
CS-C3100 Computer Graphics

Bézier Curves and Splines

3.4 Splitting cubic Bézier curves with the De Casteljau construction

In These Slides

- Splitting cubic Bézier curves in two:
the De Casteljau construction

Higher-Order Bézier Curves

- > 4 control points
- Bernstein Polynomials as the basis functions
 - For polynomial of order n , the i^{th} basis function is

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

- Every control point affects the entire curve
 - Not simply a local effect
 - More difficult to control for modeling
- You will not need this in this class

Higher-Order Bézier Curves

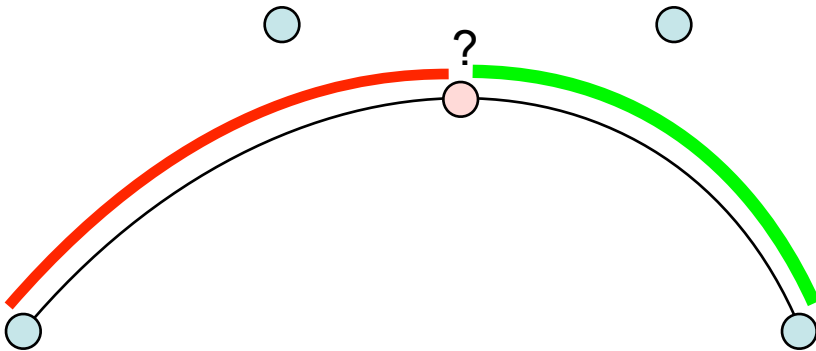
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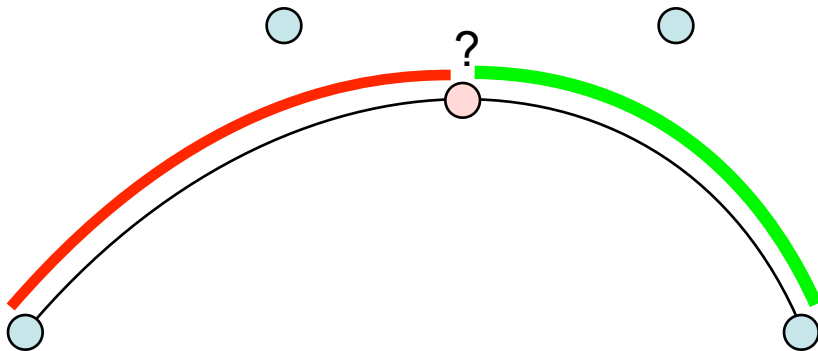
Subdivision of a Bézier curve

- Can we split a Bézier curve into two in the middle, using two new Bézier curves?
 - Would be useful for adding detail, as a single cubic doesn't get you very far, and higher-order curves are nasty.



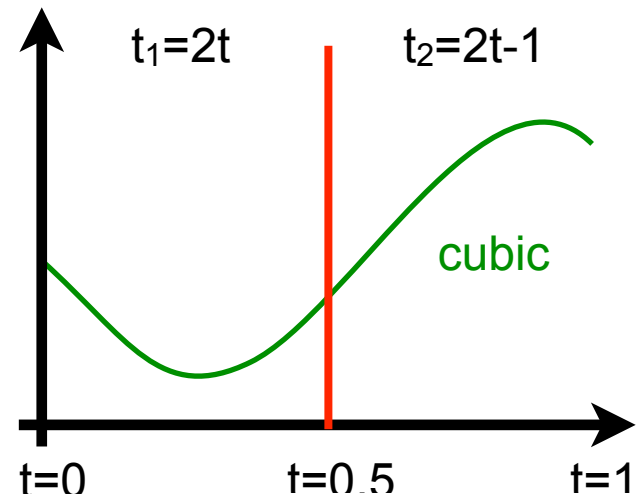
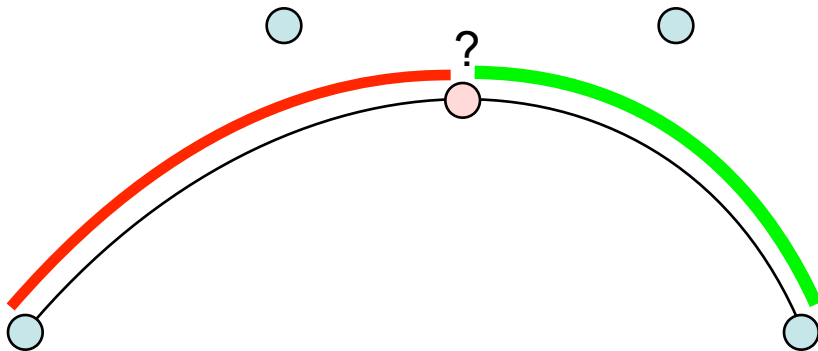
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 - The resulting curves are again a cubic (Why?)



