

# Curves and Surfaces

Parametric Representations  
Cubic Polynomial Forms  
Hermite Curves  
Bezier Curves and Surfaces  
[Angel 10.1-10.6]

## Goals

- How do we draw surfaces?
  - Approximate with polygons
  - Draw polygons
- How do we specify a surface?
  - Explicit, implicit, parametric
- How do we approximate a surface?
  - Interpolation (use only points)
  - Hermite (use points and tangents)
  - Bezier (use points, and more points for tangents)

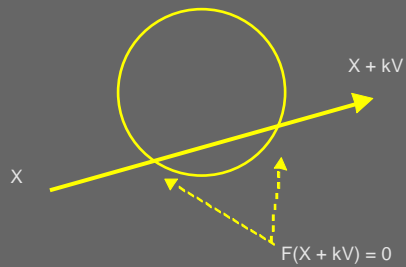
## Explicit Representation

- Curve in 2D:  $y = f(x)$
- Curve in 3D:  $y = f(x), z = g(x)$
- Surface in 3D:  $z = f(x,y)$
- Problems:
  - How about a vertical line  $x = c$  as  $y = f(x)$ ?
  - Circle  $y = \pm (r^2 - x^2)^{1/2}$  two or zero values for  $x$
- Too dependent on coordinate system
- Rarely used in computer graphics

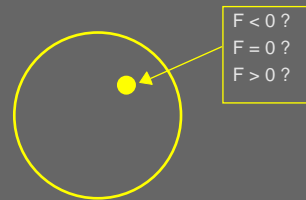
## Implicit Representation

- Curve in 2D:  $f(x,y) = 0$ 
  - Line:  $ax + by + c = 0$
  - Circle:  $x^2 + y^2 - r^2 = 0$
- Surface in 3D:  $f(x,y,z) = 0$ 
  - Plane:  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$
  - Sphere:  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - r^2 = 0$
- $f(x,y,z)$  can describe 3D object:
  - Inside:  $f(x,y,z) < 0$
  - Surface:  $f(x,y,z) = 0$
  - Outside:  $f(x,y,z) > 0$

## What Implicit Functions are Good For

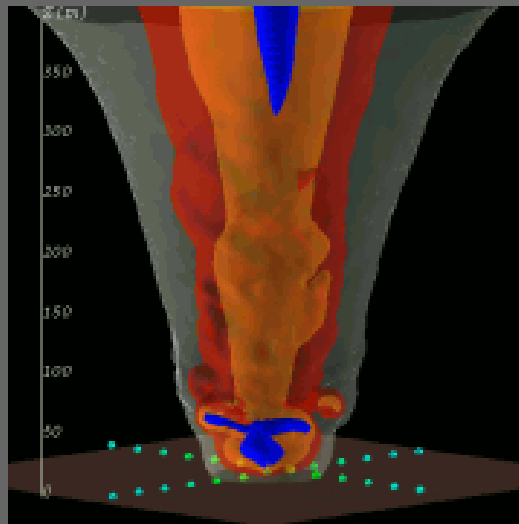


Ray - Surface Intersection Test



Inside/Outside Test

## Isosurfaces of Simulated Tornado



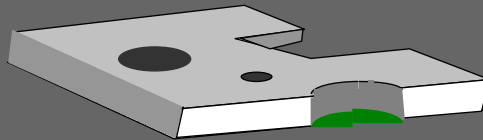
## Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)

Generate complex shapes with basic building blocks

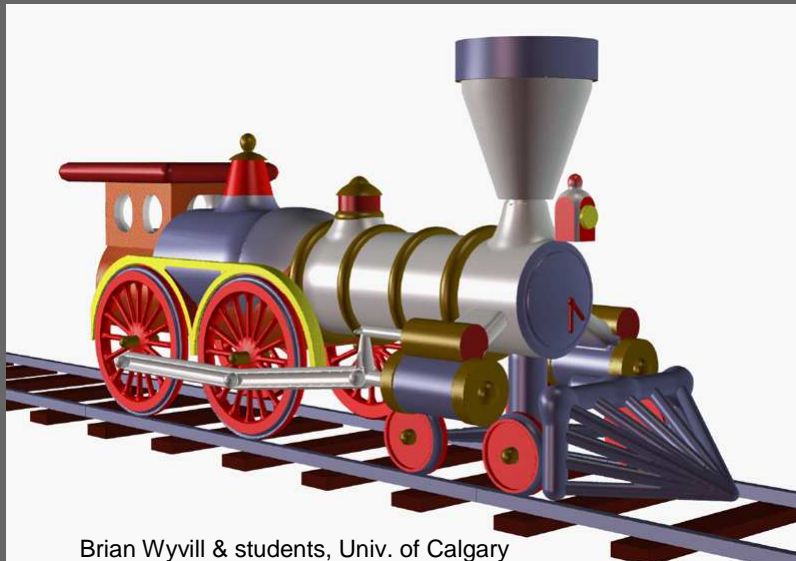
machine an object - saw parts off, drill holes

