

# **Pattern Kerfing for Responsive Wooden Surfaces**

*A formal approach to produce flexible panels with acoustic performance*

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## **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

Producing building components with a freeform surface geometry is a challenging task.

## OBJECTIVE

To determine a formal approach for the design and fabrication of responsive wooden surfaces  
by using **pattern kerfing** techniques  
towards better **acoustic performance**.

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by using **pattern kerfing** techniques  
towards better **acoustic performance**.

*>> To design a flexible acoustic panel.*



## **RESEARCH QUESTION**

How can we formalize the pattern kerfing techniques  
in order to produce responsive wooden surfaces  
for better acoustic performance?

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## SUB-QUESTIONS

### **PATTERN** *on* **FLEXIBILITY**

How does pattern kerfing influence the attainable curvature of a panel?

### **PATTERN** *on* **ACOUSTICS**

How does pattern kerfing influence the acoustic performance of a panel?

### **FLEXIBILITY** *on* **ACOUSTICS**

What effect has a curved surface of a panel on its acoustic performance?

### **APPLICATION** *of* **SYSTEM**

What are potential uses of responsive surfaces on acoustic performance?

## PRESENTATION CONTENT

**1.**

### **FLEXIBILITY**

Principles  
Parameters  
Observations  
Simulation  
Conclusion

**2.**

### **ACOUSTICS**

Parameters  
Measurements  
Conclusions

**3.**

### **DESIGN**

Concept  
Prototype  
Conclusion

**4.**

### **CONCLUSION**

Responsive acoustic  
panel



# **BOUNDARY CONDITIONS**

## **Focus on geometry and acoustics**

No material, fire safety, structural analysis, production costs

## **Two-dimensional pattern**

Meander pattern

## **Conceptual design**

Prototype component

**FLEXIBILITY**



**FLEXIBILITY**  
DEVELOPMENT



makezine.com (2018)

LINEAR PATTERN

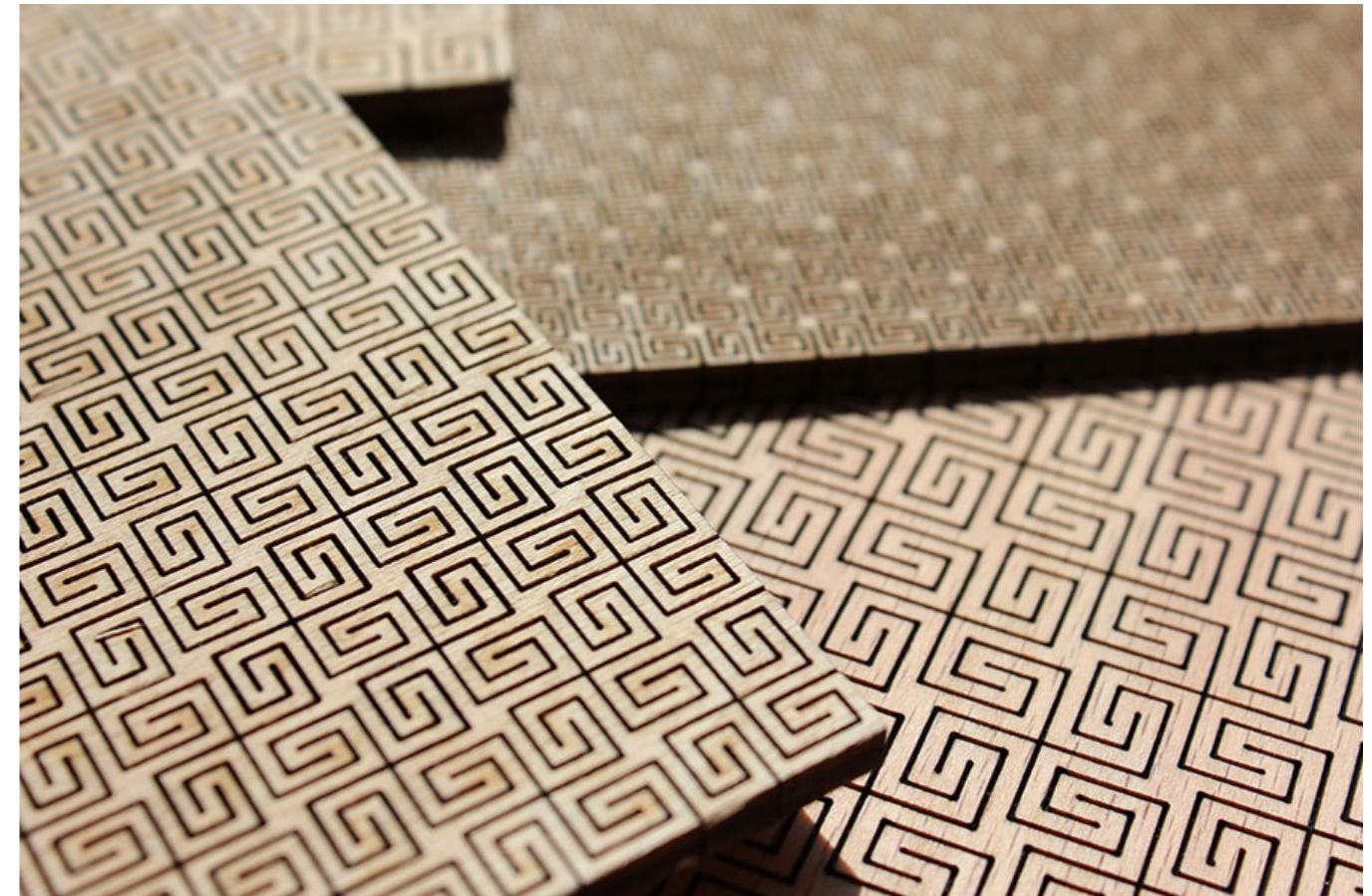


**FLEXIBILITY**  
DEVELOPMENT



makezine.com (2018)

LINEAR PATTERN

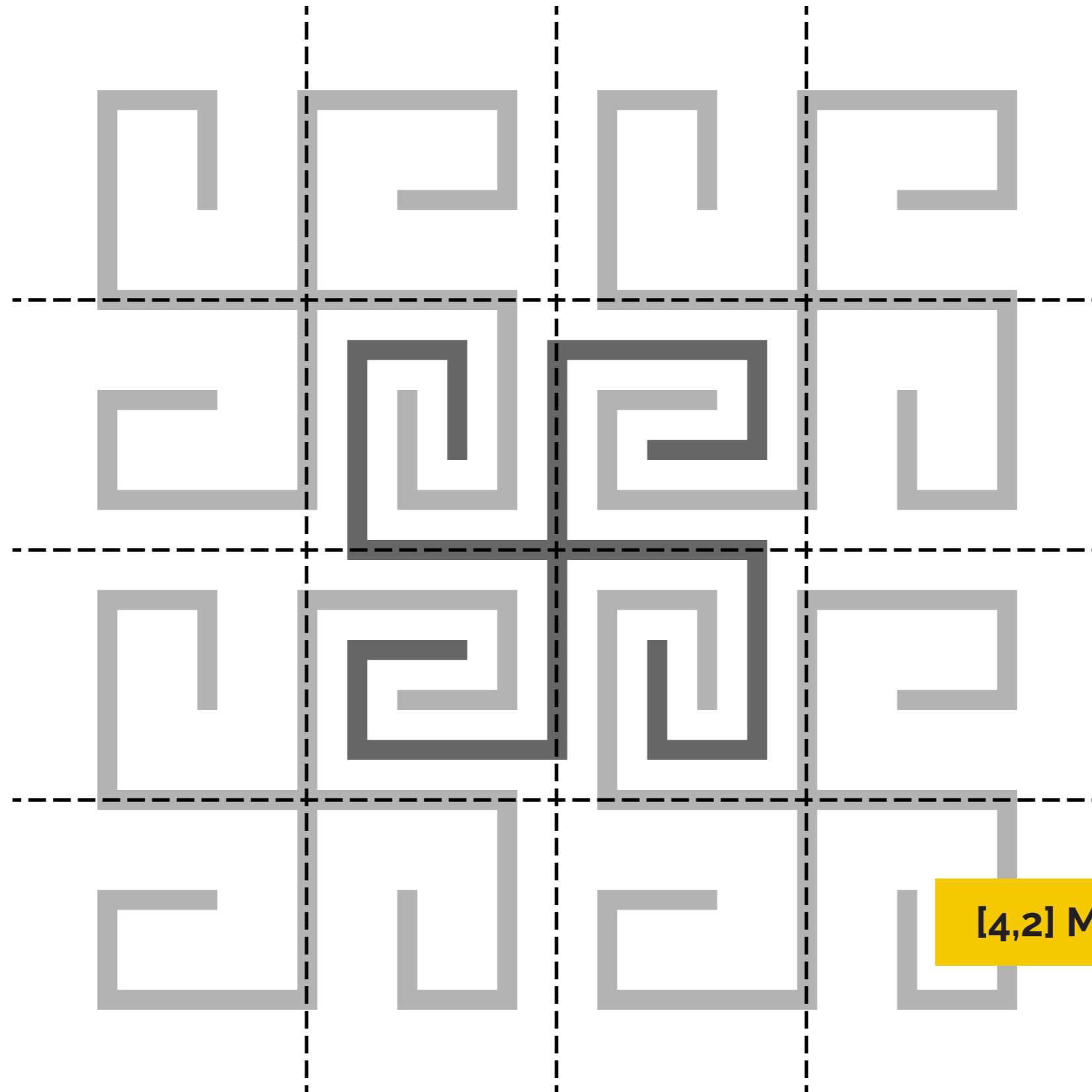


Ivanišević, D. (2014)

