
Subject: Re: Another MPFIT question

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 02:02:58 GMT

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On Oct 11, 4:35 pm, MichaelT <michael.theus...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Today I discovered MPFIT and I am so excited how well it works (many
> thanks Craig!).
>
> I ran into one problem, however, which I was not able to solve. Maybe,
> there is a simple solution.
> Among all the parameters I have four whose sum must not be larger than
> a certain value:
>
> $0 < c1+c2+c3+c4 < 1$.
>
> All four parameters may vary between zero and one which I implemented
> using .limits and .limited. But, how do I implement the additional
> constraint? Any ideas? It may be too obvious for me to see...
>
> Thanks, Michael

How's this

re-parameterize our problem to -

$p[0]=c1$, $p[1]=c1+c2$, $p[2]=c1+c2+c3$ and $p[3]=c1+c2+c3+c4$

then limit all these to $[0,1]$

so in the function:

```
function myfunc, x, p
```

```
c1 = p[0]
```

```
c2 = p[1]-p[0]
```

```
c3 = p[2]-p[1]
```

```
c4 = p[3]-p[2]
```

```
return, somefunctionof(c1,c2,c3,c4)
```

```
end
```

Subject: Re: Another MPFIT question

Posted by [MichaelT](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 08:29:29 GMT

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On Oct 12, 4:02 am, Vince Hradil <vincehra...@gmail.com> wrote:

> How's this
> re-parameterize our problem to -
> $p[0]=c1$, $p[1]=c1+c2$, $p[2]=c1+c2+c3$ and $p[3]=c1+c2+c3+c4$
> then limit all these to $[0,1]$

Many thanks Vince! That gave me the right idea!

I had to implement it a tiny little bit differently, though. It turned out that in your suggested case $c1...4$ would not have been limited to $[0, 1]$ but $[-1, 1]$.

So I had to do it like this:

$p[0]=1-c1$, $p[1]=1-c1-c2$, $p[2]=1-c1-c2-c3$ and $p[3]=1-c1-c2-c3-c4$

```
function myfunc, x, p
c1 = 1 - p[0]
c2 = p[0]-p[1]
c3 = p[1]-p[2]
c4 = p[2]-p[3]
return, somefunctionof(c1,c2,c3,c4)
end
```

Have a good Sunday!

Michael

Subject: Re: Another MPFIT question

Posted by [MichaelT](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 10:42:41 GMT

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Oh no... My changes do not change anything. Only $c1$ is now limited to $[0, 1]$, but, the others are not...

It seems Vince's idea does not help in this case, unfortunately.

I do not know what to do now. I have four parameters but five conditions. Can anybody help?

I need to tell MPFIT the following limits:

$c1,c2,c3,c4 = [0, 1]$

AND

$c1 + c2 + c3 + c4 = [0, 1]$

Michael

Subject: Re: Another MPFIT question

Posted by [MichaelT](#) on Sun, 12 Oct 2008 10:56:07 GMT

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Ok, I just had this idea:

```
function myfunc, x, p
c0 = (p[0]+p[1]+p[2]+p[3]) > 1d
```

```
c1 = p[0] / c0
c2 = p[1] / c0
c3 = p[2] / c0
c4 = p[3] / c0
return, somefunctionof(c1,c2,c3,c4)
End
```

It does really limit $c1+...+c4$ to $[0, 1]$ and the parameters are also limited to $[0, 1]$. But, I'm not so sure whether or not it is really ok to do it this way.

Michael
