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Dilate/Erode Node

Expands or shrinks a mask using a morphological operator.



Inputs

Mask

A grayscale image.

Properties

Mode

Steps

Sets each pixel to the maximum (for dilation) or minimum (for erosion) value that's found within a square surrounding it. This approach keeps the original gray levels and is best suited for masks that contain sharp corners; rounded shapes such as circles will look more square-like in the output.

Despite the name, this is not an iterative process; the dilation/erosion is only performed once regardless of the chosen *Distance*.

Threshold

Makes all the pixels fully black or white depending on whether they're darker or brighter than 50% gray. Then, sets each pixel to the maximum (for dilation) or minimum (for erosion) value that's found within a circle surrounding it. This approach loses the original gray levels. Shape wise, it's well-suited for masks that contain rounded corners; sharp ones will be rounded off.

Distance

Sets each pixel to the maximum (for dilation) or minimum (for erosion) value that's found within a circle surrounding it. This approach preserves the original gray levels and is well-suited for masks that contain rounded corners.

Feather

Blurs the image.

Distance

The size of the surrounding area to look at for each pixel; or in other words, how much to dilate (for positive values) or erode (for negative values) the mask.

Edge

For the *Threshold* mode, determines how much to blur the edges after dilation/erosion.

Falloff

For the *Feather* mode, determines the brightness curve of the blurred edges.

Outputs

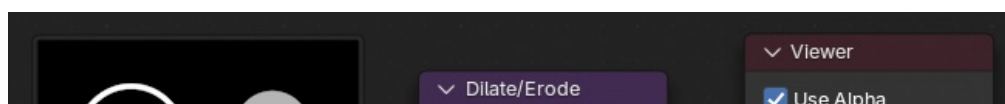
Mask

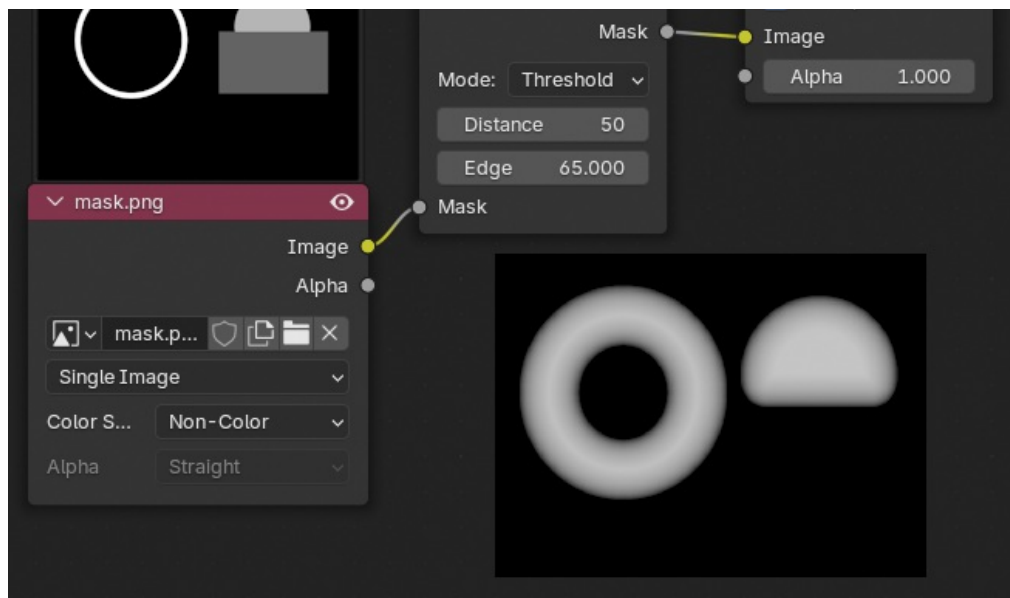
The resulting mask.

Example

In the image below, notice that:

- The light gray disk has turned white and the dark gray rectangle has turned black because of the *Threshold* mode.
- The shapes have become thicker – dilated because of the positive *Distance*.
- The shapes appear blurred because of the positive *Edge*.





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