





I still believe That being an architect is extraordinary because it is someone who ideally, allows you to project an utopia and to integrate it into the physical reality of our world. Unlike philosophers who stay in their field, I have the impression that architecture allows us to combine intellectual reflections and thoughts and then try to materialize them. A bit like art, but here with the coexistence of all these different elements that must be taken into account : the function, the users'needs, aso... Actually, what fascinates me is the objective side of architecture the part that everyone recognizes, even intuitively. When you look at a Roman bridge, a Roman viaduct for example even if you don't exactly understand the distributed forces in these Roman arches that they invented You can see the tectonics on this structure. There is an implicit link that allows outsiders who observe the viaduct to recognise a certain beauty through the fact that you can read their constructability. It's something that, I find, adds an extra credibility to the architectural proposals I've made And I'm actually looking for that credibility.

## Summary



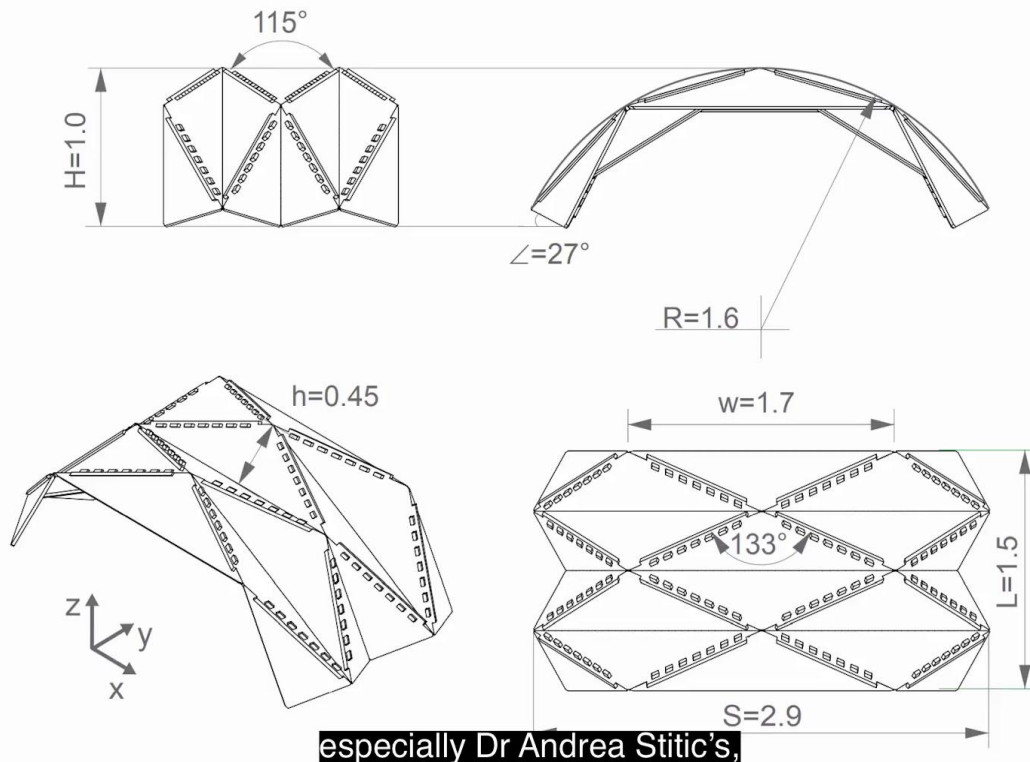
Wood is associated with a very conventional image of architecture: the chalet, the double-sloped roof, When I come here, of course, there is this conventional, traditional aspect, but when I look at the facade here behind, I look at all the details i.e. the tectonic of each element: the 14 centimeters thick planks, the way everything is interlocked. This is something that is very inspiring for other construction methods, which are perhaps similar but which do not necessarily convey the same architectural image, that is more oriented to the past. I have always refused a dogmatic attitude towards wood. It is a material that has its qualities, and that is above all, a renewable source. However, the first seduction was rather black and white pencil drawings of a small shelter in 19th century Finland, lost in the snow. Something extremely abstract, where it's more about texture and where time left its mark. I like these things that are functional but also showcase great poetry. I think that wood as a material, - it is often said, and this is also its flaw – lives. Wood is something that is part of a life cycle, of a period of time. I think you have to deal with it, but in the end, it offers something very natural.

