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On the influence of morphological operators
on testing for a region of interest

A THESIS SUBMITTED FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF
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Abstract

Morphological operations play an important role in fingerprint recognition. In this paper, we examine their effect on statistical significance in restricted statistical model.

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1 Introduction

2 Testing for a rectangular region of interest

2.1 Definitions

Definition 2.1. Let $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $V \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ be a matrix. Assume there are two pairs of indices $(i_1, j_1), (i_2, j_2)$ with $1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq M$ and $1 \leq j_1 \leq j_2 \leq N$, such that

$$V(i, j) \neq 0 \text{ if and only if } (i, j) \in \{i_1, \dots, i_2\} \times \{j_1, \dots, j_2\} \quad (1)$$

We call $R = \{i_1, \dots, i_2\} \times \{j_1, \dots, j_2\}$ a *rectangular region of interest (rROI)* and say that V contains the rROI R .

Furthermore, we call (i_1, j_1) the *top left corner* and (i_2, j_2) the *bottom right corner* of R .

Definition 2.2. Let $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$. Let $V \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ be a matrix, that only takes values in the set $\{0, \pm c\}$ and that contains a rectangular region of interest R . We say that R has a *checkerboard pattern*, if one of the following relations is true:

$$\text{For all } (i, j) \in R : V(i, j) = c \text{ if and only if } i + j \text{ is odd.} \quad (2a)$$

$$\text{For all } (i, j) \in R : V(i, j) = c \text{ if and only if } i + j \text{ is even.} \quad (2b)$$

Remark 2.3. If the first relation in the definition is true, that immediately implies, that

$$\text{for all } (i, j) \in R : V(i, j) = -c \text{ if and only if } i + j \text{ is even,}$$

since V takes only values in $\{0, \pm c\}$, but for $(i, j) \in R$ we have $V(i, j) \neq 0$. Similarly, if the second relation is true, it implies that

$$\text{for all } (i, j) \in R : V(i, j) = -c \text{ if and only if } i + j \text{ is odd.}$$

In both cases the values of V alternate between $+c$ and $-c$ along the rows and columns of R . This is similar to the classical checkerboard pattern.

Definition 2.4. Let $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$. We define $\mathcal{V}_c^{M,N}$ to be the set of all matrices $V \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$, that only take values in the set $\{0, \pm c\}$ and that contain a rectangular region of interest with a checkerboard pattern.

2.2 Statistical model

Let $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$, $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ and $G = \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$. Assume we are given noisy data

$$F(i, j) = c + V(i, j) + \varepsilon_{i,j} \quad (3)$$

where $(i, j) \in G$, $V \in \mathcal{V}_c^{M,N}$ and $\varepsilon_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ are i.i.d. normal distributed random variables for some $\sigma > 0$ and for all $(i, j) \in G$.

Although defined as a matrix, we often refer to F and V as images and to (i, j) as a pixel. Let R be the rectangular region of interest contained in V . We aim to find a statistical test to determine for each individual pixel whether $(i, j) \in R$ or $(i, j) \notin R$.

To proceed we define for each pixel $(i, j) \in G$ the four values

$$D_1^\pm(i, j) = V(i \pm 1, j) - V(i, j) \quad (4)$$

$$D_2^\pm(i, j) = V(i, j \pm 1) - V(i, j) \quad (5)$$

where we set

$$V(i, 0) = V(i, N)$$

$$V(0, j) = V(M, j)$$

$$V(i, N+1) = V(i, 1)$$

$$V(M+1, j) = V(1, j)$$

to adjust to boundary issues. We now combine these values into two new values and assign to each pair $(i, j) \in G$ the values

$$D^\pm(i, j) = \sqrt{D_1^\pm(i, j)^2 + D_2^\pm(i, j)^2} \quad (6)$$

Since we have assumed that $V \in \mathcal{V}_c^{M,N}$, we know that $V(i, j) = 0$ if and only if $(i, j) \notin R$. Let (i_1, j_1) and (i_2, j_2) be the top left and bottom right corner of R , respectively. Now, if $(i, j) \notin R$ it follows that $i \notin \{i_1, \dots, i_2\}$ or

$j \notin \{j_1, \dots, j_2\}$. We have to distinguish four cases here:

$$\begin{aligned}
 i < i_1 &\Rightarrow (i, j-1) \notin R \text{ and } (i-1, j) \notin R \\
 &\Rightarrow V(i, j-1) = V(i-1, j) = 0 \\
 j < j_1 &\Rightarrow (i-1, j) \notin R \text{ and } (i, j-1) \notin R \\
 &\Rightarrow V(i-1, j) = V(i, j-1) = 0 \\
 i > i_2 &\Rightarrow (i, j+1) \notin R \text{ and } (i+1, j) \notin R \\
 &\Rightarrow V(i, j+1) = V(i+1, j) = 0 \\
 j > j_2 &\Rightarrow (i+1, j) \notin R \text{ and } (i, j+1) \notin R \\
 &\Rightarrow V(i+1, j) = V(i, j+1) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

We see, that in the first two cases, we have $D_1^-(i, j) = D_2^-(i, j) = 0$, which yields $D^-(i, j) = 0$. In the latter two cases, we get $D_1^+(i, j) = D_2^+(i, j) = 0$ and thus $D^+(i, j) = 0$. Thus, if $(i, j) \notin R$ it follows that $\min\{D^+(i, j), D^-(i, j)\} = 0$.

