

---

Subject: Re: FG question: retrieve points within polygon  
Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Thu, 04 Dec 2014 14:32:24 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Thursday, December 4, 2014 2:51:28 PM UTC+1, alx wrote:

> On Thursday, December 4, 2014 10:50:42 AM UTC+1, Helder wrote:

>> Hi,

>> I'm looking for an easier way to get the indices inside a polygon or ellipse created in function graphics.

>> So here is a basic example that states what I want to do:

>>

>> ;first generate the graphics

>> img = dist(600)

>> w = window(dimensions=[500,500])

>> im = image(img, current=w)

>> pl = polygon([0.25,0.75,0.75,0.25],[0.25,0.25,0.75,0.75],/norm,ta rget=im)

>> ;make some changes to the polygon

>> pl.rotate, 12

>>

>> ;now extract the mean value of the points of the image that are inside the polygon

>>

>> pl->getData, xx, yy

>> o = obj\_new('idlanroi', xx\*600d, yy\*600d, /double, type=2)

>> mask = o->ComputeMask(dimensions=[600,600])

>> obj\_destroy, o

>> pts = where(mask, cnt)

>> meanVal = mean(img[pts])

>> print, 'the mean value inside the polygon is ', meanVal

>>

>>

>>

>> So this method works fine. It's maybe not the most obvious, but works. Now the question is... How do I get the same result for an ellipse?

>> Of course I could calculate the perimeter points of the ellipse and use the same method as above, but that would not really be... well ... cool.

>>

>> Any better way to do this? I couldn't find any FG method to get such info.

>>

>> Thanks,

>> Helder

>

> If you could plot an ellipse with FG, you know its equation from the parameters (center, axes, orientation) you have given in the call. Let it be  $F(x,y)=0$ .

> Then the indices of the (x,y) points inside the ellipse are those for which  $F(x,y)$  is strictly negative.

> alx.

Hi Alx,

I wanted to avoid doing myself the calculation, but even trying I found that it is not that possible. It seems like the `ellipse()` function simply generates a `polygon()` function. Once created, I could not retrieve the center or radius (major or minor) and cannot therefore compute using the ellipse equation. What I can do is use the undocumented `getData` method as I would for a polygon and then proceed as if it were a polygon.

Still, a mask method would be a nice add to the FG.

Cheers,  
Helder

---