



Aalto University
School of Engineering

Ship Hulls – Modeling the perfect geometry

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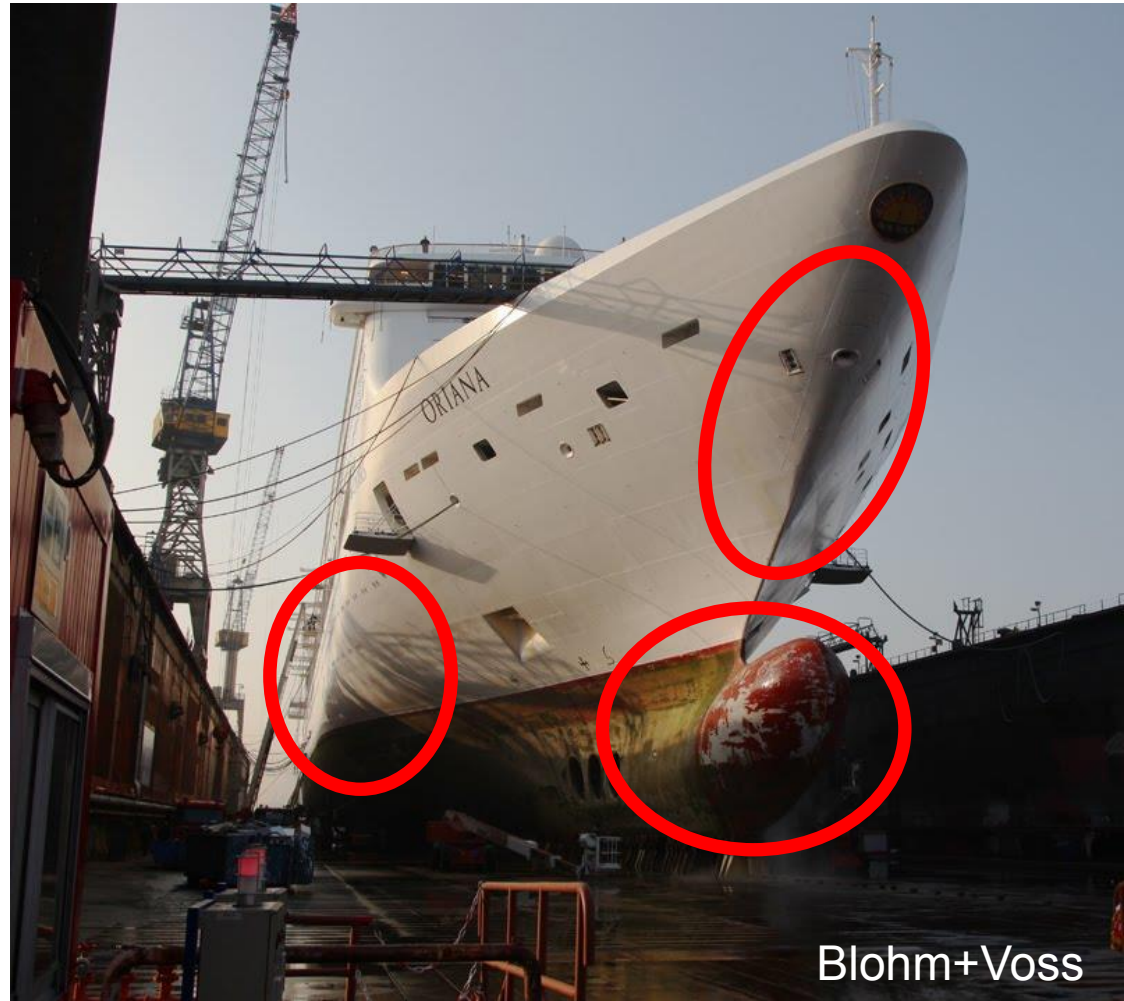
Content

1. Ships as complex geometrical bodies
2. How does the geometry affect the economic success of a design?
3. How to define geometry?
 1. Lines
 2. Surfaces
 3. Fairing
4. Simulation based design / optimization
5. Conclusion



Significance of geometry

- Ships have a complicated geometry
- Accurate representation of the geometry is important for:
 - Design evaluation
 - Performance
 - Manufacturing



Why is the geometry and its representation so important?

- Ships are investments and built to create revenue
- The geometry plays a big role:
 - It defines the space for cargo
 - The performance at sea
 - The resistance



Impact of ship geometry



Transport efficiency



- Ship Merit Factor

$$SMF = \frac{k \cdot W_{PL} \cdot v_s}{AAC}$$

← cargo

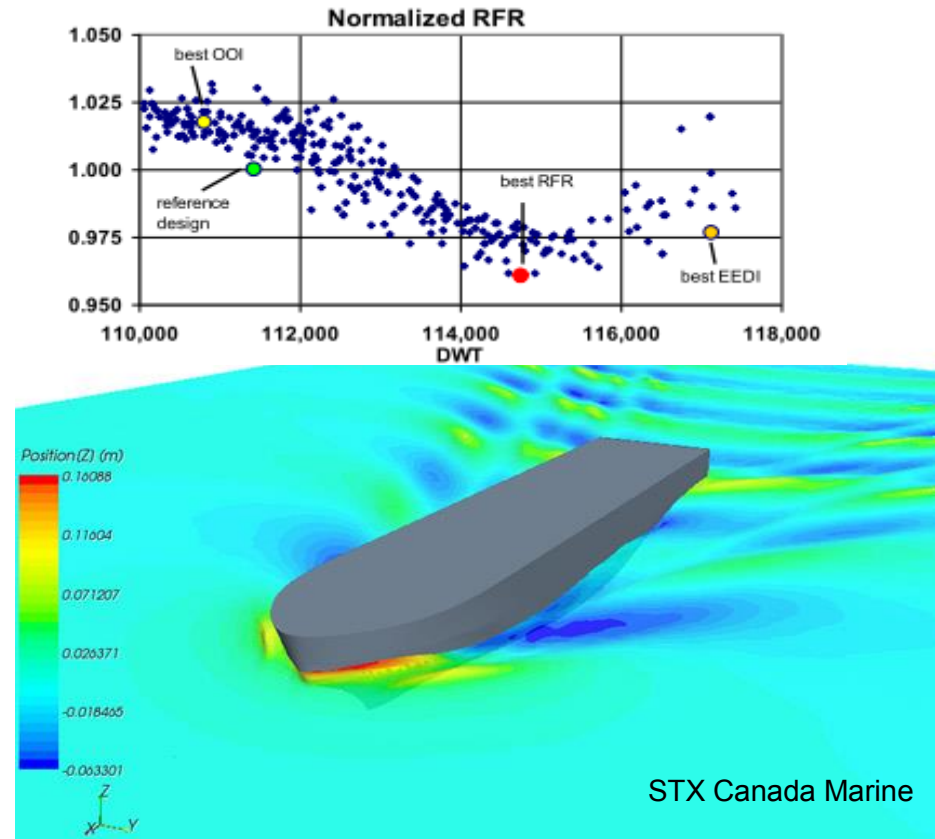
← costs

← speed

**Daily fuel costs:
15t\$ - 30t\$**

How is the best suitable geomerty in the pre-design phase determined?

