

# Haudorff distances and Interpolations

*Jean Serra*  
*Ecole des Mines de Paris*

# Hausdorff Distance

- $E$  is a metric space of distance  $d$ , and  $\mathcal{K}'$  is the class of the non empty compact sets of  $E$ . Put :

$$d(x, Y) = \inf \{ d(x, y), y \in Y \}; \quad x \in E \quad Y \in \mathcal{K}'$$

Then the mapping  $\mathcal{K}' \times \mathcal{K}' \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$

$$\rho(X, Y) = \max \{ \sup d(x, Y); \sup d(x, Y) \} \quad (Eq. 1)$$

is a distance, called «**Hausdorff Distance**», on  $\mathcal{K}'$ .

- By introducing the dilation  $\delta_\lambda$  by the compact ball  $B_\lambda(x)$  of centre  $x$  and radius  $\lambda$ , *i.e.*

$$\delta_\lambda(X) = \cup \{ B_\lambda(x), x \in X \}$$

(Eq. 1) takes the following form

$$\rho(X, Y) = \inf \{ \lambda : X \subseteq \delta_\lambda(Y); Y \subseteq \delta_\lambda(X) \}.$$

# First Hausdorff Geodesic

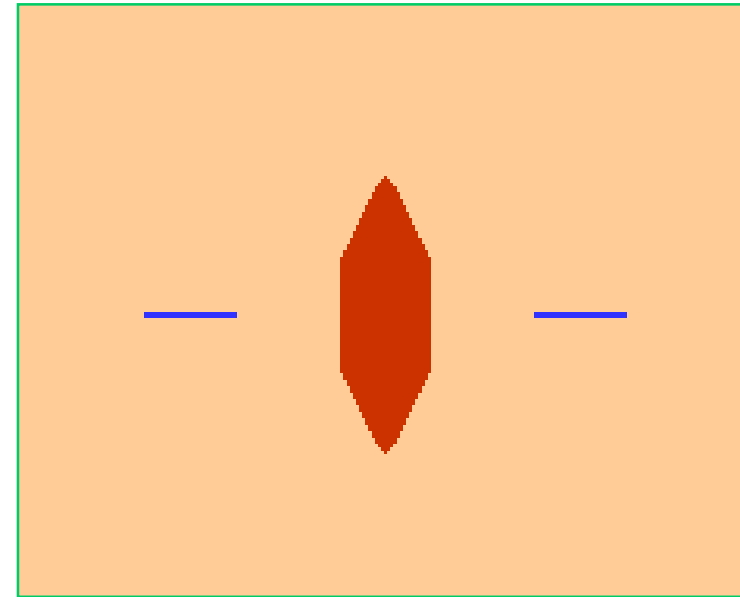
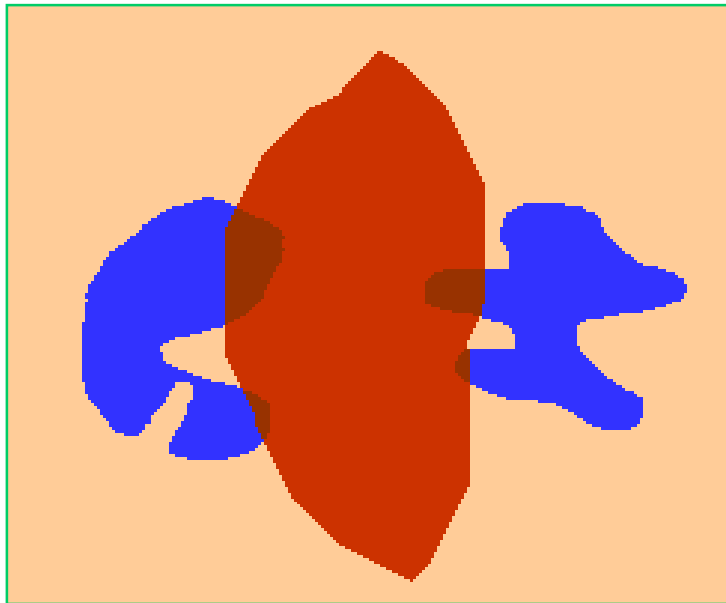
- If it exists, a geodesic between  $X$  and  $Y$  will be a shortest segment  $[X, Y]$  in space  $\mathcal{K}'(E)$ , *i.e.* a family  $\{ Z_\alpha, 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \}$  of non empty compact *interpolators* from  $X$ , for  $\alpha=0$ , to  $Y$ , for  $\alpha=1$ .
- *Proposition (1st geodesic in  $\mathcal{K}'$ )* : Every pair  $(X, Y)$  in  $\mathcal{K}'(E)$ , from Hausdorff distance  $\rho$  apart, admits the following geodesic:

$$\{ Z_\alpha = \delta_{\alpha\rho}(X) \cap \delta_{(1-\alpha)\rho}(Y) ; 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \}$$

- Set  $Z_\alpha$  turns out to be the intersection of the dilates of  $X$  and of  $Y$  by the balls of radii  $\alpha\rho$  and  $(1-\alpha)\rho$  respectively.

In particular, in Minkowski case,  $X \oplus B(\rho/2) \cap Y \oplus B(\rho/2)$  is the *midway set* between  $X$  and  $Y$ .

