



EECS 487: Interactive Computer Graphics

Lecture 39:

- (B-spline) Subdivision and surfaces

Subdivision Surfaces

Generate smooth surfaces from a given polygonal mesh (polyhedron) with **guaranteed continuity**

- can handle meshes of arbitrary topology
- implementation and application is straightforward and intuitive
- **analysis of continuity** is mathematically involved

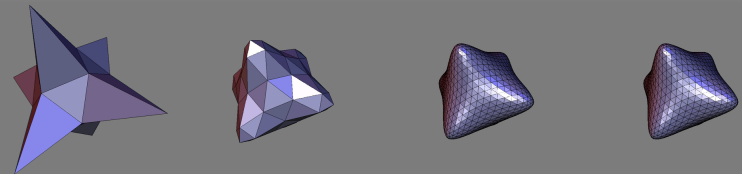
Originally extensions of B-spline surfaces

- Doo-Sabin scheme produces quadratic B-spline surfaces
- Catmull-Clark scheme produces cubic B-spline surfaces
- Loop subdivision generalizes quartic box-spline

Subdivision Surfaces

How do you render a smooth surface?

- start with a polygonal control mesh
- cut corners to smooth: recursively subdivide into larger and larger number of polygons by adding new vertices/faces
- the limit surface is smooth
- mesh representation must enable efficient implementation of subdivision rules



Subdivision Concepts

Start with initial, discrete representation

- control points, line segments (for curves), polygons (for surfaces)

Repeated application of **subdivision rules** to make smoother surface

- **topological splitting/refinement**: how to add vertices
- **smoothing/averaging**: where to place vertices
- special treatment of **extraordinary vertices** and **surface boundaries**

Limit surface (or curve)

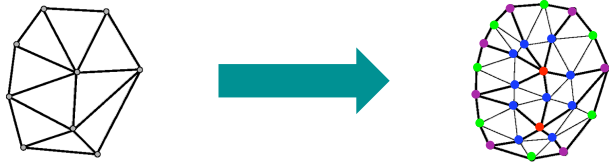
- the “mathematical” result after infinite refinements



Smoothing

A set of scalars $m_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, applied to a set of n vertices \mathbf{v}_i to generate a new vertex \mathbf{w} :

$$\mathbf{w} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n m_i \mathbf{v}_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n m_i}$$

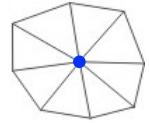


TP3, Gleicher, Funkhouser,

Interior and Boundary Vertices

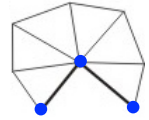
Interior vertices:

- for a closed polyhedron all vertices are interior vertices
- an epsilon neighborhood is homeomorphic to a closed disk



Boundary vertices:

- vertices that make up the "skirt" of a polyhedron
- an edge linking 2 boundary vertices is always shared by one face of the polyhedron

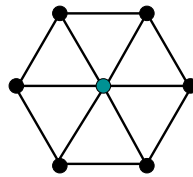


Hart/Carr

Ordinary and Extraordinary Vertices

Valence/degree of a vertex: number of edges incident to vertex

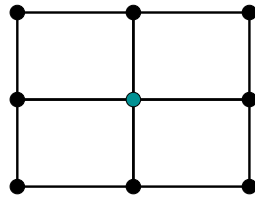
- most schemes have an "ideal" valence for which the limit surface converges to a spline surface, except at **extraordinary vertices**



triangular mesh
valence 6

Extraordinary vertices have different valence than **ordinary vertices**

- subdividing a mesh **does not add nor remove** extraordinary vertices
- make up rules for extraordinary vertices to keep the surface "smooth", though at lower degree of continuity



quad mesh
valence 4

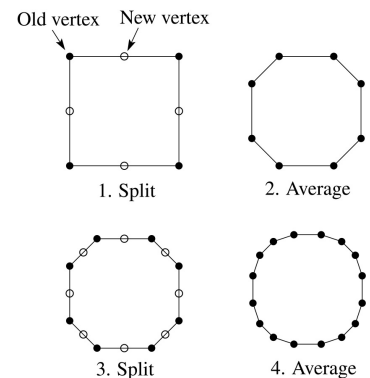
Hart/Carr

Subdivision Curves

Start with a piecewise linear curve

Chaikin's algorithm (1974):

- **refinement**: insert new edge vertex midpoint on each edge
- **smoothing**: average each vertex with the clockwise neighbor
- **repeat**



Curless

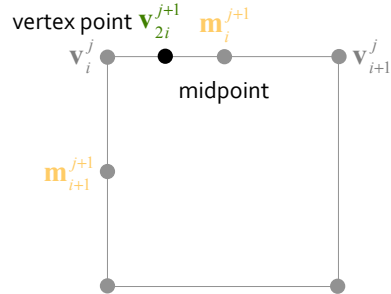
Chaikin's Curve Subdivision

Let initial vertices on control polygon be \mathbf{v}_i ^{superscript, not power}
 Vertices at refinement level j are \mathbf{v}_{2i}^j , thus $\mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{v}_i^0$

1. **refinement**: insert new **midpoint** (\mathbf{m}_i^{j+1}) vertex on each edge
2. **smoothing**: average each vertex with the clockwise neighbor to create new **vertex point** (\mathbf{v}_{2i}^{j+1}):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{v}_{2i}^{j+1} &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_i^j + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{m}_i^{j+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_i^j + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_i^j + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_{i+1}^j \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \mathbf{v}_i^j + \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{v}_{i+1}^j \end{aligned}$$

