
Subject: Re: Constrained fit of a straight line: fixed intercept

Posted by [David Grier](#) on Fri, 27 Aug 2010 08:39:17 GMT

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On 8/27/10 12:36 AM, Joe Daal wrote:

> Hi,
>
> I am not sure how easy this problem is, but it sure gave me hell
> today.
> I have the following vector arrays: X, Y,& Y_errors. There are 5
> elements in each and they do form a nice line describes by $Y = A + BX$.
> I need to fit this line with B as a free parameter and constrain A to
> pass by the the third point.
> So the problem narrows down to one parameter as: $Y = (Y0 - BX0) + BX$,
> whre Y0 and B0 and the third point values (i.e., X[2] and Y[2]).
> I tried using MPFIT with the PARINFO keyword. It just didn't work.
> Any ideas? Thanks....
>
> -Joe

How about:

```
pivot = 2
dy = y - y[pivot]
dx = x - x[pivot]
w = where(dx ne 0, count)
if count gt 0 then $
  B = mean(dy[w]/dx[w]) $
else $
  B = 0.
```

TTFN,

David

Subject: Re: Constrained fit of a straight line: fixed intercept

Posted by [David Grier](#) on Fri, 27 Aug 2010 10:45:18 GMT

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On 8/27/10 4:39 AM, David Grier wrote:

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> B = mean(dy[w]/dx[w]) $
> else $
> B = 0.

```

... and if you want to weight the results by the experimental errors:

```

weights = abs(1./y_errors[w]) ; for instrumental errors
B = mean(weights * dy[w] / dx[w]) / mean(weights)

```

TTFN,

David

Subject: Re: Constrained fit of a straight line: fixed intercept
 Posted by [Joe Daal](#) on Fri, 27 Aug 2010 20:57:57 GMT
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On Aug 27, 5:45 am, David Grier <david.gr...@nyu.edu> wrote:

```

> On 8/27/10 4:39 AM, David Grier wrote:
>
>
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> B = mean(weights * dy[w] / dx[w]) / mean(weights)
>
> TTFN,
>
> David

```

Great! Thank you.
 -Joe