

13 - Designing Approximating Curves

Acknowledgement: Daniele Panozzo, Olga Sorkine-Hornung,
Alexander Sorkine-Hornung, Ilya Baran

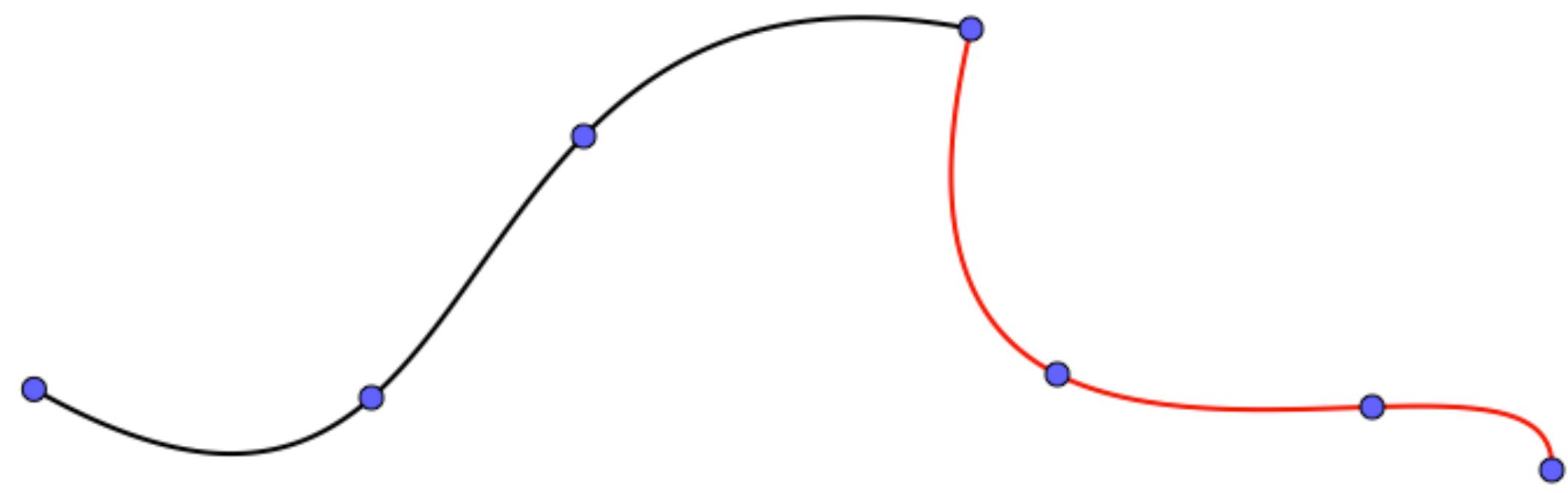
CAP 5726 - Computer Graphics - Fall 18 – Xifeng Gao



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Last time

- Interpolating curves
 - Monomials
 - Lagrange
 - Hermite
- Different control types
- Polynomials as a vector space
 - Basis transformation
- Connecting curves to splines



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Disadvantages

- Monomials
 - unintuitive control, inefficient
- Lagrange
 - non-local control, oscillation for higher order polynomials, continuity for splines
- Hermite
 - requires setting tangent
- Catmull-Rom
 - unintuitive bending



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Bezier Basis



Smooth Curves

- General parametric form
 - Weighted sum of coefficients and basis functions

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{c}_i F_i^n(t)$$

Coefficients Basis functions

$$\mathbf{c}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k \quad F_i^n(t) \in \Pi^n$$



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What might be “good” basis functions?

- Intuitive editing
 - Control points are coefficients
 - Predictable behavior
 - No oscillation
 - Local control
- Mathematical guarantees
 - Smoothness, affine invariance, linear precision, ...
- Efficient processing and rendering

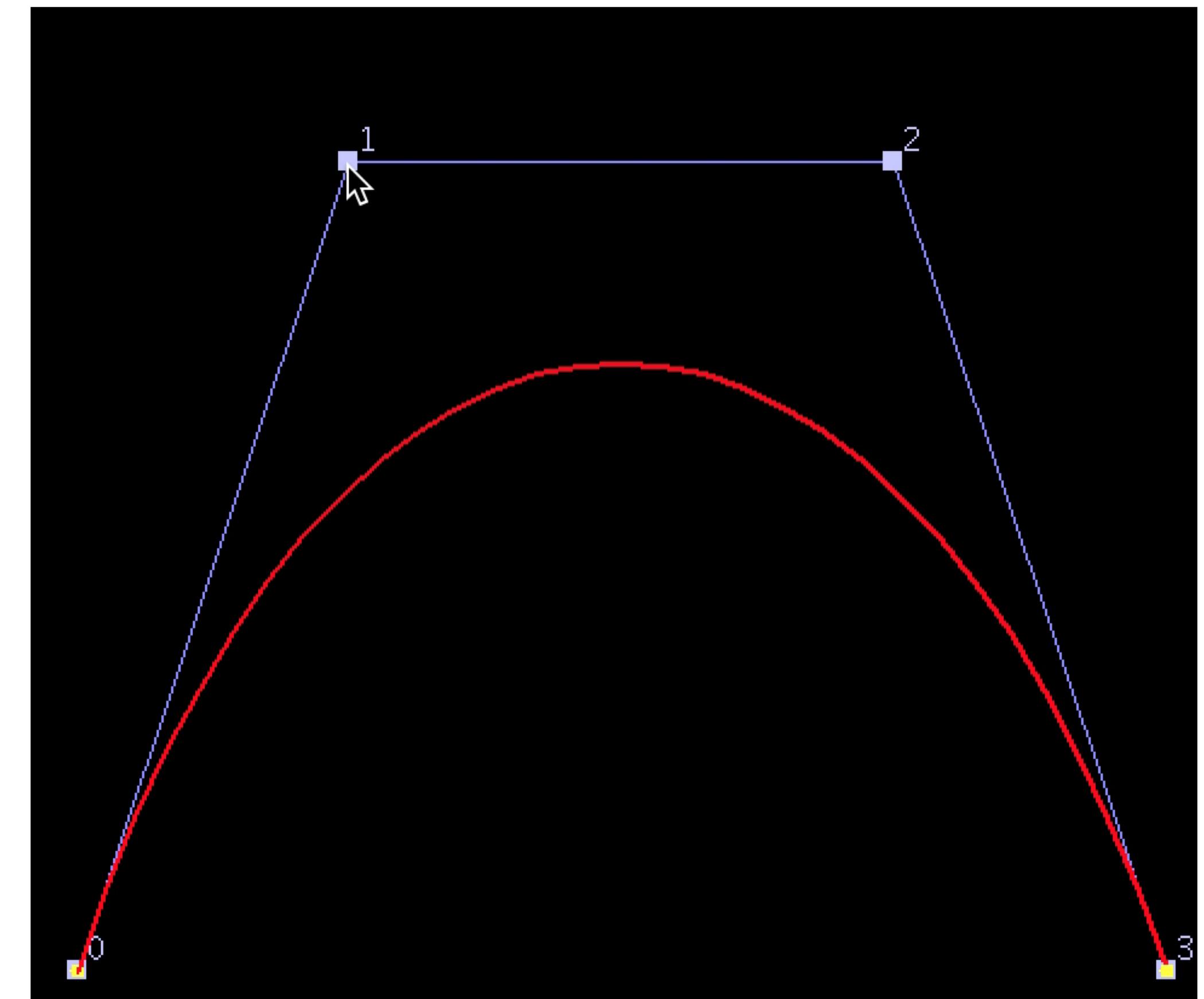
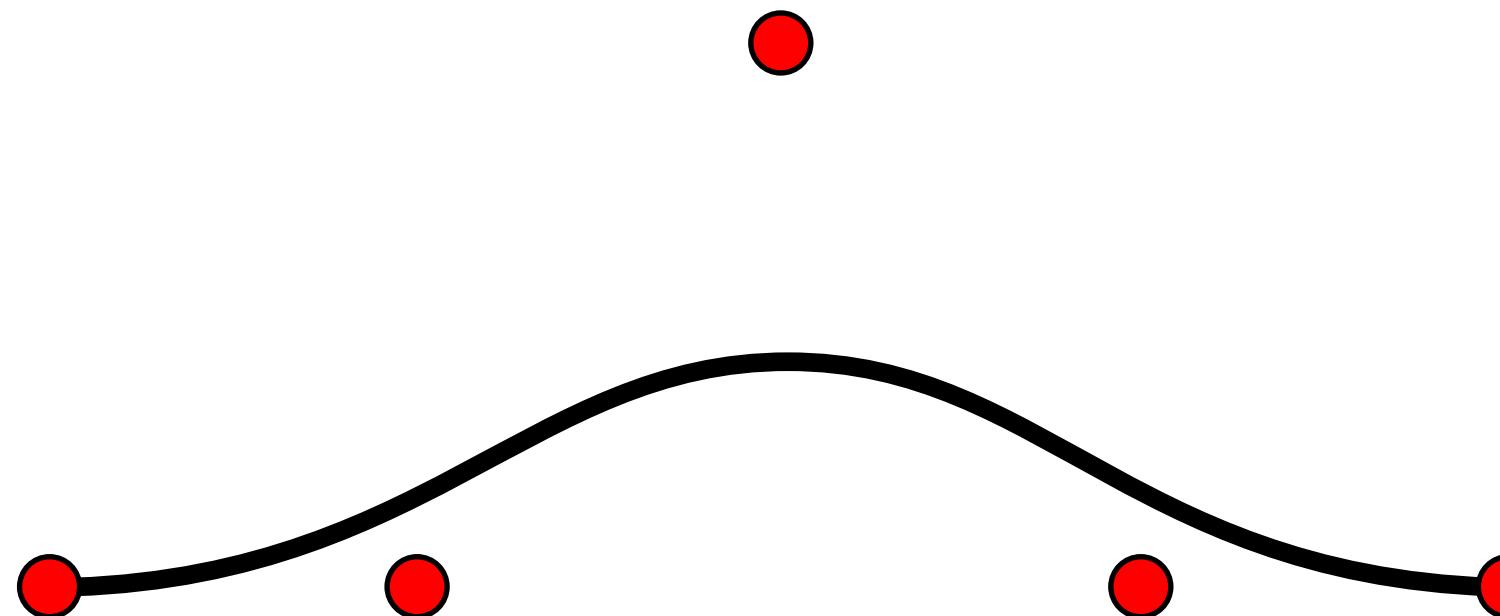
$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{c}_i F_i^n(t)$$



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What might be “good” basis functions?

- Approximation instead of interpolation
- Bézier- and B-Spline curves



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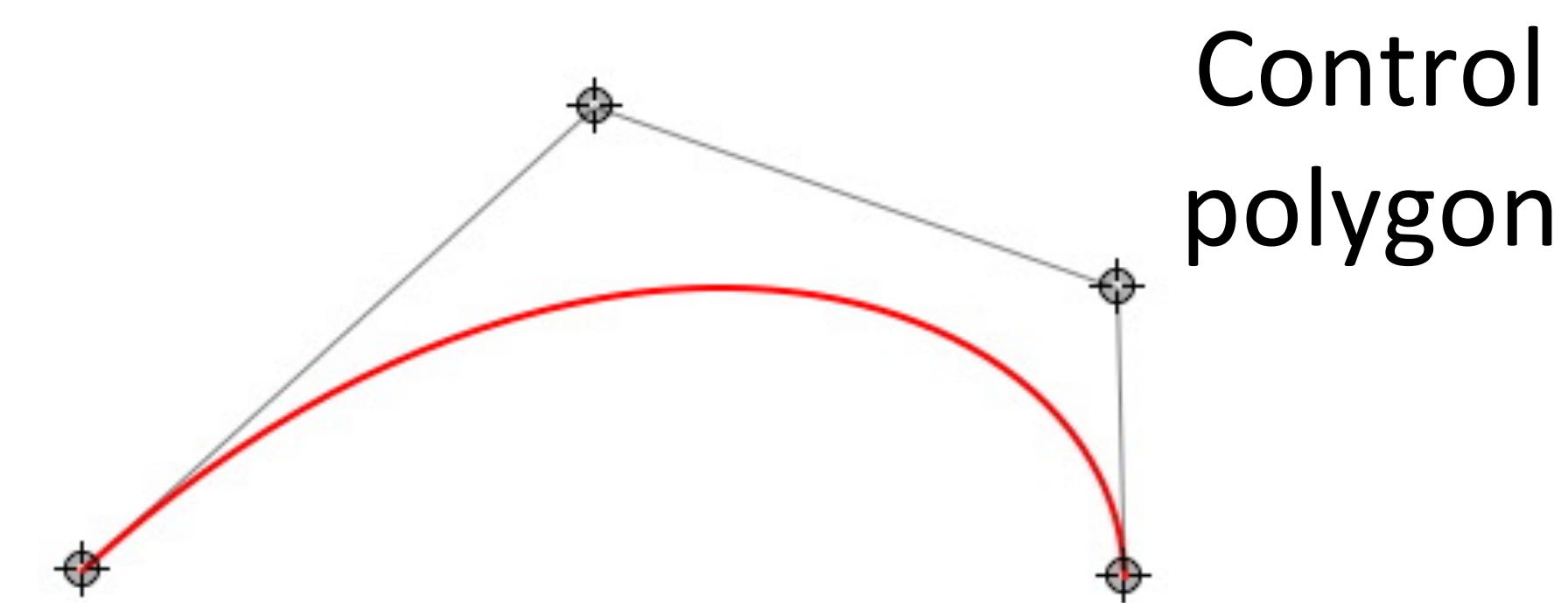
Bezier Curves

- Curve based on Bernstein polynomials

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{c}_i B_i^n(t)$$

Control points $\mathbf{c}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k$

Bernstein polynomials $B_i^n(t) \in \Pi^n$



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Bernstein Polynomials

- Bernstein polynomials

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

- Binomial coefficients

$$\binom{n}{i} = \begin{cases} \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!} & \text{if } 0 \leq i \leq n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{c}_i B_i^n(t)$$

- linear:

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

- quadratic:

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

- cubic:

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



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Properties

- Partition of Unity

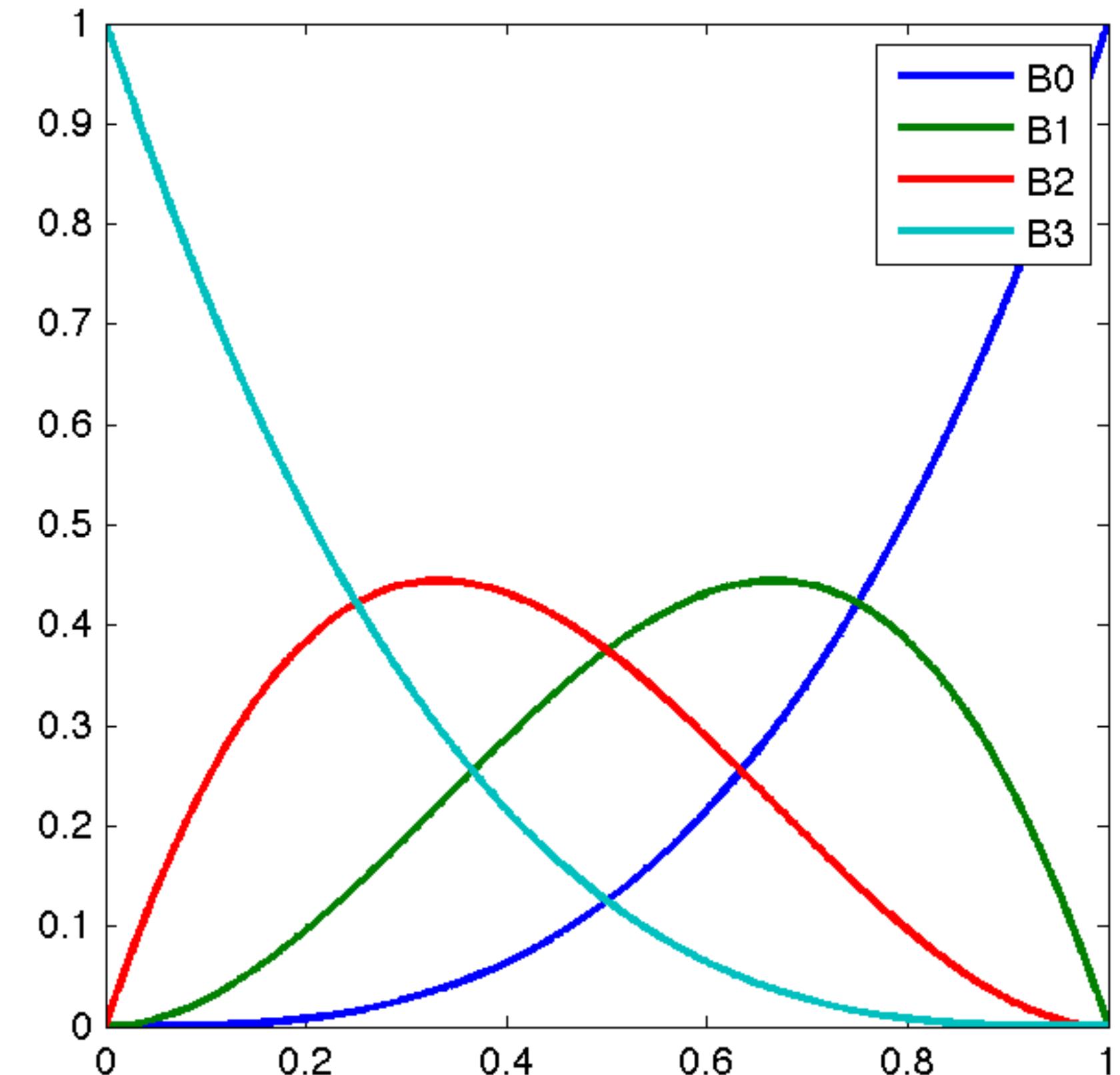
$$\sum_{i=0}^n B_i^n(t) = 1$$

- Non-negativity

$$B_i^n(t) \geq 0, t \in [0, 1]$$

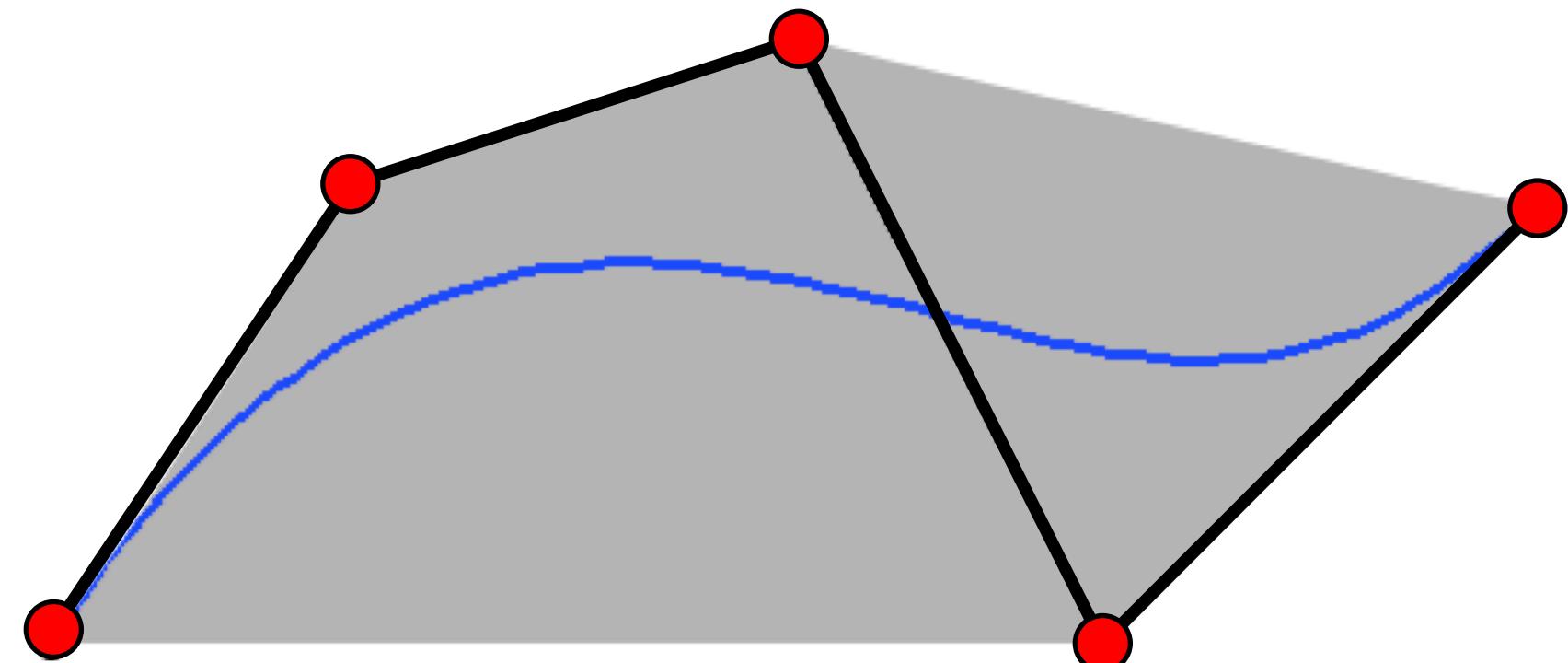
- Maximum $\max_{t \in [0,1]} B_i^n(t) : t = \frac{i}{n}$

