# Lignes Géodésiques et Segmentation d'images 

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## Overview

- Minimal Paths, Fast Marching and Front Propagation
- Anistropic Fast Marching and Perceptual Grouping
- Anistropic Fast Marching and Vessel Segmentation
- Closed Contour segmentation as a set of minimal paths in 2D
- Geodesic meshing for 3D surface segmentation
- Fast Marching on surfaces: geodesic lines and Remeshing Isotropic, Adaptive, Anisotropic


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## Paths of minimal energy



Looking for a path along which a feature Potential $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})$ is minimal
example: a vessel dark structure $\mathrm{P}=$ gray level

Input : Start point $p 0=(x 0, y 0)$
End point $p l=(x, y)$
Image
Output: Minimal Path

## Paths of minimal energy



Looking for a path along which a feature Potential $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y})$ is minimal
example:
contour
$\mathrm{P}=$ gradient based
Input : Start point $p 0=(x 0, y 0)$
End point $p l=(x, y)$
Image
Output: Minimal Path

## Minimal Paths: Eikonal Equation

$$
E(C)=\int_{0}^{L} P(C(S)) d s
$$

## Potential $\mathrm{P}>0$ takes lower values near interesting features : on contours, dark structures, ...

STEP 1 : search for the surface of minimal action $U$ of $p 0$ as the minimal energy integrated along a path between start point $p 0$ and any point $p$ in the image
Start point $C(0)=p 0$;

$$
U_{p 0}(p)=\operatorname{lnf}_{C(0)=p 0 ; C(L)=p} E(C)=\inf _{C(0)=p 0 ; C(L)=p} \int_{0}^{L} P(C(s)) d s
$$

STEP 2: Back-propagation from the end point $p 1$ to the start point $p 0$ :

$$
\text { Simple Gradient Descent along } U_{p 0}
$$

## Minimal Paths: Eikonal Equation

STEP 1 : minimal action $U$ of $p 0$ as the minimal energy integrated along a path between start point $p 0$ and any point $p$ in the image

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U_{p 0}(p)=\inf _{C(0)=p 0 ; C(L)=p} E(C)=\inf _{C(0)=p 0 ; C(L)=p} \int_{0}^{L} P(C(s)) d s
$$

Solution of Eikonal equation:

$$
\left\|\nabla U_{p 0}(x)\right\|=P(x) \text { and } U_{p 0}(p 0)=0
$$

Example P=1, U Euclidean distance to p0

## Minimal Paths: Eikonal Equation

$$
E(C)=\int_{0}^{L} P(C(S)) d s
$$

STEP 2: Back-propagation from the end point $p 2$ to the start point $p 1$ :

$$
\text { Simple Gradient Descent along } U_{p 1}
$$

$$
\frac{d C}{d s}(s)=-\nabla U_{p_{1}}(C(s)) \text { with } C(0)=p_{2} .
$$

Theorem 1: (Euler Lagrange of E) Any curve C which is a local minimum of energy $E$ is a solution of

$$
\nabla \mathcal{P}(C) \cdot \vec{n}=\mathcal{P}(C) \kappa
$$

Definition 2 (Critical curves) We say that $C$ is a critical curve of the energy $E$ if $C$ is a solution of the Euler-Lagrange equation (5).

## Minimal Paths: Eikonal Equation

Definition 2 (Critical curves) We say that $C$ is a critical curve of the energy $E$ if $C$ is a solution of the Euler-Lagrange equation

$$
\nabla \mathcal{P}(C) \cdot \vec{n}=\mathcal{P}(C) \kappa
$$

Definition 3 (field lines) We will say that $\mathcal{C}$ is a field line of $\nabla U_{p_{1}}$ if it is the solution of the ordinary differential equation

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\frac{d \mathcal{C}(t)}{d t}=-\nabla U_{p_{1}}(\mathcal{C}(t))  \tag{11}\\
\mathcal{C}(0)=\mathbf{p}
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $\mathbf{p}$ is a point of the image domain.
And we have the following property:
Theorem 4 (Field Lines and Euler-Lagrange equation) If $U_{\mathbf{p}_{1}}$ is solution to the problem $\left\|\nabla U_{\mathbf{p}_{1}}\right\|=\mathcal{P}$ with $U_{\mathbf{p}_{1}}\left(\mathbf{p}_{1}\right)=0$, every line field of $\nabla U_{\mathbf{p}_{1}}$ is a critical curve of the geodesic energy $E$.

