

WHAT STARTS HERE CHANGES THE WORLD

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Approaches to Producing Additively Manufactured Concrete Mixtures Dr. Raissa Ferron rferron@mail.utexas.edu Associate Professor

University of Texas at Austin

ACI Fall 2018 Convention • Session on Materials Science Aspects Related to Digital Manufacturing (3D Printing) • Monday, 15 October 2018 • Las Vegas, NV



MUCH ADVANCEMENT IN CONCRETE TECHNOLOGY IN TERMS OF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURAL DESIGN.

- High performance concrete
 - High strength
 - High flowability
 - ➢ High durability
 - High modulus
- Advanced structural design and analysis
- Better pumping systems



Burj Khalifa: Tallest building in the world

The process for manufacturing concrete has remained largely unchanged.



Manually mixing at site



1959, Oregon, USA



2017



• ~70% in USA in 2016



Ready Mixed Concrete placing concrete along 17th Avenue in Downtown Denver, early 1950s



Las Vegas Mobile Mix truck pouring out ready mix concrete for utility works in Henderson, Nevada, 2018

http://www.boralcolorado.com/bcm-about-us, https://www.yelp.com/biz/las-vegas-mobile-mix-las-vegas

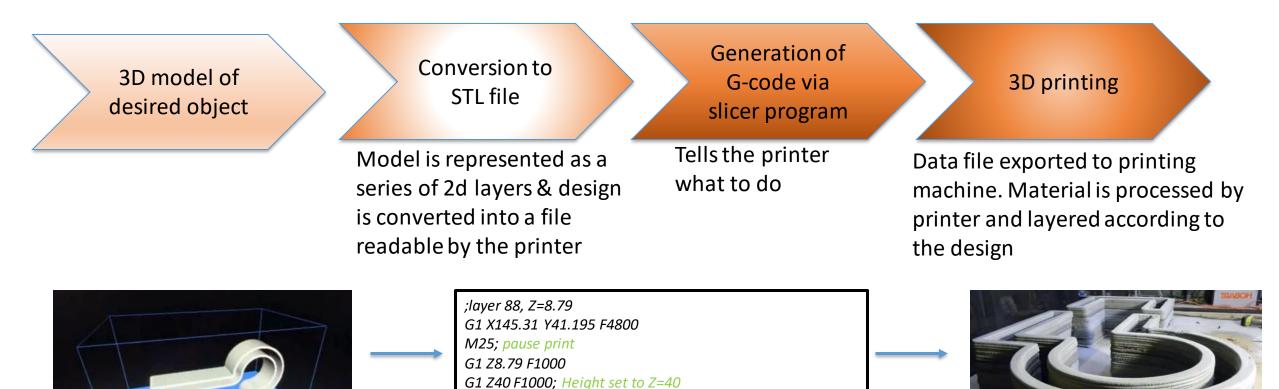
The process for manufacturing concrete has remained largely unchanged...but that may change with digital fabrication of concrete structures.



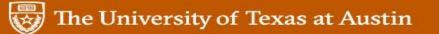
<u>Digital fabrication:</u> the application of digital modeling and technologies to the production of custom material objects

G1 E0 F1800 G92 E0

General steps:







Types of digital fabrication concrete technologies

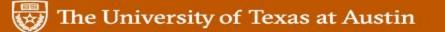
- \rightarrow additive manufacturing
- \rightarrow subtractive manufacturing







