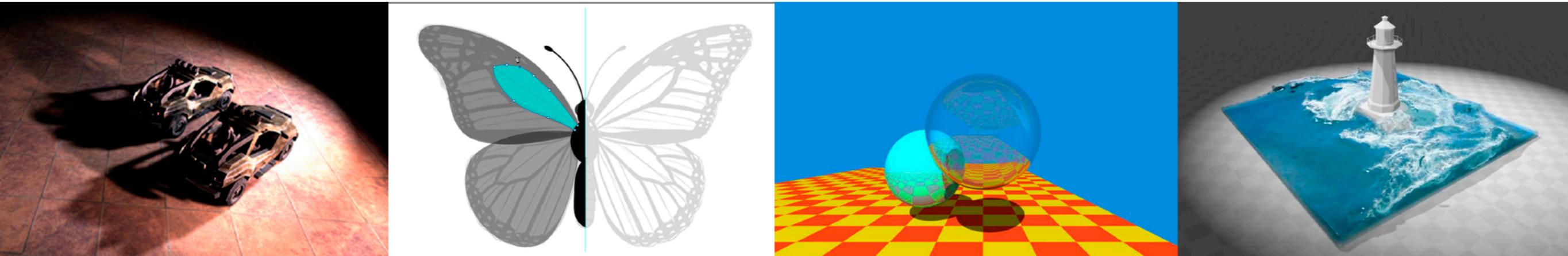


# Introduction to Computer Graphics

GAMES101, Lingqi Yan, UC Santa Barbara

## Lecture 11: Geometry 2 (Curves and Surfaces)



# Announcements

- Homework 3 deadline has been extended
  - To Thursday 23:59PM, Beijing time
- COVID-19 is getting worse in the US
  - Be careful, dude
  - Have to stream at home, network & lighting are worse

# Last Lecture

- Introduction to geometry
  - Examples of geometry
  - Various representations of geometry
    - Implicit
    - Explicit

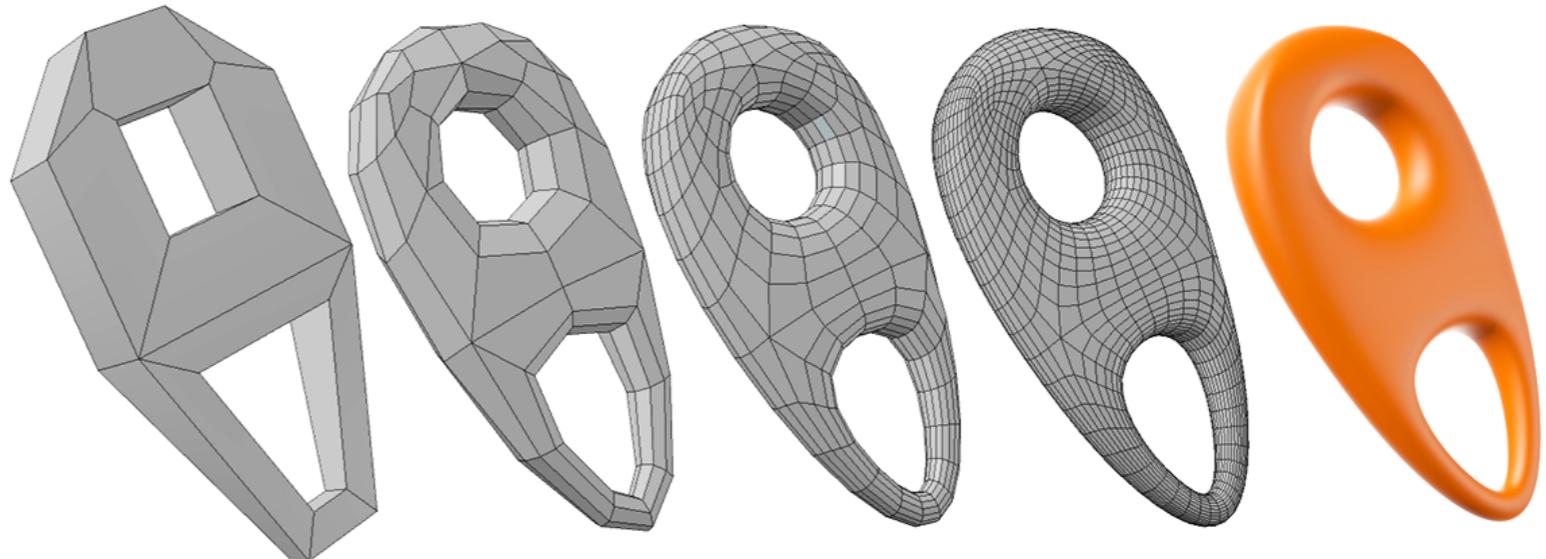
# Today

- Explicit Representations
- Curves
  - Bezier curves
  - De Casteljau's algorithm
  - B-splines, etc.
- Surfaces
  - Bezier surfaces
  - Triangles & quads
    - Subdivision, simplification, regularization

# Explicit Representations in Computer Graphics

# Many Explicit Representations in Graphics

triangle meshes

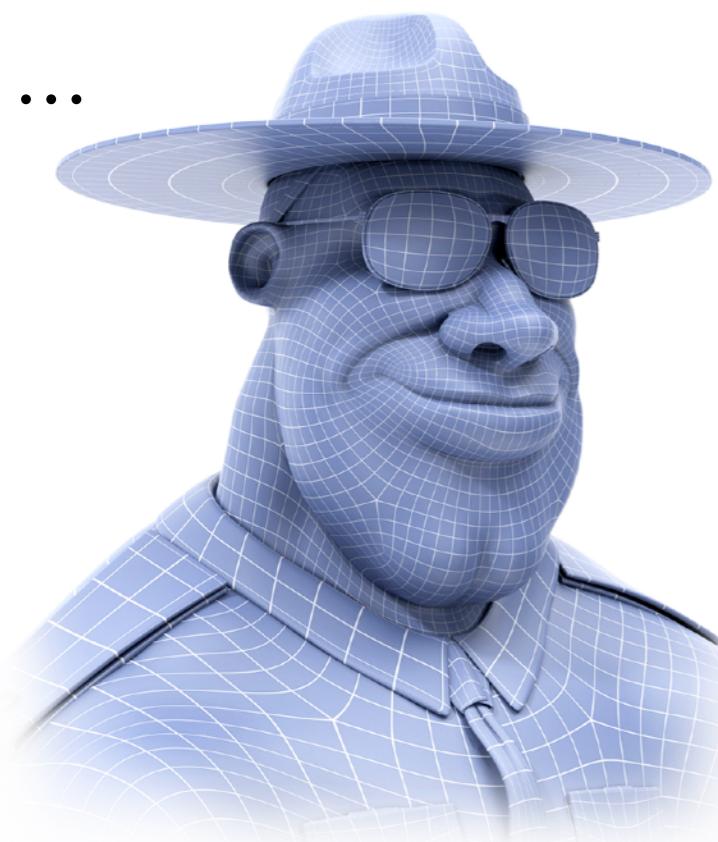


Bezier surfaces

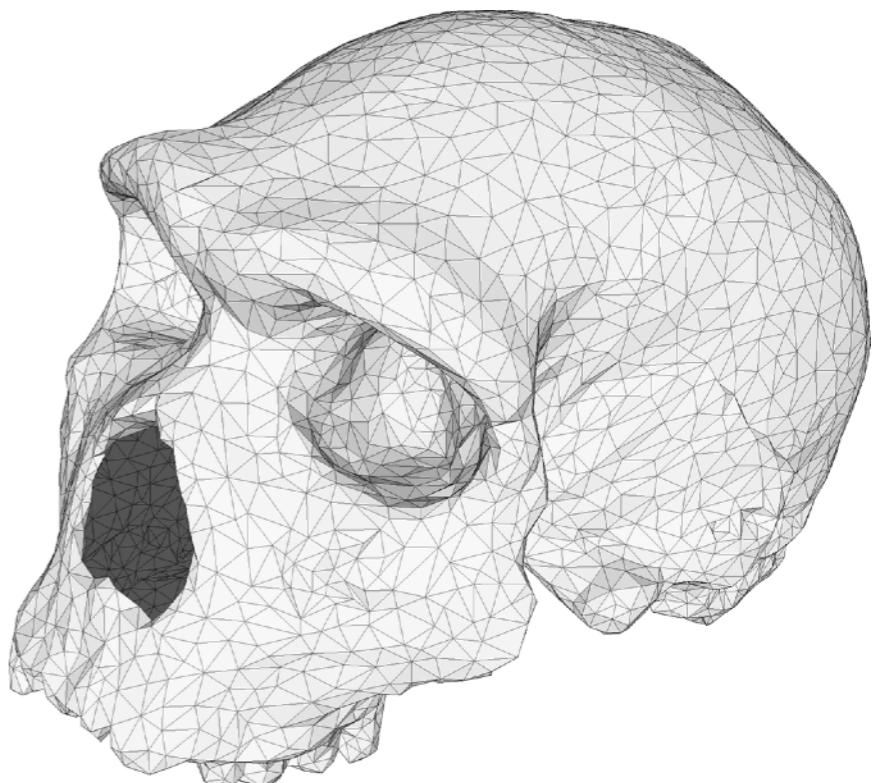
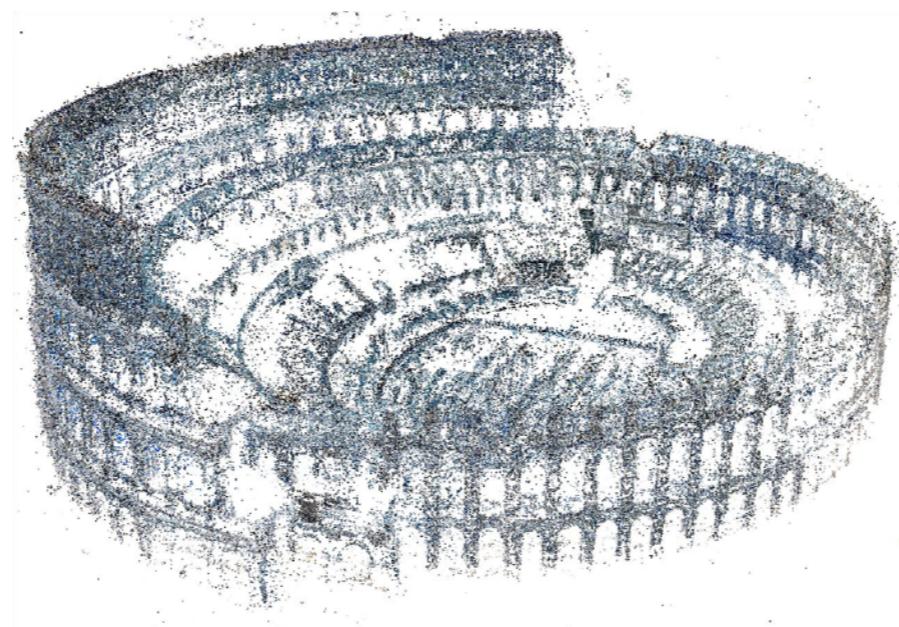
subdivision surfaces

NURBS

point clouds



...



# Point Cloud (Explicit)

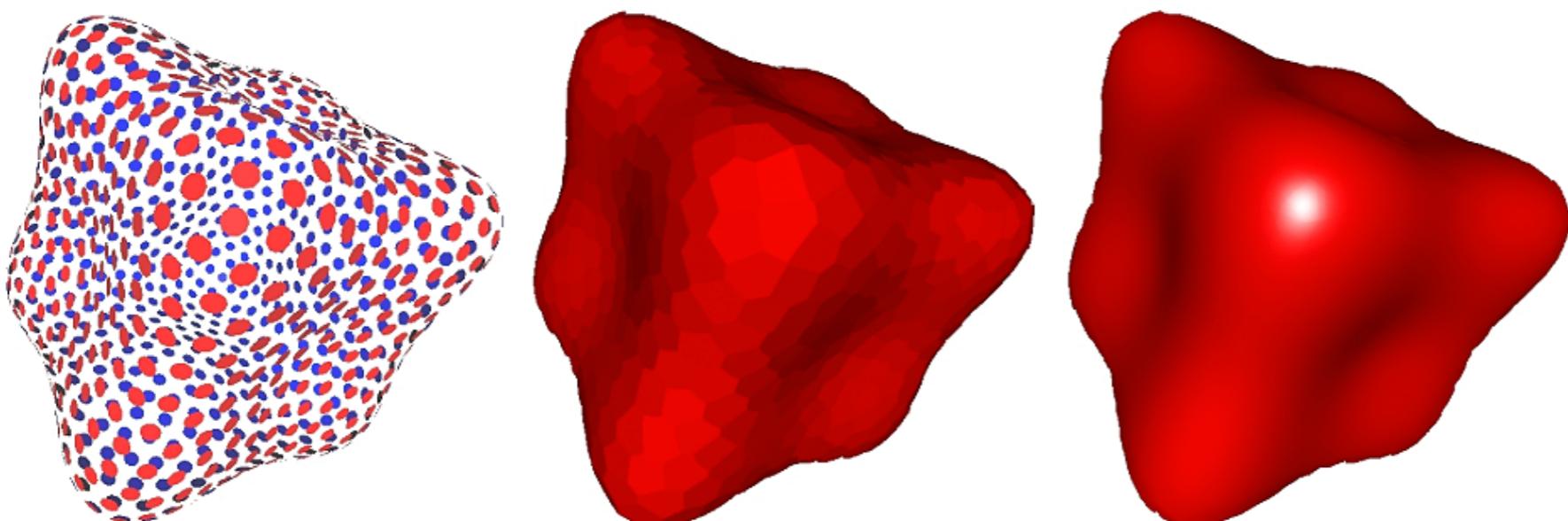
Easiest representation: list of points (x,y,z)

Easily represent any kind of geometry

Useful for LARGE datasets (>>1 point/pixel)

Often converted into polygon mesh

Difficult to draw in undersampled regions



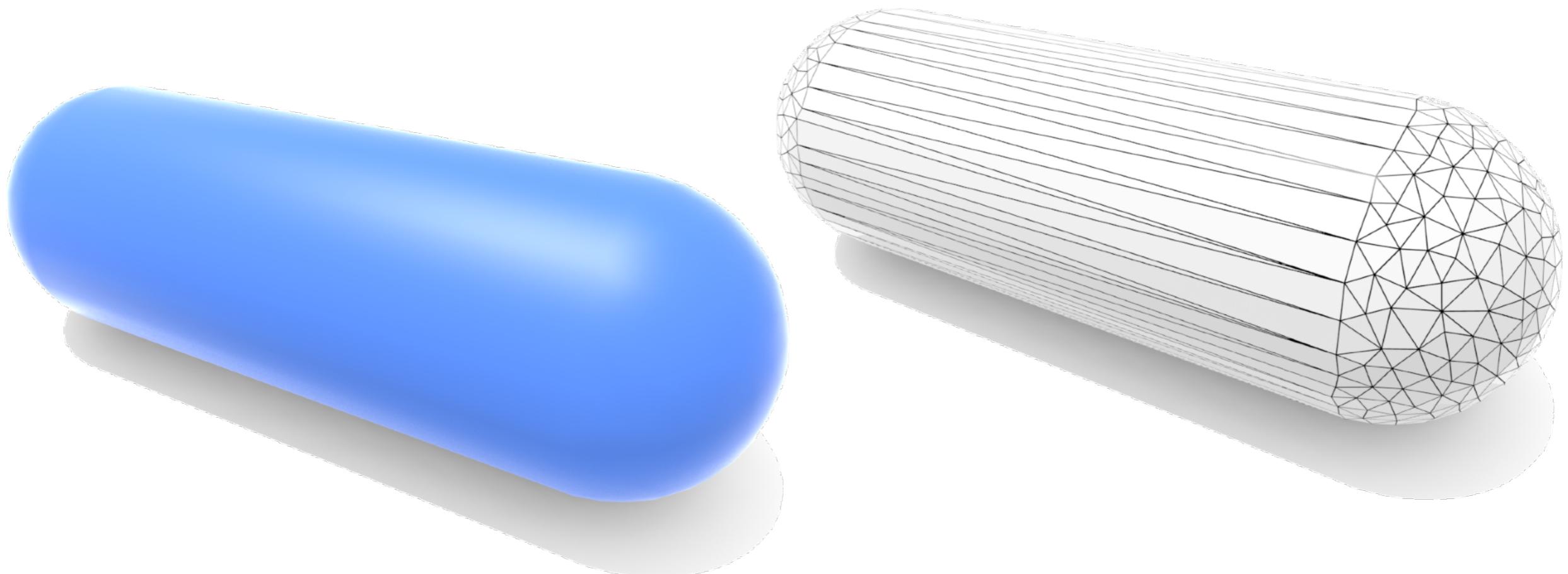
# Polygon Mesh (Explicit)

