

# Splines (3)

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# Review

- Polynomial representation:
  - Curve as

$$x(t) = a_0 + a_1 t + \dots + a_n t^n$$

$$y(t) = b_0 + b_1 t + \dots + b_n t^n$$

$$z(t) = c_0 + c_1 t + \dots + c_n t^n$$



$$T = [t^n \quad \dots \quad t^1 \quad 1];$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} c_n^x & c_n^y & c_n^z \\ c_{n-1}^x & c_{n-1}^y & c_{n-1}^z \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ c_0^x & c_0^y & c_0^z \end{bmatrix};$$

$$Q(t) = [x(t) \quad y(t) \quad z(t)] = T \cdot C = \sum_{i=0}^n \vec{c}_i t^i$$

Or the weighted sum format with different types of basis functions:

For example, Bezier curve:

$$B_i^n(t) = \binom{n}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n-i};$$

$$C(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{i=n} B_i^n(t) P_i$$

# Rational Bezier Curves

- Although polynomials offer many advantages, there exist a number of important curve and surface types which cannot be represented precisely using polynomials (e.g. circles, ellipses, hyperbolas, cylinders, cones, spheres, etc.)
- Example: unit circle in the xy plane can't be represented using polynomial functions

- If it has a parametric representation :  
$$x(t) = a_0 + a_1t + \dots + a_nt^n$$
$$y(t) = b_0 + b_1t + \dots + b_nt^n$$

- Then  $x^2+y^2-1=0$  implies:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (a_0 + a_1t + \dots + a_nt^n)^2 + (b_0 + b_1t + \dots + b_nt^n)^2 - 1 \\ &= (a_0^2 + b_0^2 - 1) + 2(a_0a_1 + b_0b_1)t + (a_1^2 + 2a_0a_2 + b_1^2 + 2b_0b_2)t^2 \\ &\quad + \dots + 2(a_na_{n-1} + b_nb_{n-1})t^{2n} - 1 + (a_n^2 + b_n^2)t^{2n} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

- Equation (1) should hold for all t, which implies that all coefficients are zero

# Rational Bezier Curves (cont.)

- Example: unit circle in the xy plane can't be represented using polynomial functions

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\equiv (a_0 + a_1t + \dots + a_nt^n)^2 + (b_0 + b_1t + \dots + b_nt^n)^2 - 1 \\ &= (a_0^2 + b_0^2 - 1) + 2(a_0a_1 + b_0b_1)t + (a_1^2 + 2a_0a_2 + b_1^2 + 2b_0b_2)t^2 \\ &\quad + \dots + 2(a_na_{n-1} + b_nb_{n-1})t^{2n} - 1 + (a_n^2 + b_n^2)t^{2n} \end{aligned}$$

- (cont.)

- (1)  $a_n^2 + b_n^2 = 0 \Rightarrow a_n = b_n = 0$

- (2)  $a_{n-1}^2 + 2a_{n-2}a_n + b_{n-1}^2 + 2b_{n-2}b_n = 0 \Rightarrow a_{n-1} = b_{n-1} = 0$

- (3) ...

- (n)  $a_1^2 + 2a_0a_2 + b_1^2 + 2b_0b_2 = 0 \Rightarrow a_0 = b_0 = 0$

But this implies  $0 = (0+0-1) = -1$

This proves a circle can't be represented by a polynomial form.

- Conic sections can be represented by rational functions:

- Unit circle:

$$x(t) = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}; y(t) = \frac{2t}{1+t^2}$$

- Ellipse (major radius 2 on y-axis, and minor radius 1 on x-axis):  $x(t) = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}; y(t) = \frac{4t}{1+t^2}$

- Hyperbola, center at  $(0, 4/3)$ , with y-axis the transverse axis:

$$x(t) = \frac{-1+2t}{1+2t-2t^2}; y(t) = \frac{4t(1-t)}{1+2t-2t^2}$$

# Rational Bezier curve

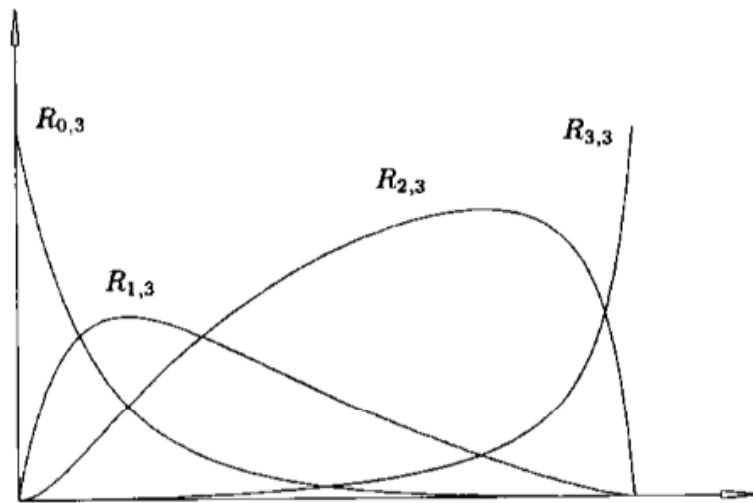
- nth-degree rational Bezier curve:

$$C(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t)w_i P_i}{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t)w_i}, 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

