

# ***Geometric measures on arbitrary dimensional digital surfaces***

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# Outline

1- 3D example

2- nD digital surface: Definition  
Tracking  
Contours

3- Discrete tangent line: Definition  
Recognition

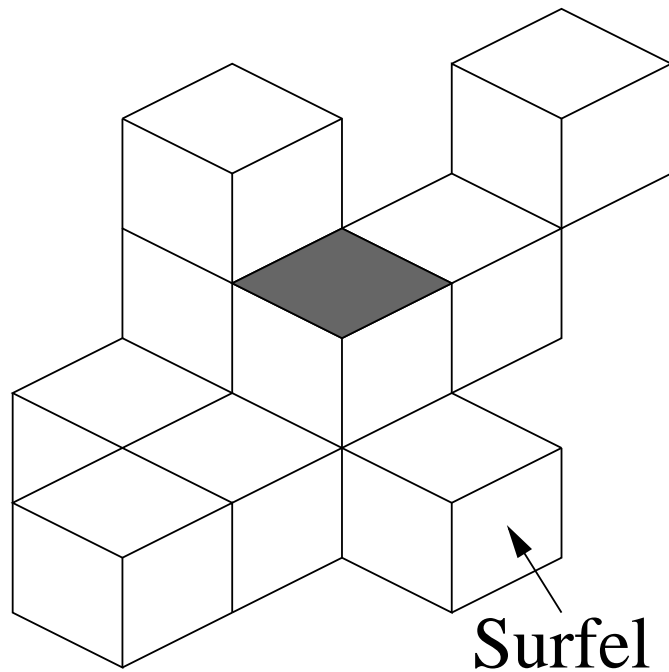
4- Geometric estimators: Normal vector  
Tangent planes  
Area

# 3D example

Problem: how to compute the normal vector to each element of a digital surface ?

*[Lenoir96], [Tellier / Debled-Renesson99], [Coeurjolly02]*

*3D digital surface:* boundary of a voxel set

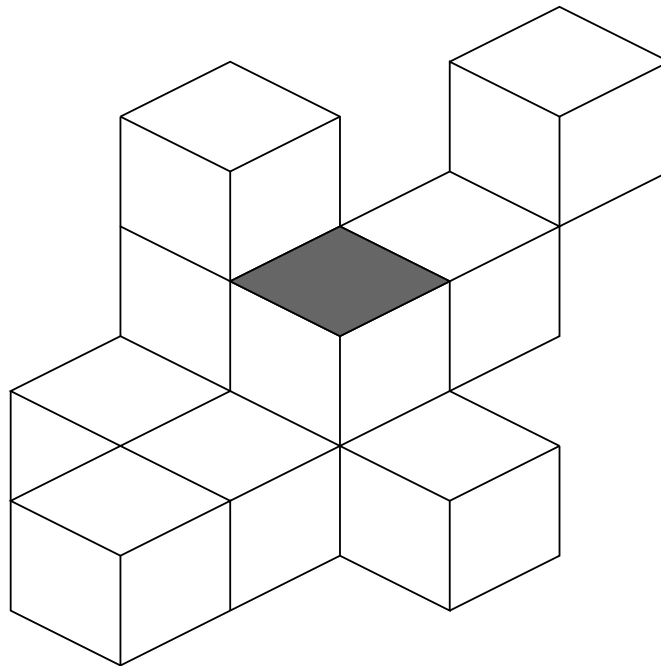


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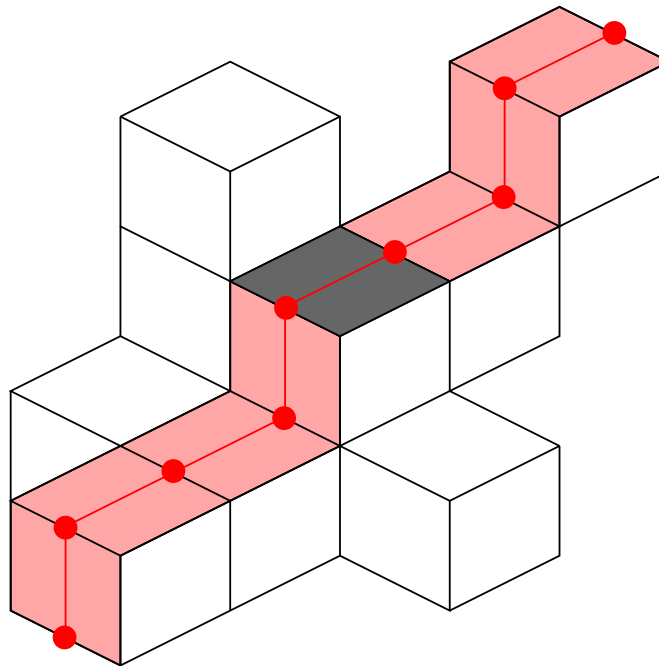
(1) Exactly two 4-connected contours cross at a given surfel

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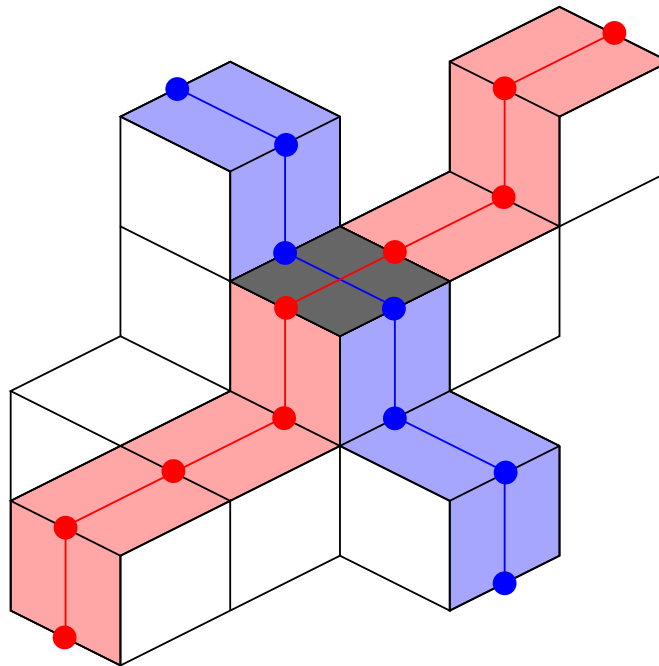
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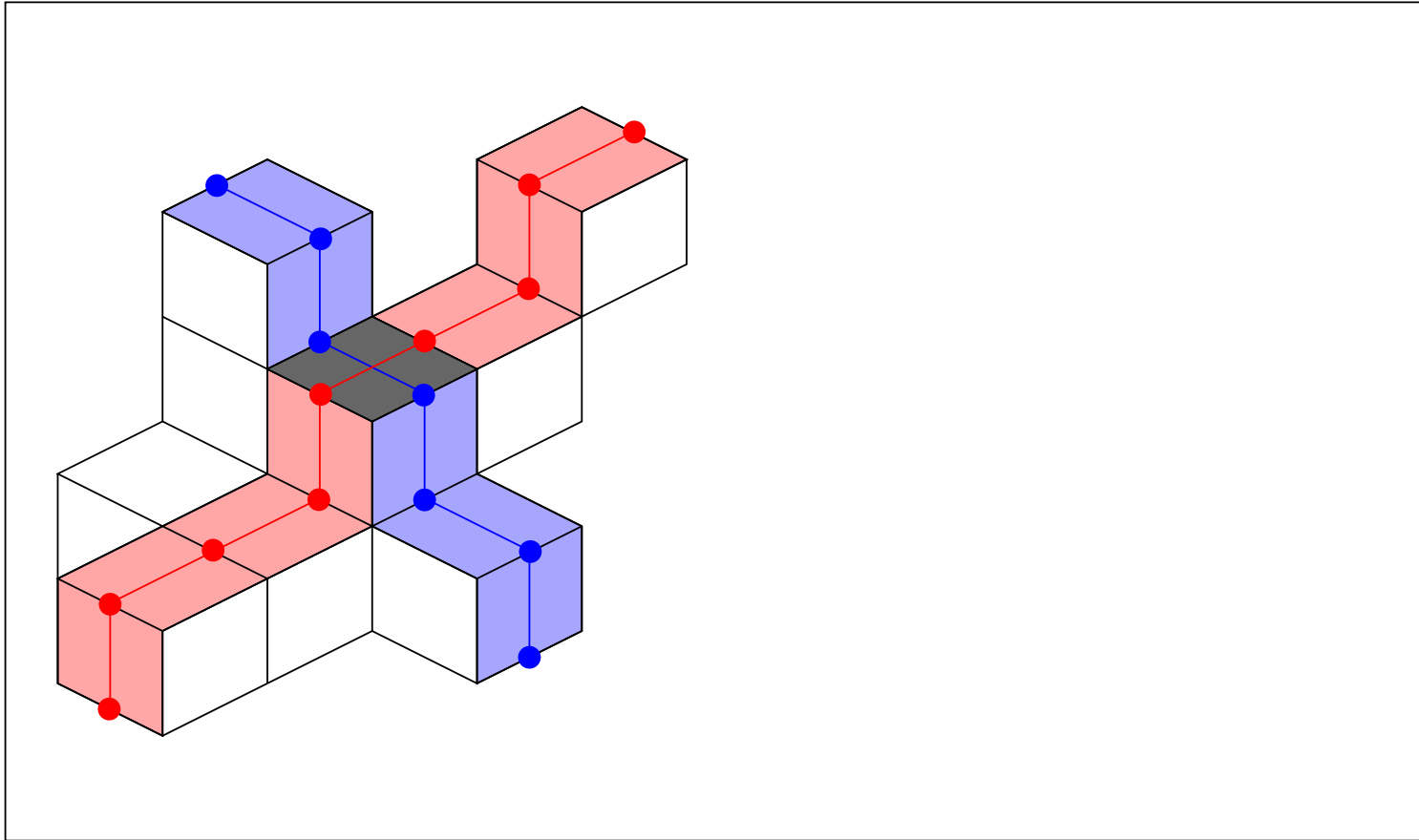
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(1) Exactly two 4-connected contours cross at a given surfel