Store vertices & polygons (often triangles or quads)

Easier to do processing / simulation, adaptive sampling

More complicated data structures

Perhaps most common representation in graphics



# The Wavefront Object File (.obj) Format

Commonly used in Graphics research

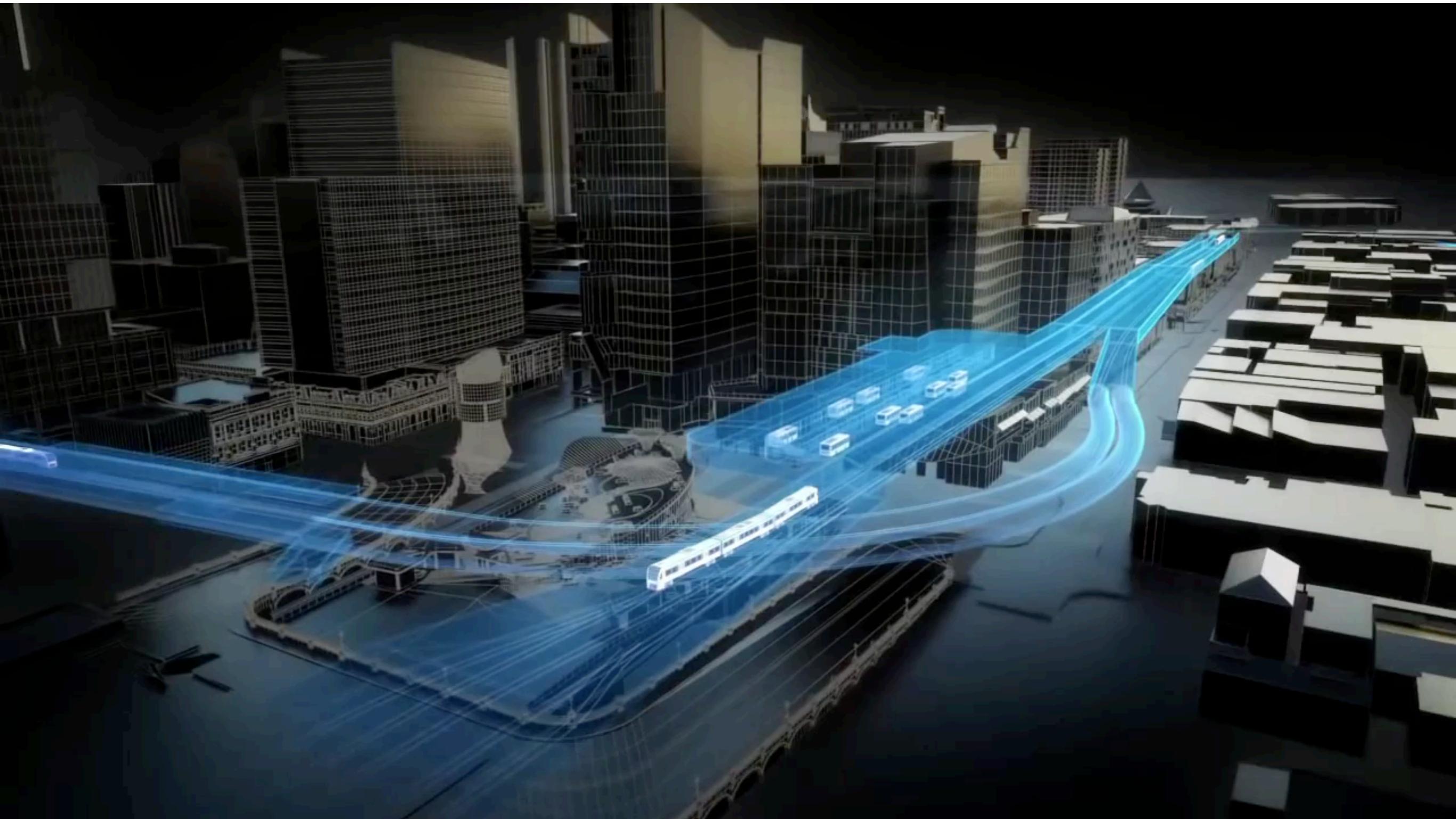
Just a text file that specifies vertices, normals, texture coordinates **and their connectivities**

```
1 # This is a comment
2
3 v 1.000000 -1.000000 -1.000000
4 v 1.000000 -1.000000 1.000000
5 v -1.000000 -1.000000 1.000000
6 v -1.000000 -1.000000 -1.000000
7 v 1.000000 1.000000 -1.000000
8 v 0.999999 1.000000 1.000001
9 v -1.000000 1.000000 1.000000
10 v -1.000000 1.000000 -1.000000
11
12 vt 0.748573 0.750412
13 vt 0.749279 0.501284
14 vt 0.999110 0.501077
15 vt 0.999455 0.750380
16 vt 0.250471 0.500702
17 vt 0.249682 0.749677
18 vt 0.001085 0.750380
19 vt 0.001517 0.499994
20 vt 0.499422 0.500239
21 vt 0.500149 0.750166
22 vt 0.748355 0.998230
23 vt 0.500193 0.998728
24 vt 0.498993 0.250415
25 vt 0.748953 0.250920
26
```

```
vn 0.000000 0.000000 -1.000000
vn -1.000000 -0.000000 -0.000000
vn -0.000000 -0.000000 1.000000
vn -0.000001 0.000000 1.000000
vn 1.000000 -0.000000 0.000000
vn 1.000000 0.000000 0.000001
vn 0.000000 1.000000 -0.000000
vn -0.000000 -1.000000 0.000000
f 5/1/1 1/2/1 4/3/1
f 5/1/1 4/3/1 8/4/1
f 3/5/2 7/6/2 8/7/2
f 3/5/2 8/7/2 4/8/2
f 2/9/3 6/10/3 3/5/3
f 6/10/4 7/6/4 3/5/4
f 1/2/5 5/1/5 2/9/5
f 5/1/6 6/10/6 2/9/6
f 5/1/7 8/11/7 6/10/7
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f 1/2/8 2/9/8 3/13/8
f 1/2/8 3/13/8 4/14/8
```

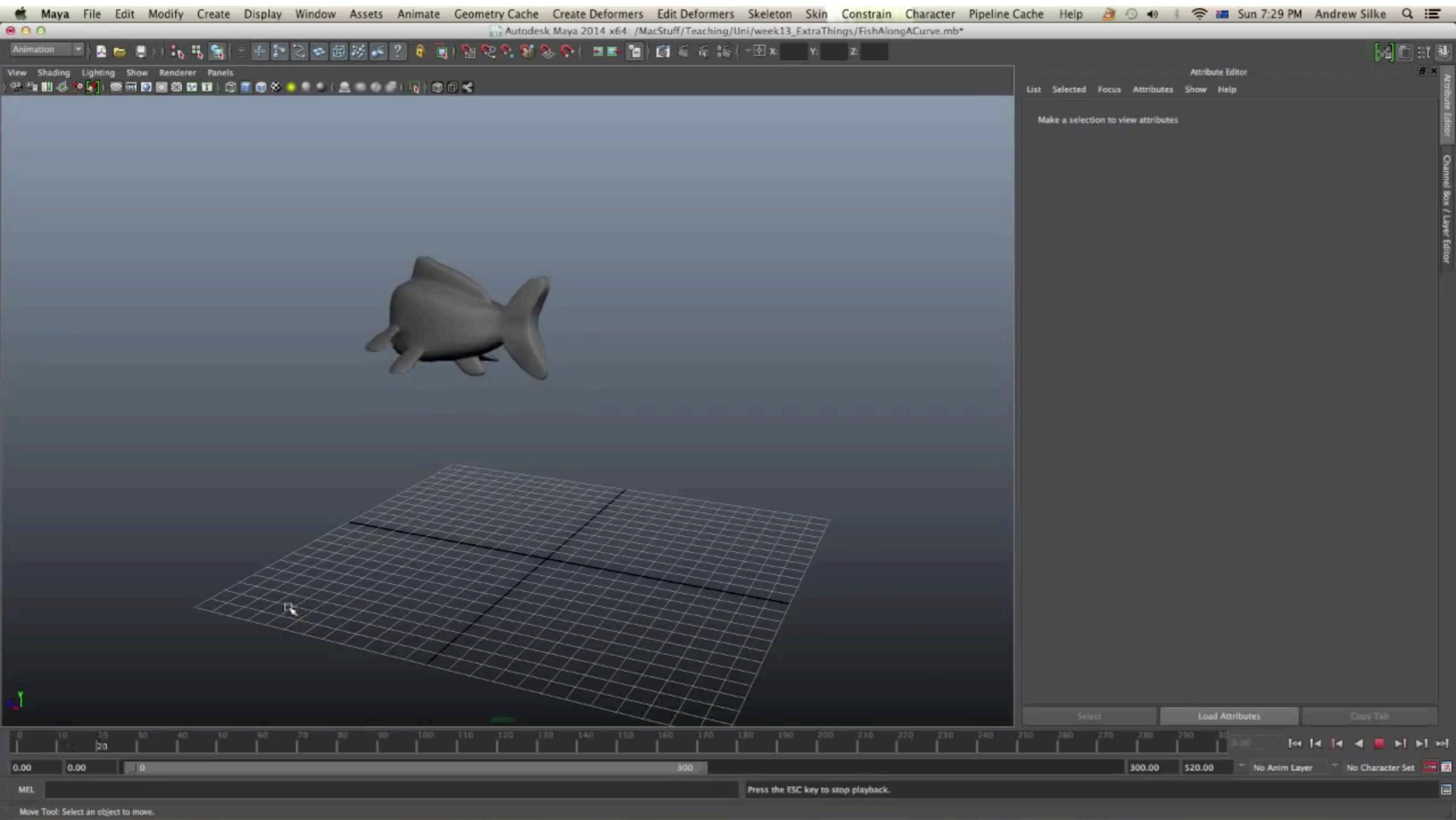
# Curves

# Camera Paths



Flythrough of proposed Perth Citylink subway, <https://youtu.be/rIJMuQPwr3E>

# Animation Curves

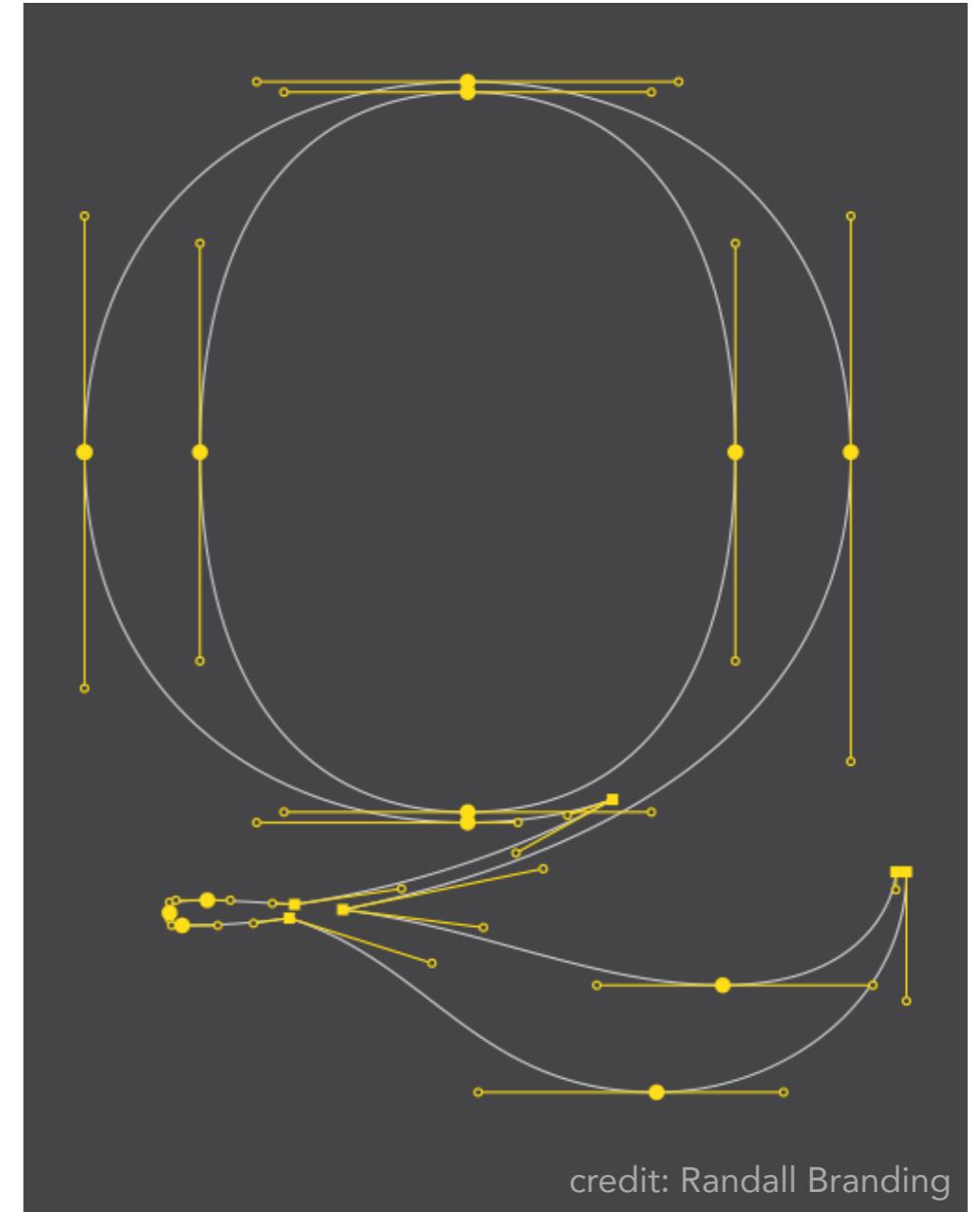


Maya Animation Tutorial: <https://youtu.be/b-o5wtZIJPc>

# Vector Fonts

The Quick Brown  
Fox Jumps Over  
The Lazy Dog

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ  
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 0123456789

