

Cellular automaton



In 1970, John Horton Conway devised the Game of Life, a zero-player game. It is an evolutionary process that depends only on its initial state with no further input from humans. The universe of the game is an unlimited orthogonal grid of square cells, each of which can exhibit one of two possible states at any time: dead or alive. Each cell interacts with its eight vertically, horizontally and diagonally neighbouring cells. The rules are as follows:

- Any live cell with fewer than two live neighbours dies, as if caused by under-population.
- Any live cell with more than three live neighbours dies, as if by overcrowding.
- Any live cell with two or three live neighbours lives, unchanged, to the next generation.
- Any tile with exactly three live neighbours cells will be populated with a living cell.



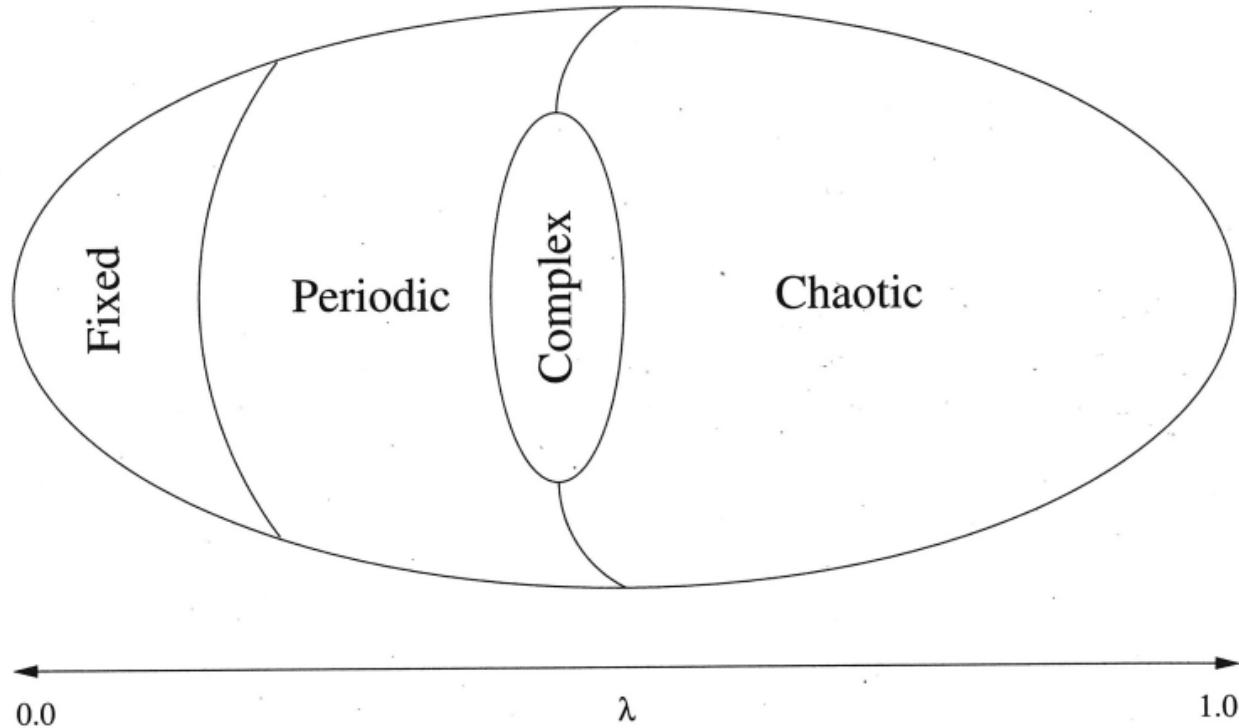


Figure 15.9 Langton's schematic representation of CA rule space characterized by the λ parameter

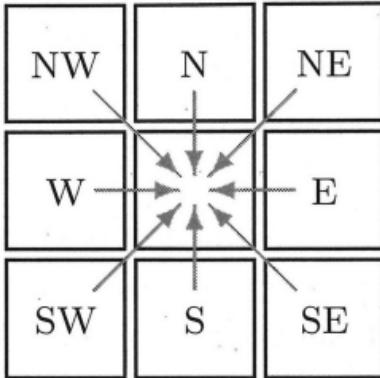


Figure 15.10 The neighborhood of Conway's Game of Life

- If a live cell has less than two neighbors, then it dies (loneliness).
- If a live cell has more than three neighbors, then it dies (overcrowding).
- If an empty cell has three live neighbors, then it comes to life (reproduction).
- Otherwise (exactly two live neighbors), a cell stays as is (stasis).

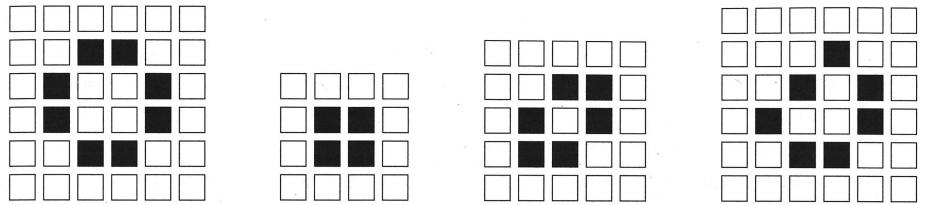


Figure 15.11 Examples of static objects in Conway's Game of Life

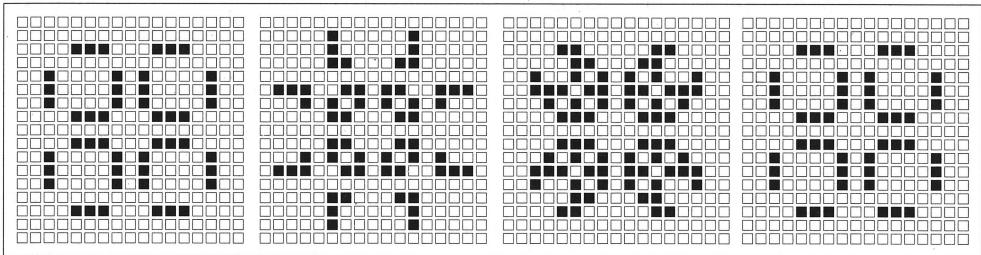
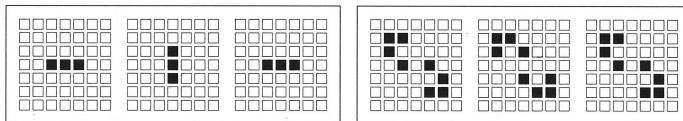


Figure 15.12 Examples of simple periodic objects in Conway's Game of Life

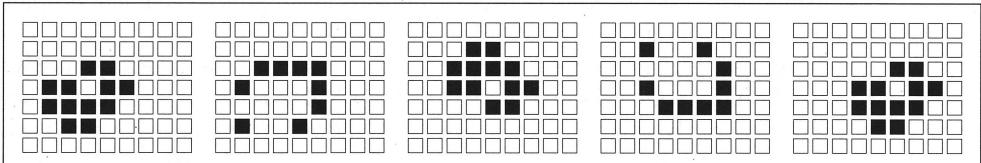
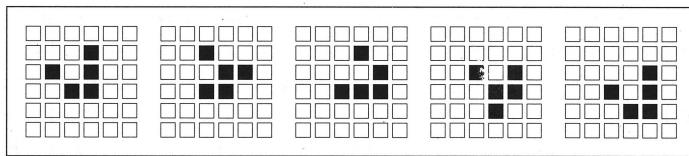
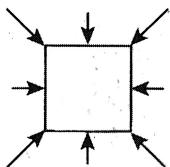


Figure 15.13 Examples of moving objects in Conway's Game of Life

Basic mechanism for Conway's automaton:



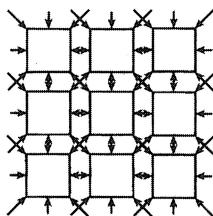
8 inputs, 2 states {1, 0}

Transition function:

If the state is 0 and exactly three neighbors are in state 1,
then the state becomes 1; otherwise it remains 0.

If the state is 1, and either two or three neighbors are in state 1,
then the state remains; otherwise it becomes 0.

Basic mechanism connected to its immediate neighbors:



One-step transitions for some simple state patterns:

time
 t
 $t+1$

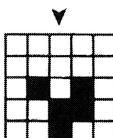
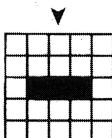
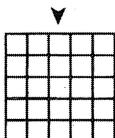
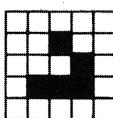
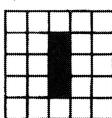
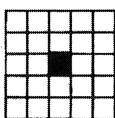


Figure 3. Conway's automaton. Reprinted by permissions of Basic Books, a member of the Perseus Books Group, and John Holland. © Brockman/Holland.

time

t

$t+1$

$t+2$

$t+3$

$t+4$

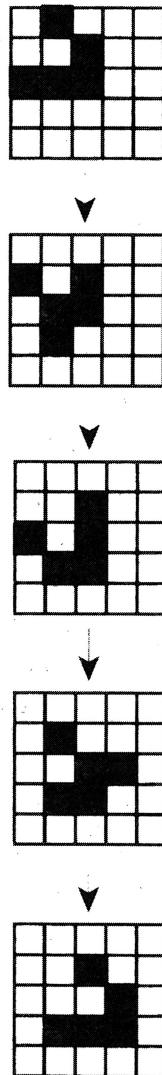
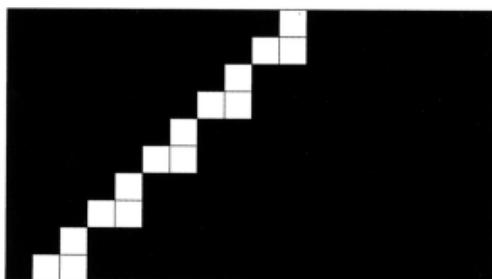
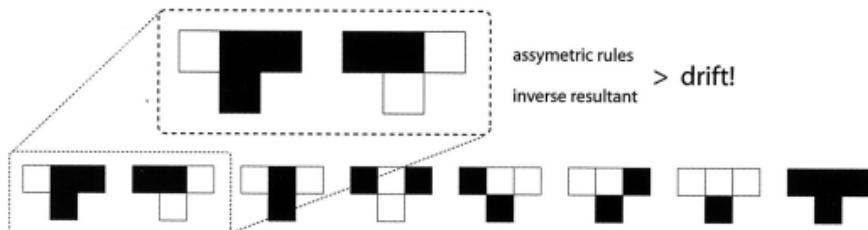


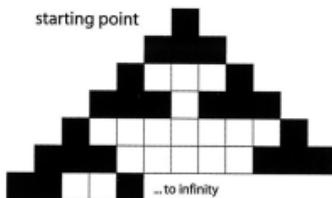
Figure 4. Successive transitions of the glider state pattern in Conway's automaton. Reprinted by permissions of Basic Books, a member of the Perseus Books Group, and John Holland. © Brockman/Holland.



