Rapid Delivery Design and Construction of Homes

Prof. Larry Sass
Department of Architecture, MIT

Motivation

Design & Build





Bassett Virginia 1960

How to generate geometry for fabrication?







CNC MIT 1949



CAD Sutherland
1963



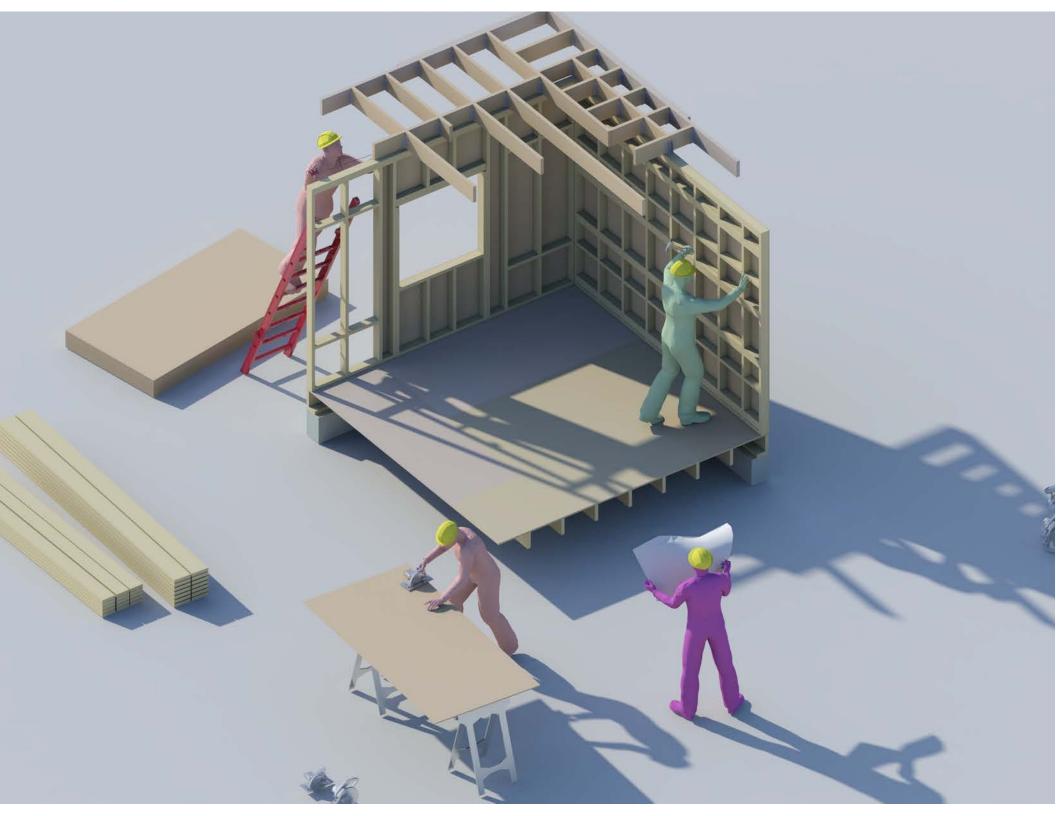
MIT 2020

Why is Rapid Delivery Important?

Housing Shortage & Destruction







Conventional construction is impossible to measure

(cost & time)





Design Interpreter



Calculating . Manufacturing

Assembly



There is no Delivery Technology in Prefab

Epoch Homes (2012)







