Walk-in Slide: AU 2014 Social Media Feed

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Dynamo Hero: Using Revit Scripting Tools to Optimize Real-World Projects

Michael Hudson & Andrea Vaninni

Associate Architectural Scripting Specialist

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Class summary

This class will present how real-life architectural projects have used the Dynamo visual programming extension to optimize complex design problems within Revit software. The class will give an introduction to optimization and rationalization algorithms, and the attendees will use the Dynamo extension and Python programming language scripts to create façades that adapt to varying design requirements. Attendees will also learn how to generalize the workflow so to apply it to other design problems concerning rationalization and optimization

Class summary

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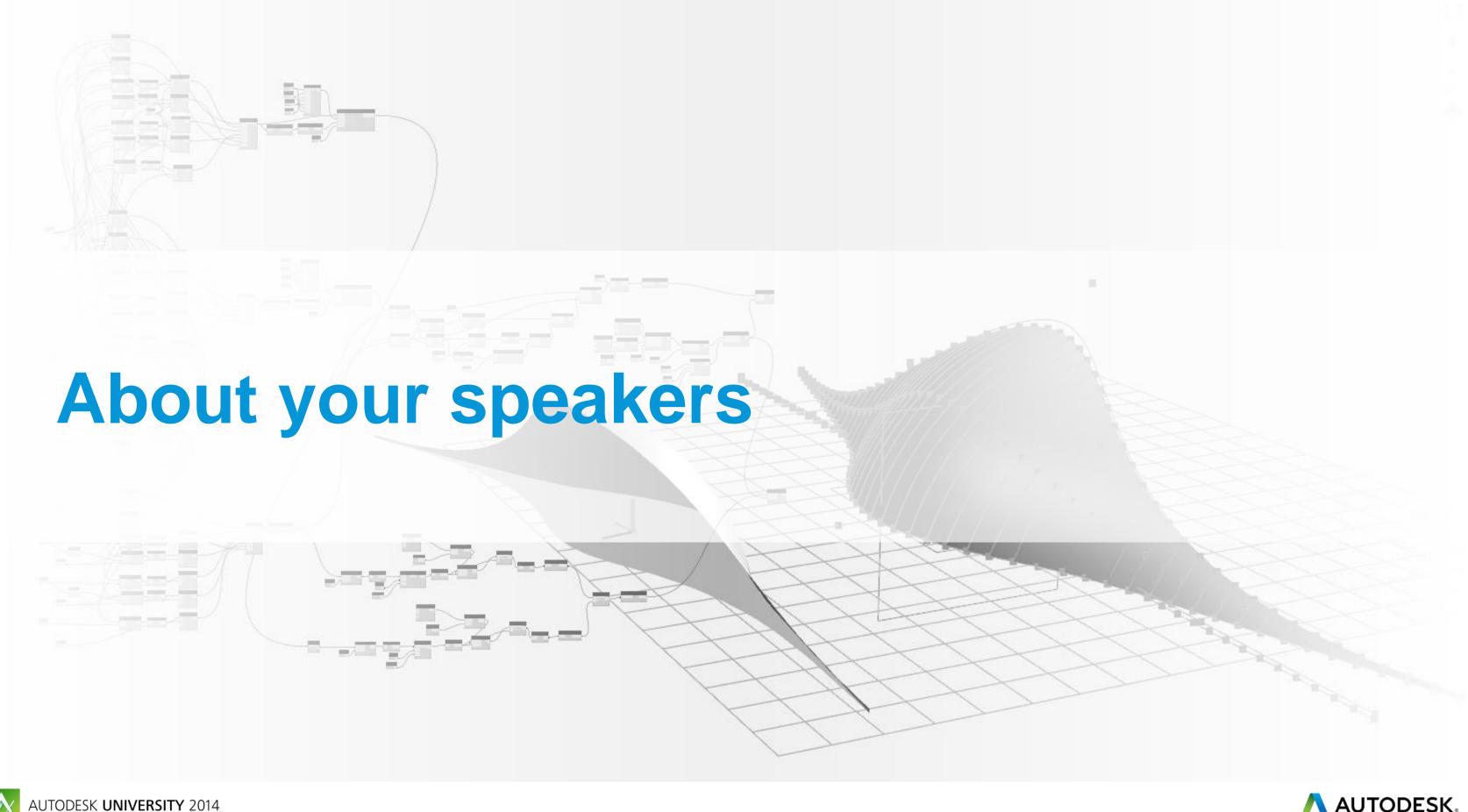


Key learning objectives

At the end of this class, you will be able to:

- Understand new ways to approach complex design problems
- Understand the principles of the Dynamo extensions' visual programming interface
- Learn how to manage the basics of Python scripting
- Learn how to set up a simple optimization algorithm for any specific problem using the Dynamo extension plus Revit software









Michael Hudson

BArch DipArch MArch ARB RIBA

- British Architect
- University Lecturer
- BIM software since 2002
- Autodesk Revit 2009





Andrea Vannini

MArch MSc ARB

- Italian Architect
- Computational design expert
- Autodesk Revit 2011





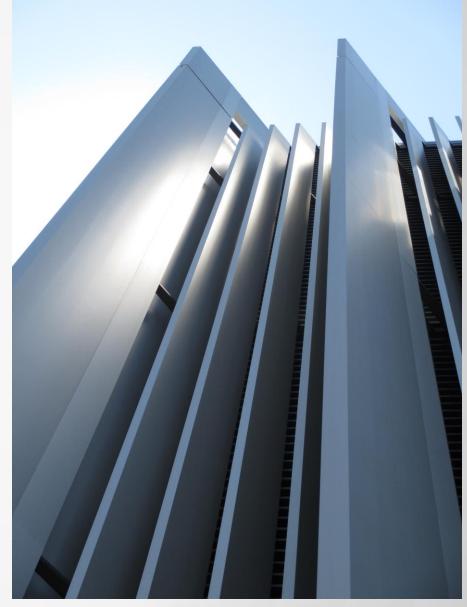
- Design Architect
- 90 Employees
- RIBA Awarded
- WAF 2012/14
- BD 2014





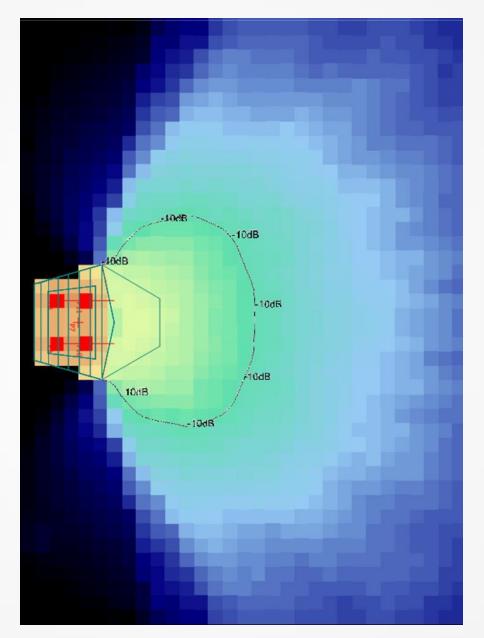
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- Digital fabrication







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- Heritage building
- Point clouds



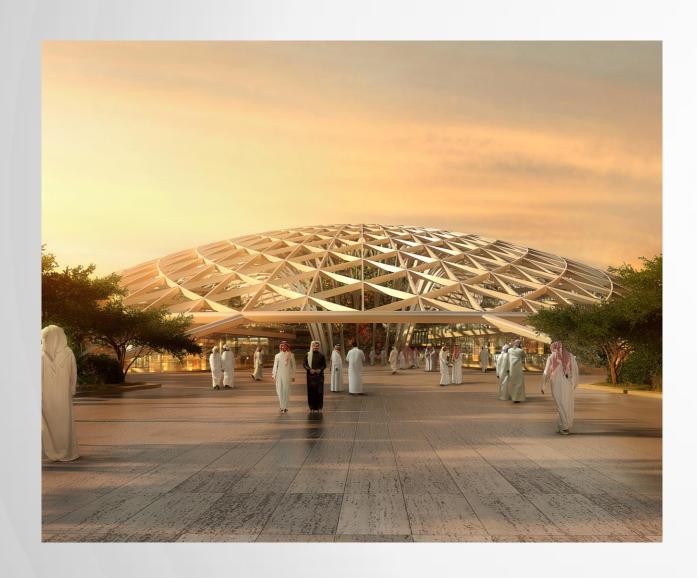






The 2-faces of Architecture

Sculptural



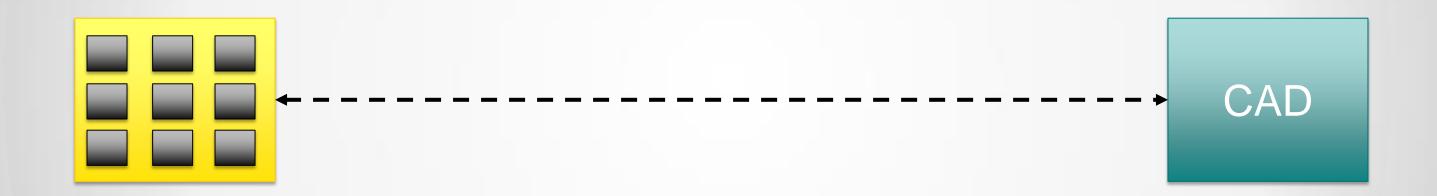
Everyone else



The 2-toolsets within Architecture

Highly complex

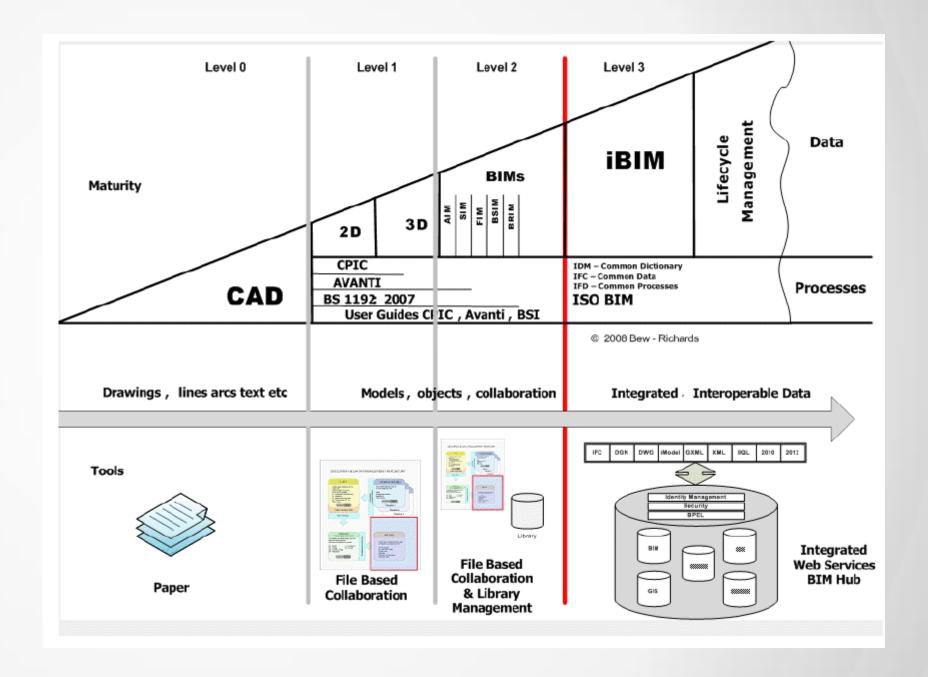
Digital Drafting





BIM

- Global recession 2008
- UK Government 15-20 % more efficient
- Level 2 BIM IPD by 2016



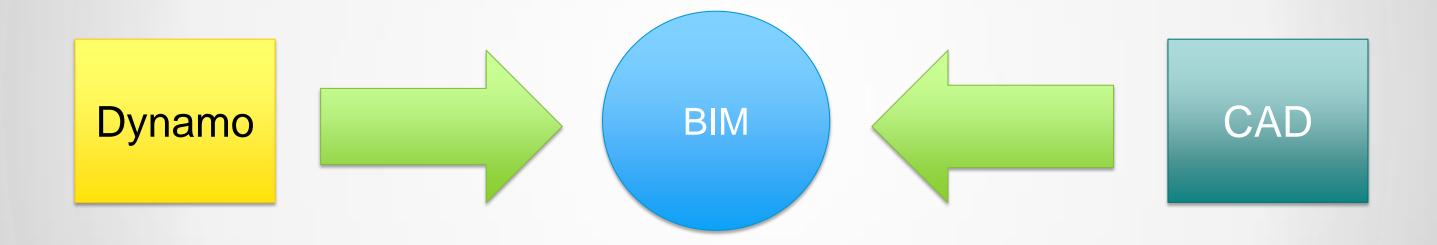


BIM





DynamoBIM

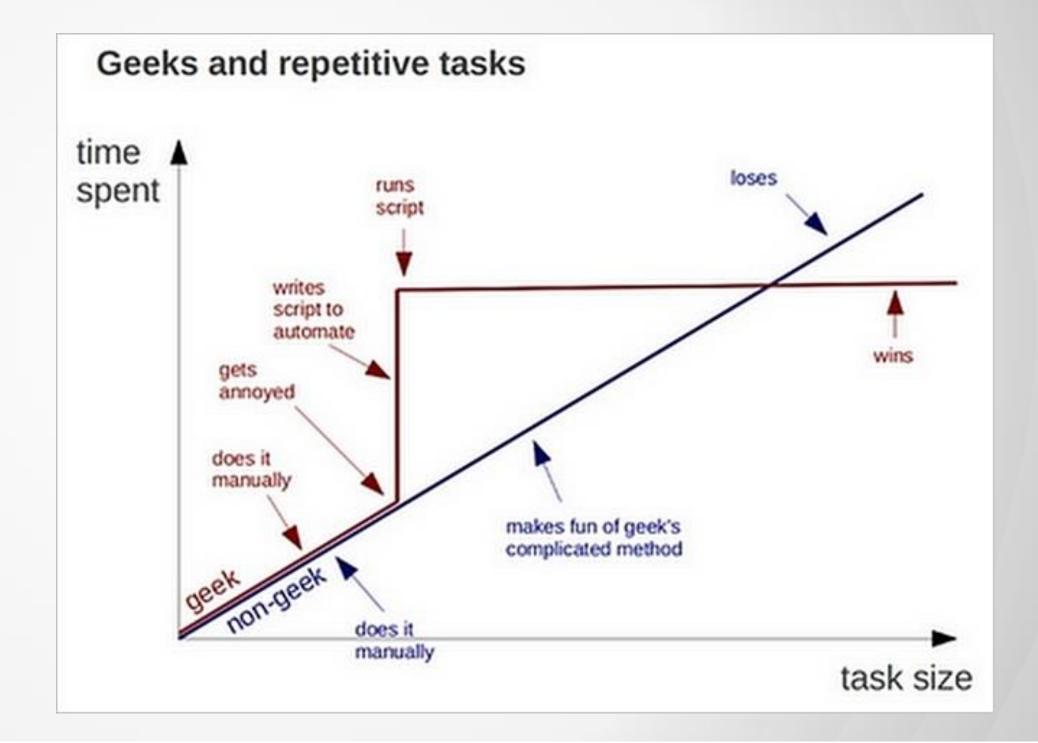






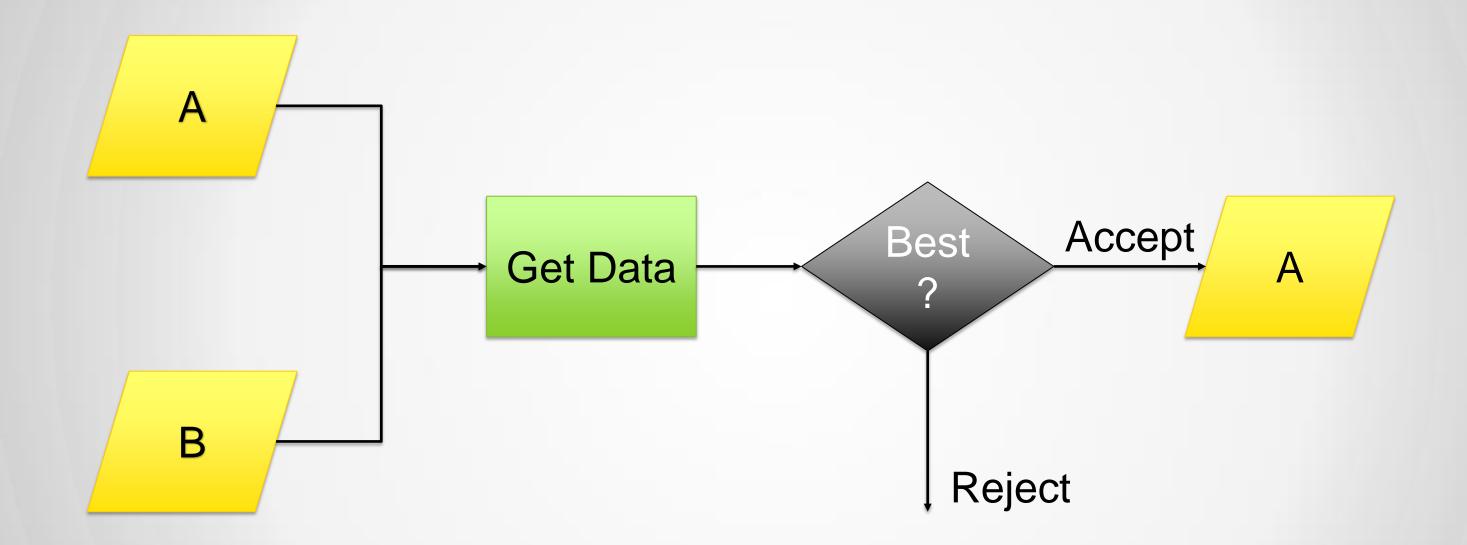
Why do we need coding skills?

- Lots of repetitive tasks
- Managing data
- Optimization
- Developing the question



