

# 3D printing as an inspiring technology for challenges in 21<sup>st</sup> century

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# Outline

1. Basics of additive manufacturing
2. General steps in the process of 3D printing
3. Different 3DP technologies
4. Some sample applications

# Basics of additive manufacturing (AM)

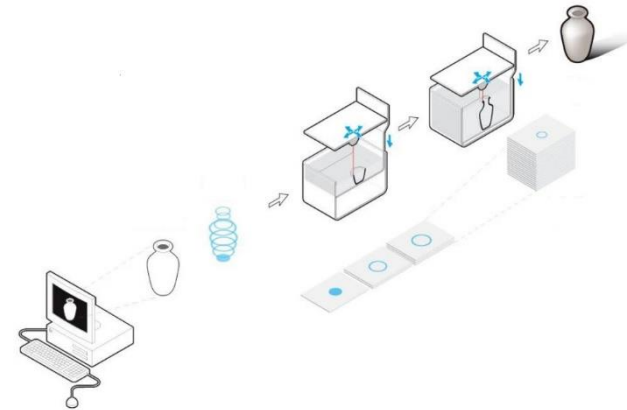
- Building 3D objects by adding layer-upon-layer of material, whether the material is plastic, metal, concrete or one day....human tissue
- Additive  $\leftrightarrow$  subtractive
  - build
  - almost no waste
  - layering material
  - e.g. 3D printing
  - remove needless parts
  - significant waste
  - a solid by carving
  - e.g. CNC milling

AM application is limitless.



# General steps in the process of 3D printing

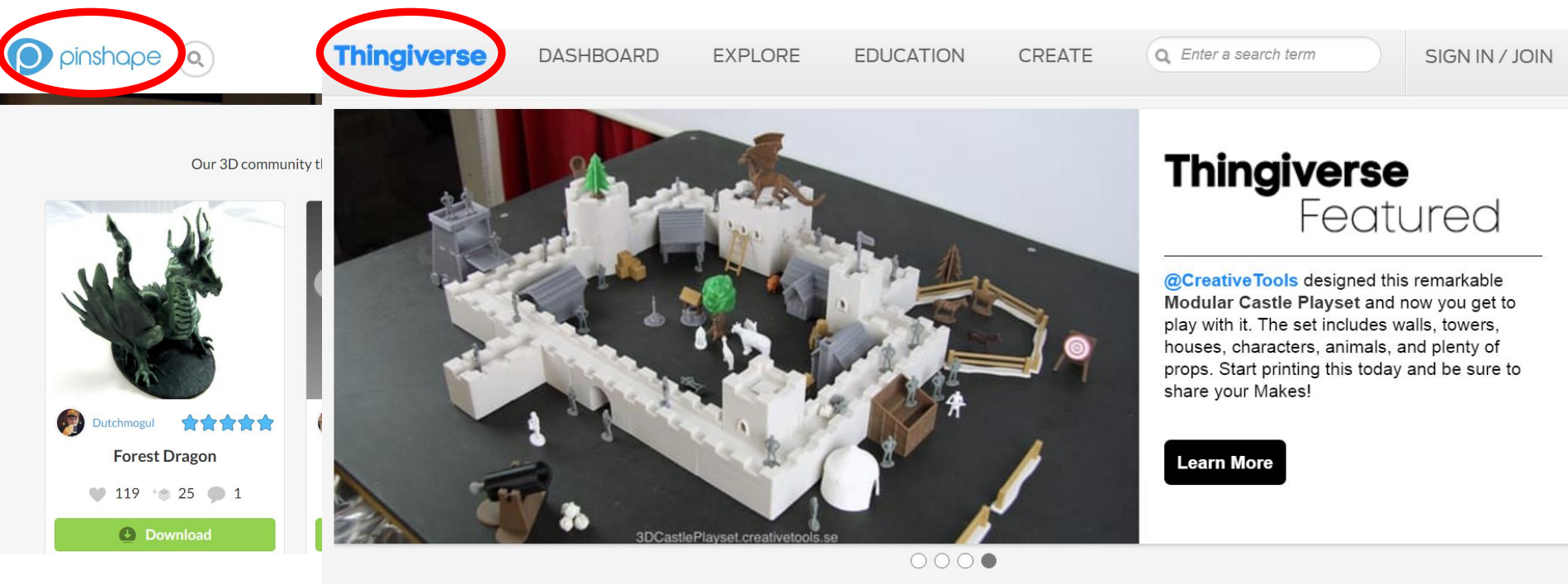
1. Get a 3D model
2. Convert it into .stl (or .obj) file
3. Use a slicer program to create layer-by-layer information
  - lots of settings have to be done
4. 3D print the model
  - post processing may be required



# How to get a 3D model?

## 1; Download it!

Several webpages offer various 3D models for free.



