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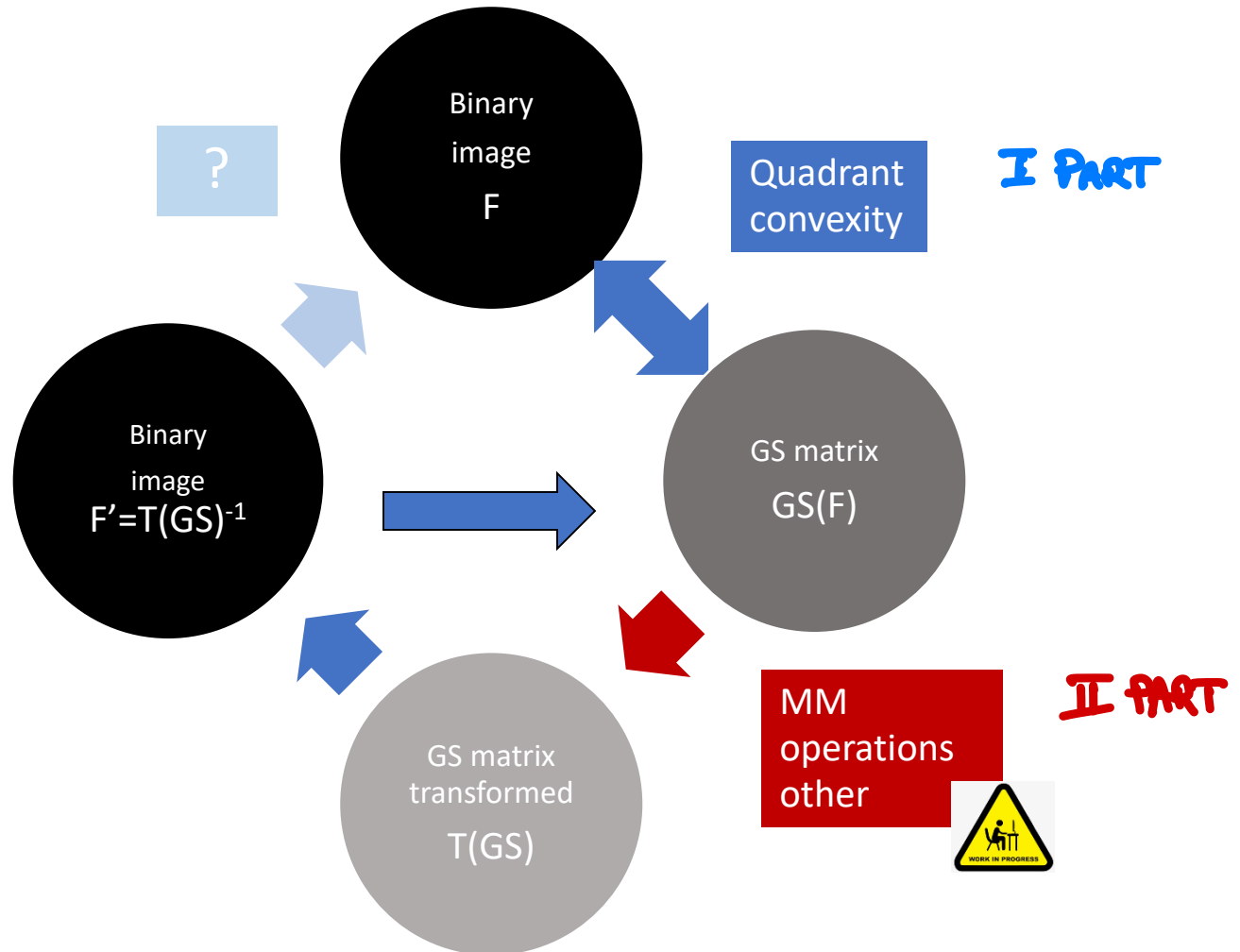
May 2, 2022 – May 4, 2022  
Mathematics Department-7' Floor  
Politecnico di Milano

