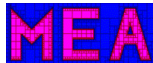


# Thick separators

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# Thick sets

A *thin set* is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

A *thick set*  $[[X]]$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is an interval of  $(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n), \subset)$ .

$$[[X]] = [X^c, X^{\supset}] = \{X \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^n) \mid X^c \subset X \subset X^{\supset}\}.$$

A thickset  $[[X]]$  is also the partition  $\{X^{in}, X^?, X^{out}\}$ , where

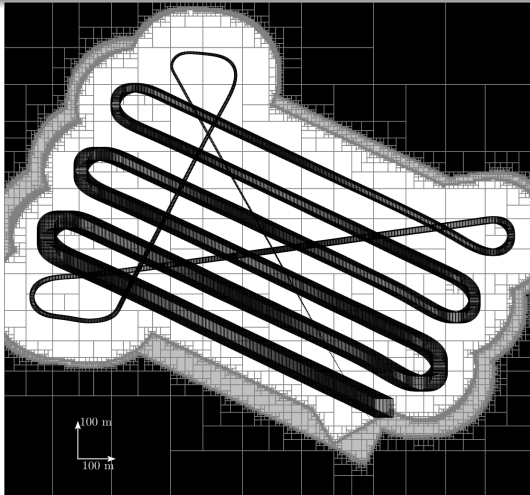
$$\begin{aligned} X^{in} &= X^c \\ X^? &= X^{\supset} \setminus X^c \\ X^{out} &= \overline{X^{\supset}}. \end{aligned}$$

The subset  $X^?$  is called the *penumbra*.

Thick sets  
Contractors and separators  
Thick separators  
Test-case



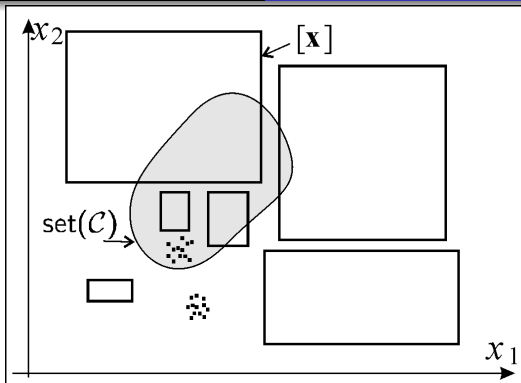
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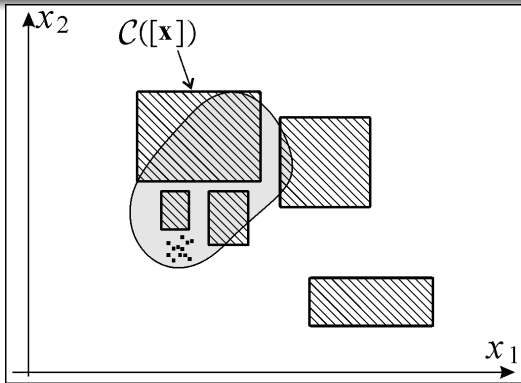
Penumbra

# Contractors

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{C}([x]) \subset [x] & \text{(contractance)} \\ [x] \subset [y] \Rightarrow \mathcal{C}([x]) \subset \mathcal{C}([y]) & \text{(monotonicity)} \end{array}$$







# Properties

## Inclusion

$$\mathcal{C}_1 \subset \mathcal{C}_2 \Leftrightarrow \forall [\mathbf{x}] \in \mathbb{IR}^n, \mathcal{C}_1([\mathbf{x}]) \subset \mathcal{C}_2([\mathbf{x}]).$$

A set  $\mathbb{S}$  is *consistent* with  $\mathcal{C}$  (we write  $\mathbb{S} \sim \mathcal{C}$ ) if

$$\mathcal{C}([\mathbf{x}]) \cap \mathbb{S} = [\mathbf{x}] \cap \mathbb{S}.$$

$\mathcal{C}$  is *minimal* if

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{S} \sim \mathcal{C} \\ \mathcal{S} \sim \mathcal{C}_1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{C}_1.$$

