



# DMET B402 Computer Graphics

## Turker Ince

### Lecture 11: Curves

# Due Credits

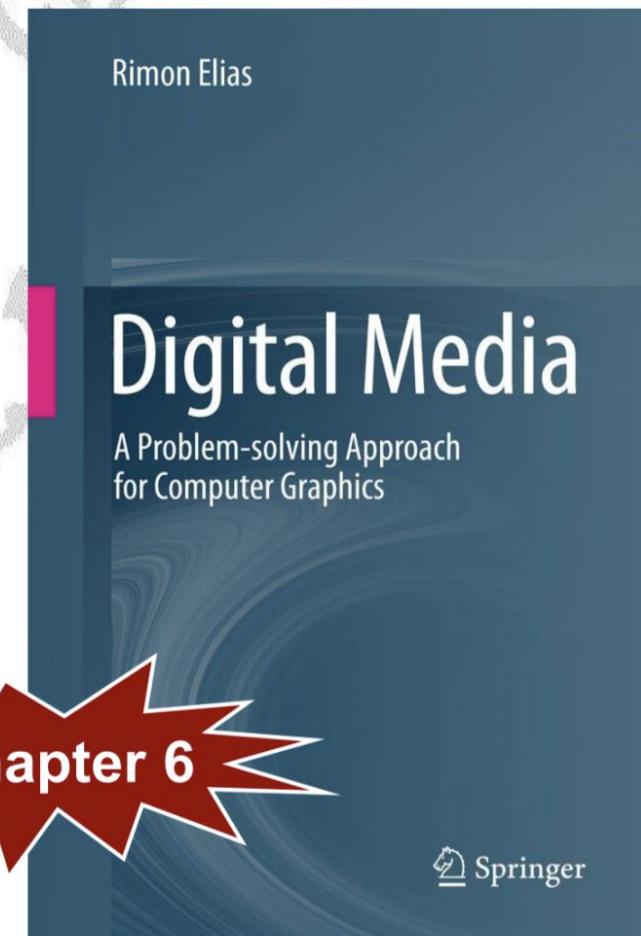
---

- The presented material is mostly based on Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rimon Elias (GUC).
- CENG 477 course material @METU

# Contents

## Curves:

- Polynomial equations
  - Representations of curves
  - Degree
  - Interpolating versus approximating curves
- 
- Bézier curves
  - B-spline curves
  - NURBS curves



# Polynomial Equations

- A polynomial is used to represent lines and curves mathematically.

## Polynomial equations:

- A **line** may be represented as:

*First-degree (linear) polynomial*

$$ax + by = c$$

- A **curve** may be represented as:

*Quadratic polynomial*

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

A polynomial used to represent curves may take the form  $y=f(x)$  where  $f(x)$  consists of powers of  $x$  only.

- Also, a **curve** may be represented as:

*Cubic*

*polynomial*

$$y = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$$

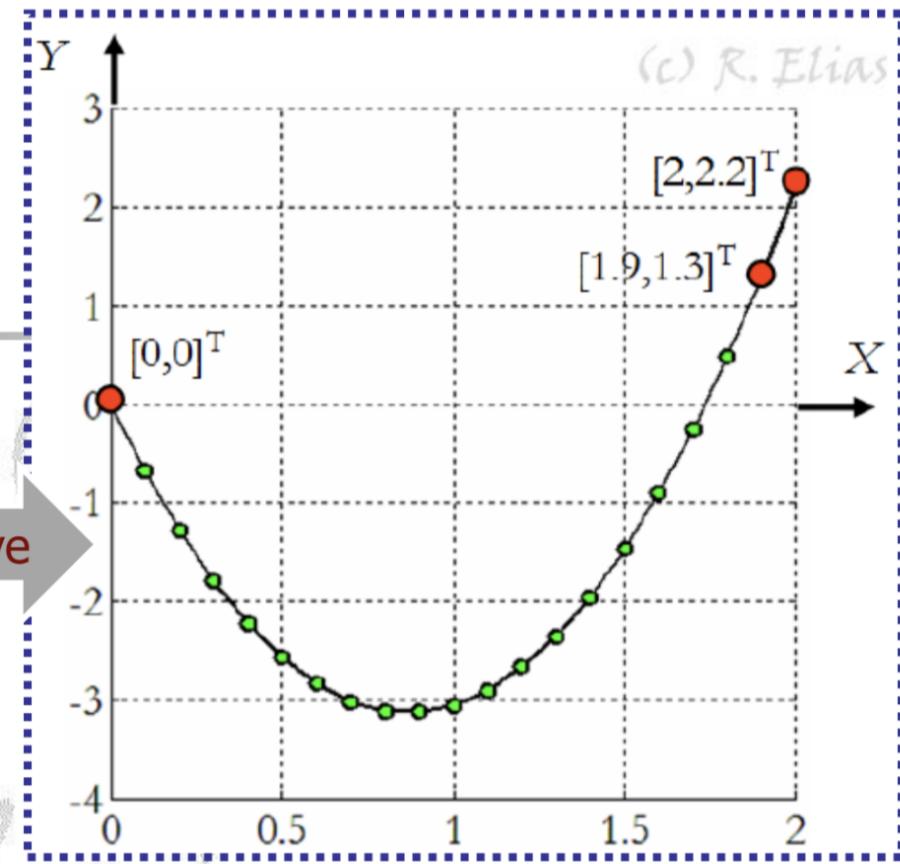


# Degree

Equation	Degree
Linear	1
Quadratic	2
Cubic	3

A degree 2 curve

- The **degree** of a polynomial equation is the largest exponent in the equation.
- An equation of a curve may be of degree 2 or higher.



- Degree is a mathematical property of a curve that controls how many vertices are available for modeling.
- Degree is the curve's degree of freedom to bend.

# Representations of Curves

- There are different ways to write an equation for a curve.
  1. Explicit representation (as in the previous slides)
  2. Implicit representation
  3. Parametric representation

# Representations of Curves: Explicit Representation

## 1. Explicit representation of curves:

- The basic definition of a curve in 2D is by considering a polynomial function that takes the form:

$$y = f(x)$$

- Consider this **cubic** polynomial:

$$y = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$$

where the coefficients  $a, b, c, d$  are constants.

- Having this polynomial with a range for  $x$ , a curve can be drawn.

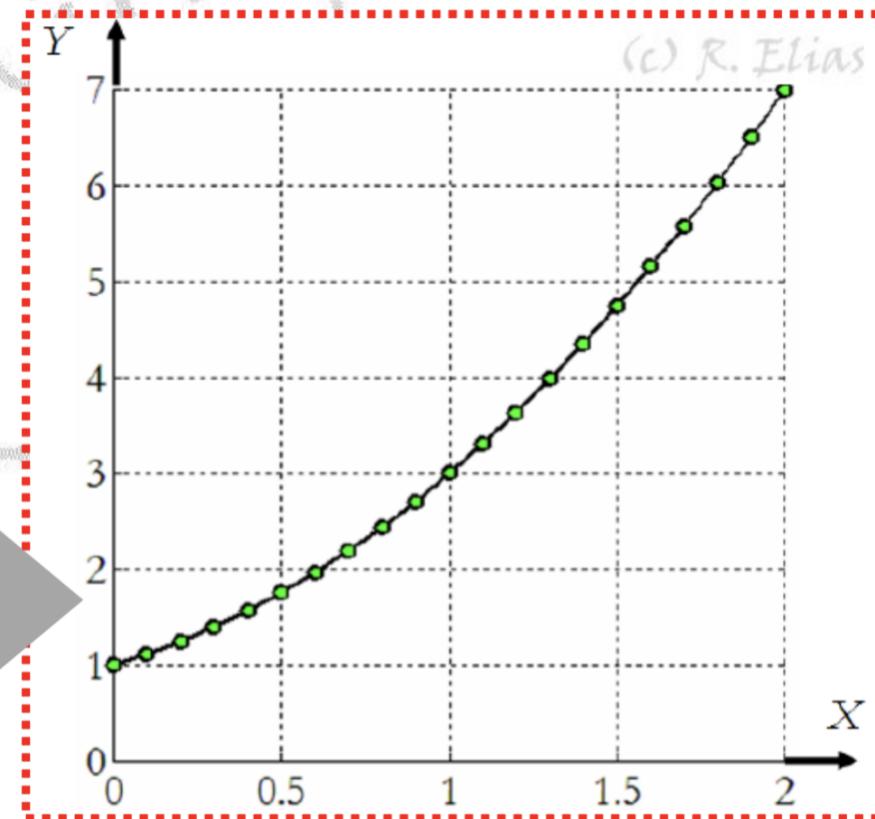
# Representations of Curves: Explicit Representation

- **Example:** Given the quadratic polynomial:

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

where  $x$  values range from 0 to 2, draw the curve that is represented by this polynomial equation.

Output



# Representations of Curves: Explicit Representation

- If the parameters or coefficients (i.e.,  $a, b, ..$ ) are not available, the curve can be represented explicitly by considering control points. For example, if **three** points (2 of them are end points) are specified for a **quadratic** curve, the curve can be drawn.
- For a **quadratic** curve, **three** simultaneous equations can be solved to get one solution:

Given  $[x_0, y_0]^T, [x_1, y_1]^T$   
and  $[x_2, y_2]^T$

$$y_0 = ax_0^2 + bx_0 + c$$

$$y_1 = ax_1^2 + bx_1 + c$$

$$y_2 = ax_2^2 + bx_2 + c$$

$$a = \frac{x_0(y_1 - y_2) + y_0(x_2 - x_1) + x_1y_2 - x_2y_1}{(x_1 - x_0)(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1)}$$

$$b = \frac{y_2 - y_0}{x_2 - x_0} - (x_2 + x_0)a$$

$$c = y_0 - ax_0^2 - bx_0$$

can be applied  
to higher  
degrees

# Representations of Curves: Explicit Representation

**Example:** Consider a quadratic curve whose endpoints are  $[0, 0]^T$  and  $[2, 2.2]^T$ . If the point  $[1.9, 1.3]^T$  is on the curve, get its polynomial equation and draw the curve.

$$a = \frac{x_0(y_1 - y_2) + y_0(x_2 - x_1) + x_1y_2 - x_2y_1}{(x_1 - x_0)(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1)}$$

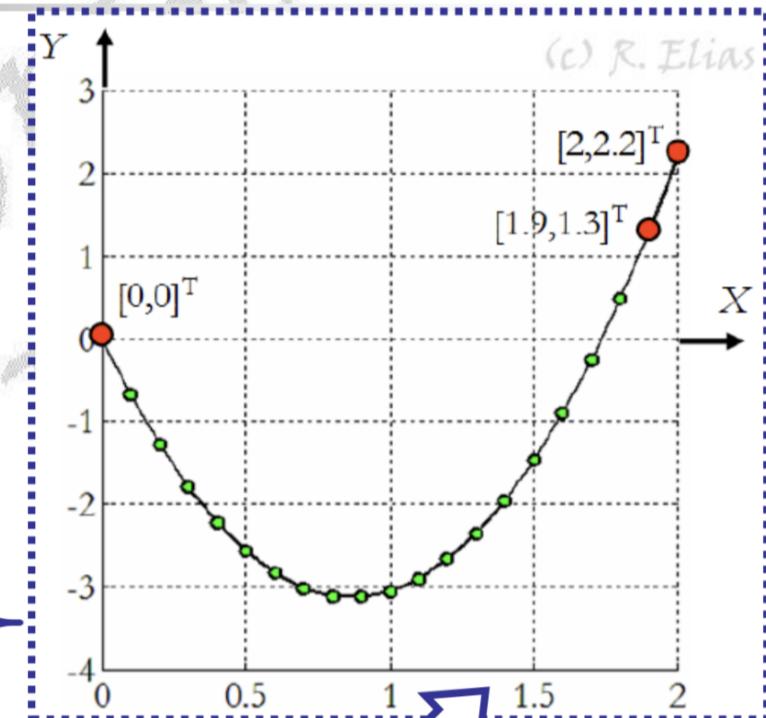
$$= \frac{0 \times (1.3 - 2.2) + 0 \times (2 - 1.9) + 1.9 \times 2.2 - 2 \times 1.3}{(1.9 - 0)(2 - 0)(2 - 1.9)} = 4.1579$$

$$b = \frac{y_2 - y_0}{x_2 - x_0} - (x_2 + x_0)a$$

$$= \frac{2.2 - 0}{2 - 0} - (2 + 0) \times 4.1579 = -7.2158$$

$$c = y_0 - ax_0^2 - bx_0$$

$$= 0 - 4.1579 \times 0^2 - (-7.2158) \times 0 = 0$$



$$y = 4.1579x^2 - 7.2158x$$

# Representations of Curves: Explicit Representation

## Problems

- It is impossible to get multiple values of  $y$  for the same  $x$ . So circles and ellipses must be represented as a sequence of curve segments.
- Describing curves with vertical tangents is difficult. (It is difficult to represent a slope of infinity.)