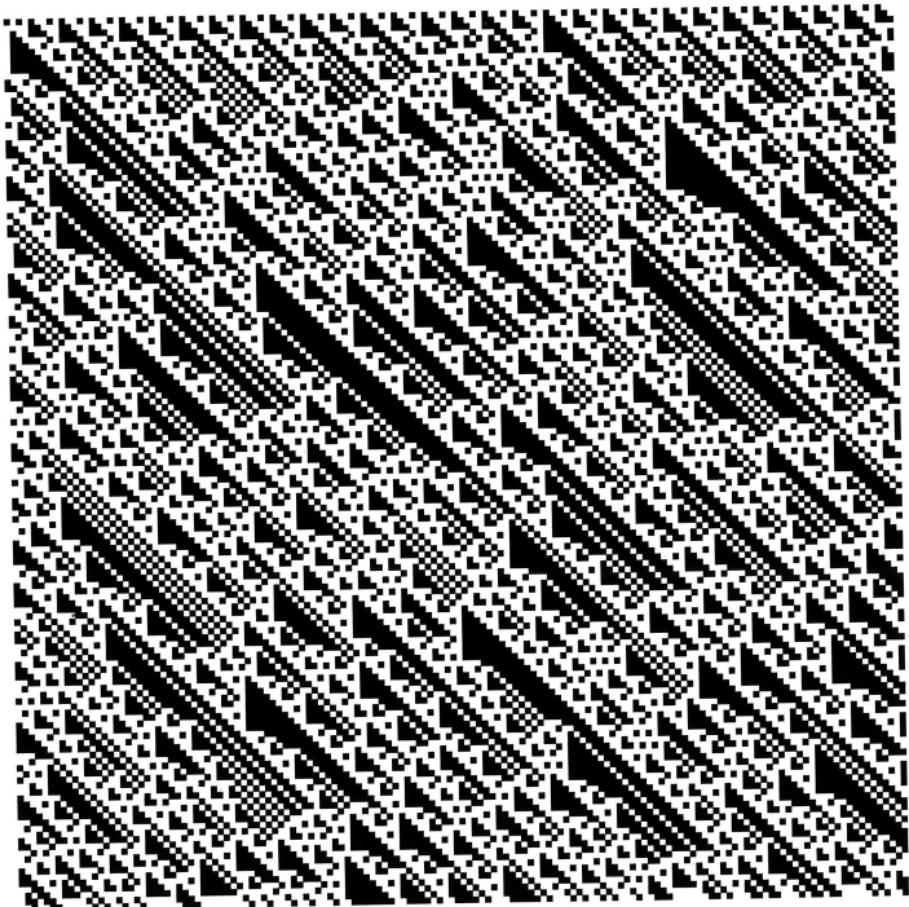
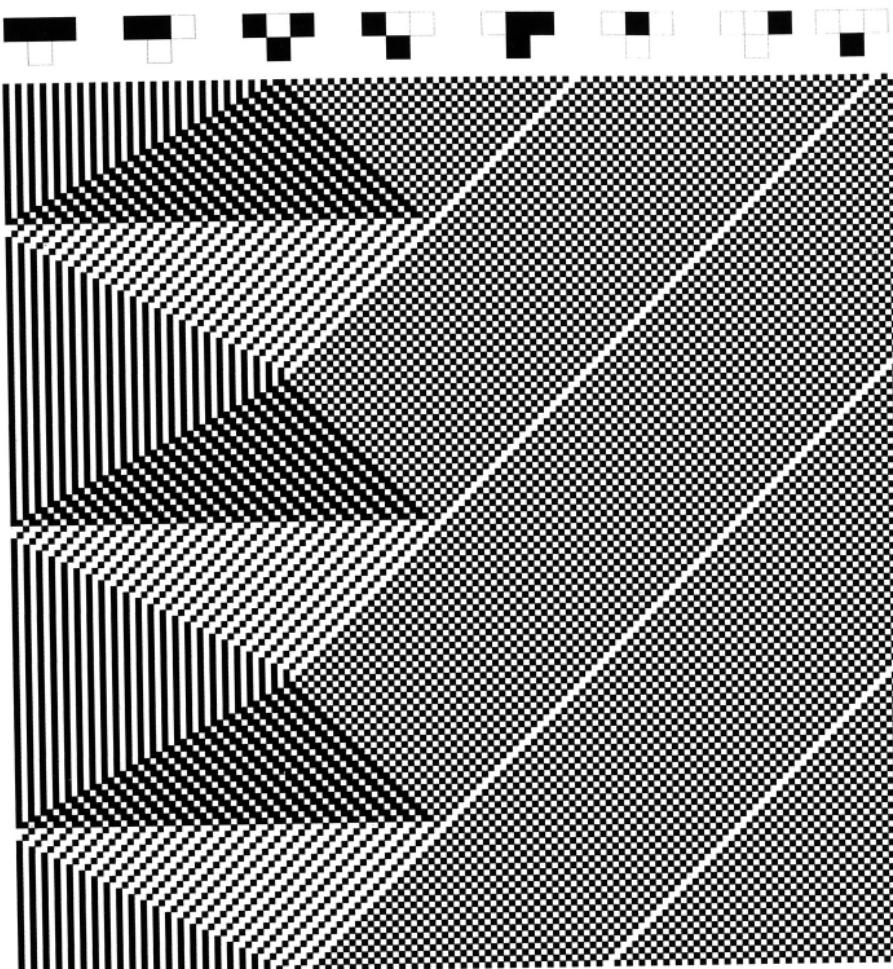
rules

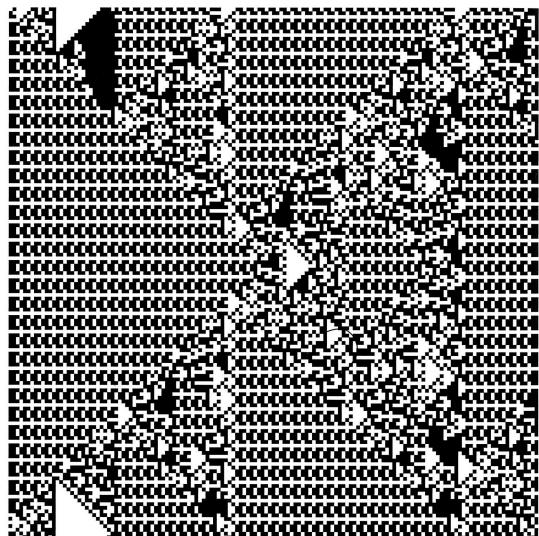
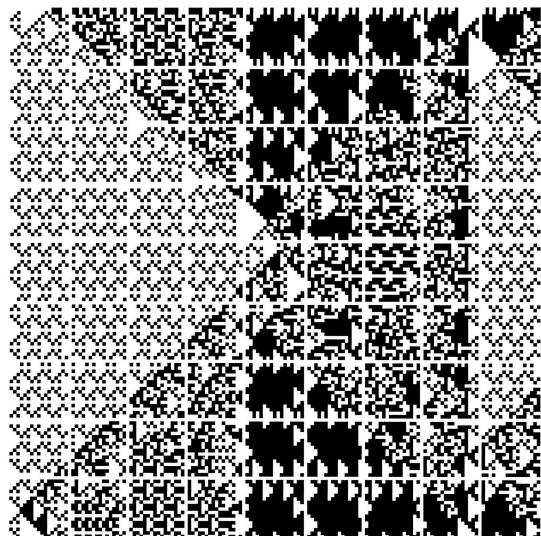
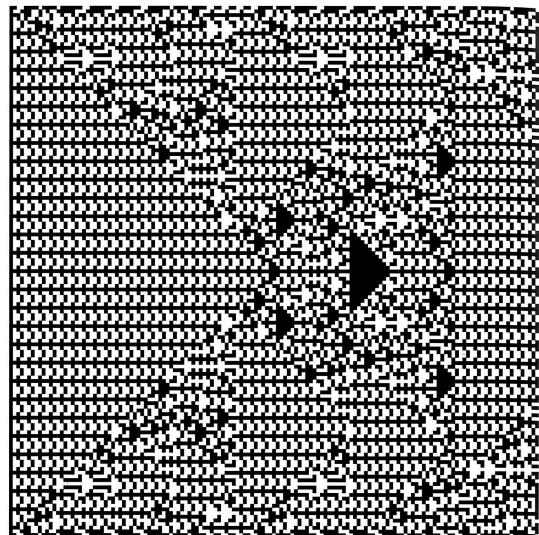
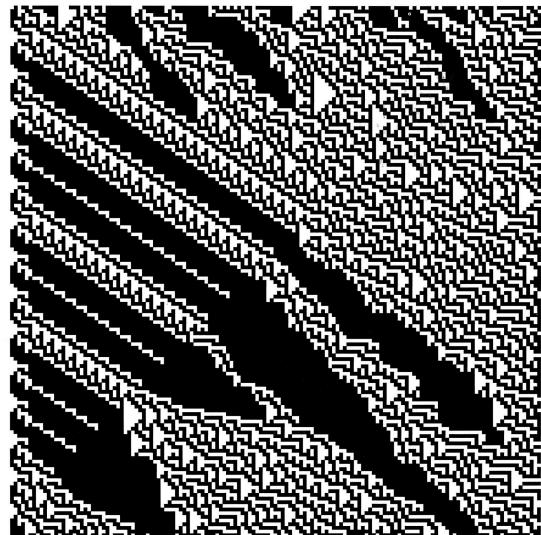


starting point



1.43. Locating drift in a CA rule-set. Characteristics such as drift, asymmetry and striping are mined alongside a simple manipulation of the starting and resultant arrangements of cells and corresponding rules.



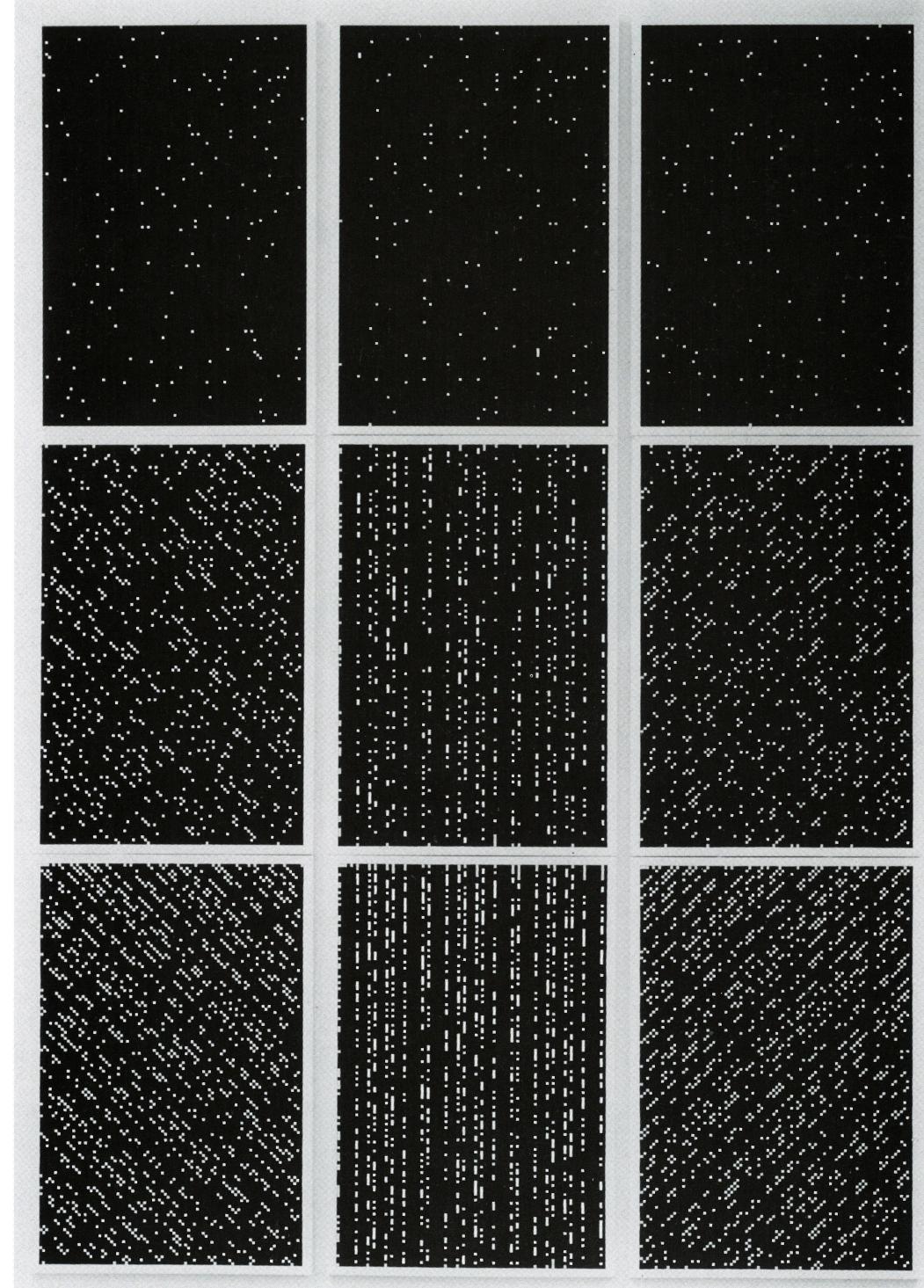


1.45. Production of draft notations. This set of weaving designs, generated by cellular automata simulations, were eventually woven on a digitized Jacquard Loom.

1-24. Rune Mields (German, b. 1935), *The Sieve of Eratosthenes*, 1971. Ink on linen. Courtesy of the artist and the Galerie Angelika Harthan, Stuttgart. © 2014 VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn/Artists Rights Society, New York.

In the Greek city of Alexandria in the third century BC, Eratosthenes of Cyrene, who was director of the city's great classical library, taught a method for finding prime numbers. Beginning with the first whole number greater than 1, circle 2 and cross out every second number after 2. Circle 3 and cross out every third number after 3. Skip 4 because it is already crossed out (which means it is composite), circle 5, and cross out every fifth number after 5. Continue in this way; the procedure is a tool—a sieve—for separating circled prime numbers from crossed-out composites. For another of Eratosthenes's discoveries, see the sidebar on page 29.