# Separators

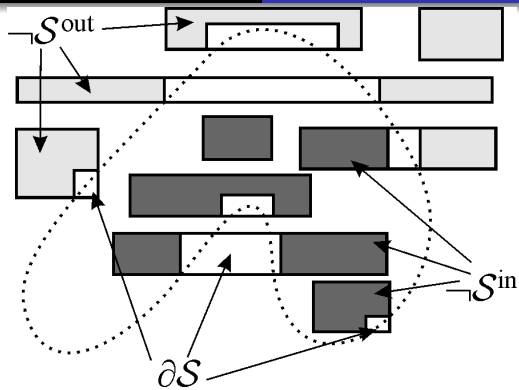
A *separator*  $\mathcal{S}$  is pair of contractors  $\{\mathcal{S}^{\text{in}}, \mathcal{S}^{\text{out}}\}$  such that

$$\mathcal{S}^{\text{in}}([\mathbf{x}]) \cup \mathcal{S}^{\text{out}}([\mathbf{x}]) = [\mathbf{x}] \quad (\text{complementarity}).$$

A set  $\mathbb{S}$  is *consistent* with  $\mathcal{I}$  (we write  $\mathbb{S} \sim \mathcal{I}$ ), if

$$\mathbb{S} \sim \mathcal{I}^{\text{out}} \text{ and } \bar{\mathbb{S}} \sim \mathcal{I}^{\text{in}}.$$





# Properties

## Inclusion

$$\mathcal{S}_1 \subset \mathcal{S}_2 \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{S}_1^{\text{in}} \subset \mathcal{S}_2^{\text{in}} \text{ and } \mathcal{S}_1^{\text{out}} \subset \mathcal{S}_2^{\text{out}}.$$

Here  $\subset$  means *more accurate*.

$\mathcal{S}$  is *minimal* if

$$\mathcal{S}_1 \subset \mathcal{S} \Rightarrow \mathcal{S}_1 = \mathcal{S}.$$

i.e., if  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{in}}$  and  $\mathcal{S}^{\text{out}}$  are both minimal.

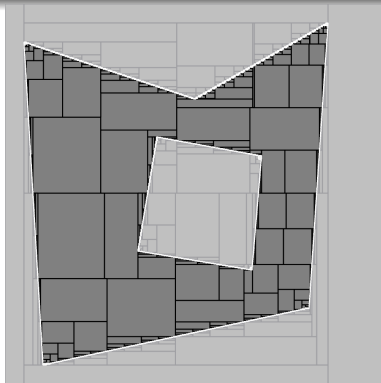
# Algebra

If  $\mathcal{S}_i = \{\mathcal{S}_i^{\text{in}}, \mathcal{S}_i^{\text{out}}\}$ ,  $i \geq 1$ , are separators, we define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_1 \cap \mathcal{S}_2 &= \{\mathcal{S}_1^{\text{in}} \cup \mathcal{S}_2^{\text{in}}, \mathcal{S}_1^{\text{out}} \cap \mathcal{S}_2^{\text{out}}\} && \text{(intersection)} \\ \mathcal{S}_1 \cup \mathcal{S}_2 &= \{\mathcal{S}_1^{\text{in}} \cap \mathcal{S}_2^{\text{in}}, \mathcal{S}_1^{\text{out}} \cup \mathcal{S}_2^{\text{out}}\} && \text{(union)} \\ \mathcal{S}_1 \setminus \mathcal{S}_2 &= \mathcal{S}_1 \cap \overline{\mathcal{S}_2}. && \text{(difference)} \end{aligned}$$

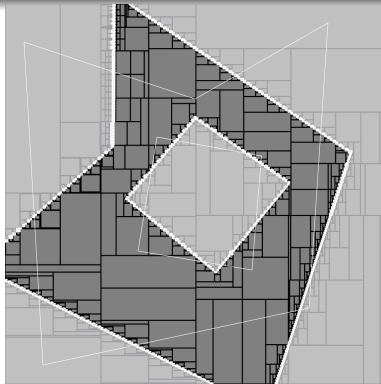
**Theorem.** If  $S_i$  are subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(i)} \quad S_1 \cap S_2 &\sim \mathcal{I}_1 \cap \mathcal{I}_2 \\
 \text{(ii)} \quad S_1 \cup S_2 &\sim \mathcal{I}_1 \cup \mathcal{I}_2 \\
 \text{(iii)} \quad \overline{S_i} &\sim \overline{\mathcal{I}_i} \\
 \text{(iv)} \quad S_i &\sim \mathcal{I}_i^k, k \geq 0 \\
 \text{(vi)} \quad S_1 \setminus S_2 &\sim \mathcal{I}_1 \setminus \mathcal{I}_2.
 \end{aligned}$$