MEANDER PATTERN



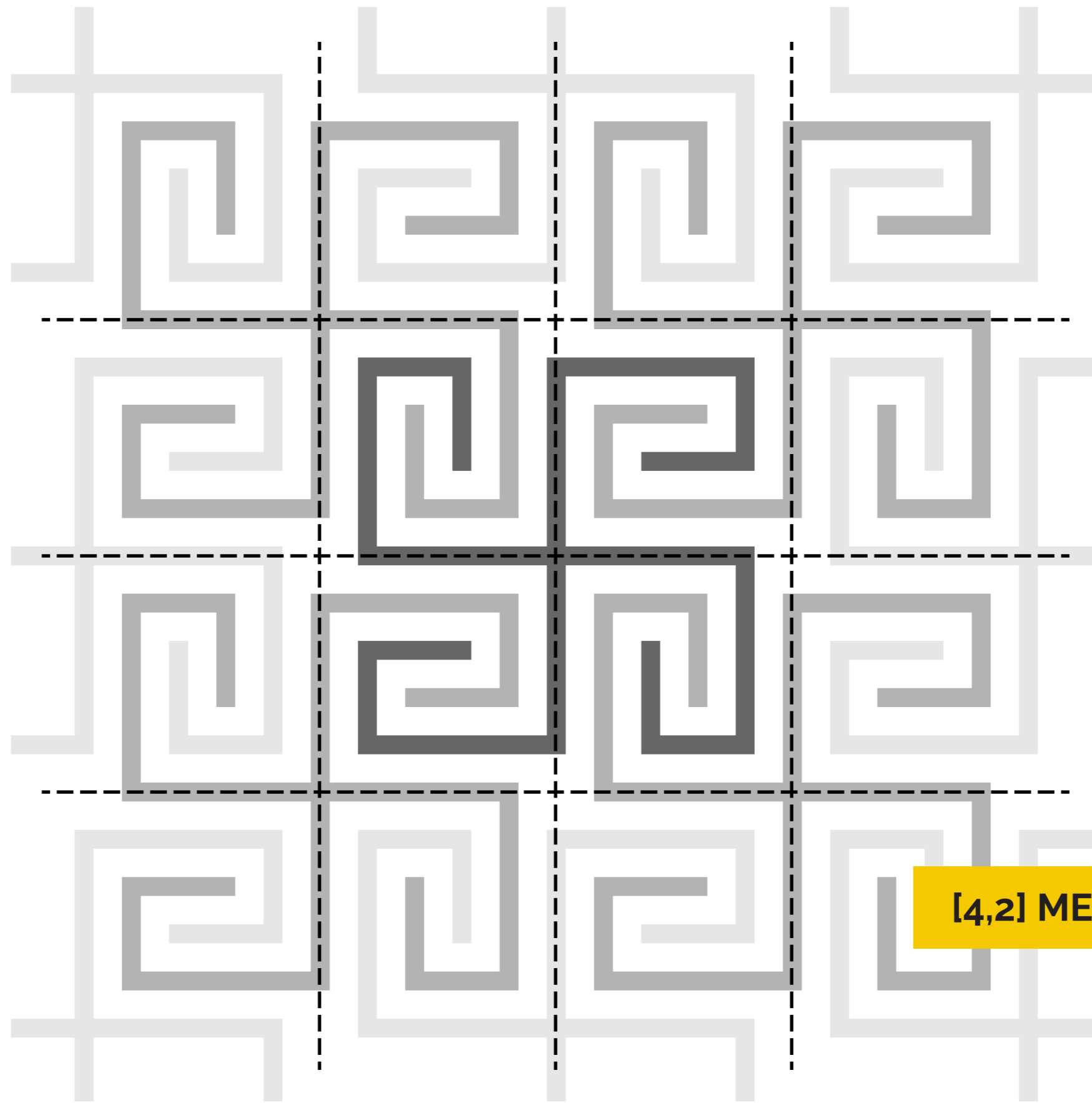
**FLEXIBILITY**  
PATTERN PRINCIPLE



**[4,2] MEANDER**



**FLEXIBILITY**  
PATTERN PRINCIPLE

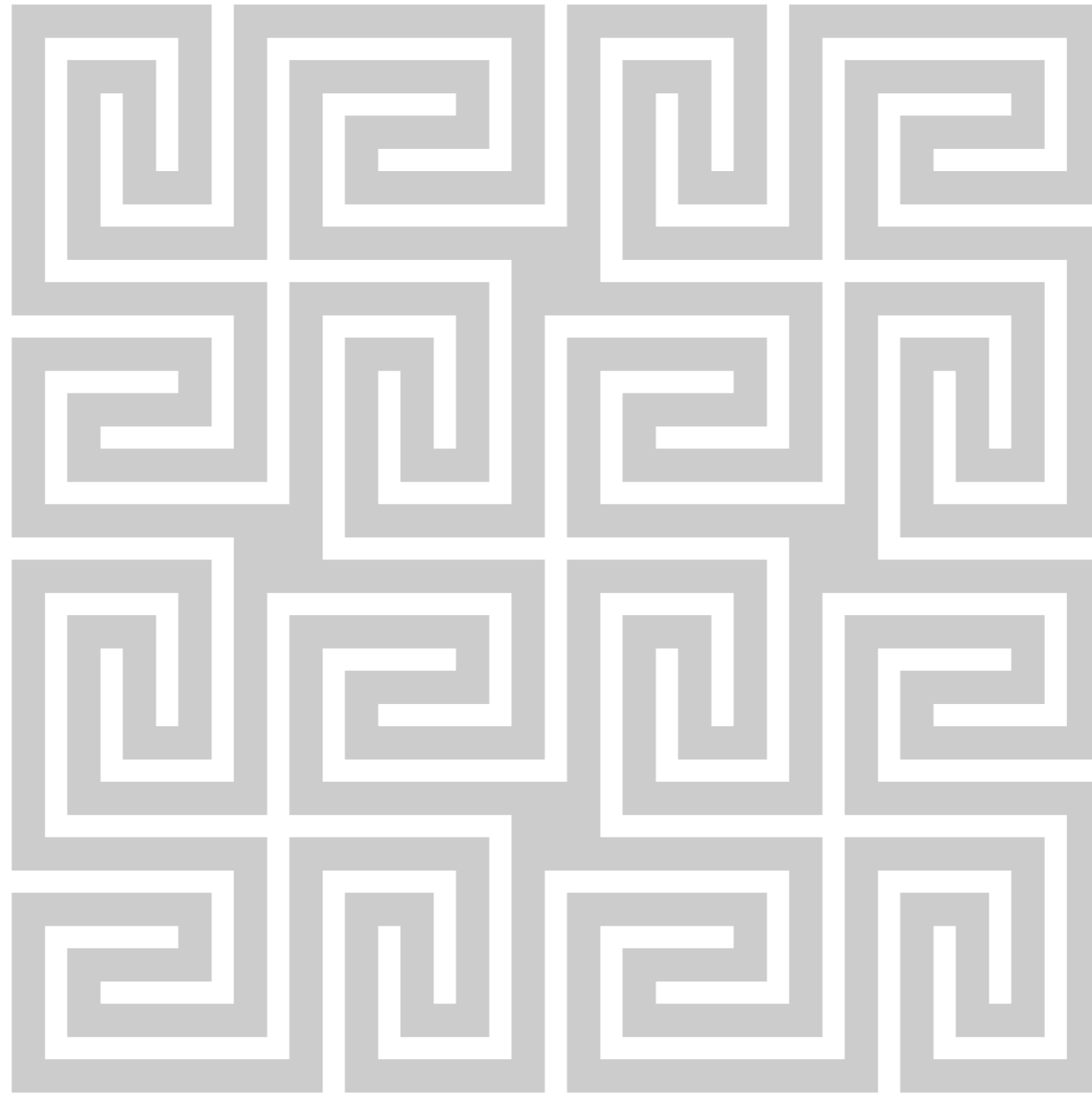


**[4,2] MEANDER**

**FLEXIBILITY**  
PATTERN PRINCIPLE

