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Subject: Re: Rapid "moving windows" access in IDL?  
Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Fri, 30 Jan 2004 14:09:14 GMT  
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In article <BC3F7CE8.18DCE%greenberg@ucdavis.edu>, "Jonathan Greenberg" <greenberg@ucdavis.edu> wrote:

> Ok, now to make this a bit more confusing -- in practice, what I will  
> actually be doing is selecting all pixels at about a given distance from  
> the center point, creating a ring of pixels that will be used for the  
> semivariogram. Getting back to an earlier question, is the array  
> subscripting an inherently slow process, and are there "better" and  
> "worse" ways of accessing array elements given an x,y coordinates? More  
> thoughts?  
> --j

Why not make a ring of 1s and 0s..e.g.

```
nx=100  
ny=100
```

```
dist=shift(dist(nx,ny),nx/2, ny/2)  
mask=fltarr(nx,ny)  
mask[*]=0.0  
outer=25  
inner=23
```

```
mask[where(dist lt outer)]=1.0  
mask[where(dist lt inner)]=0.0
```

```
;mask contains a ring of 1s
```

```
ring = mask * data .
```

OR

```
ring = data[where(mask eq 1)]
```

Chris.

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