# Digital Steiner sets and Matheron semi-groups 

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## Problems

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

- is the dilate of a segment by itself still a segment?
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It involves notions or properties that are not defined, or false, for digital spaces, e.g.

- is the dilate of a segment by itself still a segment?
- What is the digital homothetics of a set?

Or notions that admit several definitions,e.g.

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


## Convexity

- In maths, convexity is a notion defined for vector spaces.
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$\Rightarrow \quad$ or $\quad\{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}\} \in \mathbf{X} \Rightarrow[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}] \in \mathbf{X}$
$\Rightarrow$ or the measure of $\mathbf{X} \oplus \mathbf{B}$, both compact convex sets, is a linear function of their Minkowski functionals, e.g. in $\mathrm{R}^{2}$

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

## Convexity and Scale-space Representation

- Still in space $\mathrm{R}^{\mathrm{n}}$, denote by $\lambda \mathrm{B}$ the set similar to B by factor $\lambda$. Then the semi-group law:

$$
[(\mathbf{A} \oplus \lambda \mathbf{B}) \oplus \mu \mathbf{B})]=\mathbf{A} \oplus(\lambda+\mu) \mathbf{B}
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holds if and only if B is compact convex (GM 1975).

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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 $\mathbf{A}$ is arbitrary. In particular we have that

$$
\lambda \mathbf{B} \oplus \mu \mathbf{B}=(\lambda+\mu) \mathbf{B}
$$

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- e.g., the three segments belong to set X , which it is not convex,



## Digital Convexity

- When passing from $\mathrm{R}^{\mathrm{n}}$ to $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$ 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.




## Matheron Semi-groups

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- 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

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

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

- The law applies for opening, ASF and levelling.


## Granulometries

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

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lambda \geq \mu>0 \Rightarrow \gamma_{\mu} \circ \gamma_{\lambda}=\gamma_{\lambda} \tag{1}
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- For
$\Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}(\mathrm{E})$ lattices ( e.g. $\mathrm{E}=\mathrm{R}^{\mathrm{n}}$ or $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$ )
$\Rightarrow$ and $\left\{\delta_{\lambda}\right\}$ a family of dilations
Rel.(1) is equivalent to $\lambda \geq \mu \Rightarrow \delta_{\lambda}(\mathbf{x})=\gamma_{\mu} \delta_{\lambda}(\mathbf{x})$
i.e. each structuring element is open by the smaller ones.


## Granulometries

- In the Euclidean and translation invariant case

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \lambda \geq \mu \Rightarrow \delta_{\lambda}(\mathrm{x})=\gamma_{\mu} \delta_{\lambda}(\mathrm{x}) \text { becomes } \\
& \lambda \geq \mu \Rightarrow \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}=\gamma_{\mu} \mathrm{B}_{\lambda} \quad \text { (structuring elements) }
\end{aligned}
$$

- Then magnification $\equiv$ convexity

$$
\left\{\lambda \geq \mu \Rightarrow \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}=\gamma_{\mu} \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}\right\}+\text { Homothetics } \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}
$$

is equivalent to

$$
\left\{\lambda \geq \mu \Rightarrow \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}=\gamma_{\mu} \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}\right\}+\text { convex } \mathrm{B}_{\lambda}
$$

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


## Granulometries

- Conversely, we can drop convexity

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


## Granulometries

- Note also that $\mathrm{A}=\mathrm{A} \circ \mathrm{B}$ is not an inclusion relation When A is open by B ,

a)


## Granulometries

- Note also that $\mathrm{A}=\mathrm{A} \circ \mathrm{B}$ is not an inclusion relation

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

a)

b)

## Euclidean Steiner class

- Steiner class : In $\mathrm{R}^{\mathrm{n}}$, the convex sets which are dilates of segments, and their limits (e.g. the disc) are Steiner

- In R ${ }^{2}$, they coincide with all convex sets with a centre of symmetry, but no longer in $\mathrm{R}^{3}$.



## Euclidean Steiner class

- Directional measure: The Steiner set X is equivalent to the measure $\mathrm{s}_{\mathrm{X}}(\mathrm{d} \alpha)$, with

$$
\mathbf{X}=\oplus\left\{\mathbf{L}\left[\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathrm{d} \alpha)\right], \alpha \in \Omega\right\}
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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}}
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hence

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\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X}} \leq \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{Y}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X} \ominus \mathbf{X}}=\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{X}}-\mathbf{s}_{\mathbf{Y}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{Y} \text { is open by } \mathbf{X}
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- Every family of Steiner sets with increasing measures generates a granulometry.


## An example



- This sequence of Steiner sets generates a granulometry


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## Several questions arise:

- Under which conditions can the dilate of two digital parallel segments be in turn a segment?
- What is a digital Steiner set ?
- What is a digtal convex set?
- Under which conditions is a digital convex set connected?


## Bezout planes in $\mathbf{Z}^{\text {n }}$

- Bezout theorem: The equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
a_{1} \mathbf{u}_{1}+a_{2} u_{2}+\ldots a_{n} u_{n}=1 \tag{1}
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- General solution: One goes from the solutions of

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to those for $\mathrm{c}+1$ by replacing the $\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}}$ by $\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}}+\mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{i}}$, where the $u_{i}$ are an arbitrary solution of (1).