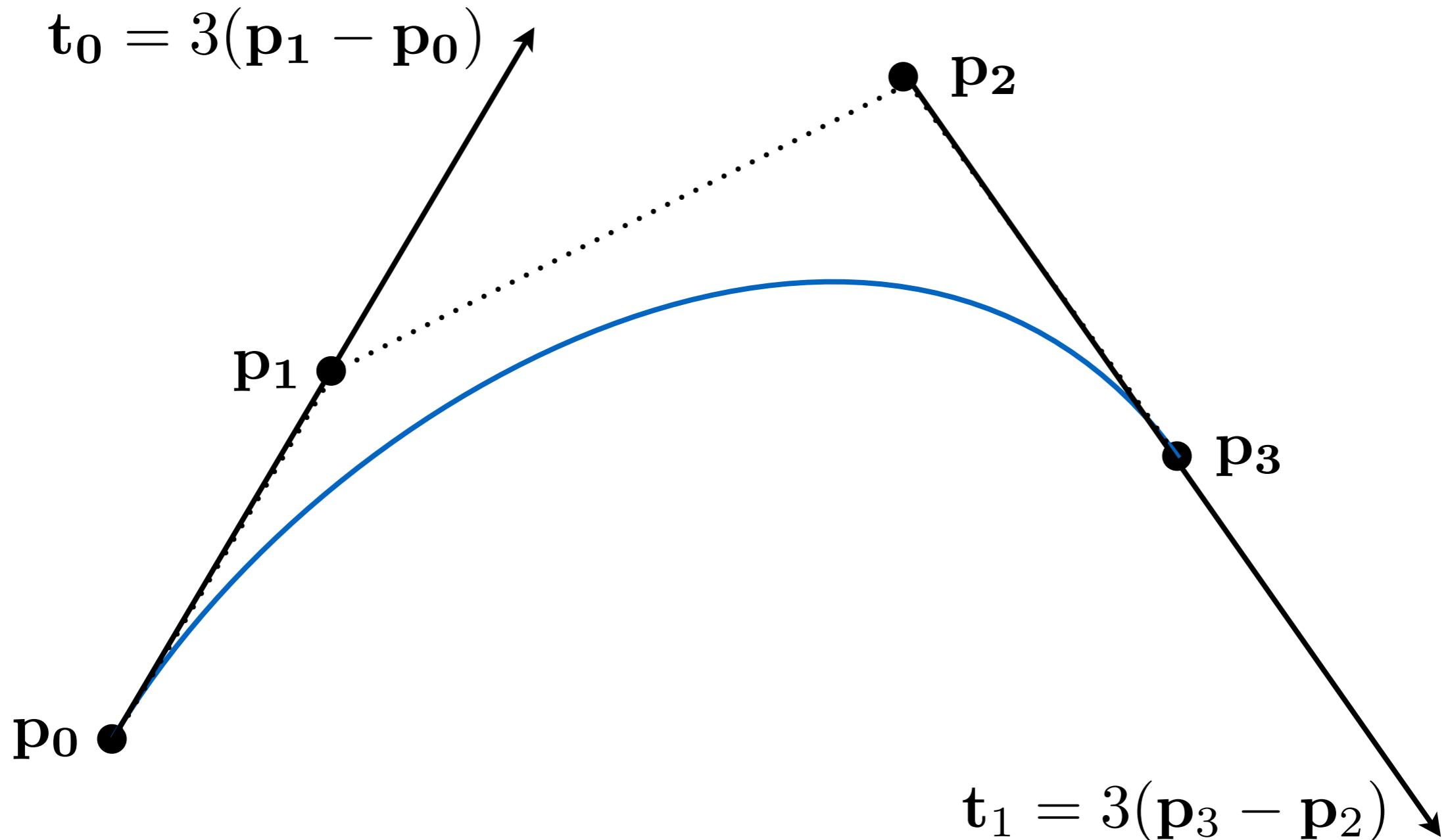


Baskerville font - represented as piecewise cubic Bézier curves

# Bézier Curves

(贝塞尔曲线)

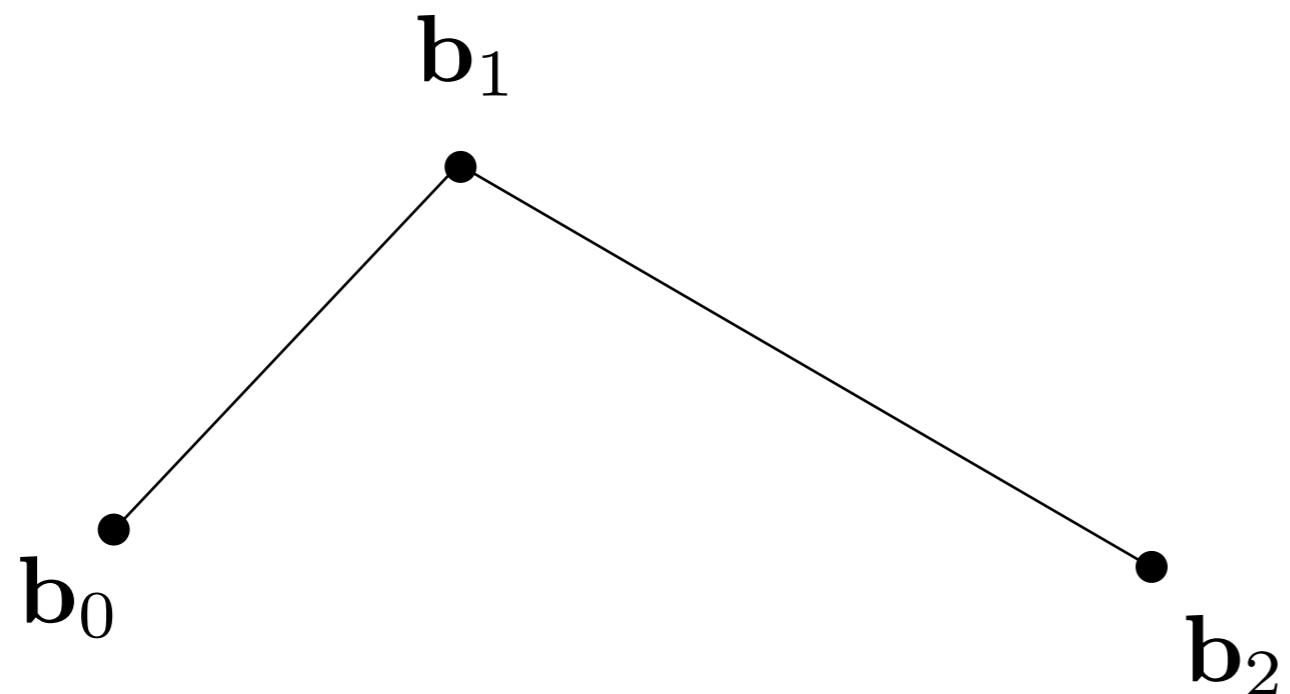
# Defining Cubic Bézier Curve With Tangents



# Evaluating Bézier Curves (de Casteljau Algorithm)

# Bézier Curves – de Casteljau Algorithm

Consider **three** points (**quadratic** Bezier)