On the other hand, we have assumed, that R has a checkerboard pattern, thus $D^\pm(i, j) \neq 0$ for $(i, j) \in R$. This yields the equivalence

$$(i, j) \notin R \Leftrightarrow \min\{D^+(i, j), D^-(i, j)\} = 0$$

Since our goal is to test for $(i, j) \in R$, we define a null hypothesis for each individual pixel:

$$H_0(i, j) : \min\{D^+(i, j), D^-(i, j)\} = 0 \quad (7)$$

Unfortunately, we do not know the actual values of V , which makes D^+ and D^- non-observable. We are given noisy data though. Based on the noisy data, we define four observable values for each pixel

$$\tilde{D}_1^\pm(i, j) = F(i \pm 1, j) - F(i, j) \quad (8)$$

$$\tilde{D}_2^\pm(i, j) = F(i, j \pm 1) - F(i, j) \quad (9)$$

where we again define

$$\begin{aligned} F(i, 0) &= F(i, N) \\ F(0, j) &= F(M, j) \\ F(i, N + 1) &= F(i, 1) \\ F(M + 1, j) &= F(1, j) \end{aligned}$$

to adjust to boundary issues. Again we combine these values into two new values

$$\tilde{D}^{\pm}(i, j) = \sqrt{\tilde{D}_1^{\pm}(i, j)^2 + \tilde{D}_2^{\pm}(i, j)^2} \quad (10)$$

We use these values for our test statistic and test for each individual pixel (i, j) the null hypothesis

$$H_0(i, j) : \min\{D^+(i, j), D^-(i, j)\} = 0 \quad (11)$$

against the alternative hypothesis

$$H_1(i, j) : \min\{D^+(i, j), D^-(i, j)\} \neq 0 \quad (12)$$

using the test statistic

$$T(i, j) = \min\{\tilde{D}^+(i, j), \tilde{D}^-(i, j)\} \quad (13)$$

2.3 Analysis of the statistical significance

After having established our hypotheses and test statistic, we want to show, that we can ensure a given statistical significance α . This will be done in two steps: The testing procedure is the combination of two testing procedures (D^+ and D^-) and we will see, that we can bound our combination by either of the individual ones. In a second step, we bound the individual procedures by computing their cumulative distribution function.

The first step is proven in the following lemma:

Lemma 2.5. *Assume the statistical model as above and let $D^\pm(i, j)$, $\tilde{D}^\pm(i, j)$, $T(i, j)$, $H_0(i, j)$ be defined as above. Then the following inequality holds:*

$$\mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \geq t \mid H_0(i, j)) \leq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \geq t \mid D^+(i, j) = 0) \quad (14)$$

Proof. If the null hypothesis for a given pixel (i, j) is true, we can distinguish two cases: $D^+(i, j) = 0$ or $D^-(i, j) = 0$. Note, that these two cases are not exclusive. Without loss of generality we assume the case $D^+(i, j) = 0$. For $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ we get the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \geq t \mid H_0(i, j)) &= \mathbb{P}(\min\{\tilde{D}^+(i, j), \tilde{D}^-(i, j)\} \geq t \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\{\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \geq t\} \cap \{\tilde{D}^-(i, j) \geq t\} \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \geq t \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \geq t \mid D^+(i, j) = 0) \end{aligned}$$

In the second case we get the same inequality by using the equality

$$\mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j) \geq t \mid D^-(i, j) = 0) = \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \geq t \mid D^+(i, j) = 0)$$

□

Equation (14) shows that, if we can calculate the cumulative distribution function of $\tilde{D}^+(i, j)$ given $D^+(i, j) = 0$, we can bound the probability of a type I error in our testing procedure. The cumulative distribution function is given in the next theorem.

Theorem 2.6. *Assume the statistical model as above and let $D^+(i, j)$ and $\tilde{D}^+(i, j)$ be defined as above. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = 0) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{3\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{t^2}{6\sigma^2}\right) \right) - \sqrt{3} \\ &\quad - \frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{2} Q_1\left(\frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{6} \sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2 + \sqrt{3}}{6} \sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{2 + \sqrt{3}}{2} Q_1\left(\frac{2 + \sqrt{3}}{6} \sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2 - \sqrt{3}}{6} \sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where I_0 is the modified Bessel function of the first kind and Q_M denotes the Marcum Q -function.

Proof. In a first step, we note that by the definition of D^+ we get the equivalence

$$D^+ = 0 \Leftrightarrow V(i+1, j) - V(i, j) = V(i, j+1) - V(i, j) = 0$$

Now we write out the left hand side of the equation, which we call $p(t)$, and use the equivalence above to get

$$\begin{aligned} p(t) &:= \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = 0) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left((c + V(i+1, j) + \varepsilon_{i+1, j} - c - V(i, j) - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (c + V(i, j+1) + \varepsilon_{i, j+1} - c - V(i, j) - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 \leq t^2 \mid D^+(i, j) = 0\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left((\varepsilon_{i+1, j} - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 + (\varepsilon_{i, j+1} - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 \leq t^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

Assuming the common term $\varepsilon_{i, j}$ to be constant and by defining

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \varepsilon_{i+1, j} - \varepsilon_{i, j} \sim \mathcal{N}(-\varepsilon_{i, j}, \sigma^2) \\ X_2 &= \varepsilon_{i, j+1} - \varepsilon_{i, j} \sim \mathcal{N}(-\varepsilon_{i, j}, \sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$p(t) = \mathbb{P}\left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{X_2}{\sigma}\right)^2} \leq \frac{t}{\sigma}\right)$$

This shows, that the square root inside has a non-central Chi distribution with two degrees of freedom and non-centrality parameter

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\left(\frac{-\varepsilon_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{-\varepsilon_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}|\varepsilon_{i,j}|}{\sigma}$$

and hence

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{X_2}{\sigma}\right)^2} \sim \chi_2\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}|\varepsilon_{i,j}|}{\sigma}\right)$$