- Symmetry $B_i^n(t) = B_{n-i}^n(1 - t)$



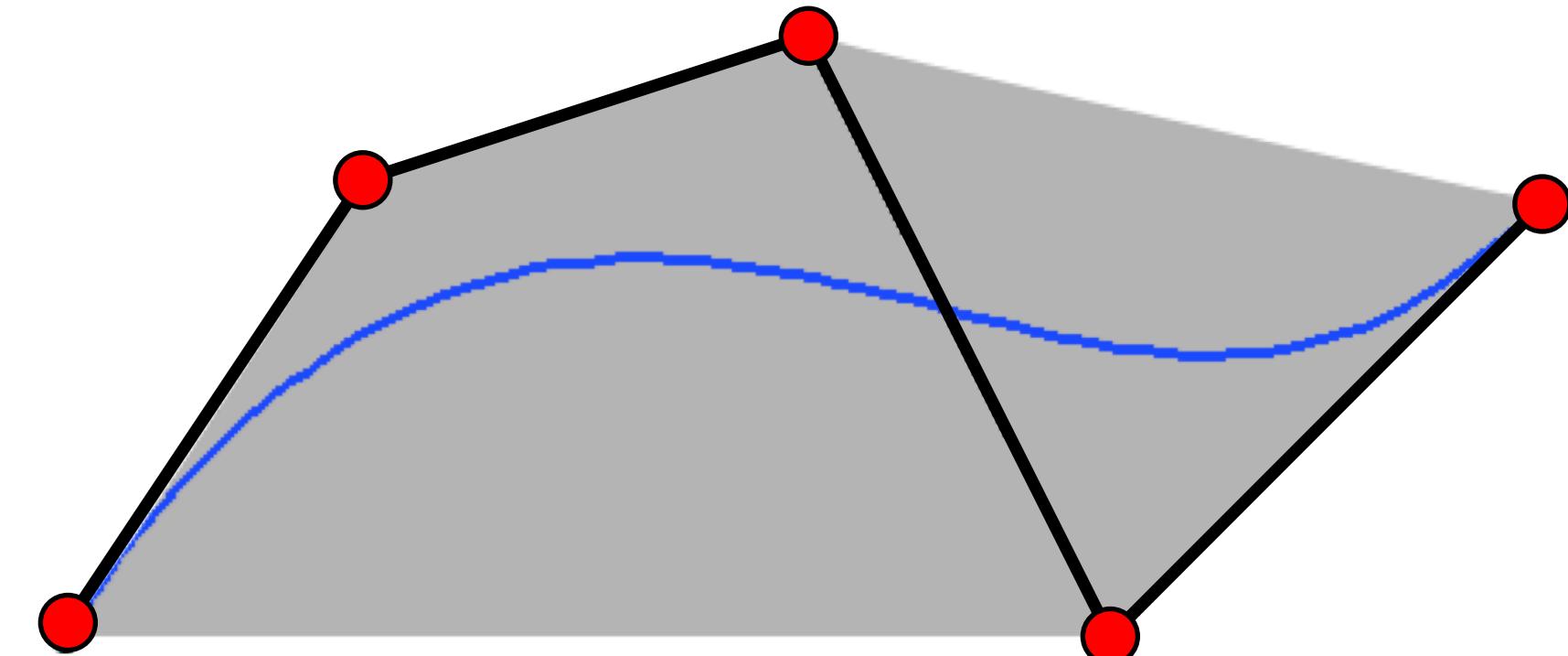
Properties of Bezier Curves

- Geometric interpretation of control points



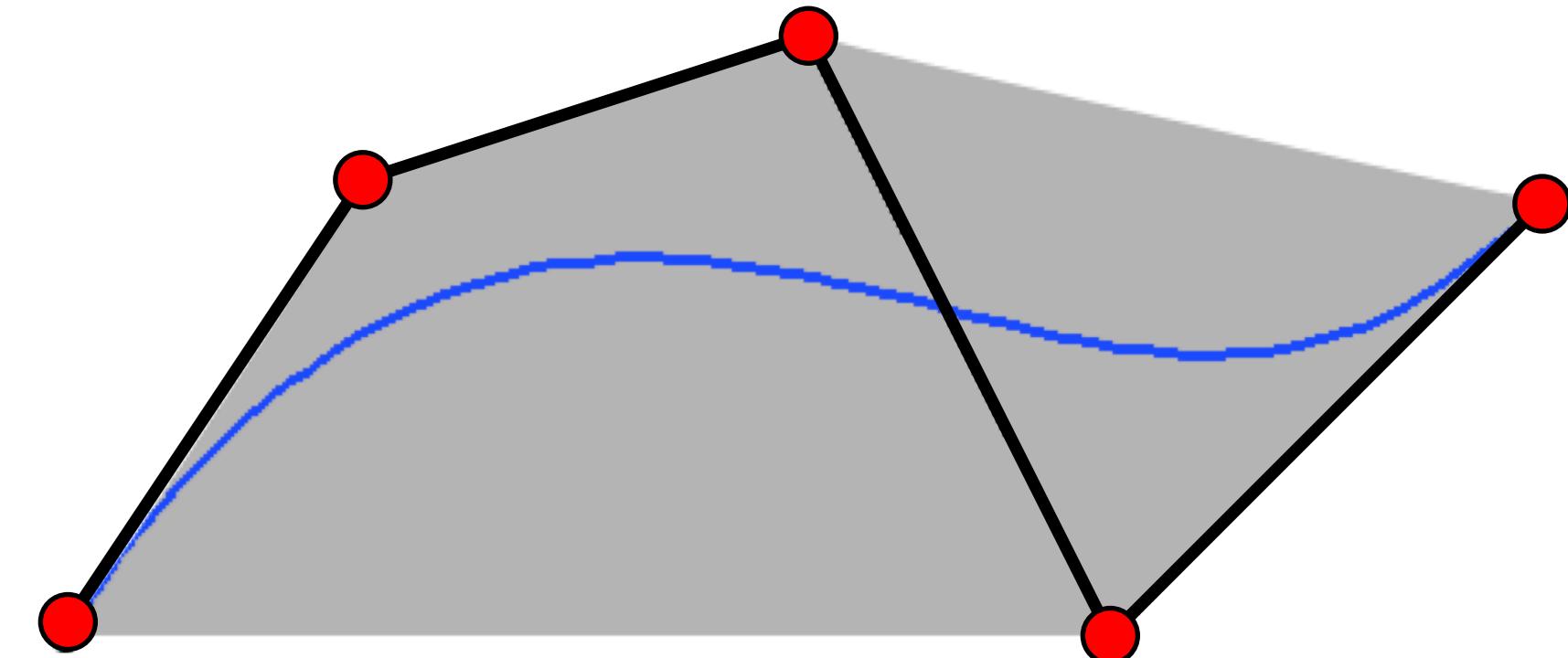
Properties of Bezier Curves

- Geometric interpretation of control points
- Convex hull
 - Polynomials positive
 - No oscillation



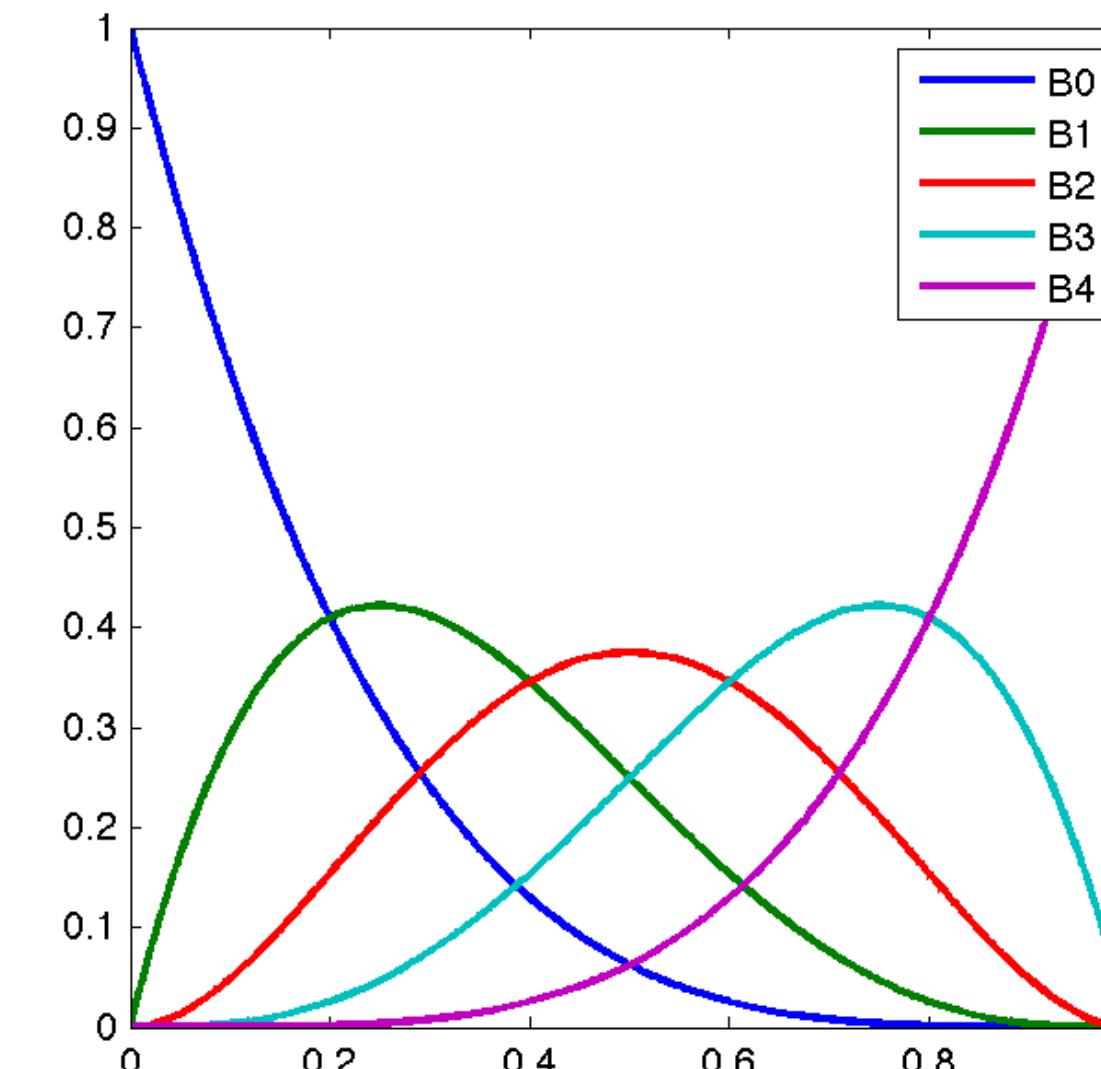
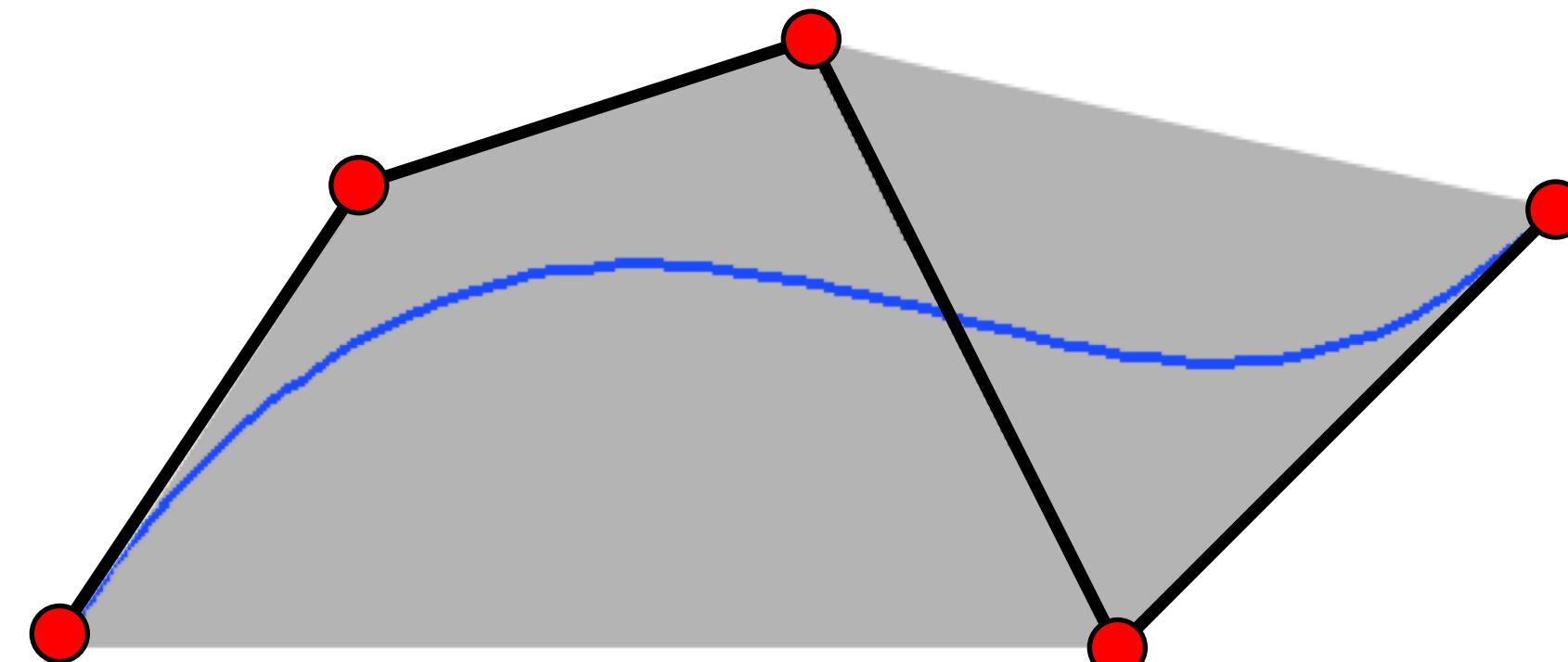
Properties of Bezier Curves

- Geometric interpretation of control points
- Convex hull
- Affine invariance
 - Barycentric combinations



Properties of Bezier Curves

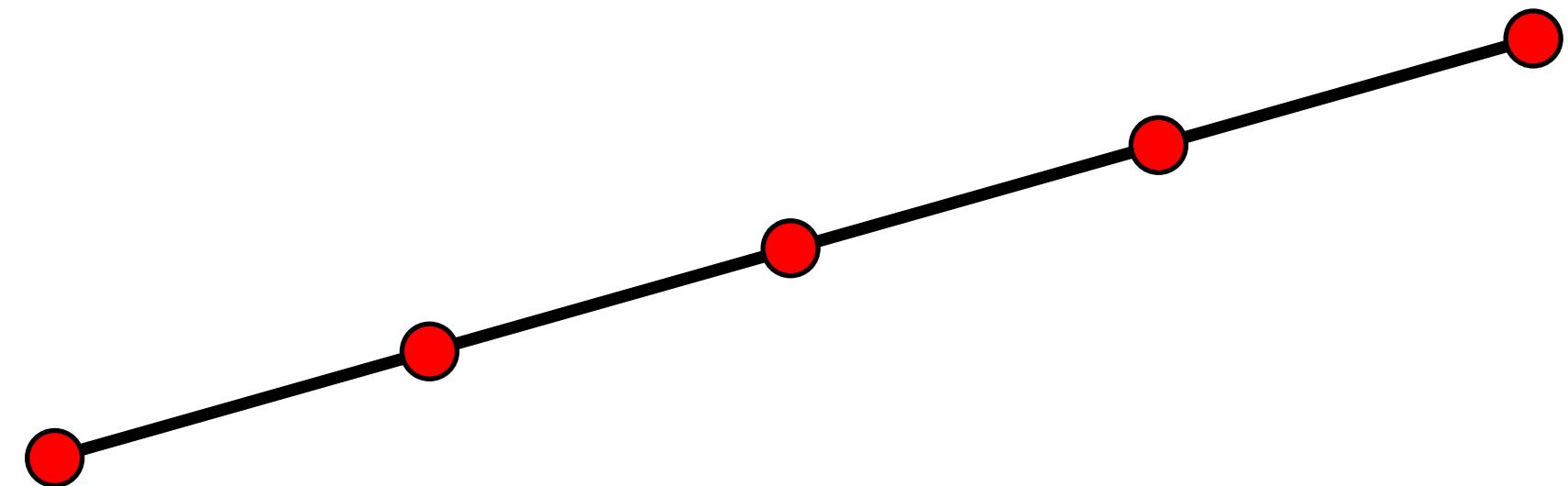
- Geometric interpretation of control points
- Convex hull
- Affine invariance
- Endpoint interpolation
- Symmetry



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Properties of Bezier Curves

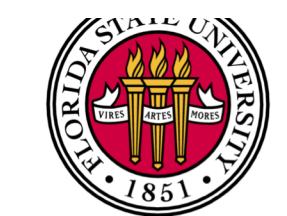
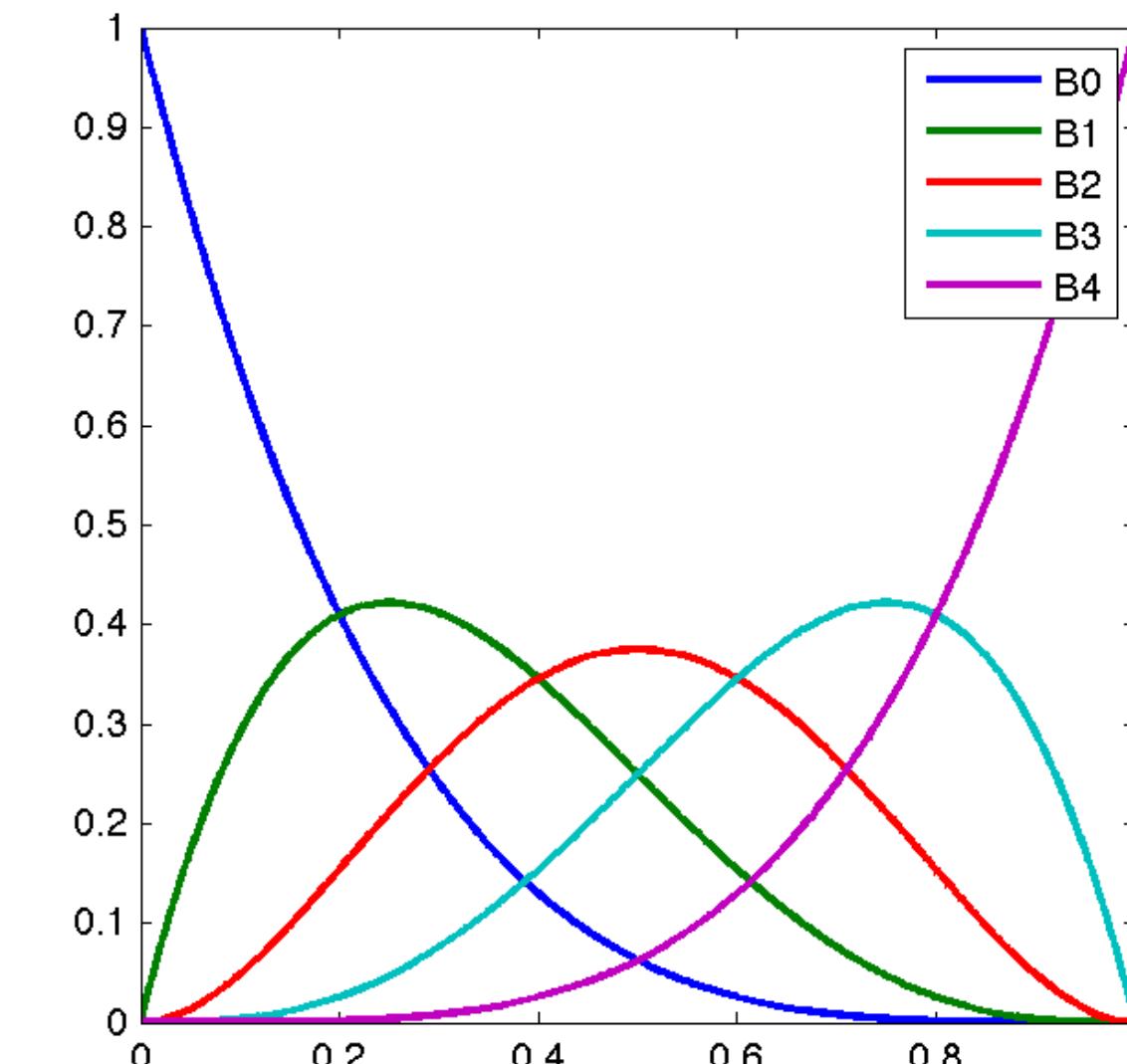
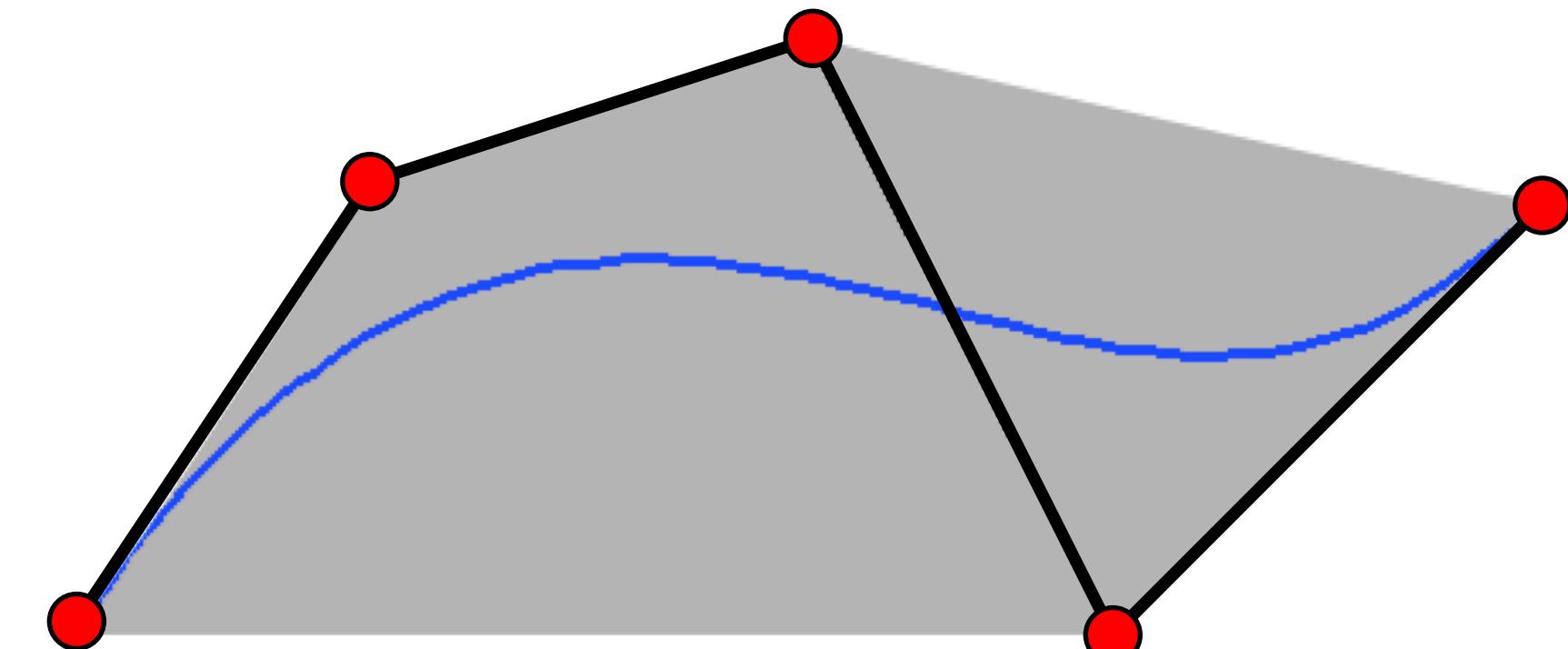
- Geometric interpretation of control points
- Convex hull
- Affine invariance
- Endpoint interpolation
- Symmetry
- Linear precision