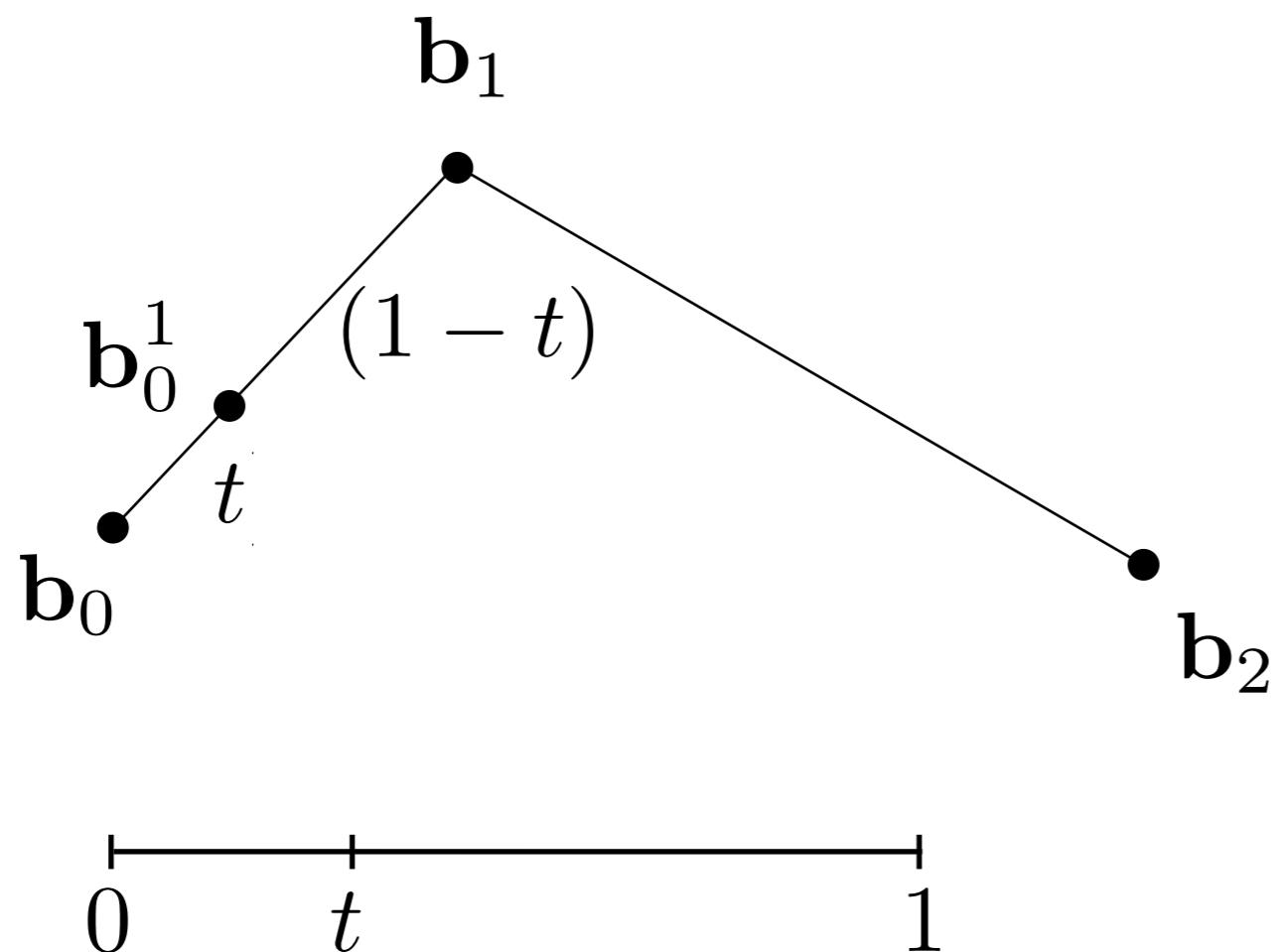
Pierre Bézier  
1910 – 1999



Paul de Casteljau  
b. 1930

# Bézier Curves – de Casteljau Algorithm

Insert a point using linear interpolation



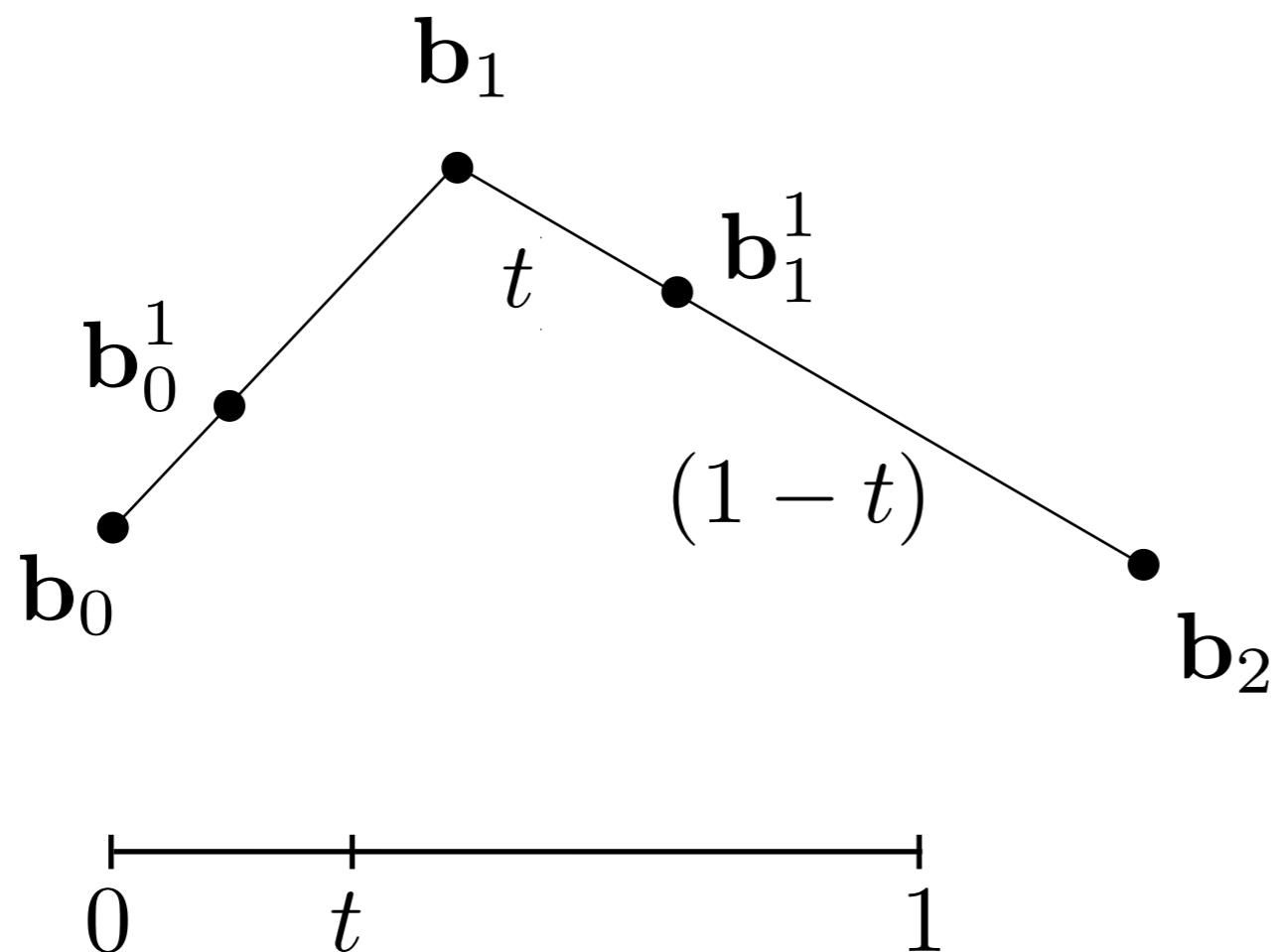
Pierre Bézier  
1910 – 1999



Paul de Casteljau  
b. 1930

# Bézier Curves – de Casteljau Algorithm

Insert on both edges



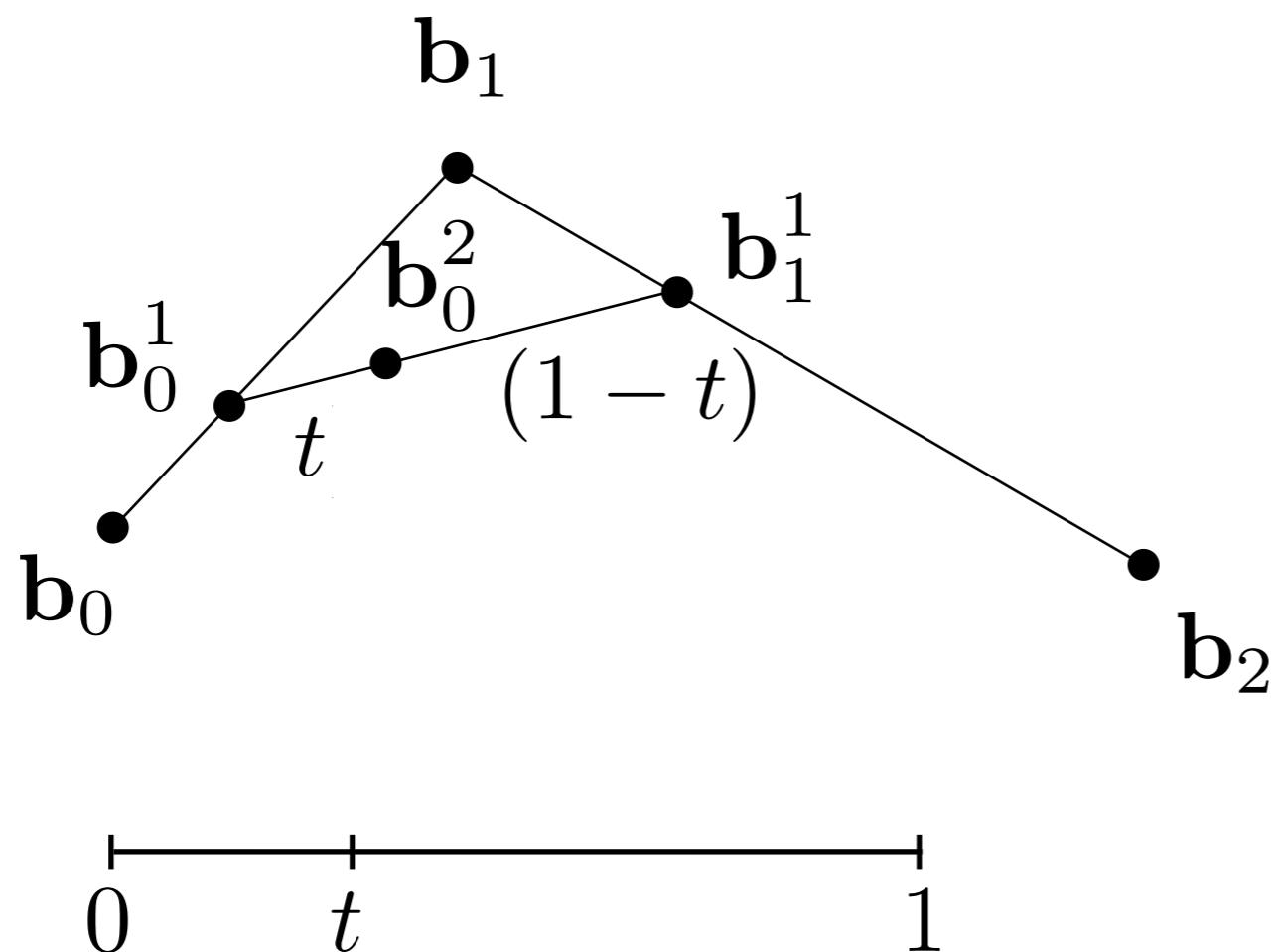
Pierre Bézier  
1910 – 1999



Paul de Casteljau  
b. 1930

# Bézier Curves – de Casteljau Algorithm

Repeat recursively



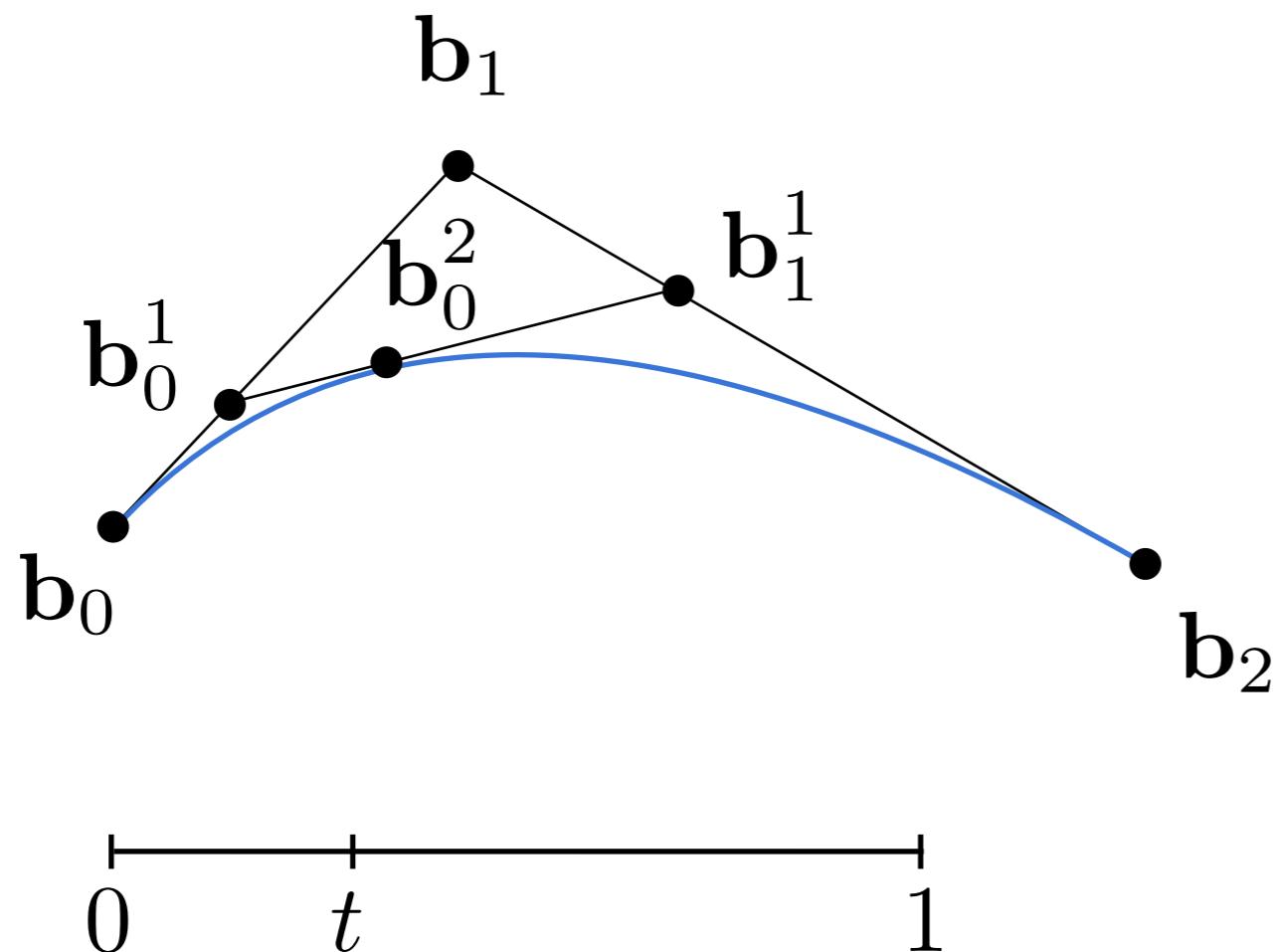
Pierre Bézier  
1910 – 1999



Paul de Casteljau  
b. 1930

# Bézier Curves – de Casteljau Algorithm

Run the same algorithm for every  $t$  in  $[0,1]$



Pierre Bézier  
1910 – 1999

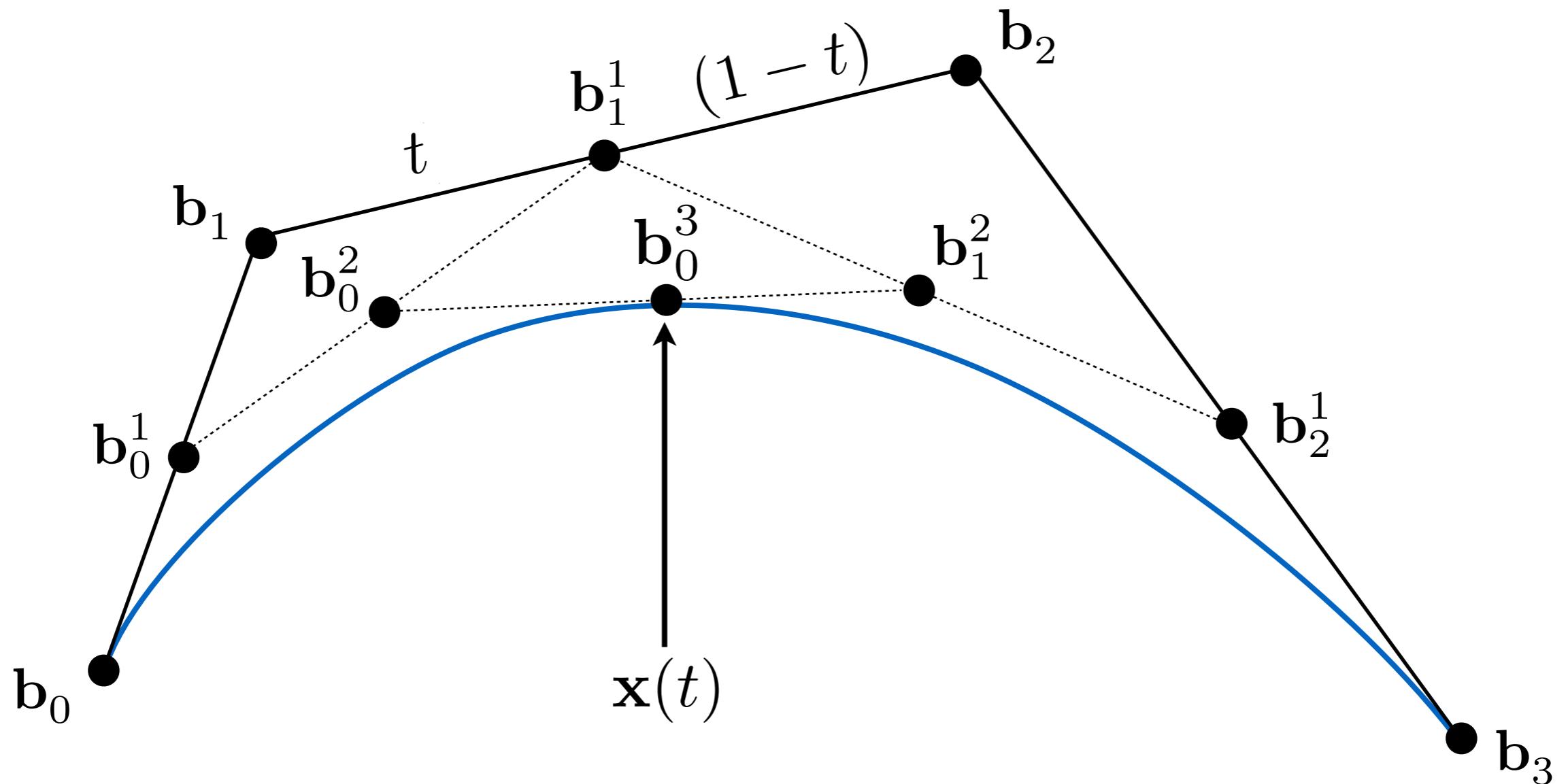


Paul de Casteljau  
b. 1930

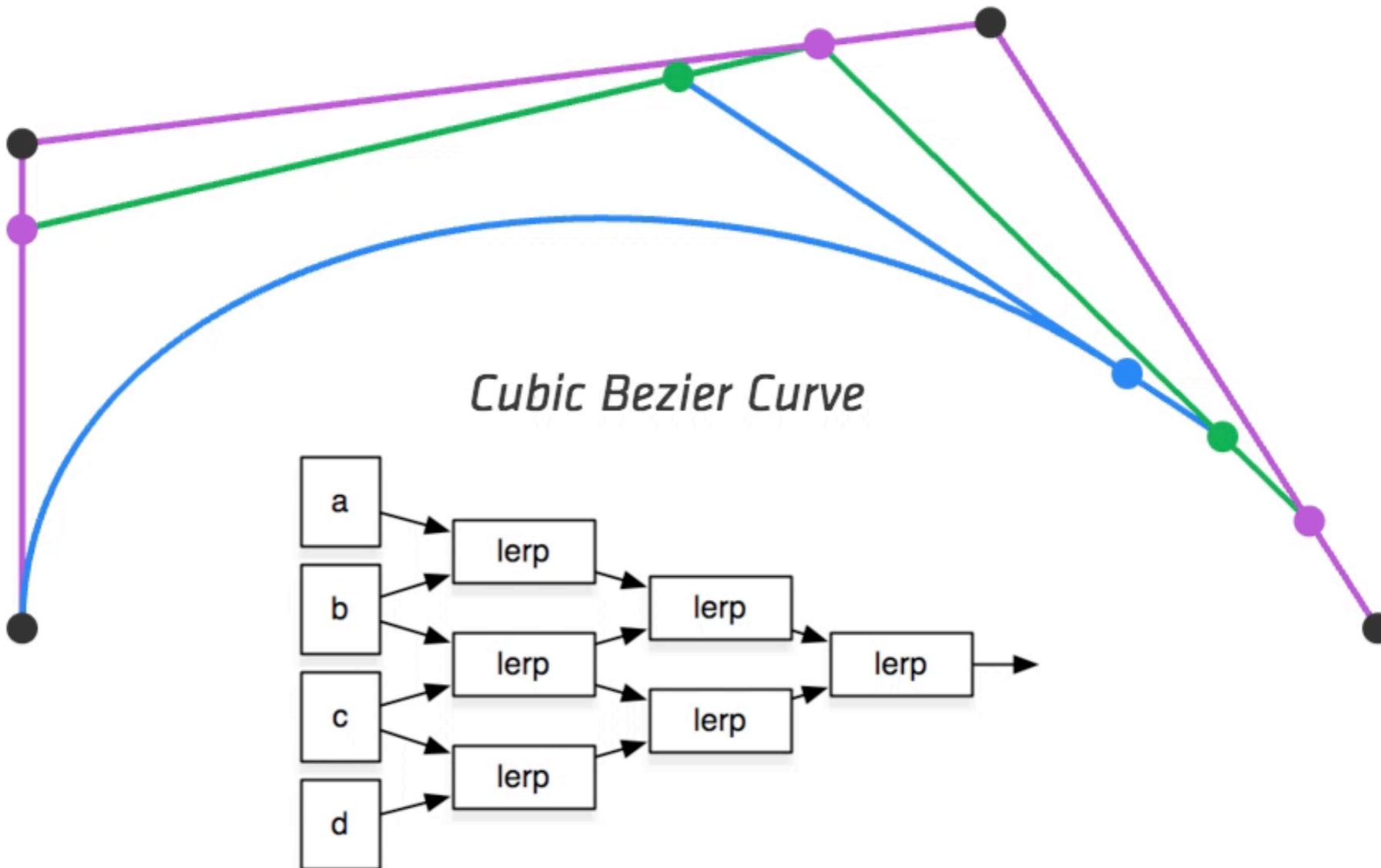
# Cubic Bézier Curve – de Casteljau

**Four input points in total**

Same recursive linear interpolations



# Visualizing de Casteljau Algorithm



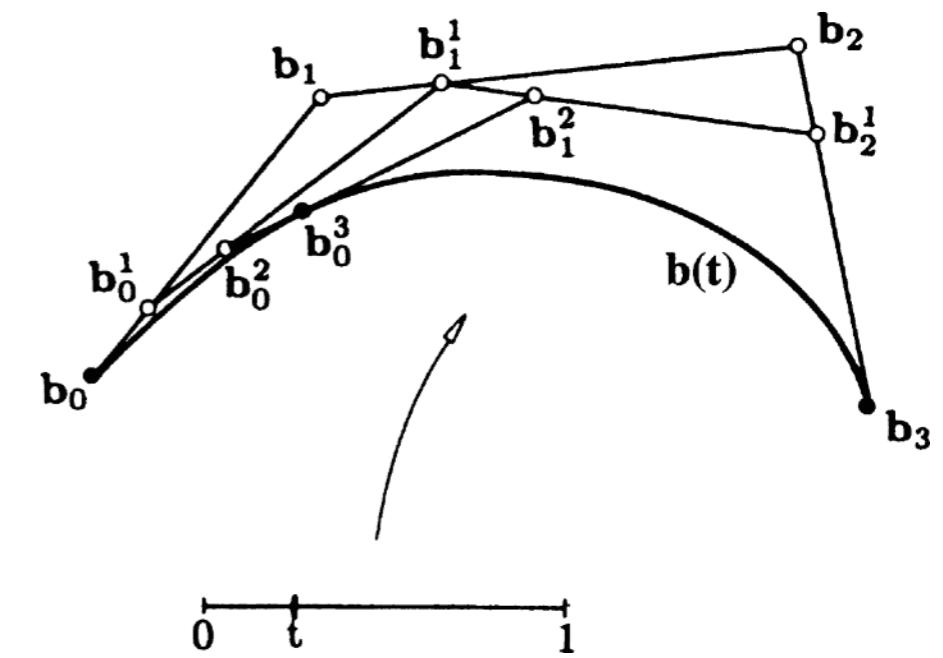
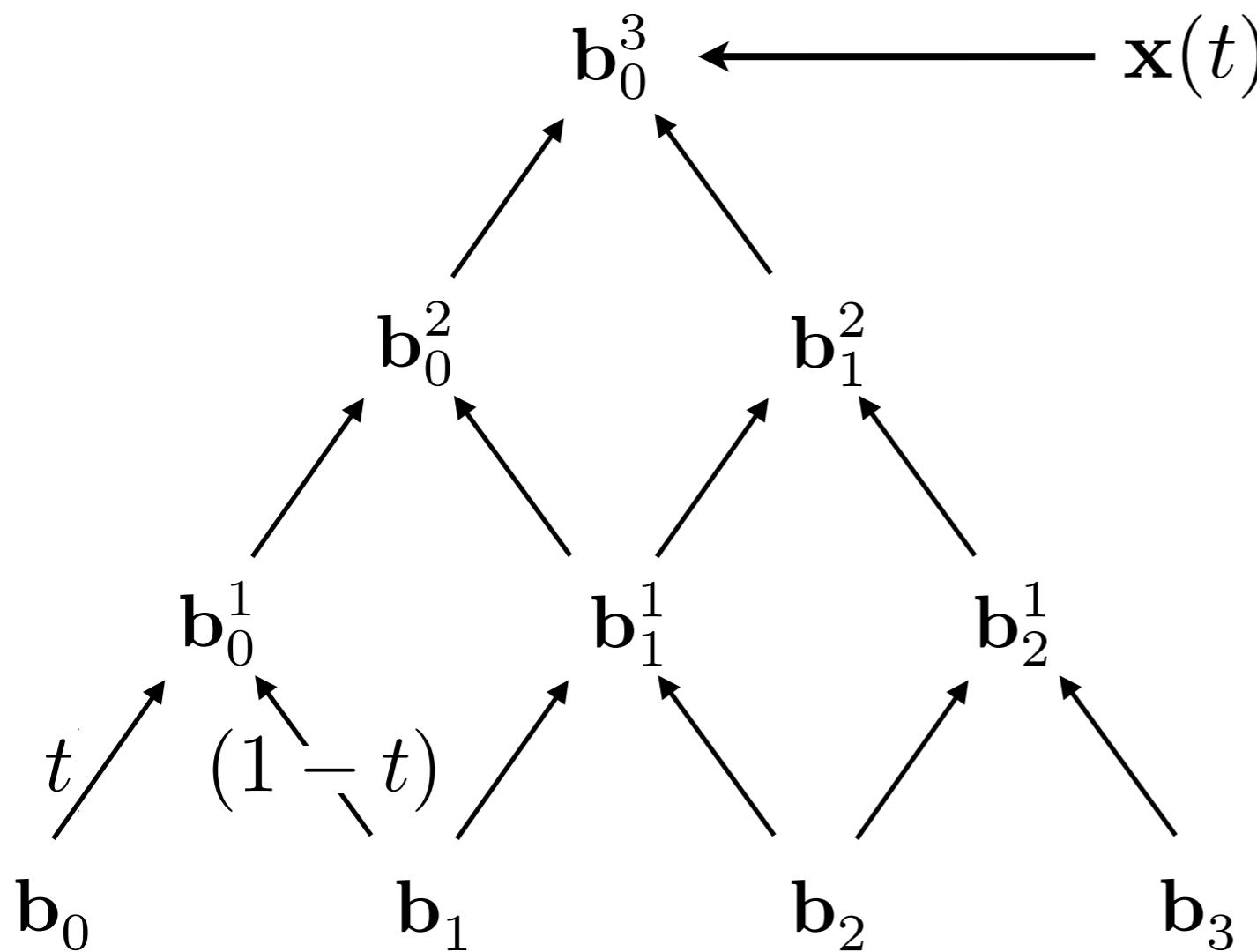
Animation: Steven Wittens, Making Things with Maths, <http://acko.net>

# Evaluating Bézier Curves

## Algebraic Formula

# Bézier Curve – Algebraic Formula

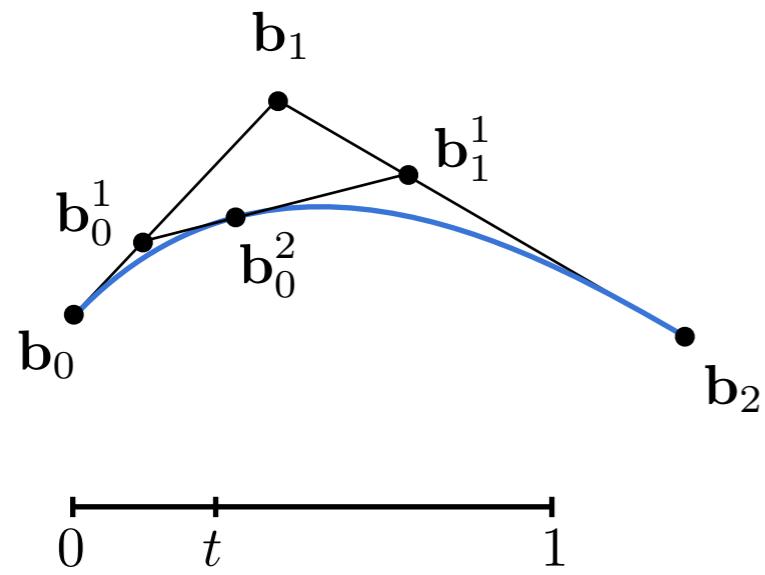
de Casteljau algorithm gives a pyramid of coefficients



Every rightward arrow is multiplication by  $t$ ,  
Every leftward arrow by  $(1-t)$

# Bézier Curve – Algebraic Formula

Example: quadratic Bézier curve from three points



$$\mathbf{b}_0^1(t) = (1 - t)\mathbf{b}_0 + t\mathbf{b}_1$$

$$\mathbf{b}_1^1(t) = (1 - t)\mathbf{b}_1 + t\mathbf{b}_2$$

