

# Some morphological operators in graph spaces

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# Historical background

- Digital image processing
  - Transformations on the subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  (binary images)
  - Transformations on the maps from  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  (grayscale images)

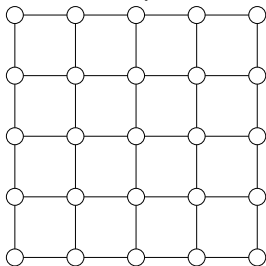
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- Digital image processing
  - Transformations on the subsets of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  (binary images)
  - Transformations on the maps from  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  to  $\mathbb{N}$  (grayscale images)
- Mathematical morphology
  - Filtering and segmenting tools very useful in applications
  - Formally studied in lattices (e.g.,  $2^{|E|}$ )

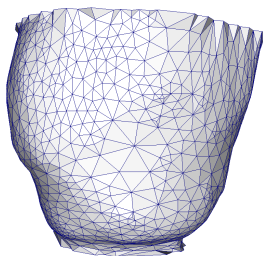
# More recently

- Structured digital objects:
  - Points **and**
  - Elements between points telling how points are “glued” together
- For instance:

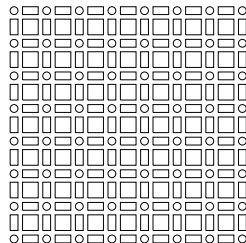
Graph



Simplicial complex



Cubical complex



## More recently

- Cousty et al., *Watershed cuts: minimum spanning forests and the drop of water principle* TPAMI (2009)
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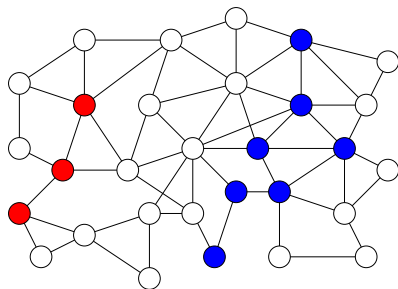
- Najman, *Ultrametric Watersheds*, ISMM (2009)
- Levillain et al., *Milena: Write Generic Morphological Algorithms Once, Run on Many kinds of Images*, ISMM (2009)

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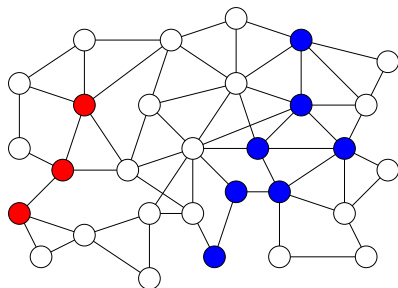
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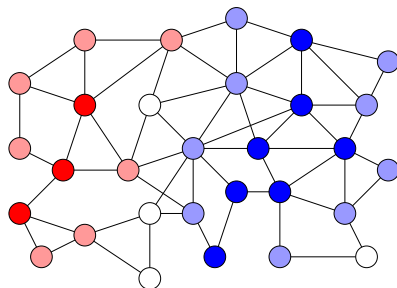
$X$  (red & blue vertices)

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$X$  (red & blue vertices)



$\delta(X)$  (red & blue vertices)

# Morphology in graphs

## Problem

- *The workspace being a graph*
  - *What morphological operators on subsets of its vertex set?*
  - *What morphological operators on subsets of its edge set?*
  - *What morphological operators on its subgraphs?*
- *Relation between them?*

# Outline

**1** Lattice of graphs

**2** Dilations and erosions

**3** Filters

# Ordering on graphs

- A *graph* is a pair  $X = (X^\bullet, X^\times)$  where  $X^\bullet$  is a set and  $X^\times$  is composed of unordered pairs of distinct elements in  $X^\bullet$

## Definition

*Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two graphs.*

- *If  $Y^\bullet \subseteq X^\bullet$  and  $Y^\times \subseteq X^\times$ , then:*
  - *$Y$  is a **subgraph** of  $X$*
  - *we write  $Y \sqsubseteq X$*
  - *we say that  $Y$  is **smaller** than  $X$  and that  $X$  is **greater** than  $Y$*

- Hereafter, the workspace is a graph  $\mathbb{G} = (\mathbb{G}^\bullet, \mathbb{G}^\times)$
- We consider the families  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^\times$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  of respectively all subsets of  $\mathbb{G}^\bullet$ , all subsets of  $\mathbb{G}^\times$  and all subgraphs of  $\mathbb{G}$ .

