

# CSC 433/533

## Computer Graphics

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Credit: Joshua Levine

# Lecture 26

## Curves

Dec. 2, 2019

## Today's Agenda

- Reminders:
  - A07 questions?
  - TCEs! Already at 33.33%!
- Goals for today: start discussing curves and curve modeling

## Demo

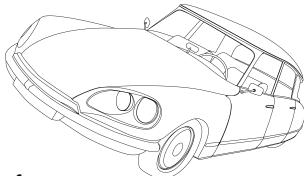
<https://www.geogebra.org/m/jUwMnfQk>

## Building Complex Shapes from Primitives

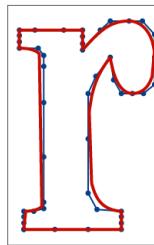
- Our basic primitives (points, line segments, triangles) are great for *rendering*, but hard to work with for *modeling*
- What we can do right now:
  - Polygonal shapes with “corners” (triangles, rectangles, etc.)
  - Simple implicit shapes (circles, spheres, conics) that we can write equations for.
- In computer graphics though, we often need smooth shapes!

## Applications

- We use the techniques from today for modeling complex shapes
- Also for modern typography
- And for designing smooth paths for animation

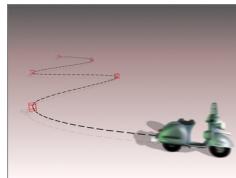


Font as a B-spline curve



Data: G.Farin, Curves and Surfaces for Computer Aided Geometric Design

Autodesk



## Inspiration: Drafting

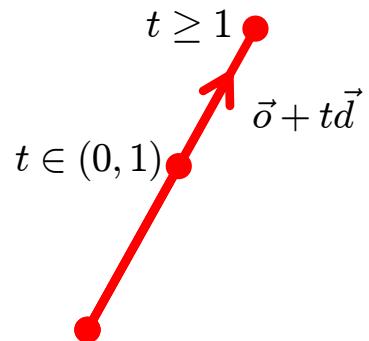
- How to draw a smooth curve on a piece of paper?
  - Use flexible metal strip, hold in place with weights (called “ducks”)
  - Trace to draw the curve



<http://www.alatown.com/spline/>

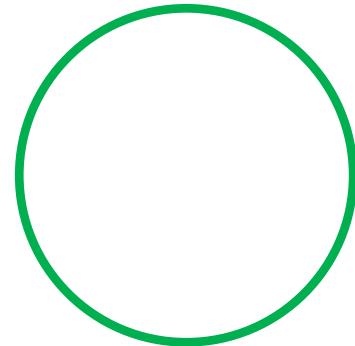
## Parametric Curves

## Parameterized Line



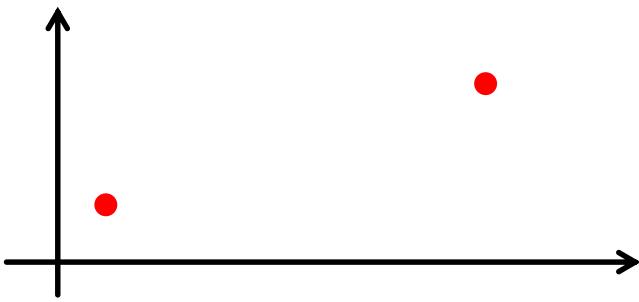
We've seen it before!

## Parameterized Circle



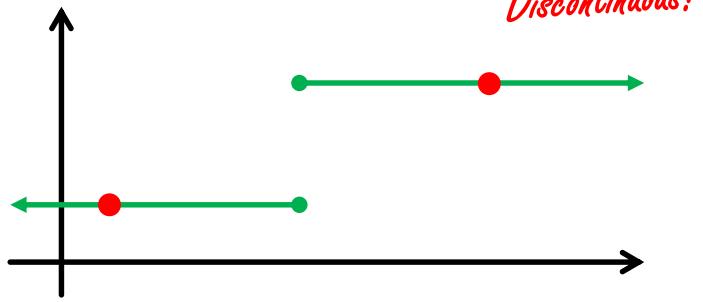
$$\vec{\gamma}(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$$

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



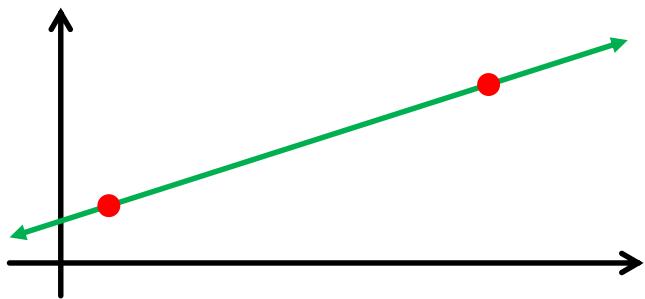
How do you fill the space?

