someone tell me if a procedure exists to fit the parameters of a linear equation made of 2 independant variables???

If not, is it possible to give LMFIT, LINFIT, CURVEFIT...etc. 2 independant variables instead of only 1?

Thanks a lot !!!

Tony

Subject: Re: HELP NEEDED! to fit a linear equation containing 2 independant variables

Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Thu, 08 Jun 2006 20:10:43 GMT

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Tony,

this is exactly what the regress function in idl does. Have a look at its help page.

Cheers,

Brian

antoine.dlc@gmail.com wrote:

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> Thanks a lot !!!
> Tony

Subject: Re: HELP NEEDED! to fit a linear equation containing 2 independant variables

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sun, 11 Jun 2006 07:14:35 GMT

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antoine.dlc@gmail.com writes:

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Actually LMFIT and CURVEFIT *can* accept multiple variables. If you read the documentation,

```
; X: A row vector of independent variables. This routine does  
; not manipulate or use values in X, it simply passes X  
; to the user-written function.
```

you can define any "X" vector that you wish as long as it is a single IDL variable. It could be a structure containing X and Y, or a concatenated vector of [X, Y] values. Either way, it is up to your model function to retrieve the proper X and Y values from the combined variable.

Happy fitting,
Craig

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