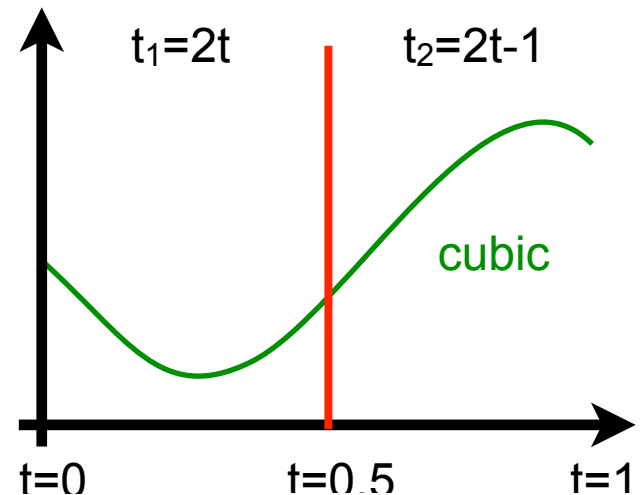
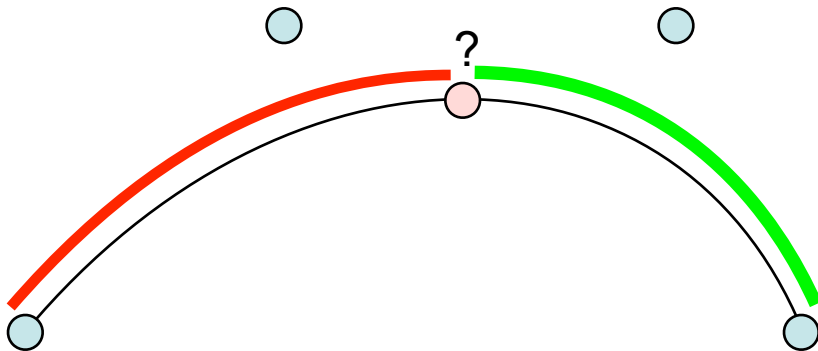
Subdivision of a Bezier curve

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(Why? A cubic in t is also a cubic in $2t$)
 - (Why? $a_0 (2t)^3 = 8a_0 t^3$, etc.)

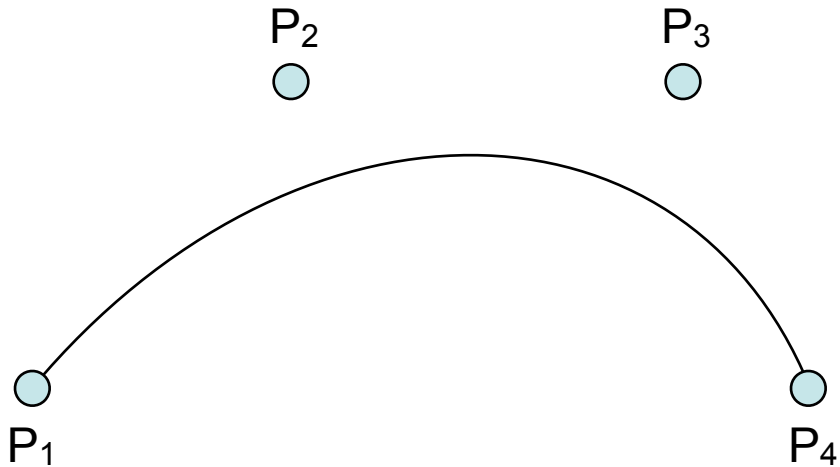


Subdivision of a Bezier curve

- Can we split a Bezier curve into two in the middle, using two new Bézier curves?
 - The resulting curves are again a cubic
(Why? A cubic in t is also a cubic in $2t$)
 - Hence it must be representable using the Bernstein basis. So **yes, we can!**

