
Subject: Compute area between curves

Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 20:16:03 GMT

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Dear IDLers,

How can I compute the area between two curves if I have the x and y values for both?

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [mankoff](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 20:57:56 GMT

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On Oct 12, 4:16 pm, frankosuna <frankos...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Dear IDLers,

>

> How can I compute the area between two curves if I have the x and y

> values for both?

total(c1) - total(c0)?

-k.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 21:14:14 GMT

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Thanks :)

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 21:17:46 GMT

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frankosuna wrote:

> Dear IDLers,

>

> How can I compute the area between two curves given two functions?

Are the curves closed? That is, do you create the complete curve by drawing a line from the final <x,y> pair to the first <x,y> pair?

Are the x values the same for the two curves? Are they evenly spaced?

Note: you don't need to post the same question multiple times, this is a

newsgroup, not a chat room. Your message will stay up indefinitely. As a general rule, you might have to wait 24 hours or more before getting an answer.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 21:35:22 GMT
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I am trying to calculate how much of an error there is between two rings. I have two images each with a ring pictured in these two images.

This is from a wireframe generated from a 3d model. The edge is selected by the user and region growing is used to extract that ring.

<http://frankosuna.googlepages.com/wireframe2.jpg>

This other one is from an edge detected image of Saturn. All the rings are edge detected and the same ring clicked on the first image is clicked on this one. Region growing is done to extract just that one ring.

<http://frankosuna.googlepages.com/edgeDetect2.jpg>

I have the x and y values for each pixel that make up the ring

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 22:59:28 GMT
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On Oct 12, 5:35 pm, frankosuna <frankos...@gmail.com> wrote:

> I am trying to calculate how much of an error there is between two
> rings. I have two images each with a ring pictured in these two
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> one ring.
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> <http://frankosuna.googlepages.com/edgeDetect2.jpg>
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> I have the x and y values for each pixel that make up the ring

Hi,

Given that you have the [x,y] coordinates for the rings, why don't you try using IDL's built-in INT_TABULATED which should be fine for your task.

As James points out, you'll need to know how the two curves are registered in the images. If you can't "line up" comparable x locations then you have a serious problem.

Cheers,
Ben

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 22:59:40 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Oct 12, 5:35 pm, frankosuna <frankos...@gmail.com> wrote:
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Cheers,
Ben

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2008 01:31:26 GMT
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On Oct 12, 3:17 pm, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:
> frankosuna wrote:
>> Dear IDLers,
>
>> How can I compute the area between two curves given two functions?
>
> Are the curves closed? That is, do you create the complete curve by
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> Are the x values the same for the two curves? Are they evenly spaced?
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> Note: you don't need to post the same question multiple times, this is a
> newsgroup, not a chat room. Your message will stay up indefinitely. As a
> general rule, you might have to wait 24 hours or more before getting an
> answer.

The curves are not closed... I posted some images of the actual rings I am trying to compare. They look like parabolas. The rings might differ in shift and slight rotation from each other. So because the rings might be shifted, they probably have different x-values. Also the x-values are continuous..meaning that once the ring starts.. there is an (x,y) value until the end of the ring. When I was extracting the (x,y) location of every pixel that makes up the rings I noticed that a lot of x values had multiple y's. To fix this I used the MIN x value for that group in order to be able to compute the area. I'm not sure if that's bad or good.

I am using INT_TABULATED and TSUM currently and get very close values for the most part. I compute the area under the curve for both rings and then subtract but I'm not sure if that is correct either.

Thanks,

Frank

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2008 10:15:56 GMT
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frankosuna <frankosuna@gmail.com> writes:

> On Oct 12, 3:17i½pm, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

>> frankosuna wrote:

>>> Dear IDLers,

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>

> The curves are not closed... I posted some images of the actual rings

> I am trying

> to compare. They look like parabolas. The rings might differ in shift

> and slight rotation from each other. So because the rings might be

Sorry, you are not giving enough information. I.e. your problem is not well defined enough. The "area" under the curves assumes we know what "under" means. One definition could be under=Y, another under=X. And I presume the best "under" might actually be some kind of radial coordinate. Until you know which one you mean, it's difficult to comment.

