Lab 1 - 2D Bézier Curves

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0 Assignments

- 1. Draw Bézier curve with the de Casteljau algorithm
- 2. Drag control points to change their position
- 3. Draw Bézier curve with the optimized adaptive subdivision method

1 De Casteljau algorithm

The de Casteljau algorithm was implemented in the deCasteljau() function taking in input t as parameter value, an inArray containing the control points coordinates, an outArray containing the algorithm's results (i.e. the curve points) and the size of the inArray array.

To support the algorithm, the lerp() function was implemented in its 1D version.

The number of curve points drawn is 100 and the resulting curve can be seen in Figure 1.

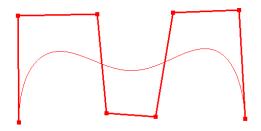


Figure 1: Curve generated with the de Casteljau algorithm.

2 Drag control points to change their position

This functionality was implemented by checking if the clicked point has already a control point in the isControlPoint() function. If yes, this function returns the index of the control point hit, which gets saved in the SelectedCP global variable. Then, the function myMotionFunc() handles the logical and graphical update of the point.

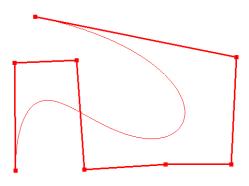


Figure 2: Same points as in Figure 1, but re-positioned.

3 Optimized adaptive subdivision method

This algorithm was implemented in the recursive function adaptiveSubdivision(), which takes in input a tempArray of control points and its size.

The **Adaptive Subdivision** algorithm is a recursive algorithm that selects the curve points to draw from a set of control points obtained from splitting the original Bézier curve in two sub-curves of the same degree. To obtain the control points for both the sub-curves, the function deCasteljauASCP() was implemented, which saves in two pre-prepared arrays the intermediate results of the de Casteljau algorithm. Namely, the first one, which should contain the first half of the curve, is populated with the p_0^n results while the second one is populated with the p_1^n results.

Then, for each of the resulting sub-curves we need to check if it passes the so-called Flat Test. The **Flat Test**, checks that the distance between each of the intermediate control points in the current group and the segment resulting from the first and last control points is less than a certain *Tolerance* value. If the check is passed then the current sub-curve can be approximated with the aforementioned segment and the control points can be added to the curve points, otherwise it can't and the algorithm needs to subdivide the sub-curve once again.

To support all the steps for the Flat Test, the following algorithms were implemented using the glm::vec3 to ease input and output and to use some built in glm function:

- sub(), which computed the subtraction between two vectors;
- magnitude(), which computed the magnitude of a vector;
- distPointLine(), which computed the distance between a point and a segment.

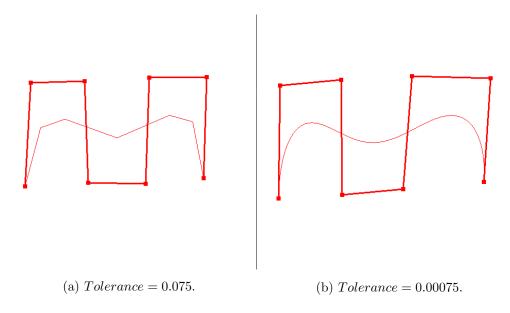


Figure 3: The visual results of the Adaptive subdivision algorithm with different Tolerance values.