



Feature Extraction in Python

PoL Bio-Image Analysis Training School & Symposium

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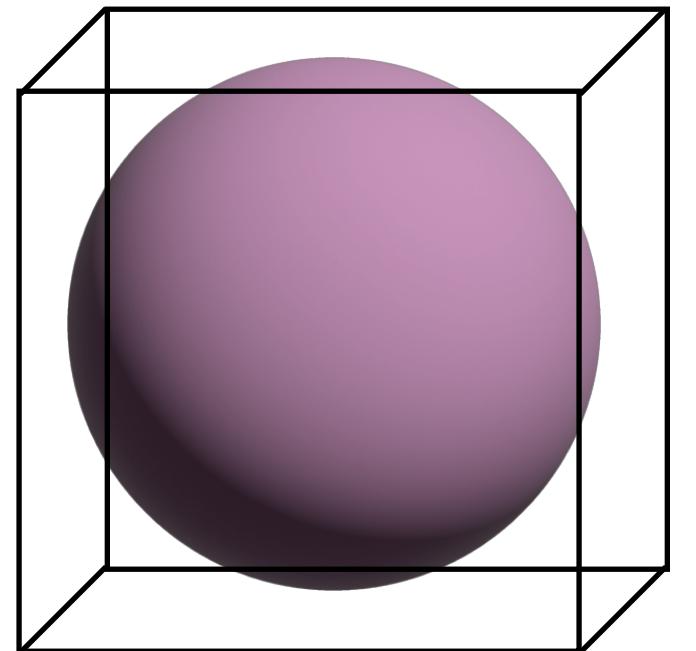
What defines a feature?

a quantification or relationship that describes your system

What do we need to consider first?

object type, neighbourhoods, structuring elements... → feature categories

Feature Classes: Size

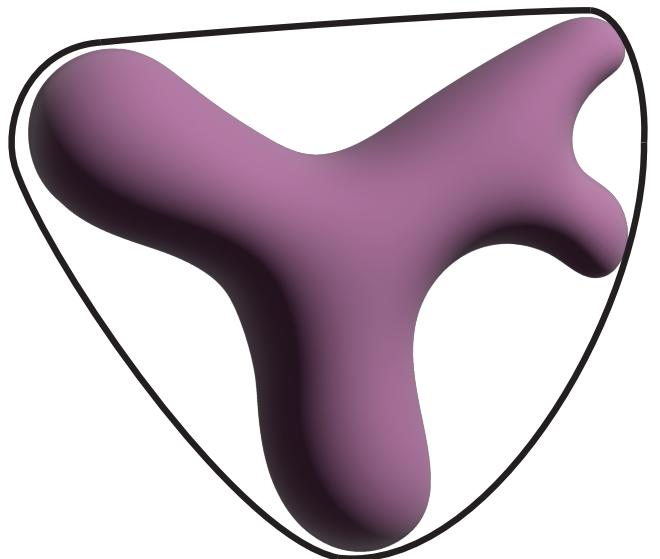


bounding box

pixel/voxel count

area; volume
(scaling info req)

