

## About The Dragon Curve

see also: Koch Snowflake, Hilbert SquareFillCurve

To speed up demos, press DELETE

The Dragon is constructed as a limit of polygonal approximations  $D_n$ . These are emphasized in the 3DXM default demo and can be described as follows:

- 1)  $D_1$  is just a horizontal line segment.
- 2)  $D_{n+1}$  is obtained from  $D_n$  as follows:
  - a) Translate  $D_n$ , moving its end point to the origin.
  - b) Multiply the translated copy by  $\sqrt{1/2}$ .
  - c) Rotate the result of b) by  $-45^\circ$  degrees and call the result  $C_n$ .
  - d) Rotate  $C_n$  by  $-90^\circ$  degrees and join this rotated copy to the end of  $C_n$  to get  $D_{n+1}$ .

The fact that the **limit points** of a sequence of longer and longer polygons can form a two-dimensional set is not really very surprising. What makes the Dragon spectacular is that it is in fact a **continuous curve** whose image has positive area—properties that it shares with Hilbert's square filling curve.