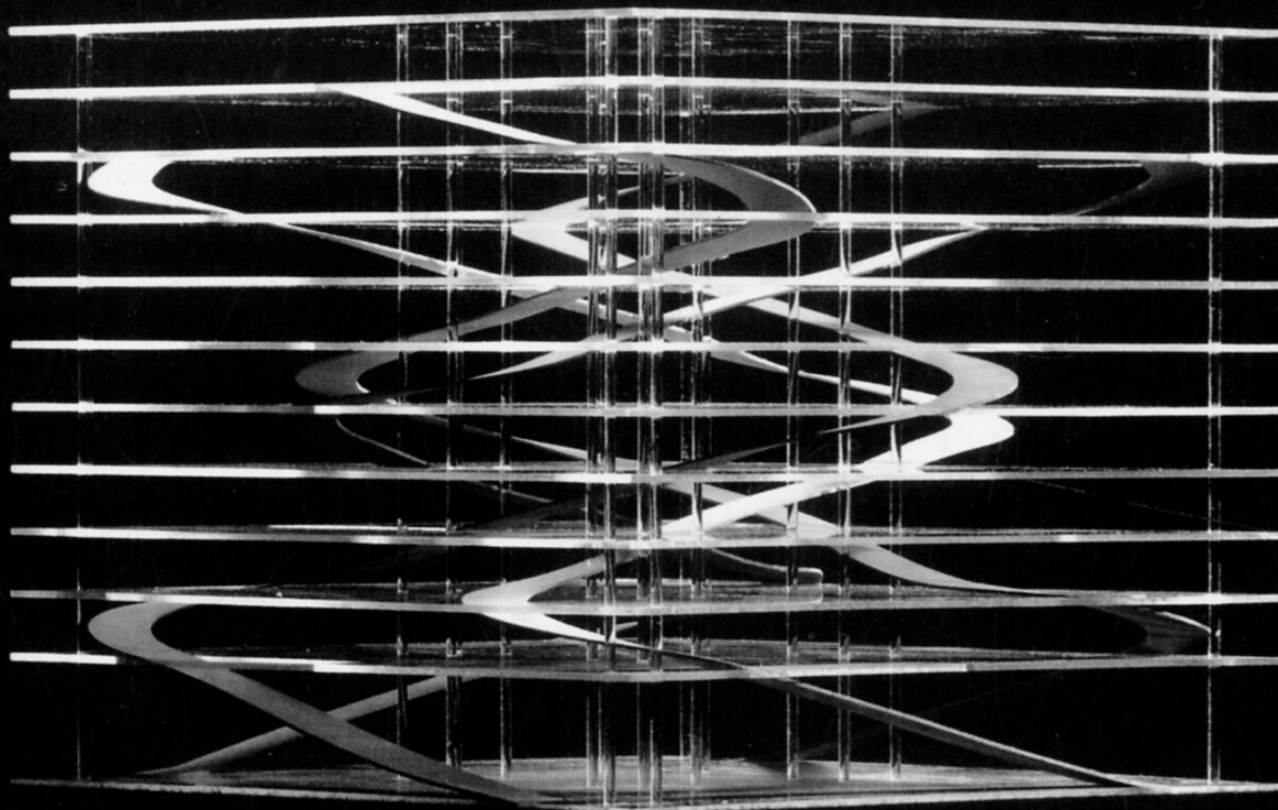
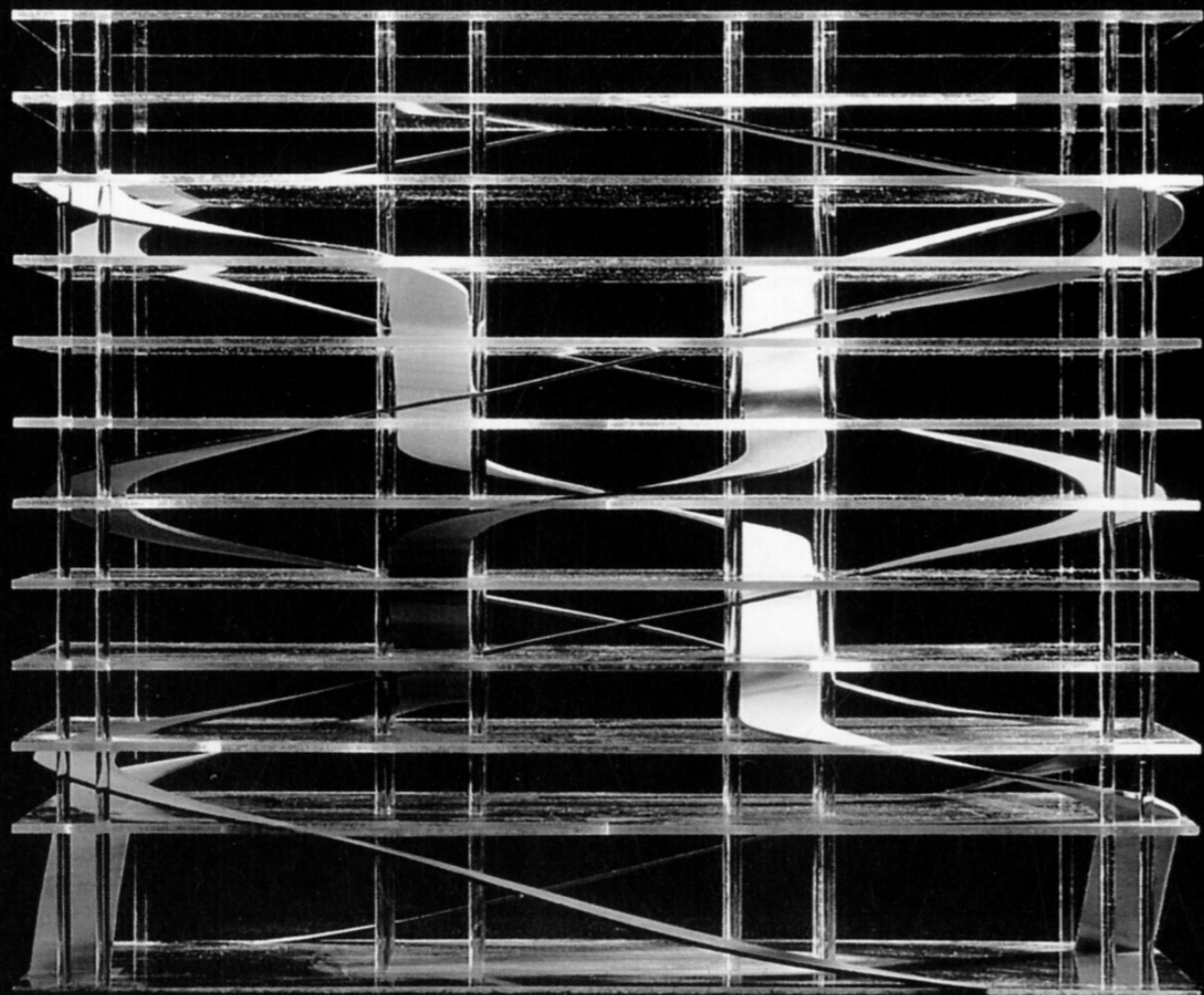


