
Subject: Re: Number of points inside a contour curve
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 20 Dec 2006 14:58:37 GMT
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burkina writes:

- > What I need to do is basically simple, I guess, but I can't find an
- > easy way to do that.
- > I have an array of two parameters, let's call them x and y, each pair a
- > couple of measures taken simultaneously. I need to:
- >
- > -Plot them in the x and y axis (at least this one is trivial!)
- >
- > -Produce a density plot, i.e. divide the x-y space in discrete bins and
- > assign the number of points falling in each bin to that bin (This
- > should be done by hist_2D, but the results are fairly disappointing. A
- > better work is done by histogram_2d. Do you have any comments?)

I note that HISTOGRAM_2D uses embedded FOR loops and that HIST_2D is written by JD Smith. That's enough for me. :-)

- > -Plot confidence contour levels on that density plot, i.e. a contour at
- > the level where, say, 90% of points are contained. In other words, you
- > can use the normal contour IDL procedure, but you must find a way to
- > count all points lying inside this contour, in order to set the level
- > for the contour plot. The procedure should be able to find the
- > iso-count curve which encompass 90% of the total points.
- >
- > So... I'm not sure I'm doing the right/best thing for point 2
- > (hist_2d/histogram_2d) and have no idea how to do point 3. However,
- > this problem seems to me quite common, because it's a way to find
- > statistical confidence level for a distribution of two parameters.

If you did a HISTOGRAM on the result of HIST_2D, then I should think you could find the level where a cumulative total of the HISTOGRAM result was 90% of the total (VALUE_LOCATE might be handy here). I'm mostly thinking out loud. There seem to be a few details missing here....But I think this might be a promising direction. :-)

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.")

Subject: Re: Number of points inside a contour curve
Posted by [burkina](#) on Thu, 21 Dec 2006 15:38:15 GMT
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On Dec 20, 3:58 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> I note that HISTOGRAM_2D uses embedded FOR loops and that HIST_2D
> is written by JD Smith. That's enough for me. :-)

Ok, I'm using hist_2d. The results are similar, I was wrong...

> If you did a HISTOGRAM on the result of HIST_2D, then I should
> think you could find the level where a cumulative total of
> the HISTOGRAM result was 90% of the total (VALUE_LOCATE
> might be handy here). I'm mostly thinking out loud. There
> seem to be a few details missing here....But I think this
> might be a promising direction. :-)

Indeed, your suggestion to use histogram was good. However, I don't need VALUE_LOCATE. This is how I solved the problem:

;density is the result from HIST_2D

```
maxvalue=max(density,maxpoint)
maxcoord=ARRAY_INDICES(density,maxpoint)
max_x=xmin+maxcoord[0]*xbinsize+xbinsize/2
max_y=ymin+maxcoord[1]*ybinsize+ybinsize/2
print, 'The maximum density is: ', maxvalue
print, 'It occurs at coordinates:'
print, max_x, max_y
```

```
tot_histo=total(density)
histoden=histogram(density)
n_histo=n_elements(histoden)
sum=0
k=0
```

```
while sum lt 0.9*tot_histo do begin
```

```
    sum = sum + histoden[n_histo-1-k] * (maxvalue-k)
    k = k+1
```

```
endwhile
```

```
maxlevel=histoden[n_histo-1-k] * (maxvalue-k)
```

```
contour, density, xabscissa,yabscissa,c_colors=fsc_color('red'),  
levels=maxlevel, /overplot  
xyouts, max_x, max_y, '+', /data, color=fsc_color('red')
```

Stefano

Subject: Re: Number of points inside a contour curve
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Fri, 29 Dec 2006 22:20:24 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Wed, 20 Dec 2006 07:58:37 -0700, David Fanning wrote:

```
> burkina writes:  
>  
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>> easy way to do that.  
>> I have an array of two parameters, let's call them x and y, each pair a  
>> couple of measures taken simultaneously. I need to:  
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>> -Plot them in the x and y axis (at least this one is trivial!)  
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>> assign the number of points falling in each bin to that bin (This  
>> should be done by hist_2D, but the results are fairly disappointing. A  
>> better work is done by histogram_2d. Do you have any comments?)  
>  
> I note that HISTOGRAM_2D uses embedded FOR loops and that HIST_2D  
> is written by JD Smith. That's enough for me. :-)
```

For the record, the one I wrote was HIST_ND for any dimension (not just 2). I use it even in 2D, since it lets me have access to reverse indices, etc.

JD