# Two Examples of Midway Sets

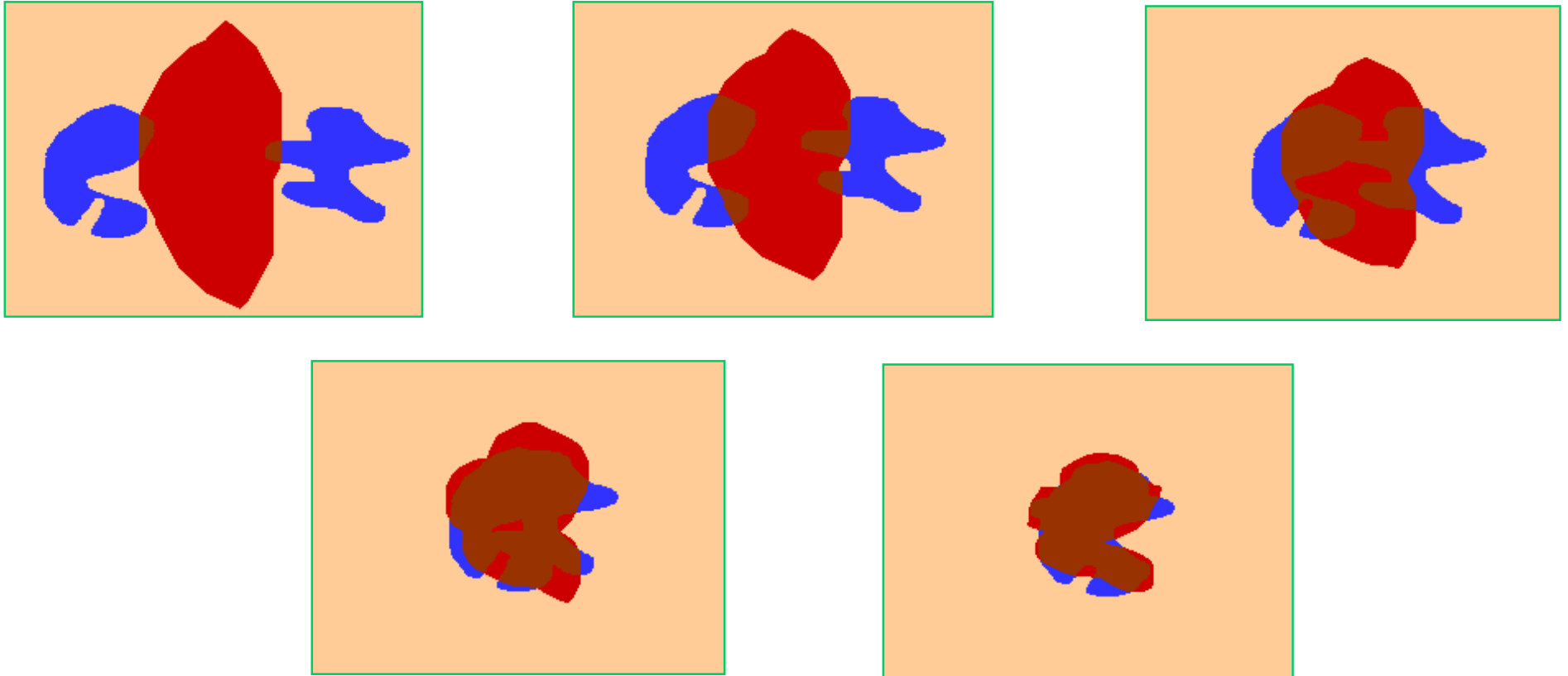


**Comments :** In both examples, the geodesic has a *swelling* effect. In the second one, two *fine* and *horizontal* segments are interpolated by a *thick vertical* lens !

**Questions :** 1/ Should it be possible to approach separately the relative *positions* of X and Y, and their *shape* differences ?

2/ Is the above geodesic the unique one ?

# Translation Effect on $Z_{0.5}$



*As the two sets diverge, their geodesic  $Z_{\alpha}$  becomes less and less significant .*

# Reduced Hausdorff Distance

- **Reduced space** : Let  $E$  be a compact sub-space of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  . We will approach locations and shapes separately, by considering the quotient space  $\mathcal{K}_1$  of  $\mathcal{K}$  ' for the equivalence under translation (Notation :  $\mathbf{X}_a$  stands for the translate of  $X$  by vector  $a$ ) . Put

$$\rho_1(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \inf \{ \rho(\mathbf{X}_u, \mathbf{Y}_v), u, v \in E \} \quad \text{Eq.(2)}.$$

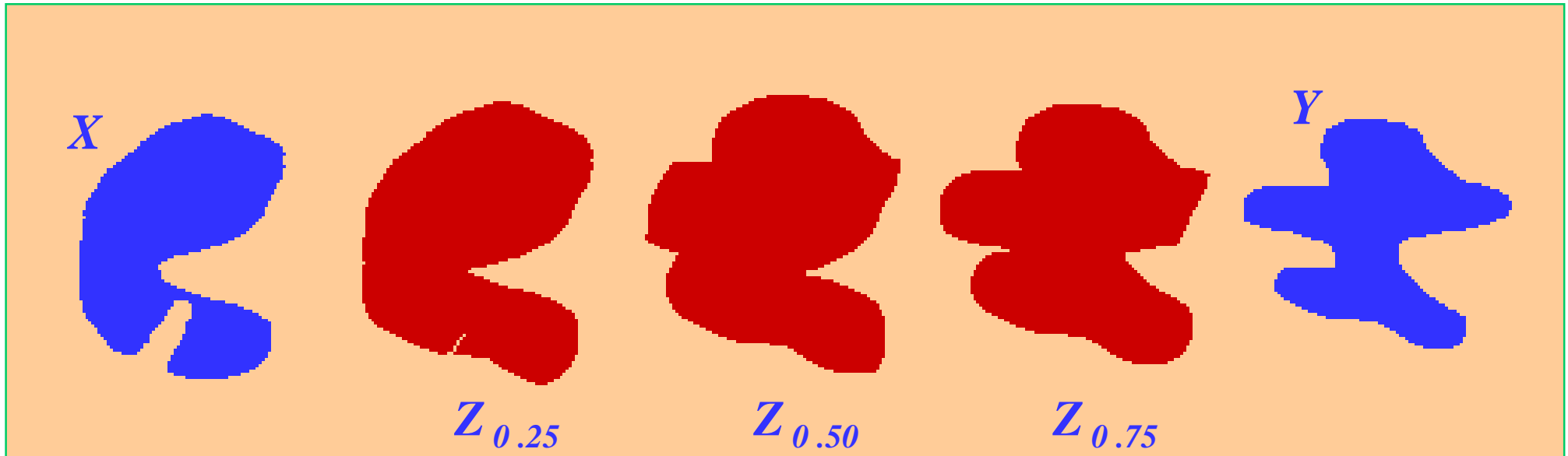
Since space  $E$  is compact, there exists at least one pair  $(\mathbf{X}_a, \mathbf{Y}_b)$  for which  $\rho = \rho_1$  , and this yields the following result

