



# Parametric Surfaces

COS 426, Fall 2022



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



# 3D Object Representations

- Points
  - Range image
  - Point cloud
- Surfaces
  - Polygonal mesh
  - Parametric
  - Subdivision
  - Implicit
- Solids
  - Voxels
  - BSP tree
  - CSG
  - Sweep
- High-level structures
  - Scene graph
  - Application specific



# Parametric Surfaces

- Applications
  - Design of smooth surfaces in cars, airplanes, ships, etc.

Visualization





# Parametric Surfaces

- Applications
  - Partitioning surfaces into patches

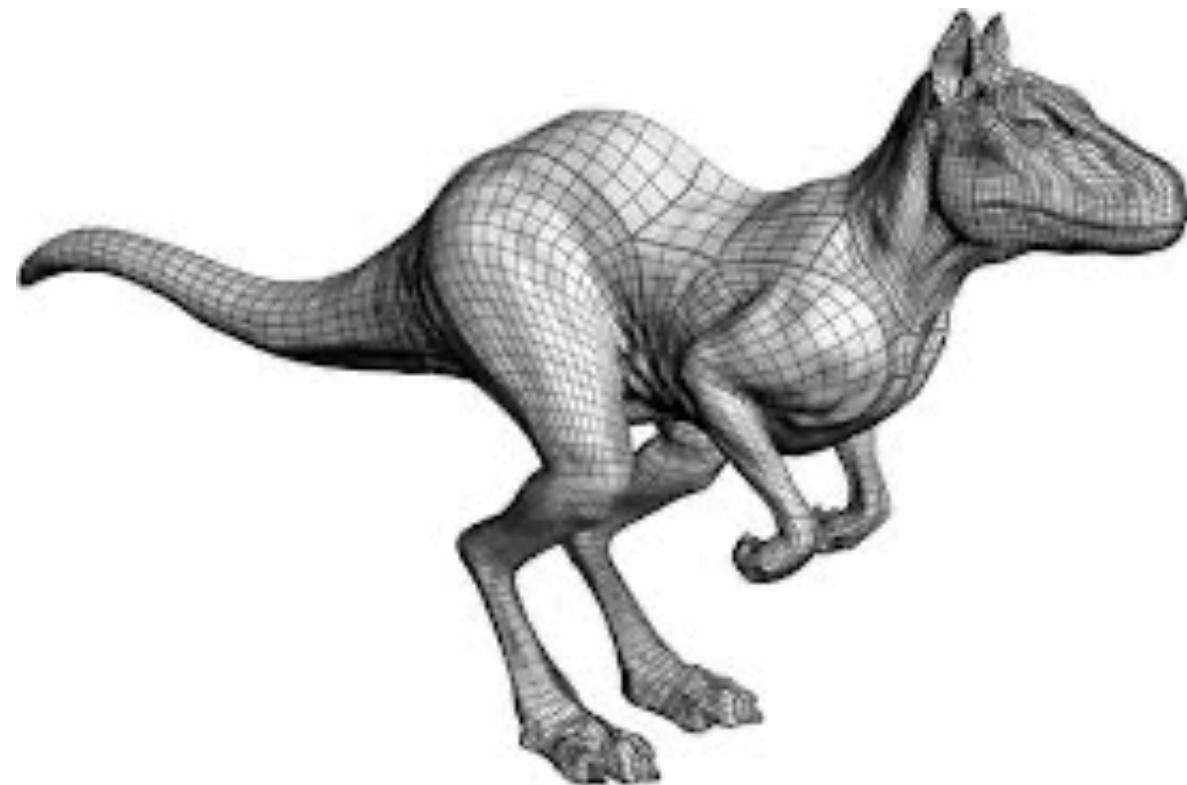


AUTODESK®



# Parametric Surfaces

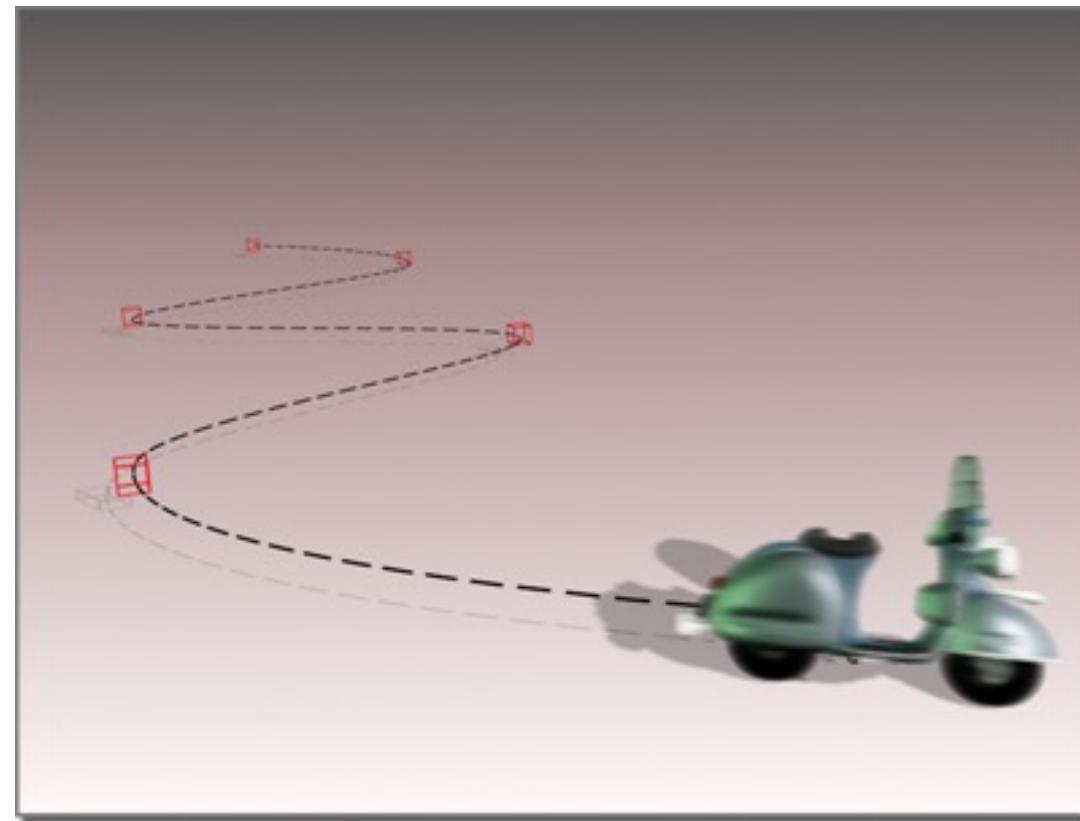
- Applications
  - Creating characters or scenes for movies





# Parametric Curves

- Applications
  - Defining motion trajectories for objects or cameras

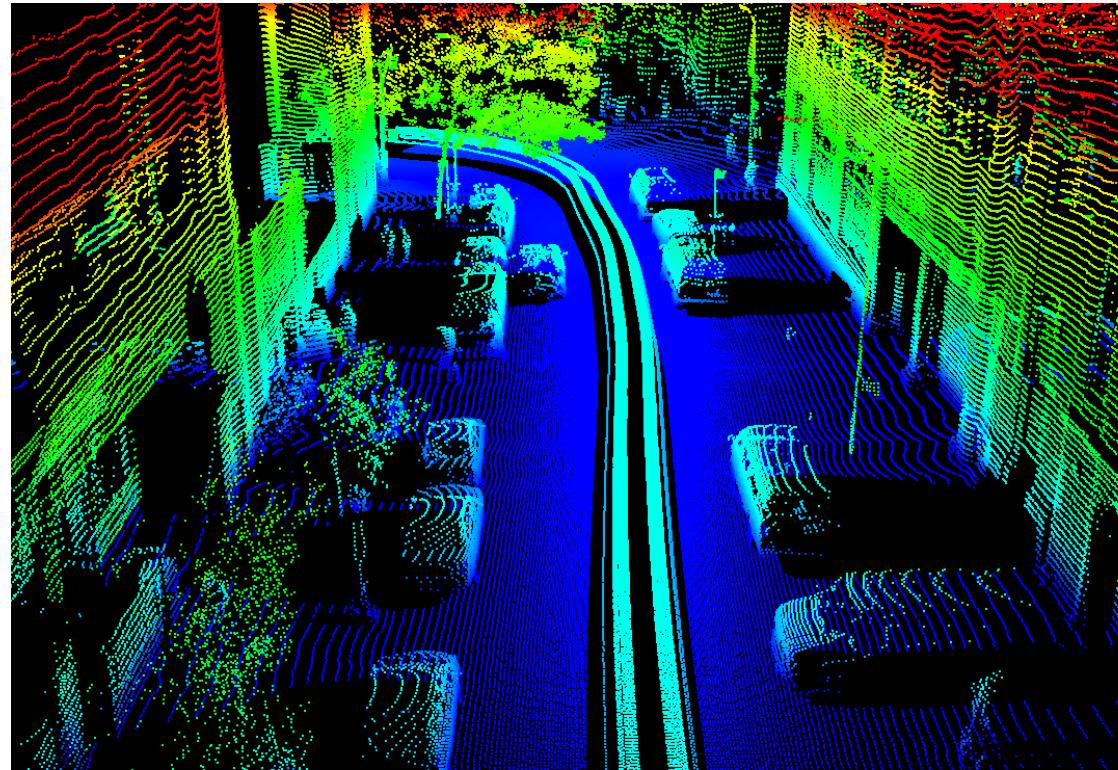


AutoDesk



# Parametric Curves

- Applications
  - Defining smooth interpolations of sparse data



Google Street View



# Outline

- Parametric curves
  - Cubic B-Spline
  - Cubic Bézier
- Parametric surfaces
  - Bi-cubic B-Spline
  - Bi-cubic Bézier



# Outline

- Parametric curves
  - Cubic B-Spline
  - Cubic Bézier
- Parametric surfaces
  - Bi-cubic B-Spline
  - Bi-cubic Bézier



# Parametric Curves

- Defined by parametric functions:

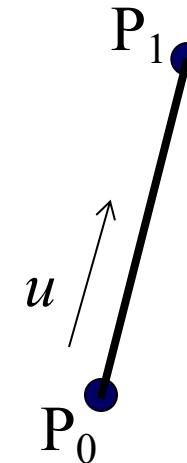
- $x = f_x(u)$
- $y = f_y(u)$

- Example: line segment

$$f_x(u) = (1 - u)x_0 + ux_1$$

$$f_y(u) = (1 - u)y_0 + uy_1$$

$$u \in [0..1]$$



H&B Figure 10.10



# Parametric Curves

- Defined by parametric functions:

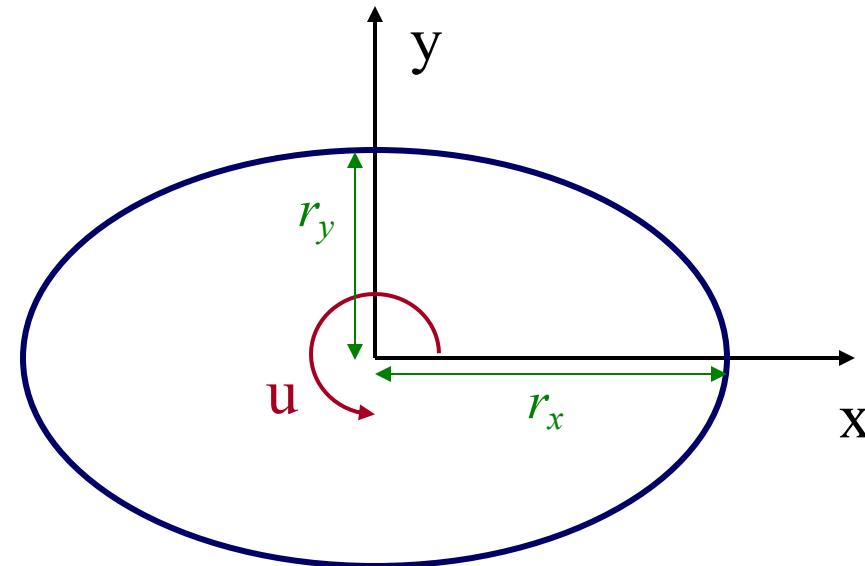
- $x = f_x(u)$
- $y = f_y(u)$

- Example: ellipse

$$f_x(u) = r_x \cos(2\pi u)$$

$$f_y(u) = r_y \sin(2\pi u)$$

$$u \in [0..1]$$



H&B Figure 10.10

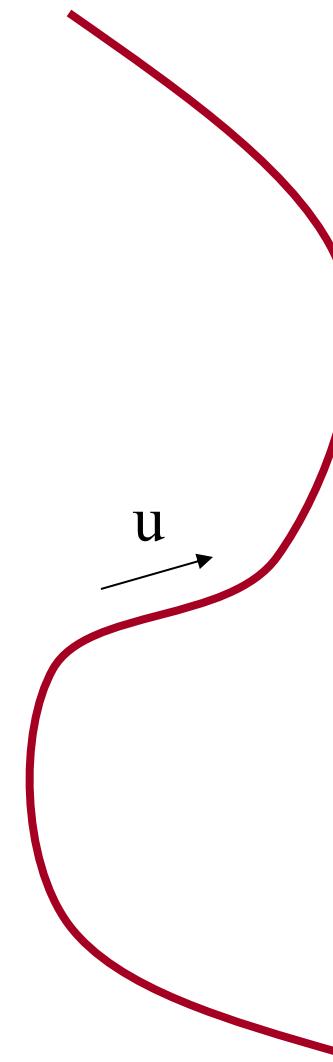


# Parametric curves

- How to easily define arbitrary curves?

$$x = f_x(u)$$

$$y = f_y(u)$$



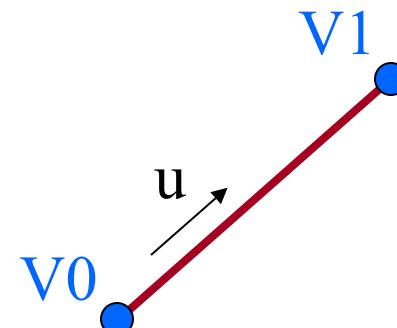


# Parametric curves

- How to easily define arbitrary curves?

