

# Le Dahu et la barrière

← in French in the text

*Que la montagne de pixels est belle.* Jean Serrat.

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J. GDMM, Poitiers, France, 2017

↑ next to "Chez Moe" (bar à bière sympa ouvert jusqu'à 21h)

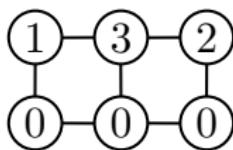
# About image representations

(mathematical morphology way of thinking)

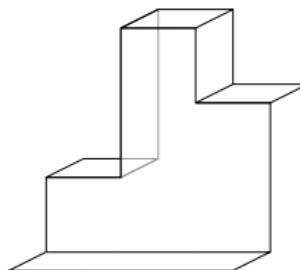
topographical landscape

1	3	2
0	0	0

a 2D array



a graph



a surface



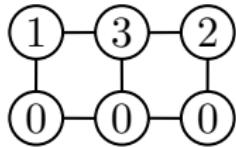
L.W. Najman and J. Cousty, “A graph-based mathematical morphology reader,” *Pattern Recognition Letters*, vol. 47, pp. 3-17, Oct. 2014. [\[PDF\]](#)

# The Minimum Barriere (MB) Distance

Barrier  $\tau$  of a path  $\pi$  in an image  $u$

Interval of gray-level values (dynamics of  $u$ ) along a path:

$$\tau_u(\pi) = \max_{\pi_i \in \pi} u(\pi_i) - \min_{\pi_i \in \pi} u(\pi_i).$$

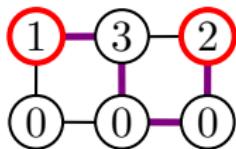


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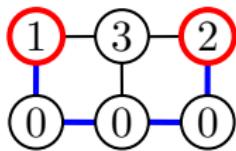
pink path values =  $\langle 1, 3, 0, 0, 2 \rangle \rightsquigarrow$  interval =  $[0, 3]$   $\rightsquigarrow$  barrier = 3

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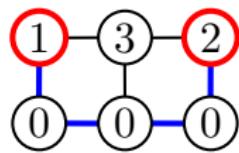
blue path values =  $\langle 1, 0, 0, 0, 2 \rangle \rightsquigarrow$  interval =  $[0, 2] \rightsquigarrow$  barrier = 2

# The Minimum Barriere (MB) Distance

MB distance (MBD) between two points  $x$  and  $x'$

MBD = minimum barrier (considering all paths) between 2 points:

$$d_u^{\text{MB}}(x, x') = \min_{\pi \in \Pi(x, x')} \tau_u(\pi).$$



↪ smallest barrier = 2

This is a *pseudo*-distance:

- $d_u^{\text{MB}}(x) \geq 0$  (non-negativity)
- $d_u^{\text{MB}}(x, x) = 0$  (identity)
- $d_u^{\text{MB}}(x, x') = d_u^{\text{MB}}(x', x)$  (symmetry)
- $d_u^{\text{MB}}(x, x'') \leq d_u^{\text{MB}}(x, x') + d_u^{\text{MB}}(x', x'')$  (subadditivity)
- ~~$x' \neq x \Rightarrow d_u^{\text{MB}}(x, x') > 0$  (positivity)~~

R. Strand, K.C. Ciesielski, F. Malmberg, and P.K. Saha, "[The minimum barrier distance](#)," *Computer Vision and Image Understanding*, vol. 117, pp. 429-437, 2013. [\[PDF\]](#)

K.C. Ciesielski, R. Strand, F. Malmberg, and P.K. Saha, "[Efficient Algorithm for Finding the Exact Minimum Barrier Distance](#)," *Computer Vision and Image Understanding*, vol. 123, pp. 53–64, 2014. [\[PDF\]](#)

# An important distance

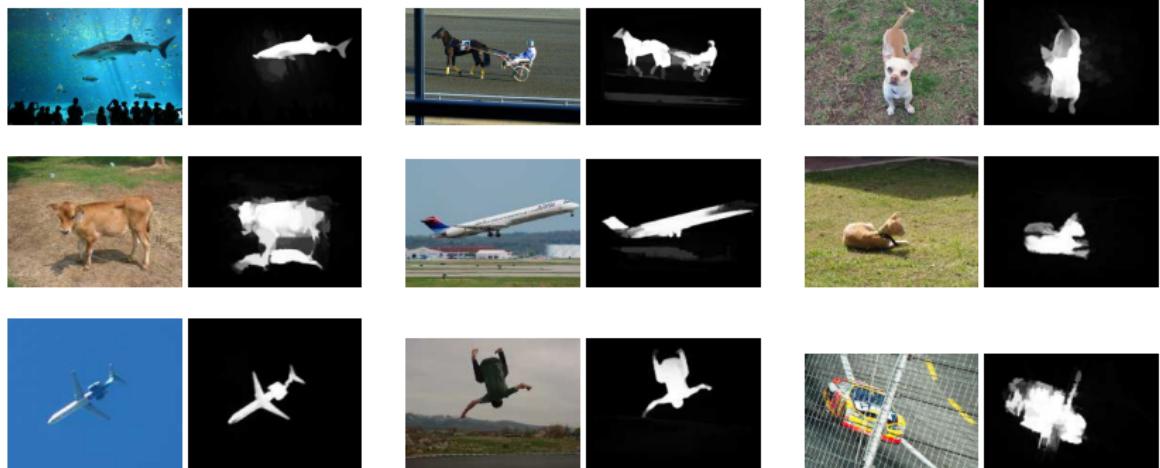
- relying on function dynamics  
(so not a “classical” path-length distance)
- related to mathematical morphology!

# An important distance

- relying on function dynamics  
(so not a “classical” path-length distance)
- related to mathematical morphology!
- effective for segmentation tasks...



# Distance maps from the image border



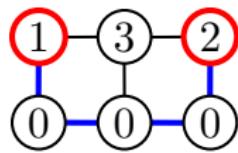
J. Zhang, S. Sclaroff, Z. Lin, X. Shen, B. Price, and R. Mech, “[Minimum barrier salient object detection at 80 FPS](#),” in: Proc. of ICCV, pp. 1404–1412, 2015. [\[PDF\]](#)

W.C. Tu, S. He, Q. Yang, and S.Y. Chien, “[Real-time salient object detection with a minimum spanning tree](#),” in: Proc. of IEEE CVPR, pp. 2334–2342, 2016. [\[PDF\]](#)

J. Zhang, S. Sclaroff, “[Exploiting Surroundedness for Saliency Detection: A Boolean Map Approach](#),” IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, vol. 38, num. 5, pp. 889–902, 2016. [\[PDF\]](#)

# The glitch!

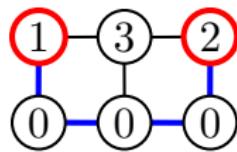
In the graph world:



the MB distance is **2**

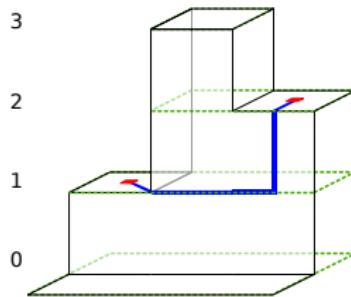
# The glitch!

In the graph world:



the MB distance is **2**

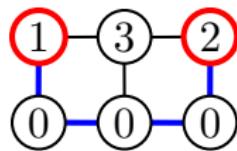
In the continuous world:



the MB distance should be **1!**

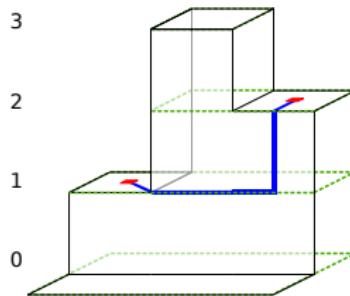
# The glitch!

