
Subject: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [Jie Zhou](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 10:08:11 GMT

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Is there a derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab? I think the DERIV is different from DIFF.

Subject: Re: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 10:27:24 GMT

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Le mardi 12 novembre 2013 11:08:11 UTC+1, Jie Zhou a écrit :

> Is there a derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab? I think the DERIV is different from DIFF.

The DERIV function in IDL uses a second order formula for the discrete differenciation (known as 3-point Lagrange interpolation). Afaik, Matlab DIFF computes a simple difference given, in IDL, by $x - \text{shift}(x, 1)$, where x is your data series.

alx.

Subject: Re: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 12:01:15 GMT

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On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:08:11 AM UTC-5, Jie Zhou wrote:

> Is there a derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab? I think the DERIV is different from DIFF.

TS_DIFF(data, 1) would be equivalent.

Subject: Re: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 12:07:56 GMT

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Le mardi 12 novembre 2013 13:01:15 UTC+1, Matthew Argall a écrit :

> On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:08:11 AM UTC-5, Jie Zhou wrote:

>

>> Is there a derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab? I think the DERIV is different from DIFF.

>

>

>

> TS_DIFF(data, 1) would be equivalent.

TS_DIFF(data, 1) is simply doing a shift by one (i.e. data - shift(data, 1)), but by using a for loop!
alx.

Subject: Re: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 12:08:10 GMT

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On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 7:01:15 AM UTC-5, Matthew Argall wrote:

> On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:08:11 AM UTC-5, Jie Zhou wrote:

>

>> Is there a derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab? I think the DERIV is different from DIFF.

>

>

>

> TS_DIFF(data, 1) would be equivalent.

Actually, maybe not. TS_DIFF calculates the forward difference. I think you are looking for the backward difference.

In that case, I tend to use

```
result = data[1:*] - data[0:n_elements(data)-1]
```

or

```
result = shift(data, 1) - data
```

```
result = result[0:n_elements(result)-1]
```

Subject: Re: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [Jie Zhou](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 12:18:01 GMT

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On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:08:10 PM UTC+1, Matthew Argall wrote:

> On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 7:01:15 AM UTC-5, Matthew Argall wrote:

>

>> On Tuesday, November 12, 2013 5:08:11 AM UTC-5, Jie Zhou wrote:

>

>>

>

>>> Is there a derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab? I think the DERIV is different from DIFF.

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>>
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> result = data[1:*] - data[0:n_elements(data)-1]
>
>
>
> or
>
>
>
> result = shift(data, 1) - data
>
> result = result[0:n_elements(result)-1]

```

In fact what I tried to do is using diff function to calculate the n-th derivative of an 2-d matrix. for example, for a matrix:

```

A=
 1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0
 0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0
 0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0
 0  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0  0
 0  0  0  0  1  0  0  0  0  0
 0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  0  0
 0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  0
 0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0
 0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0
 0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1

```

in matlab, the DIFF(A,2) gives:

```

 1 -2  1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0
 0  1 -2  1  0  0  0  0  0  0
 0  0  1 -2  1  0  0  0  0  0
 0  0  0  1 -2  1  0  0  0  0

```

```
0 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 -2 1
```

Until now, I don't find a equivalent function in IDL.

Thanks to alx, I use

```
D=(shift(shift(A,0,1)-A,0,1)-(shift(A,0,1)-A))[*,2:*
```

to finish the task.

jie

Subject: Re: derivative function in IDL similar as DIFF in matlab

Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2013 14:07:29 GMT

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```
> D=(shift(shift(A,0,1)-A,0,1)-(shift(A,0,1)-A))[*,2:*
```

```
print, (Shift_Diff(Shift_Diff(A, DIRECTION=1, /EDGE_WRAP), DIRECTION=1,
/EDGE_WRAP))[*,2:*
```