How to rebuild a binary image from its multi-level description based on generalized salient pixels

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# Outline

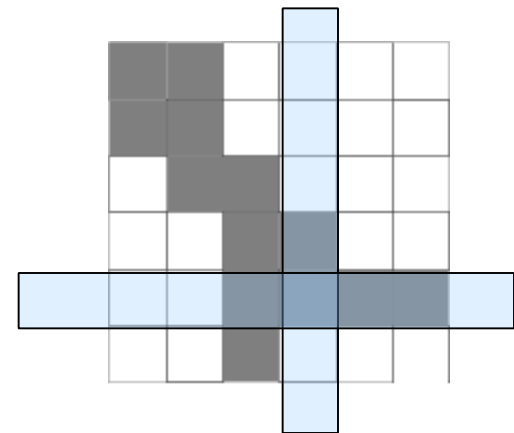
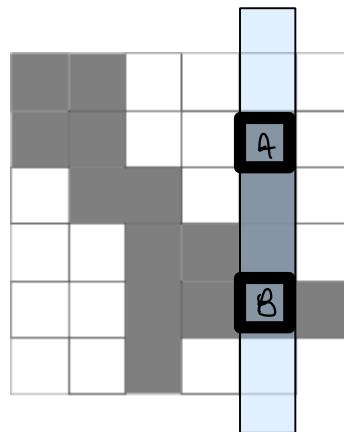
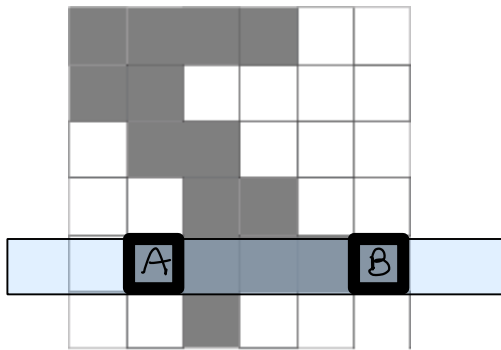


# Line convexity

A binary image  $F$  is **row-convex** if for every pair of pixels  $A$  and  $B$  in the same row of  $F$ , all the pixels from  $[AB]$  are in  $F$

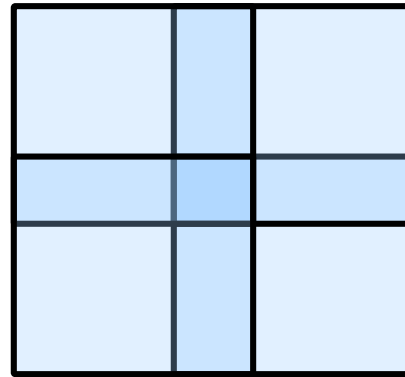
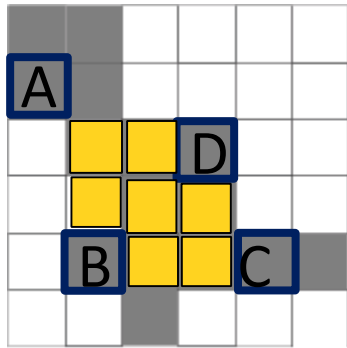
A binary image  $F$  is **column-convex** if for every pair of pixels  $A$  and  $B$  in the same column of  $F$ , all the pixels from  $[AB]$  are in  $F$

A binary image  $F$  is **hv-convex** if it is both **row** and **column-convex**

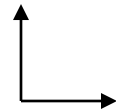


# Q-convex binary image

A binary image  $F$  is **quadrant-convex** if for every quadruple of pixels  $A, B, C, D$ , each in a different quadrant, all the (yellow) pixels “inbetween” are in  $F$



*Four quadrants*



# How does it look like?

*Digitally convex*

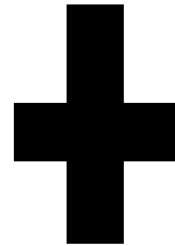
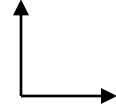
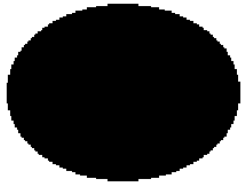