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Properties of Bezier Curves

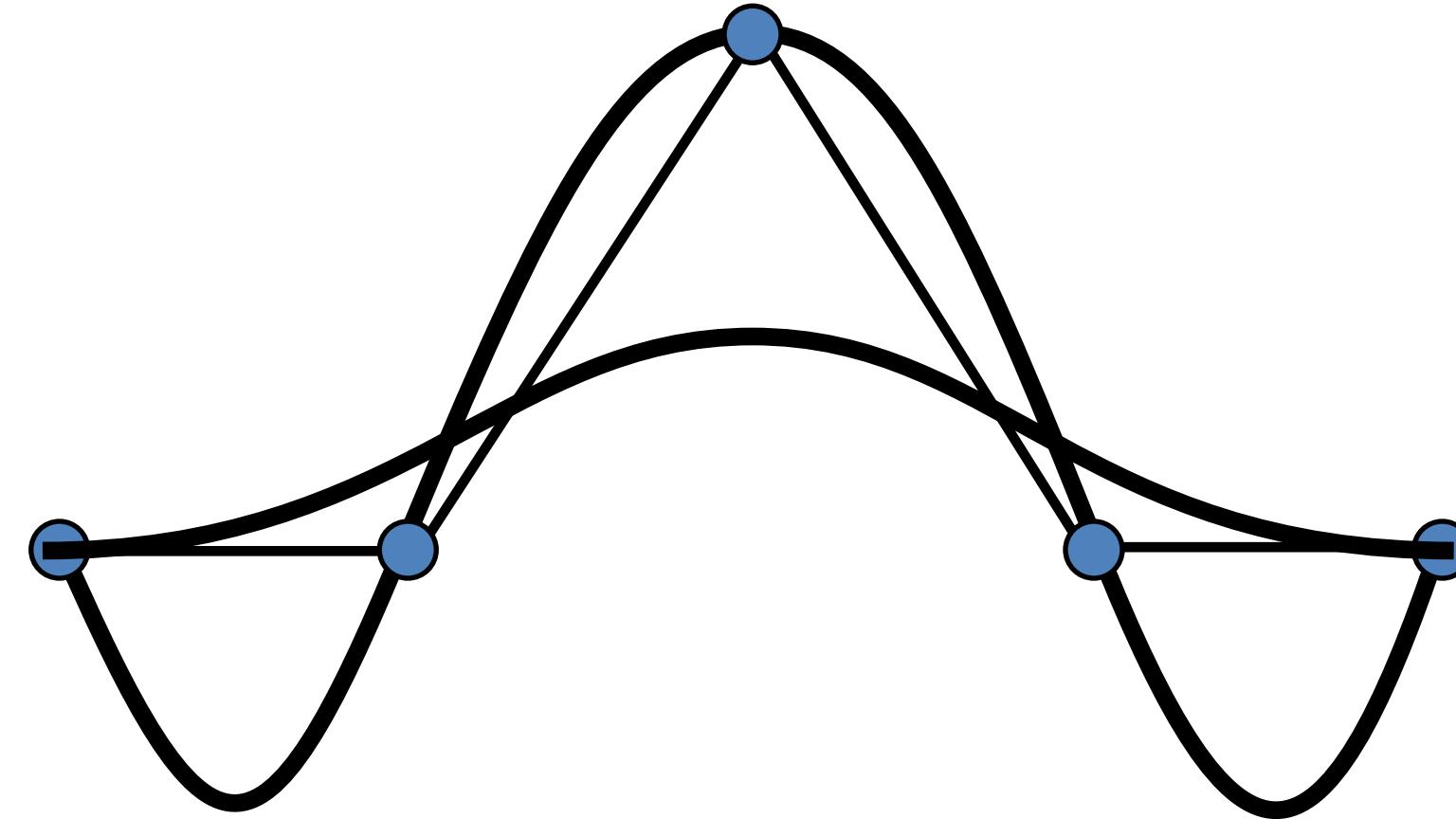
- Geometric interpretation of control points
- Convex hull
- Affine invariance
- Endpoint interpolation
- Symmetry
- Linear precision
- Quasi-local control



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Variation Diminishing

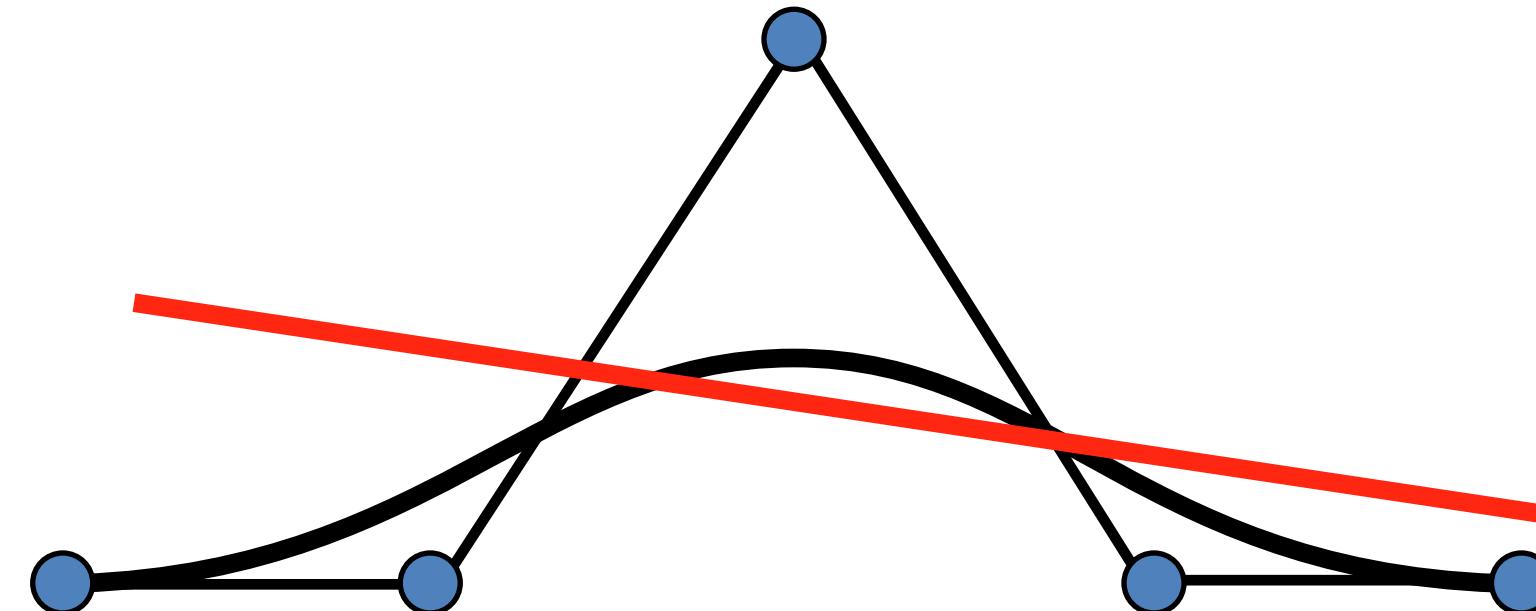
- Curve “wiggles” no more than control polygon



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Variation Diminishing

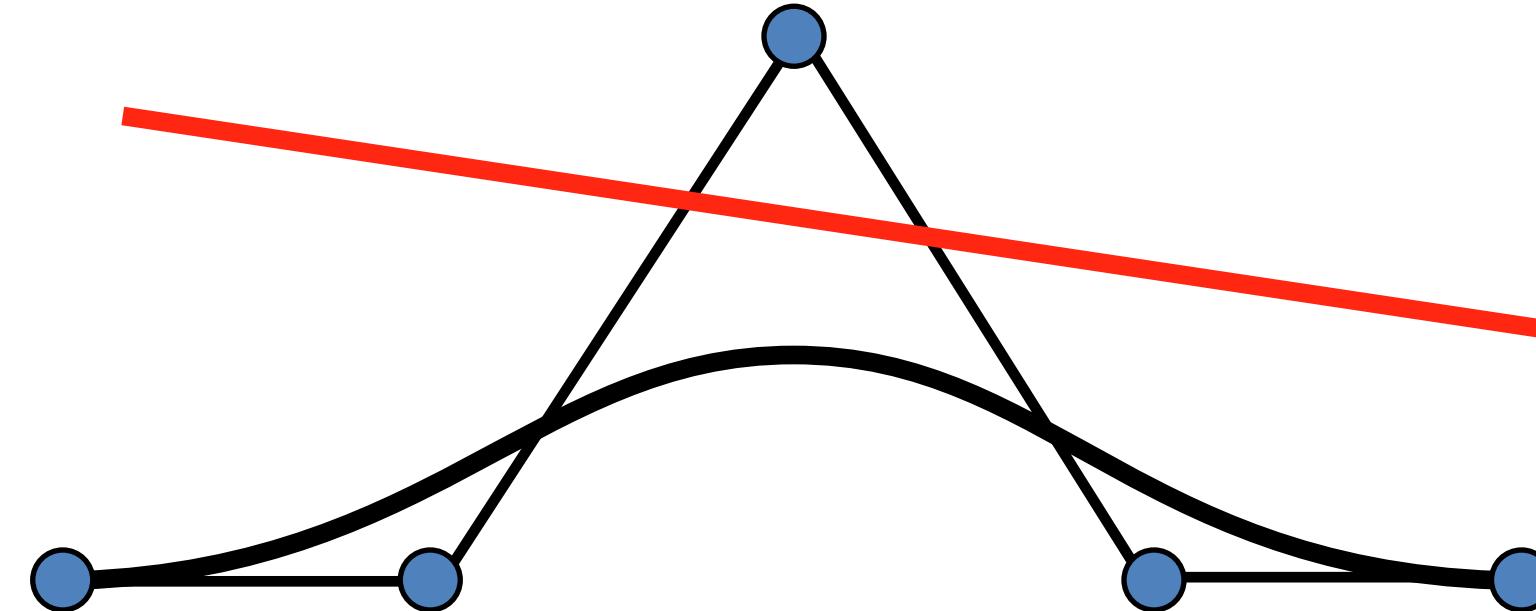
- Curve “wiggles” no more than control polygon
- For any line, number of intersections with control polygon
 \geq intersection with curve



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Variation Diminishing

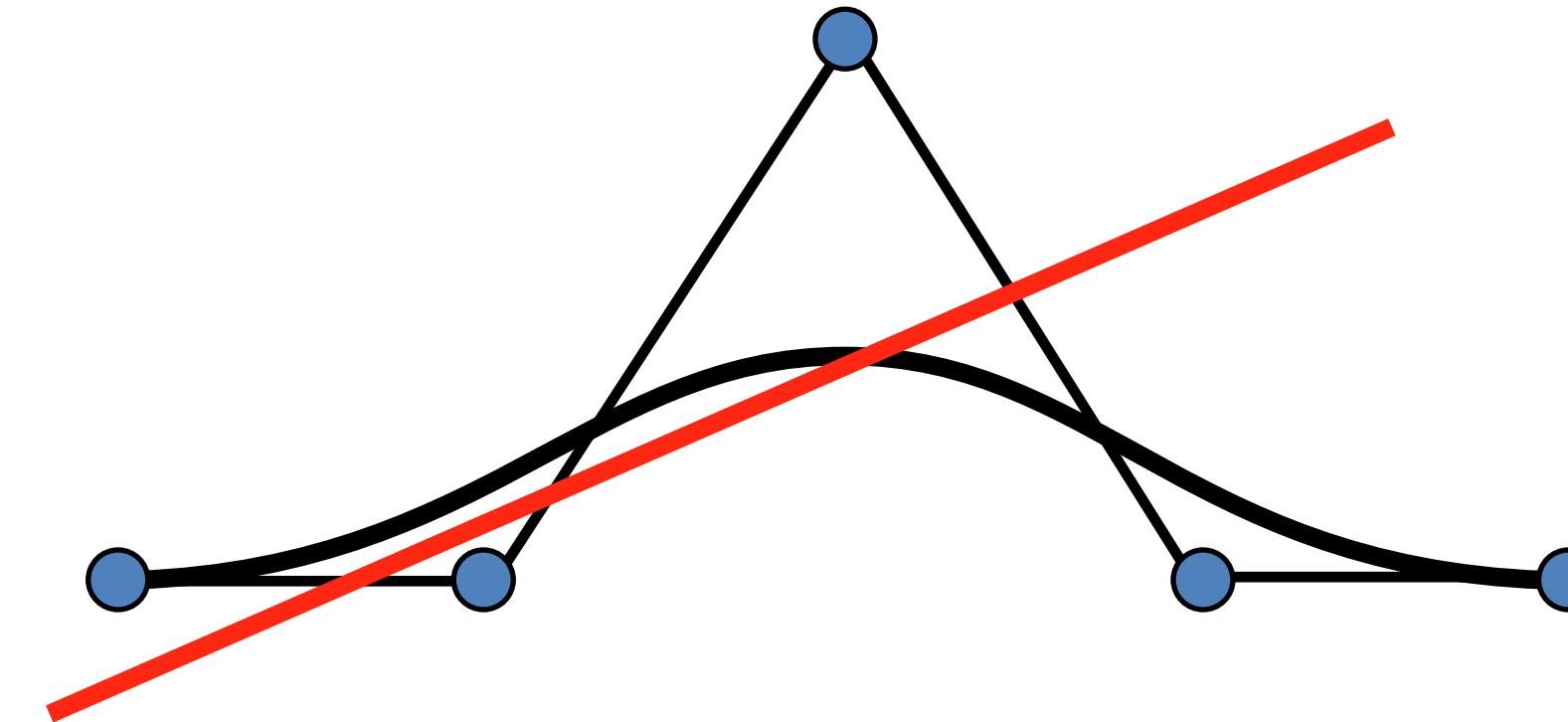
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Variation Diminishing

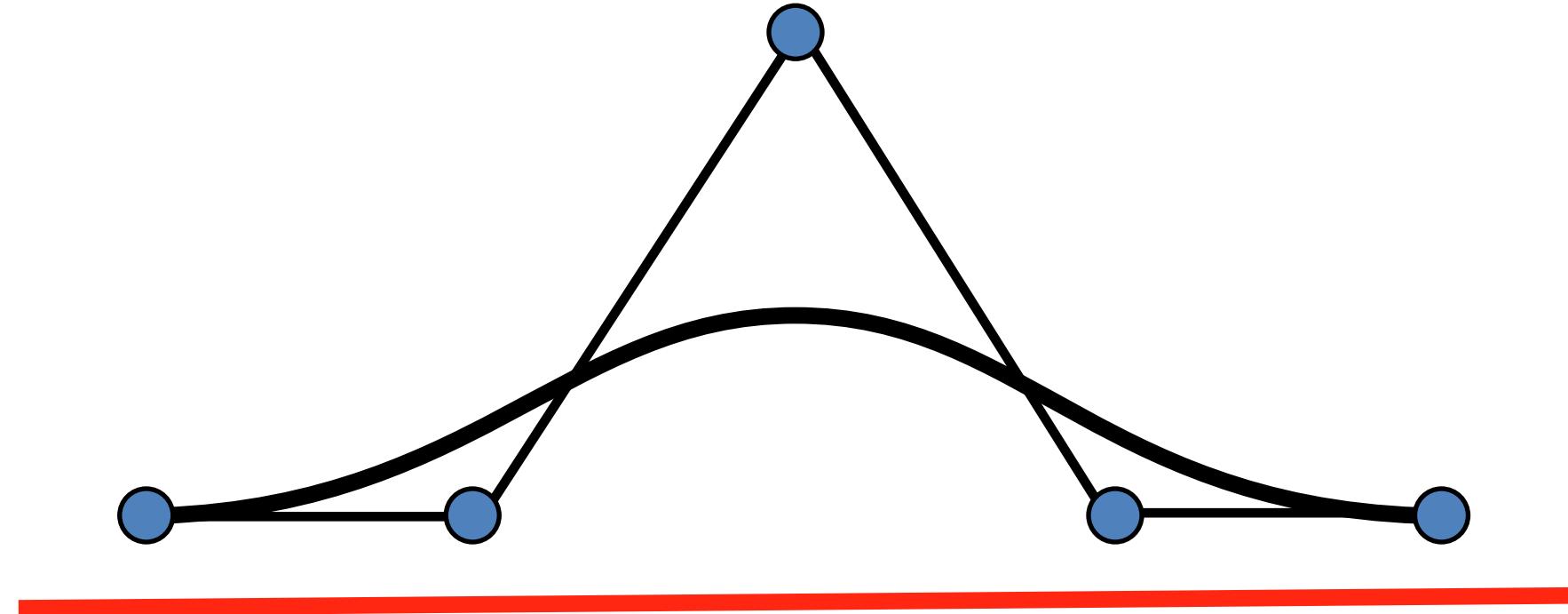
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Variation Diminishing

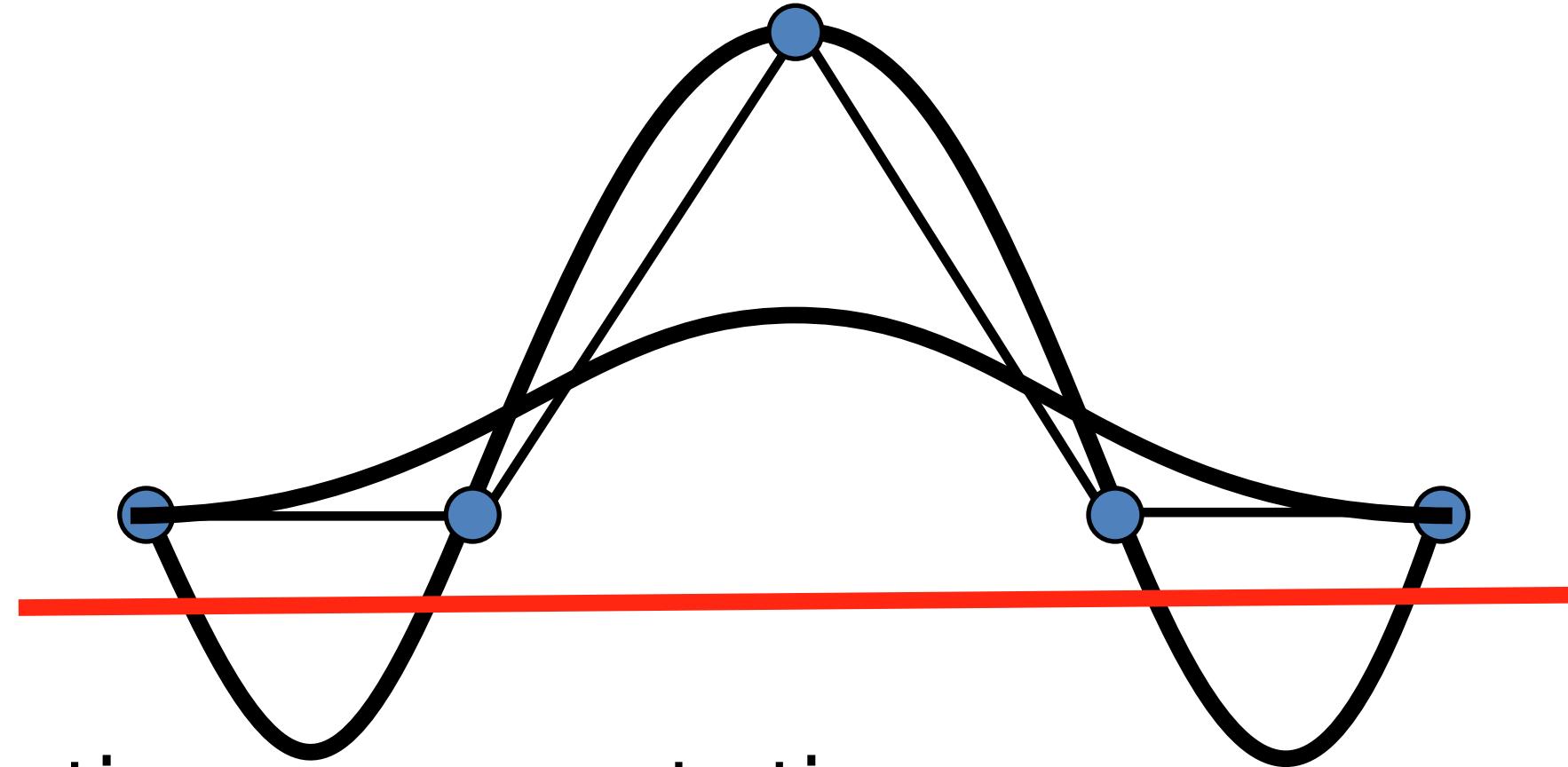
- Curve “wiggles” no more than control polygon
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Variation Diminishing

- Curve “wiggles” no more than control polygon
- For any line, number of intersections with control polygon \geq intersection with curve



- Application: intersection computation



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De Casteljau Algorithm

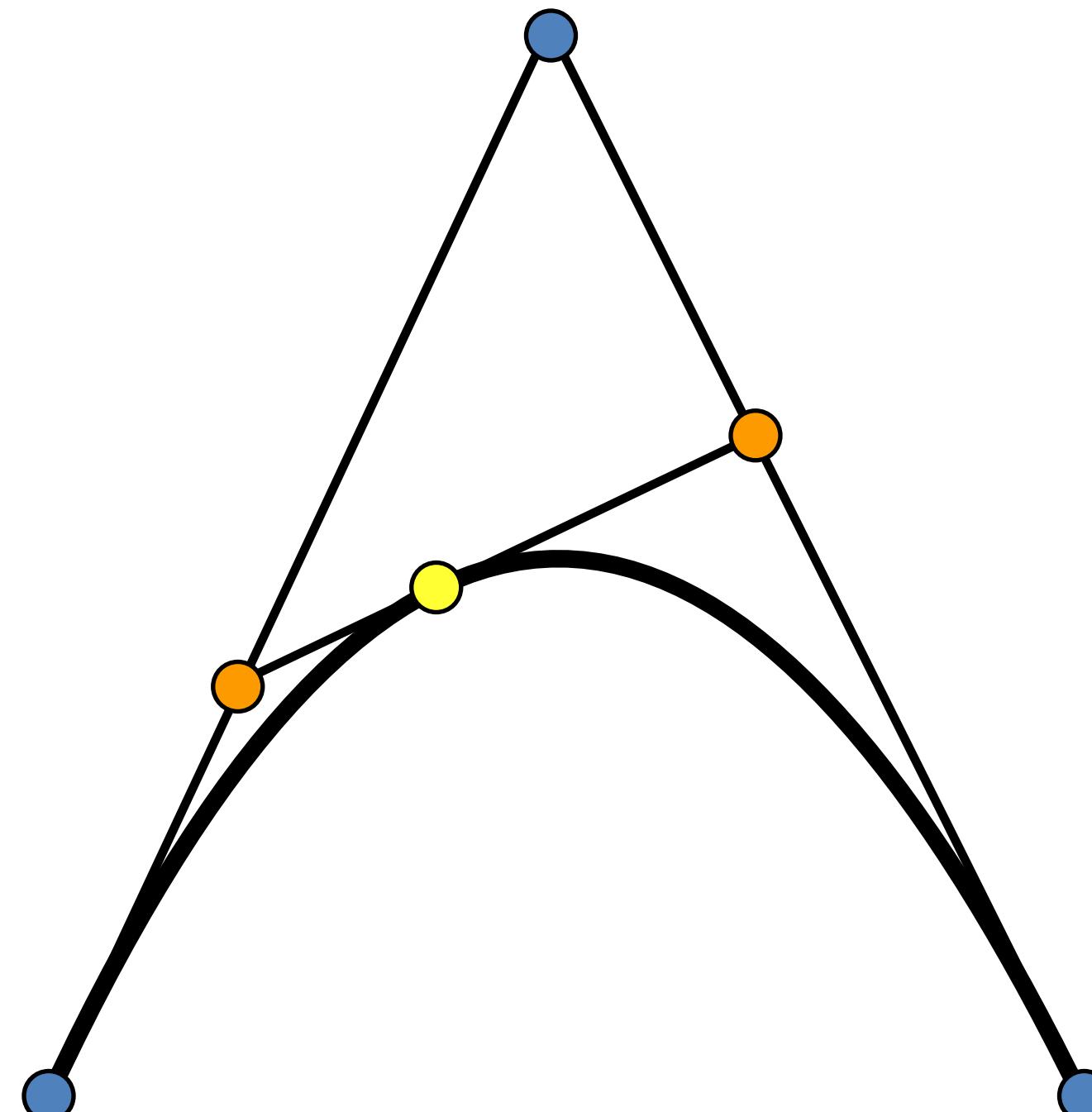
- Developed independently
- Successive linear interpolation
- Example: parabola

