
Subject: Re: Confluent Hypergeometric Function of the First Kind
Posted by [Spon](#) on Thu, 21 Feb 2008 14:30:10 GMT

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On Feb 20, 3:44 pm, noahh.schwa...@gmail.com wrote:

> Hello everyone,
>
> I am looking for the Confluent Hypergeometric Function of the First
> Kind in the IDL Math Library but it does not seem to be implemented!
>
> I would like to use a function similar to the Hypergeometric1F1[a, b,
> z] of Mathematica [[http://reference.wolfram.com/mathematica/ref/
Hypergeometric1F1.html](http://reference.wolfram.com/mathematica/ref/Hypergeometric1F1.html)].
>
> I have not found what I was looking for, and so decided to try to code
> it my self... [sigh...]. Beeing a fresh beginner in IDL this is a hard
> task!
>
> Would anybody know how to code an infinite series expansion like the
> Hypergeometric1F1?
>
> Thank you in advance for your time!
> Noah

Noah,

here's my attempt. It accepts only scalar inputs for A and B, while Z can be a vector. I've tested it for the examples on the mathematica site and it seems to give correct results, and works correctly for complex input too as far as I can tell. 'Precision' is an input variable to specify how close two successive iterations have to be before the function assumes they are the same and aborts the while loop. Default is 7 (i.e. stop when results differ by 10^{-7} or less). If you're finding this programme is running very slow, try decreasing the precision (I was surprised how fast it runs despite the while loop, actually!)

Ideally the input parameters should all be double precision before you make the call to the funcion, but the function converts them if they're not.

If you want all your inputs to be vectors (not just Z), I'm sure it can be done, but it'd be a bit more complicated. :-)

Take care,
Chris

FUNCTION HYPERGEOMETRICONEFONE, A, B, Z, \$

PRECISION = Precision, \$

K = K ; K is an output parameter to count No. of WHILE loops performed.

; References:

; <http://reference.wolfram.com/mathematica/ref/Hypergeometric1F1.html>

; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confluent_hypergeometric_function

IF N_PARAMS() NE 3 THEN MESSAGE, 'Must input A, B & Z as 3 input parameters.'

IF N_ELEMENTS(A) GT 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Variable A must be a scalar.'

IF N_ELEMENTS(B) GT 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Variable B must be a scalar.'

A *= 1.0D ; Double precision or double complex scalar

B *= 1.0D ; Double precision or double complex scalar

Z *= 1.0D ; Double precision or double complex scalar or vector

IF N_ELEMENTS(Precision) EQ 0 THEN \$

 Precision = 7L ELSE \$

 Precision = (LONG(Precision))[0]

Cutoff = 10D^(-1D * Precision) > (MACHAR()).EPS ; Cutoff can't be smaller than machine accuracy!

K = 0L

ThisResult = REPLICATE(0D, N_ELEMENTS(Z))

WHILE (N_ELEMENTS>LastResult) EQ 0) || (MAX(ABS>LastResult - ThisResult)) GT Cutoff) DO BEGIN

 LastResult = ThisResult

 AK = GAMMA(A + K) / GAMMA(A) ; Define (A)k

 BK = GAMMA(B + K) / GAMMA(B) ; Define (B)k

 F = (AK * Z^K) / (BK * FACTORIAL(K)) ; Evaluate function.

 ThisResult = LastResult + F

 K += 1

ENDWHILE ; Until result is good to Precision

; Error if not enough while loops to give accurate results.

IF K LE 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Function failed. Try greater precision.'

RETURN, ThisResult

END

Subject: Re: Confluent Hypergeometric Function of the First Kind

Posted by [Dan Larson](#) on Thu, 21 Feb 2008 16:26:56 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Feb 21, 9:30 am, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Feb 20, 3:44 pm, noahh.schwa...@gmail.com wrote:

>

```

>
>
>
>
>> Hello everyone,
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>> I have not found what I was looking for, and so decided to try to code
>> it my self... [sigh...]. Beeing a fresh beginner in IDL this is a hard
>> task!
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>> Noah
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> Noah,
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> can be a vector. I've tested it for the examples on the mathematica
> site and it seems to give correct results, and works correctly for
> complex input too as far as I can tell. 'Precision' is an input
> variable to specify how close two successive iterations have to be
> before the function assumes they are the same and aborts the while
> loop. Default is 7 (i.e. stop when results differ by 10^-7 or less).
> If you're finding this programme is running very slow, try decreasing
> the precision (I was surprised how fast it runs despite the while
> loop, actually!)
>
> Ideally the input parameters should all be double precision before you
> make the call to the funcion, but the function converts them if
> they're not.
>
> If you want all your inputs to be vectors (not just Z), I'm sure it
> can be done, but it'd be a bit more complicated. :-)
>
> Take care,
> Chris
>
> FUNCTION HYPERGEOMETRICONEFONE, A, B, Z, $
> PRECISION = Precision, $

