

# **High-order Lagrangian Methods and Computations on Curved Elements**

by

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**Abstract**

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In computer aided geometric design a polynomial is usually represented in Bernstein form. This paper presents a family of compensated algorithms to accurately evaluate a polynomial in Bernstein form with floating point coefficients. The principle is to apply error-free transformations to improve the traditional de Casteljau algorithm. At each stage of computation, round-off error is passed on to first order errors, then to second order errors, and so on. After the computation has been “filtered”  $(K - 1)$  times via this process, the resulting output is as accurate as the de Casteljau algorithm performed in  $K$  times the working precision. Forward error analysis and numerical experiments illustrate the accuracy of this family of algorithms.

To my family of four that I gained during the PhD: my wife Sharona, who I proposed to and married during graduate school and our sons Jack and Max.

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

This is a work in two parts, each in a different subfield of mathematics. The first part is a general-purpose tool for computational physics problems. The tool enables data transfer across two curved meshes. Since the tool requires a significant amount of computational geometry, the second half focuses on computational geometry. In particular, it considers cases where the geometric methods used have seriously degraded accuracy due to ill-conditioning.

### 1.1 Computational Physics

In computational physics, the problem of data transfer between meshes occurs in several applications. For example, by allowing the underlying computational domain to change during a simulation, computational effort can be focused dynamically to resolve sensitive features of a numerical solution. Mesh adaptivity (see, for example, [DK87, BR78]), this in-flight change in the mesh, requires translating the numerical solution from the old mesh to the new, i.e. data transfer. As another example, Lagrangian or particle-based methods treat each node in mesh as a particle and so with each timestep the mesh travels **with** the fluid (see, for example, [HAC74]). However, over (typically limited) time the mesh becomes distorted and suffers a loss in element quality which causes catastrophic loss in the accuracy of computation. To overcome this, the domain must be remeshed or rezoned and the solution must be transferred (remapped) onto the new mesh configuration.

When pointwise interpolation is used to transfer a solution, quantities with physical meaning (e.g. mass, concentration, energy) may not be conserved. To address this, there have been many explorations (for example, [JH04, FPP<sup>+</sup>09, FM11]) of **conservative interpolation** (typically using Galerkin or  $L_2$ -minimizing methods). In this work, the author introduces a conservative interpolation method for data transfer between high-order meshes. These high-order meshes are typically curved, but not necessarily all elements or at all timesteps.

The existing work on data transfer has considered straight-sided meshes, which use shape functions that have degree  $p = 1$  to represent solutions on each element. However, both

to allow for greater geometric flexibility and for high-order of convergence, this work will consider the case of curved isoparametric<sup>1</sup> meshes. Allowing curved geometries is useful since many practical problems involve geometries that change over time, such as flapping flight or fluid-structure interactions. In addition, high-order CFD methods ([WFA<sup>+</sup>13]) have the ability to produce highly accurate solutions with low dissipation and low dispersion error.

## 1.2 Computational Geometry

For a function in Bernstein form, the condition number of evaluation becomes infinite as the input approaches a root. Similarly, as a (transversal) intersection of two Bézier curves approaches a point of tangency, the condition number of intersection becomes infinite. These breakdowns in accuracy cause problems when evaluating integrals on elements of a curved mesh or on the intersections of two elements. For example, consider the problem of data transfer from one mesh to another. As both meshes are refined simultaneously, the probability of an “almost tangent” pair of curved edges increases towards unity. Tangent curves correspond to the case of a double root of a polynomial. Though they are unlikely for a random mesh pair “double roots, though rare, are overwhelmingly more common in practice than are roots of higher multiplicity” ([Kah72], page 6).

Two approaches will be described that can help recover this lost accuracy in the presence of ill-conditioning. The first allows for greater accuracy when performing the de Casteljau algorithm to evaluate a function in Bernstein form. This **compensated algorithm** (Chapter 5) produces results that are as accurate as if the computations were done in  $K$  times the working precision and then rounded back to the working precision. By just using a more precise evaluation of the residual function, [Tis01] showed that the accuracy of Newton’s method can be improved. So as a natural extension, the second approach explores the improvement in Newton’s method applied both to root-finding and Bézier curve intersection (Chapter 6).

## 1.3 Organization

This work is organized as follows. Chapter 2 establishes common notation and reviews basic results relevant to the topics at hand. Chapter 3 is an in-depth discussion of the computational geometry methods needed to implement to enable data transfer. Chapter 4 describes the data transfer process and gives results of some numerical experiments confirming the rate of convergence. Chapter 5 describes a compensated algorithm for evaluating functions in Bernstein form (such as Bézier curves); this algorithm produces results that are as accurate as if the computations were done in  $K$  times the working precision and then rounded back to the working precision. Chapter 6 describes two modified Newton’s methods

---

<sup>1</sup>I.e. the degree of the discrete field on the mesh is same as the degree of the shape functions that determine the mesh.

which allow for greater accuracy in the presence of ill-conditioning; one is used for computing simple zeros of polynomials in Bernstein form and the other for computing Bézier curve intersections.

# Chapter 2

## Preliminaries

### 2.1 General Notation

We'll refer to  $\mathbf{R}$  for the reals,  $\mathcal{U}$  represents the unit triangle (or unit simplex) in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ :  $\mathcal{U} = \{(s, t) \mid 0 \leq s, t, s + t \leq 1\}$ . When dealing with sequences with multiple indices, e.g.  $s_{m,n} = m + n$ , we'll use bold symbols to represent a multi-index:  $\mathbf{i} = (m, n)$ . We'll use  $|\mathbf{i}|$  to represent the sum of the components in a multi-index. The binomial coefficient  $\binom{n}{k}$  is equal to  $\frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$  and the trinomial coefficient  $\binom{n}{i,j,k}$  is equal to  $\frac{n!}{i!j!k!}$  (where  $i + j + k = n$ ). The notation  $\delta_{ij}$  represents the Kronecker delta, a value which is 1 when  $i = j$  and 0 otherwise.

### 2.2 Floating Point and Forward Error Analysis

We assume all floating point operations obey

$$a \star b = \text{fl}(a \circ b) = (a \circ b)(1 + \delta_1) = (a \circ b)/(1 + \delta_2) \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\star \in \{\oplus, \ominus, \otimes, \oslash\}$ ,  $\circ \in \{+, -, \times, \div\}$  and  $|\delta_1|, |\delta_2| \leq \mathbf{u}$ . The symbol  $\mathbf{u}$  is the unit round-off and  $\star$  is a floating point operation, e.g.  $a \oplus b = \text{fl}(a + b)$ . (For IEEE-754 floating point double precision,  $\mathbf{u} = 2^{-53}$ .) We denote the computed result of  $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$  in floating point arithmetic by  $\hat{\alpha}$  or  $\text{fl}(\alpha)$  and use  $\mathbf{F}$  as the set of all floating point numbers (see [Hig02] for more details). Following [Hig02], we will use the following classic properties in error analysis.

1. If  $\delta_i \leq \mathbf{u}$ ,  $\rho_i = \pm 1$ , then  $\prod_{i=1}^n (1 + \delta_i)^{\rho_i} = 1 + \theta_n$ ,
2.  $|\theta_n| \leq \gamma_n := n\mathbf{u}/(1 - n\mathbf{u})$ ,
3.  $(1 + \theta_k)(1 + \theta_j) = 1 + \theta_{k+j}$ ,
4.  $\gamma_k + \gamma_j + \gamma_k \gamma_j \leq \gamma_{k+j} \iff (1 + \gamma_k)(1 + \gamma_j) \leq 1 + \gamma_{k+j}$ ,
5.  $(1 + \mathbf{u})^j \leq 1/(1 - j\mathbf{u}) \iff (1 + \mathbf{u})^j - 1 \leq \gamma_j$ .

## 2.3 Bézier Curves

A **Bézier curve** is a mapping from the unit interval that is determined by a set of control points  $\{\mathbf{p}_j\}_{j=0}^n \subset \mathbf{R}^d$ . For a parameter  $s \in [0, 1]$ , there is a corresponding point on the curve:

$$b(s) = \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} (1-s)^{n-j} s^j \mathbf{p}_j \in \mathbf{R}^d. \quad (2.2)$$

This is a combination of the control points weighted by each Bernstein basis function  $B_{j,n}(s) = \binom{n}{j} (1-s)^{n-j} s^j$ . Due to the binomial expansion  $1 = (s + (1-s))^n = \sum_{j=0}^n B_{j,n}(s)$ , a Bernstein basis function is in  $[0, 1]$  when  $s$  is as well. Due to this fact, the curve must be contained in the convex hull of its control points.

### 2.3.1 de Casteljau Algorithm

Next, we recall<sup>1</sup> the de Casteljau algorithm:

---

**Algorithm 2.1** *de Casteljau algorithm for polynomial evaluation.*

---

```

function result = DeCasteljau(b, s)
    n = length(b) - 1
     $\hat{r} = 1 \ominus s$ 

    for  $j = 0, \dots, n$  do
         $\hat{b}_j^{(n)} = b_j$ 
    end for

    for  $k = n - 1, \dots, 0$  do
        for  $j = 0, \dots, k$  do
             $\hat{b}_j^{(k)} = (\hat{r} \otimes \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)}) \oplus (s \otimes \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)})$ 
        end for
    end for

    result =  $\hat{b}_0^{(0)}$ 
end function

```

---

<sup>1</sup>We have used slightly non-standard notation for the terms produced by the de Casteljau algorithm: we start the superscript at  $n$  and count down to 0 as is typically done when describing Horner's algorithm. For example, we use  $b_j^{(n-2)}$  instead of  $b_j^{(2)}$ .

**Theorem 2.1** ([MP99], Corollary 3.2). If  $p(s) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j B_{j,n}(s)$  and  $\text{DeCasteljau}(p, s)$  is the value computed by the de Casteljau algorithm then<sup>2</sup>

$$|p(s) - \text{DeCasteljau}(p, s)| \leq \gamma_{3n} \sum_{j=0}^n |b_j| B_{j,n}(s). \quad (2.3)$$

The relative condition number of the evaluation of  $p(s) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j B_{j,n}(s)$  in Bernstein form used in this work is (see [MP99], [FR87]):

$$\text{cond}(p, s) = \frac{\tilde{p}(s)}{|p(s)|}, \quad (2.4)$$

where  $\tilde{p}(s) := \sum_{j=0}^n |b_j| B_{j,n}(s)$ .

To be able to express the algorithm in matrix form, we define the vectors

$$b^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} b_0^{(k)} & \dots & b_k^{(k)} \end{bmatrix}^T, \quad \hat{b}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{b}_0^{(k)} & \dots & \hat{b}_k^{(k)} \end{bmatrix}^T \quad (2.5)$$

and the reduction matrices:

$$U_k = U_k(s) = \begin{bmatrix} 1-s & s & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1-s & s & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1-s & s \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{R}^{k \times (k+1)}. \quad (2.6)$$

With this, we can express ([MP99]) the de Casteljau algorithm as

$$b^{(k)} = U_{k+1} b^{(k+1)} \implies b^{(0)} = U_1 \cdots U_n b^{(n)}. \quad (2.7)$$

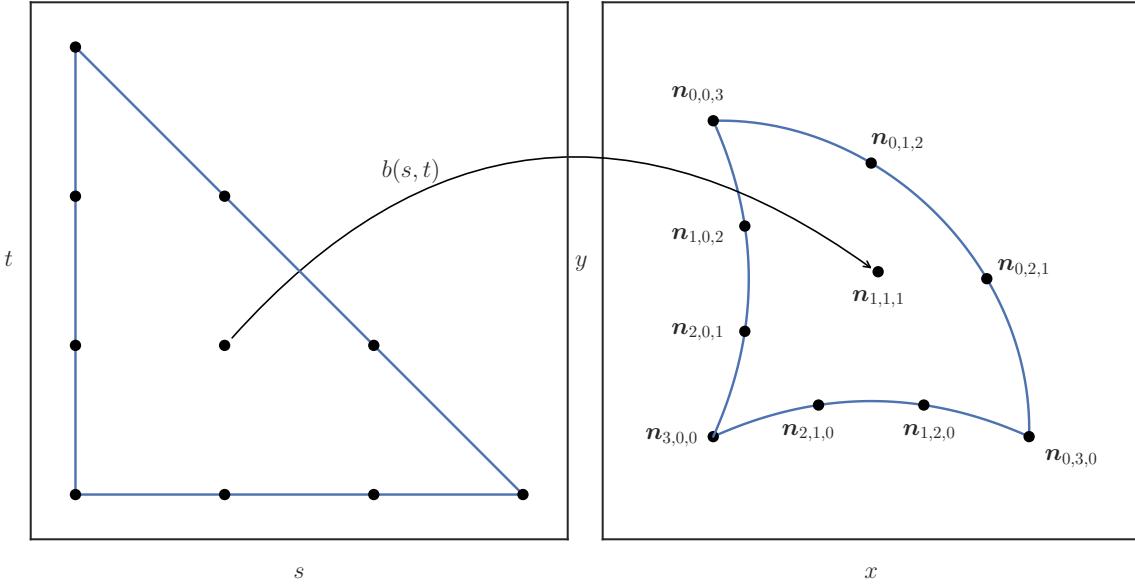
In general, for a sequence  $v_0, \dots, v_n$  we'll refer to  $v$  as the vector containing all of the values:  $v = \begin{bmatrix} v_0 & \dots & v_n \end{bmatrix}^T$ .

## 2.4 Bézier Triangles

A **Bézier triangle** ([Far01, Chapter 17]) is a mapping from the unit triangle  $\mathcal{U}$  and is determined by a control net  $\{\mathbf{p}_{i,j,k}\}_{i+j+k=n} \subset \mathbf{R}^d$ . A Bézier triangle is a particular kind of Bézier surface, i.e. one in which there are two cartesian or three barycentric input parameters.

---

<sup>2</sup>In the original paper the factor on  $\tilde{p}(s)$  is  $\gamma_{2n}$ , but the authors did not consider round-off when computing  $1 \ominus s$ .