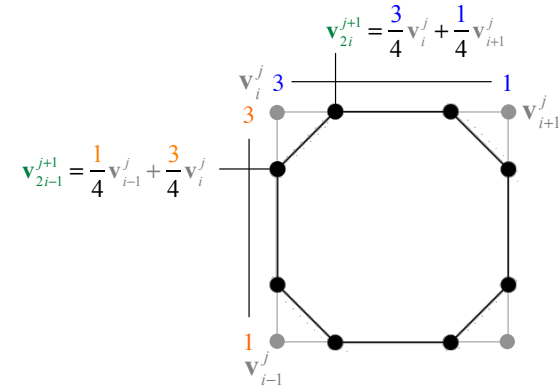
3. **averaging mask**: (3 1)
 (also written as (0 1/2 1/2)
 for $0\mathbf{m}_{i-1}^{j+1} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{v}_i^j + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{m}_i^{j+1}$)
4. continue on next slide . . .



TP3, Curless

Chaikin's Curve Subdivision

4. apply **averaging masks**: replace each vertex \mathbf{v}_i^j with 2 vertices using the averaging masks (3 1) and (1 3):

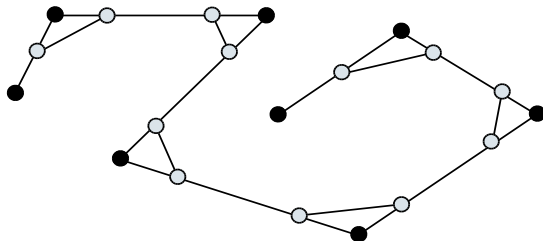


5. connect all new **vertex points** to form refined curve

TP3, Curless

Chaikin's Curve Subdivision

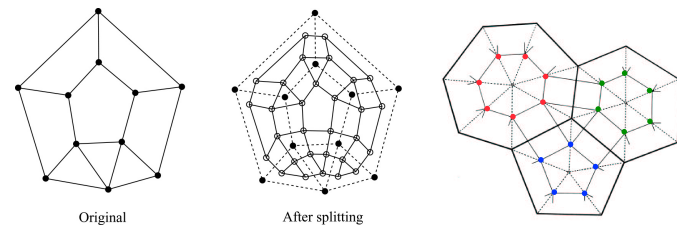
Resulting curve is a uniform quadratic B-spline



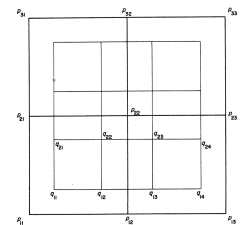
TP3

Doo-Sabin Subdivision

Introduces a new vertex for each face at the midpoint between an old vertex and face centroid



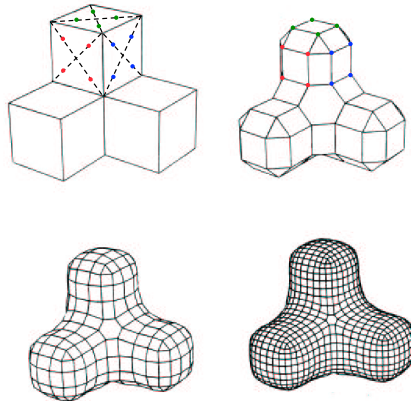
Subdivision rules create a **dual** of the control net: a new face replaces each face, edge, and vertex of the control net



TP3

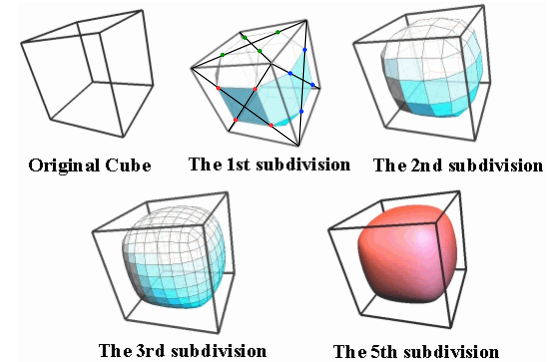
Doo-Sabin Subdivision

A generalization of **quadratic** curve subdivision (Chaikin's algorithm) to surfaces with arbitrary topology



Doo-Sabin Subdivision

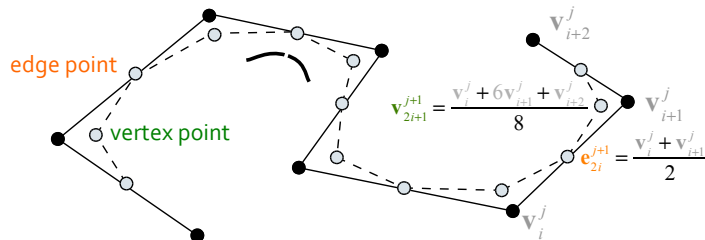
For regular quad meshes, resulting surface is a **biquadratic** B-spline surface



<http://www.ke.ics.saitama-u.ac.jp/xuz/pic/doo-sabin.gif>

Cubic B-spline Curve Subdivision

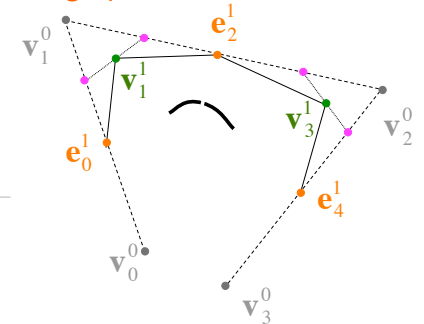
1. For each edge compute a new **edge point** using the averaging mask (1 1): $e_{2i}^{j+1} = \frac{1}{2}v_i^j + \frac{1}{2}v_{i+1}^j$
2. Compute new **vertex points** using the mask (1 6 1): $v_{2i+1}^{j+1} = \frac{1}{8}v_i^j + \frac{6}{8}v_{i+1}^j + \frac{1}{8}v_{i+2}^j$
3. Connect the new edge- and vertex points; resulting curve is a uniform cubic B-spline