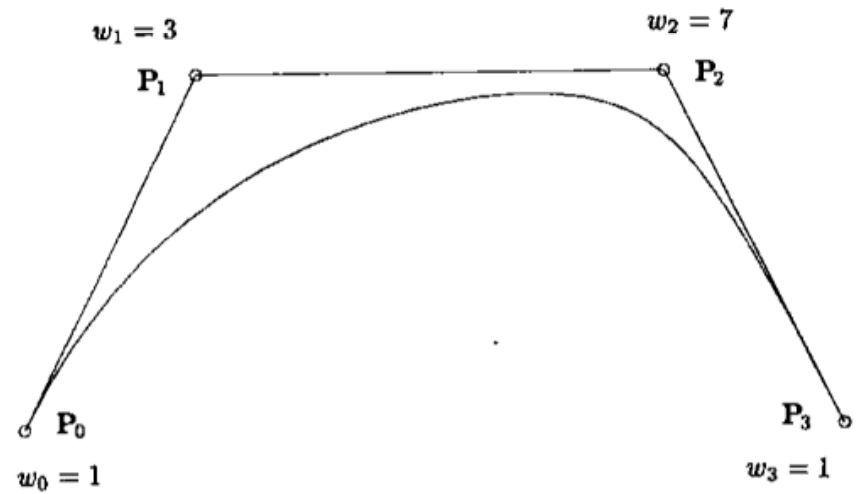
or  $C(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n R_{i,n}(t)P_i, 0 \leq t \leq 1$  where  $R_{i,n}(t) = \frac{B_{i,n}(t)w_i}{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t)w_i}, 0 \leq t \leq 1$

- Properties:
  - Nonnegativity, partition of unity, endpoints interpolation
  - $B_{i,n}(t)$  are a special case of the  $R_{i,n}(t)$
  - Convex hull property, affine transformation invariance, variation diminishing property
  - The  $k^{\text{th}}$  derivative at  $t=0$  ( $t=1$ ) depends on the first (last)  $k+1$  control points and weights, in particular  $C'(0)$  and  $C'(1)$  are parallel to  $P_1-P_0$  and  $P_n-P_{n-1}$  respectively.

# Rational Bezier curve example



(a) Basis functions;



(b) Bézier curve.

# Using Homogeneous Coordinates

A 2D curve example:

- Given a set of control points  $\{P_i\}$ , and weights  $\{w_i\}$
- Construct the weighted control points  $Q_i (w_i x_i, w_i y_i, w_i)$

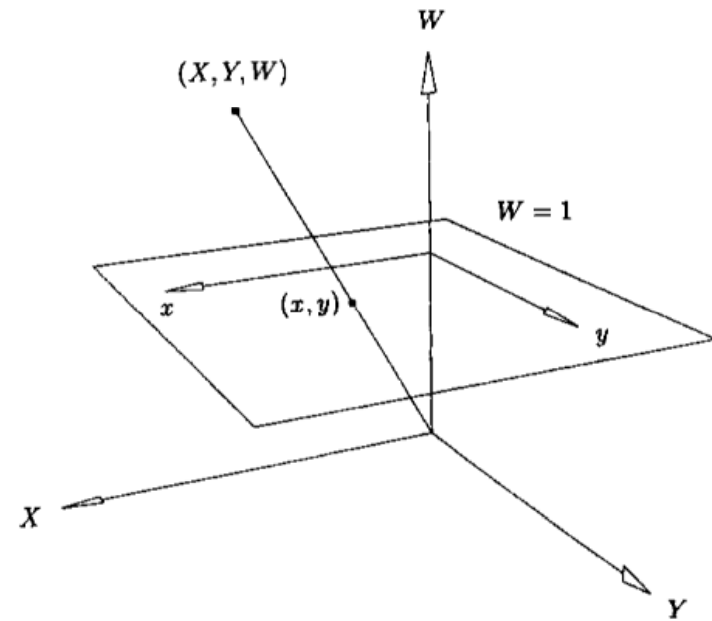
• In 3D:

$$x^H(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i x_i$$

$$y^H(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i y_i$$

$$w(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i$$

- Project it back onto the  $w=1$  plane:



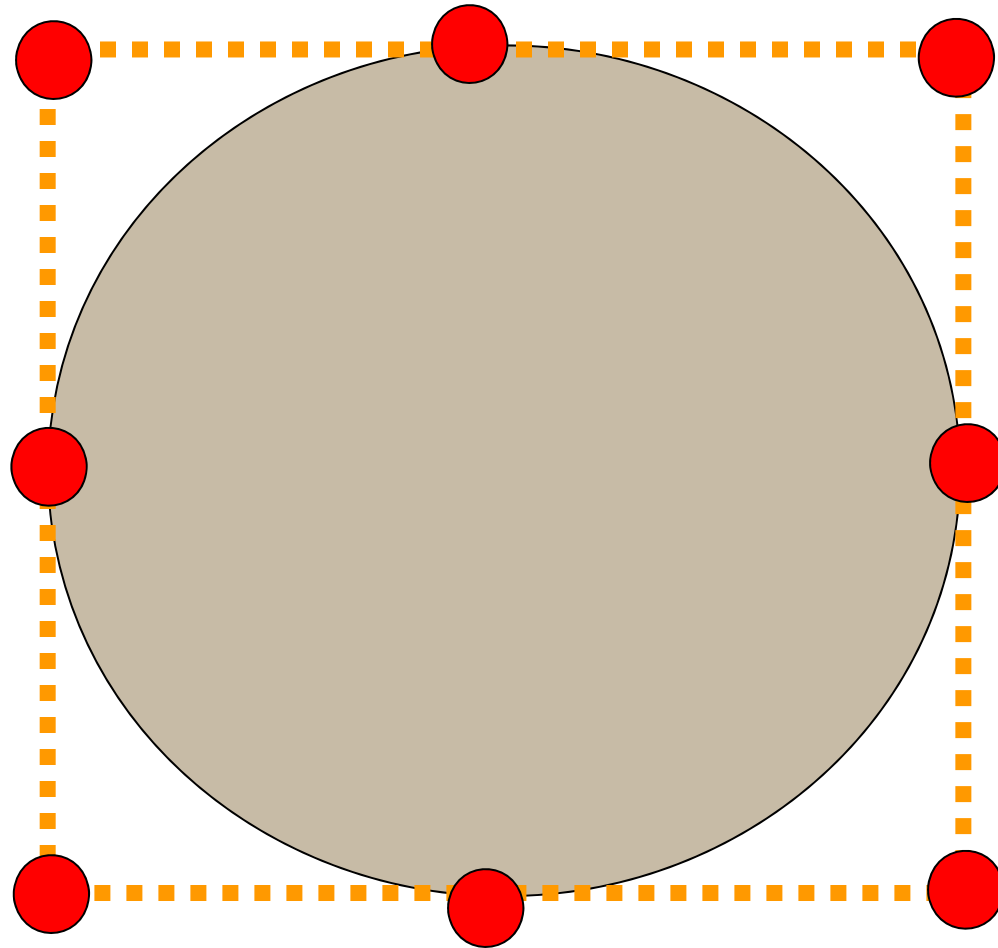
$$x(t) = \frac{x^H(t)}{w(t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i x_i}{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i}, \quad y(t) = \frac{y^H(t)}{w(t)} = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i y_i}{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i}$$

