

The B-Form

Math 5600

Summer 2014

Peter Alfeld

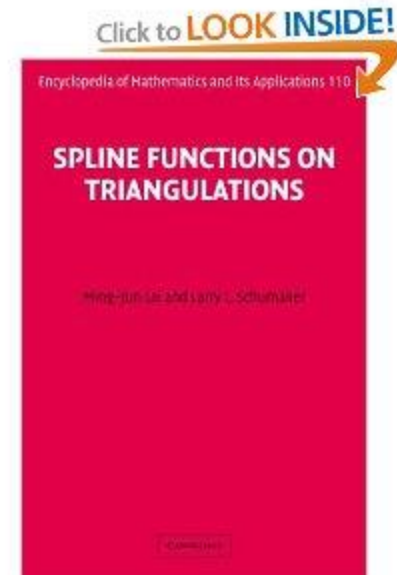
pa@math.utah.edu

Department of Mathematics
University of Utah

More information and software on www.math.utah.edu/~pa/
Pdf version of slides on www.math.utah.edu/~pa/mvs.pdf

State of the Art

Ming-Jun Lai and Larry L.
Schumaker: *Spline Functions
on Triangulations*.
Cambridge University Press,
2007. ISBN 0521875927.



What's in a name?

- “Spline” = smooth piecewise polynomial function.
- “smooth” means so many times differentiable.
- “Univariate” = one independent variable.
- Classic subject, used ubiquitously in numerical analysis for approximating data and functions.
- Example: cubic splines, pass an elastic wire through a bunch of points.

Univariate Splines

partition: $[a, b]$ into N subintervals

$$a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N = b$$

$$S_d^r = \{s \in C^r[a, b] : s|_{I_i} \in P_d, \quad i = 1, \dots, N\}$$

where P_d is the space of univariate polynomials of degree d .

$$\dim S_d^r = (d + 1) + (N - 1)((d + 1) - (r + 1))$$

What could be **simpler**?

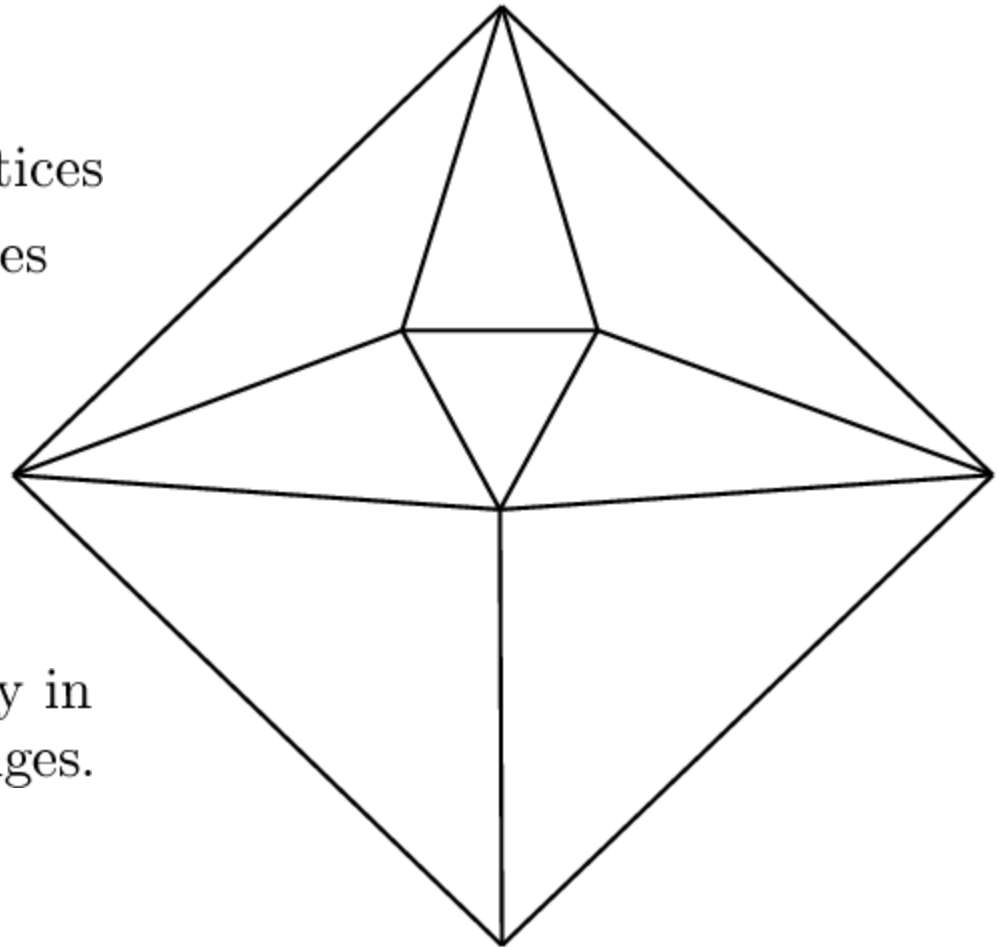
Triangulations

Tessellate by triangles connecting scattered points.

$N = 8$ triangles

$V_B = 4$ boundary vertices

$V_I = 3$ interior vertices



Triangles intersect only in
common vertices or edges.

Bivariate Splines

- Triangulations are the natural generalizations of interval partitions because they can handle *scattered* (i.e., arbitrarily distributed) points.
- Key object: The set of all functions that are r times differentiable, and that on each triangle can be written as a bivariate polynomial of degree d .
- It's a linear space, and as such it has a dimension.
- Formally:

Natural bivariate analog of univariate S_d^r :

V Vertices: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_V

N Triangles: T_1, T_2, \dots, T_N

polynomial of degree d : $p(x, y) = \sum_{i+j \leq d} x^i y^j$

domain: $\Omega = \bigcup_{i=1, \dots, N} T_i$

$S_d^r = \{s \in C^r(\Omega) : s_{T_i} \text{ is polynomial of degree } d.\}$

Barycentric Coordinates

Let Δ be a triangle with vertices v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 . For $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$, define its barycentric coordinates b_1 , b_2 , b_3 by:

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^3 b_i v_i \quad \text{where} \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 b_i = 1.$$

Note that barycentric coordinates are linear functions of x .

Bernstein-Bezier Form

Any polynomial $p \in P_d$ can be written uniquely in its *Bernstein-Bézier form* as:

$$p(x) = \sum_{i+j+k=d} \frac{d!}{i!j!k!} c_{ijk} b_1^i b_2^j b_3^k.$$

where

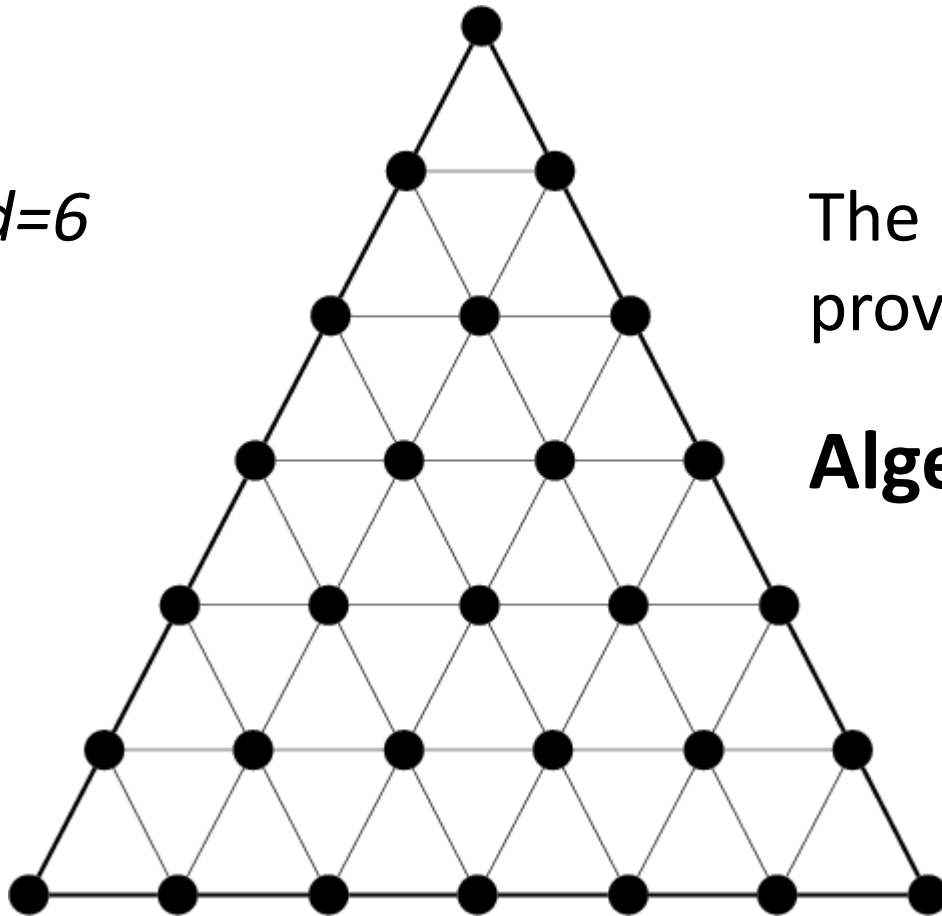
c_{ijk} : *Bézier ordinates*

$P_{ijk} = \frac{iv_1 + jv_2 + kv_3}{d} \in \mathbb{R}^2$: *Domain Points*

$(P_{ijk}, c_{ijk}) \in \mathbb{R}^3$: *Bézier control points*

Bézier Control Net

$d=6$



The Bernstein-Bézier form
provides a link between

Algebra \leftrightarrow Geometry

- The control points at the vertices lie on the graph of the polynomial. This is because

$$p(v_1) = c_{d00}, \quad p(v_2) = c_{0d0}, \quad p(v_3) = c_{0d0}$$

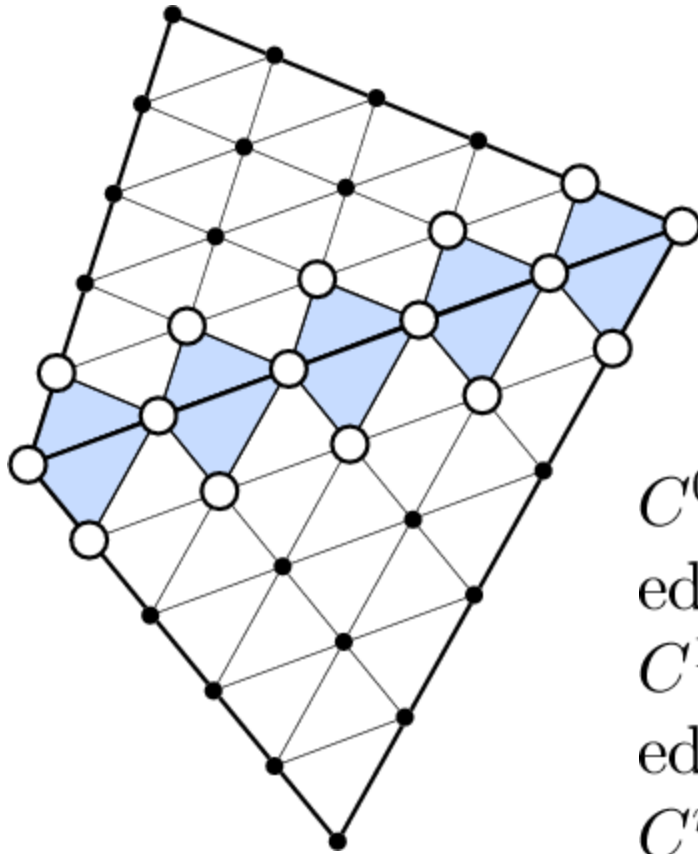
- The control points in the 1-disk, i.e.,

$$(P_{d00}, c_{d00}), \quad (P_{d-1,1,0}, c_{d-1,1,0}), \quad (P_{d-1,0,1}, c_{d-1,0,1})$$

lie in the tangent plane of p at v_1 . Similarly for v_2 and v_3 .

- The control points along an edge determine the values of the polynomial along that edge.
- The control points along an edge, and in the first row parallel to the edge, determine the values of first derivatives of the polynomial along that edge.

Smoothness Conditions



$$d = 5, r = 1$$

C^0 : Control points along edges coincide

C^1 : Quadrilaterals across edges are planar in \mathbb{R}^3 .

C^r : Evaluate subpolynomials.

Idea of a particular proof: Let D be a first order directional derivative operator.

$$p(x) = \sum_{i+j+k=d} \frac{d!}{i!j!k!} c_{ijk} b_1^i b_2^j b_3^k, \quad \text{as before}$$

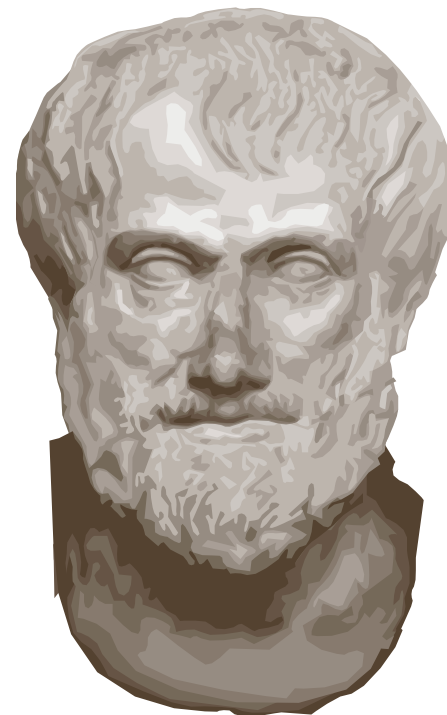
On a neighboring triangle we have

$$\tilde{p}(x) = \sum_{i+j+k=d} \frac{d!}{i!j!k!} \tilde{c}_{ijk} b_1^i b_2^j b_4^k.$$

For continuity, we require $c_{ij0} = \tilde{c}_{ij0}$, $i + j = d$. We get:

$$Dp(x) = \sum_{i+j+k=d} \frac{d!}{i!j!k!} c_{ijk}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(i b_1^{i-1} D b_1 b_2^j b_3^k + b_1^i j b_2^{j-1} D b_2 b_3^k + b_1^i b_2^j k b_3^{k-1} D b_3 \right) \\ &= \sum_{i+j+k=d-1} \frac{(d-1)!}{i!j!k!} \hat{c}_{ijk} b_1^i b_2^j b_3^k \end{aligned}$$



**There must be a proof
in any math talk.**

Aristotle, 346BC

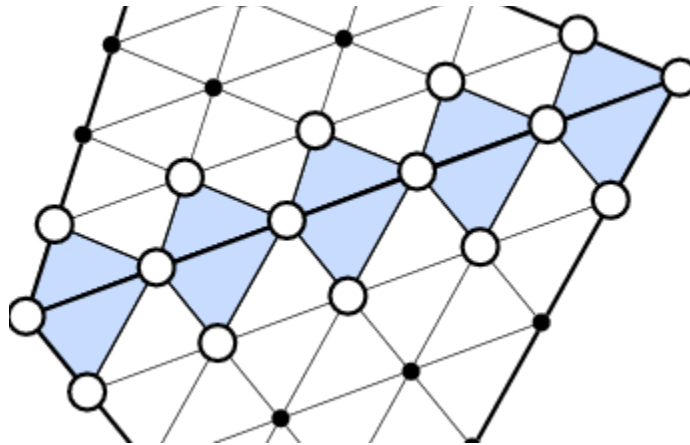
where

$$\hat{c}_{ijk} = d(c_{i+1,j,k}Db_1 + c_{i,j+1,k}Db_2 + c_{i,j,k+1}Db_3)$$

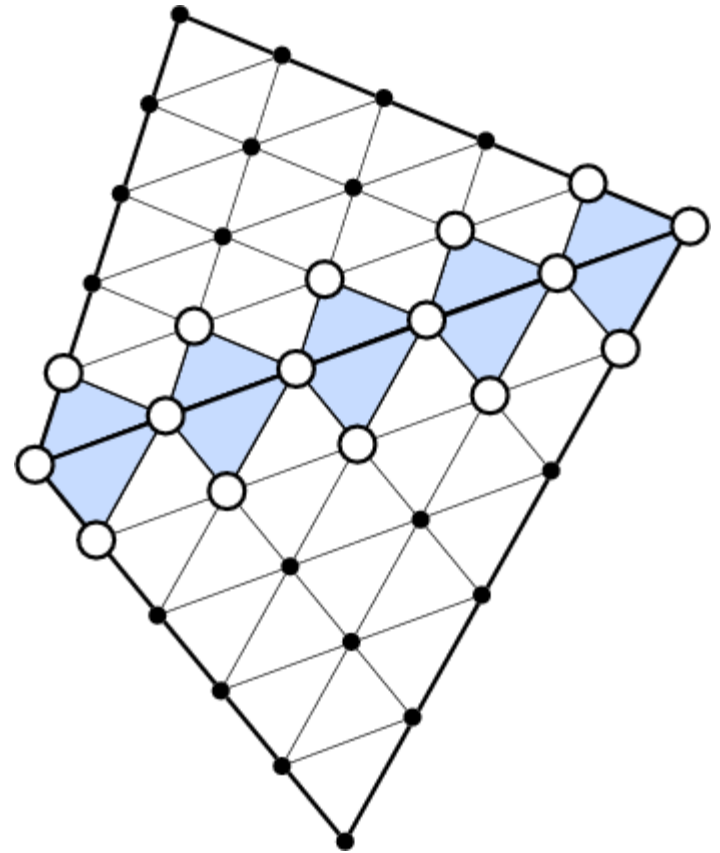
Note that Db_1 , Db_2 , and Db_3 are *constant*. Differentiating on both triangles, restricting the derivative to the common edge, equating coefficients, and dividing by d gives the condition