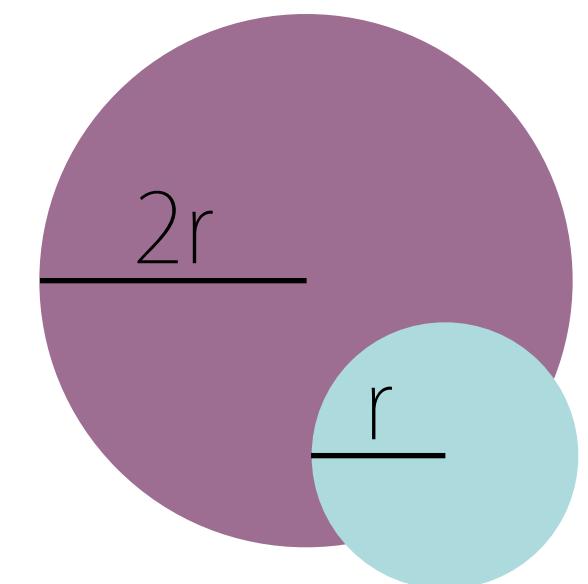
perimeter;
surface area



convex hull

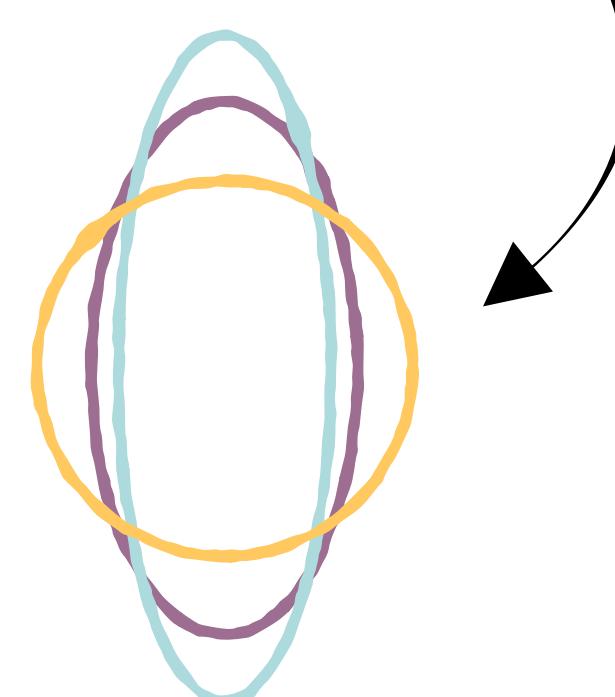


convex
area/volume

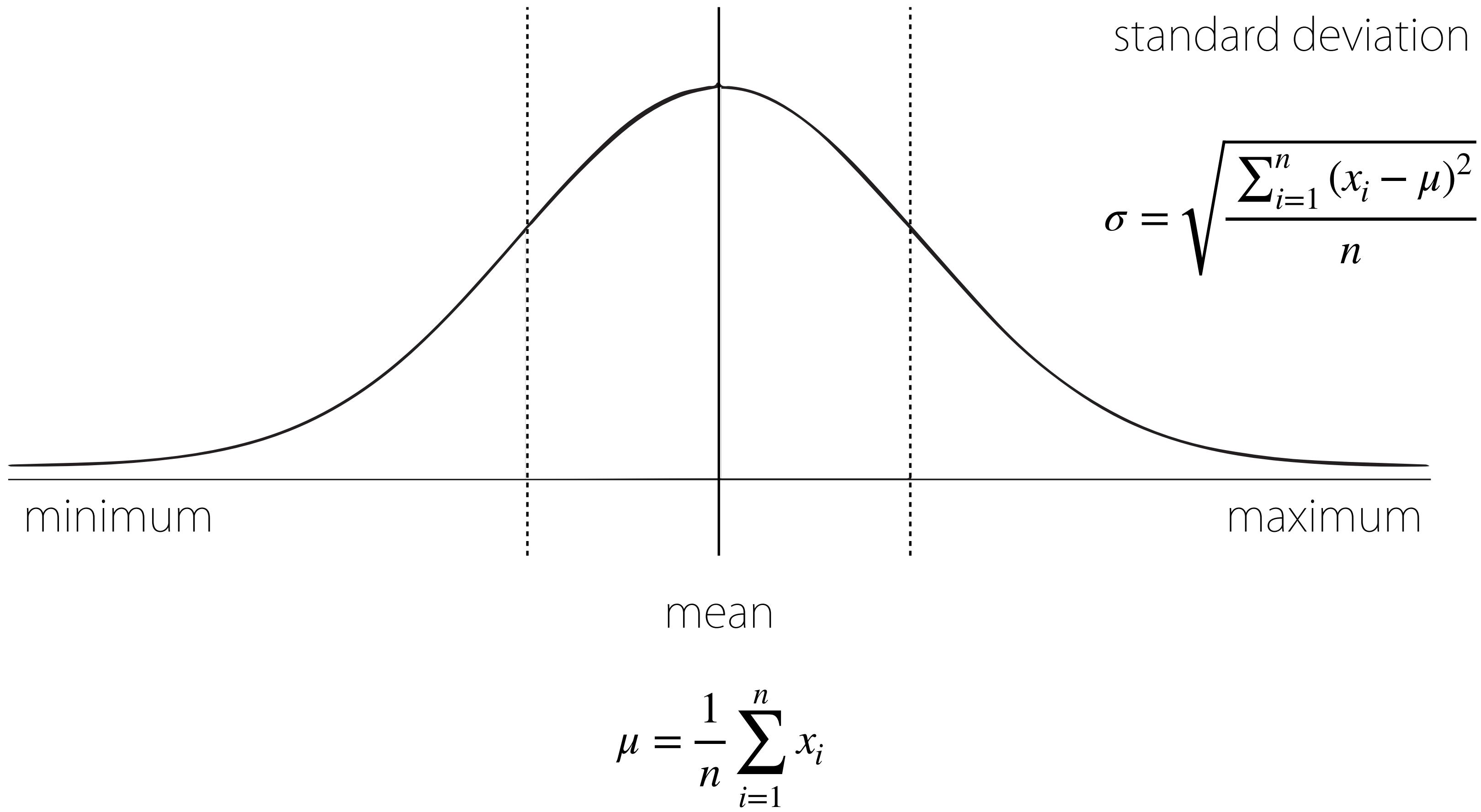


equivalent
diameter/axes
spherical fit

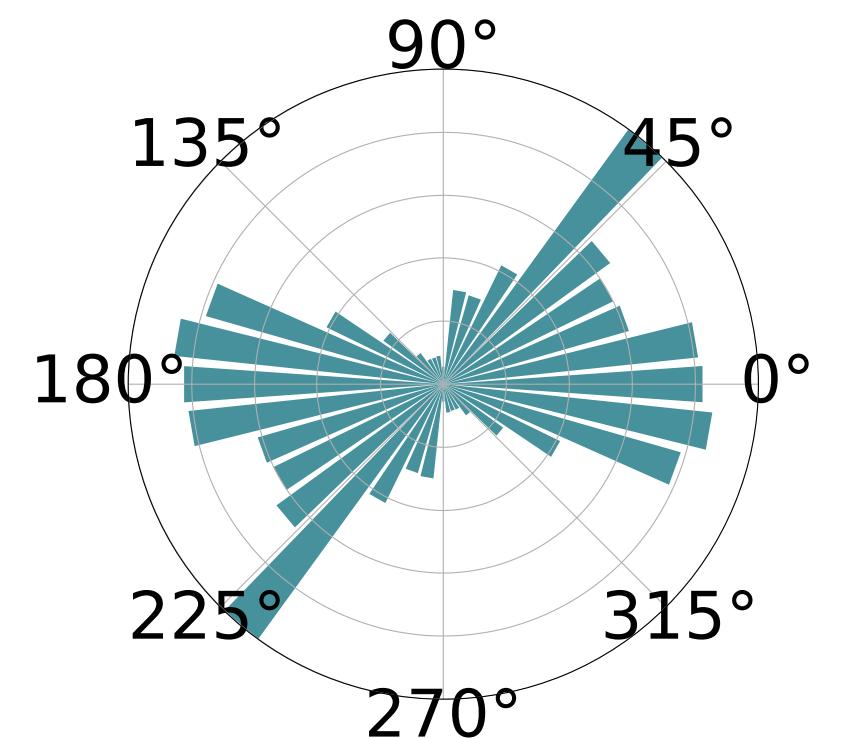
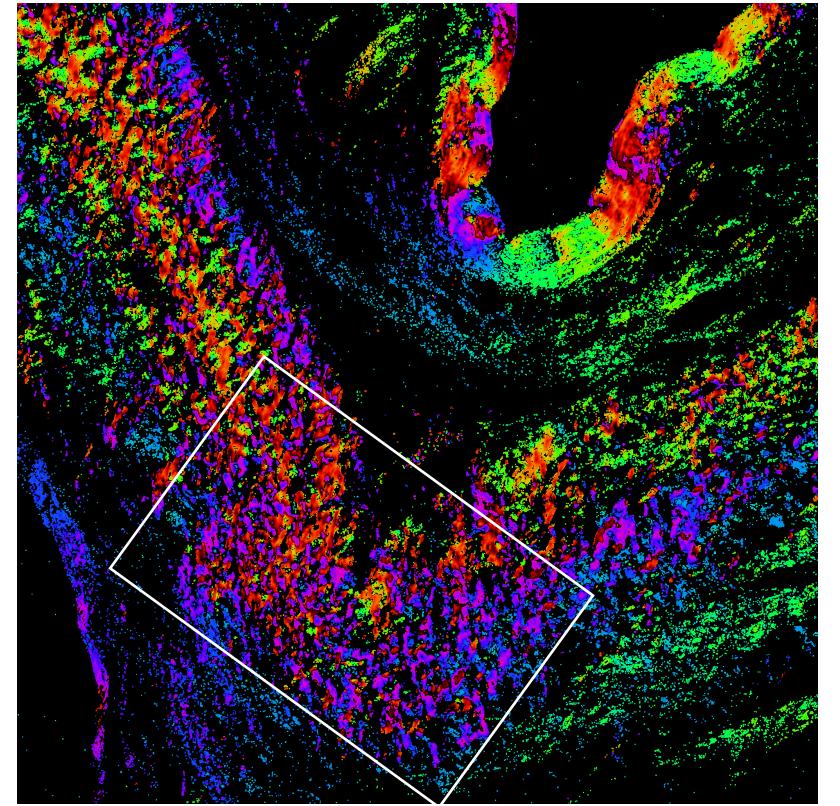
ellipsoidal fit



Feature Classes: Intensity

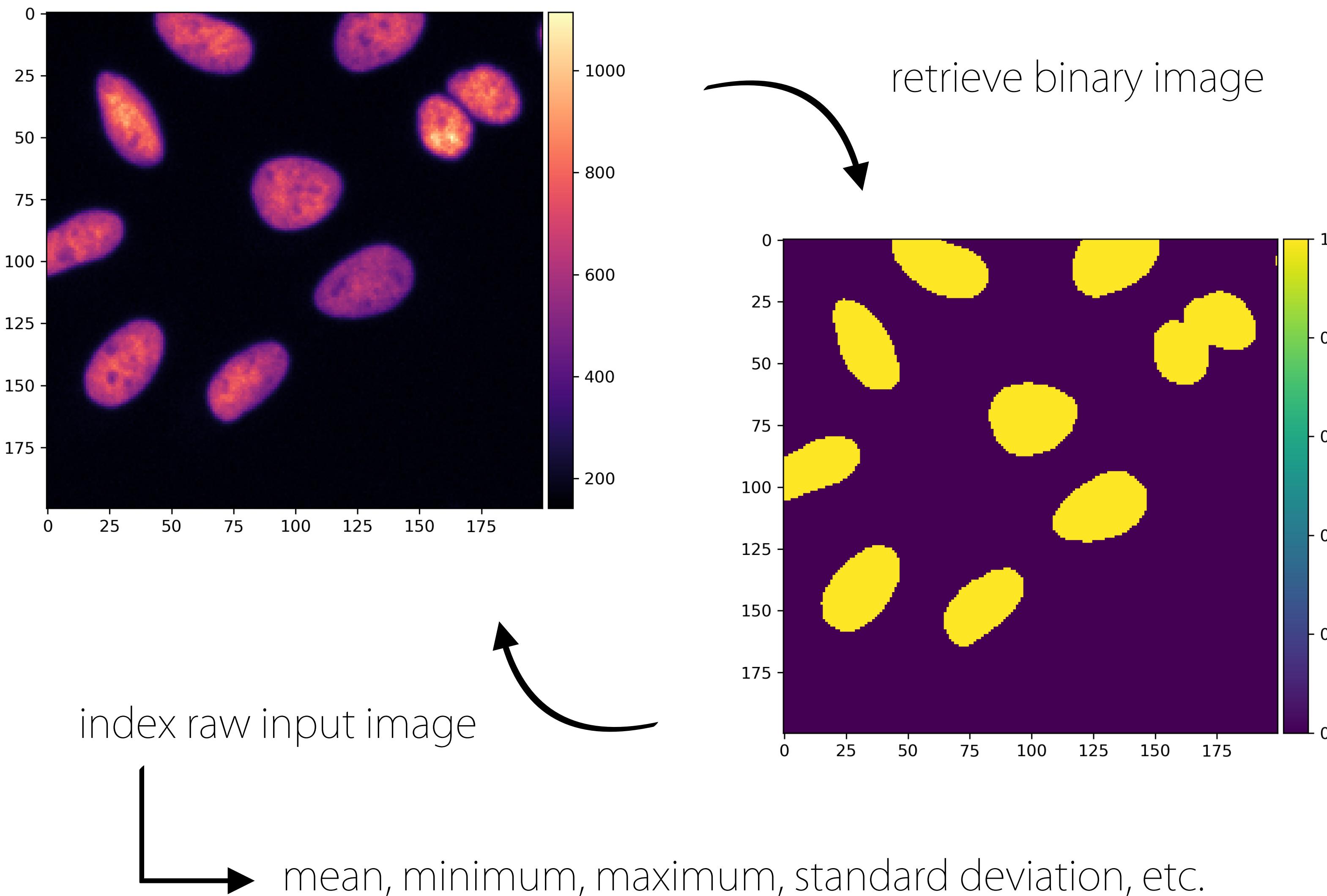


sum, median, variance, etc.

