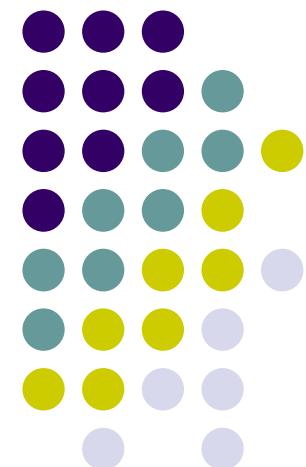


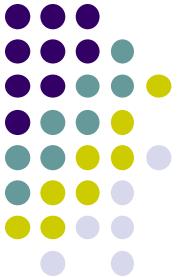
Digital Image Processing (CS/ECE 545)

Lecture 6: Detecting Simple Curves

Prof Emmanuel Agu

*Computer Science Dept.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)*

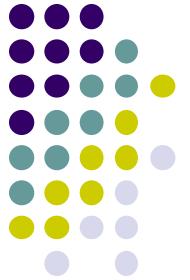




Detecting Lines and Simple Curves

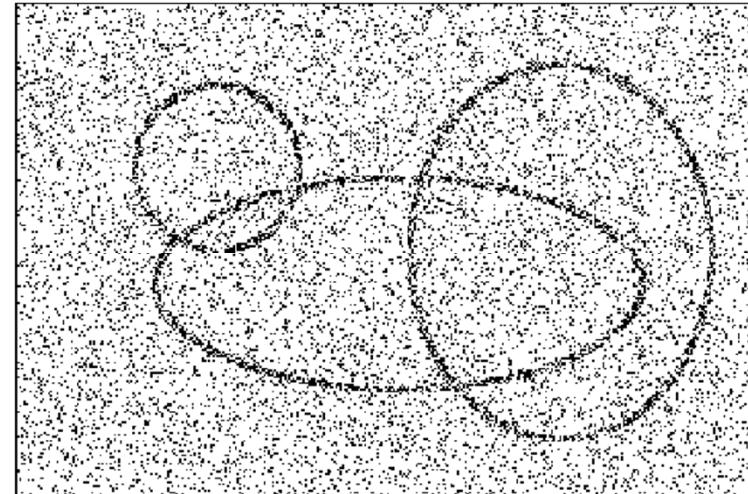
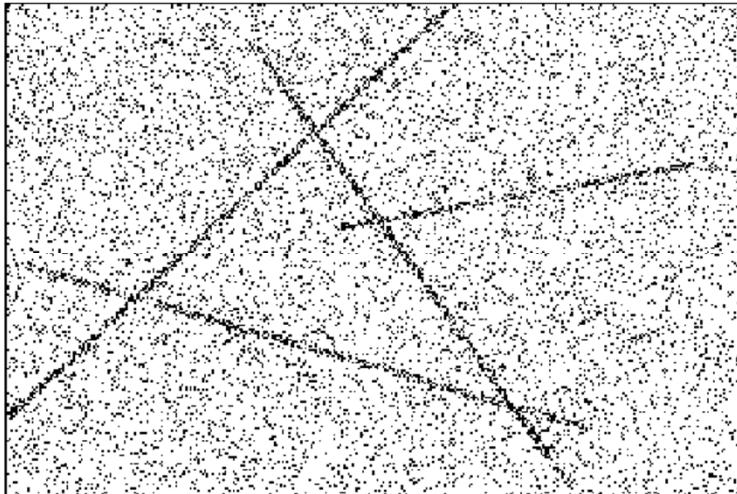
- Many man-made objects exhibits simple geometric forms: lines, circles, ellipses



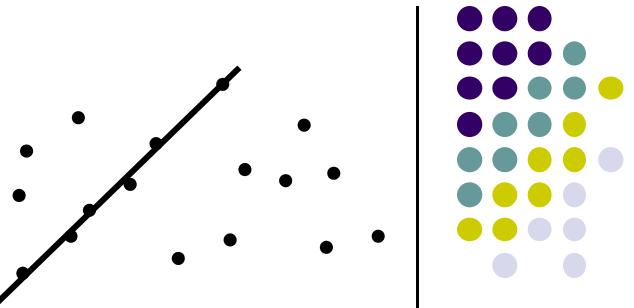
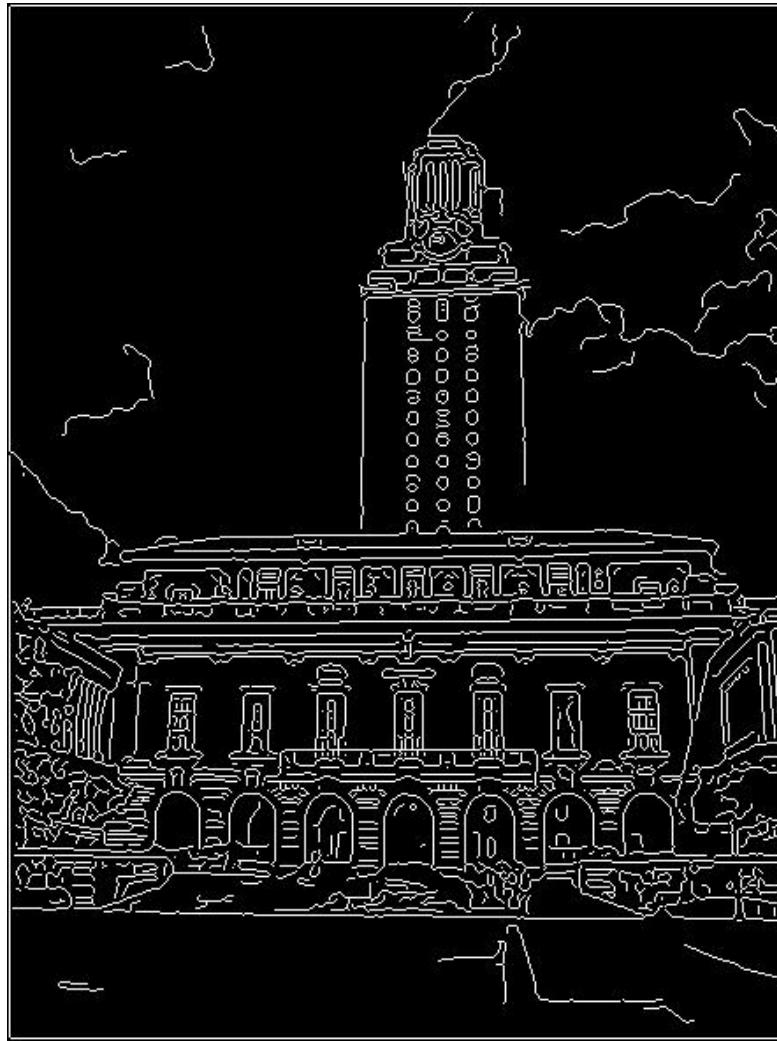


Hough Transform

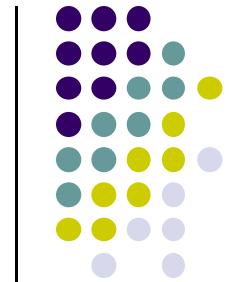
- Hough transform: Find any shape that can be defined parametrically within a distribution of points (Paul Hough)
- **Example:** lines, circles, ellipses.
- Used to find line segments in edge maps
- Why isn't displaying results of edge detection adequate?



Difficulty of line fitting



- **Extra edge points (clutter), multiple models:**
 - which points go with which line, if any?
- Only some parts of each line detected, and some parts are **missing**:
 - how to find a line that bridges missing evidence?
- **Noise** in measured edge points, orientations:
 - how to detect true underlying parameters?

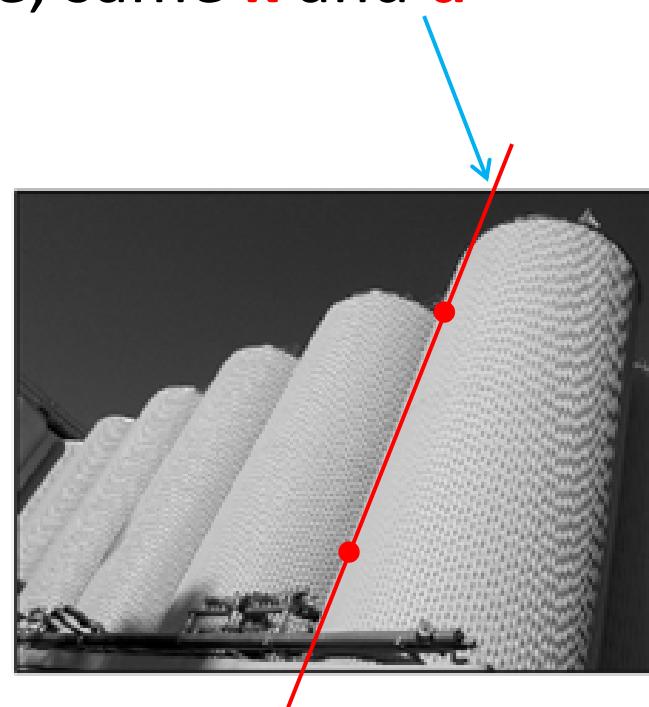
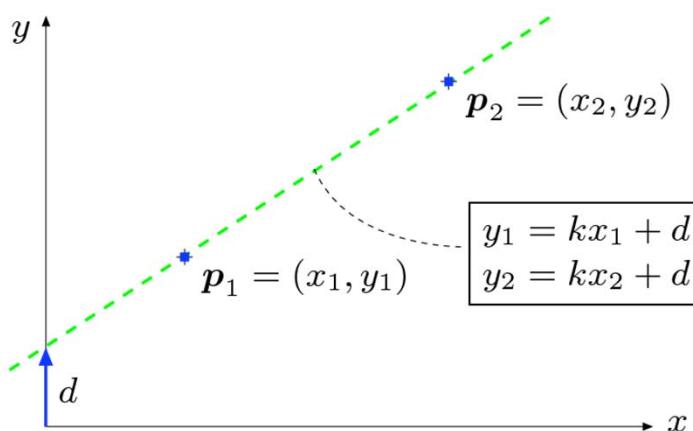


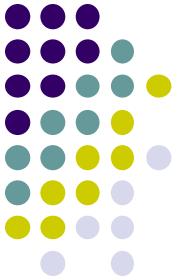
Hough Transform

- Equation of a line

$$y = kx + d$$

- If points p_1 and p_2 on same line, same k and d





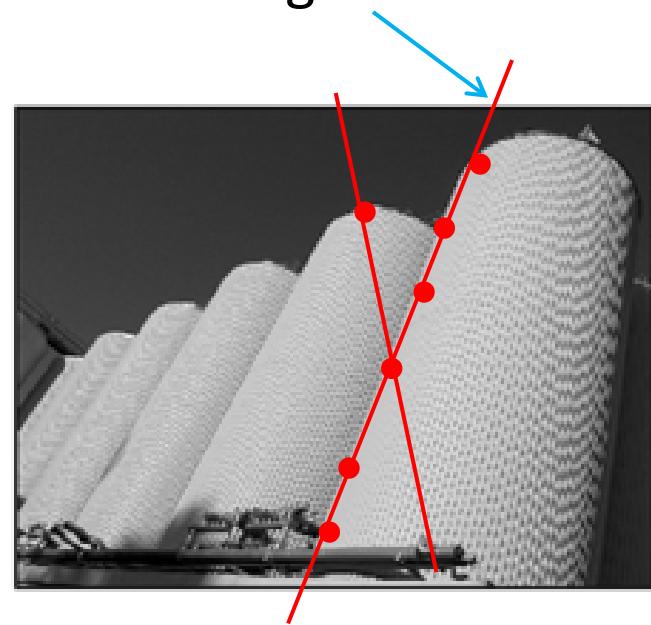
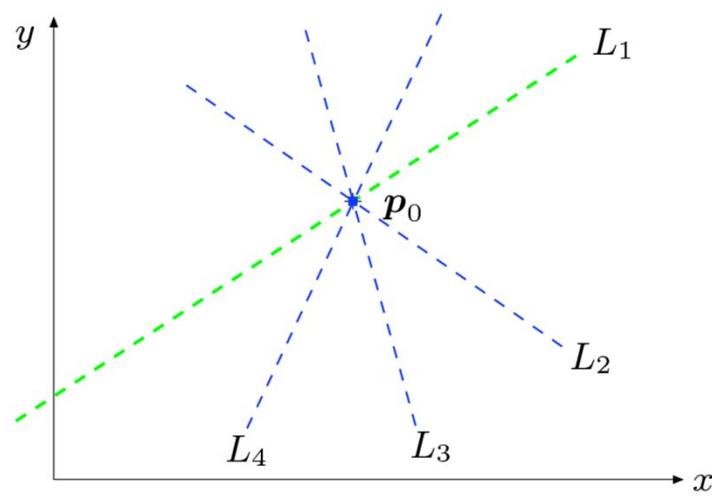
Hough Transform

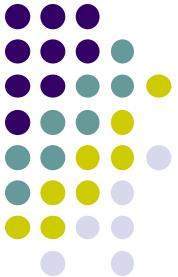
- Equation of a line

$$y = kx + d$$

- Hough transform:

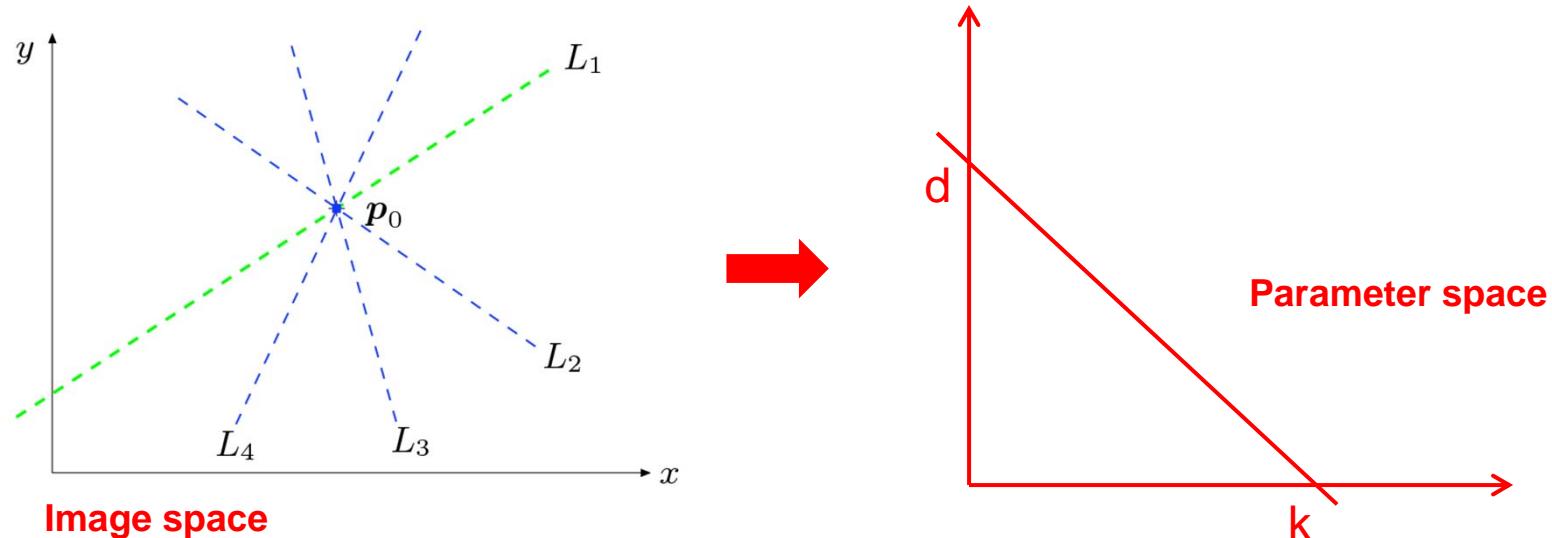
- start with edge point (x, y)
 - Find (slope k , intercept d) that passes through the most edge points