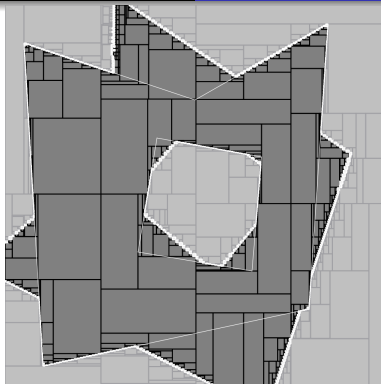


Set  $M$





Rot(M)



$\text{Rot}(M) \cup M$

# Thick separators

A *thick separator*  $[\mathcal{S}]$  for  $[\mathbb{X}]$  is a 3-uple of contractors  $\{\mathcal{S}^{in}, \mathcal{S}^?, \mathcal{S}^{out}\}$  such that, for all  $[\mathbf{x}] \in \mathbb{IR}^n$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}^{in}([\mathbf{x}]) \cap \mathbb{X}^{in} &= [\mathbf{x}] \cap \mathbb{X}^{in} \\ \mathcal{S}^?([\mathbf{x}]) \cap \mathbb{X}^? &= [\mathbf{x}] \cap \mathbb{X}^? \\ \mathcal{S}^{out}([\mathbf{x}]) \cap \mathbb{X}^{out} &= [\mathbf{x}] \cap \mathbb{X}^{out} \end{aligned}$$

# Algebra

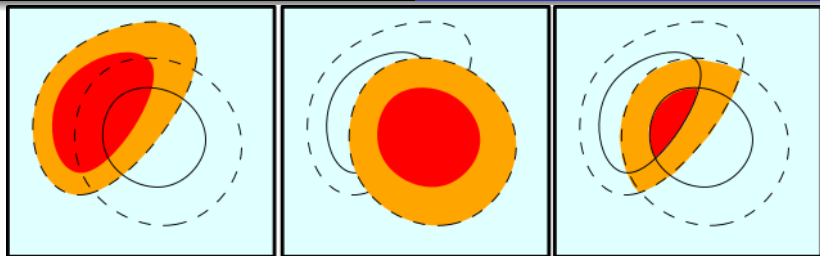
**Intersection.** Consider two thick separators

$[[\mathcal{S}_X]] = \{\mathcal{S}_X^{in}, \mathcal{S}_X^?, \mathcal{S}_X^{out}\}$  and  $[[\mathcal{S}_Y]] = \{\mathcal{S}_Y^{in}, \mathcal{S}_Y^?, \mathcal{S}_Y^{out}\}$ . A thick separator  $[[\mathcal{S}_Z]] = \{\mathcal{S}_Z^{in}, \mathcal{S}_Z^?, \mathcal{S}_Z^{out}\}$  for

$$[[Z]] = [Z^c, Z^D] = [X] \cap [Y]$$

is

$$\{\mathcal{S}_X^{in} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}, (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^{in} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?), \mathcal{S}_X^{out} \sqcup \mathcal{S}_Y^{out}\}.$$



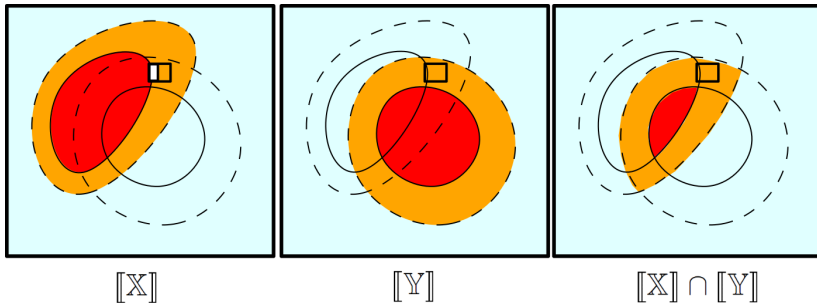
$[X]$

$[Y]$

$[X] \cap [Y]$

Intersection of two thick sets

Illustration. Take one box  $[x]$  .