# Curves

- Representations
  - Explicit:  $y = f(x)$ 
    - Essentially a function plot over some interval  $x \in [a, b]$
    - Simple to compute, simple to check whether point lies on a curve
    - Cannot represent closed curves
  - Implicit:  $f(x, y) = 0$ 
    - Solution of an equation system ( $\text{ax} + \text{by} + c = 0$  for line in 2D)
    - Simple to check whether point lies on a curve
    - Can represent closed curves
  - Parametric:  $x = x(t), y = y(t)$ 
    - Describe position on the curve by a parameter ( $c(t) = (1-t)a + tb$  for line in 2D)
    - Hard to check whether point lies on a curve
    - Can represent closed curves
    - Simple to render; just change  $t$  and get new  $x, y$  to render

# Representations of Curves: Implicit Representation

## 2. Implicit representation of curves:

- The *implicit representation* of curves combines the variables (i.e.,  $x$  and  $y$  in 2D space or  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  in 3D space) in an equation.
- Generally, the implicit representation functions take the forms:

$$f(x, y) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad f(x, y, z) = 0$$

- Examples:

Linear

$$ax + by + c = 0$$

Higher-degree

$$ax^3 + by^2 + 2cxy + 2dx + 2ey + f = 0$$

- The entire equation must be solved in order to calculate  $x$  and  $y$ .

# Representations of Curves: Implicit Representation

## Problems

- The equation may have more solutions than we want.
- Example:

$$x^2 + y^2 = 1$$

- This is an implicit representation of a circle.
- If you want to model half a circle, you have to add a constraint like  $x>0$ .
- This cannot be contained in an implicit equation.

# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

## 3. Parametric representation of curves:

- The parametric representation of curves writes short and easily-solved curve equations that translate one variable into values for the others.

- In 2D space

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) &= a_x t + b_x \\y(t) &= a_y t + b_y\end{aligned}$$

$$x(t) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} t & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_t \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_x \\ b_x \end{bmatrix}}_x = \mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{x}^T$$

$$y(t) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} t & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_t \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_y \\ b_y \end{bmatrix}}_y = \mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{y}^T$$

- In 3D, we add:

$$z(t) = a_z t + b_z$$

$$z(t) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} t & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_t \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_z \\ b_z \end{bmatrix}}_z = \mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{z}^T$$

Linear parametric curves

# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

## Quadratic parametric curves

- In 2D:

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) &= a_x t^2 + b_x t + c_x \\y(t) &= a_y t^2 + b_y t + c_y\end{aligned}$$

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} t^2 & t & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_x \\ b_x \\ c_x \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{x}^T$$

$$y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} t^2 & t & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_y \\ b_y \\ c_y \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{y}^T$$

- In 3D, we add:

$$z(t) = a_z t^2 + b_z t + c_z$$

$$z(t) = \begin{bmatrix} t^2 & t & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_z \\ b_z \\ c_z \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{z}^T$$

Each dimension is treated independently, so we can add dimensions.

# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

- A **quadratic** parametric spline may be written as:

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \mathbf{at}^2 + \mathbf{bt} + \mathbf{c}$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) &= a_x t^2 + b_x t + c_x \\y(t) &= a_y t^2 + b_y t + c_y\end{aligned}$$

- $\dot{\mathbf{p}}$  is the curve point we are trying to find;
- a, b, c** are coefficients for the  $x$ - and  $y$ -directions; and
- $t$  is the parameter (where  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ).
  - You can visualize parametric curves as being drawn by a point moving through space. At any time  $t$ , we can calculate the  $x$  and  $y$  values of the moving point.
  - The curve is actually a combination of two quadratic curves, one is  $y=f(t)$  and the other is  $x=f(t)$ . By varying  $t$  between 0 and 1,  $x$  and  $y$  will both vary and create the curve.

# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

## How to solve

- In order to solve this equation we can specify three points on the curve; two of them are endpoints.

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}(t) = \mathbf{at}^2 + \mathbf{bt} + \mathbf{c}$$

- At the start point  $\dot{\mathbf{p}}_0$  where  $t=0$ :

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}_0(0) = \mathbf{c}$$

- At the endpoint  $\dot{\mathbf{p}}_2$  where  $t=1$ :

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}_2(1) = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c}$$

- At the intermediate point  $\dot{\mathbf{p}}_1$ :

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}_1(t) = \mathbf{at}^2 + \mathbf{bt} + \mathbf{c}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{c} &= \dot{\mathbf{p}}_0 \\ \mathbf{a} &= \frac{t(\dot{\mathbf{p}}_2 - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_0) + (\dot{\mathbf{p}}_0 - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_1)}{t(1-t)} \\ \mathbf{b} &= \dot{\mathbf{p}}_2 - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_0 - \mathbf{a}\end{aligned}$$

# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

- We may write:

$$c = \dot{p}_0$$

$$a = \frac{t(\dot{p}_2 - \dot{p}_0) + (\dot{p}_0 - \dot{p}_1)}{t(1-t)}$$

$$b = \dot{p}_2 - \dot{p}_0 - a$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_0 \\ \dot{p}_1 \\ \dot{p}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ t^2 & t & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ t^2 & t & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_0 \\ \dot{p}_1 \\ \dot{p}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Interpolation matrix

Can you get the interpolation matrix for cubic curves?

# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

- **Example:** A quadratic curve whose endpoints are  $[0, 0]^T$  and  $[3, 3]^T$  is represented parametrically. If the point  $[3, 8]^T$  is on the curve at  $t = 0.5$ , get the coefficients of the curve equation.

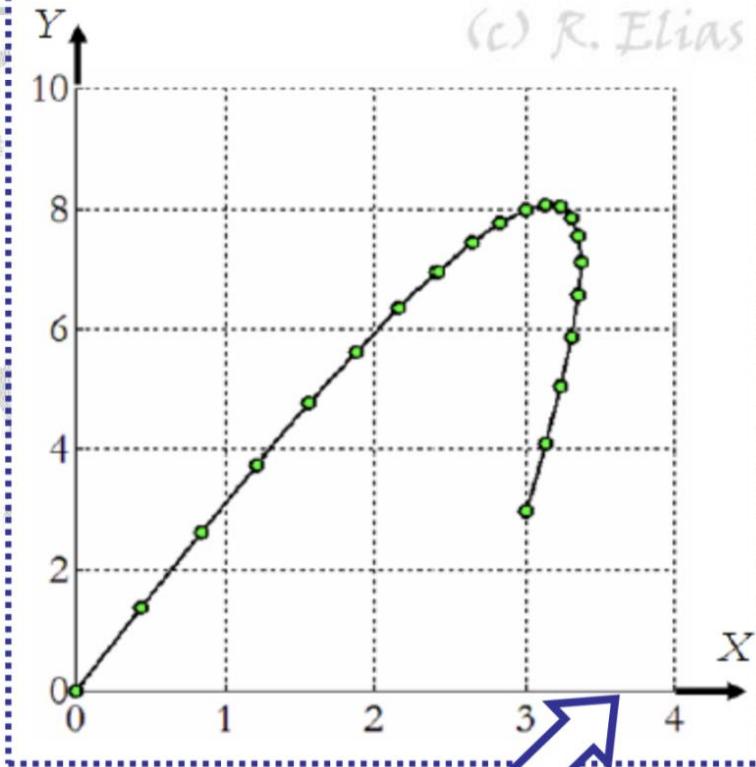
- **Answer:** The coefficients are

$$\mathbf{c} = \dot{\mathbf{p}}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{t(\dot{\mathbf{p}}_2 - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_0) + (\dot{\mathbf{p}}_0 - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_1)}{t(1-t)} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ -26 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \dot{\mathbf{p}}_2 - \dot{\mathbf{p}}_0 - \mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) 2023, Dr. R. Elias



$\dot{\mathbf{p}}(t)$

Curves

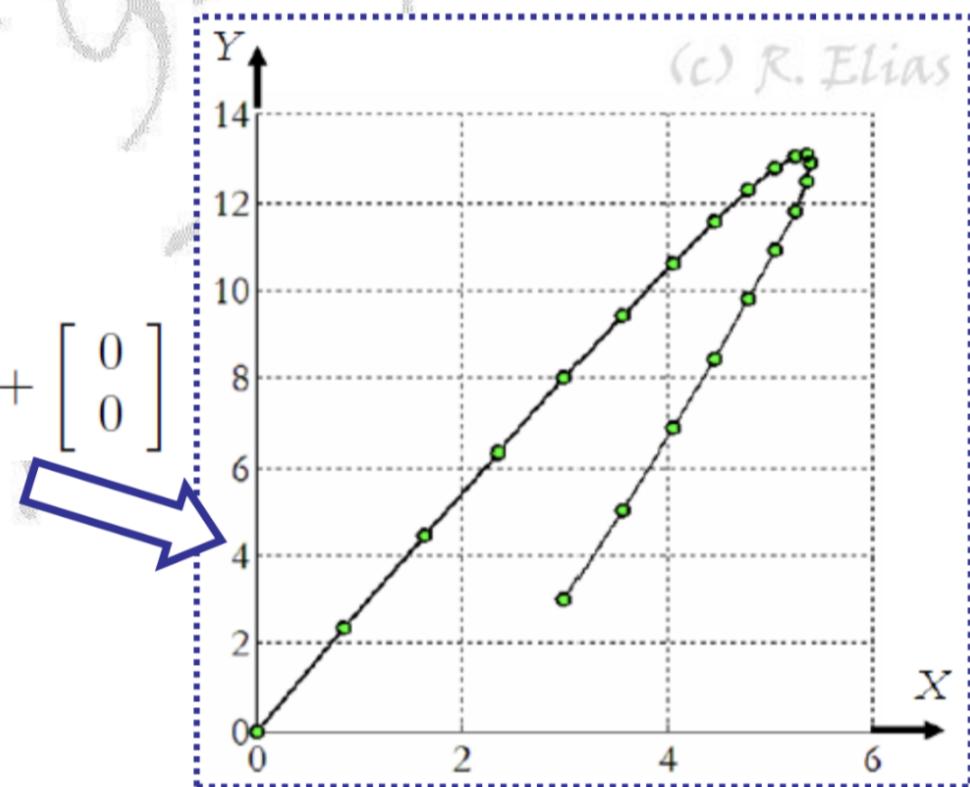
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{p}}(t) &= \mathbf{at}^2 + \mathbf{bt} + \mathbf{c} \\ &= -\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 26 \end{bmatrix} t^2 + \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 29 \end{bmatrix} t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$



# Representations of Curves: Parametric Representation

- **Example:** Re-solve the previous example if the point  $[3, 8]^T$  is on the curve where  $t = 0.2$ .
- **Answer:** The equation →

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\mathbf{p}}(t) &= \mathbf{a}t^2 + \mathbf{b}t + \mathbf{c} \\ &= -\left[\begin{array}{c} 15 \\ 46.25 \end{array}\right]t^2 + \left[\begin{array}{c} 18 \\ 49.25 \end{array}\right]t + \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \end{array}\right]\end{aligned}$$

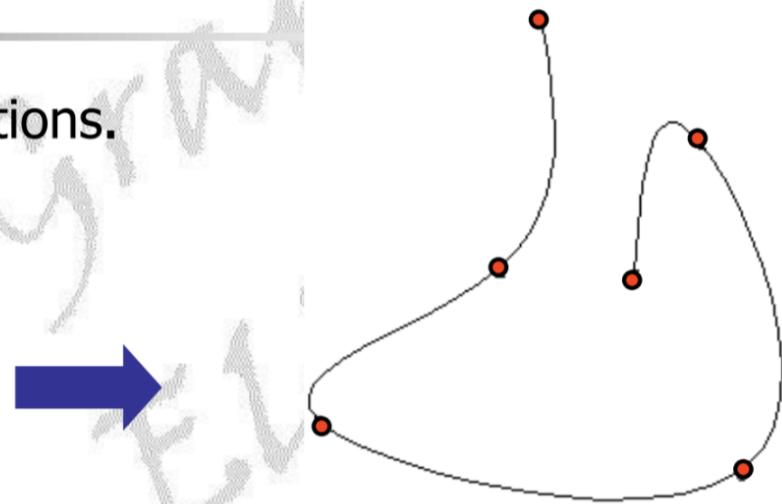


# Interpolating versus Approximating Curves

- Two types for spline representations.