glue pieces together

This is sensible for objects that are actually made that way (human-made, particularly machined objects)



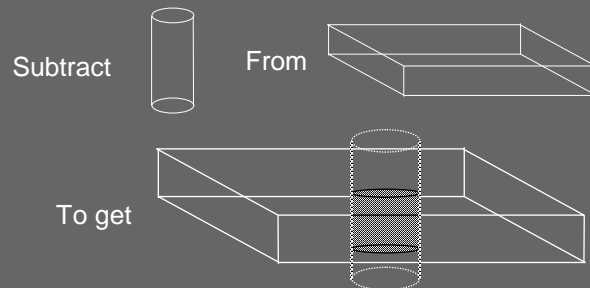
## A CSG Train



Brian Wyvill & students, Univ. of Calgary

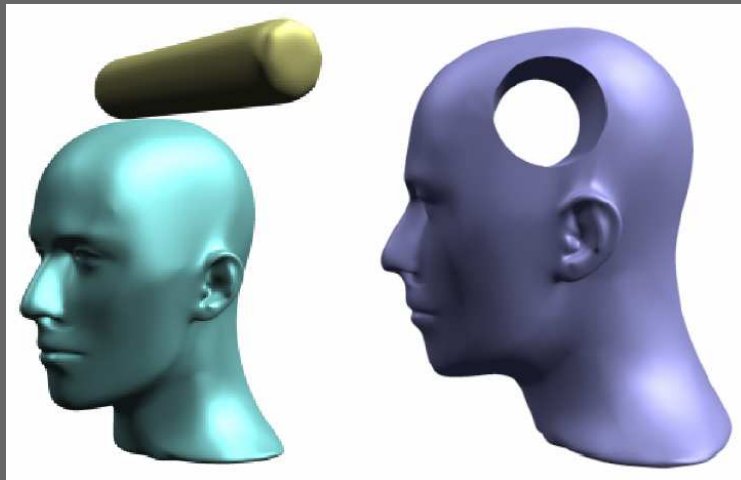
## CSG: Negative Objects

- Use point-by-point boolean functions
  - remove a volume by using a negative object
  - e.g. drill a hole by subtracting a cylinder



$\text{Inside}(\text{BLOCK}-\text{CYL}) = \text{Inside}(\text{BLOCK}) \text{ And Not}(\text{Inside}(\text{CYL}))$

## CSG



## CSG

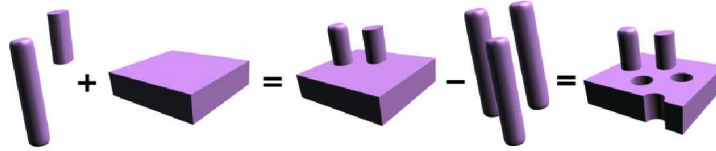


Figure 20: Unions and differences of piecewise-smooth surfaces. The resulting surfaces have creases and corners.

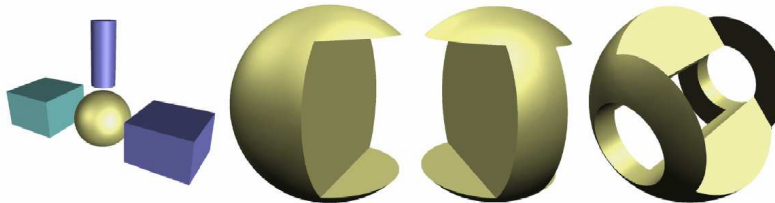
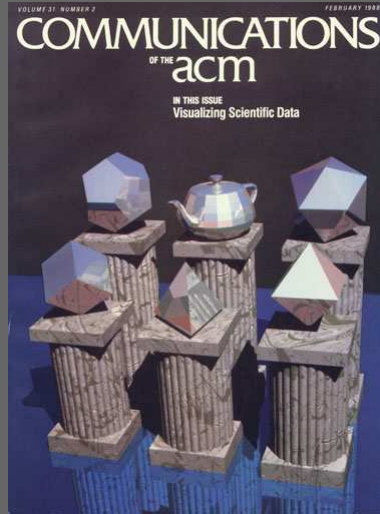