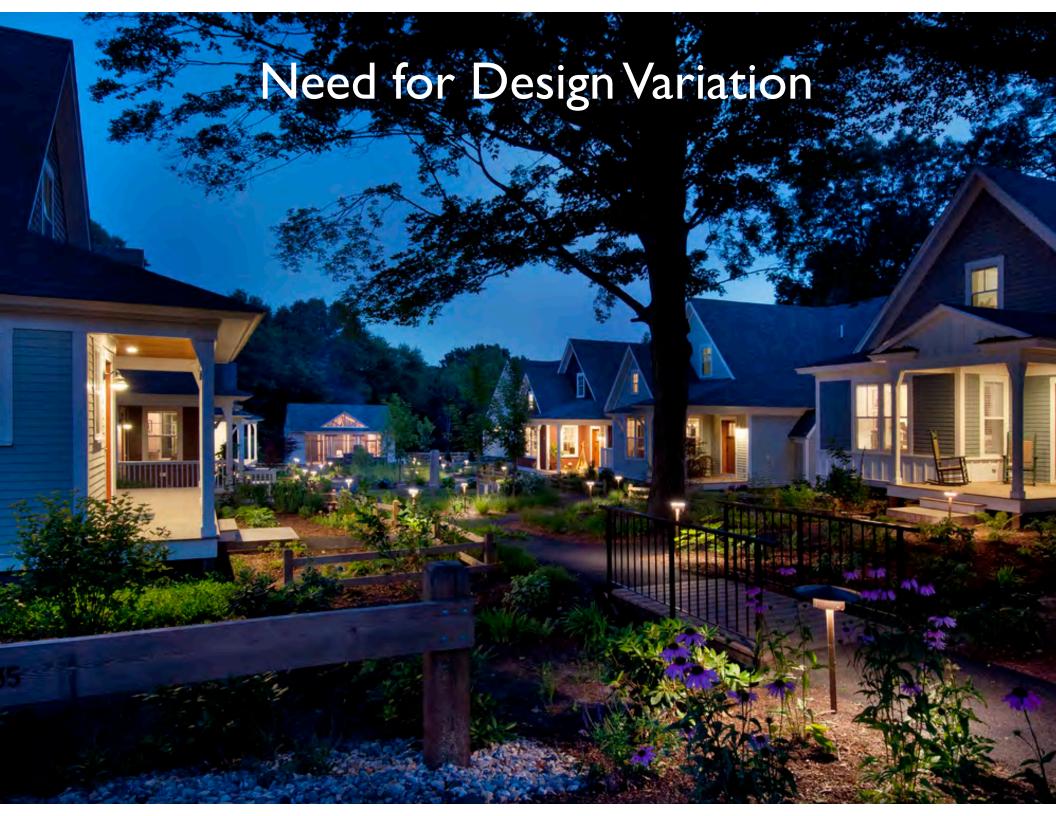
Not Scalable

- Driven by Manual Production
- Invented by Sears & Roebuck in 1920s
- Finished product must be rectangular
- Requires an indoor environment to build a large products

Acorn Deckhouse (1950s)







Actions are manage by the exchange of information NOT software



Digital Building Systems

(North American & Europe)

2005

Digital Delivery

Design models are computable

Mitchell, William, and George Stiny. "The Palladian grammar." Environment and Planning B 5.1078 (1978): 189-198.

Design for assemblies

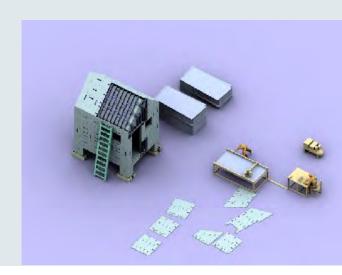
Boothroyd, Geoffrey, and W. Knight. "Design for assembly." IEEE Spectrum 30.9 (1993): 53-55.

Computing & Fab

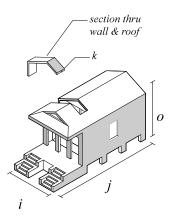
Gershenfeld, Neil. Fab: the coming revolution on your desktop--from personal computers to personal fabrication. Basic Books, 2008.

Sass L., (2005) A wood frame grammar: a generative system for digital fabrication, International Journal of Architectural Computing, Issue 01, Number 04, pp 51-67

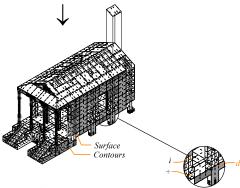
Sass, Lawrence. "Synthesis of design production with integrated digital fabrication." Automation in Construction 16.3 (2007): 298-310.



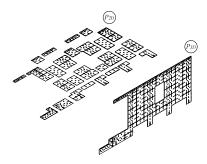




a) design



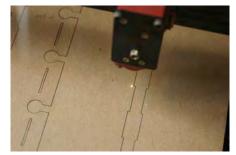
b) product



c) manufacturing

Design

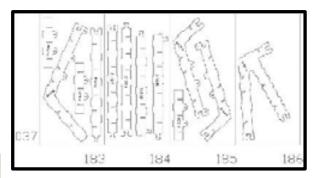
3D Modeling
Error detection modeling
Prototyping

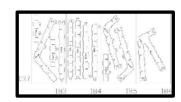






Fabrication















CNC (computer numerically controlled)