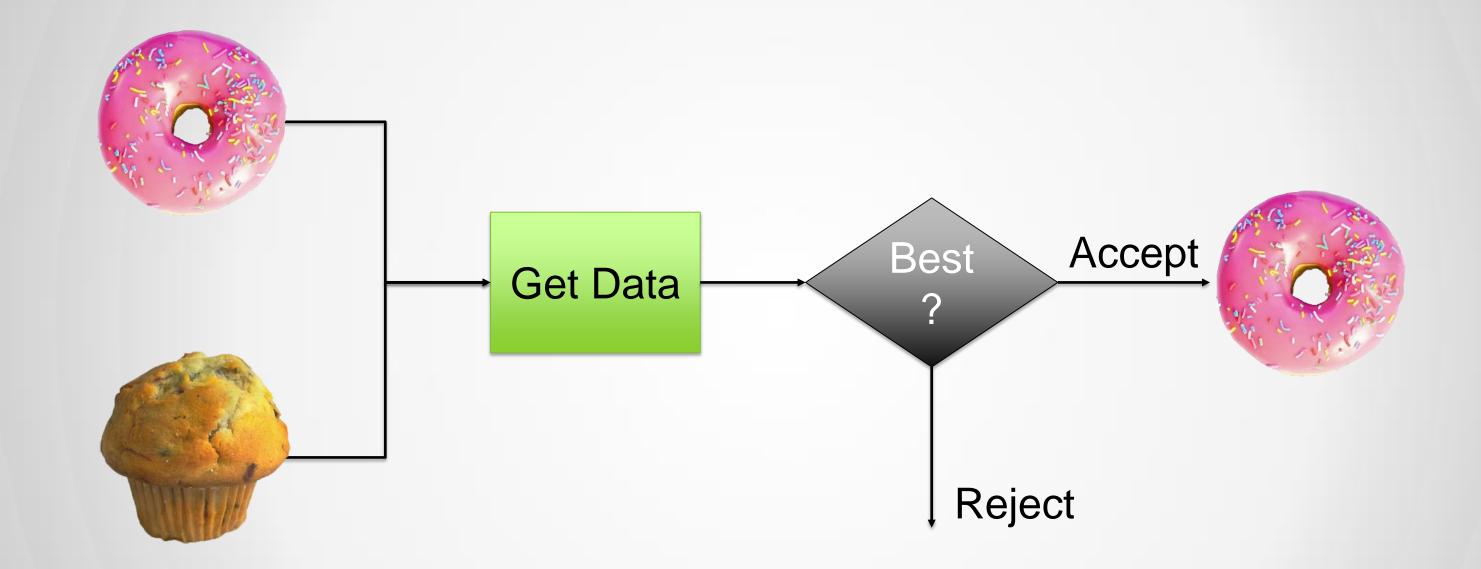


A simple flow chart



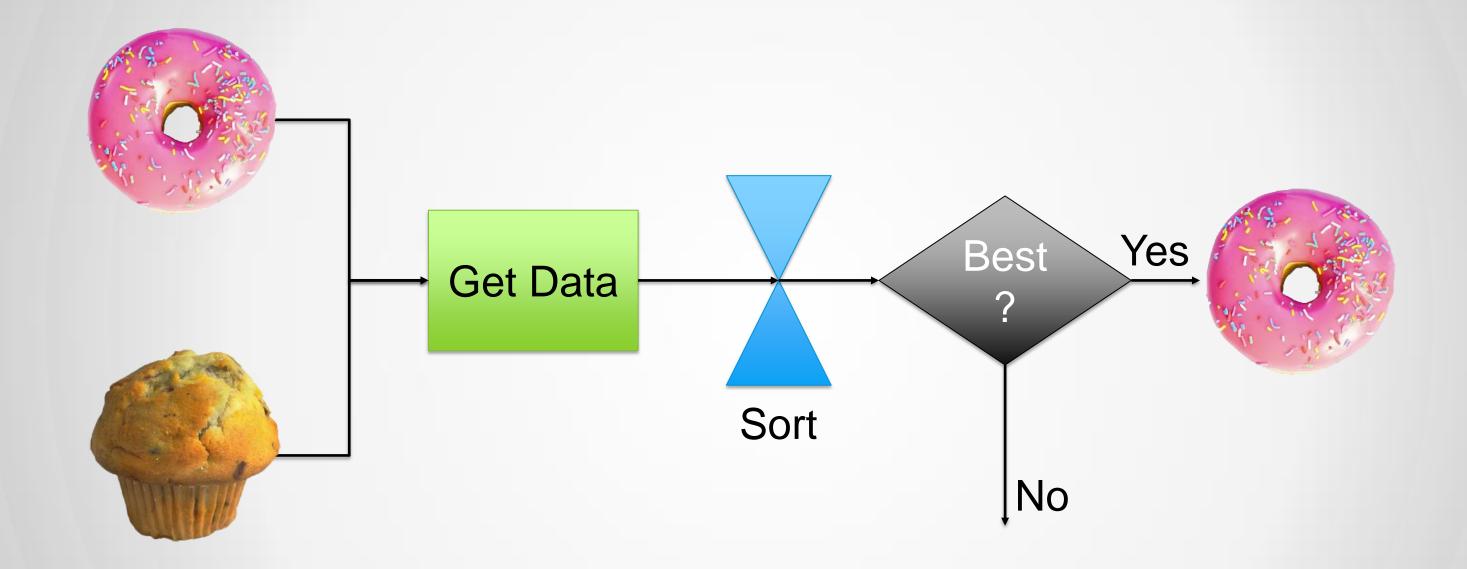


A simple cake chart



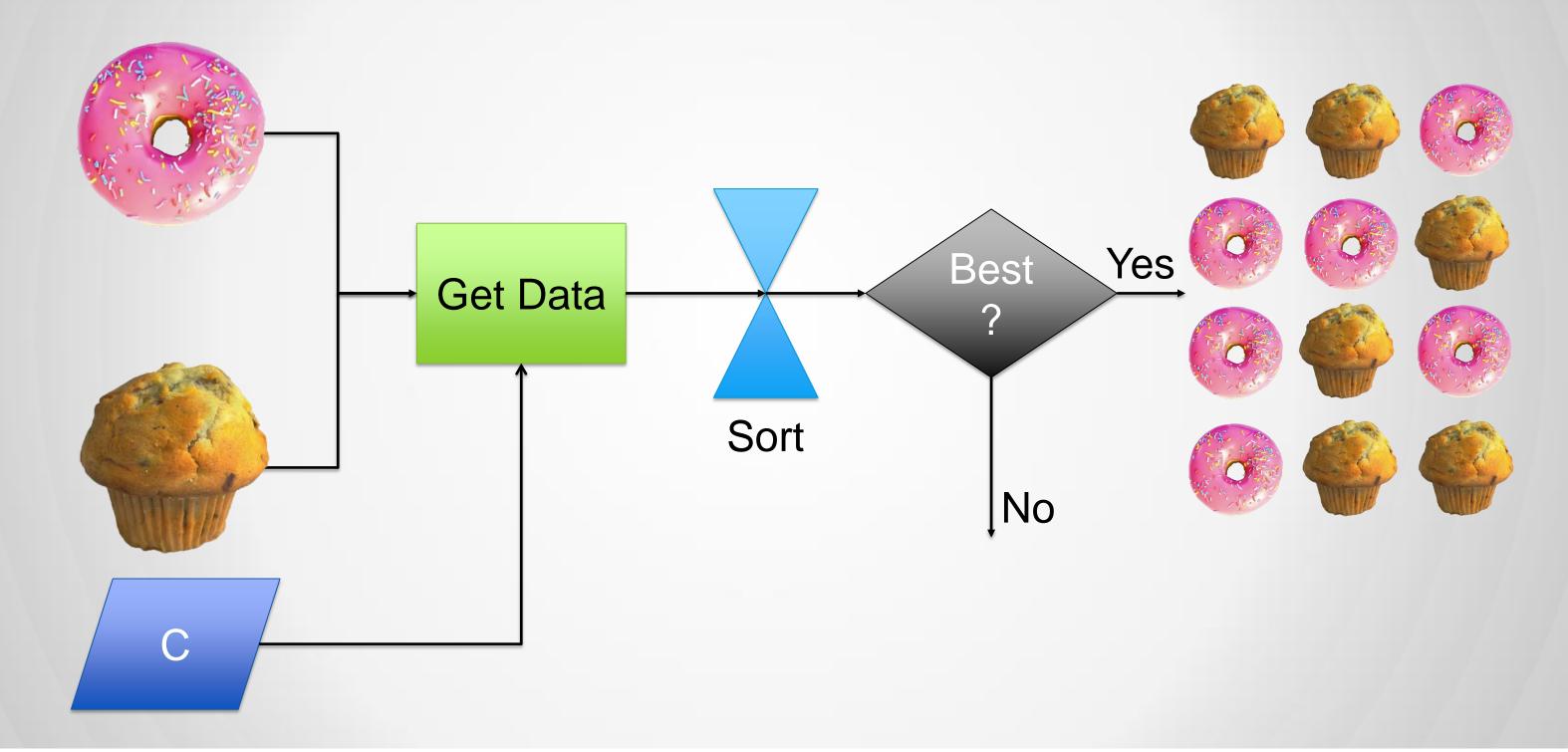


Making an informed decision



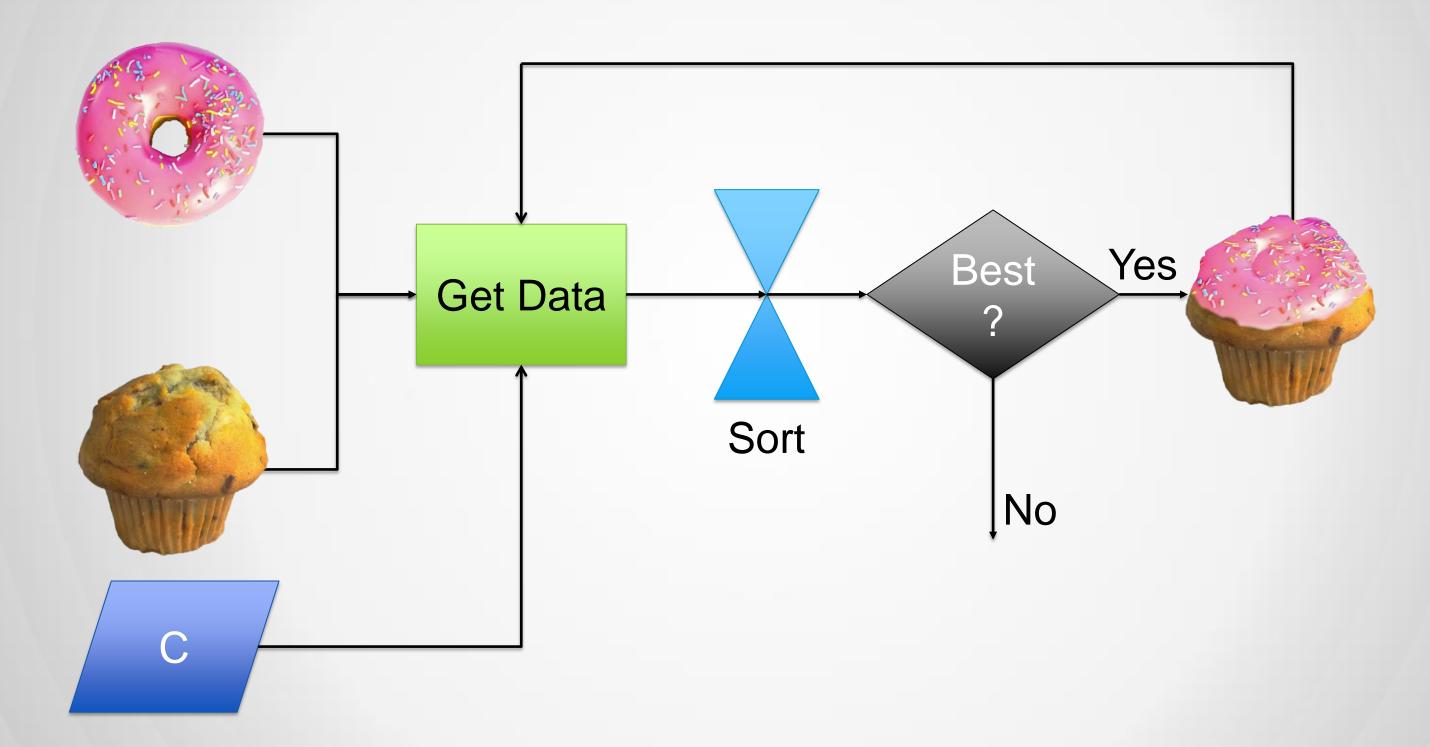


Variable secondary information

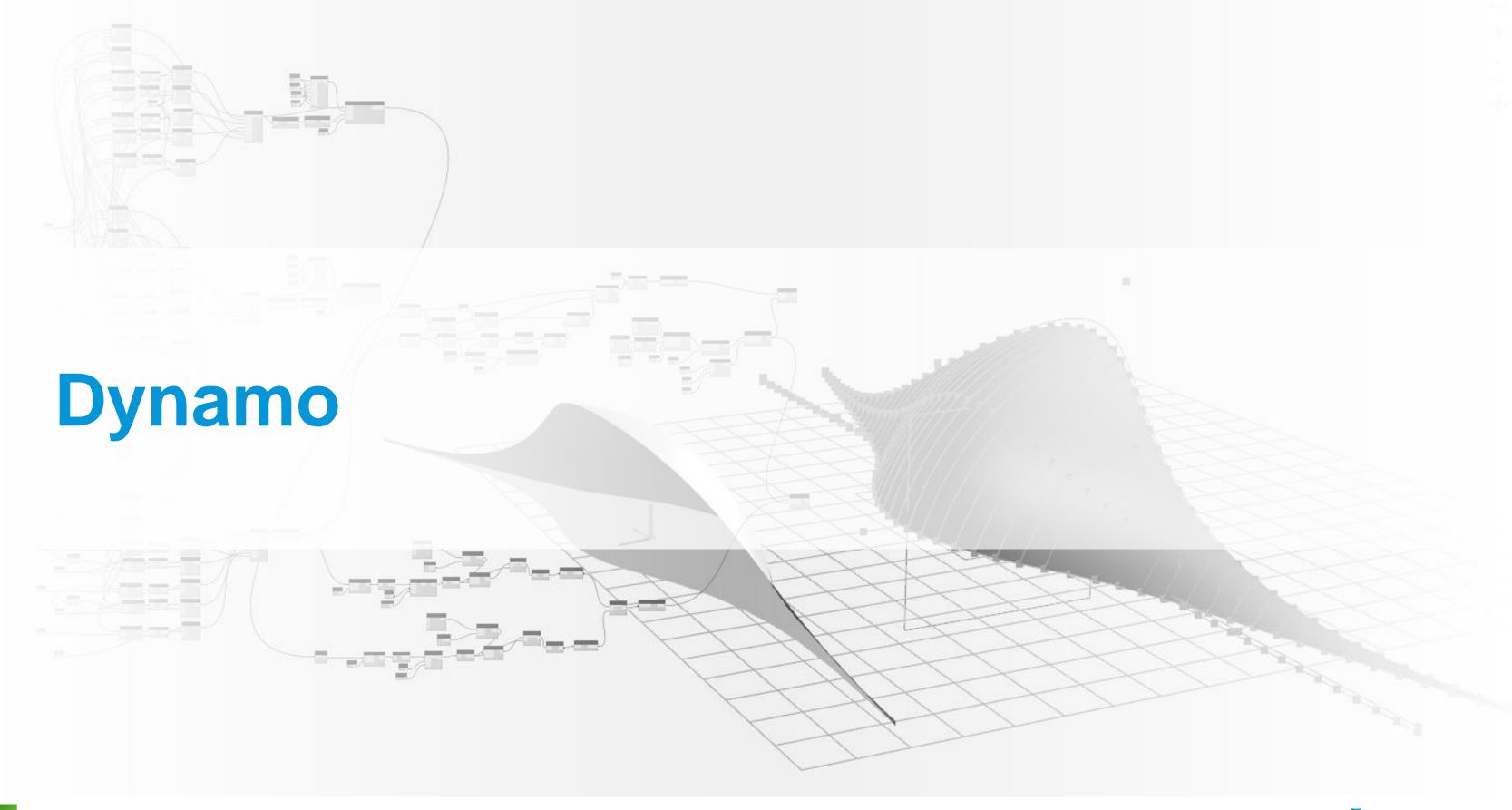




Feedback loop



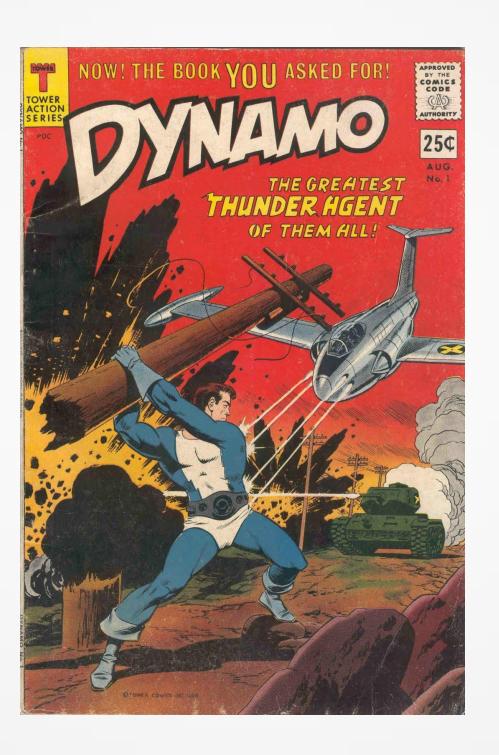






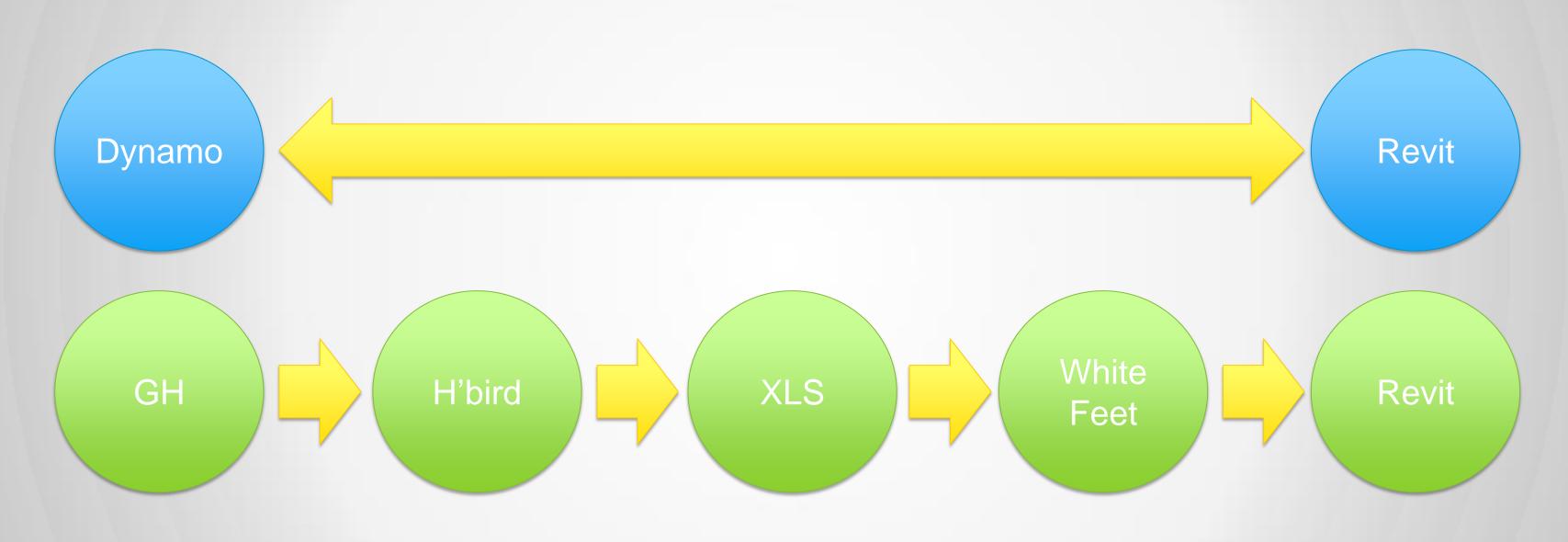


Why did Flanagan Lawrence choose Dynamo?



