

# Computational Fabrication

CS 491 and 591, Special Topics in Computer Science

Professor: Leah Buechley

[https://handandmachine.org/classes/computational\\_fabrication](https://handandmachine.org/classes/computational_fabrication)

# About me

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<https://handandmachine.org>

# **Introductions**

**What this class is about**

computation as a design tool

the use of a set of abstract rules to produce a design

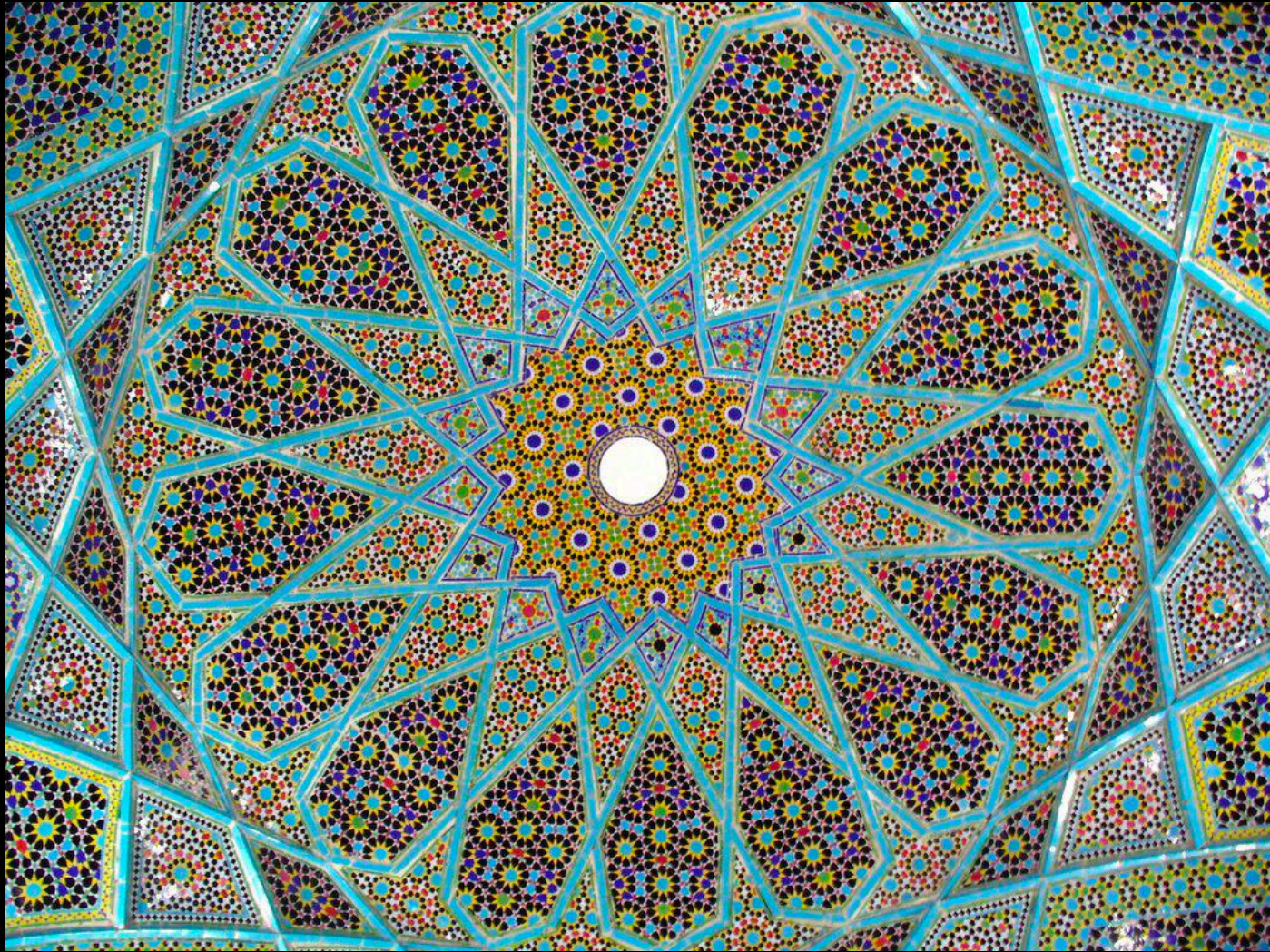
computational design  
algorithmic design  
parametric design  
generative design

For more discussion see:

Inês Caetano, Luís Santos, and António Leitão. 2020. Computational design in architecture: Defining parametric, generative, and algorithmic design. *Frontiers of Architectural Research* 9, 2: 287–300. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foar.2019.12.008>

predates &  
does not depend on  
a computer





Tomb of Hafez

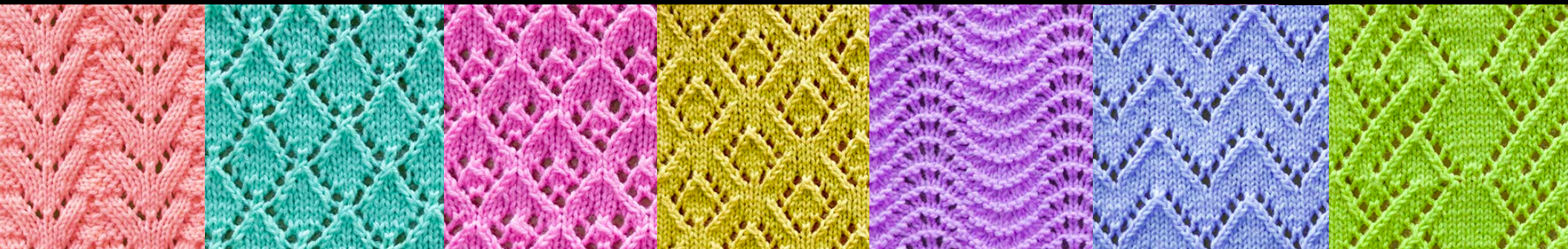
Pots by Dorothy Torivio  
Acoma Pueblo

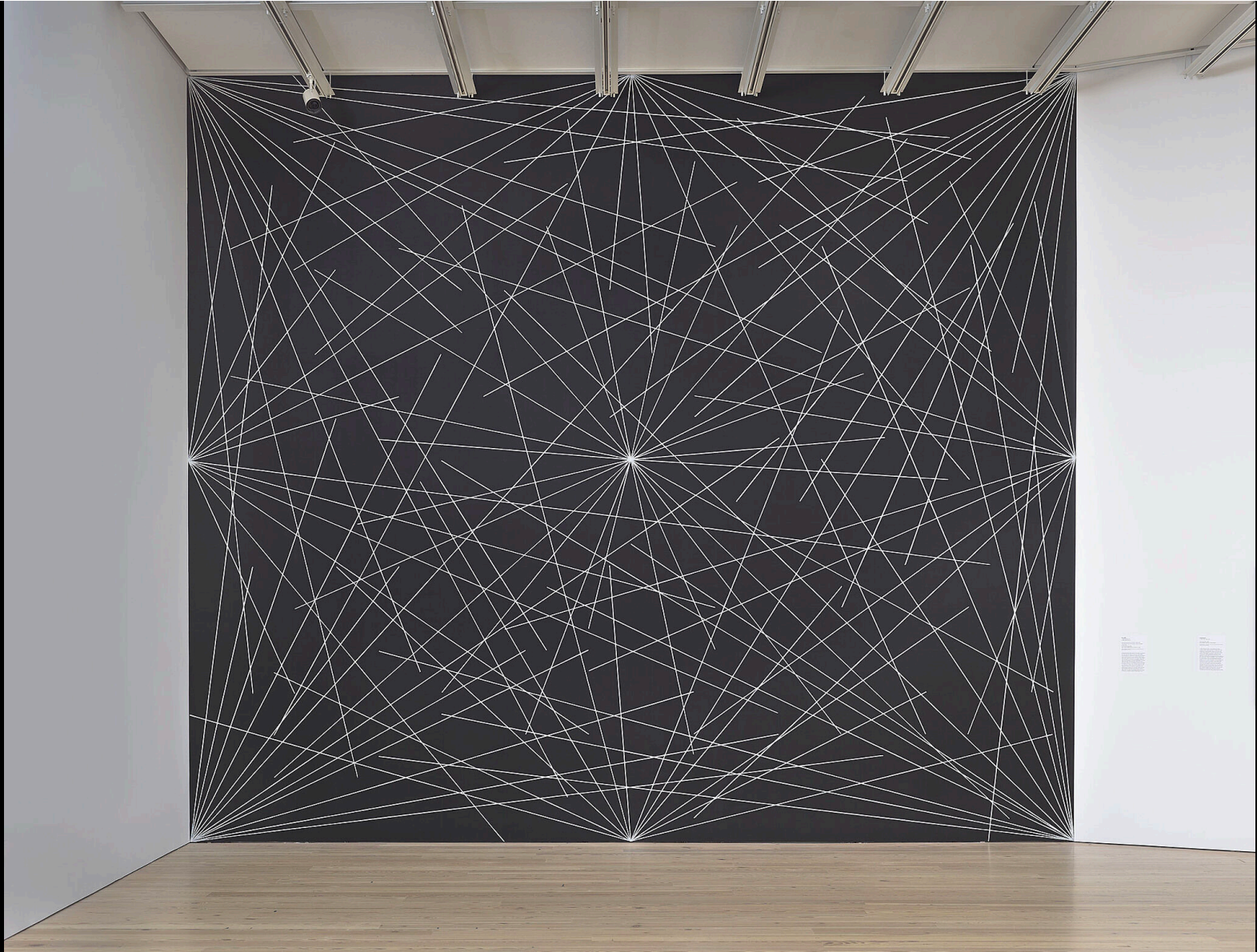


© Bruce Hucko



Kente weaving  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kente\\_cloth](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kente_cloth)





