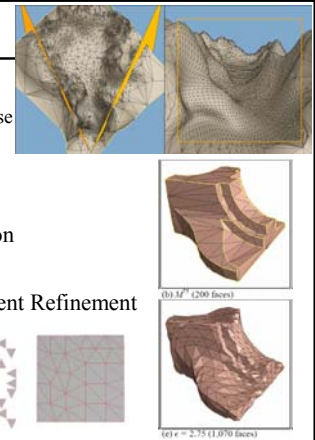


# Curves & Surfaces

## Last Time?

- Mesh Simplification
  - vertex split / edge collapse
  - preserving topology & discontinuities
- Geomorphs
- Progressive Transmission
- Compression
- Selective View-Dependent Refinement

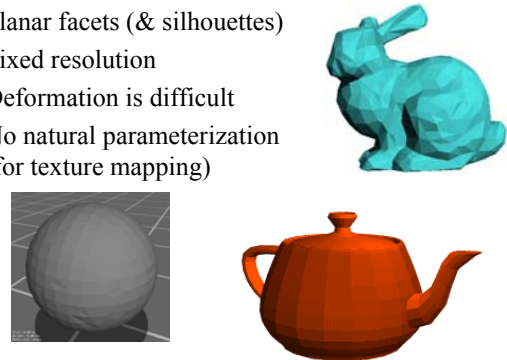


## Today

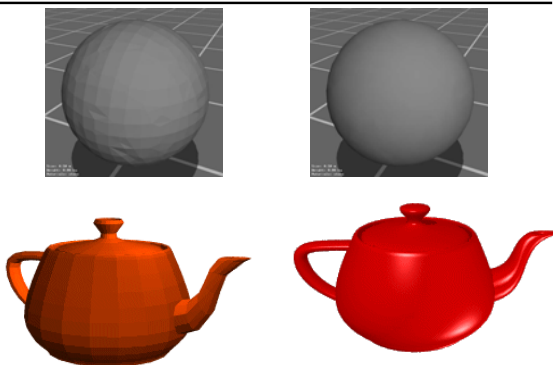
- **Motivation**
  - Limitations of Polygonal Models
  - Some Modeling Tools & Definitions
- Curves
- Surfaces / Patches
- Subdivision Surfaces

## Limitations of Polygonal Meshes

- Planar facets (& silhouettes)
- Fixed resolution
- Deformation is difficult
- No natural parameterization (for texture mapping)

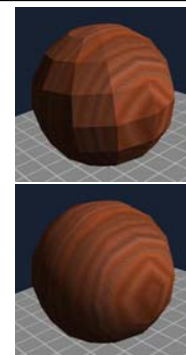


## Can We Disguise the Facets?

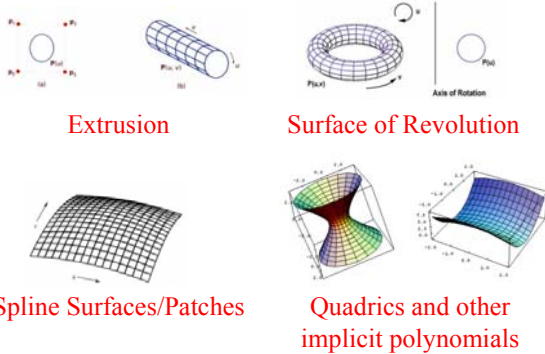


## Better, but not always good enough

- Still low, fixed resolution (missing fine details)
- Still have polygonal silhouettes
- Intersection depth is planar (e.g. ray tracing visualization)
- Collisions problems for simulation
- Solid Texturing problems
- ...



## Some Non-Polygonal Modeling Tools



## Continuity definitions:

- $C^0$  continuous
  - curve/surface has no breaks/gaps/holes
- $G^1$  continuous
  - tangent at joint has same direction
- $C^1$  continuous
  - curve/surface derivative is continuous
  - tangent at joint has same direction *and* magnitude
- $C^n$  continuous
  - curve/surface through  $n^{\text{th}}$  derivative is continuous
  - important for shading

