

## Curves Note

A curve is a set of points & can be needed to be drawn in vector graphics.

e.g. a circle where the area bounded by it is a region.

### Types of curve representations:

- Implicit representation: Generalised Form

$f(x,y) = 0$  (Phenomenon introduced in MPL chapter where points on the function give value=zero)  
or  $f(x,y,z) = 0$

(2D line)  $ax + by + c = 0$  | (3D plane)  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$

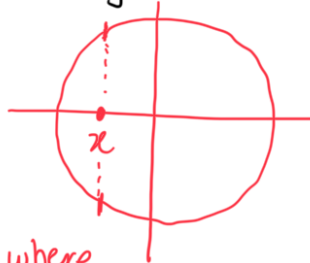
$\rightarrow x^2 + y^2 - r^2 = 0$  (Circle)  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - r^2 = 0$  (Sphere)

- Explicit representation: Defines a variable relation to another

$$y = x^2, \quad y = mx + c$$

However, for circle,  $y = \pm \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$

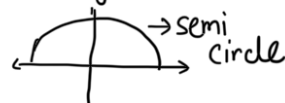
Multiple values  
of  $y$  for 1  
 $x$  value



Hence this is where  
parametric equations work best.

Not a function  
as not a  
1-1 relation

\* If needed, only  
1 value of  $y$  taken,  
e.g.  $y = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$   
we get



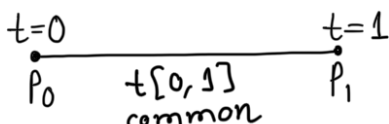
- Parametric Representation:

For a circle,  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$


$f(t) = (r \cos t, r \sin t) \rightarrow t$  a 3rd  
parameter used  
to define  
 $x$  &  $y$

For a line segment,

$$P(t) = P_0 + t(P_1 - P_0)$$



For every value of  $t$ ,  
only 1 possible  
output.

For quadratic curves,  
 $f(t) = (2t, t^2) \rightarrow$  

\* Every explicit representation can be written implicitly  
 however not every implicit representation can be  
 written explicitly.

### • Subdivision Representation:

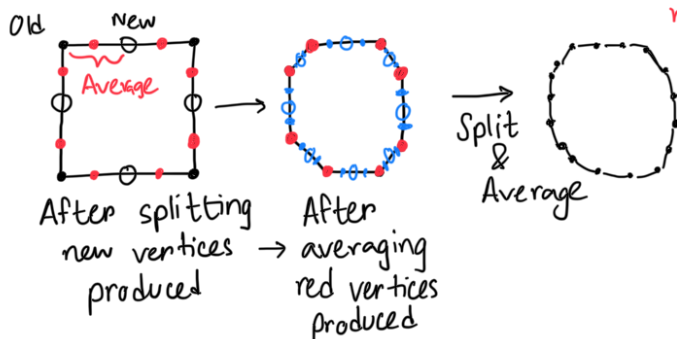
- Given set of points, add new points by removing old points (Repeat)
- Each division makes the new points closer to the intended curve

Chaikin's Algorithm:

(Split) Insert new points at midpoints of adjacent old points

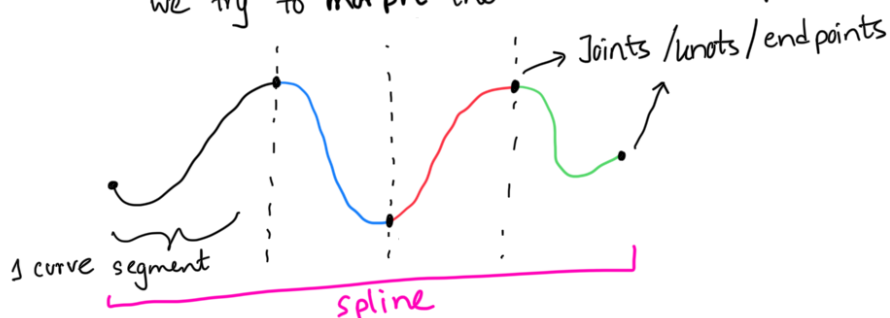
(Average) Take the average of each midpoint with its neighbours.