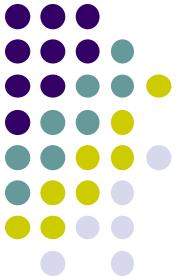




Hough Transform

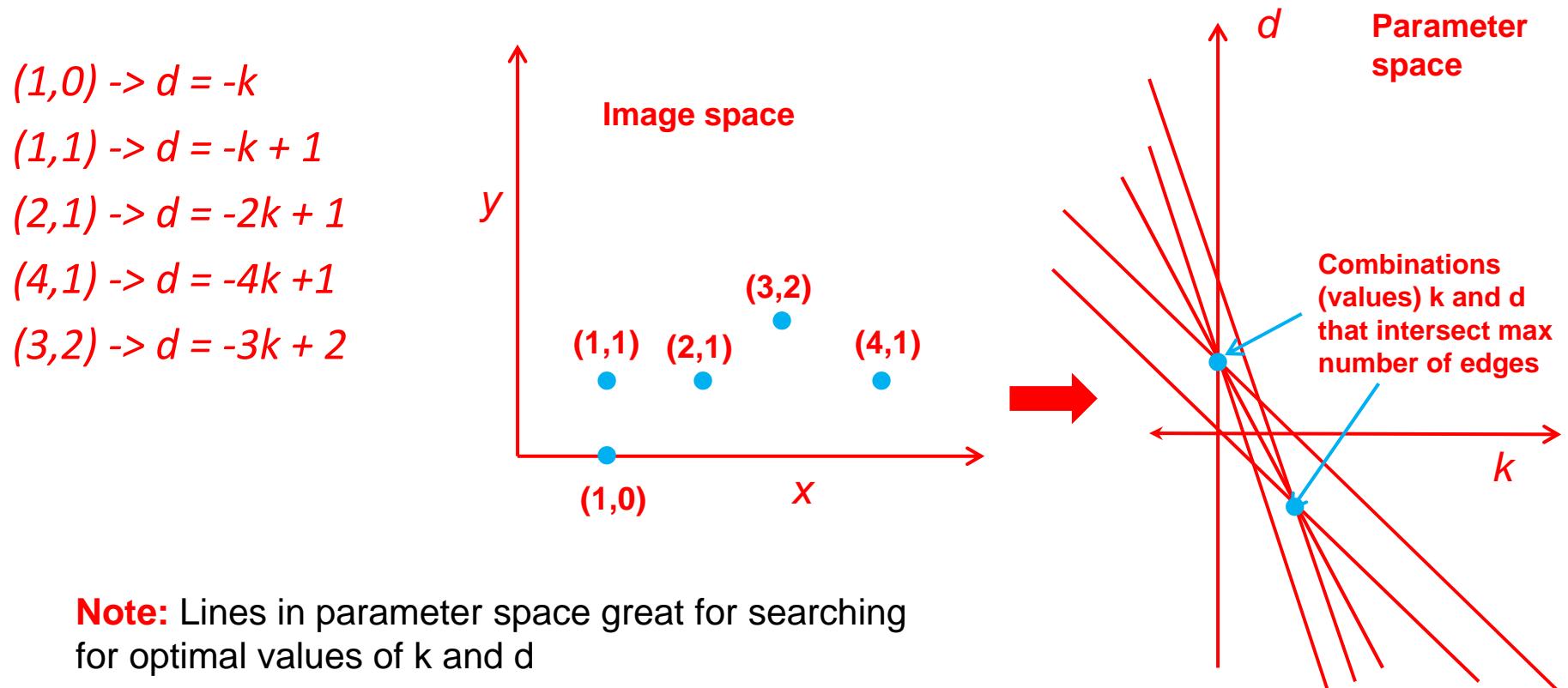
- Consider the point $(x, y) = (1, 1)$
- Many lines of different slope k and intercept d can pass through $(1, 1)$
- Thus we can rewrite equation of line through $(1, 1)$ as
 $1 = k \cdot 1 + d$ (image) $\Rightarrow d = -k + 1$ (parameter space)
- Set of all lines passing through $(1, 1)$ (left)
can be shown as line in parameter space (right)

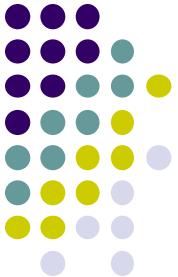




Hough Transform: Example

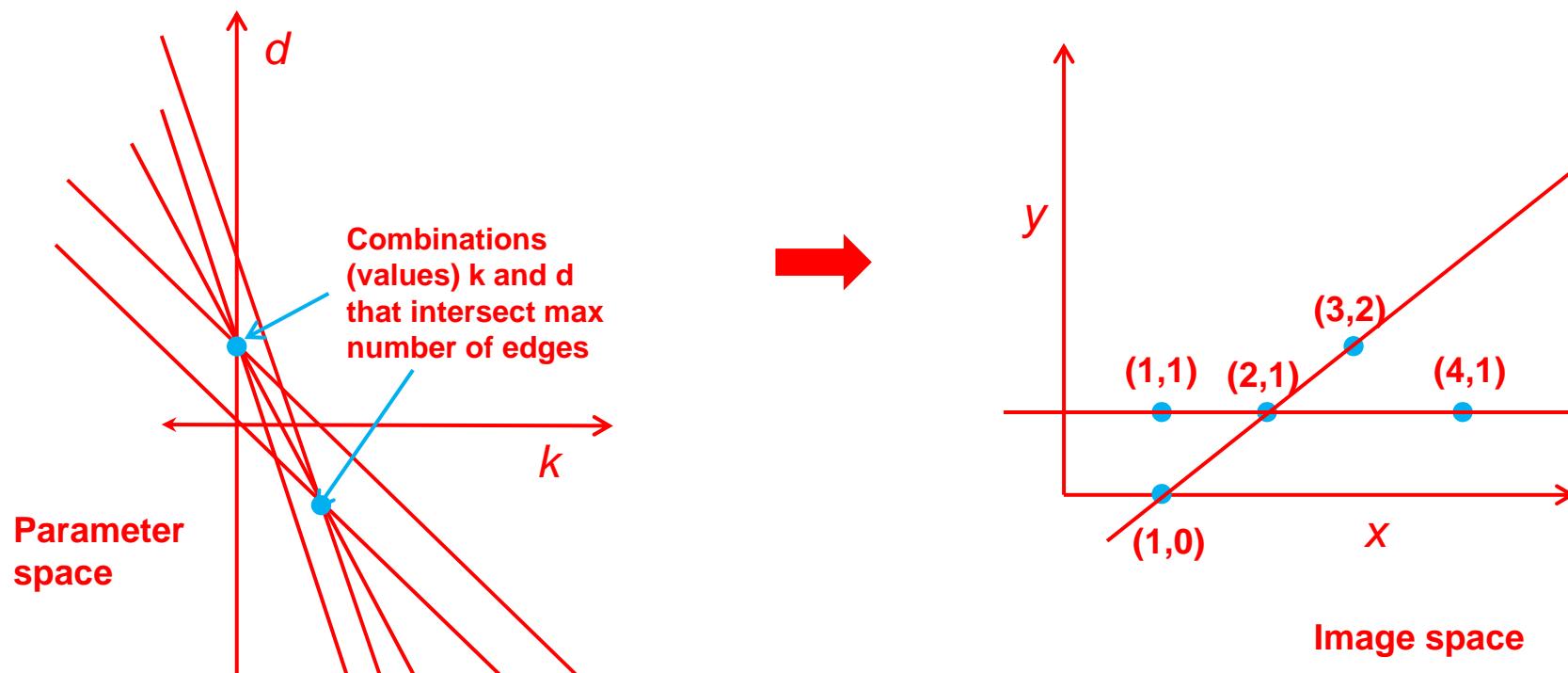
- Suppose image has 5 points: $(1,0)$, $(1,1)$, $(2,1)$, $(4,1)$ and $(3,2)$
- Each of these points corresponds to the following lines that can be plotted

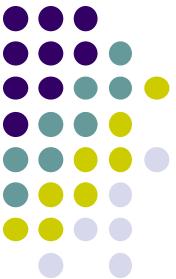




Hough Transform: Example

- After finding optimal values of k and d , we can draw them as lines in image space
- In example: $(k,d) = (0,1)$ and $(1,-1)$ each intersect 3 lines
- Converting to image space: $(0,1) \rightarrow y = 1$, $(1,-1) \rightarrow y = x - 1$





Hough Transform: Image vs Parameter Space

- If N lines intersect at position (k', d') in **parameter space**, then N image points lie on the corresponding line $y = kx + d$ in **image space**

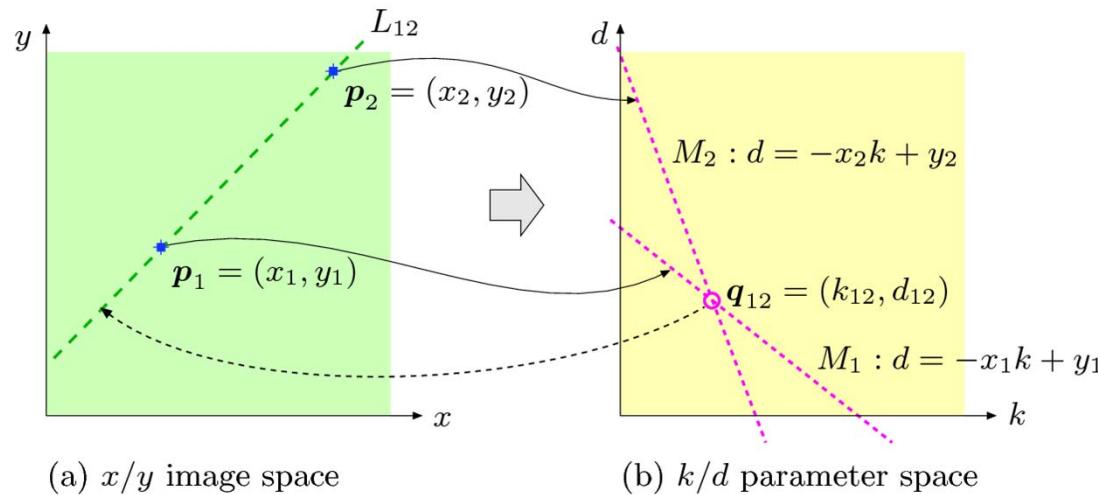
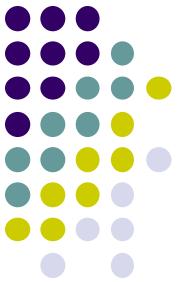
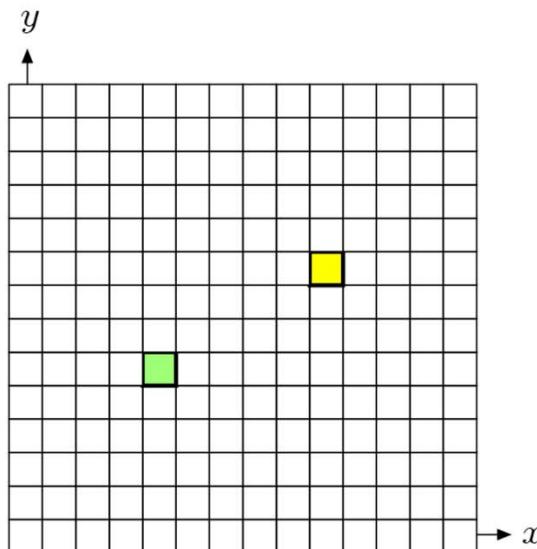


Image Space (x, y)		Parameter Space (k, d)	
Point	$\mathbf{p}_i = (x_i, y_i)$	$M_i : d = -x_ik + y_i$	Line
Line	$L_j : y = k_jx + d_j$	$\mathbf{q}_j = (k_j, d_j)$	Point

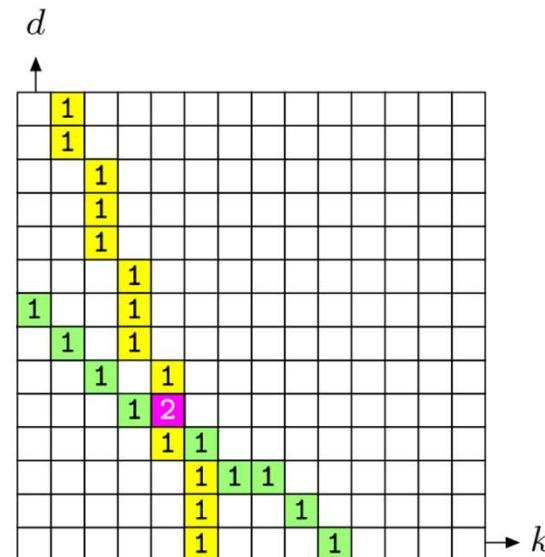


Accumulator Array

- **Accumulator array:** discrete representation of parameter space as 2D array
- Given a point in image, increment all points on it's corresponding line (draw line) in parameter space
- A line in image will be intersection of multiple lines in parameter space.

