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Subject: Re: Fit a Gaussian to a Histogram Plot  
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Mon, 20 Jul 2009 07:52:36 GMT  
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On Jul 19, 12:20 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

- > Folks,
- >
- > Someone asked me this weekend how to fit a Gaussian
- > to the output of the Coyote Library routine Histoplot.
- > Good question.
- >
- > I was surprised to learn (well, "shocked" might be a better
- > word) that the author of Histoplot had already anticipated
- > the need for this functionality, and had provided the
- > appropriate output keywords to make this possible.

I have another one for you: how can I use histoplot to plot a histogram?

Confused? Let me explain: If I use the histogram function to create a histogram of data from many files (say a seasonal average of a quantity measured from a satellite), and then would like to use histoplot to show the result, then I'm currently out of luck, right?

Best,

Maarten

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Subject: Re: Fit a Gaussian to a Histogram Plot  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 20 Jul 2009 12:27:36 GMT  
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Maarten writes:

- > I have another one for you: how can I use histoplot to plot a
- > histogram?
- >
- > Confused? Let me explain: If I use the histogram function to create a
- > histogram of data from many files (say a seasonal average of a
- > quantity measured from a satellite), and then would like to use
- > histoplot to show the result, then I'm currently out of luck, right?

Currently, yes. But who knows. I can see this being useful in my own work. In fact, I've already solved this problem in my own work (using Histplot as the example), but just not in a way that would be useful to everyone.

It's a busy week, what with work, a big tennis tournament that has me playing nearly every evening, my wife gone to take care of her brother, etc. But, I'll see if I can come up with something. :-)

Cheers,

David

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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: Fit a Gaussian to a Histogram Plot  
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Tue, 21 Jul 2009 07:07:39 GMT  
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On Jul 20, 2:27 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Maarten writes:

>> I have another one for you: how can I use histoplot to plot a  
>> histogram?

>

>> Confused? Let me explain: If I use the histogram function to create a  
>> histogram of data from many files (say a seasonal average of a  
>> quantity measured from a satellite), and then would like to use  
>> histoplot to show the result, then I'm currently out of luck, right?

>

> Currently, yes. But who knows. I can see this being  
> useful in my own work. In fact, I've already solved this  
> problem in my own work (using Histplot as the example),  
> but just not in a way that would be useful to  
> everyone.

>

> It's a busy week, what with work, a big tennis tournament  
> that has me playing nearly every evening, my wife gone to  
> take care of her brother, etc. But, I'll see if I can come  
> up with something. :-)

No worries. I've hacked your code far enough to be usable for this to me, but it is far from robust or elegant. I guess our solutions are similar, and assume well behaved users. We all know that those are few and far between.

Enjoy the tennis,

Maarten

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