

# Geometric Shapes: Surfaces

Module 3  
Lecture 4

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## Geometric Shapes

- Geometry has no color and texture
- Points
- Curves
- **Surfaces**
- Solid objects

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## Learning objectives

- To understand how surfaces can be used in solving data visualization problems
- To understand surfaces as objects with 2 degree of freedom
- To understand what mathematical representations are the most efficient for defining and displaying surfaces
- To understand how different coordinate systems can be used together for deriving mathematical representations of surfaces
- To understand surfaces as objects created by moving curves

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## Surfaces

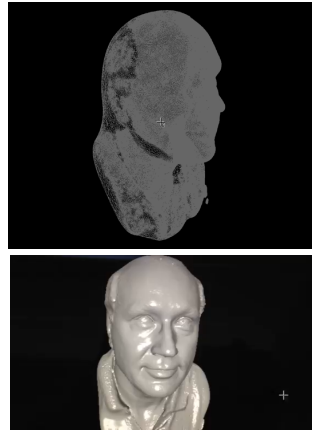
- Polygonal representation - polygon meshes
- Analytic representations
  - Explicit representation
  - Implicit representation
  - Parametric representation

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## Polygonal Representation

- List of vertices
- List of polygons formed by the vertices
- List of normal vectors built at the vertices (optional)
- Order of vertices is important
- Usually only one visible side where the normal is pointing out from
- Examples of common polygon mesh data formats: OBJ (Wavefront), STL (STereo Lithography), Indexed FaceSet in VRML and X3D

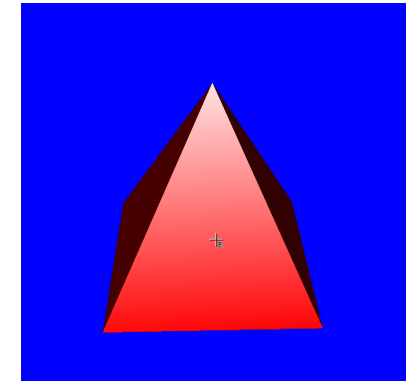


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## VRML Polygon Mesh

```
coord Coordinate { point [
  0.000000 0.000000 0.000000,
  -0.005000 -0.505000 -1.619200,
  -0.105000 -0.485000 -1.619200,
  ..... ] }
normal Normal { vector [
  1.000000 0.000000 0.000000
  0.176000 -0.601000 -0.780000
  -0.306000 -0.340000 -0.889000
  ..... ] }
coordIndex [
  70 65 62 -1
  23 63 6 -1
  18 19 17 -1
  ..... ] }
```

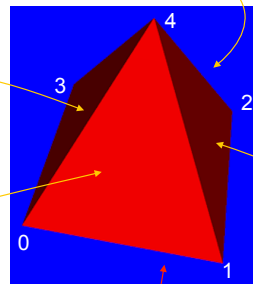


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## VRML Polygon Mesh

```
geometry IndexedFaceSet {
  coord Coordinate { point [
    -1.0 -1.0 1.0, #vertex 0
    1.0 -1.0 1.0, #vertex 1
    1.0 -1.0 -1.0, #vertex 2
    -1.0 -1.0 -1.0, #vertex 3
    0.0 1.0 0.0 #vertex 4
  ] }
  coordIndex [
    0, 3, 2, 1, -1,
    0, 1, 4, -1,
    1, 2, 4, -1,
    2, 3, 4, -1,
    3, 0, 4, -1,
  ]
}
```

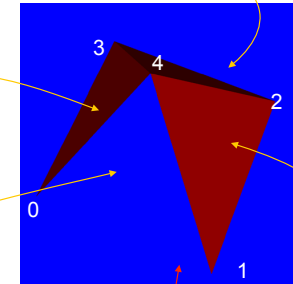


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## VRML Polygon Mesh

```
geometry IndexedFaceSet {
  coord Coordinate { point [
    -1.0 -1.0 1.0, #vertex 0
    1.0 -1.0 1.0, #vertex 1
    1.0 -1.0 -1.0, #vertex 2
    -1.0 -1.0 -1.0, #vertex 3
    0.0 1.0 0.0 #vertex 4
  ] }
  coordIndex [
    0, 3, 2, 1, -1,
    0, 4, 1, -1,
    1, 2, 4, -1,
    2, 3, 4, -1,
    3, 0, 4, -1,
  ]
}
```



