Subject: Re: Force Field
Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 13 Sep 2005 18:22:41 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Andres writes:

> I have a potential field on a grid (it has periodic boundary
> conditions), and I want to calculate the acceleration (force field) of
> this, i.e., f=-grad(potential), I need the gradient of the potential .
> I wrote a procedure, but it has to many for loops in it. Does any body
> know a fast and smart way to do this?

Here is a function I use to calculate the gradient of a 2D image:

```
FUNCTION Gradient, image

   ; gradient ~= |Gx| + |Gy|

   COMPILE_OPT idl2

   ; Check parameters.
   ON_ERROR, 2
   IF N_Elements(image) EQ 0 THEN Message, 'Must pass 2D image data.'

   ; Calculate gradient Gx.
   xkernel = [ [-1.0,  0.0,  1.0], [-2.0, 0.0, 2.0], [-1.0, 0.0, 1.0] ]
   gx = Convol( Float(image), xkernel, Center=1, /Edge_Wrap )

   ; Calculate gradient Gy.
   ykernel = [ [-1.0, -2.0, -1.0], [ 0.0, 0.0, 0.0], [ 1.0, 2.0, 1.0] ]
   gy = Convol( Float(image), ykernel, Center=1, /Edge_Wrap )

   RETURN, ABS(gx) + ABS(gy)

END
```

I use it like this:

```
   IDL> TVSCL, Gradient(image2d)
```

Cheers,

David
--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/