$$x = f_x(u)$$

$$y = f_y(u)$$



- Use functions that “blend” user-defined *control points*

$$x = f_x(u) = V_{0x} * (1 - u) + V_{1x} * u$$

$$y = f_y(u) = V_{0y} * (1 - u) + V_{1y} * u$$

Simple functions of  $u$

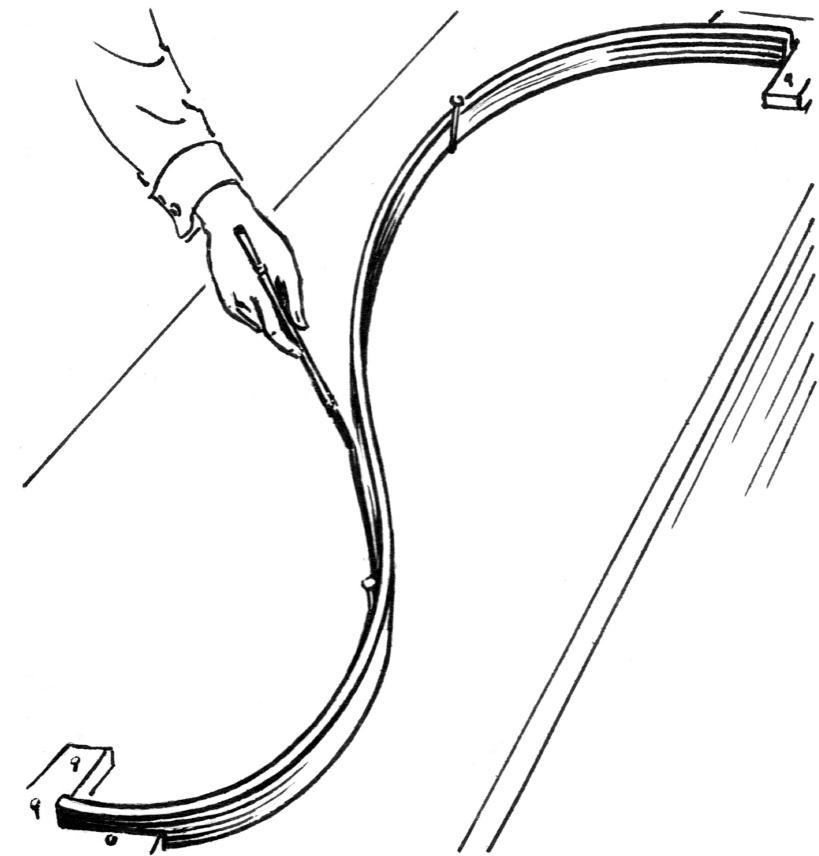
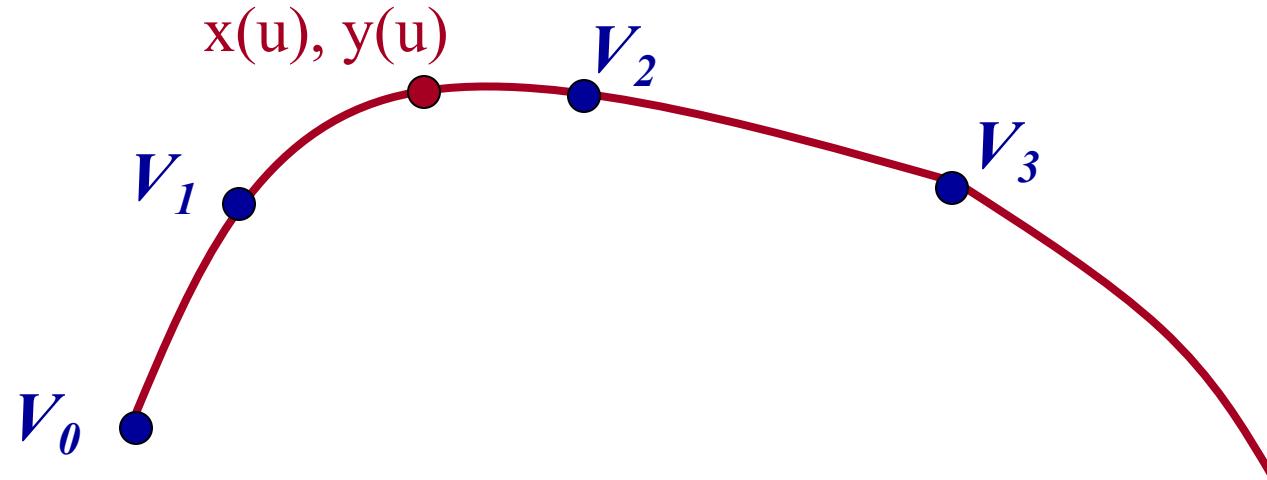


# Parametric curves

- More generally:

$$x(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * V_{i_x}$$

$$y(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * V_{i_y}$$



[Wikipedia]



# Parametric curves

- What  $B(u)$  functions should we use?

$$x(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * Vi_x$$

$$y(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * Vi_y$$

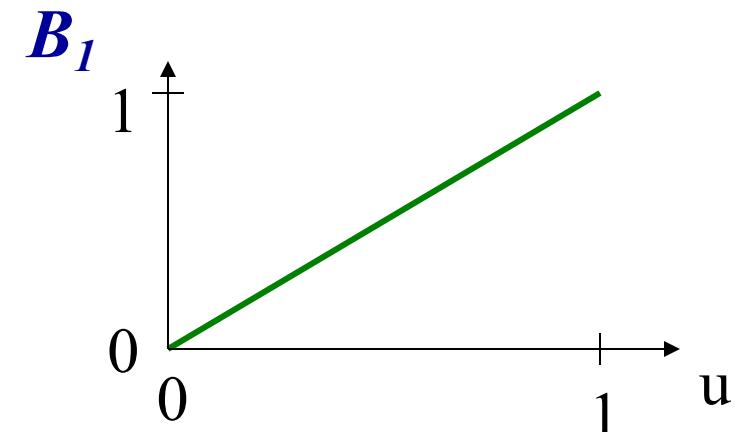
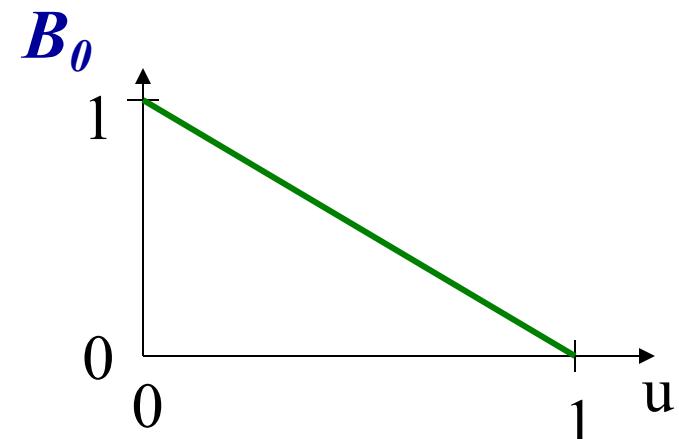
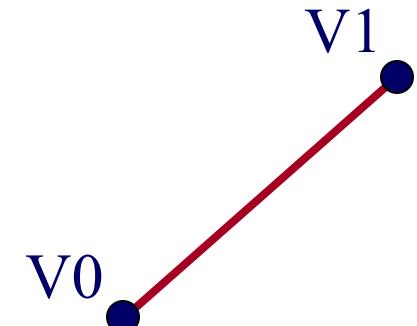


# Parametric curves

- What  $B(u)$  functions should we use?

$$x(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * V_{i_x}$$

$$y(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * V_{i_y}$$



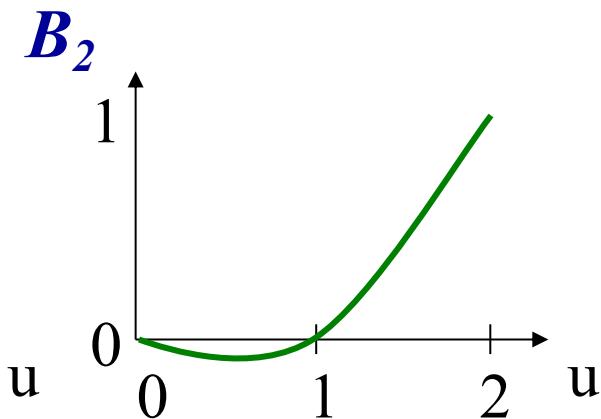
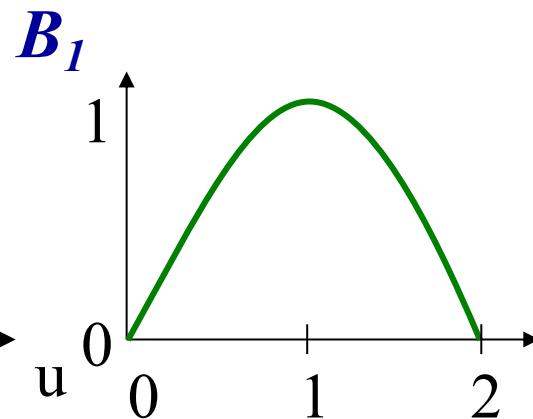
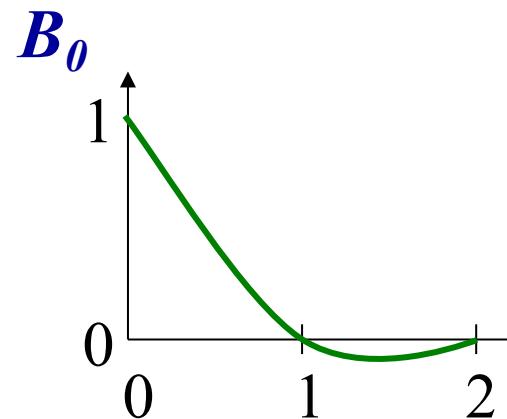
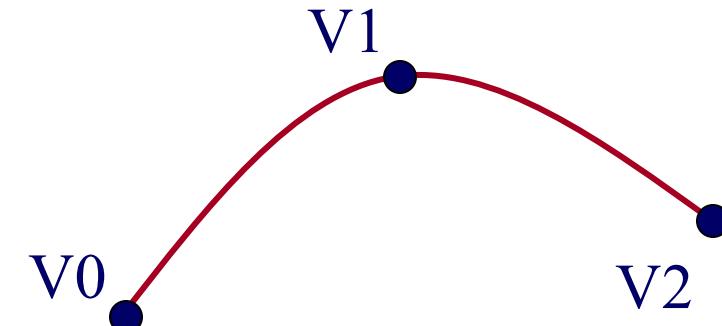


# Parametric curves

- What  $B(u)$  functions should we use?

$$x(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * V_{i_x}$$

$$y(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i(u) * V_{i_y}$$

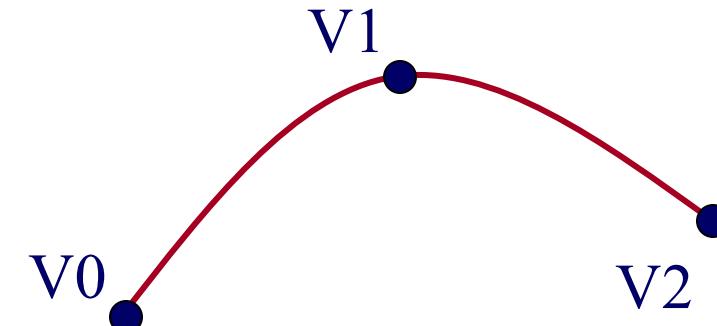




# Parametric Polynomial Curves

- Polynomial blending functions:

$$B_i(u) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j u^j$$



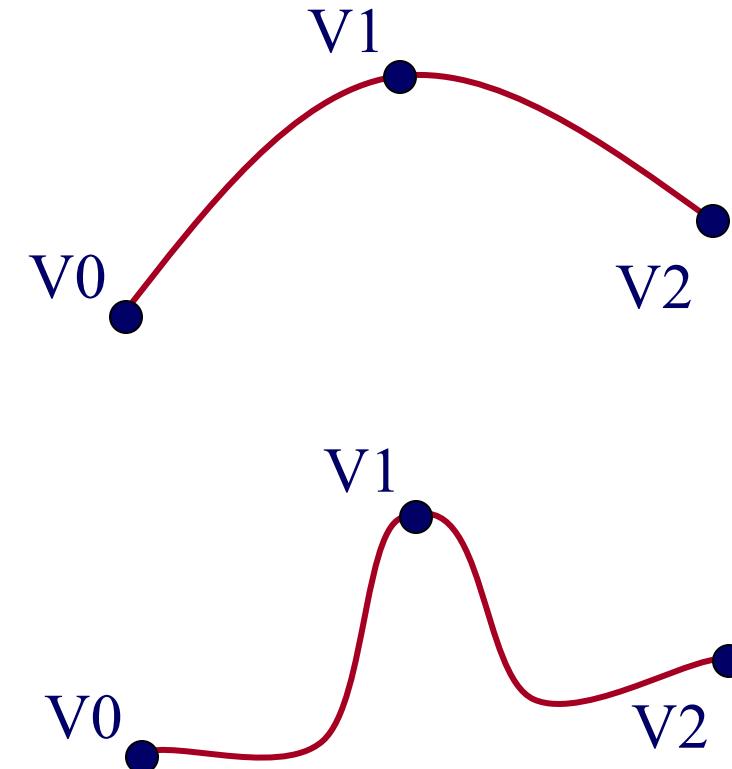
- Advantages of polynomials
  - Easy to compute
  - Infinitely differentiable
  - Easy to derive curve properties



# Parametric Polynomial Curves

- Polynomial blending functions:

$$B_i(u) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j u^j$$

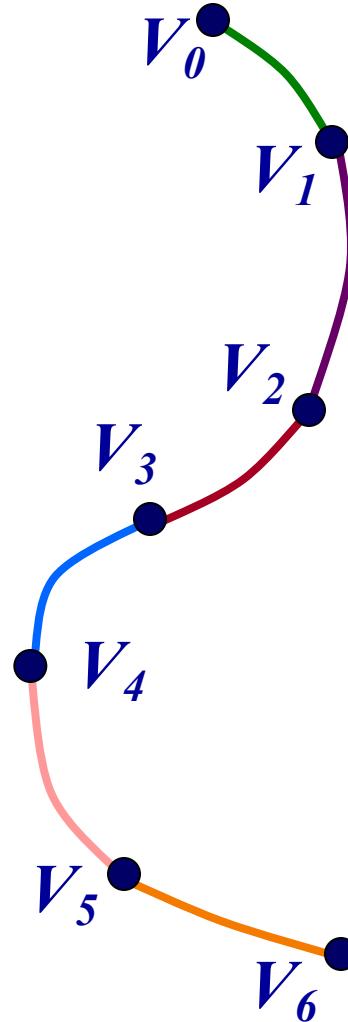


- What degree polynomial?
  - For expressivity:  
high-degree polynomials preferred
  - For ease of computation and control:  
low-degree polynomials preferred



# Piecewise Parametric Polynomial Curves

- **Splines:**
  - Split curve into segments
  - Each segment defined by *low-order* polynomial blending *subset* of control vertices
- **Motivation:**
  - Same blending functions for every segment
  - Prove properties from blending functions
  - Provides local control & efficiency
- **Challenges**
  - How to choose blending functions?
  - How to determine properties?





