

## Bresenham's Midpoint Algorithm

Lecture Set 1

CS5600 **Computer Graphics**Rich Riesenfeld  
Spring 2006

## Line Characterizations

- Explicit:  $y = mx + B$
- Implicit:  $F(x,y) = ax + by + c = 0$
- Constant slope:  $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = k$
- Constant derivative:  $f'(x) = k$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

2

## Line Characterizations - 2

- Parametric:  $P(t) = (1-t)P_0 + tP_1$   
where,  $P(0) = P_0$ ;  $P(1) = P_1$
- Intersection of 2 planes
- Shortest path between 2 points
- *Convex hull* of 2 discrete points

Spring 2006

CS 5600

3

## Discrete Lines

- Lines vs. Line Segments
- What is a discrete line segment?
  - This is a relatively recent problem
  - How to generate a discrete line?

Spring 2006

CS 5600

4

### “Good” Discrete Line - 1

- No gaps in adjacent pixels
- Pixels close to ideal line
- Consistent choices; same pixels in same situations

Spring 2006

CS 5600

5

### “Good” Discrete Line - 2

- Smooth looking
- Even brightness in all orientations
- Same line for  $P_0 P_1$  as for  $P_1 P_0$
- Double pixels stacked up?

Spring 2006

CS 5600

6

### Incremental Fn Eval

- Recall  $f(x_{i+1}) = f(x_i) + \Delta(x_i)$
- Characteristics
  - Fast
  - Cumulative Error
- Need to define  $f(x_0)$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

7

### Meeting Bresenham Criteria

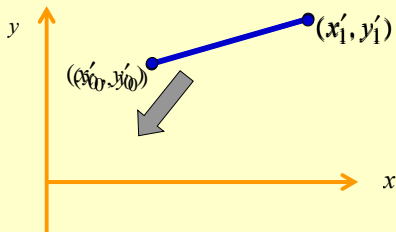
- $m = 0$ ;  $m = 1 \Rightarrow$  trivial cases
- $(x_0, y_0) \neq (0, 0) \Rightarrow$  translate
- $0 > m > -1 \Rightarrow$  flip about  $x$ -axis
- $m > 1 \Rightarrow$  flip about  $x = y$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

8

### Case 1: Translate to Origin



Spring 2006

CS 5600

9

### Case 0: Trivial Situations

- $m = 0 \Rightarrow$  horizontal line
- $m = 1 \Rightarrow$  line  $y = x$
- Do not need Bresenham

Spring 2006

CS 5600

10

### Case 1: Translate to Origin

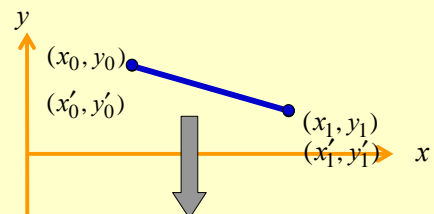
- Move  $(x_0, y_0)$  to the origin  
 $(x'_0, y'_0) = (0, 0);$   
 $(x'_1, y'_1) = (x_1 - x_0, y_1 - y_0)$
- Need only consider lines emanating from the origin.

Spring 2006

CS 5600

11

### Case 2: Flip about $x$ -axis



Spring 2006

CS 5600

12

### Case 2: Flip about $x$ -axis

- Suppose,  $0 > m > -1$ ,
- Flip about  $x$ -axis ( $y' = -y$ ):

$$(x'_0, y'_0) = (x_0, -y_0);$$

$$(x'_1, y'_1) = (x_1, -y_1)$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

13

### How do slopes relate?

$$\left. \begin{aligned} m &= \frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0}; \\ m' &= \frac{y'_1 - y'_0}{x_1 - x_0} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{by definition}$$

$$\text{Since } y'_i = -y_i, \quad m' = \frac{-y_1 - (-y_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

14

### How do slopes relate?

$$\text{i.e., } m' = -\frac{(y_1 - y_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$$

$$m' = -m$$

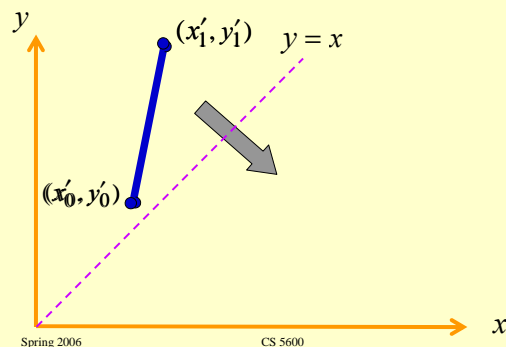
$$\therefore 0 > m > -1 \Rightarrow 0 < m' < 1$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

