Hola Oriol,

I haven't read thoroughly your post or your code, but since you say
that "erode" and "dilate" modify separate your ellipses sometimes, it
may be the case that then you have too many individual regions and
your code gets too slow. Instead of using WHERE and SEARCH_2D, you can
use LABEL_REGION and HISTOGRAM to locate individual regions in a much
more efficient way:

```
hst= histogram(label_region(slice, min=1, omax=nreg, rev=r)
for j=0L, nreg-1 do begin
  region= r[r[j]:r[j+1]-1]
  ...
  numpts= hst[j]
  ...
endfor
```

Also, instead of dilate and erode, you could simply use the MEDIAN
function to remove small regions or holes within small regions

Bona sort!

Guillermo