$$C(t) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i P_i}{\sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(t) w_i}$$

# Example:

## Rational functions for unit circle

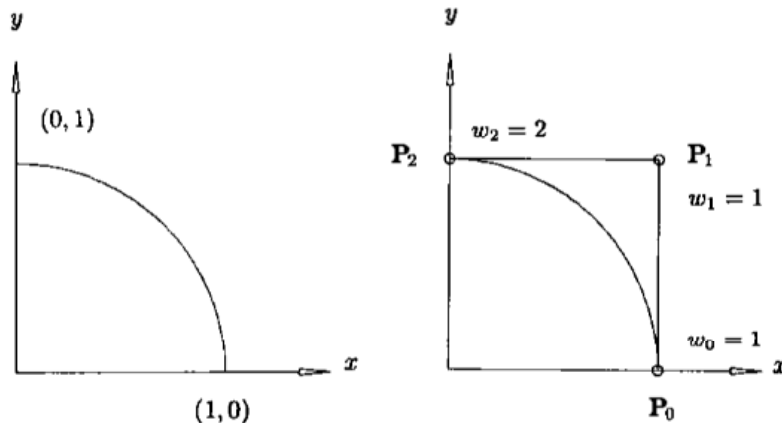
Where to put control points, and how to set their weights?



Suppose you know: a parametric representation of a circle is  $x(t) = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}; y(t) = \frac{2t}{1+t^2}$



# The unit circle example



Look at one quadrant of the unit circle:  $\left( x(t) = \frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}, y(t) = \frac{2t}{1+t^2} \right), 0 \leq t \leq 1$

□ The quadric curve should have  $P_0$ ,  $P_1$ , and  $P_2$  placed as shown in the right figure. (Why?)

□ For the weights, we have:  $w(t) = 1+t^2 = \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,2}(t)w_i = (1-t)^2 w_0 + 2t(1-t)w_1 + t^2 w_2$

with  $t=0,0.5,1 \rightarrow w_0, w_1, w_2 = 1,1,2$

□ Get homogeneous coordinates

$$P_0 = (1,0) \quad Q_0 = (1,0,1)$$

$$P_1 = (1,1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad Q_1 = (1,1,1)$$

$$P_2 = (0,1) \quad Q_2 = (0,2,2)$$

# The unit circle example

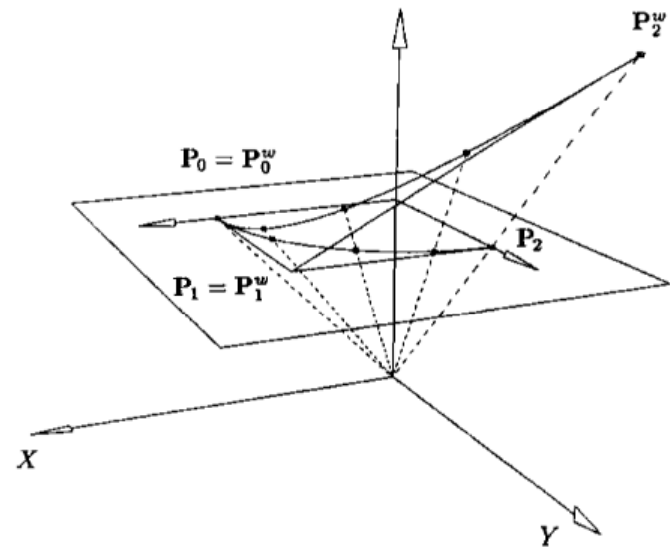
The 3D parametric curve is a parabolic arc:

$$C^H(t) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,2}(t)Q_i$$

Which projects onto a circular arc on the  $W=1$  plane

On any given  $t$ , for example,  $t=1/2$

$$\begin{aligned} C^H\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) &= \sum_{i=0}^2 B_{i,2}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)Q_i \\ &= \left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)^2 (1,0,1) + 2\left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(1,1,1) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 (0,2,2) \quad \rightarrow \quad C\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = (3/5, 4/5) \\ &= \left(\frac{3}{4}, 1, \frac{5}{4}\right) \end{aligned}$$



# NURBS Curves

An p-degree NURBS Curve:

$$c(u) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{p}_i w_i B_{i,k}(u)}{\sum_{i=0}^n w_i B_{i,k}(u)} \quad \text{where} \quad B_{i,0}(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & u_i \leq u < u_{i+1} \\ 0 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

$$B_{i,k}(u) = \frac{u - u_i}{u_{i+k} - u_i} B_{i,k-1}(u) + \frac{u_{i+k+1} - u}{u_{i+k+1} - u_{i+1}} B_{i+1,k-1}(u)$$

Note:

- Computation of a set of basis functions requires specification of a knot vector  $U$  and the degree  $k$
- It may yield the quotient  $0/0$ , we define it to be zero
- $B_{i,p}(u)$  defined on the entire real line, but only the  $[u_0, u_m]$  is of interest.
- The interval  $[u_i, u_{i+1})$  is called the  $i$ th knot span, and can have zero length
- The computation of  $p$ th-degree functions generates a truncated triangular table
- Exercise: Curve with  $U = \{\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{k+1}, \underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{k+1}\}$  is a generalized  $p$ -degree Bezier representation.