# Lattice of graphs

## Property

- The set  $\mathcal{G}$  of the subgraphs of  $\mathbb{G}$  form a **complete lattice**
- The **infimum** and the **supremum** of any family  $\mathcal{F} = \{X_1, \dots, X_\ell\}$  of elements in  $\mathcal{G}$  are given by:
  - $\sqcap \mathcal{F} = (\bigcap_{i \in [1, \ell]} X_i^\bullet, \bigcap_{i \in [1, \ell]} X_i^\times)$
  - $\sqcup \mathcal{F} = (\bigcup_{i \in [1, \ell]} X_i^\bullet, \bigcup_{i \in [1, \ell]} X_i^\times)$

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- $\mathcal{G}$  is **sup-generated**
- But  $\mathcal{G}$  is **not complemented**

# Edge-vertex correspondences: the building blocks

## Definition

We define the operators  $\delta^\bullet$ ,  $\epsilon^\bullet$ ,  $\epsilon^\times$ , and  $\delta^\times$  as follows:

	$\mathcal{G}^\times \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\bullet$	$\mathcal{G}^\bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\times$

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where  $\mathcal{G}_{X^\times}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{G}_{X^\bullet}$ ) is the set of graphs with edge-set  $X^\times$  (resp. vertex-set  $X^\bullet$ )

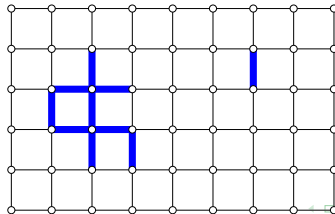
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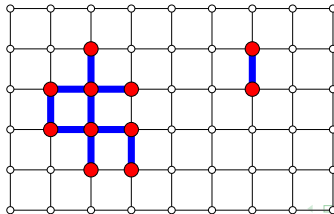
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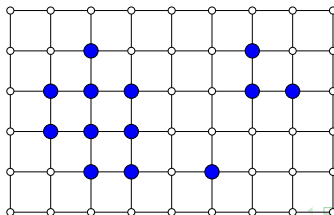
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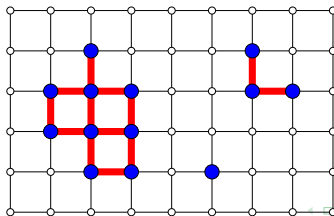
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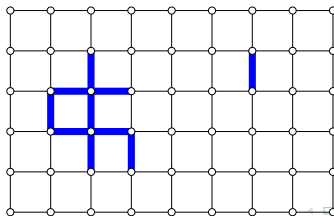
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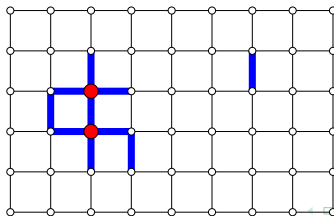
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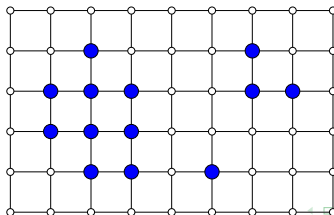
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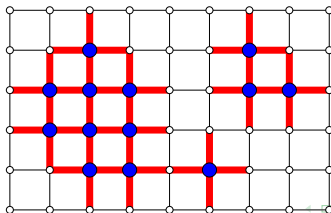
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- Two operators  $\epsilon : \mathcal{L}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_2$  and  $\delta : \mathcal{L}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_1$  form an *adjunction*  $(\epsilon, \delta)$  if:
  - $\forall X \in \mathcal{L}_2, \forall Y \in \mathcal{L}_1$ , we have  $\delta(X) \leq_1 Y \Leftrightarrow X \leq_2 \epsilon(Y)$

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- **If  $(\epsilon, \delta)$  is an adjunction, then  $\epsilon$  is an erosion and  $\delta$  is a dilation:**
  - $\epsilon$  preserves the infimum
  - $\delta$  preserves the supremum