Sol Lewitt

**computational fabrication**

the use of a set of abstract rules to produce a design,  
that is then produced via digital fabrication

computational design & fabrication today





Heydar Aliyev Center in Baku, Azerbaijan, Zaha Hadid



Aqua Tower in Chicago, USA, Jeanne Gang



Nervous System



Bryan Czibesz





Ronald Rael



an emerging research area

Welcome to the 9th annual

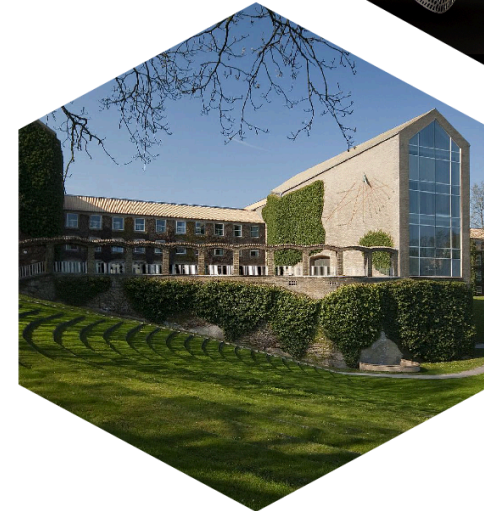
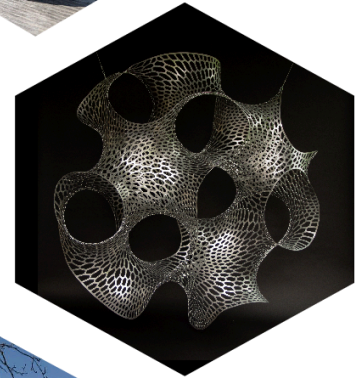
# ACM Symposium on Computational Fabrication

Exploring the use of computational  
tools for the creation of physical things

[Live Streaming](#)

[Proceedings](#)

July 7-9, 2024  
Aarhus, Denmark





# About

The 8th annual ACM Symposium on Computational Fabrication will gather experts and enthusiasts from many areas of academia and industry, in order to explore the use of computational tools for the creation of physical things. SCF provides a venue for participants to discuss cutting-edge results, cross-pollinate ideas, and strengthen interdisciplinary connections and collaborations.

Attendees and presenters come from a variety of backgrounds, including:



Architecture



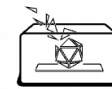
Mechanical  
Engineering



Computer  
Graphics



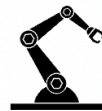
Materials



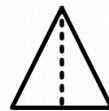
Manufacturing



Human  
Computer  
Interaction



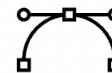
Robotics



Applied  
Mathematics



Biology



Design

class as research  
an exploration for all of us

# **Class Nuts & Bolts**

# Website: main class venue

[https://handandmachine.org/classes/  
computational\\_fabrication](https://handandmachine.org/classes/computational_fabrication)

Syllabus & Course Information  
Assignment Postings  
Assignment Submissions  
Discussion

# Canvas

<https://canvas.unm.edu/>

Access Grades

# Software

**Rhino & Grasshopper**

<https://www.rhino3d.com/>

**PyCharm or any Python IDE**

<https://www.jetbrains.com/pycharm/>

**Cura**

<https://ultimaker.com/software/ultimaker-cura>

all free or provided

# Hardware

3D Printer

Creality Ender 3 Pro, \$250

<https://creality3d.shop/>

Other 3D printers are fine

**order now!**

**3D printing starts on September 3rd  
2 weeks from today**

# Lab and loaner 3D printers

Limited availability, first come first serve  
Require maintenance



# Prerequisites

Programming experience  
Math fluency (geometry)

# Assignments & Grading

Assignments: 65%  
Class participation: 10%  
Final project: 25%

# Project Assignments

Build things  
Document your process  
Post on website

# Project assignments graded on

Design  
Craftsmanship, Artifact  
Craftsmanship, Code  
Documentation

# Large & Small Assignments

Small Assignments 25 points  
Large Assignments 100 points

# Late Assignments

Three free late days for the entire semester

After that: 10 points off for each late day

# Collaboration

Talk to and work with classmates

Use the internet & example code to learn new techniques

Cite the sources you use and find helpful

“Cheating” = pretending someone else's work is your own  
This is a dishonorable and silly thing to do

# Schedule Overview

[Website](#)



# For Next Class

Sign up for an account on our class website

Download & install Rhino8

You will be emailed a link that will let you access a license.

# If you're not yet registered but want to be

Due to the nature of this class, the size is capped at 30

Add yourself to the waitlist. Space may open up.

questions?

# Welcome!

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# Install Rhino8