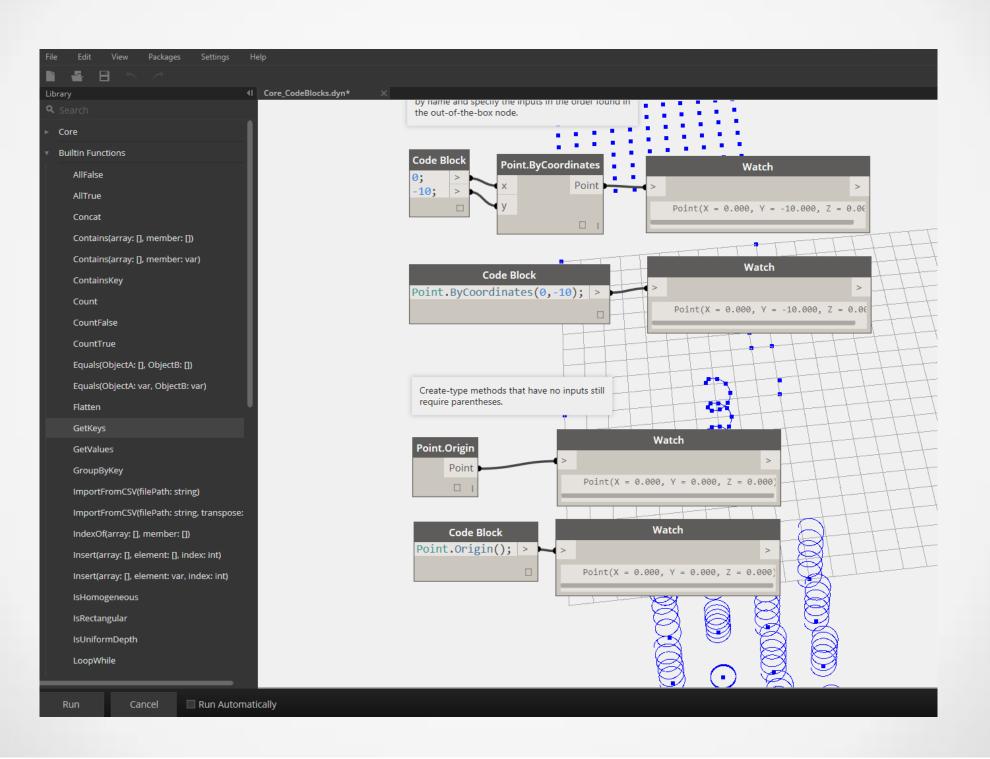


Better than GH

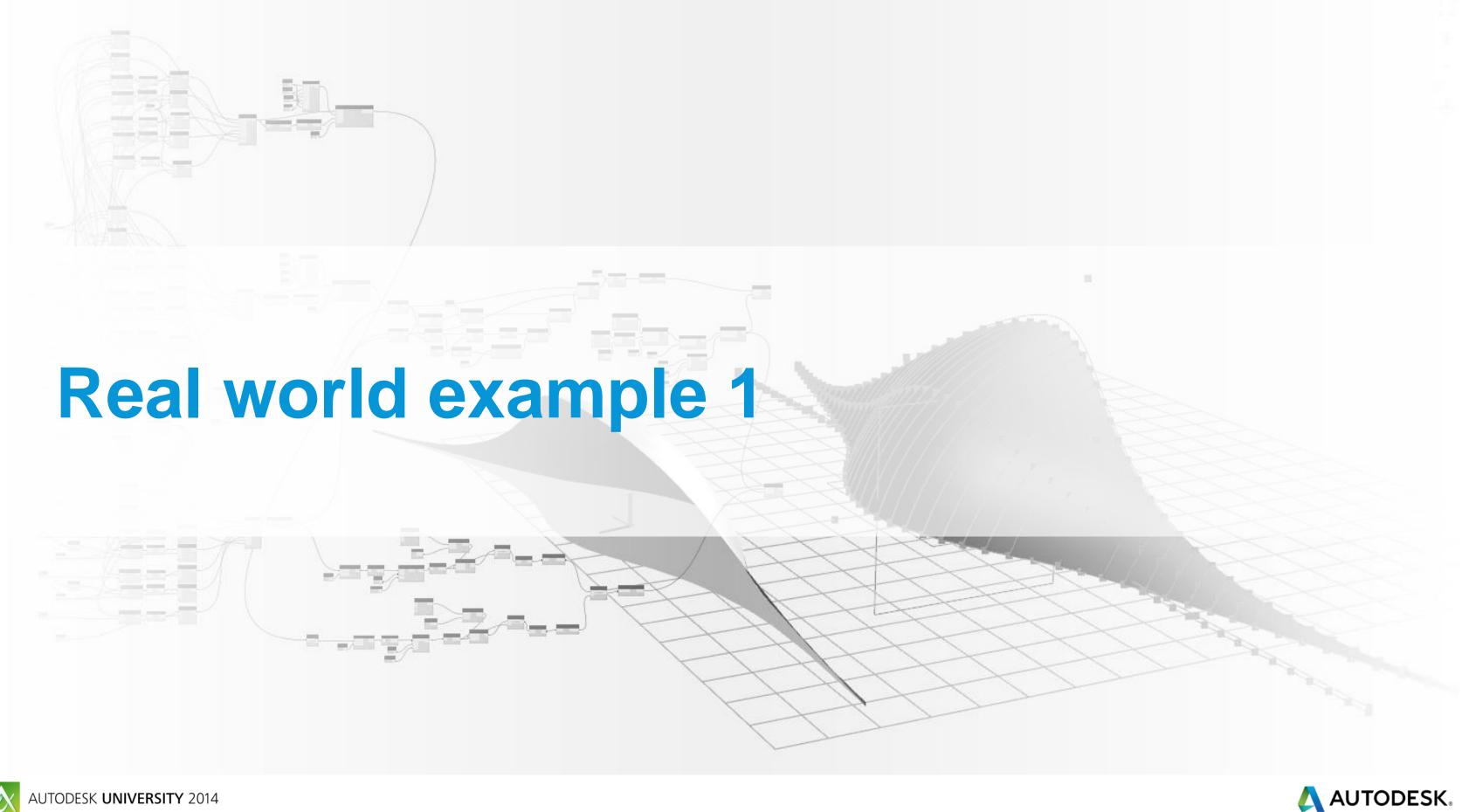




UI and Code blocks



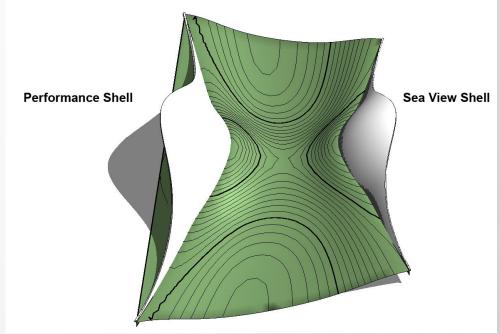




Acoustic Shells, Littlehampton







Conceptual development

- Design Options
- Simplistic geometry
- Quick



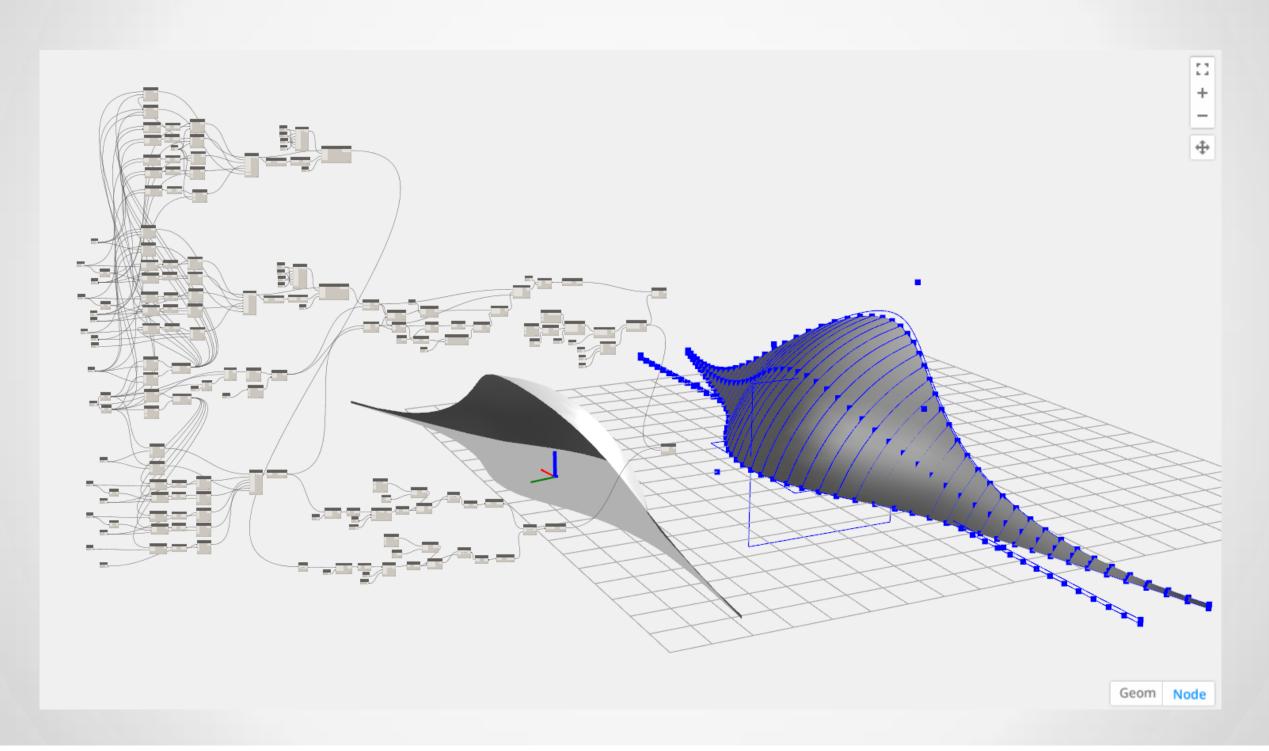




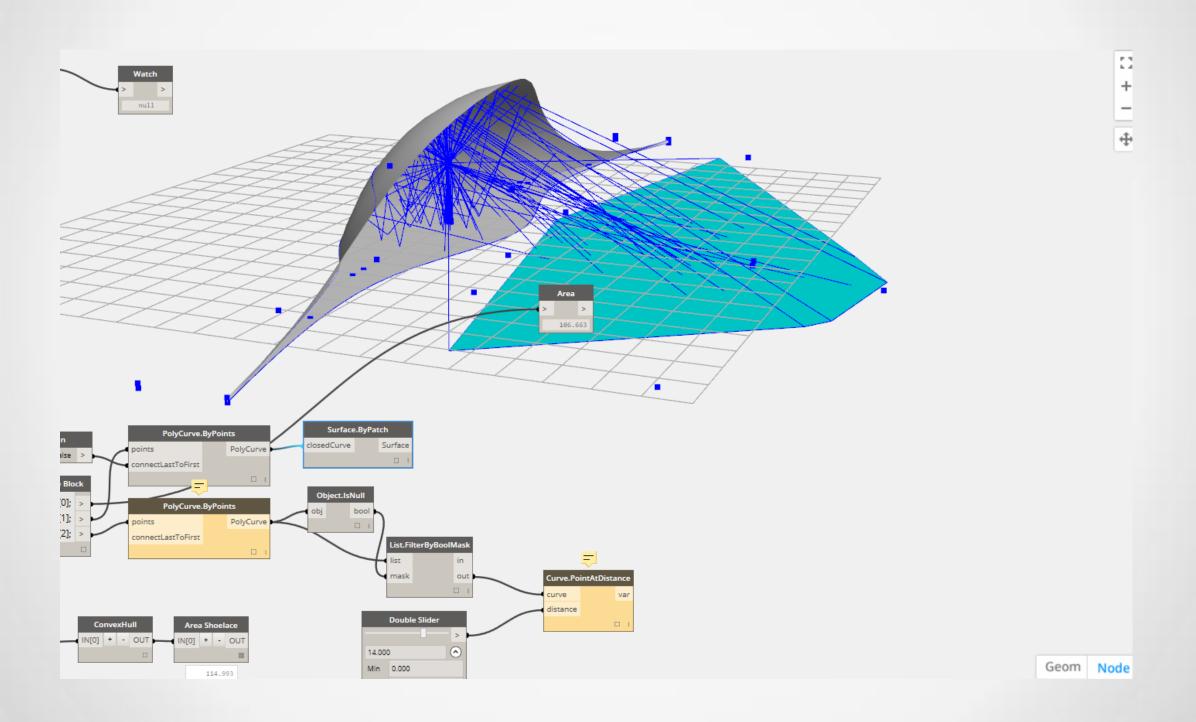




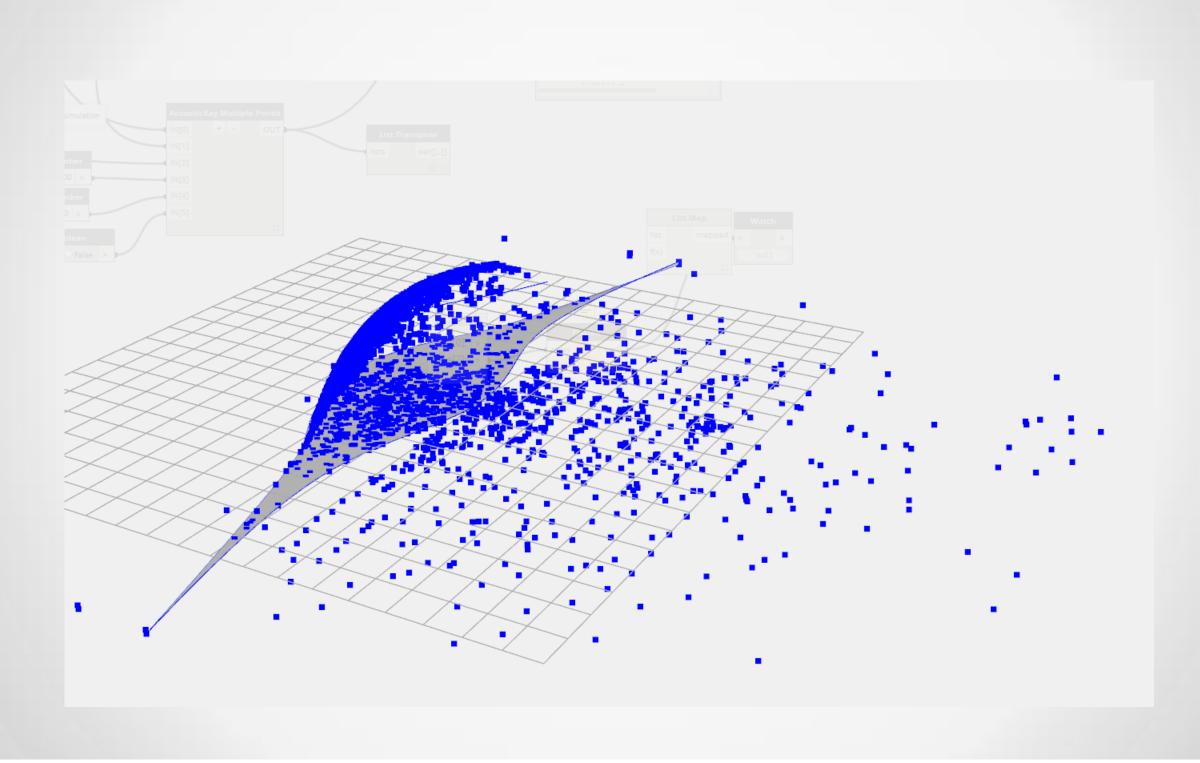


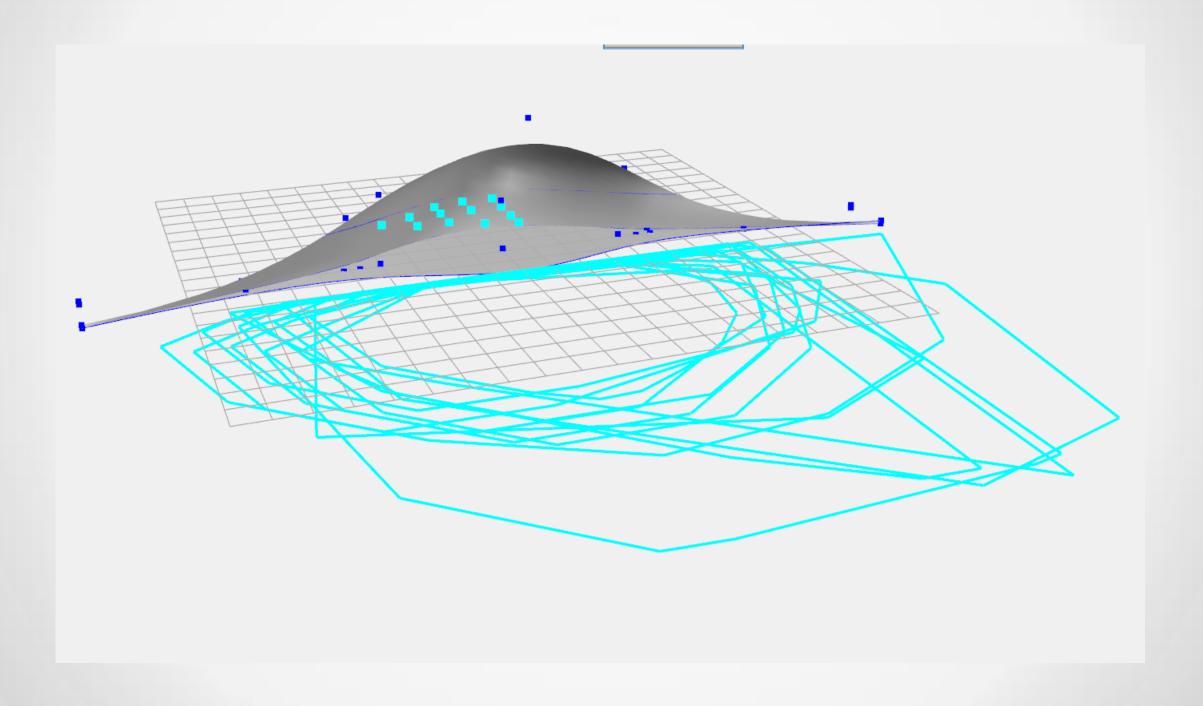




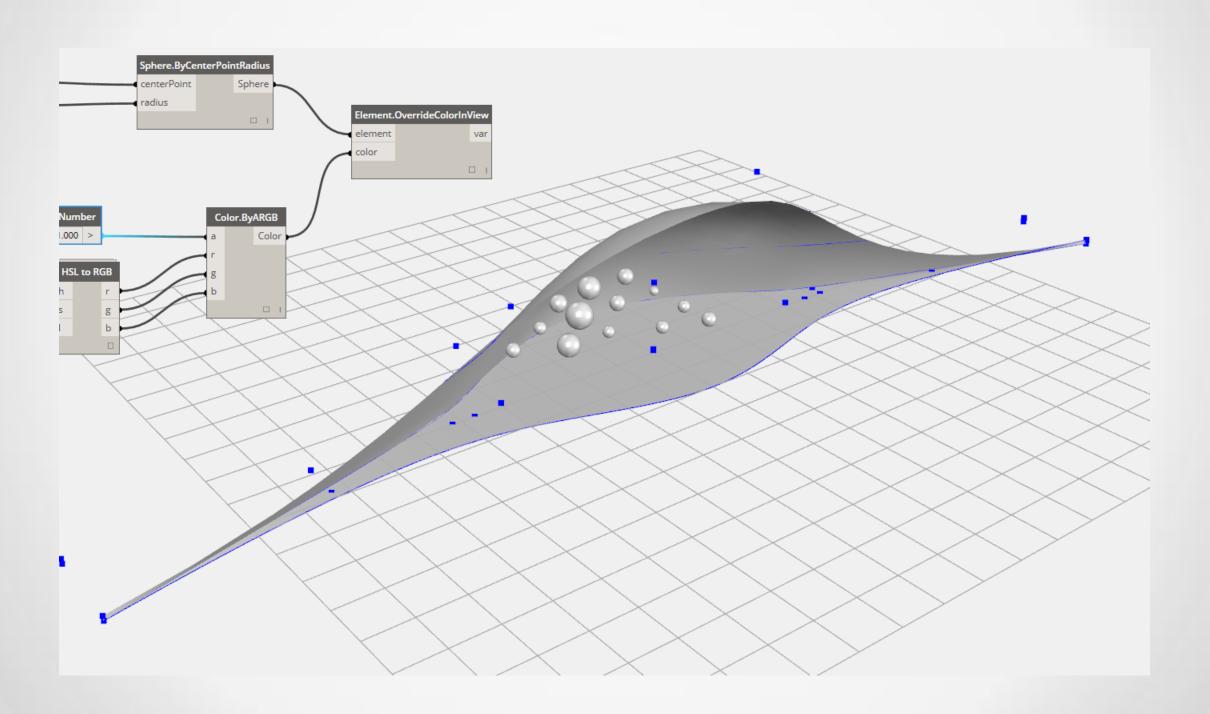










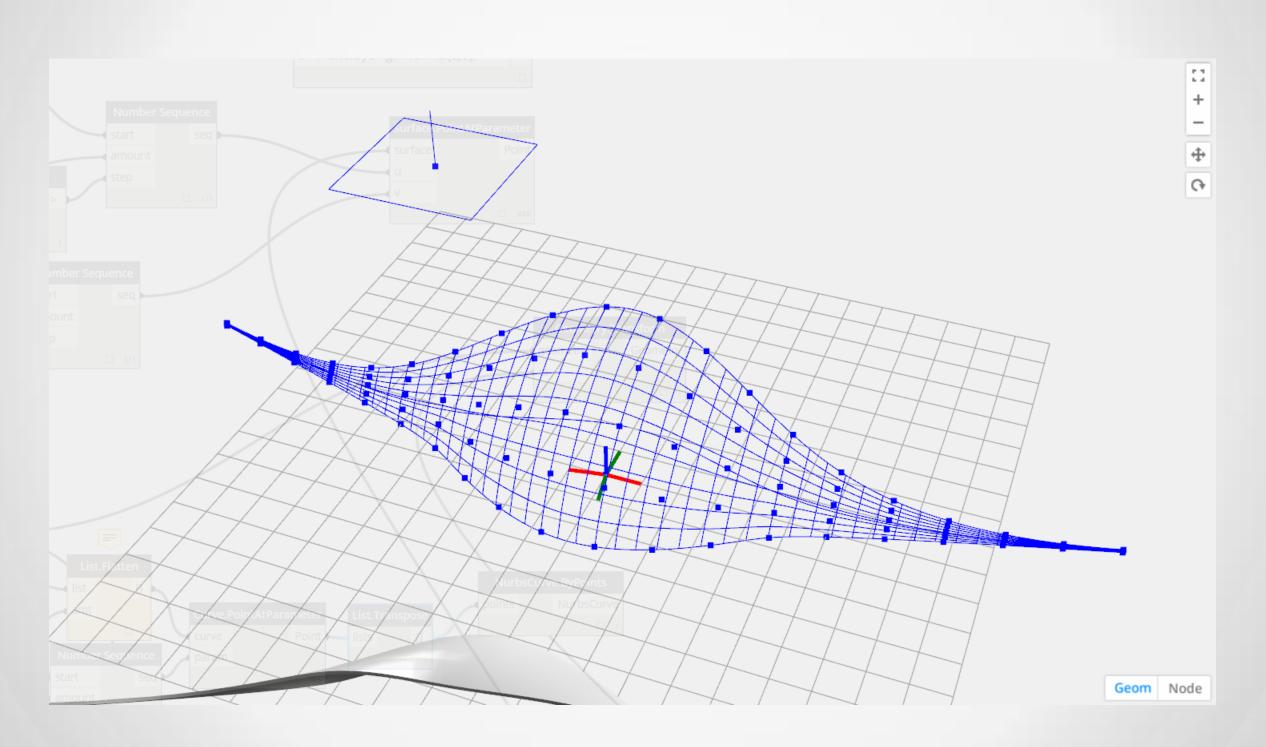


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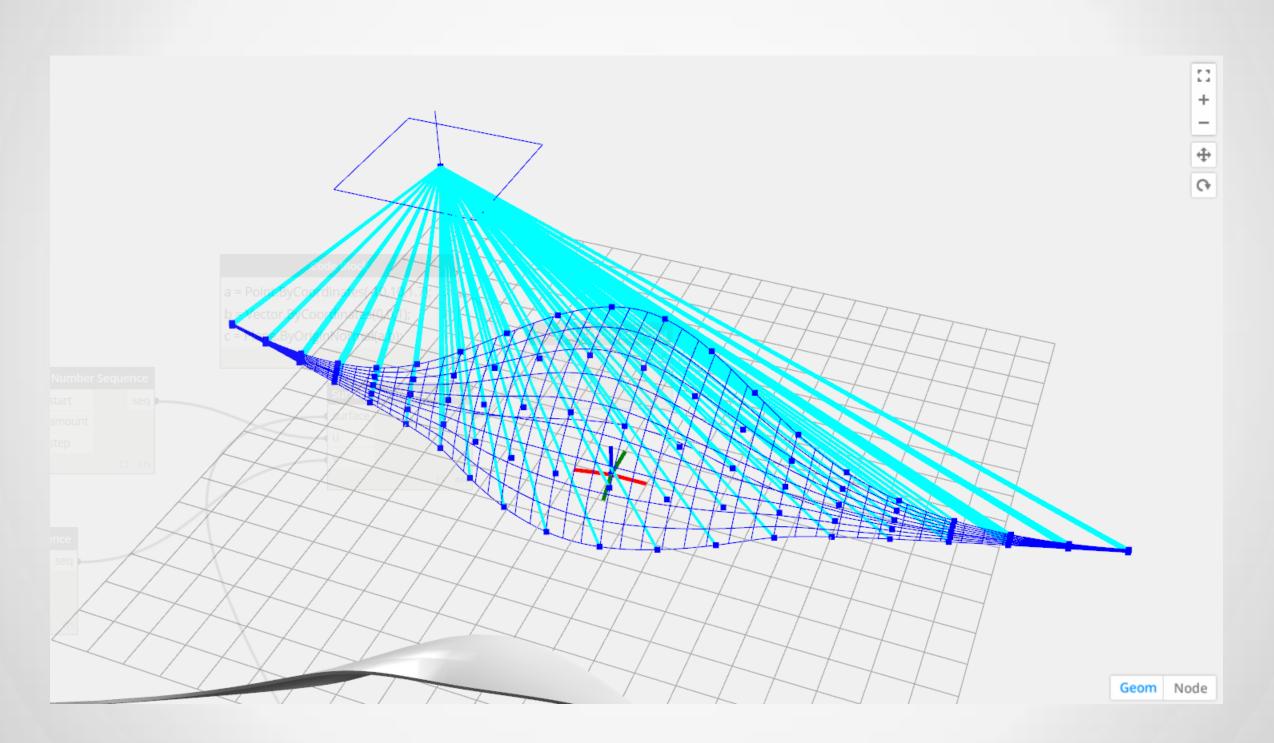
Fabrication



