NCKU Architecture
+
NCKU Computer Science
Information Engineering
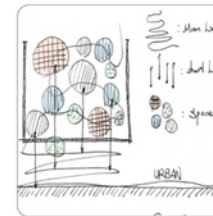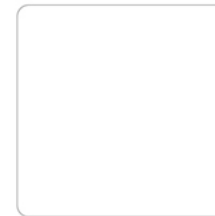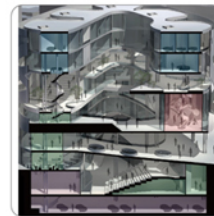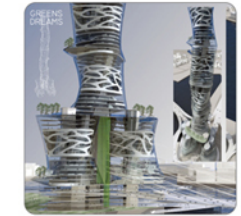
DESIGNER
+
ENGINEER
許晏嘉 Yen-Chia Hsu
TAIWAN

2008.9 - 2010.2 MICRO-CITY THEORY

Micro City Units
An Experiment Of A Portable Space System
2009 Graduation Design
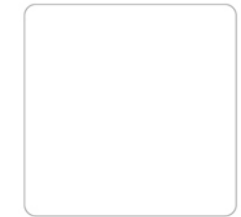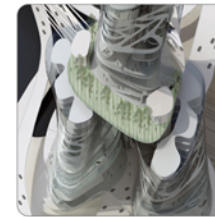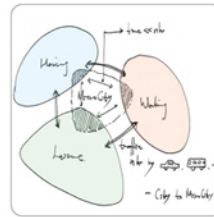The National Golden Award For Architecture In Taiwan
Students' Group - First Prize

Green Dreams - Micro City
A Sustainable And Ecological Living System
2010 Skyscraper Competition

Dynamic Facade
An Intelligent Controlled System
Use Microchip And C++ Language

Actuatecture
Living Labs Workshop
Use BasicStamp And Basic Language

ENGINEERING
(COMPUTER SCIENCE)
+
DESIGN
(ARCHITECTURE)

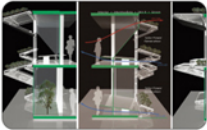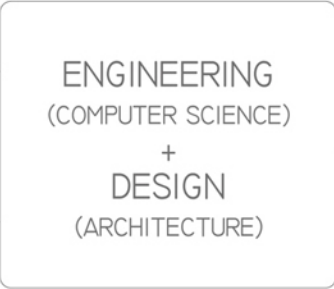The time spent traveling between spaces increases as city grows. The speed of transport must also increase to answer traffic demands.The cost of commuting will be proportional to distance In my opinion, the concept of the micro-city may solve the endless problem of cost and distance,and save a considerable amount of time transiting between places.
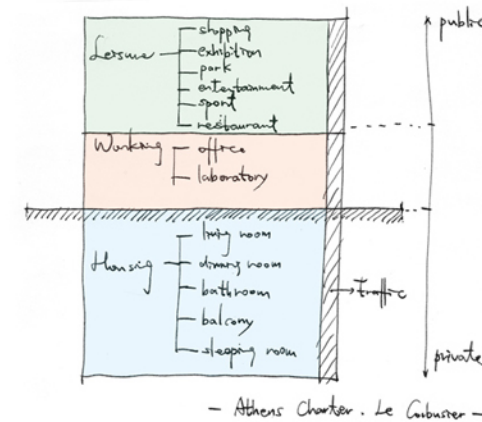
MICRO CITY UNITS
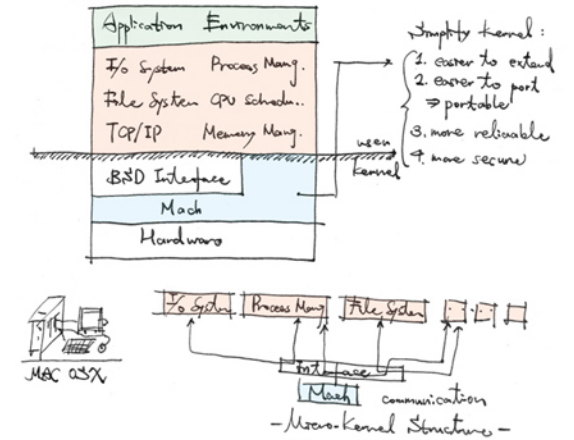An Experiment Of A Portable Space System
2009 Graduation Design
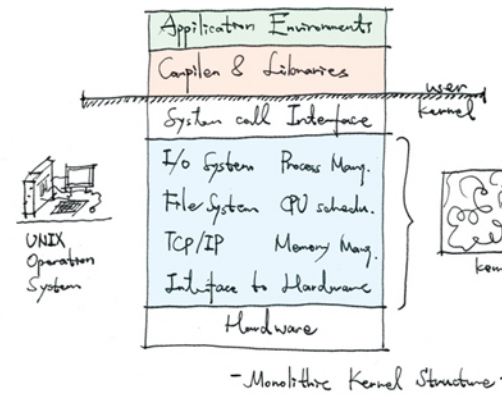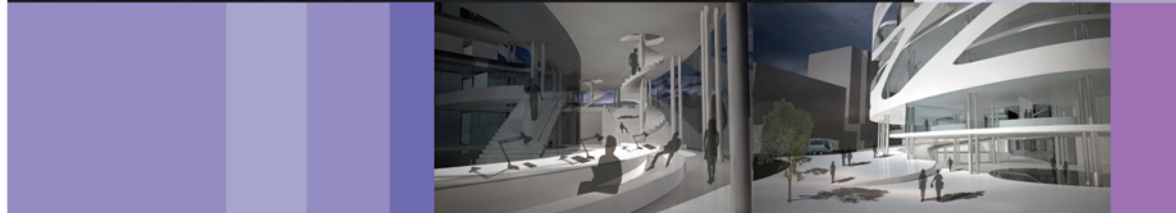
01
MONOLITHIC KERNEL STRUCTURE

I came up with the idea when I took a class named computer operating system in department of computer science. The lecturer mentioned an early monolithic kernel structure of operating systems, such as DOS and Linus. The kernel structure is very complex and complicated. It contains computer programs such as TCP/IP, memory management, and I/O system...etc.

02
MICRO KERNEL STRUCTURE

The lecturer also mentioned another kernel structure named micro kernel. It was used on MAC OSX. It moved these complex programs from kernel mode to user mode. It simplified kernel structure significantly and make it lighter. The micro kernel plays a communicating role and connects all devices by a BSD interface. It is more flexible, portable, reliable, and secure.

03
ATHENS CHARTER

According to the idea of computer operating systems, the issue that I want to discuss is to establish a space system which is composed by distinct functions. I find Athens Charter by Le Corbusier. It indicates that four functions which compose a city are working, leisure, housing, and transportation. And I add a hierarchy from public spaces to private ones on it.

04
SIGLE FAMILY

I wonder how these four functions work in our daily lives. And I understand the relationship between them from a single family in early times. One thing that interests me the most is the average time that people spent in order to cross different functions. Assume that it takes 2 minutes.
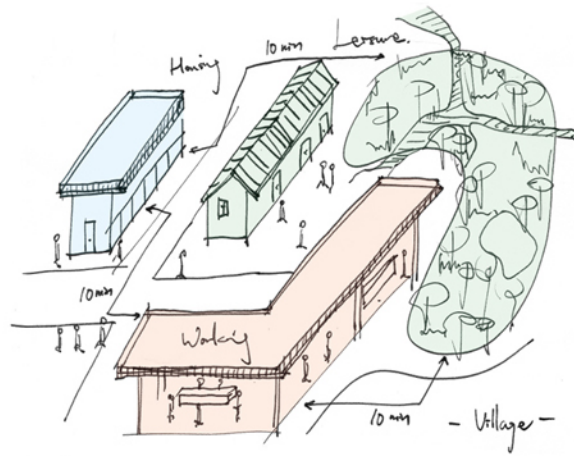
05 VILLAGE

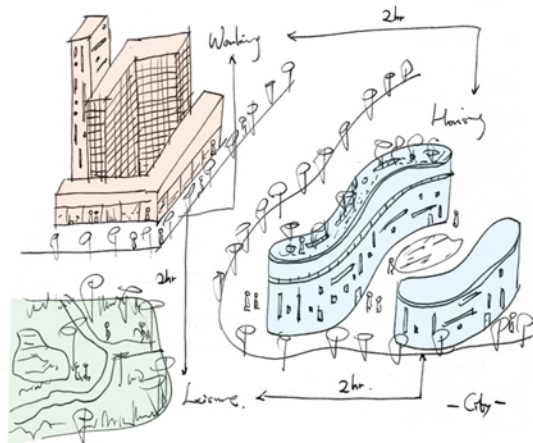As the population augments, villages are formed naturally. We can also find the new relationship between the four functions in villages. Assume that the time that people need to cross distinct functions increases to 15 minutes.


06 URBAN

As the population grows continuously, a city is formed. The average time that people cross different functions may increase to several hours. We cannot walk but have to use transportation systems such as MRT system.
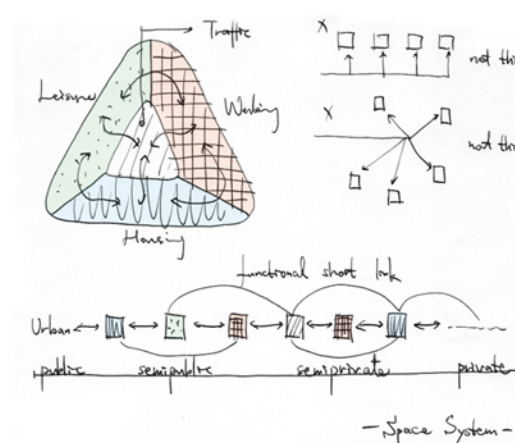

09 SPACE SYSTEM

I start to consider the relationship between the four major functions. I think that they have to communicate with each other and are not just linked by movements. According to the relationship, I build a serious of spaces and add a hierarchy from public spaces to private ones. Some shortcuts are also created.
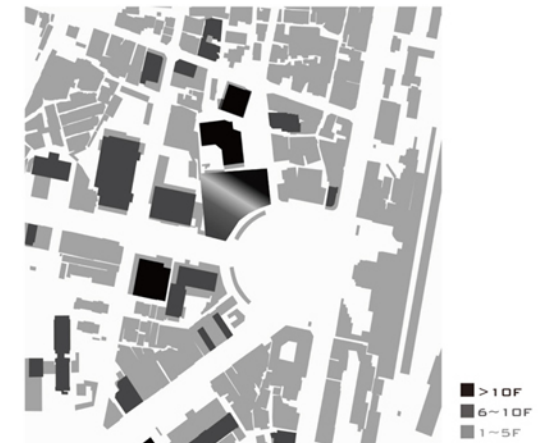

