A Bitmapper's Companion

an introduction to basic bitmap mathematics and algorithms with code samples in **Rust**

epilys

November 26, 2021

Manos Pitsidianakis (epilys)

https://nessuent.xyz

https://github.com/epilys

epilys@nessuent.xyz

All non-screenshot figures were generated by hand in Inkscape unless otherwise stated.

The skull in the cover is a transformed bitmap of the skull in the 1533 oil painting by Hans Holbein the Younger, *The Ambassadors*, which features a floating distorted skull rendered in anamorphic perspective.

A Bitmapper's Companion, 2021

Special Topics ► **Computer Graphics** ► **Programming** 006.6'6–dc20

Copyright © 2021 by Emmanouil Pitsidianakis

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/ or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

The source code for this work is available under the GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE version 3 or later. You can view it, study it, modify it for your purposes as long as you respect the license if you choose to distribute your modifications.

The source code is available here

https://github.com/epilys/bitmappers-companion

Contents

I	Introduction	6	
1	Data representation	7	
2	Displaying pixels to your screen	10	
3	Bits to byte pixels	13	
4	Real pixels to byte pixels	14	
5	Loading xbm files in Rust	16	
II	Points and Lines	18	
6	Distance between two points	19	
7	Equations of a line	20	
	7.1 Line through a point $P = (x_p, y_p)$ and a slope m	20	
	7.2 Line through two points	21	
8	Distance from a point to a line	22	
9	Angle between two lines	24	
10	0 Intersection of two lines		
11	Line equidistant from two points		
12	Normal to a line through a point	30	

CC	ONTENTS	4	
II)	Points, Lines and Circles	32	
13	Equations of a circle	35	
14	Bounding circle	37	
ΙV	Points, Line Segments and Arcs	39	
15	Drawing a line segment from its two endpoints	40	
16	Drawing line segments with width	43	
17	Intersection of two line segments	47	
	17.1 <i>Fast</i> intersection of two line segments	47	
\mathbf{V}	Curves other than circles	50	
18	Parametric ellipictal arcs	51	
\mathbf{V}	Points, Lines and Shapes	53	
19	Union, intersection and difference of polygons	54	
20	Centroid of polygon	56	
\mathbf{V}	II Vectors, matrices and transformations	58	
21	Rotation of a bitmap	59	
	21.1 Fast 2D Rotation	64	
22	90° Rotation of a bitmap by parallel recursive subdivision	66	
23	Magnification/Scaling	68	
	23.1 Smoothing enlarged bitmaps	70	
	23.2 Stretching lines of bitmaps	72	
24	Mirroring	74	

CON	VTENTS	5
25	Shearing	76
26	Projections	78
VII	I Areas	80
27	Flood filling	83
IX	Advanced	88
2	7.1 Faster Drawing a line segment from its two endpoints using Symmetry	89
28	Joining the ends of two wide line segments together	91
29	Composing monochrome bitmaps with separate alpha channel data	93
30	Orthogonal connection of two points	95
31	Join segments with round corners	97
32	Faster line clipping	99
33	Space-filling Curves	101

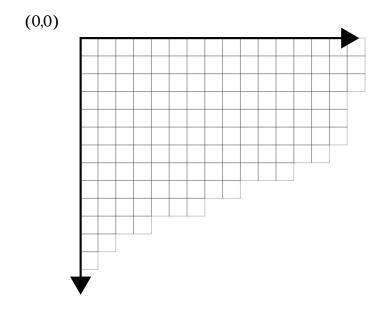


Part I Introduction

Data representation

The data structures we're going to use is *Point* and *Image*. *Image* represents a bitmap, although we will use full RGB colors for our points therefore the size of a pixel in memory will be u8 instead of 1 bit.

We will work on the cartesian grid representing the framebuffer that will show us the pixels. The *origin* of this grid (i.e. the center) is at (0,0).



We will represent points as pairs of signed integers. When actually drawing them though, negative values and values outside the window's geometry will be ignored (clipped).

```
pub type Point = (i64, i64);
pub const fn from_u8_rgb(r: u8, g: u8, b: u8) -> u32 {
    let (r, g, b) = (r as u32, g as u32, b as u32);
    (r << 16) | (g << 8) | b
pub const AZURE_BLUE: u32 = from_u8_rgb(0, 127, 255);
pub const RED: u32 = from_u8_rgb(157, 37, 10);
pub const WHITE: u32 = from_u8_rgb(255, 255, 255);
pub const BLACK: u32 = 0;
pub struct Image {
   pub bytes: Vec<u32>,
   pub width: usize,
   pub height: usize,
   pub x_offset: usize,
   pub y_offset: usize,
}
impl Image {
   pub fn new(width: usize,
        height: usize,
        x_offset: usize,
        y_offset: usize) -> Self;
   pub fn draw(&self,
        buffer: &mut Vec<u32>,
        fg: u32,
        bg: Option<u32>,
        window_width: usize);
   pub fn draw_outline(&mut self);
    pub fn clear(&mut self);
```

