

Geometric Shapes: 3D Curves

Module 3
Lecture 3

CZ2003

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We have learnt that

- We think of a 2D curve as a point moving with one degree of freedom (forward and backward)
- 2D curves can be defined analytically by
 - **Implicit functions**
 $f(x,y)=0$ – Slow for rendering
 - **Explicit functions**
 $y=f(x)$ or $x=f(y)$ – Fast but axes dependent
 - **Parametric functions**
One parameter only
 $x=x(t), y=y(t) \quad t=[t_1, t_2]$ – Fast and axes independent
- Curves are usually interpolated by polylines – connected segments

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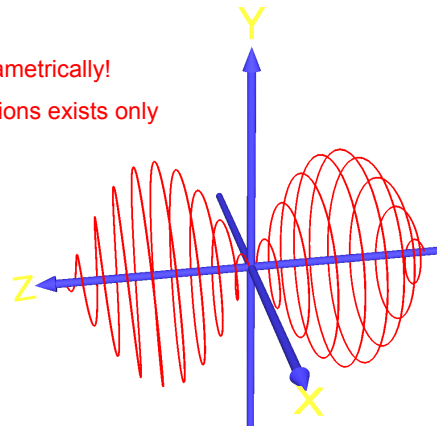
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3D Curves

Can be only defined parametrically!

Explicit and implicit functions exists only for plane curves.

$$\begin{aligned}x &= f_x(\tau) \\y &= f_y(\tau) \\z &= f_z(\tau) \\\tau &= [\tau_1, \tau_2]\end{aligned}$$



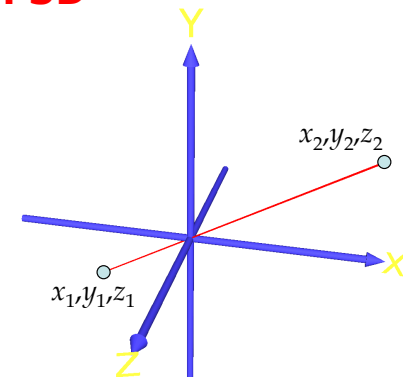
Still one parameter !

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Straight Line in 3D

$$\begin{aligned}x &= x_1 + \tau(x_2 - x_1) \\y &= y_1 + \tau(y_2 - y_1) \\z &= z_1 + \tau(z_2 - z_1) \\\tau &= [0,1] \quad \text{Segment} \\\tau &= [0, \infty) \quad \text{Ray} \\\tau &= (-\infty, \infty) \quad \text{Straight line}\end{aligned}$$

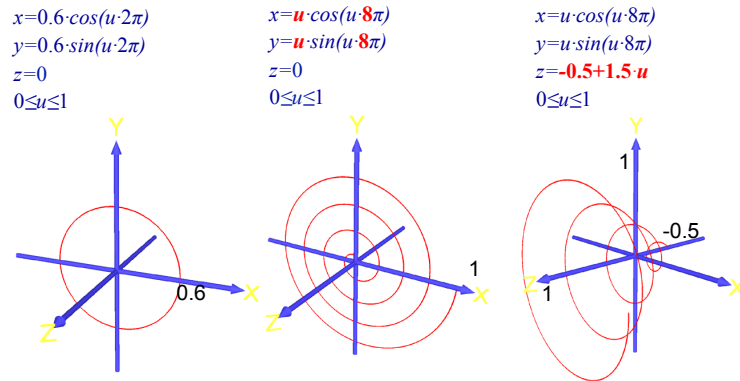


No explicit and implicit representation !

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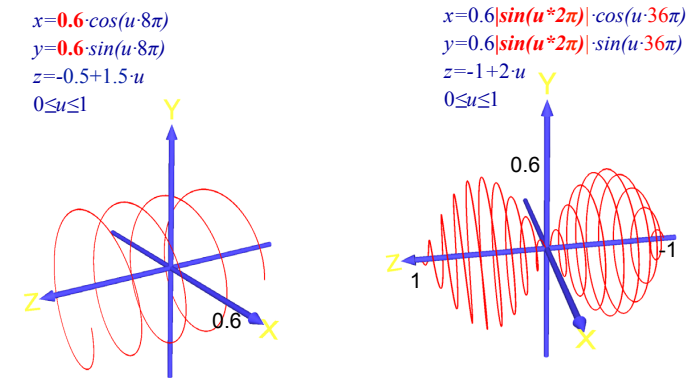
Experimenting with Parametric Curves



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Experimenting with Parametric Curves



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Curves. Summary

- 2D and 3D. A point moving with one degree of freedom (forward and backward)
- Polylines – interpolation by connected straight line segments
- 2D:
 - **Explicit**
 $y=f(x)$ or $x=f(y)$ – axes dependent, no arcs and segments
 - **Implicit**
 $f(x,y)=0$ – no arcs and segments
 - **Parametric**
One parameter only. Any curve, even with self-intersections. The concept of a moving point as a function of the parameter. Curve interpolation.
 $x=x(t), \quad y=y(t) \quad t=[t_1, t_2]$
- 3D:
 - **Parametric**
One parameter only. Any curve, even with self-intersections. The concept of a moving point as a function of the parameter. Curve interpolation.
 $x=x(t), \quad y=y(t), \quad z=z(t) \quad t=[t_1, t_2]$

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