

# Difference Geometry

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Lecture 1:  
**Introduction**

# Three disciplines

## Differential geometry

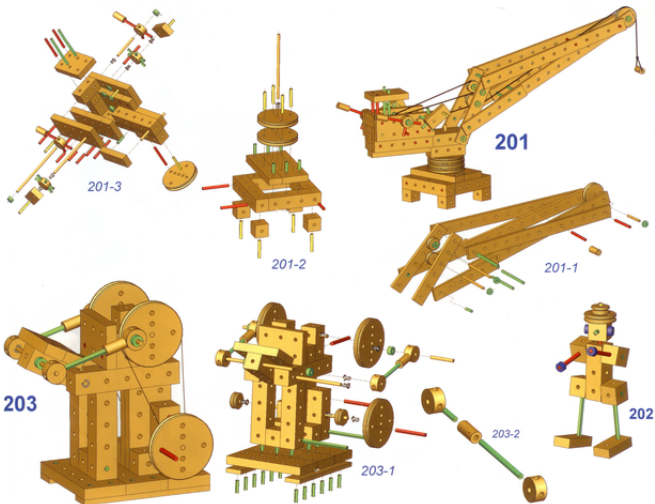
- ▶ **infinitesimally neighboring** objects
- ▶ calculus, applied to geometry

## Difference geometry

- ▶ **finitely separated** objects
- ▶ elementary geometry instead of calculus

## Discrete differential geometry

- ▶ “modern” difference geometry
- ▶ emphasis on similarity and analogy to differential geometry



# History

**1920–1970** H. Graf, R. Sauer, W. Wunderlich:

- ▶ didactic motivation
- ▶ emphasis on flexibility questions

**since 1995** U. Pinkall, A. I. Bobenko and many others:

- ▶ deep theory (arguably richer than the smooth case)
- ▶ development of organizing principles (Bobenko and Suris, 2008)
- ▶ connections to integrable systems
- ▶ applications in physics, computer graphics, architecture, ...

# Motivation for a discrete theory

- Didactic reasons:**
  - ▶ easily accessible and concrete
  - ▶ requires little a priori knowledge (advanced calculus vs. elementary geometry)
- Rich theory:**
  - ▶ at least as rich as smooth theory
  - ▶ clear explanations for “mysterious” phenomena in the smooth setting
- Applications:**
  - ▶ high potential for applications due to discretizations
  - ▶ numerous open research questions

# Overview

**Lecture 1:** Introduction

**Lecture 2:** Discrete curves and torsos

**Lecture 3:** Discrete surfaces and line congruences

**Lecture 4:** Discrete curvature lines

**Lecture 5:** Parallel nets, offset nets and curvature

**Lecture 6:** Cyclidic net parametrization

# Literature



A. I. Bobenko, Yu. B. Suris

Discrete Differential Geometry. Integrable Structure  
American Mathematical Society (2008)



R. Sauer

Differenzengeometrie  
Springer (1970)

Further references to literature will be given during the lecture and posted on the web-page

<http://geometrie.uibk.ac.at/schroecker/difference-geometry/>



# Software

- Adobe Reader** Recent versions that can handle 3D-data.  
<http://get.adobe.com/jp/reader>
- Rhinoceros** 3D-CAD; evaluation version (fully functional, save limit) is available at <http://rhino3d.com>.
- Geogebra** Dynamic 2D geometry, open source. Download at <http://geogebra.org>.
- Cabri 3D** Dynamic 3D geometry. Evaluation version (restricted mode after 30 days) available at <http://cabri.com/cabri-3d.html>.
- Maple** Symbolic and numeric calculations. Worksheets will be made available in alternative formats. <http://maplesoft.com>
- Asymptote** Graphics programming language used for most pictures in this lecture.  
<http://asymptote.sourceforge.net>

## Conventions for this lecture

- ▶ If not explicitly stated otherwise, we assume generic position of all geometric entities.
- ▶ Concepts from differential geometry are used as motivation. Results are usually given without proof.
- ▶ Concepts from elementary geometry are usually visualized and named. You can easily find the proofs on the internet.
- ▶ Concepts from other fields (projective geometry, CAGD etc.) will be explained in more detail upon request.
- ▶ Questions are highly appreciated.

# An example from planar kinematics

## One-parameter motion

$$\alpha: I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{SE}(2), \quad t \mapsto \alpha(t) = \alpha_t$$

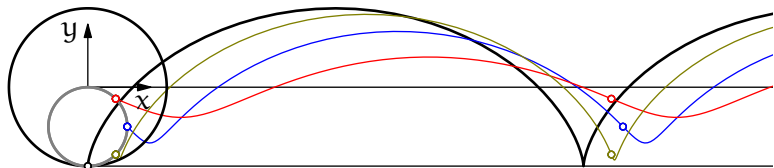
where

$$\alpha_t: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma', \quad x \mapsto \alpha_t(x) = x(t)$$

and

$$\alpha_t(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \varphi(t) & -\sin \varphi(t) \\ \sin \varphi(t) & \cos \varphi(t) \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} a_1(t) \\ a_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

## The cycloid (circle rolls on line)



$$\varphi(t) = -t, \quad a_1(t) = t, \quad a_2(t) = 0$$

$$\alpha_t(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(-t) & -\sin(-t) \\ \sin(-t) & \cos(-t) \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

► [cycloid.pdf](#)

# Corresponding result from three positions theory

## Theorem (Inflection circle)

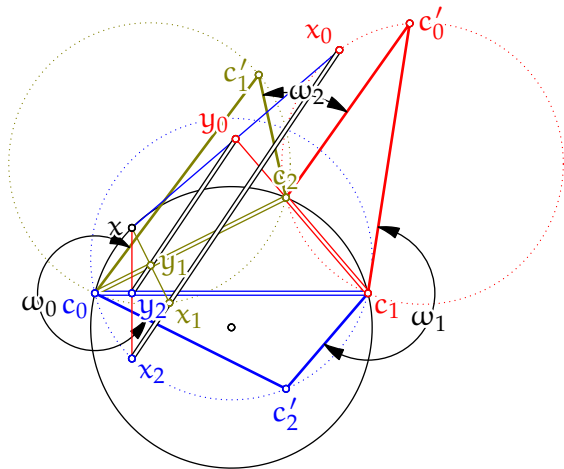
*The locus of points  $x$  such that the trajectory  $x(t) = \alpha_t(x)$  has an inflection point at  $t = t_0$  is a circle.*

▶ [inflection-circle.mw](#)

## Theorem

*Given are three positions  $\Sigma_0$ ,  $\Sigma_1$ , and  $\Sigma_2$  of a moving frame  $\Sigma$  in the Euclidean plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Generically, the locus of points  $x \in \Sigma$  such that the three corresponding points  $x_0 \in \Sigma_0$ ,  $x_1 \in \Sigma_1$ ,  $x_2 \in \Sigma_2$  are collinear is a circle.*

## Corresponding result from three positions theory



The line  $y_1 \vee y_2 \vee y_3$  is the **Simpson line** to  $x$ .

▶ [discrete-inflection-circle.3dm](#)

▶ [discrete-inflection-circle.ggb](#)

# Comparison

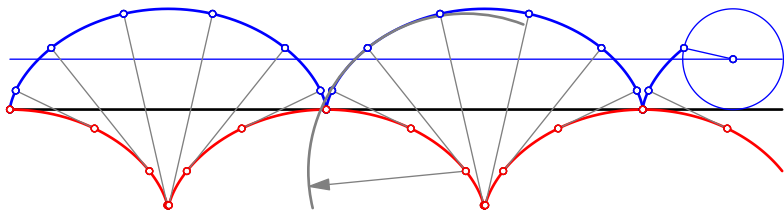
## Smooth theorem

- ▶ Formulation requires knowledge (planar kinematics, inflection point, ...)
- ▶ Proof requires calculus and algebra (differentiation, circle equation)

## Discrete theorem

- ▶ elementary formulation and proof
- ▶ smooth theorem by limit argument

# The cycloid evolute



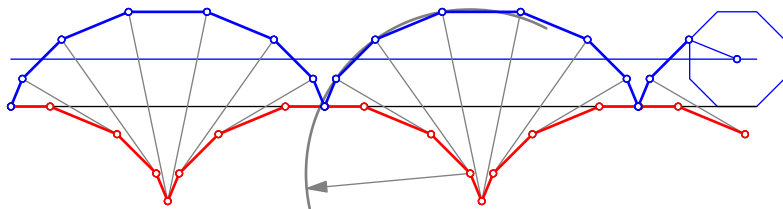
## Theorem

*The locus of curvature centers of the cycloid (its **evolute**) is a congruent cycloid*

▶ [cycloid.3dm](#)



# The discrete cycloid evolute



## Theorem (see Hoffmann 2009)

**$n$  even:** The locus of circle centers through three consecutive points of a discrete cycloid (its *vertex evolute*) is a congruent discrete cycloid.


**$n$  odd:** The locus of circle centers tangent to three consecutive edges of a discrete cycloid (its *edge evolute*) is a congruent discrete cycloid.


# Literature

**Inflection circle:** Chapter 8, §9 of Bottema and Roth (1990).

**Discrete cycloid:** Hoffmann (2009)

**Simpson line:** Bottema (2008).

 O. Bottema  
Topics in Elementary Geometry  
Springer (2008)

 O. Bottema, B. Roth  
Theoretical Kinematics  
Dover Publications (1990)

 T. Hoffmann  
Discrete Differential Geometry of Curves and Surfaces  
Faculty of Mathematics, Kyushu University (2009)

Lecture 2:  
**Discrete Curves and Torses**

# Smooth and discrete curves

## Smooth curve:

$$\gamma: I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d, \quad u \mapsto \gamma(u),$$

Regularity condition:

$$\frac{d\gamma}{du}(u) = \dot{\gamma}(u) \neq 0$$

## Discrete curve:

$$\gamma: I \subset \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d, \quad i \mapsto \gamma(i) =: \gamma_i,$$

Regularity condition:

$$\delta\gamma_i := \gamma_{i+1} - \gamma_i \neq 0$$

# Smooth and discrete curves

## Smooth curve:

$$\gamma: I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d, \quad u \mapsto \gamma(u),$$

Regularity condition:

$$\frac{d\gamma}{du}(u) = \dot{\gamma}(u) \neq 0$$

## Shift notation:

$$\gamma_i \approx \gamma, \quad \gamma_{i+1} \approx \gamma_1, \quad \gamma_{i-1} \approx \gamma_{-1},$$

$$\text{for example } \delta\gamma = \gamma_1 - \gamma$$

## Discrete curve:

$$\gamma: I \subset \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d, \quad i \mapsto \gamma(i) =: \gamma_i,$$

Regularity condition:

$$\delta\gamma_i := \gamma_{i+1} - \gamma_i \neq 0$$

### Example

Discuss the regularity of

$$\gamma(t) = \begin{pmatrix} t - \sin t \\ 1 - \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

### Solution

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix} = 0 \iff t = 2k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

### Example

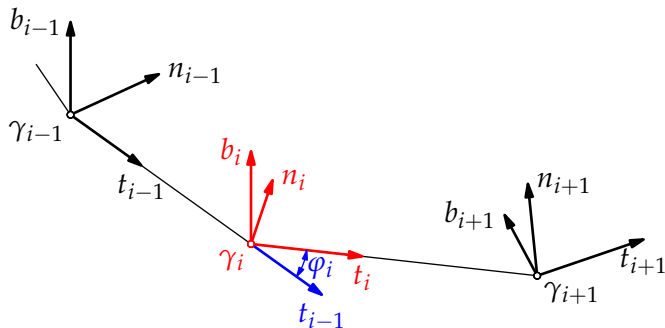
Derive a parametrization of the discrete cycloid and discuss its regularity.

### Solution

$$\gamma_k = \sum_{l=0}^k (1 - e^{-il\frac{2\pi}{n}}) = \sum_{l=0}^k \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{2l\pi}{n} \\ \sin \frac{2l\pi}{n} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$\gamma_k - \gamma_{k-1} = 1 - e^{-ik\frac{2\pi}{n}} = 0 \iff \frac{k}{n} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

# Tangent, principal normal, and bi-normal



**tangent vector**  $t := \delta\gamma / \|\delta\gamma\|$

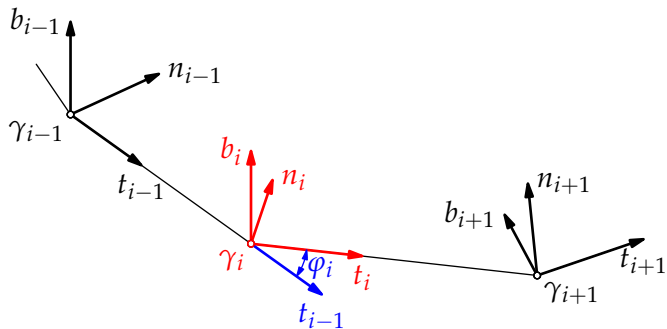
**normal vector**

- ▶  $n \perp t$ ,
- ▶  $\|n\| = 1$ ,
- ▶  $n$  parallel to  $\gamma_{-1} \vee \gamma \vee \gamma_1$ ,
- ▶ same orientation of  $t_{-1} \times t$  and  $t \times n$

**binormal vector**  $b := t \times n$



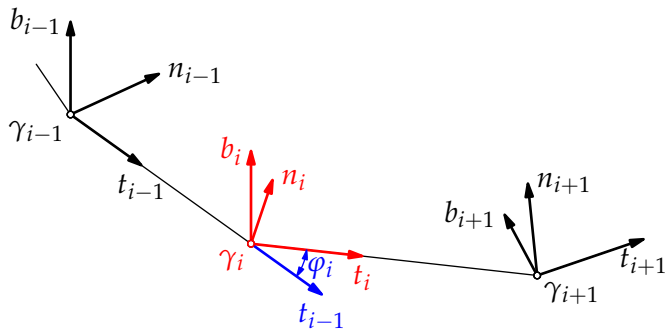
# Tangent, principal normal, and bi-normal



## Definition

The **Frenet-frame** is the orthonormal frame with origin  $\gamma$  and axis vectors  $t, n, b$ .

# Tangent, principal normal, and bi-normal



**Osculating plane:** incident with  $\gamma$ , orthogonal to  $b$

**Normal plane:** incident with  $\gamma$ , orthogonal to  $t$

**Rectifying plane:** incident with  $\gamma$ , orthogonal to  $n$

# Smooth and discrete curvature

## Smooth curvature:

Infinitesimal change of tangent direction with respect to arc length:

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{\|\dot{\gamma}(t) \times \ddot{\gamma}(t)\|}{\|\dot{\gamma}(t)\|^3}$$

## Discrete curvature:

$$\kappa := \frac{\sin \varphi}{s} \quad \text{where} \quad \varphi = \sphericalangle(t_{-1}, t), \quad s = \|\gamma_1 - \gamma\|$$

- ▶ Assume  $\varphi \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  or  $\varphi \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  (in case of  $d = 2$ ).
- ▶ We will later encounter different notions of curvature.