Figure 21: Sequence of difference operations: Subtracting two boxes and a cylinder from a sphere. The result has convex and concave corners. The subdivision scheme that we use [4] represents these features explicitly.

## The Utah Teapot



## The Utah Teapot



### The Six Platonic Solids

(by Jim Arvo and Dave Kirk, from their '87 SIGGRAPH paper *Fast Ray Tracing by Ray Classification*.)

See

<http://www.sjbaker.org/teapot/>  
for more history.

## The Utah Teapot



The teapot  
is just  
cubic Bezier  
patches!

```
Rim:
{ 102, 103, 104, 105, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 }
Body:
{ 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 }
{ 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 }
Lid:
{ 96, 96, 96, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 101, 101, 0, 1, 2, 3 }
{ 0, 1, 2, 3, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117 }
Handle:
{ 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 }
{ 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 28, 65, 66, 67 }
Spout:
{ 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83 }
{ 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95 }

Vertices:
{ 0.2000, 0.0000, 2.70000 }, { 0.2000, -0.1120, 2.70000 }, { 0.1120, -0.2000, 2.70000 },
{ 0.0000, -0.2000, 2.70000 }, { 1.3375, 0.0000, 2.53125 }, { 1.3375, -0.7490, 2.53125 },
{ 0.7490, -1.3375, 2.53125 }, { 0.0000, -1.3375, 2.53125 }, { 1.4375, 0.0000, 2.53125 },
{ 1.4375, -0.8050, 2.53125 }, { 0.8050, -1.4375, 2.53125 }, { 0.0000, -1.4375, 2.53125 },
{ 1.5000, 0.0000, 2.40000 }, { 1.5000, -0.8400, 2.40000 }, { 0.8400, -1.5000, 2.40000 },
{ 0.0000, -1.5000, 2.40000 }, { 1.7500, 0.0000, 1.87500 }, { 1.7500, -0.9800, 1.87500 },
{ 0.9800, -1.7500, 1.87500 }, { 0.0000, -1.7500, 1.87500 }, { 2.0000, 0.0000, 1.35000 },
{ 2.0000, -1.1200, 1.35000 }, { 1.1200, -2.0000, 1.35000 }, { 0.0000, -2.0000, 1.35000 },
{ 2.0000, 0.0000, 0.90000 }, { 2.0000, -1.1200, 0.90000 }, { 1.1200, -2.0000, 0.90000 },
{ 0.0000, -2.0000, 0.90000 }, { -2.0000, 0.0000, 0.90000 }, { -2.0000, 0.0000, 0.45000 },
{ 2.0000, -1.1200, 0.45000 }, { 1.1200, -2.0000, 0.45000 }, { 0.0000, -2.0000, 0.45000 },
{ 1.5000, 0.0000, 0.22500 }, { 1.5000, -0.8400, 0.22500 }, { 0.8400, -1.5000, 0.22500 },
{ 0.0000, -1.5000, 0.22500 }, { 1.5000, 0.0000, 0.15000 }, { 1.5000, -0.8400, 0.15000 },
{ 0.8400, -1.5000, 0.15000 }, { 0.0000, -1.5000, 0.15000 }, { -1.6000, 0.0000, 2.02500 },
{ -1.6000, -0.3000, 2.02500 }, { -1.5000, -0.3000, 2.25000 }, { -1.5000, 0.0000, 2.25000 },
{ -2.3000, 0.0000, 2.02500 }, { -2.3000, -0.3000, 2.02500 }, { -2.5000, -0.3000, 2.25000 },
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{ -2.8000, 0.0000, 0.90000 }, { -1.9000, 0.0000, 0.60000 }, { -1.9000, 0.0000, 0.60000 },
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{ 2.6000, 0.0000, 1.42500 }, { 2.6000, -0.6600, 1.42500 }, { 3.1000, -0.6600, 0.82500 },
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{ 3.5250, 0.0000, 2.49375 }, { 2.9000, 0.0000, 2.47500 }, { 2.9000, -0.1500, 2.47500 },
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{ 0.0000, -1.3000, 2.40000 }, { 0.0000, 0.0000, 0.00000 },
```



## Algebraic Surfaces

- Special case of implicit representation
- $f(x,y,z)$  is polynomial in  $x, y, z$
- Quadrics: degree of polynomial  $\leq 2$
- Render more efficiently than arbitrary surfaces
- Implicit form often used in computer graphics
- How do we represent curves implicitly?

