
Subject: mpfit: multivariate fit

Posted by [Dave\[3\]](#) on Tue, 08 May 2007 04:19:09 GMT

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Hi all,

I'm trying to use MPFIT to numerically estimate a coordinate transformation matrix that relates two sensors. One set is uncalibrated, and the other has a known calibration. So, I have a set of observed vectors (xyz_obs) and a set of known vectors (xyz_known) and I'm trying to estimate (in a least squares sense) the transformation matrix T that relates them. Judiciously choosing the data in the fictional example below, I expect the transformation matrix to be $2 * \text{identity}(3,3)$.

When I execute the code below, I get:

```
IDL> .r foo
```

```
% Compiled module: TRANS.
```

```
% Compiled module: $MAIN$.
```

```
Iter    1  CHI-SQUARE =    1278958.0      DOF = 291
```

```
  P(0) =    1.00000
```

```
  P(1) =    0.00000
```

```
  P(2) =    0.00000
```

```
  P(3) =    0.00000
```

```
  P(4) =    1.00000
```

```
  P(5) =    0.00000
```

```
  P(6) =    0.00000
```

```
  P(7) =    0.00000
```

```
  P(8) =    1.00000
```

```
% MPFIT: Error detected while calling MPFIT_FDjac2:
```

```
% MPFIT: Out of range subscript encountered: FJAC.
```

```
% MPFIT: Error condition detected. Returning to MAIN level.
```

Any ideas on what I'm doing wrong here?

Thanks!

Dave

```
%%%
```

```
% Contents of foo.pro
```

```
%%%
```

```
function trans, K, X=x, Y=y, err=err, forward=fw
```

```
  model = K ## x
```

```
  if keyword_set(fw) then return, model else return, (y-model)/err
```

```
end
```

```
; MAIN

; Attempt to estimate the transformation matrix given a set
; of observed Cartesian vectors and a set of known cartesian
; vectors.

n = 100 ; number of 'observations'

v = [1.0d, 0.15, 0.5] ; template vector
xyz_obs = dblarr(n, 3) ; observations
for i=0, n-1 do $
  xyz_obs[i,*] = reform( v+0.01*randomn(seed,3), 1, 3)

xyz_known = dblarr(n, 3) ; known values (trivial scaling)
for i=0, n-1 do $
  xyz_known[i,*] = reform( v*2.0, 1, 3)

; Estimate the transformation matrix, T
T0 = identity(3, /DOUBLE) ; initial guess transformation matrix
f = {x: xyz_obs, y: xyz_known, err: 0.01}
T = mpfit('trans', T0, functargs=f, COVAR=S2)

end
```

Subject: Re: mpfit: multivariate fit
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Fri, 11 May 2007 13:44:38 GMT
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On May 11, 3:05 am, Craig Markwardt
<craigm...@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:
>
> David Fanning is right. You can't simply recode the function like you
> did. According to the documentation:
>

Agreed - I was just posting to point out _where_ the problem was, not
what the problem was.

I'm glad you cleared it up - and I'm very gratefule, Craig, for your
excellent programs. I use them just about everyday!

Subject: Re: mpfit: multivariate fit
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Fri, 11 May 2007 13:45:33 GMT
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On May 11, 8:44 am, hradilv <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:
> On May 11, 3:05 am, Craig Markwardt
>
> <craigm...@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:
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> _what_ the problem was.
>
> I'm glad you cleared it up - and I'm very gratefule, Craig, for your
> excellent programs. I use them just about everyday!

Umm... that's grateful, not gratefule...

Subject: Re: mpfit: multivariate fit
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sun, 13 May 2007 00:00:57 GMT
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hradilv <hradilv@yahoo.com> writes:

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> _what_ the problem was.
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> I'm glad you cleared it up - and I'm very gratefule, Craig, for your
> excellent programs. I use them just about everyday!

OK. Thanks for your kind words!
Craig

--

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

Subject: Re: mpfit: multivariate fit
Posted by [Richard French](#) on Mon, 21 May 2007 03:25:43 GMT
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On the subject of MPFIT, I'm trying to implement the '(EXTERNAL)' function option (the case where the user does not supply a function to be called by MPFIT itself, but is expected to supply function values and a jacobian matrix in each call to MPFIT). I'm trying to do this with a very simple polynomial function for which the partial derivatives are very easy to compute, but the fitted parameters are not the correct values, the number of degrees of freedom returned is a negative number, and in general I am clearly not getting things to work.

In trying to debug this, I found what looks like an undocumented keyword: EXTERNAL_INIT whose purpose is a bit obscure to me. I tried fiddling with this but it did not fix the problem

Does anyone (Craig or someone else) have a simple example of MPFIT that uses the EXTERNAL option? If so, I'd be grateful if you would send it along. If not, then I can post my failing example so that someone can tell me what I am doing wrong.

Thanks very much.

Dick French
rfrench@REMOVEwellesley.edu

Subject: Re: mpfit: multivariate fit
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 21 May 2007 06:13:13 GMT
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Richard, you sent me your code off-line.

Yes, there was an obvious problem, which is that your derivatives were computed from $d(\text{MODEL})/d(P[i])$.

However, the "user" function for MPFIT is always $(\text{DATA}-\text{MODEL})/\text{SIGMA}$ [*]. This means that the derivative is actually $[-d(\text{MODEL})/d(P[i])]/\text{SIGMA}$. When I inserted a negative sign in your derivatives, the fit then turned out fine.

Craig

[*] - This is true whether the user function is regular or "(EXTERNAL)".

"Richard G. French" <rfrench@wellesley.edu> writes:
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> option (the case where the user does not supply a function to be called by
> MPFIT itself, but is expected to supply function values and a jacobian
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>
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>
> Dick French
> rfrench@REMOVEwellesley.edu
>

--

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

Subject: Re: mpfit: multivariate fit
Posted by [Richard French](#) on Mon, 21 May 2007 23:52:21 GMT
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Thanks, Craig -
I appreciate the clarification, and I'm glad the solution was so simple.
This probably deserves some clarification in the MPFIT documentation as
well, since it differs from the conventions of all other least squares
fitting routines I've used (such as the IMSL routine, or CURVEFI), and the
documentation in MPFIT.PRO for MYFUNCT seems to me to say the opposite of
what you did to fix the problem:

The confusion stems from just what the 'model' really means:

It states in the documentation that

Model=F(x,p)
dp(*,i) = FGRAD(x,p,i)

...
Return,(y-model)/err

Where FGRAD() is a user function which must compute the derivative of the model with respect to the parameter P(i) at X..... DP(I,J) is the derivative of the I'th point with respect to the J'th parameter."

Since MYFUNCT returns (y-model)/err, and dp is stated as being the derivative array with respect to 'model' (not with respect to (y-model)/err), it seems to me that the documentation is saying that the 'model' function with respect to which one should take derivatives is model=F(x,P), not (y-F(x,P))/err.

Dick

On 5/21/07 2:13 AM, in article m28xbiembq.fsf@phloem.local, "Craig Markwardt" <craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:

>
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> Yes, there was an obvious problem, which is that your derivatives were
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>> Dick French
>> rfrench@REMOVEwellesley.edu
>>
