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Subject: Re: connected component labeling problem in a graylevel image without background

Posted by [Ben Tupper](#) on Tue, 15 Oct 2002 16:20:34 GMT

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On Fri, 11 Oct 2002 10:38:48 -0600, David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Julia (julia65201@yahoo.com) writes:

>

>> But I think you kind of misunderstood my problem, maybe due to my not very

>> clear expression. :)

>>

>>>> " The problem is like a grayscale photograph of a jar of

>>>> marbles. Each marble is uniformly gray. All the marbles are touching each

>>>> other, so there is no

>>>> background. Two marbles of the same color may not belong to the same

>>>> region.

>>>> I want to give a unique label to each marble/region."

>>

snip

>

> P.S. Let's just say I'd bet some good money even the

> HISTOGRAM function can't get us out of this one. :-)

Oh! Wait, wait! Maybe you could use histogram! At least, for the easiest of the marbles. Consider an image (dimx, dimy) with a couple of gray circles (gray pixels have index addresses ind).

Start with the indices of each gray level from the original histogram (use reverse\_indices to pull out these indices.) Convert the indices to cartesian coords.

x = ind mod dimx

y = ind/dimx

Use histogram (actually, JD's hist\_nd.pro ... I found it using Google) to manufacture X and Y profiles of the marbles.

```
; hist=HIST_ND(V,BINSIZE,MIN=,MAX=,NBINS=,REVERSE_INDICES=)
```

```
v = transpose([[x],[y]])
```

```
binsz = [1,1]
```

```
hh = hist_nd(v, binsz, min = [0,0], max = [dimx-1, dimy-1])
```

Now, peak at the resulting histograms in each dimension - these will be like profile plots or the original image for each gray level n. (I suppose these could be called shadow plots along each dimension.)

```
!p.multi = [0,1,2]  
Plot, hh[0,*], title = 'x profile'  
Plot, indgen(dimx), hh[1,*], title = 'y profile'
```

If the marbles do not overlap (in a dimension), then the center of mass of each marble along each dimension should be easy to find. If they do overlap - well that's a new kind of problem. I suppose that you are not limited to the X and Y axes - that is, you could develop a profile along any arbitrarily rotated axis. That math gets a bit fuzzy for me after this point, but it should be just a geometry game.

I don't IDL in front of me this morning - so this is cut and pasted from my own wobbly memory (and it still a bit early in the morn'.)

Cheers,  
Ben

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