10 THE CONTINUITY OF SKYLINE

I think that the continuity of urban skyline is the first idea that I can add in my project. I distinguish the height of buildings which are near my site by different gray-scale colors and utilize the information to help me to define the morphology of the micro-city.
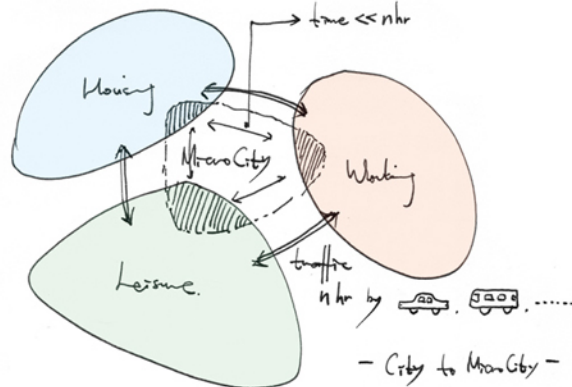
07 CITY TO MICROCITY

The average time that people cross different functions is in proportion to the scale of the city. The speed of transportation tools have to increase in order to meet the needs. And the cost that people spend on transportation tools is also increase. I think that the emergence of micro-cities can solve the problems.
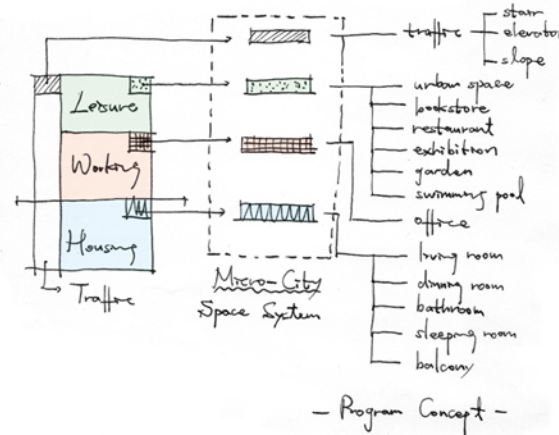
08 PROGRAM CONCEPT

My architecture program is a research center of Apple's productions and computer science. This micro-city includes housing, leisure, working, and transportation. The major purpose is to develop a space system theory and to implement it in architecture.
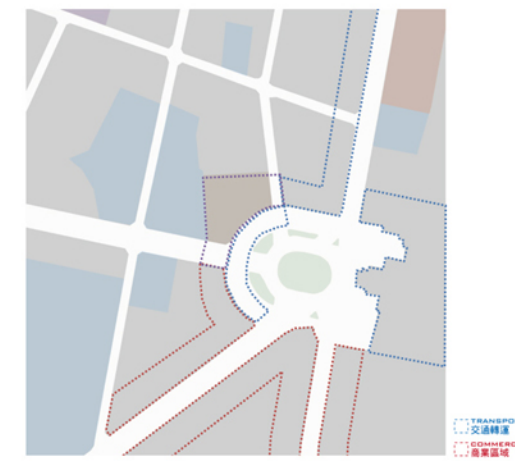
11 THE CONTINUITY OF FUNCTIONS

Then I come up with the second idea – the continuity of urban functions. The red dash line represents commercial activities. The blue dash line represents public transport interchanges. The site is at the intersection of the two functions. I use the information to help me to define the space typology of the micro-city.
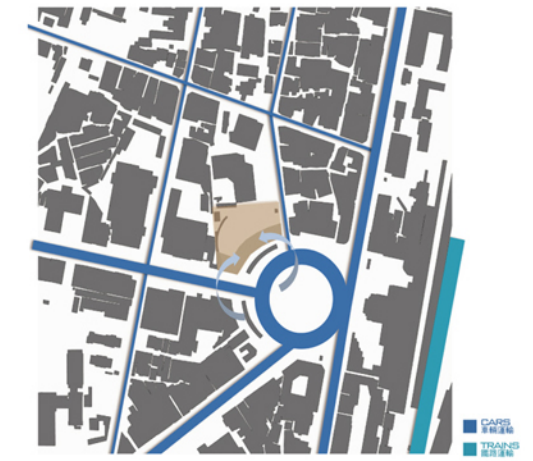
12 THE CONTINUITY OF ACTIVITIES

The third idea is the continuity of human activities near the site. The blue line represents the movement of cars. The cyan line represents the movement of trains. Both of them help me to define the movement of humans and the main entrance of the micro-city.
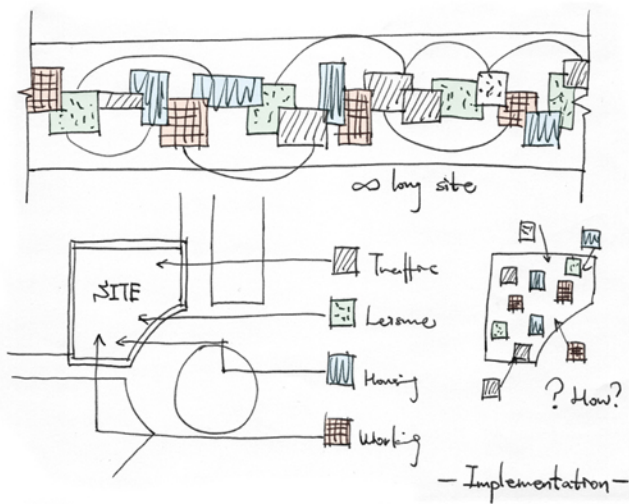
13
IMPLEMENTATION

I start to think how to implement the space system on the site. If I had a site with an infinite length, I would use a strip to link all the different types of functions together. In fact, the area of the site is limited and finite.
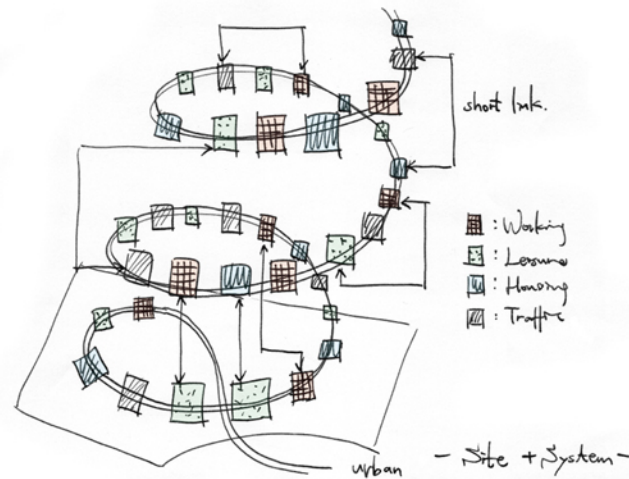
14
SITE + SYSTEM

In order to implement the space system on a limited site, I roll up the strip of spaces. The system extends urban fabric and roll up. I also add shortcuts to link specific functions and a hierarchy from public spaces to private ones.

EXPLODED GRAPH OF PLANS
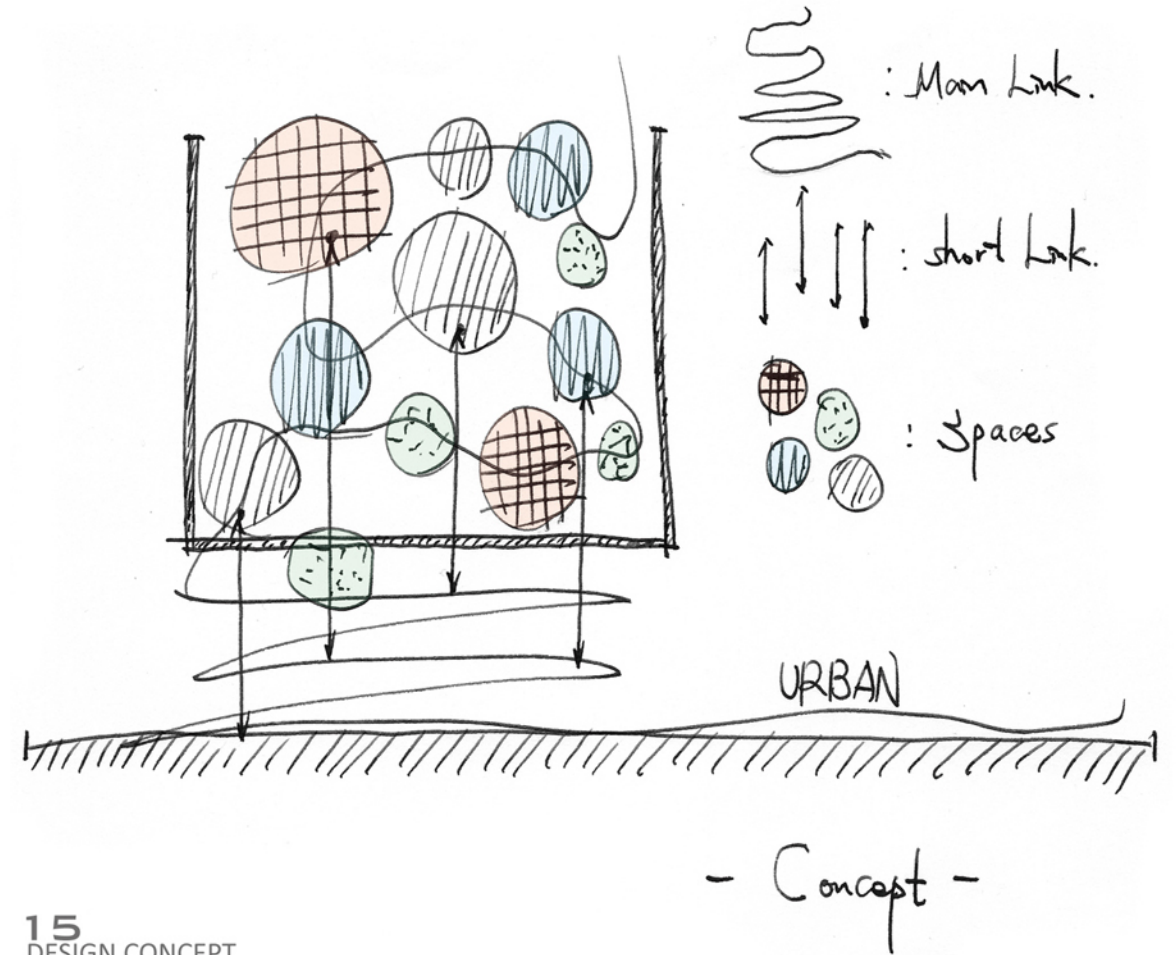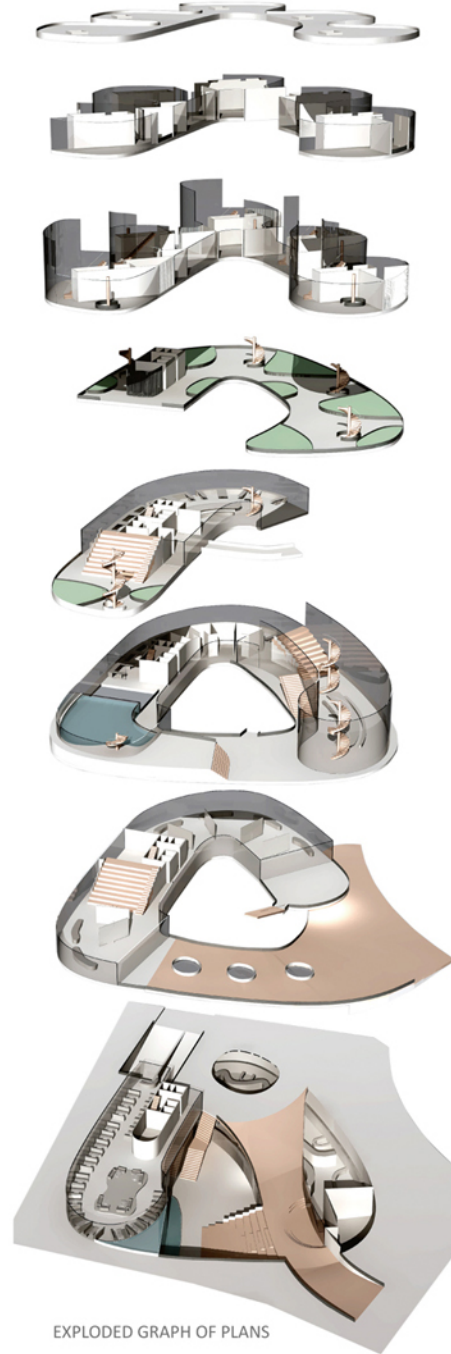
15
DESIGN CONCEPT

In lower floors, the space extends urban fabric. In higher floors, the space is enclosed by a special facade. The facade integrates the movement of spaces, the type of spaces, and shortcuts in order to reinterpret the design concept of Apple.

