

# FLOATING CLASSROOM THE PHILIPPINES

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P5 Presentation

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Building Technology



typhoons



floods















# Finch Floating Home

Offers typhoon resilient housing

Used as case study floating design

Finch  
Floating  
Homes

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# Impact of floods on schools



absence of students due to flooded routes to school



damage to the schoolbuilding and learning materials



suspension and disruption of classes



bad concentration of the students  
poor learning environments



flooded schoolyards and playgrounds







# Main objective

*"Design a classroom that offers students living in a typhoon and flood sensitive area in South-East Asia a safe learning environment"*

# Design criteria

- *Provide the classroom with a floating foundation*
- *The design must be able to withstand high wind speeds*
- *Prefabricated construction made from local materials*
- *The indoor comfort must facilitate the learning conditions*
- *Create a child friendly classroom in which the students feel safe and comfortable*

# Main research question

*"How to design a classroom that offers students living in a typhoon and flood sensitive area in South-East Asia a safe learning environment"*

# Research questions



Location

*What are the local climate characteristics ?*

*Is the location suitable for a floating classroom?*



Schools

*How are they currently designing schools and how do existing schools deal with typhoons and floods?*

*How can we make a classroom more child friendly?*



Materials

*Which materials are locally available?*

*What are the challenges associated with the local materials and what solutions are there?*



Indoor comfort

*How can a classroom be indoor comfortable and which parameters need to be taken into account?*

*What measures do they apply locally in classrooms to ensure a good indoor comfort?*



Typhoon resilient

*How can a school be typhoon resilient and what parameters need to be taken into account?*

# Location



What are the local climate characteristics ?

Macabebe, Pampanga

Average temperature between 21 and 32 degrees

Two major seasons, rainy season and dry season

The pampanga river basin experiences at least one flood event a year

Ground subsidence of an average of 5 cm/year



Satellite view of the Macabebe (source: Google Earth)

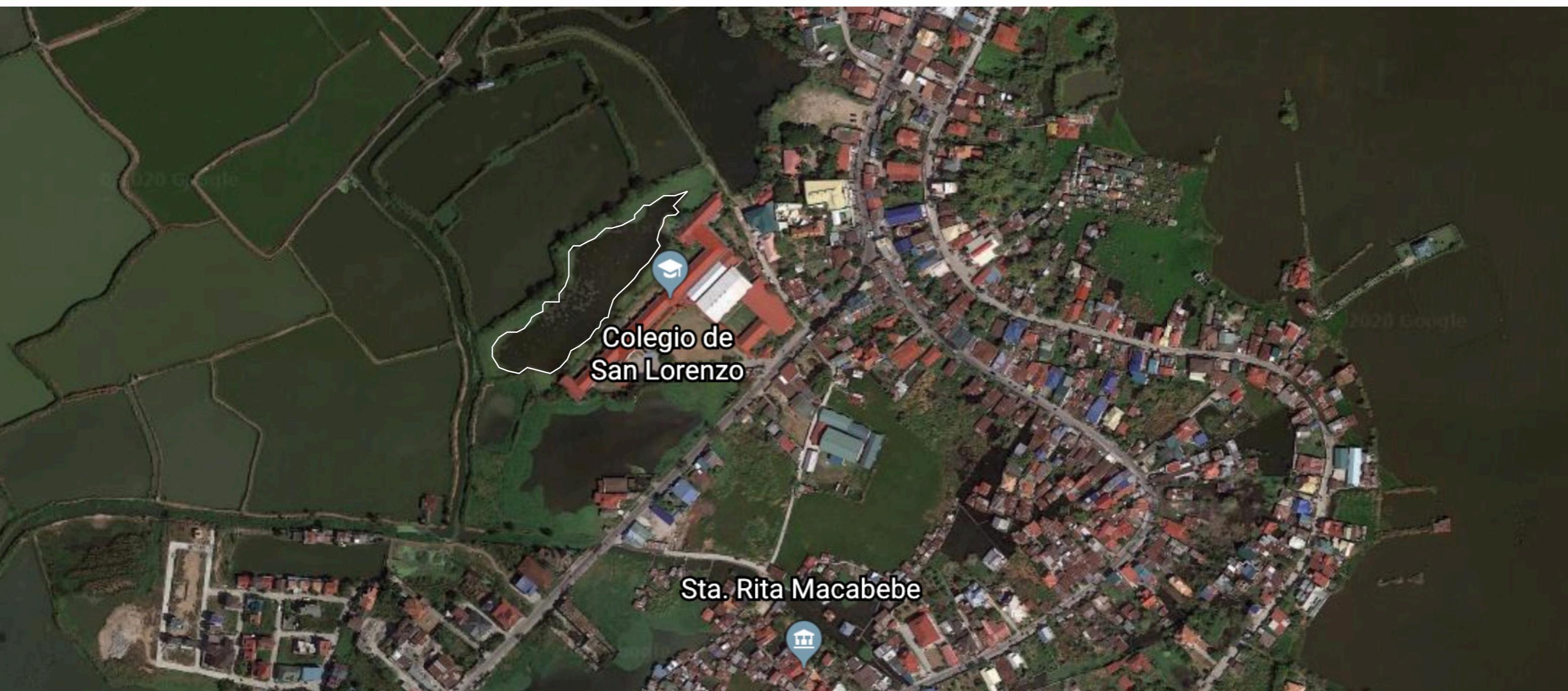


# Colegio de San Lorenzo

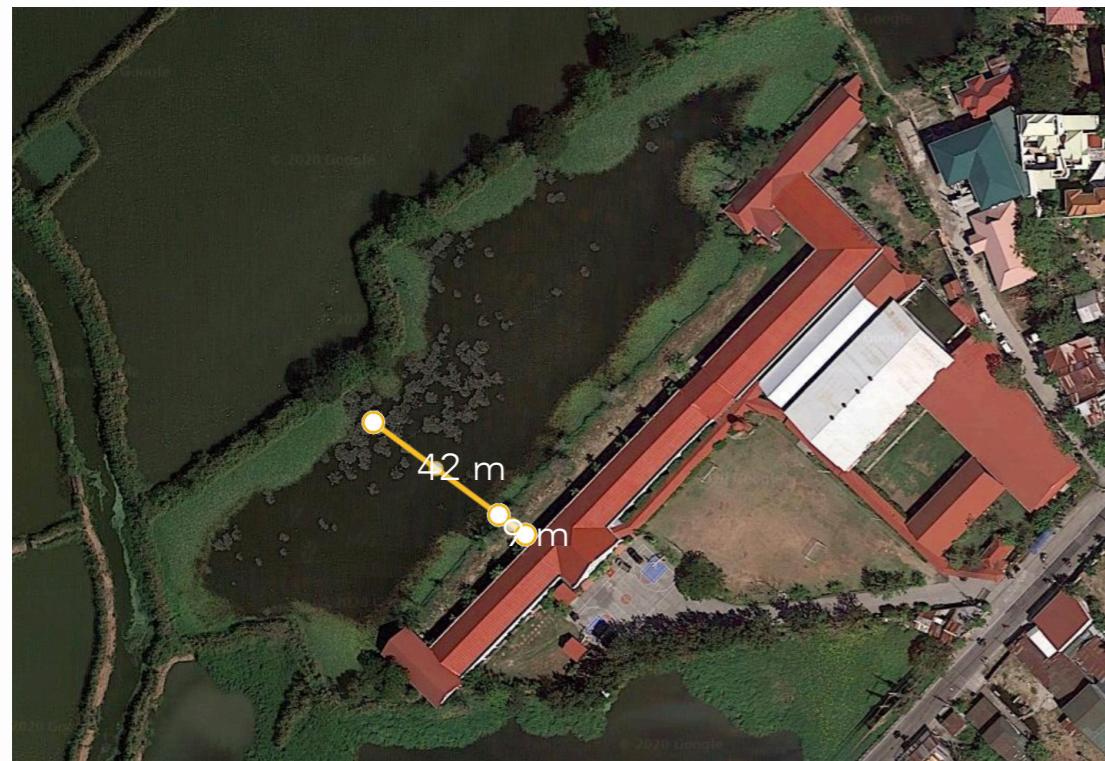
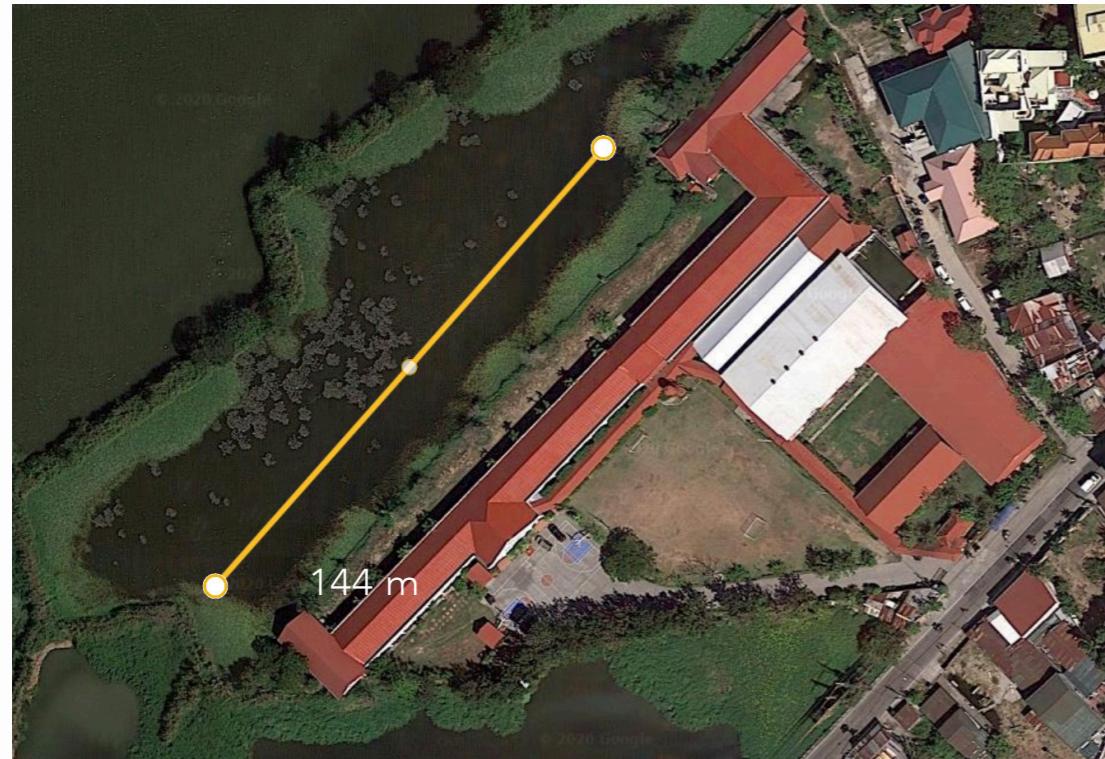
Request for 6 floating classrooms

40 students per classroom

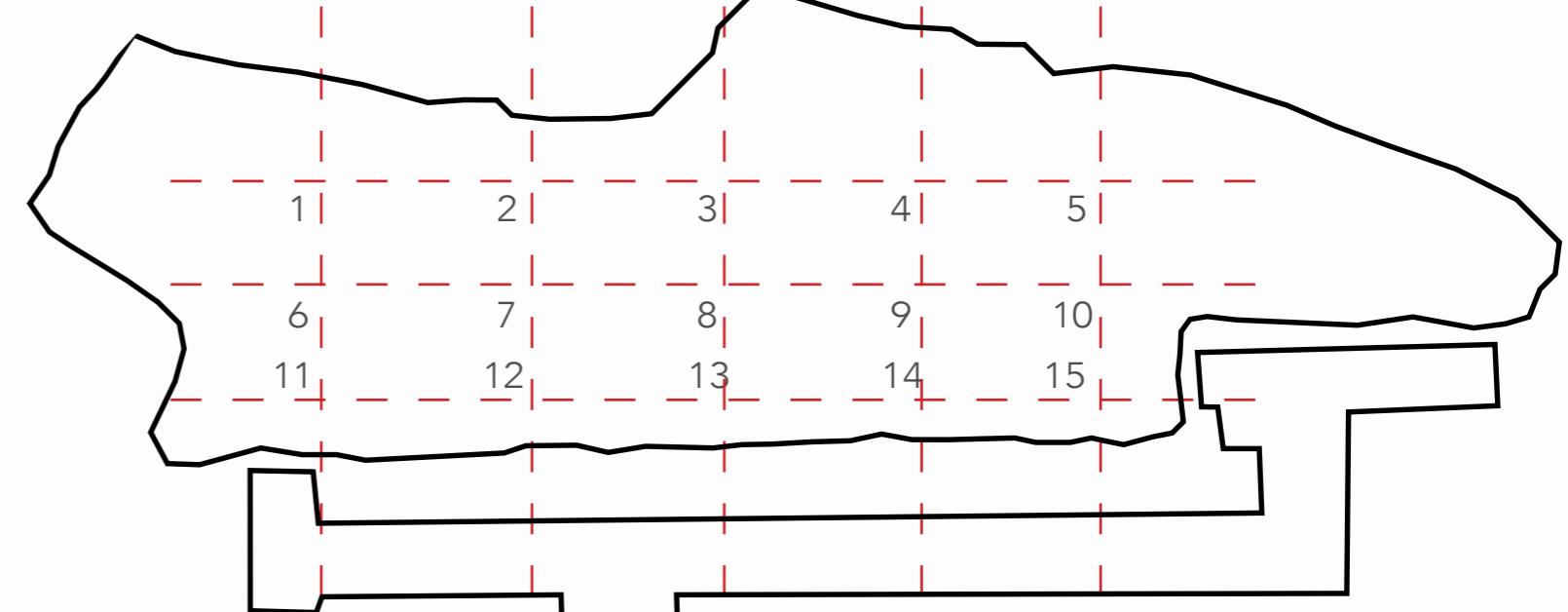






Is the location suitable for a floating classroom?

Shallowest point in the dry season: 1,45 meter  
Size pond: 144 x 42 meters



1	1.7 m	2	1.9 m	3	1.55 m	4	1.9 m	5	1.9 m
6	1.9 m	7	2.05 m	8	1.65 m	9	2.2 m	10	2.2 m
11	1.75 m	12	1.75 m	13	1.8 m	14	1.8 m	15	1.45 m

# Schools



How are they currently designing new school buildings ?

School design set up by DepEd

Long rectangular floorplans

Fixed colour scheme

Withstand windspeeds of 250 km/h and major earthquakes

Ground floors raised with 1 meter, against floods







# Schools



How do the existing schools deal with typhoons and floods?

Combined classes



## Raising the walkways and toilets



## Raising the classroom floors



## Planting of vegetation



Creating awareness on how to act during a natural disaster

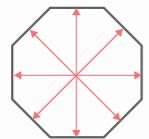


# Schools



How can we make classrooms more child friendly ?

Based on the guidelines of Unicef



Flexible spaces - increase participation and create a more dynamic environment



Transparency of the building - activities inside the building are visible from outside



Open spaces - contact with the environment and space for physical activities



Protective - Enclosure and boundaries against the outside elements

# Typhoon resilient



How can a school be typhoon resilient and what parameters need to be taken into account?



withstand high windspeeds

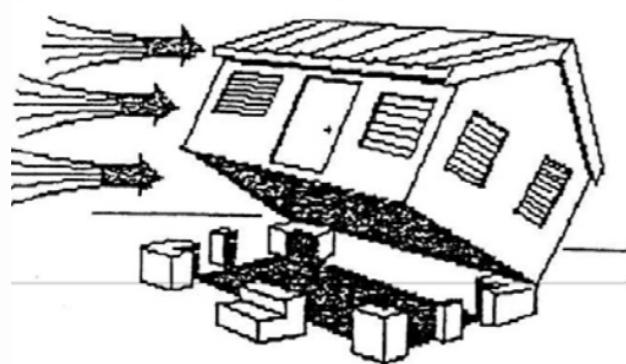


remains floating

# Typhoon resilient



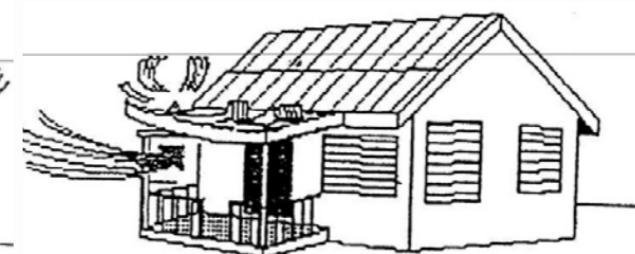
Problems due to high wind speeds



house uplifting

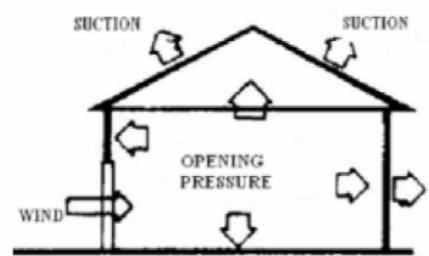


roof uplifting

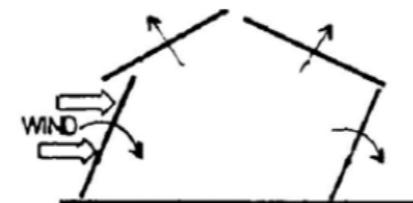


porch uplifting

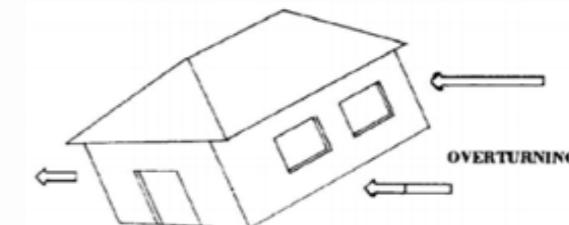
## Failure models



openings in facade



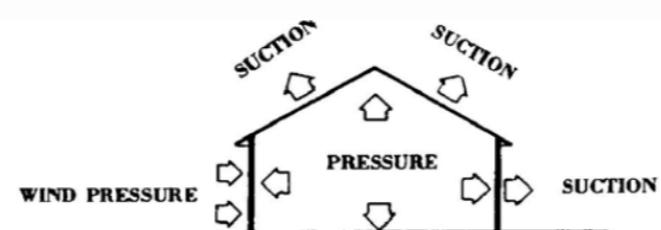
wall leaning over



overturning

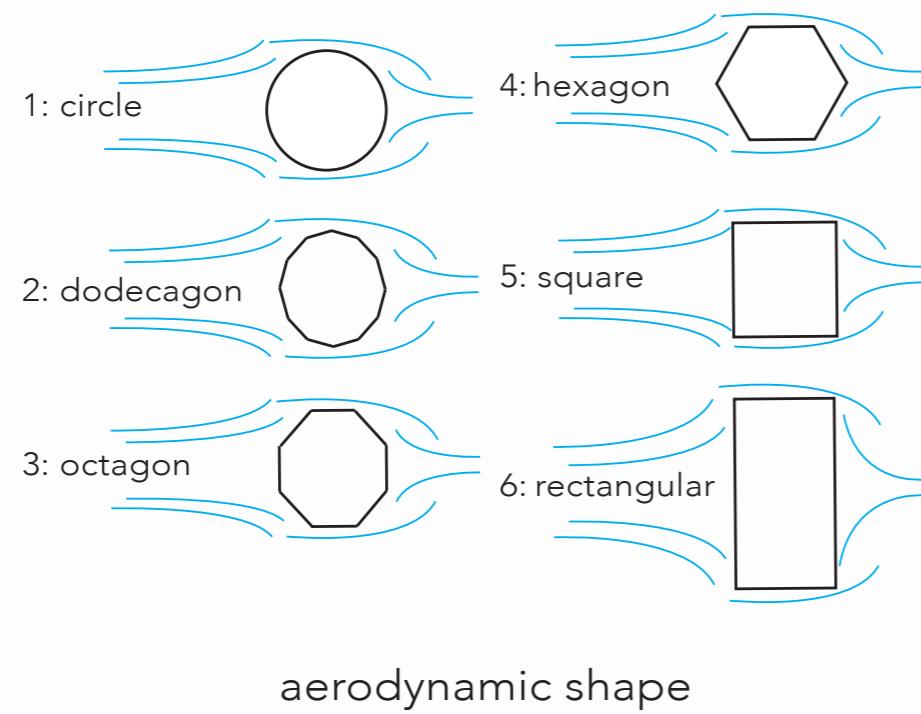


windward side collapse



pressure difference failure

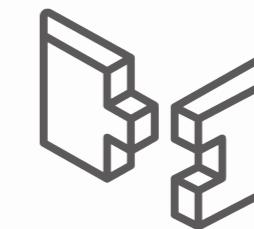
## Design strategies for the building



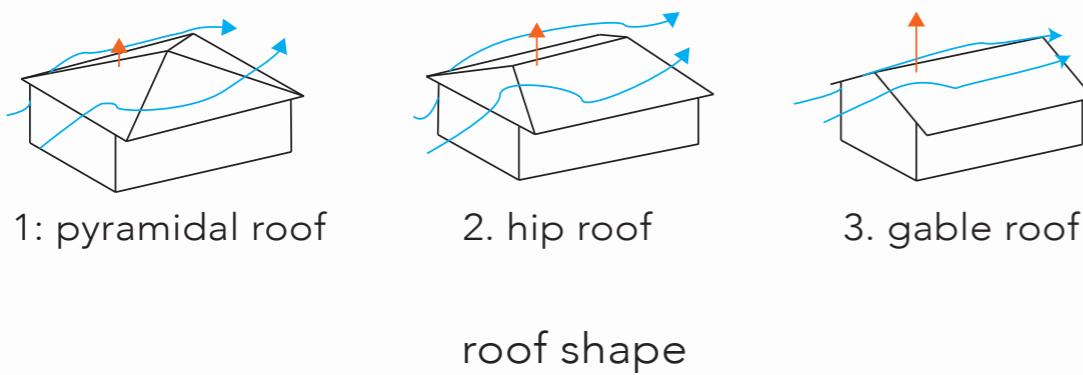
aerodynamic shape



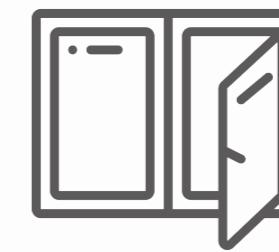
spatial planning



prefabricated parts with simple connections



roof shape



closeable openings

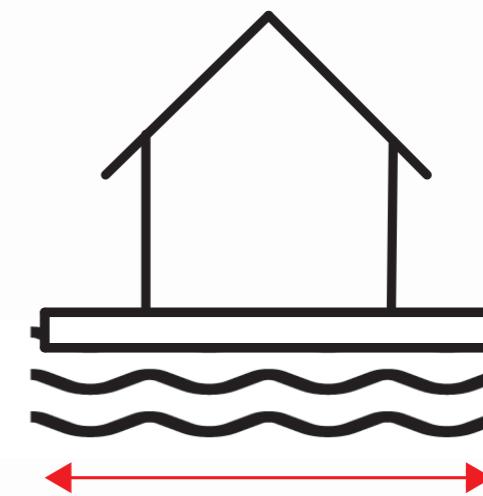
## Design strategies for the floating foundation



