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Subject: Re: Getting x and y positions from a mask  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 28 Jul 2011 21:06:26 GMT  
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S. Murray writes:

> I am trying to obtain pixels coordinates of all the pixels within a  
> very specific mask that I have created (thresholded contour in an  
> image, but just one of the thresholded contours of the image, not all  
> of them). Firstly, I used the contour procedure (path\_xy, path\_info,  
> getting data coordinates...) and then used objects to get my mask from  
> this- something along the lines of here:  
>  
> [http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl\\_html\\_help/Programmatically\\_Defining\\_ROIs.html](http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl_html_help/Programmatically_Defining_ROIs.html)  
>  
> I used 'mask\_rule=2' so that I have a mask of all pixels falling on  
> or within a the regions boundary. I now have this mask array, which is  
> just a 2d byte array:  
>  
> IDL> help,mask  
> MASK        BYTE     = Array[151, 151]  
>  
> I want to find out what the x and y coordinates are of all pixels that  
> are '1's' in 'mask'. I wish to run a procedure on all pixels within  
> this contoured region but I cant figure out how to make an array of  
> the x and y coordinates. I know I could get the contour path pixels by  
> typing something like this from just the contour procedure:  
>  
> line = [ LINDGEN( path\_info[i].n ), 0 ]  
> path\_coords=path\_xy[\* , path\_info[i].offset + line]  
>  
> But this does not include ALL pixels within the contoured region. I've  
> only ever come across the cursor procedure before which saves x and y  
> positions after clicking on the x display, however this won't exactly  
> be very useful for all 568 pixels in the mask!  
>  
> Does anyone have any ideas? I don't know if its just because I'm not  
> proficient enough in IDL yet or if its because I've been working on  
> this for too long, but I have a feeling its a simple enough procedure  
> if I figure out what to use!

I'd do something like this:

```
indices = Where(mask EQ 1)
xy = Array_Indices(mask, indices)
x = Reform(xy[0,*])
y = Reform(xy[1,*])
```

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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