SOUTH-WEST ELEVATION

NORTH-EAST ELEVATION

SOUTH-EAST ELEVATION

GREEN
COMMERCE
SCHOOL
GOVERNMENT

>10F
6~10F
1~5F
SITE
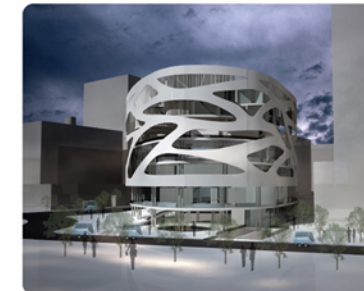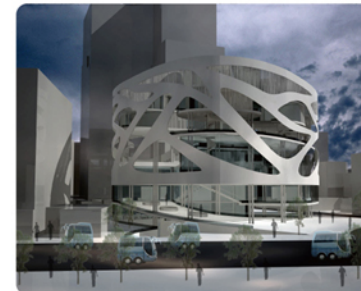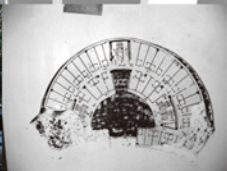
SITEPLAN
台南火車站前圓環基地配置圖
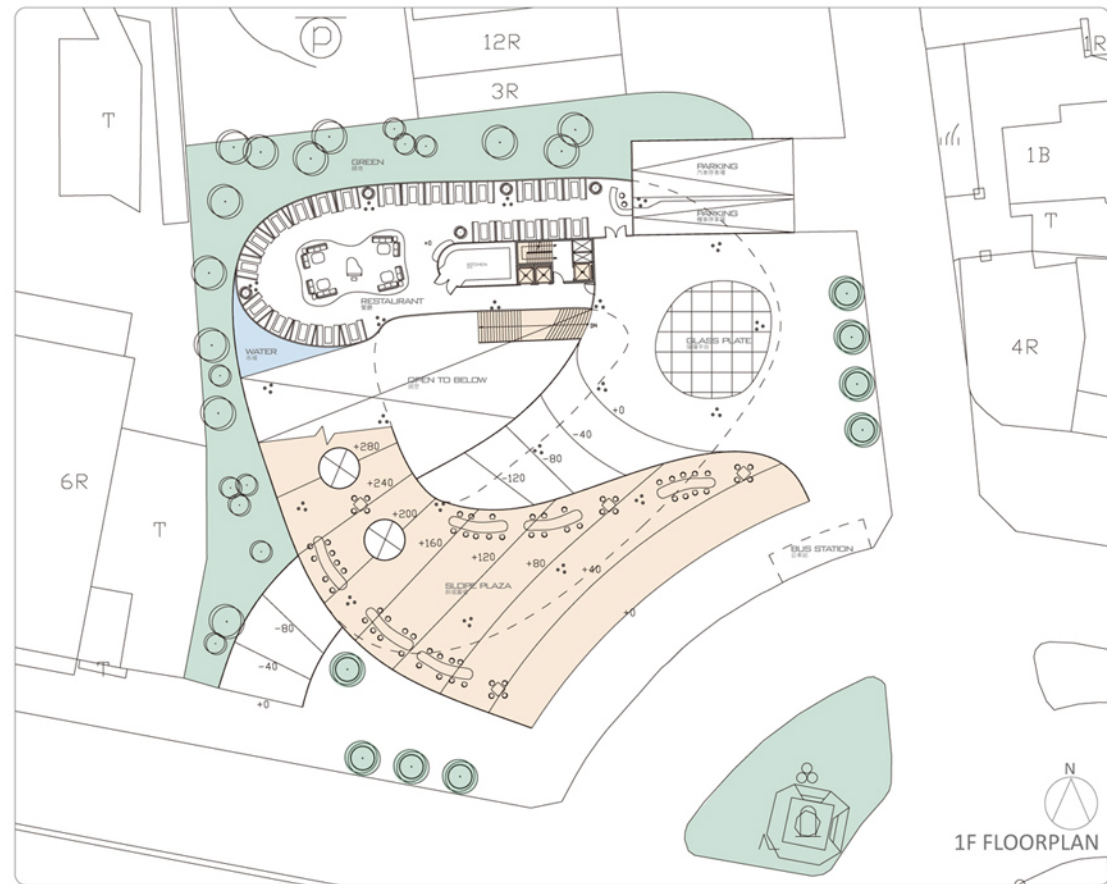
1F FLOORPLAN

0.5F FLOORPLAN

HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元		HOUSING 居住單元	7F
HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元	HOUSING 居住單元		HOUSING 居住單元	6F
GARDEN 空中花園			SERVICE 服務核心			GARDEN 空中花園	5F
OFFICE 辦公室	OFFICE 辦公室		SERVICE 服務核心 STORAGE 儲藏室	GARDEN 空中花園		OFFICE 辦公室	4F
OFFICE 辦公室	OFFICE 辦公室	TOILET 洗手間 SERVICE 服務核心		SWIMMING POOL 游泳池		OFFICE 辦公室	3F
	EXHIBITION 商品展覽室	SERVICE 服務核心 STORAGE 儲藏室	EXHIBITION 商品展覽室			2F
		SERVICE 服務核心 RESTAURANT 餐廳			URBAN 1F 都市空間	1F
PARKING 機車停車場	BOOK STORE 書店	SERVICE 服務核心 TOILET 洗手間 PARKING 機車停車場		BOOK STORE 書店		B1
PARKING 汽車停車場	MACHINEROOM 機房	SERVICE 服務核心 PARKING 汽車停車場				B2

A   B   C   A

PERSPECTIVE OF GARDEN

PERSPECTIVE OF OFFICE
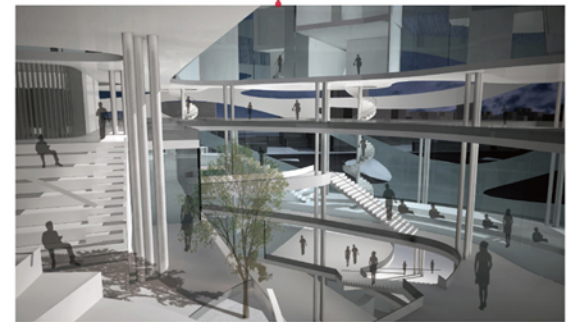
PERSPECTIVE OF ATRIUM
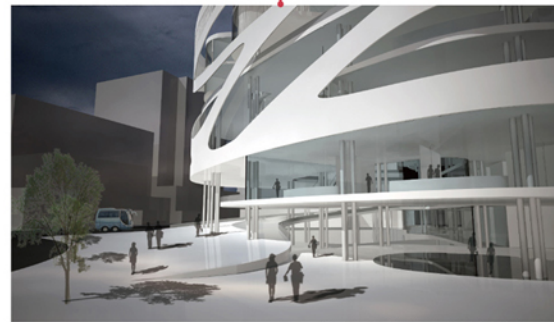
PERSPECTIVE OF URBAN SPACE
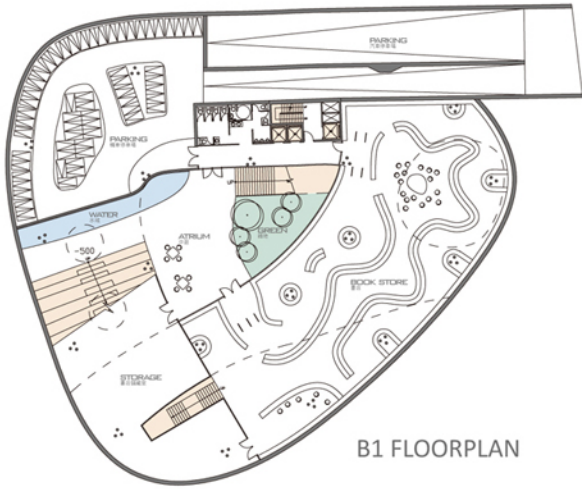
B1 FLOORPLAN
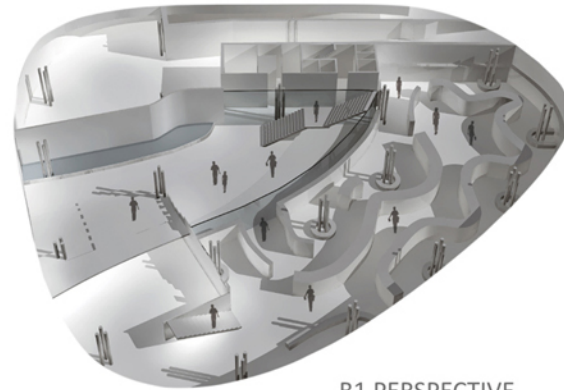
B1 PERSPECTIVE
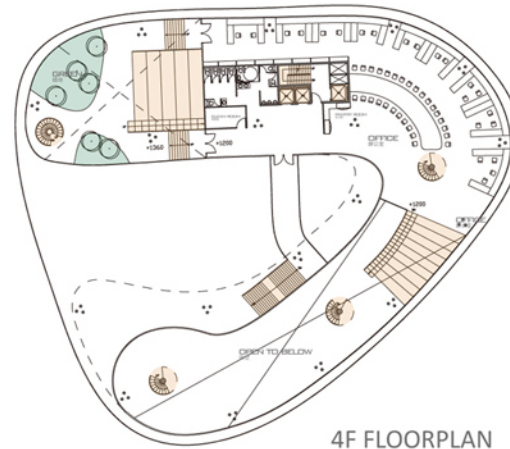
4F FLOORPLAN
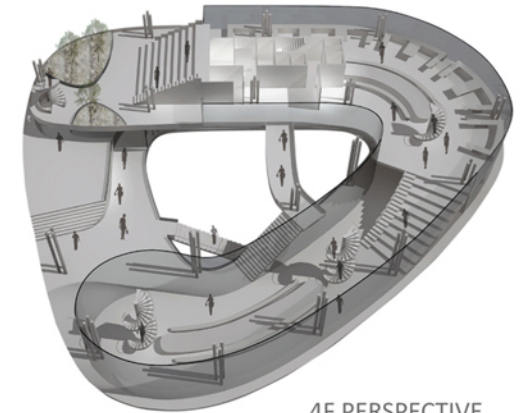
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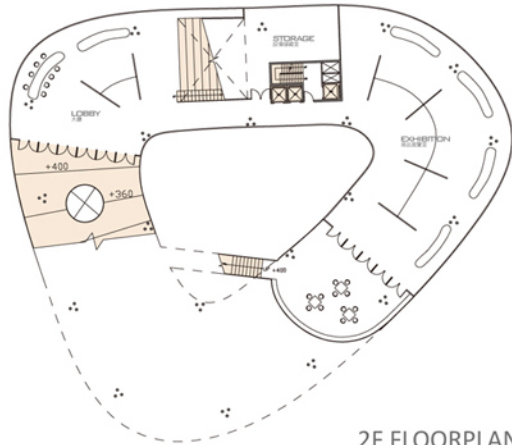
2F FLOORPLAN
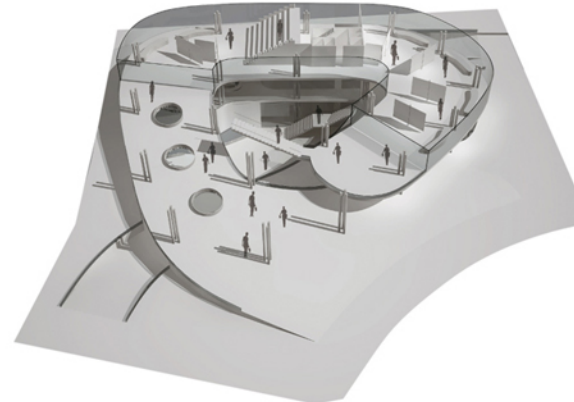
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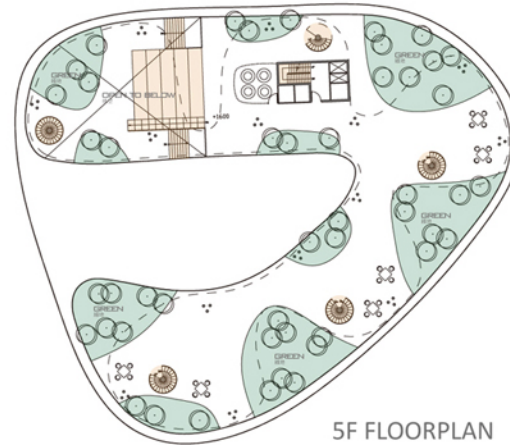
5F FLOORPLAN

