



CHI 2025



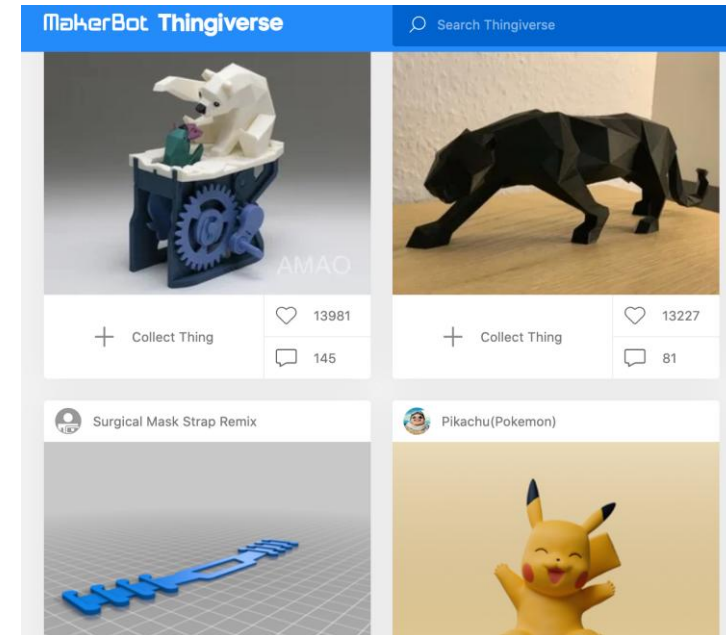
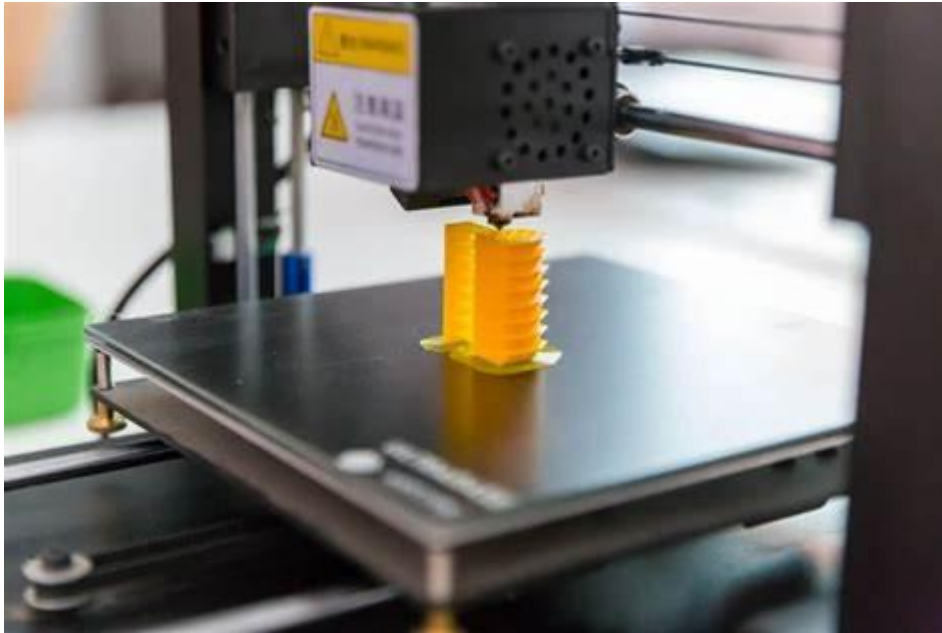
ConTextural: A Toolpath-Based Texture Editing Tool for Extrusion 3D Printers

Daphna Kaplan, Mirela Ben-Chen, Yoav Sterman

Technion Institute of Technology



Modeling



Textures

- Textures are crucial in **design**
- Textures can alter **physical** properties
- **Functional** properties

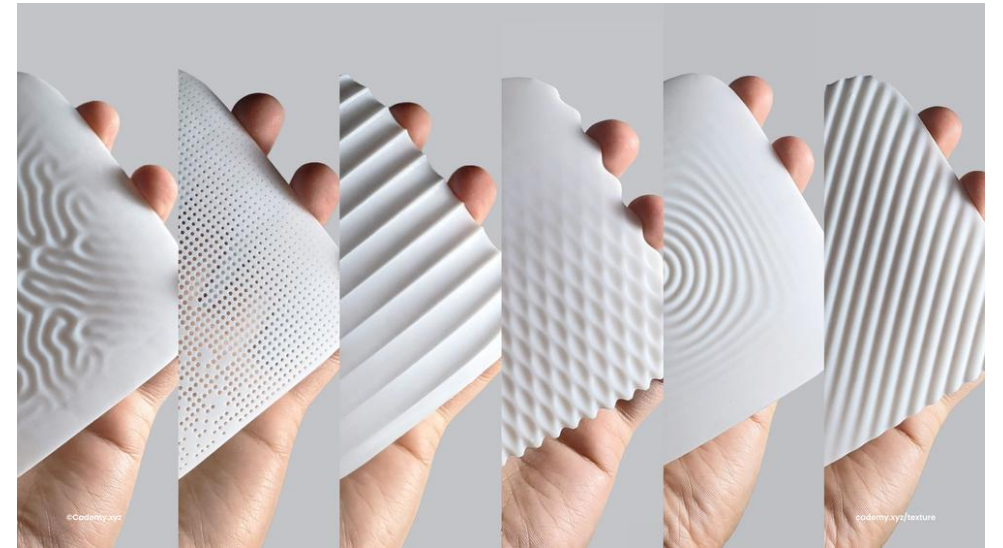
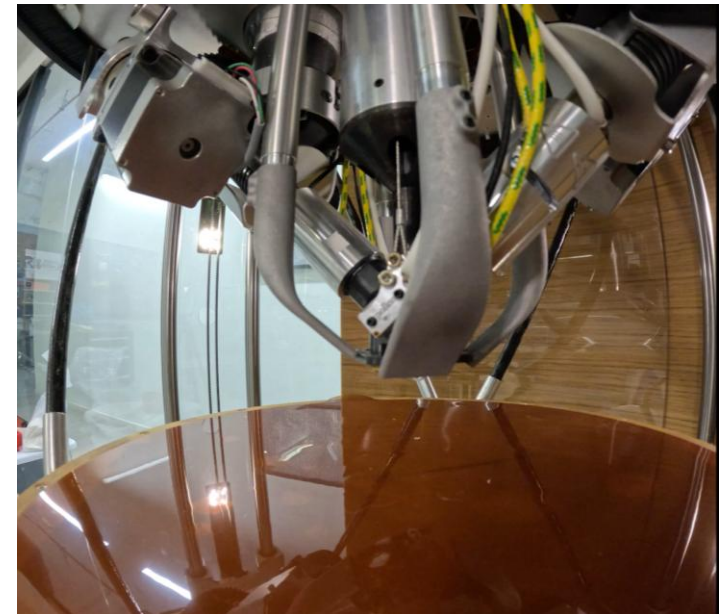
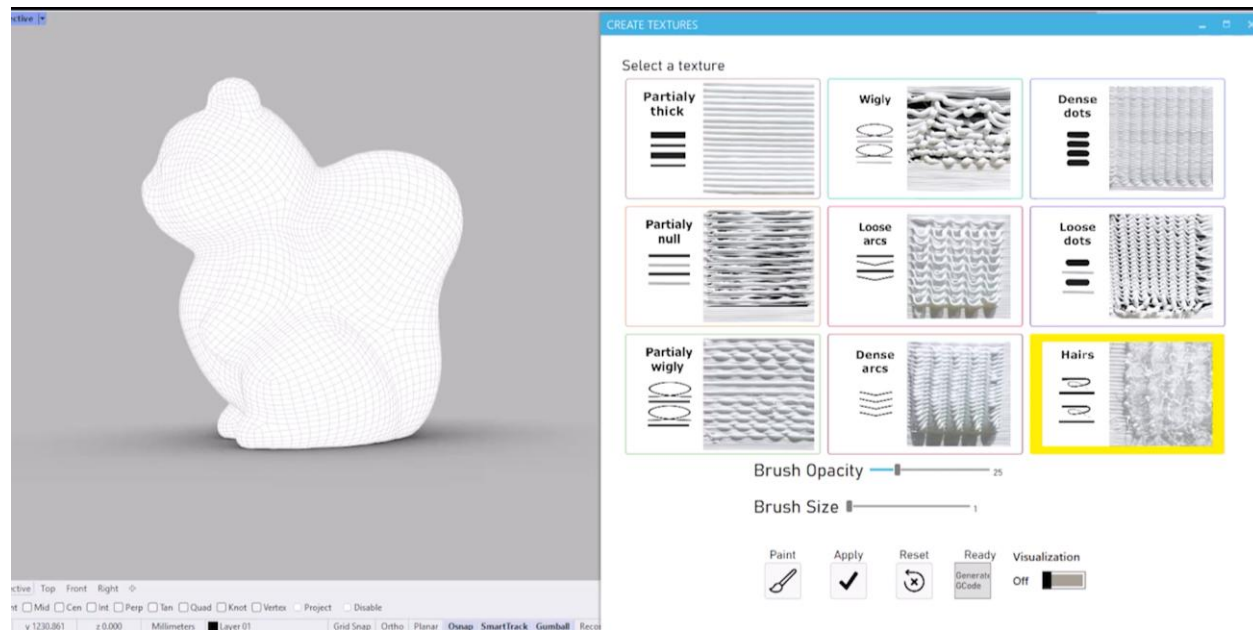


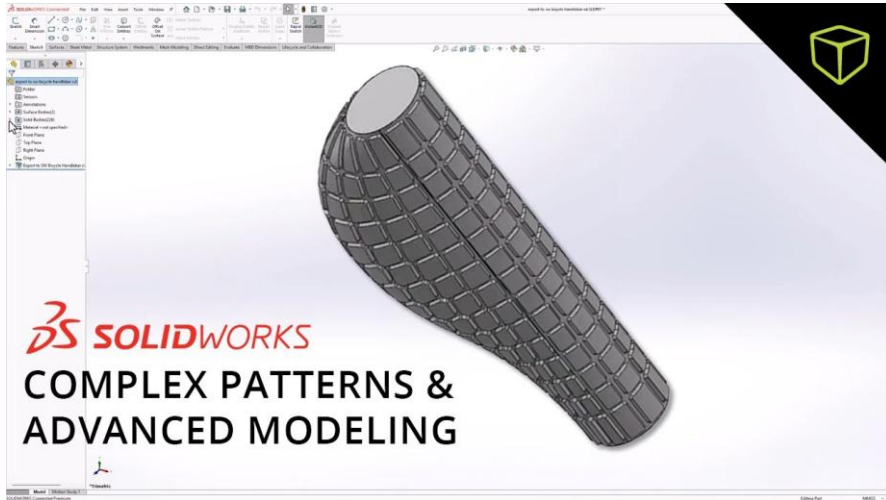
Image source: <https://www.cademy.xyz/learn/why-grasshopper-3d-is-essential-for-industrial-designers>

