



02502

Image Analysis

Week 5 - Morphology

**<http://courses.compute.dtu.dk/02502/>**

**Tim B. Dyrby** (tbdy@dtu.dk)  
Associate Professor, DTU Compute

&  
**Rasmus R. Paulsen** (rapa@dtu.dk)  
Associate Professor, DTU Compute

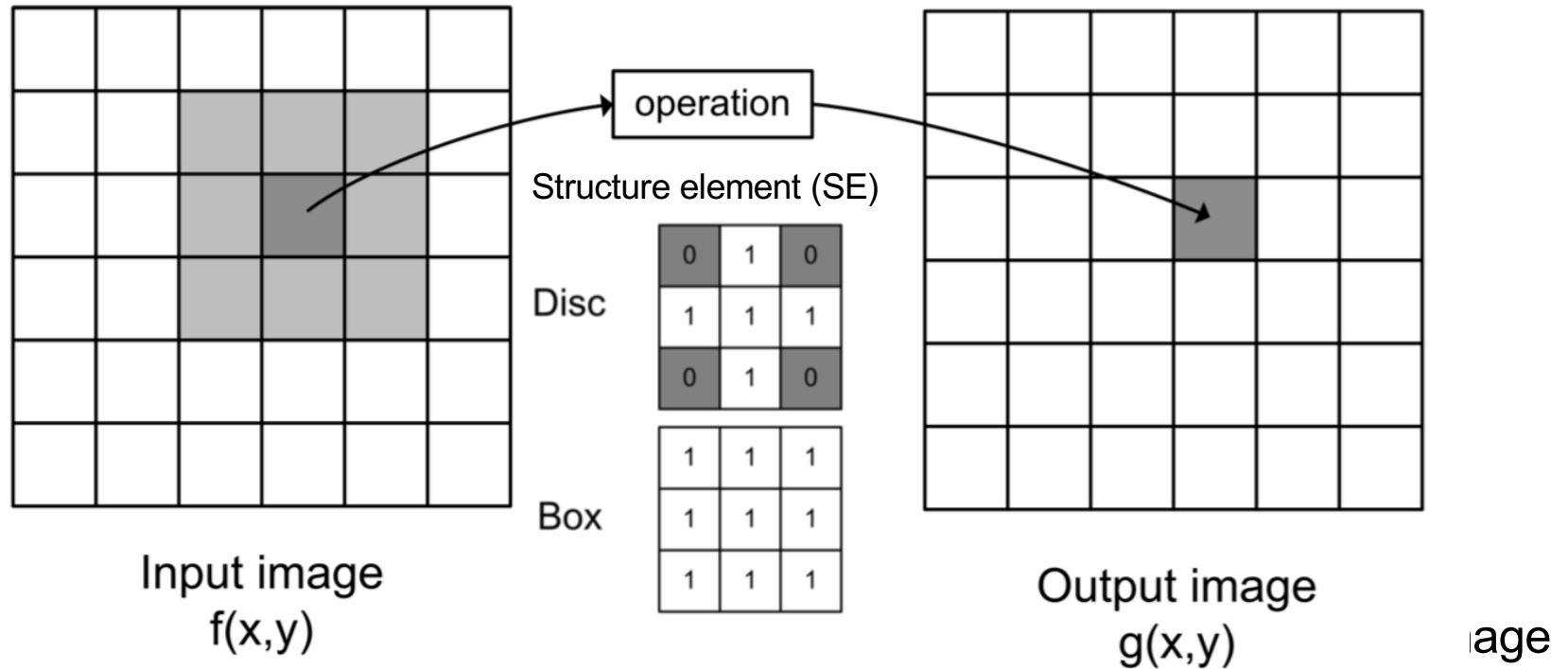
Plenty of slides adapted from Thomas Moeslunds lectures

## Lecture 5 - What can you do after today?

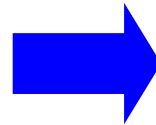
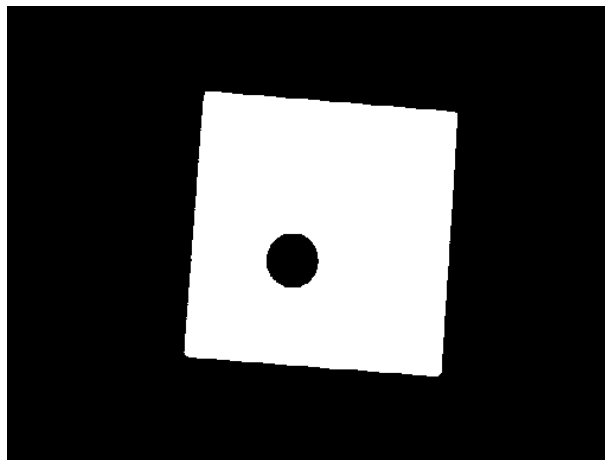
- Describe the similarity between filtering and morphology
- Describe a structuring element
- Compute the dilation of a binary image
- Compute the erosion of a binary image
- Compute the opening of a binary image
- Compute the closing of a binary image
- Apply compound morphological operations to binary images
- Describe typical examples where morphology is suitable
- Remove unwanted elements from binary images using morphology
- Choose appropriate structuring elements and morphological operations based on image content

# Lecture 5 - What can you do after today?

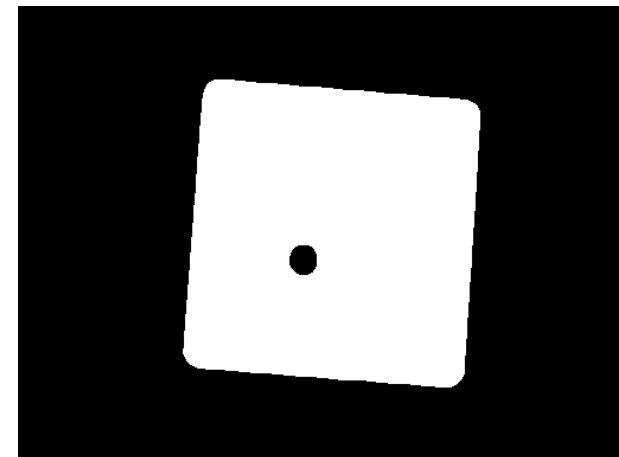
- Describe the
- Describe a
- Compute the
- Compute the
- Compute the
- Compute the
- Apply comp
- Describe ty
- Remove ur
- Choose ap  
content



## Lecture 5 - What can you do after today?

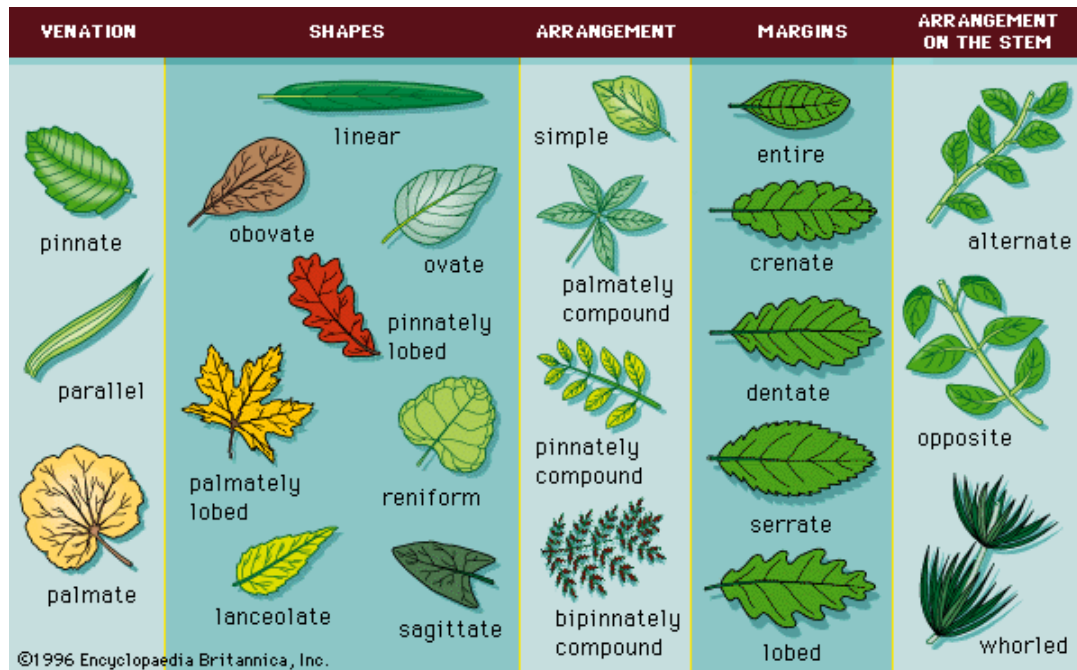


0	0	1	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1	1	0
0	0	1	1	1	0	0

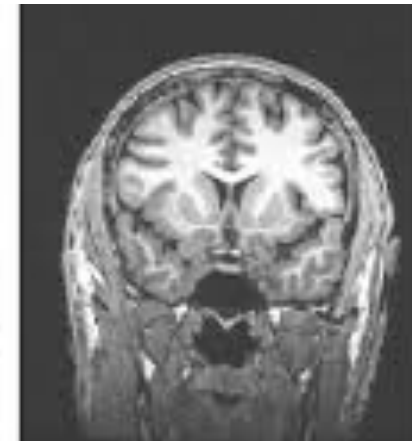


# Morphology

- The science of *form*, *shape* and *structure*
- In biology: The form and structure of animals and plants



## Common leaf morphologies



# Mathematical morphology

Theorem 4.10

$$\begin{cases} \psi_m = \tilde{\varphi} \tilde{\gamma} = \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\varphi} \tilde{\gamma} = \psi \tilde{\gamma} & , \\ \psi_M = \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\varphi} = \tilde{\varphi} \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\varphi} = \psi \tilde{\varphi} & , \\ \psi = \tilde{\gamma} \psi = \tilde{\varphi} \psi, & \\ \tilde{\gamma} \leq \psi_m \leq \psi \leq \psi_M \leq \tilde{\varphi} & . \end{cases}$$

The same theorem may be restated in another way. If  $\mathcal{Jd}(\mathcal{B}) \neq \emptyset$  then let  $B_i$  be a family of elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ . We have  $\bigvee B_i \in \sim B$ , and thus  $\tilde{\gamma}(\bigvee B_i) = \bigvee B_i$ . From the first relation above, it follows for any  $\psi \in \mathcal{Jd}(\mathcal{B})$ , that

$$\psi(\bigvee B_i) = \psi \tilde{\gamma}(\bigvee B_i) = \tilde{\varphi} \tilde{\gamma}(\bigvee B_i).$$

But  $\tilde{\gamma}(\bigvee B_i) = \bigvee B_i$ , so that

$$\tilde{\varphi}(\bigvee B_i) = \psi(\bigvee B_i) \in \mathcal{B}.$$

In the same way, we also obtain

$$\tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\varphi}(\bigwedge B_i) = \tilde{\gamma}(\bigwedge B_i) = \psi(\bigwedge B_i) \in \mathcal{B}.$$

In other words,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a *complete lattice* with respect to the ordering on  $\mathcal{B}$  induced by  $\leq$ , i.e. any family  $B_i$  in  $\mathcal{B}$  has a smallest upper bound  $\tilde{\varphi}(\bigvee B_i) \in \mathcal{B}$  and a greatest lower bound  $\tilde{\gamma}(\bigwedge B_i) \in \mathcal{B}$ .