## Smooth and discrete torsion

**Smooth torsion:** Change of bi-normal direction with respect to arc length (measure of “planarity”):

$$\tau(t) = \frac{\langle \dot{\gamma}(t) \times \ddot{\gamma}(t), \ddot{\gamma}(t) \rangle}{\|\dot{\gamma}(t) \times \ddot{\gamma}(t)\|^2}$$

**Discrete torsion:**

$$\tau := \frac{\sin \psi}{s} \quad \text{where} \quad \psi = \sphericalangle(b, b_1)$$

- ▶ assume  $\psi \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$
- ▶  $\psi \geq 0 \iff$  helical displacement of Frenet frame at  $\gamma_{-1}$  to Frenet frame at  $\gamma$  is a right screw
- ▶  $\tau \equiv 0 \iff$  curve is planar

# Infinite sequence of refinements

- ▶ Assume that all points  $\gamma$  are sampled from a smooth curve  $\gamma(s)$ , parametrized by arc-length.
- ▶ Consider an infinite sequence of refinements  $\gamma_i = \gamma(\varepsilon i)$ ,  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

**Curvature:**  $\kappa \rightarrow \kappa(s)$

**Torsion:**  $\tau \rightarrow \tau(s)$

**Frenet frame:**  $t \rightarrow t(s) = \frac{\dot{\gamma}(s)}{\|\dot{\gamma}(s)\|}$ ,  $n \rightarrow n(s)$ ,  $b \rightarrow b(s)$

# The fundamental theorems of curve theory

## Theorem

*Curvature  $\kappa(s)$  and torsion  $\tau(s)$  as functions of the arc length determine a space curve up to rigid motion.*

## Proof.

Existence and uniqueness of an initial value problem for a system of partial differential equations. □

## Theorem

*The three functions*

- ▶  $\kappa: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  (*curvature*),
- ▶  $\tau: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  (*torsion*), and
- ▶  $s: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  (*arc-length*)

*uniquely determine a discrete space curve up to rigid motion.*

## Proof.

Elementary construction. □

# The fundamental theorems of curve theory

## Theorem

*Curvature  $\kappa(s)$  and torsion  $\tau(s)$  as functions of the arc length determine a space curve up to rigid motion.*

## Proof.

Existence and uniqueness of an initial value problem for a system of partial differential equations. □

## Corollary

*The two functions*

- ▶  $\kappa: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  (curvature) and
- ▶  $s: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  (arc-length)

*determine a discrete planar curve.*

## Discrete Frenet-Serret equations

$$t - t_{-1} = (1 - \cos \varphi) t + \sin \varphi n \implies$$

$$\frac{t - t_{-1}}{s} = \frac{1 - \cos \varphi}{s} t + \varkappa n$$

$$\frac{1 - \cos \varphi}{s} = \frac{\sin \varphi}{s} \cdot \tan \frac{\varphi}{2} = \varkappa \tan \frac{\varphi}{2} \rightarrow 0$$

$$t'(s) := \frac{dt}{ds}(s) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{t - t_{-1}}{s} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varkappa n = \varkappa(s)n(s)$$



## Discrete Frenet-Serret equations

$$b_1 - b = (\cos \psi - 1) b - \sin \psi n \implies$$
$$\frac{b_1 - b}{s} = \frac{\cos \psi - 1}{s} - \tau n$$

$$\frac{\cos \psi - 1}{s} = -\frac{\sin \psi}{s} \cdot \tan \frac{\psi}{2} = -\tau \cdot \tan \frac{\psi}{2} \rightarrow 0$$

$$b'(s) := \frac{db}{ds}(s) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{b_1 - b}{s} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} -\tau n = -\tau(s)n(s).$$

## Smooth Frenet-Serret equations

$$t'(s) = \kappa(s)n(s), \quad b'(s) = -\tau(s)n(s) \implies$$

$$\begin{aligned}n'(s) &:= \frac{dn}{ds}(s) = -\frac{d(t \times b)}{ds}(s) \\&= -t'(s) \times b(s) - t(s) \times b'(s) \\&= -\kappa(s)n(s) \times b(s) + t(s) \times \tau(s)n(s) \\&= -\kappa(s)t(s) + \tau(s)b(s).\end{aligned}$$

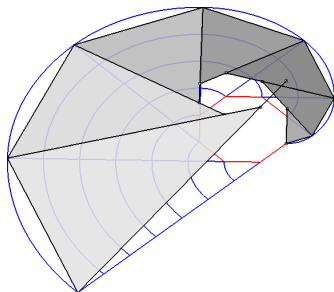
$$\begin{pmatrix} t' \\ n' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \kappa & 0 \\ -\kappa & 0 & \tau \\ 0 & -\tau & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} t \\ n \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

# Discrete torses

## Definition

A **discrete tors** is a map  $T$  from  $\mathbb{Z}$  to the space of planes in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

▶ [discrete-screw-torse.3dm](#)



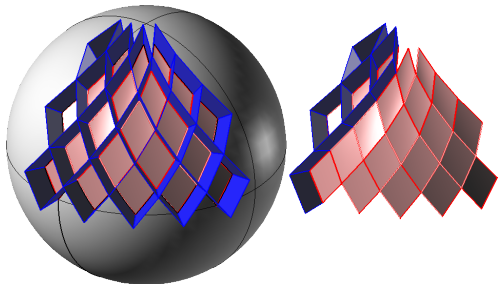
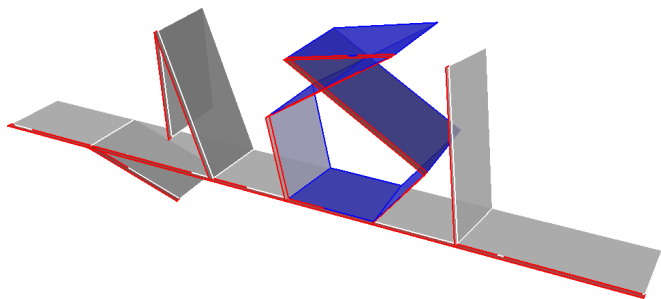
**rulings:**  $\ell = T_{-1} \cap T$

**edge of regression:**  $\gamma = T_{-1} \cap T \cap T_1$

- ▶  $\ell$  is an edge of  $\gamma$
- ▶  $\ell$  and  $\ell_1$  intersect
- ▶  $T$  is osculating plane of  $\gamma$

↔ equivalent definitions  
based on planes, points,  
and lines

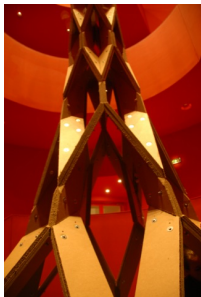
## Application: Design of closed folded strips



▶ 6-crease-torse.3dm

▶ folded-sphere.3dm

## Application: Design of closed folded strips



<http://www.archiwaste.org/?p=1109>

**Institut für Konstruktion und Gestaltung, Universität Innsbruck:**

Rupert Maleczek, Eda Schaur

**Archiwaste:**

Guillaume Bounoure, Chloe Geneveaux

# Literature

R. Sauer's book contains

- ▶ the derivation of the Frenet-Serret equations as presented here and
- ▶ a treatise on discrete torsors.



R. Sauer

Differenzengeometrie

Springer (1970)

Lecture 3:

**Discrete Surfaces and Line Congruences**

## Smooth parametrized surfaces

$$f: U \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad (u, v) \mapsto f(u, v)$$

$$f_u \times f_v \neq 0 \quad \text{where} \quad f_u := \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}, \quad f_v := \frac{\partial f}{\partial v}$$

(tangent vectors to parameter lines)

### Example

Discuss the regularity of the parametrized surface

$$f(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos u \cos v \\ \cos u \sin v \\ \sin u \end{pmatrix}, \quad (u, v) \in \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \times (0, 2\pi).$$



# Discrete surfaces

$$f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \quad (i_1, \dots, i_d) \mapsto f(i_1, \dots, i_d) = f_{i_1, \dots, i_d}$$
$$(f_{i_1, \dots, i_j+1, \dots, i_k, \dots, i_d} - f_{i_1, \dots, i_j, \dots, i_k, \dots, i_d}) \times (f_{i_1, \dots, i_j, \dots, i_k+1, \dots, i_d} - f_{i_1, \dots, i_j, \dots, i_k, \dots, i_d}) \neq 0$$

$$f: \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad (i, j) \mapsto f(i, j) = f_{i,j}$$
$$(f_{i+1,j} - f_{i,j}) \times (f_{i,j+1} - f_{i,j}) \neq 0$$

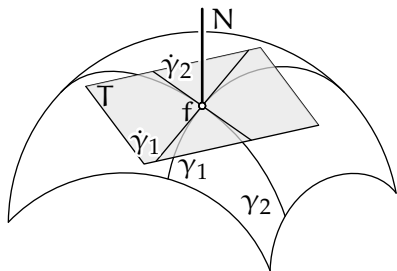
## Shift notation

- ▶  $\tau_j$ : shift in  $j$ -th coordinate direction, that is,  
 $\tau_j f_{i_1, \dots, i_j, \dots, i_d} = f_{i_1, \dots, i_j+1, \dots, i_d}$
- ▶ write  $f, f_1, f_2, f_{12}$  etc. instead of  $f_{ij}, \tau_1 f_{ij}, \tau_2 f_{ij}, \tau_1 \tau_2 f_{ij}$  etc.,  
for example  $(f_i - f) \times (f_j - f) \neq 0$

## Surface curves

$$\gamma(t) = f(u(t), v(t))$$

$$\dot{\gamma}(t) = \frac{d\gamma}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \frac{dv}{dt}$$



- ▶ tangents of all surface curve through a fixed surface point  $f$  lie in the plane through  $f$  and parallel to  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}$
- ▶ tangent plane  $T$  is parallel to  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}$
- ▶ surface normal  $N$  is parallel to  $n = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u} \times \frac{\partial f}{\partial v}$

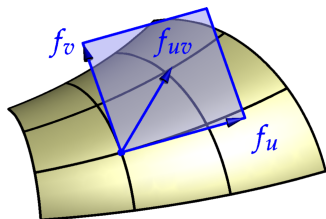
# Conjugate parametrization

## Definition

A surface parametrization  $f(u, v)$  is called a **conjugate parametrization** if

$$f_u = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}, f_v = \frac{\partial f}{\partial v}, \text{ and } f_{uv} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u \partial v}$$

are linearly dependent for every pair  $(u, v)$ .



- ▶ \*invariant under projective transformations
- ▶ \*tangents of parameter lines of one kind along one parameter line of the other kind form a torse
- ▶ conjugate directions belong to light ray and corresponding shadow boundary
- ▶ conjugate directions with respect to Dupin indicatrix

# Examples

## Example

Show that the surface parametrization

$$f(u, v) = \frac{1}{\cos u + \cos v - 2} \begin{pmatrix} \sin u - \sin v \\ \sin u + \sin v \\ \cos v - \cos u \end{pmatrix}$$

is a conjugate parametrization.

▶ conjugate-parametrization.mw

## Solution

```
1 with(LinearAlgebra):
2 F := 1/(cos(u)+cos(v)-2) *
3   Vector([sin(u)-sin(v), sin(u)+sin(v), cos(v)-cos(u)]):
4 Fu := map(diff, F, u): Fv := map(diff, F, v):
5 Fuv := map(diff, Fu, v):
6 Rank(Matrix([Fu, Fv, Fuv]));
```

## Examples

### Example

Assume that the rational bi-quadratic tensor-product Bézier-surface

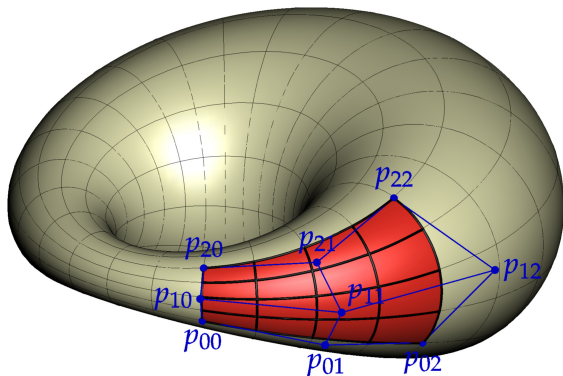
$$f(u, v) = f(u, v) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^2 w_{ij} p_{ij} B_i^2(u) B_j^2(v)}{\sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^2 w_{ij} B_i^2(u) B_j^2(v)}$$

defines a conjugate parametrization. Show that in this case the four sets of control points

$$\begin{aligned} &\{p_{00}, p_{01}, p_{11}, p_{10}\}, && \{p_{01}, p_{02}, p_{12}, p_{11}\}, \\ &\{p_{10}, p_{11}, p_{21}, p_{20}\}, && \{p_{11}, p_{12}, p_{22}, p_{21}\} \end{aligned}$$

are necessarily co-planar.

# Examples



## Solution

- ▶  $w_{00}f_u(0,0) = 2w_{10}(p_{10} - p_{00}),$   
 $w_{00}f_v(0,0) = 2w_{01}(p_{01} - p_{00})$
- ▶  $4w_{00}^2f_{uv}(0,0) =$   
 $w_{00}w_{11}(p_{11} - p_{00}) - w_{01}w_{10}((p_{01} - p_{00}) + (p_{10} - p_{00}))$

# Discrete conjugate nets

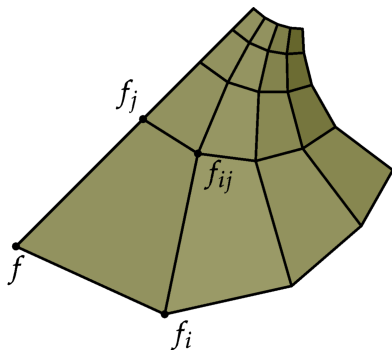
## Definition

A discrete surface  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a **discrete conjugate surface** (or a **conjugate net**), if every elementary quadrilateral is planar, that is, if the three vectors

$$f_i - f, \quad f_j - f, \quad f_{ij} - f$$

are linearly dependent for  $1 \leq i < j \leq d$ .

- ▶ \*invariant under projective transformations
- ▶ \*edges in one net direction along thread in other net direction form a discrete torse



# Analytic description of conjugate nets

$$f_{ij} = f + c_{ji}(f_i - f) + c_{ij}(f_j - f), \quad c_{ji}, c_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$$

Construction of a conjugate net  $f$  from

1. values of  $f$  on the coordinate axes of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  and
2.  $d(d-1)$  scalar functions  $c_{ji}, c_{ij}: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

▶ conjugate-net-cg3

## Example

For which values of  $c_{ji}$  and  $c_{ij}$  is the quadrilateral  $f f_1 f_2 f_{12}$

1. convex,
2. embedded?



## Solution

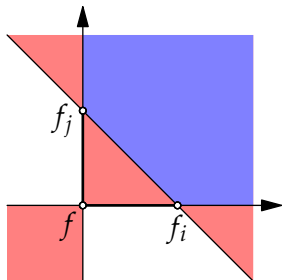
By an affine transformation, the situation is equivalent to

$$f = (0,0), \quad f_i = (1,0), \quad f_j = (0,1).$$

Then the fourth vertex is  $f_{ij} = (c_{ji}, c_{ij})$ .

The quadrilateral is

- ▶ convex if  $c_{ji}, c_{ij} \geq 0$  and  $c_{ji} + c_{ij} \geq 1$ .
- ▶ embedded if
  - ▶  $c_{ji} + c_{ij} > 1$  or
  - ▶  $c_{ji}, c_{ij} > 0$  or
  - ▶  $c_{ji} = 0, c_{ij} \geq 1$  or
  - ▶  $c_{ij} = 0, c_{ji} \geq 1$  or
  - ▶  $c_{ji}, c_{ij} < 0$ .



convex embedded

# The basic 3D system

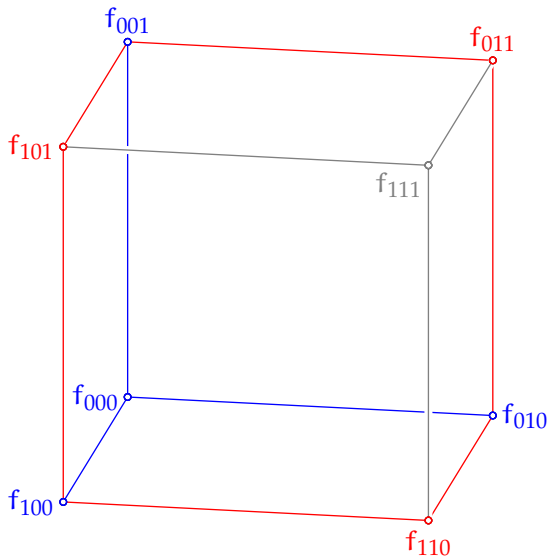
## Theorem

*Given seven vertices  $f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_{12}, f_{13},$  and  $f_{23}$  such that each quadruple  $f f_i f_j f_{ij}$  is planar there exists a unique point  $f_{ijk}$  such that each quadruple  $f_i f_{ij} f_{ik} f_{ijk}$  is planar.*

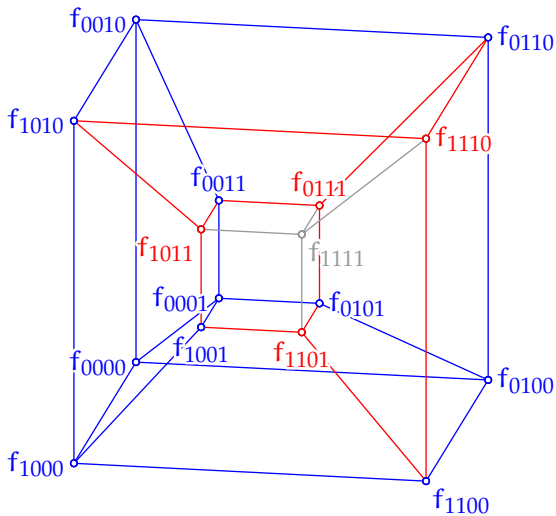
## Proof.

