Lecture 03

CSE 4201
Computer graphics
Drawing Elementary Figures

Primitive graphic objects

Computer-generated images are produced using primitive graphic objects such as:

- Points
- Straight lines
- Circles

Line Drawing

Many computer-generated pictures are composed of straight-line segments.

A line segment is displayed by **turning on** a set of **adjacent pixels**.

In order to draw a line, it is necessary to determine which pixels lie nearest the line and provide the best approximation to the desired line.

The line drawing routine should be accurate, fast, and easy to implement.

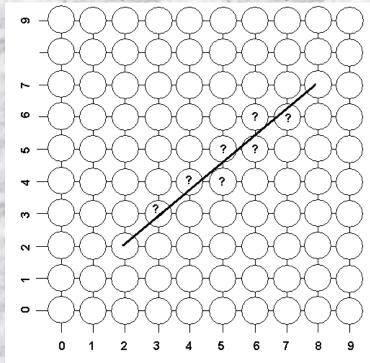
The Problem of Scan Conversion

A line segment is defined by the coordinate positions of the line endpoints.

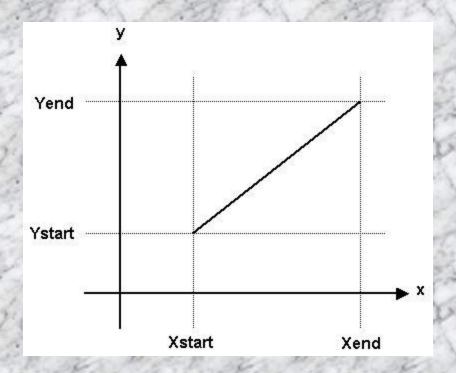
We have a line with the endpoints (2,2) and (8,7) and we want to draw this line on a pixel based display.

display.

How do we choose which pixels to turn on?



A line segment in a scene is defined by the coordinate positions of the line endpoints. The starting point is (**Xstart, Ystart**) and the ending point is (**Xend, Yend**).



Line Equation is defined as:

$$y = m x + b$$

Where **m** is the slope of the line, and defined as the change in **y** values divided by the change in **x** values:

b is the y-intercept. Recall that the y-intercept is the **line's y value** when **x** equals **zero**.

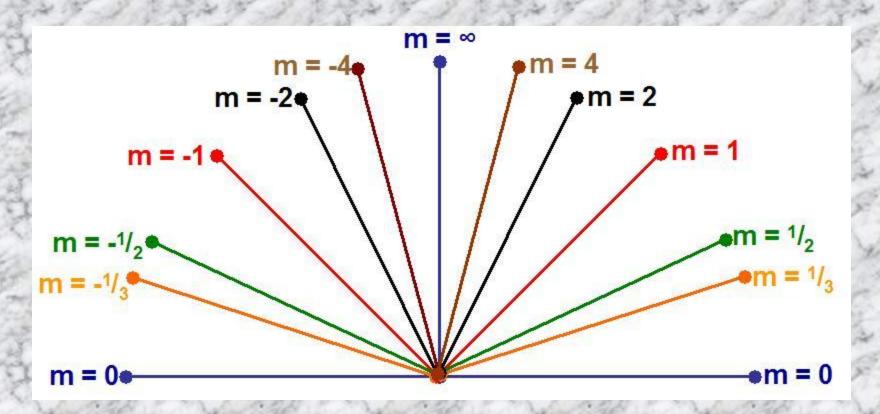
For example, the line defined by equation y=5x+3 the y-intercept is b=3.

The y-intercept can be calculated by the following equation in terms of the coordinate of the starting points.

The y-intercept can also be calculated by the following equation in terms of the coordinate of the ending points.

$$b = Yend - m Xend$$

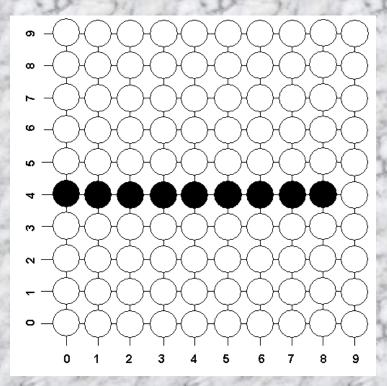
The slope of a line (m) is defined by its start and end coordinates. The diagram below shows some examples of lines and their slopes, in all cases b=0.