*Q-convex*

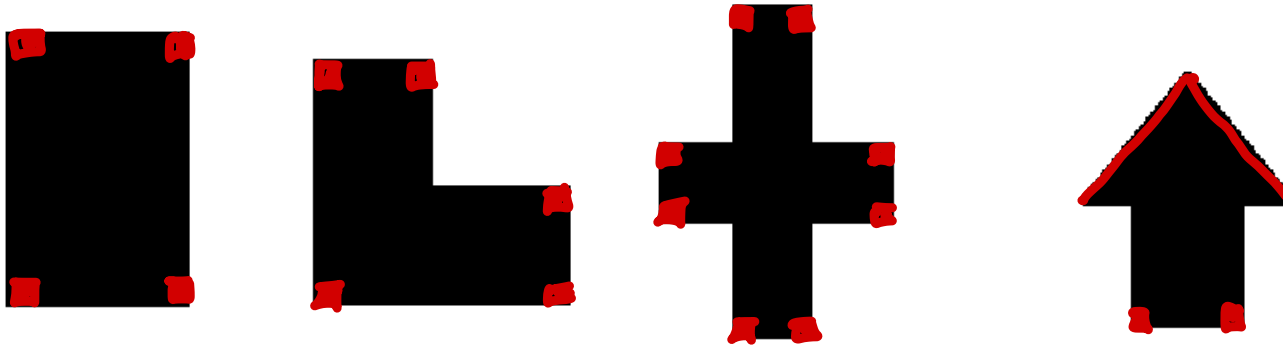
*Q-convex*



# How does it look like?



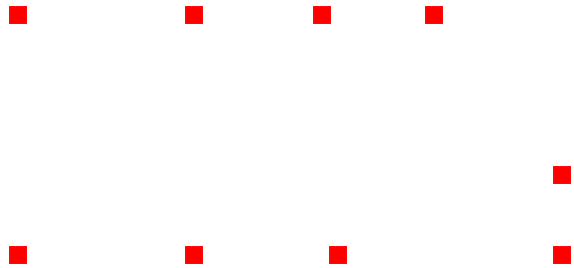
# Salient pixels: $S(F)$



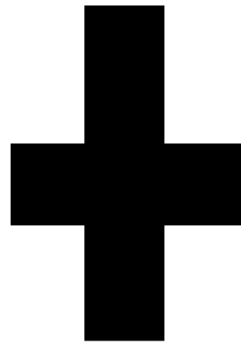
$x$  of  $F$  such that there is a background quadrant in  $x$  for  $F \setminus \{x\}$

