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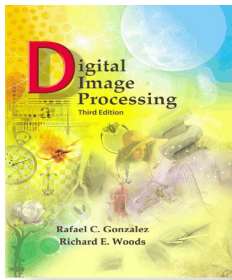
Chapter 9

Morphological Image Processing

A tool for extracting image components that are useful for in the representation and description of region shape .

Sets are Objects in an image. White or black pixels in binary images

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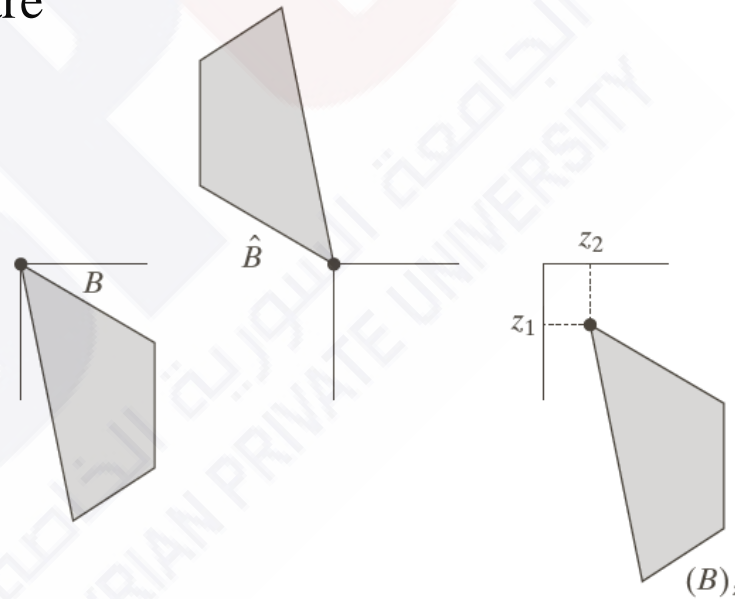
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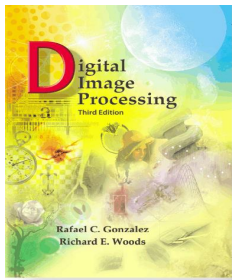
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Reflection : \hat{B} a set of points in B whose (x,y) coordinates have been replaced by $(-x,-y)$

Translation : (x,y) coordinates are replaced by $(x+z_1, y+z_2)$





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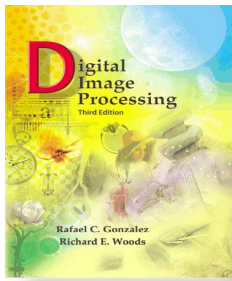
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Reflection and translation are used to formulate operations on image are based on *structuring elements* (SE) which are small sets of image that are used to **probe** an image for properties of interest. SE are rectangular arrays.

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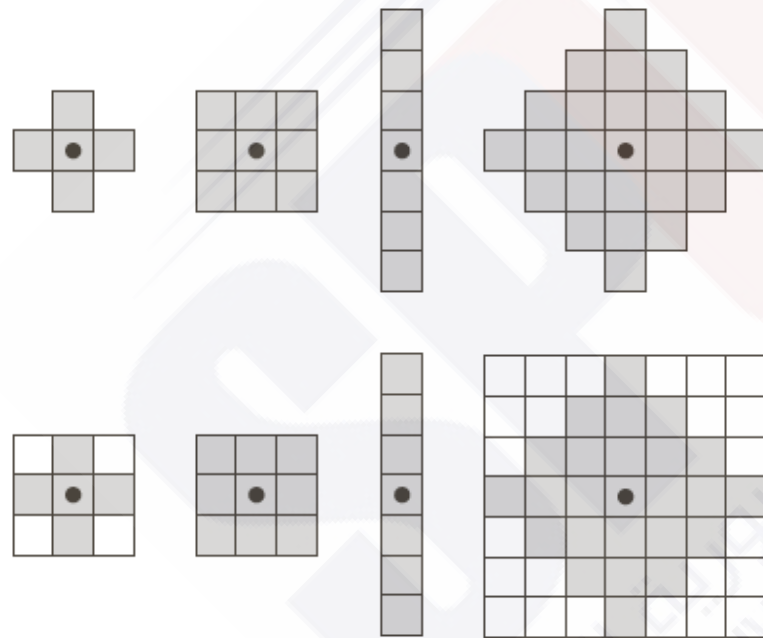
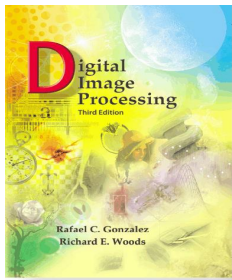


FIGURE 9.2 First row: Examples of structuring elements. Second row: Structuring elements converted to rectangular arrays. The dots denote the centers of the SEs.



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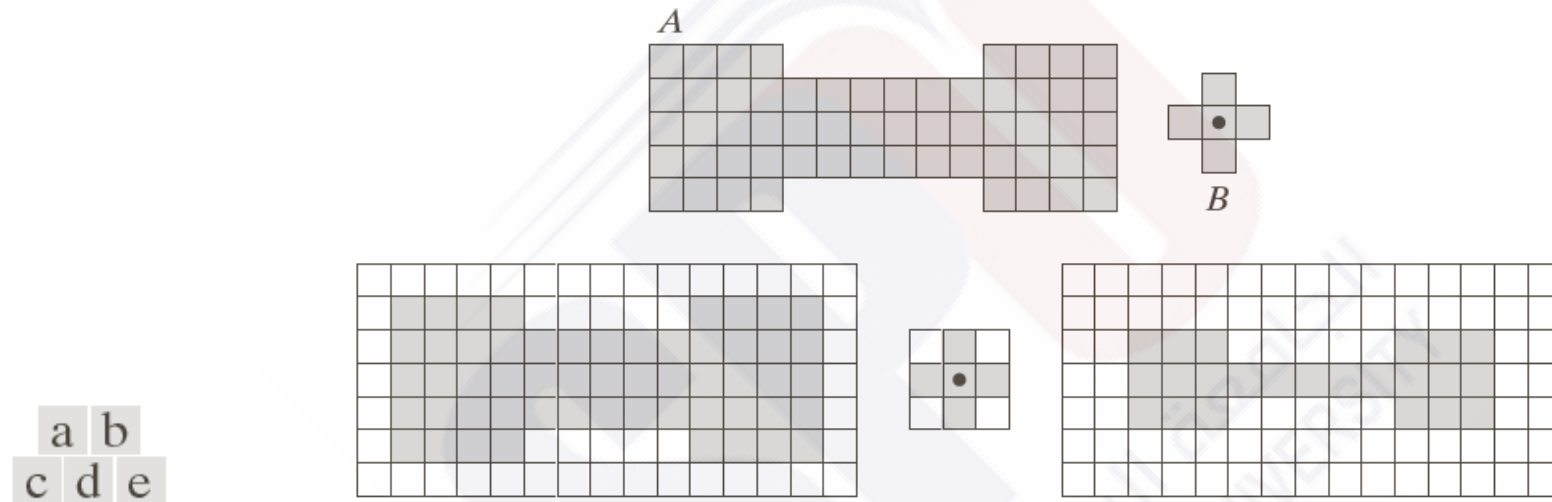
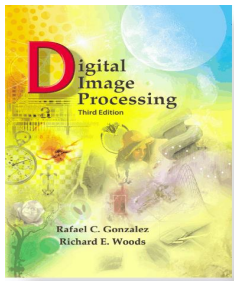


FIGURE 9.3 (a) A set (each shaded square is a member of the set). (b) A structuring element. (c) The set padded with background elements to form a rectangular array and provide a background border. (d) Structuring element as a rectangular array. (e) Set processed by the structuring element.