Displaying pixels to your screen

A way to display an *Image* is to use the minifb crate which allows you to create a window and draw pixels directly on it. Here's how you could set it up:

```
use bitmappers_companion::*;
use minifb::{Key, Window, WindowOptions};

const WINDOW_WIDTH: usize = 400;
const WINDOW_HEIGHT: usize = 400;

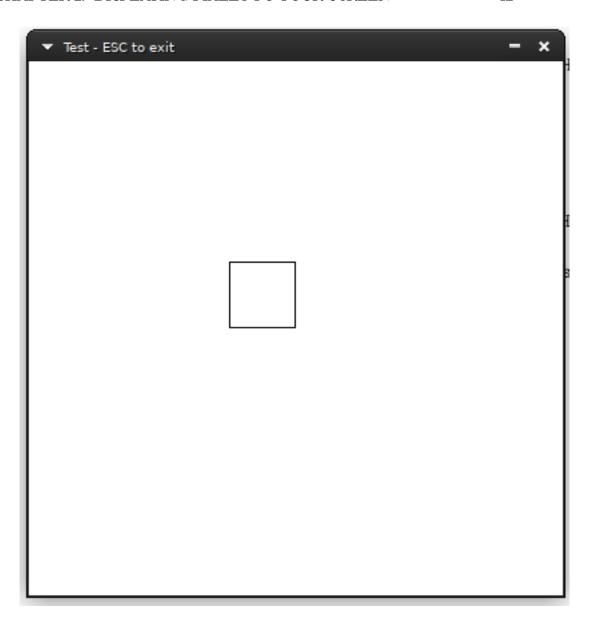
fn main() {
    let mut buffer: Vec<u32> = vec![WHITE; WINDOW_WIDTH * WINDOW_HEIGHT];
    let mut window = Window::new(
        "Test - ESC to exit",
        WINDOW_WIDTH,
        WINDOW_HEIGHT,
        WindowOptions {
        title: true,
        //borderless: true,
        //resize: false,
```

//transparency: true,

..WindowOptions::default()

```
},
    )
    .unwrap();
    // Limit to max ~60 fps update rate
   window.limit_update_rate(Some(std::time::Duration::from_micros(16600))
    let mut image = Image::new(50, 50, 150, 150);
    image.draw_outline();
    image.draw(&mut buffer, BLACK, None, WINDOW_WIDTH);
    while window.is_open()
         && !window.is_key_down(Key::Escape)
         && !window.is_key_down(Key::Q) {
        window
            .update_with_buffer(&buffer, WINDOW_WIDTH, WINDOW_HEIGHT)
            .unwrap();
        let millis = std::time::Duration::from_millis(100);
        std::thread::sleep(millis);
    }
}
```

Running this will show you something like this:



Bits to byte pixels

Let's define a way to convert bit information to a byte vector:

```
pub fn bits_to_bytes(bits: &[u8], width: usize) -> Vec<u32> {
    let mut ret = Vec::with_capacity(bits.len() * 8);
    let mut current_row_count = 0;
    for byte in bits {
        for n in 0..8 {
            if byte.rotate_right(n) & 0x01 > 0 {
                ret.push(BLACK);
            } else {
                ret.push(WHITE);
            current_row_count += 1;
            if current_row_count == width {
                current_row_count = 0;
                break;
            }
        }
    }
    ret
```

Real pixels to byte pixels



Loading xbm files in Rust

xbm files are C source code files that contain the pixel information for an image as macro definitions for the dimensions and a static char array for the pixels, with each bit column representing a pixel. If the width dimension doesn't have 8 as a factor, the remaining bit columns are left blank/ignored.

They used to be a popular way to share user avatars in the old internet and are also good material for us to work with, since they are small and numerous. The following is such an image:



Then, we can convert the xbm file from C to **Rust** with the following transformations:

```
#define news_width 48
#define news_height 48
static char news_bits[] = {
```

to

```
const NEWS_WIDTH: usize = 48;
const NEWS_HEIGHT: usize = 48;
const NEWS_BITS: &[u8] = &[
```

And replace the closing } with].

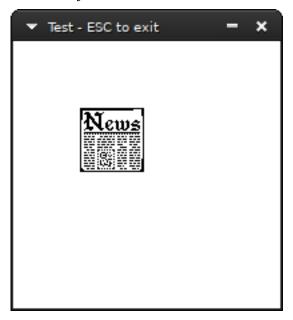
We can then include the new file in our source code:

```
include!("news.xbm.rs");
```

load the image:

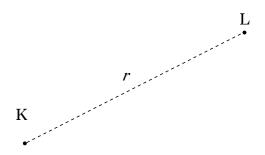
```
let mut image = Image::new(NEWS_WIDTH, NEWS_HEIGHT, 25, 25);
image.bytes = bits_to_bytes(NEWS_BITS, NEWS_WIDTH);
```

and finally run it:



Part II Points and Lines

Distance between two points



Given two points, K and L, an elementary application of Pythagoras' Theorem gives the distance between them as

$$r = \sqrt{(x_L - x_K)^2 + (y_L - y_K)^2}$$
 (6.1)

which is simply coded:

```
pub fn distance_between_two_points(p_k: Point, p_l: Point) -> f64 {
    let (x_k, y_k) = p_k;
    let (x_l, y_l) = p_l;
    let xlk = x_l - x_k;
    let ylk = y_l - y_k;
    f64::sqrt((xlk*xlk + ylk*ylk) as f64)
}
```

Equations of a line

There are several ways to describe a line mathematically. We'll list the convenient ones for drawing pixels.