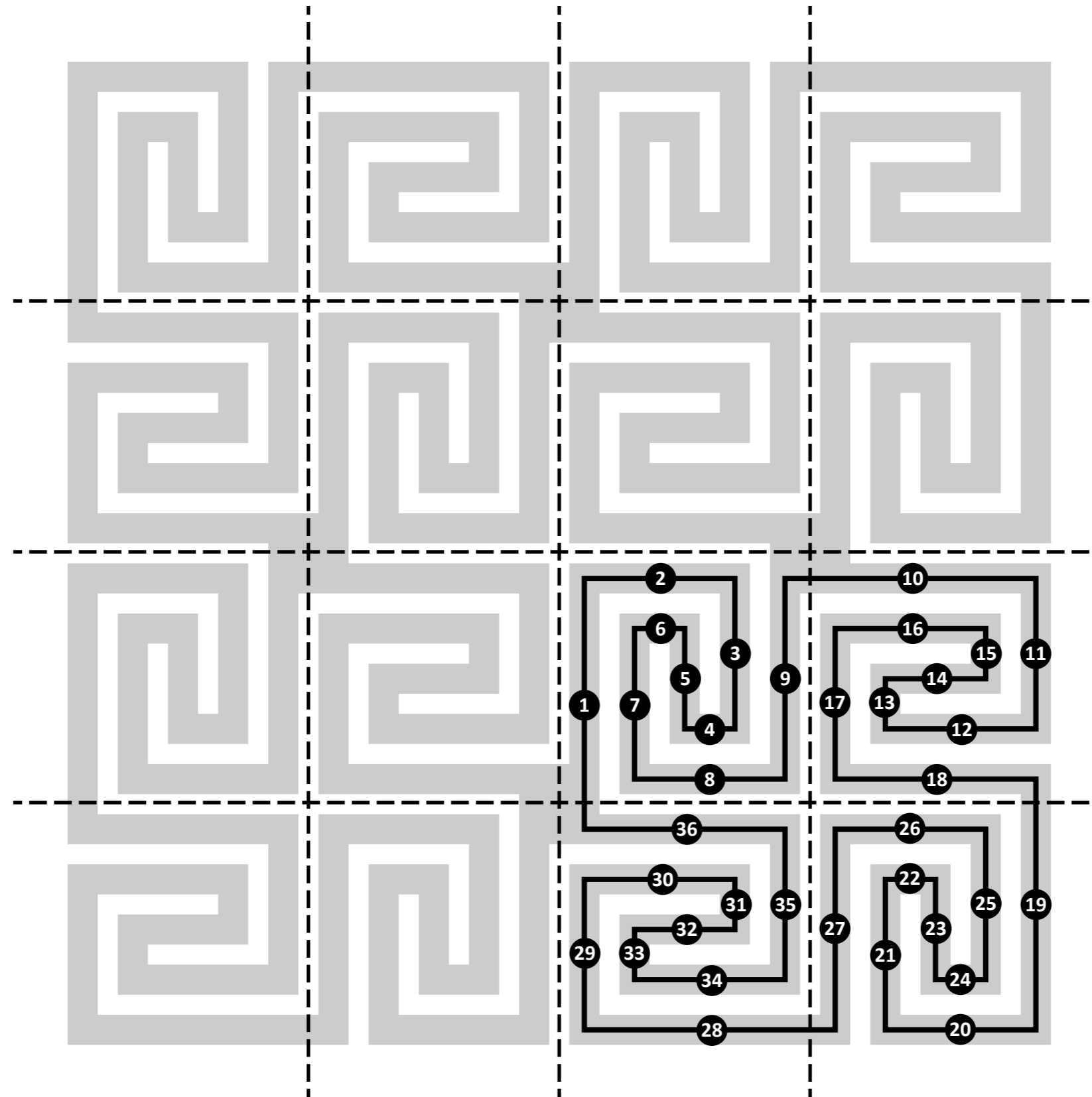


**FLEXIBILITY**  
PATTERN PRINCIPLE

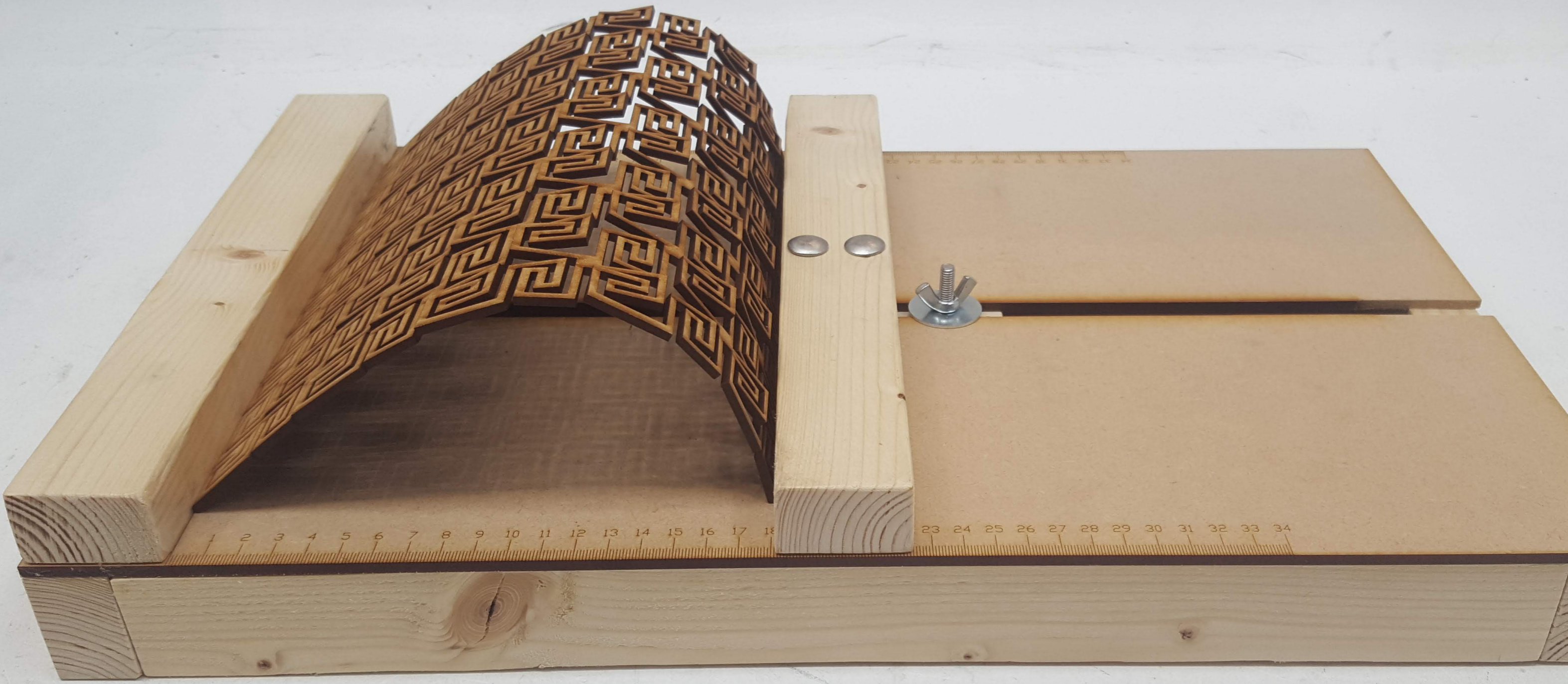


# FLEXIBILITY

## PATTERN PRINCIPLE







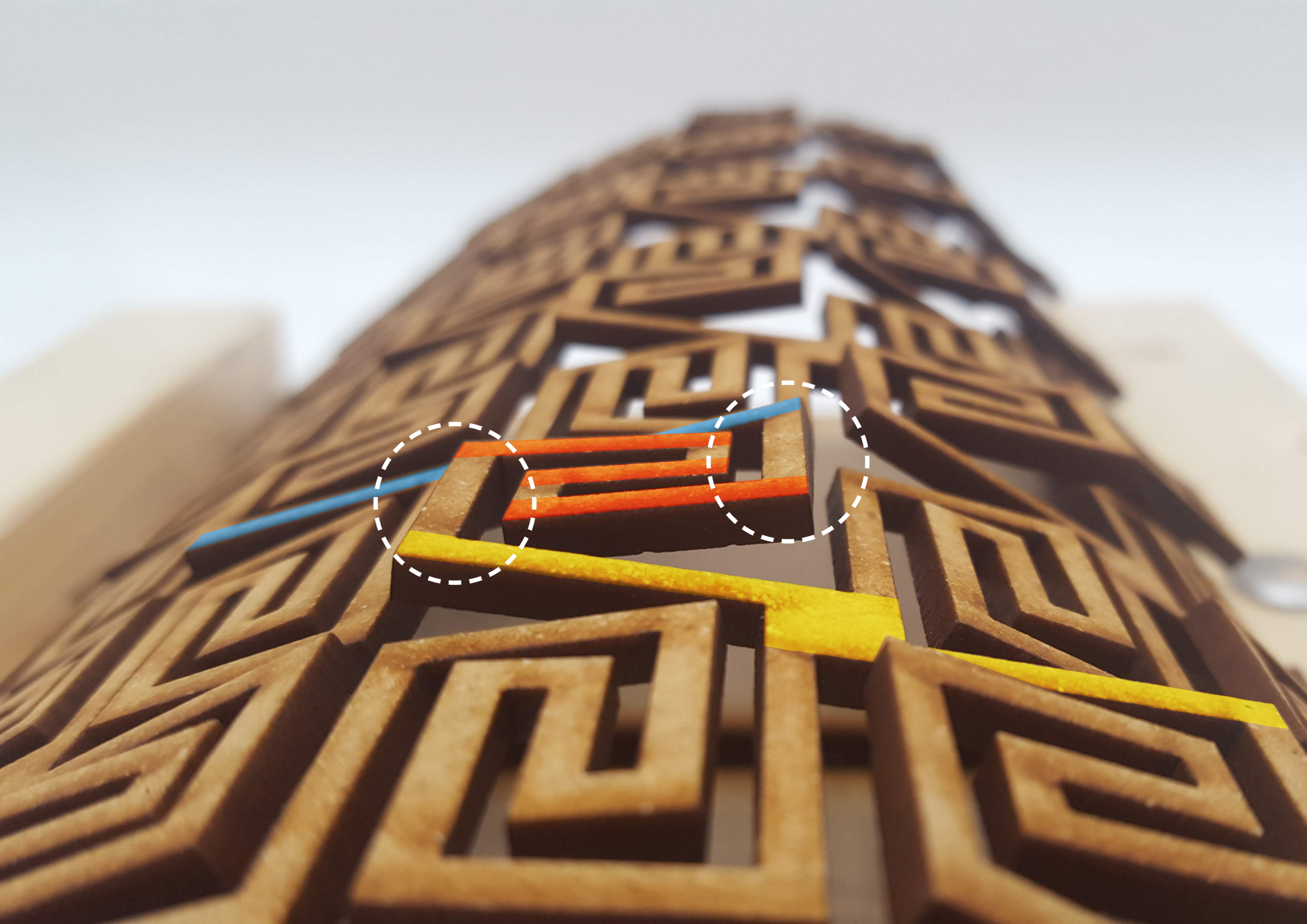












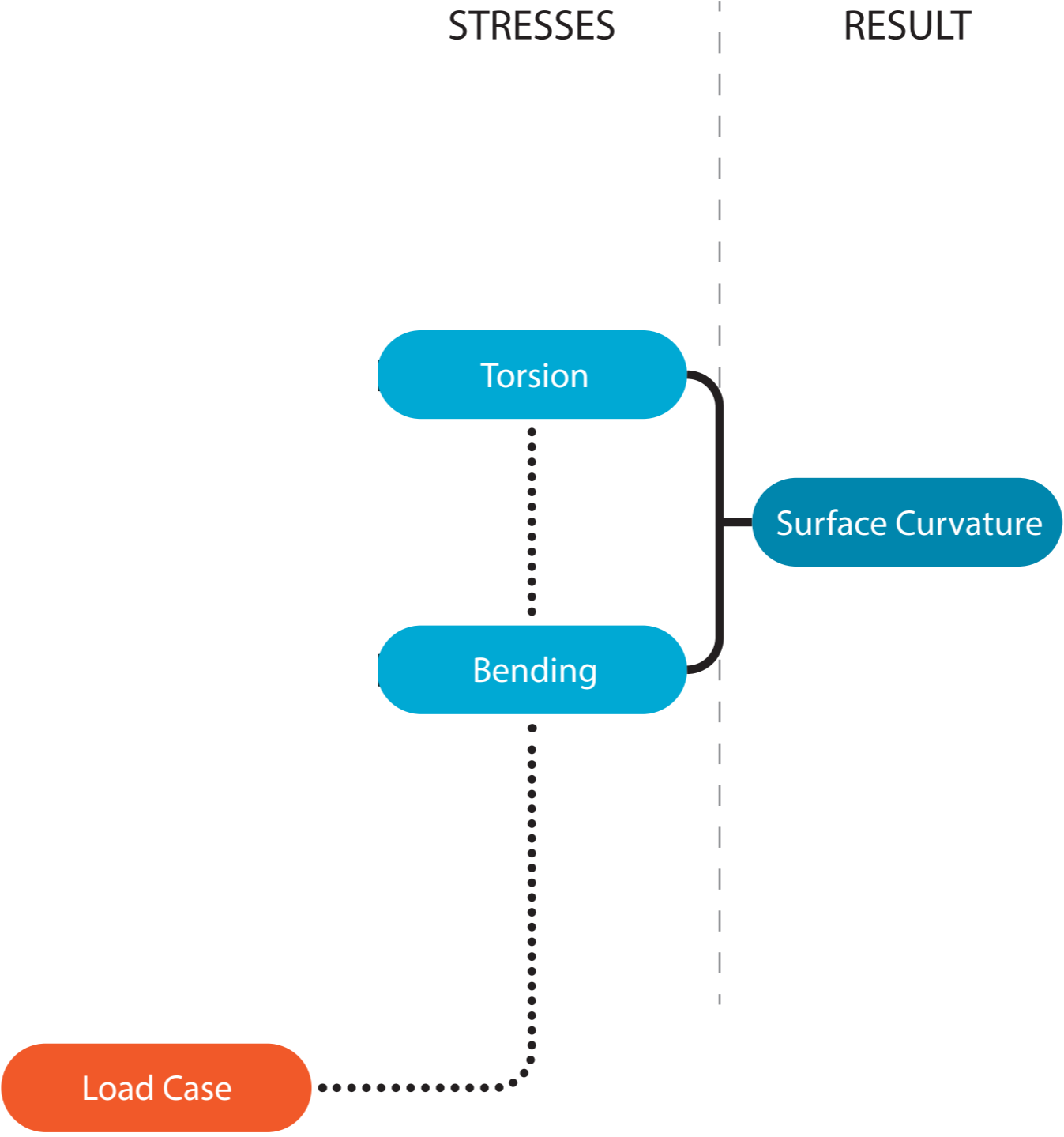


**FLEXIBILITY**  
PARAMETERS

