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Subject: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [limiq](#) on Thu, 30 Jan 2014 14:43:54 GMT  
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Dear all,

I would like to ask if someone know a code to calculate a 2D Pearson correlation as:

$$r^2 = \frac{\sum w_i (M_i - M) (O_i - O)}{\sqrt{(\sum w_i (M_i - M)^2) (\sum w_i (O_i - O)^2)}}$$

Sum runs from  $i=1$  to  $N$ .  $N$  is the total number of grid cells.

$M_i$  and  $O_i$  are the values in the grid cell  $i$  and  $w_i$  is a normalized weight (area) of grid cell  $i$ .  $\sum w_i = 1$  (Sum from  $i=1$  to  $N$ ).

IDL has `C_Correlate` and `R_correlate` but none of them include the  $w_i$  factor.

I will appreciate any assistance.

Lim

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Thu, 30 Jan 2014 15:08:45 GMT  
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> I would like to ask if someone know a code to calculate a 2D Pearson correlation as:

>

> 
$$r^2 = \frac{\sum w_i (M_i - M) (O_i - O)}{\sqrt{(\sum w_i (M_i - M)^2) (\sum w_i (O_i - O)^2)}}$$

>

> IDL has `C_Correlate` and `R_correlate` but none of them include the  $w_i$  factor.

As far as I know, IDL does not do weighted correlations. It would not take you long to compute it, though. Basically, all you would have to do is replace "Sum" with the `Total()` function in the above equation...

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [limiq](#) on Thu, 30 Jan 2014 18:12:13 GMT  
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I wonder if someone have a suggestion about how to determine the  $w_i$  (weighting) factor.

Thanks,

Lim

On Thursday, January 30, 2014 9:43:54 AM UTC-5, Lim wrote:

> Dear all,

>  
> I would like to ask if someone know a code to calculate a 2D Pearson correlation as:  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  $r^2 = \frac{\sum w_i (M_i - M)(O_i - O))^2}{(\sum w_i (M_i - M)^2)(\sum w_i (O_i - O)^2)}$   
>  
>  
>  
> Sum runs from i=1 to N. N is the total number of grid cells.  
>  
>  $M_i$  and  $O_i$  are the values in the grid cell i and  $w_i$  is a normalized weight (area) of grid cell i. Sum  
wi=1 (Sum from i=1 to N).  
>  
>  
>  
> IDL has C\_Correlate and R\_correlate but none of them include the  $w_i$  factor.  
>  
>  
>  
> I will appreciate any assistance.  
>  
>  
>  
> Lim

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Jan 2014 18:20:26 GMT  
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Lim writes:

> I wonder if someone have a suggestion about how to determine the  $w_i$  (weighting) factor.

Random numbers are always a solid bet, unless you have reason to think something else would work better.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Seppure ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 01:35:42 GMT  
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On Thursday, January 30, 2014 1:12:13 PM UTC-5, Lim wrote:

> I wonder if someone have a suggestion about how to determine the  $w_i$  (weighting) factor.

If you don't know, then 1 is the only safe weighting factor.

CM

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 01:46:13 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt writes:

>> I wonder if someone have a suggestion about how to determine the  $w_i$  (weighting) factor.

>

> If you don't know, then 1 is the only safe weighting factor.

Really!? My first, completely off the cuff answer (unvoiced, fortunately) was "Geez, just throw the I Ching!" But, I wonder, quite seriously now, whether a normalized distribution of random numbers isn't functionally equivalent to using 1. I don't know the answer. But, I presume you do. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 01:52:56 GMT  
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David Fanning writes:

> Craig Markwardt writes:

>

>>> I wonder if someone have a suggestion about how to determine the  $w_i$  (weighting) factor.

>>  
>> If you don't know, then 1 is the only safe weighting factor.  
>  
> Really!? My first, completely off the cuff answer (unvoiced,  
> fortunately) was "Geez, just throw the I Ching!"

It appears my first answer was closer to the mark than I imagined:

"Because the purpose of Clarity is to make the I Ching's help available to anyone who needs it, there is absolutely no need to know or study the I Ching in order to understand the interpretations I provide.

Whatever you choose, you are invited to make the I Ching's answers a part of your life - to drink the water from the well."