$$Z \cap F \setminus \{x\} = \emptyset$$

# Q-convex hull : $Q(S(F))$



Fill F such that it is Q-convex



F is Q-convex iff  $F=Q(F)=Q(S(F))$



What if not Q-convex:  
more “complex” binary images

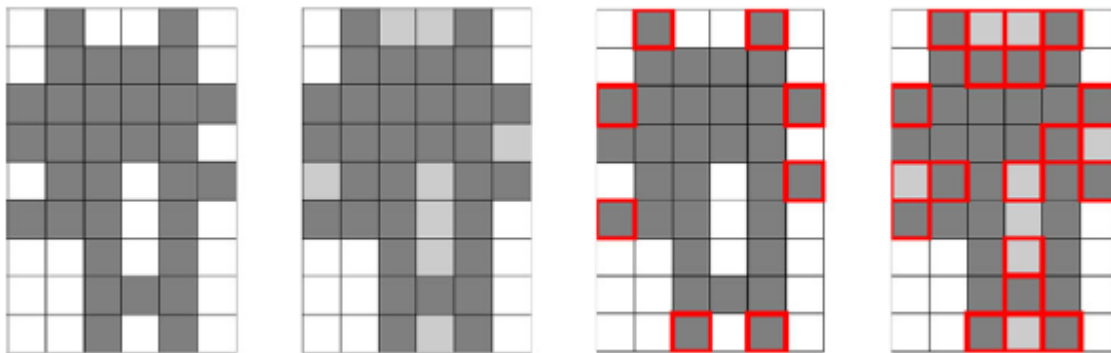


# What if not Q-convex: more “complex” binary images



# Generalized salient pixels (GSp)

- If  $F$  is  $Q$ -convex, then  $Q(F)=F$
- If  $F$  is not  $Q$ -convex, then look at  $Q(F)\setminus F$  !
- Compute the salient pixels of  $Q(F)\setminus F$
- If not empty, then iterate!



# The algorithm to compute the GS matrix

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

k=1

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

k=2

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

k=3

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

k=4

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

k=5

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

GS-matrix associated to the binary image

It provides a k-level description of the image

# Examples

GS-matrices as grey-scale images



Every binary image can be decomposed in the  $k$ -multi level representation

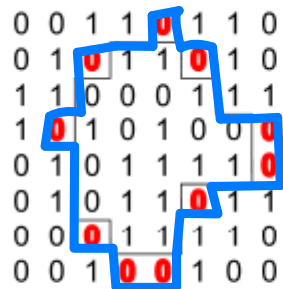
$k$  is greater for more 'complex' binary images

$k$  is maximum for the chessboard (all its pixels are gsp)

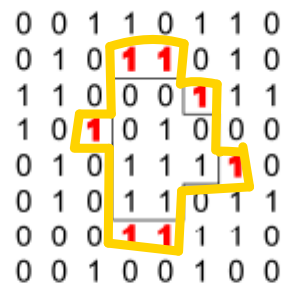
# Binary image and its GS matrix



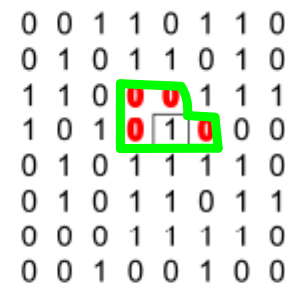
k=1



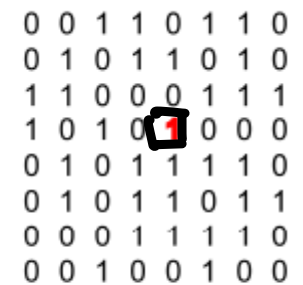
k=2



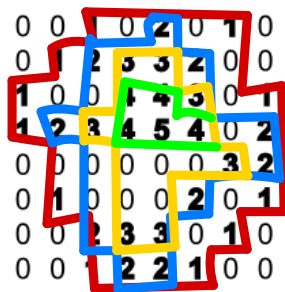
k=3



k=4



k=5



-Every binary image can be decomposed in the k-multi level representation

-The image at each level is O-convex

-By projection, images are ordered by inclusion

# The algorithm to rebuild the binary image from its GS-matrix

```

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

```



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




---

```

1: procedure (B)
2:   for each  $b_{ij} = 0$  do
3:     for each  $t=0,1,2,3$  do
4:       find  $b$  the maximum item of  $B$  in  $Z_t(b_{ij})$ 
5:       store  $b$  in  $z_{ij}^t$  of matrix  $Z^t$ 
6:     end for
7:   end for
8:   for each  $b_{ij} = 0$  do
9:      $h \leftarrow \min(z_{ij}^0, z_{ij}^1, z_{ij}^2, z_{ij}^3)$ 
10:    if  $h$  is odd then  $f_{ij} \leftarrow 1$ 
11:    else  $f_{ij} \leftarrow 0$ 
12:    end if
13:  end for
14:  for each  $b_{ij} \neq 0$  do
15:    if  $b_{ij}$  is odd then  $f_{ij} \leftarrow 1$ 
16:    else  $f_{ij} \leftarrow 0$ 
17:    end if
18:  end for
19: end procedure