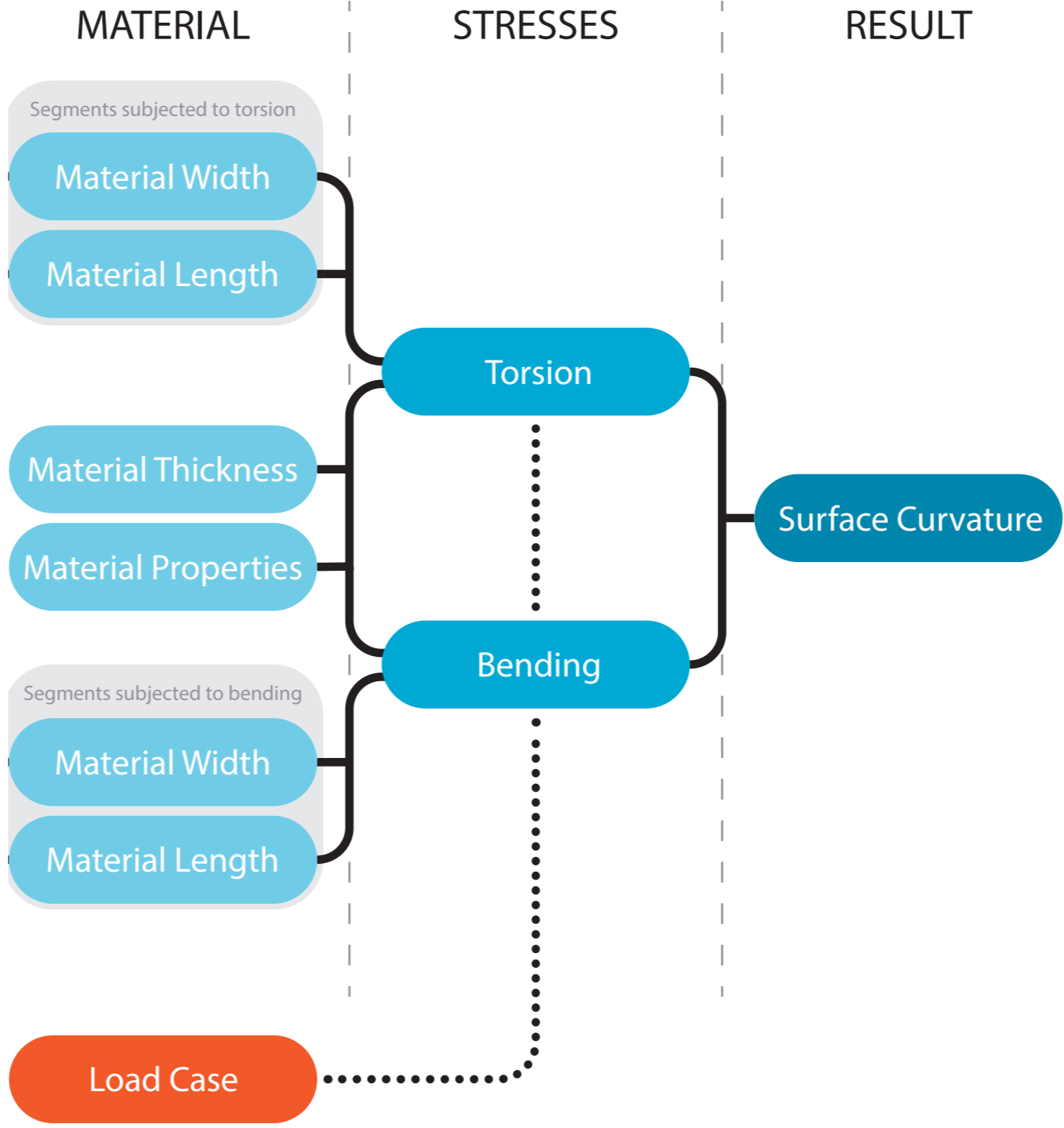
RESULT

Surface Curvature

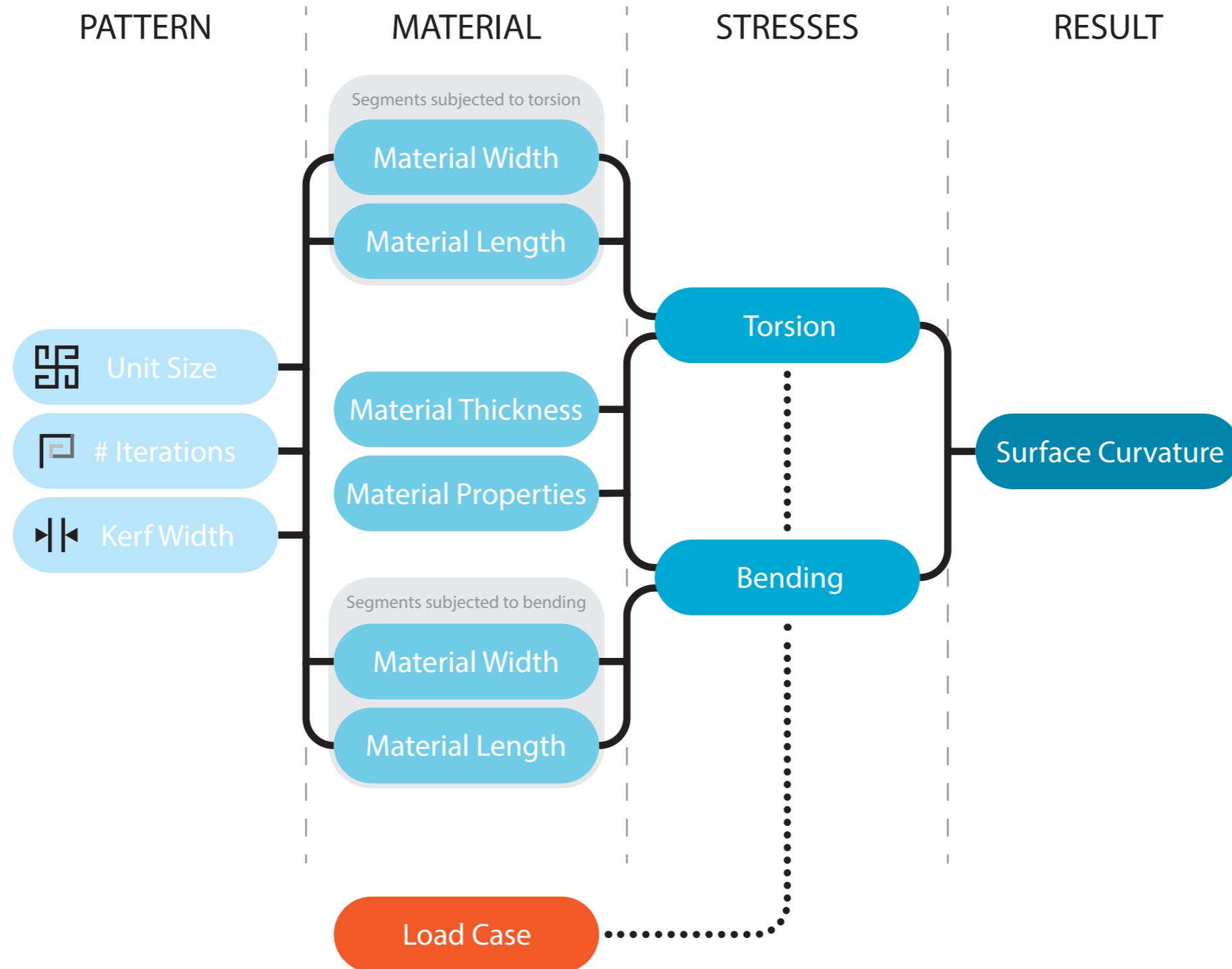
# FLEXIBILITY PARAMETERS



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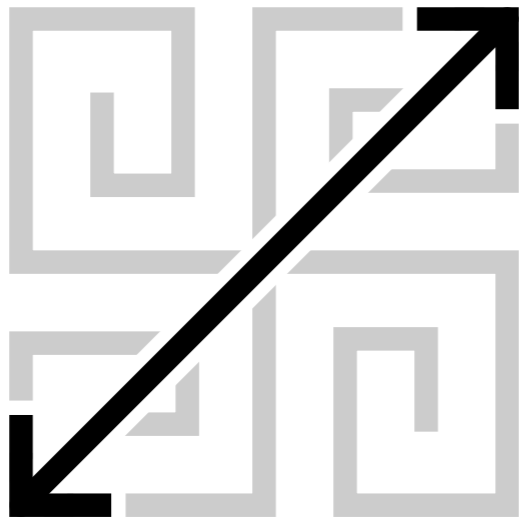


# FLEXIBILITY PARAMETERS



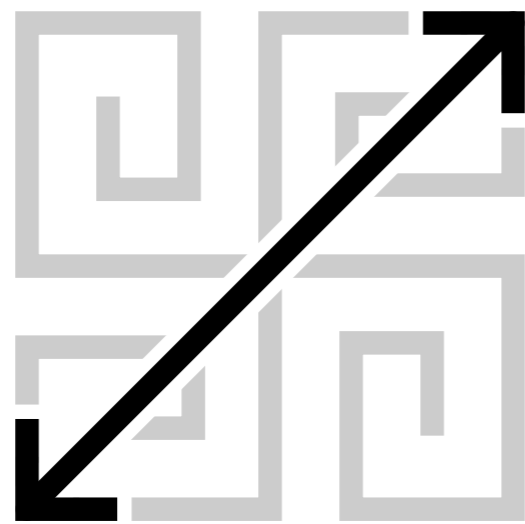


