Parametric surfaces

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Reading

Required:

• Shirley, 2.5

Optional

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

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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



Isocontour from "marching squares"



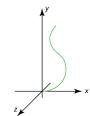
• Parametric S(u,v)=(x(u,v),y(u,v),z(u,v))

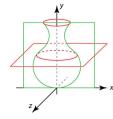
· For the sphere: $x(u,v) = r \cos 2\pi v \sin \pi u$ $y(u,v) = r \sin 2\pi v \sin \pi u$ $z(u,v) = r \cos \pi u$



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

Constructing surfaces of revolution







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

$$C(u) = \begin{bmatrix} c_x(u) \\ c_y(u) \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

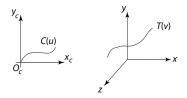
Find: A surface S(u,v) which is C(u) rotated about the y-axis, where $u, v \in [0, 1]$.

Solution:

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).

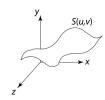
Orientation

The big issue:

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

Here are two options:

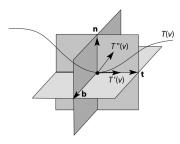
1. **Fixed** (or **static**): Just translate O_c along T(v).



- 2. Moving. Use the **Frenet frame** of T(v).
 - Allows smoothly varying orientation.
 - Permits surfaces of revolution, for example.

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

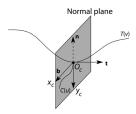
Normal: $\mathbf{n}(v) = \mathbf{b}(v) \times \mathbf{t}(v)$

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

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 **b**.
- Align y_c for C(u) with -**n**.

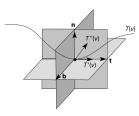


If T(v) is a circle, you get a surface of revolution exactly!

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Degenerate frames

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



Where might these frames be ambiguous or undetermined?

Variations

Several variations are possible:

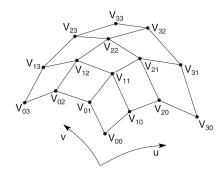
- ◆ Scale C(u) as it moves, possibly using length of T(v) as a scale factor.
- Morph C(u) into some other curve $\tilde{C}(u)$ as it moves along T(v).
- ***** ...





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Tensor product Bézier surfaces

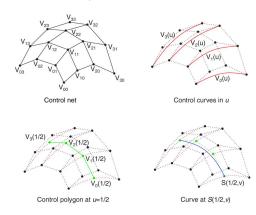


Given a grid of control points V_{ij} , forming a **control net**, construct a surface S(u,v) by:

- treating rows of V (the matrix consisting of the V_{ij})
 as control points for curves V₀(u),..., V_n(u).
- treating V₀(u),..., 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?

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:

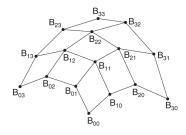
$$S(u,v) = \sum_{j=0}^{n} \left(\sum_{i=0}^{n} V_{ij} b_{i}(u) \right) b_{j}(v)$$

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

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

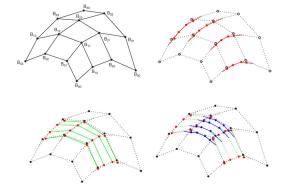
Tensor product B-spline surfaces

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*.

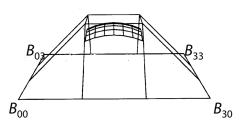
Tensor product B-spline surfaces, cont.



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

Tensor product B-splines, cont.

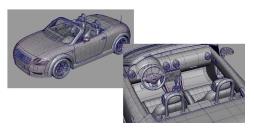
Another example:

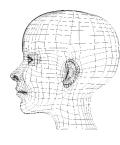


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NURBS surfaces

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







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.