$$\mathbf{b}_0^2(t) = (1 - t)^2\mathbf{b}_0 + 2t(1 - t)\mathbf{b}_1 + t^2\mathbf{b}_2$$

# Bézier Curve – General Algebraic Formula

# Bernstein form of a Bézier curve of order n:

$$\mathbf{b}^n(t) = \mathbf{b}_0^n(t) = \sum_{j=0}^n \mathbf{b}_j B_j^n(t)$$

↑  
Bézier curve order n  
(vector polynomial of degree n)  
  
↑  
Bernstein polynomial  
(scalar polynomial of degree n)  
  
Bézier control points  
(vector in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ )

# Bernstein polynomials:

$$B_i^n(t) = \binom{n}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n-i}$$

# Bézier Curve – Algebraic Formula: Example

Bernstein form of a Bézier curve of order n:

$$\mathbf{b}^n(t) = \sum_{j=0}^n \mathbf{b}_j B_j^n(t)$$

Example: assume  $n = 3$  and we are in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

i.e. we could have control points in 3D such as:

$$\mathbf{b}_0 = (0, 2, 3), \mathbf{b}_1 = (2, 3, 5), \mathbf{b}_2 = (6, 7, 9), \mathbf{b}_3 = (3, 4, 5)$$

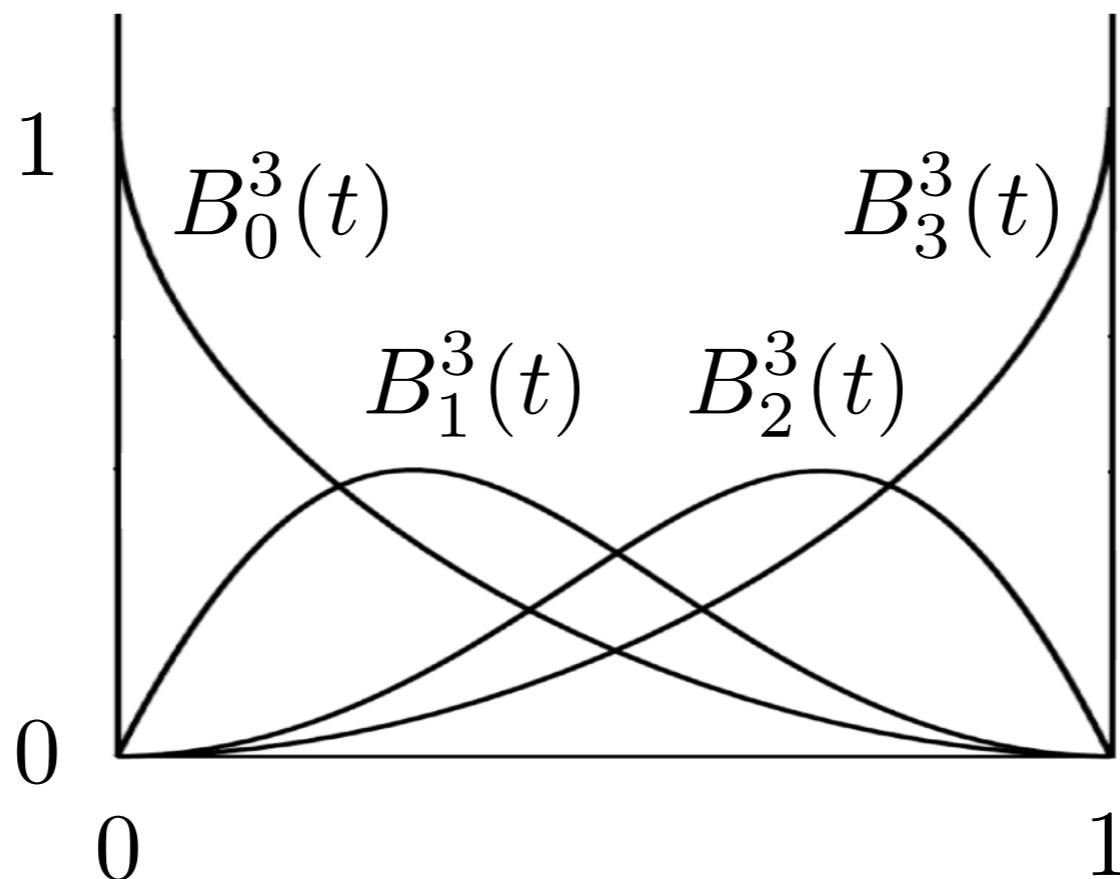
These points define a Bezier curve in 3D that is a cubic polynomial in t:

$$\mathbf{b}^n(t) = \mathbf{b}_0 (1 - t)^3 + \mathbf{b}_1 3t(1 - t)^2 + \mathbf{b}_2 3t^2(1 - t) + \mathbf{b}_3 t^3$$

# Cubic Bézier Basis Functions

Bernstein Polynomials

$$B_i^n(t) = \binom{n}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n-i}$$



Sergei N. Bernstein  
1880 – 1968

# Properties of Bézier Curves

Interpolates endpoints

- For cubic Bézier:  $\mathbf{b}(0) = \mathbf{b}_0$ ;  $\mathbf{b}(1) = \mathbf{b}_3$

Tangent to end segments

- Cubic case:  $\mathbf{b}'(0) = 3(\mathbf{b}_1 - \mathbf{b}_0)$ ;  $\mathbf{b}'(1) = 3(\mathbf{b}_3 - \mathbf{b}_2)$

