# A shift-add algorithm for generating B-spline 

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#### Abstract

A CORDIC- based shift-add algorithm for generating B-spline curves is presented in this paper. This algorithm can be realized by hardware without multiplier, or coded with assembly language and run in the basic computing system which exists in many application systems. Convergence of the algorithm was proved. Errors were estimated and well controlled in the algorithm. A numerical experiment was carried out to validate algorithm. This algorithm can be used for adding complex curve plotting functions in embedded systems.


Keywords: B-spline, CORDIC, shift-add algorithm, basic computing system.

## 1. Introduction

In embedded systems there were only simple graphics plotting functions (like straight line drawing function) in their graphics device interfaces. Complex curve plotting functions are helpful for some embedded systems like GIS/GPS handheld device, electronic engraving machines, and electronic game machines, etc. In this paper a coordinate rotation digital computer (CORDIC) - based shiftadd algorithm for generating B-spline curves is presented. With this algorithm complex graphics can be plotted in an embedded device.

B-spline curves are very popular in CAD/CAM and other curve fitting systems. For control points $\left\{P_{i}\right\}_{0}^{n}$, B-spline function $B(t)$ of order $k$ (degree $k-1$ ) can be expressed by the de Boor-Cox recursive procedure,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
N_{i, 1}(t)= \begin{cases}1 & t_{i} \leq t<t_{i+1} \\
0 & \text { Otherwise }\end{cases}  \tag{1}\\
N_{i, k}(t)=\frac{t-t_{i}}{t_{i+k-1}-t_{i}} N_{i, k-1}(t)+\frac{t_{i+k}-t}{t_{i+k}-t_{i+1}} N_{i+1, k-1} \quad i=0,1, \ldots, n ; k>1, \\
B(t)=\sum_{i=0}^{n} P_{i} N_{i, k}(t), \\
\text { Here we define } \frac{0}{0}=0,
\end{array}\right.
$$

$N_{i, k}(t)$ is a B-spline basis function of order $k$ (degree $k-1$ ).
B-spline curves were easily generated in an advanced computing system [1-3, 9]. In this paper we discuss how to generate B-spline curves in a basic computing system. A basic computing system deals only with shift, add and logical operations. Basic computing systems exist in many application systems such as industrial control systems, military application systems, medical application systems, etc.

CORDIC algorithms are well-known shift-add algorithms for computing a wide range of elementary functions including trigonometric, hyperbolic, linear and logarithmic functions [5-7]. Generalization, convergence and error estimation of CORDIC algorithms have been discussed [4, 10]. These fast united shift-add algorithms can be implemented in hardware system without multipliers [8], or be coded with assembly language.

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ALGORITHM

A sign function and a positive number series [4] are defined as

$$
\begin{aligned}
& s g(x)=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}
1 & x \geq 0, \\
-1 & x<0,
\end{array}\right. \\
& \left\{\delta_{i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}=\left\{2^{-i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Let $\left\{P_{i}=\left(P_{i}^{x}, P_{i}^{y}\right)\right\}_{0}^{n}$ be control points, $N_{i}^{k}(t)(i=0,1, \ldots, n)$ be B-spline basis functions, $\varepsilon$ be the error limit. The shift-add algorithm for generating a B-spline curve consists of one main program and three subprograms. Pseudo codes of the algorithm are shown below.