Horizontal Line Drawing Algorithm

The screen coordinates of the points on a horizontal Line are obtained by keeping the value of **y** constant and repeatedly incrementing the **x** value by one unit.

horizontal line with starting point (0,4) and ending point (8,4) on a pixel based display



Horizontal Line Drawing Algorithm

The following code can be used to draw a horizontal line from (Xstart, Y) to (Xend, Y),

where **Xstart** ≤ **Xend**

```
x = Xstart
y = Y
```

Next: Set pixel (x, y) with desired color

$$x = x + 1$$

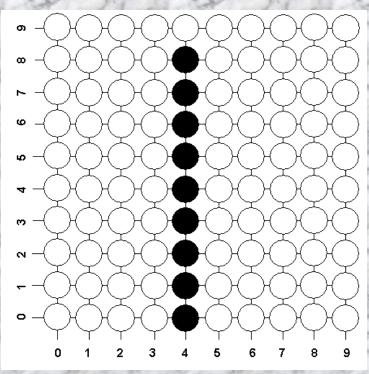
If $x \le X$ end then go to Next

End

Vertical Line Drawing Algorithm

The screen coordinates of the points on a Vertical Line are obtained by keeping the value of **x** constant and repeatedly incrementing the **y** value by one unit.

a vertical line with starting point (4,0) and ending point (4,8) on a pixel based display.



Vertical Line Drawing Algorithm

The following code can be used to draw a vertical line from (X, Ystart) to (X, Yend),

where **Ystart** ≤ **Yend**

Next: Set pixel (x, y) with desired color

$$y = y + 1$$

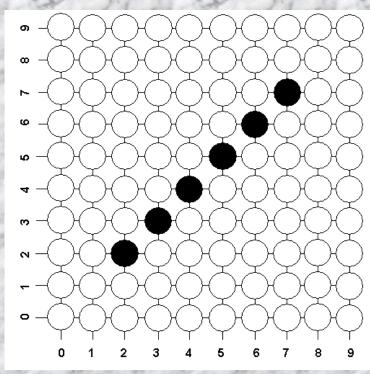
If y ≤ Yend then go to Next

End

Diagonal Line Drawing Algorithm (m=1)

To draw a diagonal line with a slope equals +1 (**m=1**), we need only repeatedly increment by one unit both the **x** and **y** values from the starting to the ending pixels.

a diagonal line (**m=1**) with starting point (2,2) and ending point (7,7) on a pixel based display



Diagonal Line Drawing Algorithm (m=1)

The following code can be used to draw a diagonal line from (Xstart, Ystart) to (Xend, Yend), where **Xstart** ≤ **Xend** and **Ystart** ≤ **Yend**

Next: Set pixel (x, y) with desired color

$$y = y + 1$$

$$x = x + 1$$

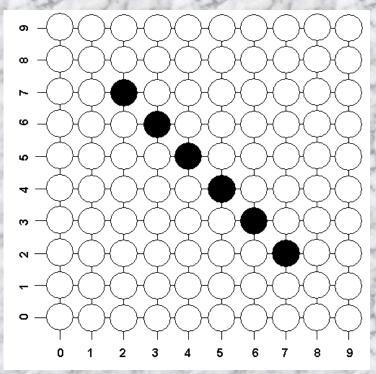
If $x \le X$ end then go to Next

End

Diagonal Line Drawing Algorithm (m=-1)

To draw a diagonal line with a slope equals -1 ($\mathbf{m=-1}$), we need only repeatedly increment by one unit the \mathbf{x} and decrementing by one unit the \mathbf{y} values from the starting to the ending pixels.

a diagonal line (**m=-1**) with starting point (2,7) and ending point (7,2) on a pixel based display.



Diagonal Line Drawing Algorithm (m=-1)

The following code can be used to draw a diagonal line from (Xstart, Ystart) to (Xend, Yend), where **Xstart** ≤ **Xend** and **Ystart** ≥ **Yend**

Next: Set pixel (x, y) with desired color

$$y = y - 1$$
$$x = x + 1$$

If $x \le X$ end then go to Next

End

Arbitrary Lines Drawing Algorithm

Drawing lines with arbitrary slope creates several problems.