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

- Recursive scheme behind Bernstein Polynomials

$$B_i^n(t) = (1-t)B_i^{n-1}(t) + tB_{i-1}^{n-1}(t)$$

- Curves as series of linear interpolations



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De Casteljau Algorithm

- Exploit recursive definition of Bernstein polynomials
Repeated convex combination of control points

$$\mathbf{c}_i^k = (1 - t)\mathbf{c}_i^{k-1} + t\mathbf{c}_{i+1}^{k-1}$$

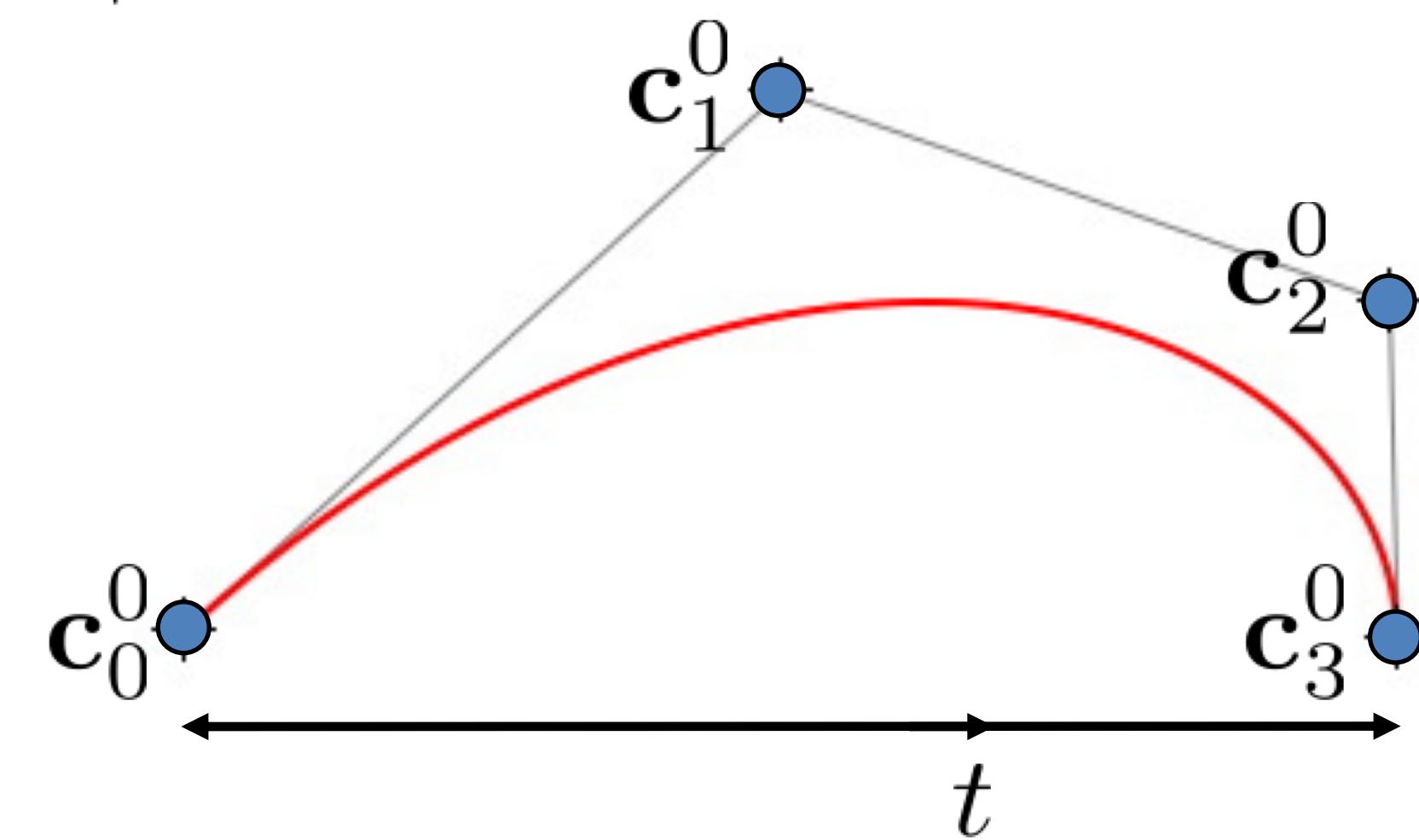
$$\mathbf{c}_i^0 := \mathbf{c}_i$$

\mathbf{c}_0^0

\mathbf{c}_1^0

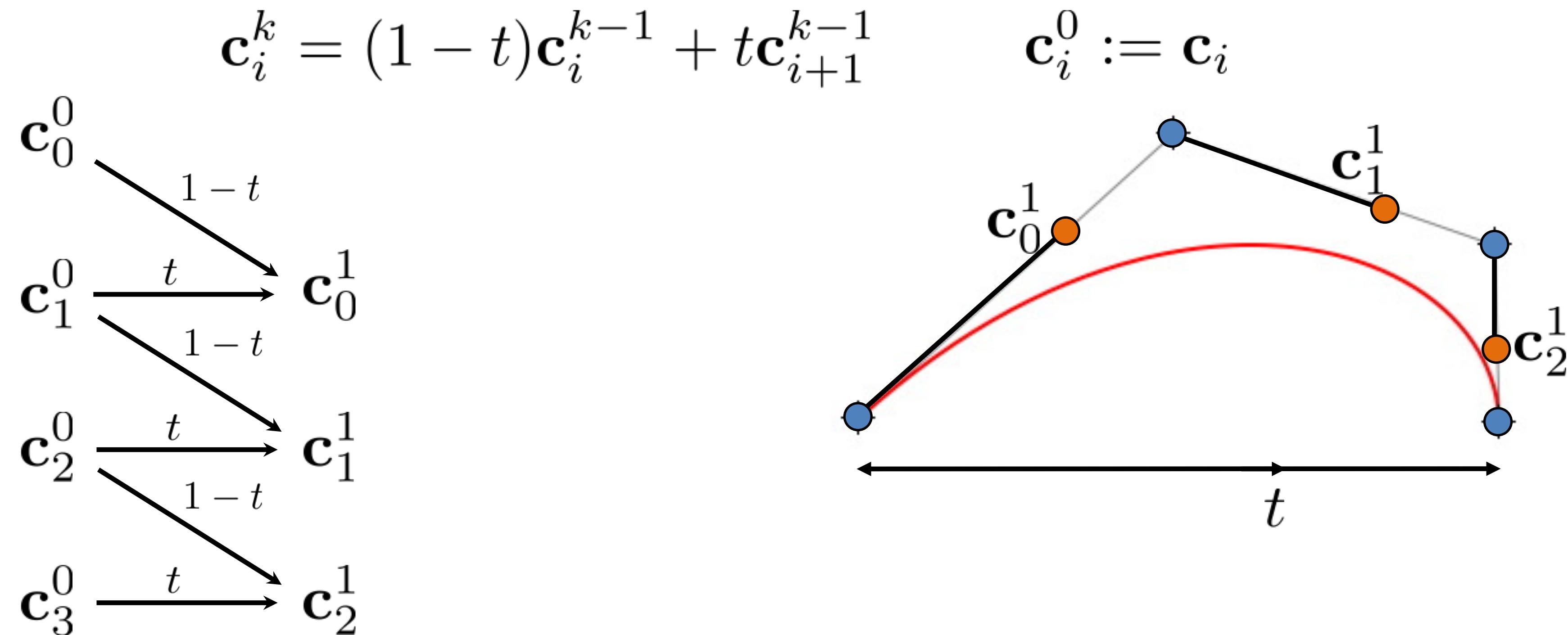
\mathbf{c}_2^0

\mathbf{c}_3^0



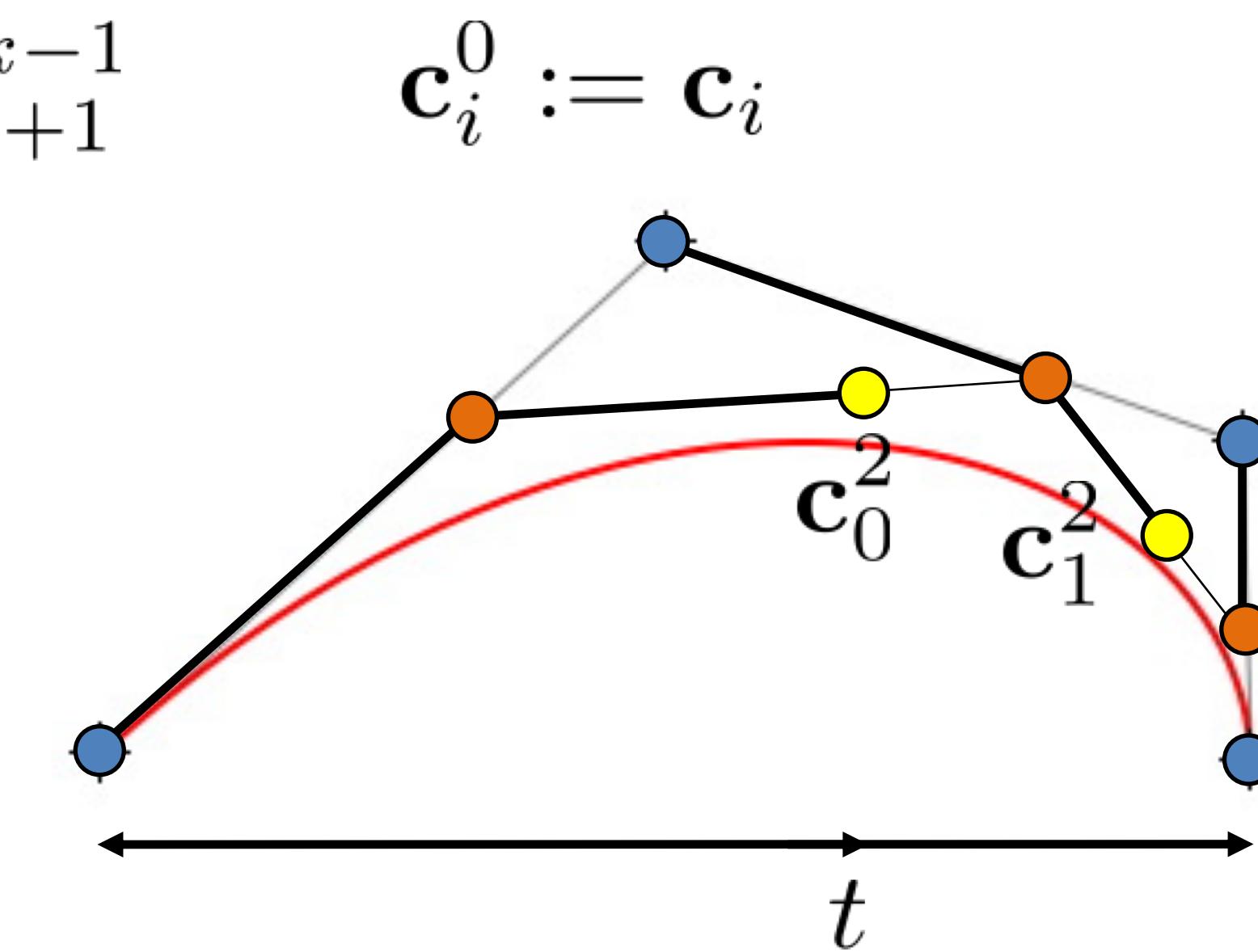
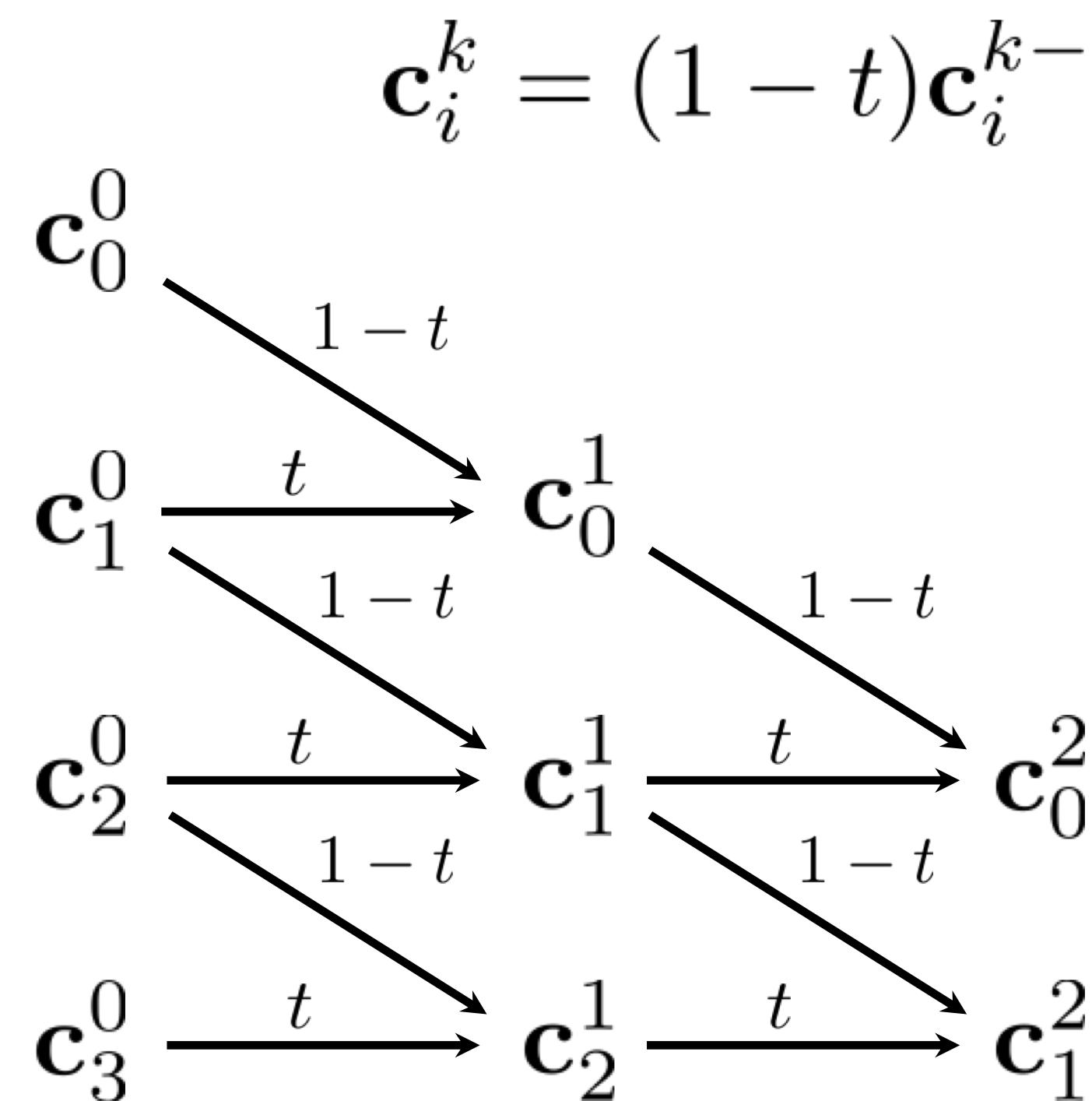
De Casteljau Algorithm

- Exploit recursive definition of Bernstein polynomials
Repeated convex combination of control points



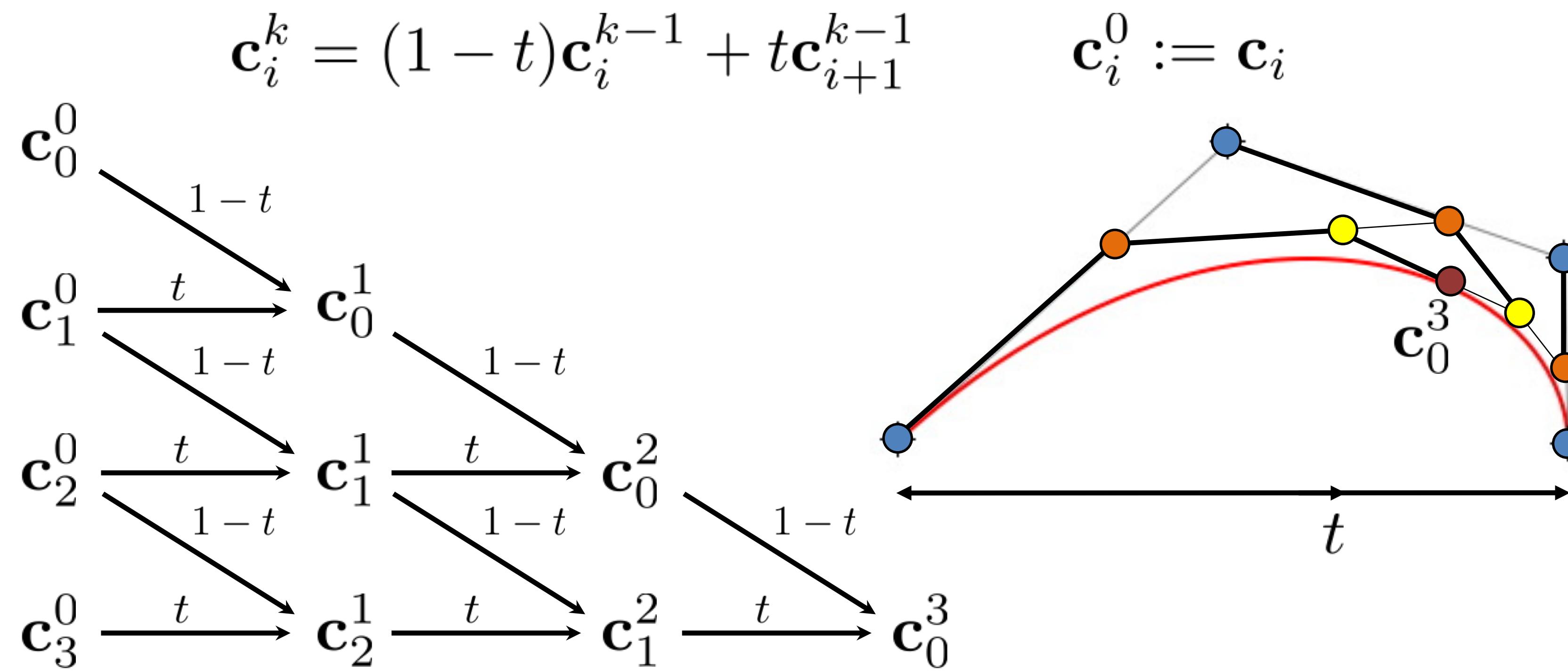
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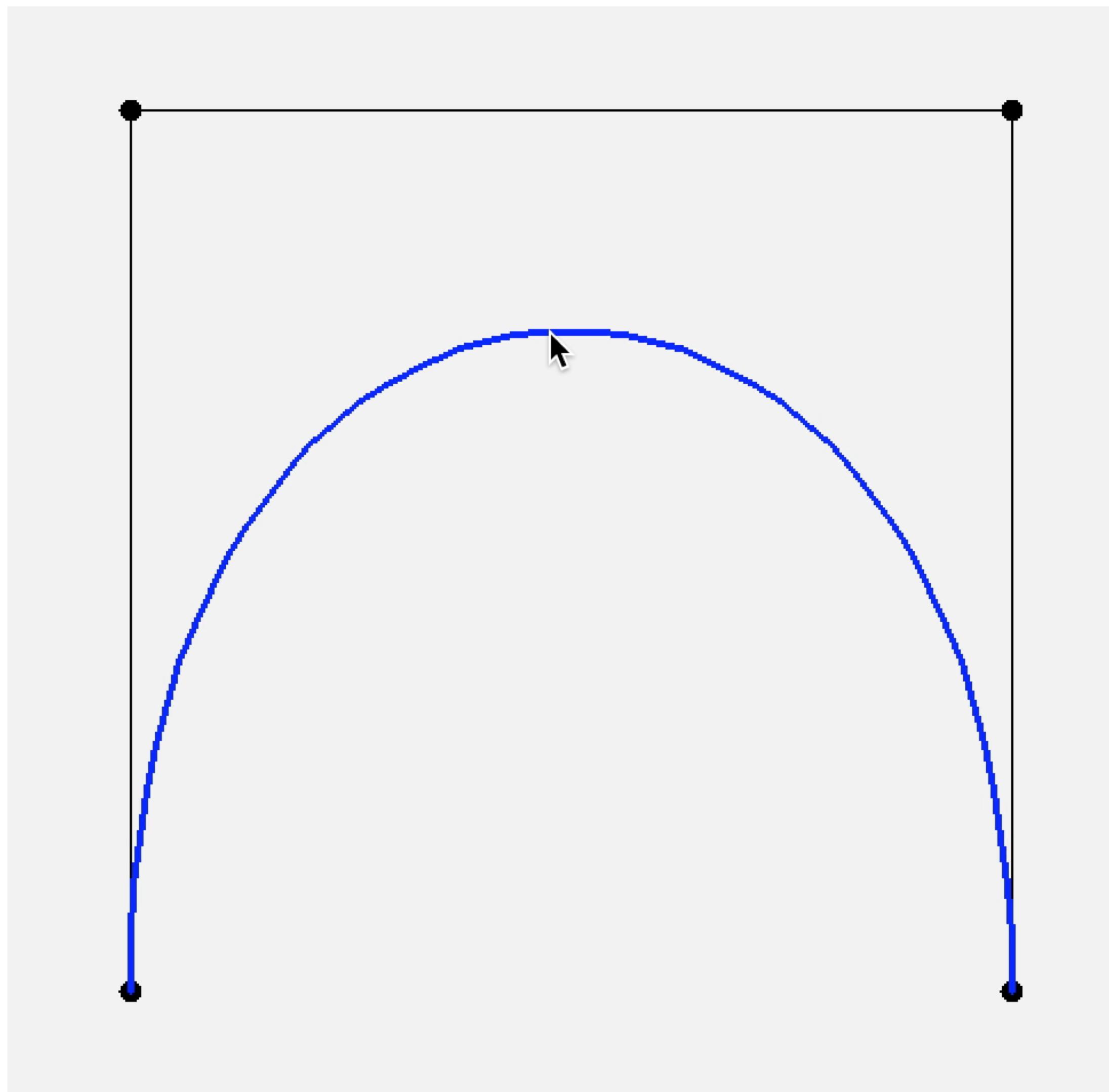


De Casteljau Algorithm

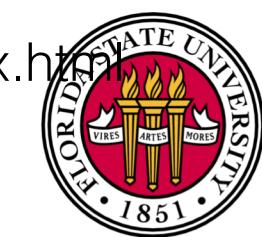
- Exploit recursive definition of Bernstein polynomials
Repeated convex combination of control points



De Casteljau Algorithm



<http://www.ira.uka.de/applets/mocca/html/noplugin/BezierCurve/AppDeCasteljau/index.html>



Disadvantages

- Still global support of basis functions for each curve segment
- Insertion of new control points?
- Continuity conditions restrict control polygon
 - No “inherent” smoothness control



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Basis splines (B-splines)



Why?

