

STACK Symposium
ZHA x SINTEF x DTU

Dates: 17-21 August 2026 (Travel 18-20 August 2026 – Talk on 19th)

Location: Technical University of Denmark, DTU Campus, Copenhagen, Denmark

Event: DTU Summer School on Mathematical and Computational Methods in Architecture and Digital Fabrication

Website: <https://geo-dfab.compute.dtu.dk/>



Performance Made Visible

Computation, Craft and Architectural Expression

Digital design has largely separated geometric exploration from the realities of material, fabrication, logistics and assembly. This presentation explores computational tectonics, where these constraints become generative drivers of architectural form rather than downstream engineering considerations.

Drawing on research and practice at ZHACODE, it examines how surface discretisation, directional fields, configurators and robotic fabrication establish new relationships between geometry, material and production. Rather than treating performance as something to optimise after design, these computational methods embed fabrication, assembly and material behaviour directly within architectural expression.

STACK extends these principles through the computational design of stackable freeform systems. It develops families of geometrically related components in which fabrication, transport, sequencing and assembly are embedded within the geometry. Stackability becomes a shared tectonic logic connecting geometry, material, fabrication, logistics and architectural expression.