- Geometry generation and parametric variation of e.g. length, width, bow section...
- Geometry analysis with:
 - CFD for open water
 - FEM for ice
 - Physical model tests



Physical model tests

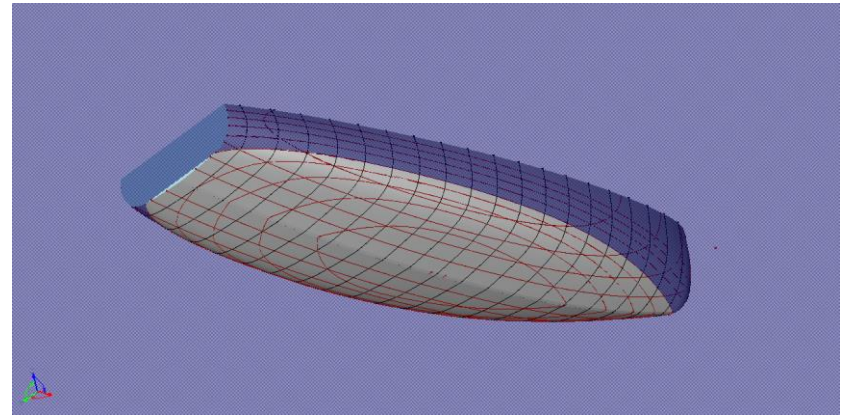
The final evaluation of design

- Despite very advance numerical methods, physical testing is still performed at the end



Requirements and characteristics of ship hull

- Fair lines, fair surfaces
- Parametric description, since the hull shape model is to be used for:
 - Hydrostatic calculation (Volume, COG, etc...)
 - CFD analysis
 - Structural analysis
- Local changes should stay as local as possible



Generation of ship hulls

1. Set of points and basic lines
 2. Definition of design sections
 3. Generation of surfaces while
- Close related to the traditional process in ship building
 - Definition of a few main characteristics (e.g. length, max width, draft...)
 - Defined points (ducks), which are connected by lines (splines)



Hull shape development process

- Initially a set of piecewise continuous characteristic curves is generated from offset data and end constraints.
- This delivers a regular or irregular mesh, (not a lines plan)
- Lines are connected at the mesh knots.

B-splines -> B-spline surfaces
Non-uniform rational B-Splines -> NURBS surfaces

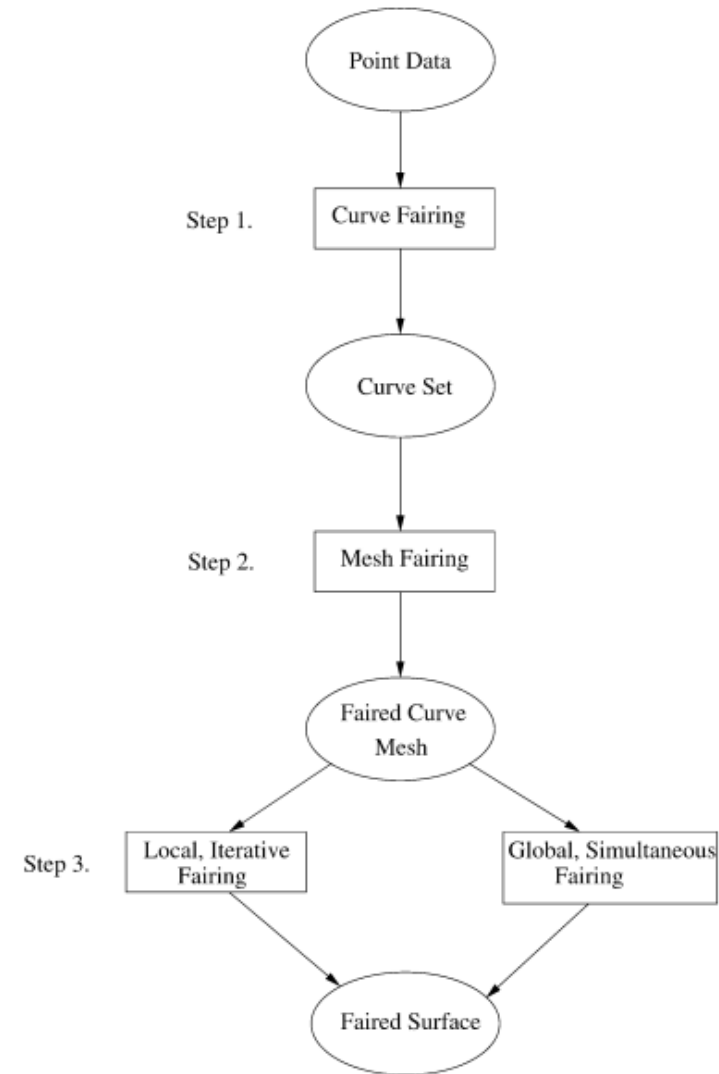
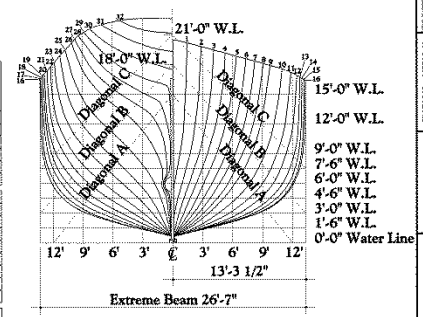
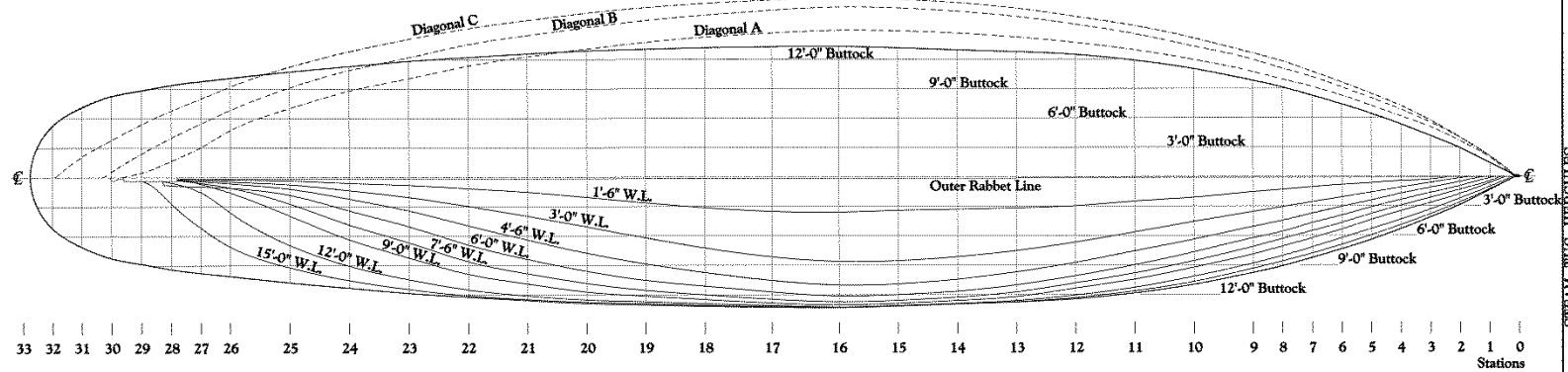