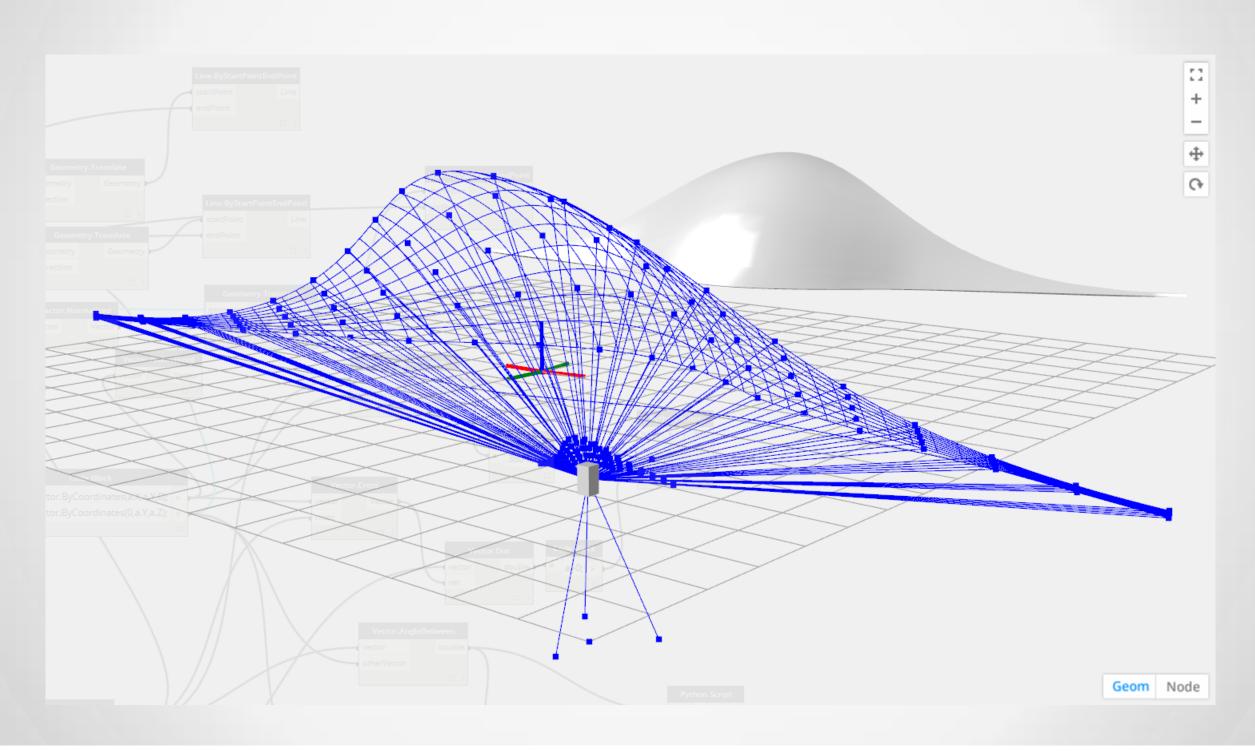




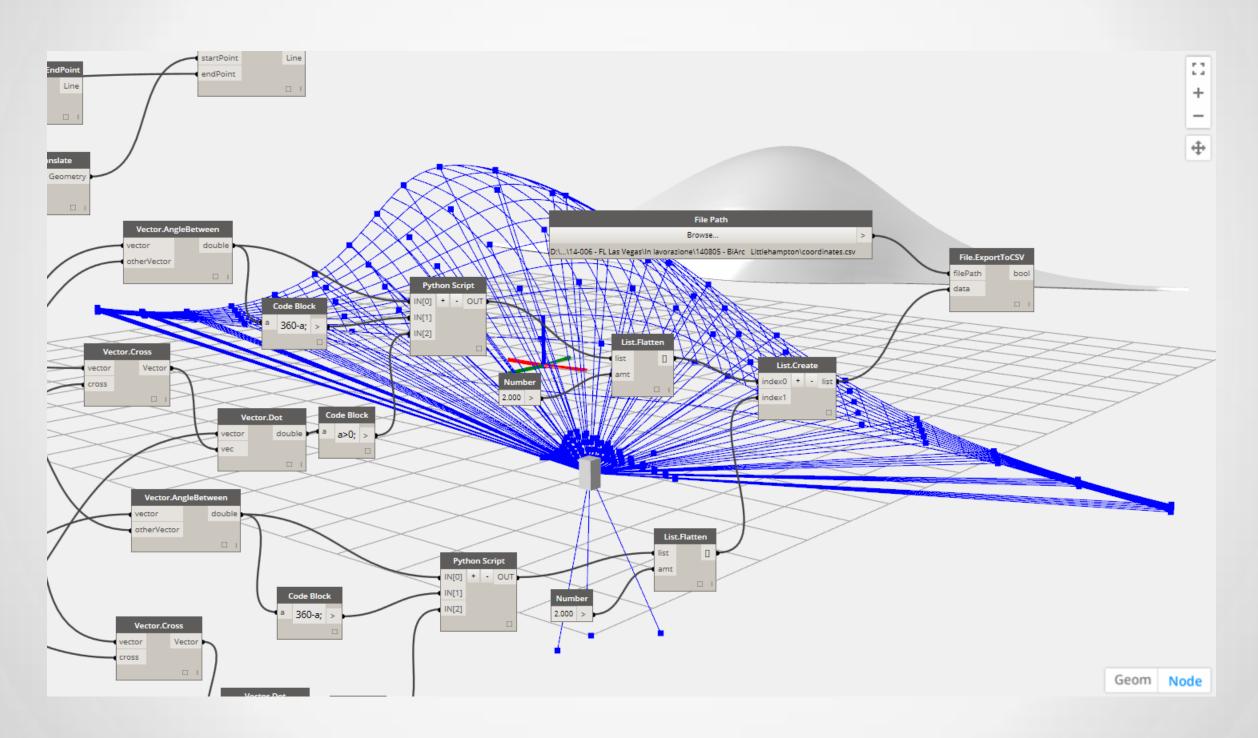




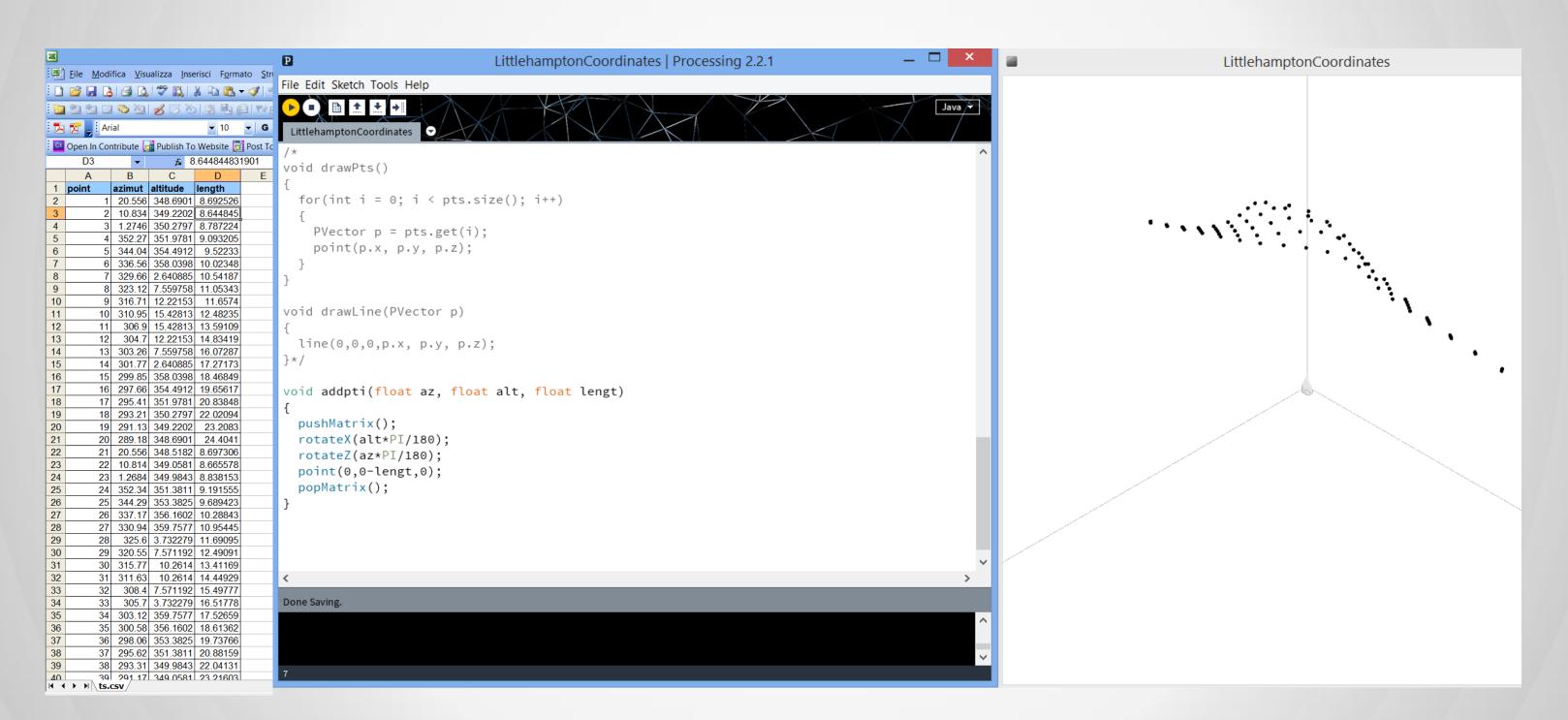










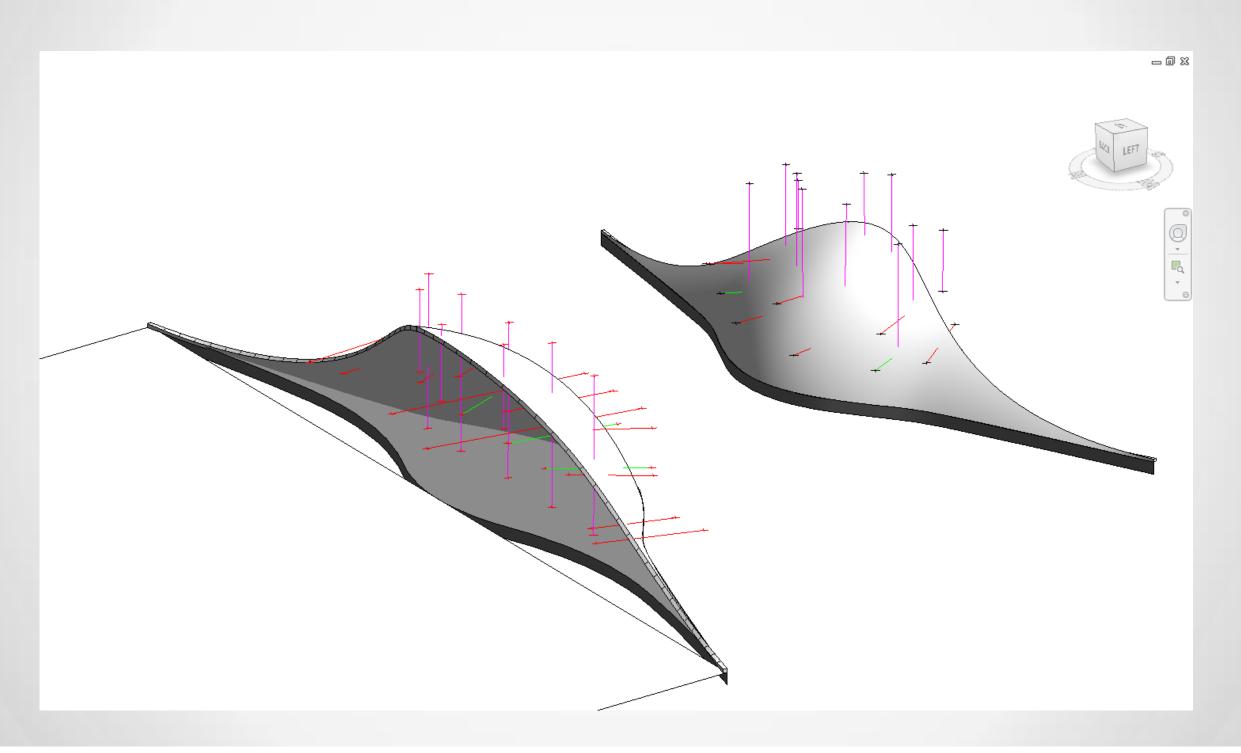




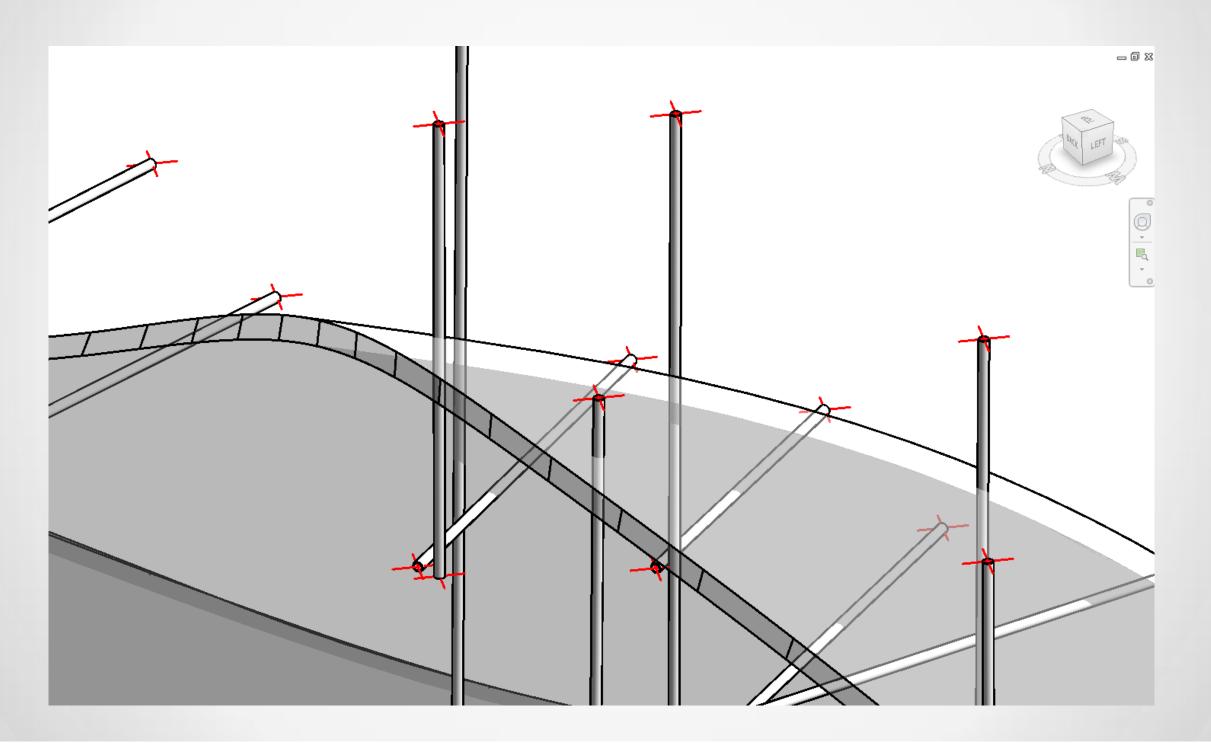
In Reality....