Conversely, let us assume that  $\mathcal{B}$  is a complete lattice. Thus, for any  $A \in \mathcal{L}$ , the family  $\{B : B \in \mathcal{B}, B \geq A\}$  has in  $\mathcal{B}$  a greatest lower bound, which is

$$\tilde{\gamma}(\bigwedge \{B : B \in \mathcal{B}, B \geq A\}) = \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\varphi}(A) \in \mathcal{B}.$$

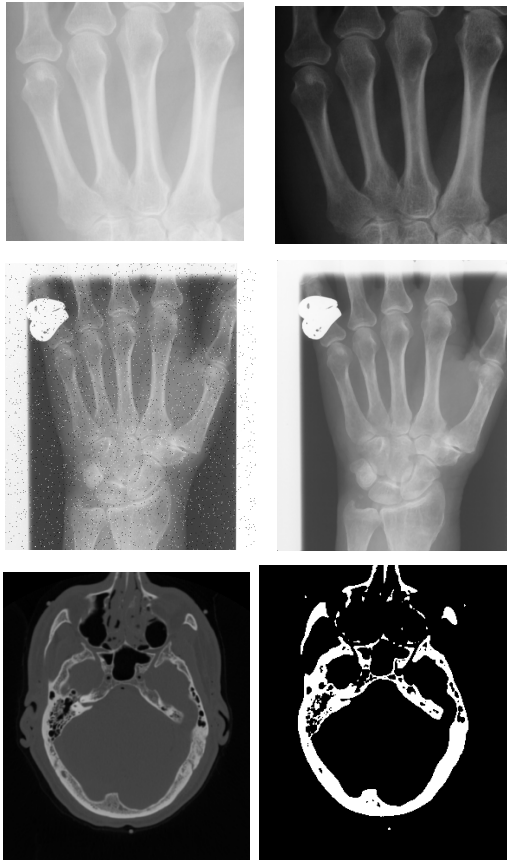
But this implies  $\mathcal{B}_{\psi_M} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$  for the filter  $\psi_M = \tilde{\gamma} \tilde{\varphi}$ . Conversely, for any

- Developed in 1964
- Theoretical work done in Paris
- Used for classification of minerals in cut stone
- Initially used for binary images

Do not worry! We use a much less theoretical approach!

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematical\\_morphology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematical_morphology)

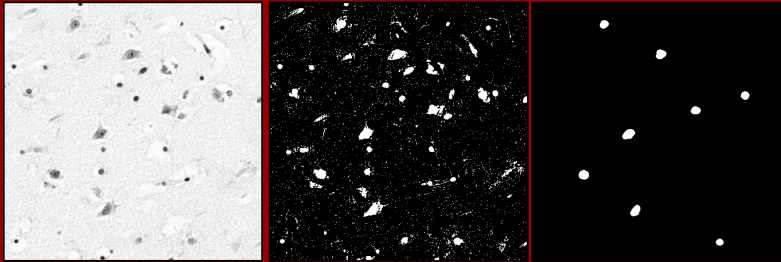
## Relevance?



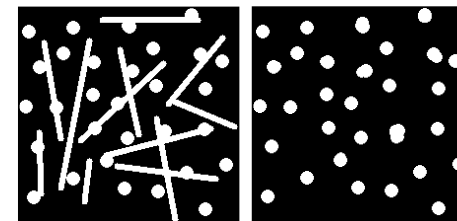
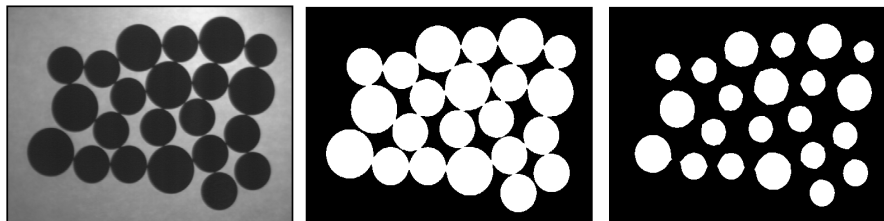
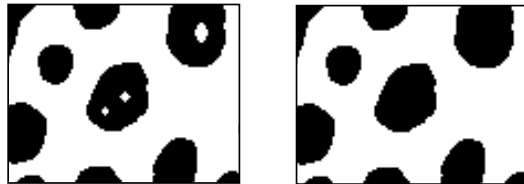
- Point wise operations (histogram)
- Filtering
- Thresholding
  - Gives us objects that are separated by the background
- Morphology
  - Manipulate and enhance binary objects

# What can it be used for?

Histology of cells

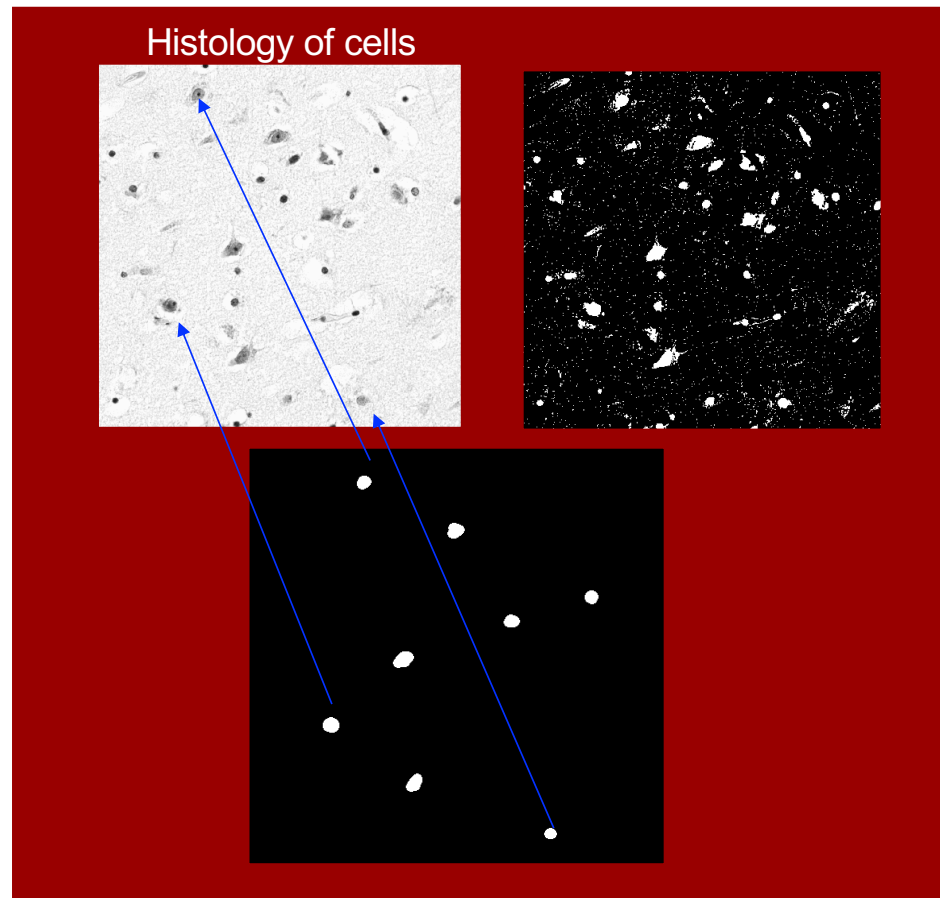


- Remove noise
  - Small objects
  - Fill holes
- Isolate objects
- Customized to specific shapes





## How does it work?



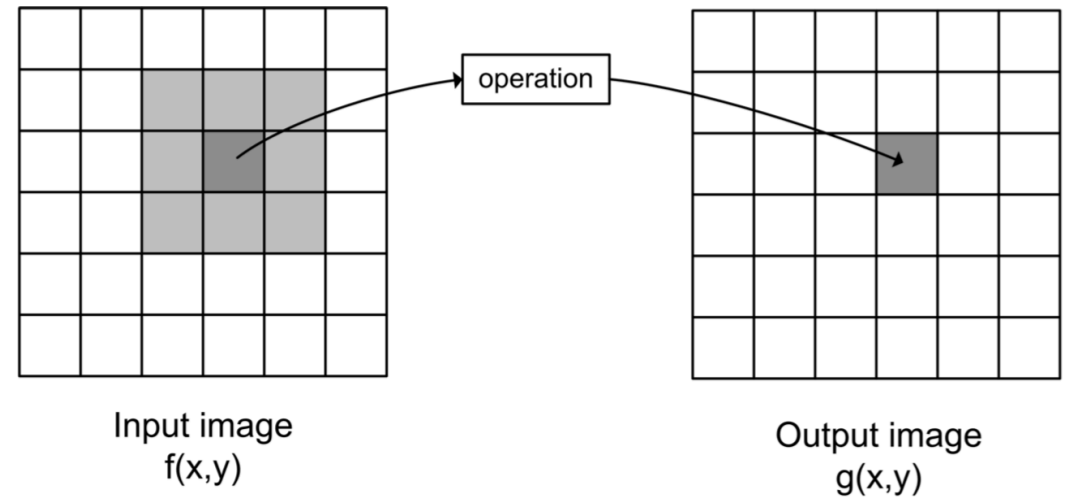
### The processing pipeline:

- Grayscale image
- Preprocessing
  - Inversion
- Threshold => Binary image
- Morphology extraction

# Filtering and morphology

1	2	0	1	3	1
2	1	4	2	2	2
1	0	1	0	1	3
1	2	1	0	2	4
2	5	3	1	2	2
2	1	3	1	6	3

- Filtering
  - Gray level images
  - Kernel
  - Moves it over the input image
  - Creates a new output image



# Filtering and morphology

3x3

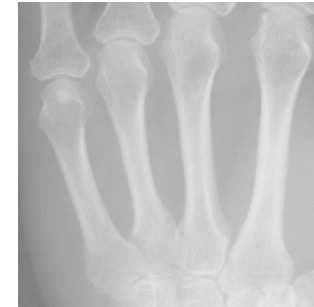
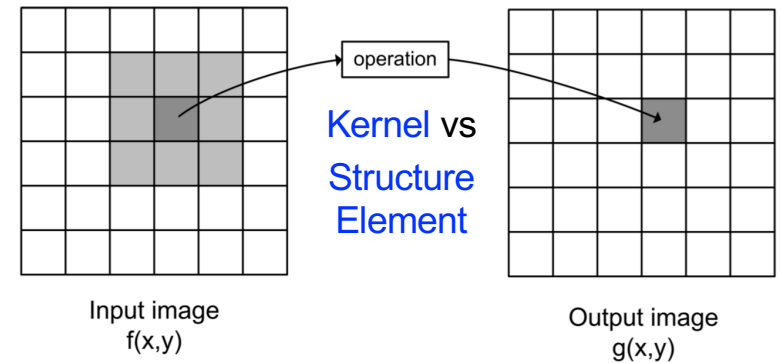
0	1	0
1	1	1
0	1	0

Disk

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Box

- Filtering
  - Gray level images
  - Kernel
  - Moves it over the input image
  - Creates a new output image
- Morphology
  - Binary images
  - Structuring element (SE)
  - Moves the SE over the input image
  - Creates a new binary output image