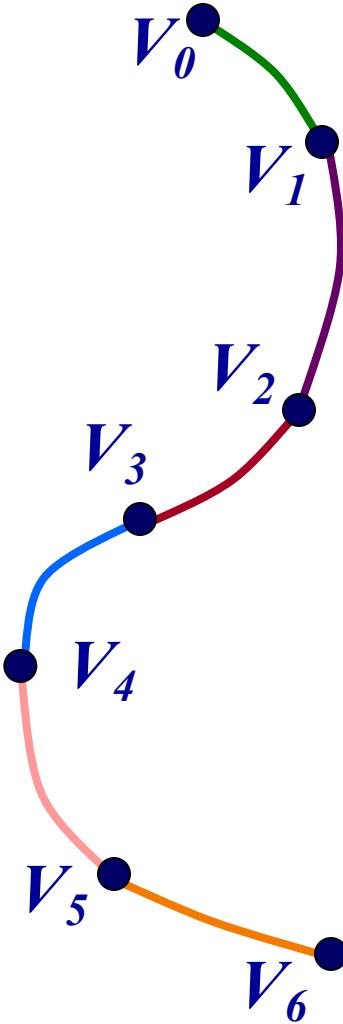
# Splines

- Some properties we might like to have:
  - Local control
  - Continuity
  - Interpolation?
  - Convex hull?

$$B_i(u) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j u^j$$

Blending functions determine properties

Properties determine blending functions



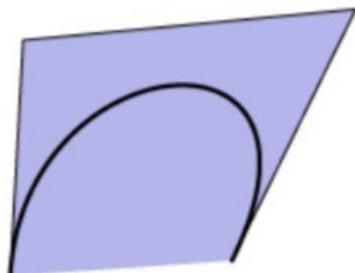


# Splines

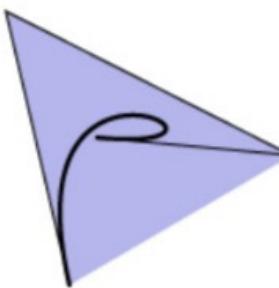
- Local control:



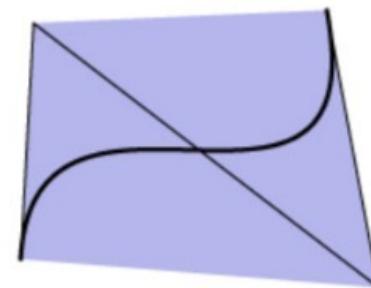
- Convex hull property:



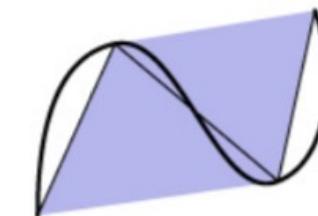
**YES**



**YES**



**YES**



**NO**



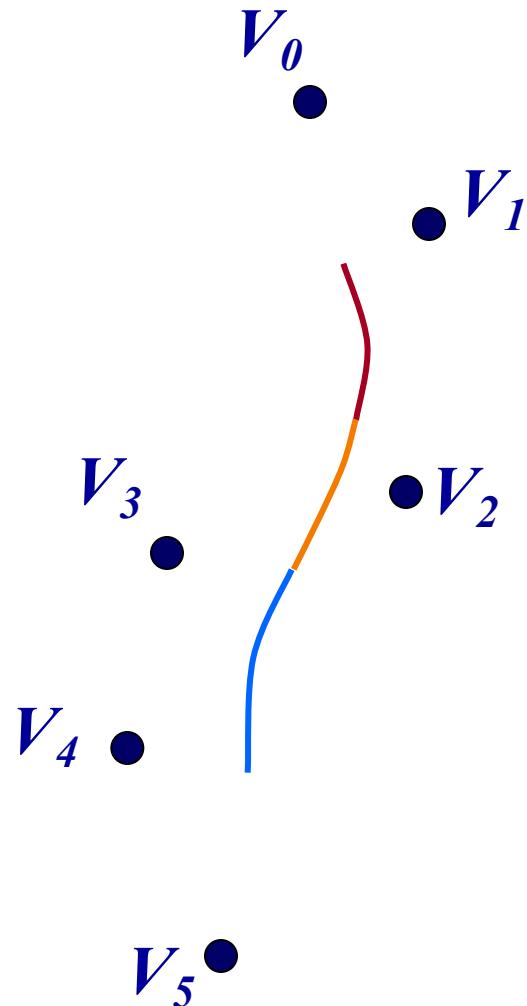
# Outline

- Parametric curves
  - Cubic B-Spline
    - Cubic Bézier
- Parametric surfaces
  - Bi-cubic B-Spline
  - Bi-cubic Bézier



# Cubic B-Splines

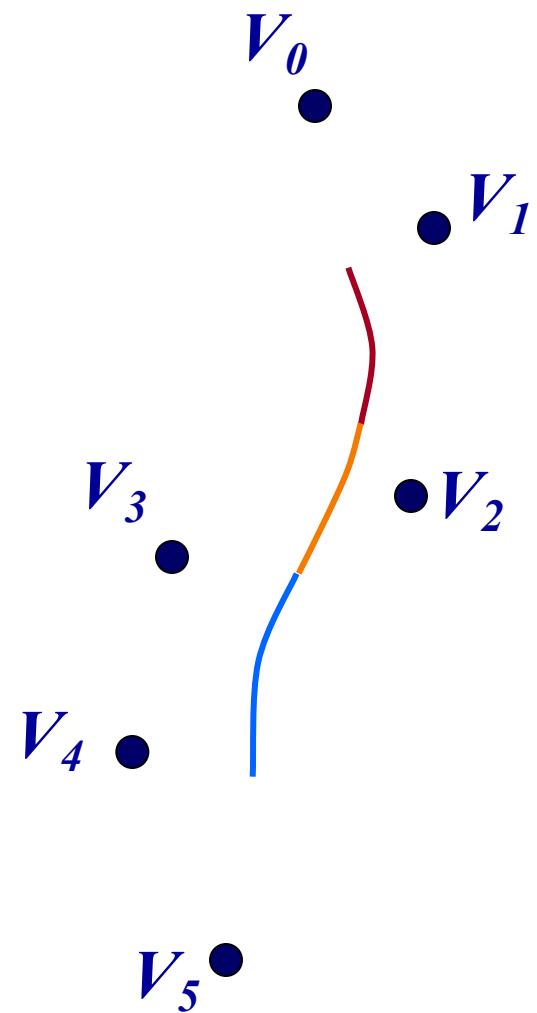
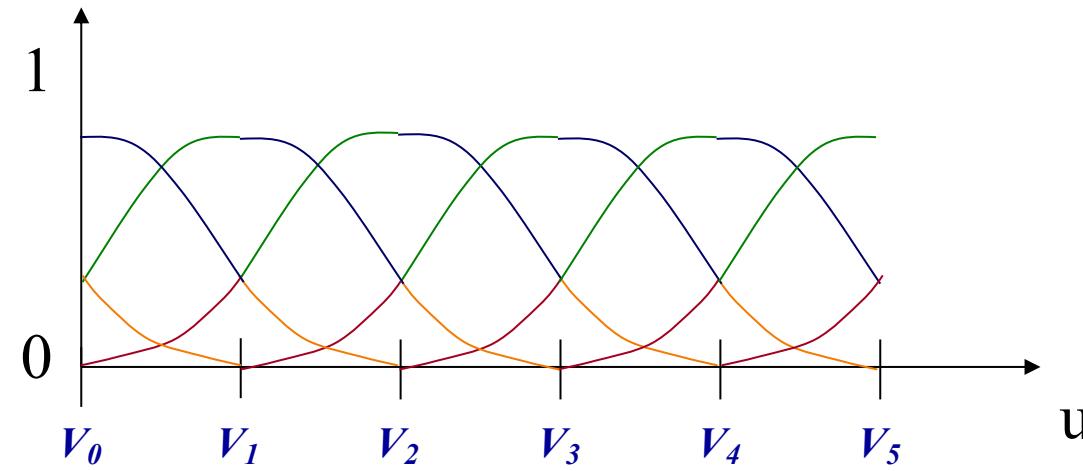
- Properties:
  - Local control
  - $C^2$  continuity at joints  
(infinitely continuous within each piece)
  - Approximating
  - Convex hull





# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

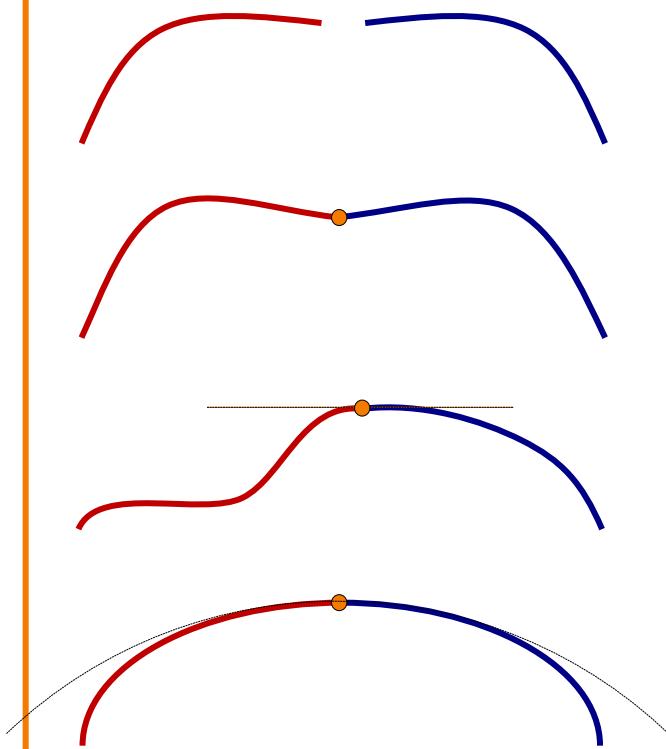
- Blending functions imply properties:
  - Local control
  - $C^2$  continuity at joints  
(infinitely continuous within each piece)
  - Approximating
  - Convex hull





# Cubic B-Splines

- Defining continuity at joints
  - Geometric continuity:



“G<sup>-1</sup>”: discontinuous

G<sup>0</sup>: touching

G<sup>1</sup>: same tangent

G<sup>2</sup>: same curvature

- Parametric continuity:  
Also considers derivative of the parametric function(s) along path

C<sup>0</sup>: same as G<sup>0</sup>

C<sup>1</sup>: same velocity

C<sup>2</sup>: same acceleration

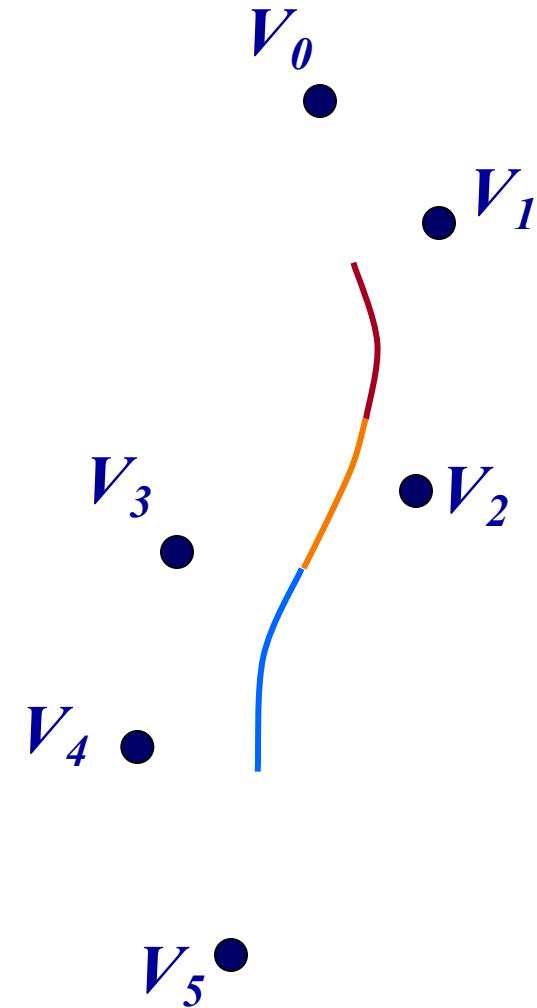
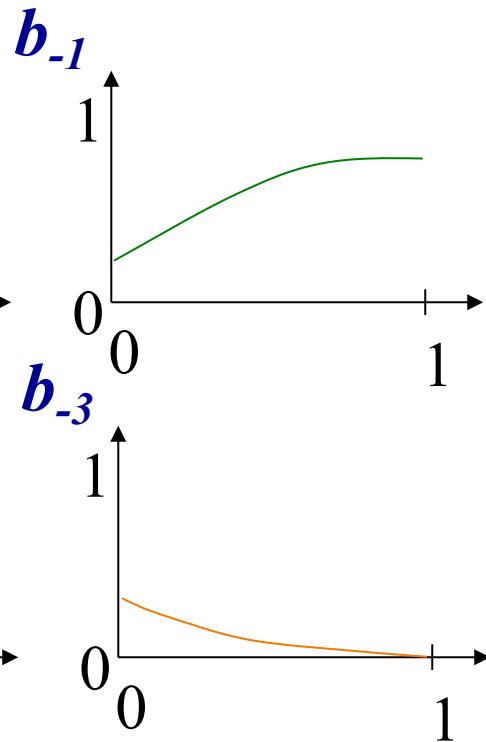
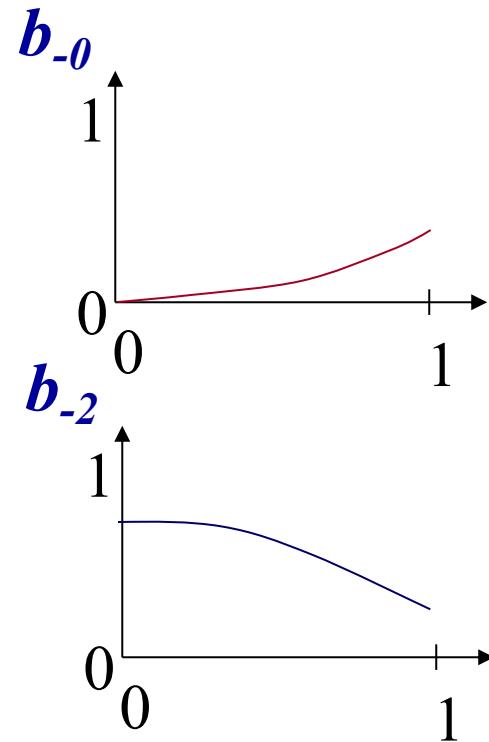
Each G<sup>n</sup> implies all lower ones, each C<sup>n</sup> implies all lower ones



# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- Blending functions:

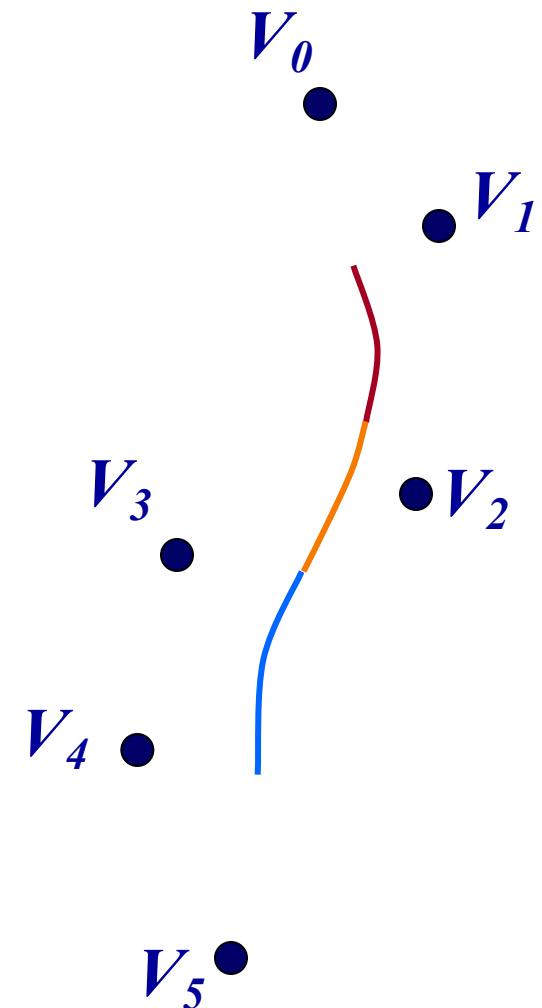
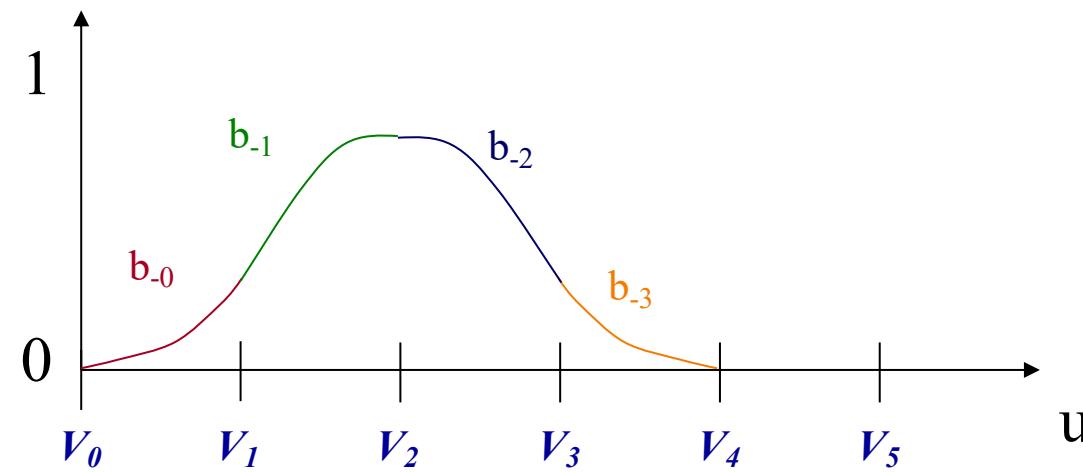
$$B_i(u) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j u^{j-i}$$





# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- How derive blending functions?
  - Cubic polynomials
  - Local control
  - $C^2$  continuity
  - Convex hull

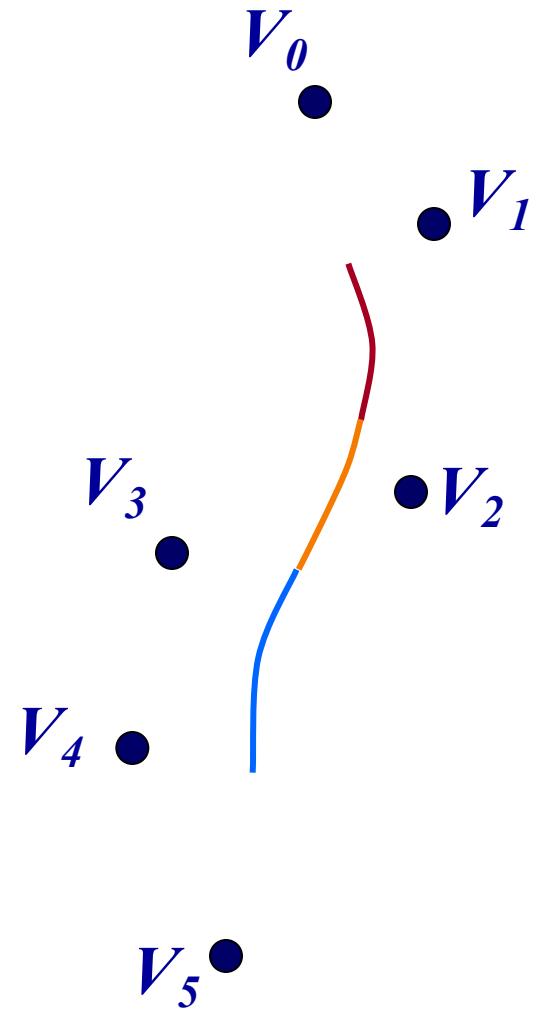




# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- Four cubic polynomials for four vertices
  - 16 variables (degrees of freedom)
  - Variables are  $a_i, b_i, c_i, d_i$  for four blending functions

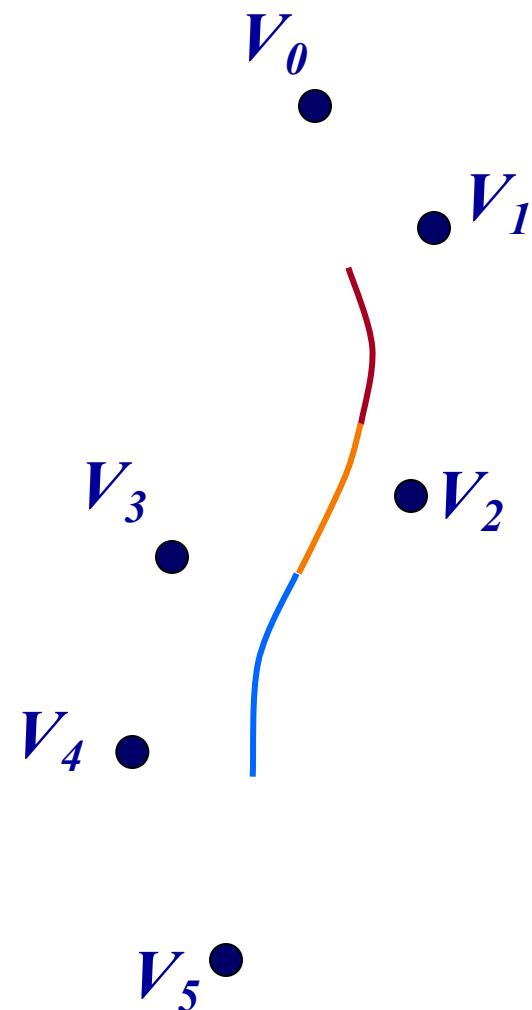
$$\begin{aligned}b_{-0}(u) &= a_0 u^3 + b_0 u^2 + c_0 u^1 + d_0 \\b_{-1}(u) &= a_1 u^3 + b_1 u^2 + c_1 u^1 + d_1 \\b_{-2}(u) &= a_2 u^3 + b_2 u^2 + c_2 u^1 + d_2 \\b_{-3}(u) &= a_3 u^3 + b_3 u^2 + c_3 u^1 + d_3\end{aligned}$$





# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- C<sup>2</sup> continuity implies 15 constraints
  - Position of two curves same
  - Derivative of two curves same
  - Second derivatives same





# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

Fifteen continuity constraints:

$$0 = b_{-0}(0)$$

$$b_{-0}(1) = b_{-1}(0)$$

$$b_{-1}(1) = b_{-2}(0)$$

$$b_{-2}(1) = b_{-3}(0)$$

$$b_{-3}(1) = 0$$

$$0 = b_{-0}'(0)$$

$$b_{-0}'(1) = b_{-1}'(0)$$

$$b_{-1}'(1) = b_{-2}'(0)$$

$$b_{-2}'(1) = b_{-3}'(0)$$

$$b_{-3}'(1) = 0$$

$$0 = b_{-0}''(0)$$

$$b_{-0}''(1) = b_{-1}''(0)$$

$$b_{-1}''(1) = b_{-2}''(0)$$

$$b_{-2}''(1) = b_{-3}''(0)$$

$$b_{-3}''(1) = 0$$

One more convenient constraint:

$$b_{-0}(0) + b_{-1}(0) + b_{-2}(0) + b_{-3}(0) = 1$$



# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- Solving the system of equations yields:

$$b_{-3}(u) = -\frac{1}{6}u^3 + \frac{1}{2}u^2 - \frac{1}{2}u + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$b_{-2}(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^3 - u^2 + \frac{2}{3}$$

$$b_{-1}(u) = -\frac{1}{2}u^3 + \frac{1}{2}u^2 + \frac{1}{2}u + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$b_{-0}(u) = \frac{1}{6}u^3$$



# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- In matrix form:

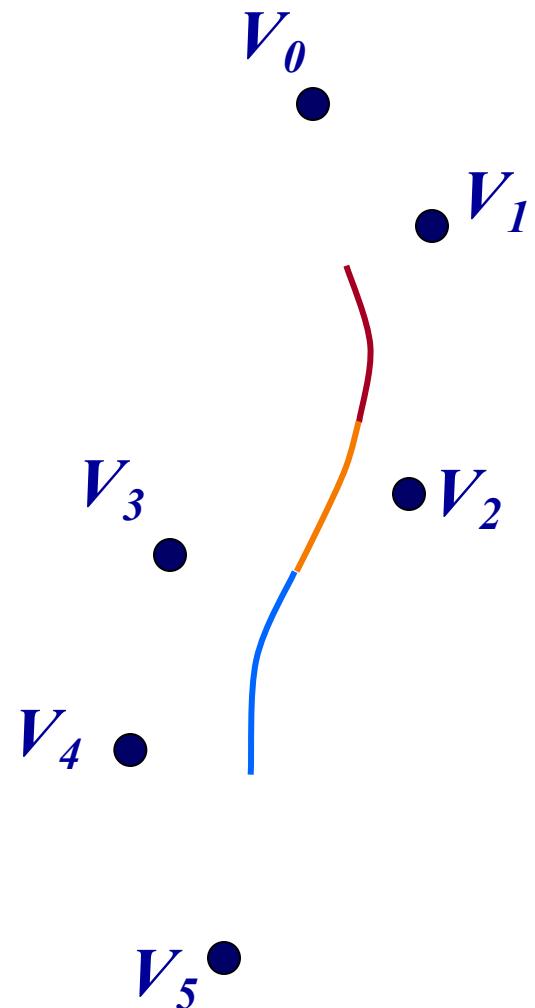
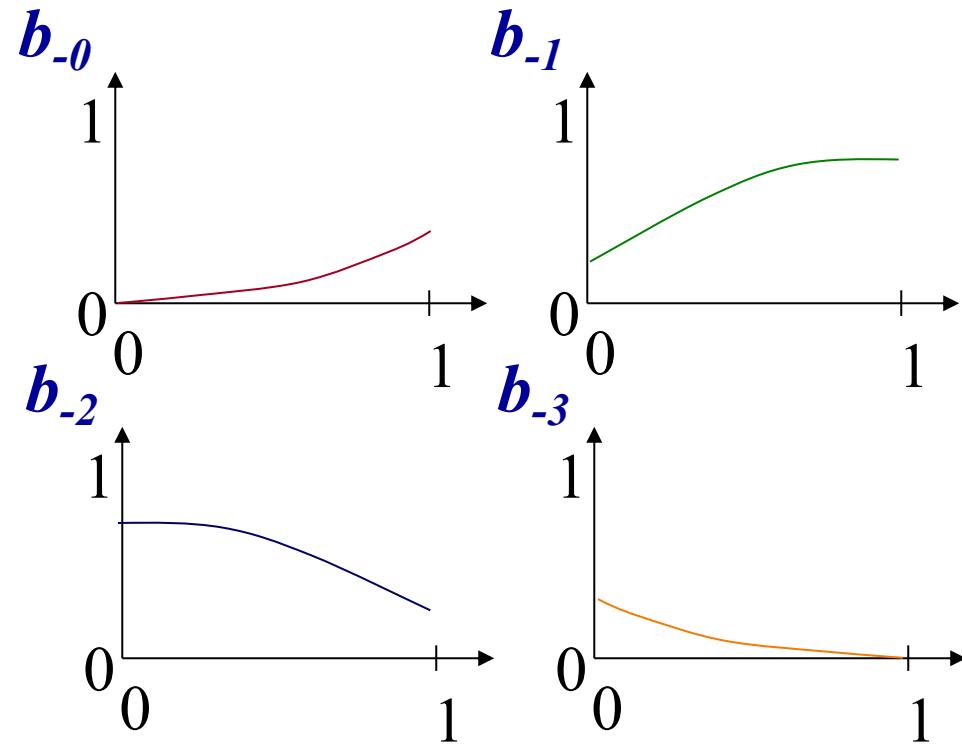
$$Q(u) = \begin{pmatrix} u^3 & u^2 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V_0 \\ V_1 \\ V_2 \\ V_3 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- In plot form:

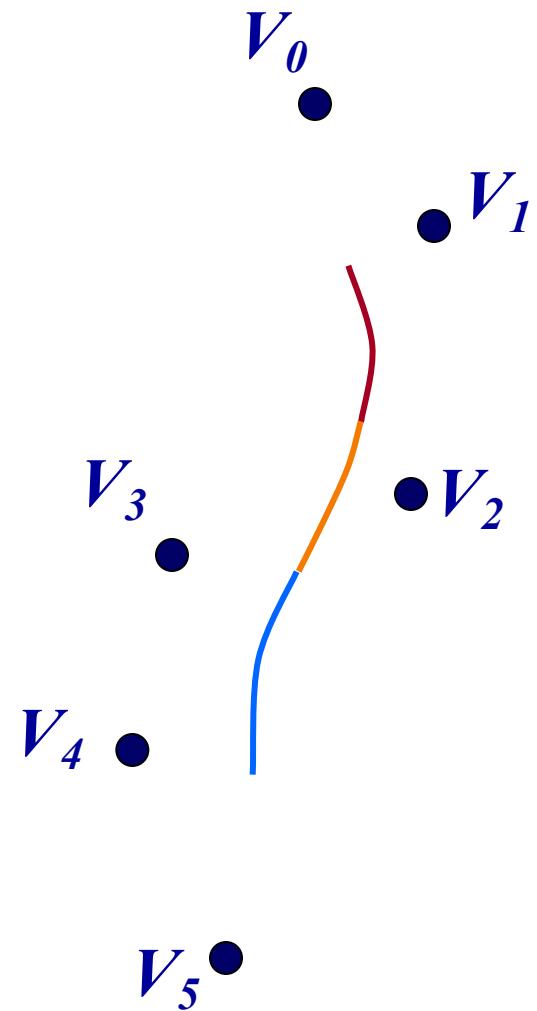
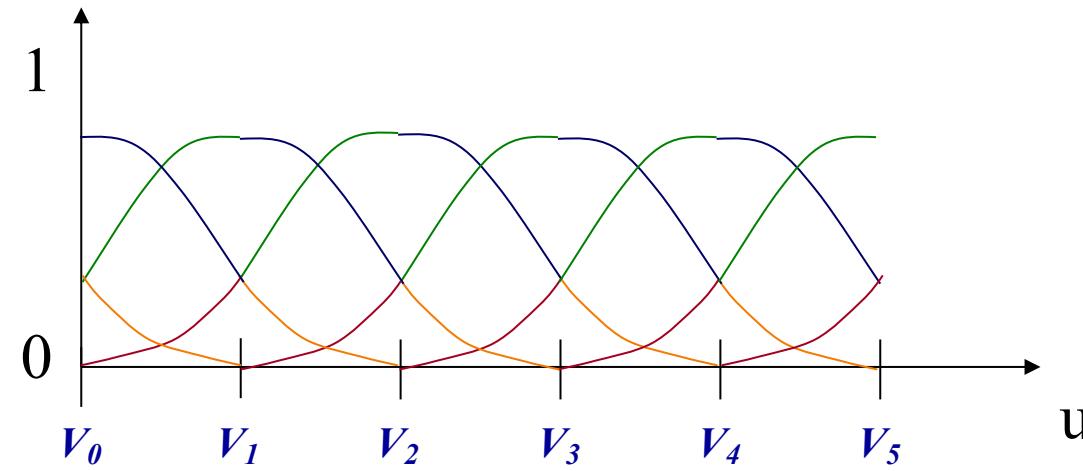
$$B_i(u) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j u^{j-i}$$





# Cubic B-Spline Blending Functions

- Blending functions imply properties:
  - Local control
  - $C^2$  continuity at joints  
(infinitely continuous within each piece)
  - Approximating
  - Convex hull





# Outline

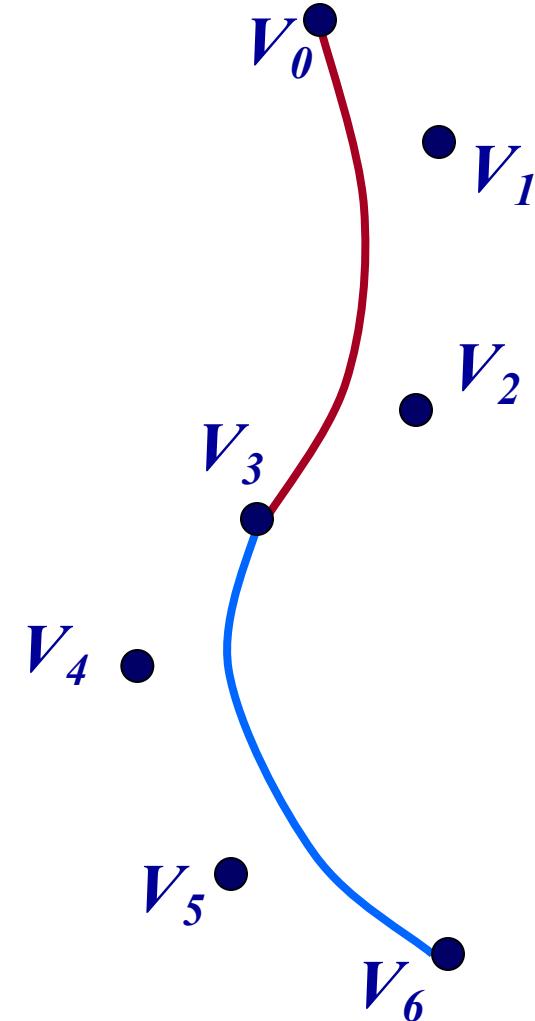
- Parametric curves
  - Cubic B-Spline
  - Cubic Bézier
- Parametric surfaces
  - Bi-cubic B-Spline
  - Bi-cubic Bézier