TABLE of HULL MEASUREMENTS

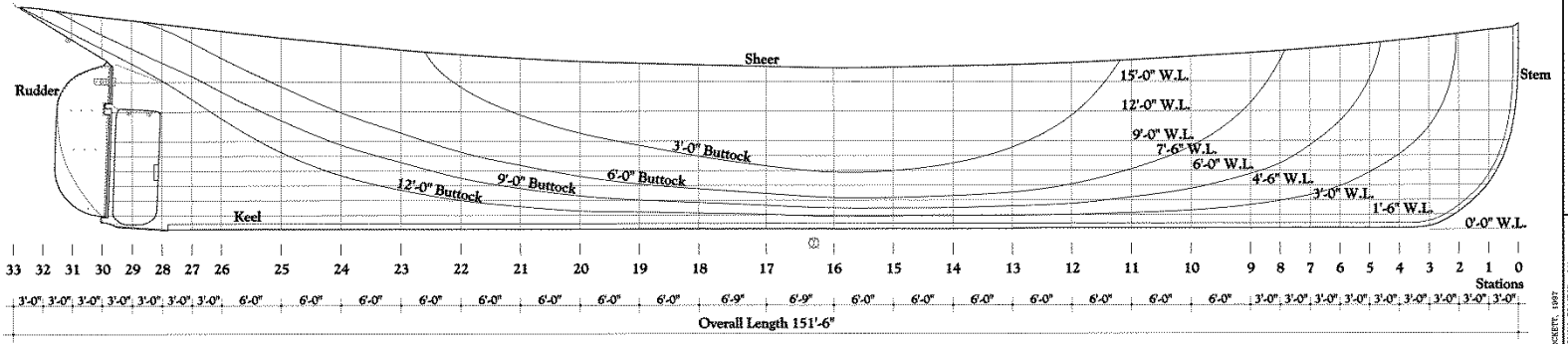
		STATIONS																																			
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32			
HEIGHTS	SKIN	20.1	19.5	18.4	16.4	14.7	13.7	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.2		
	12 BUTTOCK																																				
	9 BUTTOCK																																				
	6 BUTTOCK																																				
HALF-BREADTHS	SKIN	1.52	2.04	4.17	5.17	6.50	7.45	8.32	8.13	8.83	10.12	11.03	12.54	15.81	18.14	19.17	19.84	19.52	18.23	15.82	12.84	9.57	6.27	3.54	1.84	1.04	0.64	0.44	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	
	12 W.L.	1.54	2.74	3.86	4.10	5.13	6.10	7.96	8.33	9.43	10.83	11.76	13.41	16.85	19.12	19.57	19.34	17.53	15.11	12.07	8.90	5.95	3.50	2.00	1.24	0.74	0.44	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34		
	9 W.L.	1.64	3.26	3.40	4.41	5.36	6.30	7.33	8.06	8.04	8.50	9.53	10.67	12.32	13.30	13.51	13.16	11.84	10.61	9.11	7.55	6.00	4.50	3.24	2.24	1.54	1.04	0.64	0.44	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	
	6 W.L.	0.82	1.82	1.37	1.56	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44



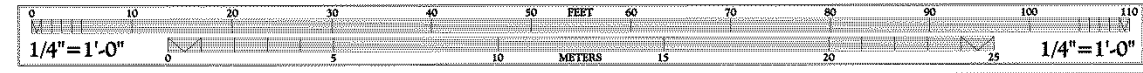
BODY PLAN



HALF-BREADTH PLAN



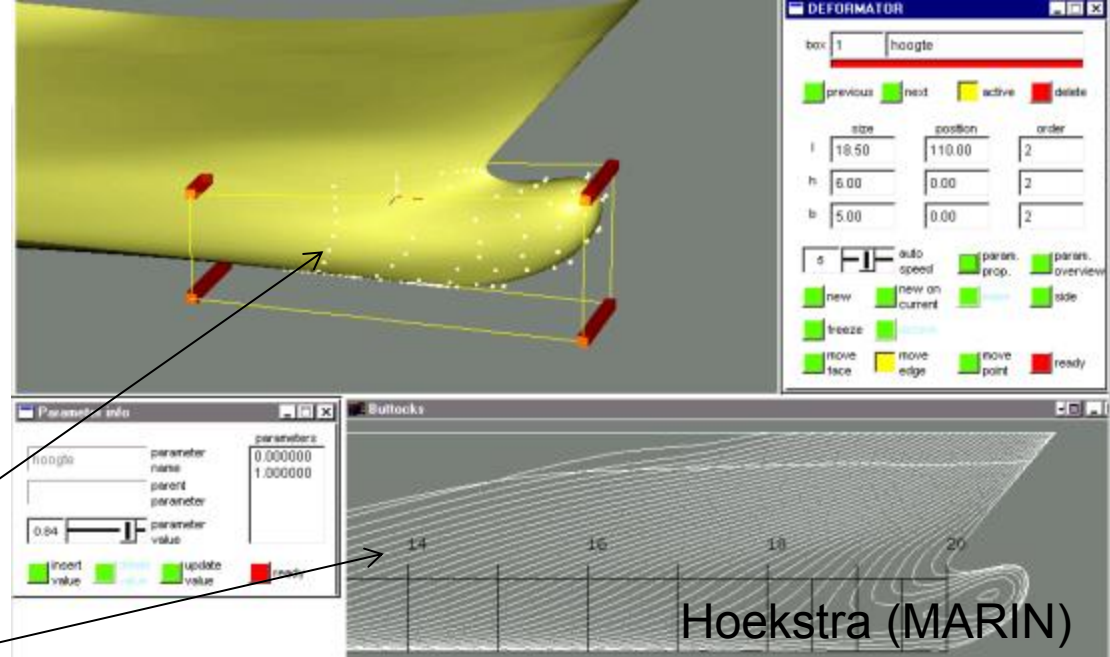
SHEER PLAN



DRAWN BY: DANA LOCKETT, 1987
 HENRIUS DESIGNERS FRENDS, 1987
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 STEAM TUG HERCULES
 SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME MUSEUM
 SHEET 5 OF 7 SHEETS
 CALIFORNIA
 1/4" = 1'-0"

B-Splines

Basic definition



$$s(u) = \sum_{i=0}^n d_i N_i^k(u) \quad n \geq k-1 \quad (4)$$

$s(u)$ = Points along the curve as a function of parameter u

d_i = control points also known as the weight or the point coefficients.

N_i^k = i th B-spline basis function of order k .

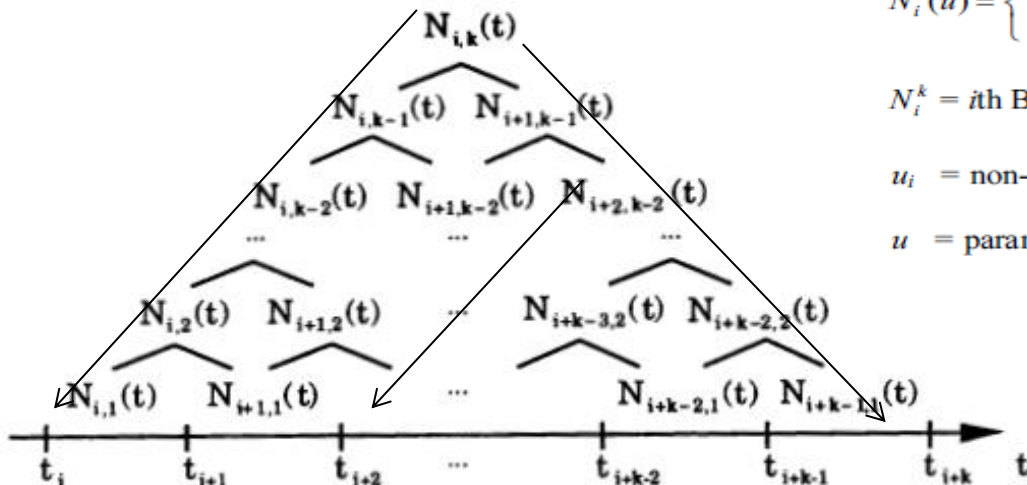
B-Splines

B(asis)-splines

Basis functions (not directly visible, but very important)

$$\sum_{i=0}^k N_{i,k}(t) = 1.$$

(here: $t = u$)



$$N_i^k(u) = \frac{u - u_i}{u_{i+k-1} - u_i} N_i^{k-1}(u) + \frac{u_{i+k} - u}{u_{i+k} - u_{i+1}} N_{i+1}^{k-1}(u)$$

$$N_i^1(u) = \begin{cases} 1, & u_i \leq u < u_{i+1} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