lightweight structure



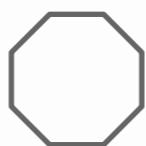
low center of gravity



increased width

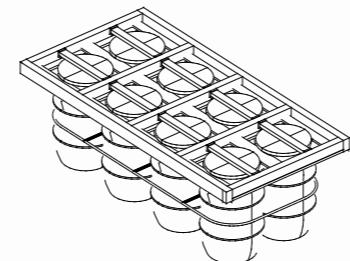
# Design choices

shape

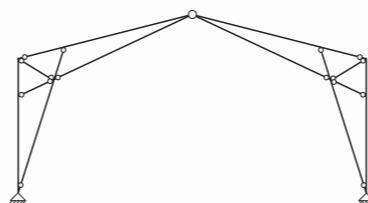


materials

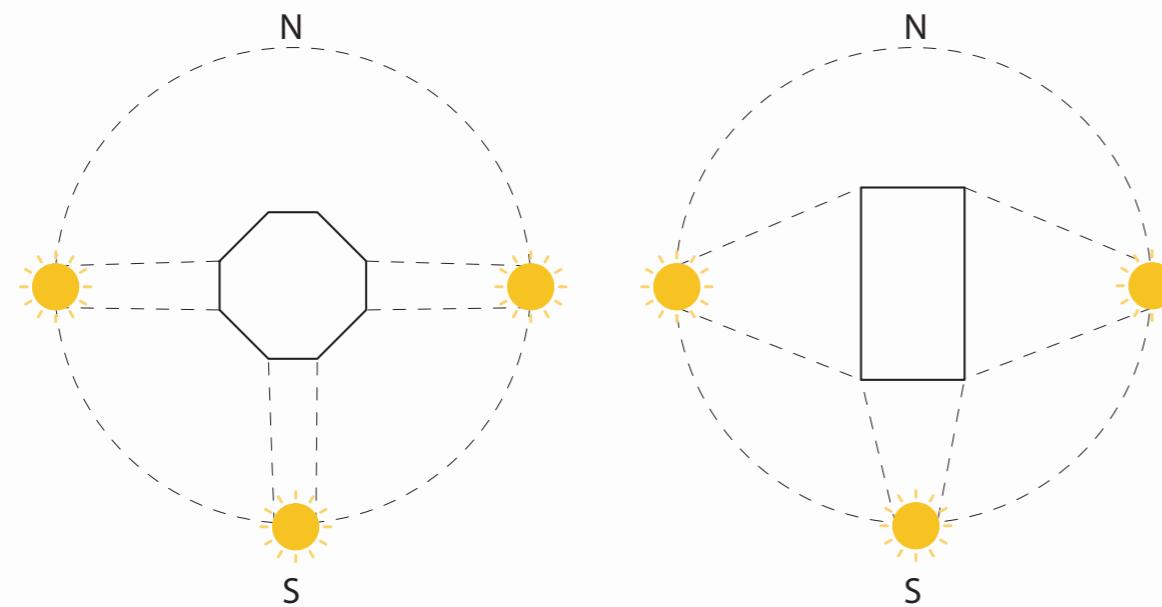
floating modules



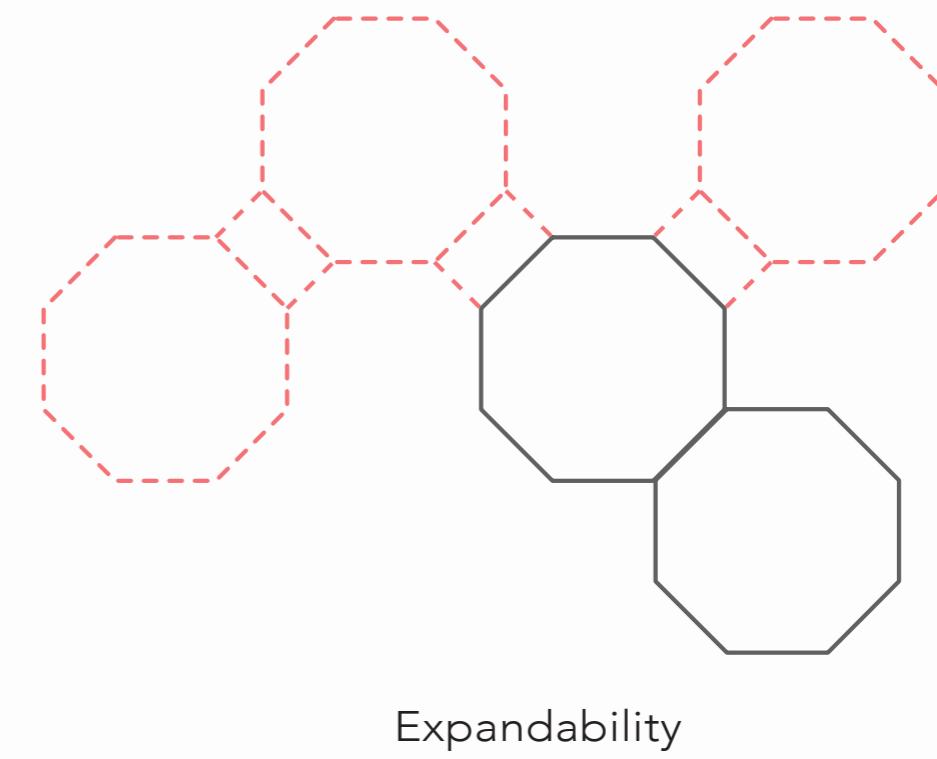
upperstructure



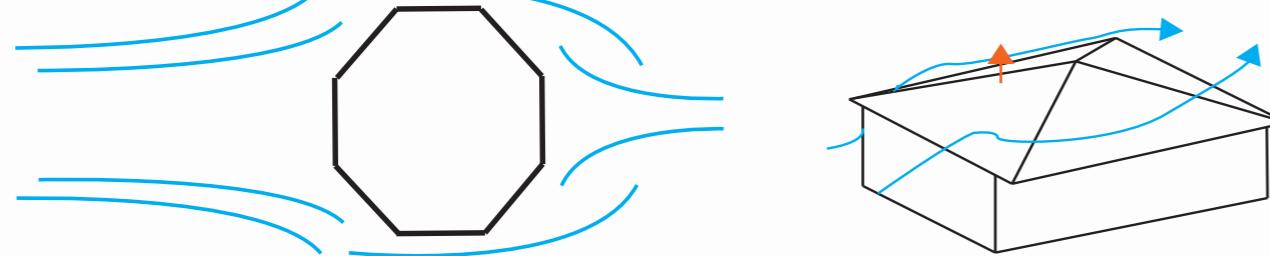
# Design | Octagonal shape



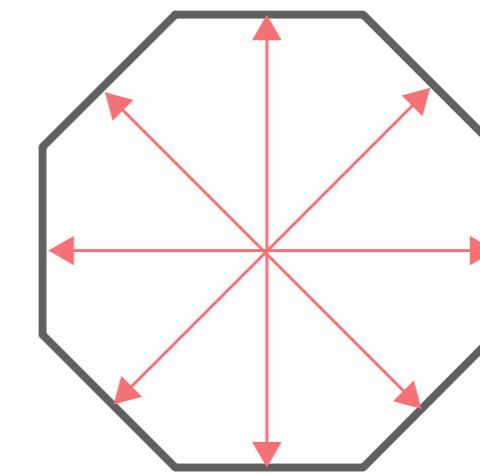
Flexibility in orientation



Expandability



Aerodynamic shape



Same width in all directions

# Design | Material

Construction: Wood

Light weight material

Sustainable

Easy workable and the local carpenters are familiar with the material

3 local suppliers visited

Local mostly available Yellow Meranti



Foundation: Recycled drums

200 litre drums

Easy to work with



# Design | floating foundation

## Design input



Prefabricated floating modules



Easy connections

## Design criteria

Reducing the weight

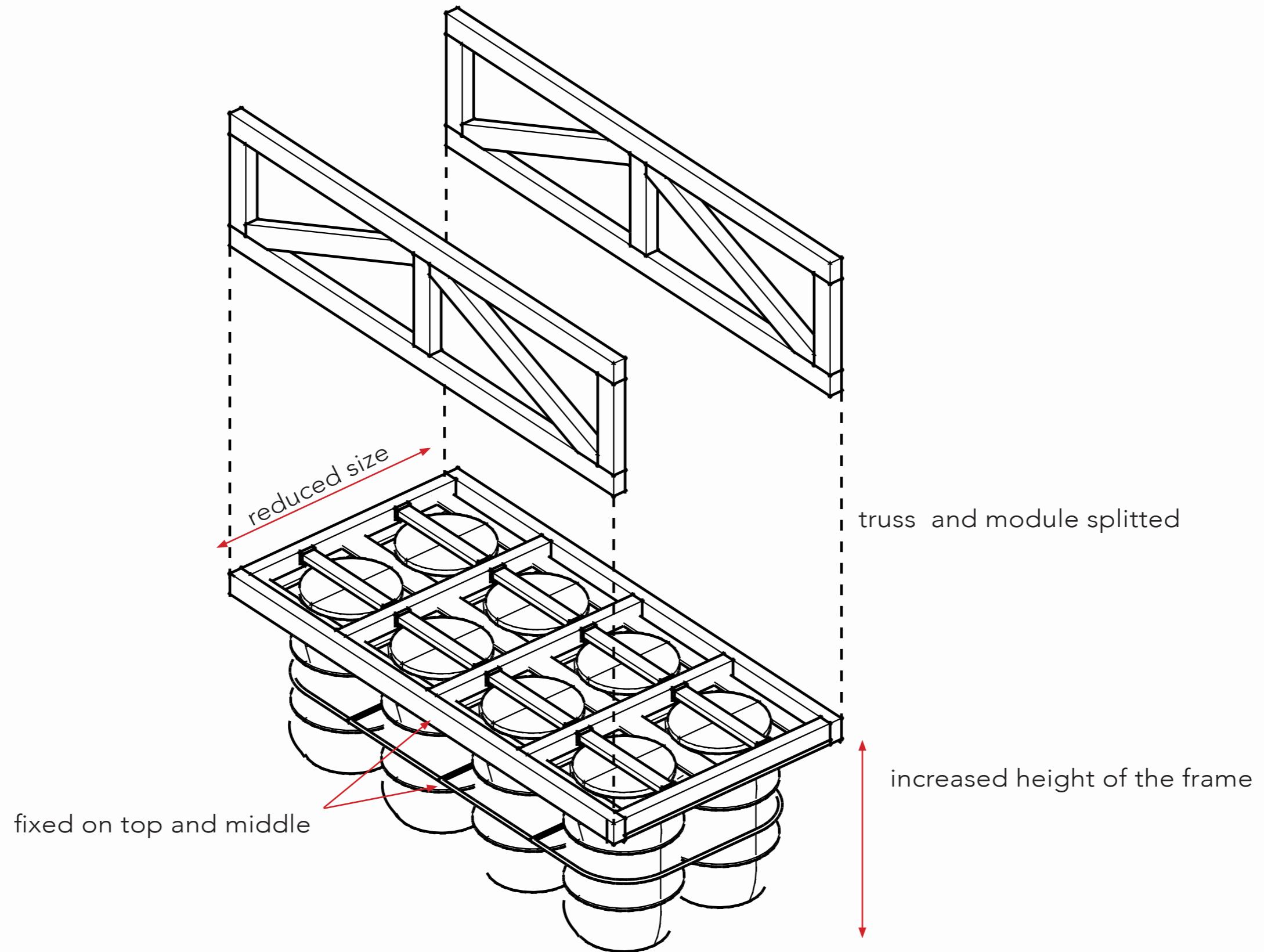
Increasing the height between the bottom of the barrel and the wooden frame.

Avoid over-dimensioning of the trusses.

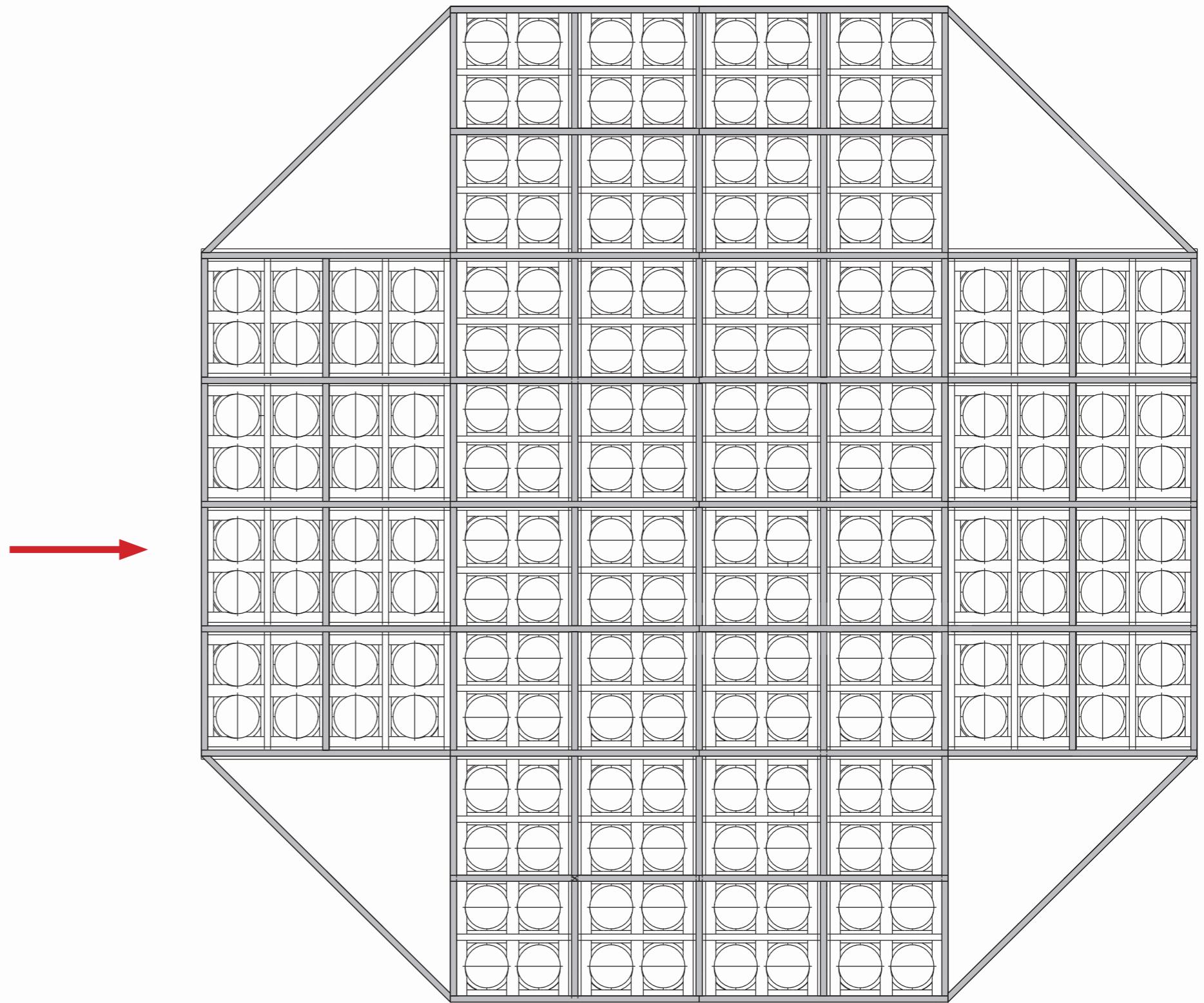
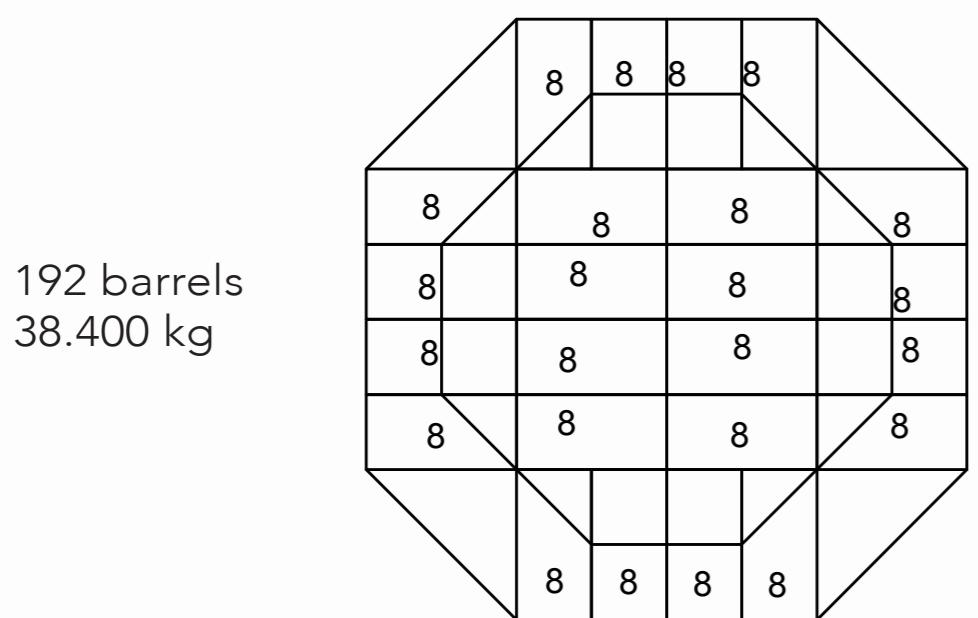
Prevent the movement of the barrels.



## New design

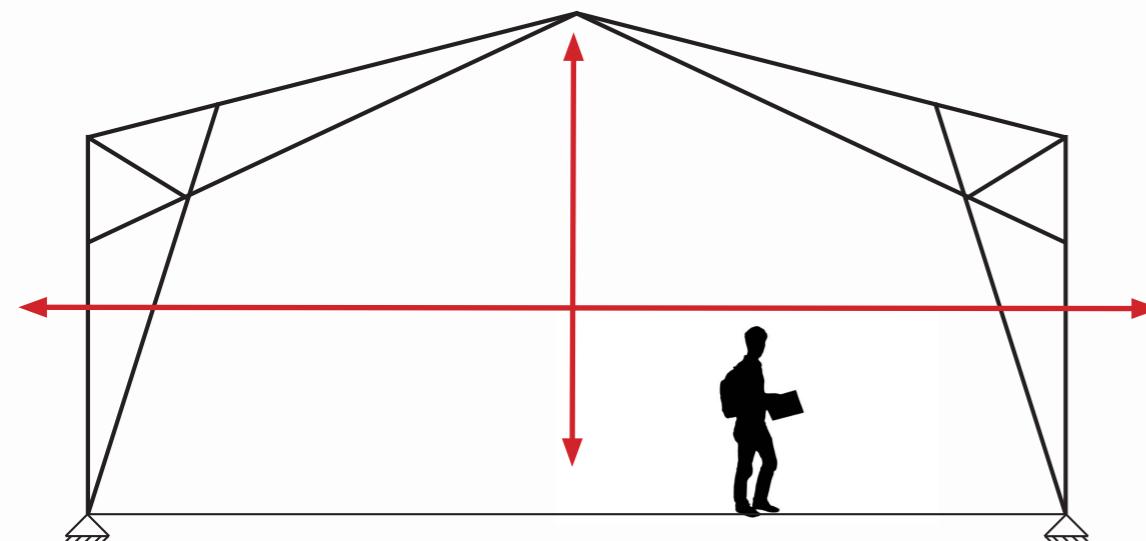


## Floating modules in the shape

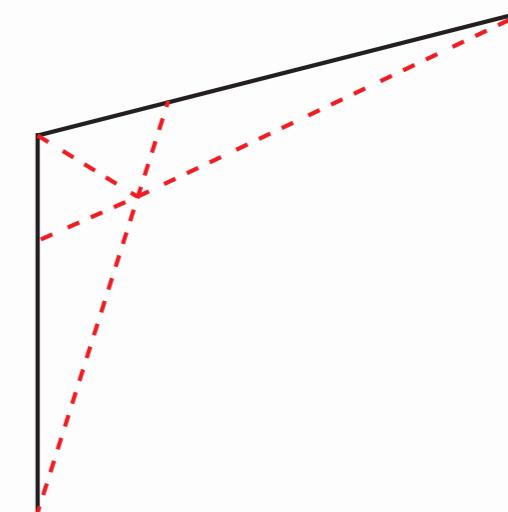


# Design | upperstructure

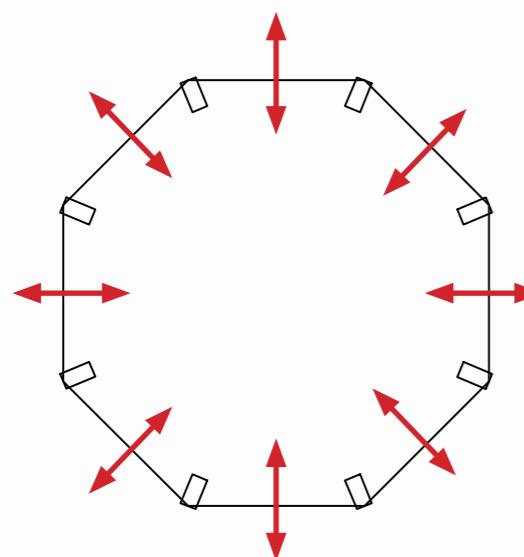
Design criteria



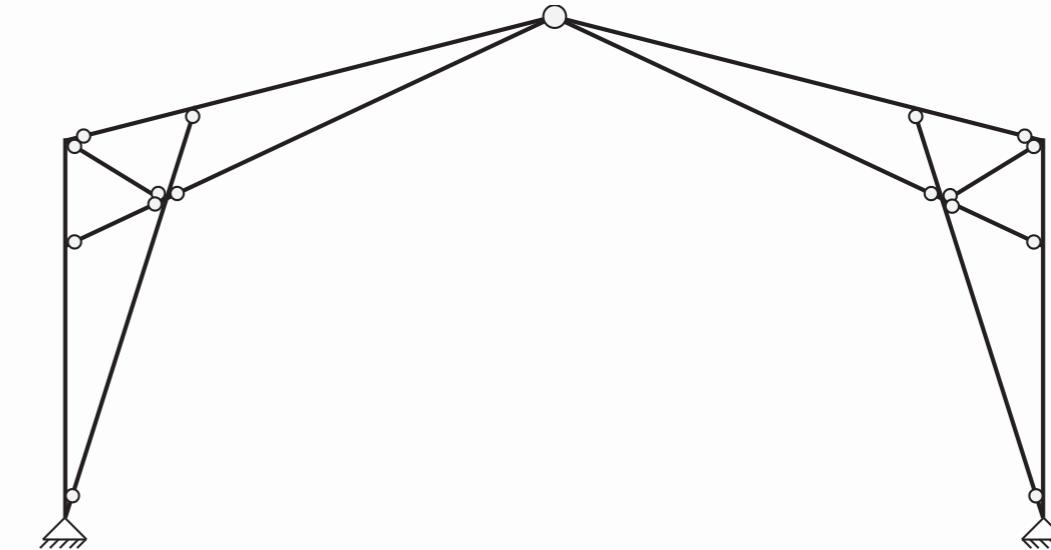
transparency in- and outside the classroom