```

```

> K = K ; K is an output parameter to count No. of WHILE loops
> performed.
>
> ; References:
> ; http://reference.wolfram.com/mathematica/ref/Hypergeometric1F1.html
> ; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confluent_hypergeometric_function
>
> IF N_PARAMS() NE 3 THEN MESSAGE, 'Must input A, B & Z as 3 input
> parameters.'
> IF N_ELEMENTS(A) GT 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Variable A must be a scalar.'
> IF N_ELEMENTS(B) GT 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Variable B must be a scalar.'
>
> A *= 1.0D ; Double precision or double complex scalar
> B *= 1.0D ; Double precision or double complex scalar
> Z *= 1.0D ; Double precision or double complex scalar or vector
> IF N_ELEMENTS(Precision) EQ 0 THEN $
>   Precision = 7L ELSE $
>   Precision = (LONG(Precision))[0]
> Cutoff = 10D^(-1D * Precision) > (MACHAR()).EPS ; Cutoff can't be
> smaller than machine accuracy!
>
> K = 0L
> ThisResult = REPLICATE(0D, N_ELEMENTS(Z))
> WHILE (N_ELEMENTS(LastResult) EQ 0) || (MAX(ABS(LastResult -
> ThisResult)) GT Cutoff) DO BEGIN
>   LastResult = ThisResult
>   AK = GAMMA(A + K) / GAMMA(A) ; Define (A)k
>   BK = GAMMA(B + K) / GAMMA(B) ; Define (B)k
>   F = (AK * Z^K) / (BK * FACTORIAL(K)) ; Evaluate function.
>   ThisResult = LastResult + F
>   K += 1
> ENDWHILE ; Until result is good to Precision
>
> ; Error if not enough while loops to give accurate results.
> IF K LE 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Function failed. Try greater precision.'
>
> RETURN, ThisResult
> END- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

```

Noah,

Here is my implementation, both of the series expansion of the hypergeometric function and the integral representation. Depending on the parameters, I have found that one may be more stable than the other. Both of these are based on Arfken and Weber, Mathematical Methods for Physicists.

best,
dan

```
; chss
; confluent hypergeometric series solution
; calculates the solution to the differential equation:
;  $xy''(x) + (c - x)y'(x) - ay(x) = 0$ 
; (see Afken and Weber, p. 801-2)
;
; inputs:
; n: number of terms to calculate. Due limits in IDL architecture n
must be between 1 and 170.
; a, c: vector of constants - see above. They MUST have the same
number of elements
; x: input value
;
; outputs:
; y: output vector
;
; Dan Larson, 2007.10.11
```

```
function chss, n, a, c, x
  y = DBLARR((SIZE(a))[1])
  ; first term of series expansion is 1, so we initialize the output
  y[*] = 1
```

```
  FOR i = 0, (SIZE(a))[1]-1 DO BEGIN
    ; initialize constant series products
    a_p = 1
    c_p = 1
    FOR j = 0, n DO BEGIN
```

```
      a_p *= (a[i] + j)
      c_p *= (c[i] + j)
      d = FACTORIAL(j + 1)
```

```
      y[i] += (a_p/c_p)*(x^(j + 1))/d
```

```
    ENDFOR
  ENDFOR
  RETURN, y
END
```

```

; chins
; confluent hypergeometric integral solution
; calculates the solution to the differential equation:
;  $xy''(x) + (c - x)y'(x) - ay(x) = 0$ 
; (see Afken and Weber, p. 801-2)
;
;
; inputs:
; a, c: vector constants - see above
; x: input value
;
; outputs:
; y: output vector
;
;Dan larson, 2007.10.11

```

Function chins, a, c, x

```

; curve point resolution, change this if your results look like
crap

```

```

b = 1000
; initialize t vector
t = DINDGEN(b + 1)/b
; initialize vector of curve heights
h = DBLARR(b + 1)
; initialize output
y=dblarr(n_elements(c))

```

```

g1 = GAMMA(c)
g2 = GAMMA(a) * GAMMA(c - a)

```

```

FOR i = 0, (SIZE(a))[1]-1 DO BEGIN
  FOR j = 0, b DO BEGIN
    h[j] = exp(x*t[j]) * ((t[j])^(a[i] - 1.0)) * ((1.0 -
t[j])^(c[i] - a[i] - 1.0))
  ENDFOR

  y[i] = (g1[i]/g2[i]) * int_tabulated(t, h, /double)
ENDFOR

RETURN, y
END

```

```

; chcmp
; compares the results between the integral and series form of CHF

```

```

;
;
; inputs:
; a, c: constants
; x: input value
;
; output:
; none
; (solution is printed to screen)

PRO chcmp, a, c, x, epsilon
  y1 = chins(a, c, x)

  lastVal = 0.0000

  FOR n = 1, 170 DO BEGIN
    y2 = chss( n, a, c, x)

    IF ( ABS(y1 - y2)/y1 LT epsilon) THEN BEGIN
      print, "Number of necessary terms for ep = ", epsilon, " n =
", n
      BREAK
    ENDIF

    IF( ABS(lastVal - y2)/y2 EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
      print, "Series converged before matching integral!"
      BREAK
    ENDIF

    lastVal = y2
  ENDFOR

  IF n EQ 169 THEN PRINT, "Equations did not meet!"

  RETURN
END