**VOLUPTAS
+ CHAIR PROF. DR. J. PAULI
DIPLOMA SS25**

**PARKINGS / HOUSING
SUBTRACTION IV**





For decades, 'less is more' has served as an architectural mantra, embodying a paradoxical ethos of reduction in the pursuit of more. However, when reflecting on the contemporary environmental and social crisis, such a mindset seems no longer sustainable: less, is less. Rather than pursuing sustainability through strategies of addition and multiplication—to layer, to add, to thicken, to regulate more—we advocate for design strategies of reduction at different scales. Subtraction is presented as a *modus operandi* to attain a more sustainable environment through architectural and spatial proposals that embrace 'less' as a quality and as a positive feature.

Hardly any program seems more affected by this than housing. Hunted by a permanent state of crisis—both in terms of availability of space, resources, norms, and consequently, of architectural expression—housing represents today both the most urgent and the least inventive architectural typology. Spanning users and sizes and carrying forward our investigation on retrofitting existing structures through subtraction, this semester we will turn our focus on parking facilities across in Switzerland rendered obsolete by the (very welcome!) increased reliance on public transportation.

As building from the ground up seems an ever less viable solution, we invite students to turn functional problems into design opportunities: re-imagining the low room-height, the raw, exposed materiality, the position in the city that characterizes parking garages as chances to question the heteronormative, comfort and lifestyle-related standards that so much determine housing.

Teaming up with the chair of structural design led by Prof. Dr. Jacqueline Pauli and Bartosz Bukowski, the semester thus combines a critical view on sustainability, standardized measures and material redundancy with a radical approach to building structures.

By shifting the focus from quantitative outcomes to qualitative means, this diploma studio aims to foreground the contingency of the current paradigm in durability, spurring critical thinking about how we might pursue a sustainable future without renouncing radical architectural ideas.

