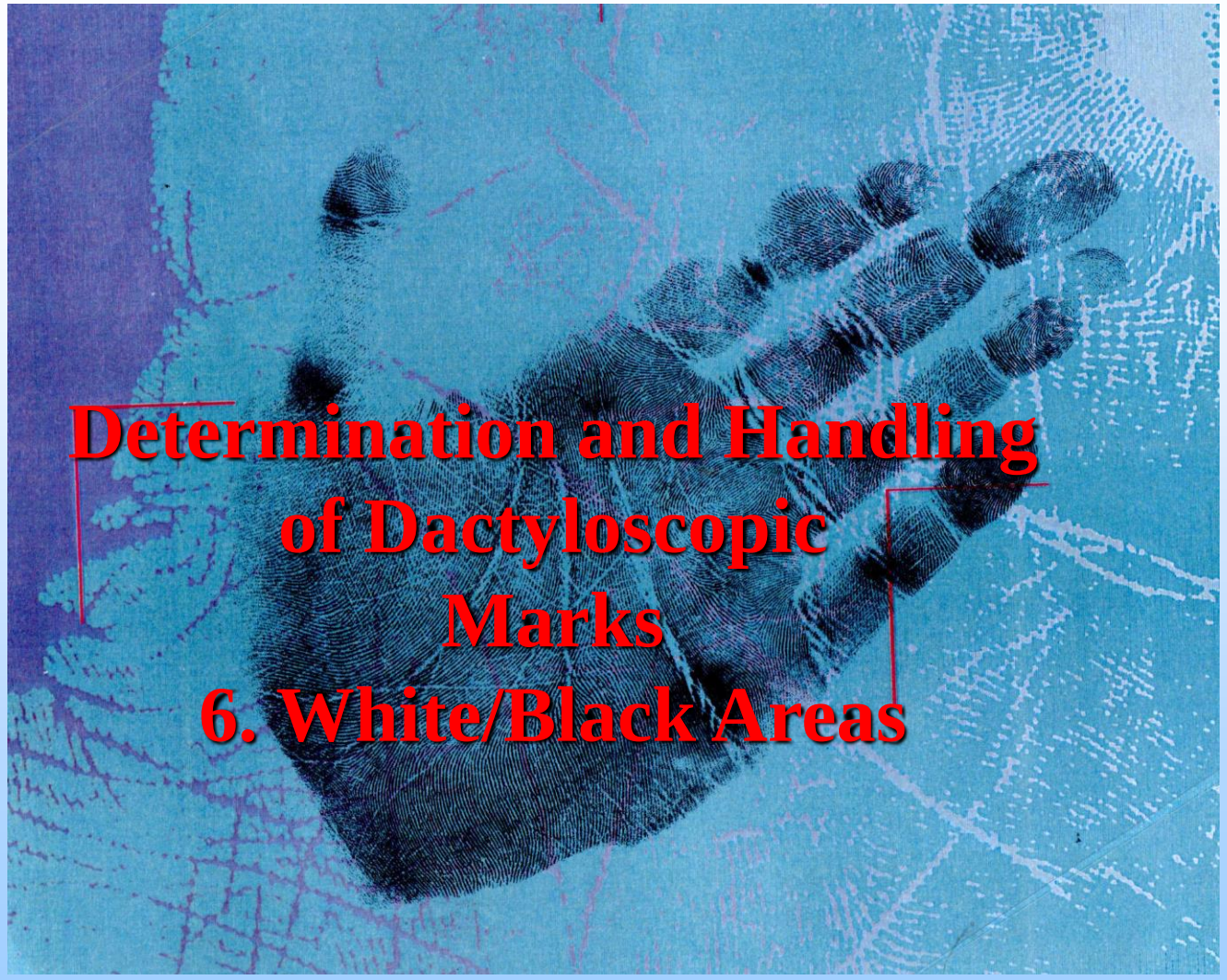
Büro für
Daktyloskopie
dewiselle



Determination and Handling of Dactyloscopic Marks

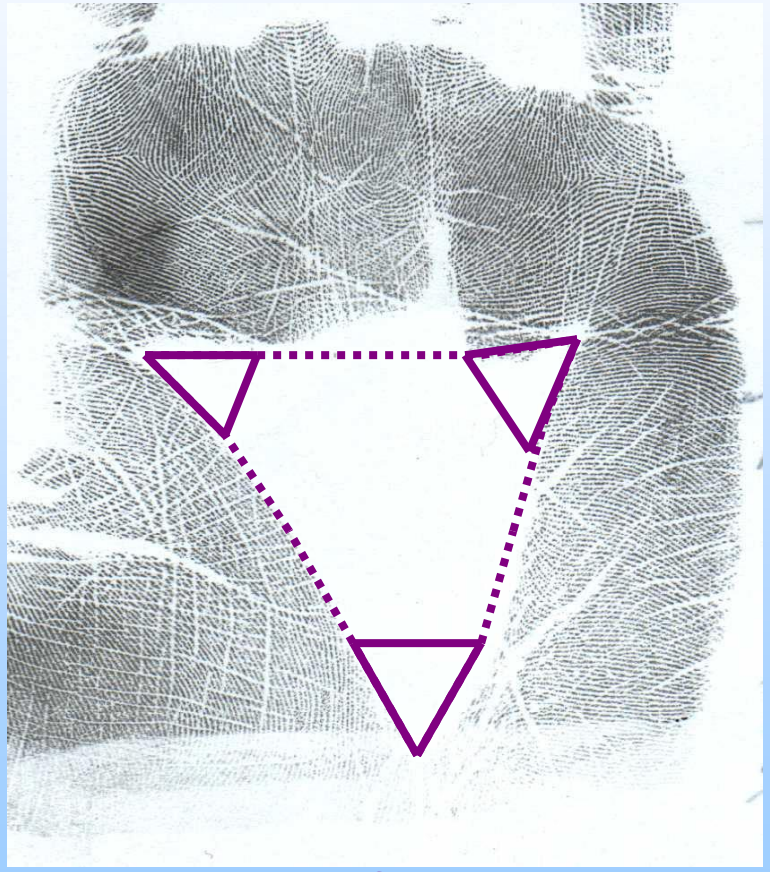
6. White/Black Areas

Harald Weisel, October 2005

White/Black Areas

- Due to anatomical conditions and differing circumstances of origin, we can observe “white”, but also “black” areas in the latent print material. Their