

Digital Image Processing (750474)

Lecture 8

Basic Relationships between Pixels

Outline of the Lecture

- Neighbourhood
- Adjacency
- Connectivity
- Paths
- Regions and boundaries
- Distance Measures
- Matlab Example

Neighbors of a Pixel

1. $N_4(p)$: 4-neighbors of p.

- Any pixel $p(x, y)$ has two vertical and two horizontal neighbors, given by $(x+1, y)$, $(x-1, y)$, $(x, y+1)$, $(x, y-1)$
- This set of pixels are called the **4-neighbors** of P , and is denoted by $N_4(P)$
- Each of them is at a **unit distance** from P .

2. $N_D(p)$

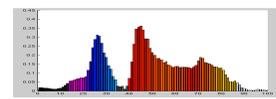
- This set of pixels, called 4-neighbors and denoted by $N_D(p)$.
- $N_D(p)$: four diagonal neighbors of p have coordinates: $(x+1, y+1)$, $(x+1, y-1)$, $(x-1, y+1)$, $(x-1, y-1)$
- Each of them are at **Euclidean distance** of 1.414 from P .

3. $N_8(p)$: 8-neighbors of p.

- $N_4(P)$ and $N_D(p)$ together are called 8-neighbors of p , denoted by $N_8(p)$.
- $N_8 = N_4 \cup N_D$
- Some of the points in the N_4 , N_D and N_8 may fall **outside** image when P lies on the **border** of image.

$F(x-1, y-1)$	$F(x-1, y)$	$F(x-1, y+1)$
$F(x, y-1)$	$F(x, y)$	$F(x, y+1)$
$F(x+1, y-1)$	$F(x+1, y)$	$F(x+1, y+1)$

$N_8(p)$



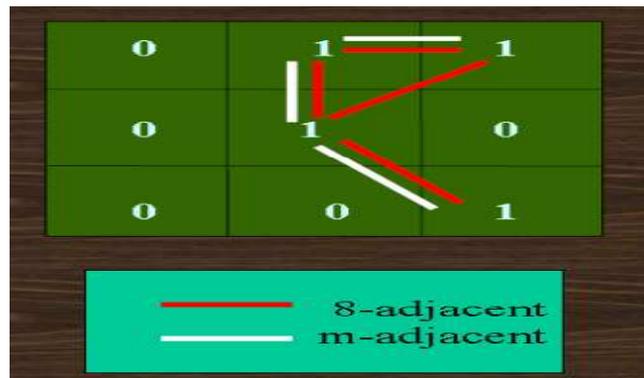
Adjacency

- Two pixels are **connected** if they are neighbors and their gray levels satisfy some specified criterion of similarity.
- For example, in a binary image two pixels are connected if they are 4-neighbors and have same value (0/1)
- **Let v** : a set of intensity values used to *define adjacency* and *connectivity*.
- In a **binary Image** $v=\{1\}$, if we are referring to adjacency of pixels with value 1.
- In a **Gray scale image**, the idea is the same, but v typically contains more elements, for example $v= \{180, 181, 182, \dots, 200\}$.
- If the possible intensity values 0 to 255, v set could be any subset of these 256 values.

Types of adjacency

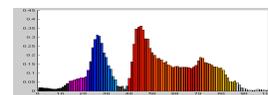
- 1. 4-adjacency:** Two pixels p and q with values from v are **4-adjacent** if q is in the set $N_4(p)$.
 - 2. 8-adjacency:** Two pixels p and q with values from v are **8-adjacent** if q is in the set $N_8(p)$.
 - 3. m-adjacency (mixed):** two pixels p and q with values from v are **m-adjacent** if:
 - ▶ q is in $N_4(p)$ **or**
 - ▶ q is in $N_D(P)$ **and**
 - ▶ The set $N_4(p) \cap N_4(q)$ has no pixel whose values are from v (**No intersection**).
- **Mixed adjacency** is a modification of 8-adjacency "introduced to eliminate the ambiguities that often arise when 8- adjacency is used. (eliminate multiple path connection)
 - Pixel arrangement as shown in figure for $v= \{1\}$

Example:



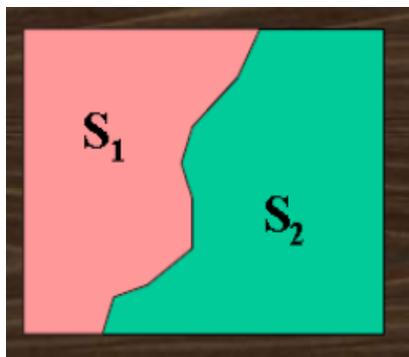
Path

- A *digital path* (or curve) from pixel p with coordinate (x,y) to pixel q with coordinate (s,t) is a sequence of *distinct* pixels with coordinates $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$, where $(x_0, y_0) = (x,y), (x_n, y_n) = (s,t)$
- (x_i, y_i) is adjacent pixel (x_{i-1}, y_{i-1}) for $1 \leq i \leq n$,
- n - The *length* of the path.
- If $(x_0, y_0) = (x_n, y_n)$:the path is *closed path*.
- We can define *4- ,8- , or m-paths* depending on the type of adjacency specified.