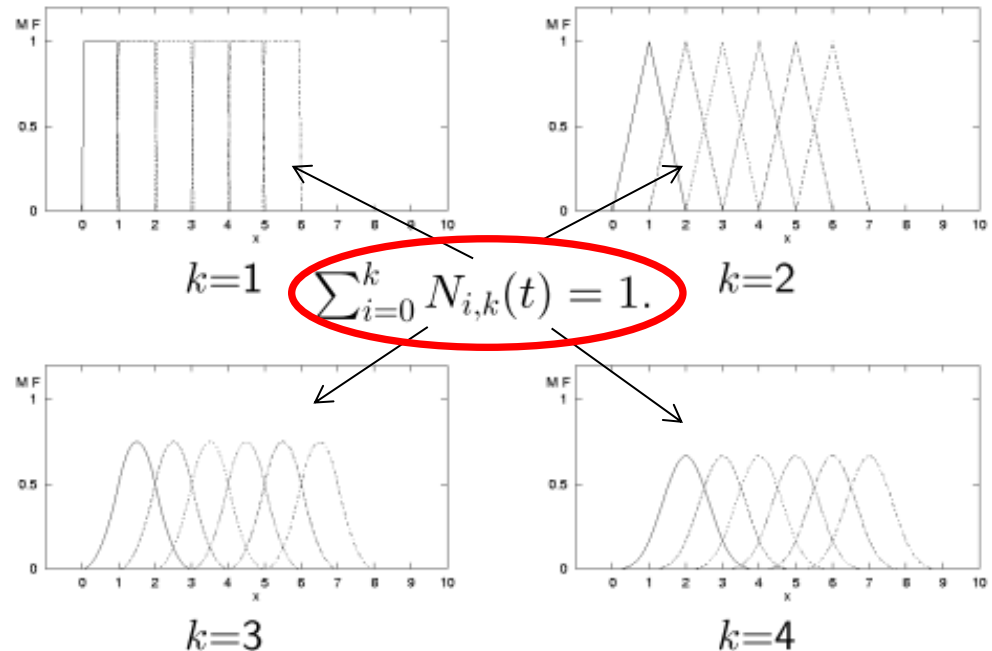
N_i^k = i th B-spline basis function of order k .

u_i = non-decreasing set of real numbers also called as the knot sequence.

u = parameter variable.

B-Spline Basis functions N

- Examples of Basis functions of different order k
- $N(i,k)$ is $k-2$ times continuously differentiable



B-splines

The interval points t

- Uniformly spaced
- Chord length method

$$t_0 = 0$$

$$t_k = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k |\mathbf{D}_i - \mathbf{D}_{i-1}|}{L} \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, n-1$$

$$t_n = 1$$

- Centripetal method

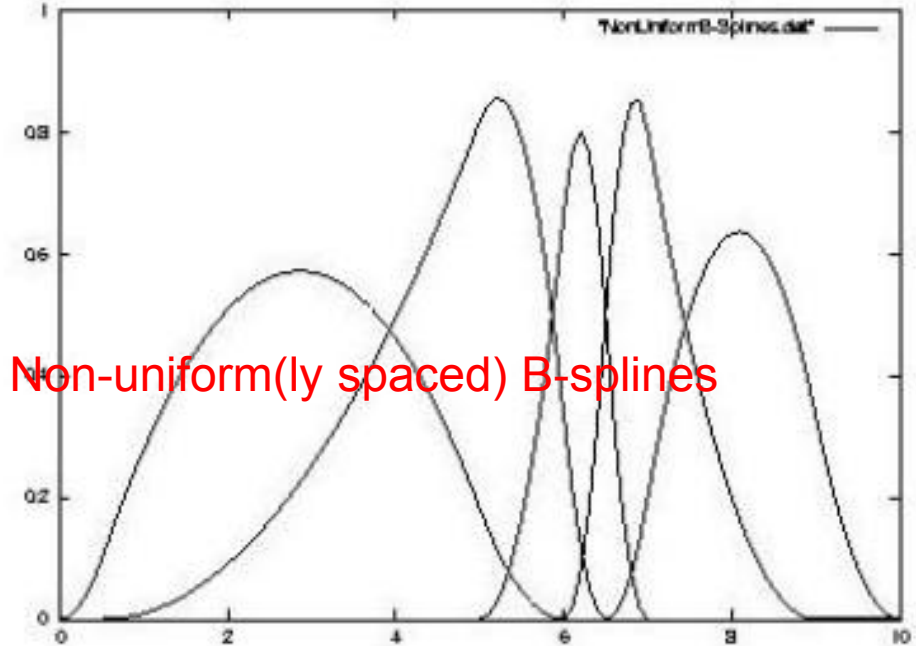
The parameters on $[0,1]$:

$$t_0 = 0$$

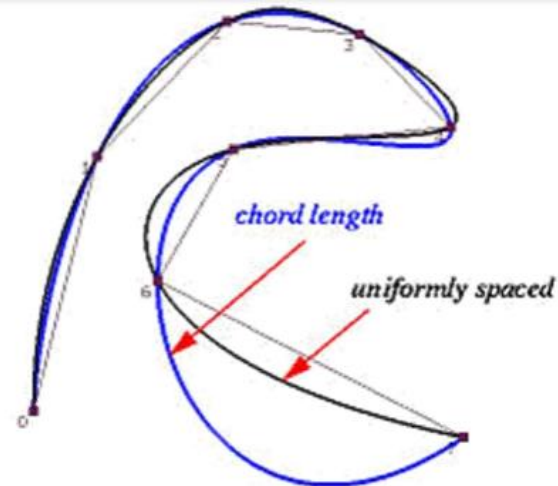
$$t_k = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k |\mathbf{D}_i - \mathbf{D}_{i-1}|^\alpha}{L} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$$

$$t_n = 1$$

- Gauss approximation
- Arc length method, etc...



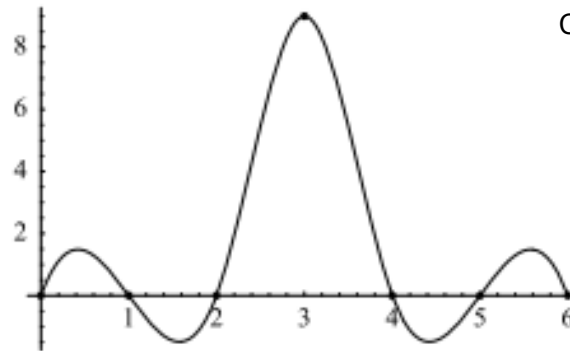
Non-uniform(ly spaced) B-splines



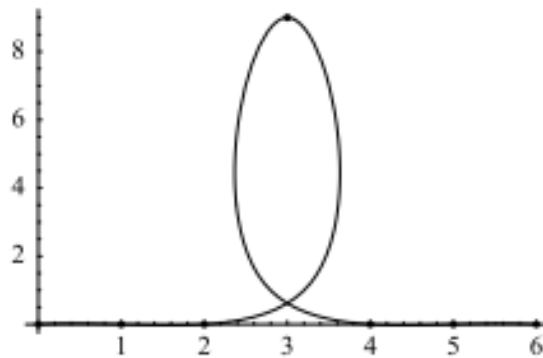
B-spline curves

The interval points t II

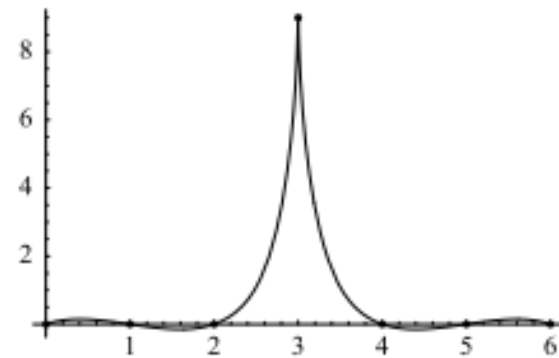
Copy from Parametric Spline Curves



(a)