FORMAT AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

In accordance with the Master Thesis guidelines, the semester is jointly led by two chairs and divided in two different parts. While both chairs are involved in the whole process, each is responsible for one part. Phase one of the course, is taught in close collaboration with the Chair of Prof. Dr. Jacqueline Pauli and Bartosz Borawski. Phase two, lasting twelve weeks, is mainly supervised by Prof. François Charbonnet, Prof. Patrick Heiz and Marina Montresor.

The work is to be carried out individually in both phases. Every week the students will meet with the assistants to discuss their progress.

On set dates, there will be intermediate reviews with the professors (one in the preparation phase and three in the elaboration phase).

During the elaboration phase, the students will receive tutorials on drawing, image making and video editing.

PHASE ONE

At the beginning of phase one, each student chooses a parking garage from a list provided by the chair. The first weeks are thus devoted to the conception of a viable design strategy that foregrounds subtraction as its main mean of action. During these weeks, the students are expected to acquire in-depth knowledge of the structural, formal, tectonic, material, technological, and programmatic characteristics of the building they have selected, as well as to explore and identify issues relative to the planning, site, management, maintenance, use patterns.

At the end of phase one, these issues and analysis should be turned in a strategy for the building both from a structural and from a programmatic standpoint. We welcome proposals that pair housing with other programs that may benefit the prospective inhabitants, and we also remain open to broadening the site and scope of intervention to the urban context around the chosen building.



UNIVERSAL MODERNIZATION PATENT [14]

“STRATEGY OF THE VOID II” (BUILDING) (1989)

Patent Number 6,345, 780

(21) Patent for “Strategy of the Void II” (building)

(29) METHOD FOR DEFINING A BUILDING THROUGH MANIPULATING ABSENCES OF BUILDING

(36) Inventor(s): Rem Koolhaas, Art Zaaijer, Xaveer de Geyter, Georges Heintz, Heike Lohmann, Ron Steiner, Alex Wall

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(42) Initial Application:
Très Grande Bibliothèque Paris, FRANCE

(54) Filed:.....1989

(71) ABSTRACT

Instead of laboriously creating difference and importance in a building that consists of repetitive accommodation and public space, the most communal spaces can be created more easily. Because it is harder to construct than to take away, the most important spaces can be created by elimination (21-24) rather than addition - by scooping out forms from a solid block, like ice-cream.

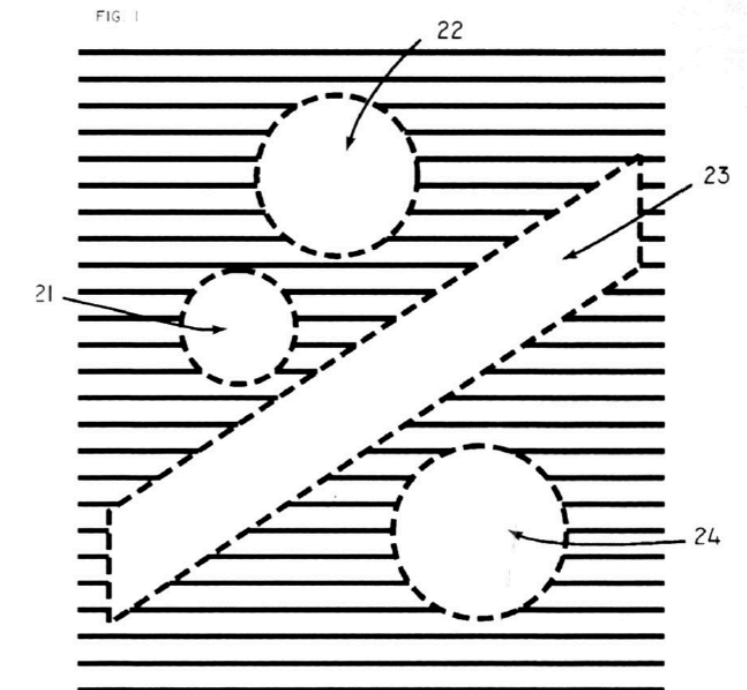
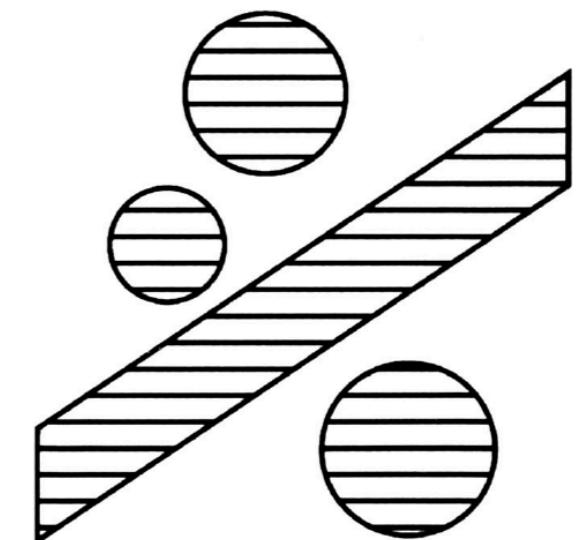


