Curves, surfaces and splines with LAR *

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Abstract

In this module we implement above LAR most of the parametric methods for polynomial and rational curves, surfaces and splines discussed in the book [Pao03], and implemented in the PLaSM language and in the python package pyplasm.

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1 Introduction

2 Tensor product surfaces

The tensor product form of surfaces will be primarily used, in the remainder of this module, to support the LAR implementation of polynomial (rational) surfaces. For this purpose, we start by defining some basic operators on function tensors. In particular, a toolbox of basic tensor operations is given in Script 12.3.1. The ConstFunTensor operator produces a tensor of constant functions starting from a tensor of numbers; the recursive FlatTensor may be used to ?flatten? a tensor with any number of indices by producing a corresponding one index tensor; the InnerProd and TensorProd are used to compute the inner product and the tensor product of conforming tensors of functions, respectively.

Toolbox of tensor operations

Macro referenced in 11b.

2.1 Tensor product surface patch

```
\langle Tensor product surface patch 2a \rangle \equiv """ Tensor product surface patch """ def larTensorProdSurface (args): ubasis , vbasis = args
```

```
def TENSORPRODSURFACEO (controlpoints_fn):
  def map_fn(point):
     u,v=point
      U=[f([u]) for f in ubasis]
      V=[f([v]) for f in vbasis]
      controlpoints=[f(point) if callable(f) else f
         for f in controlpoints_fn]
      target_dim = len(controlpoints[0][0])
      ret=[0 for x in range(target_dim)]
      for i in range(len(ubasis)):
         for j in range(len(vbasis)):
            for M in range(len(ret)):
               for M in range(target_dim):
                  ret[M] += U[i]*V[j] * controlpoints[i][j][M]
      return ret
  return map_fn
return TENSORPRODSURFACEO
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

Bilinear tensor product surface patch

```
⟨Bilinear surface patch 2b⟩ ≡
    """ Bilinear tensor product surface patch """
    def larBilinearSurface(controlpoints):
        basis = larBernsteinBasis(S1)(1)
        return larTensorProdSurface([basis,basis])(controlpoints)
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

Biquadratic tensor product surface patch

```
⟨ Biquadratic surface patch 3a⟩ ≡
    """ Biquadratic tensor product surface patch """
    def larBiquadraticSurface(controlpoints):
        basis1 = larBernsteinBasis(S1)(2)
        basis2 = larBernsteinBasis(S1)(2)
        return larTensorProdSurface([basis1,basis2])(controlpoints)
        ◊
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

Bicubic tensor product surface patch

```
⟨Bicubic surface patch 3b⟩ ≡
    """ Bicubic tensor product surface patch """
    def larBicubicSurface(controlpoints):
        basis1 = larBernsteinBasis(S1)(3)
        basis2 = larBernsteinBasis(S1)(3)
        return larTensorProdSurface([basis1,basis2])(controlpoints)
        ◊
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

3 Transfinite Bézier

```
\langle Multidimensional transfinite Bézier 3c\rangle \equiv
     """ Multidimensional transfinite Bezier """
     def larBezier(U):
        def BEZIERO(controldata_fn):
           N = len(controldata_fn)-1
           def map_fn(point):
              t = U(point)
              controldata = [fun(point) if callable(fun) else fun
                  for fun in controldata_fn]
              out = [0.0 for i in range(len(controldata[0]))]
              for I in range(N+1):
                  weight = CHOOSE([N,I])*math.pow(1-t,N-I)*math.pow(t,I)
                  for K in range(len(out)): out[K] += weight*(controldata[I][K])
              return out
           return map_fn
        return BEZIERO
     def larBezierCurve(controlpoints):
        return larBezier(S1)(controlpoints)
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

4 Coons patches

```
\langle Transfinite Coons patches 4 \rangle \int
""" Transfinite Coons patches """
def larCoonsPatch (args):
    su0_fn , su1_fn , s0v_fn , s1v_fn = args
    def map_fn(point):
        u,v=point
    su0 = su0_fn(point) if callable(su0_fn) else su0_fn
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