strengthening the corners by triangular elements

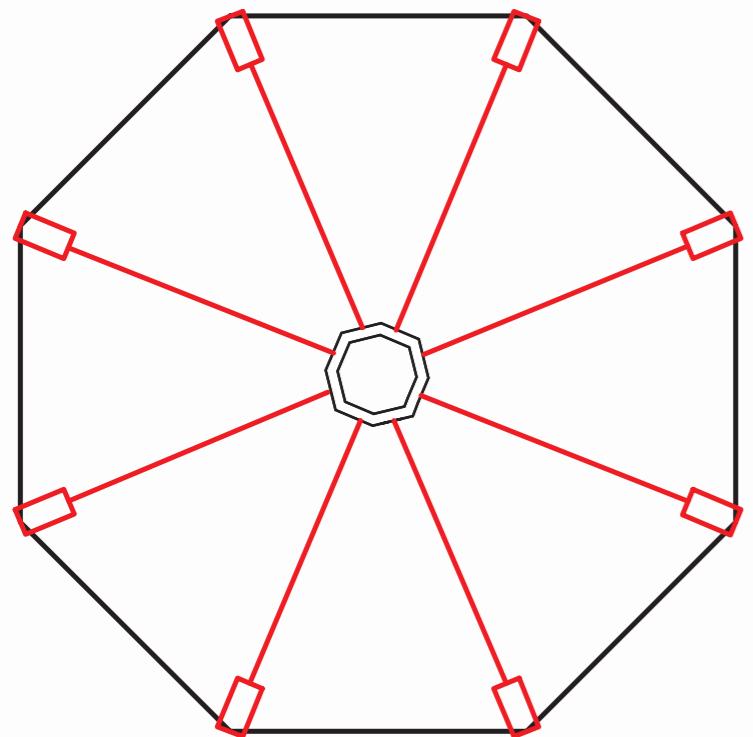


flexibility in layout of the facades

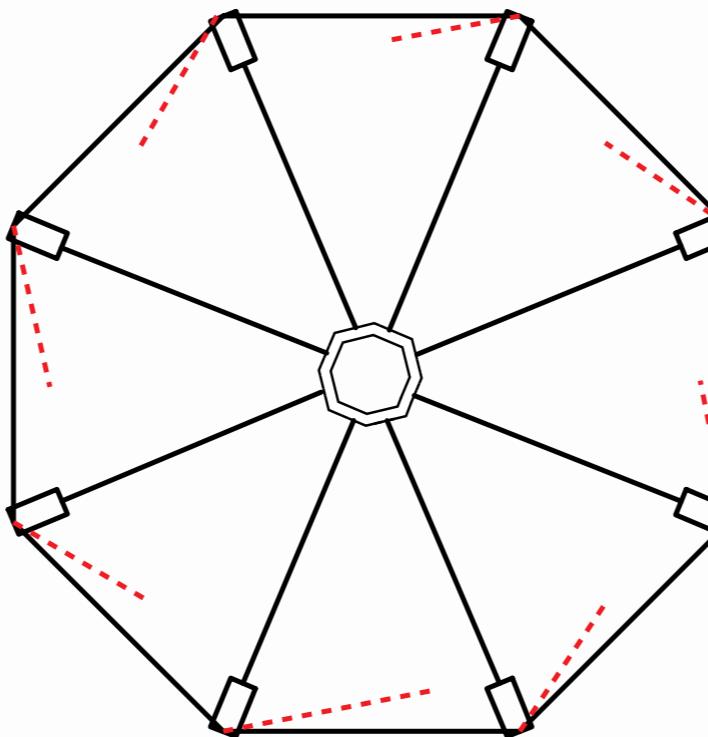


easy hinged connections

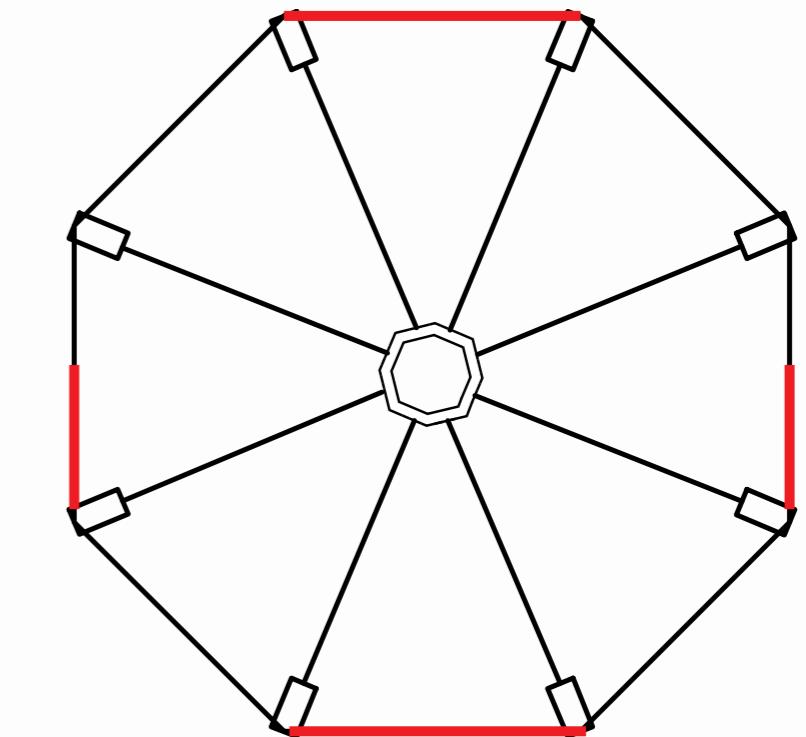
# Design | stability



Placement of the frames

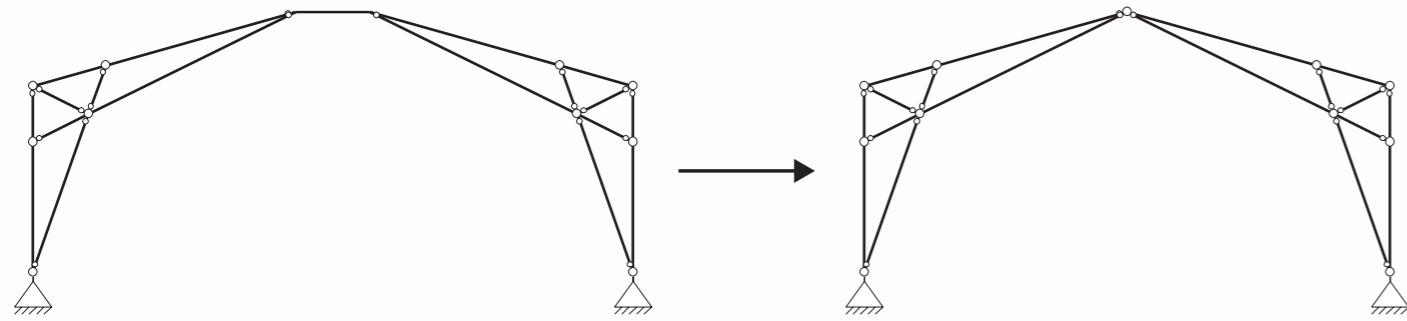


To prevent rotation and falling

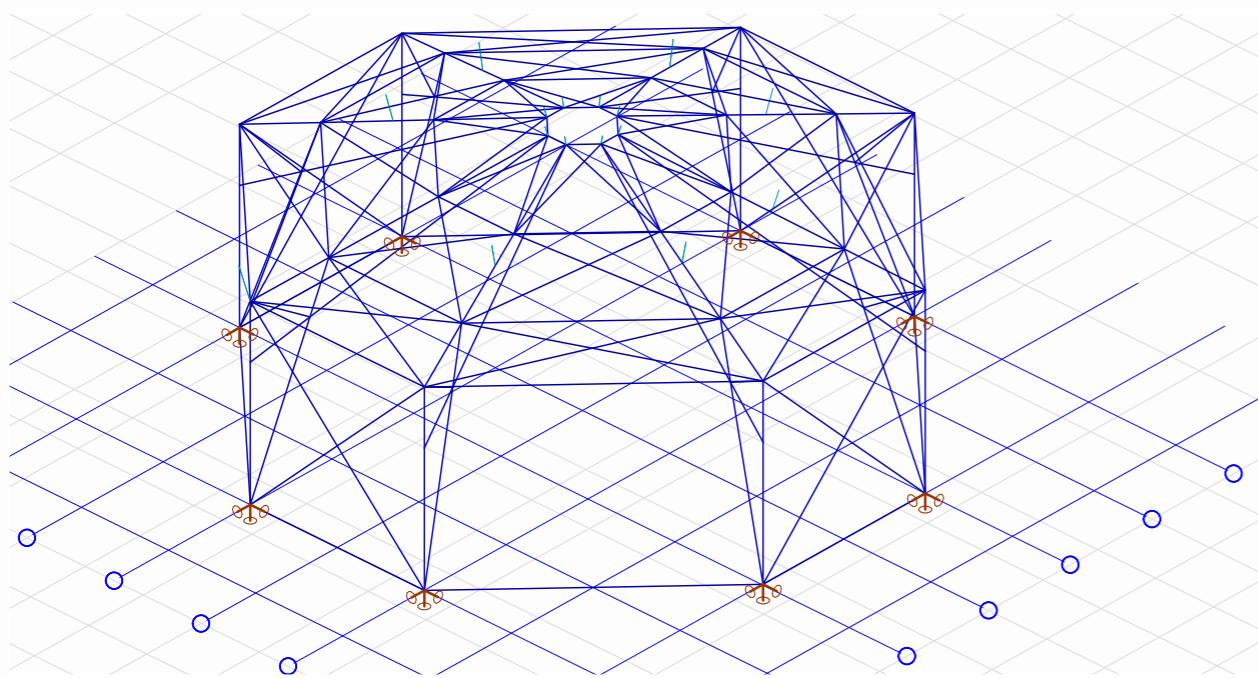


Stabilization walls

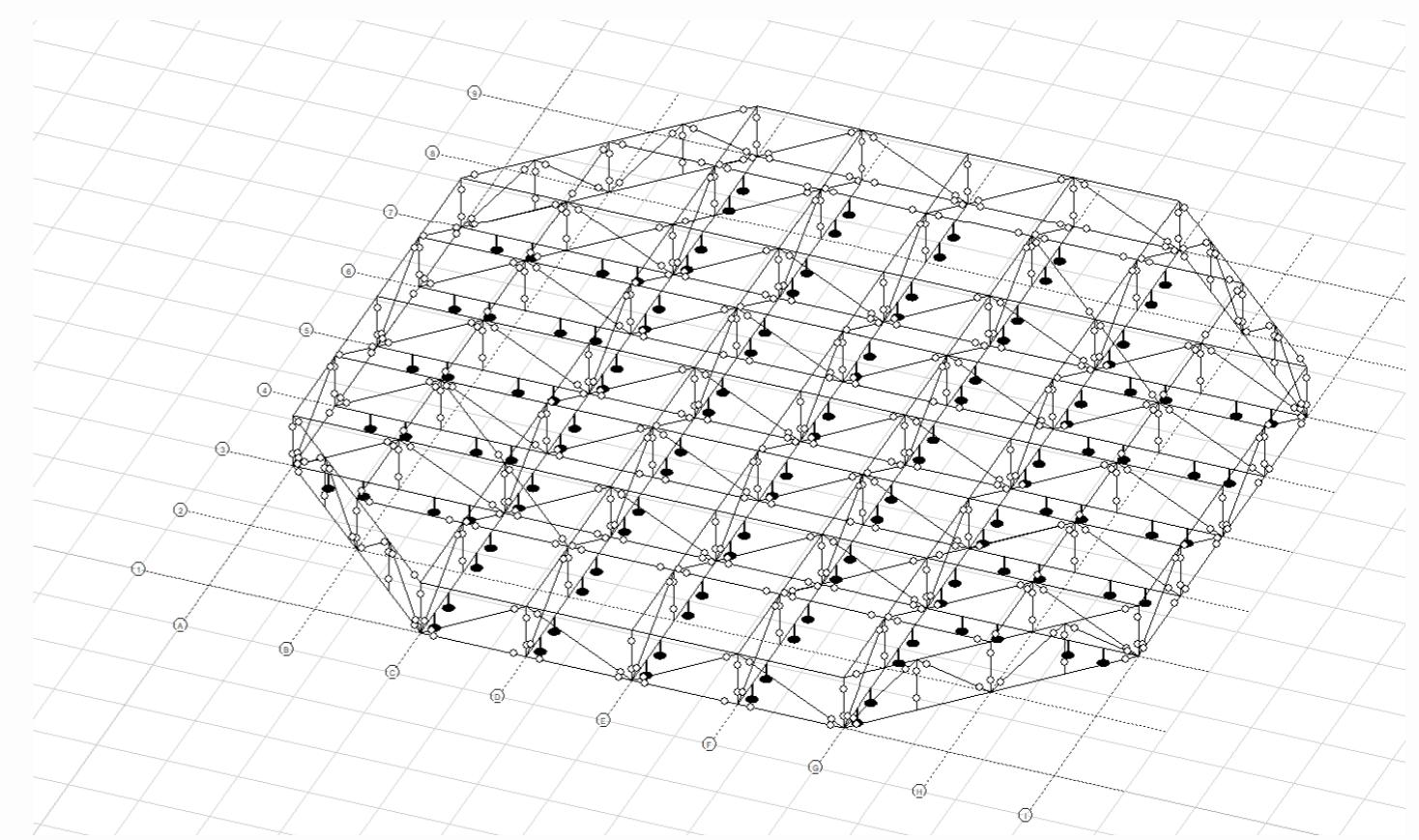
# Structural analysis | structural model



2D model setup in Technosoft - strength control



3D model setup in AxisVm - displacement control



3D model setup in AxisVm - control on strength, sinking and tilting

# Structural analysis | load assumptions

Dead load: own weight of the structure

Classroom floor	0,5 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	= 50 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Roofing	0,55 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	= 55 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Pathway	0,5 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	= 50 kg/m <sup>2</sup>

Live load: for example the load of the students

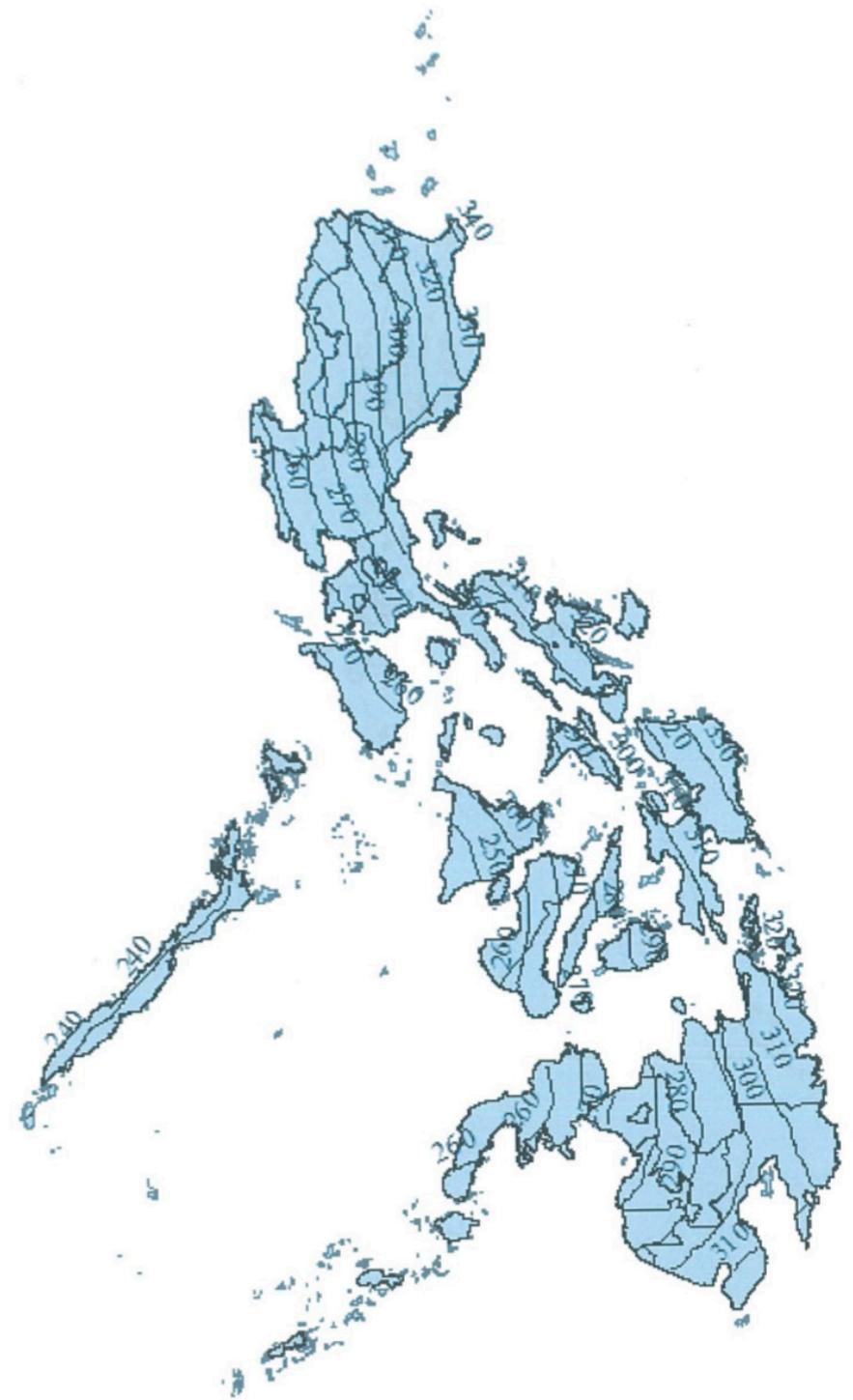
Classroom	1,9 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	= 190 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Roofing	1,0 kN/m <sup>2</sup>	= 100 kg/m <sup>2</sup>

Wind load:

Occupancy category 1 (National Structural Code Philippines)

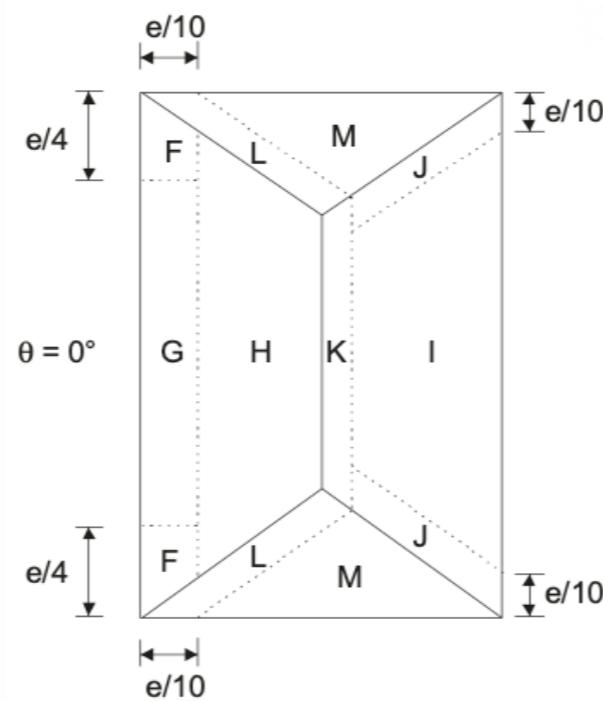
Gust wind speed	260 km/h
Design wind speed	174 km/h
Peak pressure	3,32 kN/m <sup>2</sup>

Falls in the category of **typhoons 118-220 km/h**

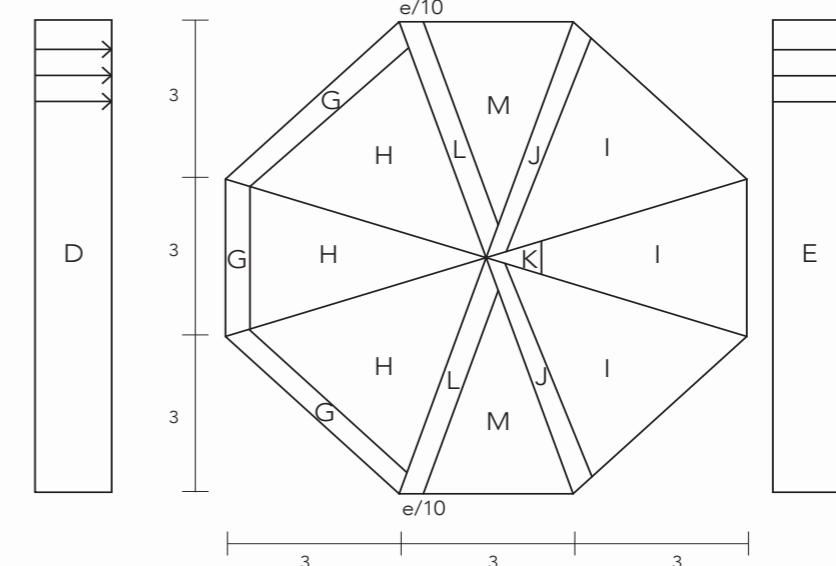


# Structural analysis | wind zones

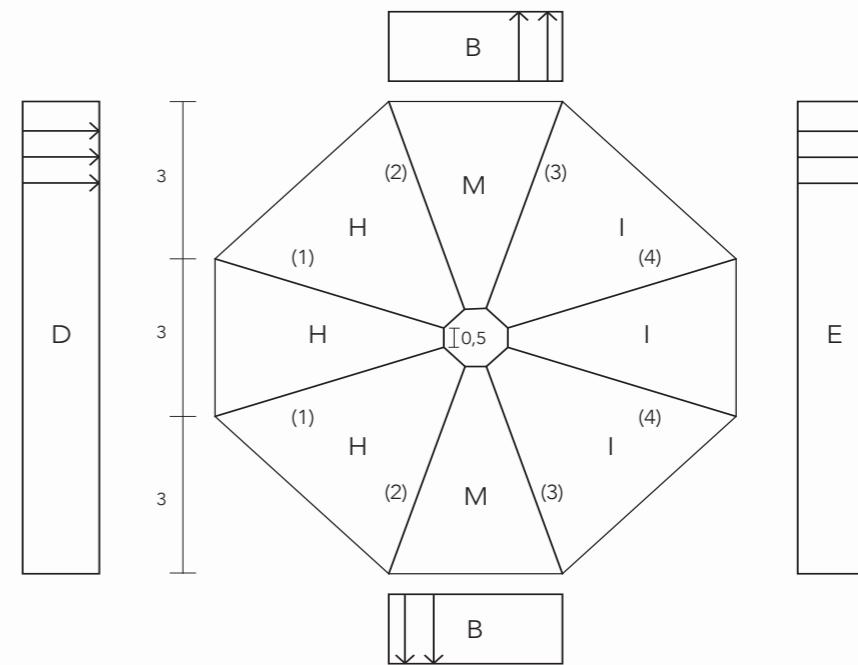
- Windzones based on the Eurocode
- Simplification made based on rectangular windzones