(b)

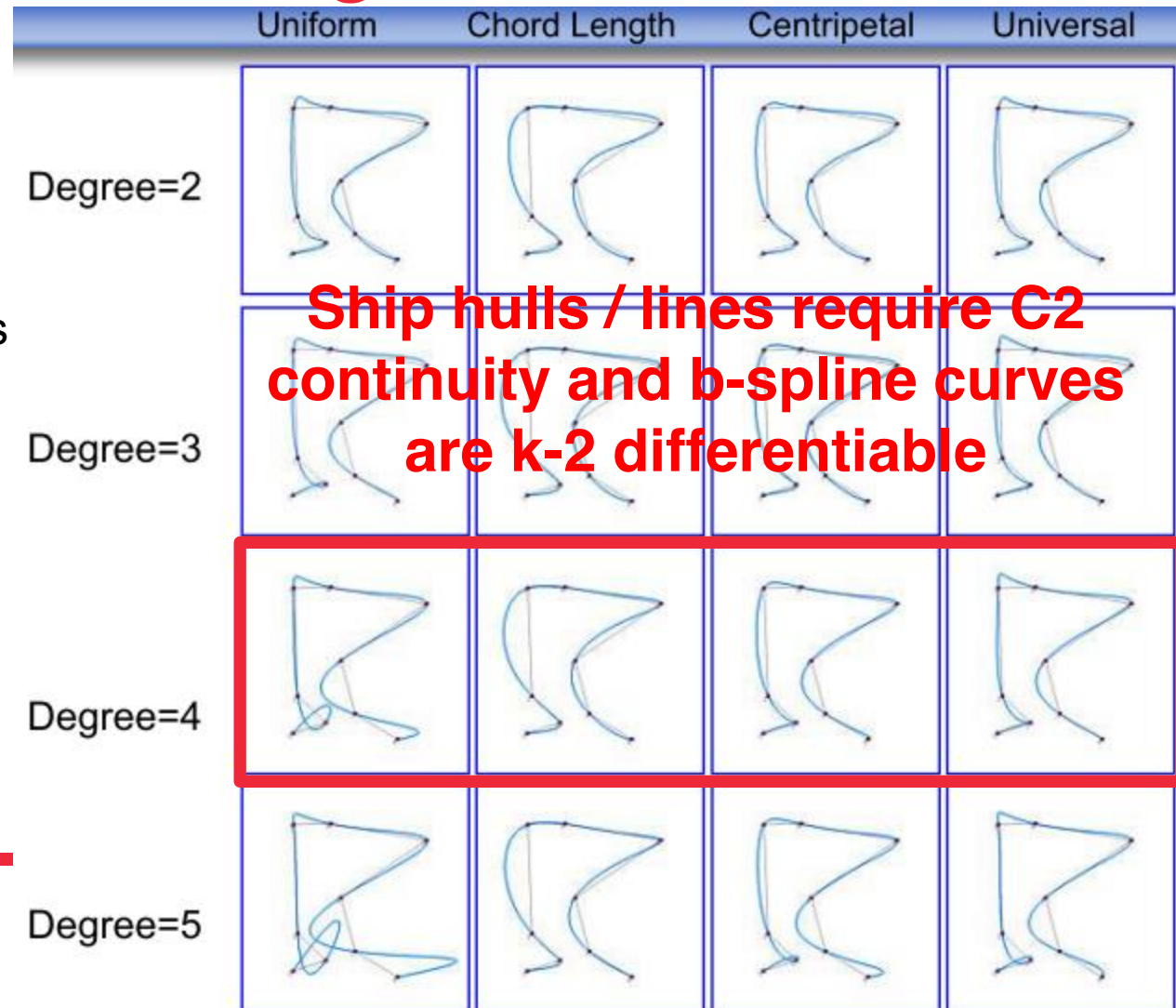


(c)

B-spline curves

The impact of the degree

- Degree and t-vector can hardly be treated separately
- Increasing degree leads to wiggling, loops and oscillations (as for other polynomials)
- Keeping the degree as low as possible
- What is the robustness of these methods?



Ship hulls / lines require C2 continuity and b-spline curves are k-2 differentiable

B-spline surfaces

- Definition analogous to B-splines curves

$$Q(u, w) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m B_{i,j} N_{i,k}(u) M_{j,t}(w)$$

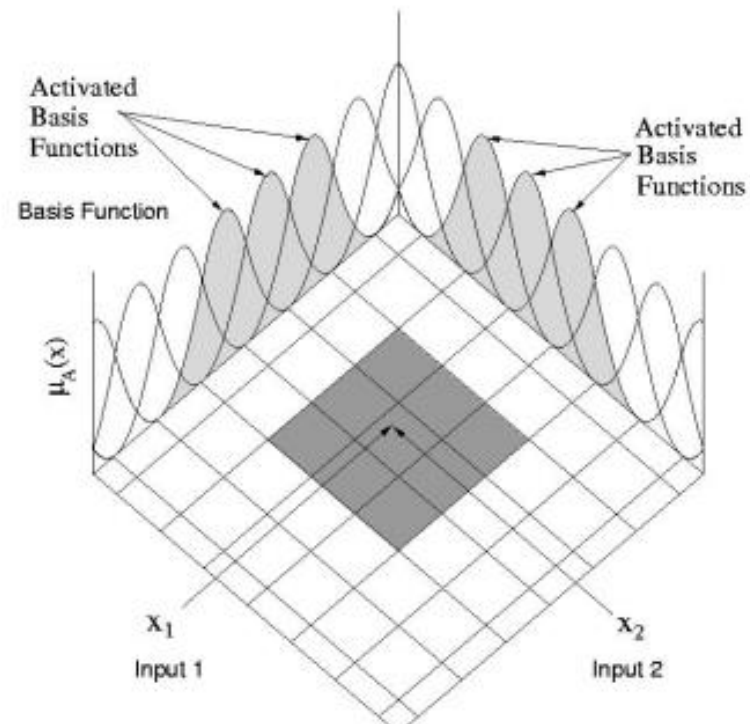
where

$$N_{i,1}(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_i \leq u < x_{i+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$N_{i,k}(u) = \frac{(u - x_i) N_{i,k-1}(u)}{x_{i+k-1} - x_i} + \frac{(x_{i+k} - u) N_{i+1,k-1}(u)}{x_{i+k} - x_{i+1}}$$

$$M_{j,1}(w) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y_j \leq w < y_{j+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

