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## **Shape description using skeleton-like features**

Skeleton-like shape features (i.e., centerlines, medial surfaces, and topological kernels) are frequently used region-based shape features which summarize the general form of objects, and represent their topological structures.

They play important role in various applications in image processing, pattern recognition, and visualization. I shall define skeletons and present their properties. Then the three major skeletonization techniques will be presented. Finally, some applications will be outlined.