The equation that describes every possible line on a two dimensional grid is the *implicit* form ax + by = c, $(a,b) \neq (0,0)$. We can generate equivalent equations by adding the equation to itself, i.e. $ax + by = c \equiv 2ax + 2by = 2c \equiv a'x + b'y = c'$, a' = 2a, b' = 2b, c' = 2c as many times as we want. To "minimize" the constants a, b, c we want to satisfy the relationship $a^2 + b^2 = 1$, and thus can convert the equivalent equations into one representative equation by multiplying the two sides with $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}$; this is called the normalized equation.

The *slope intercept form* describes any line that intercepts the y axis at $b \in \mathbb{R}$ with a specific slope a:

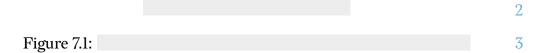
$$y = ax + b$$

The *parametric* form...

7.1 Line through a point $P = (x_p, y_p)$ and a slope m

$$y - y_p = m(x - x_p)$$

7.2 Line through two points



It seems sufficient, given the coordinates of two points M, N, to calculate a, b and c to form a line equation:

$$ax + by + c = 0$$

If the two points are not the same, they necessarily form such a line. To get there, we start from expressing the line as parametric over t: at t=0 it's at point M and at t=1 it's at point N:

$$c = c_M + (c_N - c_M)t, t \in R, c \in \{x, y\}$$

Substituting *t* in one of the equations we get:

$$(y_M - y_N)x + (x_N - x_M)y + (x_M y_N - x_N y_M) = 0$$

Which is what we were after. We finish by normalising what we found with $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+b^2}}$:

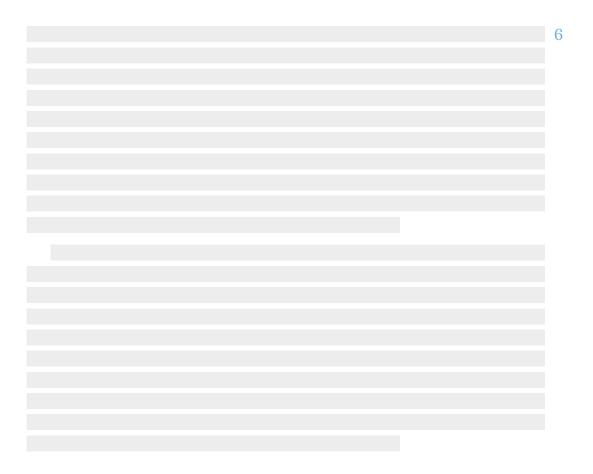
Distance from a point to a line



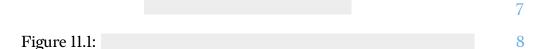
Angle between two lines



Intersection of two lines



Line equidistant from two points



Let's name this line L. From the previous chapter we know how to get the line that's created by the two points M and N. If only we knew how to get a perpendicular line over the midpoint of a line segment!

Thankfully that midpoint also satisfies L's equation, ax + by + c. The midpoint's coordinates are intuitively:

$$(\frac{x_M + x_N}{2}, \frac{y_M + y_N}{2})$$

Putting them into the equation we can generate a triple of (a', b', c') and

29

then normalize it to get L.