At each location of the origin of B When B is completely contained in A this location is a member of the new set.



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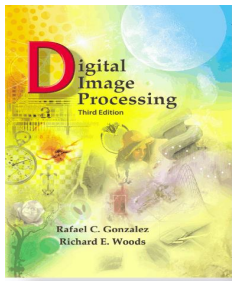
Morphological Image Processing

Basic Operations

Erosion of A by B ($A \ominus B$) is a set of all points z such that B , translated by z is contained in A .

The erosion of A by B is a set of all elements of B that has no sharing of any element from the background,

Erosion is a shrinking or thinning operation



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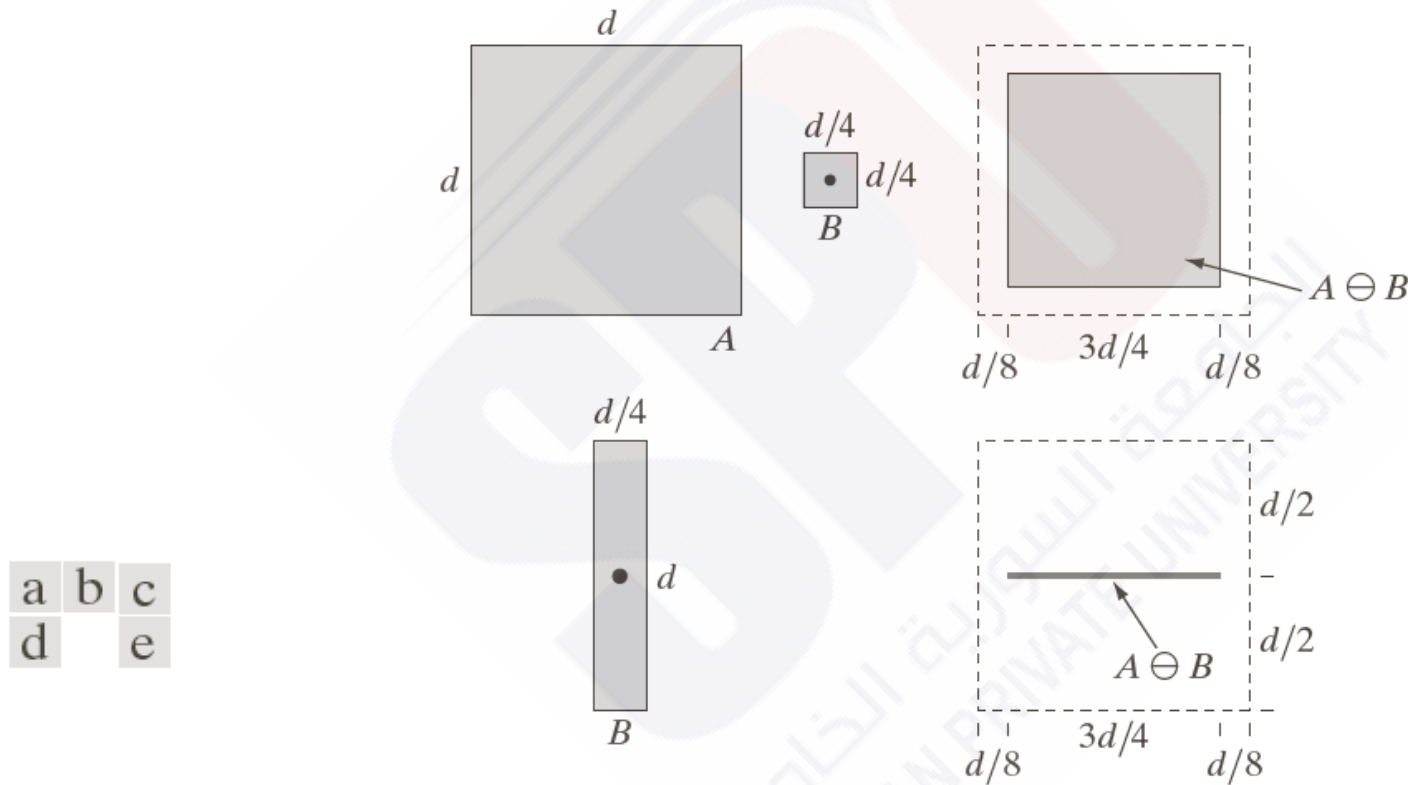


FIGURE 9.4 (a) Set A . (b) Square structuring element, B . (c) Erosion of A by B , shown shaded. (d) Elongated structuring element. (e) Erosion of A by B using this element. The dotted border in (c) and (e) is the boundary of set A , shown only for reference.

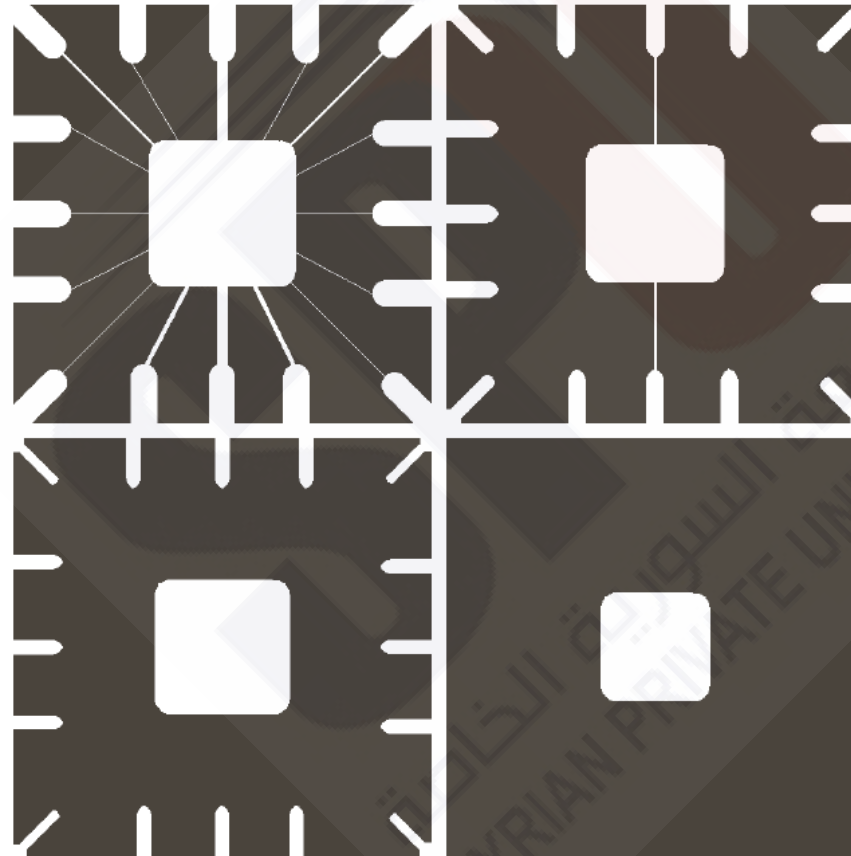


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a	b
c	d

FIGURE 9.5 Using erosion to remove image components. (a) A 486×486 binary image of a wire-bond mask. (b)–(d) Image eroded using square structuring elements of sizes 11×11 , 15×15 , and 45×45 , respectively. The elements of the SEs were all 1s.



