

# Parametric surfaces

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CSE 457  
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## Reading

Optional reading:

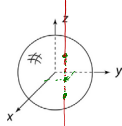
- Angel and Shreiner readings for "Parametric Curves" lecture, with emphasis on 10.1.2, 10.1.3, 10.1.5, 10.6.2, 10.7.3, 10.9.4.
- Marschner and Shirley, 2.5.

Further reading

- Bartels, Beatty, and Barsky. *An Introduction to Splines for use in Computer Graphics and Geometric Modeling*, 1987.

## Mathematical surface representations

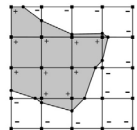
- Explicit  $z=f(x, y)$  (a.k.a., a "height field")
  - what if the curve isn't a function, like a sphere?



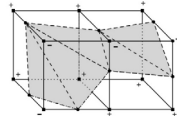
- Implicit  $g(x, y, z) = 0$

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = r^2$$

$$g(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - r^2$$



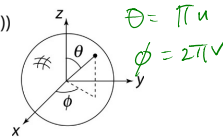
Isocontour from "marching squares"



Isocontour from "marching cubes"

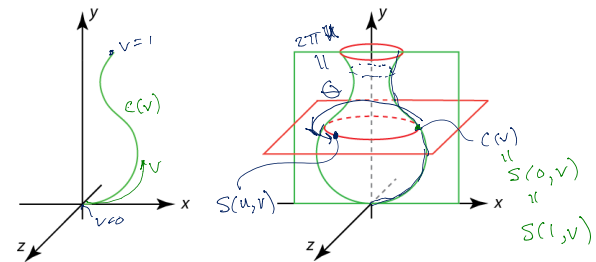
- Parametric  $S(u, v) = (x(u, v), y(u, v), z(u, v))$

- For the sphere:
  - $x(u, v) = r \cos 2\pi v \sin \pi u$
  - $y(u, v) = r \sin 2\pi v \sin \pi u$
  - $z(u, v) = r \cos \pi u$



As with curves, we'll focus on parametric surfaces.

## Constructing surfaces of revolution



Given: A curve  $C(v)$  in the  $xy$ -plane:

$$C(v) = \begin{bmatrix} C_x(v) \\ C_y(v) \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let  $R_y(\theta)$  be a rotation about the  $y$ -axis.

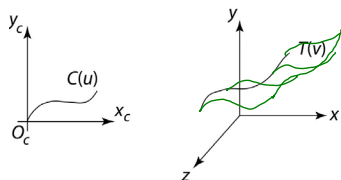
Find: A surface  $S(u, v)$  which is  $C(v)$  rotated about the  $y$ -axis, where  $u, v \in [0, 1]$ .

Solution:  $R_y(\theta)C(v)$       $R(2\pi u)C(v)$

## General sweep surfaces

The **surface of revolution** is a special case of a **swept surface**.

Idea: Trace out surface  $S(u,v)$  by moving a **profile curve**  $C(u)$  along a **trajectory curve**  $T(v)$ .



More specifically:

- Suppose that  $C(u)$  lies in an  $(x_c, y_c)$  coordinate system with origin  $O_c$ .
- For every point along  $T(v)$ , lay  $C(u)$  so that  $O_c$  coincides with  $T(v)$ .

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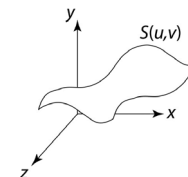
## Orientation

The big issue:

- How to orient  $C(u)$  as it moves along  $T(v)$ ?

Here are two options:

- Fixed (or static):** Just translate  $O_c$  along  $T(v)$ .



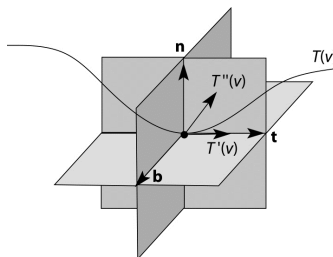
- Moving. Use the **Frenet frame** of  $T(v)$ .

- Allows smoothly varying orientation.
- Permits surfaces of revolution, for example.

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## Frenet frames

Motivation: Given a curve  $T(v)$ , we want to attach a smoothly varying coordinate system.



To get a 3D coordinate system, we need 3 independent direction vectors.

Tangent:  $\mathbf{t}(v) = \text{normalize}[T'(v)]$

Binormal:  $\mathbf{b}(v) = \text{normalize}[T'(v) \times T''(v)]$

Normal:  $\mathbf{n}(v) = \mathbf{b}(v) \times \mathbf{t}(v)$

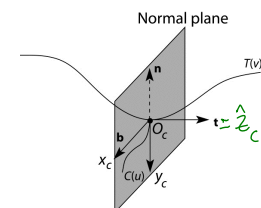
As we move along  $T(v)$ , the Frenet frame  $(t, b, n)$  varies smoothly.