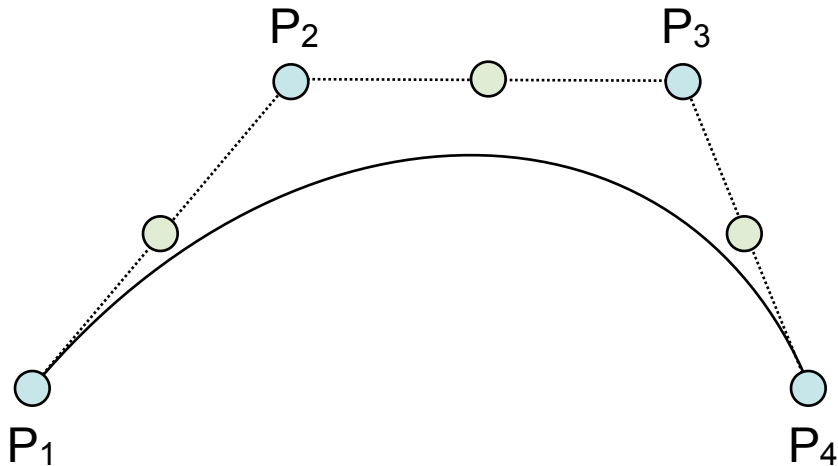


“De Casteljau Construction”



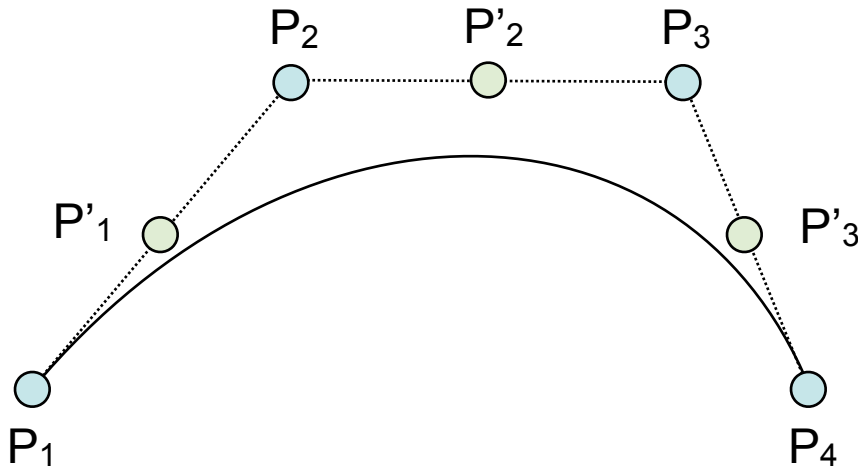
“De Casteljau Construction”