ConTextural

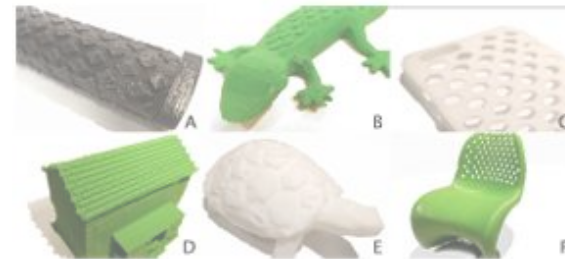
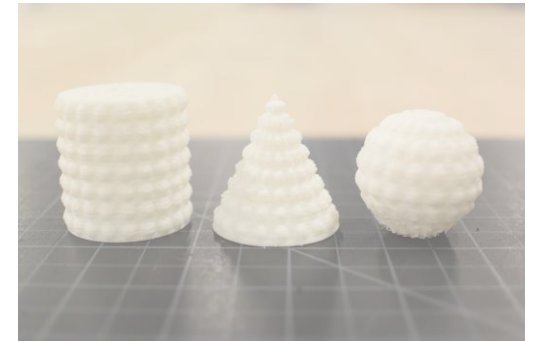
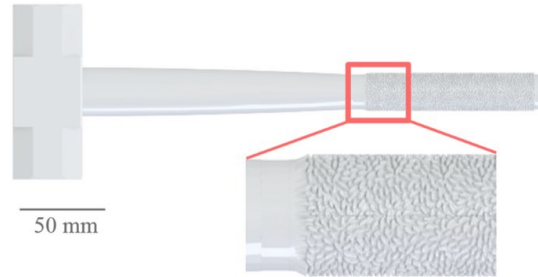


Textures using CAD

CAD software

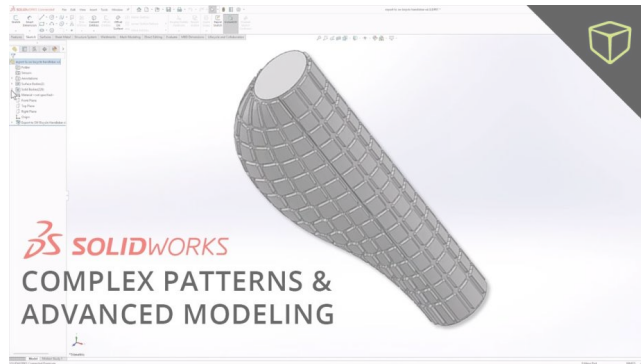


2D Input

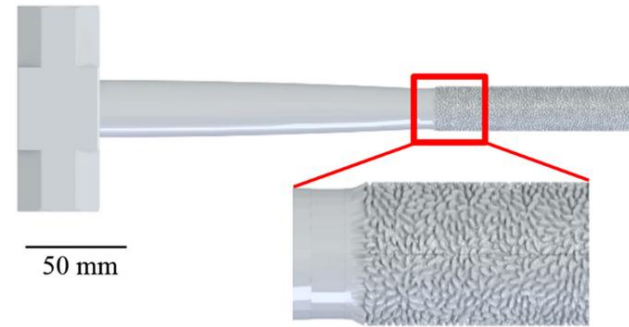


Textures using CAD

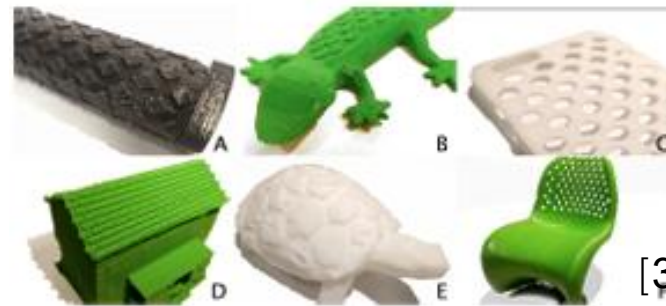
CAD software



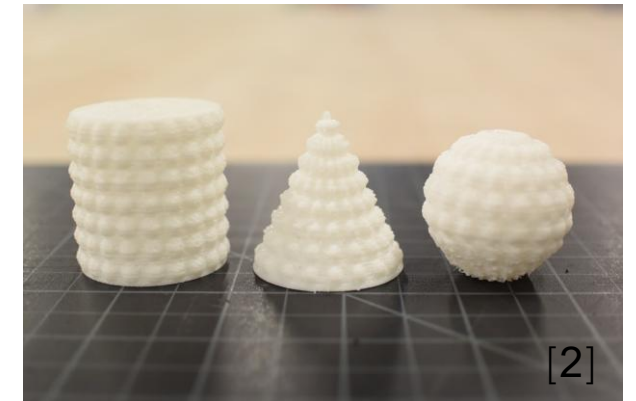
2D Input



[1]



[3]



[2]

- [1] Bhupesh Verma, Omid Zarei, Song Zhang, and Johannes Henrich Schleifenbaum. 2022. Development of texture mapping approaches for additively manufacturable surfaces. Chinese Journal of Mechanical Engineering 35, 1 (2022).
- [2] Cesar Torres, Tim Campbell, Neil Kumar, and Eric Paulos. 2015. Hapticprint: Designing feel aesthetics for 3D printing. In UIST 2015 - Proceedings of the 28th Annual ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology.
- [3] Ryo Suzuki, Koji Yatani, Mark D. Gross, and Tom Yeh. 2018. Tabby: Explorable Design for 3D Printing Textures.

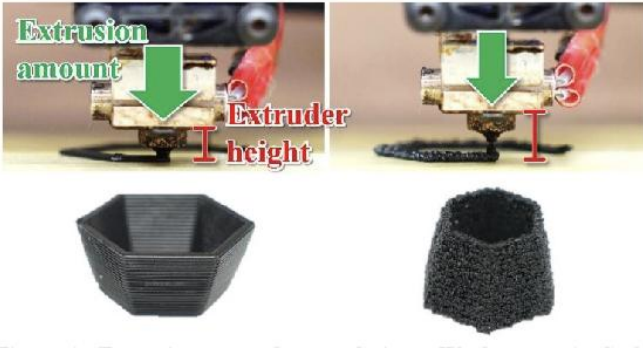
CAD vs CAM



Lipton and Lipson, 2016, 3D Printing Variable Stiffness Foams Using Viscous Thread Instability

Textures using CAM

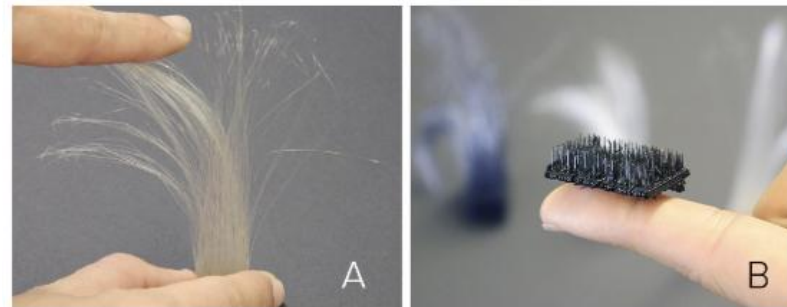
Techniques



Takahashi, Haruki, and Homei Miyashita. "Expressive fused deposition modeling by controlling extruder height and extrusion amount."



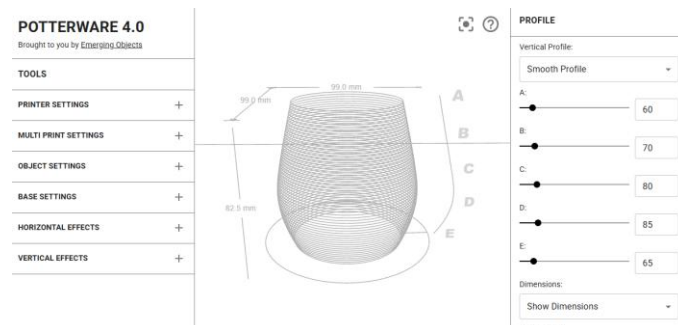
Paul O'Dowd, Stephen Hoskins, Peter Walters, Adrian Geisow, "Modulated Extrusion for Textured 3D Printing"



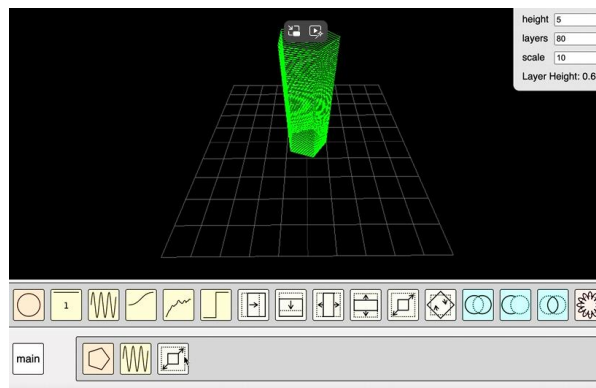
Laput, Gierad, Xiang'Anthony Chen, and Chris Harrison. "3D printed hair: Fused deposition modeling of soft strands, fibers, and bristles."

Textures using CAM

Layout

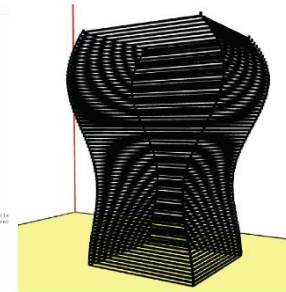


Ronald Rael. 2020. PotterWare by Emerging Objects



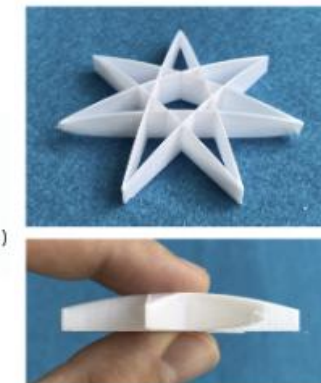
Leo McElroy and Lingdong Huang. 2023. PotScript: a visual grammar for sculpting with functions.

Coding

[illegible]

Blair Subbaraman and Nadya Peek. 2022. p5.fab: Direct Control of Digital Fabrication Machines from a Creative Coding Environment

```
for layers in range(30):
    v = layers/30
    for side in range(7):
        for x in range(-X, X+1):
            a = v*h/X
            t.forward_lift(1, -x*a)
        t.right(360*4/7)
```



Franklin Pezutti-Dyer and Leah Buechley. 2022. Extruder-Turtle: A Library for 3D Printing Delicate, Textured, and Flexible Objects.