```

---

# How does it change the image by modifying the GS-matrix?

```

0 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 3 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 4 3 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 3 0 4 0 0 0 0 4 0 3 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 0 0 3 0 4 4 0 3 0 0 0 0 1 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 0
1 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 3 3 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 1
1 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 1
    
```



Delete  
1's (and  
2's)



Delete  
2's



Leave  
1's only

Delete  
3's



Delete  
4's





# Erosion and dilation operations



**Erosion- shrink the image.**

The erosion operator takes two pieces of data as inputs: the first is the **image** which is to be eroded; the second is a **structuring element** (also known as a kernel). The kernel determines the precise effect of the erosion on the input image.



**Dilation- grow the image.**

It is the dual of erosion.

# An iterative definition of erosion



- Repeat
  - Remove pixels of the binary image corresponding to items 1 in the GS
  - Compute the GS of the obtained binary image

```
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0
0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0
0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

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

# An iterative definition of erosion



- Repeat
  - Remove pixels of the binary image corresponding to items 1 in the GS
  - Compute the GS of the obtained binary image

```
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0
0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0
0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

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

# An iterative definition of erosion



- Repeat

- Remove pixels of the binary image corresponding to items 1 in the GS
- Compute the GS of the obtained binary image



# An iterative definition of erosion



- Repeat

- Remove pixels of the binary image corresponding to items 1 in the GS
- Compute the GS of the obtained binary image



