

# Lecture 18-Edge Linking (Chapter 10.2.7)

Yuyao Zhang PhD

[zhangyy8@shanghaitech.edu.cn](mailto:zhangyy8@shanghaitech.edu.cn)

SIST Building 2 302-F

# Edge linking

## ➤ Previous step: edge detector.

1. Start with edge pixels and corresponding  $M(x, y)$  and  $\alpha(x, y)$ ;
2. Idea: for each edge pixel  $(x, y)$  make a window  $S_{xy}$  around that pixel for each  $(s, t) \in S_{xy}$ , “Link”  $(x, y)$  to  $(s, t)$  if

$$|M(x, y) - M(s, t)| \leq \tau_1$$

$$|\alpha(x, y) - \alpha(s, t)| \leq \tau_2$$

To take out long edges.



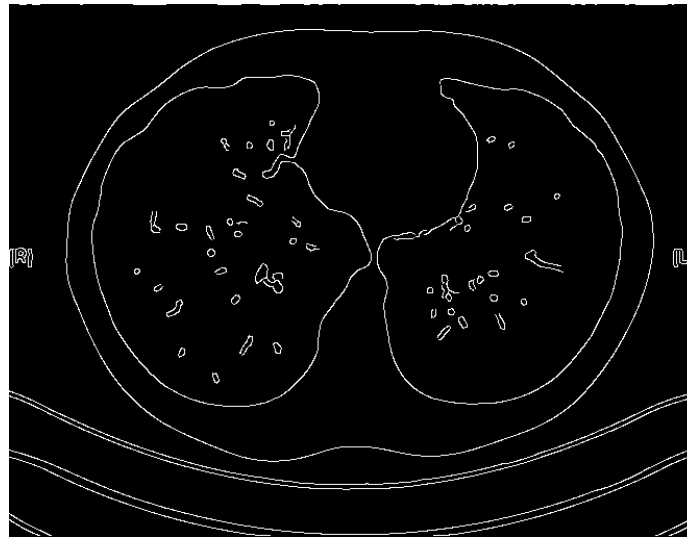
# Boundary following

- We have edge point around a closed contour, we want to link/order them in a clock wise direction.