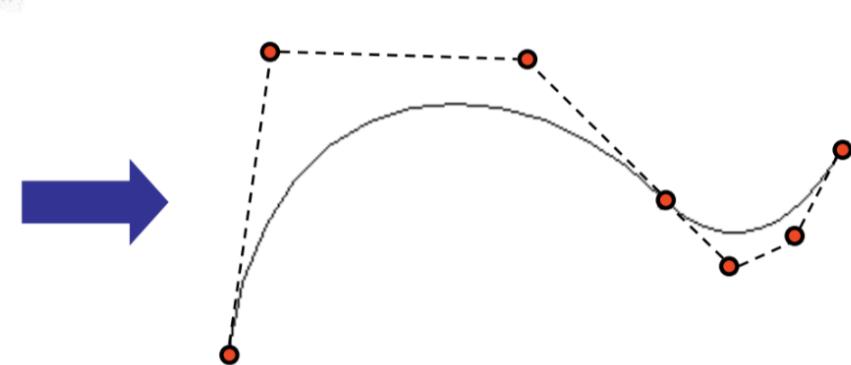
## 1. Interpolating curves

where the curve passes through the points describing it. (Refer to what was discussed.)



## 2. Approximating curves

where the curve gets near the points describing it. Examples include Bézier, B-spline and NURBS curves.



# Bézier Curves

- A Bézier curve is an **approximating curve** that is generated as a blend of a number of control points.
- A Bézier curve is controlled by two or more control points.
- In case of more than two control points:
  - Two of these points are the end points of the curve.
  - The rest of the points control the shape of the curve as a **blend** of the control points.
- The number of control points determines the degree of the curve.
  - **Linear** Bézier curves (given **two** points)
  - **Quadratic** Bézier curves (given **three** points)
  - **Cubic** Bézier curves (given **four** points)

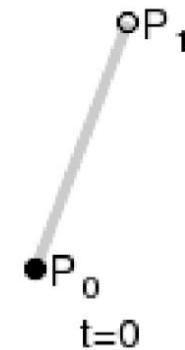
# Linear Bézier Curves

- **Linear Bézier curves** (two control points  $\dot{p}_0$  and  $\dot{p}_1$ ):
  - This is just a representation of a parametric equation of a line.

$$\dot{p}(t) = (1 - t)\dot{p}_0 + t\dot{p}_1$$

where  $t \in [0,1]$

$$\dot{p}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} t & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_0 \\ \dot{p}_1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Geometry matrix for linear Bézier curves

Source: Wikipedia

# Quadratic Bézier Curves

**Quadratic Bézier curves** (three control points  $\dot{p}_0$ ,  $\dot{p}_1$  and  $\dot{p}_2$ ):

- A point  $\dot{p}_{01}$  is obtained at  $t$  along the linear Bézier curve connecting  $\dot{p}_0$  and  $\dot{p}_1$ .

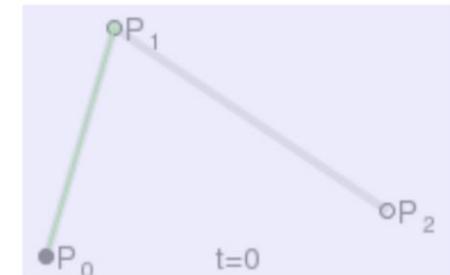
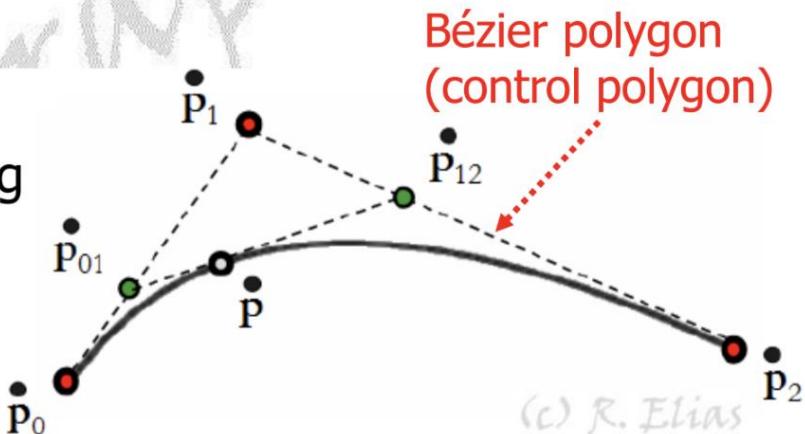
$$\dot{p}_{01}(t) = (1 - t)\dot{p}_0 + t\dot{p}_1$$

- Similarly,

$$\dot{p}_{12}(t) = (1 - t)\dot{p}_1 + t\dot{p}_2$$

- Then

$$\dot{p}(t) = (1 - t)\dot{p}_{01} + t\dot{p}_{12}$$



Source: Wikipedia

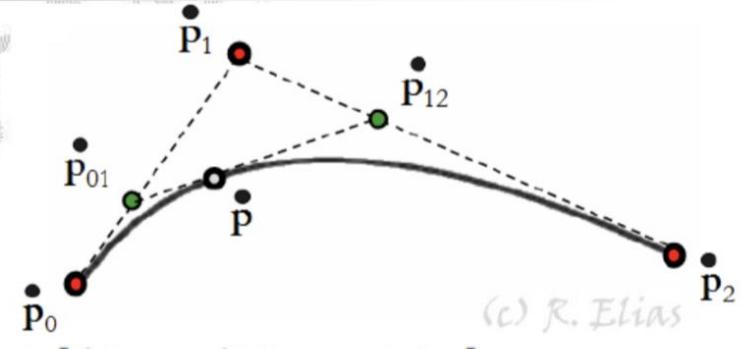
# Quadratic Bézier Curves

$$\dot{p}(t) = (1 - t)\dot{p}_{01} + t\dot{p}_{12}$$

- Or

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{p}(t) &= (1 - t)\dot{p}_{01} + t\dot{p}_{12} \\ &= (1 - t)[(1 - t)\dot{p}_0 + t\dot{p}_1] + t[(1 - t)\dot{p}_1 + t\dot{p}_2]\end{aligned}$$

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



(c) R. Elias

$\dot{p}(t) = [ t^2 \quad t \quad 1 ] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_0 \\ \dot{p}_1 \\ \dot{p}_2 \end{bmatrix}$

Geometry matrix for  
quadratic Bézier curves

# Cubic Bézier Curves

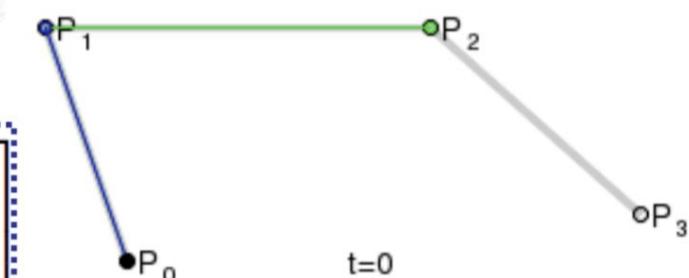
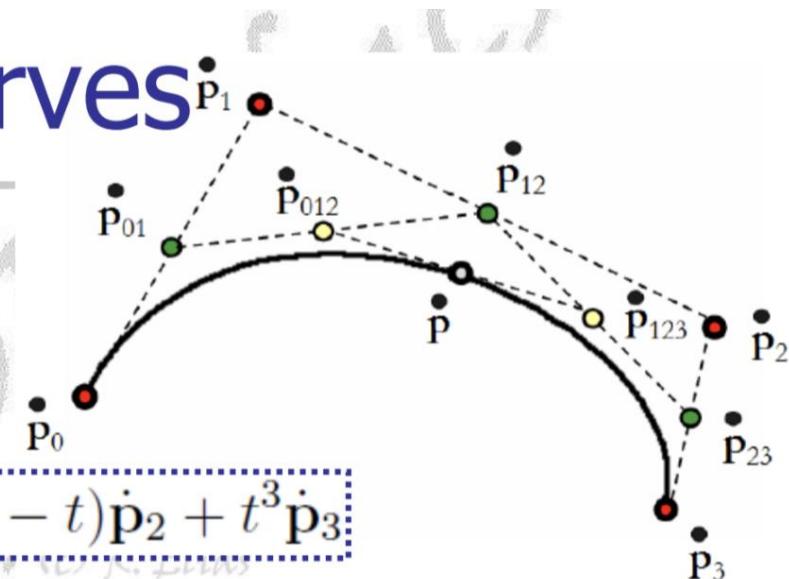
**Cubic Bézier curves** (four control points  $\dot{p}_0$ ,  $\dot{p}_1$ ,  $\dot{p}_2$  and  $\dot{p}_3$ ):

- Similar procedure:

$$\dot{p}(t) = (1-t)^3 \dot{p}_0 + 3t(1-t)^2 \dot{p}_1 + 3t^2(1-t) \dot{p}_2 + t^3 \dot{p}_3$$

Geometry matrix for  
cubic Bézier curves

$$\dot{p}(t) = [ t^3 \ t^2 \ t \ 1 ] \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{p}_0 \\ \dot{p}_1 \\ \dot{p}_2 \\ \dot{p}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



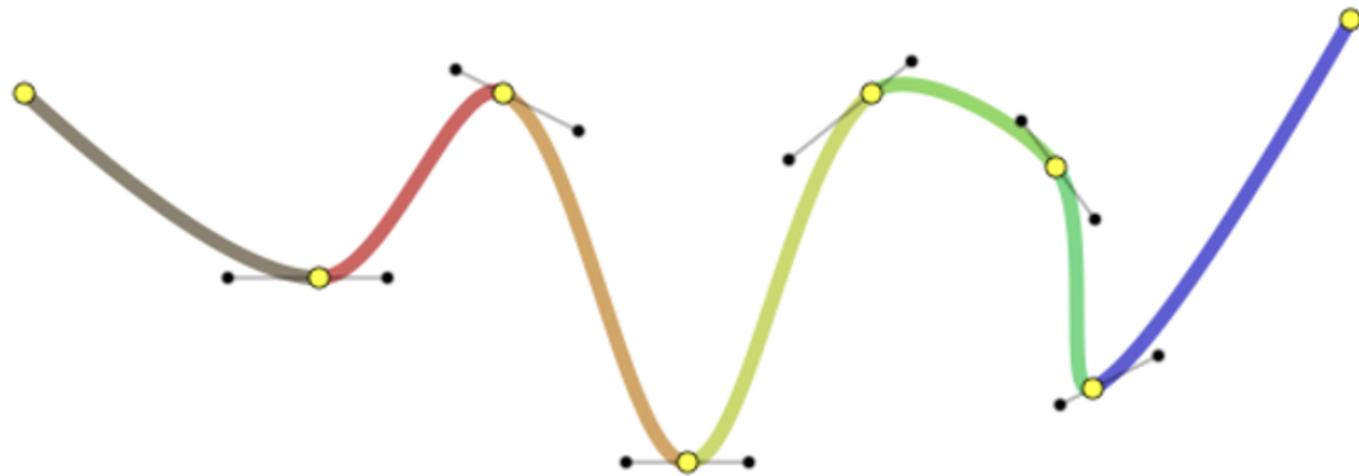
Source: Wikipedia

# Higher Order Bézier Curves

- More complex Bézier curves that are higher than third degree curves can be constructed as a sequence of lower-degree Bézier curve segments.
- In this case, the joints should always look smooth.
- Splitting the curve into many lower-degree curve segments brings us to the concept of **B-splines**.

# Curves

- Spline is a smooth aggregation of multiple different curves
- Spline can be defined piecewise by multiple polynomials



- Curve is defined by a single polynomial
- Curve is a special spline

# B-spline Curves

- Unlike the previous curves discussed where each control point contributes to all points of the curve, a B-spline control point affects only a portion of the curve around it (and may be shared between segments).
- This is referred to as the **local control** property where control points away from a given curve point contributes nothing to its location.
- The local control property is achieved using polynomial **basis** or blending **functions**; hence, comes the letter “B” in B-spline.

# B-spline Curves

In this case, a curve point is estimated as a weighted sum of basis functions.

$$\dot{p}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \dot{p}_i N_{i,p}(t)$$

- $\dot{p}(t)$  is the curve point;
- $\dot{p}_i$  is the control point  $i$  such that  $i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ;
- $n + 1$  is the number of control points;
- $p$  is the curve degree; and
- $N_{i,p}(t)$  is the basis function.

