
Representation and Manipulation of Curves

How does the computer store curve information?

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Types of Curve Equations

- Implicit non-parametric

$$x^2 + y^2 - R^2 = 0, \quad z = 0$$

- Explicit non-parametric

$$y = \pm\sqrt{R^2 - x^2}, \quad z = 0$$

- Parametric

$$x = R \cos \theta, \quad y = R \sin \theta, \quad z = 0 \quad (0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi)$$

To evaluate points on a curve at given intervals, the parametric representation is used.

For calculating intersections, a combination of parametric and non-parametric is used.

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Straight Lines

- An explicit non-parametric form:

$$2D: y = mx + b$$

$$3D: y = mx + b; \quad z = nx + c;$$

- An implicit non-parametric form:

$$2D: ax + by + c = 0$$

$$3D: a_1x + b_1y + c_1z + d_1 = 0; \quad a_2x + b_2y + c_2z + d_2 = 0$$

- Parametric form:

$$2D: x = x_0 + ut; \quad y = y_0 + vt$$

$$3D: x = x_0 + ut; \quad y = y_0 + vt; \quad z = z_0 + wt$$

A line segment is established by specifying range for t (e.g., $0 \leq t \leq 1$).

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Conic Sections

- Circle: $x = R\cos\theta$
 $y = R\sin\theta \quad z = 0$

- Ellipse: $x = a\cos\theta$
 $y = b\sin\theta \quad z = 0$

- Hyperbola: $x = a\cosh u$
 $y = b\sinh u \quad z = 0$

- Parabola: $x = cu^2$
 $y = u \quad z = 0$

A conic arc is established by specifying range for θ (e.g., $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$).

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Circle in 3D space

- What is the equation for the upright circle shown?

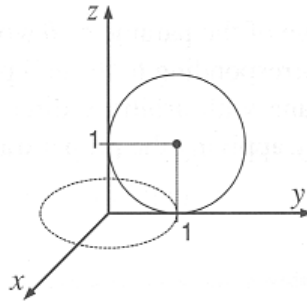


Figure from: K. Lee, "Principles of CAD/CAM/CAE Systems," Addison-Wesley, 1999

- To position a conic in 3D space we must use transformation matrices.

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Circle in 3D space

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' & y' & z' & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T = \text{Trans}(0,1,1)\text{Rot}Y(-90^\circ) \begin{bmatrix} x & y & z & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(-90^\circ) & 0 & -\sin(-90^\circ) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \sin(-90^\circ) & 0 & \cos(-90^\circ) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x' = 0$$

$$y' = y + 1 = R \sin \theta + 1$$

$$z' = z + 1 = R \cos \theta + 1 \quad (0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi)$$

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Freeform Curves – Hermite Curves

- The most common freeform curves in CAD are polynomial of order 3:

$$\mathbf{P}(u) = \begin{bmatrix} x(u) \\ y(u) \\ z(u) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,0} + a_{1,0}u + a_{2,0}u^2 + a_{3,0}u^3 \\ a_{0,1} + a_{1,1}u + a_{2,1}u^2 + a_{3,1}u^3 \\ a_{0,2} + a_{1,2}u + a_{2,2}u^2 + a_{3,2}u^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a_{0,0} \\ a_{0,1} \\ a_{0,2} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_{1,0} \\ a_{1,1} \\ a_{1,2} \end{bmatrix} u + \begin{bmatrix} a_{2,0} \\ a_{2,1} \\ a_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} u^2 + \begin{bmatrix} a_{3,0} \\ a_{3,1} \\ a_{3,2} \end{bmatrix} u^3$$

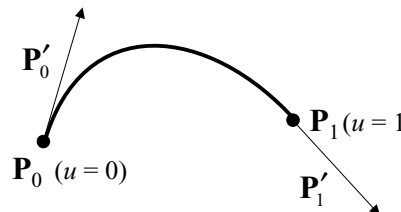
$$= \mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_1 u + \mathbf{a}_2 u^2 + \mathbf{a}_3 u^3 \quad (0 \leq u \leq 1)$$

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Hermite Curves

- The coefficients $\mathbf{a}_0, \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ are hard for a designer to specify because the geometric affect is not intuitive. To solve this problem, consider the first point and last point and their derivatives with respect to u .