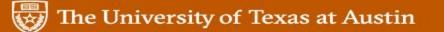






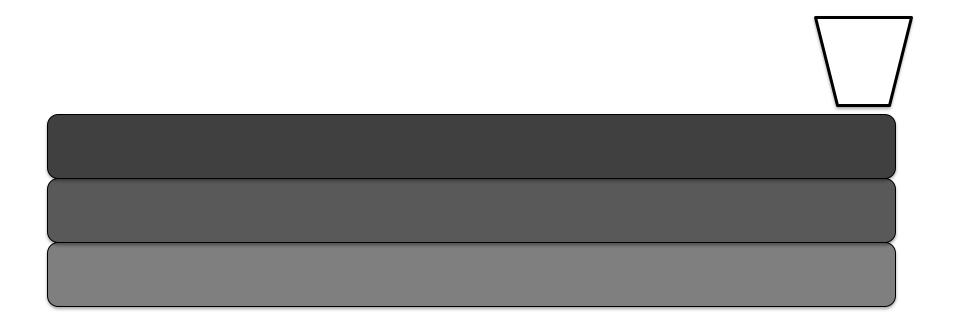




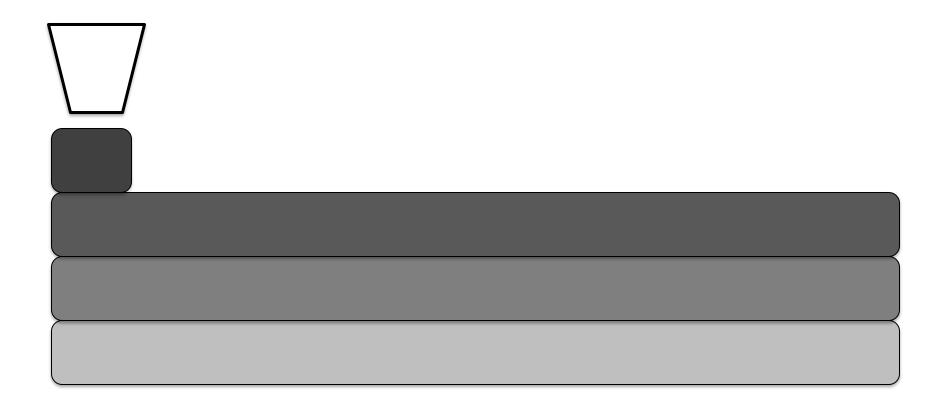


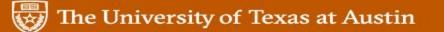


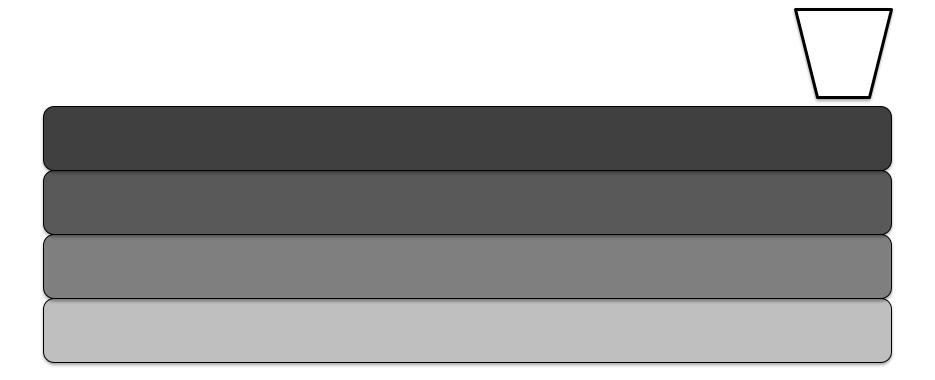














ICON (USA)

CBS THIS MORNING Today's Rundown - Politics & Power Feat



Binder Jetting

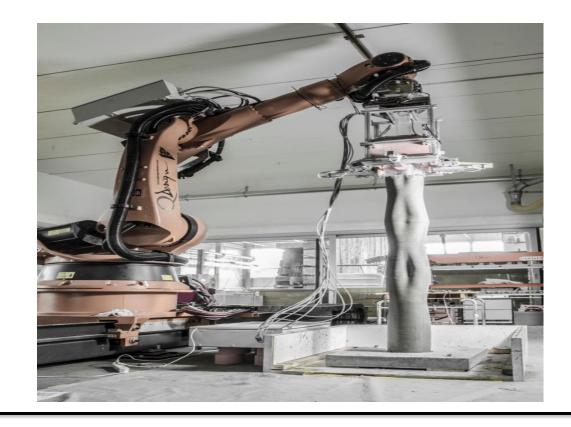
Slipforming

Produced by either by using cement in the powder bed and injecting water, or by injecting cement paste into an aggregate bed.



Bartlett School of Architecture (England)

Produces elements by robotically moving a defined formwork significantly smaller than the element produced.



Smart Dynamic Casting (SDC)- ETH Zurich (2012)

3D printing systems

Gantry system

- Printing on a build platform, typically smooth surface, where the extrusion point moves along x, y and z coordinates
- Space Constraint
- Labor intensive in terms of its assembly and transportation
- Orthogonal orientation restricted curved deposition

Robotic arm system

- Freeform printing → Six degrees of freedom for print pathway
- Easy installation and accessibility
- More expensive than gantry system
- Additional safety measures



Gantry print system, https://thenewstack.io



Robotic arm, UT Austin

Large scale 3D printers

Printer	Company	Price	Printing Space (m)	Printing method	Printer Type	Country	Release date
P1	BetAbram	>\$ 250,000	16 × 8.2 × 2.5	Extrusion	Gantry	Slovenia	2017
3D Printer	Apis Cor	> \$ 250,000	8.5 × 1.6 × 1.5	Extrusion	Similar to robotic arm	Russia	2017
BigDelta Wasp 12M	WASP	\$ 100,000 – \$250,000	6 × 6 × 12	Extrusion	Gantry	Italy	2017
BIG 3D-Printer 2156	Imprimere AG	\$1,757,000	5.75× 6 × 6.25	Extrusion	Gantry	Switzerland	2017
X1	Cazza	\$480 <i>,</i> 000	3.6 × 3.4 × 0.8	Extrusion	Robotic Arm	USA	2017
3D Constructor	Machines- 3D	\$462 <i>,</i> 008	n/a	Extrusion	Robotic Arm	France	2017
S-300	AMT-SPECAVIA	> \$ 250,000	$11.5 \times 11 \times 5.4$	Extrusion	Gantry	Russia	2018
S-500	AMT-SPECAVIA	> \$ 250,000	11.5 × 11 × 15	Extrusion	Gantry	Russia	2018
BOD2	COBOD	> \$ 250,000	11.98 × 45.07 × 9.1	Extrusion	Gantry	Denmark	2018
Vulcan	ICON	n/a	6.096 x 3.353 x desired	Extrusion	Gantry	USA	n/a

https://www.aniwaa.com/ [Accessed October 2018]

