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Subject: Re: IDL implementation of the rolling ball background subtraction algorithm  
Posted by [helaha](#) on Wed, 18 Aug 2004 06:45:53 GMT

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The rolling ball background subtraction of ImageJ works really good (as most of the ImageJ features), but unfortunately I have no IDL implementation too.

Regards,  
Helmut

pirgon@btinternet.com (Alan) wrote in message  
news:<1ac1caf9.0408170322.251b6380@posting.google.com>...

> Hi,

>

> Does anybody know of an IDL implementation of the rolling ball  
> background subtraction algorithm used in ImageJ (Subtract Background  
> Command). A brief description is as follows:

>

> 'Roll' a filtering object over a (shrunk) image in order to find the  
> image's smooth continuous background. For the purpose of explaining  
> this algorithm, imagine that the 2D grayscale image has a third  
> (height) dimension defined by the intensity value at every point in  
> the image. The center of the filtering object, a patch from the top  
> of a sphere having radius BallRadius, is moved along each scan line of  
> the image so that the patch is tangent to the image at one or more  
> points with every other point on the patch below the corresponding  
> (x,y) point of the image. Any point either on or below the patch  
> during this process is considered part of the background. Shrinking  
> the image before running this procedure is advised due to the  
> fourth-degree complexity of the algorithm.

>

> The ImageJ's Subtract Background command is based on  
> the NIH Image Pascal version by Michael Castle and Janice  
> Keller of the University of Michigan Mental Health Research  
> Institute. Rolling ball algorithm inspired by Stanley  
> Sternberg's article, "Biomedical Image Processing",  
> IEEE Computer, January 1983.

>

> I have the java code - just wondered if it's already been written in  
> IDL or not.

>

> Thank you,

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> Alan

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