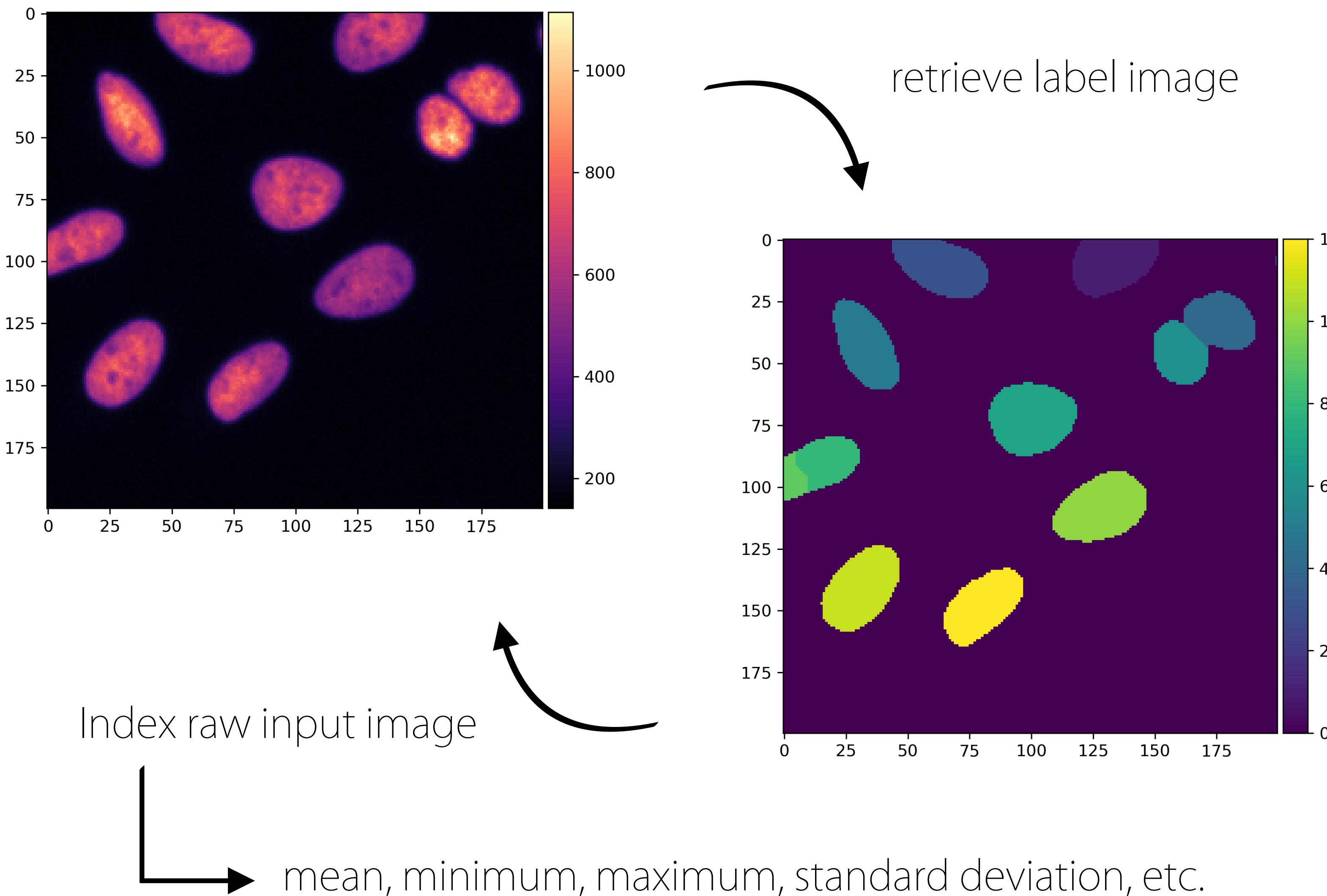


(subclass: texture)

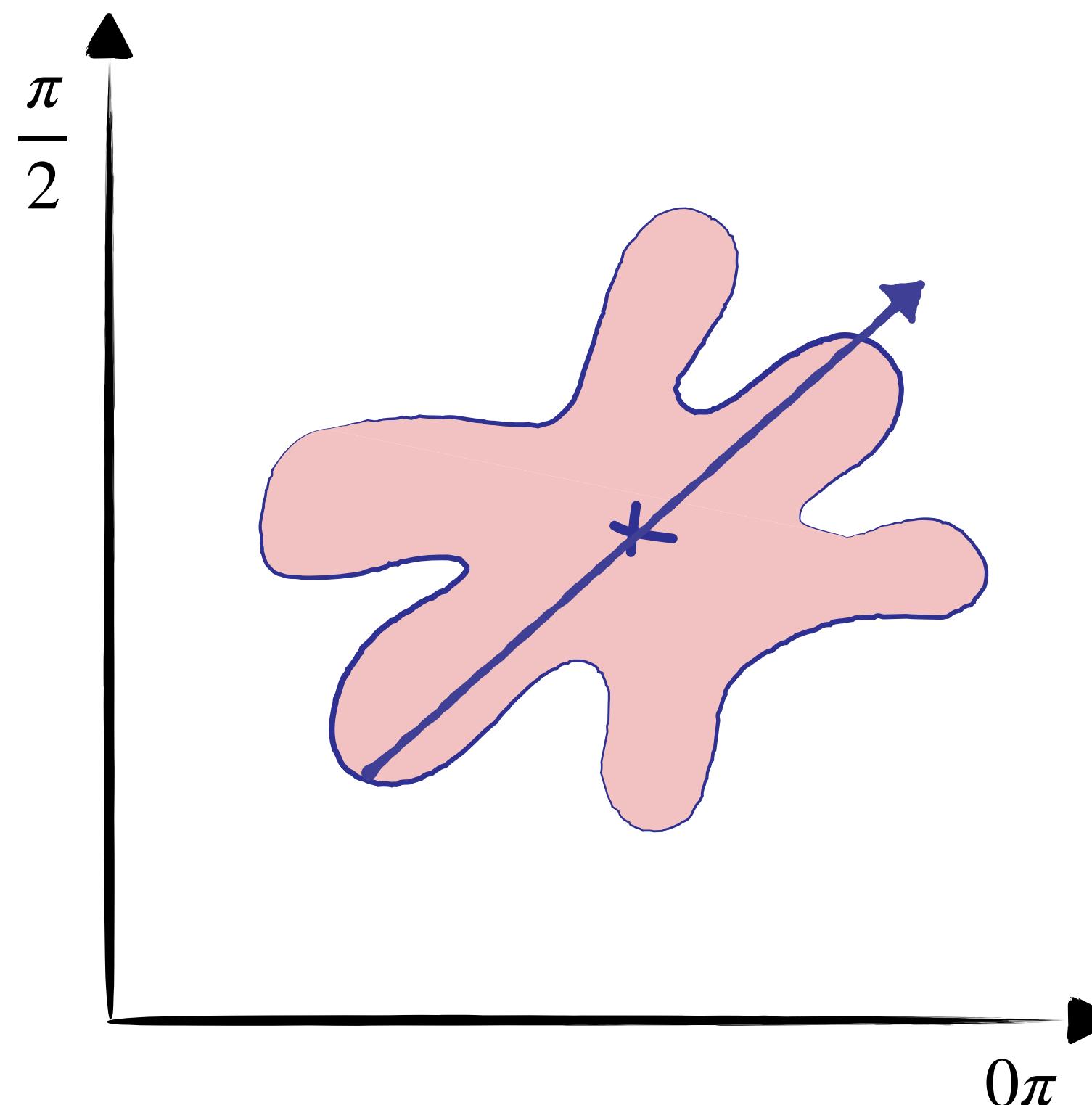
Intensity: all foreground objects



Intensity: individual objects



Feature Classes: Position & Moments



✗ centroid/centre of mass/
weighted center

$$\mathbf{R} = \frac{1}{M} \iiint_Q \rho(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r} dV$$