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



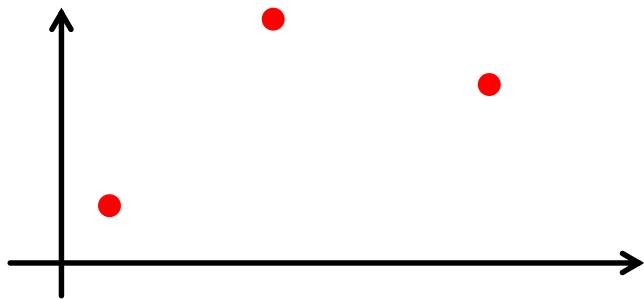
Nearest-neighbor interpolation

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



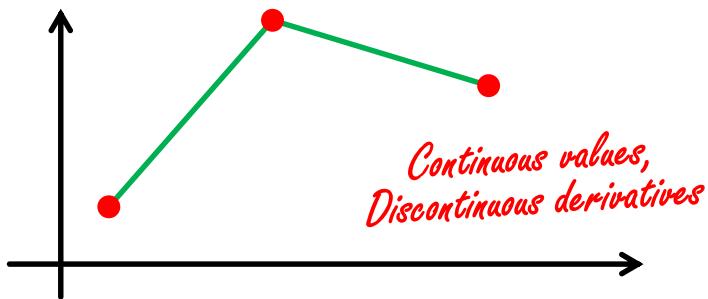
Linear interpolation

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



Three points?

## 1D Problem: Interpolation

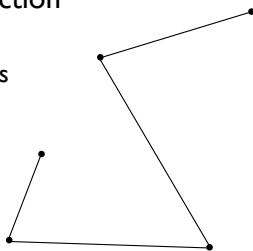


Piecewise linear

Matrix Form,  
Blending Functions

## Trivial example: piecewise linear

- This spline is just a polygon
  - control points are the vertices
- But we can derive it anyway as an illustration
- Each interval will be a linear function
  - $x(t) = at + b$
  - constraints are values at endpoints
  - $b = x_0 ; a = x_1 - x_0$
  - this is linear interpolation



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## Trivial example: piecewise linear

- Vector formulation

$$x(t) = (x_1 - x_0)t + x_0$$

$$y(t) = (y_1 - y_0)t + y_0$$

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0)t + \mathbf{p}_0$$

- Matrix formulation

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = [t \quad 1] \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 \\ \mathbf{p}_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Trivial example: piecewise linear

- Basis function formulation
  - regroup expression by  $\mathbf{p}$  rather than  $t$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}(t) &= (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0)t + \mathbf{p}_0 \\ &= (1-t)\mathbf{p}_0 + t\mathbf{p}_1 \end{aligned}$$

- interpretation in matrix viewpoint

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \left( [t \quad 1] \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 \\ \mathbf{p}_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

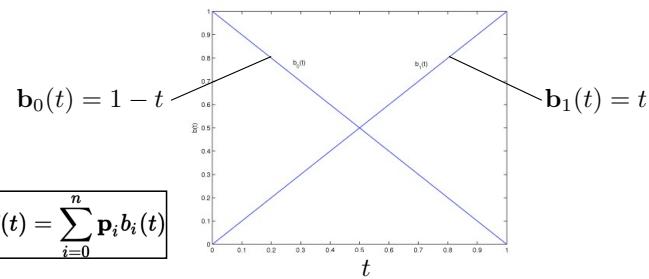
blending function,  $b_i(t)$

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## Trivial example: piecewise linear

- Vector blending formulation: “average of points”
  - blending functions: contribution of each point as  $t$  changes

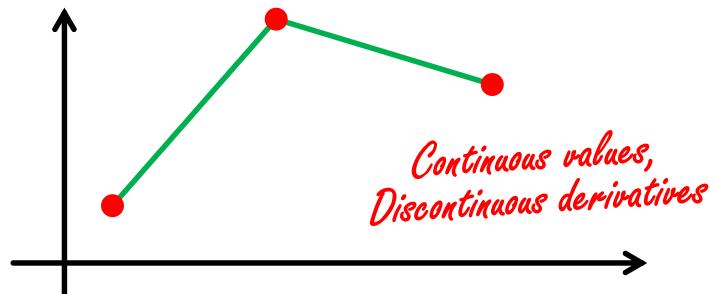


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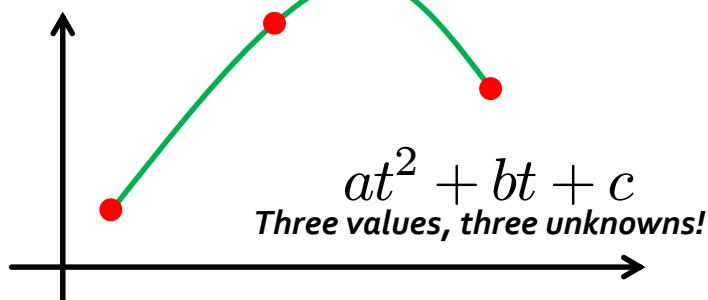
## Hermite Interpolation