Windzones rectangular shapes  
Eurocode

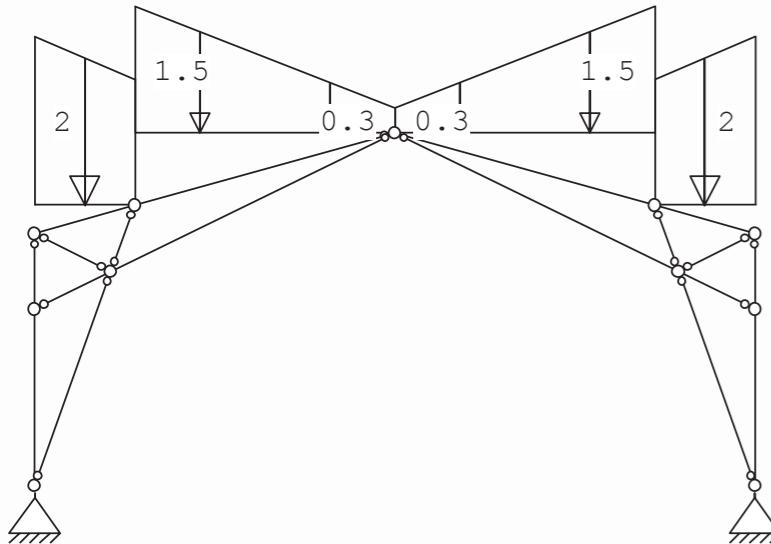


Windzones set up for 2D model

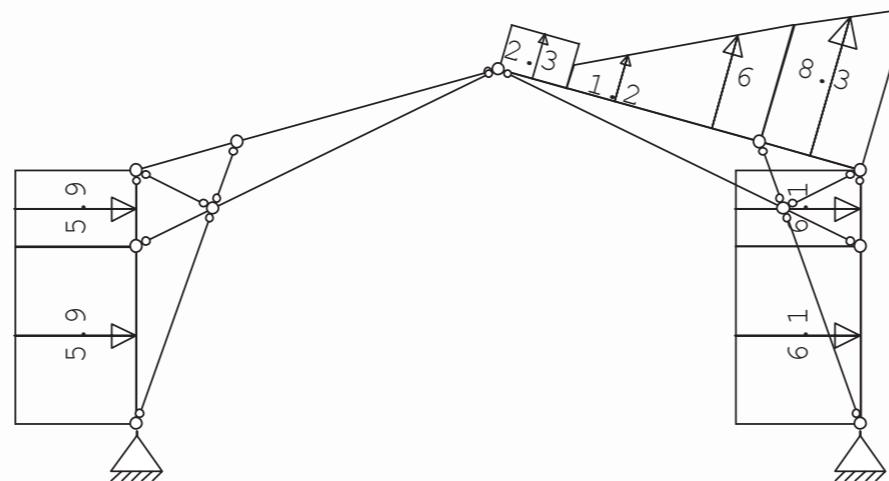


Windzones set up for 3D model

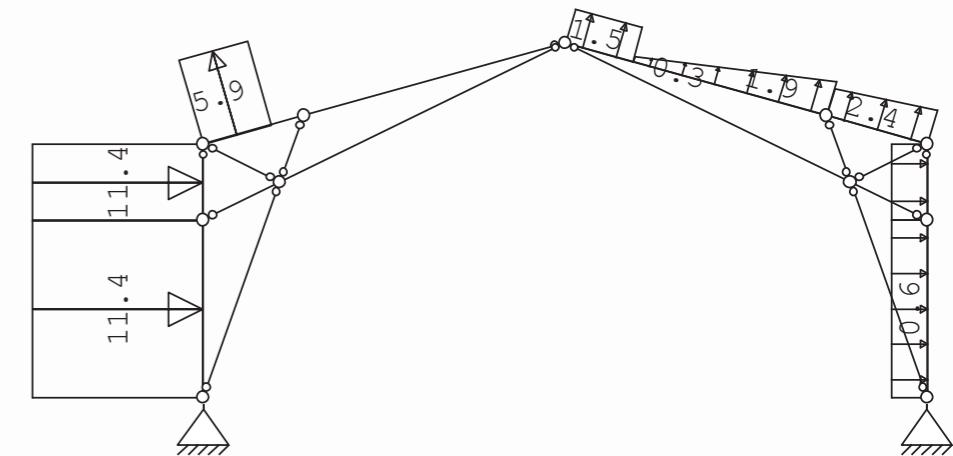
# Structural analysis | load cases



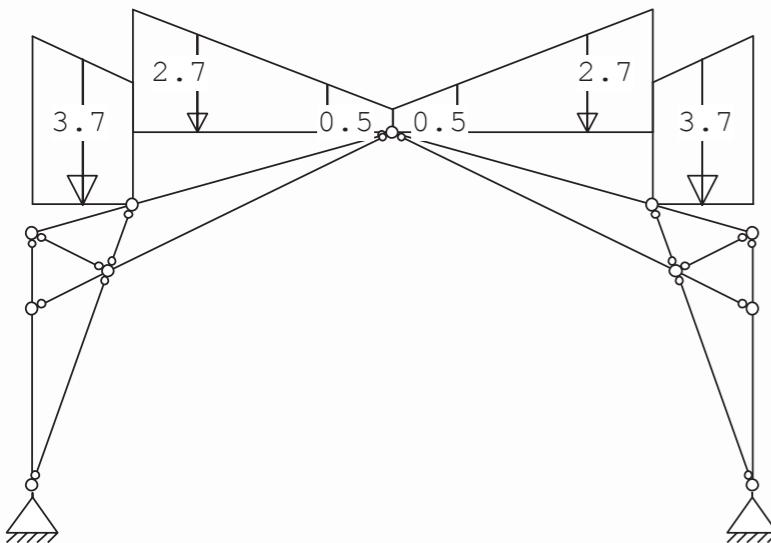
Dead load - roof



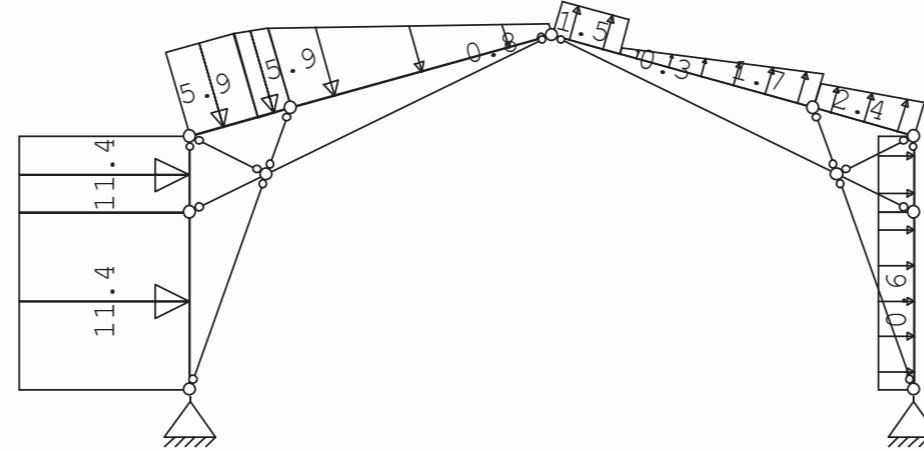
Lived load - Wind 1



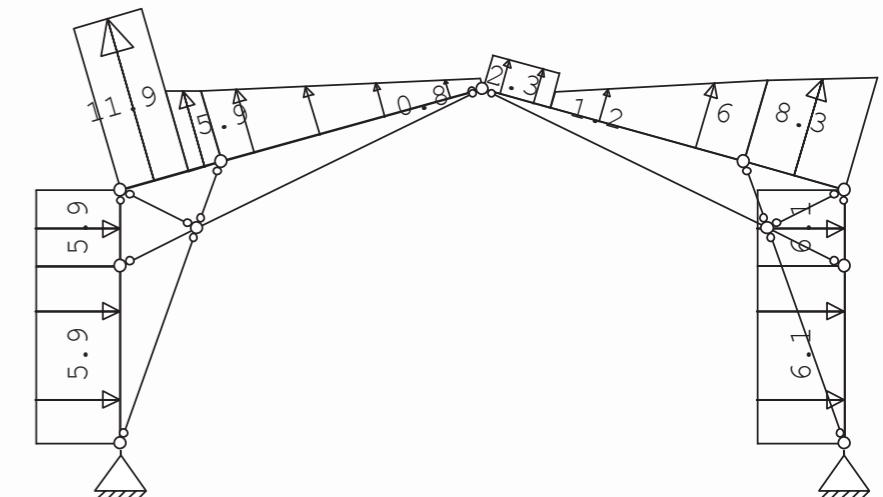
Lived load - Wind 3



Lived load - roof



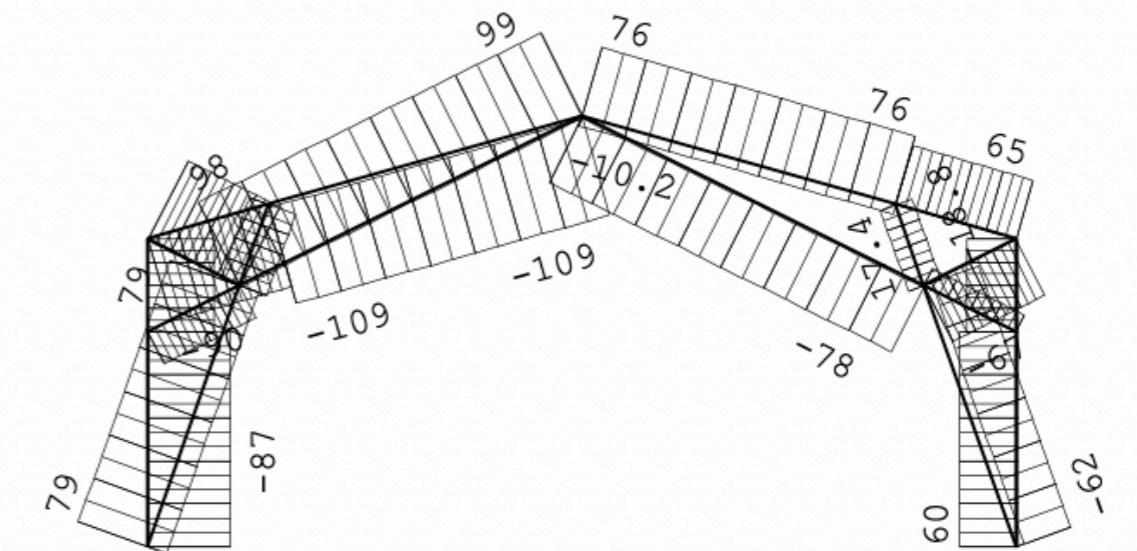
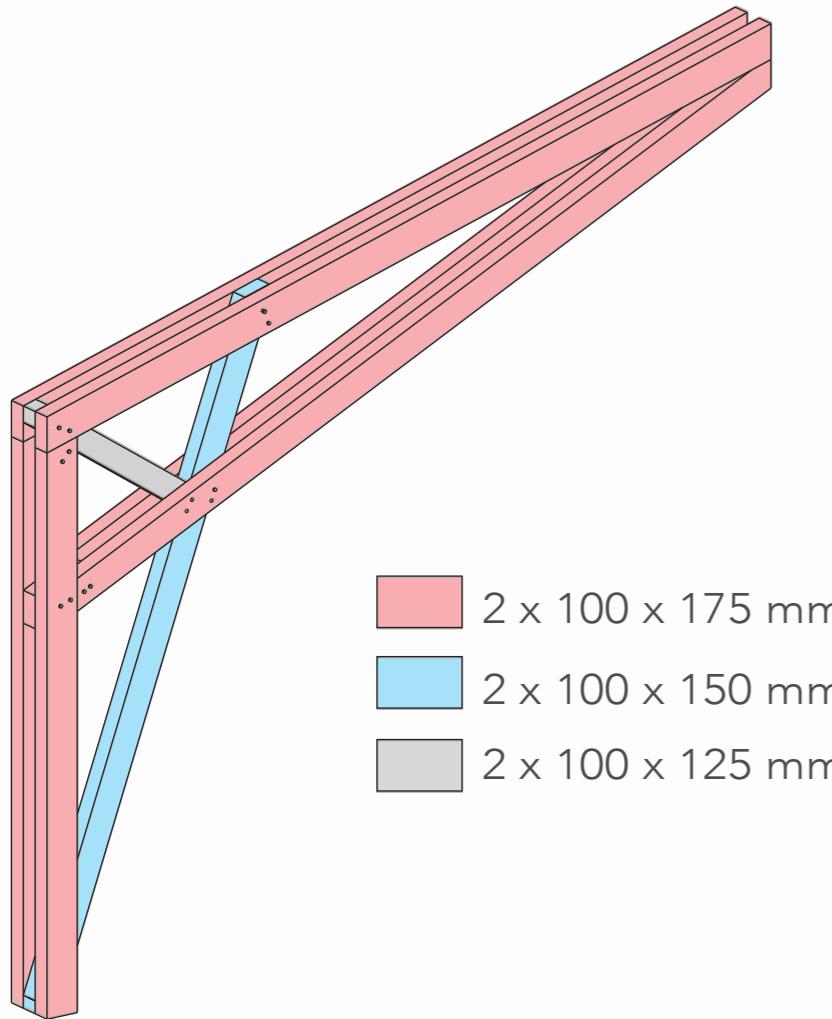
Lived load - Wind 2



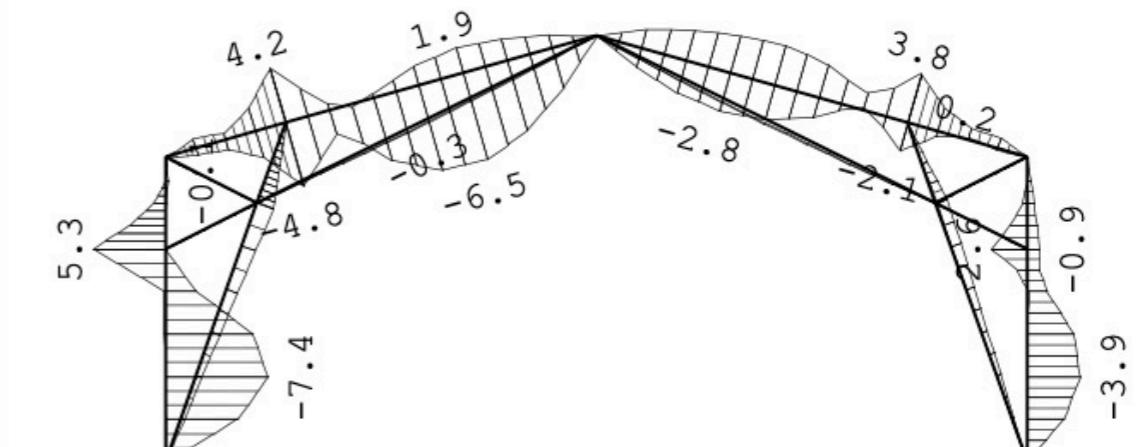
Lived load - Wind 4

# Structural analysis | cross-sections

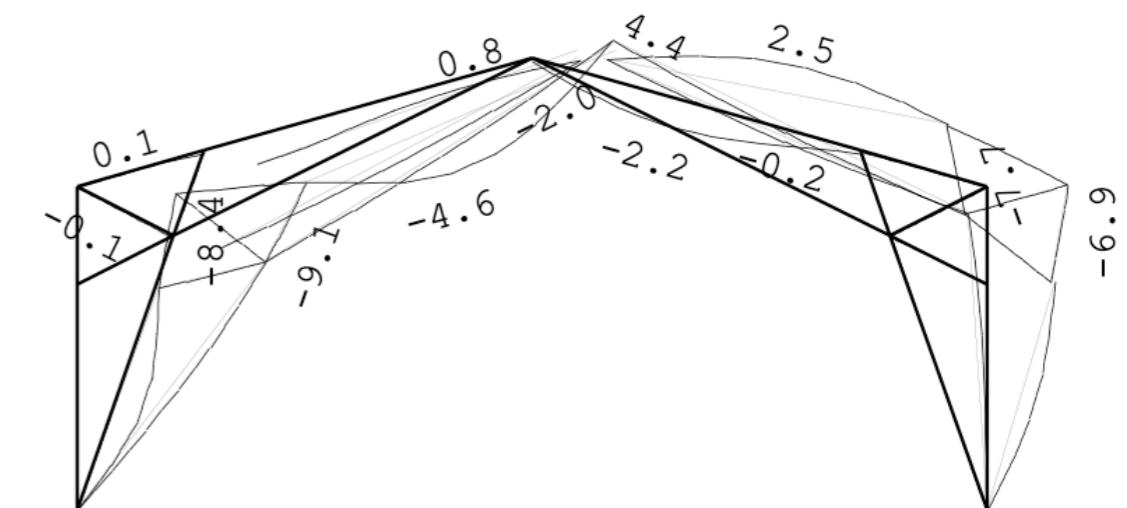
- Due to hinged connections there are mainly normal forces
- Depends on the wind direction which elements are under pressure and which are under tension
- Highest compression force of 109 kN
- No moments in the connections
- Displacements are leading for determination profiles



tensile and compressive forces



moments

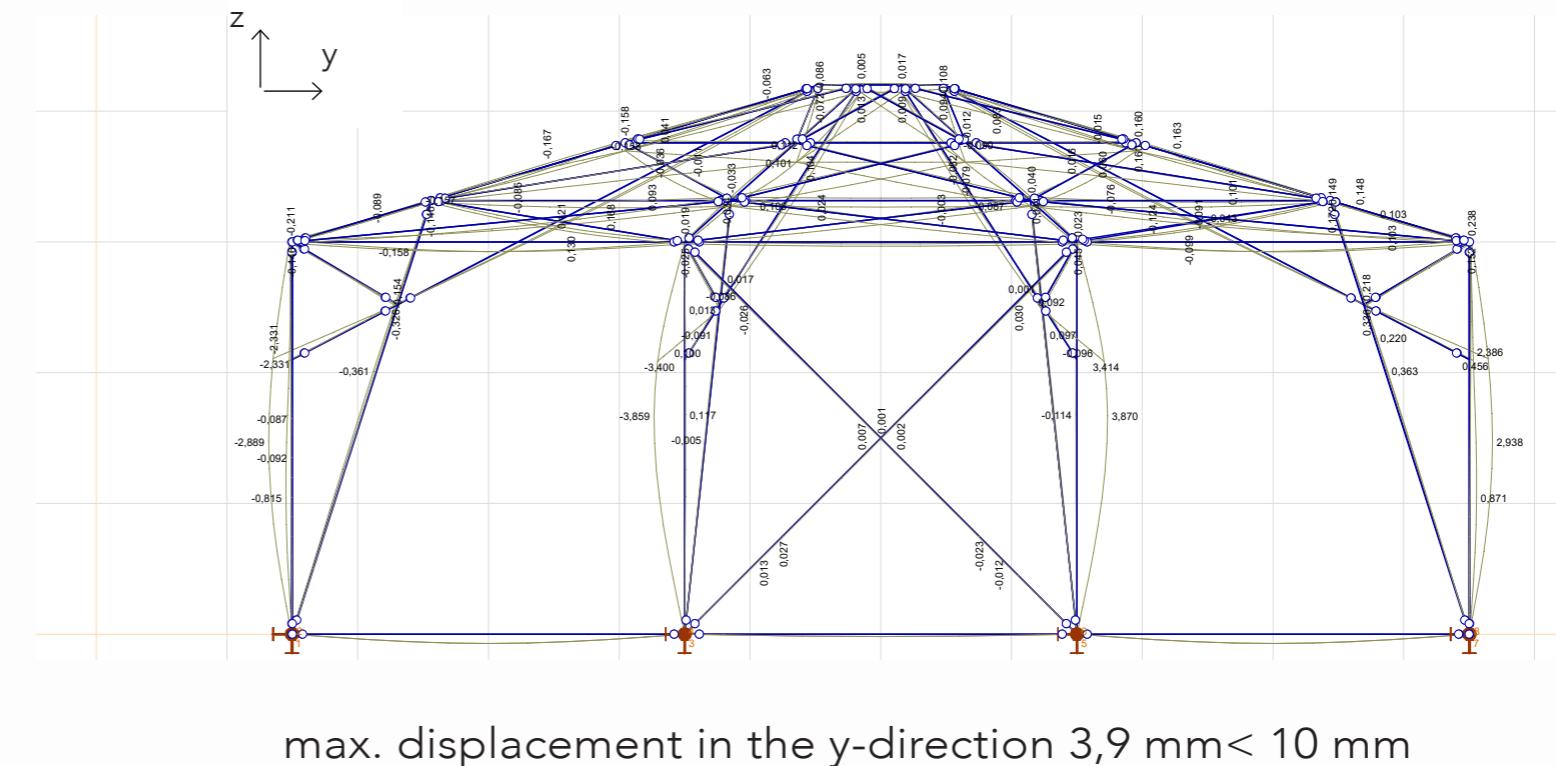
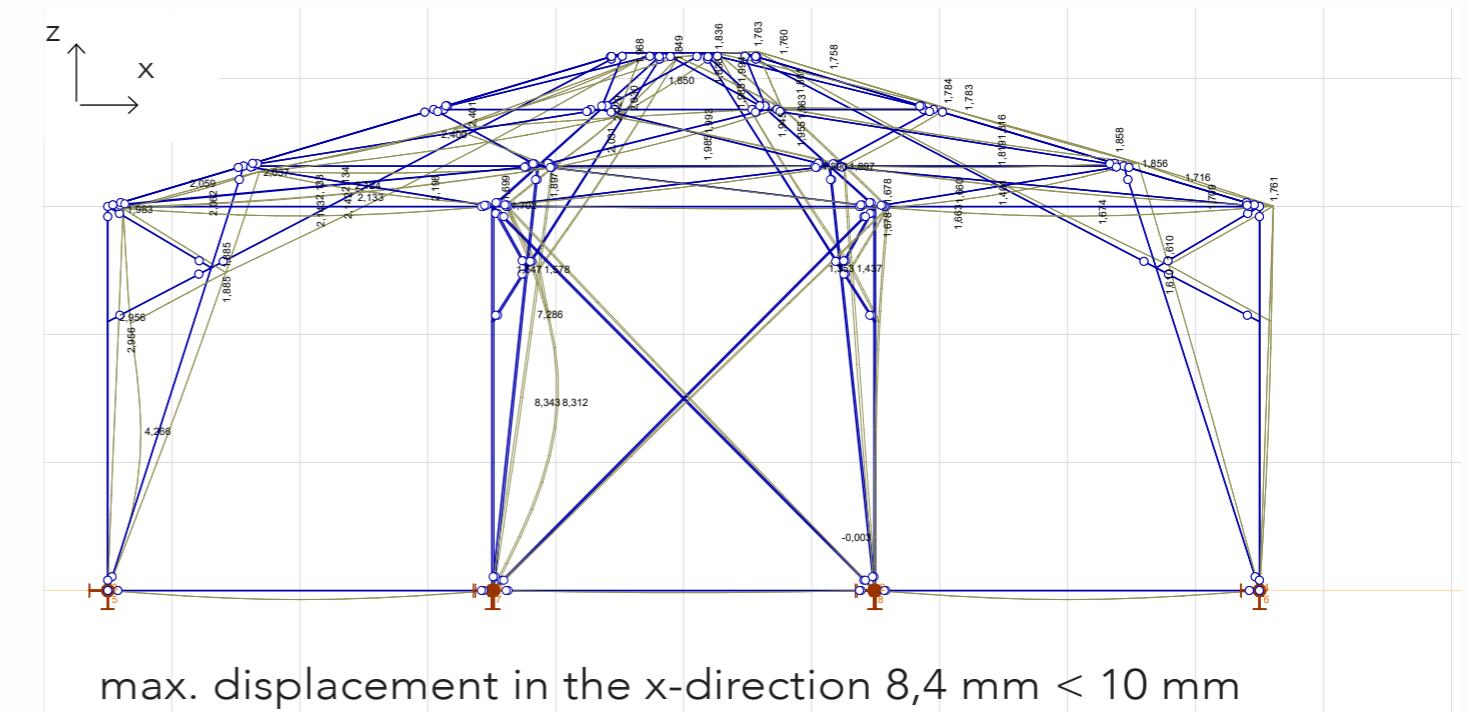
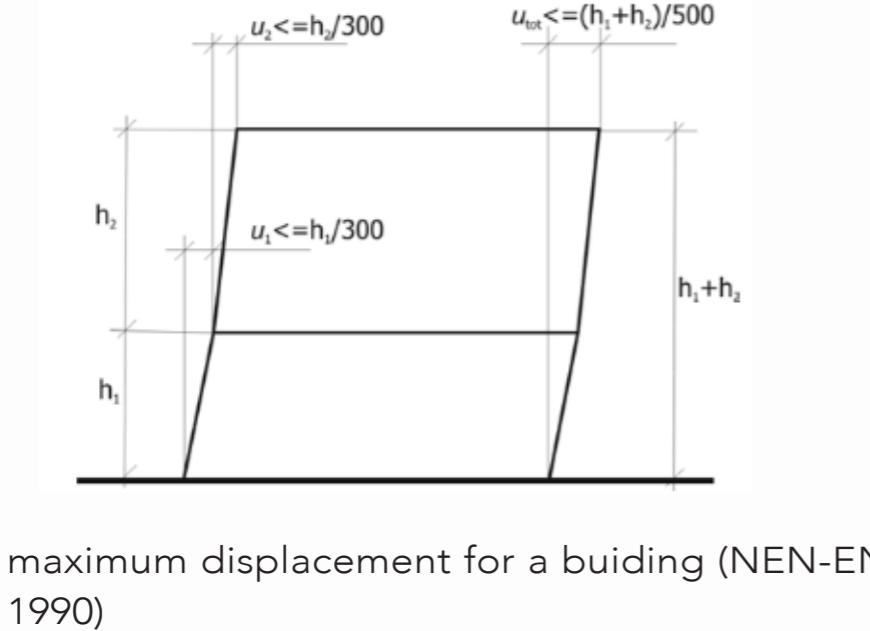


displacement

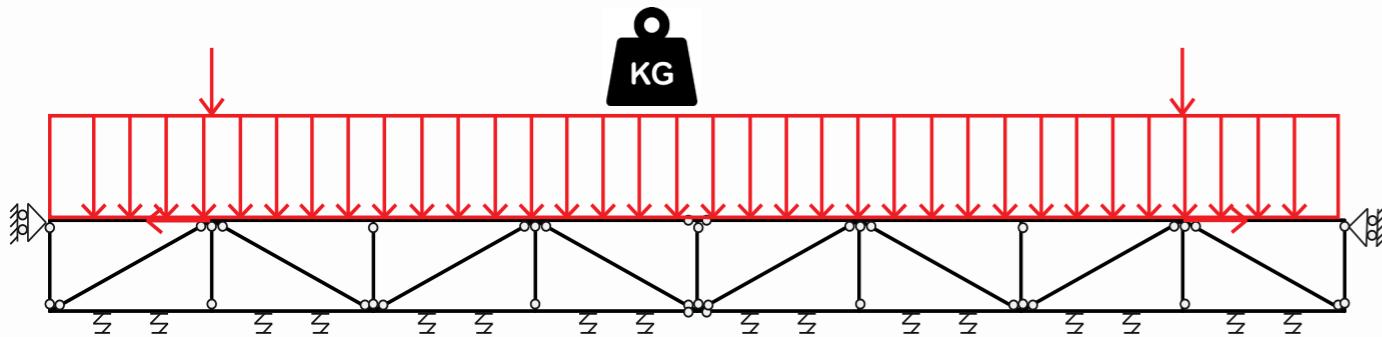
# Structural analysis | stability

Displacement criteria:

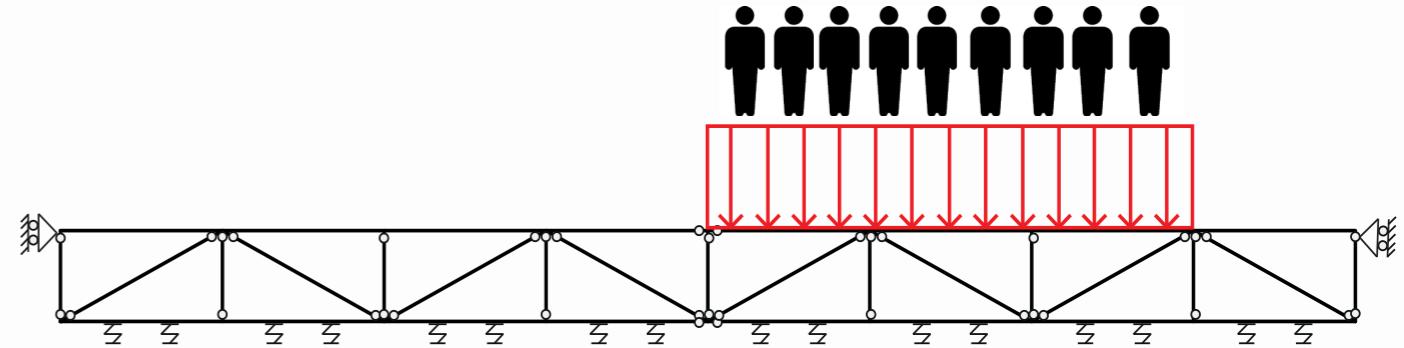
Maximum displacement allowed of 10 mm



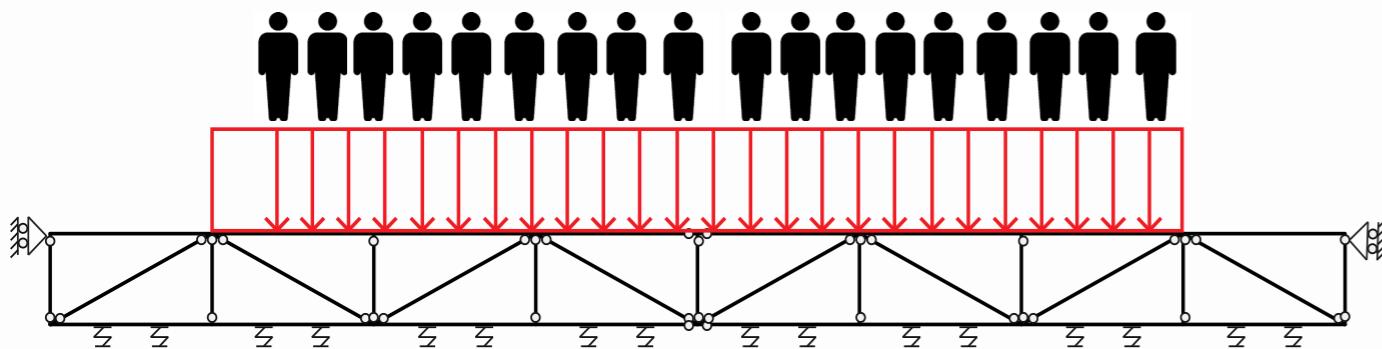
# Structural analysis | load cases



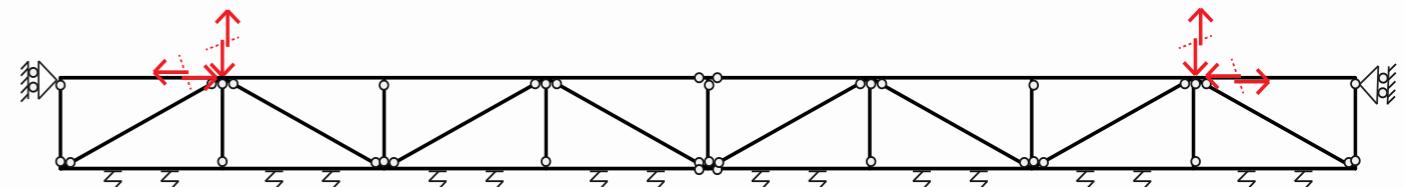
Dead load - Own weight of the building



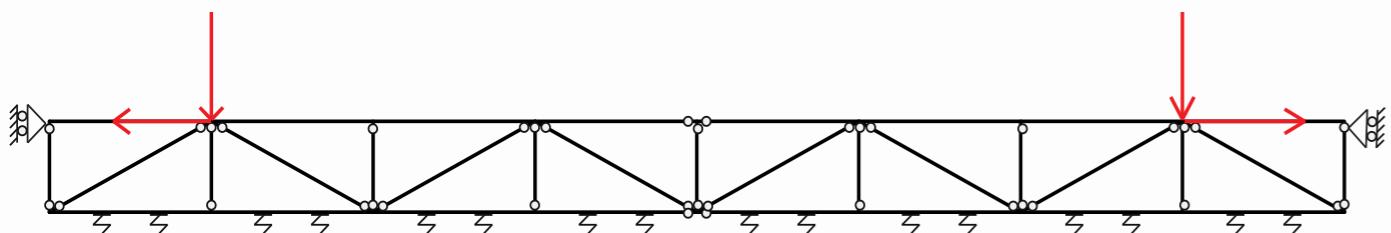
Live load - Eccentric load classroom



Lived load - Classroom



Live load - Wind loads



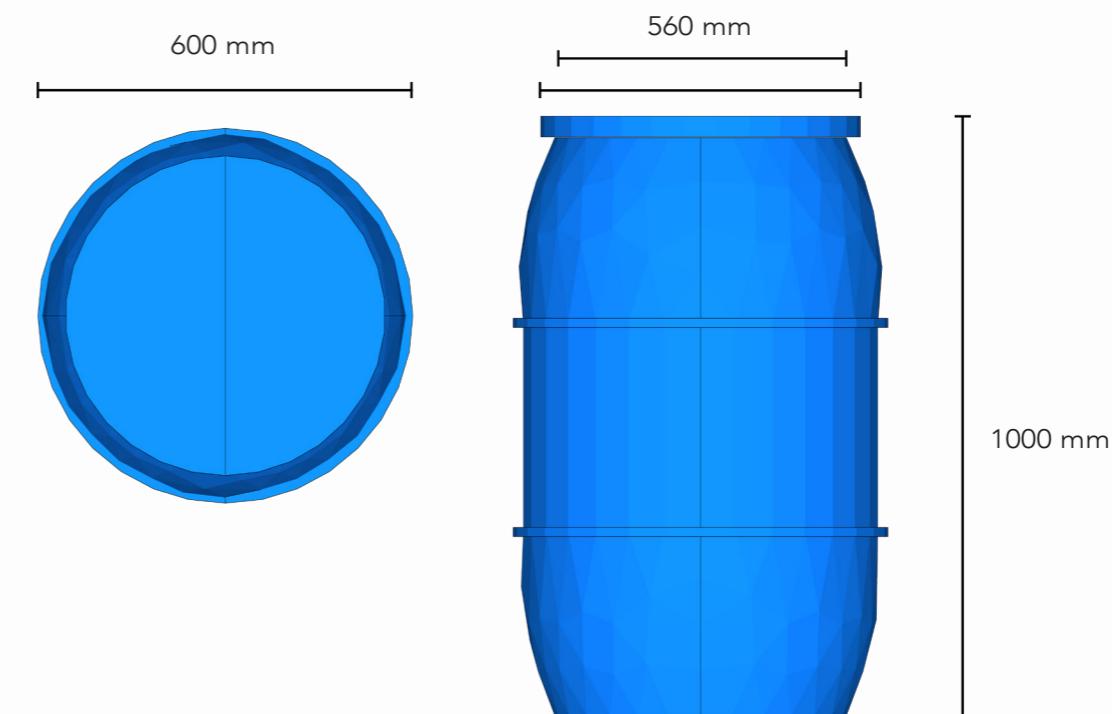
Lived load - Roof

# Structural analysis | supports floating foundation

Barrels of 200 L

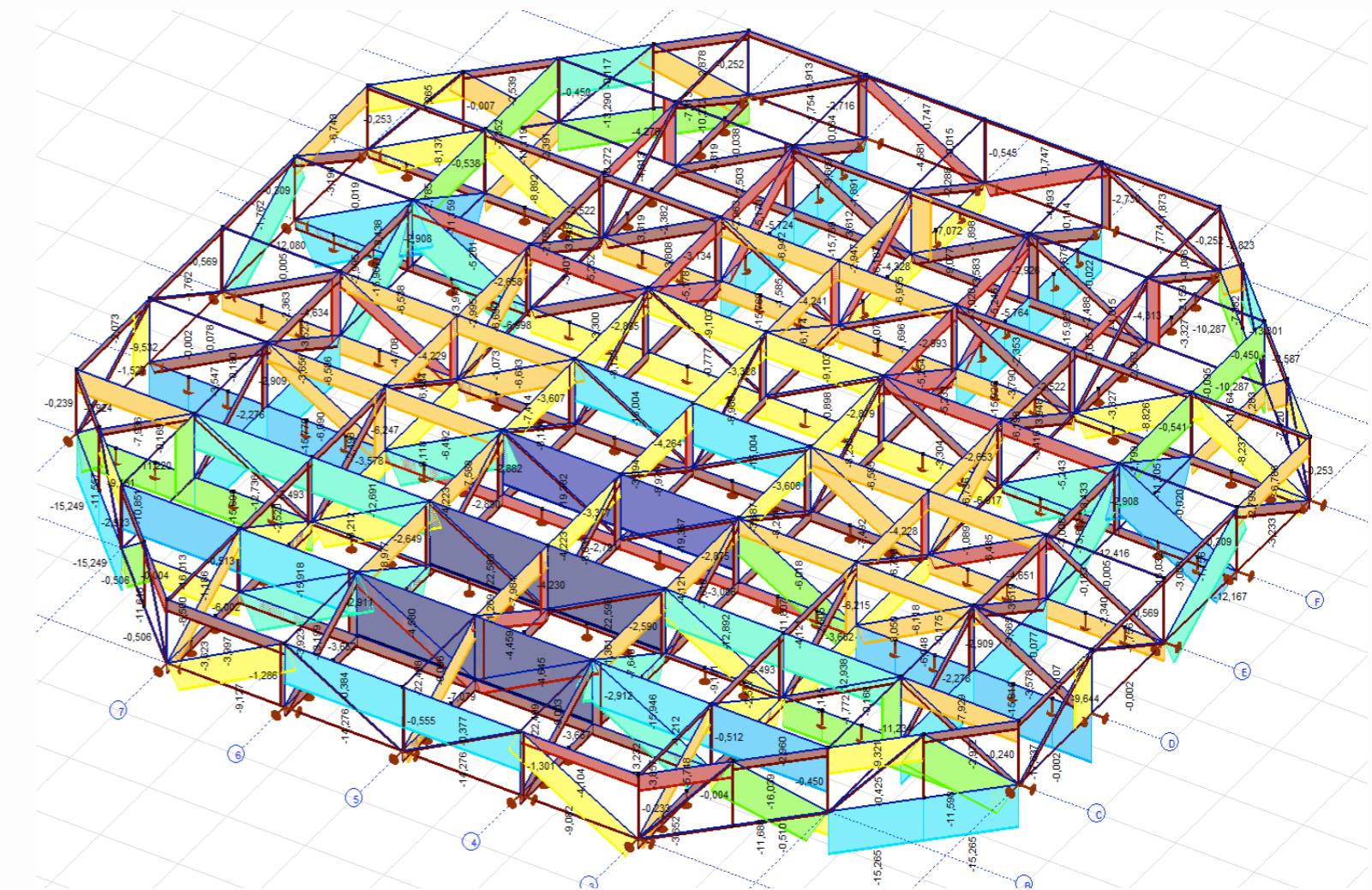
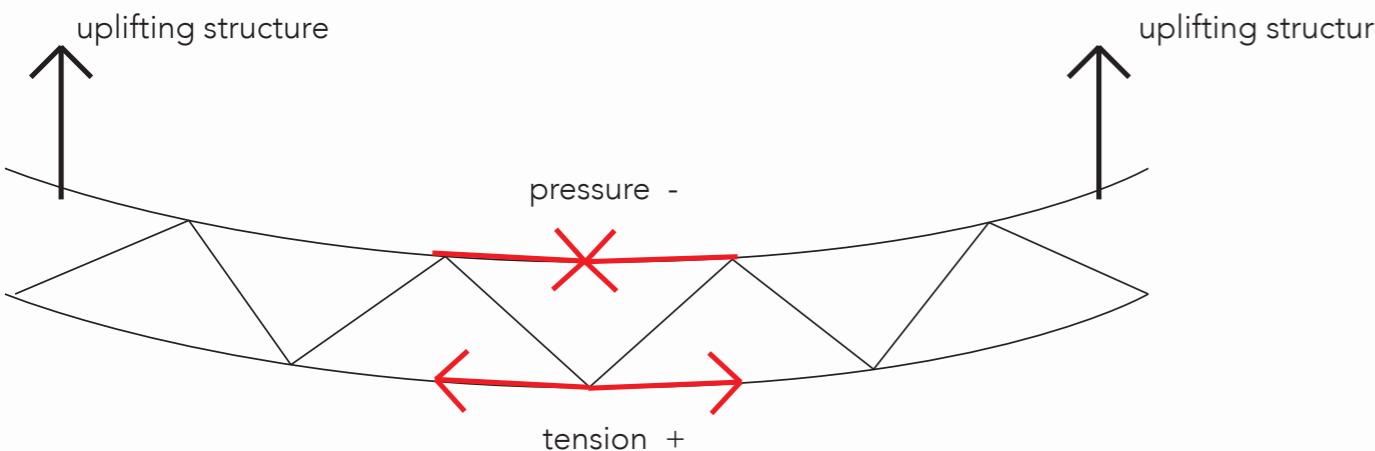
To push the barrel 1 meter down 200 kg is needed

Spring rate of 2 kN/m



# Structural analysis | cross-sections

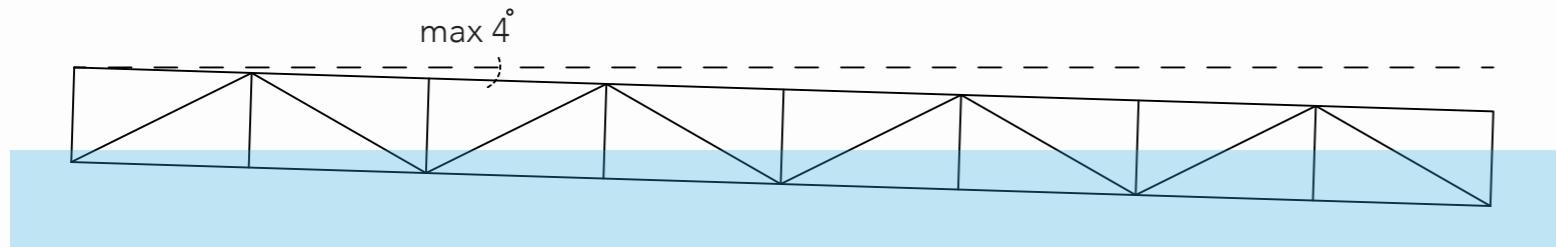
- In the trusses mainly pressure and tensile forces occur
- Biggest compressive force : -32 kN
- Due to upward force from wind pulling the building up
- Dimensions for elements of the truss are 63x125 mm



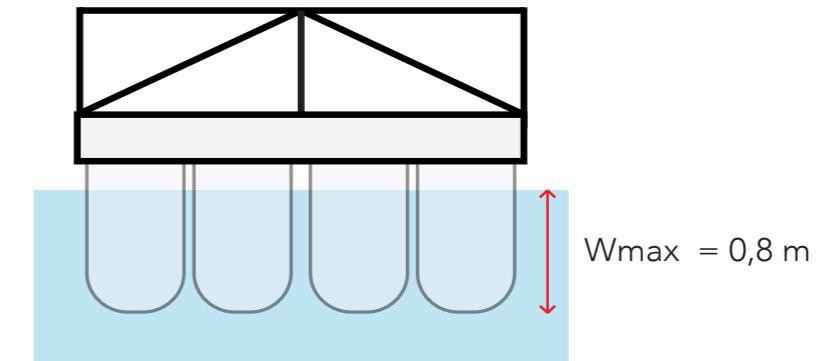
Compressive forces in the floating foundation

# Structural analysis | stability

Maximum tilting of the platform:  $4^\circ$



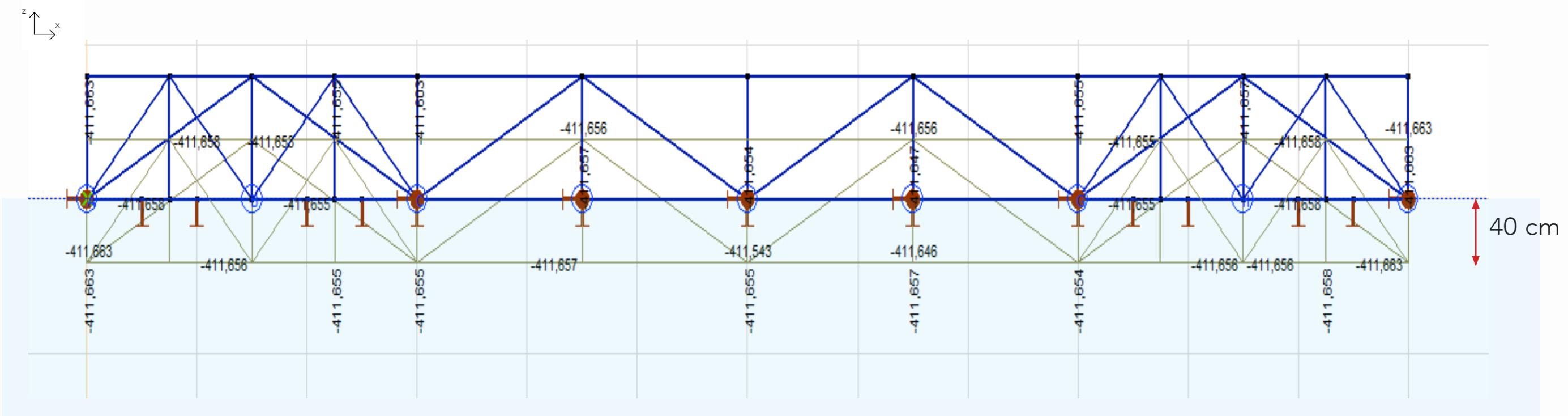
Maximum sinking of the platform: 80 cm



# Structural analysis | stability

Floating platform - own weight

Sinks      411 mm < 800 OK  
Tilt      0 degrees < 4 degrees OK

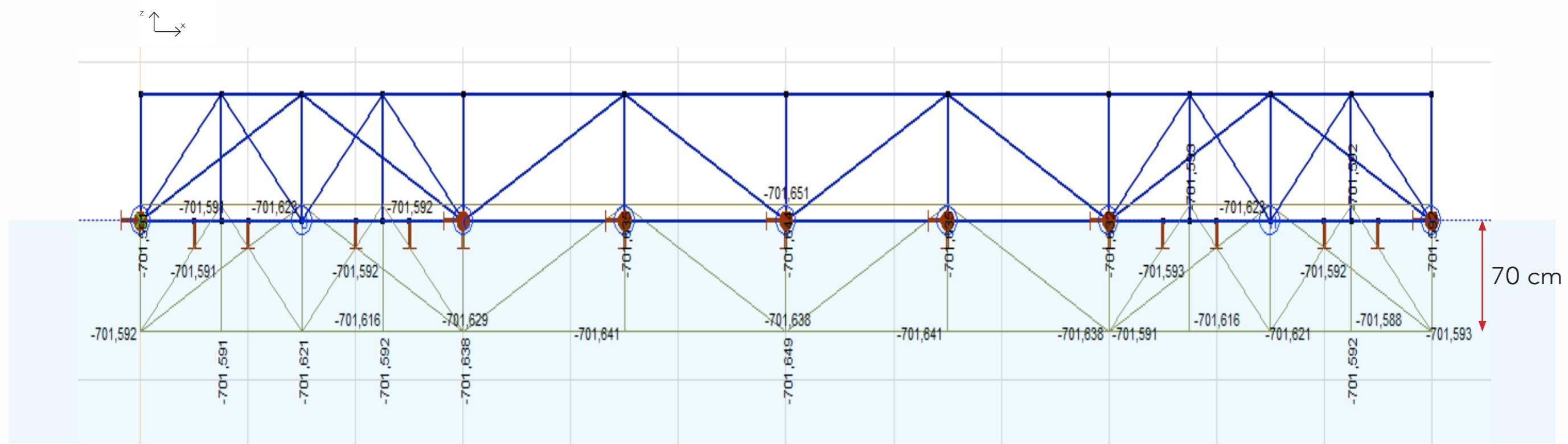


# Structural analysis | stability

Floating platform - own weight + full classroom

Sinks 701 mm < 800 OK

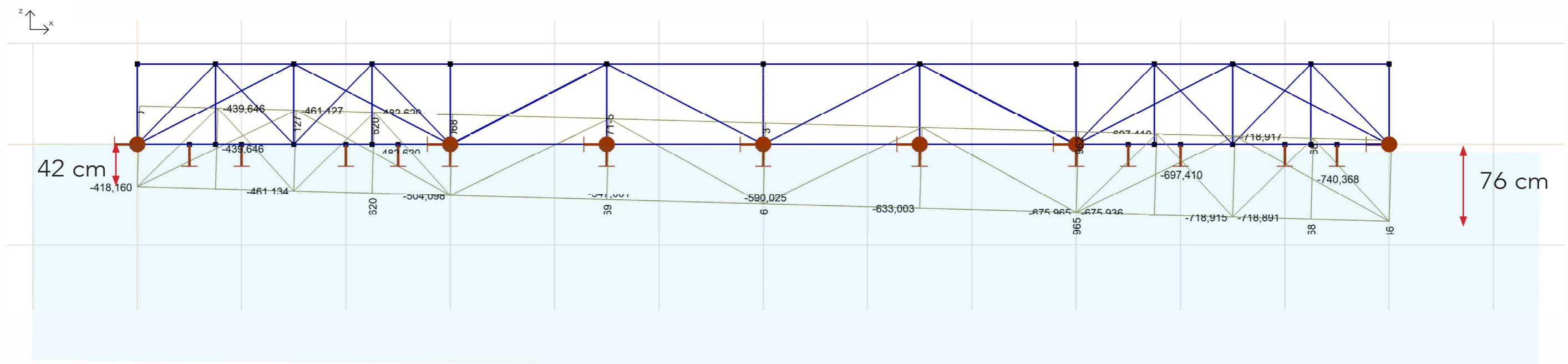
Tilt      0 degrees < 4 degrees OK



# Structural analysis | stability

Floating platform - own weight + eccentric load classroom

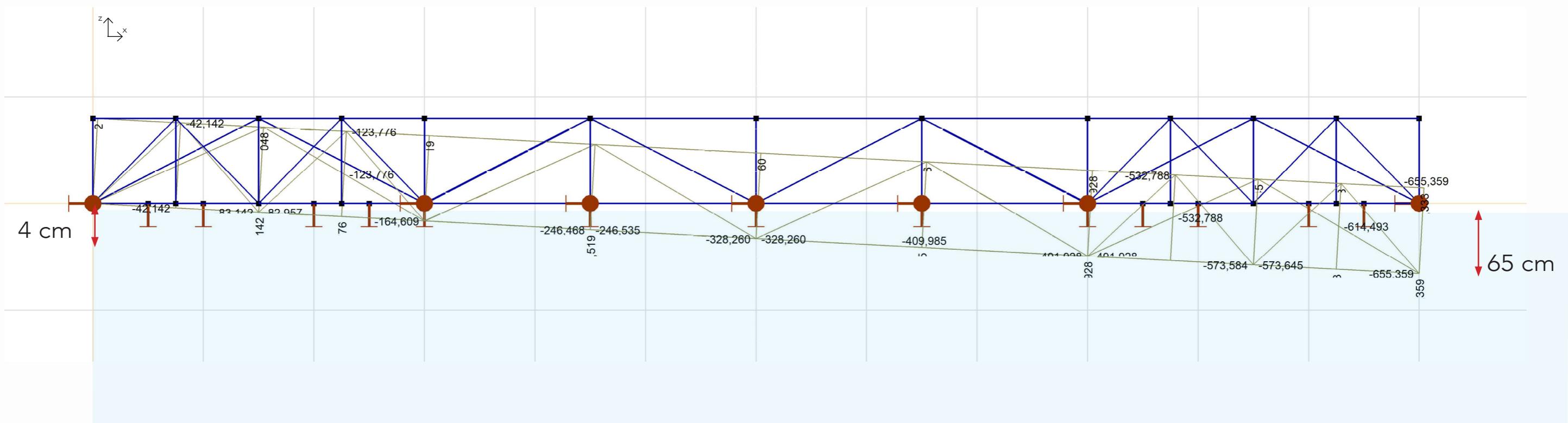
Sinks,max      761 mm < 800 OK  
Tilt              2 degrees < 4 degrees OK



# Structural analysis | stability

Floating platform - own weight + wind 3

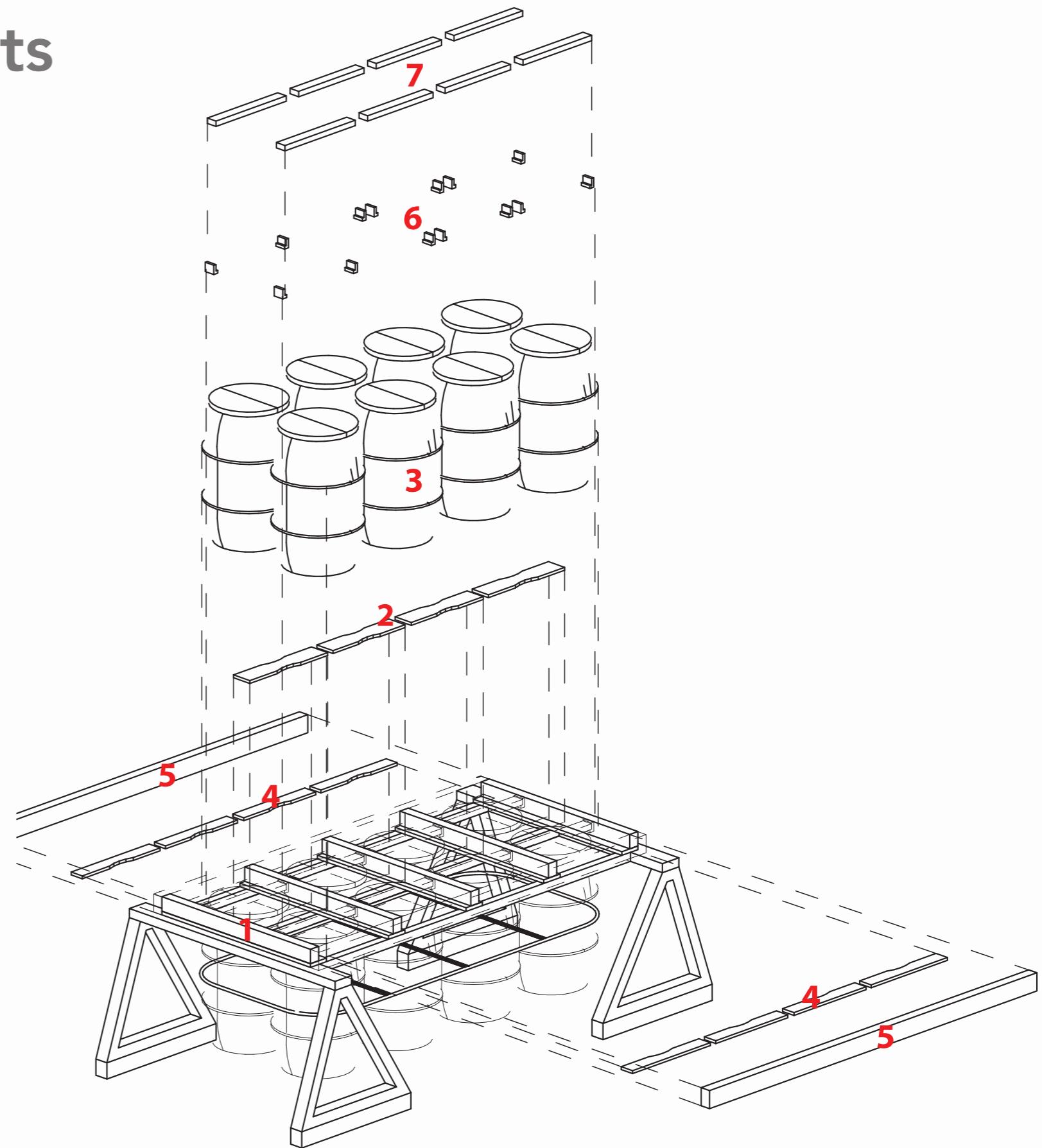
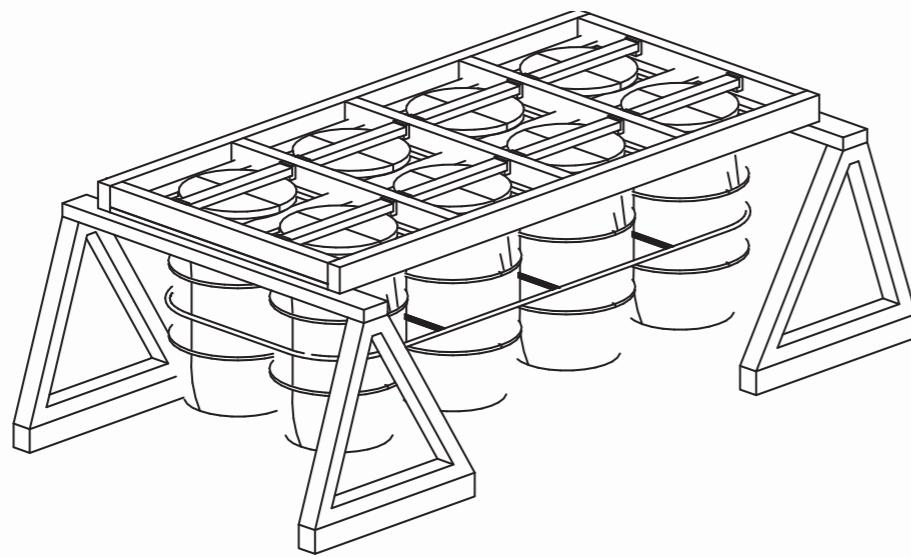
Sinks,max    655 mm < 800 OK  
Tilt            3 degrees < 4 degrees OK