Connectivity

- Let S represent a subset of pixels in an image, Two pixels p and q are said to be connected in S if there exists a path between them.
- Two image subsets S_1 and S_2 are adjacent if some pixel in S_1 is adjacent to some pixel in S_2

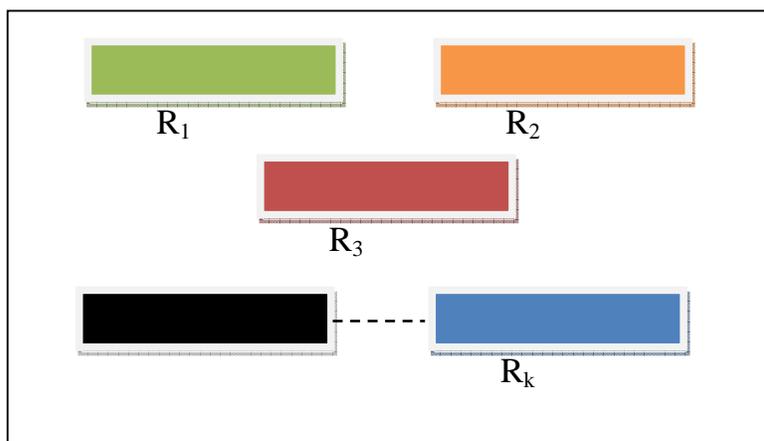


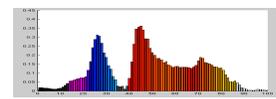
Region

- Let R to be a subset of pixels in an image, we call a R a region of the image. If R is a *connected* set.
- Region that are not adjacent are said to be **disjoint**.
- Example*: the two regions (of Is) in figure, are adjacent only if 8-adjacency is used.

1	1	1	}	R_i
1	0	1		
0	1	0	}	R_j
0	0	1		
1	1	1		
1	1	1		

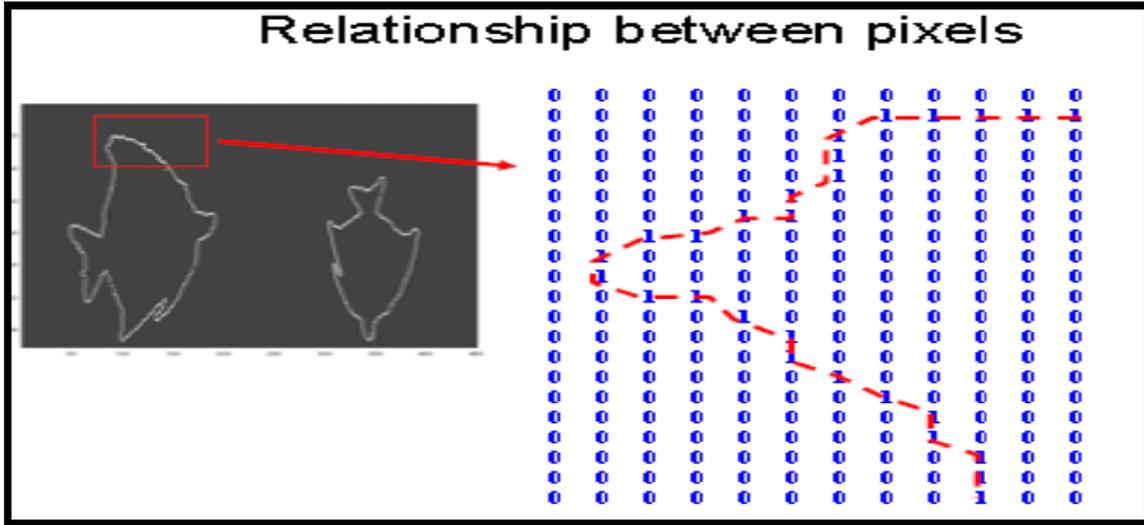
- 4-path* between the two regions does not exist, (so their union is not a connected set).
- Boundary (border)** image contains K disjoint regions, $R_k, k=1, 2, \dots, k$, none of which touches the image border.





- Let: R_u - denote the **union** of all the K regions, $(R_u)^c$ - denote its **complement**.
(Complement of a set S is the set of points that are not in s).
 R_u - called **foreground**; $(R_u)^c$ - called **background** of the image.
- **Boundary (border or contour)** of a region R is the set of points that are adjacent to points in the **complement** of R (another way: the border of a region is the set of pixels in the region that have at least are background neighbor).