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



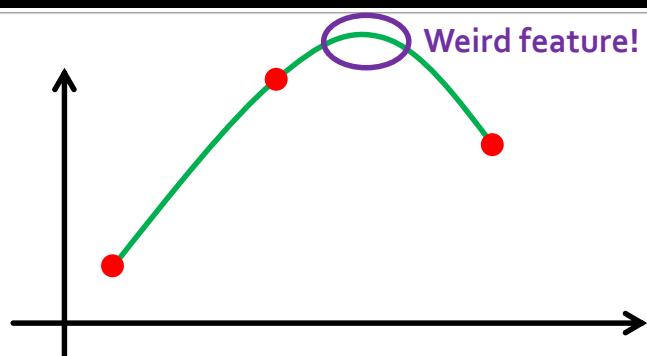
Piecewise linear

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



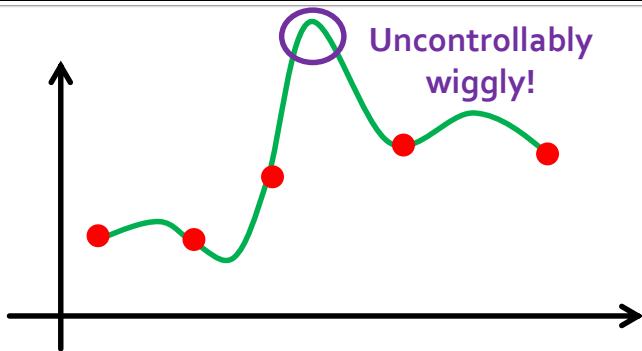
Parabola

## 1D Problem: Interpolation



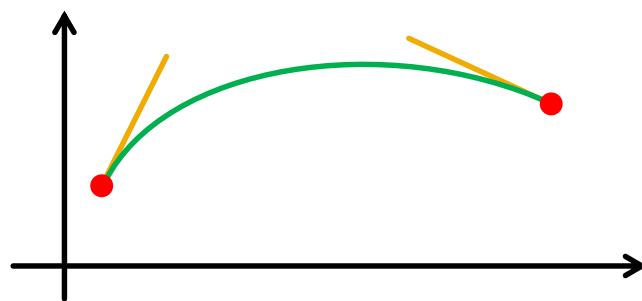
Parabola

## Problems with Polynomials



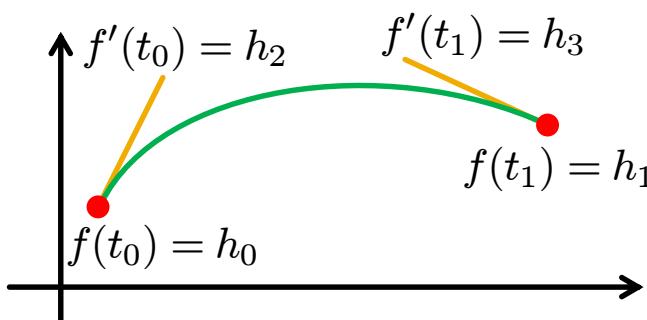
**$k$  points yields degree  $k$**

## New Idea

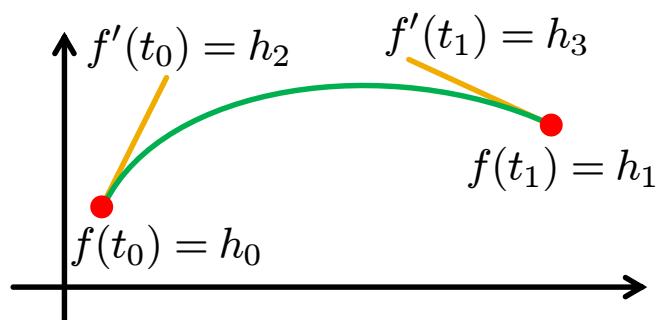


**Specify points and slopes**

## Degrees of Freedom?



## Degrees of Freedom?

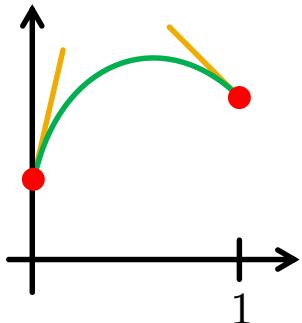


**Four: Two points, two slopes**

## Cubic Hermite Interpolation

$$P(t) = at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d$$

$$P'(t) = 3at^2 + 2bt + c$$



## Cubic Hermite Interpolation

$$P(t) = at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d$$

$$P'(t) = 3at^2 + 2bt + c$$

$$P(0) = d$$

$$P(1) = a + b + c + d$$

$$\begin{aligned} P'(0) &= c \\ P'(1) &= 3a + 2b + c \end{aligned}$$

## Cubic Hermite Interpolation

$$P(t) = at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d$$

$$P'(t) = 3at^2 + 2bt + c$$

$$P(0) = d = h_0$$

$$P(1) = a + b + c + d = h_1$$

$$P'(0) = c = h_2$$

$$P'(1) = 3a + 2b + c = h_3$$

## Matrix Representation

$$\begin{aligned} P(0) &= d = h_0 \\ P(1) &= a + b + c + d = h_1 \\ P'(0) &= c = h_2 \\ P'(1) &= 3a + 2b + c = h_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} h_0 \\ h_1 \\ h_2 \\ h_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Representation