15

### Case 3: Flip about line $y = x$



Spring 2006

CS 5600

16

### Case 3: Flip about line $y=x$

$$y = mx + B,$$

swap  $x \leftrightarrow y$  and prime them ,

$$x' = my' + B,$$

$$my' = x' - B$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

17

### Case 3: $m' = ?$

$$y' = \left(\frac{1}{m}\right)x' - B,$$

$$\therefore m' = \left(\frac{1}{m}\right) \text{ and,}$$

$$m > 1 \Rightarrow 0 < m' < 1$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

18

### Restricted Form

- Line segment in *first* octant with

$$0 < m < 1$$

- Let us proceed

Spring 2006

CS 5600

19

### Two Line Equations

- Explicit:  $y = mx + B$
- Implicit:  $F(x,y) = ax + by + c = 0$

Define:  $dy = y_1 - y_0$   
 $dx = x_1 - x_0$

Hence,  $y = \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)x + B$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

20

### From previous

We have,  $y = \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)x + B$

Hence,  $\frac{dy}{dx}x - y + B = 0$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

21

### Relating Explicit to Implicit Eq's

Recall,  $\frac{dy}{dx}x - y + B = 0$

Or,  $(dy)x + (-dx)y + (dx)B = 0$

$\therefore F(x, y) = (dy)x + (-dx)y + (dx)B = 0$

where,  $a = (dy); b = -(dx); c = B(dx)$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

22

### Investigate Sign of $F$

Verify that

$$F(x, y) = \begin{cases} + & \text{below line} \\ 0 & \text{on line} \\ - & \text{above line} \end{cases}$$

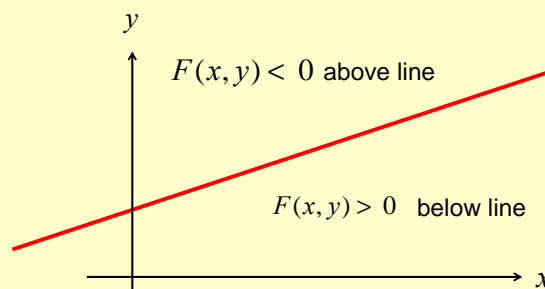
Look at extreme values of  $y$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

23

### The Picture



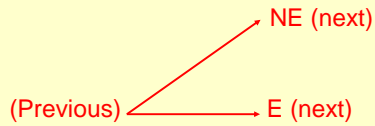
Spring 2006

CS 5600

24

### Key to Bresenham Algorithm

“Reasonable assumptions” have reduced the problem to making a binary choice at each pixel:



Spring 2006

CS 5600

25

### Decision Variable $d$ (logical)

Define a logical *decision* variable  $d$

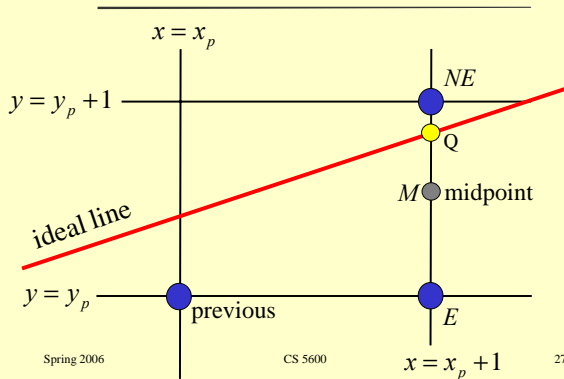
- linear in form
- incrementally updated (with addition)
- tells us whether to go  $E$  or  $NE$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