Cubic B-spline Curve Subdivision

Vertex points are **midpoint** between (midpoints between (old vertices and new edge points))

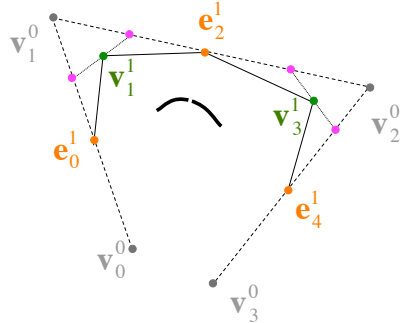
$$\begin{aligned}
 v_{2i+1}^{j+1} &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} e_{2i}^{j+1} + \frac{1}{2} v_{i+1}^j \right) \\
 &+ \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} v_{i+1}^j + \frac{1}{2} e_{2i+1}^{j+1} \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} e_{2i}^{j+1} + \frac{1}{2} v_{i+1}^j + \frac{1}{4} e_{2i+1}^{j+1} \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2} v_i^j + \frac{1}{2} v_{i+1}^j \right) + \frac{1}{2} v_{i+1}^j \\
 &+ \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2} v_{i+1}^j + \frac{1}{2} v_{i+2}^j \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{8} v_i^j + \frac{6}{8} v_{i+1}^j + \frac{1}{8} v_{i+2}^j
 \end{aligned}$$



averaging mask (1 6 1) of only old vertices, or also given as $(\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{4})$

Subdivision → New Control Points

Let: $\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_0^0 \\ \mathbf{v}_1^0 \\ \mathbf{v}_2^0 \\ \mathbf{v}_3^0 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{P}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e}_0^1 \\ \mathbf{v}_1^1 \\ \mathbf{e}_2^1 \\ \mathbf{v}_3^1 \\ \mathbf{e}_4^1 \end{bmatrix}$



New control points: $\mathbf{P}^1 = \mathbf{H}_s \mathbf{P}$

$$\mathbf{H}_s = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{8} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{8} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

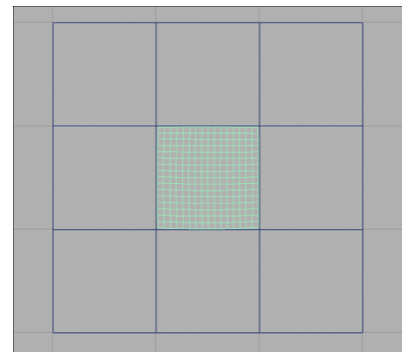
splitting matrix

[Hart]

Uniform B-spline Patch Subdivision

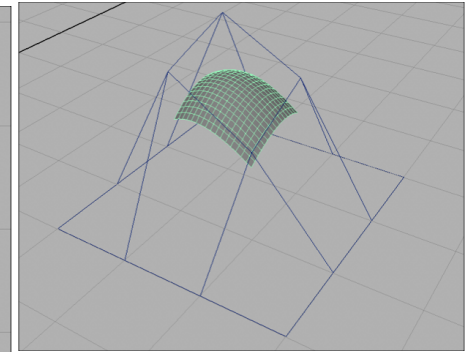
$$\mathbf{s}(u,v) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & u & u^2 & u^3 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \mathbf{P} \mathbf{B}_s^T \begin{bmatrix} 1 & v & v^2 & v^3 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

orthographic top-down view



[O'Brien]

3D perspective view

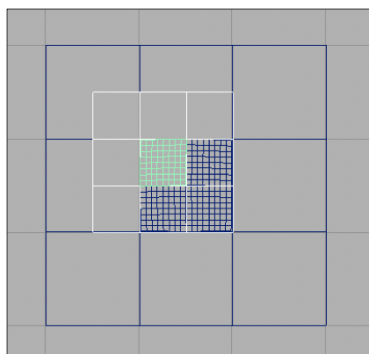


Subdivision Reparameterized

$$\mathbf{s}_{11}(u,v) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & u & u^2 & u^3 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}_s \mathbf{P}_{11} \mathbf{B}_s^T \begin{bmatrix} 1 & v & v^2 & v^3 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

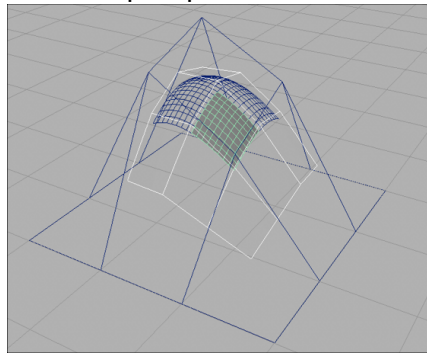
$$\mathbf{P}_{11} = \mathbf{H}_{s1} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}_{s1}^T \text{ new control points!}$$

orthographic top-down view



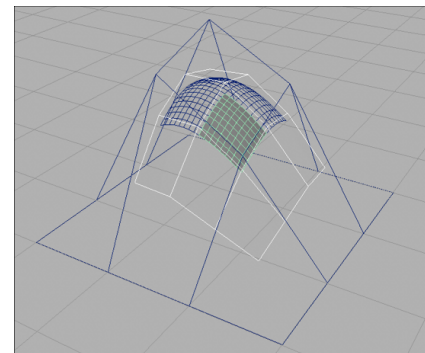
[O'Brien]