- **Proposition (1st geodesic on  $\mathcal{K}_1$ )** : The mapping introduced by **Eq.(2)** defines a **distance** on the quotient space  $\mathcal{K}_1$  . Moreover, for every pair of compact sets  $X, Y$  , the geodesic in  $\mathcal{K}_1$  is nothing but the (non reduced) geodesic of  $\mathbf{X}_a, \mathbf{Y}_b$  in  $\mathcal{K}$  ' *i.e.*

$$\{ \mathbf{Z}_\alpha = \mathbf{X}_a \oplus \mathbf{B}\alpha\rho \cap \mathbf{Y}_b \oplus \mathbf{B}(1-\alpha)\rho ; 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \}$$

*In practice, a matching of the centres of  $X$  and  $Y$  is sufficient.*

# Reduced Distance : an Example



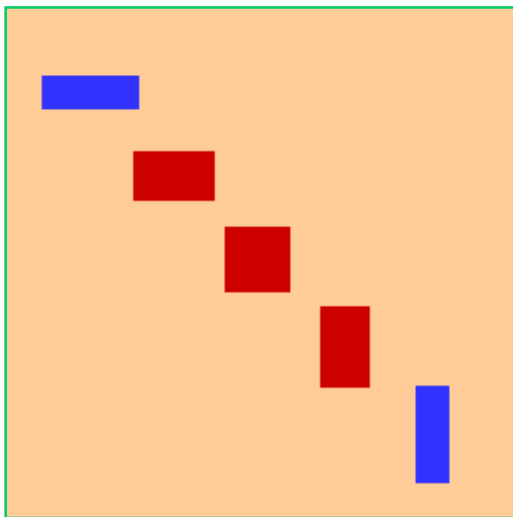
- The geodesics were computed when the centers of gravity of X and of Y were superimposed (on the figure, set Y is shifted for display reasons).
- The three intermediary  $Z_\alpha$  correspond to  $\alpha = \{ 0.25 ; 0.50 ; 0.75 \}$
- The residual swelling effect is more acceptable.

# Haudorff Geodesic for Convex Sets (I)

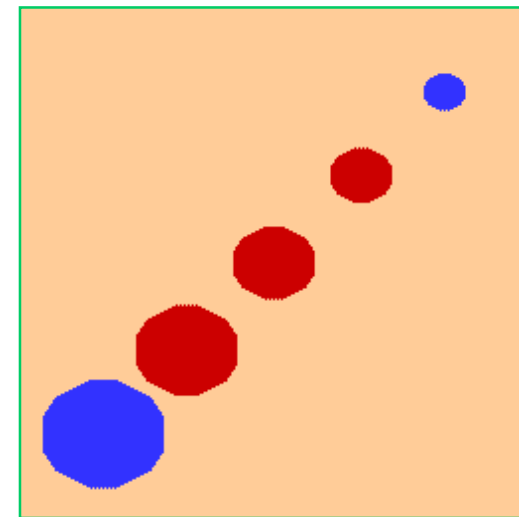
A second way to improve the geodesics is suggested by the convex sets.

- **Convex case:** Take for  $E$  the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and focus on the metric sub-space  $C' \subseteq \mathcal{K}'$  of the **convex** compact sets. then we have :
- **Proposition ( Geodesics on  $C'$  ):** let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two **convex** compact sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then the interpolators  $\{C_\alpha\}$  form a **geodesic** in space  $C'$ .

$$\{C_\alpha\} = \{(1 - \alpha)X \oplus \alpha Y, 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1\}$$