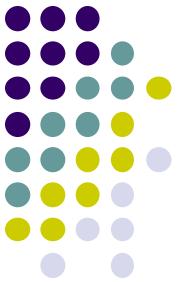


(a) Image Space



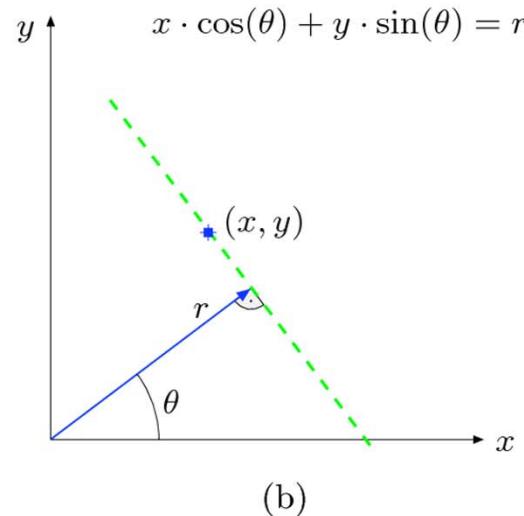
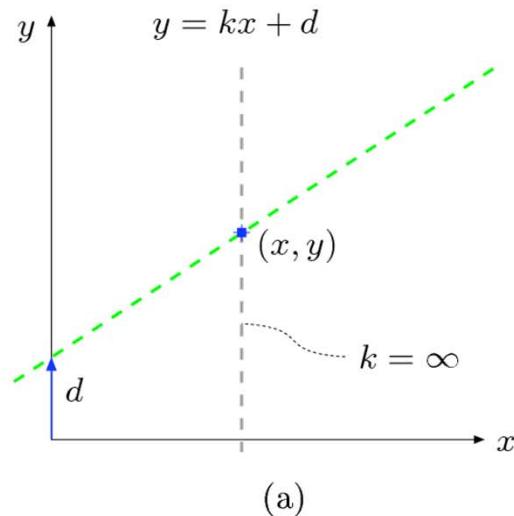
(b) Accumulator Array

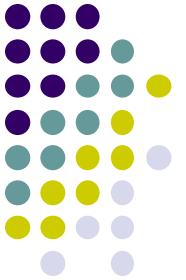
$$M_i : d = -x_i k + y_i$$



Hough Transform

- **A Problem:** The form of line $y = kx + d$ cannot express vertical line (slope $k = \text{infinity}$)
- Alternate line representation in terms of r, θ :
 - r , perpendicular distance of line from origin
 - θ , angle of line's perpendicular to x axis
 - If we allow negative r , then $-90 < \theta < 90$





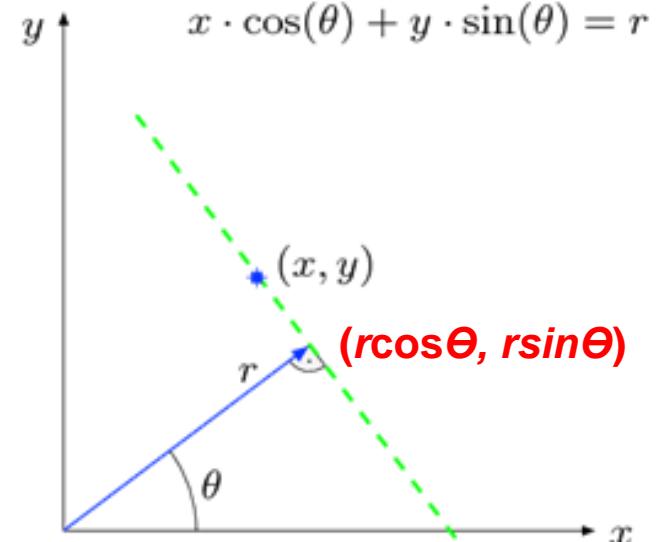
Hough Transform

- Point (p, q) where perpendicular to line meets line
 $= (r\cos\theta, r\sin\theta)$
- Consider (x, y) , another point on line, gradient of line is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} &= \frac{y - q}{x - p} \\ &= \frac{y - r \sin \theta}{x - r \cos \theta}.\end{aligned}$$

- Gradient of perpendicular is $\tan\theta$
- So gradient of line is
 $-\frac{1}{\tan\theta} = -\frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}.$
- Putting these two expressions together

$$\frac{y - r \sin \theta}{x - r \cos \theta} = -\frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}.$$





Hough Transform

$$\frac{y - r \sin \theta}{x - r \cos \theta} = -\frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}.$$

- If we multiply these fractions, we obtain

$$y \sin \theta - r \sin^2 \theta = -x \cos \theta + r \cos^2 \theta$$

- And this equation can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} y \sin \theta + x \cos \theta &= r \sin^2 \theta + r \cos^2 \theta \\ &= r(\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta) \\ &= r. \end{aligned}$$

- Below is required equation for the line as

$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = r.$$

called Hessian Normal Form

Implementing Hough Transform using Hessian Normal Form of line



- Each point (x, y) that falls on line with (r, θ) must satisfy equation below

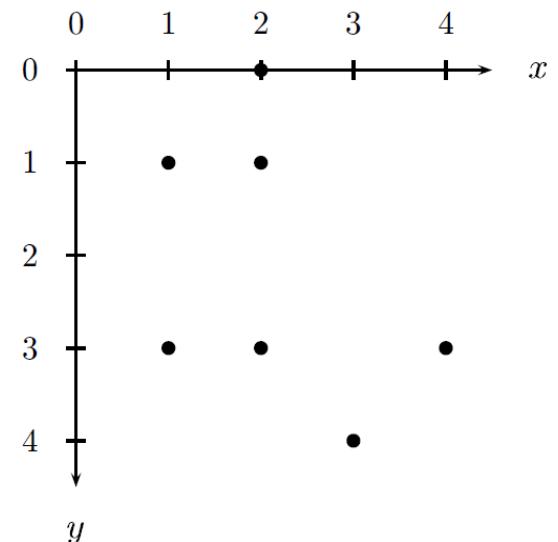
$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = r.$$

- To implement Hough transform,
 - Choose discrete set of θ values
 - For instance, for image shown consider θ values

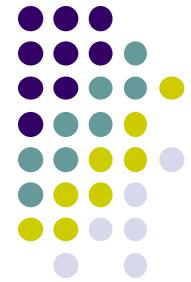
$$-45^\circ, 0^\circ, 45^\circ, 90^\circ.$$

- For each pixel (x, y) in image, compute r as

$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$$



Implementing Hough Transform using Hessian Normal Form of line



- For each pixel (x, y) in image compute r as

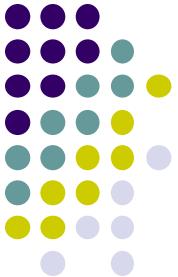
$$x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta$$

- Put results in a table

(x, y)	-45°	0°	45°	90°
(2, 0)	1.4	2	1.4	0
(1, 1)	0	1	1.4	1
(2, 1)	0.7	2	2.1	1
(1, 3)	-1.4	1	2.8	3
(2, 3)	-0.7	2	3.5	3
(4, 3)	0.7	4	4.9	3
(3, 4)	-0.7	3	4.9	4

- Accumulator array (below): contains number of times each value of (r, θ) appears in table (above)

	-1.4	-0.7	0	0.7	1	1.4	2	2.1	2.8	3	3.5	4	4.9
-45°	1	2	1	2		1							
0°					2		3			1		1	
45°						2		1	1	1	1	2	
90°			1		2				3	2			



Hough Transform

	-1.4	-0.7	0	0.7	1	1.4	2	2.1	2.8	3	3.5	4	4.9
-45°	1	2	1	2		1							
0°					2		3			1		1	
45°						2		1		1	1		2
90°			1		2				1		2		

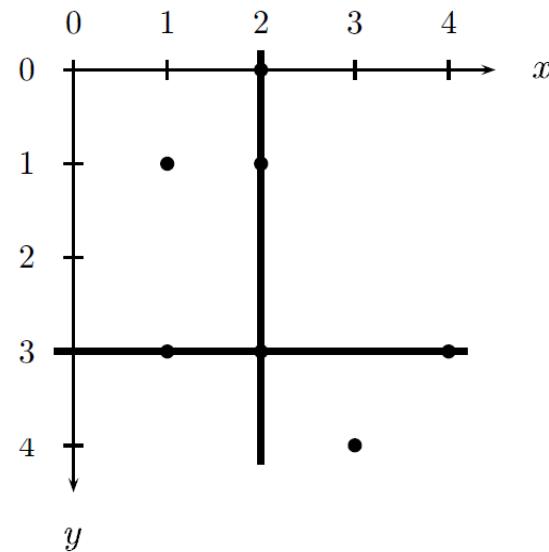
- Two largest values occur at $(r, \theta) = (2, 0^\circ)$ and $(r, \theta) = (3, 90^\circ)$
- The corresponding lines are:

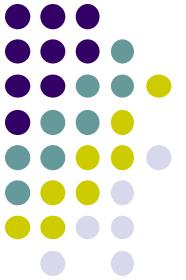
$$x \cos 0 + y \sin 0 = 2$$

or $x = 2$, and

$$x \cos 90 + y \sin 90 = 3$$

or $y = 3$.

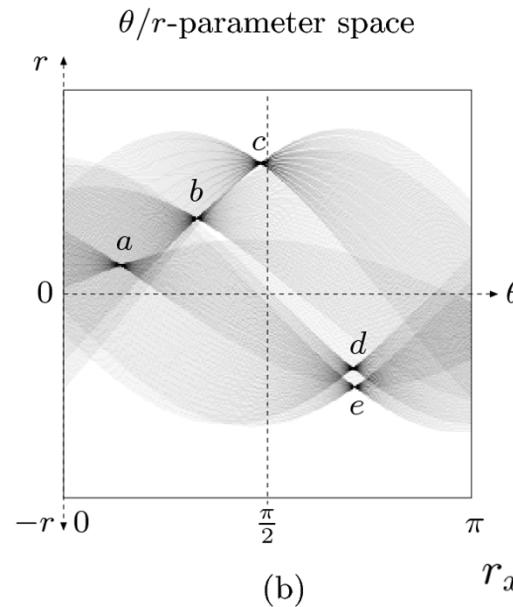
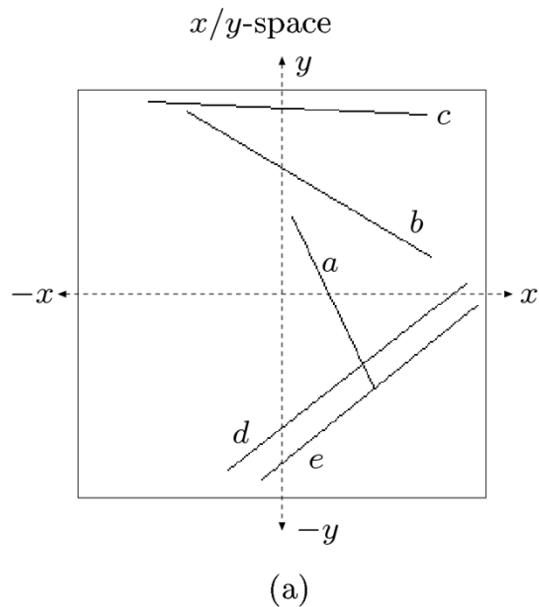




Visualizing Image Space to Parameter Space Representation

- Image Space and parameter space using HNF representation for $0 \leq \theta < \pi$
- If image center is reference, then range of r limited to half of diagonal. E.g. for image of width M and height N

$$-r_{\max} \leq r_{x,y}(\theta) \leq r_{\max}, \quad \text{where} \quad r_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{M^2 + N^2}$$



$$r_{x_i, y_i}(\theta) = x_i \cdot \cos(\theta) + y_i \cdot \sin(\theta)$$

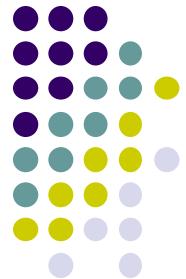


Hough Transform Algorithm

- 2 main implementation stages

```
1: HOUGHLINES( $I$ )
   Returns the list of parameters  $\langle \theta_i, r_i \rangle$  corresponding to the strongest
   lines found in the binary image  $I$ .
2: Set up a two-dimensional array  $Acc[\theta, r]$  of counters, initialize to 0.
3: Let  $(u_c, v_c)$  be the center coordinates of the image  $I$ 
4: for all image coordinates  $(u, v)$  do
5:   if  $I(u, v)$  is an edge point then
6:     Get coordinate relative to the image center  $(u_c, v_c)$ :
7:      $(x, y) \leftarrow (u - u_c, v - v_c)$ 
8:     for  $\theta_i = 0 \dots \pi$  do
9:        $r_i = x \cdot \cos(\theta_i) + y \cdot \sin(\theta_i)$ 
10:      Increment  $Acc[\theta_i, r_i]$ 
11:  Return the list of parameter pairs  $\langle \theta_j, r_j \rangle$  for  $K$  strongest lines:
12:   $MaxLines \leftarrow \text{FINDMAXLINES}(Acc, K)$ 
13:  return  $MaxLines$ .
```

1. Create 2-dimensional accumulator array
2. Search accumulator array for maximum values
Return parameters for k strongest lines



Filling Accumulator Array

Creating new class example:

```
LinearHT ht = new LinearHT(ip, 256, 256)
```

```

1 class LinearHT {
2     ImageProcessor ip; // reference to the original image I
3     int xCtr, yCtr; // x/y-coordinates of image center ( $u_c, v_c$ )
4     int nAng; //  $N_\theta$  steps for the angle ( $\theta = 0 \dots \pi$ )
5     int nRad; //  $N_r$  steps for the radius ( $r = -r_{\max} \dots r_{\max}$ )
6     int cRad; // center of radius axis ( $r = 0$ )
7     double dAng; // increment of angle  $\Delta_\theta$ 
8     double dRad; // increment of radius  $\Delta_r$ 
9     int[][] houghArray; // Hough accumulator  $Acc[\theta_i, r_i]$ 
10
11 //constructor method:
12 LinearHT(ImageProcessor ip, int nAng, int nRad) {
13     this.ip = ip;
14     this.xCtr = ip.getWidth()/2;
15     this.yCtr = ip.getHeight()/2;
16     this.nAng = nAng;
17     this.dAng = Math.PI / nAng; //  $\Delta_\theta = \frac{\pi}{N_\theta}$ 
18     this.nRad = nRad;
19     this.cRad = nRad / 2;
20     double rMax = Math.sqrt(xCtr * xCtr + yCtr * yCtr);
21     this.dRad = (2.0 * rMax) / nRad; //  $\Delta_r = \frac{2 \cdot r_{\max}}{N_r}$ 
22     this.houghArray = new int[nAng][nRad]; // Declare array to store results
23     fillHoughAccumulator(); // Do Hough transform
24 }
```

number of
 θ increments

number of
 r increments

$$\Delta_\theta = \frac{\pi}{N_\theta} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta_r = \frac{2 \cdot r_{\max}}{N_r}$$

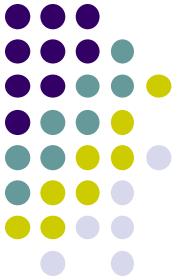
Declare array to store results

Do Hough transform



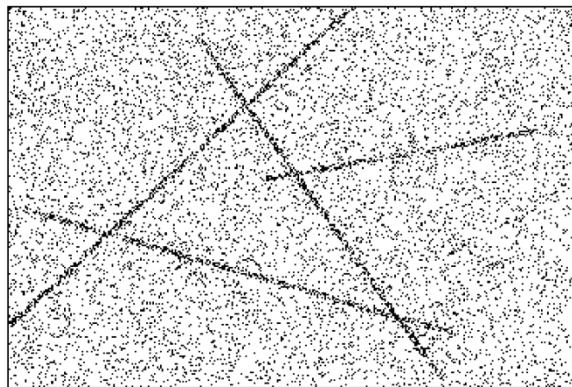
Filling Accumulator Array

```
25
26     void fillHoughAccumulator() {
27         int h = ip.getHeight();
28         int w = ip.getWidth();
29         for (int v = 0; v < h; v++) {
30             for (int u = 0; u < w; u++) {
31                 if (ip.get(u, v) > 0) {
32                     doPixel(u, v);
33                 }
34             }
35         }
36     }
37
38     void doPixel(int u, int v) {
39         int x = u - xCtr, y = v - yCtr;
40         for (int i = 0; i < nAng; i++) {
41             double theta = dAng * i;
42             int r = cRad + (int) Math.rint
43                 ((x*Math.cos(theta) + y*Math.sin(theta)) / dRad);
44             if (r >= 0 && r < nRad) {
45                 houghArray[i][r]++;
46             }
47         }
48     }
49
50 } // end of class LinearHT
```

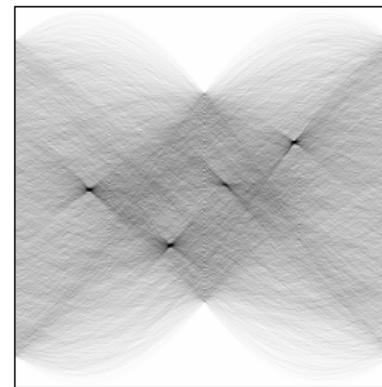


Hough Transform: Noise

- 4 lines (left) correspond to 4 darkest points (right)

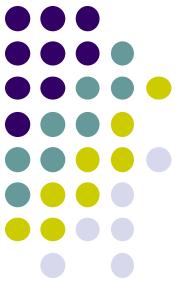


(a)



(b)