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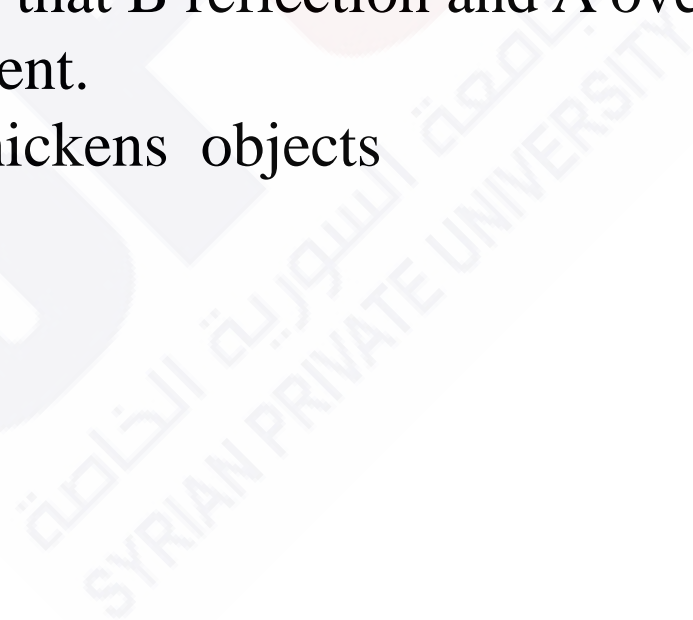
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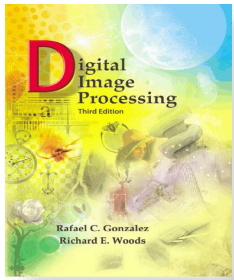
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Dilation

The dilation of A by B ($A \oplus B$) is the set of all displacements such that B reflection and A overlap by at least one element.

Dilation grows or thickens objects



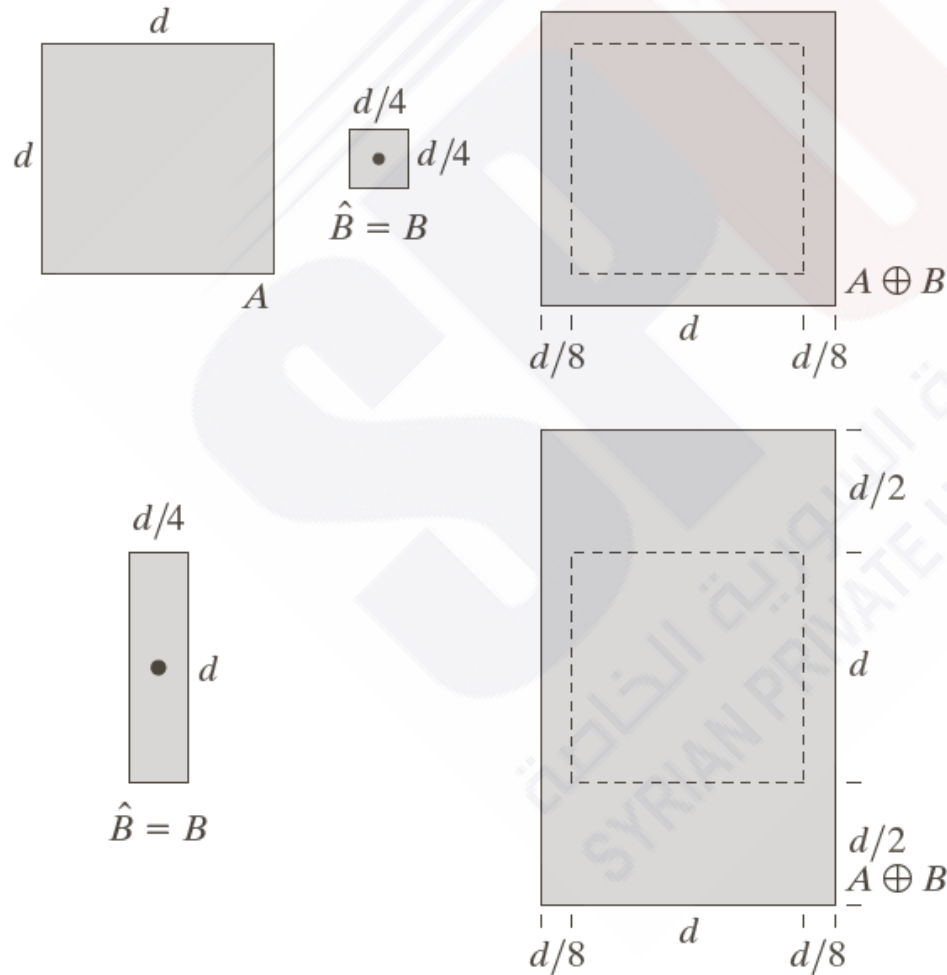


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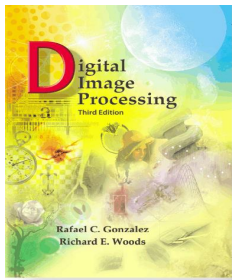
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a	b	c
d	e	

FIGURE 9.6

- (a) Set A .
- (b) Square structuring element (the dot denotes the origin).
- (c) Dilation of A by B , shown shaded.
- (d) Elongated structuring element.
- (e) Dilation of A using this element. The dotted border in (c) and (e) is the boundary of set A , shown only for reference.



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Bridging gaps

Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.

Historically, certain computer programs were written using only two digits rather than four to define the applicable year. Accordingly, the company's software may recognize a date using "00" as 1900 rather than the year 2000.



0	1	0
1	1	1
0	1	0

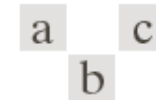
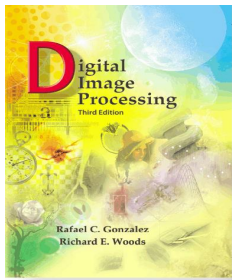


FIGURE 9.7 (a) Sample text of poor resolution with broken characters (see magnified view). (b) Structuring element. (c) Dilation of (a) by (b). Broken segments were joined.



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Morphological Image Processing

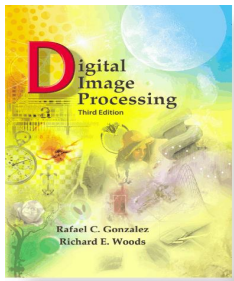
Opening and closing

$$A \circ B = (A \ominus B) \oplus B$$

Opening smoothes the contour of an object.

$$A \bullet B = (A \oplus B) \ominus A$$

Closing eliminate small holes, fuses narrow breaks and fills gaps in contours



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Morphological Image Processing