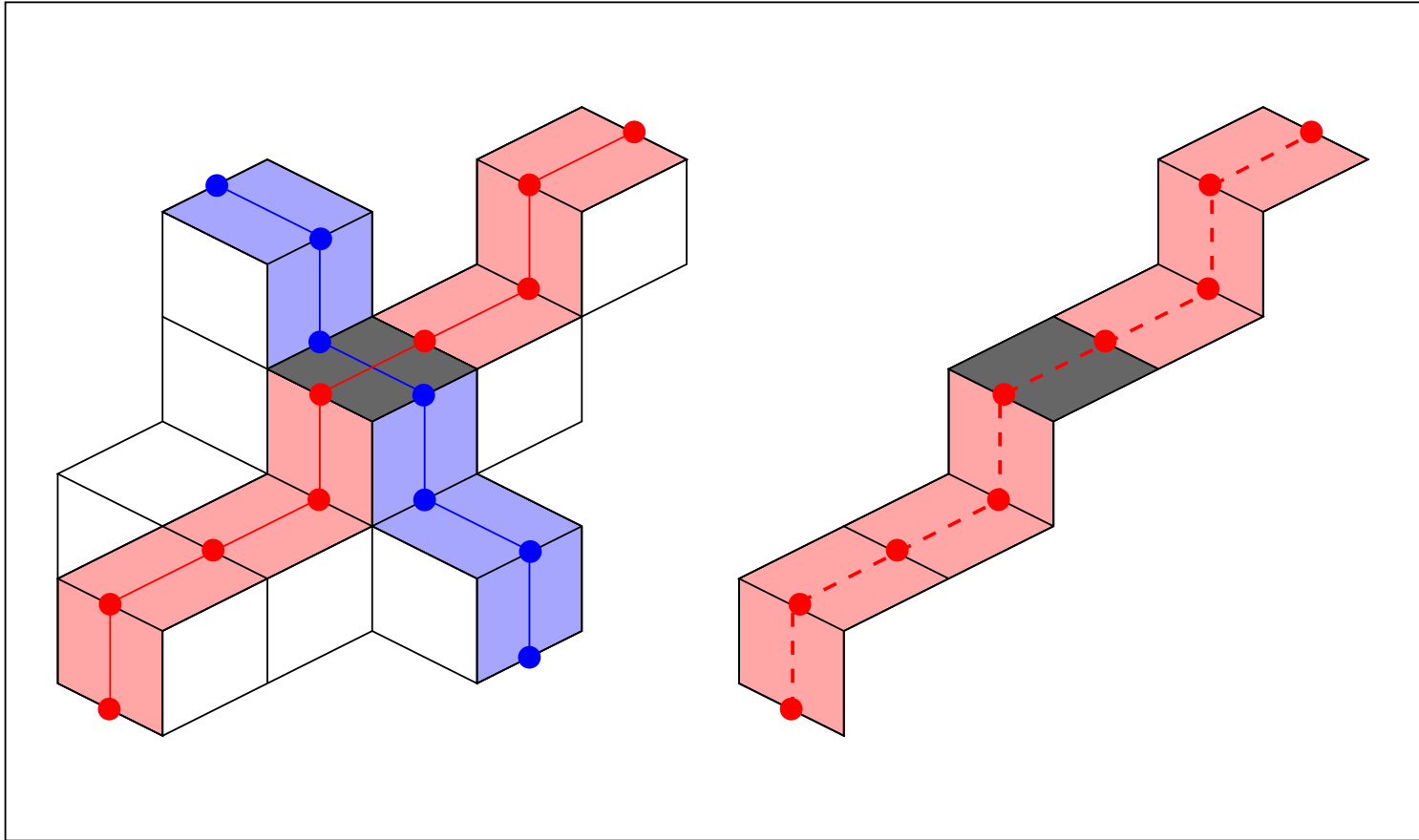
# 3D example

(2) Tangent computation on each 2D contour: discrete line segment recognition [\[Debled95\]](#), [\[Vialard96\]](#)