In the graph world:



the MB distance is **2**

In the continuous world:



the MB distance should be **1!**

⇒ **we need a new definition!**

This talk is only about this definition and about its computation.

# The glitch!

to get a new definition...

a continuous representation of an image / surface is required...

# A $\approx$ new representation...

Given a scalar image  $u : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow Y$ , we use two tools:

- cubical complexes:  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  is replaced by  $\mathbb{H}^n$
- set-valued maps:  $Y$  is replaced by  $\mathbb{I}_Y$

# A $\approx$ new representation...

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- set-valued maps:  $Y$  is replaced by  $\mathbb{I}_Y$

$\Rightarrow$  a *continuous* (and *discrete!*) representation of images

T. Géraud, E. Carlinet, S. Crozet, and L.W. Najman, “A quasi-linear algorithm to compute the tree of shapes of  $n$ -D images,” in: Proc. of ISMM, LNCS, vol. 7883, pp. 98–110, Springer, 2013. [\[PDF\]](#)

L.W. Najman and T. Géraud, “Discrete set-valued continuity and interpolation,” in: Proc. of ISMM, LNCS, vol. 7883, pp. 37–48, Springer, 2013. [\[PDF\]](#)

# Cubical complex

The  $n$ D space of cubical complexes:

$$H_0^1 = \{ \{a\}; a \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

$$H_1^1 = \{ \{a, a+1\}; a \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

$$\mathbb{H}^1 = H_0^1 \cup H_1^1$$

$$\mathbb{H}^n = \times_n H^1$$

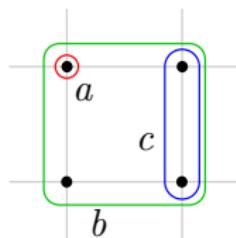
$h \in \mathbb{H}^n$ :  $\times$  product of  $d$  elements of  $H_1^1$  and  $n - d$  elements of  $H_0^1$

- we have  $h \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$
- $h$  is a  $d$ -face
- $d$  is the dimension of  $h$

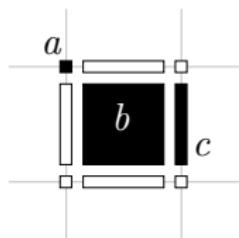
# Cubical complex

Three faces of  $\mathbb{H}^2$ :

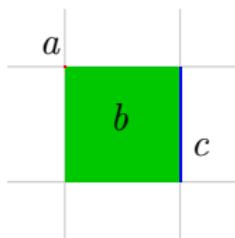
$a = \{0\} \times \{1\}$	0-face	closed
$b = \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\}$	2-face	open
$c = \{1\} \times \{0, 1\}$	1-face	clopen



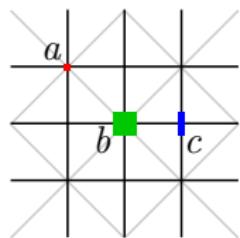
subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$



elements of  
the cellular complex



geometrical objects  
(parts of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ )



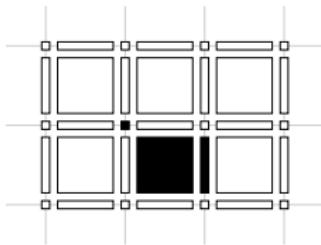
vertices of  
the Khalimsky grid

# Cubical complex

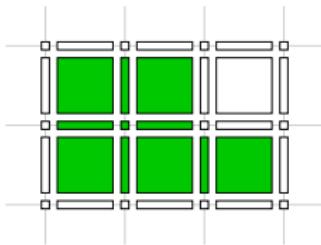
With  $h^\uparrow = \{ h' \in \mathbb{H}^n \mid h \subseteq h' \}$  and  $h^\downarrow = \{ h' \in \mathbb{H}^n \mid h' \subseteq h \}$ :

- $(\mathbb{H}^n, \subseteq)$   
is a poset,
- $\mathcal{U} = \{ U \subseteq \mathbb{H}^n \mid \forall h \in U, h^\uparrow \subseteq U \}$   
is a T0-Alexandroff topology on  $\mathbb{H}^n$ .

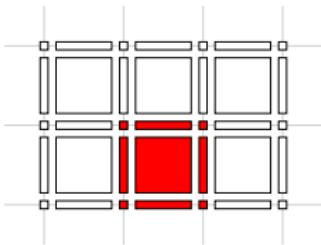
Topological operators:



$$E = \{ a, b, c \}$$



$$\text{star: } E^\uparrow$$

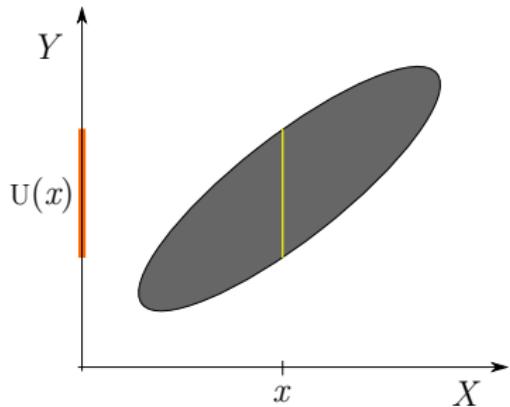


$$\text{closure: } E^\downarrow$$

# Set-valued analysis

A set-valued map  $U : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y)$  is characterized by its graph:

$$\text{Gra}(U) = \{ (x, y) \in X \times Y \mid y \in U(x) \}.$$



Continuity:

- when  $U(x)$  is compact,  $U$  is USC at  $x$  if  
 $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \eta > 0$  such that  $\forall x' \in B_X(x, \eta), U(x') \subset B_Y(U(x), \varepsilon)$ .
- $U$  is USC iff  $\forall x \in X, U$  is USC at  $x$
- this is the “natural” extension of the *continuity* of a scalar function.

Inverse:

the *core* of  $M \subset Y$  by  $U$  is  $U^\ominus(M) = \{x \in X \mid U(x) \subset M\}$

A continuity characterization:

$U$  is USC iff *the core of any open subset is open.*

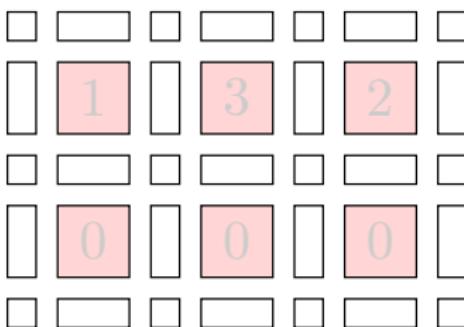
# A both discrete and continuous representation

discrete point  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad n\text{-face } h_x \in \mathbb{H}^n$

domain  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \mathcal{D}_H = \text{cl}(\{h_x; x \in \mathcal{D}\}) \subset \mathbb{H}^n$

1	3	2
0	0	0

from a scalar image  $u$ ...