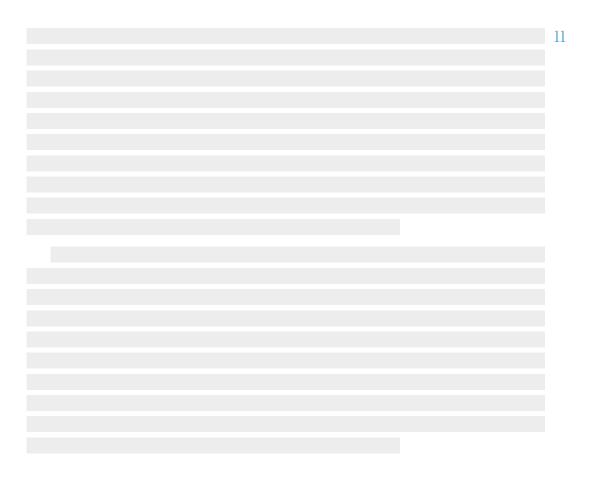
Normal to a line through a point



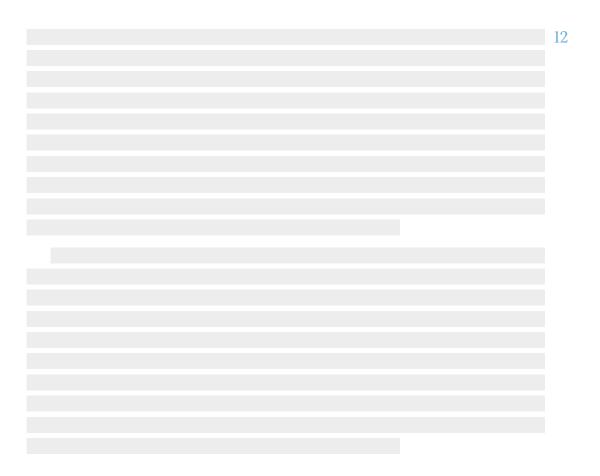
Part III Points, Lines and Circles

10

Equations of a circle



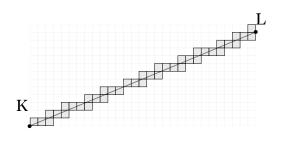
Bounding circle



Part IV Points, Line Segments and Arcs

Drawing a line segment from its two endpoints

For any line segment with any slope, pixels must be matched with the infinite amount of points contained in the segment. As shown in the following figure, a segment *touches* some pixels; we could fill them using an algorithm and get a bitmap of the line segment.



The algorithm presented here was first derived by Bresenham. In the *Image* implementation, it is used in the plot_line_width method.

```
pub fn plot_line_width(&mut self, (x1, y1): (i64, i64), (x2, y2): (i64, i
    /* Bresenham's line algorithm */
    let mut d;
```

```
let mut x: i64;
let mut y: i64;
let ax: i64;
let ay: i64;
let sx: i64;
let sy: i64;
let dx: i64;
let dy: i64;
dx = x2 - x1;
ax = (dx * 2).abs();
sx = if dx > 0 { 1 } else { -1 };
dy = y2 - y1;
ay = (dy * 2).abs();
sy = if dy > 0 { 1 } else { -1 };
x = x1;
y = y1;
let b = dx / dy;
let a = 1;
let double_d = (\_wd * f64::sqrt((a * a + b * b) as f64)) as i64;
let delta = double_d / 2;
if ax > ay {
    d = ay - ax / 2;
    loop {
        self.plot(x, y);
        if x == x2 {
            return;
        }
        if d >= 0 {
            y = y + sy;
```

```
d = d - ax;
            }
            x = x + sx;
            d = d + ay;
        }
    } else {
        d = ax - ay / 2;
        let delta = double_d / 3;
        loop {
            self.plot(x, y);
            if y == y2 {
                return;
            }
            if d \ge 0 {
                x = x + sx;
                d = d - ay;
            }
            y = y + sy;
            d = d + ax;
        }
   }
}
```

Drawing line segments with width

```
pub fn plot_line_width(&mut self, (x1, y1): (i64, i64),
                        (x2, y2): (i64, i64), _wd: f64) {
    /* Bresenham's line algorithm */
    let mut d;
    let mut x: i64;
    let mut y: i64;
    let ax: i64;
    let ay: i64;
    let sx: i64;
    let sy: i64;
    let dx: i64;
    let dy: i64;
    dx = x2 - x1;
    ax = (dx * 2).abs();
    sx = if dx > 0 { 1 } else { -1 };
    dy = y2 - y1;
    ay = (dy * 2).abs();
    sy = if dy > 0 { 1 } else { -1 };
    x = x1;
```

```
y = y1;
let b = dx / dy;
let a = 1;
let double_d = (_wd * f64::sqrt((a * a + b * b) as f64)) as i64;
let delta = double_d / 2;
if ax > ay {
    d = ay - ax / 2;
    loop {
        self.plot(x, y);
        {
            let total = |_x|_x - (y * dx) / dy + (y1 * dx) / dy - x1
            let mut _x = x;
            loop {
                let t = total(_x);
                if t < -1 * delta || t > delta {
                     break;
                 }
                _x += 1;
                 self.plot(_x, y);
            }
            let mut _x = x;
            loop {
                 let t = total(_x);
                if t < -1 * delta || t > delta {
                     break;
                 }
                _{x} -= 1;
                self.plot(_x, y);
            }
        }
        if x == x2 {
            return;
```

```
}
        if d >= 0 {
            y = y + sy;
            d = d - ax;
        }
        x = x + sx;
        d = d + ay;
    }
} else {
    d = ax - ay / 2;
    let delta = double_d / 3;
    loop {
        self.plot(x, y);
        {
            let total = |_x|_x - (y * dx) / dy + (y1 * dx) / dy - x1
             let mut _x = x;
             loop {
                 let t = total(_x);
                 if t < -1 * delta \mid \mid t > delta {
                     break;
                 }
                 _x += 1;
                 self.plot(_x, y);
             }
             let mut _x = x;
             loop {
                 let t = total(_x);
                 if t < -1 * delta || t > delta {
                     break;
                 }
                 _{x} -= 1;
                 self.plot(_x, y);
             }
        }
```

```
if y == y2 {
    return;
}
if d >= 0 {
    x = x + sx;
    d = d - ay;
}
y = y + sy;
d = d + ax;
}
}
```

Intersection of two line segments

Let points $\mathbf{1} = (x_1, y_1)$, $\mathbf{2} = (x_2, y_2)$, $\mathbf{3} = (x_3, y_3)$ and $\mathbf{4} = (x_4, y_4)$ and $\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}$, $\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{4}$ two line segments they form. We wish to find their intersection:

First, get the equation of line L_{12} and line L_{34} from chapter *Equations of a line*.