# Bézier Curves

- Developed around 1960 by both
  - Pierre Bézier (Renault)
  - Paul de Casteljau (Citroen)
- Today: graphic design (e.g.  $\mathcal{FONTS}$ )
- Properties:
  - Local control
  - Continuity depends on control points
  - Interpolating (every third for cubic)

Blending functions determine properties

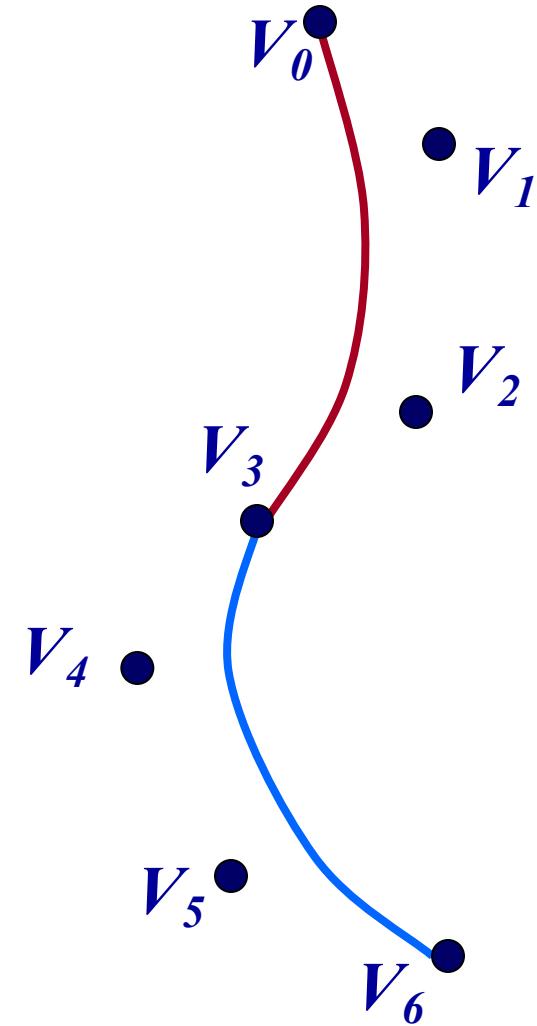
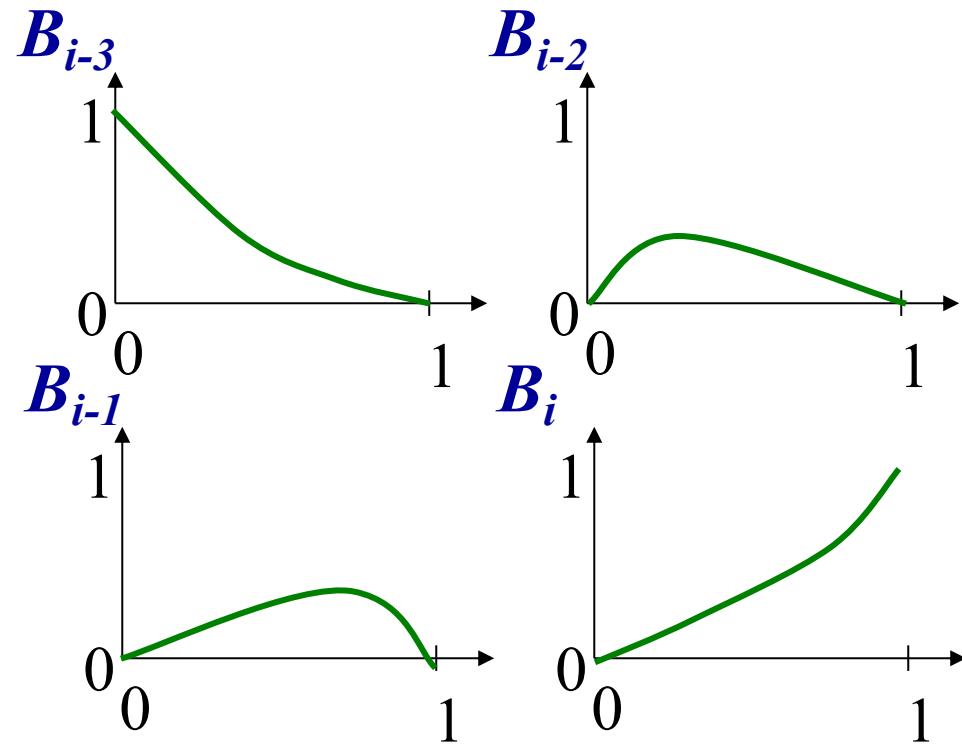




# Cubic Bézier Curves

Blending functions:

$$B_i(u) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j u^j$$





# Cubic Bézier Curves

Bézier curves in matrix form:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(u) &= \sum_{i=0}^n V_i \binom{n}{i} u^i (1-u)^{n-i} \\ &= (1-u)^3 V_0 + 3u(1-u)^2 V_1 + 3u^2(1-u) V_2 + u^3 V_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} u^3 & u^2 & u & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V_0 \\ V_1 \\ V_2 \\ V_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{M}_{\text{Bézier}}$



# Basic properties of Bézier Curves

- Endpoint interpolation:

$$Q(0) = V_0$$

$$Q(1) = V_n$$

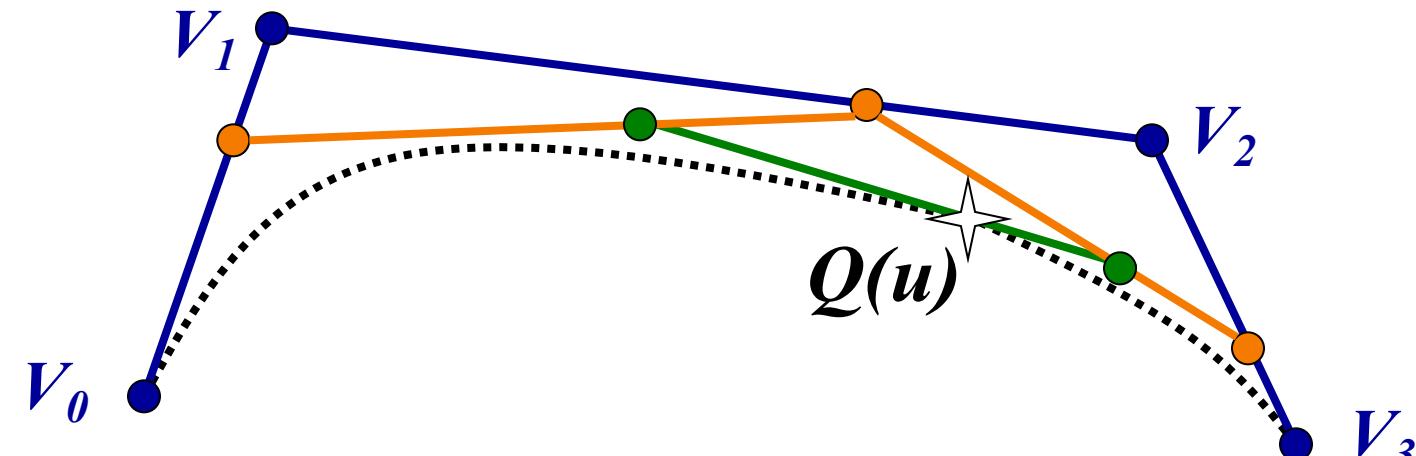
- Convex hull:
  - Curve is contained within convex hull of control polygon
- Symmetry

$$Q(u) \text{ defined by } \{V_0, \dots, V_n\} \equiv Q(1-u) \text{ defined by } \{V_n, \dots, V_0\}$$



# Bézier Curves

- Curve  $Q(u)$  can also be defined by nested interpolation:



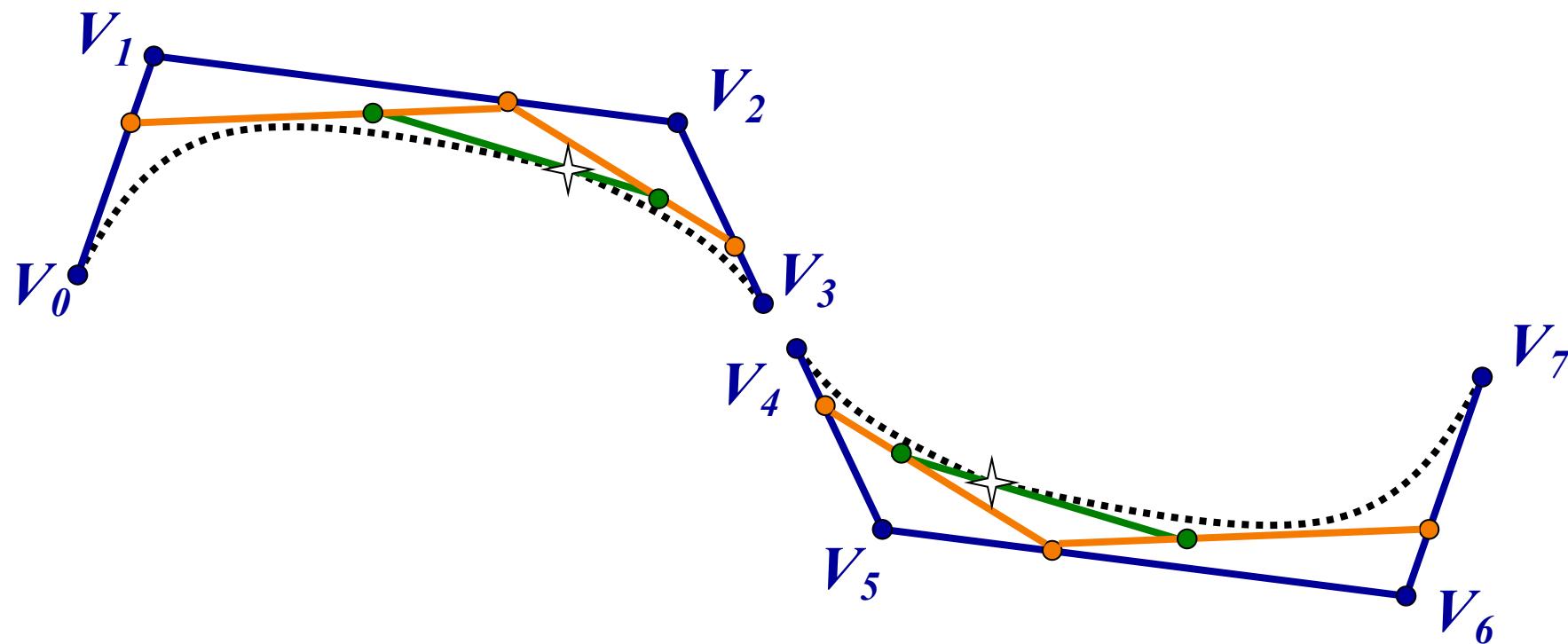
$V_i$  are *control points*

$\{V_0, V_1, \dots, V_n\}$  is *control polygon*



# Enforcing Bézier Curve Continuity

- $C^0: V_3 = V_4$
- $C^1: V_5 - V_4 = V_3 - V_2$
- $C^2: V_6 - 2V_5 + V_4 = V_3 - 2V_2 + V_1$





# Outline

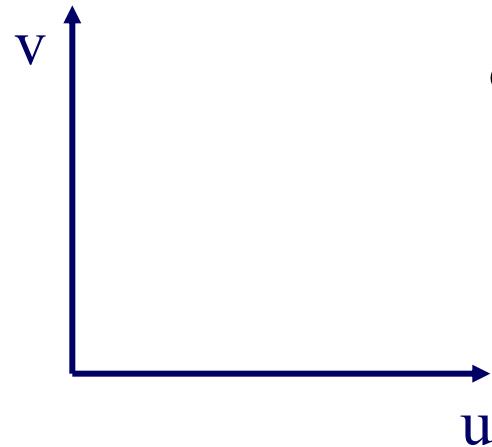
- Parametric curves
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- Parametric surfaces
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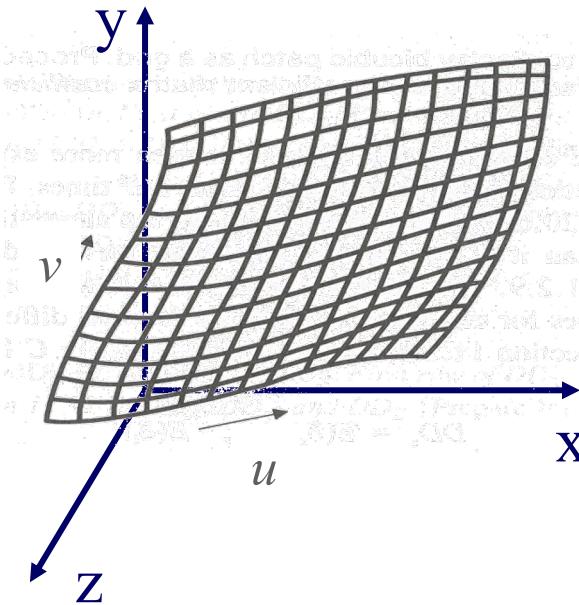
# Parametric Surfaces

- Defined by parametric functions:

- $x = f_x(u, v)$
- $y = f_y(u, v)$
- $z = f_z(u, v)$



Parametric functions define mapping from  $(u, v)$  to  $(x, y, z)$ :



FvDFH Figure 11.42

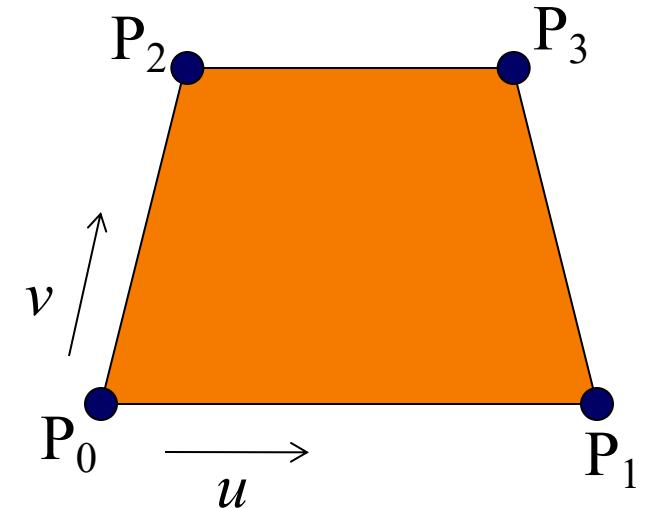


# Parametric Surfaces

- Defined by parametric functions:

- $x = f_x(u, v)$
- $y = f_y(u, v)$
- $z = f_z(u, v)$

- Example: quadrilateral



$$f_x(u, v) = (1 - v)((1 - u)x_0 + ux_1) + v((1 - u)x_2 + ux_3)$$

$$f_y(u, v) = (1 - v)((1 - u)y_0 + uy_1) + v((1 - u)y_2 + uy_3)$$

$$f_z(u, v) = (1 - v)((1 - u)z_0 + uz_1) + v((1 - u)z_2 + uz_3)$$

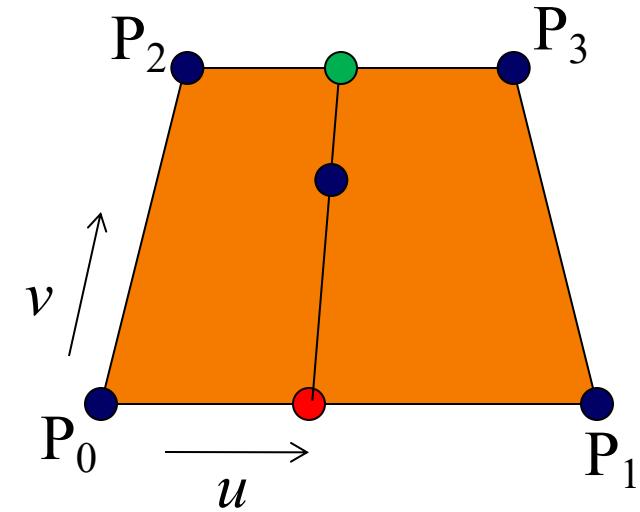


# Parametric Surfaces

- Defined by parametric functions:

- $x = f_x(u, v)$
- $y = f_y(u, v)$
- $z = f_z(u, v)$

- Example: quadrilateral



$$f_x(u, v) = (1 - v)((1 - u)x_0 + ux_1) + v((1 - u)x_2 + ux_3)$$

$$f_y(u, v) = (1 - v)((1 - u)y_0 + uy_1) + v((1 - u)y_2 + uy_3)$$

$$f_z(u, v) = (1 - v)((1 - u)z_0 + uz_1) + v((1 - u)z_2 + uz_3)$$



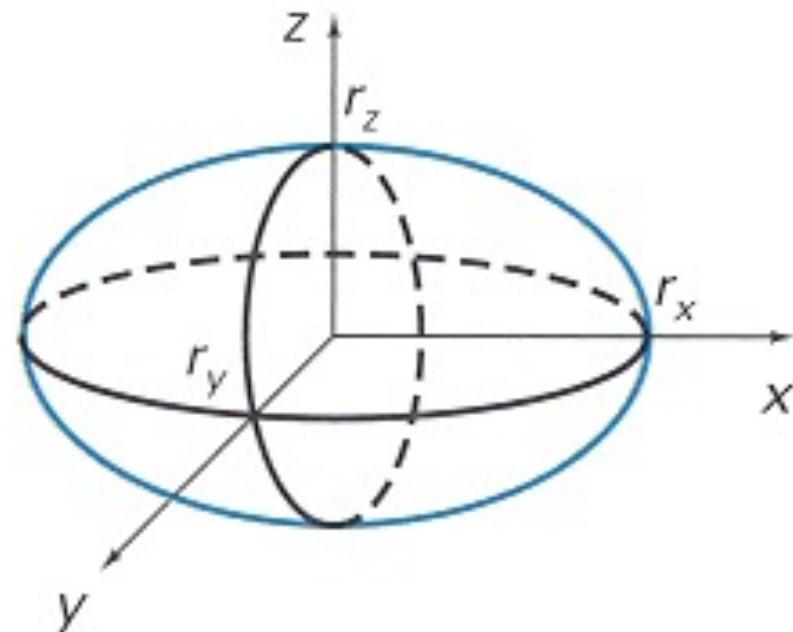
# Parametric Surfaces

- Defined by parametric functions:
  - $x = f_x(u, v)$
  - $y = f_y(u, v)$
  - $z = f_z(u, v)$
- Example: ellipsoid

$$f_x(u, v) = r_x \cos v \cos u$$

$$f_y(u, v) = r_y \cos v \sin u$$

$$f_z(u, v) = r_z \sin v$$

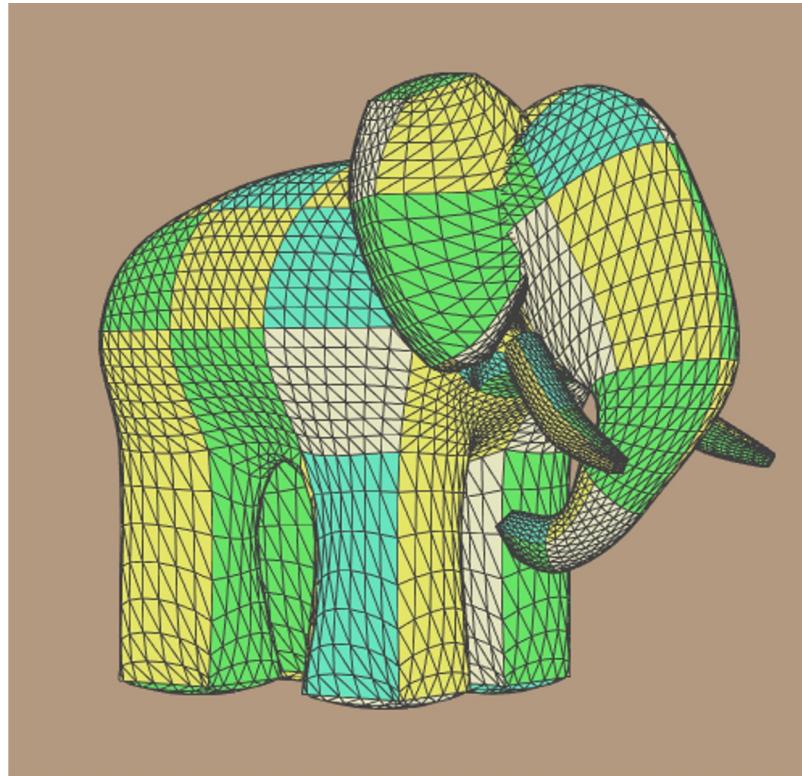


H&B Figure 10.10



# Parametric Surfaces

- To model arbitrary shapes, surface is partitioned into parametric *patches*

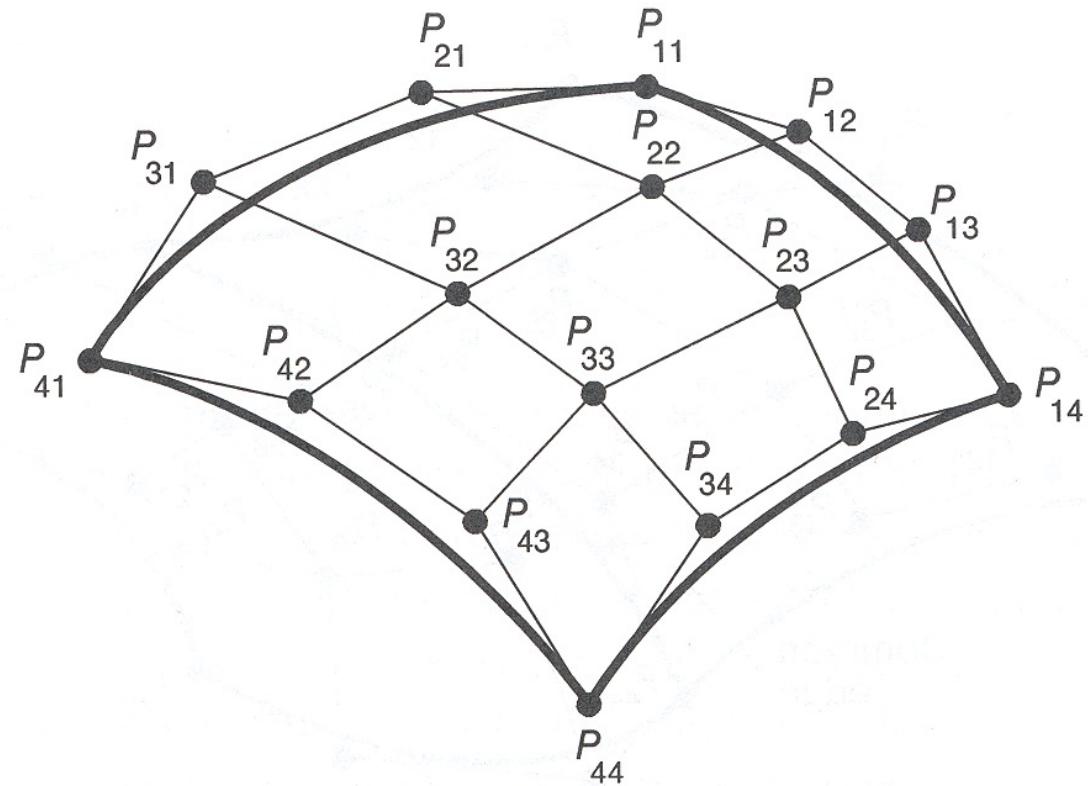


Catmull



# Parametric Patches

- Each patch is defined by blending control points



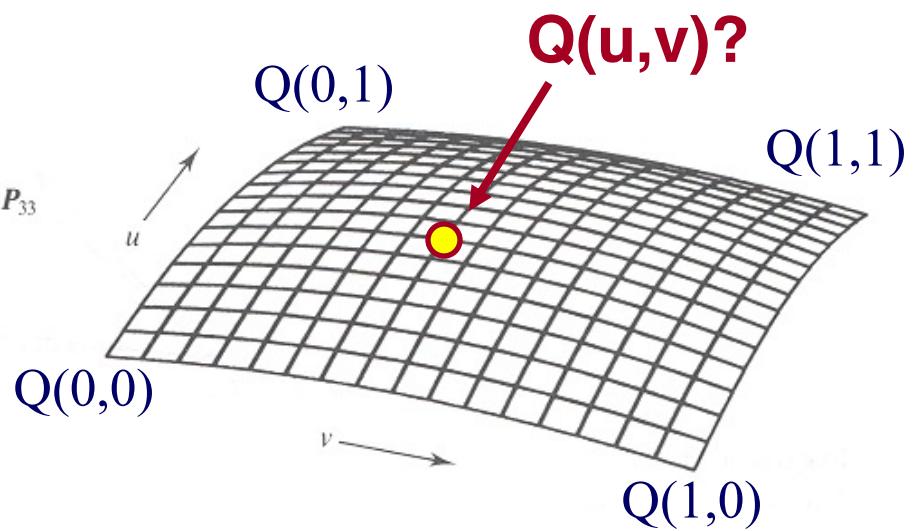
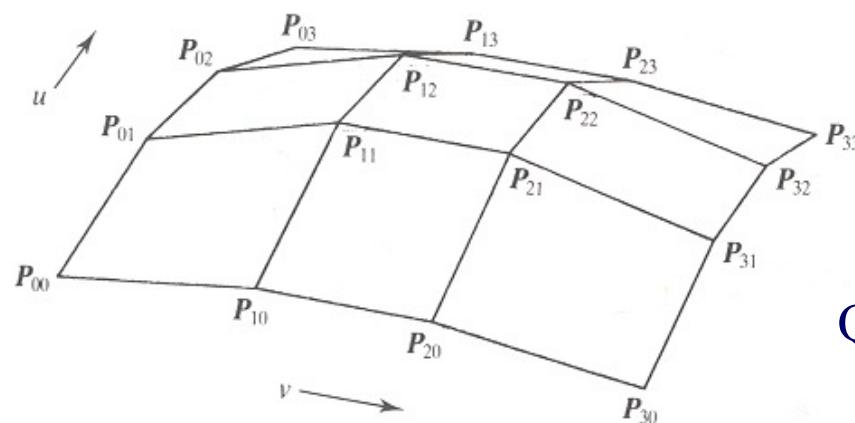
Same ideas as parametric curves!

FvDFH Figure 11.44



# Parametric Patches

- Point  $Q(u,v)$  on the patch is the tensor product of parametric curves defined by the control points

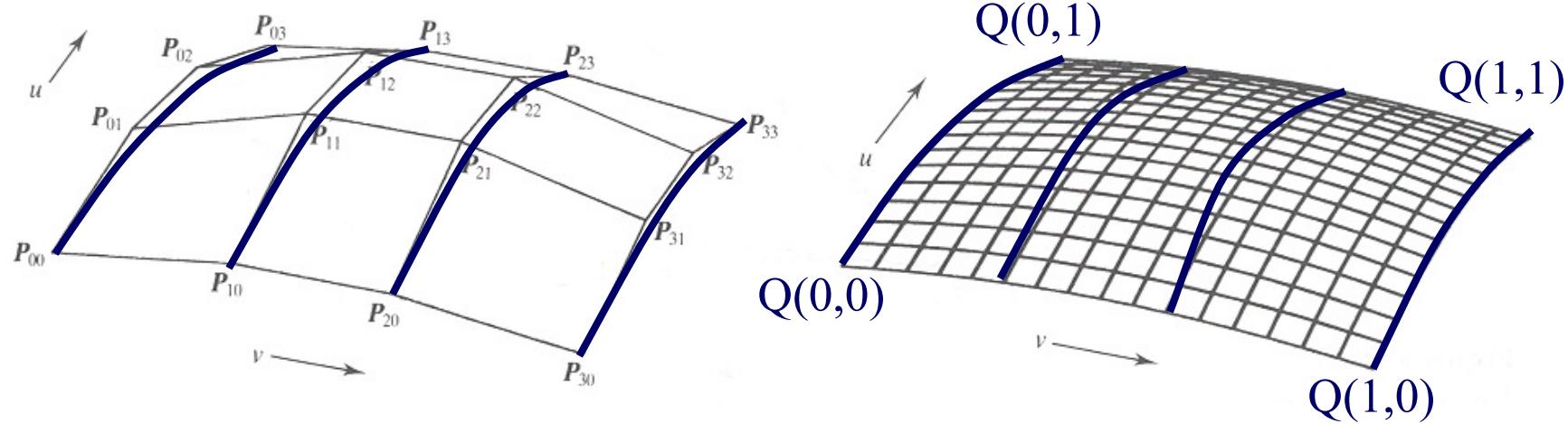


Watt Figure 6.21



# Parametric Patches

- Point  $Q(u,v)$  on the patch is the tensor product of parametric curves defined by the control points

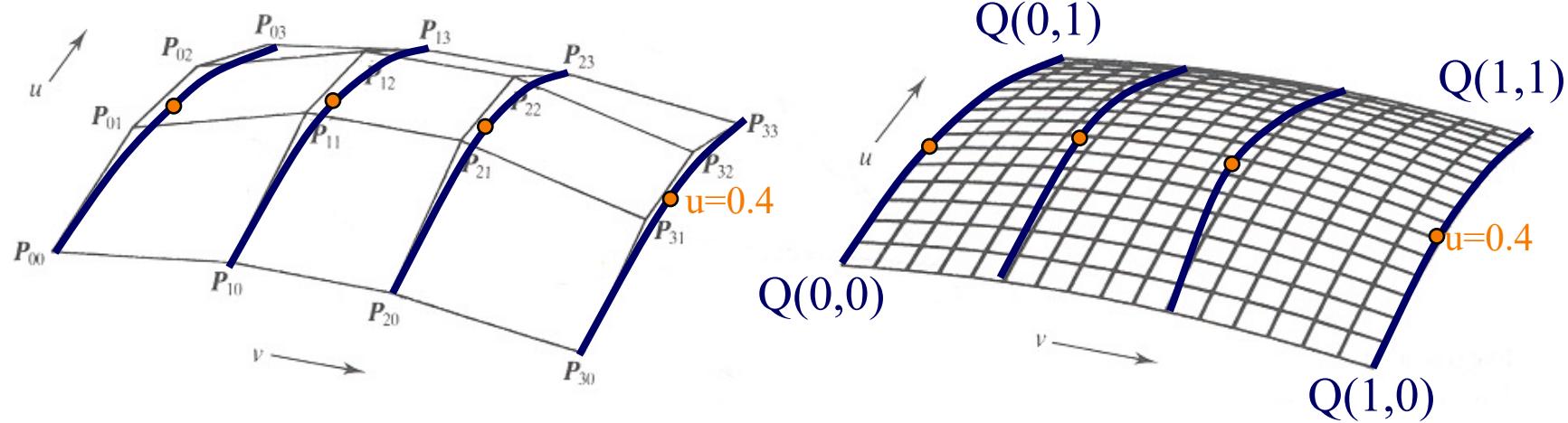


Watt Figure 6.21



# Parametric Patches

- Point  $Q(u,v)$  on the patch is the tensor product of parametric curves defined by the control points