Loop back to splitting again. (Old vertices replaced with the averaged new ones)



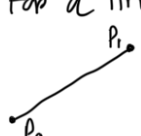
### • Procedural Representation:

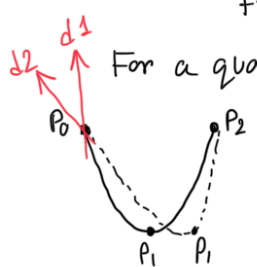
Gist: What if to render any complex shaped curve,  
 we break it down to smaller pieces and  
 then using known functions such as  
 line segment, quadratic and cubic curves,  
 we try to morph them into those shapes?



- We breakdown the spline into multiple smaller curves.
- Each curve segment shown using a linear, quadratic or a higher degree polynomials, however there are certain drawbacks related to them.

For a linear polynomial (a line segment); (2 points)

 the slope of a line segment is fixed which cannot be changed. Hence there is no flexibility here.  $(P_1 - P_0)$  cannot change the direction the curve leaves from  $P_0$  &  $P_1$ .

 For a quadratic polynomial, (3 points) more freedom here to control the slope however using  $P_1$  point only 1 of the slopes i.e. at  $P_0$  or  $P_2$  can be controlled (the direction the curve leaves)

(if dragged here direction the curve leaves from  $P_0$  changes)

Hence, since both endpoints' direction cannot be controlled, quadratic is not ideal.

For higher-degree polynomial,  
more control over the slope at endpoints  
however computationally expensive and  
wiggles around endpoints.

\* Hence ideal polynomials are cubic! (4 points)

- Low degree polynomial
- Having 2 internal points other than 2 endpoints, help to control the direction everywhere through the curve

 Can be used to control direction of  $P_0$  →  $P_1$  ← Can be used to control direction of  $P_3$

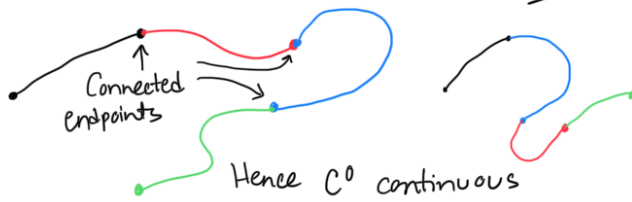
## Continuity

Now, after representing each segment, we will need to join them to render the final spline.

- The endpoints of the segments need to be the same for them to connect and hence in order to ensure this, we look at the smoothness/continuity of the curve.

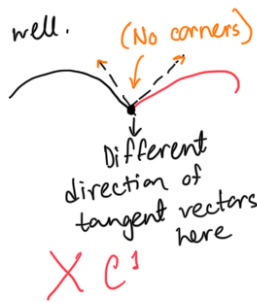
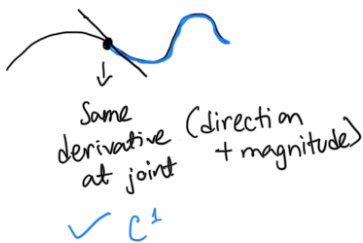
### Parametric Continuity $C^n$

$C^0 \rightarrow$  if all the endpoints are connected (same position)



$C^1 \rightarrow$  curves at endpoints have the same tangent (velocity)

$\rightarrow$  if  $C^1$  continuous then  $C^0$  continuous as well.



$C^2 \rightarrow$  curves at endpoints have same 2nd order derivative (acceleration)

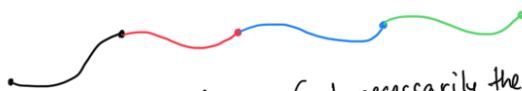


\*  $C^n \rightarrow$  all derivatives upto  $n$  match (direction + size)

### Geometric Continuity $G^n$

$G^0 \rightarrow$  if 2 curve segments join together  
 $\hookrightarrow$  same as  $C^0$

$G^1 \rightarrow$  If the directions (not necessarily the magnitude)



of the curve segments' tangent vectors are equal at endpoints.

\*  $C(n) \rightarrow$  directions of all derivatives match upto  $n$ .

Note: By increasing parametric continuity,  $C(n)$ , the smoothness of the curve increases.