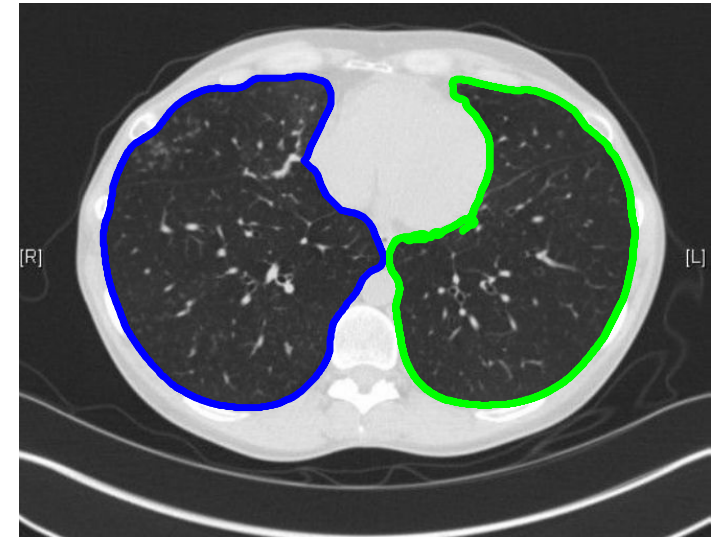
Input image



Edge detection



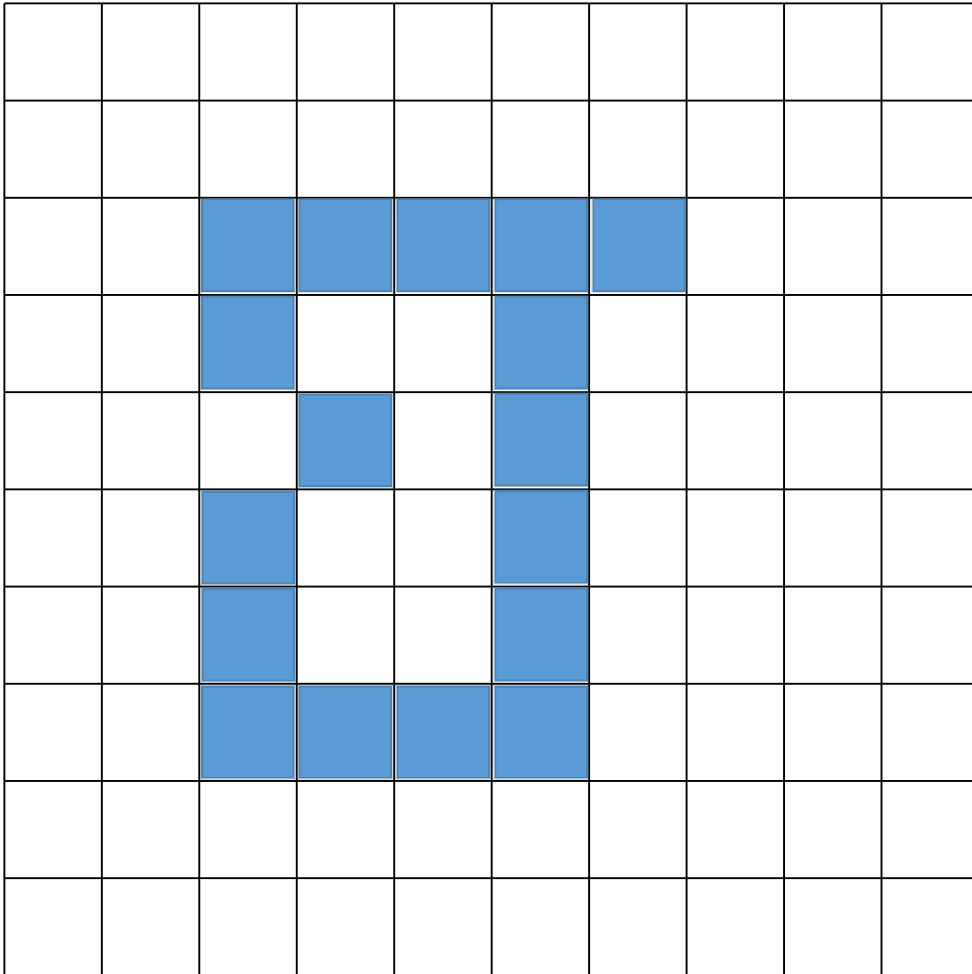