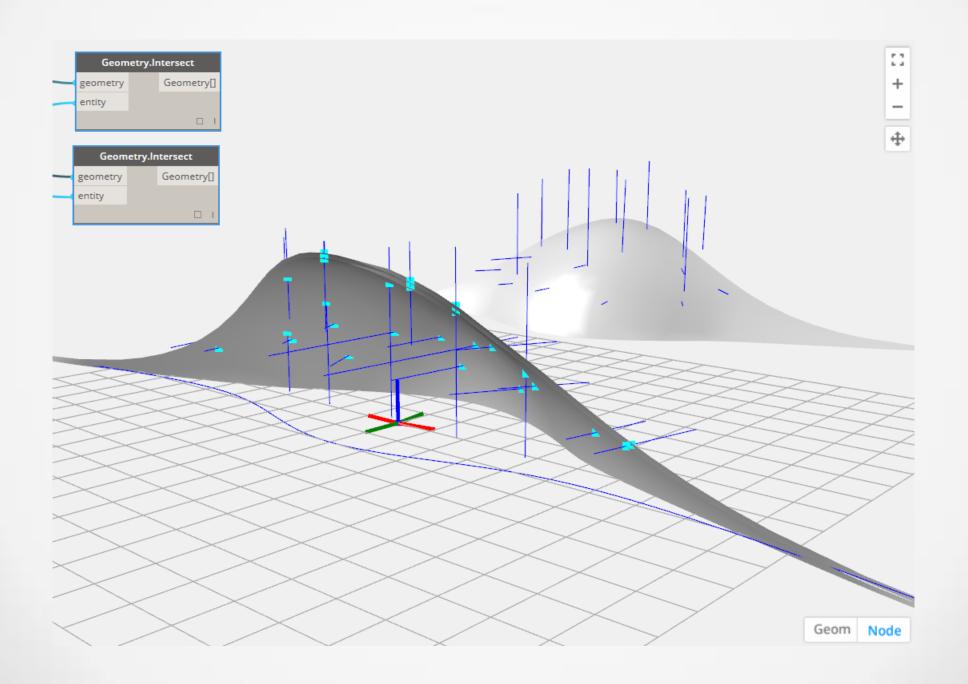




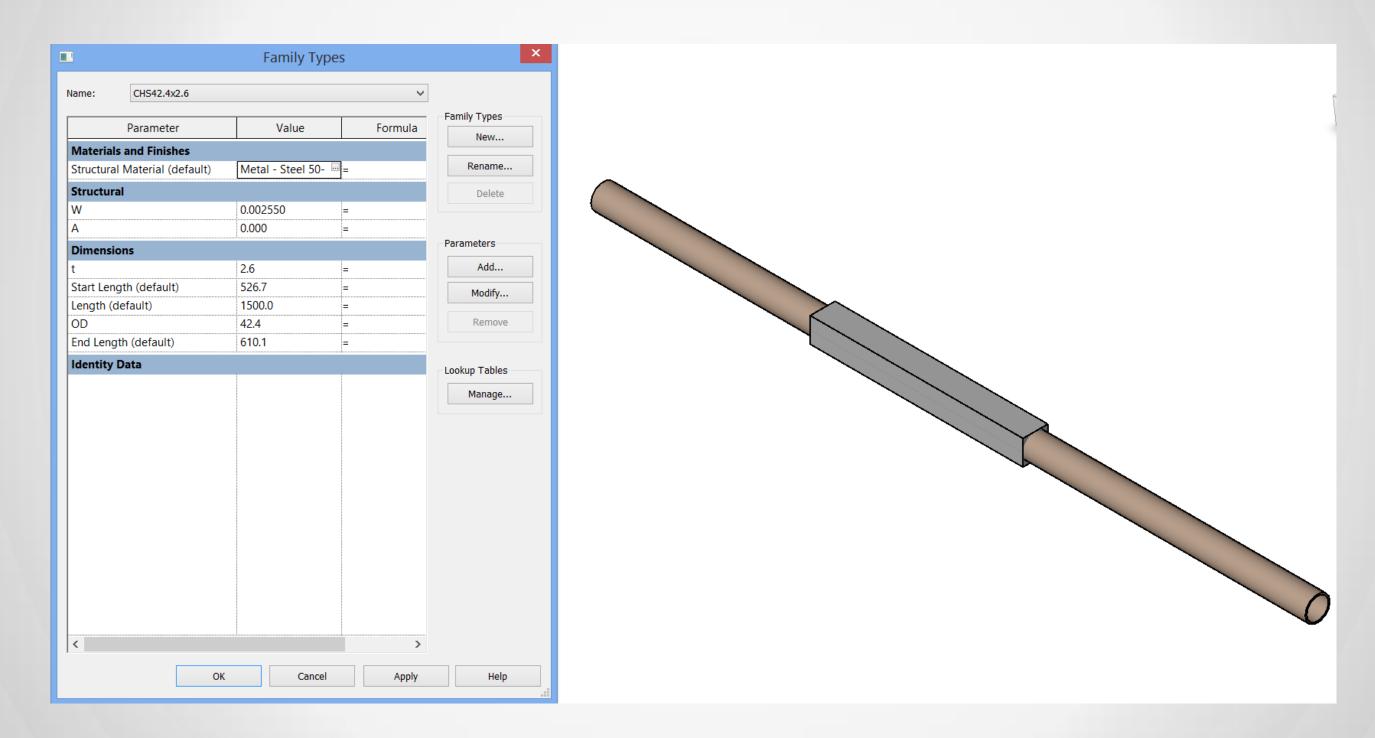




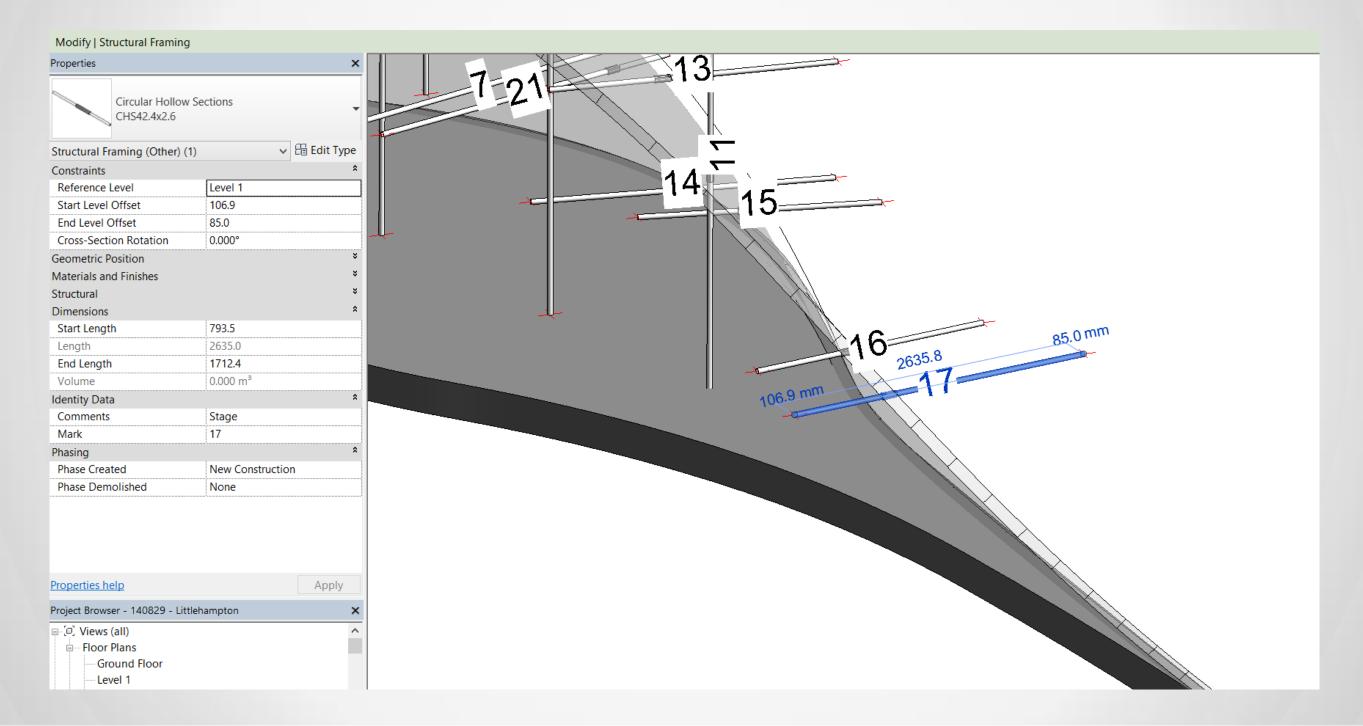




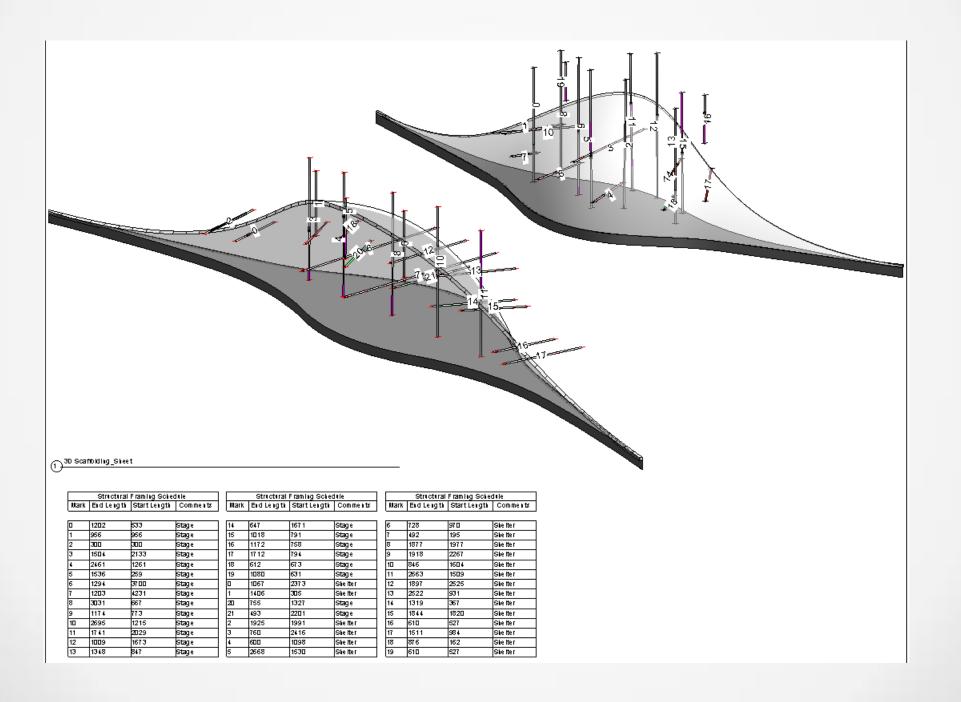




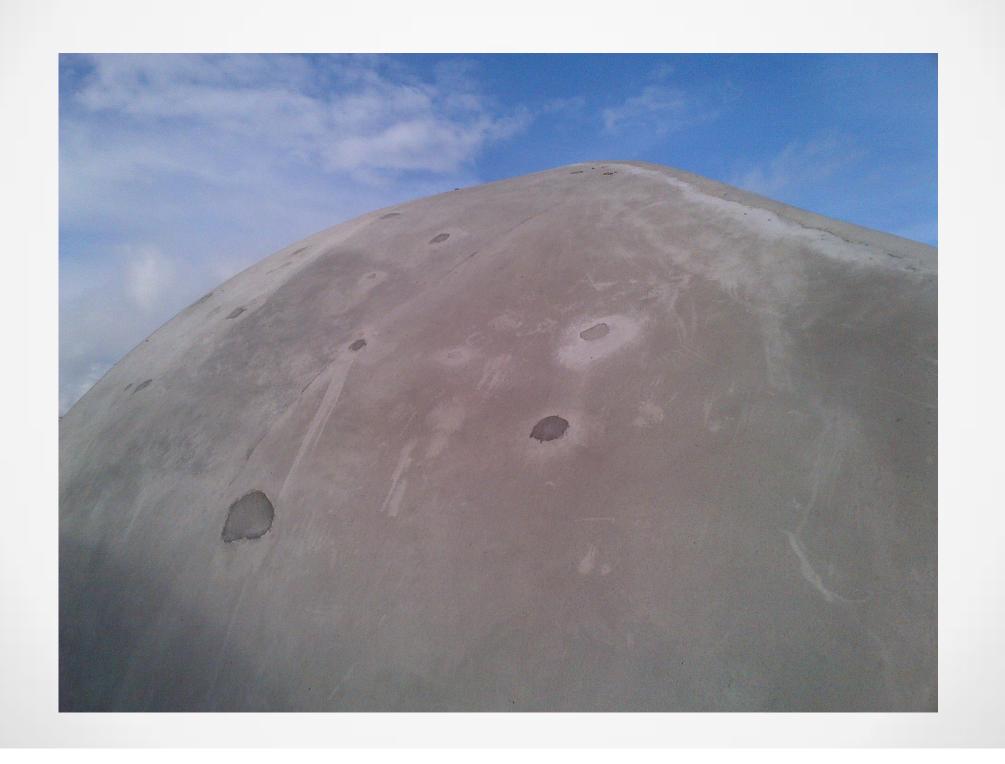






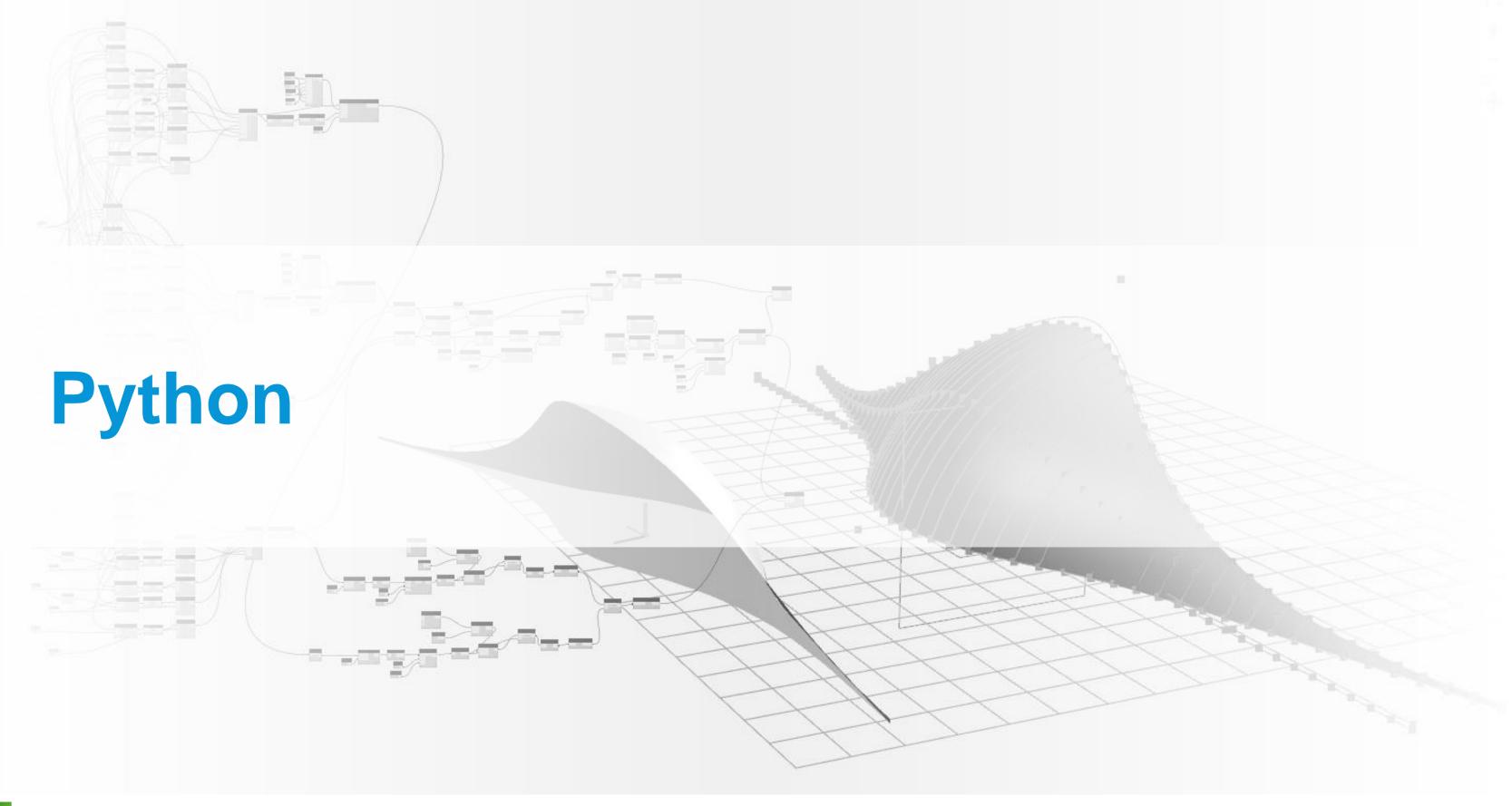








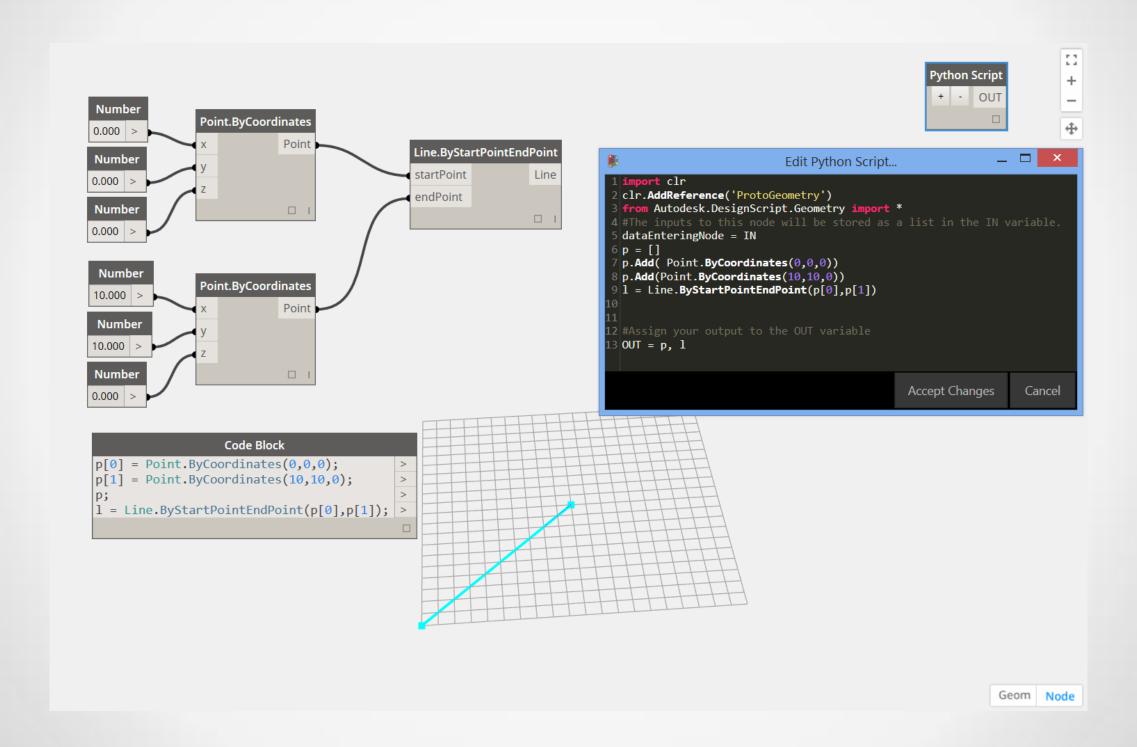




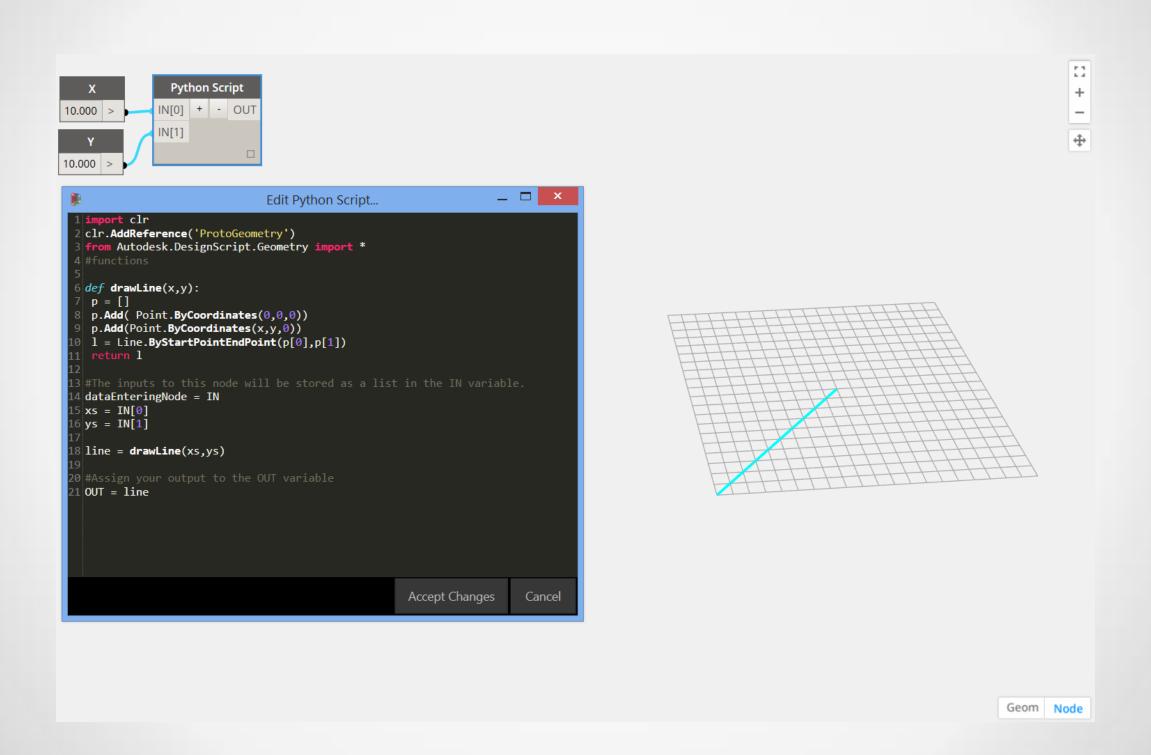




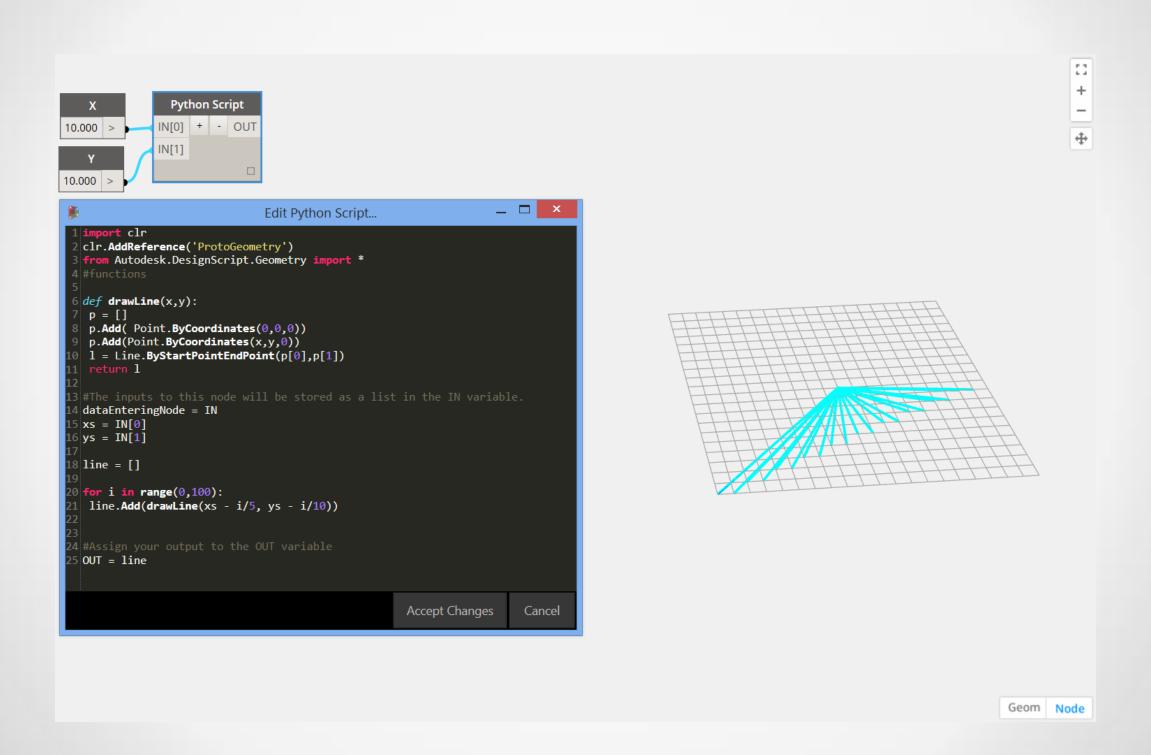
Comparison



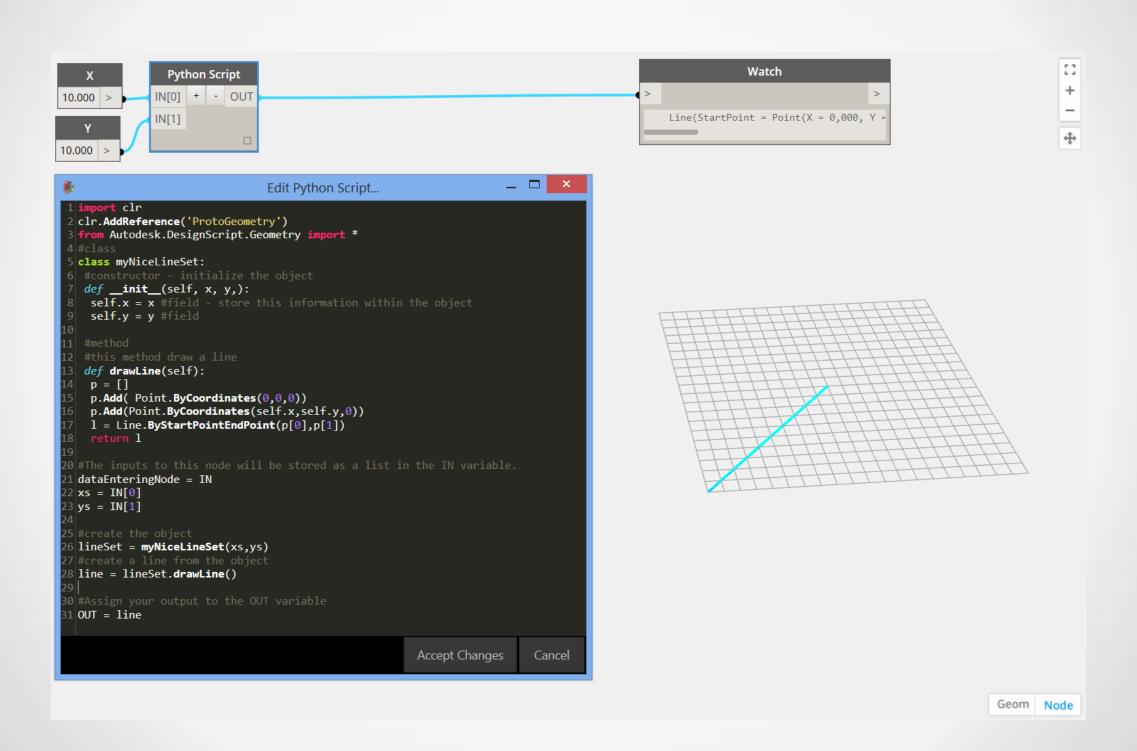




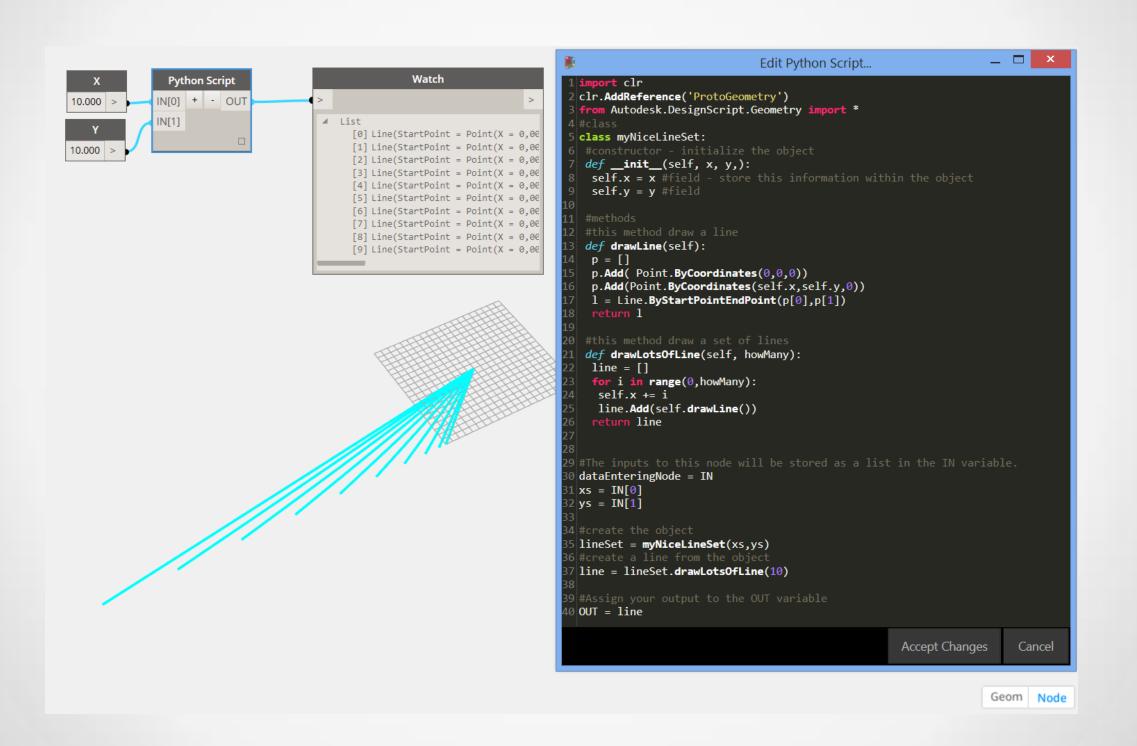










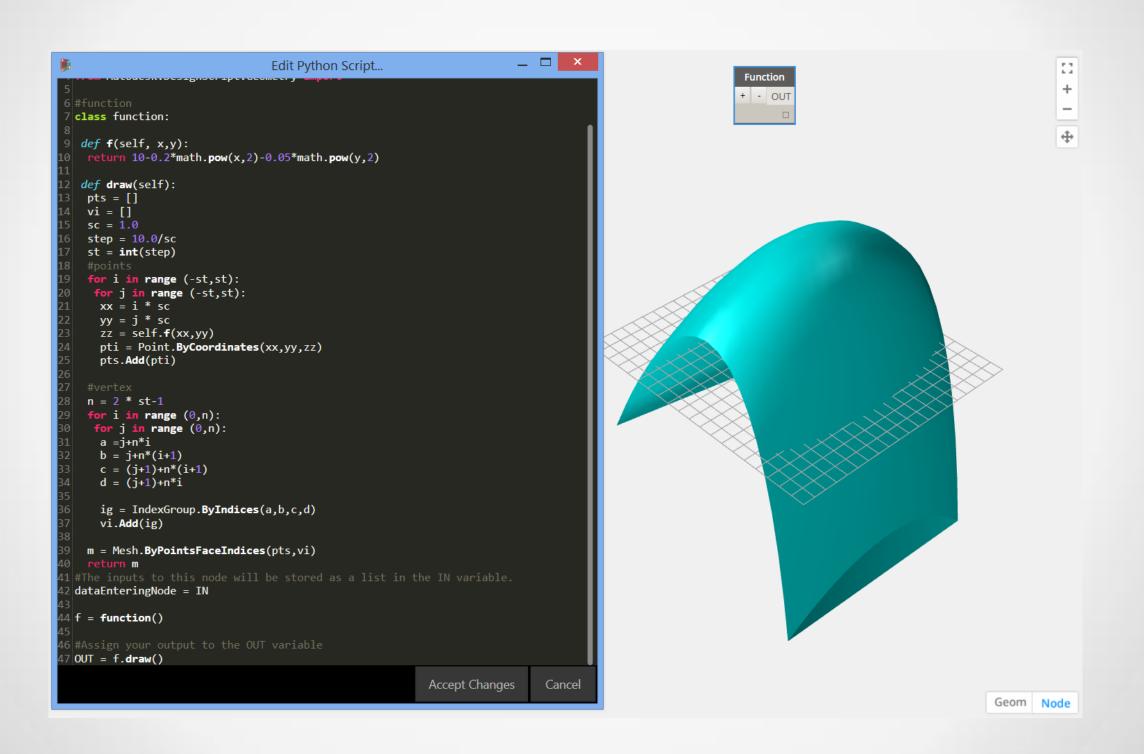




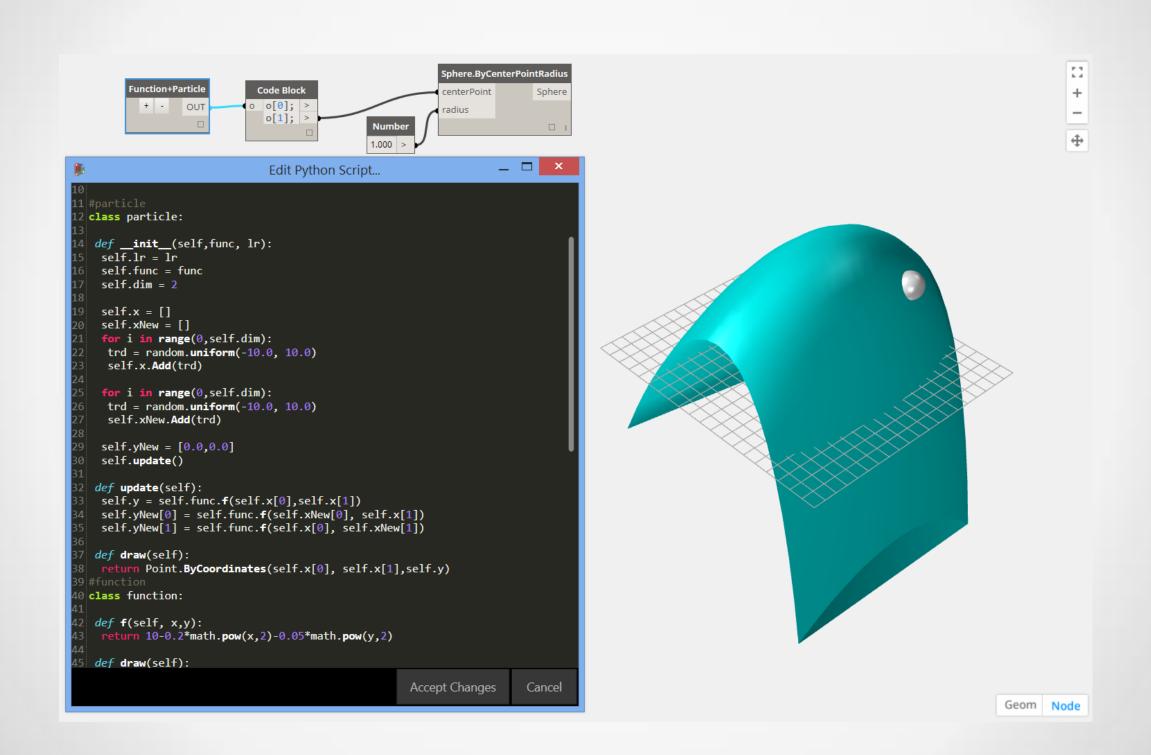
Gradient descent/climbing





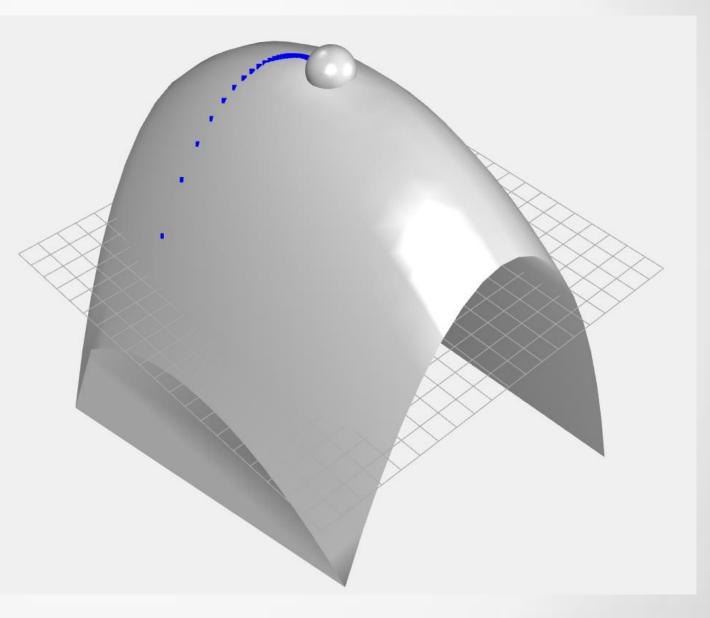








```
11 #particle
12 <mark>class particle:</mark>
14 def __init__(self,func, lr):
15 self.lr = lr
    self.func = func
    self.dim = 2
    self.x = []
    self.xNew = []
    for i in range(0, self.dim):
     trd = random.uniform(-10.0, 10.0)
     self.x.Add(trd)
     for i in range(0,self.dim):
     trd = random.uniform(-10.0, 10.0)
     self.xNew.Add(trd)
    self.yNew = [0.0,0.0]
    self.update()
   def update(self):
    self.y = self.func.f(self.x[0], self.x[1])
    self.yNew[0] = self.func.f(self.xNew[0], self.x[1])
self.yNew[1] = self.func.f(self.x[0], self.xNew[1])
   def draw(self):
    return Point.ByCoordinates(self.x[0], self.x[1],self.y)
   def optimize(self):
    for i in range(0,self.dim):
     delta =self.xNew[i] - self.x[i]
if (math.fabs(delta) > 0.01):
      der = (self.yNew[i]-self.y)/(delta)
       self.x[i] = self.xNew[i]
       self.xNew[i] = self.x[i] + self.lr * der
       self.update()
```