Subprogram1 $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon$, flag).
$1^{\circ}$ if $v=0$ then
if flag $=0$ then result:=0 else result:=false. Exit.
if $u=0$ then result:=0. Exit.
$2^{\circ} s:=1$.
if $u<0$ then $\{s:=-s ; u:=-u$.
if $v<0$ then $\{s:=-s ; \quad v:=-v$.$\} .$
$3^{\circ} m:=0 ;$
while $u>2$ do $\left\{u:=2^{-1} \times u ; m:=m+1.\right\}$.
$4^{\circ} N:=1 ; \varepsilon:=2^{-m-1} \times \varepsilon ;$
if flag $=0$ then $v_{0}:=v$;
while $v_{0}>1$ do $\left\{\varepsilon:=2^{-1} \times \varepsilon ; v_{0}:=2^{-1} \times v_{0} ;\right\}$
while $\delta_{N-1}>\varepsilon$ do $N:=N+1$.
$5^{\circ}$ if flag $=0$ then $\left\{i:=1 ; x_{1}:=u, y_{1}:=v, z_{1}:=0.\right\}$
else $\left\{i:=1 ; x_{1}:=0, y_{1}:=v, z_{1}:=u.\right\}$.
$6^{\circ}$ while $i<N$ do
\{if flag $=0$ then $s_{i}:=s g\left(x_{i}\right)$ else $s_{i}:=-s g\left(z_{i}\right) ;$
$\left.x_{i+1}:=x_{i}+s_{i} \times \delta_{i} ; z_{i+1}:=z_{i}+s_{i} \times \delta_{i} \times y_{1} ; i:=i+1 ;\right\}$.
$7^{\circ}$ if flag $=0$ then $\left\{z_{N}:=s \times 2^{m} \times z_{N}\right.$; result: $\left.=z_{N} \cdot\right\}$
else $\left\{x_{N}:=s \times 2^{m} \times x_{N} ;\right.$ result: $\left.=x_{N}.\right\}$
Stop.
$\operatorname{Subprogram} 2 \operatorname{B\_ Basis}\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$.
$1^{\circ}$ if $\left(t<t_{0}\right.$ or $\left.t>t_{n}\right)$ then result: $=$ false; Stop.
$i:=0$;
while $t>t_{i}$ do $i:=i+1 ; i:=i-1$.
$2^{\circ} N_{i}^{1}:=1 ;$
for $l:=1$ to $k-1$ do $\left\{N_{i-l}^{l}:=0 ; N_{i+1}^{l}:=0 ;\right\}$.

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\(3^{\circ}\) if \(k=2\) then \(\varepsilon_{2}:=\varepsilon\);
    if \(k=3\) then \(\left\{\right.\) if \(\varepsilon>1\) then \(\left.\varepsilon:=1 ; \varepsilon_{2}:=\varepsilon \times 2^{-2} ;\right\}\)
    if \(k=4\) then \(\left\{\right.\) if \(\varepsilon>0.24\) then \(\left.\varepsilon:=0.24 ; \varepsilon_{2}:=\varepsilon \times 2^{-3} ;\right\}\)
    \(\varepsilon_{1}:=\varepsilon_{2} \times 2^{-2}\).
\(4^{\circ}\) for \(m:=2\) to \(k\) do
    for \(l:=i-m+1\) to \(i\) do
        if \(\left(t_{l+m-1}=t_{l}\right.\) and \(\left.t_{l+m}=t_{l+1}\right)\) then \(N_{l}^{m}:=0\)
            else if \(t_{l+m-1}=t_{l}\) then
                \(\left\{r_{2}=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(t_{l+m}-t, t_{l+m}-t_{l+1}, \varepsilon_{1}, 1\right) N_{l}^{m}:=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(r_{2}, N_{l+1}^{m-1}, \varepsilon_{1}, 0\right) ;\right\}\)
            else if \(t_{l+m}=t_{l+1}\) then
                \(\left\{r_{1}=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(t-t_{l}, t_{l+m-1}-t_{l}, \varepsilon_{1}, 1\right) ; N_{l}^{m}:=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(r_{1}, N_{l}^{m-1}, \varepsilon_{1}, 0\right) ;\right\}\)
            else \(\left\{r_{1}=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(t-t_{l}, t_{l+m-1}-t_{l}, \varepsilon_{1}, 1\right) ; r_{2}=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(t_{l+m}-t, t_{l+m}-t_{l+1}, \varepsilon_{1}, 1\right)\right.\);
                    \(\left.N_{l}^{m}:=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(r_{1}, N_{l}^{m-1}, \varepsilon_{1}, 0\right)+\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(r_{2}, N_{l+1}^{m-1}, \varepsilon_{1}, 0\right) ;\right\}\).
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$5^{\circ}$ Output $N_{j}^{k}, j=i-k+1, \ldots, i$. Stop.
Subprogram3 B_S $\left(k, t,\left\{P_{j}^{u}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$.