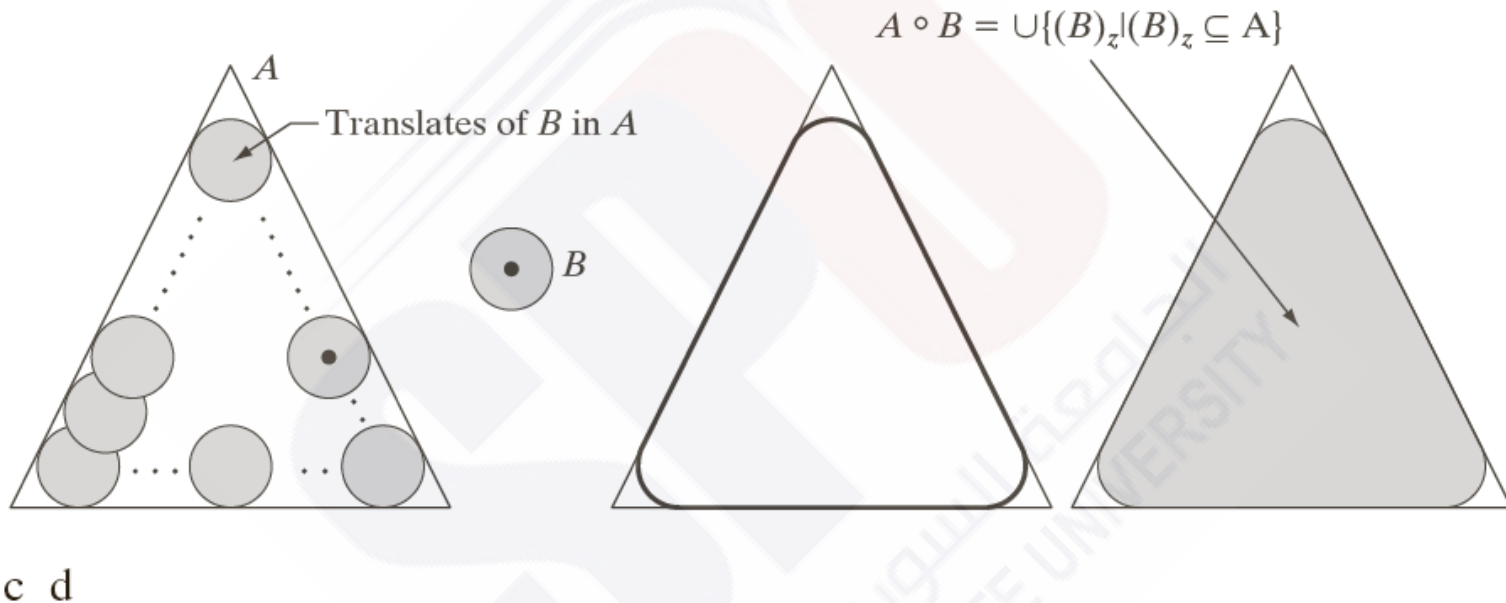
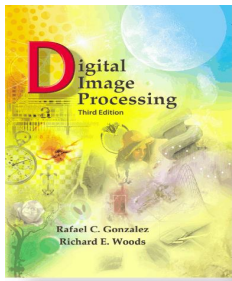


FIGURE 9.8 (a) Structuring element B “rolling” along the inner boundary of A (the dot indicates the origin of B). (b) Structuring element. (c) The heavy line is the outer boundary of the opening. (d) Complete opening (shaded). We did not shade A in (a) for clarity.



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a b c

FIGURE 9.9 (a) Structuring element B “rolling” on the outer boundary of set A . (b) The heavy line is the outer boundary of the closing. (c) Complete closing (shaded). We did not shade A in (a) for clarity.

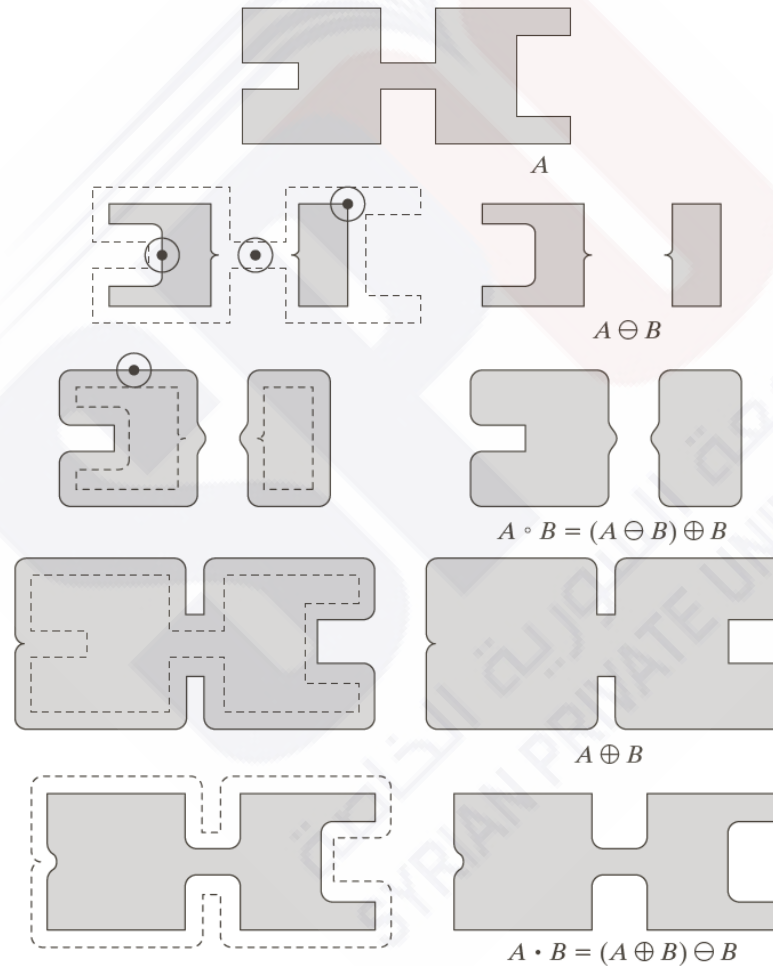


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a
b c
d e
f g
h i

FIGURE 9.10 Morphological opening and closing. The structuring element is the small circle shown in various positions in (b). The SE was not shaded here for clarity. The dark dot is the center of the structuring element.



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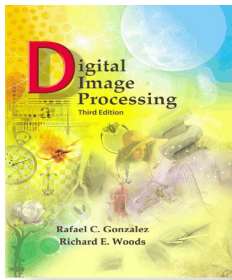
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FIGURE 9.11

- (a) Noisy image.
 - (b) Structuring element.
 - (c) Eroded image.
 - (d) Opening of A .
 - (e) Dilated opening.
 - (f) Closing of the opening.
- (Original image courtesy of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.)



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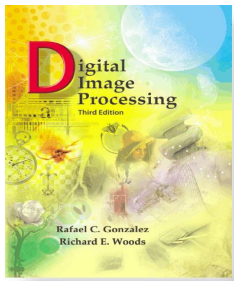
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The Hit-or-Miss Transformation