3D perspective view



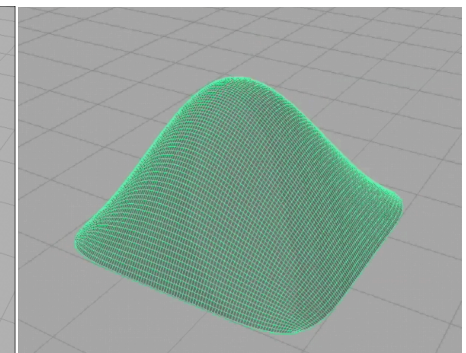
Limit of Subdivision

Control mesh approaches surface

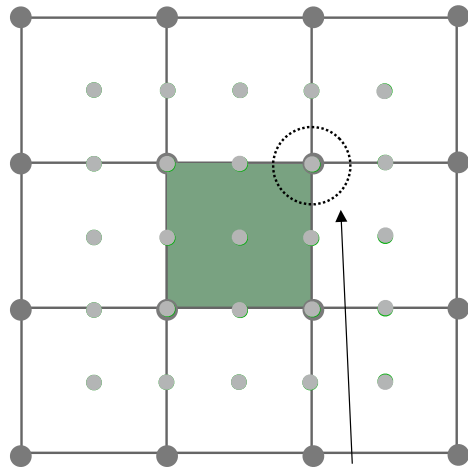


[O'Brien]

Limit of subdivision is the surface



New Control Points



in this parametric view these knot points are collocated; the 3D control points are not

[O'Brien]

$$\mathbf{P}_{11} = \mathbf{H}_{S1} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}_{S1}^T$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{12} = \mathbf{H}_{S1} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}_{S2}^T$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{22} = \mathbf{H}_{S2} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}_{S2}^T$$

$$\mathbf{P}_{21} = \mathbf{H}_{S2} \mathbf{P} \mathbf{H}_{S1}^T$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{S1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{8} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{8} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{S2} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{8} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{8} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Subdivision \rightarrow New Control Points

Subdivision as a matrix \mathbf{H}_S of weights w :

- \mathbf{H}_S is very sparse
- limit surface: $\mathbf{P}^\infty = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (\mathbf{H}_S)^j \mathbf{P}$ power, not superscript
- allows for analysis: curvature, limit surface
- not for implementation!

$$\mathbf{P}^{j+1} = \mathbf{H}_S \mathbf{P}^j$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}_0^{j+1} \\ \mathbf{P}_1^{j+1} \\ \mathbf{P}_2^{j+1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{P}_n^{j+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_{00} & w_{01} & \cdots & 0 \\ w_{10} & w_{11} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & w_{nk} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{P}_0^j \\ \mathbf{P}_1^j \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{P}_k^j \end{bmatrix}$$

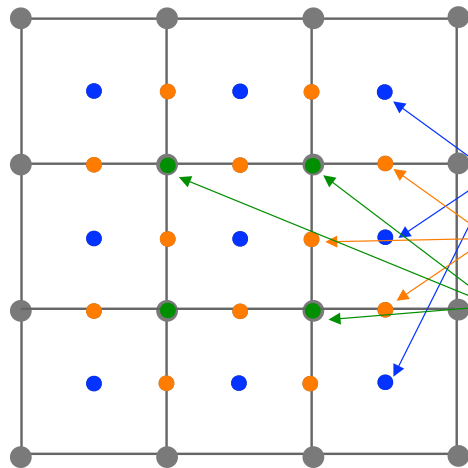
\mathbf{H}_S : 25x16 subdivision matrix

\mathbf{P}^j : vector of coarse control points, length 16

\mathbf{P}^{j+1} : vector of coarse control points, length 25

[O'Brien, Hart/Carr]

New Control Points



Instead, compute the new control points iteratively:

face points

edge points

moved vertex points

[O'Brien]

New Control Points

Face point:

$$\mathbf{f}^{j+1} = \frac{\mathbf{m}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{m}_2^{j+1}}{2} = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1^j + \mathbf{v}_2^j + \mathbf{v}_3^j + \mathbf{v}_4^j}{4}$$

Midpoint:

$$\mathbf{m}_1^{j+1} = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1^j + \mathbf{v}_2^j}{2}$$

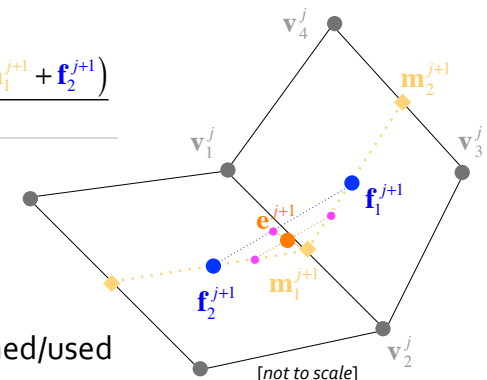
Edge point:

$$\mathbf{e}^{j+1} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{m}_1^{j+1}) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{m}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1})}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1}) + \mathbf{m}_1^{j+1}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\mathbf{v}_1^j + \mathbf{v}_2^j + \mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1}}{4}$$