# 3D example

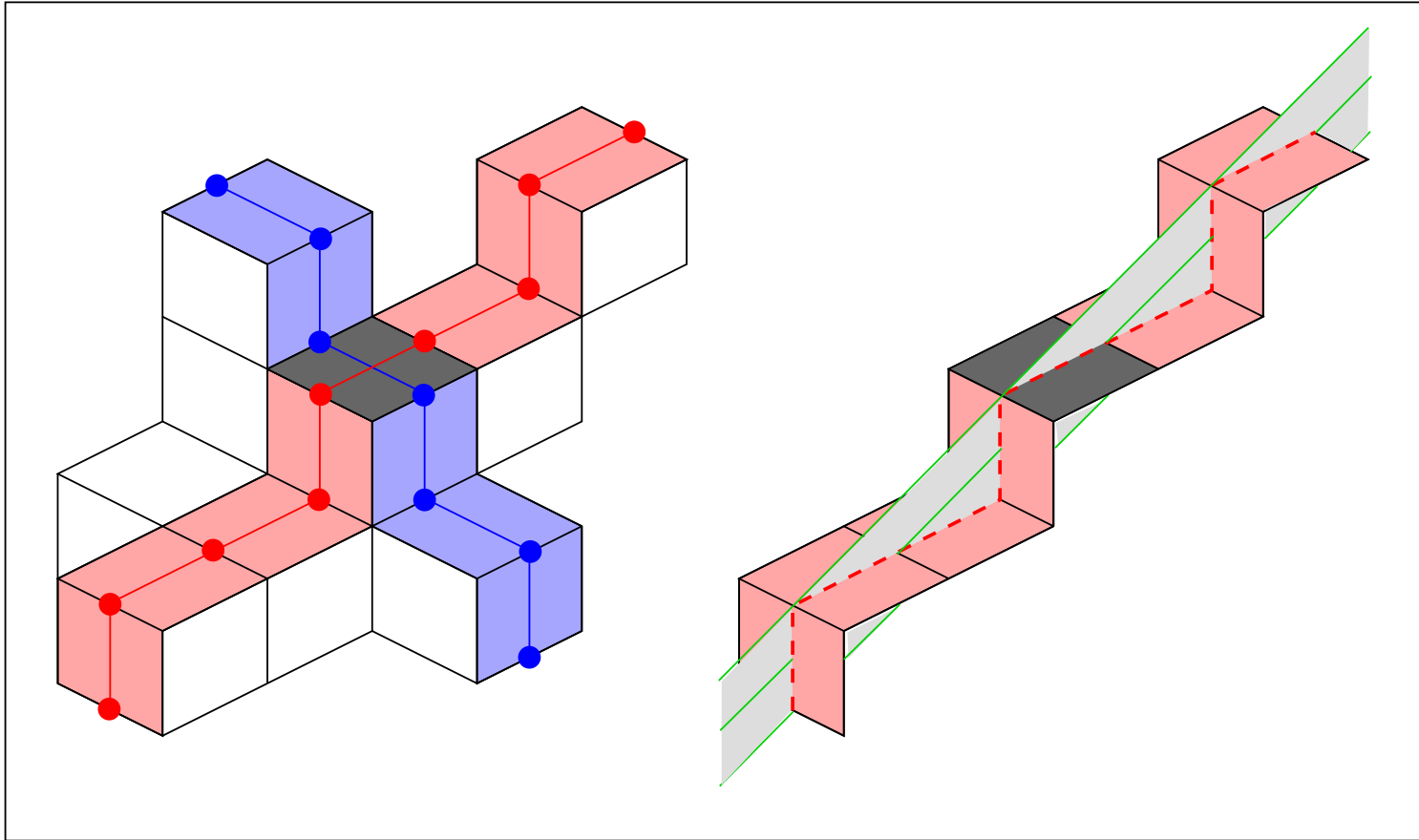
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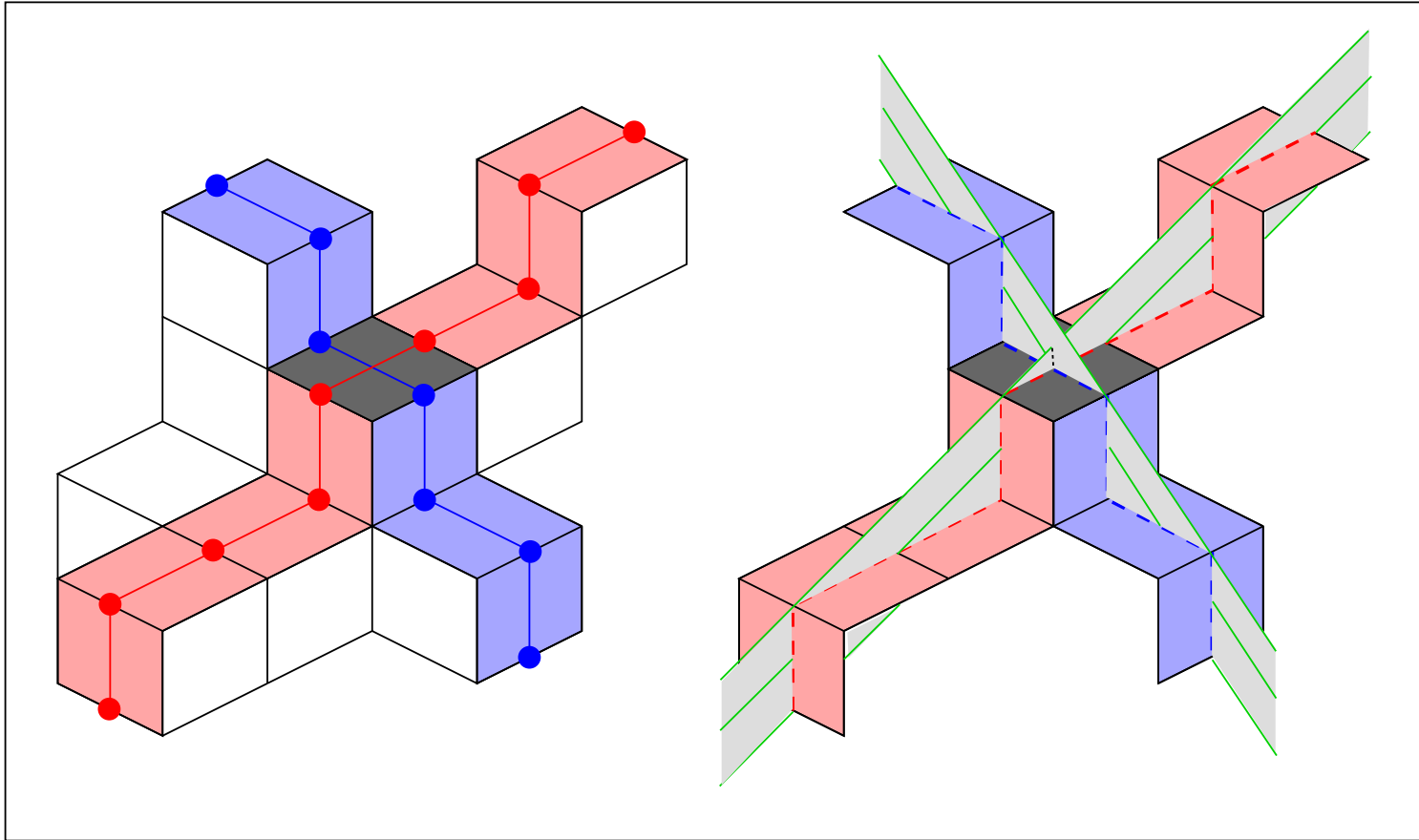
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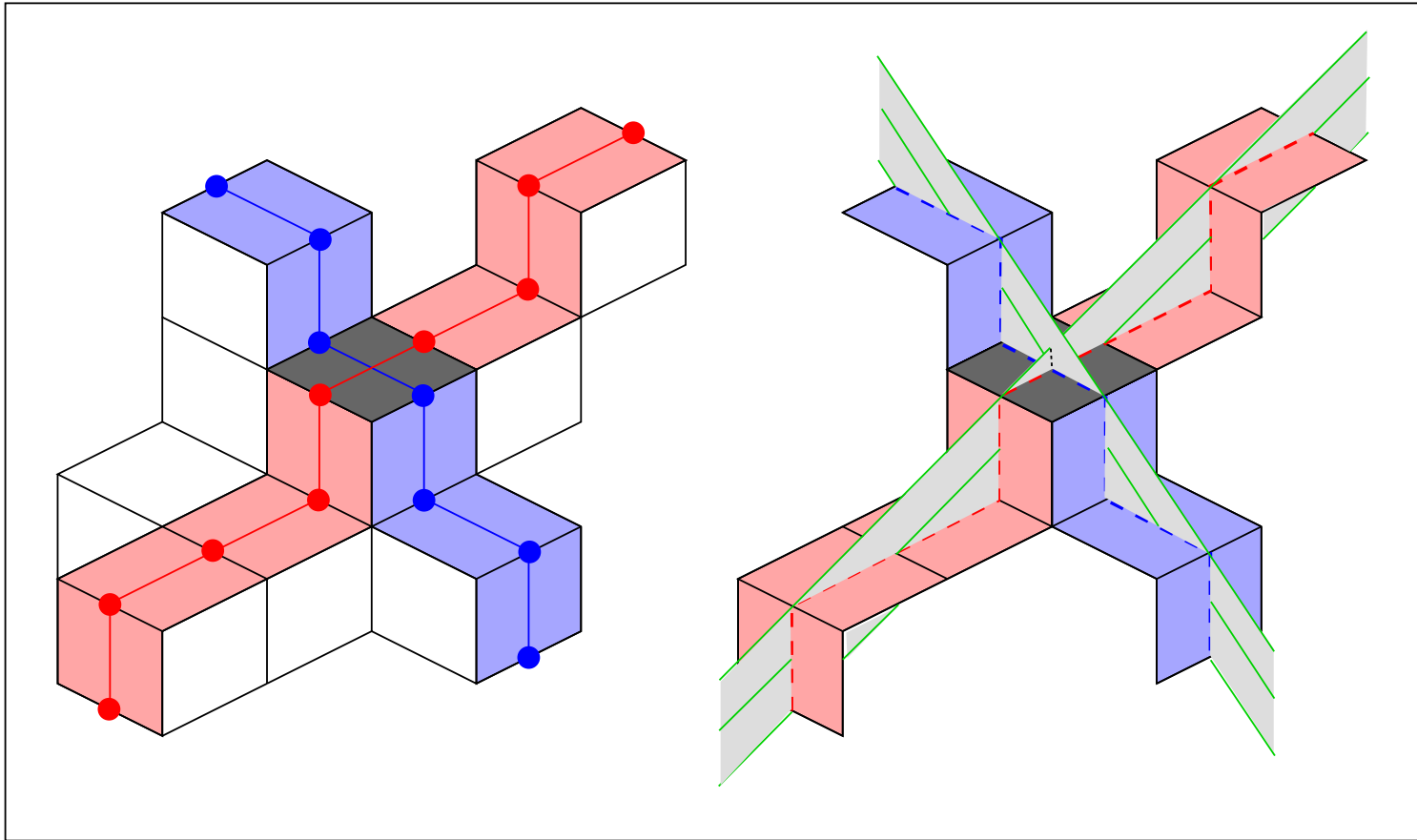
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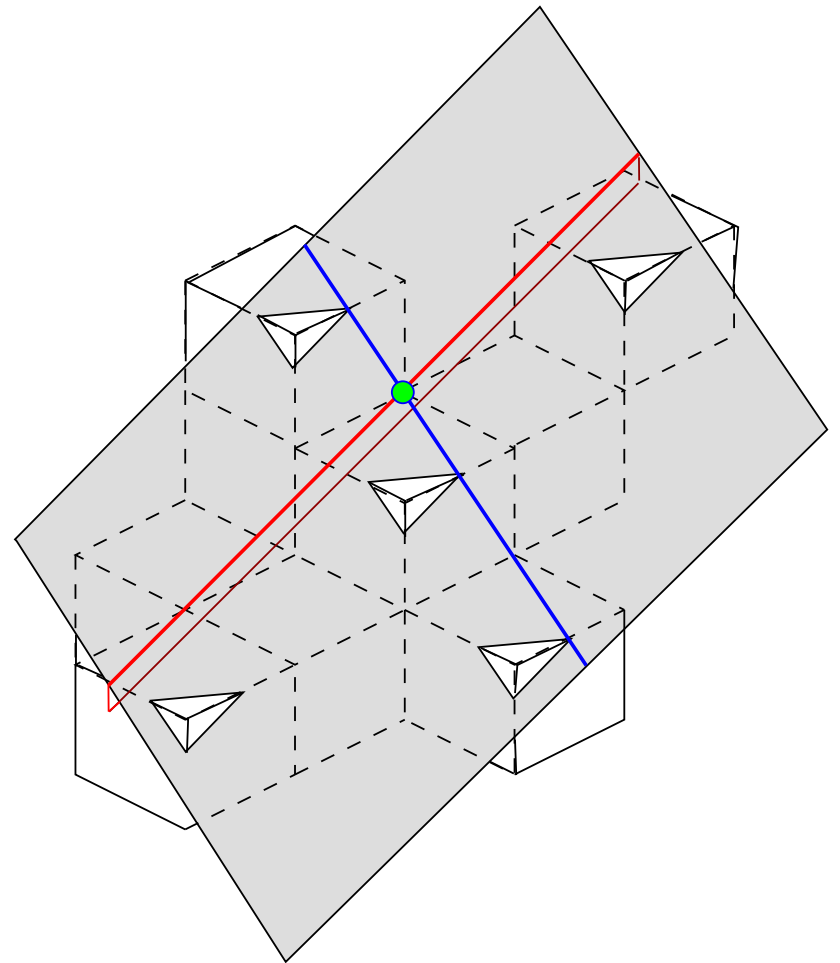
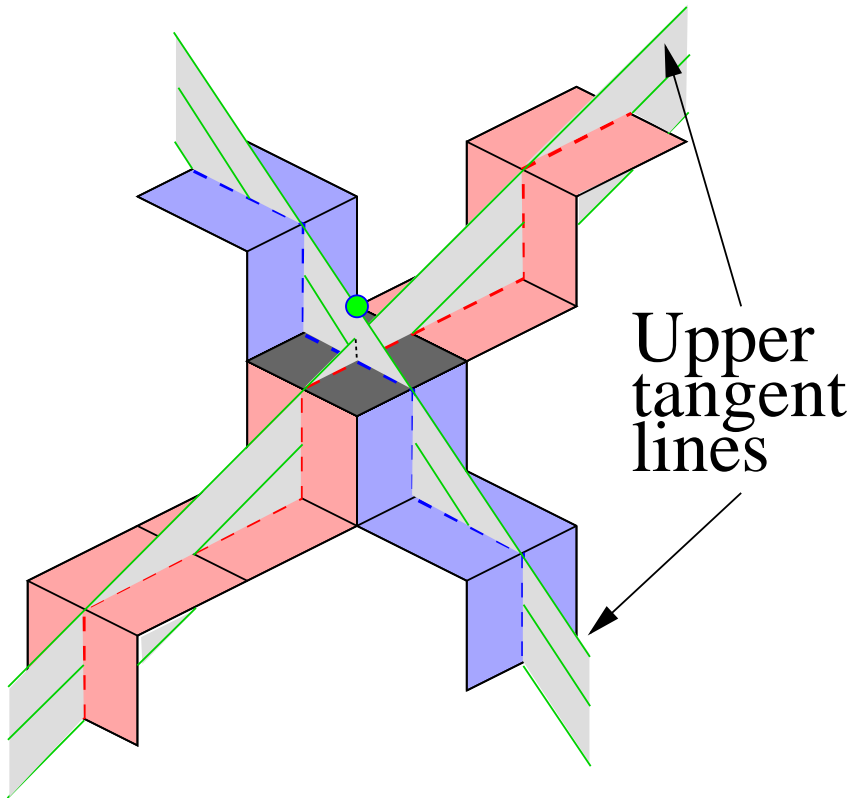