$$\mathbf{P}(u) = \mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_1 u + \mathbf{a}_2 u^2 + \mathbf{a}_3 u^3$$

$$\mathbf{P}(0) = \mathbf{a}_0 = \mathbf{P}_0$$

$$\mathbf{P}(1) = \mathbf{a}_0 + \mathbf{a}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2 + \mathbf{a}_3 = \mathbf{P}_1$$

$$\mathbf{P}'(u) = \mathbf{a}_1 + 2\mathbf{a}_2 u + 3\mathbf{a}_3 u^2$$

$$\mathbf{P}'(0) = \mathbf{a}_1 = \mathbf{P}'_0$$

$$\mathbf{P}'(1) = \mathbf{a}_1 + 2\mathbf{a}_2 + 3\mathbf{a}_3 = \mathbf{P}'_1$$

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Hermite Curves

- Solving for $(\mathbf{a}_0, \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3)$ yields:

$$\mathbf{a}_0 = \mathbf{P}_0$$

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \mathbf{P}'_0$$

$$\mathbf{a}_2 = -3\mathbf{P}_0 + 3\mathbf{P}_1 - 2\mathbf{P}'_0 - \mathbf{P}'_1$$

$$\mathbf{a}_3 = 2\mathbf{P}_0 - 2\mathbf{P}_1 + \mathbf{P}'_0 + \mathbf{P}'_1$$

- Substituting this into the first equation, yields:

$$\mathbf{P}(u) = [1 - 3u^2 + 2u^3 \quad 3u^2 - 2u^3 \quad u - 2u^2 + u^3 \quad -u^2 + u^3] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}_0 \\ \mathbf{P}_1 \\ \mathbf{P}'_0 \\ \mathbf{P}'_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Hermite Curves

The relative importance of each vector $\mathbf{P}_0, \mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}'_0$ and \mathbf{P}'_1 is given by the “blending functions”:

$$f_1(u) = 1 - 3u^2 + 2u^3$$

$$f_2(u) = 3u^2 - 2u^3$$

$$f_3(u) = u - 2u^2 + u^3$$

$$f_4(u) = -u^2 + u^3$$

The affect of the each vector is shown in the figure:

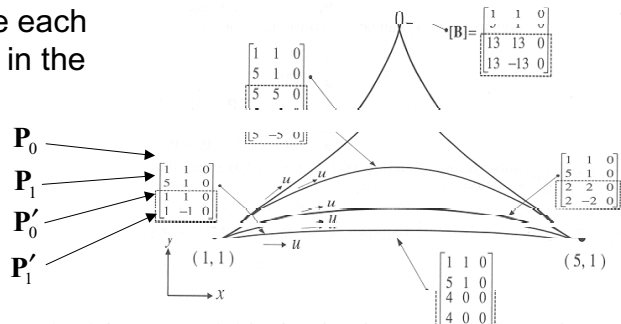


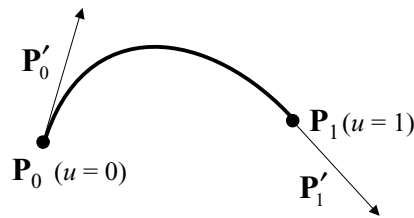
Figure is from: K. Lee, “Principles of CAD/CAM/CAE Systems,” Addison-Wesley, 1999

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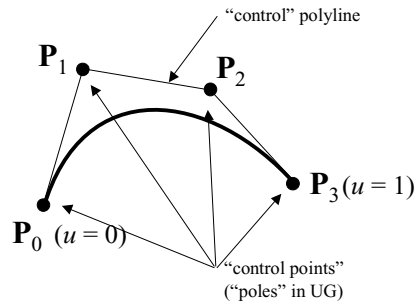
Bezier Curve

- This is the “Single” option for creating spline curves in UG.
- The Bezier curve uses “control points” instead of tangent vectors to control the shape of the curve.



Hermite Curve

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Degree 3 Bezier Curve

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Bezier Curve

The equation for a Bezier curve is:

$$P(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} u^i (1-u)^{n-i} P_i$$

“Blending functions” $B_{i,n}(u)$ yield the influence of each control point P_i as a function of u :

Blending function

$$B_{i,n}(u) = \binom{n}{i} u^i (1-u)^{n-i}$$

where: $\binom{n}{i} = \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!}$

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Bezier Curve – 3rd Order

$$\mathbf{P}(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} u^i (1-u)^{n-i} \mathbf{P}_i$$

$$\mathbf{P}(u) = \sum_{i=0}^3 \binom{3}{i} u^i (1-u)^{3-i} \mathbf{P}_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(u) &= 1 \cdot u^0 (1-u)^3 \mathbf{P}_0 \\ &\quad + 3 \cdot u (1-u)^2 \mathbf{P}_1 \\ &\quad + 3 \cdot u^2 (1-u) \mathbf{P}_2 \\ &\quad + 1 \cdot u^3 (1-u)^0 \mathbf{P}_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\binom{3}{0} = \frac{3!}{0!3!} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 1$$

$$\binom{3}{1} = \frac{3!}{1!2!} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 3$$

$$\binom{3}{2} = \frac{3!}{2!1!} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1} = 3$$

