

Answers for Exam 1

09.12.2003

1. Given $n + 1$ points $\mathbf{b}_0, \mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_n$ in the Euclidean space $\mathbb{E}^2$ or $\mathbb{E}^3$, set $\mathbf{b}_i^0 = \mathbf{b}_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, n$, the *de Casteljau algorithm* is

$$\mathbf{b}_i^r(t) = (1-t)\mathbf{b}_i^{r-1}(t) + t\mathbf{b}_{i+1}^{r-1}(t) \quad \begin{cases} r = 1, 2, \dots, n \\ i = 0, 1, \dots, n-r. \end{cases}$$

Prove by induction on r that the intermediate *de Casteljau* points $\mathbf{b}_i^r$ can be represented by

$$\mathbf{b}_i^r(t) = \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbf{b}_{i+j} B_j^r(t), \quad r \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}, i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-r\}.$$

SOLUTION At $r = 0$, $\mathbf{b}_i^0(t) = \mathbf{b}_i$ since $j = 0$ and $B_0^0(t) = 1$. Suppose it is true for $r \geq 1$. Then from the algorithm

$$\mathbf{b}_i^{r+1}(t) = (1-t) \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbf{b}_{i+j} B_j^r(t) + t \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbf{b}_{i+j+1} B_j^r(t).$$

For $1 \leq j \leq r$, the coefficient of the point $\mathbf{b}_{i+j}$ in the two summations above are

$$(1-t)B_j^r(t) + tB_{j-1}^r(t) = B_j^{r+1}(t).$$

The initial point $\mathbf{b}_i$ comes from the first summation and the end point $\mathbf{b}_{i+r+1}$ comes from the second summation. Thus we obtain

$$\mathbf{b}_i^{r+1}(t) = \sum_{j=0}^r \mathbf{b}_{i+j} B_j^{r+1}(t)$$

which completes the proof.

2. Find the transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ between the monomial basis $\Psi = \{1, t, \dots, t^n\}$ and Bernstein-Bézier basis $\Phi = \{B_0^n(t), B_1^n(t), \dots, B_n^n(t)\}$ of $\mathcal{P}_n$ such that $\Psi = \mathbf{T}\Phi$, where

$$B_i^n(t) = \binom{n}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n-i}, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n, \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

(Finding only for $n = 3$ gets 10 percent of the grade)

SOLUTION Since $1 = (t + (1-t))^{n-i} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-i} B_j^{n-i}(t)$, we have

$$t^i = \sum_{j=0}^{n-i} \binom{n-i}{j} t^{i+j} (1-t)^{n-i-j} = \sum_{j=i}^n \binom{n-i}{j-i} t^j (1-t)^{n-j},$$

by shifting the index of the summation. We may write the binomial coefficient

$$\binom{n-i}{j-i} = \frac{(n-i)!}{(j-i)!(n-j)!} = \frac{n!}{n!} \frac{i!}{i!} \frac{j!}{j!} \frac{(n-i)!}{(j-i)!(n-j)!} = \frac{\binom{j}{i}}{\binom{n}{i}} \binom{n}{j}.$$

Thus we deduce that

$$t^i = \sum_{j=i}^n \frac{\binom{j}{i}}{\binom{n}{i}} B_j^n(t), \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

and the transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ has elements T_{ij} satisfying

$$\mathbf{T}_{ij} = \frac{\binom{j}{i}}{\binom{n}{i}}, \quad i, j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

and is upper triangular. (This matrix is the inverse of the matrix $\mathbf{M}$ that we have done in one of the lectures)

3. Let $\mathbf{b}_0 = (-1, 0)$, $\mathbf{b}_1 = (-3, 3)$, $\mathbf{b}_2 = (3, 3)$, $\mathbf{b}_3 = (1, 0)$ be the control points and $P(t)$ be Bézier curve. Degree elevate the points and hence find a new set of control points without disturbing the curve. Draw both of the control polygons.