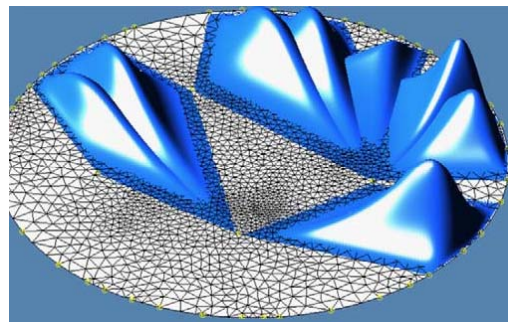
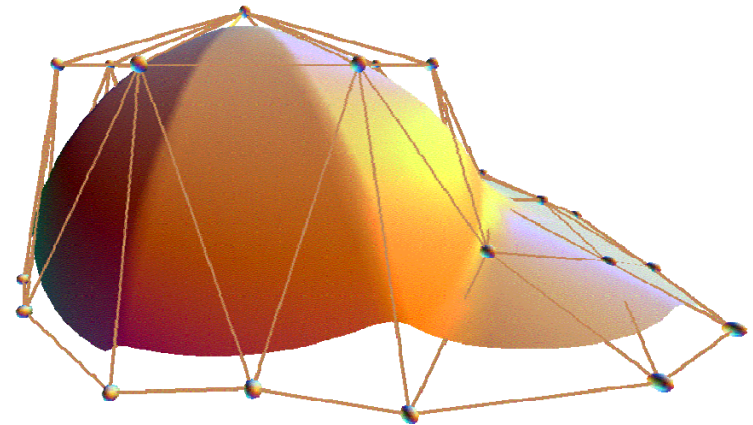
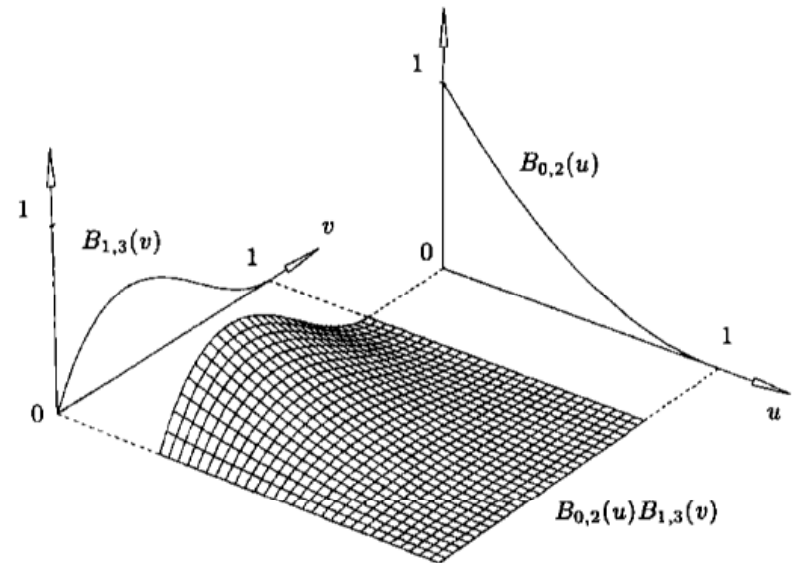
# Spline Surface

A curve  $\rightarrow$  vector function of one parameter, mapping of a straight line segment into Euclidean 3D space

A surface  $\rightarrow$  a vector-valued function of two parameters, mapping of a region into Euclidean 3D space

Spline Surface Categories  
(classified by domain schemes):

- Tensor product patches
- Triangular patches
- ...



# Tensor Product Surfaces

Basis functions:

bivariate functions of  $u$  and  $v$

(constructed as products of univariate basis functions)

A tensor product surface  $S^T(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v)) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m f_i(u) g_j(v) b_{i,j};$

$$\text{where } \begin{cases} b_{i,j} = (x_{i,j}, y_{i,j}, z_{i,j}) \\ 0 \leq u, v \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

The  $(u, v)$  domain of this mapping is a square (rectangle)

$$S^T(u, v) = [f_i(u)]^T [b_{i,j}] [g_j(v)]$$

  
 $(n+1) * (m+1)$  matrix of 3D points

# An example

$$S^T(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m f_i(u) g_j(v) b_{i,j}$$

A general parametric surface:

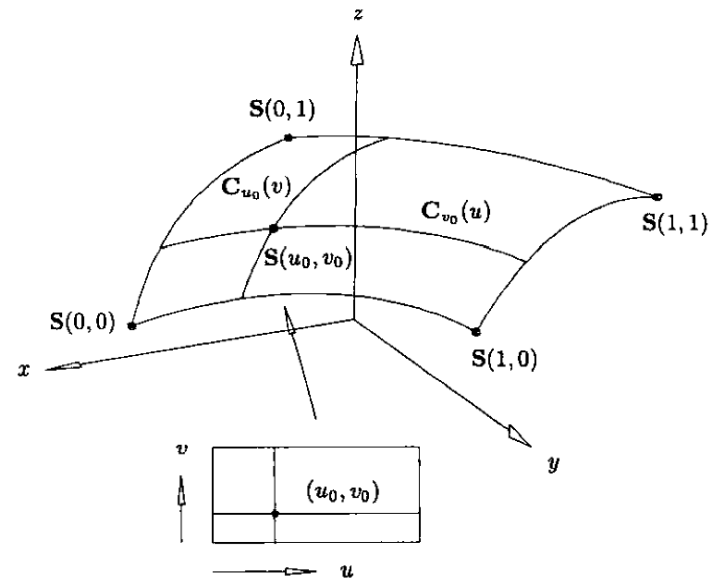
$$\mathbf{S}(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m \mathbf{a}_{i,j} u^i v^j = [\mathbf{u}^i]^T [\mathbf{a}_{i,j}] [\mathbf{v}^j] \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{a}_{i,j} = (x_{i,j}, y_{i,j}, z_{i,j}) \\ 0 \leq u, v \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