Boundary following



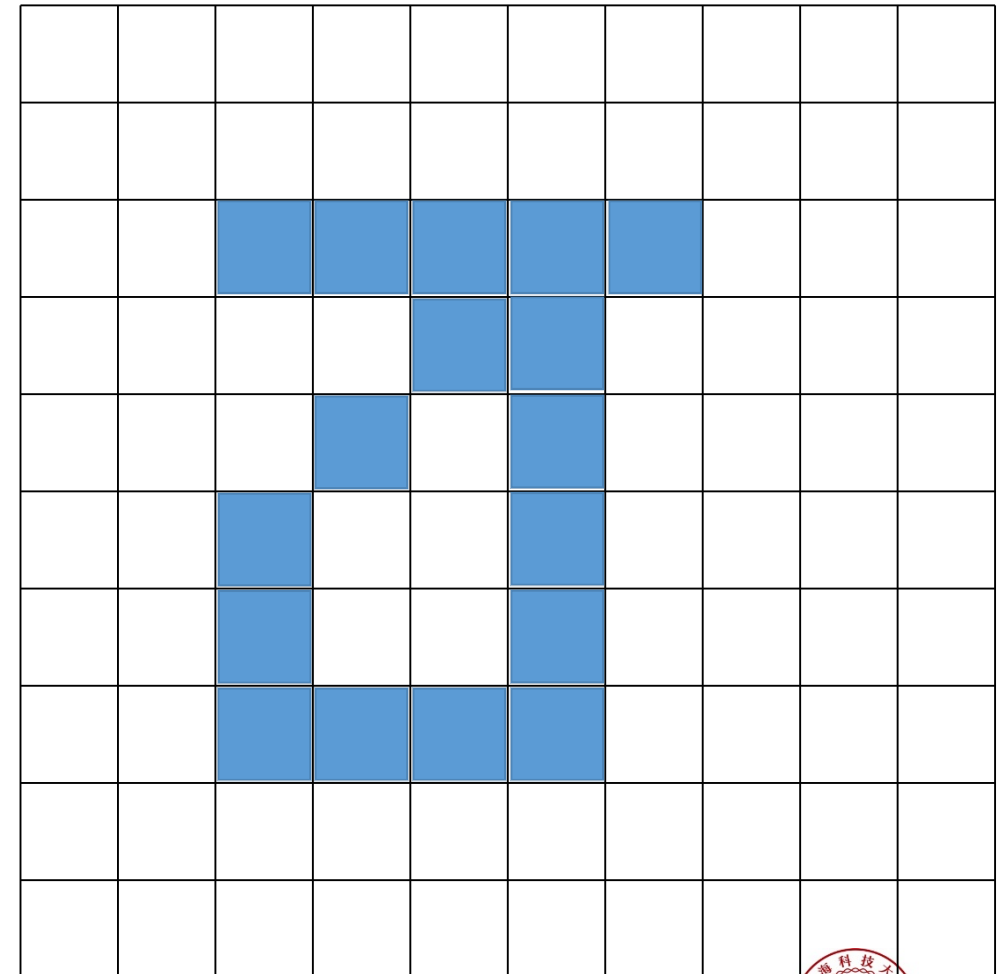
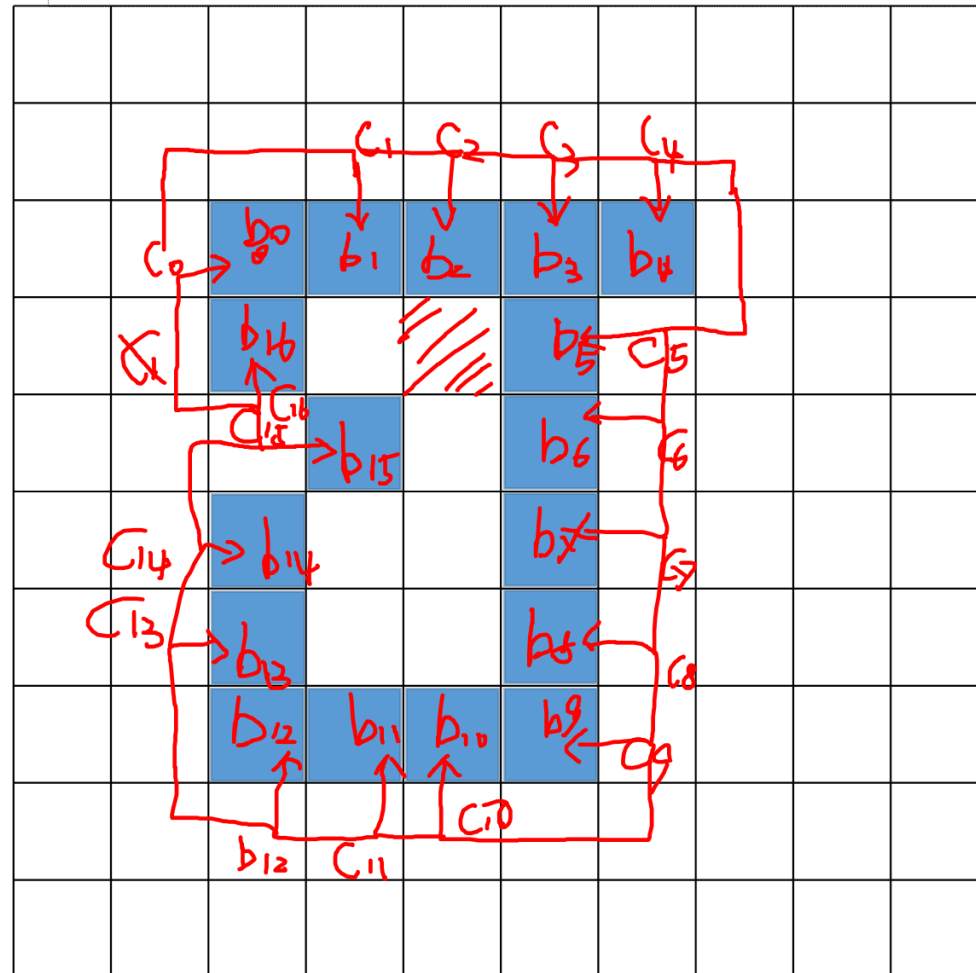
# Boundary following