- Take the middle point of each of the 3 segments



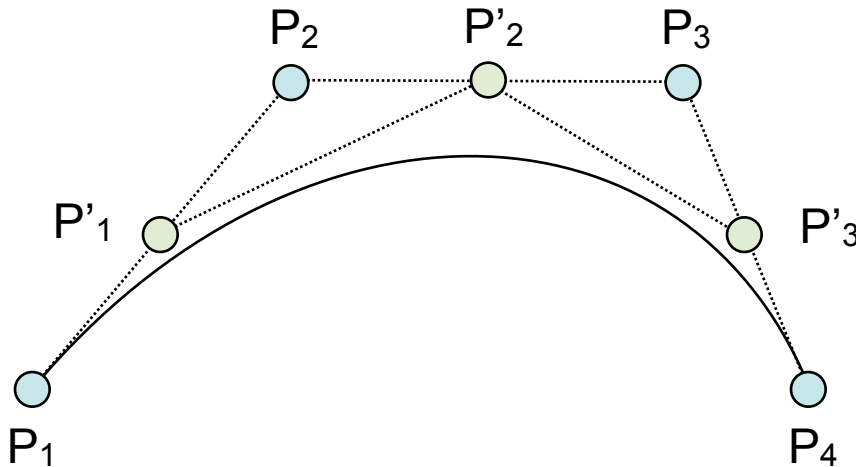
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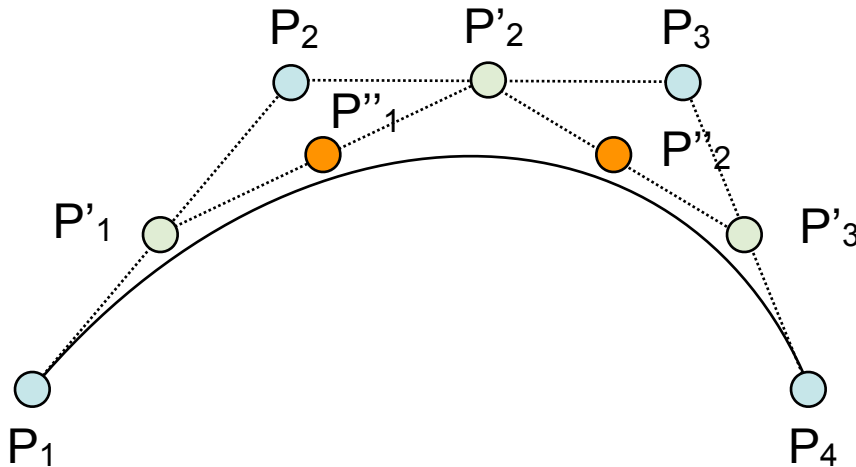
“De Casteljau Construction”

- Take the middle point of each of the 3 segments
- Construct the two segments joining them



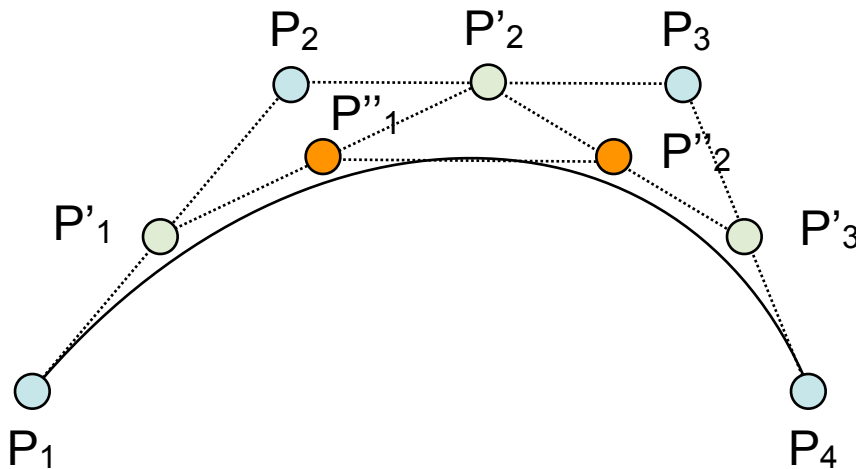
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- Take the middle point of each of the 3 segments
- Construct the two segments joining them
- Take the middle of those two new segments



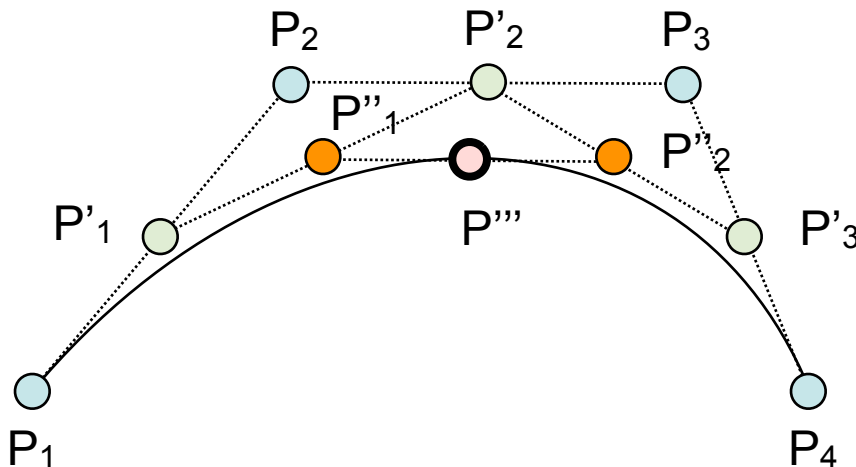
“De Casteljau Construction”