$$a_1c_{i+1,j0} + a_2c_{ij+10} + a_3c_{ij1} + a_4\tilde{c}_{ij1} = 0 \quad (*)$$

for $i + j = d - 1$ where a_1 , a_2 , a_3 , and a_4 are *independent* of i , j , and d .



- Thus the equations $(*)$ are *independent* of the degree d and the particular quadrilateral along that edge.
- In particular, we obtain the same condition for the case $d = 1$. In that case, the C^1 condition means that the piecewise linear function be in fact linear.
- This means that in the large quadrilateral, formed by the two triangles, for $d = 1$, the four control points lie *in the same plane*.
- Since the small quadrilaterals are *similar* to the large quadrilateral the algebraic relation $(*)$ has the same meaning: the quadrilateral in 3-space must be planar.



Algebra \leftrightarrow Geometry

Major Difficulty (major!)

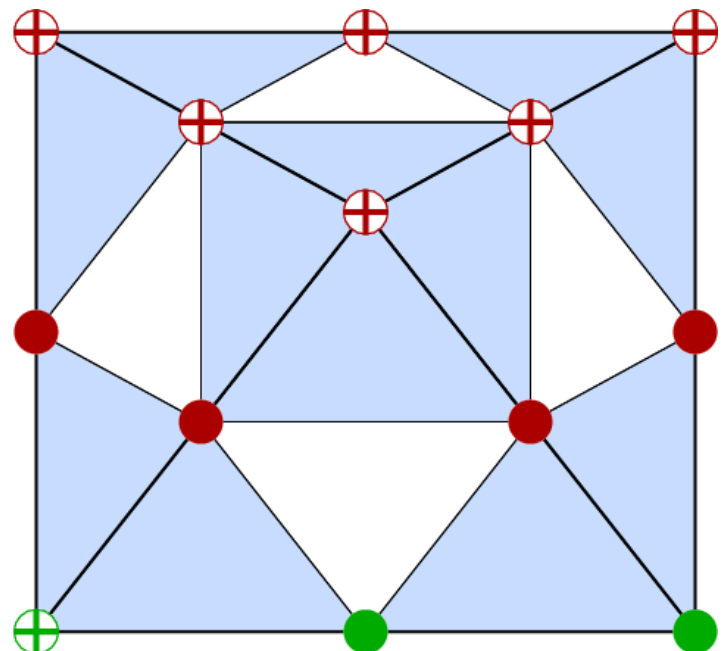
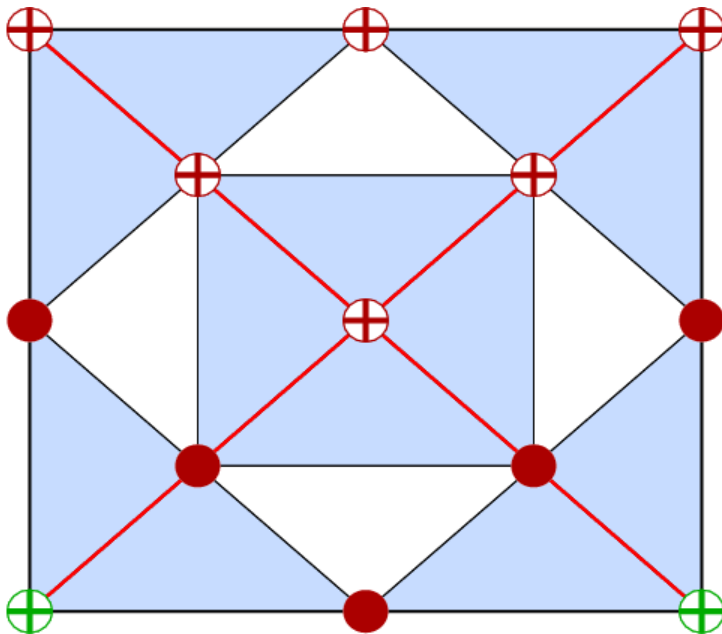
The dimension of S_d^r depends not just on the **combinatorics** of a triangulation, but also on its **geometry**.

Simplest Example: **Singular Vertex**

Four triangles meeting at an interior vertex

$$\dim S_2^1 = 8$$

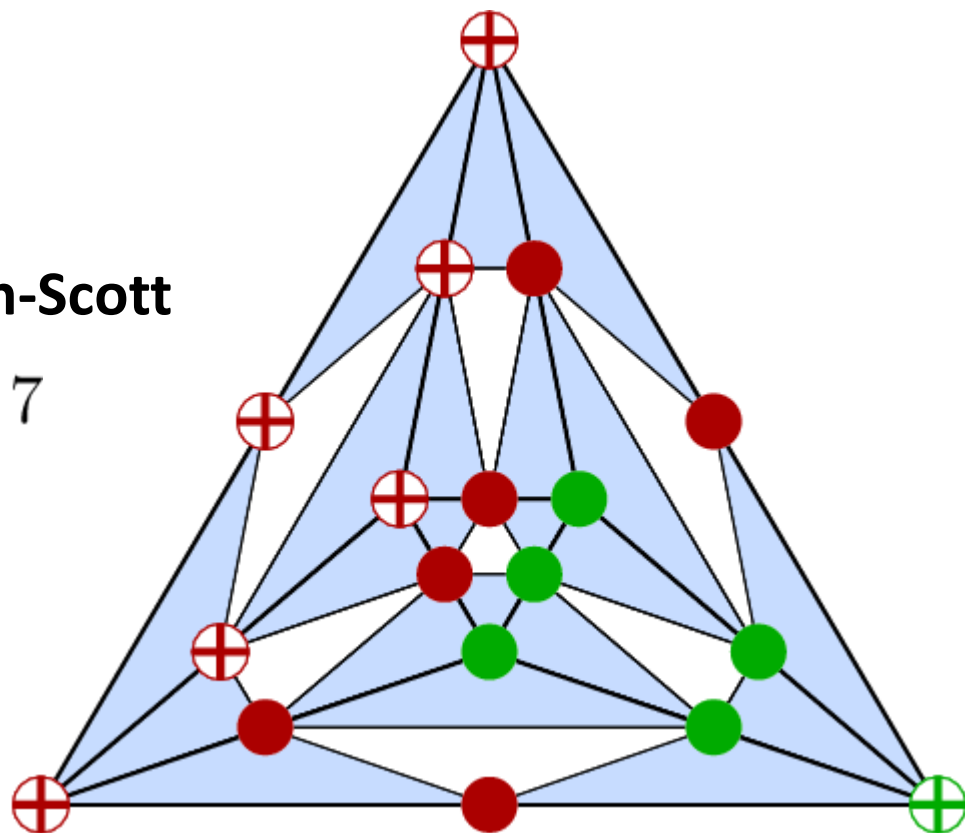
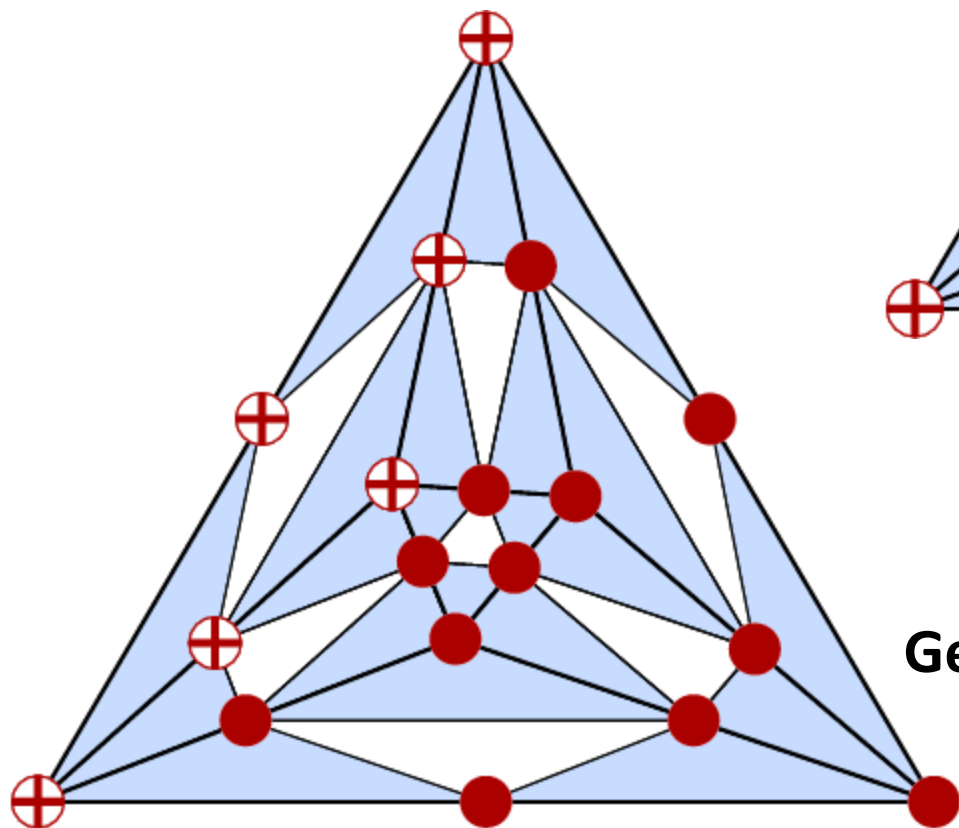
$$\dim S_2^1 = 7$$



It's not just triangulations
with one interior vertex!

Symmetric Morgan-Scott

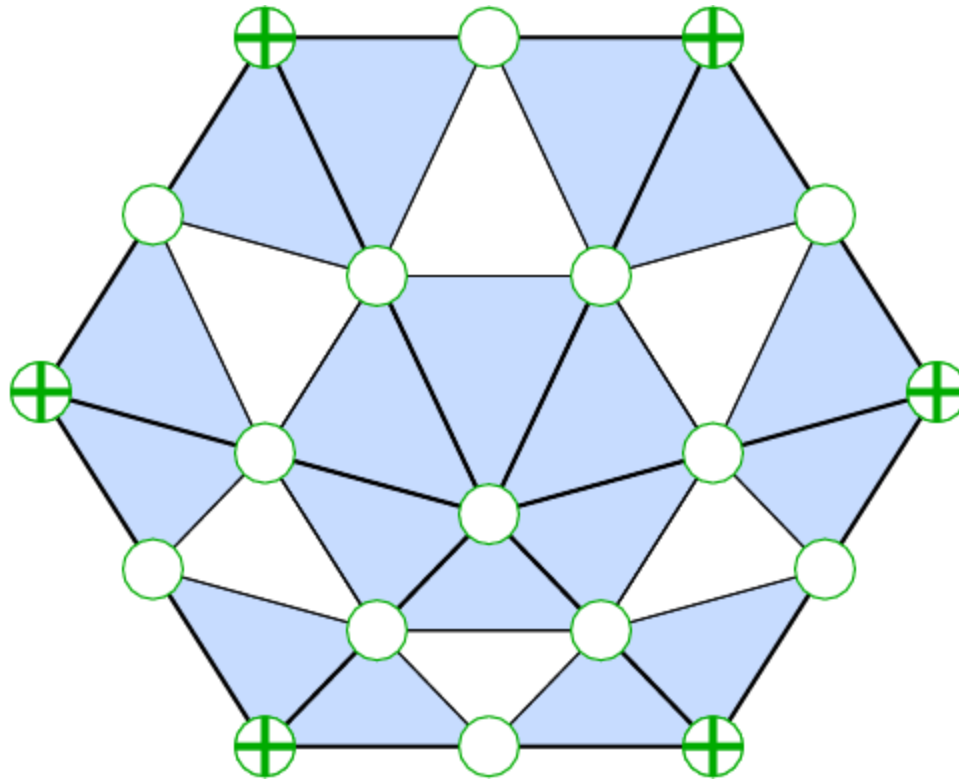
$$\dim S_2^1 = 7$$



Generic Morgan-Scott

$$\dim S_2^1 = 6$$

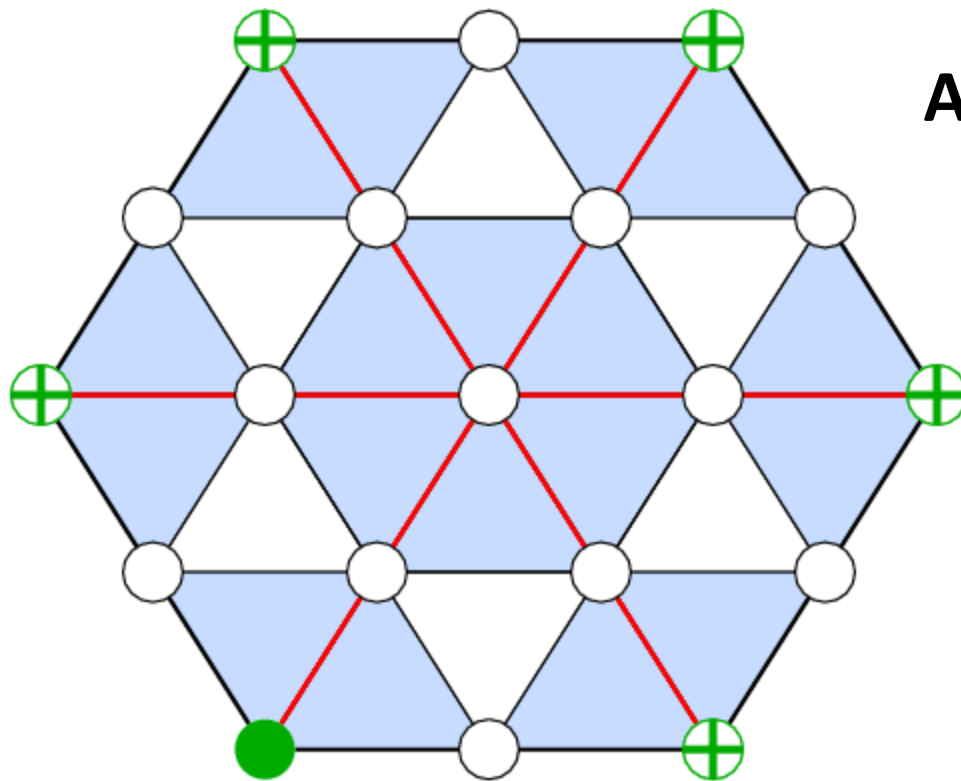
It's not just the dimension!



Here you can



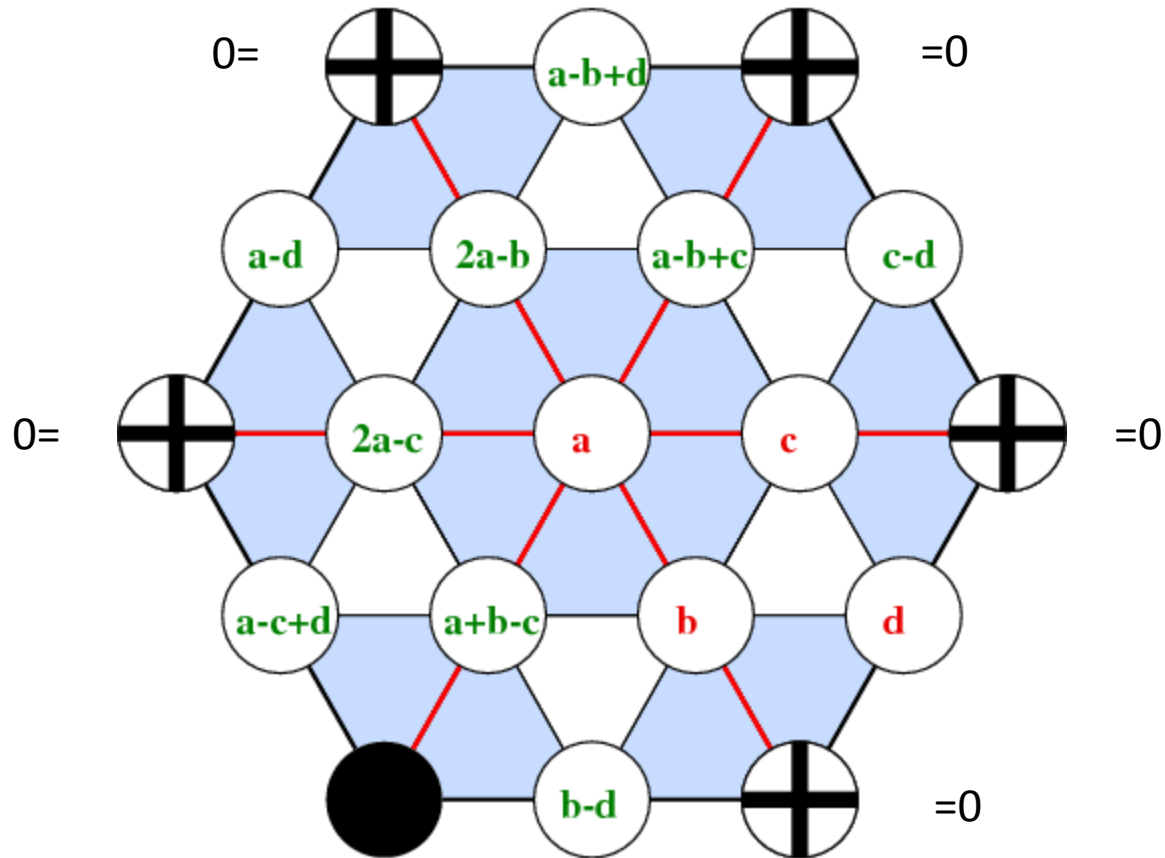
Geometry affects Interpolation!



And here you can't!



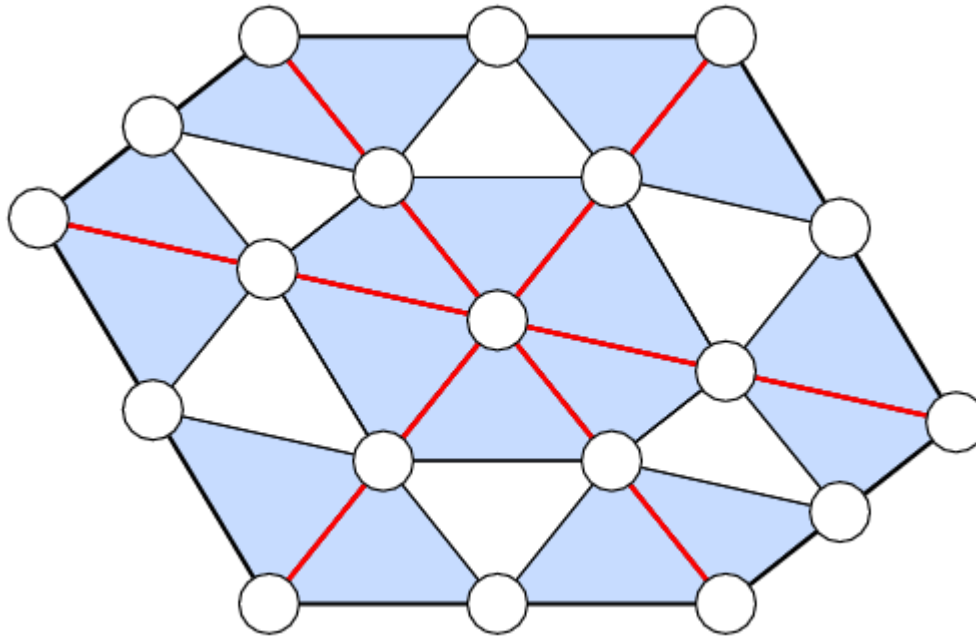
What's happening?



$$z = (b-d) - (a+b-c) + (a-c+d) = 0$$

independent of a, b, c, d

What do you expect to happen on a defective 6-star?



Can, or can't you interpolate?

Generic Dimension

Every spline space S has a generic dimension. If the dimension of S does not equal its generic value then there is an arbitrarily small perturbation of the location of the vertices such that the dimension of S does equal the generic value. Any other dimensions can only be larger than the generic dimension.

Proof: Let $S = S_d^r$ be the subspace of S_d^0 with a coefficient vector c that satisfies the smoothness conditions

$$Ac = 0.$$

The entries of A are rational functions of the location of the vertices of the underlying triangulation.

Let D be the minimum dimension of S . Then

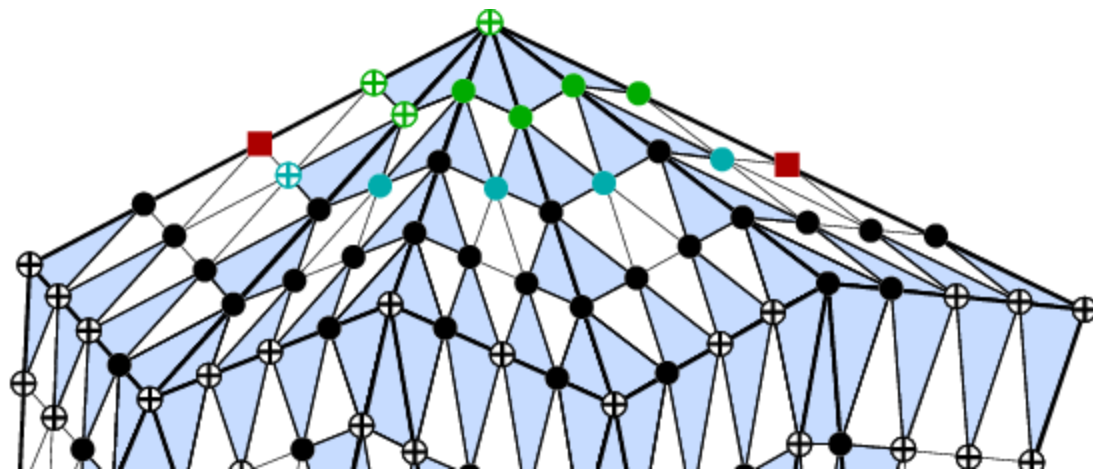
$$D = \dim S_d^0 - R,$$

with $R = \text{rank} A$, and where (without loss of generality)

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

with A_{11} being a non-singular $R \times R$ matrix.

The expression $\det A_{11}$ is a non-zero rational function of the locations of the vertices, and can vanish only on a set of measure zero.



The generic dimension of S_4^1 is $6V - 3$. Proof by Induction

Add the star of a boundary vertex to the growing triangulation T .

Black points are determined by the spline on T .

The green, red, and cyan points are newly imposed.

3 green, 2 red, and 1 cyan point are newly assigned.

This argument also shows that one can interpolate generically to function and gradient at vertices.

- Things get easier as the polynomial degree increases.
- Exact dimension known if $r = 1$ and $d \geq 4$, or $r > 1$ and $d \geq 3r + 2$.
- Generic dimension known for S_2^1 and S_3^1 , and for $d = 3r + 1$ when $r > 1$.
- Dimensions and many other facts known on many types of special triangulations.
- Most famous outstanding problem:

V_B : number of boundary vertices

V_I : number of interior vertices

σ : number of singular vertices

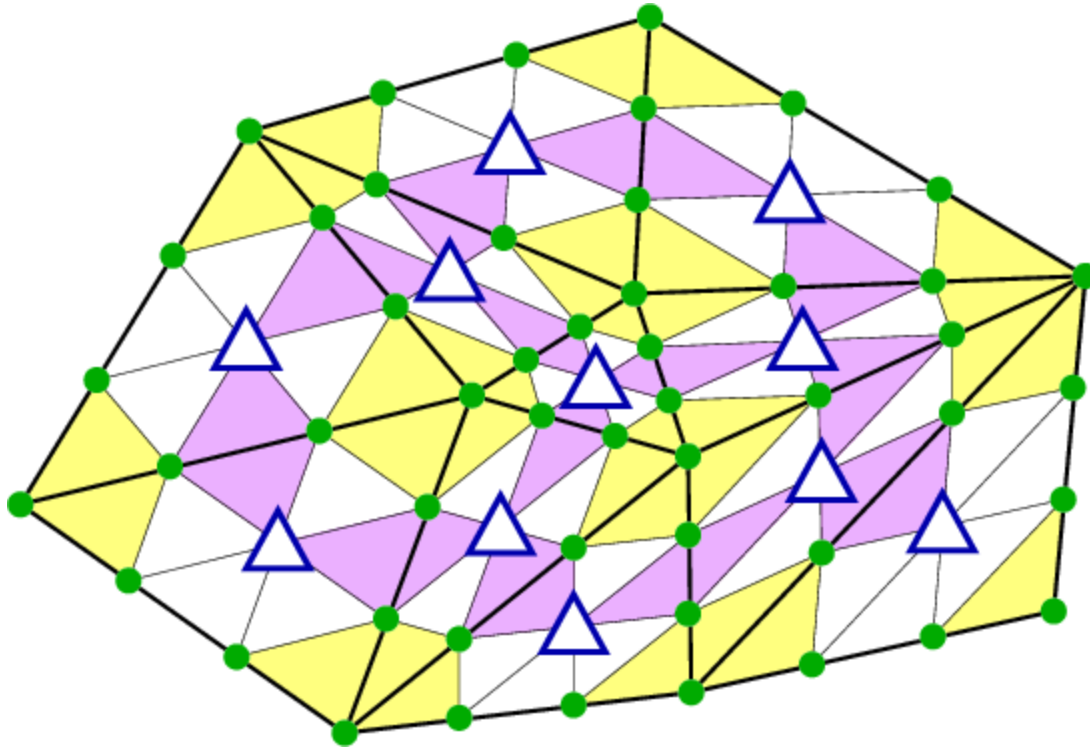
Problem first mentioned in a conjecture by Gil Strang in the early seventies. What's the dimension of S_3^1 ?

$$\dim S_3^1 \geq 3V_B + 2V_I + 1 + \sigma$$

Does equality hold? Conjecture: yes.

If you solve this problem I want to know about it!

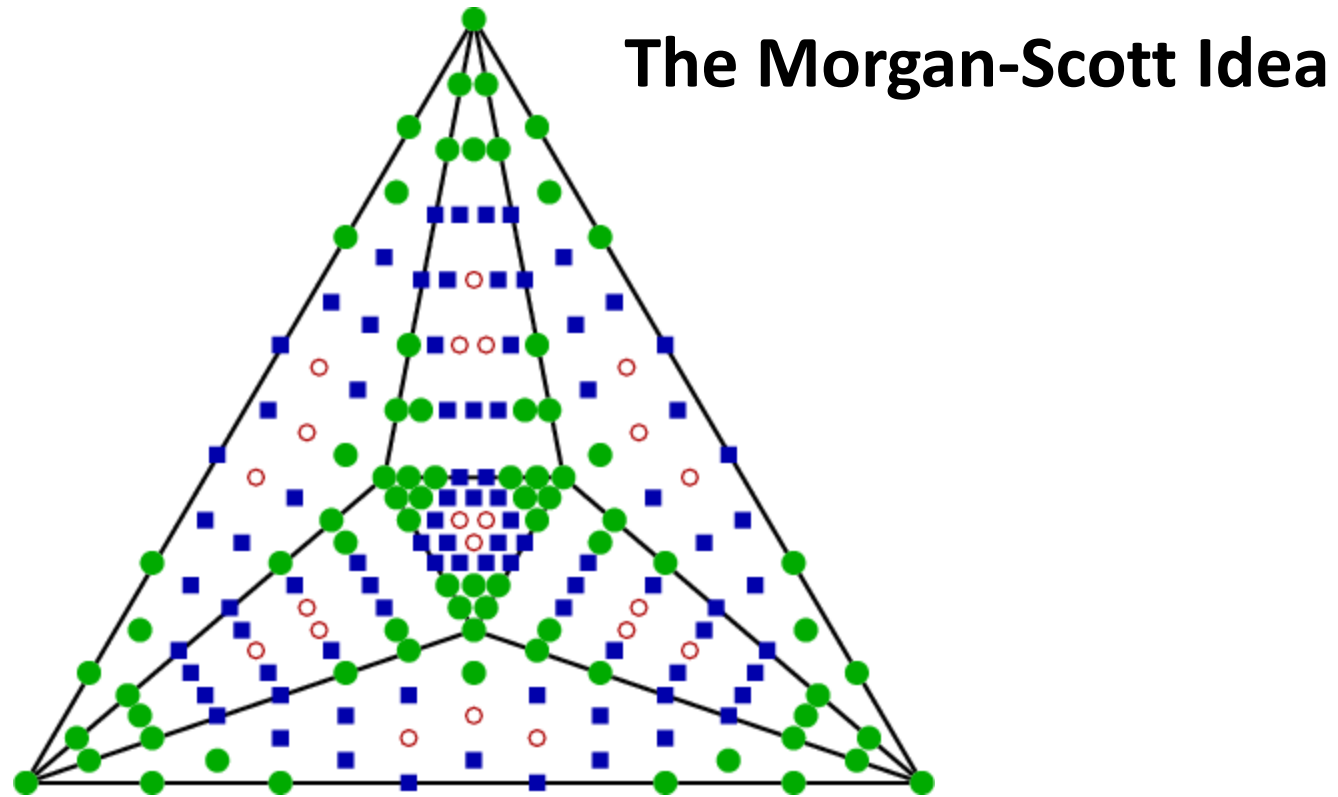
Why is this so hard?



**You can't
localize things.**

$$\dim S_3^1 \geq 3V + N - E_I + \sigma = 3V_B + 2V_I + 1 + \sigma.$$

What works for large values of d ?

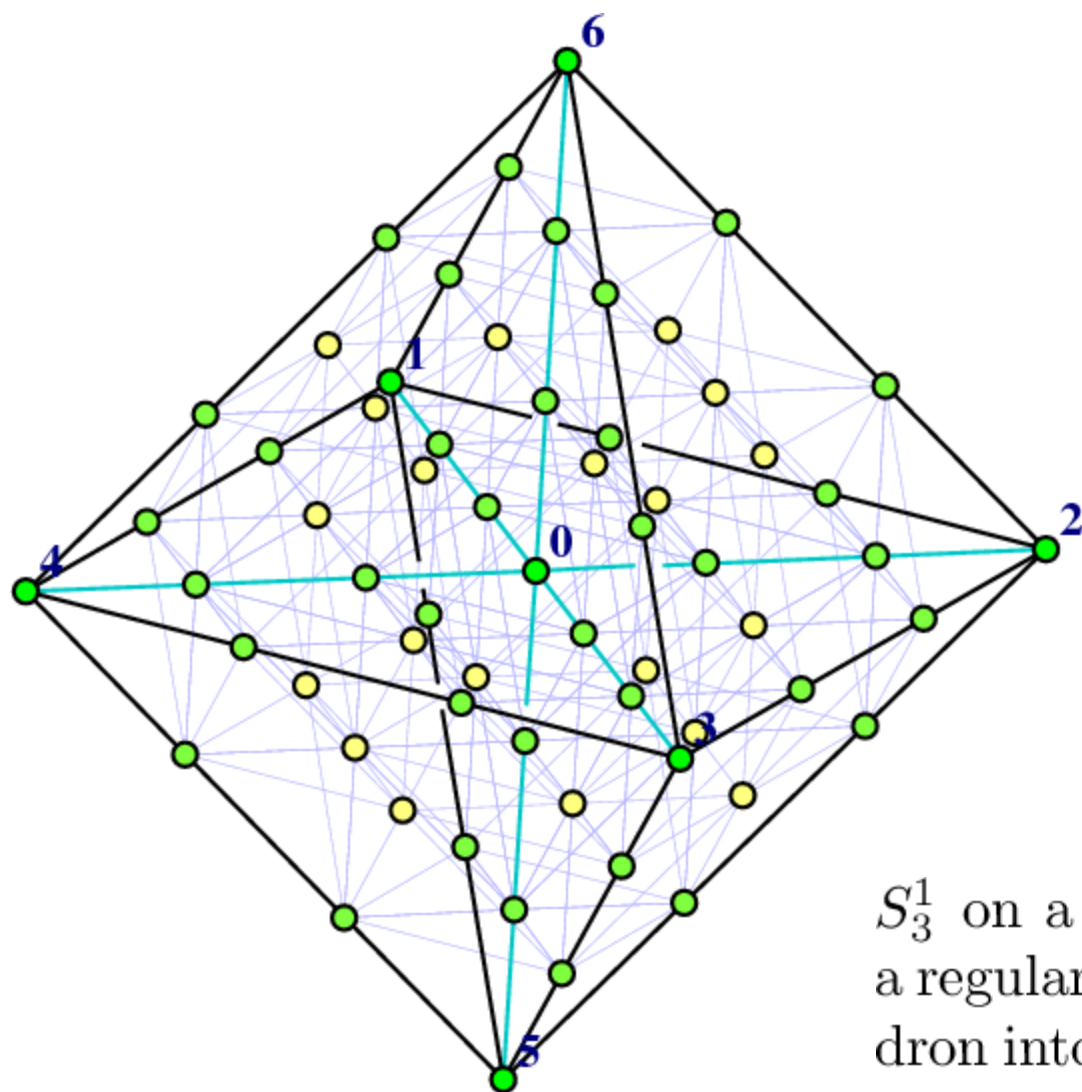


Use vertex globs (green), edge globs (blue) , and inactive points (red). Requires $d > 4r$. Smoothness conditions decouple.

Trivariate Splines

Consider a triangulation of a polyhedral domain by tetrahedra.

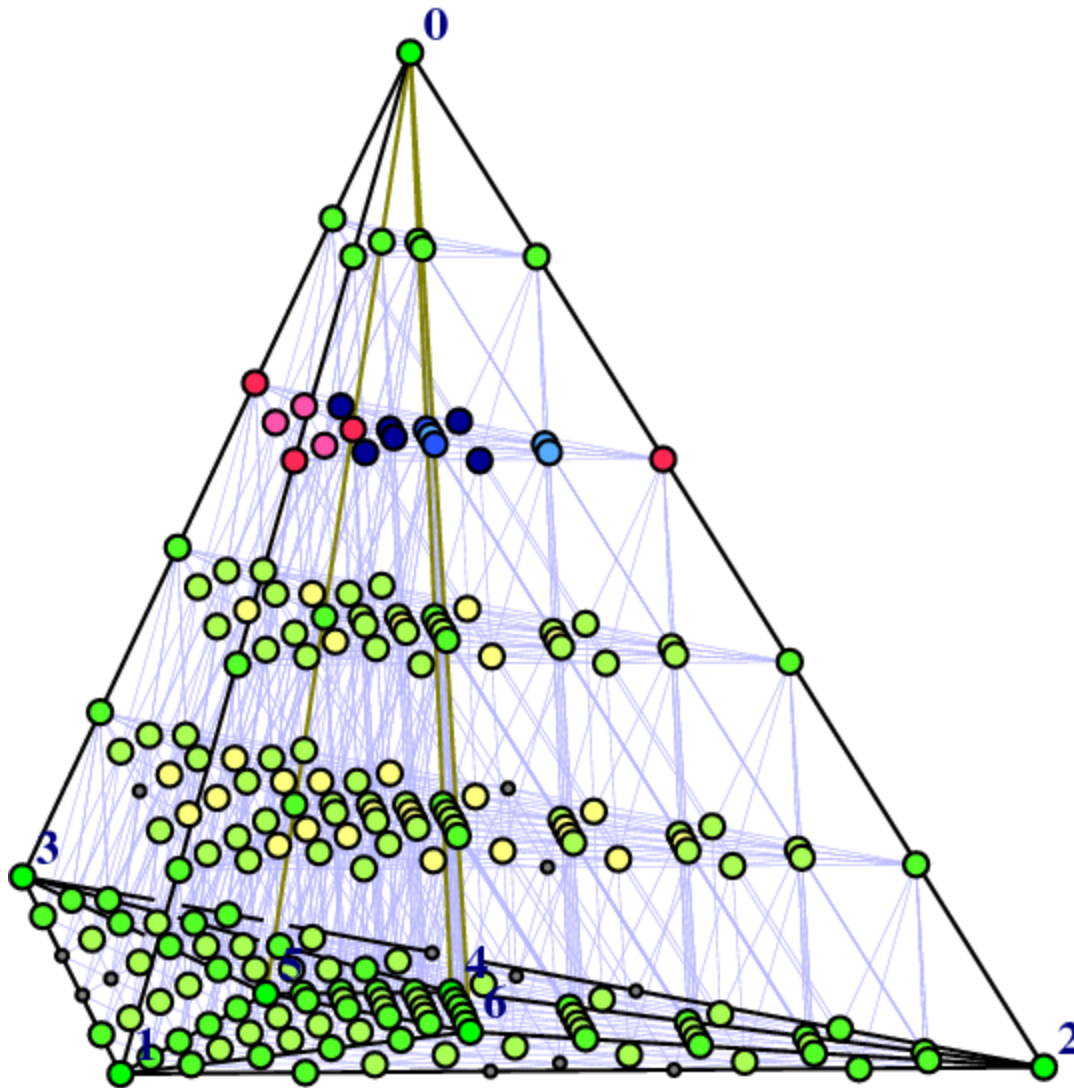
Similar definition as before.



S_3^1 on a split of a regular octahedron into 8 tetrahedra.

- Similar problems. Dimension depends on the geometry.
- Morgan-Scott idea requires $d > 8r$.
- Generic dimension is known for $r = 1$ and $d \geq 8$.
- One new problem:
 - Knowing the dimension of the trivariate space S_d^r for sufficiently large d means we know the dimension of the bivariate space **for all** d .
 - To see this construct a three dimensional triangulation by starting with a planar triangulation T and then connecting every vertex of T to a new vertex in \mathbb{R}^3 outside of the plane containing T .

**$d+1$ bivariate
spline spaces**



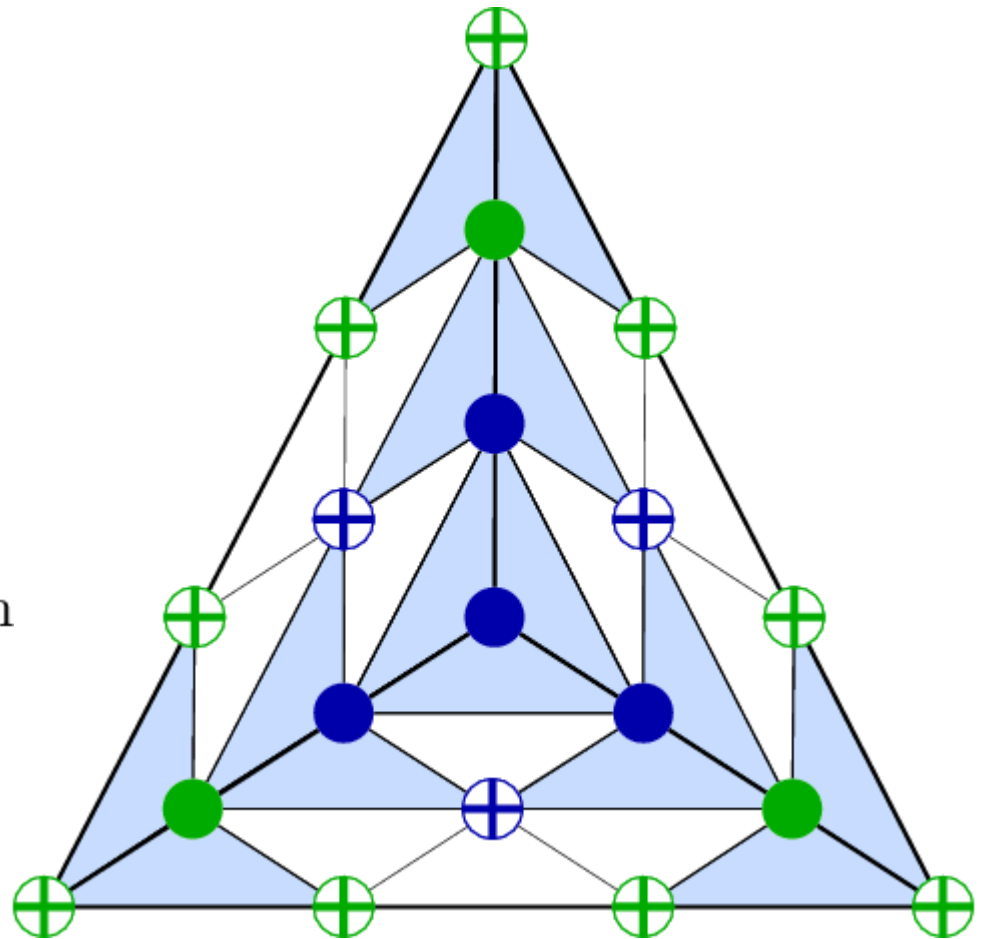
Lift planar Triangulation to R^3 . Smoothness conditions decouple.

Most applications of multi-variate splines are based on so called **macro elements** (when approximating data) or **finite elements** (when solving differential equations).

- The interpolant is determined on each simplex by data on that simplex.
- Simplices may be subdivided.
- The overall spline space is a sub or superspace of the full space S_d^r
- Many macro schemes are known in 2, 3, or n variables.

Macro Schemes

Clough-Tocher, $r=1$, $d=3$,
3 micro-triangles



Some Recent Tetrahedral Macro-Schemes

Schumaker, Sorokina,
Worsey: Journal of
Approximation The-
ory, 2009.

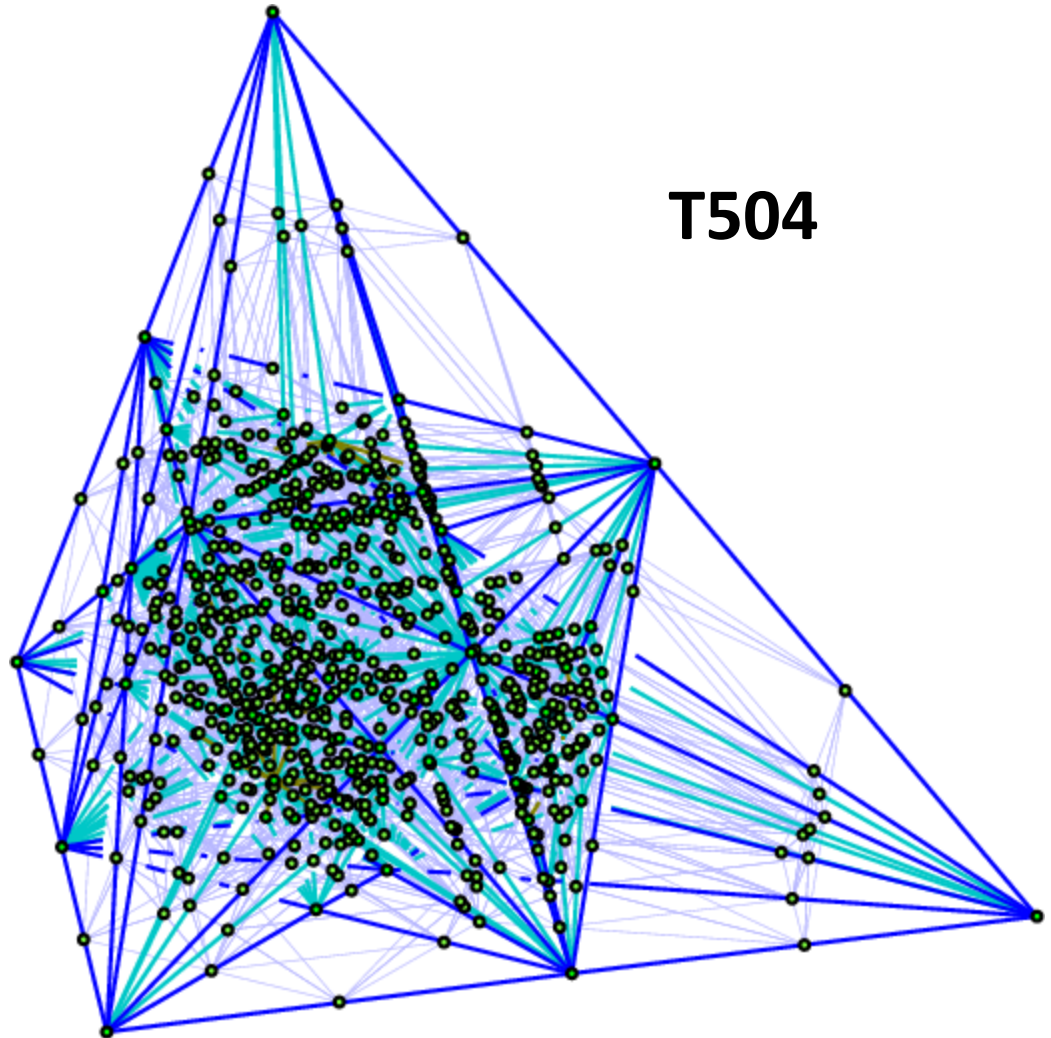
$$r = 1$$

$$d = 2$$

504 micro-tetrahedra

no geometric constraints

T504



T60

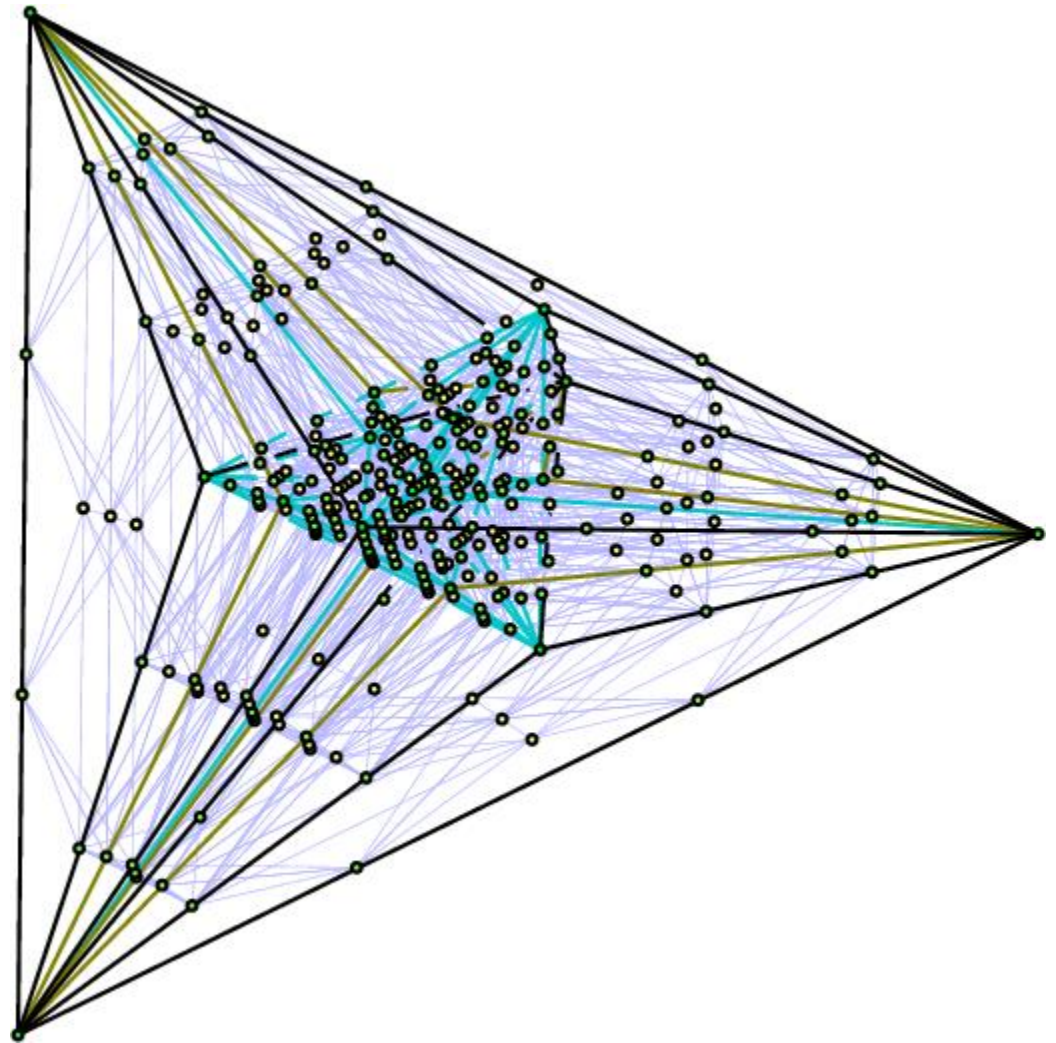
Alfeld and Sorokina,
Journal of Approximation Theory, 2009.

$$r = 1$$

$$d = 3$$

60 micro-tetrahedra

no geometric constraints



Thank You

Multivariate Splines

Applied Mathematics Seminar

March 24, 2014

Peter Alfeld

pa@math.utah.edu

Department of Mathematics
University of Utah

More information and software on www.math.utah.edu/~pa/

Pdf version of slides on www.math.utah.edu/~pa/mvs.pdf