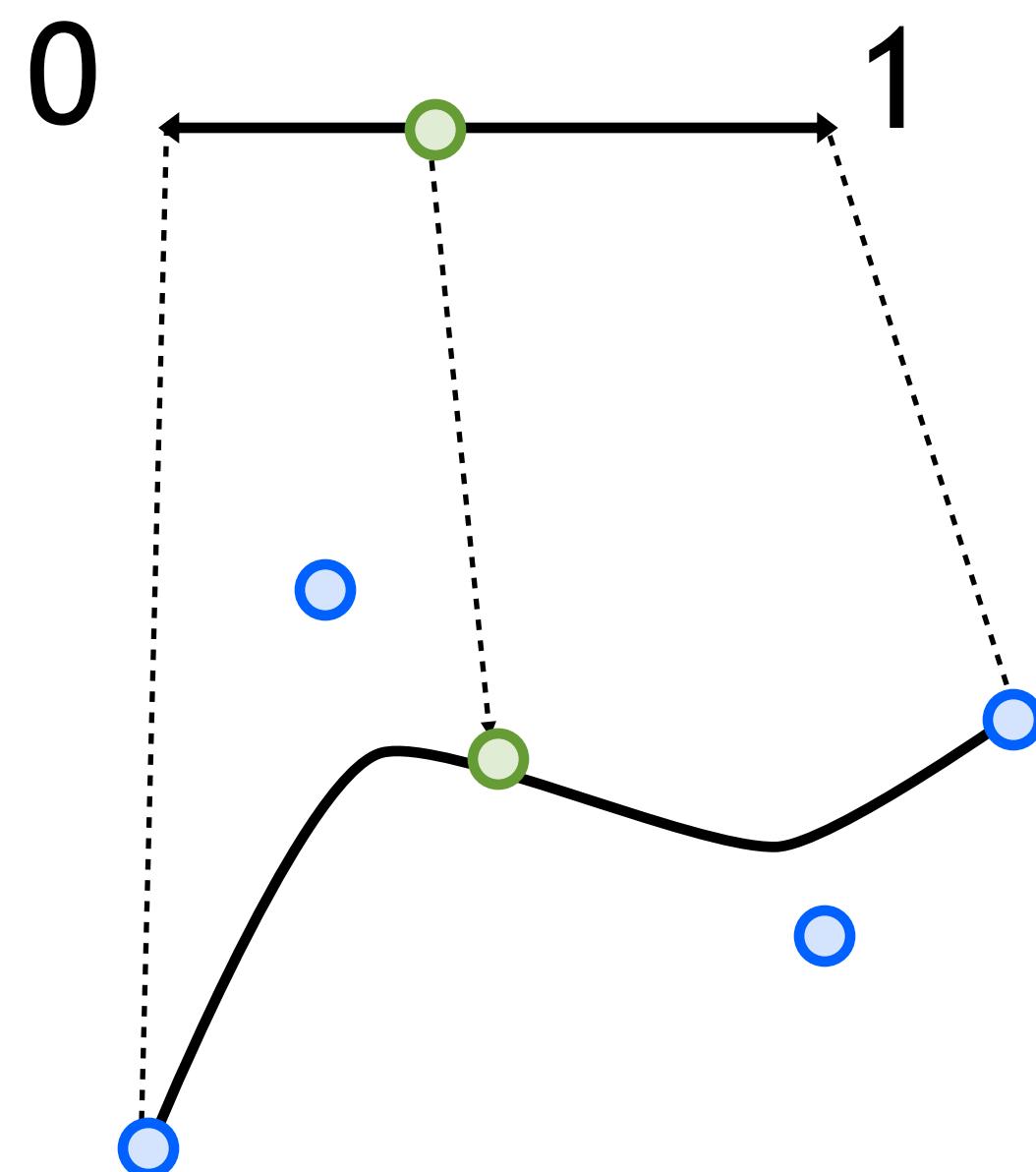
- The control points of Bezier curves have global support
- We can obtain local support if we split the curve into smaller Bezier segments, but we have to be careful with the borders to guarantee smoothness
- B-spline curves are a generalization of this construction
- <http://i33www.ira.uka.de/applets/mocca/html/noplugin/inhalt.html>



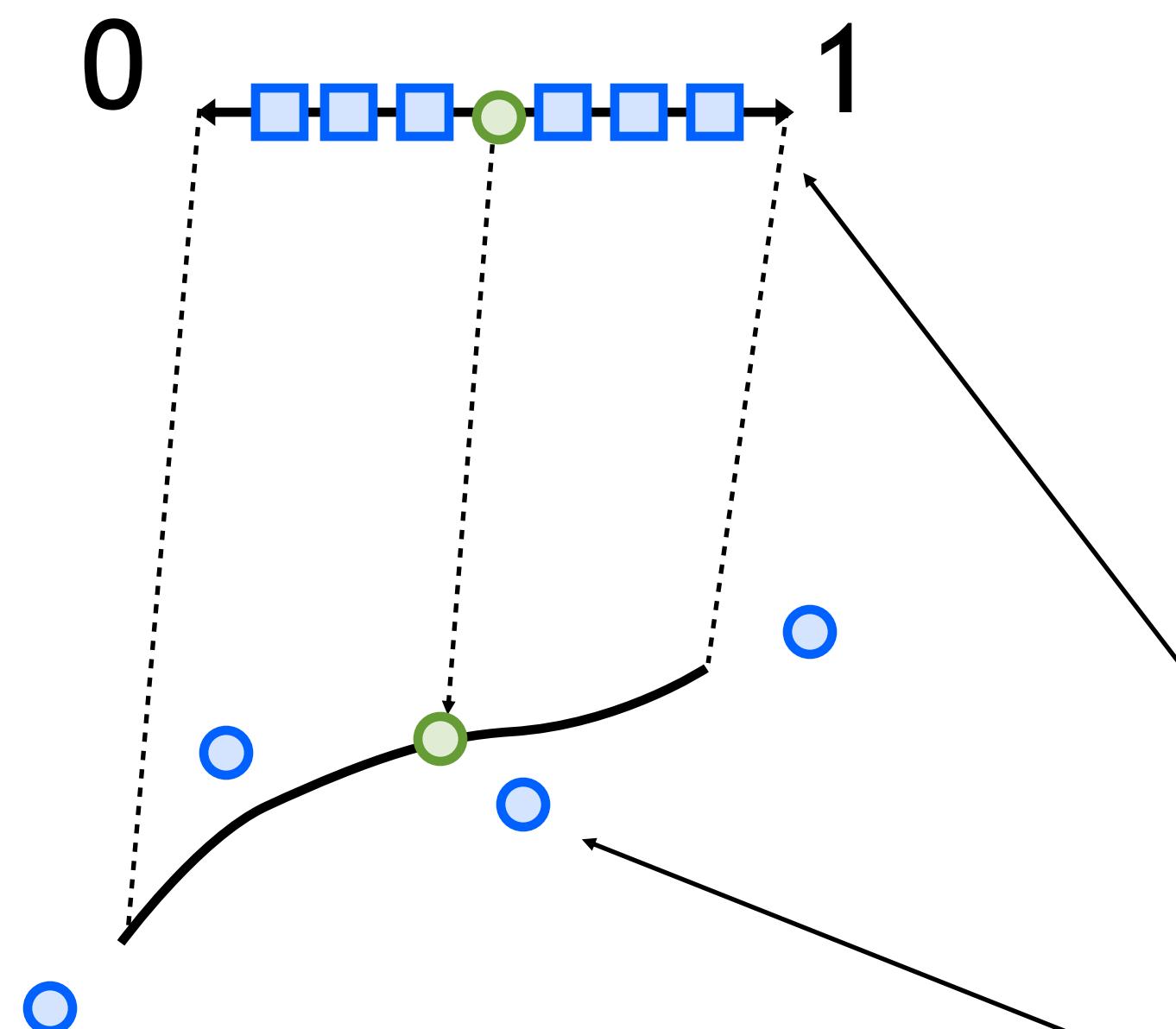
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Ingredients

Bezier



B-spline



$$m = n + p + 1$$

Basis degree

p

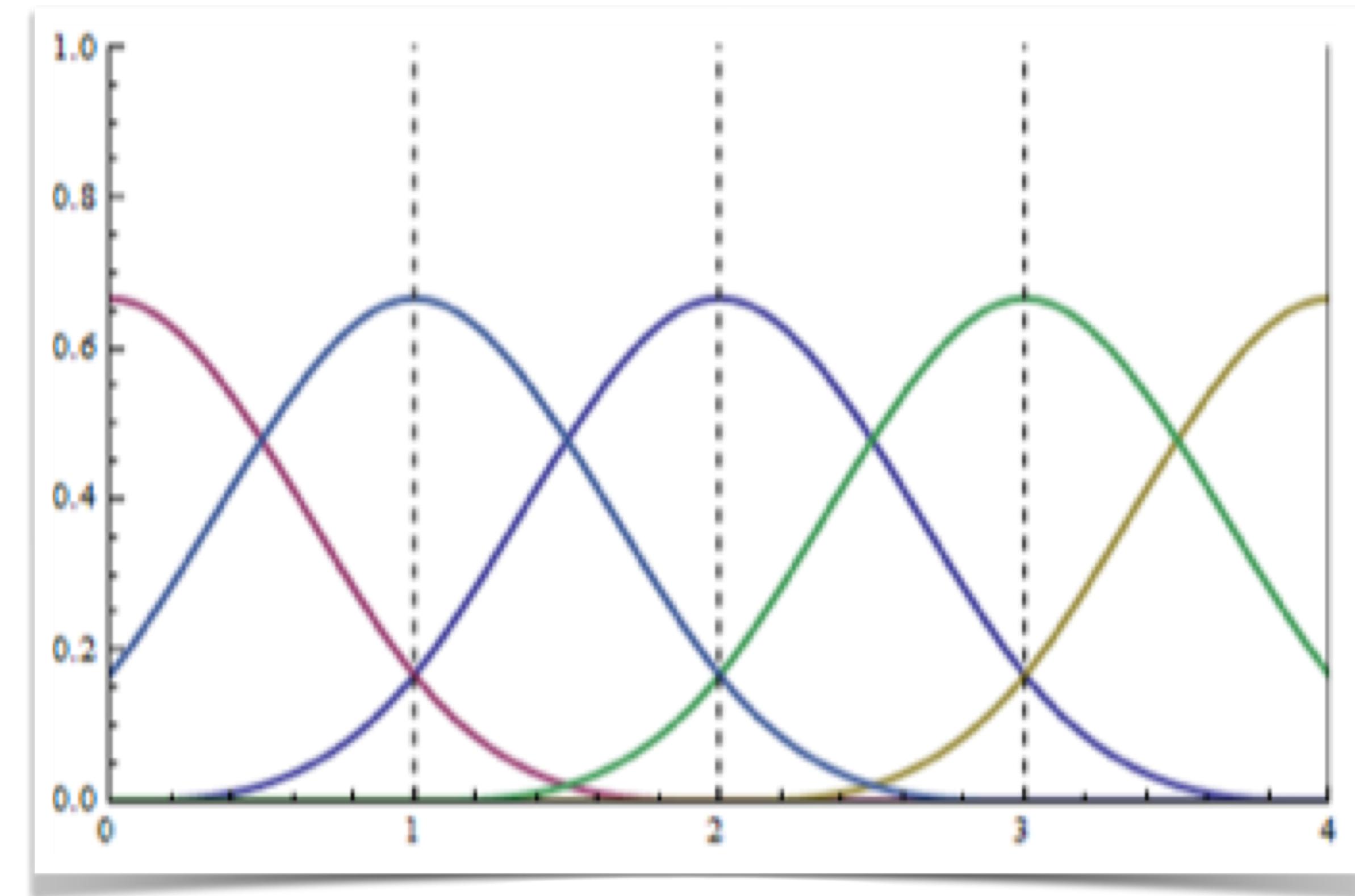
Knots Points

$m + 1$

Control Points $n + 1$

Basis functions

- Piecewise-polynomial
- C^p
- Symmetric
- Shifted
- Nonnegative
- Partition of unity
- Local support



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Recursive definition

Degree

$$N_i^0(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \leq t < i + 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

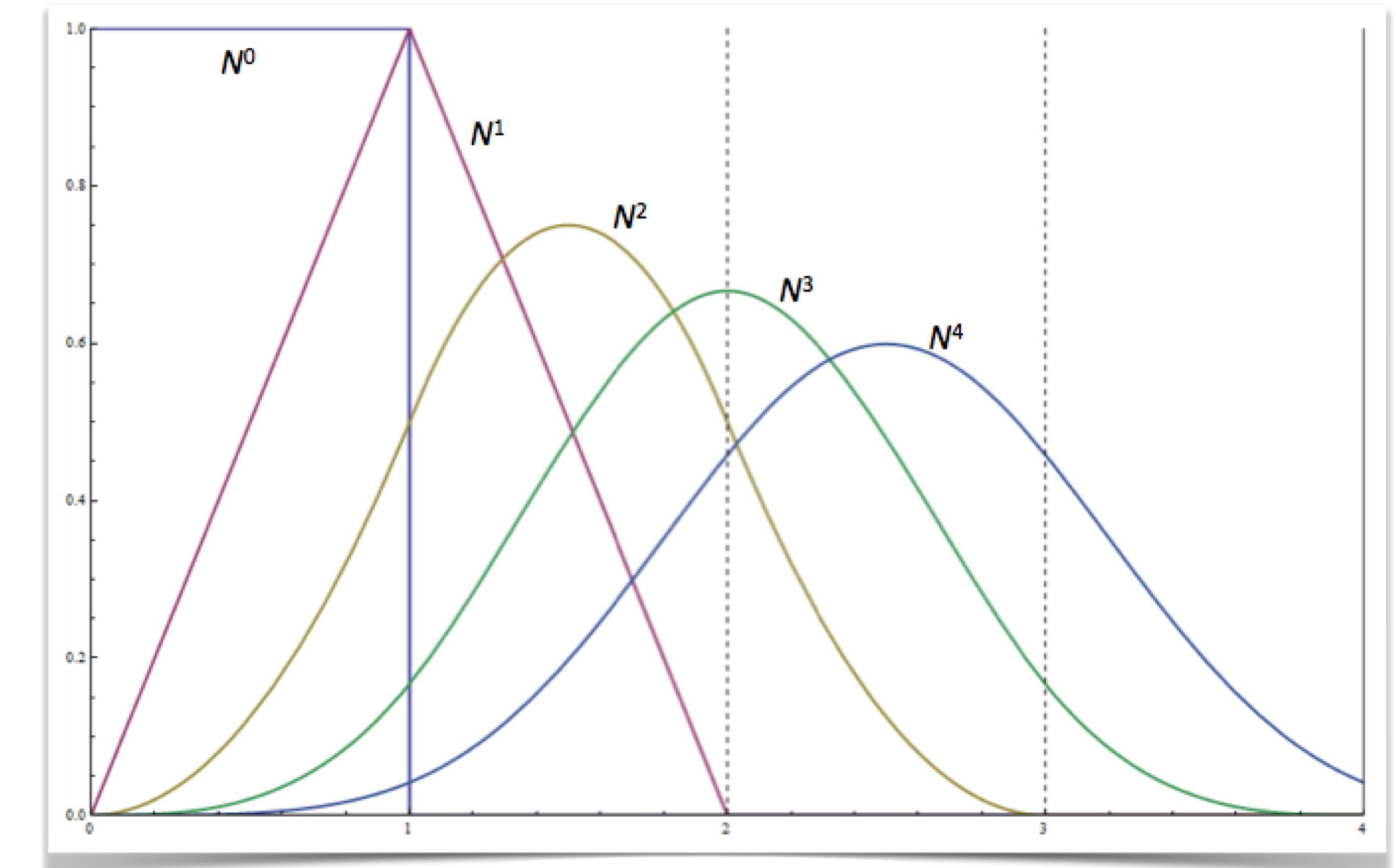
Knot Span

$$N_i^d = \left(\frac{t-i}{d} \right) N_i^{d-1} + \left(\frac{i+d+1-t}{d} \right) N_{i+1}^{d-1}$$

Non-uniform knots

$$N_{i,0}(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u_i \leq u < u_{i+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$N_{i,p}(u) = \frac{u - u_i}{u_{i+p} - u_i} N_{i,p-1}(u) + \frac{u_{i+p+1} - u}{u_{i+p+1} - u_{i+1}} N_{i+1,p-1}(u)$$

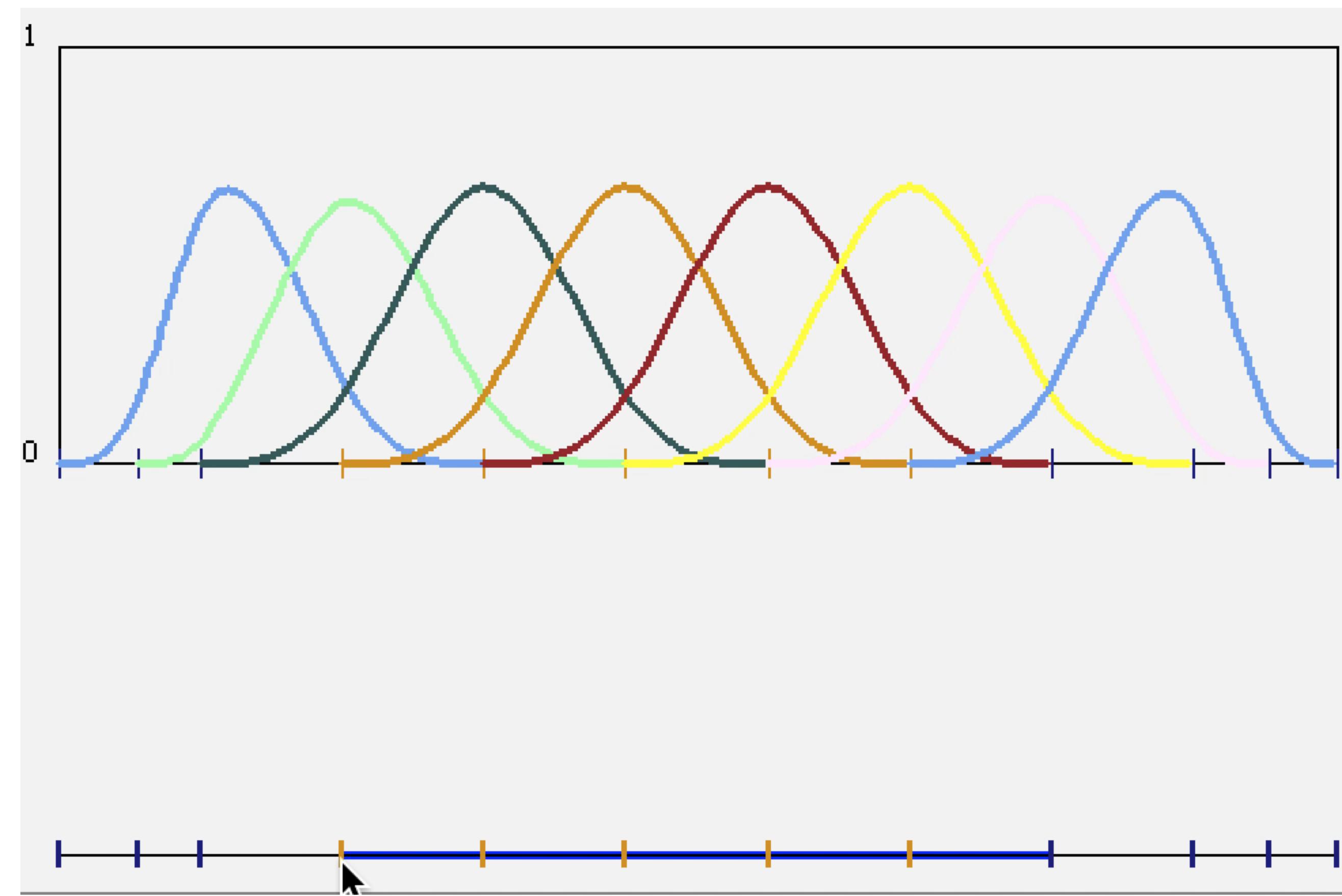


The support is always:
(1 + degree) knot spans



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Basis functions

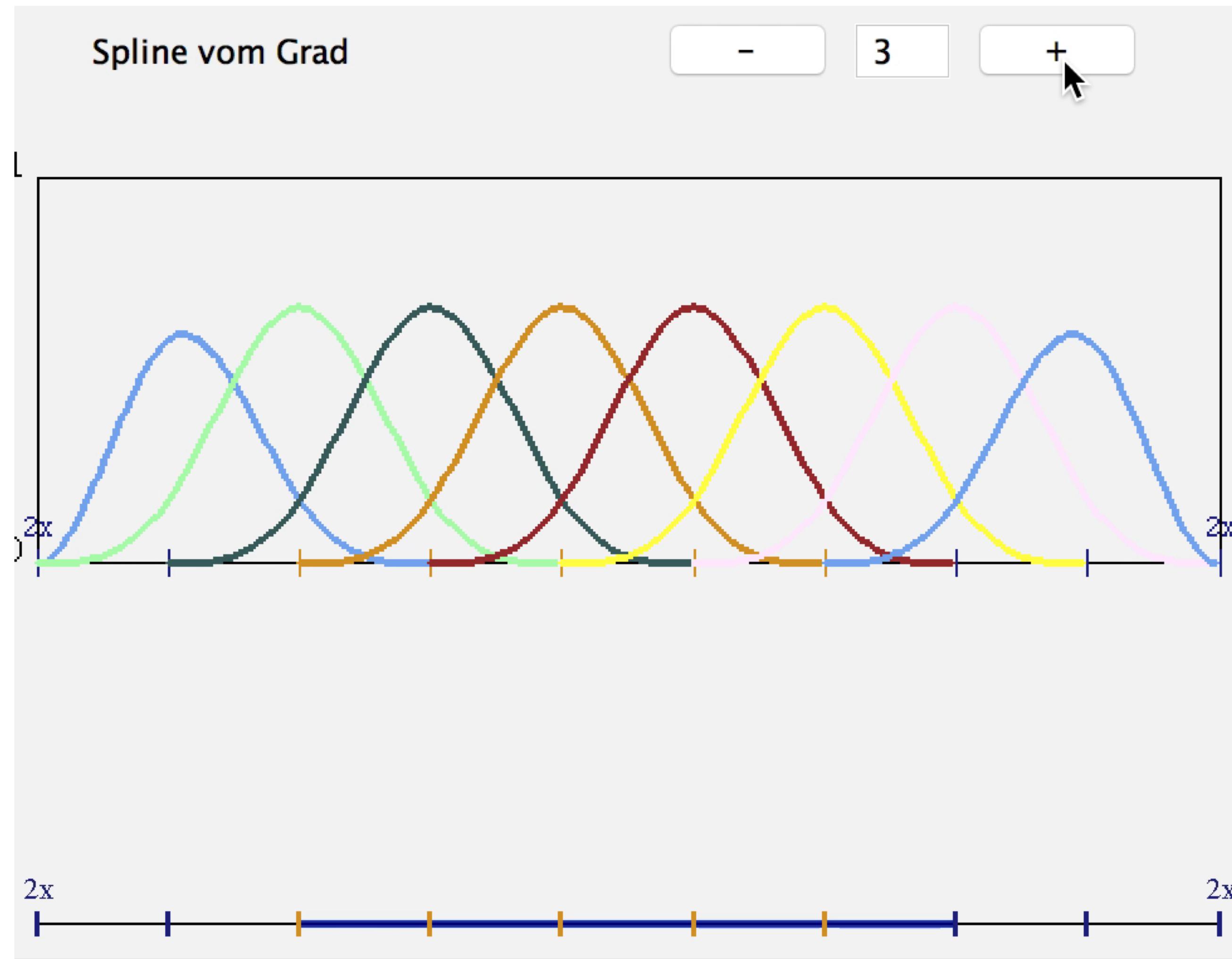


<http://www.cs.technion.ac.il/~cs234325/Applets/applets/bspline/GermanApplet.html>