# How to get a 3D model?

2; Let's 3D scan the object to be printed!

But how without a 3D scanner?

- Autodesk Recap 360  
free application to convert  
photos into 3D models

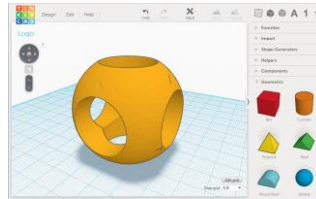
- Xbox, Kinect



# How to get a 3D model?

3; Let's design the model by ourselves!

- TinkerCAD



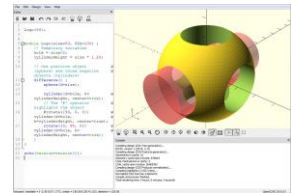
- FreeCAD



- Blender



- OpenSCAD



- 123D



- SketchUp



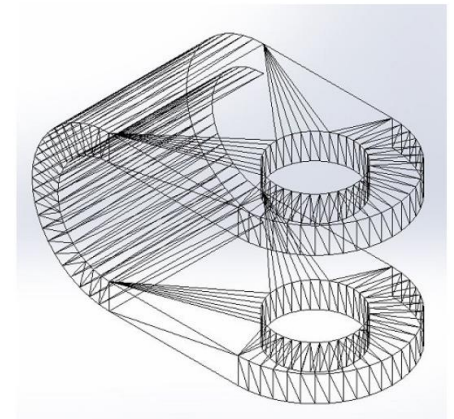
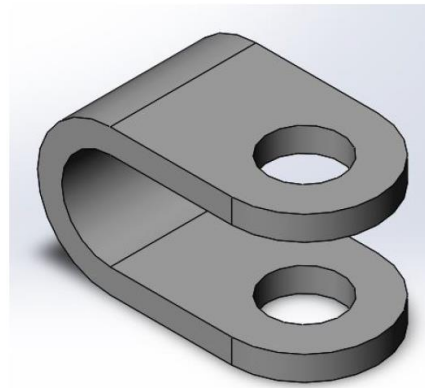
## 3D model → .stl

- Depending on the method used to create the 3D model its geometry is stored in different format.
- Design software products support converting a model into an .stl file
- Check Hull, the inventor of stereolithography and founder of company 3D Systems reports that file extension originated from the word stereolithography.



# Structure of an .stl file

- STL native files describe only the surface geometry of a 3D object without any representation of color, texture or other common CAD model attributes.
- A series of x, y and z coordinate triplets describing connecting triangular facets and the surface unit normal.
- ASCII or binary representation

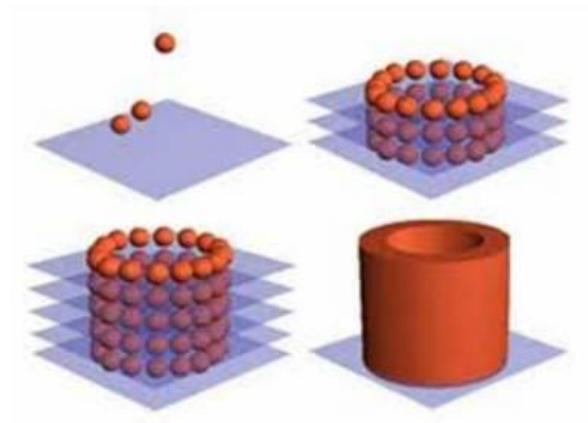
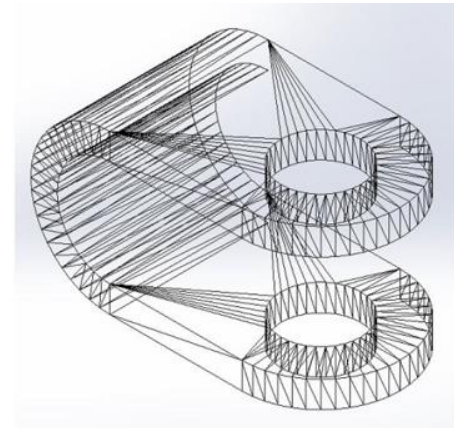