A basic tool for shape detection



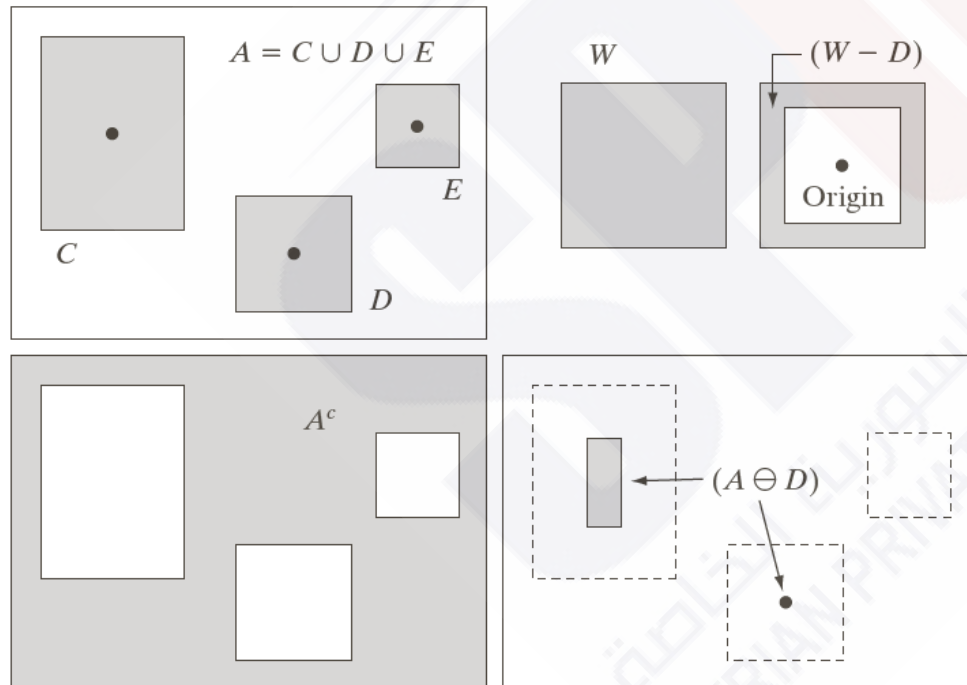


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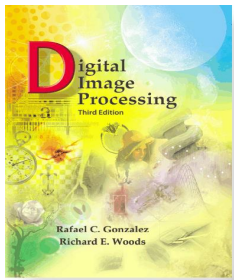
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a	b
c	d
e	
f	

FIGURE 9.12

(a) Set A . (b) A window, W , and the local background of D with respect to W , $(W - D)$. (c) Complement of A . (d) Erosion of A by D . (e) Erosion of A^c by $(W - D)$. (f) Intersection of (d) and (e), showing the location of the origin of D , as desired. The dots indicate the origins of C , D , and E .



Some basic morphological algorithms

- Boundary extraction :
 $\beta(A) = A - (A \text{ erosion by } B)$

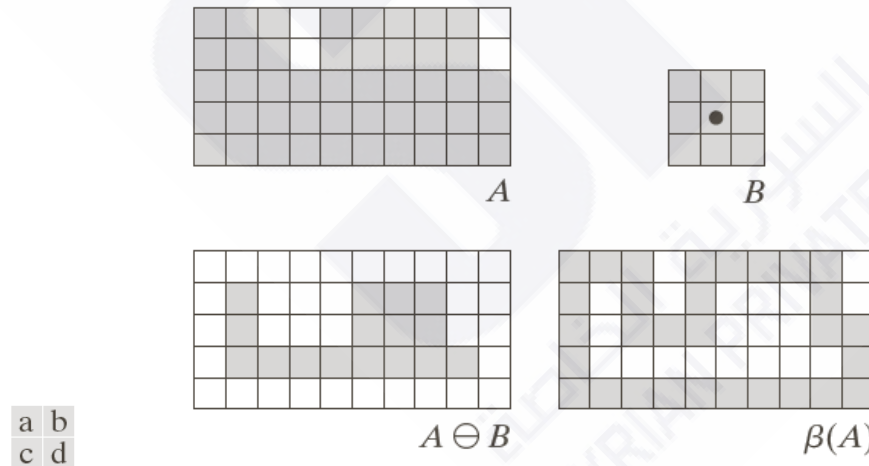
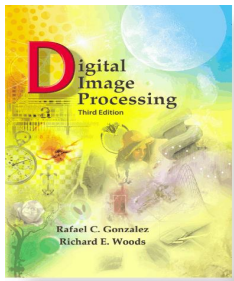


FIGURE 9.13 (a) Set A . (b) Structuring element B . (c) A eroded by B . (d) Boundary, given by the set difference between A and its erosion.



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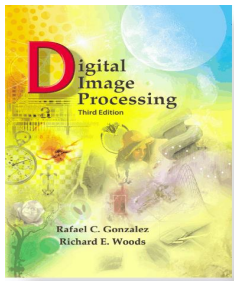
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a b

FIGURE 9.14

(a) A simple binary image, with 1s represented in white. (b) Result of using Eq. (9.5-1) with the structuring element in Fig. 9.13(b).



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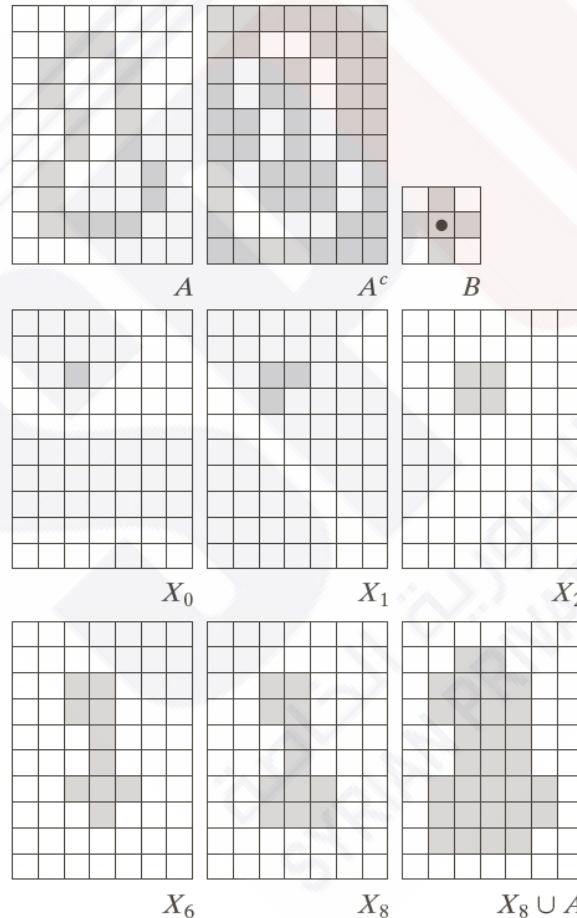
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Hole filling :
(equation)
Conditional
dilation



a	b	c
d	e	f
g	h	i

FIGURE 9.15 Hole filling. (a) Set A (shown shaded). (b) Complement of A . (c) Structuring element B . (d) Initial point inside the boundary. (e)–(h) Various steps of Eq. (9.5-2). (i) Final result [union of (a) and (h)].

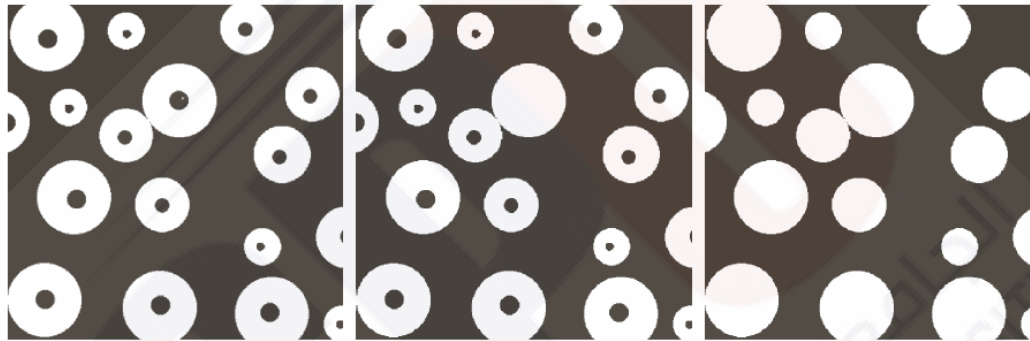


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a b c

FIGURE 9.16 (a) Binary image (the white dot inside one of the regions is the starting point for the hole-filling algorithm). (b) Result of filling that region. (c) Result of filling all holes.