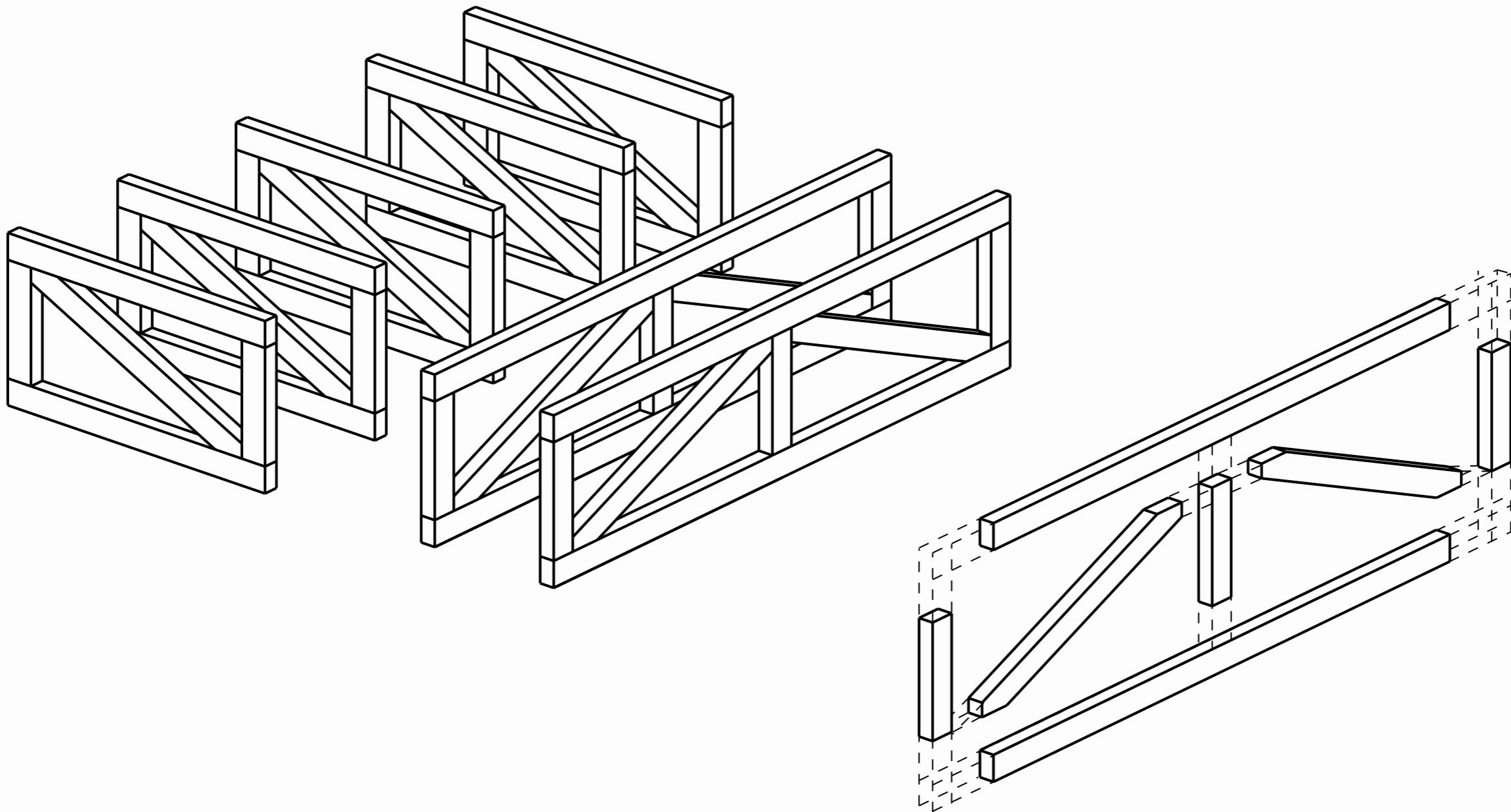
# How can it be built?

# Step 1: Prefabricated elements

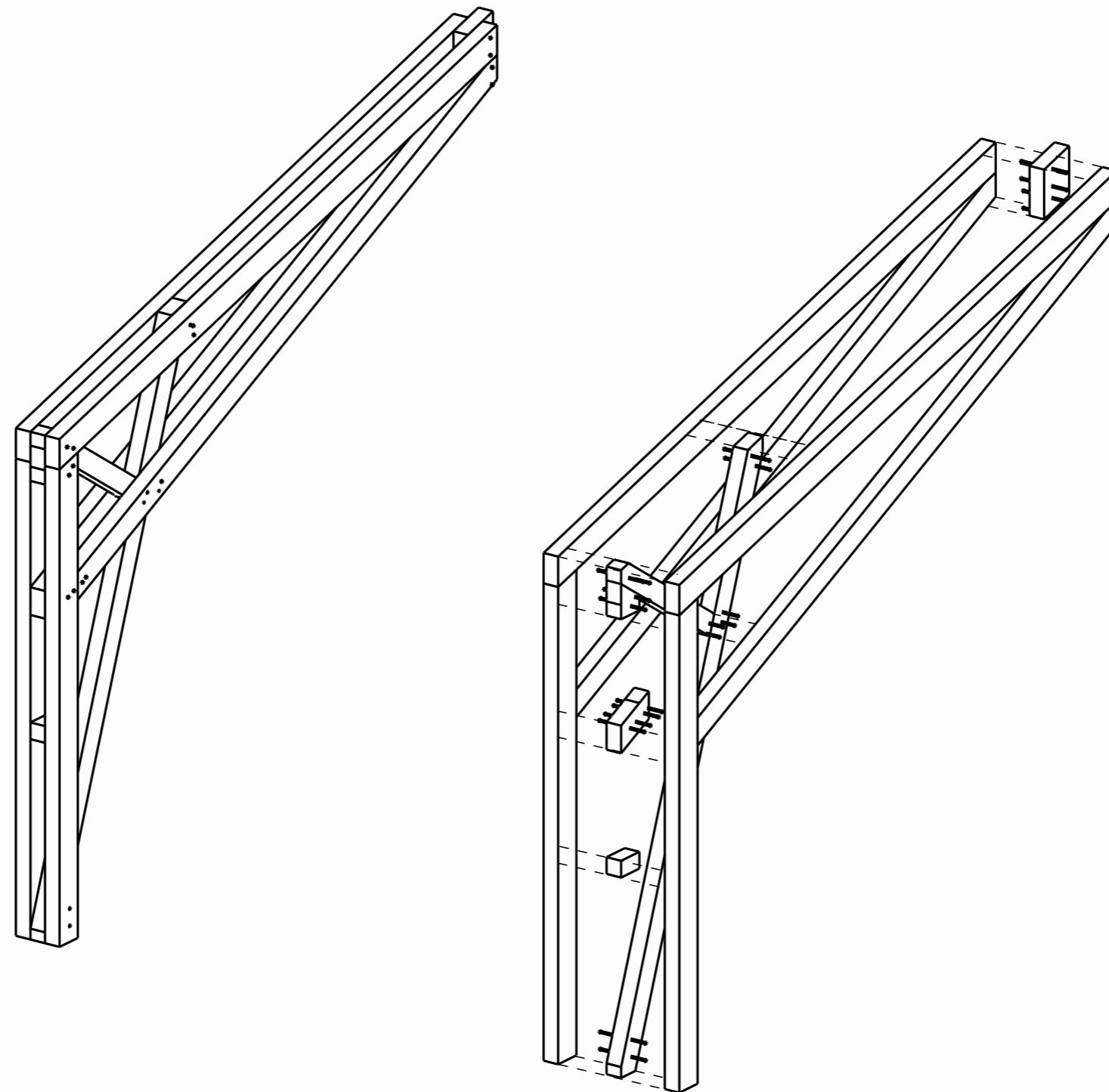
floating modules



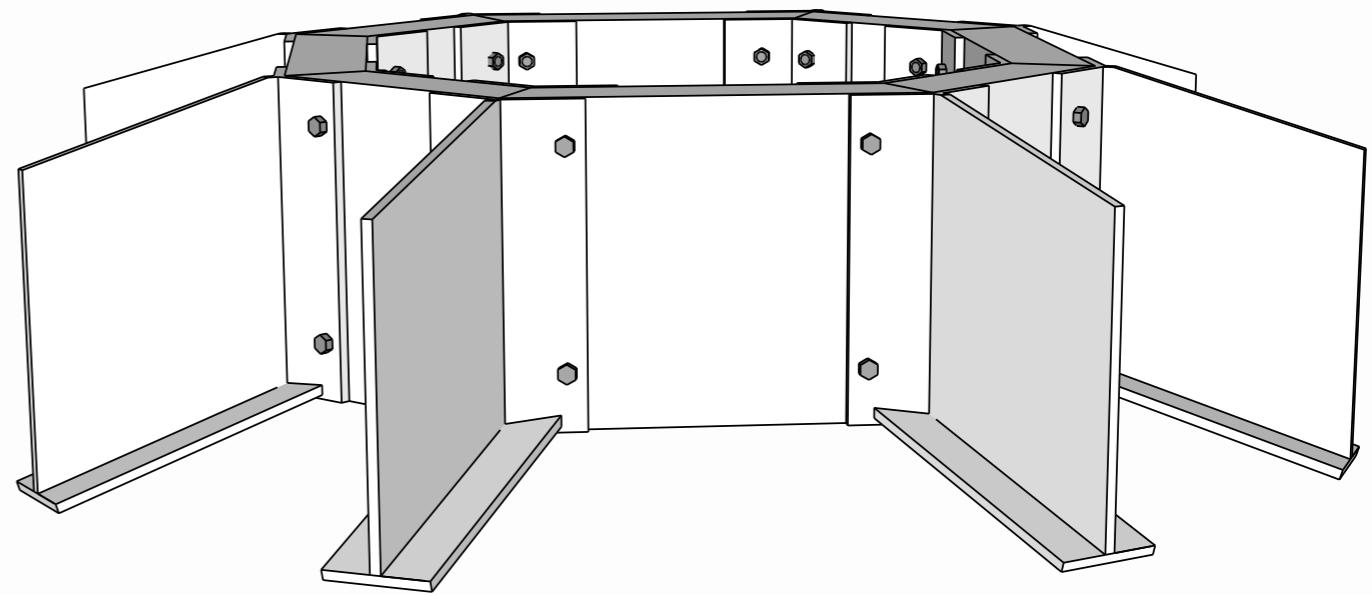
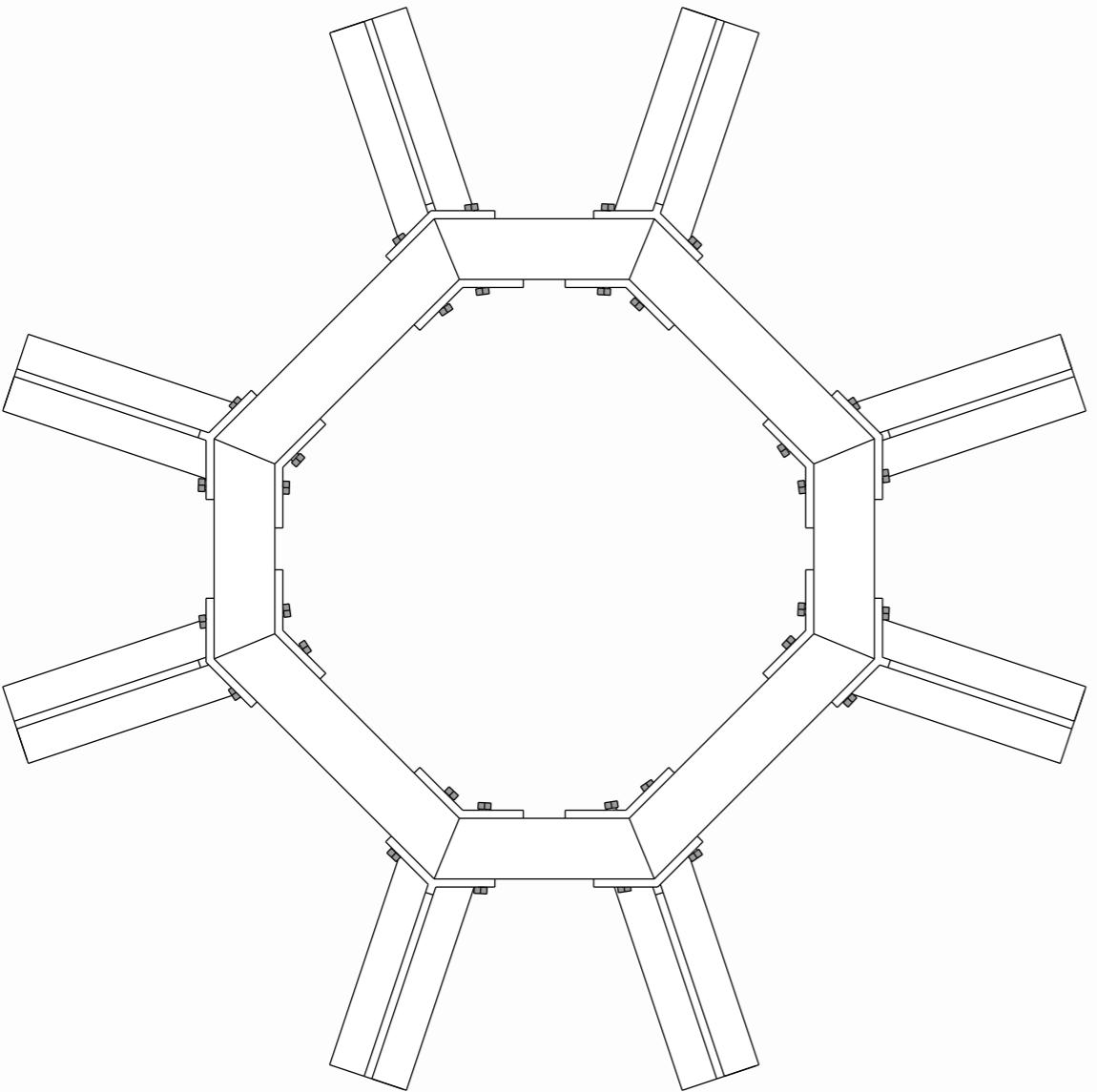
## trusses



# frame



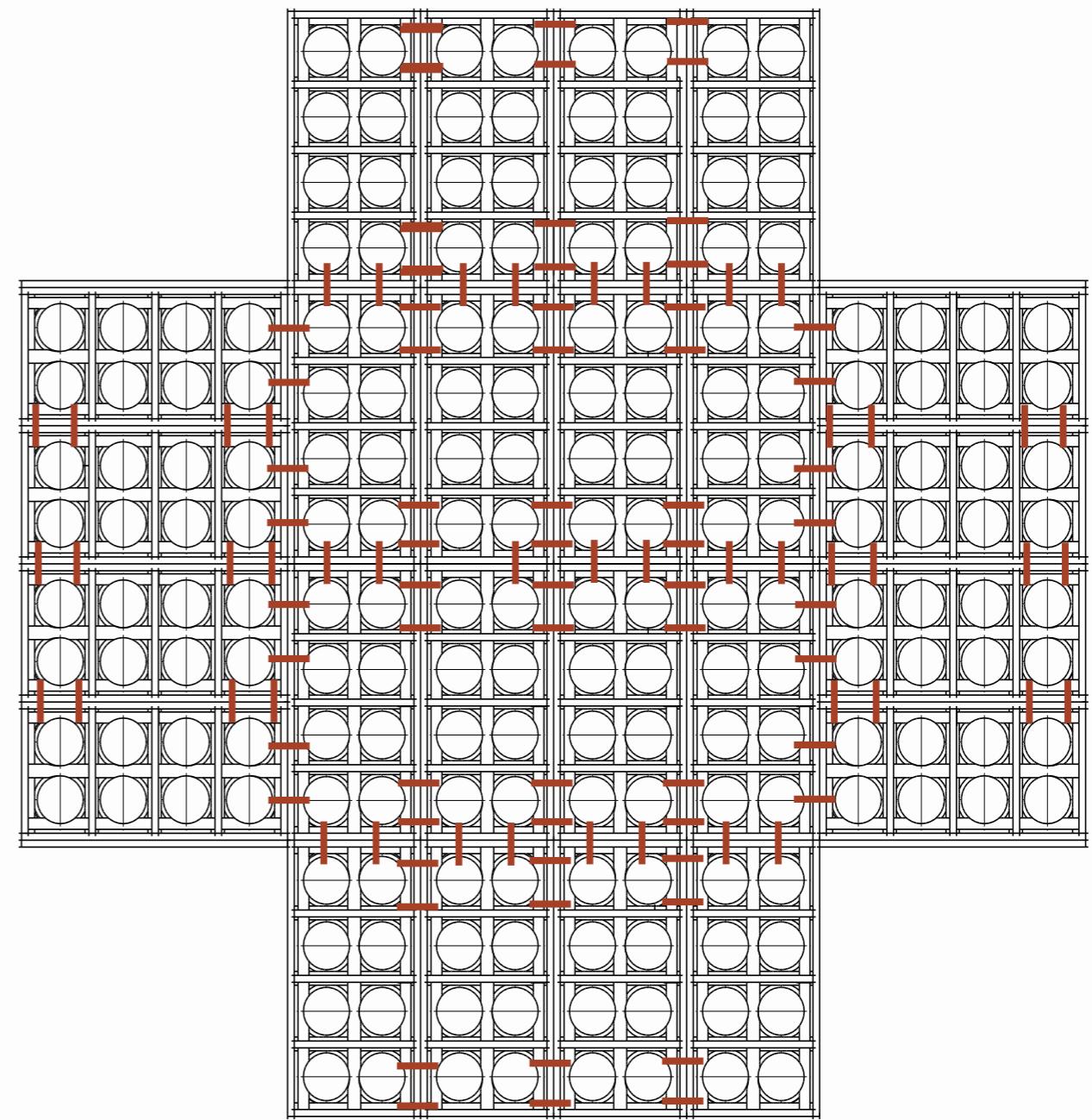
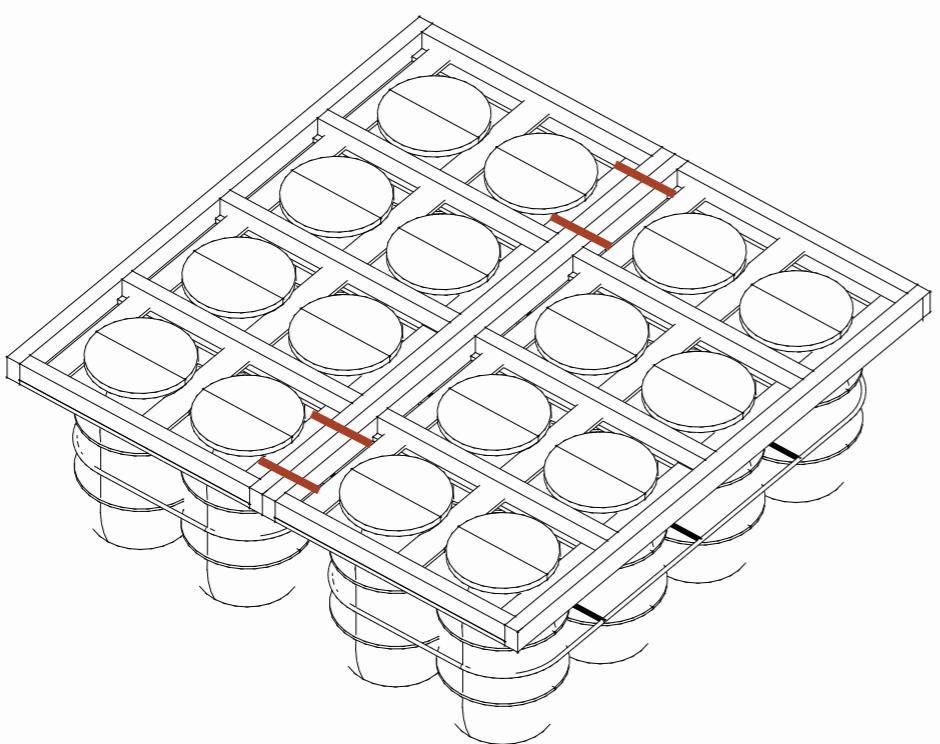
## pressure ring

