

# CSE4227 Digital Image Processing

## Chapter 9 – Morphological Image Processing- (Part-I)

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# Today's Contents

## ❑ Morphological image processing: pixel shape based analysis

### ❑ Structuring Element

### ❑ basic morphology operations

- Dilation - grow image regions
- Erosion - shrink image regions
- Opening - structured removal of image region boundary pixels
- Closing - structured filling in of image region boundary pixels

■ Chapter 9 from R.C. Gonzalez and R.E. Woods, Digital Image Processing (3rd Edition), Prentice Hall, 2008 [ **Section 9.1, 9.2, 9.3** ]

■ <https://www.cs.auckland.ac.nz/courses/compsci773s1c/lectures/ImageProcessing.html/topic4.htm>

# Morphological Image Processing

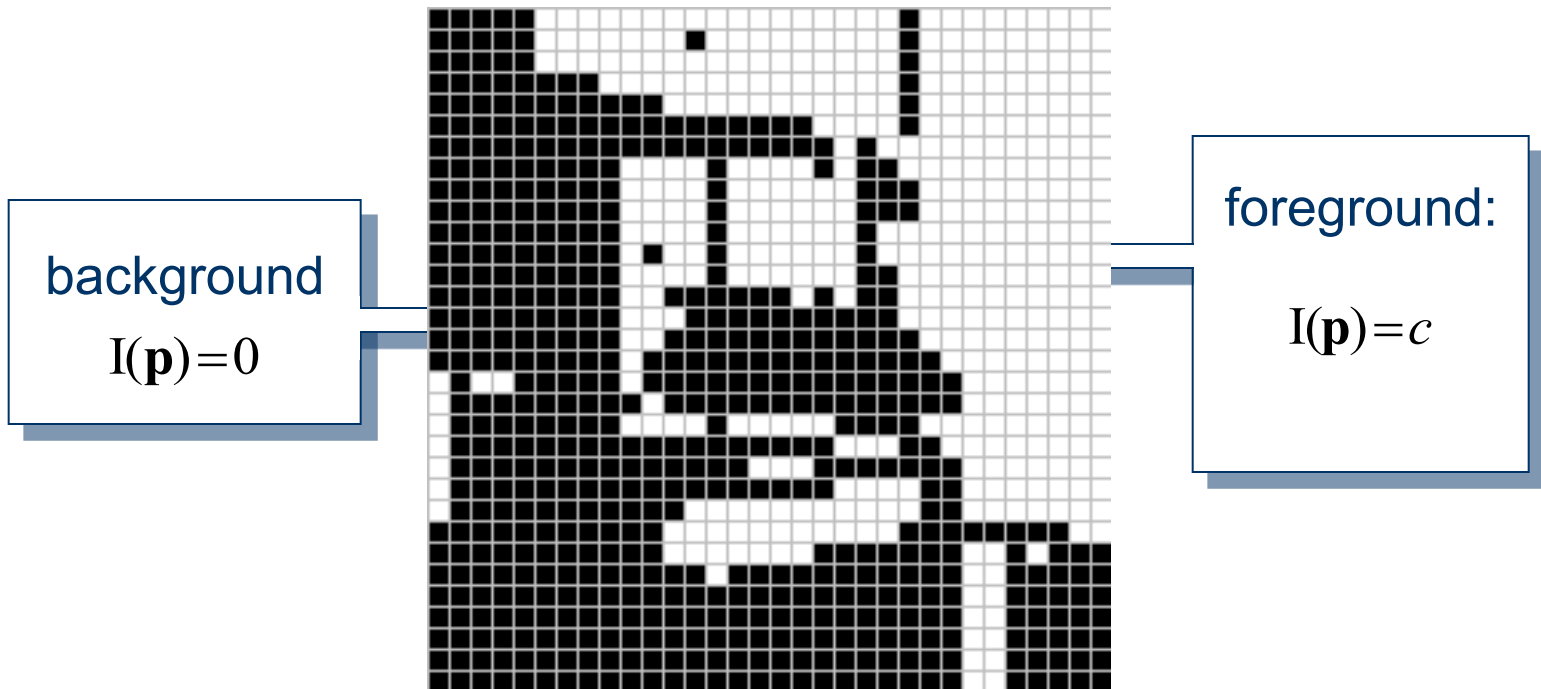
- A tool for **extracting image components** that are useful in the representation and description of image.
- It deals with the **shape** (or morphology) of objects/features in an image
- Rely only on the **relative ordering of pixel values**, not on their numerical values
- Probe an image with a small shape or template called a **structuring element**.
- The language of mathematical morphology of an image is **Set Theory**

# Morphological Image Processing

- ❑ Morphology **applies** certain **simple rules and shapes** (such as squares, circles, diamonds, cubes and spheres) to process images.
- ❑ The objective is usually **to identify features of interest** in images
  - as a prelude to performing high-level inspection, or
  - machining, functions.
- ❑ Two kinds :
  - Binary Morphology
  - Grey Level Morphology
- ❑ Four basic morphology operations for **binary images**:
  - **Erosion**
  - **Dilation**
  - **Opening and**
  - **Closing**

# Binary Image

- ❑ Representation of individual pixels as 0 or 1, convention:
  - foreground, object = 1 (white)
  - background = 0 (black)



This represents a digital image. Each square is one pixel.

# Structuring Element

A small image/template that helps to produce new image from the old one i.e. a small binary array.

A **structuring element** is a shape mask used in the basic morphological operations.

They can be any shape and size that is digitally representable, and each has an **origin**.



box

`box(length,width)`

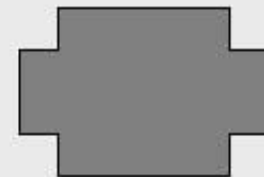


hexagon



disk

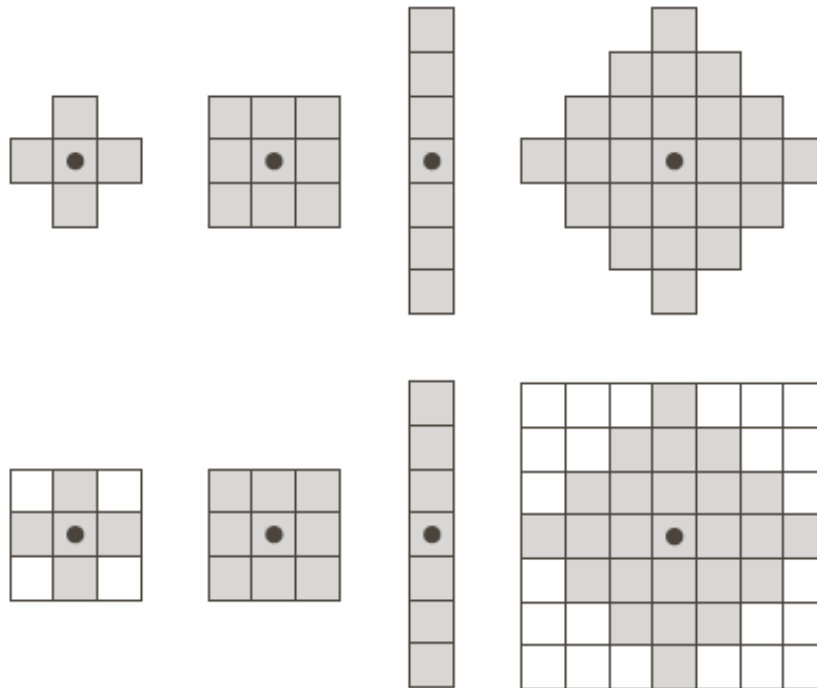
`disk(diameter)`



any shape

# Structuring Element

A structuring element is a small image – used as a moving window



**Example  
Structuring  
Elements**

**Structuring  
Elements  
converted to  
rectangular  
arrays**

# Structuring Element

- For simplicity we will use rectangular structuring elements **with their origin point**.
- Origin point can be at the middle pixel or at any position.

1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

Square 5x5 element

0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	0
0	0	1	0	0

Diamond-shaped 5x5 element

0	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1
0	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0

Cross-shaped 5x5 element

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

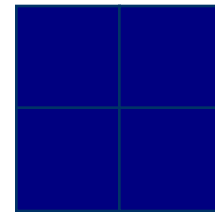
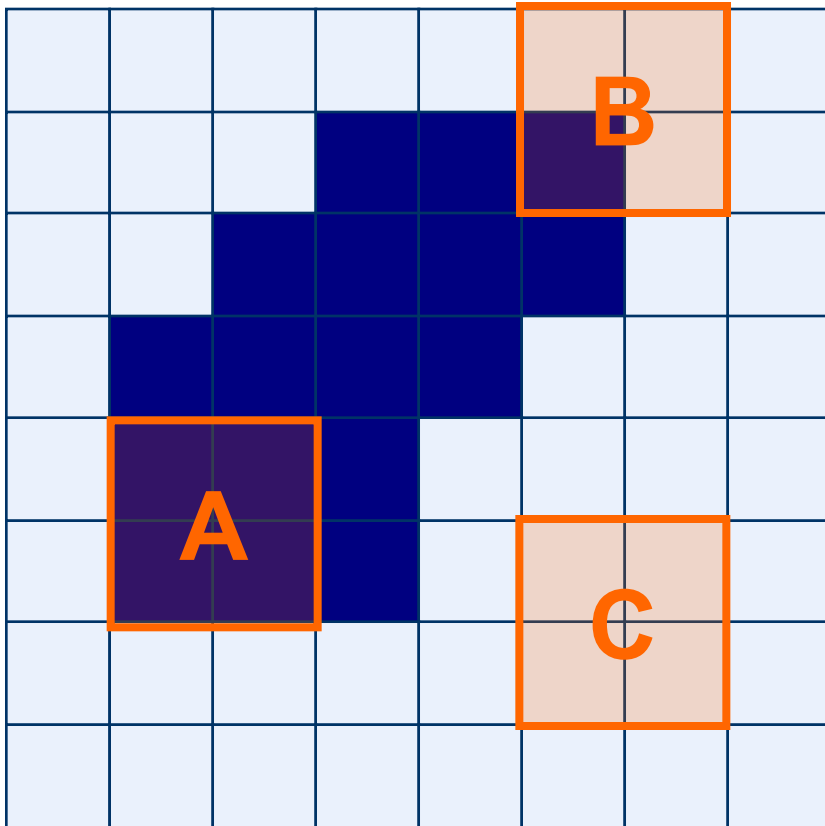
Square 3x3 element

■ ← Origin

❖ By default origin point is at the center



# Structuring Elements: Hits & Fits



Structuring Element

**Fit:** All “**ON**” pixels in the structuring element cover “**ON**” pixels in the image

**Hit:** Any “**ON**” pixel in the structuring element covers an “**ON**” pixel in the image

All morphological processing operations are based on these simple ideas

# Fitting and hitting of a binary image with structuring elements $s_1$ and $s_2$ .



$$s_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$s_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

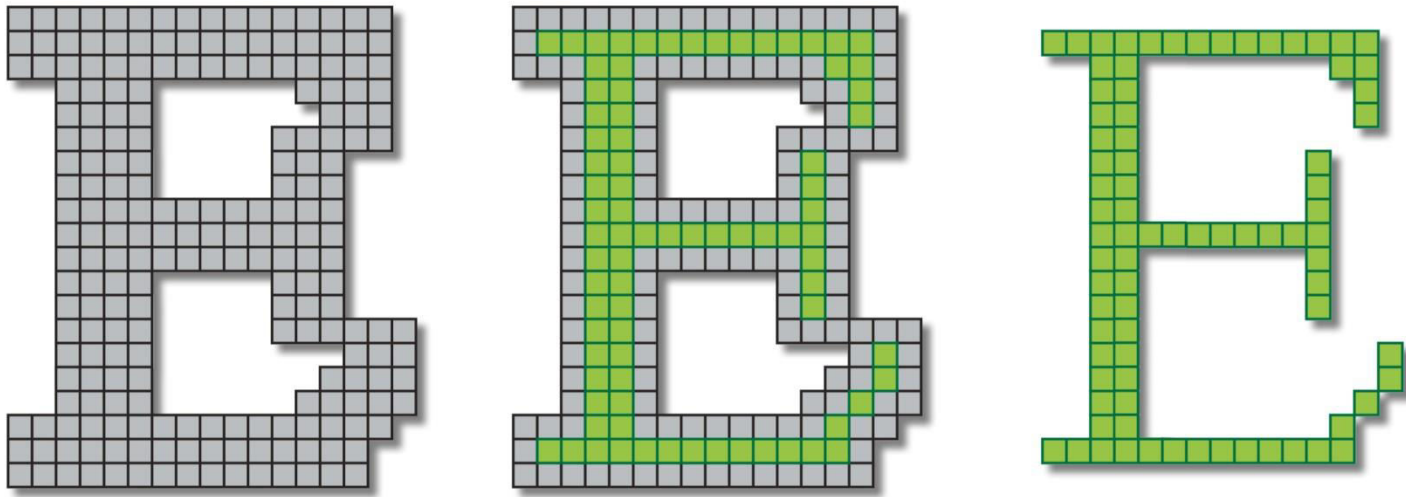
		A	B	C
fit	$s_1$	yes	no	no
	$s_2$	yes	yes	no
hit	$s_1$	yes	yes	yes
	$s_2$	yes	yes	no

# Fundamental Operations

- ♦ Fundamentally morphological image processing is very like spatial filtering
- ♦ The structuring element is moved across every pixel in the original image to give a pixel in a new processed image
- ♦ The value of this new pixel depends on the operation performed

There are two basic morphological operations: **Erosion** and **Dilation**

# Erosion

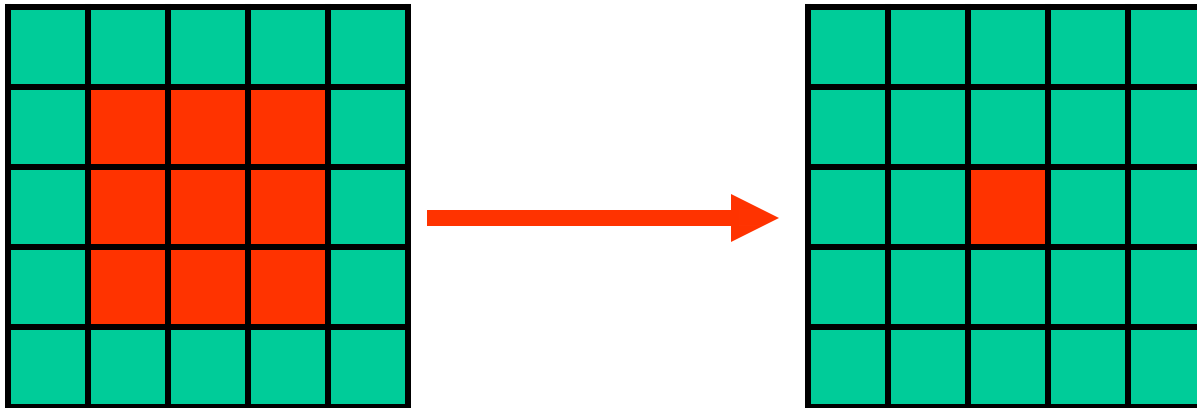


**Shrink the object**

Shrinks foreground, enlarges Background

# Erosion

- Erosion is used for shrinking of element A by using element B.
- One of the simplest uses of erosion is for eliminating irrelevant details from a binary image.



Original Image

Eroded Image

# Erosion

## Definition 1:

**Fit:** All “**ON**” pixels in the structuring element cover “**ON**” pixels in the image

□ Does the structuring element **fit the set**?

$$A \ominus B = \{z \mid (B)_z \subseteq A\}$$

□ Erosion of a set A by structuring element B:

- Set of all points z, such that B translated by z is contained in A.

If YES, output pixel g(x,y) will be foreground (i.e. 1)

# Erosion

## Definition 2:

Does the structuring element **fit the set**?

Erosion of image  $f$  by structuring element  $s$  is given by  $f \ominus s$

The structuring element  $s$  is positioned with its origin at  $(x, y)$  and the new pixel value is determined using the rule:

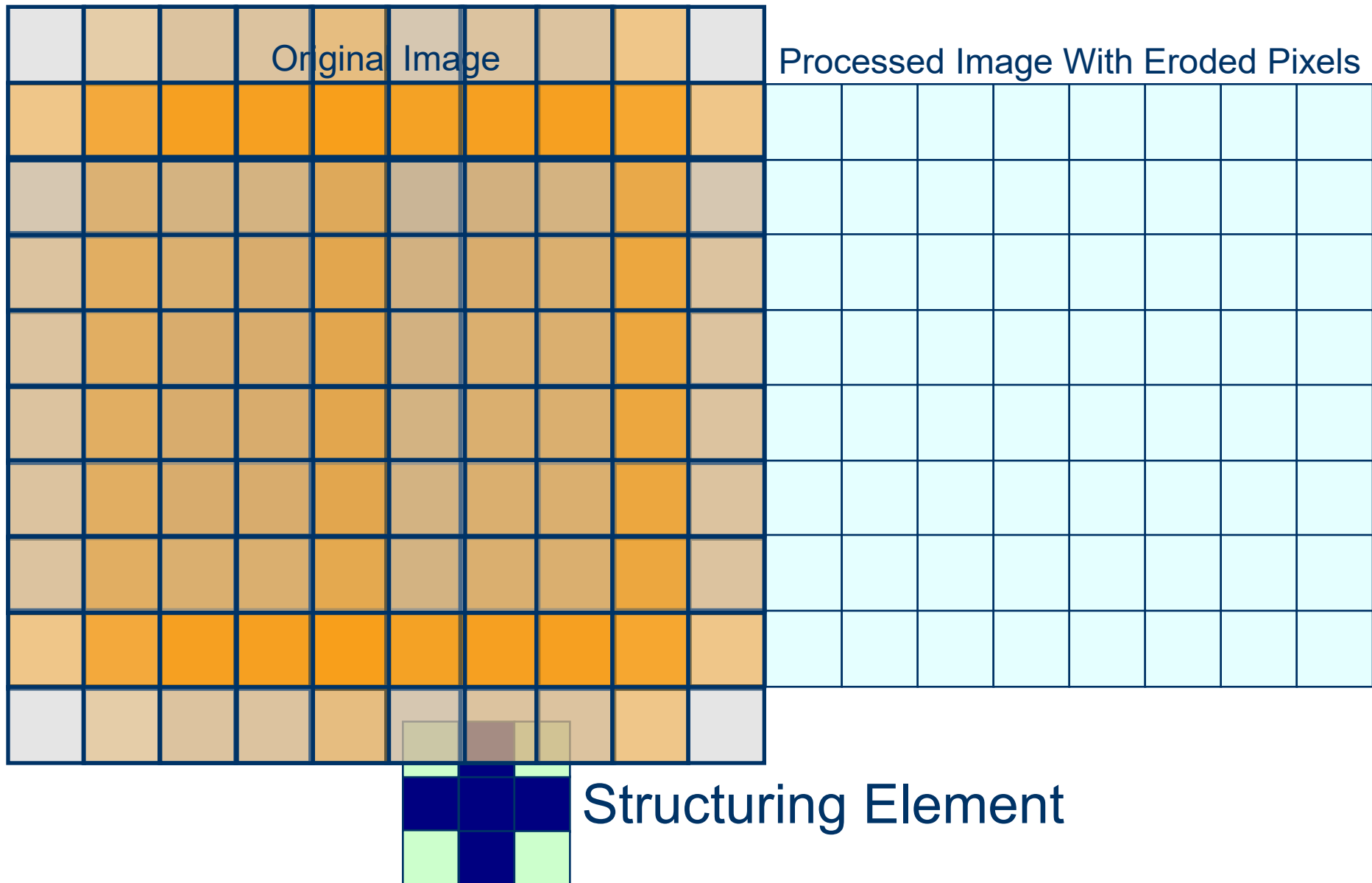
$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s \text{ fits } f \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Erosion – How to compute

- ◆ For each foreground pixel (which we will call the *input pixel*)
  - Superimpose the structuring element on top of the input image so that the origin of the structuring element coincides with the input pixel position.
  - If *for every* pixel in the structuring element, the corresponding pixel in the image underneath is a foreground pixel, then the input pixel is left as it is.
  - If any of the corresponding pixels in the image are background, however, the input pixel is also set to background value.

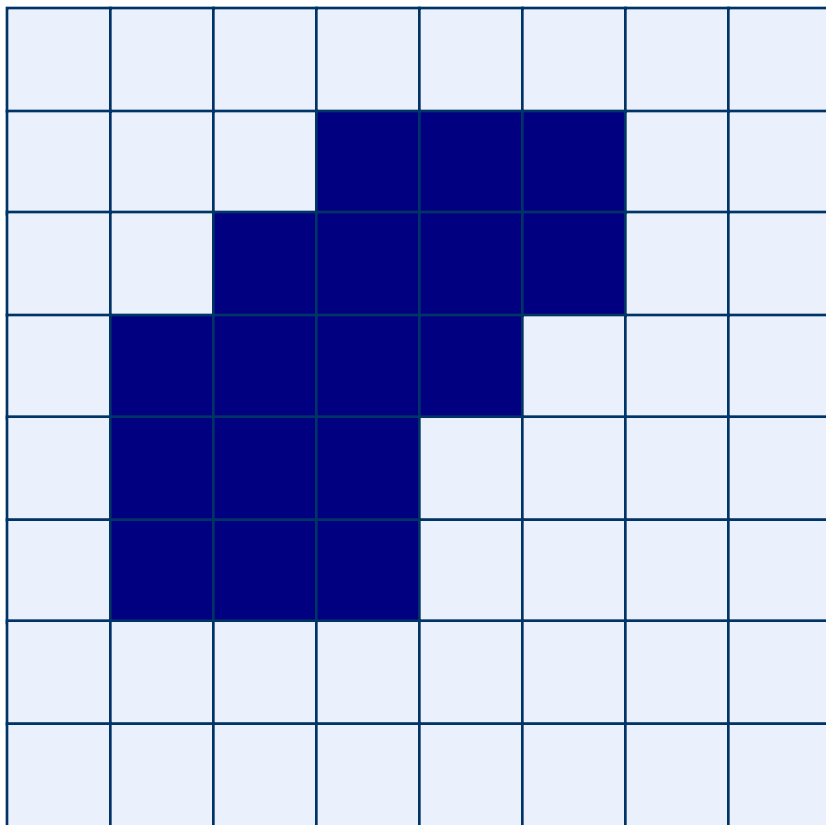


# Example for 2D Erosion

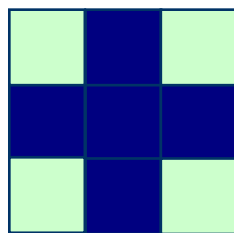
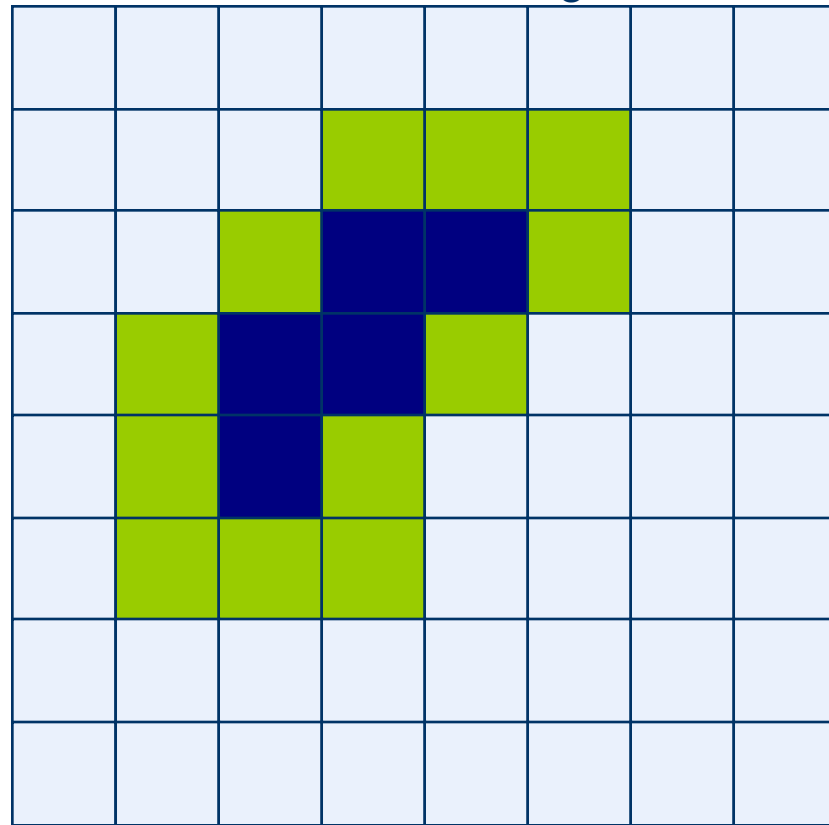


# Erosion: Example 1

Original Image

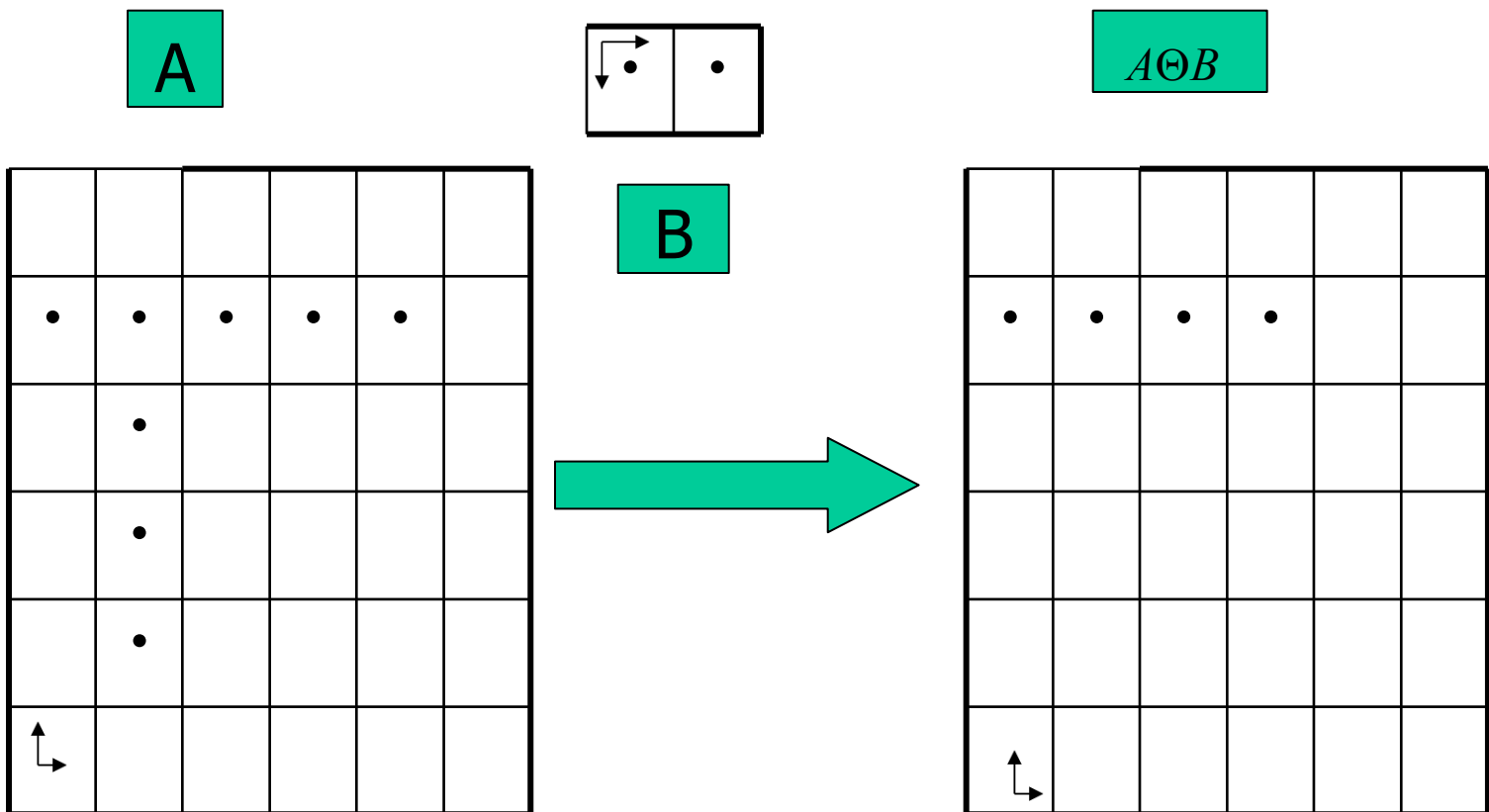


Processed Image

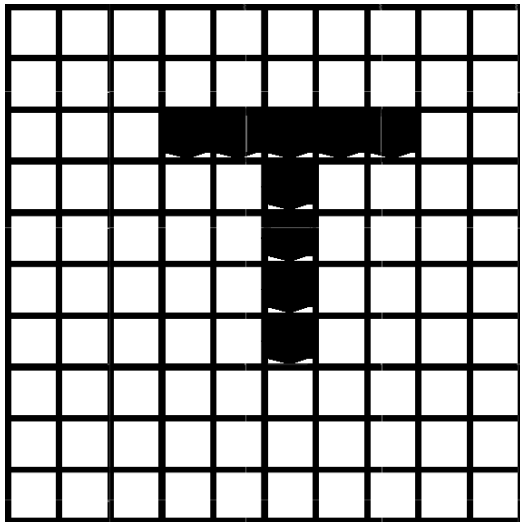


Structuring Element

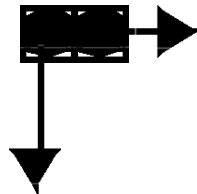
# Erosion explained pixel by pixel



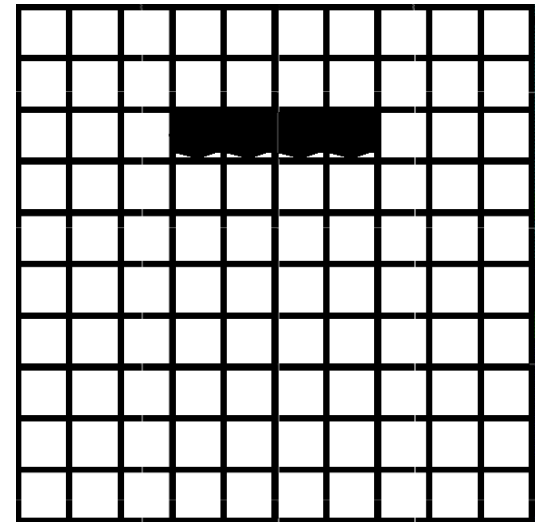
# Structuring Element in Erosion Example



