# CS-184: Computer Graphics 

## Lecture \#I2: Curves and Surfaces

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## Today

- General curve and surface representations - Splines and other polynomial bases


## Geometry Representations

- Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG)
- Parametric
- Polygons
- Subdivision surfaces
- Implicit Surfaces
- Point-based Surface
- Not always clear distinctions
- i.e. CSG done with implicits


## Geometry Representations



Object made by CSG
Converted to polygons

## Geometry Representations

Object made by CSG
Converted to polygons
Converted to implicit surface


## Geometry Representations



CSG on implicit surfaces

## Geometry Representations



## Point-based surface descriptions



## Geometry Representations



Subdivision surface
(different levels of refinement)


## Geometry Representations

- Various strengths and weaknesses
- Ease of use for design
- Ease/speed for rendering
- Simplicity
- Smoothness
- Collision detection
- Flexibility (in more than one sense)
- Suitability for simulation
- many others...


## Parametric Representations

Curves: $\quad \boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{x}(u) \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \Re^{n} \quad u \in \Re$
Surfaces: $\quad \boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{x}(u, v) \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \Re^{n} \quad u, v \in \Re$

$$
\boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{x}(\boldsymbol{u}) \quad \boldsymbol{u} \in \Re^{2}
$$

Volumes: $\quad \boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{x}(u, v, w) \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \Re^{n} \quad u, v, w \in \Re$

$$
\boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{x}(\boldsymbol{u}) \quad \boldsymbol{u} \in \Re^{3}
$$

and so on...
Note: a vector function is really $n$ scalar functions

## Parametric Rep. Non-unique

- Same curve/surface may have multiple formulae


$$
\boldsymbol{x}(u)=[u, u]
$$


$\boldsymbol{x}(u)=\left[u^{3}, u^{3}\right]$

## Simple Differential Geometry

- Tangent to curve

$$
\boldsymbol{t}(u)=\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{x}}{\partial u}{ }_{u}
$$

- Tangents to surface


$$
\boldsymbol{t}_{u}(u, v)=\left.\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{x}}{\partial u}\right|_{u, v} \quad \boldsymbol{t}_{v}(u, v)=\left.\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{x}}{\partial v}\right|_{u, v}
$$

- Normal of surface

$$
\hat{n}=\frac{\boldsymbol{t}_{u} \times \boldsymbol{t}_{v}}{\left\|\boldsymbol{t}_{u} \times \boldsymbol{t}_{v}\right\|}
$$



- Also: curvature, curve normals, curve bi-normal, others...
- Degeneracies: $\partial \boldsymbol{x} / \partial u=0$ or $\boldsymbol{t}_{u} \times \boldsymbol{t}_{v}=0$


## Discretization

- Arbitrary curves have an uncountable number of parameters

i.e. specify function value at all points on real number line


## Discretization

- Arbitrary curves have an uncountable number of parameters
- Pick complete set of basis functions
- Polynomials, Fourier series, etc.

$$
x(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} c_{i} \phi_{i}(u)
$$

- Truncate set at some reasonable point

$$
x(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{3} c_{i} \phi_{i}(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{3} c_{i} u^{i}
$$

- Function represented by the vector (list) of $c_{i}$
- The $c_{i}$ may themselves be vectors

$$
\boldsymbol{x}(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{3} c_{i} \phi_{i}(u)
$$

## Polynomial Basis

- Power Basis

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
x(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{d} c_{i} u^{i} & \\
x(u)=\boldsymbol{C} \cdot \boldsymbol{P}^{d} & \boldsymbol{C}=\left[c_{0}, c_{1}, c_{2}, \ldots, c_{d}\right] \\
\boldsymbol{P}^{d}=\left[1, u, u^{2}, \ldots, u^{d}\right]
\end{array}
$$

The elements of $\mathcal{P}^{d}$ are linearly independant
i.e. no good approximation

$$
u^{k} \not \approx \sum_{i \neq k} c_{i} u^{i}
$$

Skipping something would lead to bad results... odd stiffness

## Specifying a Curve

Given desired values (constraints) how do we determine the coefficients for cubic power basis?

For now, assume

$$
u_{0}=0 \quad u_{1}=1
$$



## Specifying a Curve

Given desired values (constraints) how do we determine the coefficients for cubic power basis?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x(0)=c_{0}=x_{0} \\
& x(1)=\Sigma c_{i}=x_{1} \\
& x^{\prime}(0)=c_{1}=x_{0}^{\prime} \\
& x^{\prime}(1)=\Sigma i c_{i}=x_{1}^{\prime}
\end{aligned}
$$



## Specifying a Curve

Given desired values (constraints) how do we determine the coefficients for cubic power basis?


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Given desired values (constraints) how do we determine the coefficients for cubic power basis?