*Examples of  
geodesics  $C_\alpha$*

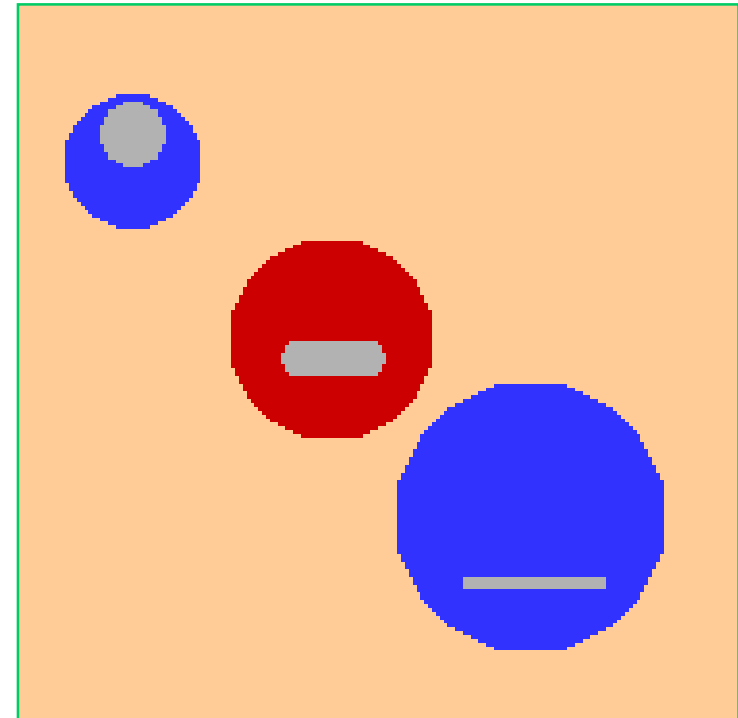




# Hausdorff Geodesic for Convex Sets (II)

## Properties of geodesic $C_\alpha$

- Unlike the first geodesic  $Z_\alpha$ ,  $C_\alpha$  *commutes under translation*, i.e. when  $X$  is shifted by  $a$ , then  $C_\alpha(X, Y)$  is shifted by  $\alpha \cdot a$  ;
- Over  $C'$ , geodesic  $C_\alpha$  is always smaller than  $Z_\alpha$  i.e.  $C_\alpha \subseteq Z_\alpha$  ;
- The mapping  $C_\alpha : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is *increasing* ;
- But when  $X$  and  $Y$  are *not* in  $C'$  then  $C_\alpha$  is no longer a geodesic !



*Increasingness  
of Geodesic  $C_\alpha$*

# Second Hausdorff Geodesic : General Case

- *Proposition ( Second Geodesic on  $\mathcal{K}'$  )* : Every pair  $(X, Y)$  in  $\mathcal{K}'(E)$ , from Hausdorff distance  $\rho$  apart, admits the following geodesic:

$$\{ Z'_\alpha = \delta_{\alpha\rho}(X) \cap \delta_{(1-\alpha)\rho}(Y) \cap (1-\alpha)X \oplus \alpha Y ; \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \} ;$$

Hence, by comparison with the first geodesic  $Z_\alpha = \delta_{\alpha\rho}(X) \cap \delta_{(1-\alpha)\rho}(Y)$ , we now have:

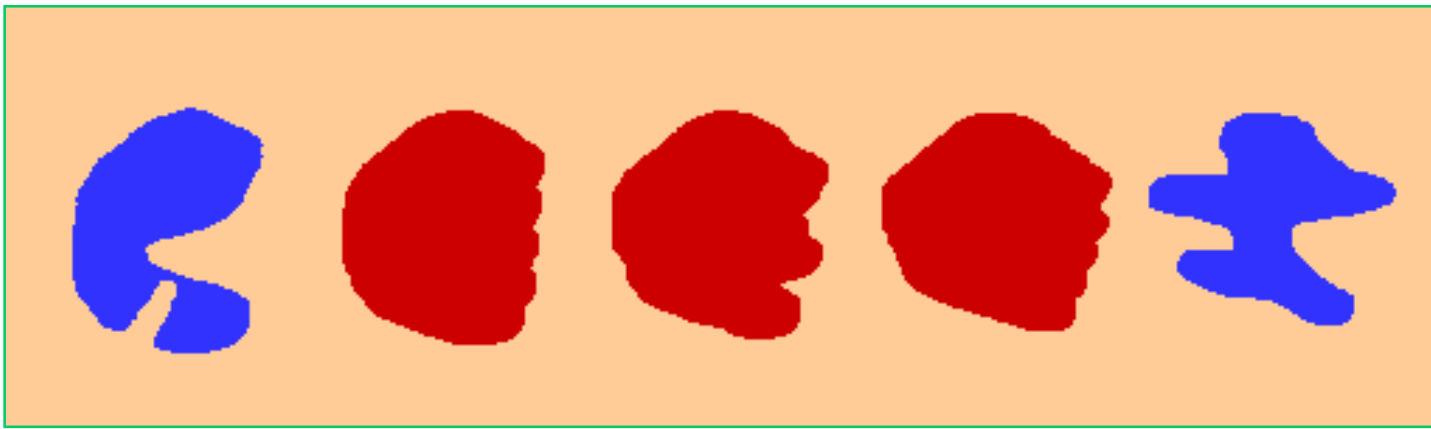
$$Z'_\alpha = Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$$

- *Comment : 1/* Here, not only  $X$  and  $Y$  are not necessarily convex, but space  $E$  itself is no longer supposed to be Euclidean.

*2/* Since  $C_\alpha$  commutes under translation, the above reduced approach is still valid : given the pair  $(X, Y)$  and their optimal translates  $(X_a, Y_b)$ , family  $\{ Z'_\alpha(X_a, Y_b) ; 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1 \}$  is a *geodesic* on the reduced space  $\mathcal{K}_1$ .