Note $\mathbf{f}^0, \mathbf{m}^0, \mathbf{e}^0$ not defined/used



[not to scale]

[O'Brien, Hart]

Vertex Points

$$\mathbf{w}_0 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mathbf{m}_2 + \mathbf{v}_0}{2} + \frac{\mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{m}_4}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{m}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}_0 + \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{m}_4$$

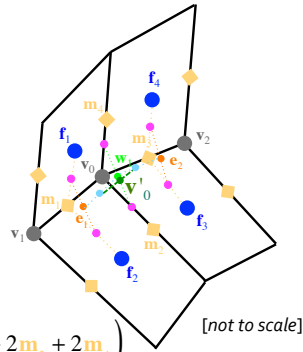
$$\mathbf{v}'_0 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{e}_1 + \mathbf{w}_0) + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{w}_0 + \mathbf{e}_2) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2 + \mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_1}{4} + \frac{\mathbf{f}_3 + \mathbf{f}_4 + \mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_2}{4} + 2\mathbf{w}_1 \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2 + \mathbf{f}_3 + \mathbf{f}_4}{4} + \frac{2\mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2}{4} + \frac{2}{4} (2\mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{m}_2 + \mathbf{m}_4) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{16} (\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2 + \mathbf{f}_3 + \mathbf{f}_4 + 2 \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_1}{2} + \frac{\mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_2}{2} \right) + 4\mathbf{v}_0 + 2\mathbf{m}_2 + 2\mathbf{m}_4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{16} (\mathbf{f}_1 + \mathbf{f}_2 + \mathbf{f}_3 + \mathbf{f}_4 + 2\mathbf{m}_1 + 2\mathbf{m}_3 + 2\mathbf{m}_2 + 2\mathbf{m}_4 + 4\mathbf{v}_0)$$



$$\mathbf{v}^{j+1} = \frac{\mathbf{v}^j + \frac{1}{n} (\mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_3^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_4^{j+1}) + \frac{2}{n} (\mathbf{m}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{m}_2^{j+1} + \mathbf{m}_3^{j+1} + \mathbf{m}_4^{j+1})}{n}$$

$$= \frac{2\mathbf{v}^j + \frac{1}{n} (\mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_3^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_4^{j+1}) + \frac{1}{n} (\mathbf{v}_1^j + \mathbf{v}_2^j + \mathbf{v}_3^j + \mathbf{v}_4^j)}{n}$$

[O'Brien, Hart]

Catmull-Clark Subdivision Rules

Subdivision level $j+1$:

- face point:** for each face, add a new vertex at its centroid that is the average of the surrounding m vertices:

$$\mathbf{f}^{j+1} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{v}_i^j$$

- edge point:** for each edge, add a new edge point which is the average of the 2 vertices and the 2 face points adjacent to the edge:

$$\mathbf{e}^{j+1} = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1^j + \mathbf{v}_2^j + \mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1}}{4}$$

- moved vertex point:** vertex moved to the weighted average between the original position, the n midpoints (not edge) points and the n face points surrounding the vertex (n : vertex valence, =4):

$$\mathbf{v}^{j+1} = \frac{n-2}{n} \mathbf{v}^j + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{v}_i^j + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{f}_i^{j+1}$$

Catmull-Clark Subdivision (1978)

Subdivision level $j+1$:

- face point, m # of face vertices

$$\mathbf{f}^{j+1} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{v}_i^j$$

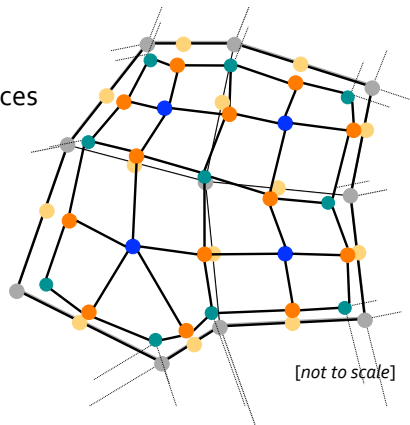
- edge point

$$\mathbf{e}^{j+1} = \frac{\mathbf{v}_1^j + \mathbf{v}_2^j + \mathbf{f}_1^{j+1} + \mathbf{f}_2^{j+1}}{4}$$

- → ● moved vertex point

$$\mathbf{v}^{j+1} = \frac{(n-3)}{n} \mathbf{v}^j + \frac{2}{n} \overline{\mathbf{m}}^{j+1} + \frac{1}{n} \overline{\mathbf{f}}^{j+1}$$

$$= \frac{(n-2)}{n} \mathbf{v}^j + \frac{1}{n} \overline{\mathbf{v}}^j + \frac{1}{n} \overline{\mathbf{f}}^{j+1}, n=4$$



$\overline{\mathbf{m}}$: average of adjacent vertices

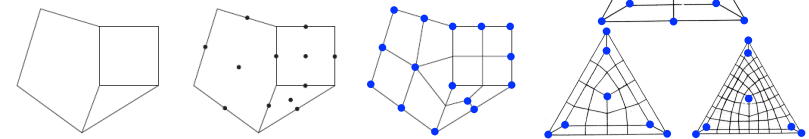
$\overline{\mathbf{f}}$: average of adjacent face points

n : vertex valence

Catmull-Clark Subdivision

Works with arbitrary polygonal mesh:
after 1st round of subdivision,

- all faces are quads
- the number of **extraordinary points** remains constant
- distances between them remain constant: as faces become smaller, there are more faces between them