*Normal vector:* cross product of the two tangent vectors

# 3D example

(3) *Outer tangent plane*: orthogonal to the normal vector and containing  $P$

$P$  is the projection of the surfel centroid on the upper tangent lines (highest point).



# Outline

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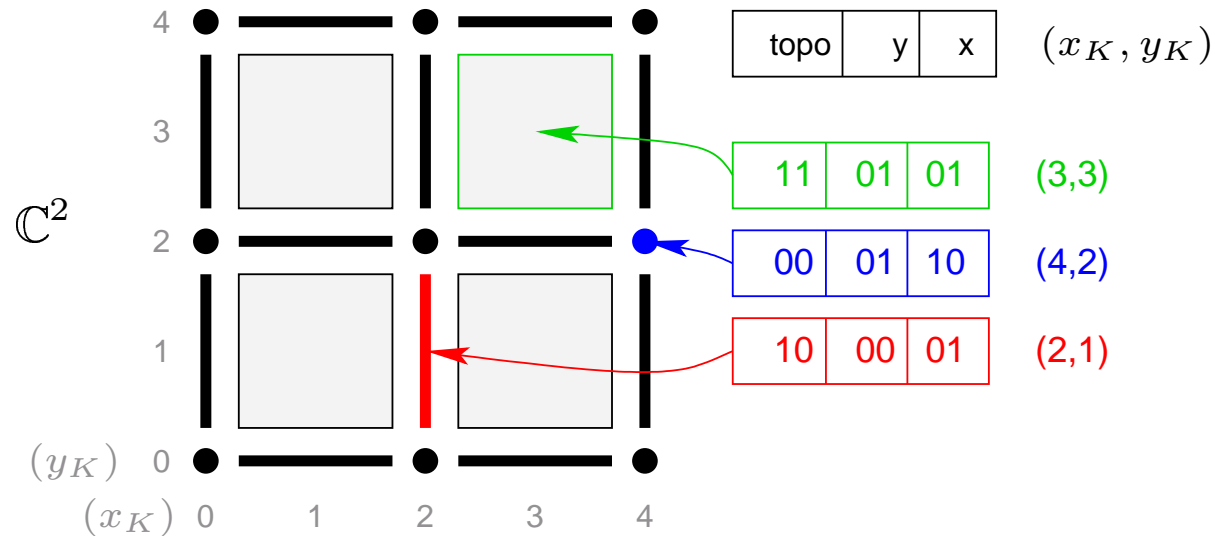
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# Multidimensional digital surface

Digital space: cellular decomposition of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  into a regular grid [Khalimsky90], [Kovalevsky89], [Herman92], [Udupa94]



**Spel:**  $n$ -cell (pixel in 2D, voxel in 3D)

**Surfel:**  $n - 1$ -cell

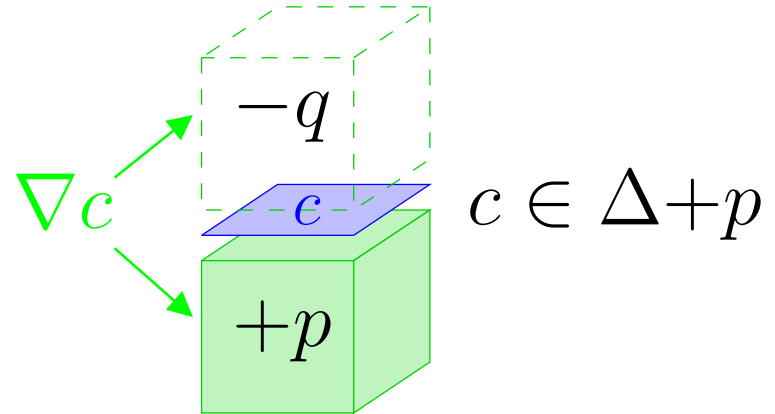
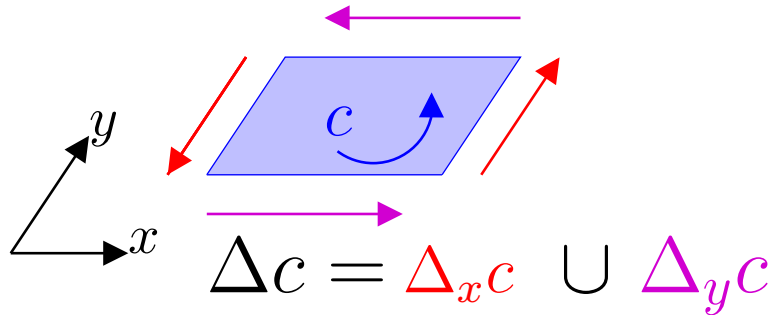
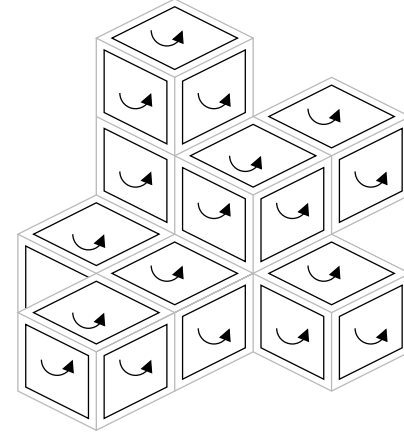
**Digital surface:** set of oriented surfels

# Object boundary

*Object  $O$ :* set of spels

*Boundary of  $O$ :* surfels separating spels of  $O$  from the background with an orientation