# Edge-vertex adjunctions

## Property

**1** Both  $(\epsilon^\times, \delta^\bullet)$  and  $(\epsilon^\bullet, \delta^\times)$  are adjunctions

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## Important idea

- To obtain operators acting on the lattices  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^\times$  and  $\mathcal{G}$ , we will compose the operators of these basic adjunctions

# Vertex-dilation, vertex-erosion

## Definition

- We define  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$  that act on  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet$  (i.e.,  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\bullet$ ) by:
  - $\delta = \delta^\bullet \circ \delta^\times$  and  $\epsilon = \epsilon^\bullet \circ \epsilon^\times$

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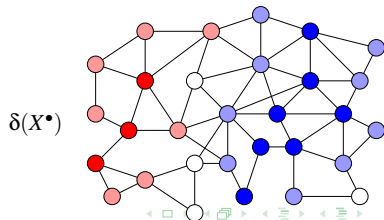
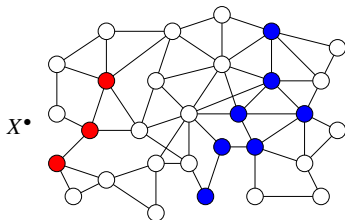
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## Property

- The pair  $(\epsilon, \delta)$  is an adjunction
- They correspond exactly to the operators defined by Vincent



# Edge-dilation, edge-erosion

## Definition (edge-dilation, edge-erosion)

- We define  $\Delta$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  that act on  $\mathcal{G}^\times$  by:
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## Property

- The pair  $(\mathcal{E}, \Delta)$  is an adjunction

# Graph-dilation, graph-erosion

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- We define, for any  $X \in \mathcal{G}$ , the operators  $\delta \oslash \Delta$  and  $\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E}$  by:
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## Theorem

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- The pair  $(\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E}, \delta \oslash \Delta)$  is an adjunction

# Graph-dilation, graph-erosion

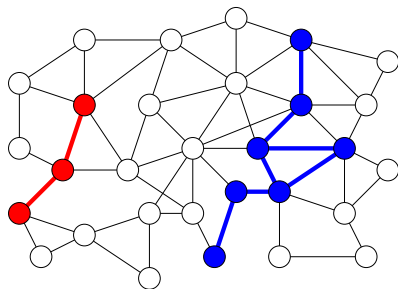
## Definition

- We define, for any  $X \in \mathcal{G}$ , the operators  $\delta \oslash \Delta$  and  $\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E}$  by:
  - $\delta \oslash \Delta(X) = (\delta(X^\bullet), \Delta(X^\times))$  and
  - $\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E}(X) = (\epsilon(X^\bullet), \mathcal{E}(X^\times))$

## Theorem

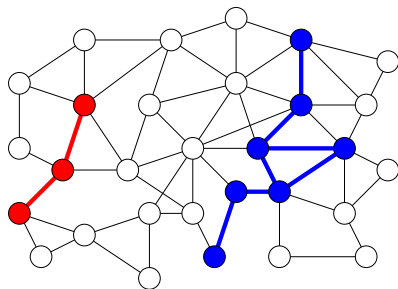
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- The pair  $(\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E}, \delta \oslash \Delta)$  is an adjunction
- The operators  $\delta \oslash \Delta$  and  $\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E}$  are respectively a dilation and an erosion acting on the lattice  $(\mathcal{G}, \sqsubseteq)$

# Graph-dilation: example

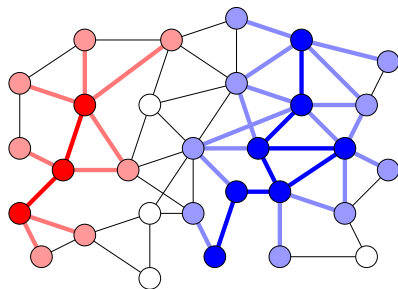


$X$  (red & blue)

# Graph-dilation: example



$X$  (red & blue)



$\delta \odot \Delta(X)$  (red & blue)