Up until this point we assumed $\varepsilon_{i,j}$ to be constant, but it is a normal distributed random variable with zero mean and standard deviation σ . Thus, we have a compound probability distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} p(t) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{X_2}{\sigma}\right)^2} \leq \frac{t}{\sigma}\right) \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \int_0^\infty \underbrace{x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{\eta^2}{\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}\eta}{\sigma}x\right)}_{\text{pdf of } \chi_2\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}\eta}{\sigma}\right) \text{ for fixed } \eta} \underbrace{\frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\eta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}_{\text{pdf of absolute value of } \mathcal{N}(0,\sigma^2)} d\eta dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{3}{2\sigma^2}\eta^2\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}\eta\right) d\eta dx \end{aligned}$$

where I_0 is the modified Bessel function of the first kind. We can solve the inner integral first. For $\text{Re } \nu > -1$, $\text{Re } \alpha > 0$ the following equality holds CITE!!!:

$$\int_0^\infty \exp(-\alpha x^2) I_\nu(\beta x) dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2\sqrt{\alpha}} \exp\left(\frac{\beta^2}{8\alpha}\right) I_{\frac{1}{2}\nu}\left(\frac{\beta^2}{8\alpha}\right) \quad (16)$$

In our case, we have $\nu = 0$, $\alpha = \frac{3}{2\sigma^2}$ and $\beta = \frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}$, which yields

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{3}{2\sigma^2}\eta^2\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}\eta\right) d\eta &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2\sqrt{\frac{3}{2\sigma^2}}} \exp\left(\frac{\frac{2x^2}{\sigma^2}}{8\frac{3}{2\sigma^2}}\right) I_0\left(\frac{\frac{2x^2}{\sigma^2}}{8\frac{3}{2\sigma^2}}\right) \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}\sigma}{\sqrt{6}} \exp\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Plugging this in, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(t) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{3}{2\sigma^2}\eta^2\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}\eta\right) d\eta dx \\
 &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \frac{\sqrt{\pi}\sigma}{\sqrt{6}} \exp\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \exp\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{3}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) dx
 \end{aligned}$$

To proceed, we need to integrate by parts to replace the modified Bessel function I_0 with order zero by a modified Bessel function I_1 with order one.

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{3}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left[-\frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{3}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) \right]_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{3}\right) x I_1\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{3\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{t^2}{6\sigma^2}\right) \right) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{3}\right) x I_1\left(\frac{x^2}{6}\right) dx
 \end{aligned}$$

In the next step we substitute $y = x^2$ in the remaining integral, which leaves us with

$$p(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{3\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{t^2}{6\sigma^2}\right) \right) + \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{y}{3}\right) I_1\left(\frac{y}{6}\right) dy$$

We want to solve the remaining integral. Let $p \neq b$ and $s = \sqrt{p^2 - b^2}$, $u = \sqrt{a(p - s)}$ and $v = \sqrt{a(p + s)}$. Then CITE!!!

$$\int_0^a \exp(-px) I_M(bx) dx = \frac{1}{sb^M} \left((p - s)^M (1 - Q_M(u, v)) - (p + s)^M (1 - Q_M(v, u)) \right) \quad (17)$$

where Q_M denotes the Marcum Q -function. The Marcum Q -function is only defined for $M \geq 1$, which made the integration by parts necessary. Applying

this equation with $M = 1$ to the integral yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{y}{3}\right) I_1\left(\frac{y}{6}\right) dy &= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\frac{1}{6}} \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6} \left(1 - Q_1\left(\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)\right) \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}\frac{1}{6}} \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6} \left(1 - Q_1\left(\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)\right) \\
 &= 2\sqrt{3}(2-\sqrt{3}) \left(1 - Q_1\left(\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)\right) \\
 &\quad - 2\sqrt{3}(2+\sqrt{3}) \left(1 - Q_1\left(\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Plugging this in, we obtain the final result

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{3\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{t^2}{6\sigma^2}\right)\right) + \frac{1}{4\sqrt{3}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \exp\left(-\frac{y}{3}\right) I_1\left(\frac{y}{6}\right) dy \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{3\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{t^2}{6\sigma^2}\right)\right) \\
 &\quad + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{4\sqrt{3}}(2-\sqrt{3}) \left(1 - Q_1\left(\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)\right) \\
 &\quad - \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{4\sqrt{3}}(2+\sqrt{3}) \left(1 - Q_1\left(\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{3\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{t^2}{6\sigma^2}\right)\right) - \sqrt{3} \\
 &\quad - \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{2} Q_1\left(\frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right) \\
 &\quad + \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2} Q_1\left(\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}, \frac{2-\sqrt{3}}{6}\sqrt{\frac{t}{\sigma}}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Thus, we have computed the distribution of $\tilde{D}(i, j)$ given $D^+(i, j) = 0$. Combining equations (14) and (15) yields $\mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \geq t \mid H_0(i, j)) \leq 1 - p(t)$, where $p(t)$ is defined as in the proof of theorem 2.6. Let $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ be given.

If we can find a threshold t_α , such that $p(t_\alpha) \geq 1 - \alpha$, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j)) \leq 1 - p(t_\alpha) \leq \alpha \quad (18)$$

and thus have assured a statistical significance of α in our testing procedure. The easiest way to compute such a threshold would be to find the inverse function of $p(t)$. Since finding inverse functions of the modified Bessel function of the first kind I_ν and of the Marcum Q -function Q_M is already complicated, there is unfortunately no easy way to compute an inverse function of $p(t)$. We can however compute a threshold t_α numerically. We will give a pseudocode here. A *MATLAB* implementation of this pseudocode can be found in the appendix.