Note: 1 mm = 3.2 ft

Process Approach & Key fresh state considerations

Approaches for mixture

- Extrusion approach- stiff
 mixture possess immense
 high structural buildup rate
- Flowable approach- mix should be flowable enough to be extruded out in designated patterns, yet have sufficient rheological properties to support the layers above it

- Extrudability
- Flowability
- Buildability
- Pumpability
- Thixotropy
- Open time
- Delay Time
- Printability window
- Scaleability



Rheology

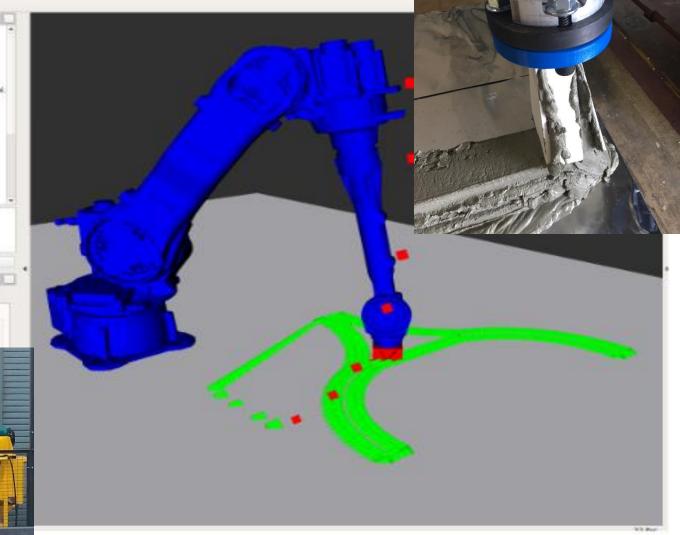
Multi-scale printing

Benchtop Printer

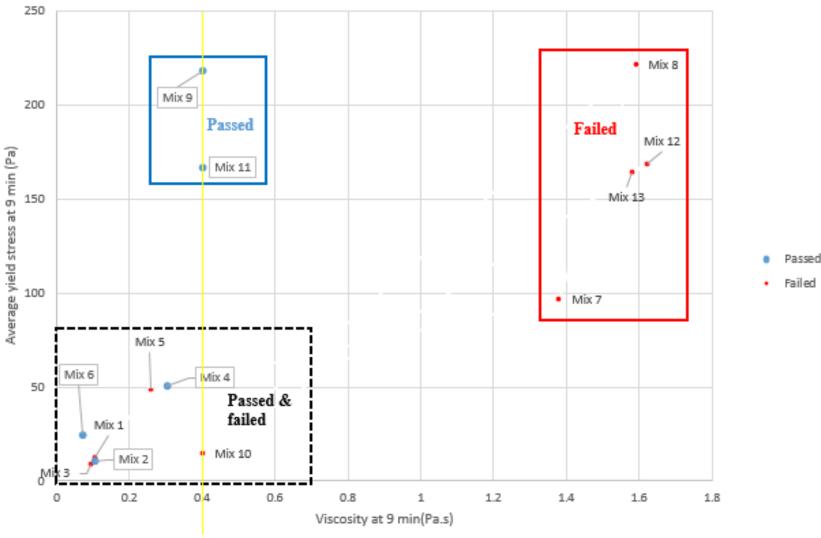
- Dimensions: 34in x 48in ;Based on RepRap's wiring configuration (open-source)
- Softwares to be used:
 - Marlin- Computer connection & coding
 - Printrun Printing host
 - Slic3r 3D converter

Large scale Printer:





Key considerations for 3D-printed cementitious mixtures



Mixture details:

- Type I/II cement
- Limestone powder @ 25% and 33.3%
 - replacement(#30 sieve)
- Sand
- VMA
- HRWR
- Different water-to-cement ratio

Summary

Mass

production

 (\mathbf{U})

Different approaches \rightarrow Layered extrusion most common

Large-scale digital fabrication of concrete is possible and feasible.

Quicker construction

• Less labor

Lower overall cost

Less material

Better understanding of properties and performance of additively manufactured materials needed



USACE: 3D printing of 9.5-fttall reinforced concrete walls for a 32-ft x 16-ft barracks

Thank You





3D printed concrete chair. (Produced by Siam Cement Group)

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