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Morphological Image Processing

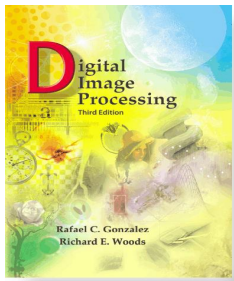
Extraction of connected components

:

It is central to many automated image analysis applications

Equation 9.5.3

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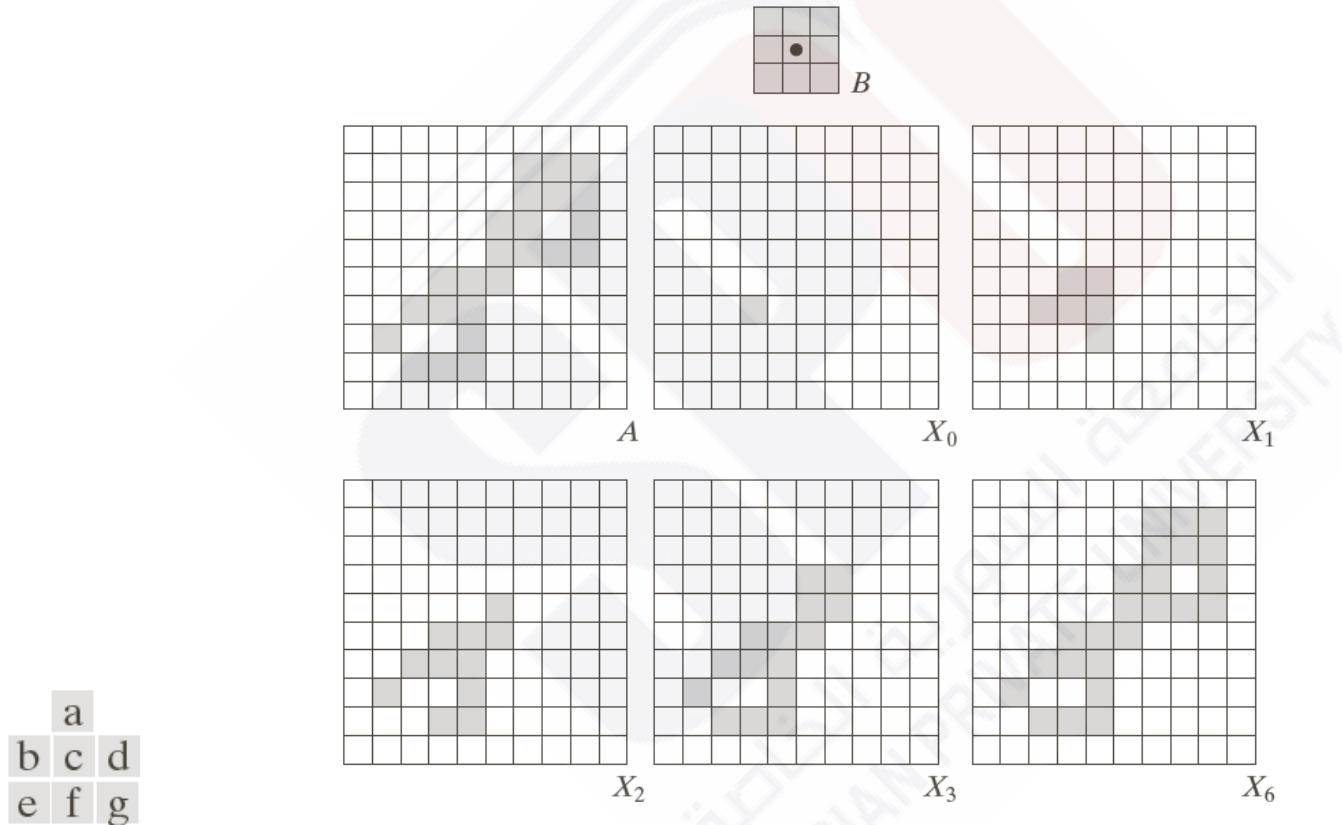
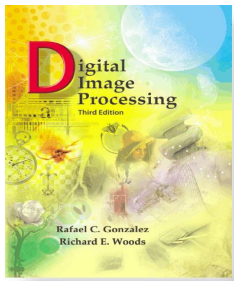


FIGURE 9.17 Extracting connected components. (a) Structuring element. (b) Array containing a set with one connected component. (c) Initial array containing a 1 in the region of the connected component. (d)–(g) Various steps in the iteration of Eq. (9.5-3).



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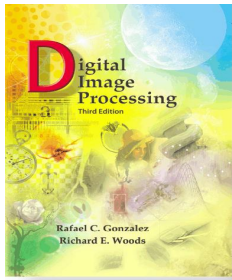
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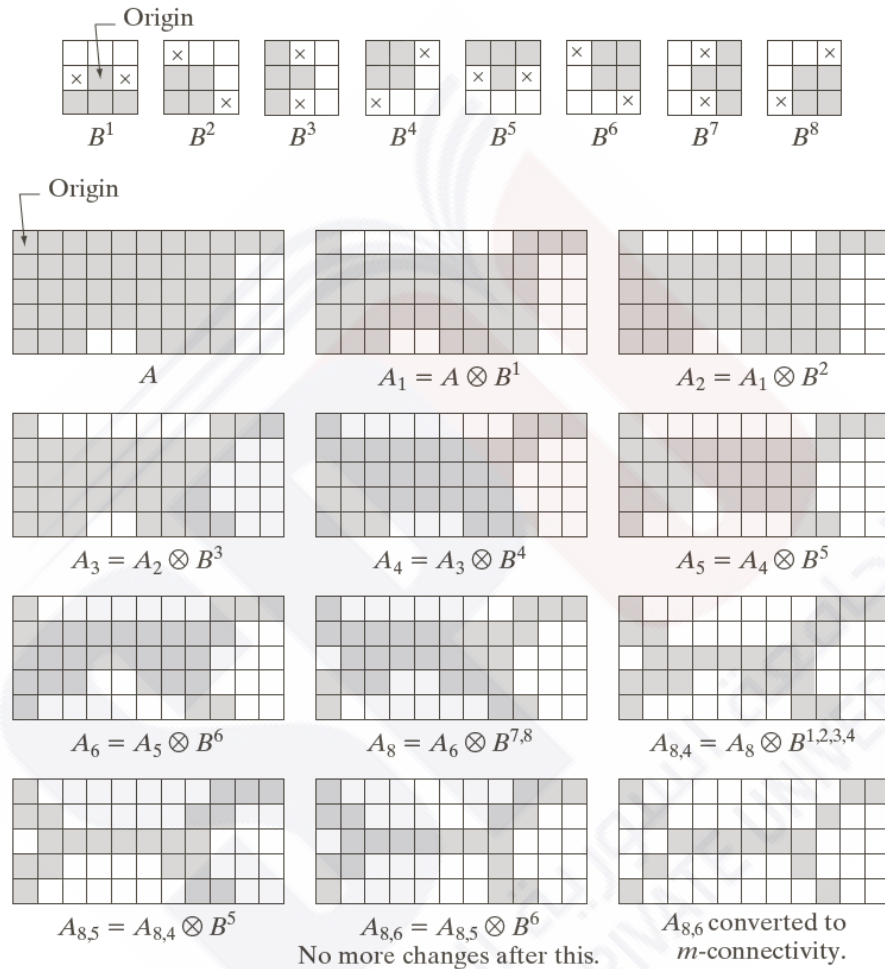
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Thinning



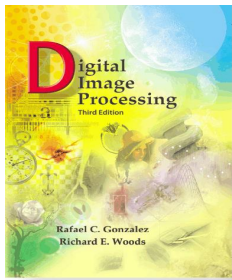


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	a	
b	c	d
e	f	g
h	i	j
k	l	m

FIGURE 9.21 (a) Sequence of rotated structuring elements used for thinning. (b) Set A. (c) Result of thinning with the first element. (d)–(i) Results of thinning with the next seven elements (there was no change between the seventh and eighth elements). (j) Result of using the first four elements again. (l) Result after convergence. (m) Conversion to *m*-connectivity.