*Boundary / Coboundary operators:*

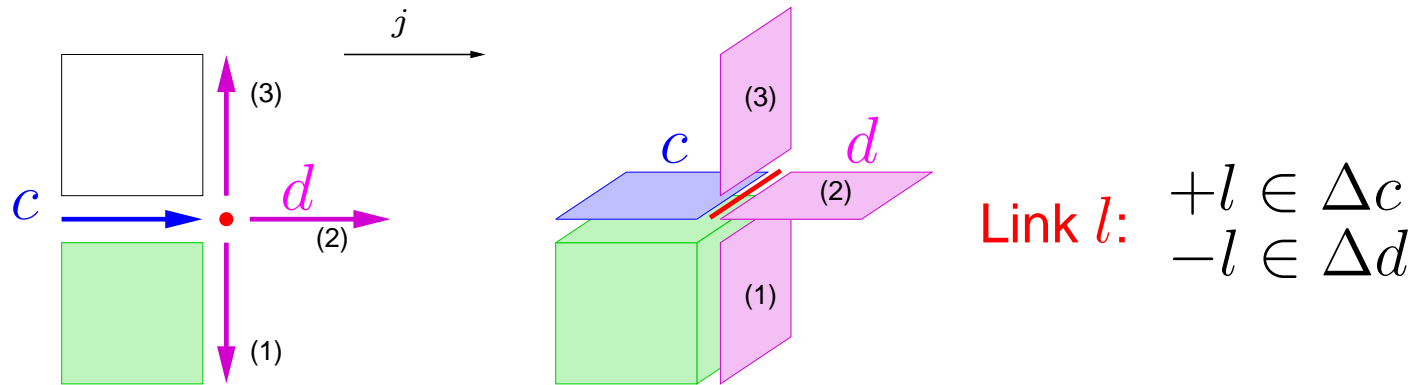


$$\partial O = \bigcup \Delta + p, p \in O$$

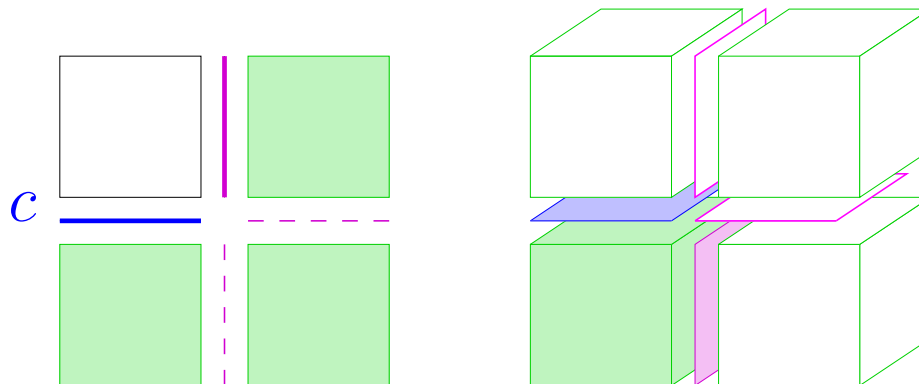
# Boundary tracking

Given a bel of  $O$ , find  $\partial O$  by following the surface of the object  $\Rightarrow$  adjacency between bels

*Direct followers* of a bel along coordinate  $j$ :



*Interior direct adjacent bel:* the first direct follower that is a bel of  $\partial O$

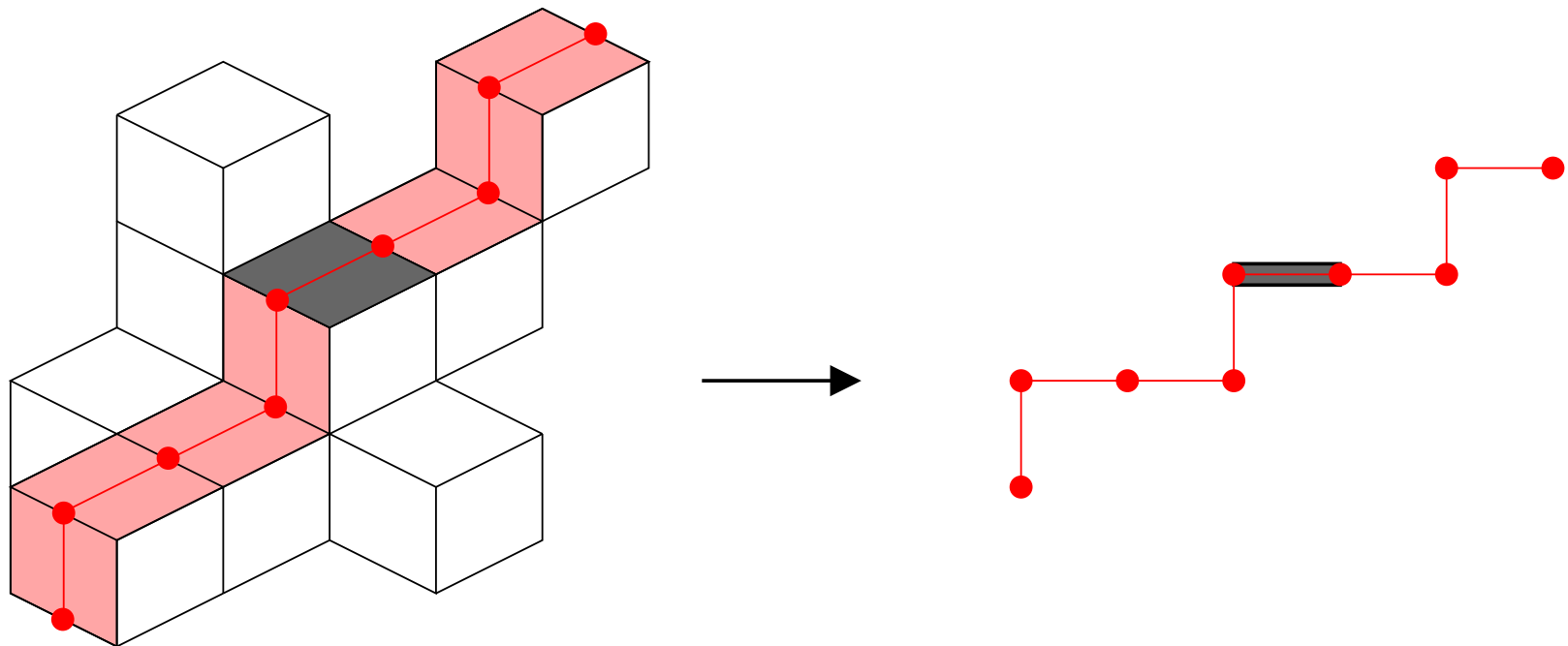




# Contour over a surface

Given a bel  $c$  of  $\partial O$  and  $j \neq \perp(c)$ , a *contour over the boundary* is the sequence of direct interior adjacent bels starting from  $c$  and going along directions  $\perp(c)$  or  $j$ .

Such a contour is a 2D 4-connected discrete path (bels  $\rightarrow$  edges, links  $\rightarrow$  points).



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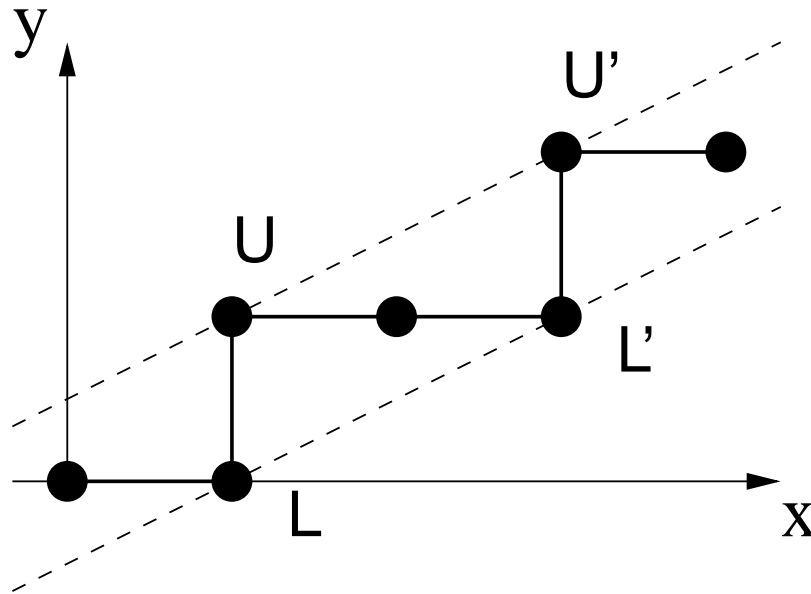
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# Discrete 2D tangent line

*4-connected discrete line* of characteristics  $(a, b, \mu) \in \mathbb{Z}^3$ :

$$\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2, \mu \leq ax - by < \mu + |a| + |b|\}$$



$$(a, b, \mu) = (1, 2, -1)$$

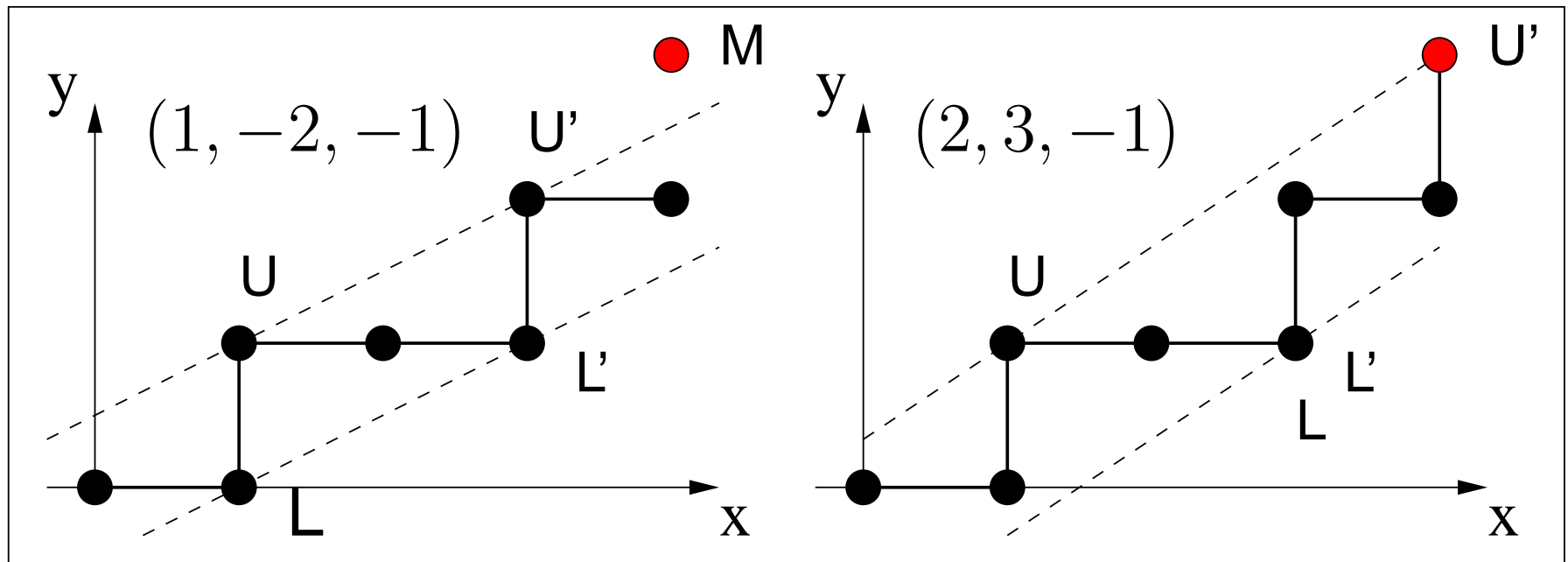
*Leaning lines:*  $ax - by = \mu$ ,  $ax - by = \mu + |a| + |b| - 1$