Notes

Summary

1m 36s





especially Dr Andrea Stitic's,

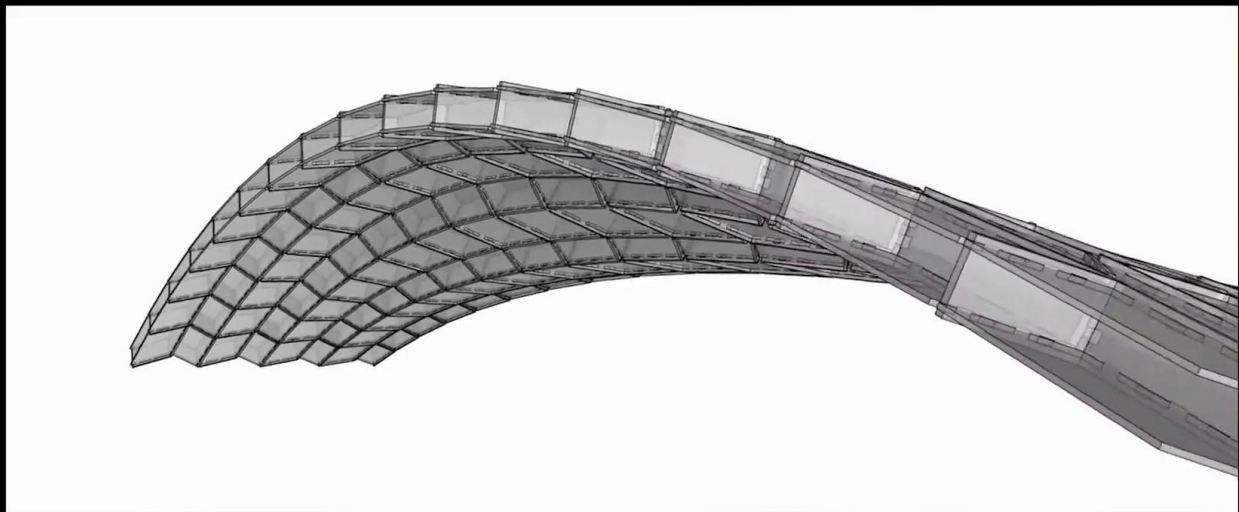
We started with a team made of architects, civil engineers and mathematicians in 2005. The first theses that came out from 2010-2011 onwards were more architectural theses where we tried to offer new tools to generate other types of structures in order to increase the use of wood. We were particularly interested in fractal geometry, which has the advantage of proposing iterative functions allowing us to reproduce self-similarities in one same structure. This tool is very interesting to generate free forms and, afterwards, to discretize them. Here we see a curved beam, generated by the origami tool, simply made of paper. From there, we can move forwards and create structures that already have all the complexity of the realization in embryo. We can also create curved architectures. Here you can see that this edge is curved. This is a “wood-wood” connection at the corner. Here are the actively bent structures in several layers. This is the project of braided structures which, for the time being, still needs to be applied on a building scale. We can also go towards hard, orthogonal geometries, T-beams, orthotropic slabs which would only be made up of wooden elements connected by tenon joints which prevent slipping, or clip connections which hold the parts together. Then we opened up to theses linked to the mechanical validation of these structures.

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3m 27s





where art can question

So, several theses were written especially Dr Andrea Stitic's, on doubly folded structures, or Dr Stéphane Roche's, who proposed an analytical model for the dimensioning of wood-wood connections. The last theses which were written and produced by architects concern the application of robotics where we attempt to create a direct link between architectural conception and the realisation of that conception through the use of robots. I think that architecture is mostly composed of two elements: on the one hand: art. An artistic approach. On the other hand, a technical or technological approach. We try to teach this, for example, by opening up architecture students to a responsible attitude towards this planet where art can question our behaviour and our objectives through an architectural design process.

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Summary



5m 16s





At the same time, we are opening up to technology, to new or different building methods that can make this architectural approach better. We also try to offer systems that are resistant to earthquakes. The structures that we present are flexible and their characteristics allow them to withstand a seismic shock, an earthquake. Finally, we would also like to give timber which is a very ancient material, a new contemporary expression. The research that is being done at IBOIS must really be exported, and be more widely known, so I consider myself as a sort of ambassador. I would like the architectural community to be aware of what we do at IBOIS. We are in Bordeaux. We're going to go to the Mollat library to present the first IBOIS book which has just been published. and then, we're going to answer an invitation issued by the contemporary art center, « Arc en Rêve », which is organising, as part of the Woodrise conferences, a round table between architects, the ALICE lab at EFPL and IBOIS. The whole thing will be presented and moderated by the art and architecture critic Christophe Catsaros. We are in a kind of fascinated, ecological, green discourse which is not so well founded.

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6m 27s





the way the architect  
conceives architecture.

We started with this idea that we should create a kind of tool to think about wood, to think about wood construction, to discover things that have not been done before, to understand what is being done, how research is evolving with a leading laboratory like IBOIS, to see how structures are developed and in what directions things are going. and to create a sort of place where the scientific environment and the research environment will be able to meet with human Sciences, and discuss wood construction on another level: from an economical, but also sociological, housing and political point of view. He is the one who proposed this very interesting editorial project and he is in charge of editing these 4 projects with me. I am quite curious to see how this editorial project will evolve with time because the first booklet has just been published, but the other ones have not yet been fully defined. So every meeting is important. Despite the fact that we publish scientific articles in scientific journals on a continuous basis, our work is not always perceived as being interesting enough to be considered in the context of architectural construction. One of the major challenges of tonight's round table is to show that the way or the methods of construction, that we present can also influence or even modify the way the architect conceives architecture.

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Summary



8m 02s