# What about dilation?

- There is not a unique way to add 1's in the GS matrix



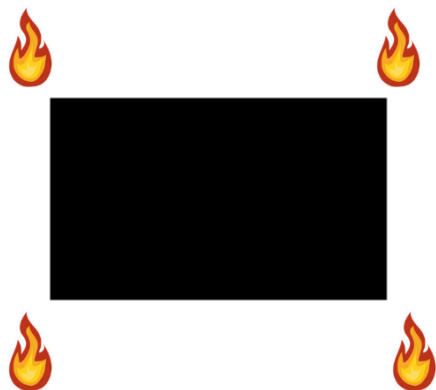
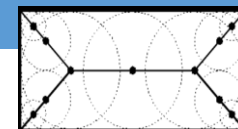
```
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0
0 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 1 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 0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

# Medial axis transform (MAT)



- Similarly, a grey level image such that the intensity of its pixels represents their 'distance' to the salient pixels, iteratively by erosion

The MAT is a grey level image where each pixel on the skeleton has an intensity which represents its distance to a boundary in the original object.



1	2	3	4	5	5	4	3	2	1
2	3	4	5	6	6	5	4	3	2
3	4	5	6	7	7	6	5	4	3
4	5	6	7	8	8	7	6	5	4
3	4	5	6	7	7	6	5	4	3
2	3	4	5	6	6	5	4	3	2
1	2	3	4	5	5	4	3	2	1

# Medial axis transform (MAT)



- Similarly, a grey level image such that the intensity of its pixels represents their 'distance' to the salient pixels, iteratively by erosion

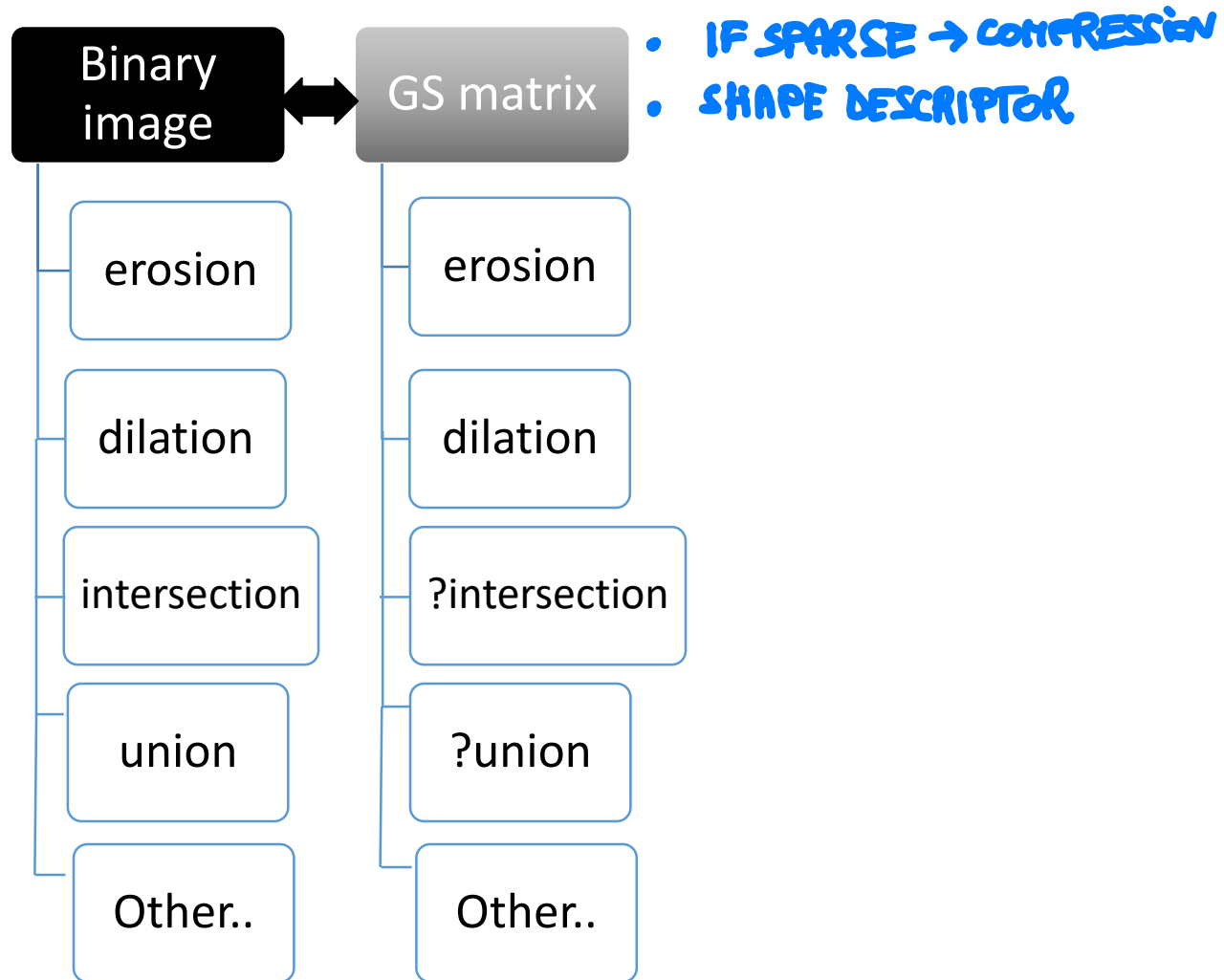
The MAT is a grey level image where each pixel on the skeleton has an intensity which represents its distance to a boundary in the original object.



0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
0	0	2	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	2	0	0
0	0	3	4	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	5	4	3	0	0
0	1	4	5	0	0	7	8	0	0	8	7	0	0	5	4	1	0
0	2	5	6	0	0	0	7	8	8	7	0	0	0	6	5	2	0
1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1
1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	1



# Conclusions and perspectives



# References

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- A. Daurat, A., Nivat, M.: Salient and reentrant points of discrete sets. Electron. Notes Discrete Math. 12, 208–219 (2003)
- SB, P. Balazs: A  $Q$ -Convexity Vector Descriptor for Image Analysis. Journal of Mathematical Imaging and Vision (2019) 61:193–203
- SB, P. Balazs: A Measure of  $Q$ -convexity for Shape Analysis. Journal of Mathematical Imaging and Vision <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10851-020-00962-9>