# A both discrete and continuous representation

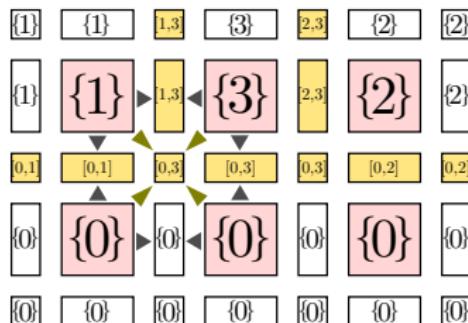
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domain  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{D}_H = \text{cl}(\{h_x; x \in \mathcal{D}\}) \subset \mathbb{H}^n$

scalar image  $u : \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow Y \rightsquigarrow$  interval-valued map  $\tilde{u} : \mathcal{D}_H \subset \mathbb{H}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{I}_Y$

1	3	2
0	0	0

from a scalar image  $u$ ...



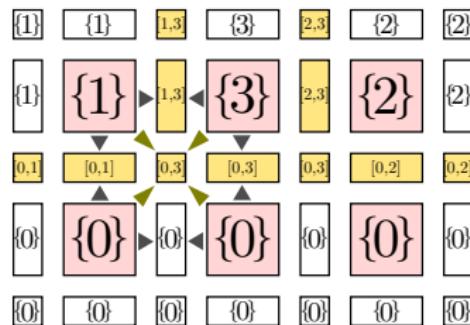
to an interval-valued image  $\tilde{u}$

# A both discrete and continuous representation

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{discrete point } x \in \mathbb{Z}^n & \rightsquigarrow & n\text{-face } h_x \in \mathbb{H}^n \\ \text{domain } \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n & \rightsquigarrow & \mathcal{D}_H = \text{cl}(\{h_x; x \in \mathcal{D}\}) \subset \mathbb{H}^n \\ \text{scalar image } u : \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow Y & \rightsquigarrow & \text{interval-valued map } \tilde{u} : \mathcal{D}_H \subset \mathbb{H}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{I}_Y \end{array}$$

1	3	2
0	0	0

from a scalar image  $u$ ...



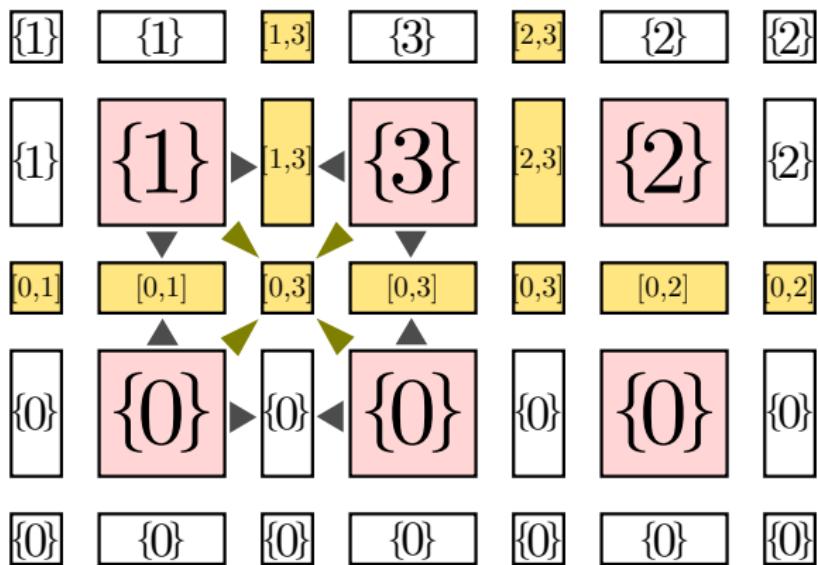
to an interval-valued image  $\tilde{u}$

We set:

$$\forall h \in \mathcal{D}_H, \quad \tilde{u}(h) = \text{span}\{ u(x); x \in \mathcal{D} \text{ and } h \subset h_x \}.$$

# A both discrete and continuous representation

zoomed in:



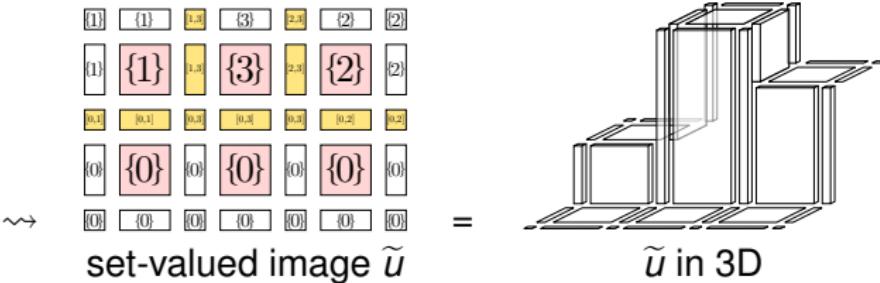
$\tilde{u}$

how huge!

# A both discrete and continuous representation

1	3	2
0	0	0

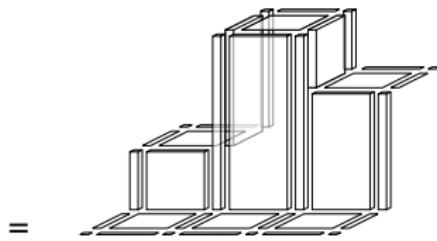
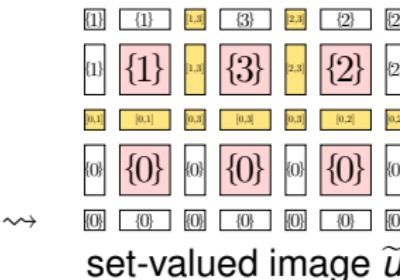
image  $u$



# A both discrete and continuous representation

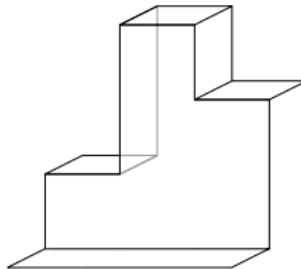
1	3	2
0	0	0

image  $u$



$\tilde{u}$  in 3D

$\Updownarrow$

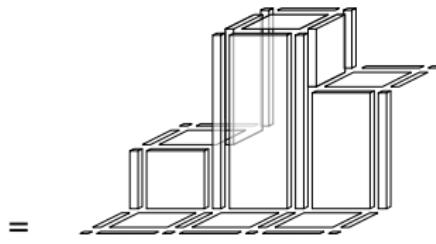
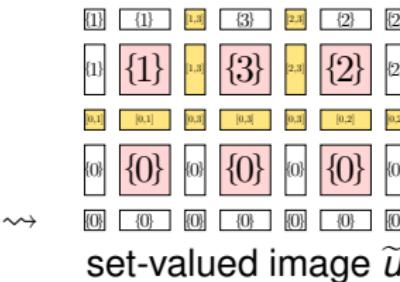


3D version of  $u$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

# A both discrete and continuous representation

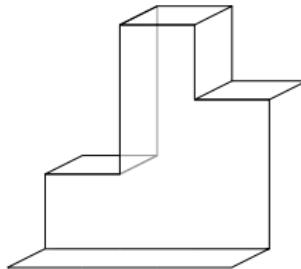
1	3	2
0	0	0

image  $u$



$\tilde{u}$  in 3D

$\Updownarrow$



3D version of  $u$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

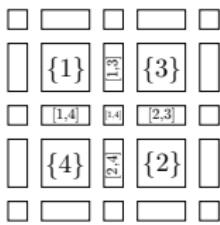
*continuity!*  $\Updownarrow$

# A both discrete and continuous representation

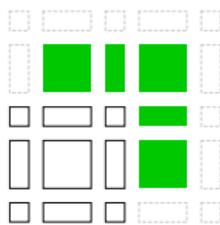
(Reminder: we have the complex  $X = \mathbb{H}^n$  and the space of intervals  $\mathbb{I}_Y$ )

## A short insight about continuity:

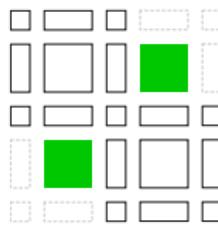
- $\tilde{u}$  is USC because...
- with an open set  $M \subset \mathbb{I}_Y$ , the core  $\tilde{u}^\ominus(M)$  can be expressed in terms of...
- these thresholds sets:
$$[\tilde{u} \triangleleft \lambda] = \{x \in X \mid \forall y \in \tilde{u}(x), y < \lambda\}$$
$$[\tilde{u} \triangleright \lambda] = \{x \in X \mid \forall y \in \tilde{u}(x), y > \lambda\}$$
- ...which are open sets of  $X$ :



$\tilde{u}$



$[\tilde{u} \triangleleft 4]$



$[\tilde{u} \triangleright 3 - \iota]$

# A both discrete and continuous representation

we have a representation for the image surface

~> we want to express the “continuous” distance...

