
Subject: Re: Center of mess

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Tue, 05 Aug 2003 13:45:30 GMT

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Thomas Launey wrote:

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>
> In article <onwudshe4a.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu>,
> craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu says...
>
>>
>> Hmm, the problem is that you are assigning pixel values with DINDGEN,
>> which by default will assign 0.0 to pixel 0, 1.0 to pixel 1, and so
>> on. You should add 0.5 to your pixel values, if you intend that the
>> left edge of the pixel is 0.0, the right edge is 1.0, and the center
>> is 0.5, etc.
>>
>>   Y=Total(total(array,1,/double)*(dindgen(sizarr[1]) + 0.5))/totalarr
>>
>> and so on.
>>
>> Good luck,
>>
>> Craig
>>
> Actually, my solution was to add 0.5D to the returned X and Y. Still, I
> am concerned that this procedure (without the "+0.5") seems to be quite
> widespread in the IDL community to find centroid. Am I misunderstanding
> the meaning of the returned values ...
```

Yes. Craig explained the correct interpretation of the returned values.

It is, in a certain sense, the natural interpretation, because it's the one that is produced by one of the simplest version of the algorithm.

One alternative that would appeal to someone from a Fortran background would be to assign 1.0 to the center of the first row/column, rather than 0.0.