# 1D Morphology

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

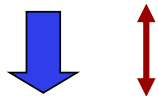
			?						
--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

# 1D Morphology : The *hit* operation

Input image


1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Structuring Element  
(SE)



1	1	1
---	---	---

Output Image



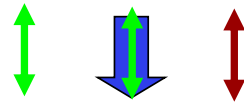
			1						
--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

- If just one 1 in the SE match with the input
  - output 1
- else
  - output 0

# 1D Morphology : The *fit* operation

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



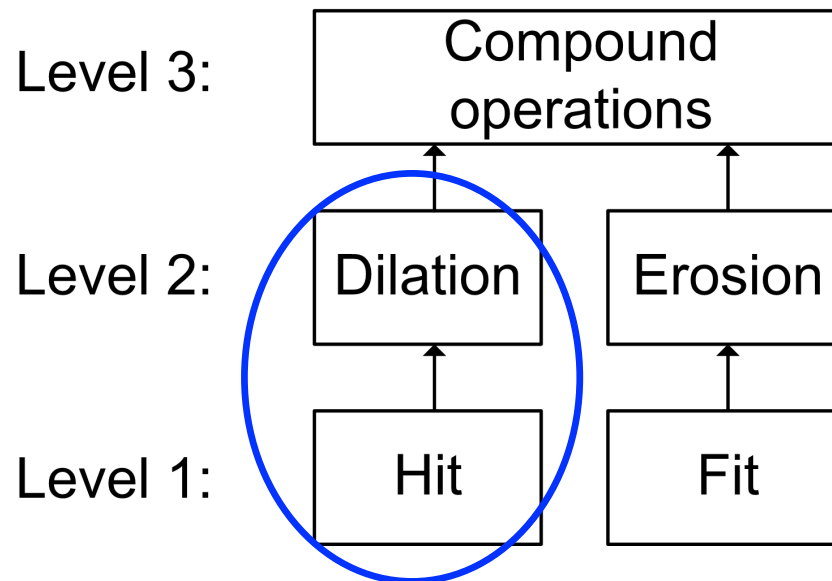
Output Image

			0						
--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

- If all 1 in the SE match with the input
  - output 1
- else
  - output 0

# 1D Morphology : Dilation

- Dilate : To make wider or larger
- Based on the *hit* operation



# 1D Dilation example

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	1								
--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

$$g(x) = f(x) \oplus SE$$

to make bigger

## The Hit operation:

- If just one 1 in the SE match with the input
  - output 1
- else
  - output 0



# Example for Dilation

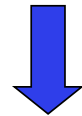
Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	1	0							
--	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

# Example for Dilation

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	1	0	1						
--	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

# Example for Dilation

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	1	0	1	1					
--	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

# Example for Dilation

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	1	0	1	1	1				
--	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

# Example for Dilation

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	1	0	1	1	1	1			
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--

# Example for Dilation

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---

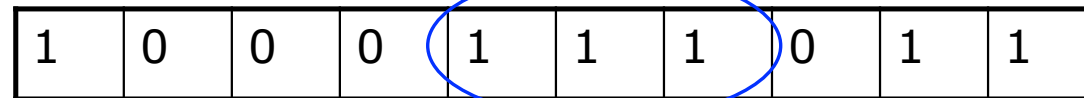


Output Image

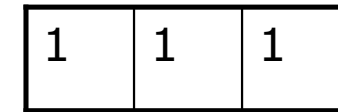
	1	0	1	1	1	1	1		
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--

## Example for Dilation

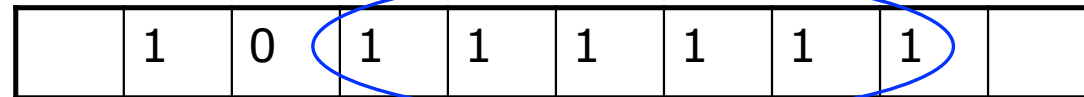
Input image



Structuring Element  
(SE)



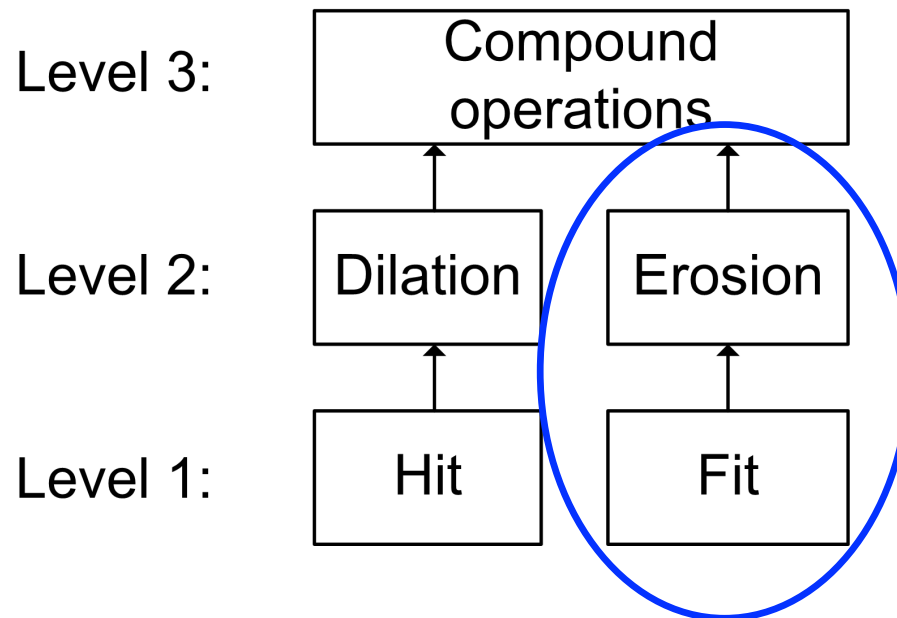
Output Image



The object gets bigger and holes are filled!

# 1D Morphology : Erosion

- Erode : To wear down (*Waves eroded the shore*)
- Based on the *fit* operation





# Example for Erosion

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element  
(SE)

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	0								
--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

$$g(x) = f(x) \ominus SE$$

to make smaller

## The Fit operation:

- If all **1** in the SE match with the input
  - output 1
- else
  - output 0

# Quiz 1: Erosion

- A) 0 1 0 0 1 1 0 0
- B) 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0
- C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0**
- D) 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1
- E) 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0

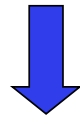
Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



SE

1	1	1
---	---	---

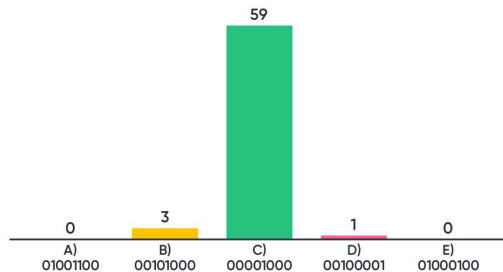


	0	?							
--	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Output Image

Quiz 1: Erosion

Mentimeter



63

## Example for Erosion

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	0	0	0						
--	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

Solution: C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

## Example for Erosion

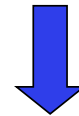
Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	0	0	0	0					
--	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

Solution: C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

## Example for Erosion

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	0	0	0	0	1				
--	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--

Solution: C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

## Example for Erosion

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element

1	1	1
---	---	---



Output Image

	0	0	0	0	1	0			
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--

Solution: C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

## Example for Erosion

Input image

1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Structuring Element

1	1	1
---	---	---



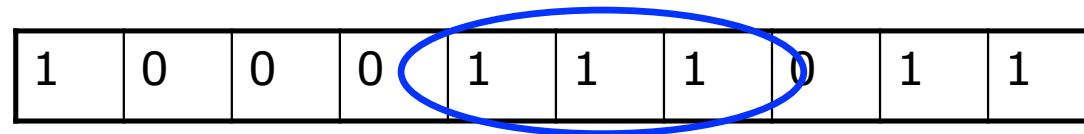
Output Image

	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--

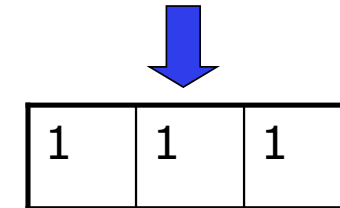
Solution: C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

## Example for Erosion

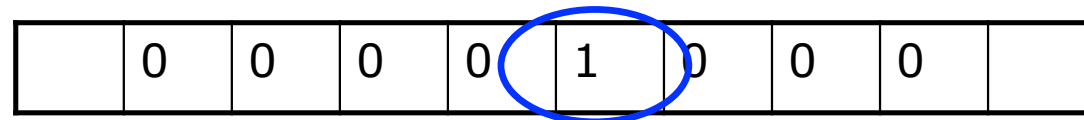
Input image



Structuring Element



Output Image



Solution: C) 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0

The object gets smaller !!



# Structuring Element

3x3

0	1	0
1	1	1
0	1	0

Disk

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

Box

7x7

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

- Structuring Elements can have varying sizes
- Usually, element values are 0 or 1, but other values are possible (including none!)
- Structural Elements have an **origin**
- Empty spots in the Structuring Elements are ***don't cares!***