Image

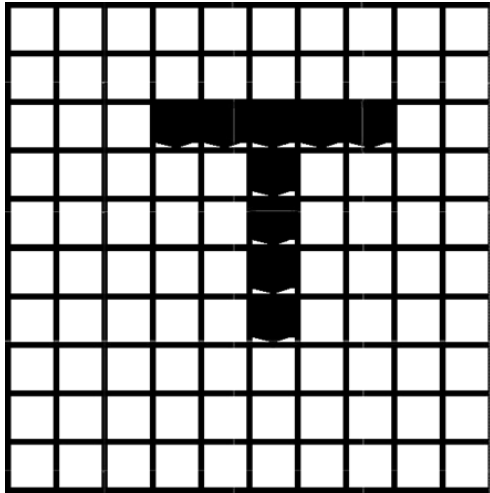


Structuring Element

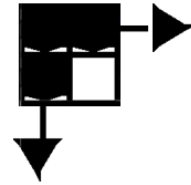


Result

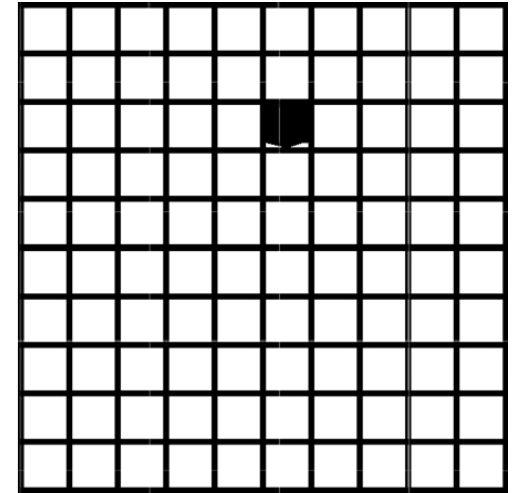
# Structuring Element in Erosion Example



Image

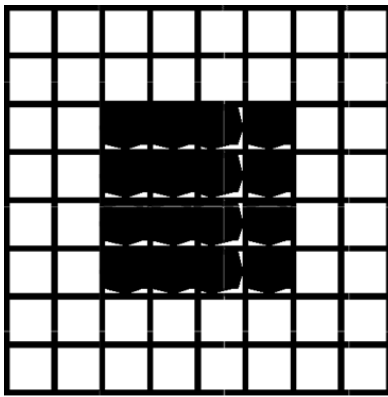


Structuring Element

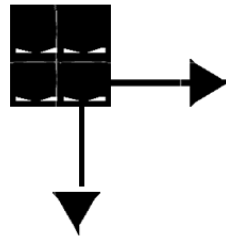


Result

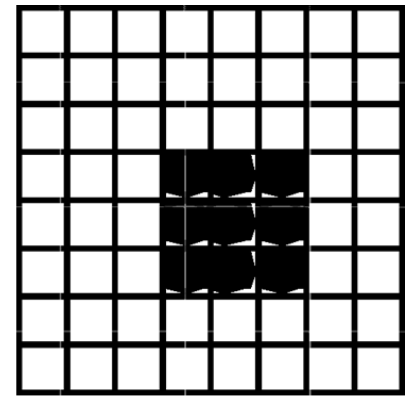
# Structuring Element in Erosion Example



Image

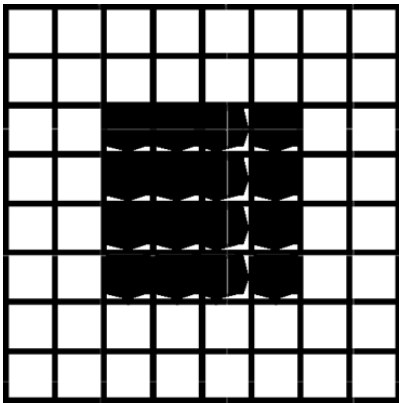


Structuring Element

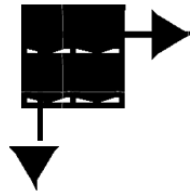


Result

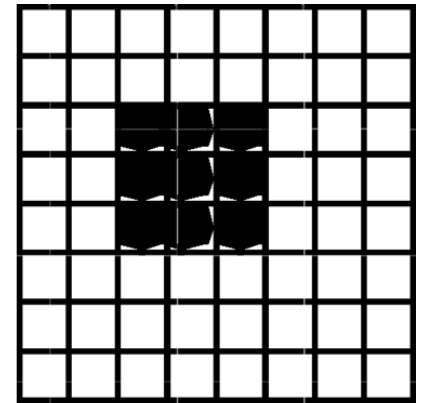
# Structuring Element in Erosion Example



Image

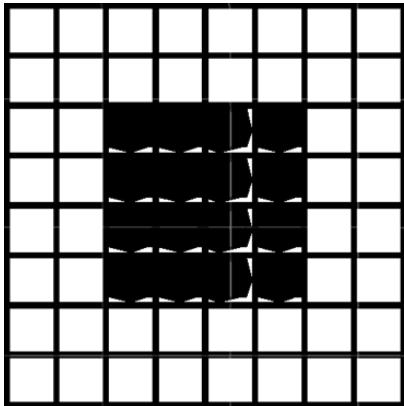


Structuring Element

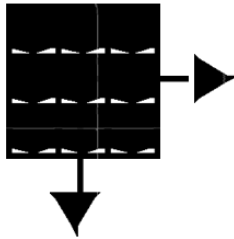


Result

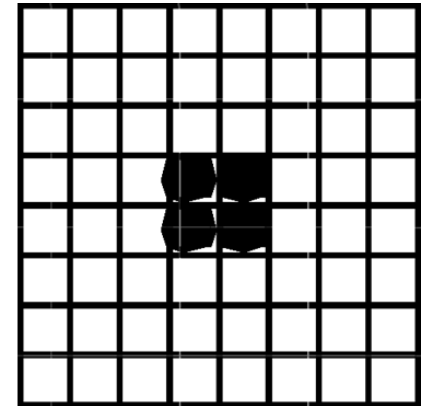
# Structuring Element in Erosion Example



Image



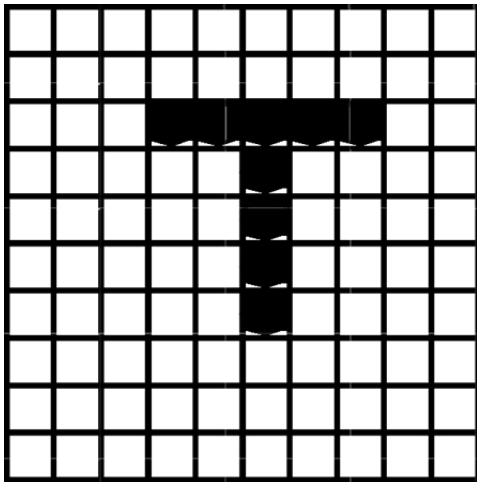
Structuring Element



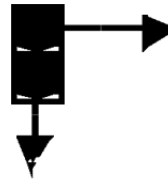
Result



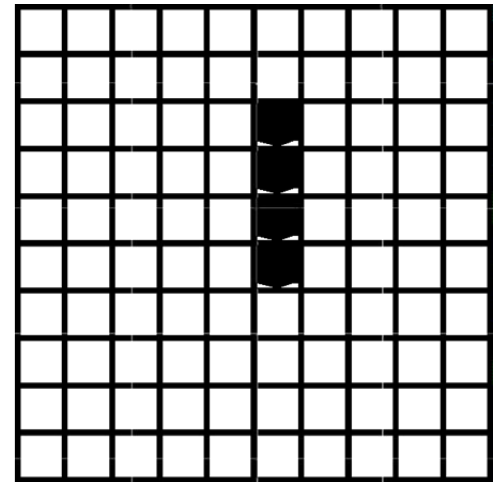
# Structuring Element in Erosion Example



Image

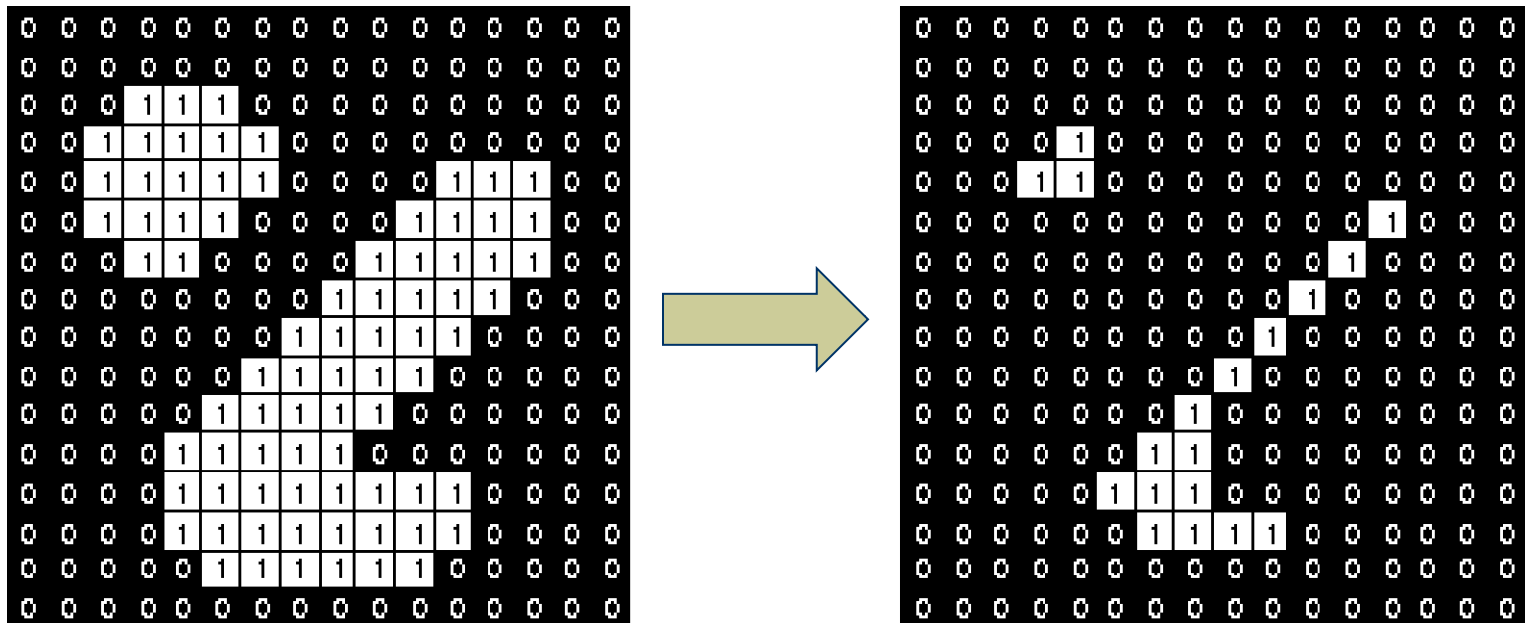


Structuring Element



Result

# Erosion: Example 2



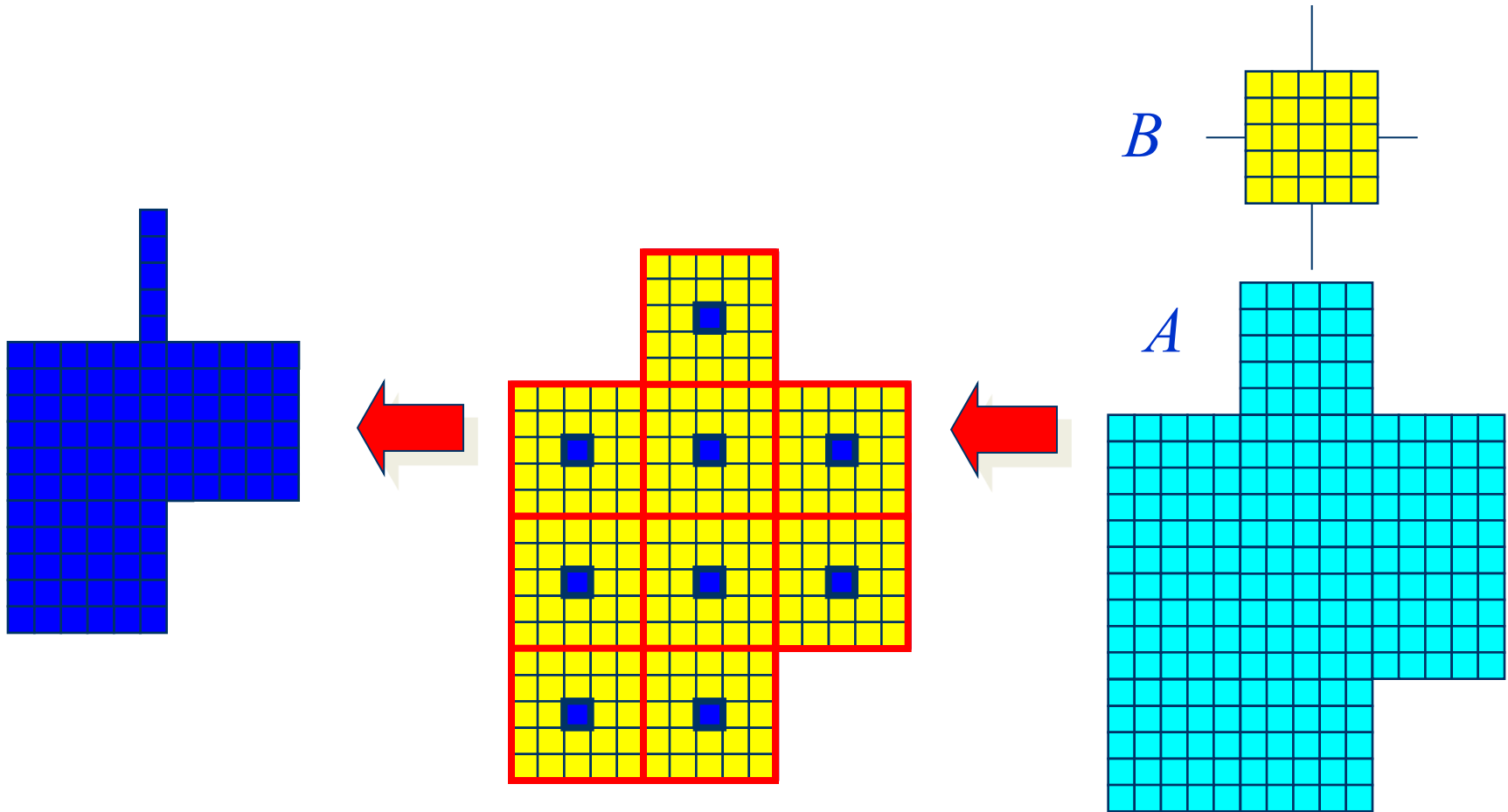
**Erosion with a structuring element of size 3x3**

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Set of coordinate points =

{ (-1, -1), (0, -1), (1, -1),  
 (-1, 0), (0, 0), (1, 0),  
 (-1, 1), (0, 1), (1, 1) }

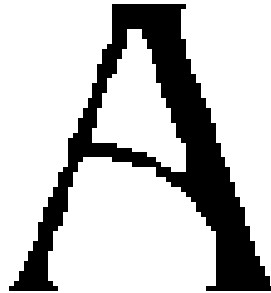
# Erosion: Example 3



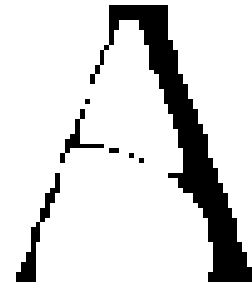
# Erosion: Example 4



Original image



Erosion by 3\*3  
square structuring  
element

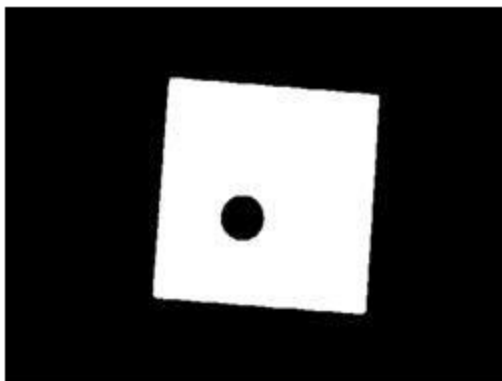


Erosion by 5\*5  
square structuring  
element

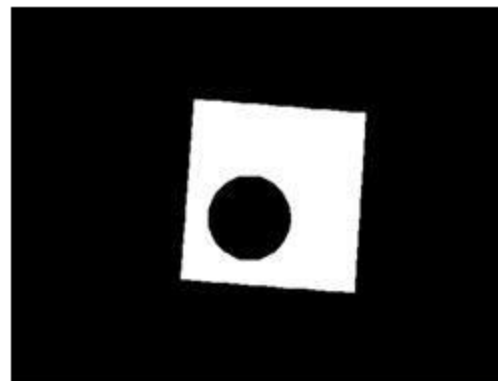
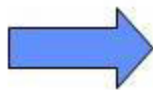
**Note:** In these examples a 1 refers to a black pixel!

# Erosion: Example 5

⇒ Example: Binary erosion



**Original thresholded image**



**Result of erosion four times with a disk shaped structuring element of 11 pixels in diameter**

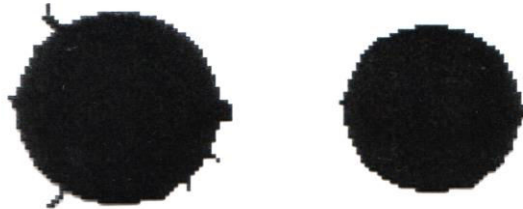
- ➔ It shows that the hole in the middle of the image increases in size as the border shrinks.
- ➔ Erosion using a disk shaped structuring element will tend to round concave boundaries, but will preserve the shape of convex boundaries.

# Erosion: Example 6

Erosion can split apart joined objects



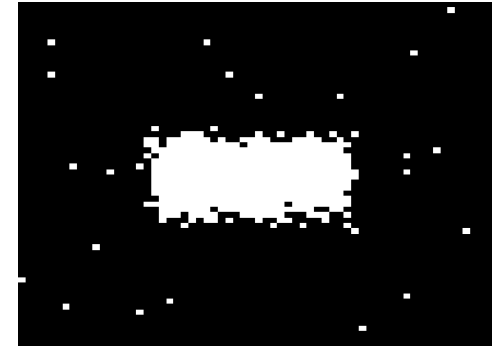
Erosion can strip away extrusions



**Watch out:** Erosion shrinks objects

# Typical use of Erosion

- Removes isolated noisy pixels.
- Smooths object boundary (removes spiky edges).
- Removes the outer layer of object pixels:
  - Object becomes slightly smaller.
  - Sets contour pixels of object to background value



# Erosion

## ◆ Effects

- Shrinks the size of foreground (1-valued) objects
- Smooths object boundaries
- Removes small objects

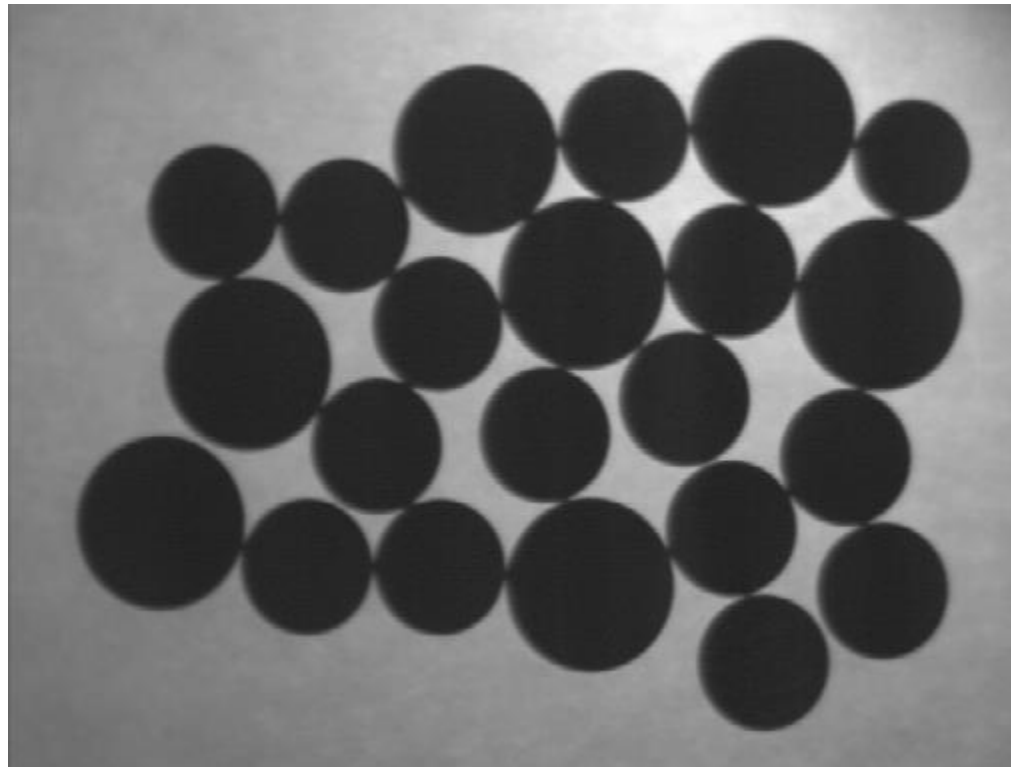
## ◆ Rule for Erosion

In a binary image, if any of the pixel (in the neighborhood defined by structuring element) is 0, then output is 0



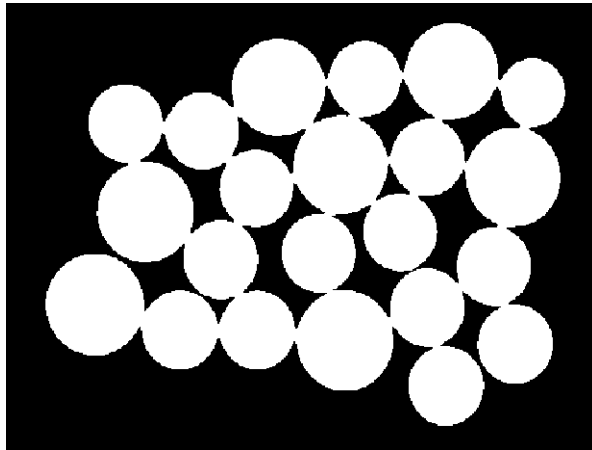
# Exercise

- ❖ Count the number of coins in the given image performing Erosion operation.

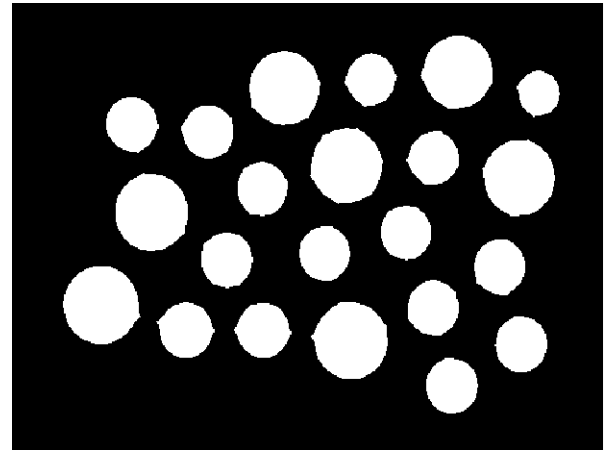


# Exercise: Solution

Binarize the image

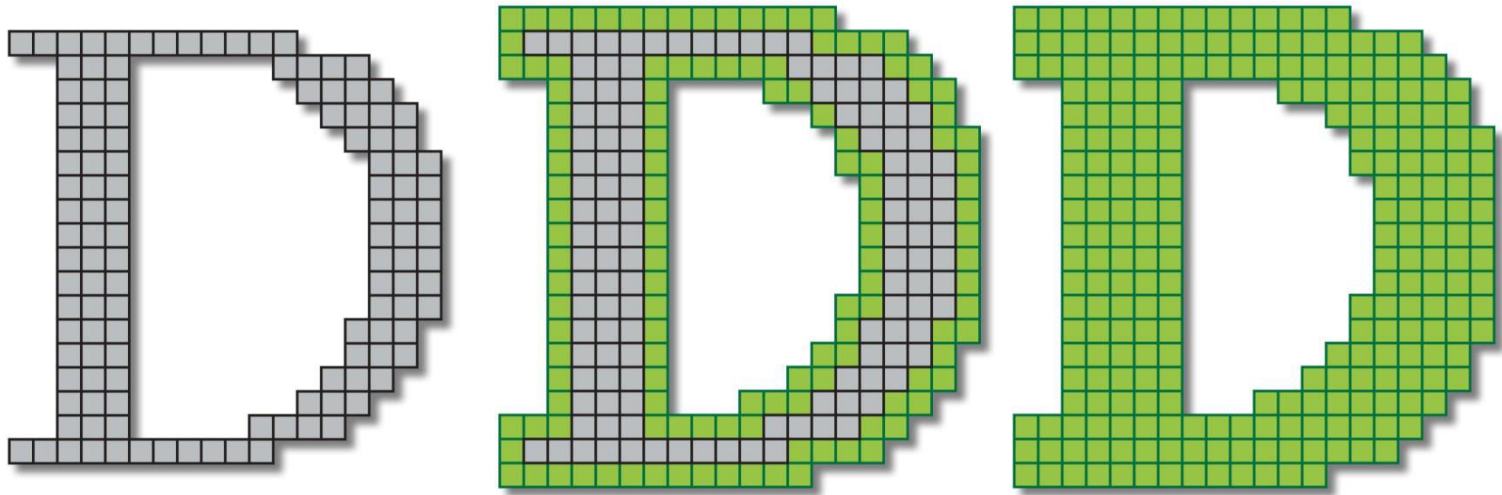


Perform Erosion



Use connected component labeling to count the number of coins

# Dilation

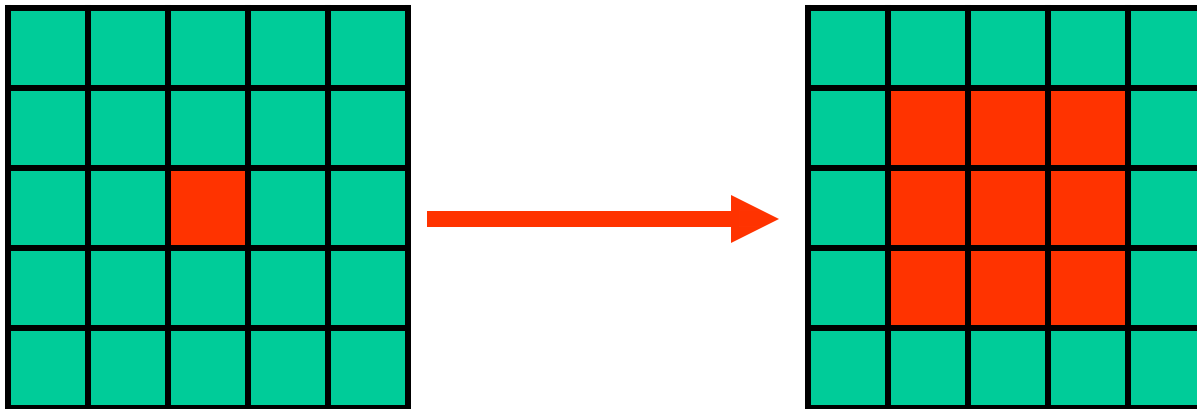


**Grows the object**

Enlarges foreground, shrinks background

# Dilation

- Dilation is used for expanding an element A by using structuring element B.
- The dilation operator takes two pieces of data as input
  1. A binary image, which is to be dilated
  2. A structuring element (or kernel), which determines the behavior of the morphological operation



Original Image

Dilated Image

# Dilation

## Definition 1:

**Hit:** Any “**ON**” pixel in the structuring element covers an “**ON**” pixel in the image

- Does the structuring element **hit the set**?

$$A \oplus B = \left\{ z \mid (\hat{B})_z \cap A \neq \Phi \right\}$$

- Dilation of a set A by structuring element B:
  - all z in A such that B hits A when origin of B=z
  - such that overlap A by at least one element

# Dilation

## Definition 2:

Dilation of image  $f$  by structuring element  $s$  is given by  $f \oplus s$

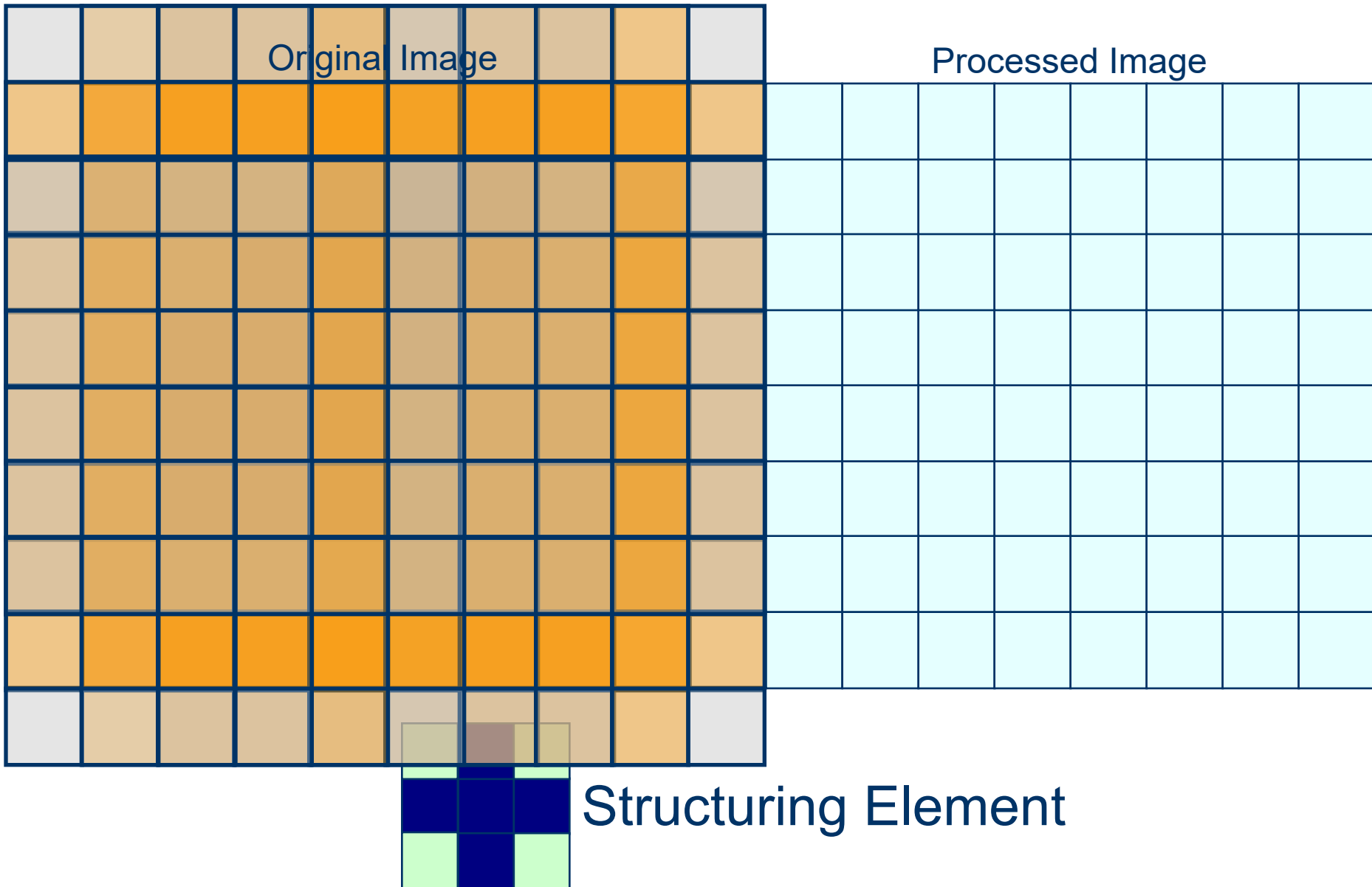
The structuring element  $s$  is positioned with its origin at  $(x, y)$  and the new pixel value is determined using the rule:

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s \text{ hits } f \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Dilation – How to compute

- ◆ For each background pixel (which we will call the *input pixel*)
  - Superimpose the structuring element on top of the input image so that the origin of the structuring element coincides with the input pixel position
  - If *at least one* pixel in the structuring element coincides with a foreground pixel in the image underneath, then the input pixel is set to the foreground value
  - If all the corresponding pixels in the image are background, however, the input pixel is left at the background value

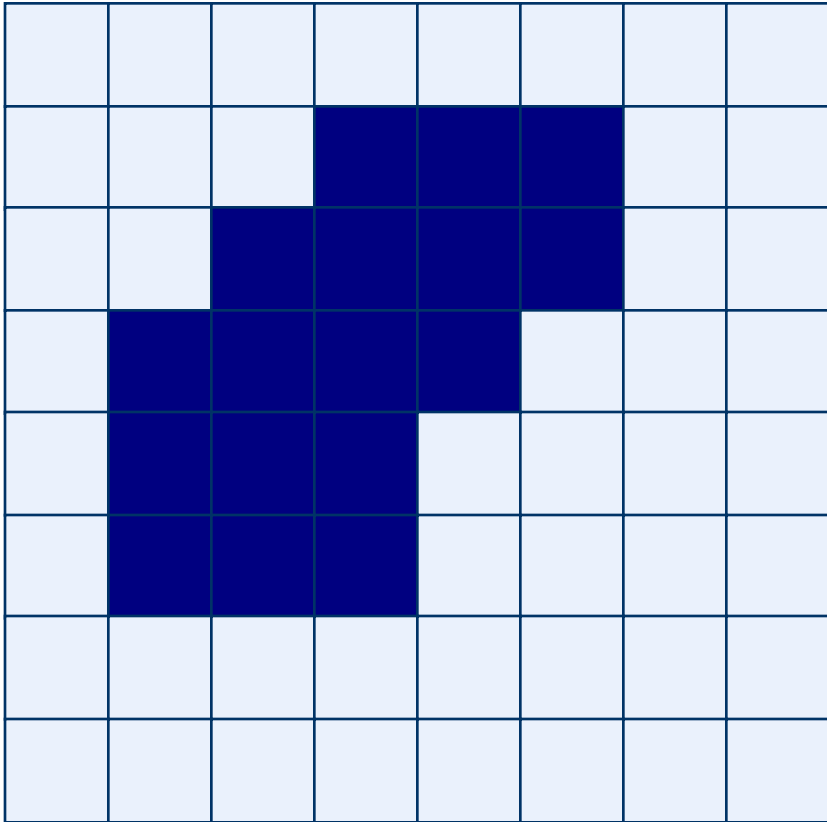
# Dilation: Example



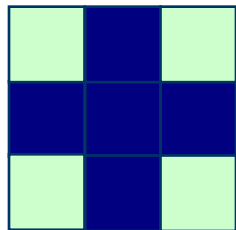
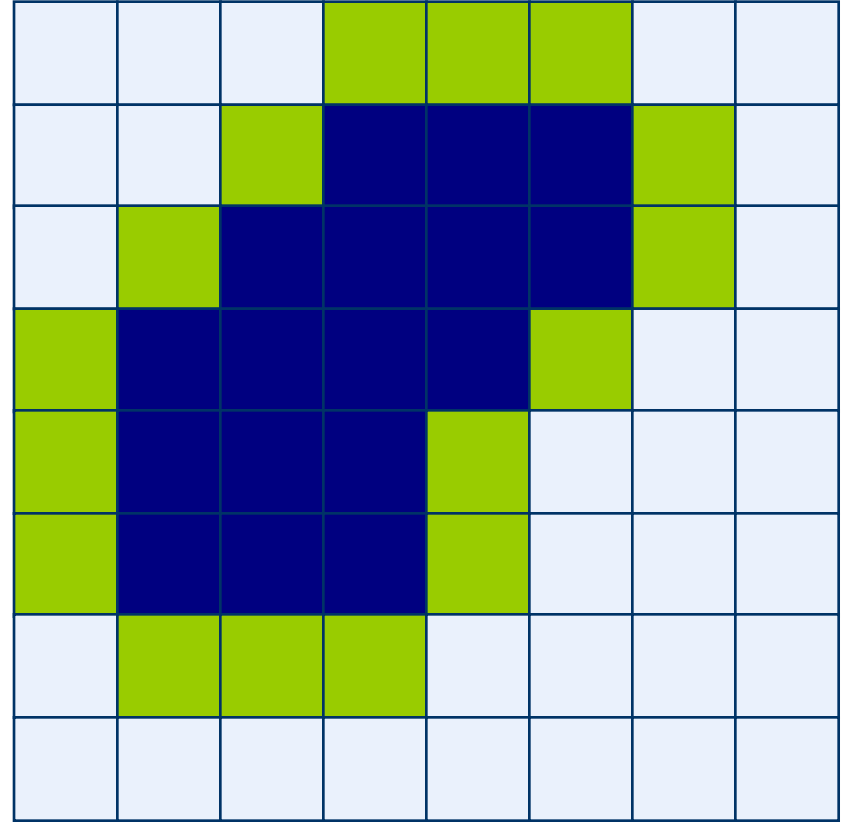


# Dilation: Example 1

Original Image



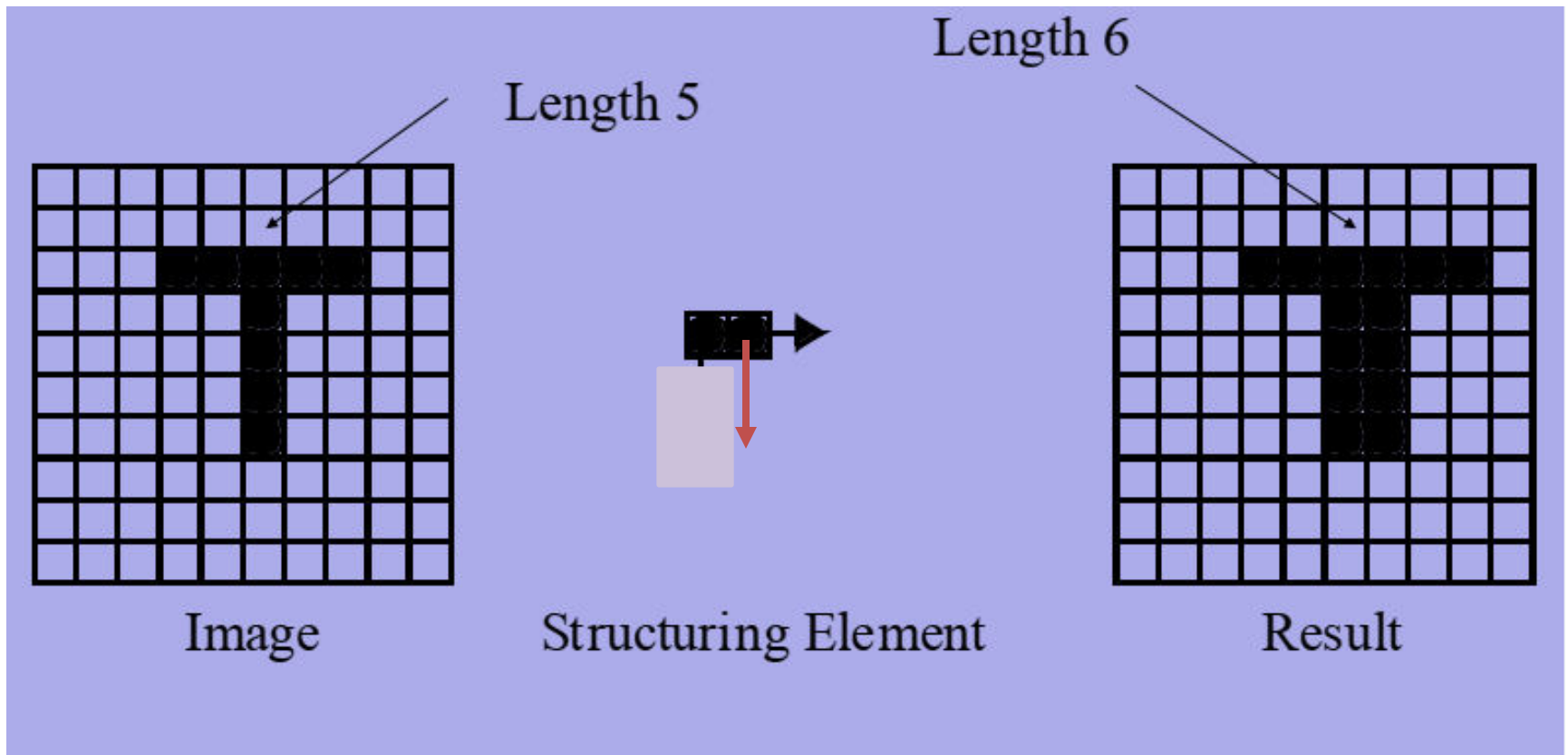
Processed Image With Dilated Pixels



Structuring Element

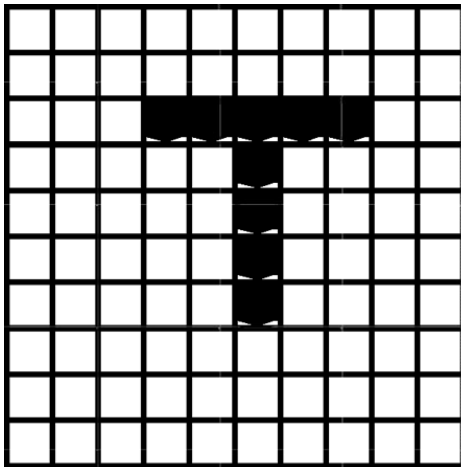
# Structuring Element in Dilation

## Example

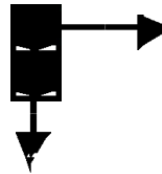


# Structuring Element in Dilation

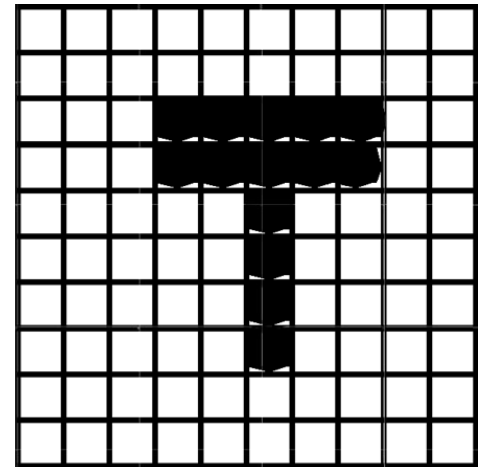
## Example



Image



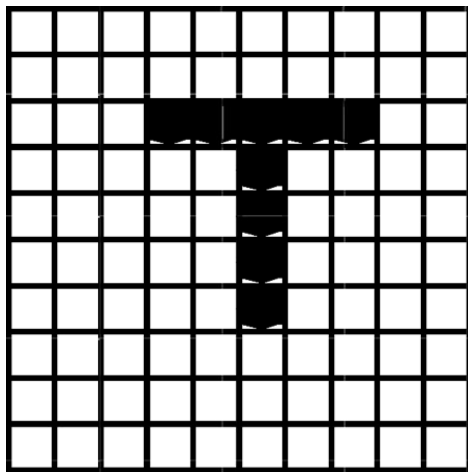
Structuring Element



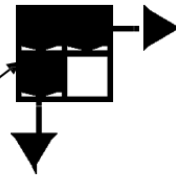
Result

# Structuring Element in Dilation

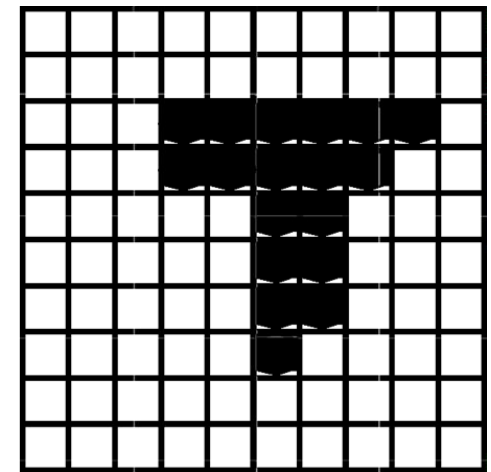
## Example



Image



Structuring Element

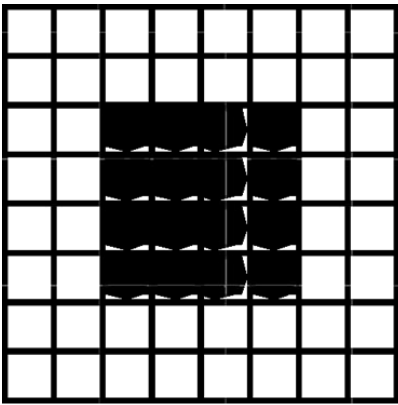


Result

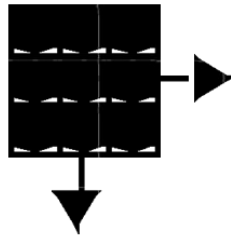
Single point in Image replaced with  
this in the Result

# Structuring Element in Dilation

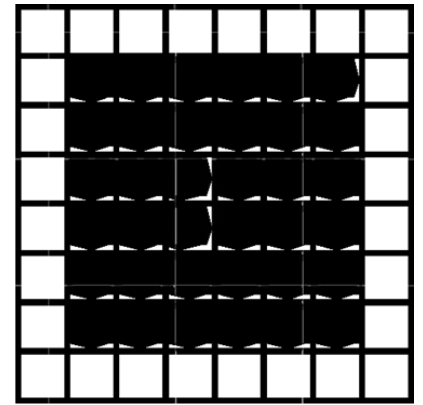
## Example



Image



Structuring Element



Result

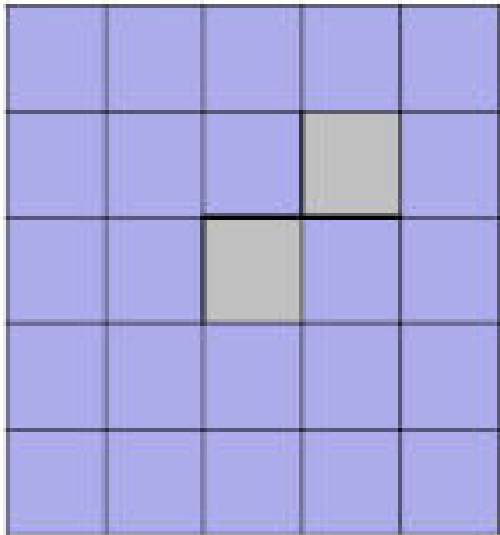
# Dilation

Question: Suppose that the structuring element is a 3x3 square with the origin at its center evaluate the

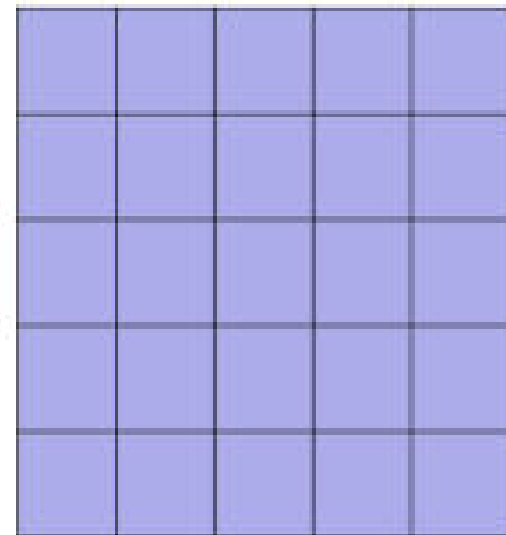
$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

new image

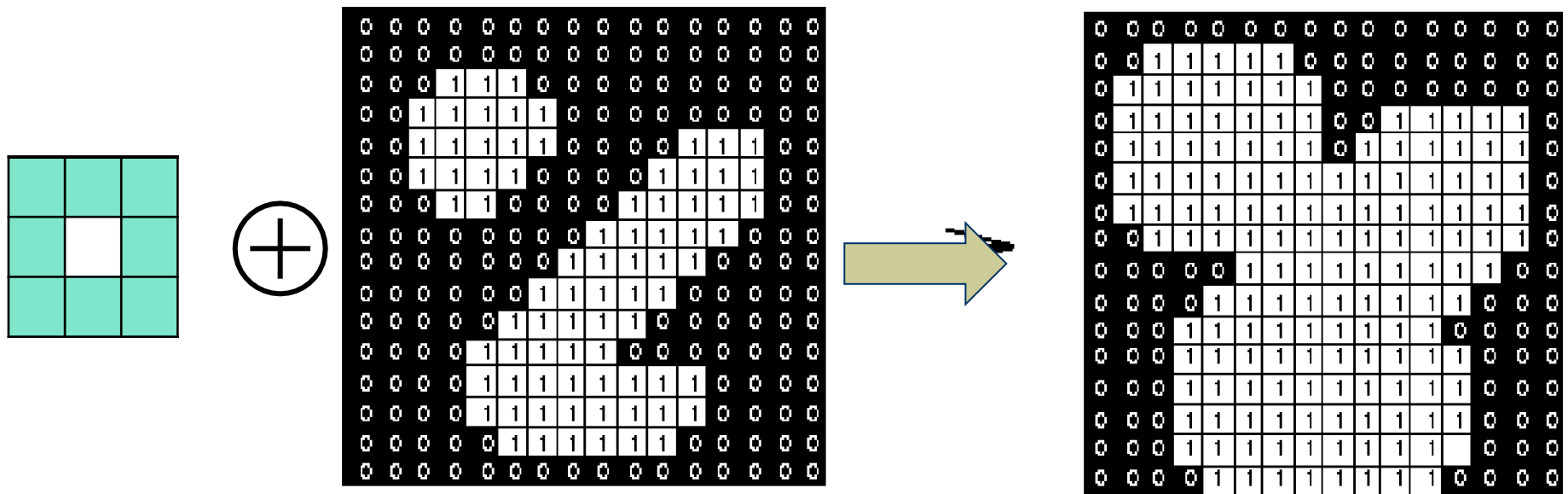
$$\{ (-1, -1), (0, -1), (1, -1), \\ (-1, 0), (0, 0), (1, 0), \\ (-1, 1), (0, 1), (1, 1) \}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \end{bmatrix}$$


$$A \oplus B$$

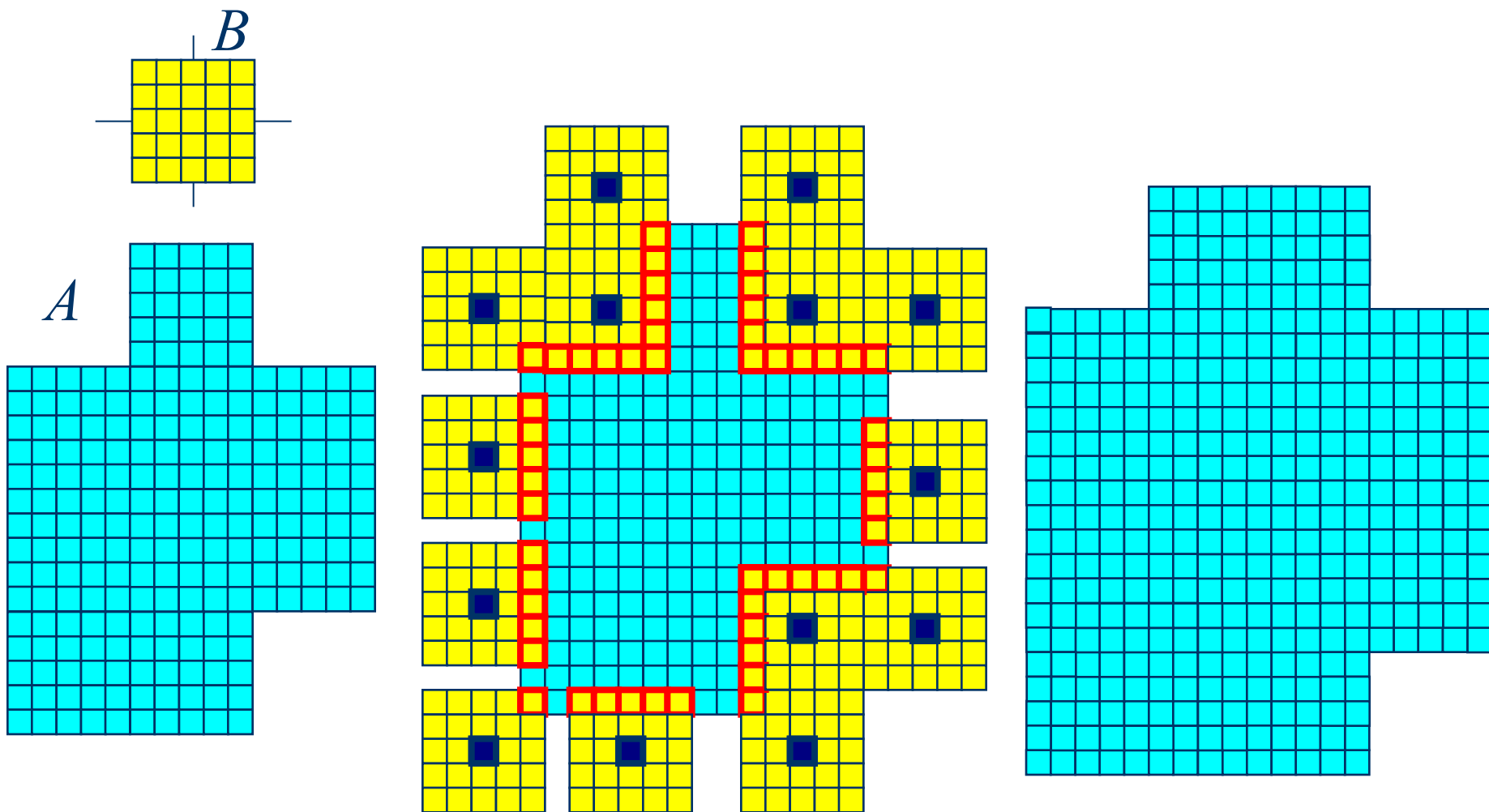


# Dilation: Example 2



*Effect of dilation using a 3 × 3 square structuring element*

# Dilation: Example 3





# Dilation: Example 4



Original image



Dilation by 3\*3  
square structuring  
element



Dilation by 5\*5  
square structuring  
element

**Note:** In these examples a 1 refers to a black pixel!

# Dilation : Bridging gaps

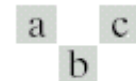
Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.



**Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.**



0	1	0
1	1	1
0	1	0



**FIGURE 9.5**  
(a) Sample text of poor resolution with broken characters (magnified view).  
(b) Structuring element.  
(c) Dilation of (a) by (b). Broken segments were joined.

# Dilation: Example 5

Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.

**Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.**

# Dilation: Example 6

Dilation can repair breaks



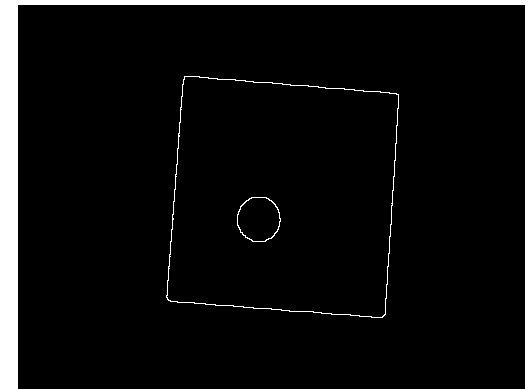
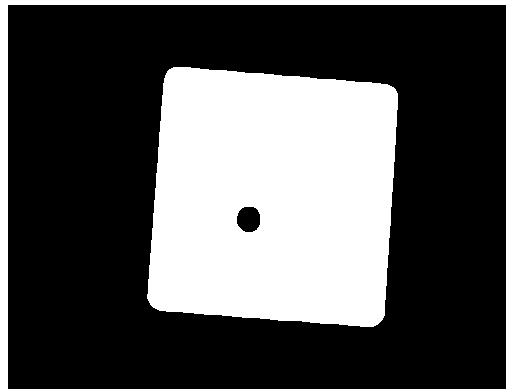
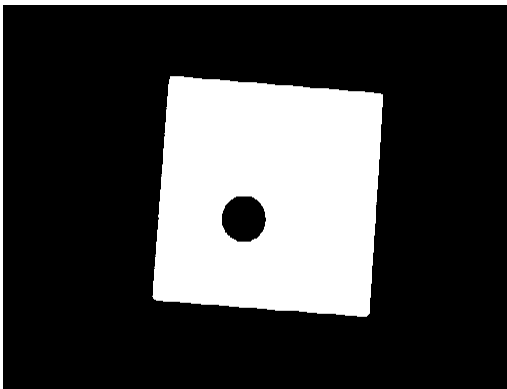
Dilation can repair intrusions



**Watch out:** Dilation enlarges objects

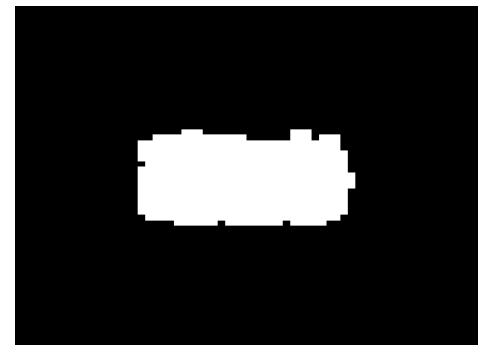
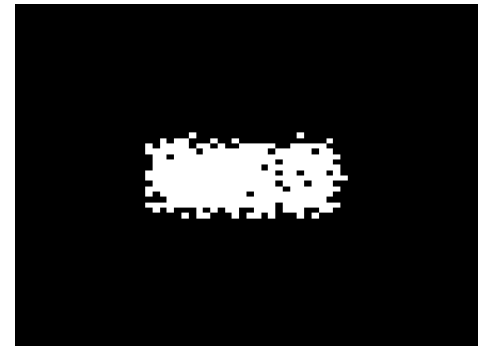
# Dilation: Example 7

- Edge Detection
  1. Dilate input image
  2. Subtract input image from dilated image
  3. Edges remain!



# Typical use of Dilation

- Fills in holes.
- Smoothens object boundaries.
- Adds an extra outer ring of pixels onto object boundary, ie, object becomes slightly larger.



