

Digital Image Processing (750474)

Lecture 8

Basic Relationships between Pixels

Outline of the Lecture

- Neighbourhood
- Adjacency
- Connectivity
- Paths
- Regions and boundaries
- Distance Measures
- Matlab Example

Neighbors of a Pixel

1. $N_4(p)$: 4-neighbors of p .

- Any pixel $p(x, y)$ has two vertical and two horizontal neighbors, given by $(x+1, y)$, $(x-1, y)$, $(x, y+1)$, $(x, y-1)$
- This set of pixels are called the 4-neighbors of P , and is denoted by $N_4(P)$
- Each of them is at a unit distance from P .

2. $N_D(p)$

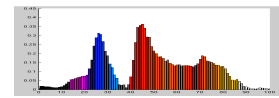
- This set of pixels, called 4-neighbors and denoted by $N_D(p)$.
- $N_D(p)$: four diagonal neighbors of p have coordinates: $(x+1, y+1)$, $(x+1, y-1)$, $(x-1, y+1)$, $(x-1, y-1)$
- Each of them are at Euclidean distance of 1.414 from P .

3. $N_8(p)$: 8-neighbors of p .

- $N_4(P)$ and $N_D(p)$ together are called 8-neighbors of p , denoted by $N_8(p)$.
- $N_8 = N_4 \cup N_D$
- Some of the points in the N_4 , N_D and N_8 may fall outside image when P lies on the border of image.

$F(x-1, y-1)$	$F(x-1, y)$	$F(x-1, y+1)$
$F(x, y-1)$	$F(x, y)$	$F(x, y+1)$
$F(x+1, y-1)$	$F(x+1, y)$	$F(x+1, y+1)$

$N_8(p)$



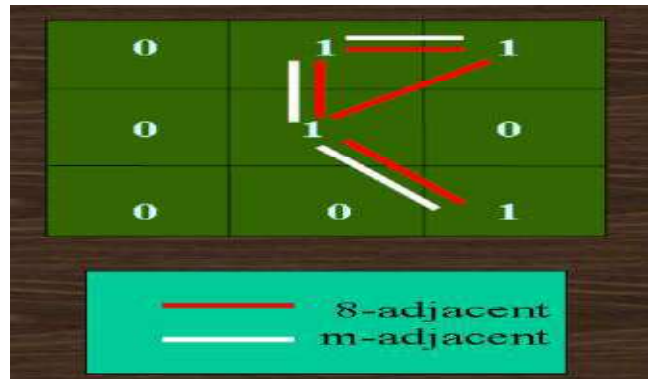
Adjacency

- Two pixels are **connected** if they are neighbors and their gray levels satisfy some specified criterion of similarity.
- For example, in a binary image two pixels are connected if they are 4-neighbors and have same value (0/1)
- Let \mathbf{v} : a set of intensity values used to *define adjacency* and *connectivity*.
- In a **binary Image** $\mathbf{v}=\{1\}$, if we are referring to adjacency of pixels with value 1.
- In a **Gray scale image**, the idea is the same, but \mathbf{v} typically contains more elements, for example $\mathbf{v} = \{180, 181, 182, \dots, 200\}$.
- If the possible intensity values 0 to 255, \mathbf{v} set could be any subset of these 256 values.

Types of adjacency

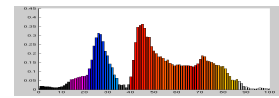
- 4-adjacency:** Two pixels \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} with values from \mathbf{v} are **4-adjacent** if \mathbf{q} is in the set $\mathbf{N}_4(\mathbf{p})$.
- 8-adjacency:** Two pixels \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} with values from \mathbf{v} are **8-adjacent** if \mathbf{q} is in the set $\mathbf{N}_8(\mathbf{p})$.
- m-adjacency (mixed):** two pixels \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} with values from \mathbf{v} are **m-adjacent** if:
 - \mathbf{q} is in $\mathbf{N}_4(\mathbf{p})$ or
 - \mathbf{q} is in $\mathbf{N}_D(\mathbf{p})$ and
 - The set $\mathbf{N}_4(\mathbf{p}) \cap \mathbf{N}_4(\mathbf{q})$ has no pixel whose values are from \mathbf{v} (**No intersection**).
- Mixed adjacency** is a modification of 8-adjacency "introduced to eliminate the ambiguities that often arise when 8-adjacency is used. (eliminate multiple path connection)
- Pixel arrangement as shown in figure for $\mathbf{v} = \{1\}$

Example:



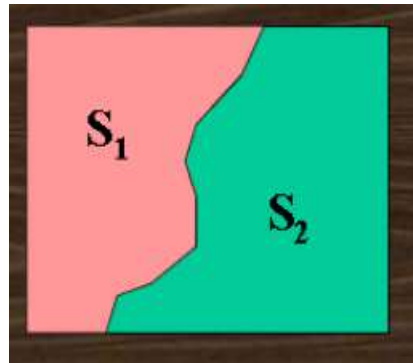
Path

- A **digital path** (or curve) from pixel \mathbf{p} with coordinate (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) to pixel \mathbf{q} with coordinate (\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t}) is a sequence of *distinct* pixels with coordinates $(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{y}_0), (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{y}_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n)$, where $(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{y}_0) = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), (\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n) = (\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{t})$
- $(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$ is adjacent pixel $(\mathbf{x}_{i-1}, \mathbf{y}_{i-1})$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$,
- \mathbf{n} - The *length* of the path.
- If $(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{y}_0) = (\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n)$: the path is *closed path*.
- We can define **4-, 8-, or m-paths** depending on the type of adjacency specified.