- Results are noisy
 - Max (r, θ) values do not occur at exactly one point, but in a small area
 - Caused by rounding. Difficult to pinpoint one exact maxima
- Two strategies for dealing with noise:
 - Thresholding
 - Non-maximum suppression

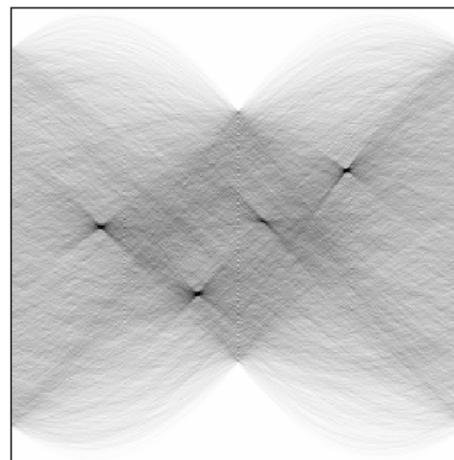


Dealing with Noise: Thresholding

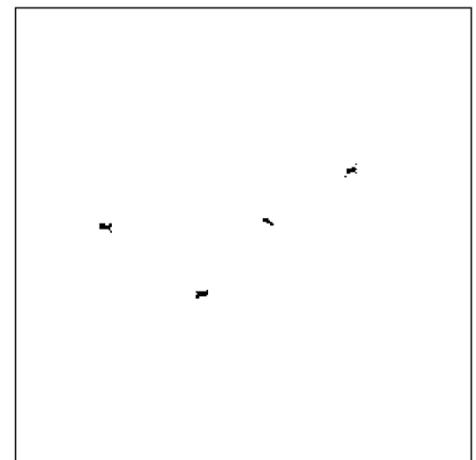
(b) **Thresholding (image b):**
threshold using 50% of the
maximum value

(c) **Non-maxima
suppression (image d):**

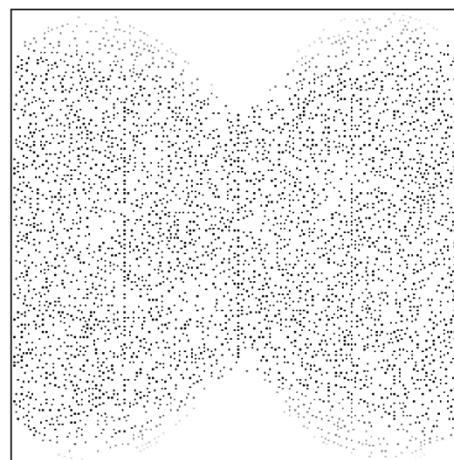
- Compare every cell in $Acc(r, \Theta)$ to its neighbors
 - If greater than all neighbors, keep cell
 - Otherwise set cell to 0
 - Can also apply thresholding afterwards



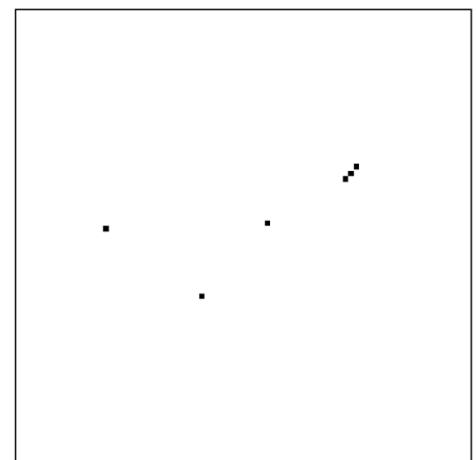
(a)



(b)



(c)

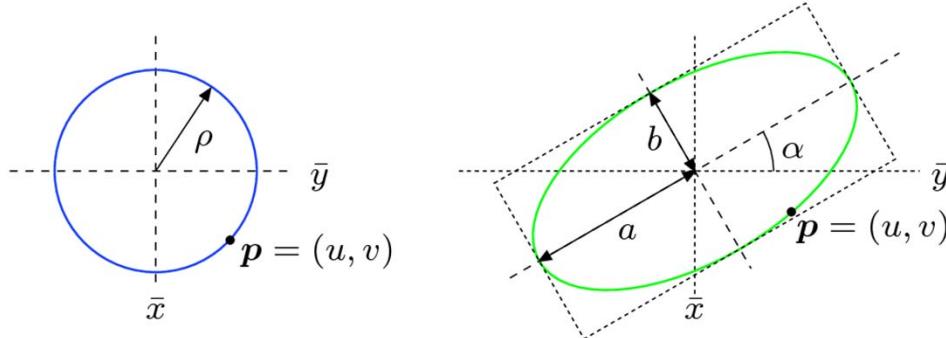


(d)



Hough Transform on Circles

-



- Equation of circle $Circle = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{y}, \rho \rangle$
where \bar{x} , \bar{y} are coordinates of center, ρ is radius of circle
- A point $p = (u, v)$ lies on circle when following relation holds

$$(u - \bar{x})^2 + (v - \bar{y})^2 = \rho^2$$

- Thus, parameter space for circle is 3-dimensional $Acc[\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \rho]$
- Hough transform task, find every (\bar{x}, \bar{y}, ρ) combination that



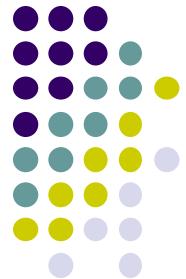
Hough Transform on Circles

- Hough transform task, find every (\bar{x}, \bar{y}, ρ) combination that satisfies equation of circle

$$(u - \bar{x})^2 + (v - \bar{y})^2 = \rho^2$$

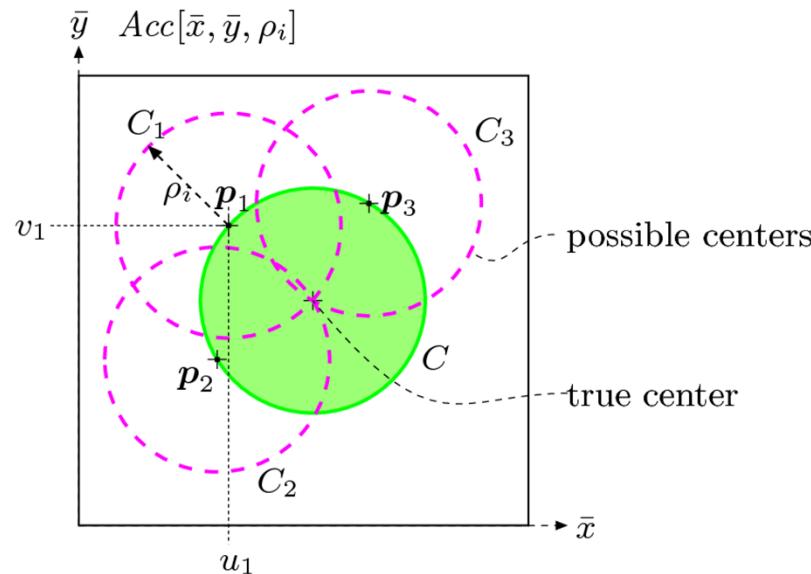
- How? Brute force algorithm?
 - For every point $p = (u, v)$, exhaustively test if circle equation holds for every cell in parameter space

```
1: HOUGH CIRCLES( $I$ )
   Returns the list of parameters  $\langle \bar{x}_i, \bar{y}_i, \rho_i \rangle$  corresponding to the
   strongest circles found in the binary image  $I$ .
2: Set up a three-dimensional array  $Acc[\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \rho]$  and initialize to 0
3: for all image coordinates  $(u, v)$  do
4:   if  $I(u, v)$  is an edge point then
5:     for all  $(\bar{x}_i, \bar{y}_i, \rho_i)$  in the accumulator space do
6:       if  $(u - \bar{x}_i)^2 + (v - \bar{y}_i)^2 = \rho_i^2$  then
7:         Increment  $Acc[\bar{x}_i, \bar{y}_i, \rho_i]$ 
8:   MaxCircles  $\leftarrow$  FINDMAXCIRCLES( $Acc$ )  $\triangleright$  a list of tuples  $\langle \bar{x}_j, \bar{y}_j, \rho_j \rangle$ 
9: return  $MaxCircles$ .
```



Improvement of Brute Force Approach

- **Observation:** If we know the radius, the locations of all possible centers lie on a circle

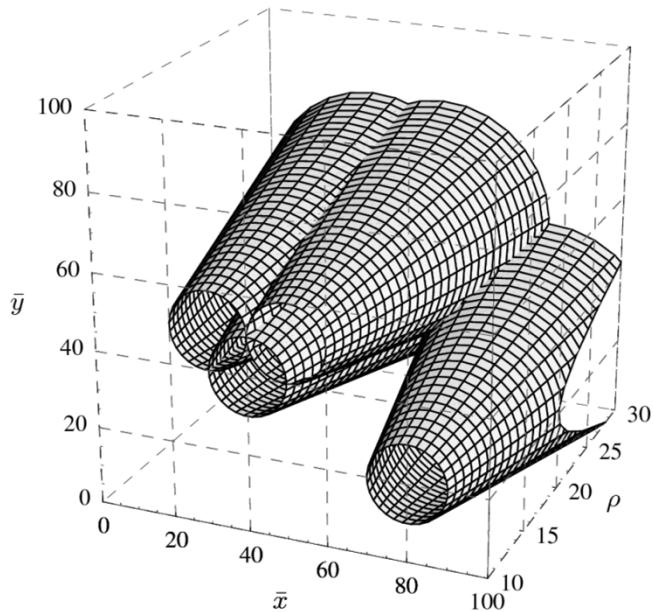


- **Improvement:** For each image point $\mathbf{p} = (u, v)$, increment (search) only cell values along edge of appropriate circle on each ρ plane of accumulator array



Hough Transform of Circles

- Spatial structure of 3-dimensional space for circles



3D parameter space:

$\bar{x}, \bar{y} = 0 \dots 100$

$\rho = 10 \dots 30$

Image points p_k :

$p_1 = (30, 50)$

$p_2 = (50, 50)$

$p_3 = (40, 40)$

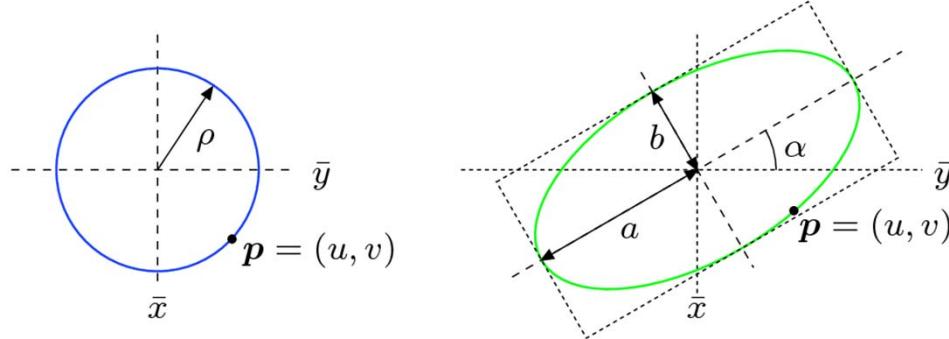
$p_4 = (80, 20)$

- For given image point $p_k = (u_k, v_k)$
 - At each plane along ρ axis, traverse circle centered at (u_k, v_k)

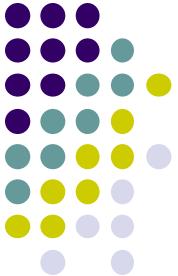


Hough Transform of Ellipses

- Perfect circles seldom appear in images. Why?
- Due to perspective, circles appear as ellipses in images

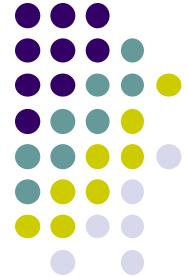


- Ellipse requires 5 parameters $\text{Ellipse} = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{y}, r_a, r_b, \alpha \rangle$
where (\bar{x}, \bar{y}) are coordinates of center, (r_a, r_b) are 2 radii
and α is orientation of principal axis



Hough Transform on Ellipses

- 5-dimensional parameter space can yield very large data structure
- If $128 = 2^7$ steps used in each dimension
 - requires 2^{35} accumulator cells
 - If 4-byte **int** values, requires 2^{37} bytes (128 gigabytes) memory
- **Generalized Hough Transform** better, requires 4-dimensional space



References

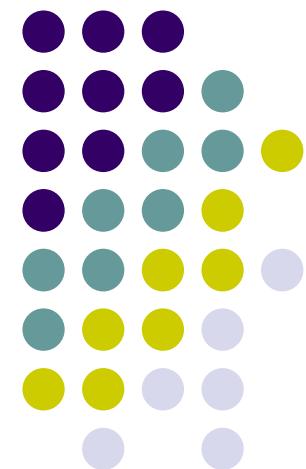
- Wilhelm Burger and Mark J. Burge, Digital Image Processing, Springer, 2008
- University of Utah, CS 4640: Image Processing Basics, Spring 2012
- Rutgers University, CS 334, Introduction to Imaging and Multimedia, Fall 2012
- Gonzales and Woods, Digital Image Processing (3rd edition), Prentice Hall

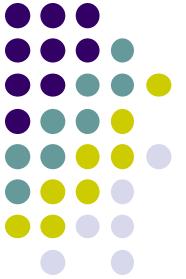
Digital Image Processing (CS/ECE 545)

Lecture 6: Morphological Filters

Prof Emmanuel Agu

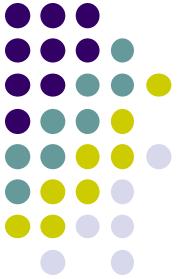
*Computer Science Dept.
Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI)*





Mathematical Morphology

- Originally operated on Binary (black and white) images
- Binary images?
 - Faxes, digitally printed images
 - Obtained from thresholding grayscale images
- Morphological filters alter local structures in an image

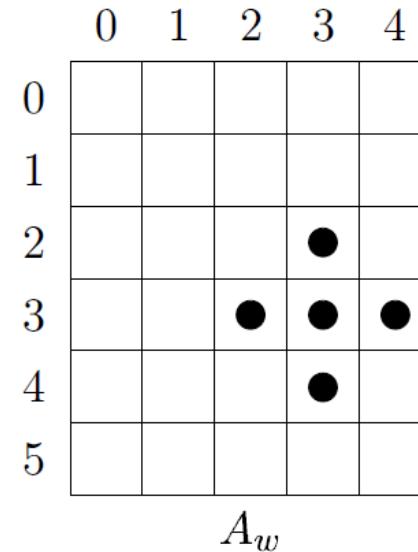
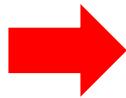
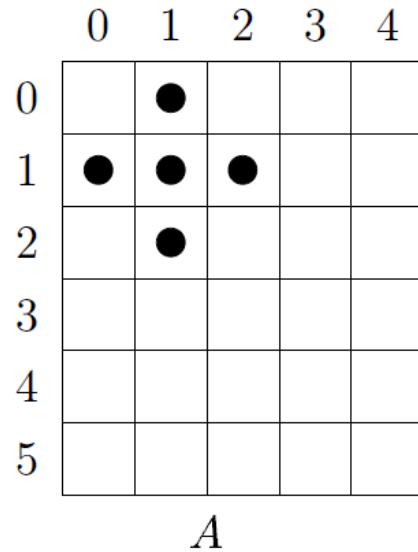


