CSE 167: Introduction to Computer Graphics Lecture 12: Bézier Curves

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Announcements

#### Homework assignment 5 due tomorrow, Nov 8 at 1:30pm

Late submissions for assignment 4 will be accepted

# CSE 169: Computer Animation

- Most recent course web site is from 2009:
  - http://graphics.ucsd.edu/courses/csel69\_w09
- PixelActive's CityScape:
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yrqm9qK\_Mlo

# CSE 190: Shader Programming

- Instructor: Wolfgang Engel, CEO and Co-Founder of Confetti Interactive
- Lecture topics:
  - Introduction to DirectX II.I Compute
  - Simple Compute Case Studies
  - DirectCompute performance optimization
  - Direct3D II.I Graphics Pipeline
  - Physically Based Lighting
  - Deferred Lighting, AA
  - Shadows
  - Order-Independent Transparency
  - Global Illumination Algorithms in Games

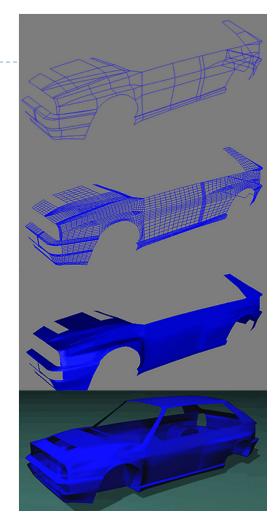
### Lecture Overview

- Polynomial Curves
  - Introduction
  - Polynomial functions
- Bézier Curves
  - Introduction
  - Drawing Bézier curves
  - Piecewise Bézier curves

# Modeling

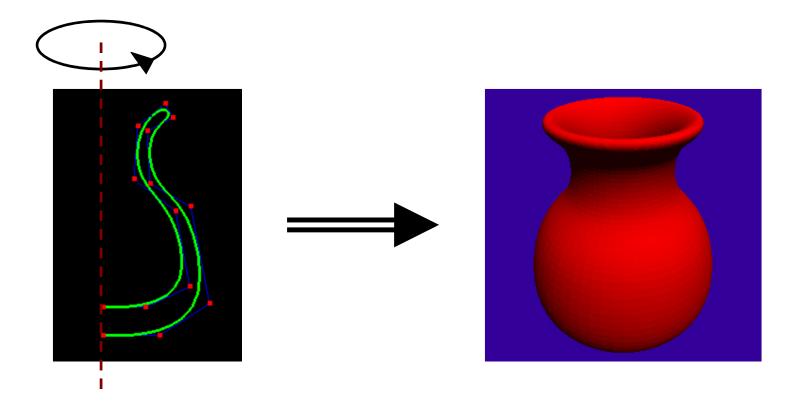
- Creating 3D objects
- How to construct complex surfaces?
- Goal
  - Specify objects with control points
  - Objects should be visually pleasing (smooth)
- Start with curves, then generalize to surfaces

Next: What can curves be used for?

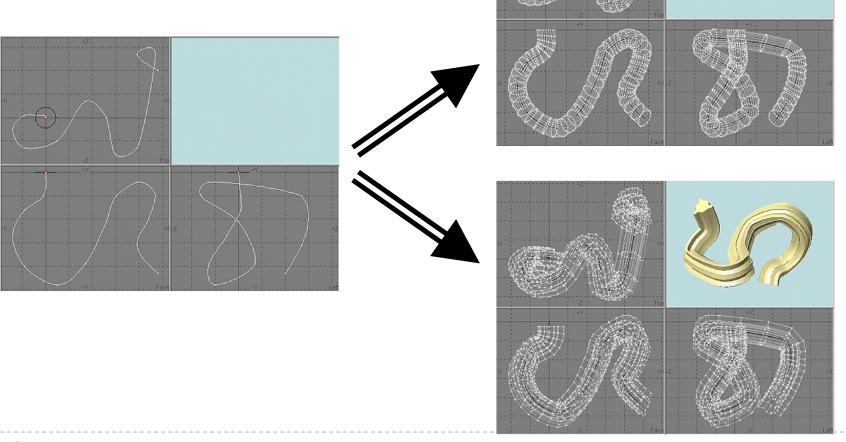




Surface of revolution

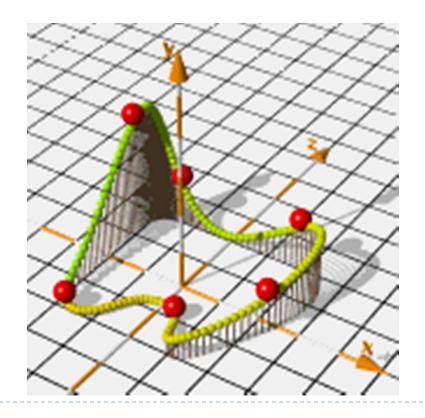


Extruded/swept surfaces



#### Animation

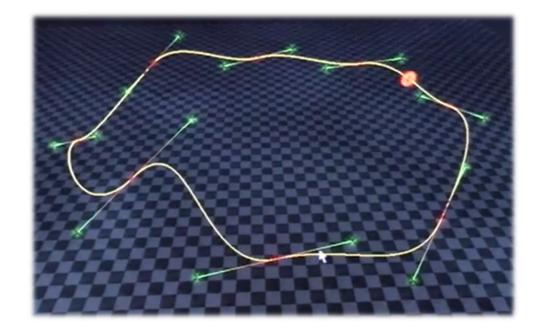
- Provide a "track" for objects
- Use as camera path



