
Subject: Re: Polygon Clipping Algo in IDL
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Tue, 13 Dec 2005 23:14:12 GMT
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raval.chintan@gmail.com wrote:

> Dear Mark,
>
> How can i give two polygon as an input to your program.
> Suppose i have polygon 1) [[0,0],[0,3],[3,3],[3,0]]
> 2) [[1,1],[1,4],[4,4],[4,1]]
>
> Here my polygons are rectangle. First polygon contains upper left
> point as [0,0] and lower right as [3,3].
> and second polygon contains upper left as [1,1] and lower right as
> [4,4] .
>
> Now my result (output) polygon will contain [1,1] as upper left and
> [3,3] as lower right .
>
> Regards
> Chintan
>

Ok. Let's (arbitrarily) consider the first polygon as the one to be clipped (the clippee) and the second as the one to clip to (the clipper). MGH_POLYCLIP clips a polygon to a line, so we will need to apply it 4 times. It turns out that I have a function that does this, called MGH_POLYBOX, attached. It's not in the Motley library but it probably should be.

The calling sequence is

```
result = MGH_POLYBOX(xclip, yclip, polin)
```

where xclip is a 2-element vector specifying the clipping values in the X direction, yclip is a 2-element vector specifying the clipping values in the Y direction and polin is a [2,n] vector defining the polygon to be clipped.

So in your case

```
IDL> xclip = [1,4]
IDL> yclip = [1,4]
IDL> polin = [[0,0],[0,3],[3,3],[3,0]]
IDL> print, mgh_polybox(xclip, yclip, polin)
      1      1
      1      3
      3      3
```

--

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```

;+
; NAME:
;   MGH_POLYBOX
;
; PURPOSE:
;   Clip an arbitrary polygon on the X-Y plane to a box (a rectangle
;   defined by X and Y limits) using the Sutherland-Hodgman algorithm.
;
; CATEGORY:
;   Graphics, Region of Interest, Geometry
;
; CALLING SEQUENCE:
;   result = MGH_POLYBOX(xclip, yclip, polin, COUNT=count)
;
; RETURN VALUE
;   The function returns [2,n] vector defining the clipped polygon. The
;   second dimension will equal the value of the COUNT argument, except
;   where this is 0 in which the return value is -1.
;
; ARGUMENTS
;   xclip  A 2-element vector specifying the clipping values in the
;          X direction
;
;   yclip  A 2-element vector specifying the clipping values in the
;          Y direction
;
;   polin  A [2,n] vector defining the polygon to be clipped.
;
; KEYWORDS
;   COUNT  Associate this keyword with a named variable to return
;          the number of vertices in the clipped polygon.
;
; PROCEDURE:
;   The polygon is clipped to each edge in turn using the Sutherland-Hodgman
;   algorithm.
;
;   This function is based on JD Smith's POLYCLIP function. He can take all
;   of the credit and none of the blame.
;
; MODIFICATION HISTORY:

```

```
; Mark Hadfield, 2001-10:  
; I wrote thsi first as a stand-alone function, based on JD Smith's  
; POLYCLIP, then modified it so that it just calls MGH_POLYCLIP  
; up to 4 times.  
;-
```

```
function mgh_polybox, xc, yc, polin, COUNT=count  
  
  compile_opt DEFINT32  
  compile_opt STRICTARR  
  
  polout = mgh_polyclip(xc[0], 0B, 0B, polin, COUNT=count)  
  
  if count eq 0 then return, polout  
  
  polout = mgh_polyclip(xc[1], 0B, 1B, polout, COUNT=count)  
  
  if count eq 0 then return, polout  
  
  polout = mgh_polyclip(yc[0], 1B, 0B, polout, COUNT=count)  
  
  if count eq 0 then return, polout  
  
  polout = mgh_polyclip(yc[1], 1B, 1B, polout, COUNT=count)  
  
  return, polout  
  
end
```

File Attachments

1) [mgh_polybox.pro](#), downloaded 153 times