# Why do we need a slicer?

- Description of the surface



- Information about each layer



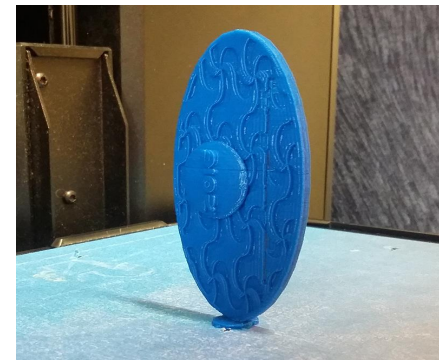
# Settings influencing the printing

## 1; Layer thickness

- depends on the technology and the printer itself
- FDM: 0.1 mm SLA: 0.025 mm
- Influences the vertical resolution (along Z axis)



- Orientation of the object counts

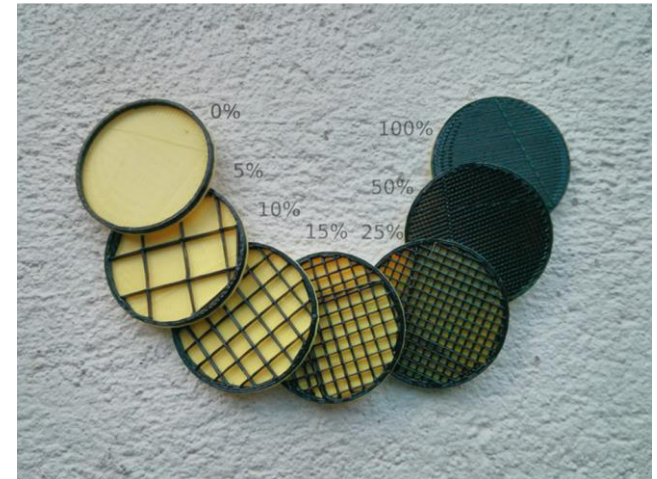


# Settings influencing the printing

## 2; Infill

Affects the mechanical strength.  
Rate

- 0% - 100%



## Geometry

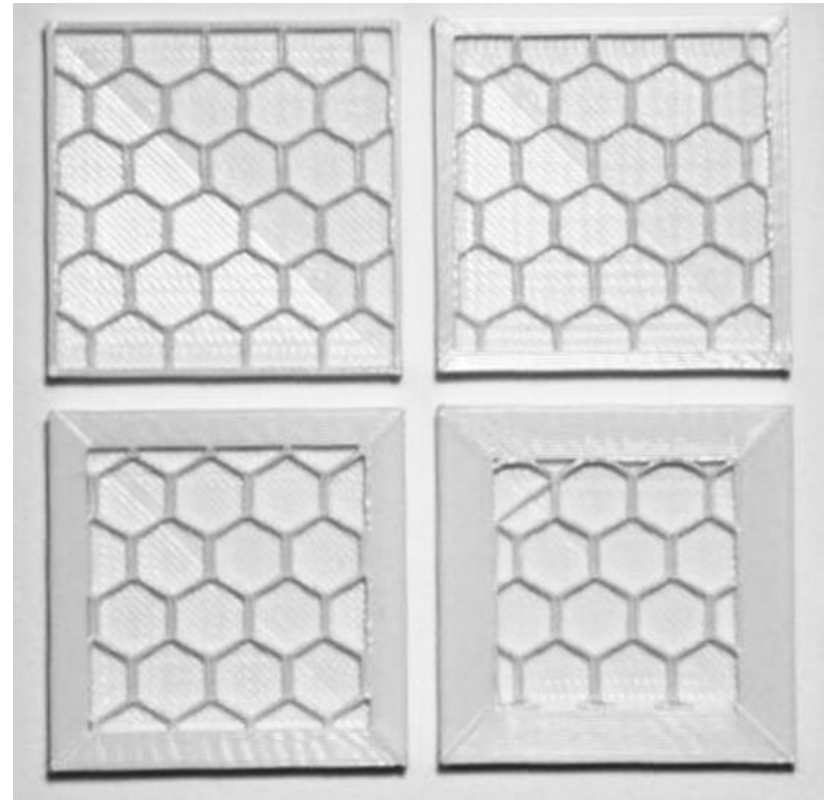
- Linear
- Diagonal
- Hexagonal
- Etc.