## ➤ Moore's boundary following algorithms:

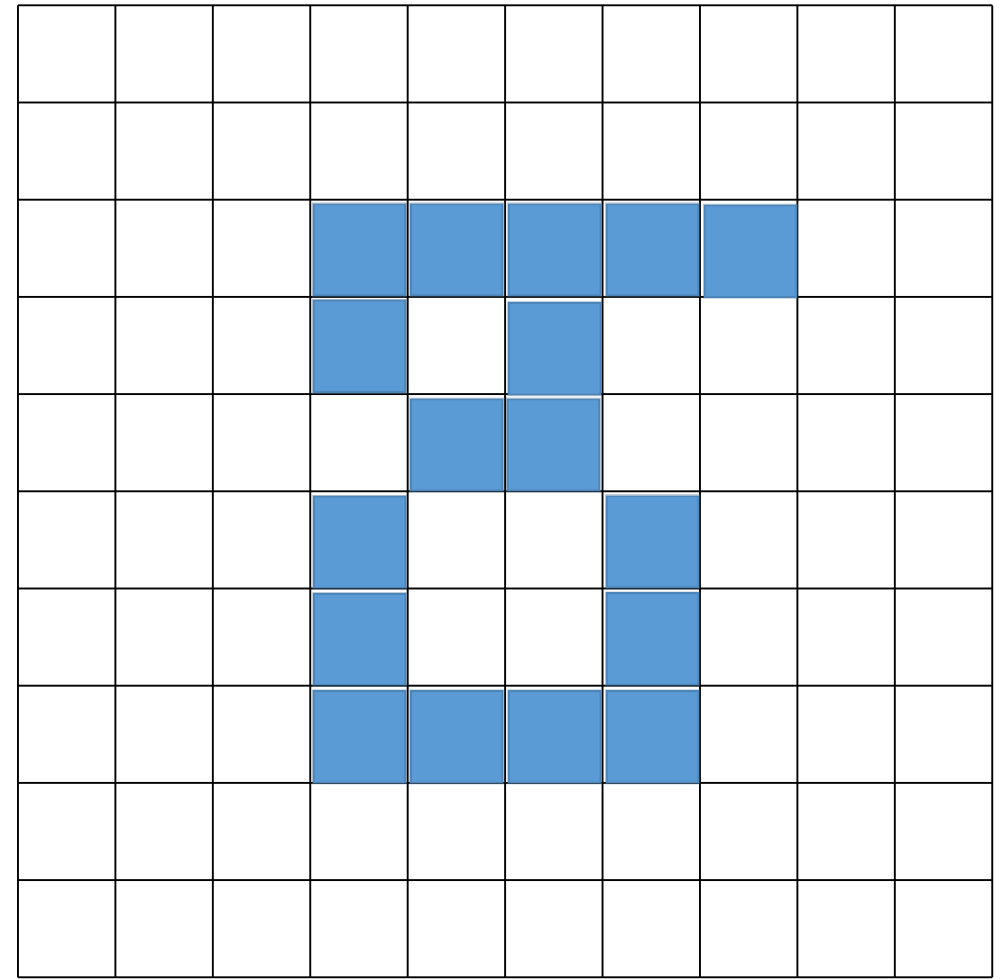
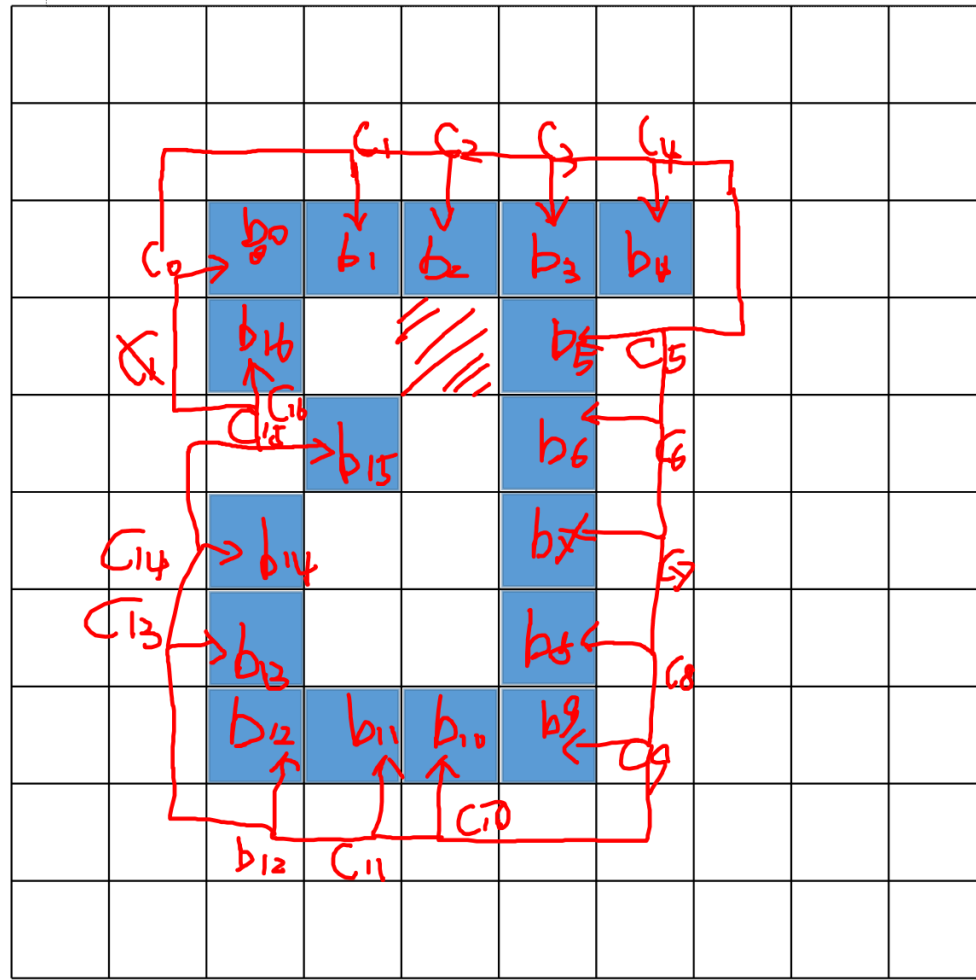
1. Start with edge maps (binary).
2. Let starting point  $b_0$  be the uppermost, leftmost point labelled "1". Let  $c_0$  be the left neighbor of  $b_0$ .
3. Examine 8-neighbors of  $b_0$ , starting at  $c_0$ , and going clock-wise. Let  $b_1$  be the first 1 pixel and  $c_1$  be the preceding 0 pixel.
4. Let  $b = b_1, c = c_1$ .
5. Continue until  $b = b_0$ , and next bounding point found is  $b_1$ . Or until there is no edge point in the 8-neighbor of  $b$ .
6. The opened list of  $b$  is the boundary.