**FLEXIBILITY**  
PARAMETERS

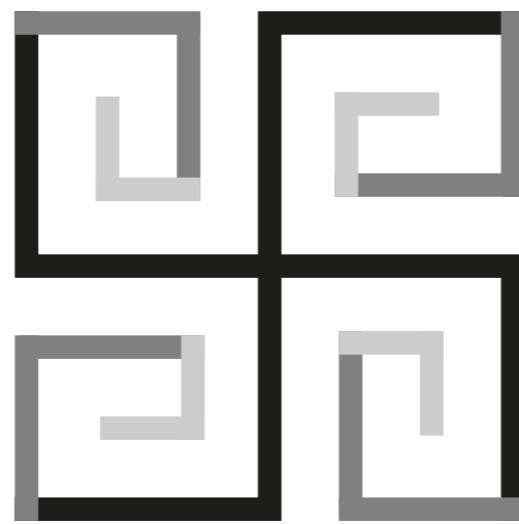


UNIT SIZE

# FLEXIBILITY PARAMETERS

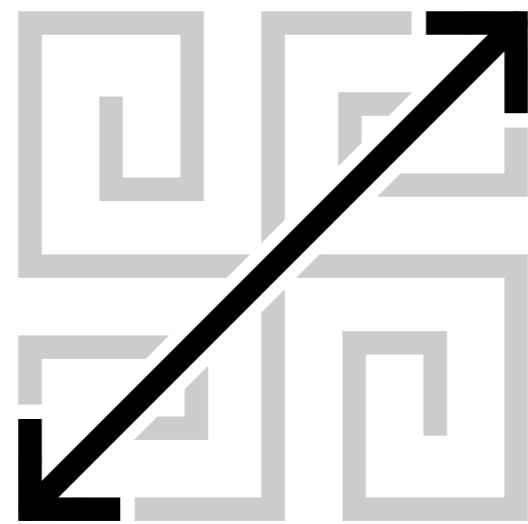


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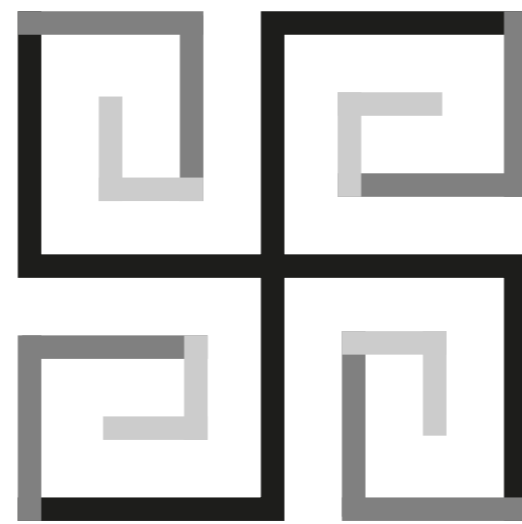