## Structuring Element Origin

0	1	0
1	1	1
0	1	0

- The origin is not always the center of the SE

1	1	1
1	1	1
1	1	1

# Special structuring elements

- Structuring elements can be customized to a specific problem

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

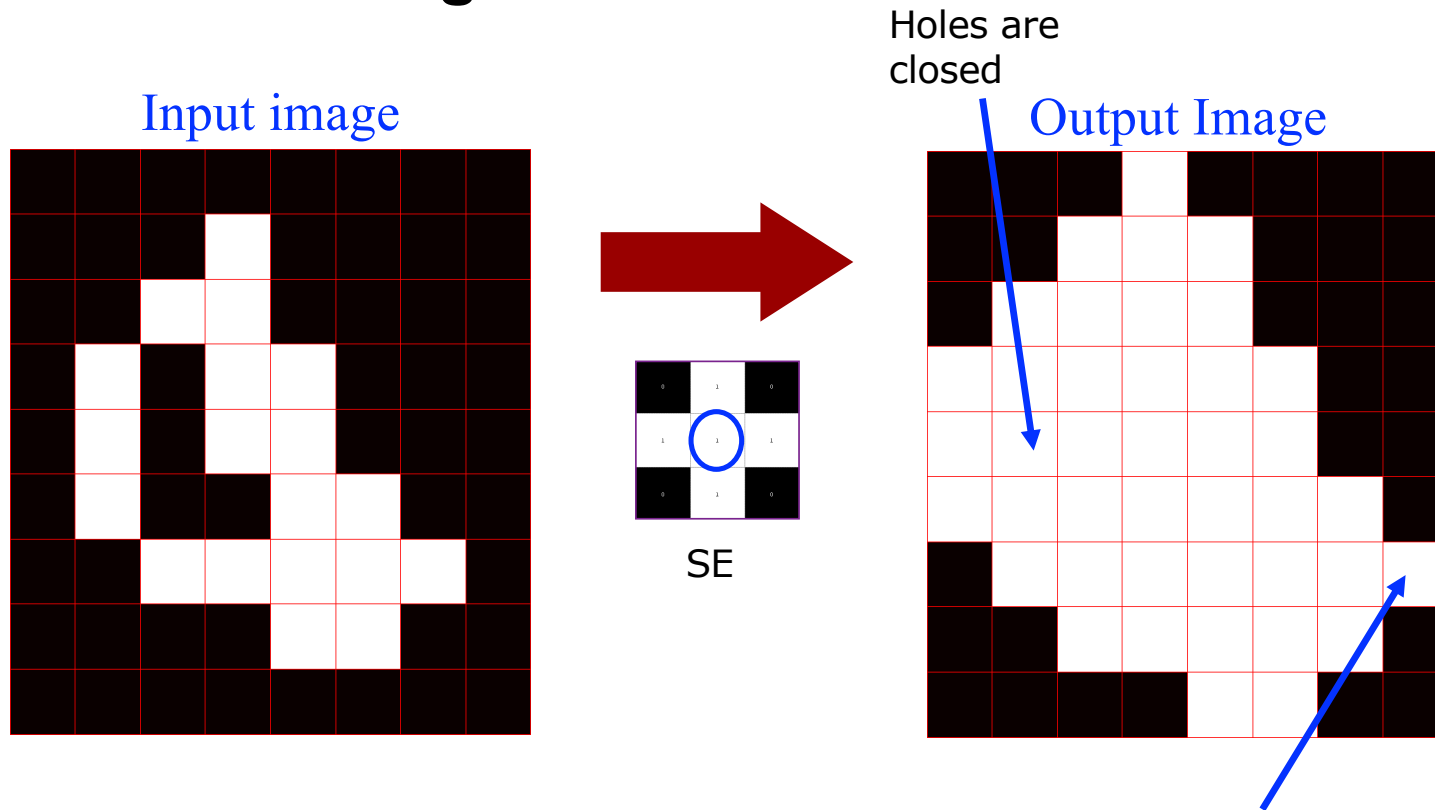
Diamond

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

Line

Note: In case of a boundary effect as for the SE in below example then extend the input  $f(x,y)$  image with zero-padding.

## Dilation on images - disk



$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \oplus SE$$

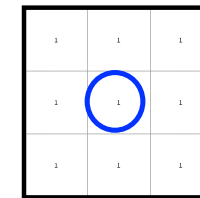
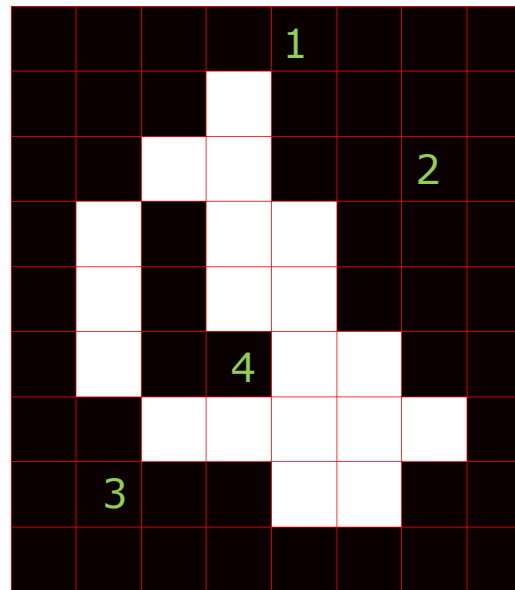
Object is bigger  
Boundary effects?

## Quiz 2: Dilation on images – box

1 2 3 4

- A) 1 0 1 1
- B) 0 1 0 0
- C) 0 1 1 1
- D) 0 1 1 0
- E) 1 1 0 1

- Which operation to use: Hit or Fit?

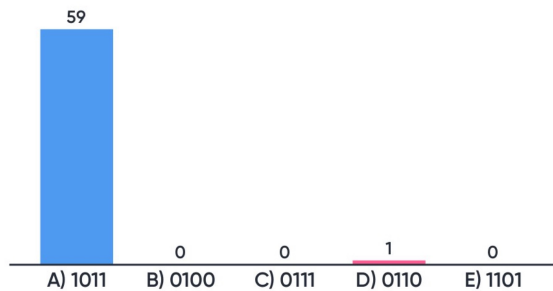


SE

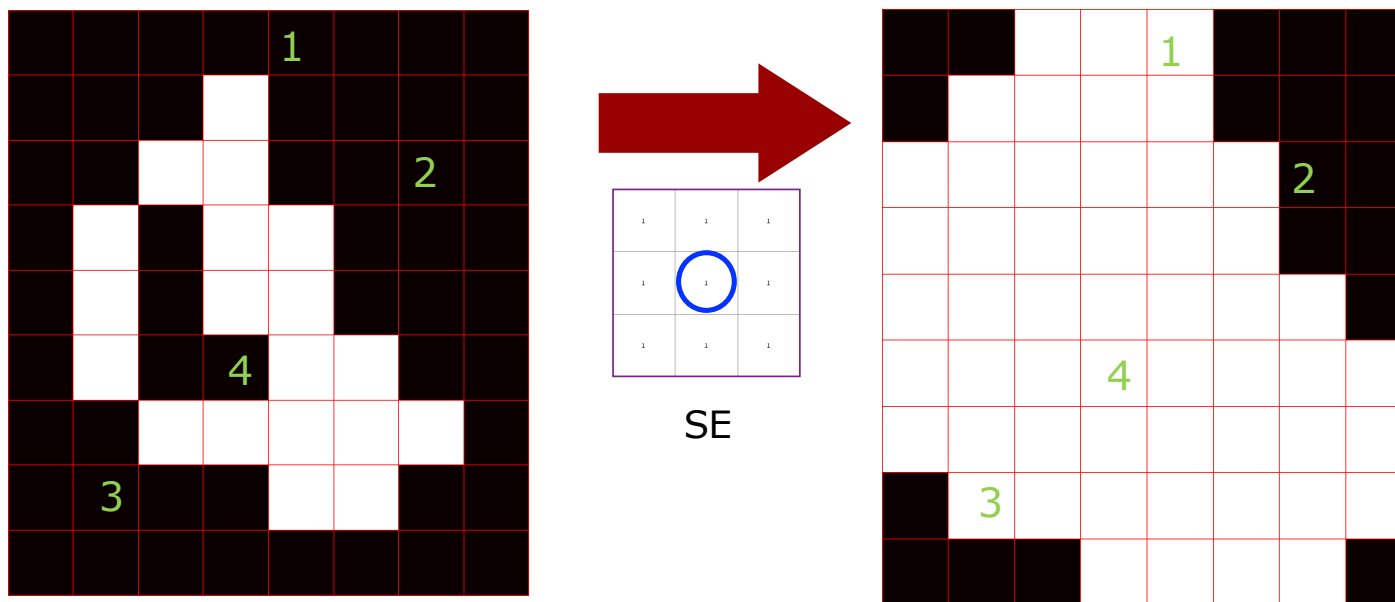
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \oplus SE$$

Quiz 2: Dilation on images – box

Mentimeter



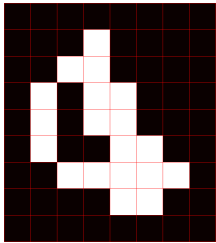
## Quiz 2: Dilation on images – box



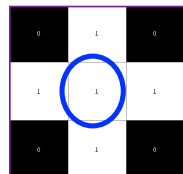
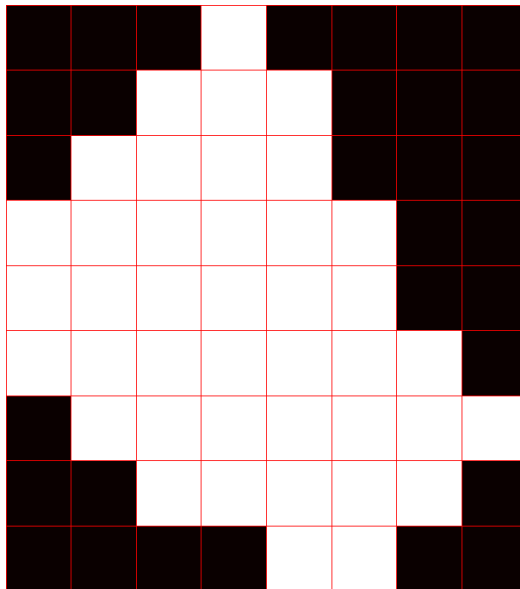
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \oplus SE$$

# Dilation – the effect of the SE

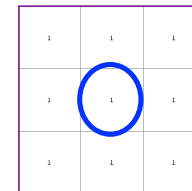
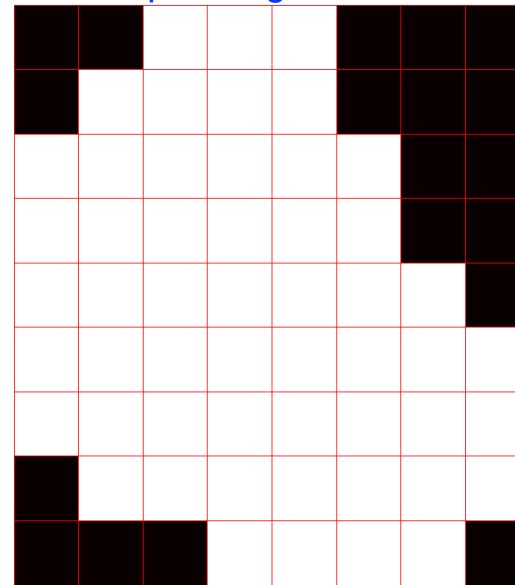
Input image



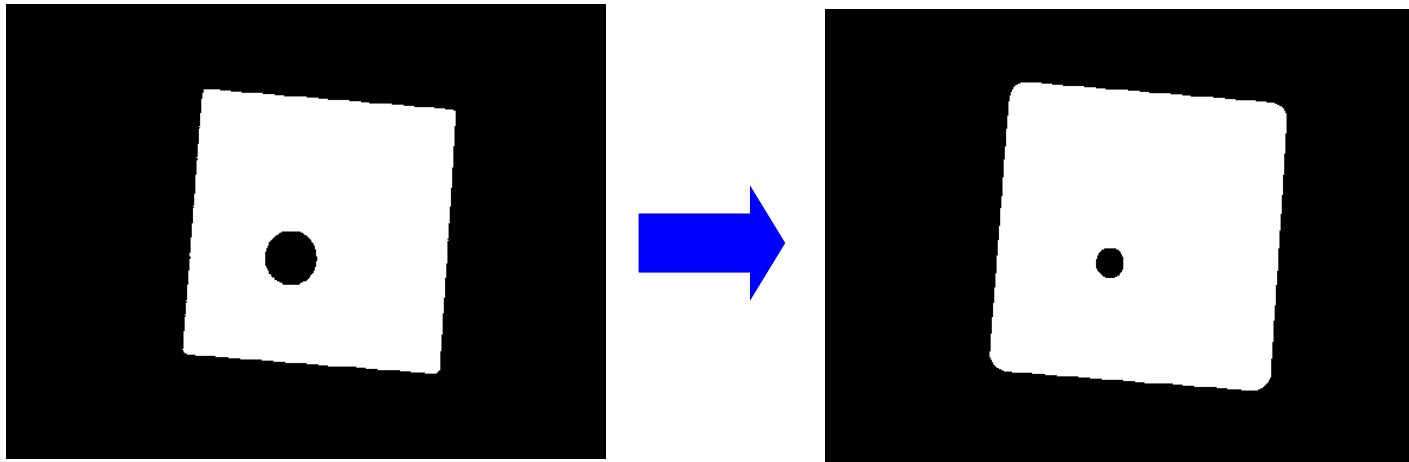
output image - disc



output image - box



## Dilation Example



- Round structuring element (disk)
- Creates round corners

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



## Quiz 3: Threshold and dilation

A) 14

B) 17

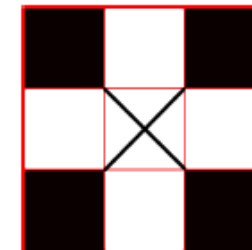
C) 6

D) 3

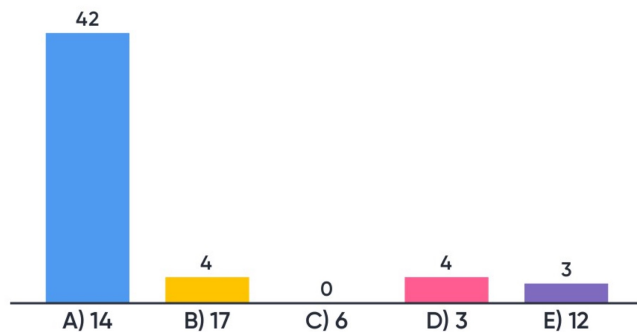
E) 12

A threshold of 200 is applied to the image and the result is a binary image. Now a dilation is performed with the structuring element below. How many foreground pixels are there in the resulting image?