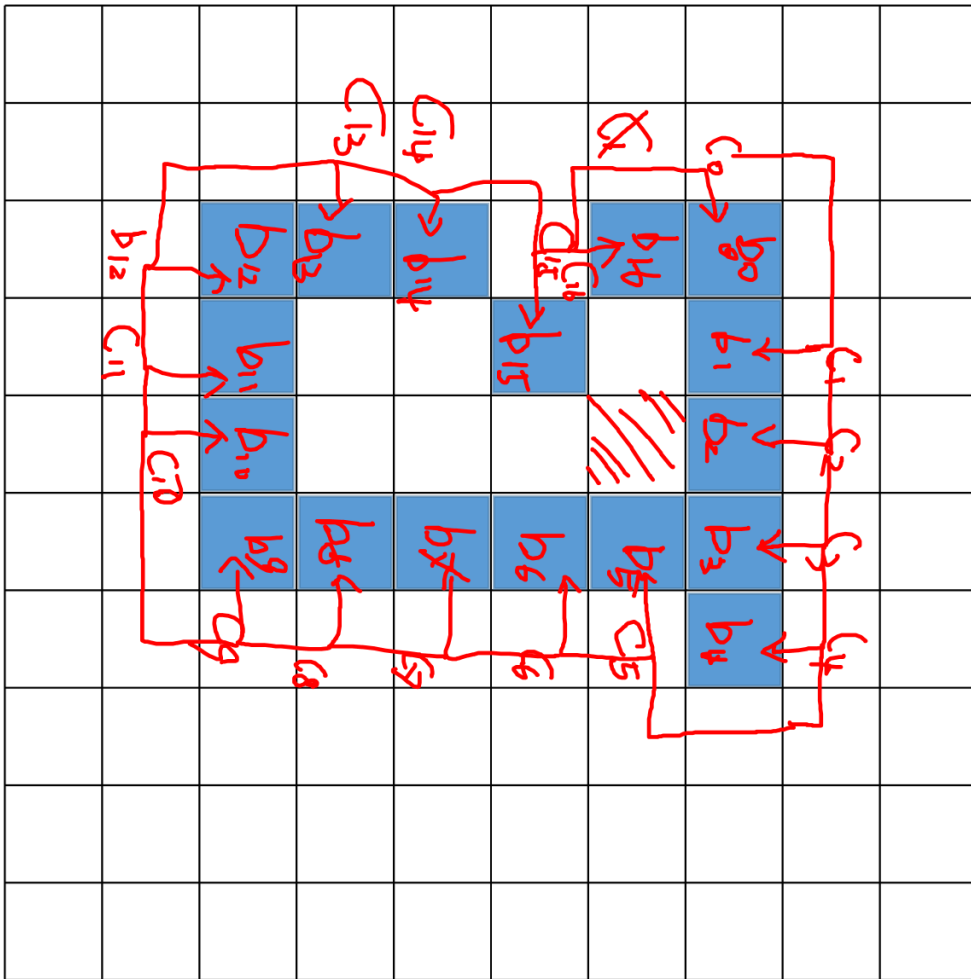
# Boundary following



# Boundary following

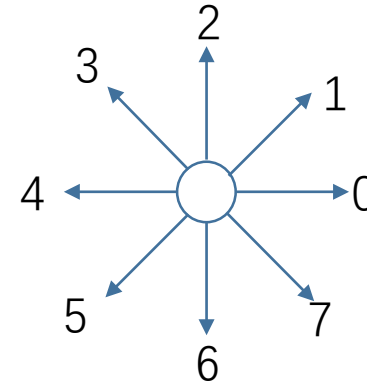


# Boundary following



➤ Describe the boundary with a chain code:

Define 3-bit direction, corresponding to previous boundary point.



b0	b1	b2	b3	b4	b5	b6	b7	b8	b9
Direction for next P									
b10	b11	b12	b13	b14	b15	b16			
Direction for next P									