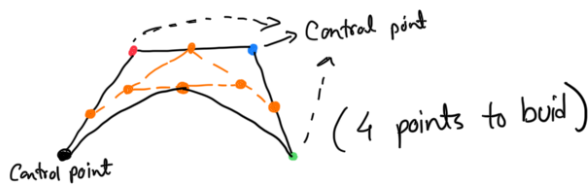
## □ Bézier curve

$$\text{lerp}(P_0, P_1, t) = P_0 + t(P_1 - P_0) \rightarrow \text{Parametric Equation}$$

- Using a fixed set of control points, we move around the control points to change shape of the curve. e.g. Quadratic Bézier Curve



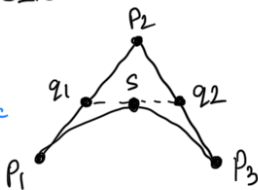
e.g. Cubic Bézier Curve



- The Bézier curves are build using linear interpolations.

e.g.

Quadratic Bézier curves



$$q_1 = \text{lerp}(P_1, P_2, t)$$

$$q_2 = \text{lerp}(P_2, P_3, t)$$

$$s = \text{lerp}(q_1, q_2, t)$$

$$\therefore s = \text{lerp}(q_1, q_2, t)$$

$$= q_1 + t(q_2 - q_1)$$

$$\text{We know, } q_1 = \text{lerp}(P_1, P_2, t)$$

$$= P_1 + t(P_2 - P_1)$$

$$\text{similarly, } q_2 = P_2 + t(P_3 - P_2)$$

$$\therefore s = \underbrace{P_1 + t(P_2 - P_1)}_{q_1} + t \left( \underbrace{[P_2 + t(P_3 - P_2)]}_{q_2} - \underbrace{[P_1 + t(P_2 - P_1)]}_{q_1} \right)$$

$$= P_1 + tP_2 - tP_1 + t(P_2 + tP_3 - tP_2 - P_1 - tP_2 + tP_1)$$

$$= P_1 + tP_2 - tP_1 + tP_2 + t^2P_3 - t^2P_2 - tP_1 - t^2P_2 + t^2P_1$$

$$= P_1(1 - t - t + t^2) + P_2(t + t - t^2 - t^2) + t^2P_3$$

$$S = (1-2t+t^2)P_1 + (2t-2t^2)P_2 + t^2P_3$$

(General Formula for Quadratic Bézier curve)

(De Casteljau's Algorithm)

• General Formula for Cubic Bézier curve:

$$S = (1-3t+3t^2-t^3)P_1 + (3t-6t^2+3t^3)P_2 + (3t^2-3t^3)P_3 + t^3P_4$$

• Matrix notation for S:

(Cubic)

$$S = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} t^3 & t^2 & t & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{M_B: \text{Matrix Basis}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} P_1 \\ P_2 \\ P_3 \\ P_4 \end{bmatrix}}_{G_B: \text{Geometric properties (Convex Hull)}}$$

$$\therefore S = T \cdot M_B \cdot G_B$$

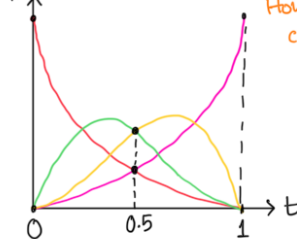
$$S = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} t^2 & t & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_T \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{M_B: \text{Matrix Basis}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} P_1 \\ P_2 \\ P_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{G_B}$$

$$\therefore S = T \cdot M_B \cdot G_B$$

□ Bernstein Polynomials:

$$Q(t) = (1-3t+3t^2-t^3)P_1 + (3t-6t^2+3t^3)P_2 + (3t^2-3t^3)P_3 + t^3P_4$$

(Cubic Bézier curve) Polynomials



Bernstein basis/polynomial  
(Weightage of each control points)  
How much each control point contribute to a point on the Bézier curve

