



We want to understand k -dimensional degree- d Bézier curves with $d + 1$ control points p_0, p_1, \dots, p_d in the set $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}^k$:

$$\vec{c}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^d \binom{d}{i} t^i (1-t)^{d-i} p_i$$

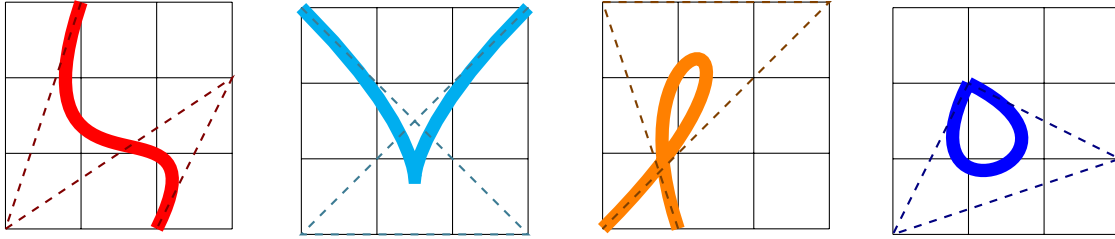


Figure 1: Four examples of cubic Bézier curves with all four control points in $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}^2$. The first has control points $(1, 3), (0, 0), (3, 2), (2, 0)$. The second: $(0, 3), (3, 0), (0, 0), (3, 3)$. The third: $(1, 0), (0, 3), (3, 3), (0, 0)$. The fourth: $(1, 2), (0, 0), (3, 1), (1, 2)$.

Question. For fixed d the limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$, what is the probability of self-intersection?

Related.

1. How many distinct curves are there up to symmetry of the square.
2. How many curves have a cusp?
3. What can we say about the space of these curves when control points are instead in $[0, 1]^k$? Is the set of non-self-intersecting curves connected in this setting?
4. What are the extremal curves with respect to length, number of intersections, enclosed area, etc?

References.

Wikipedia, “Bézier curve.”