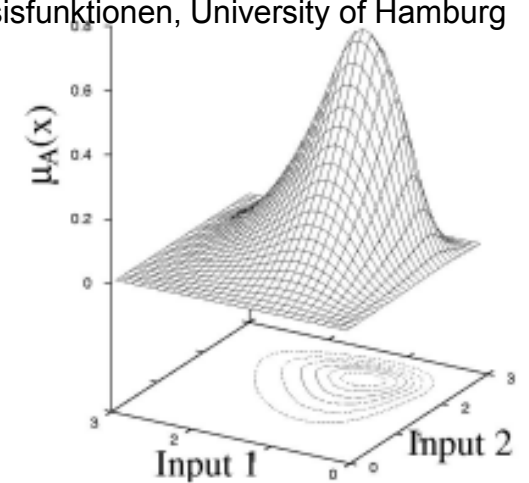
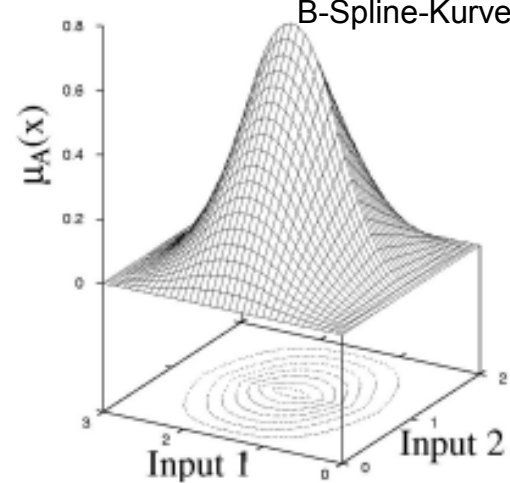
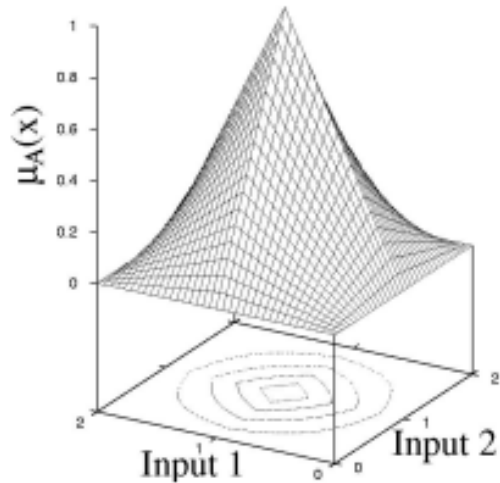
$$M_{j,t}(w) = \frac{(w - y_j) M_{j,t-1}(w)}{y_{j+t-1} - y_j} + \frac{(y_{j+t} - w) M_{j+1,t-1}(w)}{y_{j+t} - y_{j+1}}$$



B-Spline-Kurve und -Basisfunktionen, University of Hamburg

B-spline surfaces

B-Spline-Kurve und –Basisfunktionen, University of Hamburg



(a) Tensor product of two, order 2 univariate B-splines.

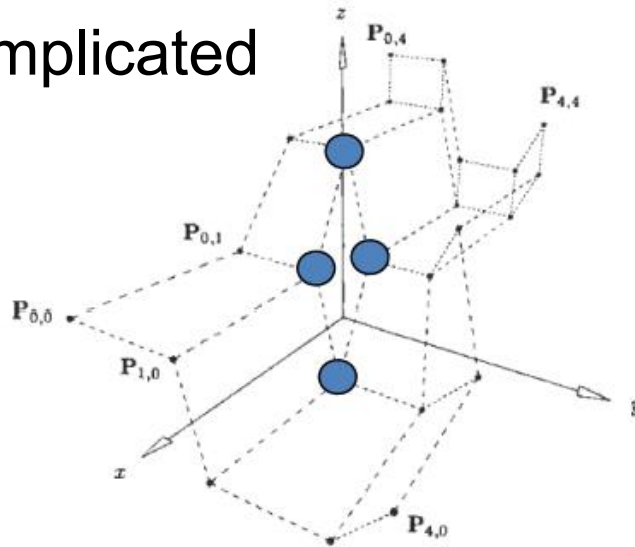
(b) Tensor product of one order 3 and one order 2 univariate B-splines.

(c) Tensor product of two univariate B-splines of order 3.

NURBS

- NURBS have additional weight functions for additional control
- Useful for complicated shapes

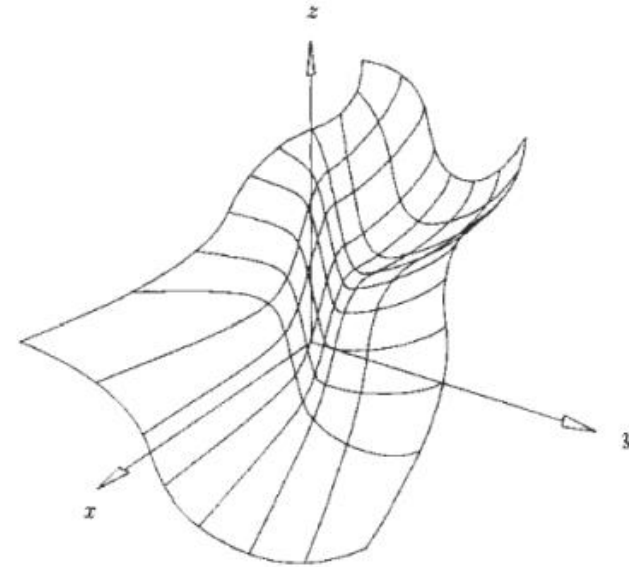
$$\sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m N_{i,p}(u) N_{j,q}(v) w_{ij} \mathbf{P}_{ij}$$



Control net

$$U = V = \{0, 0, 0, 1/3, 2/3, 1, 1, 1\}$$

$$w_{ij}(\text{blue circle}) = 10, w_{ij}(\text{black circle}) = 1$$

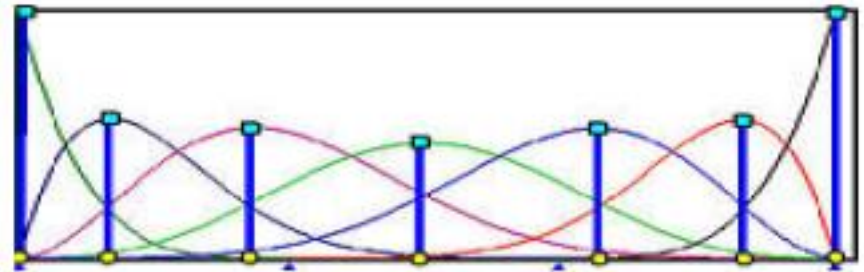


NURBS Surface

B-spline surfaces

- B-spline surface patch utilizes open knot vectors. The open knot vectors cause each surface edge to coincide with the B-spline curve defined by the edge control vertices
- The defined hull must be "water-tight" – all patches perfectly sealed / connected

Basis functions



$$\begin{bmatrix} B_0^p(t_0) & B_1^p(t_0) & \dots & B_N^p(t_0) \\ B_0^p(t_1) & B_1^p(t_1) & \dots & B_N^p(t_1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ B_0^p(t_{np}) & B_1^p(t_{np}) & \dots & B_N^p(t_{np}) \\ B_0^{p'}(t_0) & B_1^{p'}(t_0) & \dots & B_N^{p'}(t_0) \\ B_0^{p'}(t_{np}) & B_1^{p'}(t_{np}) & \dots & B_N^{p'}(t_{np}) \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} P_0 \\ P_1 \\ \vdots \\ P_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_0 \\ Q_1 \\ \vdots \\ Q_{np} \\ \text{tg}(\beta) \\ \text{tg}(\delta) \end{bmatrix}$$