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## We have learnt that

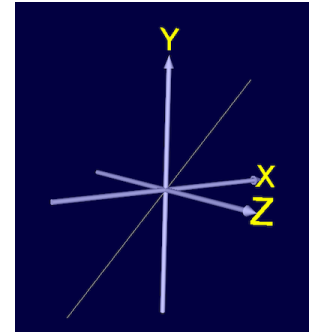
- Surfaces can be defined (interpolated) by polygon meshes
- Polygon meshes are defined by set of vertices, set of normals at the vertices, and polygons formed by the vertices
- Order how the vertices are listed to form a polygon define the direction of the normal to the polygon. Right-hand rule is used to define the normal direction
- Examples of common polygon mesh data formats:  
.OBJ (Wavefront), .STL (STereo Lithography), Indexed FaceSet in VRML and X3D
- Explicit, implicit and parametric functions can be used for defining surfaces analytically for any precision and compactness of the model

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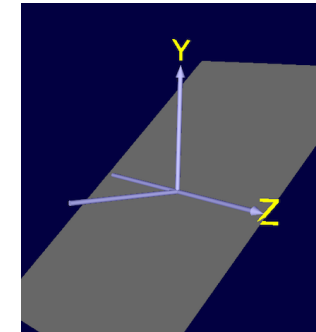
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## Let's Increase the Dimension

2D:  $y - x = 0$



3D:  $y - x = 0$



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## Plane Surface

$$Ax + By + Cz + D = 0$$

- Implicit function
- Explicit functions can be derived from the implicit but are seldom used
- The values of the coefficients A,B,C, and D can be obtained by solving a set of three plane equations using the coordinates for three non-collinear points in the plane.
- $\mathbf{N}=[A \ B \ C]$  – normal vector to the plane: cross product of two vectors
- For any point  $\mathbf{r}_o=(x_o, y_o, z_o)$ :  $\mathbf{N} \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_o) = 0$  i.e.,  $90^\circ$  angle  
 $A(x - x_o) + B(y - y_o) + C(z - z_o) = 0$

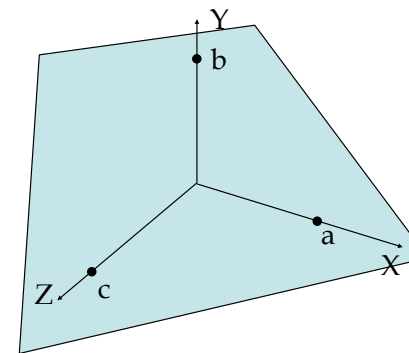
See the detailed video exercise in Lecture Supplement

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## Plane Surface

- Implicit equation in intercepts



$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} = 1$$

$$\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} + \frac{z}{c} - 1 = 0$$

$$Ax + By + Cz + D = 0$$

$$\frac{A}{D}x + \frac{B}{D}y + \frac{C}{D}z + 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{A}{-D}x + \frac{B}{-D}y + \frac{C}{-D}z = 1$$

$$a = -\frac{D}{A}, \quad b = -\frac{D}{B}, \quad c = -\frac{D}{C}$$

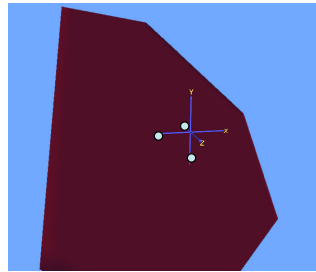
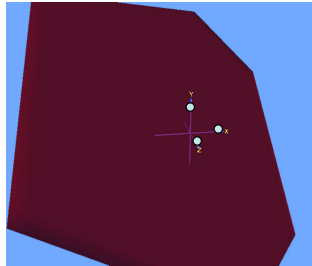
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## Plane Surface Implicitly

$$x/1.2 + y/1 + z/1 - 1 = 0$$

$$x/1.2 + y/1 + z/1 + 1 = 0$$



The displayed size of the plane  
is defined by the XYZ domain

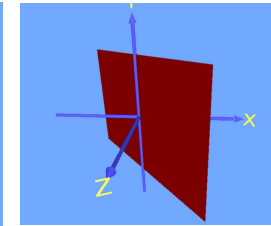
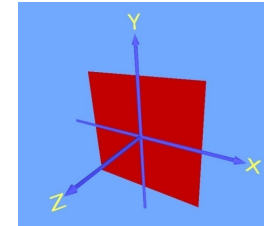
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## Plane Parametrically

$$\begin{aligned} x &= u & y &= v & z &= 0 \\ u & \in [-1, 1] & v & \in [-1, 1] & - & \text{rectangle} \\ u, v & \in [-\infty, \infty] & - & \text{plane} \end{aligned}$$