Laser Cutter

Hand-Guided Assembly

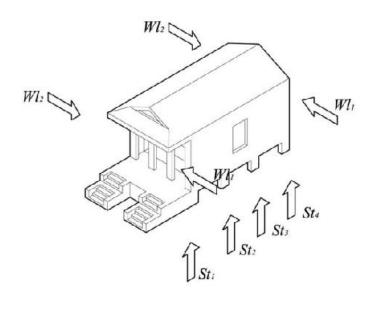


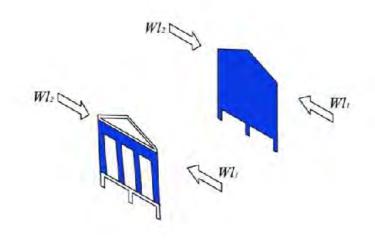






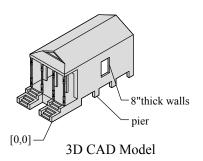


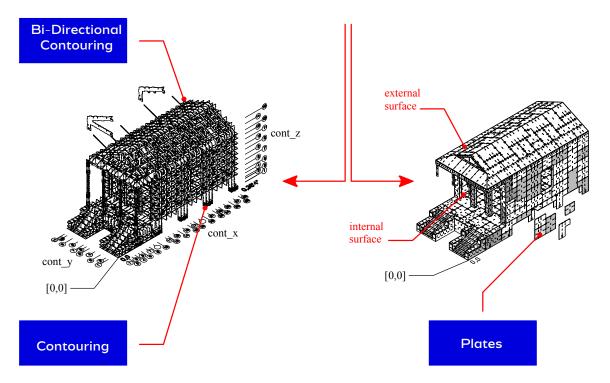




- Certified for a 75mph
- Can withstand a 140mph

 Daniel Bonardi PE, Cambridge, MA





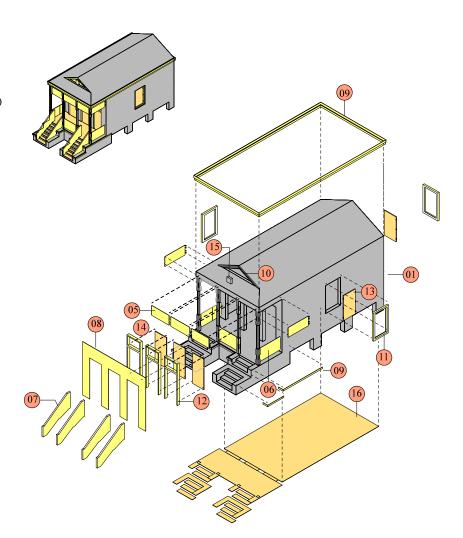


holes for ornamental assemblies

Sets

01-Shape (exterior)
02-Reference Grid
03-Contours (interior)
04-Panels
05-Frieze
06-Rail
07-Stair
08-Ornament

08-Ornament 09-Trim 10-Medallion 11-Window Frame 12-Door Frame 13-Window 14-Door 15-Crescent 16-Floor





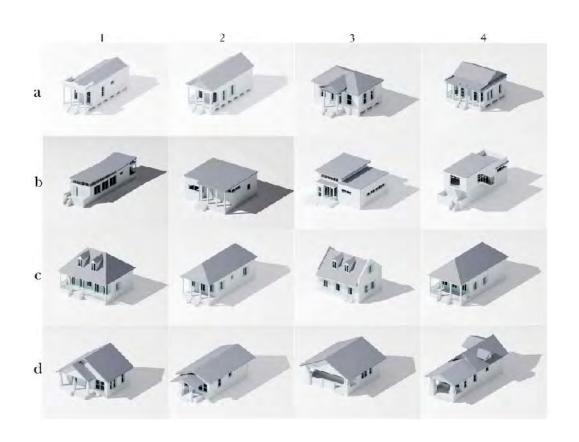
Results

(2008)

- 1. 375 Square foot building (35 sq meters)
- 2. Assembly sustained by friction only
- 3. Model (Error detect & correct) 5000 components 20 days to assemble
- 4. Building 5000 components 22 days to assemble
- 5. Structure Approved for 75mph winds Max tested winds 140mph
- 6. Materials:
 - Plywood (BC & AC Grade)
 - Polyethylene
 - Concrete Base







Advantages

Fast
Accurate
Flexible
Scalable
Productive

Disadvantages

Keyboard driven
Unclear system
3D Printing was on the rise

Design Fabrication, MIT 2005 Larry Sass

Facit Homes, UK 2007 Andrew Goodeve

Wiki House, UK 2012 Aliastar Parvin







Materializing Design D-Process Blackbird

Sofia, C., & Blair, G. (2019).