# Dilation

## ◆ Effects

- Expands the size of foreground(1-valued) objects
- Smooths object boundaries
- Closes holes and gaps

## ◆ Rule for Dilation

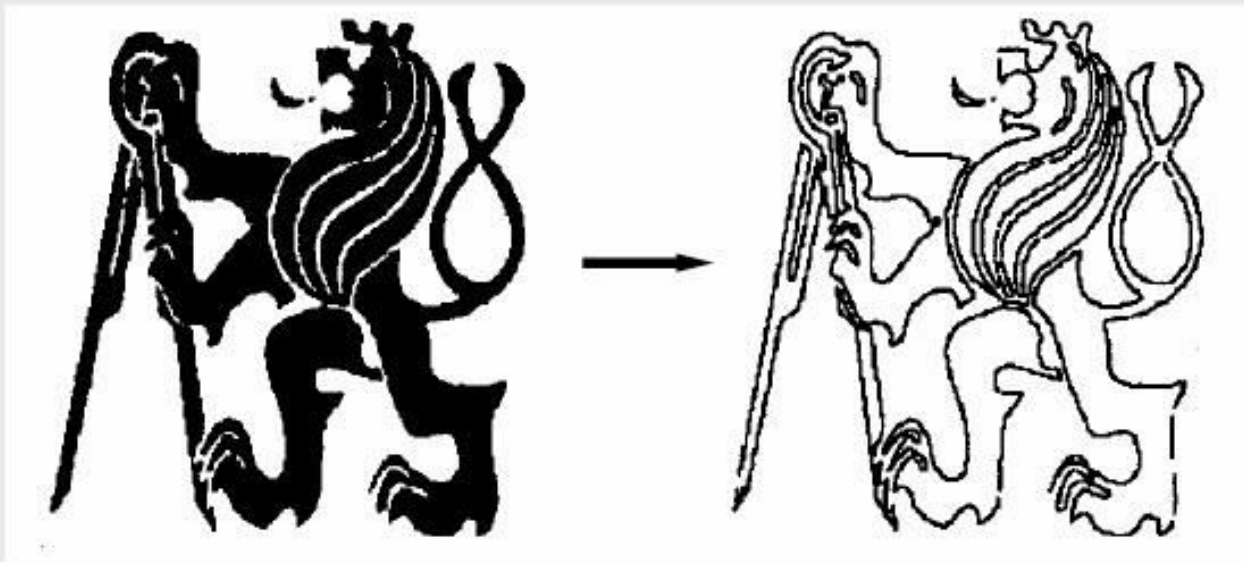
In a binary image, if any of the pixel (in the neighborhood defined by structuring element) is 1, then output is 1

# **More Applications of Erosion and Dilation**



# Boundary Extraction

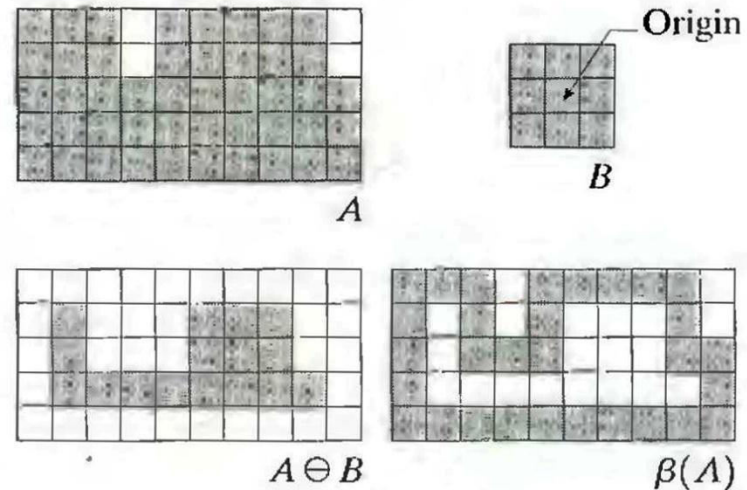
Contours can be extracted by **subtraction** of the **eroded** image from the original.



$$\beta(A) = A - (A \ominus B)$$

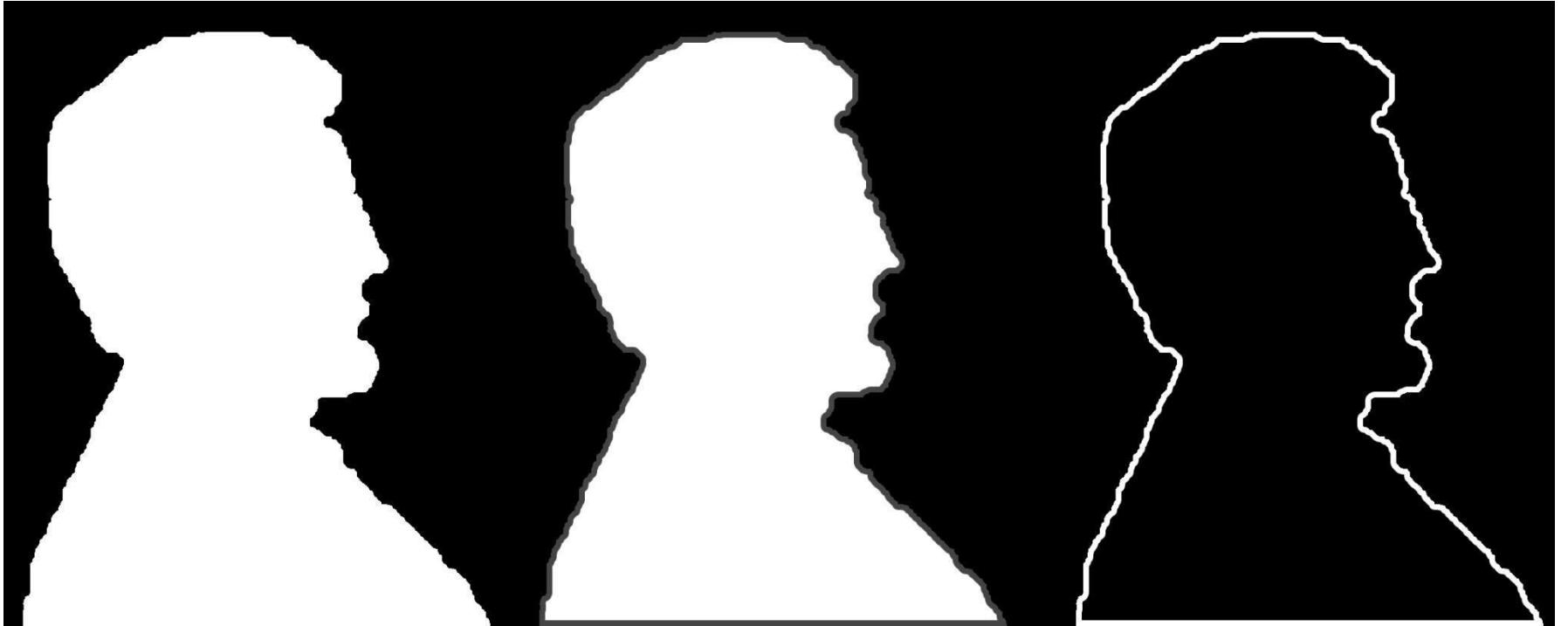
# Boundary Extraction

- First, erode  $A$  by  $B$ , then make set difference between  $A$  and the erosion
- The thickness of the contour depends on the size of constructing object –  $B$



$$\beta(A) = A - (A \ominus B)$$

# Boundary Extraction



$$\beta(A) = A - (A \ominus B)$$

# Edge detection

original



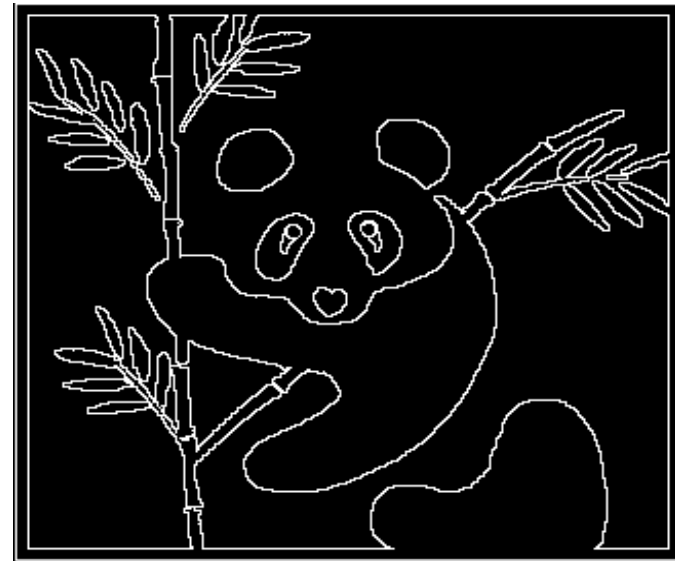
$A$

Dilate



$A \oplus B$

Dilate - original



$A \oplus B \div A$

# Duality relationship between Dilation and Erosion

- When one operation is the dual of the other, **it means that one can be written in terms of the other**. This does not, however, mean that they are opposites.
- ◆ Dilation and erosion are duals of each other:

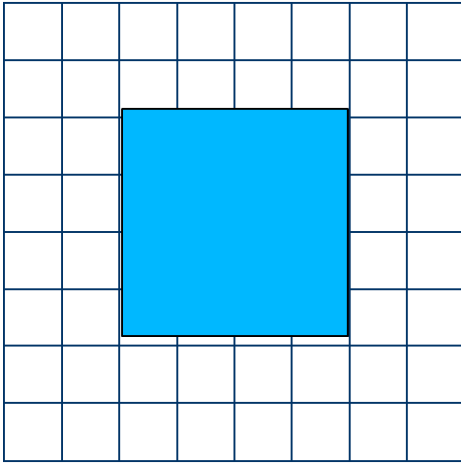
$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$

- ◆ For a symmetric structuring element:

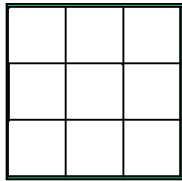
$$(A \oplus B)^c = A^c \ominus \hat{B}$$

It means that we can obtain erosion of an image A by B simply by dilating its background (i.e.  $A^c$ ) with the same structuring element and complementing the result.

# Duality of Dilation and Erosion Example



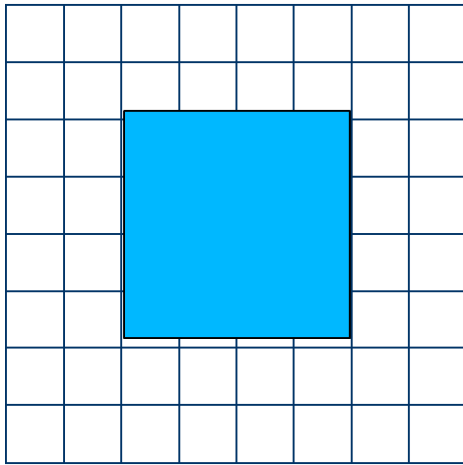
$A$



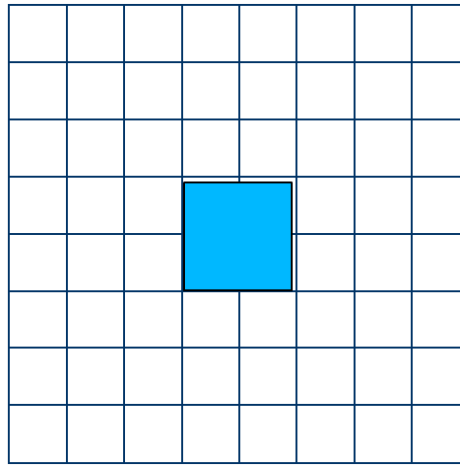
$B$

$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$

# Duality of Dilation and Erosion Example



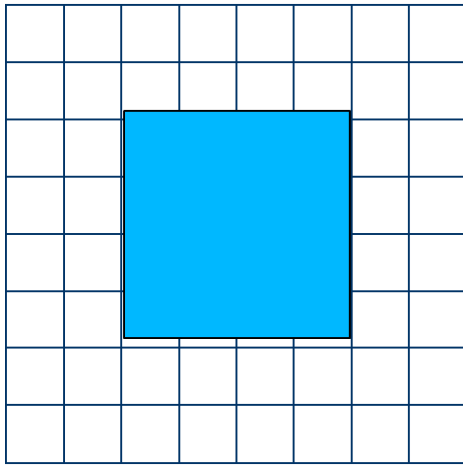
$A$



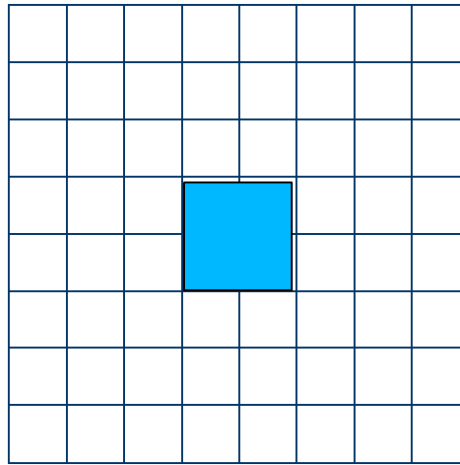
$(A \ominus B)$

$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$

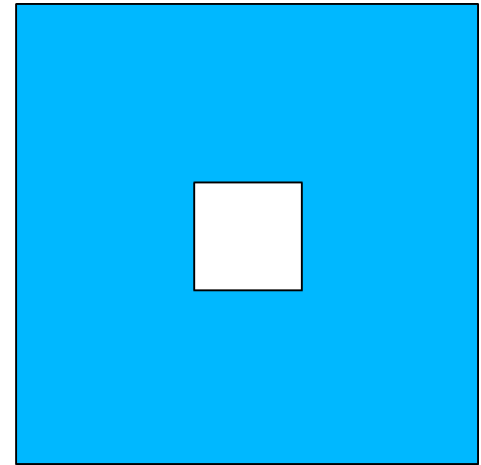
# Duality of Dilation and Erosion Example



$A$



$(A \ominus B)$

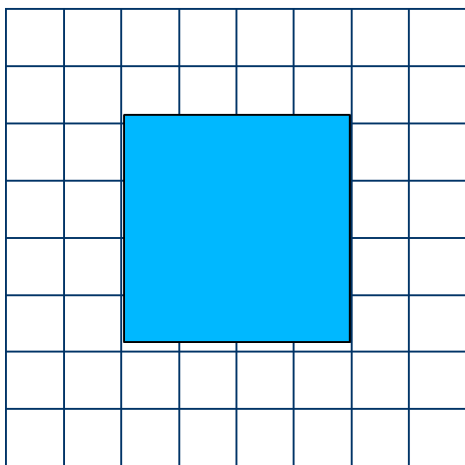


$(A \ominus B)^c$

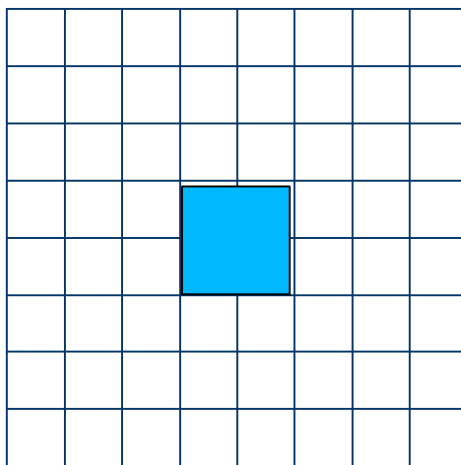
$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$



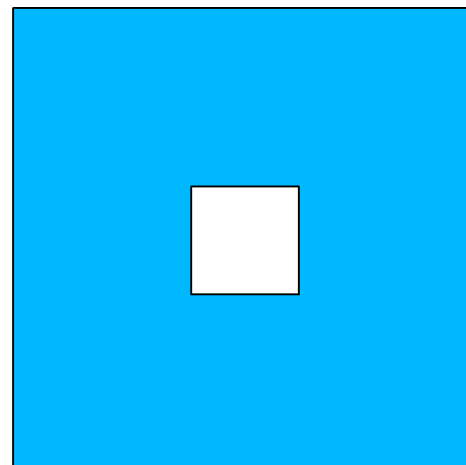
# Duality of Dilation and Erosion Example



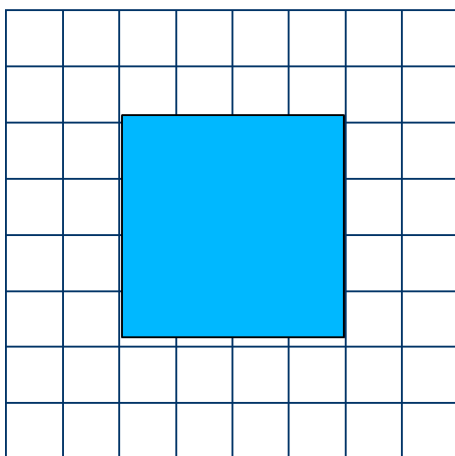
$A$



$(A \ominus B)$



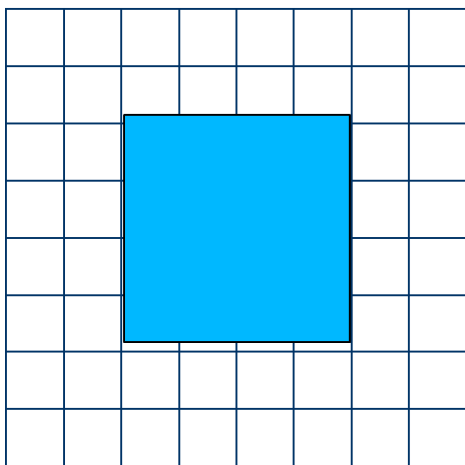
$(A \ominus B)^c$



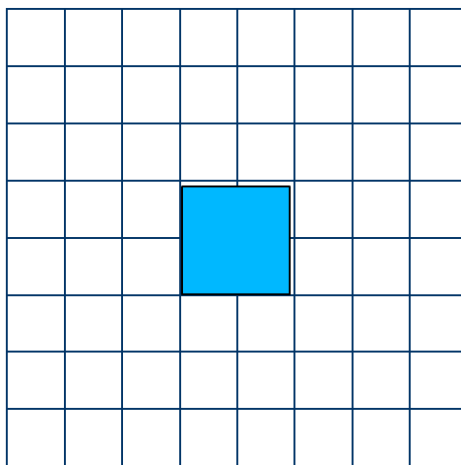
$A$

$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$

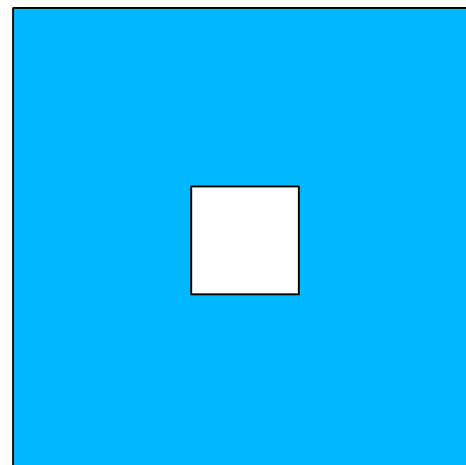
# Duality of Dilation and Erosion Example



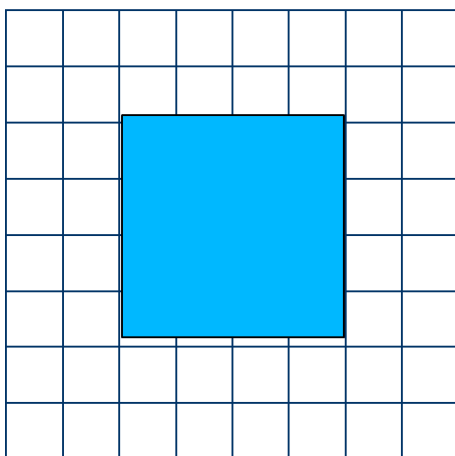
$A$



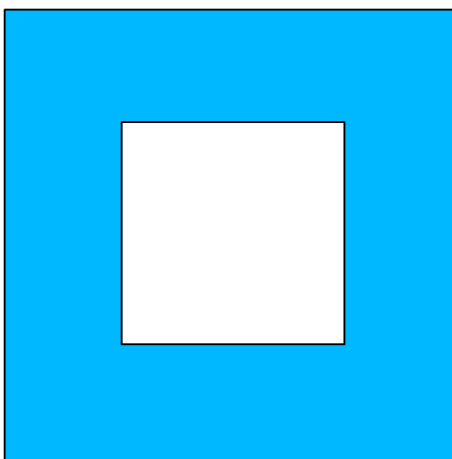
$(A \ominus B)$



$(A \ominus B)^c$

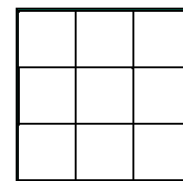


$A$



$A^c$

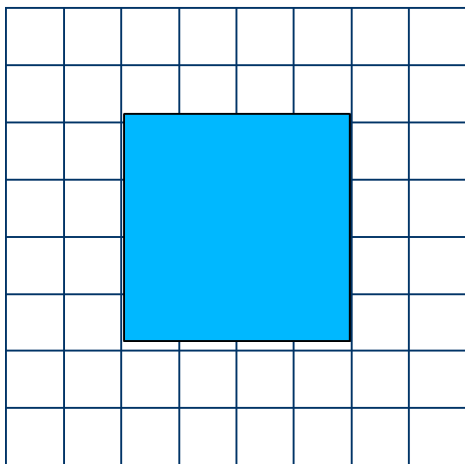
$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$



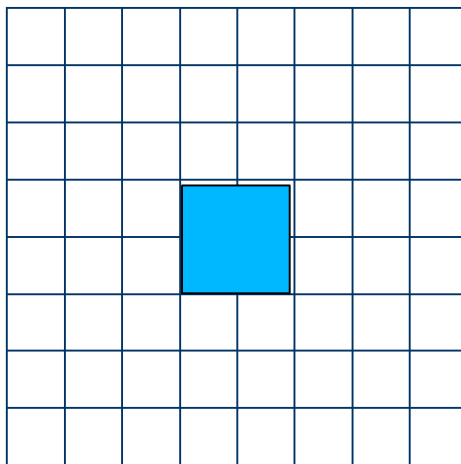
$B$

# Duality of Dilation and Erosion Example

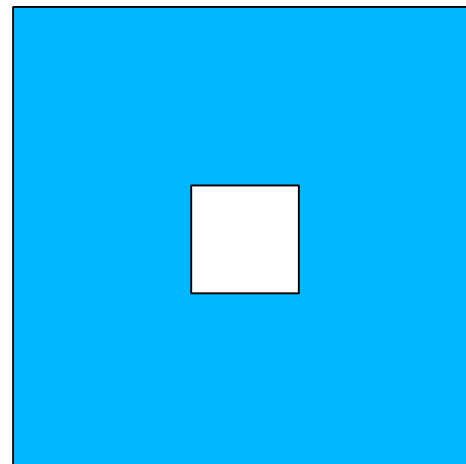
$$(A \ominus B)^c = A^c \oplus \hat{B}$$



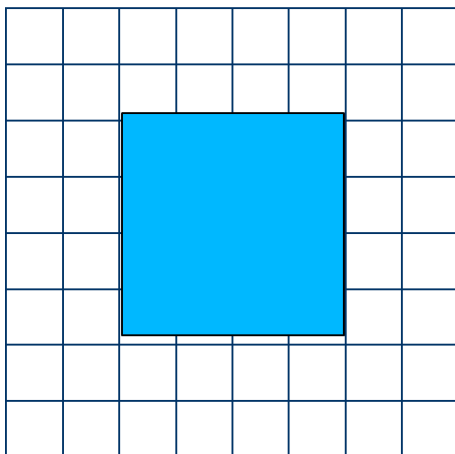
$A$



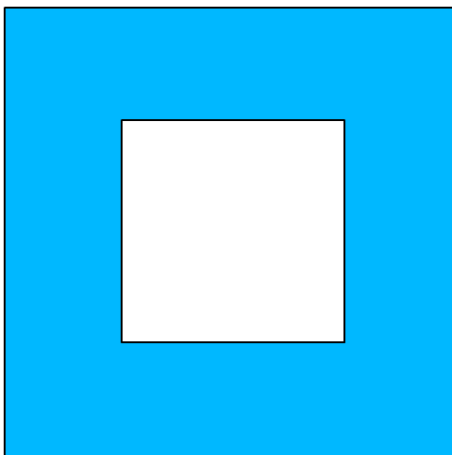
$(A \ominus B)$



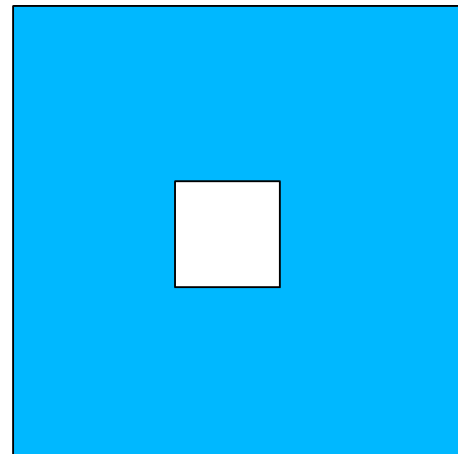
$(A \ominus B)^c$



$A$



$A^c$

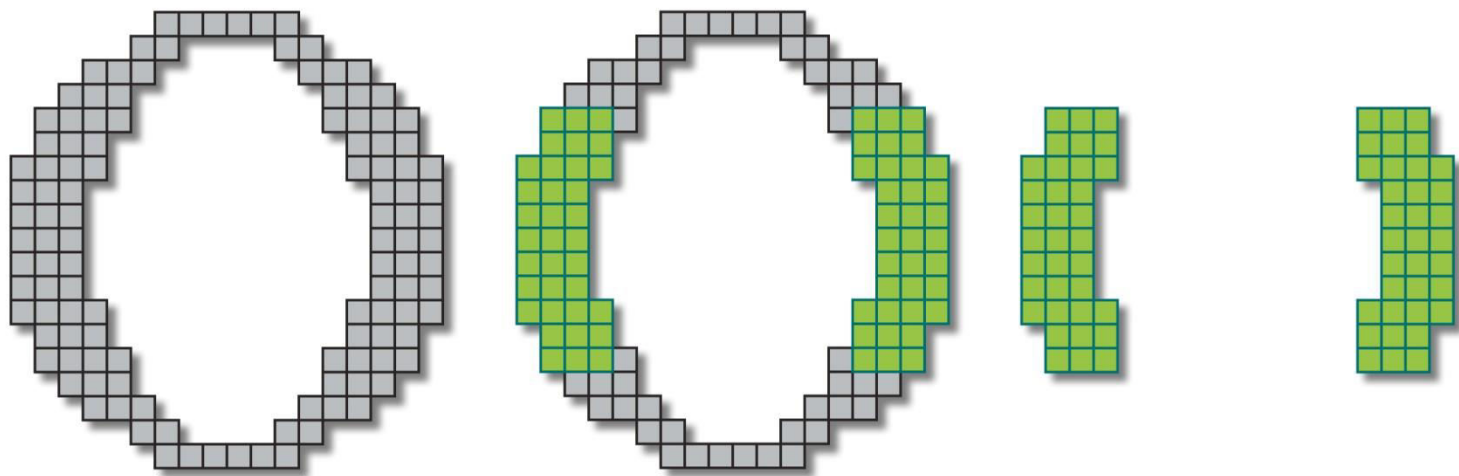


$A^c \oplus \hat{B}$

# Compound Operations

- ❑ More interesting morphological operations can be performed by performing combinations of erosions and dilations
- ❑ The most widely used of these *compound operations* are:
  - Opening
  - Closing

# Opening

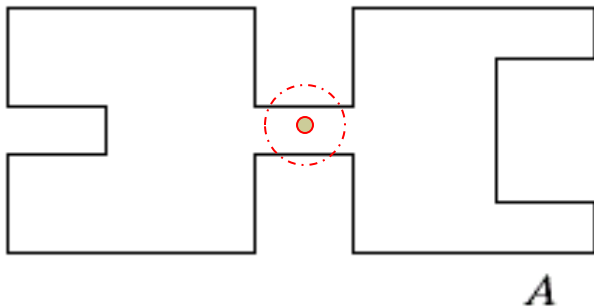


Erosion followed by a dilation

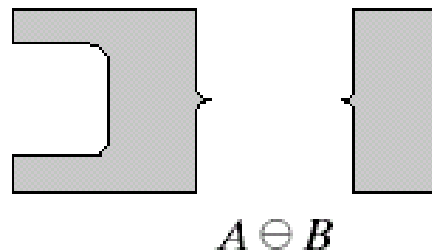
# Opening

The opening of image  $A$  by structuring element  $B$ , denoted by  $A \circ B$  is simply an erosion followed by a dilation

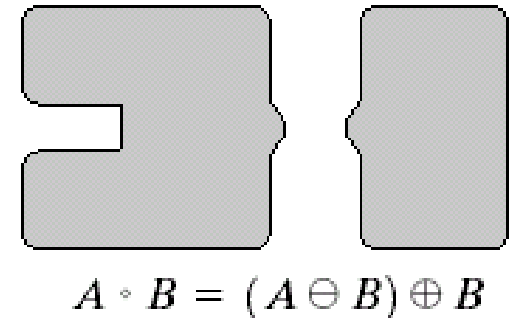
$$A \circ B = (A \ominus B) \oplus B$$



Original shape



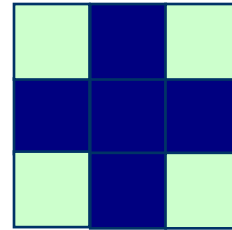
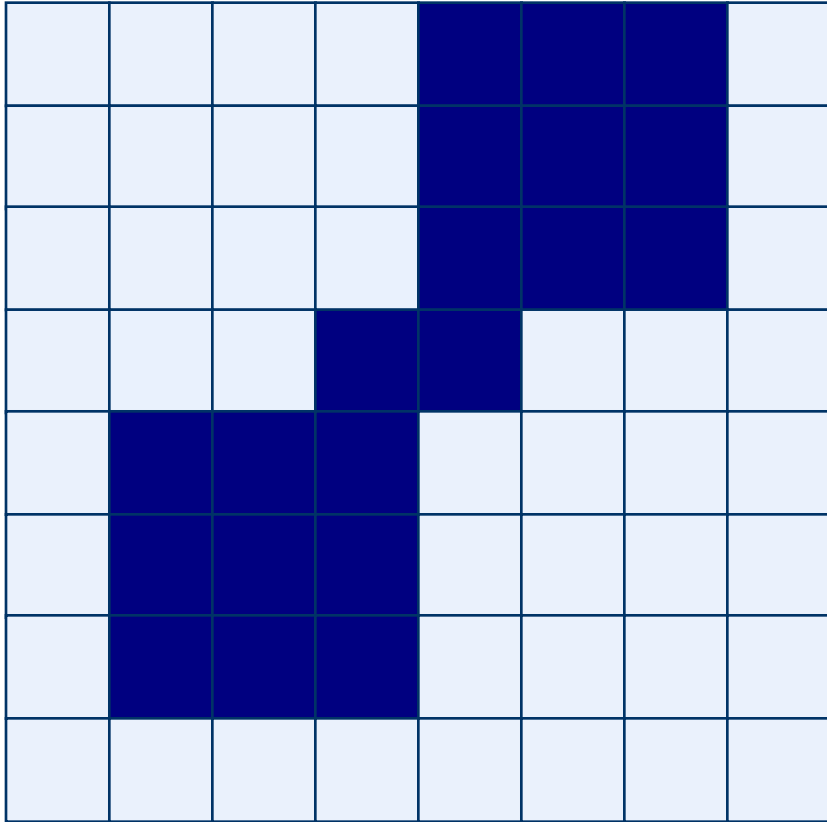
After erosion



After dilation  
(opening)

# Opening: Example

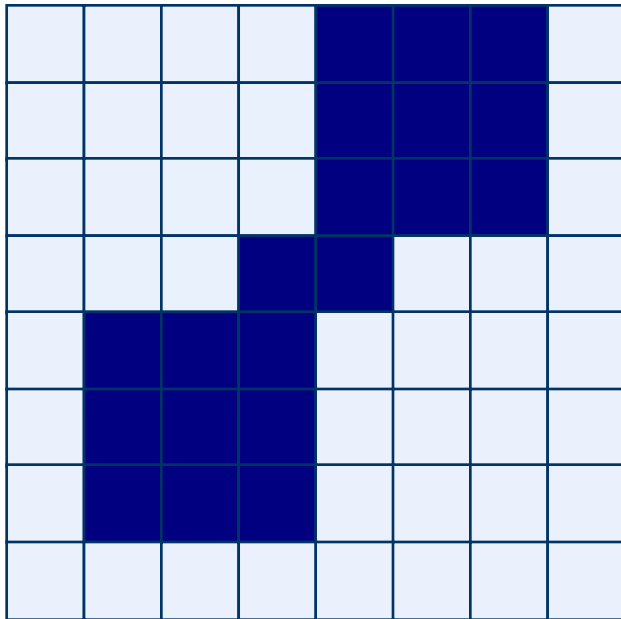
Original Image



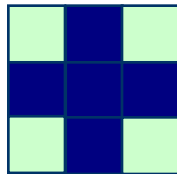
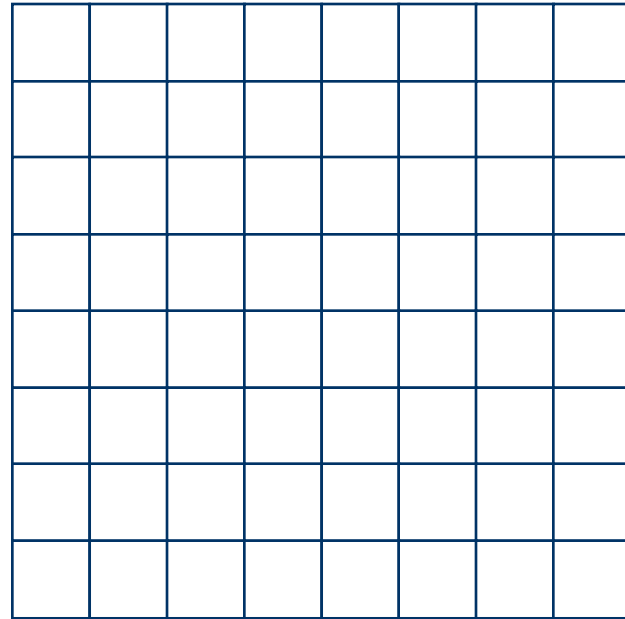
Structuring Element