*Invert matrix*

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} h_0 \\ h_1 \\ h_2 \\ h_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_0 \\ h_1 \\ h_2 \\ h_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$

## Matrix Representation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h_0 \\ h_1 \\ h_2 \\ h_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a = 2h_0 - 2h_1 + h_2 + h_3$$

$$b = -3h_0 + 3h_1 - 2h_2 - h_3$$

$$c = h_2$$

$$d = h_0$$

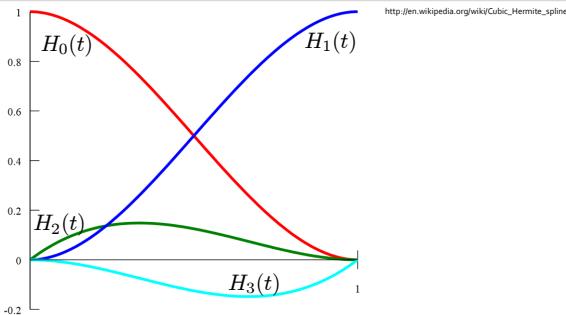
## Back to the Curve

$$\begin{aligned} P(t) &= at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d \\ &= (2h_0 - 2h_1 + h_2 + h_3)t^3 + \\ &\quad (-3h_0 + 3h_1 - 2h_2 - h_3)t^2 + \\ &\quad h_2t + h_0 \end{aligned}$$

## Back to the Curve

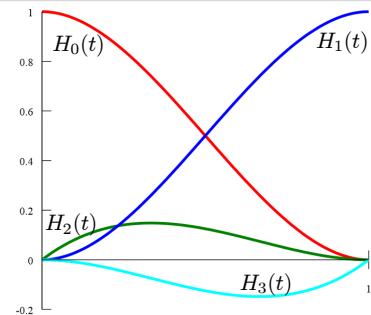
$$\begin{aligned} P(t) &= at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d \\ &= (2h_0 - 2h_1 + h_2 + h_3)t^3 + \\ &\quad (-3h_0 + 3h_1 - 2h_2 - h_3)t^2 + \\ &\quad h_2t + h_0 \\ &= h_0(2t^3 - 3t^2 + 1) + h_1(-2t^3 + 3t^2) + \\ &\quad h_2(t^3 - 2t^2 + t) + h_3(t^3 - t^2) \end{aligned}$$

## Hermite Basis



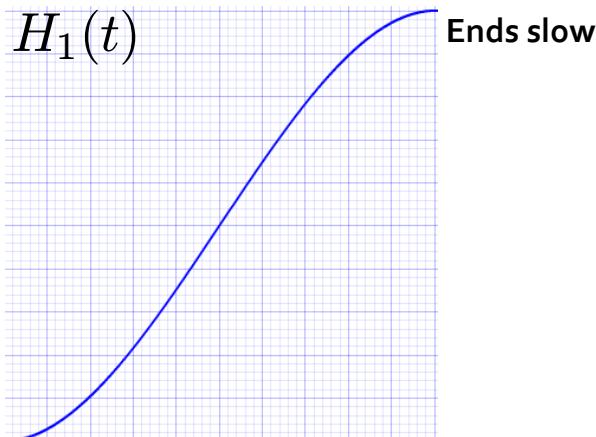
$$= h_0(2t^3 - 3t^2 + 1) + h_1(-2t^3 + 3t^2) + \\ h_2(t^3 - 2t^2 + t) + h_3(t^3 - t^2)$$

## How to Compute Cubic Curve



$$P(t) = P(0)H_0(t) + P(1)H_1(t) \\ + P'(0)H_2(t) + P'(1)H_3(t)$$

## “Ease” Function



Continuity vs.  
Smoothness

## Why Cubic?

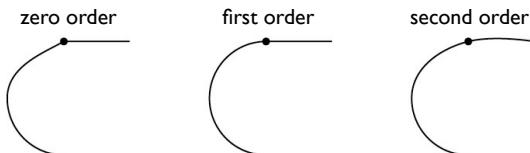
- Typically, a nice compromise between visually smoothness and not too “wiggly”
- Can we define how “smooth” a curve is?
  - Yes! standard form uses how *continuous* a curve is.