- Take the middle point of each of the 3 segments
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- Take the middle of those two new segments
- Join them



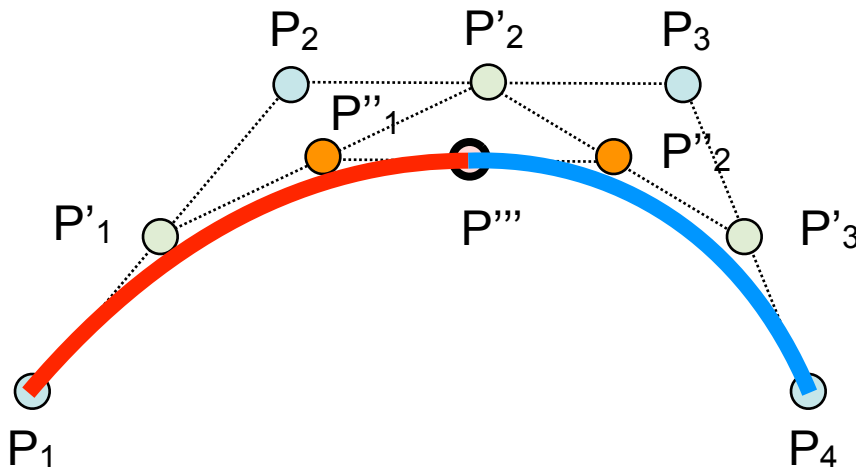
“De Casteljau Construction”

- Take the middle point of each of the 3 segments
- Construct the two segments joining them
- Take the middle of those two new segments
- Join them
- Take the middle point P'''



Result of Split in Middle

- The two new curves are defined by
 - P_1, P'_1, P''_1 , and P'''
 - P''' , P''_2, P'_3 , and P_4
- Together they exactly replicate the original curve!
 - Originally 4 control points, now 7 (more control)



Sanity Check

- Do we get the middle point?