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\(1^{\circ} \varepsilon_{2}=\varepsilon ;\)
    if \(P_{i-k+1}^{u}<0\) then \(S=-P_{i-k+1}^{u}\) else \(S:=P_{i-k+1}^{u}\);
    for \(j:=i-k+2\) to \(i\) do \(\left\{\right.\) if \(P_{j}^{u}<0\) then \(S=S-P_{j}^{u}\) else \(S:=S+P_{j}^{u}\); \(\}\)
    \(S:=S+k \times 2^{-2}\);
    while \(S>1\) do \(\left\{S:=S \times 2^{-1} ; \varepsilon_{2}:=\varepsilon_{2} \times 2^{-1} ;\right\}\)
    \(\varepsilon_{1}:=\varepsilon_{2} \times 2^{-2}\).
\(2^{\circ} \operatorname{B} \_\operatorname{Basis}\left(k, t,\left\{P_{j}^{u}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon_{2}\right)\);
    \(B^{u}:=\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(P_{i-k+1}^{u}, N_{i-k+1}^{k}, \varepsilon_{1}\right)\);
    for \(j:=i-k+2\) to \(i\) do \(B^{u}:=B^{u}+\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(P_{j}^{u}, N_{j}^{k}, \varepsilon_{1}\right)\).
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$3^{\circ}$ Output $P^{u}$. Stop.
Main Program. B_Spline $\left(k, t,\left(P_{j}^{x}, P_{j}^{y}\right)_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$
$1^{\circ} B^{x}:=B_{-} S\left(k, t,\left\{P_{j}^{x}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$.
$2^{\circ} B^{y}:=B \_S\left(k, t,\left\{P_{j}^{y}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$.
$3^{\circ}$ Output $B^{x}, B^{y}$. Stop.

## 3. NOTES ON THE ALGORITHM

3.1 Only operations shift (i.e., $2^{-i} \times t$ ) and add were concerned in the algorithm.
3.2 When flag=0, Subprogram1 MulDiv $(u, v, \varepsilon$, flag) multiplies $u$ by $v$ with error limit $\varepsilon$. When flag $=1$, divides $u$ by $v$ with error limit $\varepsilon$.
$\left\{\delta_{i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}=\left\{2^{-i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}$ is a normal series with measurement radius $R(\delta)=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta_{i}=2[4] . U$ decomposes into $2^{m} \times U_{0}\left(U_{0}\right.$ is stored in $U$ variable in algorithm) with $U_{0}<2$ in $3^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon$, flag $)$. This ensures $U_{0}<R(\delta)=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta_{i}=2$ and so it can be expressed as $U_{0} \approx F_{N}\left(U_{0}, \delta\right)=\sum_{i=0}^{N} \operatorname{sg}\left(u_{i}\right) \delta_{i}$.
$4^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon$, flag $)$ adjusts error limit according to $3^{\circ}$ and determines the number of iterations $N$ based on Theorem 1 in 4.
$5^{\circ}, 6^{\circ}$ and $7^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon$, flag $)$ are from CORDIC algorithm $[4,5]$.
3.3 Subprogram2 B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ is for calculating values of B-spline basis functions of order $k$ for $t$ with error limit $\varepsilon$.
$1^{\circ}$ of B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ is to find the interval $\left[t_{i}, t_{i+1}\right)$ where $t$ is in.
$2^{\circ}$ of B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ assigns values for B-spline basis functions $\left\{N_{j}^{1}(t)\right\}_{i-1}^{i+1},\left\{N_{i-j}^{j}(t)\right\}_{1}^{k-1}$, $\left\{N_{i+1}^{j}(t)\right\}_{1}^{k-1}$.
$3^{\circ}$ of B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ re-assigns value of error limit (like 0.24 in B_Basis $\left.\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)\right)$ based on Theorem 2 in Sec. 4.
$4^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{B} \_\operatorname{Basis}\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ calculates values of B-spline basis functions $N_{j}^{l}(t)(l=2$ to $k, j=$ $i-l+1$ to $i)$. Other $N_{j}^{l}(t)$ are $0 . \frac{0}{0}$ is defined as 0 .
3.4 Subprogram3 B_S $\left(k, t,\left\{P_{j}^{u}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ is for calculating coordinates of $\mathrm{B}(t)$ on the B -spline curve with $n+1$ control points. Based on Theorem 3, calculation error limit is $\varepsilon$.
3.5. The main operation of the algorithm is run in $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon, f l a g) .4^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon, f l a g)$ shows that when calculating error of $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon, f l a g)$ is halved, the number of iterations $N$


## 4. CONVERGENCE AND ERROR ESTIMATION OF THE ALGORITHM

$\left\{\delta_{i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}=\left\{2^{-i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}$ is a normal series with measurement radius $R(\delta)=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta_{i}=2[4]$.
$5^{\circ}$ and $6^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{Subprogram} 1 \operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon)$ in 2 is based on iterative process (1).