But assuming it's the radial version, i.e. centered on the planet, then why not transform your X-Y curves to be R-PHI curves, with R and PHI measured from the planet center. Then you could resample to a uniform PHI grid, and compute the whatever difference you want, straightforwardly.

Good luck,
Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: cbmarkwardt+usenet@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2008 13:24:27 GMT
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frankosuna wrote:

> On Oct 12, 3:17 pm, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:
>> frankosuna wrote:
>>> Dear IDLers,
>>> How can I compute the area between two curves given two functions?
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>> newsgroup, not a chat room. Your message will stay up indefinitely. As a
>> general rule, you might have to wait 24 hours or more before getting an
>> answer.
>
> The curves are not closed... I posted some images of the actual rings
> I am trying
> to compare. They look like parabolas.

Given the geometry involved, I think it's more likely that they are sections of an ellipse, not parabolas.

The rings might differ in shift
> and slight rotation from each other. So because the rings might be
> shifted, they probably have different x-values. Also the x-values are
> continuous..meaning that once the ring starts.. there is an (x,y)
> value until the end of the ring. When I was extracting the (x,y)
> location of every pixel that makes up the rings I noticed that a lot
> of x values had multiple y's. To fix this I used the MIN x value for
> that group in order to be able to compute the area. I'm not sure if
> that's bad or good.

I'm not sure I follow that. You describe those groups as having the same x value, so MIN(x) doesn't make sense. If you meant MIN(y), that would make more sense, but taking the average makes more sense than using the minimum.

> I am using INT_TABULATED and TSUM currently and get very close values
> for the most part. I compute the area under the curve for both rings
> and then subtract but I'm not sure if that is correct either.

That approach should produce reasonable results, if you use the average y value rather than the minimum y value. However, this approach assumes that for any given value of x, a vertical line at x intersects each curve only once. Since I suspect that these are actually sections

of an ellipse, it's entirely possible that some images will violate that condition. If you had an image of the entire ellipse, any given x value would cross 0, 1, or 2 times, depending upon the value of x. If you have such an image, the simplest approach would be to break the images into two sections, breaking them at the point where the tangent to the curve is vertical. Calculate the area between the curves separately for each part.

A more general approach would work regardless of the shapes of the two curves. Just connect the two curves to create a single combined curve that starts by listing all the points on one curve in clockwise order, then continues by listing all of the points of the other curve in counter-clockwise order. As a result, the combined curve encloses the area that lies between the two curves. Then use `POLY_AREA` to calculate the area enclosed by the combined curve. If you've got lots of data points and a very thin area between the two curves, you'll almost certainly need to do the calculations in double precision in order to get useful results; otherwise the algorithm used will be dominated by round-off errors. Note that you should connect the two curves in such a way that the combined curve goes around the area between them in a counter-clockwise direction. If you do it in the wrong order, you'll get the negative of the correct area.

If you are taking this approach, there's no need to remove cases where you have multiple y values for the same value of x. You'll get more accurate results by keeping all of those points, rather than by replacing them with the average value of y.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 04:42:50 GMT

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James Kuyper <jameskuyper@verizon.net> writes:

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> the two curves. Just connect the two curves to create a single
> combined curve that starts by listing all the points on one curve in
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> curve encloses the area that lies between the two curves. Then use
> `POLY_AREA` to calculate the area enclosed by the combined curve.

...

James, I had that thought as well, but I believe `POLY_AREA` will not work as expected. When a polygon's edges self-intersect, then the polygon is no longer "simple." In that case, the `POLY_AREA` method will compute the *signed* total area. Polygonal segments where the path traverses clockwise will contribute in a positive sense, and

counter-clockwise in the negative sense. The result will not be the 'total' area as we commonly expect, but some kind of non-intuitive 'net' area.

I still think the original questioner doesn't really know what he needs yet.

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: cbmarkwardt+usenet@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [mystea](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 05:35:35 GMT
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Hi everyone,

I am also working on a topic where I need to numerically calculate an integral of a tabulated function. However, what I need is an indefinite integral, namely, the area under a curve as a function of x-coordinate.