**Notice that you are adding the contributions of all control points; however, points far away from the current location will contribute nothing (zero).**

# The Basis Function

(c) R. Elias

A **basis function** specifies how strong or weak a control point contributes to a curve point at parameter  $t$ .

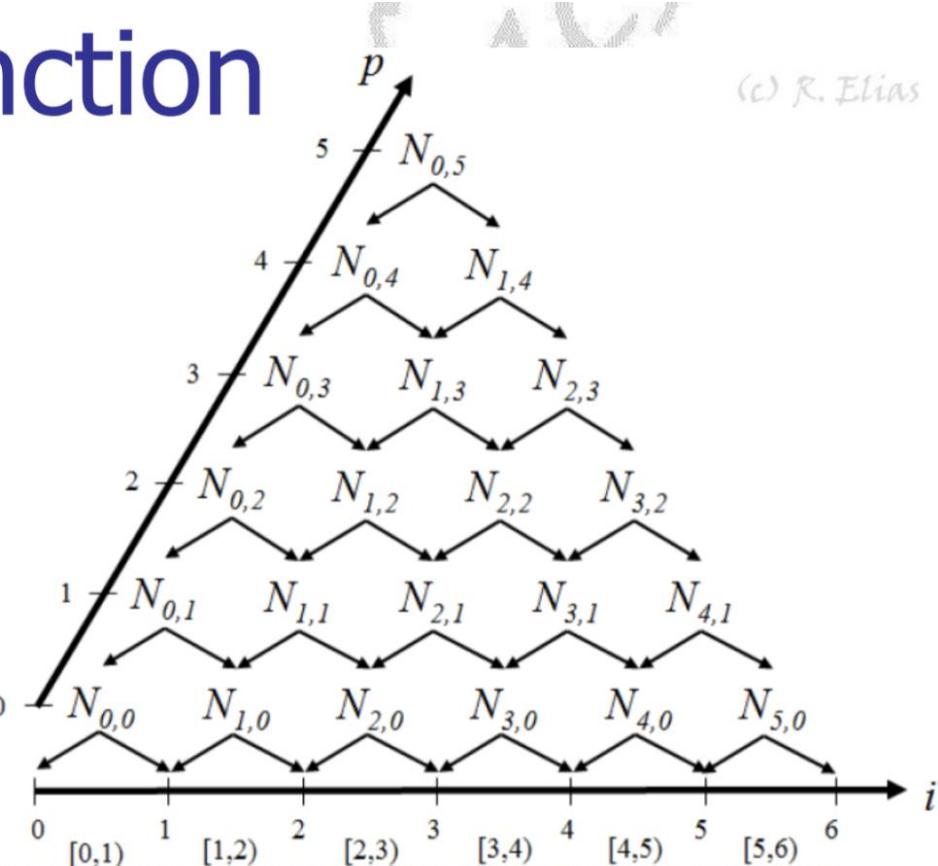
- The  $i^{\text{th}}$  basis function  $N_{i,p}(t)$  of degree  $p$  is expressed by the Cox-de Boor recursion formula:

**Base case**

$$N_{i,0}(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } t_i \leq t < t_{i+1}; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

**Recursive case**

$$N_{i,p}(t) = \frac{t - t_i}{t_{i+p} - t_i} N_{i,p-1}(t) + \frac{t_{i+p+1} - t}{t_{i+p+1} - t_{i+1}} N_{i+1,p-1}(t)$$

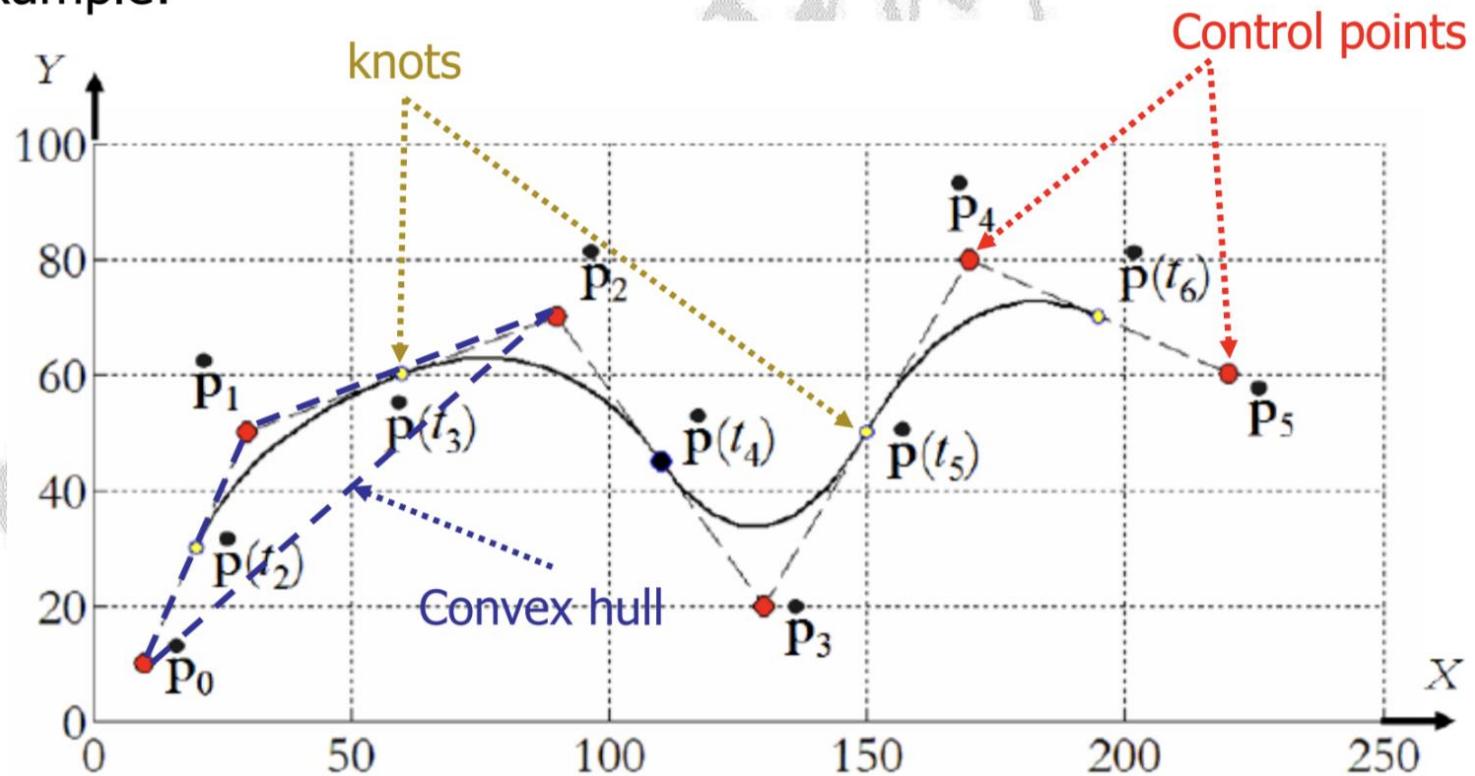


# Quadratic B-spline Curves

- Consider the control points  $\dot{p}_0, \dot{p}_1, \dots, \dot{p}_n$ .
  - Those points can approximate a **quadratic** B-spline curve that consists of a sequence of  $n - 1$  (where  $n \geq 2$ ) **quadratic** curve segments.
- | Segment  | Control points                            | Domain                 |
|----------|---|------------------------|
| $S_2$    | $\dot{p}_0, \dot{p}_1, \dot{p}_2$         | $t_2 \leq t < t_3$     |
| $S_3$    | $\dot{p}_1, \dot{p}_2, \dot{p}_3$         | $t_3 \leq t < t_4$     |
| $\vdots$ | $\vdots$                                  | $\vdots$               |
| $S_n$    | $\dot{p}_{n-2}, \dot{p}_{n-1}, \dot{p}_n$ | $t_n \leq t < t_{n+1}$ |
- Points at the start and end of each segment are called **knots**.
  - As each quadratic curve segment is controlled by **3** control points, a control point affects and contributes to **3** curve segments.

# Quadratic B-spline Curves: An Example

Example:



# Cubic B-spline Curves

Consider the control points  $\dot{p}_0, \dot{p}_1, \dots, \dot{p}_n$ .

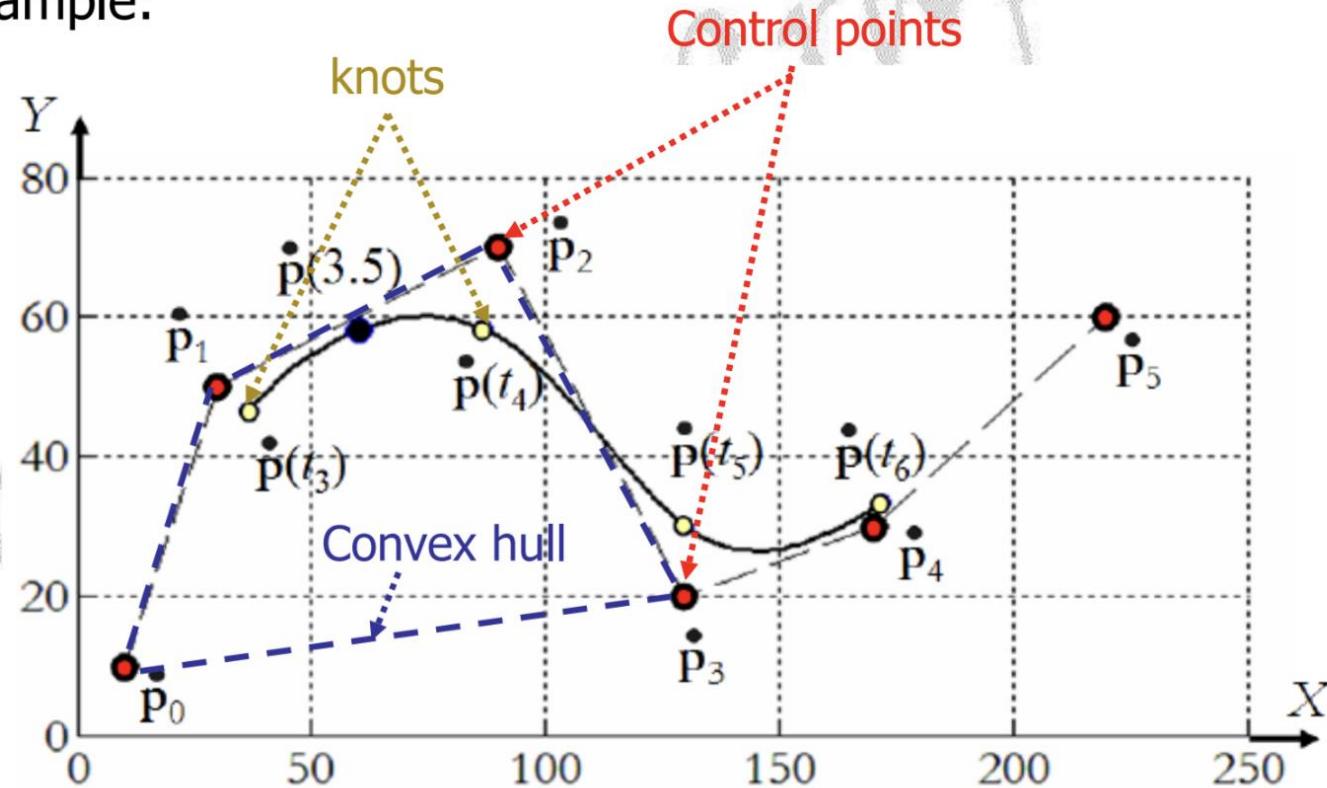
- Those points can approximate a **cubic** B-spline curve that consists of a sequence of  $n - 2$  (where  $n \geq 3$ ) **cubic** curve segments.

Segment	Control points	Domain
$S_3$	$\dot{p}_0, \dot{p}_1, \dot{p}_2, \dot{p}_3$	$t_3 \leq t < t_4$
$S_4$	$\dot{p}_1, \dot{p}_2, \dot{p}_3, \dot{p}_4$	$t_4 \leq t < t_5$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$S_n$	$\dot{p}_{n-3}, \dot{p}_{n-2}, \dot{p}_{n-1}, \dot{p}_n$	$t_n \leq t < t_{n+1}$

- Points at the start and end of each segment are called **knots**.
- As each quadratic curve segment is controlled by **4** control points, a control point affects and contributes to **4** curve segments.