$$x = u \quad y = v \quad z = u$$



Two parameters !  
Parametrically defined rectangle

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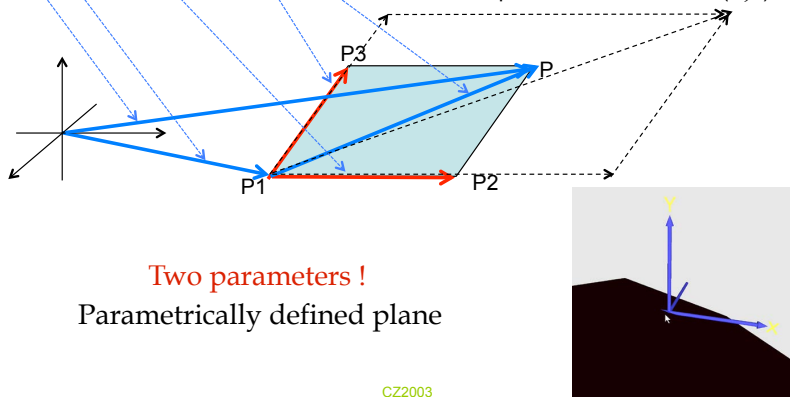
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## Any Plane Parametrically

By the sum of two vectors:

$$P = P_1 + u(P_2 - P_1) + v(P_3 - P_1), \quad u, v \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

any point on the plane with  
parametric coordinates  $(u, v)$



Two parameters !  
Parametrically defined plane

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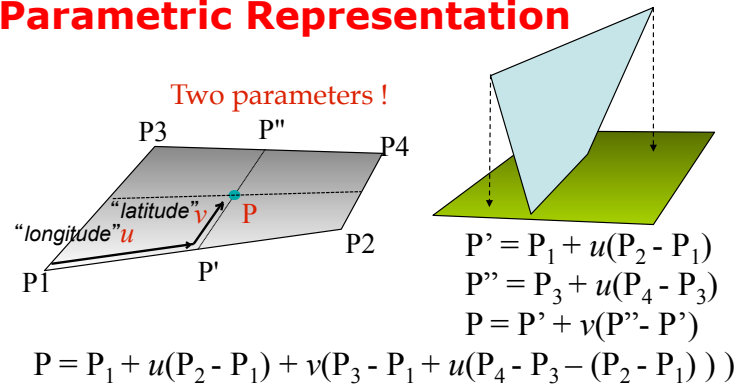
## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation

- Line equation parametrically:  $P' = P_1 + u(P_2 - P_1)$
- One parametric coordinate:  $u$
- Surface has 2 parametric coordinates (e.g.  $u, v$ )
- Let's use crossing lines to define points on the surface

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## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation



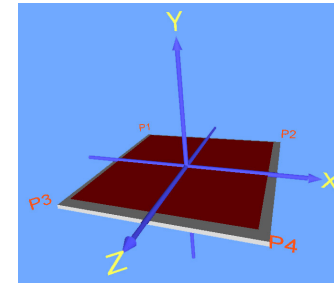
Point  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ ,  $P_3$  and  $P_4$  may be any points in a 3D space so that even "twisted" surfaces may result

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## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation

$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3$	$P_4$	
$x_1=-1$	$x_2=1$	$x_3=-1$	$x_4=1$	$x(u,v)=x_1+u \cdot (x_2-x_1)+v \cdot (x_3-x_1+u \cdot (x_4-x_3-x_2+x_1))$
$y_1=0$	$y_2=0$	$y_3=0$	$y_4=0$	$y(u,v)=y_1+u \cdot (y_2-y_1)+v \cdot (y_3-y_1+u \cdot (y_4-y_3-y_2+y_1))$
$z_1=-1$	$z_2=-1$	$z_3=1$	$z_4=1$	$z(u,v)=z_1+u \cdot (z_2-z_1)+v \cdot (z_3-z_1+u \cdot (z_4-z_3-z_2+z_1))$

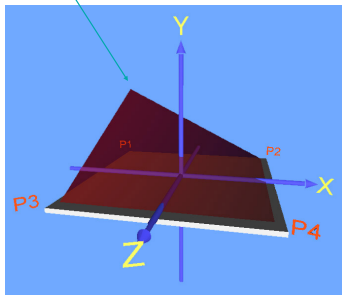


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## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation

$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3$	$P_4$	
$x_1=-1$	$x_2=1$	$x_3=-1$	$x_4=1$	$x(u,v)=x_1+u \cdot (x_2-x_1)+v \cdot (x_3-x_1+u \cdot (x_4-x_3-x_2+x_1))$
$y_1=1$	$y_2=0$	$y_3=0$	$y_4=0$	$y(u,v)=y_1+u \cdot (y_2-y_1)+v \cdot (y_3-y_1+u \cdot (y_4-y_3-y_2+y_1))$
$z_1=-1$	$z_2=-1$	$z_3=1$	$z_4=1$	$z(u,v)=z_1+u \cdot (z_2-z_1)+v \cdot (z_3-z_1+u \cdot (z_4-z_3-z_2+z_1))$