Substitute points **3** and **4** in equation L_{12} to compute $r_3 = L_{12}(\mathbf{3})$ and $r_4 = L_{12}(\mathbf{4})$ respectively.

If $r_3 \neq 0$, $r_4 \neq 0$ and $sgn(r_3) == sign(r_4)$ the line segments don't intersect, so stop.

In L_{34} substitute point 1 to compute r_1 , and do the same for point 2.

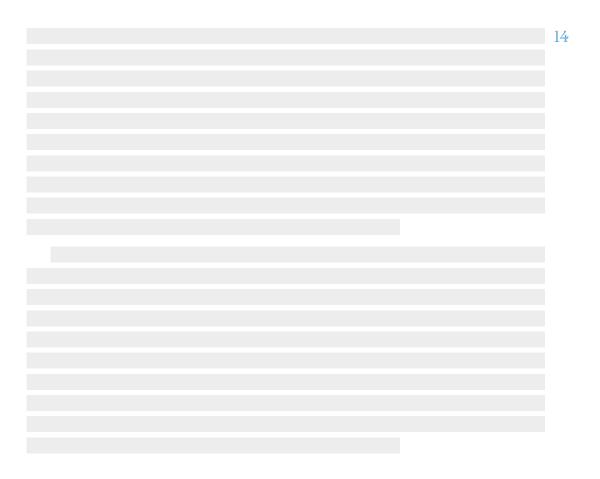
If $r_1 \neq 0$, $r_2 \neq 0$ and $sgn(r_1) == sign(r_2)$ the line segments don't intersect, so stop.

At this point, L_{12} and L_{34} either intersect or are equivalent. Find their intersection point. (Refer to *Intersection of two lines*.)

17.1 Fast intersection of two line segments

Part V Curves other than circles

Parametric ellipictal arcs



Part VI Points, Lines and Shapes

Union, intersection and difference of polygons



CHAPTER 19. UNION, INTERSECTION AND DIFFERENCE OF POLYGONS55

Centroid of polygon



Part VII

Vectors, matrices and transformations

Rotation of a bitmap

$$p' = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c=cos\theta, s=sin\theta, x_{p'}=x_pc-y_ps, y_{p'}=x_ps+y_pc.$$

Let's load an xface. We will use bits_to_bytes (See Introduction).

```
include!("dmr.rs");
const WINDOW_WIDTH: usize = 100;
const WINDOW_HEIGHT: usize = 100;
let mut image = Image::new(DMR_WIDTH, DMR_HEIGHT, 25, 25);
image.bytes = bits_to_bytes(DMR_BITS, DMR_WIDTH);
```



This is the xface of dmr. Instead of displaying the bitmap, this time we will rotate it 0.5 radians. Setup our image first:

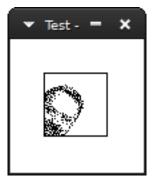
```
let mut image = Image::new(DMR_WIDTH, DMR_HEIGHT, 25, 25);
image.draw_outline();
let dmr = bits_to_bytes(DMR_BITS, DMR_WIDTH);
```

And then, loop for each byte in dmr's face and apply the rotation transformation.

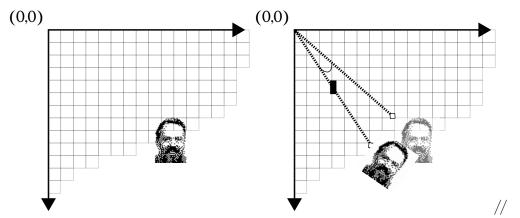
```
let angle = 0.5;
let c = f64::cos(angle);
let s = f64::sin(angle);

for y in 0..DMR_HEIGHT {
    for x in 0..DMR_WIDTH {
        if dmr[y * DMR_WIDTH + x] == BLACK {
            let x = x as f64;
            let y = y as f64;
            let xr = x * c - y * s;
            let yr = x * s + y * c;
            image.plot(xr as i64, yr as i64);
        }
    }
}
```

The result:



We didn't mention in the beginning that the rotation has to be relative to a *point* and the given transformation is relative to the *origin*, in this case the upper left corner (0,0). So dmr was rotated relative to the origin:



(the distance to the origin (actually 0 pixels) has been exaggerated for the sake of the example)

Usually, we want to rotate something relative to itself. The right point to choose is the *centroid* of the object.