Since antiquity, mathematicians have observed patterns in the prime numbers. If we arrange the whole numbers in rows of ten (as in the diagram), then the primes form columns of circles between columns of crossed-out even numbers and multiples of 5. In the lower central panel of Mields's work, she began with 1,2,3, . . . and arranged the whole numbers in rows of 90, using white squares to symbolize prime numbers and black for composites. Since 90 is even, the prime numbers form vertical white bands. The lower-left panel has 89 to a row and the lower-right panel has 91, yielding slanted bands. The central panel in the middle row begins on a higher number, and the central top panel begins on an even higher number; both panels are similarly arranged in rows of multiples of 10. Together the array of nine panels visualizes the pattern of prime numbers (white squares), which occur less frequently as the whole numbers increase. Despite the observation of many patterns in the primes, an understanding of an *overall* pattern—the ability to predict the *next* prime number—had so far eluded mathematicians.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

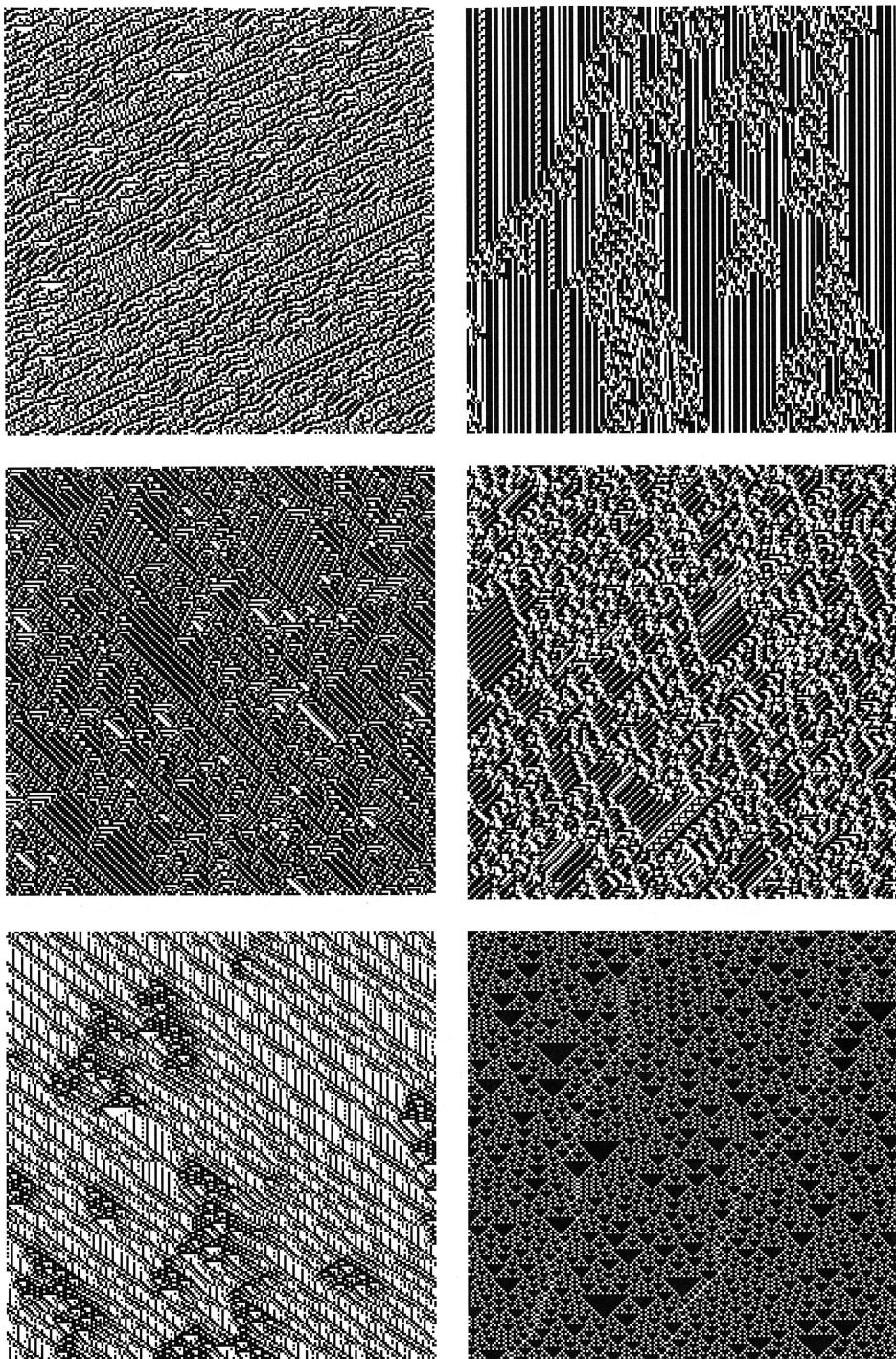


Figure 1.2 Some examples of one-dimensional binary cellular automata. Each row of pixels is determined by the states of the pixels in the row above it, as operated on by the particular set of rules.

00010341010031200000230004034

00130001404000212300030320004

00000121402100202012230004004

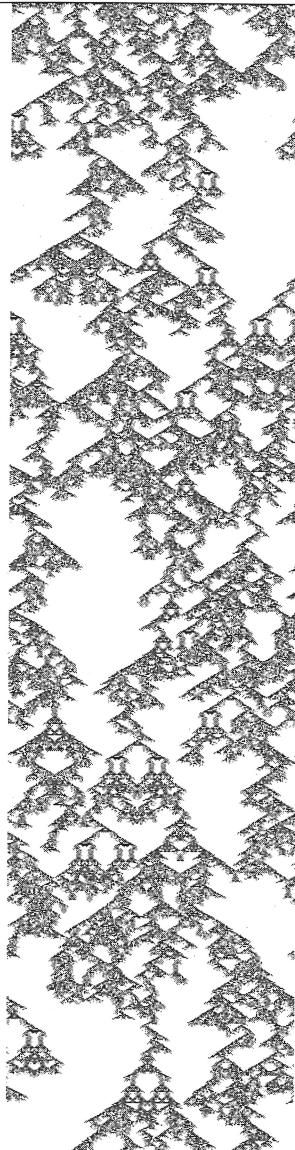
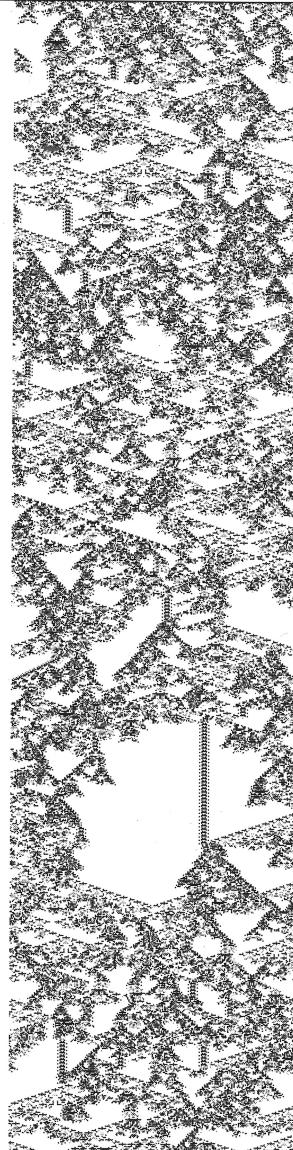
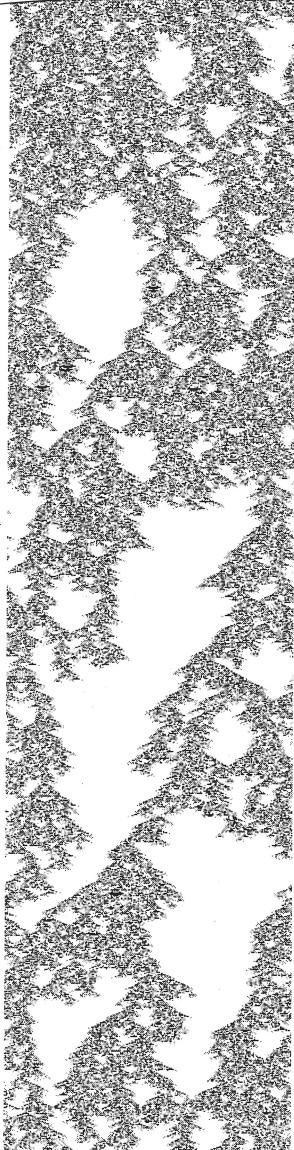


Figure 15.8 Examples of Wolfram's Class IV

Distributed

- 1 A $\supset (\cdot) \dots (\cdot)$
B $\supset (\cdot)$



D global differentiated open disk; 'cloud of mosquitoes'



F net



Local

Distributed

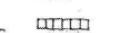
- 5 A $\supset (((\cdot) \dots (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot)$
B $\supset (\cdot) \supset (\cdot)$



D open enclosed disk aggregate; plazas; courts; squares



F star



Nondistributed

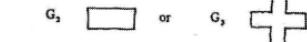
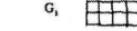
- 2 A $\supset (((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot)$
B $\supset (\cdot \supset (\cdot))$



D unitary multicellular object; the 'pure block'



F direct limits



Nondistributed

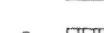
- 6 A $\supset (((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)) \supset ((\cdot) \dots (\cdot)))$
B $\supset ((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot)$



D the closed disk aggregate; the double boundary block, for example, 'modern block'; barracks estates; military camps



F tree



- A $\supset (((\cdot) \dots (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot))$



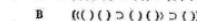
D strings and rings of open beads, the 'universal' neighbour system



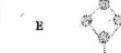
F nonlimit sequence



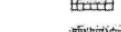
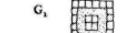
- 7 A $\supset (((\cdot) \dots (\cdot)) \supset ((\cdot) \dots (\cdot)) \supset (\cdot))$



D open enclosed ring aggregates; the ring-street; the street pattern



F traversing ring path



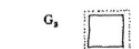
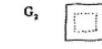
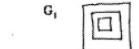
- 4 A $\supset (((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)) \supset ((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)))$



D concentric rings



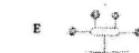
F limit sequence



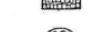
- 8 A $\supset (((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)) \supset ((\cdot) \supset (\cdot)) \supset ((\cdot) \dots (\cdot)))$



D the closed ring aggregate; the prison; panoptican



F nontraversing ring path



The original set of eight syntaxes. The one chosen to experiment with was no. 3, the universal neighbour system

The Alpha Syntax village generator

1. Procedural/recursive

```
To grow (x, y)
    try one of
        neighbours of this patch at x, y
        to see if they can be a new openpatch
    if ok then
        try one of
            neighbours of this new openpatch
            to see if they can be a closed patch

        if ok then
            grow (newOpenpatch)
    end
```

2. Parallel

```
to grow

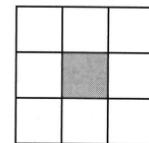
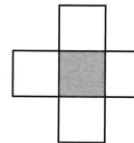
if this patch = carrierspace then
    if it has openspace in its neighbourhood
        then
            on the toss of a coin
                turn openspace or closedspace
end
```

The San'a algorithm uses both neighbourhoods. These values are used in the state change rules which are as follows:

1. The general case of putting a garden 'behind' a house – if a cell is empty and has exactly one house in the nsum4 count, or there is more than one garden in the nsum4 count and there are no roads in the nsum count, then turn the patch into a garden.
2. Extend garden area beyond houses – if a cell is empty and there are more than two gardens in the nsum count, then turn the patch into a garden.
3. Make roads and houses – if a cell is empty and there are some roads near and less than two gardens, then on the flip of a coin set it to either road or house.

And two tidying up rules:

4. Houses demoted to roads – if a cell is a house and there is a road and no other houses in the big neighbourhood and less than four garden cells, then the house become a road.
5. Gardens become houses – if the cell is a garden with some neighbouring roads, then it becomes a house.