# Filters: reminder

- A *filter* is an operator  $\alpha$  acting on a lattice  $\mathcal{L}$ , which is
  - 1 increasing:  $\forall X, Y \in \mathcal{L}, \alpha(X) \leq \alpha(Y)$  whenever  $X \leq Y$ ; and
  - 2 idempotent:  $\forall X \in \mathcal{L}, \alpha(\alpha(X)) = \alpha(X)$

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- **Composing the two operators of an adjunction yields an opening or a closing depending on the composition order**

# Openings, closings: the classical ones

## Definition

*We define*

**1**  $\gamma_1$  and  $\phi_1$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\bullet$ , by  $\gamma_1 = \delta \circ \epsilon$  and  $\phi_1 = \epsilon \circ \delta$

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- 2  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Phi_1, \mathcal{G}^\times \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\times$ , by  $\Gamma_1 = \Delta \circ \mathcal{E}$  and  $\Phi_1 = \mathcal{E} \circ \Delta$

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- 3  $\gamma \oplus \Gamma_1$  and  $\phi \oplus \Phi_1$  by respectively  $\gamma \oplus \Gamma_1(X) = (\gamma_1(X^\bullet), \Gamma_1(X^\times))$   
and  $\phi \oplus \Phi_1(X) = (\phi_1(X^\bullet), \Phi_1(X^\times))$ , for any graph  $X$  in  $\mathcal{G}$

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## Theorem (graph-openings, graph-closings)

- The operators  $\gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_1$  are openings. The operators  $\Phi_1$  and  $\phi_1$  are closings
- The operator  $\gamma \oplus \Gamma_1$  is an opening. The operator  $\phi \oplus \Phi_1$  is a closing

# Openings, closings: the half ones

## Definition

We define

**1**  $\gamma_{1/2}$  and  $\phi_{1/2}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\bullet$ , by  $\gamma_{1/2} = \delta^\bullet \circ \epsilon^\times$  and  $\phi_{1/2} = \epsilon^\bullet \circ \delta^\times$

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- 2  $\Gamma_{1/2}$  and  $\Phi_{1/2}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^\times \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\times$ , by  $\Gamma_{1/2} = \delta^\times \circ \epsilon^\bullet$  and  $\Phi_{1/2} = \epsilon^\times \circ \delta^\bullet$
- 3  $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2}$  and  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2}$  by  $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2}(X) = (\gamma_{1/2}(X^\bullet), \Gamma_{1/2}(X^\times))$   
and  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2}(X) = (\phi_{1/2}(X^\bullet), \Phi_{1/2}(X^\times))$ , for any graph  $X$  in  $\mathcal{G}$

# Openings, closings: the half ones

## Definition

We define

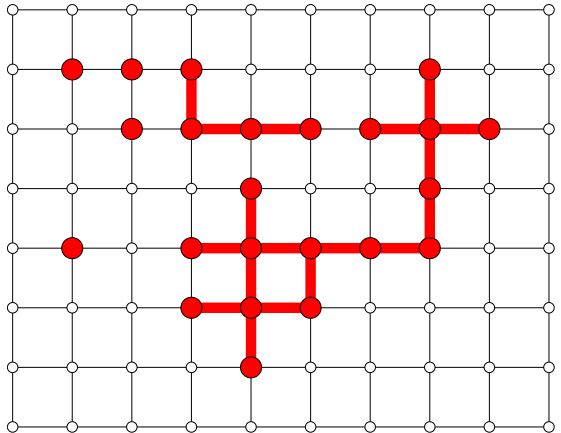
- 1  $\gamma_{1/2}$  and  $\phi_{1/2}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^\bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^\bullet$ , by  $\gamma_{1/2} = \delta^\bullet \circ \epsilon^\times$  and  $\phi_{1/2} = \epsilon^\bullet \circ \delta^\times$
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- 3  $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2}$  and  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2}$  by  $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2}(X) = (\gamma_{1/2}(X^\bullet), \Gamma_{1/2}(X^\times))$   
and  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2}(X) = (\phi_{1/2}(X^\bullet), \Phi_{1/2}(X^\times))$ , for any graph  $X$  in  $\mathcal{G}$

## Theorem (half-openings, half-closings)

- The operators  $\gamma_{1/2}$  and  $\Gamma_{1/2}$  are openings. The operators  $\phi_{1/2}$  and  $\Phi_{1/2}$  are closings
- The operator  $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2}$  is an opening. The operator  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2}$  is a closing.