# Discrete 2D tangent line

Update of a segment line when adding a point  $M$ :

(1)  $M$  is in between the leaning lines: OK

(2)  $ax_M - by_M = \mu - 1$ :  $M$  is just over the upper leaning line

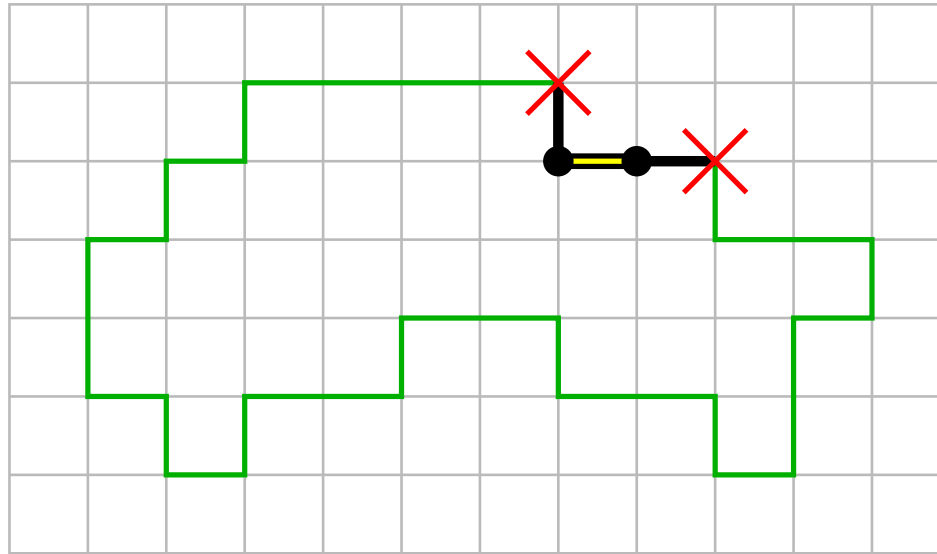


(3)  $M$  is just under the lower leaning line: similar



# Discrete 2D tangent line

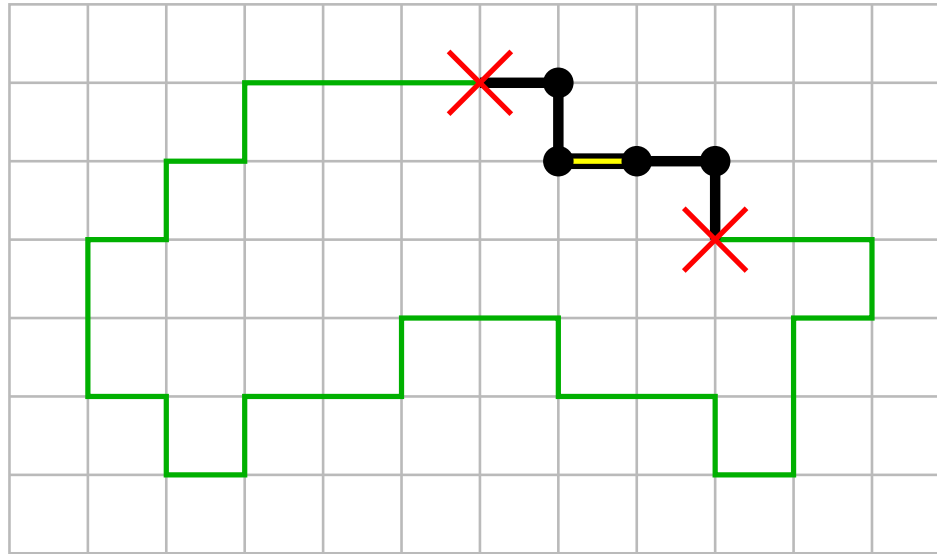
Symmetric tangent centered on an edge



$$(a, b, \mu) = (-1, 2, -2)$$

# Discrete 2D tangent line

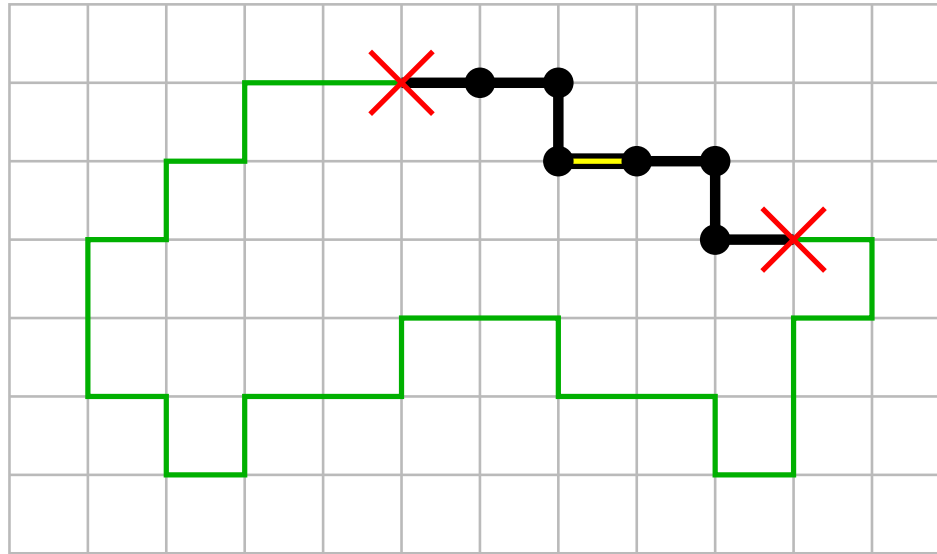
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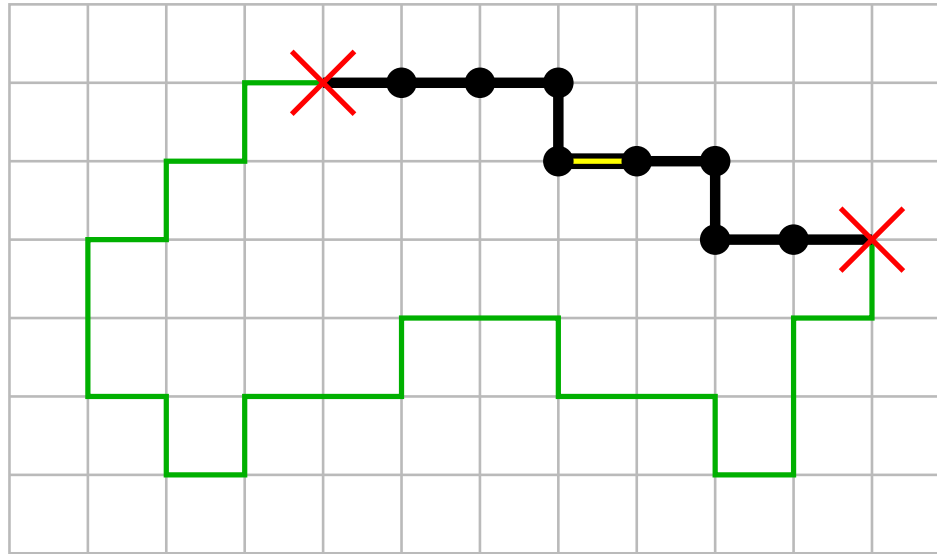


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# Discrete 2D tangent line

Symmetric tangent centered on an edge



$$(a, b, \mu) = (-2, 5, -5)$$

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# Normal vector at a bel

*Normal vector at bel  $C$ :* unit vector orthogonal to the  $n - 1$  tangent vectors at  $C$ .