Nsum4 and Nsum neighbourhood



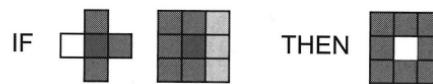
If pc = 0 and courthouse = 1 or courtgarden > 1 and countroadbig = 0 [setgarden 1 setroad 0 sethouse 0]



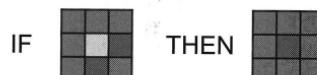
If pc = 0 and countgardenbig > 2 [setgarden 1 setroad 0 sethouse 0]



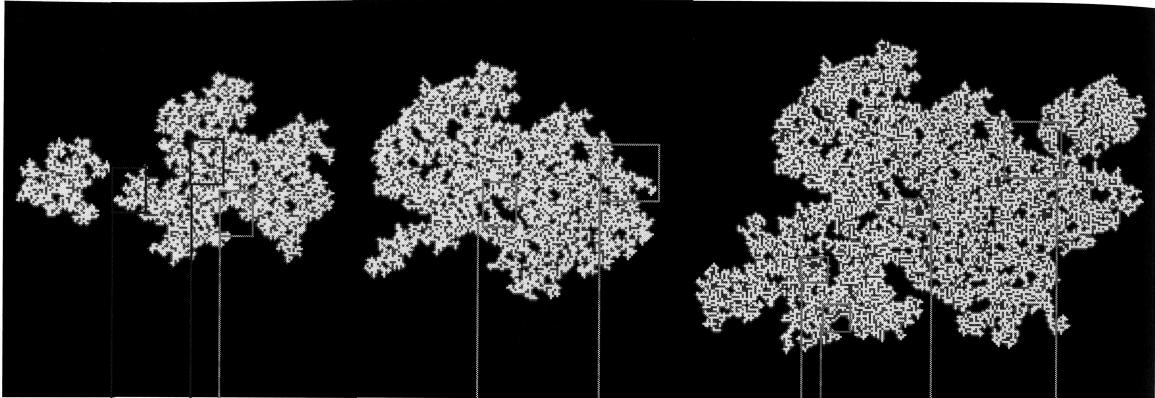
If pc = 0 and countroad > 0 and countgarden < 2 chose randomly 50:50 between



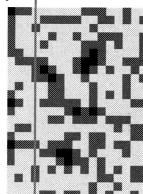
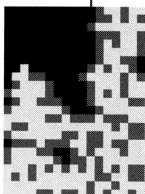
if house = 1 and count road = 1 and courthouse = 0 and courthousebig > 0 and countgardenbig < 4



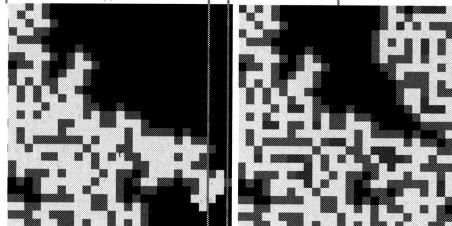
if garden = 1 and countroad > 0



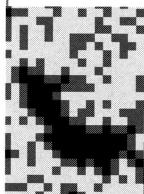
A boundary to the growing agglomeration heals itself by infilling with later growth, leaving a double width closed space scar



Pinching or necking, where just one area of growth (right lower) leads to a 'bud' of growth



A boundary which fails to close up leaves a hole made up of surrounded carrier space



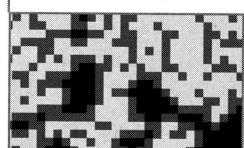
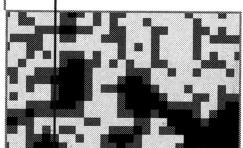
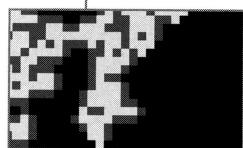
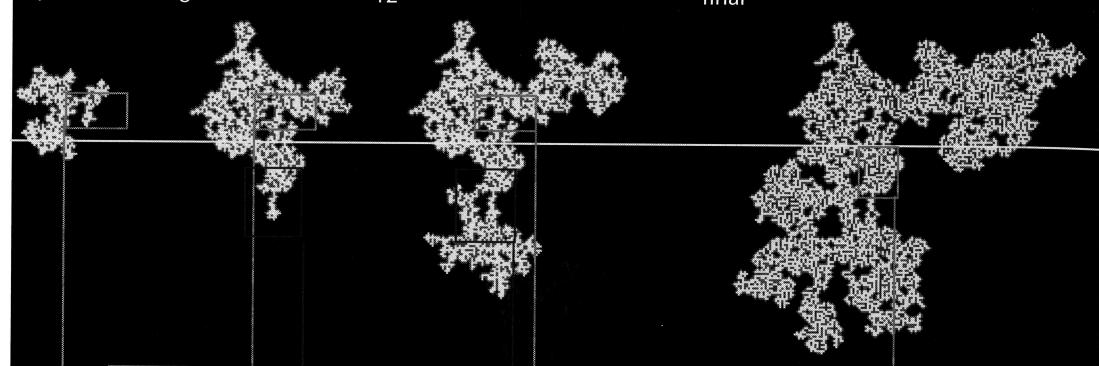
Some emergent open space areas

4

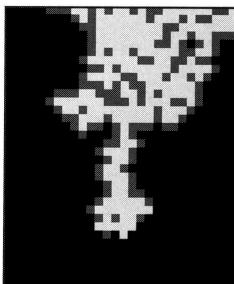
8

12

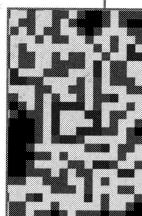
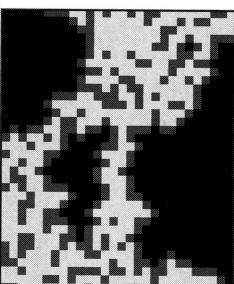
final



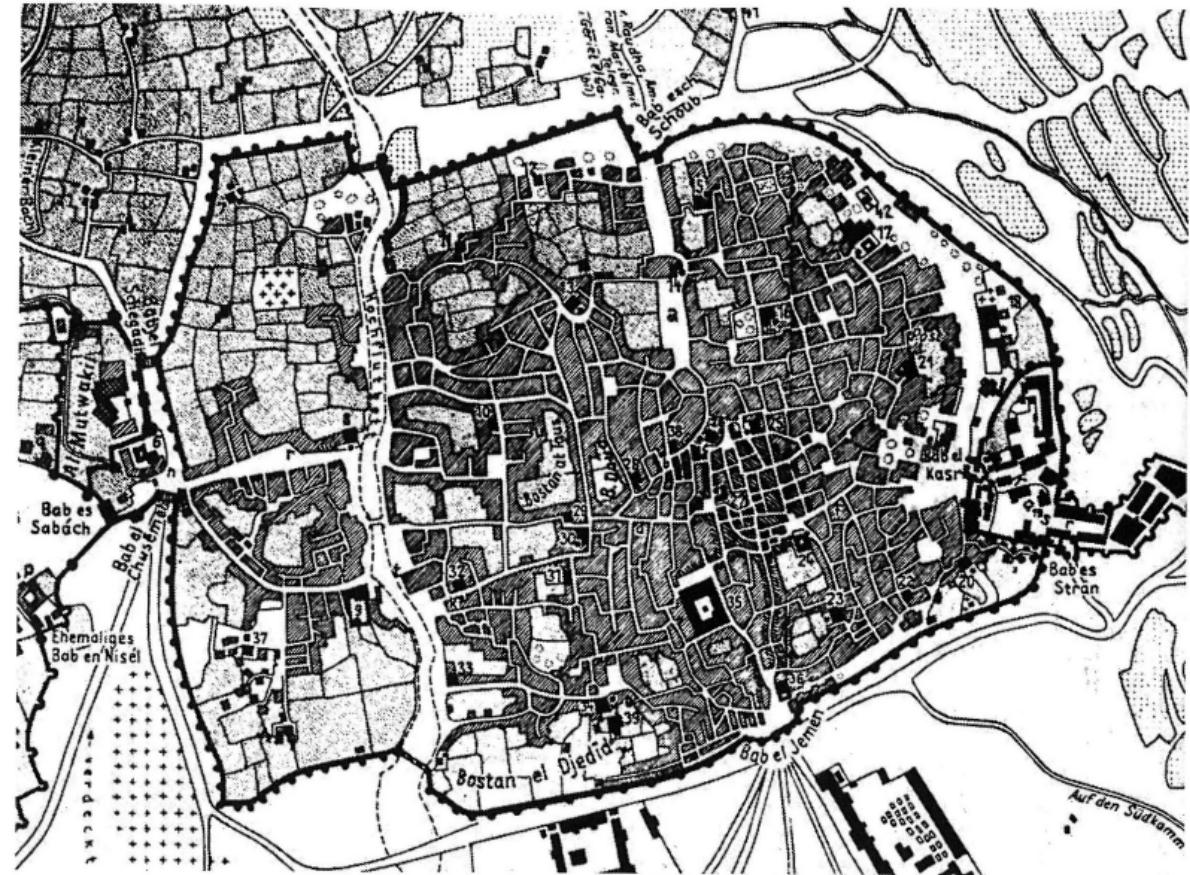
Gradual surrounding and filling up of space, but with persistent inlet of carrier space that becomes a historical feature determining the gross morphology of the developing pattern



The pinching off and bulb growing behaviour is easily observable here, where a promontory of y space is the only growing feature at Generation 8 (left) but by Generation 12 (right) this has extended and wrapped back to create two legs (one connected the other not)



An example of the Y-Y-Y-Y space emerging after 18 generations of growth



San'a's morphology

1. Jami' al Kabir (Great Mosque)
2. Mosque of Salah ad Din (Saladin)
3. Mosque of Al Bakiliya
4. Mosque of Al Madrasa
5. Mosque of Mahdi 'Abbas
6. Mosque of Al Abhar
7. Mosque of Al Mutowakkil
8. Principal sūqs
9. Harat an Nahrein
10. The Imam's palace
11. Burjet Sherāra (open space)
12. Gateway to palace precincts
13. Solbi (open space in Jewish Quarter)
14. Ground formerly excavated for brick-making material.
15. Gate to Jewish Quarter

