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Subject: curve fitting problem

Posted by [Vibor Paravic](#) on Mon, 16 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi everybody,

Welcome to another week of fun in the sun.

Even though the majority of people around here use IDL, I am a Pv-Wave guy. Either way here here is my problem.

I have an interesting problem. I have two 1D arrays which contain the Cartesian coordinate data for a hysteresis curve. This means that the curve is not a function, ie I have multiple  $f(x)$  data for each  $x$ . I have a lot of these that I need to combine to obtain an average curve.

I need to

1. smooth the data
2. obtain a curve fit
3. evaluate the curve fit at discrete  $x$  values
4. average all the curves to obtain a general curve

If anybody has ever addressed a similar problem, and found a solution, please share it.

thank you

Vibor Paravic

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Subject: Re: curve fitting problem

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 13 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi Carlo and Pauline--

I'll assume that one of you will forward responses to your friend. Remember we're not just here to serve you. The request itself is a bit too generic to make a detailed response.

Information on IDL standard library routines can be found in a number of places on the web. These two come to mind:

[http://hires.gsfc.nasa.gov/~beck/pkgs/idl\\_5.1/idl.htm](http://hires.gsfc.nasa.gov/~beck/pkgs/idl_5.1/idl.htm)

<http://www.astro.washington.edu/deutsch/idl/htmlhelp/slibrar y07.html>

For curve fitting, there are a number of options. The standard IDL library includes:

LINFIT - linear model

POLY\_FIT - polynomial model

POLY\_FITW - polynomial model with weights

COMFIT - a bunch of canned models

CURVEFIT - generic least-squares fitting

LMFIT - generic least-squares fitting

I would not recommend LMFIT, it's slow and not well suited to the IDL philosophy. If one of the specific models doesn't match what is needed, then you will have to construct your own model and use CURVEFIT.

I also make freely available a curve fitting package called MPFIT which some people seem to like. Here again you will have to construct your own model function, or at least know the functional expression. There are a number of benefits to the MPFIT functions, perhaps the most important being it seems more robust than CURVEFIT. This package can be found here:

<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html>

Good luck,  
Craig

Carlo Emanuele Demontis <cdemontis@speairportsystems.com> writes:

>  
> Hi, I am posting this for Pauline.  
> Please, help her.  
> Thank you all in advance  
>  
> Carlo Emanuele DeMontis  
>  
>  
> -----  
>  
> If anyone has an old or unused IDL manual to send to Devendra in India,  
> that would be most lovely. Alternatively, if anyone can provide the  
> said routine below that would be equally lovely!  
>  
> Please email Devendra directly since I don't think Devendra has  
> newsgroup access.  
>  
> Thanks for your help,  
>

> Pauline  
>  
>  
> Devendra Singh <dschahar@hotmail.com> wrote:  
>>  
>> Hi Pauline  
>>  
>> Once again ,I wish to contact you in connection with an idl routine  
> for  
> the  
>> curve fitting for straight line,exponential,power,logerthmic and  
> ploynomial  
>> from 1 degree to 10 degree including the plot of data and fitting.  
> Kindly  
>> provide me the said routine. I would be obliged to you.  
>>  
>> with warm regards,  
>>  
>> devendra singh

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL:   craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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