Gap

Toolpath editing is **hard** to do,
even for users with experience in 3D printing and coding

Gap

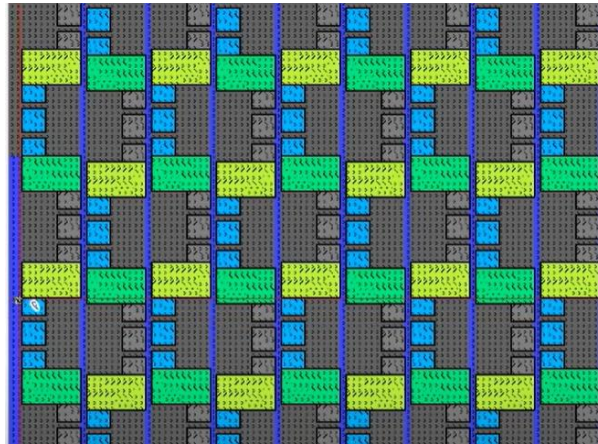
- Working with existing models
- Accessing local features
- Modifying the Toolpath requires knowledge

Solution

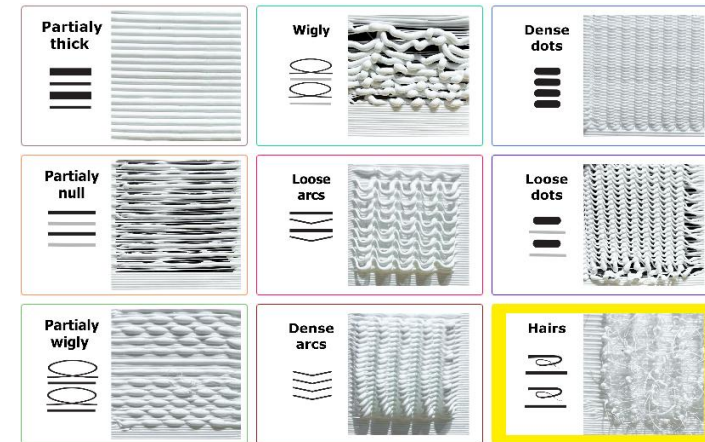
- A simple **interface** for toolpath manipulation
- **Modular framework** with access to numerous textures
- Give **visual** feedback

Solution

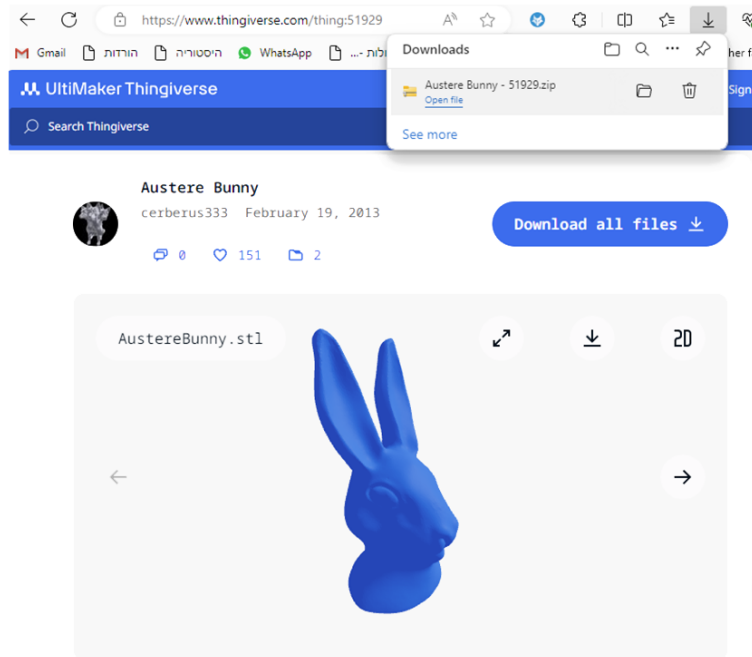
Digital Knitting Yarn



3D Printing Filament

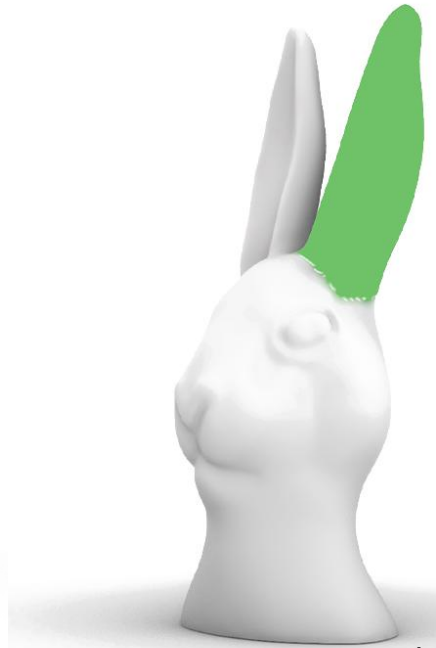


Workflow



Get Model

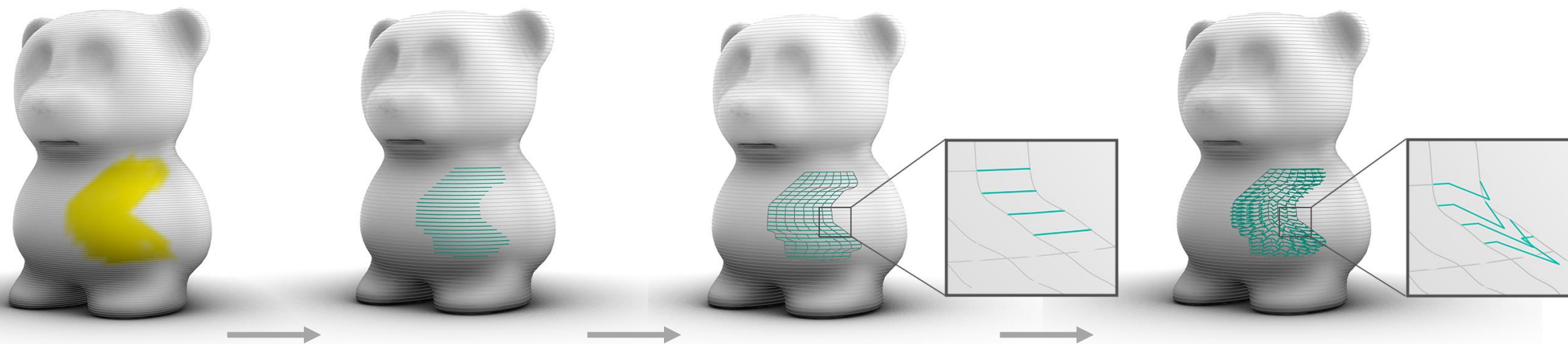
Color



V

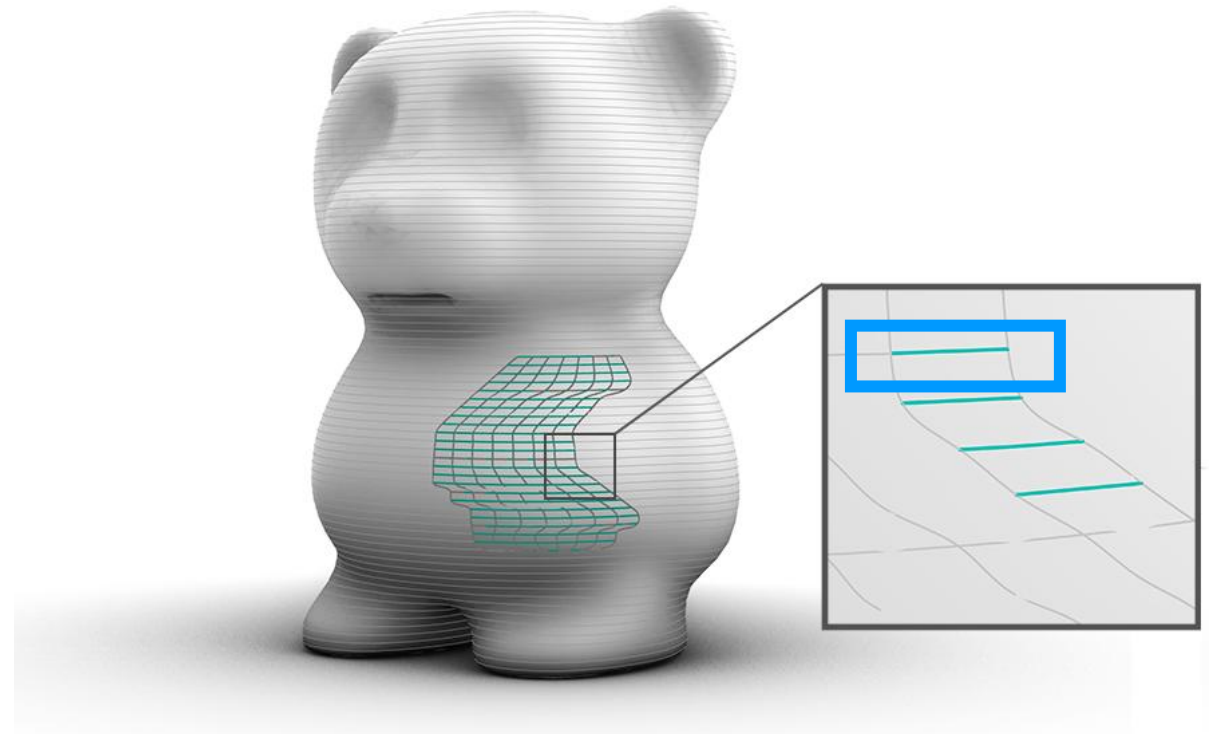
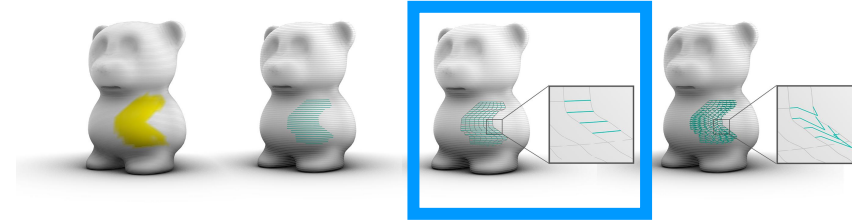


Workflow



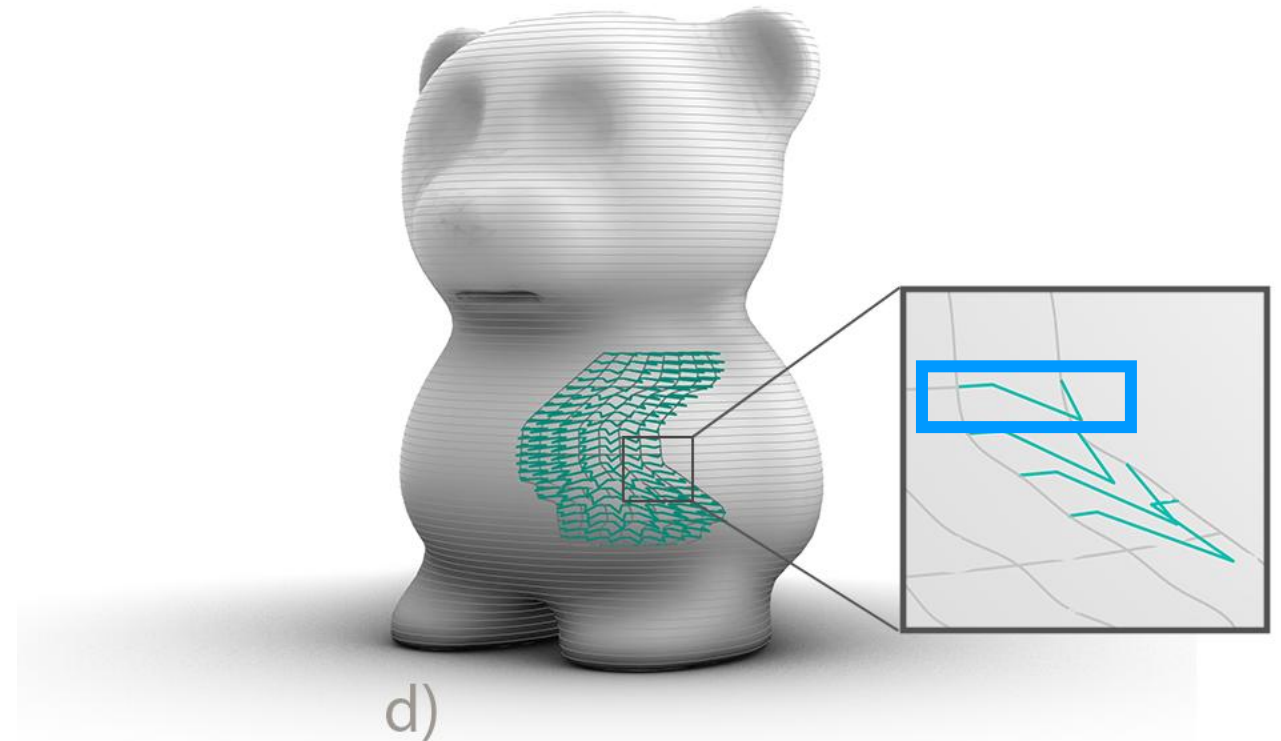
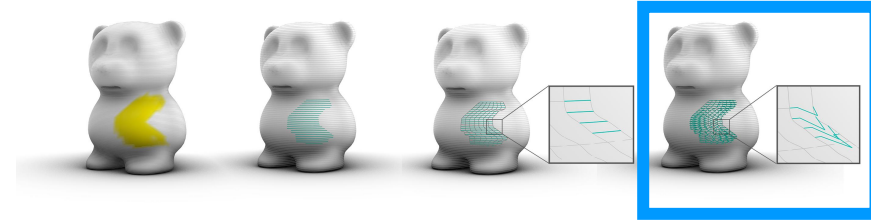
Segment