orientation

$$v = \langle x, y \rangle$$

1st moment
centre of mass

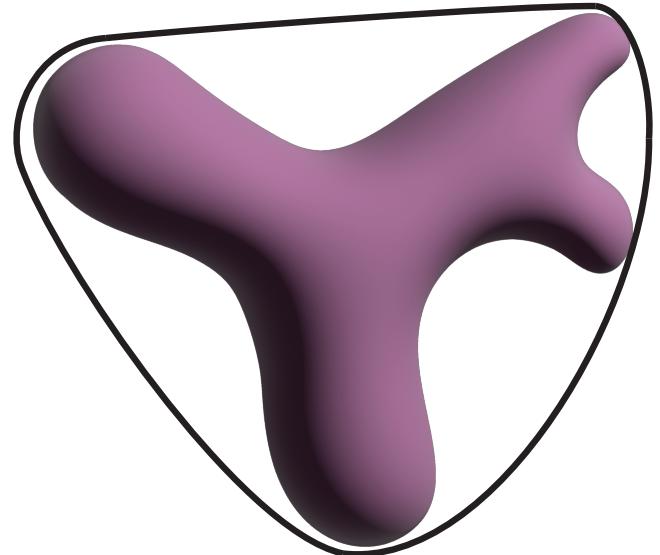
2nd moment
intertial; variance

3rd moment
shape assymmetry ;
skewness

Feature Classes: Shape

solidity

$$S = \frac{V_{obj}}{V_{ch}}$$



sphericity

$$\psi = \frac{\pi^{1/3} (6V)^{2/3}}{SA}$$

roundness

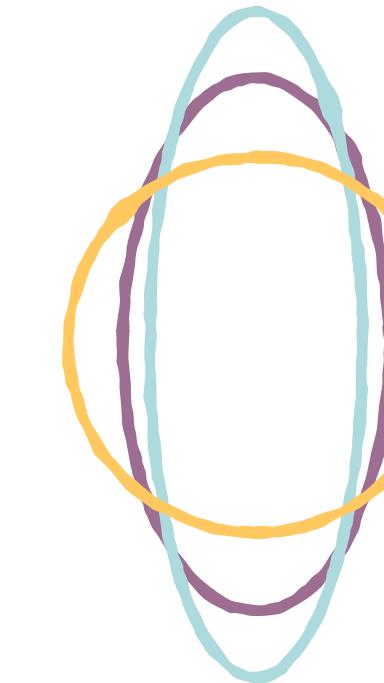
$$R = \frac{4\pi A_{obj}}{P_{ch}^2}$$

aspect ratio (**eccentricity**)

