CSE 167:
Introduction to Computer Graphics
Lecture #13: Bezier Surfaces

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Announcements

- Homework assignment #6 due Friday at 1:30pm
  - Last day for late submissions assignment #5
- Next Monday discussion: midterm #2
- Next Thursday: midterm #2

Overview

- Piecewise Bezier curves
- Bezier surfaces

Global Parameterization

- Given N curve segments $\mathbf{x}_0(t)$, $\mathbf{x}_1(t)$, …, $\mathbf{x}_{N-1}(t)$
- Each is parameterized for t from 0 to 1
- Define a piecewise curve
  - Global parameter u from 0 to N

$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_0(u), & 0 \le u \le 1 \\ \mathbf{x}_1(u-1), & 1 \le u \le 2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1}(u-(N-1)), & N-1 \le u \le N \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \mathbf{x}_i(u-i), \text{ where } i = \lfloor u \rfloor \quad (\text{and } \mathbf{x}(N) = \mathbf{x}_{N-1}(1))$$

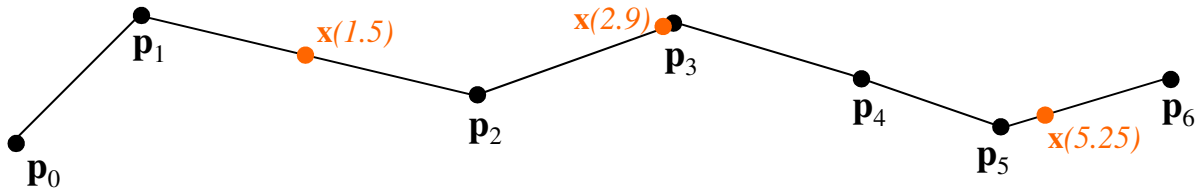
- Alternate: solution u also goes from 0 to 1

$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \mathbf{x}_i(Nu-i), \text{ where } i = \lfloor Nu \rfloor$$

Piecewise-Linear Curve

- Given N+1 points $\mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{p}_N$
- Define curve

$$\mathbf{x}(u) = Lerp(u-i, \mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{p}_{i+1}), \qquad i \le u \le i+1$$
$$= (1-u+i)\mathbf{p}_i + (u-i)\mathbf{p}_{i+1}, \quad i = \lfloor u \rfloor$$



- N+1 points define N linear segments
- $\mathbf{x}(i)=\mathbf{p}_i$
- C^0 continuous by construction
- C^1 at $\mathbf{p}_i$ when $\mathbf{p}_i - \mathbf{p}_{i-1} = \mathbf{p}_{i+1} - \mathbf{p}_i$

Piecewise Bézier curve

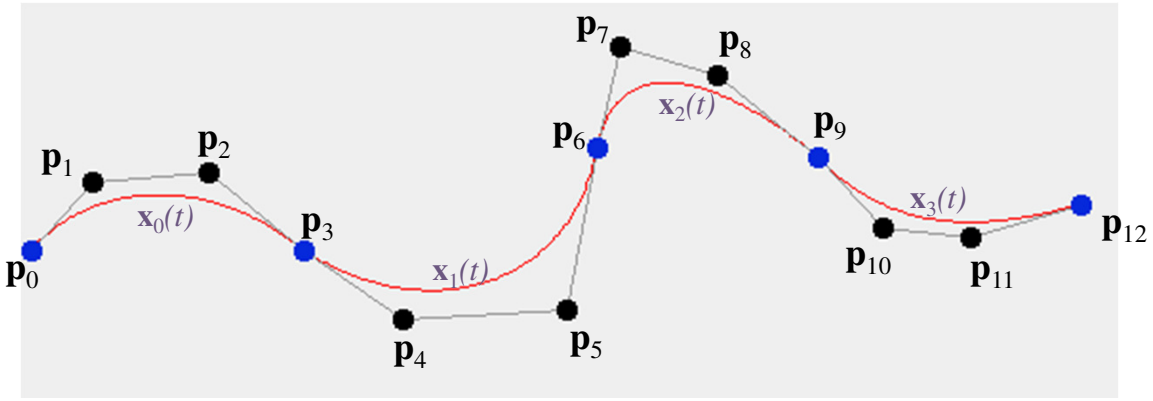
- Given $3N+1$ points $\mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{p}_{3N}$
- Define N Bézier segments:

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

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t) = B_0(t)\mathbf{p}_3 + B_1(t)\mathbf{p}_4 + B_2(t)\mathbf{p}_5 + B_3(t)\mathbf{p}_6$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{N-1}(t) = B_0(t)\mathbf{p}_{3N-3} + B_1(t)\mathbf{p}_{3N-2} + B_2(t)\mathbf{p}_{3N-1} + B_3(t)\mathbf{p}_{3N}$$

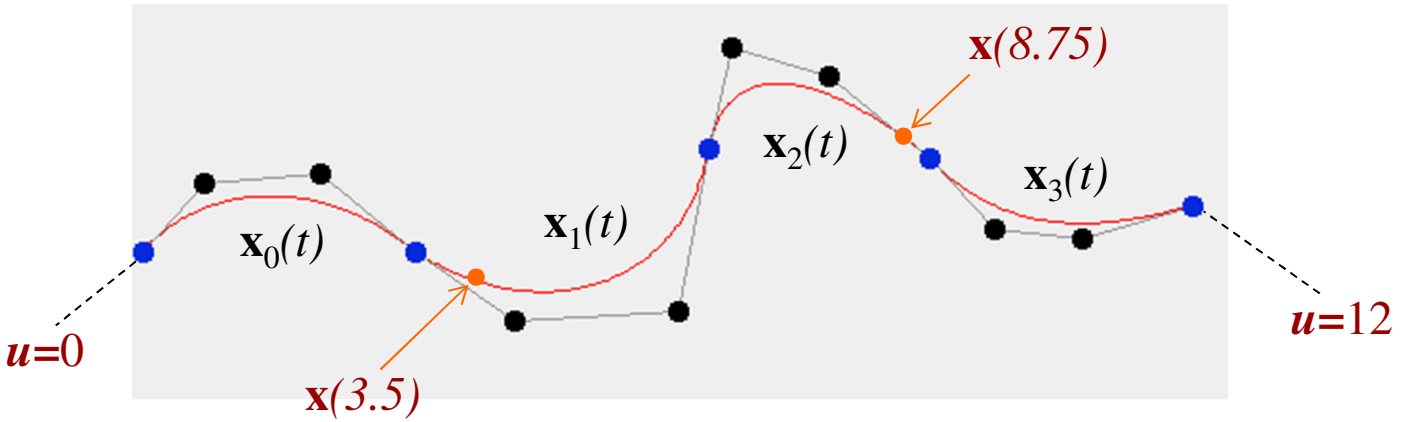


Piecewise Bézier Curve

- Parameter in 0<=u<=$3N$

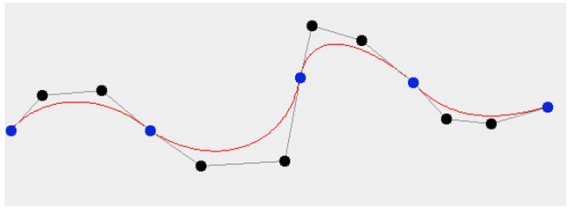
$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_0(\frac{1}{3}u), & 0 \le u \le 3 \\ \mathbf{x}_1(\frac{1}{3}u - 1), & 3 \le u \le 6 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1}(\frac{1}{3}u - (N-1)), & 3N-3 \le u \le 3N \end{cases}$$

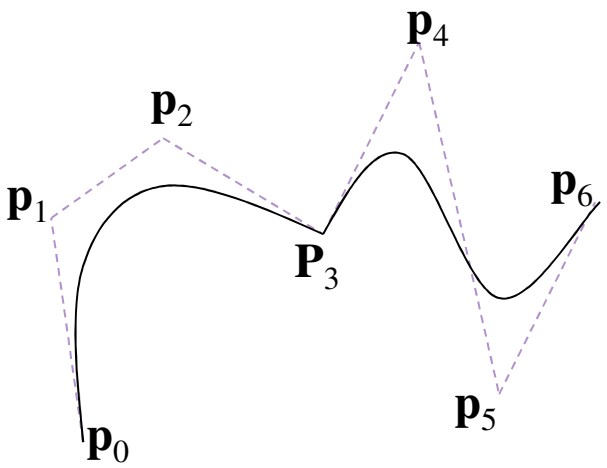
$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \mathbf{x}_i\left(\tfrac{1}{3}u - i\right), \text{ where } i = \left\lfloor \tfrac{1}{3}u \right\rfloor$$



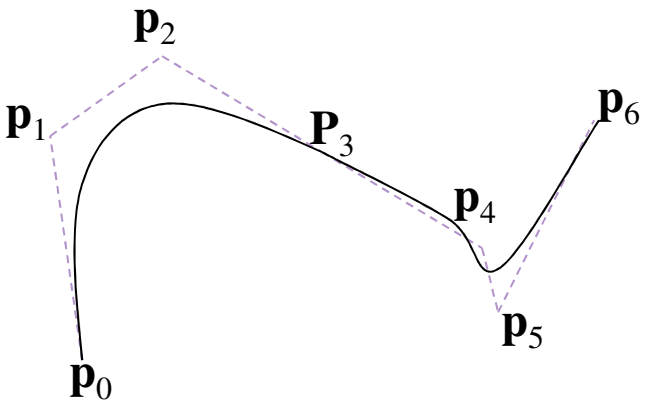
Piecewise Bézier Curve

- $3N+1$ points define N Bézier segments
- $\mathbf{x}(3i)=\mathbf{p}_{3i}$
- C_0 continuous by construction
- C_1 continuous at $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$ when $\mathbf{p}_{3i} - \mathbf{p}_{3i-1} = \mathbf{p}_{3i+1} - \mathbf{p}_{3i}$
- C_2 is harder to achieve