Algorithm 1: Computation of a threshold for a given statistical significance

Input: $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

Output: t_α and α_{real} , s.t. $p(t_\alpha) = 1 - \alpha_{real} \geq 1 - \alpha$

```

1  $t_\alpha = 0$ ;
2  $t_{inc} = 0.0001$ ;
3 while  $p(t_\alpha) < 1 - \alpha$  do
4    $t_\alpha + t_{inc}$ ;
5    $\alpha_{real} = 1 - p(t_\alpha)$ ;
6 end while
```

2.4 Analysis of the power

In equation (14) we have managed to bound the probability of a type I error in our testing procedure by the probability of a type I error when testing for $D^+(i, j) = 0$ using the test statistic $\tilde{D}^+(i, j)$. We want to do the same for the probability of a type II error. The results are summarized in the following theorem.

Theorem 2.7. *Assume the statistical model as above and let $D^\pm(i, j)$, $\tilde{D}^\pm(i, j)$, $T(i, j)$, $H_1(i, j)$ be defined as above. Then the following inequalities hold:*

$$\mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \leq 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2}c) \quad (19)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \geq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{8}c) \quad (20)$$

Proof. Before we can prove the inequalities, we need some preparatory work: We have assumed, that V only takes values in $\{0, \pm c\}$. This implies, that $D_1^+(i, j), D_2^+(i, j) \in \{0, \pm c, \pm 2c\}$ and thus

$$D^+(i, j) \in \{0, c, 2c, \sqrt{2}c, \sqrt{5}c, \sqrt{8}c\}$$

We can narrow this list down even more. By assumption, V contains a rectangular region of interest R with a checkerboard pattern. This only allows the following combinations of $|D_1^+(i, j)|$ and $|D_2^+(i, j)|$:

Position of pixels $(i, j), (i+1, j), (i, j+1)$	$ D_1^+(i, j) $	$ D_2^+(i, j) $	$D^+(i, j)$
$(i, j), (i+1, j), (i, j+1) \notin R$	0	0	0
$(i, j), (i+1, j) \notin R$ and $(i, j+1) \in R$	0	c	c
$(i, j), (i, j+1) \notin R$ and $(i+1, j) \in R$	c	0	c
$(i, j) \in R$ and $(i+1, j), (i, j+1) \notin R$	c	c	$\sqrt{2}c$
$(i, j), (i+1, j) \in R$ and $(i, j+1) \notin R$	$2c$	c	$\sqrt{5}c$
$(i, j), (i, j+1) \in R$ and $(i+1, j) \notin R$	c	$2c$	$\sqrt{5}c$
$(i, j), (i+1, j), (i, j+1) \in R$	$2c$	$2c$	$\sqrt{8}c$

It should be noted, that the case $(i, j) \in R$ and $(i+1, j), (i, j+1) \notin R$ can only happen at the bottom right corner of R .

Other cases are not possible and thus $D^+(i, j) \in \{0, c, \sqrt{2}c, \sqrt{5}c, \sqrt{8}c\}$. We split this set of possible values into two sets. If $H_0(i, j)$ is true, then $(i, j) \notin R$ and thus $D^+(i, j) \in \{0, c\}$. On the other hand, if $H_1(i, j)$ is true, then $(i, j) \in R$ and thus $D^+(i, j) \in \{\sqrt{2}c, \sqrt{5}c, \sqrt{8}c\}$. Based on this information we define the two sets $\mathcal{D}_0 = \{0, c\}$ and $\mathcal{D}_1 = \{\sqrt{2}c, \sqrt{5}c, \sqrt{8}c\}$ and get the equivalences

$$\begin{aligned} H_0(i, j) &\Leftrightarrow D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_0 \\ H_1(i, j) &\Leftrightarrow D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1 \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

Using this knowledge, we can find an upper bound for the probability of a type II error in our testing procedure:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(t) &:= \mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\min\{\tilde{D}^+(i, j), \tilde{D}^-(i, j)\} \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) + \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1) + \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j) \leq t \mid D^-(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1) \\ &= 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1) \end{aligned}$$

where we used the equality

$$\mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1) = \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j) \leq t \mid D^-(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1)$$

in the last step. We can proceed by taking the specific $d \in \mathcal{D}_1$ that maximizes the probability. It is easy to see, that this is achieved, when d is minimal and thus we get

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(t) &\leq 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1) \\ &\leq 2 \cdot \max_{d \in \mathcal{D}_1} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = d) \\ &= 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \min_{d \in \mathcal{D}_1} d) \\ &= 2 \cdot \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2}c) \end{aligned}$$

which proves inequality (19).

Using similar techniques, we can also get a lower bound for the probability

of a type II error:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \beta(t) &= \mathbb{P}(T(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(\min\{\tilde{D}^+(i, j), \tilde{D}^-(i, j)\} \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \\
 &\geq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid H_1(i, j)) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Again, we proceed by taking the specific $d \in \mathcal{D}_1$ that minimizes the probability. In this case, this is achieved, when d is maximal. This yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 \beta(t) &\geq \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) \in \mathcal{D}_1) \\
 &\geq \min_{d \in \mathcal{D}_1} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = d) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \max_{d \in \mathcal{D}_1} d) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{8}c)
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves inequality (20) and finishes the proof. \square

This result is the equivalent to lemma 2.5 for the probability of a type II error. We would like to find an equivalent result to theorem 2.6 to write the bounds in the inequalities (19) and (20) in terms of well-known functions like we did in equation (15). Unfortunately, this would require more generalized versions of equalities (16) and (17).

We can however write down the compound probability distribution of the upper and lower bound as we did in the proof of theorem 2.6.