# Settings influencing the printing

## 3; Number of shells

- 2, 5, 10, 15
- affects the mechanical strength
- Limited by the slicer

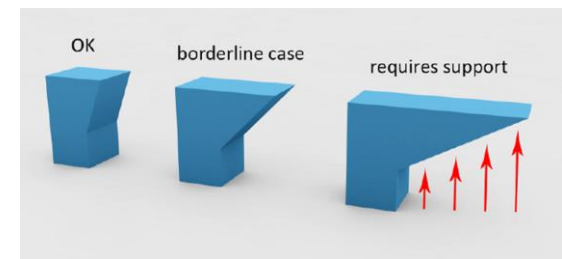
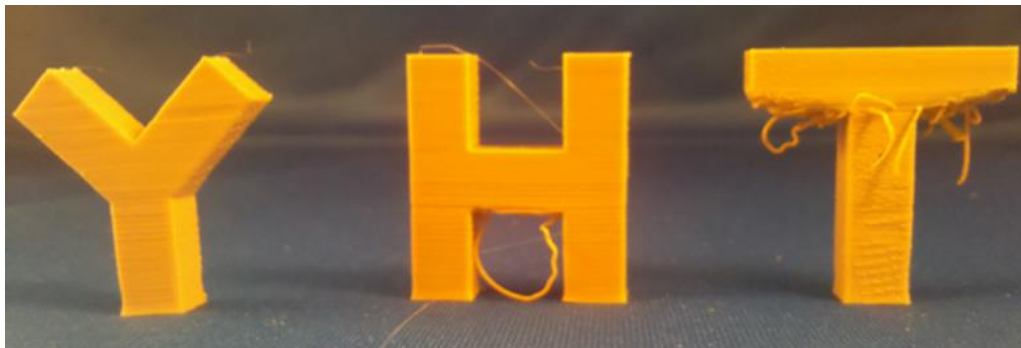


# Settings influencing the printing

## 4; Need of support

- Overhangs have to be handled
- Removable material → possible waste
  - Special material can be used  
e.g. water dissoluble filament
  - Unused raw material has a role of support
- Slope, bridges and overhangs

PLA

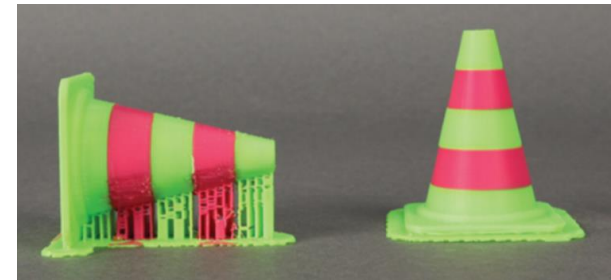




# Settings influencing the printing

## 4; Need of support – Is it avoidable?

- Change the orientation
- Split the objects into several parts



# Settings influencing the printing

## Orientation

Technology	Importance of part orientation
FDM	Very important
SLA	Very important
SLS	Not important
Polyjet	Important
Binderjet	Not important
Metal printing (SLM or DLSM)	Very important