5F PERSPECTIVE
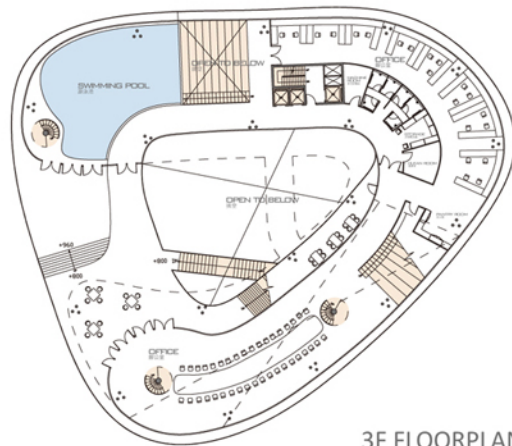
3F FLOORPLAN
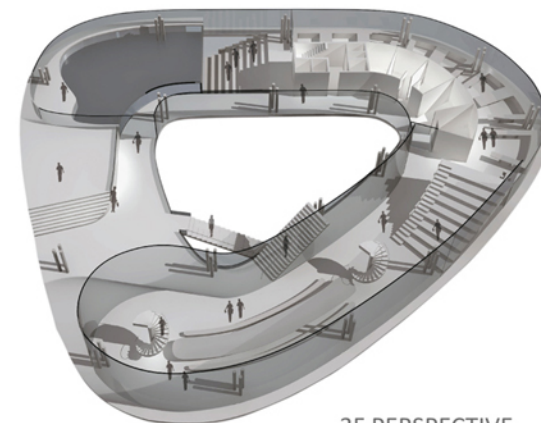
3F PERSPECTIVE
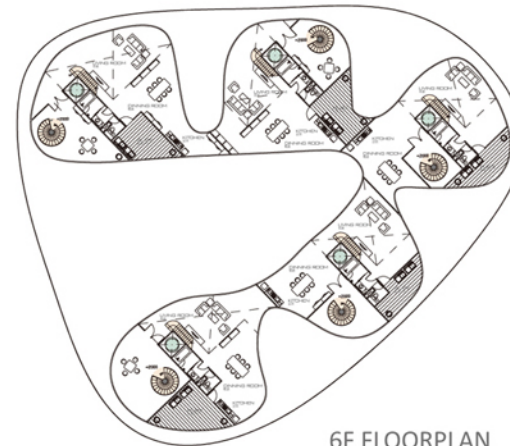
6F FLOORPLAN
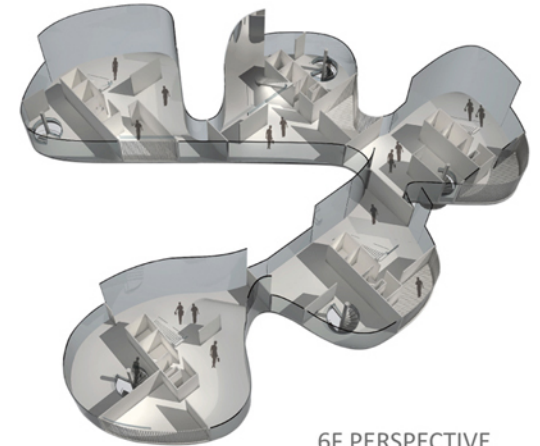
6F PERSPECTIVE
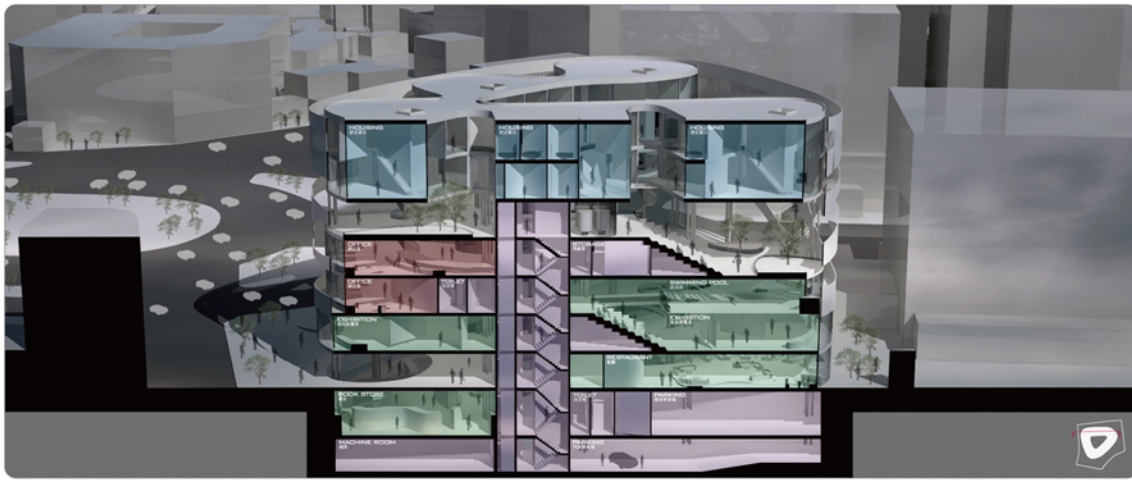
SECTION PERSPECTIVE B-C
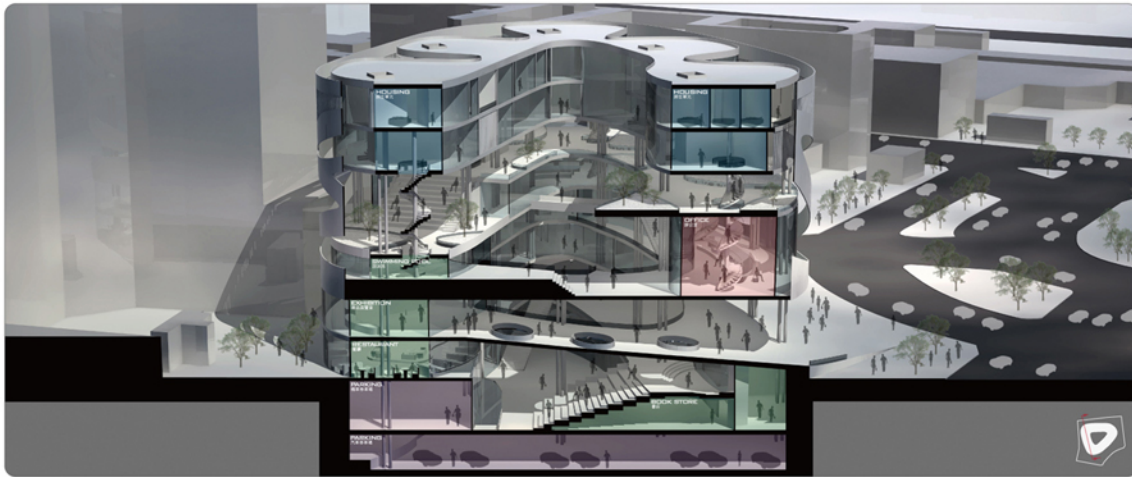
SECTION PERSPECTIVE C-A
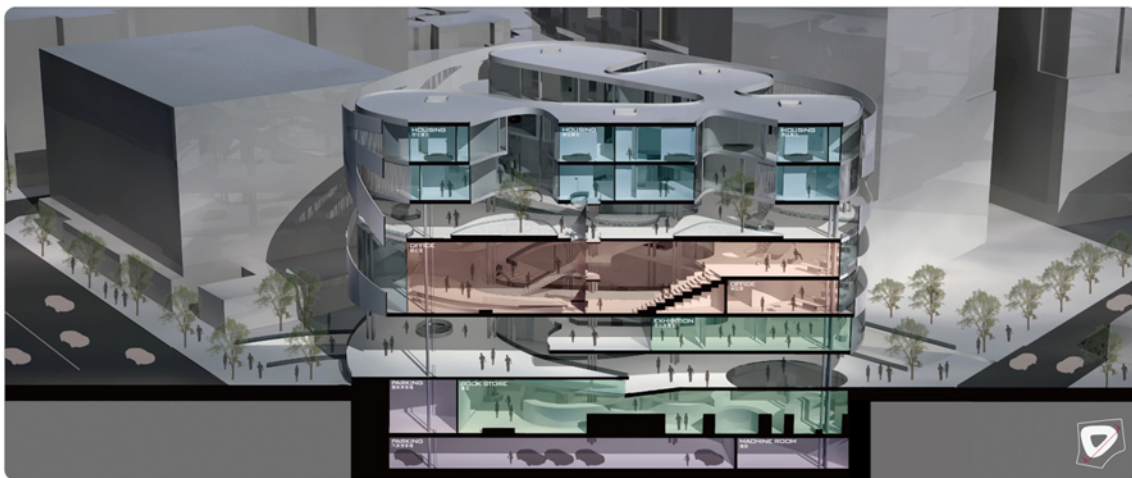
SECTION PERSPECTIVE A-B
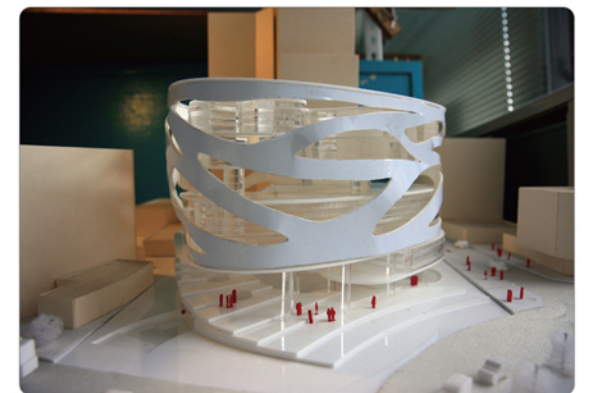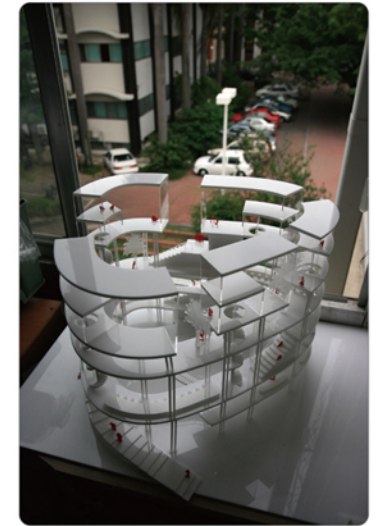
The increasing rate of metropolitan growth has led to serious issues about how a city can be formalized to minimize waste and transportation costs, and maximize sustainable energy and resource efficiency, and self-sufficiency while interacting with nature. The primary purpose of the design is to develop a distinctive site context in spatial typology which reacts to various physical environments in spatial morphology.