- ▶ The initially given vertices lie in a three-space.
- ▶ The point  $f_{123}$  is obtained as intersection of three planes in this three-space. □

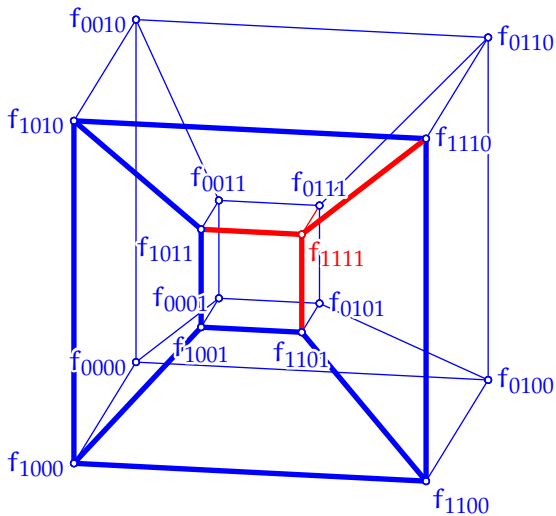
## 3D consistency of a 2D system



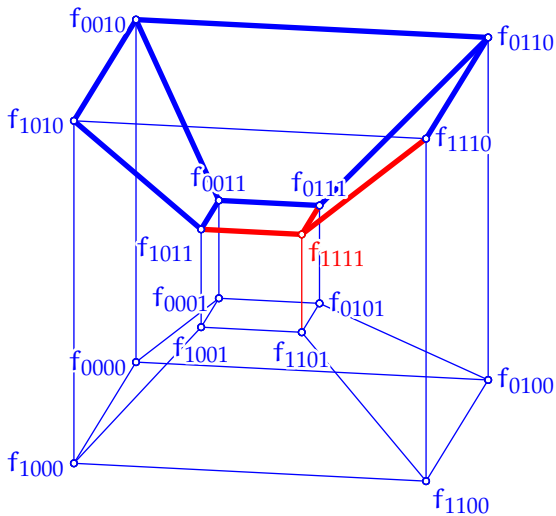
## 4D consistency of a 3D system



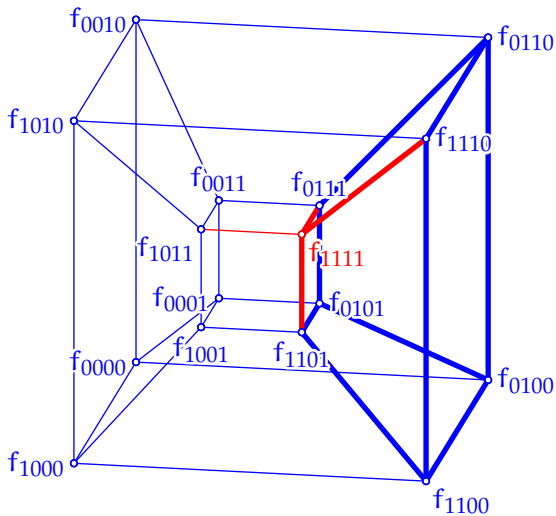
## 4D consistency of a 3D system



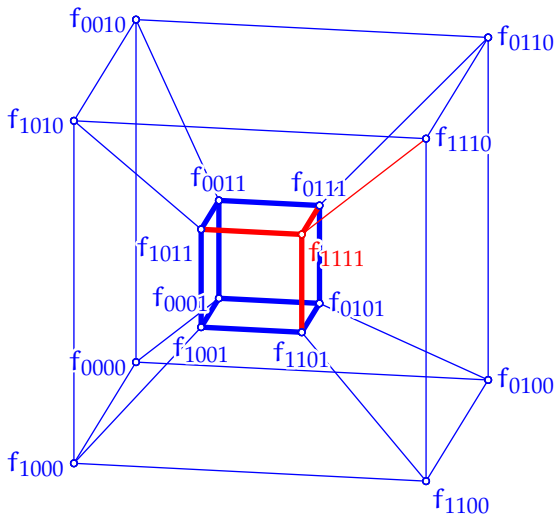
## 4D consistency of a 3D system



## 4D consistency of a 3D system



## 4D consistency of a 3D system





# 4D consistency of conjugate nets

## Theorem

*The 3D system governing discrete conjugate nets is 4D consistent.*

## Proof.

More-dimensional geometry. □

## Corollary

*The 3D system governing discrete conjugate nets is  $nD$  consistent.*

## Proof.

General result of combinatorial nature on 4D consistent 3D systems. □

# Quadric restriction of conjugate nets

## Theorem

Given seven vertices  $f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_{12}, f_{13},$  and  $f_{23}$  on a quadric  $Q$  such that each quadruple  $f f_i f_j f_{ij}$  is planar, there exists a unique point  $f_{ijk} \in Q$  such that each quadruple  $f_i f_{ij} f_{ik} f_{ijk}$  is planar.

► circular-net

## Lemma

Given seven generic points  $f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_{12}, f_{13}, f_{23}$  in three space there exists an eighth point  $f_{123}$  such that any quadric through  $f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_{12}, f_{13}, f_{23}$  also contains  $f_{123}$ .

## Proof.

- Quadric equation:  $[1, x] \cdot Q \cdot [1, x] = 0$  with  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 4}$ , symmetric, unique up to constant factor
- Quadrics through  $f, \dots, f_{23}$ :  $\lambda_1 Q_1 + \lambda_2 Q_2 + \lambda_3 Q_3 = 0$   
(solution system of seven linear homogeneous equations)
- $f_{123} = Q_1 \cap Q_2 \cap Q_3 \setminus \{f, \dots, f_{23}\}$  □

# Quadric restriction of conjugate nets

## Theorem

Given seven vertices  $f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_{12}, f_{13},$  and  $f_{23}$  on a quadric  $Q$  such that each quadruple  $f f_i f_j f_{ij}$  is planar, there exists a unique point  $f_{ijk} \in Q$  such that each quadruple  $f_i f_{ij} f_{ik} f_{ijk}$  is planar.

▶ circular-net

## Proof.

- ▶ The 3D system determines  $f_{ijk}$  uniquely.
- ▶ The pair of planes  $f \vee f_i \vee f_j \vee f_{ij}$  and  $f_k \vee f_{ik} \vee f_{jk}$  is a (degenerate) quadric through the initially given points.
- ▶ Three quadrics of this type intersect in  $f_{ijk}$ . □

# The meaning of quadric restriction

## Conjugate nets in quadric models of geometries:

- ▶ line geometry (Plücker quadric)
- ▶ geometry of  $SE(3)$  (Study quadric)
- ▶ geometry of oriented spheres (Lie quadric)

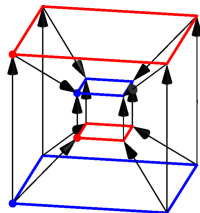
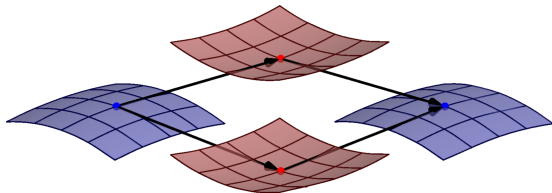
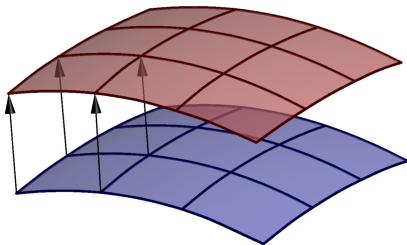
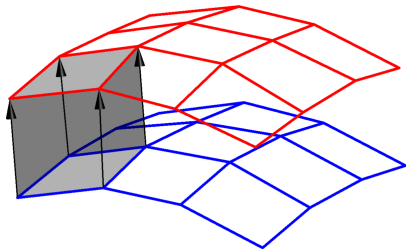
## Conjugate nets in intersection of quadrics:

- ▶ geometry of  $SE(3)$  (intersection of six quadrics in  $\mathbb{R}^{12}$ )

## Specializations of conjugate nets:

- ▶ circular nets
- ▶ ...

# The meaning of 3D consistency



# Literature



R. Sauer

Differenzengeometrie

Springer (1970)



A. I. Bobenko, Yu. B. Suris

Discrete Differential Geometry. Integrable Structure

American Mathematical Society (2008)

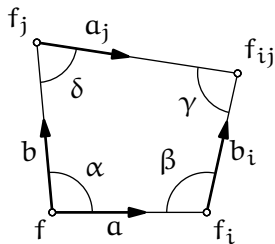
# Numeric computation of conjugate nets

## Contradicting aims



- ▶ planarity
- ▶ fairness
- ▶ closeness to given surface

## Planarity criteria

- ▶  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta - 2\pi = 0$   
(planar and convex)
- ▶ distance of diagonals
- ▶  $\det(a, a_j, b) = \dots = 0$ ,  
(planar, avoid singularities)
- ▶ minimize a linear combination of
  - ▶ fairness functional and
  - ▶ closeness functionalsubject to planarity constraints



# Literature

-  Liu Y., Pottmann H., Wallner J., Yang Y.-L., Wang W.  
Geometric Modeling with Conical and Developable Surfaces  
ACM Transactions on Graphics, vol. 25, no. 3, 681–689.
-  Zadavec M., Schiffner A., Wallner J.  
Designing quad-dominant meshes with planar faces.  
Computer Graphics Forum 29/5 (2010), Proc. Symp.  
Geometry Processing, to appear.



# Asymptotic parametrization

## Definition

A surface parametrization  $f(u, v)$  is called an **asymptotic parametrization** if

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial v}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial u^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial v}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial v^2}$$

are linearly dependent for every pair  $(u, v)$ .

## Asymptotic lines

- ▶ exist only on surfaces with hyperbolic curvature
- ▶ \*osculating plane of parameter lines is tangent to surface (rectifying plane contains surface normal)
- ▶ intersection curve of surface and rectifying plane of parameter lines has an inflection point
- ▶ invariant under projective transformations

## An Example

### Example

Show that the surface parametrization

$$f(u, v) = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \\ uv \end{pmatrix}$$

is an asymptotic parametrization.

### Solution

We compute the partial derivative vectors:

$$f_u = (1, 0, v), \quad f_v = (0, 1, u), \quad f_{uu} = f_{vv} = (0, 0, 0).$$

Obviously,  $f_{uu}$  and  $f_{vv}$  are linearly dependent from  $f_u$  and  $f_v$ .

# A pseudosphere



Wunderlich W.

Zur Differenzengeometrie  
der Flächen konstanter  
negativer Krümmung  
Österreich. Akad. Wiss.  
Math.-Naturwiss. Kl. S.-B.  
II, vol. 160, no. 2, 39–77,  
1951.

▶ asymptotic-pseudosphere.3dm

# Discrete asymptotic nets

## Definition

A discrete surface  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is called a **discrete asymptotic surface** (or an **asymptotic net**), if there exists a plane through  $f$  that contains all vectors

$$f_i - f, \quad f_{-i} - f.$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq d$  (planar “vertex stars”).

- ▶ well-defined tangent plane  $T$  and surface normal  $N$  at every vertex  $f$
- ▶ discrete partial derivative vector  $(f_i - f) + (f - f_{-i})$  is parallel to  $T$

# Examples

## A sportive example

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/laffy4k/202536862/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/bekahstargazing/436888403/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/nataliefranke/2785575144/>

## A floristic example

blumenampel-1.jpg   blumenampel-2.jpg

## An architectural example

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/preef/4610086160/>

# Properties of asymptotic nets

- ▶ \*invariant under projective transformations
- ▶ \*asymptotic lines have osculating planes tangent to the surface

## Asymptotic nets in higher dimension

- ▶ straightforward extension to maps  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$
- ▶ nonetheless only asymptotic nets in a three-space

## Construction of 2D asymptotic nets

- ▶ Prescribe values of  $f$  on coordinate axes such that all vectors

$$\tau_i f_{0,0} - f_{0,0}, \quad i \in \{1, 2\}$$

are parallel to a plane.

- ▶  $f_{1,1}$  lies in the intersection of the two planes

$$f_{0,0} \vee f_{1,0} \vee f_{2,0} \quad \text{and} \quad f_{0,0} \vee f_{0,1} \vee f_{0,2}$$

(one degree of freedom)

- ▶ inductively construct remaining values of  $f$  (one degree of freedom per vertex)

## Construction of asymptotic nets in dimension three

- ▶ Prescribe values of  $f$  on coordinate axes such that all vectors

$$\tau_i f_{0,0,0} - f_{0,0,0}, \quad i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$$

are parallel to a plane.

- ▶ Complete the points

$$\tau_i \tau_j f_{0,0,0}, \quad i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}; i \neq j$$

(one degree of freedom per vertex).

- ▶ three ways to construct  $f_{1,1,1}$  from the already constructed values  $\implies$  three straight lines

Do these lines intersect?

Are asymptotic nets governed by a 3D system?



# Möbius tetrahedra

## Definition

Two tetrahedra  $a_0 a_1 a_2 a_3$  and  $b_0 b_1 b_2 b_3$  are called **Möbius tetrahedra**, if

$$a_i \in b_j \vee b_k \vee b_l \quad \text{and} \quad b_i \in a_j \vee a_k \vee a_l \quad (\star)$$

for all pairwise different  $i, j, k, l \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ .

(Points of one tetrahedron lie in corresponding planes of the other tetrahedron.)

[▶ moebius-tetrahedra.cg3](#)

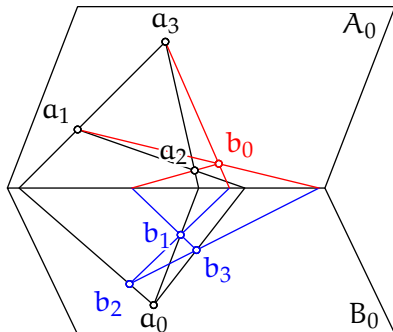
## Theorem (Möbius)

*Seven of the eight incidence relations  $(\star)$  imply the eighth.*

# Möbius tetrahedra

## Proof.

1. Notation:  $A_i = a_j \vee a_k \vee a_l$ ,  
 $B_i = b_j \vee b_k \vee b_l$
2. Choose  $a_0, B_0$  with  $a_0 \in B_0$ .
3. Choose  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  (general position)  $\rightsquigarrow A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3$ .
4. Choose  $b_1 \in B_0 \cap A_1$ ,  
 $b_2 \in B_0 \cap A_2$ ,  $b_3 \in B_0 \cap A_3 \rightsquigarrow$   
 $B_1 = b_2 \vee b_3 \vee a_1$ ,  
 $B_2 = b_1 \vee b_3 \vee a_2$ ,  
 $B_3 = b_1 \vee b_2 \vee a_3$ .
5.  $b_0 := B_1 \cap B_2 \cap B_3$ , Claim:  $b_0 \in A_0$   
( $\checkmark$  by Pappus' Theorem).



## Construction of asymptotic nets in dimension three (II)

- ▶ Asymptotic net  $\sim$  pairs  $(f, T)$  of points  $f$  and planes  $T$  with  $f \in T$ ; defining property

$$f \in \tau_i T \quad \text{and} \quad \tau_i f \in T.$$

- ▶ Partition the vertices of the elementary hexahedron of an asymptotic net into two vertex sets of tetrahedra:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= f_{0,0,0}, & a_1 &= f_{1,1,0}, & a_2 &= f_{1,0,1}, & a_3 &= f_{0,1,1}, \\ b_0 &= f_{1,1,1}, & b_1 &= f_{0,0,1}, & b_2 &= f_{0,1,0}, & b_3 &= f_{1,0,0}. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Construction of the vertices  $f_{ijk}$  with  $(i, j, k) \neq (1, 1, 1)$  yields the configuration of Möbius' Theorem  
 $\implies$  construction of  $f_{111}$  without contradiction.

# Analytic description of asymptotic nets

**Asymptotic net:**  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

**Lelievre vector field:**  $n: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  such that

1.  $n \perp T$  and
2.  $f_i - f = n_i \times n$

- ▶ vector  $n_i$  can be constructed uniquely from  $f, n, f_i$   
(three linear equations)
- ▶ vector  $n_{ij}$  can be constructed via
  - ▶  $f, n, f_i \rightsquigarrow n_i; f_{ij} \rightsquigarrow n_{ij}$
  - ▶  $f, n, f_j \rightsquigarrow n_j; f_{ij} \rightsquigarrow n_{ij}$

Do these values coincide?