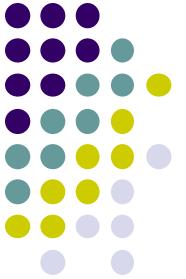
Translation

- A is set of pixels in binary image
- $w = (x, y)$ is a particular coordinate point
- A is set A “translated” in direction (x, y) . i.e

$$A_x = \{(a, b) + (x, y) : (a, b) \in A\}.$$

- Example: If A is the cross-shaped set, and $w = (2, 2)$



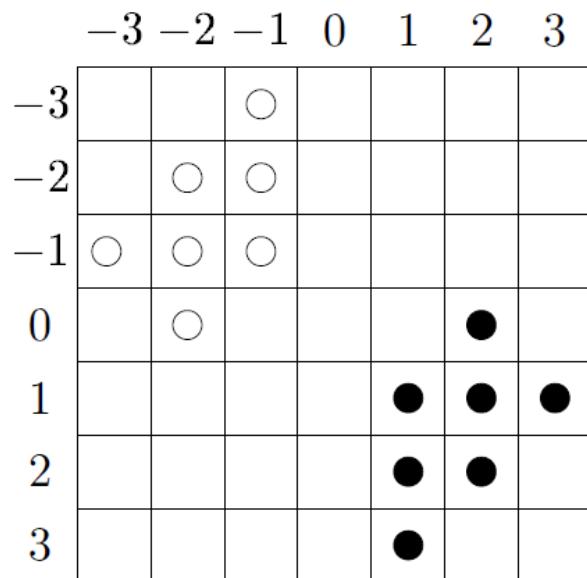


Reflection

- A is set of pixels
- Reflection of A is given by

$$\hat{A} = \{(-x, -y) : (x, y) \in A\}.$$

- An example of a reflection





Mathematical Morphology

- 2 basic mathematical morphology operations, (built from translations and reflections)
 - **Dilation**
 - **Erosion**

Also several composite relations

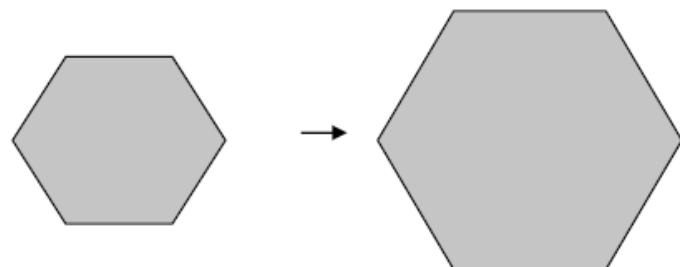
- **Closing and Opening**
- **Conditional Dilation**
- **...**



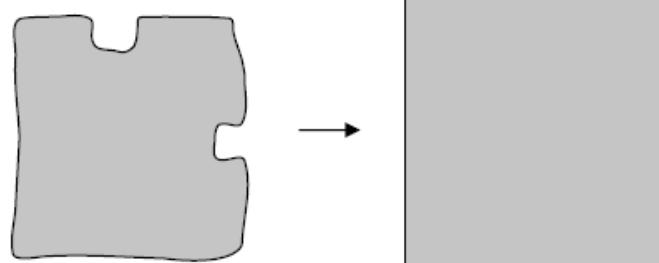
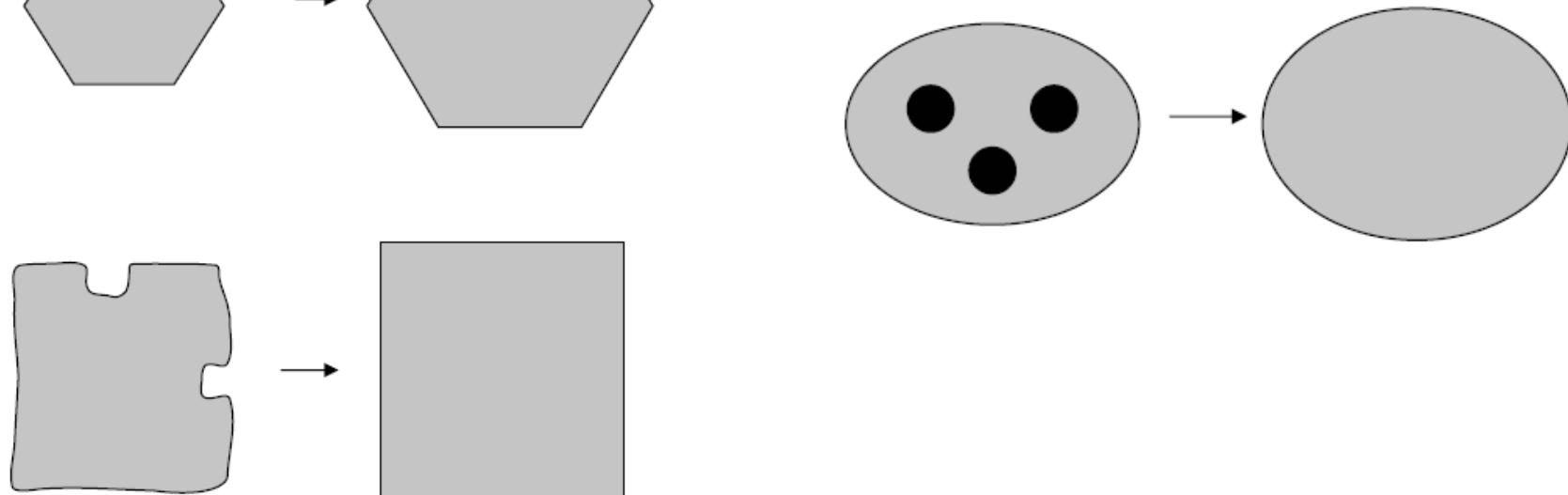
Dilation

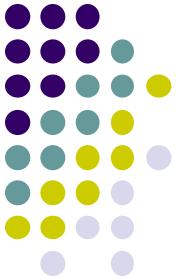
- Dilation **expands** connected sets of 1s of a binary image. It can be used for

1. Growing features



2. Filling holes and gaps

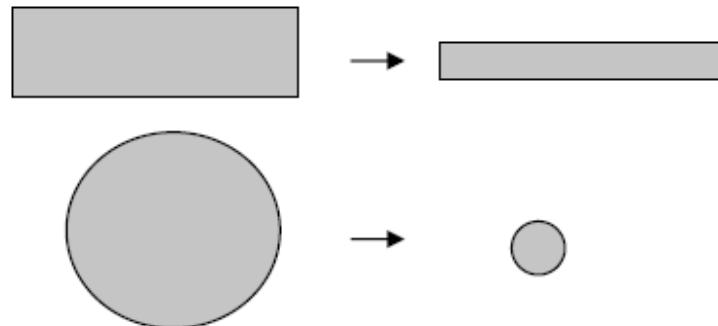




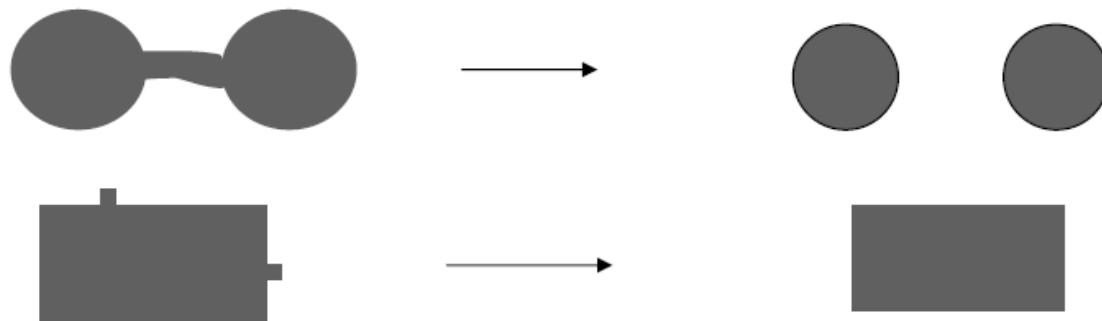
Erosion

- Erosion **shrinks** connected sets of 1s in binary image.
- Can be used for

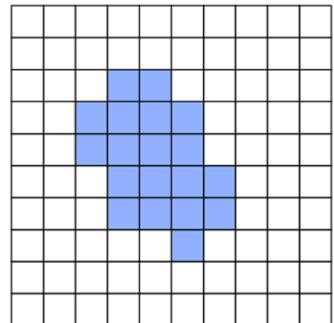
1. shrinking features



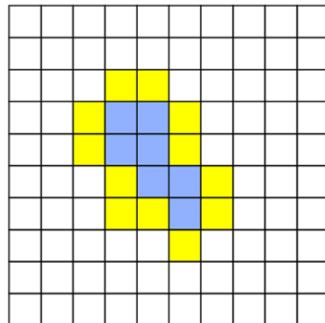
2. Removing bridges, branches and small protrusions



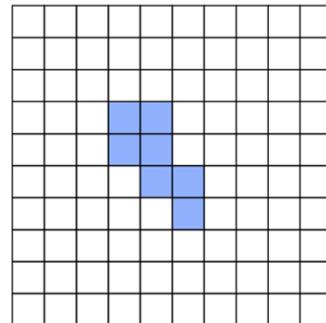
Shrink and Let Grow



(a)

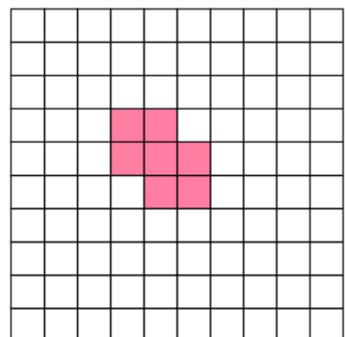


(b)

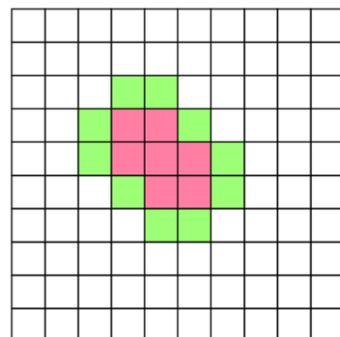


(c)

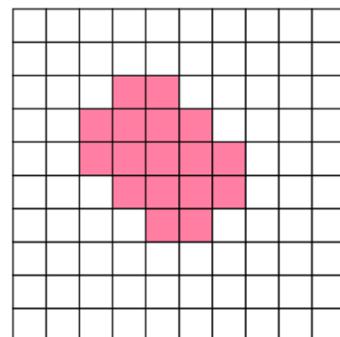
Shrinking: remove border pixels



(a)

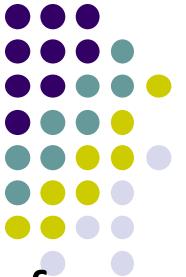


(b)



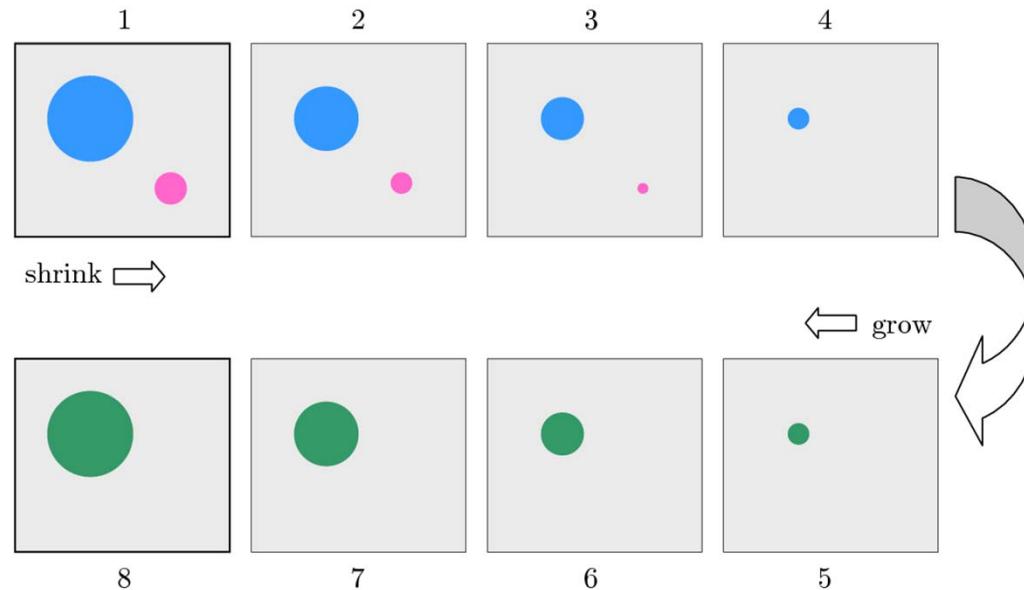
(c)

Growing: add layer of pixels at border



Shrinking and Let Grow

- Image structures are iteratively shrunk by peeling off a layer of thickness (layer of pixel) at boundaries
- Shrinking removes smaller structures, leaving only large structures
- Remaining structures are then grown back by same amount
- Eventually, large structures back to original size while smaller regions have disappeared

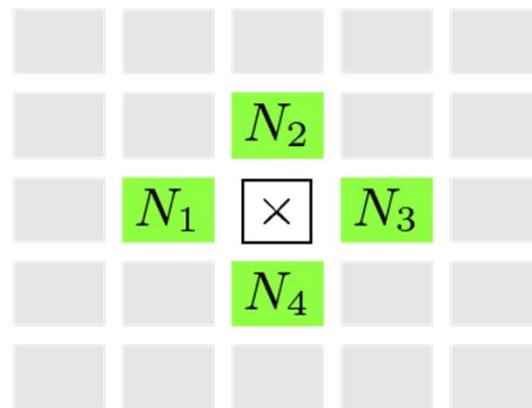




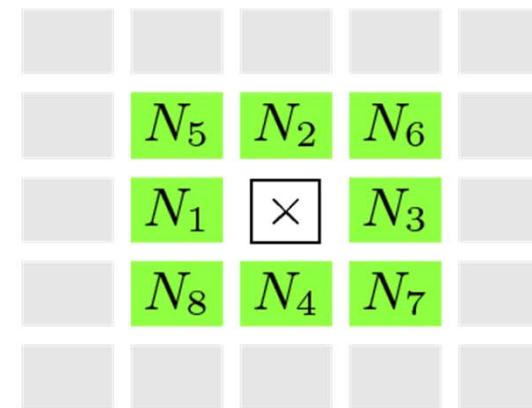
Basic Morphological Operations

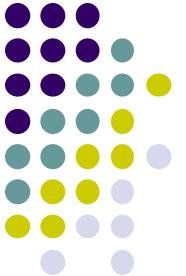
- Definitions:
 - **4-Neighborhood (N_4):** 4 pixels adjacent to given pixel in horizontal and vertical directions
 - **8-Neighborhood (N_8):** 4 pixels in N_4 + 4 pixels adjacent along diagonals