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{C} & =\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathbf{H}} \cdot \mathbf{P} \\
\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathrm{H}}=\mathbf{B}^{-1} & =\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
-3 & 3 & -2 & 1 \\
2 & -2 & 1 & 1
\end{array}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

## Specifying a Curve

Given desired values (constraints) how do we determine the coefficients for cubic power basis?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{c}=\beta_{\mathrm{H}} \cdot \mathbf{p} \\
& x(u)=\mathcal{P}^{3} \cdot \mathbf{c}=\mathcal{P}^{3} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{p} \\
& = \\
& \left.=\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{l}
1+0 u-3 u^{2}+2 u^{3} \\
0+0 u+3 u^{2}-2 u^{3} \\
0+1 u-2 u^{2}+1 u^{3} \\
0+0 u-1 u^{2}+1 u^{3}
\end{array}\right.\right]
\end{aligned}
$$



$$
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\end{array}\right.\right]
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$$



$$
x(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{3} p_{i} b_{i}(u)
$$

Hermite basis functions

## Specifying a Curve

Given desired values (constraints) how do we determine the coefficients for cubic power basis?


$$
x(u)=\sum_{i=0}^{3} p_{i} b_{i}(u)
$$

## Hermite Basis

- Specify curve by
- Endpoint values
- Endpoint tangents (derivatives)
- Parameter interval is arbitrary (most times)
- Don't need to recompute basis functions
- These are cubic Hermite
- Could do construction for any odd degree
- $(d-1) / 2$ derivatives at end points


## Cubic Bézier

- Similar to Hermite, but specify tangents indirectly

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x_{0}=p_{0} \\
& x_{1}=p_{3} \\
& x_{0}^{\prime}=3\left(p_{1}-p_{0}\right) \\
& x_{1}^{\prime}=3\left(p_{3}-p_{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Note: all the control points are points in space, no tangents.


## Cubic Bézier

- Similar to Hermite, but specify tangents indirectly



## Cubic Bézier

## - Plot of Bézier basis functions



## Changing Bases

- Power basis, Hermite, and Bézier all are still just cubic polynomials
- The three basis sets all span the same space
- Like different axes in $\Re^{*} \Re^{4}$
- Changing basis

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\mathbf{c}=\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathrm{Z}} \mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{Z}} & \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{Z}}=\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathrm{Z}}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{H}} \\
\mathbf{c}=\boldsymbol{\beta}_{\mathrm{H}} \mathbf{p}_{\mathrm{H}} &
\end{array}
$$

## Useful Properties of a Basis

## - Convex Hull

- All points on curve inside convex hull of control points

$$
\text { - } \sum_{i} b_{i}(u)=1 \quad b_{i}(u) \geq 0 \quad \forall u \in \Omega
$$

- Bézier basis has convex hull property




## Useful Properties of a Basis

## - Invariance under class of transforms

- Transforming curve is same as transforming control points
- $\boldsymbol{x}(u)=\sum_{i} \boldsymbol{p}_{i} b_{i}(u) \Leftrightarrow \boldsymbol{\mathcal { T }} \boldsymbol{x}(u)=\sum_{i}\left(\mathcal{T} \boldsymbol{p}_{i}\right) b_{i}(u)$
- Bézier basis invariant for affine transforms
- Bézier basis NOT invariant for perspective transforms
- NURBS are though...


## Useful Properties of a Basis

## - Local support

- Changing one control point has limited impact on entire curve
- Nice subdivision rules
- Orthogonality ( $\left.\int_{\Omega} b_{i}(u) b_{j}(u) \mathrm{d} u=\delta_{i j}\right)$
- Fast evaluation scheme
- Interpolation -vs- approximation


## DeCasteljau Evaluation

- A geometric evaluation scheme for Bézier



## Adaptive Tessellation

- Midpoint test subdivision
- Possible problem

- Simple solution if curve basis has convex hull property

If curve inside convex hull and the convex hull is nearly flat: curve is nearly flat and can be drawn as straight line

Better: draw convex hull
Works for Bézier because the ends are interpolated

## Bézier Subdivision

- Form control polygon for half of curve by evaluating at $u=0.5$

Repeated subdivision makes smaller/flatter segments

Also works for surfaces...


## Joining



If you change $\boldsymbol{a}, \boldsymbol{b}$, or $\boldsymbol{c}$ you must change the others

But if you change $\boldsymbol{a}, \boldsymbol{b}$, or $\boldsymbol{c}$ you do not have to change beyond those three. *LOCAL SUPPORT*

## "Hump" Functions

- Constraints at joining can be built in to make new basis



## Tensor-Product Surfaces

- Surface is a curve swept through space
- Replace control points of curve with other curves

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\begin{array}{ll}
x(u, v)=\sum_{i} p_{i} b_{i}(u) & \sum_{i} q_{i}(v) b_{i}(u)
\end{array} & q_{i}(v)=\Sigma_{j} p_{j i} b_{j}(v) \\
x(u, v)=\sum_{i j} p_{i j} b_{i}(u) b_{j}(v) & b_{i j}(u, v)=b_{i}(u) b_{j}(v) \\
x(u, v)=\sum_{i j} p_{i j} b_{i j}(u, v)
\end{array}
$$

## Hermite Surface Bases



Plus symmetries...


## Hermite Surface Hump Functions



## Adaptive Tessellation

- Given surface patch
- If close to flat: draw it
- Else subdivide 4 ways



## Adaptive Tessellation

## - Avoid cracking



Passes flatness test
Fails flatness test

## Adaptive Tessellation

## - Avoid cracking



Crack in the surface
Cracks may be okay in some contexts...

## Adaptive Tessellation

- Avoid cracking



## Adaptive Tessellation

## - Avoid cracking



Test interior and boundary of patch Split boundary based on boundary test
Table of polygon patterns
May wish to avoid "slivers"