C_1 discontinuous



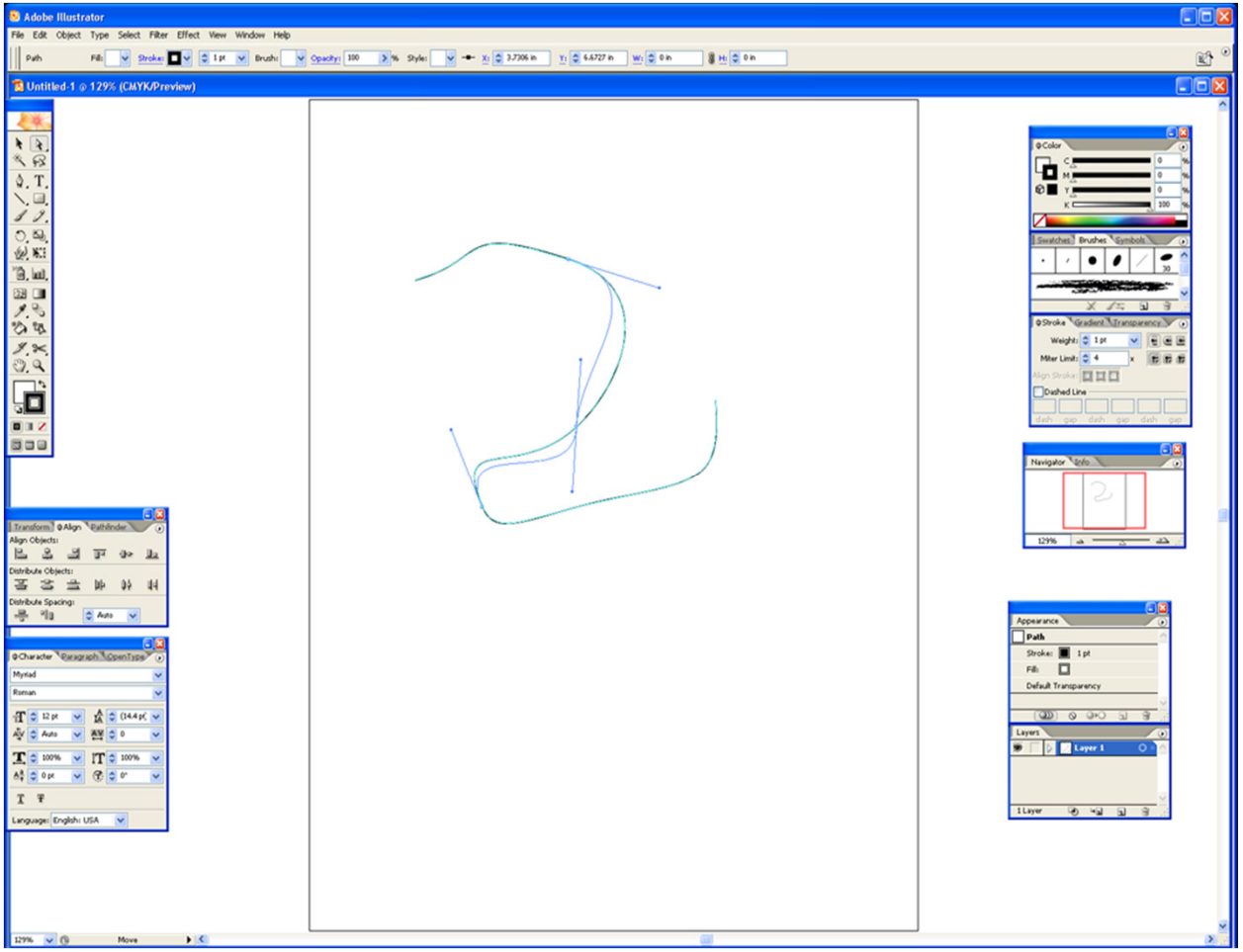
C_1 continuous

Piecewise Bézier Curves

- Used often in 2D drawing programs
- Inconveniences
  - Must have 4 or 7 or 10 or 13 or … (1 plus a multiple of 3) control points
  - Some points interpolate, others approximate
  - Need to impose constraints on control points to obtain C^1 continuity
  - C_2 continuity more difficult
- Solutions
  - User interface using "Bézier handles"
  - Generalization to B-splines or NURBS

Bézier Handles

- Segment end points (interpolating) presented as curve control points
- Midpoints (approximating points) presented as "handles"
- Can have option to enforce C_1 continuity



Adobe Illustrator

Piecewise Bézier Curve

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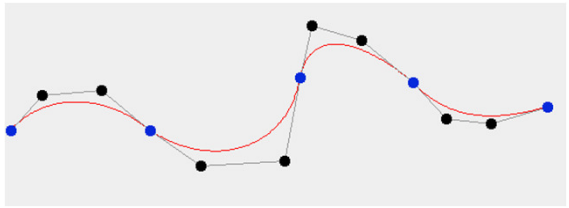
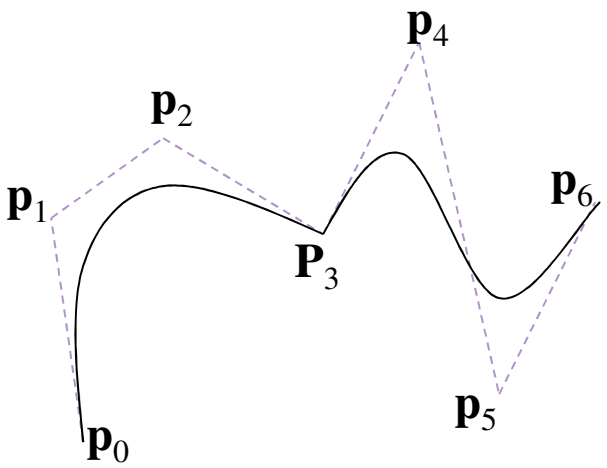
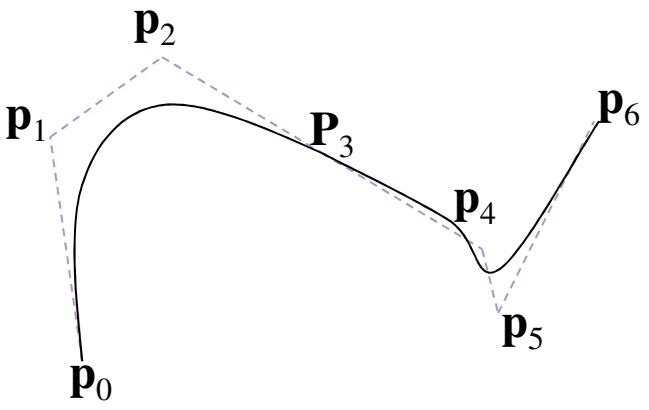




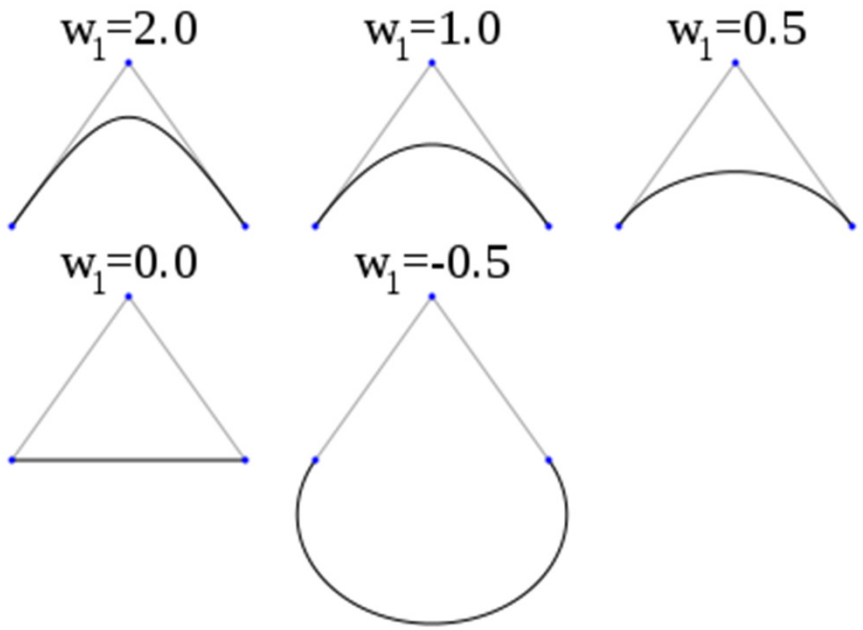
C_1 discontinuous



C_1 continuous

Rational Curves

- Weight causes point to "pull" more (or less)
- Can model circles with proper points and weights,
- Below: rational quadratic Bézier curve (three control points)



B-Splines

- B as in **B**asis-Splines
- Basis is blending function
- Difference to Bézier blending function:
  - B-spline blending function can be zero outside a particular range (limits scope over which a control point has influence)
- B-Spline is defined by control points and range in which each control point is active.

NURBS

- **N**on **U**niform **R**ational **B-S**plines
- Generalization of Bézier curves
- Non uniform:
- Combine B-Splines (limited scope of control points) and Rational Curves (weighted control points)
- Can exactly model conic sections (circles, ellipses)
- OpenGL support: see `gluNurbsCurve`
- http://bentonian.com/teaching/AdvGraph0809/demos/Nurbs2d/index.html
- http://mathworld.wolfram.com/NURBSCurve.html

Overview

- Bi-linear patch
- Bi-cubic Bézier patch
- Advanced parametric surfaces

Curved Surfaces

Curves

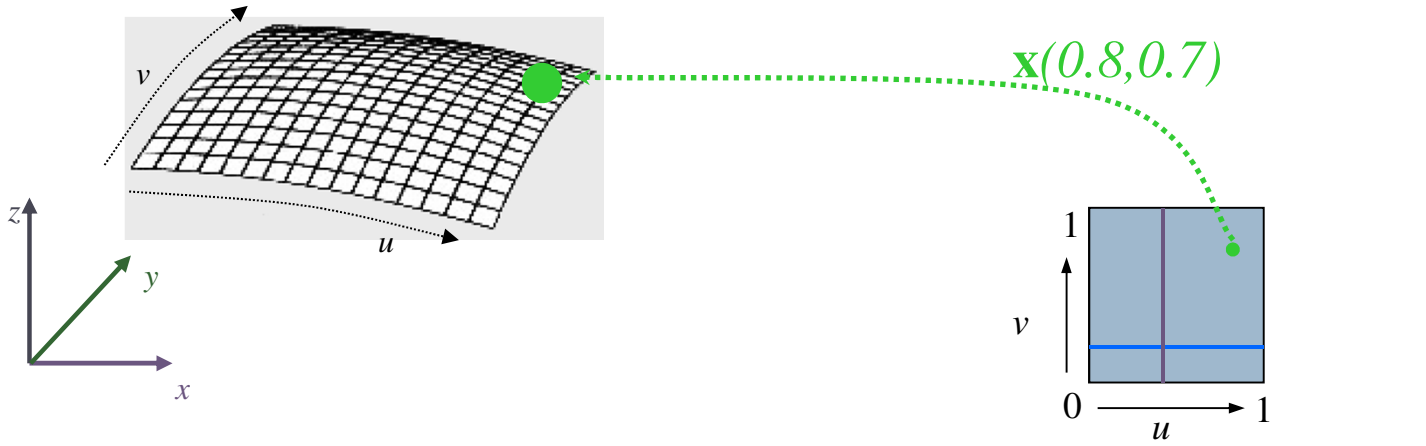
- Described by a 1D series of control points
- A function $\mathbf{x}(t)$
- Segments joined together to form a longer curve