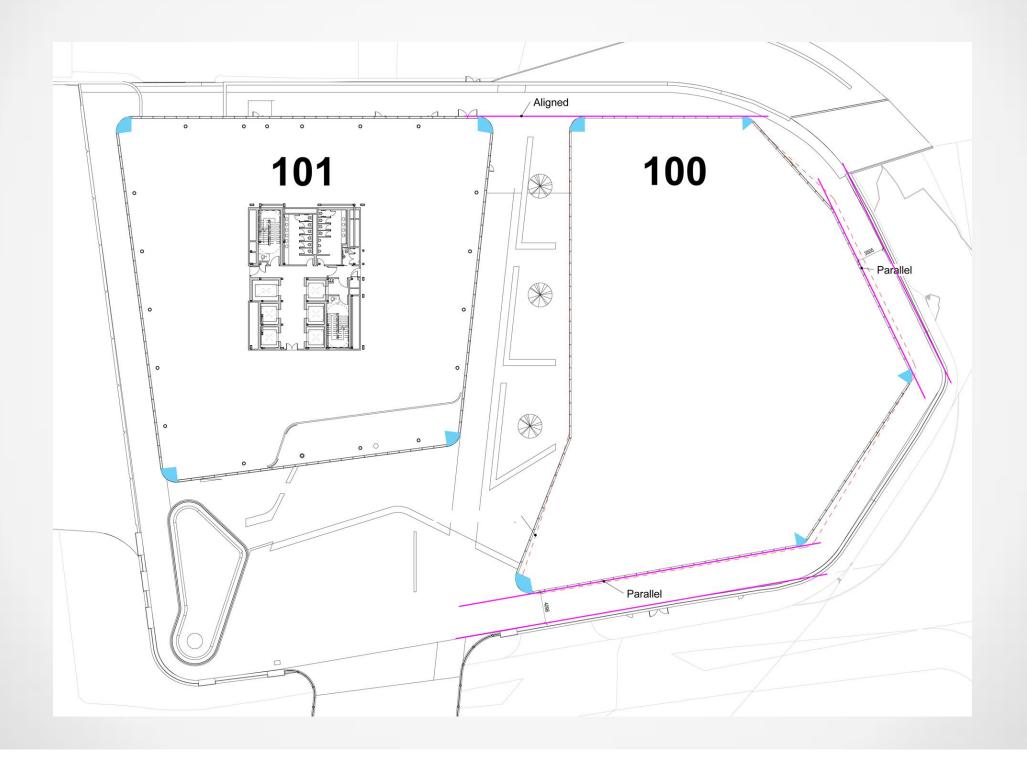


Façade optimization

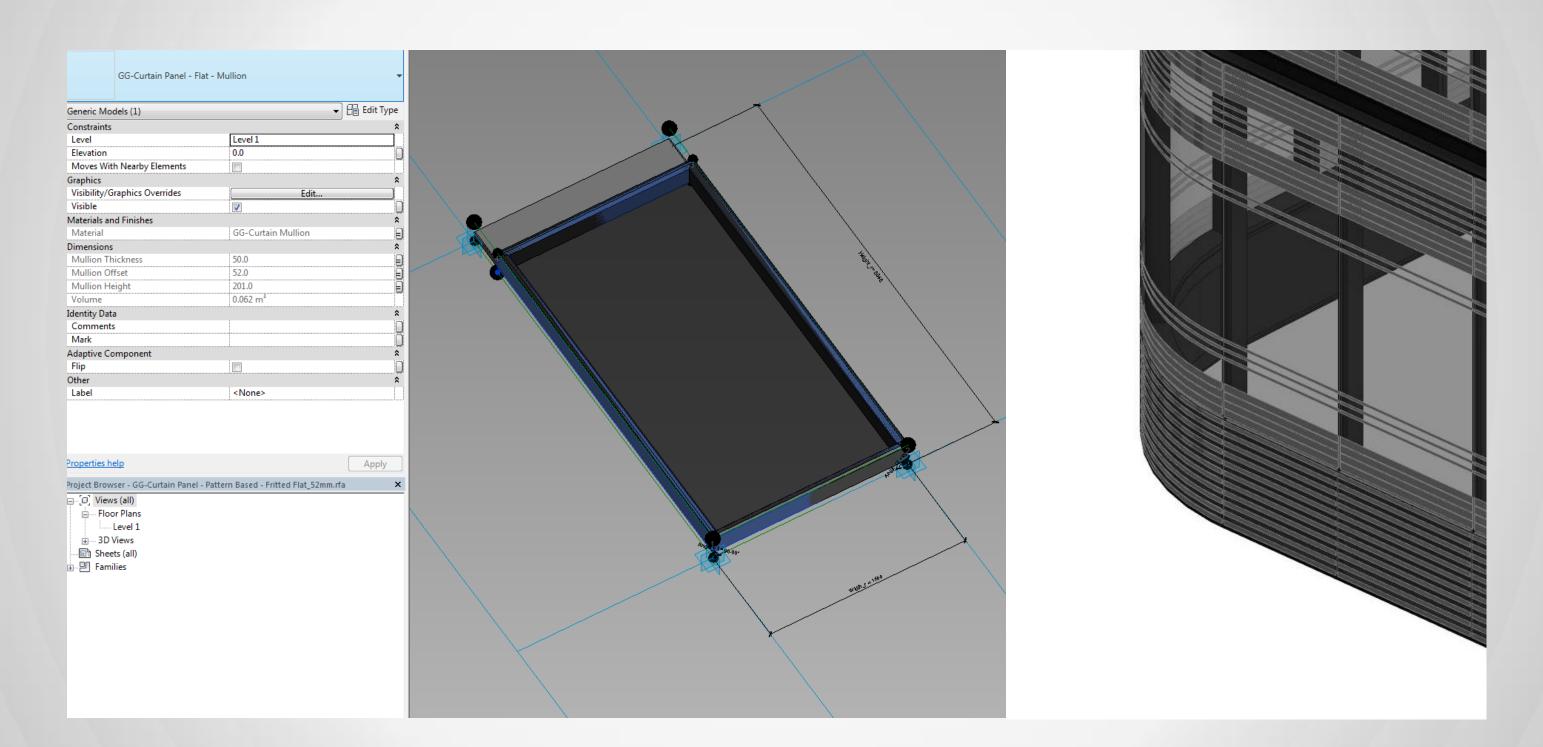




Site Constraints









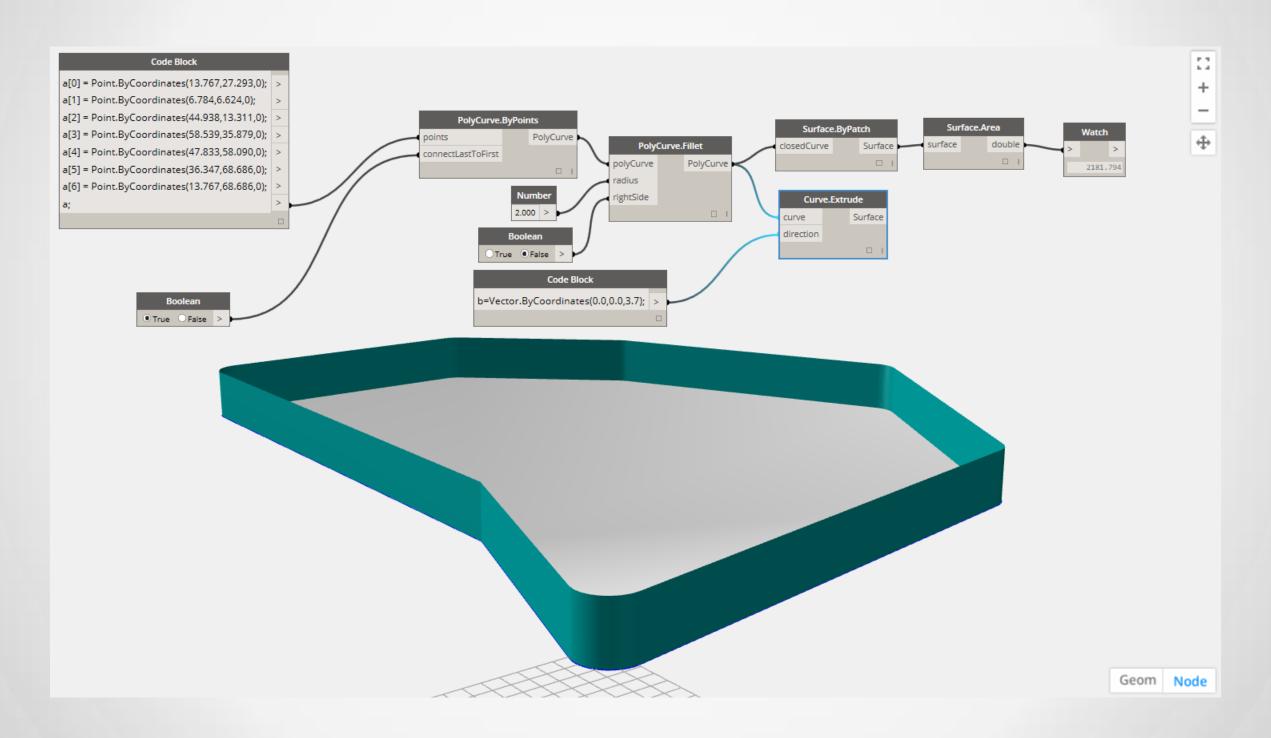




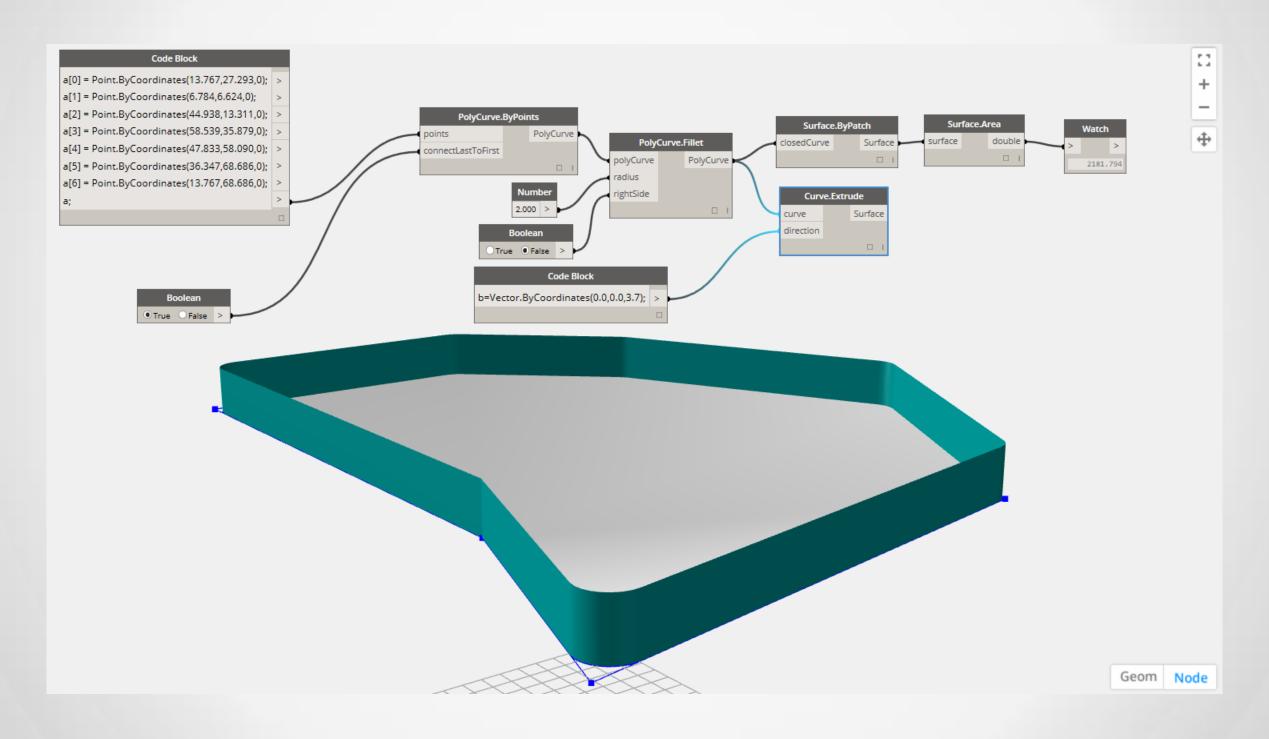
Curtain Wall Panel - Typical Floor - Building 100										
Panel Type	Amount	Curved Length	Radius	Width	Height	Glass Height	Curved Area	Flat Area	Curved Glass Area	Flat Glass Area
Type A	101	20118411			3890	3590	0 m ²	589 m ²	0 m ²	544 m ²
Type B	2			1514	3890	3590	0 m²	12 m²	0 m ²	11 m²
Type C	2			1691	3890	3590	0 m²	13 m²	0 m²	12 m²
Type D	2			1794	3890	3590	0 m ²	14 m²	0 m²	13 m²
Type E	1			696	3890	3590	0 m²	3 m²	0 m²	2 m²
Type F	1			1212	3890	3590	0 m²	5 m²	0 m²	4 m²
Type G	1			1256	3890	3590	0 m²	5 m²	0 m²	5 m²
Type H	1			1262	3890	3590	0 m²	5 m²	0 m²	5 m²
Type I	1			1550	3890	3590	0 m²	6 m²	0 m²	6 m²
Type L	1			1916	3890	3590	0 m²	7 m²	0 m²	7 m²
Type M	1			2038	3890	3590	0 m ²	8 m²	0 m²	7 m²



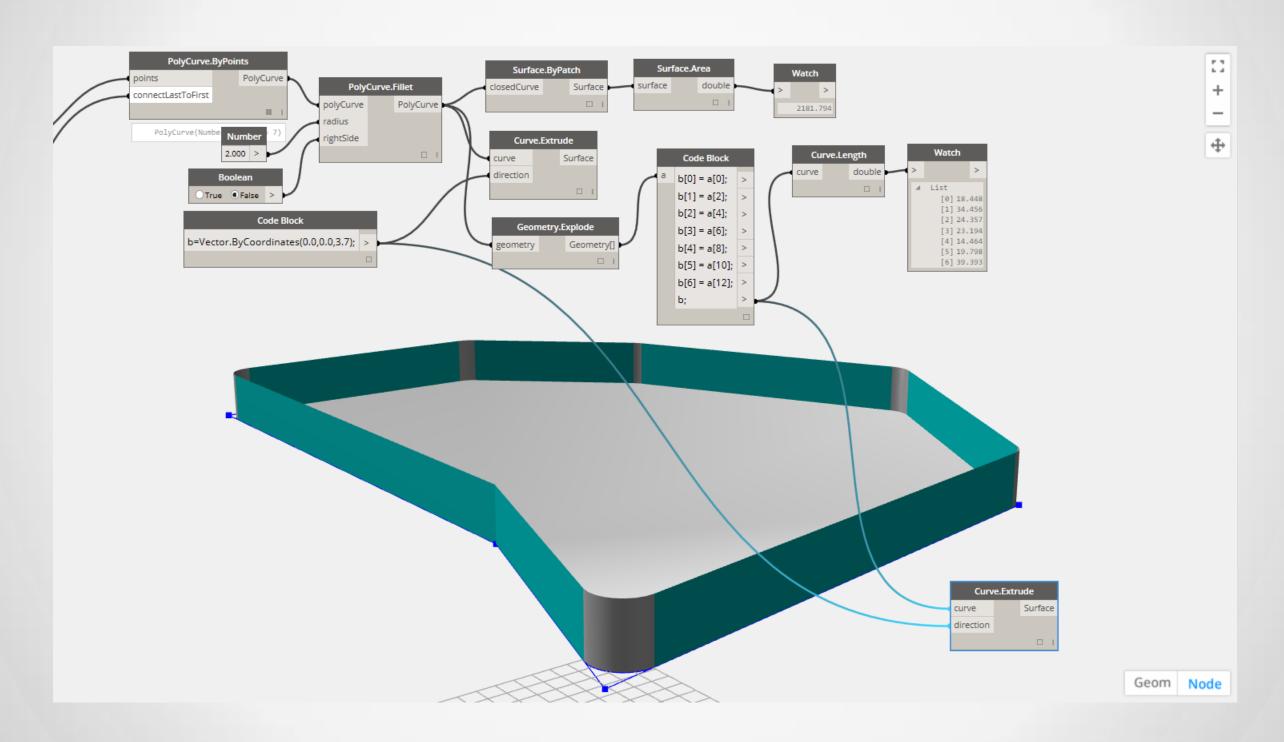




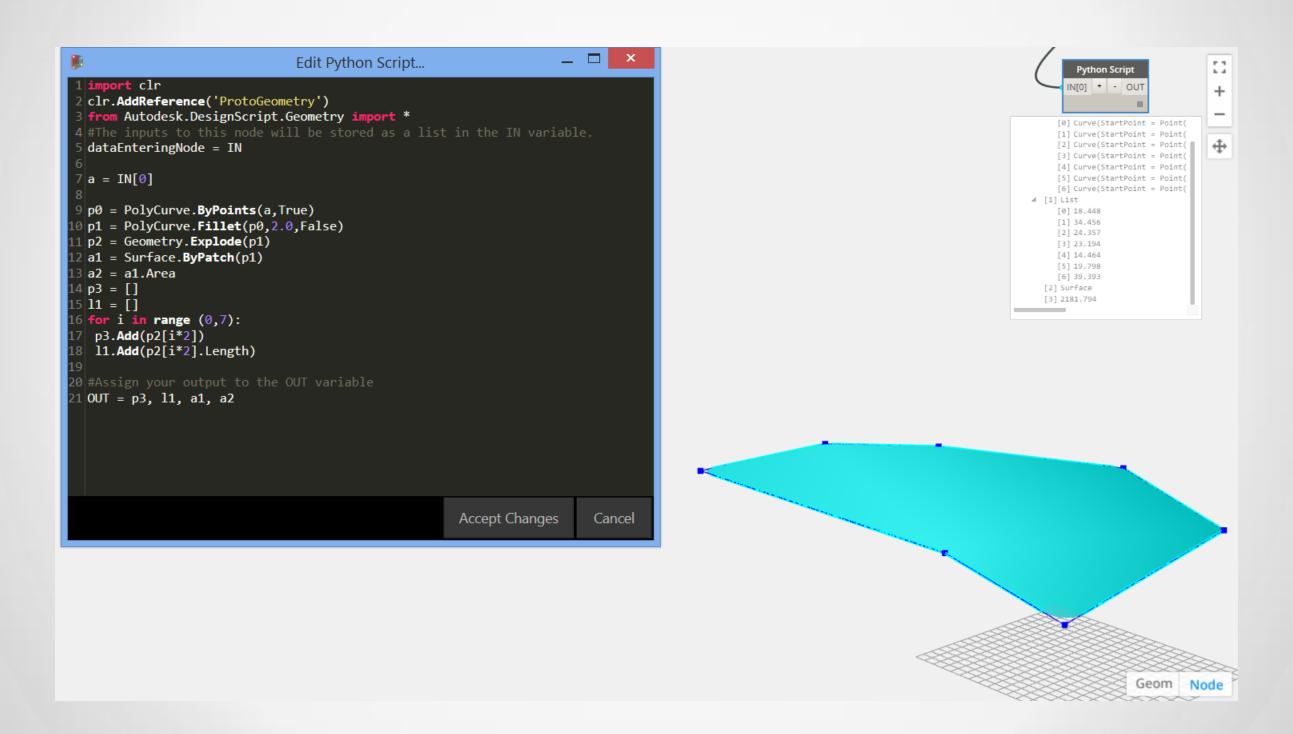




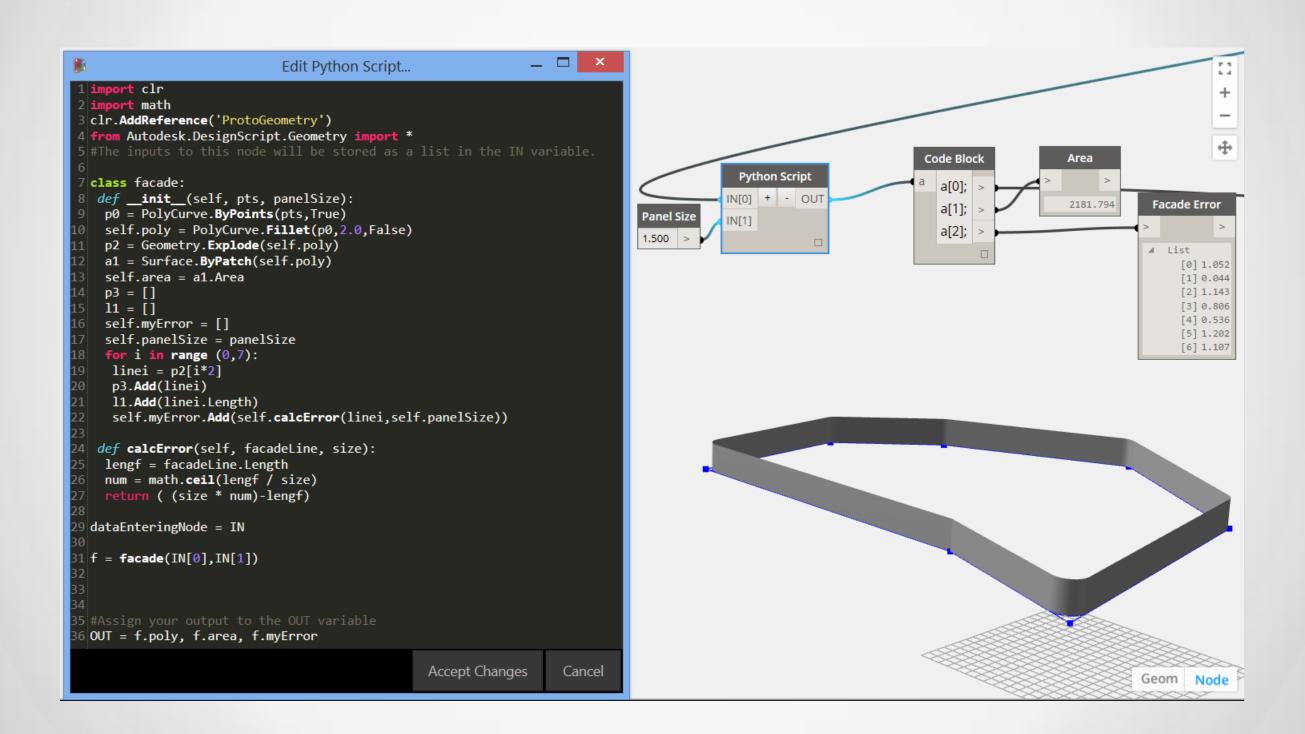








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Corners

```
#control point class
#store position and constraints

class particle:
    def __init__(self, position, constraints):
    self.p = position
    self.c = constraints #1 free 0 constrained
    self.r = 0

def move(self,e):
    pNew = Point.ByCoordinates(self.p.X + (e.X * self.c.X),
    self.p.Y + (e.Y * self.c.Y), 0.0)
    self.p = pNew

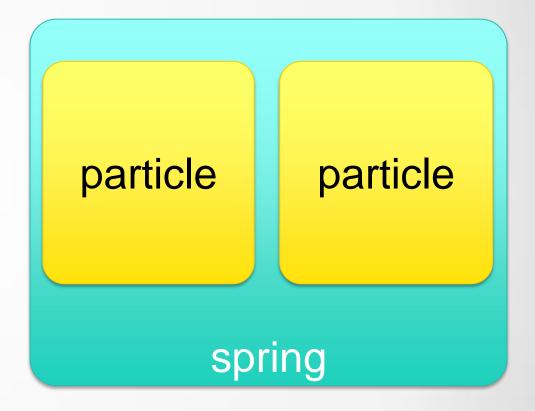
#spring class
#store the spring elements which connects the nodes
```