## FAST MARCHING in 2D:

very efficient algorithm $\mathrm{O}(\mathrm{N} \log \mathrm{N})$ for Eikonal Equation
Introduced by Sethian / Tsistsiklis
Numerical approximation of $\mathrm{U}(\mathrm{xij})$ as the solution to the discretized problem with upwind finite difference scheme

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \|\nabla U\|=\tilde{P} \\
& \quad \max \left(u-U\left(x_{i-1, j}\right), u-U\left(x_{i+1, j}\right), 0\right)^{2} \\
& +\max \left(u-U\left(x_{i, j-1}\right), u-U\left(x_{i, j+1}\right), 0\right)^{2}=h^{2} \widetilde{P}\left(x_{i, j}\right)^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

This 2nd order equation induces that :
action U at $\{\mathrm{i}, \mathrm{j}\}$ depends only of the neighbors that have lower actions.
Fast marching introduces order in the selection of the grid points for solving this numerical scheme.

Starting from the initial point p 0 with $\mathrm{U}=0$, the action computed at each point visited can only grow.

Level sets of U can be seen as a Front propagation outwards.

## Fast Marching Algorithm

Initialization

potentiol $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$


+ Far Trial Alive
J. A. Sethian

A fast marching level seł method for monotonically advancing fronts. P.N.A.S., 93:1591-1595, 1996.

## Fast Marching Algorithm

## Itération \#1

- Find point $\mathbf{x}_{\text {min }}$
(Trial point with smallest value of $\mathcal{U}$ ).
- $x_{\text {min }}$ becomes Alive.
- For each of 4 neighbors $\mathbf{x}$ of point $\mathbf{x}_{\text {min }}$ : If x is not Alive,

Estimate $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{x})$ with upwind scheme. x becomes Trial.

potential $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$


+ Far Trial Alive


## Fast Marching Algorithm

## Itération \#2

- Find point $\mathbf{x}_{\text {min }}$
(Trial point with smallest value of $\mathcal{U}$ ).
- $x_{\text {min }}$ becomes Alive.
- For each of 4 neighbors $\mathbf{x}$ of point $\mathbf{x}_{\text {min }}$ : If x is not Alive,

Estimate $\quad \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{x})$ with upwind scheme. x becomes Trial.

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minimal action

A fasł marching level seł method for monotonically advancing fronts. P.N.A.S., 93:1591-1595, 1996.

## Fast Marching Algorithm

## Itération \#k

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## Minimal Path between p1 and p2



## Minimal Path between p1 and p2


L. D. Cohen, R. Kimmel

Global minimum for active contour models: a minimal path approach. International Journal of Computer Vision, 25:57-78, 1997.

## Minimal Path between p1 and p2

Minimal action $\mathcal{U}_{1}: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{+}$solution of Eikonal equation :
$\left\|\nabla \mathcal{U}_{1}(\mathbf{x})\right\|=\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{x})$ pour $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$

$$
\mathcal{U}_{1}\left(\mathbf{p}_{1}\right)=0
$$


$\mathcal{U}_{1}$

## L. D. Cohen, R. Kimmel <br> Global minimum for active contour models : a minimal path approach. International Journal of Computer Vision, 25:57-78, 1997.

## Minimal Path between p1 and p2


minimal action $\underline{\mathcal{U}_{1}}$
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## Minimal Path between p1 and p2

minimal path

$$
\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{P}_{1}, \mathbf{P}_{2}}=\min _{\gamma \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{2}}}} \int_{\gamma} \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(\gamma(s)) \mathrm{d} s
$$

Is obtained by solving ODE:

$$
\left\{\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{2}}}(s)}{\partial s} & =-\nabla \mathcal{U}_{1}\left(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{2}}(s)\right) \\
\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{2}}(0) & =\mathbf{p}_{2}
\end{aligned}\right.
$$

$\Rightarrow$ simple gradient descent on $\mathcal{U}_{1}$ from $\mathbf{p}_{2}$ to $\mathbf{p}_{1}$

minimal action $\mathcal{U}_{1}$
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## Minimal Path between p1 and p2

## Step \#1

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## Minimal Path between p1 and p2

