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# Why do walks with Hilbert seem to take so long?

*Release 0.00*

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## Abstract

Hilbert curves look pretty sweet which is why I wrote this class. Take a look at the pictures and see for yourself.

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## 1 Introduction

Various space filling curves exist to map  $n$ -dimensional data to 1-D. One such curve, the Hilbert curve, has nice properties such as locality preservation.<sup>1</sup>

This class, `itkHilbertPath.h`, is used to construct a Hilbert spacing-filling curve (derived from `itkPath.h`). The path is defined by its dimensionality and order (  $\geq 1$  ) with its starting point at  $[0]^{Dimension}$ . The size of the path in each dimension is  $2^{order}$  where each discrete location is visited by that path. For example, a 2-D Hilbert path of order 8 can map each pixel of a 256x256 image onto the 1-D path. More properties and visualizations can be found in various places on the web.

The implementation is based on [1] and is a direct porting of Aldo Cortesi's python code.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hilbert\\_curve](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hilbert_curve)

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/cortesi/scurve>

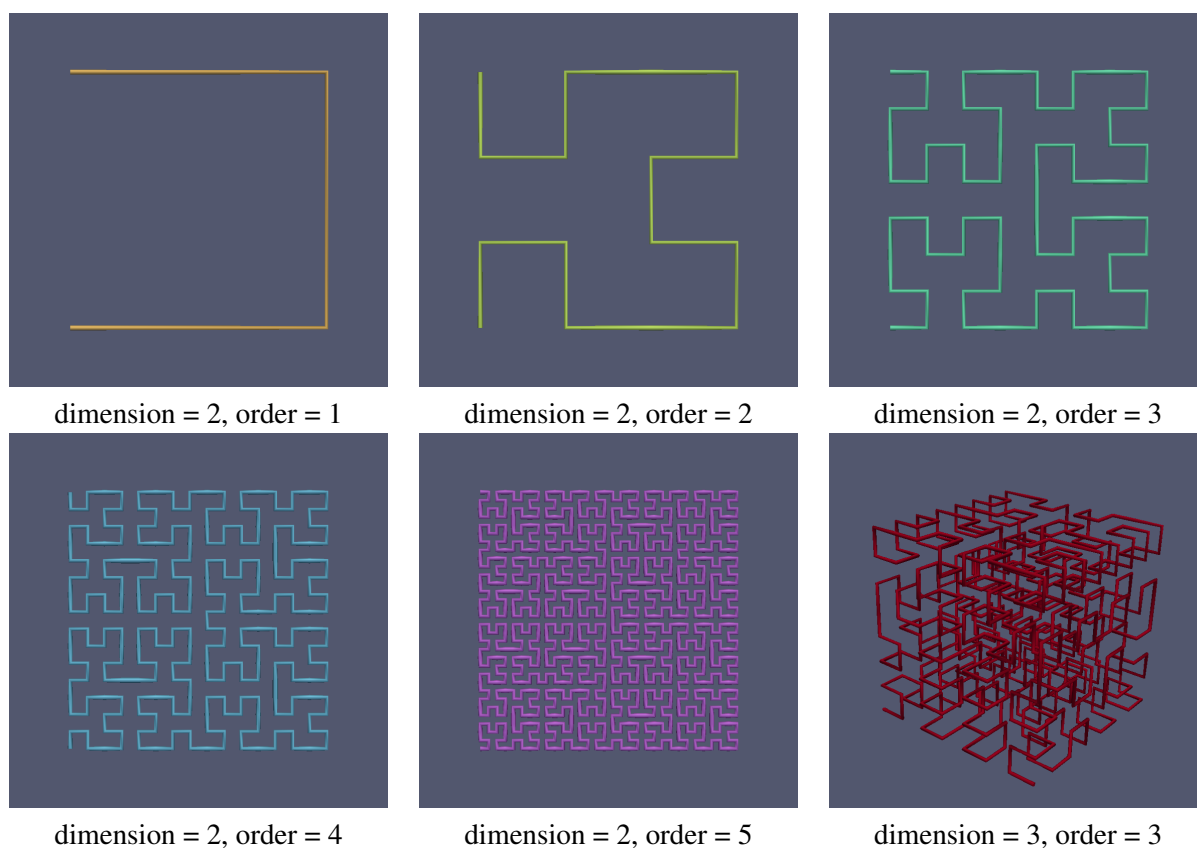


Figure 1: 2- and 3-D hilbert curves for different orders.

The code is fairly simple to use and is demonstrated in the accompanying file `MakeHilbertPath.cxx` which was used to create the images in Figure 1.

## References

- [1] Chris Hamilton. Compact hilbert indices. Technical report, Dalhousie University, 2006. 1