$$\dot{i} = \perp (C)$$

$\tau_i$ : orientation of the cell of  $\nabla_i C$  with greatest  $x_i$

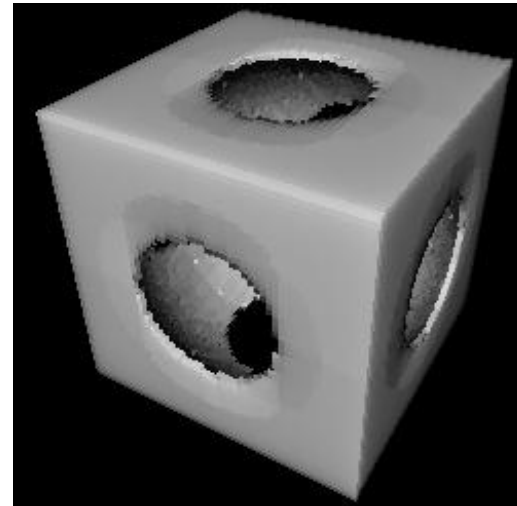
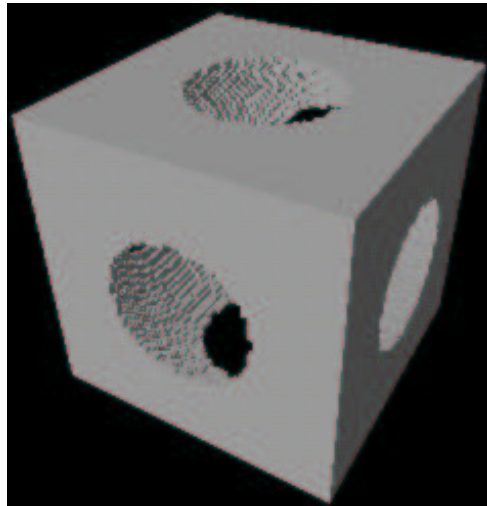
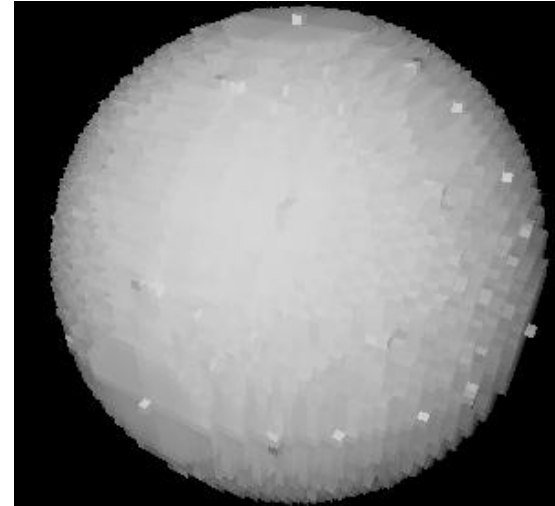
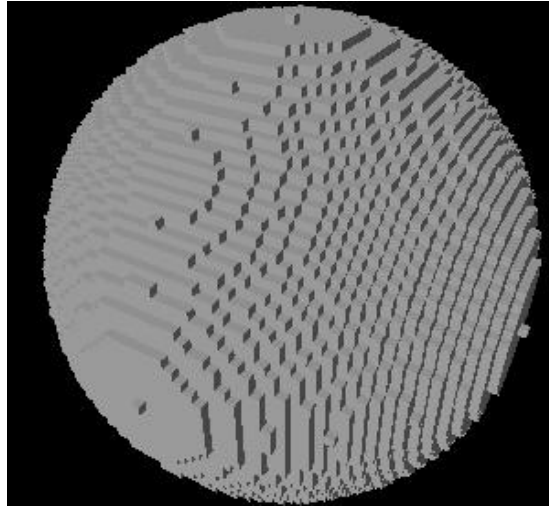
$\tau_j$ : orientation of the cell of  $\Delta_j C$  with greatest  $x_j$

$$\vec{n}(C) = \frac{\vec{u}(C)}{\|\vec{u}(C)\|}$$

$$\forall j \neq i, \vec{u}(C) \cdot \vec{e}_j = \tau_j \frac{\alpha_j(C)}{\beta_j(C)}$$

$$\vec{u}(C) \cdot \vec{e}_i = \tau_i$$

# Visualization of 3D discrete objects



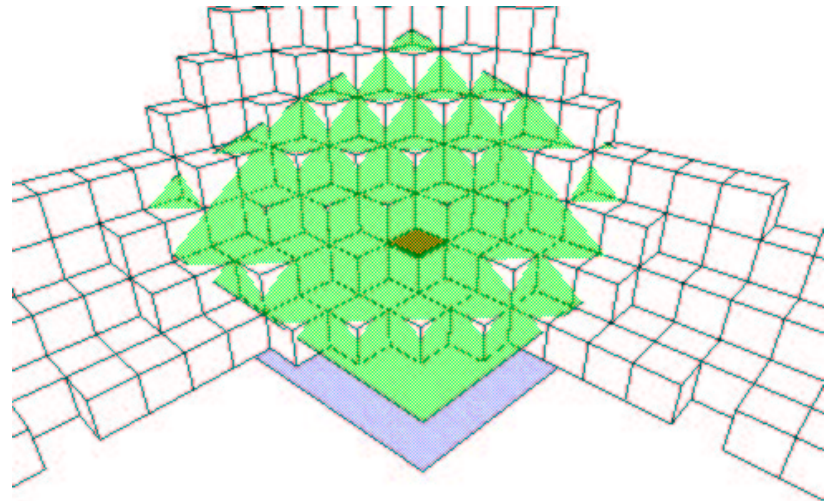
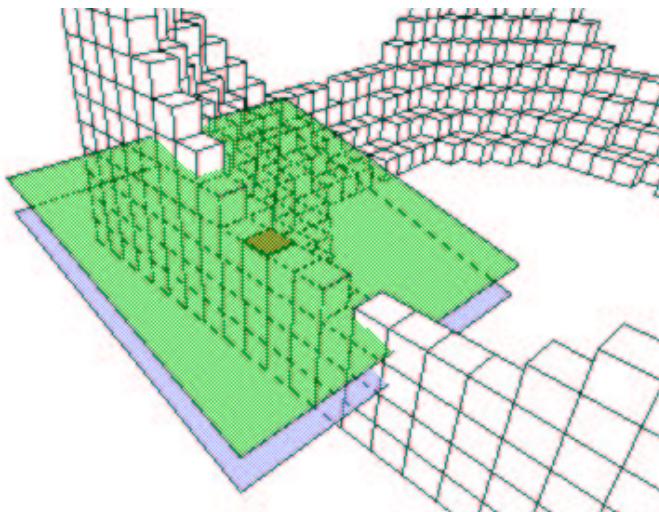
# Tangent planes to an nD surface

Centroid of  $C$ :  $\vec{x}_c$

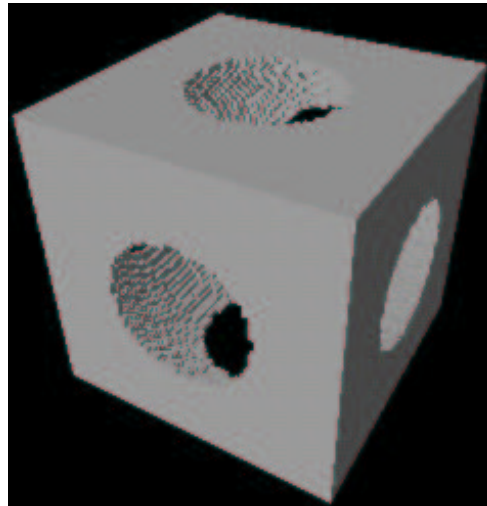
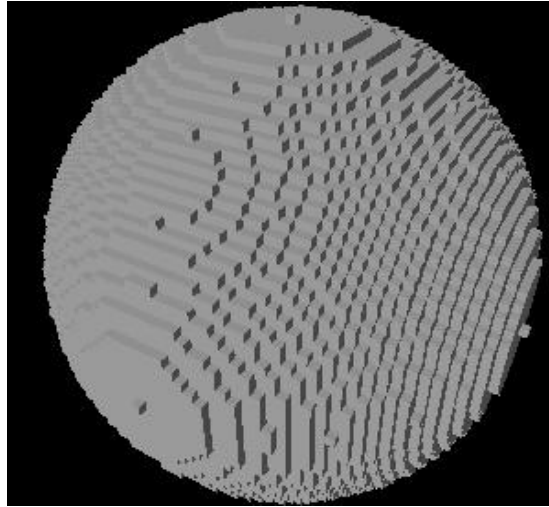
On each contour:  $z_j^+ = \frac{0.5\alpha_j - \mu_j}{\beta_j}$ ,  $z_j^- = z_j^+ - 1 - \frac{|\alpha_j| - 1}{\beta_j}$