In tensor product representation:  $f^i \rightarrow u_i$  and  $g_j \rightarrow v_j$ , basis functions make the products  $\{u^i v^j\}$ .

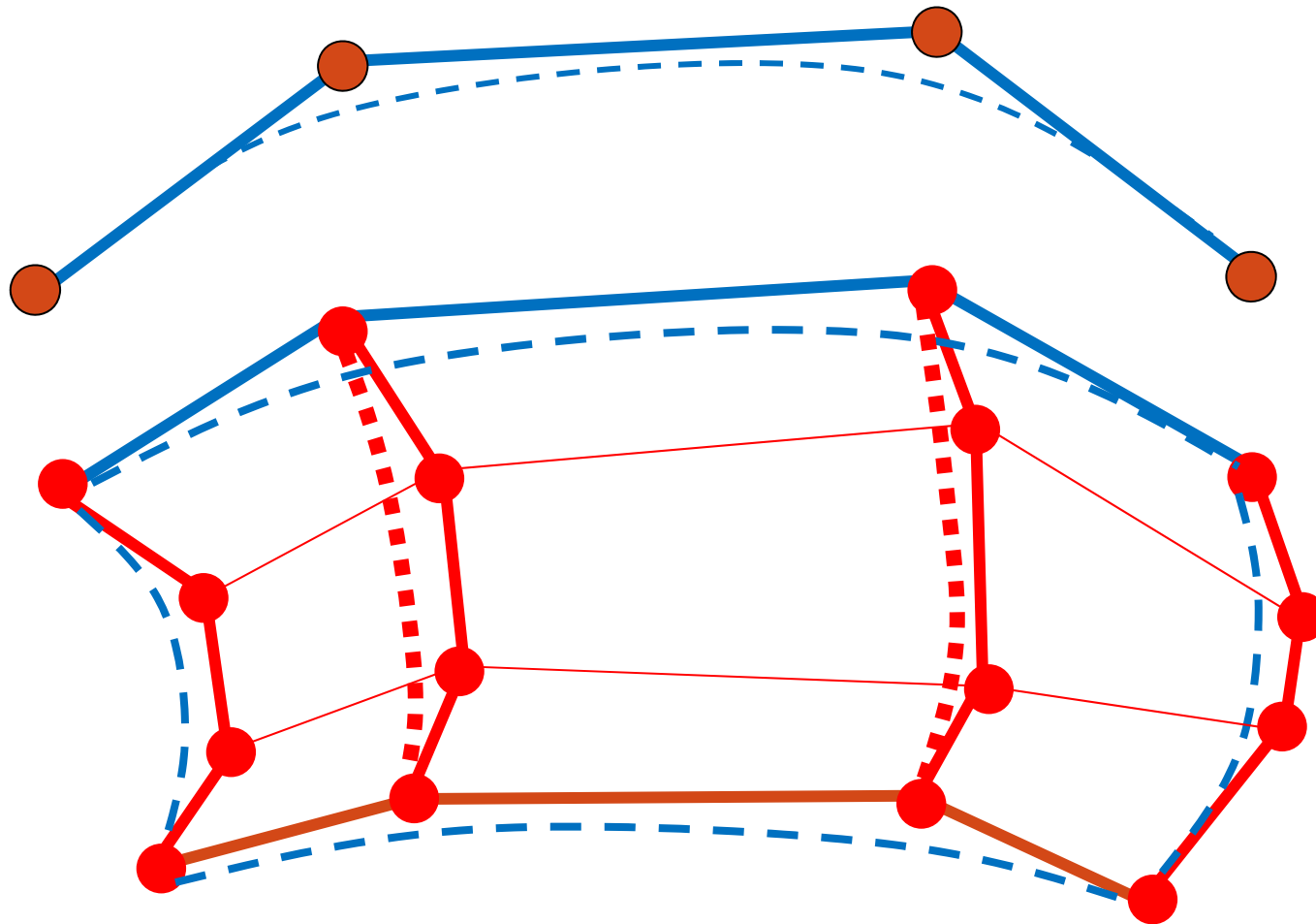
If we fix  $u=u_0$  then we get an iso-curve:

$$\mathbf{C}_{u_0}(v) = \mathbf{S}(u_0, v) = \sum_{j=0}^m \left( \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{a}_{i,j} u_0^i \right) v^j = \sum_{j=0}^m \mathbf{b}_j(u_0) v^j$$

