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Subject: Re: A heartfelt thank you for MPFIT  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 09 May 2008 12:38:18 GMT  
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Gernot Hassenpflug writes:

- > I spent literally months trying to find out how best to do such
- > covariance matrix calculations for fitted parameters (also on
- > calculating the input covariances) with various commercial programs,
- > since I did not trust myself to use the available open software
- > without first checking on 'proven' software: Matlab does not have such
- > a function (I did not trust my coding from scratch based on Numerical
- > Recipes), nor does Mathematica (unless you buy the extra Statistics
- > toolbox), and with Maple it is a royal pain to get the parameters out
- > of the structure they are in---but excellent for cross-checking.

Why don't you write a little article for us on how you did this so we can all share in the knowledge of how it is done? I'll give you a space for it if you don't have your own.

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.")

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Subject: Re: A heartfelt thank you for MPFIT  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 09 May 2008 14:23:30 GMT  
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Gernot Hassenpflug <[gernot@nict.go.jp](mailto:gernot@nict.go.jp)> writes:

- > I'd like to extend my sincerest thanks to Craig Markwardt for MPFIT
- > and its related programs, which allowed me to fit second-order
- > ...
- >
- > Many thanks once again,
- >
- > Gernot Hassenpflug

Dear Gernot, you're welcome! A lot of thanks also goes to the original authors of MINPACK who developed the algorithms.

To the rest of the community, just so you know, the system hosting my website was destroyed by hackers. The site has been restored from backup, but it is hosted differently now, and I won't be able to change things as easily.

Yours,  
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  
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Subject: Re: A heartfelt thank you for MPFIT  
Posted by [Gernot Hassenpflug](#) on Sat, 10 May 2008 16:07:09 GMT  
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David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> writes:

- > Gernot Hassenpflug writes:
- >
- >> I spent literally months trying to find out how best to do such
- >> covariance matrix calculations for fitted parameters (also on
- >> calculating the input covariances) with various commercial programs,
- >> since I did not trust myself to use the available open software
- >> without first checking on 'proven' software: Matlab does not have such
- >> a function (I did not trust my coding from scratch based on Numerical
- >> Recipes), nor does Mathematica (unless you buy the extra Statistics
- >> toolbox), and with Maple it is a royal pain to get the parameters out
- >> of the structure they are in---but excellent for cross-checking.
- >
- > Why don't you write a little article for us on how
- > you did this so we can all share in the knowledge
- > of how it is done? I'll give you a space for it if
- > you don't have your own.

Dear David,

I would be happy to write a little article if others would benefit,  
but what do you refer to exactly with "how it is done?"

As for space, I assume you are referring here to website space, not merely a post to the newsgroup which will be archived? In any case, I am happy to write an article, and as my own website is a non-permanent dynamic DNS experimental site, I would accept with gratitude your

offer of space.

Best regards,  
Gernot

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Gernot Hassenpflug

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Subject: Re: A heartfelt thank you for MPFIT  
Posted by [Gernot Hassenpflug](#) on Sat, 10 May 2008 16:07:51 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt <craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> writes:

> Gernot Hassenpflug <gernot@nict.go.jp> writes:  
>  
>> I'd like to extend my sincerest thanks to Craig Markwardt for MPFIT  
>> and its related programs, which allowed me to fit second-order  
> ...  
>>  
>> Many thanks once again,  
>>  
>> Gernot Hassenpflug  
>  
> Dear Gernot, you're welcome! A lot of thanks also goes to the  
> original authors of MINPACK who developed the algorithms.  
>  
> To the rest of the community, just so you know, the system hosting my  
> website was destroyed by hackers. The site has been restored from  
> backup, but it is hosted differently now, and I won't be able to  
> change things as easily.

Oh dear, that is terrible! I noticed that the latest modifications were 29 March 2008 or something like that, but had no idea that there were any problems.

Best regards,  
Gernot

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Gernot Hassenpflug

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Subject: Re: A heartfelt thank you for MPFIT  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 10 May 2008 17:28:43 GMT  
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Gernot Hassenpflug writes:

- > I would be happy to write a little article if others would benefit,
- > but what do you refer to exactly with "how it is done?"

I refer, of course, to the fact that the mathematically challenged among us need a little more, uh, explicit help to go from conception to finished product. Something like: This is what I wanted to do, this is how I tried it first and failed, this is what I did to fix things, and this is how I triumphed in the end, sort of thing, with plenty of IDL code to show the way.

If you want me to host it, you might find it helpful to use the HTML template you can find here:

<http://www.dfanning.com/template.html>

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.")

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