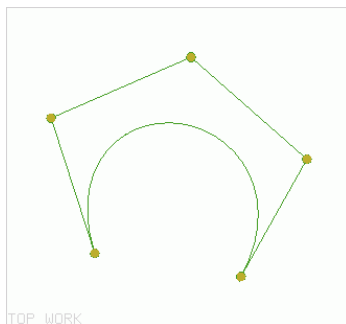
$$\binom{3}{3} = \frac{3!}{3!0!} = \frac{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1} = 1$$

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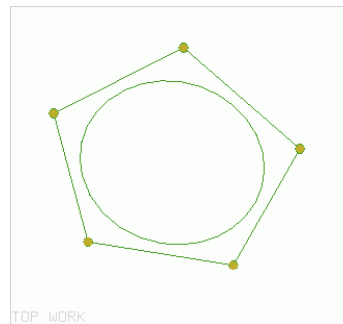
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Closed versus Open Curves

- A Bezier curve can be “open” or “closed”



“open”



“closed”

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Bezier Curve Properties

- degree of curve is equal to number of control points - 1
- open curves always pass through first and last point.
- tangent at first point is given by the direction of the first segment of control polygon.
- the n th derivative of the curve at the first point is given by the first $n + 1$ control points.
- the same curve (and properties) exist when starting with the last control point.
- the curve is always inside the convex hull of the control polygon:

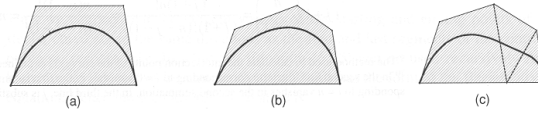
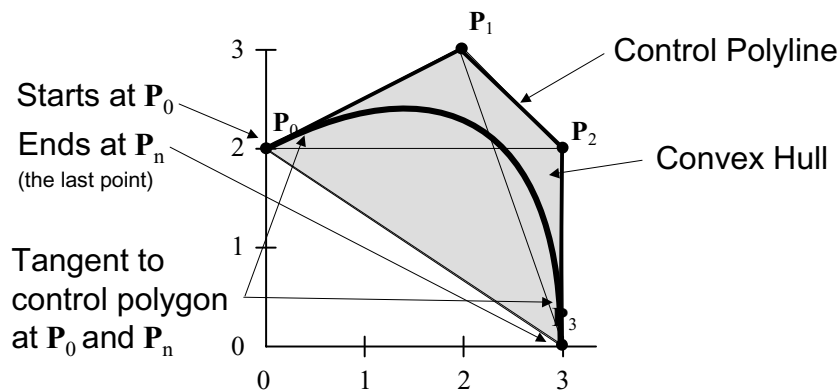


Figure is from: K. Lee, "Principles of CAD/CAM/CAE Systems," Addison-Wesley, 1999

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1. For the cubic Bezier curve $\mathbf{P}(u)$ [$0 \leq u \leq 1$] with the control points shown,
 - draw the convex hull,
 - draw the control polyline,
 - draw a rough sketch of the curve, and
 - calculate the values of the blending functions ($B_{i,n}$) for $u = 0.2$.
 - use the blending functions to calculate the position of the curve point $\mathbf{P}(0.2)$.



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Limitations of Bezier curves

- More complicated shapes require higher order Bezier curves. However, higher order curves are inherently more wavy.



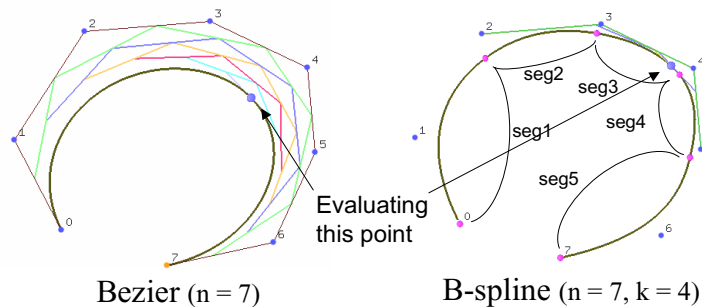
- Bezier curves can not be modified “locally.” Movement of any control point will affect the whole curve.