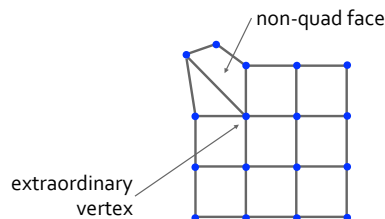
[CatmullClark]

Catmull-Clark Subdivision

Subdivision rules are **chosen** to improve continuity

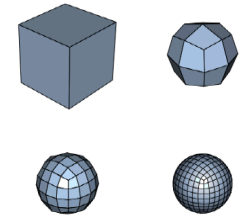
Smoothness of limit surface:

- C^2 almost everywhere
- C^1 at extraordinary vertices
- strictly generalize uniform tensor-product bicubic B-splines: works with existing tools for tensor-product B-splines
- generalization of cubic B-splines subdivision to irregular patch:



[CatmullClark]

Catmull-Clark Subdivision

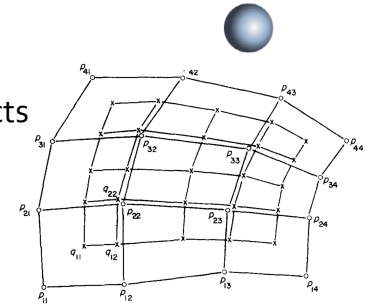


Relationship to control mesh:

- does not interpolate control mesh
- within convex hull

Subdivision rules creates a **primal** (not dual) of the control net

Quads are often better than triangles to represent real objects that are often symmetric, e.g., tube-like surfaces: arms, legs, fingers



[CatmullClark, DeRoseKassTruong]

Catmull-Clark Subdivision

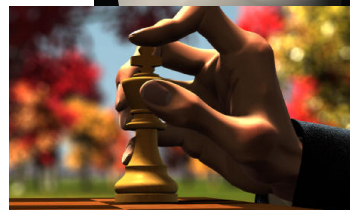
Any mesh can be subdivided

- cut holes, create unusual topology, stitch pieces together
- no matter how complicated the mesh, it will lead to a smooth surface!



Extensions: localized subdivision rules

- **creases**: NURBS requires use of trim curves; for subdivision, just modify the subdivision mask
- **edge preservation**: hard edges
- **adaptive subdivision**

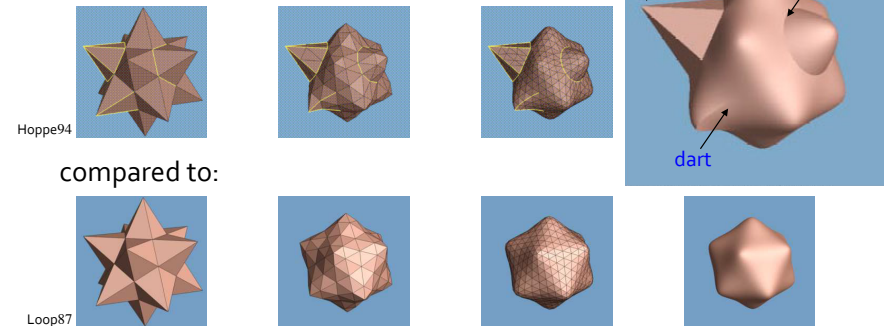


Curless

Edge Preservation

To get sharpness and creases, define new subdivision rules for "creased" edges and vertices

- **crease**: a smooth curve with continuity G^0 on the surface (2 sharp edges)
- **corner**: a vertex where ≥ 3 sharp edges meet
- **dart**: a vertex where a crease ends and smoothly blends into the surface (1 sharp edge)



Funkhouser, Zhang

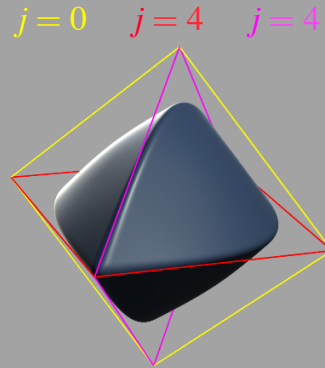
Sharp Edges

Idea: edges with a sharpness j are subdivided using **sharp rules** for the **first j iterations**, and then smoothly, as usual, to the limit surface

- tag edges as **sharp** or **not sharp**: newly created edges are assigned a sharpness of $j-1$
- edges with $j = 0$ are **not sharp**
- edges with $j > 0$ are **sharp**

During subdivision, if an edge is **not-sharp** use normal smooth subdivision rules; if an edge is **sharp**, use sharp subdivision rules

Approximating subdivision algorithm can be made interpolating



Hart/Carr

Sharp Rules

Subdivision level $j+1$:

- face point unchanged

- edge point $e^{j+1} = \frac{v_1^j + v_2^j}{2}$

- moved vertex $\#$ of adjacent sharp edges

- corner: > 2 $v^{j+1} = v^j$

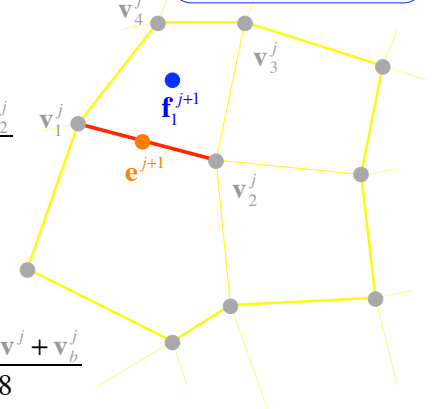
- crease: 2 $v^{j+1} = \frac{v_a^j + 6v^j + v_b^j}{8}$
((v, v_a) and (v, v_b))