If we have a list of n points, the centroid is calculated as:

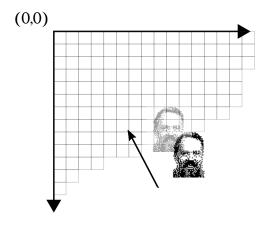
$$x_c = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n} x_i$$

$$y_c = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^n y_i$$

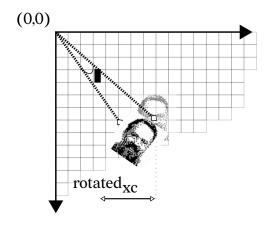
Since in this case we have a rectangle, the centroid has coordinates of half the width and half the height.

By subtracting the centroid from each point before we apply the transformation and then adding it back after we get what we want:

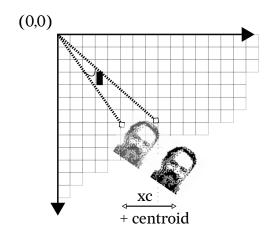
Here's it visually: First subtract the center point.



Then, rotate.



And subtract back to the original position.



In code:

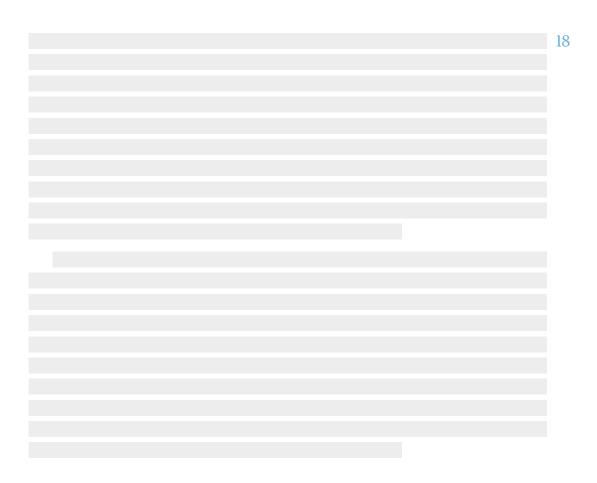


The result:

21.1 Fast 2D Rotation

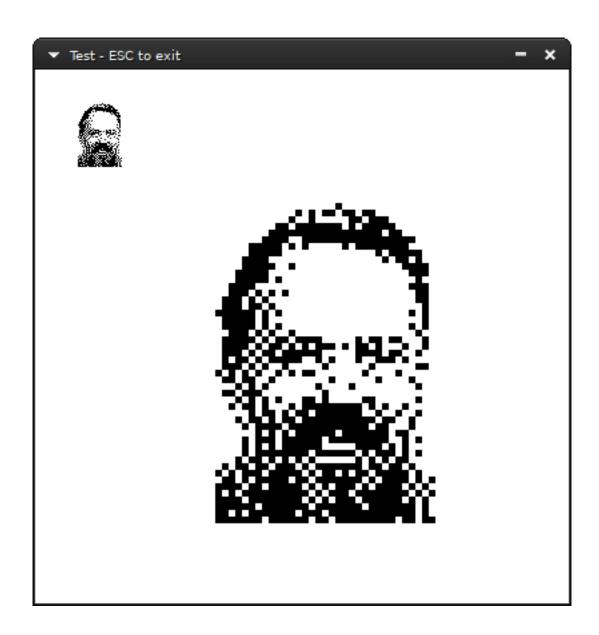


90° Rotation of a bitmap by parallel recursive subdivision



CHAPTER 22. 90° ROTATION OF A BITMAP BY PARALLEL RECURSIVE SUBDIVISION67

Magnification/Scaling

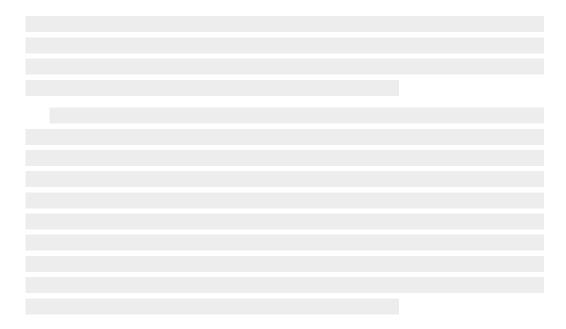


```
let mut original = Image::new(DMR_WIDTH, DMR_HEIGHT, 25, 25);
original.bytes = bits_to_bytes(DMR_BITS, DMR_WIDTH);
original.draw(&mut buffer, BLACK, None, WINDOW_WIDTH);
let mut scaled = Image::new(DMR_WIDTH * 5, DMR_HEIGHT * 5, 100, 100);
let mut sx: i64; //source
let mut sy: i64; //source
let mut dx: i64; //destination
let mut dy: i64 = 0; //destination
let og_height = original.height as i64;
let og_width = original.width as i64;
let scaled_height = scaled.height as i64;
let scaled_width = scaled.width as i64;
while dy < scaled_height {</pre>
    sy = (dy * og_height) / scaled_height;
    dx = 0;
    while dx < scaled_width {</pre>
        sx = (dx * og_width) / scaled_width;
        if original.get(sx, sy) == Some(BLACK) {
            scaled.plot(dx, dy);
        dx += 1;
    }
    dy += 1;
scaled.draw(&mut buffer, BLACK, None, WINDOW_WIDTH);
```