Theorem 2.8. *Assume the statistical model as above and let $D^+(i, j)$ and $\tilde{D}^+(i, j)$ be defined as above. Then the following equalities hold:*

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2}c) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(c-\eta)^2}{\sigma^2} - \frac{\eta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}(c-\eta)\right) d\eta dx
 \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{8c}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(2c-\eta)^2}{\sigma^2} - \frac{\eta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}(2c-\eta)\right) d\eta dx
 \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Proof. From the analysis of possible combinations of $D_1^+(i, j)$ and $D_2^+(i, j)$ in the proof of theorem 2.7 we can deduce the equivalences

$$\begin{aligned}
 |D_1^+(i, j)| = |D_2^+(i, j)| = c &\Leftrightarrow D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c} \\
 |D_1^+(i, j)| = |D_2^+(i, j)| = 2c &\Leftrightarrow D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{8c}
 \end{aligned}$$

We proceed as in the proof of theorem 2.6. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c}) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}\left((c + V(i+1, j) + \varepsilon_{i+1, j} - c - V(i, j) - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + (c + V(i, j+1) + \varepsilon_{i, j+1} - c - V(i, j) - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 \leq t^2 \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c}\right) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}\left((D_1^+ + \varepsilon_{i+1, j} - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 + (D_2^+ + \varepsilon_{i, j+1} - \varepsilon_{i, j})^2 \leq t^2 \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

We define the following random variables

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_1 &= D_1^+ - \varepsilon_{i, j} \sim \mathcal{N}(D_1^+, \sigma^2) \\
 \xi_2 &= D_2^+ - \varepsilon_{i, j} \sim \mathcal{N}(D_2^+, \sigma^2) \\
 X_1 &= \xi_1 + \varepsilon_{i+1, j} \sim \mathcal{N}(\xi_1, \sigma^2) \\
 X_2 &= \xi_2 + \varepsilon_{i, j+1} \sim \mathcal{N}(\xi_2, \sigma^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

and obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c}) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{X_2}{\sigma}\right)^2} \leq \frac{t}{\sigma} \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we see, that the square root inside has a non-central Chi distribution with two degrees of freedom. The probability is conditioned on $D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2c}$, which is equivalent to $|D_1^+(i, j)| = |D_2^+(i, j)| = c$. We can replace ξ_1 or

ξ_2 by $-\xi_1$ or $-\xi_2$, respectively, without changing the probability. Thus, we can assume without loss of generality $D_1^+(i, j) = D_2^+(i, j) = c$. Assuming $\varepsilon_{i,j}$ to be constant, this non-central Chi distribution has non-centrality parameter

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\left(\frac{D_1^+ - \varepsilon_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{D_2^+ - \varepsilon_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}|c - \varepsilon_{i,j}|}{\sigma}$$

This yields

$$\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{X_2}{\sigma}\right)^2} \sim \chi_2\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}|c - \varepsilon_{i,j}|}{\sigma}\right)$$

Again, $\varepsilon_{i,j}$ is not constant, but a normal distributed random variable with zero mean and standard deviation σ . Thus, we have a compound probability distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^+(i, j) \leq t \mid D^+(i, j) = \sqrt{2}c) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\sqrt{\left(\frac{X_1}{\sigma}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{X_2}{\sigma}\right)^2} \leq \frac{t}{\sigma}\right) \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{|c - \eta|^2}{\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}|c - \eta|}{\sigma}x\right) \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\eta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}_{\text{pdf of } \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)} d\eta dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_0^{\frac{t}{\sigma}} x \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(c - \eta)^2}{\sigma^2} - \frac{\eta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}x}{\sigma}(c - \eta)\right) d\eta dx \end{aligned}$$

where we used the symmetry of I_0 . The second equality can be proven exactly the same way. \square

While these results are not as strong as the result from theorem 2.6, they still give us two ways to estimate an upper and lower bound for the probability of a type II error in our testing procedure. Theorem 2.7 gives us the option to simulate the random variables and consequently the probabilities on the right hand side of equations (19) and (20) to estimate an upper and lower bound. On the other hand, theorem 2.8 gives us the option to numerically integrate the right hand side of equations (22) and (23) to get estimates of bounds for the probability of a type II error.

3 Binary morphological operations

After having developed a basic testing procedure for extracting a rectangular region of interest, we now introduce morphological operations. It is our goal to study the influence of these operations on the statistical significance. Since we can view the output of the testing procedure as a binarization, it is sufficient to only consider *binary* morphological operations. Moreover, we will only study the impact of *binary opening* and *binary closing*. These operations can be viewed as local, meaning they only depend on a limited and fixed number of pixels. In contrast to that, the *convex hull* is a more global morphological operation depending on all pixels in an image, which makes it way harder to study on a pixel-by-pixel basis.

3.1 Definition of opening & closing

Morphological binary opening and closing are closely related operations. They are both defined as a composition of *binary erosion* and *binary dilation*. Thus we start by defining those operations. It should be noted, that we focus on morphological operations in image processing and thus the definitions might differ from those in other contexts. All definitions are taken from CITE!!!.

Definition 3.1. Let $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n$.

1. The *binary erosion* of A by B is defined as

$$A \ominus B = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid x + b \in A \text{ for every } b \in B\}$$

2. The *binary dilation* of A by B is defined as

$$A \oplus B = \{c \in \mathbb{Z}^n \mid c = a + b \text{ for some } a \in A \text{ and } b \in B\}$$

The set B is called a *structuring element*.

Remark 3.2. The set B can be chosen arbitrarily, although should be chosen to fit the current application.