Surfaces

- Described by a 2D mesh of control points
- Parameters have two dimensions (two dimensional parameter domain)
- A function $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$
- Patches joined together to form a bigger surface

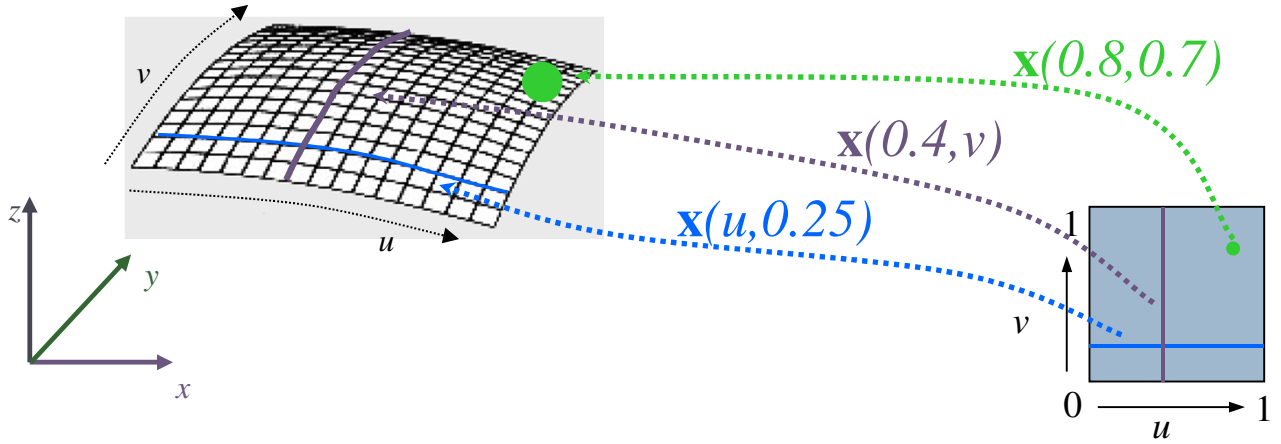
Parametric Surface Patch

- $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$ describes a point in space for any given (u,v) pair
  - u,v each range from 0 to 1



Parametric Surface Patch

- $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$ describes a point in space for any given (u,v) pair
  - u,v each range from 0 to 1

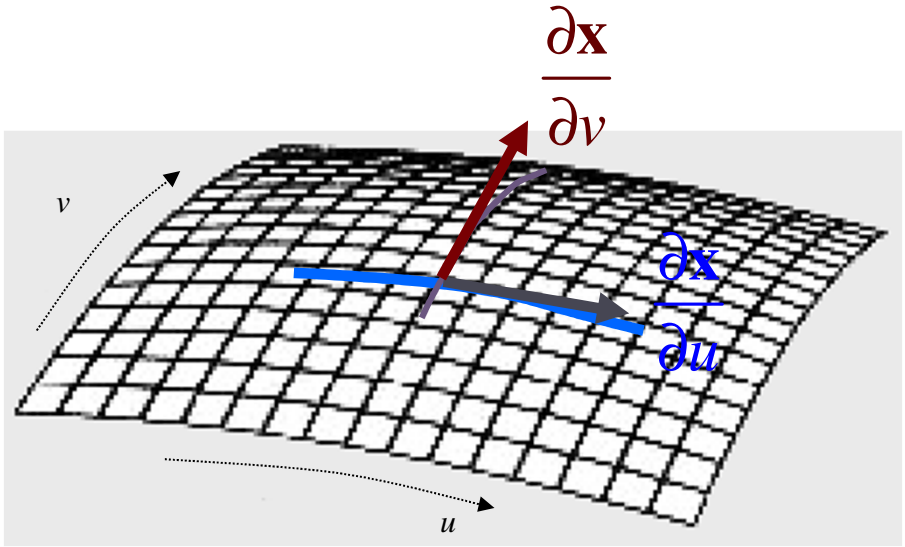


2D parameter domain

- Parametric curves
  - For fixed u_0, have a v curve $\mathbf{x}(u_0,v)$
  - For fixed v_0, have a u curve $\mathbf{x}(u,v_0)$
  - For any point on the surface, there are a pair of parametric curves through that point

Tangents

- The tangent to a parametric curve is also tangent to the surface
- For any point on the surface, there are a pair of (parametric) tangent vectors
- Note: these vectors are not necessarily perpendicular to each other



Tangents

- Notation:
  - The tangent along a u curve, AKA the tangent in the u direction, is written as:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial u}(u,v) \text{ or } \frac{\partial}{\partial u}\mathbf{x}(u,v) \text{ or } \mathbf{x}_u(u,v)$$

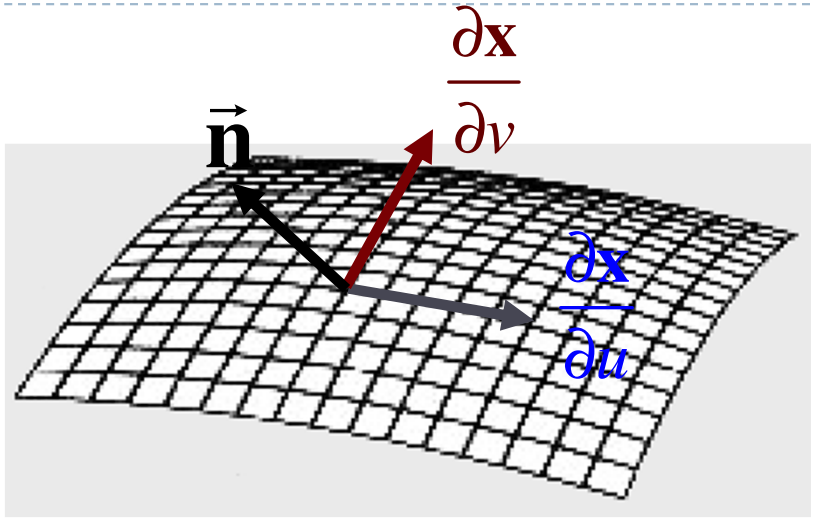
  - The tangent along a v curve, AKA the tangent in the v direction, is written as:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial v}(u,v) \text{ or } \frac{\partial}{\partial v}\mathbf{x}(u,v) \text{ or } \mathbf{x}_v(u,v)$$

- Note that each of these is a vector-valued function:
  - At each point $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$ on the surface, we have tangent vectors $\frac{\partial}{\partial u}\mathbf{x}(u,v)$ and $\frac{\partial}{\partial v}\mathbf{x}(u,v)$

Surface Normal

- Normal is cross product of the two tangent vectors
- Order matters!



$$\vec{\mathbf{n}}(u,v) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial u}(u,v) \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial v}(u,v)$$

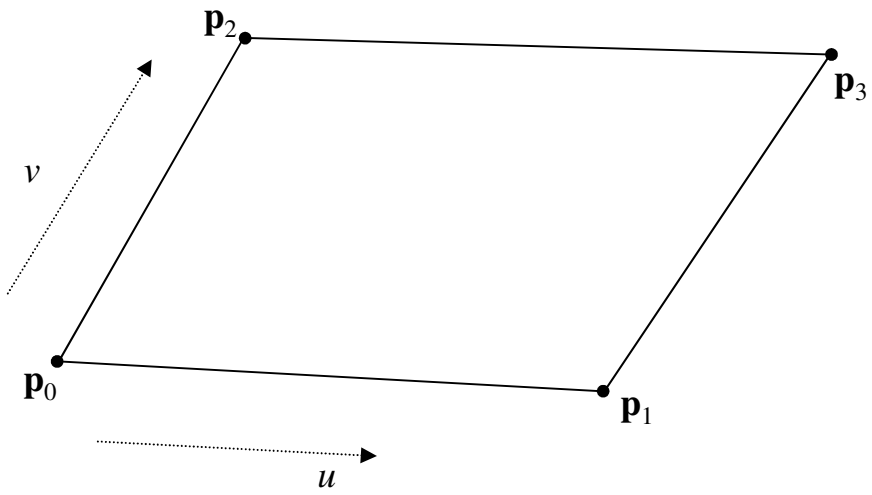
Typically we are interested in the unit normal, so we need to normalize

$$\vec{\mathbf{n}}^*(u,v) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial u}(u,v) \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial v}(u,v)$$

$$\vec{\mathbf{n}}(u,v) = \frac{\vec{\mathbf{n}}^*(u,v)}{\left|\vec{\mathbf{n}}^*(u,v)\right|}$$

Bilinear Patch

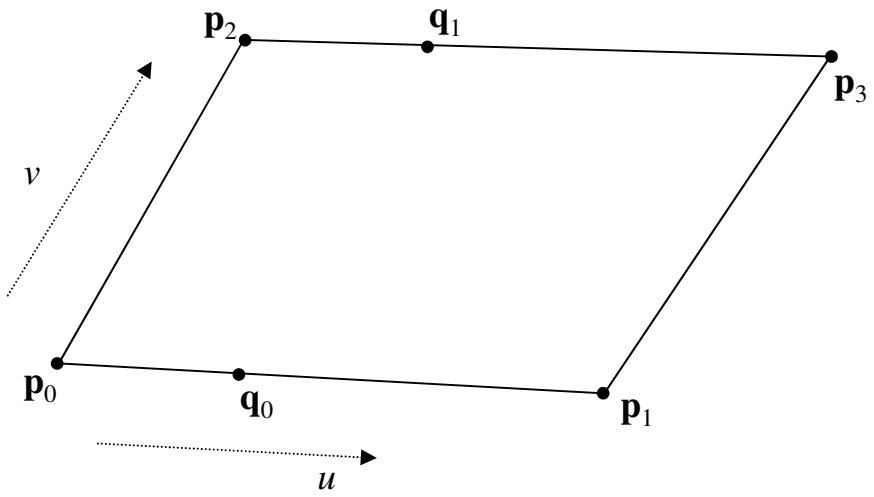
- Control mesh with four points $\mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3$
- Compute $\mathbf{x}(u,v)$ using a two-step construction scheme