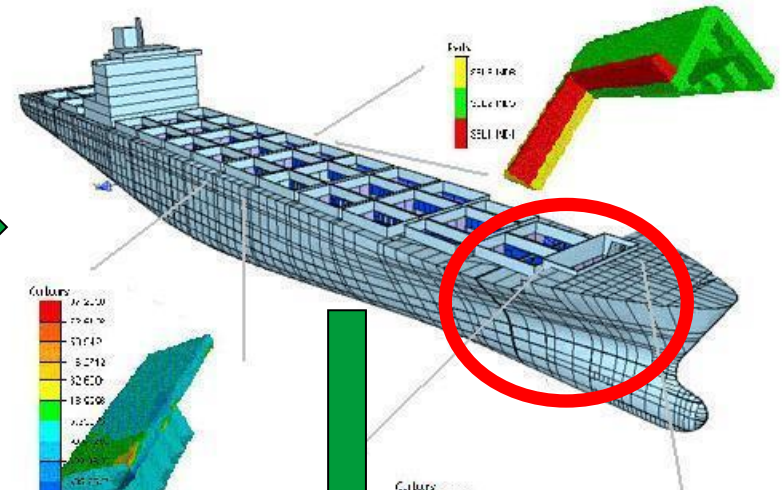
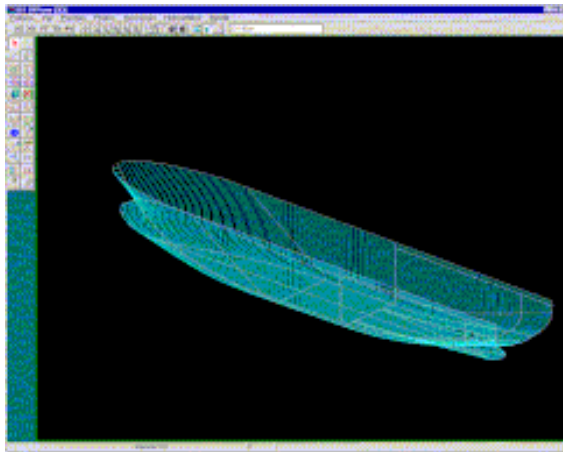
Data points

$$[M] \cdot [P] = [Q] \Rightarrow [M]^T \cdot [M] \cdot [P] = [M]^T \cdot [Q].$$

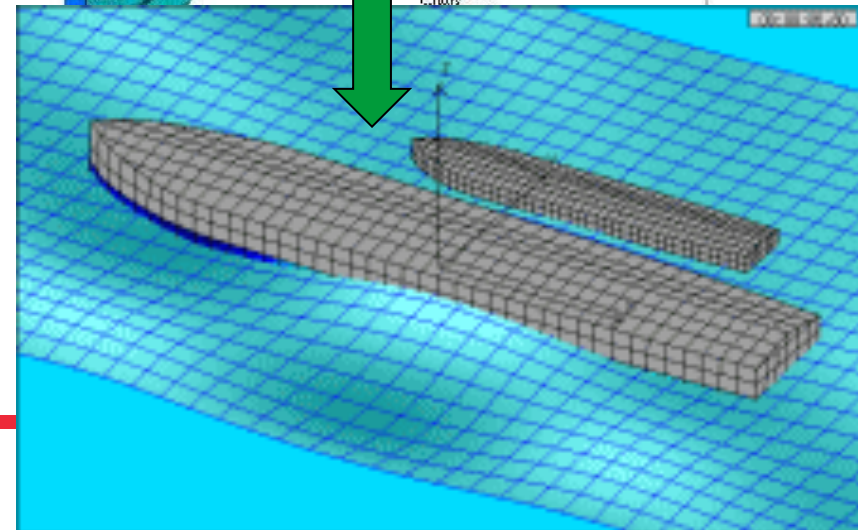
Control points

Excursion: practical problem: models not "water-tight" after transfer

- CAD – FEM – Panel solver

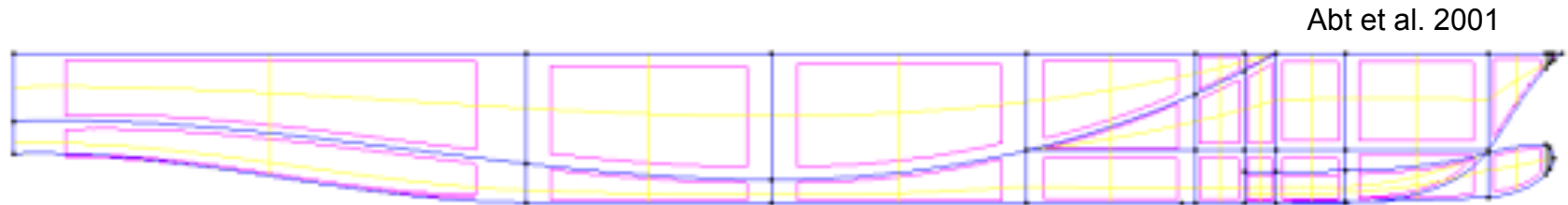


- Some FE tools with problems representing curved area



Fairing – minimization of curvature

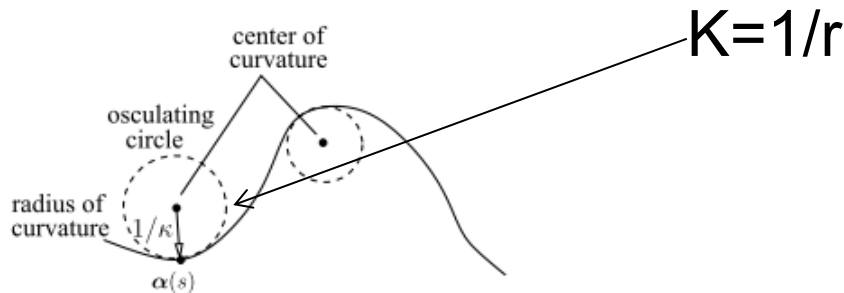
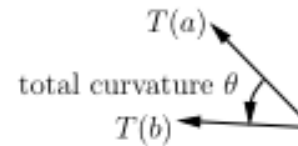
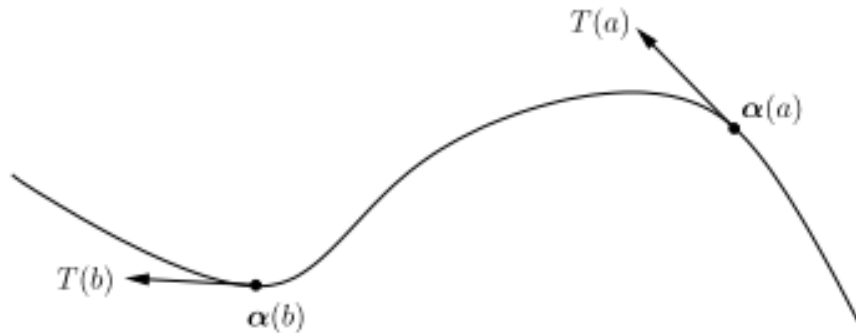
- In naval architecture a fair line has a different meaning as in mathematical context



- fairness is important (sometimes manual post-processing) -> surface must be re-faired
- fairness “optimization” is already used to compute the curves
- Minimization of spline-deformation energy, curvature...

Fairing of geometry

what is curvature?



the maximum and minimum values are the [principal curvatures](#), κ_1, κ_2 .

$k_1, k_2 =$ principal curvature
 $K = k_1 \cdot k_2$ Gaussian curvature
 $H = (k_1 + k_2)/2$ mean curvature
 $A = |k_1| + |k_2|$ absolute curvature.