- dart: 1 unchanged

Compare non-sharp rules:

$$f^{j+1} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m v_i^j, e^{j+1} = \frac{v_1^j + v_2^j + f_1^{j+1} + f_2^{j+1}}{4}$$

$$v^{j+1} = \frac{n-2}{n} v^j + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n v_i^j + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n f_i^{j+1}$$

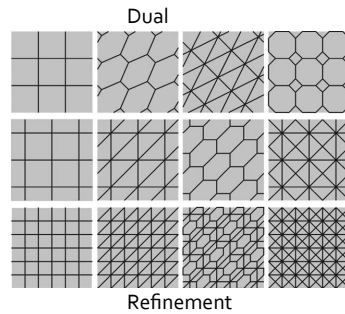


Hart

Subdivision Surfaces

Scheme classification by:

- interpolating or approximating
- mesh type: quads, triangles, hex, ..., combination
- subdivision by face split (primal) or vertex split (dual)
- B-spline order of limit surface
- smoothness



Algorithms:

Doo-Sabin	'78	approximate	C^1	quad	dual
Catmull-Clark	'78	approximate	C^2	quad	primal
Loop	'87	approximate	C^2	triad	primal
DLG midpoint	'87	approximate	C^2	quad	dual
Butterfly (mod)	'90, '96	interpolate	C^1	triad	primal
Kobbelt	'96	interpolate	C^1	quad	primal
$\sqrt{3}$	'00	approximate	C^2	triad	dual

[Narasimhan, Zorin&Schroeder, Bischoff&Ko...

Loop Subdivision

Named after Charles Loop

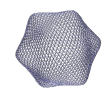
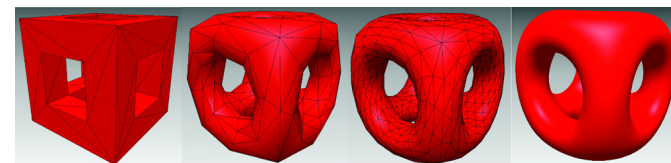
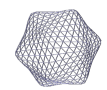
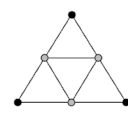
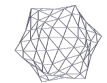


Start with a triangular mesh

Resulting surface is a generalization of three-direction quartic box-spline

Subdivision rules:

- **refinement**: break edges at midpoint, for both faces
- **smoothing**: different **averaging masks** for new ("odd") and old ("even") vertices



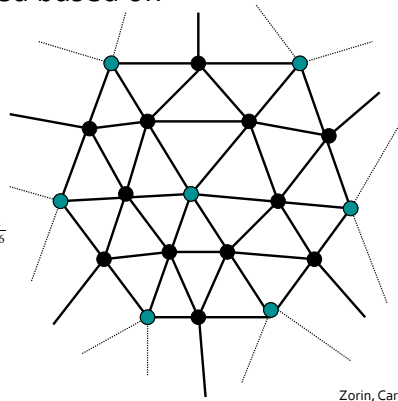
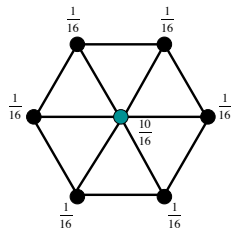
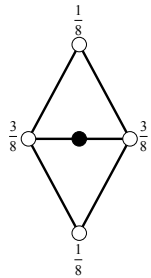
Loop Subdivision Masks

New ("odd") vertices are placed based on weighted average of old vertices on both faces

Old ("even") vertices are moved based on surrounding neighbors

Odd mask:

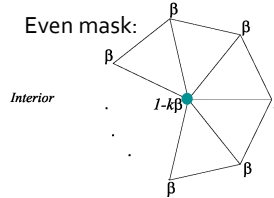
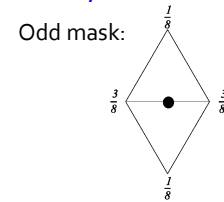
Even mask:



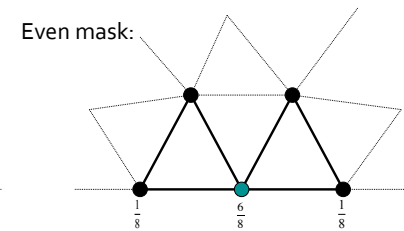
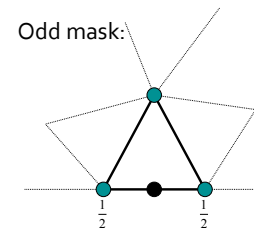
Zorin, Carr

Loop Subdivision Masks

For **ordinary** vertices inside mesh:



For **extraordinary** vertices and boundaries:



Loop Subdivision

How to choose β ?