A single curve in a structure, which is a small sub-curve of an original iso-z curve of the model.



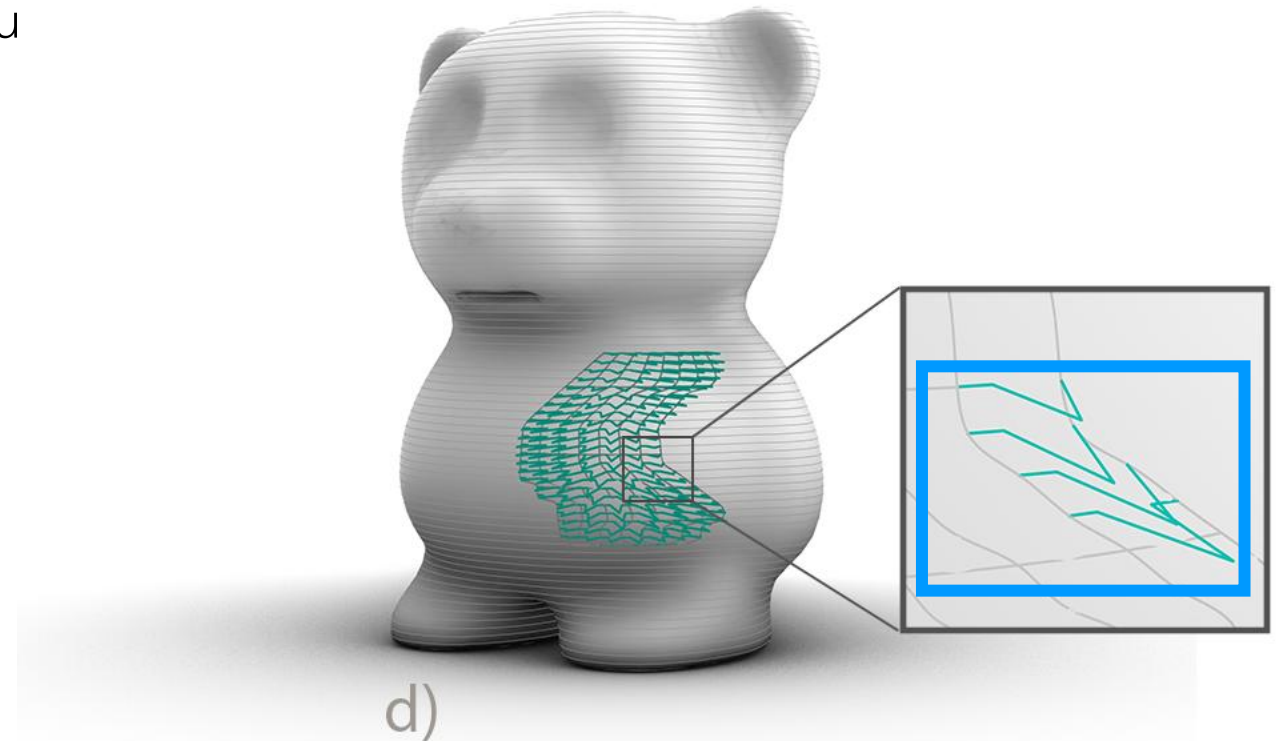
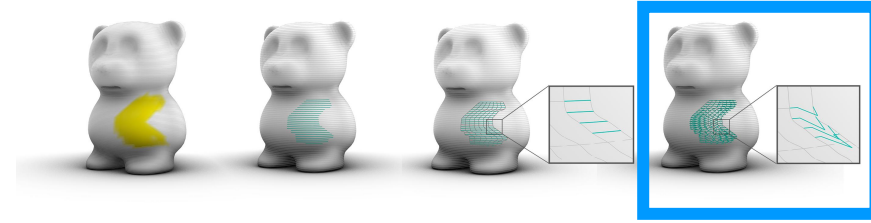
Primitive

A geometric and printing parameter manipulation on a segment.

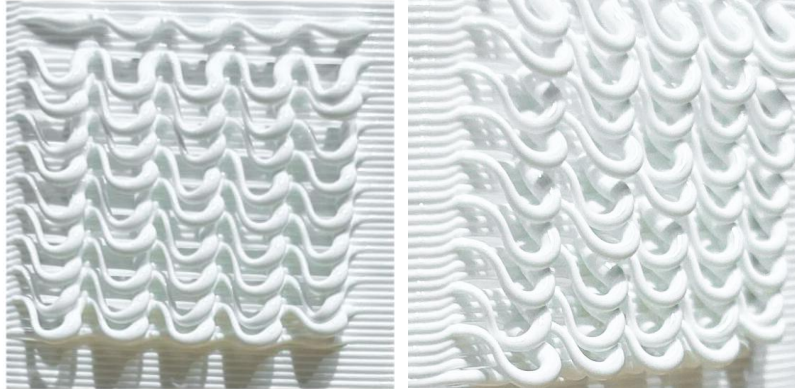


Structure

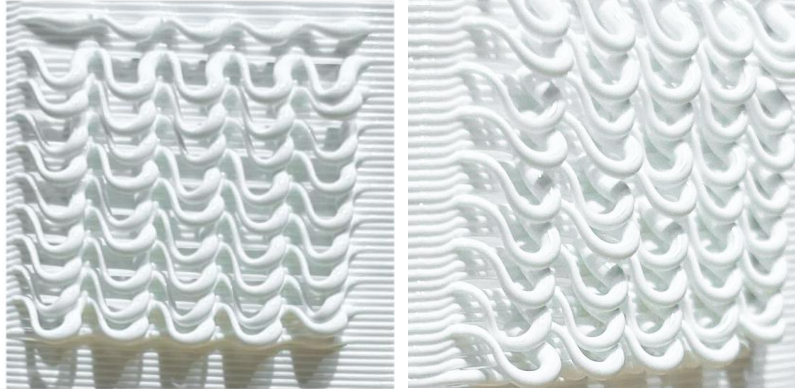
An ordered list of paired segments and primitives that together form the texture



Structure Example: Loose Arcs

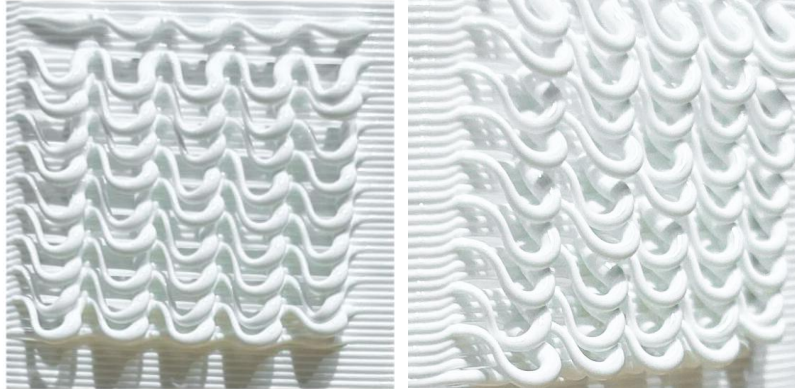


Structure Example: Loose Arcs



4 Segments

Structure Example: Loose Arcs



4 Segments

Primitives:

Regular

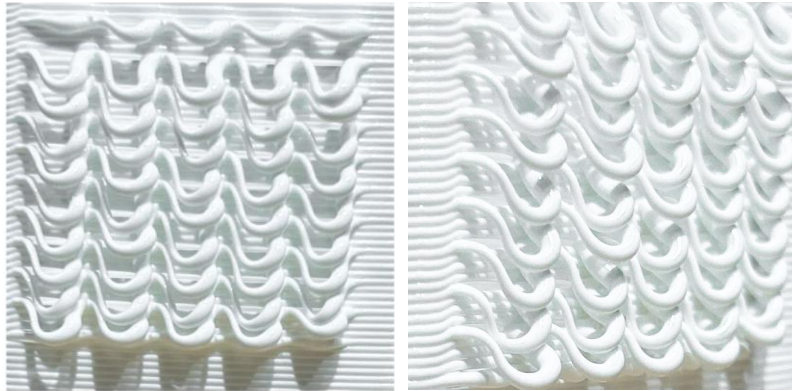
Arc

Regular

Arc



Structure Example: Loose Arcs



4 Segments

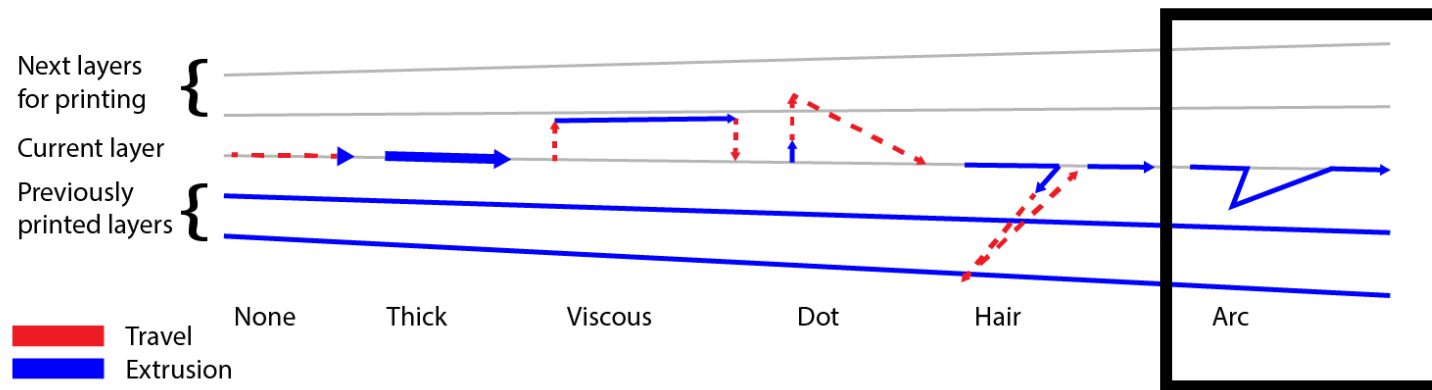
Primitives:

Regular

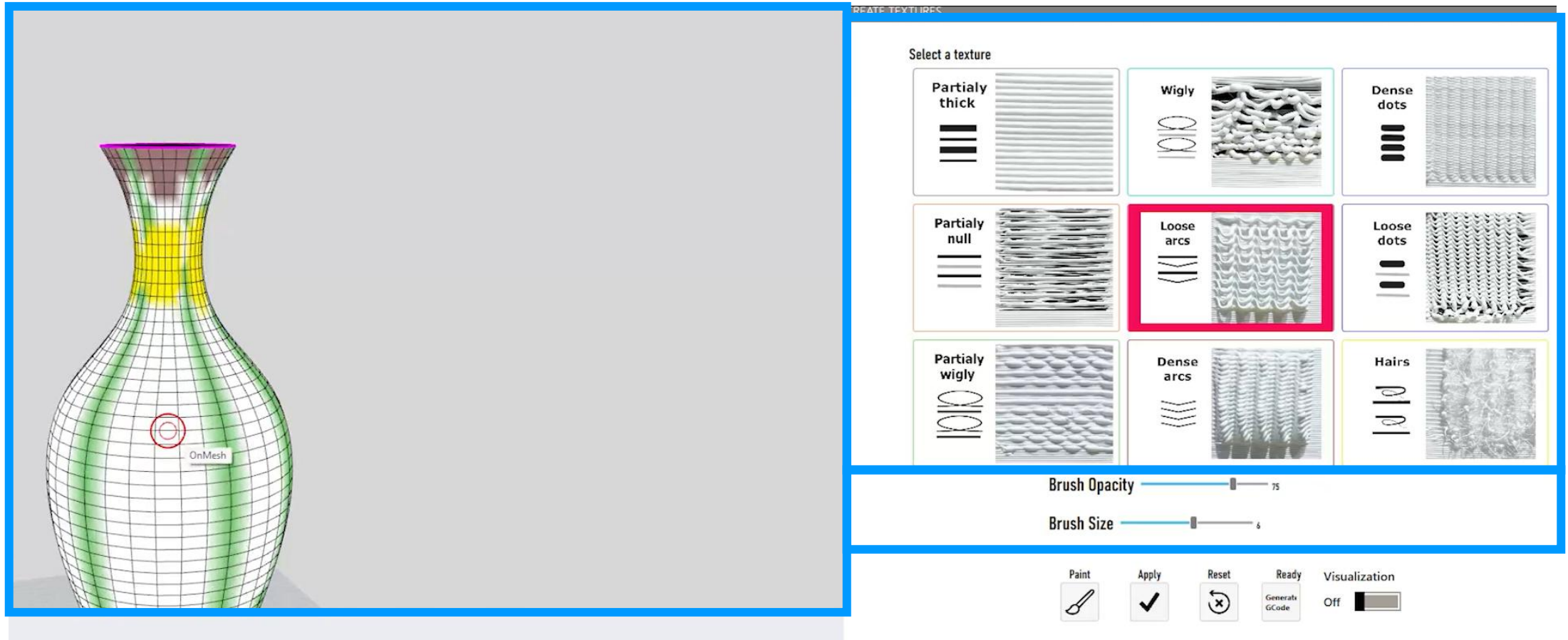
Arc

Regular

Arc



Interface

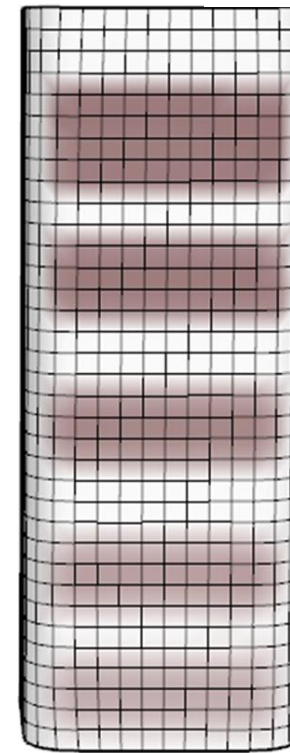
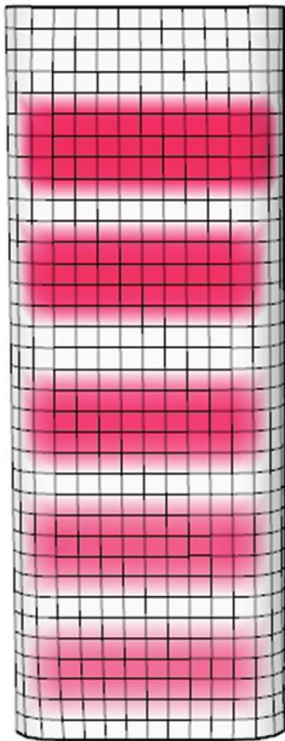


Intensity

**Loose
arcs**

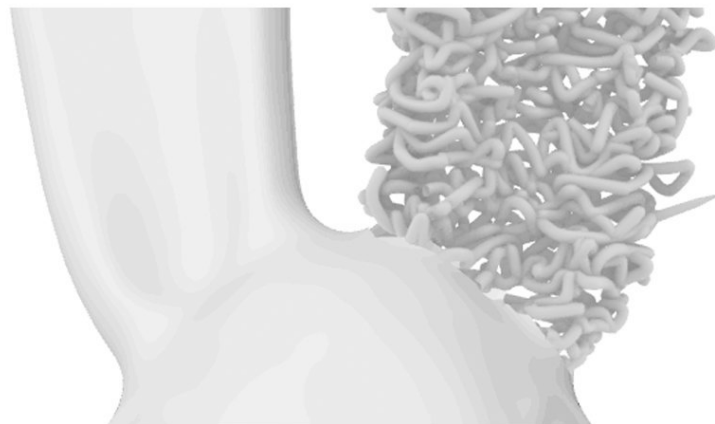
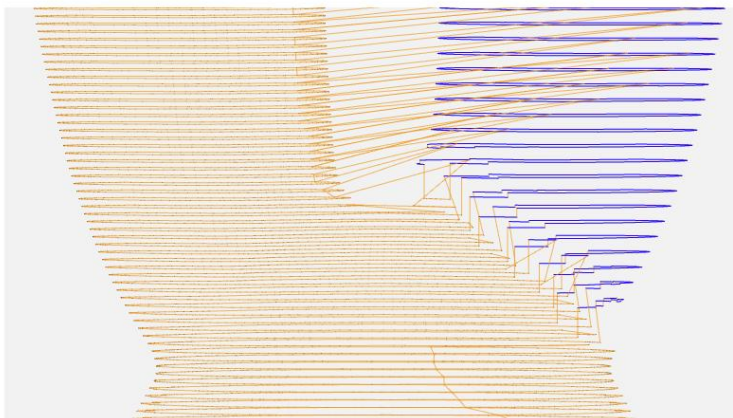


**Partially
thick**



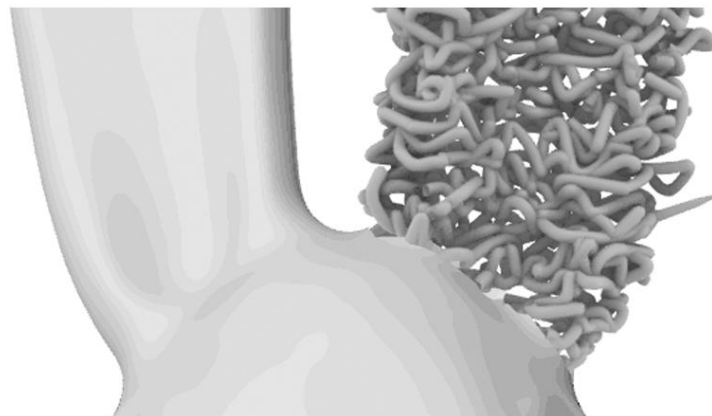
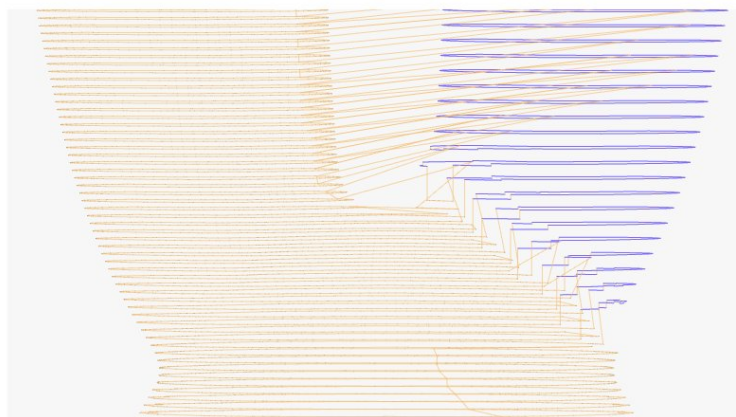
Visualization

Gcode Viewer

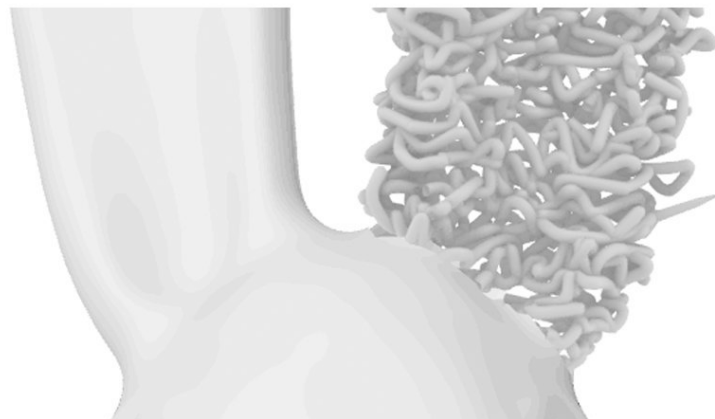
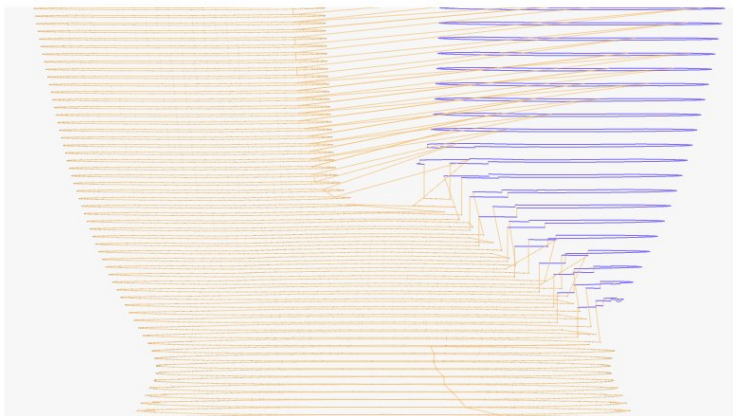