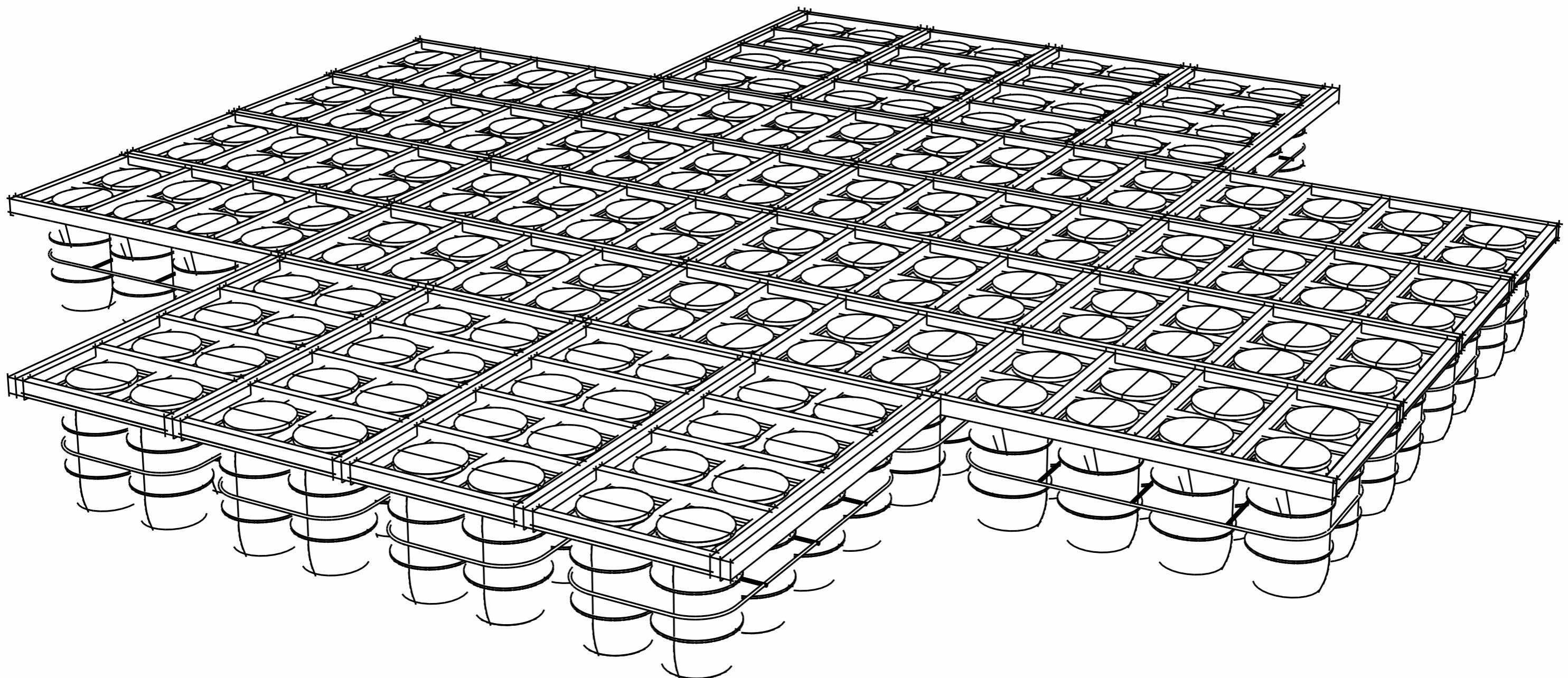


## Step 2: connecting prefabricated modules

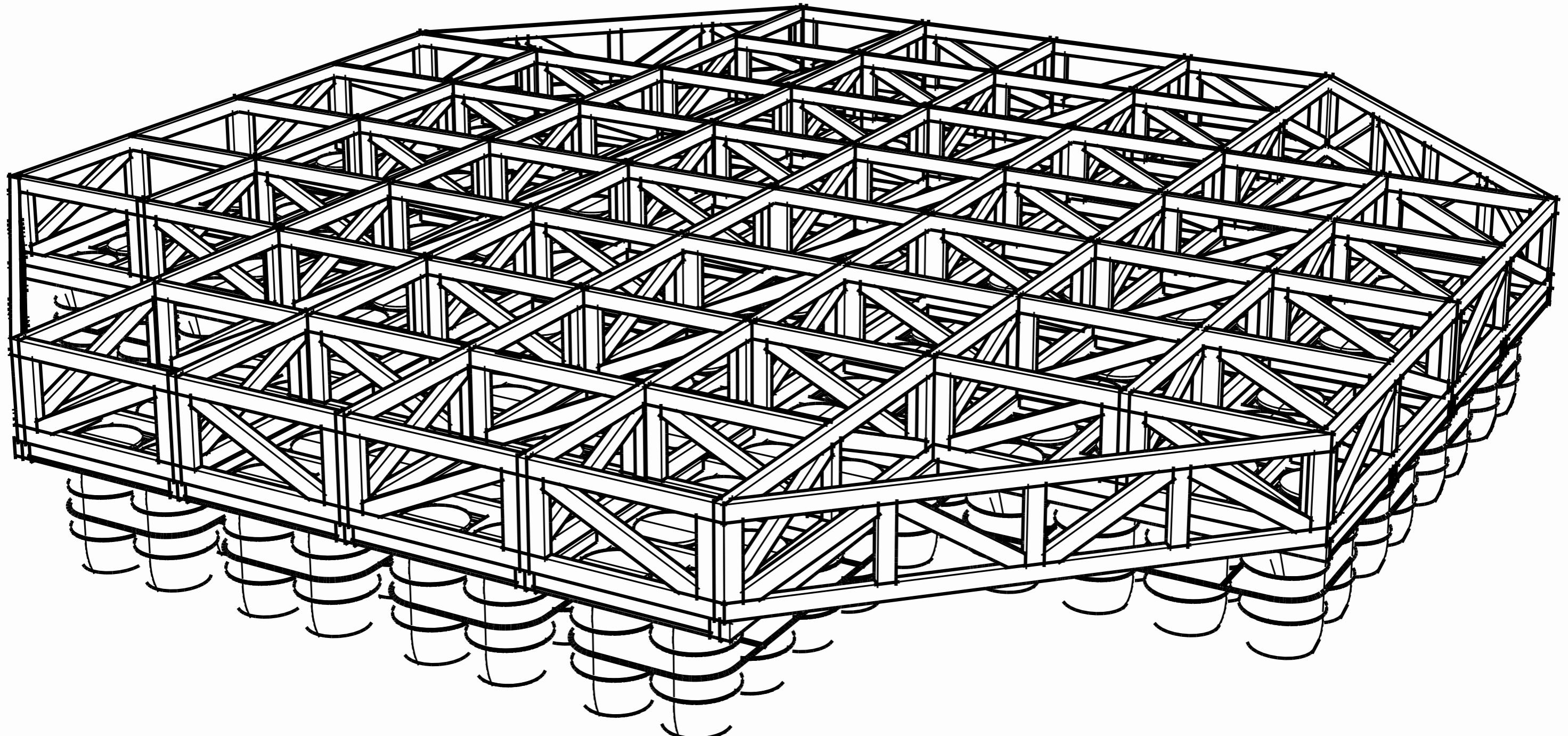
Total of 24 modules, 192 barrels

Total length and width of the whole foundation  
is 12 meters

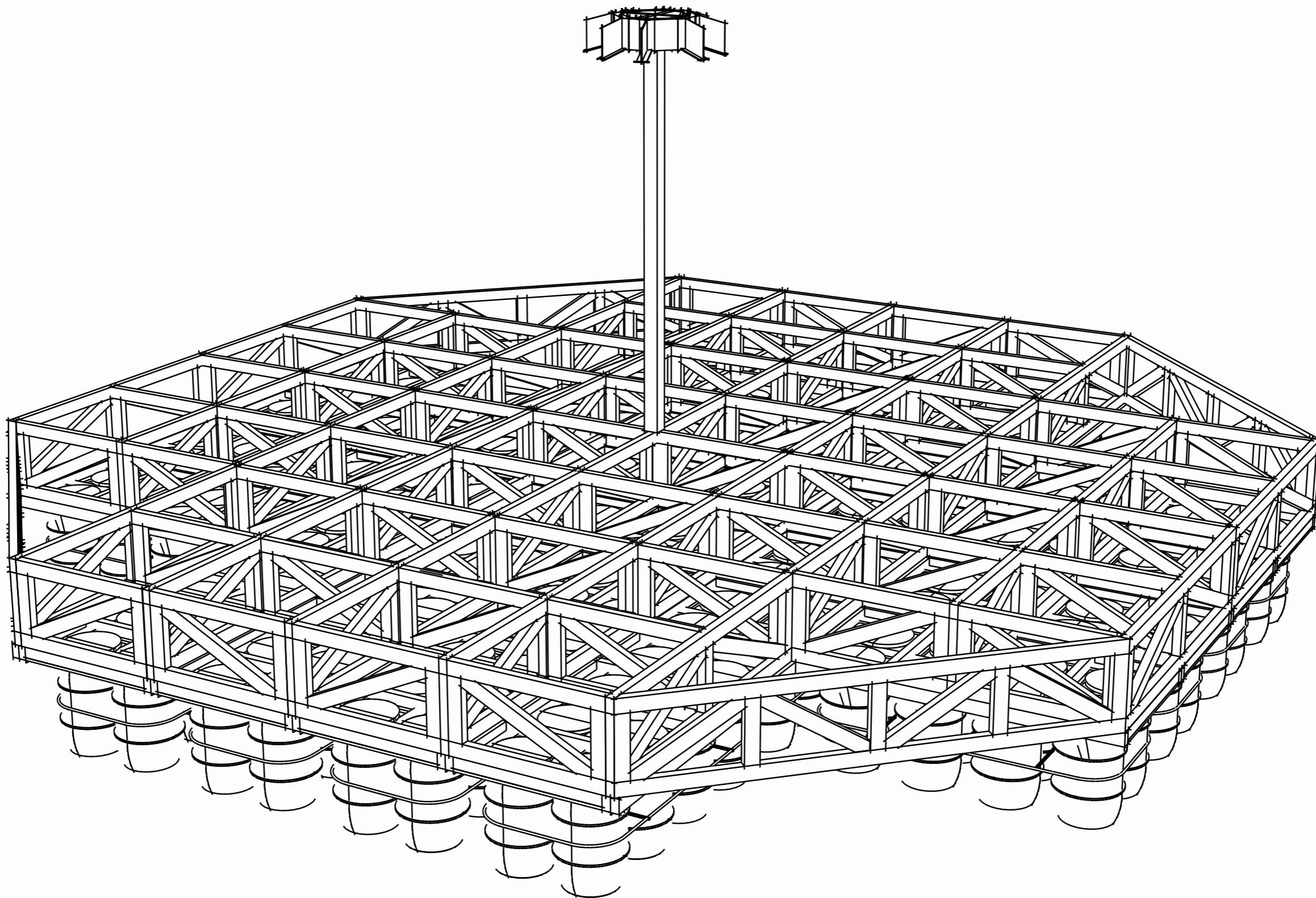




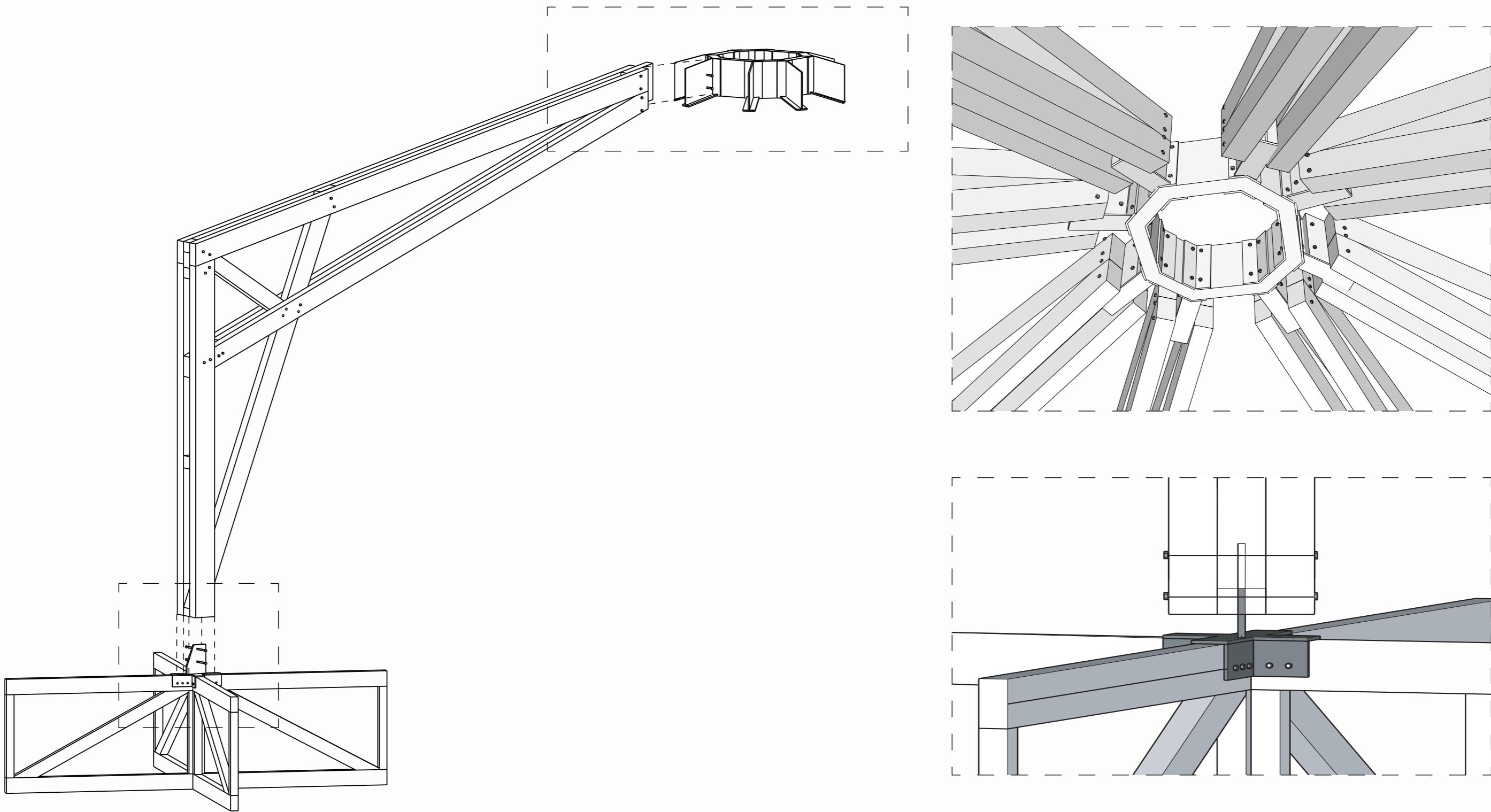
## Step 3: Placing of trusses

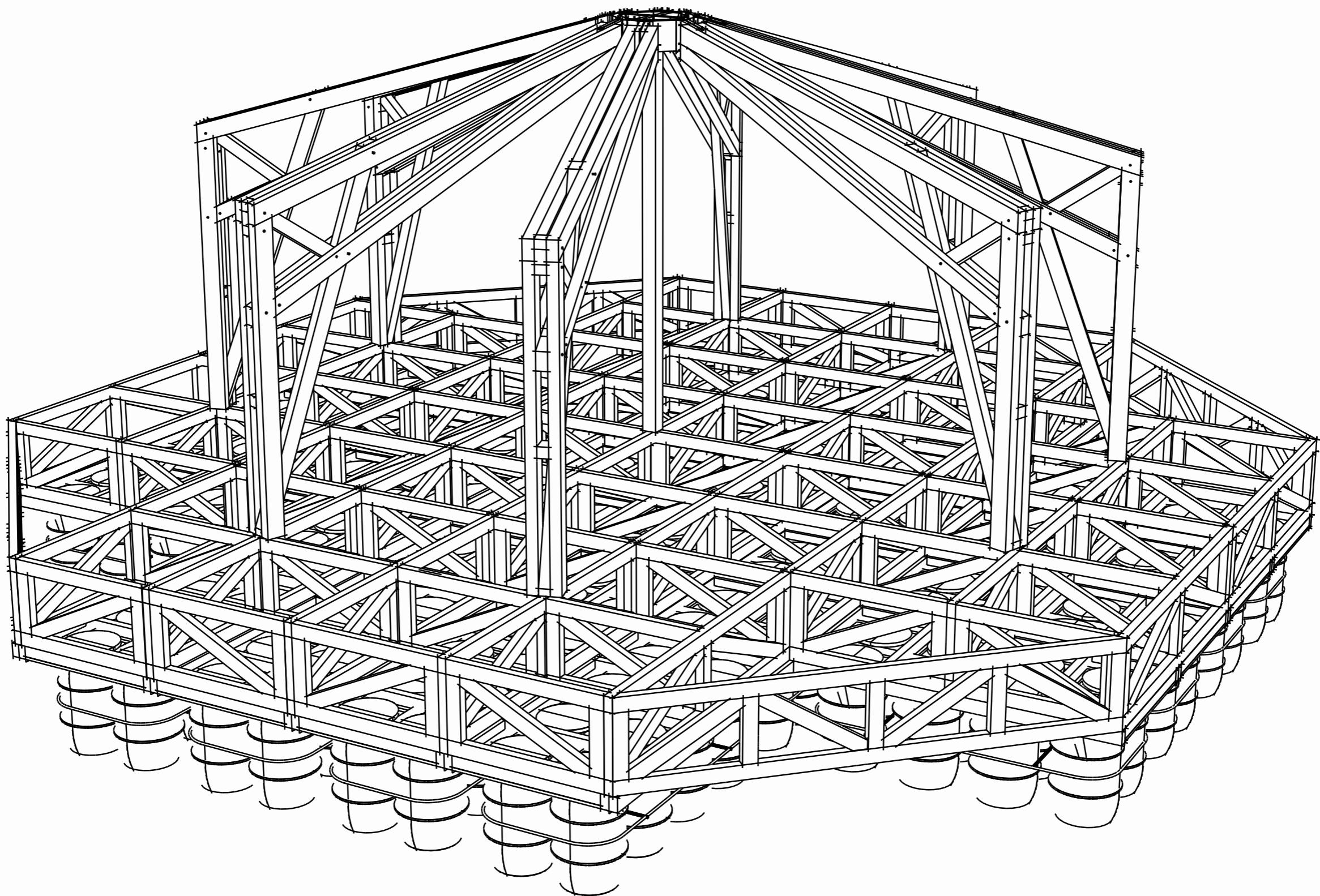


## Step 4: Placing of pressure ring on temporary column

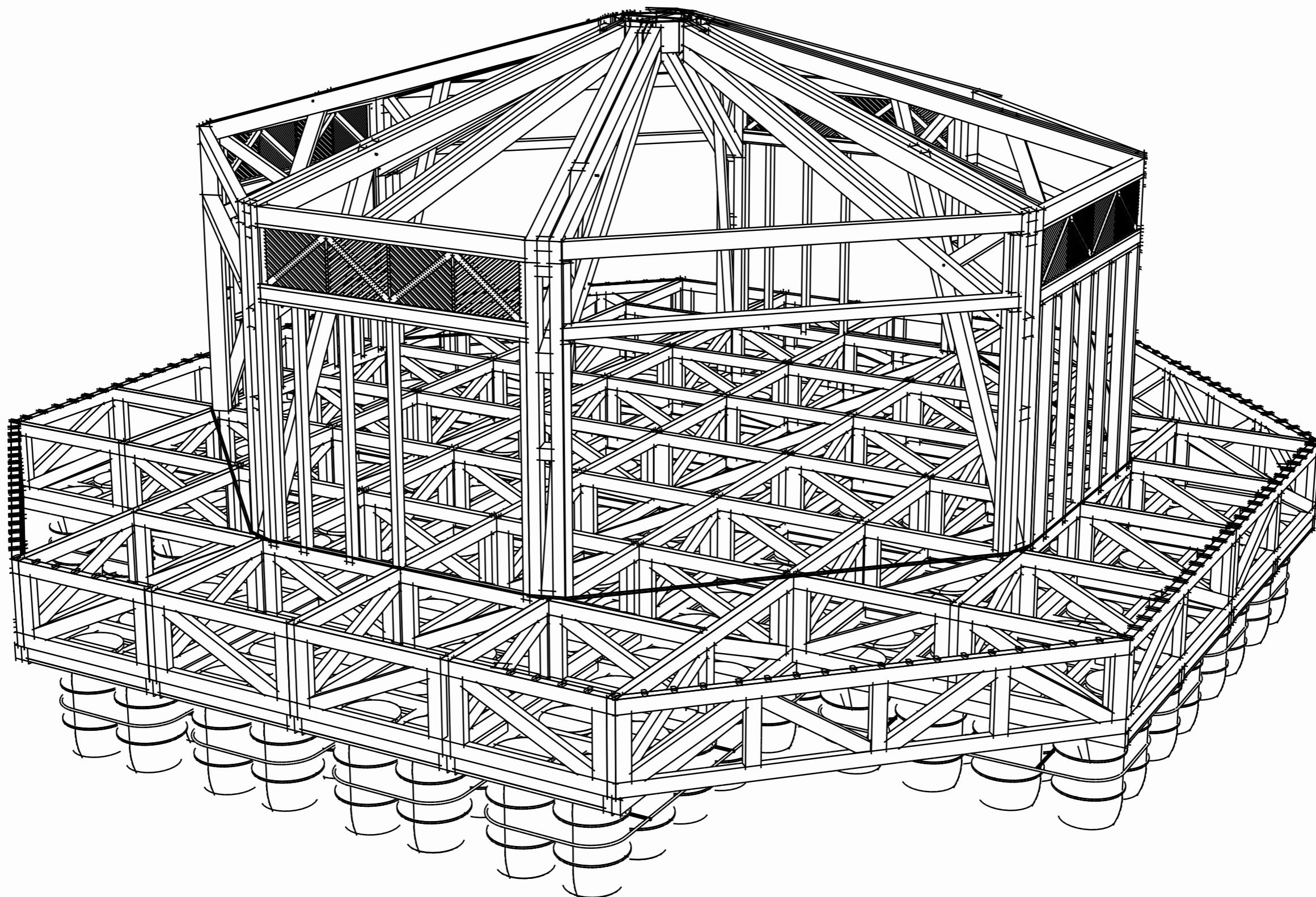


# Step 5: Connecting the frames



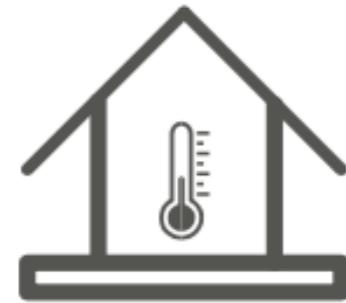


## Step 6: Placing stabilization walls



# Indoor comfort

How can a classroom be indoor comfortable and which parameters needs to be taken into account?



Thermal

Ventilation to cool down the building

Protection against direct sunlight



Light

Daylight to create a pleasant atmosphere



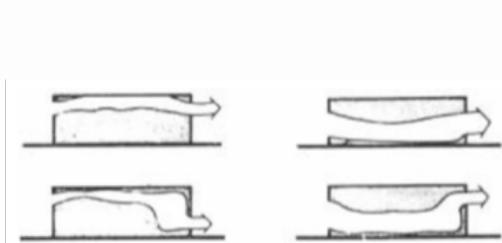
Acoustic

Reduce noise from other classes



Ergonomics

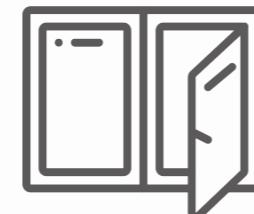
Provide enough personal space



cross ventilation



louvres and eaves



windows and openings



stack ventilation



reflective colours



location regarding ambient noise

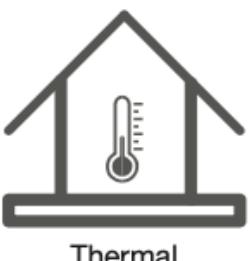


provide 1,4 m<sup>2</sup> per student



interior finish with a high acoustic value

## Preferences students and teachers



Majority of the students felt cold due to airconditioning.  
Prefere natural ventilation



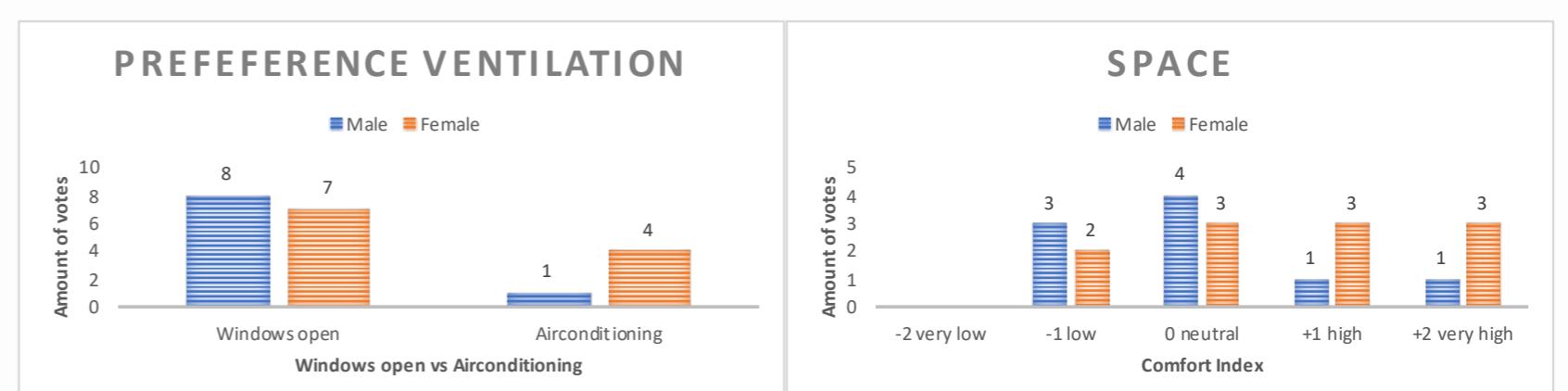
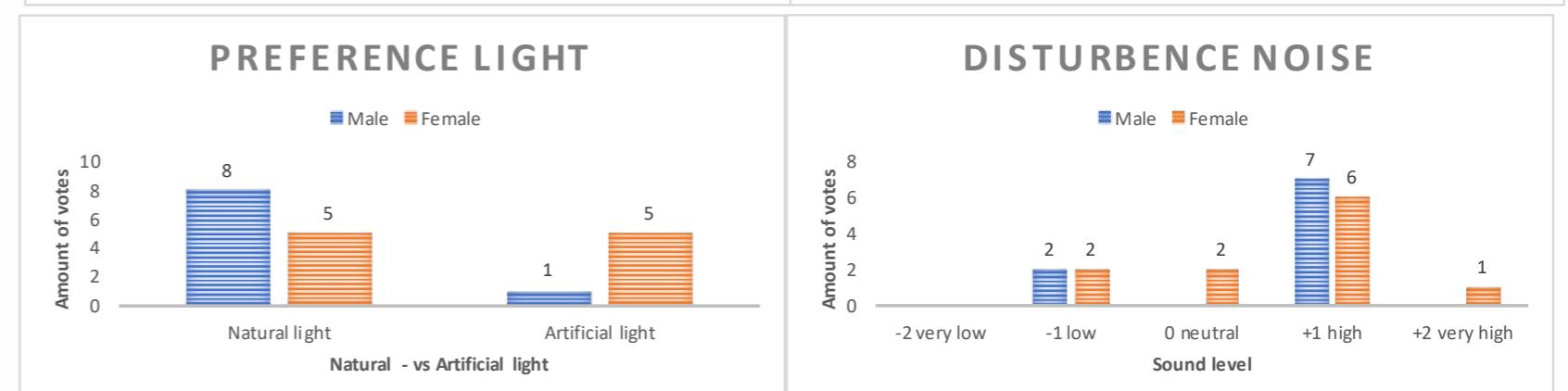
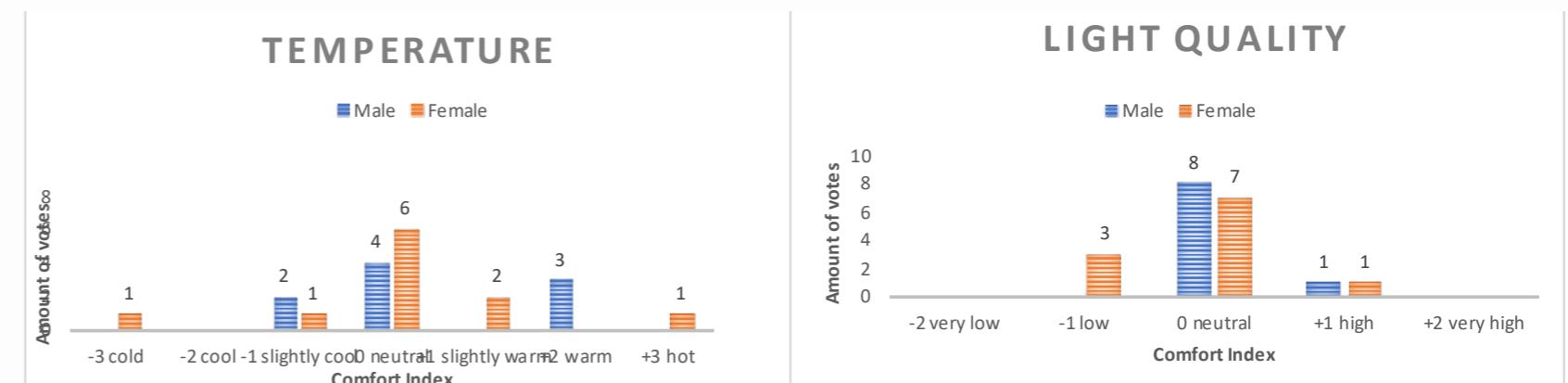
Most of the student prefer natural light