The *total curvature* over a closed interval $[a, b]$ measures the rotation of the unit tangent $T(s)$ as s changes from a to b :

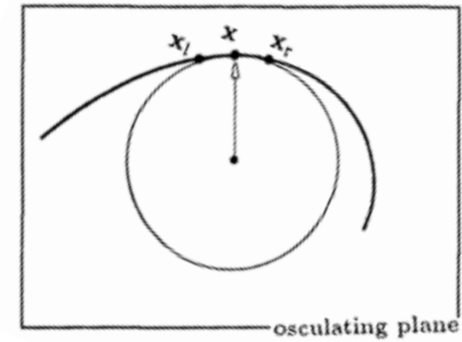
$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi(a, b) &= \int_a^b \kappa \, ds \\
 &= \int_a^b \frac{d\phi}{ds} \, ds && \longleftarrow \frac{dT}{ds} \cdot N \\
 &= \int_a^b d\phi \\
 &= \phi(b) - \phi(a).
 \end{aligned}$$



Fairing of surfaces

Gaussian curvature

- most points on most surfaces of different sections will have different curvatures;
- The Gaussian curvature is the product of the two principal curvatures $K = \kappa_1 \kappa_2$.



Farin and Sapidis 1989

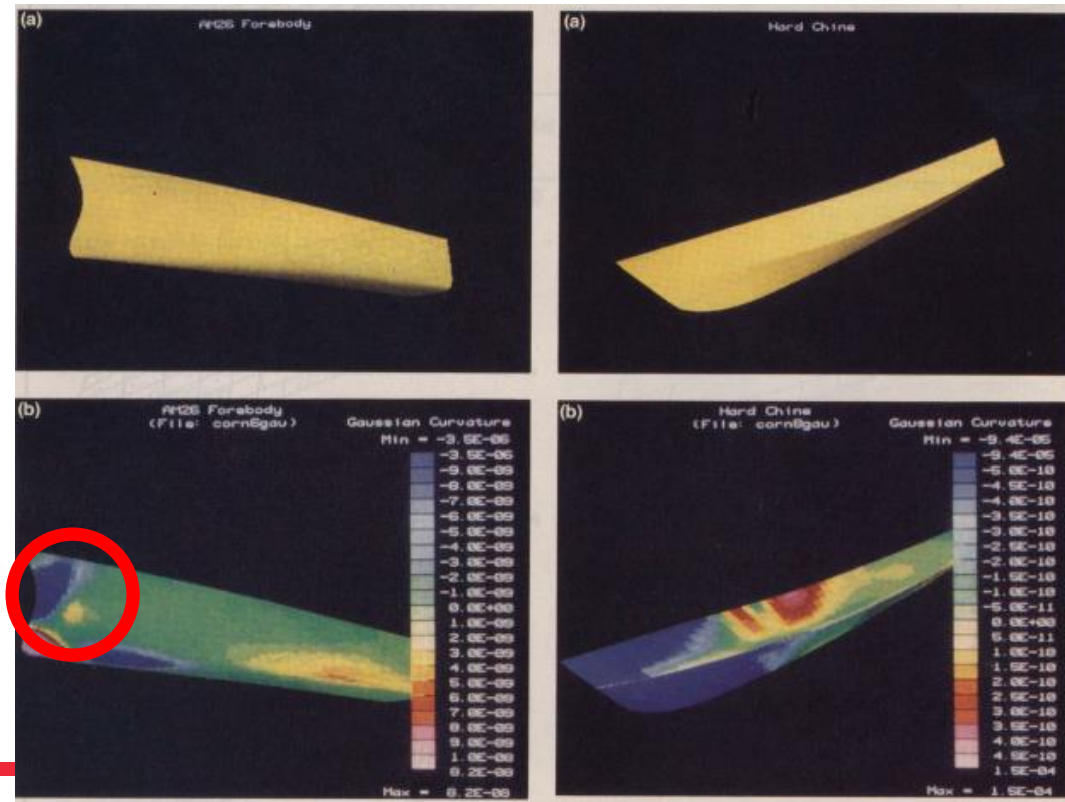
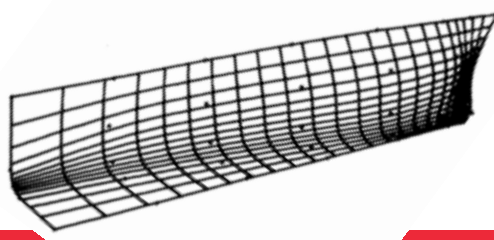


Figure 7. Forebody of US Navy ammunition ship; normally colored image (a), color-coded Gaussian curvature (b).

Figure 8. Ship with hard chine; normally colored image (a), color-coded Gaussian curvature (b).

Rogers et al. 1983

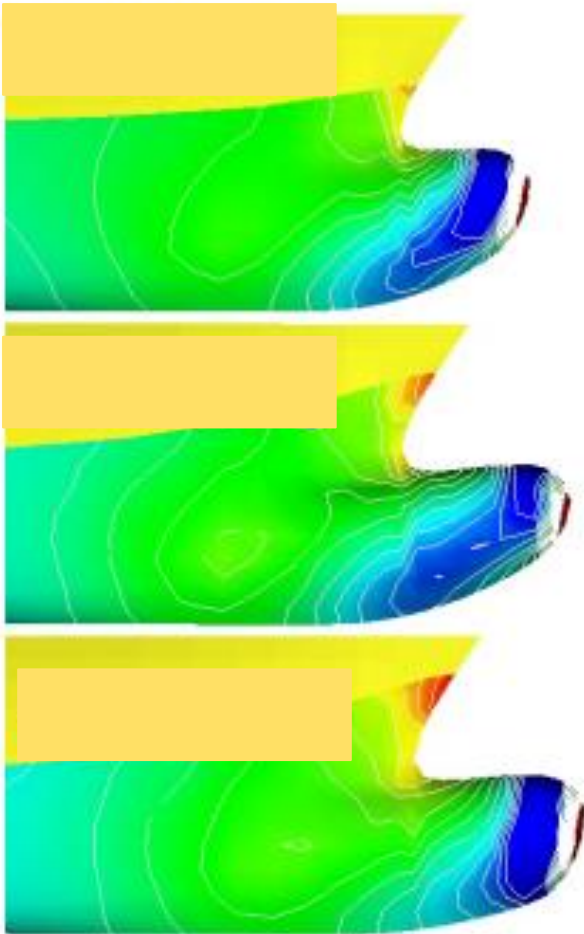
Optimization methods

- Simulation based design
- Feasible design spaces are often non-convex, due to (possible) geometric non-linearities
- PSO (Particle Swarm Optimization):
 - iteratively improvement of candidate solutions (hull) with respect to a quality measure (CFD, resistance, SMF)



Optimization

Resistance reduction by 10%,
this could lead to fuel cost savings of up to 0.5M\$ / year



Summary & Conclusion

- The design of ship-hull is complex, since it requires the generation of lines and surfaces, fairing algorithms, optimization procedures and decision making criteria
- Each of the disciplines above is of high complexity with significant space for future development and research
- Complex and abstract mathematical problems are linked with economic yield



A large industrial warehouse interior with a polished floor and overhead lighting. The ceiling is high with visible ductwork and lights. In the background, there are orange metal structures, possibly shelving or equipment. The floor is highly reflective, showing bright spots from the overhead lights. The overall atmosphere is clean and well-maintained.

Thank you
for your
Attention!