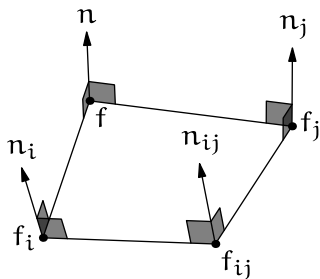
# An auxiliary result

## Lemma (Product formula)

Consider a skew quadrilateral  $f, f_i, f_{ij}, f_j$  and vectors  $n, n_i, n_{ij}, n_j$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}f_i - f &= \alpha n_i \times n, & f_j - f &= \beta n_j \times n, \\f_{ij} - f_j &= \alpha_j n_j \times n_j, & f_{ij} - f_i &= \beta_i n_{ij} \times n_i.\end{aligned}$$

Then  $\alpha\alpha_j = \beta\beta_i$ .



## Proof.

- ▶  $(f_i - f)^T \cdot n_j = \alpha(n_i \times n)^T \cdot n_j = -\alpha(n_j \times n)^T \cdot n_i$
- ▶  $(f_j - f)^T \cdot n_i = \beta(n_j \times n)^T \cdot n_i$
- ▶  $-\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{(f_i - f)^T \cdot n_j}{(f_j - f)^T \cdot n_i} = \frac{(f_i - f + f - f_j)^T \cdot n_j}{(f_j - f + f - f_i)^T \cdot n_i} = \frac{(f_i - f_j)^T \cdot n_j}{(f_j - f_i)^T \cdot n_i}$

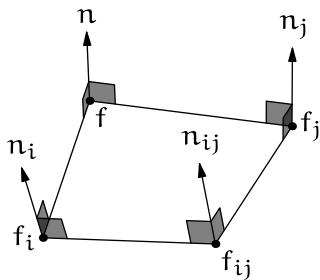
# An auxiliary result

## Lemma (Product formula)

Consider a skew quadrilateral  $f, f_i, f_{ij}, f_j$  and vectors  $n, n_i, n_{ij}, n_j$  such that

$$f_i - f = \alpha n_i \times n, \quad f_j - f = \beta n_j \times n, \\ f_{ij} - f_j = \alpha_j n_j \times n_j, \quad f_{ij} - f_i = \beta_i n_{ij} \times n_i.$$

Then  $\alpha\alpha_j = \beta\beta_i$ .



## Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \blacktriangleright -\frac{\alpha}{\beta} &= \frac{(f_i - f)^T \cdot n_j}{(f_j - f)^T \cdot n_i} = \frac{(f_i - f + f - f_j)^T \cdot n_j}{(f_j - f + f - f_i)^T \cdot n_i} = \frac{(f_i - f_j)^T \cdot n_j}{(f_j - f_i)^T \cdot n_i} \\ \blacktriangleright -\frac{\alpha_j}{\beta_i} &= \dots = \frac{(f_i - f_j)^T \cdot n_i}{(f_i - f_j)^T \cdot n_j} \\ \blacktriangleright \implies \frac{\alpha}{\beta} &= \frac{\beta_i}{\alpha_j} \end{aligned}$$

□

# Existence and uniqueness

## Theorem

*The Lelievre normal vector field  $n$  of an asymptotic net  $f$  is uniquely determined by its value at one point.*

## Proof.

**Uniqueness** ✓

## Existence

- ▶ Product formula for normal vector fields:  $\alpha\alpha_j = \beta\beta_i$ .
- ▶ Three of the values  $\alpha, \alpha_j, \beta, \beta_i$  equal 1  $\implies$  all four values equal 1.
- ▶ The Lelievre normal vector field is characterized by  $\alpha = \alpha_j = \beta = \beta_i = 1$ .
- ▶ Both construction of  $n_{ij}$  result in the same value.



# Relation between two Lelievre normal vector fields

## Theorem

Suppose that  $n$  and  $n'$  are two Lelievre normal vector fields to the same asymptotic net. Then there exists a value  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$n(z) = \begin{cases} \alpha n(z) & \text{if } z_1 + \cdots + z_d \text{ is even,} \\ \alpha^{-1} n(z) & \text{if } z_1 + \cdots + z_d \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** ✓



# The discrete surface of Lelievre normals

What are the properties of the discrete net  $n: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ ?

- ▶  $f_{ij} - f = f_{ij} - f_i + f_i - f = n_{ij} \times n_i + n_i \times n$
- ▶  $f_{ij} - f = f_{ij} - f_j + f_j - f = n_{ij} \times n_j + n_j \times n$
- ▶  $\implies (n_{ij} - n) \times (n_i - n_j) = 0$
- ▶  $\implies n_{ij} - n = a_{ij}(n_j - n_i)$  where  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$

## Conclusion:

- ▶ The net  $n: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is conjugate.
- ▶ Every fundamental quadrilateral has parallel diagonals (this is called a “**T-net**”).

# T-nets

## Defining equation:

$$y_{ij} - y = a_{ij}(y_j - y_i) \quad \text{where} \quad a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}$$

- ▶  $a_{ij} = -a_{ji}$
- ▶  $y_{ij} - y = (1 + c_{ji})(y_i - y) + (1 + c_{ij})(y_j - y) \implies$ 
  - ▶  $c_{ij} + c_{ji} + 2 = 0$  (T-net condition)
  - ▶  $a_{ij} = c_{ij} + 1$  (relation between coefficients)

# Elementary hexahedra of T-nets

## Theorem

Consider seven points  $y, y_1, y_2, y_3, y_{12}, y_{13}, y_{23}$  of a combinatorial cube such that the diagonals of

$$y y_1 y_{12} y_2, \quad y y_1 y_{13} y_3, \quad \text{and} \quad y y_2 y_{23} y_3$$

are parallel. Then there exists a unique point  $y_{123}$  such that also the diagonals of

$$y_1 y_{12} y_{123} y_{13}, \quad y_2 y_{12} y_{123} y_{23}, \quad \text{and} \quad y_3 y_{13} y_{123} y_{23}$$

are parallel.

## Corollary

T-nets are described by a 3D system. They are  $nD$  consistent.

# Elementary hexahedra of T-nets

## Proof.

- ▶  $y_{ij} - y = a_{ij}(y_j - y_i) \implies$   
 $\tau_i y_{jk} = (1 + (\tau_i a_{jk})(a_{ij} + a_{ki}))y_i - (\tau_i a_{jk})a_{ij}y_j - (\tau_i a_{jk})a_{ki}y_k$
- ▶ Six linear conditions for three unknowns  $\tau_i a_{jk}$ :

$$1 + (\tau_1 a_{23})(a_{12} + a_{31}) = -(\tau_2 a_{31})a_{12} = -(\tau_3 a_{12})a_{31}$$

$$1 + (\tau_2 a_{31})(a_{23} + a_{12}) = -(\tau_3 a_{12})a_{23} = -(\tau_1 a_{23})a_{12}$$

$$1 + (\tau_3 a_{12})(a_{31} + a_{23}) = -(\tau_1 a_{23})a_{31} = -(\tau_2 a_{31})a_{23}$$

- ▶ Unique solution:

$$\frac{\tau_1 a_{23}}{a_{23}} = \frac{\tau_2 a_{31}}{a_{31}} = \frac{\tau_3 a_{12}}{a_{12}} = \frac{1}{a_{12}a_{23} + a_{23}a_{31} + a_{31}a_{12}}$$



# Asymptotic nets from T-nets

## Theorem

*An asymptotic net is uniquely defined (up to translation) by a Lelievre normal vector field (a T-net).*

## Corollary

*Asymptotic nets are  $nD$  consistent.*

**Question:** How to construct an asymptotic net from a given T-net  $n$ ?

# Discrete one forms

- ▶ graph  $G$  with vertex set  $V$ , set of directed edges  $\vec{E}$
- ▶ vector space  $W$

## Definition (discrete additive one-form)

- ▶  $p: \vec{E} \rightarrow W$  is a **discrete additive one-form** if  $p(-e) = -p(e)$ .
- ▶  $p$  is **exact** if  $\sum_{e \in Z} p(e) = 0$  for every cycle  $Z$  of directed edges.

Example:  $p(e) = e$ .

## Definition (discrete multiplicative one-form)

- ▶  $q: \vec{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \setminus 0$  is a **discrete multiplicative one-form** if  $q(-e) = 1/q(e)$ .
- ▶  $q$  is **exact** if  $\prod_{e \in Z} q(e) = 1$  for every cycle  $Z$  of directed edges.

# Integration of exact forms

## Theorem

*Given the exact additive discrete one form  $p: \vec{E} \rightarrow W$  there exists a function  $f: V \rightarrow W$  such that  $p(e) = f(y) - f(x)$  for any  $e = (x, y)$  in  $\vec{E}$ . The function  $f$  is defined up to an additive constant.*

**Proof.** ✓

## Theorem

*Given the exact multiplicative discrete one form  $q: \vec{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \setminus 0$  there exists a function  $v: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \setminus 0$  such that  $q(e) = v(y)/v(x)$  for any  $e = (x, y)$  in  $\vec{E}$ . The function  $v$  is defined up to an additive constant.*

# Integration of exact forms

## Theorem

*Given the exact additive discrete one form  $p: \vec{E} \rightarrow W$  there exists a function  $f: V \rightarrow W$  such that  $p(e) = f(y) - f(x)$  for any  $e = (x, y)$  in  $\vec{E}$ . The function  $f$  is defined up to an additive constant.*

**Proof.** ✓

**Question:** How to construct an asymptotic net from a given T-net  $n$ ?

**Answer:** Integrate the exact one form  $p(i, j) = n_i \times n_j$ .



# Ruled surfaces and torses

$\mathcal{L}^n$  ... set of lines in  $\mathbb{R}P^n$  (typically  $n = 3$ )

## Definition

A **ruled surface** is a (sufficiently regular) map  $\ell: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$ .

## Definition

A **discrete ruled surface** is a map  $\ell: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$  such that  $\ell \cap \ell_i = \emptyset$ .

## Definition

A **torse** is a map  $\ell: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$  such that all image lines are tangent to a (sufficiently regular) curve.

## Definition

A **discrete torse** is a map  $\ell: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$  such that  $\ell \cap \ell_i \neq \emptyset$ .

$\implies$  existence of polygon of regression, osculating planes etc.

# Smooth line congruences

## Definition

A line congruence is a (sufficiently regular) map  $\ell: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$ .

## Examples

- ▶ normal congruence of a smooth surface:  $f(u, v) + \lambda n(u, v)$   
where  $n = f_u \times f_v$ .
- ▶ set of transversals of two skew lines
- ▶ sets of light rays in geometrical optics

# Discrete line congruences

## Definition

A discrete line congruence is a map  $\ell: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$  such that any two neighbouring lines  $\ell$  and  $\ell_i$  intersect.

- ▶ smooth line congruences admit special parametrizations  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  different discretizations conceivable
- ▶ discretize definition considers only parametrization  
“along torsos”

# Construction of discrete line congruences

$d = 2$ : ✓

$d = 3$ : The completion of an elementary hexahedron from seven lines  $l, l_1, l_2, l_3, l_{12}, l_{13}, l_{23}$  is possible and unique (3D system).

$d = 4$ : The completion of an elementary hypercube from 15 lines  $l, l_i, l_{ij}, l_{ijk}$  is possible and unique (4D consistent).

$d > 4$   $n$ D consistent

# Discrete line congruences and conjugate nets

## Definition

The  *$i$ -th focal net* of a discrete line congruence  $\ell: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$  is defined as  $F^{(i)} = \ell \cap \ell_i$ .

## Theorem

*The  $i$ -th focal net of a discrete line congruence is a discrete conjugate net.*

## Theorem

*Given a discrete conjugate net  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , a discrete line congruence  $\ell: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^n$  with the property  $f \in \ell$  is uniquely determined by its values at the coordinate axes in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ .*

## Proof.

Given two lines  $\ell_i, \ell_j$  and a point  $f_{ij}$  there exists a unique line  $\ell_{ij}$  incident with  $f_{ij}$  and concurrent with  $\ell_i, \ell_j$ . □

# Discrete line congruences and conjugate nets II

## Definition

The  *$i$ -th tangent congruence* of a discrete conjugate net  $f: \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{RP}^n$  is defined as  $\ell^{(i)} = f \vee f_i$ .

## Definition

In case of  $d = 2$  the  *$i$ -th Laplace transform*  $l^{(i)}$  of a two-dimensional discrete conjugate net is the  $j$ -th focal congruence of its  $i$ -th tangent congruence ( $i \neq j$ ).

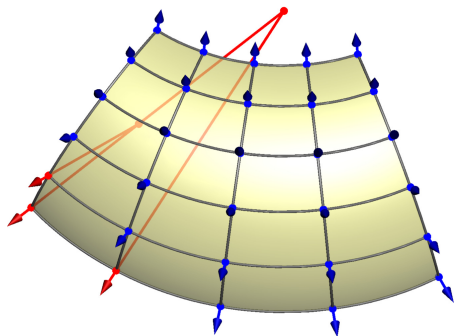
## Theorem

*The Laplace transforms of a discrete conjugate net are discrete conjugate nets.*

Lecture 4:  
**Discrete Curvature Lines**

# Curvature line parametrizations

$$f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad (u, v) \mapsto f(u, v)$$



- ▶ normal surfaces along parameter lines are torse  
(infinitesimally neighbouring surface normals along parameter lines intersect)
- ▶  $f_u, f_v$  are tangent to the principal directions
- ▶ parameter lines intersect orthogonally



# Discrete curvature line parametrizations

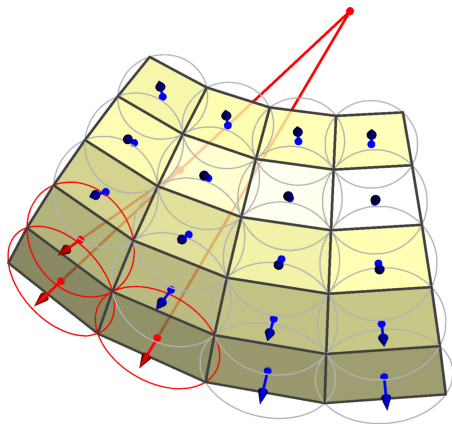
Neighboring surface normals intersect.

- ▶ circular nets
- ▶ conical nets
- ▶ principal contact element nets
- ▶ HR-congruences

# Circular nets

## Definition

A map  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a **circular net** or **discrete orthogonal net** if all elementary quadrilaterals are circular.



- ▶ neighboring circle axes intersect
- ▶ discretization of conjugate parametrization

## Algebraic characterization

$$\begin{aligned}f_{ij} &= f + c_{ji}(f_i - f) + c_{ij}(f_j - f), \quad c_{ji}, c_{ij} \in \mathbb{R} \\ \alpha f + \alpha_i f_i + \alpha_j f_j + \alpha_{ij} f_{ij} &= 0, \quad \alpha + \alpha_i + \alpha_j + \alpha_{ij} = 0 \\ (\alpha &= 1 - c_{ij} - c_{ji}, \quad \alpha_i = c_{ji}, \quad \alpha_j = c_{ij}, \quad \alpha_{ij} = -1)\end{aligned}$$

### Circularity condition:

$$\alpha \|f\|^2 + \alpha_i \|f_i\|^2 + \alpha_j \|f_j\|^2 + \alpha_{ij} \|f_{ij}\|^2 = 0 \quad (\star)$$

### Proof.

- ▶  $(\star) \iff \forall m \in \mathbb{R}^n$ :  
 $\alpha \|f - m\|^2 + \alpha_i \|f_i - m\|^2 + \alpha_j \|f_j - m\|^2 + \alpha_{ij} \|f_{ij} - m\|^2 = 0$
- ▶ Take  $m$  as center of circum-circle  $C$  of  $f, f_i, f_j$ :  
 $\|f - m\|^2 = \|f_i - m\|^2 = \|f_j - m\|^2 = r^2$ .
- ▶  $\implies \|f_{ij} - m\| = r^2 \implies f_{ij} \in C$

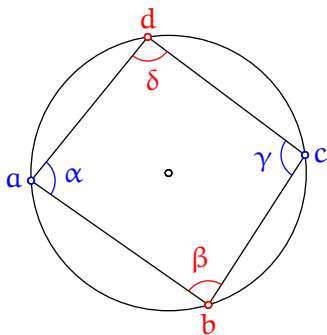
# Circularity criteria

## Theorem

The four points  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}^2$  lie on a circle if and only if opposite angles in the quadrilateral  $a b c d$  are supplementary, that is,

$$\alpha + \gamma = \beta + \delta = \pi.$$

(immediate consequence from the Inscribed-Angle Theorem)



▶ [inscribed-angle-theorem.ggb](#)

# Circularity criteria

## Theorem

The four points  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$  lie on a circle (or a straight line) if and only if

$$\frac{a-b}{b-c} \cdot \frac{c-d}{d-a} \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (\star)$$

## Proof.

- ▶ Angle between complex numbers equals argument of their ratio:  $\sphericalangle(a, b) = \arg(a/b)$
- ▶ Two complex numbers  $a, b$  have the same or supplementary argument  $\iff a/b \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- ▶  $(\star)$  equals

$$\frac{a-b}{c-b} \cdot \frac{a-d}{c-d}$$

and thus states equality or supplementary of  $\beta$  and  $\delta$ .