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## Frenet swept surfaces

Orient the profile curve  $C(u)$  using the Frenet frame of the trajectory  $T(v)$ :

- Put  $C(u)$  in the **normal plane**.
- Place  $O_c$  on  $T(v)$ .
- Align  $x_c$  for  $C(u)$  with  $\mathbf{b}$ .
- Align  $y_c$  for  $C(u)$  with  $-\mathbf{n}$ .

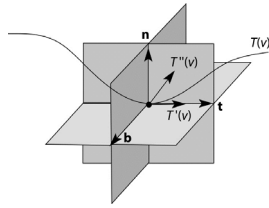


If  $T(v)$  is a circle, you get a surface of revolution exactly!

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## Degenerate frames

Let's look back at where we computed the coordinate frames from curve derivatives:



$$t = \text{norm}(T'(v))$$

$$b = \text{norm}(T'(v) \times T''(v))$$

$$n = \text{norm}(b \times t)$$

Where might these frames be ambiguous or undetermined?

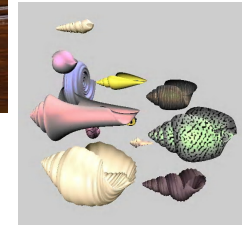
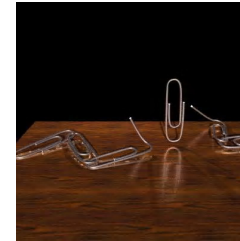
Sharp turns  
 $T'(v) = 0 \Rightarrow$  arc length param.  $T'(s)$   
 $T''(v) = 0 \Rightarrow T''(s) = 0$

pt. of inflection

## Variations

Several variations are possible:

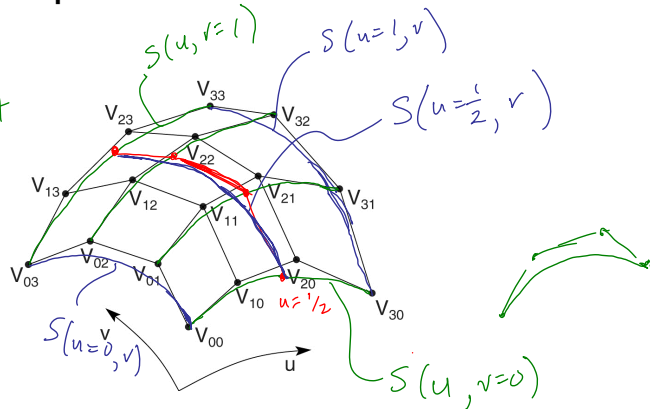
- Scale  $C(u)$  as it moves, possibly using length of  $T(v)$  as a scale factor.
- Morph  $C(u)$  into some other curve  $\tilde{C}(u)$  as it moves along  $T(v)$ .
- ...



## Tensor product Bézier surfaces

Curves  
 Bézier ctrl polygon  
 ↓  
 Bézier curve segment

Surfaces  
 Bézier ctrl net  
 ↓  
 Bézier surface patch

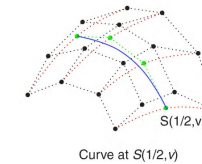
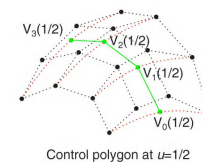
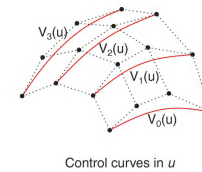
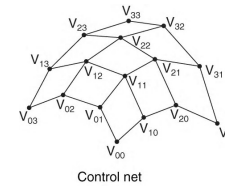


Given a grid of control points  $V_{ij}$  forming a **control net**, construct a surface  $S(u, v)$  by:

- treating rows of  $V$  (the matrix consisting of the  $V_{ij}$ ) as control points for curves  $V_0(u), \dots, V_n(u)$ .
- treating  $V_0(u), \dots, V_n(u)$  as control points for a curve parameterized by  $v$ .

## Tensor product Bézier surfaces, cont.

Let's walk through the steps:



Which control points are interpolated by the surface?