There you go. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [Russell Ryan](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 05:14:40 GMT  
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Lim,

You're getting snarky responses because you're asking a stupid question. I can understand if you don't know how to calculate the 2d Pearson coefficient. But, how can you expect anyone to have any clue what the weighting coefficients ought to be, since you've told us nothing about what {M} or {O} are? I assume they're data of some sort, but what data? Are they measurements, do they have uncertainties? If so, then what is your error distribution (I mean are they Gaussian uncertainties or Poisson or what). If so, then I'd consider inverse variance weighting, but that's just a hunch.

How can you expect anyone to know what you're doing if you don't tell them?

You should read a few blogs (including David's) on "how to ask a help question." I truly mean no disrespect.

Russell

On Thursday, January 30, 2014 9:43:54 AM UTC-5, Lim wrote:

> Dear all,  
>  
> I would like to ask if someone know a code to calculate a 2D Pearson correlation as:  
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> Sum runs from  $i=1$  to  $N$ .  $N$  is the total number of grid cells.  
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>  $M_i$  and  $O_i$  are the values in the grid cell  $i$  and  $w_i$  is a normalized weight (area) of grid cell  $i$ .  $\sum w_i = 1$  (Sum from  $i=1$  to  $N$ ).  
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> IDL has `C_Correlate` and `R_correlate` but none of them include the  $w_i$  factor.  
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> I will appreciate any assistance.  
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> Lim

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [limiq](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 09:14:45 GMT  
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I forgot to mention that  $M$  and  $O$  are global data of temperature regridded at the same resolution.  
Lim

On Thursday, January 30, 2014 9:43:54 AM UTC-5, Lim wrote:

> Dear all,  
>  
> I would like to ask if someone know a code to calculate a 2D Pearson correlation as:  
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>

>  $r^2 = (\text{Sum } w_i (M_i - M) (O_i - O))^2 / ((\text{Sum } w_i (M_i - M)^2) (\text{Sum } w_i (O_i - O)^2))$   
>  
>  
>  
> Sum runs from  $i=1$  to  $N$ .  $N$  is the total number of grid cells.  
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>  $M_i$  and  $O_i$  are the values in the grid cell  $i$  and  $w_i$  is a normalized weight (area) of grid cell  $i$ . Sum  
 $w_i=1$  (Sum from  $i=1$  to  $N$ ).  
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> IDL has `C_Correlate` and `R_correlate` but none of them include the  $w_i$  factor.  
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> Lim

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [robinson.inj](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 11:09:19 GMT  
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[http://www.idlcoyote.com/code\\_tips/eof\\_analysis.html](http://www.idlcoyote.com/code_tips/eof_analysis.html)

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/10633773/how-to-do-area-weighted-regridding-of-regular-lat-lon-data-using-python>

On Thursday, January 30, 2014 9:43:54 AM UTC-5, Lim wrote:

> Dear all,  
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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 13:12:37 GMT  
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rryan@stsci.edu writes:

> You should read a few blogs (including David's) on "how to ask a help question." I truly mean no disrespect.

Here is the link. I've had the feeling lately we are not posting this often enough:

<http://www.catb.org/~esr/faqs/smart-questions.html>

Cheers,

David

--

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Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: 2D Pearson correlation coefficient  
Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 16:11:57 GMT  
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OK, a few things.

1) That is not a Pearson correlation. Coefficient of determination, maybe.

2) Like Craig said, if you don't know anything about what the weights should be, you should use

one. You *could* weight by some knowledge of the errors in the data. We don't know what they are, so we can't tell you what to use. Besides, you're the person closest to the data. You would know best.

3) But, you better have good reason for weighting the data. I strongly suggest you curl up with Bevington's Data Reduction book before you go manipulating the data.

4) Matt told you how to do this. But here goes anyway:

```
;get some data  
m = RANDOMU(seed, 100)  
o = RANDOMU(seeed2, 100)
```

```
wi1 = 1 ;assuming no points are "more important" than others  
wi = (randomn(1l, 100)+2) > 0 ;Just making up something for the weights  
wi /= TOTAL(wi) ;make sure weights add to one
```

```
mMean = MEAN(m)  
oMean = MEAN(o)
```

```
r2 = TOTAL(wi1*(m-mMean)*(o-oMean))/TOTAL(wi1*(m-mMean)^2)/TOTAL( wi1*(o-oMean)^2)
```

Of course, you should make this a function, with appropriate parameters, and then try it with arbitrary weights.

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