**Figure 2.1:** Cubic Bézier triangle

Often the term Bézier surface is used to refer to a tensor product or rectangular patch. For  $(s, t) \in \mathcal{U}$  we can define barycentric weights  $\lambda_1 = 1 - s - t$ ,  $\lambda_2 = s$ ,  $\lambda_3 = t$  so that

$$1 = (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3)^n = \sum_{\substack{i+j+k=n \\ i,j,k \geq 0}} \binom{n}{i,j,k} \lambda_1^i \lambda_2^j \lambda_3^k. \quad (2.8)$$

Using this we can similarly define a (triangular) Bernstein basis

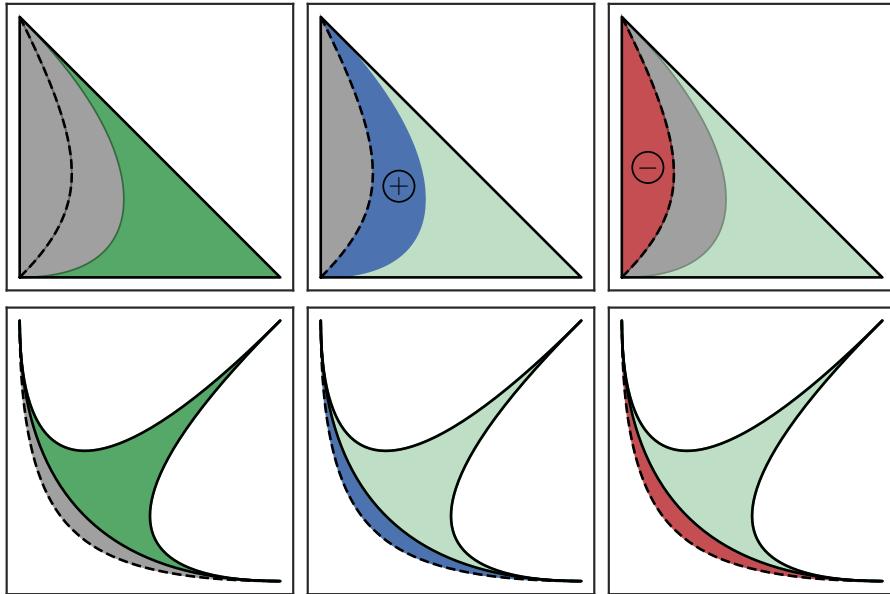
$$B_{i,j,k}(s, t) = \binom{n}{i,j,k} (1 - s - t)^i s^j t^k = \binom{n}{i,j,k} \lambda_1^i \lambda_2^j \lambda_3^k \quad (2.9)$$

that is in  $[0, 1]$  when  $(s, t)$  is in  $\mathcal{U}$ . Using this, we define points on the Bézier triangle as a convex combination of the control net:

$$b(s, t) = \sum_{i+j+k=n} \binom{n}{i,j,k} \lambda_1^i \lambda_2^j \lambda_3^k \mathbf{p}_{i,j,k} \in \mathbf{R}^d. \quad (2.10)$$

Rather than defining a Bézier triangle by the control net, it can also be uniquely determined by the image of a standard lattice of points in  $\mathcal{U}$ :  $b(j/n, k/n) = \mathbf{n}_{i,j,k}$ ; we'll refer to these as **standard nodes**. Figure 2.1 shows these standard nodes for a cubic triangle in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ . To see the correspondence, when  $p = 1$  the standard nodes **are** the control net

$$b(s, t) = \lambda_1 \mathbf{n}_{1,0,0} + \lambda_2 \mathbf{n}_{0,1,0} + \lambda_3 \mathbf{n}_{0,0,1} \quad (2.11)$$



**Figure 2.2:** The Bézier triangle given by  $b(s, t) = [(1 - s - t)^2 + s^2 \ s^2 + t^2]^T$  produces an inverted element. It traces the same region twice, once with a positive Jacobian (the middle column) and once with a negative Jacobian (the right column).

and when  $p = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} b(s, t) = & \lambda_1 (2\lambda_1 - 1) \mathbf{n}_{2,0,0} + \lambda_2 (2\lambda_2 - 1) \mathbf{n}_{0,2,0} + \lambda_3 (2\lambda_3 - 1) \mathbf{n}_{0,0,2} + \\ & 4\lambda_1\lambda_2 \mathbf{n}_{1,1,0} + 4\lambda_2\lambda_3 \mathbf{n}_{0,1,1} + 4\lambda_3\lambda_1 \mathbf{n}_{1,0,1}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

However, it's worth noting that the transformation between the control net and the standard nodes has condition number that grows exponentially with  $n$  (see [Far91], which is related but does not directly show this). This may make working with higher degree triangles prohibitively unstable.

A **valid** Bézier triangle is one which is diffeomorphic to  $\mathcal{U}$ , i.e.  $b(s, t)$  is bijective and has an everywhere invertible Jacobian. For example, in Figure 2.2, the image of  $\mathcal{U}$  under the map  $b(s, t) = [(1 - s - t)^2 + s^2 \ s^2 + t^2]^T$  is not valid because the Jacobian is zero along the curve  $s^2 - st - t^2 - s + t = 0$  (the dashed line). Elements that are not valid are called **inverted** because they have regions with “negative area”. For the example, the image  $b(\mathcal{U})$  leaves the boundary determined by the edge curves:  $b(r, 0)$ ,  $b(1 - r, r)$  and  $b(0, 1 - r)$  when  $r \in [0, 1]$ . This region outside the boundary is traced twice, once with a positive Jacobian and once with a negative Jacobian.

## 2.5 Curved Elements

We define a curved mesh element  $\mathcal{T}$  of degree  $p$  to be a Bézier triangle in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  of the same degree. We refer to the component functions of  $b(s, t)$  (the map that defined  $\mathcal{T}$ ) as  $x(s, t)$  and  $y(s, t)$ .

This fits a typical definition ([JM09, Chapter 12]) of a curved element, but gives a special meaning to the mapping from the reference triangle. Interpreting elements as Bézier triangles has been used for Lagrangian methods where mesh adaptivity is needed (e.g. [CMOP04]). Typically curved elements only have one curved side ([MM72]) since they are used to resolve geometric features of a boundary. See also [Zlá73, Zlá74].

Note that a Bézier triangle can be determined from many different sources of data (for example the control net or the standard nodes). The choice of this data may be changed to suit the underlying physical problem without changing the actual mapping. Conversely, the data can be fixed (e.g. as the control net) to avoid costly basis conversion; once fixed, the equations of motion and other PDE terms can be recast relative to the new basis (for an example, see [PBP09], where the domain varies with time but the problem is reduced to solving a transformed conservation law in a fixed reference configuration).

### 2.5.1 Shape Functions

When defining shape functions (i.e. a basis with geometric meaning) on a curved element there are (at least) two choices. When the degree of the shape functions is the same as the degree of the function being represented on the Bézier triangle, we say the element  $\mathcal{T}$  is **isoparametric**. For the multi-index  $\mathbf{i} = (i, j, k)$ , we define  $\mathbf{u}_i = (j/n, k/n)$  and the corresponding standard node  $\mathbf{n}_i = b(\mathbf{u}_i)$ . Given these points, two choices for shape functions present themselves:

- **Pre-Image Basis:**  $\varphi_j(\mathbf{n}_i) = \hat{\varphi}_j(\mathbf{u}_i) = \hat{\varphi}_j(b^{-1}(\mathbf{n}_i))$  where  $\hat{\varphi}_j$  is a canonical basis function on  $\mathcal{U}$ , i.e.  $\hat{\varphi}_j$  a degree  $p$  bivariate polynomial and  $\hat{\varphi}_j(\mathbf{u}_i) = \delta_{ij}$
- **Global Coordinates Basis:**  $\varphi_j(\mathbf{n}_i) = \delta_{ij}$ , i.e. a canonical basis function on the standard nodes  $\{\mathbf{n}_i\}$ .

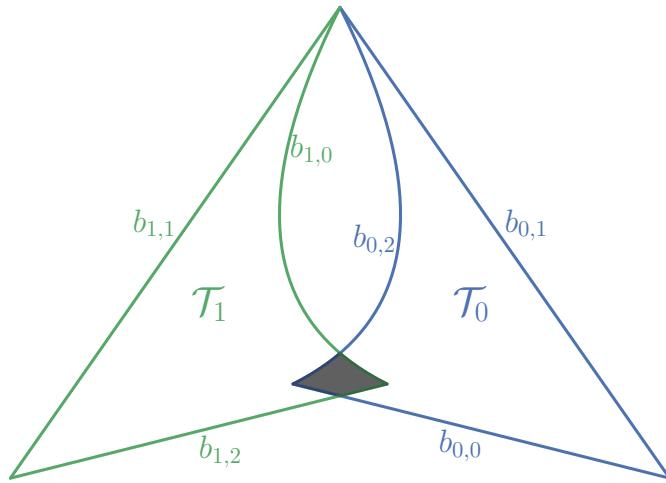
For example, consider a quadratic Bézier triangle:

$$b(s, t) = \begin{bmatrix} 4(st + s + t) & 4(st + t + 1) \end{bmatrix}^T \quad (2.13)$$

$$\implies \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{n}_{2,0,0} & \mathbf{n}_{1,1,0} & \mathbf{n}_{0,2,0} & \mathbf{n}_{1,0,1} & \mathbf{n}_{0,1,1} & \mathbf{n}_{0,0,2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 & 6 & 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.14)$$

In the **Global Coordinates Basis**, we have

$$\varphi_{0,1,1}^G(x, y) = \frac{(y - 4)(x - y + 4)}{6}. \quad (2.15)$$



**Figure 2.3:** Intersection of Bézier triangles

For the **Pre-Image Basis**, we need the inverse and the canonical basis

$$b^{-1}(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{x-y+4}{4} & \frac{y-4}{x-y+8} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{\varphi}_{0,1,1}(s, t) = 4st \quad (2.16)$$

and together they give

$$\varphi_{0,1,1}^P(x, y) = \frac{(y-4)(x-y+4)}{x-y+8}. \quad (2.17)$$

In general  $\varphi_j^P$  may not even be a rational bivariate function; due to composition with  $b^{-1}$  we can only guarantee that it is algebraic (i.e. it can be defined as the zero set of polynomials).

## 2.5.2 Curved Polygons

When intersecting two curved elements, the resulting surface(s) will be defined by the boundary, alternating between edges of each element. For example, in Figure 2.3, a “curved quadrilateral” is formed when two Bézier triangles  $\mathcal{T}_0$  and  $\mathcal{T}_1$  are intersected.

A **curved polygon** is defined by a collection of Bézier curves in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  that determine the boundary. In order to be a valid polygon, none of the boundary curves may cross and the ends of consecutive edge curves must meet. For our example in Figure 2.3, the triangles have boundaries formed by three Bézier curves:  $\partial\mathcal{T}_0 = b_{0,0} \cup b_{0,1} \cup b_{0,2}$  and  $\partial\mathcal{T}_1 = b_{1,0} \cup b_{1,1} \cup b_{1,2}$ . The intersection  $\mathcal{I}$  is defined by its boundary<sup>3</sup>:

$$\partial\mathcal{I} = b_{0,0}([0, 1/8]) \cup b_{1,2}([7/8, 1]) \cup b_{1,0}([0, 1/7]) \cup b_{0,2}([6/7, 1]). \quad (2.18)$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Each specialization of a Bézier curve  $b([a_1, a_2])$  is itself a Bézier curve.

Though an intersection can be described in terms of the Bézier triangles, the structure of the control net will be lost. The region will not in general be able to be described by a mapping from a simple space like  $\mathcal{U}$ .

## 2.6 Error-Free Transformation

An error-free transformation is a computational method where both the computed result and the round-off error are returned. It is considered “free” of error if the round-off can be represented exactly as an element or elements of  $\mathbf{F}$ . The error-free transformations used in this work are the `TwoSum` algorithm by Knuth ([Knu97]) and `TwoProd` algorithm by Dekker ([Dek71], Section 5), respectively.

**Theorem 2.1** ([ORO05], Theorem 3.4). For  $a, b \in \mathbf{F}$  and  $P, \pi, S, \sigma \in \mathbf{F}$ , `TwoSum` and `TwoProd` satisfy

$$[S, \sigma] = \text{TwoSum}(a, b), \quad S = \text{fl}(a + b), \quad S + \sigma = a + b, \quad \sigma \leq \mathbf{u}|S|, \quad \sigma \leq \mathbf{u}|a + b| \quad (2.19)$$

$$[P, \pi] = \text{TwoProd}(a, b), \quad P = \text{fl}(a \times b), \quad P + \pi = a \times b, \quad \pi \leq \mathbf{u}|P|, \quad \pi \leq \mathbf{u}|a \times b|. \quad (2.20)$$

The letters  $\sigma$  and  $\pi$  are used to indicate that the errors came from sum and product, respectively. See Appendix A for implementation details.

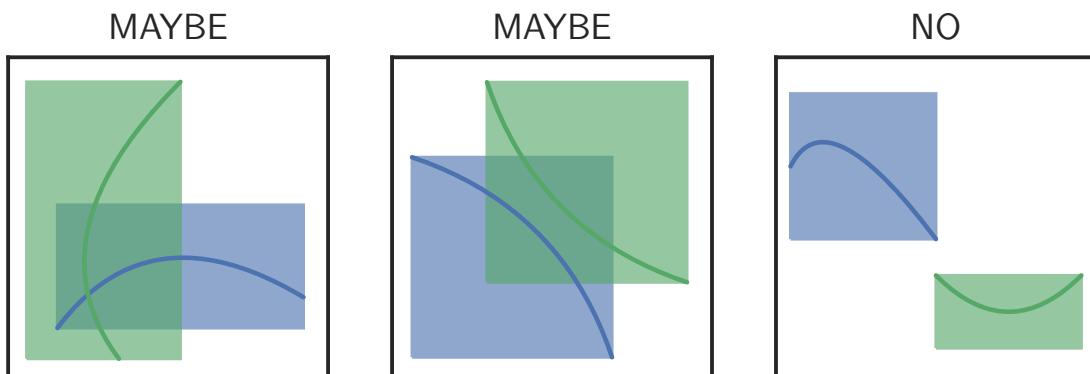
# Chapter 3

## Bézier Intersection Problems

### 3.1 Intersecting Bézier Curves

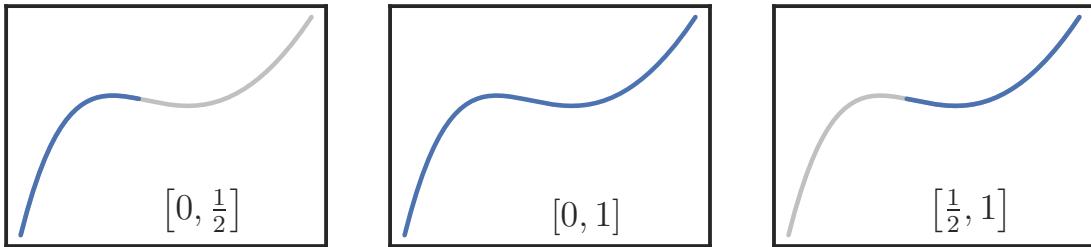
The problem of intersecting two Bézier curves is a core building block for intersecting two Bézier triangles in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ . Since a curve is an algebraic variety of dimension one, the intersections will either be a curve segment common to both curves (if they coincide) or a finite set of points (i.e. dimension zero). Many algorithms have been described in the literature, both geometric ([SP86, SN90, KLS98]) and algebraic ([MD92]).

In the implementation for this work, the Bézier subdivision algorithm is used. In the case of a transversal intersection (i.e. one where the tangents to each curve are not parallel and both are non-zero), this algorithm performs very well. However, when curves are tangent, a large number of (false) candidate intersections are detected and convergence of Newton's method slows once in a neighborhood of an actual intersection. Non-transversal intersections have infinite condition number, but transversal intersections with very high condition number can also cause convergence problems.



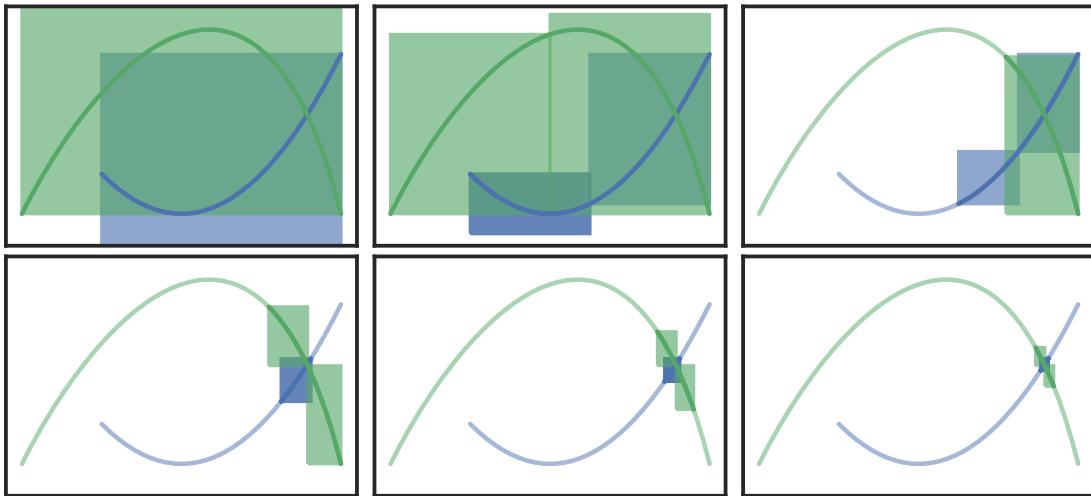
**Figure 3.1:** Bounding box intersection predicate. This is a cheap way to conclude that two curves don't intersect, though it inherently is susceptible to false positives.