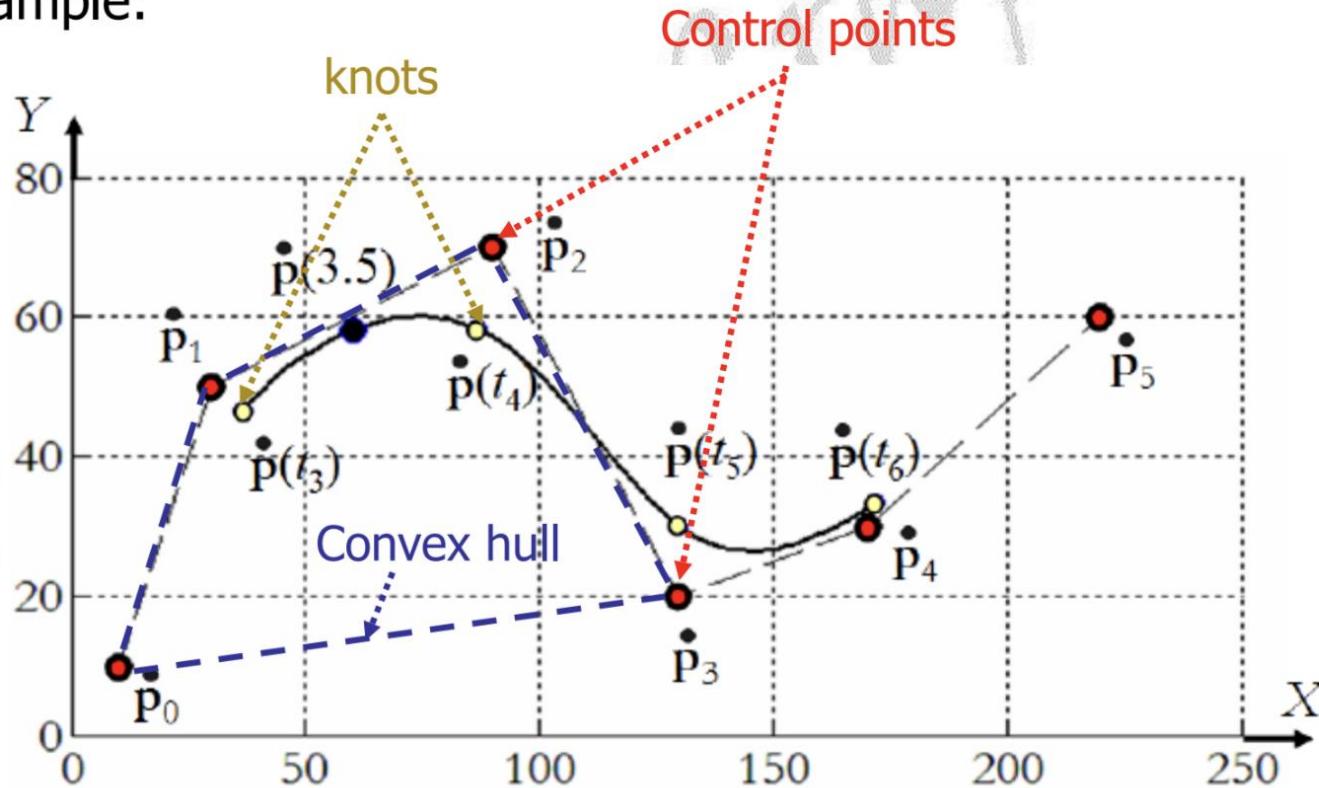
# Cubic B-spline Curves: An Example

Example:



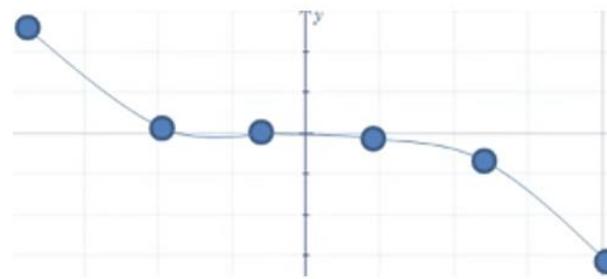
# Cubic B-spline Curves: An Example

Example:

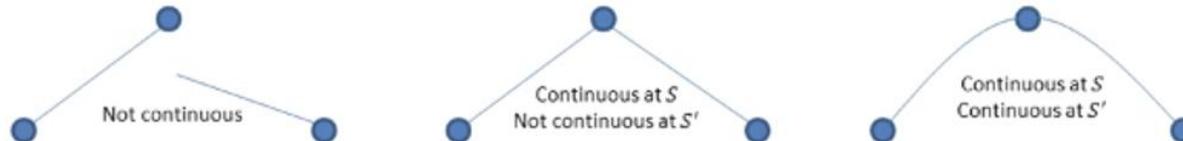


# Curves

- Piecewise Cubic Spline

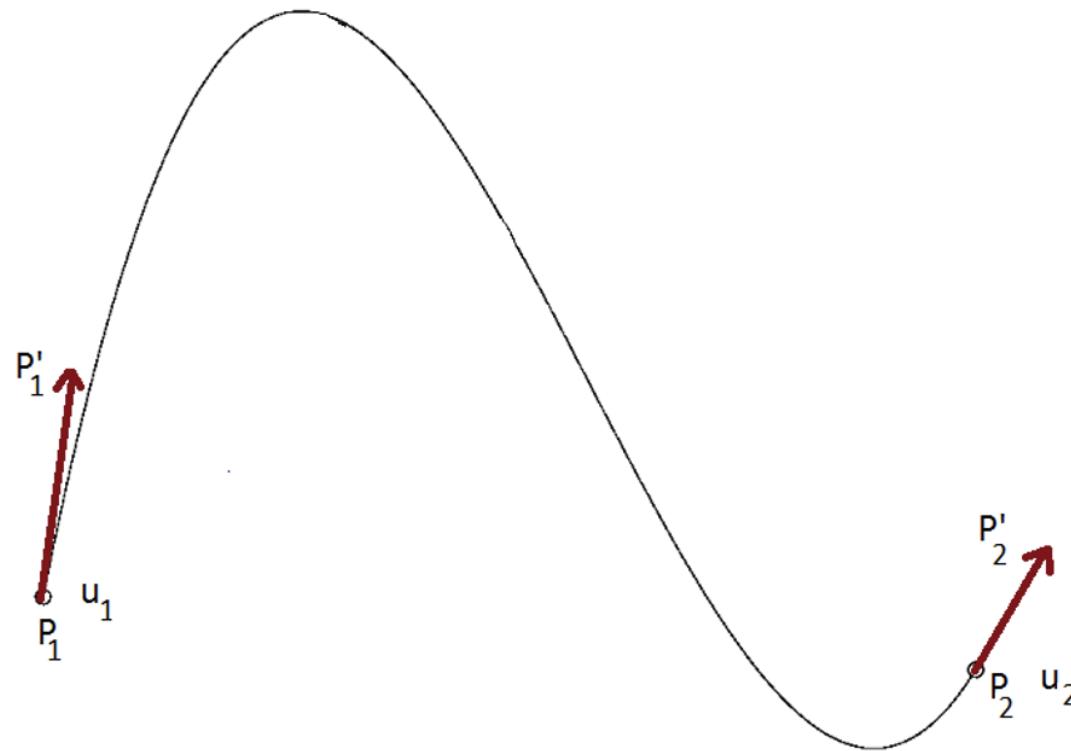


- What's special about splines?
  - Function approximations that are continuous at merging points
  - Also have continuous first and second derivatives where they join



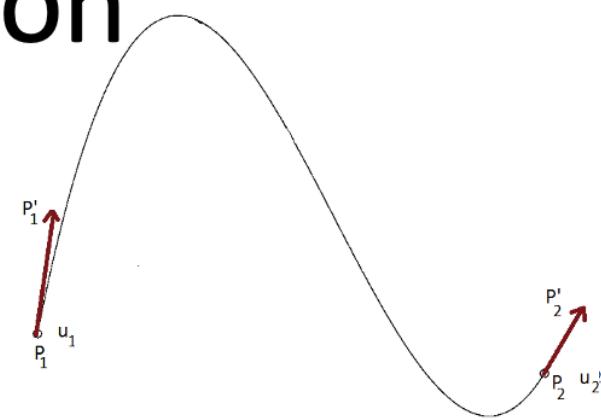
# Spline Interpolation

- Calculation of a cubic spline
- Given positions  $P_1, P_2$ , and derivatives/tangents  $P'_1, P'_2$



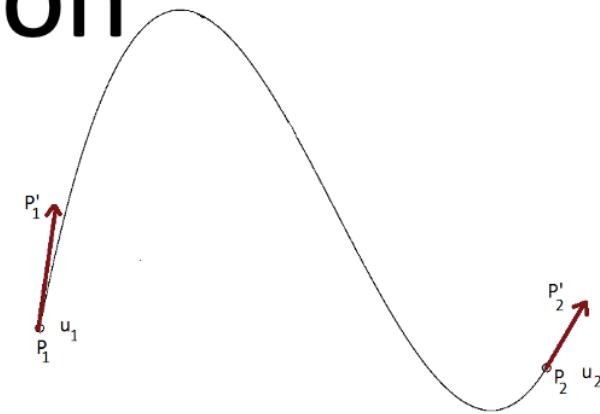
# Spline Interpolation

- Calculation of a cubic spline
- Given  $P_1, P_2$ , and  $P'_1, P'_2$
- Let  $u_1 = 0$
- $P(0) = P_1 \quad P'(0) = P'_1$
- $P(u_2) = P_2 \quad P'(u_2) = P'_2$
- Use  $P(u) = B_1 + B_2u + B_3u^2 + B_4u^3$  for substitutions
- $P(0) = B_1 = P_1$
- $P(u_2) = B_1 + B_2u_2 + B_3u_2^2 + B_4u_2^3 = P_2$
- Use  $P'(u) = B_2 + 2B_3u + 3B_4u^2$  for substitutions
- $P'(0) = B_2 = P'_1$
- $P'(u_2) = B_2 + 2B_3u_2 + 3B_4u_2^2 = P'_2$



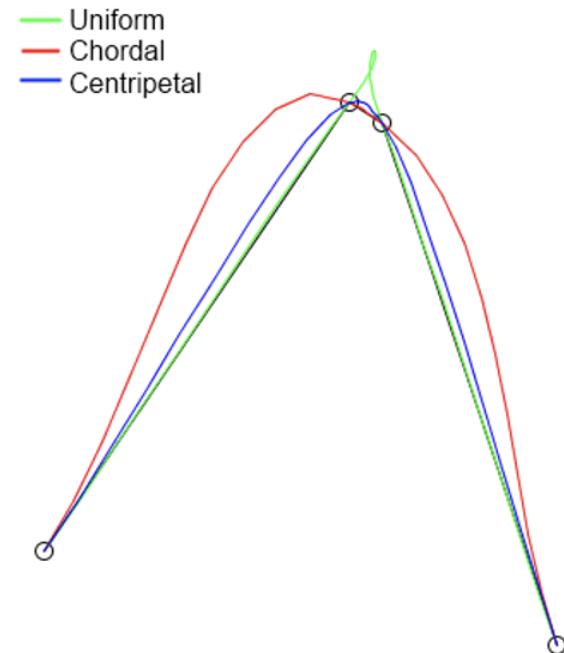
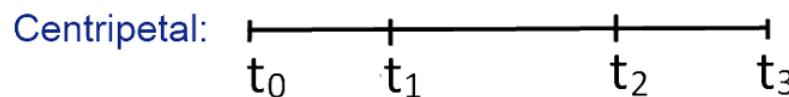
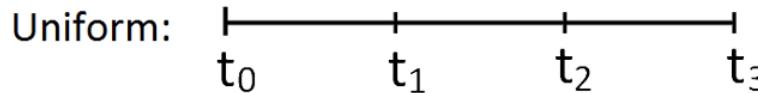
# Spline Interpolation

- Calculation of a cubic spline
- Given  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$ , and  $P'_1$ ,  $P'_2$
- Let  $u_1 = 0$
- $P(0) = P_1 \quad P'(0) = P'_1$
- $P(u_2) = P_2 \quad P'(u_2) = P'_2$
- Use  $P(u) = B_1 + B_2u + B_3u^2 + B_4u^3$  for substitutions
- $\mathbf{P(0) = B_1 = P_1}$
- $B_3 = 3(P_2 - P_1)/u_2^2 - 2P'_1/u_2 - P'_2/u_2$
- Use  $P'(u) = B_2 + 2B_3u + 3B_4u^2$  for substitutions
- $\mathbf{P'(0) = B_2 = P'_1}$
- $B_4 = 2(P_1 - P_2)/u_2^3 + P'_1/u_2^2 + P'_2/u_2^2$