## Continuity

- Given a parametric curve  $f(t)$ , we know the curve is continuous if there are no “breaks”
- Standard mathematical definition of continuous function:
  - $\lim_{x \rightarrow z} f(x) = f(z)$
  - Must approach  $f(z)$  from both sides

## Generalizing Continuity

- Smoothness can be described by degree of continuity
  - zero-order ( $C^0$ ): position matches from both sides
  - first-order ( $C^1$ ): tangent matches from both sides
  - second-order ( $C^2$ ): curvature matches from both sides



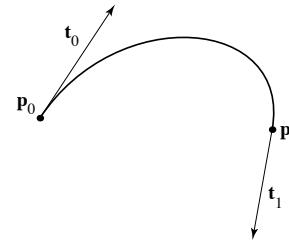
## Why Cubic?

- Typically, a nice compromise between visually smoothness and not too “wiggly”
- Higher order polynomials offer more derivatives, but often will overfit as a result without much added benefit (depends on the application though)

# Bézier Curves

## Hermite to Bézier

- Mixture of points and vectors is awkward
- Specify tangents as differences of points

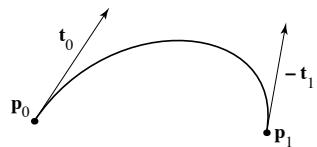


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## Hermite to Bézier

- Mixture of points and vectors is awkward
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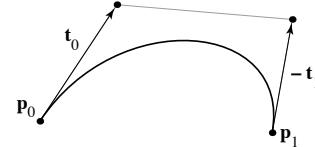


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## Hermite to Bézier

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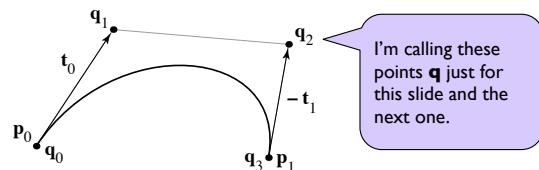


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## Hermite to Bézier

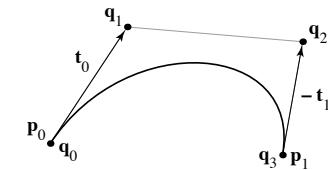
- Mixture of points and vectors is awkward
- Specify tangents as differences of points



– note derivative is defined as 3 times offset

## Hermite to Bézier

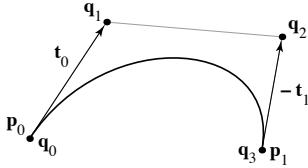
$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= q_0 \\ p_1 &= q_3 \\ t_0 &= 3(q_1 - q_0) \\ t_1 &= 3(q_3 - q_2) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} p_0 \\ p_1 \\ v_0 \\ v_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Hermite to Bézier

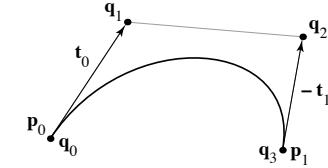
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$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Hermite to Bézier

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= q_0 \\ p_1 &= q_3 \\ t_0 &= 3(q_1 - q_0) \\ t_1 &= 3(q_3 - q_2) \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} q_0 \\ q_1 \\ q_2 \\ q_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Bézier matrix

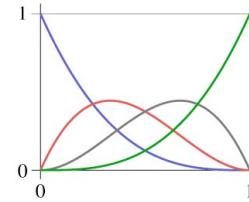
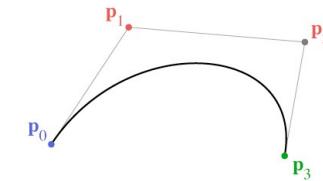
$$f(t) = [t^3 \ t^2 \ t \ 1] \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_0 \\ p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- note that these are the Bernstein polynomials

$$b_{n,k}(t) = \binom{n}{k} t^k (1-t)^{n-k}$$

and that defines Bézier curves for any degree

## Bézier basis



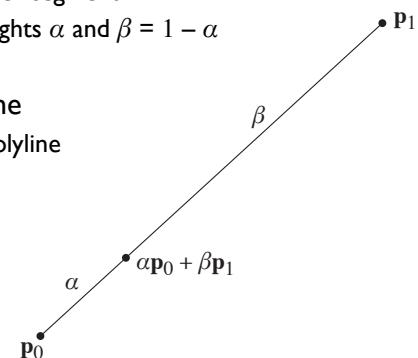
## Another way to Bézier segments

- A really boring spline segment:  $f(t) = p_0$ 
  - it only has one control point
  - the curve stays at that point for the whole time
- Only good for building a *piecewise constant* spline
  - a.k.a. a set of points