Słep \#1
$\left\|\nabla \mathcal{U}_{1}(\mathbf{x})\right\|=\tilde{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{x})$ pour $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$
$\mathcal{U}_{1}\left(\mathbf{p}_{1}\right)=0$


## Minimal Path between p1 and p2

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$$

Step \#2
gradient descent on $\quad \mathcal{U}_{1}$ for extraction of minimal path $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{2}}$

$$
\left\{\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial \mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{2}}(s)}{\partial s} & =-\nabla \mathcal{U}_{1}\left(\mathcal{C}_{\mathbf{p}_{1}, \mathbf{p}_{2}}(s)\right) \\
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\end{aligned}\right.
$$



## Minimal paths for 2D segmentation

Energy to minimize

$$
E(\gamma)=\int_{0}^{L} P(\gamma(t)) d t
$$

$$
P: X \in \Omega \rightarrow \frac{1}{1+\alpha \cdot\left|\nabla I_{\sigma}(X)\right|^{2}}
$$



## Minimal paths for 2D segmentation



## Minimal paths for 2D segmentation

- $P(\mathbf{x})=w+\left(I(\mathbf{x})-I\left(\mathbf{x}_{0}\right)\right)^{2} \Longleftrightarrow$ chemin d'intensité homogène


Chemin


Carte de distance

Simultaneous propagation of two fronts until a shock occurs.


## Reference:

T. Deschamps and L. D. Cohen

Minimal paths in 3D images and application to virtual endoscopy,
Proceedings ECCVOO, Dublin, Ireland, 2000.

## Examples of 3D Minimal Paths



Colon 3D CT


Trachea 3D CT

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## Riemannian Manifolds, Anisotropy and Geodesic Distances

-2D Riemannian manifolds defined over a compact planar domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{2}$

- Length of a curve $[0,1] \rightarrow \Omega$

$$
L(\gamma) \stackrel{\text { dof. }}{=} \int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{\gamma^{\prime}(t)^{\mathrm{T}} H(\gamma(t)) \gamma^{\prime}(t)} \mathrm{d} t .
$$

with $H: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ a metric tensor field of anisotropy $\alpha: \Omega \rightarrow[0,1]$

- Geodesic distance

$$
d(x, y)=\min _{y \in P(x, y)} L(\gamma), \quad \forall(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{2}
$$

- Distance map $U_{s}: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of a point set $S=\left\{x_{k}\right\}_{k}$

$$
U_{S}(x)=\min _{x_{k} \in S} d\left(x, x_{k}\right), \quad \forall x \in \Omega
$$

## Anisotropy and Eikonal Equation

Theorem: $U_{x_{0}}$ is the unique viscosity solution of the Hamilton-Jacobi equation

$$
\left\|\nabla U_{x_{0}}\right\|_{H(x)^{-1}}=1 \quad \text { with } \quad U_{x_{0}}\left(x_{0}\right)=0
$$

where $\|v\|_{A}=\sqrt{v^{\mathrm{T}} A v}$.

Geodesic curve $\gamma$ between $x_{1}$ and $x_{0}$ solves

$$
\gamma^{\prime}(t)=-\frac{H(\gamma(t))^{-1} \nabla U_{x_{0}}}{\left\|H(\gamma(t))^{-1} \nabla U_{x_{0}}\right\|} \quad \text { with } \quad \gamma(0)=x_{1}
$$

Example: isotropic metric $H(x)=W(x) \mathrm{Id}_{x}$,

$$
\left\|\nabla U_{x_{0}}\right\|=W(x) \quad \text { and } \quad \gamma^{\prime}(t)=-\frac{\nabla U_{x_{0}}}{\left\|\nabla U_{x_{0}}\right\|}
$$

## Anisotropy and Geodesics



## Anisotropy and Geodesics

Tensor eigen-decomposition:

$$
H(x)=\lambda_{1}(x) e_{1}(x) e_{1}(x)^{\mathrm{T}}+\lambda_{2}(x) e_{2}(x) e_{2}(x)^{\mathrm{T}} \quad \text { with } \quad 0<\lambda_{1} \leqslant \lambda_{2},
$$

Local anisotropy of the metric:
$\alpha(x)=\frac{\lambda_{2}-\lambda_{1}}{\lambda_{2}+\lambda_{1}}=\frac{\sqrt{(a-b)^{2}+4 c^{2}}}{a+b} \in[0,1] \quad$ for $\quad H(x)=\left(\begin{array}{ll}a & c \\ c & b\end{array}\right)$