$$ar = \frac{l_{major}}{l_{minor}}$$

OR

$$ar = \frac{l_{minor}}{l_{major}}$$

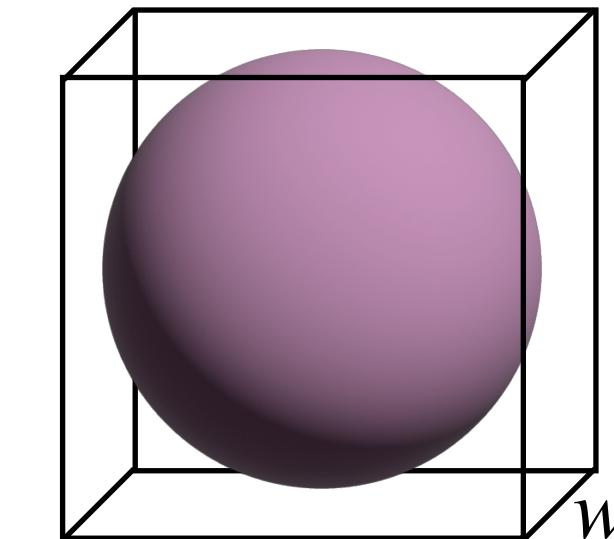


circularity

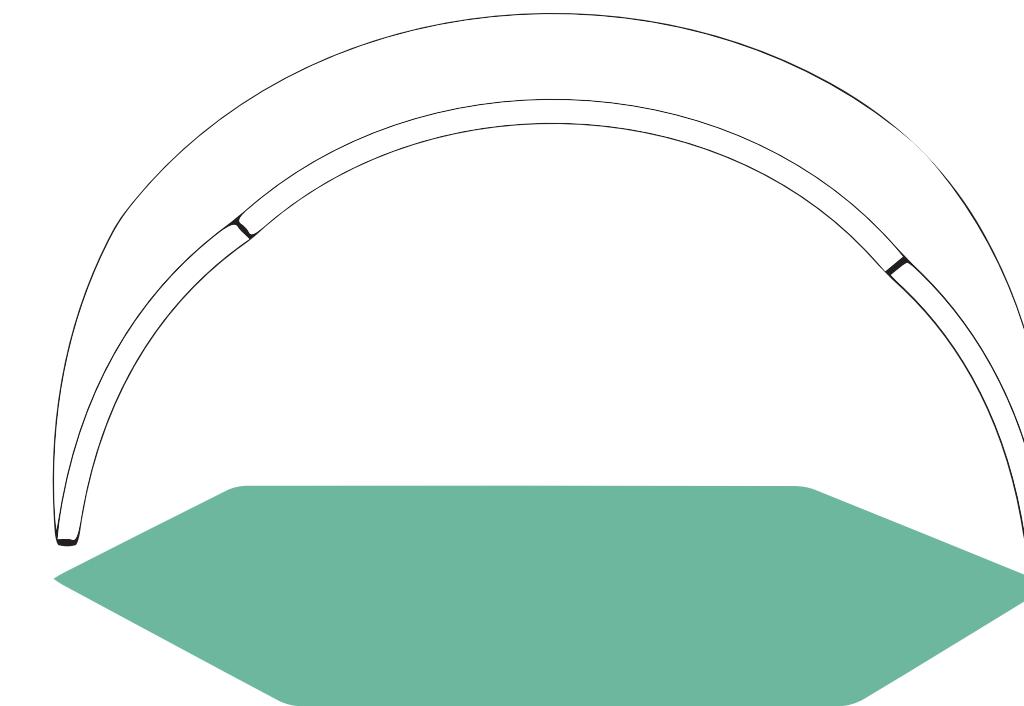
$$C = \frac{4\pi A}{P^2}$$

elongation

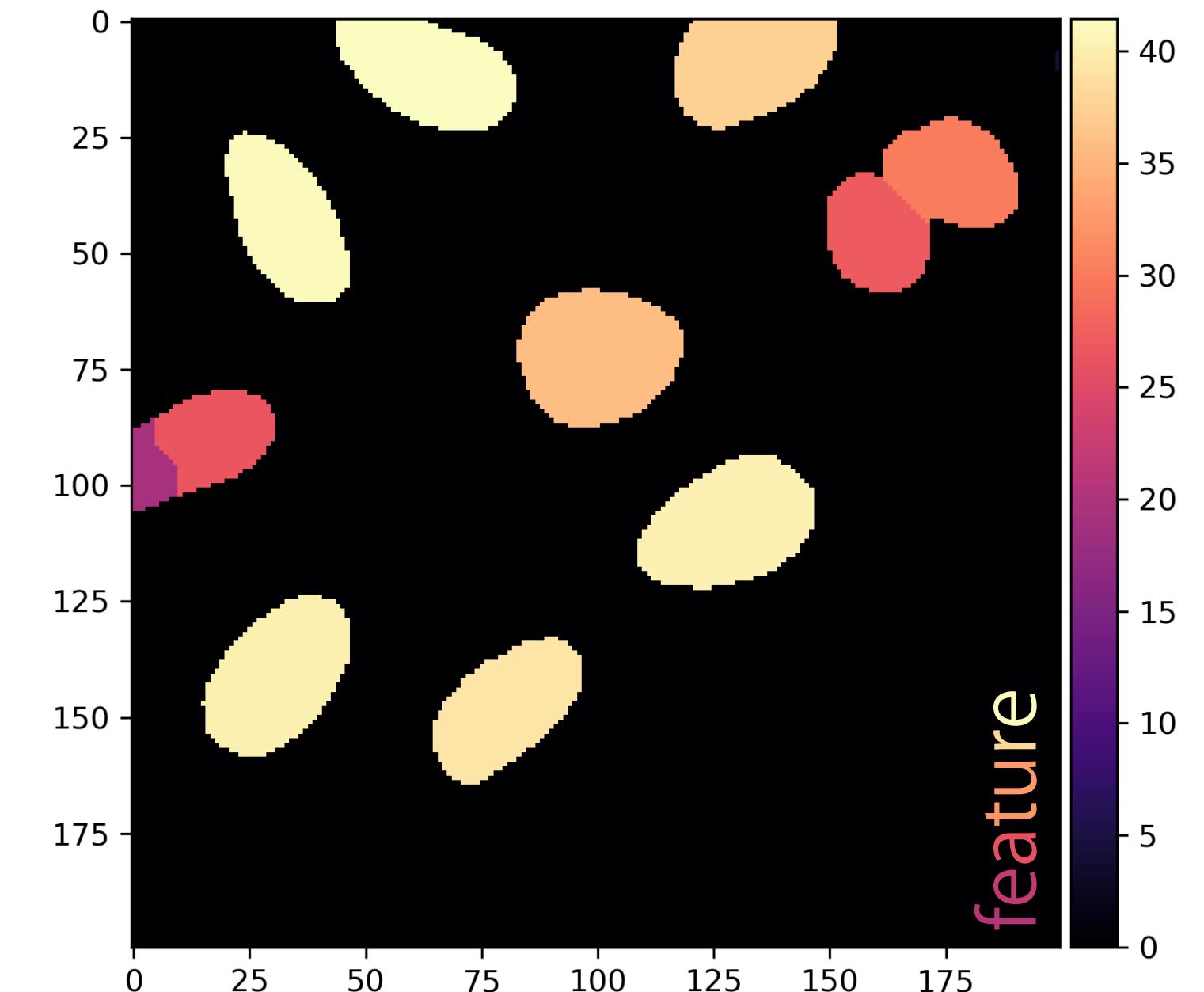
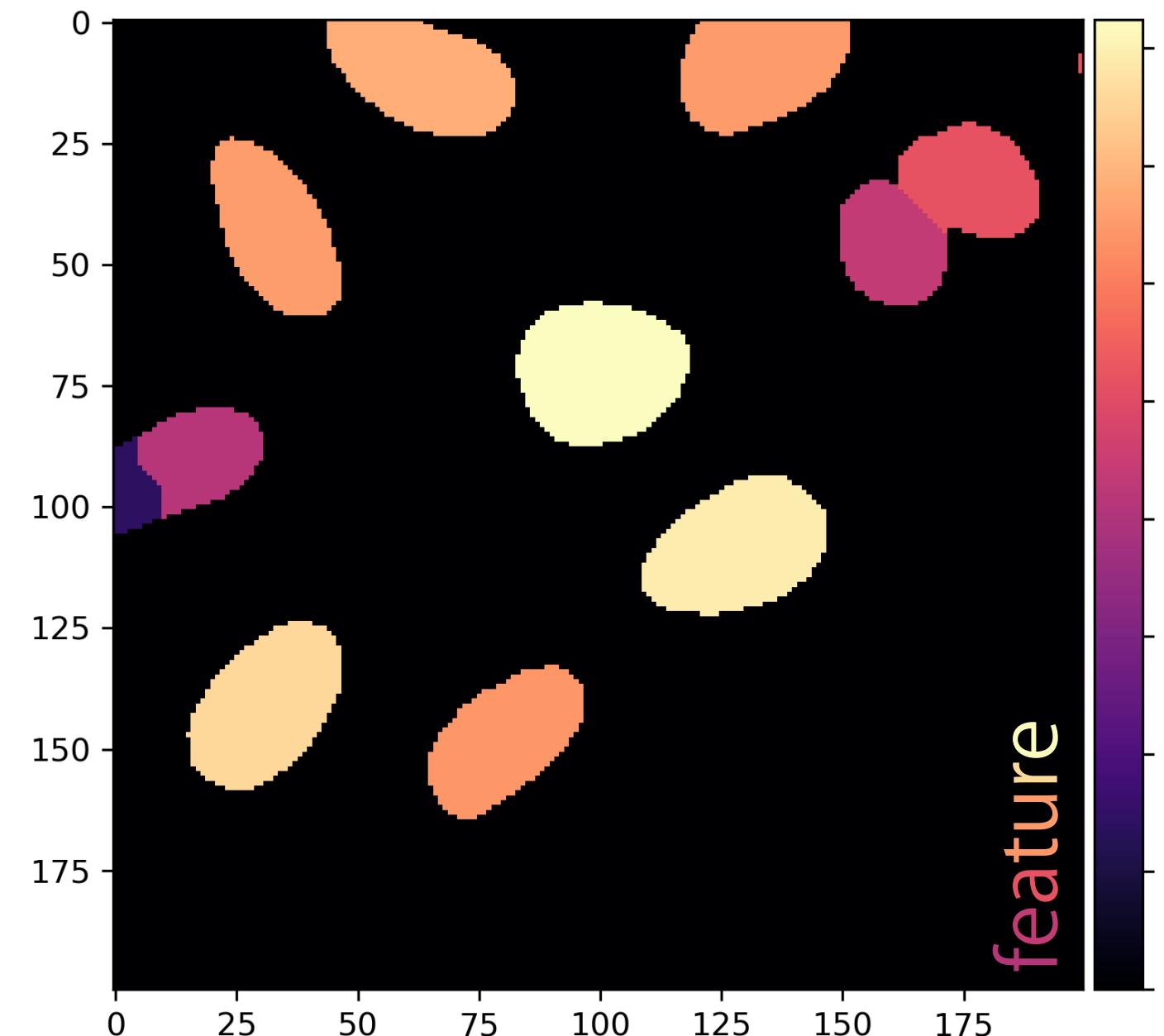
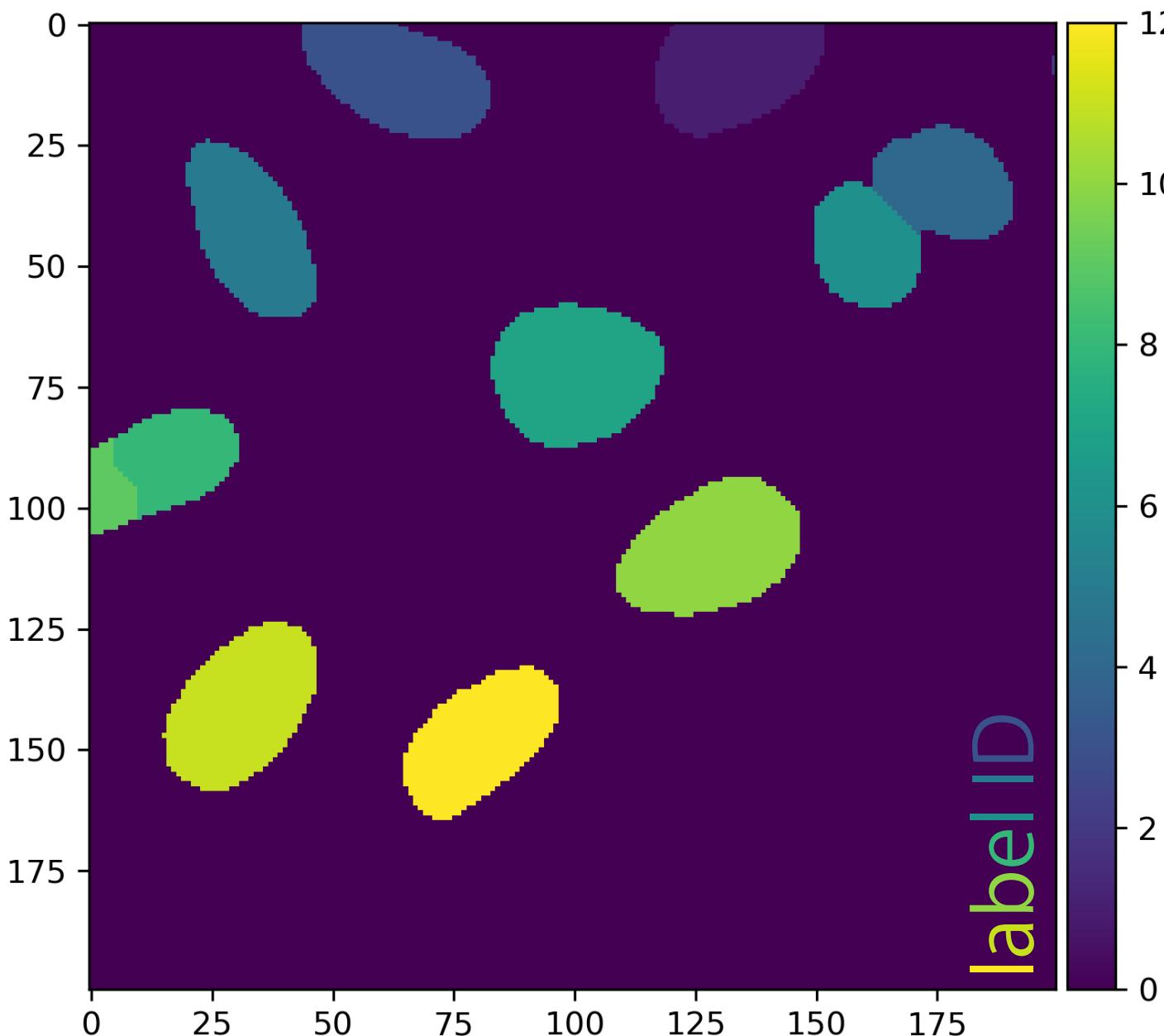
$$f = \frac{w_{bbox}}{l_{bbox}}$$



flatness
(projection)



Pitfalls in measurement robustness.