In the Bézier subdivision algorithm, we first check if the bounding boxes for the curves are disjoint (Figure 3.1). We use the bounding boxes rather than the convex hulls since they are easier to compute and the intersections of boxes are easier to check. If they are disjoint, the pair can be rejected. If not, each curve  $\mathcal{C} = b([0, 1])$  is split into two halves by splitting the unit interval:  $b([0, \frac{1}{2}])$  and  $b([\frac{1}{2}, 1])$  (Figure 3.2).



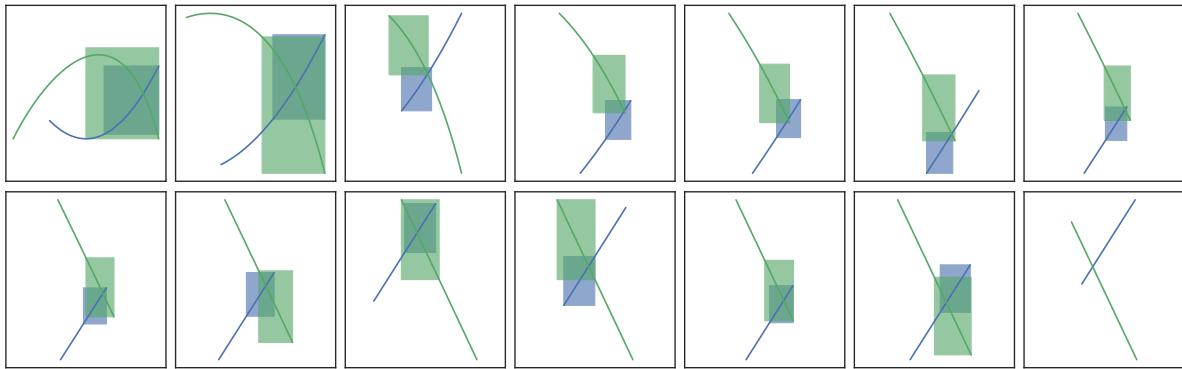
**Figure 3.2:** Bézier curve subdivision.

As the subdivision continues, some pairs of curve segments may be kept around that won't lead to an intersection (Figure 3.3).



**Figure 3.3:** Bézier subdivision algorithm.

Once the curve segments are close to linear within a given tolerance (Figure 3.4), the process terminates.



**Figure 3.4:** Subdividing until linear within tolerance.

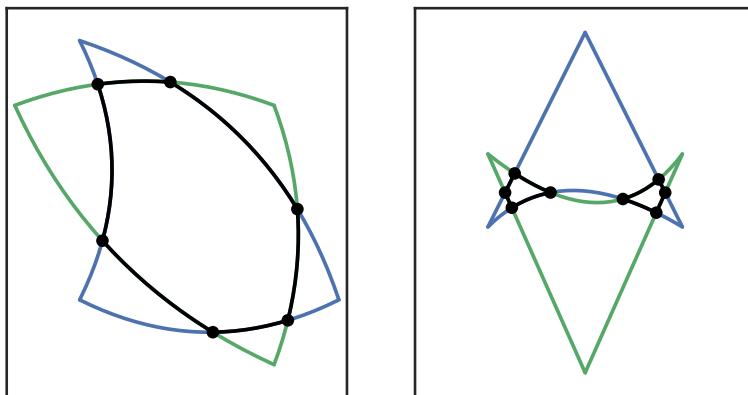
Once both curve segments are linear (to tolerance), the intersection is approximated by intersecting the lines connecting the endpoints of each curve segment. This approximation is used as a starting point for Newton's method, to find a root of  $F(s, t) = b_0(s) - b_1(t)$ . Since  $b_0(s), b_1(t) \in \mathbf{R}^2$  we have Jacobian  $J = [ b'_0(s) \quad -b'_1(t) ]$ . With these, Newton's method is

$$[ s_{n+1} \quad t_{n+1} ]^T = [ s_n \quad t_n ]^T - J_n^{-1} F_n. \quad (3.1)$$

This also gives an indication why convergence issues occur at non-transversal intersections: they are exactly the intersections where the Jacobian is singular.

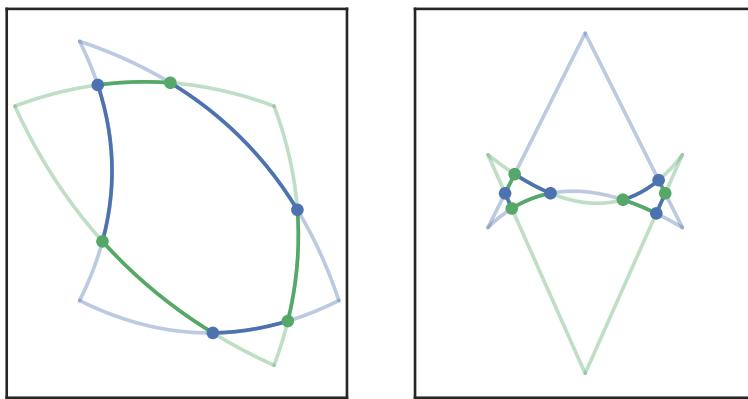
## 3.2 Intersecting Bézier Triangles

The chief difficulty in intersecting two surfaces is intersecting their edges, which are Bézier curves. Though this is just a part of the overall algorithm, it proved to be the **most difficult** to implement. So the first part of the algorithm is to find all points where the edges intersect (Figure 3.5).



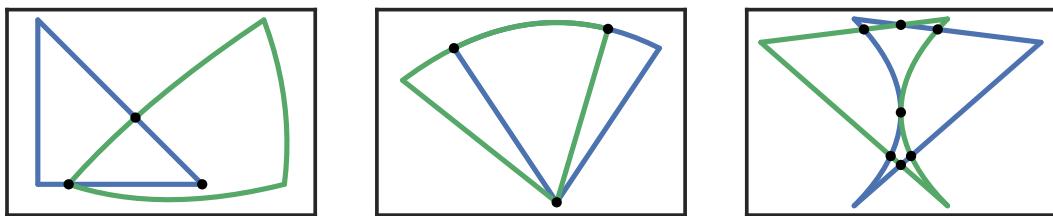
**Figure 3.5:** Edge intersections during Bézier triangle intersection.

To determine the curve segments that bound the curved polygon region(s) (see 2.5.2 for more about curved polygons) of intersection, we not only need to keep track of the coordinates of intersection, we also need to keep note of **which** edges the intersection occurred on and the parameters along each curve. With this information, we can classify each point of intersection according to which of the two curves forms the boundary of the curved polygon (Figure 3.6). Using the right-hand rule we can compare the tangent vectors on each curve to determine which one is on the interior.



**Figure 3.6:** Classified intersections during Bézier triangle intersection.

This classification becomes more difficult when the curves are tangent at an intersection, when the intersection occurs at a corner of one of the surfaces or when two intersecting edges are coincident on the same algebraic curve (Figure 3.7).



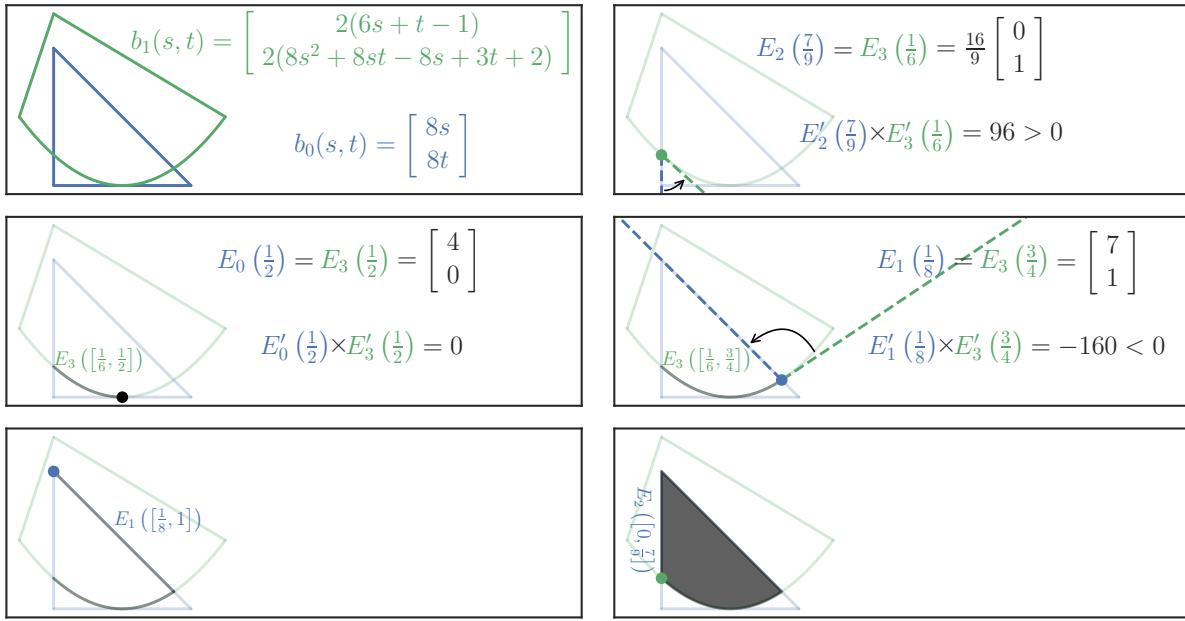
**Figure 3.7:** Bézier triangle intersection difficulties.

In the case of tangency, the intersection is non-transversal, hence has infinite condition number. In the case of coincident curves, there are infinitely many intersections (along the segment when the curves coincide) so the subdivision process breaks down.

### 3.2.0.1 Example

Consider two Bézier surfaces (Figure 3.8)

$$b_0(s, t) = \begin{bmatrix} 8s \\ 8t \end{bmatrix} \quad b_1(s, t) = \begin{bmatrix} 2(6s + t - 1) \\ 2(8s^2 + 8st - 8s + 3t + 2) \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.2)$$



**Figure 3.8:** Surface Intersection Example

In the **first step** we find all intersections of the edge curves

$$\begin{aligned} E_0(r) &= \begin{bmatrix} 8r \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, E_1(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 8(1-r) \\ 8r \end{bmatrix}, E_2(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 8(1-r) \end{bmatrix}, \\ E_3(r) &= \begin{bmatrix} 2(6r-1) \\ 4(2r-1)^2 \end{bmatrix}, E_4(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 10(1-r) \\ 2(3r+2) \end{bmatrix}, E_5(r) = \begin{bmatrix} -2r \\ 2(5-3r) \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

We find three intersections and we classify each of them by comparing the tangent vectors

$$I_1 : E_2\left(\frac{7}{9}\right) = E_3\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) = \frac{16}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \implies E'_2\left(\frac{7}{9}\right) \times E'_3\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) = 96 \quad (3.4)$$

$$I_2 : E_0\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = E_3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies E'_0\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \times E'_3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0 \quad (3.5)$$

$$I_3 : E_1\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) = E_3\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \implies E'_1\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) \times E'_3\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = -160. \quad (3.6)$$

From here, we construct our curved polygon intersection by drawing from our list of intersections until none remain.

- First consider  $I_1$ . Since  $E'_2 \times E'_3 > 0$  at this point, then we consider the curve  $E_3$  to be *interior*.
- After classification, we move along  $E_3$  until we encounter another intersection:  $I_2$
- $I_2$  is a point of tangency since  $E'_0\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \times E'_3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$ . Since a tangency has no impact on the underlying intersection geometry, we ignore it and keep moving.
- Continuing to move along  $E_3$ , we encounter another intersection:  $I_3$ . Since  $E'_1 \times E'_3 < 0$  at this point, we consider the curve  $E_1$  to be *interior* at the intersection. Thus we stop moving along  $E_3$  and we have our first curved segment:  $E_3\left([\frac{1}{6}, \frac{3}{4}]\right)$
- Finding no other intersections on  $E_1$  we continue until the end of the edge. Now our (ordered) curved segments are:

$$E_3\left(\left[\frac{1}{6}, \frac{3}{4}\right]\right) \rightarrow E_1\left(\left[\frac{1}{8}, 1\right]\right). \quad (3.7)$$

- Next we stay at the corner and switch to the next curve  $E_2$ , moving along that curve until we hit the next intersecton  $I_1$ . Now our (ordered) curved segments are:

$$E_3\left(\left[\frac{1}{6}, \frac{3}{4}\right]\right) \rightarrow E_1\left(\left[\frac{1}{8}, 1\right]\right) \rightarrow E_2\left(\left[0, \frac{7}{9}\right]\right). \quad (3.8)$$

Since we are now back where we started (at  $I_1$ ) the process stops

We represent the boundary of the curved polygon as Bézier curves, so to complete the process we reparameterize ([Far01, Ch. 5.4]) each curve onto the relevant interval. For example,  $E_3$  has control points  $p_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $p_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $p_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  and we reparameterize on  $\alpha = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $\beta = \frac{3}{4}$  to control points

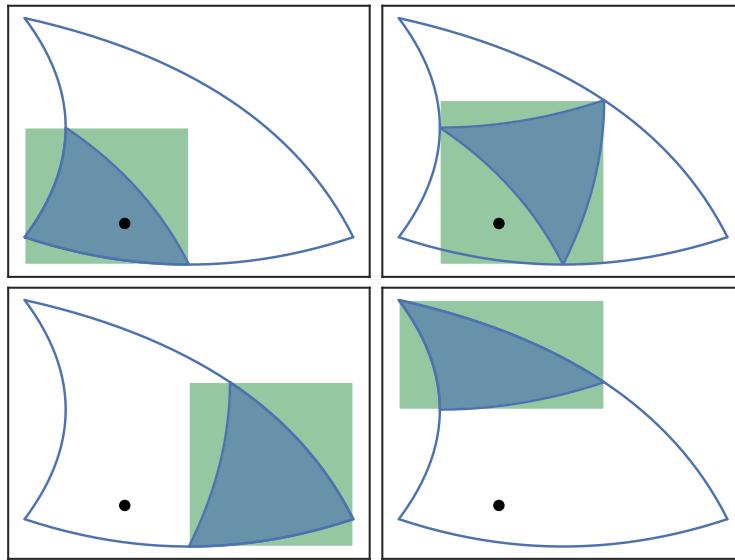
$$q_0 = E_3\left(\frac{1}{6}\right) = \frac{16}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.9)$$

$$q_1 = (1 - \alpha)[(1 - \beta)p_0 + \beta p_1] + \alpha[(1 - \beta)p_1 + \beta p_2] = \frac{1}{6} \begin{bmatrix} 21 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.10)$$

$$q_2 = E_3\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3.11)$$

### 3.3 Bézier Triangle Inverse

The problem of determining the parameters  $(s, t)$  given a point  $\mathbf{p} = [x \ y]^T$  in a Bézier triangle can also be solved by using subdivision with a bounding box predicate and then Newton's method at the end.



**Figure 3.9:** Checking for a point  $\mathbf{p}$  in each of four subregions when subdividing a Bézier triangle.

For example, Figure 3.9 shows how regions of  $\mathcal{U}$  can be discarded recursively until the suitable region for  $(s, t)$  has a sufficiently small area. At this point, we can apply Newton's method to the map  $F(s, t) = b(s, t) - \mathbf{p}$ . It's very helpful (for Newton's method) that  $F : \mathbf{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^2$  since the Jacobian will always be invertible when the Bézier triangle is valid. If  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbf{R}^3$  then the system would be underdetermined. Similarly, if  $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbf{R}^2$  but  $b(s)$  is a Bézier curve then the system would be overdetermined.