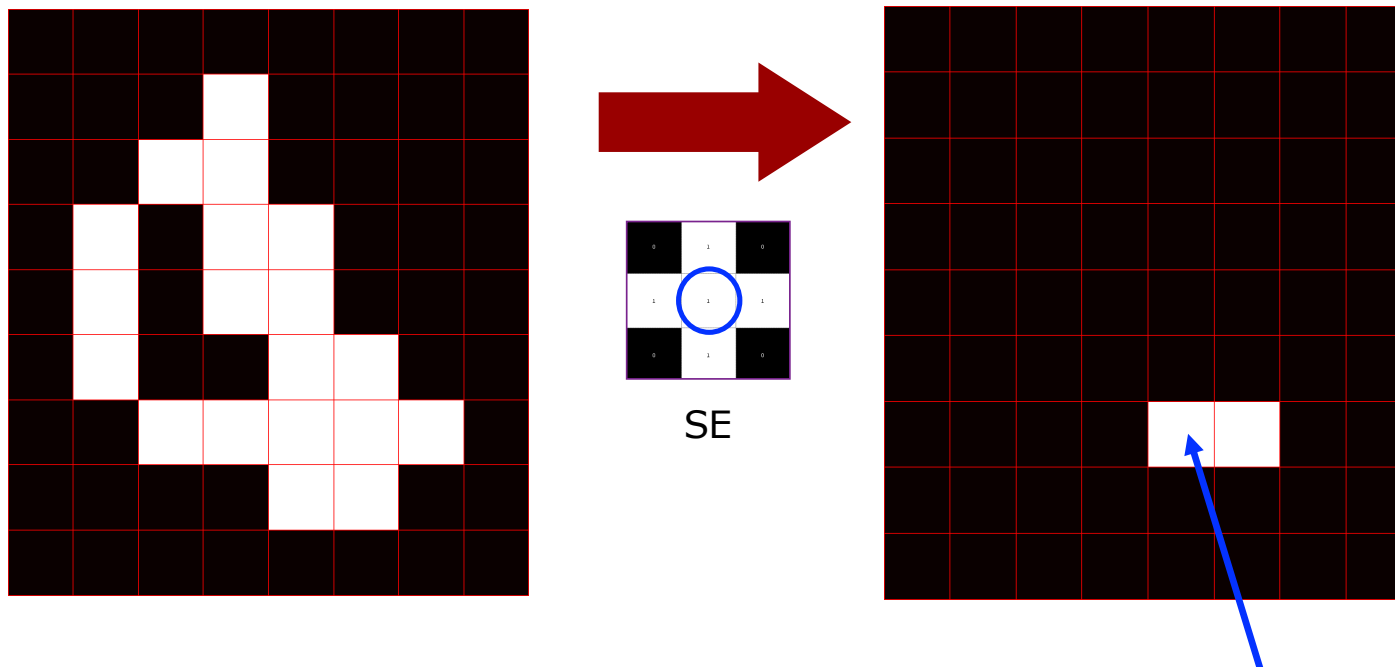
145	56	86	42	191
19	33	41	255	115
14	240	203	234	21
135	120	209	167	58
199	3	135	176	116



Quiz 3: Threshold and dilation



# Erosion on images - disk



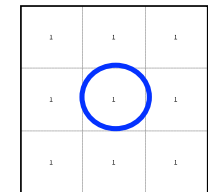
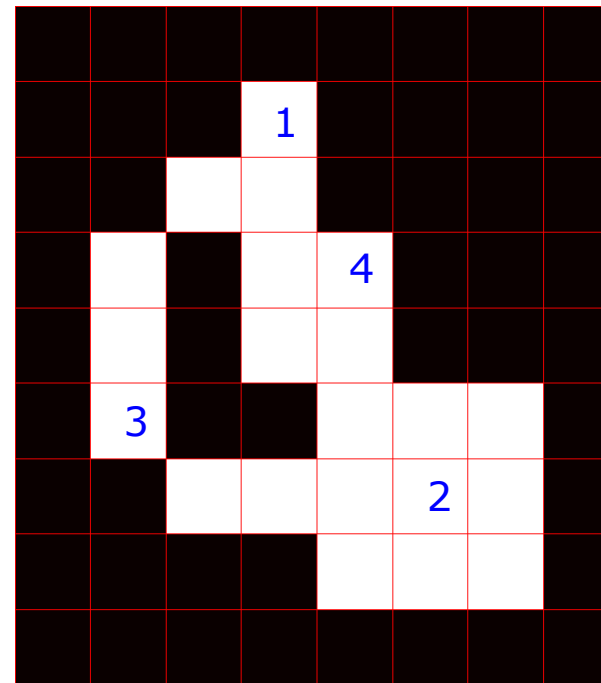
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \ominus SE$$

Object is  
smaller

## Quiz 4: Erosion on images – box

- 1 2 3 4
- A) 0 0 1 0
  - B) 1 0 1 0
  - C) 0 1 1 0
  - D) 0 1 0 0**
  - E) 1 0 0 0

- Which operation to use: Hit or Fit?

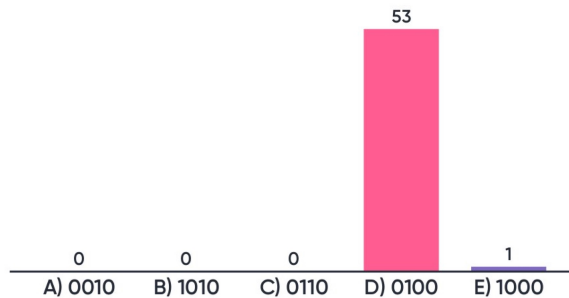


SE

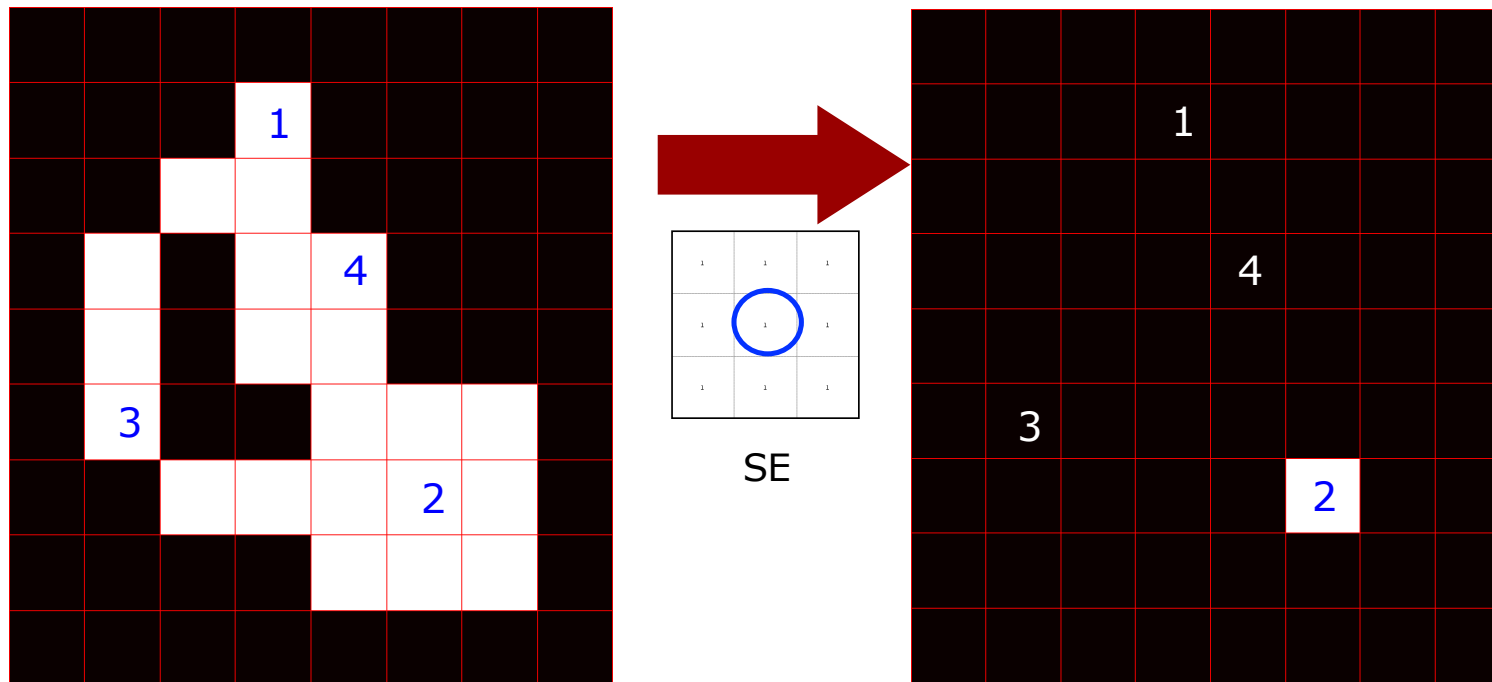
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \ominus SE$$