$$\mathbf{b}_j(u_0) = \sum_{i=0}^n \mathbf{a}_{i,j} u_0^i$$



# Nonrational Bezier Surfaces



# Nonrational Bezier Surfaces

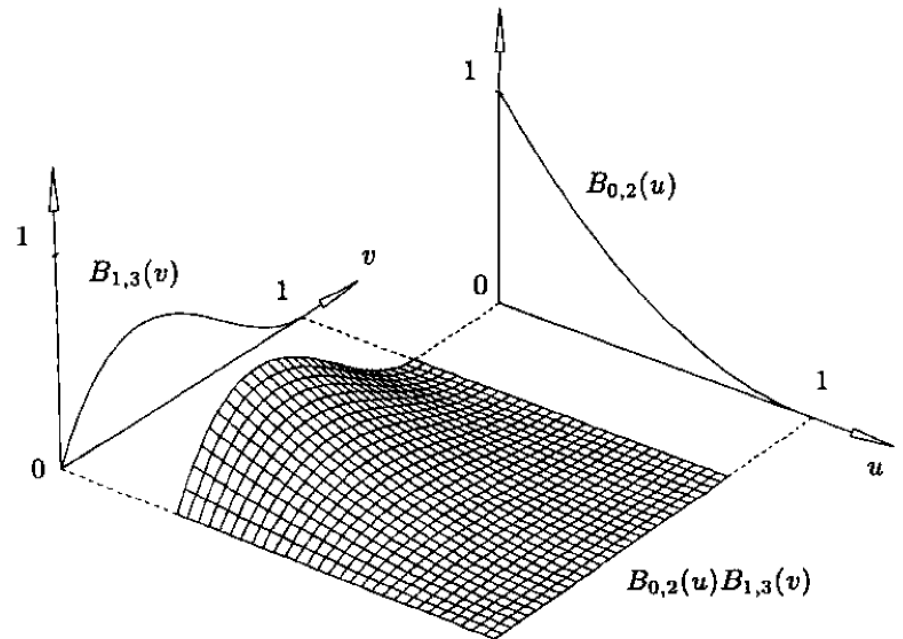
A bidirectional net of control points and products of the univariate Bernstein polynomials:

$$\mathbf{S}(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m B_{i,n}(u) B_{j,m}(v) \mathbf{P}_{i,j} \quad 0 \leq u, v \leq 1$$

For fixed  $u=u_0$ : we get a Bezier curve

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{C}_{u_0}(v) &= \mathbf{S}(u_0, v) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m B_{i,n}(u_0) B_{j,m}(v) \mathbf{P}_{i,j} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m B_{j,m}(v) \left( \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(u_0) \mathbf{P}_{i,j} \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m B_{j,m}(v) \mathbf{Q}_j(u_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_j(u_0) = \sum_{i=0}^n B_{i,n}(u_0) \mathbf{P}_{i,j} \quad j = 0, \dots, m$$





# Properties of Nonrational Bezier Surfaces

□ Non-negativity.

$$B_{i,n}(u)B_{j,m}(v) \geq 0 \text{ for all } i, j, u, v$$

□ Partition of Unity.

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m B_{i,n}(u)B_{j,m}(v) = 1 \text{ for all } u \text{ and } v$$

□  $S(u,v)$  is contained in the convex hull of its control points.

□ Affine Transformation Invariance.

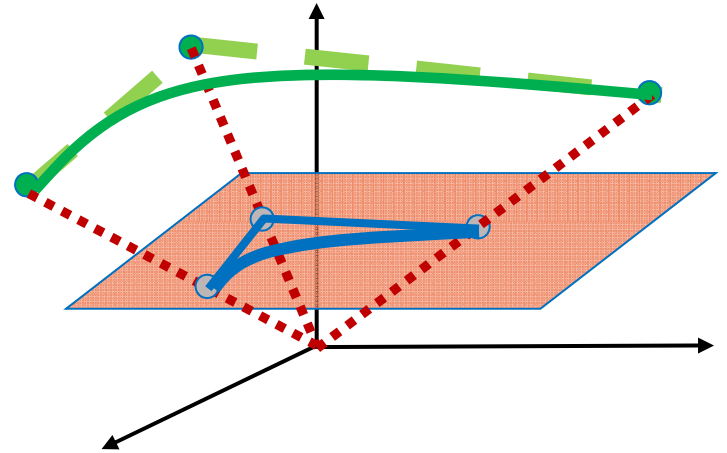
□ The surface interpolates the four corner control points.

# NURBS Curves $\rightarrow$ Surfaces

- NURBS curves.
- Tensor product?
- Question: can we get NURBS surface this way?
- Answer: NO!  
→ NURBS are not tensor-product surfaces
- Can we have NURBS surface?
- YES.

# NURBS Curves

$$c(u) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i w_i B_{i,k}(u)}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i B_{i,k}(u)}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} c_x / c_w \\ c_y / c_w \\ c_z / c_w \end{bmatrix} \Leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} c_x(u) \\ c_y(u) \\ c_z(u) \\ c_w(u) \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^n B_{i,k}(u) \begin{bmatrix} w_i x_i \\ w_i y_i \\ w_i z_i \\ w_i \end{bmatrix}$$

# NURBS Surface

- NURBS surface definition:
  - A NURBS surface of degree  $k$  in  $u$  direction and degree 1 in the  $v$  direction is:

$$S(u, v) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m \mathbf{p}_{i,j} w_{i,j} B_{i,k}(u) B_{j,1}(v)}{\sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m w_{i,j} B_{i,k}(u) B_{j,1}(v)}$$

- Geometric interpolation
- Not the tensor-product formulation. (Compare it with Bezier and B-spline construction)

# NURBS Surface

$$s(u) = \frac{\sum_{i,j=1}^n p_{ij} w_{ij} B_{i,k}(u) B_{j,l}(v)}{\sum_{i,j=1}^n w_{ij} B_{i,k}(u) B_{j,l}(v)}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} s_x / s_w \\ s_y / s_w \\ s_z / s_w \end{bmatrix} \Leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} s_x(u) \\ s_y(u) \\ s_z(u) \\ s_w(u) \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n B_{i,k}(u) B_{j,l}(v) \begin{bmatrix} w_{ij} x_{ij} \\ w_{ij} y_{ij} \\ w_{ij} z_{ij} \\ w_{ij} \end{bmatrix}$$