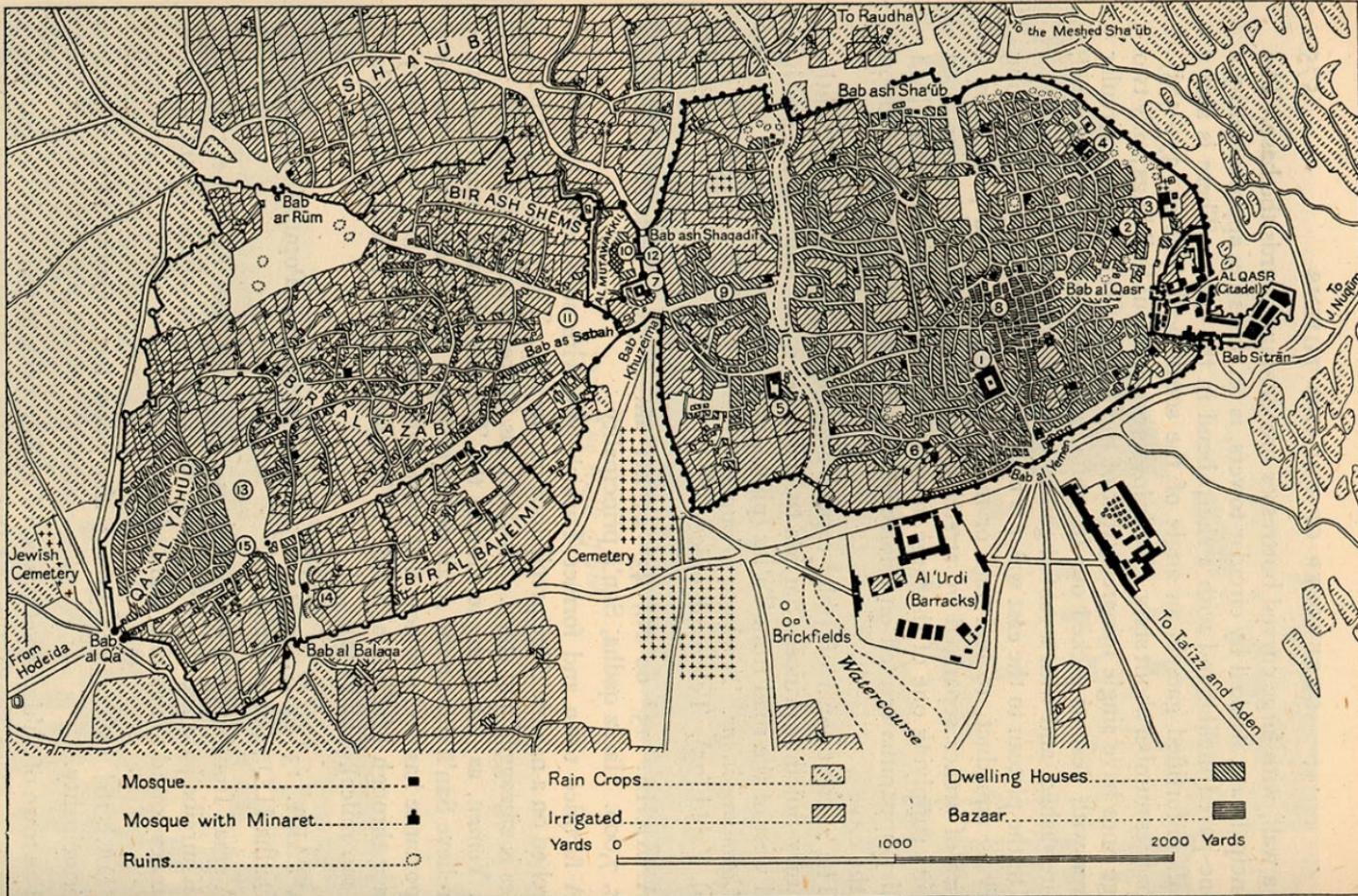
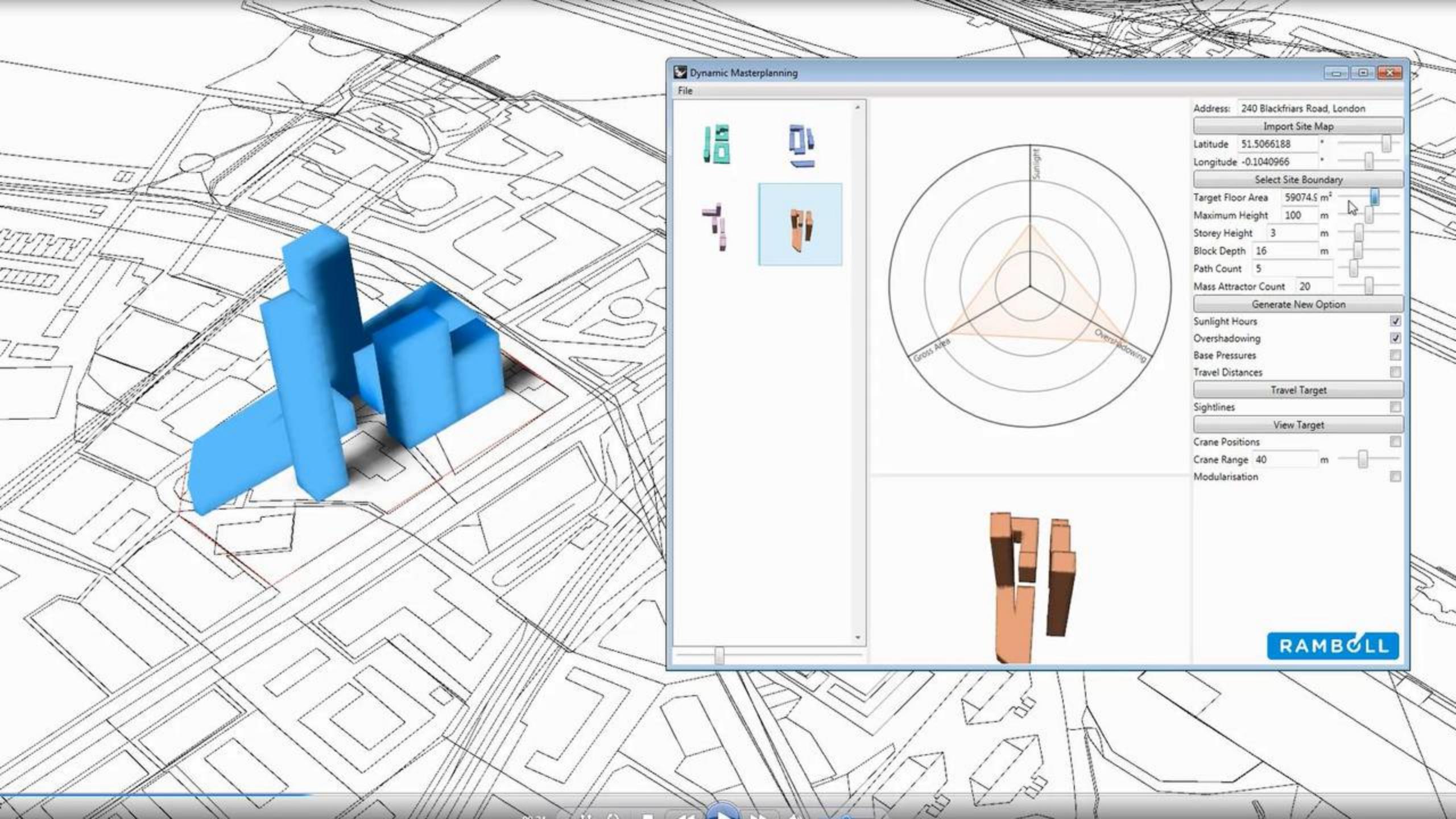
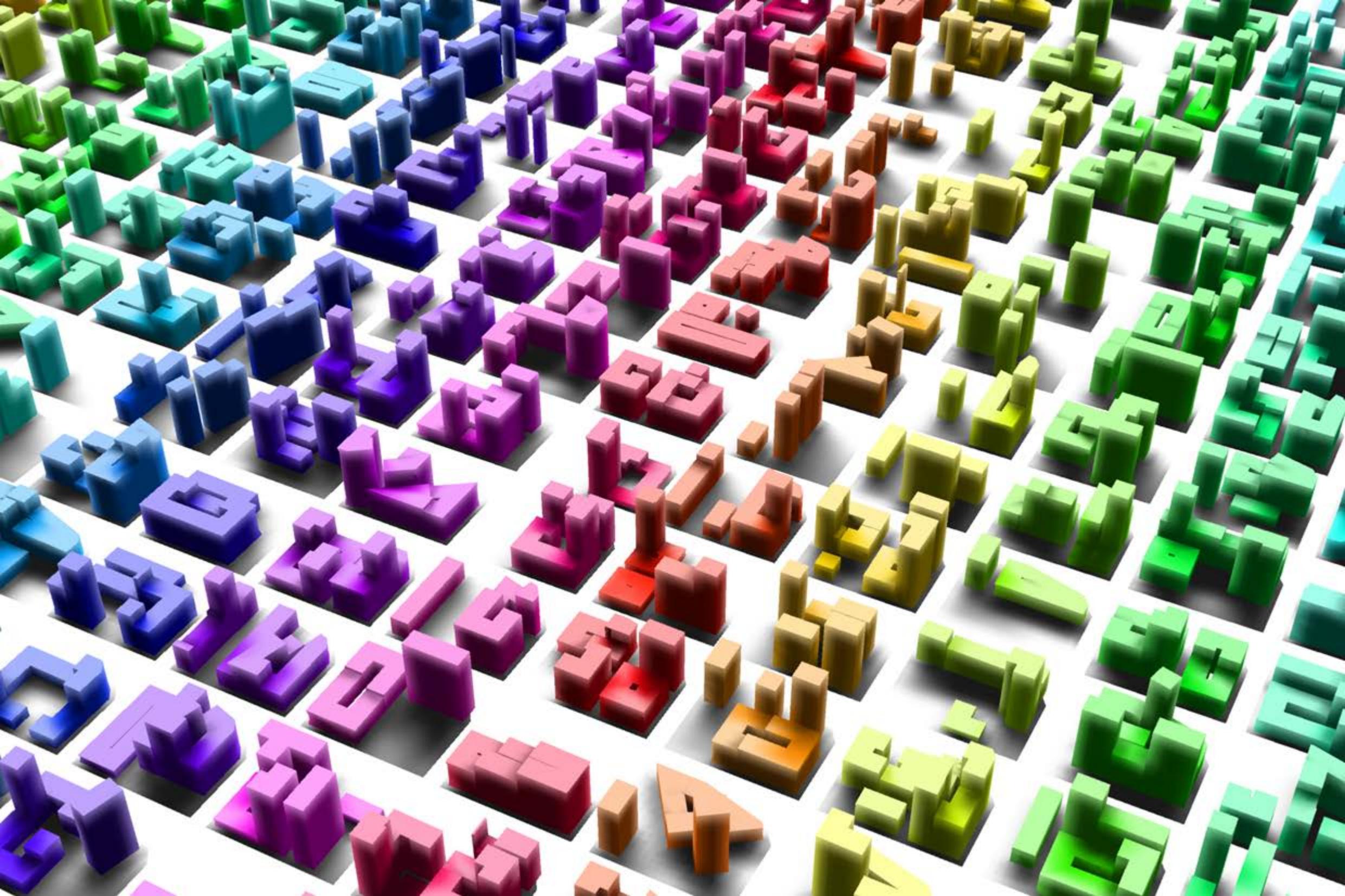


FIG. 46. Plan of San'a





Perspective View | 1608 Objects (6 selected) | 573404 Polygons (432 selected)

Top View | 1608 Objects (6 selected) | 573404 Polygons (432 selected)

Inspector

Shapes (6)

Name	Shape
Shape Parameters	
Rules	
Rule File	3D_City_Design_Rules/Zoning.cg
Start Rule	DisableCGAWarnings
Zoning	
ZONING DI...	
Envelop...	0.4
Story_Ed...	Off
Story_Ed...	0.15
Story_Ed...	#ffffff
USAGE	
Zone_1_Use	0
Zone_1_Use	Residential
Zone_2_Use	4
Zone_2_Use	Residential
Zone_3_Use	5
Zone_3_Use	Commercial
3D FORM ...	
Transect	T4 General...
3D FORM ...	
Height_Limit	Limit Height...
Max_Height	19
Floor_Count	7
Floor_Count	10
Ground_Floor	4.6
Upper_Floor	3.8
Roof_Height	3
3D FORM ...	
Street_Signed	1.83
Street_Height	38.8
Street_Area	50
Back_Setback	0.91

Navigator

- 3D_City_Design_Rules
 - Support
 - User Settings
 - Apply Color.cga
 - Building Construction.cga
 - Greenspace Construction.cga
 - Multipatch Building Texture
 - Multipatch Building Themes

Bermuda 1.jpg

Zoning.cgi

Setting	Value	Type
Zone_1_Floor_Count	0	Integer
Zone_1_Use	Residential	Text
Zone_2_Floor_Count	4	Integer
Zone_2_Use	Residential	Text
Zone_3_Floor_Count	5	Integer
Zone_3_Use	Commercial	Text
Transect	T4 General Urban	Text
Height_Limit	Limit Height...	Text
Max_Height	19	Number
Floor_Count	7	Number
Floor_Count	10	Number
Ground_Floor	4.6	Number
Upper_Floor	3.8	Number
Roof_Height	3	Number
Street_Signed	1.83	Number
Street_Height	38.8	Number
Street_Area	50	Number
Back_Setback	0.91	Number

Scene

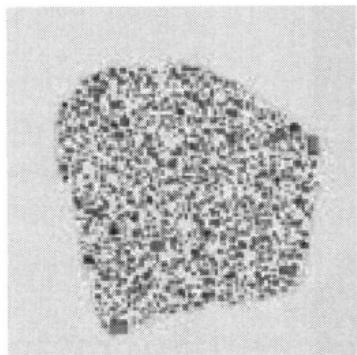
search expression

- CyberCity3D_Buildings (68 C)
- Trees (317 Objects)
- Streets (203 Objects)
 - Network
 - Blocks
- Custom Parcels (4 Objects)