particle



Individual facades

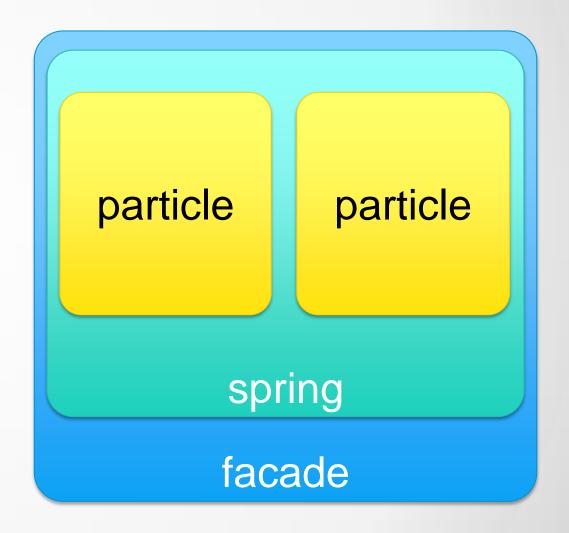
```
24 class spring:
  def __init__(self, n1, n2):
   self.a = n1
   self.b = n2
   self.vds = Vector.ByTwoPoints(self.b.p, self.a.p)
   self.lengf = 0.0
   self.error = 0.0
  def update(self, size, lr, iter):
   self.vds = Vector.ByTwoPoints(self.b.p, self.a.p)
   self.lengf = self.vds.Length
   self.lengf -= self.a.r
   self.lengf -= self.b.r
   self.error = self.calcError(self.lengf, size, iter)
   e1 = Vector.ByCoordinates(self.vds.X, self.vds.Y, 0.0)
   e1n = e1.Normalized()
   errorScale = self.error/2.0 * lr
   e1ns = e1n.Scale(-errorScale)
   e2ns = e1n.Scale(errorScale)
   self.a.move(e1ns)
   self.b.move(e2ns)
  def calcError(self, lengf, size, iter):
   num = 0
   if(iter < 5):
    num = int(math.ceil(lengf / size))
    num = int(round(lengf / size))
   return (lengf - (size * num))
```





Entire facade

```
class facade:
def __init__(self, panelSize):
self.cp = []
self.sp = []
 self.panelSize = panelSize
 self.rad = 2.0
 self.maxError = []
def addPt(self, pt,fx,fy):
 fsx = 0
 fsy = 0
 if(fx):
  fsx = 1.0
  fsx = 0.0
 if(fy):
  fsy = 1.0
  fsy = 0.0
 constr = Vector.ByCoordinates(fsx,fsy,0.0)
 self.cp.Add(particle(pt,constr))
def generate(self):
 for i in range (0,self.cp.Count):
  ni = self.cp[i]
  nj = self.cp[(i+1)%self.cp.Count]
self.sp.Add(spring(ni,nj))
```





```
88 def update(self, iter):
90 cps = self.cp.Count
91 for i in range (0,cps):
92 ip = i-1
    if i == 0:
    ip = cps -1
95 iin = (i+1) % cps
    previousL = Vector.ByCoordinates(
97 self.cp[i].p.X-self.cp[ip].p.X,
98 self.cp[i].p.Y-self.cp[ip].p.Y,
99 0.0)
    successiveL = Vector.ByCoordinates(
101 self.cp[i].p.X-self.cp[iin].p.X,
102 self.cp[i].p.Y-self.cp[iin].p.Y,
103 0.0)
104 angle = angleBetweenVectors(successiveL, previousL)
shrink = self.rad / (math.tan(angle/2.0))
     self.cp[i].r = shrink
107 #3D model
108 pts = []
109 for i in range (0,cps):
110 pti = self.cp[i].p
ptix = Point.ByCoordinates(pti.X, pti.Y, pti.Z)
112 pts.Add(ptix)
114 p0 = PolyCurve.ByPoints(pts,True)
self.poly = PolyCurve.Fillet(p0, self.rad , False)
116 a1 = Surface.ByPatch(self.poly)
17 self.area = a1.Area
```

```
def optimize(self, learningr, iter):
    #maxIt = 0
maxIt = 0.0
for i in range (0,self.sp.Count):
    #update polyline
    self.update(i)

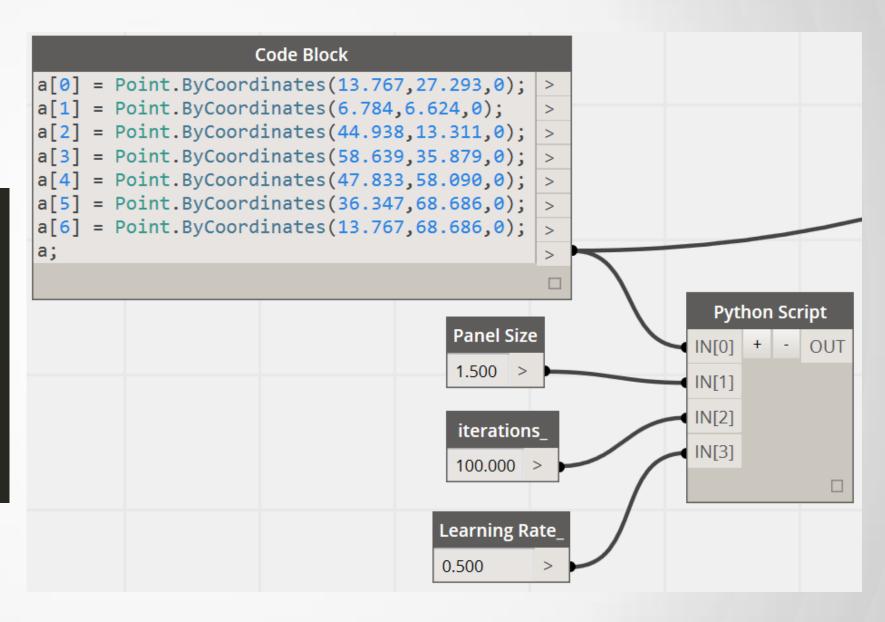
for i in range (0,self.sp.Count):
    #update corners
    self.sp[i].update(self.panelSize, learningr, iter)

#maxIt = max(maxIt, math.fabs(self.sp[i].error))
maxIt = max(maxIt,math.fabs(self.sp[i].error))
self.maxError.Add(maxIt)
```



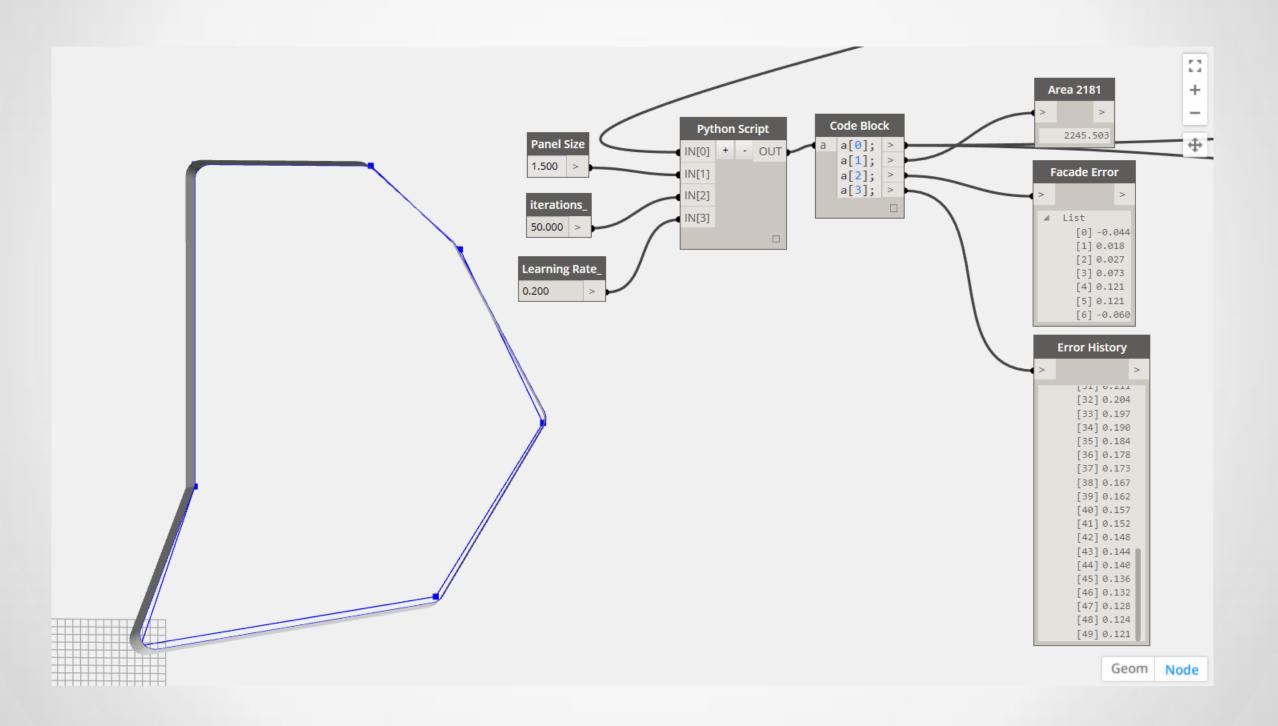
Main script

```
145
146
147
148 points = IN[0]
149 iterations = IN[2]
150 learningRate = IN[3]
151
152 f = facade(IN[1])
153 f.addPt(points[0],False,True)
154 f.addPt(points[1],True,True)
155 f.addPt(points[2],True,True)
156 f.addPt(points[3],True,True)
157 f.addPt(points[4],True,True)
158 f.addPt(points[5],True,False)
159 f.addPt(points[6],False,False)
160 f.generate()
161 f.optimizeLoop(learningRate, iterations)
162
163 #Assign your output to the OUT variable
164 OUT = f.poly, f.area, f.getError(), f.maxError
```



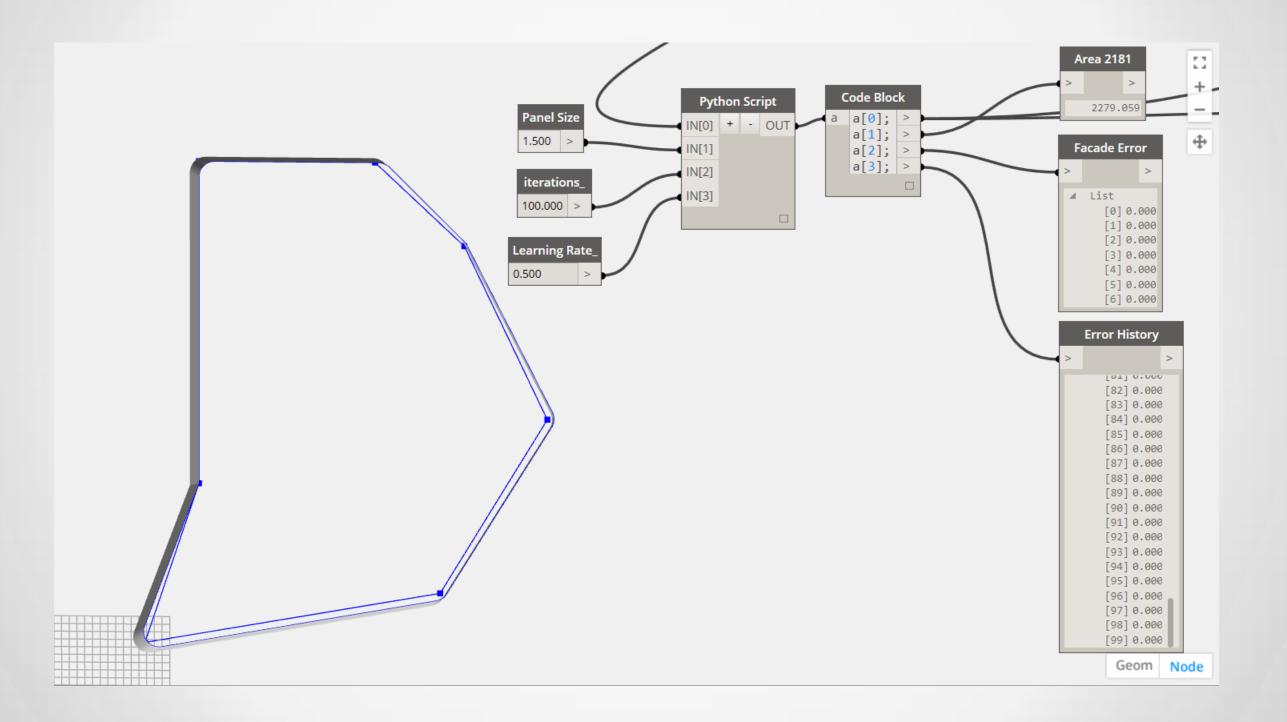


Results 1 – No convergence



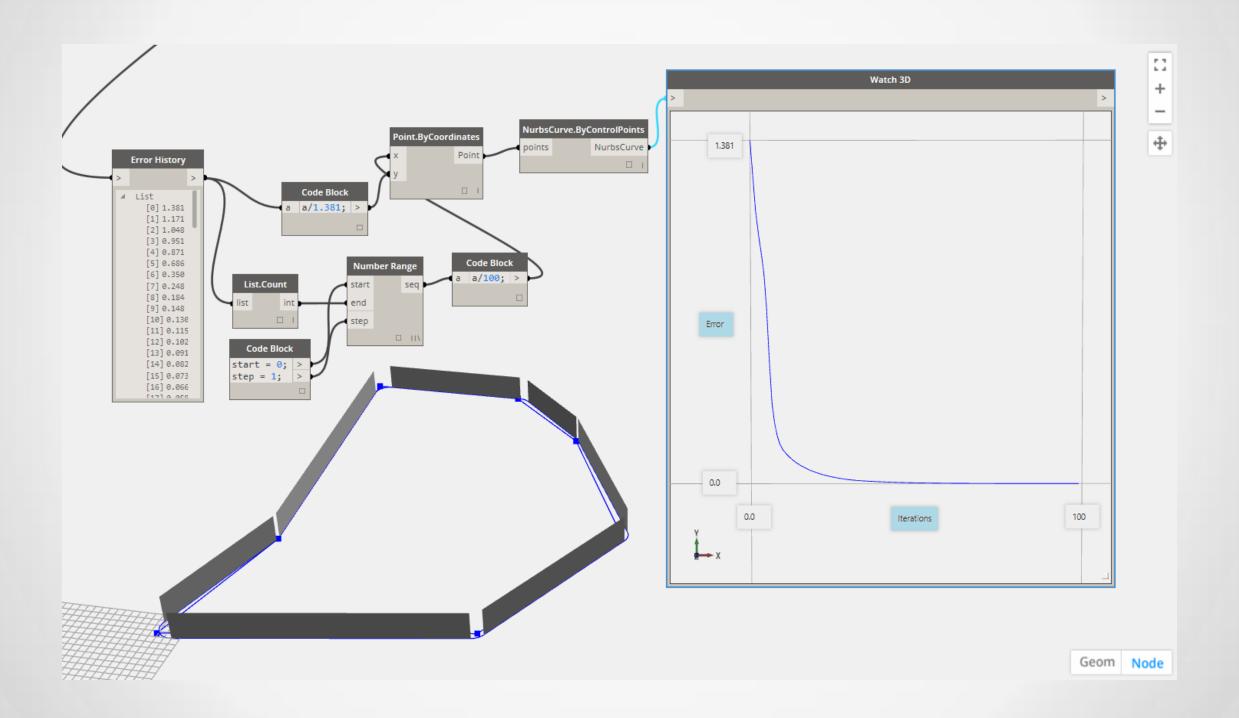


Results 2



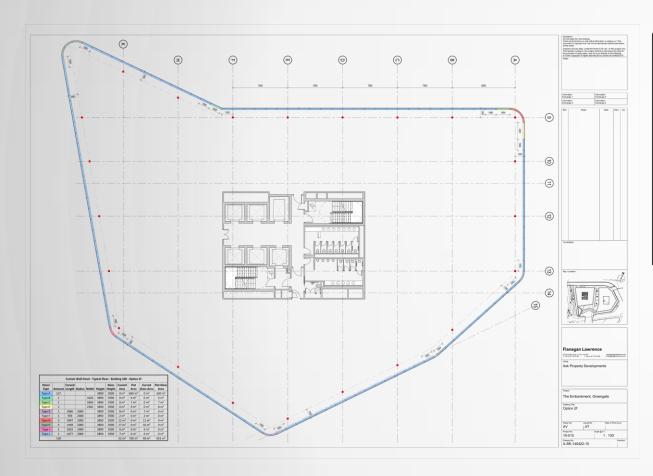


Convergence graphics





Final design

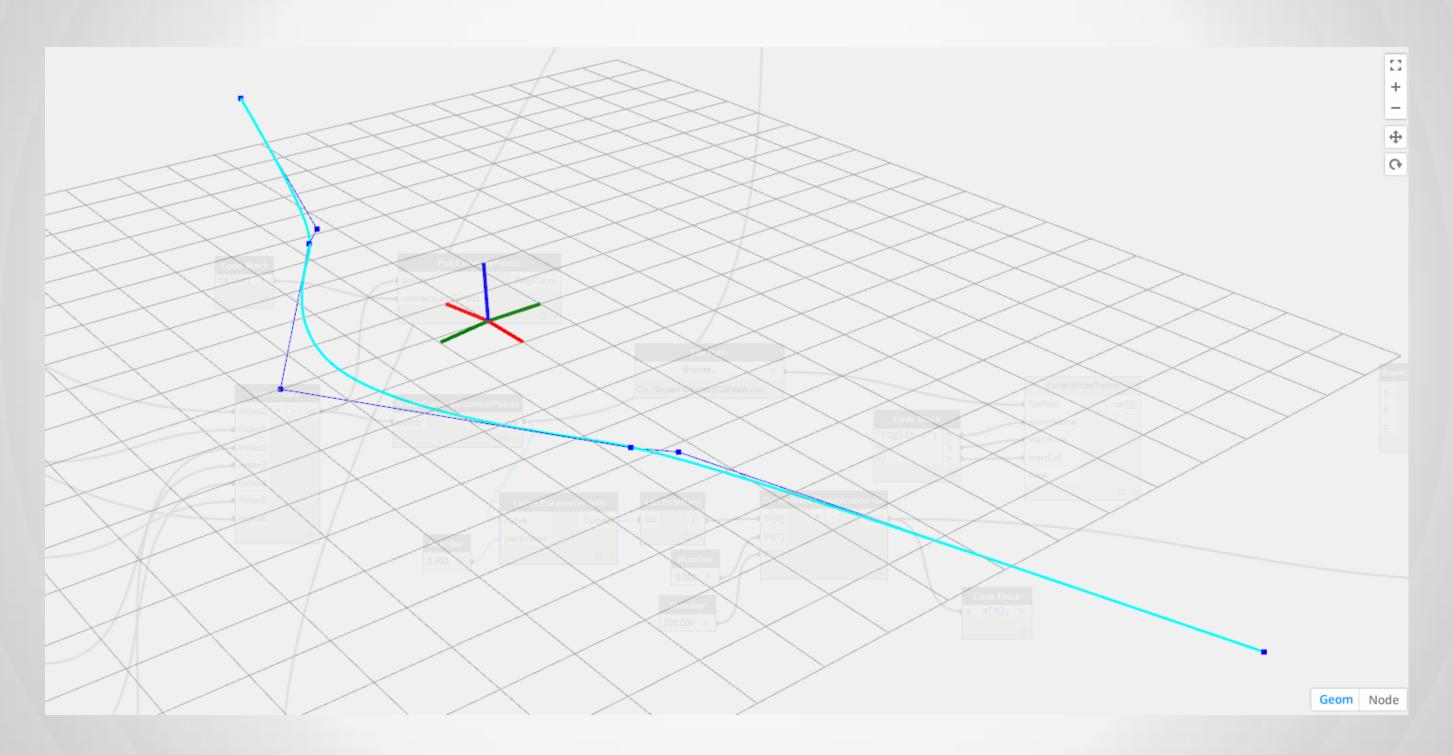


Curtain Wall Panel - Typical Floor - Building 100 - Option 2f										
Panel		Curved				Glass	Curved	Flat	Curved	Flat Glass
Туре	Amount	Length	Radius	Width	Height	Height	Area	Area	Glass Area	Area
Type A	117				3890	3590	0 m²	683 m²	0 m²	630 m ²
Туре В	1			1626	3890	3590	0 m²	6 m²	0 m ²	6 m²
Type C	1			1894	3890	3590	0 m²	7 m²	0 m ²	7 m²
Type D	1			2301	3890	3590	0 m²	9 m²	0 m ²	8 m²