## Inclusion

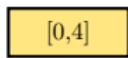
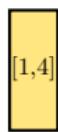
with  $u$  a scalar image, and  $U$  a set-valued image:

$$u \ll U \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in X, u(x) \in U(x)$$

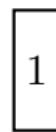
## Inclusion

with  $u$  a scalar image, and  $U$  a set-valued image:

$$u \ll U \Leftrightarrow \forall x \in X, u(x) \in U(x)$$



$$U$$



$$u_1 \ll U$$



$$u_2 \ll U$$

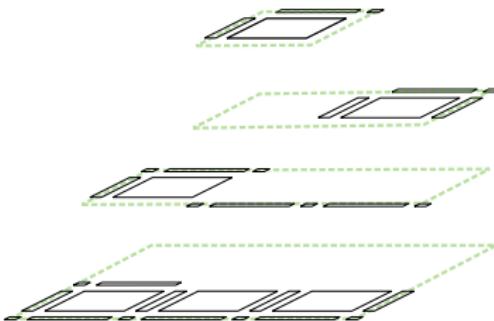
# Finding the continuous MB distance

{1}	{1}	[1,3]	{3}	[2,3]	{2}	{2}
{1}	{1}	[1,3]	{3}	[2,3]	{2}	{2}
[0,1]	[0,1]	[0,3]	[0,3]	[0,3]	[0,2]	[0,2]
{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}
{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}

interval-valued image  $\tilde{u}$

1	1	1	3	3	2	2
1	1	3	3	2	2	2
0	0	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

a scalar image  $\bar{u} < \tilde{u} \dots$



...and its 3D version

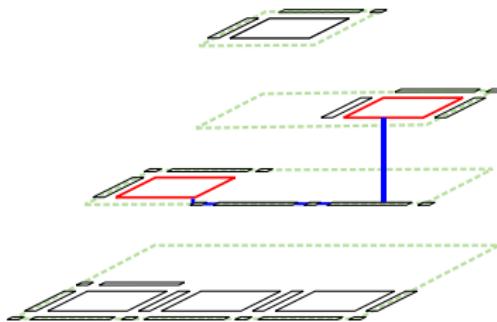
# Finding the continuous MB distance

{1}	{1}	[1,3]	{3}	[2,3]	{2}	{2}
{1}	{1}	[1,3]	{3}	[2,3]	{2}	{2}
[0,1]	[0,1]	[0,3]	[0,3]	[0,3]	[0,2]	[0,2]
{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}
{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}

interval-valued image  $\tilde{u}$

1	1	1	3	3	2	2
1	1	1	3	3	2	2
0	0	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

a minimal path in a  $\bar{u} < \tilde{u} \dots$



...and its 3D version

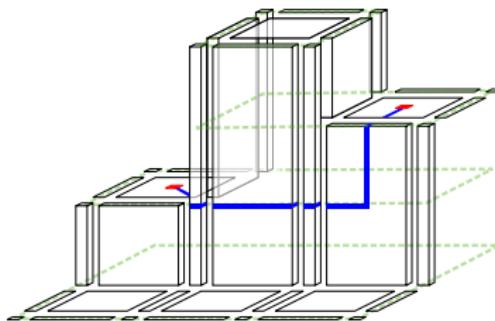
# Finding the continuous MB distance

{1}	{1}	[1,3]	{3}	[2,3]	{2}	{2}
{1}	{1}	[1,3]	{3}	[2,3]	{2}	{2}
[0,1]	[0,1]	[0,3]	[0,3]	[0,3]	[0,2]	[0,2]
{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}
{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}	{0}

interval-valued image  $\tilde{u}$

1	1	1	3	3	2	2
1	1	1	3	3	2	2
0	0	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

this path in this  $\bar{u} < \tilde{u} \dots$



...is a minimal path in  $\tilde{u}$

# The Dahu distance

The Dahu distance:

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\bar{u} < \tilde{u}} \underbrace{\min_{\pi \in \Pi(h_x, h_{x'})} \left( \overbrace{\max_{\pi_i \in \pi} \bar{u}(\pi_i)}^{\text{barrier } \tau_{\bar{u}}(\pi)} - \min_{\pi_i \in \pi} \bar{u}(\pi_i) \right)}_{\text{minimum barrier distance } d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_x, h_{x'})}$$

# The Dahu distance

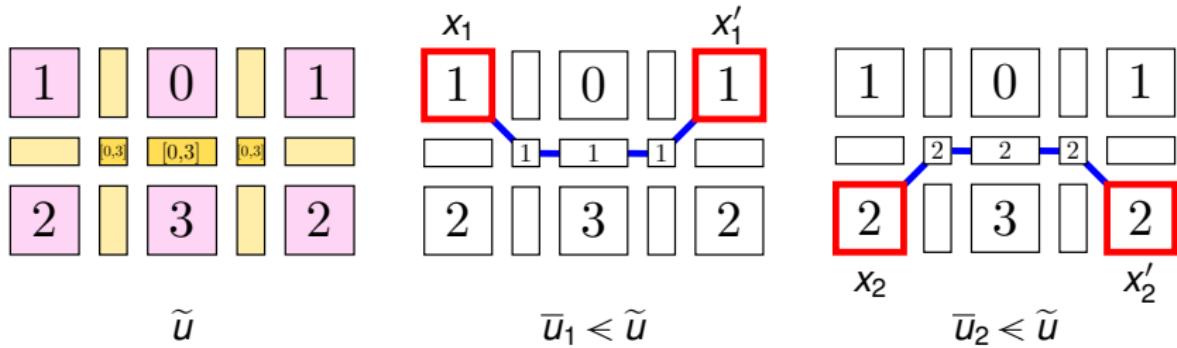
The Dahu distance:

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\bar{u} < \tilde{u}} \underbrace{\min_{\pi \in \Pi(h_x, h_{x'})} \left( \overbrace{\max_{\pi_i \in \pi} \bar{u}(\pi_i)}^{\text{barrier } \tau_{\bar{u}}(\pi)} - \min_{\pi_i \in \pi} \bar{u}(\pi_i) \right)}_{\text{minimum barrier distance } d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_x, h_{x'})}$$

it looks like we have added an extra combinatorial complexity  
w.r.t. the original MB distance...