## Anisotropic Voronoi Segmentation

Voronoi segmentation:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Omega=C_{0} \bigcup_{x_{i} \in \mathcal{S}} \mathcal{C}_{i} \text { where } \mathcal{C}_{i}=\left\{x \in \Omega \backslash \forall j \neq i, \quad d\left(x_{i}, x\right) \leqslant d\left(x_{j}, x\right)\right\} \\
& \\
& \text { Outer cell: } \mathcal{C}_{0}=\operatorname{Closure}\left(\Omega^{c}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$



## Perceptual Grouping using Minimal Paths

The potential is an incomplete ellipse and 7 points are given.


Reference:
L. D. Cohen

Multiple Contour Finding and Perceptual Grouping using Minimal Paths. Journal of Mathematical Imaging and Vision, 14:225-236, 2001.


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## Perceptual Grouping using Minimal Paths



## Perceptual Grouping using Minimal Paths

## Using the orientation with anisotropic geodesics



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## 3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D

2D in space , 1D for radius of vessel



3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D Motivation


## Orientation dependent Energy

## Minimal paths method : looking for a path minimizing the energy

$$
E(\mathcal{C})=\int_{0}^{L} P(\mathcal{C}(s)) d s
$$

Since the tubular structures have directions, we should consider the orientation:

$$
E(\mathcal{C})=\int_{0}^{L} P\left(\mathcal{C}(s), \mathcal{C}^{\prime}(s)\right) d s
$$



## 3D Minimal Path for tubular shapes in 2D



Figure 1. A tubular surface is presented as the envelope of a family of spheres with continuously changing center points and radii.

## Examples of 3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D

Anisotropic Fast Marching algorithm to solve

| $\\|\nabla \mathcal{U}(x)\\|_{\mathcal{M}}-:$ |
| :--- |
|  |
| and back-propagation $\sqrt{\nabla \mathcal{U}(x)^{T} \mathcal{M}^{-1}(x) \nabla \mathcal{U}(x)}=1$ and $\mathcal{U}^{-1} \nabla \mathcal{U}$ |



## Examples of 3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D



## Examples of 3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D 2D in space , 1D for radius of vessel



## Examples of 3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D

2D in space , 1D for radius of vessel



## Examples of 3D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 2D <br> 2D in space , 1D for radius of vessel



## Examples of 4D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 3D



## Examples of 4D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 3D



## Examples of 4D Minimal Paths for tubular shapes in 3D <br> 3D in space , 1D for radius of vessel



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# Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints 

Potential $\mathcal{P}$


## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Adding keypoints: Stopping criterion

The propagation must be stopped as soon as the domain visited by the fronts has the same topology as a ring.



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths and adding keypoints



## Finding a closed contour by

 growing minimal paths

Finding a closed contour by growing minimal paths

(a)

(b)

## Finding a contour between two points by growing minimal paths



## Finding a contour between two points by growing minimal paths



## Extension to 3D vessel segmentation

## Example of results of the keypoints method in a 3D image of Pulmonary Arteries

㛑









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## 3D extension: Finding a closed surface by growing minimal paths. Result is a Geodesic Mesh

- On a 3D synthetic image


3D extension: Finding a closed surface by growing minimal paths. Result is a Geodesic Mesh

- Mesh is completed to a surface using a Transport equation


■ Mesh is completed to a surface using a Transport equation

- Example for a 2D image.

- Example for a 3D sphere: geodesic mesh

- Example for a 3D sphere: geodesic mesh
- Mesh completed to a surface by Transport

- Example for a 3D real image: geodesic mesh

- Example for a 3D real image: geodesic mesh
- Mesh completed to a surface by Transport



## Fast Constrained Surface Extraction by Minimal Paths

$>$ Input:

1. 3D image.
2. Two closed curves $(\mathrm{C} 1, \mathrm{C} 2)$ drawn by expert on two slices.
$>$ Goal:

- Fast algorithm to obtain a surface lying on the two curves and segmenting the object of interest.



## Solution proposed

From a potential (P) describing the image features

We create a network of paths $S_{C_{1}}^{C_{2}}$ linking the given curves C1 and C2 and globally minimizing

$$
E(C)=\int_{C} P(C) d s
$$

We interpolate them in order to generate the segmenting surface.
$>$ If further precision is needed an active model can be used to refine the segmentation.