# Opening: Example

Original Image



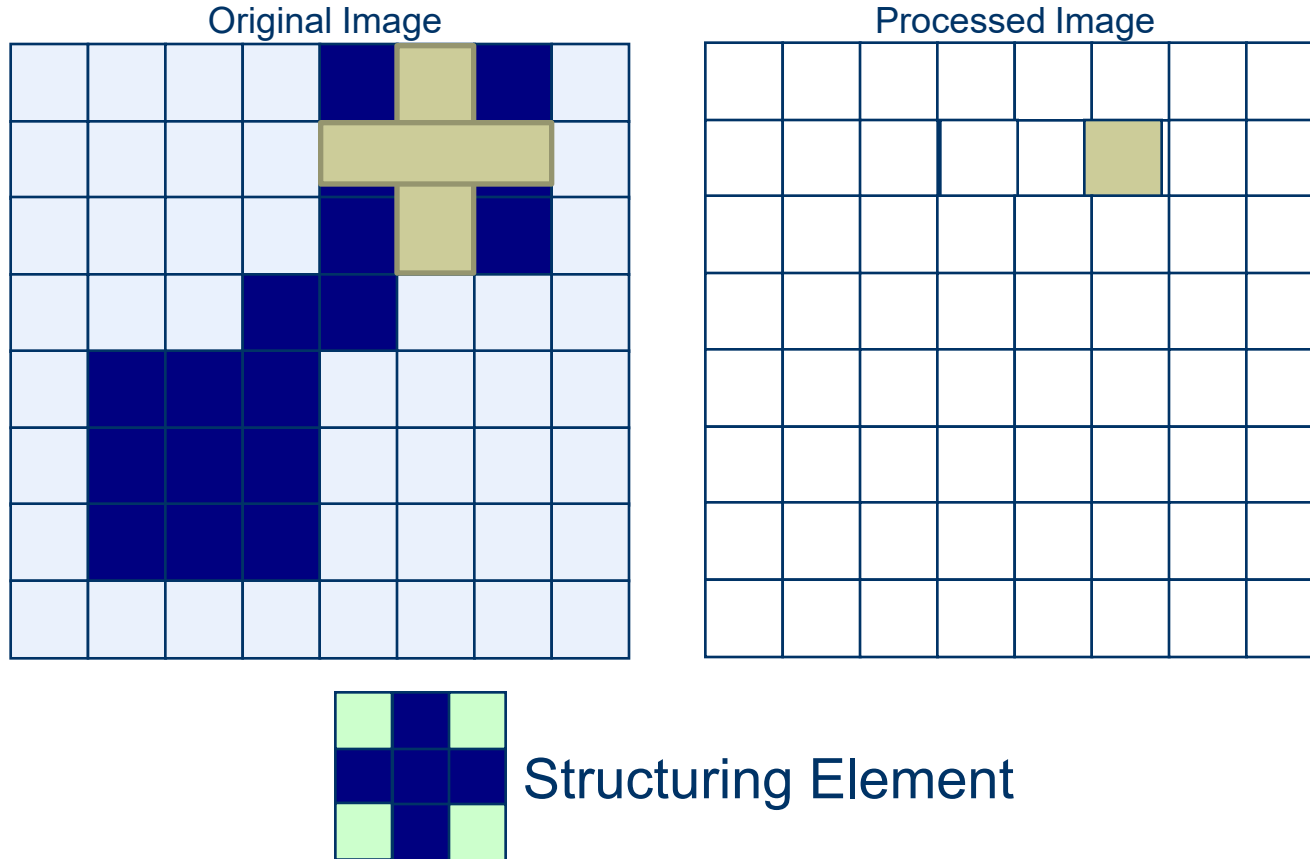
Processed Image



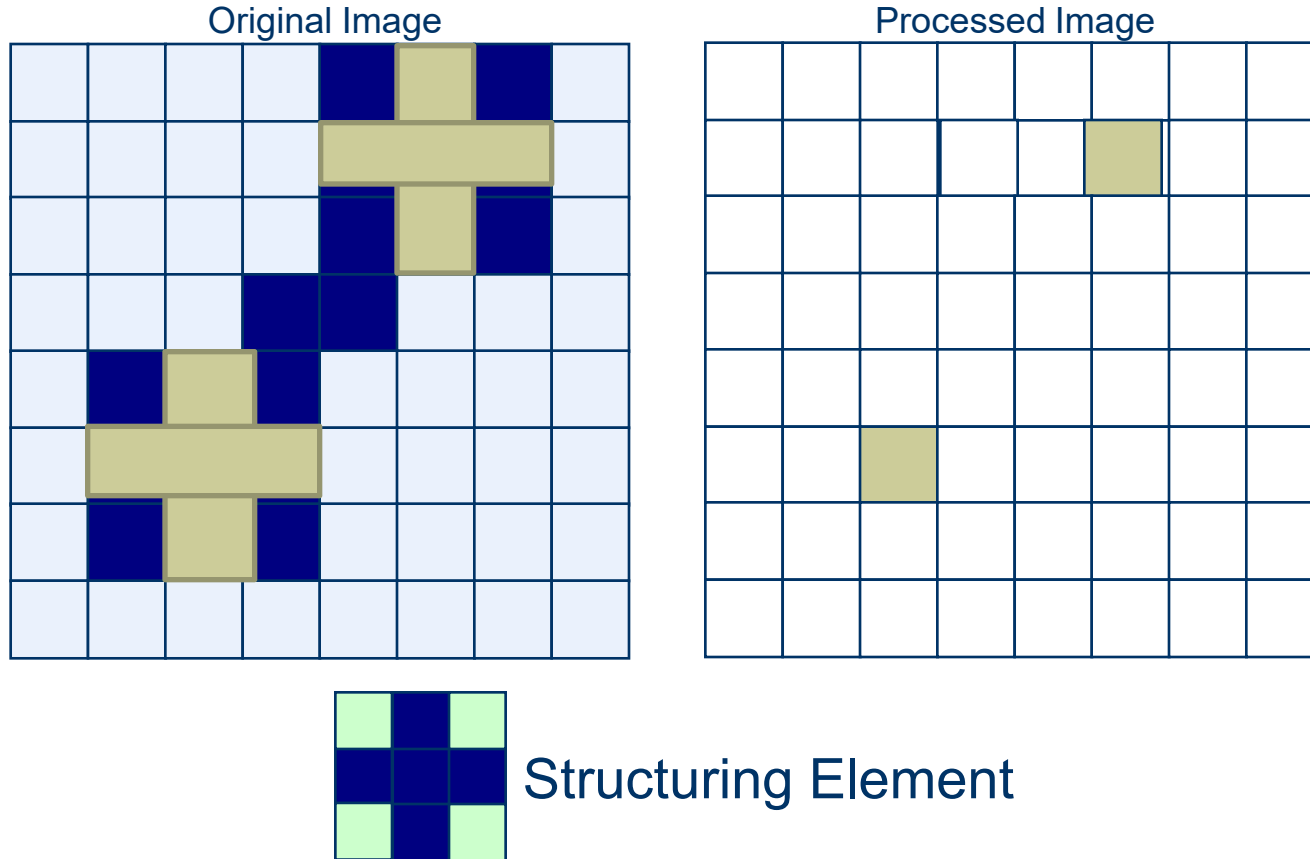
Structuring Element



# Opening: Example (performing erosion)

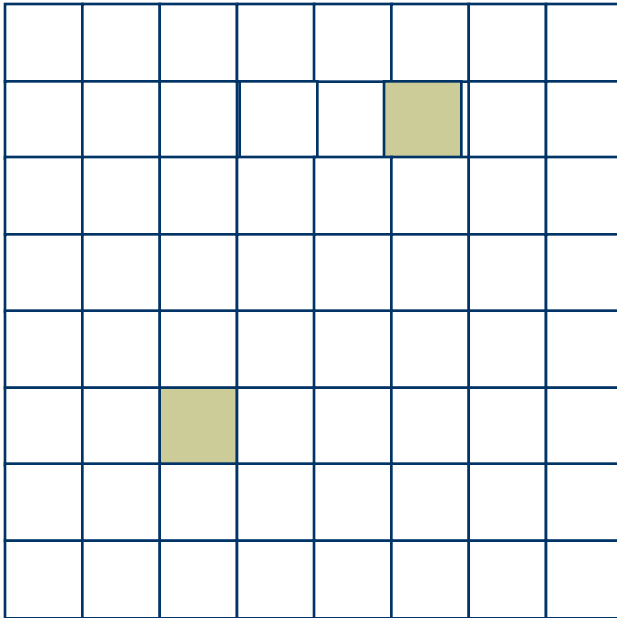


# Opening: Example (performing erosion)

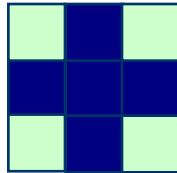
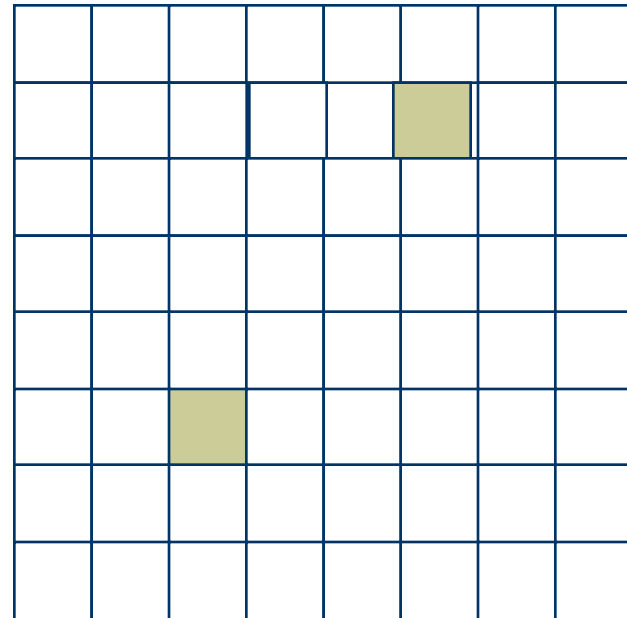


## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)

Original Image

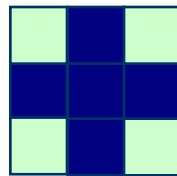
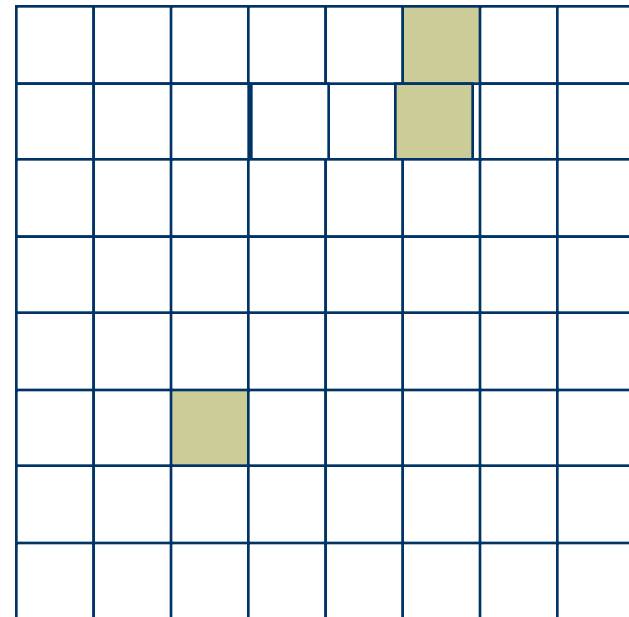
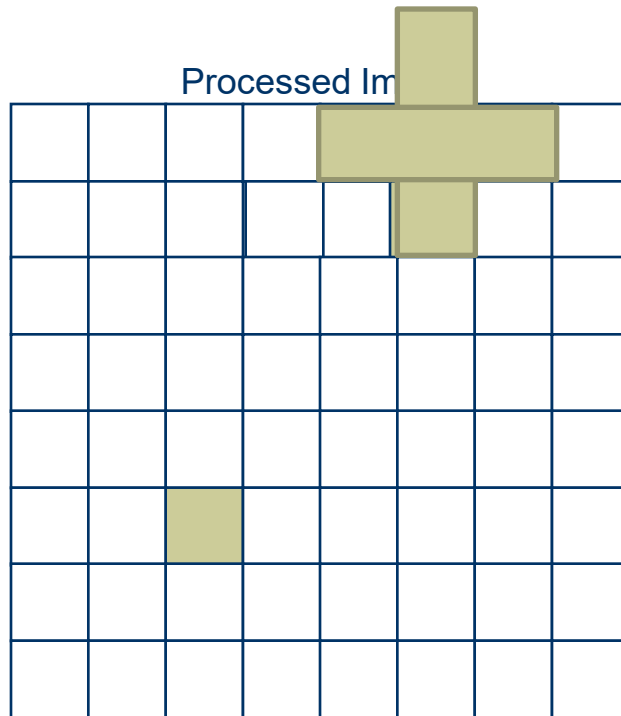


Processed Image



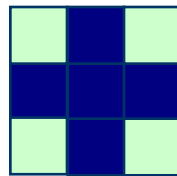
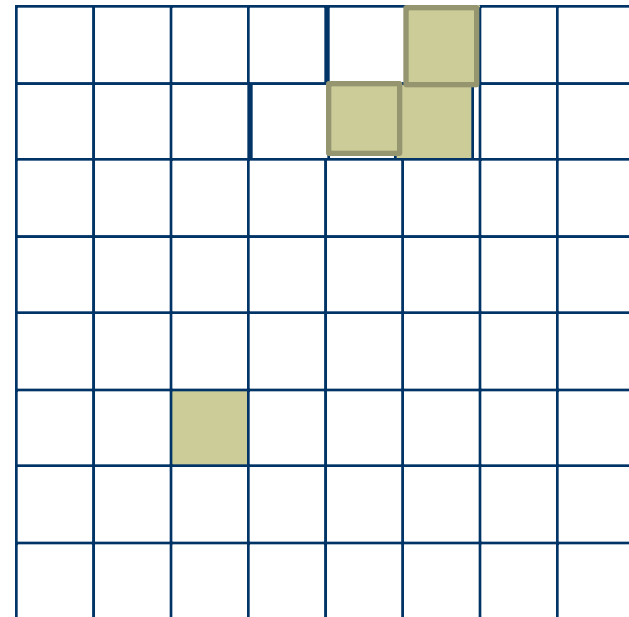
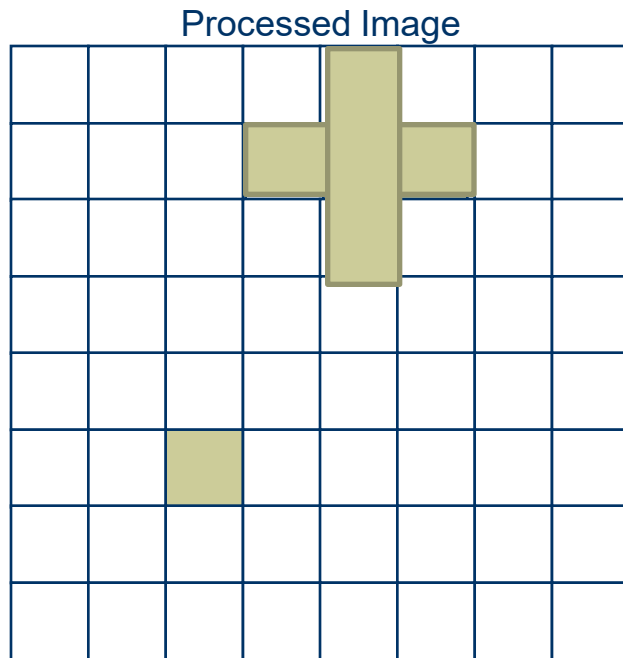
Structuring Element

## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



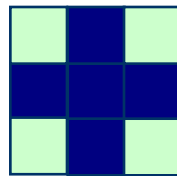
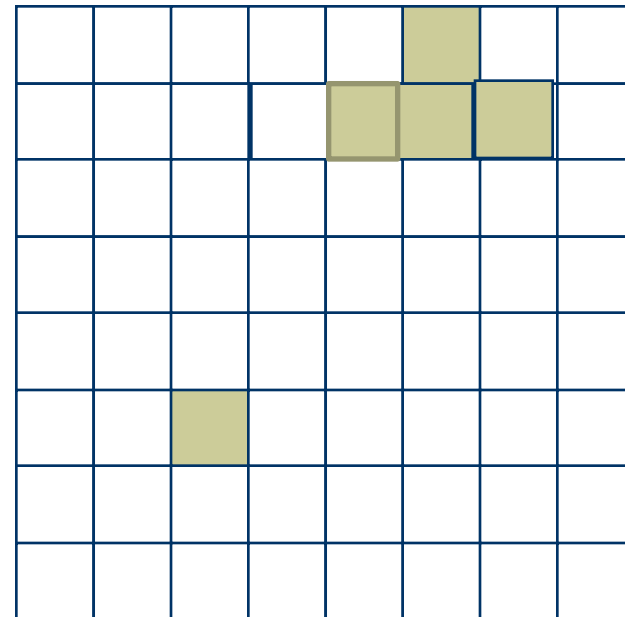
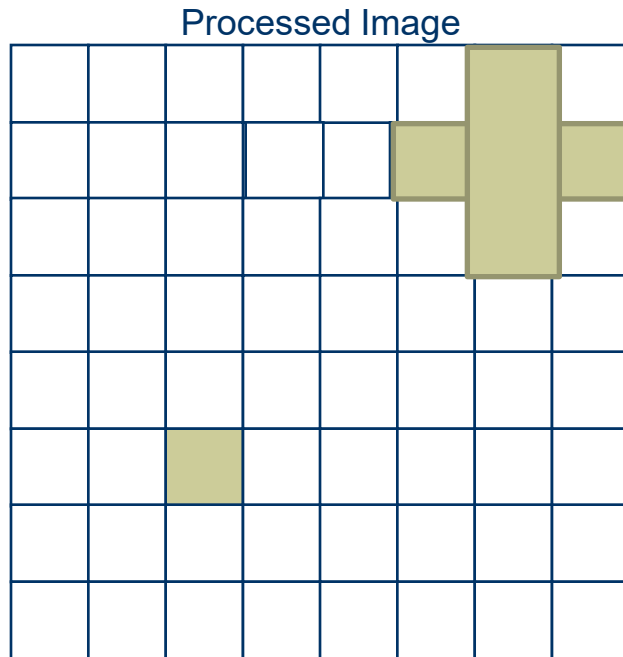
Structuring Element

## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



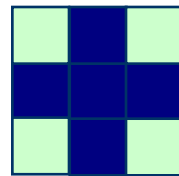
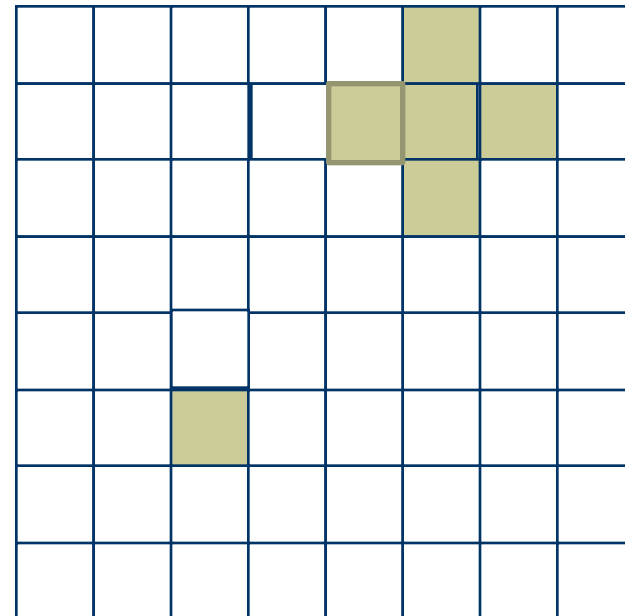
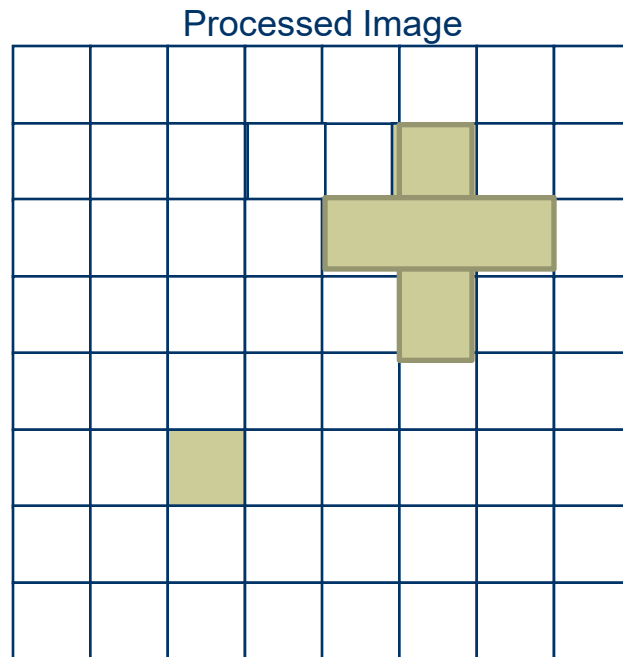
Structuring Element

## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



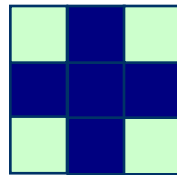
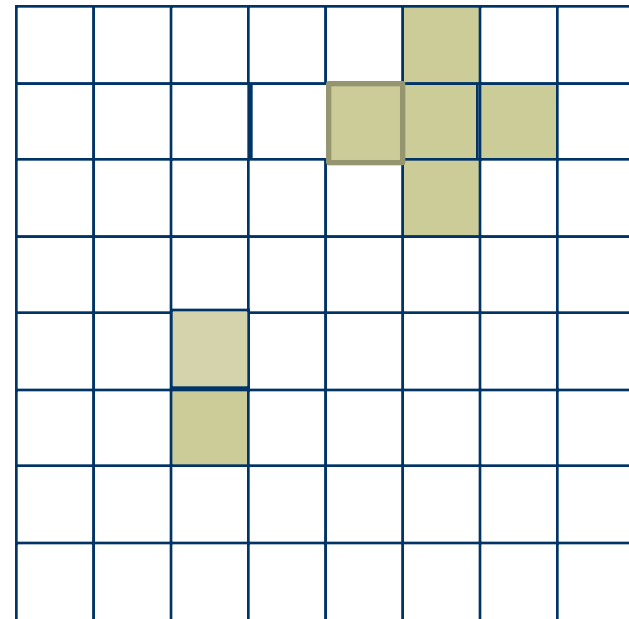
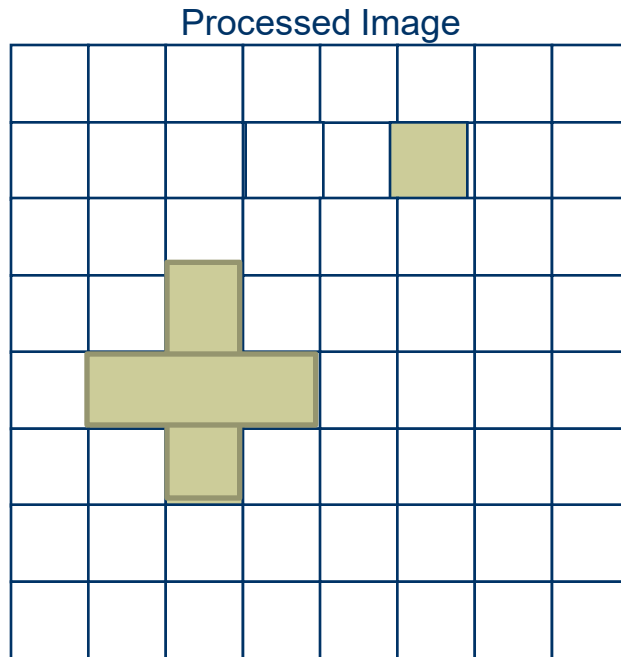
Structuring Element

## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



Structuring Element

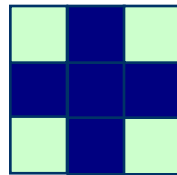
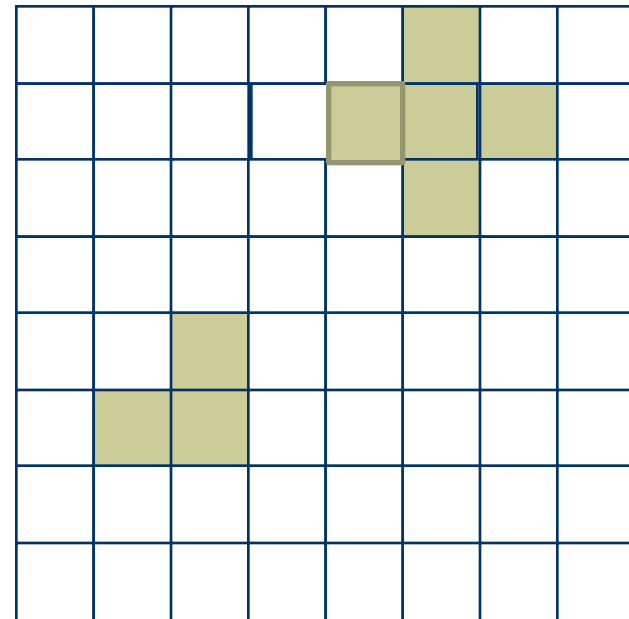
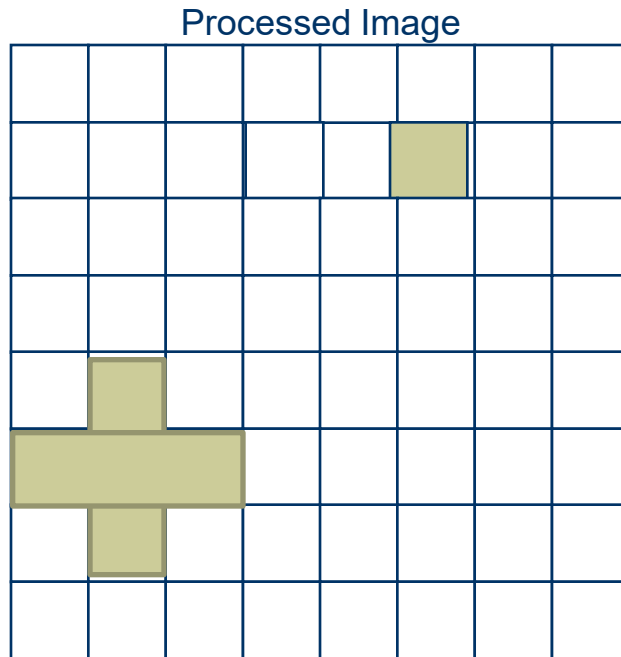
## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



Structuring Element

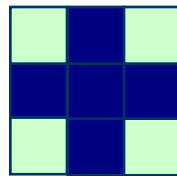
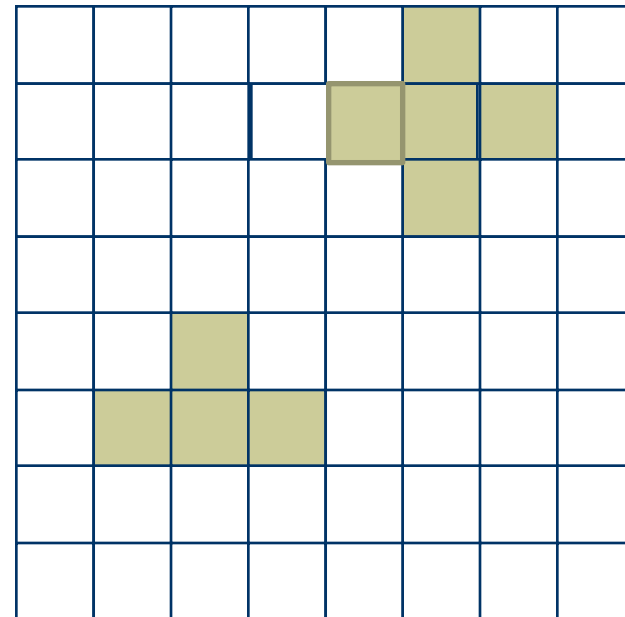
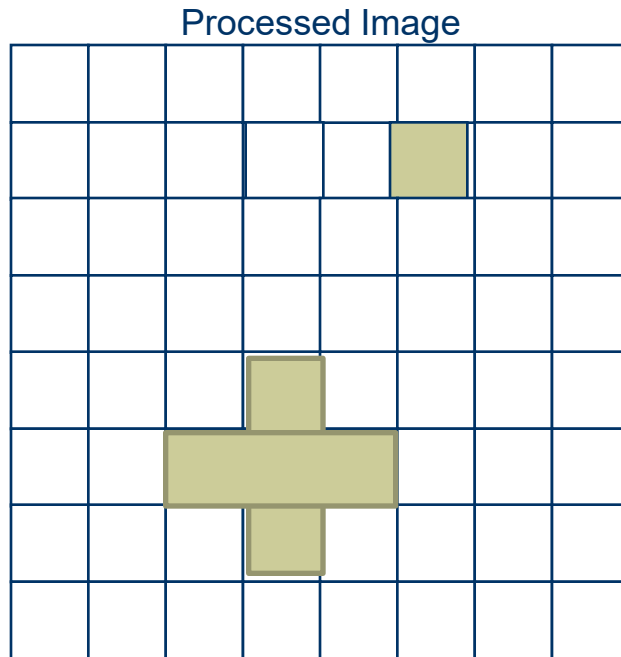


## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



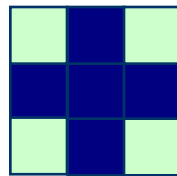
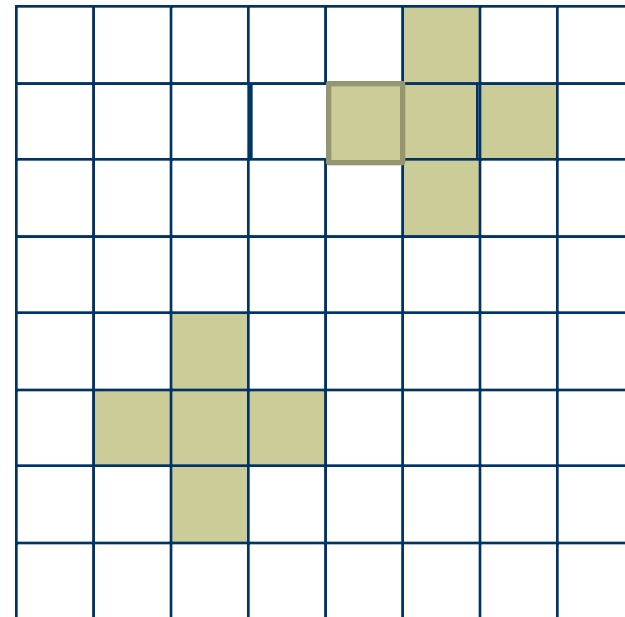
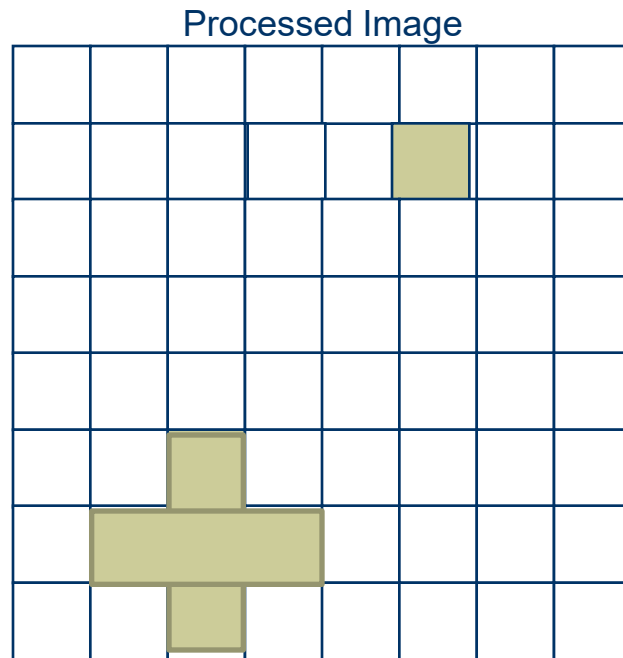
Structuring Element

## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



Structuring Element

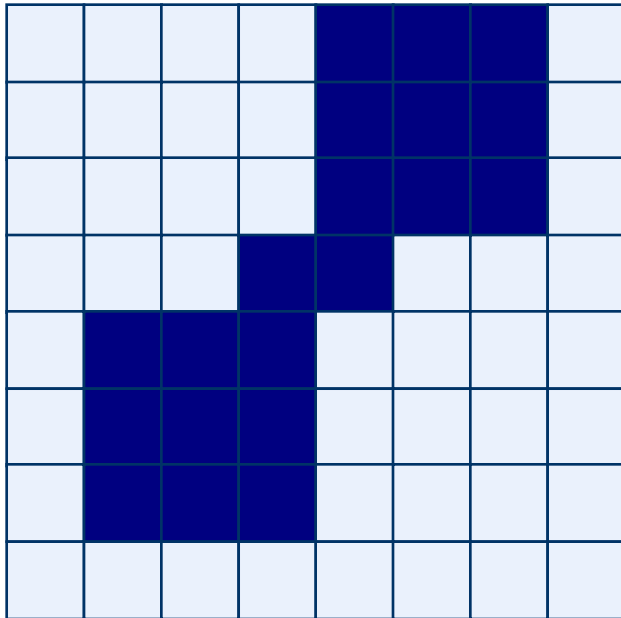
## Opening: Example (performing dilation to errored image)



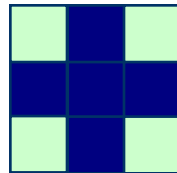
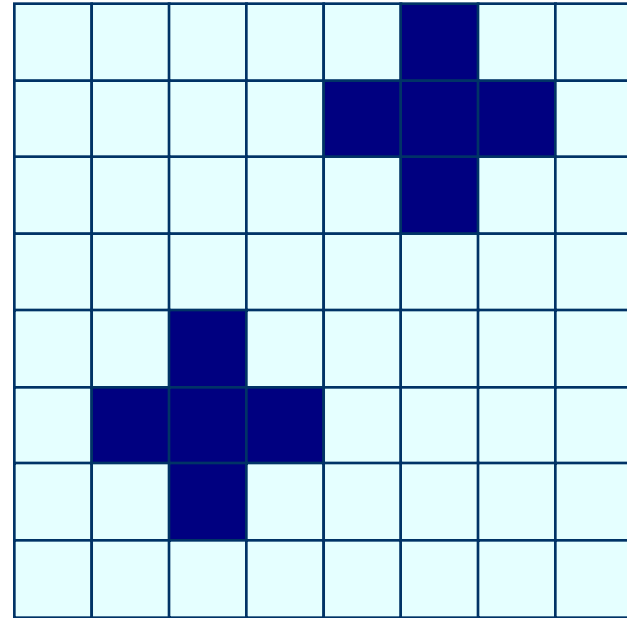
Structuring Element

# After Opening:

Original Image



Processed Image

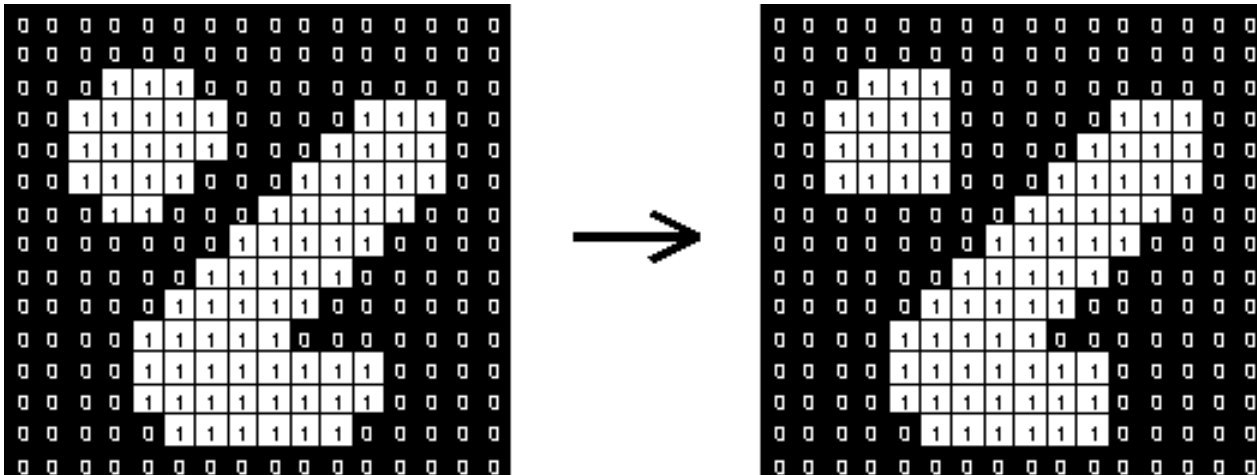


Structuring Element

# Effect of opening

- Structuring element: 3x3 square

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1



# Effect of opening

- ❑ Smoothed the **outline**, by rounding off any **sharp points**, and
- ❑ Remove any parts that is smaller than the shape (SE) used.
- ❑ It will also disconnect or 'open' any thin bridges.
- ❑ It does not remove any 'holes', or gaps that may be present in the image.
- ❑ It does not make the basic 'core' size of the shape larger or smaller.

Note that performing an 'Open' on a shape that has already been opened, with the same kernel will result in no further change to the shape. For example...



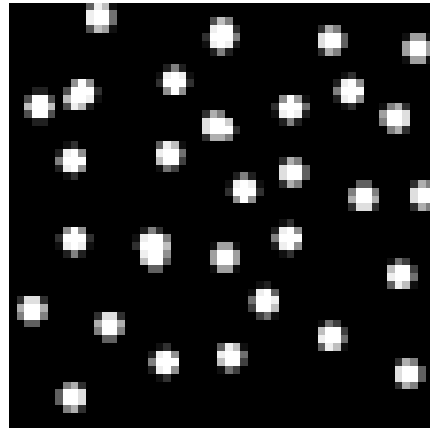
That is repeating a 'Open' operation, with the same kernel, has no effect on the result.

# Effect of opening

Original Image



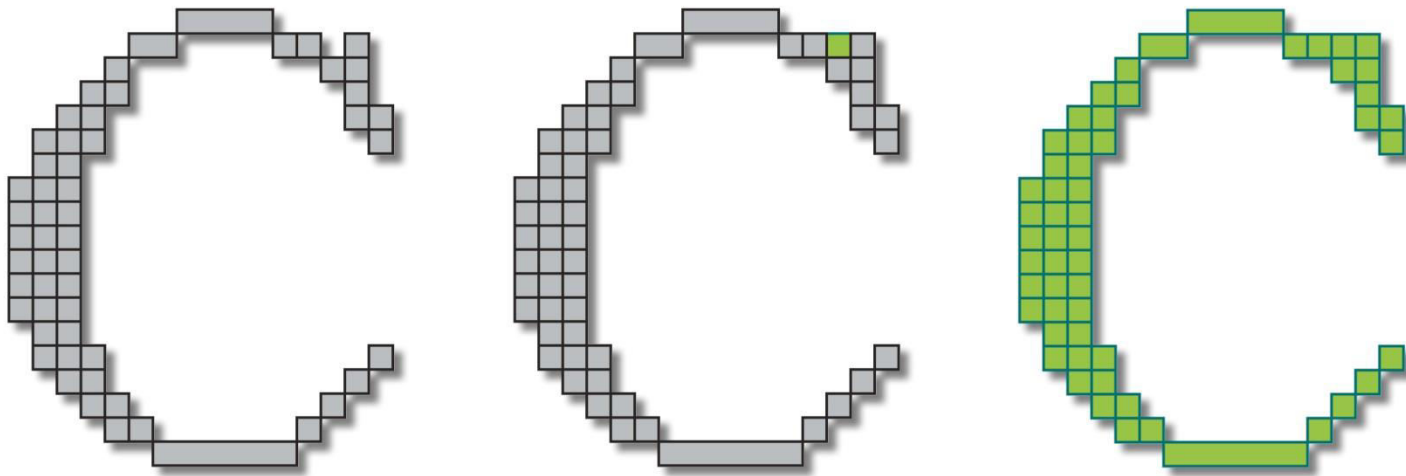
Processed Image



- ❑ Opening with a disk shaped structuring element 11 pixels in diameter gives the separation of circles from the lines.
- ❑ Some of the circles are slightly distorted, but
- ❑ In general, the lines have been almost completely removed while the circles remain almost completely unaffected.



# Closing

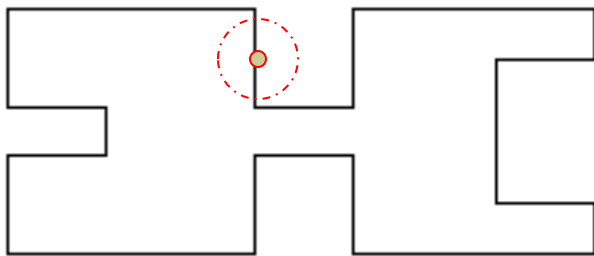


**Dilation followed by an erosion**

# Closing

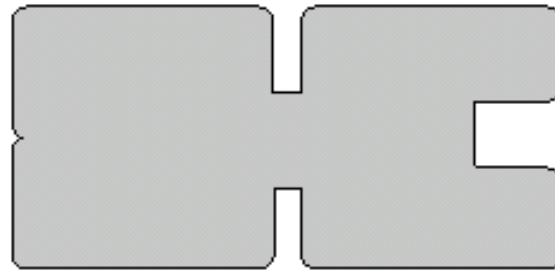
The closing of image  $f$  by structuring element  $s$ , denoted by  $A \bullet B$  is simply a dilation followed by an erosion

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



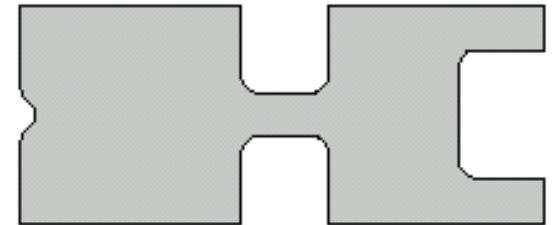
$A$

Original shape



$A \oplus B$

After dilation

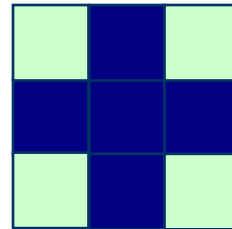
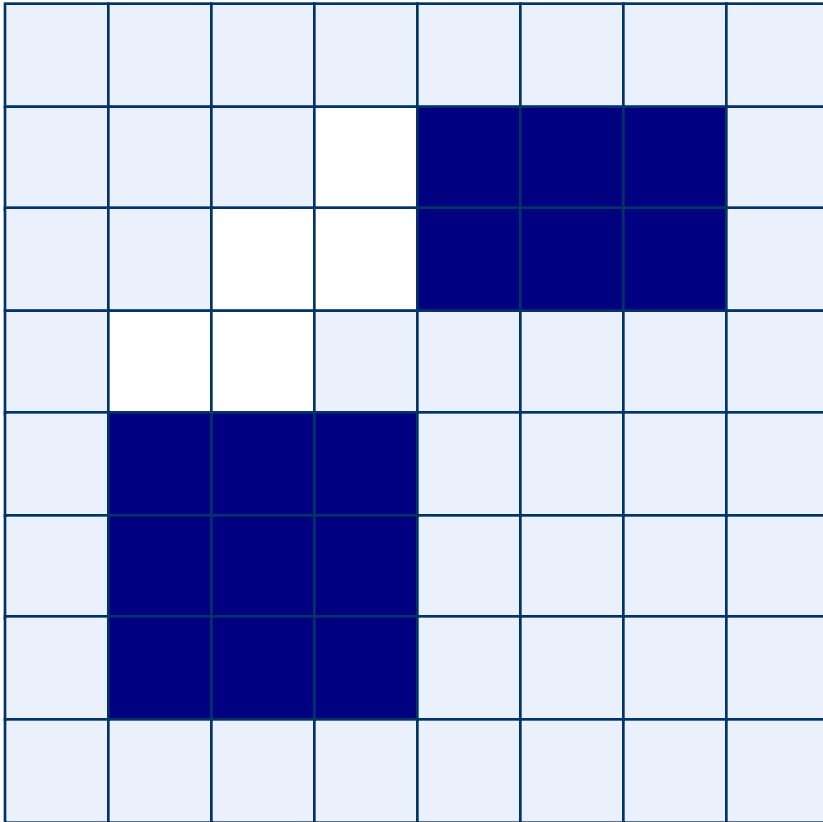


$A \bullet B = (A \oplus B) \ominus B$

After erosion  
(closing)

# Closing: Example

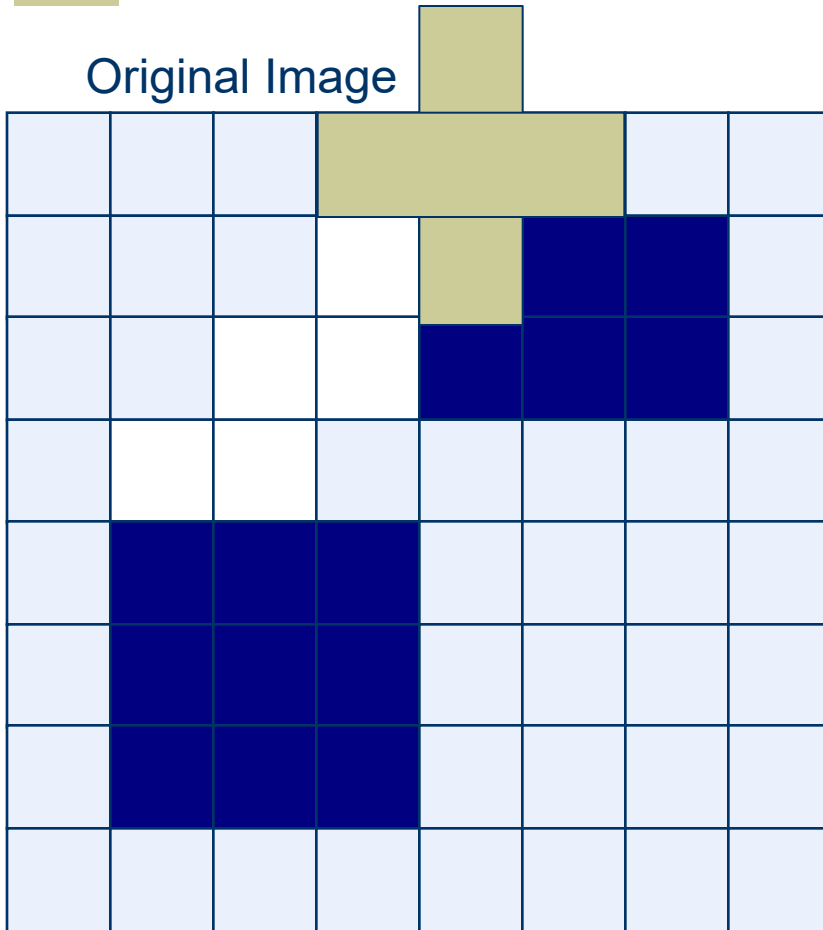
Original Image



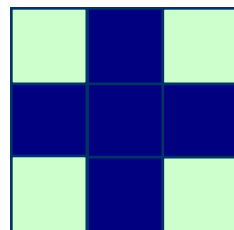
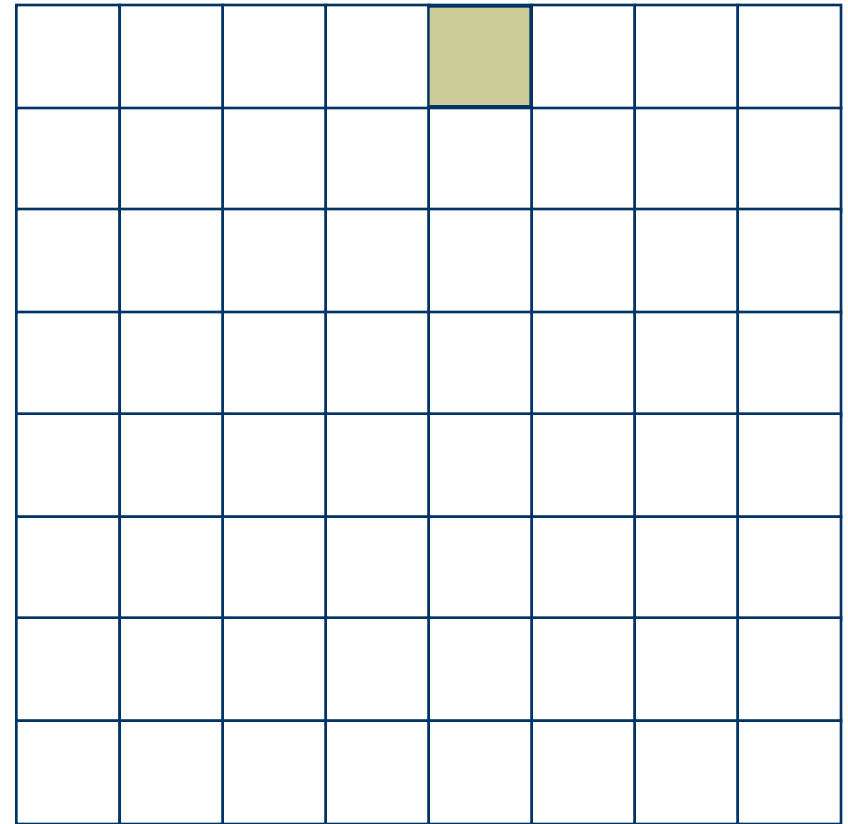
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example (performing Dilation)

Original Image



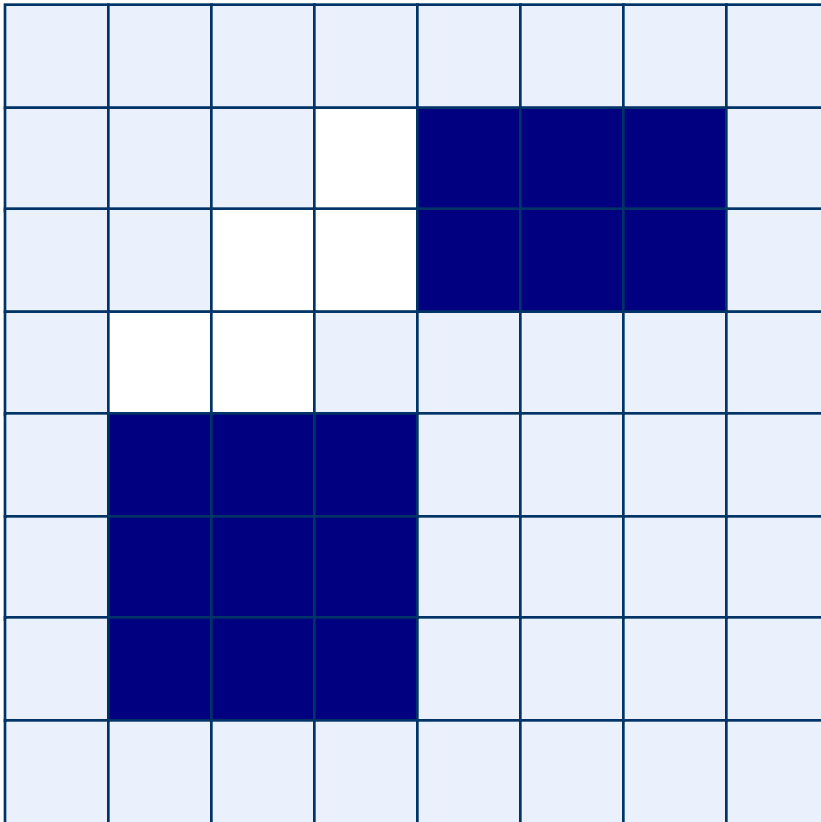
Processed Image



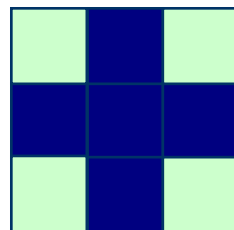
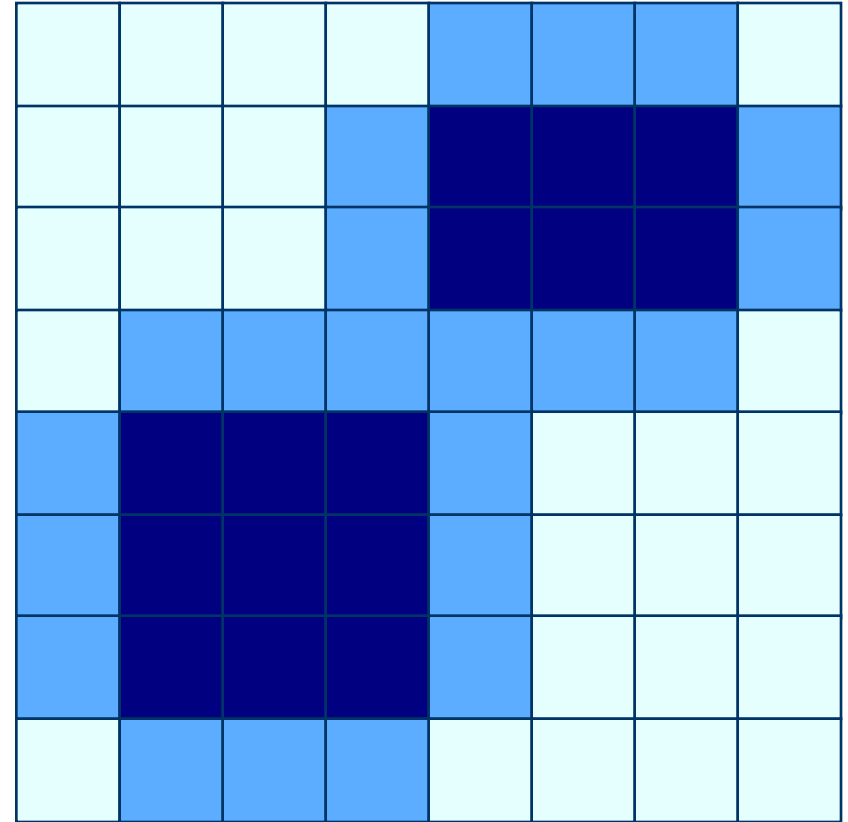
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example (after Dilation)

Original Image



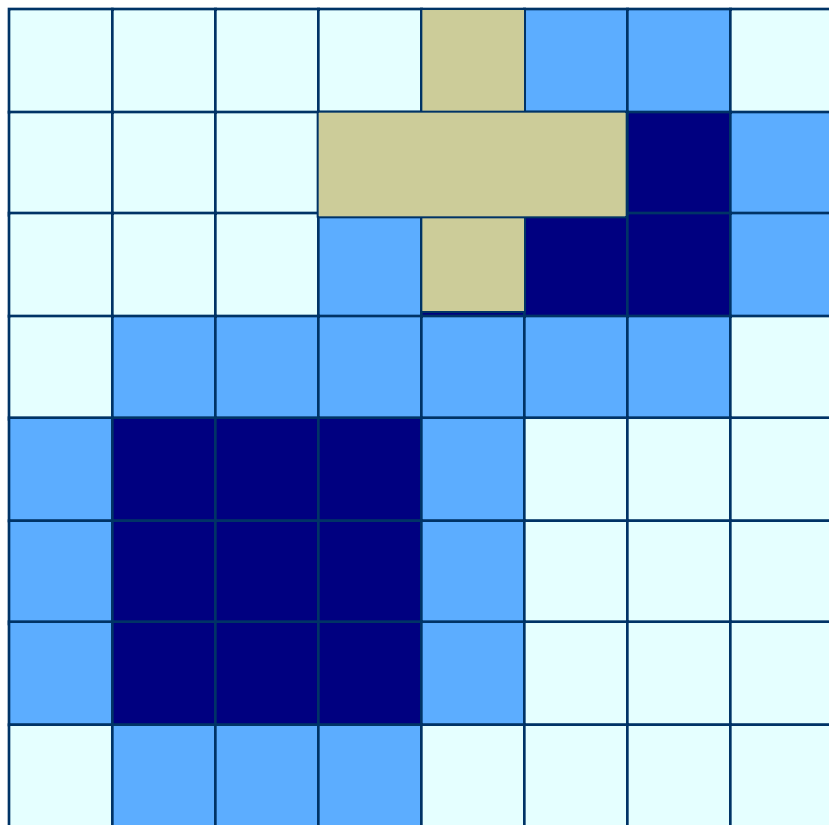
Processed Image



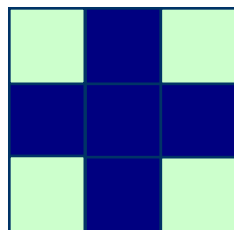
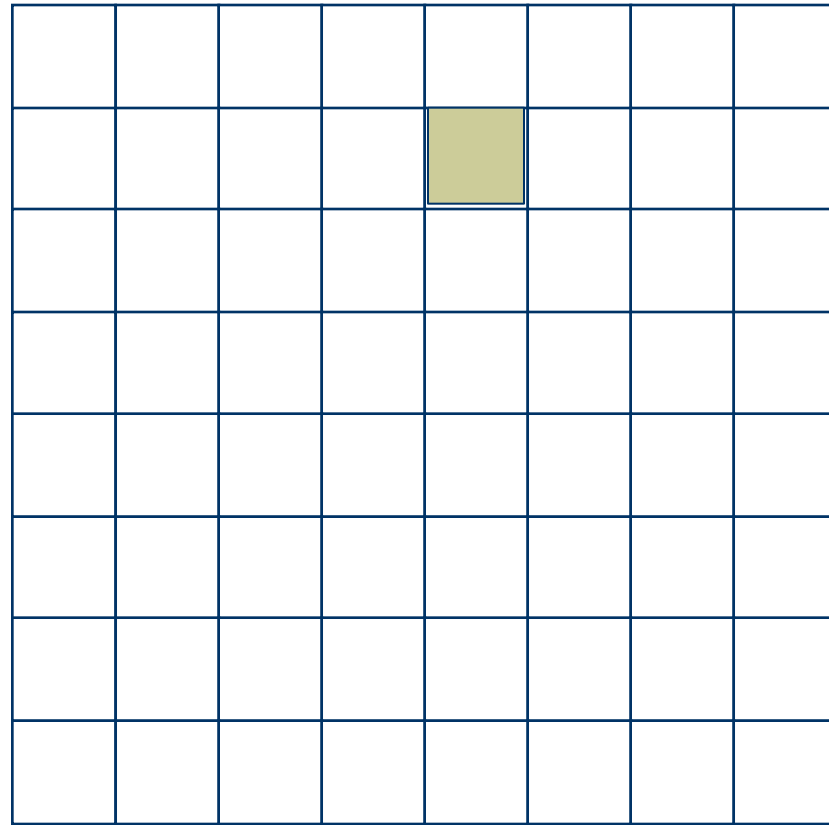
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



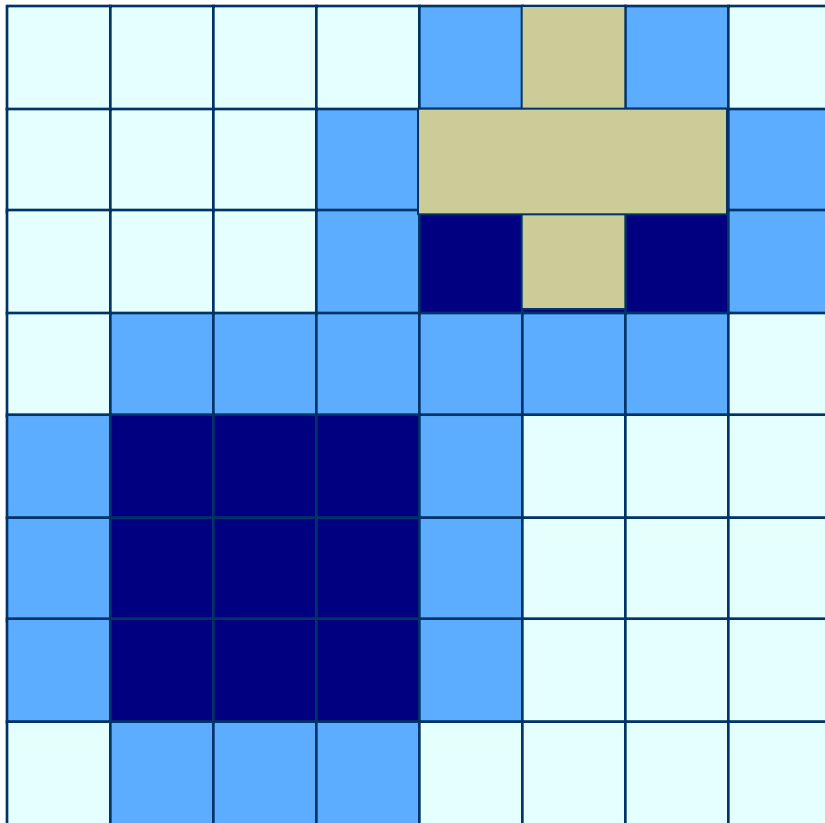
Processed Image



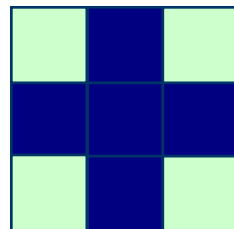
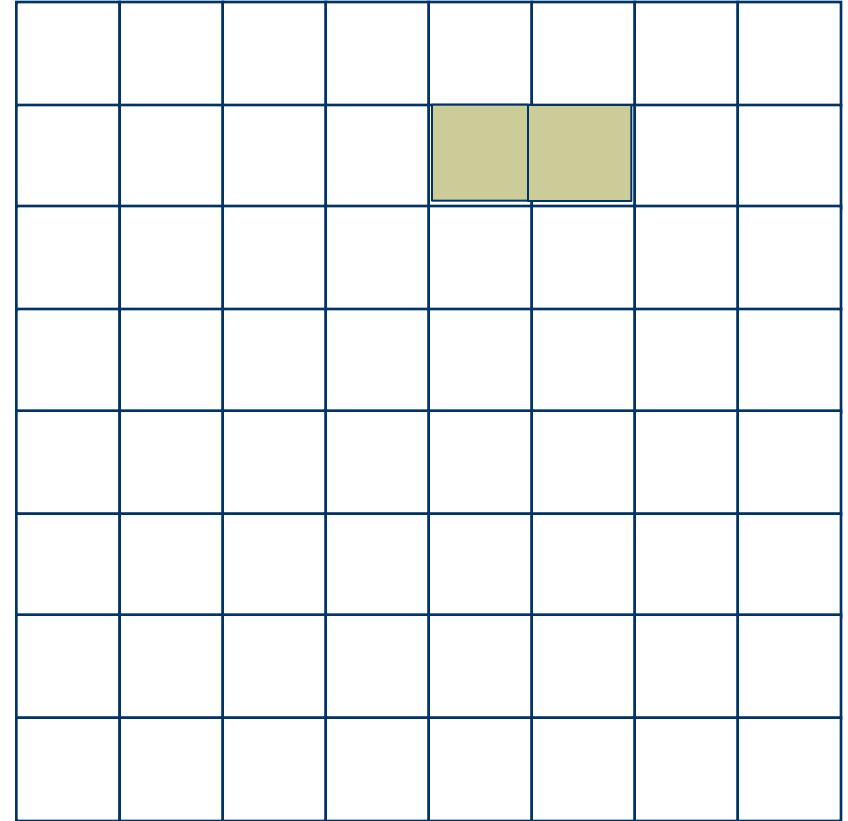
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