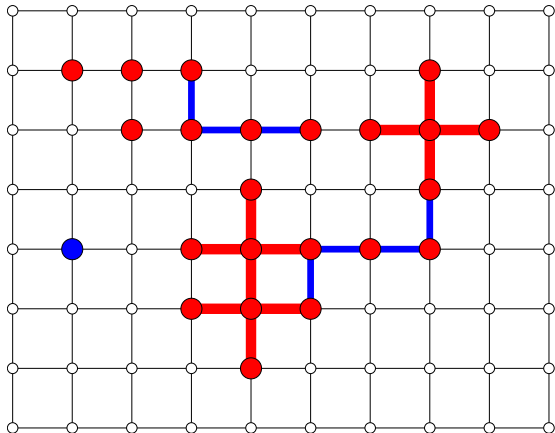
# Illustration: openings

A graph  $X$  (red)



# Illustration: openings

A graph  $X$  (red, blue)  
 $\gamma \vee \Gamma_{1/2}(X)$  (red)

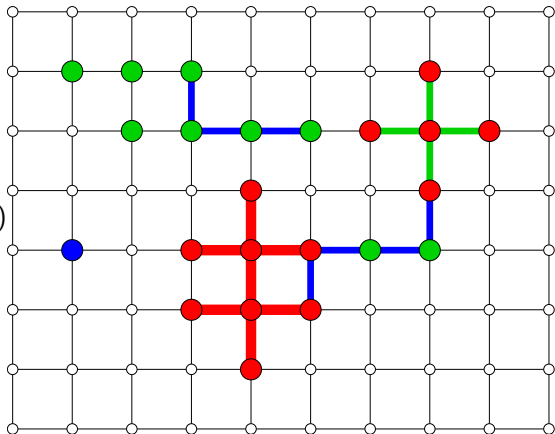


# Illustration: openings

A graph  $X$  (red, blue, green)

$\gamma \vee \Gamma_{1/2}(X)$  (red, green)

$\gamma \vee \Gamma_1(X)$  (red)



# Building hierarchies

## Definition

*Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $i$  and  $j$  be the quotient and the remainder in the integer division of  $\lambda$  by 2.*

■ *We set:*

$$\begin{aligned} \blacksquare \quad \gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\lambda/2} &= (\delta \oslash \Delta)^i \circ (\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2})^j \circ (\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E})^i \\ \blacksquare \quad \phi \oslash \Phi_{\lambda/2} &= (\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E})^i \circ (\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2})^j \circ (\delta \oslash \Delta)^i \end{aligned}$$

# Building hierarchies

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Let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $i$  and  $j$  be the quotient and the remainder in the integer division of  $\lambda$  by 2.

■ We set:

- $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\lambda/2} = (\delta \oslash \Delta)^i \circ (\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{1/2})^j \circ (\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E})^i$
- $\phi \oslash \Phi_{\lambda/2} = (\epsilon \oslash \mathcal{E})^i \circ (\phi \oslash \Phi_{1/2})^j \circ (\delta \oslash \Delta)^i$

## Property

- The families  $\{\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\lambda/2} \mid \lambda \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and  $\{\phi \oslash \Phi_{\lambda/2} \mid \lambda \in \mathbb{N}\}$  are granulometries:
  - $\forall \lambda \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\lambda/2}$  is an opening on  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{\lambda/2}$  is a closing on  $\mathcal{G}$
  - $\forall \mu, \nu \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\forall X \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\mu \leq \nu$  implies  
 $\gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\nu/2}(X) \sqsubseteq \gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\mu/2}(X)$  and  $\phi \oslash \Phi_{\mu/2}(X) \sqsubseteq \phi \oslash \Phi_{\nu/2}(X)$