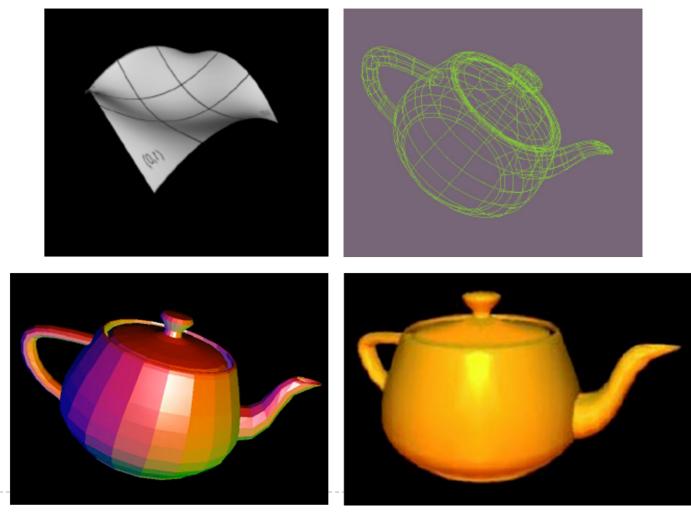
### Video

#### Bezier Curves

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIDYJNEiYvU

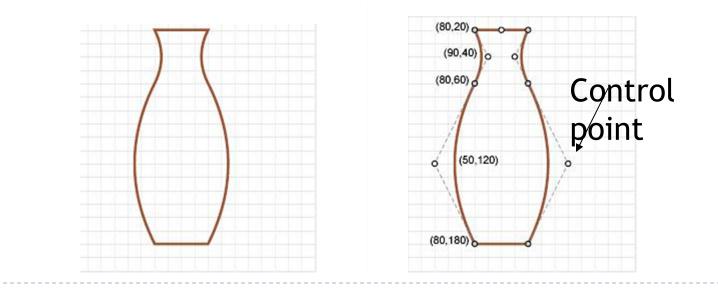


### Can be generalized to surface patches



# Curve Representation

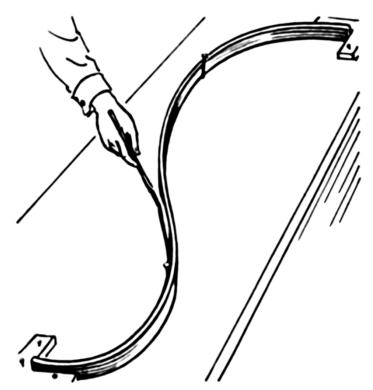
- Specify many points along a curve, connect with lines?
  - Difficult to get precise, smooth results across magnification levels
  - Large storage and CPU requirements
  - How many points are enough?
- Specify a curve using a small number of "control points"
  - Known as a spline curve or just spline



# Spline: Definition

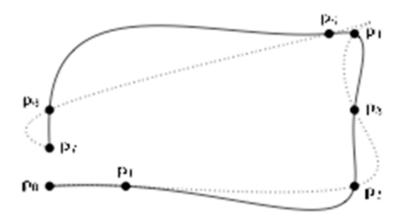
### Wikipedia:

- Term comes from flexible spline devices used by shipbuilders and draftsmen to draw smooth shapes.
- Spline consists of a long strip fixed in position at a number of points that relaxes to form a smooth curve passing through those points.



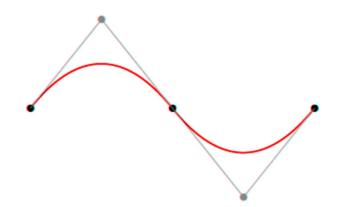
# Interpolating Control Points

- "Interpolating" means that curve goes through all control points
- Seems most intuitive
- Surprisingly, not usually the best choice
  - Hard to predict behavior
  - Hard to get aesthetically pleasing curves



**Approximating Control Points** 

Curve is "influenced" by control points

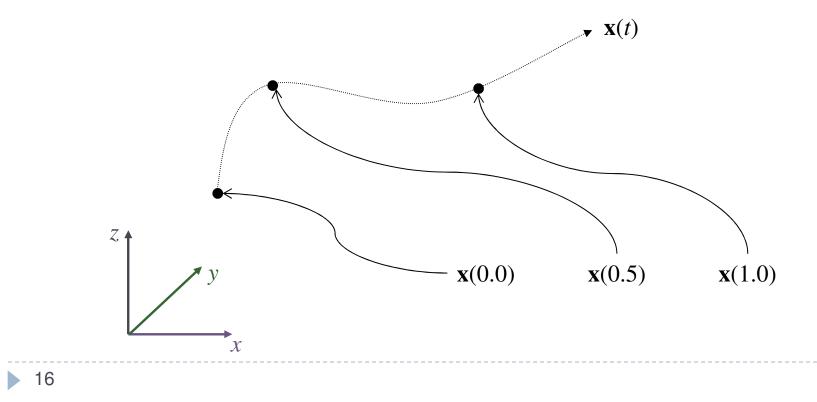


- Various types
- Most common: polynomial functions
  - Bézier spline (our focus)
  - B-spline (generalization of Bézier spline)
  - NURBS (Non Uniform Rational Basis Spline): used in CAD tools

# Mathematical Definition

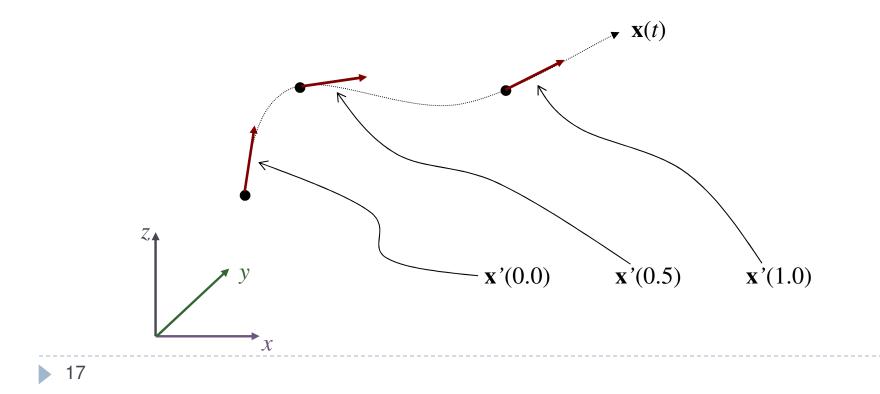
#### • A vector valued function of one variable $\mathbf{x}(t)$

- Given *t*, compute a 3D point  $\mathbf{x}=(x,y,z)$
- Could be interpreted as three functions: x(t), y(t), z(t)
- Parameter t "moves a point along the curve"



**Tangent Vector** 

- Derivative x'(t) = dx/dt = (x'(t), y'(t), z'(t))
  Vector x' points in direction of movement
- Length corresponds to speed



### Lecture Overview

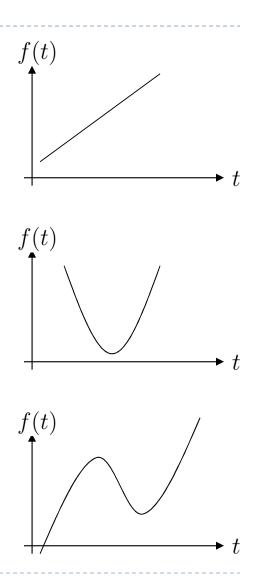
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# **Polynomial Functions**