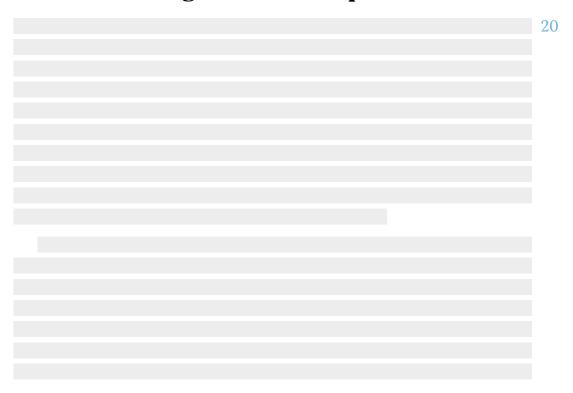
23.1 Smoothing enlarged bitmaps



72



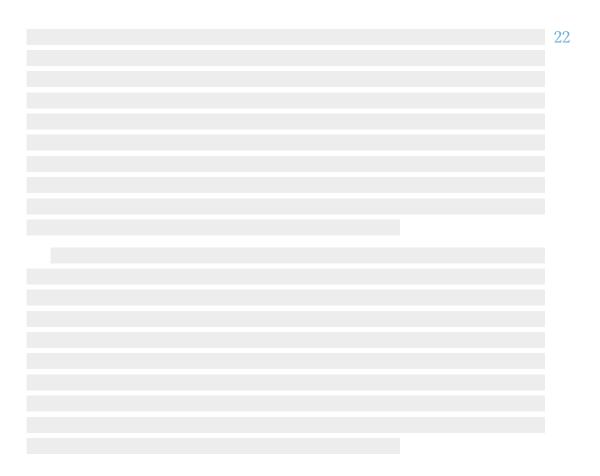
23.2 Stretching lines of bitmaps



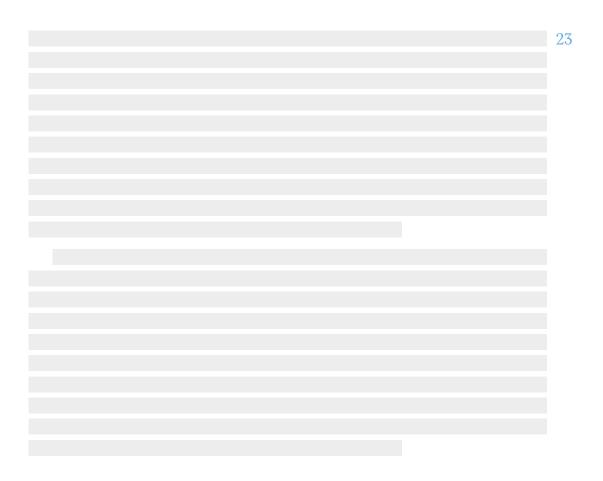
Mirroring



Shearing



Projections

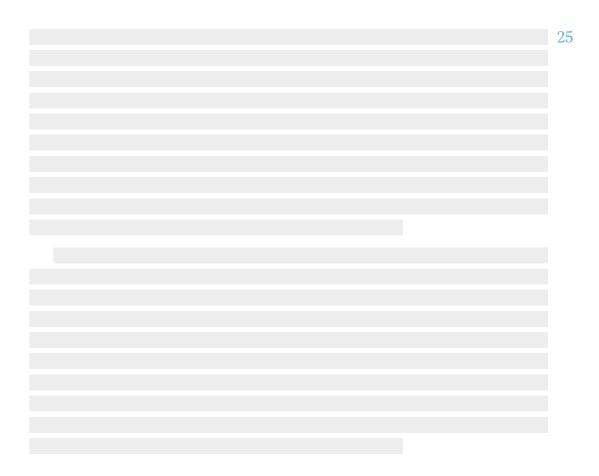


Part VIII

Areas

24

Flood filling





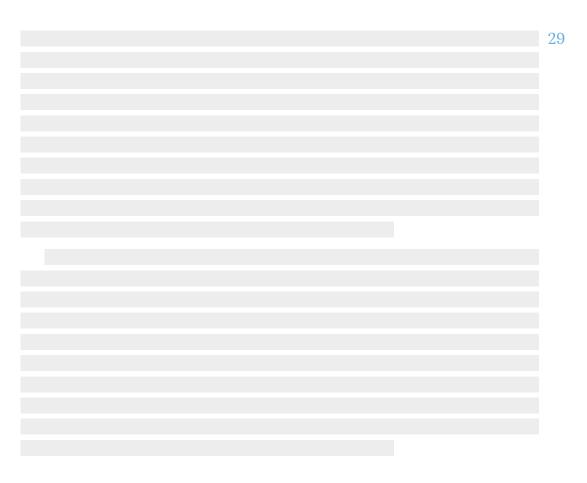


Part IX Advanced

27.1 Faster Drawing a line segment from its two endpoints using Symmetry

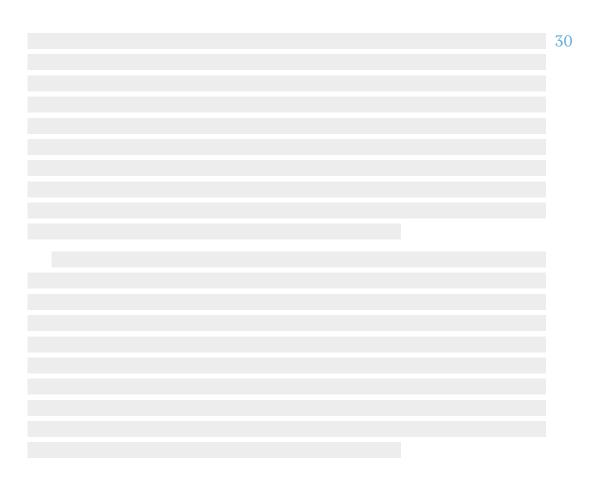


Joining the ends of two wide line segments together



CHAPTER 28. JOINING THE ENDS OF TWO WIDE LINE SEGMENTS TOGETHER92