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Basis functions



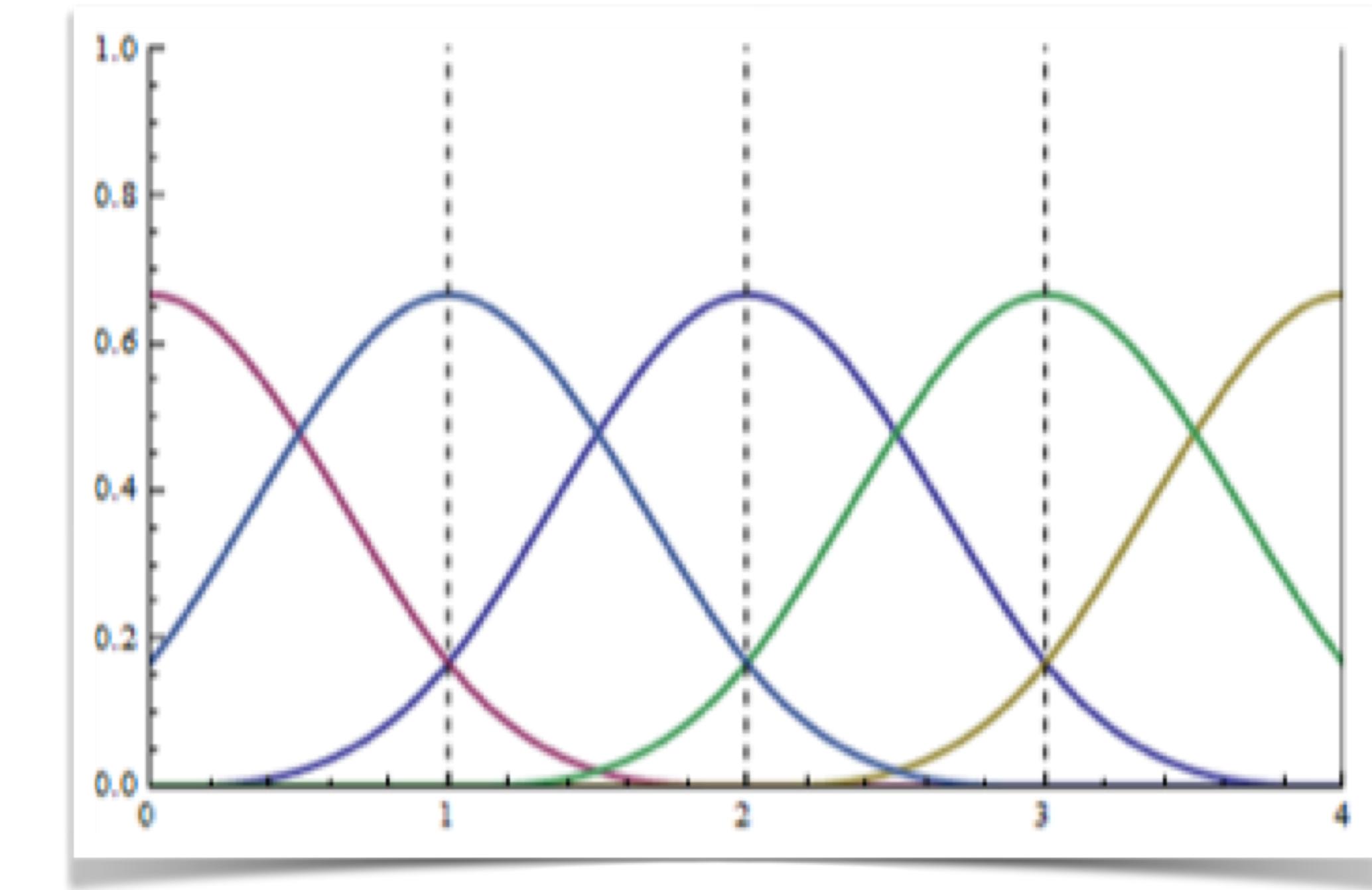
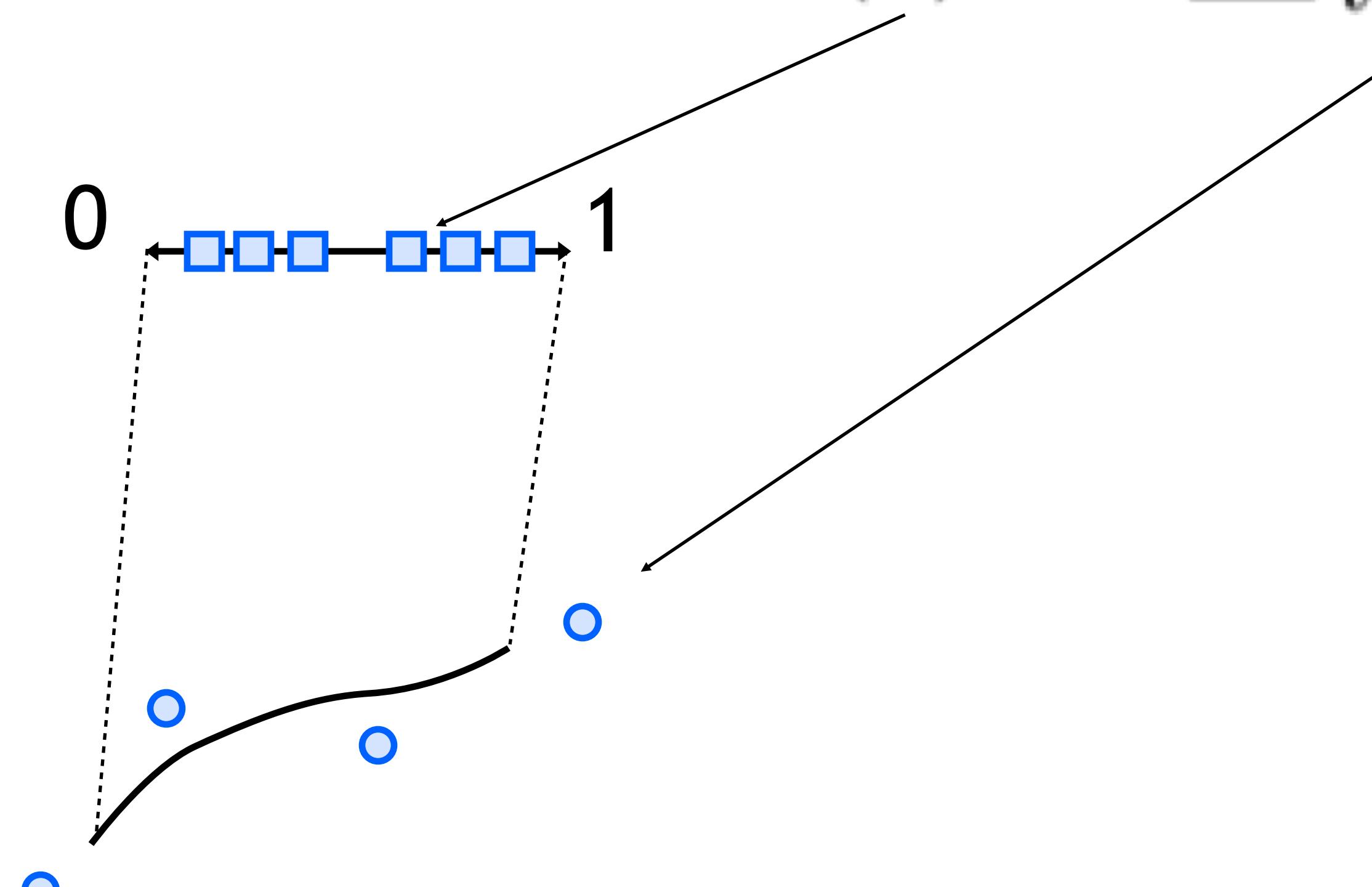
<http://www.cs.technion.ac.il/~cs234325/Applets/applets/bspline/GermanApplet.html>



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Definition

$$\mathbf{p}(t) = \sum_i \mathbf{c}_i N_i^d(t)$$

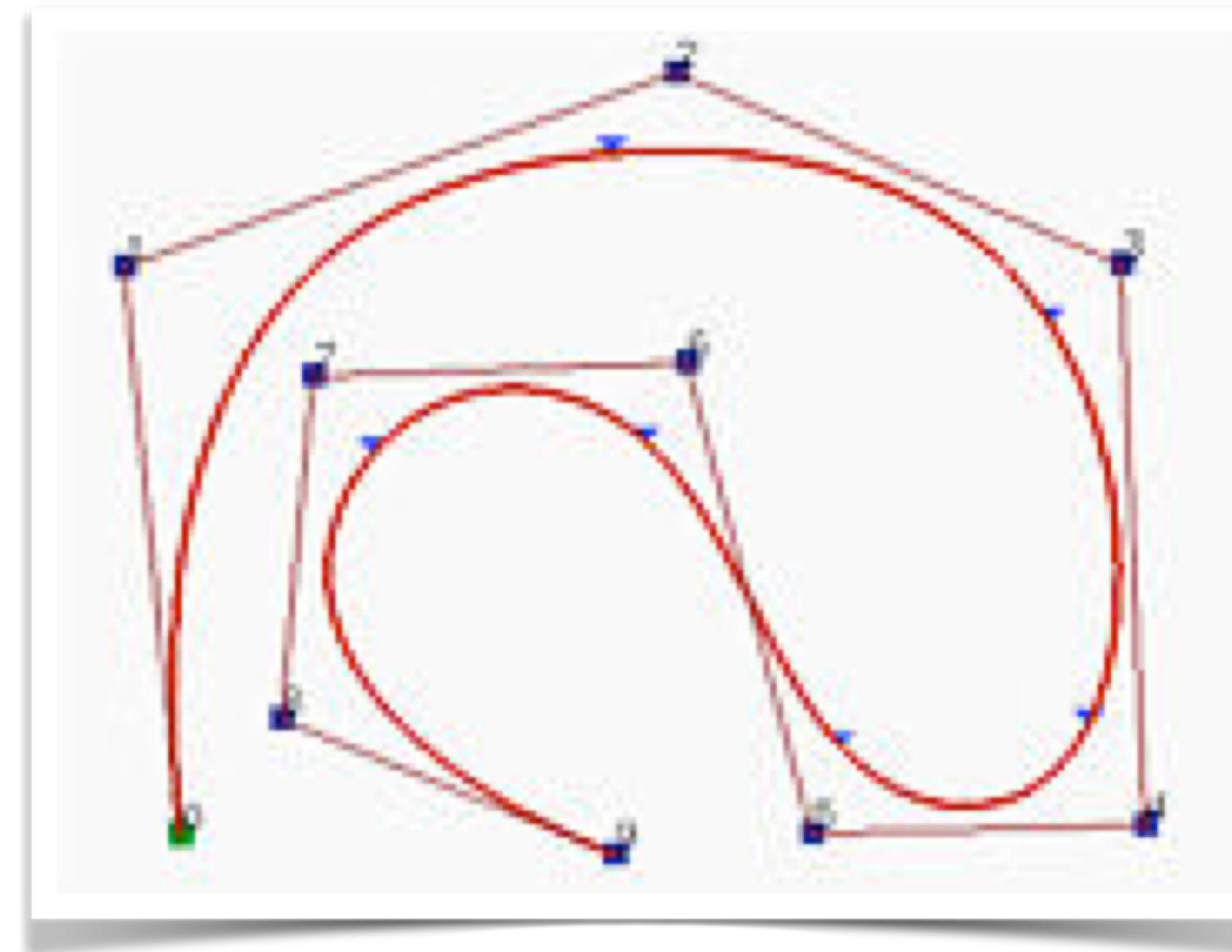


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Special curves

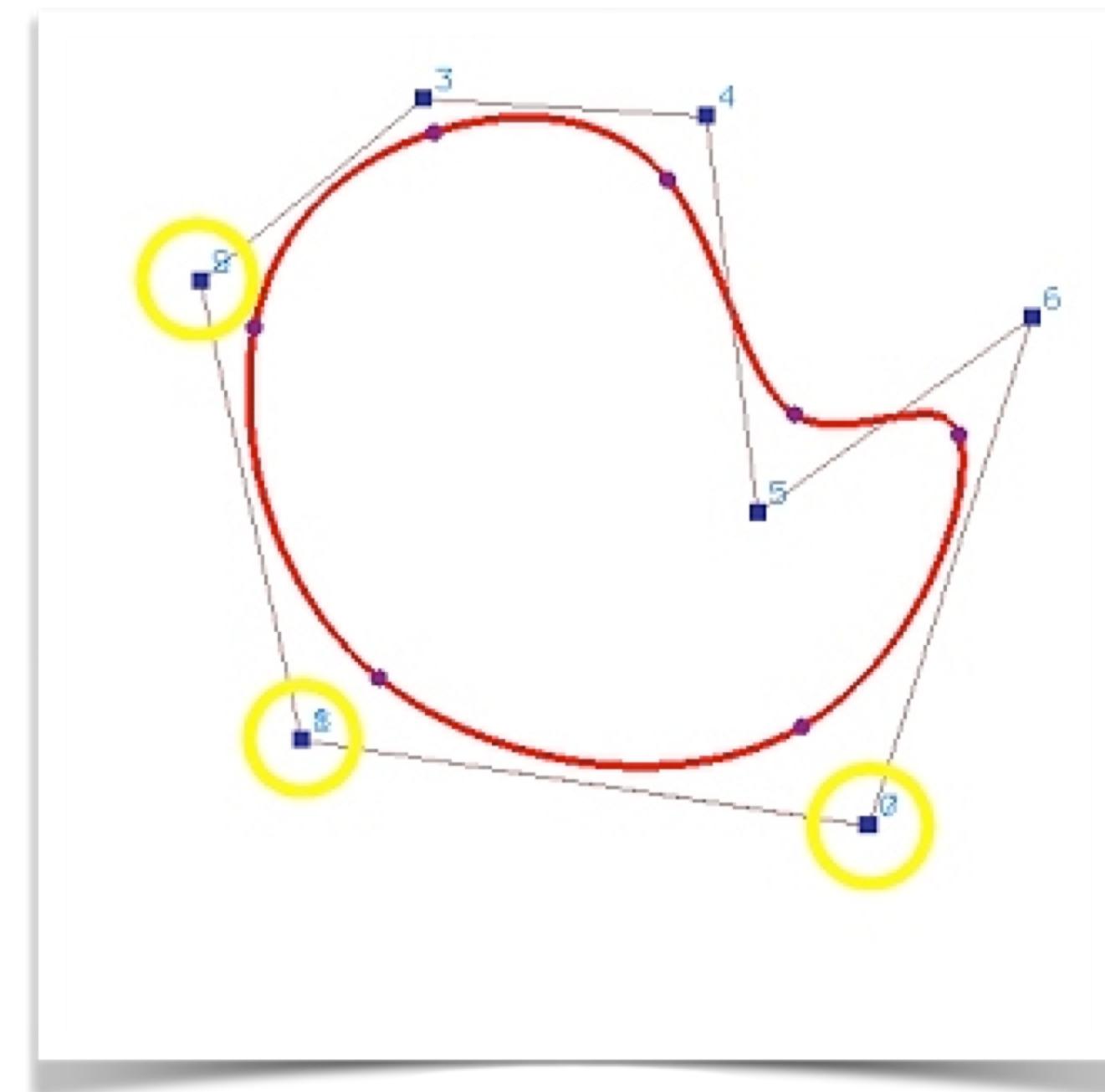
Interpolating curve

Increase the multiplicity of the first and last knots



Closed curve

Overlap the first and last control points, and align the corresponding knots



From <http://www.cs.mtu.edu/~shene/COURSES/cs3621/NOTES/spline/B-spline/bspline-curve-closed.html>



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Properties

Notation: $m + 1$ knots, $n+1$ control points, p degree

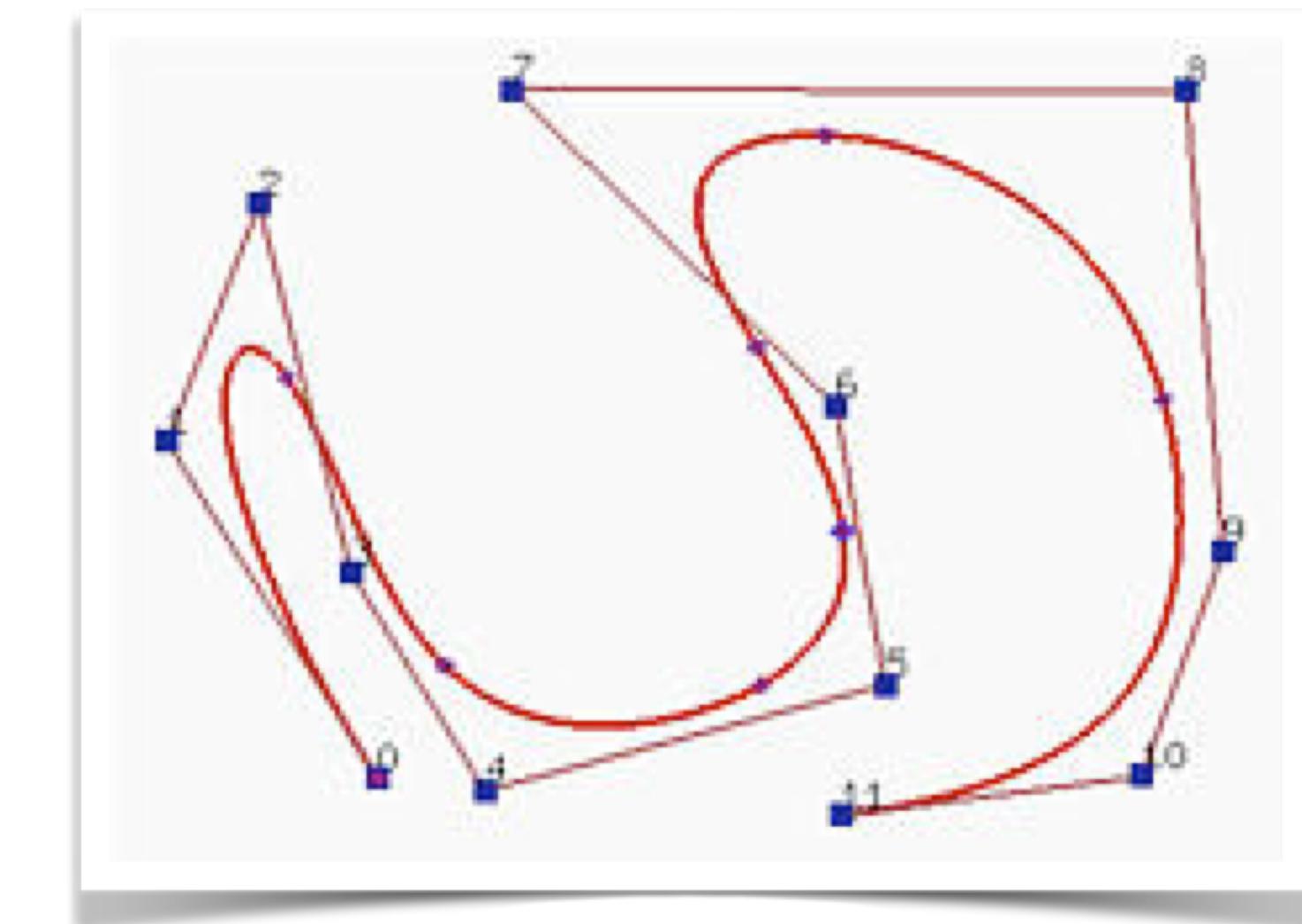
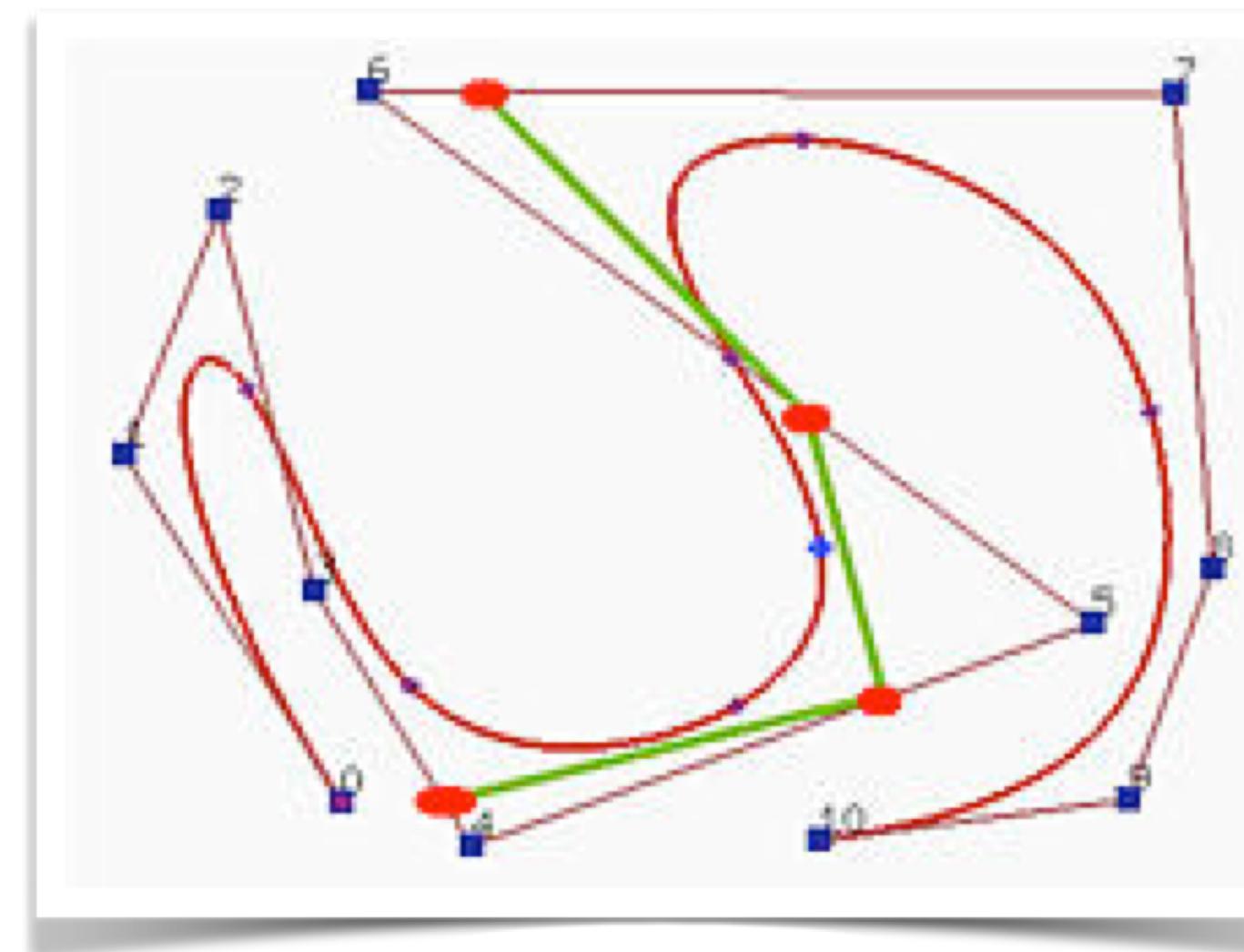
1. B-spline curve is a piecewise curve with each component a curve of degree p
2. Equality $m = n + p + 1$ must be satisfied
3. Strong Convex Hull Property: A B-spline curve is contained in the convex hull of its control polyline
4. Local Modification Scheme: changing the position of control point P_i only affects the curve $C(u)$ on interval $[u_i, u_{i+p+1}]$
5. B-spline curve is C^{p-k} continuous at a knot of multiplicity k
6. Variation Diminishing Property
7. Bézier Curves Are Special Cases of B-spline Curves
8. Affine Invariance