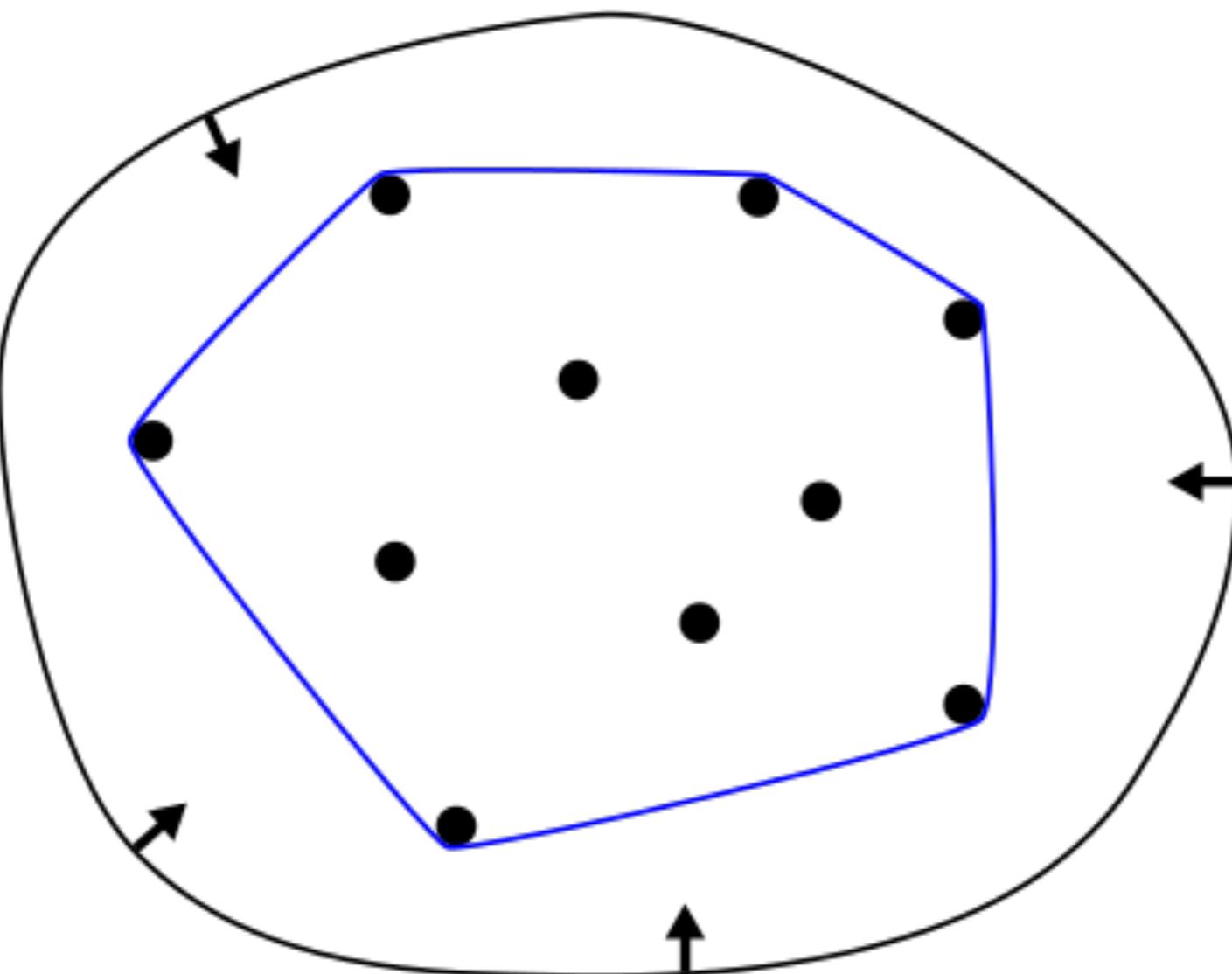
Affine transformation property

- Transform curve by transforming control points

Convex hull property

- Curve is within convex hull of control points

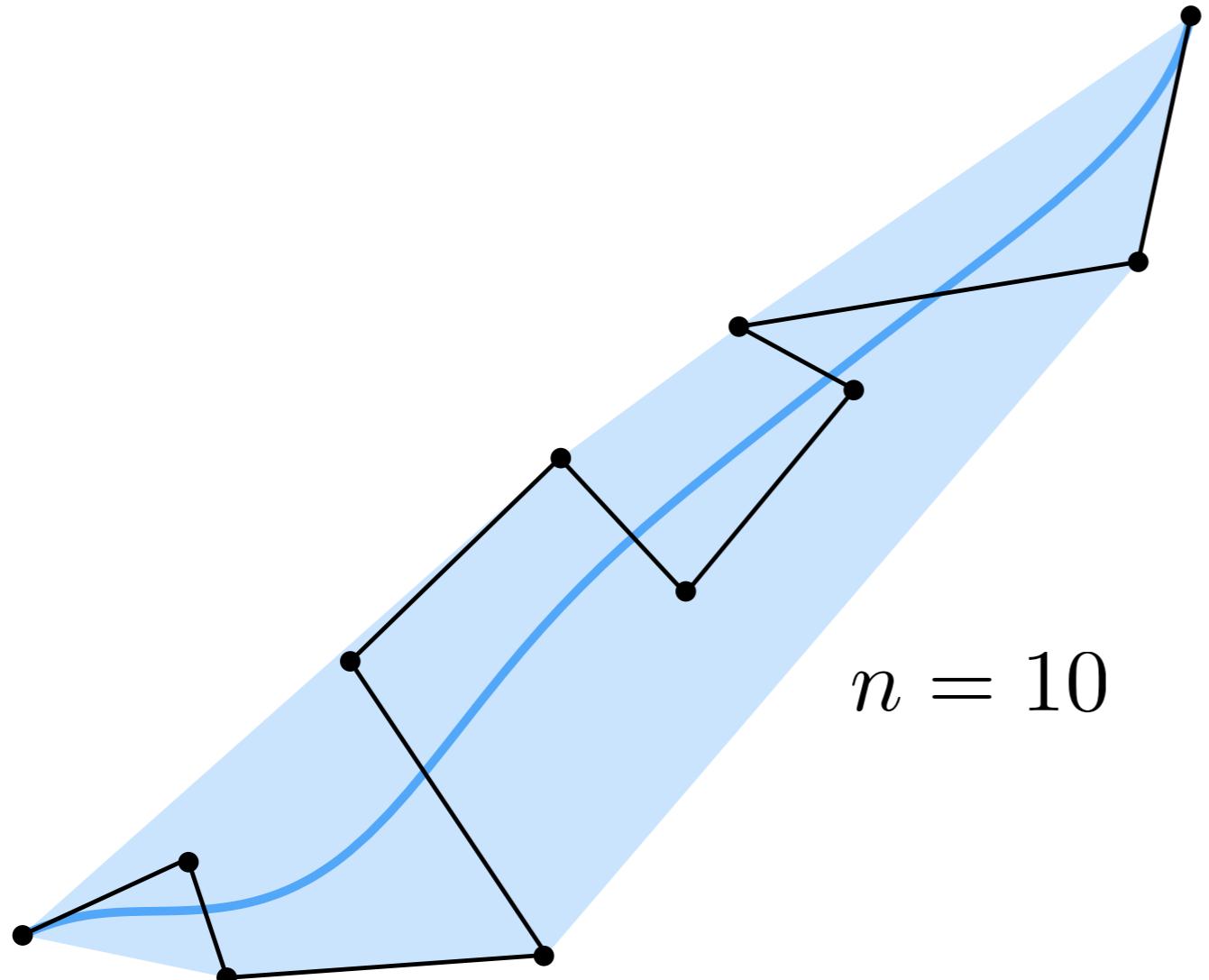
# BTW: What's a Convex Hull



[from Wikipedia]

# Piecewise Bézier Curves

# Higher-Order Bézier Curves?

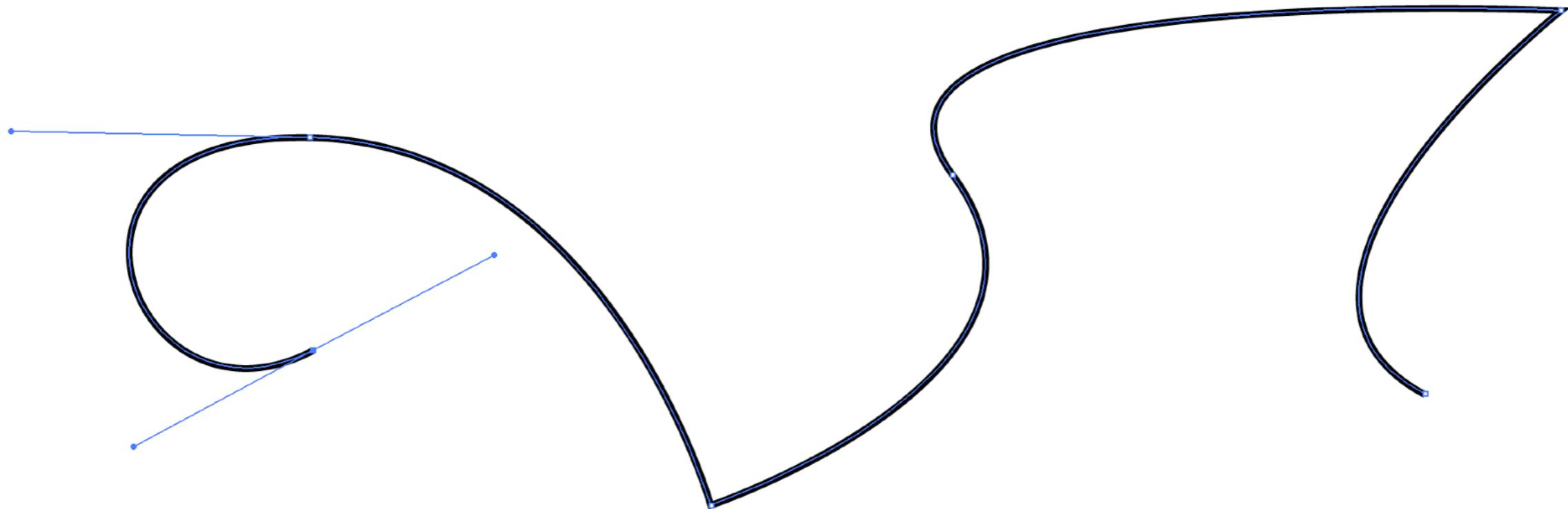


Very hard to control!  
Uncommon

# Piecewise Bézier Curves

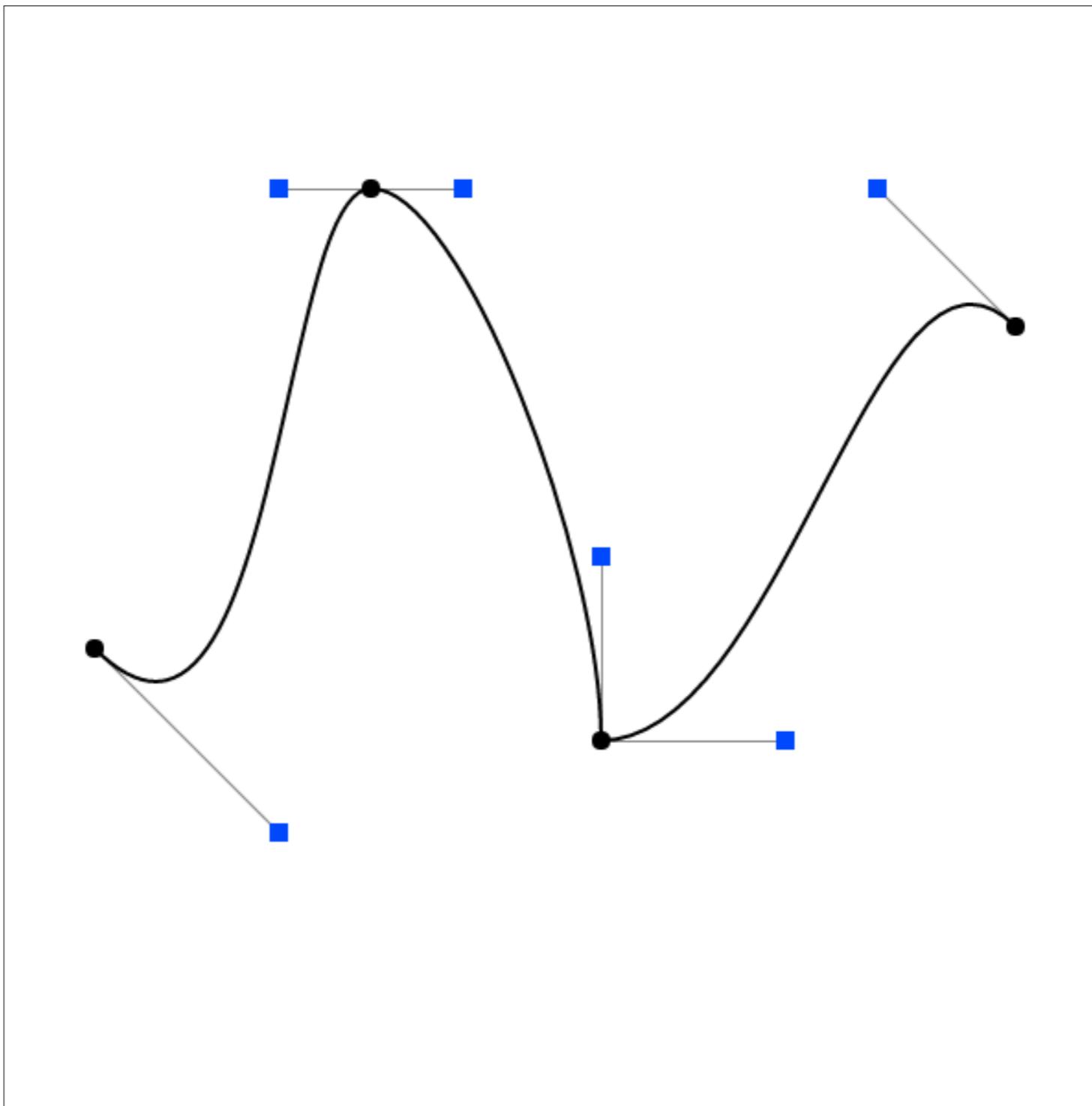
Instead, chain many low-order Bézier curve

**Piecewise cubic Bézier** the most common technique



Widely used (fonts, paths, Illustrator, Keynote, ...)

# Demo – Piecewise Cubic Bézier Curve



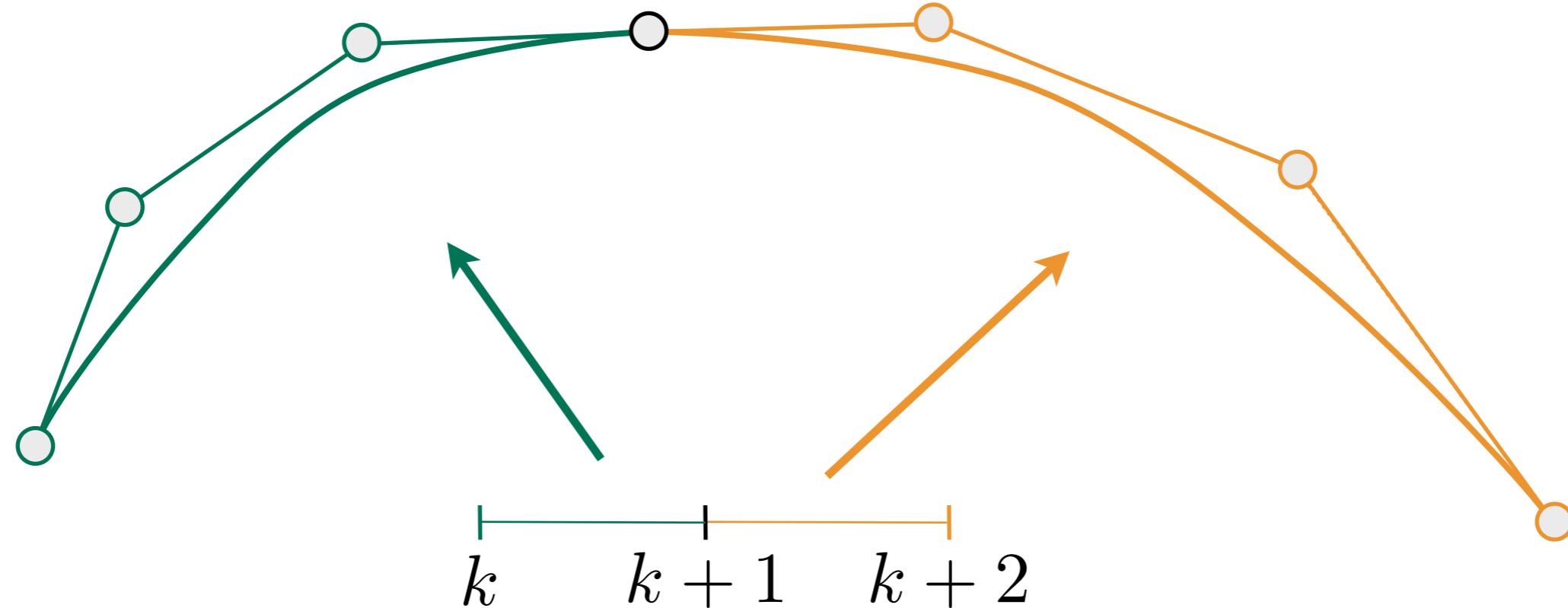
# Piecewise Bézier Curve – Continuity

Two Bézier curves

$$\mathbf{a} : [k, k + 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$$

$$\mathbf{b} : [k + 1, k + 2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$$

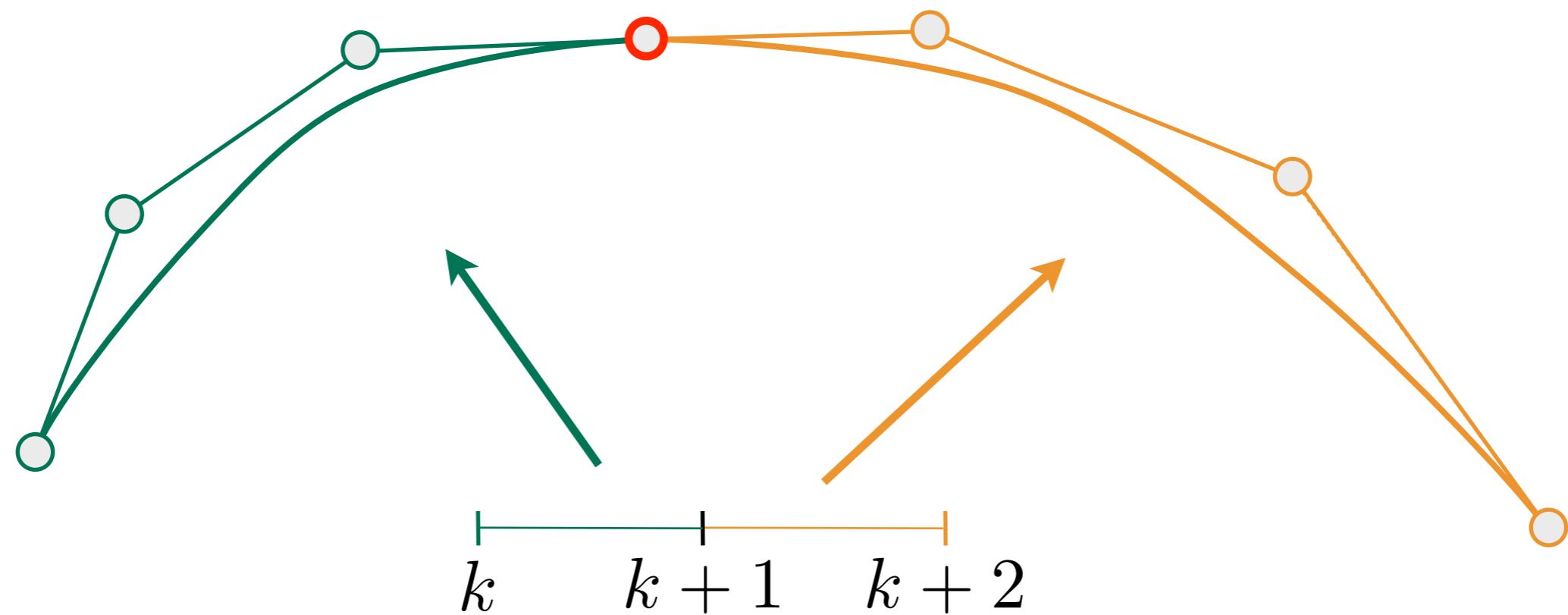
Assuming integer partitions here,  
can generalize