Quiz 4: Erosion on images – box

Mentimeter

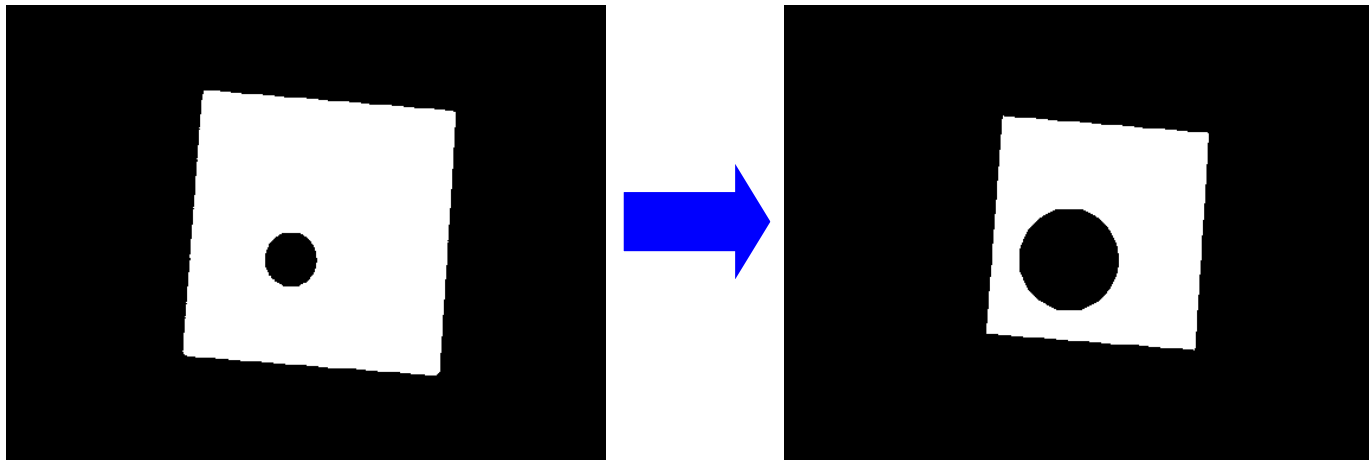


## Quiz 4: Erosion on images – box



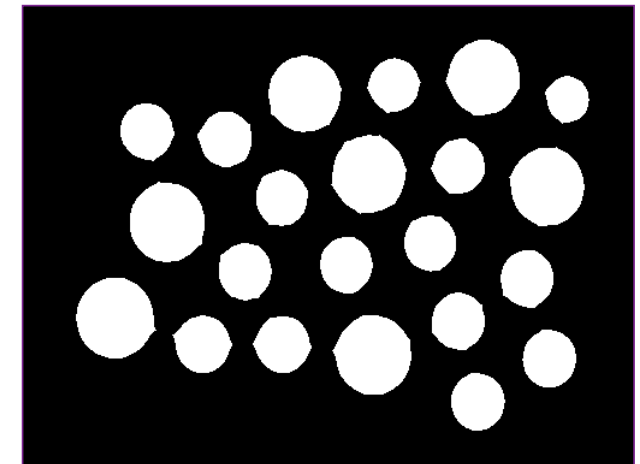
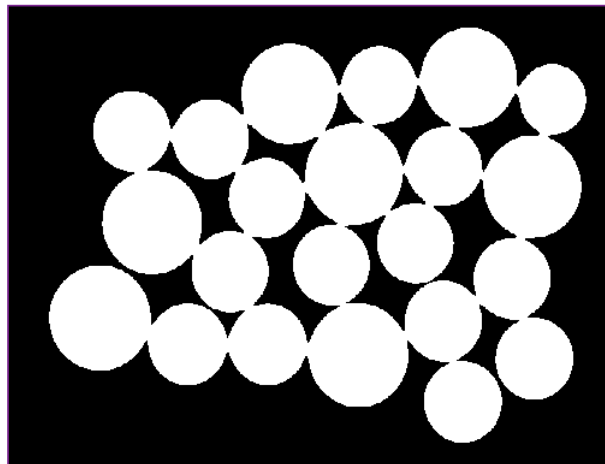
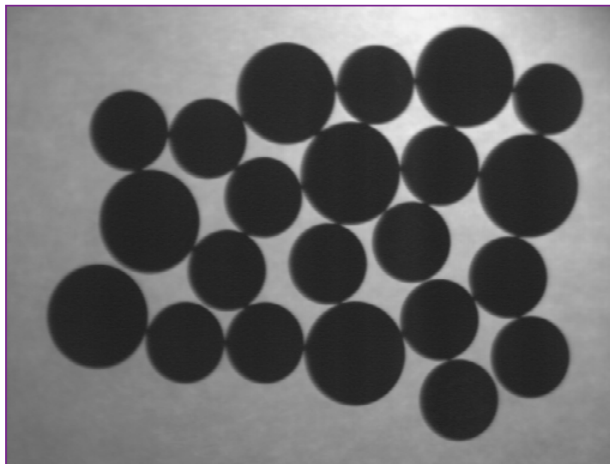
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \ominus SE$$

# Erosion example



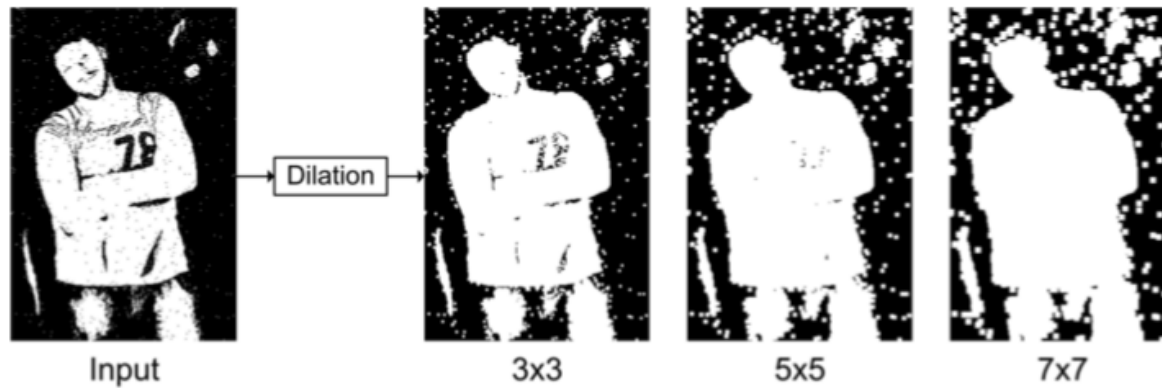
## Counting Coins

- Counting these coins is difficult because they touch each other!
- **Solution:** Threshold and Erosion separates them!
- More on counting next time!

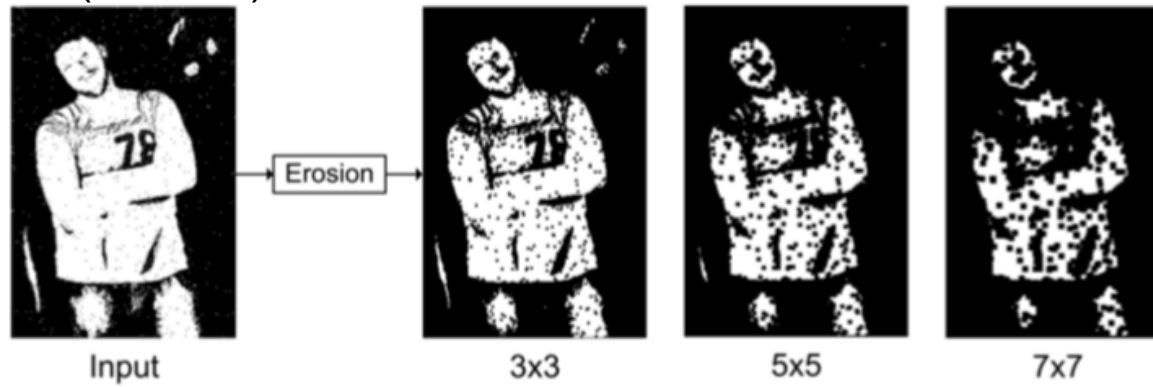


# The size of structuring elements matters!

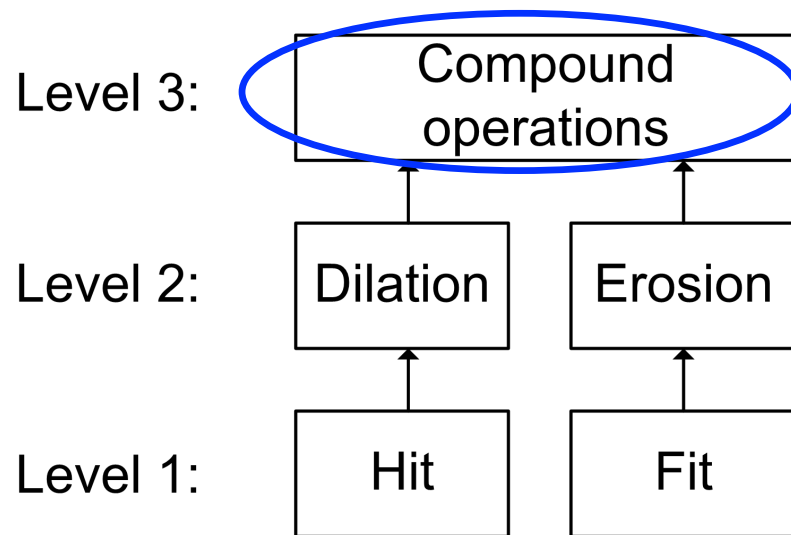
- Dilation (SE: box)



- Erosion (SE: box)



# Compound operations



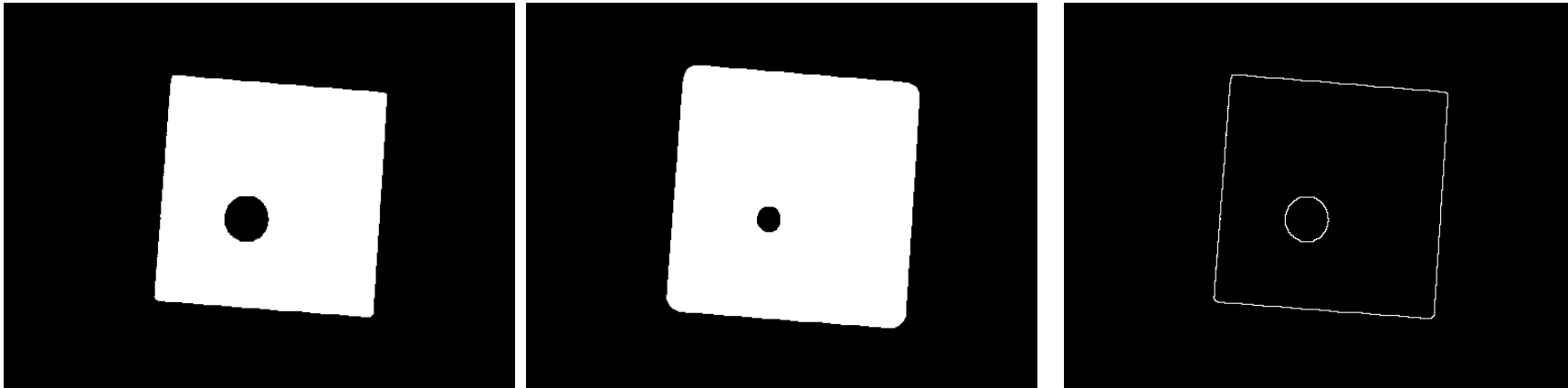
- Compound
  - made of two or more separate parts or elements
- Combining Erosion and Dilation into more advanced operations
  - Finding the outline
  - Opening
    - Isolate objects and remove small objects (better than Erosion)
  - Closing
    - Fill holes (better than Dilation)



## Finding the outline

1. Dilate input image (object gets bigger)
2. Subtract input image from dilated image
3. The outline remains!

$$g(x, y) = (f(x, y) \oplus SE) - f(x, y)$$



# Opening

- Motivation: Remove small objects BUT keep original size (and shape)
- Opening = Erosion + Dilation
  - Use the **same structuring element**!
  - Similar to erosion but less destructive

- Math:

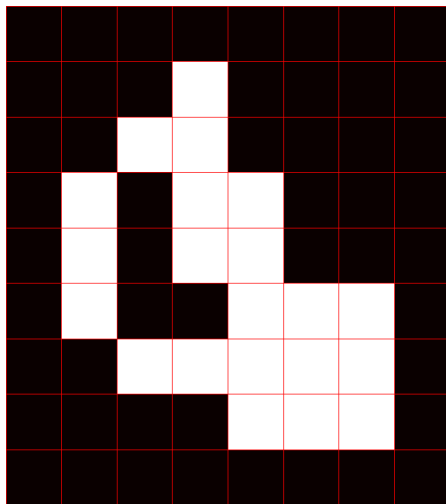
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \circ SE = (f(x, y) \ominus SE) \oplus SE$$

- Opening is **idempotent**: Repeated operations has no further effects!