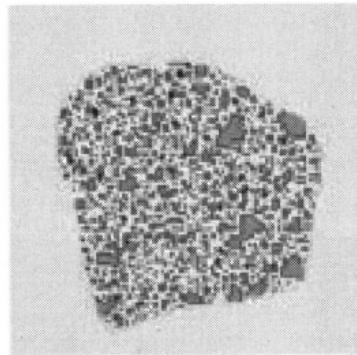


High probability

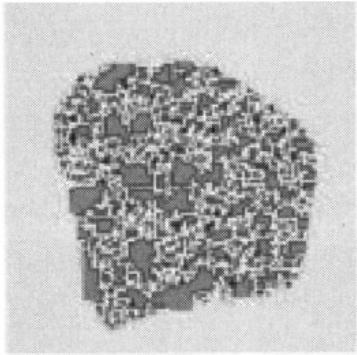
20%



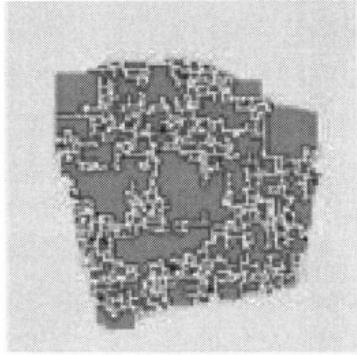
30%



40%

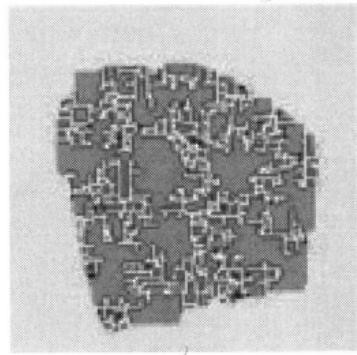


50%

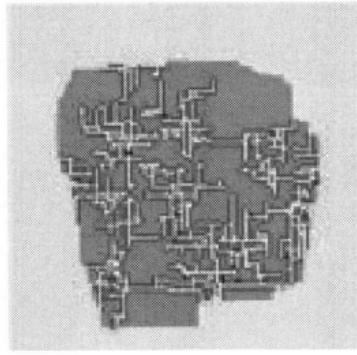


Low probability

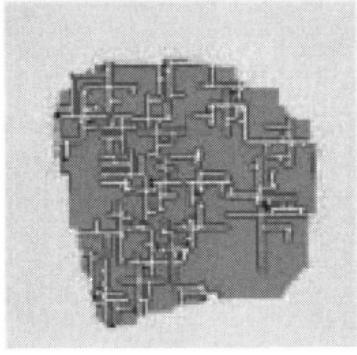
60%



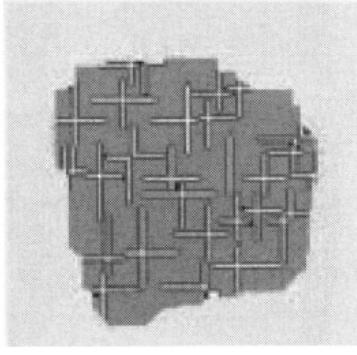
70%

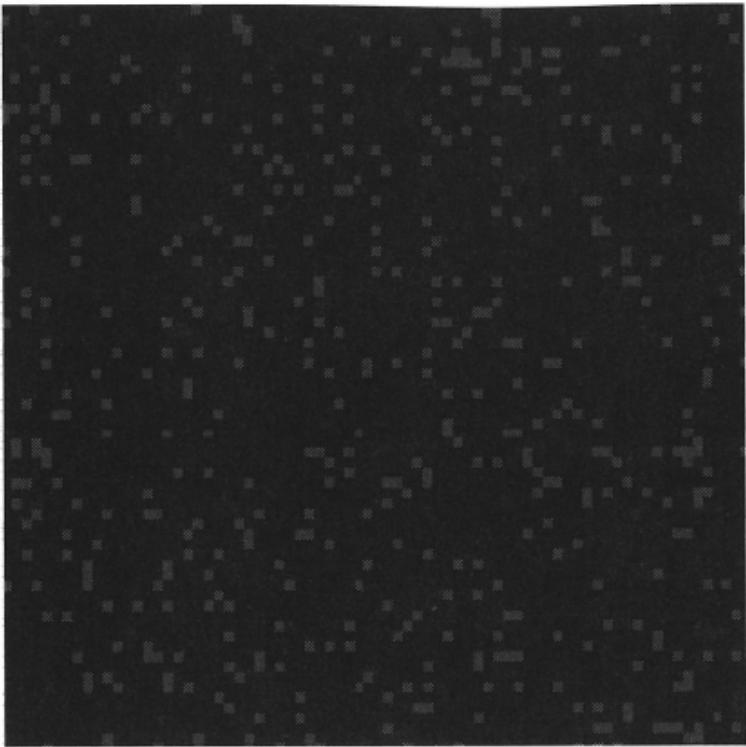


80%

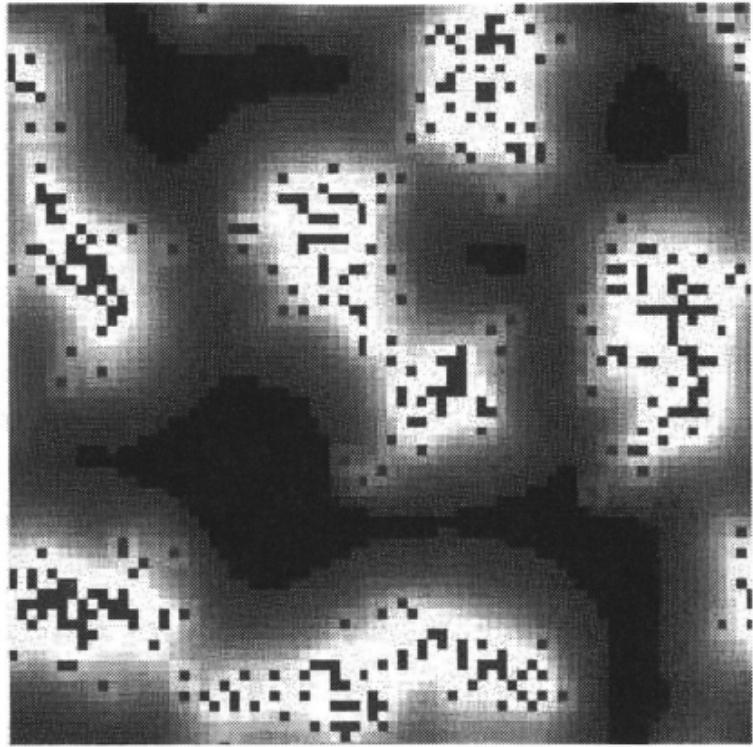


90%



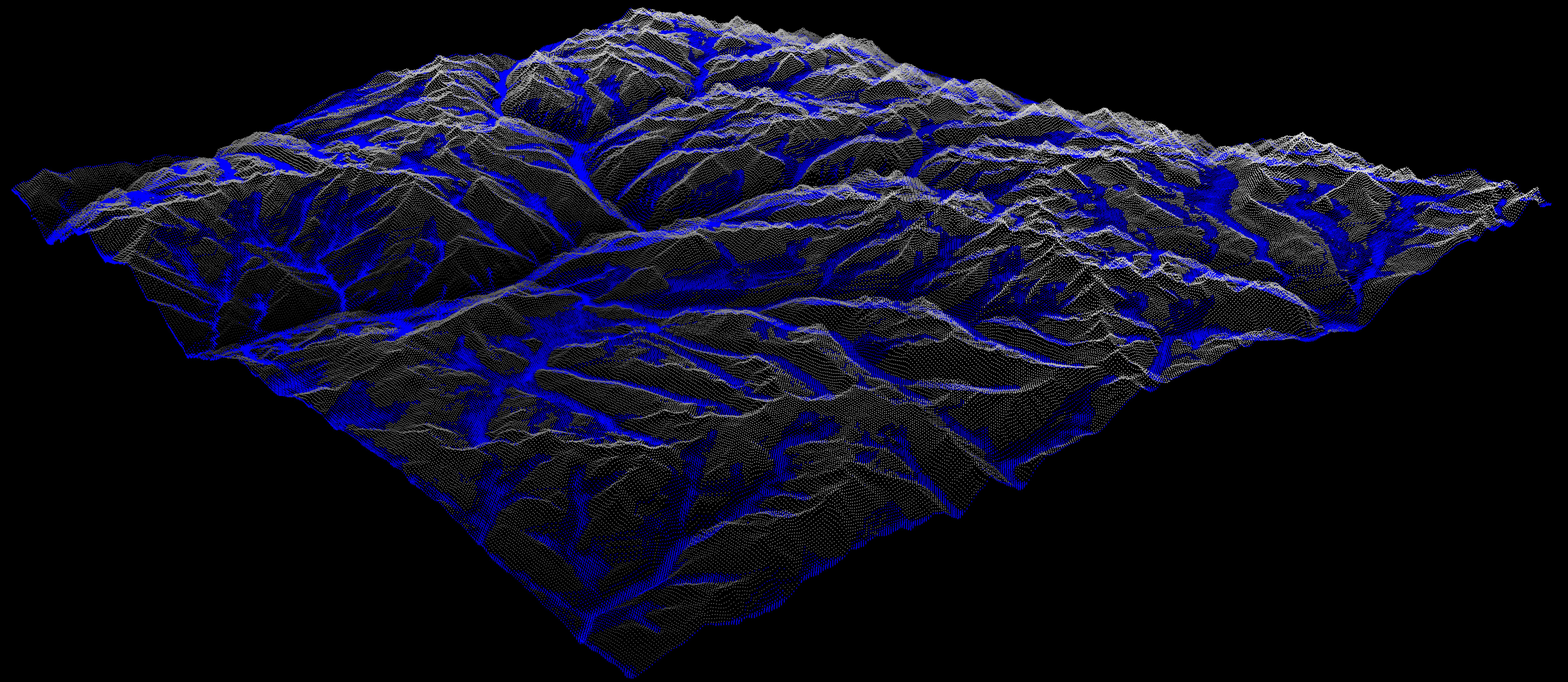


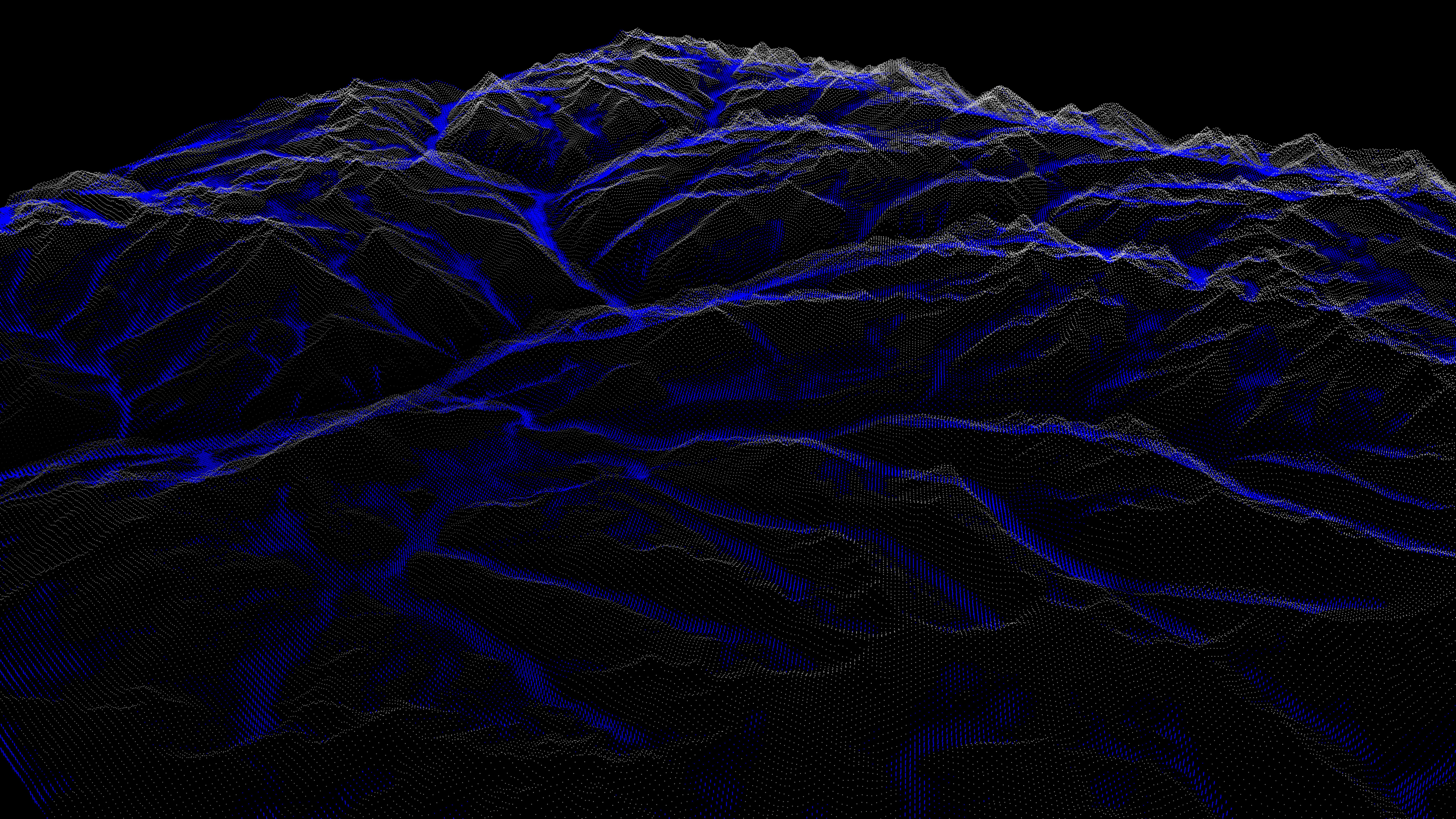
(a)