# Chapter 4

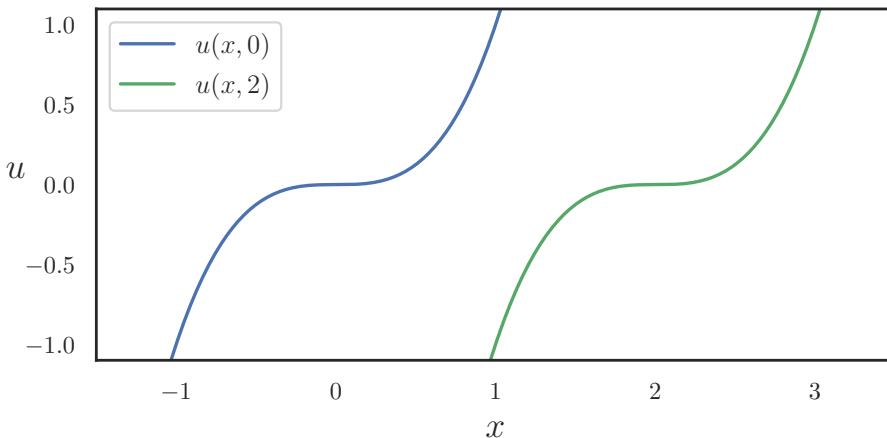
## Data Transfer

### 4.1 Introduction

The method of characteristics helps transform partial differential equations into ordinary differential equations by dividing the physical domain into a family of curves. For example, the simple transport equation

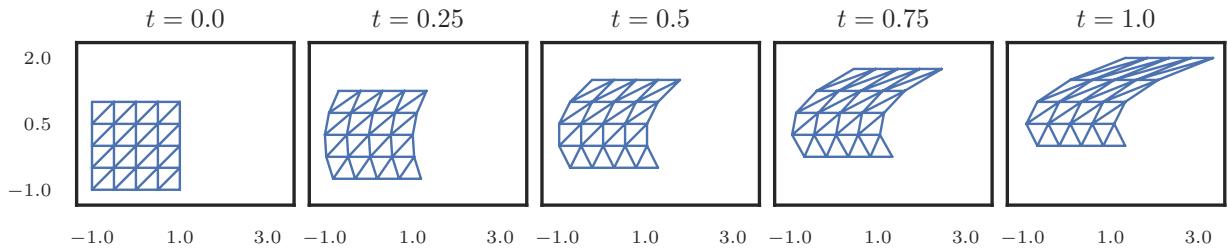
$$u_t + cu_x = 0 \quad (4.1)$$

can be transformed when restricting to the family of lines  $x(t) = x_0 + ct$ . On these lines  $u(x(t), t)$  is constant, by construction, and so the solution is “transported” from  $u(x_0, 0)$  along each characteristic line.



**Figure 4.1:** The solution to  $u_t + u_x = 0$ ,  $u(x, 0) = x^3$  plotted in the  $xu$ -plane. Demonstrates simple transport of the solution.

Motivated by this, **Lagrangian methods** treat each point in the physical domain as a “particle” which moves along a characteristic curve over time and then monitor values



**Figure 4.2:** Distortion of regular mesh caused by particle motion along the velocity field  $[y^2 \ 1]^T$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$  with  $\Delta t = 1/4$ .

associated with the particle (heat / energy, velocity, pressure, density, concentration, etc.). They are an effective way to solve PDEs, even with higher order or non-linear terms. For example, if we add a viscosity term to (4.1)

$$u_t + cu_x - \varepsilon u_{xx} = 0 \quad (4.2)$$

then the same characteristics can be used, but the value along each characteristic is no longer constant; instead it satisfies the ODE  $\frac{d}{dt}u(x(t), t) = \varepsilon u_{xx}$ .

This approach transforms the numerical solution of PDEs into a family of numerical solutions to many independent ODEs. It allows the use of familiar and well understood ODE solvers. In addition, Lagrangian methods often have less restrictive conditions on time steps than Eulerian methods<sup>1</sup>. When solving PDEs on unstructured meshes with Lagrangian methods, the nodes that determine the mesh move (since they are treated like particles) and the mesh “travels”. However, mesh changes can cause problems if it causes the mesh to leave the domain being analyzed or if it distorts the mesh until the element quality is too low in some mesh elements. For an example of such distortion (Figure 4.2), consider a PDE of the form

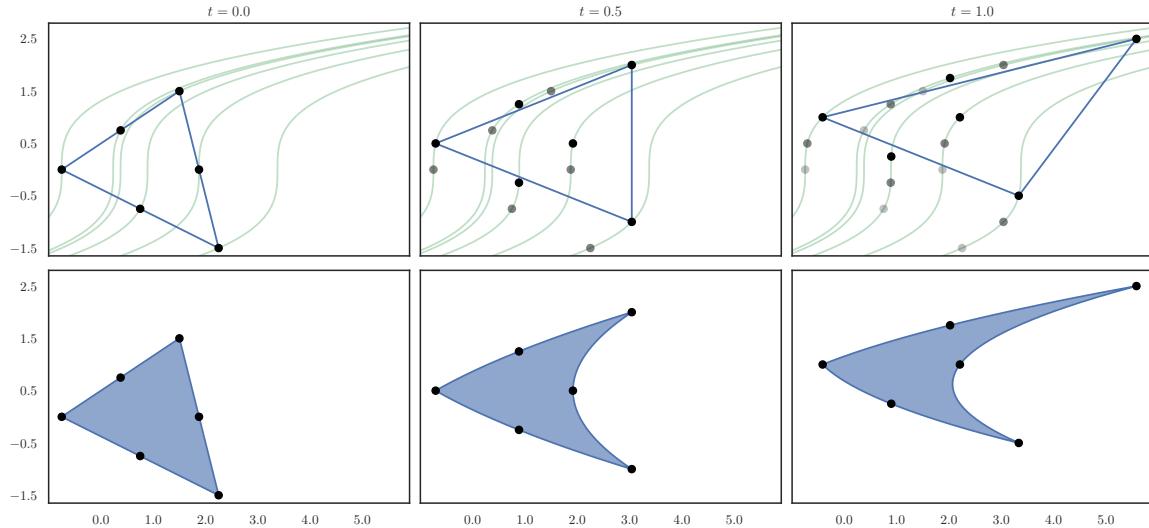
$$u_t + \begin{bmatrix} y^2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \nabla u + F(u, \nabla u) = 0. \quad (4.3)$$

The characteristics  $y(t) = y_0 + t, x(t) = x_0 + (y(t)^3 - y_0^3)/3$  distort the mesh considerably after just one second.

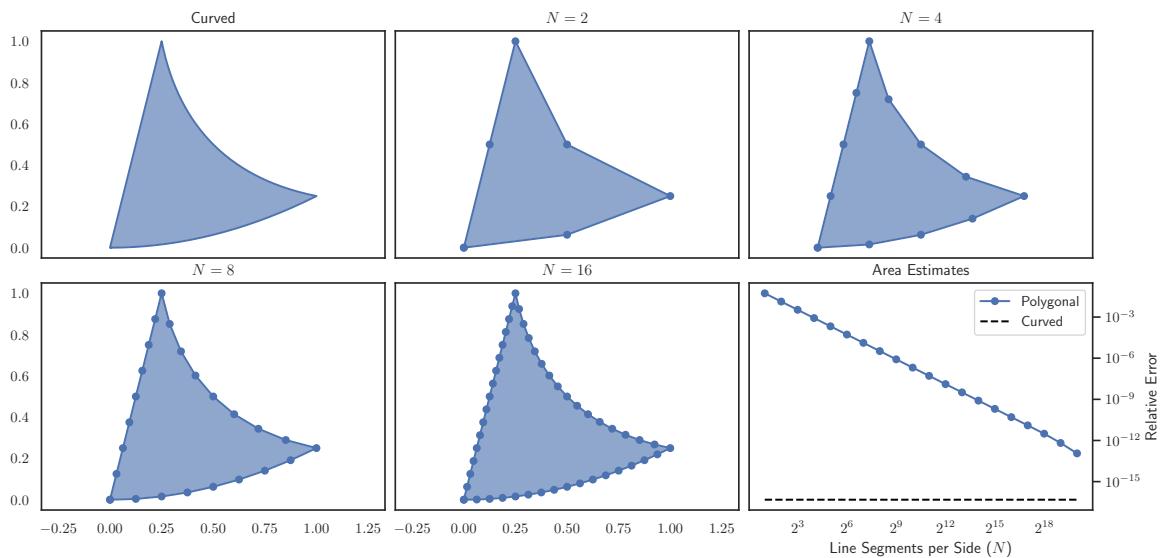
Adaptive: [DK87, BR78], Data transfer: [JH04, FPP<sup>+</sup>09, FM11] (In many applications, the field must be conserved for physical reasons, e.g. mass or energy cannot leave or enter the system),

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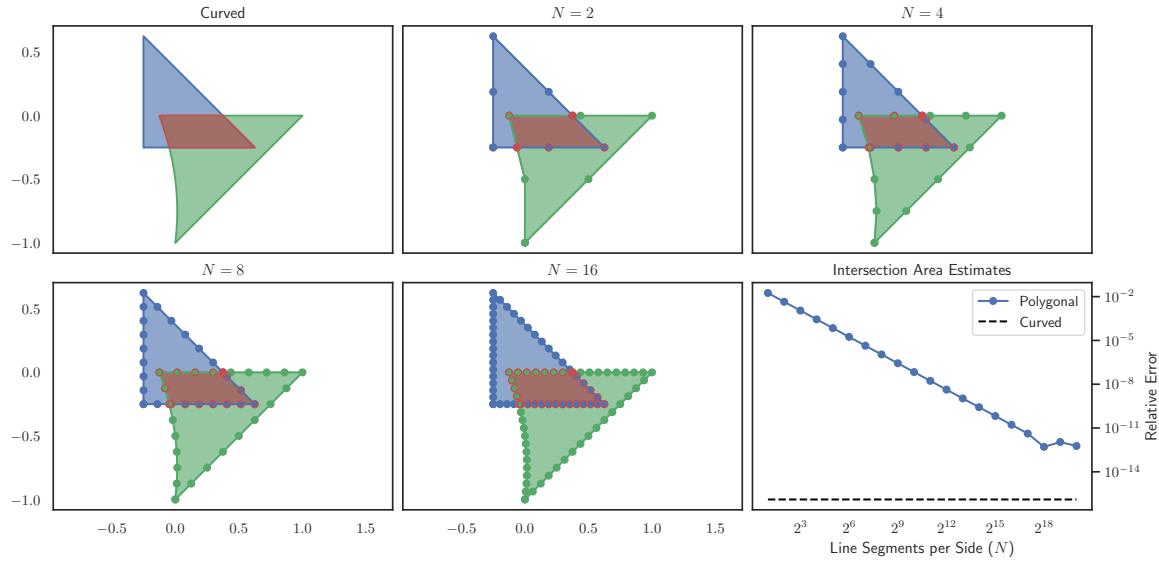
<sup>1</sup>In Eulerian methods, the mesh is fixed.



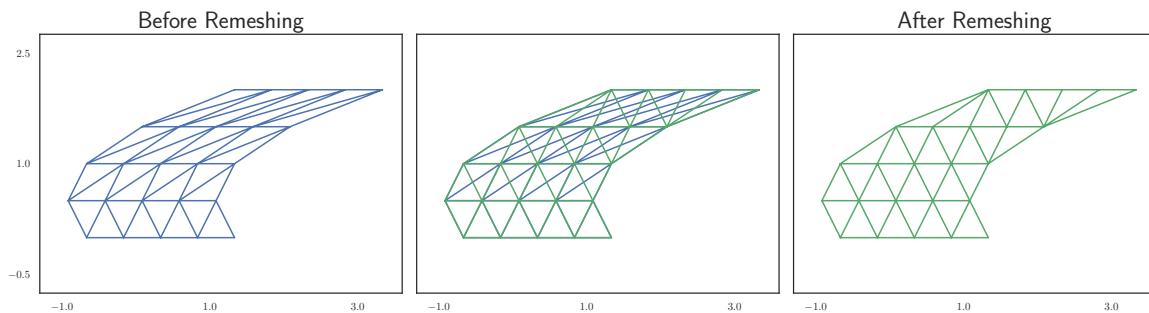
**Figure 4.3:** Movement of nodes in a quadratic element under distortion caused by particle motion along the velocity field  $[y^2 \ 1]^T$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$  with  $\Delta t = 1/2$ .



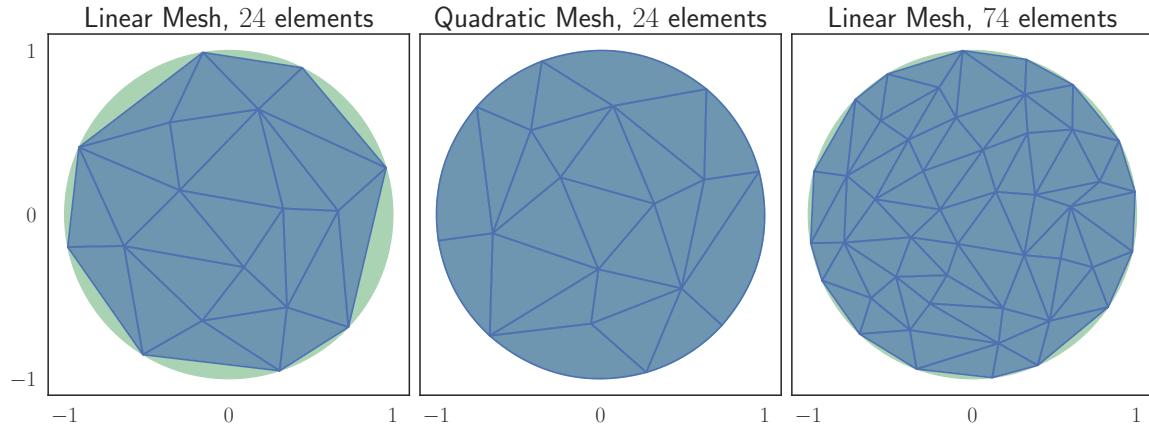
**Figure 4.4:** Comparing the relative error for the computed area of a quadratic Bézier triangle. In one method, the curved boundary is used with Green's method and it is correct to machine precision. In the other, the curved edges are approximated by polygonal paths. These paths are generated from equally spaced parameters, for example a Bézier curve  $b(s)$  with  $N = 4$  would be approximated by a line connecting  $b(0), b(1/4), b(1/2), b(3/4)$  and  $b(1)$ .



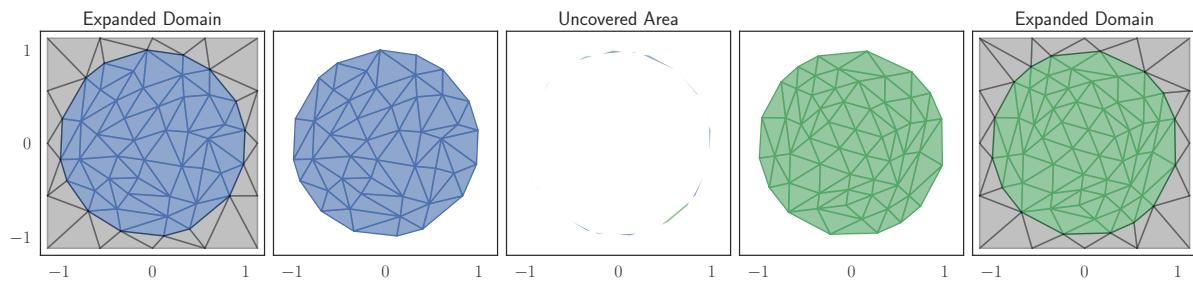
**Figure 4.5:** Comparing the relative error for the computed area of the intersection of two quadratic Bézier triangles. In one method, the intersection boundary is fully specified as the union of Bézier curve segments and the area is found via Green's method. This method is correct to machine precision. In the other, the curved edges are approximated by polygonal paths and the intersection of the resulting polygons is computed. These paths are generated from equally spaced parameters, for example a Bézier curve  $b(s)$  with  $N = 4$  would be approximated by a line connecting  $b(0), b(1/4), b(1/2), b(3/4)$  and  $b(1)$ .



**Figure 4.6:** Remeshing a domain after distortion caused by particle motion along the velocity field  $[y^2 \ 1]^T$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$ .



**Figure 4.7:** Comparing straight sided meshes to a curved mesh when approximating the unit disc in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .



**Figure 4.8:** Partially overlapping meshes on a near identical domain. Both are linear meshes that approximate the unit disc in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ . The outermost columns show how the domain of each mesh can be expanded so they agree.