Visualization

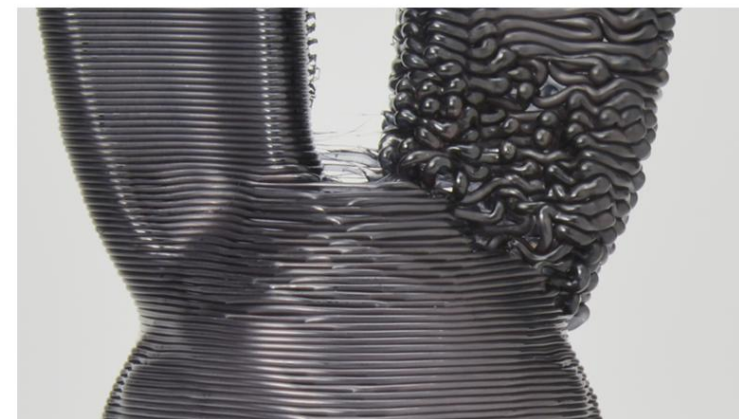
Our Visualization



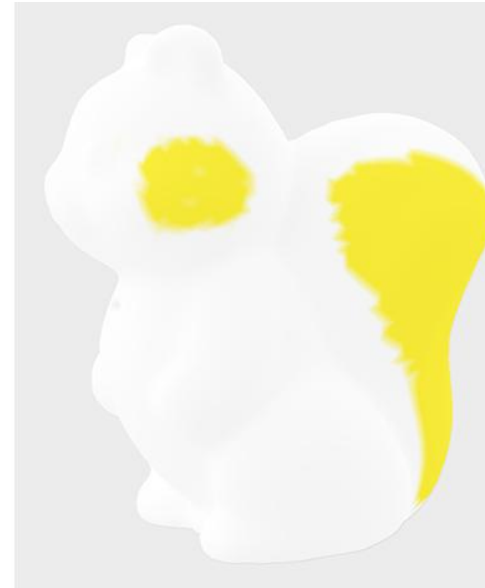
Visualization



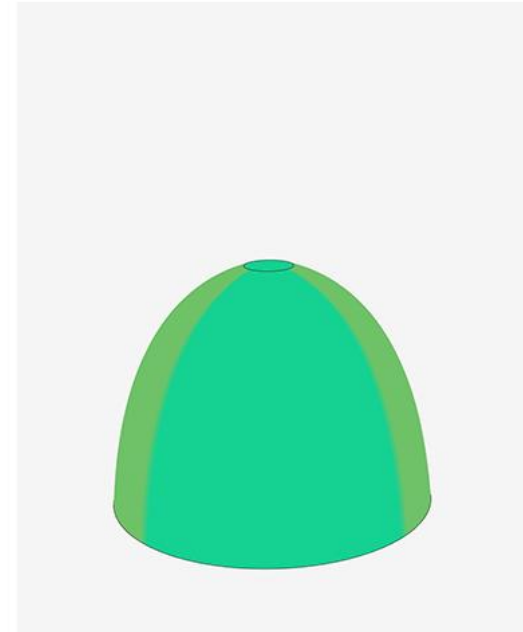
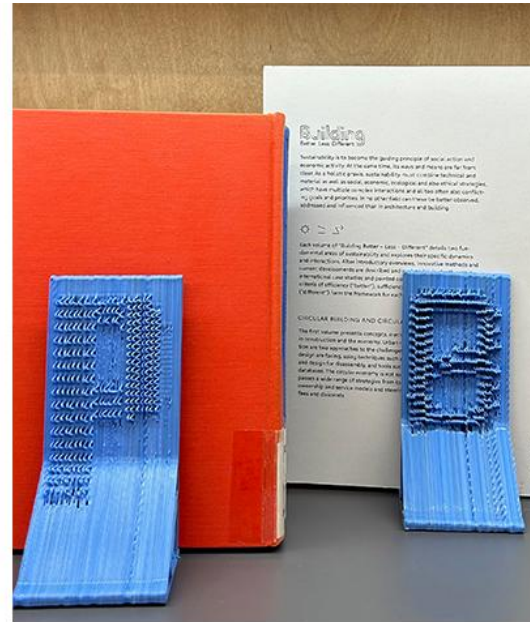
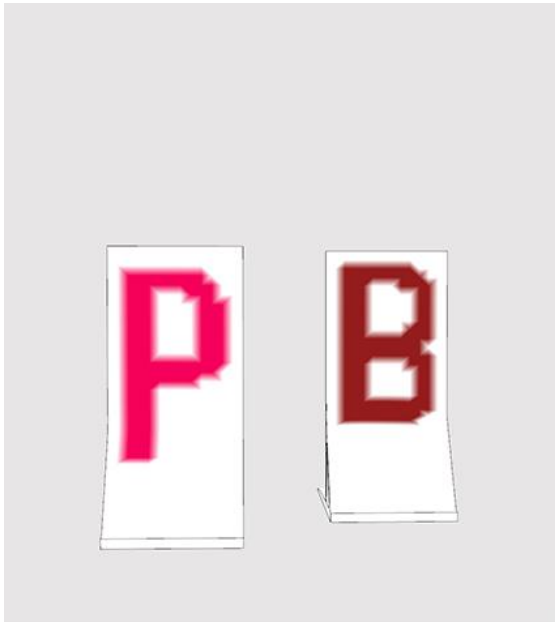
Real Results