Theorem 1. Let $\left\{\delta_{i}\right\}_{0}^{+\infty}=\left\{2^{-i}\right\}_{0}^{+\infty}, x \in(-R(\delta), R(\delta))=(-2,2)$. For Subprogram1 MulDiv(u, $v, \varepsilon$, flag) there are,
(a) in the case of flag=0, $\left\{z_{i}\right\}$ converges to $u \times v,\left|z_{N}-u \times v\right|<\varepsilon$;
(b) when flag=1, $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ converges to $x / y,\left|x_{N}-u / v\right|<\varepsilon$.

Proof:
(a) From $2^{\circ} \sim 4^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon$, flag , for $u \neq 0$ and $v \neq 0$, there is

$$
\delta_{N-1}<\min \left(|u|^{-1}, 1\right) \min \left(|v|^{-1}, 1\right) \varepsilon .
$$

Conclusion can be deduced from theorem 7 of [4].
(b) Same as above, by pre-process in $4^{\circ}$ of $\operatorname{Subprogram} 1 \operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon, f l a g)$ and based on Theorem 8 of [4], result can be obtained.

Theorem 2. Theorem 2. $N_{j}^{k}(j=i-k+1, \ldots, i)$ in Subprogram2 B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ are calculated values of $B$-spline basis functions of order $k$ with $t \in\left[t_{i}, t_{i+1}\right]$. The calculation error limit is $\varepsilon$.

Proof:
Let real value of B-spline basis function be $\bar{N}_{i}^{k}(t), \varepsilon^{(k)}=\max _{i, t}\left|N_{i}^{k}-\bar{N}_{i}^{k}(t)\right|, \varepsilon_{1}$ be error limit of $\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(u, v, \varepsilon_{1}\right.$, flag). From iterative process (1), Theorem 1, and $0 \leq \bar{N}_{i}^{k}(t) \leq 1$, there is
or $\varepsilon^{(k)} \leq 2\left(1+\varepsilon_{1}\right) \varepsilon^{(k-1)}+4 \varepsilon_{1}$.
Note that $\varepsilon^{(1)}=0, \varepsilon_{1} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{4}, \varepsilon^{(2)} \leq 4 \varepsilon_{1} \leq \varepsilon$ and

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varepsilon^{(k)} \leq\left(2+\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right) \varepsilon^{(k-1)}+\varepsilon \leq \ldots & \leq\left(2+\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^{k-2} \varepsilon^{(2)}+\left[\left(2+\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^{k-2}-1\right] \varepsilon \\
& \leq\left(2+\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^{k-2} \varepsilon+\left[\left(2+\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^{k-2}-1\right] \varepsilon=\left[2\left(2+\frac{\varepsilon}{2}\right)^{k-2}-1\right] \varepsilon
\end{aligned}
$$

When $k=3$ and $\varepsilon \leq 2\left(\frac{5}{2}-2\right)=1, \varepsilon^{(3)} \leq 4 \varepsilon$.
When $k=4$ and $\varepsilon \leq 2\left(\sqrt{\frac{9}{2}}-2\right)=0.2426, \varepsilon^{(4)} \leq 8 \varepsilon$.
$3^{\circ}$ of B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ pre-controls error according to discussion above. $k>4$ are seldom used. Result is proved.

Theorem 3. The calculation error limit of $B^{u}$ in $B_{-} S\left(k, t,\left\{P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right)\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ is $\varepsilon$.

## Proof:

Let true value of B-spline function be $\bar{B}^{u}(t)$, true value of B-spline basis function be $\bar{N}_{i}^{k}(t)$, $\varepsilon_{1}$ be error limit of $\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(u, v, \varepsilon_{1}\right.$, flag $)$, $\varepsilon_{2}$ be error limit of $\operatorname{B} \_\operatorname{Basis}\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon_{2}\right)$. There is