# Chapter 5

## *K*-Compensated de Casteljau

### 5.1 Introduction

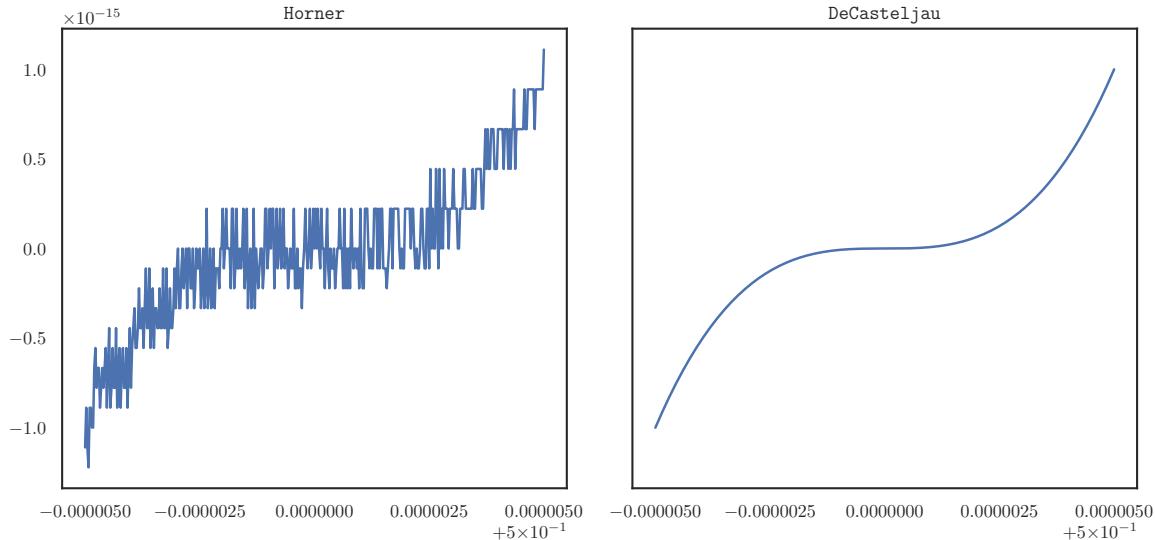
In computer aided geometric design, polynomials are usually expressed in Bernstein form. Polynomials in this form are usually evaluated by the de Casteljau algorithm. This algorithm has a round-off error bound which grows only linearly with degree, even though the number of arithmetic operations grows quadratically. The Bernstein basis is optimally suited ([FR87, DP15, MP05]) for polynomial evaluation; it is typically more accurate than the monomial basis, for example in Figure 5.1 evaluation via Horner’s method produces a jagged curve for points near a triple root, but the de Casteljau algorithm produces a smooth curve. Nevertheless the de Casteljau algorithm returns results arbitrarily less accurate than the working precision  $\mathbf{u}$  when evaluating  $p(s)$  is ill-conditioned. The relative accuracy of the computed evaluation with the de Casteljau algorithm (`DeCasteljau`) satisfies ([MP99]) the following a priori bound:

$$\frac{|p(s) - \text{DeCasteljau}(p, s)|}{|p(s)|} \leq \text{cond}(p, s) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}). \quad (5.1)$$

In the right-hand side of this inequality,  $\mathbf{u}$  is the computing precision and the condition number  $\text{cond}(p, s) \geq 1$  only depends on  $s$  and the Bernstein coefficients of  $p$  — its expression will be given further.

For ill-conditioned problems, such as evaluating  $p(s)$  near a multiple root, the condition number may be arbitrarily large, i.e.  $\text{cond}(p, s) > 1/\mathbf{u}$ , in which case most or all of the computed digits will be incorrect. In some cases, even the order of magnitude of the computed value of  $p(s)$  can be incorrect.

To address ill-conditioned problems, error-free transformations (EFT) can be applied in *compensated algorithms* to account for round-off. Error-free transformations were studied in great detail in [ORO05] and open a large number of applications. In [LGL06], a compensated Horner’s algorithm was described to evaluate a polynomial in the monomial basis. In [JLCS10], a similar method was described to perform a compensated version of the de Casteljau algorithm. In both cases, the  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  factor is moved from  $\mathbf{u}$  to  $\mathbf{u}^2$  and the



**Figure 5.1:** Comparing Horner’s method to the de Casteljau method for evaluating  $p(s) = (2s - 1)^3$  in the neighborhood of its multiple root  $1/2$ .

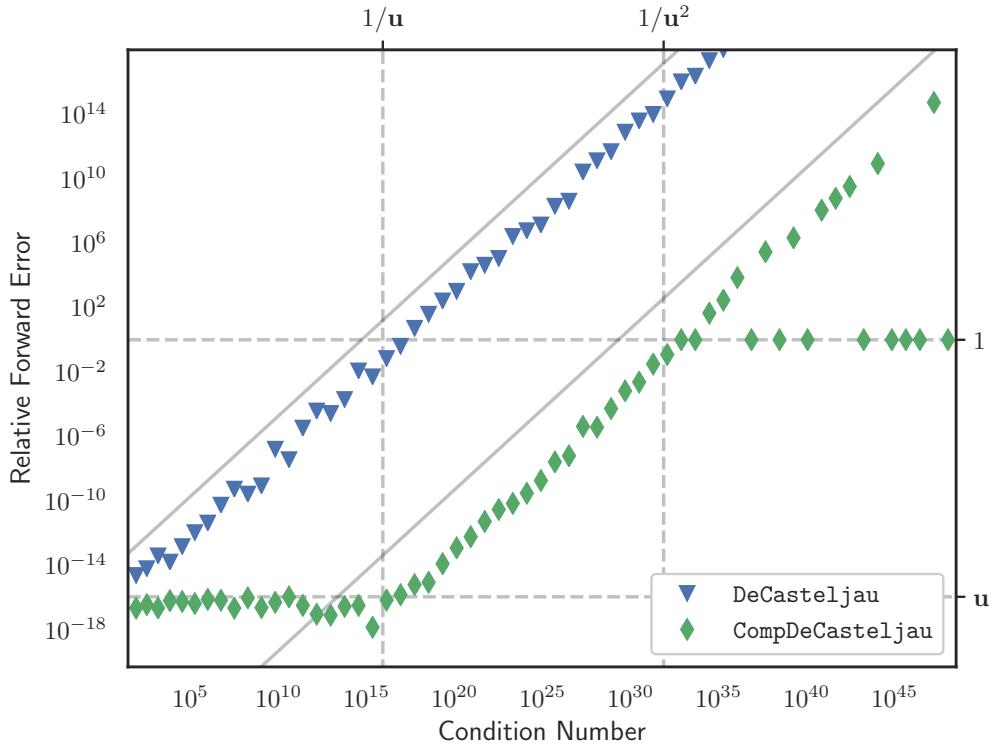
computed value is as accurate as if the computations were done in twice the working precision. For example, the compensated de Casteljau algorithm (`CompDeCasteljau`) satisfies

$$\frac{|p(s) - \text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s)|}{|p(s)|} \leq \mathbf{u} + \text{cond}(p, s) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^2). \quad (5.2)$$

For problems with  $\text{cond}(p, s) < 1/\mathbf{u}^2$ , the relative error is  $\mathbf{u}$ , i.e. accurate to full precision, aside from rounding to the nearest floating point number. Figure 5.2 shows this shift in relative error from `DeCasteljau` to `CompDeCasteljau`.

In [GLL09], the authors generalized the compensated Horner’s algorithm to produce a method for evaluating a polynomial as if the computations were done in  $K$  times the working precision for any  $K \geq 2$ . This result motivates this paper, though the approach there is somewhat different than ours. They perform each computation with error-free transformations and interpret the errors as coefficients of new polynomials. They then evaluate the error polynomials, which (recursively) generate second order error polynomials and so on. This recursive property causes the number of operations to grow exponentially in  $K$ . Here, we instead have a fixed number of error groups, each corresponding to round-off from the group above it. For example, when  $(1-s)b_j^{(n)} + sb_{j+1}^{(n)}$  is computed in floating point, any error is filtered down to the error group below it.

As in (5.1), the accuracy of the compensated result (5.2) may be arbitrarily bad for ill-conditioned polynomial evaluations. For example, as the condition number grows in Figure 5.2, some points have relative error exactly equal to 1; this indicates that  $\text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s) = 0$ , which is a complete failure to evaluate the order of magnitude of  $p(s)$ . For root-finding



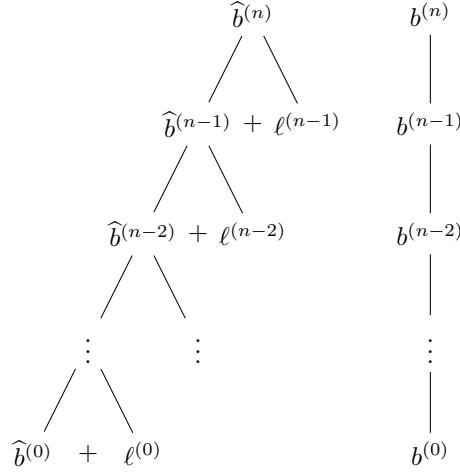
**Figure 5.2:** Evaluation of  $p(s) = (s - 1)(s - 3/4)^7$  represented in Bernstein form.

problems  $\text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s) = 0$  when  $p(s) \neq 0$  can cause premature convergence and incorrect results. We describe how to defer rounding into progressively smaller error groups and improve the accuracy of the computed result by a factor of  $\mathbf{u}$  for every error group added. So we derive  $\text{CompDeCasteljauK}$ , a  $K$ -fold compensated de Casteljau algorithm that satisfies the following a priori bound for any arbitrary integer  $K$ :

$$\frac{|p(s) - \text{CompDeCasteljauK}(p, s, K)|}{|p(s)|} \leq \mathbf{u} + \text{cond}(p, s) \times \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^K). \quad (5.3)$$

This means that the computed value with  $\text{CompDeCasteljauK}$  is now as accurate as the result of the de Casteljau algorithm performed in  $K$  times the working precision with a final rounding back to the working precision.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 establishes notation for error analysis with floating point operations, reviews results about error-free transformations and reviews the de Casteljau algorithm. In Section 5.2, the compensated algorithm for polynomial evaluation from [JLCS10] is reviewed and notation is established for the expansion. In Section 5.3, the  $K$ -compensated algorithm is provided and a forward error analysis is performed. Finally, in Section 5.4 we perform two numerical experiments to give practical examples of the theoretical error bounds.

**Figure 5.3:** Local round-off errors

## 5.2 Compensated de Casteljau

In this section we review the compensated de Casteljau algorithm from [JLCS10]. In order to track the local errors at each update step, we use four EFTs:

$$[\hat{r}, \rho] = \text{TwoSum}(1, -s) \quad (5.4)$$

$$[P_1, \pi_1] = \text{TwoProd}(\hat{r}, \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)}) \quad (5.5)$$

$$[P_2, \pi_2] = \text{TwoProd}(s, \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}) \quad (5.6)$$

$$[\hat{b}_j^{(k)}, \sigma_3] = \text{TwoSum}(P_1, P_2) \quad (5.7)$$

With these, we can exactly describe the local error between the exact update and computed update:

$$\ell_{1,j}^{(k)} = \pi_1 + \pi_2 + \sigma_3 + \rho \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \quad (5.8)$$

$$(1 - s) \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} + s \cdot \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} = \hat{b}_j^{(k)} + \ell_{1,j}^{(k)}. \quad (5.9)$$

By defining the global errors at each step

$$\partial b_j^{(k)} = b_j^{(k)} - \hat{b}_j^{(k)} \quad (5.10)$$

we can see (Figure 5.3) that the local errors accumulate in  $\partial b^{(k)}$ :

$$\partial b_j^{(k)} = (1 - s) \cdot \partial b_j^{(k+1)} + s \cdot \partial b_{j+1}^{(k+1)} + \ell_{1,j}^{(k)}. \quad (5.11)$$

When computed in exact arithmetic

$$p(s) = \hat{b}_0^{(0)} + \partial b_0^{(0)} \quad (5.12)$$

and by using (5.11), we can continue to compute approximations of  $\partial b_j^{(k)}$ . The idea behind the compensated de Casteljau algorithm is to compute both the local error and the updates of the global error with floating point operations:

---

**Algorithm 5.1** *Compensated de Casteljau algorithm for polynomial evaluation.*

---

```

function result = CompDeCasteljau( $b, s$ )
     $n = \text{length}(b) - 1$ 
     $[\hat{r}, \rho] = \text{TwoSum}(1, -s)$ 

    for  $j = 0, \dots, n$  do
         $\hat{b}_j^{(n)} = b_j$ 
         $\hat{\partial}b_j^{(n)} = 0$ 
    end for

    for  $k = n - 1, \dots, 0$  do
        for  $j = 0, \dots, k$  do
             $[P_1, \pi_1] = \text{TwoProd}(\hat{r}, \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)})$ 
             $[P_2, \pi_2] = \text{TwoProd}(s, \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)})$ 
             $[\hat{b}_j^{(k)}, \sigma_3] = \text{TwoSum}(P_1, P_2)$ 
             $\hat{\ell}_{1,j}^{(k)} = \pi_1 \oplus \pi_2 \oplus \sigma_3 \oplus (\rho \otimes \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)})$ 
             $\hat{\partial}b_j^{(k)} = \hat{\ell}_{1,j}^{(k)} \oplus (s \otimes \hat{\partial}b_{j+1}^{(k+1)}) \oplus (\hat{r} \otimes \hat{\partial}b_j^{(k+1)})$ 
        end for
    end for

    result =  $\hat{b}_0^{(0)} \oplus \hat{\partial}b_0^{(0)}$ 
end function

```

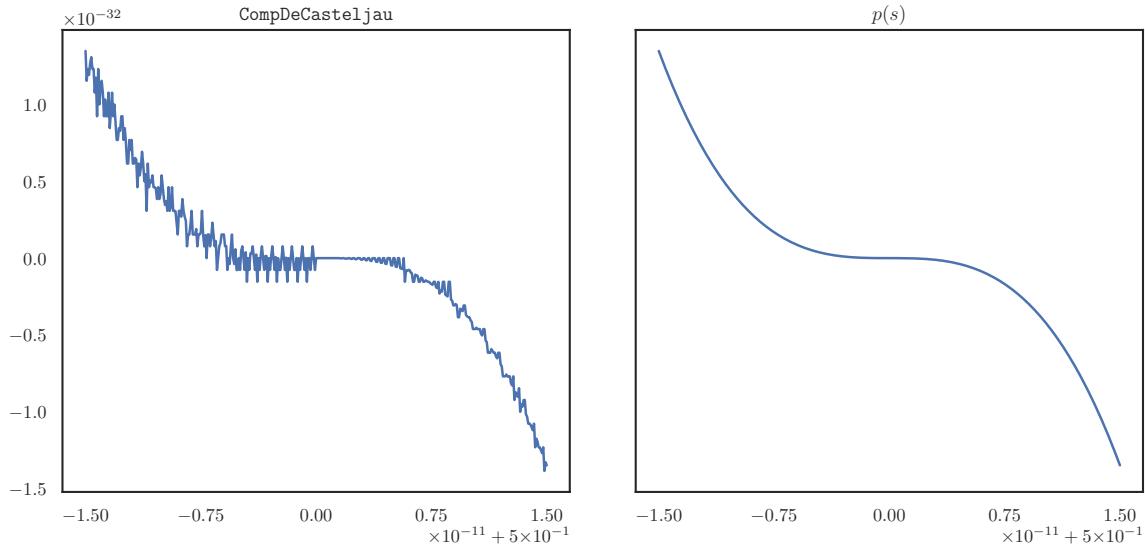
---

When comparing this computed error to the exact error, the difference depends only on  $s$  and the Bernstein coefficients of  $p$ . Using a bound (Lemma 5.1) on the round-off error when computing  $\partial b^{(0)}$ , the algorithm can be shown to be as accurate as if the computations were done in twice the working precision:

**Theorem 5.1** ([JLCS10], Theorem 5). If no underflow occurs,  $n \geq 2$  and  $s \in [0, 1]$

$$\frac{|p(s) - \text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s)|}{|p(s)|} \leq \mathbf{u} + 2\gamma_{3n}^2 \text{cond}(p, s). \quad (5.13)$$

Unfortunately, Figure 5.4 shows how `CompDeCasteljau` starts to break down in a region of high condition number (caused by a multiple root with multiplicity higher than two). For example, the point  $s = \frac{1}{2} + 1001\mathbf{u}$  — which is in the plotted region  $|s - \frac{1}{2}| \leq \frac{3}{2} \cdot 10^{-11}$  —



**Figure 5.4:** The compensated de Casteljau method starts to lose accuracy for  $p(s) = (2s-1)^3(s-1)$  in the neighborhood of its multiple root  $1/2$ .