outward appearance allows conclusions about the area of the hand that caused the print.

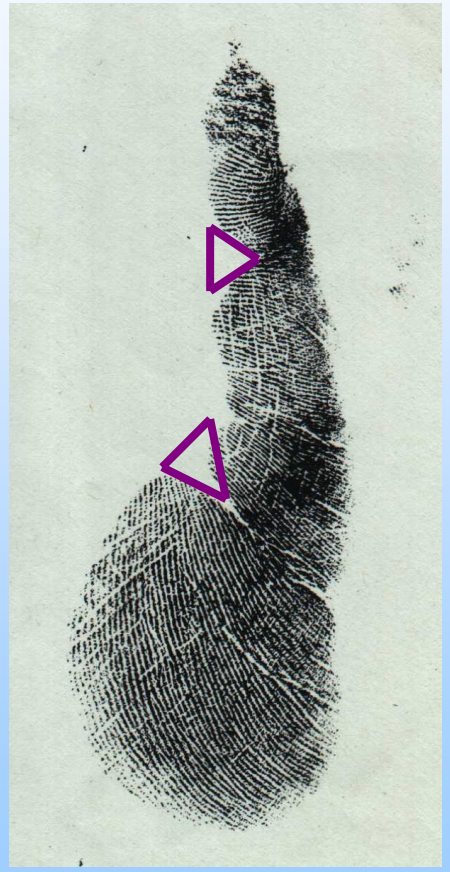
White Triangles



"Funnel" of a right palm

- Mistakes during the taking of palm prints or the lack of pressure when depositing a latent may result in the formation of large white triangles, whose tips point to the outer edges of the palm like a ➡ **"funnel"**.