GREEN DREAMS - MICRO CITY
A Sustainable And Ecological Living System
2010 Skyscraper competition
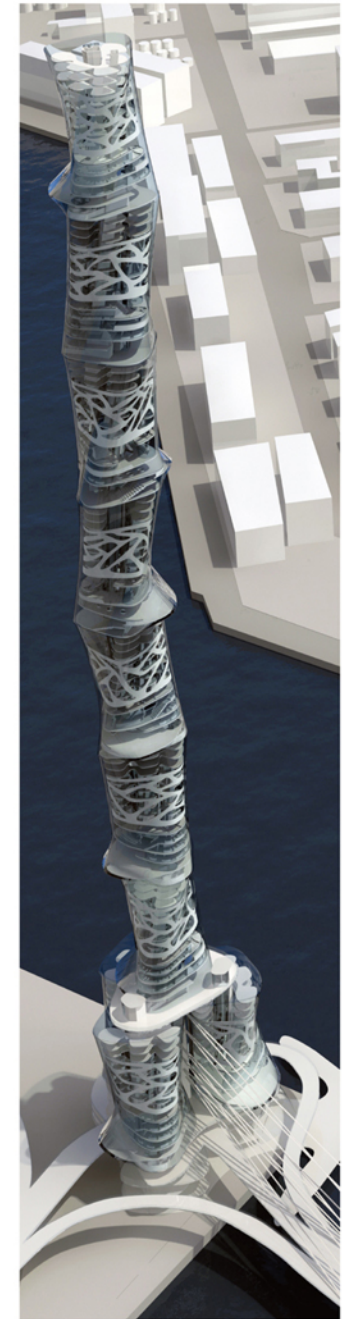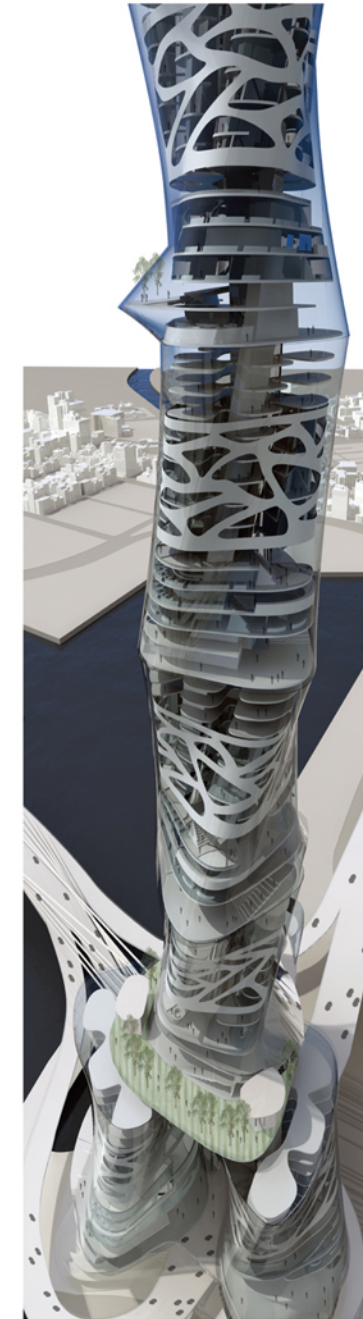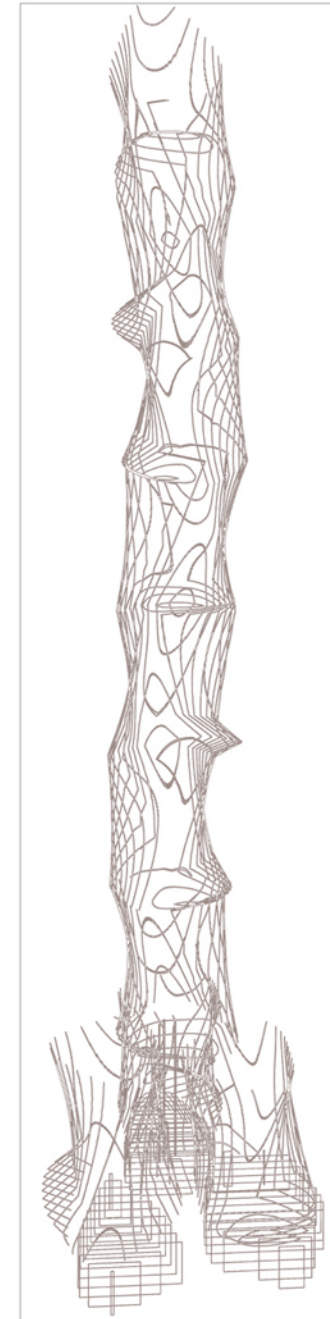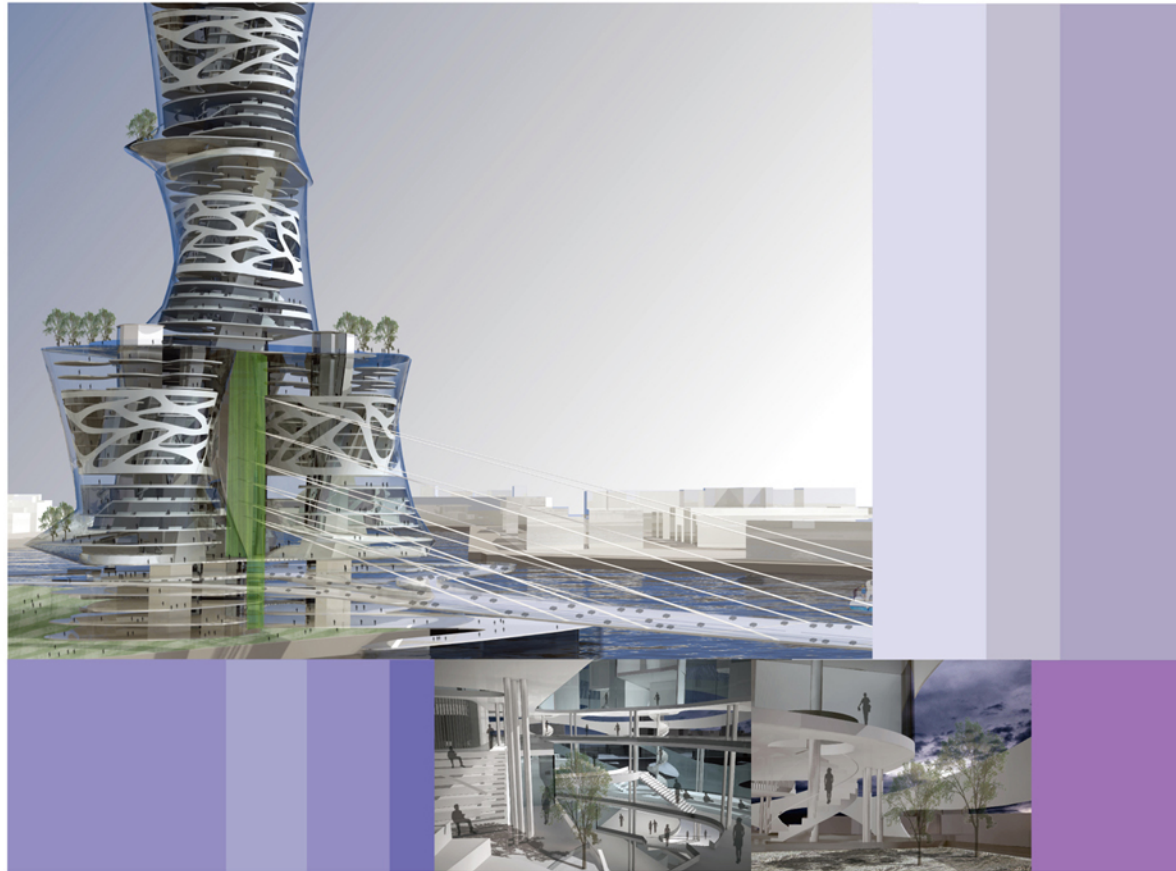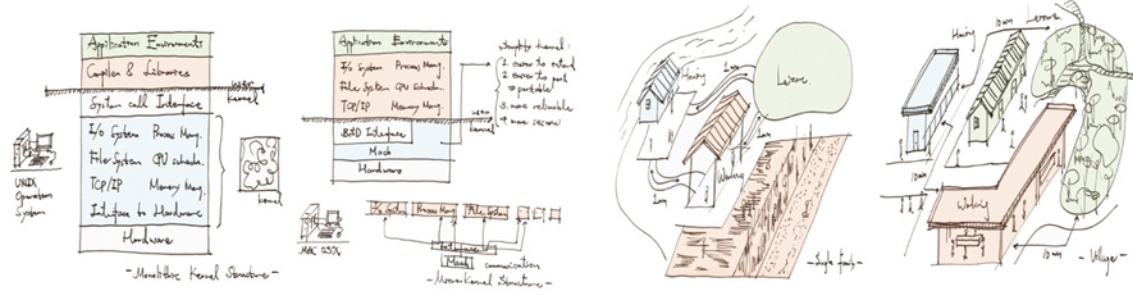
The idea arises from a Computer infrastructure - a Macintosh micro kernel structure streamlined from an early monolithic one which significantly improves the performance, portability and security of the operating system.