$k$	$j$	$\widehat{b}_j^{(k)}$	$\widehat{\partial b}_j^{(k)}$	$\partial b_j^{(k)} - \widehat{\partial b}_j^{(k)}$
3	0	$0.125 - 1.75(1001\mathbf{u}) - 0.25\mathbf{u}$	$0.25\mathbf{u}$	0
3	1	$-0.125 + 1.25(1001\mathbf{u}) + 0.25\mathbf{u}$	$-0.25\mathbf{u}$	0
3	2	$0.125 - 0.75(1001\mathbf{u})$	0	0
3	3	$-0.125 + 0.25(1001\mathbf{u})$	0	0
2	0	$-0.5(1001\mathbf{u})$	$3(1001\mathbf{u})^2$	0
2	1	$0.5(1001\mathbf{u}) + 0.125\mathbf{u}$	$-0.125\mathbf{u} - 2(1001\mathbf{u})^2$	0
2	2	$-0.5(1001\mathbf{u})$	$(1001\mathbf{u})^2$	0
1	0	$0.0625\mathbf{u} + (1001\mathbf{u})^2 + 239\mathbf{u}^2$	$-0.0625\mathbf{u} + 0.5(1001\mathbf{u})^2 - 239\mathbf{u}^2$	$-5(1001\mathbf{u})^3$
1	1	$0.0625\mathbf{u} - (1001\mathbf{u})^2 - 239\mathbf{u}^2$	$-0.0625\mathbf{u} - 0.5(1001\mathbf{u})^2 + 239\mathbf{u}^2$	$3(1001\mathbf{u})^3$
0	0	$0.0625\mathbf{u}$	$-0.0625\mathbf{u}$	$-4(1001\mathbf{u})^3 + 8(1001\mathbf{u})^4$

**Table 5.1:** Terms computed by CompDeCasteljau when evaluating  $p(s) = (2s-1)^3(s-1)$  at the point  $s = \frac{1}{2} + 1001\mathbf{u}$

evaluates to exactly 0 when it should be  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^3)$ . As shown in Table 5.1, the breakdown occurs because  $\widehat{b}_0^{(0)} = -\widehat{\partial b}_0^{(0)} = \mathbf{u}/16$ .

## 5.3 K-Compensated de Casteljau

### 5.3.1 Algorithm Specified

In order to raise from twice the working precision to  $K$  times the working precision, we continue using EFTs when computing  $\widehat{\partial b}^{(k)}$ . By tracking the round-off from each floating point evaluation via an EFT, we can form a cascade of global errors:

$$b_j^{(k)} = \widehat{b}_j^{(k)} + \partial b_j^{(k)} \quad (5.14)$$

$$\partial b_j^{(k)} = \widehat{\partial b}_j^{(k)} + \partial^2 b_j^{(k)} \quad (5.15)$$

$$\partial^2 b_j^{(k)} = \widehat{\partial^2 b}_j^{(k)} + \partial^3 b_j^{(k)} \quad (5.16)$$

⋮

In the same way local error can be tracked when updating  $\widehat{b}_j^{(k)}$ , it can be tracked for updates that happen down the cascade:

$$(1-s) \cdot \widehat{b}_j^{(k+1)} + s \cdot \widehat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} = \widehat{b}_j^{(k)} + \ell_{1,j}^{(k)} \quad (5.17)$$

$$(1-s) \cdot \widehat{\partial b}_j^{(k+1)} + s \cdot \widehat{\partial b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} + \ell_{1,j}^{(k)} = \widehat{\partial b}_j^{(k)} + \ell_{2,j}^{(k)} \quad (5.18)$$

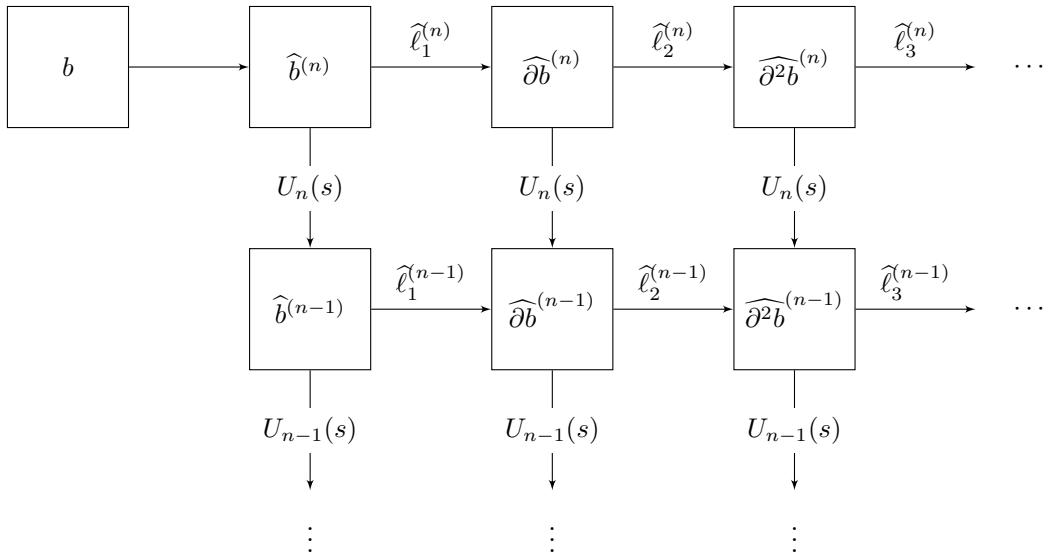
$$(1-s) \cdot \widehat{\partial^2 b}_j^{(k+1)} + s \cdot \widehat{\partial^2 b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} + \ell_{2,j}^{(k)} = \widehat{\partial^2 b}_j^{(k)} + \ell_{3,j}^{(k)} \quad (5.19)$$

⋮

In CompDeCasteljau (Algorithm 5.1), after a single stage of error filtering we “give up” and use  $\widehat{\partial b}$  instead of  $\partial b$  (without keeping around any information about the round-off error). In order to obtain results that are as accurate as if computed in  $K$  times the working precision, we must continue filtering (see Figure 5.5) errors down ( $K - 1$ ) times, and only at the final level do we accept the rounded  $\widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}$  in place of the exact  $\partial^{K-1} b$ .

When computing  $\widehat{\partial^F b}$  (i.e. the error after  $F$  stages of filtering) there will be several sources of round-off. In particular, there will be

- errors when computing  $\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)}$  from the terms in  $\ell_{F,j}^{(k)}$
- an error for the “missing”  $\rho \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}$  in  $(1-s) \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}$
- an error from the product  $\widehat{r} \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}$
- an error from the product  $s \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}$
- two errors from the two  $\oplus$  when combining the three terms in  $\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \oplus \left( s \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right) \oplus \left( \widehat{r} \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)} \right)$

**Figure 5.5:** Filtering errors

For example, in (5.8):

$$\ell_{1,j}^{(k)} = \underbrace{\pi_1}_{P_1 = \hat{r} \otimes \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)}} + \underbrace{\pi_2}_{P_2 = s \otimes \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}} + \underbrace{\sigma_3}_{P_1 \oplus P_2} + \underbrace{\rho \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)}}_{(1-s)\hat{b}_j^{(k+1)}} \quad (5.20)$$

After each stage, we'll always have

$$\ell_{F,j}^{(k)} = e_1 + \dots + e_{5F-2} + \rho \cdot \widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)} \quad (5.21)$$

where the terms  $e_1, \dots, e_{5F-2}$  come from using `TwoSum` and `TwoProd` when computing  $\widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k)}$  and the  $\rho$  term comes from the round-off in  $1 \ominus s$  when multiplying  $(1 - s)$  by  $\widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)}$ . With this in mind, we can define an EFT (`LocalErrorEFT`) that computes  $\hat{\ell}$  and tracks all round-off errors generated in the process:

---

**Algorithm 5.2** *EFT for computing the local error.*

---

**function**  $[\eta, \hat{\ell}] = \text{LocalErrorEFT}(e, \rho, \delta b)$   
**for**  $j = 3, \dots, L$  **do**  
 $L = \text{length}(e)$

$[\hat{\ell}, \eta_1] = \text{TwoSum}(e_1, e_2)$   
**for**  $j = 3, \dots, L$  **do**  
 $[\hat{\ell}, \eta_{j-1}] = \text{TwoSum}(\hat{\ell}, e_j)$

---

**end for**

$$\begin{aligned} [P, \eta_L] &= \text{TwoProd}(\rho, \delta b) \\ [\widehat{\ell}, \eta_{L+1}] &= \text{TwoSum}(\widehat{\ell}, P) \end{aligned}$$

**end function**

---

With this EFT in place<sup>1</sup>, we can perform  $(K - 1)$  error filtrations. Once we've computed the  $K$  stages of global errors, they can be combined with **SumK** (Algorithm A.6) to produce a sum that is as accurate as if computed in  $K$  times the working precision.

---

**Algorithm 5.3** *K-compensated de Casteljau algorithm.*

---

**function** result = CompDeCasteljauK( $b, s, K$ )

$$n = \text{length}(b) - 1$$

$$[\widehat{r}, \rho] = \text{TwoSum}(1, -s)$$

**for**  $j = 0, \dots, n$  **do**

$$\widehat{b}_j^{(n)} = b_j$$

**for**  $F = 1, \dots, K - 1$  **do**

$$\widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(n)} = 0$$

**end for**

**end for**

**for**  $k = n - 1, \dots, 0$  **do**

**for**  $j = 0, \dots, k$  **do**

$$[P_1, \pi_1] = \text{TwoProd}(\widehat{r}, \widehat{b}_j^{(k+1)})$$

$$[P_2, \pi_2] = \text{TwoProd}(s, \widehat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)})$$

$$[\widehat{b}_j^{(k)}, \sigma_3] = \text{TwoSum}(P_1, P_2)$$

$$e = [\pi_1, \pi_2, \sigma_3]$$

$$\delta b = \widehat{b}_j^{(k+1)}$$

**for**  $F = 1, \dots, K - 2$  **do**

$$[\eta, \widehat{\ell}] = \text{LocalErrorEFT}(e, \rho, \delta b)$$

$$L = \text{length}(\eta)$$

$$[P_1, \eta_{L+1}] = \text{TwoProd}\left(s, \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}\right)$$

$$[S_2, \eta_{L+2}] = \text{TwoSum}(\widehat{\ell}, P_1)$$

---

<sup>1</sup> And the related **LocalError** in Algorithm A.7

---

```

 $[P_3, \eta_{L+3}] = \text{TwoProd} \left( \hat{r}, \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)} \right)$ 
 $\left[ \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k)}, \eta_{L+4} \right] = \text{TwoSum}(S_2, P_3)$ 

 $e = \eta$ 
 $\delta b = \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}$ 
end for

 $\hat{\ell} = \text{LocalError}(e, \rho, \delta b)$ 
 $\widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_j^{(k)} = \hat{\ell} \oplus \left( s \otimes \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right) \oplus \left( \hat{r} \otimes \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_j^{(k+1)} \right)$ 
end for
end for

result = SumK  $\left( \left[ \widehat{b}_0^{(0)}, \dots, \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_0^{(0)} \right], K \right)$ 
end function

```

---

Noting that  $\ell_{F,j}$  contains  $5F - 1$  terms, one can show that **CompDeCasteljauK** (Algorithm 5.3) requires

$$(15K^2 + 11K - 34)T_n + 6K^2 - 11K + 11 = \mathcal{O}(n^2 K^2) \quad (5.22)$$

flops to evaluate a degree  $n$  polynomial, where  $T_n$  is the  $n$ th triangular number. As a comparison, the non-compensated form of de Casteljau requires  $3T_n + 1$  flops. In total this will require  $(3K - 4)T_n$  uses of **TwoProd**. On hardware that supports FMA, **TwoProdFMA** (Algorithm A.4) can be used instead, lowering the flop count by  $15(3K - 4)T_n$ . Another way to lower the total flop count is to just use  $\widehat{b}_0^{(0)} \oplus \dots \oplus \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_0^{(0)}$  instead of **SumK**; this will reduce the total by  $6(K - 1)^2$  flops. When using a standard sum, the results produced are (empirically) identical to those with **SumK**. This makes sense: the whole point of **SumK** is to filter errors in a summation so that the final operation produces a sum of the form  $v_1 \oplus \dots \oplus v_K$  where each term is smaller than the previous by a factor of  $\mathbf{u}$ . This property is already satisfied for the  $\widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)}$  so in practice the  $K$ -compensated summation is likely not needed.

### 5.3.2 Error bound for polynomial evaluation

**Theorem 5.1** ([ORO05], Proposition 4.10). A summation can be computed (**SumK**, Algorithm A.6) with results that are as accurate as if computed in  $K$  times the working precision. When computed this way, the result satisfies:

$$\left| \text{SumK}(v, K) - \sum_{j=1}^n v_j \right| \leq (\mathbf{u} + 3\gamma_{n-1}^2) \left| \sum_{j=1}^n v_j \right| + \gamma_{2n-2}^K \sum_{j=1}^n |v_j|. \quad (5.23)$$

**Lemma 5.1** ([JLCS10], Theorem 4). The second order error  $\partial^2 b_0^{(0)}$  satisfies<sup>2</sup>

$$\left| \partial b_0^{(0)} - \widehat{\partial} b_0^{(0)} \right| = \left| \partial^2 b_0^{(0)} \right| \leq 2\gamma_{3n+2}\gamma_{3(n-1)}\tilde{p}(s). \quad (5.24)$$

To enable a bound on the  $K$  order error  $\partial^K b_0^{(0)}$ , it's necessary to understand the difference between the exact local errors  $\ell_{F,j}$  and the computed equivalents  $\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}$ . To do this, we define

$$\widetilde{\ell}_{F,j} := |e_1| + \cdots + |e_{5F-2}| + \left| \rho \cdot \widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)} \right|. \quad (5.25)$$

**Lemma 5.2.** The local error bounds  $\widetilde{\ell}_{F,j}$  satisfy:

$$\widetilde{\ell}_{1,j}^{(k)} \leq \gamma_3 \left( (1-s) \left| \widehat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| + s \left| \widehat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right| \right) \quad (5.26)$$

$$\widetilde{\ell}_{F+1,j}^{(k)} \leq \gamma_3 \left( (1-s) \left| \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| + s \left| \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right| \right) + \gamma_{5F} \cdot \widetilde{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \text{ for } F \geq 1. \quad (5.27)$$

As we'll see soon (Lemma 5.4), putting a bound on sums of the form  $\sum_{j=0}^k \ell_{F,j}^{(k)} B_{j,k}(s)$  will be useful to get an overall bound on the relative error for CompDeCasteljauK, so we define  $L_{F,k} := \sum_{j=0}^k \ell_{F,j}^{(k)} B_{j,k}(s)$ .

**Lemma 5.3.** For  $s \in [0, 1]$ , the Bernstein-type error sum defined above satisfies the following bounds:

$$L_{F,n-k} \leq \left[ \left( 3^F \binom{k}{F-1} + \mathcal{O}(k^{F-1}) \right) \mathbf{u}^F + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+1}) \right] \cdot \tilde{p}(s) \quad (5.28)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \gamma_{3k+5F} L_{F,k} \leq \left[ \left( 3^{F+1} \binom{n}{F+1} + \mathcal{O}(n^F) \right) \mathbf{u}^{F+1} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+2}) \right] \cdot \tilde{p}(s). \quad (5.29)$$

In particular, this means that  $\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \gamma_{3k+5F} L_{F,k} = \mathcal{O}((3n\mathbf{u})^{F+1}) \cdot \tilde{p}(s)$ .