The procedure `int_tabulated` only calculates the definite integral, given tabulated `f` and its x-coordinates `x`. Let's say both `f` and `x` are double array of length `nl`.

I tried the following fix:

```
integral=dblarr(nl)
for i=1, nl-1 do integral[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],f[0:i])
```

I thought it will work but not quite! Turns out that in general, the result integral will not be monotone even if `f` are always positive. I believe this has something to do with the algorithm of `int_tabulated`? How can I produce a consistent calculation of the indefinite integral?

Best Regards,
Gene

On Oct 13, 9:42 pm, Craig Markwardt
<craig...@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:
> James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> writes:
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>> the two curves. Just connect the two curves to create a single
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> I still think the original questioner doesn't really know what he
> needs yet.
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> Craig
>
> --
> -----
> Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: cbmarkwardt+use...@gmail.com
> -----

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 10:16:58 GMT
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Craig Markwardt wrote:
> James Kuyper <jameskuyper@verizon.net> writes:
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> ...
>

- > James, I had that thought as well, but I believe POLY_AREA will not
- > work as expected. When a polygon's edges self-intersect, then the
- > polygon is no longer "simple."

As I understand it, the curves involved are sections of two non-intersecting ellipses, with the smaller enclosed entirely in the larger one. Connecting the curves as I suggest would create a simple closed curve, with no intersections.

- > In that case, the POLY_AREA method
- > will compute the *signed* total area. Polygonal segments where the
- > path traverses clockwise will contribute in a positive sense, and
- > counter-clockwise in the negative sense. The result will not be the
- > 'total' area as we commonly expect, but some kind of non-intuitive
- > 'net' area.

In a sense, a 'net' area is precisely what we want, and the fact that this is the case seems quite intuitive to me. If the OP had two complete ellipses, then as I understand it, what he wants is the area of the larger ellipse minus the area of the smaller ellipse. If he were to follow my suggestion with two full ellipses, that's precisely the quantity that POLY_AREA should calculate.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 11:26:49 GMT
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mystea wrote:

- > Hi everyone,
- >
- > I am also working on a topic where I need to numerically calculate an
- > integral
- > of a tabulated function. However, what I need is an indefinite
- > integral, namely,
- > the area under a curve as a function of x-coordinate.

You can't calculate the true indefinite integral using numerical methods; that's something that can only be done by using a symbolic math program like Mathematica.

- > The procedure int_tabulated only calculates the definite integral,
- > given tabulated
- > f and its x-coordinates x. Let's say both f and x are double array of
- > length nl.
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```
> integral=dblarr(nl)
> for i=1, nl-1 do integral[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],f[0:i])
```

What you're getting by this method is not the indefinite integral, but a tabulation of definite integrals. This can represent the indefinite integral, in much the same sense that your x and f arrays represent the function you want to integrate, but it is not the indefinite integral itself.