We must specify the connectivity being used to define adjacency



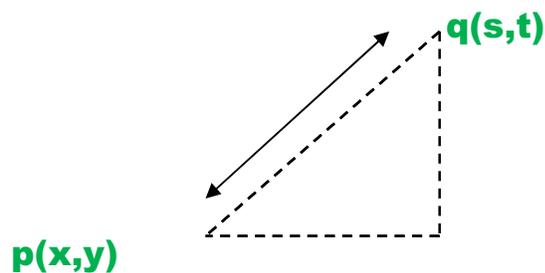
Distance Measures

- For pixels p, q and z , with coordinates $(x,y), (s,t)$ and (u,v) , respectively, D is a **distance function** or metric if:

$$D(p,q) \geq 0, D(p,q) = 0 \text{ if } p=q$$

$$D(p,q) = D(q,p), \text{ and}$$

$$D(p,z) \leq D(p,q) + D(q,z)$$



- The following are the different *Distance measures*:

1. Euclidean Distance (D_e)

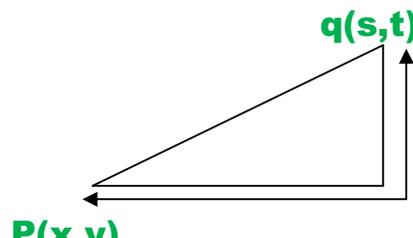
$$D_e(p, q) = \sqrt{[(x - s)^2 + (y - t)^2]}$$

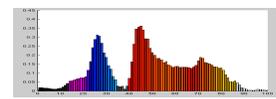
- The points contained in a **disk** of radius r centred at (x,y) .

2. D_4 distance (city-block distance)

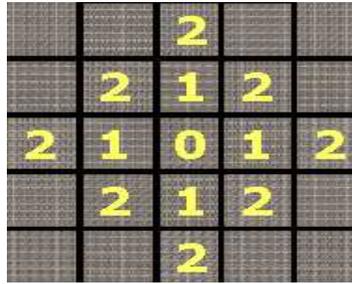
$$D_4(p, q) = |x - s| + |y - t|$$

- Pixels having a D_4 distance from (x,y) less than or equal to some value r form a **Diamond** centred (x,y) .





Example 1: the pixels with $D_4=1$ are the 4-neighbors of (x, y) .

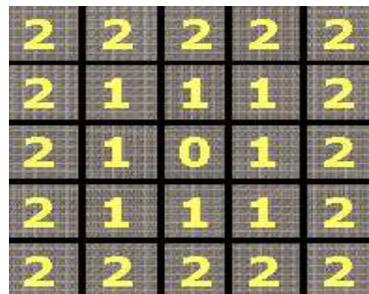


3. D_8 distance (chess board distance)

$$D_8(p, q) = \max(|x - s|, |y - t|)$$

- square – centred at (x, y)
- $D_8 = 1$ are 8-neighbors of (x, y)

Example: D_8 distance ≤ 2



4. D_m distance:

- Is defined as the **shortest m-path** between the points.
- The distance between pixels depends only on the values of pixels.

Example: consider the following arrangement of pixels



and assume that P, P_2 have value 1 and that P_1 and P_3 can have a value of 0 or 1

Suppose, that we consider adjacency of pixels value 1 ($v=\{1\}$)

a) if P_1 and P_3 are 0:

Then D_m distance = 2

b) if $P_1 = 1$ and $P_3 = 0$

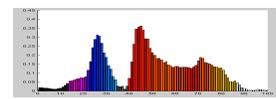
m-distance = 3;

c) if $P_1=0$; and $P_3 = 1$

d) if $P_1=P_3 = 1$;

m-distance=4 path = p p1 p2 p3 p4





Matlab Code

```
bw = zeros(200,200); bw(50,50) = 1; bw(50,150) = 1;
bw(150,100) = 1;
D1 = bwdist(bw,'euclidean');
D2 = bwdist(bw,'cityblock');
D3 = bwdist(bw,'chessboard');
D4 = bwdist(bw,'quasi-euclidean');
figure
subplot(2,2,1), subimage(mat2gray(D1)), title('Euclidean')
hold on, imcontour(D1)
subplot(2,2,2), subimage(mat2gray(D2)), title('City block')
hold on, imcontour(D2)
subplot(2,2,3), subimage(mat2gray(D3)), title('Chessboard')
hold on, imcontour(D3)
subplot(2,2,4), subimage(mat2gray(D4)), title('Quasi-Euclidean')
hold on, imcontour(D4)
```