$\bullet p_0$

## Another way to Bézier segments

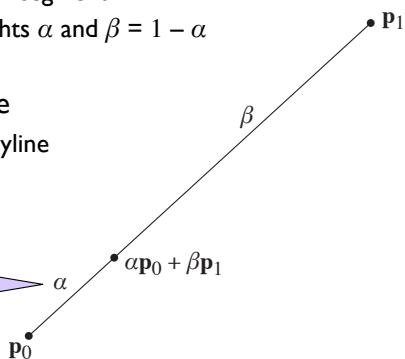
- A piecewise linear spline segment
  - two control points per segment
  - blend them with weights  $\alpha$  and  $\beta = 1 - \alpha$
- Good for building a *piecewise linear* spline
  - a.k.a. a polygon or polyline



## Another way to Bézier segments

- A piecewise linear spline segment
  - two control points per segment
  - blend them with weights  $\alpha$  and  $\beta = 1 - \alpha$
- Good for building a piecewise linear spline
  - a.k.a. a polygon or polyline

These labels show the **weights**, not the **distances**.



## Another way to Bézier segments

- A linear blend of two piecewise linear segments
  - three control points now
  - interpolate on both segments using  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$
  - blend the results with the same weights
- makes a quadratic spline segment
  - finally, a curve!

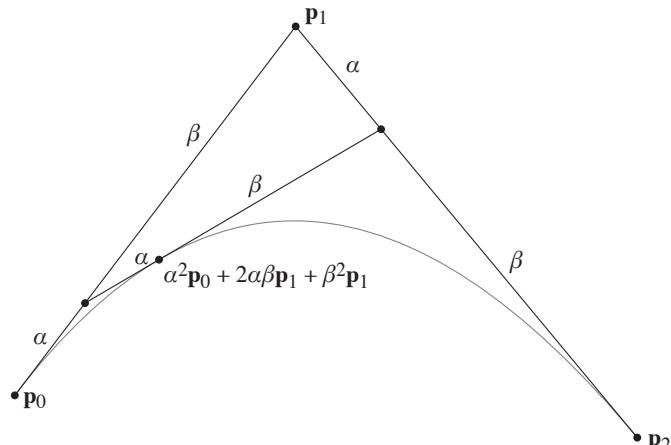
$$p_{1,0} = \alpha p_0 + \beta p_1$$

$$p_{1,1} = \alpha p_1 + \beta p_2$$

$$p_{2,0} = \alpha p_{1,0} + \beta p_{1,1}$$

$$= \alpha\alpha p_0 + \alpha\beta p_1 + \beta\alpha p_1 + \beta\beta p_2$$

$$= \alpha^2 p_0 + 2\alpha\beta p_1 + \beta^2 p_2$$



## Another way to Bézier segments

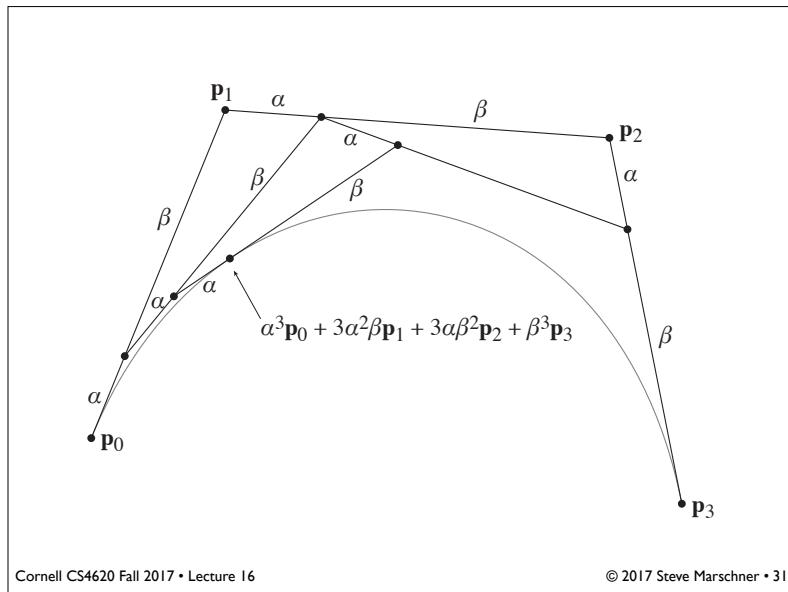
- Cubic segment: blend of two quadratic segments
  - four control points now (overlapping sets of 3)
  - interpolate on each quadratic using  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$
  - blend the results with the same weights
- makes a cubic spline segment
  - this is the familiar one for graphics—but you can keep going

$$p_{3,0} = \alpha p_{2,0} + \beta p_{2,1}$$

$$= \alpha\alpha\alpha p_0 + \alpha\alpha\beta p_1 + \alpha\beta\alpha p_1 + \alpha\beta\beta p_2$$

$$+ \beta\alpha\alpha p_1 + \beta\alpha\beta p_2 + \beta\beta\alpha p_2 + \beta\beta\beta p_3$$

