

Ruled surfaces -1

- Popular, because it's easy to build a curved surface out of straight segments e.g. pavilions, etc.
- Take two space curves, and join corresponding points—same *s* parameter value—with line segment.
- Even if space curves are lines, the surface is usually curved.

Ruled Surfaces - 2



Easy to explain, hard to draw!

Ruled surfaces -3

Parameterized form
$$(x(s,t),y(s,t),z(s,t)) = \\ (1-t)(x_1(s),y_1(s),z_1(s)) + \\ t(x_2(s),y_2(s),z_2(s))$$

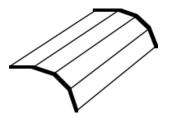
Normals

• Normal is cross product of tangent in t direction and s direction.

$$\left(\frac{\delta x}{\delta t}, \frac{\delta y}{\delta t}, \frac{\delta z}{\delta t}\right) \times \left(\frac{\delta x}{\delta s}, \frac{\delta y}{\delta s}, \frac{\delta z}{\delta s}\right)$$

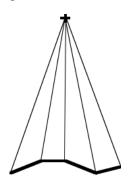
Rendering

 Cylinders: small steps along curve, straight segments along t generate polygons; exact normal is known.



Rendering

 Cone: small steps in s generate straight edges, join with vertex to get triangles, normals known exactly except at vertex.



Rendering

 Surface of revolution: small steps in s generate strips, small steps in t along the strip generate edges; join up to form triangles. Normals known exactly.



Rendering

- Ruled surface: steps in s generate polygons, join opposite sides to make triangles
 otherwise "non planar polygons" result. Normals known exactly.
- **Must** understand why rectangular sections do not work!



Specifying Curves from Points

- Want to modulate curves via "control" points.
- Strategy depends on application. Possibilities:
 - Force a polynomial of degree N-1 through N points (Lagrange interpolate)
 - Specify a combination of "anchor" points and derivatives (Hermite interpolate)
 - Other "blends" (Bezier, B-splines)--more useful than Lagrange/Hermite

Lagrange Interpolate (degree 3)

- Want a parametric curve that passes through (interpolates) four points.
- Use the points to combine four Lagrange polynomials (blending functions)
- As the parameter goes through each of 4 particular values, one blending function is 1, and the other 3 are zero.

$$\sum_{i \in \text{points}} p_i \phi_i^{(l)}(t)$$



Specifying Curves from Points-II

• Issues:

- Local versus global control
- Higher polynomial degree versus stitching lower order polynomials together (stitching-->local control)
- Continuity of curve and derivatives (geometric, parametric)
- Polynomials verses other forms
- Polynomial degree (usually 3--fewer is not flexible enough, and higher gives hard to control wiggles).
- It is relatively easy to fit a curve through points in explicit form, but we will use parametric form as it more useful in graphics.