As we can see, in binary morphology a binary image is a subset of \mathbb{Z}^n . This subset is the set of points at which the binary image is one. In contrast to that, we aim to study the influence of these morphological operations on the outcome of a statistical test for each individual pixel of an image. This outcome is best represented by a matrix $\varphi \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$. Hence, we need to translate the definition of binary opening and closing as operations on subsets of \mathbb{Z}^n to operations on matrices $\varphi \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$. This gives rise to the following definition.

Definition 3.3. Let $\varphi \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$. We extend the matrix φ to all of \mathbb{Z}^2 by setting $\varphi(k, l) = 0$ for $(k, l) \notin \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$. Let $B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^2$ be a structuring element.

1. The *binary erosion of the matrix φ by the structuring element B* is defined by

$$(\varphi \ominus B)(i, j) = \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \varphi(i + m, j + n) \quad (24)$$

for every $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$.

2. The *binary dilation of the matrix φ by the structuring element B* is defined by

$$(\varphi \oplus B)(i, j) = 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi(i - m, j - n)) \quad (25)$$

for every $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$.

Remark 3.4. The extension of φ to all of \mathbb{Z}^2 is necessary, because in the definition of binary erosion and dilation of a matrix, we might reach indices outside of $\{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$.

By these definitions, the binary erosion and dilation of a matrix are binary matrices as well, i.e. $\varphi \ominus B, \varphi \oplus B \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$.

There is a close connection between classical binary erosion and dilation for subsets of \mathbb{Z}^2 and binary erosion and dilation of a matrix. This connection is given in the following lemma.

Lemma 3.5. *Let $\varphi \in \{0, 1\}^{M \times N}$. Define the set*

$$A_\varphi := \{(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\} \mid \varphi(i, j) = 1\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^2$$

and let $B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^2$. Then we have the following equivalences

$$(\varphi \ominus B)(i, j) = 1 \Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in A_\varphi \ominus B \quad (26)$$

$$(\varphi \oplus B)(i, j) = 1 \Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in A_\varphi \oplus B \quad (27)$$

$$\varphi_{A \ominus B}(i, j) = \prod_{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) \quad (28)$$

$$\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i, j) = 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) \quad (29)$$

Proof. We start with the first equality. By definition of binary erosion and using basic properties of set theory, we get the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{A \ominus B}(i, j) = 1 &\Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in A \ominus B \\ &\Leftrightarrow \forall (m, n) \in B : (i, j) + (m, n) \in A \\ &\Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in \bigcap_{(m, n) \in B} (A - (m, n)) \end{aligned}$$

where we define the set $A - (m, n) := \{a - (m, n) \mid a \in A\}$ for any $(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$. Let $\varphi_{A - (m, n)}$ be the binary image defined by the set $A - (m, n)$. Using the properties of $\varphi_{A - (m, n)}$ and the fact, that $\varphi_{A - (m, n)}(i, j) = \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)$, we get the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{A \ominus B}(i, j) = 1 &\Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in \bigcap_{(m, n) \in B} (A - (m, n)) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \varphi_{A - (m, n)}(i, j) = 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \varphi_A(i + m, j + n) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

To proceed, we notice that for $(m, n) \in B$, we have $\varphi_B(m, n) = 1$ and thus

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_A(i + m, j + n) &= 1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \\ &= 1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, for $(m, n) \notin B$, we have $\varphi_B(m, n) = 0$, which yields

$$1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n) = 1$$

Using these two observations, we get the equality

$$\begin{aligned}\prod_{(m,n) \in B} \varphi_A(i + m, j + n) &= \prod_{(m,n) \in B} (1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) \\ &= \prod_{(m,n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n))\end{aligned}$$

Plugging this into the equivalence we derived above, we obtain

$$\varphi_{A \ominus B}(i, j) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \prod_{(m,n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) = 1$$

The functions on both sides of this equivalence only take values in $\{0, 1\}$. Thus, we get a full equality

$$\varphi_{A \ominus B}(i, j) = \prod_{(m,n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n))$$

The proof of the second equality is quite similar. First we use the definition of binary dilation and basic set theory properties to get the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i, j) = 1 &\Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in A \oplus B \\ &\Leftrightarrow \exists (m, n) \in B : (i, j) - (m, n) \in A \\ &\Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in \bigcup_{(m,n) \in B} (A + (m, n))\end{aligned}$$

The property $(i, j) \in \bigcup_{(m,n) \in B} (A + (m, n))$ is fulfilled, if $\varphi_{A+(m,n)}(i, j) = 1$

for any $(m, n) \in B$. This yields the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i, j) = 1 &\Leftrightarrow (i, j) \in \bigcup_{(m, n) \in B} (A + (m, n)) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi_{A+(m, n)}(i, j)) = 0\end{aligned}$$

Using the properties of the functions $\varphi_{A+(m, n)}(i, j)$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i, j) = 1 &\Leftrightarrow \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi_{A+(m, n)}(i, j)) = 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n)) = 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n)) = 1\end{aligned}$$

As in the proof of the first equality, we notice again, that for $(m, n) \in B$, we have $\varphi_B(m, n) = 1$, which yields

$$1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n) = 1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)$$

For $(m, n) \notin B$, we have $\varphi_B(m, n) = 0$ and thus

$$1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n) = 1$$

These observations can be used to obtain the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i, j) = 1 &\Leftrightarrow 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n)) = 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) = 1\end{aligned}$$

Again, this yields a full equality

$$\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i, j) = 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - \varphi_A(i - m, j - n) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n))$$

□

Now we can define binary opening and closing:

Definition 3.6. Let $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n$.