Discretisation
impacts
measurements!

size
2D: area & perimeter
3D: volume & surface area

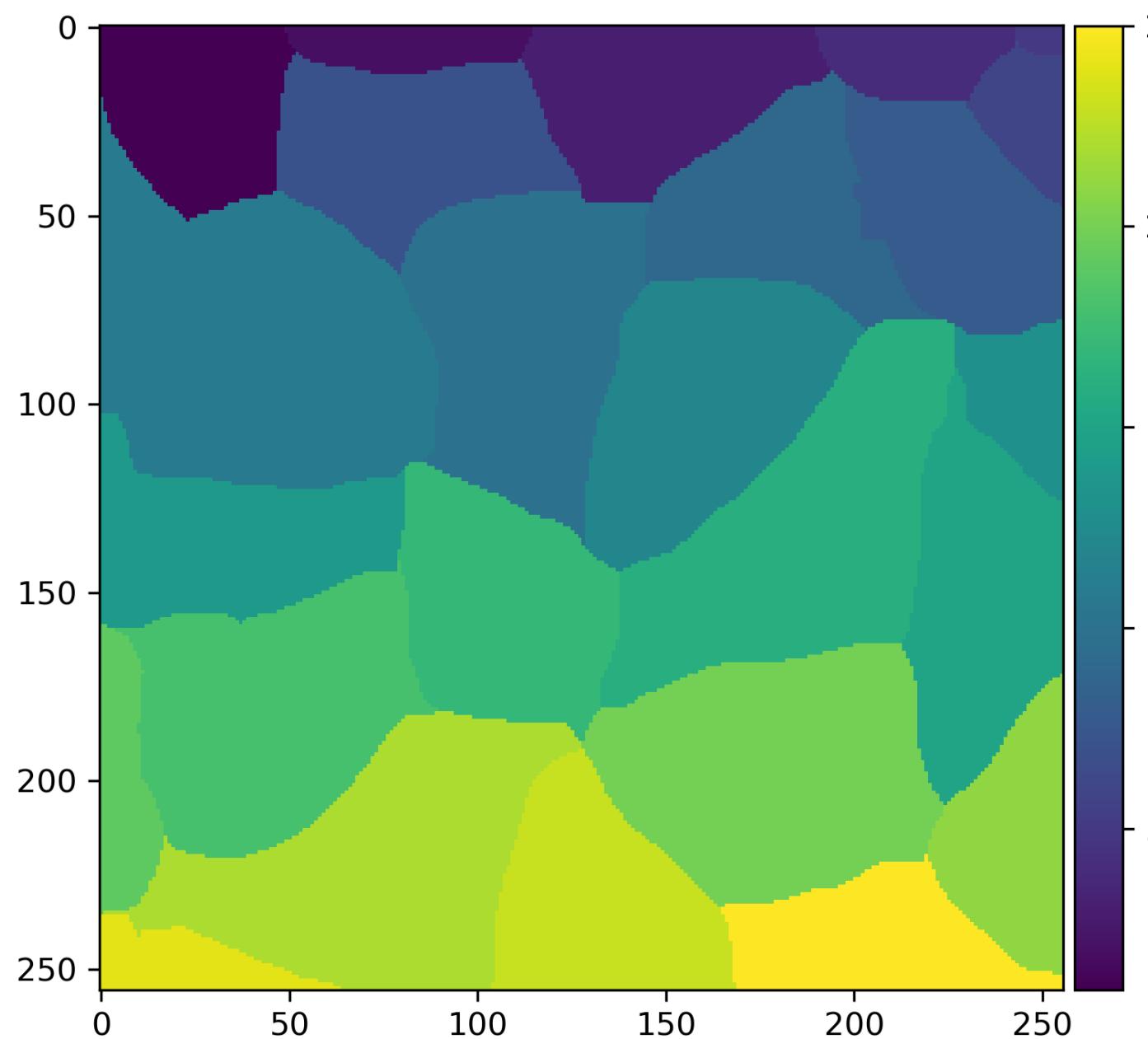
shape
axis length, circularity,
aspect ratio, eccentricity, etc.