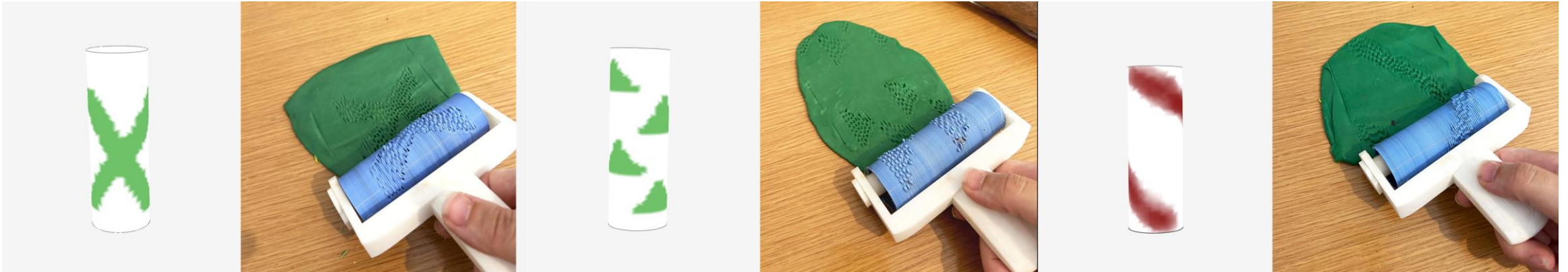
Design Examples



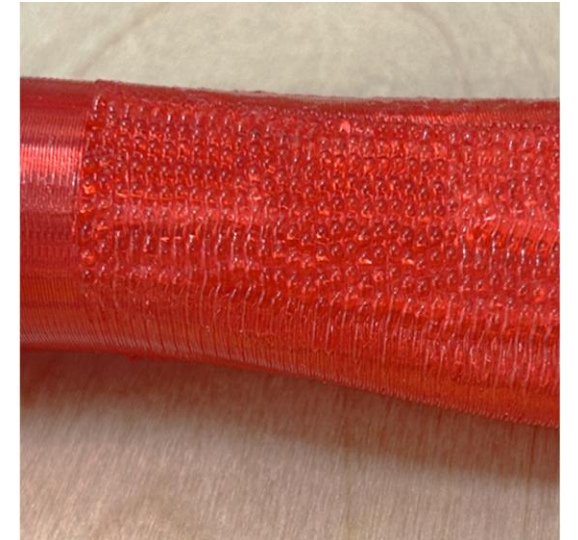
Design Examples



Design Examples



Design Examples

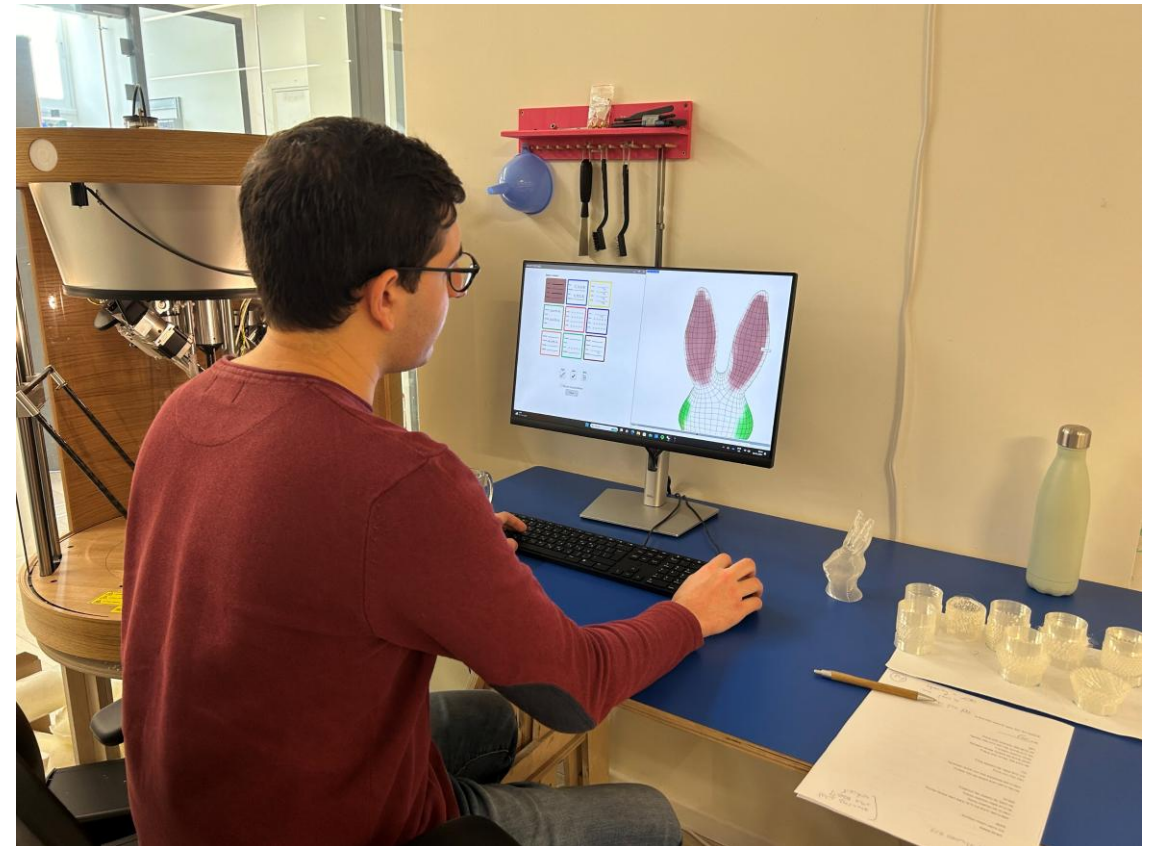


User Study

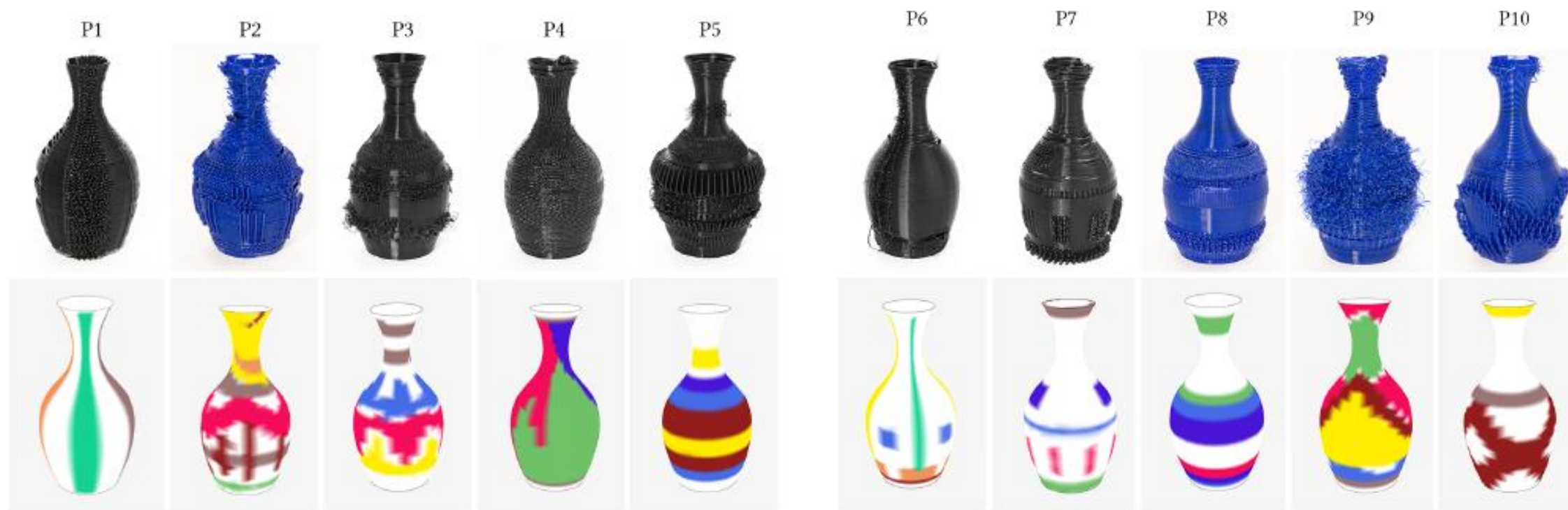
10 Users

Hands-on Workshop

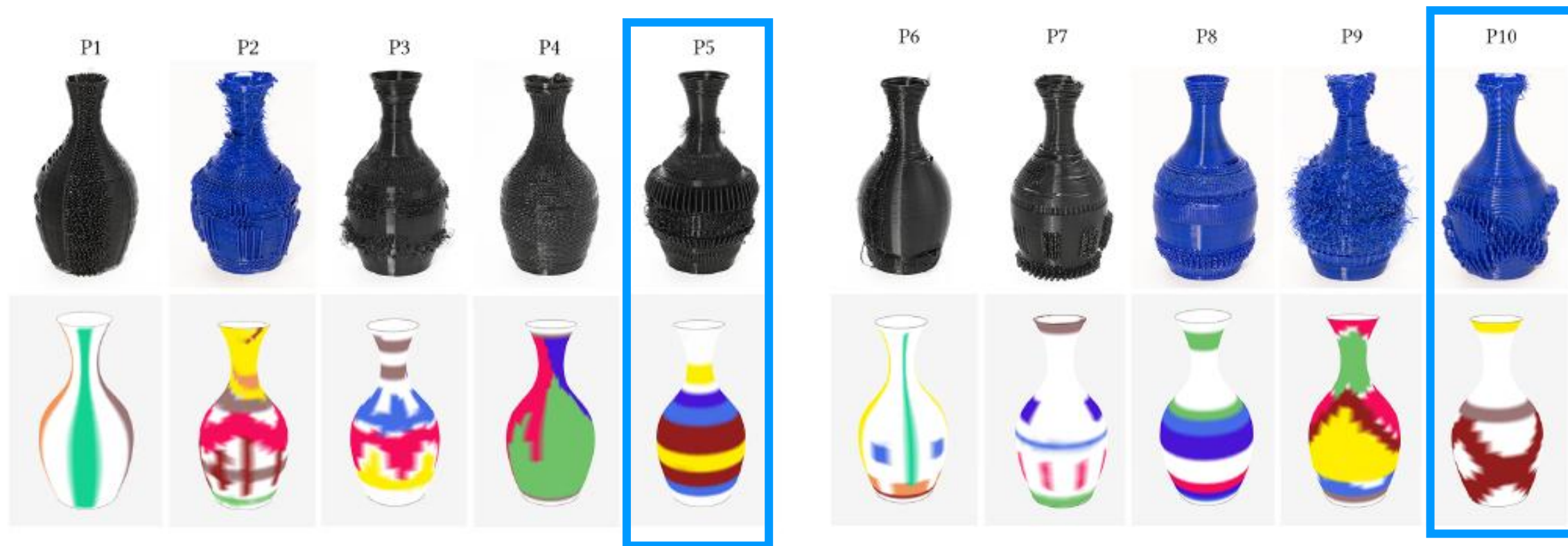
Questionnaire



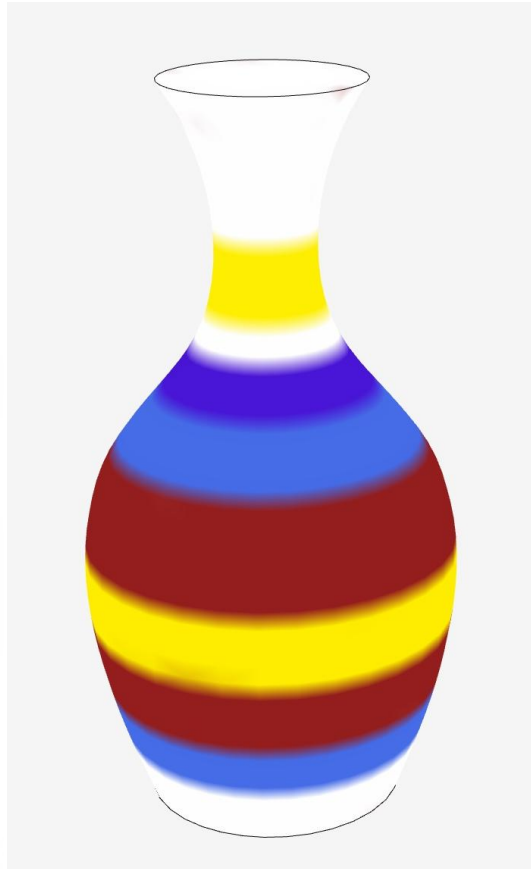
User Study



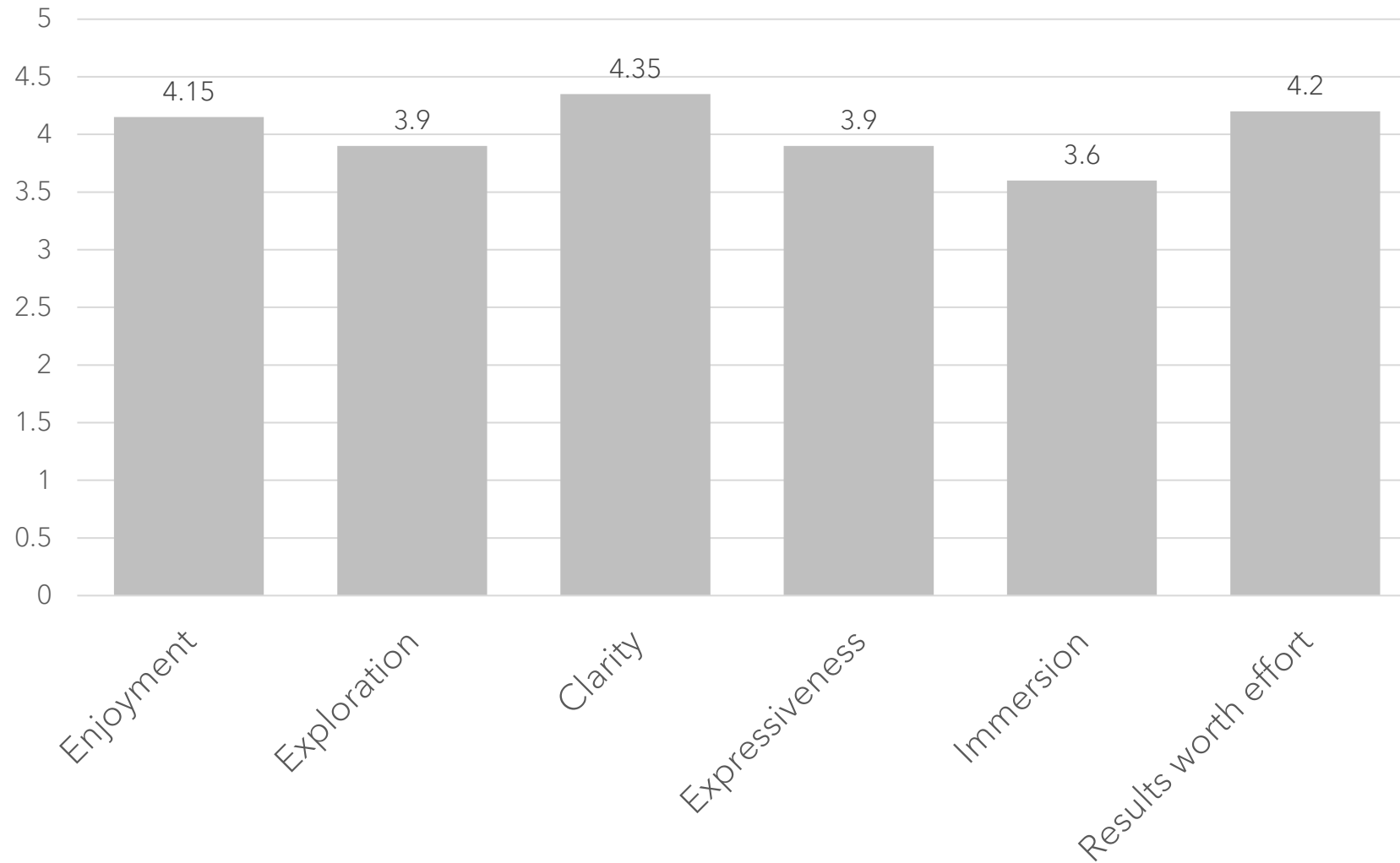
User Study