```
> I thought it will work but not quite! Turns out that in general, the
> result
> integral will not be monotone even if f are always positive.
```

That should not be the case for the true integral of a function that is always positive, assuming that the x values are sorted.

However, numerical integration always produces no better than an approximation. INT_TABULATED uses a "a five-point Newton-Cotes integration formula", which is basically derived from fitting those five points to a polynomial. The best-fit polynomial could go to negative values within the range of integration, even if all of the data it is being fitted to is positive; in that case, the integral could decrease with increasing x, for some values of x. That seems unlikely, however, if your function is tabulated with sufficient detail.

Could you give a simple example that demonstrates the problem you've seen?

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 16:59:28 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

James Kuyper <jameskuyper@verizon.net> writes:

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> Craig Markwardt wrote:
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> As I understand it, the curves involved are sections of two
> non-intersecting ellipses, with the smaller enclosed entirely in the
> larger one. Connecting the curves as I suggest would create a simple
> closed curve, with no intersections.

Assuming the poster knows what he wants to do, he said,
: I am trying to calculate how much of an error there is between two
: rings. I have two images each with a ring pictured in these two
: images.

[And then goes on to describe how the two traces are computed by
different methods.] In my mind, the two traces are measures of
essentially the **same** phenomenon, and he's trying to measure the
areal difference between these two different representations of the
same curve. I assumed this was some attempt to estimate the
uncertainty of some modeling method.

In fact, if you look at the image links the original poster provides,
the curves **are** intersecting. There is primarily a translation
offset, which causes them to intersect near the apex. So again, I'm
left with the quandry that either, (a) POLY_AREA isn't providing
what's needed, or (b) the poster needs to understand what he **really**
wants to do.

>> In that case, the POLY_AREA method
>> will compute the **signed** total area. Polygonal segments where the
>> path traverses clockwise will contribute in a positive sense, and
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> of the larger ellipse minus the area of the smaller ellipse. If he
> were to follow my suggestion with two full ellipses, that's precisely
> the quantity that POLY_AREA should calculate.

Yes, assuming they don't intersect (which they do).

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: cbmarkwardt@usenet@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 17:21:15 GMT
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Craig Markwardt wrote:

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>

>

>> Craig Markwardt wrote:

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> essentially the *same* phenomenon, and he's trying to measure the

> areal difference between these two different representations of the

> same curve. I assumed this was some attempt to estimate the

> uncertainty of some modeling method.

I traced the message I was responding to back to the original message, in which he said that he was looking for the area between the curves.

The message you're referring to was on a different branch of this discussion, and I missed the implications of the text you cite. Now that I've re-read it in light of what you've said, I agree with your interpretation. I can think of two or three bad ways to measure the error between the two curves, but I can't come up with any good ways.

> In fact, if you look at the image links the original poster provides,

> the curves *are* intersecting. There is primarily a translation

> offset, which causes them to intersect near the apex.

As displayed on my screen, I only saw one curve; perhaps I don't have enough resolution to resolve the two curves clearly.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [mystea](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 05:35:09 GMT

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

On Oct 14, 4:26 am, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

> mystea wrote:

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>> I am also working on a topic where I need to numerically calculate an

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- > with increasing x, for some values of x. That seems unlikely, however,
- > if your function is tabulated with sufficient detail.
- >
- > Could you give a simple example that demonstrates the problem you've seen?

I tried "tsum" and suddenly every problem was solved!

I found that the warning in the int_tabulated help file must be taken very seriously:

Warning:

Data that is highly oscillatory requires a sufficient number of samples for an accurate integral approximation.

My data was not oscillatory. However, I tried to find its first derivative using "deriv" and found that its first derivatives are oscillatory.

So the motto is: thou shalt not use int_tabulated when the result from deriv is oscillatory. huh?

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 11:21:53 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

jameskuyper@verizon.net writes:

- > Craig Markwardt wrote:
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- >> In fact, if you look at the image links the original poster provides,
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- >> offset, which causes them to intersect near the apex.
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- > As displayed on my screen, I only saw one curve; perhaps I don't have
- > enough resolution to resolve the two curves clearly.

I meant that, the single curves in each image intersect each other when overlayed. I just did a simple image blink to see this.

Craig

--

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 11:44:35 GMT
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mystea wrote:

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> I tried "tsum" and suddenly every problem was solved!

I assume you're referring to

<<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/math/tsum.pro>>. tsum uses the trapezoidal rule, which is the two-point Newton-Cotes formula; INT_TABULATED uses the five-point formula. The higher-order formula gives you more accurate results, so long as the data is tabulated at sufficiently close intervals so that it is relatively smooth over any 5 consecutive data points. The lower order formula gives less accurate results, but is more robust with respect to the errors that can be created when the tabulated function isn't tabulated sufficiently closely. This is the typical trade-off you get when comparing higher-order numerical methods with lower-order ones.

> I found that the warning in the int_tabulated help file must be taken
> very seriously:

>

> Warning:

> Data that is highly oscillatory requires a sufficient number of
> samples for an accurate integral approximation.

>

> My data was not oscillatory. However, I tried to find its first
> derivative using "deriv" and
> found that its first derivatives are oscillatory.

>

> So the motto is: thou shalt not use int_tabulated when the result
> from deriv is oscillatory. huh?

I think that's the wrong conclusion. It's not that int_tabulated shouldn't be used; it's that the data that was causing int_tabulated problems shouldn't be used. If possible, you should get the data tabulated more closely. If not, you should understand that any method you use will give inaccurate results, though those results will be more reasonable when you use a lower-order integration method rather than a higher-order one.

I'd still like to see specific examples of data for which `int_tabulated` has problems of this kind.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 12:05:35 GMT
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James Kuyper wrote:

> mystea wrote:

>> On Oct 14, 4:26 am, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

> ...

>>> Could you give a simple example that demonstrates the problem you've

>>> seen?

>>

>> I tried "tsum" and suddenly every problem was solved!

>

> I assume you're referring to

> <<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/math/tsum.pro>>. tsum uses the

> trapezoidal rule, which is the two-point Newton-Cotes formula;

> INT_TABULATED uses the five-point formula. The higher-order formula

> gives you more accurate results, so long as the data is tabulated at

> sufficiently close intervals so that it is relatively smooth over any 5

> consecutive data points. The lower order formula gives less accurate

> results, but is more robust with respect to the errors that can be

> created when the tabulated function isn't tabulated sufficiently

> closely. This is the typical trade-off you get when comparing

> higher-order numerical methods with lower-order ones.

I can be more specific about this. According to

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newton%E2%80%93Cotes_formulas>, the error terms are

trapezoidal (two-point) rule: $-(h^3/12) * f_2(\zeta)$

Boole's (five-point) rule: $-(8*h^7/945)*f_6(\zeta)$

where 'h' is the spacing of the data, $f_2(\zeta)$ is the second derivative of the function being integrated, evaluated at some unspecified location in the range of integration, and $f_6(\zeta)$ is the sixth derivative, evaluated at some unspecified and probably different location in the range of integration.

Therefore, if f_2_max is the maximum value of the magnitude of the second derivative over the range of integration, and f_6_max is the same thing for the sixth derivative, then it is better to use TSUM if

$$h > (315*f_2_max/(32*f_6_max))^{0.25}$$

if h is less than that limiting value, you'll get better results with INT_TABULATED.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [frankosuna](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 20:37:53 GMT
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Ok, I will try to explain what is going on.

I have a 3D wireframe model of Saturn and its rings. This wireframe (which is superimposed over an image) is shifted and rotated to match an image. The wireframe contains rings of Saturn and the image contains the edges to where those rings belong. Scientists tweak the wireframe so that it matches those edges, thus correcting spacecraft pointing vectors. This is called C-Smithing or Camera Smithing.

<http://frankosuna.googlepages.com/wireframe2.jpg>

This image is taken from the wireframe. I used region growing so that when the user clicks on a ring in the wireframe, it selects that ring (so that they can use that ring to match it to an edge) and create this image.

<http://frankosuna.googlepages.com/edgeDetect2.jpg>