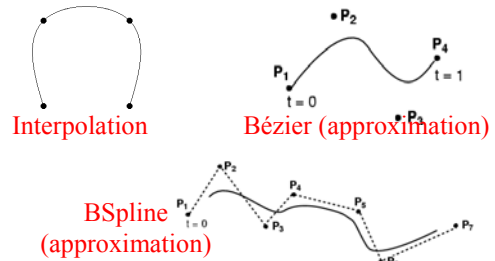


## Today

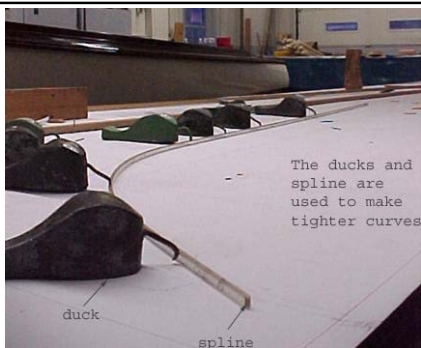
- Motivation
- Curves
  - What's a Spline?
  - Linear Interpolation
  - Interpolation Curves vs. Approximation Curves
  - Bézier
  - BSpline (NURBS)
- Surfaces / Patches
- Subdivision Surfaces

## Definition: What's a Spline?

- Smooth curve defined by some control points
- Moving the control points changes the curve



## Interpolation Curves / Splines



www.abm.org

## Interpolation Curves

- Curve is constrained to pass through all control points
- Given points  $P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n$ , find lowest degree polynomial which passes through the points

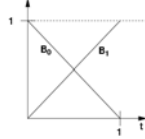
$$x(t) = a_{n-1}t^{n-1} + \dots + a_2t^2 + a_1t + a_0$$

$$y(t) = b_{n-1}t^{n-1} + \dots + b_2t^2 + b_1t + b_0$$

## Linear Interpolation

- Simplest "curve" between two points

$$Q(t) = (1-t)P_0 + tP_1$$

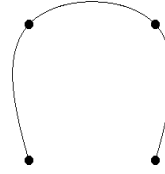


Spline Basis Functions  
a.k.a. Blending Functions

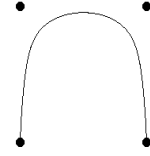
$$Q(t) = \begin{pmatrix} Q_x(t) \\ Q_y(t) \\ Q_z(t) \end{pmatrix} = ((P_0) (P_1)) \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Q(t) = \mathbf{GBT}(t) = \text{Geometry } \mathbf{G} \cdot \text{Spline Basis } \mathbf{B} \cdot \text{Power Basis } \mathbf{T}(t)$$

## Interpolation vs. Approximation Curves



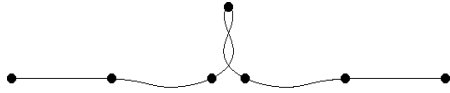
**Interpolation**  
curve must pass through control points



**Approximation**  
curve is influenced by control points

## Interpolation vs. Approximation Curves

- Interpolation Curve – over constrained → lots of (undesirable?) oscillations

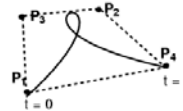
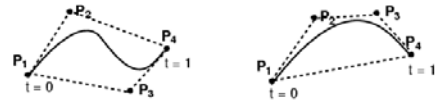


- Approximation Curve – more reasonable?



## Cubic Bézier Curve

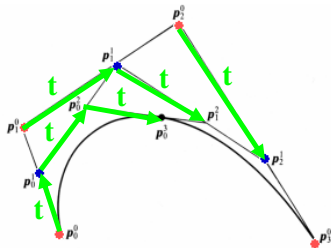
- 4 control points
- Curve passes through first & last control point
- Curve is tangent at  $P_0$  to  $(P_0-P_1)$  and at  $P_4$  to  $(P_4-P_3)$



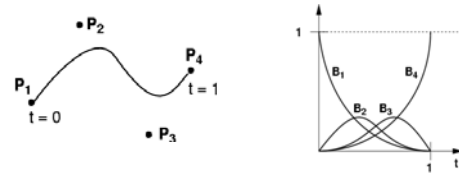
A Bézier curve is bounded by the convex hull of its control points.