• Linear: f(t) = at + b(1<sup>st</sup> order)

• Quadratic:  $f(t) = at^2 + bt + c$ (2<sup>nd</sup> order)

• Cubic: 
$$f(t) = at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d$$
 (3<sup>rd</sup> order)

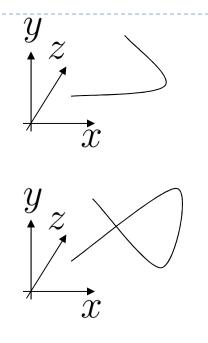


# Polynomial Curves • Linear $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{a}t + \mathbf{b}$ $\mathbf{x} = (x, y, z), \mathbf{a} = (a_x, a_y, a_z), \mathbf{b} = (b_x, b_y, b_z)$ ▶ Evaluated as: $\begin{array}{l} x(t) = a_x t + b_x \\ y(t) = a_y t + b_y \end{array}$ $z(t) = a_z t + b_z$ $\mathcal{Y}$ h $\mathcal{Z}$ a $\mathcal{X}$

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# Polynomial Curves

- Quadratic:  $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{a}t^2 + \mathbf{b}t + \mathbf{c}$ (2<sup>nd</sup> order)
- Cubic:  $\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{a}t^3 + \mathbf{b}t^2 + \mathbf{c}t + \mathbf{d}$ (3<sup>rd</sup> order)



We usually define the curve for  $0 \le t \le 1$ 

# **Control Points**

- Polynomial coefficients a, b, c, d can be interpreted as control points
  - Remember: **a**, **b**, **c**, **d** have *x*, *y*, *z* components each
- Unfortunately, they do not intuitively describe the shape of the curve
- Goal: intuitive control points

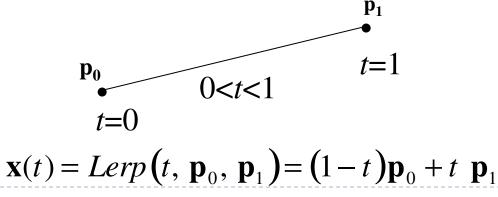
# **Control Points**

#### How many control points?

- Two points define a line (1<sup>st</sup> order)
- Three points define a quadratic curve (2<sup>nd</sup> order)
- ▶ Four points define a cubic curve (3<sup>rd</sup> order)
- ▶ *k*+1 points define a *k*-order curve
- Let's start with a line...

# First Order Curve

- Based on linear interpolation (LERP)
  - Weighted average between two values
  - "Value" could be a number, vector, color, ...
- Interpolate between points  $\mathbf{p}_0$  and  $\mathbf{p}_1$  with parameter t
  - Defines a "curve" that is straight (first-order spline)
  - t=0 corresponds to  $\mathbf{p_0}$
  - t=1 corresponds to  $\mathbf{p}_1$
  - t=0.5 corresponds to midpoint



# Linear Interpolation

#### Three equivalent ways to write it

- Expose different properties
- I. Regroup for points **p**

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{p}_0(1-t) + \mathbf{p}_1 t$$

2. Regroup for 
$$t$$
  
 $\mathbf{x}(t) = (\mathbf{p}_1 - \mathbf{p}_0)t + \mathbf{p}_0$ 

3. Matrix form

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 & \mathbf{p}_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

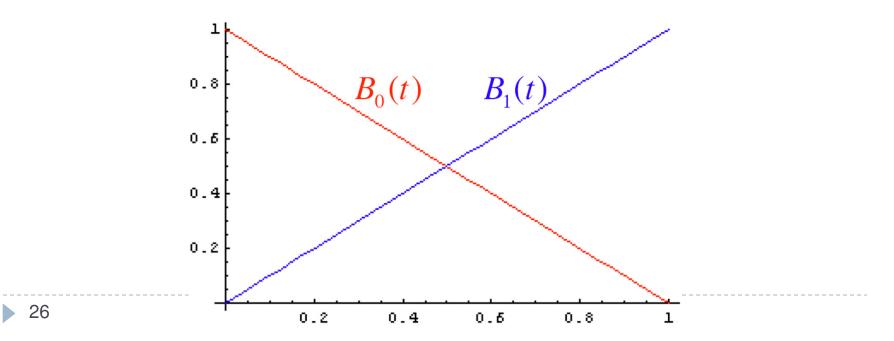
#### Weighted Average

 $\mathbf{x}(t) = (1-t)\mathbf{p}_0 + (t)\mathbf{p}_1$ 

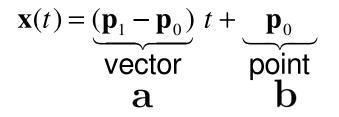
 $= B_0(t) \mathbf{p}_0 + B_1(t)\mathbf{p}_1$ , where  $B_0(t) = 1 - t$  and  $B_1(t) = t$ 

#### Weights are a function of t

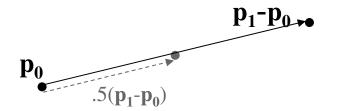
- Sum is always 1, for any value of t
- Also known as blending functions



#### Linear Polynomial



- Curve is based at point  $\mathbf{p}_0$
- Add the vector, scaled by t



# Matrix Form $\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 & \mathbf{p}_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} t \\ 1 \end{vmatrix} = \mathbf{GBT}$ Geometry matrix $\mathbf{G}=\mid \mathbf{p}_{0} \mid \mathbf{p}_{1} \mid$ $\mathbf{B} = \left| \begin{array}{cc} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{array} \right|$ Geometric basis $T = \left| \begin{array}{c} t \\ 1 \end{array} \right|$ Polynomial basis $\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{0x} & p_{1x} \\ p_{0y} & p_{1y} \\ p_{0z} & p_{1z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ In components