- must ensure tangent plane or normal continuity (G^1) of limit surface
- involves calculating eigenvalues of matrices

Original Loop:

$$\beta = \frac{1}{8n} \left(40 - \left(3 + 2 \cos \left(\frac{2\pi}{n} \right) \right)^2 \right)$$

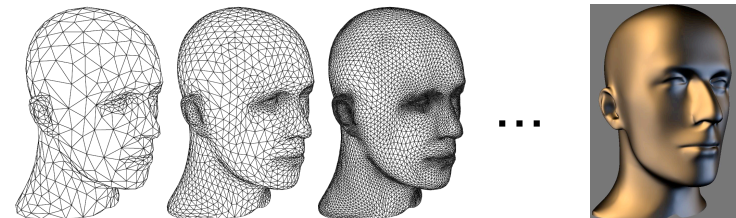
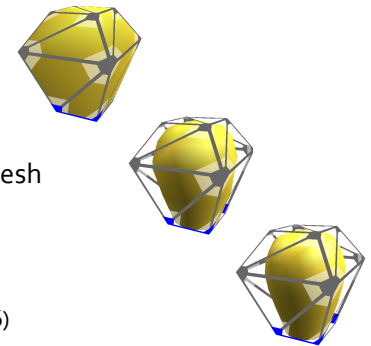
$$\text{Warren: } \beta = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{8n} & n > 3 \\ \frac{3}{16} & n = 3 \end{cases}$$



Loop Subdivision

Approximating subdivision

- does not interpolate the control mesh
 - within convex hull
- in the limit a smooth surface
 - C^2 almost everywhere
 - C^1 at extraordinary vertices (valence $\neq 6$)



√3 Subdivision Scheme

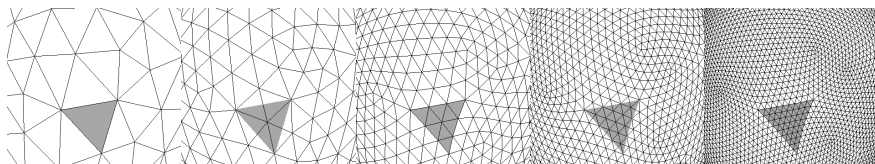
Starts with a triangle mesh

Number of faces triples per iteration

- slower growth rate

Gives finer control over polygon count

- better for adaptive subdivision

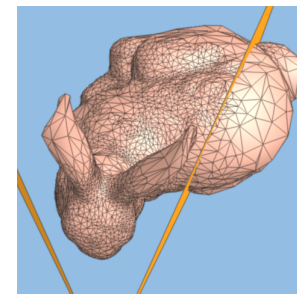


Funkhouser

Adaptive Subdivision

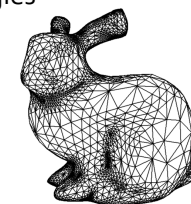
Not all regions of a model must be subdivided to the same resolution

- may be due to limited triangle budget

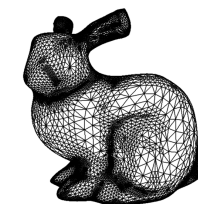


Stop subdivision at different levels across the surface, depending on:

- local surface curvature
- projected screen size of triangles
- view dependence
 - distance from viewer
 - silhouettes
 - in view frustum
- careful to avoid "cracks"!



10,072 triangles

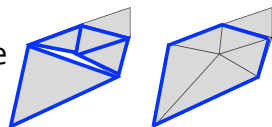


228,654 triangles

Funkhouser, Carr, Hoppe

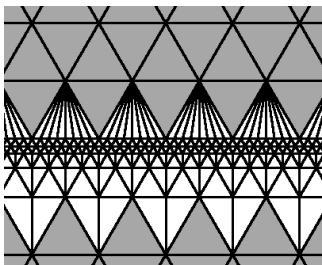
Balanced Subdivision

Crack avoidance: replace incompatible coarse triangles with **triangle fan**

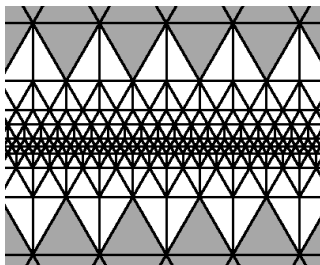


Balanced subdivision: neighboring subdivision levels must not differ by more than one

Unbalanced



Balanced

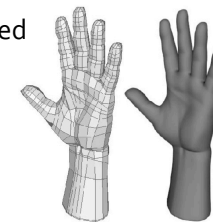


Funkhouser, Kobbelt

Subdivision Surfaces

Characteristics and advantages:

- **one surface**, not a patchwork (collection of patches)
 - no seams, can deform/animate geometry without cracks
 - guaranteed continuity (smooth at boundaries)
- **arbitrary control mesh**, not limited to quads
 - can make surfaces with arbitrary topology or connectivity
- **simple**, only need subdivision rule
- **adaptive subdivision**: areas of surface with higher curvature can be more finely subdivided
 - multiresolution: LoD, scalable
- **local support**: only look at nearby vertices
 - numerical stability, well-behaved meshes
- affine invariance
- efficient rendering



Funkhouser, Durand, Schulze

Subdivision Surfaces

Disadvantages:

- non-intuitive specification: it's a procedural definition
- non-parametric, not implicit: hard to parameterize
 - no global (u, v) parameters
- hard to compute intersections
- tricky at special vertices (those with more or less than 6 neighbors in a triangular mesh)

Funkhouser, Durand

Parametric vs. Subdivision Surfaces

Parametric B-splines

- smooth
- must be tessellated
 - sampling issues
 - triangle size issue
 - cracking concern
- have uniform resolution
 - detail must be global
- require regular grid
- complex topology hard
 - no corners, holes
 - trimming hard
 - stitching hard
 - creases and sharp edges hard
- (u, v) parameterization
 - but not controllable

Subdivision

- limit surfaces are smooth
- gives meshes
 - subdivide as needed
 - always connected
 - get as many poly as you need
- put details where needed
 - detail is multiresolution
- works with arbitrary mesh
- any topology can be handled
 - easy to make corners, holes
 - trimming easy
 - stitching easy
 - creases and sharp edges easy
- (u, v) parameterization
 - by subdivision of points
 - controllable

Gleicher