# Boundary following

- Matlab function: `bwtraceboundary`





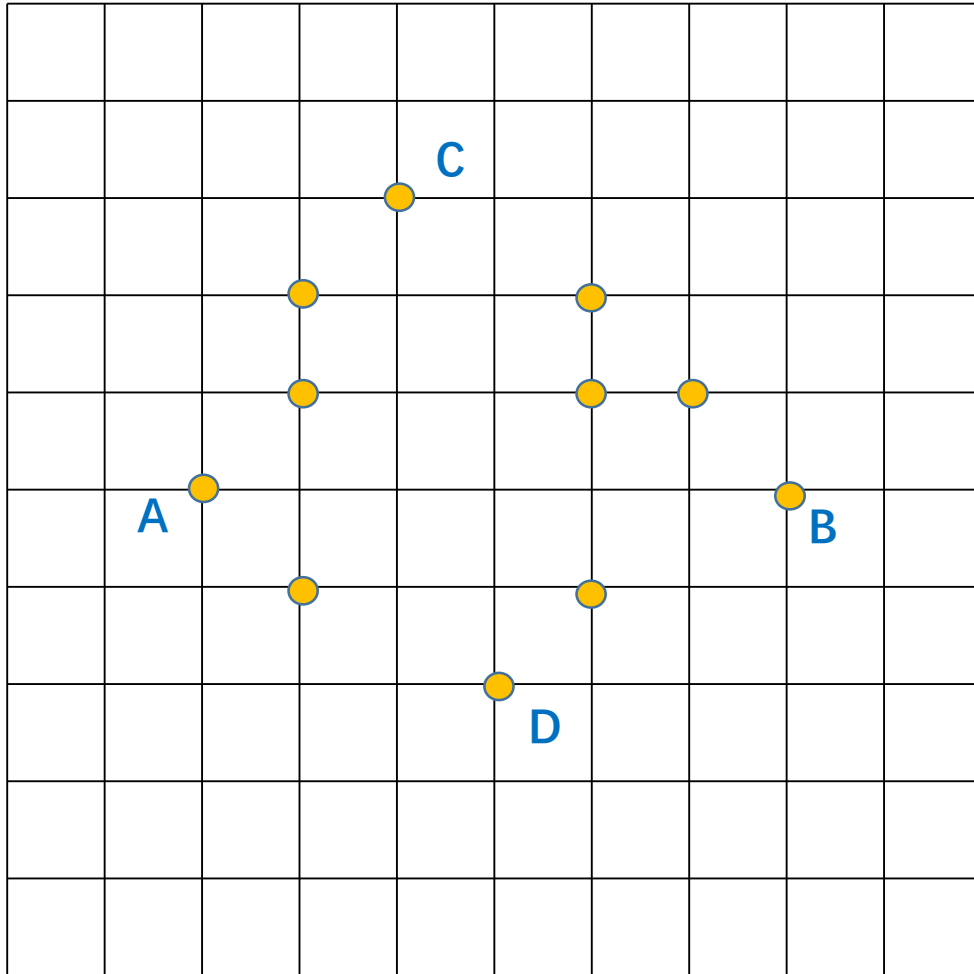
# Polygonal fitting

## ➤ Fitting a set of ordered points (find windows/doors)

1. Let  $P$  be a sequence of ordered, distinct points. (e.g. ordered edges after boundary following).
2. Specify two starting points  $A, B$ .
3. Specify a threshold  $T$  (pixel distance).
4. Creating the stacks: `[final]` and `[in process]`.
5. Compute the distance from this line to all the points between these vertices.  
Select vertex  $V_{max}$  with the max distance  $D_m$ .