5 Bsplines

The B-splines discussed in this section are called *non-uniform* because different spline segments may correspond to different intervals in parameter space, unlike uniform B-splines. The basis polynomials, and consequently the spline shape and the other properties, are defined by a non-decreasing sequence of real numbers

$$t_0 \le t_1 \le \cdots \le t_n$$

called the *knot sequence*. Splines of this kind are also named *NUB-splines* in the remainder of this book, where the name stands for Non-Uniform B-splines.

The knot sequence is used to define the basis polynomials which blend the control points. In particular, each subset of k+2 adjacent knot values is used to compute a basis polynomial of degree k. Notice that some subsequent knots may coincide. In this case we speak of *multiplicity* of the knots.

Note In non-uniform B-splines the number n+1 of knot values is greater than the number m+1 of control points $\mathbf{p}_0, \ldots, \mathbf{p}_m$. In particular, the relation

$$n = m + k + 1, (1)$$

where k is the *degree* of spline segments, must hold between the number of knots and the number of control points. The quantity h = k + 1 is called the *order* of the spline. It will be useful when giving recursive formulas to compute the B-basis polynomials. Let us remember, e.g., that a spline of order four is made of cubic segments.

¹Some authors call them non-uniform non-rational B-splines. We prefer to emphasize that they are polynomial splines.

Non-uniform B-spline flexibility Such splines have a much greater flexibility than the uniform ones. The basis polynomial associated with each control point may vary depending on the subset of knots it depends on. Spline segments may be parametrized over intervals of different size, and even reduced to a single point. Therefore, the continuity at a joint may be reduced, e.g. from C^2 to C^1 to C^0 and even to none by suitably increasing the multiplicity of a knot.

5.1 Definitions

5.1.1 Geometric entities

In order to fully understand the construction of a non-uniform B-spline, it may be useful to recall the main inter-relationships among the 5 geometric entities that enter the definition.

Control points are denoted as \mathbf{p}_i , with $0 \leq i \leq m$. A non-uniform B-spline usually approximates the control points.

Knot values are denoted as t_i , with $0 \le i \le n$. It must be n = m + k + 1, where k is the spline degree. Knot values are used to define the B-spline polynomials. They also define the join points (or joints) between adjacent spline segments. When two consecutive knots coincide, the spline segment associated with their interval reduces to a point.

Spline degree is defined as the degree of the B-basis functions which are combined with the control points. The degree is denoted as k. It is connected to the spline order h = k+1. The most used non-uniform B-splines are either cubic or quadratic. The image of a linear non-uniform B-spline is a polygonal line. The image of a non-uniform B-spline of degree 0 coincides with the sequence of control points.

B-basis polynomials are denoted as $B_{i,h}(t)$. They are univariate polynomials in the t indeterminate, computed by using the recursive formulas of Cox and de Boor. The i index is associated with the first one of values in the knot subsequence $(t_i, t_{i+1}, \ldots, t_{i+h})$ used to compute $B_{i,h}(t)$. The second index is called *order* of the polynomial.

Spline segments are defined as polynomial vector functions of a single parameter. Such functions are denoted as $\mathbf{Q}_i(t)$, with $k \leq i \leq m$. A $\mathbf{Q}_i(t)$ spline segment is obtained by a combination of the *i*-th control point and the *k* previous points with the basis polynomials of order *h* associated to the same indices. It is easy to see that the number of spline segments is m - K + 1.

5.2 Computation of a B-spline mapping

The B-spline mapping, i.e. the vector-valued polynomial to be mapped over a 1D domain discretisation by the larMap operator, is computed by making reference to the pyplasm implementation given by the BSPLINE contained in the fenvs.py library in the pyplasm package.

