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## Digital Steiner sets and Matheron semi-groups

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# It involves notions or properties that are not defined, or false, for digital spaces, e.g.

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#### Or notions that admit several definitions, e.g.

- Digital convexity is defined in five different manners in literature. Which one to take?



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- $\Rightarrow$  X equals the intersection of the half spaces that contain it,
- $\Rightarrow \text{ or } \{x,y\} \in X \Rightarrow [x,y] \in X$
- ⇒ or the measure of  $X \oplus B$ , both compact convex sets, is a linear function of their Minkowski functionals, e.g. in R<sup>2</sup>

 $\underline{A}(\mathbf{X} \oplus \mathbf{B}) = A(\mathbf{X}) + U(\mathbf{X}) \cdot U(\mathbf{B}) / 2\pi + A(\mathbf{B})$ 

## **Convexity and Scale-space Representation**

 Still in space R<sup>n</sup>, denote by λB the set similar to B by factor λ. Then the semi-group law:

 $[(A \oplus \lambda B) \oplus \mu B)] = A \oplus (\lambda + \mu) B$ 

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- W.r. to dilation, the similarity ratio is infinitely divisible. This property is the *core of all scale-space representations* in mathematical morphology.
- Note that set **A** is arbitrary. In particular we have that  $\lambda B \oplus \mu B = (\lambda + \mu) B$



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- When passing from R<sup>n</sup> to Z<sup>n</sup> all these nice equivalences vanish...
- e.g., the three segments belong to set X, which it is not convex,
- Also, a digital convex set may be non arcwise connected.





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# **Matheron Semi-groups**

- Unfortunately, morphological scale-space processing is always digital ...
- Therefore we must analyse exactly how convexity appears, so that to chose the most convenient digital convexity
- Indeed, the morph. scale-space pyramids are governed by *Matheron semi-group* law

 $\lambda \geq \mu > 0 \implies \psi_{\mu} \circ \psi_{\lambda} = \psi_{\lambda}$ 

Where  $\{\psi_{\lambda}, \lambda > 0\}$  is a family of morph. filters

• The law applies for opening, ASF and levelling.

• In case of opening, Matheron semi-group is called a *granulometry*:

$$\lambda \ge \mu > 0 \implies \gamma_{\mu} \circ \gamma_{\lambda} = \gamma_{\lambda} \tag{1}$$

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• For

- $\Rightarrow \mathcal{P}(E) \text{ lattices ( e.g. } E = R^n \text{ or } Z^n)$
- $\Rightarrow$  and  $\{\delta_{\lambda}\}$  a family of dilations

Rel.(1) is equivalent to  $\lambda \ge \mu \implies \delta_{\lambda}(\mathbf{x}) = \gamma_{\mu} \delta_{\lambda}(\mathbf{x})$ 

i.e. each structuring element *is open by the smaller ones.* 

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- In the Euclidean and translation invariant case  $\lambda \ge \mu \implies \delta_{\lambda}(x) = \gamma_{\mu} \delta_{\lambda}(x)$  becomes  $\lambda \ge \mu \implies B_{\lambda} = \gamma_{\mu} B_{\lambda}$  (structuring elements)
- Then magnification  $\equiv$  convexity  $\{\lambda \ge \mu \implies B_{\lambda} = \gamma_{\mu} B_{\lambda}\} + \text{Homothetics } B_{\lambda}$ is equivalent to

 $\{\lambda \ge \mu \implies B_{\lambda} = \gamma_{\mu} B_{\lambda}\} + \text{convex } B_{\lambda}$ 

• For Matheron semi-groups, magnification and convexity are the *same notion*.

• Conversely, we can drop convexity



• The B's are not convex, but also not homothetic, .... however the semi-group is satisfied.

• Note also that  $A = A \circ B$  is not an inclusion relation

When A is open by B,



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• Note also that  $A = A \circ B$  is not an inclusion relation

When A is open by B, it may be not open by smaller sets





• *Steiner class* : In R<sup>n</sup>, the convex sets which are dilates of segments, and their limits (e.g. the disc) are *Steiner* 



• In R<sup>2</sup>, they coincide with all convex sets with a centre of symmetry, but no longer in R<sup>3</sup>.





• *Directional measure*: The Steiner set X is equivalent to the measure  $s_X(d\alpha)$ , with

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• This directional measure *exchanges dilation and addition*  $\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X} \oplus \mathbf{Y}} = \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X}} + \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{Y}}$ 

hence

 $s_X \le s_Y \implies s_{X \ominus X} = s_X - s_Y \implies Y$  is open by X

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 $\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X}} \leq \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{Y}} \implies \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X} \ominus \mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X}} - \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{Y}} \implies \mathbf{Y} \text{ is open by } \mathbf{X}$ 

• Every family of Steiner sets with increasing measures *generates a granulometry*.



• This sequence of Steiner sets generates a granulometry

# From R<sup>n</sup> to Z<sup>n</sup>



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- What is a digtal *convex set* ?
- Under which conditions is a digital convex set *connected*?

• *Bezout theorem*: The equation

 $a_1 u_1 + a_2 u_2 + \dots a_n u_n = 1$  (1) has solutions in Z<sup>n</sup> iff the  $a_i$  are relatively prime.

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• *General solution*: One goes from the solutions of

 $a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + \dots a_n x_n = c$  (2) to those for c + 1 by replacing the  $x_i$  by  $x_i + u_i$ , where the  $u_i$ are an arbitrary solution of (1).