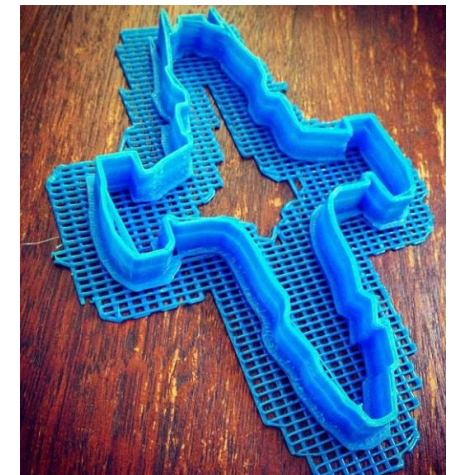
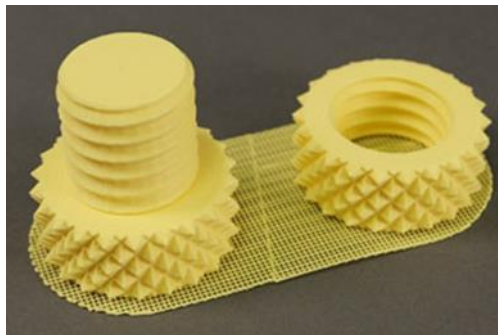
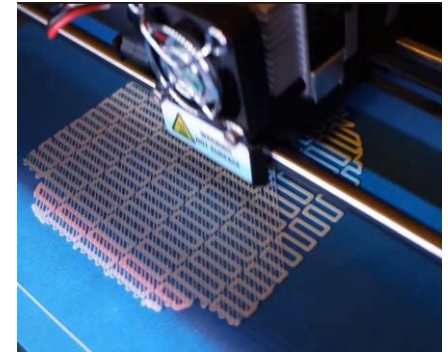


# Settings influencing the printing

## 5; Raft

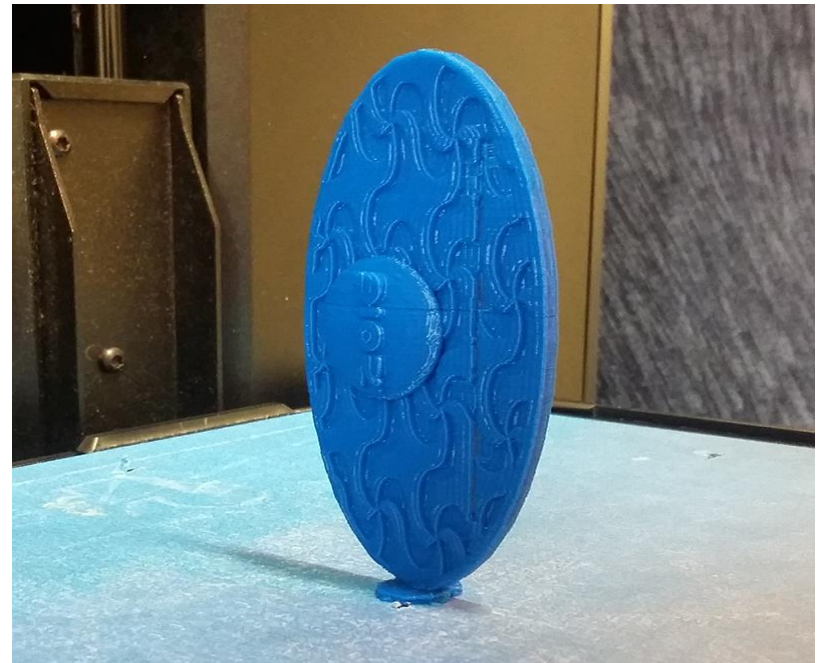
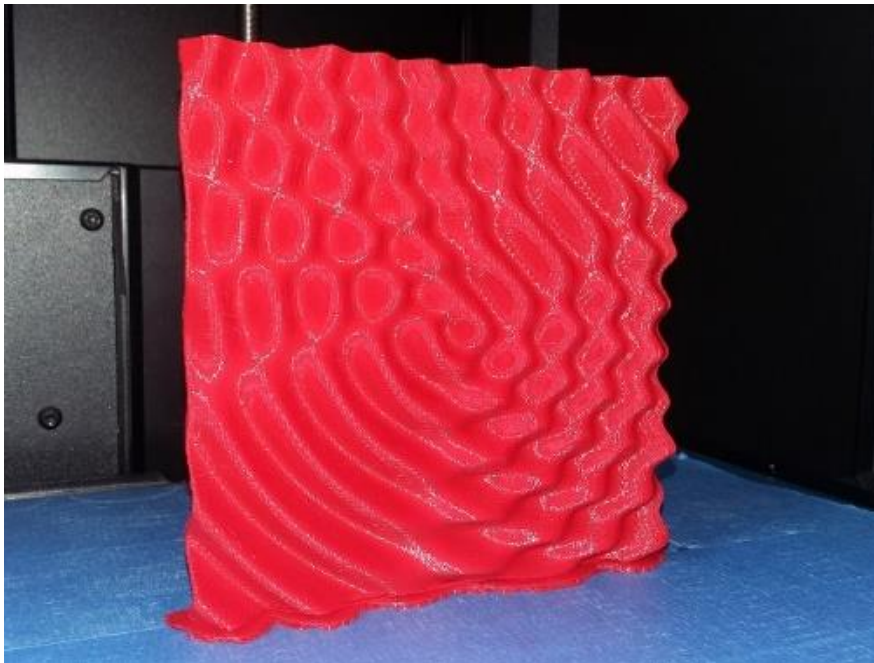
A few layers of material set down to the plate.