1. The *binary opening* of an image A by a structuring element B is defined as

$$A \circ B = (A \ominus B) \oplus B$$

2. The *binary closing* of an image A by a structuring element B is defined as

$$A \bullet B = (A \oplus B) \ominus B$$

As we can see, binary opening and closing are concatenations of binary erosion and dilation. Using the equalities deduced in lemma 3.5 for erosion and dilation, we can also derive similar equalities for opening and closing.

Corollary 3.7. Let $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^2$. Then the following equalities hold

$$\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi_A(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) \right) \quad (30)$$

$$\varphi_{A \bullet B}(i, j) = \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \left(1 - \prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} (1 - \varphi_A(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n})) \right) \quad (31)$$

Proof. We can use equation (26) after equation (27) to obtain the first equality

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) \\ &= \varphi_{(A \ominus B) \oplus B}(i, j) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - \varphi_{A \ominus B}(i - m, j - n) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (1 - \varphi_{A \ominus B}(i - m, j - n)) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - (1 - \varphi_A(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n})) \cdot \varphi_B(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n})) \right) \right) \\ &= 1 - \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi_A(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Using these equations in reverse order also yields the second equality

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \varphi_{A \bullet B}(i, j) \\
 &= \varphi_{(A \oplus B) \ominus B}(i, j) \\
 &= \prod_{(m, n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - (1 - \varphi_{A \oplus B}(i + m, j + n)) \cdot \varphi_B(m, n)) \\
 &= \prod_{(m, n) \in B} (\varphi_{A \oplus B}(i + m, j + n)) \\
 &= \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \left(1 - \prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in \mathbb{Z}^2} (1 - \varphi_A(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n})) \cdot \varphi_B(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \right) \\
 &= \prod_{(m, n) \in B} \left(1 - \prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} (1 - \varphi_A(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n})) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

□

We now assume $\varphi_A(i, j)$ to be a random variable for all $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$. Equations (30) and (31) show, that $\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j)$ and $\varphi_{A \bullet B}(i, j)$ are random variables as well. We want to express the events $\{\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1\}$ and $\{\varphi_{A \bullet B}(i, j) = 1\}$ as unions and intersections of the events $\{\varphi_A(i, j) = 1\}$. This is done in the following corollary.

Corollary 3.8. *Let $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\varphi(i, j) \in \{0, 1\}$ be a random variable for all $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$. Define the set*

$$A = \{(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\} \mid \varphi(i, j) = 1\}$$

and let $B \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^2$.

$$\{\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1\} \Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcap_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \quad (32)$$

$$\{\varphi_{A \bullet B}(i, j) = 1\} \Leftrightarrow \bigcap_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcup_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n}) = 1\} \quad (33)$$

Proof. By definition of A , we have $\varphi_A = \varphi$. Using equation (30), we obtain

the equivalences

$$\begin{aligned} \{\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1\} &\Leftrightarrow \left\{ 1 - \prod_{(m,n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) \right) = 1 \right\} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \prod_{(m,n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) \right) = 0 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

The event $\left\{ \prod_{(m,n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) \right) = 0 \right\}$ occurs, if and only if any of the events $\left\{ 1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) = 0 \right\}$ for $(m, n) \in B$ occurs. Thus, we get the equivalences

$$\begin{aligned} \{\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1\} &\Leftrightarrow \left\{ \prod_{(m,n) \in B} \left(1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) \right) = 0 \right\} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{(m,n) \in B} \left\{ 1 - \left(\prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) \right) = 0 \right\} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{(m,n) \in B} \left\{ \prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

For fixed $(m, n) \in B$, the event $\left\{ \prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1 \right\}$ occurs, if and only if all of the events $\{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\}$ for $(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B$ occur. This yields the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned} \{\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1\} &\Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{(m,n) \in B} \left\{ \prod_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1 \right\} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{(m,n) \in B} \bigcap_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \end{aligned}$$

This finished the proof of first equivalence. The second equivalence can be proven similarly. \square

3.2 Examples

4 Main results

Theorem 4.1. *Assume the following statistical model:*

Let $M, N \in \mathbb{N}$ and $G = \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\}$. We are given data

$$F(i, j) = c + V(i, j) + \varepsilon_{i,j} \quad (34)$$

where $(i, j) \in G$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$ is constant, $V \in \mathcal{V}_c^{M,N}$ and $\varepsilon_{i,j} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ are i.i.d. normal distributed random variables for some $\sigma > 0$ and for all $(i, j) \in G$.

Let $T(i, j)$ denote the testing procedure developed in the previous sections. Let $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and t_α be the threshold to ensure a statistical significance of α in the testing procedure. Let φ_α be the binary image defined by

$$\varphi_\alpha(i, j) = \mathbb{1}_{\{T(i,j) \geq t_\alpha\}} \quad (35)$$

for all $(i, j) \in G$ and define the set

$$A_\alpha = \{(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, M\} \times \{1, \dots, N\} \mid \varphi_\alpha(i, j) = 1\} \quad (36)$$

Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$ be odd. Let $K = \{-\frac{k-1}{2}, -\frac{k-3}{2}, \dots, \frac{k-3}{2}, \frac{k-1}{2}\}$ and $B = K \times K$ be a structuring element. Then the following inequality holds:

$$\mathbb{P}((A_\alpha \circ B)(i, j) = 1 \mid H_0(i, j)) \leq k\alpha^{\frac{k+1}{2}}$$