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# Tangent

> For a straight line, the tangent is constant  ${f x}'(t)={f p}_1-{f p}_0$ 

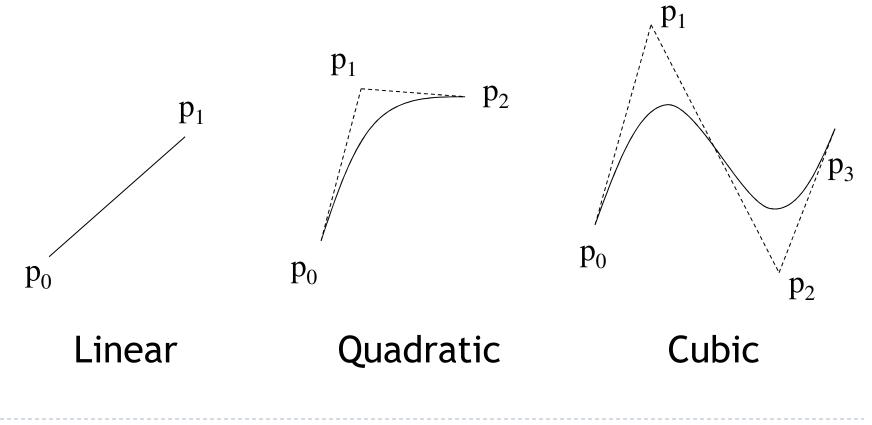
- Weighted average  $\mathbf{x}'(t) = (-1)\mathbf{p}_0 + (+1)\mathbf{p}_1$
- Polynomial  $\mathbf{x}'(t) = 0t + (\mathbf{p}_1 \mathbf{p}_0)$
- Matrix form  $\mathbf{x}'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 & \mathbf{p}_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

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### Bézier Curves

Are a higher order extension of linear interpolation



# Bézier Curves

#### • Give intuitive control over curve with control points

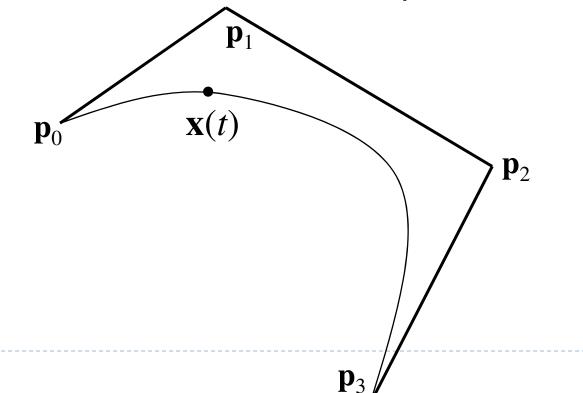
- Endpoints are interpolated, intermediate points are approximated
- Convex Hull property

#### Many demo applets online, for example:

- Demo: <u>http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~min/cs426/jar/bezier.html</u>
- http://www.theparticle.com/applets/nyu/BezierApplet/
- http://www.sunsite.ubc.ca/LivingMathematics/V001N01/UBCExamples/B ezier/bezier.html

# Cubic Bézier Curve

- Most commonly used case
- Defined by four control points:
  - Two interpolated endpoints (points are on the curve)
  - Two points control the tangents at the endpoints
- Points  $\mathbf{x}$  on curve defined as function of parameter t



# Algorithmic Construction

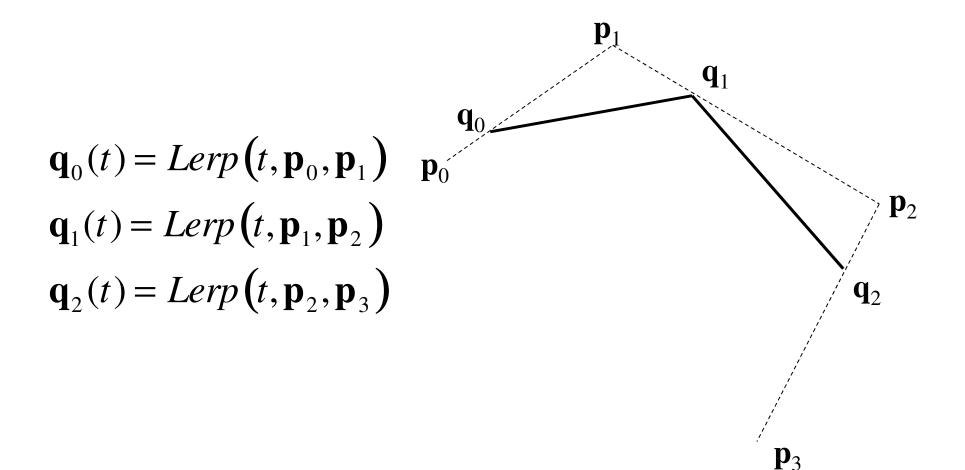
- Algorithmic construction
  - De Casteljau algorithm, developed at Citroen in 1959, named after its inventor Paul de Casteljau (pronounced "Cast-all-'Joe")
  - Developed independently from Bézier's work:
     Bézier created the formulation using blending functions,
     Casteljau devised the recursive interpolation algorithm

# De Casteljau Algorithm

- A recursive series of linear interpolations
  - Works for any order Bezier function, not only cubic
- Not very efficient to evaluate
  - Other forms more commonly used
- But:
  - Gives intuition about the geometry
  - Useful for subdivision

# De Casteljau Algorithm

- Given:
  - р Four control points A value of *t* (here  $t \approx 0.25$ )  $\mathbf{p}_0$  $\mathbf{p}_2$ **p**<sub>3</sub>



 $\mathbf{q}_1$ 

 $\mathbf{r}_1$ 

**q**<sub>2</sub>

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 $\mathbf{q}_{0}$ 

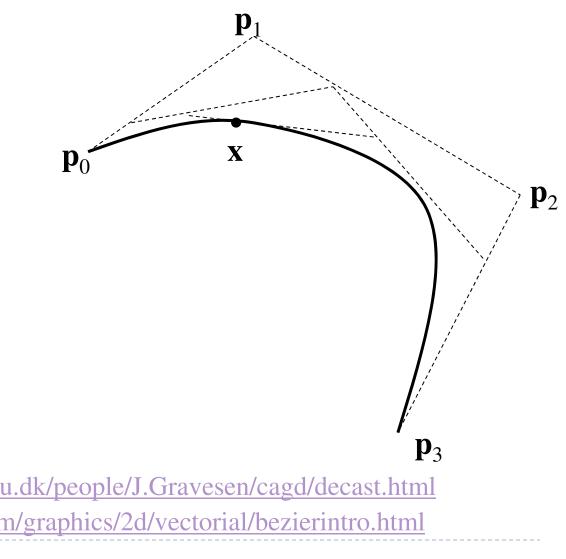
 $\mathbf{r}_{0}(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{q}_{0}(t), \mathbf{q}_{1}(t))$  $\mathbf{r}_{1}(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{q}_{1}(t), \mathbf{q}_{2}(t))$ 

