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Subject: Re: finding star-like objects in images

Posted by [Markus Schmassmann](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2017 10:25:39 GMT

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On 11/08/2017 11:12 AM, Helder wrote:

- > I'm not an astronomer and I guess that this is something that
- > astronomers have been confronted with quite often in their lives.
- > I have a detector where particle events generate intensity across
- > some pixels (2-5 x 2-5) [\*]. Typically their integral intensity is
- > constant (lets say 100 +/- 20). These events show over a noisy bkg.
- > Apart from having a constant intensity, these events are similar to
- > stars (that have a varying luminosity).
- >
- > What approaches are typically used for detecting/locating such
- > events?
- >
- > Any IDL solution readily available out there?
- >
- > Thanks for reading so far and for any suggestions.
- >
- > [\*] - threshold methods would not work very well, because the total
- > intensity of 100 may be distributed over 2x2 pixels (~25 per pixel)
- > or 5x5 (~10 per pixel).

Hi Helder,

just a guess, but have you tried

```
star=where(smooth(img,[5,5]) gt 100./5^2/2)
```

you will have to change the threshold value and maybe also how much smoothing you apply, but it could work.

good luck, Markus

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