See Appendix B for details on proving Lemma 5.2 and Lemma 5.3.

**Lemma 5.4.** The  $K$  order error  $\partial^K b_0^{(0)}$  satisfies

$$\left| \partial^{K-1} b_0^{(0)} - \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_0^{(0)} \right| = \left| \partial^K b_0^{(0)} \right| \leq \left[ \left( 3^K \binom{n}{K} + \mathcal{O}(n^{K-1}) \right) \mathbf{u}^K + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \right] \cdot \tilde{p}(s). \quad (5.30)$$

*Proof.* As in (2.7), we can express the compensated de Casteljau algorithm as

$$\partial^F b^{(k)} = U_{k+1} \partial^F b^{(k+1)} + \ell_F^{(k)} \implies \partial^F b^{(0)} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} U_1 \cdots U_k \ell_F^{(k)} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ \sum_{j=0}^k \ell_{F,j}^{(k)} B_{j,k}(s) \right]. \quad (5.31)$$

---

<sup>2</sup>The authors missed one round-off error so used  $\gamma_{3n+1}$  where  $\gamma_{3n+2}$  would have followed from their arguments.

For the inexact equivalent of these things, first note that  $\hat{r} = (1 - s)(1 + \delta)$ . Due to this, we put the  $\hat{r}$  term at the end of each update step to reduce the amount of round-off:

$$\widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k)} = \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \oplus \left( s \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right) \oplus \left( \hat{r} \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)} \right) \quad (5.32)$$

$$= (1 - s) \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)} (1 + \theta_3) + s \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} (1 + \theta_3) + \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} (1 + \theta_2) \quad (5.33)$$

$$\implies \widehat{\partial^F b}^{(k)} = U_{k+1} \widehat{\partial^F b}^{(k+1)} (1 + \theta_3) + \widehat{\ell}_F^{(k)} (1 + \theta_2) \quad (5.34)$$

$$\implies \widehat{\partial^F b}^{(0)} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} U_1 \cdots U_k \widehat{\ell}_F^{(k)} (1 + \theta_{3k+2}) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ \sum_{j=0}^k \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} (1 + \theta_{3k+2}) B_{j,k}(s) \right]. \quad (5.35)$$

Since

$$\partial^{F+1} b_0^{(0)} = \partial^F b_0^{(0)} - \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{j=0}^k \left( \ell_{F,j}^{(k)} - \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} (1 + \theta_{3k+2}) \right) B_{j,k}(s) \quad (5.36)$$

it's useful to put a bound on  $\ell_{F,j}^{(k)} - \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} (1 + \theta_{3k+2})$ . Via

$$\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} = e_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus e_{5F-2} \oplus \left( \rho \otimes \widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)} \right) \quad (5.37)$$

$$= e_1 (1 + \theta_{5F-2}) + \cdots + e_{5F-2} (1 + \theta_2) + \rho \cdot \widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)} (1 + \theta_2) \quad (5.38)$$

we see that

$$\left| \ell_{F,j}^{(k)} - \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} (1 + \theta_{3k+2}) \right| \leq \gamma_{3k+5F} \cdot \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \implies \left| \partial^{F+1} b_0^{(0)} \right| \leq \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \gamma_{3k+5F} \sum_{j=0}^k \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} B_{j,k}(s). \quad (5.39)$$

Applying (5.29) directly gives

$$\left| \partial^{F+1} b_0^{(0)} \right| \leq \left[ \left( 3^{F+1} \binom{n}{F+1} + \mathcal{O}(n^F) \right) \mathbf{u}^{F+1} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+2}) \right] \cdot \tilde{p}(s). \quad (5.40)$$

Letting  $K = F + 1$  we have our result. ■

**Theorem 5.2.** If no underflow occurs,  $n \geq 2$  and  $s \in [0, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|p(s) - \text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s, K)|}{|p(s)|} &\leq [\mathbf{u} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^2)] + \\ &\quad \left[ \left( 3^K \binom{n}{K} + \mathcal{O}(n^{K-1}) \right) \mathbf{u}^K + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \right] \text{cond}(p, s). \end{aligned} \quad (5.41)$$

*Proof.* Since

$$\text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s, K) = \text{SumK} \left( \left[ \widehat{b}_0^{(0)}, \dots, \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_0^{(0)} \right], K \right), \quad (5.42)$$

applying Theorem 5.1 tells us that

$$\left| \text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s, K) - \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right| \leq (\mathbf{u} + 3\gamma_{n-1}^2) \left| \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right| + \gamma_{2n-2}^K \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \left| \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right|. \quad (5.43)$$

Since

$$p(s) = b_0^{(0)} = \widehat{b}_0^{(0)} + \partial b_0^{(0)} = \cdots = \widehat{b}_0^{(0)} + \widehat{\partial b}_0^{(0)} + \cdots + \widehat{\partial^{K-1} b}_0^{(0)} + \partial^K b_0^{(0)} \quad (5.44)$$

we have

$$\left| \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right| \leq |p(s)| + |\partial^K b_0^{(0)}| \quad \text{and} \quad (5.45)$$

$$|\text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s, K) - p(s)| \leq \left| \text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s, K) - \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right| + |\partial^K b_0^{(0)}|. \quad (5.46)$$

Due to Lemma 5.4,  $\partial^F b_0^{(0)} = \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^F) \tilde{p}(s)$ , hence

$$(\mathbf{u} + 3\gamma_{n-1}^2) \left| \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right| \leq [\mathbf{u} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^2)] |p(s)| + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \tilde{p}(s) \quad (5.47)$$

$$\gamma_{2n-2}^K \sum_{F=0}^{K-1} \left| \widehat{\partial^F b}_0^{(0)} \right| \leq \gamma_{2n-2}^K |\widehat{b}_0^{(0)}| + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \tilde{p}(s) \quad (5.48)$$

$$\leq \gamma_{2n-2}^K [|p(s)| + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}) \tilde{p}(s)] + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \tilde{p}(s). \quad (5.49)$$

Combining this with (5.43) and (5.46), we see

$$|\text{CompDeCasteljau}(p, s, K) - p(s)| \quad (5.50)$$

$$\leq [\mathbf{u} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^2)] |p(s)| + |\partial^K b_0^{(0)}| + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \tilde{p}(s) \quad (5.51)$$

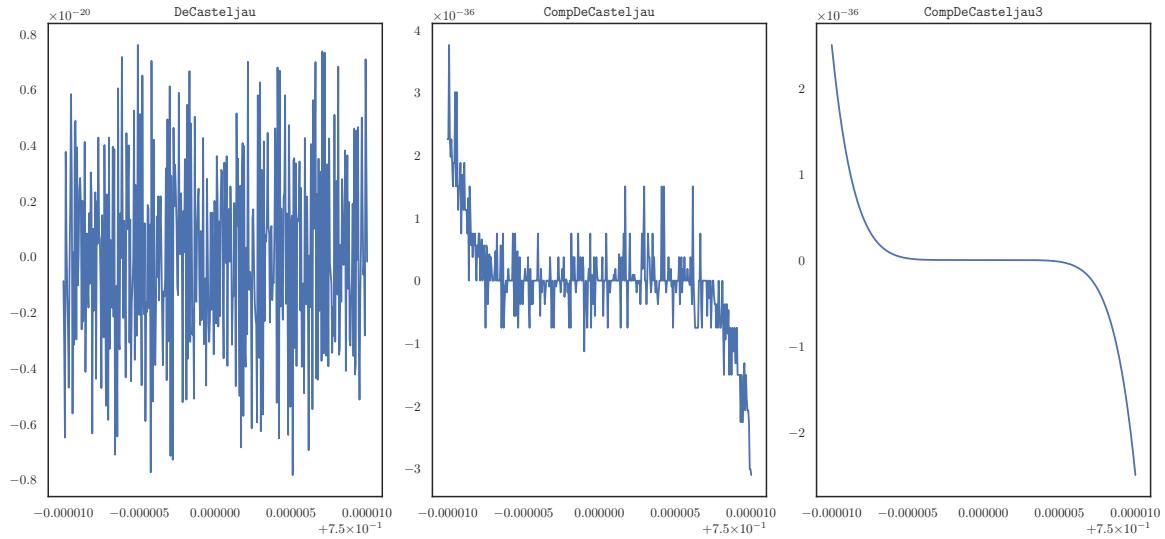
$$\leq [\mathbf{u} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^2)] |p(s)| + \left[ \left( 3^K \binom{n}{K} + \mathcal{O}(n^{K-1}) \right) \mathbf{u}^K + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{K+1}) \right] \tilde{p}(s). \quad (5.52)$$

Dividing this by  $|p(s)|$ , we have our result. ■

For the first few values of  $K$  the coefficient of  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  in the bound is

$K$	Method	Multiplier
1	DeCasteljau	$3 \binom{n}{1} \mathbf{u} = 3n\mathbf{u} \approx \gamma_{3n}$
2	CompDeCasteljau	$[9 \binom{n}{2} + 15 \binom{n}{1}] \mathbf{u}^2 = \frac{3n(3n+7)}{2} \mathbf{u}^2 \approx \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2\gamma_{3n}^2$
3	CompDeCasteljau3	$[27 \binom{n}{3} + 135 \binom{n}{2} + 150 \binom{n}{1}] \mathbf{u}^3 = \frac{3n(3n^2+36n+61)}{2} \mathbf{u}^3$
4	CompDeCasteljau4	$[81 \binom{n}{4} + 810 \binom{n}{3} + 2475 \binom{n}{2} + 2250 \binom{n}{1}] \mathbf{u}^4$

See the proof of Lemma 5.3 for more details on where these polynomials come from.



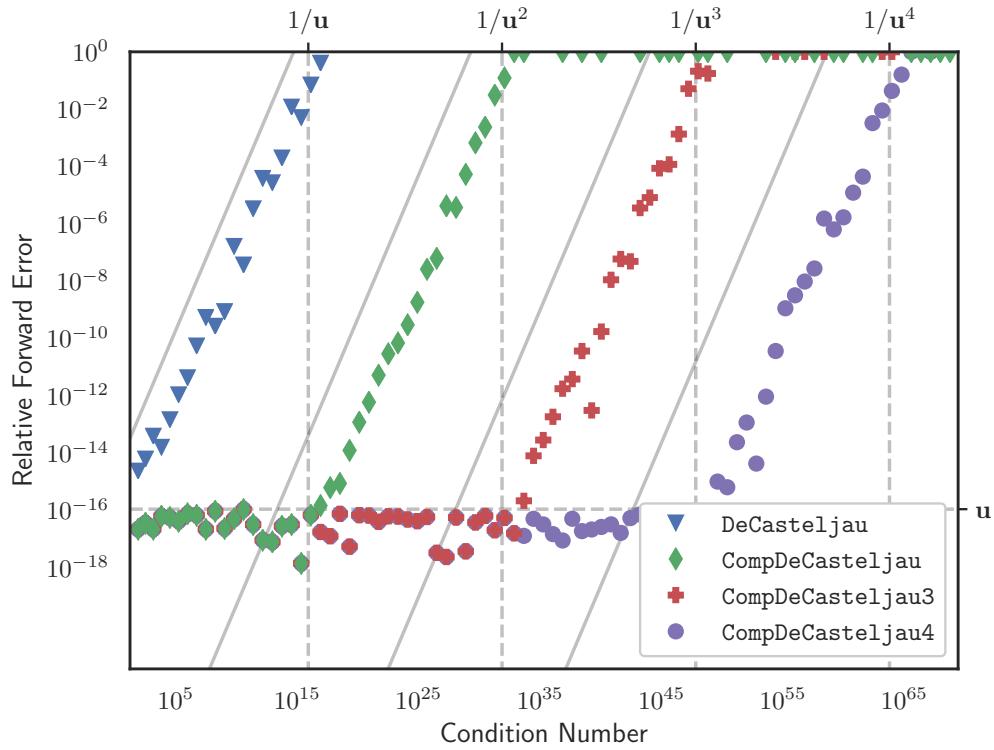
**Figure 5.6:** Evaluation of  $p(s) = (s - 1)(s - 3/4)^7$  in the neighborhood of its multiple root  $3/4$ .

## 5.4 Numerical experiments

All experiments were performed in IEEE-754 double precision. As in [JLCS10], we consider the evaluation in the neighborhood of the multiple root of  $p(s) = (s - 1)(s - 3/4)^7$ , written in Bernstein form. Figure 5.6 shows the evaluation of  $p(s)$  at the 401 equally spaced<sup>3</sup> points  $\left\{ \frac{3}{4} + j \frac{10^{-7}}{2} \right\}_{j=-200}^{200}$  with DeCasteljau (Algorithm 2.1), CompDeCasteljau (Algorithm 5.1) and CompDeCasteljau3 (Algorithm 5.3 with  $K = 3$ ). We see that DeCasteljau fails to get the magnitude correct, CompDeCasteljau has the right shape but lots of noise and CompDeCasteljau3 is able to smoothly evaluate the function. This is in contrast to a similar figure in [JLCS10], where the plot was smooth for the 400 equally spaced points  $\left\{ \frac{3}{4} + \frac{10^{-4}}{2} \frac{2j - 399}{399} \right\}_{j=0}^{399}$ . The primary difference is that as the interval shrinks by a factor of  $\approx \frac{10^{-4}}{10^{-7}} = 10^3$ , the condition number goes up by  $\approx 10^{21}$  and CompDeCasteljau is no longer accurate.

Figure 5.7 shows the relative forward errors compared against the condition number. To compute relative errors, each input and coefficient is converted to a fraction (i.e. infinite precision) and  $p(s)$  is computed exactly as a fraction, then compared to the corresponding computed values. Similar tools are used to **exactly** compute the condition number, though here we can rely on the fact that  $\tilde{p}(s) = (s - 1)(s/2 - 3/4)^7$ . Once the relative errors and condition numbers are computed as fractions, they are rounded to the nearest

<sup>3</sup>It's worth noting that 0.1 cannot be represented exactly in IEEE-754 double precision (or any binary arithmetic for that matter). Hence (most of) the points of the form  $a + b \cdot 10^{-c}$  can only be approximately represented.



**Figure 5.7:** Accuracy of evaluation of  $p(s) = (s - 1)(s - 3/4)^7$  represented in Bernstein form.

IEEE-754 double precision value. As in [JLCS10], we use values  $\left\{\frac{3}{4} - (1.3)^j\right\}_{j=-5}^{-90}$ <sup>4</sup>. The curves for DeCasteljau and CompDeCasteljau trace the same paths seen in [JLCS10]. In particular, CompDeCasteljau has a relative error that is  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u})$  until  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  reaches  $1/\mathbf{u}$ , at which point the relative error increases linearly with the condition number until it becomes  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  when  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  reaches  $1/\mathbf{u}^2$ . Similarly, the relative error in CompDeCasteljau3 (Algorithm 5.3 with  $K = 3$ ) is  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u})$  until  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  reaches  $1/\mathbf{u}^2$  at which point the relative error increases linearly to  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  when  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  reaches  $1/\mathbf{u}^3$  and the relative error in CompDeCasteljau4 (Algorithm 5.3 with  $K = 4$ ) is  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u})$  until  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  reaches  $1/\mathbf{u}^3$  at which point the relative error increases linearly to  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  when  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  reaches  $1/\mathbf{u}^4$ .

---

<sup>4</sup>As with 0.1, it's worth noting that  $(1.3)^j$  can't be represented exactly in IEEE-754 double precision. However, this geometric series still serves a useful purpose since it continues to raise  $\text{cond}(p, s)$  as  $j$  decreases away from 0 and because it results in "random" changes in the bits of 0.75 that are impacted by subtracting  $(1.3)^j$ .

## Chapter 6

# Accurate Newton's Method for Bézier Curve Intersection

Placeholder.