# Circularity criteria

## Theorem

The four points  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}$  lie on a circle (or a straight line) if and only if

$$\frac{a-b}{b-c} \cdot \frac{c-d}{d-a} \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (\star)$$

## Cross-ratio criterion for circularity:

$$CR(a, b, c, d) = \frac{a-c}{b-c} \cdot \frac{b-d}{a-d} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- ▶ better known
- ▶ more difficult to memorize
- ▶ similar proof (use Incident Angle Theorem)

## Circularity criteria

In the following theorem,  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  are considered as vector valued quaternions; multiplication (not commutative) and inversion are performed in the quaternion division ring.

### Theorem



*The four points  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}^3$  lie on a circle (or a straight line) if and only if their cross-ratio*

$$\text{CR}(a, b, c, d) = (a - b) \star (b - c)^{-1} \star (c - d) \star (d - a)^{-1}$$

*is real.*

**Proof.** [▶ cross-ratio-criterion.mw](#)

# Literature

-  Richter-Gebert J., Orendt, Th.  
Geometriekalküle  
Springer 2009.
-  Bobenko A. I., Pinkall U.  
Discrete Isothermic Surfaces  
J. reine angew. Math. 475 187–208 (1996)



# Two-dimensional circular nets

## Defining data

- ▶ values of  $f$  on coordinate axes of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$
- ▶ a cross-ratio on each elementary quadrilateral

## Shape of the circles

The quadrilateral  $abcd$  is circular and **embedded** if and only if

$$\frac{a-b}{b-c} \cdot \frac{c-d}{d-a} < 0.$$

## Numerical computation

Add circularity condition

$\sum (\alpha + \gamma - \pi)^2 + \sum (\beta + \delta - \pi)^2 \rightarrow \min$  to optimization scheme.

# Three-dimensional circular nets

## Theorem

*Circular nets are governed by a 3D system.*

## Theorem

*Given seven vertices  $f, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_{12}, f_{13},$  and  $f_{23}$  such that each quadruple  $f f_i f_j f_{ij}$  lies on a circle, there exists a unique point  $f_{ijk}$  such that each quadruple  $f_i f_j f_{ik} f_{ijk}$  is a circular quadrilateral.*

## Proof.

- ▶ All initially given vertices lie on a sphere  $S$ .
- ▶ Claim follows from quadric reduction of conjugate nets.



**Alternative:** Miquel's Six Circles Theorem

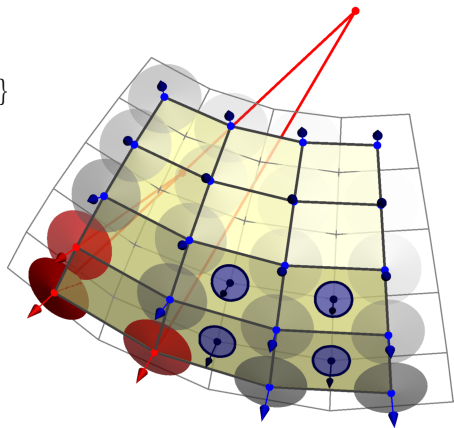
# Conical nets

## Definition

A map

$P: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \{\text{oriented planes in } \mathbb{R}^3\}$

is called a **conical net** the four planes  $P, P_i, P_{ij}, P_j$  are tangent to an oriented cone of revolution.



- ▶ neighboring cone axes intersect
- ▶ discretization of conjugate parametrization

# The Gauss map of conical nets

- ▶ Every plane  $P$  is described by unit normal  $n$  and distance  $d$  to the origin.
- ▶ The map  $n: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow S^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is the **Gauss map** of the conical net.

## Theorem

*The Gauss map is circular.*

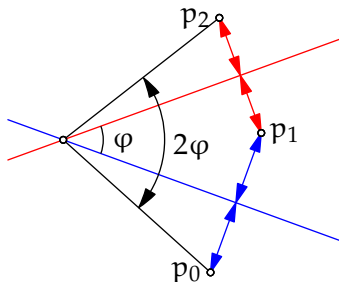
- ▶ A conical net is uniquely determined by its Gauss map and the map  $d: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ .
- ▶ Conicality criterion:

$$(n - n_i) \star (n_i - n_{ij})^{-1} \star (n_{ij} - n_j) \star (n_j - n)^{-1} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

# Circular quadrilaterals

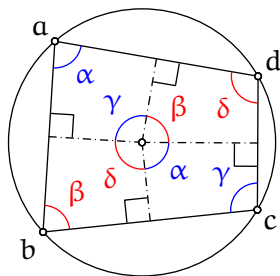
## Theorem

*The composition of the reflections in two intersecting lines is a rotation about the intersection point through twice the angle between the two lines.*



## Theorem

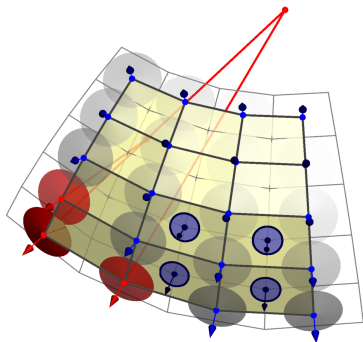
*The composition of reflections in successive bisector planes of a circular quadrilateral yields the identity.*



# Conical nets from circular nets

## Theorem

*Given a circular net  $f$  there exists a two-parameter variety of conical nets whose face planes are incident with the vertices of  $f$ . Any such net is uniquely determined by one of its face planes.*



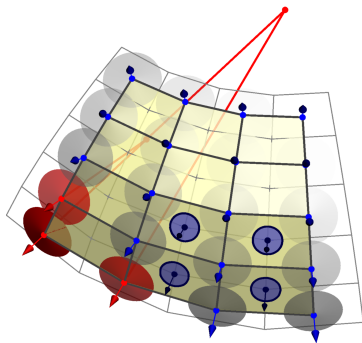
## Proof.

- ▶ Generate the conical net by successive reflection in the bisector planes of neighboring vertices of  $f$ .
- ▶ This construction produces planes of a conical net and is free of contradictions. □

# Circular nets from conical nets

## Theorem

*Given a conical net  $P$  there exists a two-parameter variety of circular nets whose vertices are incident with the face planes of  $P$ . Any such net is uniquely determined by one of its vertices.*



## Proof.

Also the composition of the reflections in successive bisector planes of the face planes of a conical net yields the identity.



# Multidimensional consistency

## Theorem

*Conical nets are governed by a 3D system. They are  $nD$  consistent.*

## Proof.

The claim follow from the analogous statements about circular nets and the fact that both classes of nets can be generated by the same sequence of reflections. □



# Literature



A. I. Bobenko, Yu. B. Suris

Discrete Differential Geometrie. Integrable Structure  
American Mathematical Society (2008)



H. Pottmann., J. Wallner

The focal geometry of circular and conical meshes  
Adv. Comput. Math., vol. 29, no. 3, 249–268, 2008.

# Numerical computation

## Theorem (Lexell; Wallner, Liu, Wang)

*Consider four unit vectors  $e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3$  and denote the angle between  $e_i$  and  $e_{i+1}$  by  $\psi_{i,i+1}$ . The vectors are the directions of the edges emanating from a vertex in a conical net if and only if*

$$\psi_{01} + \psi_{23} = \psi_{12} + \psi_{31}.$$

- ▶ A complete proof considering all possible cases is not difficult but involved.
- ▶ The theorem is actually a statement about spherical quadrilaterals with an in-circle.
- ▶ For numerical computation, add conicality condition  $\sum (\psi_{01} + \psi_{23} - \psi_{12} - \psi_{31})^2 \rightarrow \min$  to optimization scheme.

# Literature



Lexell A. J.

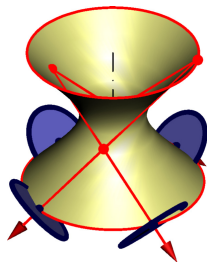
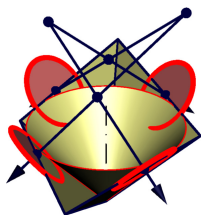
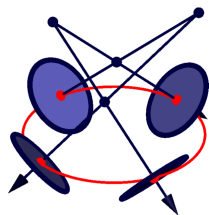
Acta Sc. Imp. Petr. (1781) 6, 89–100.



Wang W., Wallner J., Lie Y.

An Angle Criterion for Conical Mesh Vertices  
J. Geom. Graphics (2007) 11:2, 199–208.

# HR-congruences



## Definition

A discrete line congruence  $\ell: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is called an **HR-congruence** if the skew quadrilateral consisting of the four lines  $\ell, \ell_i, \ell_{ij}, \ell_j$  lies on a hyperboloid of revolution.

## Theorem

*If  $p$  is a circular net and  $T$  a conical net with  $p \in T$ , then the normals of  $T$  form an HR-congruence.*

**Proof.** Construction by reflection.



# Principal contact element nets

## Definition

An **(oriented) contact element** is a pair  $(p, n)$  consisting of a point  $p$  and a unit vector  $n$ .

Alternatively, think of a contact element as

- ▶ a pair  $(p, N)$  (point plus oriented line),
- ▶ a pair  $(p, T)$  (point plus oriented tangent plane).

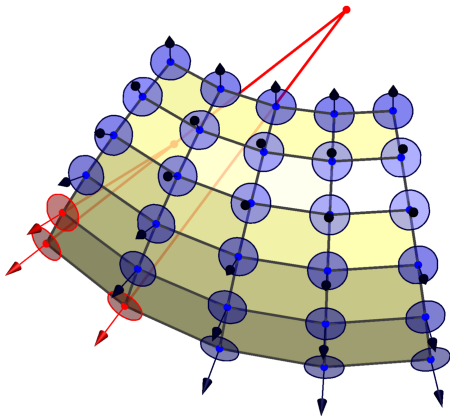
## Definition

A **principle contact element net** is a map

$$(p, n): \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \{\text{space of oriented contact elements}\}$$

such that any two neighboring contact elements have a common tangent sphere.

# Properties of principal contact element nets

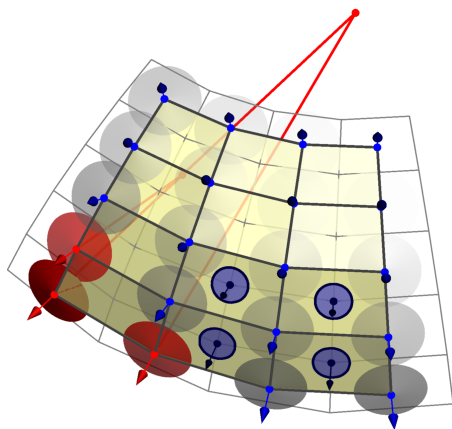


- ▶ The normals of neighboring contact elements intersect in the center of the tangent sphere (curvature line discretization).
- ▶ Neighboring contact elements have a unique plane of symmetry.

# Relation to circular and conical nets

## Theorem

*If  $f$  is a circular net and  $T$  a conical net such that  $f \in T$ , then  $(f, T)$  is a principal contact element net.*



## Proof.

Due to the construction by reflections, the intersection points of the plane normals are at the same (oriented distance) from the points of tangency. □

# Relation to circular and conical nets

## Theorem

*If  $(p, T)$  is a principal contact element net with face planes  $T$ , then  $p$  is a circular net and  $T$  is a conical net.*

## Proof.

- ▶ Opposite contact elements of an elementary quadrilateral correspond, in two ways, in the composition of two reflections in planes of symmetry.
- ▶ Opposite contact elements correspond in two rotations.
- ▶ Opposite contact elements have skew normals  $\implies$  the two rotations are actually identical.
- ▶ All four planes of symmetry intersect in a common line and the composition of reflections yields the identity.





Lecture 5:

**Parallel Nets, Offset Nets and Curvature**

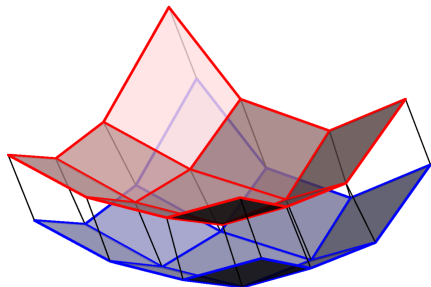
# Parallel nets

## Definition

Let  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a conjugate net. A conjugate net  $f^+ : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is called a **parallel net** (or a **Combescure transform** of  $f$ ) if corresponding edges are parallel.

## Remark

The theory of parallel nets and offset nets as presented below extends to quad meshes of arbitrary combinatorics.



## Parallel nets and line congruences

Given are a conjugate net  $f$  and a parallel net  $f^+$ :

$\implies \ell = f \vee f^+$  is a discrete line congruence

Given are a conjugate net  $f$  and a discrete line congruence  $\ell$  with  $f \in \ell$ :

$\implies$  There exists a one-parameter family  $f^+$  of parallel nets with  $f^+ \in \ell$ .

$\implies f^+$  is uniquely determined by its value at one point.

# Offset nets

## Given:

- ▶ conjugate net  $f$
- ▶ parallel net  $f^+$

## Definition

A parallel net  $f^+$  is called a **vertex/face/edge offset net** if corresponding vertices/faces/edges are at constant distance  $d$ .