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Thickening

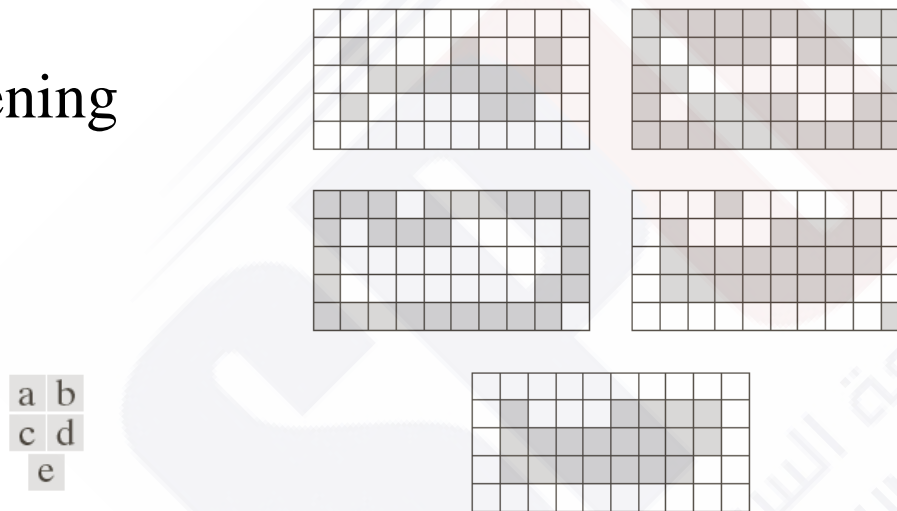
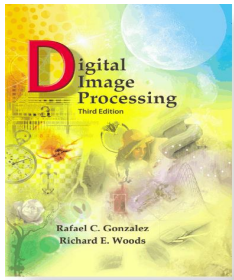


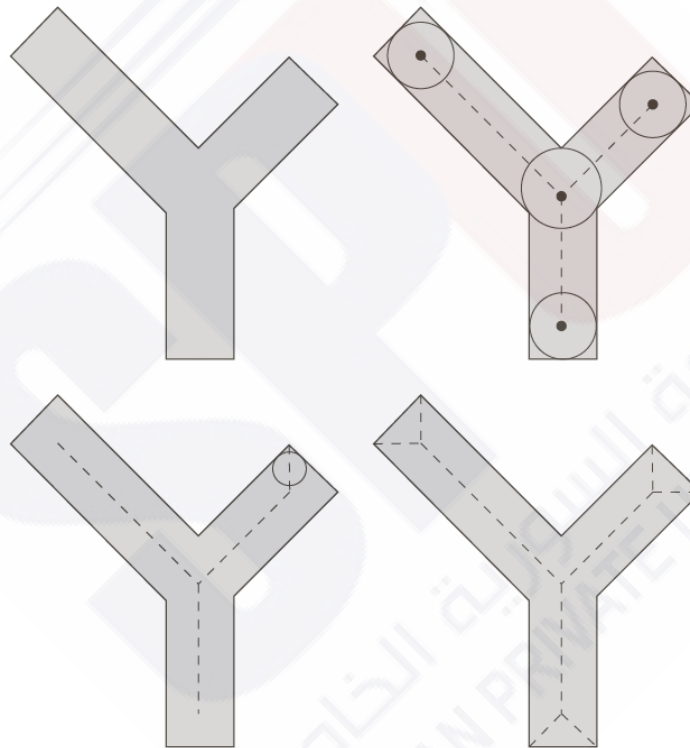
FIGURE 9.22 (a) Set A . (b) Complement of A . (c) Result of thinning the complement of A . (d) Thickened set obtained by complementing (c). (e) Final result, with no disconnected points.



Chapter 9

Morphological Image Processing

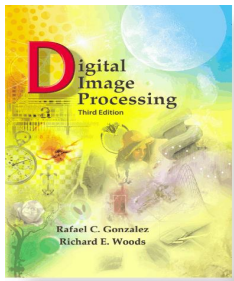
Skeletons



a	b
c	d

FIGURE 9.23

- (a) Set A .
- (b) Various positions of maximum disks with centers on the skeleton of A .
- (c) Another maximum disk on a different segment of the skeleton of A .
- (d) Complete skeleton.



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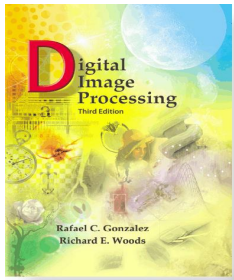
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Morphological Image Processing

END





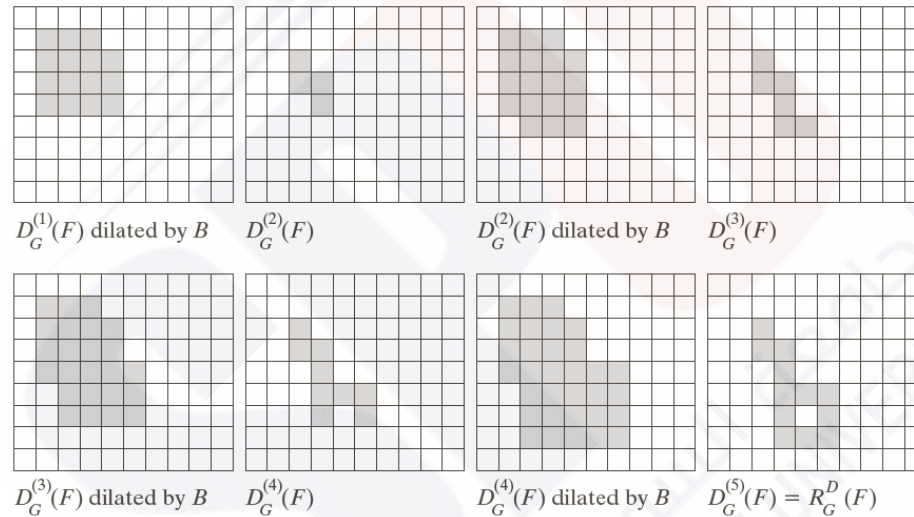
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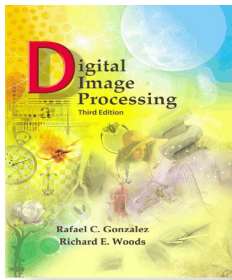
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a	b	c	d
e	f	g	h

FIGURE 9.28
 Illustration of morphological reconstruction by dilation. F , G , B and $D_G^{(1)}(F)$ are from Fig. 9.26.