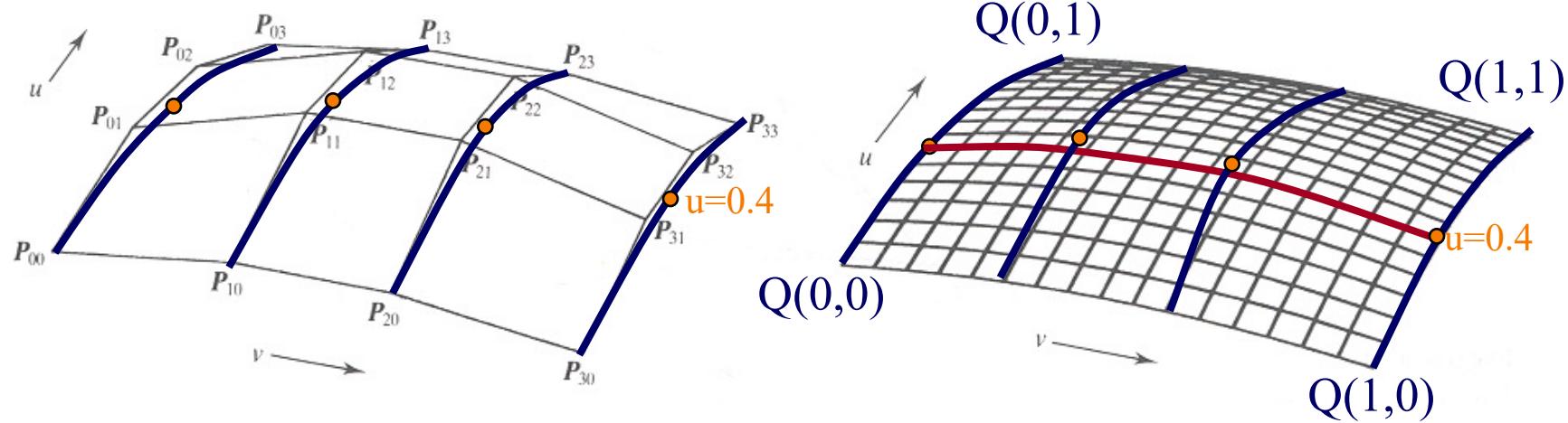


Watt Figure 6.21



# Parametric Patches

- Point  $Q(u,v)$  on the patch is the tensor product of parametric curves defined by the control points

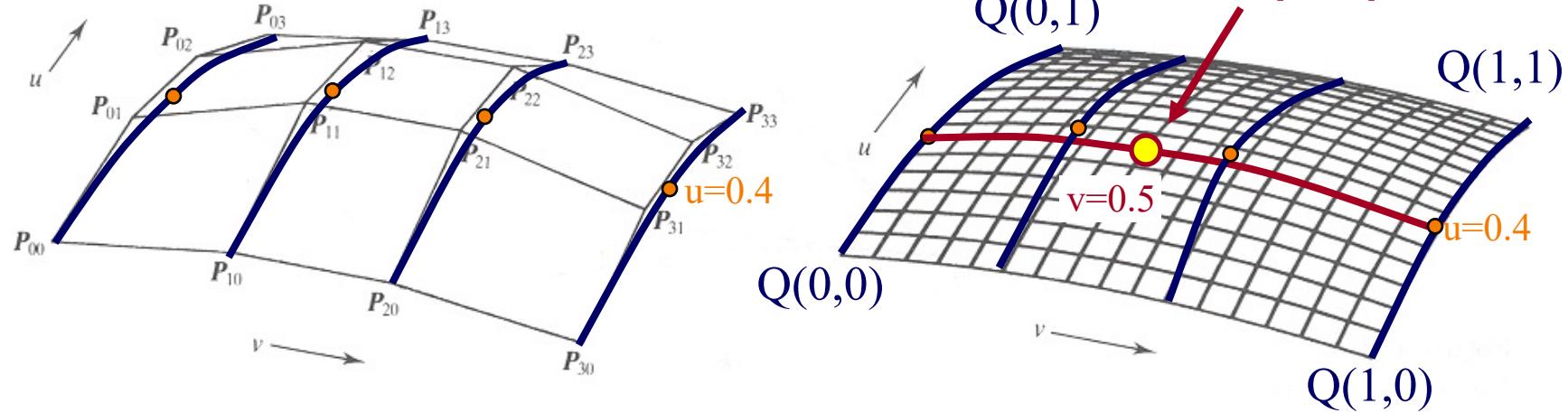


Watt Figure 6.21



# Parametric Patches

- Point  $Q(u,v)$  on the patch is the tensor product of parametric curves defined by the control points



Watt Figure 6.21



# Parametric Bicubic Patches

- Point Q(u,v) on any patch is defined by combining control points with polynomial blending functions:

$$Q(u, v) = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{M} \begin{bmatrix} P_{1,1} & P_{1,2} & P_{1,3} & P_{1,4} \\ P_{2,1} & P_{2,2} & P_{2,3} & P_{2,4} \\ P_{3,1} & P_{3,2} & P_{3,3} & P_{3,4} \\ P_{4,1} & P_{4,2} & P_{4,3} & P_{4,4} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{V}^T$$

$$\mathbf{U} = [u^3 \quad u^2 \quad u \quad 1] \quad \mathbf{V} = [v^3 \quad v^2 \quad v \quad 1]$$

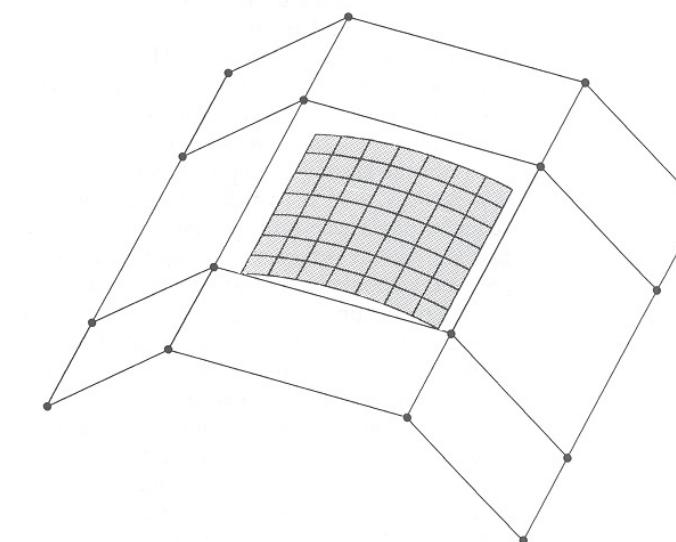
Where M is a matrix describing the blending functions for a parametric cubic curve (e.g., Bézier, B-spline, etc.)



# B-Spline Patches

$$Q(u, v) = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{M}_{\text{B-Spline}} \begin{bmatrix} P_{1,1} & P_{1,2} & P_{1,3} & P_{1,4} \\ P_{2,1} & P_{2,2} & P_{2,3} & P_{2,4} \\ P_{3,1} & P_{3,2} & P_{3,3} & P_{3,4} \\ P_{4,1} & P_{4,2} & P_{4,3} & P_{4,4} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{\text{B-Spline}}^T \mathbf{V}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{B-Spline}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/6 & 1/2 & -1/2 & 1/6 \\ 1/2 & -1 & 1/2 & 0 \\ -1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/6 & 2/3 & 1/6 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



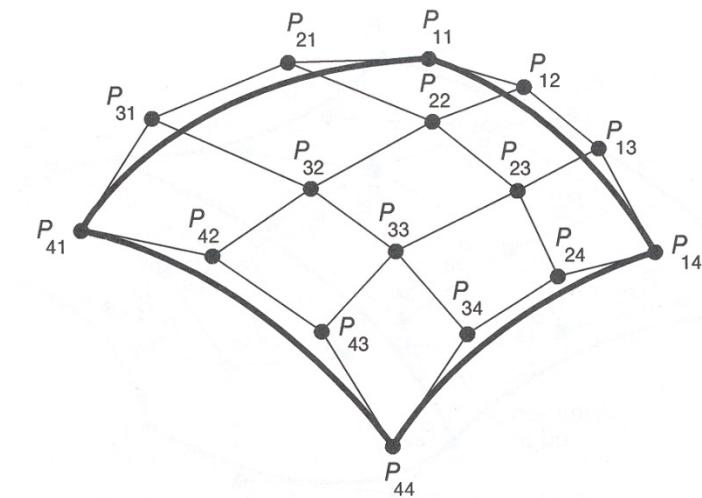
Watt Figure 6.28



# Bézier Patches

$$Q(u, v) = \mathbf{U} \mathbf{M}_{\text{Bezier}} \begin{bmatrix} P_{1,1} & P_{1,2} & P_{1,3} & P_{1,4} \\ P_{2,1} & P_{2,2} & P_{2,3} & P_{2,4} \\ P_{3,1} & P_{3,2} & P_{3,3} & P_{3,4} \\ P_{4,1} & P_{4,2} & P_{4,3} & P_{4,4} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{\text{Bezier}}^T \mathbf{V}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_{\text{Bezier}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

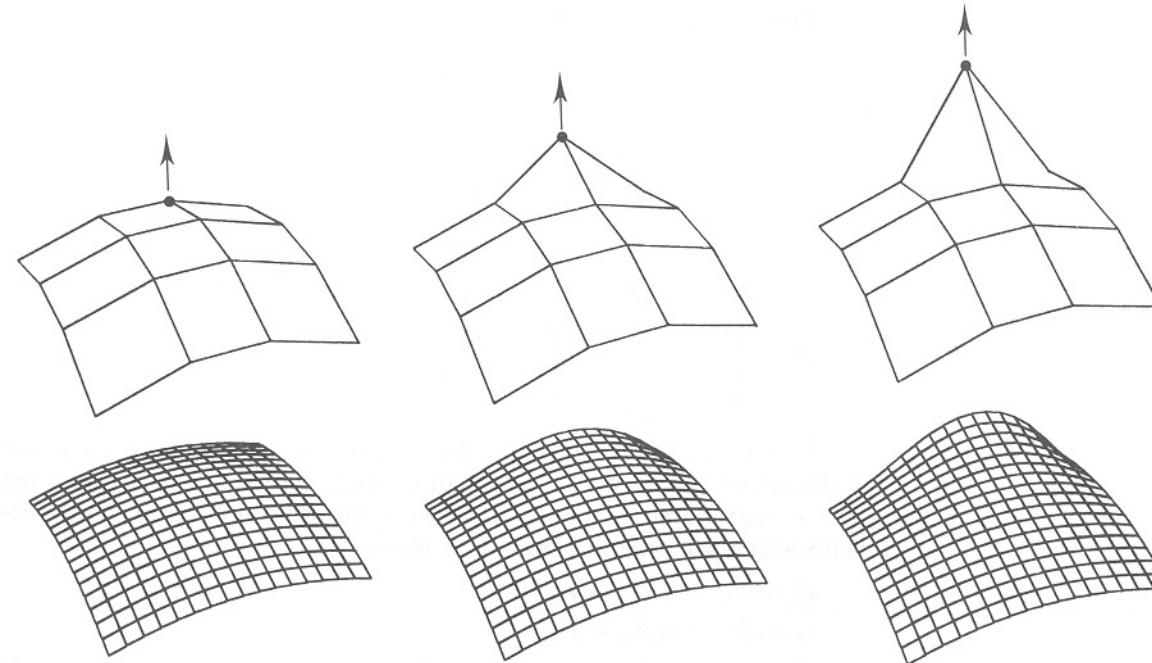


FvDFH Figure 11.42



# Bézier Patches

- Properties:
  - Interpolates four corner points
  - Convex hull
  - Local control

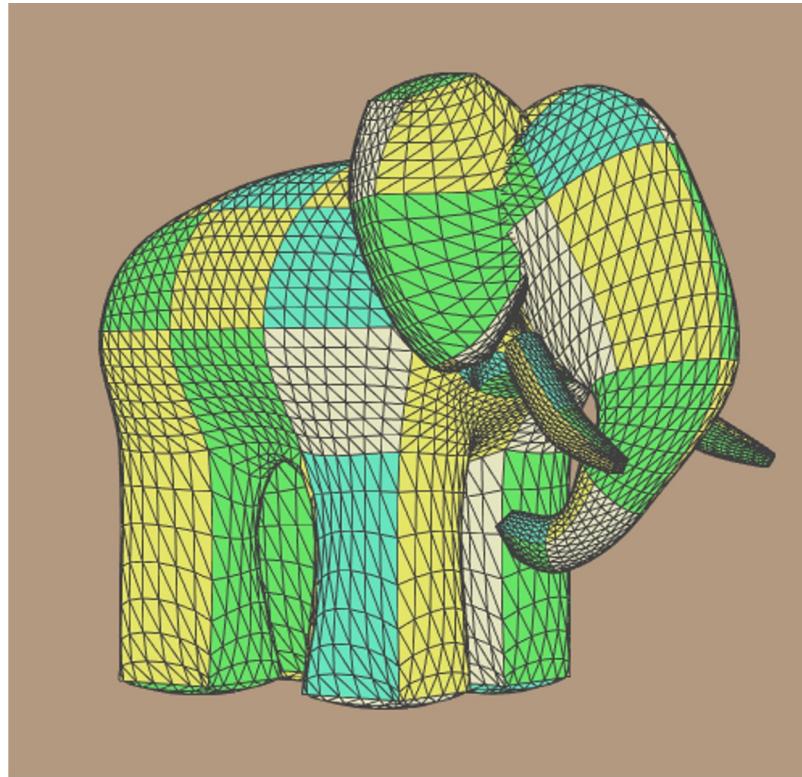


Watt Figure 6.22



# Piecewise Polynomial Parametric Surfaces

- Surface is composition of many parametric patches

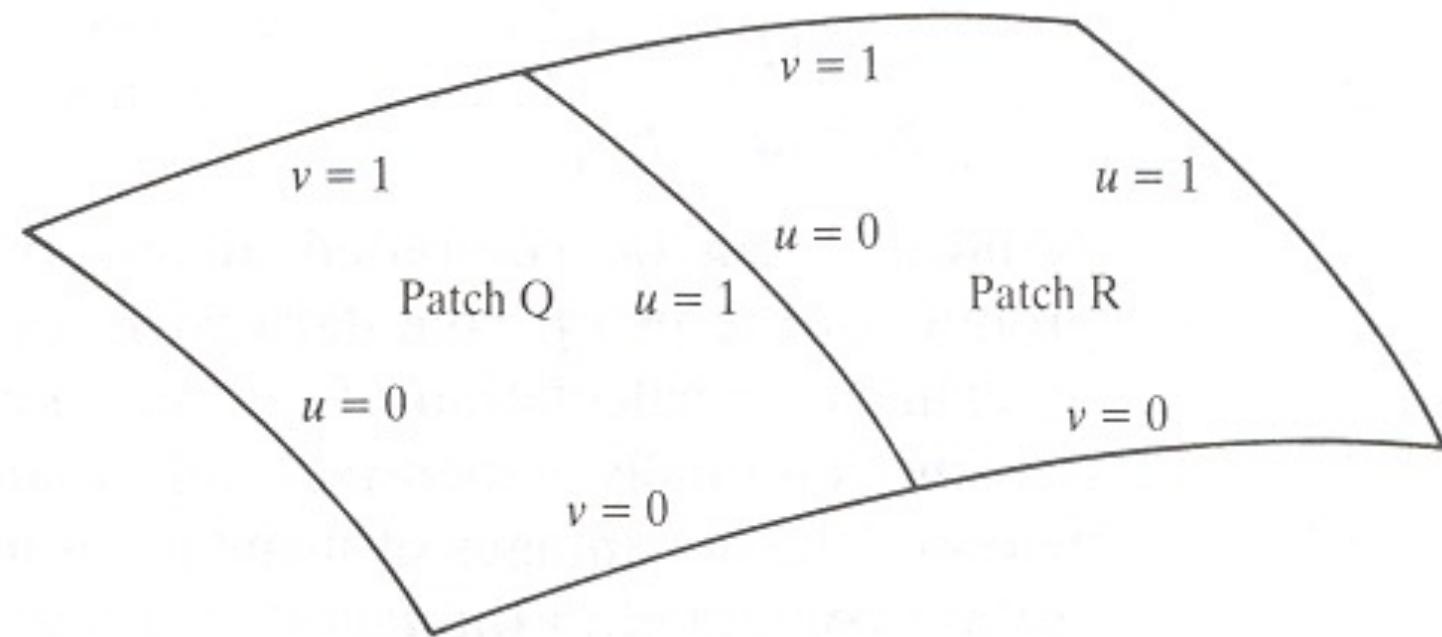


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# Piecewise Polynomial Parametric Surfaces

- Must maintain continuity across seams



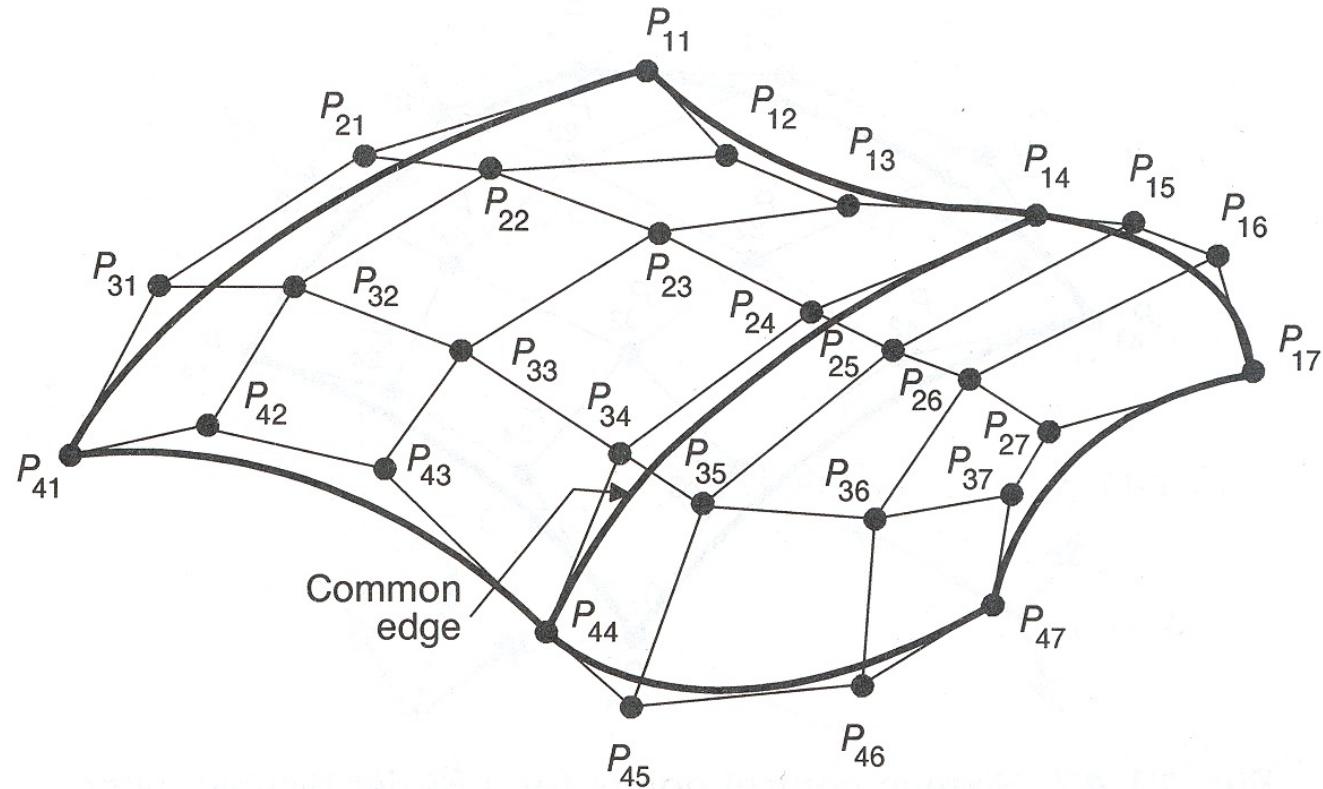
Same ideas as parametric splines!

Watt Figure 6.25



# Bézier Surfaces

- Continuity constraints are similar to the ones for Bézier splines

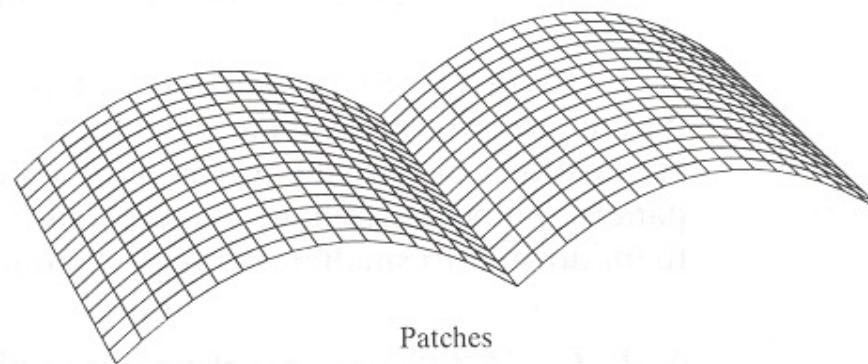
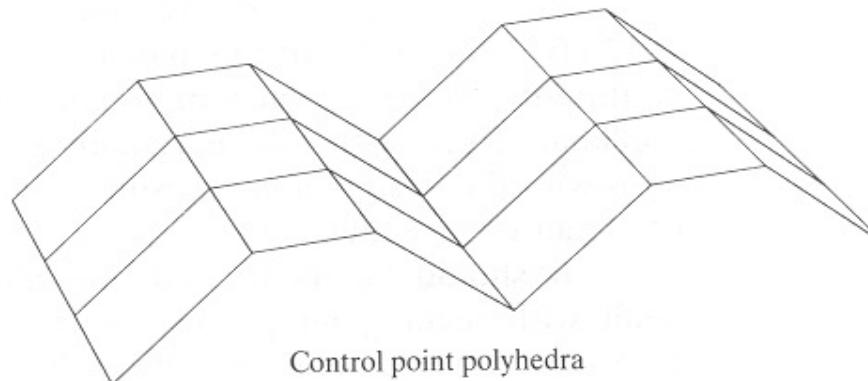


FvDFH Figure 11.43



# Bézier Surfaces

- $C^0$  continuity requires aligning boundary curves

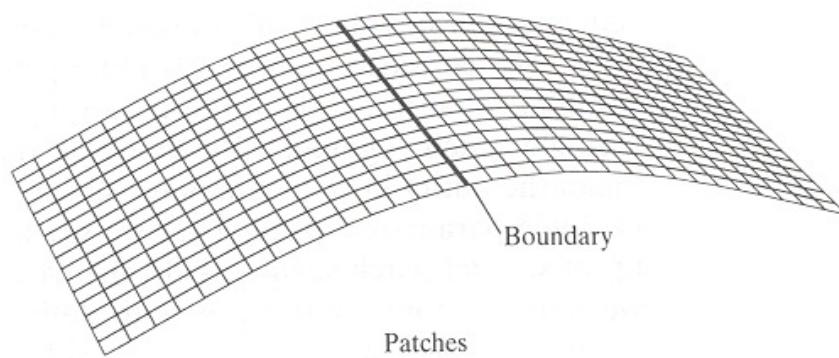
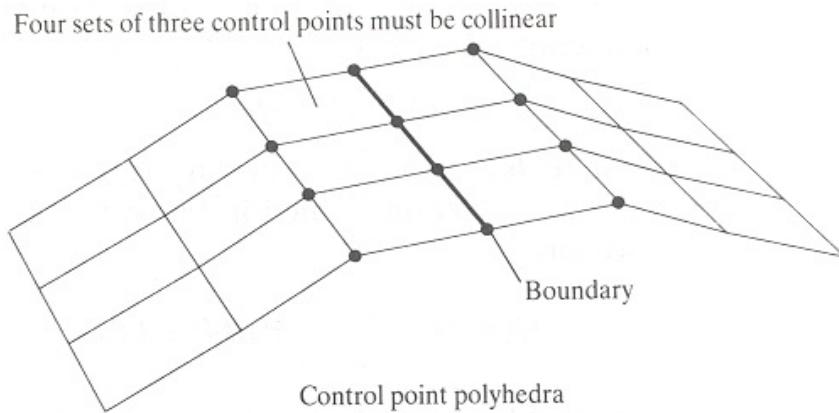


Watt Figure 6.26a



# Bézier Surfaces

- $C^1$  continuity requires aligning boundary curves and derivatives

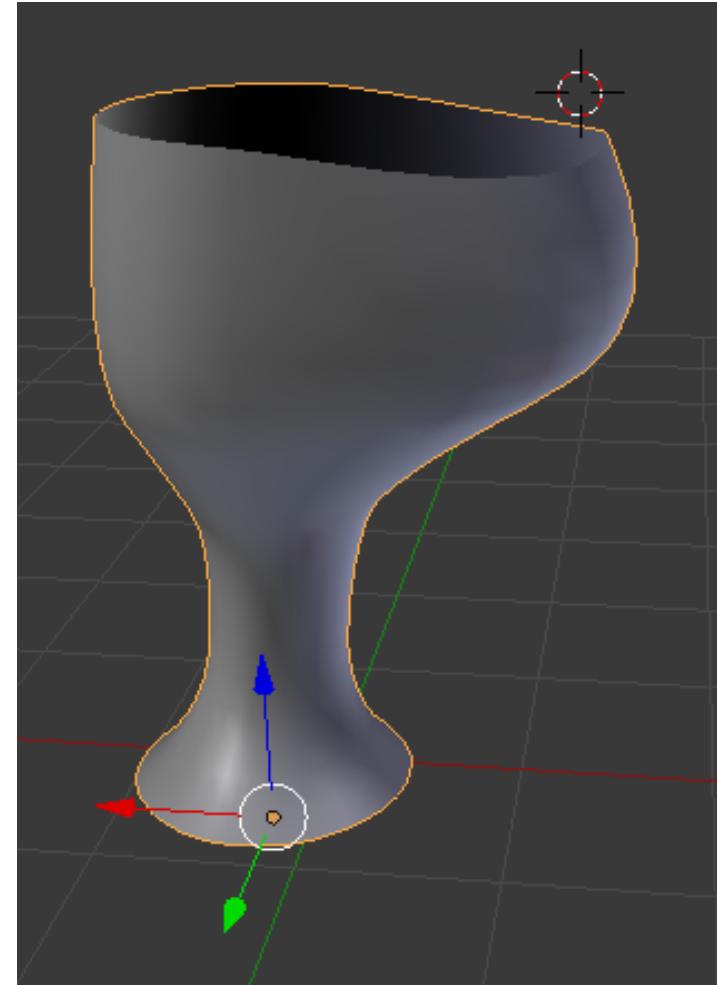


Watt Figure 6.26b



# NURBS

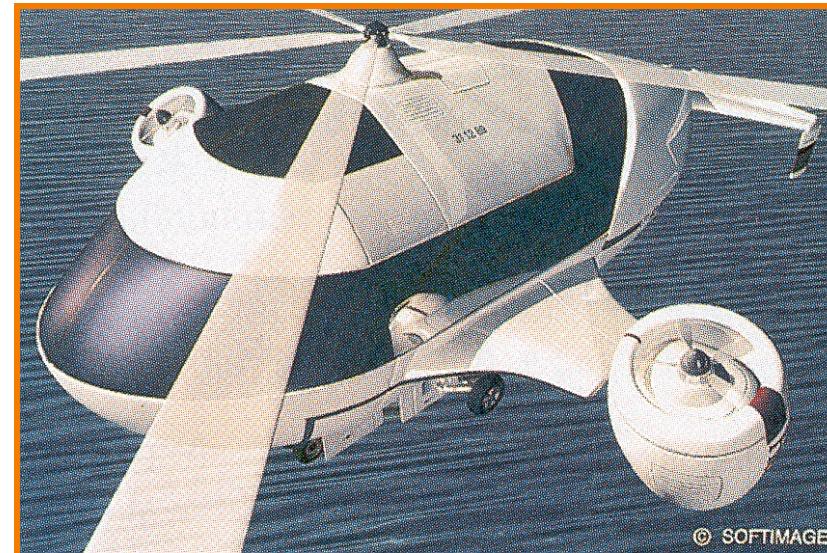
- **Non-Uniform Rational B-Splines**
- Most common parametric surface representation
- Per-control-point weights, non-uniform parameterization provide greater control and artistic flexibility





# Parametric Surfaces

- Properties
  - ? Natural parameterization
  - ? Guaranteed smoothness
  - ? Intuitive editing
  - ? Concise
  - ? Accurate
  - ? Efficient display
  - ? Easy acquisition
  - ? Efficient intersections
  - ? Guaranteed validity
  - ? Arbitrary topology

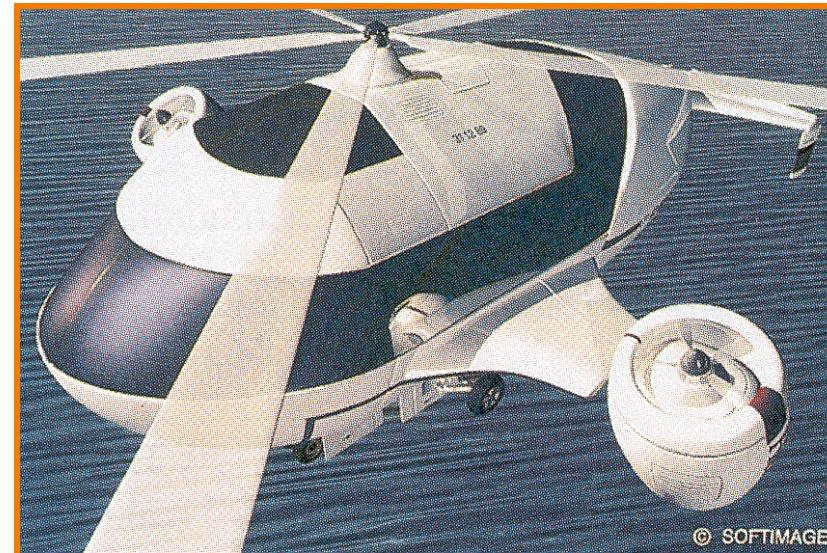


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# Parametric Surfaces

- Properties
  - ☺ Natural parameterization
  - ☺ Guaranteed smoothness
  - ☺ Intuitive editing
  - ☺ Concise
  - ☺ Accurate
    - Efficient display
  - ☹ Easy acquisition
  - ☹ Efficient intersections
  - ☹ Guaranteed validity
  - ☹ Arbitrary topology



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