# The vector space of parallel nets

## Theorem

All conjugate nets parallel to a given conjugate net form a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$  where addition and multiplication are defined vertex-wise:

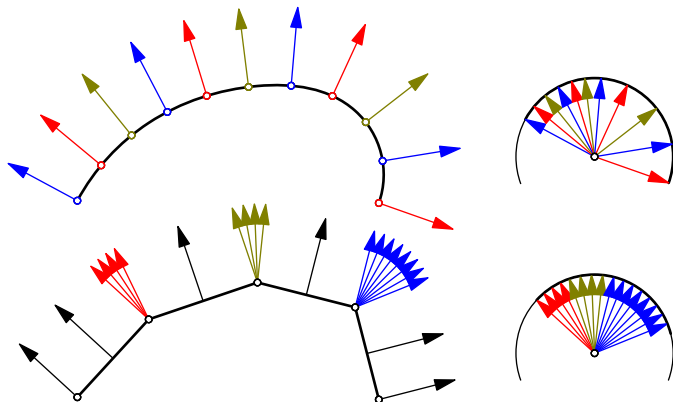
$$\begin{aligned}\lambda f &: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, & i &\mapsto \lambda f(i), \\ f + f^+ &: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, & i &\mapsto f(i) + f^+(i).\end{aligned}$$

## Definition

Let  $f$  and  $f^+$  be a pair of offset nets at constant distance  $d$ . Then the **Gauss image** of  $f^+$  with respect to  $f$  is defined as

$$s = \frac{1}{d}(f^+ - f).$$

# The smooth Gauss map for curves



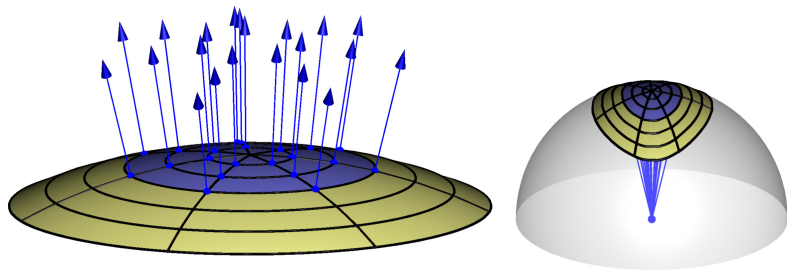
- ▶ curvature  $\approx$  ratio of arc-lengths of Gauss image and curve

# The smooth Gauss map for surfaces

## Definition

Given a smooth surface  $M$ , denote by  $n_p$  the oriented unit normal in  $p \in M$ . The **Gauss map** of  $M$  is the map

$$n: M \rightarrow S^2, \quad p \mapsto n_p.$$



# The smooth Gauss map for surfaces

## Definition

Given a smooth surface  $M$ , denote by  $n_p$  the oriented unit normal in  $p \in M$ . The **Gauss map** of  $M$  is the map

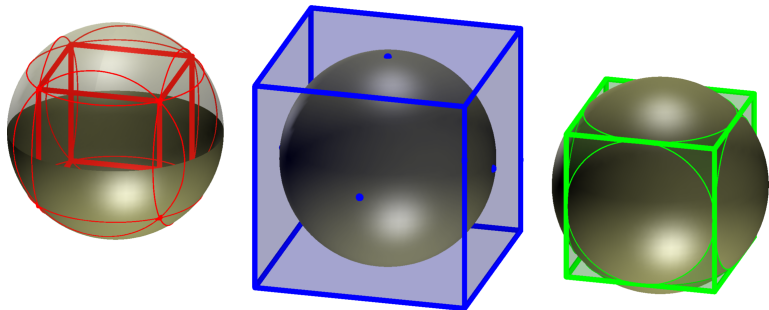
$$n: M \rightarrow S^2, \quad p \mapsto n_p.$$

## Properties:

- ▶ closely related to surface curvatures
- ▶ negative derivative –  $dn: T_p(M) \rightarrow T_{n_p}(S^2)$  is called the **shape operator**



# The Gauss image of offset nets



## Theorem

*The Gauss image of a vertex/face/edge offset net is a net*

- ▶ *whose vertices are contained in  $S^d$ ,*
- ▶ *whose faces circumscribe  $S^d$ ,*
- ▶ *whose edges are tangent to  $S^d$ .*

# Characterization of offset-nets

## Corollary

*A conjugate net  $f$  admits a vertex offset net  $f^+$  if and only if it is circular.*

**Proof.** Assume a vertex offset  $f^+$  exists  $\implies$  circular Gauss image  $\implies$  original net is circular (angle criterion for circularity).

## Construction of vertex offset nets:

Assume  $f$  is circular:

▶ vertex-offset-net.3dm

1. Prescribe one vertex of  $f^+$
2. Construct Gauss image from one vertex and known edge directions (unambiguous; no contradictions by circularity).
3. Construct  $f^+$  from the Gauss image (unambiguous; no contradictions).



# Characterization of offset-nets

## Corollary

*A conjugate net  $f$  admits a face offset net  $f^+$  if and only if it is conical.*

**Proof.** Assume a face offset  $f^+$  exists  $\implies$  conical Gauss image  $\implies$  original net is conical (angle criterion for conicality).

## Construction of face offset nets:

Assume  $f$  is conical:

▶ [face-offset-net.3dm](#)

1. Prescribe one face of  $f^+$ .
2. Construct other faces by offsetting (unambiguous; no contradictions by conicality).



# Characterization of offset-nets

## Definition

A conjugate net is called a **Koebe net**, if its edges are tangent to the unit sphere.

## Corollary

*A conjugate net  $f$  admits an edge offset net  $f^+$  if and only if it is parallel to a Koebe net  $s$ .*

**Proof.** Construction of  $f^+$  from  $f$  and  $s$ :

▶ [edge-offset-net.3dm](#)

$$f^+ = f + d \cdot s$$



# Offset nets in architecture

- ▶ fewer edges for quad dominant meshes
- ▶ quadrilateral glass panels are cheaper
- ▶ less-steel, more glass
- ▶ torsion-free nodes
- ▶ existence of face or edge offset meshes



H. Pottmann, Y. Liu, J. Wallner, A. Bobenko, W. Wang  
Geometry of multi-layer freeform structures for  
architecture  
ACM Trans. Graphics, vol. 26, no. 3, 1–1, 2007

# Discrete line congruences with offset properties

## Definition

Two discrete line congruences  $\ell$  and  $\ell^+$  are called **parallel**, if corresponding lines are parallel.

They are called **offset congruences** if corresponding lines are at constant distance as well.

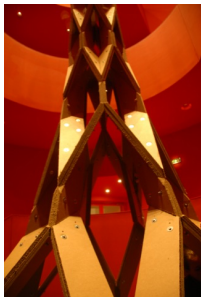
## Remark

The edges of an edge-offset net constitute a special example of an offset congruence with planar elementary quadrilaterals.

## Remark

Offset congruences occur in architecture of folded paper strips.

## Application: Design of closed folded strips



<http://www.archiwaste.org/?p=1109>

**Institut für Konstruktion und Gestaltung, Universität Innsbruck:**

Rupert Maleczek, Eda Schaur

**Archiwaste:**

Guillaume Bounoure, Chloe Geneveaux

# Offset congruences

## Theorem

*All line congruences parallel to a given discrete line congruence  $\ell$  form a vector space. Addition and multiplication are defined via addition and multiplication of corresponding intersection points.*

## Definition

The Gauss image of two offset congruences  $\ell$  and  $\ell^+$  at distance  $d$  is defined as

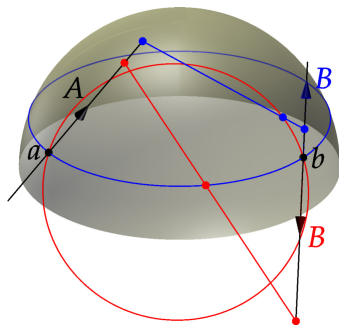
$$s = \frac{1}{d}(\ell^+ - \ell).$$

## Theorem

*A discrete line congruence  $\ell$  admits an offset congruence if and only if it is parallel and at constant distance to a discrete line congruence whose lines are tangent to the unit sphere  $S^2$ .*



## Elementary quadrilaterals of the Gauss image

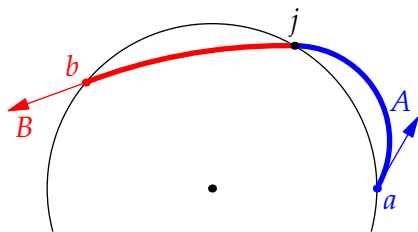


**Problem:** Given two tangents  $A, B$  of  $S^2$  find lines  $X$  which

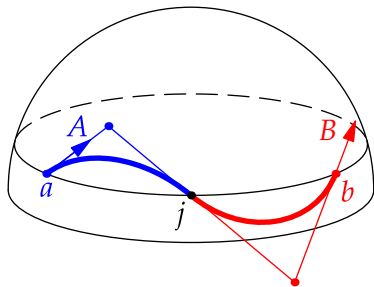
1. intersect  $A$  and  $B$  and
2. are tangent to  $S^2$ .


**Solution:** The locus of possible points of tangency consists of two circles through  $a$  and  $b$ .

# Bi-arcs in the plane and on the sphere



► [biarc.ggb](#)



 H. Pottmann, J. Wallner  
Computational Line Geometry  
Springer (2001)

 H. Stachel, W. Fuhs  
Circular pipe-connections  
Computers & Graphics 12 (1988), 53–57.

# Elementary quadrilaterals of the Gauss image

## Theorem

*Let  $s$  be the Gauss image of a pair of offset congruences. An elementary quadrilateral of  $s$  is either*

- 1. the elementary quadrilateral of an HR-congruence or*
- 2. something different (yet unnamed)*

## Remark

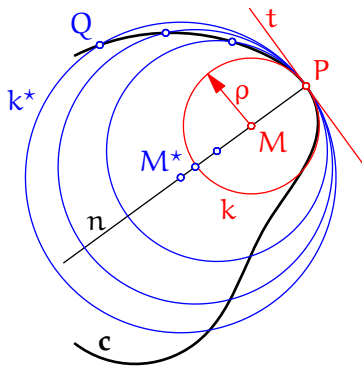
The geometry of offset congruences and metric aspects of discrete line geometry are open research questions.

# Curvature of a smooth curve

$$\gamma: I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3, \quad t \mapsto \gamma(t),$$

$$\kappa(t) = \frac{\|\dot{\gamma}(t) \times \ddot{\gamma}(t)\|}{\|\dot{\gamma}(t)\|^3},$$

$$l(\gamma) = \int_I \|\dot{\gamma}(t)\| dt.$$

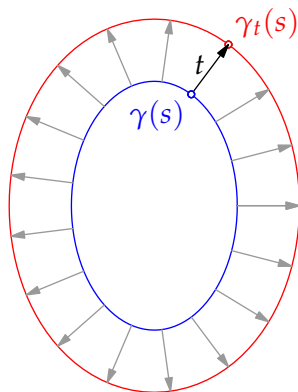


- ▶ change of tangent direction per arc-length
- ▶ inverse radius of optimally approximating circle

# Steiner's formula

- ▶ convex curve  $\gamma \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  
arc-length  $s$ , curvature  $\kappa(s)$
- ▶ offset curve  $\gamma_t$  at distance  $t$

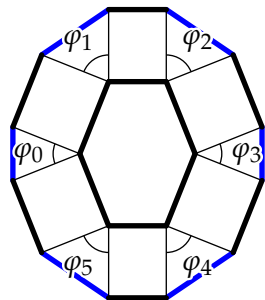
$$l(\gamma_t) = l(\gamma) + t \int_{\gamma} \kappa(t) dt$$



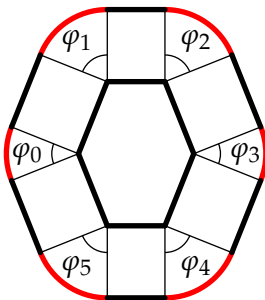
## Example: A circle

$$l(\gamma_t) = 2(r+t)\pi = 2r\pi + 2t\pi = l(\gamma) + t \int_0^{2r\pi} r^{-1} d\varphi$$

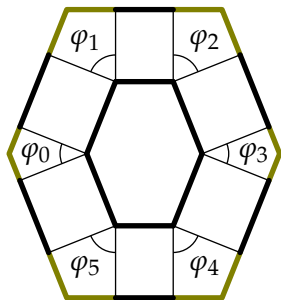
## Steiner type curvatures in vertices



$$2 \sin \frac{\varphi_i}{2}$$



$$\varphi_i$$

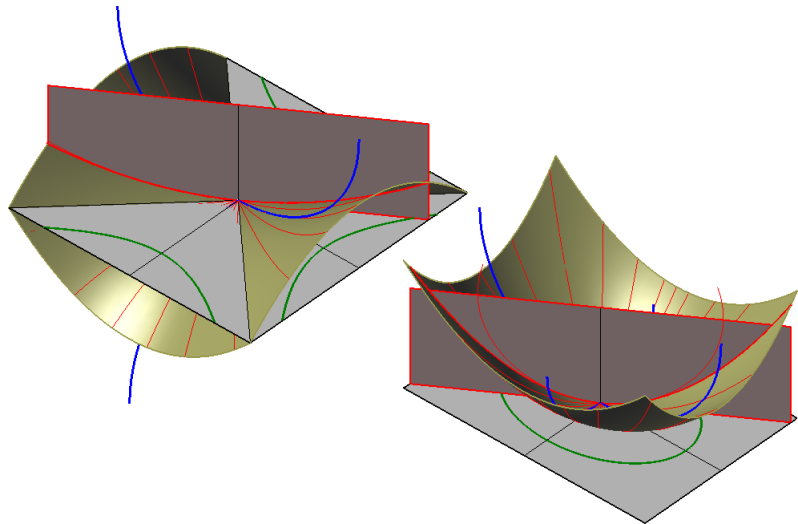


$$2 \tan \frac{\varphi_i}{2}$$

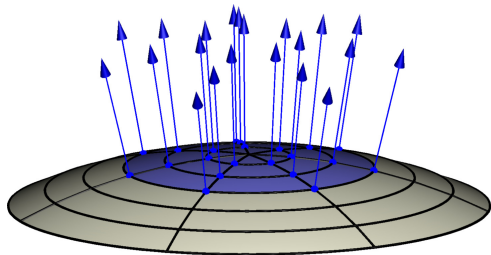
- ▶ Assign curvature to vertices so that Steiner's Theorem remains true.
- ▶ The three possibilities are identical up to second order terms:

$$2 \sin \frac{\varphi}{2} = \varphi + O(\varphi^3), \quad \varphi = \varphi + O(\varphi^3), \quad 2 \tan \frac{\varphi}{2} = \varphi + O(\varphi^3).$$

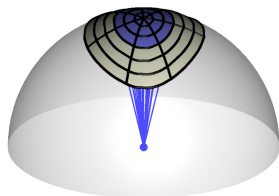
## Curvatures of a smooth surface



## Gaussian curvature as local area distortion



area  $A$

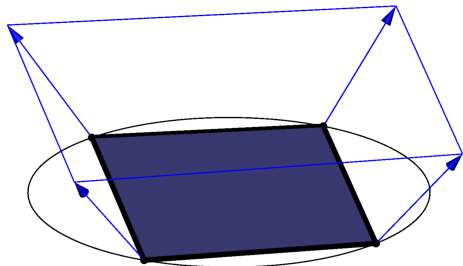


area  $A_0$

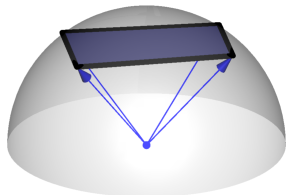
$$K \approx \frac{A_0}{A}$$



## Gaussian curvature as local area distortion



area  $A$



area  $A_0$

- ▶ principal contact element net  $(p, n)$
- ▶ Gauss image  $n$
- ▶ discrete Gauss curvature of a face:

$$K = \frac{A_0}{A}$$

## Local Steiner formula

Smooth surface  $f$ , offset surface  $f_t$  at distance  $t$ :

$$dA(f_t) = (1 - 2Ht + Kt^2) dA(f).$$

- ▶ ratio of area elements is a quadratic polynomial in the offset distance
- ▶ coefficients depend on Gaussian curvature  $K$  and mean curvature  $H$

### Discretization:

- ▶ compare face areas of offset nets
- ▶ use coefficients of (hopefully) quadratic polynomials

## Oriented and mixed area

- ▶  $n$ -gon  $\mathcal{P} = \langle p_0, \dots, p_{n-1} \rangle \subset \mathbb{R}^2$
- ▶ oriented area

$$\begin{aligned} A(\mathcal{P}) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \det(p_i, p_{i+1}) \quad (\text{indices modulo } n) \\ &= (p_0, \dots, p_{n-1}) \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot (p_0, \dots, p_{n-1})^T \quad (\text{quadratic form in } \mathbb{R}^{2n}) \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ associated symmetric bilinear form

▶ [mixed-area-form.mw](#)

$$A(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}) = (p_0, \dots, p_{n-1}) \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot (q_0, \dots, q_{n-1})^T$$

### Remark

If  $P$  and  $Q$  are parallel, positively oriented convex polygons then  $A(P, Q)$  equals the mixed area (known from convex geometry) of  $P$  and  $Q$ .

## Discrete Steiner formula

- ▶ principal contact element net  $(f, n)$
- ▶ offset net  $f_t = f + tn$
- ▶ corresponding faces  $F, F_t, N$

$$A(F_t) = A(F + tN) = \\ A(F) + 2tA(F, N) + t^2A(N) = (1 - 2tH + t^2K)A(F),$$

where

$$H = -\frac{A(F, S)}{A(F)}, \quad K = \frac{A(S)}{A(F)}$$

(discrete Gaussian and mean curvature associated to faces)

# Pseudospherical principal contact element nets

## Theorem

$(f_0, n_0)$ ,  $(f_1, n_1)$ ,  $(f_2, n_2)$  of an elementary quadrilateral in a principal contact element net, show that there exists precisely one vertex  $(f_3, n_3)$  such that the Gaussian curvature attains a given value  $K$ .

- ▶  $f_3$  is constrained to circle,  $n_3$  is found by reflection  $\rightsquigarrow$  quadratic parametrizations  $f_3(t)$  and  $n_3(t)$
- ▶ The condition  $K \cdot A(F) = A(S)$  is a quadratic polynomial  $Q(t)$ .
- ▶ One of the two zeros of  $Q$  is attained for  $f_3 = f_0$ ,  $n_3 = n_0$ , the other zero is the sought solution.