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# A

## Algorithms

Find here concrete implementation details on the EFTs described in Theorem 2.1. They do not use branches, nor access to the mantissa that can be time-consuming.

---

**Algorithm A.1** *EFT of the sum of two floating point numbers.*

---

```

function  $[S, \sigma] = \text{TwoSum}(a, b)$ 
     $S = a \oplus b$ 
     $z = S \ominus a$ 
     $\sigma = (a \ominus (S \ominus z)) \oplus (b \ominus z)$ 
end function

```

---

In order to avoid branching to check which among  $|a|, |b|$  is largest, **TwoSum** uses 6 flops rather than 3.

---

**Algorithm A.2** *Splitting of a floating point number into two parts.*

---

```

function  $[h, \ell] = \text{Split}(a)$ 
     $z = a \otimes (2^r + 1)$ 
     $h = z \ominus (z \ominus a)$ 
     $\ell = a \ominus h$ 
end function

```

---

For IEEE-754 double precision floating point number,  $r = 27$  so  $2^r + 1$  will be known before **Split** is called. In all, **Split** uses 4 flops.

---

**Algorithm A.3** *EFT of the product of two floating point numbers.*

---

```

function  $[P, \pi] = \text{TwoProd}(a, b)$ 
     $P = a \otimes b$ 
     $[a_h, a_\ell] = \text{Split}(a)$ 
     $[b_h, b_\ell] = \text{Split}(b)$ 
     $\pi = a_\ell \otimes b_\ell \ominus (((P \ominus a_h \otimes b_h) \ominus a_\ell \otimes b_h) \ominus a_h \otimes b_\ell)$ 
end function

```

---

This implementation of TwoProd requires 17 flops. For processors that provide a fused-multiply-add operator (FMA), TwoProd can be rewritten to use only 2 flops:

---

**Algorithm A.4** *EFT of the sum of two floating point numbers with a FMA.*

---

```

function  $[P, \pi] = \text{TwoProdFMA}(a, b)$ 
     $P = a \otimes b$ 
     $\pi = \text{FMA}(a, b, -P)$ 
end function

```

---

The following algorithms from [ORO05] can be used as a compensated method for computing a sum of numbers. The first is a vector transformation that is used as a helper:

---

**Algorithm A.5** *Error-free vector transformation for summation.*

---

```

function  $\text{VecSum}(p)$ 
     $n = \text{length}(p)$ 
    for  $j = 2, \dots, n$  do
         $[p_j, p_{j-1}] = \text{TwoSum}(p_j, p_{j-1})$ 
    end for
end function

```

---

The second ( $\text{SumK}$ ) computes a sum with results that are as accurate as if computed in  $K$  times the working precision. It requires  $(6K - 5)(n - 1)$  floating point operations.

---

**Algorithm A.6** *Summation as in  $K$ -fold precision by  $(K - 1)$ -fold error-free vector transformation.*

---

```

function  $\text{result} = \text{SumK}(p, K)$ 
    for  $j = 1, \dots, K - 1$  do
         $p = \text{VecSum}(p)$ 
    end for
     $\text{result} = p_1 \oplus p_2 \oplus \dots \oplus p_n$ 
end function

```

---

Since the final error  $\widehat{\partial^{K-1}b}$  will not track the errors during computation, we have a non-EFT version of Algorithm 5.2:

---

**Algorithm A.7** *Compute the local error (non-EFT).*

---

```

function  $\widehat{\ell} = \text{LocalError}(e, \rho, \delta b)$ 
     $L = \text{length}(e)$ 

```

$$\widehat{\ell} = e_1 \oplus e_2$$

```
for  $j = 3, \dots, L$  do
     $\hat{\ell} = \hat{\ell} \oplus e_j$ 
end for
```

```
 $\hat{\ell} = \hat{\ell} \oplus (\rho \otimes \delta b)$ 
end function
```

---

# B

## Proof Details

*Proof of Lemma 5.2.* We'll start with the  $F = 1$  case. Recall where the terms originate:

$$[P_1, e_1] = \text{TwoProd}(\hat{r}, \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)}) \quad (\text{B.1})$$

$$[P_2, e_2] = \text{TwoProd}(s, \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}) \quad (\text{B.2})$$

$$\left[ \hat{b}_j^{(k)}, e_3 \right] = \text{TwoSum}(P_1, P_2). \quad (\text{B.3})$$

Hence Theorem 2.1 tells us that

$$|P_1| \leq (1 + \mathbf{u}) \left| \hat{r} \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \leq (1 + \mathbf{u})^2 (1 - s) \left| \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$$|e_1| \leq \mathbf{u} \left| \hat{r} \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \leq \mathbf{u} (1 + \mathbf{u}) (1 - s) \left| \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.5})$$

$$|P_2| \leq (1 + \mathbf{u}) s \left| \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.6})$$

$$|e_2| \leq \mathbf{u} s \left| \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.7})$$

$$|e_3| \leq \mathbf{u} |P_1| + \mathbf{u} |P_2| \quad (\text{B.8})$$

$$\left| \rho \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \leq (1 + \mathbf{u}) (1 - s) \left| \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right|. \quad (\text{B.9})$$

In general, we can swap  $\mathbf{u} |P_j|$  for  $(1 + \mathbf{u}) |e_j|$  based on how closely related the bound on the result and the bound on the error are. Thus

$$\tilde{\ell}_{1,j}^{(k)} = |e_1| + |e_2| + |e_3| + \left| \rho \cdot \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.10})$$

$$\leq (2 + \mathbf{u}) (|e_1| + |e_2|) + (1 + \mathbf{u}) (1 - s) \left| \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.11})$$

$$\leq [(1 + \mathbf{u})^3 - 1] (1 - s) \left| \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| + [(1 + \mathbf{u})^2 - 1] s \left| \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right| \quad (\text{B.12})$$

$$\leq \gamma_3 \left( (1 - s) \left| \hat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| + s \left| \hat{b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right| \right). \quad (\text{B.13})$$

For  $\tilde{\ell}_{F+1}$ , we want to relate the “current” errors  $e_1, \dots, e_{5F+3}$  to the “previous” errors  $e'_1, \dots, e'_{5F-2}$  that show up in  $\tilde{\ell}_F$ . In the same fashion as above, we track where the current errors come from:

$$[S_1, e_1] = \text{TwoSum}(e'_1, e'_2) \quad (\text{B.14})$$

$$[S_2, e_2] = \text{TwoSum}(S_1, e'_3) \quad (\text{B.15})$$

$\vdots$

$$[S_{5F-3}, e_{5F-3}] = \text{TwoSum}(S_{5F-4}, e'_{5F-2}) \quad (\text{B.16})$$

$$[P_{5F-2}, e_{5F-2}] = \text{TwoProd}\left(\rho, \widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)}\right) \quad (\text{B.17})$$

$$\left[\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)}, e_{5F-1}\right] = \text{TwoSum}(S_{5F-3}, P_{5F-2}) \quad (\text{B.18})$$

$$[P_{5F}, e_{5F}] = \text{TwoProd}\left(s, \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}\right) \quad (\text{B.19})$$

$$[S_{5F+1}, e_{5F+1}] = \text{TwoSum}\left(\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)}, P_{5F}\right) \quad (\text{B.20})$$

$$[P_{5F+2}, e_{5F+2}] = \text{TwoProd}\left(\rho, \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}\right) \quad (\text{B.21})$$

$$\left[\widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k)}, e_{5F+3}\right] = \text{TwoSum}(S_{5F+1}, P_{5F+2}). \quad (\text{B.22})$$

Arguing as we did above, we start with  $|e_1| \leq \mathbf{u}|e'_1| + \mathbf{u}|e'_2|$  and build each bound recursively based on the previous, e.g.  $|e_2| \leq \mathbf{u}|S_1| + \mathbf{u}|e'_3| \leq (1 + \mathbf{u})\mathbf{u}|e'_1| + (1 + \mathbf{u})\mathbf{u}|e'_2| + \mathbf{u}|e'_3|$ . Proceeding in this fashion, we find

$$\tilde{\ell}_{F+1,j}^{(k)} = |e_1| + \dots + |e_{5F+3}| + \left|\rho \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}\right| \quad (\text{B.23})$$

$$\leq \gamma_{5F} |e'_1| + \gamma_{5F} |e'_2| + \gamma_{5F-1} |e'_3| + \dots + \gamma_4 |e'_{5F-2}| + \gamma_4 \left|\rho \cdot \widehat{\partial^{F-1} b}_j^{(k+1)}\right| \quad (\text{B.24})$$

$$+ \gamma_3 (1-s) \left|\widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}\right| + \gamma_3 s \left|\widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}\right| \quad (\text{B.25})$$

$$\leq \gamma_3 \left((1-s) \left|\widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}\right| + s \left|\widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}\right|\right) + \gamma_{5F} \cdot \tilde{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \quad (\text{B.26})$$

as desired. ■

*Proof of Lemma 5.3.* First, note that for **any** sequence  $v_0, \dots, v_{k+1}$  we must have

$$\sum_{j=0}^k [(1-s)v_j + sv_{j+1}] B_{j,k}(s) = \sum_{j=0}^{k+1} v_j B_{j,k+1}(s). \quad (\text{B.27})$$

For example of this in use, via (5.26), we have

$$L_{1,k} \leq \gamma_3 \sum_{j=0}^{k+1} \left| \widehat{b}_j^{(k+1)} \right| B_{j,k+1}(s). \quad (\text{B.28})$$

In order to work with sums of this form, we define Bernstein-type sums related to  $L_{F,k}$ :

$$D_{0,k} := \sum_{j=0}^k \left| \widehat{b}_j^{(k)} \right| B_{j,k}(s) \quad (\text{B.29})$$

$$D_{F,k} := \sum_{j=0}^k \left| \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k)} \right| B_{j,k}(s). \quad (\text{B.30})$$

Hence Lemma 5.2 gives

$$L_{1,k} \leq \gamma_3 D_{0,k+1} \quad (\text{B.31})$$

$$L_{F+1,k} \leq \gamma_3 D_{F,k+1} + \gamma_{5F} L_{F,k} \quad (\text{B.32})$$

In addition, for  $F \geq 1$  since

$$\widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k)} = \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \oplus \left( s \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)} \right) \oplus \left( (1 \ominus s) \otimes \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)} \right) \quad (\text{B.33})$$

$$= (1-s) \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_j^{(k+1)}(1+\theta_3) + s \cdot \widehat{\partial^F b}_{j+1}^{(k+1)}(1+\theta_3) + \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)}(1+\theta_2) \quad (\text{B.34})$$

we have

$$D_{F,k} \leq (1+\gamma_3) D_{F,k+1} + (1+\gamma_2) \sum_{j=0}^k \left| \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \right| B_{j,k}(s). \quad (\text{B.35})$$

Since  $\widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)}$  has  $5F - 1$  terms (only the last of which involves a product), the terms in the computed value will be involved in at most  $5F - 2$  flops, hence  $\left| \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)} \right| \leq (1+\gamma_{5F-2}) \widehat{\ell}_{F,j}^{(k)}$ . Combined with (B.35) and the fact that there is no local error when  $F = 0$ , this means

$$D_{0,k} \leq (1+\gamma_3) D_{0,k+1} \quad (\text{B.36})$$

$$D_{F,k} \leq (1+\gamma_3) D_{F,k+1} + (1+\gamma_{5F}) L_{F,k}. \quad (\text{B.37})$$

The four inequalities (B.31), (B.32), (B.36) and (B.37) allow us to write all bounds in terms of  $D_{0,n} = \tilde{p}(s)$  and  $D_{F,n} = 0$ . From (B.36) we can conclude that  $D_{0,n-k} \leq (1+\gamma_{3k}) \cdot \tilde{p}(s)$  and from (B.31) that  $L_{1,n-k} \leq \gamma_3 (1+\gamma_{3(k-1)}) \cdot \tilde{p}(s)$ .

To show the bounds for higher values of  $F$ , we'll assume we have bounds of the form  $D_{F,n-k} \leq (q_F(k)\mathbf{u}^F + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+1})) \cdot \tilde{p}(s)$  and  $L_{F,n-k} \leq (r_F(k)\mathbf{u}^F + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+1})) \cdot \tilde{p}(s)$  for two families of polynomials  $q_F(k), r_F(k)$ . We have  $q_0(k) = 1$  and  $r_1(k) = 3$  as our base cases and

can build from there. To satisfy (B.37), we'd like  $q_F(k) = q_F(k-1) + r_F(k)$  and for (B.32)  $r_{F+1}(k) = 3q_F(k-1) + 5Fr_F(k)$ . Since the forward difference  $\Delta q_F(k) = r_F(k+1)$  is known, we can inductively solve for  $q_F$  in terms of  $q_F(0)$ . But  $D_{F,n} = 0$  gives  $q_F(0) = 0$ .

For example, since we have  $r_1(k) = 3\binom{k}{0}$  we'll have  $q_1(k) = 3\binom{k}{1}$ . Once this is known

$$r_2(k) = 3q_1(k-1) + 5r_1(k) = 3 \cdot 3\binom{k-1}{1} + 5 \cdot 3\binom{k}{0} = 9\binom{k}{1} + 6\binom{k}{0}. \quad (\text{B.38})$$

If we write these polynomials in the “falling factorial” basis of forward differences, then we can show that

$$r_F(k) = 3^F \binom{k}{F} + \dots \quad (\text{B.39})$$

which will complete the proof of the first inequality. To see this, first note that for a polynomial in this basis  $f(k) = A\binom{k}{d} + B\binom{k}{d-1} + C\binom{k}{d-2} + D\binom{k}{d-3} + \dots$  we have

$$f(k+1) = A\binom{k}{d} + (A+B)\binom{k}{d-1} + (B+C)\binom{k}{d-2} + (C+D)\binom{k}{d-3} + \dots \quad (\text{B.40})$$

$$f(k-1) = A\binom{k}{d} + (B-A)\binom{k}{d-1} + (C-B+A)\binom{k}{d-2} + (D-C+B-A)\binom{k}{d-3} + \dots \quad (\text{B.41})$$

Using these, we can show that if  $r_F(k) = \sum_{j=0}^{F-1} c_j \binom{k}{j}$  then

$$q_F(k) = c_{F-1} \binom{k}{F} + \sum_{j=1}^{F-1} (c_j + c_{j-1}) \binom{k}{j} \quad (\text{B.42})$$

$$r_{F+1}(k) = 3 \left[ -c_0 \binom{k}{0} + \sum_{j=1}^F c_{j-1} \binom{k}{j} \right] + 5F \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{F-1} c_j \binom{k}{j} \right] = 3c_{F-1} \binom{k}{F} + \dots \quad (\text{B.43})$$

Under the inductive hypothesis  $c_{F-1} = 3^F$  so that the lead term in  $r_{F+1}(k)$  is  $3c_{F-1} \binom{k}{F} = 3^{F+1} \binom{k}{F}$ .

For the second inequality, we'll show that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \gamma_{3k+5F} L_{F,k} \leq [q_{F+1}(n) \mathbf{u}^{F+1} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+2})] \cdot \tilde{p}(s) \quad (\text{B.44})$$

and then we'll have our result since we showed above that  $q_{F+1}(n) = 3^{F+1} \binom{n}{F+1} + \mathcal{O}(n^F)$ . Since  $\gamma_{3k+5F} L_{F,k} \leq (3k+5F)L_{F,k} \mathbf{u} + \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{u}^{F+2}) \tilde{p}(s)$  it's enough to consider

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (3k+5F)r_F(n-k) = \sum_{k=1}^n (3(n-k)+5F)r_F(k). \quad (\text{B.45})$$

Since  $q_F(k) = q_F(k - 1) + r_F(k)$  and  $q_F(0) = 0$  we have  $q_F(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n r_F(k)$  thus

$$q_{F+1}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n r_{F+1}(k) = \sum_{k=1}^n 3q_F(k - 1) + 5Fr_F(k) = \sum_{k=1}^n 3 \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} r_F(j) \right] + 5Fr_F(k). \quad (\text{B.46})$$

Swapping the order of summation and grouping like terms, we have our result. ■