Composing monochrome bitmaps with separate alpha channel data

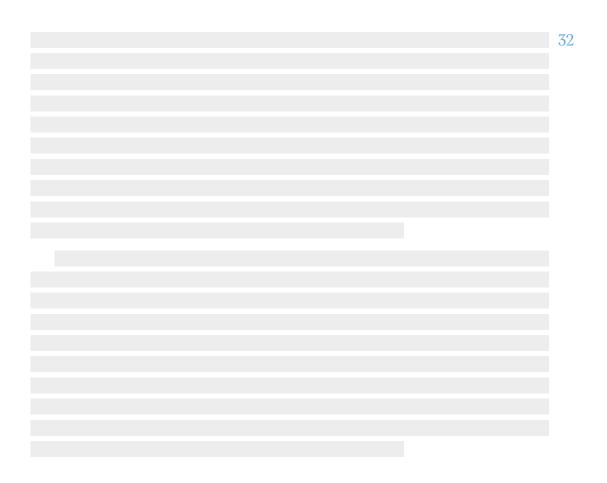


CHAPTER 29. COMPOSING MONOCHROME BITMAPS WITH SEPARATE ALPHA CHANNEL A

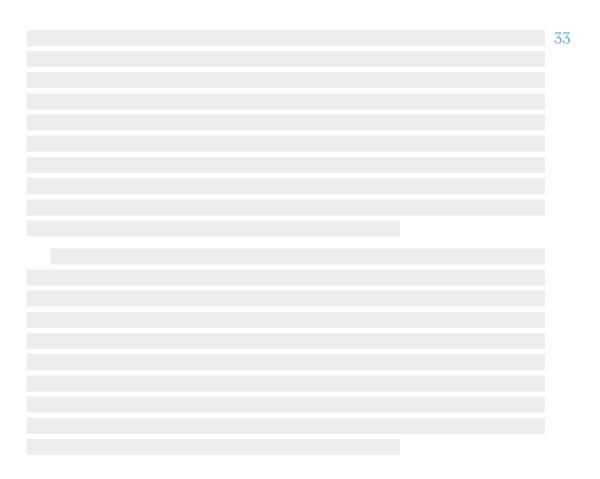
Orthogonal connection of two points



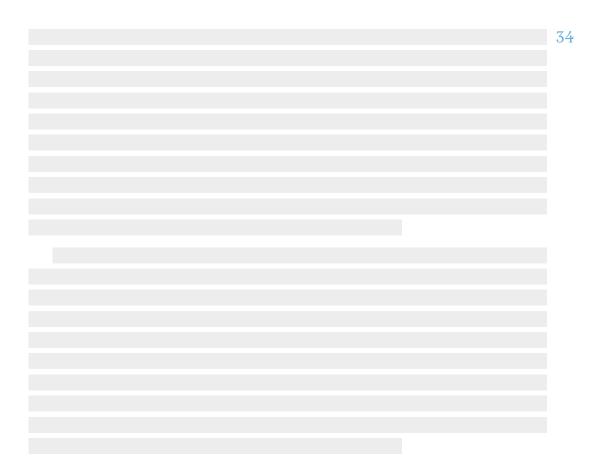
Join segments with round corners



Faster line clipping



Space-filling Curves



About this text

The text has been typeset in X_HI_FX using the book class and:

- *Redaction* for the main text.
- Fira Sans for referring to the programming language **Rust**.
- *Redaction20* for referring to the words bitmap and pixels as a concept.