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Knot Insertion

- We want to insert a new **knot** without **changing the shape of the curve**
- Since $m = n + p + 1$, adding a knot must be compensated:
 - by changing the degree of the curve (global)
 - by adding a new control point (local)



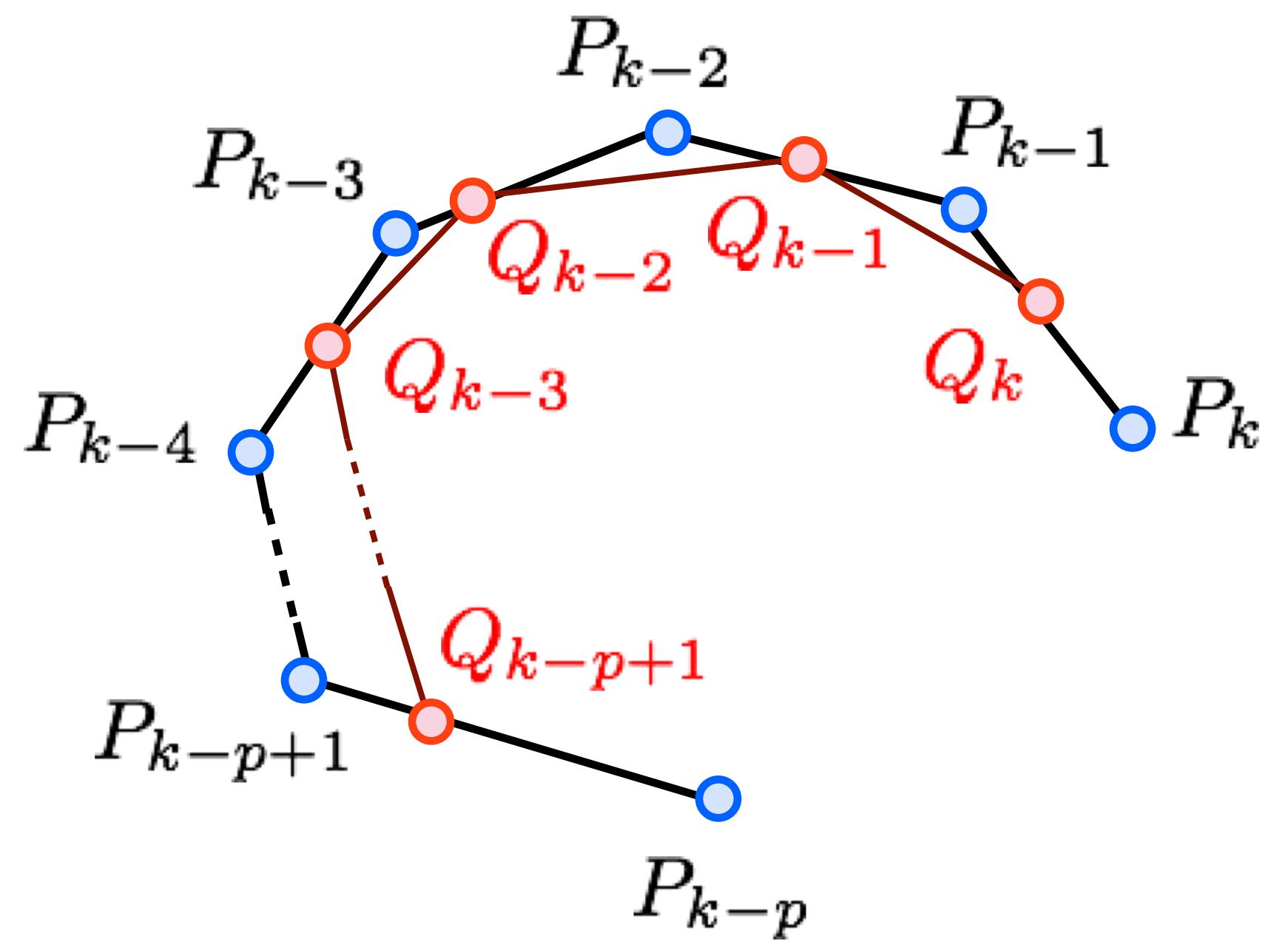
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Inserting a knot

- Suppose the new knot t lies in knot span $[u_k, u_{k+1})$
- Only the basis that corresponds to $P_k, P_{k-1}, \dots, P_{k-p}$ are non-zero
- Thus, the operation is **local!**
- To add the knot, we substitute the control points P_{k-p+1} to P_{k-1} with Q_{k-p+1} to Q_k using special corner cutting rules:

$$Q_i = (1 - a_i)P_{i-1} + a_i P_i$$

$$a_i = \frac{t - u_i}{u_{i+p} - u_i} \quad \text{for } k - p + 1 \leq i \leq k$$



- **Remember** to also add t to the knot vector!

Example

u ₀	u ₁	u ₂	u ₃	u ₄	u ₅	u ₆	u ₇	u ₈	u ₉	u ₁₀	u ₁₁
0	0	0	0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1	1	1	1

$$a_i = \frac{t - u_i}{u_{i+p} - u_i} \quad \text{for } k - p + 1 \leq i \leq k$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_5 &= \frac{t - u_5}{u_8 - u_5} = \frac{0.5 - 0.4}{1 - 0.4} = \frac{1}{6} \\ a_4 &= \frac{t - u_4}{u_7 - u_4} = \frac{0.5 - 0.2}{0.8 - 0.2} = \frac{1}{2} \\ a_3 &= \frac{t - u_3}{u_6 - u_3} = \frac{0.5 - 0}{0.6 - 0} = \frac{5}{6} \end{aligned}$$

0.5

$$Q_i = (1 - a_i)P_{i-1} + a_i P_i$$

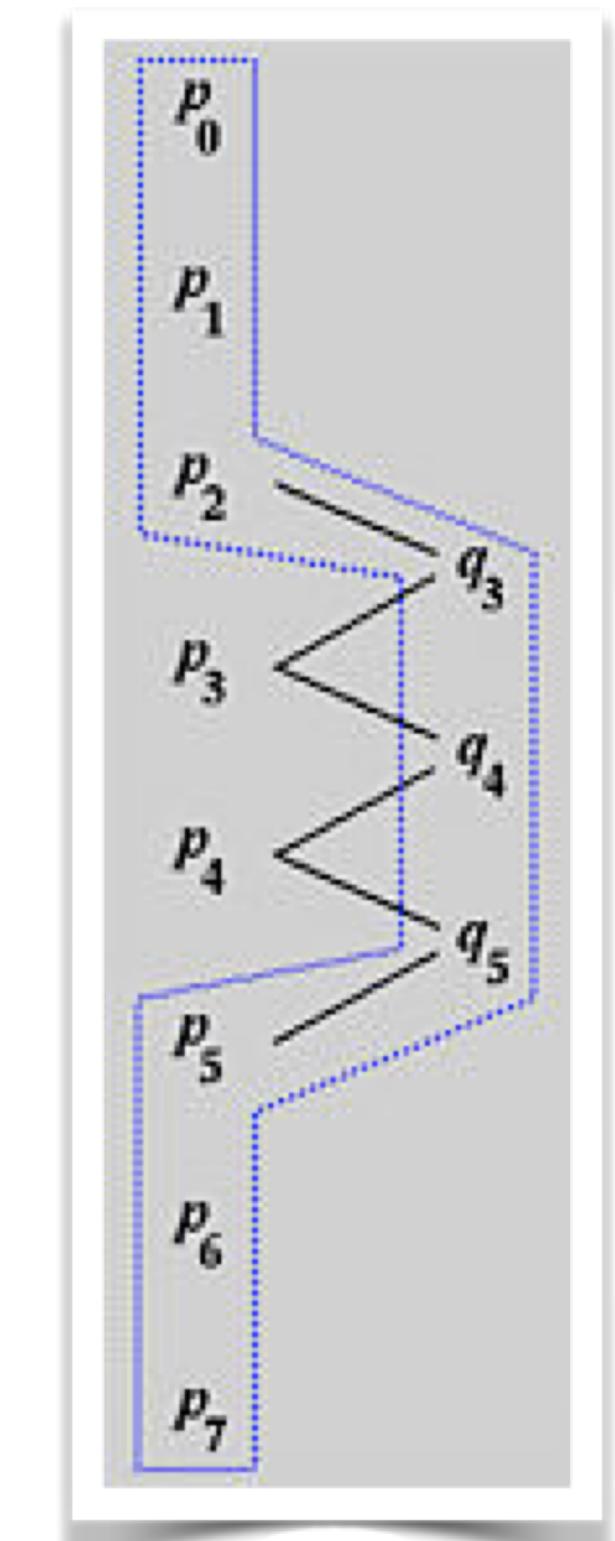
$$Q_5 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{6}P_4\right) + \frac{1}{6}P_5$$

$$Q_4 = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}P_3\right) + \frac{1}{2}P_4$$

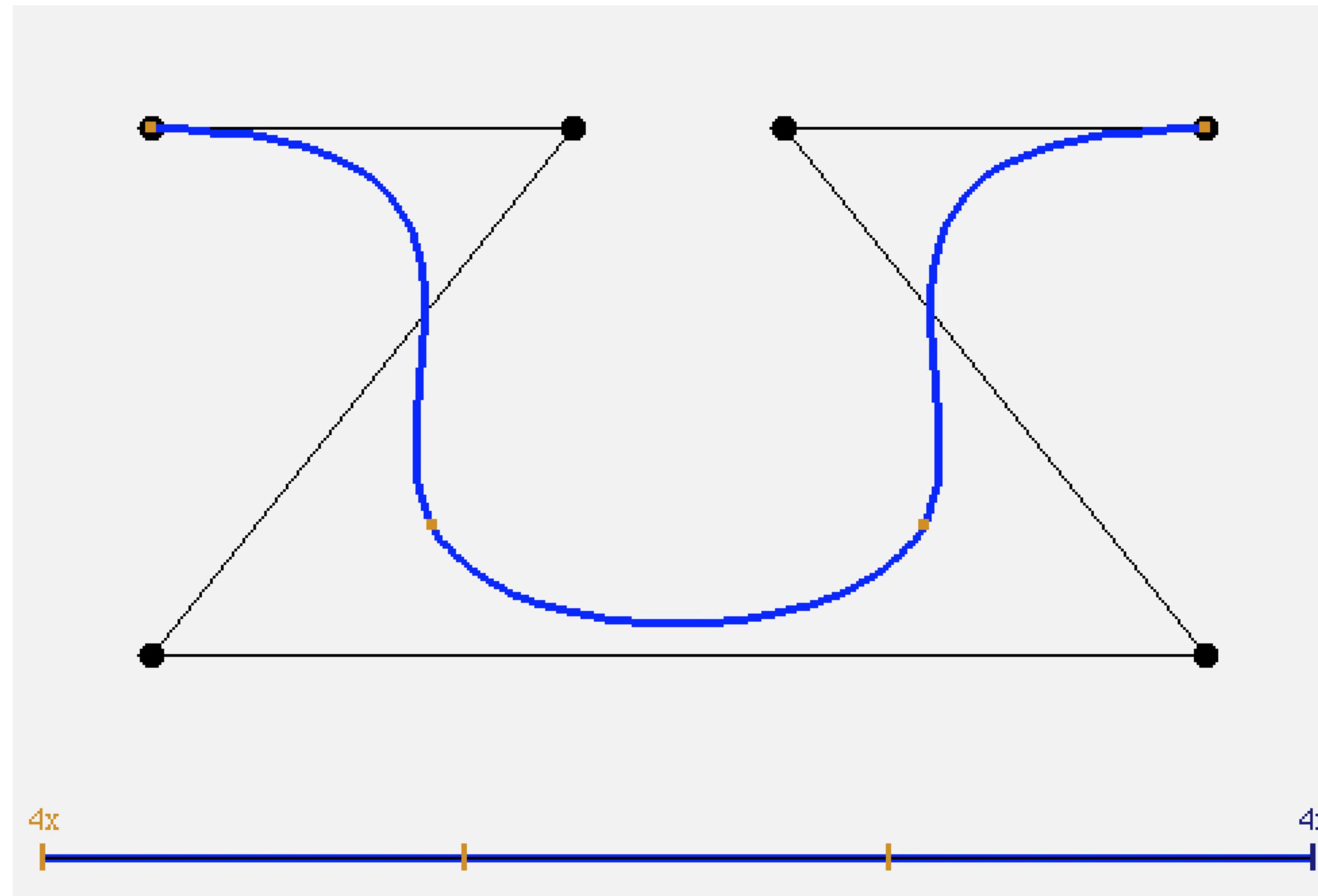
$$Q_3 = \left(1 - \frac{5}{6}P_2\right) + \frac{5}{6}P_3$$

u ₀	u ₁	u ₂	u ₃	u ₄	u ₅	u ₆	u ₇	u ₈	u ₉	u ₁₀	u ₁₁	u ₁₂
0	0	0	0	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	1	1	1	1

- p = 3 (cubic)
- P₂ P₃ P₄ P₅ are affected



Incremental rendering



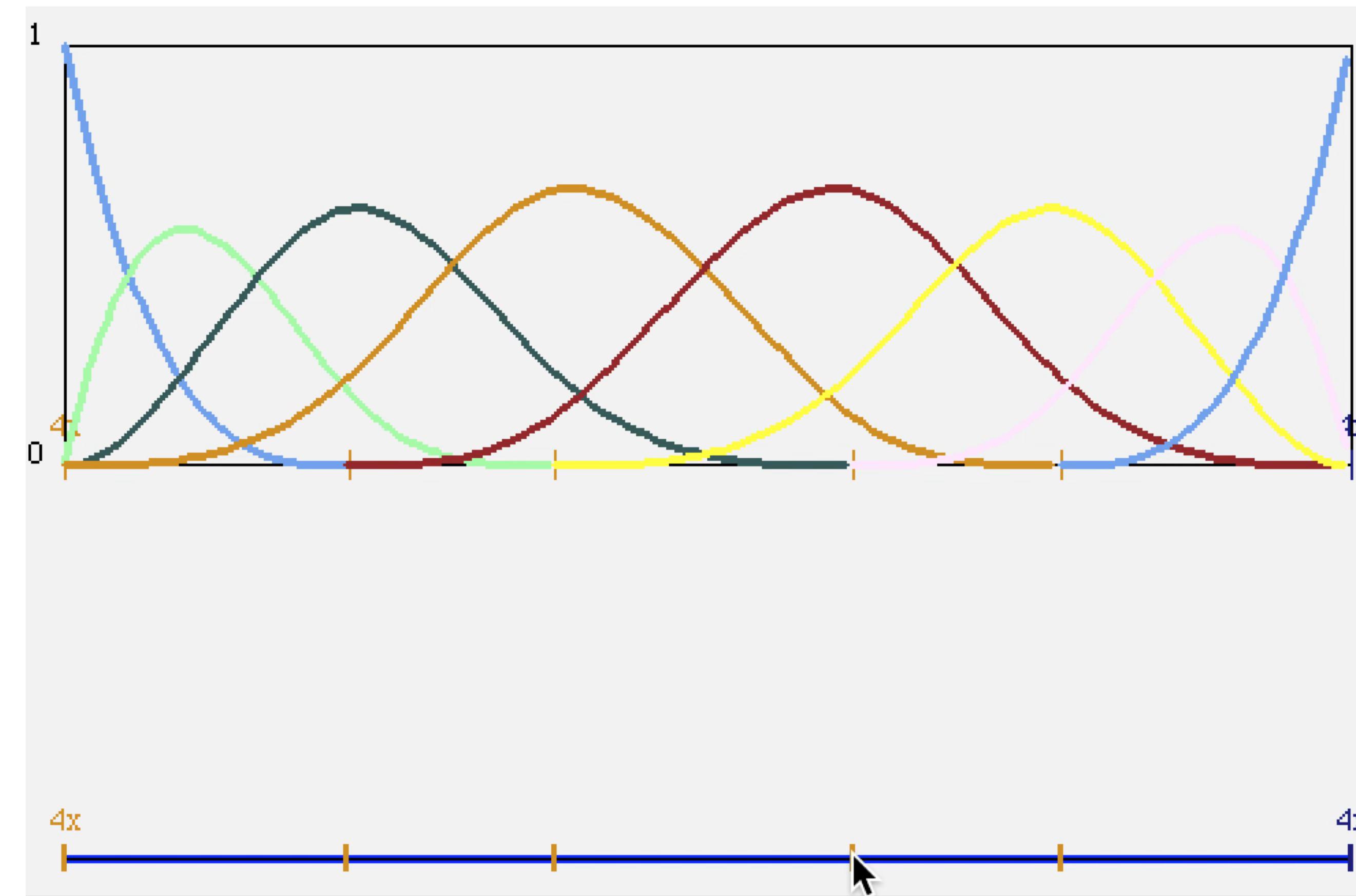
De Boor's Algorithm

- It is a generalization of de Casteljau's algorithm
- It provides a numerically stable way to find a point on the B-spline
- The implementation requires to iteratively add new knots using the knot insertion algorithm
- The algorithm works because:
 - **If a knot u is inserted repeatedly so that its multiplicity is p , the last generated new control point is the point on the curve that corresponds to u**



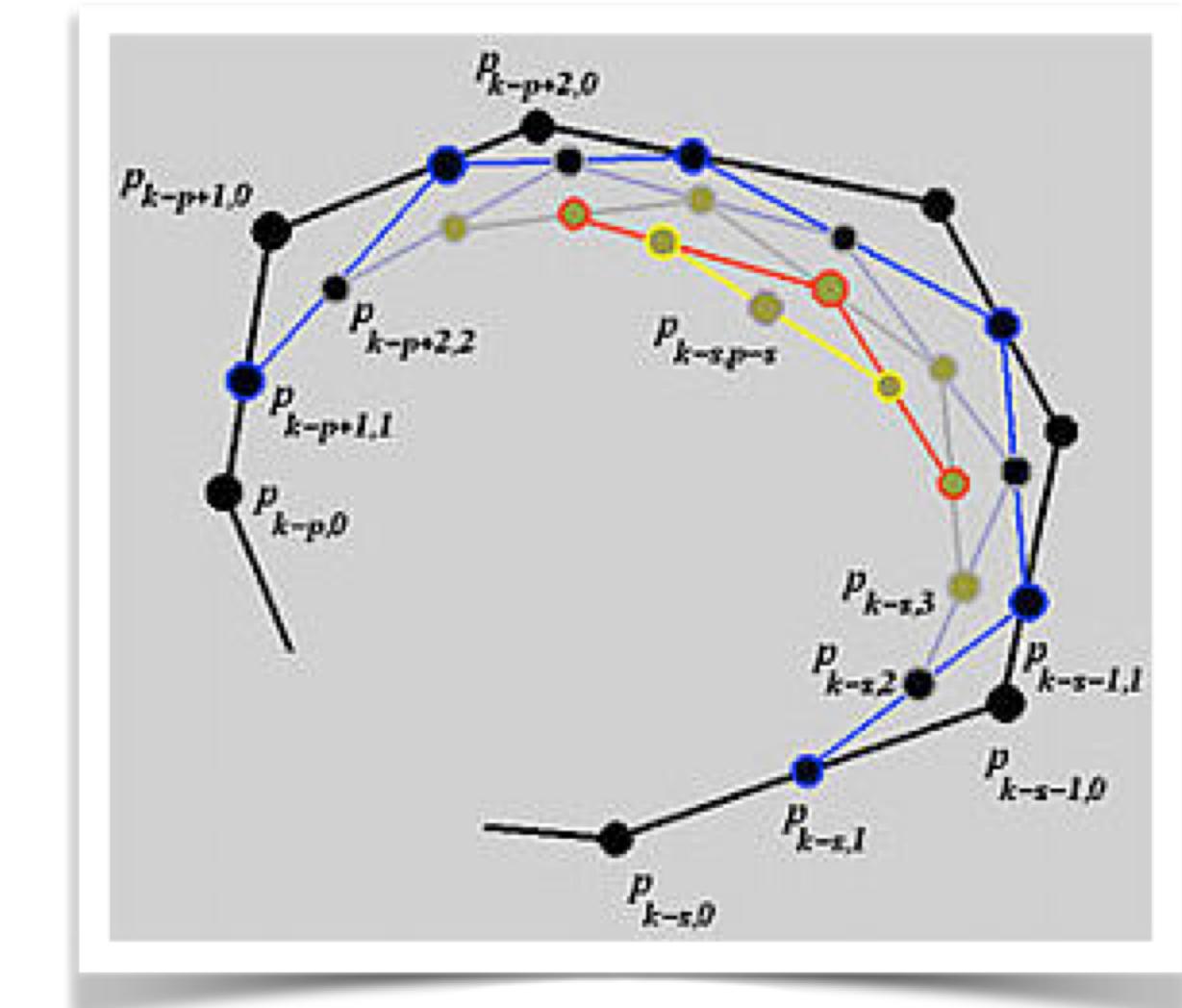
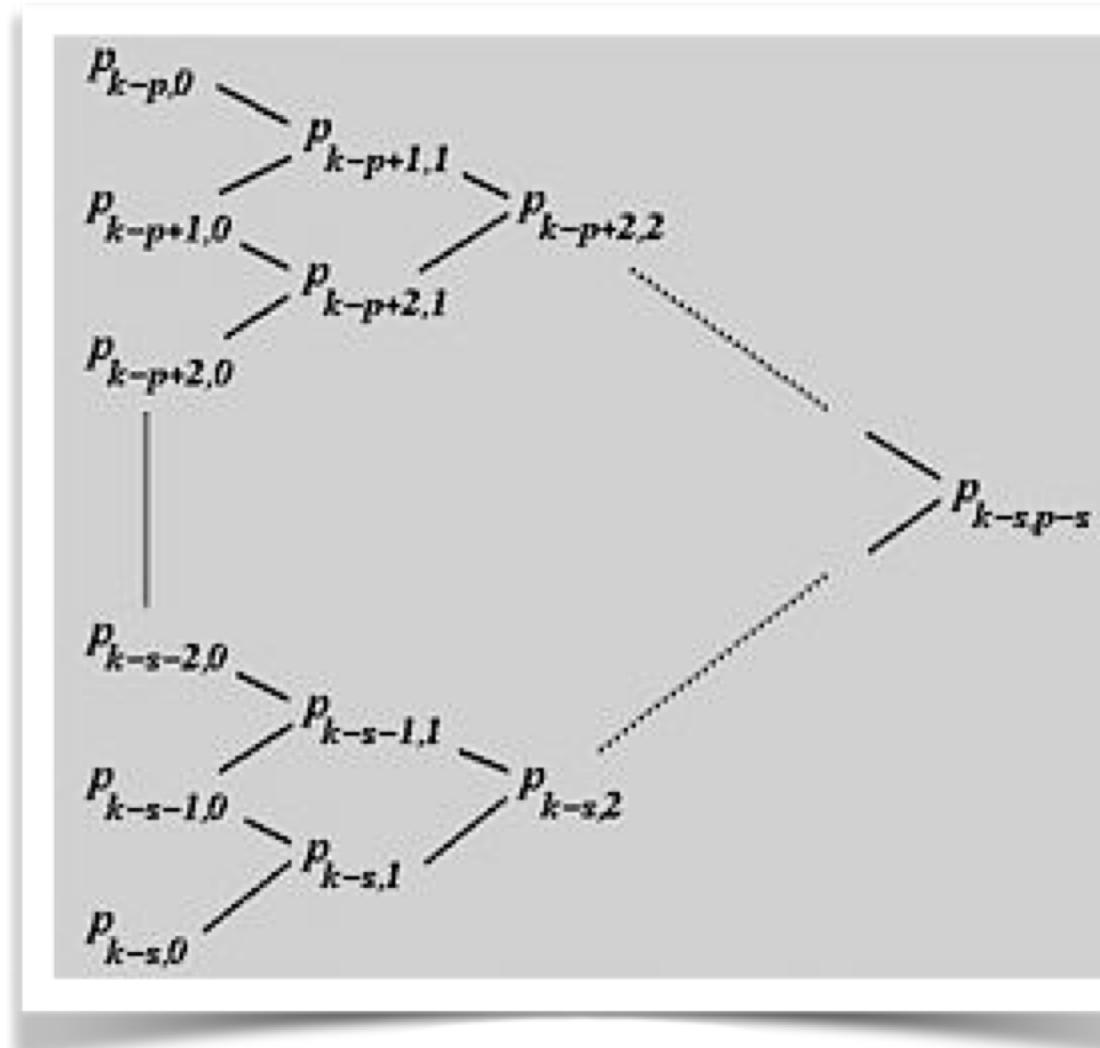
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De Boor's Algorithm