 $\mathbf{r}_0$ 

Х

 $\mathbf{r}_1$ 

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

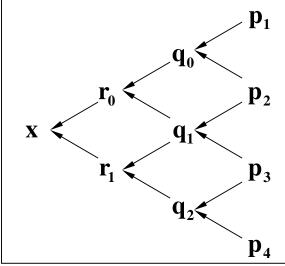


# Applets

- Demo: http://www2.mat.dtu.dk/people/J.Gravesen/cagd/decast.html
- http://www.caffeineowl.com/graphics/2d/vectorial/bezierintro.html
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## **Recursive Linear Interpolation**

$$\mathbf{x} = Lerp(t, \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{r}_1) \mathbf{r}_0 = Lerp(t, \mathbf{q}_0, \mathbf{q}_1) \mathbf{q}_0 = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1) \mathbf{p}_0 \mathbf{p}_1$$
$$\mathbf{q}_1 = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) \mathbf{q}_1$$
$$\mathbf{q}_2 = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) \mathbf{p}_2 \mathbf{q}_2$$
$$\mathbf{q}_2 = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) \mathbf{p}_2$$
$$\mathbf{p}_3$$





Expand the LERPs  

$$\mathbf{q}_0(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_0, \mathbf{p}_1) = (1-t)\mathbf{p}_0 + t\mathbf{p}_1$$
  
 $\mathbf{q}_1(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2) = (1-t)\mathbf{p}_1 + t\mathbf{p}_2$   
 $\mathbf{q}_2(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3) = (1-t)\mathbf{p}_2 + t\mathbf{p}_3$ 

$$\mathbf{r}_{0}(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{q}_{0}(t), \mathbf{q}_{1}(t)) = (1-t)((1-t)\mathbf{p}_{0} + t\mathbf{p}_{1}) + t((1-t)\mathbf{p}_{1} + t\mathbf{p}_{2})$$
  
$$\mathbf{r}_{1}(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{q}_{1}(t), \mathbf{q}_{2}(t)) = (1-t)((1-t)\mathbf{p}_{1} + t\mathbf{p}_{2}) + t((1-t)\mathbf{p}_{2} + t\mathbf{p}_{3})$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = Lerp(t, \mathbf{r}_0(t), \mathbf{r}_1(t))$$
  
=  $(1-t)((1-t)((1-t)\mathbf{p}_0 + t\mathbf{p}_1) + t((1-t)\mathbf{p}_1 + t\mathbf{p}_2))$   
+ $t((1-t)((1-t)\mathbf{p}_1 + t\mathbf{p}_2) + t((1-t)\mathbf{p}_2 + t\mathbf{p}_3))$ 

## Weighted Average of Control Points

• Regroup for p:

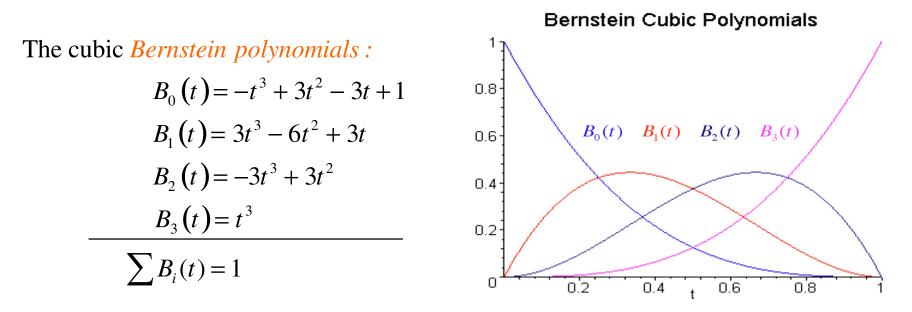
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = (1-t)((1-t)((1-t)\mathbf{p}_0 + t\mathbf{p}_1) + t((1-t)\mathbf{p}_1 + t\mathbf{p}_2)) + t((1-t)((1-t)\mathbf{p}_1 + t\mathbf{p}_2) + t((1-t)\mathbf{p}_2 + t\mathbf{p}_3))$$

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

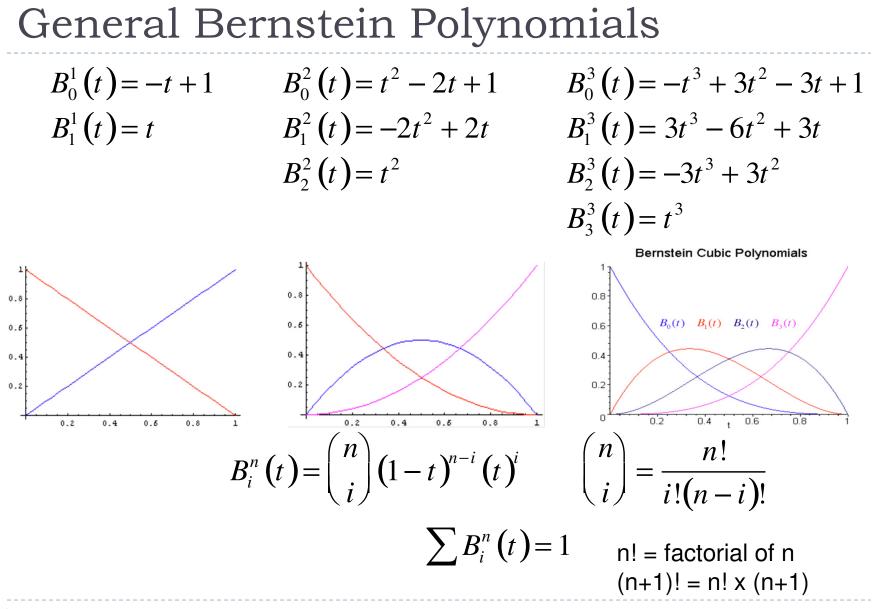
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \overbrace{\left(-t^3 + 3t^2 - 3t + 1\right)}^{B_0(t)} \mathbf{p}_0 + \overbrace{\left(3t^3 - 6t^2 + 3t\right)}^{B_1(t)} \mathbf{p}_1 + \underbrace{\left(-3t^3 + 3t^2\right)}_{B_2(t)} \mathbf{p}_2 + \underbrace{\left(t^3\right)}_{B_3(t)} \mathbf{p}_3$$