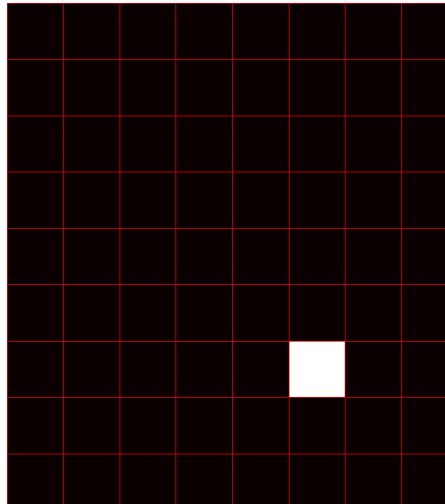
$$f(x, y) \circ SE = (f(x, y) \circ SE) \circ SE$$

# Opening

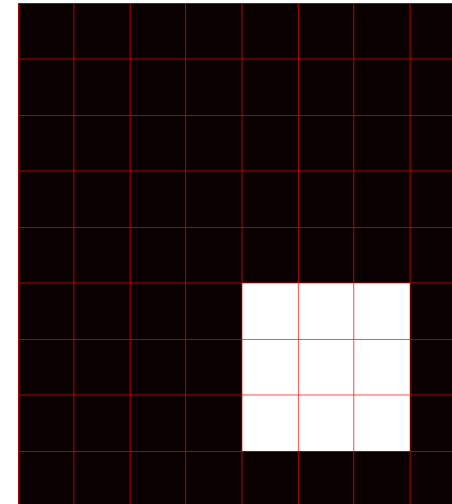
$$g(x, y) = (f(x, y) \ominus SE) \oplus SE$$



Original

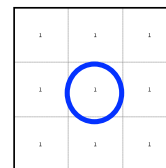


Eroded



Dilated

Opening = erosion+dilation



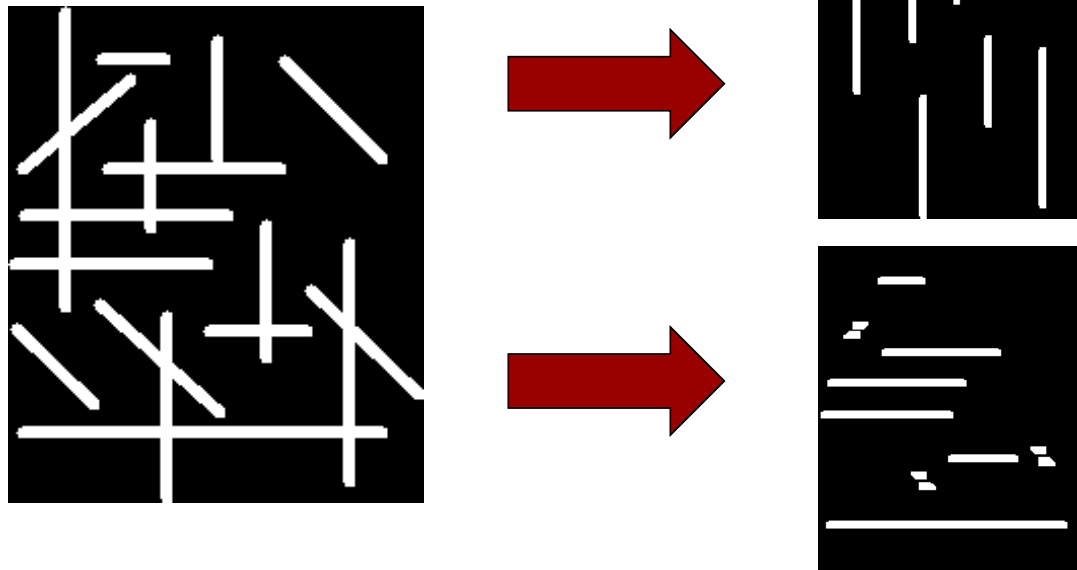
SE

Note:

- Same size and shape
- Idempotent

## Opening example

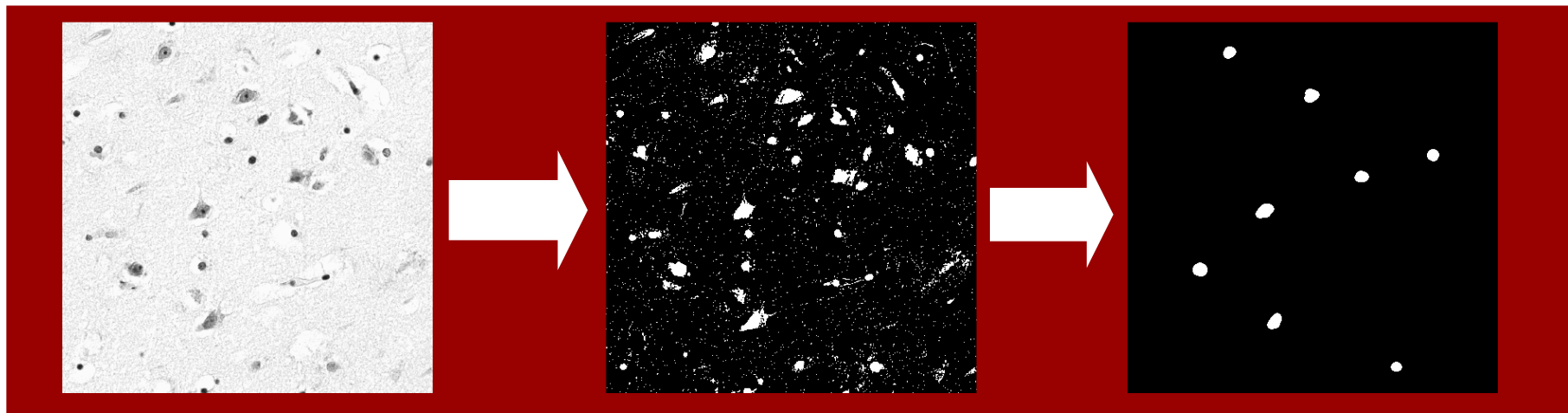
- 9x3 and 3x9 Structuring Elements



## Opening example

- Size of structuring element should fit into the smallest object to keep
- Structuring Element: 11 pixel disc

Histology image: Cells



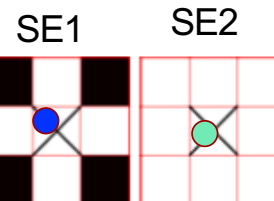
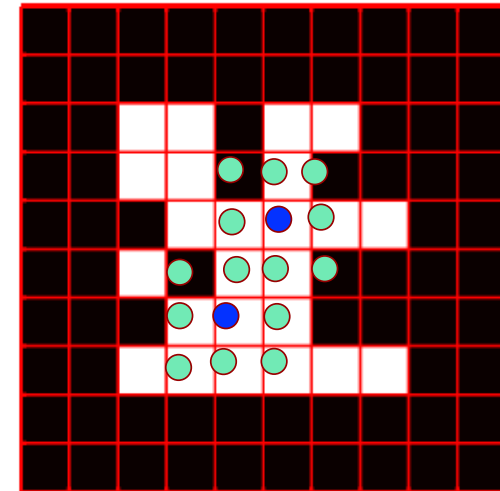
## Quiz 5: Compound operations

- A) 3
- B) 23
- C) 11
- D) 36
- E) 16**

The compound morphological operation seen below is applied to the image.

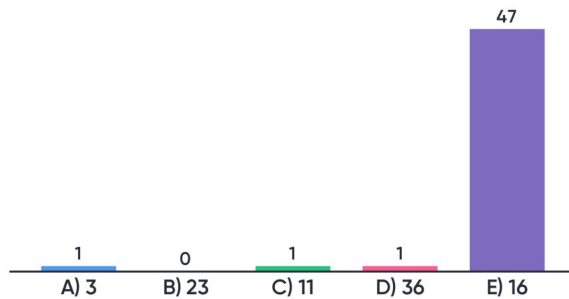
How many foreground pixels are there in the resulting image?

$$(I \ominus SE1) \oplus SE2,$$



Quiz 5: Compound operations

Mentimeter



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# Closing

- Motivation: Fill holes BUT keep original size (and shape)
- Closing = Dilation + Erosion
  - Use the **same structuring element**!
  - Similar to dilation but less destructive

- Math:

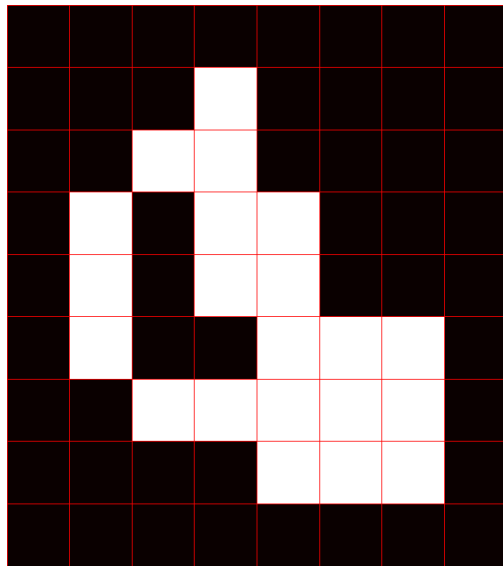
$$g(x, y) = f(x, y) \bullet SE = (f(x, y) \oplus SE) \ominus SE$$

- Closing is **idempotent**: Repeated operations has no further effects!