## Cubic Bézier Curve

- de Casteljau's algorithm for constructing Bézier curves



## Cubic Bézier Curve



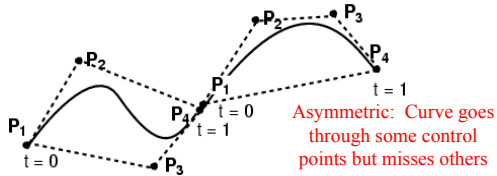
$$Q(t) = (1-t)^3 P_0 + 3t(1-t)^2 P_1 + 3t^2(1-t) P_2 + t^3 P_3$$

$$Q(t) = \mathbf{GBT}(t) \quad B_{\text{Bezier}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Bernstein Polynomials

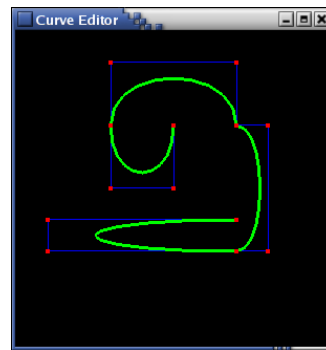
$$B_0(t) = (1-t)^3; B_1(t) = 3t(1-t)^2; B_2(t) = 3t^2(1-t); B_3(t) = t^3$$

## Connecting Cubic Bézier Curves



- How can we guarantee  $C^0$  continuity?
- How can we guarantee  $G^1$  continuity?
- How can we guarantee  $C^1$  continuity?
- Can't guarantee higher  $C^2$  or higher continuity

## Connecting Cubic Bézier Curves



- Where is this curve
  - $C^0$  continuous?
  - $G^1$  continuous?
  - $C^1$  continuous?
- What's the relationship between:
  - the # of control points, and
  - the # of cubic Bézier subcurves?

## Higher-Order Bézier Curves

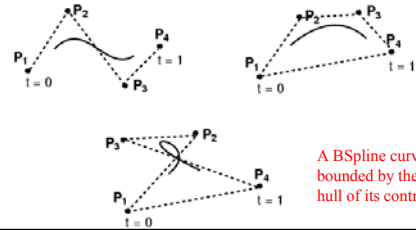
- $> 4$  control points
- Bernstein Polynomials as the basis functions

$$B_i^n(t) = \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!} t^i (1-t)^{n-i}, \quad 0 \leq i \leq n$$

- Every control point affects the entire curve
  - Not simply a local effect
  - More difficult to control for modeling

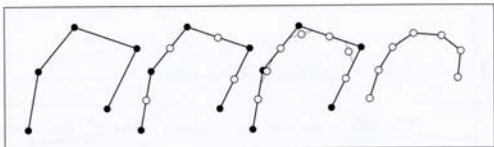
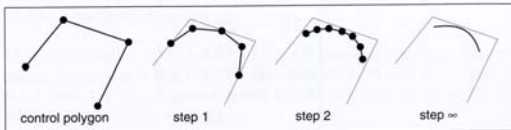
## Cubic BSplines

- $\geq 4$  control points
- Locally cubic
- Curve is not constrained to pass through any control points



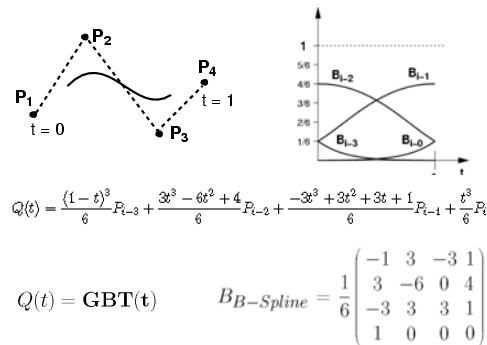
## Cubic BSplines

- Iterative method for constructing BSplines



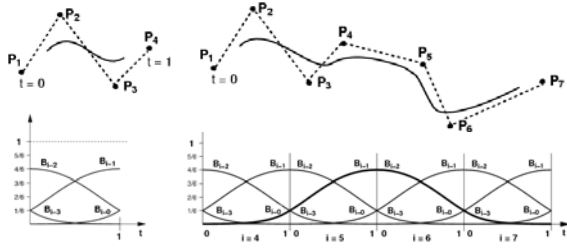
Shirley, Fundamentals of Computer Graphics

## Cubic BSplines



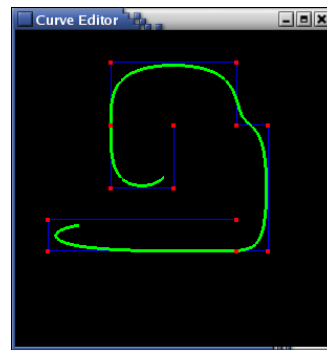
## Connecting Cubic BSpline Curves

- Can be chained together
- Better control locally (windowing)