- $B_1(t) = (1-t)^3$

$$P'_1 = 0.5(P_1 + P_2)$$

$$P'_2 = 0.5(P_2 + P_3)$$

- $B_2(t) = 3t(1-t)^2$

$$P'_3 = 0.5(P_3 + P_4)$$

- $B_3(t) = 3t^2(1-t)$

$$P''_1 = 0.5(P'_1 + P'_2)$$

$$P''_2 = 0.5(P'_2 + P'_3)$$

- $B_4(t) = t^3$

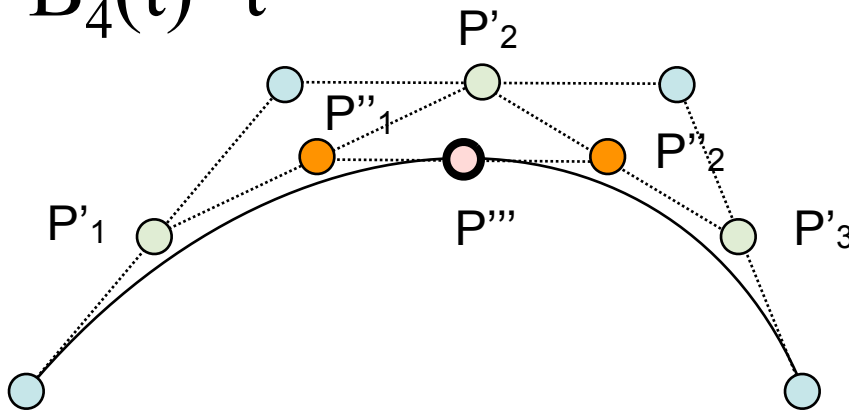
$$P''' = 0.5(P''_1 + P''_2)$$

$$= 0.5(0.5(P'_1 + P'_2) + 0.5(P'_2 + P'_3))$$

$$= 0.5(0.5[0.5(P_1 + P_2) + 0.5(P_2 + P_3)] +$$

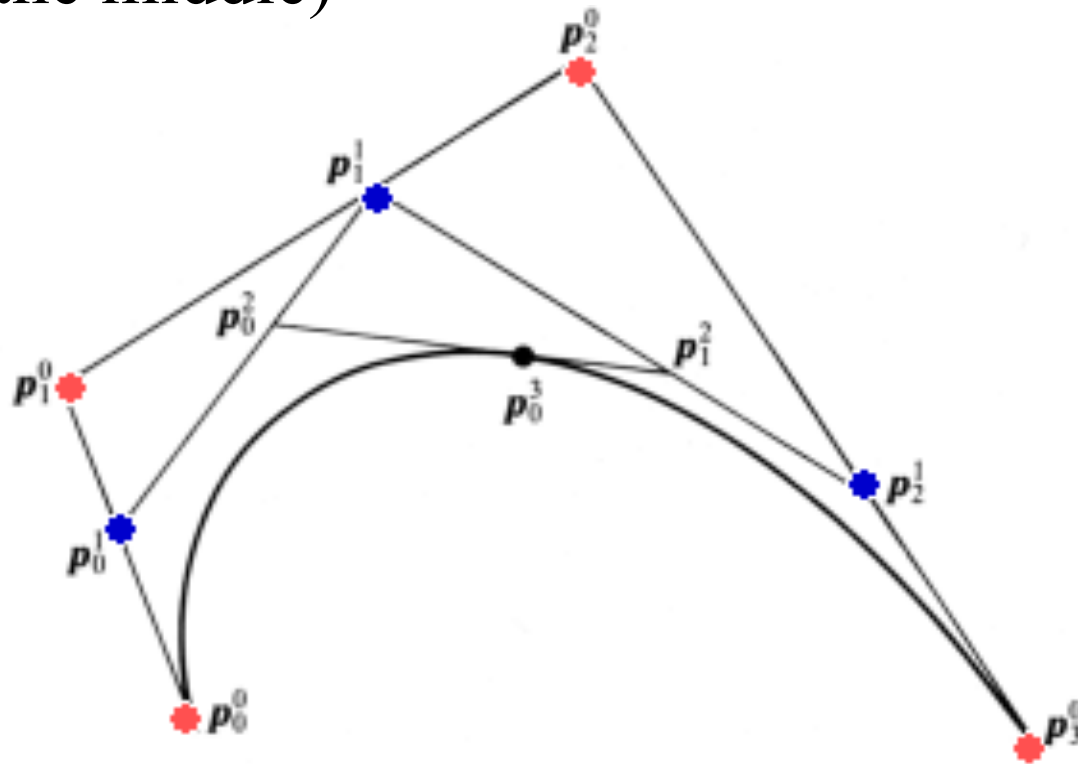
$$0.5[0.5(P_2 + P_3) + 0.5(P_3 + P_4)])$$