Housing Prototypes, Timber Tectonic Culture and the Digital Age. In Digital Wood Design(pp. 911-935). Springer, Cham.



Embodied Cognition Physical Design 2012

Embodied Cognition

Wilson, M. (2002). Six views of embodied cognition. *Psychonomic bulletin & review*, *9*(4), 625-636.



Factors in learning through the body and mind

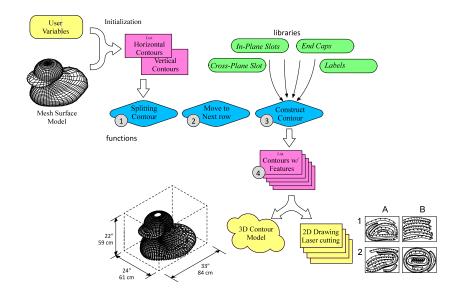
- I. The Situation (New Problem)
- 2. Time Pressure
- 3. Off-loading cognitive work onto the environment
- 4. The environment is part of the cognitive system
- 5. Cognition is for action
- 6. Offline cognition is body based

Sass, Lawrence, Lujie Chen, and Woong Ki Sung. "Embodied prototyping: exploration of a design-fabrication framework for large-scale model manufacturing." *Computer-Aided Design and Applications* 13.1 (2016): 124-137

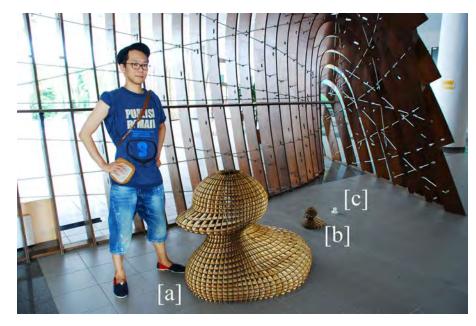
Smithwick, D., & Sass, L. Embodied Design Cognition: Action-Based Formalizations in Architectural Design. *International Journal of Architectural Computing*, 12(4) pp. 399-418, 2014

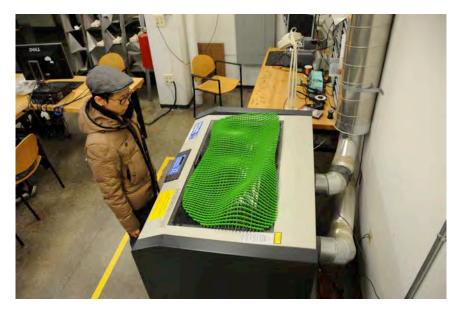


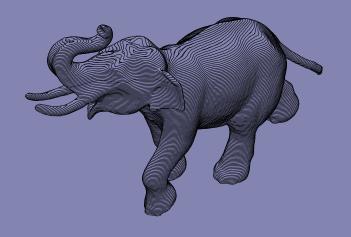
Planar Modeling Research













Lu Ban Design Fabrication Software

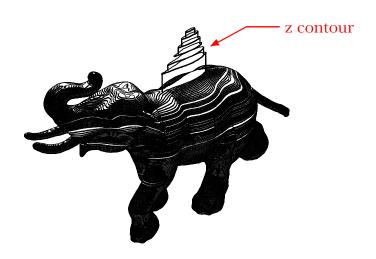




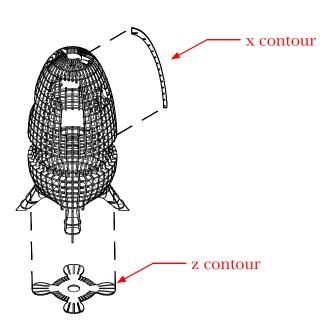




Department of Architecture Prof. Larry Sass & Dr. Lujie Chen







Bi-Directional Contouring

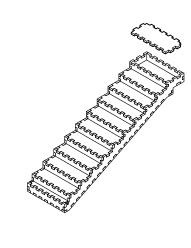


Plate Forming

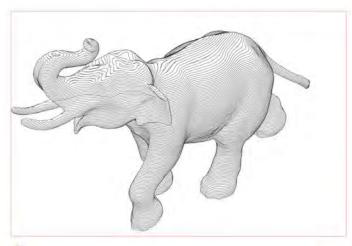






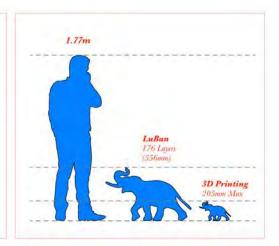


Contouring



Model Notes:

Method: Stack
Unit: mm
Model size X: 900
Model size Y: 286,999
Model size Z: 566,493
Dowel size: 5
Ring width: 15
Parts: 436
Machine time: 10 h
Assembly time: 37 h
Total time: 48 h
Nesting: ordered



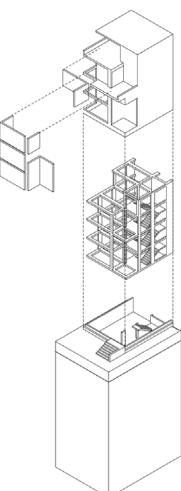
a. b.



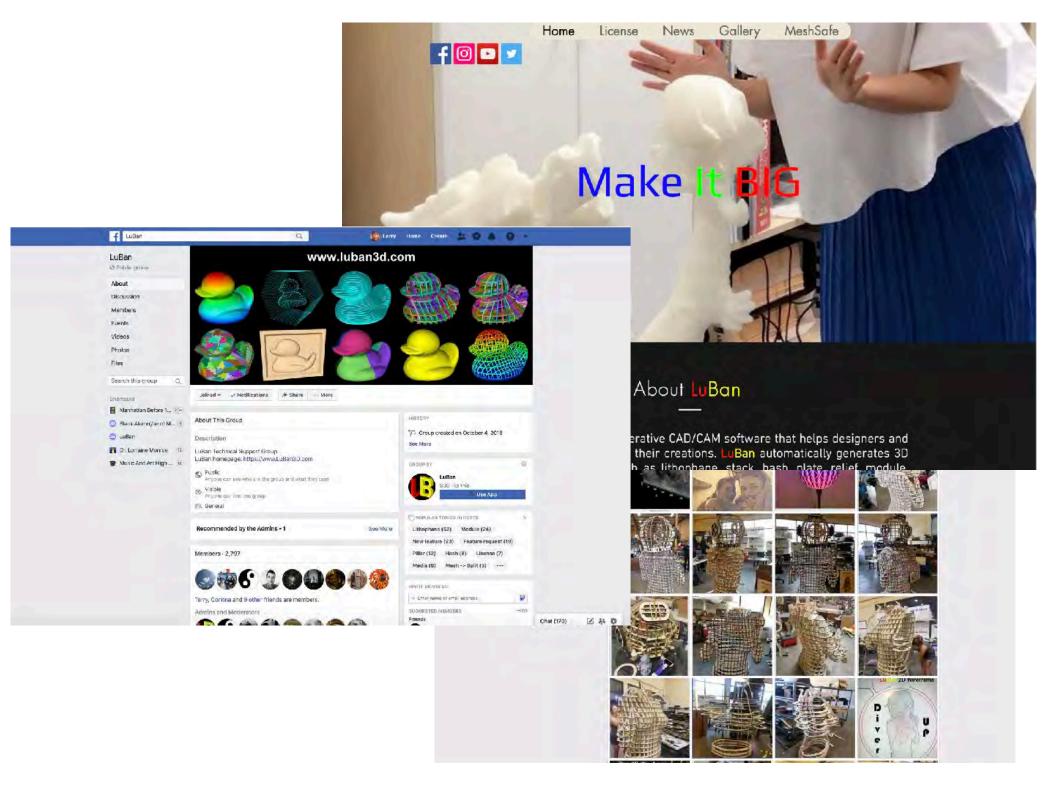


Plate Forming





Future of LuBan 2020



Lu Ban Algorithms & Interface

Embodied Cognition

body, time, environment & machines

Learning Sciences

Socio-cultural, design and cognition





Rapid Delivery as a collaboration between people and machines (learning)



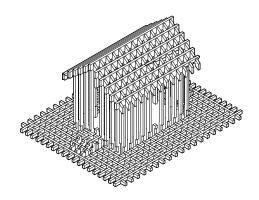




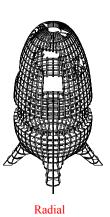


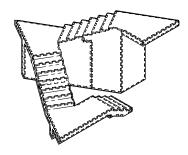


Contouring



Hash





Plates