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- Spanning of the space Therefore the hyper-planes (2) span the space $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$, so that each point is met once and only once.
N.B. in $\mathrm{Z}^{2}$ this is also true for Bresenham lines (H.Talbot)


## Bezout lines in $\mathbf{Z}^{2}$

- When $a$ and $b$ are relatively prime, then $\exists \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbf{Z} \quad$ such that $\quad \mathbf{a u}+\mathbf{b v}=\mathbf{1}$

If $\left(x_{0}, y_{0}\right)$ is solution of $a x+b y=c$, then

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a\left(x_{0}+u\right)+b\left(y_{0}+v\right)=c+1
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- All solutions of the equation $a x+b y=c+1$ derive from the solutions of $a x+b y=c$ 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.

## Bezout lines in $\mathbb{Z}^{2}$

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


## Bezout directions and segments

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- Bezout line going through the origin

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- Bezout line going through point x and of direction $\omega$ :

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\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{x}}(\omega)=\mathbf{D}(\omega) \oplus \mathbf{x}=\{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{k} \omega, \mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{Z}\}
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- Bezout segment : the sequence of the $(\mathrm{k}+1)$ points

$$
\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{k}, \omega)=\{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{p} \omega, 0 \leq \mathbf{p} \leq k\}
$$

## Bezout lines in $\mathbb{Z}^{2}$

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


## Dilation on Bezout segments

## Theorem 1 :

- 1/ The Minkowski sum of the segments $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{x}}(\mathrm{k}, \omega)$ and $\mathrm{L}_{\mathrm{y}}(\mathrm{m}, \omega)$ is the segment

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- the segment $L_{x}(k, \omega)$ itself when $k \geq m$
- The empty set when not
- 3/ The only digital segments that satisfy these two properties are the Bezout ones (because of their unit thickness).


## Digital Steiner sets

- Steiner sets : A set in $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$ is Steiner when it can be decomposed into Minkowski sum of Bezout segments.
- A Steiner set is not always convex.



## Digital Steiner sets

- Steiner sets : A set in $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$ 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

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


## Digital Convexity

- Digital convexity: Set $\mathrm{X} \subseteq \mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$ 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 $[\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}$ ] belong to X
- Hence, By using Bezout' background, we can identify both approaches of convexity, by convex hull, and by barycentre


## Reveillès Straight lines



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

## Reveillès Straight lines



$$
\gamma \leq a x+b y<\gamma+\rho
$$



## Thickness of the Réveillès lines



## Decomposition

Decomposition of Réveillès straight lines into Bezout ones

$$
\begin{aligned}
& D: \quad \gamma \leq a x+b y<\gamma+\rho \\
& D: \quad \bigcup_{\gamma \leq c<\gamma+\rho}\{a x+b y=c\}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 0 \leq 3 x-5 y<5 \\
& 3 x-5 y=0 \\
& 3 x-5 y=1 \\
& 3 x-5 y=2 \\
& 3 x-5 y=3 \\
& 3 x-5 y=4
\end{aligned}
$$



## Convexity for Steiner sets

- Theorem 3 : $\operatorname{In} \mathrm{Z}^{2}$, a Steiner set X of measure

$$
\left\{\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{i}} \omega_{\mathrm{l}}, 1 \leq \mathrm{i} \leq \mathrm{p}\right\}
$$

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

$$
\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{p}} \oplus \mathbf{L}_{1} \oplus \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{2}} \oplus \ldots \oplus \mathbf{L}_{\mathrm{p}-1}
$$

is a Réveillès straight line

- Similar statement in $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$.


## Steiner convex sets


a)

b)

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## Steiner convex sets


$2 \mathrm{x}-3 \mathrm{y}=0, \quad$ shifted by $\bullet$ gives $2 \mathrm{x}-3 \mathrm{y}=2$


## Steiner convex sets


$2 \mathrm{x}-3 \mathrm{y}=0, \quad$ shifted by $\bullet$ gives $2 \mathrm{x}-3 \mathrm{y}=2$
shifted by gives $2 x-3 y=-3$


## Steiner convex sets


$2 x-3 y=0, \quad$ shifted by $\quad \int$ gives $2 x-3 y=-1$


## Steiner convex sets



And with the previous shifts


## Steiner convex sets


a)

b)

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## Steiner sets and connectivity



Theorem 4
In $Z^{\mathrm{n}}$, the Steiner set X of measure $\left\{\mathbf{k}_{\mathbf{i}}, \mathbf{1} \leq \mathbf{i} \leq \mathbf{p}\right\}$ with $\mathrm{n} \leq \mathrm{p}$, is connected if and only if for each j such that $\mathrm{n}<\mathrm{j} \leq \mathrm{p}$, the component $\omega_{i}^{j}$ of direction $\omega_{j}$ w.r.t. axis $\omega_{\imath}$ satisfies the inequality

$$
\mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{j}} \omega_{\mathrm{l}}{ }^{\mathrm{j}} \leq \mathbf{k}_{\mathrm{i}}
$$

## 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 $\mathcal{L}^{\prime}$
$\alpha$ and $\alpha^{-1}$ are both erosions and dilations.
- Semi-anamorphosis When $\alpha: \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^{\prime}$ is a dilation, every granulometry $\left\{\gamma_{\lambda}\right\}$ on $\mathcal{L}$ induces a granulometry $\left\{\zeta_{\lambda}\right\}$ on $\mathcal{L}^{\prime}$ and we have

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

with the equality when is an anamorphosis.

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


## Conclusions

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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.


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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 $\mathrm{Z}^{\mathrm{n}}$.


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