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left|B^{u}-\bar{B}^{u}(t)\right|=\mid & \sum_{j=i-k+1}^{i}\left[\operatorname{MulDiv}\left(P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right), N_{j}^{k}, \varepsilon_{1}\right)-P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right) \times \bar{N}_{j}^{k}(t)\right] \mid \\
& \leq\left|\sum_{j=i-k+1}^{i}\left[P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right)\left(N_{j}^{k}-\bar{N}_{j}^{k}(t)\right)\right]\right|+k \varepsilon_{1} \leq\left(\sum_{j=i-k+1}^{i}\left|P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right)\right|\right) \varepsilon_{2}+k \varepsilon_{1} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Referring to Subprogram2 B_Basis $\left(k, t,\left\{t_{j}\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$, we can set $\varepsilon_{1}=2^{-2} \varepsilon_{2}$. There is

$$
\left|B^{u}-\bar{B}^{u}(t)\right| \leq\left(\sum_{j=i-k+1}^{i}\left|P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right)\right|+2^{-2} k\right) \varepsilon_{2}
$$

$1^{\circ}$ of B_S $\left(k, t,\left\{P^{u}\left(t_{j}\right)\right\}_{0}^{n}, \varepsilon\right)$ guaranteed precision.

## 5. THE NUMERICAL EXPERIMENT

For 10 control points $(0,0.5),(1,1),(2,1.5),(3,2),(4,2.5),(5,2.5),(6,2),(7,1.5),(8,1),(9,0.5)$, where $t_{i}=x_{i}$, and error limit $\varepsilon=5 \times 10^{-8}, t=2.8$, the algorithm was used to generate a B-spline curve. Results are shown below. The number of iterations in $\operatorname{Subprogram1} \operatorname{MulDiv}(u, v, \varepsilon)$ was not more than 40 steps.

Table 1. Calculation of B-basis functions.

| B-spline basis function | Calculated value for $t=2.8$ <br> with the algorithm | True value <br> for $t=2.8$ | Error |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $N_{2}^{1}(t)$ | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| $N_{1}^{2}(t)$ | 0.199999999953 | 0.2 | $-4.7 \times 10^{-11}$ |
| $N_{2}^{2}(t)$ | 0.800000000047 | 0.8 | $4.7 \times 10^{-11}$ |
| $N_{0}^{3}(t)$ | 0.019999999967 | 0.02 | $-3.3 \times 10^{-11}$ |
| $N_{1}^{3}(t)$ | 0.659999999902 | 0.66 | $-9.8 \times 10^{-11}$ |
| $N_{2}^{3}(t)$ | 0.32000000013 | 0.32 | $1.3 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| $N_{j}^{i}(t)$ for other $i \in\{1,2,3\} \& j \in\{0, \ldots, 9\}$ | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Coordinates of 8 points on the B -spline curve were calculated and shown below.
Table 2. 8 points on the B-spline curve.

| $t$ | Calculated value of $B_{3}^{x}(t)$ | True value of $\bar{B}_{3}^{x}(t)$ | Error |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2.2 | 0.7000000032 | 0.7 | $3.2 \times 10^{-9}$ |
| 2.8 | 1.3000000011 | 1.3 | $1.1 \times 10^{-9}$ |
| 3.4 | 1.90000000095 | 1.9 | $9.5 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 4.0 | 2.49999999959 | 2.5 | $4.1 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 4.6 | 3.10000000038 | 3.1 | $3.8 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 5.2 | 3.70000000027 | 3.7 | $2.7 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 5.8 | 4.30000000019 | 4.3 | $1.9 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 6.4 | 4.90000000023 | 4.9 | $2.3 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| $t$ | Calculated value of $B_{3}^{y}(t)$ | True value of $\bar{B}_{3}^{y}(t)$ | Error |
| 2.2 | 0.85000000085 | 0.85 | $8.5 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 2.8 | 1.1500000010 | 1.15 | $1.0 \times 10^{-9}$ |
| 3.4 | 1.33000000093 | 1.33 | $9.3 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 4.0 | 1.00000000023 | 1 | $2.3 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 4.6 | 0.40000000062 | 0.4 | $6.2 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 5.2 | -0.20000000017 | -0.2 | $-1.7 \times 10^{-10}$ |
| 5.8 | -0.8000000011 | -0.8 | $-1.1 \times 10^{-9}$ |
| 6.4 | -1.32000000095 | -1.32 | $-9.5 \times 10^{-10}$ |

It showed that calculation errors were under control. Data points of the B-spline curve are shown below. Black points are control points. White points are points on B-spline curve generated by the algorithm with $t=2.2,2.8,3.4,4.0,4.6,5.2,5.8,6.4$.