- Eliminate bad leveling of the plate
- Get an object to stick to the plate
- Fix the object in a special orientation



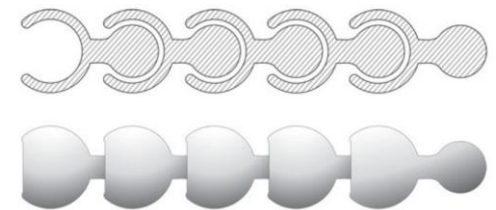
# Settings influencing the printing

## 6; Orientation



# Uniqueness of 3D printing

- Printing real "chain"  
series of interlinking closed links
- Print in place  
various type of joints, moving parts,  
hinges
- Affinity to accommodate  
custom needs
- Raw material & printer



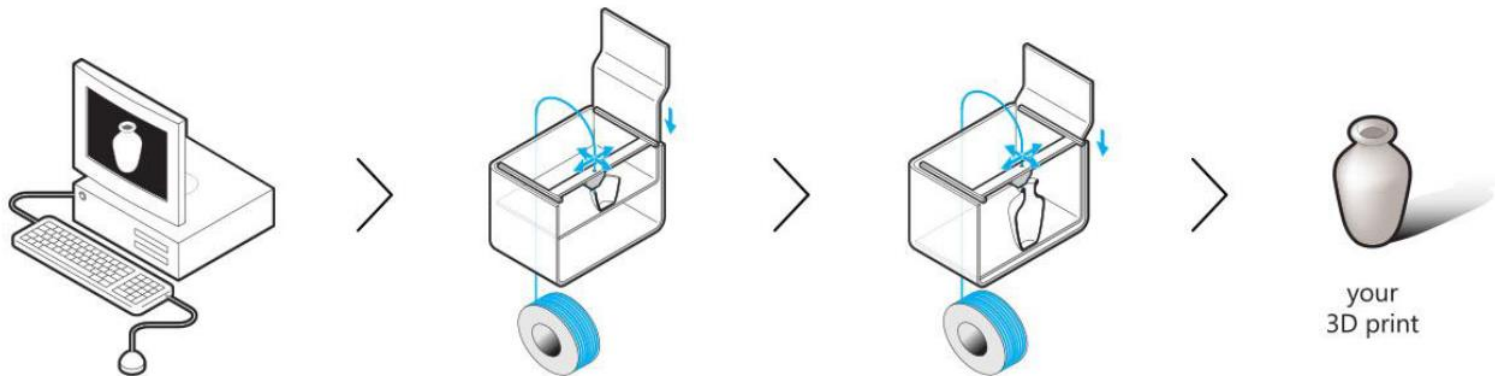
# Most essential 3DP technologies

- Filament-based 3D printing
- Stereolithography
- Selective Laser Sintering

Further details in the presentation of Case Study 1.

# Filament-based 3DP

- Fused Deposition Modeling (FDM)
  - a long plastic filament is fed through a spool to a nozzle where the material is liquefied and 'drawn' on the platform, where it immediately hardens again.
  - Material: PLA, ABS
  - video



# Stereolithography (SLA)

- Focusing a UV laser onto the **transparent bottom of a tank** of liquid photopolymer resin.
- The light cures or hardens the top layer of the resin, building the object from the top down.
- Mainly used to create prototypes for products and in medical modeling.
- video

# Selective Laser Sintering (SLS)

- Laser is used to sinter the powdered material plastic, metal, ceramic, glass.
- Unused powder serves as support.
- video