NUMBER OF ITERATIONS

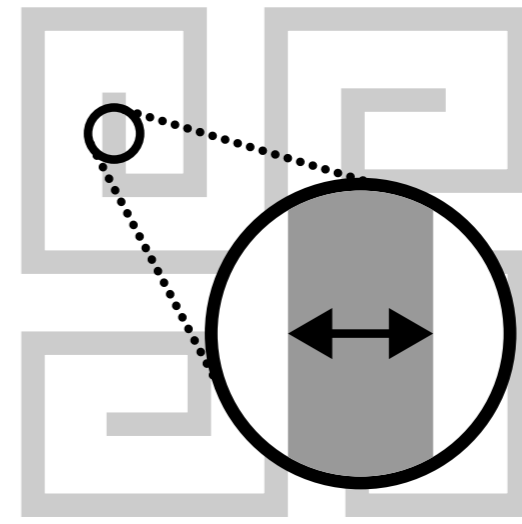
# FLEXIBILITY PARAMETERS



UNIT SIZE

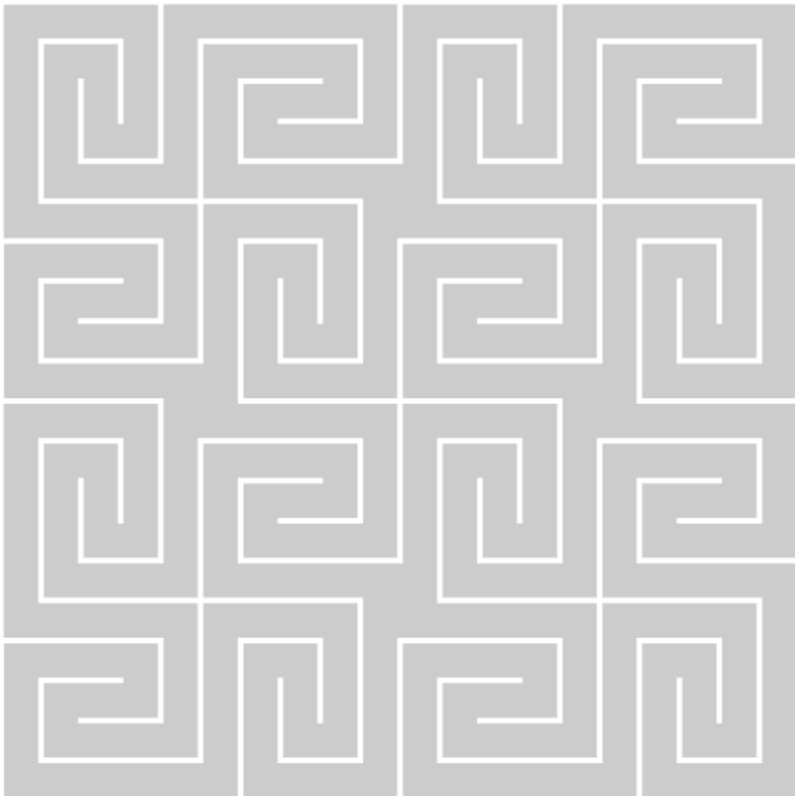


NUMBER OF ITERATIONS



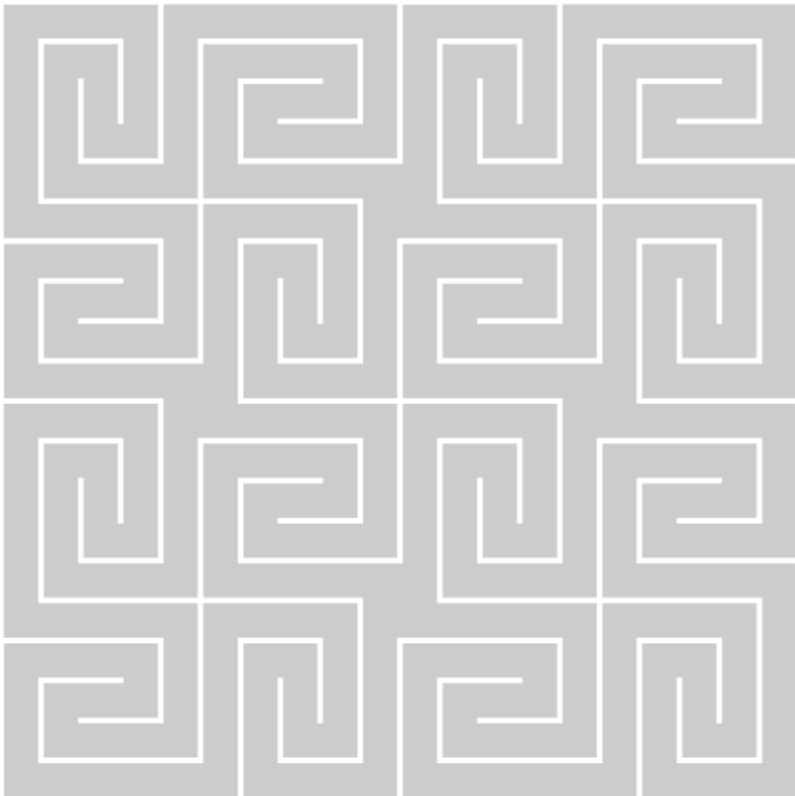
KERF WIDTH

**FLEXIBILITY**

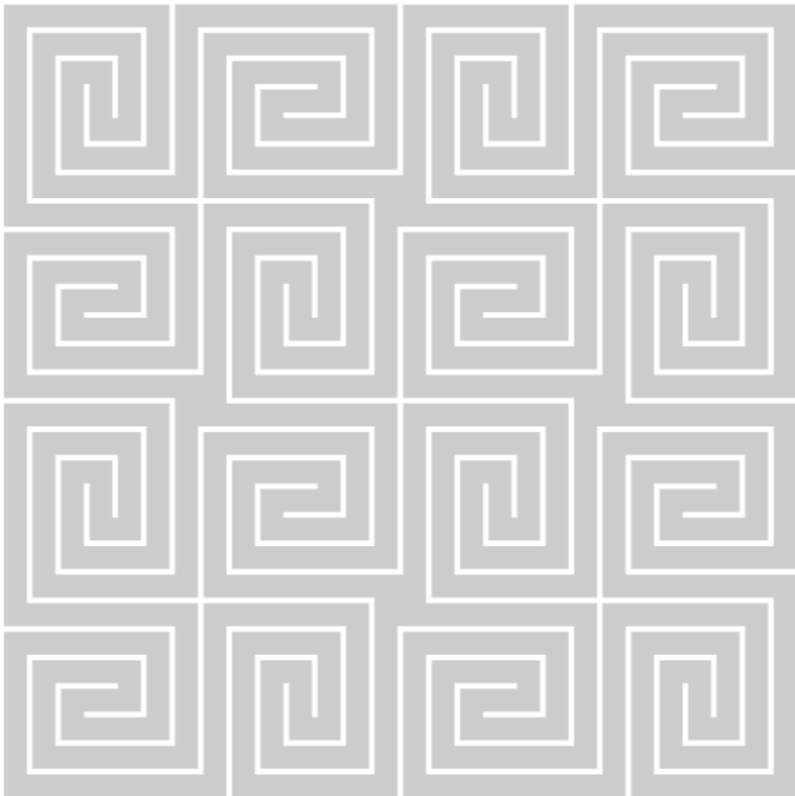


BASIC MEANDER PATTERN

**FLEXIBILITY**

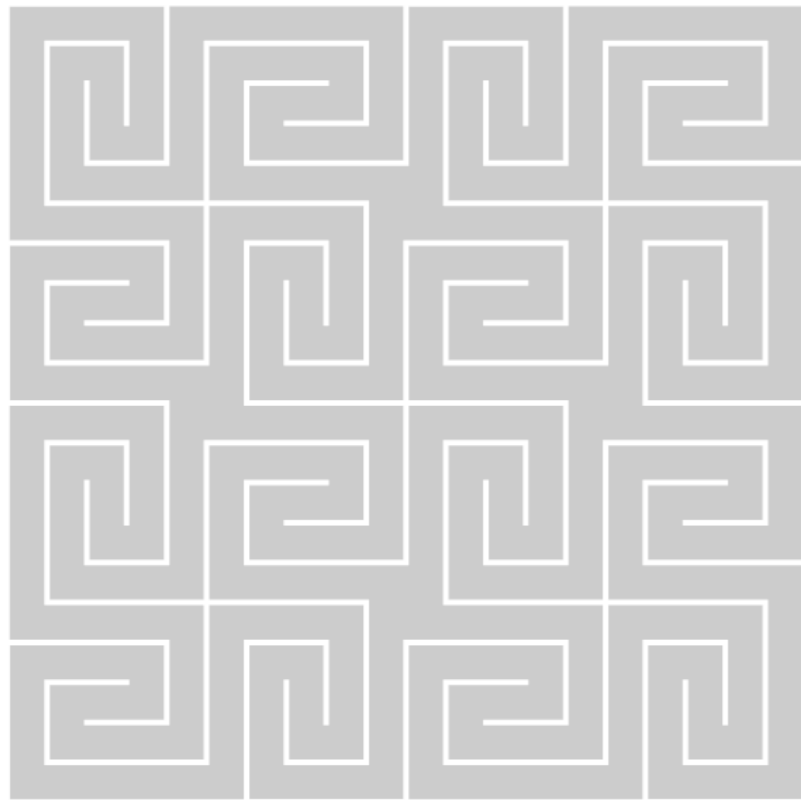