Fig. 1. Data points of the B-spline curve.

## 6. CONCLUSION

In this paper a CORDIC based shift-add algorithm for generating B-spline curves is presented. It can be realized by hardware without multiplier, or coded with assembly language and run in the basic computing system which exists in many application systems.

The algorithm is composed of three subprograms and a main program. Convergence of the algorithm was proved. Errors of every subprogram and the main program were estimated. The error of the algorithm is well controlled. Main iteration process in the algorithm usually runs no more than 40 steps. A numerical experiment was presented to validate the algorithm. This is an effective and efficient algorithm and can be used for complex curve plotting in an embedded system.

## APPENDIX

Definition in [4]. A normal series $\left\{\delta_{i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}$ is a positive number series which decreases monotonically and has a finite sum $R(\delta)=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta_{i}$. For all $x \in\{x:|x| \leq R(\delta)\}$ there is $\left|x-F_{n}(x, \delta)\right| \leq \delta_{n}$, where $F_{n}(x, \delta)$ is defined as
$x_{0}=x, \quad x_{i+1}=x_{i}-\operatorname{sgn}\left(x_{i}\right) \times \delta_{i}, \quad i=0,1, \ldots$
$F_{n}(x, \delta)=\sum_{i=0}^{n} \operatorname{sgn}\left(x_{i}\right) \times \delta_{i}$.
$\left\{2^{-i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}$ is a normal series.
Lemma 1 of [4]. For a normal series $\left\{\delta_{i}\right\}_{0}^{\infty}$ there is $\delta_{n+1}<\sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} \delta_{i} \leq \delta_{n}$.
Proof. Let $x=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \delta_{i}$. There is $F_{n}(x, \delta)=\sum_{i=0}^{n} \delta_{i}$. From the definition of the normal series there is $\left|x-F_{n}(x, \delta)\right|=\sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} \delta_{i} \leq \delta_{n}$.
Left in equation is apparent. Lemma is proved.
Define an iterative process as

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
x_{1}=0, y_{1}=y, \quad z_{1}=0  \tag{A1}\\
s_{i}=\operatorname{sgn}\left(x_{i}\right) \\
x_{i+1}=x_{i}-s_{i} \times 2^{-i} \\
z_{i+1}=z_{i}+s_{i} \times 2^{-i} \times y_{1}, \quad i=1,2, \ldots \\
\quad x_{n+1} \approx 0, \quad z_{n+1} \approx x \times y
\end{array}\right.
$$

Theorem 7 of [4]. $\left\{z_{i}\right\}$ defined in iterative process (A1) converges to $x \times y$, and there is $\left|z_{n+1}-x \times y\right| \leq 2^{-n}|y|$.

Proof. From iterative process (A1) there is $z_{i+k}-z_{i} \leq y \sum_{j=i}^{i+k-1} 2^{-j} s_{j}$.
From Lemma 1 there is $\left|z_{i+k}-z_{i}\right| \leq|y| \sum_{j=i}^{i+k-1} 2^{-j} \leq|y| \sum_{j=i}^{\infty} 2^{-j} \leq|y| 2^{-i+1} .\left\{z_{i}\right\}$ is a Cauchy series. The design of iterative process (A1) makes $z_{i} \rightarrow x \times y$. Let $i=n+1$ and $k \rightarrow \infty$ there is $\left|z_{n+1}-x \times y\right| \leq 2^{-n}|y|$.

Define another iterative process as

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
x_{1}=0, y_{1}=x, \quad z_{1}=-y  \tag{A2}\\
s_{i}=-\operatorname{sgn}\left(z_{i}\right), \\
x_{i+1}=x_{i}+s_{i} \times 2^{-i} \\
z_{i+1}=z_{i}+s_{i} \times 2^{-i} \times y_{1}, \quad i=1,2, \ldots \\
\qquad x_{n+1} \approx y / x, \quad z_{n+1} \approx 0
\end{array}\right.
$$

Theorem 8 of [4]. $\left\{x_{i}\right\}$ defined in iterative process (A2) converges to $y / x$, and there is

$$
\left|x_{n+1}-y / x\right| \leq 2^{-n}
$$

Proof. Similar as proof of Theorem 7.

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