
Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 16:54:58 GMT

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I think what you are looking for is krig2d. Look it up in help. The only annoyance is that it is either looking for a regular grid (which I think you have) or x,y,z triplets. I have never figured out how to make x,y,z triplets other than using nested for loops to step through the points.

From here read the krig2d help and work through the example there and see if that solves your issue. If not let me know what's not working and I'll see if I can help more.

One word of caution is that interpolation is great "inside" the range where you have data, however "outside" the region is extrapolation and is fraught with issues. I mean that your x's

```
IDL> print,vz
```

```
    -1.62839   -1.23045   -0.628389   -0.327359   0.0483046  
0.246672
```

and the new x's that you want

```
newx = [-2.0, -1.5, -1.0, -0.5, 0.0, 0.5]
```

some are outside and you need to be a little careful that the answer actually makes sense as if often (maybe stronger than often) doesn't.

Cheers,

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
<http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 17:14:53 GMT

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On Sep 23, 11:54 am, Brian Larsen <balar...@gmail.com> wrote:

> I think what you are looking for is krig2d. Look it up in help. The
> only annoyance is that it is either looking for a regular grid (which
> I think you have) or x,y,z triplets. I have never figured out how to

> make x,y,z triplets other than using nested for loops to step through
 > the points.
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 > From here read the krig2d help and work through the example there and
 > see if that solves your issue. If not let me know whats not working
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 > some are outside and you need to be a little careful that the answer
 > actually makes sense as if often (maybe stronger than often) doesn't.
 >
 > Cheers,
 >
 > Brian
 >
 > -----
 > Brian Larsen
 > Boston University
 > Center for Space Physics <http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Here's a way to get verts:

```
sz = size(array)
nx = sz[0]
ny = sz[1]
nz = sz[2]
ns = sz[sz[0]+2]
verts = findgen(ns)
verts = transpose([ [verts mod nx], [verts/nx mod ny], [verts/nx/
ny] ])
```

BTW, I'd like to find a faster way, if there is one.

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?
 Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 17:15:07 GMT
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Another thing I see that might help is the "An Alternative Gridding
 Method" section from http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/griddata.html.

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
<http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 17:25:46 GMT

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```
> Here's a way to get verts:
>
> sz = size(array)
> nx = sz[0]
> ny = sz[1]
> nz = sz[2]
> ns = sz[sz[0]+2]
> verts = findgen(ns)
> verts = transpose([ [verts mod nx], [verts/nx mod ny], [verts/nx/
> ny] ] )
>
> BTW, I'd like to find a faster way, if there is one.
```

This looks like the right thing but doesn't seem to give the right answer (or am I using it wrong?)

```
;; this is my data
array=findgen(15,3)
;; and get the verts
sz = size(array)
nx = sz[0]
ny = sz[1]
nz = sz[2]
ns = sz[sz[0]+2]
verts = findgen(ns)
verts = transpose([ [verts mod nx], [verts/nx mod ny], [verts/nx/
ny] ] )
```

```
IDL> print, verts
0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
1.00000  0.500000 0.0333333
0.00000  1.00000  0.0666667
1.00000  1.50000  0.100000
0.00000  2.00000  0.133333
```

1.00000 2.50000 0.166667

The z values that are here are not in my original array...

Sorry to hijack your post Paula,

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
<http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 17:53:27 GMT

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> Here's a way to get verts:

>

> sz = size(array)

> nx = sz[0]

> ny = sz[1]

> nz = sz[2]

> ns = sz[sz[0]+2]

> verts = findgen(ns)

Shouldn't it be indgen() ...

> verts = transpose([[verts mod nx], [verts/nx mod ny], [verts/nx/

> ny]])

>

> BTW, I'd like to find a faster way, if there is one.

what about this:

print, array_indices(arr, indgen(ns))

Jean

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 19:46:30 GMT

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On Sep 23, 12:25 pm, Brian Larsen <balar...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> Here's a way to get verts:

>