26

### The Picture

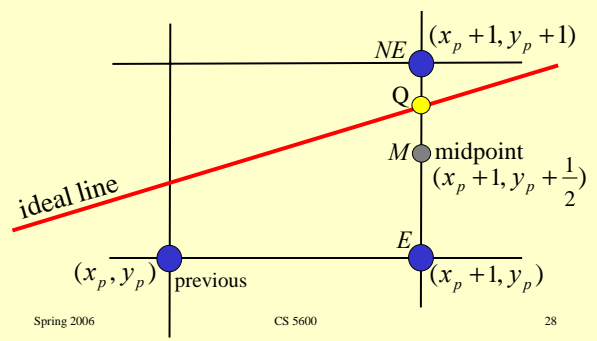


Spring 2006

CS 5600

27

### The Picture (again)



Spring 2006

CS 5600

28

### Observe the relationships

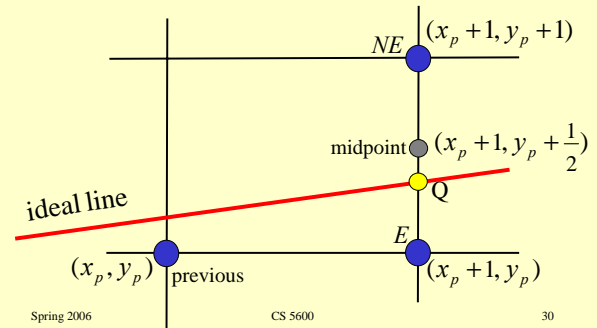
- Suppose  $Q$  is above  $M$ , as before.
- Then  $F(M) > 0$ ,  $M$  is below the line
- So,  $F(M) > 0$  means line is above  $M$ ,
- Need to move  $NE$ , increase  $y$  value

Spring 2006

CS 5600

29

### The Picture (again)



Spring 2006

CS 5600

30

### Observe the relationships

- Suppose  $Q$  is below  $M$ , as before.
- Then  $F(M) < 0$ , implies  $M$  is above the line
- So,  $F(M) < 0$ , means line is below  $M$ ,
- Need to move to  $E$ ; don't increase  $y$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

31

$$\underline{M = \text{Midpoint} = (x_p + 1, y_p + \frac{1}{2})}$$

- Want to evaluate at  $M$
- Will use an incr *decision var*  $d$
- Let,  $d = F(x_p + 1, y_p + \frac{1}{2})$

$$d = a(x_p + 1) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

32

### How will $d$ be used?

Recall,  $d = a(x_p + 1) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c$

Therefore,

$$d = \begin{cases} > 0 & \Rightarrow NE \text{ (midpoint below ideal line)} \\ < 0 & \Rightarrow E \text{ (midpoint above ideal line)} \\ = 0 & \Rightarrow E \text{ (arbitrary)} \end{cases}$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

33

### Case 1: Suppose E is chosen

- Recall  $d_{old} = a(x_p + 1) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c$
- $E \Rightarrow: x \leftarrow x + 1; y \leftarrow y,$
- $\therefore \dots d_{new} = F(x_p + 2, y_p + \frac{1}{2})$   
 $= a(x_p + 2) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

34

### Case 1: Suppose E is chosen

$$d_{new} - d_{old} = \left( a(x_p + 2) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c \right) - \left( a(x_p + 1) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c \right)$$

$$d_{new} = d_{old} + a$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

35

### Review of Explicit to Implicit

Recall,  $\frac{dy}{dx}x - y + B = 0$

Or,  $(dy)x + (-dx)y + (dx)B = 0$

$\therefore F(x, y) = (dy)x + (-dx)y + (dx)B = 0$

where,  $a = (dy); b = -(dx); c = B(dx)$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

36

### Case 1: $d_{new} = d_{old} + a$

$\Delta_E \equiv$  increment we add if  $E$  is chosen.

So,  $\Delta_E = a$ . But remember that

$a = dy$  (from line equations).

Hence,  $F(M)$  is not evaluated explicitly.

We simply add  $\Delta_E = a$  to update  $d$  for  $E$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

37

### Case 2: Suppose $NE$ chosen

Recall  $d_{old} = a(x_p + 1) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c$

and,  $NE \Rightarrow: x \leftarrow x + 1; y \leftarrow y + 1,$

$$\therefore d_{new} = F(x_p + 2, y_p + \frac{3}{2})$$

$$= a(x_p + 2) + b(y_p + \frac{3}{2}) + c$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

38

### Case 2: Suppose $NE$

$$d_{new} - d_{old} =$$

$$= \left( a(x_p + 2) + b(y_p + \frac{3}{2}) + c \right)$$

$$- \left( a(x_p + 1) + b(y_p + \frac{1}{2}) + c \right)$$

$$d_{new} = d_{old} + a + b$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

39

### Case 2: $d_{new} = d_{old} + a + b$

$\Delta_{NE} \equiv$  increment that we add if  $NE$  is chosen.

So,  $\Delta_{NE} = a + b$ . But remember that

$a = dy$ , and  $b = -dx$  (from line equations).

Hence,  $F(M)$  is not evaluated explicitly.