N_4



N_8





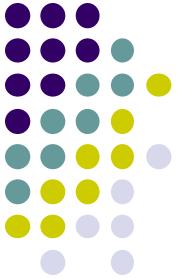
Formal Specification as Point Sets

- Morphological operations can be expressed by describing images as **2D point sets**
- For example, for a binary image ($I(u,v) \in \{0,1\}$)

$$\mathcal{Q}_I = \{p \mid I(p) = 1\}$$

- **Example:** OR operation union of individual sets

$$\mathcal{Q}_{I_1 \vee I_2} = \mathcal{Q}_{I_1} \cup \mathcal{Q}_{I_2}$$



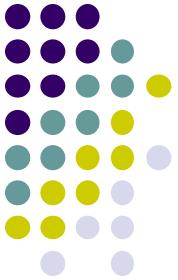
Dilation

- Suppose A and B are sets of pixels, **dilation of A by B**

$$A \oplus B = \bigcup_{x \in B} A_x.$$

- Also called **Minkowski addition**. **Meaning?**
- Replace every pixel in A with copy of B (or vice versa)
- For every pixel x in B ,
 - Translate A by x
 - Take union of all these translations

$$A \oplus B = \{(x, y) + (u, v) : (x, y) \in A, (u, v) \in B\}.$$



Dilation Example

- For A and B shown below

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

	1	2	3	4	5
1					
2		●	●		
3	●	●			
4	●	●			
5	●	●	●		
6		●	●		
7					

A

	-1	0	1
-1	●		●
0		●	●
1	●		●

B

	1	2	3	4	5
1					
2					
3			●	●	
4			●	●	
5			●	●	
6			●	●	●
7				●	●

$A_{(1,1)}$

Translation of A
by $(1,1)$



Dilation Example

	1	2	3	4	5
1			●	●	
2			●	●	
3			●	●	
4			●	●	●
5				●	●
6					
7					

$A_{(-1,1)}$

	1	2	3	4	5
1					
2					
3	●	●			
4	●	●			
5	●	●			
6	●	●	●		
7		●	●		

$A_{(1,-1)}$

	1	2	3	4	5
1	●	●			
2	●	●			
3	●	●			
4	●	●	●		
5		●	●		
6					
7					

$A_{(-1,-1)}$

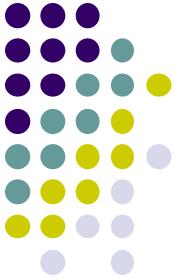
	-1	0	1	
-1	●			●
0		●		
1	●			●

B

	1	2	3	4	5
1	●	●	●	●	
2	●	●	●	●	
3	●	●	●	●	●
4	●	●	●	●	●
5	●	●	●	●	●
6	●	●	●	●	●
7	●	●	●	●	●

$A \oplus B$

Union of all translations



Another Dilation Example

- Dilation increases size of structure
- A and B do not have to overlap
- **Example:** For the same A , if we change B to

$$B = \{(7, 3), (6, 2), (6, 4), (8, 2), (8, 4)\}$$

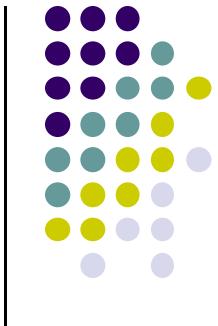
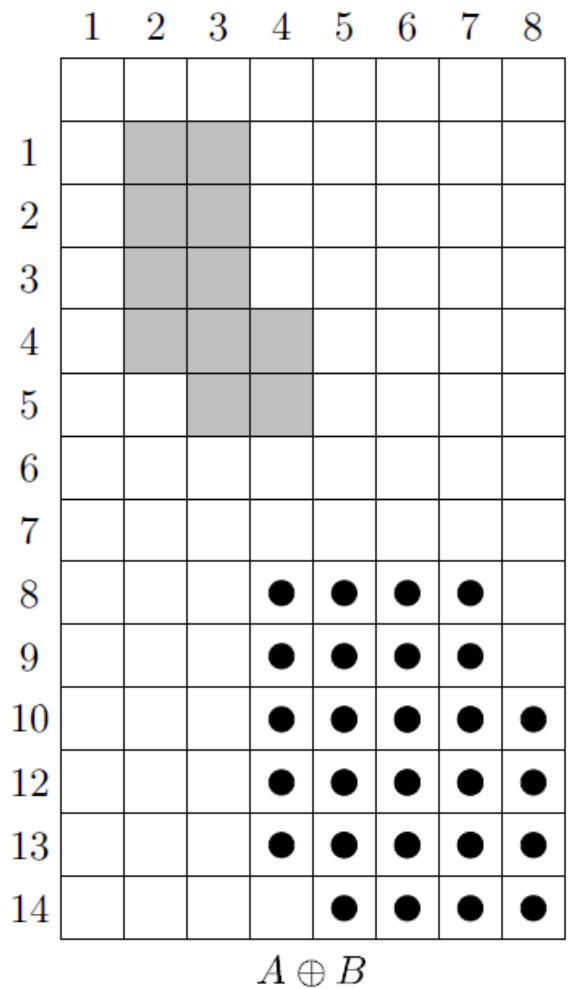
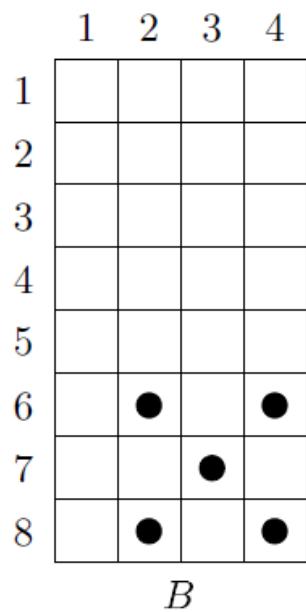
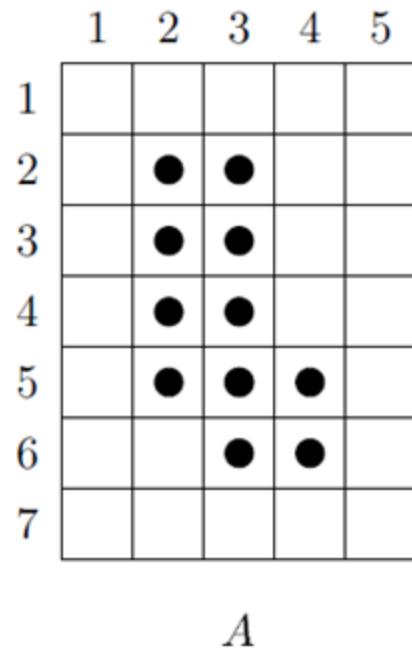
so that

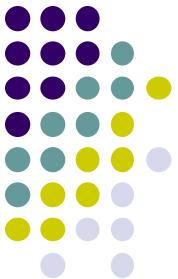
$$A \oplus B = A_{(7,3)} \cup A_{(6,2)} \cup A_{(6,4)} \cup A_{(8,2)} \cup A_{(8,4)}$$

	1	2	3	4
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6		●		●
7			●	
8	●			●

B

Another Dilation Example





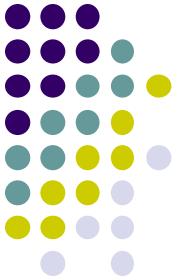
Example: Dilation of a Binary Image

Cross-Correlation Used
To Locate A Known
Target in an Image

Text Running
In Another
Direction

Cross-Correlation Used
To Locate A Known
Target in an Image

Text Running
In Another
Direction



Dilation

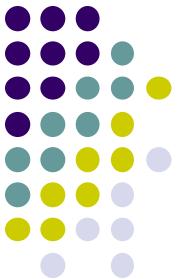
- We usually assume
 - A is being processed
 - B is a smaller set of pixels, called the **structuring element**

	1	2	3	4	5
1					
2	•	•			
3	•	•			
4	•	•			
5	•	•	•		
6		•	•		
7					

A

	1	2	3	4
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6	•			•
7		•		
8	•			•

B

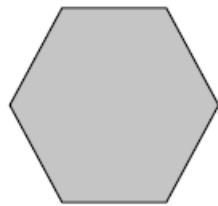


The Structuring Element

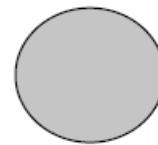
- A structuring element is a shape mask used in the basic morphological operations
- They can be any shape and size that is digitally representable, and each has an origin.



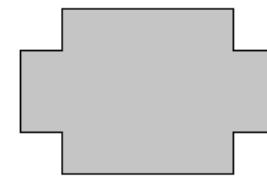
box



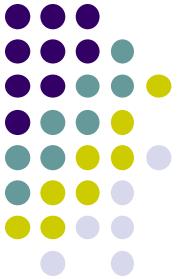
hexagon



disk



something



The Structuring Element

- Structuring element somewhat similar to a filter
- Contains only 0 and 1 values
- **Hot spot** marks origin of coordinate system of H
- **Example of structuring element:** 1-elements marked with •, 0-cells are empty

$$H(i, j) \in \{0, 1\}$$



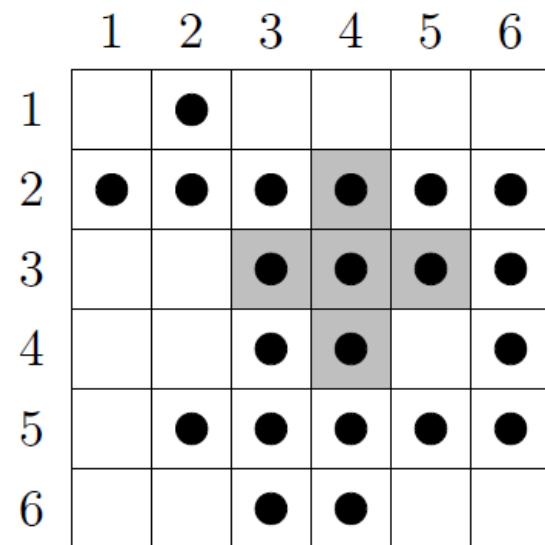
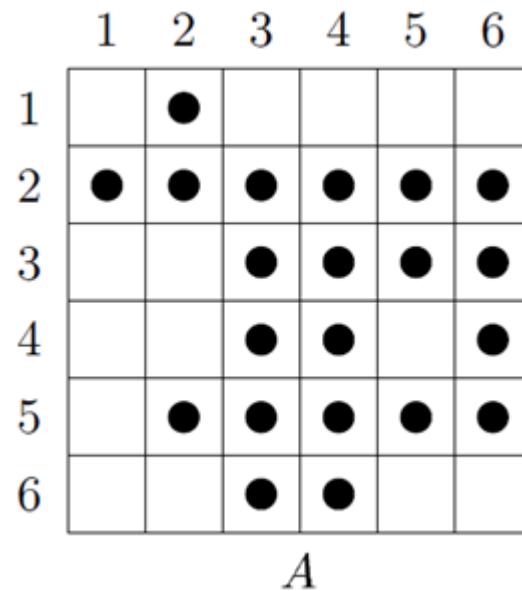
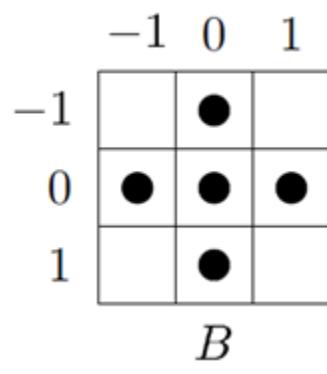


Erosion

- Given sets A and B , the **erosion of A by B**

$$A \ominus B = \{w : B_w \subseteq A\}.$$

- Find all occurrences of B in A



Example: 1 occurrence
 of B in A

Erosion

All occurrences of B in A

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2	●	●	●	●	●	●
3		●	●	●	●	●
4		●	●			●
5	●	●	●	●	●	●
6		●	●			

For each occurrences
Mark center of B

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2						
3				●		
4						
5						
6						

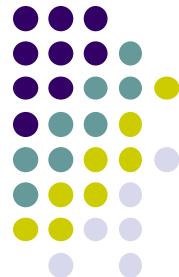
Erosion: union
of center of all
occurrences of
 B in A

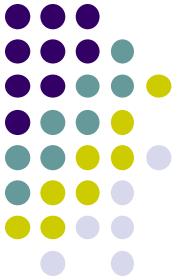
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2	●	●	●	●	●	●
3		●	●	●	●	●
4		●	●			●
5	●	●	●	●	●	●
6		●	●			

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2						
3				●		
4						
5				●		
6						

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2						
3				●		
4						
5		●	●			
6						

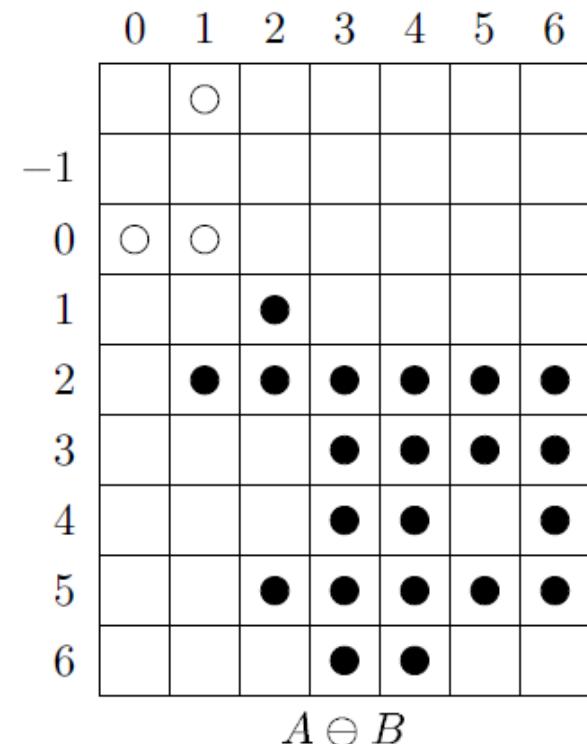
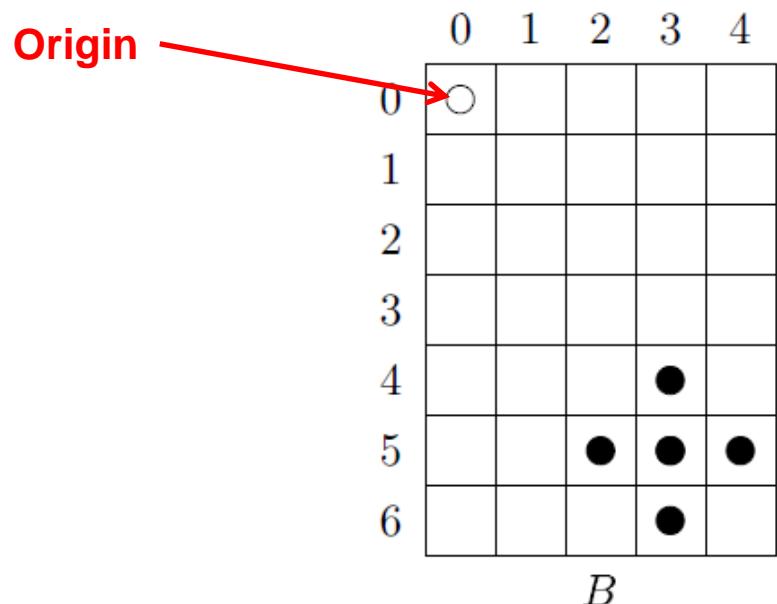
$A \ominus B$