### Cubic Bernstein Polynomials

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



#### • Weights $B_i(t)$ add up to 1 for any value of t



General Bézier Curves

*n*th-order Bernstein polynomials form *n*th-order Bézier curves

$$B_i^n(t) = \binom{n}{i} (1-t)^{n-i} (t)^i$$
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_i^n(t) \mathbf{p}_i$$

# Bézier Curve Properties

Overview:

- Convex Hull property
- Affine Invariance

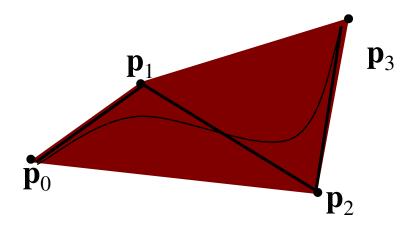
## Definitions

#### • Convex hull of a set of points:

- Polyhedral volume created such that all lines connecting any two points lie completely inside it (or on its boundary)
- Convex combination of a set of points:
  - Weighted average of the points, where all weights between 0 and 1, sum up to 1
- Any convex combination of a set of points lies within the convex hull

# Convex Hull Property

- A Bézier curve is a convex combination of the control points (by definition, see Bernstein polynomials)
- A Bézier curve is always inside the convex hull
  - Makes curve predictable
  - Allows culling, intersection testing, adaptive tessellation
- Demo: <u>http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~min/cs426/jar/bezier.html</u>



# Affine Invariance

#### **Transforming Bézier curves**

- Two ways to transform:
  - Transform the control points, then compute resulting spline points
  - Compute spline points, then transform them
- Either way, we get the same points
  - Curve is defined via affine combination of points
  - Invariant under affine transformations (i.e., translation, scale, rotation, shear)
  - Convex hull property remains true

# Cubic Polynomial Form

Start with Bernstein form:

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

Regroup into coefficients of *t* :

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

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{a}t^{3} + \mathbf{b}t^{2} + \mathbf{c}t + \mathbf{d}$$
$$\mathbf{a} = (-\mathbf{p}_{0} + 3\mathbf{p}_{1} - 3\mathbf{p}_{2} + \mathbf{p}_{3})$$
$$\mathbf{b} = (3\mathbf{p}_{0} - 6\mathbf{p}_{1} + 3\mathbf{p}_{2})$$
$$\mathbf{c} = (-3\mathbf{p}_{0} + 3\mathbf{p}_{1})$$
$$\mathbf{d} = (\mathbf{p}_{0})$$

- Good for fast evaluation
  - Precompute constant coefficients (a,b,c,d)

#### Not much geometric intuition

#### Cubic Matrix Form

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_0 & \mathbf{p}_1 & \mathbf{p}_2 & \mathbf{p}_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t^3 \\ t^2 \\ t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{G}_{Bez} \qquad \mathbf{B}_{Bez} \qquad \mathbf{T}$$

 $\blacktriangleright$  Other types of cubic splines use different basis matrices  $B_{\rm Bez}$ 

### Cubic Matrix Form

In 3D: 3 equations for x, y and z:

$$\mathbf{x}_{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{0x} & p_{1x} & p_{2x} & p_{3x} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t^{3} \\ t^{2} \\ t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{x}_{y}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{0y} & p_{1y} & p_{2y} & p_{3y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t^{3} \\ t^{2} \\ t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{x}_{z}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{0z} & p_{1z} & p_{2z} & p_{3z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t^{3} \\ t^{2} \\ t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Matrix Form

Bundle into a single matrix

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} p_{0x} & p_{1x} & p_{2x} & p_{3x} \\ p_{0y} & p_{1y} & p_{2y} & p_{3y} \\ p_{0z} & p_{1z} & p_{2z} & p_{3z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} t^3 \\ t^2 \\ t \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{G}_{Bez} \mathbf{B}_{Bez} \mathbf{T}$$
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{T}$$

- Efficient evaluation
  - Pre-compute C
  - Take advantage of existing 4x4 matrix hardware support

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# Drawing Bézier Curves

- Draw line segments or individual pixels
- Approximate the curve as a series of line segments (tessellation)
  - Uniform sampling
  - Adaptive sampling
  - Recursive subdivision

# Uniform Sampling

#### Approximate curve with N straight segments

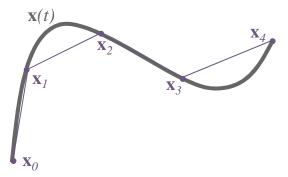
N chosen in advance

• Evaluate  

$$\mathbf{x}_{i} = \mathbf{x}(t_{i}) \text{ where } t_{i} = \frac{i}{N} \text{ for } i = 0, 1, \dots, N$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{i} = \mathbf{\vec{a}} \frac{i^{3}}{N^{3}} + \mathbf{\vec{b}} \frac{i^{2}}{N^{2}} + \mathbf{\vec{c}} \frac{i}{N} + \mathbf{d}$$

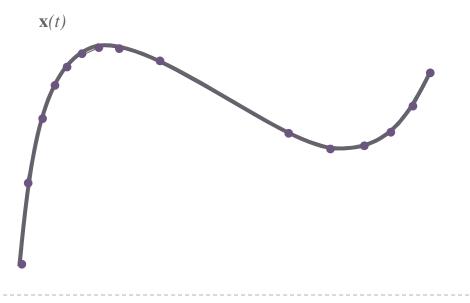
- Connect the points with lines
- Too few points?
  - Poor approximation
  - "Curve" is faceted
- Too many points?
  - Slow to draw too many line segments
  - Segments may draw on top of each other



# Adaptive Sampling

#### Use only as many line segments as you need

- Fewer segments where curve is mostly flat
- More segments where curve bends
- Segments never smaller than a pixel



## **Recursive Subdivision**

- Any cubic curve segment can be expressed as a Bézier curve
- Any piece of a cubic curve is itself a cubic curve
- Therefore:
  - Any Bézier curve can be broken down into smaller Bézier curves

# De Casteljau Subdivision

De Casteljau construction points are the control points of two Bézier sub-segments