Paths = the streets, sidewalks, and other channels in which people travel;

Edges = perceived boundaries such as walls, buildings, and shorelines;

Districts = relatively large sections of the city distinguished by some identity;

Nodes = focal points, intersections or loci;

Landmarks = readily identifiable objects which serve as reference points;

The micro-city is located in Kaohsiung City, a harbor city of Taiwan, which is situated on the boundary of the tropics and subtropics in Asia. Because of the local climate and environmental requirements, the micro-city involves a vertical and horizontal water transportation system at its core to regulate the micro-climate and transport citizens by water elevator from the microcity to the urban blue highway. To save energy, the core system desalinates sea water for the water supply to be electrolyzed to produce oxygen and hydrogen in fuel cell and algae power generation. A vertical farm with hydroponic mechanism in agriculture is placed in every micro-city unit to provide vegetables and fruit for citizens.

Scale Of The City Increases
Transportation Time Increases
Garbage, Pollution And Waste Increase
Resource And Energy Efficiency Decrease
Land Using Efficiency Decreases

Divide Into Small Functions
Select Functions
Combine Functions Into Micro City Units
Reorganize Units
Add Eco Living System

Maintain The Population Of Each Micro City
Minimum Transportation Time Cost
Minimum Garbage, Pollution And Waste
Maximum Resource And Energy Efficiency
Maximum Land Using Efficiency

Program Concept 01 -> Micro City -> Minimum Or Maximum Properties To Solve Problems

Program Concept 02 -> Micro City Unit -> Reorganize Micro City Units

Program Concept 03 -> Dynamic Green Facade -> Respond To Physical Environments

The divideand - conquer concept is utilized to design a skyscraper as a micro-city intending to divide large-scale urban functions into small-scale ones (micro-city units). They are reorganized into an eco-living system (a multi-functional micro-city), making it much easier to maintain than its large-scale counterpart.

Minimum Spanning Tree (MST)
A spanning tree in undirected graph G
Whose weight is minimum over all spanning tree

Minimum Spanning Tree Problem
Undirected graph G = (V, E)
Weight w(u, v) on each edge (u, v) ∈E
Find T ⊆E such that
1. T connects all vertices (a spanning tree)
2. w(T) = Σw(u, v) is minimized
i.e.
Space linkage cost graph G
Edge weight = priority of two connected spaces
Find a linkage connect all spaces
And the cost of the linkage is minimum

Graph Theory : Prim's Algorithm
Builds one tree, so A is always a tree
Starts from an arbitrary "root" r
At each step, find a light edge crossing cut (Va, V-Va)
Va= vertices that A is incident on and add this edge to A

PRIM(V, E, weight, root)
1.Q <-∅
2.for each u ∈V[G] //initialize
3.do key[u] <-∞
4.π[u] <-NIL //set predecessor
5.INSERT(Q, u)
6.DECREASE-KEY(Q, r, 0) //priority queue
7.While Q ≠ ∅
8.do u <-EXTRACT-MIN(Q)
9.for each v ∈Adjacent[u]
10.do if v ∈Q and w(u, v) < key[v]
11.then π[v] <-u
12.DECREASE-KEY(Q, v, w(u, v))
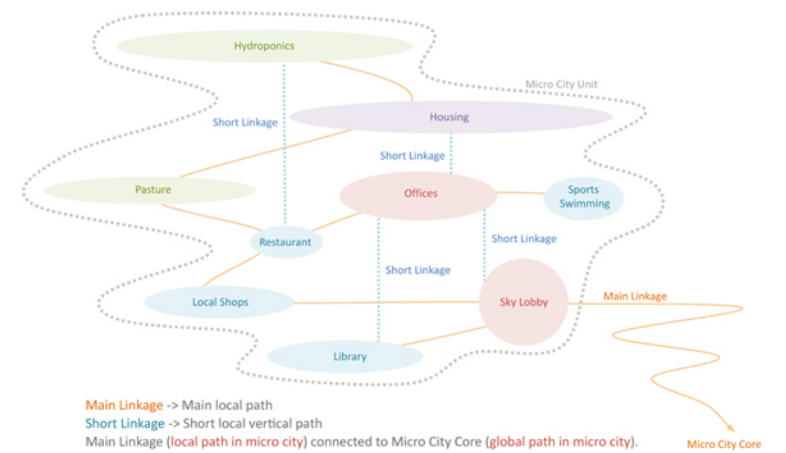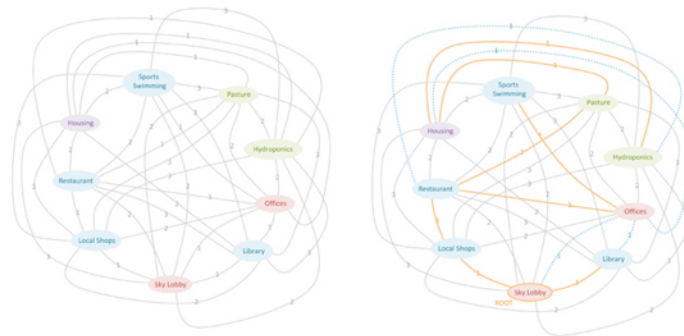
Every fundamental element of the micro-city is the taxonomic classification of spatial characteristics and is organized according to a hierarchical tree graph in the Graph Theory of computer science. A graph is an abstract representation of a set of vertices indicating distinctive spatial functions and edges with costs.

For instance, a lower cost edge connecting some pairs of functions demonstrates a stronger correlation than a higher one. Therefore, using Prim's Algorithm in the Graph Theory, the minimum spanning tree in which the sum of total edge costs is lowest is the best spatial system among all possible combinations of spanning trees.

Main Linkage -> Main local path
Short Linkage -> Short local vertical path
Main Linkage (local path in micro city) connected to Micro City Core (global path in micro city).

Global Service Core

Rainwater Recycling

Micro City Units

Hydroponics

Solar Power Generation
Wind Power Generation
Human Power Generation

City Water Way Transportation

City

Sea

Theater
Super Market

Laboratory
Traffic Transfer Station

Assembly Line
Hydroponics Factory

Water Recycling
Wastewater Treatment Plant

Water Cleaning
Sea Desalinization

Garbage Recycling System

Garbage Incinerator

Aquaculture Farm
Sea Farm

Power Supply & Mechanical Room

Thermal Power Generation

Water Elevator
Transportation System

Atmospheric Pressure

ALGAE POWER GENERATION

Algae grown in water pipeline.
Sewage wastes used as nutrient source for algae.
Potential Products :
Hydrogen (for fuel cells)
Lipids (for biodiesel)
Biosolids (soil amendment, livestock feed, combustible)

Resource Supply   Resource Consumption   Resource Recycling

Global Service Core

Local Service Core

POWER

Solar Power Generation
Human Power Generation
Wind Power Generation
Thermal Power Generation
Algae Power Generation

Hotel
Housing

Garbage Incinerator

Sports

Micro City Unit

FOOD

Pasture
Greenhouse
Hydroponics System
Aquaculture Farm
Sea Farm

Library
Local Shops

Swimming Pool

Garbage Recycling System

Restaurant

WATER

Sea Water Desalinization

Offices
Sky Lobby

Rainwater Recycling
Wastewater Treatment Plant

Super Market

Theater

Laboratory
Traffic Transfer Station

Hydroponics Factory

Parking Area

The micro-city also has specific requirements of deep eaves to avoid solar radiation and to prevent direct contact with the scalding sunlight in Taiwan. Therefore, dynamic green facades are invented to be dynamically adjusted by the data collected from the distributed sensor networks outside, and plant boards are placed on them to regulate the micro-climate. For instance, the facades could automatically open at noon to generate dynamic deep eaves, and close during the night in residential areas to obstruct the vision from the exterior. The facades can shelter flora by a mechanical structure which pulls the plant boards inside and closes them during tropical cyclones and storms. A prototype of the exterior kinetic facade has been implemented, embedding linear actuators in the kinetic structure to transform the shape of the facade. Photoresistors are installed to sense light. A control mechanism for the kinetic facade has been developed by writing a software program in Microchip Pic18 microcontroller. Ultimately, This intelligent and sustainable micro-city will fulfill our green dreams.

Facade

Different function units

Plant boards move inside.