# Piecewise Bézier Curve – Continuity

$C^0$  continuity:

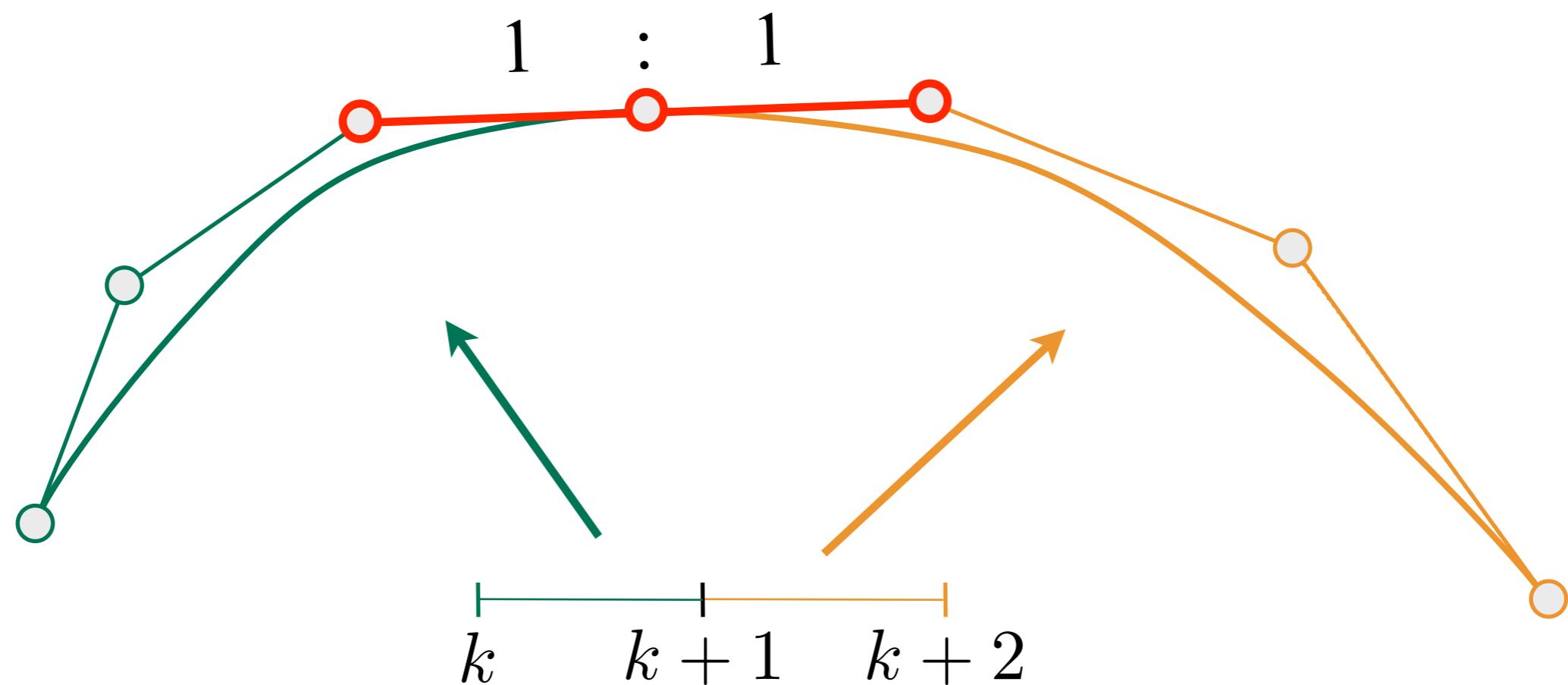
$$\mathbf{a}_n = \mathbf{b}_0$$



# Piecewise Bézier Curve – Continuity

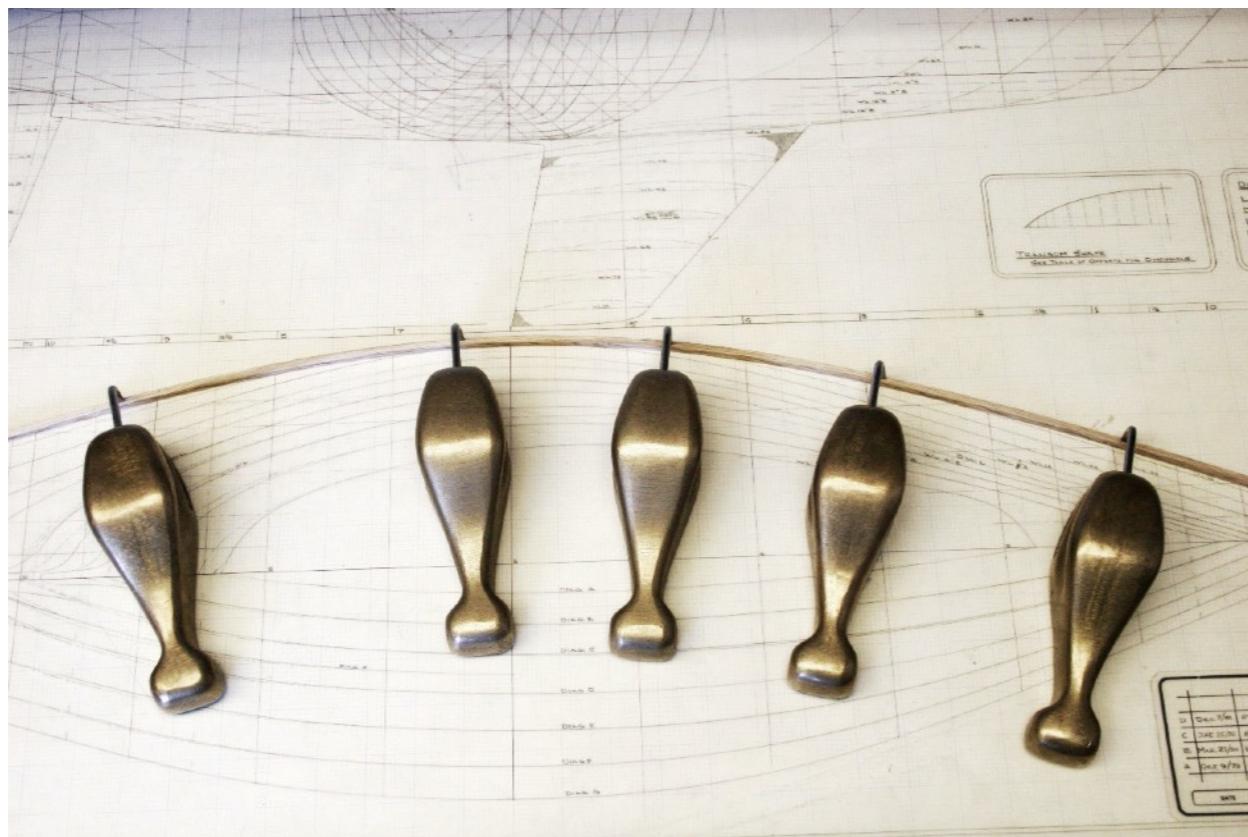
$C^1$  continuity:

$$\mathbf{a}_n = \mathbf{b}_0 = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{a}_{n-1} + \mathbf{b}_1)$$



# Other types of splines

- Spline
  - a continuous curve constructed so as to pass through a given set of points and have a certain number of continuous derivatives.
  - In short, a curve under control



A Real Draftsman's Spline  
<http://www.alatown.com/spline-history-architecture/>

# Other types of splines

- B-splines
  - Short for basis splines
  - Require more information than Bezier curves
  - Satisfy all important properties that Bézier curves have (i.e. superset)

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B-spline>

# Important Note

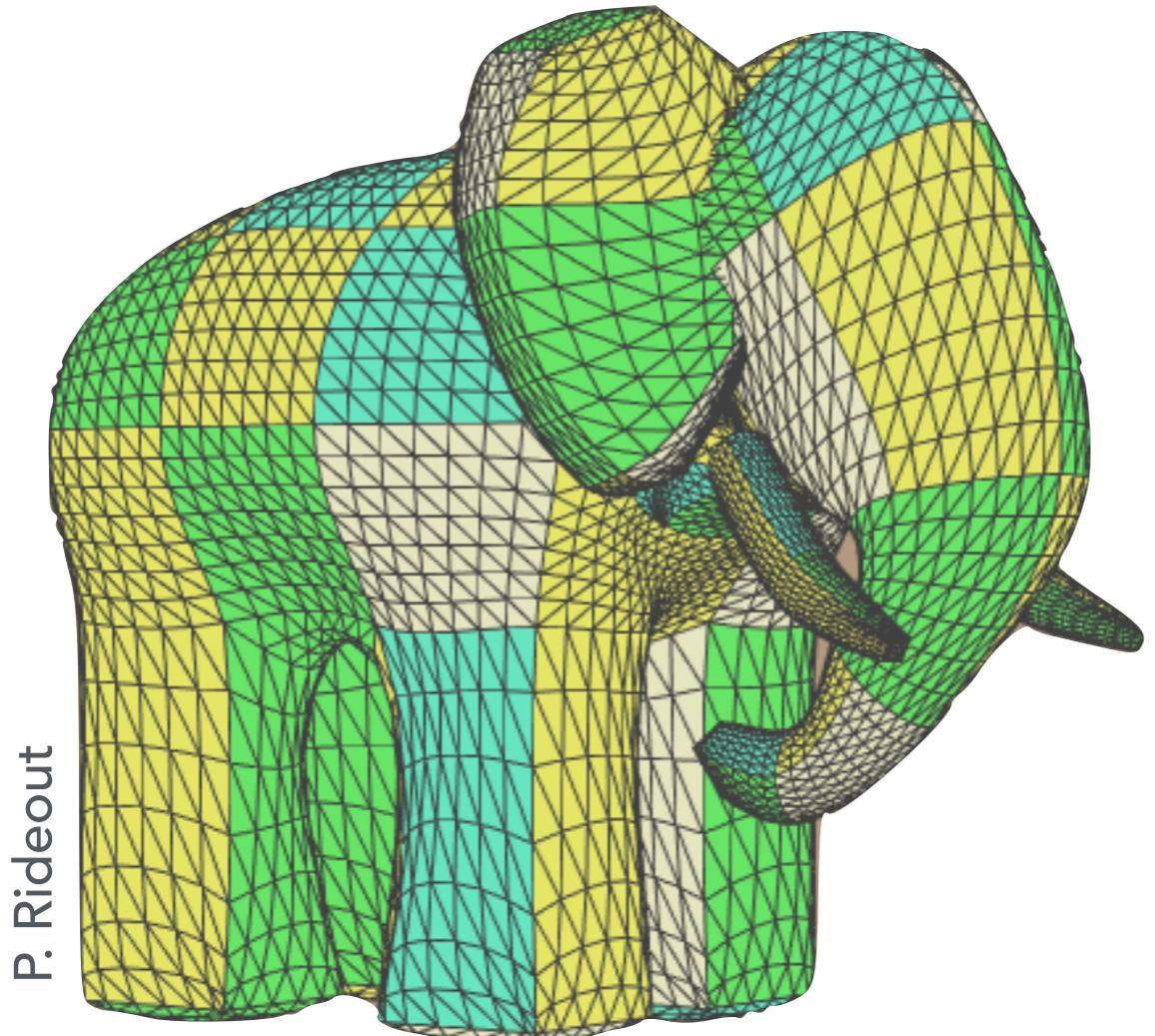
- In this course
  - We do not cover B-splines and NURBS
  - We also do not cover operations on curves (e.g. increasing/decreasing orders, etc.)
  - To learn more / deeper, you are welcome to refer to Prof. Shi-Min Hu's course: <https://www.bilibili.com/video/av66548502?from=search&seid=65256805876131485>

# Today

- Curves
  - Bezier curves
  - De Casteljau's algorithm
  - B-splines, etc.
- Surfaces
  - Bezier surfaces
  - Subdivision surfaces (triangles & quads)