р

**p**<sub>2</sub>

Adaptive Subdivision Algorithm

- Use De Casteljau construction to split Bézier segment in half
- For each half
  - If "flat enough": draw line segment
  - Else: recurse
- Curve is flat enough if hull is flat enough
  - Test how far the approximating control points are from a straight segment
    - If less than one pixel, the hull is flat enough



# Drawing Bézier Curves With OpenGL

#### Indirect OpenGL support for drawing curves:

- Define evaluator map (glMap)
- Draw line strip by evaluating map (glEvalCoord)
- Optimize by pre-computing coordinate grid (glMapGrid and glEvalMesh)
- More details about OpenGL implementation:
  - http://www.cs.duke.edu/courses/fall09/cps124/notes/12\_curves /opengl\_nurbs.pdf

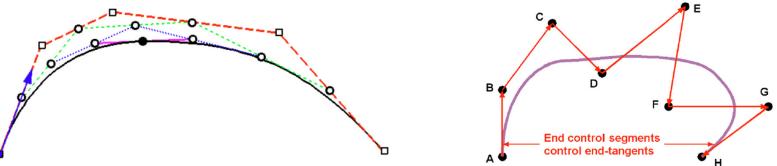
## Lecture Overview

- Polynomial Curves
  - Introduction
  - Polynomial functions
- Bézier Curves
  - Introduction
  - Drawing Bézier curves
  - Piecewise Bézier curves

# More Control Points

#### Cubic Bézier curve limited to 4 control points

- Cubic curve can only have one inflection (point where curve changes direction of bending)
- Need more control points for more complex curves
- ▶ *k*-1 order Bézier curve with *k* control points



Hard to control and hard to work with

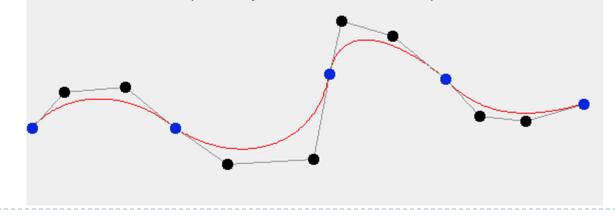
- Intermediate points don't have obvious effect on shape
- Changing any control point changes the whole curve
- Want local support: each control point only influences nearby portion of curve

# Piecewise Curves

- Sequence of line segments
  - Piecewise linear curve

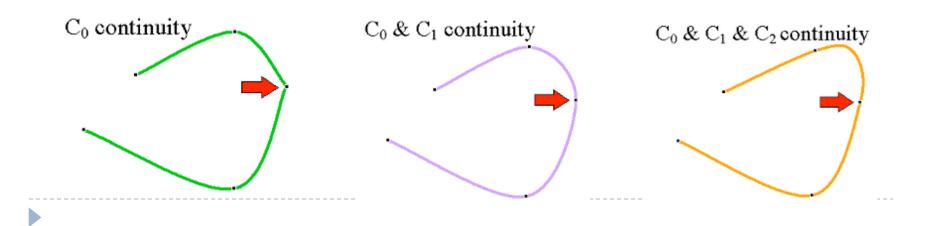


- Sequence of simple (low-order) curves, end-to-end
  - Known as a piecewise polynomial curve
- Sequence of cubic curve segments
  - Piecewise cubic curve (here piecewise Bézier)



# Parametric Continuity

- C<sup>0</sup> continuity:
  - Curve segments are connected
- C<sup>1</sup> continuity:
  - C<sup>0</sup> & Ist-order derivatives agree
  - Curves have same tangents
  - Relevant for smooth shading
- C<sup>2</sup> continuity:
  - C<sup>1</sup> & 2nd-order derivatives agree
  - Curves have same tangents and curvature
  - Relevant for high quality reflections



# Geometric Continuity

► G<sup>0</sup>:

- Curve segments are connected
- Same as C<sup>0</sup>
- G<sup>I</sup>:
  - ▶ G<sup>0</sup> & Ist-order derivatives are proportional at joints
  - Proportional = same direction but may have different magnitudes
  - Weaker than C<sup>1</sup>
- ► G<sup>2</sup>:

▶ G<sup>1</sup> & 2nd-order derivative proportional at joints

## **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

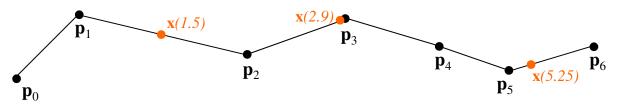
$$\mathbf{x}(u) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_{0}(u), & 0 \le u \le 1 \\ \mathbf{x}_{1}(u-1), & 1 \le u \le 2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1}(u-(N-1)), & N-1 \le u \le N \end{cases}$$

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

Alternate: solution *u* also goes from 0 to 1  $\mathbf{x}(u) = \mathbf{x}_i(Nu - i)$ , where  $i = \lfloor Nu \rfloor$  Piecewise-Linear Curve

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

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



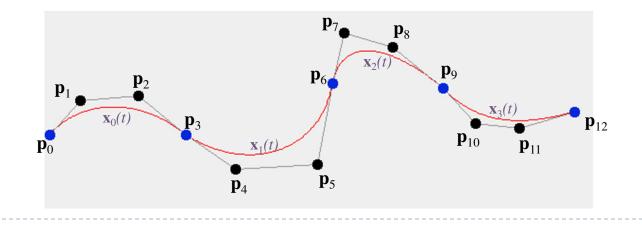
- ▶ N+1 points define N linear segments
- $\mathbf{x}(i) = \mathbf{p}_i$
- ▶ C<sup>0</sup> continuous by construction
- C<sup>1</sup> at  $\mathbf{p}_i$  when  $\mathbf{p}_i \mathbf{p}_{i-1} = \mathbf{p}_{i+1} \mathbf{p}_i$