# Polygonal fitting

final



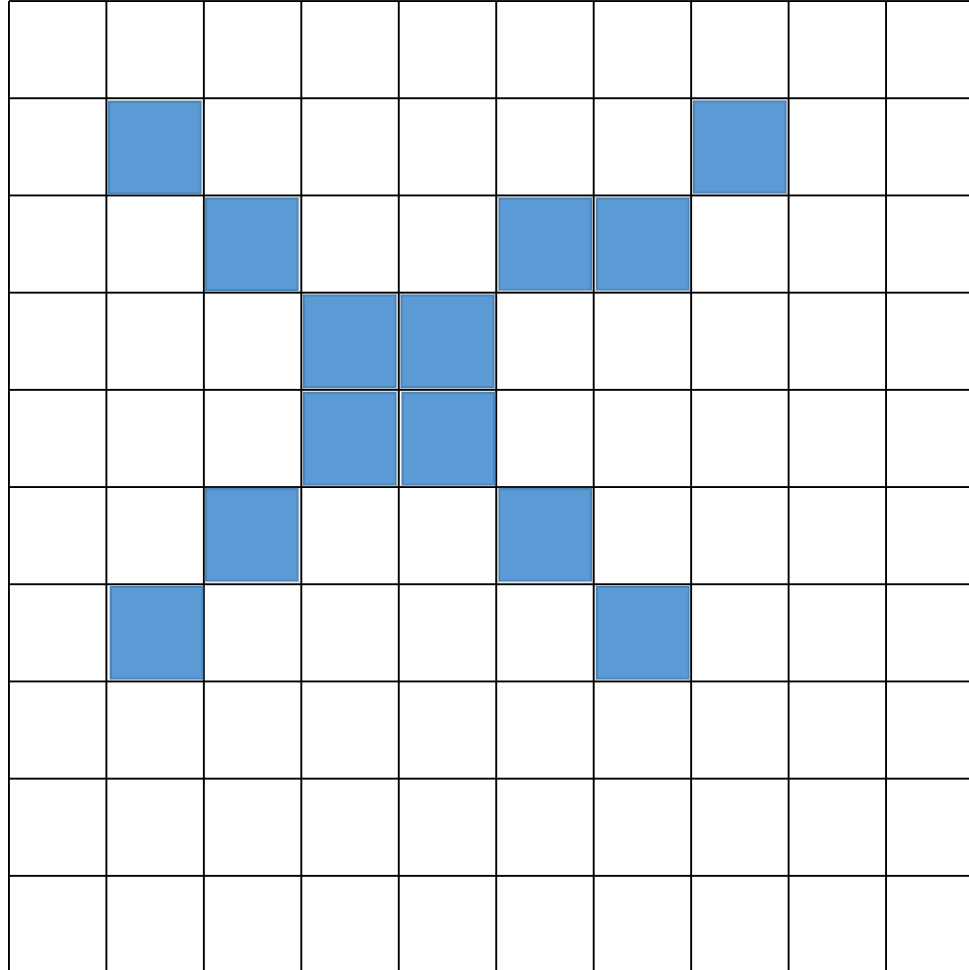
In process

1. Let  $P$  be a sequence of ordered, distinct points. (e.g. ordered edges after boundary following).
2. Specify two starting points  $A, B$ .
3. Specify a threshold  $T$  (pixel distance).
4. Creating the stacks: `[final]` and `[in process]`.  
Then connect the vertices on top of each stack.
5. Compute the distance from this line to all the points between these vertices. Select vertex  $V_{Max}$  with the max distance  $D_m$ .
6. If  $D_m > T$  (a threshold set), put  $V_{Max}$  at the end of `[in process]`, and go to step 4.
7. Otherwise, remove the last vertex from `[in process]` and make it the last vertex in `[final]`.
8. If `[in process]` is not empty, go to step 4.
9. otherwise, done. The vertices in are the ordered vertices of a polygonal