- Direct Line Drawing Algorithm
- ✓ Simple Digital Differential Analyzer (simple DDA) Line Drawing Algorithm
- Bresenham 's Line Drawing Algorithm

Perhaps the most natural method of generating a straight line is to use its equation. First we calculate the **slope** (m) and the **y-intercept** (b) using these equations:

b = Ystart - m Xstart or **b = Yend - m Xend**

We then draw the line by incrementing the **x** value one unit from (Xstart, Ystart) to (Xend, Yend) and at each step solve for the corresponding **y** value. For non-integer **y** value, we must first determine the nearest integer coordinate.

The following code can be used to draw a line from (Xstart, Ystart) to (Xend, Yend), where **Xstart** ≤ **Xend**

```
x = Xstart
     y = Ystart
     m = (Yend-Ystart)/(Xend-Xstart)
     b= Ystart - m Xstart
Next: Set pixel (x, Round(y)) with desired color
     x = x + 1
     y = mx + b
     If x \le Xend then go to Next
     End
```

Note that: the **Round function** is used to obtain an integer coordinate value.

There are two fundamental **problems** with this method:

The first problem is the computational time required to draw the line. On many computer systems the operations of multiplication and division can take from 50 to 200 times longer to perform than an addition.

- ✓ a division operation used to calculate the slop (m)
- a multiplication operation used to calculate b
- ✓ There are (Xend-Xstart+1) multiplication operations used to calculate the y value

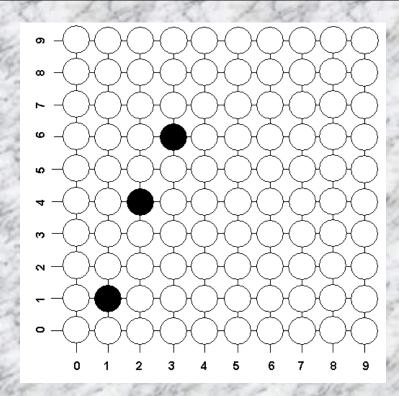
The **second problem** concerns lines with a slop whose absolute value is greater than 1 (m > 1). These lines will be near the vertical. Using the direct method, the displayed lines will have gaps between plotted points.

The following example illustrates this problem. We will use the **direct method** to draw a line with starting point (1,1) and ending point (3,6) on a pixel based display.

$$m = \frac{Yend - Ystart}{Xend - Xstart} = \frac{6-1}{3-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$m = \frac{Yend - Ystart}{Xend - Xstart} = \frac{6-1}{3-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$

X	July 10 July	Round(y)
2	(5/2)*2-(3/2) = 7/2=3.5	4
3	(5/2)*3-(3/2) = 12/2 = 6	6



There are several methods of correcting both problems.

- ✓ Performing incremental calculations at each step based on the previous step can eliminate repeated multiplication.
- ✓ The second problem can be resolved by incrementing \mathbf{y} by one unit and solving the straight line equation for \mathbf{x} when absolute value of the slope is greater than 1 (**abs(m)** > **1**).

Simple Digital Differential Analyzer (simple DDA) Line Drawing Algorithm

To illustrate the idea of DDA algorithm, we still want to draw the line segment with endpoints (Xstart, Ystart) and (Xend, Yend) having slope:

$$m = \frac{Yend - Ystart}{Xend - Xstart}$$

Any two consecutive points (x1, y1), (x2, y2) lying on this line satisfies the equation:

$$\frac{y2 - y1}{x2 - x1} = m$$
 Equation 1

The algorithm is divided into **two cases** that depend on the absolute value of the slope of the line. **Note that:**

- We should test the line endpoints to ensure that the line is neither horizontal (**Xstart** = **Xend**) nor vertical (**Ystart** =**Yend**). If the line is horizontal use the horizontal line drawing algorithm and use the vertical line drawing algorithm when it is vertical.
- The starting and ending points of the line are plotted separately since these values are known from the given data.
- In the two cases below the computed incremental values for y2 and x2 may not be integers. The Round function must be used to obtain an integer coordinate value.