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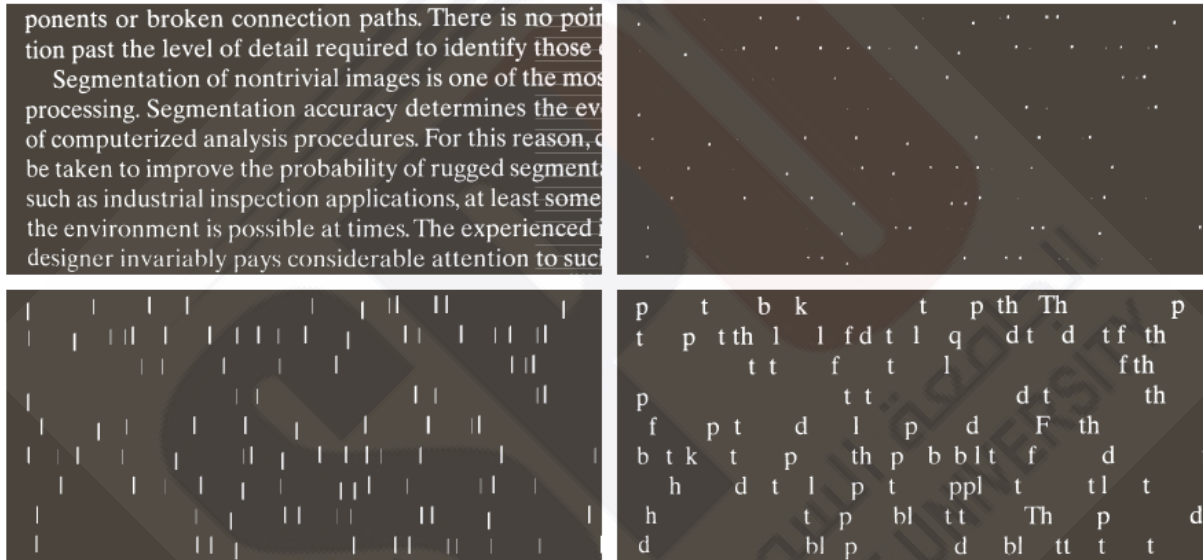
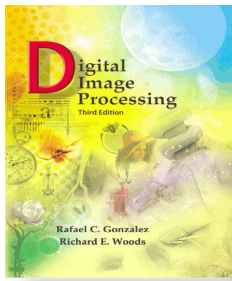


FIGURE 9.29 (a) Text image of size 918×2018 pixels. The approximate average height of the tall characters is 50 pixels. (b) Erosion of (a) with a structuring element of size 51×1 pixels. (c) Opening of (a) with the same structuring element, shown for reference. (d) Result of opening by reconstruction.

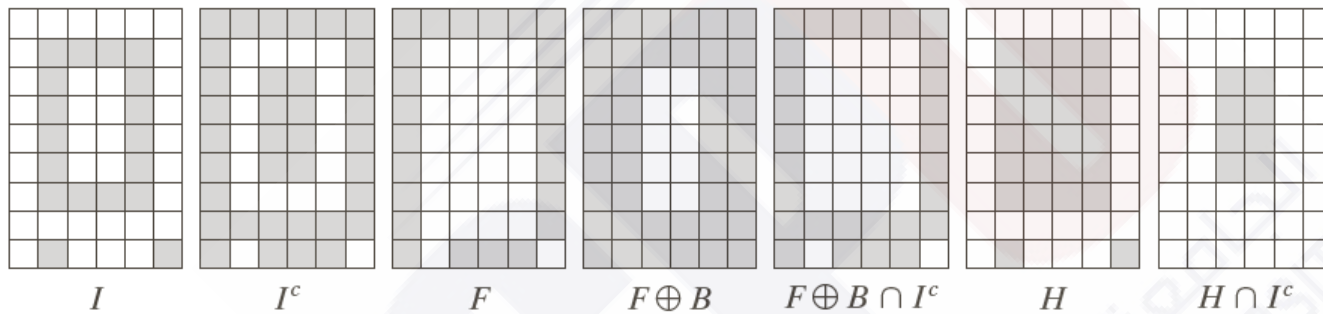


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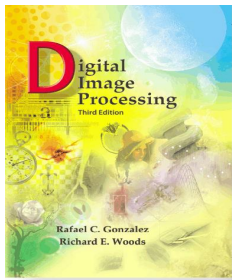
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a b c d e f g

FIGURE 9.30
Illustration of
hole filling on a
simple image.

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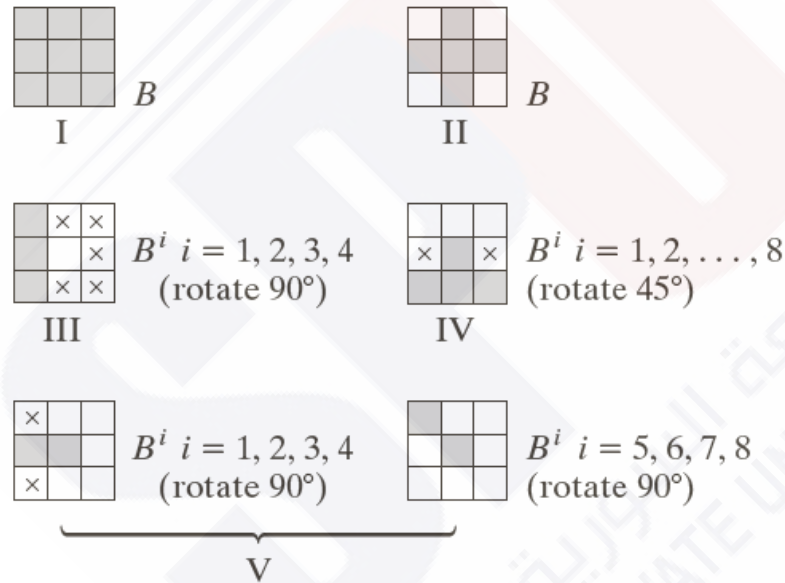
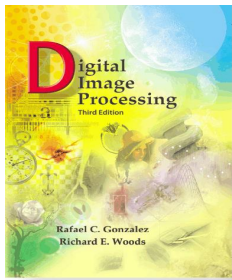


FIGURE 9.33 Five basic types of structuring elements used for binary morphology. The origin of each element is at its center and the 'x's indicate "don't care" values.



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Operation	Equation	Comments (The Roman numerals refer to the structuring elements in Fig. 9.33.)
Translation	$(B)_z = \{w w = b + z, \text{ for } b \in B\}$	Translates the origin of B to point z .
Reflection	$\hat{B} = \{w w = -b, \text{ for } b \in B\}$	Reflects all elements of B about the origin of this set.
Complement	$A^c = \{w w \notin A\}$	Set of points not in A .
Difference	$A - B = \{w w \in A, w \notin B\}$ $= A \cap B^c$	Set of points that belong to A but not to B .
Dilation	$A \oplus B = \{z (\hat{B}_z) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$	“Expands” the boundary of A . (I)
Erosion	$A \ominus B = \{z (B)_z \subseteq A\}$	“Contracts” the boundary of A . (I)
Opening	$A \circ B = (A \ominus B) \oplus B$	Smooths contours, breaks narrow isthmuses, and eliminates small islands and sharp peaks. (I)

TABLE 9.1
Summary of morphological operations and their properties.

(Continued)