Connectivity

- Let **S** represent a subset of pixels in an image, Two pixels **p** and **q** are said to be connected in **S** if there exists a path between them.
- Two image subsets **S1** and **S2** are adjacent if some pixel in **S1** is adjacent to some pixel in **S2**

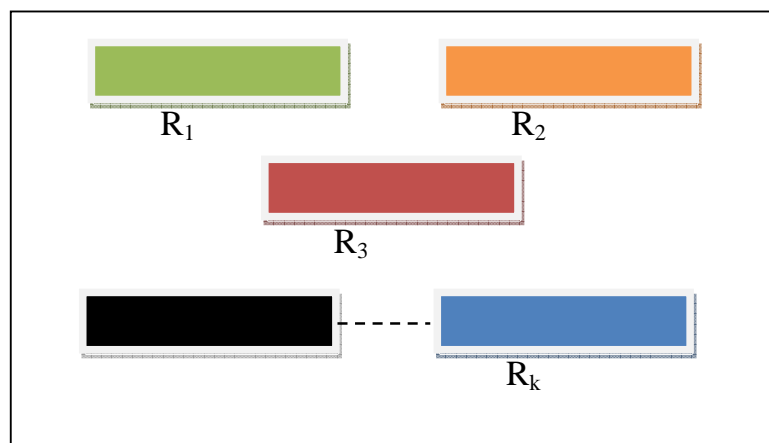


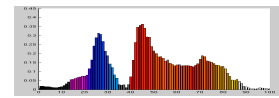
Region

- Let **R** to be a subset of pixels in an image, we call a **R** a region of the image. If **R** is a *connected* set.
- Region that are not adjacent are said to be disjoint.
- Example:** the two regions (of 1s) in figure, are adjacent only if 8-adjacency is used.

1	1	1	} R_i
1	0	1	
0	1	0	
0	0	1	} R_j
1	1	1	
1	1	1	

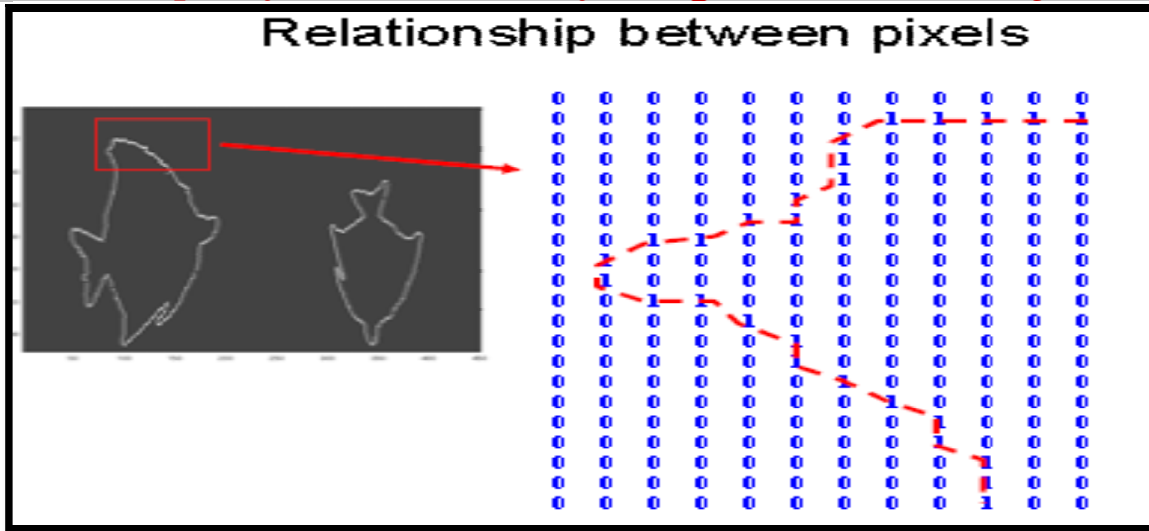
- 4-path** between the two regions does not exist, (so their union is not a connected set).
- Boundary (border)** image contains **K** disjoint regions, **R_k**, **k=1, 2, ..., k**, none of which touches the image border.