Case 1: For abs(m) < 1 and Xstart < Xend,

we generate the line by incrementing the previous **x** value one unit until **Xend** is reached and then solve for **y**. if **Xstart** > **Xend**, swap the two endpoints. Thus for these consecutive points:

$$x2 = x1 + 1$$
 or $x2 - x1 = 1$

Substituting this difference into equation 1 yields:

$$(y2-y1)/1 = m \text{ or } y2 = y1 + m$$
 Equation 2

Equation 2 enables us to calculate successive values of y from the previous value by replacing the repeated multiplication with floating point addition.

This method of obtaining the current value by adding a constant to the previous value is an example of **incremental calculation**. Using knowledge of one point to compute the next is a great time saving technique.

The following code can be used to draw a line from (Xstart, Ystart) to (Xend, Yend) using simple DDA algorithm (case 1):

```
m = (Yend-Ystart) / (Xend-Xstart)
If (abs(m)<1 and Xstart>Xend) then
      Swap endpoints Xstart ↔ Xend and Ystart ↔ Yend
end if
Set pixel (Xstart, Ystart) with desired color
If abs(m) < 1 then
      y = Ystart
      x = Xstart + 1
Next: y = y + m
      Set pixel (x, Round(y)) with desired color
      x = x + 1
      If x \le Xend-1 then go to Next
```

endif

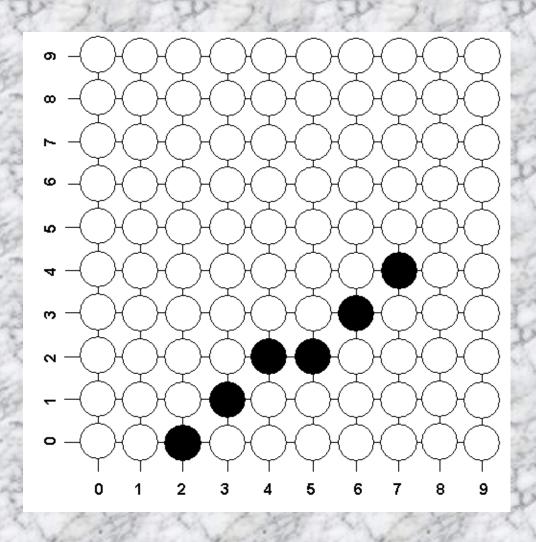
Set pixel (Xend, Yend) with desired color

We will use the **simple DDA algorithm** to draw a line with starting point (2,0) and ending point (7,4) on a pixel based display. Firstly, we compute the **slope m**:

$$m = (Yend-Ystart)/(Xend-Xstart)=(4-0)/(7-2)=4/5 = 0.8$$

$$y = Ystart = 0$$
 $x = Xstart + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3$

X		Round(y)
2	0	0
3	y = y + m = 0 + 0.8 = 0.8	26
4	y = y + m = 0.8 + 0.8 = 1.6	2
5	y = y + m = 1.6 + 0.8 = 2.4	2
6	y = y + m = 2.4 + 0.8 = 3.2	3
7	4	4



Case 2: For abs(m) > 1 and Ystart < Yend,

we generate the line by reversing the above procedure. Namely, we increment the **y** value one unit until **Yend** is reached and then solve for **x**. if **Ystart** > **Yend**, swap the two endpoints. For these consecutive points:

$$y2 = y1 + 1$$
 or $y2 - y1 = 1$

Substituting this difference into equation 1 yields:

$$1/(x^2-x^1) = m \text{ or } x^2 = x^1 + 1/m \text{ Equation } 3$$

Equation 3 is the desired incremental line equation.

