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Subject: Re: finding star-like objects in images  
Posted by [Helder](#) on Mon, 27 Nov 2017 11:29:24 GMT  
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On Wednesday, 8 November 2017 15:24:00 UTC+1, wlandsman wrote:

- > You could try find.pro based on a popular software package(DAOPHOT) used by astronomers
- > <https://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/idlphot/find.pro>
- > The image is convolved with a lowered Gaussian with the approximate FWHM of the stars.
- >
- > Note, though, that astronomers want to detect stars but not cosmic rays so there are sharpness and roundness criteria (with stars being less sharp and more round than cosmic rays).
- >
- > --Wayne
- >

> On Wednesday, November 8, 2017 at 5:12:06 AM UTC-5, Helder wrote:

- >> Hi,
- >> 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.
- >>
- >> Regards,
- >> Helder
- >>
- >> [\*] - 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).

Dear Markus and Wayne,  
thank you very much for your insight. It took me some time implement the above (as part of a bigger analysis) and I'm now very happy with it.  
Regards,  
Helder

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