
Subject: Re: not-quite median filter

Posted by [Gray](#) on Thu, 30 Sep 2010 20:29:18 GMT

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On Sep 30, 3:38 pm, JJ <j...@cornell.edu> wrote:

> I would like to do something that is similar to, but not quite the
> same as, a median filter to a 2D array. Instead of choosing the
> median value in a box surrounding each pixel, I would like to choose
> the value in that box that occurs most frequently.
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> For example, if I had
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> times, which is more than the 8 instances of the value 3 or the 7
> instances of the value 2).
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> Can anyone think of a clever way to do this that would be fast in IDL
> (ie, no looping through the pixels)? I need it to work for box sizes
> up to around 21. Ties may be broken arbitrarily.
>
> Is there already a name for this concept?
>
> Thanks.
>
> -Jonathan

So you're using a "mode" filter. Try `max(histogram(pixels))`. You should be careful to choose your binsize appropriately if you have non-integer data, however; or, alternatively you can use my statistical mode which finds the mode of a continuous distribution by maximizing the kernel density estimation. If you'd like the code for that, let me know.

Subject: Re: not-quite median filter

Posted by [jeanh](#) on Thu, 30 Sep 2010 20:51:42 GMT

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On 30/09/2010 3:38 PM, JJ wrote:

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Hi,
 this is what I use (similar to Gray's suggestion)

```
function getMajority,data, central=central
;This function returns the majority value of the input array.
;If there is a tie, a random mode is returned.
;If the central keyword is specified, if there is a tie and the value of
the central cell of the array is in one of
;the mode, then this value is returned.
;
;
;Written by Jean-Gabriel Hasbani (firstname@lastname.ca)
;December 2007
```

```
majority = -1
;Use histogram to find the mode
histo = histogram(data, min=0, r=ri)
;Get the number of time the mode(s) value is repeated
MaxVal = max(histo)
;Find every entry in the histogram that have this frequency
maxValInd = where(histo eq maxVal, count)
```

```

;If there is only 1 mode, return its value
if count eq 1 then return, data[ri[ri[maxValInd]]]

;else, look at all the possible values (modes) and return a random one

;If the keyword is specified, if the central cell is of the type of one
of the majority, return this value
if keyword_set(central) then begin
  ;get the central cell value
  centralValue = data[n_elements(data)/2 - 1]
  ;For each mode, get the value and compare is with the central value
  for i = 0, count-1 do begin
    histoData = data[ri[ri[maxValInd[i]]]]
    if histoData eq centralValue then return, centralValue
  endfor
endif

;Create a random index
randomID = randomu(seed,count)
randomID = (sort(randomID))[0]

;return the random mode value
return, data[ri[ri[maxValInd[randomID]]]]
end

```

Jean

Subject: Re: not-quite meidan filter
 Posted by [JJ](#) on Thu, 30 Sep 2010 21:06:01 GMT
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```

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> mode which finds the mode of a continuous distribution by maximizing
> the kernel density estimation. If you'd like the code for that, let
> me know.

```

I think I see what you're suggesting, but unless I'm missing something, it seems that I would still have to loop over all the pixels in my image - which is exactly what I don't want to do. It's good to know the name "mode" though.

I have worked up a solution which will work as long as I have a limited number of possible values - my test case is only 53 distinct values, which is OK. I create a 3D array with a slice for each distinct value, where value of each slice is the coverage (0 or 1) for that particular value. I then convol each slice with a simple box kernel filled with 1's, which gives me number of instances of that value in the box. Then I do a max (dim = 3) on the cube and get the "max_subscripts", which I can then easily convert to the distinct value that I want.

This method is reasonably fast (especially compared to how long a loop would take), but seems a little clunky and might cause trouble with a lot more values. Come to think of it though, I don't need the whole cube - I could just process one value at a time and just keep the maximum so far.

Any better solutions appreciated.

Thanks.

-Jonathan

Subject: Re: not-quite meidan filter

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Sep 2010 21:22:46 GMT

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JJ writes:

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>
> Is there already a name for this concept?

I don't know. This article might give you some ideas, though:

http://www.dfanning.com/idl_way/smregval.html

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: not-quite meidan filter

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Fri, 01 Oct 2010 11:42:56 GMT

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On Sep 30, 3:38 pm, JJ <j...@cornell.edu> wrote:

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> -Jonathan

Any non-loop solution I've thought of is going to require a lot of memory, since you're going to end up storing one slice for each central pixel. For images of size no more than 21, that might be okay, but it won't work much larger. I'd do something like this:

- create an array with each filter-box-over-an-individual-pixel as a separate 2D slice in a 3D array
- use VALUE_LOCATE to map your values onto simple integers from 0 to N-1
- increment the values in slice #i by $i*N$ so that the values in each slice are unique
- perform the histogram, for which entries $i*N$ through $(i+1)*N-1$ are the repeat counts for slice i
- reform the histogram into a 2D array, N by n_slices, and run SORT_ND on it so that you know where the maximum histogram value for each slice is
- subtract back out $i*N$ from that value, reform back to the original dimensions, and do the reverse mapping to go back to your values

-Jeremy.