The following code can be used to draw a line from (Xstart, Ystart) to (Xend, Yend) using simple DDA algorithm (case 2):

```
m = (Yend-Ystart) / (Xend-Xstart)
If (abs(m)>1 and Ystart>Yend) then
     Swap endpoints Xstart ↔ Xend and Ystart ↔ Yend
end if
```

Set pixel (Xstart, Ystart) with desired color

If abs(m) > 1 then m = 1/m, y = Ystart + 1x = Xstart

Next: x = x + m

Set pixel (Round(x), y) with desired color

y = y + 1

If $y \le Yend-1$ then go to Next

endif

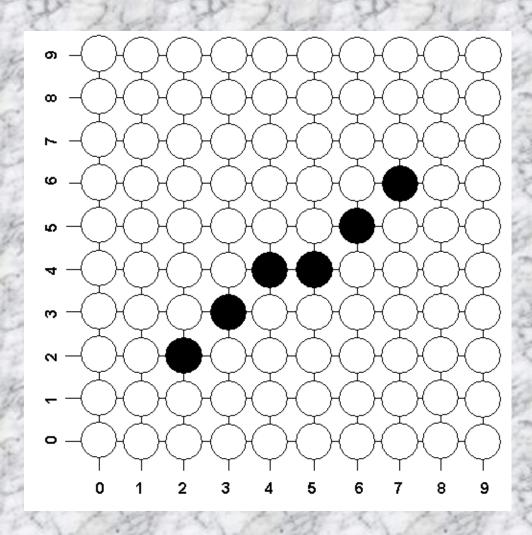
Set pixel (Xend, Yend) with desired color

We will use the **simple DDA algorithm** to draw a line with starting point (2,2) and ending point (6,7) on a pixel based display. Firstly, we compute the **slope m**:

$$m = (Yend-Ystart)/(Xend-Xstart) = (7-2)/(6-2) = 5/4$$

 $m=1/m = 0.8$, $y = Ystart + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3$, $x = Xstart = 2$

У	X	Round(x)
2	2	2
3	x = x + m = 2 + 0.8 = 2.8	3
4	x = x + m = 2.8 + 0.8 = 3.6	4
5	x = x + m = 3.6 + 0.8 = 4.4	4
6	x = x + m = 4.4 + 0.8 = 5.2	5
7	4. 6 m	6



The simple DDA has the disadvantages of using two operations that are expensive in computational time: **floating point addition** and **the round function**.

Several good line drawing algorithms avoid these problems by using only integer arithmetic such as Bresenham's line drawing algorithm.

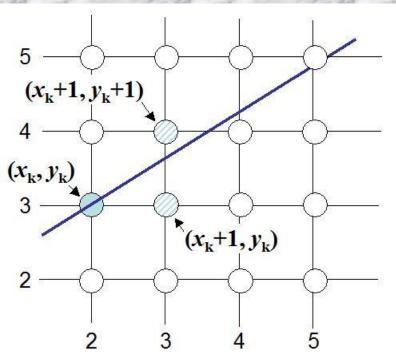
The Bresenham's line drawing algorithm is another incremental scan conversion algorithm.

The big advantage of this algorithm is that it uses only integer calculations.

The main Idea of the Bresenham's line drawing algorithm: Move across the x-axis in unit intervals and at each step choose between two different y coordinates.

For example

from position (2,3) we have to choose between (3,3) and (3,4), we would like the point that is closer to the original line.



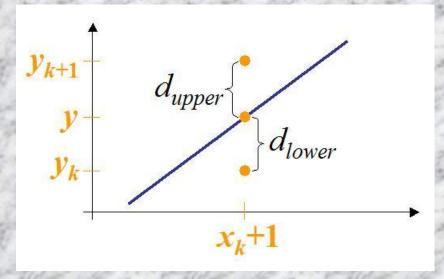
Deriving The Bresenham Line Algorithm

To illustrate Bresenham's approach, we first consider the scan conversion process for lines with positive slope less than 1 (m<1).

Pixel positions along a line path are determined by sampling at unit \mathbf{x} intervals. Starting from the left endpoint $(\mathbf{x_0}, \mathbf{y_0})$ of a given line, we step to each successive column $(\mathbf{x}$ position) and demonstrate the k^{th} step in this process.

Assuming we have determined that the pixel at (x_k, y_k) is to be displayed, we next need to decide which pixel to plot in column x_k+1 . Our choices are the pixels at positions (x_k+1, y_k) and (x_k+1, y_k+1) .