## Parametric Form for Curves

- Curves: single parameter  $u$  (e.g. time)
- $x = x(u), y = y(u), z = z(u)$
- Circle:  $x = \cos(u), y = \sin(u), z = 0$
- Tangent described by derivative

$$\mathbf{p}(u) = \begin{bmatrix} x(u) \\ y(u) \\ z(u) \end{bmatrix} \quad \frac{d\mathbf{p}(u)}{du} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dx(u)}{du} \\ \frac{dy(u)}{du} \\ \frac{dz(u)}{du} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Magnitude is “velocity”

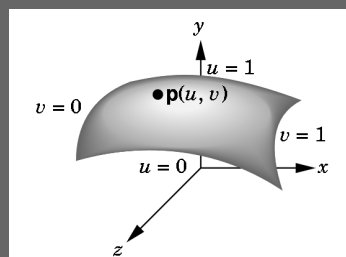
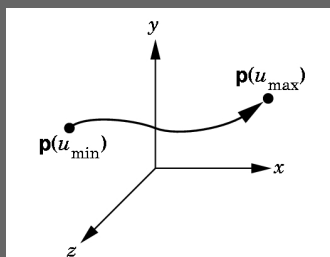
## Parametric Form for Surfaces

- Use parameters  $u$  and  $v$
- $x = x(u,v)$ ,  $y = y(u,v)$ ,  $z = z(u,v)$
- Describes surface as both  $u$  and  $v$  vary
- Partial derivatives describe tangent plane at each point  $\mathbf{p}(u,v) = [x(u,v) \ y(u,v) \ z(u,v)]^T$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}(u,v)}{\partial u} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x(u,v)}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial y(u,v)}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial z(u,v)}{\partial u} \end{bmatrix} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}(u,v)}{\partial v} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x(u,v)}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial y(u,v)}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial z(u,v)}{\partial v} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Assessment of Parametric Forms

- Parameters often have natural meaning
- Easy to define and calculate
  - Tangent and normal
  - Curves segments (for example,  $0 \leq u \leq 1$ )
  - Surface patches (for example,  $0 \leq u,v \leq 1$ )



## Parametric Polynomial Curves

- Restrict  $x(u)$ ,  $y(u)$ ,  $z(u)$  to be polynomial in  $u$
- Fix degree  $n$
- Each  $\mathbf{c}_k$  is a column vector

$$\mathbf{c}_k = \begin{bmatrix} c_{xk} \\ c_{yk} \\ c_{zk} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Parametric Polynomial Surfaces

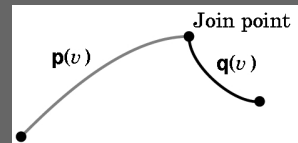
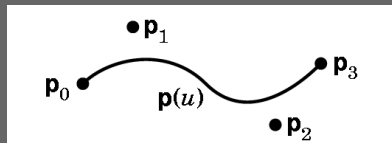
- Restrict  $x(u,v)$ ,  $y(u,v)$ ,  $z(u,v)$  to be polynomial of fixed degree  $n$

$$\mathbf{p}(u, v) = \begin{bmatrix} x(u, v) \\ y(u, v) \\ z(u, v) \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{k=0}^n \mathbf{c}_{ik} u^i v^k$$

- Each  $\mathbf{c}_{ik}$  is a 3-element column vector
- Restrict to simple case where  $0 \leq u, v \leq 1$

## Approximating Surfaces

- Use parametric polynomial surfaces
- Important concepts:
  - Join points for segments and patches
  - Control points to interpolate
  - Tangents and smoothness
  - Blending functions to describe interpolation
- First curves, then surfaces