# Pseudospherical principal contact element nets

## Theorem

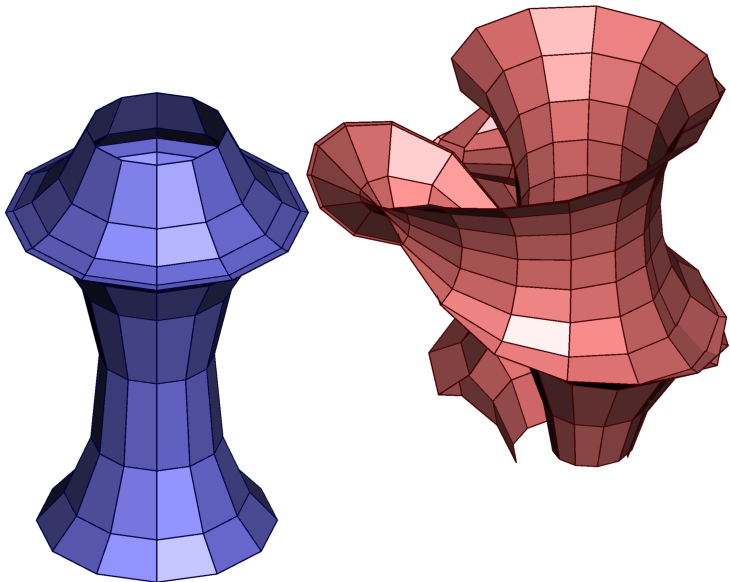
*$(f_0, n_0)$ ,  $(f_1, n_1)$ ,  $(f_2, n_2)$  of an elementary quadrilateral in a principal contact element net, show that there exists precisely one vertex  $(f_3, n_3)$  such that the Gaussian curvature attains a given value  $K$ .*

## Corollary

*A pseudospherical principal contact element net  $(f, n)$  is governed by a 2D system.*

- ▶ Kinematic approach,  $n$ D consistency etc.  
     $\rightsquigarrow$  ICGG 2010, CCGG 2010

## Pseudospherical principal contact element nets



# Literature



A. I. Bobenko, H. Pottmann, J. Wallner

A curvature theory for discrete surfaces based on mesh parallelity

Math. Ann., 348:1, 1–24 (2010).



J.-M. Morvan

Generalized Curvatures

Springer 2008



M. Desbrun, E. Grinspun, P. Schröder, M. Wardetzky

Discrete Differential Geometry: An Applied Introduction

SIGGRAPH Asia 2008 Course Notes



Lecture 6:  
**Cyclidic Net Parametrization**

# Net parametrization

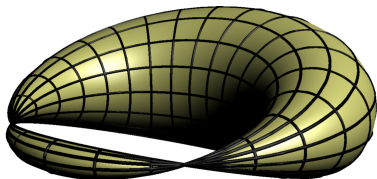
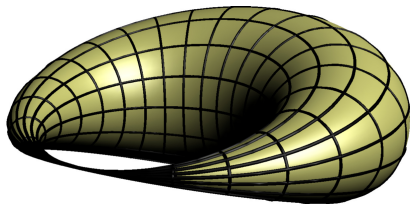
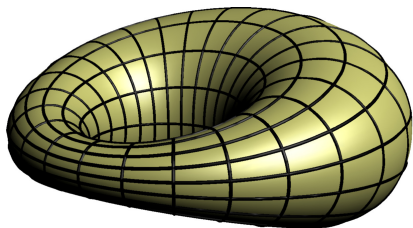
## Problem:

Given a discrete structure, find a smooth parametrization that preserves essential properties.

## Examples:

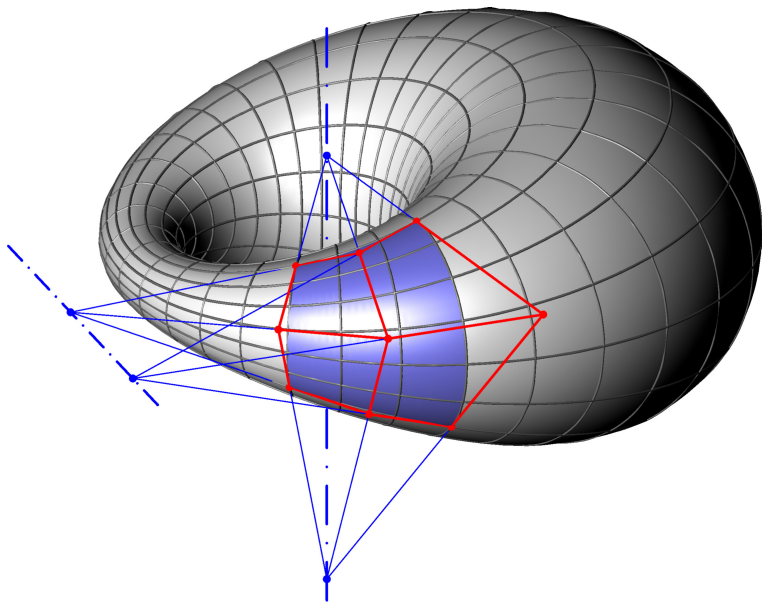
- ▶ conjugate parametrization of conjugate nets
- ▶ principal parametrization of circular nets
- ▶ principal parametrization of planes of conical nets
- ▶ principal parametrization of lines of HR-congruence
- ▶ ...

## Dupin cyclides

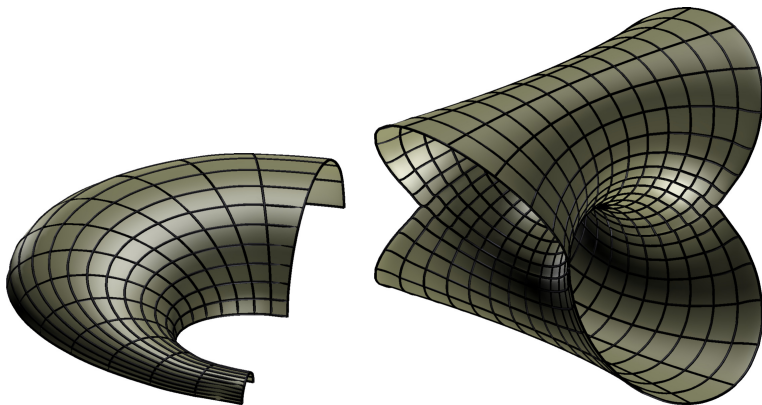


- ▶ inversion of torus, revolute cone or revolute cylinder
- ▶ curvature lines are circles in pencils of planes
- ▶ tangent sphere and tangent cone along curvature lines
- ▶ algebraic of degree four, rational of bi-degree  $(2,2)$

## Dupin cyclide patches as rational Bézier surfaces



## Supercyclides (E. Blutel, W. Degen)



- ▶ projective transforms of Dupin cyclides (essentially)
- ▶ conjugate net of conics.
- ▶ tangent cones

# Cyclides in CAGD

- ▶ surface approximation (Martin, de Pont, Sharrock 1986)
- ▶ blending surfaces (Böhm, Degen, Dutta, Pratt, ...; 1990er)

## Advantages:

- ▶ rich geometric structure
- ▶ low algebraic degree
- ▶ rational parametrization of bi-degree  $(2, 2)$ :
  - ▶ curvature line (or conjugate lines)
  - ▶ circles (or conics)

## Dupin cyclides:

- ▶ offset surfaces are again Dupin cyclides
- ▶ square root parametrization of bisector surface

# Rational parametrization (Dupin cyclides)

## Trigonometric parametrization (Forsyth; 1912)

$$\Phi: f(\theta, \psi) = \frac{1}{a - c \cos \theta \cos \psi} \begin{pmatrix} \mu(c - a \cos \theta \cos \psi) + b^2 \cos \theta \\ b \sin \theta (a - \mu \cos \psi) \\ b \sin \psi (c \cos \theta - \mu) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$a, c, \mu \in \mathbb{R}; b = \sqrt{a^2 - c^2}$$

## Representation as Bézier surface

1.  $\theta = 2 \arctan u, \psi = 2 \arctan v$
2.  $u \rightsquigarrow \frac{\alpha' u + \beta'}{\gamma' u + \delta'}, v \rightsquigarrow \frac{\alpha'' v + \beta''}{\gamma'' v + \delta''}$
3. Conversion to Bernstein basis

### Problem:

A priori knowledge about surface position is necessary (also with other approaches).

# Cyclides as tensor-product Bézier surfaces

Every cyclide patch has a representation as tensor-product Bézier patch of bi-degree (2, 2):

$$\mathbf{F}(u, v) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^2 B_i^2(u) B_j^2(v) w_{ij} p_{ij}}{\sum_{i=0}^2 \sum_{j=0}^2 B_i^2(u) B_j^2(v) w_{ij}}, \quad B_k^n(t) = \binom{n}{k} (1-t)^{n-k} t^k$$

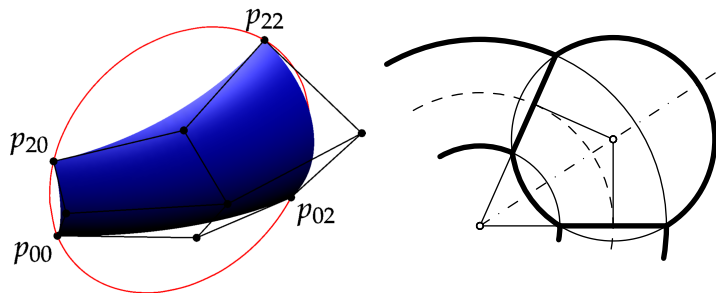
## Aims:

- ▶ elementary construction of control points  $p_{ij}$
- ▶ geometric properties of control net
- ▶ elementary construction of weights  $w_{ij}$
- ▶ applications to CAGD and discrete differential geometry



# The corner points

1. The four corner points  $p_{00}$ ,  $p_{02}$ ,  $p_{20}$ , and  $p_{22}$  lie on a circle.



## Reason:

This is true for the prototype parametrizations (torus, circular cone, circular cylinder) and preserved under inversion.

## The missing edge points

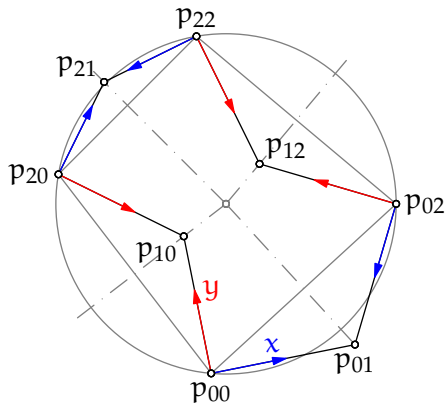
- 2.a** The missing edge-points  $p_{01}, p_{10}, p_{12}, p_{21}$  lie in the bisector planes of their corner points.
- 2.b** One pair of orthogonal edge tangents can be chosen arbitrarily.

### Reason:

- ▶ The edge curves are circles.
- ▶ No contradiction because of circularity of edge vertices.

### Conclusion

The corner tangent planes envelope a cone of revolution.



# The central control point

3. The central control point  $p_{11}$  lies in all four corner tangent planes.

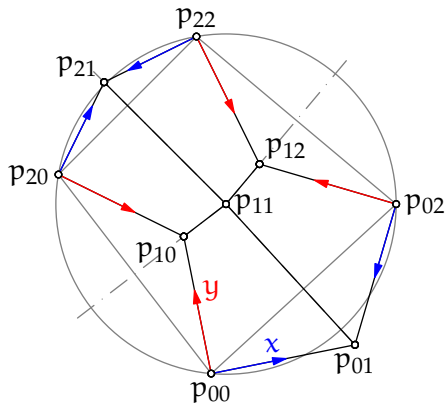
## Reason:

$f(u, v)$  is conjugate parametrization  $\iff$   
 $f_u, f_v$  und  $f_{uv}$  linear dependent

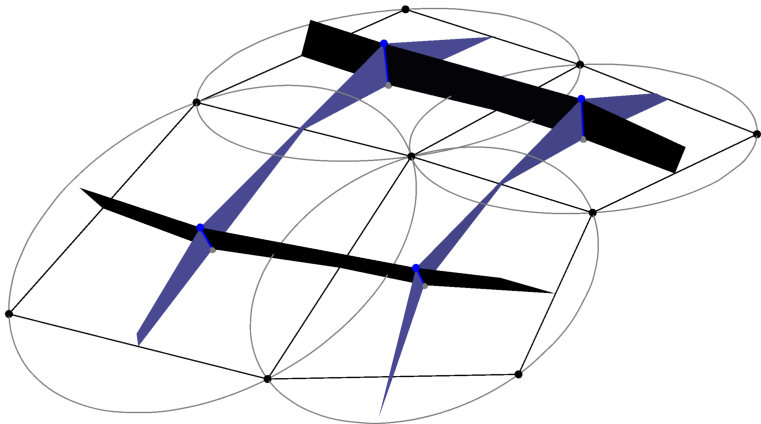
## The quadrilaterals

- ▶  $p_{00} p_{01} p_{10} p_{11}$ ,
- ▶  $p_{01} p_{02} p_{12} p_{11}$ ,
- ▶  $p_{10} p_{20} p_{21} p_{10}$ ,
- ▶  $p_{12} p_{21} p_{22} p_{11}$

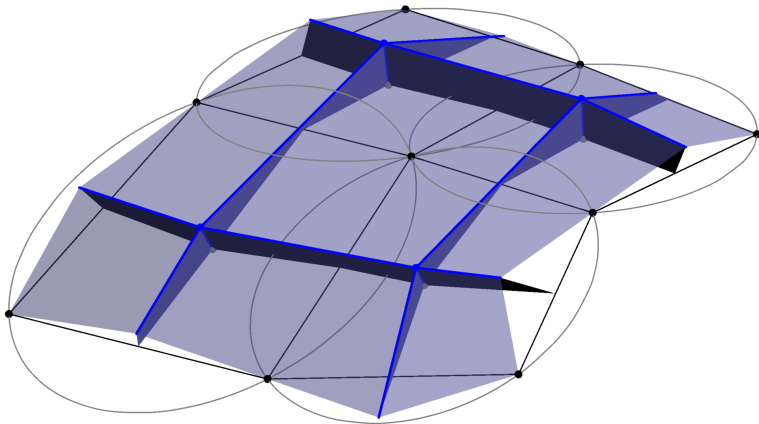
are planar (conjugate net).



