

Semi-structured curves and surfaces

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T-splines have been proved to be a powerful technology both in computer aided geometric design and isogeometric analysis. However, T-splines[1,2] suffer two main disadvantages, i.e., lack of proof of linear independence of the associated blending functions and the global propagation of local refinement algorithm. Analysis-suitable T-splines[3,4] form a practically useful subset of T-splines[1,2] which give an answer for the first question. They maintain the design flexibility of T-splines, while preserving the important analysis-suitable mathematical properties of the NURBS basis. The present talk introduces semi-structured spline curves and surfaces. Local refinement of semi-structured spline surfaces is relatively simple, and no additional, unrequested control points need to be added as is the case in T-spline refinement. The refinement algorithm assures linear independence of the blending functions when non-multiple knots are inserted. Thus, when applied to isogeometric analysis, semi-structured spline surfaces provide minimal degrees of freedom during adaptive local refinement.

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