## Outline

- Parametric Representations
- Cubic Polynomial Forms
- Hermite Curves
- Bezier Curves and Surfaces

## Cubic Polynomial Form

- Degree 3 appears to be a useful compromise
- Curves:

$$p(u) = c_0 + c_1u + c_2u^2 + c_3u^3 = \sum_{k=0}^3 c_k u^k$$

- Each  $c_k$  is a column vector  $[c_{kx} \ c_{ky} \ c_{kz}]^T$
- From control information (points, tangents) derive 12 values  $c_{kx}, c_{ky}, c_{kz}$  for  $0 \leq k \leq 3$
- These determine cubic polynomial form

## Interpolation by Cubic Polynomials

- Simplest case, although rarely used
- Curves:
  - Given 4 control points  $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$
  - All should lie on curve: 12 conditions, 12 unknowns
- Space  $0 \leq u \leq 1$  evenly

$$p_0 = p(0), p_1 = p(1/3), p_2 = p(2/3), p_3 = p(1)$$

## Equations to Determine $c_k$

- Plug in values for  $u = 0, 1/3, 2/3, 1$

$$p_0 = p(0) = c_0$$

$$p_1 = p\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = c_0 + \frac{1}{3}c_1 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2c_2 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3c_3$$

$$p_2 = p\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = c_0 + \frac{2}{3}c_1 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2c_2 + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3c_3$$

$$p_3 = p(1) = c_0 + c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_0 \\ p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{3} & \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 & \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 \\ 1 & \frac{2}{3} & \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 & \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note:  
 $p_k$  and  $c_k$   
are vectors!

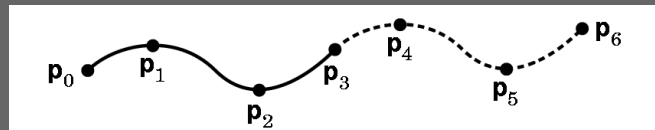
## Interpolating Geometry Matrix

- Invert  $A$  to obtain interpolating geometry matrix

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -5.5 & 9 & -4.5 & 1 \\ 9 & -22.5 & 18 & 4.5 \\ -4.5 & 13.5 & -13.5 & 4.5 \end{bmatrix} \quad c = A^{-1}p$$

## Joining Interpolating Segments

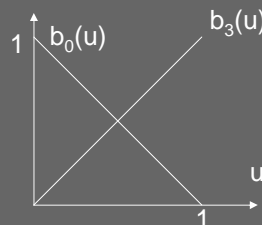
- Do not solve degree  $n$  for  $n$  points
- Divide into overlap sequences of 4 points
- $p_0, p_1, p_2, p_3$  then  $p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6$ , etc.



- At join points
  - Will be continuous ( $C^0$  continuity)
  - Derivatives will usually not match (no  $C^1$  continuity)

## Blending Functions

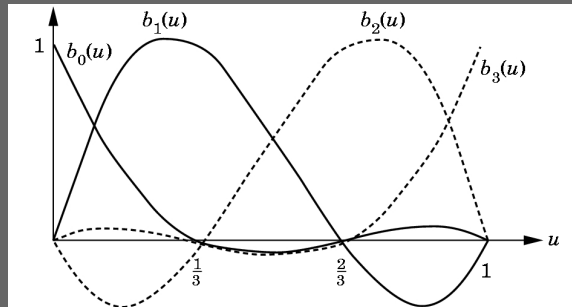
- Make explicit, how control points contribute
- Simplest example: straight line with control points  $p_0$  and  $p_3$
- $p(u) = (1 - u) p_0 + u p_3$
- $b_0(u) = 1 - u$ ,  $b_3(u) = u$



## Blending Polynomials for Interpolation

- Each blending polynomial is a cubic
- Solve (see [Angel, p. 427]):  

$$p(u) = b_0(u)p_0 + b_1(u)p_1 + b_2(u)p_2 + b_3(u)p_3$$

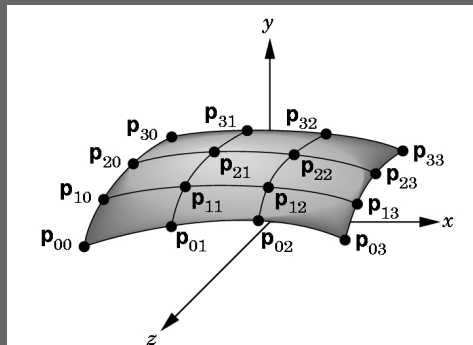


## Cubic Interpolation Patch

- Bicubic surface patch with  $4 \times 4$  control points

$$p(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^3 \sum_{k=0}^3 u^i v^k c_{ik}$$