This image is created by utilizing a saturn image that contains many features from saturn (like the edges of its rings). This in fact is an edge to a ring from Saturn.

Region growing is used when the user selects a point in the image (this should be the corresponding ring from the wireframe). Based on that point where the user clicks, it region grows that section and creates this image.

I have an algorithm that tries to match two images of the same scene but different perspectives meaning that one image might be scaled, rotated, or shifted differently than the other image.

The values taken from this algorithm are used to correct the wireframe so that we can match it to the corresponding edge and therefor correcting the spacecraft pointing vectors.

I need to come up with some measurement to see how close the edge detected ring from the image and the ring from the wireframe are. They are ellipses and they do cross since we're trying to get them as close as possible.

I hope this clears things up.

Thanks for taking time to respond with such detailed answers,

Frank

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Wed, 15 Oct 2008 20:56:10 GMT

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Maybe you could determine the ellipse parameters
(half-axis lengths, center position, rotation angle)
and work with that 5 parameters? Should be much simpler.

Ciao,
Paolo

frankosuna wrote:

- > Ok, I will try to explain what is going on.
- >
- > I have a 3D wireframe model of Saturn and its rings. This wireframe
- > (which is superimposed over an image) is shifted and rotated
- > to match an image. The wireframe contains rings of Saturn and the
- > image contains the edges to where those rings belong. Scientists
- > tweak the wireframe so that it matches those edges, thus correcting
- > spacecraft pointing vectors. This is called C-Smithing or Camera
- > Smithing.
- >
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- >
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- > features from saturn(like the edges of its rings). This in fact is an
- > edge to a ring from Saturn.
- > Region growing is used when the user selects a point in the image(this
- > should be the corresponding ring from the wireframe). Based on that
- > point where the user clicks, it region grows
- > that section and creates this image.
- >
- > I have an algorithm that tries to match two images of the same scene
- > but different perspectives meaning that one image might be scaled,
- > rotated, or shifted differently than the other image.

>
> The values taken from this algorithm are used to correct the wireframe
> so that we can match it to the corresponding edge and therefor
> correcting the spacecraft pointing vectors.
>
> I need to come up with some measurement to see how close the edge
> detected ring from the image and the ring from the wireframe are. They
> are ellipses and they do cross since we're trying to get them as close
> as possible.
>
> I hope this clears things up.
>
> Thanks for taking time to respond with such detailed answers,
>
> Frank

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 16 Oct 2008 03:42:38 GMT
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frankosuna <frankosuna@gmail.com> writes:

>
> I need to come up with some measurement to see how close the edge
> detected ring from the image and the ring from the wireframe are. They
> are ellipses and they do cross since we're trying to get them as close
> as possible.

OK, it still sounds like the "best" way to do it is take your points
and re-sample them to the same grid, so they are directly comparable.
In principle you can re-sample in X, but I think it would be better to
convert the original points to R,PHI polar coordinates and sample to a
uniform PHI grid. At that stage, you can compute
TOTAL((R_MEAS - R_WIREFRAME)^2)
which is effectively a chi-square, which then also measures goodness
of your fit. [I.e. forget about integrals.]

Craig

--

Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: cbmarkwardt@usenet@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Thu, 16 Oct 2008 12:18:42 GMT

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On Oct 15, 11:42 pm, Craig Markwardt

<craigm...@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote:

> frankosuna <frankos...@gmail.com> writes:

>

>> I need to come up with some measurement to see how close the edge
>> detected ring from the image and the ring from the wireframe are. They
>> are ellipses and they do cross since we're trying to get them as close
>> as possible.

>

> OK, it still sounds like the "best" way to do it is take your points
> and re-sample them to the same grid, so they are directly comparable.
> In principle you can re-sample in X, but I think it would be better to
> convert the original points to R,PHI polar coordinates and sample to a
> uniform PHI grid. At that stage, you can compute
> $TOTAL((R_MEAS - R_WIREFRAME)^2)$
> which is effectively a chi-square, which then also measures goodness
> of your fit. [I.e. forget about integrals.]

>

> Craig

>

> --

> -----

> Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: cbmarkwardt+use...@gmail.com

> -----

If the difference is just translational, I'd still just use an FFT to
cross-correlate the original images and find the peak...

-Jeremy.

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves

Posted by [mystea](#) on Thu, 16 Oct 2008 15:50:16 GMT

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Hi James,

I would like to thank you for your reply. It is truly helpful.

Here is an example:

```
x=dindgen(200)+1
y=x^(-2)
q=dblarr(200)
for i=1,199 do q[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],y[0:i])
```

```

plot,q
plot,y
plot,deriv(y)

plot,sort(q)

x2=x
x2[60:199]=x2[60]+x2[60]*dindgen(140)
y2=x2^(-2)
q2=dblarr(200)
for i=1,199 do q2[i]=int_tabulated(x2[0:i],y2[0:i])
plot,q2
plot,deriv(y2)
plot,sort(q)

```

As you can see, the results of integration is wiggling here. It's not necessary that the polynomial goes negative, its probably just because the routine is using different polynomials when new terms are introduced.

I also figured out that the deriv routine went crazy under some circumstance, too. In these cases, deriv(y) should go to zero, yet it was oscillating crazy.

What is the criteria for deriv to work? Is there a simple-minded deriv which doesn't go nuts?

Best,
Gene

On Oct 14, 4:26 am, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

```

> mystea wrote:
>> Hi everyone,
>
>> I am also working on a topic where I need to numerically calculate an
>> integral
>> of a tabulated function. However, what I need is an indefinite
>> integral, namely,
>> the area under a curve as a function of x-coordinate.
>
> You can't calculate the true indefinite integral using numerical
> methods; that's something that can only be done by using a symbolic math
> program like Mathematica.

```

>
>> The procedure `int_tabulated` only calculates the definite integral,
>> given tabulated
>> `f` and its `x`-coordinates `x`. Let's say both `f` and `x` are double array of
>> length `nl`.
>
>> I tried the following fix:
>
>> `integral=dblarr(nl)`
>> for `i=1, nl-1` do `integral[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],f[0:i])`
>
> What you're getting by this method is not the indefinite integral, but a
> tabulation of definite integrals. This can represent the indefinite
> integral, in much the same sense that your `x` and `f` arrays represent the
> function you want to integrate, but it is not the indefinite integral
> itself.
>
>> I thought it will work but not quite! Turns out that in general, the
>> result
>> integral will not be monotone even if `f` are always positive.
>
> That should not be the case for the true integral of a function that is
> always positive, assuming that the `x` values are sorted.
>
> However, numerical integration always produces no better than an
> approximation. `INT_TABULATED` uses a "a five-point Newton-Cotes
> integration formula", which is basically derived from fitting those five
> points to a polynomial. The best-fit polynomial could go to negative
> values within the range of integration, even if all of the data it is
> being fitted to is positive; in that case, the integral could decrease
> with increasing `x`, for some values of `x`. That seems unlikely, however,
> if your function is tabulated with sufficient detail.
>
> Could you give a simple example that demonstrates the problem you've seen?

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Thu, 16 Oct 2008 16:30:44 GMT
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mystea wrote:

> Hi James,
>
> I would like to thank you for your reply. It is truly helpful.
>
> Here is an example:
>
> `x=dindgen(200)+1`

```

> y=x^(-2)
> q=dblarr(200)
> for i=1,199 do q[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],y[0:i])
>
> plot,q
> plot,y
> plot,deriv(y)
>
> plot,sort(q)
>
> x2=x
> x2[60:199]=x2[60]+x2[60]*dindgen(140)
> y2=x2^(-2)
> q2=dblarr(200)
> for i=1,199 do q2[i]=int_tabulated(x2[0:i],y2[0:i])
> plot,q2
> plot,deriv(y2)
> plot,sort(q)
>
>
> As you can see, the results of integration is wiggling here.
> It's not necessary that the polynomial goes negative, its
> probably just because the routine is using different polynomials when
> new terms
> are introduced.

```

The reason for the wiggling is the sharp spike near 0, which is sampled differently if you have a different numbers of elements. If you divide your function in two ranges (say, 1 to 10 and 10 to 200) the effect should be smaller. Again, let me stress that your problem arise because of undersampling of the sharp peak near $x=1$. As a matter of fact, if you were to integrate starting from the right hand side ($x=200$) instead of the left ($x=1$), you would get much better results, as the peak would not get in the way of all results but the latest ones (which however are the dominant factors in the integral).

Ciao,
Paolo

```

>
> I also figured out that the deriv routine went crazy under some
> circumstance, too.
> In these cases, deriv(y) should go to zero, yet it was oscillating

```



```

> crazy.
>
> What is the criteria for deriv to work? Is there a simple-minded
> deriv which doesn't
> go nuts?
>
> Best,
> Gene
>

>> mystea wrote:
>>> Hi everyone,
>>
>>> I am also working on a topic where I need to numerically calculate an
>>> integral

>>> integral, namely,
>>> the area under a curve as a function of x-coordinate.
>>
>> You can't calculate the true indefinite integral using numerical
>> methods; that's something that can only be done by using a symbolic math
>> program like Mathematica.
>>
>>> The procedure int_tabulated only calculates the definite integral,
>>> given tabulated

