

---

Subject: Re: Medical Imaging Question  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 16 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Martin Schultz (m218003@modell3-d.dkrz.de) writes:

>> One of the problems with the above scheme with nuclear medicine images is  
>> that there may be a few pixels that are several magnitude larger than all the  
>> other pixel, therefore using a range 0-100, the max value is set at 100  
>> and everything else falls into the range 0 to 10 for example. This can be  
>> corrected by truncating the max pixel value. Unfortunately, the vendors  
>> seem to be clueless how to do this other than manual trial and error  
>> method.

>>

>>

> maybe I am too loud here, but shouldn't this kind of problem be easily  
> recognized by standard statistical outlier tests? That almost screams for  
> Struan's beloved histogram function, doesn't it? If you need something more  
> sophisticated, it appears that this problem is related to the problem of  
> determining biomass burning fires on satellite images (there they are looking  
> for the hot spots you are trying to exclude). Basically, one would look for  
> outlier values and reject them only if no neighbouring pixel shows similarly  
> high values. But, of course, this takes some processing time...

This sounds like a Median filter to me. Fast, easy, and  
a hell of a lot easier than trying to work through the  
intricacies of the Reverse\_Index keyword. :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. I have to confess that I \*have\* written a modified  
median filter function for a client recently, which only  
applies the filter to user-selected high pixels (cosmic  
rays screwing up the CCD camera in this case). To implement  
it properly I needed to use a Histogram. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting  
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: [davidf@dfanning.com](mailto:davidf@dfanning.com)  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

---