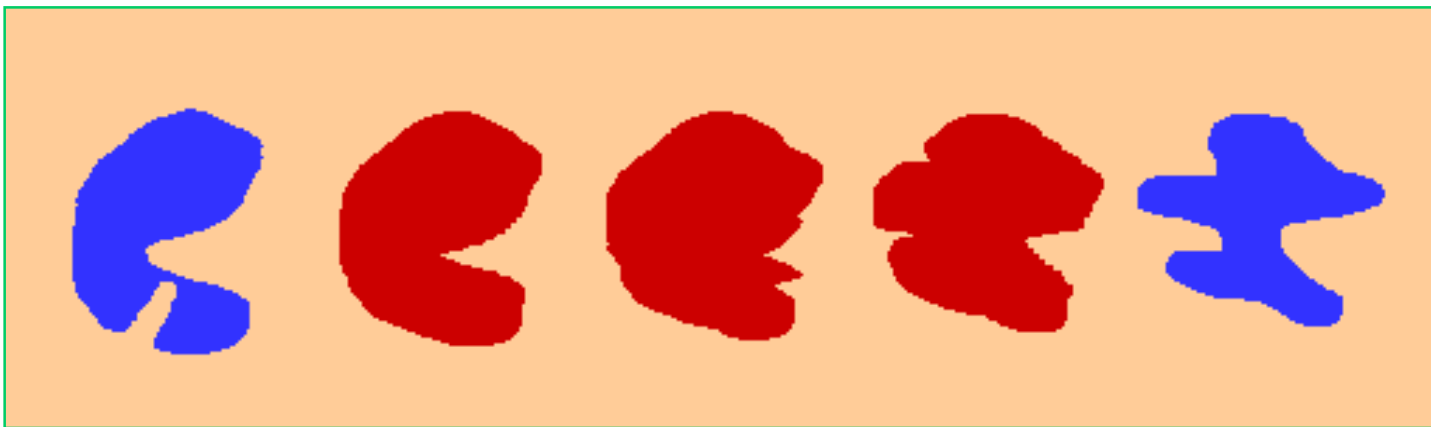
# Comparison between $C_\alpha$ and $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$

*(I) shapes and sizes*



*series  $C_\alpha$*

*Pseudo-geodesic  $C_\alpha$ : the shape evolution is not well caught.*

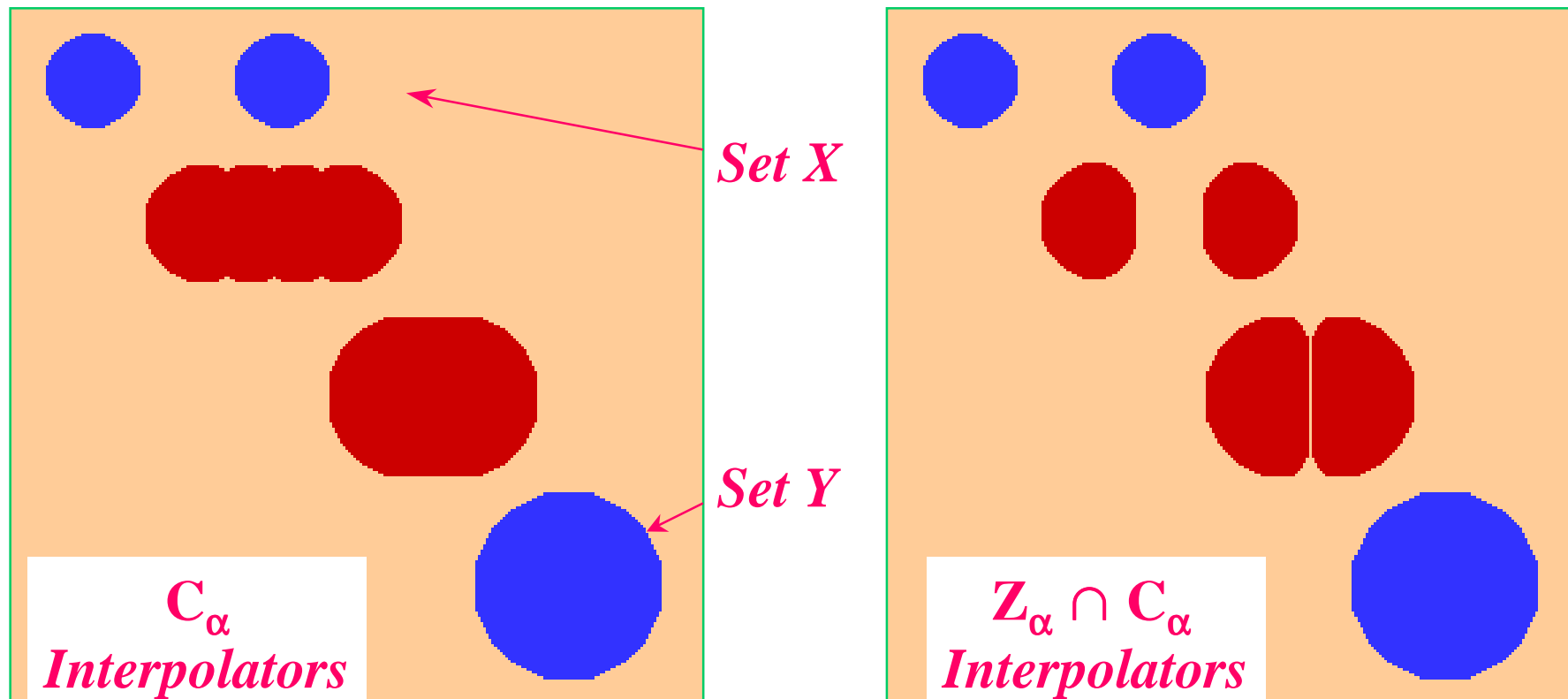


*series*

$Z'_\alpha = Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$

*Reduced 2nd geodesic  $Z'_\alpha$ : both swelling effect and shape evolution are improved.*

# Comparison between $C_\alpha$ and $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$



## (II) Connectivity

When one input at least is not convex, then  $C_\alpha$  is no longer a geodesic (e.g.  $C_\alpha(X, X)$  is not  $X$ ) and yields less satisfactory results than  $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$ .