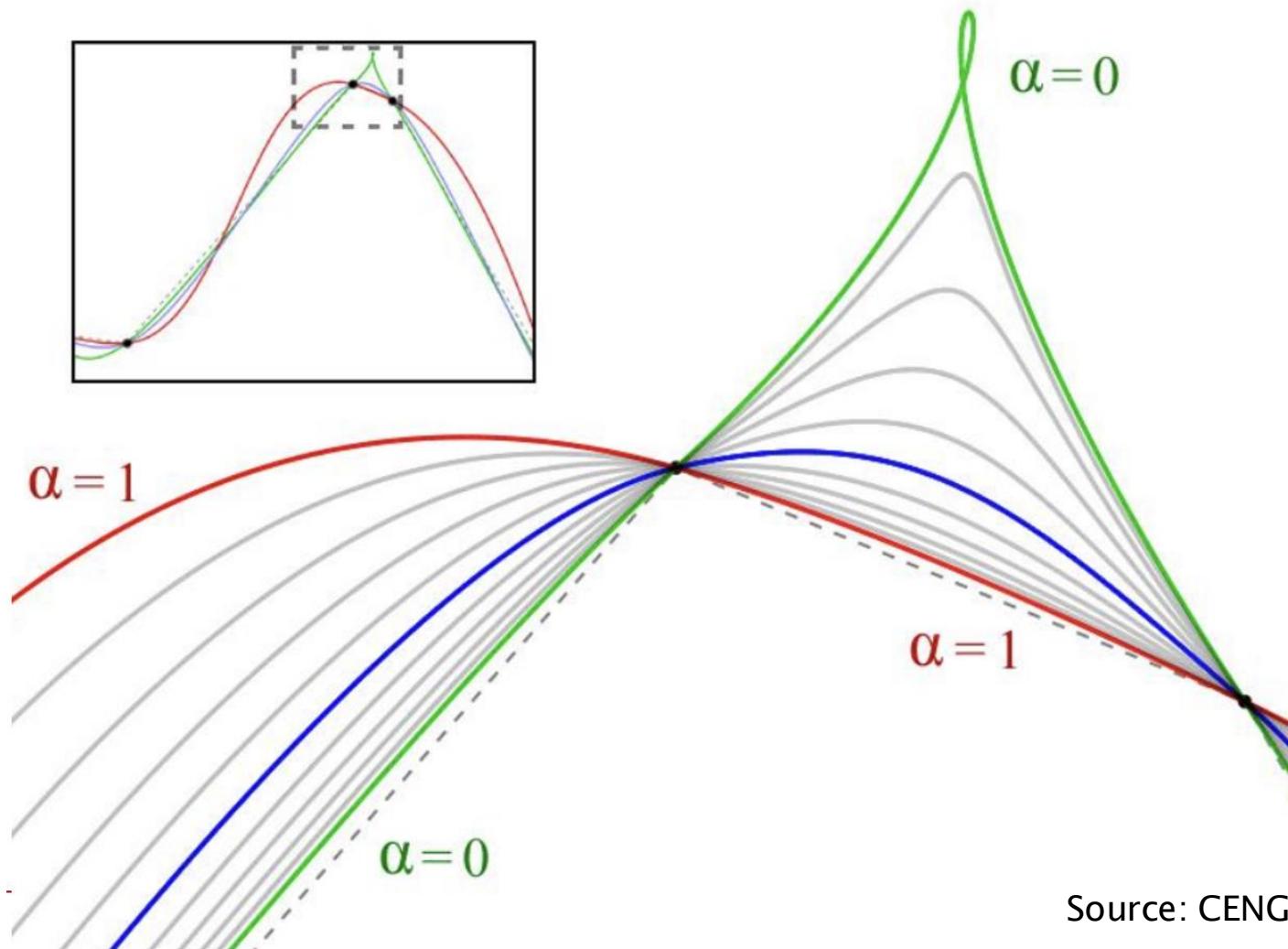
# Spline Parametrization

- All from the same family:  $\|P_{k-1} - P_k\|^\alpha$
- Uniform:  $u_k = \|P_{k-1} - P_k\|^0$
- Chordal:  $u_k \sim \|P_{k-1} - P_k\|^1$
- Centripetal:  $u_k \sim \|P_{k-1} - P_k\|^{0.5}$  (best)
  - Will not form loop or self-intersection within a curve segment
  - Cusp will never occur within a curve segment
  - Spline follows the control points more tightly



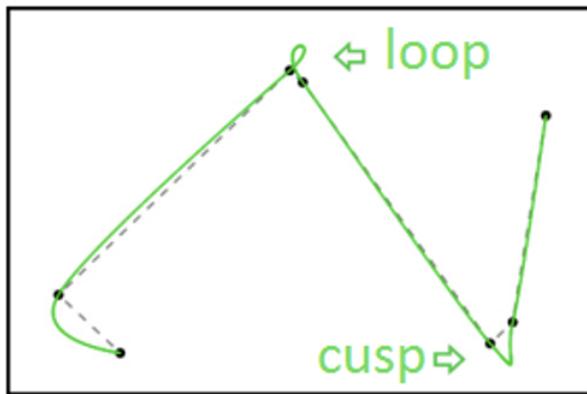
# Spline Parametrization

All from the same family:  $\|P_{k-1} - \tilde{P}_k\|^\alpha$

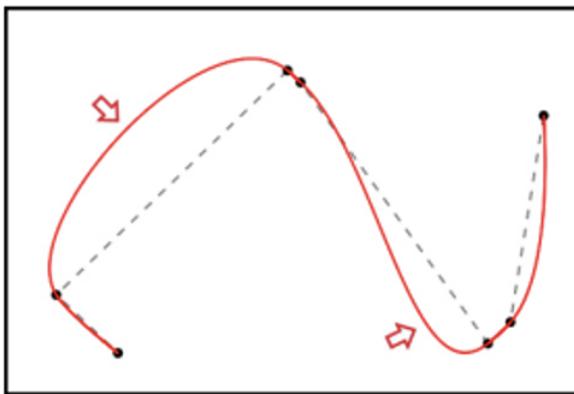


# Spline Parametrization

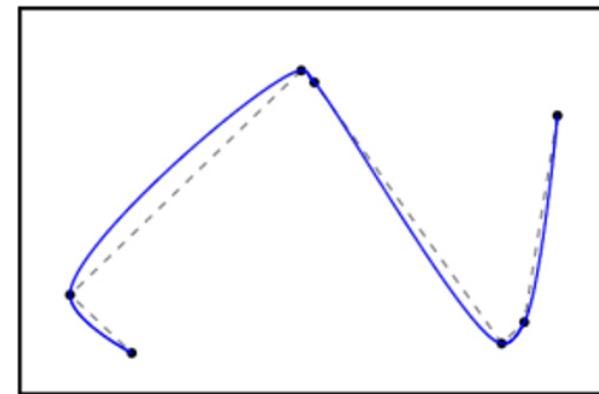
- All from the same family:  $\|P_{k-1} - \underline{P_k}\|^\alpha$



Uniform



Chordal

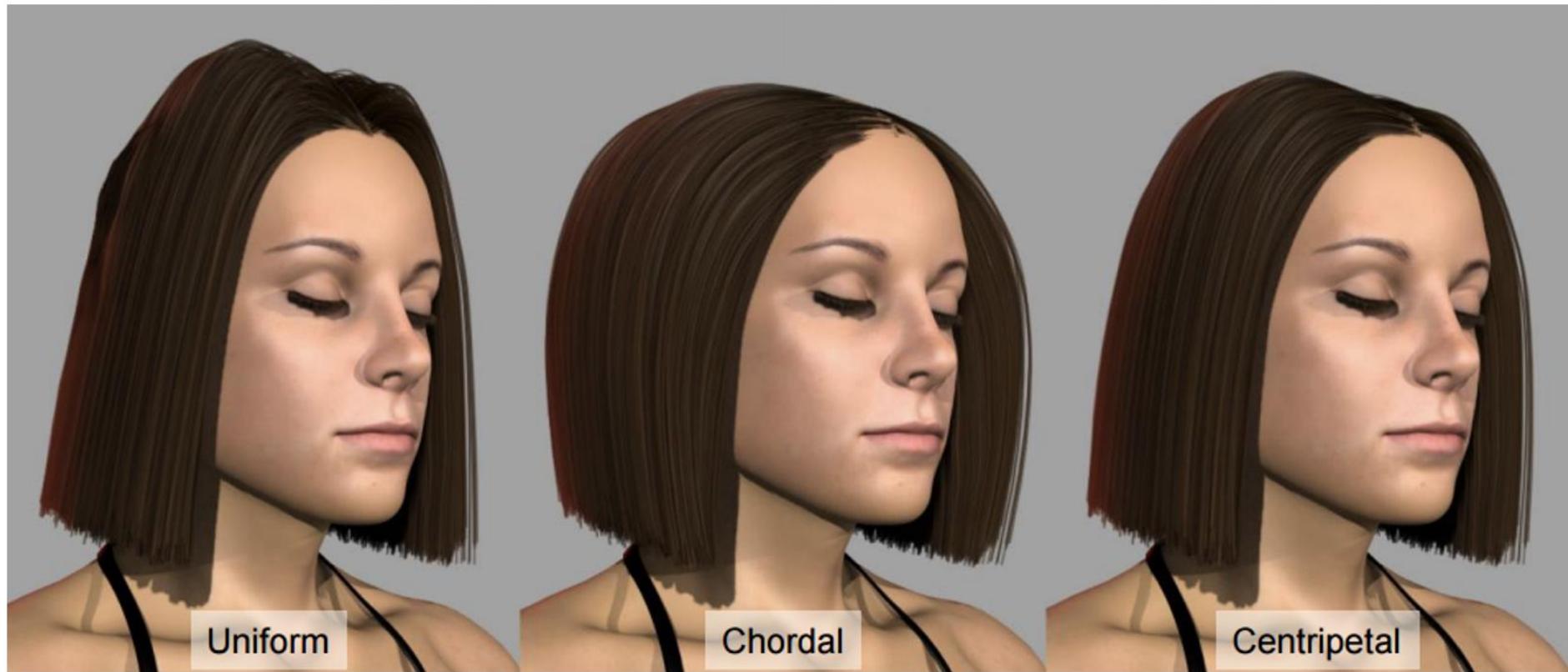


Centripetal

- Uniform parameterization overshoots and often generates cusps and intersections within short curve segments
- Chordal has the same problems for longer segments
- Centripetal is guaranteed to be loop/intersection-free and cusp-free and does not suffer from overshooting (tight)

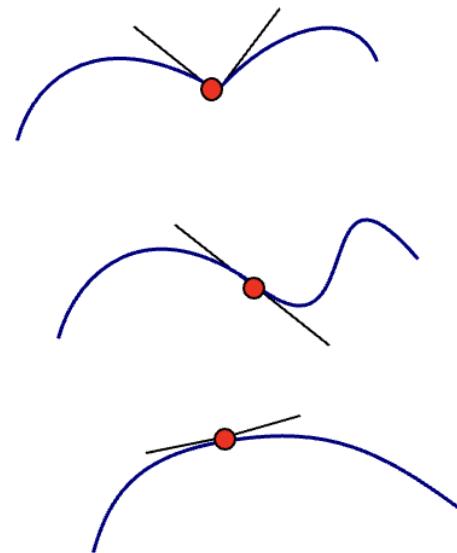
# Spline Parametrization

- All from the same family:  $\|P_{k-1} - \underline{P_k}\|^\alpha$
- A hair design application of splines (from Hair Meshes paper, 2009)



# Parametric Continuity

- Parametric equations:  
 $x = x(u), y = y(u), z = z(u)$
- Parametric continuity: Continuity properties of curve segments.
  - Zero order: Curves intersects at one end-point:  $C^0$
  - First order:  $C^0$  and curves has same tangent at intersection:  $C^1$
  - Second order:  $C^0, C^1$  and curves has same second order derivative:  $C^2$ 
    - Change in rate of change
    - E.g., position" w.r.t. time is acceleration



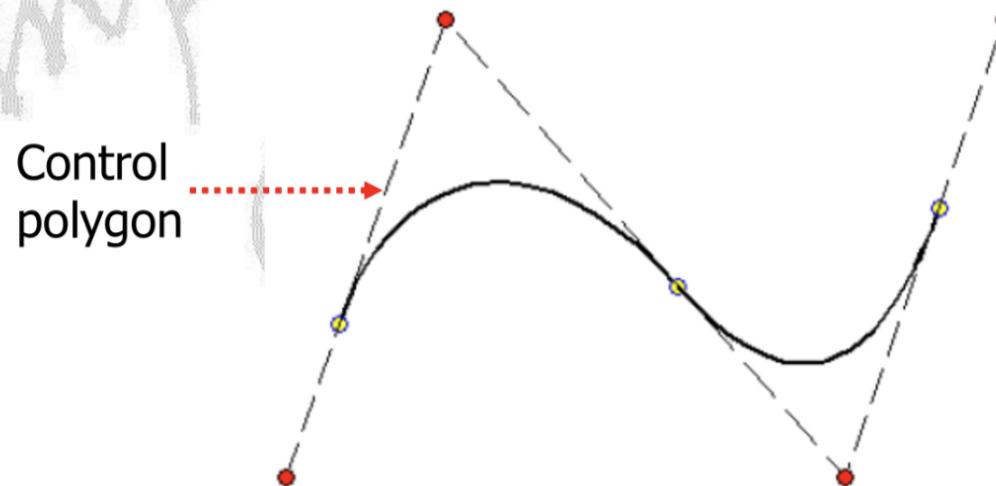
# Rational Curves

- Both Bézier curves and B-splines are polynomial parametric curves.
- Polynomial parametric forms cannot exactly represent some simple curves such as circles.
- Introducing homogeneous coordinates (adding one dimension) makes them **rational**.
- Bézier curves and B-splines are generalized to rational Bézier curves and NURBS.
- Rational curves are more powerful as they can represent circles and ellipses.

