

Vili Petek

Senior Software Engineer

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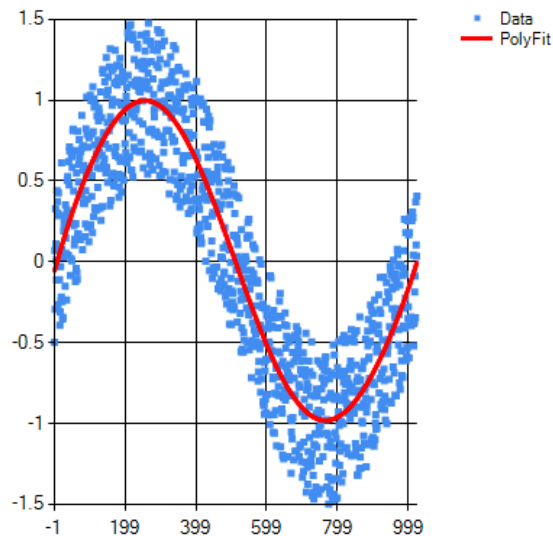
Polynomial Fitting in C++ using Boost

October 7, 2013 by vilipetek

A while back I needed to implement an algorithm utilizing an equivalent function of polyfit/polyval in LabView. The original algorithm was created in LabView for research purposes and since we were in the process of creating a commercial version of the device, the algorithm implementation in C++ needed to mirror the LabView implementation. I found that there is no simple and neat implementation of polyfit() polyval() in C++ so through a bit of digging, research, and implementation I came up with my own functions.

Polynomial fitting function returns coefficients of a polynomial representing a given data. [MathWorks](#) has a decent explanation of the function. Below is a graph showing 1000 randomly varying points and the polynomial curve in

red generated from the given points.



I used `boost::ublas` since it provides simple matrix class and fast LU decomposition. If you are unfamiliar with boost you may find more information on [Boost C++ site](#). If you wish to install Boost libraries on windows, I recommend downloading the recompiled install package from [BoostPro site](#).

`PolyFitExample` was written in `C++/CLI` since windows forms provides a simple graph component. You may access the [source](#) by clicking the link.

```
1  template<typename T>
2  std::vector<T> polyfit( const std::vector<T>& oX,
3      const std::vector<T>& oY, int nDegree )
4  {
5      using namespace boost::numeric::ublas;
6
7      if ( oX.size() != oY.size() )
8          throw std::invalid_argument( "X and Y vector sizes do not match" );
9
10     // more intuitive this way
11     nDegree++;
12
13     size_t nCount = oX.size();
14     matrix<T> oXMatrix( nCount, nDegree );
15     matrix<T> oYMatrix( nCount, 1 );
16
17     // copy y matrix
18     for ( size_t i = 0; i < nCount; i++ )
19     {
20         oYMatrix(i, 0) = oY[i];
21     }
22
23     // create the X matrix
24     for ( size_t nRow = 0; nRow < nCount; nRow++ )
25     {
26         T nVal = 1.0f;
27         for ( int nCol = 0; nCol < nDegree; nCol++ )
```

```

28     {
29         oXMatrix(nRow, nCol) = nVal;
30         nVal *= oX[nRow];
31     }
32 }
33
34 // transpose X matrix
35 matrix<T> oXtMatrix( trans(oXMatrix) );
36 // multiply transposed X matrix with X matrix
37 matrix<T> oXtXMatrix( prec_prod(oXtMatrix, oXMatrix) );
38 // multiply transposed X matrix with Y matrix
39 matrix<T> oXtYMatrix( prec_prod(oXtMatrix, oYMatrix) );
40
41 // lu decomposition
42 permutation_matrix<int> pert(oXtXMatrix.size1());
43 const std::size_t singular = lu_factorize(oXtXMatrix, pert);
44 // must be singular
45 BOOST_ASSERT( singular == 0 );
46
47 // backsubstitution
48 lu_substitute(oXtXMatrix, pert, oXtYMatrix);
49
50 // copy the result to coeff
51 return std::vector<T>( oXtYMatrix.data().begin(), oXtYMatrix.data().end()
52 }

```



```

1  template<typename T>
2  std::vector<T> polyval( const std::vector<T>& oCoeff,
3      const std::vector<T>& oX )
4  {
5      size_t nCount = oX.size();
6      size_t nDegree = oCoeff.size();
7      std::vector<T> oY( nCount );
8
9      for ( size_t i = 0; i < nCount; i++ )
10     {
11         T nY = 0;
12         T nXT = 1;
13         T nX = oX[i];
14         for ( size_t j = 0; j < nDegree; j++ )
15         {
16             // multiply current x by a coefficient
17             nY += oCoeff[j] * nXT;
18             // power up the X
19             nXT *= nX;
20         }
21         oY[i] = nY;
22     }
23
24     return oY;
25 }

```

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