$$= \alpha^3 p_0 + 3\alpha^2\beta p_1 + 3\alpha\beta^2 p_2 + \beta^3 p_3$$



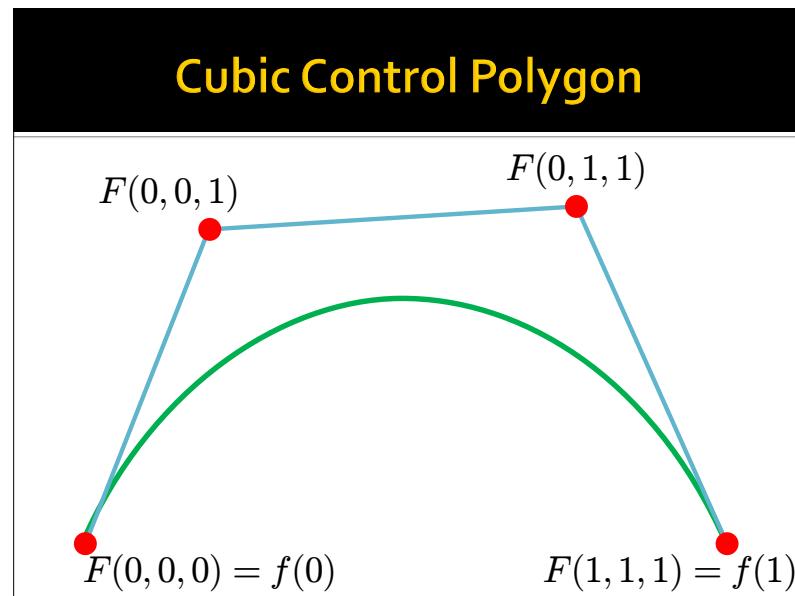
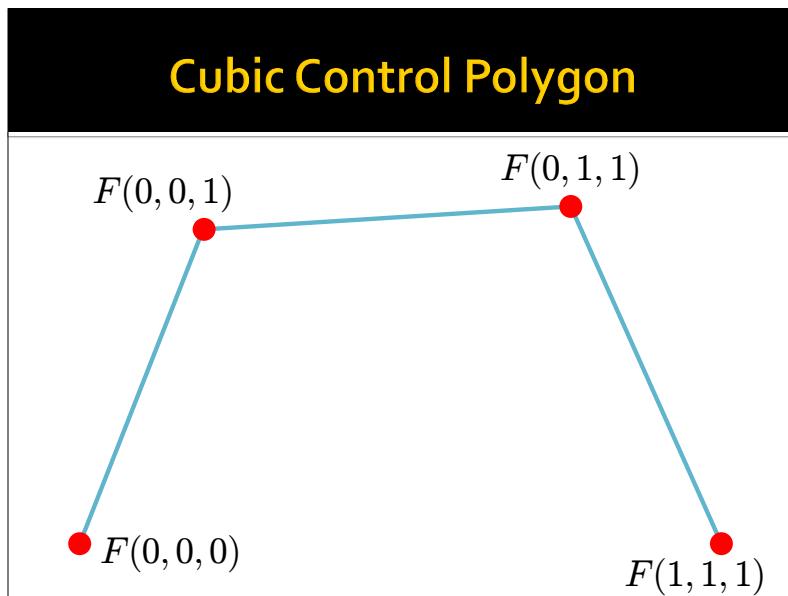
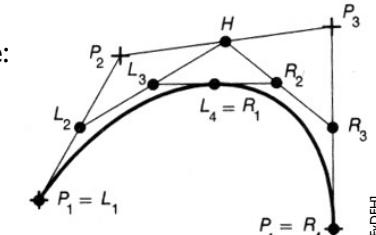
## de Casteljau's algorithm

- A recurrence for computing points on Bézier spline segments:

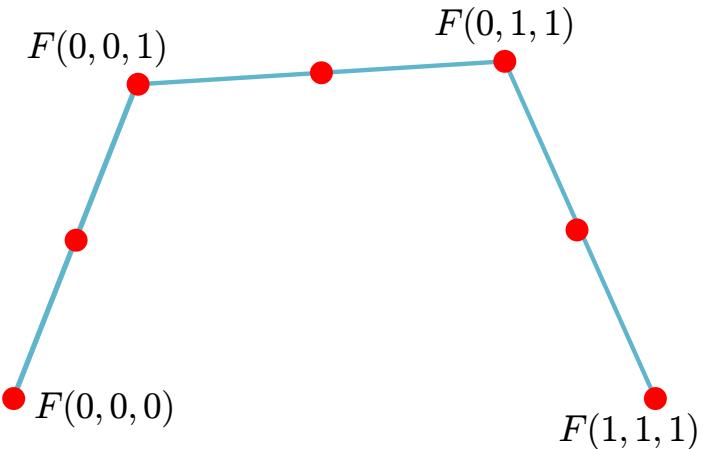
$$\mathbf{P}_{0,i} = \mathbf{p}_i$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{n,i} = \alpha \mathbf{p}_{n-1,i} + \beta \mathbf{p}_{n-1,i+1}$$