## **Bezout planes in Z<sup>n</sup>**

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Spanning of the space Therefore the hyper-planes (2) span the space Z<sup>n</sup>, so that each point is met once and only once.
 N.B. in Z<sup>2</sup> this is also true for Bresenham lines (H.Talbot)



• When *a* and *b* are relatively prime, then  $\exists u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that au + bv = 1

If  $(x_0, y_0)$  is solution of ax + by = c, then **a**  $(x_0 + u) + b (y_0 + v) = c + 1$ 



- When a and b are relatively prime, then
  ∃ u,v ∈ Z such that au + bv = 1
  If (x<sub>0</sub>, y<sub>0</sub>) is solution of ax + by = c, then
  a (x<sub>0</sub>+u) + b (y<sub>0</sub>+v) = c + 1
- All solutions of the equation ax+by = c+1 derive from the solutions of ax+by = c by translation of vector (u,v)
- An example : take the Bezout straight line
   2 x 3 y = 1
   which has vector (2,1) for solution.

The translates of the line by the Bezout vector span the digital plane



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• **Bezout direction**: every vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  of  $Z^n$  whose coordinates  $\boldsymbol{\omega}_1, \boldsymbol{\omega}_2, \dots, \boldsymbol{\omega}_n$  are relatively prime.



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- *Bezout line* going through point x and of direction  $\omega$ :  $D_x(\omega) = D(\omega) \oplus x = \{x + k \omega, k \in Z\}$
- *Bezout segment* : the sequence of the (k+1) points  $L_x(k, \omega) = \{x + p \omega, 0 \le p \le k\}$

Examples of Bezout vector, lines, and segment in the digital plane



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#### Theorem 1 :

• 1/ The Minkowski sum of the segments  $L_x(k, \omega)$  and  $L_y(m, \omega)$  is the segment

$$L_x(k, \omega) \oplus L_y(m, \omega) = L_{x+y}(k+m, \omega)$$



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- 2/ The opening of segment L<sub>x</sub>( k, ω) by L<sub>y</sub>( m, ω) is
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  - The empty set when not
- 3/ The *only* digital segments that satisfy these two properties are the *Bezout* ones (because of their unit thickness).



- *Steiner sets* : A set in Z<sup>n</sup> is *Steiner* when it can be decomposed into Minkowski sum of Bezout segments.
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- *Steiner sets* : A set in Z<sup>n</sup> is *Steiner* when it can be decomposed into Minkowski sum of Bezout segments.
- A Steiner set is not always convex. In the figure, if we add the centre, the set becomes convex, but it is no longer Steiner (though it is symmetrical...)





• **Digital convexity**: Set  $X \subseteq Z^n$  is convex when it is the intersection of all Bezout half-spaces that contain it



- **Digital convexity**: Set  $X \subseteq Z^n$  is convex when it is the intersection of all Bezout half-spaces that contain it
- Theorem 2
  - Every segment is convex ;
  - When points x and y belong to the convex set X, then all points of the Bezout segment [x,y] belong to X
- Hence, By using Bezout' background, we can identify both approaches of convexity, by convex hull, and by barycentre



Where the directional parameters *a*,*b*, are relatively prime

## **Reveillès Straight lines**



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### Decomposition

Decomposition of Réveillès straight lines into Bezout ones

$$D: \quad \gamma \le ax + by < \gamma + \rho$$
$$D: \quad \bigcup_{\gamma \le c < \gamma + \rho} \{ax + by = c\}$$



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**Convexity for Steiner sets** 

• **Theorem 3** : In  $Z^2$ , a Steiner set X of measure

 $\{ \mathbf{k}_{i} \, \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\iota}, 1 \leq i \leq p \}$ 

is *convex* iff for one direction, p say, the dilate of the Bezout line  $D_p$  by the other segments, i.e.

 $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{p}} \oplus \mathbf{L}_1 \oplus \mathbf{L}_2 \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{p}\text{-}1}$ 

is a *Réveillès straight line* 

• Similar statement in Z<sup>n</sup>.



![](_page_55_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

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![](_page_57_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### And with the previous shifts

![](_page_58_Figure_2.jpeg)

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![](_page_59_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **Theorem 4**

In  $Z^n$ , the Steiner set X of measure  $\{k_i, 1 \le i \le p\}$  with  $n \le p$ , is *connected* if and only if for each j such that  $n < j \le p$ , the component  $\omega_t^{j}$  of direction  $\omega_j$  w.r.t. axis  $\omega_t$  satisfies the inequality

$$\mathbf{k}_{j} \ \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\iota}^{j} \leq \mathbf{k}_{i}$$

### Anamorphoses

• An *anamorphosis* between two lattices  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{L}$ 'is a mapping  $\alpha$  such that

 $\alpha$  is a bijection from  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{L}'$  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha^{-1}$  are both erosions and dilations.

• *Semi-anamorphosis* When  $\alpha : \mathcal{L} \to \mathcal{L}$ 'is a dilation, every granulometry  $\{\gamma_{\lambda}\}$  on  $\mathcal{L}$  induces a granulometry  $\{\zeta_{\lambda}\}$  on  $\mathcal{L}$ ' and we have

 $\alpha \gamma_{\lambda}(X) \leq \zeta_{\lambda}(\alpha X) ,$ 

with the equality when is an anamorphosis.

• Example :  $\alpha$  maps the plane  $\mathbb{R}^n$  on a torus.

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• Did you noticed that the previous scale-space approach ignores digital magnification?

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- Arcwise connectivity turns out to be a very specific requirement, that one can add, but which plays no role in the theory.
- Though figures are 2-D, the whole approach works in Z<sup>n</sup>.

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

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