# Comparison between $C_\alpha$ and $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$

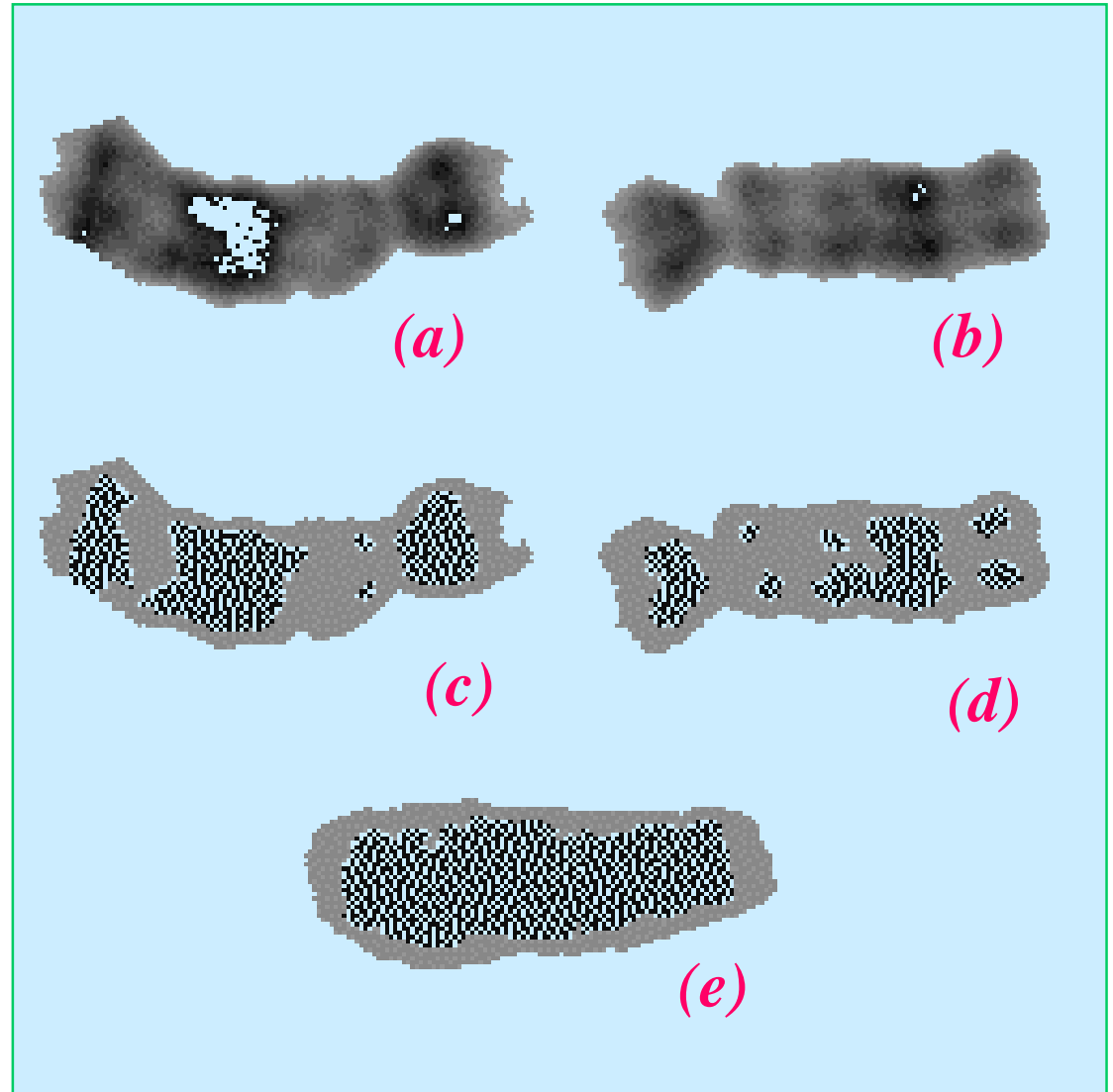
## (III) Connectivity

However, the nice previous connectivity preservation fails when as soon as homotopy becomes more complicated.

(a) (b) two chromosomes ;

(c) (d) basic threshold of the bending ;

(e) Midway set according to the 2nd geodesic  $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$



# Comparison between $C_\alpha$ and $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$

## *(IV) Increasingness*

Unlike  $C_\alpha$ , geodesic  $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$  is *not increasing*.

Practically, what happens if we interpolate the homolog pairs individually (eyes and mouth) ?



# Comparison between $C_\alpha$ and $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$

## *(IV) Increasingness*

When the involved shapes are not too tortuous, then increasingness is preserved.

Here, eyes and mouth have been interpolated by using geodesic  $Z_\alpha \cap C_\alpha$ .



# Hausdorff Distance by Erosions

Basically, the swelling effect arises because Hausdorff distance is not a *self-dual* notion. A first step to offset this weakness consists the following :

- **Dual Hausdorff Metric** : Consider the subclass of  $\mathcal{K}$  ' made of regular compact sets *i.e.* whose elements  $A$  satisfy the equality

$$\overline{\mathring{A}} = A$$

then the non negative number

$$\sigma(X,Y) = \inf \{ \lambda : \varepsilon_\lambda (X) \subseteq Y ; \varepsilon_\lambda (Y) \subseteq X \}$$

defines a **Hausdorff Distance by Erosions** on the regular class.

- **Euclidean case** : Below, we will focus on the class  $\mathcal{A}$  of sets which are
  - regular in a compact subspace  $E$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  or  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  ;
  - finite unions of disjoint connected sets.



# Interpolations for Nested Sets

Consider an ordered pair  $(X, Y)$  of sets in  $\mathcal{A}(E)$ , e.g. with  $X \subseteq Y$ .

