
Subject: Printing a surface made up of thin faces
Posted by [evouga](#) on Fri, 05 Oct 2012 03:52:06 GMT
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I recently published a paper on designing surfaces that are stable under gravity:
www.cs.columbia.edu/cg/pdfs/188-selfsupporting.pdf

I would now like to take an example of a surface designed on the computer, and realize it in real life. In particular, I would like to print the surface on the right of Figure 1.

To do this I would need to print two parts:

- a) A single (hollow) volume, representing the space between the surface in Figure 1 and the floor. This piece will be used as a scaffolding for constructing the surface.
- b) All of the faces of the surface. As you can see, there are about 100 pieces. I will then assemble the pieces into the structure shown in Figure 1.

Can this be done using shapeways? Can I upload the pieces as a single .obj file containing disconnected volumes? Is there a way of easily labeling each piece (to ease putting the surface together afterwards)?