>>> length nl.
>>
>>> I tried the following fix:
>>
>>> integral=dblarr(nl)
>>> for i=1, nl-1 do integral[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],f[0:i])
>>
>> What you're getting by this method is not the indefinite integral, but a
>> tabulation of definite integrals. This can represent the indefinite
>> integral, in much the same sense that your x and f arrays represent the
>> function you want to integrate, but it is not the indefinite integral
>> itself.
>>

>>> result
>>> integral will not be monotone even if f are always positive.
>>
>> That should not be the case for the true integral of a function that is
>> always positive, assuming that the x values are sorted.
>>
>> However, numerical integration always produces no better than an
>> approximation. INT_TABULATED uses a "a five-point Newton-Cotes

```

>> integration formula", which is basically derived from fitting those five
>> points to a polynomial. The best-fit polynomial could go to negative
>> values within the range of integration, even if all of the data it is
>> being fitted to is positive; in that case, the integral could decrease
>> with increasing x, for some values of x. That seems unlikely, however,
>> if your function is tabulated with sufficient detail.
>>
>> Could you give a simple example that demonstrates the problem you've seen?

Subject: Re: Compute area between curves
Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Fri, 17 Oct 2008 19:43:56 GMT
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mystea wrote:

> Hi James,
>
> I would like to thank you for your reply. It is truly helpful.
>
> Here is an example:
>
> x=dindgen(200)+1
> y=x^(-2)

For this function, the second derivative $f2 = 6*x^{(-4)}$. The sixth derivative $f6 = 5040*x^{-8}$. Within the range of integration, the maximum values of $f2$ and $d6$ both occur at $x = 1$, so $f2_max = 6$ and $f6_max=5040$. Therefore, the maximum step size for which `INT_TABULATED` gives better results than `TSUM` is

$$(315*f2_max/(32*f6_max))^{0.25} = 0.329$$

Your data is tabulated with a spacing of 1.0, which is more than 3 times too large to get better results with `INT_TABULATED` than with `TSUM`. Try the following:

$$x = 0.25*dindgen(800)+1.0$$

You get much nicer results that way.

```
> q=dblarr(200)
> for i=1,199 do q[i]=int_tabulated(x[0:i],y[0:i])
>
> plot,q
> plot,y
> plot,deriv(y)
>
> plot,sort(q)
```

```

>
> x2=x
> x2[60:199]=x2[60]+x2[60]*dindgen(140)
> y2=x2^(-2)

```

For the second portion of your data, the spacing is 61 units. The maximum values of f2 and f6 occur in that region occur at x = 61:

```

f2_max = 6*x[60]^(-4)
f6_max = 5040*x[60]^(-8)

```

For this portion of the data, the minimum step size needed is

$$(315*f2_max/(32*f6_max))^{0.25} = 20.07$$

Once again, the spacing of your tabulated data is more than 3 times too large for INT_TABULATED to give you better results than TSUM. The moral of this story is that, if you can, you should sample your data more closely. If you can't do that, you'll have to integrate it using a more robust integration method, such as TSUM.

```

> q2=dblarr(200)
> for i=1,199 do q2[i]=int_tabulated(x2[0:i],y2[0:i])
> plot,q2
> plot,deriv(y2)

```

It would be more meaningful to use

```

plot, x2, q2
plot, x2, deriv(x2,y2)

```

However, give the range of values involved, you won't actually be able to see anything on that second plot. For a more readable plot, use

```

plot, x2, -deriv(x2,y2), /xlog,/ylog

```

For comparison, the analytical result is:

```

oplot, x2, 2*x2^(-3)

```

Which seems to be a pretty accurate match.

...

```

> As you can see, the results of integration is wiggling here.
> It's not necessary that the polynomial goes negative, its
> probably just because the routine is using different polynomials when
> new terms are introduced.

```

No, the issue is that the best-fit polynomial for under-sampled data isn't a particularly good fit. That polynomial has wiggles that don't match the shape of the function actually being tabulated.

- > I also figured out that the deriv routine went crazy under some
- > circumstance, too.
- > In these cases, deriv(y) should go to zero, yet it was oscillating
- > crazy.

I didn't see any oscillations in deriv(y), or deriv(x2,y2). Could you explain that more precisely?