We simply add  $\Delta_{NE} = a + b$  to update  $d$  for  $NE$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

40

Case 2:  $d_{new} = d_{old} + a + b$

$\Delta_{NE} = a + b$ , where  $a = dy$ , and  $b = -dx$

means, we simply add  $\Delta_{NE} = a + b$ , i.e.,

$\Delta_{NE} = dy - dx$  to update  $d$  for  $NE$ .

Summary

- At each step of the procedure, we must choose between moving  $E$  or  $NE$  based on the sign of the decision variable  $d$
- Then update according to

$$d \leftarrow \begin{cases} d + \Delta_E, & \text{where } \Delta_E = dy, \text{ or} \\ d + \Delta_{NE}, & \text{where } \Delta_{NE} = dy - dx \end{cases}$$

What is initial value of  $d$  ?

- First point is  $(x_0, y_0)$
- First midpoint is  $(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2})$
- What is initial midpoint value?

$$d(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) = F(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2})$$

What is initial value of  $d$  ?

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) &= a(x_0 + 1) + b(y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) + c \\ &= (ax_0 + by_0 + c) + \left(a + \frac{b}{2}\right) \\ &= F(x_0, y_0) + \left(a + \frac{b}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

What is initial value of  $d$  ?

Note,  $F(x_0, y_0) = 0$ , since  $(x_0, y_0)$  is on line.

Hence,

$$F(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) = 0 + a + \frac{b}{2}$$

$$= (dy) - \left(\frac{dx}{2}\right)$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

45

What is initial value of  $d$  ?

Note,  $F(x_0, y_0) = 0$ , since  $(x_0, y_0)$  is on line.

Hence,

$$F(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) = 0 + a + \frac{b}{2}$$

$$= (dy) - \left(\frac{dx}{2}\right)$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

46

What Does "2 x " Do ?

- Has the same 0-set  
 $2F(x, y) = 2(ax + by + c) = 0$
- Changes the slope of the plane
- Rotates plane about the 0-set line

Spring 2006

CS 5600

47

What is initial value of  $d$  ?

Multiplying  $F(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) = (dy) - \left(\frac{dx}{2}\right)$

by 2 gives,

$$2F(x_0 + 1, y_0 + \frac{1}{2}) = 2(dy) - dx$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

48

## What is initial value of $d$ ?

$$2F(x, y) = 2(ax + by + c) = 0$$

So, first value of

$$d = 2(dy) - (dx)$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

49

## More Summary

- Initial value  $2(dy) - (dx)$
- Case 1:  $d \leftarrow d + \Delta_E$ , where  $\Delta_E = 2(dy)$
- Case 2:  $d \leftarrow d + \Delta_{NE}$ ,  
where  $\Delta_{NE} = 2\{(dy) - (dx)\}$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

50

## More Summary

Choose  $\begin{cases} E & \text{if } d \leq 0 \\ NE & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

51

## Example

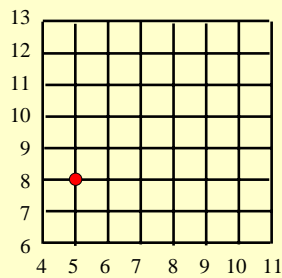
- Line end points:  
 $(x_0, y_0) = (5, 8); (x_1, y_1) = (9, 11)$
- Deltas:  $dx = 4; dy = 3$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

52

## Graph



Spring 2006

CS 5600

53

Example (  $dx = 4; dy = 3$ 

$$dx = 4; dy = 3$$

- Initial value of

$$\begin{aligned} d(5,8) &= 2(2y) - (dx) \\ &= 6 - 4 = 2 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

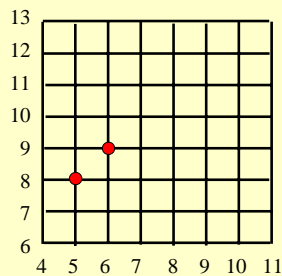
$$d = 2 \Rightarrow NE$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

54

## Graph



Spring 2006

CS 5600

55

Example (  $dx=4; dy=3$  )

- Update value of  $d$
- Last move was  $NE$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} 2d(6,9) &= 2(dy - dx) \\ &= 2(3 - 4) = -2 \end{aligned}$$

$$d = 2 - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow E$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

56

### Example ( $dx=4; dy=3$ ) -2

- Update value of  $d$
- Last move was NE, so

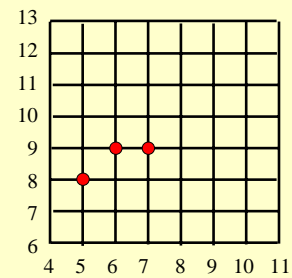
$$\begin{aligned} 2d(6,9) &= 2d(y - dy) \\ &= 2(4 - 3) = -2 \\ d &= 2 - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow E \end{aligned}$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