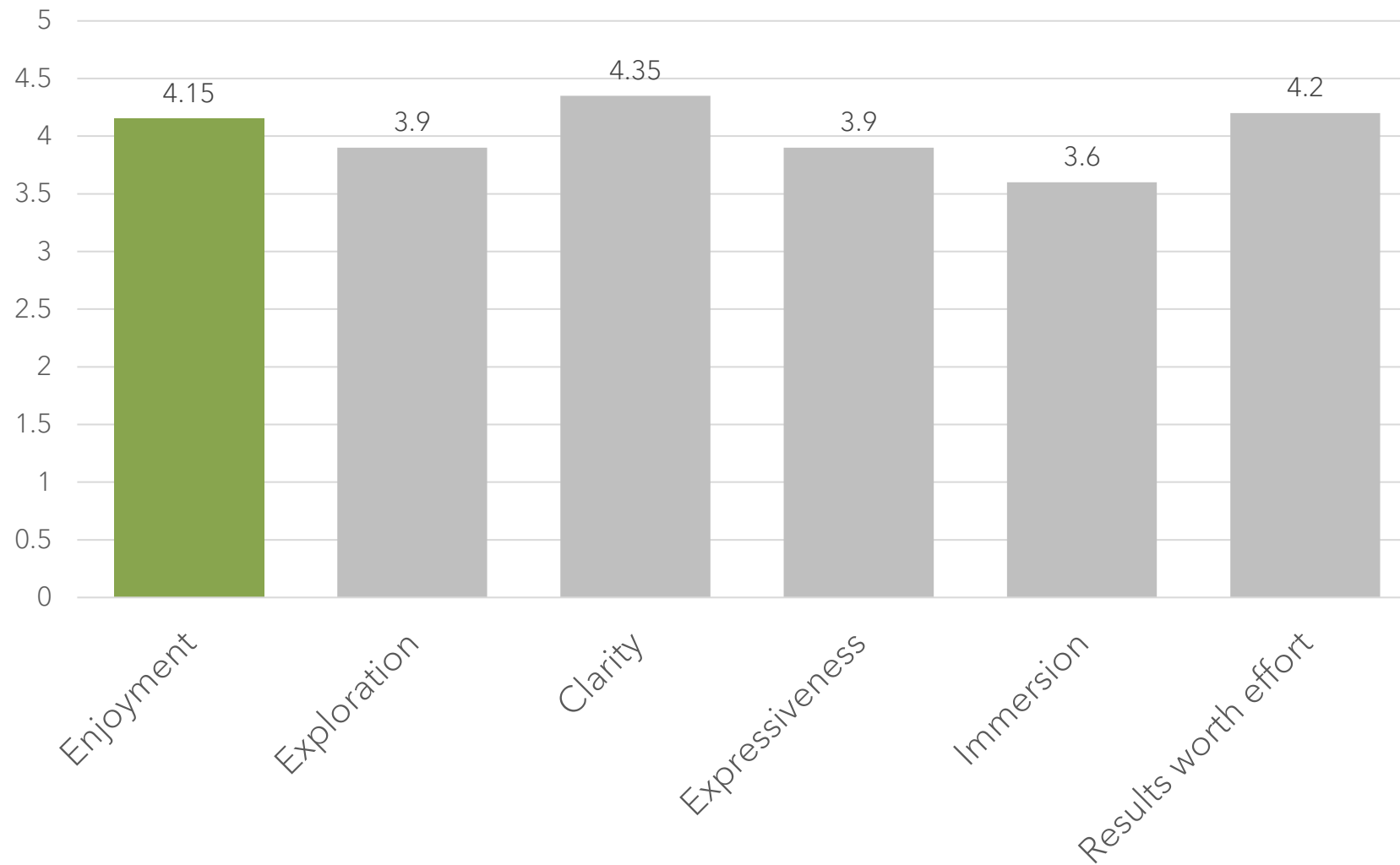
User Study



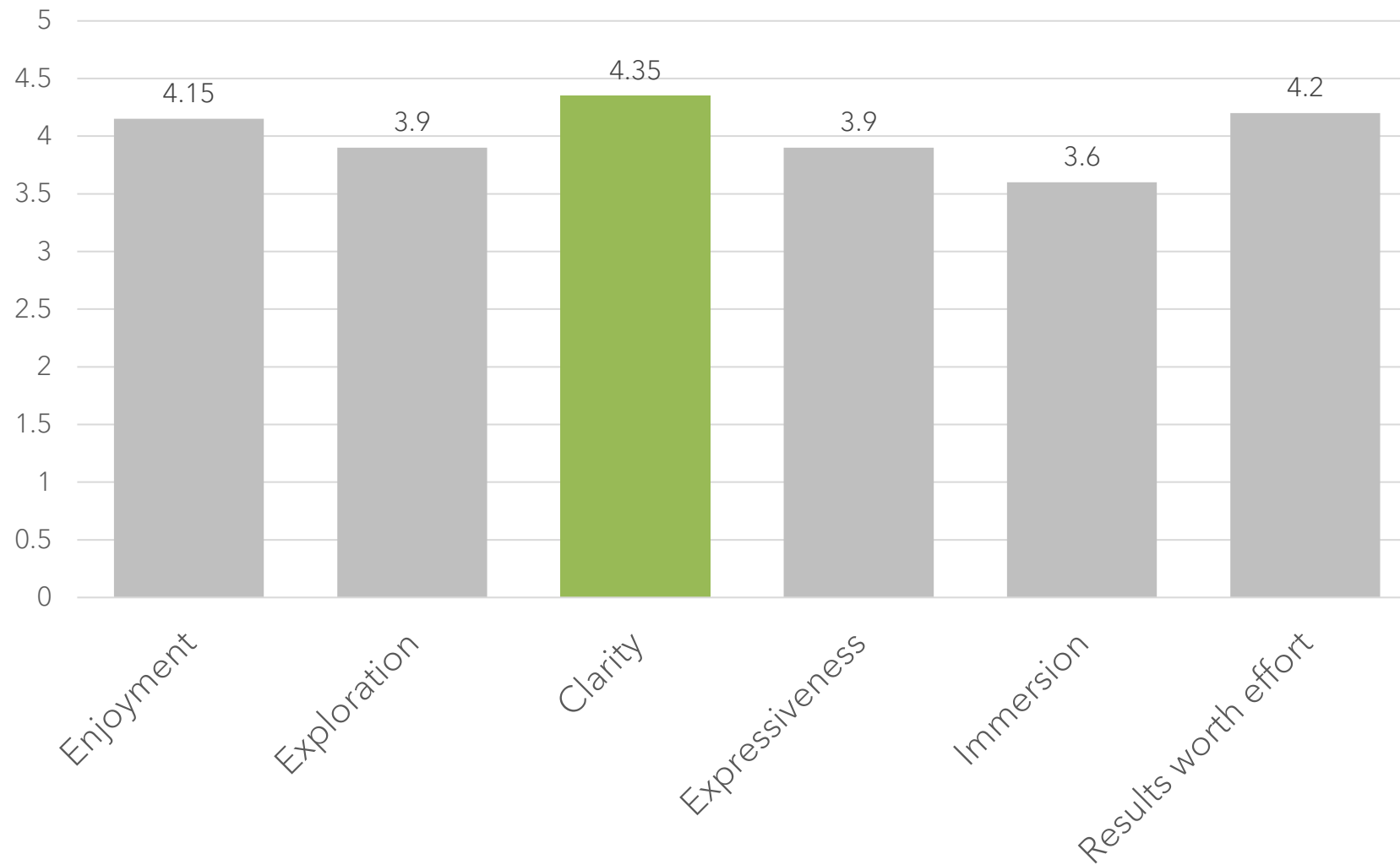
Results



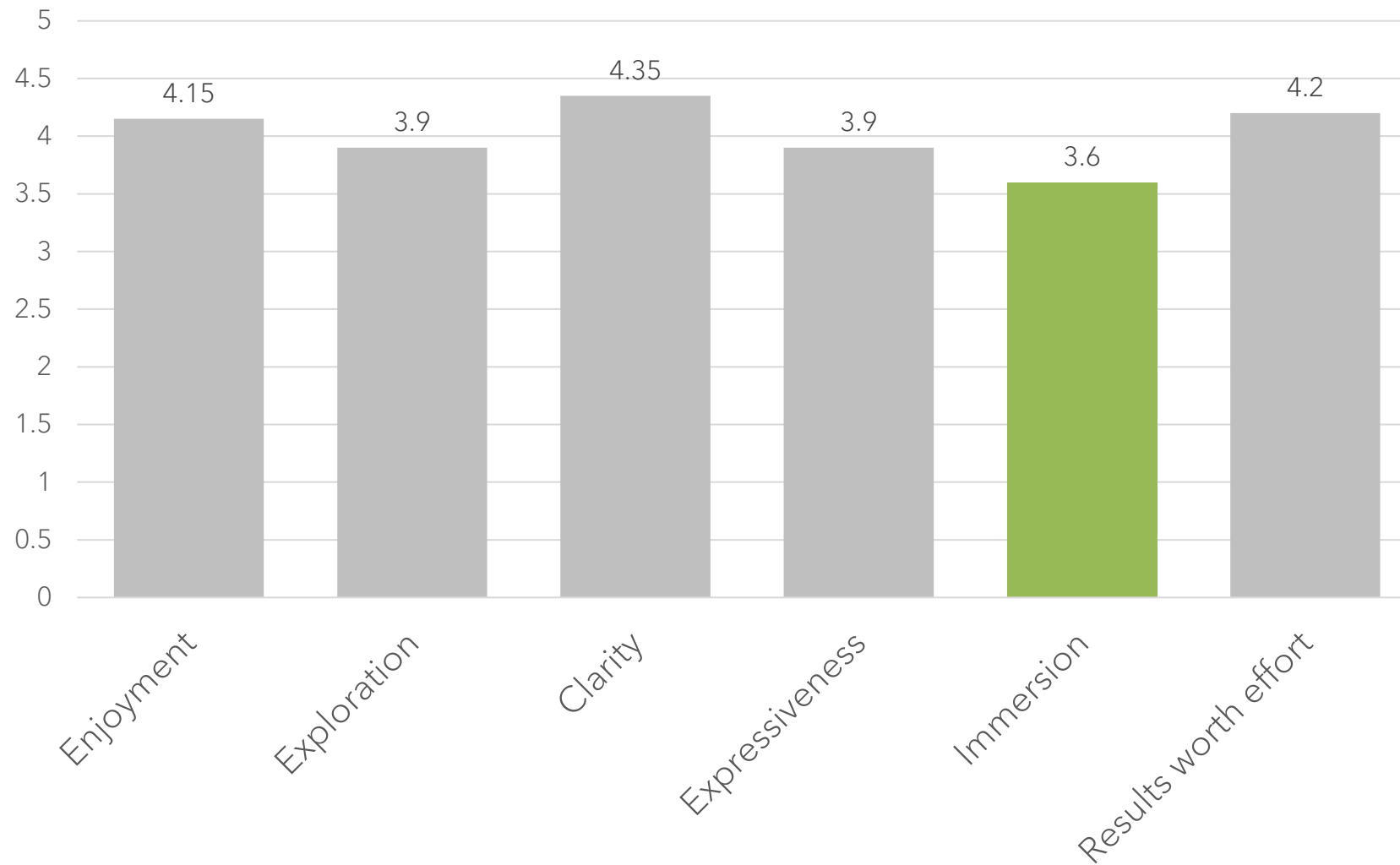
Results



Results



Results



Limitations

- Restricted library
- Fabrication limitations

Future

- Create a texture editor and importer
- Generalize for other setups

Summary

- A modular system
- A coloring-based tool
- A Textures Library



Questions?

daphnakaplan@campus.technion.ac.il