Interior + intermediate + Skin II + Green

HOT AIR

Solar Power Generation

COLD AIR

Solar Power Generation

COLD AIR
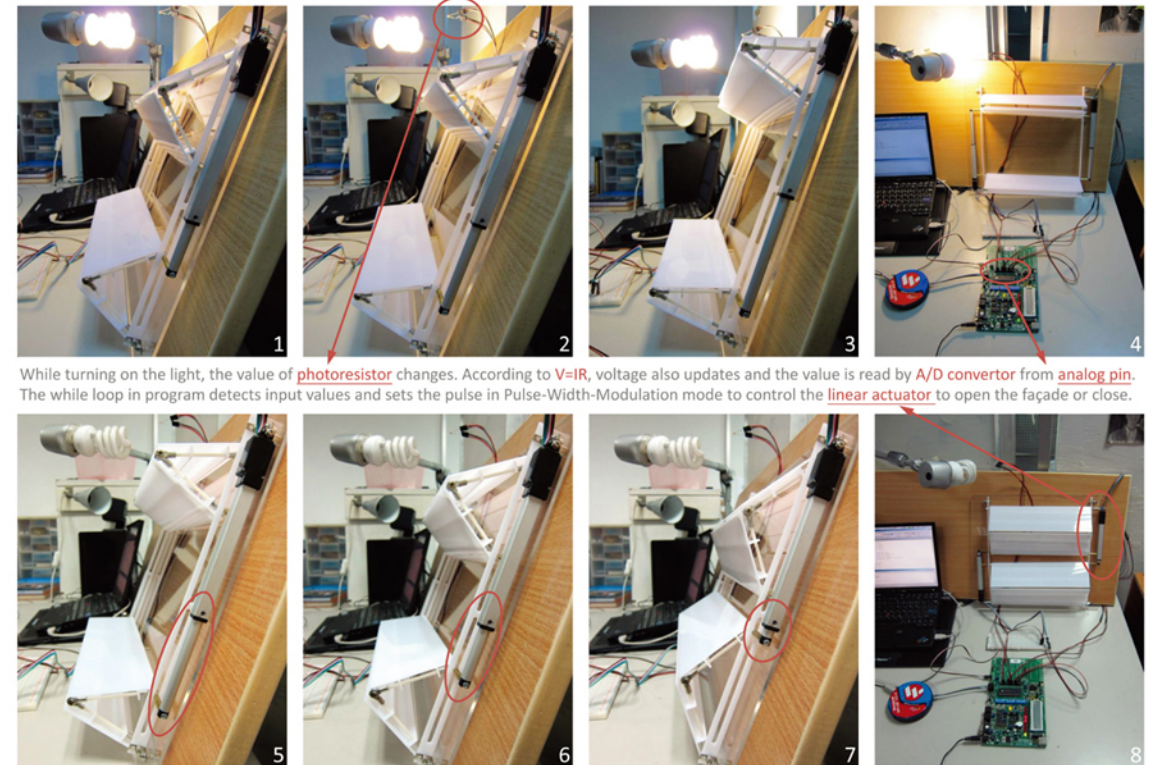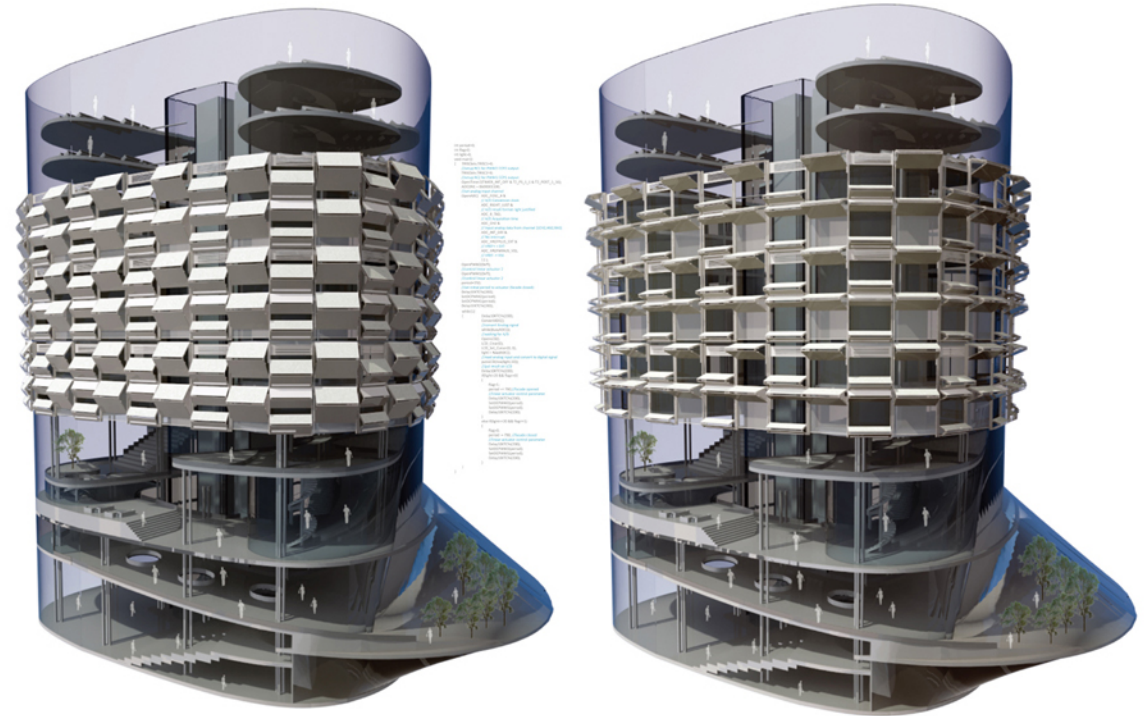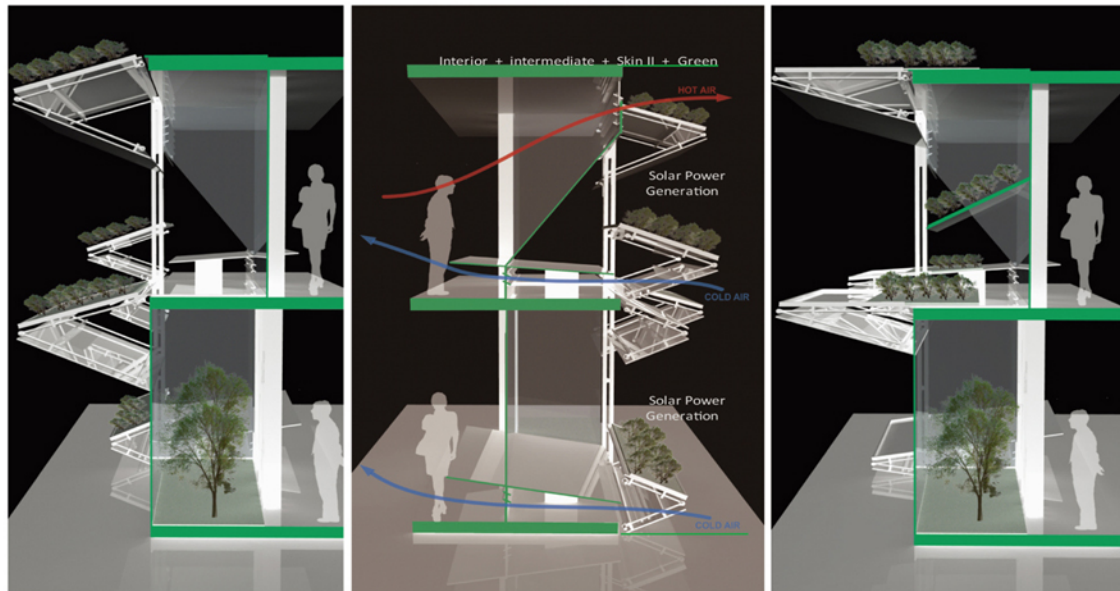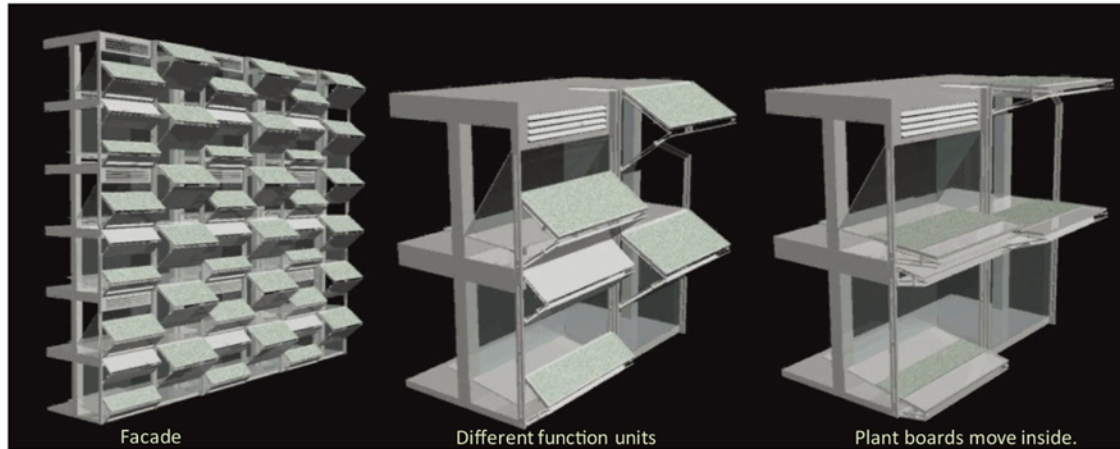
While turning on the light, the value of photoresistor changes. According to V=IR, voltage also updates and the value is read by A/D convertor from analog pin. The while loop in program detects input values and sets the pulse in Pulse-Width-Modulation mode to control the linear actuator to open the façade or close.

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

Actua-tecture

Skin that Acts
Skin of the building plays an important role in determining the ecological condition of a building. Innovative materials and intelligent system explore the opportunities for architecture. The building façade shall be responsive skin that acts properly in order to meet the changing requirement of environment.

Crowd Behavior
Actua-tecture is multilayered façade build with intelligent system of automatic robotics. It adopts the principle of swarm intelligence. Basic unit of Actua-tecture is composed of a green plant, soft pavement, one basement, two telescopic elements, a driving motor, and four wheels. Those construct a framing structure that can stretch and huddle. The folding behavior is the main propeller which gives robots broad range of movements. As an algorithm is embedded in the system, Actua-tecture robots distribute and assemble according to the needs of the inhabitants and conditions of the environment. The crowd wisdom is the hidden mechanism that controls the collective and collaborative behavior of Actua-tecture.

Eco-Dynamic Façade
The Actua-tecture is eco-dynamic. Actua-tecture façade constantly changes and adapts, with no permanent shape. It is the second-skin of architectural green wall. Aggregation of robots shapes various graphic patterns. For example, a tree pattern is the composition of robotic leaves that carry the green plant. Façade of the building is equipped with mechanism of air-purifier and solar power. It absorbs the solar energy and connects the electronic power system of the building. Aim of Actua-tecture is to build a self-sufficient mechanism for the buildings in the paradigm of sustainability.

The project is implemented in a living lab workshop which directed by Michael Fox, the former director of kinetic design group In MIT media lab. This is a group work and I participated in the process of concept development and coding. The concept of the machine is based on a worm. I analyzed the movement of a worm by using a math function. A special computer program is written in the microcontroller named BasicStamp to control the movement of the machine. And I also added a photoresister to detect light and to determine the moving direction of the machine.

Group Members And Works:
Yen-Chia Hsu (Me) : Coding And Concept Development
Chang-An Pan : Mechanic Structure And Concept Development
Yang-Ting Shen : Mechanic Structure And Concept Development
Hsu-Tung Wang : Presentation And Concept Development
Shu-Chen Fu : 3D Models And Concept Development
Tien-Yu Wu : : 3D Models And Concept Development

1.Moving Mechanism

type1 — Punching Board 沖孔板
type2 — Gear 齒輪
type3 — Chain 鏈輪
type4 — Transition Belt 輸送帶
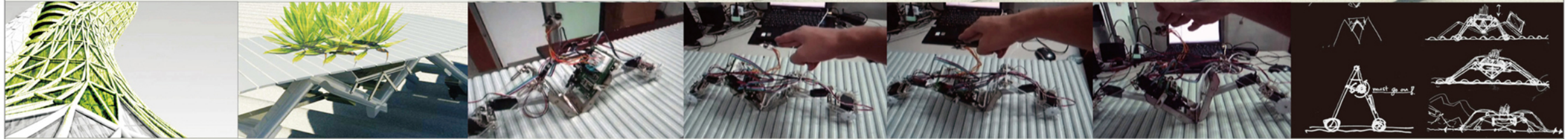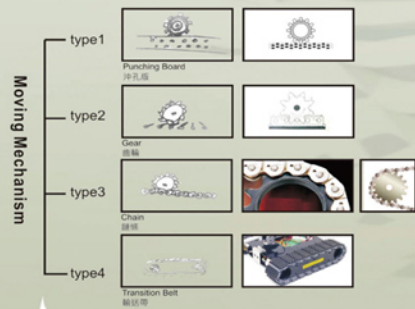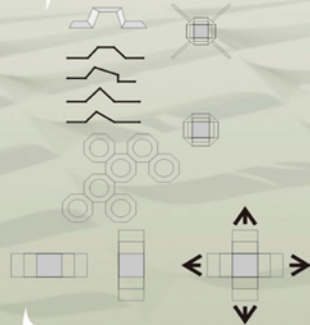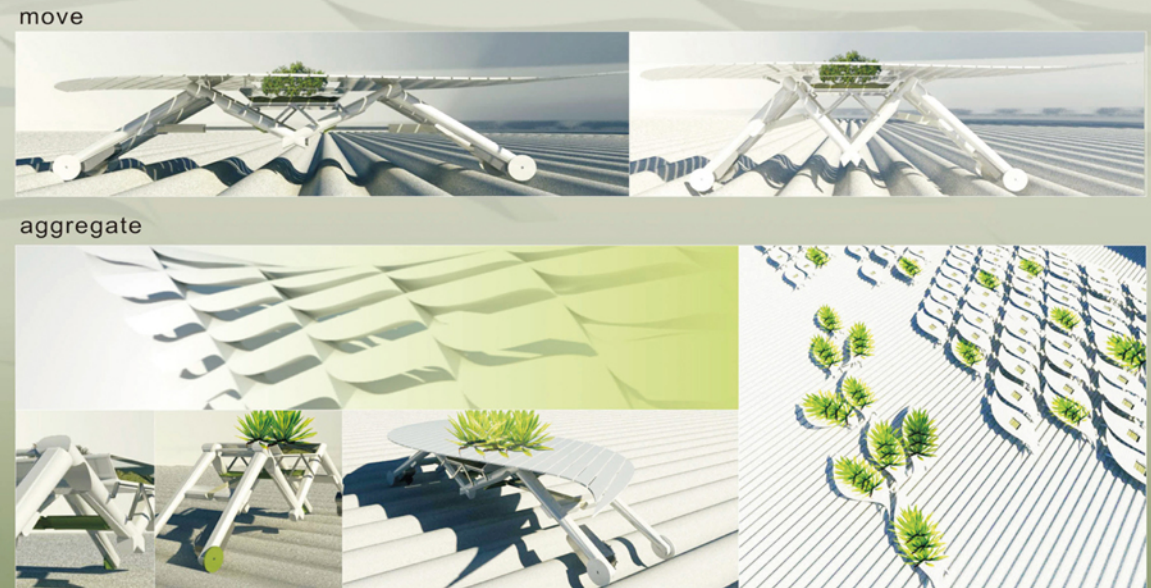
2.Hydraulic Conductivity