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Enter the B-Spline!

- Instead of considering EVERY control point when evaluating a point, only consider closest k .



- The B-spline curve is composed of $n - k + 2$ segments, each of degree $k-1$.

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B-spline Equation

- The B-spline equation is recursive. It is given by:

$$\mathbf{P}(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{P}_i N_{i,k}(u) \quad (t_{k-1} \leq u \leq t_{n+1})$$

$$N_{i,k}(u) = \frac{(u - t_i) N_{i,k-1}(u)}{t_{i+k} - t_i} + \frac{(t_{i+1} - u) N_{i+1,k-1}(u)}{t_{i+1} - t_{i+1}}$$

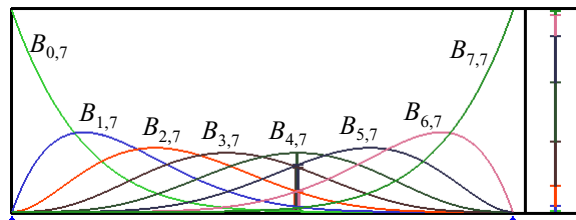
$$N_{i,1}(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & t_i \leq u \leq t_{i+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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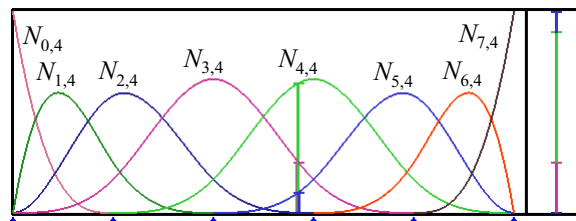
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Compare Blending Functions

Bezier Blending Functions ($B_{i,n}$)



B-Spline Blending Functions ($N_{i,k}$)

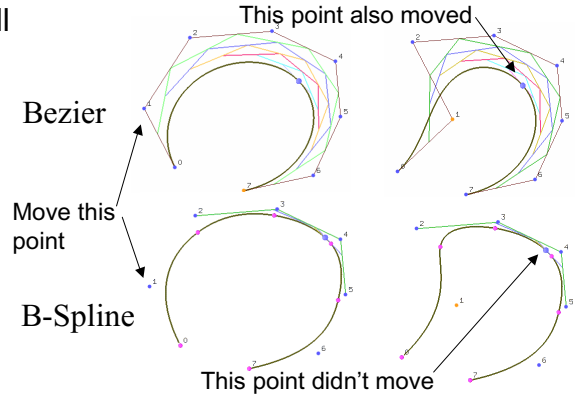


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Properties of B-Splines

- composed of multiple connected polynomial curves
- each segment affected by k control points
- each control point affects k segments, max.
- Inside convex hull
- local modification
- symmetric

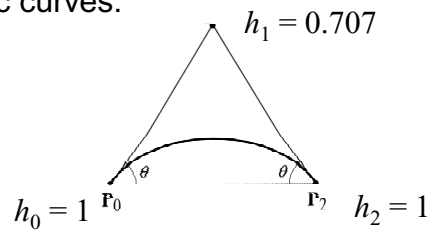


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NURBS curves

- NURBS means “**Non-uniform Rational B-Spline**”.
- Many CAD systems use this as the **ONLY** internal geometry representation (even for straight lines and circles).
- NURBS have a weighting factor h_i associated with each control point:
- NURBS curves are useful because they allow exact representation of conic curves.



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NURBS curves

The NURBS equation is:

$$\mathbf{P}(u) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n h_i \mathbf{P}_i N_{i,k}(u)}{\sum_{i=0}^n h_i N_{i,k}(u)}$$

Regular B-Spline

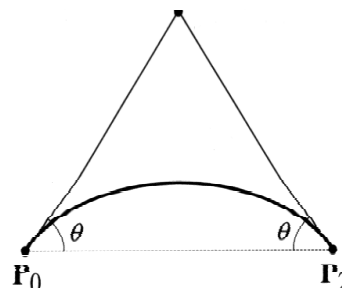
B-Spline equation applied to weighting.

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NURBS

- NURBS curves are useful because they allow exact representation of conic curves.
- To create a circular arc (less than 180°) using a NURBS curve:
 - use $k = 3$ (degree = 2)
 - arrange control points in triangle with two equal angles as shown
 - use weightings: $h_0 = h_2 = 1$ and $h_1 = \cos \theta$



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