# What are “NURBS?”

**NURBS** is an abbreviation for *non-uniform rational B-splines*.

- **NU** or *non-uniform* implies that the knots may be placed at non-equal intervals.
- **R** or *rational* refers to the underlying mathematical representation.
- **BS** or *B-splines* refer to piecewise polynomial curves.



# NURBS Curves

NURBS curve is defined as:

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n \dot{\mathbf{p}}_i N_{i,p}(t) w_i}{\sum_{i=0}^n N_{i,p}(t) w_i}$$

- $\dot{\mathbf{p}}(t)$  is the curve point;
- $\dot{\mathbf{p}}_i$  is the control point  $i$  such that  $i \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ;
- $n + 1$  is the number of control points;
- $p$  is the curve degree;
- $N_{i,p}(t)$  is the B-spline basis function; and
- $w_i$  is the weight of  $\dot{\mathbf{p}}_i$  (the last entry in the homogeneous  $\mathbf{p}_i$ ).

# Summary

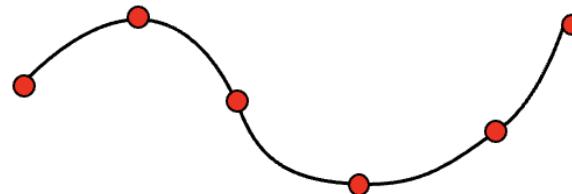
## Curves:

- Polynomial equations
  - Representations of curves
  - Degree
  - Interpolating versus approximating curves
- 
- Bézier curves
  - B-spline curves
  - NURBS curves

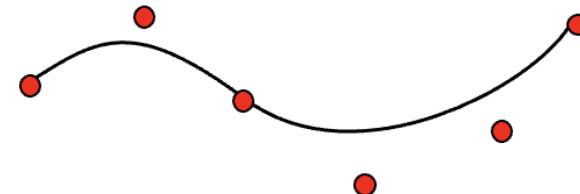
# Bézier and Spline Curves

# Bezier Curves

- So far our splines pass through the control points: interpolation
- Now they will pass close to the control points: approximation



Interpolated



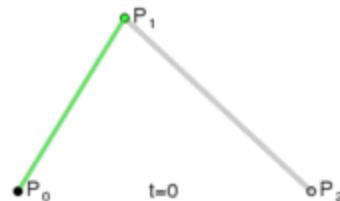
Approximated

- Bezier curves is the most famous approximation curve
- Not a spline as there is no curve segments here; in fact locally changing one point affects the whole curve globally
- Introduced by Pierre Bezier from Renault Automobiles

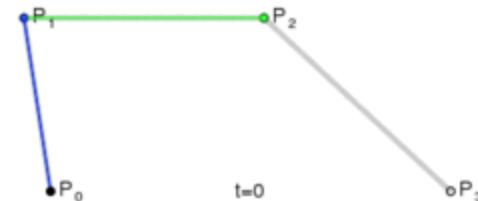
# Bezier Curves

- Essentially it replaces the tangent vectors of cubic splines, that exist virtually but not quite visually, with supporting points from which curve does not pass

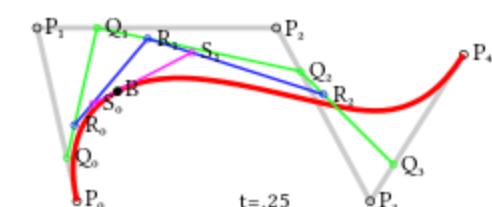
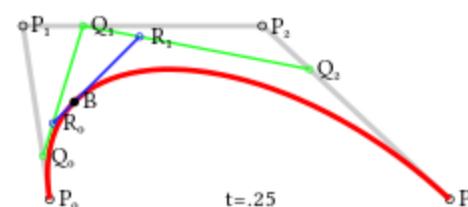
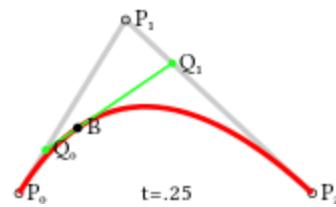
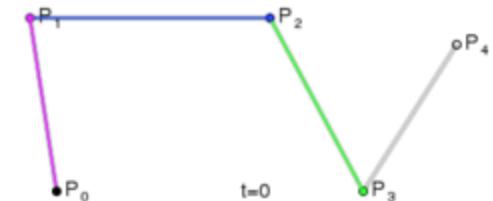
A quadratic Bezier curve



A cubic Bezier curve

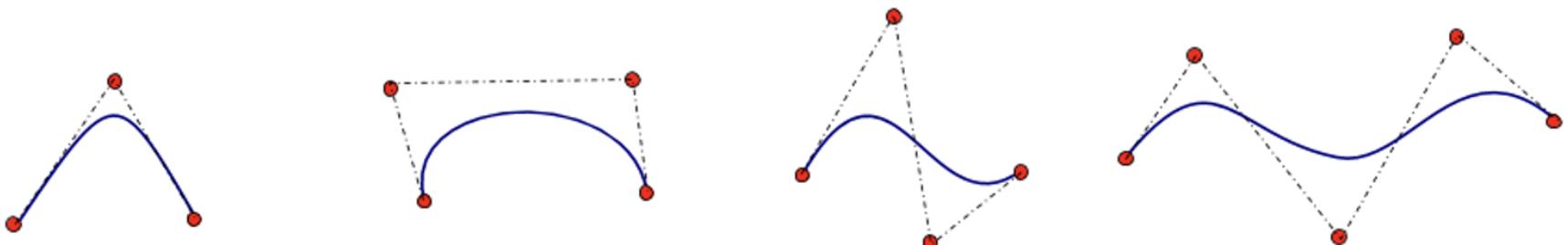


A quartic Bezier curve



# Bezier Curves

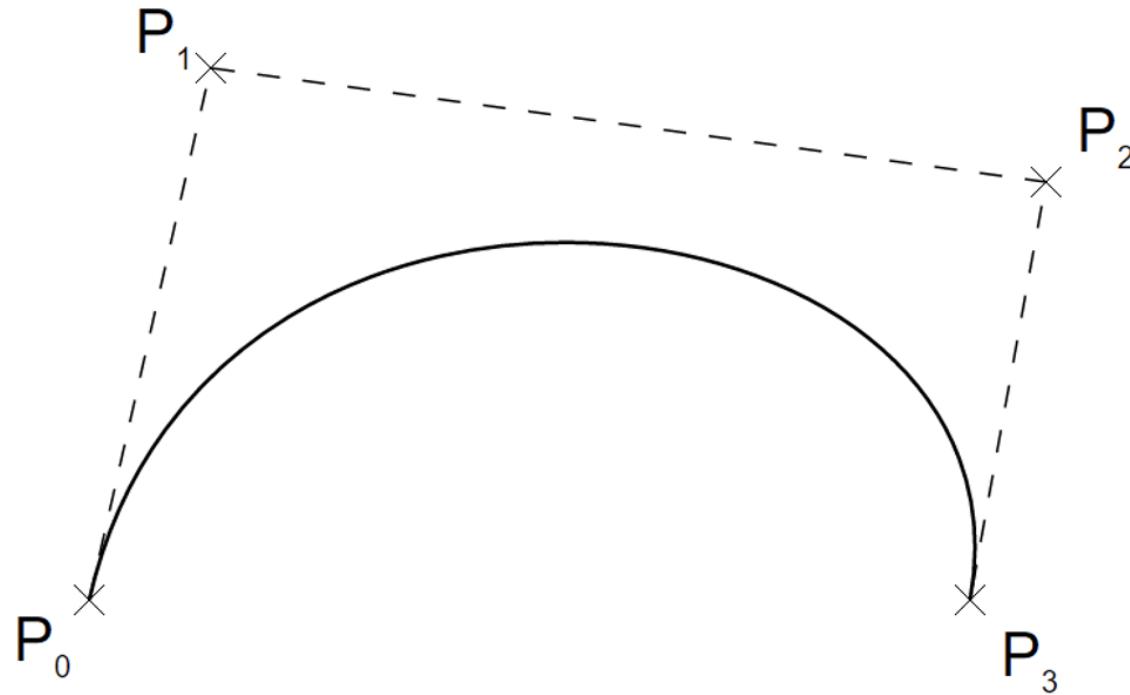
- Hence the motivation is to design curves that are easy to specify
- Bezier curve captures the shape specified by control points
- Quadratic and cubic Bezier curves are the most common



- Higher degree curvs are more computationally expensive to evaluate
- When more complex shapes are needed, low order Bezier curves are merged together, producing a composite Bezier curve or Bezier spline

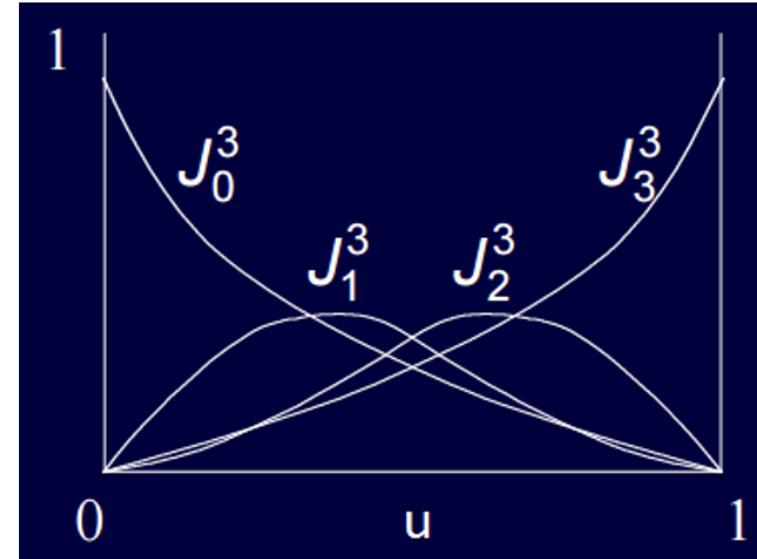
# Bezier Curves

- Hence the motivation is to design curves that are easy to specify
- Bezier curve captures the shape specified by control points  $P_k$
- $P(u) = \sum_0^n P_i J_i^n(u)$  where  $0 \leq u \leq 1$  and  $J_i^n(u)$  are called Bernstein basis/blending functions