Note: each  $c_{ik}$  is  
3 column vector  
(48 unknowns)



[Angel, Ch. 10.4.2]

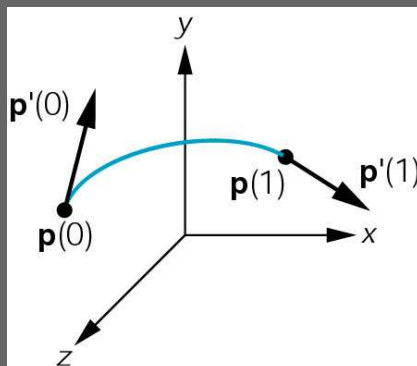


## Outline

- Parametric Representations
- Cubic Polynomial Forms
- Hermite Curves
- Bezier Curves and Surfaces

## Hermite Curves

- Another cubic polynomial curve
- Specify two endpoints and their tangents



## Deriving the Hermite Form

- As before

$$p(0) = p_0 = c_0$$

$$p(1) = p_3 = c_0 + c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

- Calculate derivative

$$p'(u) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dx}{du} \\ \frac{dy}{du} \\ \frac{dz}{du} \end{bmatrix} = c_1 + 2uc_2 + 3u^2c_3$$

- Yields

$$p'_0 = p'(0) = c_1$$

$$p'_3 = p'(1) = c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_3$$

## Summary of Hermite Equations

- Write in matrix form
- Remember  $p_k$  and  $p'_k$  and  $c_k$  are vectors!

$$\begin{bmatrix} p_0 \\ p_3 \\ p'_0 \\ p'_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Let  $q = [p_0 \ p_3 \ p'_0 \ p'_3]^T$  and invert to find Hermite geometry matrix  $M_H$  satisfying

$$c = M_H q$$

## Blending Functions

- Explicit Hermite geometry matrix

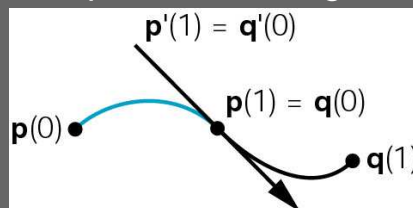
$$M_H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & -2 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Blending functions for  $\mathbf{u} = [1 \ u \ u^2 \ u^3]^T$

$$\mathbf{b}(u) = M_H^T \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 2u^3 - 3u^2 + 1 \\ -2u^3 + 3u^2 \\ u^3 - 2u^2 + u \\ u^3 - u^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Join Points for Hermite Curves

- Match points and tangents (derivatives)



- Much smoother than point interpolation
- How to obtain the tangents?
- Skip Hermite surface patch
- More widely used: Bezier curves and surfaces

## Parametric Continuity

- Matching endpoints ( $C^0$  parametric continuity)

$$\mathbf{p}(1) = \begin{bmatrix} p_x(1) \\ p_y(1) \\ p_z(1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q_x(0) \\ q_y(0) \\ q_z(0) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{q}(0)$$

- Matching derivatives ( $C^1$  parametric continuity)

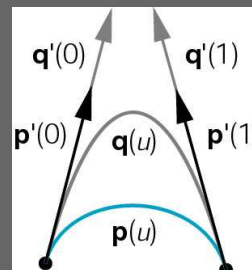
$$\mathbf{p}'(1) = \begin{bmatrix} p'_x(1) \\ p'_y(1) \\ p'_z(1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} q'_x(0) \\ q'_y(0) \\ q'_z(0) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{q}'(0)$$

## Geometric Continuity

- For matching tangents, less is required

$$\mathbf{p}'(1) = \begin{bmatrix} p'_x(1) \\ p'_y(1) \\ p'_z(1) \end{bmatrix} = k \begin{bmatrix} q'_x(0) \\ q'_y(0) \\ q'_z(0) \end{bmatrix} = k\mathbf{q}'(0)$$

