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Subject: creating elliptically shaped images  
Posted by [mruschin](#) on Mon, 24 Nov 2003 15:12:37 GMT  
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I'd like to form an image which has an elliptical shape and where all the pixels within this ellipse have values corresponding to any given function that I would specify, the simplest example being a uniform image (i.e. a value of 1 for all the pixels in the ellipse). Is there any nice way to do this in IDL or MATLAB other than looping through all the pixels and determining whether any given one lies within the ellipse?

Mark

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Subject: Re: creating elliptically shaped images  
Posted by [condor](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2003 17:24:55 GMT  
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mruschin@hotmail.com (mark) wrote in message  
news:<a9116224.0311240712.618f4088@posting.google.com>...  
> I'd like to form an image which has an elliptical shape and where all  
> the pixels within this ellipse have values corresponding to any given  
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> any nice way to do this in IDL or MATLAB other than looping through  
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> ellipse?

In IDL at least, you can send raw strings to your output device.  
Depending on the device, you could use that to send clipping  
instructions.

If you were plotting into a PostScript file for example, this might  
look vaguely like this:

```
;; Some random dots to plot:  
x=randomu(seed,5000)  
y=randomu(seed,5000)
```

```
set_plot,'PS'  
device,/landscape
```

```
;; plot without clipping to show where the dots are:
```

```
plot,x,y,psym=3
```

:: PS clipping path -- here vaguely elliptical, but could be anything:

```
clipstring='currentpoint 37 rotate 1 .5 scale '+$  
'newpath 15000 5000 5000 0 360 arc clip '+$  
'1 2 scale -37 rotate newpath moveto'
```

```
device,output=clipstring
```

:: plot again with different psym to illustrate clipping:

```
oplot,x,y,psym=4
```

```
device,/close  
set_plot,'X'
```

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Subject: Re: creating elliptically shaped images

Posted by [Paul Sorenson](#) on Wed, 03 Dec 2003 23:03:21 GMT

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mruschin@hotmail.com (mark) wrote in message

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```

```
>
```

This sounds like a job for IDLanROI::ContainsPoints. It can identify what points are in a region without requiring a loop.

-Paul Sorenson

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