type1 — Shallow water on glass 玻璃上的淺水
type2 — Partial preservation of water 局部保存水
type3 — Tube that probes water
type4 — Tube infiltration 管路滲透 / Rockwool infiltration 岩棉滲透

3.Composition of Frame
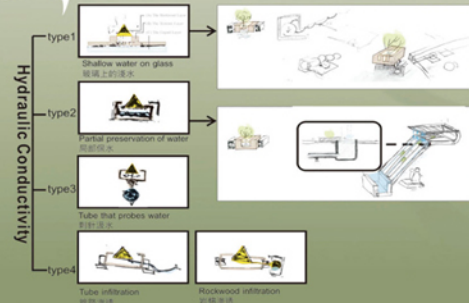
4.Self-Transformation

CATER PILLAR

5.Robotic Morphology

move

aggregate

The Final Haven
Country House Design Competition
The Third Prize
Construction and Planning Administration, MOI, Taiwan

Energy Self-Sufficiency
1. Solar power
2. Wind power

ENERGY
太陽能光電板
風力發電機組

Water Self-Sufficiency
1. Water recycling system

Food Self-Sufficiency
1. Marin farms
2. Aquatic farms

FOOD
基因海洋農場
漁業養殖場所

WATER
雨水回收系統

OCEAN
LAND

Against the north-east prevailing wind
Lead the north-east prevailing wind

Wind In Winter
Wind In Summer

• Geography
The geography is a gentle hill which slants to Taiwan Strait and is accumulated by pyroclastic rocks and volcano ashes. Many erosion grooves and coulees make the slope of the hill steep.

• Climate
The northwest corner of the coast is sub-tropical monsoon climate and is located on the outer edge of Taipei basin's wind axis. It is affected by violent north-east wind in winter and suffers problems of facing west.

The Distribution Of Slope In Taipei
台北縣坡度分佈圖

• The Properties Of Site
The site is located on the north-west corner of the coast near several harbor villages in Taiwan. The axis of the site is north-east to south-west.

WIND
SUN
SITE

HISTORY

In year 2050, Earth's petroleum reserves are getting exhausted.

One meter sea level rise affected geography in Earth due to global warming and greenhouse effect.

The area of land diminishes and the climate is serious.

The inland population is saturated.

People have to build houses on coast as the final haven of human.

Sea level raise caused by global warming.
The inland population is saturated.

HUMAN

A retired couple who worked in a technological company before gets their retirement pension.

They build a sustainable house near the coast because of the saturation of inland population and the diminution of land.

They begin to research the techniques of marine farms and aquatic farms in order to be self-sufficient.

And their children also work with them in the workshop.

主臥室 Main Bedroom (總休男主人) Retired Male Master
主臥室 Main Bedroom (總休女主人) Retired Female Master
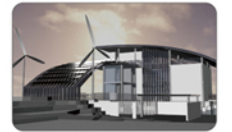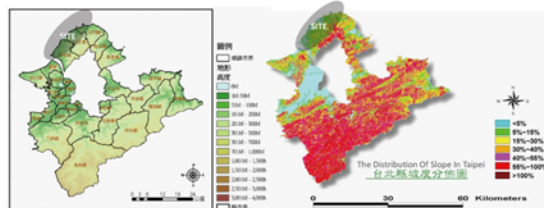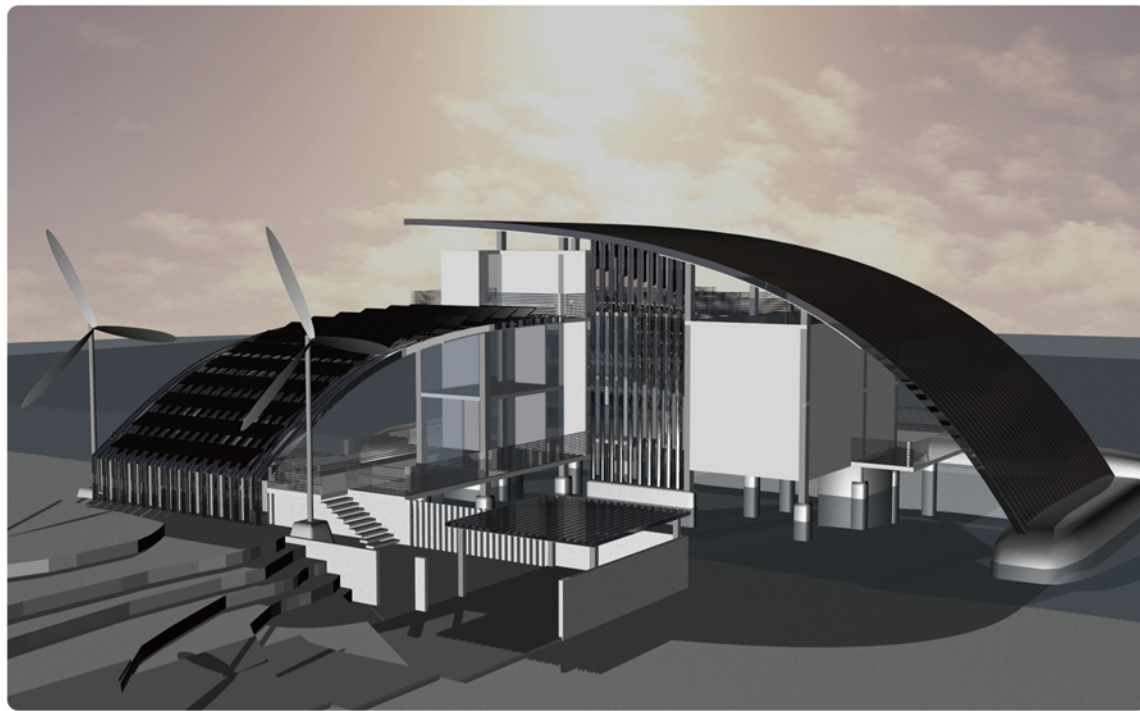主臥室 Main Bedroom (小孩) Children
多功能空間 Flexible Space
更衣室 Dressing Room
家事空間 Housework Room
衛浴空間 Lavatory

科技工作室 Workshop
餐廳廚房 Restaurant & Kitchen
家用起居室 Living Room For Family
對外接待客廳 Living Room For Customers

雨水回收設備 Water Recycling System
太陽能光電板 Solar Board
風力發電機組 Wind Power System
漁業養殖場所 Marine Farms (Growing Fishes)
基因海洋農場 Aquatic Farms (Growing Vegetables)

SITEPLAN

Breakwater
Against the north-east prevailing wind
OCEAN
LAND
Breakwater
Bridge
Lead the north-east prevailing wind
Breakwater
Living Room
Wind Power System 風力發電機
Wind Power System 風力發電機

• **Atrium**

Because the site is affected by north-east prevailing wind seriously, the house has no windows which open to north-east. The elevated floor system can lead fresh air into the atrium. In winter, the blind control system in atrium can open blinds and let the air be heated by the sunlight. The water pipe in roof can collect rain water and lead water to the recycling system.

夏天陽光被百葉遮擋
block sunlight in summer

Water Pipe
落水天溝

Water Recycling Path
雨水回收管線路徑

自動控制台

Water Pipe
落水天溝

Water Recycling System
雨水回收設施

冬天陽光可照入中庭
sunlight come inside in winter

Dressing Room 更衣室
Main Bedroom 男主臥室

起居室
Living Room

家事間
Housework Room

Flexible Space
多功能房間

餐廳 Restaurant

工作平台 Working Plate
水位線 Water Line

退潮改造海洋農場 Aquatic Farms

養殖池場 Marine Farms

Atrium
漏夕玻璃平台中庭

Sewage Treatment System
污水處理設施

地面線
Ground Line

智慧化中庭百葉
Blind Control System In Atrium

SECTION BB

High Priority Of Privacy

浴廁
Lavatory

Children's Room
小孩房

Flexible Space
多功能房間

Balcony
陽台

Interface

Atrium

Low Priority Of Privacy

抵擋風浪的石頭步道
Breakwater

DOWN   UP

廚房
Kitchen

餐廳
Restaurant

Living Room
接待客廳

陽台
Balcony

DOWN

Lavatory
浴廁

Restaurant
夕陽餐廳

N

1F FLOORPLAN

Water Recycling System
屋頂雨水回收

WATER

Block Sunlight
With Deep Eaves

Housework Room
家事間

Solar Power System
太陽能發電

Living Room
家庭起居室

Stack Room & Workshop
書庫   工作室

ENERGY

Kitchen & Restaurant
廚房   餐廳

接待客廳
Living Room

Wind Power System
風力發電

退潮水位線
Water Line

Sewage Treatment System
污水處理設施

Atrium
漏夕玻璃平台中庭

Marine Farms
養殖魚場

地面線
Ground Line

FOOD

SECTION AA

浴廁
Lavatory

Dressing Room 更衣室

High Priority Of Privacy

Main Bedroom
女主臥室

Main Bedroom
男主臥室

Interface

Atrium

Solar Power System
太陽能發電設備

DOWN

Stack Room
書庫

Workshop
工作室

陽台
Balcony

家庭起居室
Living Room

Low Priority Of Privacy

浴廁
Lavatory

N

2F FLOORPLAN

Water Recycling System
雨水回收設備
WATER

ENERGY
太陽能發電設備
Solar Power System

DOWN

家事間
Housework Room

洗衣平台

水塔
Water Tower

曬衣間

N

3F FLOORPLAN

Aquatic Farms
基因改造海洋農場
FOOD

工作平台
Working Plate

污水處理設備
Sewage Treatment System

Marine Farms
養殖漁場
FOOD

Atrium
臨夕玻璃平台中庭

污水處理設備
Sewage Treatment System

N

B1 FLOORPLAN