Network of Minimal Paths


Interpolated Surface


Refinement with Level Sets

Hypothesis : $\Psi$ satisfies on image domain

$$
\forall p \in \Omega,\left\langle\nabla \Psi(p), \nabla U_{\Gamma_{1}}(p)\right\rangle=0 \quad \Gamma_{2} \subset \Psi^{-1}(0)
$$

I

$$
\forall p \in \Omega, p \in \Psi^{-1}(0) \Rightarrow \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{r}_{1}}^{p} \subset \Psi^{-1}(0)
$$

$$
\square
$$

$\Psi^{-1}(0)$ is composed only of minimal paths leading to $\Gamma_{1}$


Path network : implicit approach as zero level set of solution of a transport equation

## Construction of $\Psi$ when $\Gamma_{1}$ and $\Gamma_{2}$ are planar (usual case for applications).

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{c}
\forall p \in \Omega,\left\langle\nabla \Psi(p), \nabla U_{\Gamma_{1}}(p)\right\rangle+\mathrm{H}(\Psi)=0 \\
\Gamma_{2} \subset \Psi^{-1}(0)
\end{array}\right.
$$

By choosing $\mathrm{H}(\Psi)=\alpha . \Psi$, we have to solve this problem:
$\boldsymbol{V}_{\eta}^{2}=\left\{p \in \Pi_{2}\right.$ such that $\left.\left|d_{2}(p)\right| \leq \eta\right\}$
$\mathrm{O}=\operatorname{int}(\Omega)-\boldsymbol{V}_{\eta}^{2}$

$$
1
$$

$$
p \in \Psi^{-1}(0) \Rightarrow \mathrm{C}_{\Gamma_{1}}^{p} \subset \Psi^{-1}(0)
$$

$$
S_{\Gamma_{1}}^{\Gamma_{2}} \subset \Psi^{-1}(0)
$$



$$
\begin{array}{llll}
\Psi(p)= & d_{2}(p) & \text { if } & p \in V_{\eta}^{2} \\
\Psi(p)= & \min _{p \in V_{\eta}^{2}}\left(d_{2}(p)\right) & \text { if } & p \in \partial \Omega
\end{array}
$$

Step 1: numerical Resolution of eikonal equation by :
Fast Marching, Group Marching, Fast Sweeping

$$
\left\|\nabla U_{\Gamma_{1}}\right\|=P
$$

Etape 2: Resolution of transport equation


By iterative approach

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\left\langle\nabla \Psi(p), \nabla U_{\Gamma_{1}}(p)\right\rangle+\alpha . \Psi=0 \\
\Psi=0 \text { on } \Gamma_{2}
\end{array}\right.
$$

By Fast Marching approach.
By Fast Sweeping approach.

$>$ Step 3: Detection of zero level set

- by Marching Cube, Marching Tetrahedra...


Examples of path network : implicit approach as zero level set of a transport equation


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## Fast Marching on a surface and Remeshing

 Front Propagation on a surface from one point.

## Fast Marching on a surface



## Geodesic lines on a surface



## Example of Voronoi



## Sampling with uniform distribution

Choose first point anywhere
update the geodesic distance

choose the furthest point


The two new furthest points

## Sampling with uniform distribution




## Sampling on a plane



## Uniform Remeshing



## Non constant speed function



## Farthest Point Sampling



## Farthest Point Triangulation





## Adaptive Remeshing

 samples


## Density Given by a Texture

- A texture:
$\mathrm{T}: \mathrm{S} \xrightarrow{\varphi}[0,1]^{2} \xrightarrow{I} \mathrm{IR}$
- Adaptive speed :

$$
F=1 / P(v)=1 /(\varepsilon+|\overrightarrow{\operatorname{grad}}(I)(\varphi(v))|)
$$



## Examples of Remeshing



Original mesh


Uniform
Curvature adapted

## Examples of Anisotropic Meshing



## Isotropic vs. Anisotropic Meshing



## Anisotropic Meshing


farthest point strategy

## Anisotropic Meshing


farthest point strategy

## Thank you !

## Publications on your screen:

## www.ceremade.dauphine.fr/~cohen

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Laurent D. Cohen and R. $\sim$ Kimmel. in
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# Lignes Géodésiques et Segmentation d'images 

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