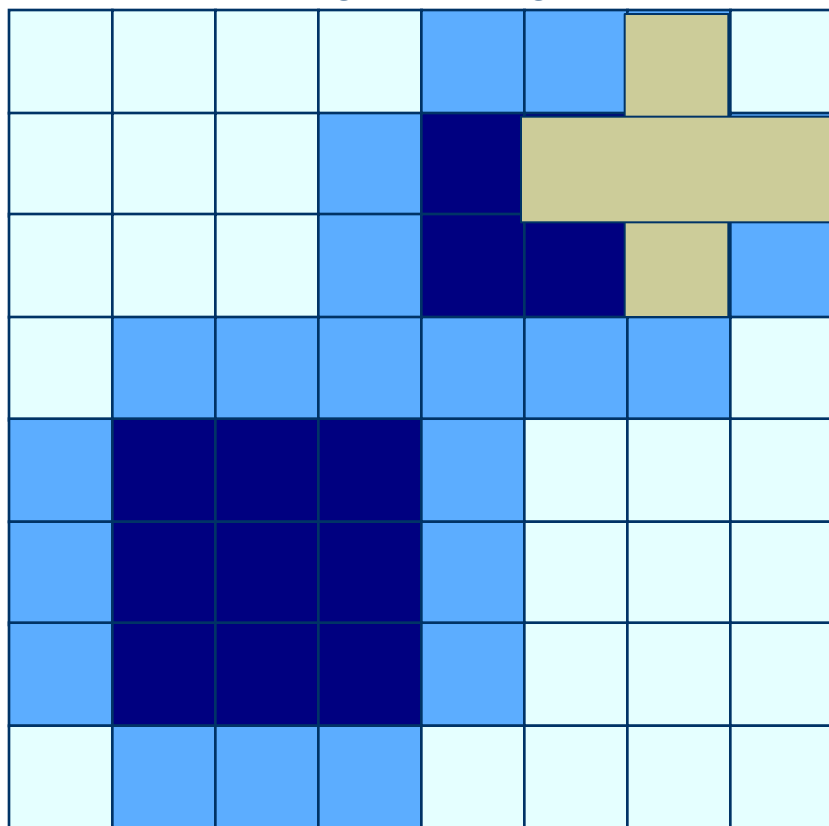
Processed Image



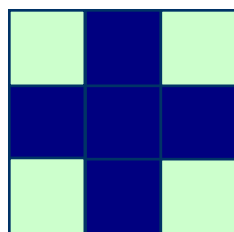
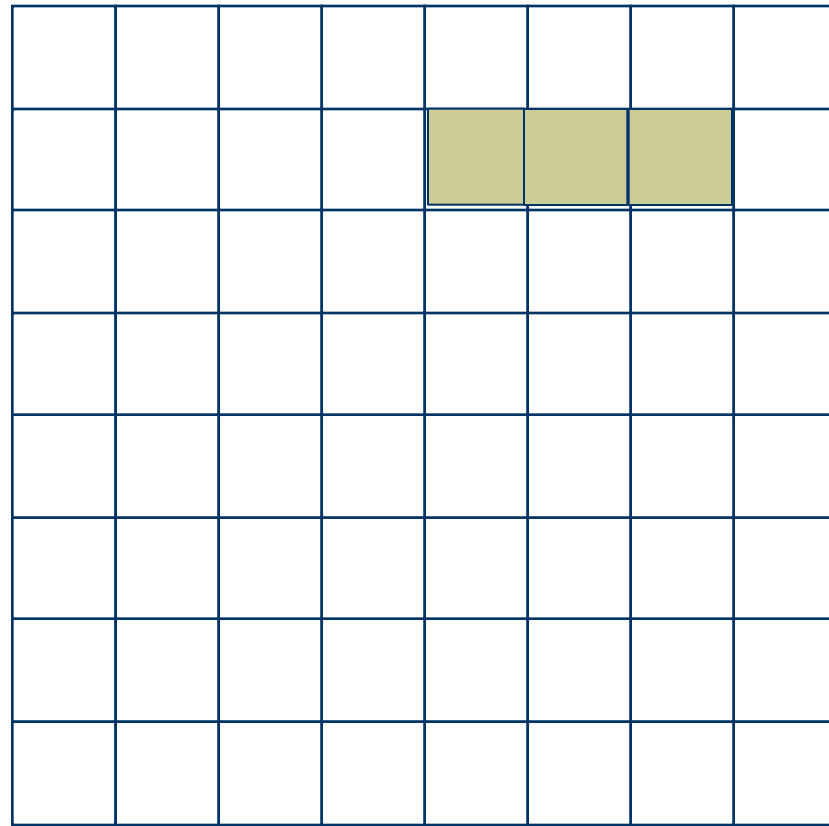
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



Processed Image

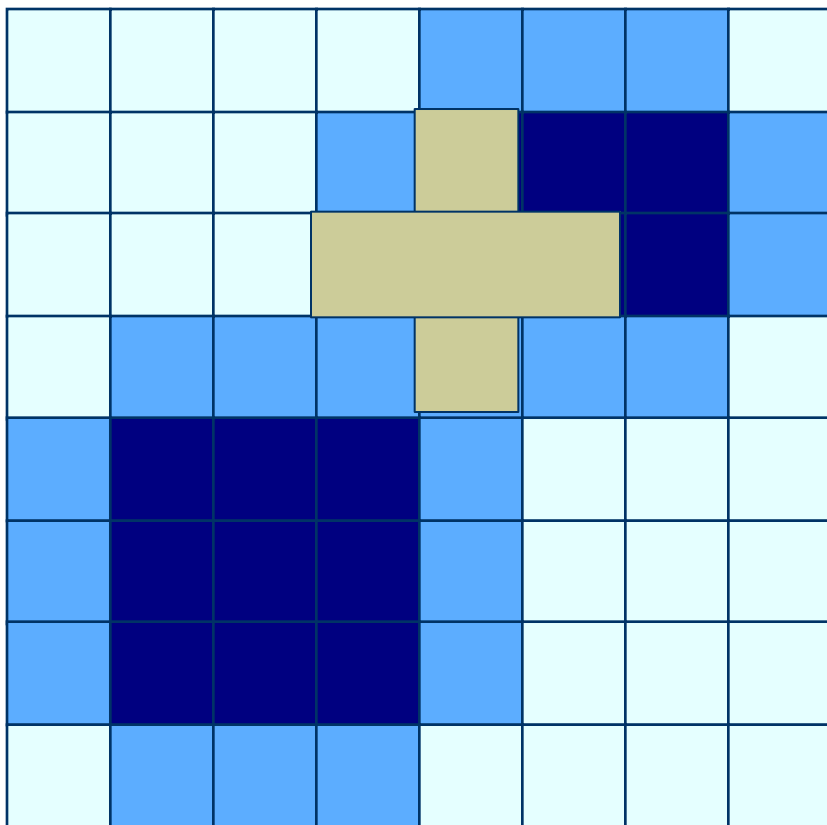


Structuring Element

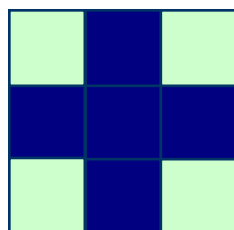
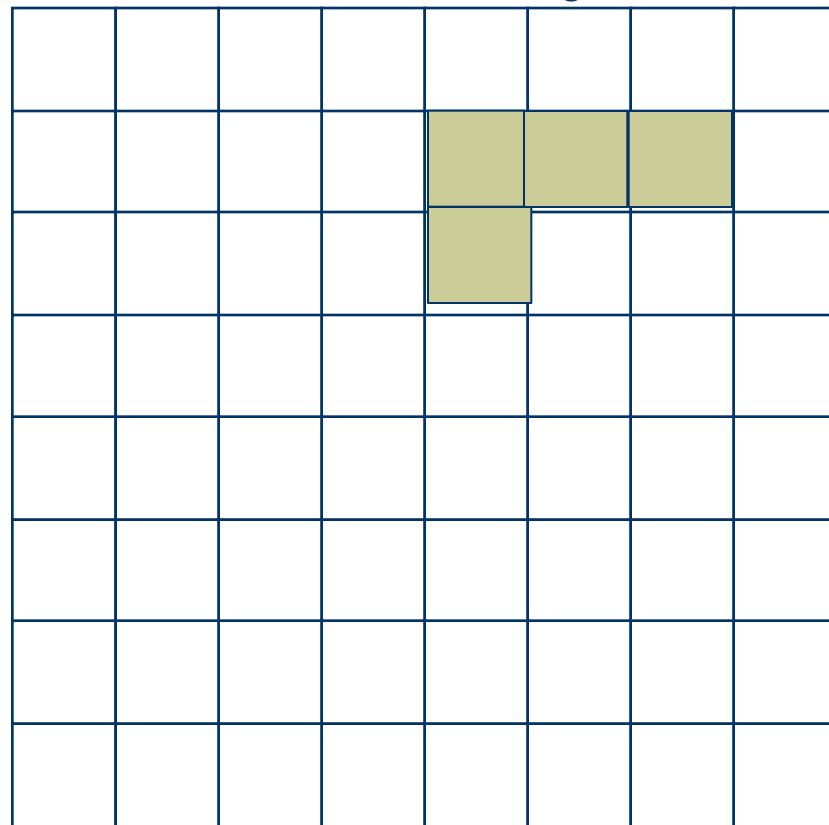


# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



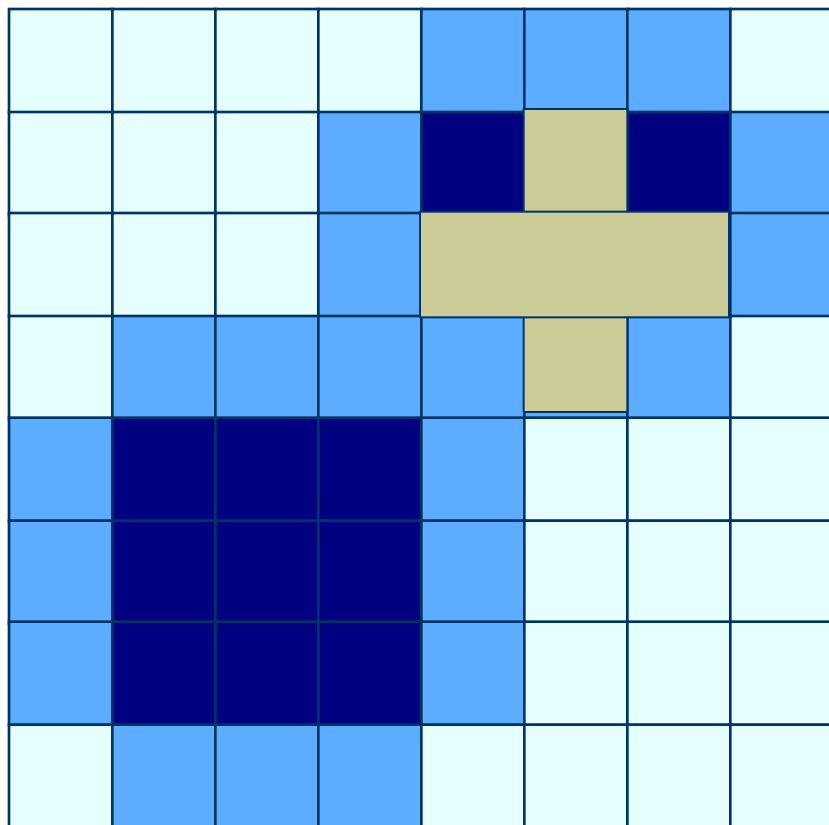
Processed Image



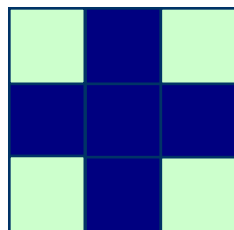
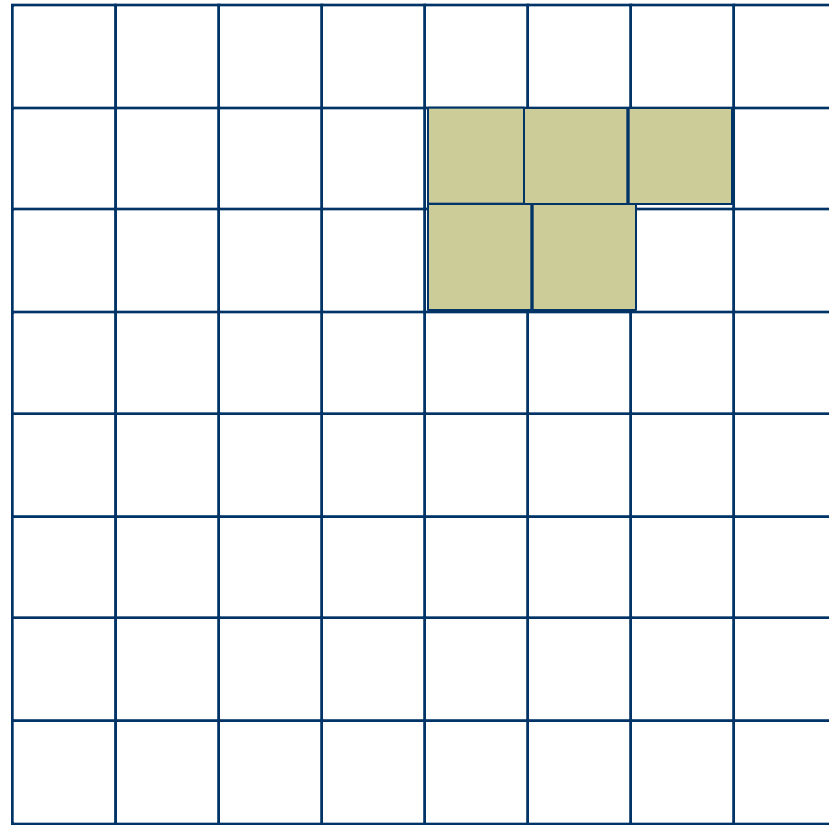
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



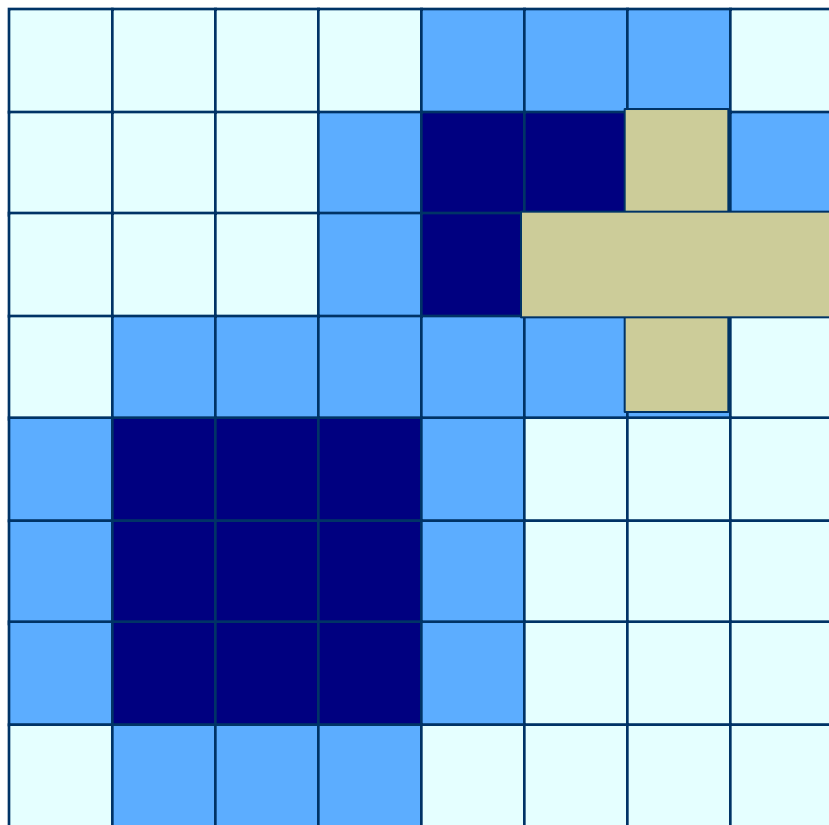
Processed Image



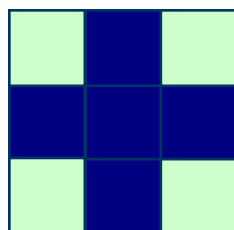
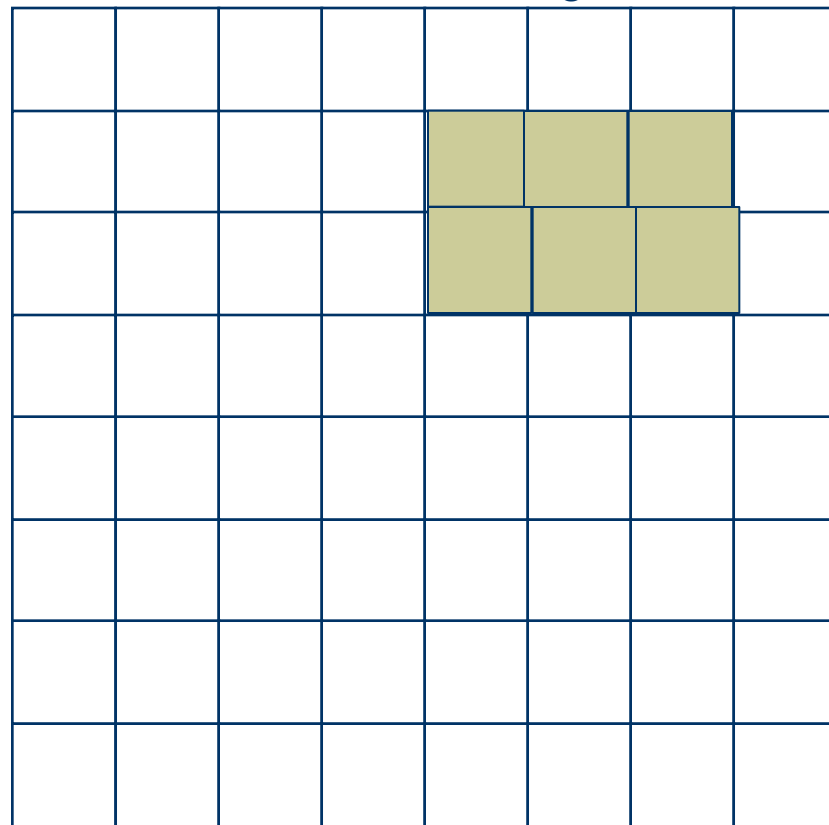
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



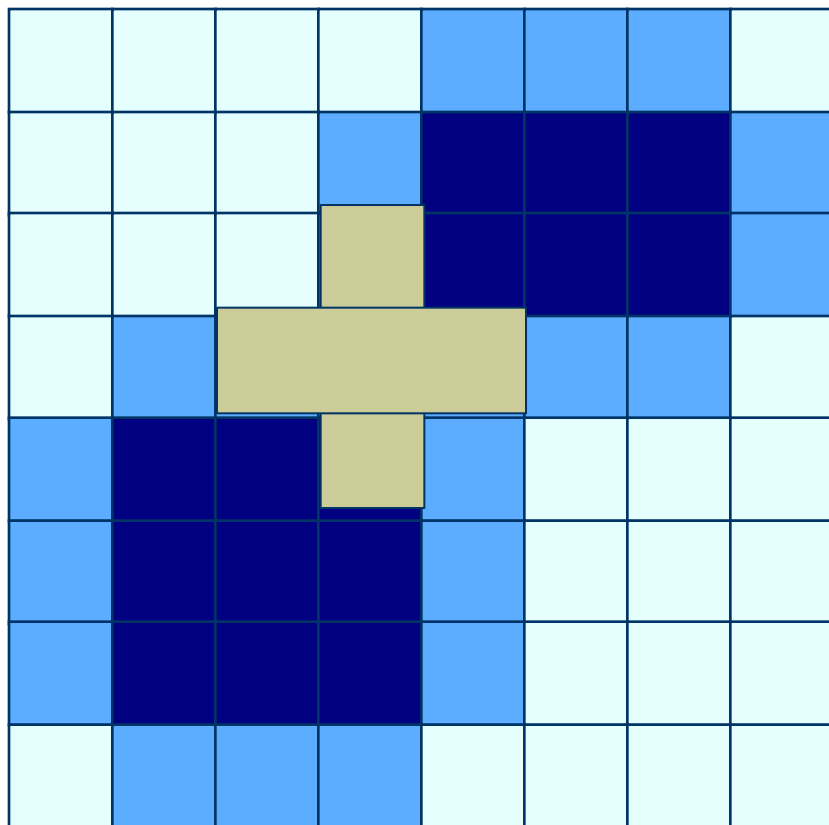
Processed Image



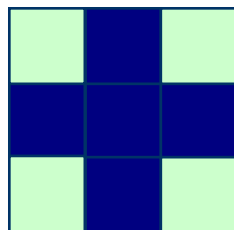
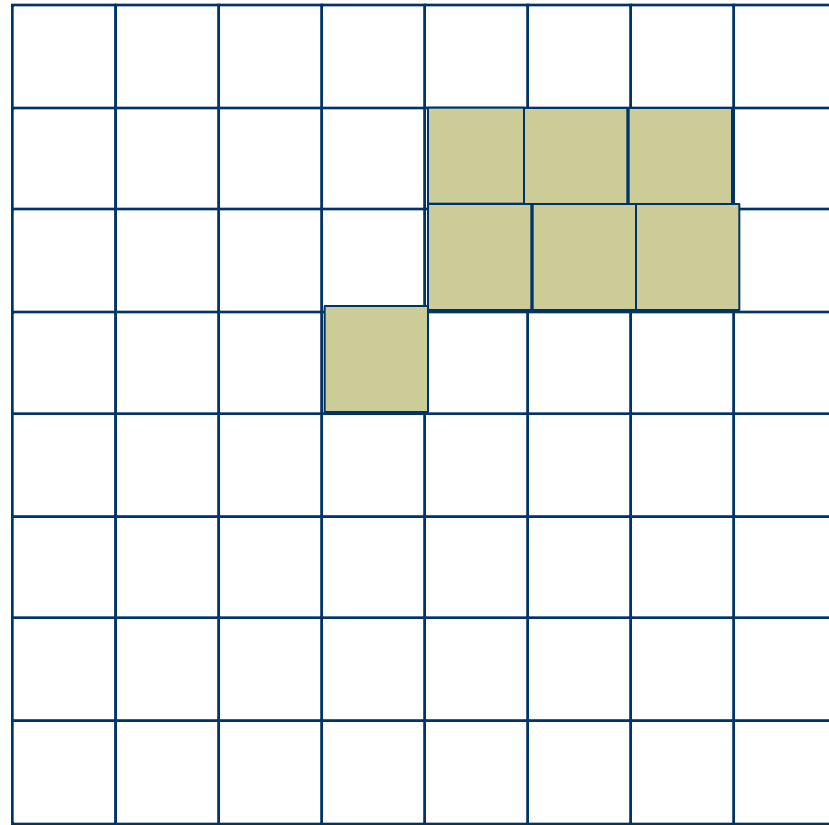
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



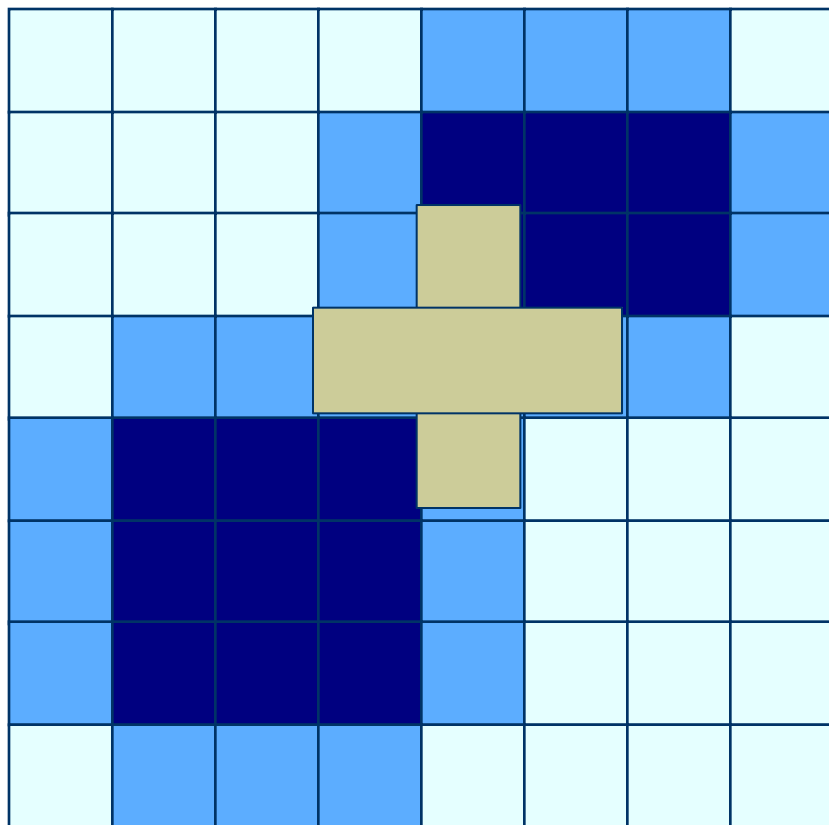
Processed Image



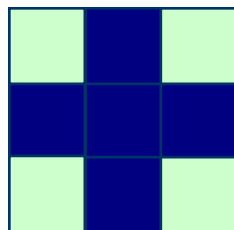
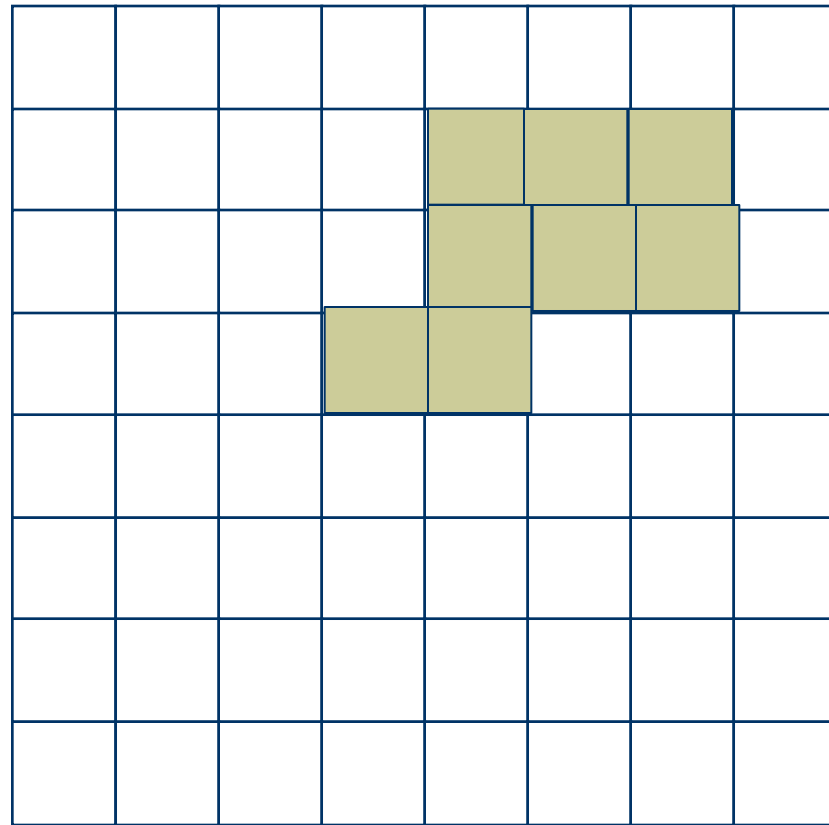
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



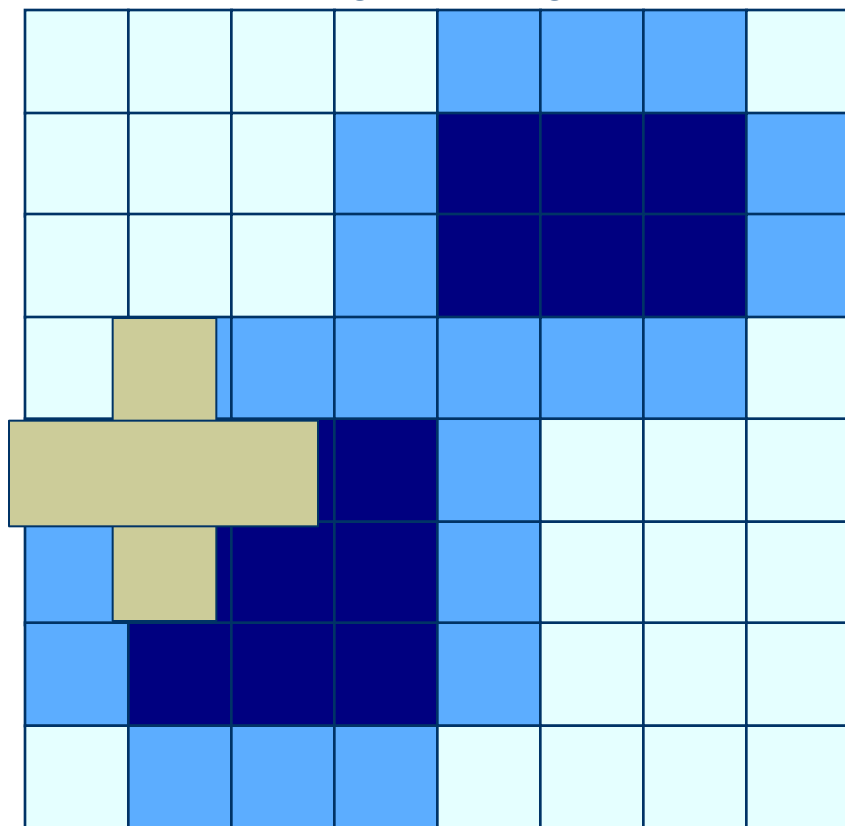
Processed Image



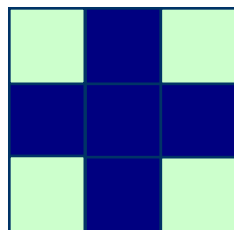
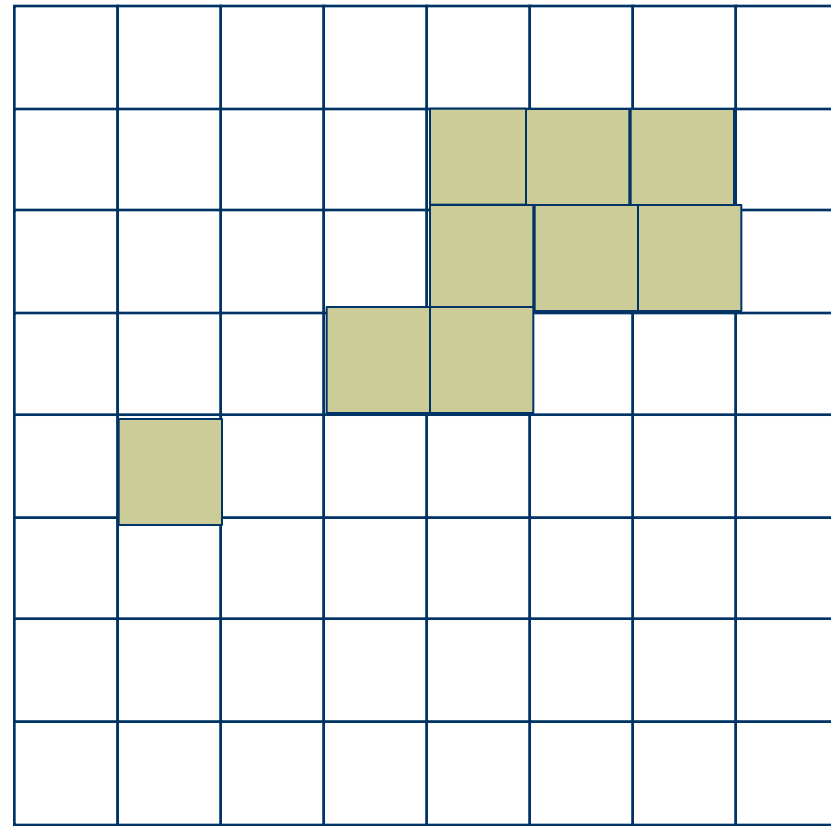
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