- $G^1$  geometric continuity
- Extends to higher derivatives



## Outline

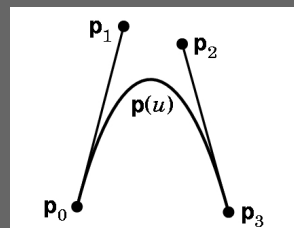
- Parametric Representations
- Cubic Polynomial Forms
- Hermite Curves
- Bezier Curves and Surfaces

## Bezier Curves

- Widely used in computer graphics
- Approximate tangents by using control points

$$p'(0) = 3(p_1 - p_0)$$

$$p'(1) = 3(p_3 - p_2)$$



## Equations for Bezier Curves

- Set up equations for cubic parametric curve
- Recall:

$$p(u) = c_0 + c_1u + c_2u^2 + c_3u^3$$

$$p'(u) = c_1 + 2c_2u + 3c_3u^2$$

- Solve for  $c_k$

$$p_0 = p(0) = c_0$$

$$p_3 = p(1) = c_0 + c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

$$p'(0) = 3p_1 - 3p_0 = c_1$$

$$p'(1) = 3p_3 - 3p_2 = c_1 + 2c_2 + 3c_3$$

## Bezier Geometry Matrix

- Calculate Bezier geometry matrix  $M_B$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{bmatrix} = M_B \begin{bmatrix} p_0 \\ p_1 \\ p_2 \\ p_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ so } M_B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

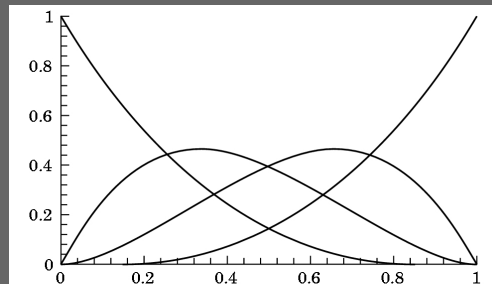
- Have  $C^0$  continuity, not  $C^1$  continuity
- Have  $C^1$  continuity with additional condition

## Blending Polynomials

- Determine contribution of each control point

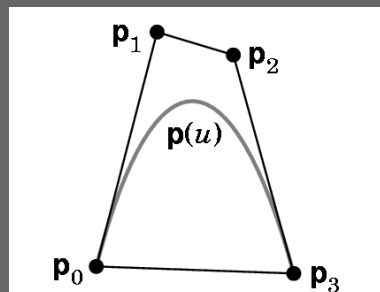
$$\mathbf{b}(u) = \mathbf{M}_B^T \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} (1-u)^3 \\ 3u(1-u)^2 \\ 3u^2(1-u) \\ u^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Smooth blending  
polynomials



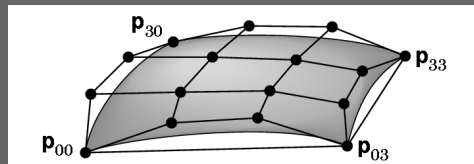
## Convex Hull Property

- Bezier curve contained entirely in convex hull of control points
- Determined choice of tangent coefficient (?)



## Bezier Surface Patches

- Specify Bezier patch with  $4 \times 4$  control points



- Bezier curves along the boundary

$$\mathbf{p}(0, 0) = \mathbf{p}_{00}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial u}(0, 0) = 3(\mathbf{p}_{10} - \mathbf{p}_{00})$$

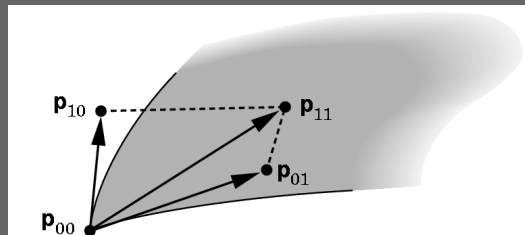
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial v}(0, 0) = 3(\mathbf{p}_{01} - \mathbf{p}_{00})$$

## Twist

- Inner points determine twist at corner

$$\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{p}}{\partial u \partial v}(0, 0) = 9(\mathbf{p}_{00} - \mathbf{p}_{01} + \mathbf{p}_{10} - \mathbf{p}_{11})$$

- Flat means  $\mathbf{p}_{00}, \mathbf{p}_{10}, \mathbf{p}_{01}, \mathbf{p}_{11}$  in one plane
- $(\partial^2 \mathbf{p} / \partial u \partial v)(0, 0) = 0$





## Summary

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