# This new combinatorial layer = a requirement

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\bar{u} < \tilde{u}} d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_x, h_{x'})$$



We have:

$$D_u(x_1, x'_1) = d_{\bar{u}_1}^{\text{MB}}(h_{x_1}, h_{x'_1}) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad D_u(x_2, x'_2) = d_{\bar{u}_2}^{\text{MB}}(h_{x_2}, h_{x'_2}) = 0$$

but:  $\nexists \bar{u} < \tilde{u}, \quad d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_{x_1}, h_{x'_1}) = d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_{x_2}, h_{x'_2}) = 0.$

so we do **not** have a unique  $\bar{u} < \tilde{u}$  that "works" for all different  $(x, x')$

# Recap

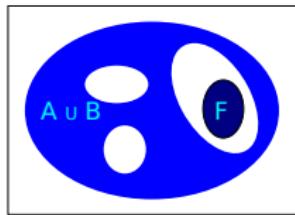
We have a combinatorial continuous-like def. of the MB distance...

...but it can be computed **exactly** and **efficiently** with:  
the *morphological tree of shapes*!!!

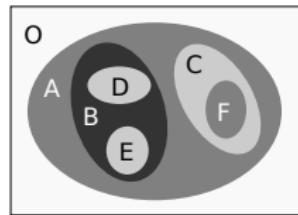
# The morphological tree of shapes (ToS)

With  $\lambda \in Y$ :

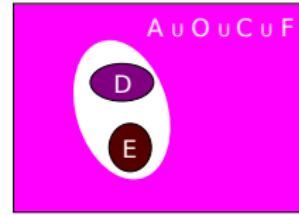
- lowel level sets:  $[u < \lambda] = \{x \in X; u(x) < \lambda\}$
- upper level sets:  $[u \geq \lambda] = \{x \in X; u(x) \geq \lambda\}$



a lower level set



$u$



a upper level set

A Couple of Dual Trees:

- min-tree:  $T_{\min}(u) = \{\Gamma \in \mathcal{CC}([u < \lambda])\}_\lambda$
- max-tree:  $T_{\max}(u) = \{\Gamma \in \mathcal{CC}([u \geq \lambda])\}_\lambda$

# The morphological tree of shapes (ToS)



scale

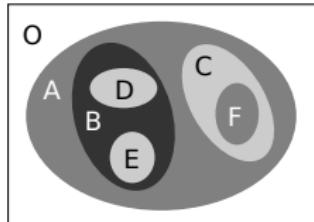
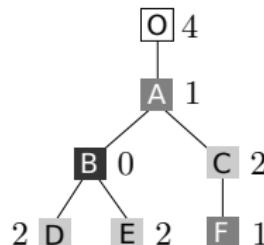
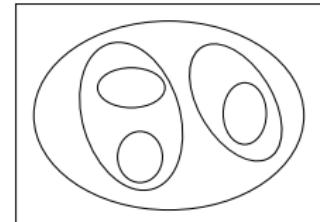


image  $u$



$\mathfrak{S}(u)$



level lines of  $u$

Tree of shapes:

$$\mathfrak{S}(u) = \{ \text{Sat}(\Gamma); \Gamma \in \mathcal{CC}([u < \lambda]) \cup \mathcal{CC}([u \geq \lambda]) \}_{\lambda}$$

A shape:

- an element  $\mathcal{S} \in \mathfrak{S}(u)$
- a sub-tree in the representation above

Level lines:  $\{ \partial\Gamma; \Gamma \in \mathfrak{S}(u) \}$

# A ToS displayed



# Another ToS displayed



every 15 levels only *and* without grain less than 3 pixels

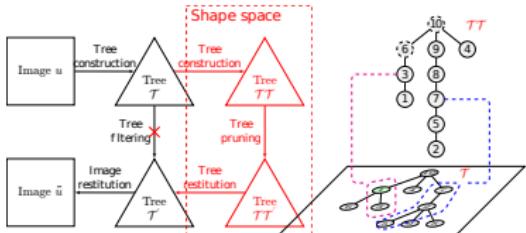
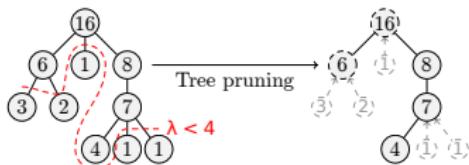
# How to compute the ToS

E. Carlinet and T. Géraud, “[A comparative review of component tree computation algorithms](#),” *IEEE Transactions on Image Processing*, vol. 23, num. 9, pp. 3885–3895, 2014. [\[PDF\]](#)

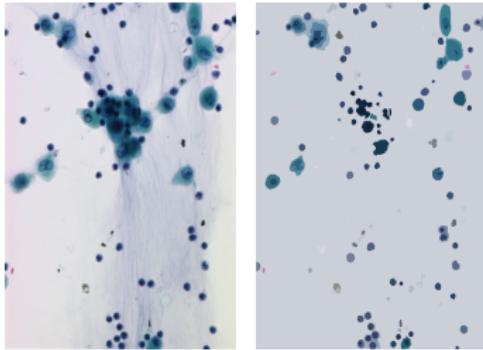
T. Géraud, E. Carlinet, S. Crozet, and L.W. Najman, “[A quasi-linear algorithm to compute the tree of shapes of  \$n\$ -D images](#),” in: *Proc. of ISMM*, LNCS, vol. 7883, pp. 98–110, Springer, 2013. [\[PDF\]](#)

S. Crozet and T. Géraud, “[A first parallel algorithm to compute the morphological tree of shapes of  \$n\$ D images](#),” in: *Proc. of ICIP*, pp. 2933–2937, 2014. [\[PDF\]](#)

# Apps based on the ToS



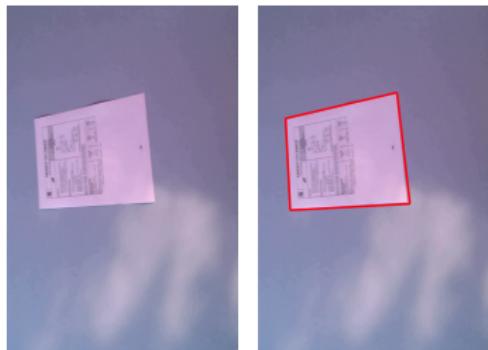
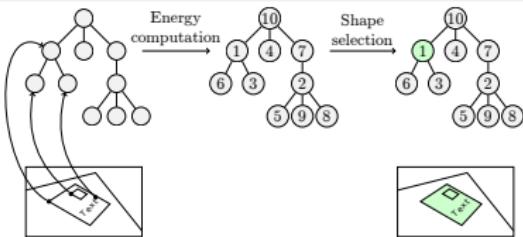
Grain filter.



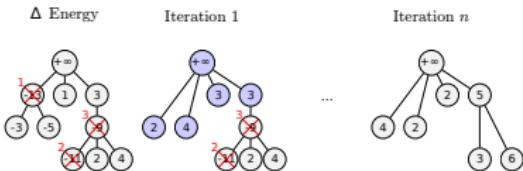
Shaping (filtering in shape space).

Y. Xu, T. Géraud, and L. Najman, “Connected filtering on tree-based shape-spaces,” *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, vol. 38, num. 6, pp. 1126–1140, 2016.  
[\[PDF\]](#)

# Apps based on the ToS



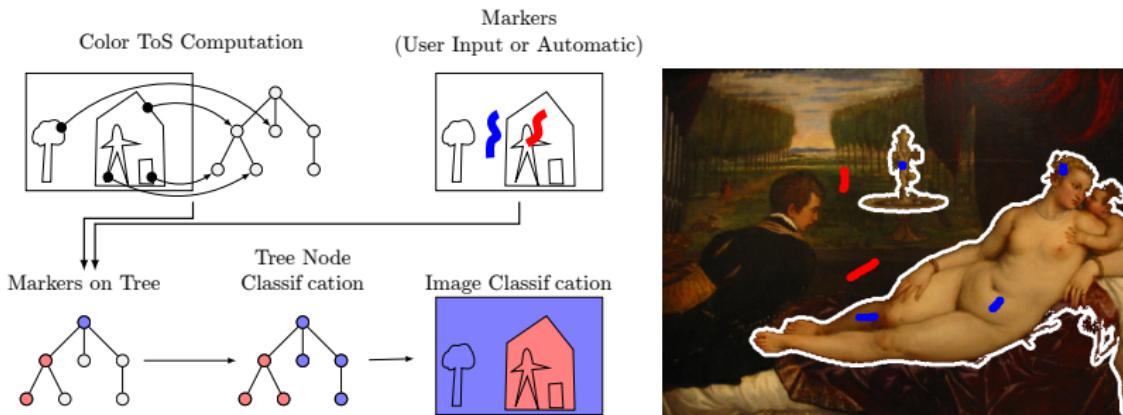
Object detection.