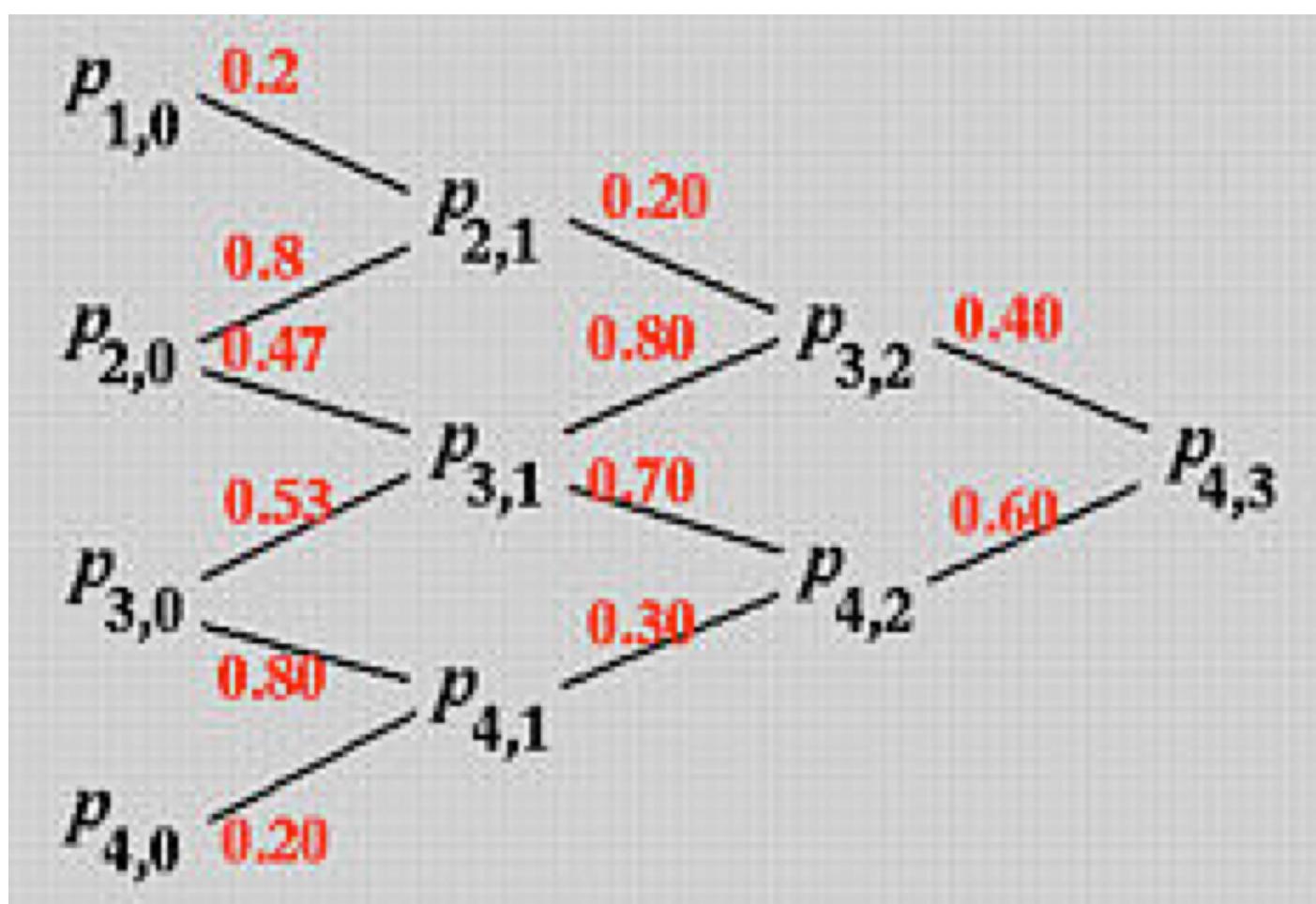
Algorithm

- Find the knot interval that corresponds to the point you want to evaluate
- Find the affected control points
- Start the corner cutting, until you have a single control point left



Example

u_0	u_1	u_2	u_3	u_4	u_5	u_6	u_7	u_8	u_9	u_{10}
0	0	0	0	0.25	0.5	0.75	1	1	1	1



- $p = 3$ (cubic)
- $P_1 P_2 P_3 P_4$ are affected

$$a_{4,3} = \frac{u - u_4}{u - u_4} = 0.3$$

$$a_{3,2} = \frac{u - u_4}{u_{4+3-2} - u_4} = 0.6 \quad 0.53$$

$$a_{2,1} = \frac{u - u_4}{u_{2+3} - u_2} = 0.8$$

$$\mathbf{D}_{4,3} = (1 - a_{4,3})\mathbf{D}_{3,2} + a_{4,3}\mathbf{D}_{4,2} = 0.2\mathbf{D}_{3,2} + 0.8\mathbf{D}_{4,2}$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{4,3} = (1 - a_{4,3})\mathbf{P}_{3,2} + a_{4,3}\mathbf{P}_{4,2} = 0.4\mathbf{P}_{3,2} + 0.6\mathbf{P}_{4,2}$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{4,3} = \sqrt{w_{4,3}}(\omega_{4,3}\mathbf{P}_{3,2} + \omega_{4,3}\mathbf{P}_{4,2}) = \omega_{4,3}\mathbf{P}_{3,2} + \omega_{4,3}\mathbf{P}_{4,2}$$



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Relation with De Casteljau's

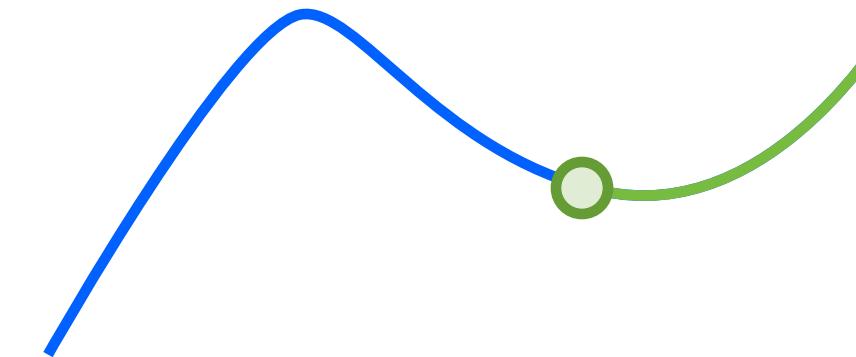
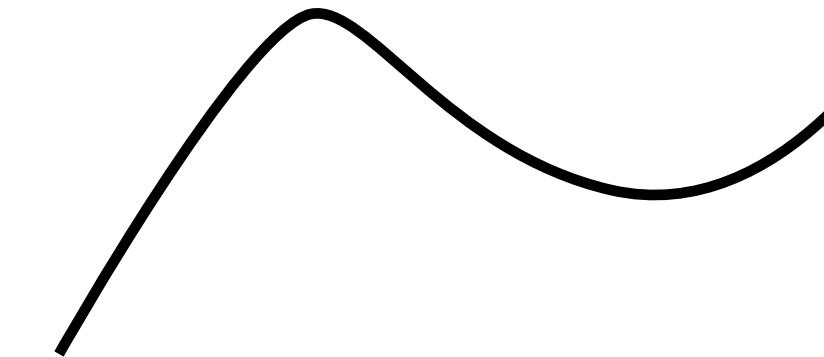
- The algorithm is similar to de Casteljau's, but with two important differences:
 - The weights used in the corner cutting **change** at every subdivision step
 - The effect of the corner cutting is **local**



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Subdividing a B-spline

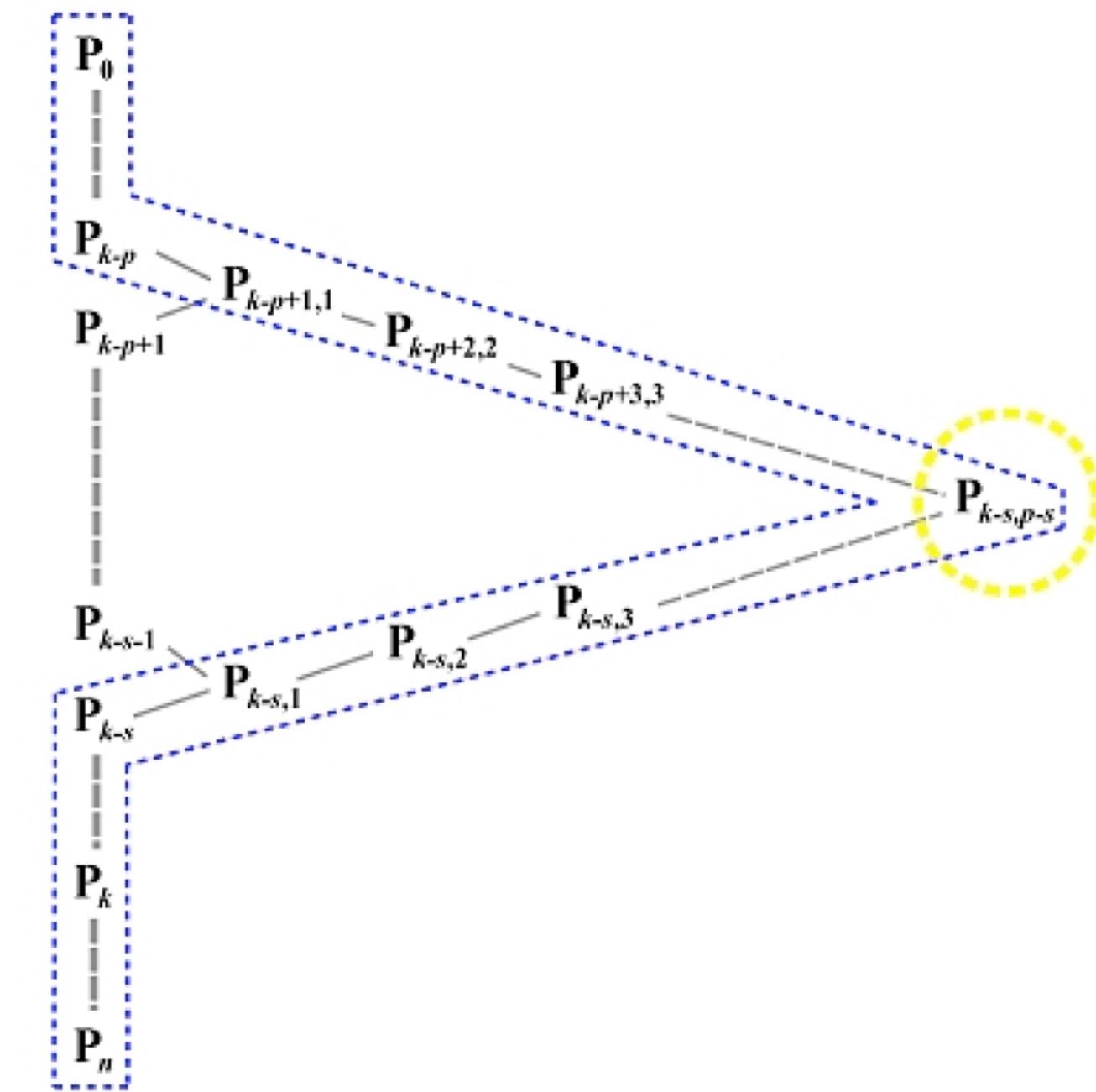
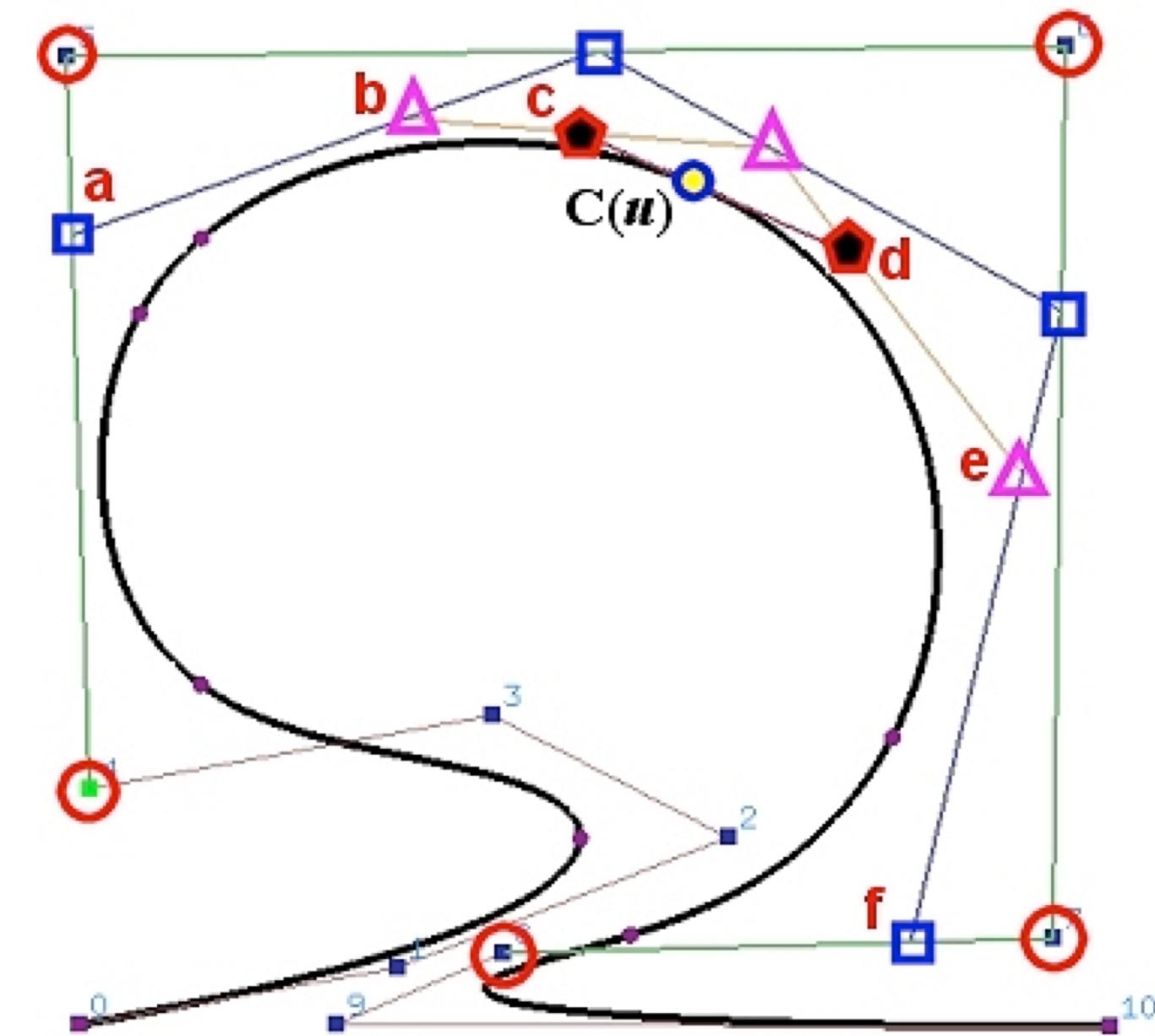
- We want to split a B-spline into two different curves:
 - let u be the splitting point
 - we want to define two B-splines defined on $[0,u]$ and $[u,1]$



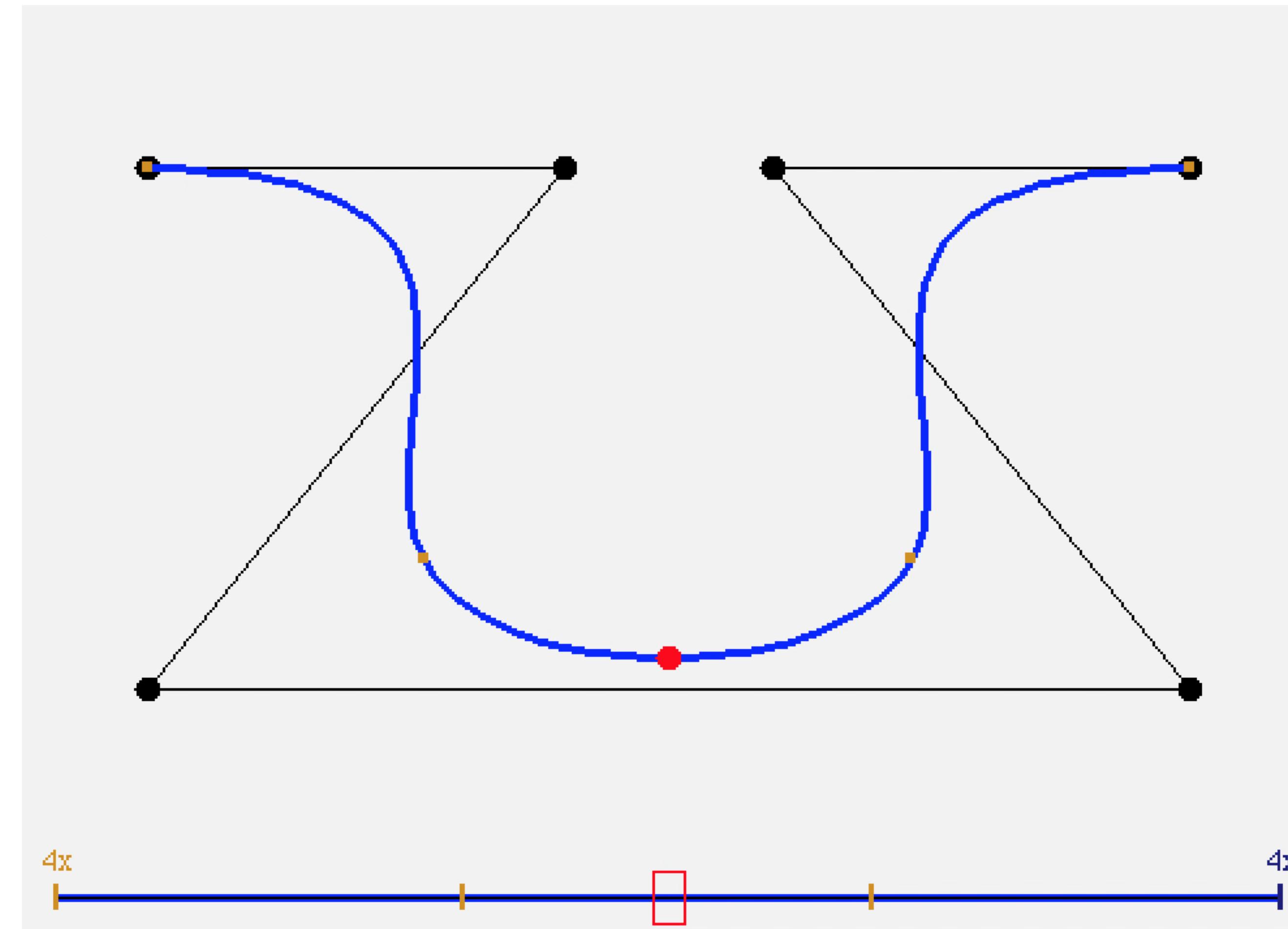
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Subdivision algorithm

- Apply de Boor's at u
- Traverse the control points vector always turning right
- The knot vector for the first curve, contains all the knots in $[0, u)$ followed by $p+1$ copies of u



Example



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Subdividing a B-spline into Bézier segments

- If you subdivide a B-spline curve at every knot, then each curve segment becomes a Bézier curve of degree p
- This results follows from this lemma, that links the B-spline basis functions with the Bézier basis functions:
 - **If the first [last] $n+1$ knots are 0 [1], then the i -th B-spline basis function of degree n is identical to the i -th Bézier basis function for all i in the range of 0 and n**
 - This means that the Bézier basis functions are special cases of B-spline basis, and that Bézier curves are special cases of B-spline curves



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References

Fundamentals of Computer Graphics, Fourth Edition
4th Edition by Steve Marschner, Peter Shirley

Chapter 15

Course notes: <http://www.cs.mtu.edu/~shene/COURSES/cs3621/NOTES/>



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