We have

$$[[\mathcal{S}_X]]([\mathbf{x}]) = \left\{ \mathcal{S}_X^{in}, \mathcal{S}_X^?, \mathcal{S}_X^{out} \right\}([\mathbf{x}]) = \{[\mathbf{a}], [\mathbf{x}], \emptyset\}$$

where  $[\mathbf{a}]$  the white box. Moreover,

$$[[\mathcal{S}_Y]]([\mathbf{x}]) = \left\{ \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}, \mathcal{S}_Y^?, \mathcal{S}_Y^{out} \right\}([\mathbf{x}]) = \{\emptyset, [\mathbf{x}], \emptyset\}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \llbracket \mathcal{S}_Z \rrbracket &= \{ \mathcal{S}_Z^{in}, \mathcal{S}_Z^?, \mathcal{S}_Z^{out} \} ([\mathbf{x}]) \\
 &= \{ \mathcal{S}_X^{in} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}([\mathbf{x}]), \\
 &= (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^{in} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?) ([\mathbf{x}]), \\
 &= \mathcal{S}_X^{out} \sqcup \mathcal{S}_Y^{out}([\mathbf{x}]) \} \\
 &= \{ [\mathbf{a}] \cap \emptyset, ([\mathbf{x}] \cap \emptyset) \sqcup ([\mathbf{x}] \cap [\mathbf{x}]) \sqcup ([\mathbf{a}] \cap [\mathbf{x}]), \emptyset \sqcup \emptyset \} \\
 &= \{ \emptyset, [\mathbf{x}], \emptyset \}
 \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that  $[\mathbf{x}] \subset \mathbb{Z}^{in}$ .

# Using Karnaugh maps

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[Y]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X] \cap [Y]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X] \cup [Y]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X] \setminus [Y] \cup [Y] \setminus [X]$

Union. For

$$[Z] = [X] \cup [Y],$$

we read from the Karnaugh map

$$\begin{aligned} Z^{in} &= X^{in} \cup Y^{in} \\ Z^? &= (X^? \cap Y^{out}) \cup (X^? \cap Y^?) \cup (X^{out} \cap Y^?) \\ Z^{out} &= X^{out} \cap Y^{out}. \end{aligned}$$

A thick separator  $[\mathcal{S}_Z] = \{\mathcal{S}_Z^{in}, \mathcal{S}_Z^?, \mathcal{S}_Z^{out}\}$  for  $[Z]$  is

$$\{\mathcal{S}_X^{in} \sqcup \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}, (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{out}) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^{out} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?), \mathcal{S}_X^{out} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{out}\}$$

XOR. For

$$[Z] = [X] \oplus [Y] = [X] \setminus [Y] \cup [Y] \setminus [X],$$

we read

$$\begin{aligned} Z^{in} &= (X^{in} \cap Y^{out}) \cup (X^{out} \cap Y^{in}) \\ Z^? &= X^? \cup Y^? \\ Z^{out} &= (X^{in} \cap Y^{in}) \cup (X^{out} \cap Y^{out}). \end{aligned}$$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[Y]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X] \cap [Y]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X] \cup [Y]$

	$X^{in}$	$X^?$	$X^{out}$
$Y^{in}$			
$Y^?$			
$Y^{out}$			

$[X] \setminus [Y] \cup [Y] \setminus [X]$

Therefore a thick separator for the thick set  $\llbracket Z \rrbracket = \llbracket X \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket Y \rrbracket$  is

$$\{ \mathcal{S}_X^{in} \sqcup \mathcal{S}_Y^{in}, (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{out}) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^? \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?) \sqcup (\mathcal{S}_X^{out} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^?), \mathcal{S}_X^{out} \cap \mathcal{S}_Y^{out} \}.$$



# Test-case

Example from [Kreinovich, Shary, 2016]:

$$\begin{cases} [2, 4] \cdot x_1 + [-2, 0] \cdot x_2 \in [-1, 1] \\ [-1, 1] \cdot x_1 + [2, 4] \cdot x_2 \in [0, 2] \end{cases}$$