FIG. 2



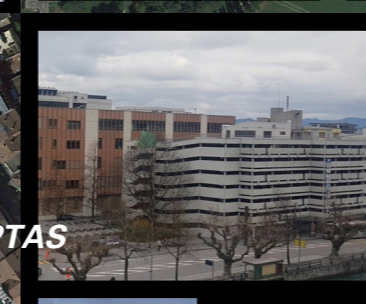
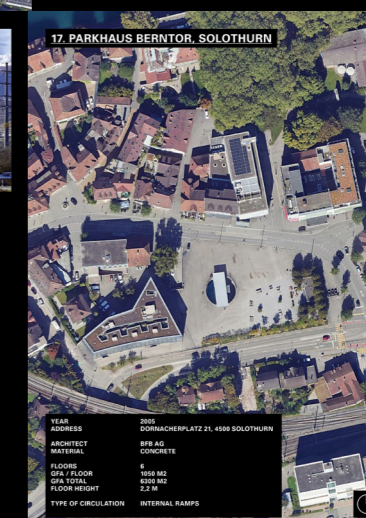
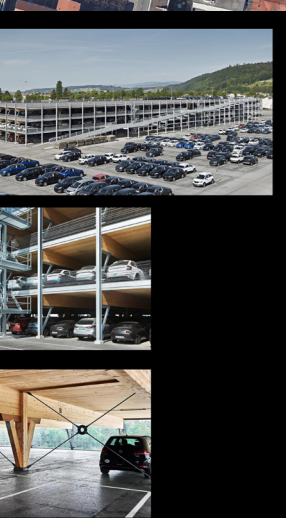
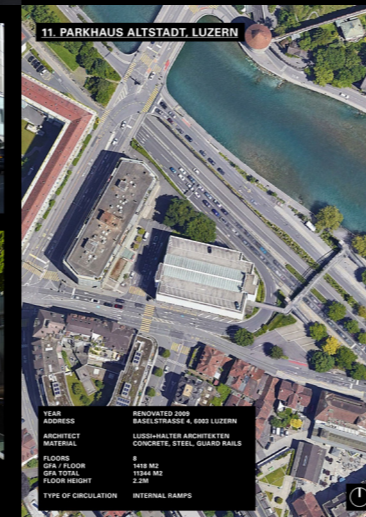
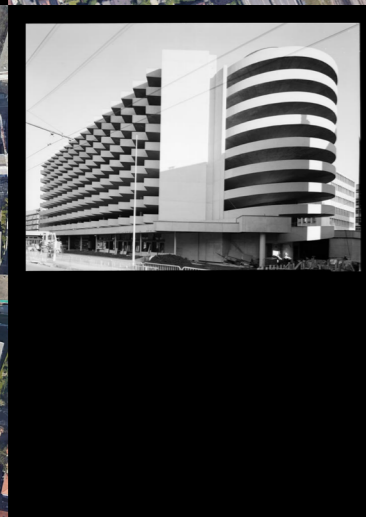
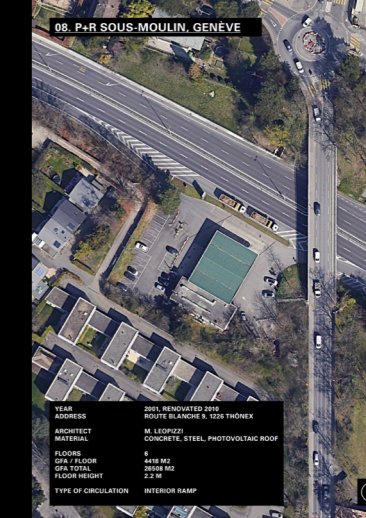
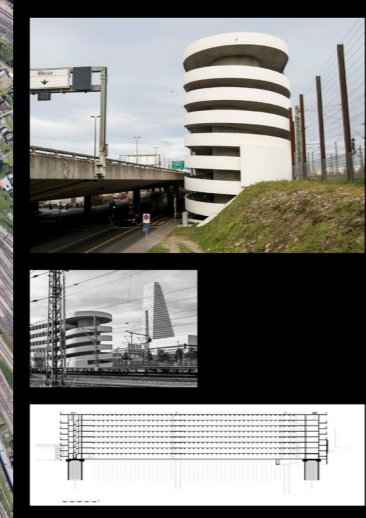
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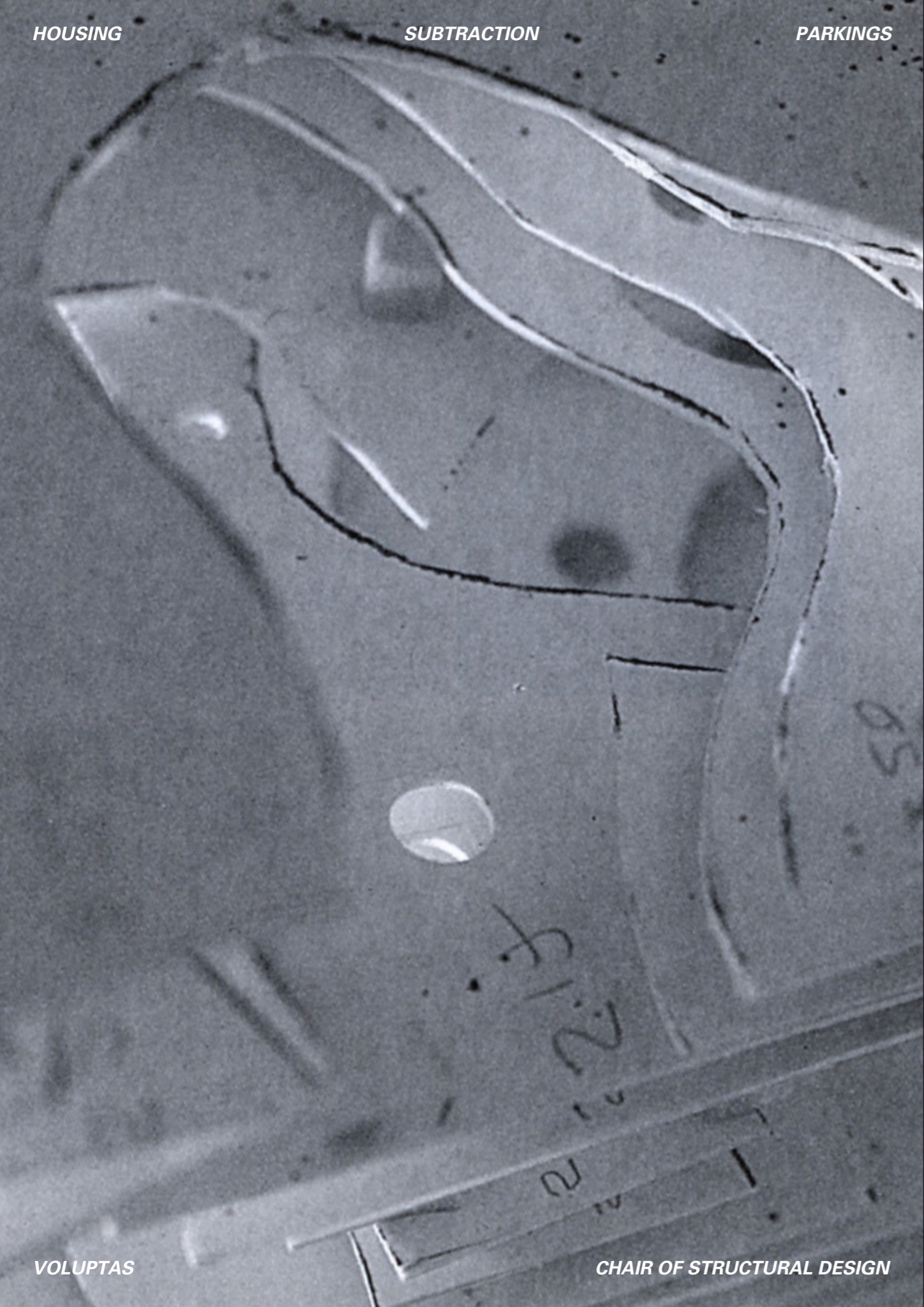


PHASE TWO

Following the first analytical phase, each student should design and update the issue identified in the preparation phase. This update can differ in approach and method (this may be alterations of scale, of use, of program, of occupancy rate, building technique, densification, new legislations and so on). Every aspect and criteria need to be argued for and should be coherently developed starting from the conceptual premises.

Each student is expected to represent the project through appropriate architectural means, testing different tools and techniques. Cross-disciplinary sources and methods are encouraged as well as an experimental attitude questioning conventional media.





RATIO OF GRADING

Preparation Phase

Percentage designer(s): 20%

Percentage theory: 80%

Elaboration phase:

Percentage designer(s): 80%

Percentage theory: 20%

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