- **Median element** : A point  $m$  lies at a distance  $\leq \lambda$  from  $X$  iff  $m \in (X \oplus \lambda B)$ ; similarly, by regularity of  $Y$ ,  $m$  lies at a distance  $\geq \lambda$  from  $Y^c$  iff  $m \in (Y \ominus \lambda B)$ ; hence set

$$M(X, Y) = \bigcup \{ (X \oplus \lambda B) \cap (Y \ominus \lambda B), \lambda \geq 0 \} \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$

characterizes a median element such that

- 1/  $X \subseteq M \subseteq Y$ ;
- 2/  $\partial M$  is the locus of the points equidistant from  $X$  and from  $Y^c$  ( the SKIZ of  $X \cup Y^c$ , in Lantuejoul's sense);
- 3/ all the involved distances are smaller or equal to

$$\mu = \inf \{ \lambda : \lambda \geq 0, (X \oplus \lambda B) \cap (Y \ominus \lambda B)^c \neq \emptyset \}. \quad (\text{Eq. 4})$$

# Median Element and Hausdorff Distances

- **Compactity** : Because of the assumptions of regularity and of finitude, the median element  $M(X, Y)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}(E)$ , and there exists at least one point  $z$  on  $\partial M$  such that  $B_\mu(z)$  hits both  $X$  and the closure of  $Y^c$ .
- **Proposition (Median element and distances)** : Given  $X, Y$  in  $\mathcal{A}(E)$ , the median element  $M(X, Y)$  is at Hausdorff **dilation** distance from  $X$  and  $X \bullet \mu B$  and also at Hausdorff **erosion** distance from  $Y$  and  $Y \circ \mu B$ .

*Note that in these results, none of the distances between  $X$  and  $Y$  intervenes*

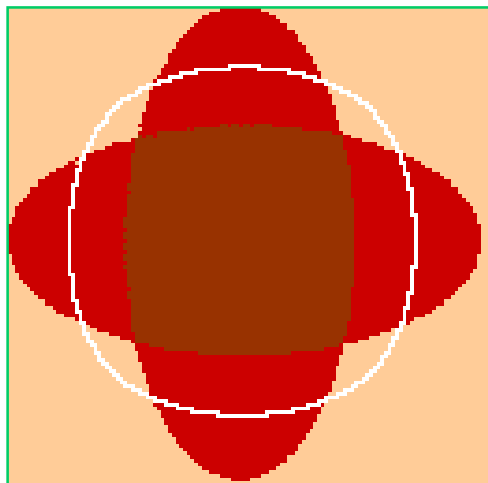
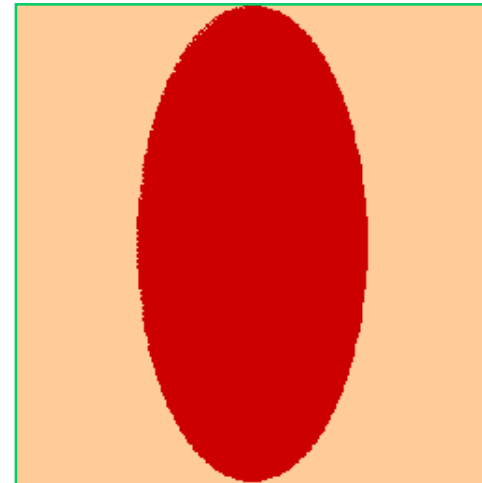
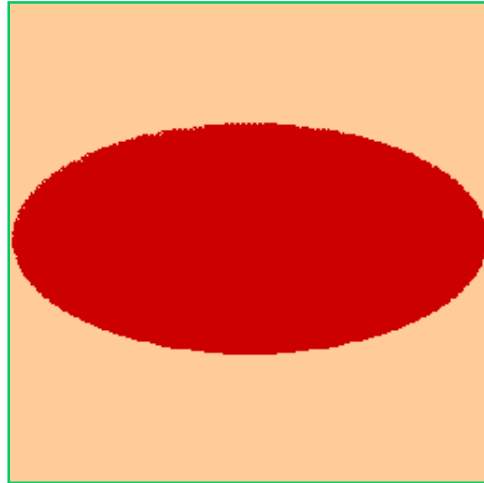
- **Weighted element** : By introducing two weights  $\alpha$  and  $(1 - \alpha)$  in Eq. 2 we generalize  $M(X, Y)$  as follows :

$$M_\alpha(X, Y) = \cup \{ (X \oplus \alpha \lambda B) \cap (Y \ominus (1 - \alpha) \lambda B), \lambda \geq 0 \} \quad 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

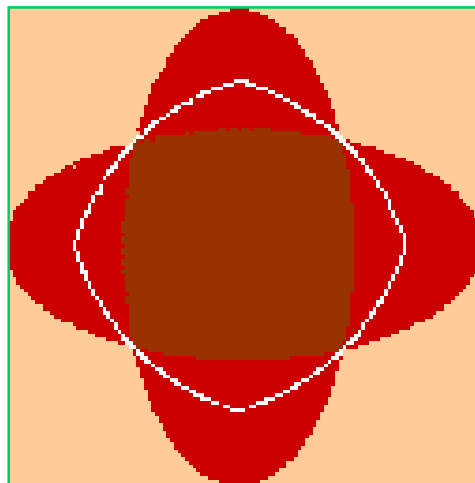
to which is associated the minimum value  $\mu(\alpha)$ , with  $\sup_\alpha \{ \mu(\alpha) \} = \rho(X, Y)$ .