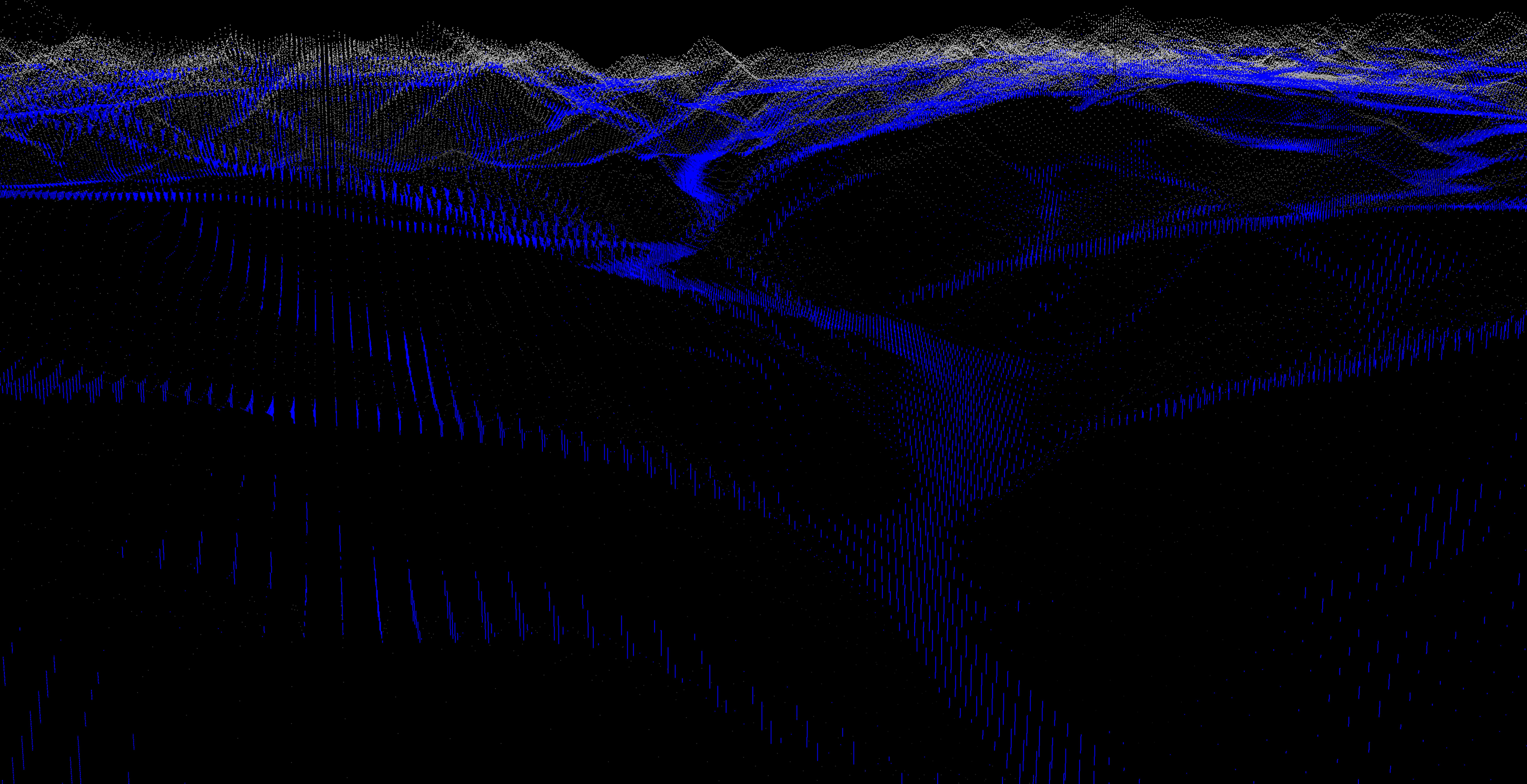


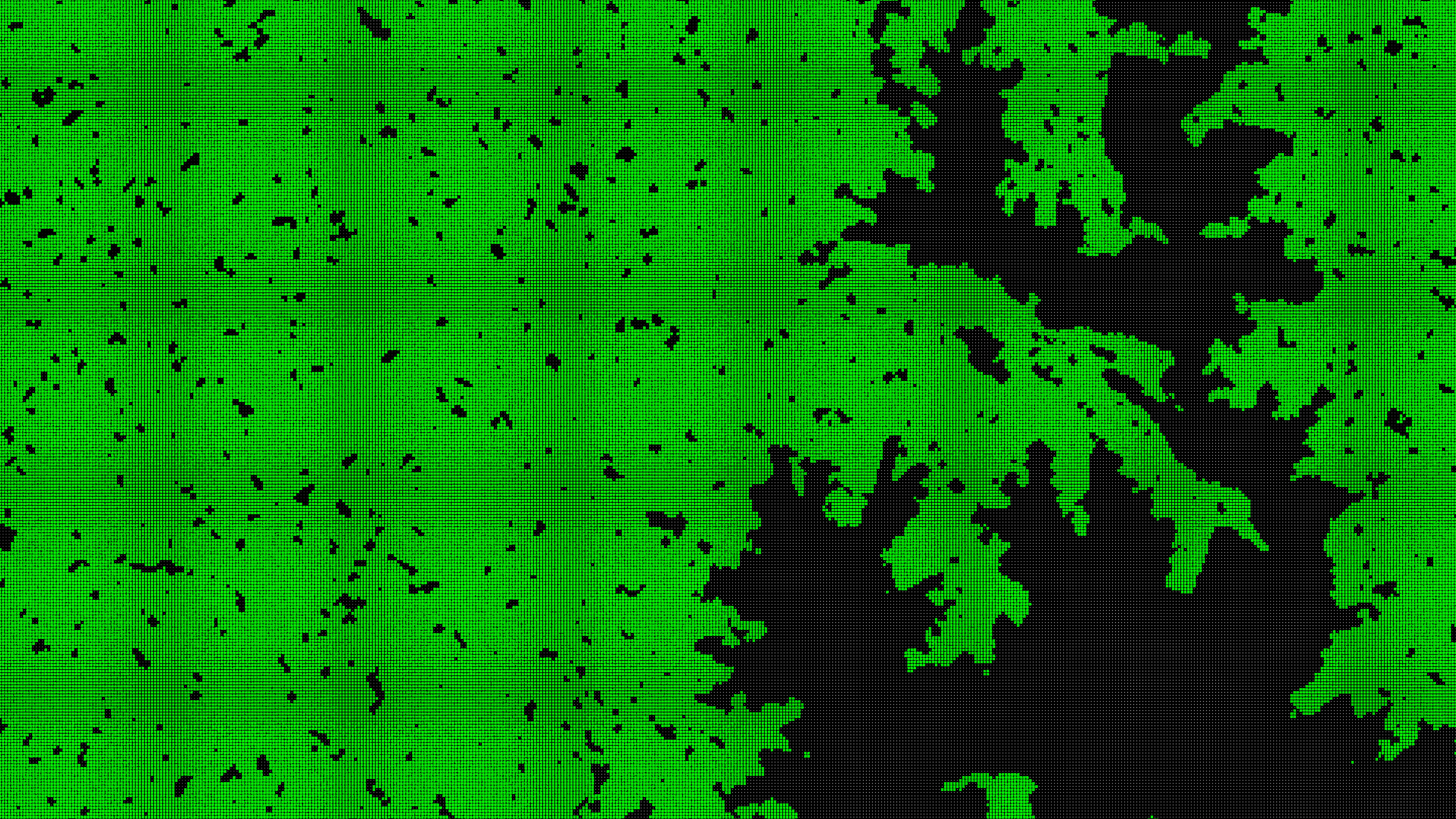
(b)

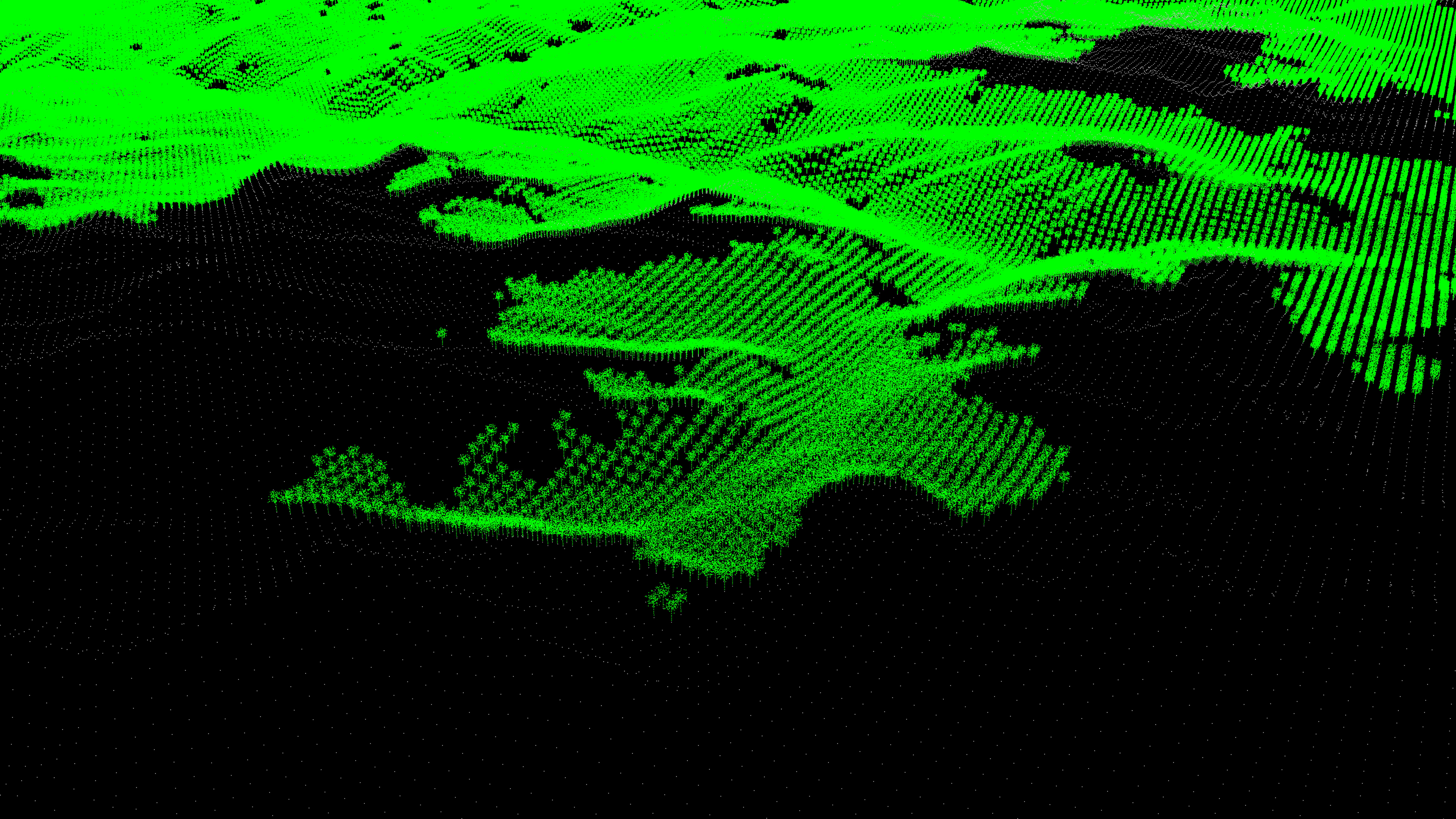
Figure 8.18: Slime-mold aggregation. (a) Initial distribution of slime molds. (b) Clusters of slime molds after some time has elapsed.