57

### Graph



Spring 2006

CS 5600

58

### Example ( $dx=4; dy=3$ )

- Previous move was  $E$

$$\begin{aligned} d(7,9) &= 2(dy) \\ &= 2(3) = 6 \end{aligned}$$

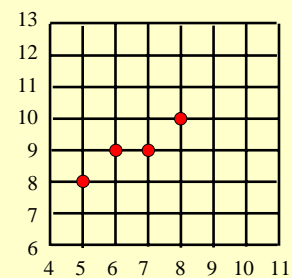
$$d = 0 + 6 > 0 \Rightarrow NE$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

59

### Graph



Spring 2006

CS 5600

60

### Example ( $dx=4$ ; $dy=3$ )

- Previous move was *NE*, so

$$\begin{aligned} 2d(8,10) &= 2(dy - dx) \\ &= 2(3 - 4) = -2 \end{aligned}$$

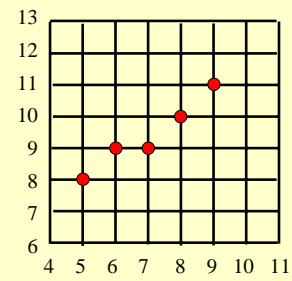
$$d = 6 - 2 = 4 \Rightarrow \text{NE}$$

Spring 2006

CS 5600

61

### Graph

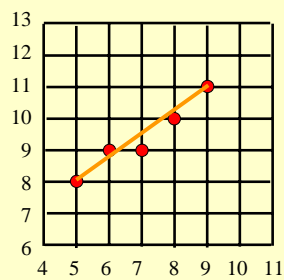


Spring 2006

CS 5600

62

### Graph

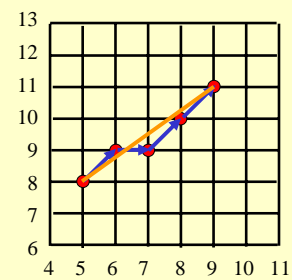


Spring 2006

CS 5600

63

### Graph



Spring 2006

CS 5600

64

### More Raster Line Issues

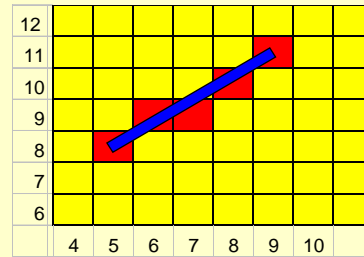
- Fat lines with multiple pixel width
- Symmetric lines
- How should end pt geometry look?
- Generating curves, e.g., circles, etc.
- Jaggies, staircase effect, aliasing...

Spring 2006

CS 5600

65

### Pixel Space

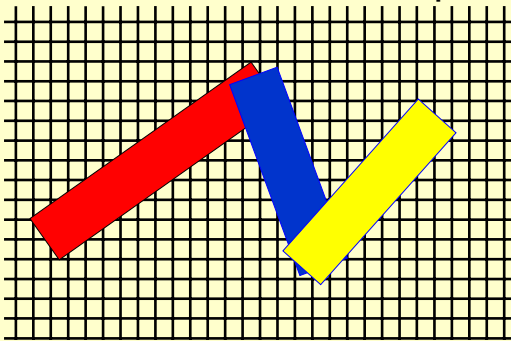


Spring 2006

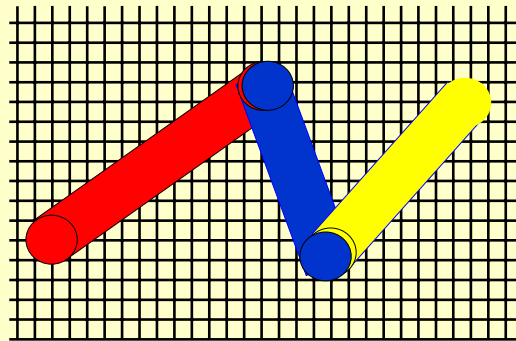
CS 5600

66

### Example

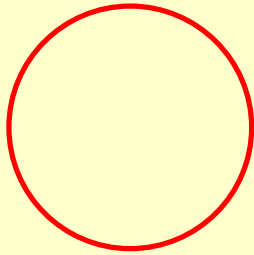


### Example



## Bresenham Circles

---



Spring 2006

CS 5600

69

---

The End  
Bresenham's Algorithm

Lecture Set 1

Spring 2006

CS 5600

70