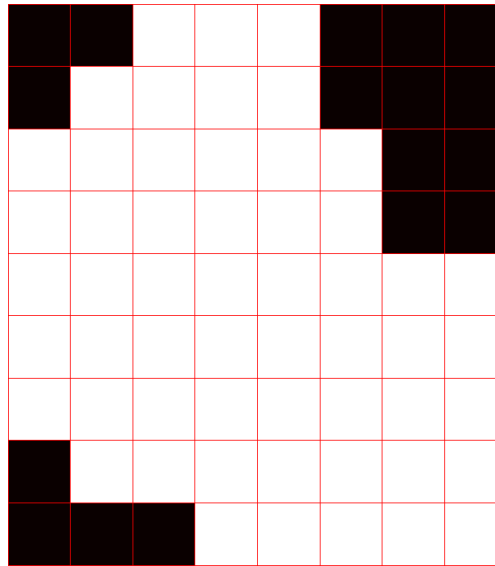
$$f(x, y) \bullet SE = (f(x, y) \bullet SE) \bullet SE$$

# Closing

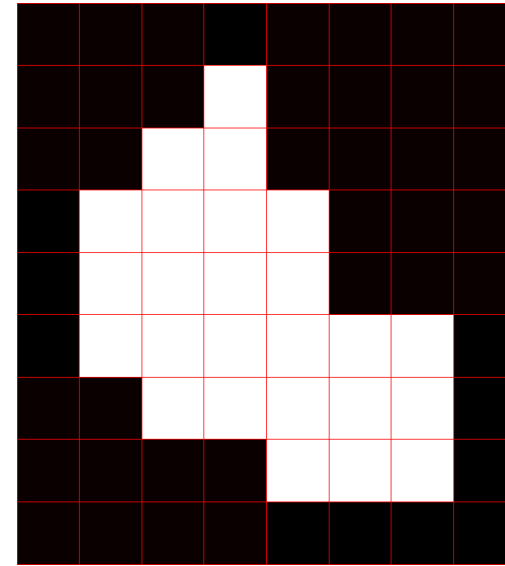
$$g(x, y) = (f(x, y) \oplus SE) \ominus SE$$



Original

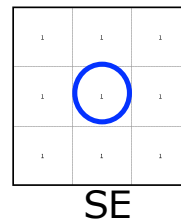


Dilated



Eroded

Closing = dilation + erosion



SE

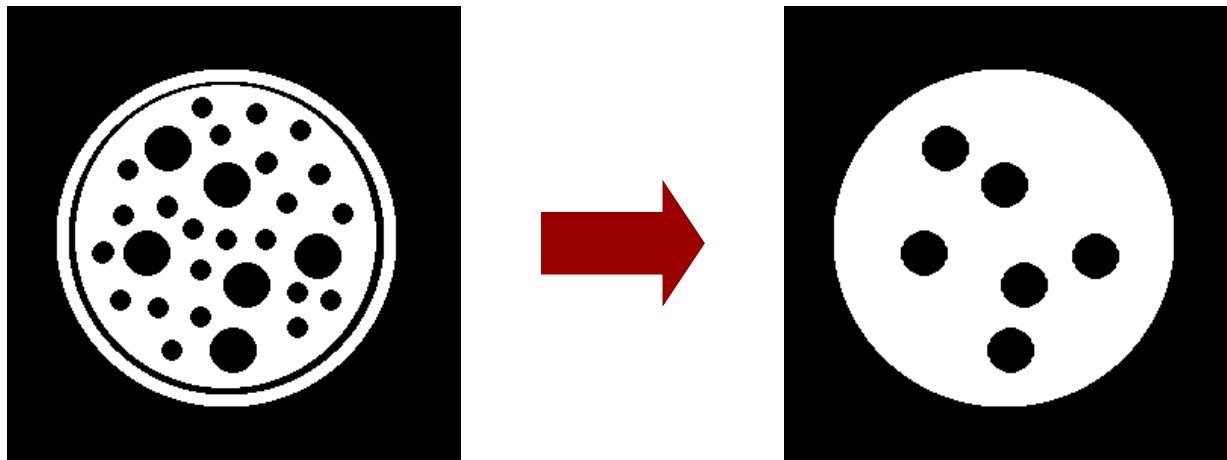
Note:

- Same size and shape
- Idempotent



## Closing example

- Closing operation with a 22 pixel disc
- Closes small holes



## Quiz 6: Closing

A) 31

B) 18

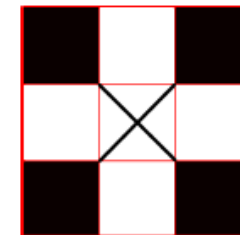
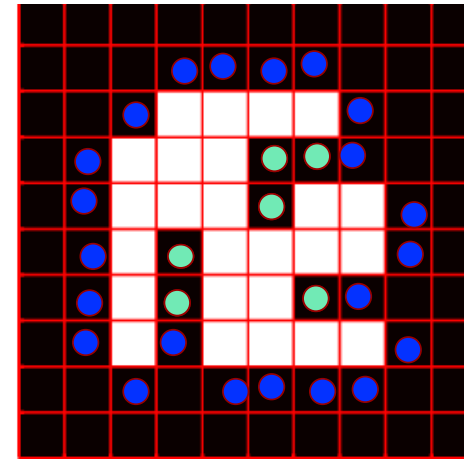
C) 6

D) 35

E) 21

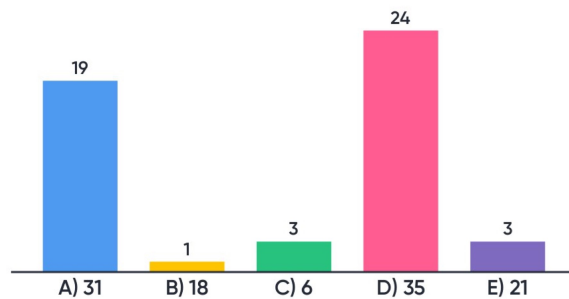
Morphological closing is applied to the image using the structuring element below.

How many foregrounds pixels are there in the resulting image?



Quiz 6: Closing

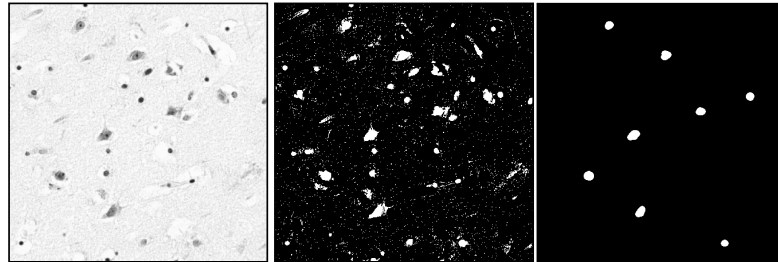
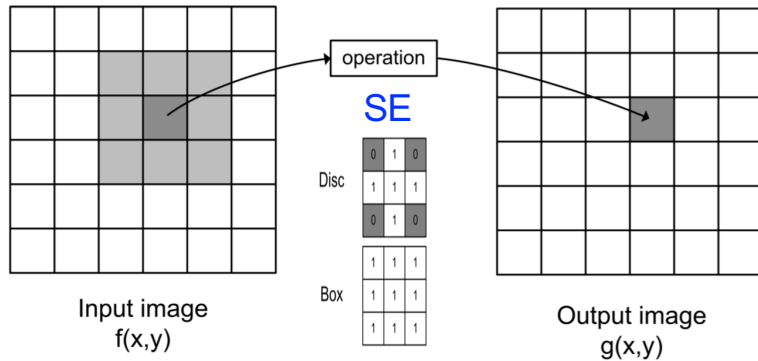
Mentimeter



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# What did we learn today?

## Morphology of binary images - (Chapter 6)



- Remove noise
  - Small objects
  - Fill holes
- Isolate objects
- Customized to specific shapes
- Size of SE matter

Level 3:

Compound operations

Level 2:

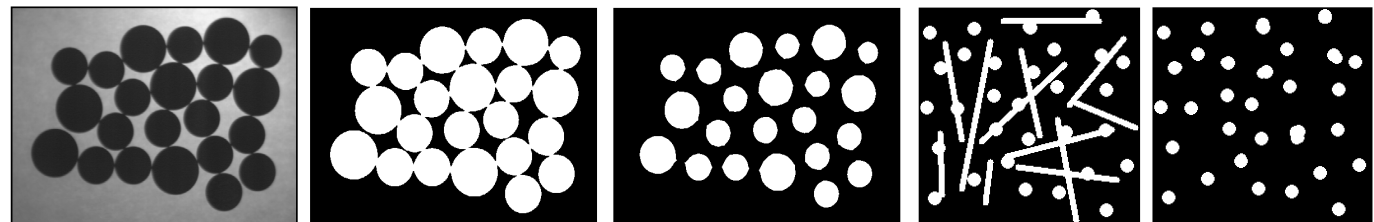
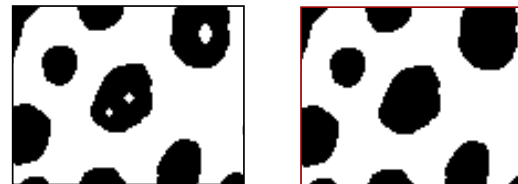
Dilation

Erosion

Level 1:

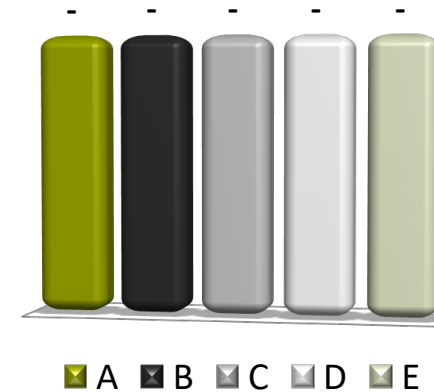
Hit

Fit



# How do you like the book?

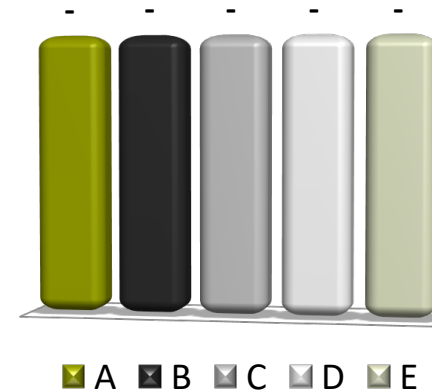
- A) Very bad book
- B) Bad book
- C) Ok book
- D) Good book
- E) Really good book



# Flipped classroom

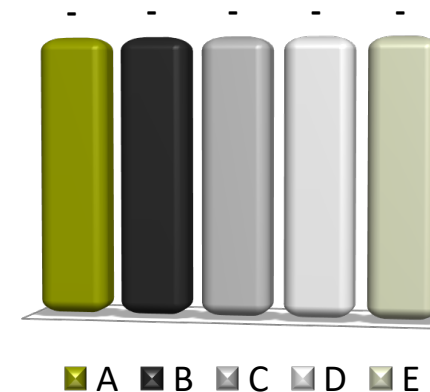
## TA 8-10, Lecture 10-12

- A) It really does not work
- B) It is not optimal
- C) It is ok
- D) It is fine
- E) It works very well



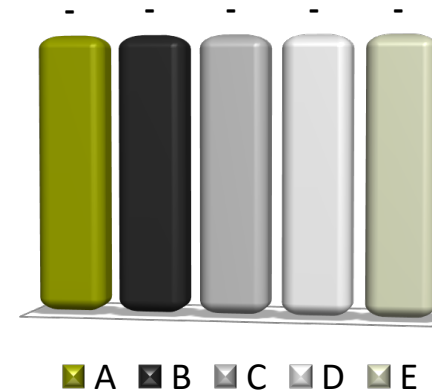
# How much time do I spend on preparing every week?

- A) 0 minutes
- B) 0-15 minutes
- C) 15-30 minutes
- D) 30-60 minutes
- E) 1-2 hours
- F) 2-4 hours
- G) More than 4 hours



## How do I feel about Matlab

- A) I simply do not get it
- B) I find it hard
- C) We are ok friends
- D) I feel confident in Matlab
- E) I write Matlab scripts even when I sleep



## Next week: Blob Analysis