```

>> sz = size(array)
>> nx = sz[0]
>> ny = sz[1]
>> nz = sz[2]
>> ns = sz[sz[0]+2]
>> verts = findgen(ns)
>> verts = transpose([ [verts mod nx], [verts/nx mod ny], [verts/nx/
>> ny] ])
>
>> BTW, I'd like to find a faster way, if there is one.
>
> This looks like the right thing but doesn't seem to give the right
> answer (or am I using it wrong?)
>
> ;; this is my data
> array=findgen(15,3)
> ;; and get the verts
> sz = size(array)
> nx = sz[0]
> ny = sz[1]
> nz = sz[2]
> ns = sz[sz[0]+2]
> verts = findgen(ns)
> verts = transpose([ [verts mod nx], [verts/nx mod ny], [verts/nx/
> ny] ])
>
> IDL> print, verts
>    0.00000    0.00000    0.00000
>    1.00000    0.50000    0.0333333
>    0.00000    1.00000    0.0666667
>    1.00000    1.50000    0.100000
>    0.00000    2.00000    0.133333
>    1.00000    2.50000    0.166667
>
> The z values that are here are not in my original array...
>
> Sorry to hijack your post Paula,
>
> Brian
>
> -----
> Brian Larsen
> Boston University
> Center for Space Physicshttp://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL

```

My example is for 3d arrays only! For 2d arrays, just use:

```

nx = sz[1]
ny = sz[2]

```

```
verts = lindgen(nx*ny)
verts = transpose( [ [verts mod nx], [verts/nx] ] )
```

There was a typo in the original, too. nx=sz[1] not sz[0], and so on.

Yes, it should be lindgen...

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Tue, 23 Sep 2008 20:26:42 GMT

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> My example is for 3d arrays only!

Right duh, engage brain before pressing send :)

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
<http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Subject: Re: what is the best way to do a surface (or 2D) interpolation?

Posted by [paulartcoelho](#) on Wed, 24 Sep 2008 11:01:02 GMT

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hi brian,

thanks for your reply.

krig2d i couldn't make work, it returns a flat new grid with a weird value. but i'll confess that i haven't understood a word of the "Model Parameter Keywords" so i just took the same parameters of the example, duh.

the method in

> "An Alternative Gridding
> Method" section from http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/griddata.html.

is giving me promising results. i can obtain a new_grid that is similar to the original, but i'm struggling a bit with the details now. values that were low in the original grid, say <~ 10 will disappear in the new one, i guess because i have too many zeros

around. if i try the cubic=-0.5 suggested in the help to improve the reconstruction, i'll end up with values below 0 in some bins (no negative values in the original). also i noticed that:

```
IDL> print,total(grid)
100.000
```

```
IDL> print,total(new_grid)
61.3827
```

i can re-normalize the new_grid to 100, but that won't retrieve the lost low values, of course.

```
> One word of caution is that interpolation is great "inside" the range
> where you have data, however "outside" the region is extrapolation and
> is fraught with issues. I mean that your x's
> IDL> print,vz
> -1.62839 -1.23045 -0.628389 -0.327359 0.0483046
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> newx = [-2.0, -1.5, -1.0, -0.5, 0.0, 0.5]
> some are outside and you need to be a little careful that the answer
> actually makes sense as if often (maybe stronger than often) doesn't.
```

you're right. i have several sets of data and some of them can go out to extreme values. but for the data that don't, i'd just need the values there to be assumed to be zero. i thought i could do that just adding the missing = 0 keyword in interpolate, but if i do that i end up with a flat new_grid = 0. i wonder now if i should prepare the original data before applying the interpolation, say extend it with zeros myself?

i'm copying below what i'm doing:

```
IN_X      FLOAT   = Array[16]
IN_Y      FLOAT   = Array[6]
GRID      FLOAT   = Array[16, 6]
```

```
IDL> print,in_x
 8.00000  8.14613  8.30103  8.44716  8.60206
8.74819  8.89763  9.04922  9.19866  9.35025
9.49969  9.65031
 9.80003  9.94988 10.1000  10.2000
```

```
IDL> print,in_y
-1.62839 -1.23045 -0.628389 -0.327359 0.0483046
0.246672
```

```

IDL> print,grid
  0.00000  26.1465  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.820449
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  2.53796  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  61.5708
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000  8.92427  0.00000  0.00000
0.00000  0.00000
  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000

  out_x = [6.0,6.5,7.0,7.5,8.0,8.5,9.0,9.5,10.0,10.5]
  out_y = [-2.0,-1.5,-1.0,-0.5,0.,0.5]
  nx = n_elements(out_x)
  ny = n_elements(out_y)
  x = Interpol(Findgen(N_Elements(in_x)), in_x, out_x)
  y = Interpol(Findgen(N_Elements(in_y)), in_y, out_y)
  xx = Rebin(x, nx, ny, /SAMPLE)
  yy = Rebin(Reform(y, 1, ny), nx, ny, /SAMPLE)
  new_grid = interpolate(grid,xx,yy)

```

> Sorry to hijack your post Paula,

oh, be my guest :)

cheers,
 paula