BASIC MEANDER PATTERN

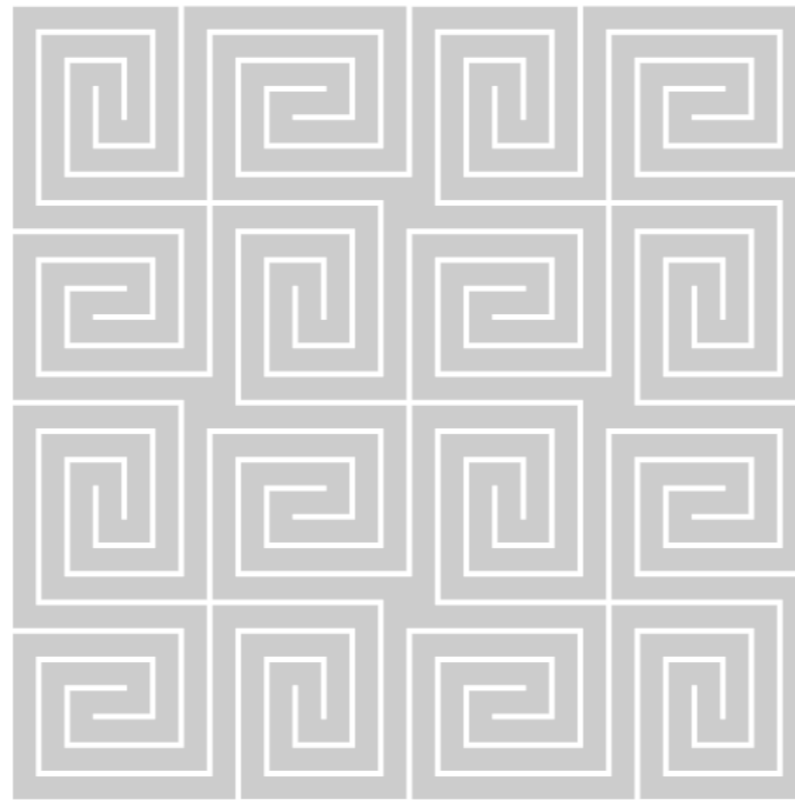


INCREASED NUMBER OF ITERATIONS

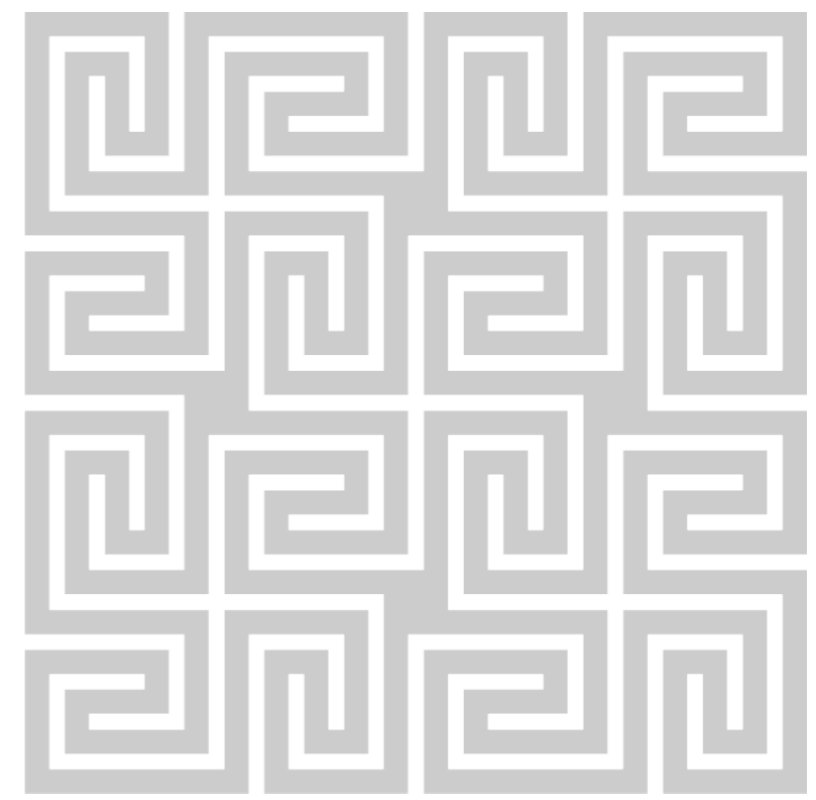
# FLEXIBILITY



BASIC MEANDER PATTERN



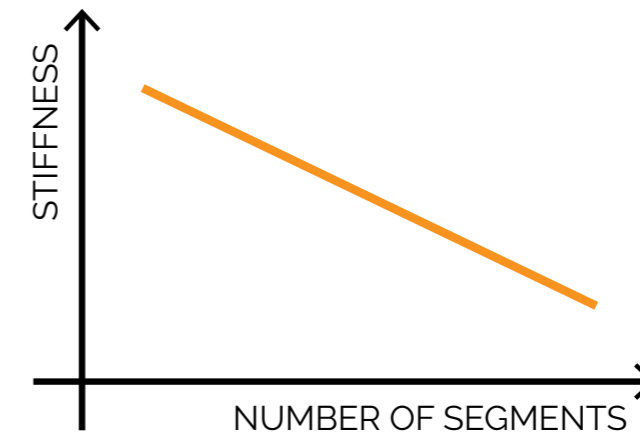
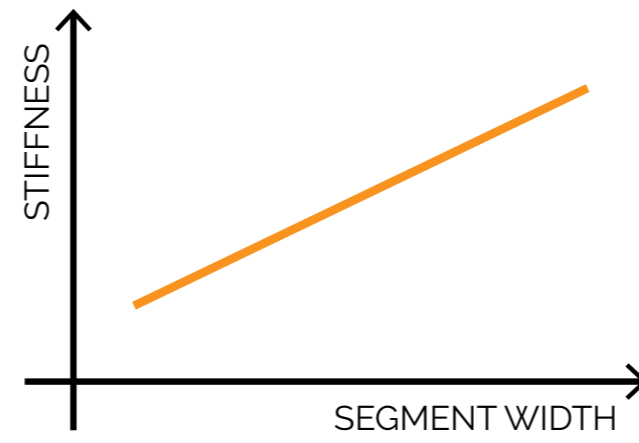
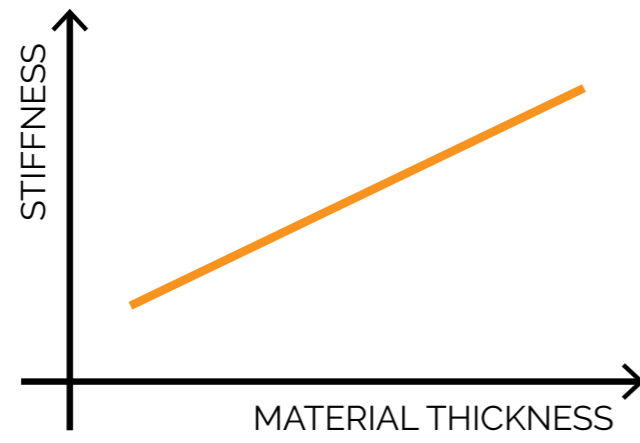
INCREASED NUMBER OF ITERATIONS