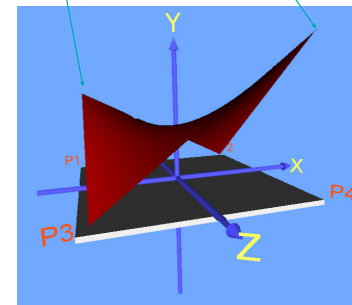


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## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation

$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3$	$P_4$	
$x_1=-1$	$x_2=1$	$x_3=-1$	$x_4=1$	$x(u,v)=x_1+u \cdot (x_2-x_1)+v \cdot (x_3-x_1+u \cdot (x_4-x_3-x_2+x_1))$
$y_1=1$	$y_2=0$	$y_3=0$	$y_4=1.5$	$y(u,v)=y_1+u \cdot (y_2-y_1)+v \cdot (y_3-y_1+u \cdot (y_4-y_3-y_2+y_1))$
$z_1=-1$	$z_2=-1$	$z_3=1$	$z_4=1$	$z(u,v)=z_1+u \cdot (z_2-z_1)+v \cdot (z_3-z_1+u \cdot (z_4-z_3-z_2+z_1))$

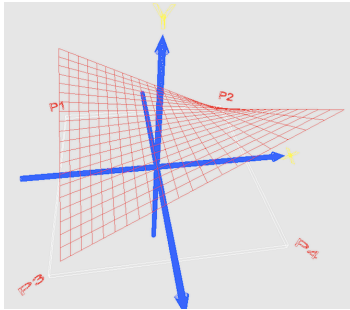


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## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation

$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3$	$P_4$	
$x_1=-1$	$x_2=1$	$x_3=-1$	$x_4=1$	$x(u,v)=x_1+u \cdot (x_2-x_1)+v \cdot (x_3-x_1+u \cdot (x_4-x_3-x_2+x_1))$
$y_1=1$	$y_2=0$	$y_3=0$	$y_4=1.5$	$y(u,v)=y_1+u \cdot (y_2-y_1)+v \cdot (y_3-y_1+u \cdot (y_4-y_3-y_2+y_1))$
$z_1=-1$	$z_2=-1$	$z_3=1$	$z_4=1$	$z(u,v)=z_1+u \cdot (z_2-z_1)+v \cdot (z_3-z_1+u \cdot (z_4-z_3-z_2+z_1))$



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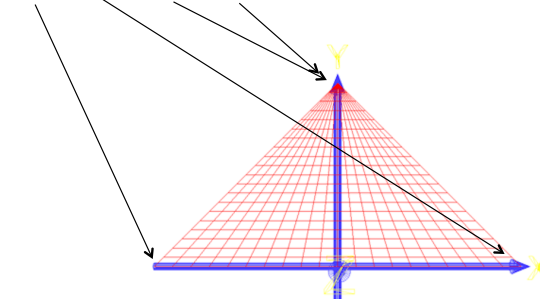
## Bilinear Surface Parametric Representation

$P_1$	$P_2$	$P_3 = P_4$	
$x_1=-1$	$x_2=1$	$x_3=0$	$x_4=0$
$y_1=0$	$y_2=0$	$y_3=1$	$y_4=1$
$z_1=0$	$z_2=0$	$z_3=0$	$z_4=0$

$$x(u,v)=x_1+u \cdot (x_2-x_1)+v \cdot (x_3-x_1+u \cdot (x_4-x_3-x_2+x_1))$$

$$y(u,v)=y_1+u \cdot (y_2-y_1)+v \cdot (y_3-y_1+u \cdot (y_4-y_3-y_2+y_1))$$

$$z(u,v)=z_1+u \cdot (z_2-z_1)+v \cdot (z_3-z_1+u \cdot (z_4-z_3-z_2+z_1))$$



Parametrically defined triangular polygon

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## Summary

- Plane surfaces can be defined by explicit, implicit and parametric functions
- In implicit (linear) equation  $Ax+By+Cz+D=0$ ,  $\mathbf{N}=[A \ B \ C]$  while  $D$  defines displacement from the origin
- To get the plane equation, derive  $\mathbf{N}$  first (e.g., by cross product of two vectors), then substitute any  $x,y,z$  on the plane to derive  $D$ .
- Implicit equation in intercepts can be easily written from  $x/a+y/b+z/c=1$
- Parametric definition of plane is based on linear equations of two parameters
- Bilinear interpolation is an extension of linear interpolation for interpolating functions of two variables (e.g.,  $u, v$ ). It performs linear interpolation first in one direction, and then again in the other direction. Although each step is linear, the interpolation as a whole is not linear but rather quadratic in the sample location
- Bilinear surface defines a 4-sided polygon, including non-planar surfaces.
- Bilinear surface can be used for writing parametric functions of a triangle as well: two of the vertices are simply merged together which will also simplify the defining formulas.

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