# Bernstein Polynomials

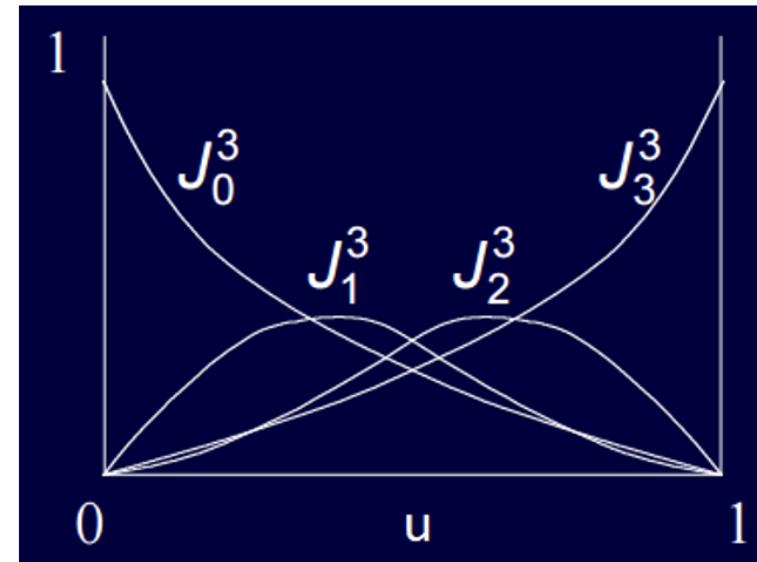
- $J_i^n(u)$  are the Bernstein basis/blending functions or polynomials
- $J_i^n(u) = C(n, i)u^i(1-u)^{n-i}$  where  $C(n, i) = n! / (i!(n-i)!)$
- $J_0^0(u) = 1$
- $J_i^n(u) = 0$  for  $i < 0$  or  $i > n$
- $\sum_0^n J_i^n(u) = 1$
- $J_i^n(u) \geq 0$  for  $0 \leq u \leq 1$
- For cubic Bezier  $n = 3$  and we have:



# Bernstein Polynomials

- $J_i^n(u)$  are the Bernstein basis/blending functions or polynomials
- $J_i^n(u) = C(n, i)u^i(1-u)^{n-i}$  where  $C(n, i) = n! / (i!(n-i)!)$

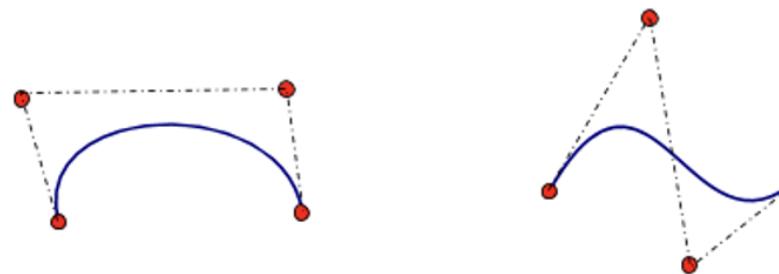
- For cubic Bezier  $n = 3$  and we have:
- $J_0^3(u) = u^0(1-u)^3 = (1-u)^3$
- $J_1^3(u) = 3u(1-u)^2$
- $J_2^3(u) = 3u^2(1-u)$
- $J_3^3(u) = u^3$
- $P(u) = P_0J_0^3 + P_1J_1^3 + P_2J_2^3 + P_3J_3^3$



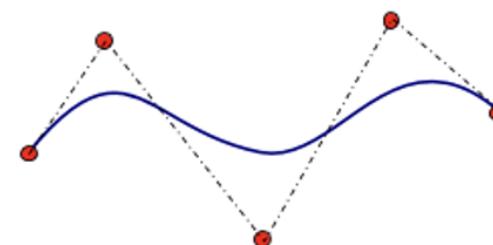
# Bezier Curve

- Degree/order of the Bezier curve is # of control points minus 1

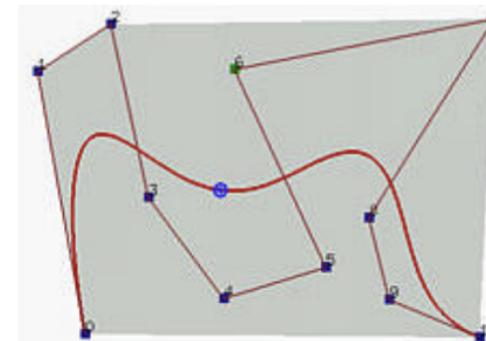
- Degree 3 (cubic)



- Degree 4 (quartic)



- Degree 10 (11 control points)

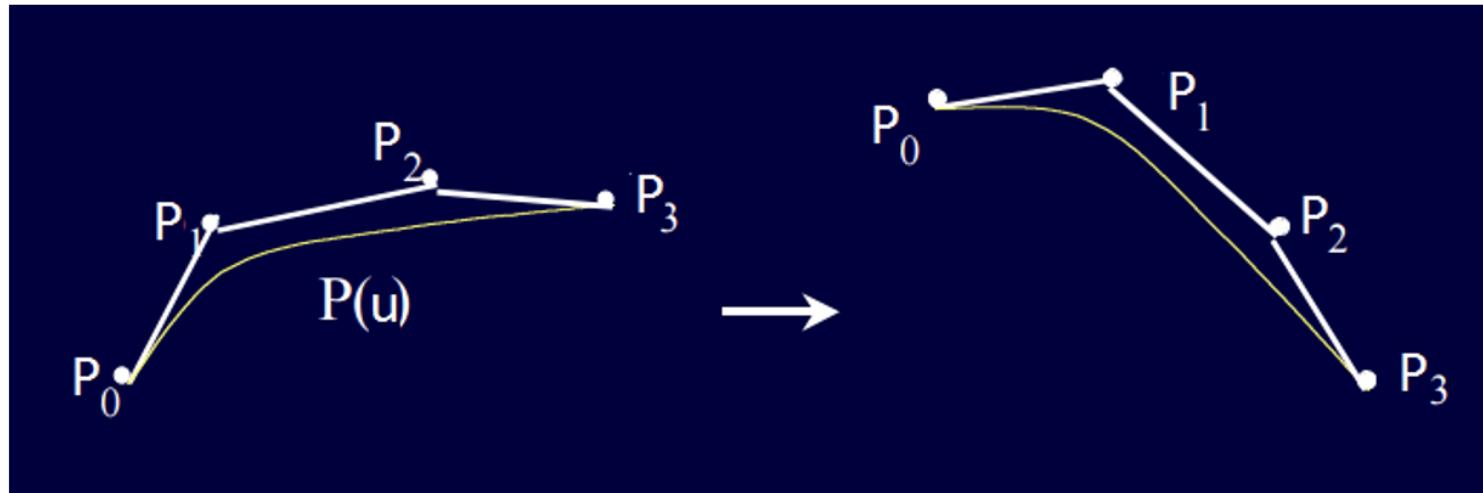


# Bezier Curve

- End point interpolation property
  - Bezier curve (of any degree) interpolates the 2 endpoints (passes through)
  - Recall  $\underline{J_i^n}(u) = C(n, i)u^i(1-u)^{n-i}$
  - At  $u=0$  (first endpoint)
    - $i = 0, \underline{J_0^n}(0) = C(n, 0)u^0(1-u)^{n-0} = 1$
    - $i \neq 0, \underline{J_i^n}(0) = C(n, i)0^i(1-0)^{n-i} = 0$
    - $P(0) = P_0 \underline{J_0^n}(0) = P_0$
  - At  $u=1$  (second endpoint)
    - $i = n, \underline{J_n^n}(1) = C(n, n)1^n(1-u)^0 = 1$
    - $i \neq n, \underline{J_i^n}(1) = C(n, i)1^i(1-1)^{n-i} = 0$
    - $P(1) = \underline{P_n J_n^n}(1) = \underline{P_n}$

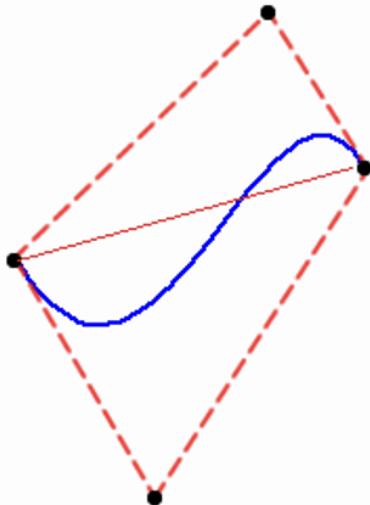
# Bezier Curve

- Affine invariance property
  - Applying an affine transformation  $M$  to the curve is equivalent to applying the transformation to the control points, and vice versa
  - Useful property because it says it is enough to transform the control points



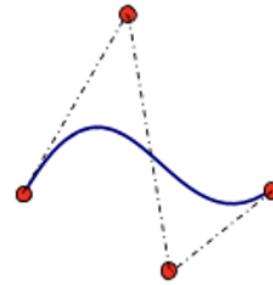
# Bezier Curve

- Convex hull property
  - Bezier curve lies in the convex hull of the control points  $\underline{P_k}$
  - Useful property because intersection/collision computation of one curve with another (or anything designed with this curve) is accelerated by pruning



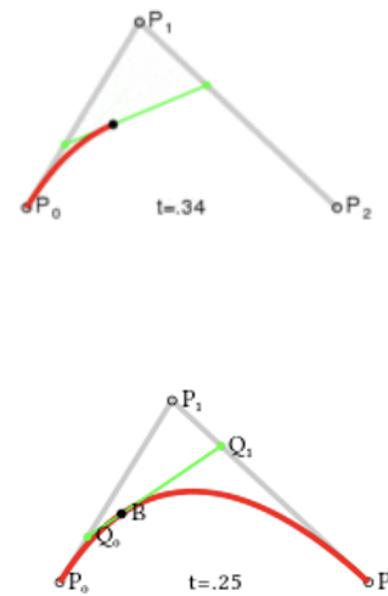
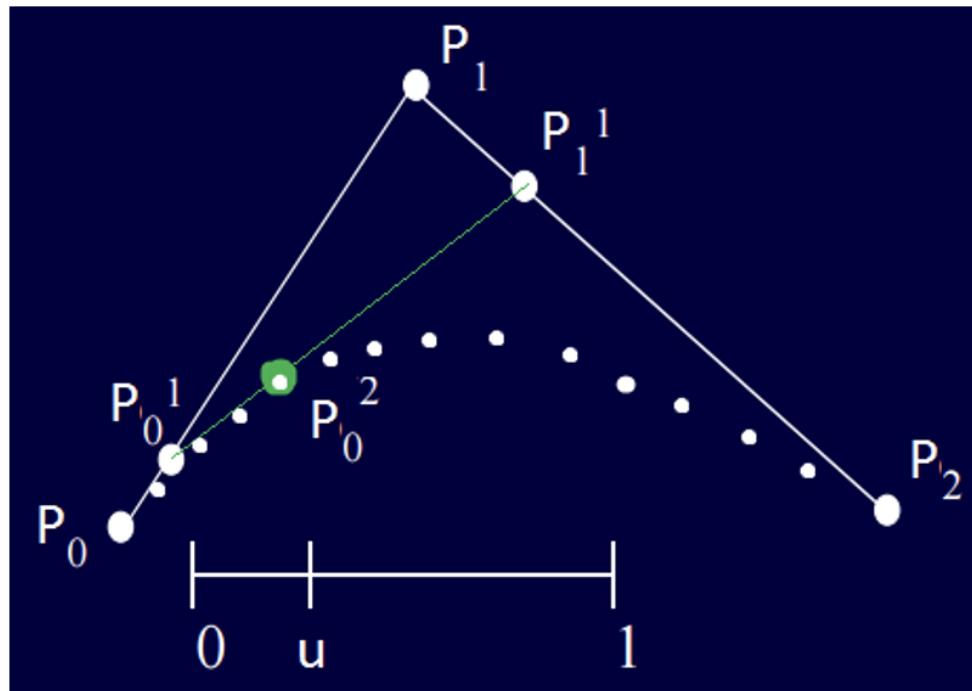
# Bezier Curve

- Symmetry property
  - $P(u)$  defined by  $P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n$  is equal to  $P(1-u)$  defined by  $P_n, P_{n-1}, \dots, P_0$
  - $\sum_0^n P_i J_i^n(u) = \sum_0^n P_{n-i} J_i^n(1-u)$



# Bezier Curve

- Construction by de Casteljau Algorithm
- Idea: repetitive linear interpolation



- $P_0^1(u) = (1-u)P_0 + uP_1 \quad P_1^1(u) = (1-u)P_1 + uP_2$
- $P_0^2(u) = (1-u)P_0^1(u) + uP_1^1(u) = (1-u)^2P_0 + 2u(1-u)P_1 + u^2P_2$
- Bernstein polynomials of degree 2; so what I get is a Bezier curve ☺

# Bezier Surface

- Construction by Bernstein polynomials' Cartesian product
- A surface compute this way is also known as a bicubic Bezier patch
- 32 such bicubic Bezier patches generate this teapot