Simplification / segmentation.

Y. Xu, E. Carlinet, T. Géraud, and L. Najman, "[Hierarchical segmentation using tree-based shape spaces](#)," *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, vol. 39, num. 3, pp. 457–469, 2017. [\[PDF\]](#)

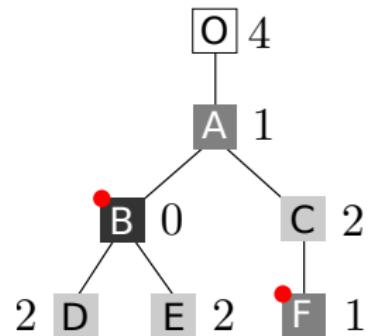
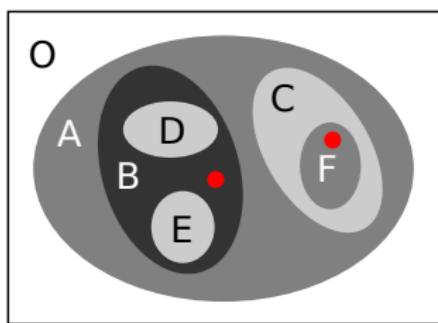
# Apps based on the ToS



Object picking from very few scribbles.

E. Carlinet and T. Géraud, “[MToS: A tree of shapes for multivariate images](#),” *IEEE Transactions on Image Processing*, vol. 24, num. 12, pp. 5330–5342, 2015. [\[PDF\]](#)

# The morphological tree of shapes (ToS)



Let us consider a couple of points of the image:  
each point belongs to a particular ToS node

# The morphological tree of shapes (ToS)

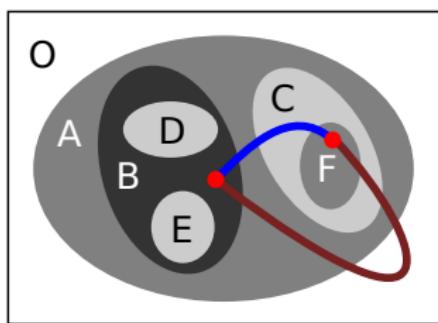
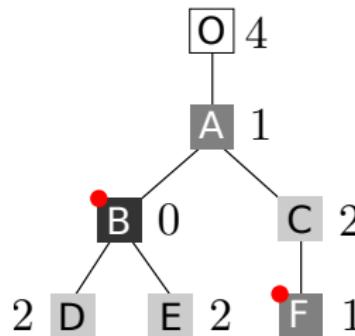


image  $u$



its tree of shapes  $\mathcal{S}(u)$

finding a path between the red dots is straightforward:  
all paths **have to** go through regions A and C...

# The morphological tree of shapes (ToS)

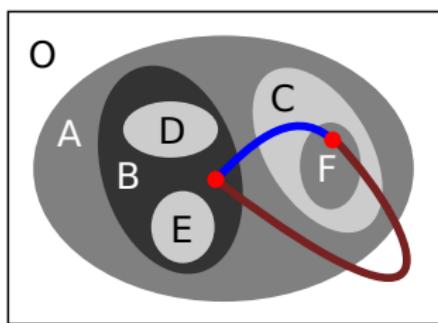
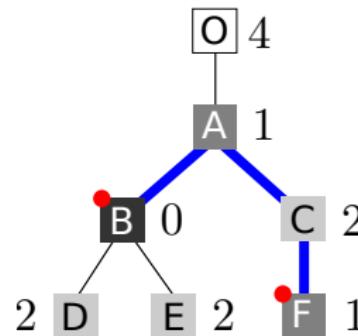


image  $u$



its tree of shapes  $\mathfrak{S}(u)$

~ a minimal path *in the image* only goes through  
the minimal set of regions and it can be “**read**” on the ToS!

# The morphological tree of shapes (ToS)

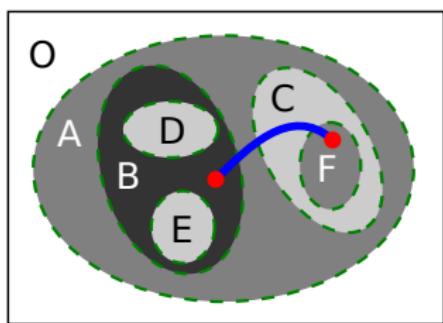
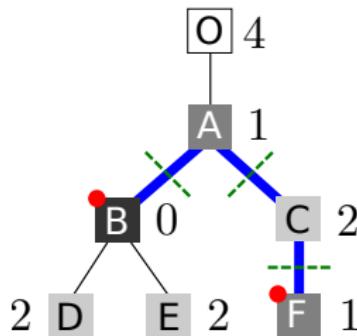


image  $u$



its tree of shapes  $\mathfrak{S}(u)$

and this minimal path crosses the image level lines  
(so they have to be “well formed” → we’ll see that later...)

# Mapping the Dahu distance on the tree

With

- $t_x$  the node that corresponds to  $x \in \mathbb{Z}^n$
- $\pi_{\mathfrak{S}(u)}(t_x, t_{x'})$  the path in  $\mathfrak{S}(u)$  between the nodes  $t_x$  and  $t_{x'}$
- $\mu_u(t)$  the corresponding gray level of node  $t$  in the image  $u$

the **definition of the Dahu distance** becomes:

$$D_u(x, x') = \max_{t \in \pi_{\mathfrak{S}(u)}(t_x, t_{x'})} \mu_u(t) - \min_{t \in \pi_{\mathfrak{S}(u)}(t_x, t_{x'})} \mu_u(t)$$

The how-to:

1. pre-compute the ToS (...)
2. then get distances very efficiently for many couples  $(x, x')$ .

# A quick quiz



Red zone: region where every path between red dots is minimal.

## Quiz:

discuss / compare the different methods that compute the distance...

# Recap

We have a continuous-like definition of the MB distance  
and it can be computed efficiently thanks to the tree of shapes

≈ but we have to fix a digital topology issue  
and to re-express the distance *on* the tree...

# About digital topology

Digital topology implies:

- use of dual connectivities for object/background
- dual connectivities for lower/upper level sets  $\Rightarrow$  the ToS exists

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Issues with *two* connectivities:

- it would be painful to consider paths [...]
- we would have some inconsistent results in distance computation [...]