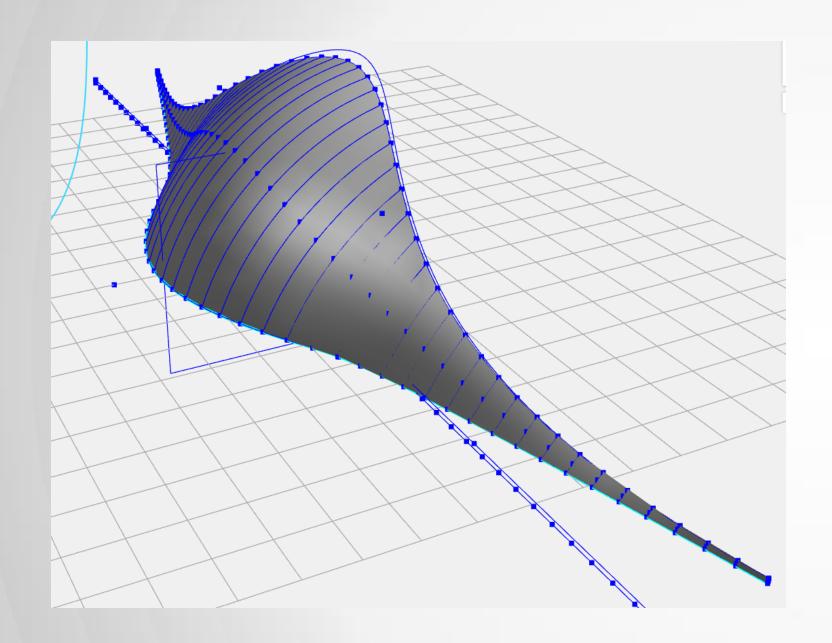


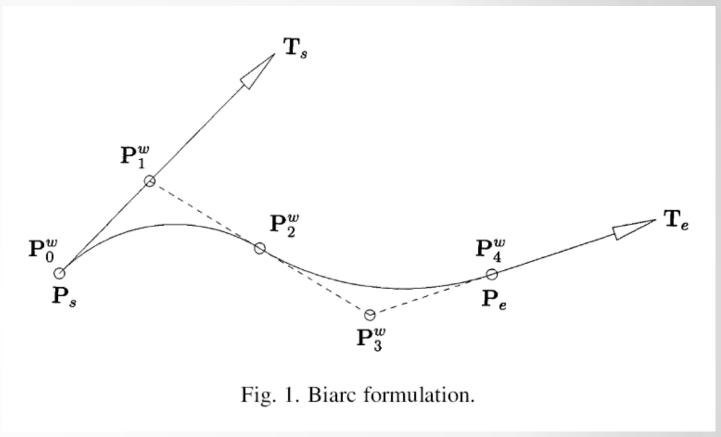
NURBS are not so clever





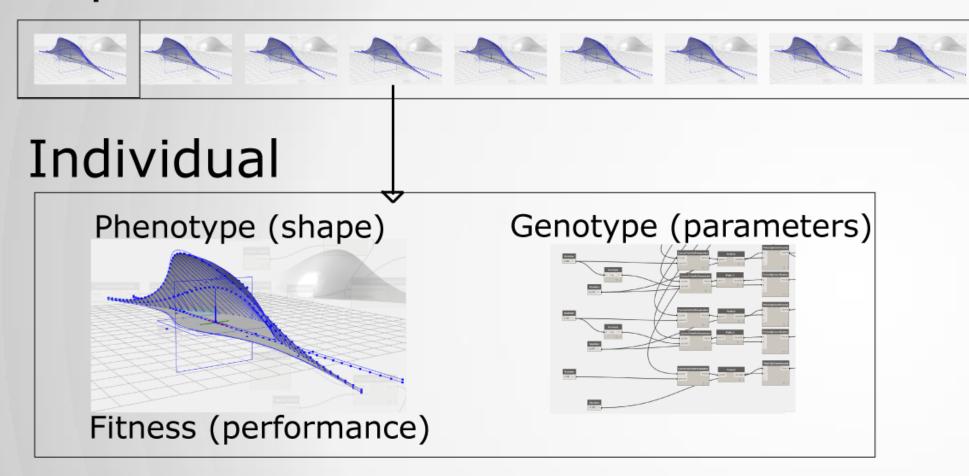
Genetic algorithm – rationalize NURBS in arcs





Genetic algorithm

Population

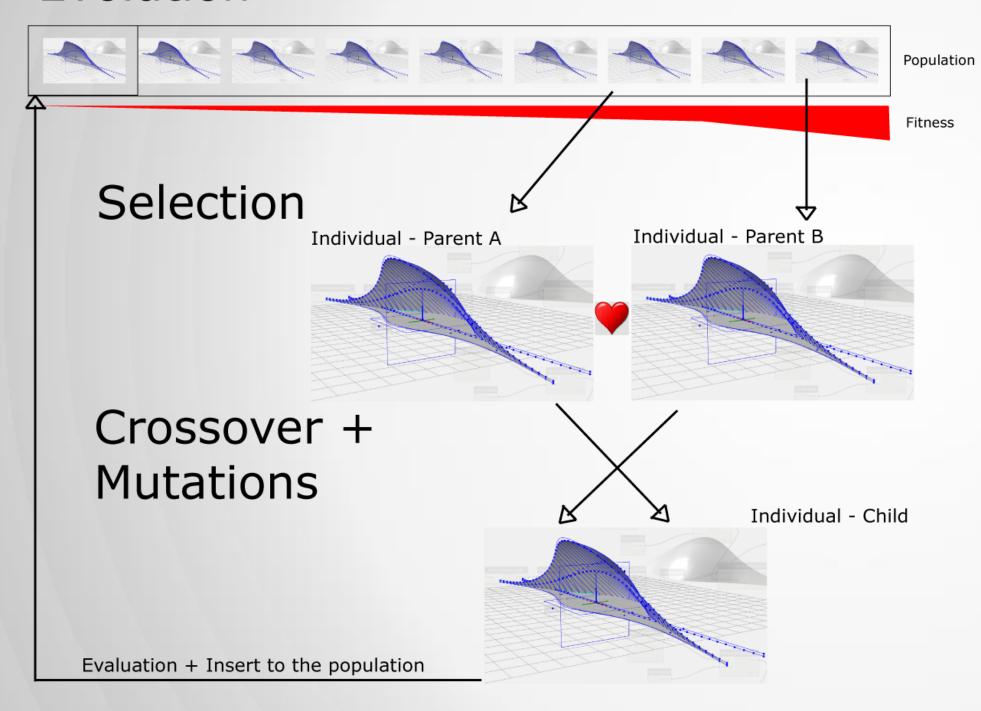


```
class Population:
  def __init__(self, curve, number):
   popSize = number*10
   self.pop = []
   for i in range(0,popSize):
    ind = Individual(curve, number)
    ind.evaluate()
    self.pop.Add(ind)
   self.pop.sort(key=lambda idiv: idiv.fitness)
   self.minFitness = []
   self.maxFitness = []
  def fitness(self):
  fit = []
   for i in range(0, self.pop.Count):
    fit.Add(self.pop[i].fitness)
   return fit
  def select(self):
   which = int(math.floor((self.pop.Count-1e-6)*(1.0-math.pow(random.uniform(0,1),2))))
   return self.pop[which]
  def evolve(self):
   a = self.select()
   b = self.select()
   x = a.breed(b)
   x.evaluate()
   self.pop[self.pop.Count-1] = x
   self.pop.sort(key=lambda idiv: idiv.fitness)
   self.minFitness.Add(self.pop[0].fitness)
   self.maxFitness.Add(self.pop[self.pop.Count-2].fitness)
  def getBest(self):
  return self.pop[0].p.arcs
4 class Individual:
  def __init__(self, curve, number):
   self.g = Genotype(number)
   self.p = Phenotype(curve, self.g)
   self.fitness = 0.0
  def evaluate(self):
   self.fitness = self.p.evaluate()
  def breed(self, b):
  c = Individual(self.p.c, self.g.n)
   c.g = self.g.crossover(b.g)
  c.g.mutate()
  c.p = Phenotype(c.p.c, c.g)
  return c
```



Genetic algorithm

Evolution



```
#Inputs
INcurve = IN[0]
INnumber = IN[1]
INiter = IN[2]

#Generate the population of solution
popul = Population(INcurve, INnumber)
#evolve the population for the number of iterations
for i in range(0,INiter):
popul.evolve()

OUT = popul.getBest(), popul.minFitness, popul.maxFitness
```

```
def crossover(self, b):
c = Genotype(self.n)
for i in range(0, self.g1.Count):
 if (random.uniform(0,1) < 0.5): #crossover 50% probability</pre>
  c.g1[i] = self.g1[i] #gene 1 can switch the values
    c.g2[i] = self.g2[i]
  c.g1[i] = b.g1[i]
   if i > 0:
   c.g2[i] = b.g2[i]
 c.updateG2()
 return c
def mutate(self):
for i in range(0,self.g1.Count):
 if (random.uniform(0,1) < 0.1): #mutation 10% probability</pre>
  x = random.uniform(0.2, 0.9)
   self.g1[i] += 0.01*math.exp(x*7)
 if i > 0:
   if (random.uniform(0,1) < 0.1): #mutation 10% probability</pre>
   y = self.g2[i]
    delta = 1.0/self.n/10
    y += random.uniform(-delta,delta)
    val = self.g2[i] + y
    if val > 0.0 and val < 1.0:
     self.g2[i] = val
 self.updateG2()
```



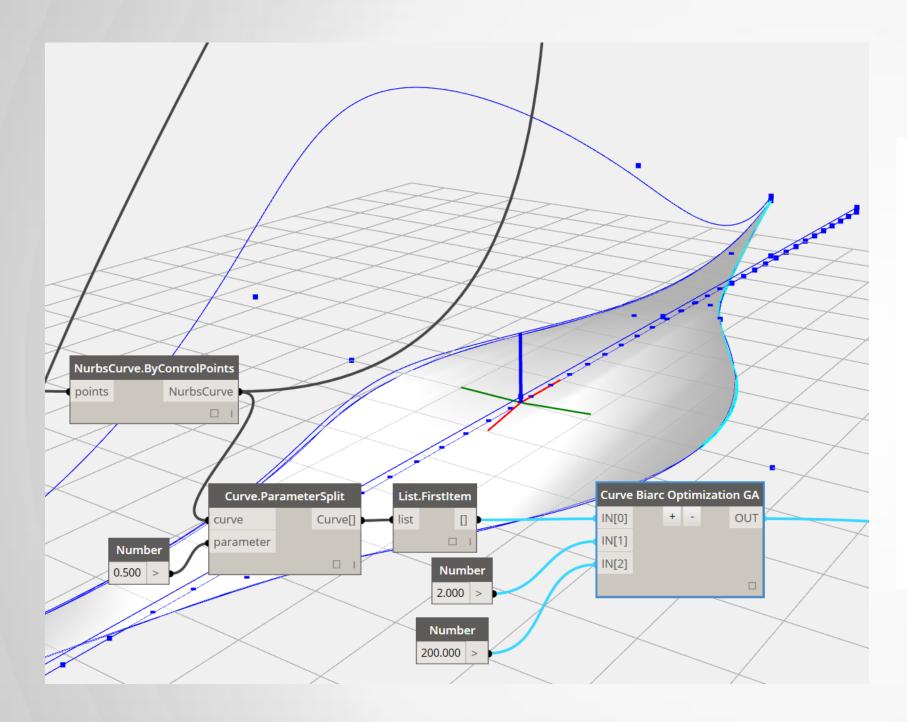
Python Code

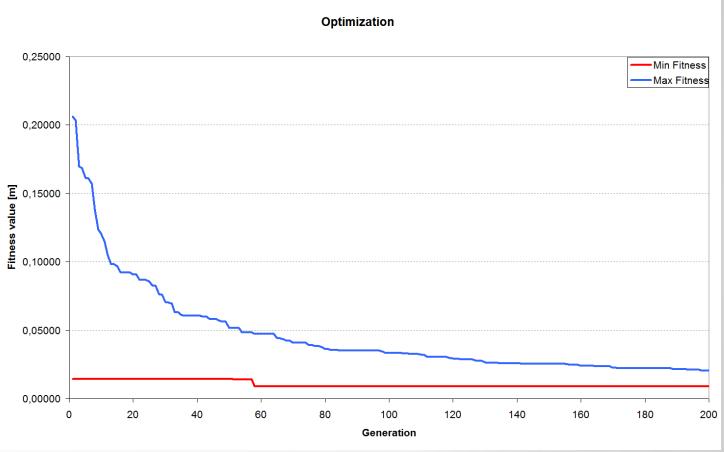
```
21 class Genotype:
  def __init__(self, n):
   self.n = n #number of biarcs
   self.g1 = [] #genotype r value
   self.g2 = [] #genotype t value
   delta = 1.0 / self.n
   self.g2.Add(0.0)
   self.var = 1.0/self.n/10.0
   for i in range(0,self.n):
    x = random.uniform(0.2, 0.9)
    self.g1.Add(0.1*math.exp(x*7))
    if i > 0:
     tr = random.uniform(0.0+self.var,1.0-self.var)
     self.g2.Add(tr)
   self.g2.Add(1.0)
    self.updateG2()
  def updateG2(self):
  self.g2.sort()
   for i in range(1,self.n-1):
    delta = math.fabs(self.g2[i] - self.g2[i-1])
    tol = self.var / 10.0
    if delta < tol:</pre>
     self.g2[i] = self.g2[i] + tol
  def crossover(self, b):
  c = Genotype(self.n)
   for i in range(0, self.g1.Count):
    if (random.uniform(0,1) < 0.5): #crossover 50% probability</pre>
     c.g1[i] = self.g1[i] #gene 1 can switch the values
     if i > 0:
      c.g2[i] = self.g2[i]
     c.g1[i] = b.g1[i]
     if i > 0:
      c.g2[i] = b.g2[i]
    c.updateG2()
```

```
9 class Phenotype:
80 def __init__(self, curve, g):
   self.c = curve #curve to optimize
   self.genes = g
   self.arcs = self.generateBiarcs(self.c, self.genes.g2, self.genes.g1)
   def generateBiarcs(self, curve, t, r):
   bi = []
   for i in range(0, self.genes.n):
    p1 = curve.PointAtParameter(t[i])
    t1 = curve.TangentAtParameter(t[i])
    p4 = curve.PointAtParameter(t[i+1])
    t4 = curve.TangentAtParameter(t[i+1])
    b1 = BiArc(p1,t1,p4,t4,r[i])
    bi.Add(b1)
   arcs = []
   for i in range(0, self.genes.n):
    arci = []
    arci = bi[i].getArcs()
    for j in range(len(arci)):
     arcs.Add(arci[j])
   return arcs
  def evaluate(self):
   polyArc = PolyCurve.ByJoinedCurves(self.arcs)
   fitness = self.deviation(self.c,polyArc)
   return fitness
  def deviation(self, c1, c2):
   num = self.genes.n*10
   step = 1.0 / (num)
   maxError = 0.0
   for i in range(0,num+1):
    si = step * i
    p1 = c1.PointAtParameter(si)
    p2 = c2.ClosestPointTo(p1)
    li = p1.DistanceTo(p2)
    maxError = max(maxError, li)
   return maxError
```



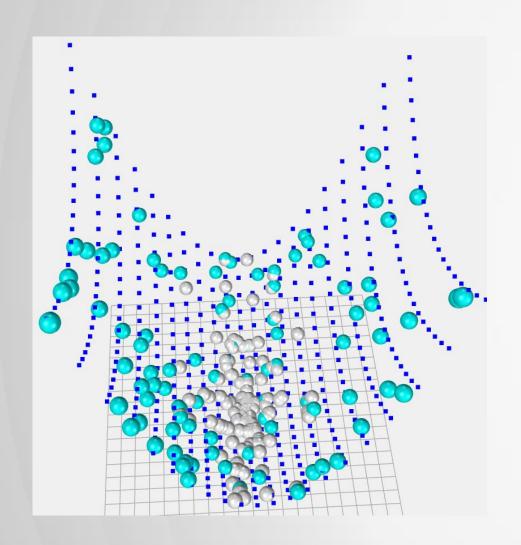
Results

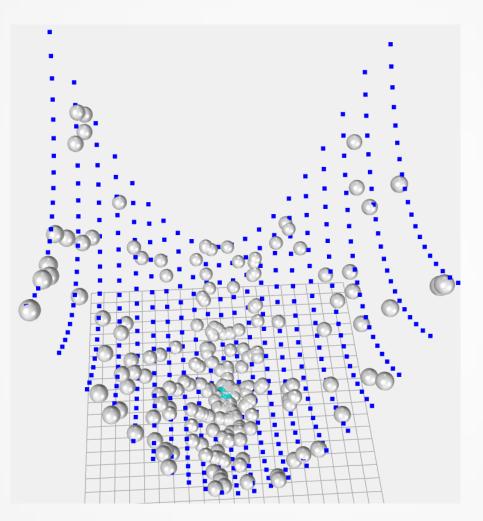


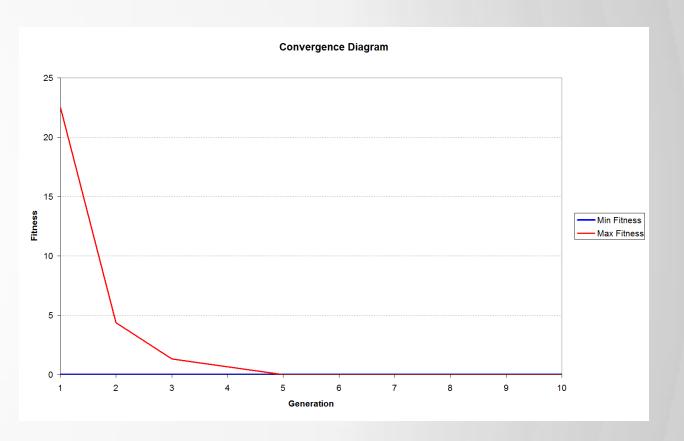




Optimo by Mohammad Rahmani Asl

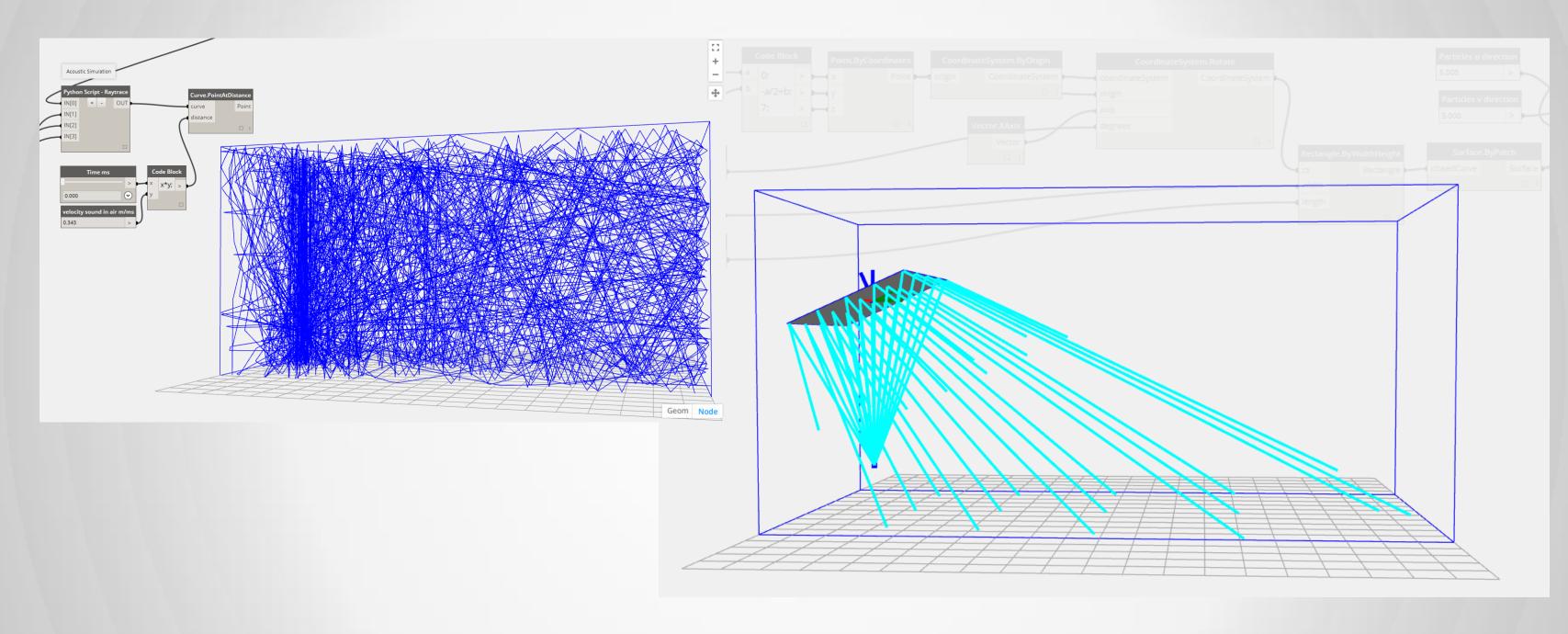








Simulation - Acoustics





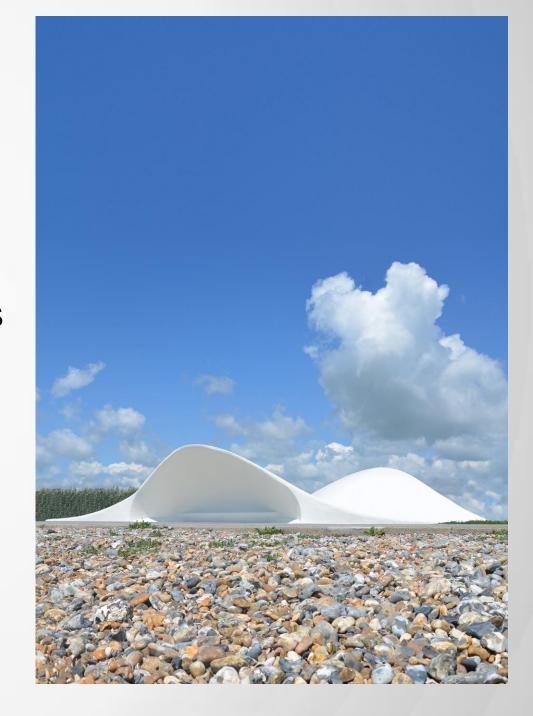
http://vimeo.com/113553984





Conclusion

- Flanagan Lawrence used Dynamo and Pythonscript to create award-winning architecture
- Developing the question is just as important as finding the answer
- Dynamo excellent introduction to other scripting languages
- Genuine BIM software with Revit
- Pythonscript is very stable and opens up many possibilities for design optimisation





Session Feedback

Via the Survey Stations, email or mobile device

AU 2014 passes given out each day!

Best to do it right after the session

Instructors see results in real-time











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