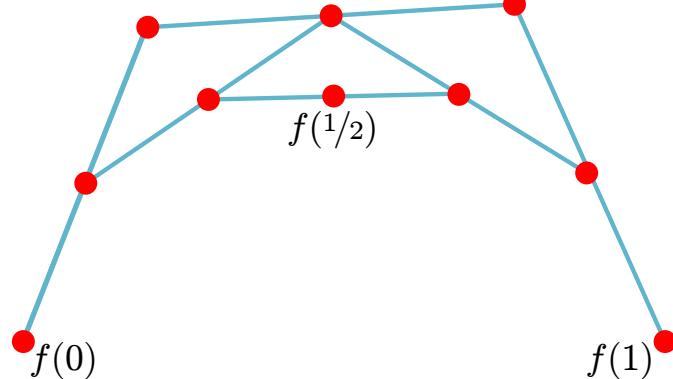
- Cool additional feature:  
also subdivides  
the segment into two  
shorter ones



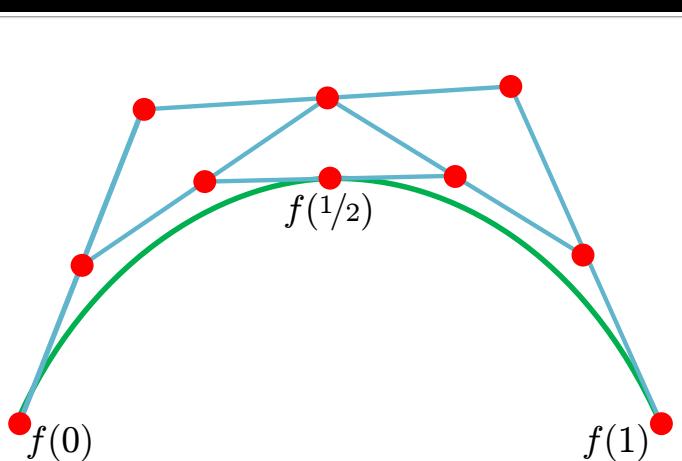
## Cubic Control Polygon



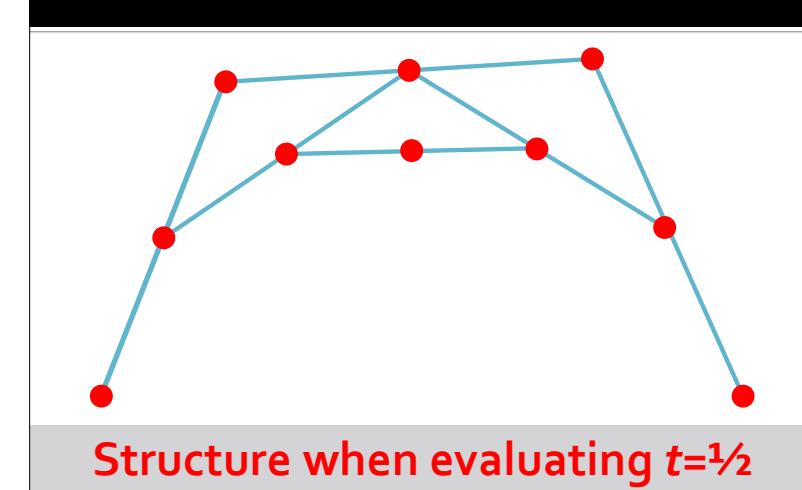
## Cubic Control Polygon



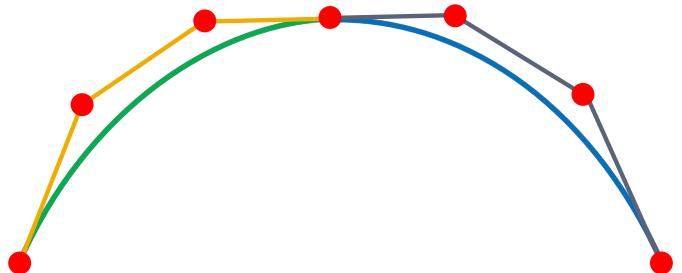
## Cubic Control Polygon



## Extra Observation



## Extra Observation



Two new control polygons!

## Lec27 Required Reading

- FOOG, Ch. 15 (all)

## Cubic Bézier splines

- Very widely used type, especially in 2D
  - e.g. it is a primitive in PostScript/PDF
- Can represent smooth curves with corners
- Nice de Casteljau recurrence for evaluation
- Can easily add points at any position
- Illustrator demo

## Reminder: Assignment 07

Assigned: Wednesday, Nov. 27  
Written Due: Monday, Dec. 9, 4:59:59 pm  
Program Due: Wednesday, Dec. 11, 4:59:59 pm