Bilinear Patch (Step 1)

- For a given value of u, evaluate the linear curves on the two u-direction edges
- Use the same value u for both:

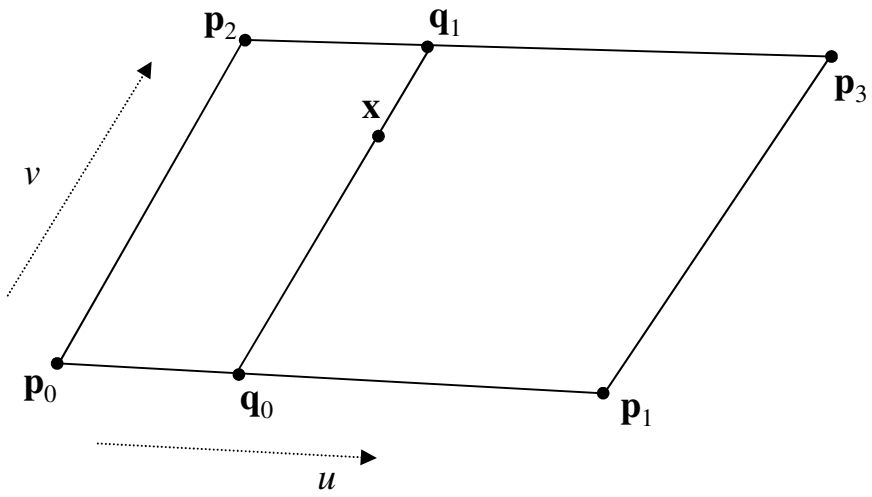
$$\mathbf{q}_0 = Lerp(u, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1) \qquad \mathbf{q}_1 = Lerp(u, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3)$$



Bilinear Patch (Step 2)

- Consider that $\mathbf{q_0}, \mathbf{q_1}$ define a line segment
- Evaluate it using v to get $\mathbf{x}$

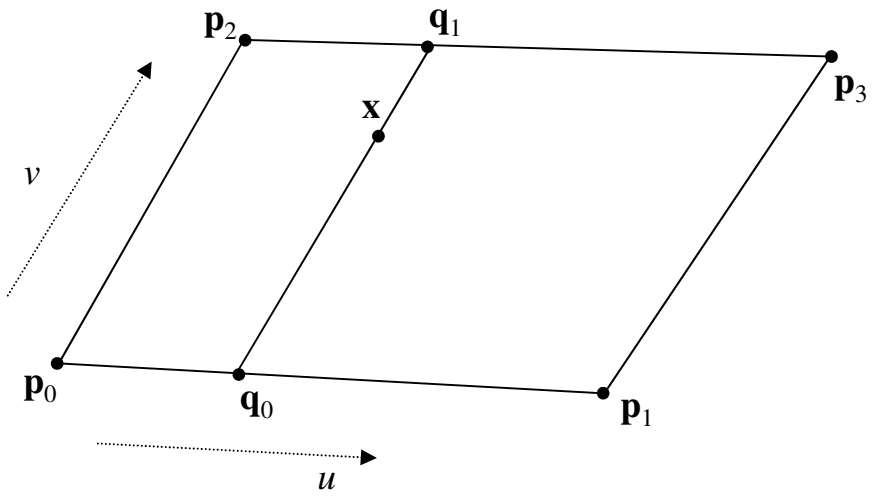
$$\mathbf{x} = Lerp(v, \mathbf{q}_0, \mathbf{q}_1)$$



Bilinear Patch

- Combining the steps, we get the full formula

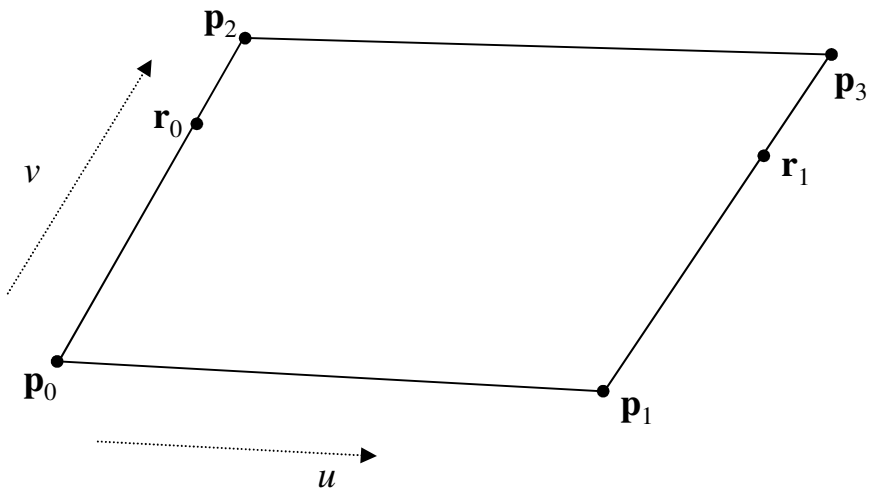
$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = Lerp(v, Lerp(u, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1), Lerp(u, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3))$$



Bilinear Patch

- Try the other order
- Evaluate first in the v direction

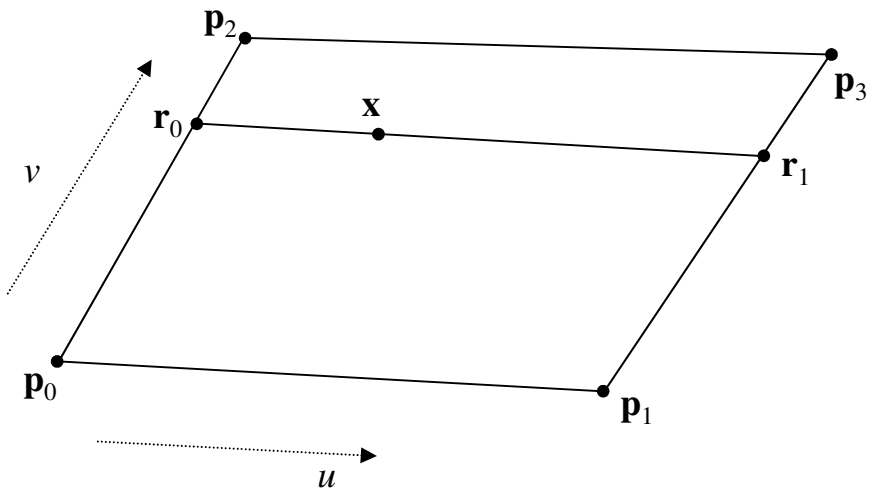
$$\mathbf{r}_0 = Lerp(v, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_2) \qquad \mathbf{r}_1 = Lerp(v, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_3)$$



Bilinear Patch

- Consider that $\mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_1$ define a line segment
- Evaluate it using u to get $\mathbf{x}$

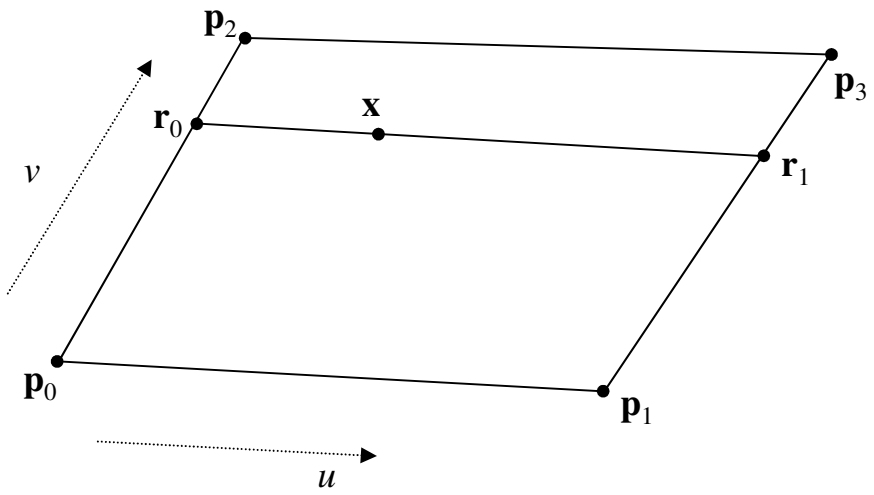
$$\mathbf{x} = Lerp(u, \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_1)$$



Bilinear Patch

- The full formula for the v direction first:

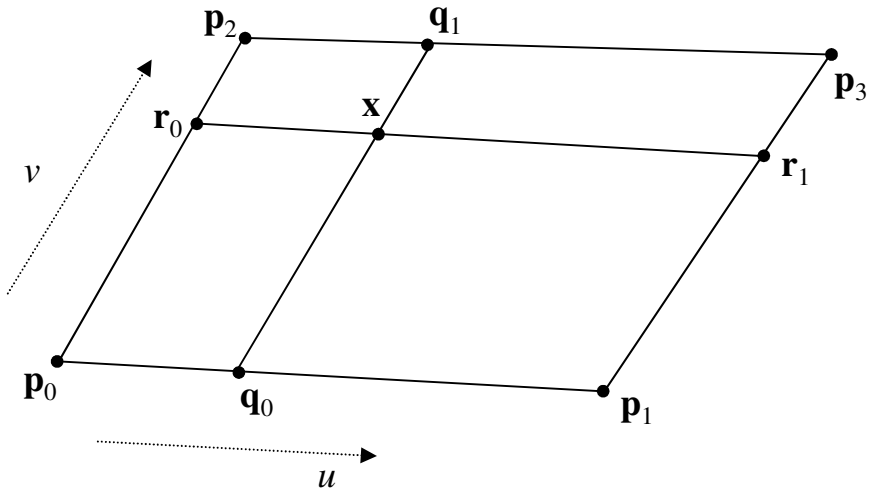
$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = Lerp(u, Lerp(v, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_2), Lerp(v, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_3))$$