# NURBS Surface

- Parametric variables:  $u$  and  $v$
- Control points and their associated weights:  $(m+1)(n+1)$
- Degrees of basis functions:  $(k-1)$  and  $(l-1)$
- Knot sequence:

$$u_0 \leq u_1 \leq \dots \leq u_{m+k}$$

$$v_0 \leq v_1 \leq \dots \leq v_{n+l}$$

- Parametric domain:

$$u_{k-1} \leq u \leq u_{m+1}$$

$$v_{l-1} \leq v \leq v_{n+1}$$

# NURBS Surface Property

Nonnegativity:  $R_{i,j}(u, v) \geq 0$  for all  $i, j, u$ , and  $v$ ;

Partition of unity:  $\sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m R_{i,j}(u, v) = 1$  for all  $(u, v) \in [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ ;

Local support:  $R_{i,j}(u, v) = 0$  if  $(u, v)$  is outside the rectangle given by  $[u_i, u_{i+p+1}) \times [v_j, v_{j+q+1})$ ;

In any given rectangle of the form  $[u_{i_0}, u_{i_0+1}) \times [v_{j_0}, v_{j_0+1})$ , at most  $(p+1)(q+1)$  basis functions are nonzero, in particular the  $R_{i,j}(u, v)$  for  $i_0 - p \leq i \leq i_0$  and  $j_0 - q \leq j \leq j_0$  are nonzero;

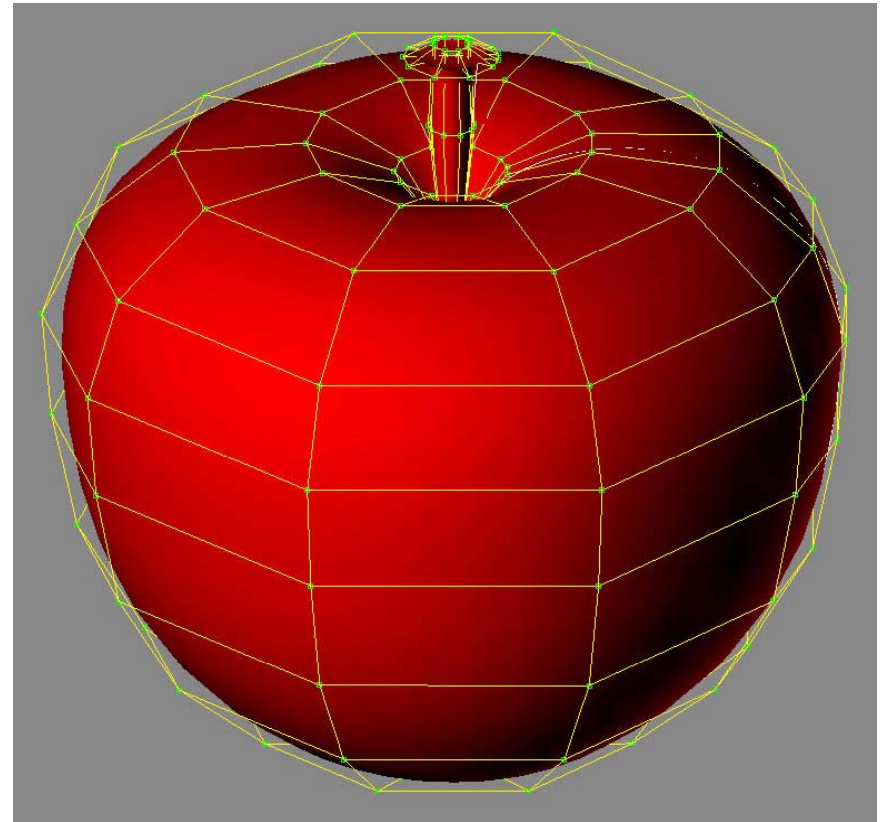
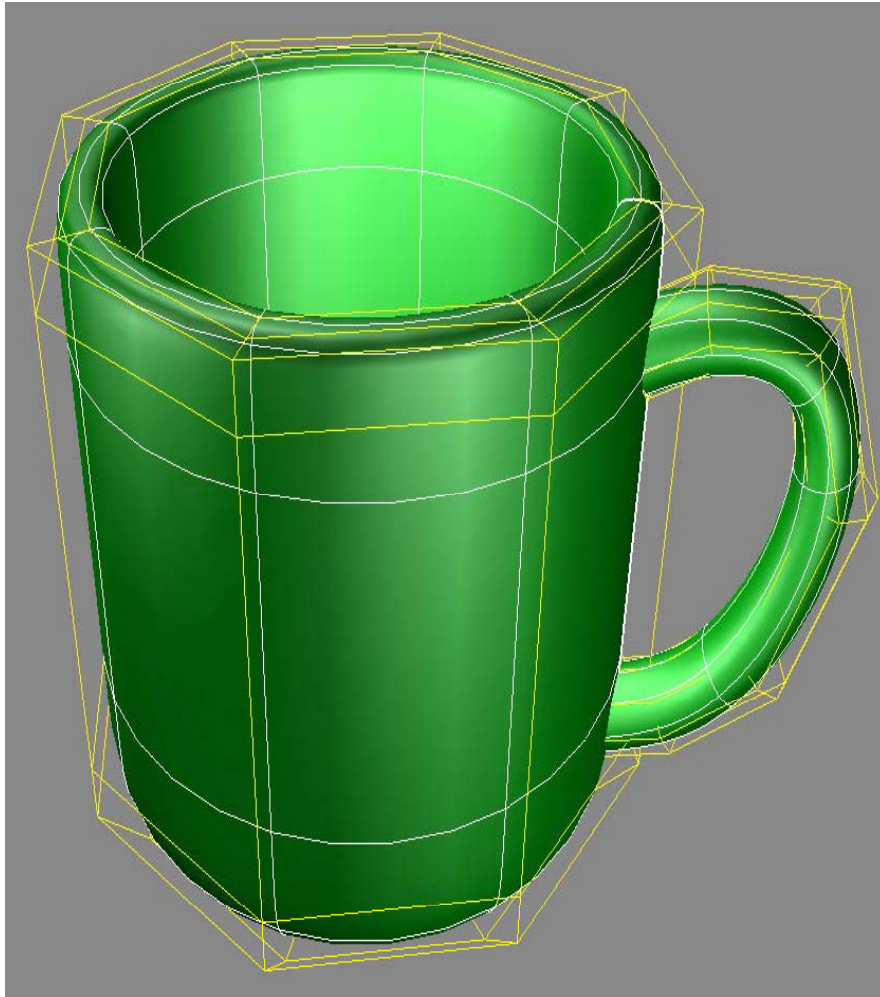
Corner point interpolation:  $\mathbf{S}(0, 0) = \mathbf{P}_{0,0}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}(1, 0) = \mathbf{P}_{n,0}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}(0, 1) = \mathbf{P}_{0,m}$ , and  $\mathbf{S}(1, 1) = \mathbf{P}_{n,m}$ ;