Pitfall example: perimeter calculation

circularity

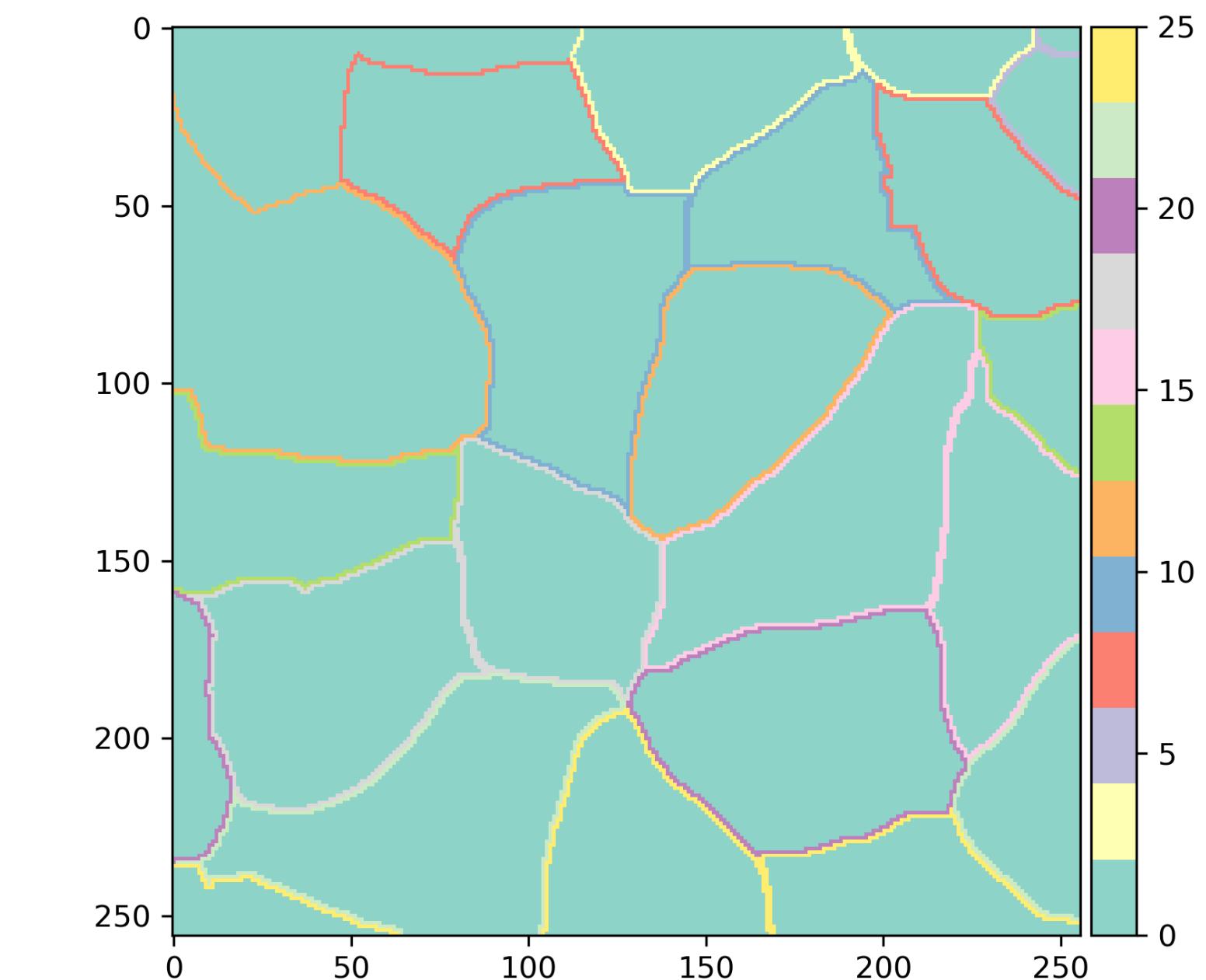
$$R = \frac{4\pi A}{P^2}$$

$\sqrt{2}$	1	$\sqrt{2}$
1		1
$\sqrt{2}$	1	$\sqrt{2}$

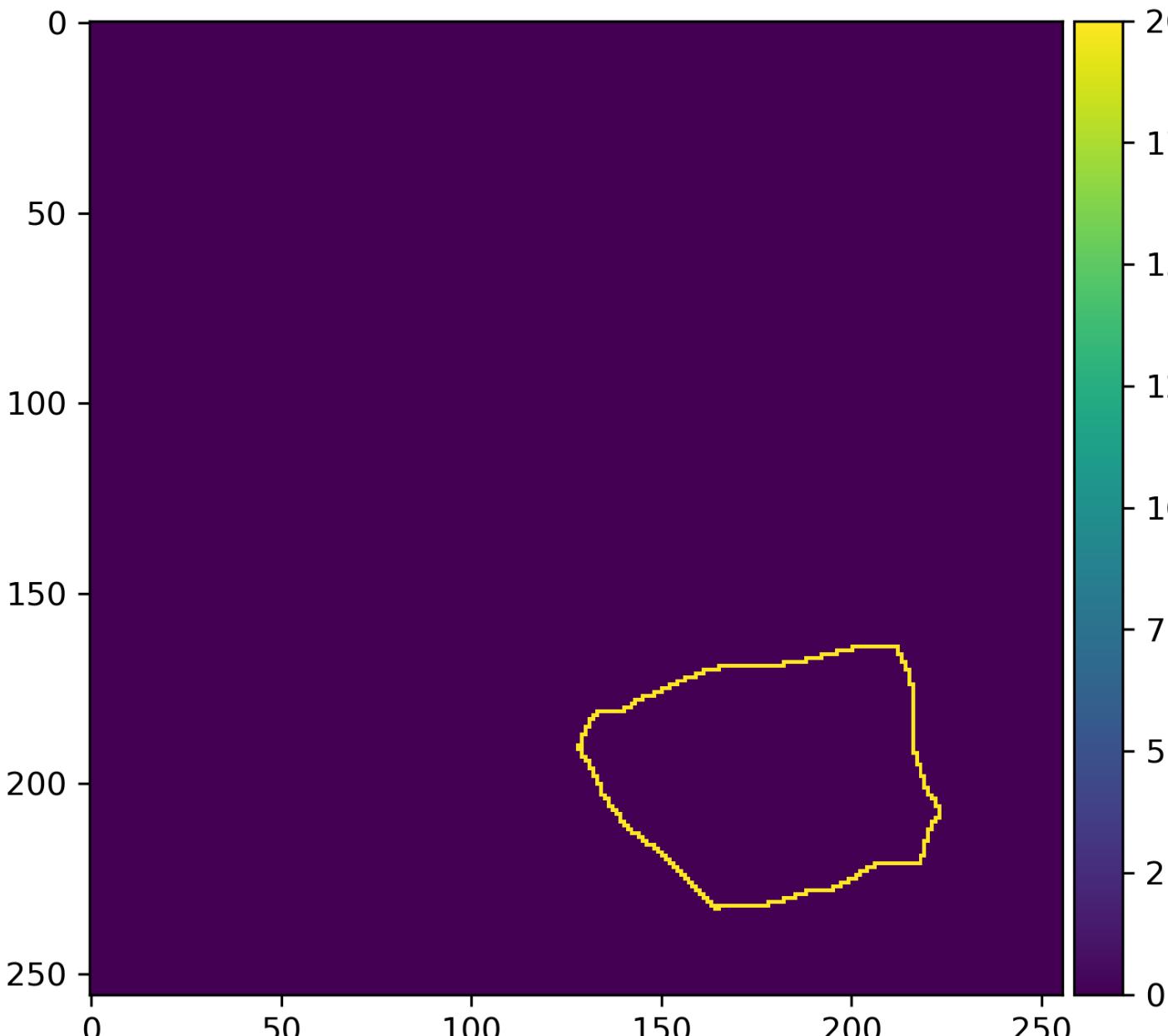


index segmentation

extract boundaries



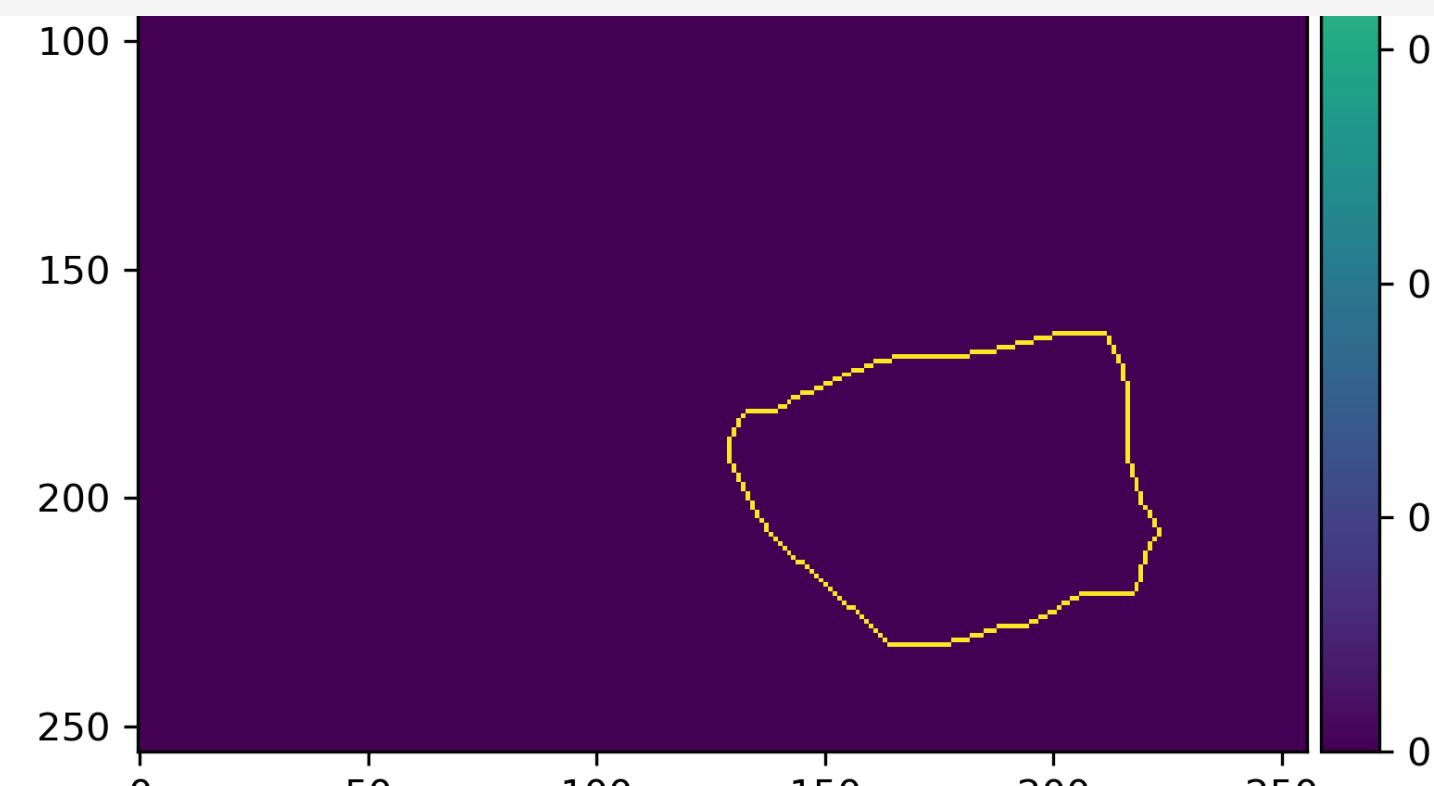
Pitfall example: perimeter calculation



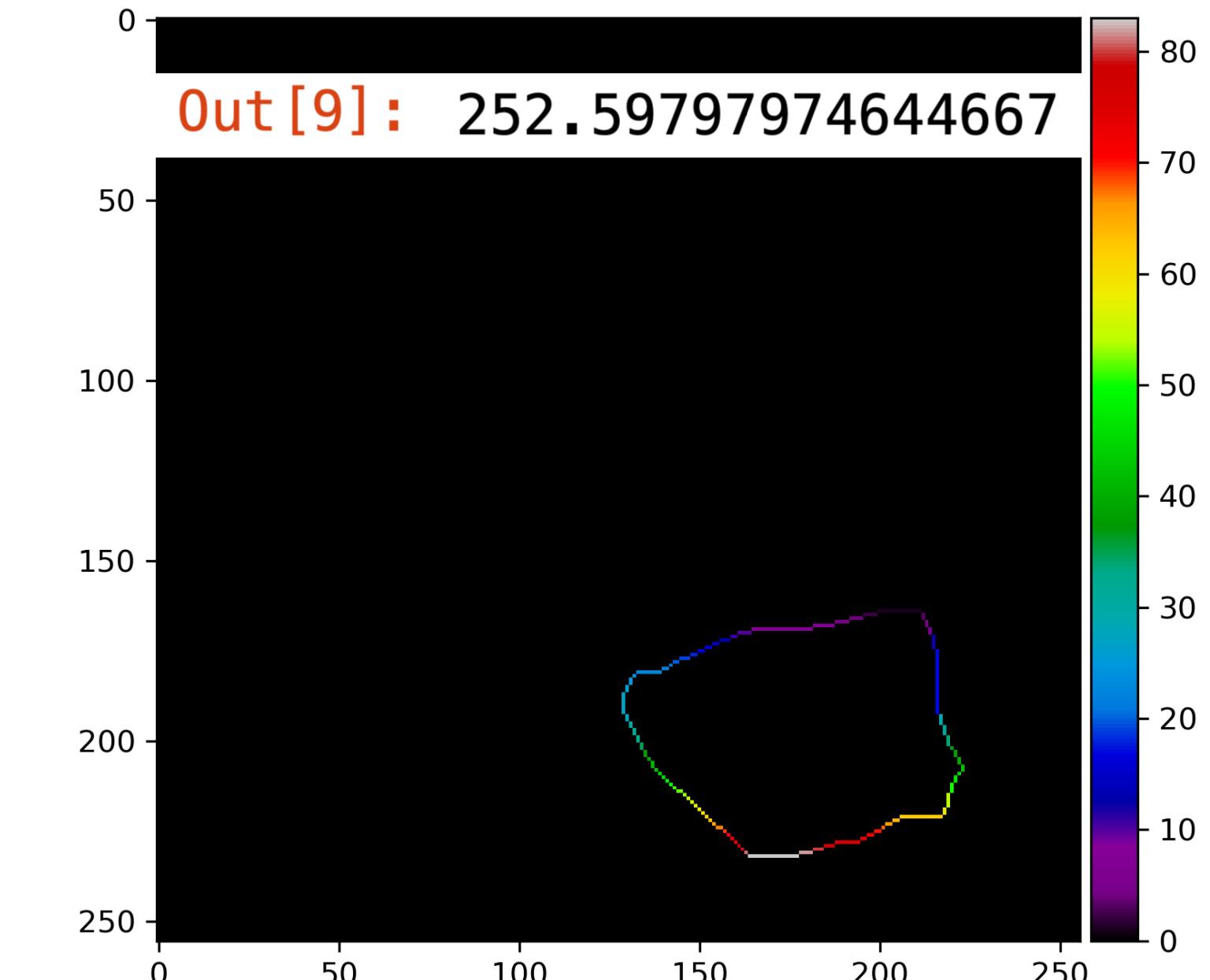
thin boundary

skeletonize

```
edge_kernel = np.array([[0, 1, 0],  
[1, 1, 1],  
[0, 1, 0]])
```



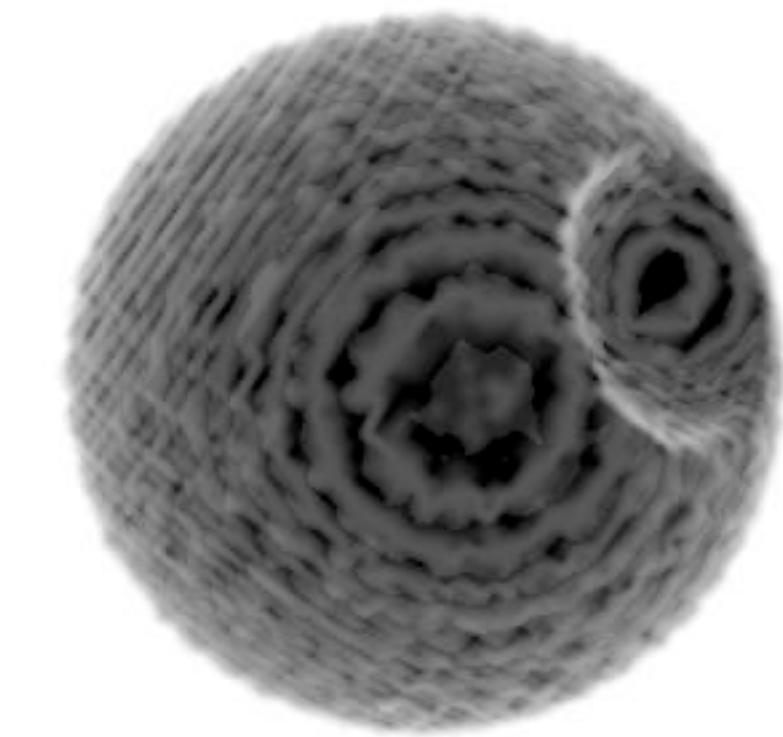
$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline \sqrt{2} & 1 & \sqrt{2} \\ \hline 1 & \textcolor{purple}{1} & 1 \\ \hline \sqrt{2} & 1 & \sqrt{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$$



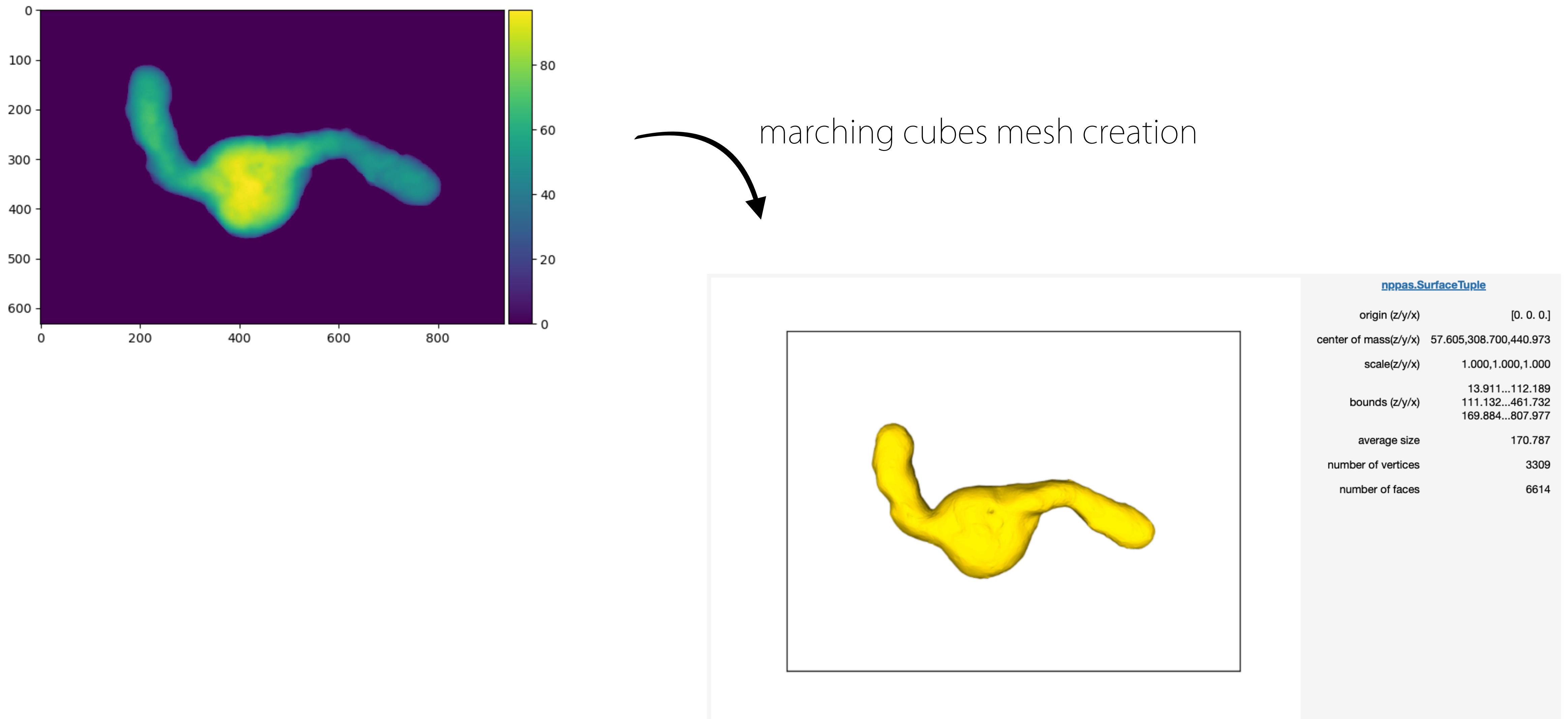
Out [9]: 252.59797974644667
separate N_4 and N_8
boundary components

Dealing with complex shapes in 3D...

Dealing with complex shapes in 3D...



Meshes can reduce discretisation errors.



Important Documentation & Reading

skimage.measure offers many functions for feature extraction from images (particularly **regionprops**):

<https://scikit-image.org/docs/dev/api/skimage.measure.html#skimage.measure.regionprops>

vedo.mesh is useful for shape, size and positional feature extraction:

<https://vedo.embl.es/docs/vedo/mesh.html>

pyclesperanto_prototype offers many example workflows for intensity, size and positional features:

https://github.com/cI Esperanto/pyclesperanto_prototype

FocalPlane feature extraction blogpost by Mara Lampert

<https://focalplane.biologists.com/2023/05/03/feature-extraction-in-napari/>