*The inner tangent plane* passes through

$$\vec{x}_c + \tau_i \vec{e}_i \max_{j \neq i} z_j^+$$



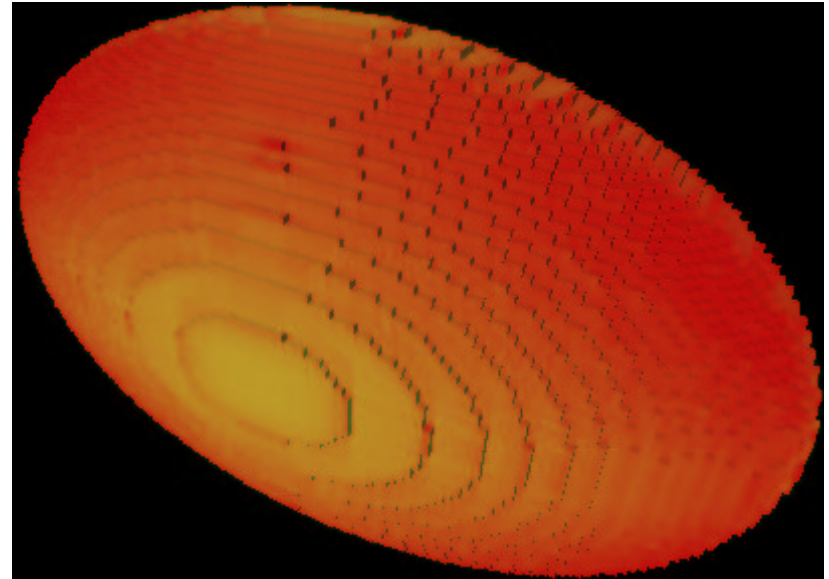
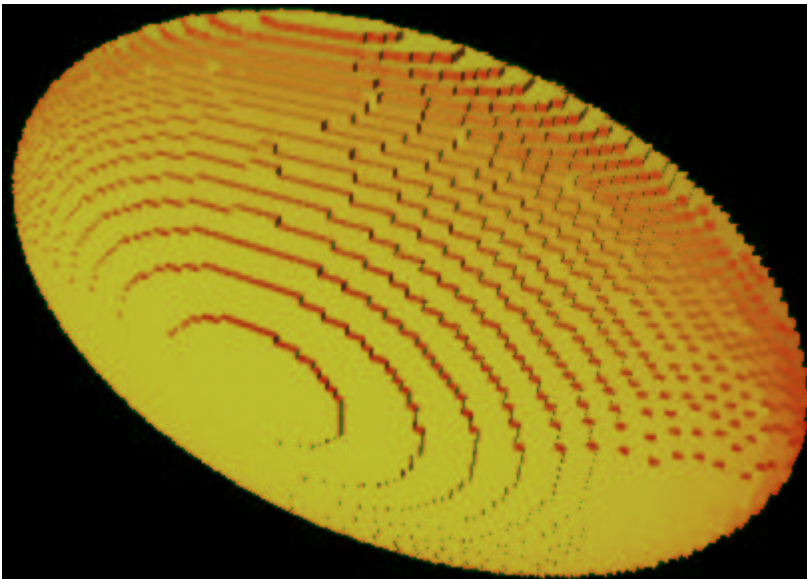
# Smoothing of 3D digital surfaces



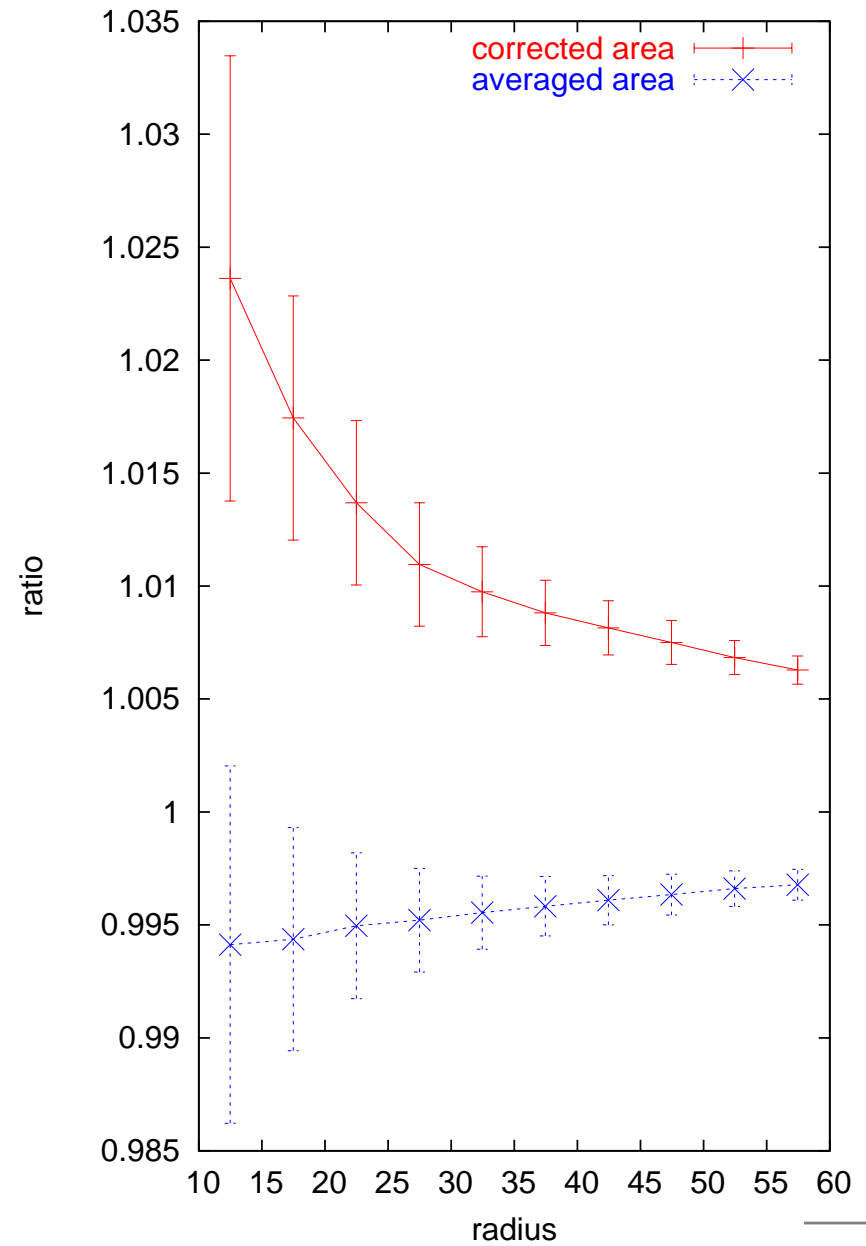
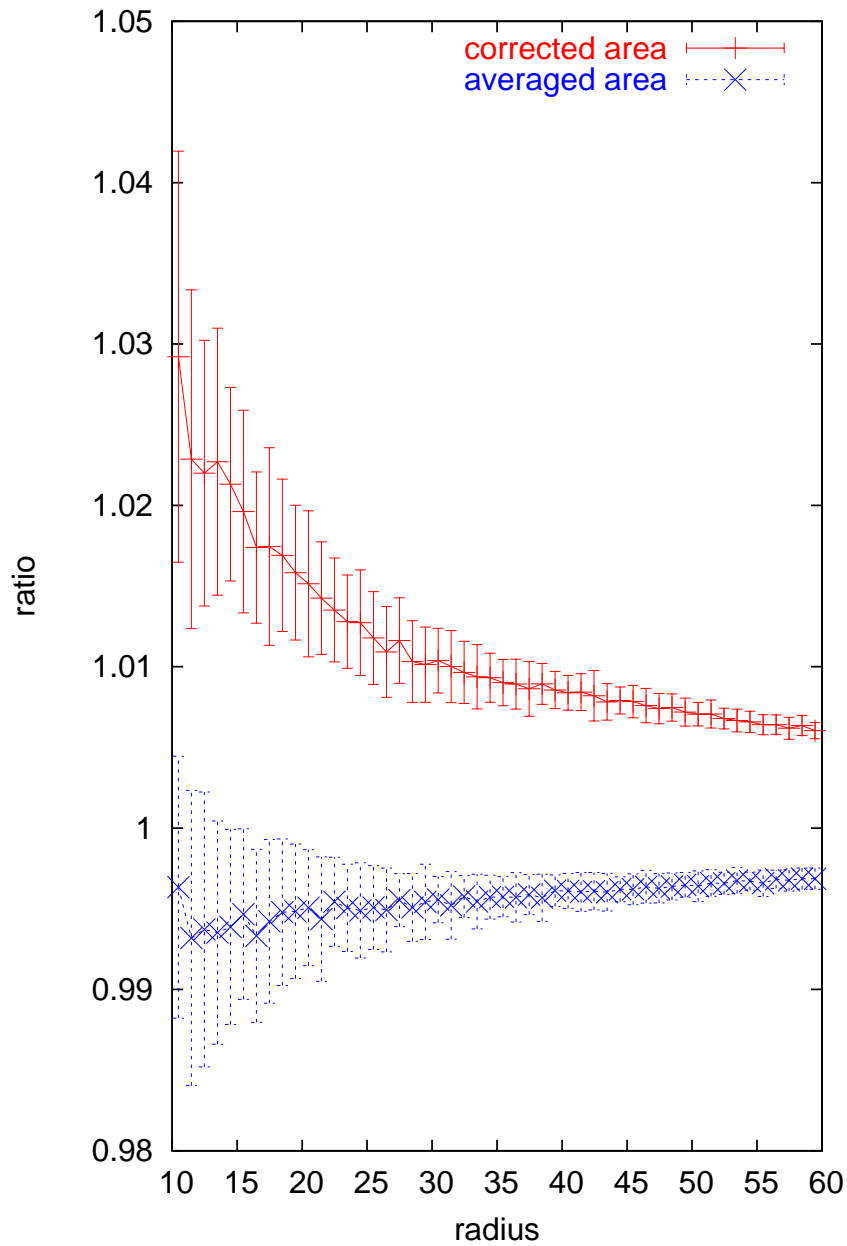
# Area of an nD digital surface

*Corrected area:*  $\widehat{d\sigma}(c) = \vec{n}(c) \cdot \vec{e}_i$

*Averaged area:*  $\overline{d\sigma}(c) = 1 / (\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} |\vec{n}(c) \cdot \vec{e}_k|)$



# Area of a 3D sphere





# Conclusion

## Results:

- Definition of a set of geometric estimators for multidimensional surfaces
- Efficient and generic implementation [[Lachaud03](#)]
- Convergence of the estimators to the continuous values

## Further works:

- Can we compute the normal vector field in a time linear with the number of surfels ?
- Curvature definition and computation