Affine invariance: an affine transformation is applied to the surface by applying it to the control points;

Strong convex hull property: assume  $w_{i,j} \geq 0$  for all  $i, j$ . If  $(u, v) \in [u_{i_0}, u_{i_0+1}) \times [v_{j_0}, v_{j_0+1})$ , then  $\mathbf{S}(u, v)$  is in the convex hull of the control points  $\mathbf{P}_{i,j}$ ,  $i_0 - p \leq i \leq i_0$  and  $j_0 - q \leq j \leq j_0$ ;

Local modification: if  $\mathbf{P}_{i,j}$  is moved, or  $w_{i,j}$  is changed, it affects the surface shape only in the rectangle  $[u_i, u_{i+p+1}) \times [v_j, v_{j+q+1})$ ;

# NURBS Surface Examples





# NURBS Surfaces

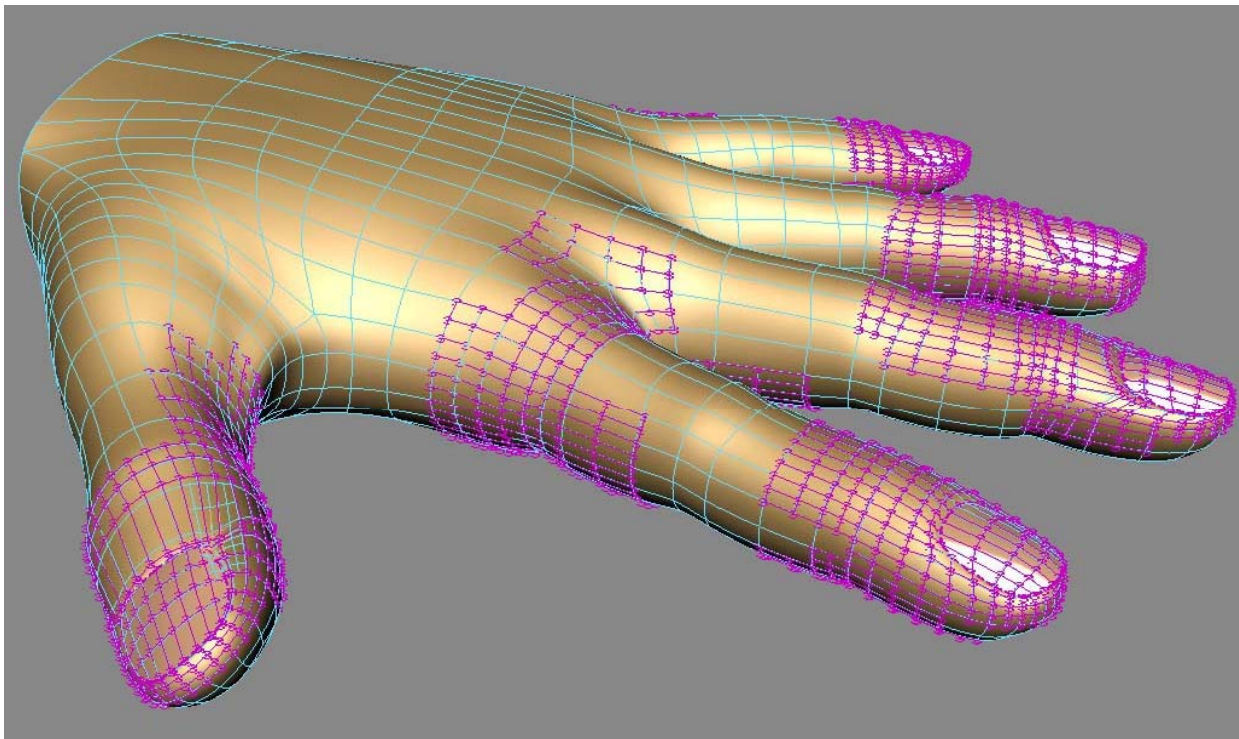
- Good for
  - Mechanical, manufactured parts
  - Smooth free-form surface representation
- Bad for
  - Non-genus-0 surfaces
  - Interactive design of free-form surfaces

# Why NURBS

- Support free-form curves/surfaces modeling.
- Represent standard analytic shapes precisely.
- Local support.
- Convex hull.
- Affine transformation invariant.
- Strict analytic form for evaluation (important in CAD/CAM/CAE).

# Why NOT NURBS

- Hard to model arbitrary topology.
- Regularity of tensor-product control polygon poses difficulty for level of detail.



Allow T-junctions  
→ T-splines  
(details in  
EE7000 course)