At sampling position x_k+1 , the vertical separations from the mathematical line path are labelled as d_{upper} and d_{lower} as shown in the following figure:



The y coordinate on the mathematical line at pixel column x_k+1 is calculated as: $y = m(x_k+1) + b$

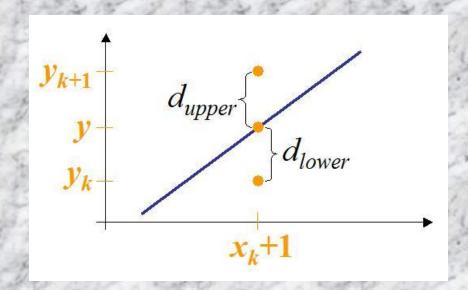
So, d_{upper} and d_{lower} are given as follows:

$$d_{lower} = y - y_k = m(x_k + 1) + b - y_k$$

 $d_{upper} = y_k + 1 - y = y_k + 1 - m(x_k + 1) - b$

The difference between these two separations is

$$d_{lower} - d_{upper} = 2m(x_k + 1)-2y_k + 2b - 1$$



$$d_{lower} - d_{upper} = 2m(x_k + 1) - 2y_k + 2b - 1$$

Let's substitute m with $\Delta y/\Delta x$ where Δx and Δy are the differences between the end-points:

$$\begin{split} d_{lower} - d_{upper} &= 2(\Delta y/\Delta x)(x_k + 1) - 2y_k + 2b - 1 \\ &= (1/\Delta x)[\ 2\Delta y\ x_k + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x\ y_k + 2\Delta x\ b - \Delta x] \\ &= (1/\Delta x)[\ 2\Delta y\ x_k - 2\Delta x\ y_k + 2\Delta x\ b - \Delta x + 2\Delta y] \\ &= (1/\Delta x)[\ 2\Delta y\ x_k - 2\Delta x\ y_k + c] \end{split}$$
 Where $c = 2\Delta x\ b - \Delta x + 2\Delta y$
$$\Delta x\ (d_{lower} - d_{upper}) \ = \ 2\Delta y\ x_k - 2\Delta x\ y_k + c \end{split}$$

$$\Delta x (d_{lower} - d_{upper}) = 2\Delta y x_k - 2\Delta x y_k + c$$

This equation is used as a simple decision about which pixel is closer to the mathematical line.

So, a decision parameter p_k for the k^{th} step along a line is given by:

$$p_k = \Delta x (d_{lower} - d_{upper}) = 2\Delta y x_k - 2\Delta x y_k + c$$

The sign of the decision parameter \boldsymbol{p}_k is the same the sign of $\boldsymbol{d}_{lower}\!\!-\!\!\boldsymbol{d}_{upper}\!\!\!\!/$

if the pixel at $\mathbf{y_k}$ is closer to the line path than the pixel at $\mathbf{y_k+1}$ (that is $d_{lower} < d_{upper}$), then decision parameter $\mathbf{p_k}$ is negative. In this case we plot the lower pixel, otherwise we plot the upper pixel.

Coordinate changes along the line occur in unit steps in either the x or y directions. Therefore, we can obtain the values of successive decision parameters using incremental integer calculations.

At step k+1 the decision parameter is given as:

$$p_{k+1} = 2\Delta y x_{k+1} - 2\Delta x y_{k+1} + c$$

Subtracting p, from this we get:

$$p_{k+1} - p_k = 2\Delta y(x_{k+1} - x_k) - 2\Delta x(y_{k+1} - y_k)$$

But, x_{k+1} is the same as x_k+1 so that

$$p_{k+1} = p_k + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x(y_{k+1} - y_k)$$

Where $y_{k+1} - y_k$ is either 0 or 1, depending on the sign of parameter p_k .

The recursive calculation of decision parameters is performed at each integer \mathbf{x} position, starting at the left coordinate endpoint of the line.

