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Subject: Re: find the maximum diameter of an object in an image

Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Mon, 10 Oct 2005 20:03:16 GMT

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Jeff N. wrote:

> Hi folks,  
>  
> I have some CT data (of meteorites, not people) that I'm extracting  
> slices of. The actual images I'm taking slices of are images where  
> grains in the image have been set to 1, and everything else set to  
> 0....so these are binary images. What I want to do is take a slice out  
> of the CT volume, find the grains in the slice (which I'm doing with  
> David Fanning's FIND\_BOUNDARY() function), and then find the longest  
> straight line that you can draw through the object (that goes from one  
> boundary, through the center point, and then to the opposite boundary),  
> which is its maximum diameter. FIND\_BOUNDARY() gives me both the  
> outline of the object and the center point, so I have that to work  
> with. It also gives me perimeter and area, so I'm wondering if there  
> isn't some kind of geometry trick that I haven't thought of that will  
> get me what I need. If I do a principal components analysis on the  
> boundary coordinates, wouldn't that be the maximum diameter?  
>  
> If anyone can point me in the right direction, or has some code they'd  
> like to share, I'll be very grateful.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Jeff

Hi Jeff,

It's 0500 here, I've been up since 0330 with a bad sinus headache, and I'm no math-head, but I'll have a go anyway...

I assume that you have the coordinates for every point on the perimeter?

```
for every point do
  calculate dist to centre
  calculate angle to centre (0..359 deg say)
  store dist in an array data[angle]
end
```

The diameter at say 45deg is then data[44] + data[44+180]  
(avoid wrapping beyond 359 of course)

I guess you only need to check from 0..179 anyway, half way around the perimeter?

Should be easy to pull out the maximum in a one liner from there.

Not flash, not hires, but should work?

Cheers,

Andrew (who's on his third coffee...)

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