# Examples of Median Elements

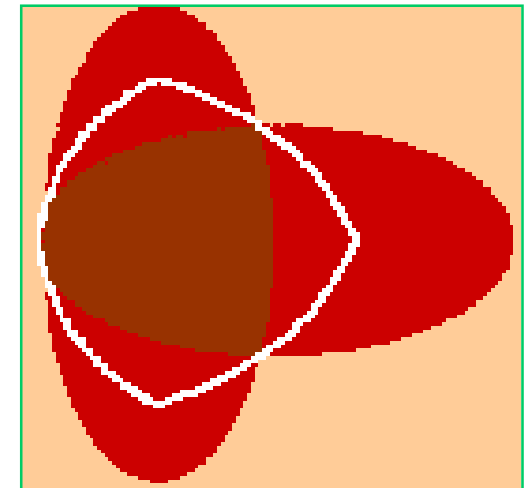
*Initial sets*



*Midway set  $C_{0.5}$   
( commutes under  
translation )*

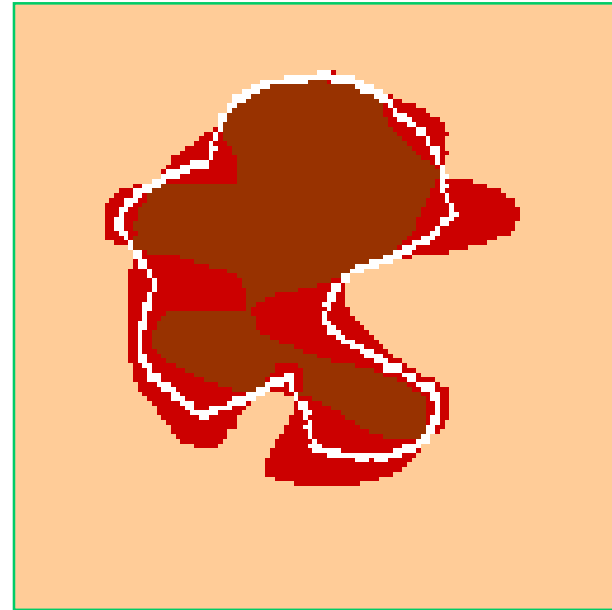
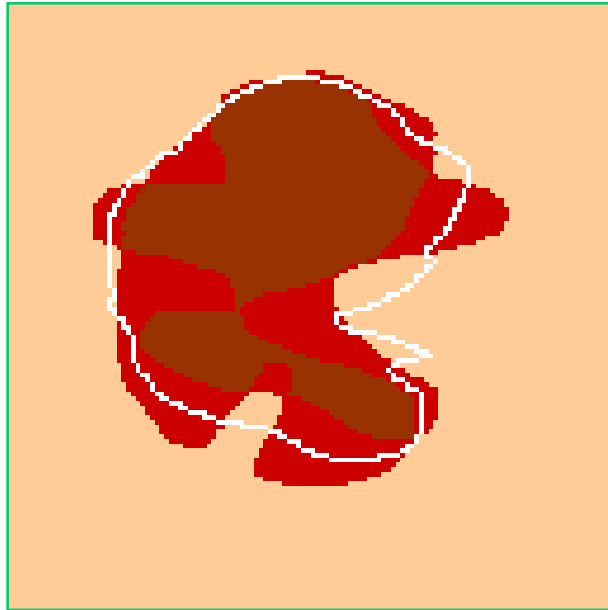


*Middle element  $M_{0.5}$*



*Middle element  $M_{0.5}$   
after shift of one set*

## Another Example



### Conclusions :

- 1/ the  $M_\alpha$ 's are not geodesic sets : the midway between  $X$  and  $M_{0.5}(X, Y)$  is *not*  $M_{0.25}(X, Y)$  ;
- 2/ the translation dependence is worse for the  $M_\alpha$ 's than for the  $Z'_\alpha$ 's ;
- 3/ but  $(X, Y) \rightarrow M_\alpha(X, Y)$  is *increasing*, hence it extends easily to *numerical functions* ( see F. Meyer, S. Beucher and J.R. Casas works on the subject ) .

## References (I)

Patent No 94-14162, first application in France, nov.1994.

**Beucher S.**, Sets, Partitions and Functions Interpolations, in *Mathematical Morphology and its applications to image and signal processing*, H.Heijmans and J. Roerdink eds. Kluwer, 1996.

**Casas J.R.**, *Image compression based on perceptual coding techniques*, PhD thesis, UPC, Barcelona, march 1996.

**Dougherty E.**, Application of the Hausdorff metric in gray scale morphology via truncated umbrae, *JVCIR* , **2**, 2, 1991, pp. 177-187.

**Huttenlocher D.P., Klunderman G.A., Rucklidge W.J.**, Comparing images using the Hausdorff distance, *IEEE PAMI*, **15**, 9, sept. 1995.

**Lantuejoul Ch.**, *La squelettisation et son application aux mesures topologiques des mosaïques polycristallines*, PhD thesis, Ecole des Mines de Paris, 1978.

**Matheron G.**, *Random Sets and Integral Geometry*, Wiley, 1975.

## References (II)

- Meyer F.**, A morphological interpolation method for mosaic images, in *Mathematical Morphology and its applications to image and signal processing*, Maragos P. et al. eds. Kluwer, 1996.
- Moreau P., and Ronse Ch.**, Generation of shading-off on images by extrapolations of Lipschitz functions, *Graph. Models and Image Processing*, **58**, 6, July 1996, pp. 314-333.
- Serra J.**, Equicontinuous functions: a model for mathematical morphology, *SPIE San Diego Conf.*, Vol. 1769, pp. 252-263, july 1992.
- Serra J.**, Hausdorff Distances and Interpolations, in *Mathematical Morphology and its applications to image and signal processing*, H.Heijmans and J. Roerdink eds. Kluwer, 1996.