The first decision parameter p_k is evaluated at the starting pixel position (x_k, y_k) and with m evaluated as $(\Delta y/\Delta x)$:

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y x_{k} - 2\Delta x y_{k} + 2\Delta x b - \Delta x + 2\Delta y$$

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y x_{k} + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x y_{k} + \Delta x (2b - 1)$$

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y x_{k} + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x y_{k} + \Delta x (2(y_{k} - m x_{k}) - 1)$$

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y x_{k} + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x y_{k} + 2\Delta x y_{k} - \Delta x \Delta y / \Delta x \cdot x_{k} - \Delta x$$

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y x_{k} + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x y_{k} + 2\Delta x y_{k} - 2\Delta x \Delta y / \Delta x \cdot x_{k} - \Delta x$$

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y x_{k} + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x y_{k} + 2\Delta x y_{k} - 2\Delta x \Delta y / \Delta x \cdot x_{k} - \Delta x$$

$$p_{k} = 2\Delta y - \Delta x$$

The following steps summarize Bresenham's Line Drawing Algorithm for a line with positive slope less than 1 (|m| < 1)

45

$$p_{k+1} = p_k + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x(y_{k+1} - y_k)$$

- 1. Input the two line end-points, storing the left end-point in (x_0,y_0)
- 2. Plot the point (x_0, y_0)
- 3. Calculate the constants Δx , Δy , $2\Delta y$, and $(2\Delta y 2\Delta x)$ and get the first value for the decision parameter as:

$$P_0 = 2\Delta y - \Delta x$$

4. At each $\mathbf{x_k}$ along the line, starting at $\mathbf{k=0}$, perform the following test:

If $p_k < 0$, the next point to plot is (x_k+1, y_k) and

$$p_{k+1} = p_k + 2\Delta y$$

Otherwise, the next point to plot is (x_k+1, y_k+1) and

$$p_{k+1} = p_k + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x$$

5. Repeat step 4 (Δx) times

Bresenham's Line Drawing Example

To illustrate the algorithm, we digitize the line with endpoints (20,10) and (30, 18). This line has a slope of 0.8, with

$$\Delta x = 10$$
, $\Delta y = 8$

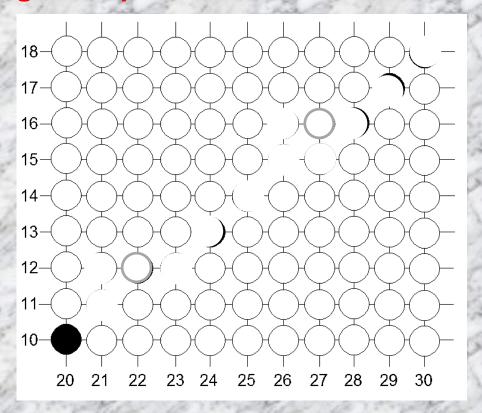
The initial decision parameter has the value $P_0 = 2\Delta y - \Delta x = 6$

And the increments for calculation successive decision parameters are:

$$2\Delta y = 16,$$
$$2\Delta y - 2\Delta x = -4$$

We plot the initial point (20, 10), and determine successive pixel positions along the line path from the decision parameters as:

k	p _k	(x_k, y_k)	(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})
0	6	(20,10)	



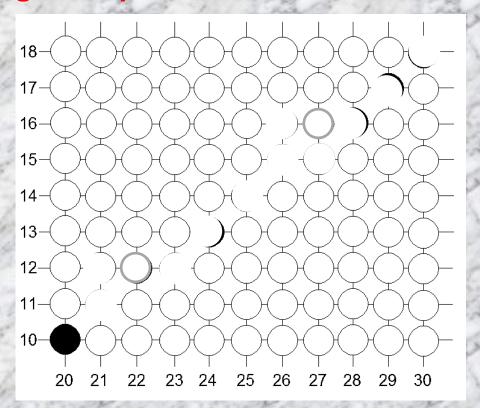
k	p _k	(x_k, y_k)	(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})
	The second	(20,10)	
0	2	(20,10)	(21,11)