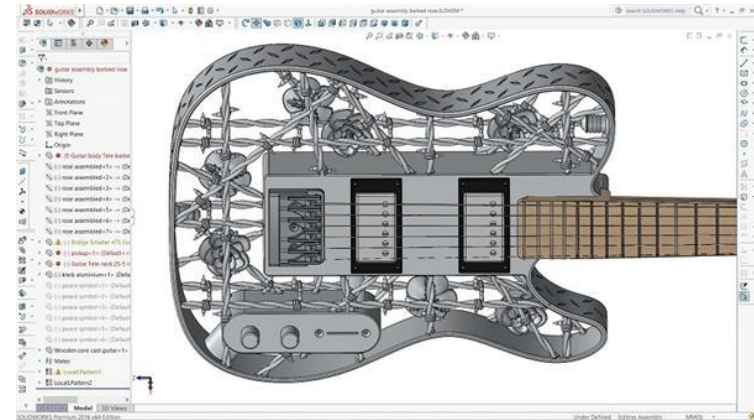




# Some applications (not related to H2020)

## Musical instrument

- Aluminum steampunk guitar
- Designed with SolidWorks based on Sweden ideas
- Printed by a Dutch company
- One piece of 0,1mm layer height
- Its sound is of high quality
- Postprocessing: 4 days





## Some applications (not related to H2020)

### Trainer

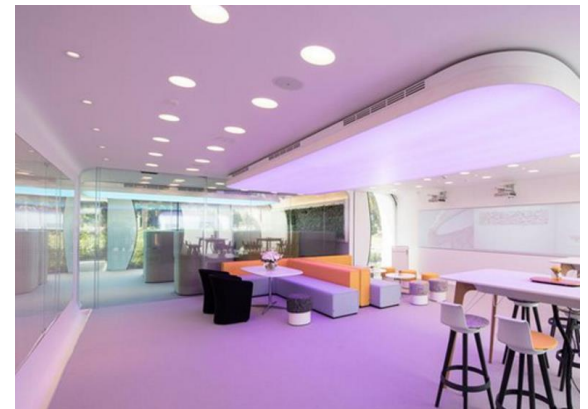
- Goal: lightweight, highly stable, and cushioning shoes to support athletes during the most intense workouts.
- Generative design
- Autodesk Fusion 360 and 3ds Max were used as well.
- The first commercially available 3D printed performance trainer.



# Some applications (not related to H2020)

## Building in Dubai

- Built in the frame of project *Museum of the Future*
- Material: special mixture of cement
- Area: 250 m<sup>2</sup>
- Volume of printer: 6,5m high, 47m length, 13m width
- 17 days,  $\approx$  130.000 EUR (including design elements)
- Expense of human labor is halved
- not the first one



# Some applications (not related to H2020)

## First Japanese 3D printed car

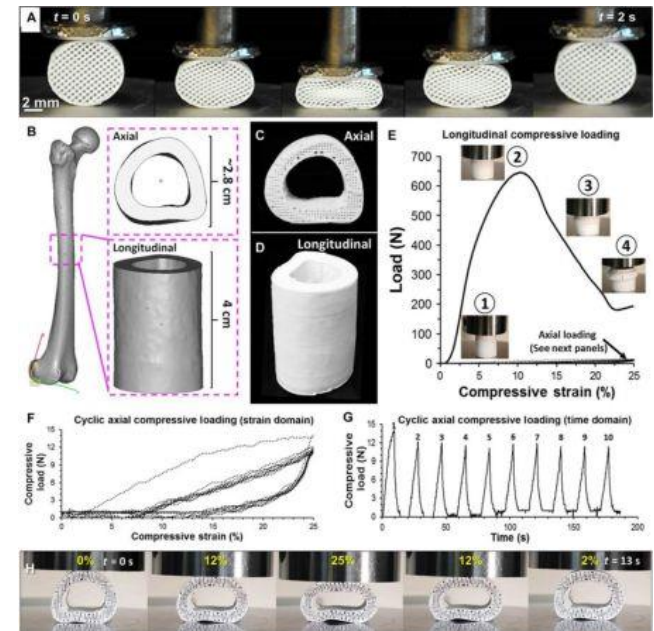
- Collaboration of Kabuku and Honda.
- Small volume to carry confectionery products.



# Some applications (not related to H2020)

## Realistic bones

- Special material acting like real bone for custom-made implants.
- Tested on monkeys  
The implant had fully integrated, fully vascularized with the monkey's own skull.



# Some applications related to H2020

In the presentation of Case Study Group 1

Thank you for your attention.



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