Proof. We aim to find an upper bound for the probability

$$\mathbb{P}((\varphi_\alpha \circ B)(i, j) = 1 \mid H_0(i, j))$$

To do this, we first notice that $H_0(i, j)$ is equivalent to $V(i, j) = 0$, but since V contains a rectangular region of interest, this means that $i < i_1$ or $i > i_2$ or $j < j_1$ or $j > j_2$. We need to differentiate cases here. These four cases are not mutually exclusive, but have different implications for the row/column of the index (i, j) and a neighbouring row/column:

case	row/column of (i, j)	neighbouring row/column
$i < i_1$	$V(i, 1) = \dots = V(i, N) = 0$	$V(i - 1, 1) = \dots = V(i - 1, N) = 0$
$i > i_2$	$V(i, 1) = \dots = V(i, N) = 0$	$V(i + 1, 1) = \dots = V(i + 1, N) = 0$
$j < j_1$	$V(1, j) = \dots = V(M, j) = 0$	$V(1, j - 1) = \dots = V(M, j - 1) = 0$
$j > j_2$	$V(1, j) = \dots = V(M, j) = 0$	$V(1, j + 1) = \dots = V(M, j + 1) = 0$

Without loss of generality we assume the first case. This means that the null hypotheses $H(i, 1), \dots, H(i, N)$ and $H(i - 1, 1), \dots, H(i - 1, N)$ are true. To be even more precise, it implies that $D^-(i, 1) = \dots = D^-(i, N) = 0$. We have assumed the side length k of the structuring element B to be odd. We define the two index sets $K = \{-\frac{k-1}{2}, -\frac{k-3}{2}, \dots, \frac{k-3}{2}, \frac{k-1}{2}\}$ and $K_1 = \{-\frac{k-1}{2}, -\frac{k-5}{2}, \dots, \frac{k-5}{2}, \frac{k-1}{2}\}$. This yields

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathbb{P}((\varphi_\alpha \circ B)(i, j) = 1 \mid H_0(i, j)) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcap_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi_\alpha(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &= \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m, n \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi_\alpha(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi_\alpha(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{m}=m, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi_\alpha(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &= \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi_\alpha(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &= \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{\tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi_\alpha(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \{\varphi_\alpha(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\
 &= \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(\{\varphi_\alpha(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)) \\
 &= \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(T(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j)) \\
&= \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid D^-(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 0) \\
&\leq \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \alpha \\
&= |K| \alpha^{|K_1|} \\
&= k \alpha^{\frac{k+1}{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

The other three cases can be proven in a similar way by swapping the roles of m or \tilde{m} with n or \tilde{n} , respectively and/or by replacing D^- by D^+ . \square

```

1 function [t, alpha_real] = Threshold(alpha, increment)
2 %THRESHOLD Calculate threshold based on target statistical
   significance
3
4 t = 0;
5
6 while CDF(t, 1) < 1 - alpha
7     t = t + increment;
8 end
9
10 alpha_real = CDF(t, 1);
11
12 end
13
14 function y = CDF(x, sigma)
15 % Initialize output array:
16 y = zeros(size(x));
17
18 % Compute pdf values:
19 for i = 1 : size(x, 1)
20     for j = 1 : size(x, 2)
21         y(i, j) = (1 / sqrt(3)) * ( 3 / 2 - (3 / 2) * exp(-x(i,
22             j)^2 / (3 * sigma^2)) * besseli(0, x(i, j)^2 / (6 * sigma^2))
23             ) - sqrt(3) ...
24             - ((2 - sqrt(3)) / 2) * marcumq(((2 - sqrt(3)) / 2)
25             * sqrt(x(i, j) / sigma), ((2 + sqrt(3)) / 2) * sqrt(x(i, j) /
26             sigma)) ...
27             + ((2 + sqrt(3)) / 2) * marcumq(((2 + sqrt(3)) / 2)
28             * sqrt(x(i, j) / sigma), ((2 - sqrt(3)) / 2) * sqrt(x(i, j) /
29             sigma));
30     end
31 end
32 end

```

ROI-Detection/ProbabilityDistribution/Threshold.m

$$\{\varphi_{A \circ B}(i, j) = 1\} \Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcap_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \quad (37)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}((\varphi_\alpha \circ B)(i, j) = 1 \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcap_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m, n \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{m}=m, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i - m + \tilde{m}, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &= \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \in K} \bigcap_{\tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &= \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{\tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \{\varphi(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)\right) \\ &= \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(\{\varphi(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(T(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid D^-(i, j - n + \tilde{n}) = 0) \\ &\leq \sum_{n \in K} \prod_{\tilde{n} \in K_1} \alpha \\ &= |K| \alpha^{|K_1|} \\ &= k \alpha^{\frac{k+1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\{\varphi_{A \bullet B}(i, j) = 1\} \Leftrightarrow \bigcap_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcup_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n}) = 1\} \quad (38)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}((\varphi_\alpha \bullet B)(i, j) = 1 \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left(\bigcap_{(m, n) \in B} \bigcup_{(\tilde{m}, \tilde{n}) \in B} \{\varphi(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j) \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left(\bigcap_{m, n \in K} \bigcup_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i + m - \tilde{m}, j + n - \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j) \right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{P} \left(\bigcup_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \{\varphi(i + m_0 - \tilde{m}, j + n_0 - \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j) \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \mathbb{P}(\{\varphi(i + m_0 - \tilde{m}, j + n_0 - \tilde{n}) = 1\} \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \sum_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \mathbb{P}(T(i + m_0 - \tilde{m}, j + n_0 - \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &\leq \sum_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i + m_0 - \tilde{m}, j + n_0 - \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid H_0(i, j)) \\ &= \sum_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \mathbb{P}(\tilde{D}^-(i + m_0 - \tilde{m}, j + n_0 - \tilde{n}) \geq t_\alpha \mid D^-(i + m_0 - \tilde{m}, j + n_0 - \tilde{n}) = 0) \\ &\leq \sum_{\tilde{m}, \tilde{n} \in K} \alpha \\ &= |K|^2 \alpha \\ &= k^2 \alpha \end{aligned}$$