- Let: R_u - denote the **union** of all the **K** regions, $(R_u)^c$ - denote its **complement**.
(Complement of a set S is the set of points that are not in s).
 R_u - called **foreground**; $(R_u)^c$ - called **background** of the image.
- Boundary (border or contour)** of a region **R** is the set of points that are adjacent to points in the **complement** of **R** (another way: the border of a region is the set of pixels in the region that have at least are background neighbor).

We must specify the connectivity being used to define adjacency



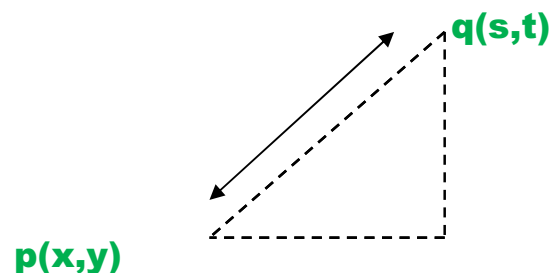
Distance Measures

- For pixels **p**, **q** and **z**, with coordinates **(x,y)**, **(s,t)** and **(u,v)**, respectively, **D** is a **distance function** or metric if:

$$D(p,q) \geq 0, D(p,q) = 0 \text{ if } p=q$$

$$D(p,q) = D(q,p), \text{ and}$$

$$D(p,z) \leq D(p,q) + D(q,z)$$



- The following are the different *Distance measures*:

1. Euclidean Distance (D_e)

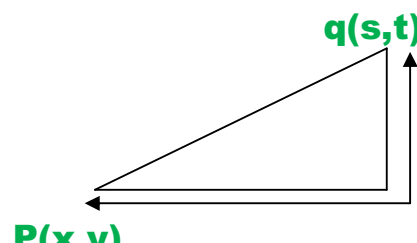
$$D_e(p, q) = \sqrt{[(x - s)^2 + (y - t)^2]}$$

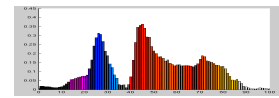
- The points contained in a **disk** of radius **r** centred at **(x,y)**.

2. D_4 distance (city-block distance)

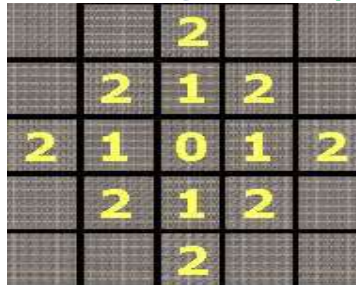
$$D_4(p, q) = |x - s| + |y - t|$$

- Pixels having a D_4 distance from **(x,y)** less than or equal to some value **r** form a **Diamond** centred **(x,y)**.





Example 1: the pixels with $D_4=1$ are the **4-nighbors** of (x, y) .

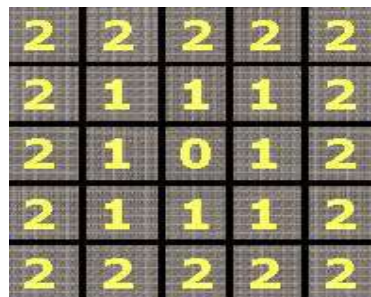


3. D_8 distance (chess board distance)

$$D_8(p, q) = \max(|x - s|, |y - t|)$$

- square – centred at (x, y)
- $D_8 = 1$ are 8-neighbors of (x, y)

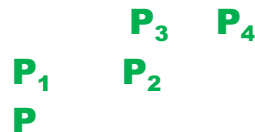
Example: D_8 distance ≤ 2



4. D_m distance:

- Is defined as the **shortest m-path** between the points.
- The distance between pixels depends only on the values of pixels.

Example: consider the following arrangement of pixels



and assume that P, P_2 have value 1 and that P_1 and P_3 can have a value of 0 or 1

Suppose, that we consider adjacency of pixels value 1 ($v=\{1\}$)

a) if P_1 and P_3 are 0:

Then D_m distance = 2

b) if $P_1 = 1$ and $P_3 = 0$

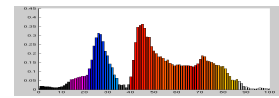
m-distance = 3;

c) if $P_1=0$; and $P_3 = 1$

d) if $P_1=P_3 = 1$;

m-distance=4 path = p p₁ p₂ p₃ p₄





Matlab Code

```
bw = zeros(200,200); bw(50,50) = 1; bw(50,150) = 1;  
bw(150,100) = 1;  
D1 = bwdist(bw,'euclidean');  
D2 = bwdist(bw,'cityblock');  
D3 = bwdist(bw,'chessboard');  
D4 = bwdist(bw,'quasi-euclidean');  
figure  
subplot(2,2,1), subimage(mat2gray(D1)), title('Euclidean')  
hold on, imcontour(D1)  
subplot(2,2,2), subimage(mat2gray(D2)), title('City block')  
hold on, imcontour(D2)  
subplot(2,2,3), subimage(mat2gray(D3)), title('Chessboard')  
hold on, imcontour(D3)  
subplot(2,2,4), subimage(mat2gray(D4)), title('Quasi-Euclidean')  
hold on, imcontour(D4)
```