$$\Delta x = 10$$
, $\Delta y = 8$

$$p_1 = p_0 + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x$$

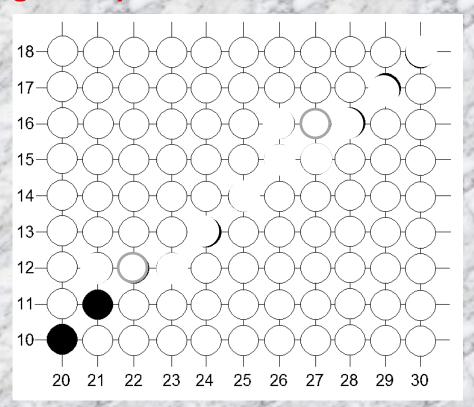
$$= 6 + 16 - 20$$

$$= 2$$



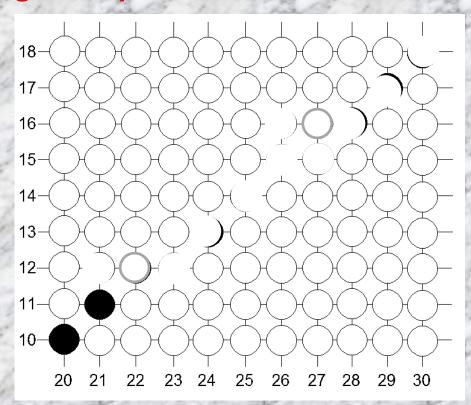
k	p _k	(x_k, y_k)	(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})
0	6	(20,10)	
1	2	(20,10)	(21,11)
2	-2	(21,11)	(22,11)

$$\Delta x=10$$
, $\Delta y=8$
 $p_1 = p_0 + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x$
 $= 2 + 16 - 20$
 $= -2$



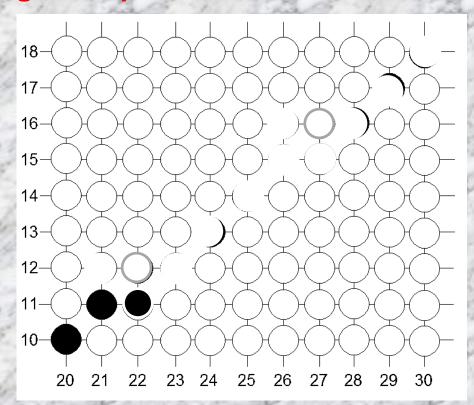
k	p _k	(x_k, y_k)	(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})
0	6	(20,10)	
1	2	(20,10)	(21,11)
2	-2	(21,11)	(22,11)
3	14	(22,11)	(23,12)

$$\Delta x = 10$$
, $\Delta y = 8$
 $p_1 = p_0 + 2\Delta y$
 $= -2 + 16 = 14$

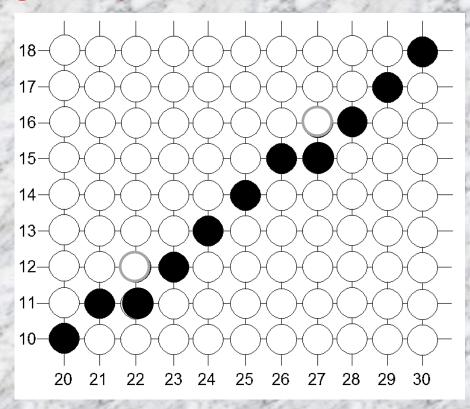


k	p _k	(x_k, y_k)	(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})
0	6	(20,10)	
	2	(20,10)	(21,11)
2	-2	(21,11)	(22,11)
3	14	(22,11)	(23,12)
4	10	(23,12)	(24,13)

$$\Delta x=10$$
, $\Delta y=8$
 $p_1 = p_0 + 2\Delta y - 2\Delta x$
 $= 14 + 16 - 20$
 $= 10$



k	p _k	(x_k+1, y_k+1)
0	6	(20,10)
1	2	(21, 11)
2	-2	(22, 11)
ന	14	(23, 12)
4	10	(24, 13)
5	6	(25, 14)
6	2	(26, 15)
7	-2	(27, 15)
8	14	(28, 16)
9	10	(29, 17)
10	6	(30, 18)



Now consider the scan conversion process for lines with positive slope greater than 1 (m>1). Then previous equations are converted to:

$$p_{o} = 2\Delta x - \Delta y$$

$$p_{k+1} = p_{k} + 2\Delta x - 2\Delta y(x_{k+1} - x_{k})$$

$$p_{k} > 0 = (x_{k} + 1, y_{k} + 1)$$

$$p_{k} < 0 = (x_{k'}, y_{k} + 1)$$

$$p_{k+1} = p_k + 2\Delta x - 2\Delta y$$
 if $p>0$
 $p_{k+1} = p_k + 2\Delta x$ if $p<0$