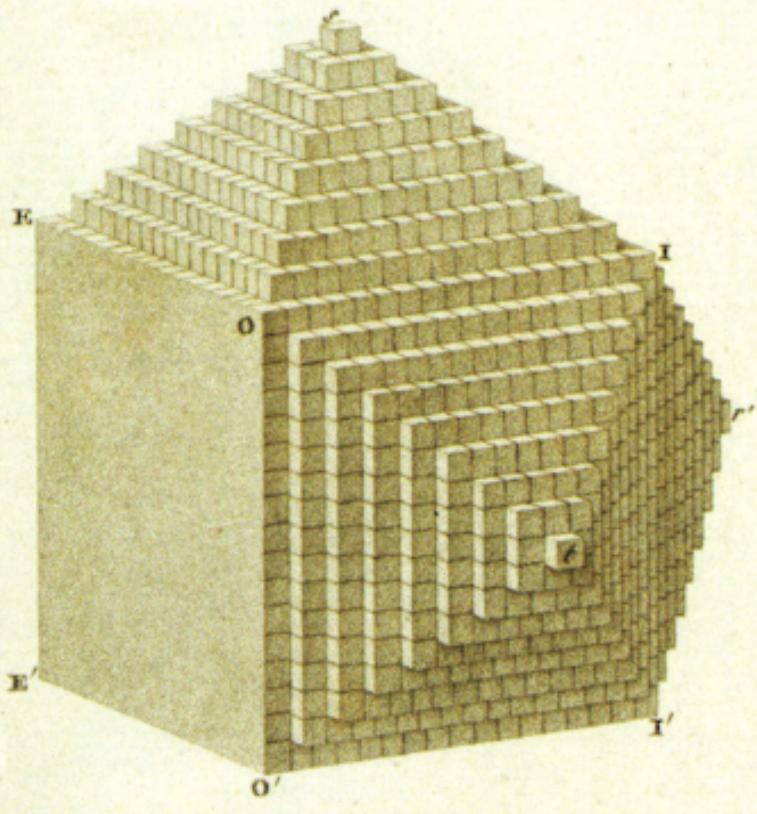






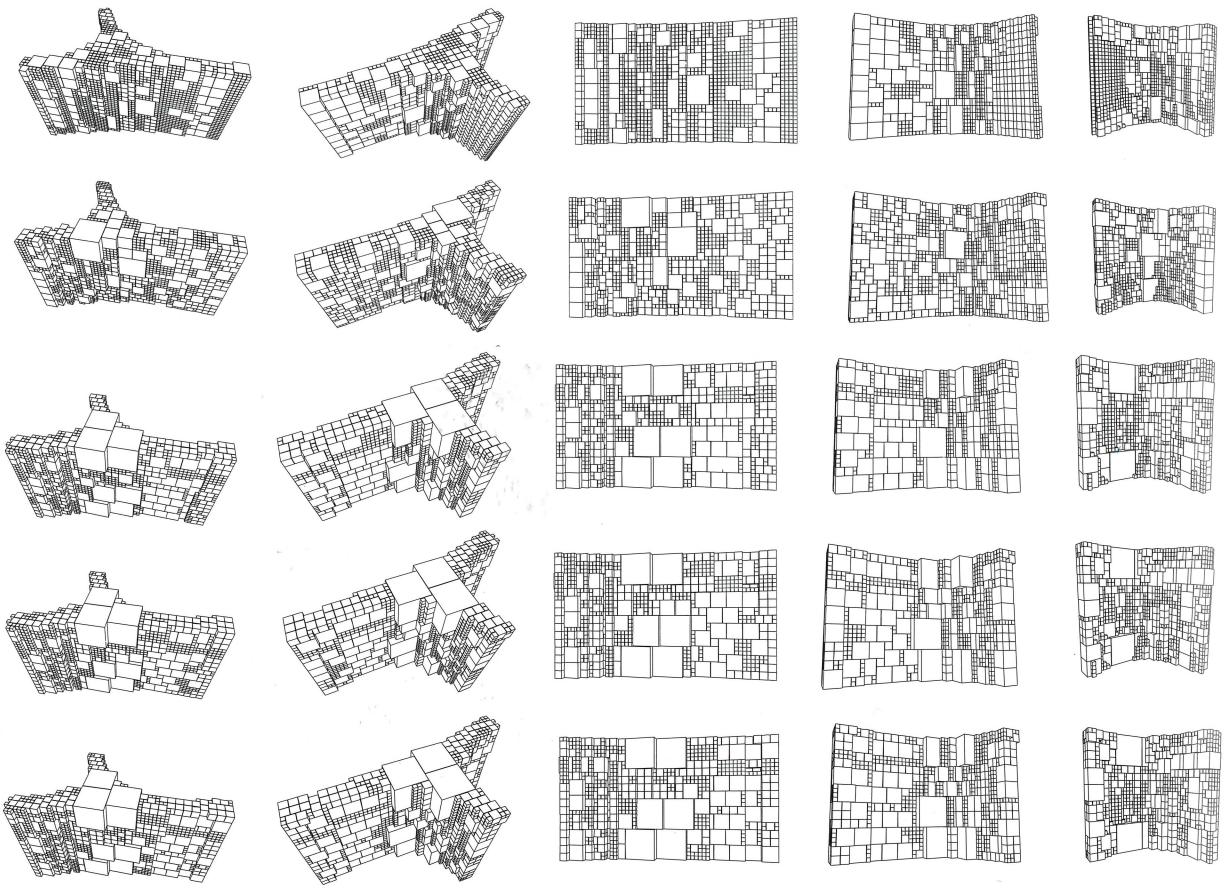






7-3. A rhombic dodecahedron built from molecular polyhedra, in René Just Haüy, *Traité de minéralogie* (Treatise on mineralogy; Paris: Louis Libraire, 1801), vol. 5, plate 2, fig. 13.

Haüy proposed that the building-blocks of crystals come in six basic forms: parallelepiped, rhombic dodecahedron, triangle-faced dodecahedron, hexagonal prism, octahedron, and tetrahedron.



The Resolution Wall,
by Gramazio & Kohler
with the Architecture
and Digital Fabrication
department at ETH
Zürich, 2007

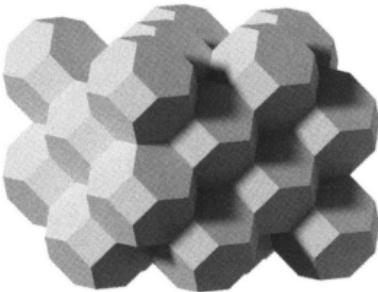
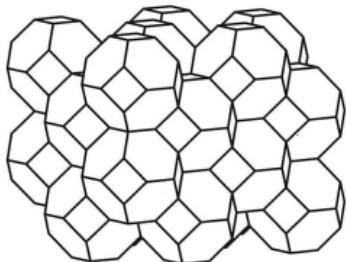
Constructed by a robot, this wall is composed of aerated concrete blocks with a dimension ranging from 5 to 40 centimeters (1.9 to 15.7 inches). Smaller blocks allow for finer detail, but building with larger blocks is faster and therefore more cost effective.



In a student course, a genetic algorithm was developed to evolve a design with a good balance between aesthetic detail, construction

time, and structural stability.

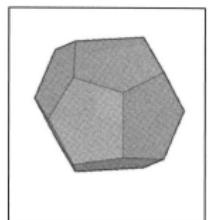
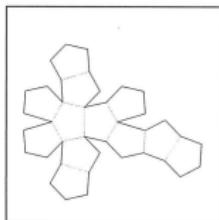
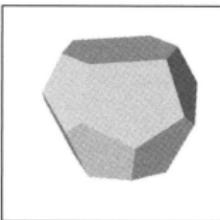
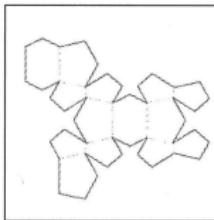
Kelvin conjecture



Sir William Thomson (later Lord Kelvin) (1824–1907) tackled the problem of the ideal ordered foam structure in 1887, when he was already in his sixties. His career publications then numbered over 600, and covered subjects as diverse as telegraphy and electrical technology to the second law of thermodynamics, giving his name to a unit of temperature. His reasons for investigations into the ordering of foam were driven by wider speculations, but arrived at a useful answer to the question: ‘What partitioning of space into equal volumes minimizes their surface area?’ His answer was

accepted for over a century. The unit cell described by Kelvin for this foam of uniform bubbles was a form of truncated octahedron, to which Kelvin gave the longer name of tetradecahedron. It was one of the thirteen Archimedean solids. This solution, informed by Kelvin’s knowledge of crystallography, survived as the packing model that gives the best solution until 1993, when Robert Phelan and Denis Weaire reopened the search.

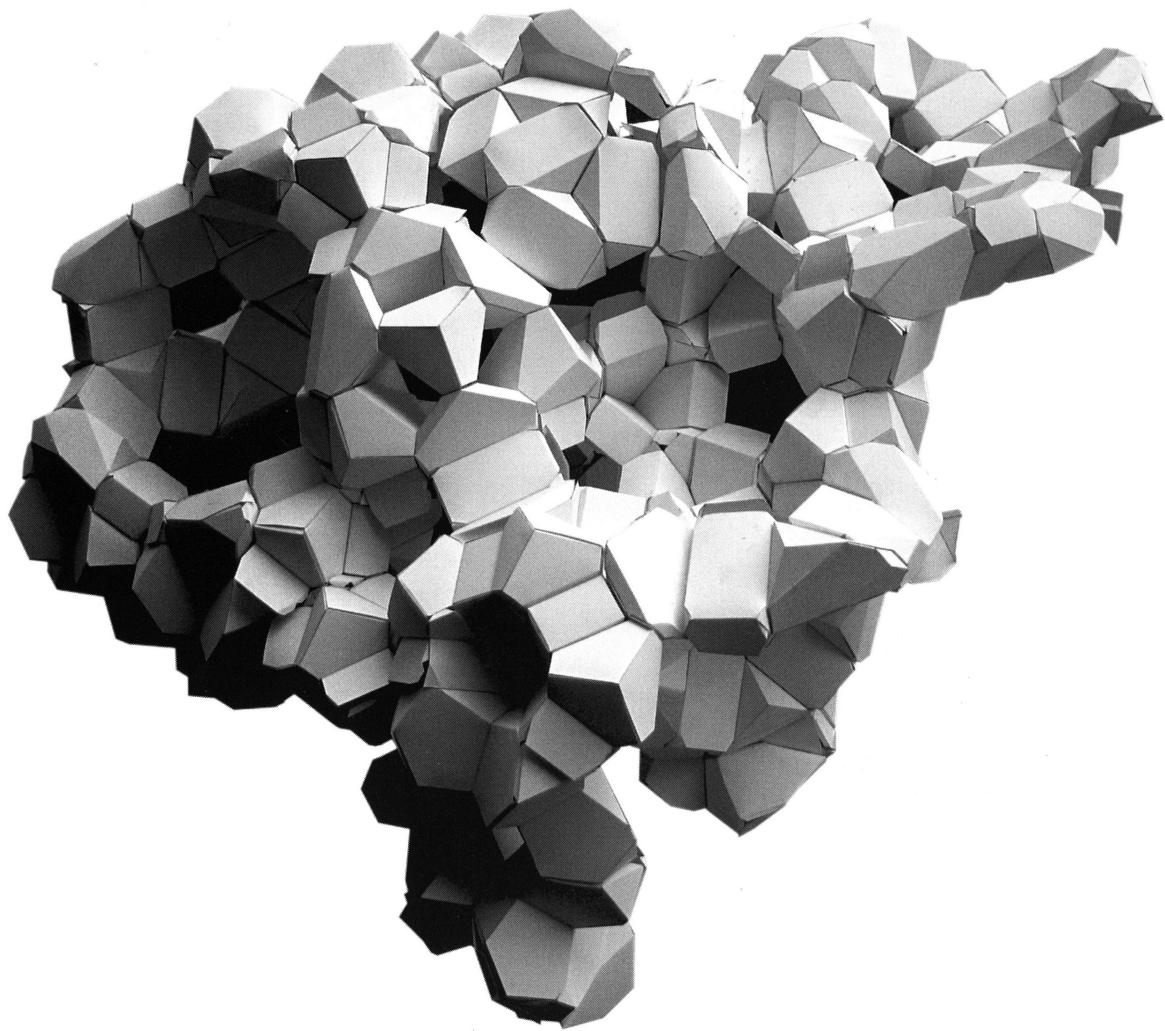
Weaire-Phelan model



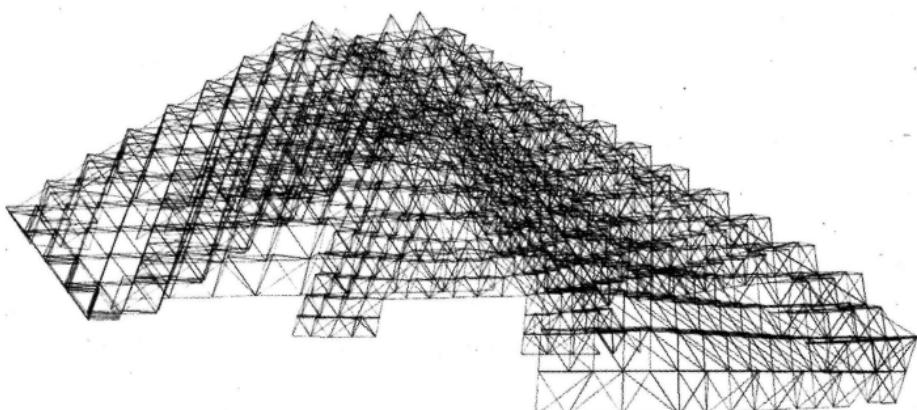
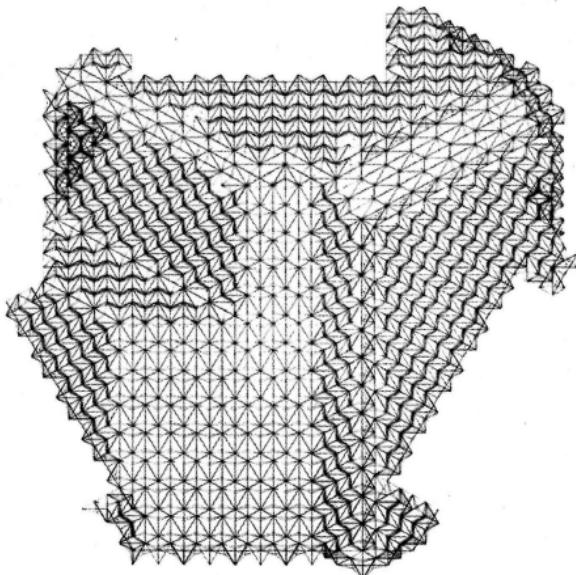
Robert Phelan began his research at Trinity College Dublin in 1993 to explore the Kelvin problem and variations on the theme, using Ken Brakke's surface evolver programme. Phelan joined a group with a background in solid state and materials science, who already had some hunches about what types of structures might compete with Kelvin's conjecture that were already manifest in nature.

Phelan started with the covalent bonding structure of clathrates compounds, in which the bonds can be envisaged as foam cells. Most of the rings of bonds on the sides of the cages are five-fold, creating

pentagonal faces. It is a regular assembly of two types of irregular polyhedral cells with twelve and fourteen faces, respectively, combined in the ratio of 2:6 in a repeating unit of eight polyhedra. It turned out to have a cell surface area for volume that was 0.3 per cent less than the venerable conjecture of Kelvin.



Folded paper model of excavated grotto



John Frazer, plotted output
of a structure entirely
generated from just a seed,
1971.