The corners

## Polynomial form of Bézier surfaces

Recall that cubic Bézier *curves* can be written in terms of the Bernstein polynomials:

$$Q(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n V_i b_i(u)$$

A tensor product Bézier surface can be written as:

$$S(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^n V_{ij} b_i(u) b_j(v)$$

In the previous slide, we constructed curves along  $u$ , and then along  $v$ . This corresponds to re-grouping the terms like so:

$$S(u, v) = \sum_{j=0}^n \left( \sum_{i=0}^n V_{ij} b_i(u) \right) b_j(v)$$

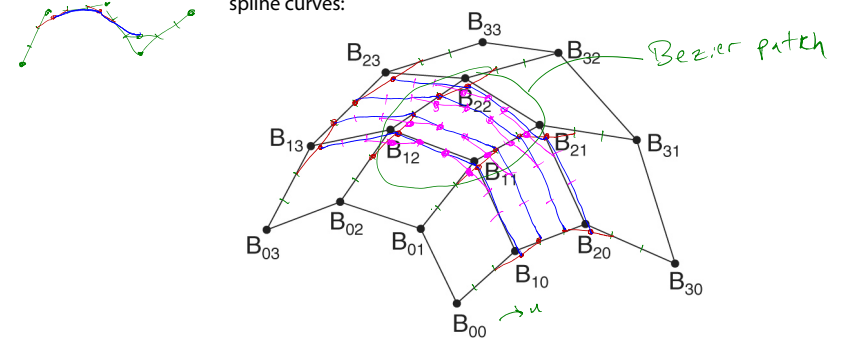
But, we could have constructed them along  $v$ , then  $u$ :

$$S(u, v) = \sum_{i=0}^n \left( \sum_{j=0}^n V_{ij} b_j(v) \right) b_i(u)$$

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## Tensor product B-spline surfaces

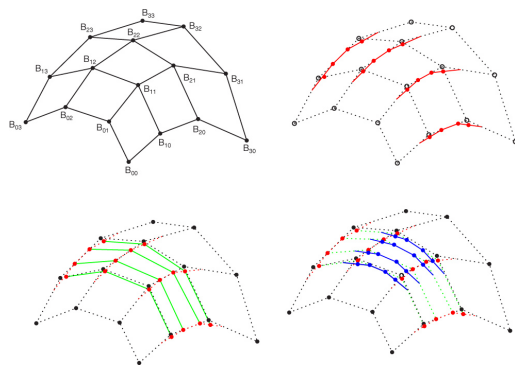
As with spline curves, we can piece together a sequence of Bézier surfaces to make a spline surface. If we enforce  $C^2$  continuity and local control, we get B-spline curves:



- treat rows of  $B$  as control points to generate Bézier control points in  $u$ .
- treat Bézier control points in  $u$  as B-spline control points in  $v$ .
- treat B-spline control points in  $v$  to generate Bézier control points in  $u$ .

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## Tensor product B-spline surfaces, cont.



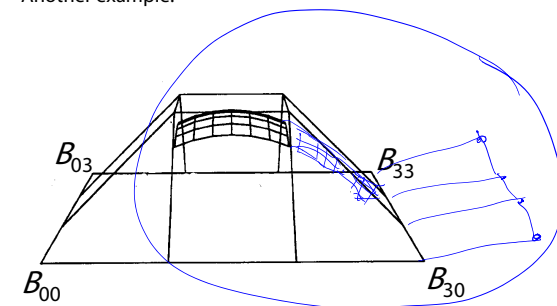
Which B-spline control points are always interpolated by the surface?

None

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## Tensor product B-splines, cont.

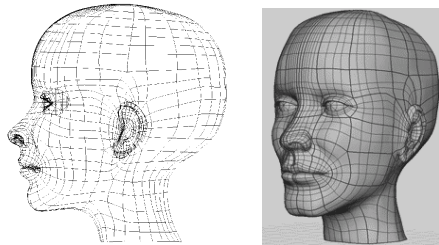
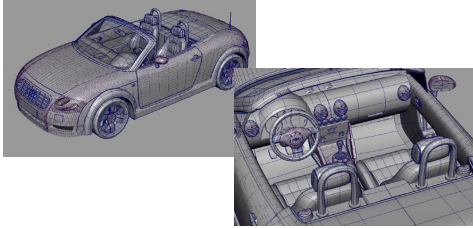
Another example:



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## NURBS surfaces

Uniform B-spline surfaces are a special case of NURBS surfaces.

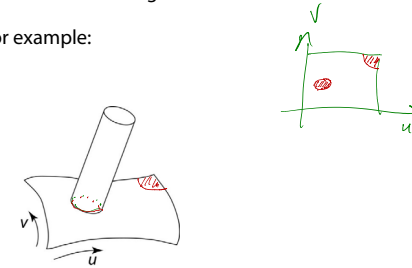


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## Trimmed NURBS surfaces

Sometimes, we want to have control over which parts of a NURBS surface get drawn.

For example:



We can do this by **trimming** the  $u$ - $v$  domain.

- ♦ Define a closed curve in the  $u$ - $v$  domain (a **trim curve**)
- ♦ Do not draw the surface points inside of this curve.

It's really hard to maintain continuity in these regions, especially while animating.

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## Summary

What to take home:

- ♦ How to construct swept surfaces from a profile and trajectory curve:
  - with a fixed frame
  - with a Frenet frame
- ♦ How to construct tensor product Bézier surfaces
- ♦ How to construct tensor product B-spline surfaces

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