```

Subject: Re: Confluent Hypergeometric Function of the First Kind

On 21 fév, 17:26, Dan Larson <dlar...@aecom.yu.edu> wrote:

> On Feb 21, 9:30 am, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> On Feb 20, 3:44 pm, noahh.schwa...@gmail.com wrote:

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>> IF N_ELEMENTS(Precision) EQ 0 THEN $
>> Precision = 7L ELSE $
>> Precision = (LONG(Precision))[0]
>> Cutoff = 10D^(-1D * Precision) > (MACHAR()).EPS ; Cutoff can't be
>> smaller than machine accuracy!
>
>> K = 0L
>> ThisResult = REPLICATE(0D, N_ELEMENTS(Z))
>> WHILE (N_ELEMENTS(LastResult) EQ 0) || (MAX(ABS(LastResult -
>> ThisResult)) GT Cutoff) DO BEGIN
>> LastResult = ThisResult
>> AK = GAMMA(A + K) / GAMMA(A) ; Define (A)k
>> BK = GAMMA(B + K) / GAMMA(B) ; Define (B)k
>> F = (AK * Z^K) / (BK * FACTORIAL(K)) ; Evaluatefunction.
>> ThisResult = LastResult + F
>> K += 1
>> ENDWHILE ; Until result is good to Precision
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>> IF K LE 1 THEN MESSAGE, 'Functionfailed. Try greater precision.'
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> Noah,
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> ; outputs:
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> function chss, n, a, c, x
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>   ; first term of series expansion is 1, so we initialize the output
>   y[*] = 1
>
>   FOR i = 0, (SIZE(a))[1]-1 DO BEGIN
>     ; initialize constant series products
>     a_p = 1
>     c_p = 1
>     FOR j = 0, n DO BEGIN
>
>       a_p *= (a[i] + j)
>       c_p *= (c[i] + j)
>       d = FACTORIAL(j + 1)
>
>       y[i] += (a_p/c_p)*(x^(j + 1))/d
>
>     ENDFOR
>   ENDFOR
>   RETURN, y
> END

```

```

>
> ; chins
> ; confluenthypergeometricintegral solution
> ; calculates the solution to the differential equation:
> ;  $xy''(x) + (c - x)y'(x) - ay(x) = 0$ 
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> ;Dan larson, 2007.10.11
>
> Functionchins, a, c, x
> ; curve point resolution, change this if your results look like
> crap
> b = 1000
> ; initialize t vector
> t = DINDGEN(b + 1)/b
> ; initialize vector of curve heights
> h = DBLARR(b + 1)
> ; initialize output
> y=dblarr(n_elements(c))
>
> g1 = GAMMA(c)
> g2 = GAMMA(a) * GAMMA(c - a)
>
> FOR i = 0, (SIZE(a))[1]-1 DO BEGIN
>   FOR j = 0, b DO BEGIN
>     h[j] = exp(x*t[j]) * ((t[j])^(a[i] - 1.0)) * ((1.0 -
> t[j])^(c[i] - a[i] - 1.0))
>   ENDFOR
>
>   y[i] = (g1[i]/g2[i]) * int_tabulated(t, h, /double)
> ENDFOR
>
> RETURN, y
> END
>
> ; chcmp
> ; compares the results between the integral and series form of CHF
> ;
> ; inputs:
> ; a, c: constants
> ; x: input value

```

```

> ;
> ; output:
> ; none
> ; (solution is printed to screen)
>
> PRO chcmp, a, c, x, epsilon
>   y1 = chins(a, c, x)
>
>   lastVal = 0.0000
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>   FOR n = 1, 170 DO BEGIN
>     y2 = chss( n, a, c, x)
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>     IF ( ABS(y1 - y2)/y1 LT epsilon) THEN BEGIN
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>     ENDIF
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>     IF( ABS(lastVal - y2)/y2 EQ 0) THEN BEGIN
>       print, "Series converged before matching integral!"
>       BREAK
>     ENDIF
>
>     lastVal = y2
>   ENDFOR
>
>   IF n EQ 169 THEN PRINT, "Equations did not meet!"
>
>   RETURN
> END

```

Thank you all for your answers. It really made my day!

I've tested the 3 methods for the "Mathematica" example (i.e. for $1F1(1,2,[-5..5])$)

HYPERGEOMETRICONEFONE, CHSS and CHINS seem to work fine for this example. HYPERGEOMETRICONEFONE seems a bit faster than the other ones.

Unfortunately I am more interested in evaluating something like $1F1(-.75,1,40)$:

```
IDL> print,hypergeometriconefone(-0.75D,1D,-40D)
      NaN
```

```
IDL> print, chins([-0.75D],[1D],-40D)
      NaN
```

```
IDL> print, chss(169D,[-0.75D],[1D],-40D)  
17.478776
```

The mathematica website gives [<http://functions.wolfram.com/webMathematica/FunctionEvaluation.jsp?name=Hypergeometric1F1>]:

Thanks,
Noah
