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Subject: Re: IDLanROI Confusion

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 04 Apr 2001 21:47:56 GMT

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davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

> Folks,  
>  
> Alright. I admit it. I don't get it. :-(  
>  
> I want to use the IDLanROI object to calculate  
> the perimeter, centroid, and area of a region of interest.  
> But I'm not sure the values can be trusted. Here is an  
> example.  
...  
> Here are the results. 15% error in the perimeter is pretty large!  
>  
> Calculated Perimeter: 362.61017  
> Expected Perimeter: 314.159  
> Discrepancy in Perimeter (percent): 115.42240%  
>  
> Calculated Area: 7691.5000  
> Expected Area: 7853.98  
> Discrepancy in Area (percent): 97.931216%  
>  
> Calculated Centroid: 199.50135 200.25225  
> Expected Centroid: 200 200  
>  
> Am I doing something wrong, or should I believe these numbers?  
> The same exercise with a square region produced accurate numbers.  
>  
> My expected ROI's are not squares or circles, but they are  
> much closer to circles than squares.

What do you mean, they aren't squares or circles? If it isn't a circle then you won't get a perfect match to the theory, right?

More than likely the region of interest becomes pixelated into square pixels. It's pretty clear to me that this will give a greater perimeter than a true circle since there are more horizontal and vertical segments than are required.

What happens if you make the circle much much bigger? I think then the answers will converge to what you expect.

Craig

--

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL:    craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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Subject: Re: IDLanROI Confusion  
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Wed, 04 Apr 2001 23:55:14 GMT  
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"Craig Markwardt" <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
news:onitkkcp6b.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu...

>  
> More than likely the region of interest becomes pixelated into square  
> pixels. It's pretty clear to me that this will give a greater  
> perimeter than a true circle since there are more horizontal and  
> vertical segments than are required.  
>  
> What happens if you make the circle much much bigger? I think then  
> the answers will converge to what you expect.

I don't.

Consider a pixelated diagonal line segment. The length along the pixel edges  
will exceed the true (along-diagonal) length by  $\sqrt{2}$ , however fine you  
pixelate it.

---  
Mark Hadfield  
m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz    <http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield>  
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research

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Subject: Re: IDLanROI Confusion  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 05 Apr 2001 03:20:44 GMT  
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Mark Hadfield (m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz) writes:

>> What happens if you make the circle much much bigger? I think then  
>> the answers will converge to what you expect.  
>  
> I don't.  
>  
> Consider a pixelated diagonal line segment. The length along the pixel edges  
> will exceed the true (along-diagonal) length by  $\sqrt{2}$ , however fine you

> pixelate it.

Well, I've done the experiment (easy with IDL :-)  
and I find that the area seems to converge, but  
the perimeter seems to remain about 15-17% larger  
than I expect it to be. I am now trying to  
figure out a clever way to add up the straight  
line distance between points without using a loop.  
(And without resorting to JD.) I'll let you know  
what I find. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say that 15% is probably right at the  
border of the other, unavoidable, errors in my analysis,  
but it is big enough to worry me.

--

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: IDLanROI Confusion  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 05 Apr 2001 18:18:41 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt ([craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu)) writes:

> More than likely the region of interest becomes pixelated into square  
> pixels. It's pretty clear to me that this will give a greater  
> perimeter than a true circle since there are more horizontal and  
> vertical segments than are required.

It is true that this perimeter measurement is affected  
by pixelation. I've found that by first smoothing the  
data before I calculate the ISOCONTOUR, then using  
those values for the IDLanROI object, I can get  
within a couple of percent of the actual value, as  
opposed to the normal 15-17%.

By the way, I just noticed that the connectivity  
and vertices values on the ISOCONTOUR command are  
actually reversed from what is printed in the on-line

help. That may explain a bit of my confusion. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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