# Iterated filters

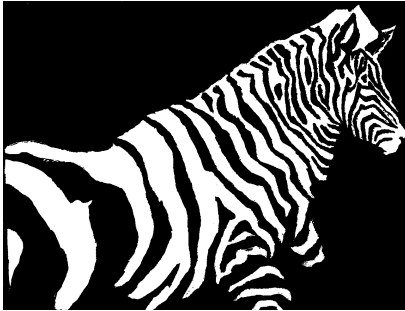
## Definition

- We define  $ASF_{\lambda/2}$ 
  - by the identity on graphs when  $\lambda = 0$
  - by  $ASF_{\lambda/2} = \gamma \oslash \Gamma_{\lambda/2} \circ \phi \oslash \Phi_{\lambda/2} \circ ASF_{(\lambda-1)/2}$  otherwise

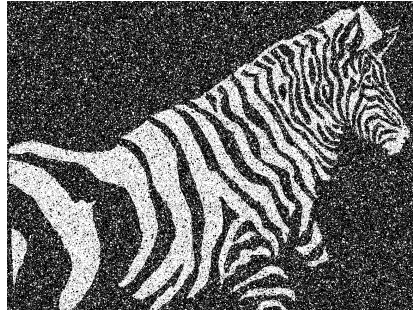
## Property

- The family  $\{ASF_{\lambda/2} \mid \lambda \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a family of alternate sequential filters:
  - $\forall \mu, \nu \in \mathbb{N}, \mu \geq \nu$  implies  $ASF_{\mu/2} \circ ASF_{\nu/2} = ASF_{\mu/2}$

# ASF: illustration for binary image filtering

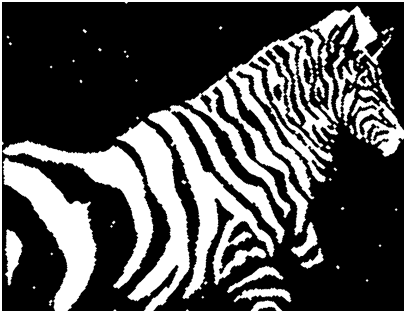


Original



Noisy

# ASF: illustration for binary image filtering

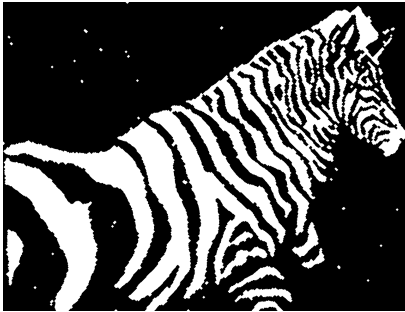


graph ASF



Classical ASF

# ASF: illustration for binary image filtering

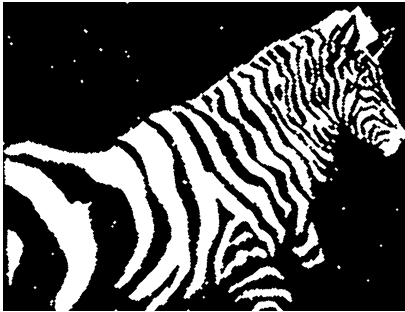


graph ASF



Classical ASF of double size

# ASF: illustration for binary image filtering



graph ASF



Classical ASF (double resolution)

# Other adjunctions on graphs

- 1  $(\alpha_1, \beta_1)$  such that  $\forall X \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\alpha_1(X) = (\mathbb{G}^\bullet, X^\times)$  and  $\beta_1(X) = (\delta^\bullet(X^\times), X^\times)$
- 2  $(\alpha_2, \beta_2)$  such that  $\forall X \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\alpha_2(X) = (X^\bullet, \epsilon^\times(X^\bullet))$  and  $\beta_2(X) = (X^\bullet, \emptyset)$ 
  - $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are both a closing and an erosion;  
 $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are both an opening and dilation
- 3  $(\alpha_3, \beta_3)$  such that  $\forall X \in \mathcal{G}$ ,  $\alpha_3(X) = (\epsilon^\bullet(X^\times), \epsilon^\times \circ \epsilon^\bullet(X^\times))$  and  $\beta_3(X) = (\delta^\bullet \circ \delta^\times(X^\bullet), \delta^\times(X^\bullet))$ 
  - $\alpha_3$  depends only on the edge-set;  
 $\beta_3$  only on the vertex-set

# Perspectives

- Extension to node and edge-**weighted graphs**

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- Study of **levellings** in this framework
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- Embedding of the vertices in a **metric space**