BSPLINE is a third-order function, that must be ordinately applied to degree, knots, and controlpoints.

5.3 Domain computation

5.4 Examples

Two examples of B-spline curves using lar-cc

```
"test/py/splines/test08.py" 6b \equiv
     """ Two examples of B-spline curves using lar-cc """
     import sys
     """ import modules from larcc/lib """
     sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
     from splines import *
     controls = [[0,0],[-1,2],[1,4],[2,3],[1,1],[1,2],[2.5,1],[2.5,3],[4,4],[5,0]];
     knots = [0,0,0,0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,7,7,7]
     bspline = BSPLINE(3)(knots)(controls)
     obj = larMap(bspline)(larDom(knots))
     VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
     controls = [[0,1],[1,1],[2,0],[3,0],[4,0],[5,-1],[6,-1]]
     knots = [0,0,0,1,2,3,4,5,5,5]
     bspline = BSPLINE(2)(knots)(controls)
     obj = larMap(bspline)(larDom(knots))
     VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
```

Bezier curve as a B-spline curve

```
"test/py/splines/test09.py" 7a \equiv
     """ Bezier curve as a B-spline curve """
     import sys
     """ import modules from larcc/lib """
     sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
     from splines import *
     controls = [[0,1],[0,0],[1,1],[1,0]]
     bezier = larBezierCurve(controls)
     dom = larIntervals([32])([1])
     obj = larMap(bezier)(dom)
     VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
     knots = [0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1]
     bspline = BSPLINE(3)(knots)(controls)
     dom = larIntervals([100])([knots[-1]-knots[0]])
     obj = larMap(bspline)(dom)
     VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
```

B-spline curve: effect of double or triple control points

```
"test/py/splines/test10.py" 7b \equiv
     """ B-spline curve: effect of double or triple control points """
     """ import modules from larcc/lib """
     sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
     from splines import *
     controls1 = [[0,0],[2.5,5],[6,1],[9,3]]
     controls2 = [[0,0],[2.5,5],[2.5,5],[6,1],[9,3]]
     controls3 = [[0,0],[2.5,5],[2.5,5],[2.5,5],[6,1],[9,3]]
     knots = [0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1]
     bspline1 = larMap( BSPLINE(3)(knots)(controls1) )(larDom(knots))
     knots = [0,0,0,0,1,2,2,2,2]
     bspline2 = larMap( BSPLINE(3)(knots)(controls2) )(larDom(knots))
     knots = [0,0,0,0,1,2,3,3,3,3]
     bspline3 = larMap( BSPLINE(3)(knots)(controls3) )(larDom(knots))
     VIEW(STRUCT( CAT(AA(MKPOLS)([bspline1,bspline2,bspline3])) +
        [POLYLINE(controls1)]) )
```

Periodic B-spline curve

```
"test/py/splines/test11.py" 8a \equiv
     """ Periodic B-spline curve """
     import sys
     """ import modules from larcc/lib """
     sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
     from splines import *
     controls = [[0,1],[0,0],[1,0],[1,1],[0,1]]
                                          # non-periodic B-spline
     knots = [0,0,0,1,2,3,3,3]
     bspline = BSPLINE(2)(knots)(controls)
     obj = larMap(bspline)(larDom(knots))
     VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
     knots = [0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7]
                                          # periodic B-spline
     bspline = BSPLINE(2)(knots)(controls)
     obj = larMap(bspline)(larDom(knots))
     VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
```