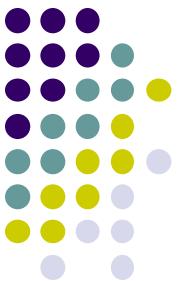




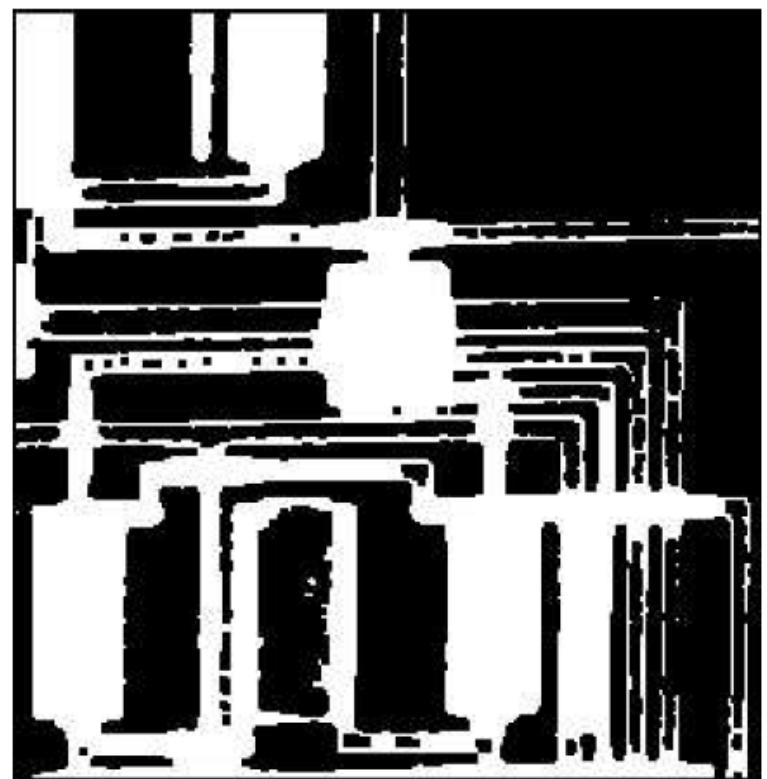
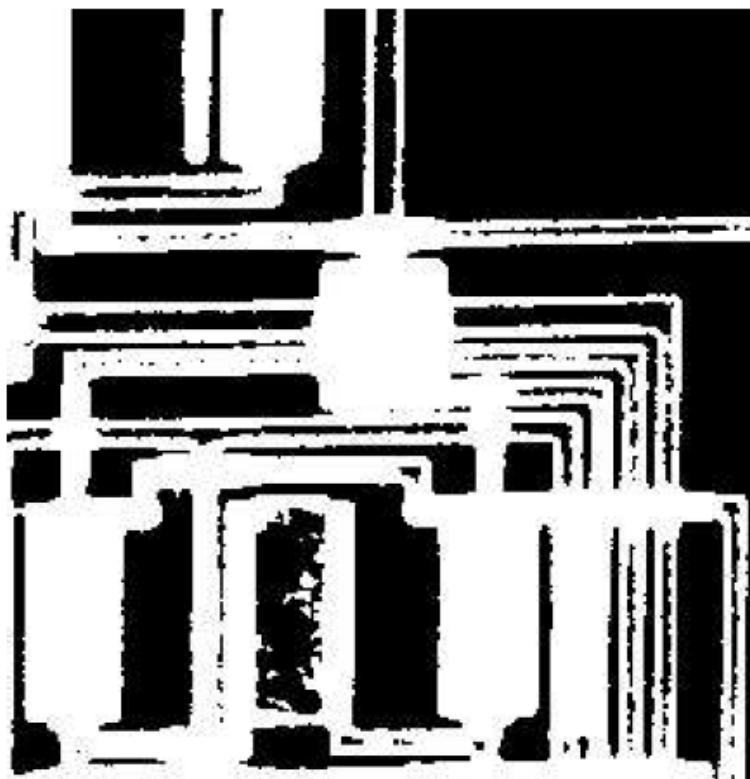
Another Erosion Example

- The structuring element (B) does not have to contain the origin
- Another example where B does not contain the origin





Example: Erosion of Binary Image





Erosion

- Erosion related to **minkowski subtraction**

$$A - B = \bigcap_{b \in B} A_b.$$

- Erosion and dilation are **inverses** of each other
- It can be shown that

$$\overline{A \ominus B} = \overline{A} \oplus \hat{B}.$$

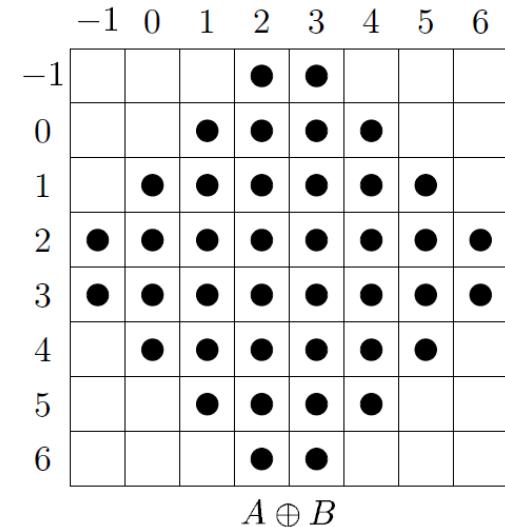
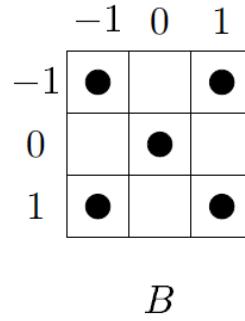
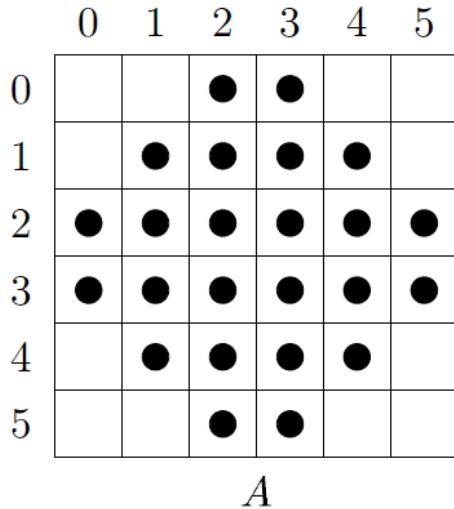
- And also that

$$\overline{A \oplus B} = \overline{A} \ominus \hat{B}.$$

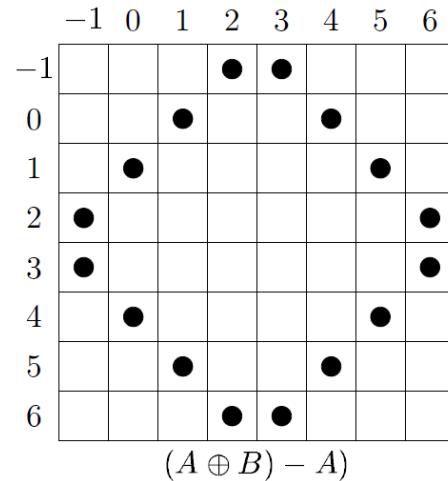


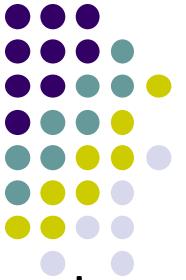
An Application: Boundary Detection

- Given an image A and structuring element B



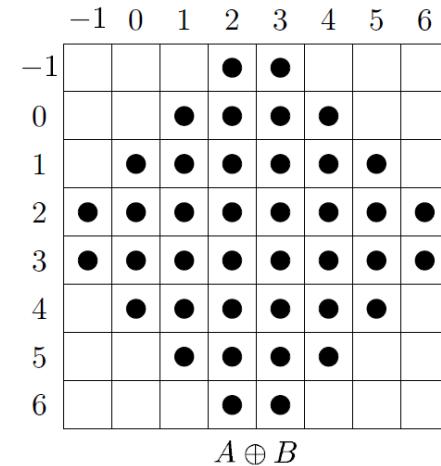
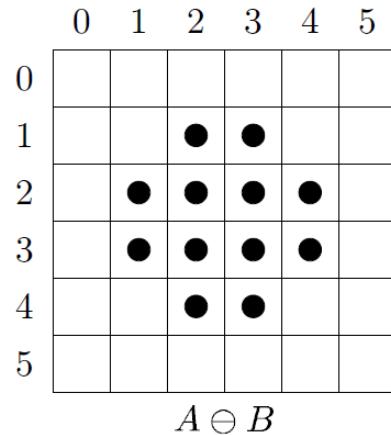
We can define **external boundary**





An Application: Boundary Detection

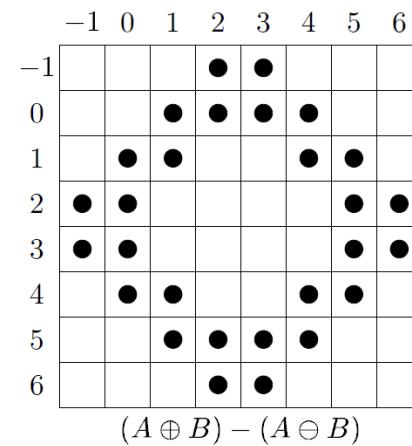
- **Dilation of image A - erosion image A** (by structuring element B)



- We can define **morphological gradient**

$$(A \oplus B) - (A \ominus B)$$

Morphological gradient = Dilation - erosion

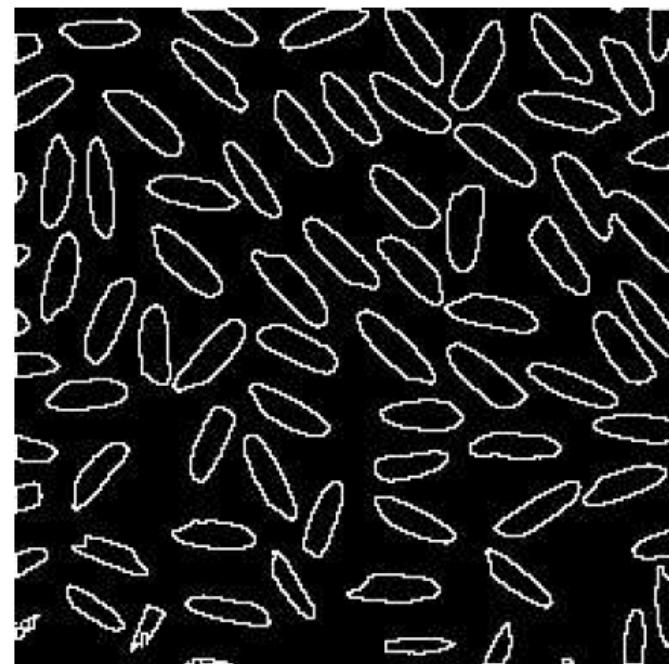
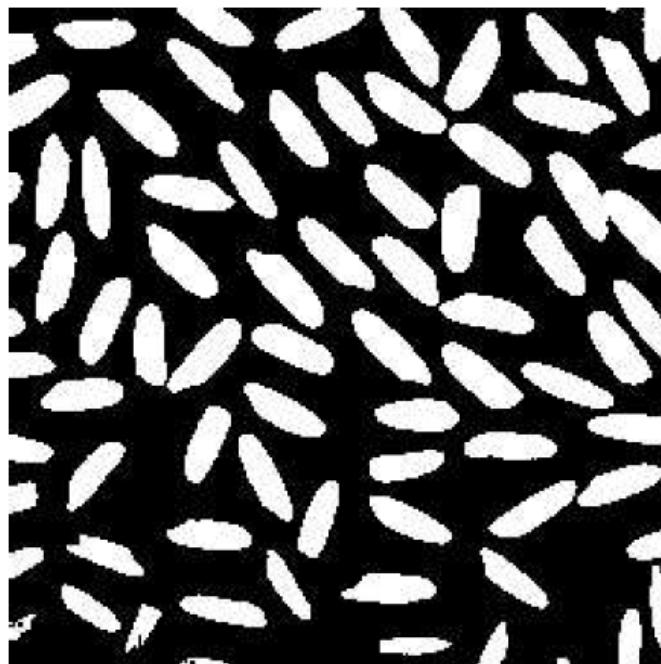


Example: Internal Boundary of Binary Image

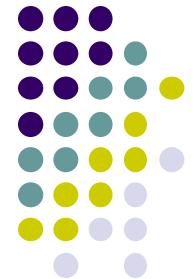


- We can also define **internal boundary** as

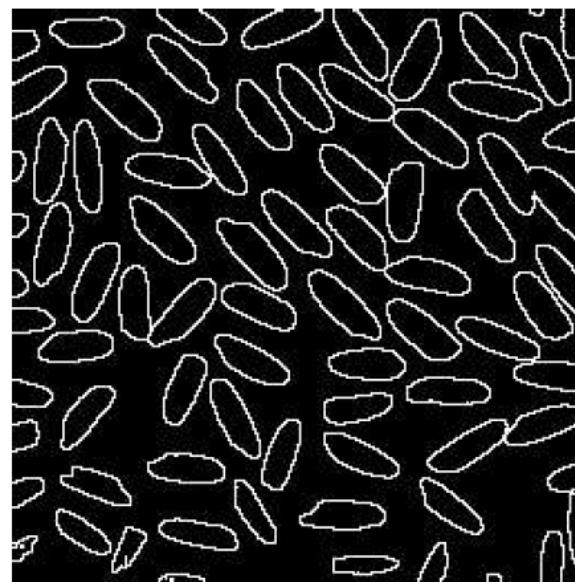
$$A - (A \ominus B)$$



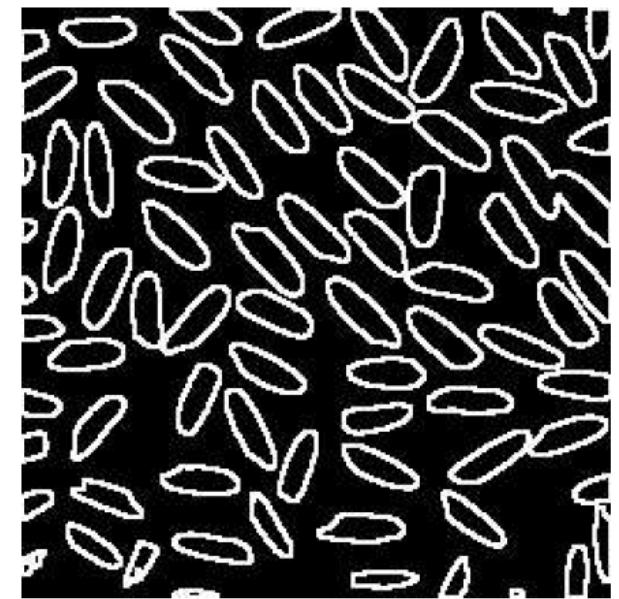
Example: External Boundary and Morphological Gradient