SOLUTION On comparing the coefficient the basis in the equation

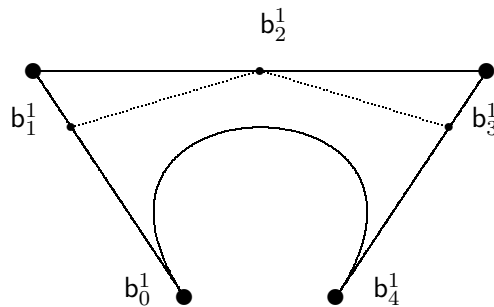
$$P(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{n=3} \mathbf{b}_i \binom{n}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n-i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} \mathbf{b}_i^1 \binom{n+1}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n+1-i}$$

We obtain the degree elevated control points

$$\mathbf{b}_i^1 = \frac{i}{n+1} \mathbf{b}_{i-1} + \left(1 - \frac{i}{n+1}\right) \mathbf{b}_i, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n+1.$$

Thus it is calculated from the latter equation that

$$\mathbf{b}_0^1 = \mathbf{b}_0, \quad \mathbf{b}_1^1 = (-10/4, 9/4), \quad \mathbf{b}_2^1 = (0, 3), \quad \mathbf{b}_3^1 = (10/4, 9/4), \quad \mathbf{b}_4^1 = \mathbf{b}_3.$$



A beautiful picture of cutting corners

4. Find explicitly the blossom representation of a cubic Bézier curve.

SOLUTION Given the control points, $\mathbf{b}_0, \mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{b}_3$, the method to find the blossom representation is to insert a new variable t_r at the r th step of the de Casteljau algorithm. Thus it results the following triangular array.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \mathbf{b}_0 & (1-t_1)\mathbf{b}_0 + t_1\mathbf{b}_1 := \mathbf{b}_0^1[t_1] & (1-t_2)\mathbf{b}_0^1[t_1] + t_2\mathbf{b}_1^1[t_1] := \mathbf{b}_0^2[t_1, t_2] & (1-t_3)\mathbf{b}_0^2[t_1, t_2] + t_3\mathbf{b}_1^2[t_1, t_2] := \mathbf{b}_0^3[t_1, t_2, t_3] \\ \mathbf{b}_1 & (1-t_1)\mathbf{b}_1 + t_1\mathbf{b}_2 := \mathbf{b}_1^1[t_1] & (1-t_2)\mathbf{b}_1^1[t_1] + t_2\mathbf{b}_2^1[t_1] := \mathbf{b}_1^2[t_1, t_2] & \\ \mathbf{b}_2 & (1-t_1)\mathbf{b}_2 + t_1\mathbf{b}_3 := \mathbf{b}_2^1[t_1] & & \\ \mathbf{b}_3 & & & \end{array}$$

This is a symmetric multi-affine mapping $(t_1, t_2, t_3) \mapsto t : \mathbb{R}^3 \mapsto \mathbb{R}$. Explicitly

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b}_0^3[t_1, t_2, t_3] &= (1-t_1)(1-t_2)(1-t_3)\mathbf{b}_0 + \{t_1(1-t_2)(1-t_3) + t_2(1-t_1)(1-t_3) + t_3(1-t_1)(1-t_2)\} \mathbf{b}_1 \\ &\quad + \{t_1t_2(1-t_3) + t_2t_3(1-t_1) + t_1t_3(1-t_2)\} \mathbf{b}_2 + t_1t_2t_3\mathbf{b}_3 \end{aligned}$$

Now, the cubic Bézier is attained at the diagonal of blossom $\mathbf{b}_0^3[t, t, t]$. That is

$$P(t) = \mathbf{b}_0^3[t, t, t] = \sum_{j=0}^{n=3} \mathbf{b}_j B_j^n(t)$$

Even the control points are special points of the blossom

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b}_0 &= \mathbf{b}_0^3[0, 0, 0] & \mathbf{b}_1 &= \mathbf{b}_0^3[0, 0, 1] \\ \mathbf{b}_2 &= \mathbf{b}_0^3[0, 1, 1] & \mathbf{b}_3 &= \mathbf{b}_0^3[1, 1, 1] \end{aligned}$$

As beautiful as a blossom of a rose