$$= 1/8P_1 + 3/8P_2 + 3/8P_3 + 1/8P_4$$



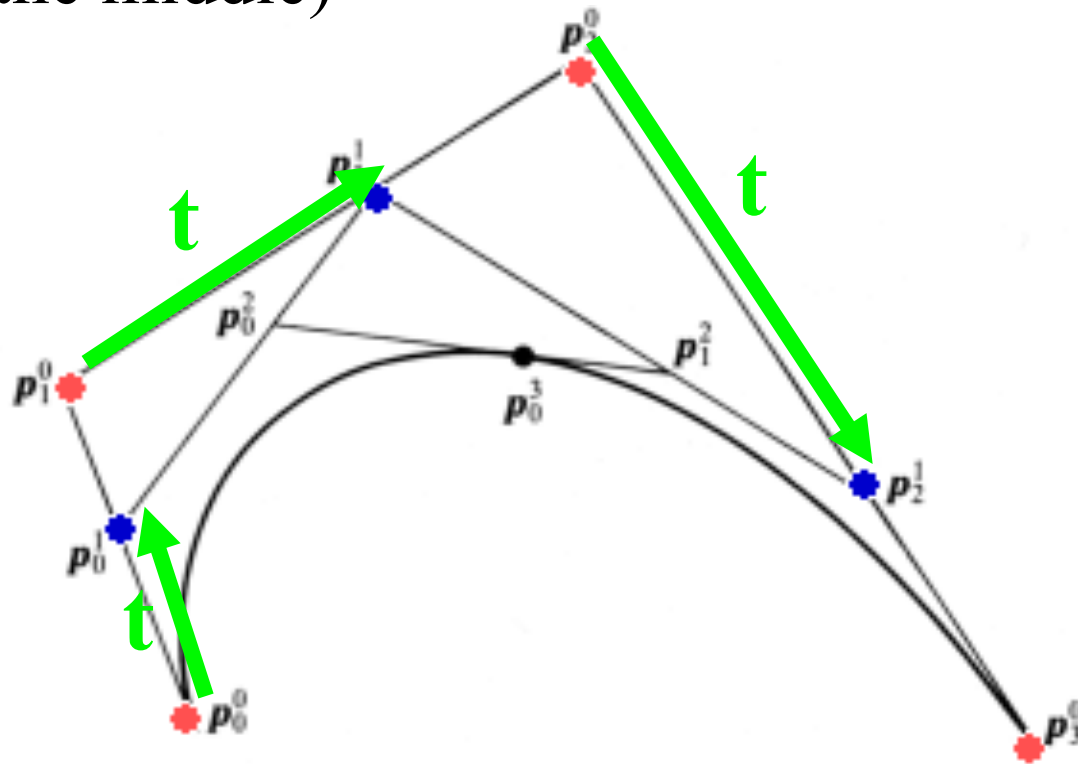
De Casteljau Construction

- Actually works to construct a point at any t , not just 0.5
- Just subdivide the segments with ratio $(1-t)$, t (not in the middle)



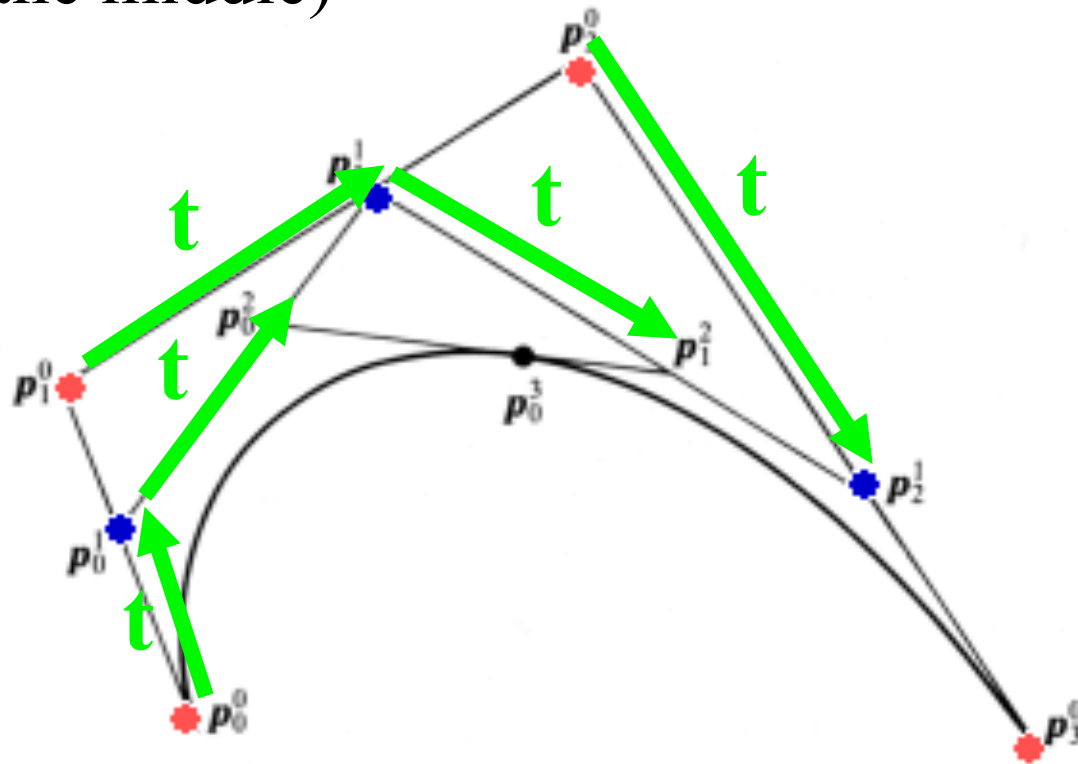
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