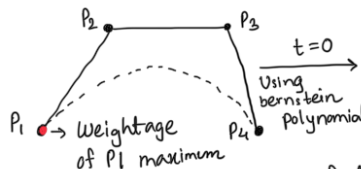
— At  $t=0$ , the weightage of  $P_1$  (the starting coordinate) is the maximum while others are 0

$$1-3(0)+3(0)^2-(0)^3 = \underline{1} \cdot (P_1)$$

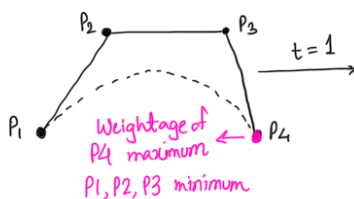
$$3(0)-6(0)^2+3(0)^3 = \underline{0} \cdot (P_2)$$

$$3(0)^2-3(0)^3 = \underline{0} \cdot (P_3)$$

$$(0)^3 = \underline{0} \cdot (P_4)$$



$P_2, P_3, P_4$  minimum at the first point of curve

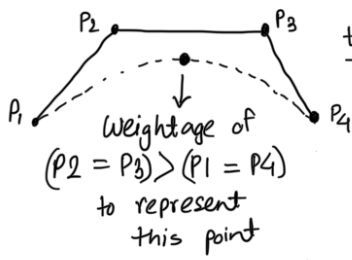


$$1-3(1)+3(1)^2-(1)^3 = \underline{0} \cdot P_1$$

$$3(1)-6(1)^2+3(1)^3 = \underline{0} \cdot P_2$$

$$3(1)^2-3(1)^3 = \underline{0} \cdot P_3$$

$$(1)^3 = \underline{1} \cdot P_4$$



$t = 0.5$

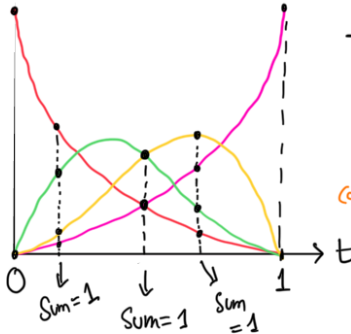
$$1 - 3(0.5) + 3(0.5)^2 - (0.5)^3 = 0.125 \cdot P1$$

$$3(0.5) - 6(0.5)^2 + 3(0.5)^3 = 0.375 \cdot P2$$

$$3(0.5)^2 - 3(0.5)^3 = 0.375 \cdot P3$$

$$(0.5)^3 = 0.125 \cdot P4$$

Sum of these polynomials = 1  
(at any  $t \rightarrow [0, 1]$ )



→ This is called a convex combination where the weighted sum of points / vectors = 1.

$$C = \lambda_1 P_1 + \lambda_2 P_2 + \dots + \lambda_n P_n$$

(curve point) → Bernstein polynomials

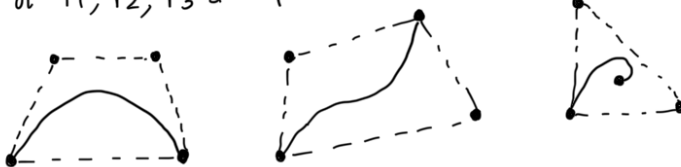
where,  $\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = 1$ ,  $\lambda_i \geq 0$   
(non-negative weights)

Note → Only for  $t$  ranging from 0 to 1, will give a convex combination.

### • Convex Hull

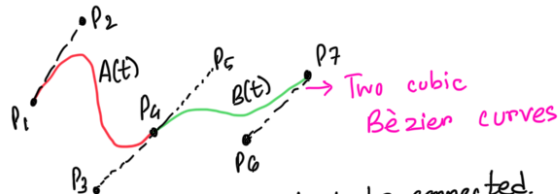
Any convex combination will lie inside the convex hull of its control points.  
(Geometric shape → triangle/polygon)

e.g. a cubic Bézier curve must be bound by the convex hull of  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  &  $P_4$



### □ Continuity Condition Checking

#### • For $C^0$ continuity



To be  $C^0$  continuous,  $A(t)$  &  $B(t)$  needs to be connected.  
∴ Where  $A(t)$  ends,  $B(t)$  needs to start

$$A(1) = B(0) \rightarrow \text{Connected at } P4$$

( $t=1$ ) since end point of curve  
( $t=0$ ) since start of curve



- For  $C^1$  continuity, the velocity at  $P_4$  must be equal for both curves.  $A'(1) = B'(0)$