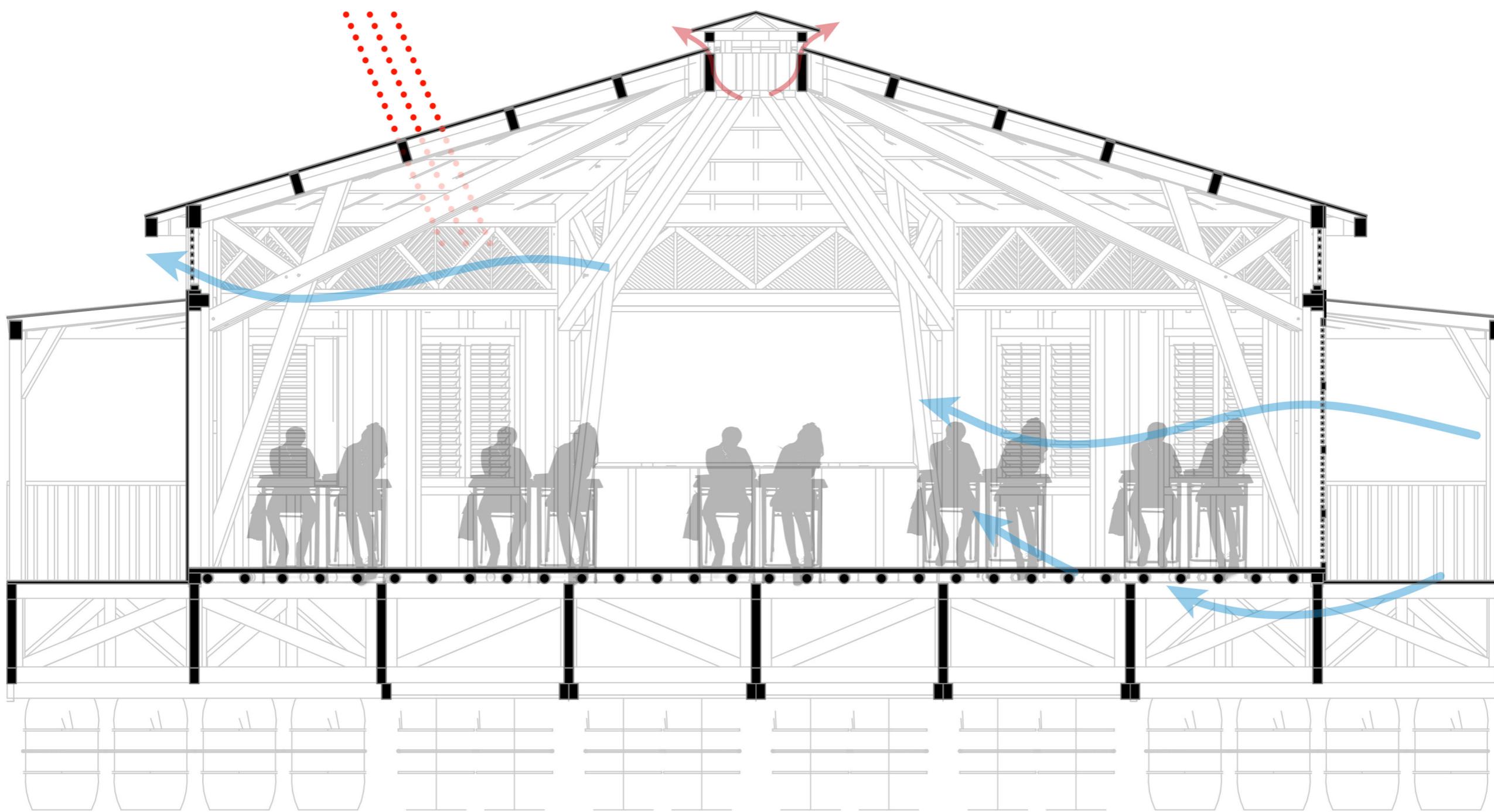
Disturbed by noises from other classrooms



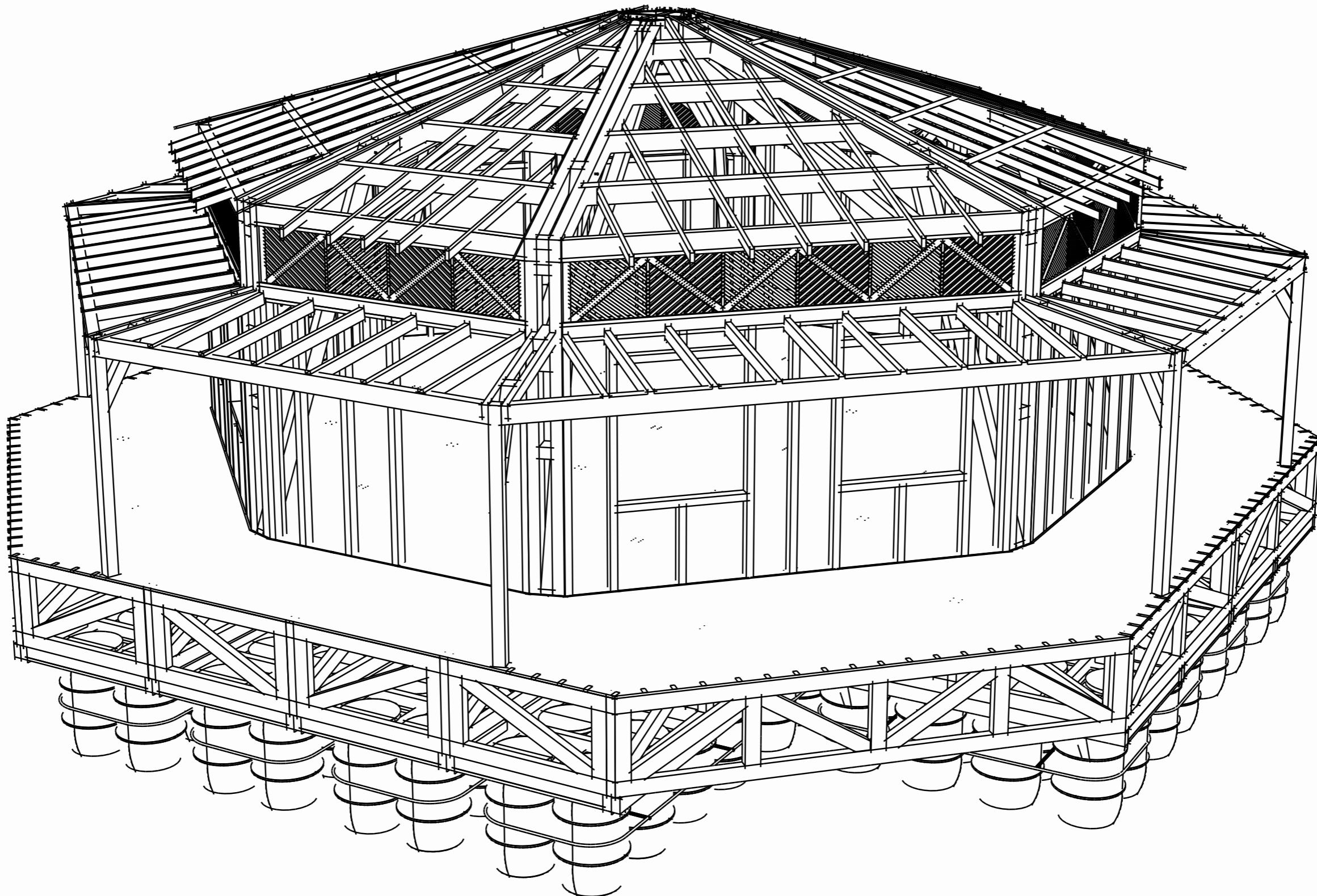
Most of the studens were satisfied with the space



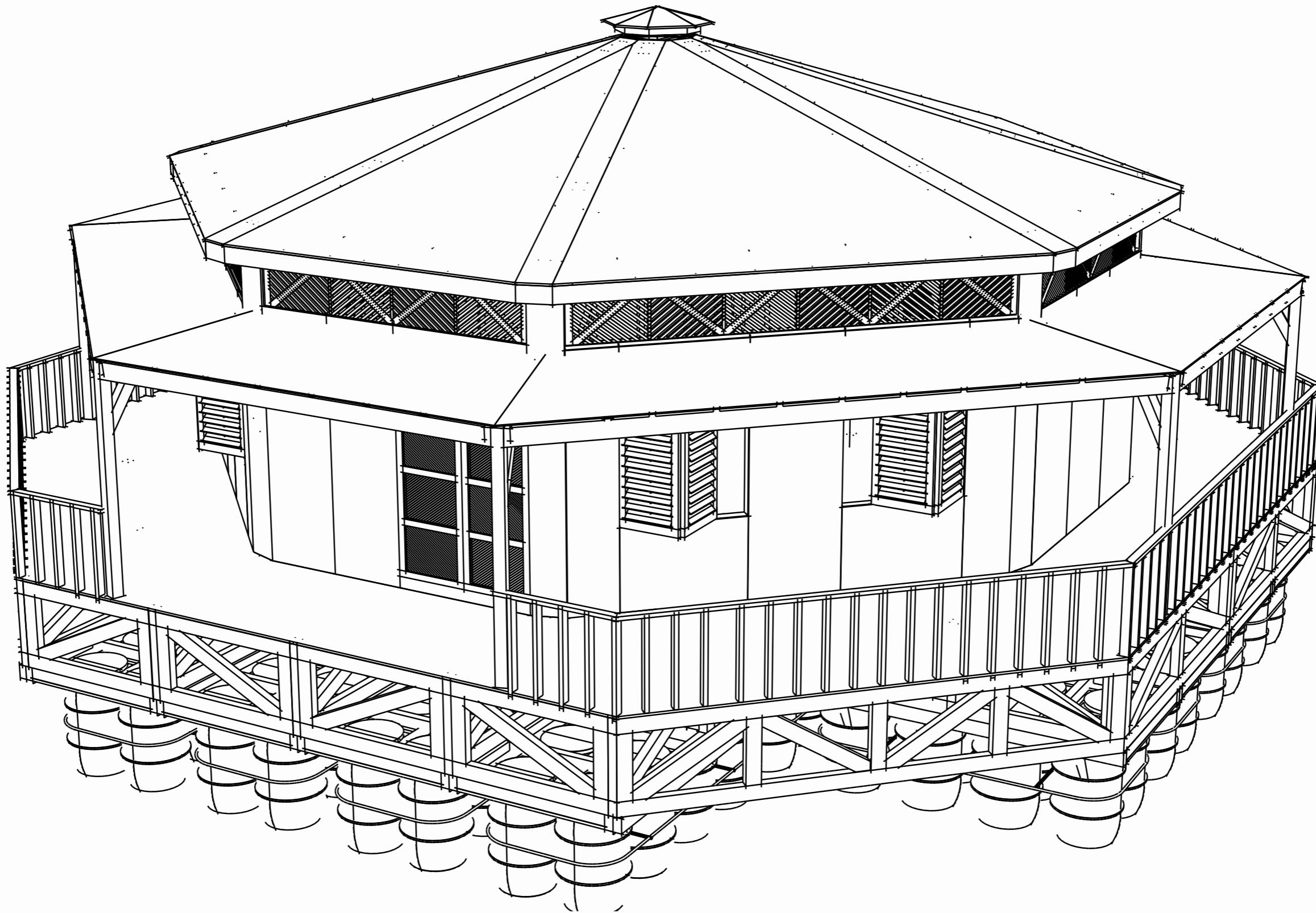
# Climate aspects



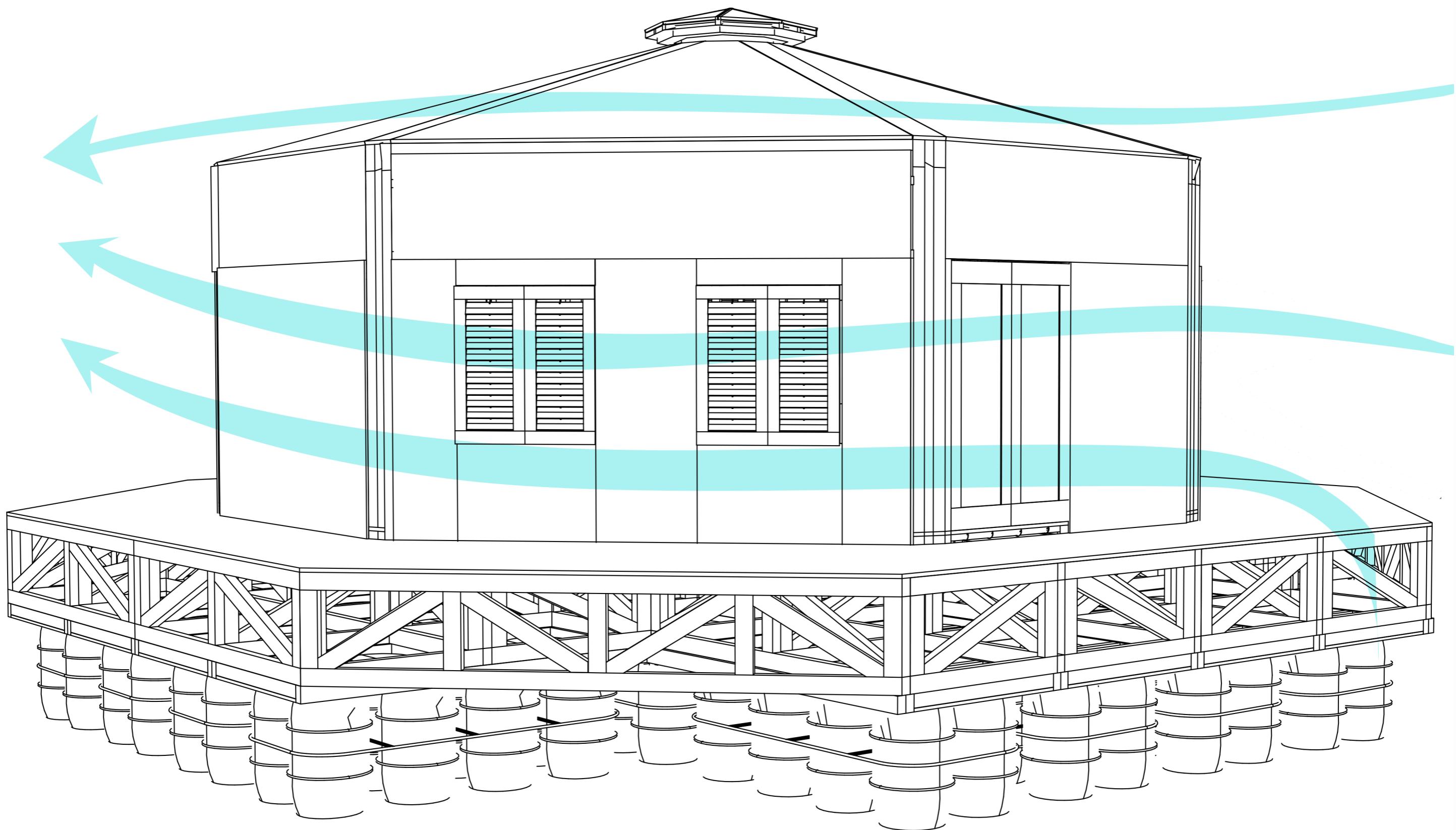
## Step 7: placing eaves, flooring and roof rafters



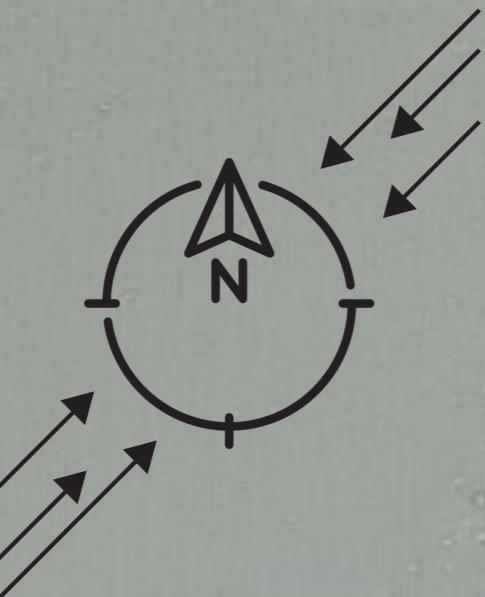
## Step 8: finishing of the roof, facades and fences



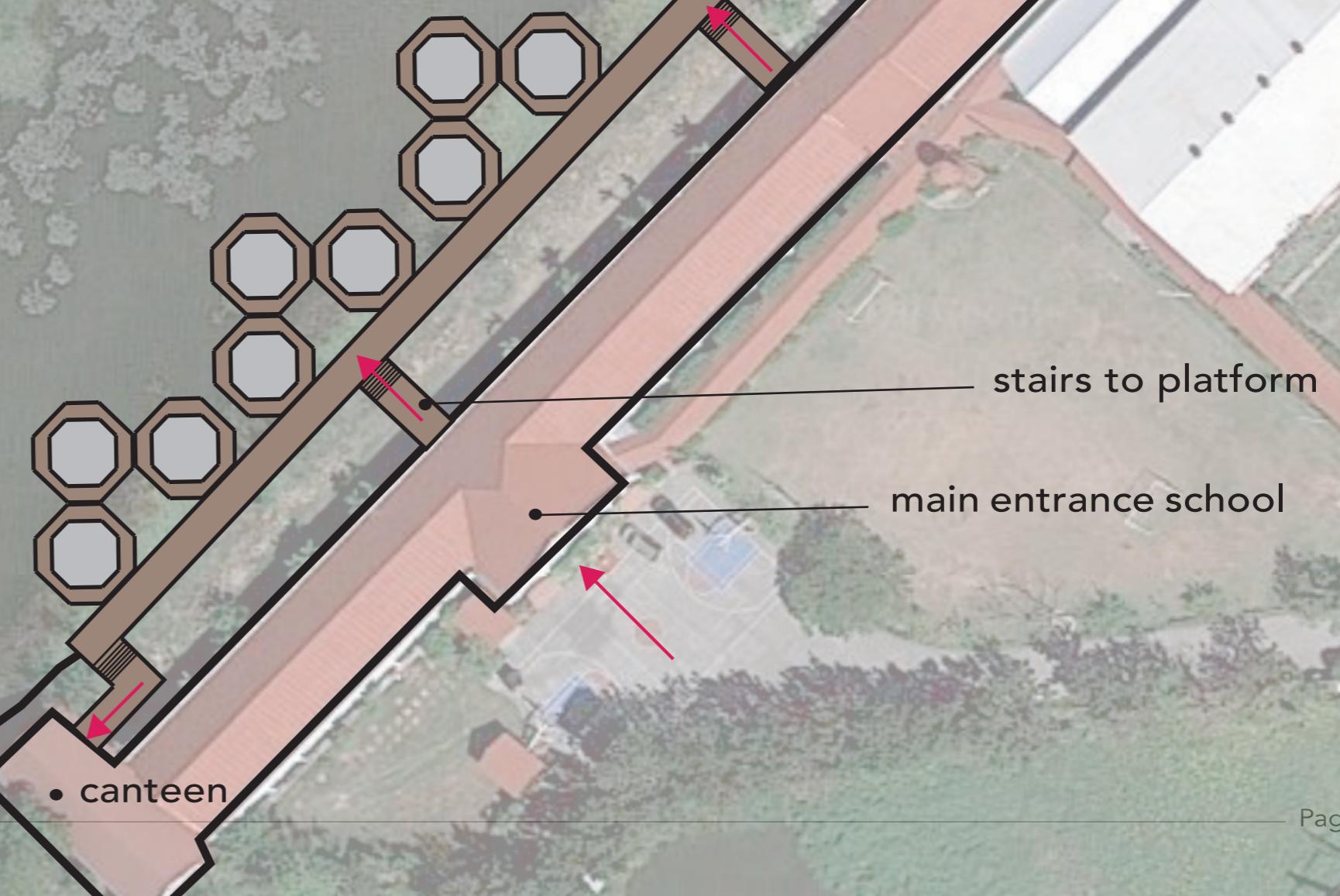
# During typhoon



wind from march till may



wind from june until october

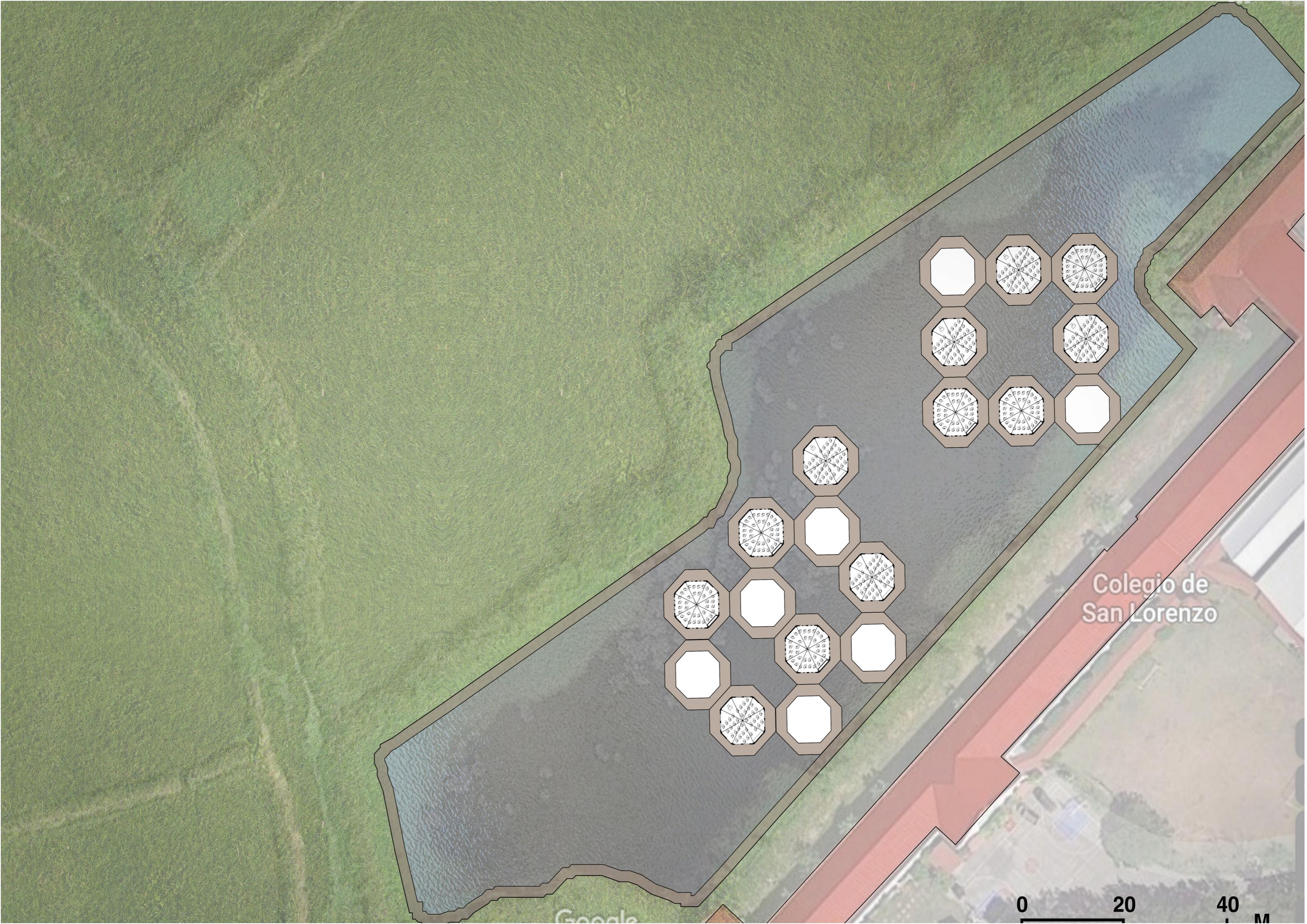




0

20

40



Colegio de  
San Lorenzo

0 20 40 M

Google









# Conclusion

**"This design is able to provide students that live in a flood and typhoon sensitive area a safe and comfortable learning environment "**



Thank you,

Questions?