# Bézier Surfaces

Extend Bézier curves to surfaces

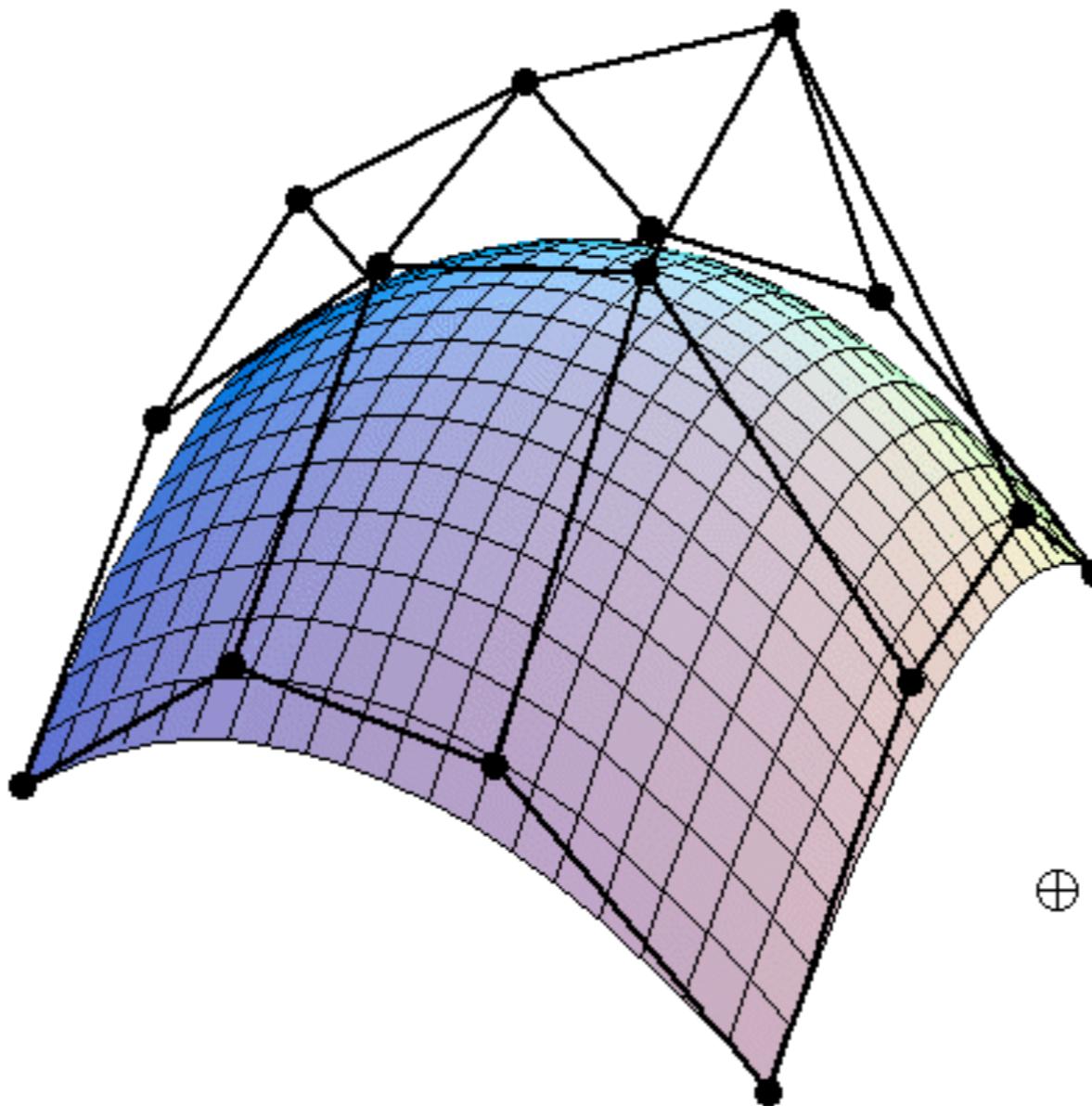


Ed Catmull's "Gumbo" model



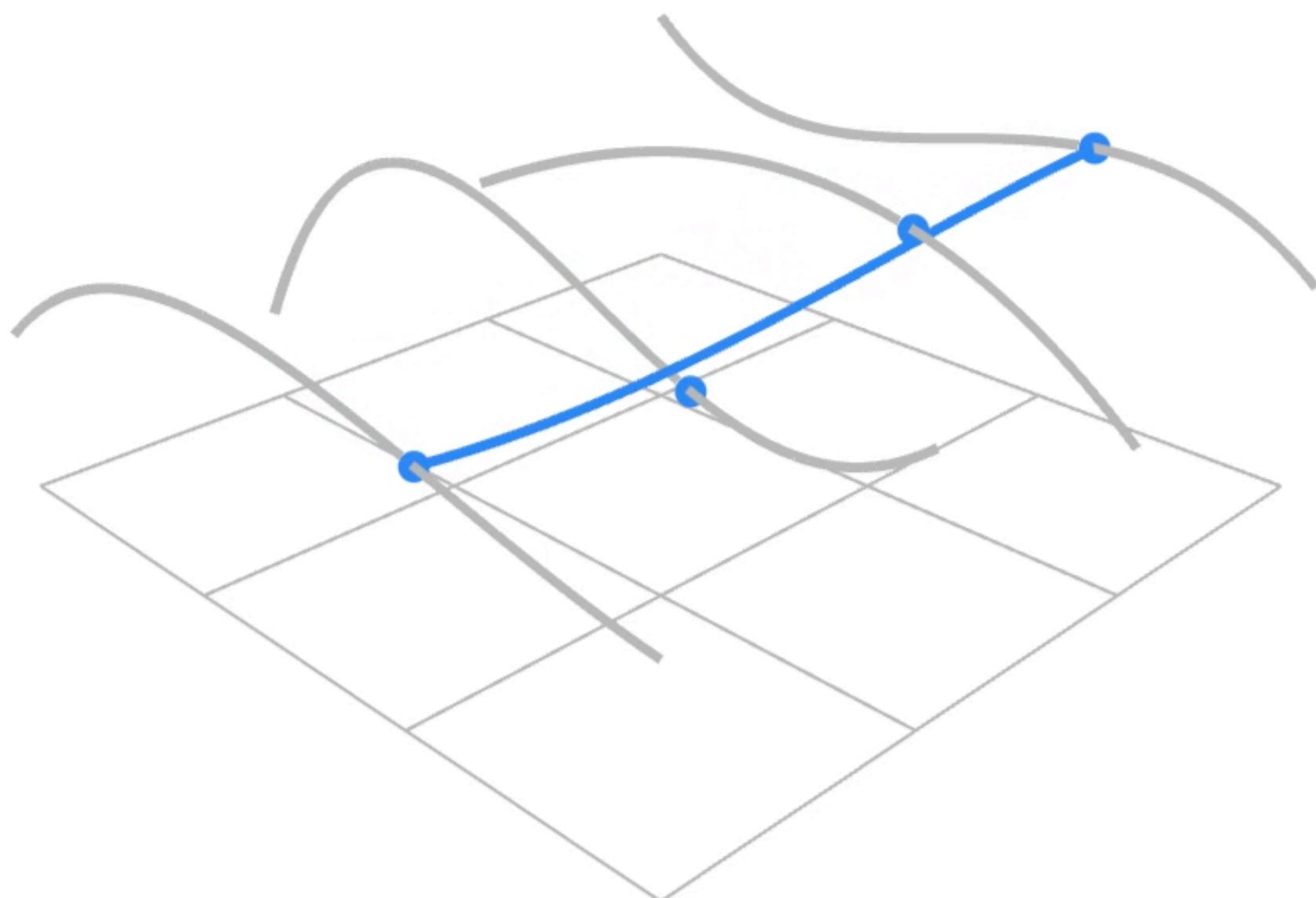
Utah Teapot

# Bicubic Bézier Surface Patch



Bezier surface and  $4 \times 4$  array of control points

# Visualizing Bicubic Bézier Surface Patch



Animation: Steven Wittens, Making Things with Maths, <http://acko.net>

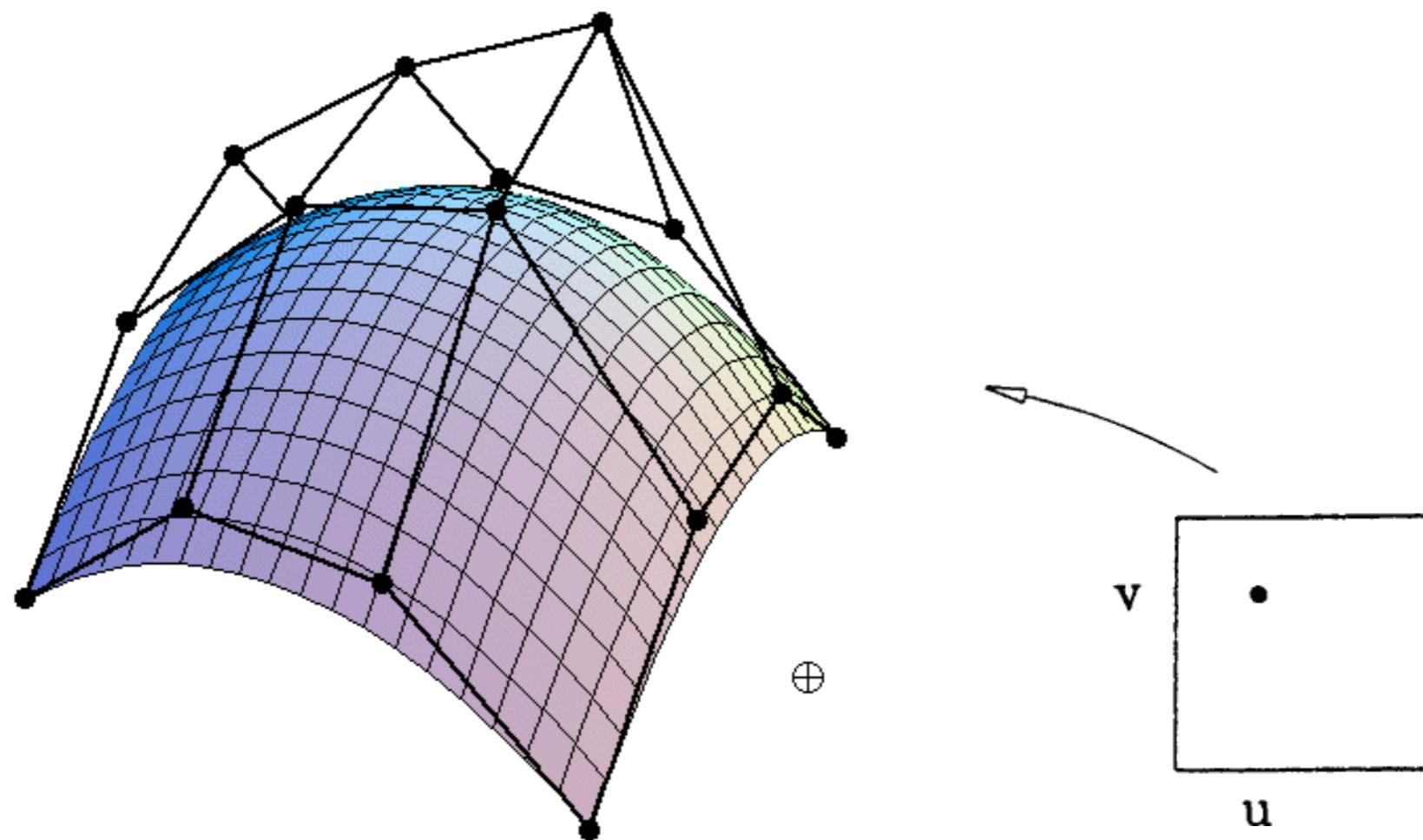
# Evaluating Bézier Surfaces

# Evaluating Surface Position For Parameters $(u,v)$

For bi-cubic Bezier surface patch,

Input: 4x4 control points

Output is 2D surface parameterized by  $(u,v)$  in  $[0,1]^2$

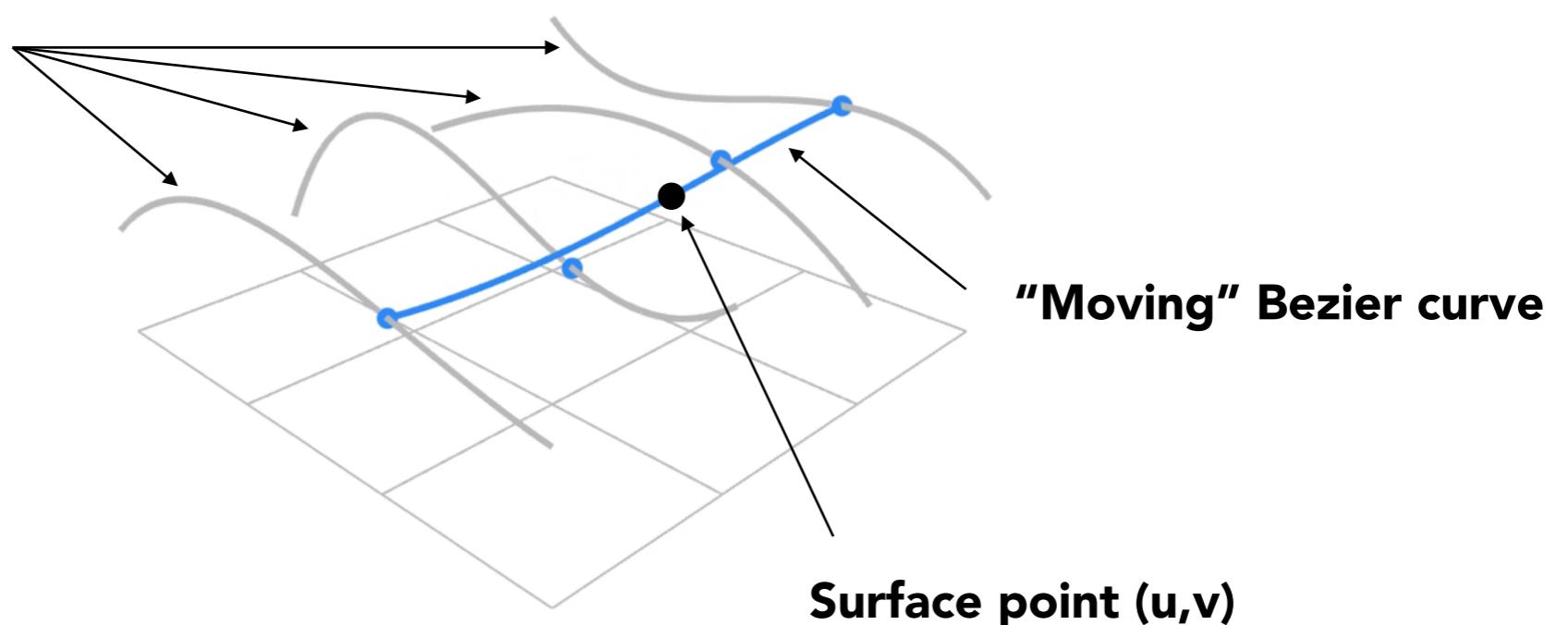


# Method: Separable 1D de Casteljau Algorithm

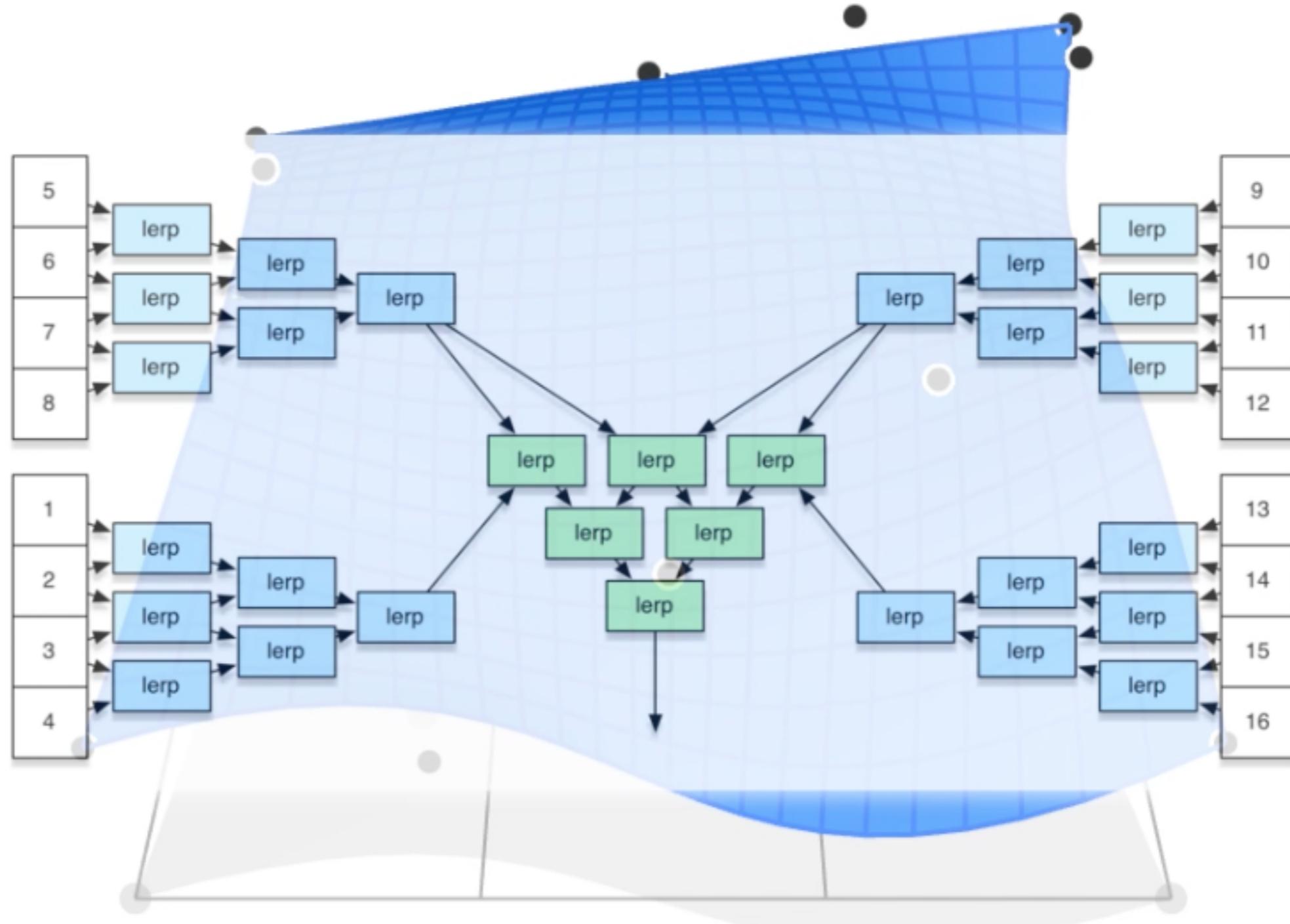
Goal: Evaluate surface position corresponding to  $(u,v)$

$(u,v)$ -separable application of de Casteljau algorithm

- Use de Casteljau to evaluate point  $u$  on each of the 4 Bezier curves in  $u$ . This gives 4 control points for the “moving” Bezier curve
- Use 1D de Casteljau to evaluate point  $v$  on the “moving” curve



# Method: Separable 1D de Casteljau Algorithm



# Mesh Operations: Geometry Processing

- Mesh subdivision
- Mesh simplification
- Mesh regularization



# Thank you!

(And thank Prof. Ravi Ramamoorthi and Prof. Ren Ng for many of the slides!)