We know,

$$Q(t) = (1-3t+3t^2-t^3)P_1 + (3t-6t^2+3t^3)P_2 + (3t^2-3t^3)P_3 + t^3P_4$$

(Provides positions of the curve)

$$Q'(t) = (-3+6t-3t^2)P_1 + (3-12t+9t^2)P_2 + (6t-9t^2)P_3 + 3t^2P_4$$

$$\therefore Q'(0) = 3P_2 - 3P_1 = 3(P_2 - P_1) \rightarrow \text{Same for every cubic}$$

$$\therefore Q'(1) = 3P_4 - 3P_3 = 3(P_4 - P_3) \rightarrow \text{Bézier curve}$$

$$\therefore A'(1) = B'(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow 3(P_4 - P_3) = 3(P_2 - P_1)$$

Now for  $B(t)$  its first & second points are  $P_4$  &  $P_5$

$$\therefore 3(P_4 - P_3) = 3(P_5 - P_4)$$

$$\Rightarrow 3P_4 - 3P_3 = 3P_5 - 3P_4$$

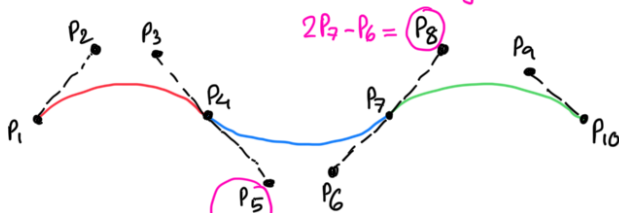
$$\Rightarrow 3P_5 = 6P_4 - 3P_3$$

$$\therefore P_5 = 2P_4 - P_3$$

Now controlled by  $P_3$  &  $P_4$ , loss of local control

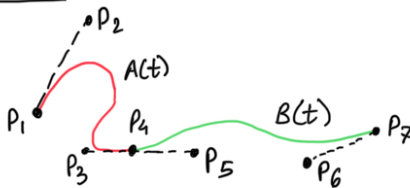
This condition needs to be fulfilled for the entire spline to be  $C^1$  continuous.

(Same for every connecting joint of 2 Bézier curves)



$$= 2P_4 - P_3 \rightarrow \text{If yes then } C^1 \text{ continuous}$$

- For  $C^2$  continuity, same acceleration of curves at  $P_4$ .



$$A''(1) = B''(0)$$

We know

$$Q'(t) = (-3+6t-3t^2)P_1 + (3-12t+9t^2)P_2 + (6t-9t^2)P_3 + 3t^2P_4$$

$$Q''(t) = (6-6t)P_1 + (-12+18t)P_2 + (6-18t)P_3 + 6tP_4$$

$$\therefore Q''(0) = 6P_1 - 12P_2 + 6P_3 = 6(P_1 - 2P_2 + P_3)$$

$$Q''(1) = 6P_2 - 12P_3 + 6P_4 = 6(P_2 - 2P_3 + P_4)$$



$$\therefore A''(1) = B''(0)$$

$$6(P_2 - 2P_3 + P_4) = 6(P_1 - 2P_2 + P_3)$$

Now for  $B(t)$ , its first, second & third points are  $P_4, P_5, P_6$

$$6(P_2 - 2P_3 + P_4) = 6(P_4 - 2P_5 + P_6)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_2 - 2P_3 + P_4 = P_4 - 2P_5 + P_6$$

$$\Rightarrow P_6 = P_2 - 2P_3 + P_4 - P_4 + 2P_5$$

$$= P_2 + 2P_5 - 2P_3$$

$$P_6 = P_2 + 2(P_5 - P_3)$$

We know to maintain  $C^1$  continuity before reaching  $C^2$ ,

$$P_5 = 2P_4 - P_3$$

$$\therefore P_6 = P_2 + 2(\underline{2P_4 - P_3} - P_3)$$

$$= P_2 + 2(2P_4 - 2P_3)$$

$$\underline{P_6 = P_2 + 4(P_4 - P_3)}$$

$\rightarrow$  Now  $P_6$  is locked as it is controlled by  $P_2, P_4$  &  $P_3$ .

Control over  $P_6$  is lost. This condition needs to be fulfilled for  $C^2$  continuity

Note: The more layers of continuity reached, the more control we lose as, changing one control point will affect other control points dependent on it.