Piecewise Bézier curve

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

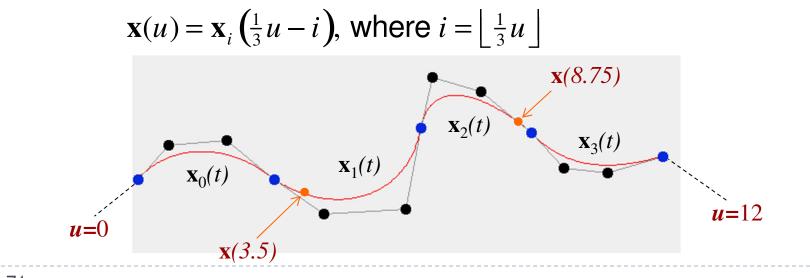
$$\mathbf{x}_{0}(t) = B_{0}(t)\mathbf{p}_{0} + B_{1}(t)\mathbf{p}_{1} + B_{2}(t)\mathbf{p}_{2} + B_{3}(t)\mathbf{p}_{3}$$
  
$$\mathbf{x}_{1}(t) = B_{0}(t)\mathbf{p}_{3} + B_{1}(t)\mathbf{p}_{4} + B_{2}(t)\mathbf{p}_{5} + B_{3}(t)\mathbf{p}_{6}$$
  
$$\vdots$$

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



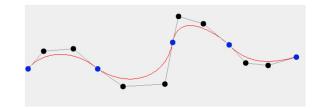
### Piecewise Bézier Curve

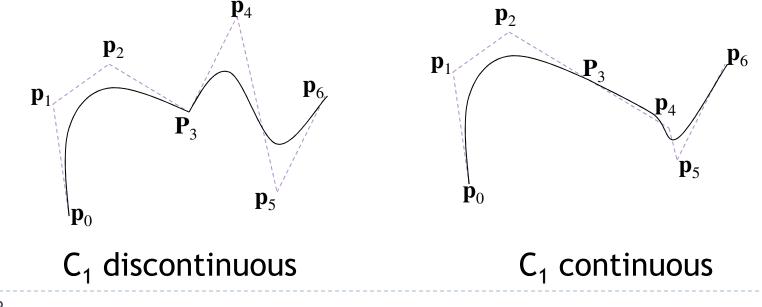
Parameter in  $0 \le u \le 3N$   $\mathbf{x}(u) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{x}_0(\frac{1}{3}u), & 0 \le u \le 3\\ \mathbf{x}_1(\frac{1}{3}u-1), & 3 \le u \le 6\\ \vdots & \vdots\\ \mathbf{x}_{N-1}(\frac{1}{3}u-(N-1)), & 3N-3 \le u \le 3N \end{cases}$ 



# Piecewise Bézier Curve

- ▶ 3N+1 points define N Bézier segments
- ► **x**(3i)=**p**<sub>3i</sub>
- ▶ C<sub>0</sub> continuous by construction
- C<sub>1</sub> continuous at  $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$  when  $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$   $\mathbf{p}_{3i-1} = \mathbf{p}_{3i+1}$   $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$
- C<sub>2</sub> is harder to achieve





# Piecewise Bézier Curves

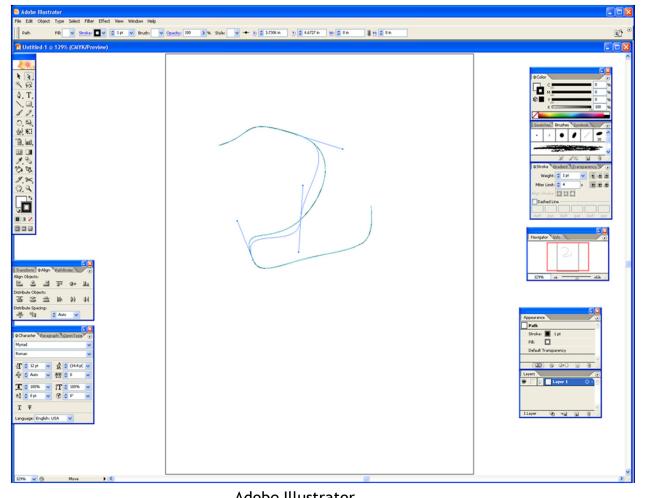
- Used often in 2D drawing programs
- Inconveniences
  - Must have 4 or 7 or 10 or 13 or ... (1 plus a multiple of 3) control points
  - Some points interpolate, others approximate
  - Need to impose constraints on control points to obtain C<sup>1</sup> continuity
  - C<sub>2</sub> continuity more difficult

#### Solutions

- User interface using "Bézier handles"
- Generalization to B-splines or NURBS

# Bézier Handles

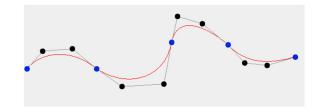
- Segment end points (interpolating) presented as curve control points
- Midpoints (approximating points) presented as "handles"
- Can have option to enforce  $C_1$  continuity

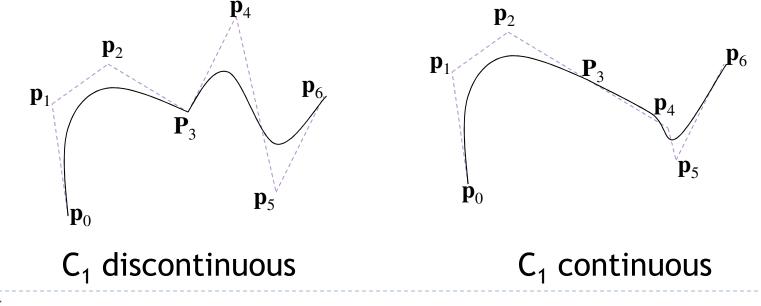


Adobe Illustrator

# Piecewise Bézier Curve

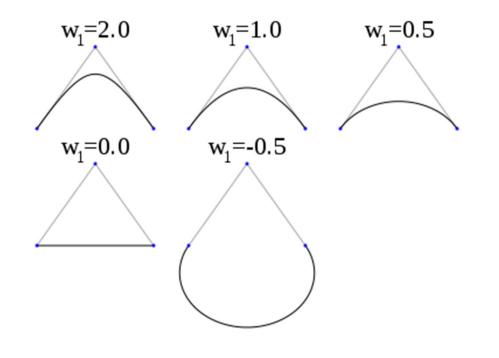
- ▶ 3N+1 points define N Bézier segments
- ► **x**(3i)=**p**<sub>3i</sub>
- C<sub>0</sub> continuous by construction
- C<sub>1</sub> continuous at  $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$  when  $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$   $\mathbf{p}_{3i-1} = \mathbf{p}_{3i+1}$   $\mathbf{p}_{3i}$
- C<sub>2</sub> is harder to achieve





# 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

- Non Uniform Rational B-Splines
- 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/Nurbs2c/ /index.html
- http://mathworld.wolfram.com/NURBSCurve.html