Bilinear Patch

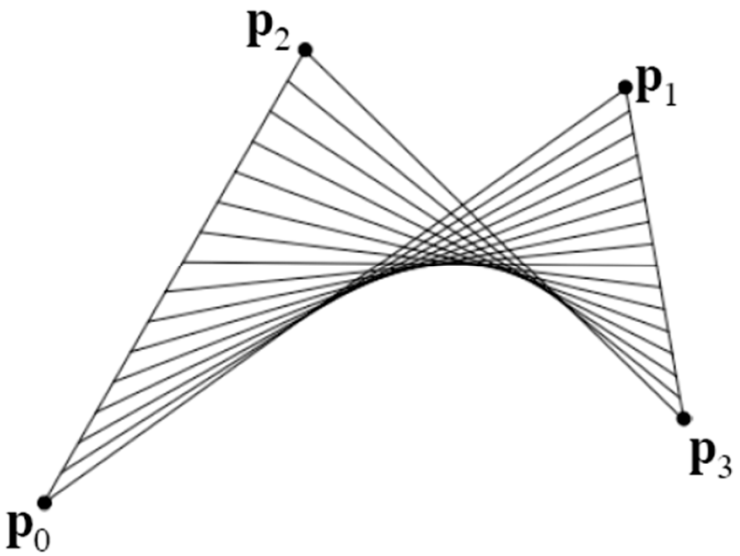
- Patch geometry is independent of the order of *u* and *v*

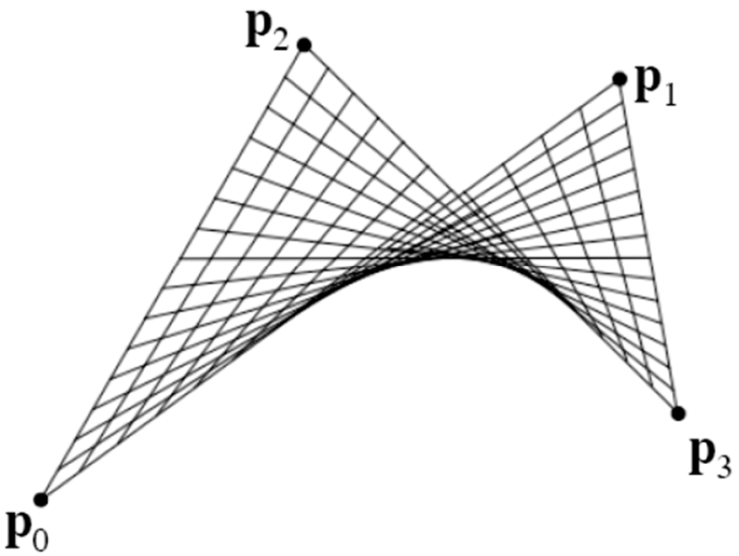
$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = Lerp(v, Lerp(u, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1), Lerp(u, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3))$$
$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = Lerp(u, Lerp(v, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_2), Lerp(v, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_3))$$



Bilinear Patch

- Visualization





Bilinear Patches

- Weighted sum of control points

$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = (1-u)(1-v)\mathbf{p}_0 + u(1-v)\mathbf{p}_1 + (1-u)v\mathbf{p}_2 + uv\mathbf{p}_3$$

- Bilinear polynomial

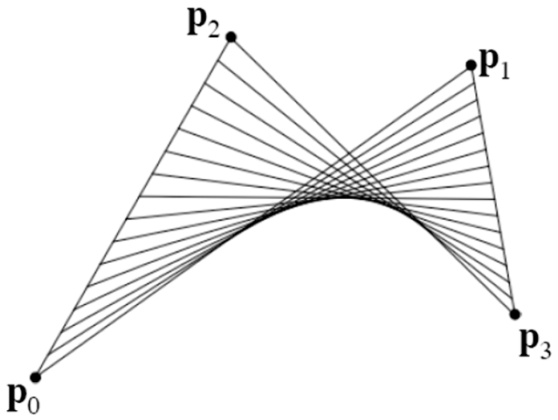
$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = (\mathbf{p}_0 - \mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_2 + \mathbf{p}_3)uv + (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0)u + (\mathbf{p}_2 - \mathbf{p}_0)v + \mathbf{p}_0$$

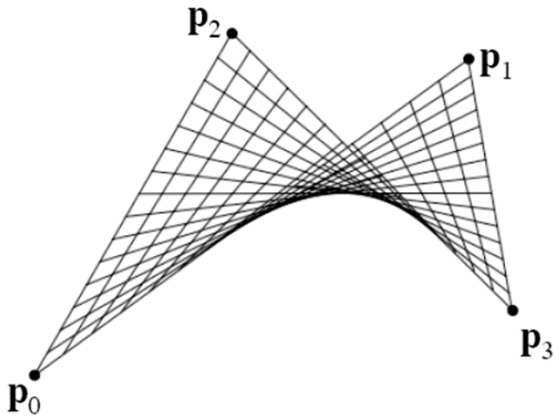
- Matrix form

$$x(u,v) = \begin{bmatrix} 1-u & u \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_0 & p_2 \\ p_1 & p_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1-v \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

Properties

- Interpolates the control points
- The boundaries are straight line segments
- If all 4 points of the control mesh are co-planar, the patch is flat
- If the points are not co-planar, we get a curved surface
  - saddle shape (hyperbolic paraboloid)
- *The parametric curves are all straight line segments!*
  - a (doubly) *ruled surface:* has (two) straight lines through every point





- Not terribly useful as a modeling primitive

Overview

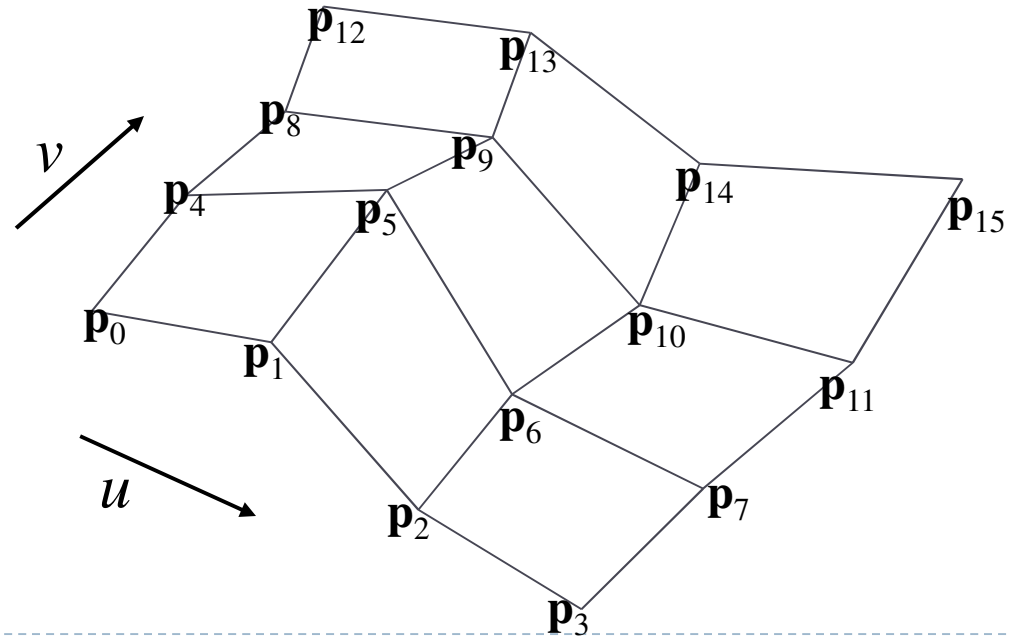
- Bi-linear patch
- Bi-cubic Bézier patch
- Advanced parametric surfaces

Bicubic Bézier patch

- Grid of 4x4 control points, $\mathbf{p}_0$ through $\mathbf{p}_{15}$
- Four rows of control points define Bézier curves along u

  $\mathbf{p}_0,\mathbf{p}_1,\mathbf{p}_2,\mathbf{p}_3$; $\mathbf{p}_4,\mathbf{p}_5,\mathbf{p}_6,\mathbf{p}_7$; $\mathbf{p}_8,\mathbf{p}_9,\mathbf{p}_{10},\mathbf{p}_{11}$; $\mathbf{p}_{12},\mathbf{p}_{13},\mathbf{p}_{14},\mathbf{p}_{15}$
- Four columns define Bézier curves along v

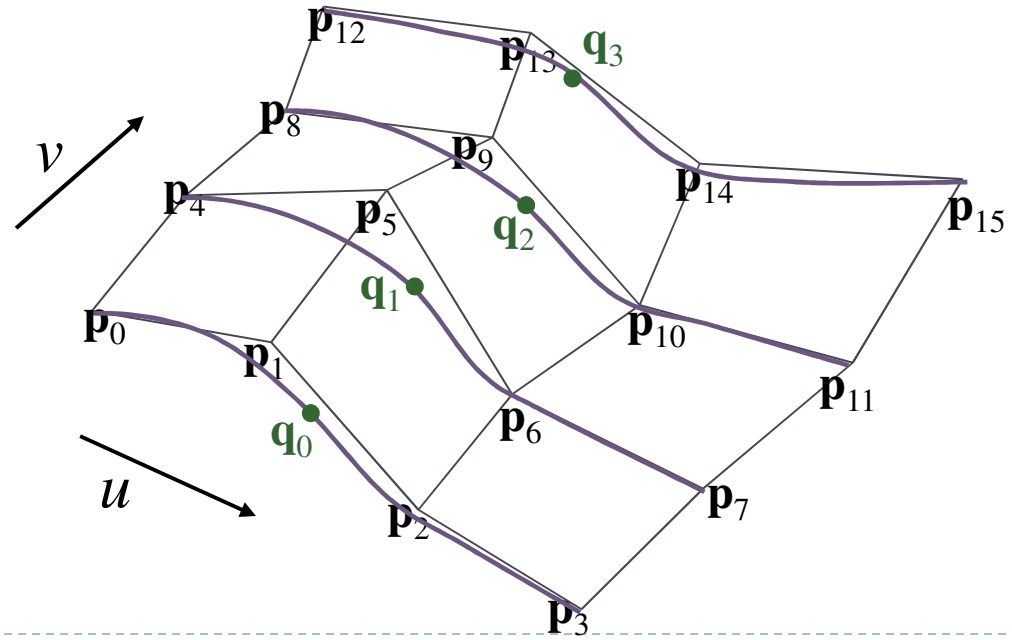
  $\mathbf{p}_0,\mathbf{p}_4,\mathbf{p}_8,\mathbf{p}_{12}$; $\mathbf{p}_1,\mathbf{p}_6,\mathbf{p}_9,\mathbf{p}_{13}$; $\mathbf{p}_2,\mathbf{p}_6,\mathbf{p}_{10},\mathbf{p}_{14}$; $\mathbf{p}_3,\mathbf{p}_7,\mathbf{p}_{11},\mathbf{p}_{15}$



Bézier Patch (Step 1)

- Evaluate four u-direction Bézier curves at scalar value u *[0..1]*
- Get points $\mathbf{q}_0 \ldots \mathbf{q}_3$

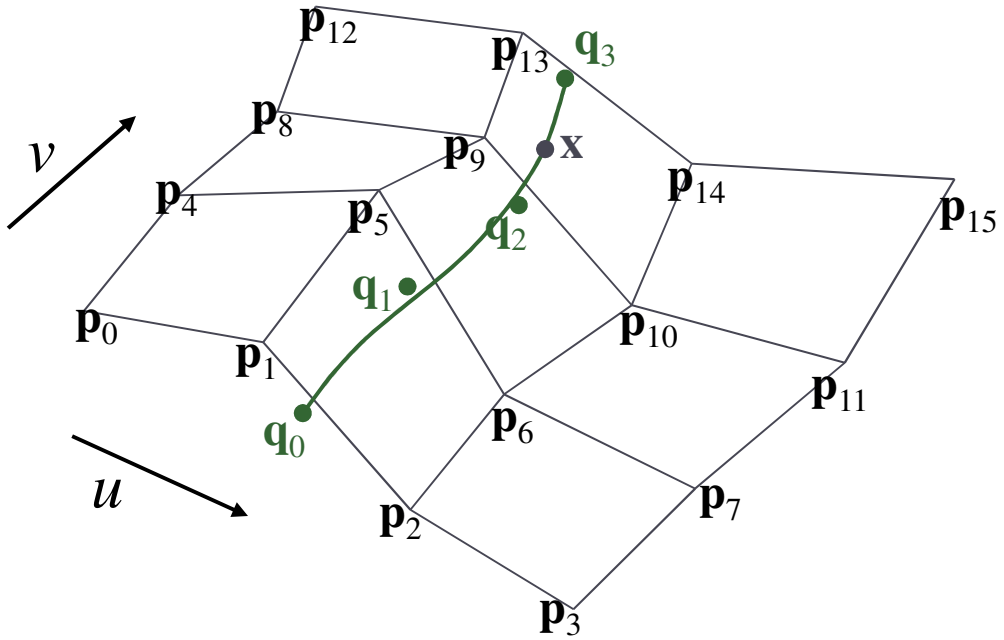
$$\mathbf{q}_0 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3)$$
$$\mathbf{q}_1 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_4, \mathbf{p}_5, \mathbf{p}_6, \mathbf{p}_7)$$
$$\mathbf{q}_2 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_8, \mathbf{p}_9, \mathbf{p}_{10}, \mathbf{p}_{11})$$
$$\mathbf{q}_3 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_{12}, \mathbf{p}_{13}, \mathbf{p}_{14}, \mathbf{p}_{15})$$



Bézier Patch (Step 2)

- Points $\mathbf{q}_0 \ldots \mathbf{q}_3$ define a Bézier curve
- Evaluate it at *v [0..1]*

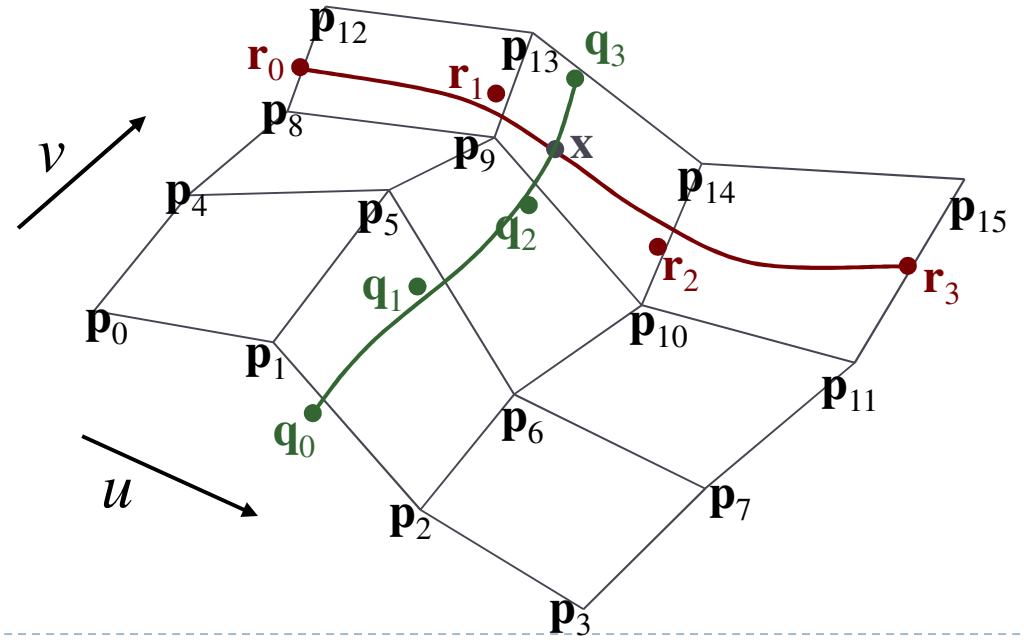
$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = Bez(v, \mathbf{q}_0, \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3)$$



Bézier Patch

- Same result in either order (evaluate u before v or vice versa)

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{q}_0 &= Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) & \mathbf{r}_0 &= Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_4, \mathbf{p}_8, \mathbf{p}_{12}) \\
\mathbf{q}_1 &= Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_4, \mathbf{p}_5, \mathbf{p}_6, \mathbf{p}_7) & \mathbf{r}_1 &= Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_5, \mathbf{p}_9, \mathbf{p}_{13}) \\
\mathbf{q}_2 &= Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_8, \mathbf{p}_9, \mathbf{p}_{10}, \mathbf{p}_{11}) \quad \Leftrightarrow & \mathbf{r}_2 &= Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_6, \mathbf{p}_{10}, \mathbf{p}_{14}) \\
\mathbf{q}_3 &= Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_{12}, \mathbf{p}_{13}, \mathbf{p}_{14}, \mathbf{p}_{15}) & \mathbf{r}_3 &= Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{p}_7, \mathbf{p}_{11}, \mathbf{p}_{15}) \\
\mathbf{x}(u,v) &= Bez(v, \mathbf{q}_0, \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) & \mathbf{x}(u,v) &= Bez(u, \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3)
\end{aligned}$$



Bézier Patch: Matrix Form

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} u^3 \\ u^2 \\ u \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{V} = \begin{bmatrix} v^3 \\ v^2 \\ v \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{B}_{Bez} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{B}_{Bez}^T$$

$$\mathbf{C}_x = \mathbf{B}_{Bez}^T \mathbf{G}_x \mathbf{B}_{Bez}$$
$$\mathbf{C}_y = \mathbf{B}_{Bez}^T \mathbf{G}_y \mathbf{B}_{Bez}$$
$$\mathbf{C}_z = \mathbf{B}_{Bez}^T \mathbf{G}_z \mathbf{B}_{Bez}$$

$$\mathbf{G}_x = \begin{bmatrix} p_{0x} & p_{1x} & p_{2x} & p_{3x} \\ p_{4x} & p_{5x} & p_{6x} & p_{7x} \\ p_{8x} & p_{9x} & p_{10x} & p_{11x} \\ p_{12x} & p_{13x} & p_{14x} & p_{15x} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{G}_y = \cdots, \quad \mathbf{G}_z = \cdots$$

$$\mathbf{x}(u,v) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{C}_x \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{C}_y \mathbf{U} \\ \mathbf{V}^T \mathbf{C}_z \mathbf{U} \end{bmatrix}$$

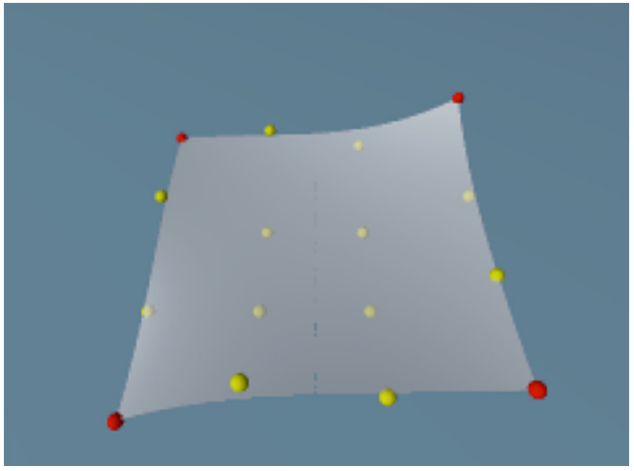
Bézier Patch: Matrix Form

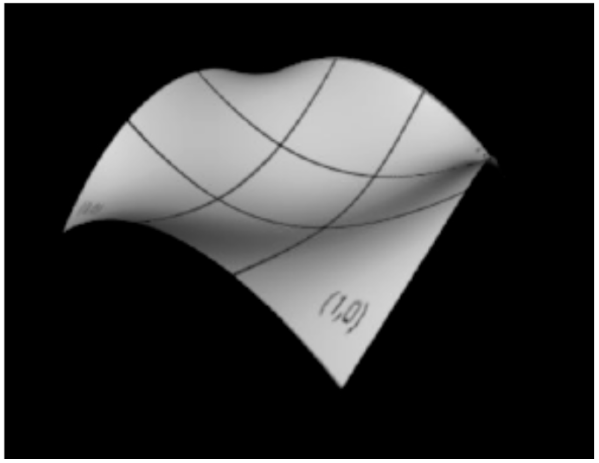
- $\mathbf{C}_x$ stores the coefficients of the bicubic equation for x
- $\mathbf{C}_y$ stores the coefficients of the bicubic equation for y
- $\mathbf{C}_z$ stores the coefficients of the bicubic equation for z
- $\mathbf{G}_x$ stores the geometry (x components of the control points)
- $\mathbf{G}_y$ stores the geometry (y components of the control points)
- $\mathbf{G}_z$ stores the geometry (z components of the control points)
- $\mathbf{B}_{Bez}$ is the basis matrix (Bézier basis)
- **U** and **V** are the vectors formed from the powers of u and v

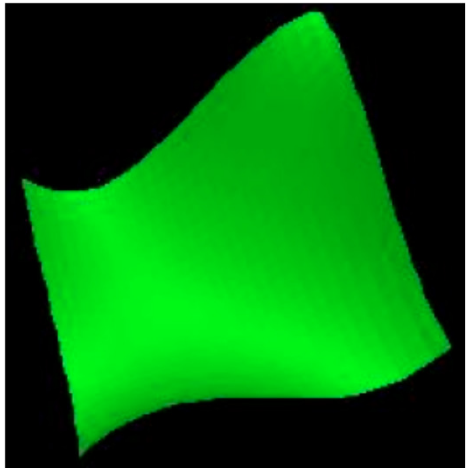
- Compact notation
- Leads to efficient method of computation
- Can take advantage of hardware support for 4x4 matrix arithmetic

Properties

- Convex hull: any point on the surface will fall within the convex hull of the control points
- Interpolates 4 corner points
- Approximates other 12 points, which act as "handles"
- The boundaries of the patch are the Bézier curves defined by the points on the mesh edges
- The parametric curves are all Bézier curves

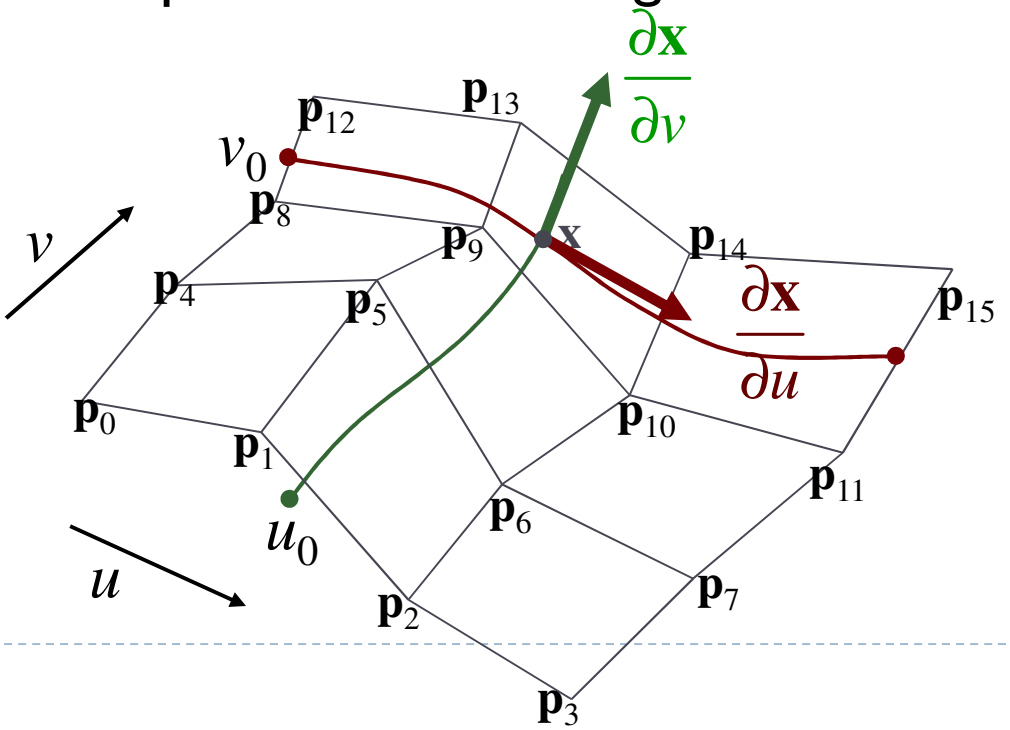






Tangents of a Bézier patch

- Remember parametric curves $\mathbf{x}(u, v_0)$, $\mathbf{x}(u_0, v)$ where v_0, u_0 is fixed
- Tangents to surface = tangents to parametric curves
- Tangents are partial derivatives of $\mathbf{x}(u, v)$
- Normal is cross product of the tangents



Tangents of a Bézier patch

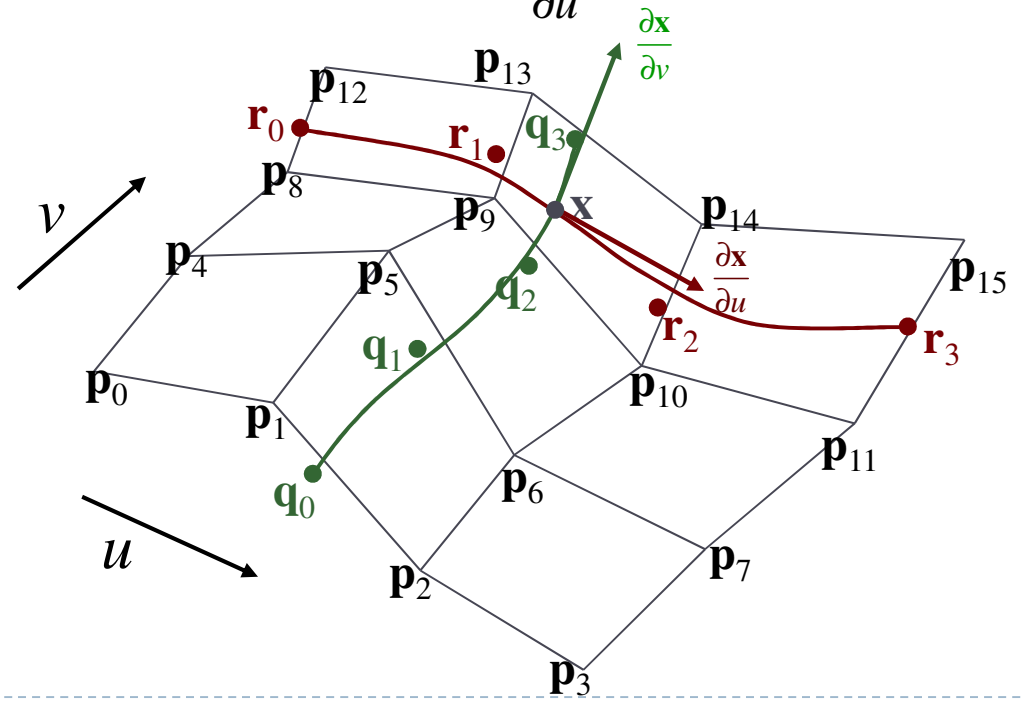
$$\mathbf{q_0} = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \qquad \mathbf{r_0} = Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_4, \mathbf{p}_8, \mathbf{p}_{12})$$

$$\mathbf{q}_1 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_4, \mathbf{p}_5, \mathbf{p}_6, \mathbf{p}_7) \qquad \mathbf{r}_1 = Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_5, \mathbf{p}_9, \mathbf{p}_{13})$$

$$\mathbf{q}_2 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_8, \mathbf{p}_9, \mathbf{p}_{10}, \mathbf{p}_{11}) \qquad \mathbf{r}_2 = Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_6, \mathbf{p}_{10}, \mathbf{p}_{14})$$

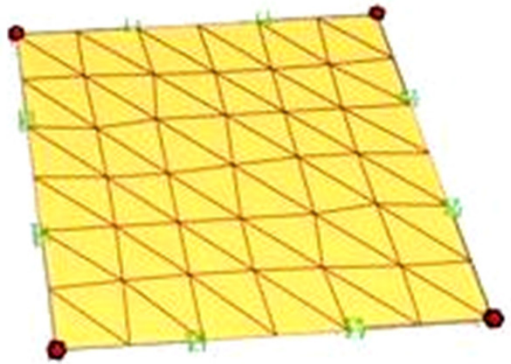
$$\mathbf{q}_3 = Bez(u, \mathbf{p}_{12}, \mathbf{p}_{13}, \mathbf{p}_{14}, \mathbf{p}_{15}) \qquad \mathbf{r}_3 = Bez(v, \mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{p}_7, \mathbf{p}_{11}, \mathbf{p}_{15})$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial v}(u,v) = Bez'(v, \mathbf{q}_0, \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3) \qquad \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial u}(u,v) = Bez'(u, \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3)$$



Tessellating a Bézier patch

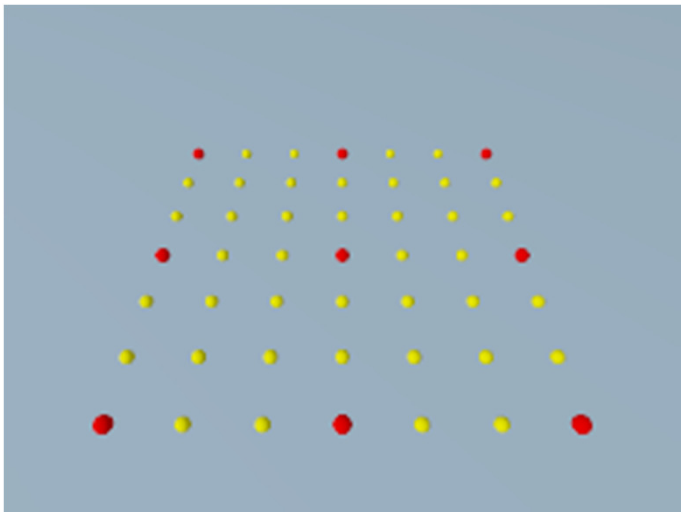
- Uniform tessellation is most straightforward
  - Evaluate points on a grid of u, v coordinates
  - Compute tangents at each point, take cross product to get per-vertex normal
  - Draw triangle strips with glBegin(GL_TRIANGLE_STRIP)



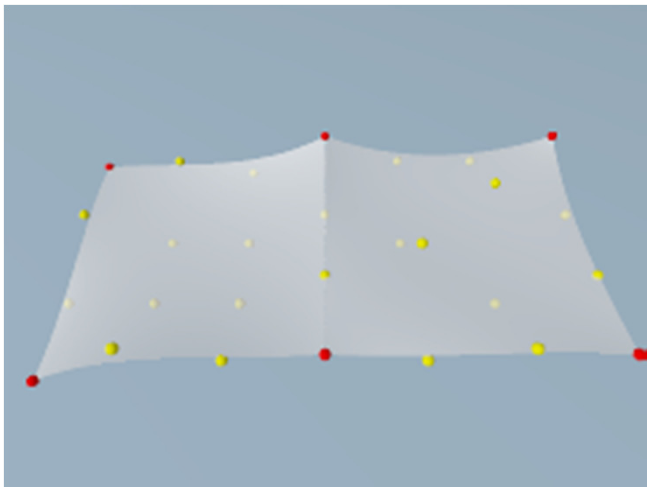
- Adaptive tessellation/recursive subdivision
  - Potential for "cracks" if patches on opposite sides of an edge divide differently
  - Tricky to get right, but can be done

Piecewise Bézier Surface

- Lay out grid of adjacent meshes of control points
- For C^0 continuity, must share points on the edge
  - Each edge of a Bézier patch is a Bézier curve based only on the edge mesh points
  - So if adjacent meshes share edge points, the patches will line up exactly
- But we have a crease…



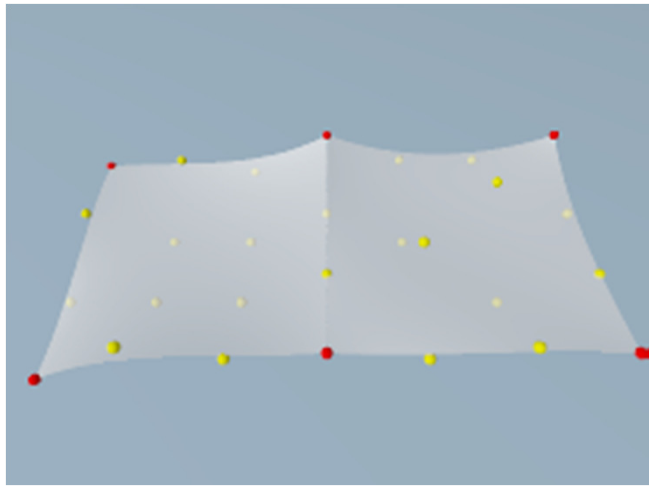
Grid of control points

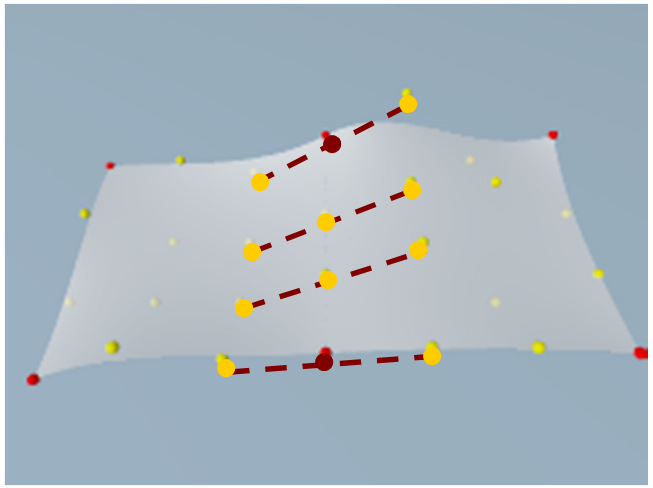


Piecewise Bézier surface

C^1 Continuity

- We want the parametric curves that cross each edge to have C^1 continuity
  - So the handles must be equal-and-opposite across the edge:

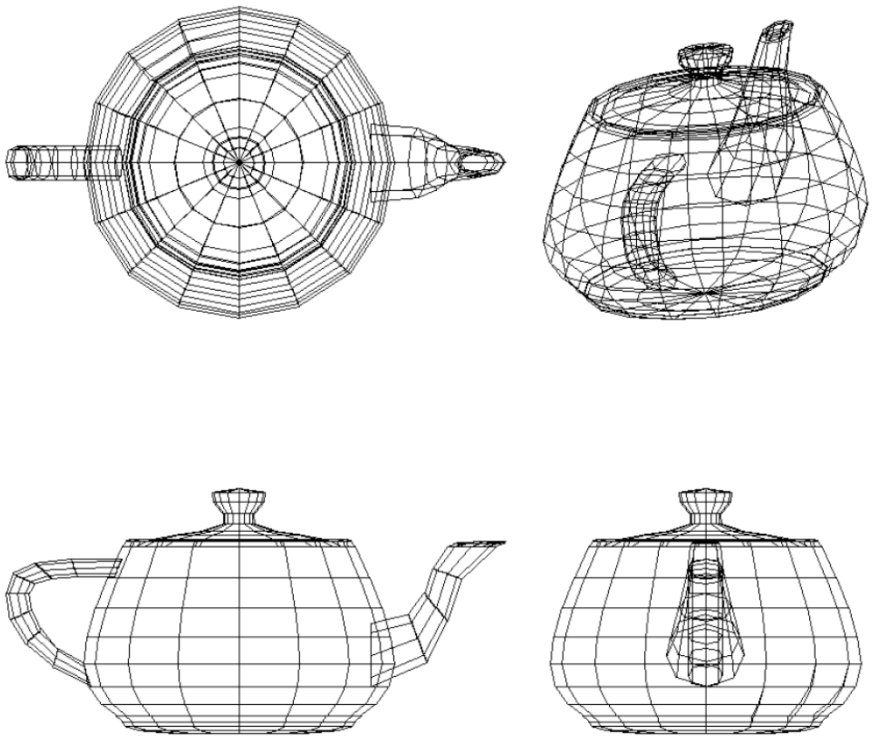




http://www.spiritone.com/~english/cyclopedia/patches.html

Modeling With Bézier Patches

- Original Utah teapot, from Martin Newell's PhD thesis, consisted of 28 Bézier patches.
- The original had no rim for the lid and no bottom
- Later, four more patches were added to create a bottom, bringing the total to 32
- The data set was used by a number of people, including graphics guru Jim Blinn. In a demonstration of a system of his he scaled the teapot by .75, creating a stubbier teapot. He found it more pleasing to the eye, and it was this scaled version that became the highly popular dataset used today.



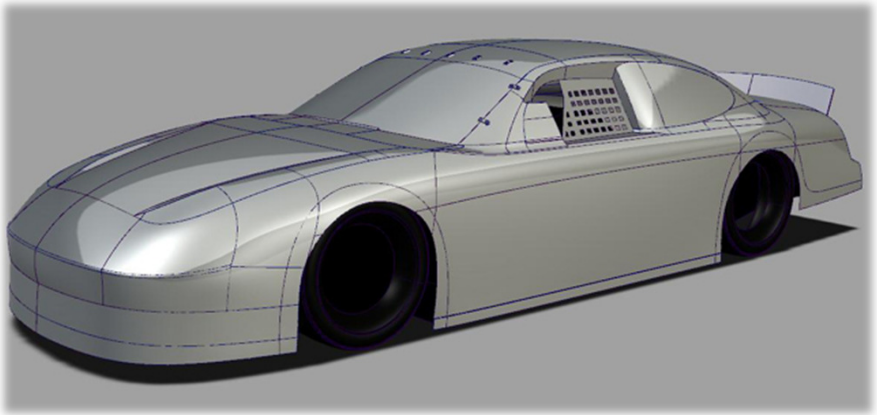
Source: http://www.holmes3d.net/graphics/teapot/

Overview

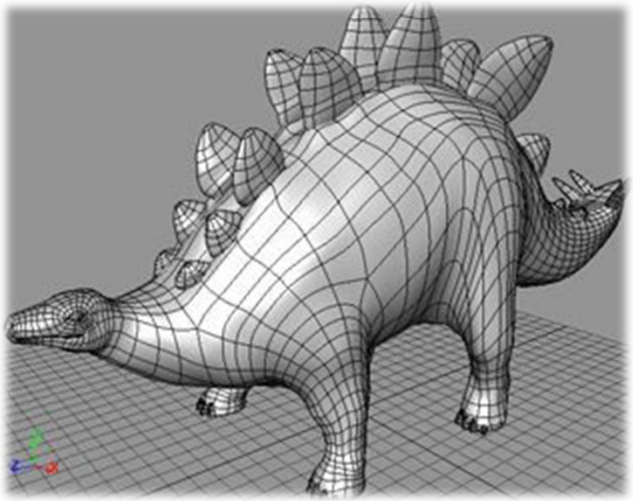
- Bi-linear patch
- Bi-cubic Bézier patch
- Advanced parametric surfaces

Problems with Bezier and NURBS Patches

- **NURBS surfaces are versatile**
  - Conic sections
  - Can blend, merge, trim…



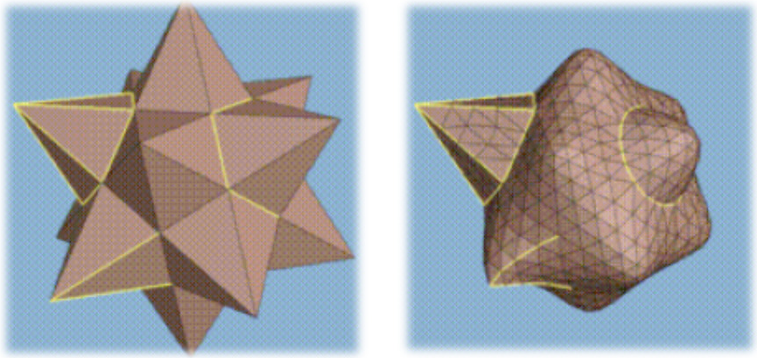
- **But:**
  - Any surface will be made of quadrilateral patches (quadrilateral topology)

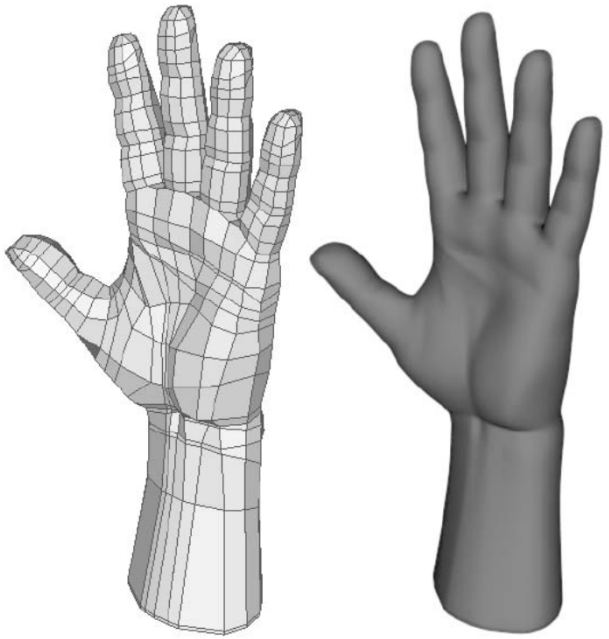


- **This makes it hard to**
  - Join or abut curved pieces
  - Build surfaces with complex topology or structure

Subdivision Surfaces

- Works by recursively subdividing mesh faces
  - Per-vertex annotation for weights, corners, creases
- Used in particular for character animation
  - One surface rather than collection of patches
  - Can deform geometry without creating cracks





Subdivision Surfaces

- Video
  - http://vimeo.com/2650080