# About digital topology

Digital topology implies:

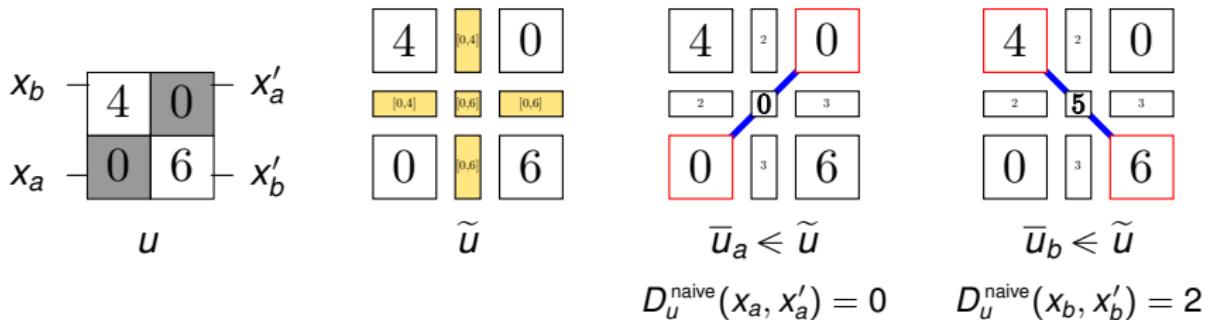
- use of dual connectivities for object/background
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Issues with *two* connectivities:

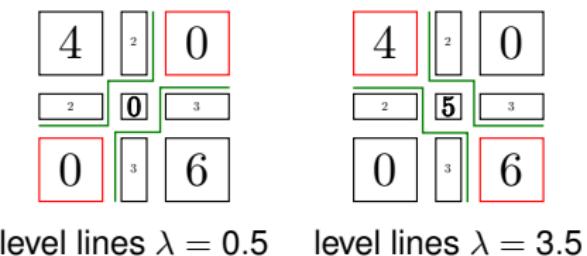
- it would be painful to consider paths [...]
- we would have some inconsistent results in distance computation [...]

let's see that...

# The issue with Digital Topology



this saddle case in 2D is a symptom of a discrete topology issue with  $\tilde{u}$



# About digital topology

Digital topology implies:

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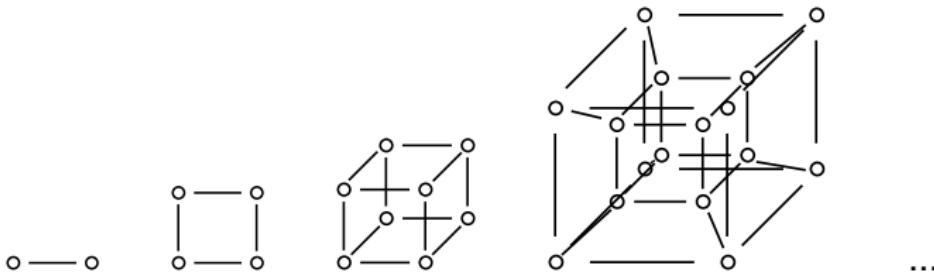
- it would be painful to consider paths [...]
- we would have some inconsistent results in distance computation [...]

An important class of images: *digitally well-composed* (DWC) images

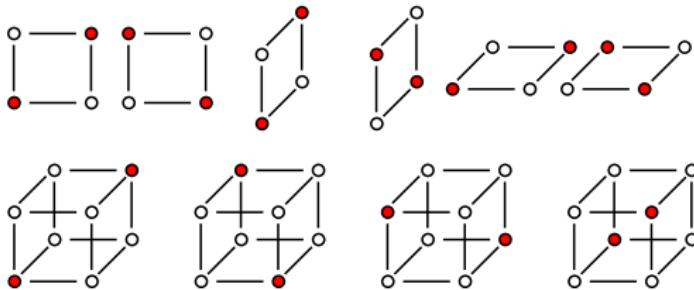
- connectivities are equivalent for all components of level sets
- boundaries of level sets do not have pinches
- if an image is DWC  $\Rightarrow$  its ToS and the level lines are well defined

T. Géraud, E. Carlinet, S. Crozet, “[Self-Duality and Discrete Topology: Links Between the Morphological Tree of Shapes and Well-Composed Gray-Level Images](#),” in: *Proc. of ISMM*, LNCS, vol. 9082, pp. 573–584, Springer, 2015. [[PDF](#)]

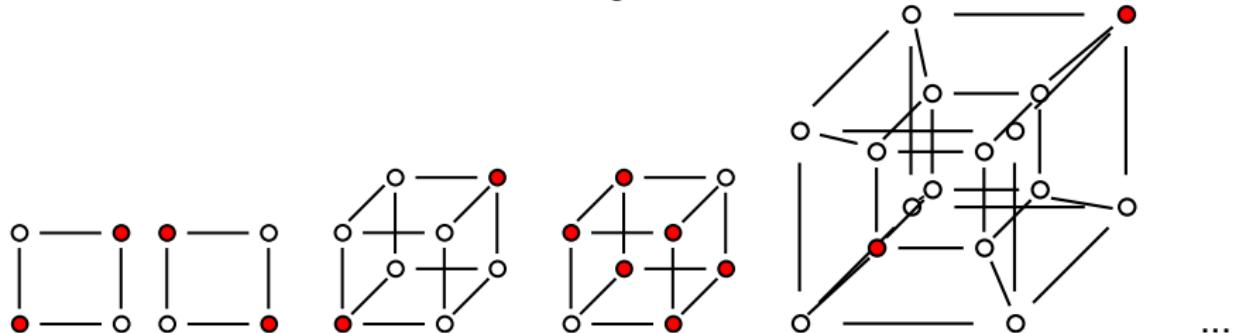
$nD$  blocks:



Antagonists in 3D:



Critical configurations:



- A digital set  $S \subset \mathbb{Z}^n$  is *digitally well-composed* (DWC) iff it does not contain any critical configuration
- A digital image  $u : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow Y$  is DWC iff its levels sets are DWC

# About digital topology

An image can be made DWC by subdivision + interpolation:

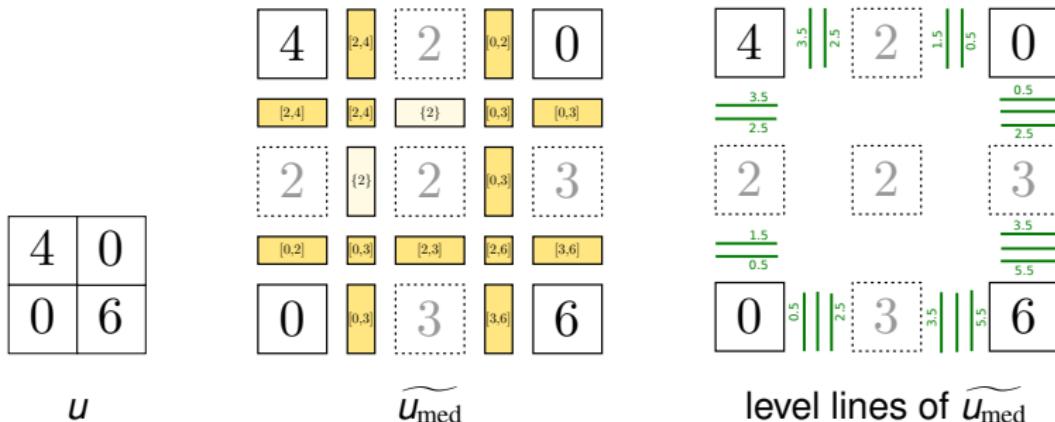
- using the median operator in 2D,
- using a non-local process in  $n$ D.