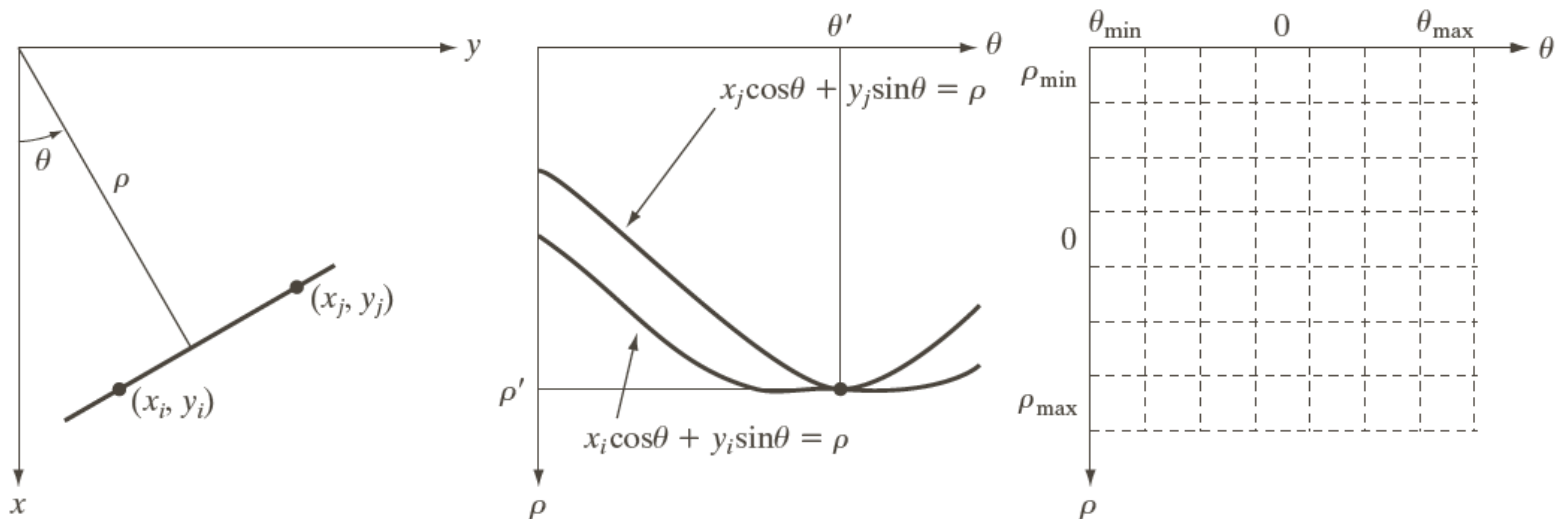
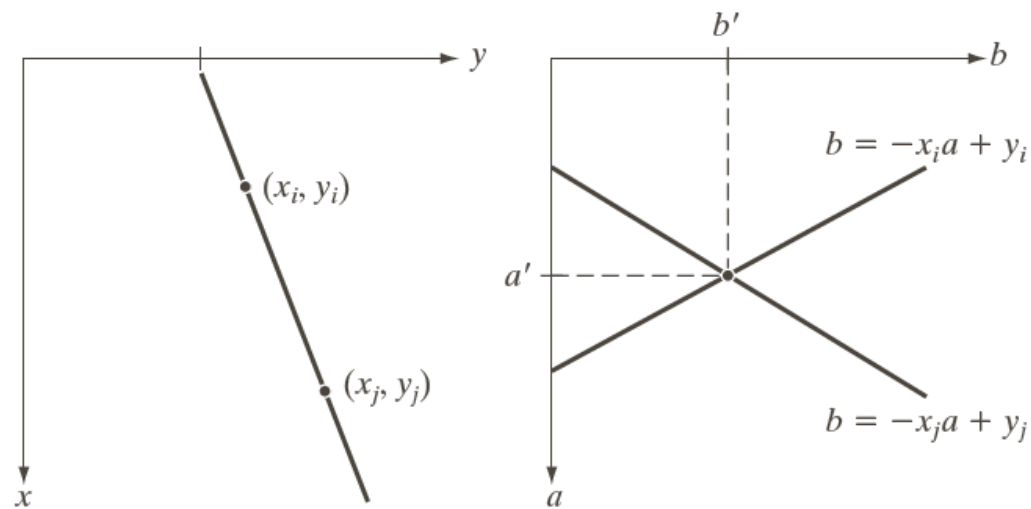
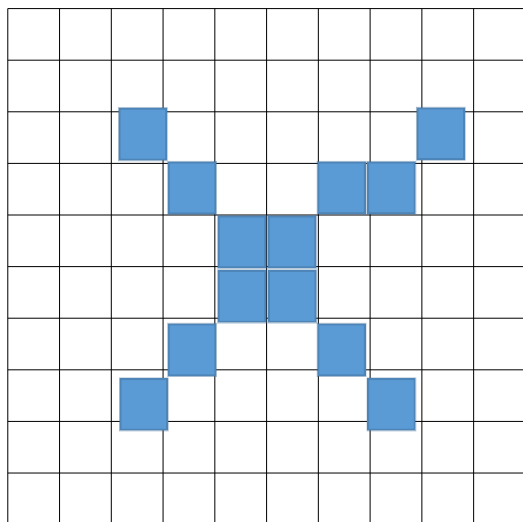
# Polygonal fitting

- If the threshold  $T$  is small, we will have a polygon with many vertices and smooth fitting.
- Otherwise, a polygon fitting with simple structure and large error.

# New question



# Hough Transform (霍夫变换)



# Hough Transform (霍夫变换)

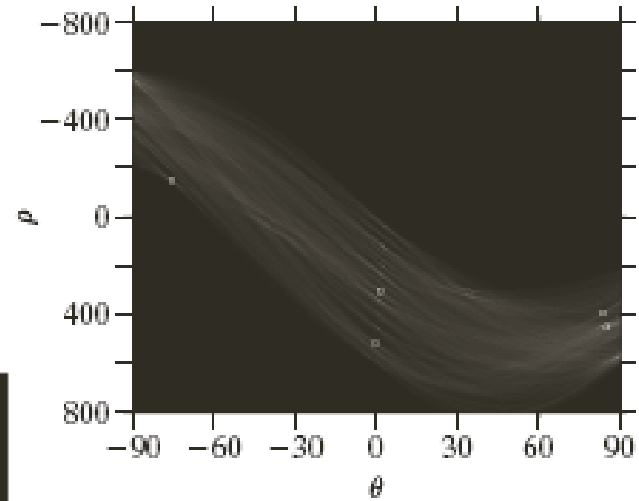
## ➤ An approach based on Hough Transform

1. Obtain a binary edge image using any edge detector;
2. Specify subdivisions in the  $\rho\theta$ -plane;
3. Examine the counts of the accumulator cells (累加器单元) for high pixel concentrations;
4. Examine the relationship between pixels in a chosen cell.

## ➤ Matlab function:

- `[H, theta, rho] = hough(f);`
- `peaks = houghpeaks(H, NumPeaks)`
- `lines = houghlines(f, theta, rho, peaks)`

# Hough Transform (霍夫变换)



# Take home message & Discussion

- Boundary detection & Global structure detection:

