

# CSE-170 Computer Graphics

## Lecture 17

### Bézier Curves

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# **Bézier Curves**

**Pierre Étienne Bézier**  
**Renault Engineer during 1933-1975**

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# De Casteljau Algorithm

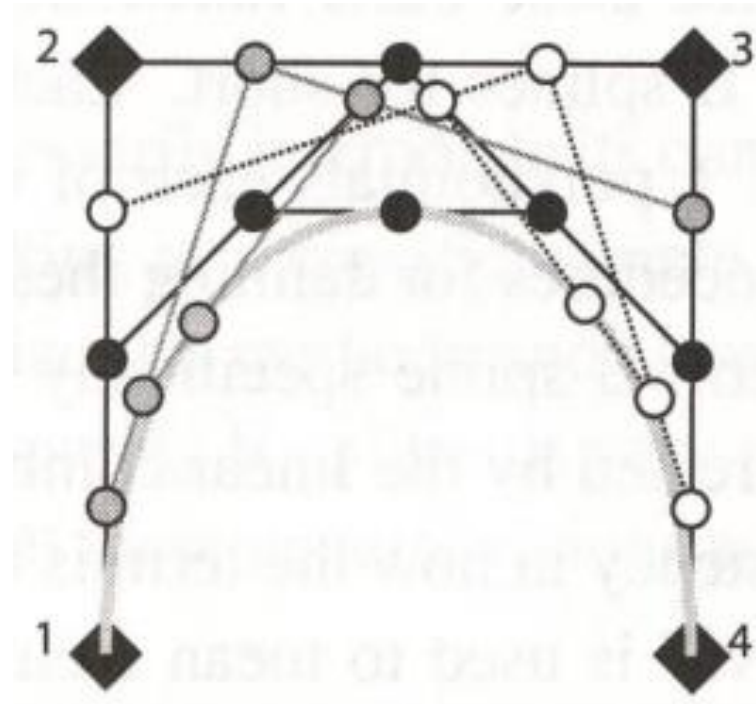
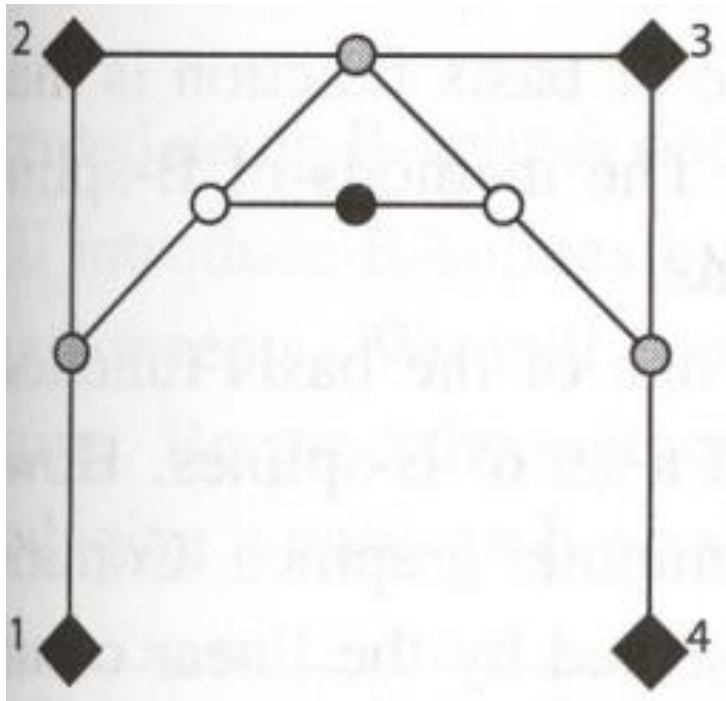
# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

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- De Casteljau is valid for any degree:
  - Based on sequence of linear interpolations
  - Given  $t$  in  $[0,1]$ , and  $n$  control points  $\mathbf{p}_i$ :
    1. Apply linear interpolation with parameter  $t$  for every adjacent pair of control points, determining new  $(n-1)$  control points.
    2. Repeat the process until achieving only one point, which is the point on the Bézier curve at position  $t$ .

# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

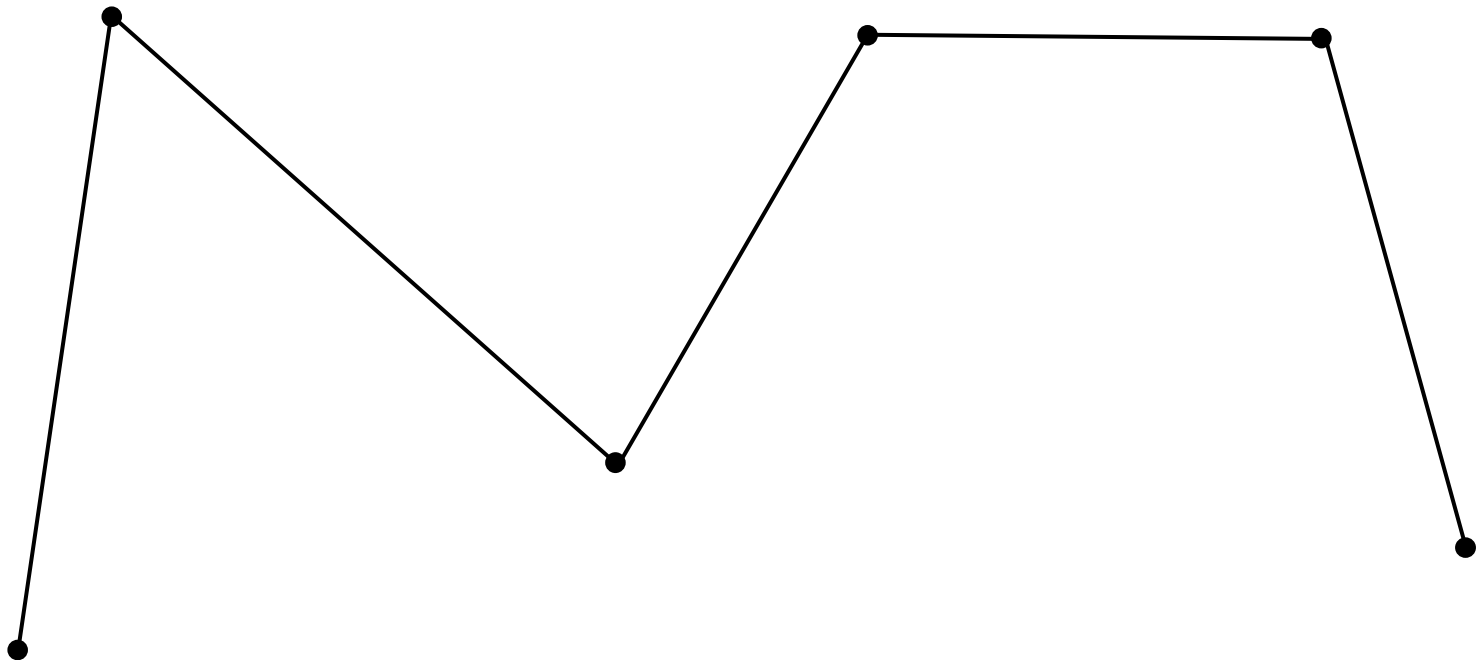
- Example:



# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

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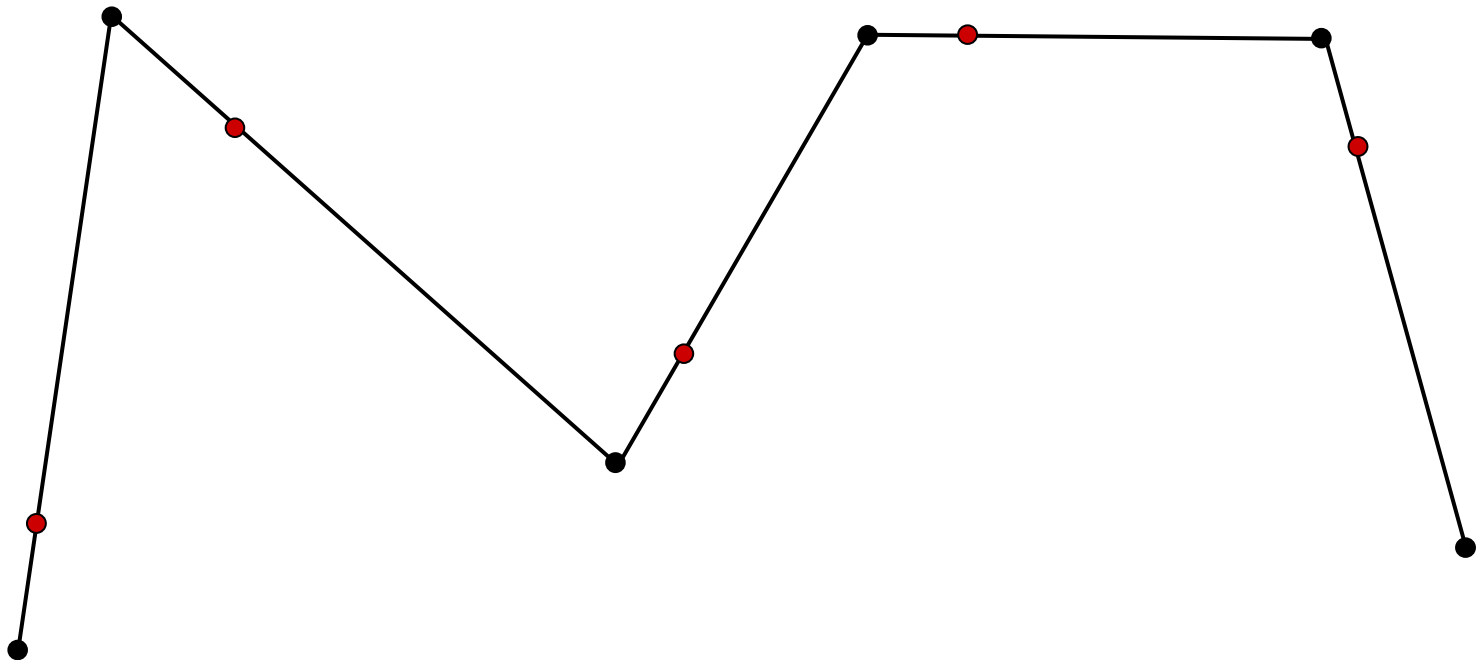
- Step-by-step example
  - Compute point at  $t = 0.25$  in the Bezier curve defined by the black control polygon given below:



# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

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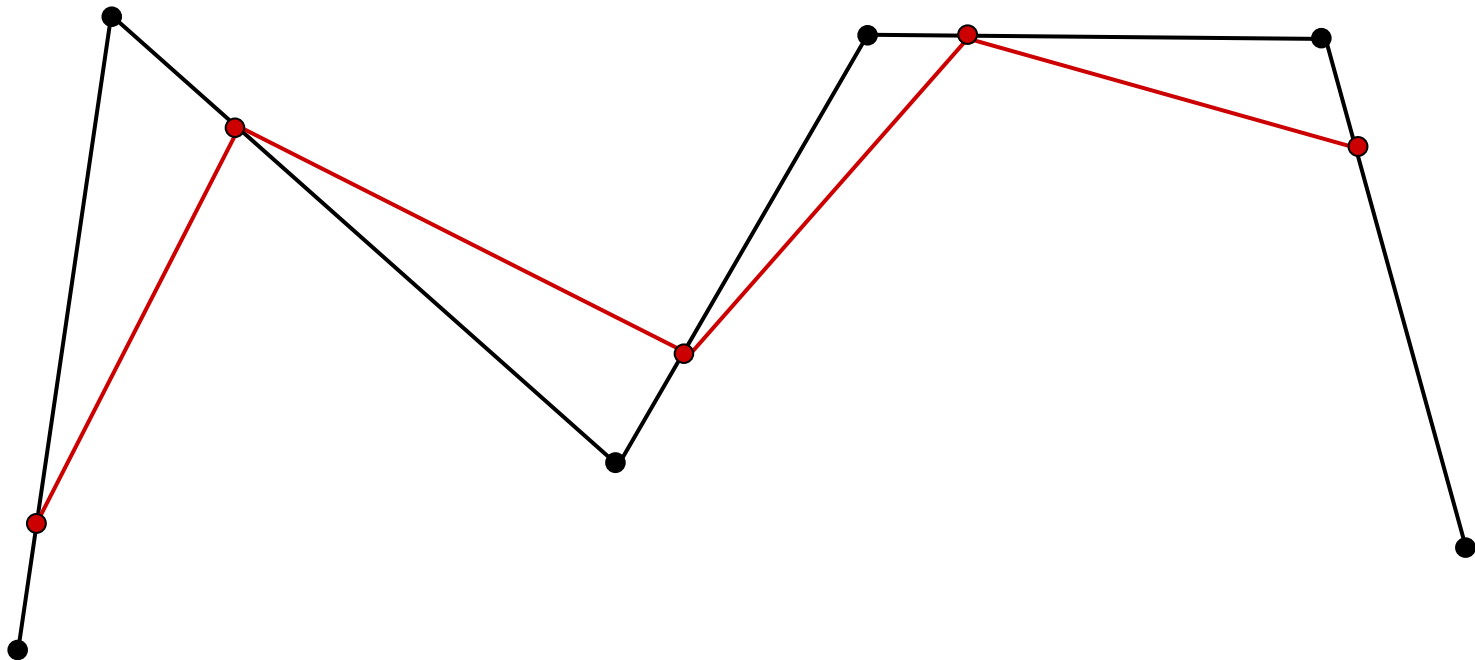
- Step-by-step example
  - 1) Interpolate endpoints of each control segment at .25
    - Red points below are obtained:



# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

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- Step-by-step example
  - 1) Interpolate endpoints of each control segment at .25
    - A new control polygon is obtained, the one in red below:

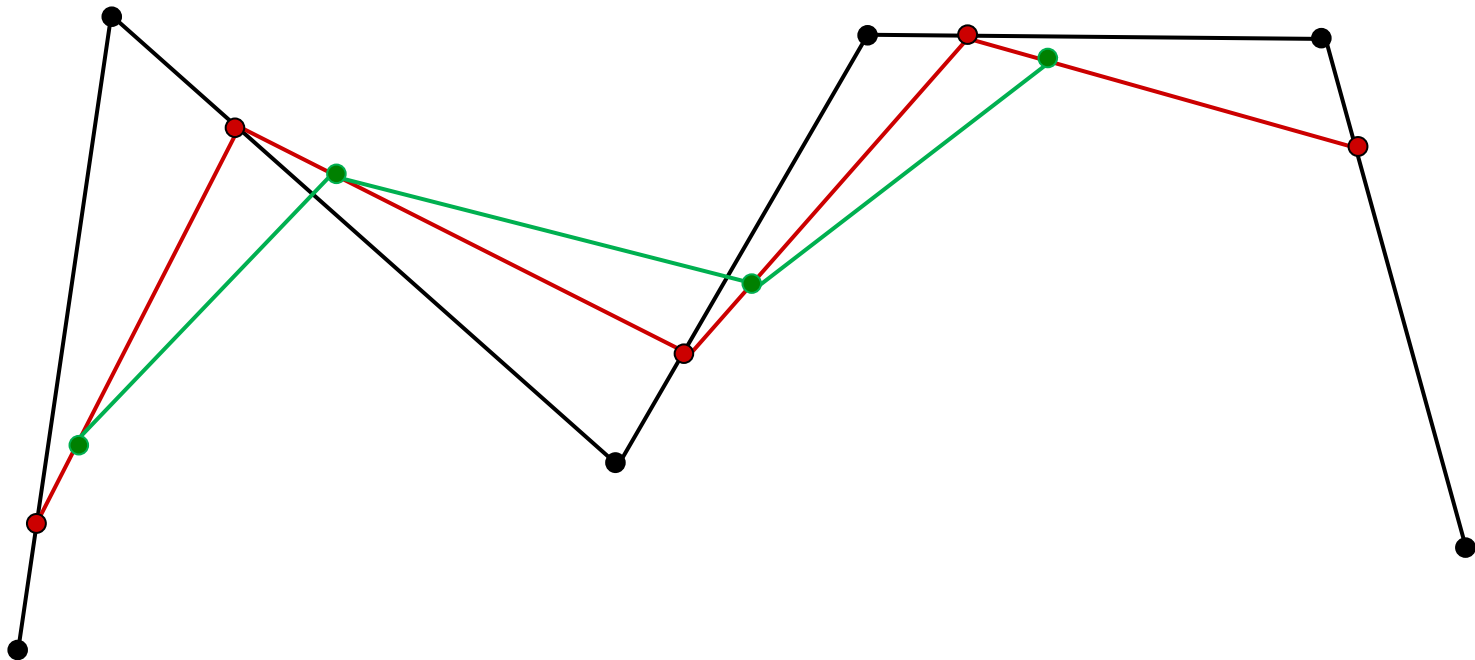




# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

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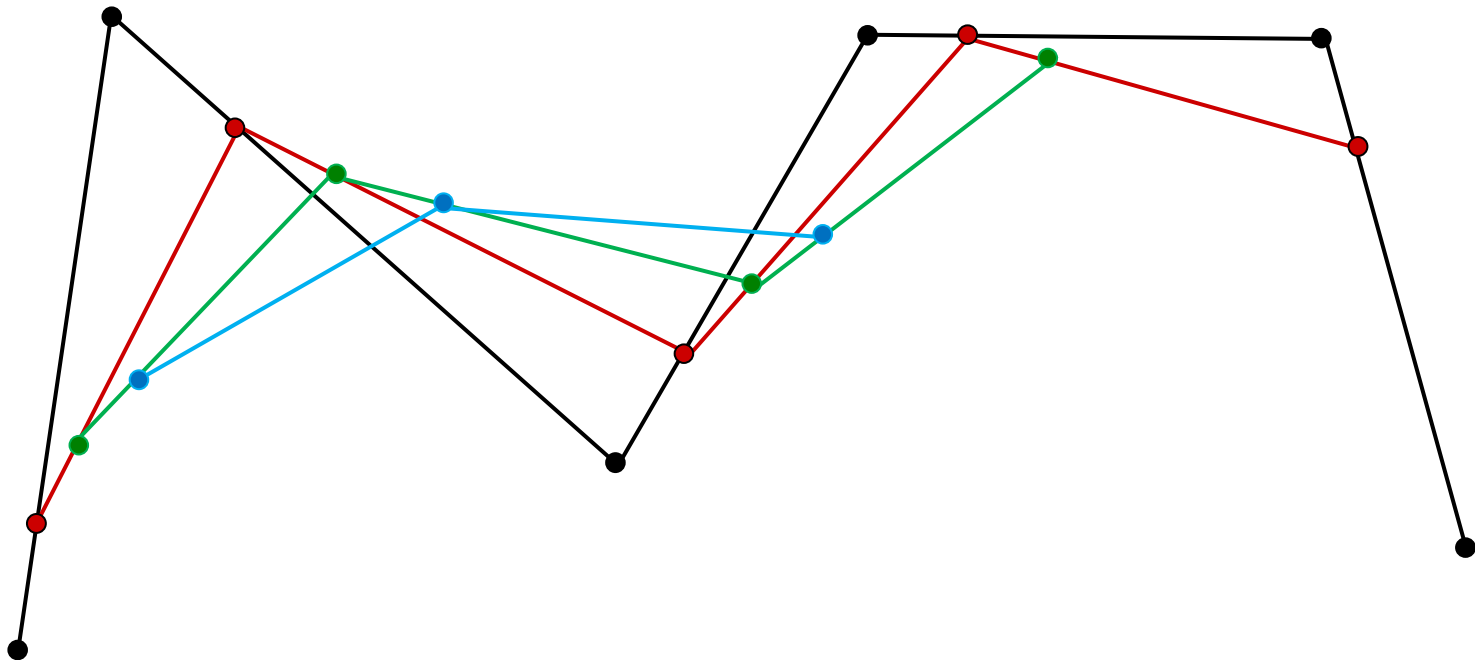
- Step-by-step example
  - 1) Interpolate endpoints of each control segment at .25
  - 2) Now interpolate endpoints (at .25) of red control polygon
    - New green control polygon is obtained:



# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

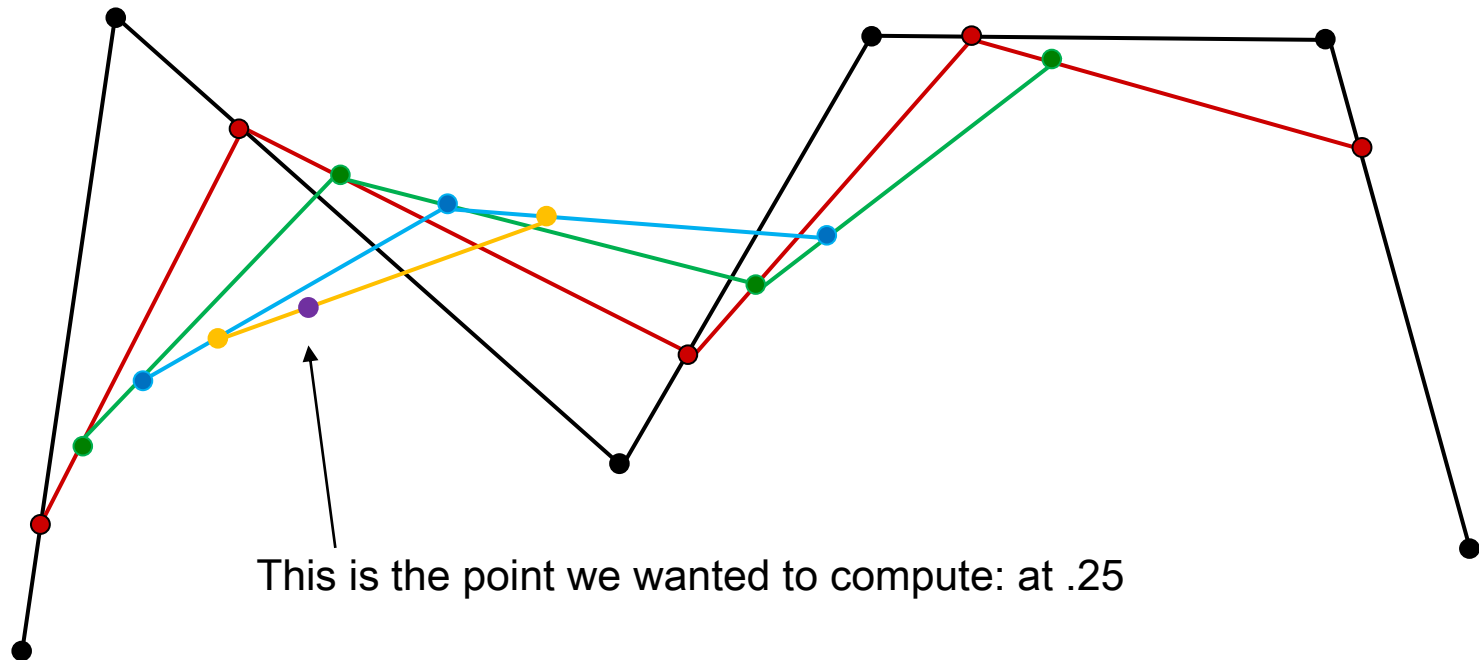
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- Step-by-step example
  - 1) Interpolate endpoints of each control segment at .25
  - 2) Now interpolate endpoints (at .25) of red control polygon
  - 3) Interpolate again in the new green polygon
    - Obtain blue one



# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

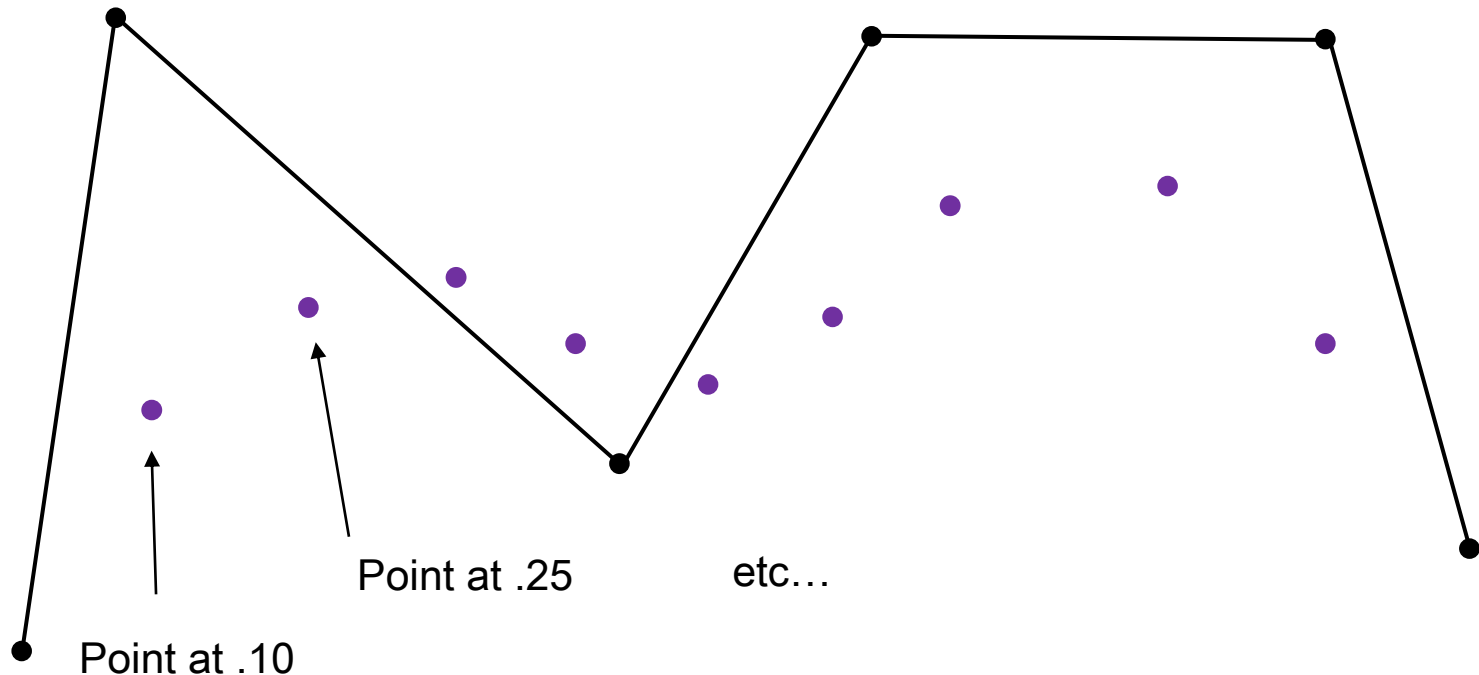
- Step-by-step example
  - 1) Interpolate endpoints of each control segment at .25
  - 2) Now interpolate endpoints (at .25) of red control polygon
  - 3) Interpolate again in the new green polygon
  - 4) Repeat for blue polygon until single point is reached:



# Bézier: De Casteljau Algorithm

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- Drawing the whole curve
  - To draw the whole curve using this method just compute several points and connect them



(note: points above are just for illustration, they were not computed one by one)

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# **Bézier Curves**

## **Bernstein Polynomials**

# Bézier

- Control polygon idea:
  - Consider that, similarly to Hermite, there are derivative constraints but which are defined from the control polygon directly:

$$\mathbf{f}'(0) = 3(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0), \quad \mathbf{f}'(1) = 3(\mathbf{p}_3 - \mathbf{p}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}t + \mathbf{c}t^2 + \mathbf{d}t^3$$

$$\mathbf{f}'(t) = \mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c}t + 3\mathbf{d}t^2$$

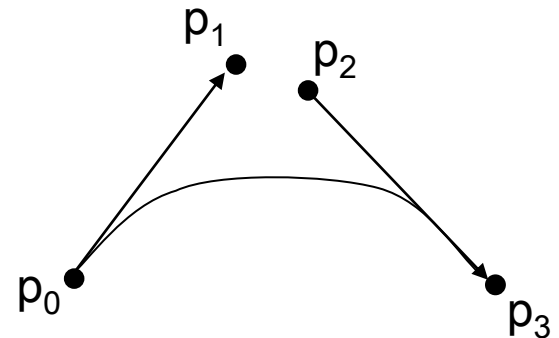
- Cubic case:
  - Bézier basis functions are similar to the Hermite basis:

$$\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{f}(0) = \mathbf{a}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_3 = \mathbf{f}(1) = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d}$$

$$3(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0) = \mathbf{f}'(0) = \mathbf{b}$$

$$3(\mathbf{p}_3 - \mathbf{p}_2) = \mathbf{f}'(1) = \mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c} + 3\mathbf{d}$$



# Bézier

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$$\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{f}(0) = \mathbf{a}$$

$$3(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0) = \mathbf{f}'(0) = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_3 = \mathbf{f}(1) = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d}$$

$$3(\mathbf{p}_3 - \mathbf{p}_2) = \mathbf{f}'(1) = \mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c} + 3\mathbf{d}$$

*How can we obtain a formulation based on blending functions?*

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \boxed{B_0}\mathbf{p}_0 + \boxed{B_1}\mathbf{p}_1 + \boxed{B_2}\mathbf{p}_2 + \boxed{B_3}\mathbf{p}_3$$

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^3 \mathbf{p}_i B_i(t)$$

# Bézier

$$\mathbf{p}_0 = \mathbf{f}(0) = \mathbf{a}$$

$$3(\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0) = \mathbf{f}'(0) = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{p}_3 = \mathbf{f}(1) = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{c} + \mathbf{d}$$

$$3(\mathbf{p}_3 - \mathbf{p}_2) = \mathbf{f}'(1) = \mathbf{b} + 2\mathbf{c} + 3\mathbf{d}$$

*Just solve the equations above for  $a, b, c, d$ , and then re-write the cubic to get the blending functions (as we did in the Hermite case):*

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = (1 - 3t + 3t^2 - t^3)\mathbf{p}_0 + (3t - 6t^2 + 3t^3)\mathbf{p}_1 + (3t^2 - 3t^3)\mathbf{p}_2 + (t^3)\mathbf{p}_3$$

*Rewrite blending functions to obtain the Bernstein polynomials:*

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^3 \mathbf{p}_i B_{i,3}(t)$$

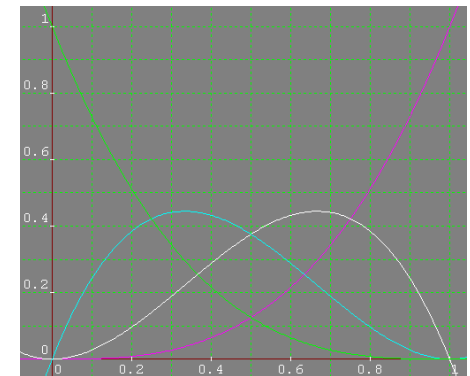
*This 3 means this is  
the basis for a cubic curve  
(needed for a 4-point control polygon)*

$$B_{0,3}(t) = (1-t)^3$$

$$B_{1,3}(t) = 3t(1-t)^2$$

$$B_{2,3}(t) = 3t^2(1-t)$$

$$B_{3,3}(t) = t^3$$

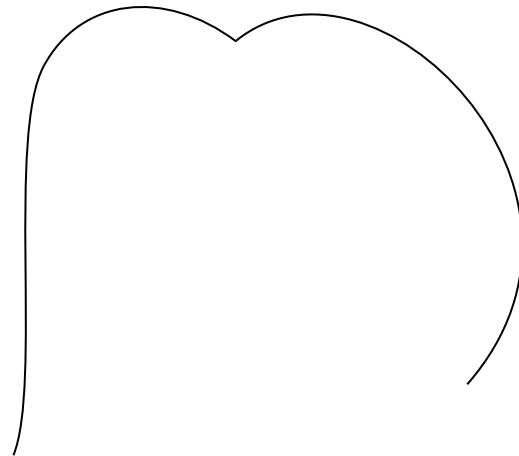
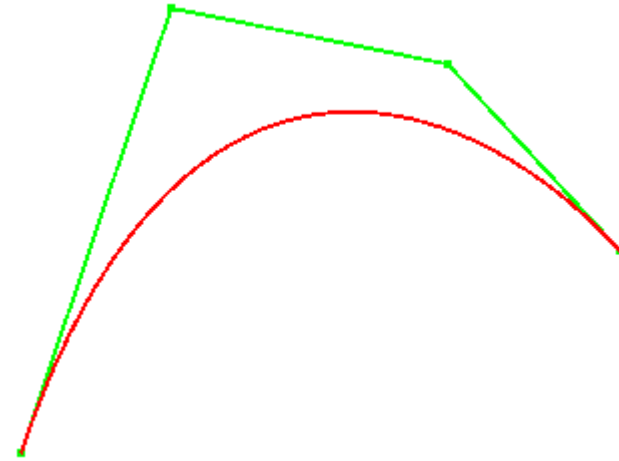




# Bézier

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- 3<sup>rd</sup> order examples
  - 3 segments / 4 points  
=> 3<sup>rd</sup> degree curve  
(cubic curve)
  - Example of control polygon:
- Example of two cubic Béziers connected:
  - In the example, the curve is  $C^0$  but not  $C^1$  at the connection (knot) point



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# **Bézier Curves**

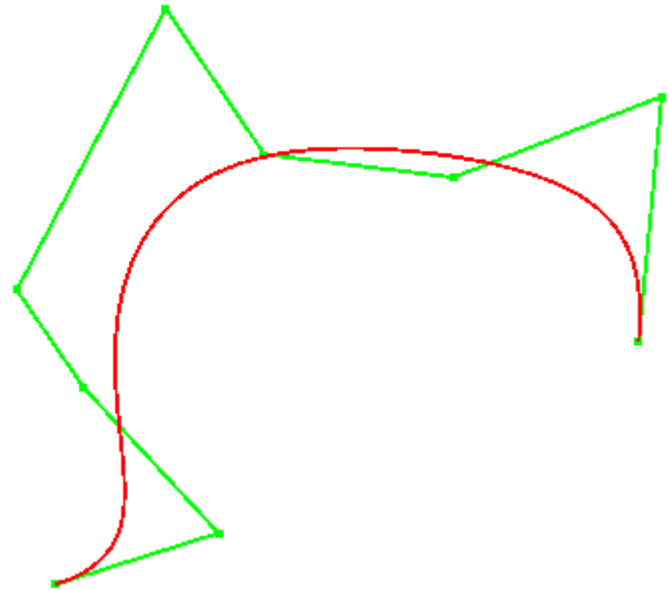
## **Generic Order**

# Bézier

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- Generalization to order n:  
(t in [0,1])
  - Basis functions can be derived from the De Casteljau geometric construction

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{p}_i B_{i,n}(t)$$



# Bézier

- Generalization to order n:  
(t in [0,1])

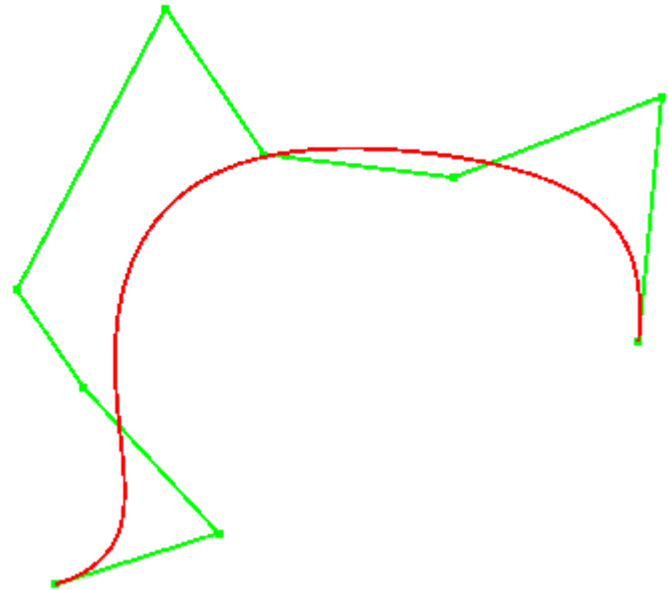
$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{p}_i B_{i,n}(t)$$

*Bernstein basis polynomials:*

$$B_{i,n}(t) = C(n,i)t^i(1-t)^{(n-i)},$$

$$C(n,i) = \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!}$$

*(C(n,i) is the binomial coefficient: ways of picking i unordered outcomes from n)*



Ex:

$$B_{0,3}(t) = (1-t)^3$$

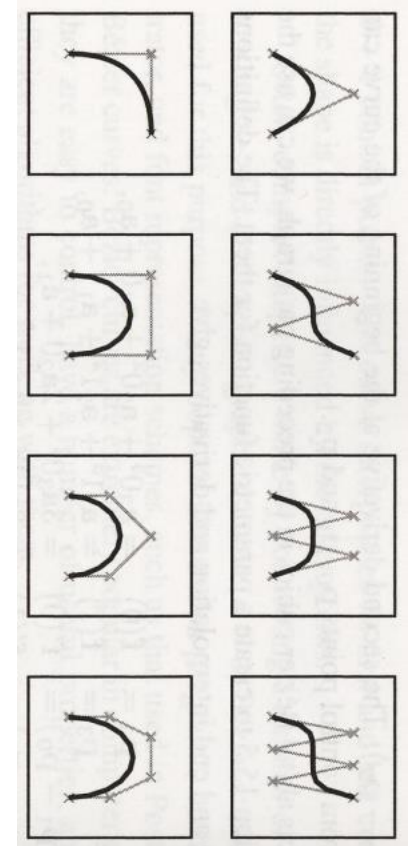
$$B_{1,3}(t) = 3t(1-t)^2$$

$$B_{2,3}(t) = 3t^2(1-t)$$

$$B_{3,3}(t) = t^3$$

# Bézier

- Curve Properties – Important!
  - Bounded by convex hull of control points
    - The convex hull is the “smallest” convex polygon containing the control points
  - Variation diminishing property
    - The curve does not cross a line more than its control polygon does
  - Symmetric
    - Same curve if control points order is reversed
  - Affine invariant
    - Curve can be transformed by transforming control points with affine transformations
  - There are simple algorithms for evaluation and subdivision



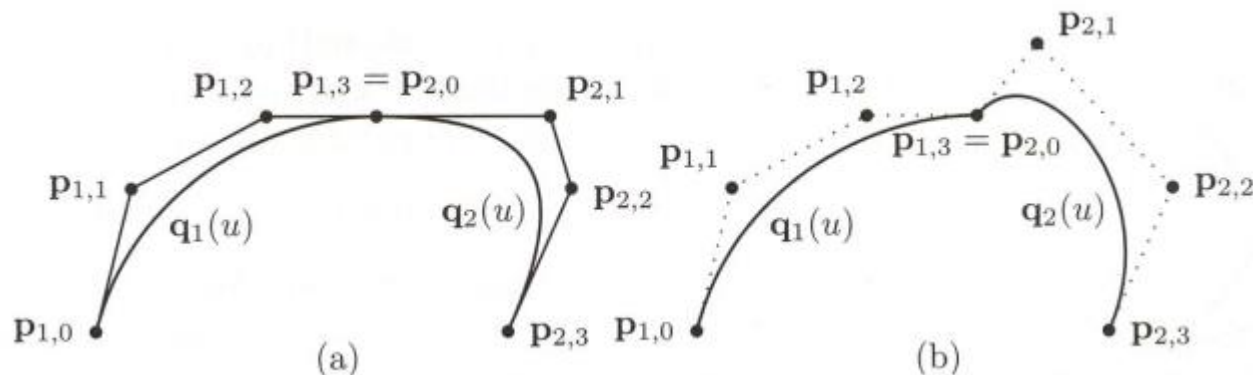
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# **Bézier Curves**

## **Piecewise Formulation**

# Piecewise Béziers

- We want to, at least, achieve geometric continuity  $G^1$ 
  - Case (a) is  $G^1$ –continuous but not  $C^1$ –continuous
  - Case (b) is neither  $C^1$ –continuous nor  $G^1$ –continuous



# Piecewise Béziers

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- Desired condition for continuity
  - Based on derivatives:

$$\mathbf{q}'_1(1) = \mathbf{q}'_2(0)$$

- Based on the control polygon:

$$\mathbf{p}_{1,3} - \mathbf{p}_{1,2} = \mathbf{p}_{2,1} - \mathbf{p}_{2,0}$$



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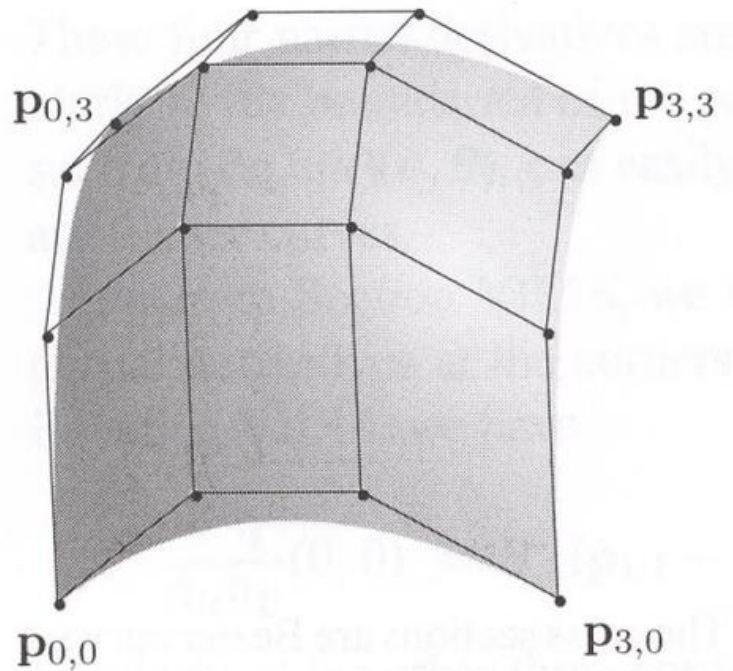
# **Bézier Surfaces**

## **Cubic Patches**

# Cubic Bézier Patches

- Are parametric surfaces defined by 16 control points

$$\mathbf{q}(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^3 \sum_{j=0}^3 \mathbf{p}_{i,j} B_{i,3}(u) B_{j,3}(v)$$



$$B_{0,3}(t) = (1-t)^3$$

$$B_{1,3}(t) = 3t(1-t)^2$$

$$B_{2,3}(t) = 3t^2(1-t)$$

$$B_{3,3}(t) = t^3$$