White Triangles

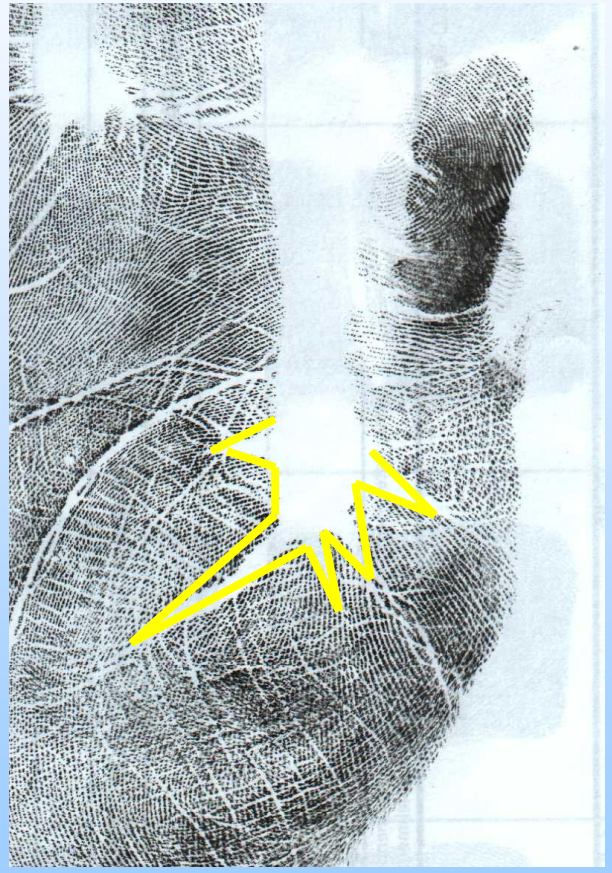


Exterior

Triangles at left thumb

- When prints are caused by the sides of fingers or thumbs, smaller white triangles, whose tips also point outwards, appear at the joints.

Star Burst



- In the area between thumb and index finger, white areas spread radially, presenting the ➡ **“star burst”**.

White Areas
(finger bases)

Interdigital areas at finger bases of right hand

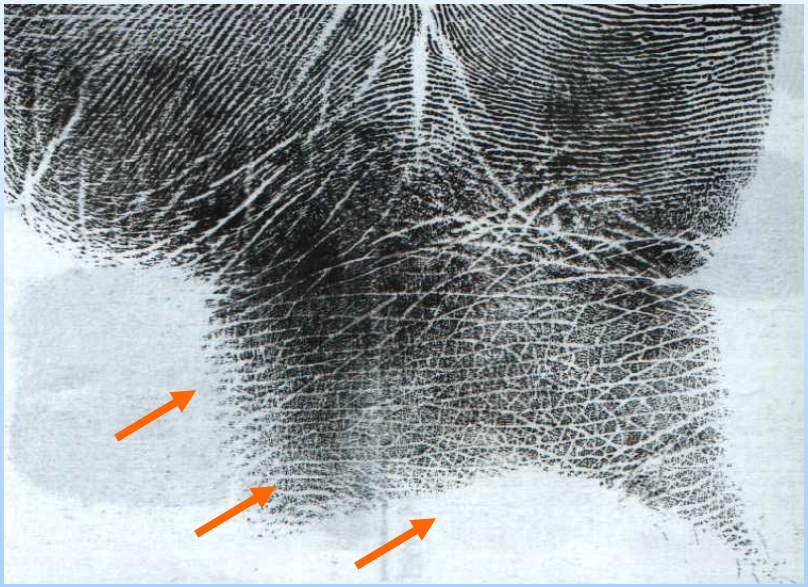
- As the skin in this area cannot touch the surface completely, the interdigital areas at the finger bases also appear as typical
  ⇨ **“white areas”**.

Black Areas

Thin skin in right hypothenar area

- Due to the transition from thick to thin skin, the outer edges of thumb and hypothenar area show
  ➡ **“black areas”.**

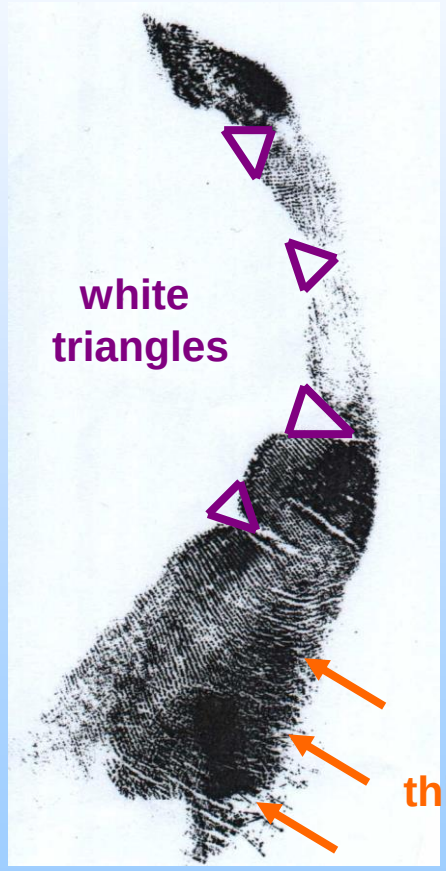
Black Areas



Thin skin at right wrist

- When a print is caused by the wrist, the thin skin in that area also appears as a black area.

Summary



Little finger and hypothenar area of right hand

- Due to their special outward appearance, both white and black areas (thin skin) can be used to determine partial prints.