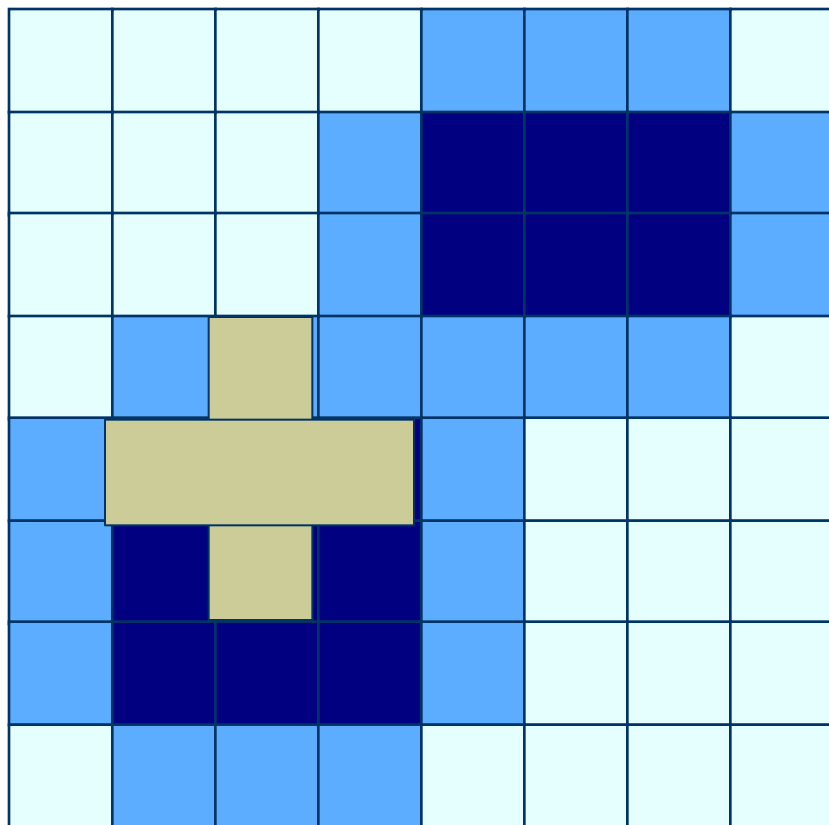
Processed Image



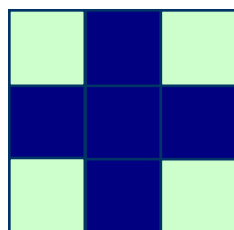
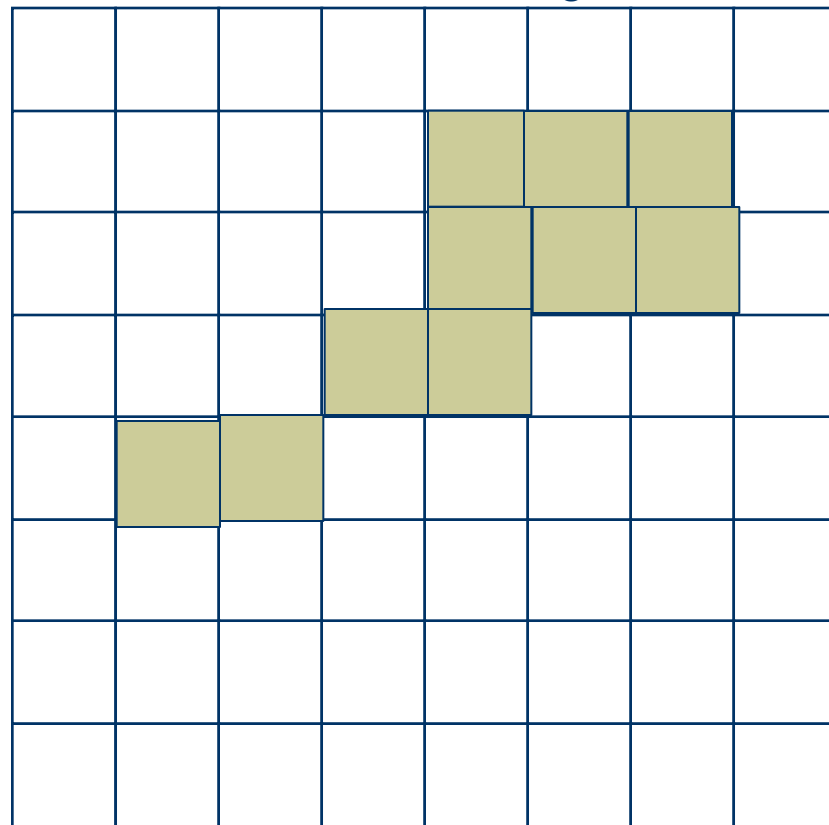
Structuring Element

# Closing: Example(performing erosion on Dilated image)

Original Image



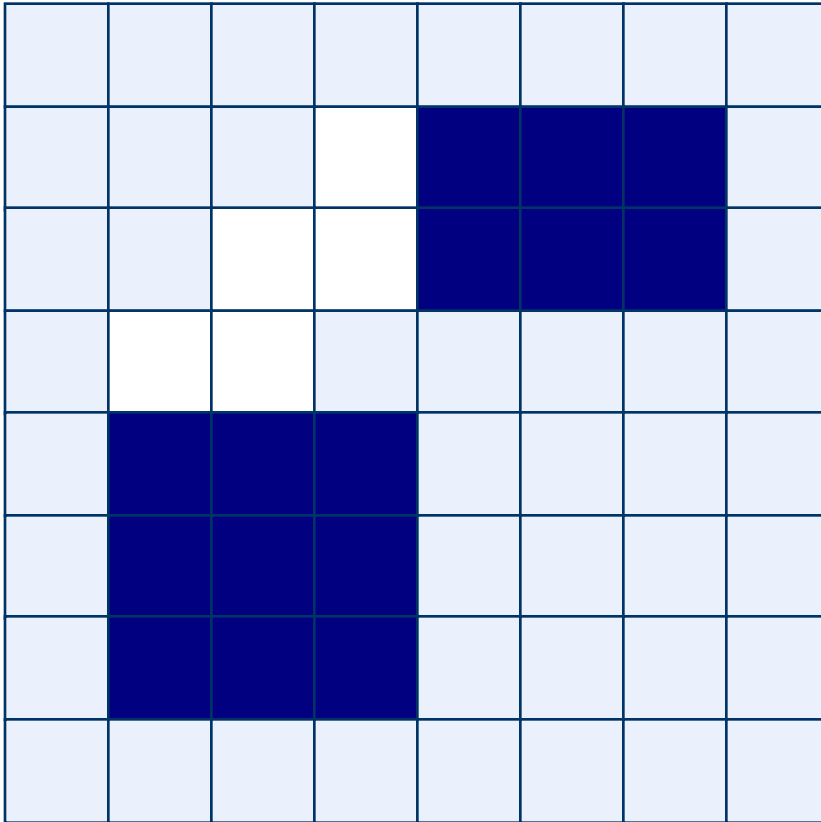
Processed Image



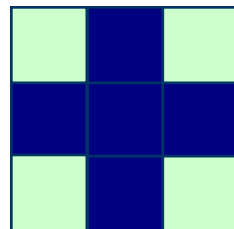
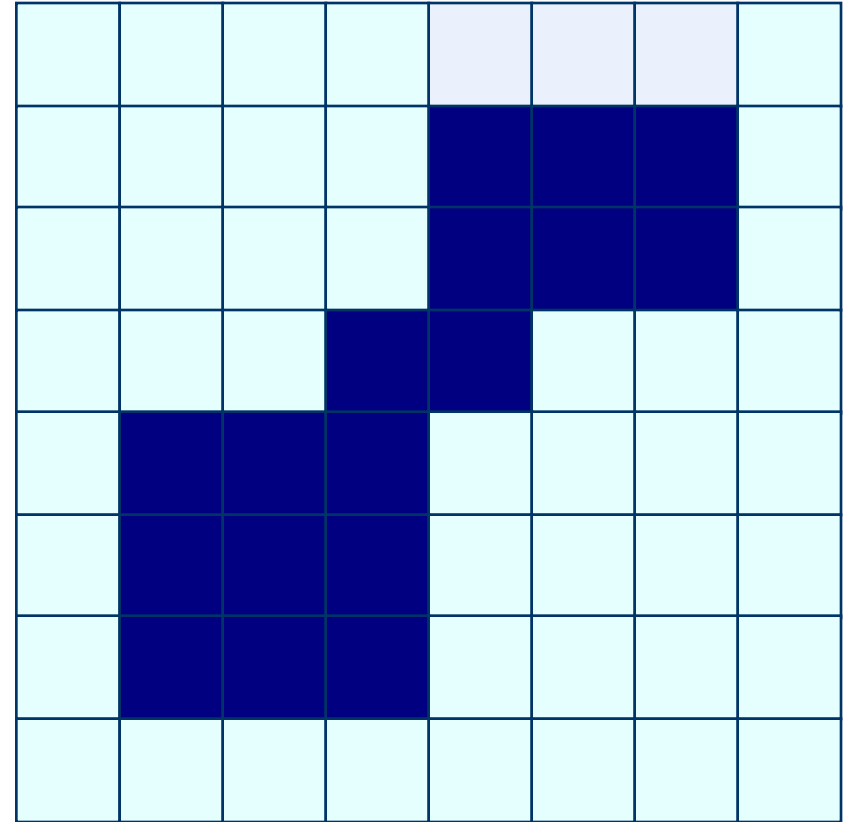
Structuring Element

# Closing: Output

Original Image



Processed Image

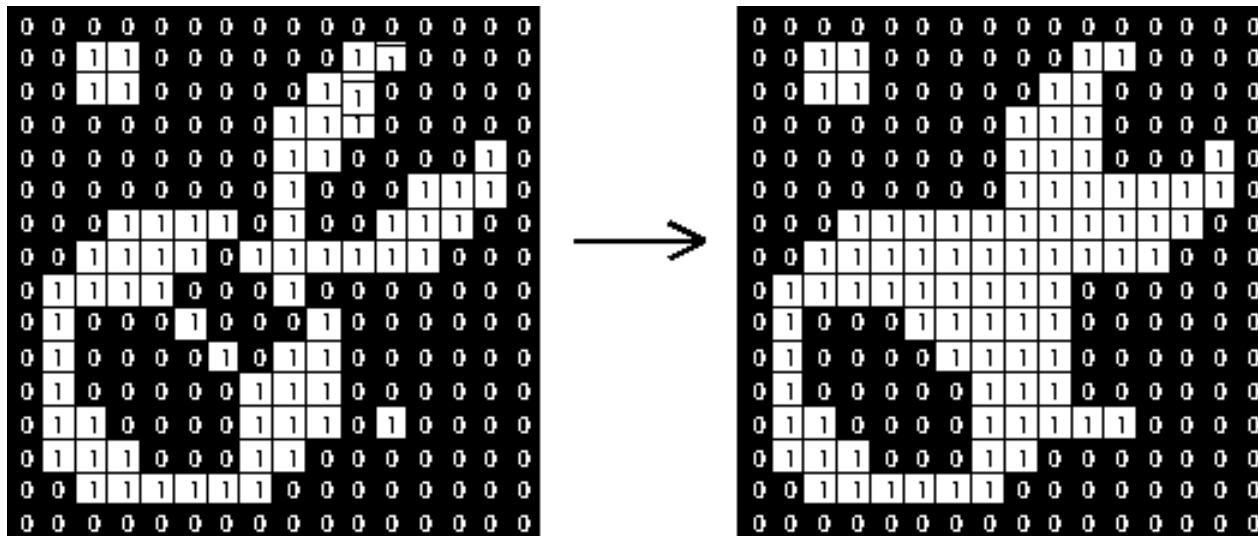


Structuring Element



# Closing

- Structuring element: 3x3 square



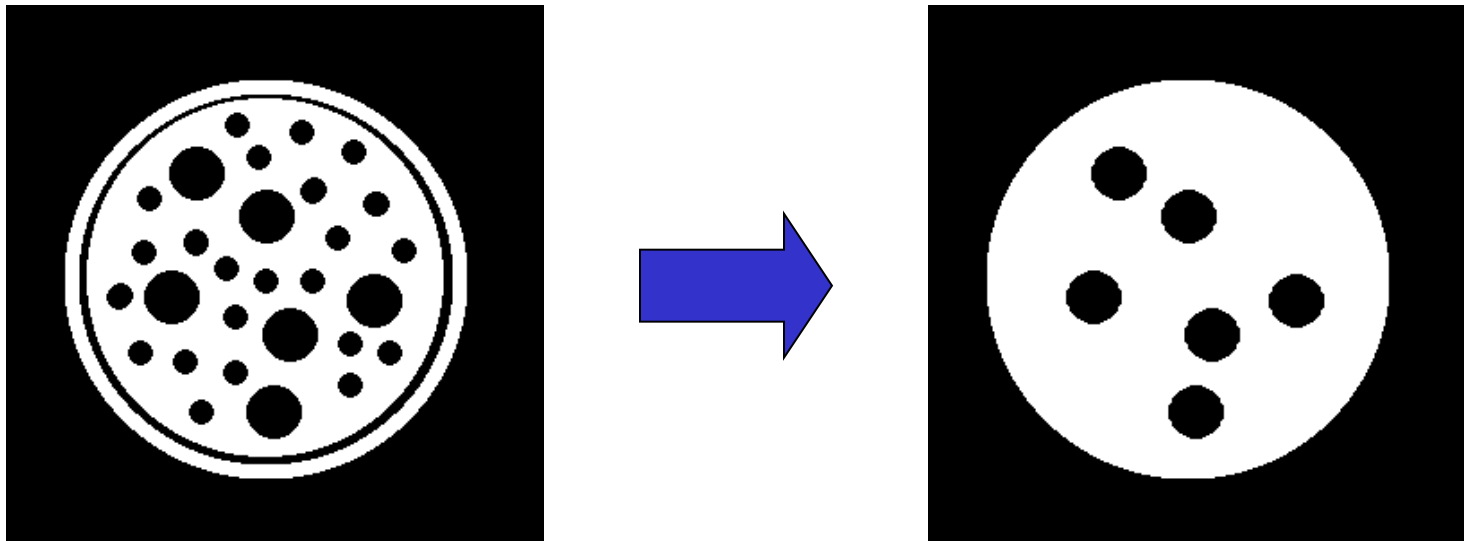
# Effect of closing

- ❑ Smoothed the **outline**, by **filling in (closing)** any **holes** and **indentations**.
- ❑ It also will form **connecting 'bridges'** to other shapes that are close enough for the kernel (SE) to touch both simultaneously.
- ❑ But it does not make the basic 'core' size of the shape larger or smaller.

As with **Open**', repeating the '**Close**' method with the same kernel does not make any further changes to the image.

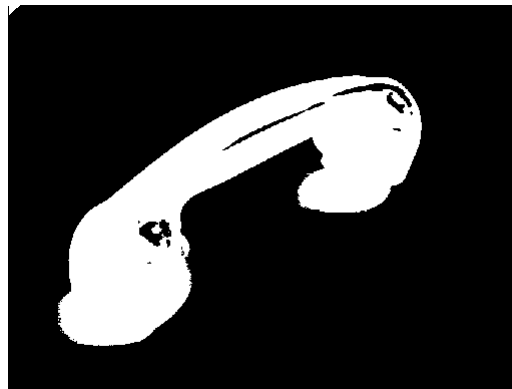
# Closing Example

- Closing operation with a 22 pixel disc
- Closes small holes in the foreground



# Closing Example 1

1. Threshold
2. Closing with disc of size 20



Thresholded

closed

# Opening & Closing

- Opening is the *dual* of closing
- *i.e.* opening the foreground pixels with a particular structuring element
- is equivalent to closing the background pixels with the same element.

\*\*\*Home Work: Make an example with simulations.

# Next class

## **Outlook:**

**Hit-and-miss Transformation,  
Thinning, and  
Thickening**

# Basic Set Theory

- ◆ The set space of binary image is  $Z^2$ 
  - Each element of the set is a 2D vector whose coordinates are the  $(x,y)$  of a black (or white, depending on the convention) pixel in the image
- ◆ The set space of gray level image is  $Z^3$ 
  - Each element of the set is a 3D vector:  $(x,y)$  and intensity level.

---

## NOTE:

Set Theory

Logical operations

# Basic Set Theory

- ◆ Let  $A$  be a set in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ . if  $a = (a_1, a_2)$  is an element of  $A$ , then we write

$$a \in A$$

- ◆ If  $a$  is not an element of  $A$ , we write

$$a \notin A$$

- ◆ Set representation

$$A = \{(a_1, a_2), (a_3, a_4)\}$$

- ◆ Empty or Null set

$$A = \emptyset$$



# Basic Set Theory

- ♦ **Subset:** if every element of A is also an element of another set B, the A is said to be a subset of B

$$A \subseteq B$$

- ♦ **Union:** The set of all elements belonging either to A, B or both

$$C = A \cup B$$

- ♦ **Intersection:** The set of all elements belonging to both A and B

$$D = A \cap B$$

# Basic Set Theory

- ◆ Two sets A and B are said to be **disjoint** or **mutually exclusive** if they have no common element

$$A \cap B = \emptyset$$

- ◆ **Complement:** The set of elements not contained in A

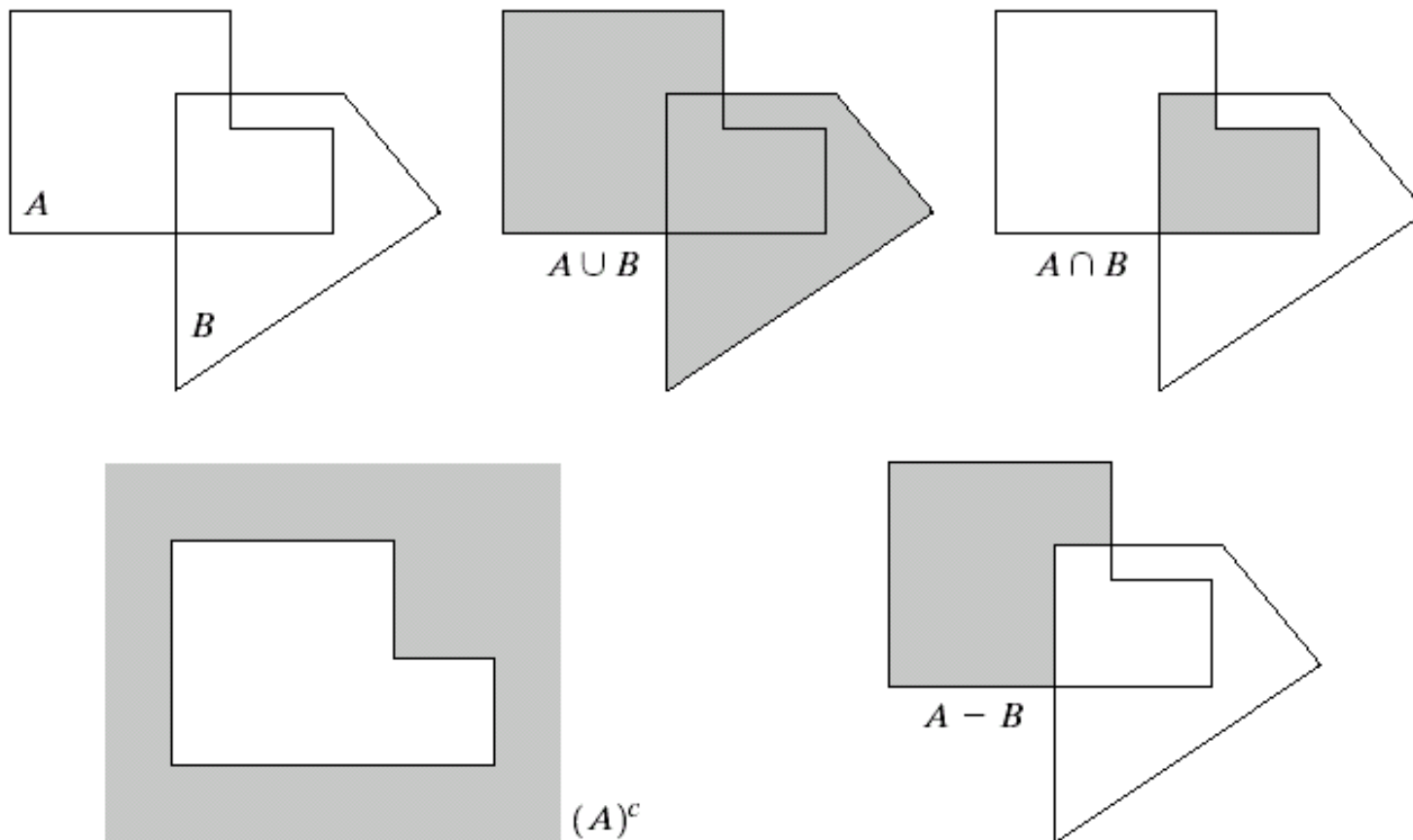
$$A^c = \{w \mid w \notin A\}$$

- ◆ **Difference** of two sets A and B, denoted by  $A - B$ , is defined as

$$A - B = \{w \mid w \in A, w \notin B\} = A \cap B^c$$

i.e. the set of elements that belong to A, but not to B

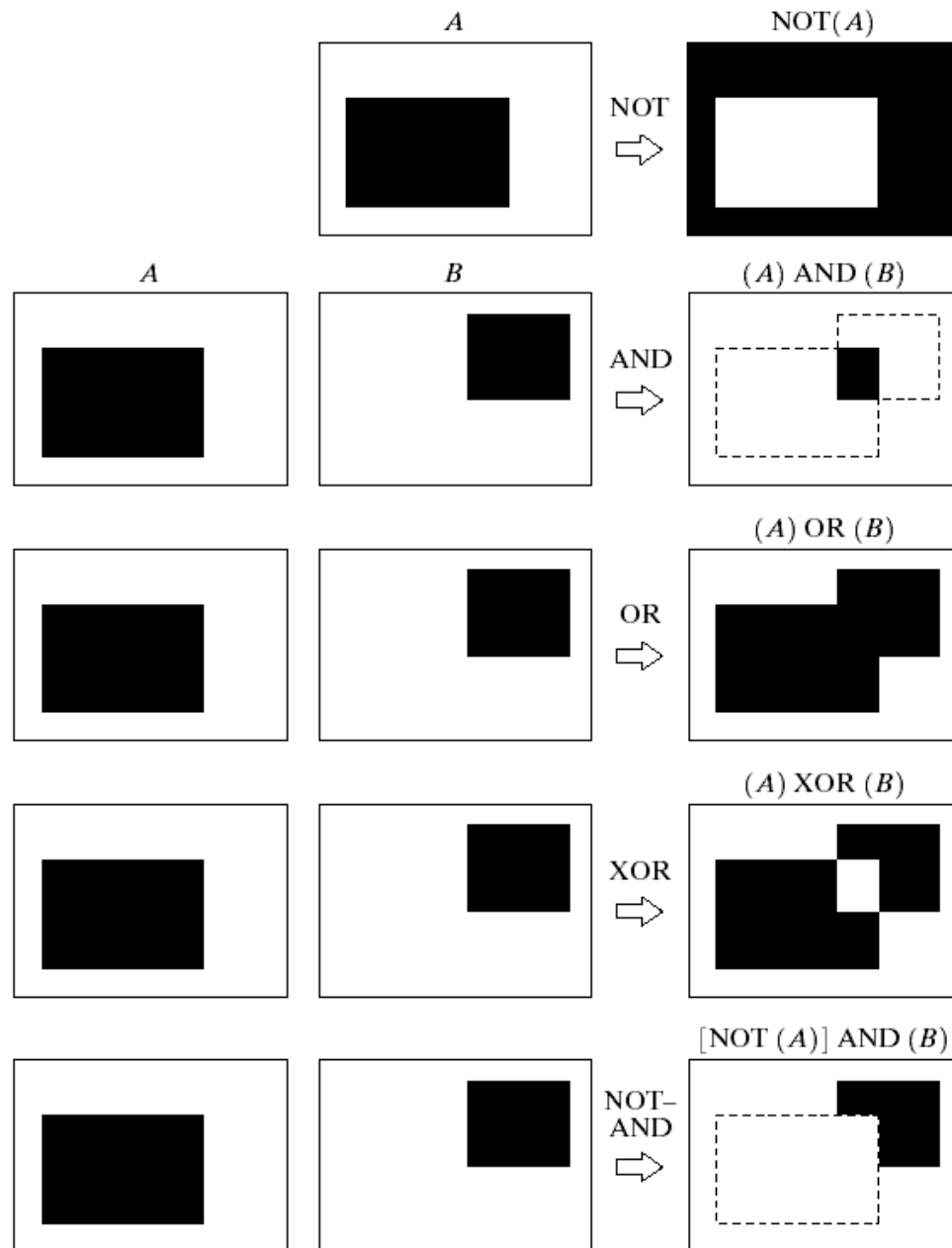
# Basic Set Theory



a	b	c
d	e	

**FIGURE 9.1**  
(a) Two sets  $A$  and  $B$ . (b) The union of  $A$  and  $B$ . (c) The intersection of  $A$  and  $B$ . (d) The complement of  $A$ . (e) The difference between  $A$  and  $B$ .

# Example of some logic operations:



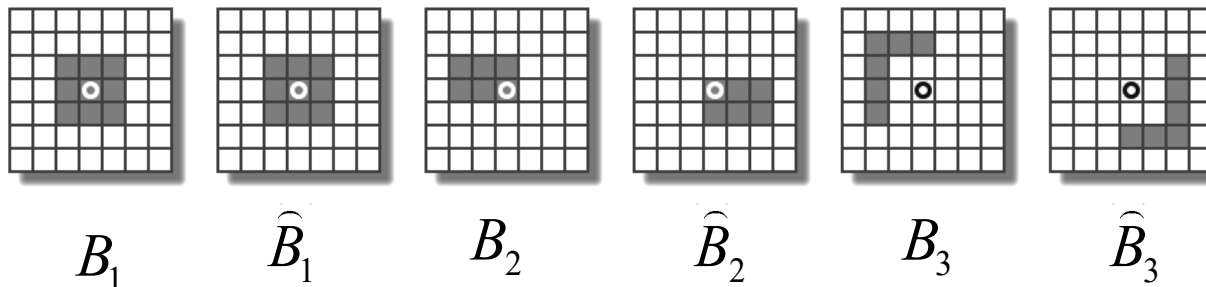
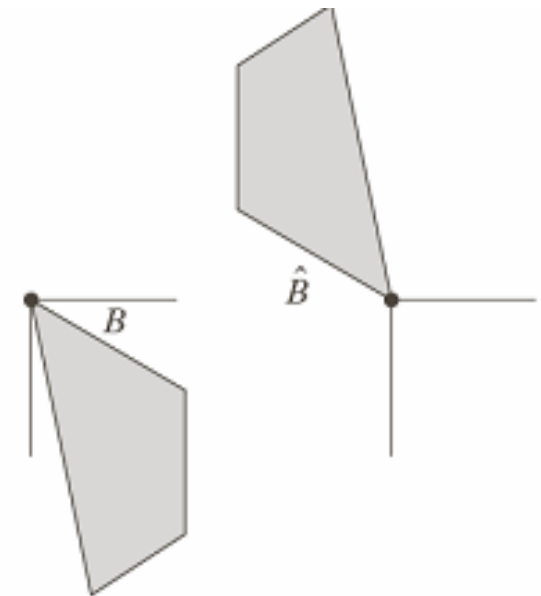
**FIGURE 9.3** Some logic operations between binary images. Black represents binary 1s and white binary 0s in this example.

# Reflection of set B

- ◆ Reflection of set B

$$B = \{w \mid w = -b, \text{ for } b \in B\}$$

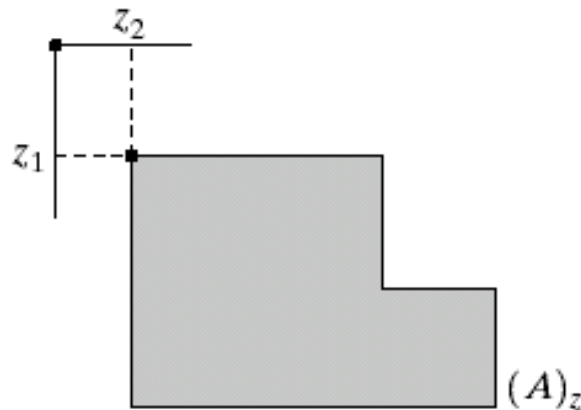
i.e. the set of element  $w$ , such that  $w$  is formed by multiplying each of two coordinates of all the elements of set  $B$  by  $-1$



# Translation of set A

- ◆ **Translation** of set A by point  $z = (z_1, z_2)$ , denoted  $(A)_z$ , is defined as

$$(A)_z = \{w \mid w = a + z, \text{ for } a \in A\}$$



# Structuring Element: Translation

Let  $I$  be an image and  $B$  a SE.

$(B)_z$  means that  $B$  is moved so that its origin coincides with location  $z$  in image  $I$ .

$(B)_z$  is the *translate* of  $B$  to location  $z$  in  $I$ .