N. Boutry, T. Géraud, and L. Najman, “How to make  $n$ D functions well-composed in a self-dual way,”  
in: Proc. of ISMM, LNCS, vol. 9082, pp. 561–572, Springer, 2015. [\[PDF\]](#)

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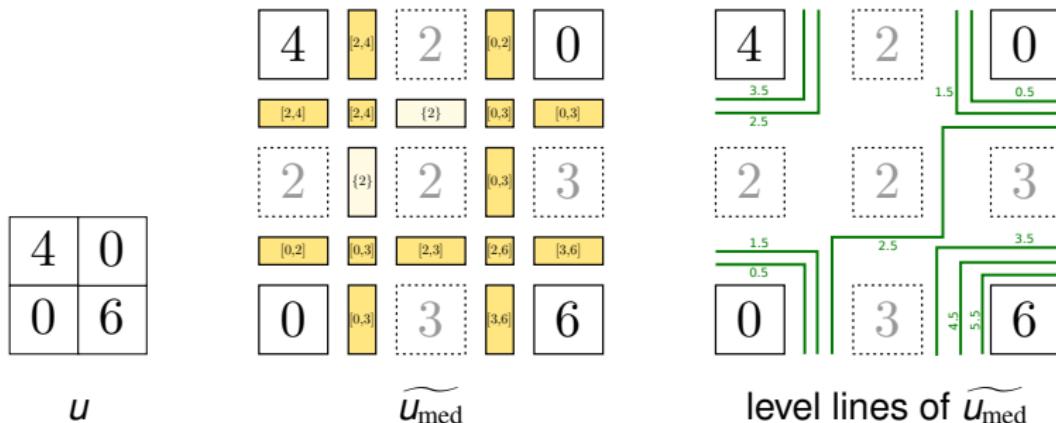
what are the level lines?  
(make the chunks connect...)

N. Boutry, T. Géraud, and L. Najman, "How to make  $n$ D functions well-composed in a self-dual way,"  
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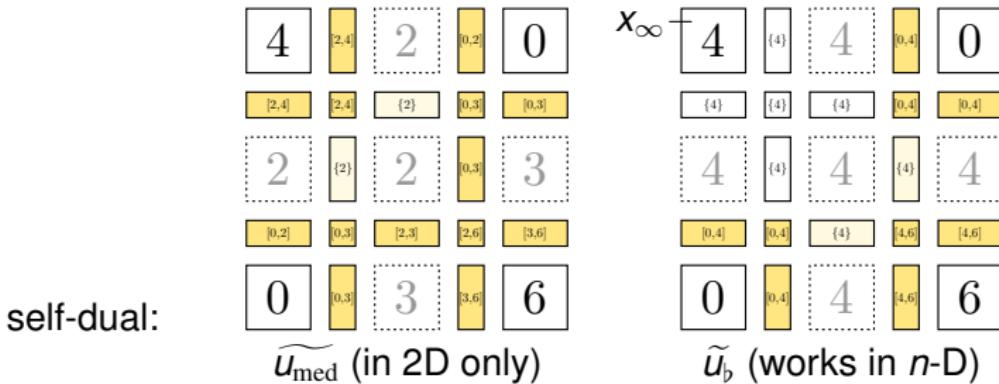
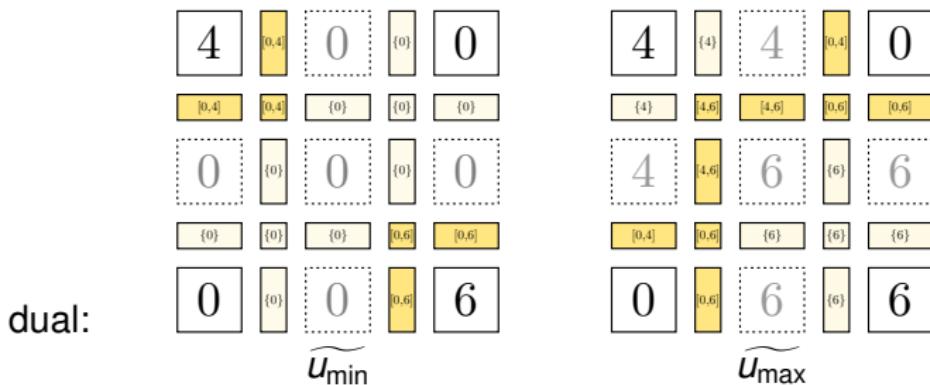
- using the median operator in 2D,
- using a non-local process in  $n$ D.



$u_{\text{med}}$  is DWC  $\Rightarrow$  there is only *one way* to arrange level lines (thus shapes) into an inclusion tree :-)

N. Boutry, T. Géraud, and L. Najman, "How to make  $n$ D functions well-composed in a self-dual way,"  
in: Proc. of ISMM, LNCS, vol. 9082, pp. 561–572, Springer, 2015. [PDF]

# Some well-composed representations



# A flawless definition

**NAIVE** definition of the Dahu distance:

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\bar{u} < \tilde{u}} d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_x, h_{x'})$$

# A flawless definition

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{scalar image} & \text{DWC interpolated} & \text{interval-valued} \\ (u : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow Y) & \xrightarrow{\text{step 1}} & (u_{\square} : (\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2})^n \rightarrow Y') \\ & & \xrightarrow{\text{step 2}} (\widetilde{u}_{\square} : (\frac{\mathbb{H}}{2})^n \rightarrow \mathbb{I}_{Y'}) \end{array}$$

**NAIVE** definition of the Dahu distance:

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\bar{u} \ll \widetilde{u}} d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_x, h_{x'})$$

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## **NEW definition of the Dahu distance:**

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\substack{\bar{u} \in \bar{U} \\ \square}} d_{\bar{u}}^{\text{MB}}(\textcolor{brown}{h}_x, \textcolor{brown}{h}_{x'})$$

## A flawless definition

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{scalar image} & & \text{DWC interpolated} & & \text{interval-valued} \\ (u : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow Y) & \xrightarrow{\text{step 1}} & (u_{\square} : (\frac{\mathbb{Z}}{2})^n \rightarrow Y') & \xrightarrow{\text{step 2}} & (\widetilde{u}_{\square} : (\frac{\mathbb{H}}{2})^n \rightarrow \mathbb{I}_{Y'}) \end{array}$$

### **NEW definition of the Dahu distance:**

$$D_u(x, x') = \min_{\overline{u} \in \widetilde{U}_{\square}} d_{\overline{u}}^{\text{MB}}(h_x, h_{x'})$$

actually, the interpolation does not introduce a bias in the distance values; it just makes their definition and computation sound and consistent : -)

# Conclusion / Take-home messages

Reminder:

- the MB distance is **great for computer vision!**

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- the MB distance is **great for computer vision!**

What we have done:

- introduce a new distance,  
that fits with a *continuous (yet discrete) representation* of images
- formalize it,  
and relate it to the morphological tree of shapes
- provide an efficient solution to compute distances.

# Conclusion / Take-home messages

Reminder:

- the MB distance is **great for computer vision!**

What we have done:

- introduce a new distance,  
that fits with a *continuous (yet discrete) representation* of images
- formalize it,  
and relate it to the morphological tree of shapes
- provide an efficient solution to compute distances.

What we have skipped:

- actually many things!

A perspective:

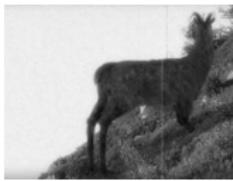
- adapt the distance to color images...

# That's all folks!

Thanks for your attention. Any questions?



*Dahu descentius frontalis*  
(La Pointe Perce, 1895)



*Dahu ascentius frontalis*  
(Le Charvin, 1901)



*Dahu dextrogyre*  
(Col de la Colombière, 1904)



*Young dahu lévogyre*  
(La Tournette, 1910)



No animals were harmed during this research work.