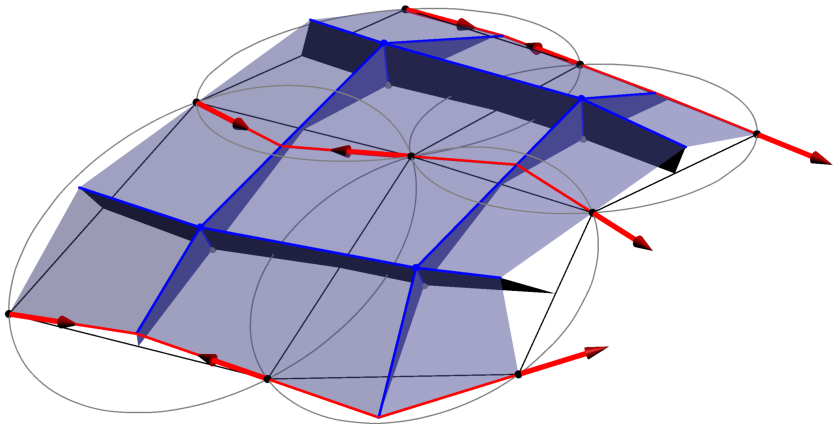
## Parametrization of a circular/conical nets



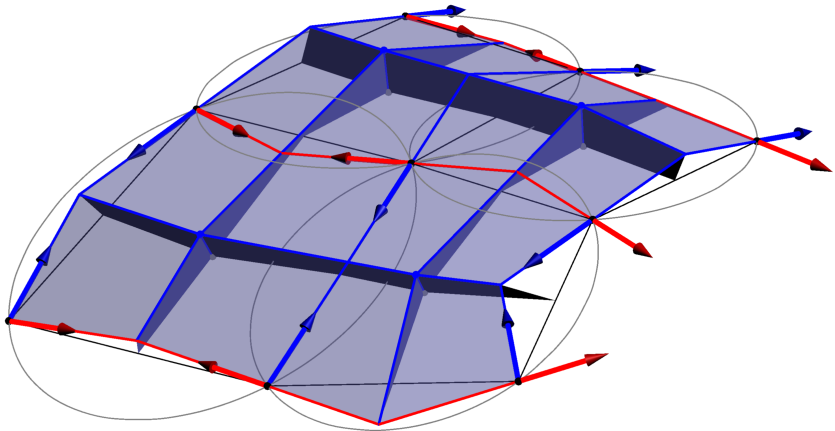
## Parametrization of a circular/conical nets



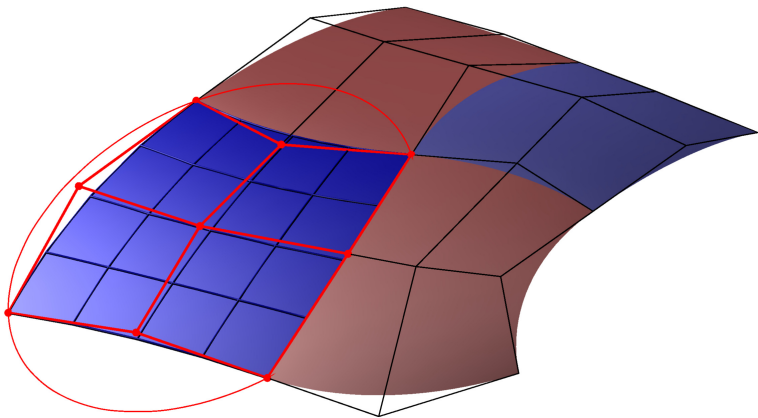
## Parametrization of a circular/conical nets



## Parametrization of a circular/conical nets



## Parametrization of a circular/conical nets





# Obvious properties of the control net

Concurrent lines:

▶  $p_{00} \vee p_{10},$

▶  $p_{01} \vee p_{11},$

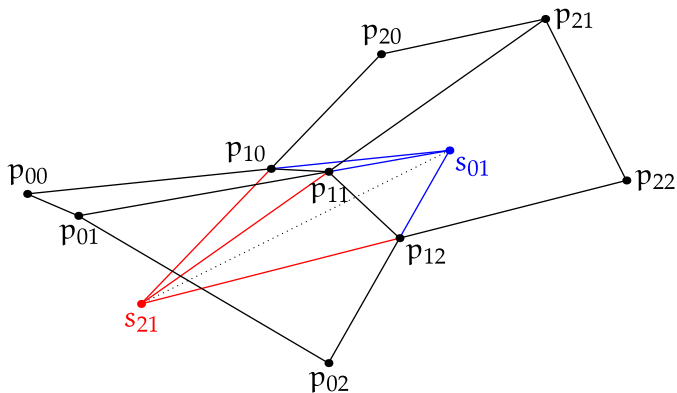
▶  $p_{02} \vee p_{12}.$

Co-axial planes:

▶  $p_{00} \vee p_{10} \vee p_{20},$

▶  $p_{01} \vee p_{11} \vee p_{21},$

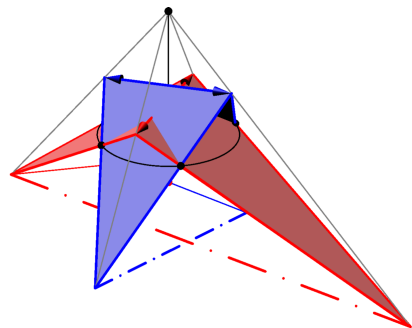
▶  $p_{02} \vee p_{12} \vee p_{22}.$



# Orthologic tetrahedra

- ▶ Non-corresponding sides of the “ $x$ -axis tetrahedron” and the “ $y$ -axis tetrahedron” are orthogonal (**orthologic tetrahedra**).

▶ perspective-orthologic.3dm



- ▶ The four perpendiculars from the vertices of one tetrahedron on the non-corresponding faces of the other are concurrent.
- ▶ Orthology centers are perspective centers for a third tetrahedron.

# The control net as discrete Koenigs-net

- ▶ co-planar diagonal points:

$$(p_{00} \vee p_{11}) \cap (p_{01} \vee p_{10}),$$

$$(p_{01} \vee p_{12}) \cap (p_{02} \vee p_{11}),$$

$$(p_{10} \vee p_{21}) \cap (p_{11} \vee p_{20}),$$

$$(p_{11} \vee p_{22}) \cap (p_{12} \vee p_{21}).$$

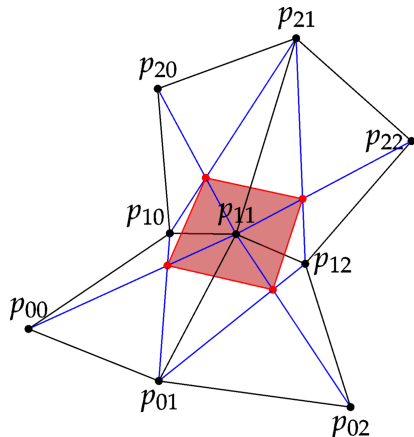
- ▶ co-axial planes:

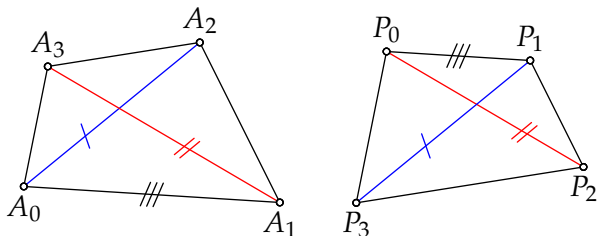
$$p_{00} \vee p_{11} \vee p_{02},$$

$$p_{10} \vee p_{11} \vee p_{12},$$

$$p_{20} \vee p_{11} \vee p_{22}.$$

- ▶ a net of dual quadrilaterals exists (corresponding edges and non-corresponding diagonals are parallel)

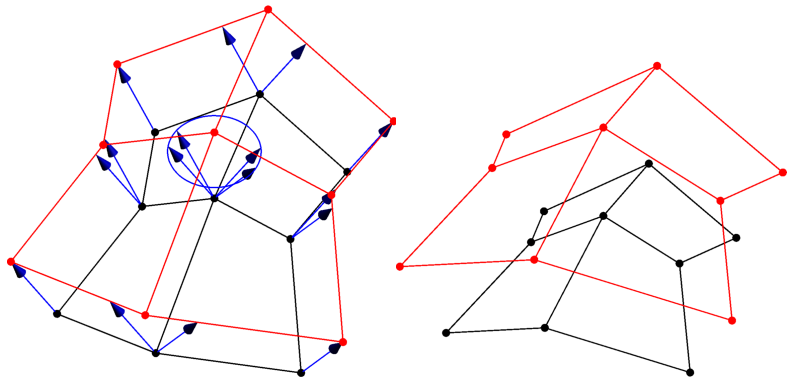




Quadrilaterals of vanishing mixed area  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  construction of discrete minimal surfaces.

$$H = -\frac{A(F, S)}{A(F)}$$

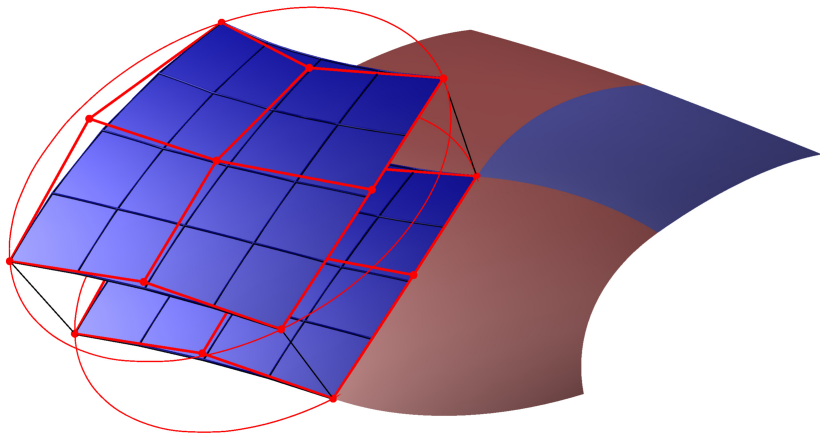
## The control net of the offset surface



Rich structure comprising circular net, conical net, and three HR congruences:

- ▶ existence of offset HR congruence
- ▶ existence of orthogonal HR congruence

# The control net of the offset surface



# Literature



Degen W.

Generalized cyclides for use in CAGD

In: Bowyer A.D. (editor). The Mathematics of Surfaces IV,  
Oxford University Press (1994).



Huhnen-Venedey E.

Curvature line parametrized surfaces and orthogonal  
coordinate systems. Discretization with Dupin cyclides  
Master Thesis, Technische Universität Berlin, 2007.



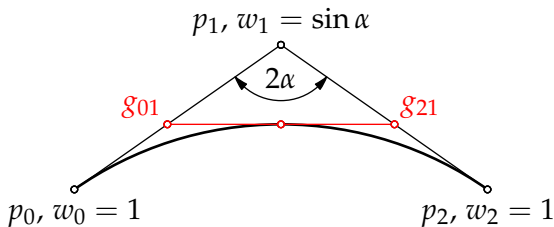
Kaps M.

Teilflächen einer Dupinschen Zyklide in Bézierdarstellung  
PhD Thesis, Technische Universität Braunschweig, 1990.

# The weight points

- ▶ neighboring control points  $p_i, p_j$
- ▶ weights  $w_i, w_j$
- ▶ weight point (Farin point)

$$g_{ij} = \frac{w_i p_i + w_j p_j}{w_i + w_j}$$

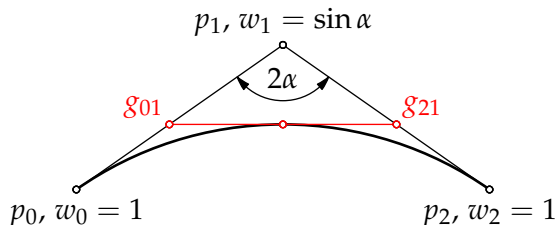




# The weight points

## Properties of weight points

- ▶ reconstruction of ratio of weights from weight points is possible
- ▶ points in first iteration of rational de Casteljau's algorithm
- ▶ weight points of an elementary quadrilateral are necessarily co-planar



# Literature

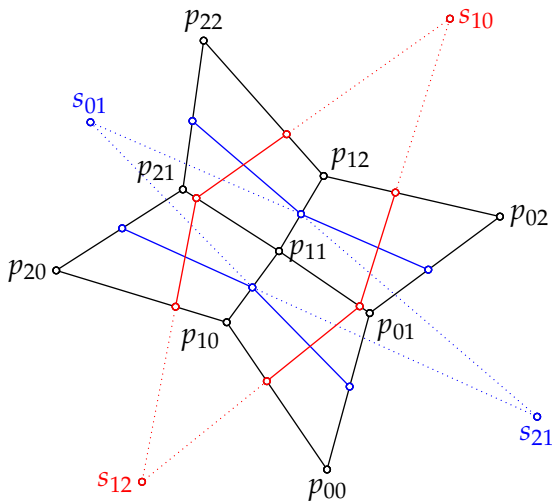


Farin, G.

NURBS for Curve and Surface Design – from Projective  
Geometry to Practical Use

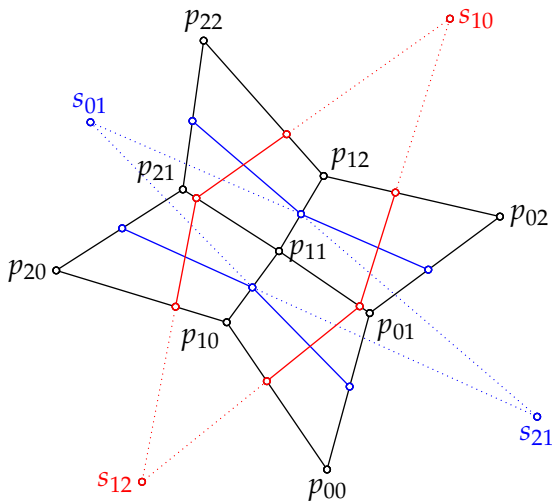
2nd edition, AK Peters, Ltd. (1999)

## Weight points on cyclidic patches



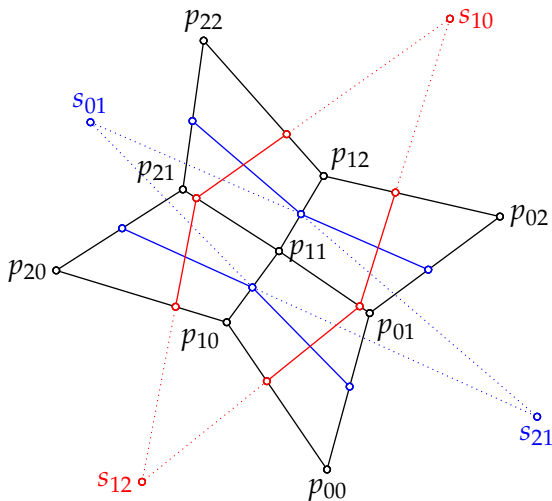
Algorithm of de Casteljau  $\implies$   
weight points of neighboring threads are perspective.

## Weight points on cyclidic patches



**Dupin cyclides:** One blue and one red weight point can be chosen arbitrarily.

## Weight points on cyclidic patches



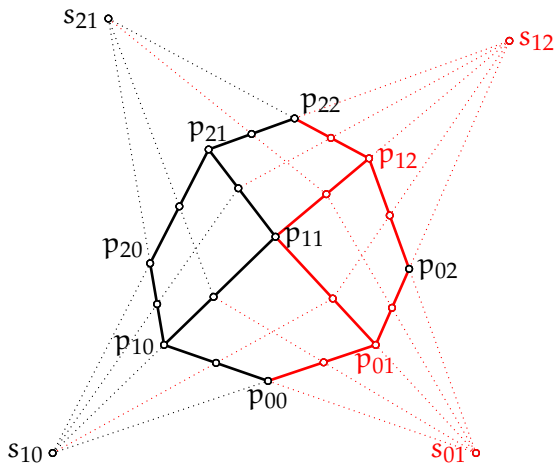
**Supercyclides:** Two blue and two red weight points on neighboring edges can be chosen arbitrarily.

# Determination by edge threads

## Given:

- ▶ two edge strips  
(control points, weights, apex of tangent cone)
- ▶ missing corner point

▶ dc-construction.cg3



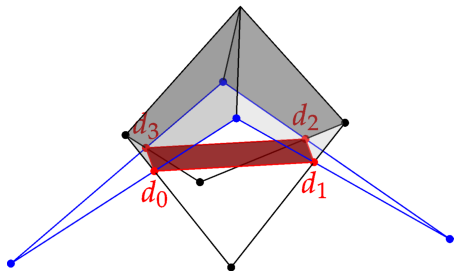
## An auxiliary result

Given are two spatial quadrilaterals with intersecting corresponding edges:

The intersection points  $d_0, d_1, d_2$  und  $d_3$  are coplanar.



The planes spanned by corresponding lines intersect in a point.



- ▶ The Theorem is self-dual (only one implication needs to be shown).
- ▶ If all planes intersect in a point  $s$ , the two quadrilaterals are perspective with center  $s$ .

# Dupin cyclide patches

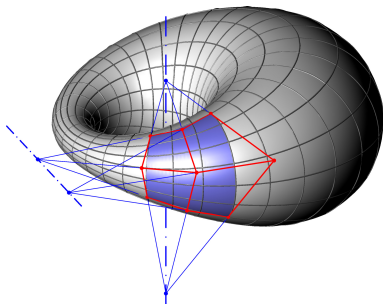
Patch of a Dupin cyclide, bounded by four circular arcs

## Construction of control points

- ▶ Choose four points  $p_{00}, p_{02}, p_{22}, p_{20}$  on a circle
- ▶ border points  $p_{01}, p_{10}, p_{12}, p_{21}$  lie in bisector planes of vertex points
- ▶ choose one pair of edge tangents arbitrarily
- ▶ find missing border points by reflections
- ▶ find central control point as intersection of edge tangent planes



# Open research questions



- ▶ (parametrization of asymptotic nets with quadric patches)
- ▶  $C^k$  conjugate parametrization of conjugate nets
- ▶  $C^k$  principal parametrization of circular/conical nets and HR-congruences
- ▶ parametrization preserving key features of the underlying net