Effect of knot multiplicity on B-spline curve

```
"test/py/splines/test12.py" 8b ==
    """ Effect of knot multiplicity on B-spline curve """
    import sys
    """ import modules from larcc/lib """
    sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
    from splines import *

    points = [[0,0],[-1,2],[1,4],[2,3],[1,1],[1,2],[2.5,1]]
    b1 = BSPLINE(2)([0,0,0,1,2,3,4,5,5,5])(points)
    VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS( larMap(b1)(larDom([0,5])) ) + [POLYLINE(points)]))
    b2 = BSPLINE(2)([0,0,0,1,1,2,3,4,4,4])(points)
    VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS( larMap(b2)(larDom([0,5])) ) + [POLYLINE(points)]))
    b3 = BSPLINE(2)([0,0,0,1,1,1,2,3,3,3])(points)
    VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS( larMap(b3)(larDom([0,5])) ) + [POLYLINE(points)]))
    b4 = BSPLINE(2)([0,0,0,1,1,1,1,2,2,2])(points)
    VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS( larMap(b4)(larDom([0,5])) ) + [POLYLINE(points)]))
```

TODO: extend biplane mapping to unconnected domain ... (remove BUG above)

6 NURBS

Rational non-uniform B-splines are normally denoted as NURB splines or simply as NURBS. These splines are very important for both graphics and CAD applications. In particular:

- 1. Rational curves and splines are invariant with respect to affine and projective transformations. Consequently, to transform or project a NURBS it is sufficient to transform or project its control points, leaving to the graphics hardware the task of sampling or rasterizing the transformed curve.
- 2. NURBS represent exactly the conic sections, i.e. circles, ellipses, parabolæ, iperbolæ. Such curves are very frequent in mechanical CAD, where several shapes and geometric constructions are based on such geometric primitives.
- 3. Rational B-splines are very flexible, since (a) the available degrees of freedom concern both degree, control points, knot values and weights; (b) can be locally interpolant or approximant; (c) can alternate spline segments with different degree; and (d) different continuity at join points.
- 4. They also allow for local variation of "parametrization velocity", or better, allow for modification of the norm of velocity vector along the spline, defined as the derivative of the curve with respect to the arc length. For this purpose it is sufficient to properly modify the knot sequence. This fact allows easy modification of the sampling density of spline points along segments with higher or lower curvature, while maintaining the desired appearance of smoothness.

As a consequence of their usefulness for applications, NURBS are largely available when using geometric libraries or CAD kernels.

6.1 Rational B-splines of arbitrary degree

A rational B-spline segment $\mathbf{R}_i(t)$ is defined as the projection from the origin on the hyperplane $x_{d+1} = 1$ of a polynomial B-spline segment $\mathbf{P}_i(u)$ in \mathbb{E}^{d+1} homogeneous space.

Using the same approach adopted when discussing rational Bézier curves, where $\mathbf{q}_i = (w_i \mathbf{p}_i, w_i) \in \mathbb{E}^{d+1}$ are the m+1 homogeneous control points, the equation of the rational B-spline segment of degree k with n+1 knots, may be therefore written as

$$\mathbf{R}_{i}(t) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{k} w_{i-\ell} \, \mathbf{p}_{i-\ell} \frac{B_{i-\ell,k+1}(t)}{w(t)} = \sum_{\ell=0}^{k} \mathbf{p}_{i-\ell} N_{i-\ell,k+1}(t)$$
 (2)

with $k \leq i \leq m$, $t \in [t_i, t_{i+1})$, and

$$w(t) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{k} w_{i-\ell} B_{i-\ell,k+1}(t),$$

where $N_{i,h}(t)$ is the non-uniform rational B-basis function of initial value t_i and order h. A global representation of the NURB spline can be given, due to the local support of the

 $N_{i,h}(t)$ functions, i.e. to the fact that they are zero outside the interval $[t_i, t_{i+h})$. So:

$$\mathbf{R}(t) = \bigcup_{i=k}^{m} \mathbf{R}_{i}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{m} \mathbf{p}_{i} N_{i,h}(t), \quad t \in [t_{k}, t_{m+1}).$$

NURB splines can be computed as non-uniform B-splines by using homogeneous control points, and finally by dividing the Cartesian coordinate maps times the homogeneous one. This approach will be used in the NURBS implementation given later in this chapter. A more efficient and numerically stable variation of the Cox and de Boor formula for the rational case is given by Farin [?], p. 196.