Image

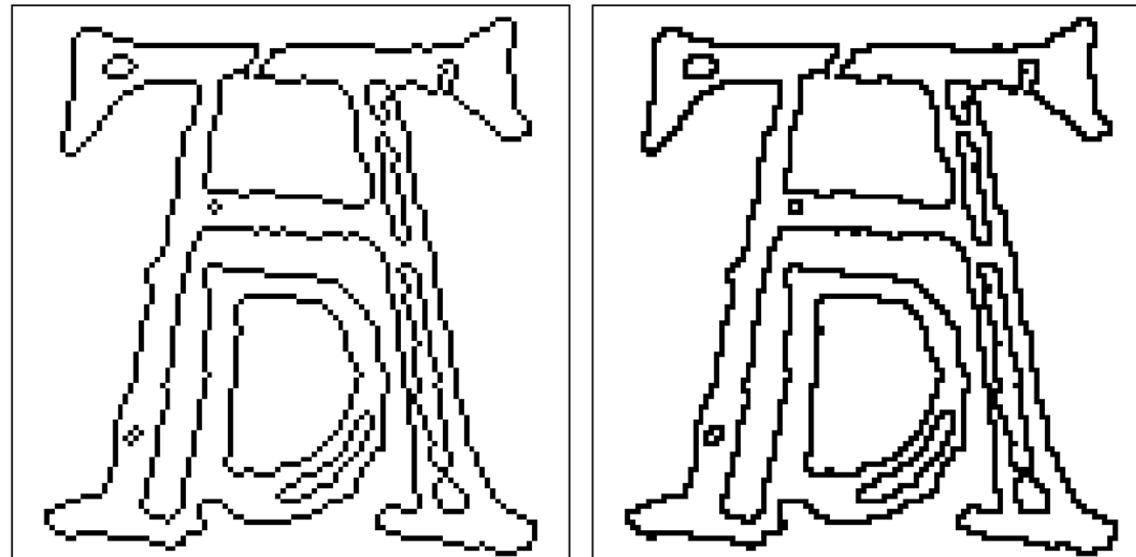
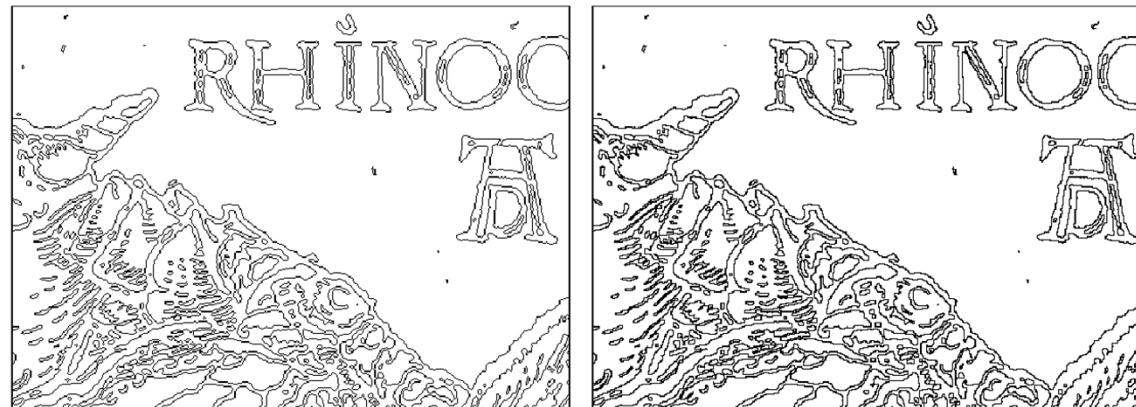
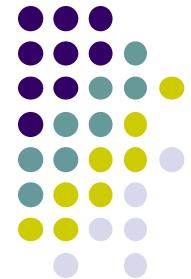


External Boundary



Morphological
Gradient

Example: Extraction of Boundary Pixels using Morphological Operations



(a)

(b)



Properties of Dilation

- Dilation operation is **commutative**

$$I \oplus H = H \oplus I$$

- Dilation is **associative** (ordering of applying it not important)

$$(I_1 \oplus I_2) \oplus I_3 = I_1 \oplus (I_2 \oplus I_3)$$

- Thus as with separable filters, more efficient to apply large structuring element as sequence of smaller structuring elements

$$I \oplus H_{\text{big}} = (\dots ((I \oplus H_1) \oplus H_2) \oplus \dots \oplus H_K)$$



Properties of Erosion

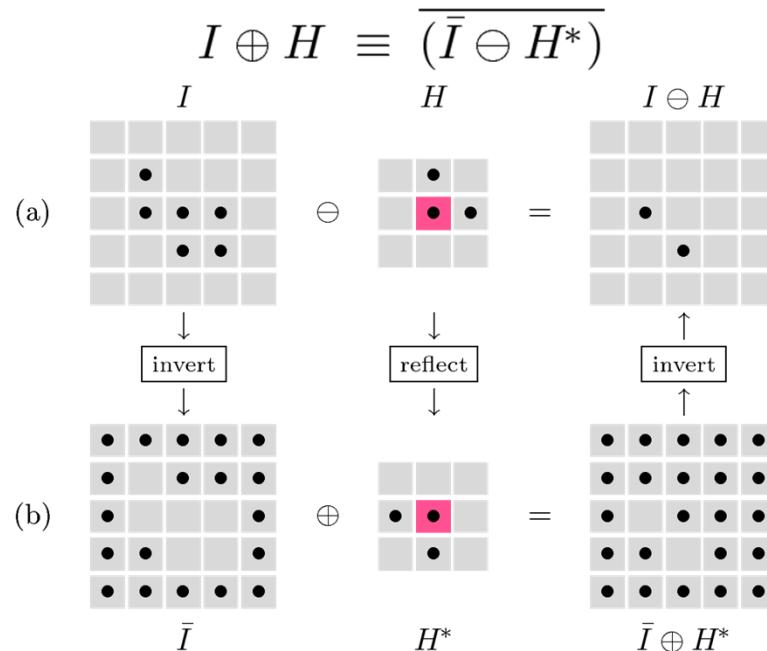
- Erosion is **not commutative**

$$I \ominus H \neq H \ominus I$$

- If erosion and dilation are combined, this chain rule holds

$$(I_1 \ominus I_2) \ominus I_3 = I_1 \ominus (I_2 \oplus I_3)$$

- Dilation of **foreground** = inverting (erosion of **background**)





Dilation and Erosion Algorithm

1: DILATE (I, H)

I : binary image of size $w \times h$

H : binary structuring element defined over region \mathcal{R}_H

Returns the dilated image $I' = I \oplus H$

2: $I' \leftarrow$ new binary image of size $w \times h$

3: $I'(u, v) \leftarrow 0$, for all (u, v) $\triangleright I' \leftarrow \emptyset$

4: **for all** $(i, j) \in \mathcal{R}_H$ **do**

5: **if** $H(i, j) = 1$ **then**

6: MERGE THE SHIFTED I_q WITH I' : $\triangleright I' \leftarrow I' \cup I_q$

7: **for** $u \leftarrow 0 \dots (w-1)$ **do**

8: **for** $v \leftarrow 0 \dots (h-1)$ **do** $\triangleright (u, v) = p$

9: **if** $I(u, v) = 1$ **then** $\triangleright p \in I$

10: $I'(u+i, v+j) \leftarrow 1$ $\triangleright I' \leftarrow I' \cup (p+q)$

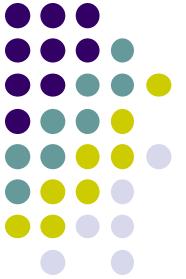
11: **return** I' .

12: ERODE (I, H)

13: $\bar{I} \leftarrow \text{INVERT}(I)$ $\triangleright \bar{I} \leftarrow \neg I$

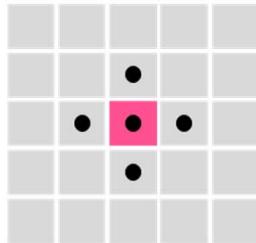
14: $H^* \leftarrow \text{REFLECT}(H)$

15: **return** $\text{INVERT}(\text{DILATE}(\bar{I}, H^*))$. $\triangleright I \oplus H = \overline{(\bar{I} \oplus H^*)}$

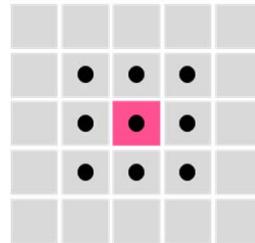


Designing Morphological Filters

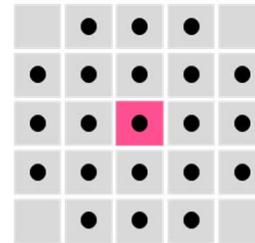
- A morphological filter is specified by:
 - Type of operation (e.g. dilation, erosion)
 - Contents of structuring element



(a)



(b)



(c)

4-neighborhood

8-neighborhood

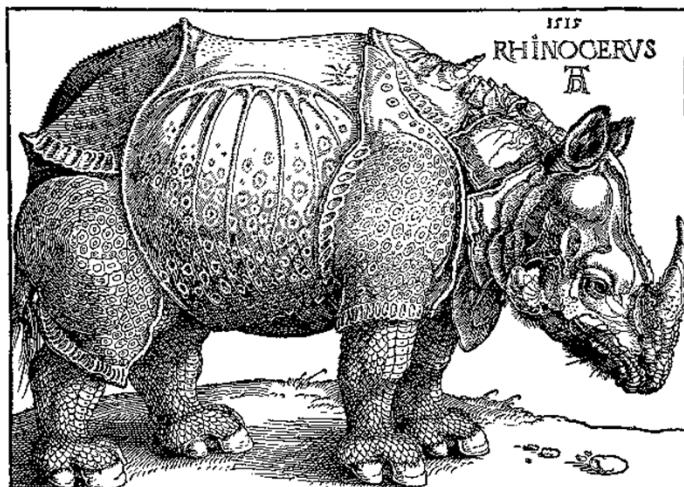
Small Disk
(circular)

- In practice, quasi-circular shaped structuring elements used
- Dilation with circular structuring of radius r adds thickness r
- Erosion with circular structuring of radius r removes thickness r



Example: Dilation and Erosion

- What if we erode and dilate the following image with disk-shaped structuring element?



Original image



Apply dilation and erosion
to this close up section

Dilation



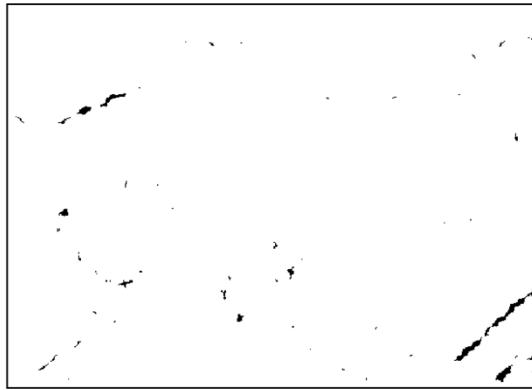
Erosion



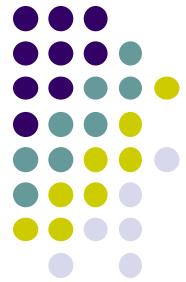
$$r = 1.0$$



$$r = 2.5$$



$$r = 5.0$$



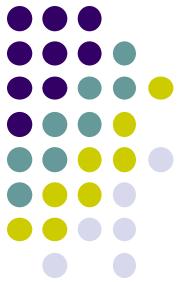
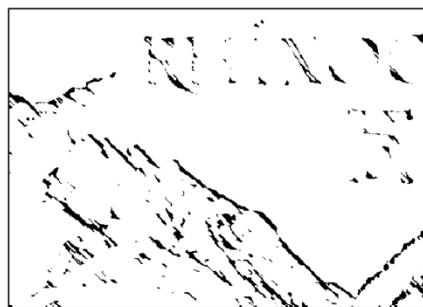
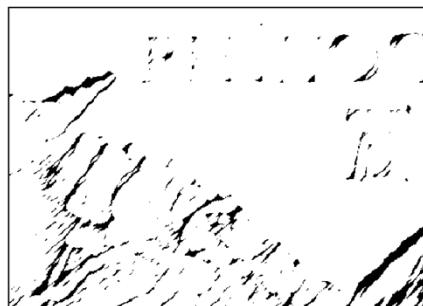
Example: Dilation and Erosion

H

Dilation

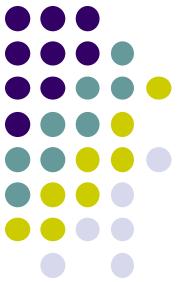


Erosion

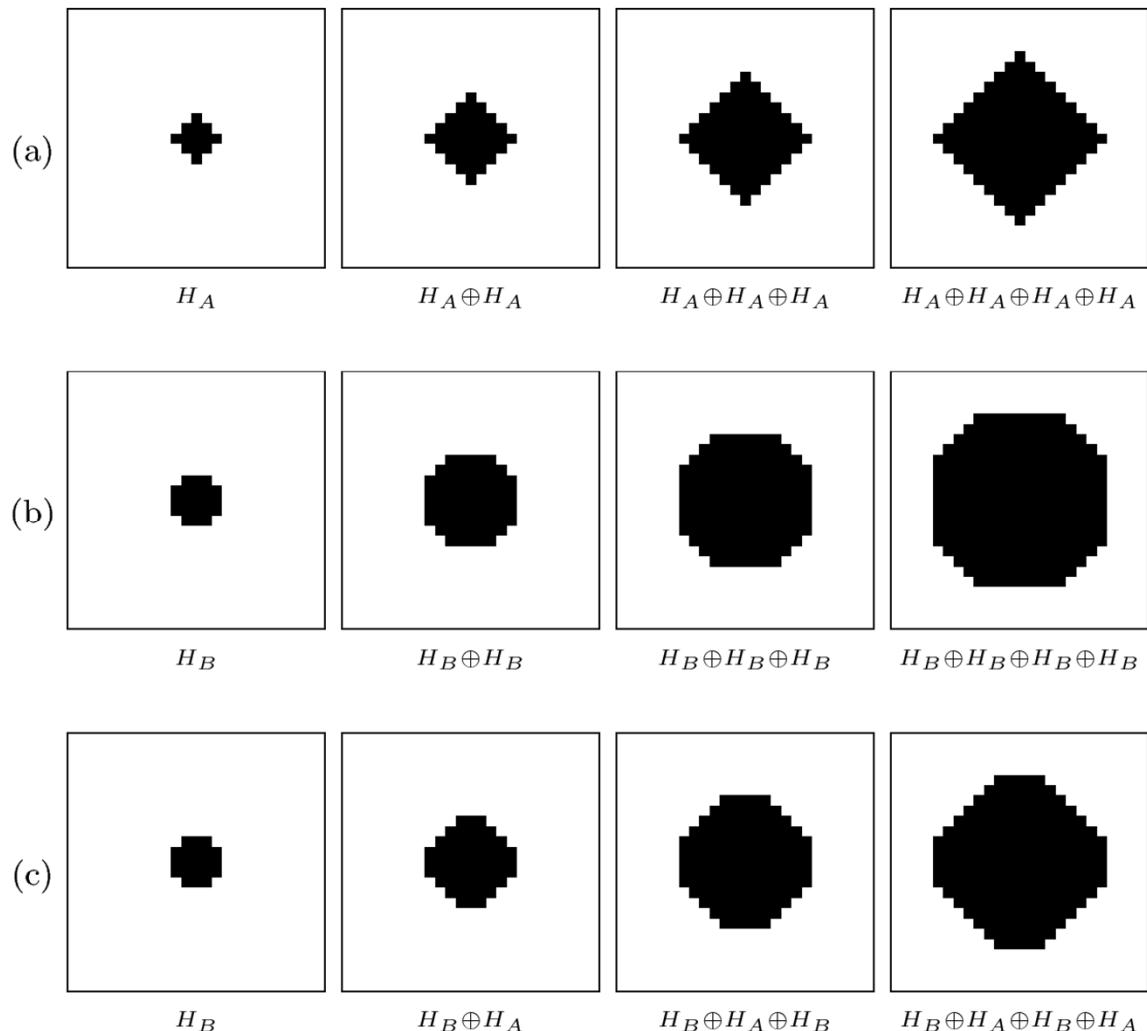


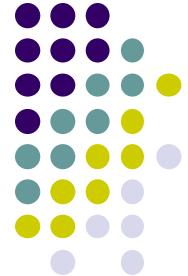
Dilation and Erosion using Different Structuring Elements

Example: Composing Large Filters by Repeatedly Applying Smaller Filters



- More efficient
- E.g. composing isotropic filter





References

- Wilhelm Burger and Mark J. Burge, Digital Image Processing, Springer, 2008
- University of Utah, CS 4640: Image Processing Basics, Spring 2012
- Rutgers University, CS 334, Introduction to Imaging and Multimedia, Fall 2012
- Gonzales and Woods, Digital Image Processing (3rd edition), Prentice Hall