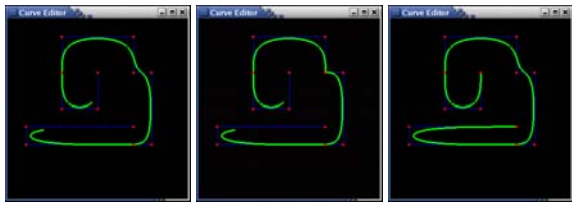


## Connecting Cubic BSpline Curves

- What's the relationship between
  - the # of control points, and
  - the # of cubic BSpline subcurves?



## BSpline Curve Control Points



Default BSpline

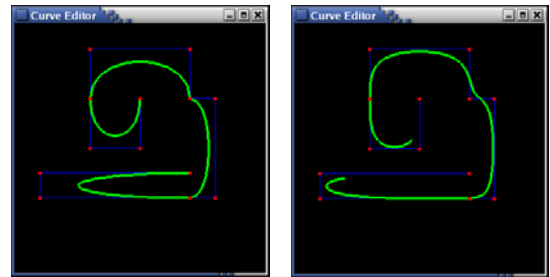
BSpline with Discontinuity

BSpline which passes through end points

Repeat interior control point

Repeat end points

## Bézier is not the same as BSpline



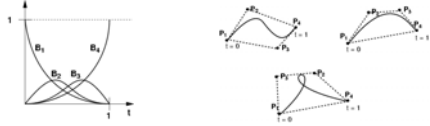
Bézier

BSpline

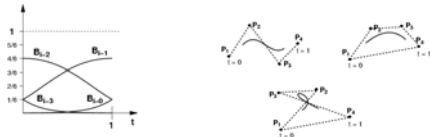
## Bézier is not the same as BSpline

- Relationship to the control points is different

Bézier

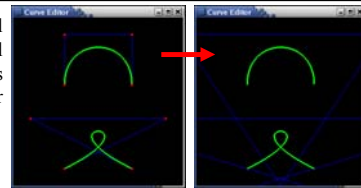


BSpline



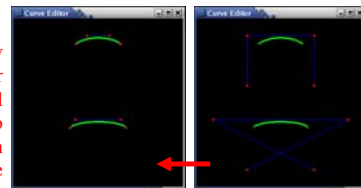
## Converting between Bézier & BSpline

original control points as Bézier



new BSpline control points to match Bézier

new Bézier control points to match BSpline



original control points as BSpline

## Converting between Bézier & BSpline

- Using the basis functions:

$$B_{\text{Bezier}} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 3 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B_{\text{B-Spline}} = \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & -3 & 1 \\ 3 & -6 & 0 & 4 \\ -3 & 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

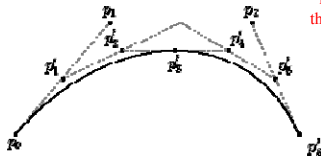
$Q(t) = \mathbf{G}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{T}(t)$  = Geometry  $\mathbf{G}$  · Spline Basis  $\mathbf{B}$  · Power Basis  $\mathbf{T}(t)$

## NURBS (generalized BSplines)

- BSpline: uniform cubic BSpline
- NURBS: Non-Uniform Rational BSpline
  - non-uniform = different spacing between the blending functions, a.k.a. knots
  - rational = ratio of polynomials (instead of cubic)

## Neat Bézier Spline Trick

- A Bézier curve with 4 control points:
  - $P_0$   $P_1$   $P_2$   $P_3$
- Can be split into 2 new Bézier curves:
  - $P_0$   $P'_1$   $P'_2$   $P_3$
  - $P'_3$   $P'_4$   $P'_5$   $P_3$



A Bézier curve is bounded by the convex hull of its control points.



## Questions?

## Reading for Tuesday (1/30)

- DeRose, Kass, & Truong, "Subdivision Surfaces in Character Animation", SIGGRAPH 1998



Figure 5: Geri's hand as a piecewise smooth Catmull-Clark surface. Infinitely sharp creases are used between the skin and the finger nails.

- Additional Reference: SIGGRAPH course notes Subdivision for Modeling and Animation