6.2 Computation of a NURBS mapping

The NURBS mapping, i.e. the vector-valued polynomial to be mapped over a 1D domain discretisation by the larMap operator, is computed by making reference to the pyplasm implementation given by the RATIONALBSPLINE contained in the fenvs.py library in the pyplasm package.

RATIONALBSPLINE is a third-order function, that must be ordinately applied to degree, knots, and controlpoints.

```
\langle NURBS mapping definition 10 \rangle \in 
    """ Alias for the pyplasm definition (too long :0) """
    NURBS = RATIONALBSPLINE
    \rangle
Macro referenced in 11b.
```

6.3 Examples

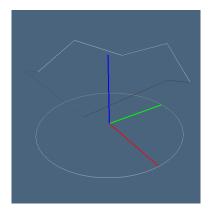


Figure 1: Circle 2D exactly implemented as a 9-point NURBS curve.

Circle implemented as 9-point NURBS curve

```
"test/py/splines/test13.py" 11a \( = \)
    """ Circle implemented as 9-point NURBS curve """
    import sys
    """ import modules from larcc/lib """
    sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
    from splines import *

    knots = [0,0,0,1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4,4]
    _p=math.sqrt(2)/2.0
    controls = [[-1,0,1], [-_p,_p,_p], [0,1,1], [_p,_p,_p], [1,0,1], [_p,-_p,_p], [0,-1,1], [-_p,-_p,_p]
    nurbs = NURBS(2)(knots)(controls)
    obj = larMap(nurbs)(larDom(knots))
    VIEW(STRUCT( MKPOLS(obj) + [POLYLINE(controls)] ))
    \( \)
```

7 Computational framework

7.1 Exporting the library

```
"lib/py/splines.py" 11b =

""" Mapping functions and primitive objects """

⟨Initial import of modules 15⟩
⟨Tensor product surface patch 2a⟩
⟨Bilinear surface patch 2b⟩
⟨Biquadratic surface patch 3a⟩
⟨Bicubic surface patch 3b⟩
⟨Multidimensional transfinite Bernstein-Bezier Basis 1⟩
⟨Multidimensional transfinite Bézier 3c⟩
⟨Transfinite Coons patches 4⟩
⟨Domain decomposition for 1D bspline maps 6a⟩
⟨NURBS mapping definition 10⟩
```

8 Examples

Examples of larBernsteinBasis generation

```
\langle Examples of larBernsteinBasis 12a \rangle \equiv
     larBernsteinBasis(S1)(3)
     """ [<function __main__.map_fn>,
        <function __main__.map_fn>,
        <function __main__.map_fn>,
        <function __main__.map_fn>] """
     larBernsteinBasis(S1)(3)[0]
     """ <function __main__.map_fn> """
     larBernsteinBasis(S1)(3)[0]([0.0])
     """ 1.0 """
Macro never referenced.
Graph of Bernstein-Bezier basis
"test/py/splines/test04.py" 12b \equiv
     """ Graph of Bernstein-Bezier basis """
     """ import modules from larcc/lib """
     sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
     from splines import *
     def larBezierBasisGraph(degree):
        basis = larBernsteinBasis(S1)(degree)
        dom = larDomain([32])
        graphs = CONS(AA(larMap)(DISTL([S1, basis])))(dom)
        return graphs
     graphs = larBezierBasisGraph(4)
     VIEW(STRUCT( CAT(AA(MKPOLS)( graphs )) ))
Some examples of curves
"test/py/splines/test01.py" 12c \equiv
     """ Example of Bezier curve """
     import sys
     """ import modules from larcc/lib """
     sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
     from splines import *
```

controlpoints = [[-0,0],[1,0],[1,1],[2,1],[3,1]]

obj = larMap(larBezierCurve(controlpoints))(dom)

dom = larDomain([32])

VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS(obj)))

```
obj = larMap(larBezier(S1)(controlpoints))(dom)
VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS(obj)))
```

Transfinite cubic surface

```
"test/py/splines/test02.py" 13a \( \)
    """ Example of transfinite surface """
    import sys
    """ import modules from larcc/lib """
    sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
    from splines import *

    dom = larDomain([20], 'simplex')
    C0 = larBezier(S1)([[0,0,0],[10,0,0]])
    C1 = larBezier(S1)([[0,2,0],[8,3,0],[9,2,0]])
    C2 = larBezier(S1)([[0,4,1],[7,5,-1],[8,5,1],[12,4,0]])
    C3 = larBezier(S1)([[0,6,0],[9,6,3],[10,6,-1]])
    dom2D = larExtrude1(dom,20*[1./20])
    obj = larMap(larBezier(S2)([C0,C1,C2,C3]))(dom2D)
    VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS(obj)))
    \( \)
```

Coons patch interpolating 4 boundary curves

```
"test/py/splines/test03.py" 13b ==
    """ Example of transfinite Coons surface """
    import sys
    """ import modules from larcc/lib """
    sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
    from splines import *
    Su0 = larBezier(S1)([[0,0,0],[10,0,0]])
    Su1 = larBezier(S1)([[0,10,0],[2.5,10,3],[5,10,-3],[7.5,10,3],[10,10,0]])
    Sv0 = larBezier(S2)([[0,0,0],[0,0,3],[0,10,3],[0,10,0]])
    Sv1 = larBezier(S2)([[10,0,0],[10,5,3],[10,10,0]])
    dom = larDomain([20])
    dom2D = larExtrude1(dom, 20*[1./20])
    out = larMap(larCoonsPatch([Su0,Su1,Sv0,Sv1]))(dom2D)
    VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS(out)))
```

Bilinear tensor product patch

```
"test/py/splines/test05.py" 13c \equiv
```

```
""" Example of bilinear tensor product surface patch """
import sys
""" import modules from larcc/lib """
sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
from splines import *

controlpoints = [
    [[0,0,0],[2,-4,2]],
    [[0,3,1],[4,0,0]]]
dom = larDomain([20])
dom2D = larExtrude1(dom, 20*[1./20])
mapping = larBilinearSurface(controlpoints)
patch = larMap(mapping)(dom2D)
VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS(patch)))
```

Biquadratic tensor product patch

Bicubic tensor product patch

```
"test/py/splines/test07.py" 14b =
    """ Example of bilinear tensor product surface patch """
    import sys
    """ import modules from larcc/lib """
    sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
    from splines import *
    controlpoints=[
```

```
[[ 0,0,0],[0 ,3 ,4],[0,6,3],[0,10,0]],
    [[ 3,0,2],[2 ,2.5,5],[3,6,5],[4,8,2]],
    [[ 6,0,2],[8 ,3 , 5],[7,6,4.5],[6,10,2.5]],
    [[10,0,0],[11,3 ,4],[11,6,3],[10,9,0]]]
dom = larDomain([20])
dom2D = larExtrude1(dom, 20*[1./20])
mapping = larBicubicSurface(controlpoints)
patch = larMap(mapping)(dom2D)
VIEW(STRUCT(MKPOLS(patch)))
```

A Utility functions

Initial import of modules

```
⟨Initial import of modules 15⟩ ≡
    from pyplasm import *
    from scipy import *
    import os,sys
""" import modules from larcc/lib """
    sys.path.insert(0, 'lib/py/')
    from lar2psm import *
    from simplexn import *
    from larcc import *
    from largrid import *
    from mapper import *
```

Macro referenced in 11b.

References

- [CL13] CVD-Lab, *Linear algebraic representation*, Tech. Report 13-00, Roma Tre University, October 2013.
- [Pao03] A. Paoluzzi, Geometric programming for computer aided design, John Wiley & Sons, Chichester, UK, 2003.