INCREASED KERF WIDTH



# FLEXIBILITY EXPECTATIONS

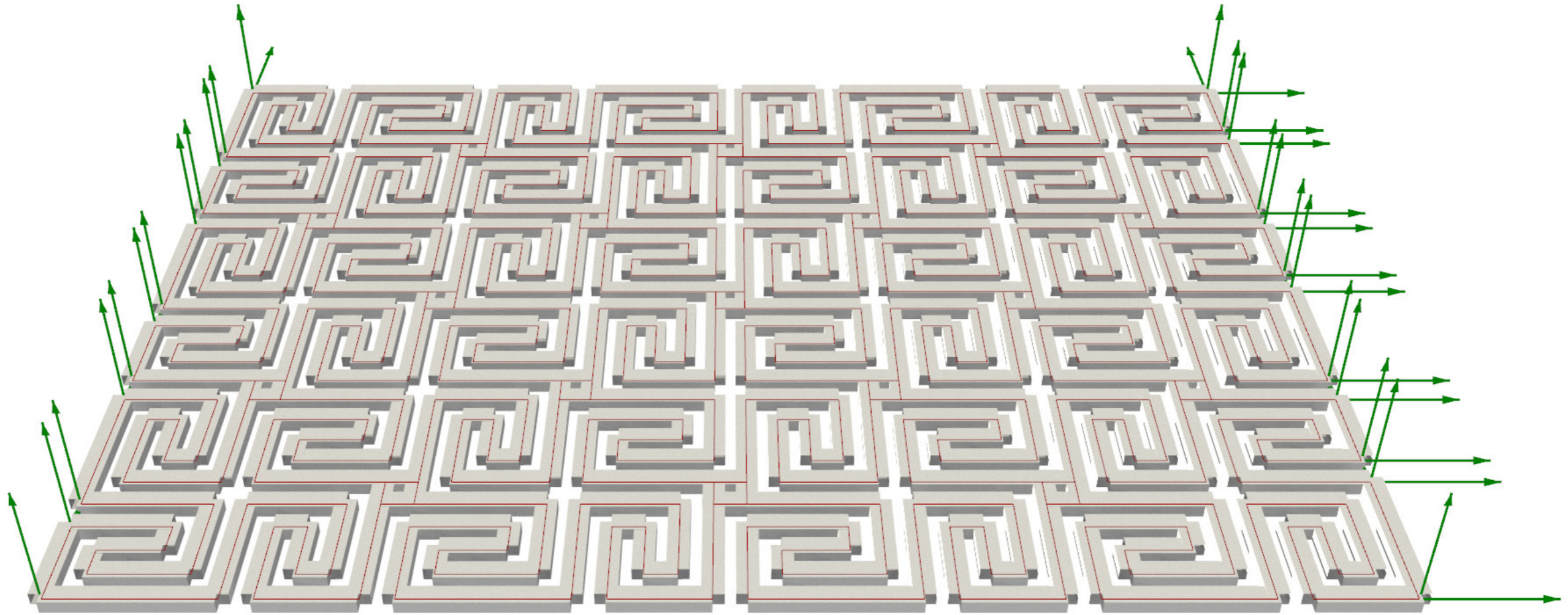


# SIMULATION

*Karamba*

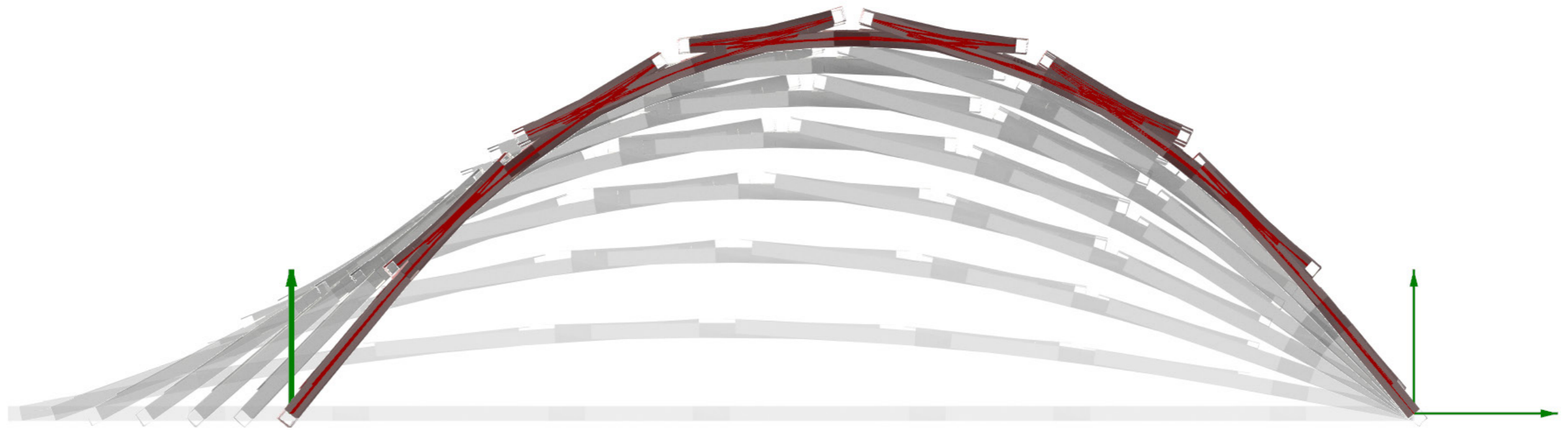
# FLEXIBILITY

## KARAMBA MODEL



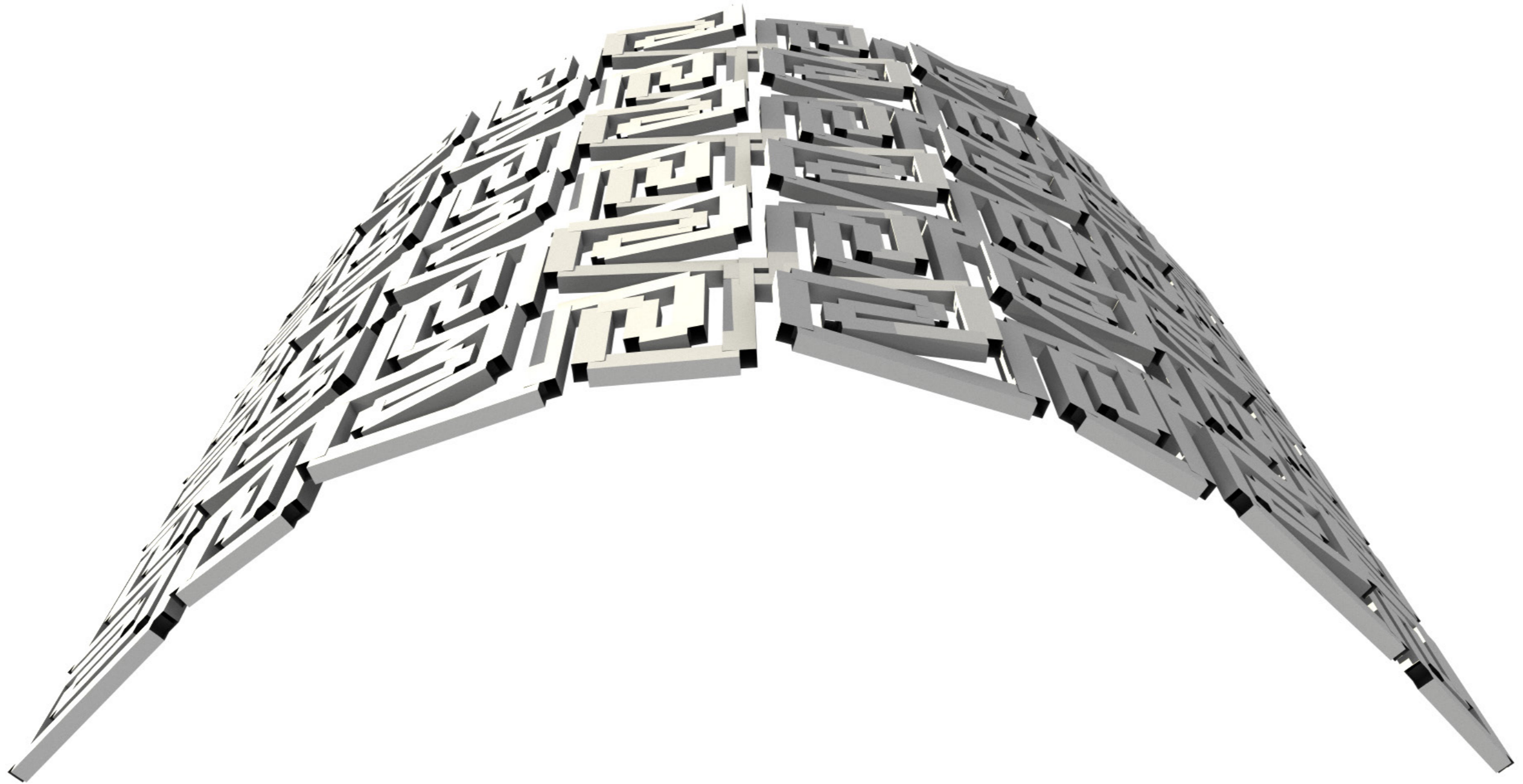
# FLEXIBILITY

## KARAMBA MODEL





**FLEXIBILITY**  
KARAMBA MODEL



# FLEXIBILITY SIMULATIONS



**Unit size**  
150 mm

**Number of iterations**  
4

**Kerf width**  
5 mm

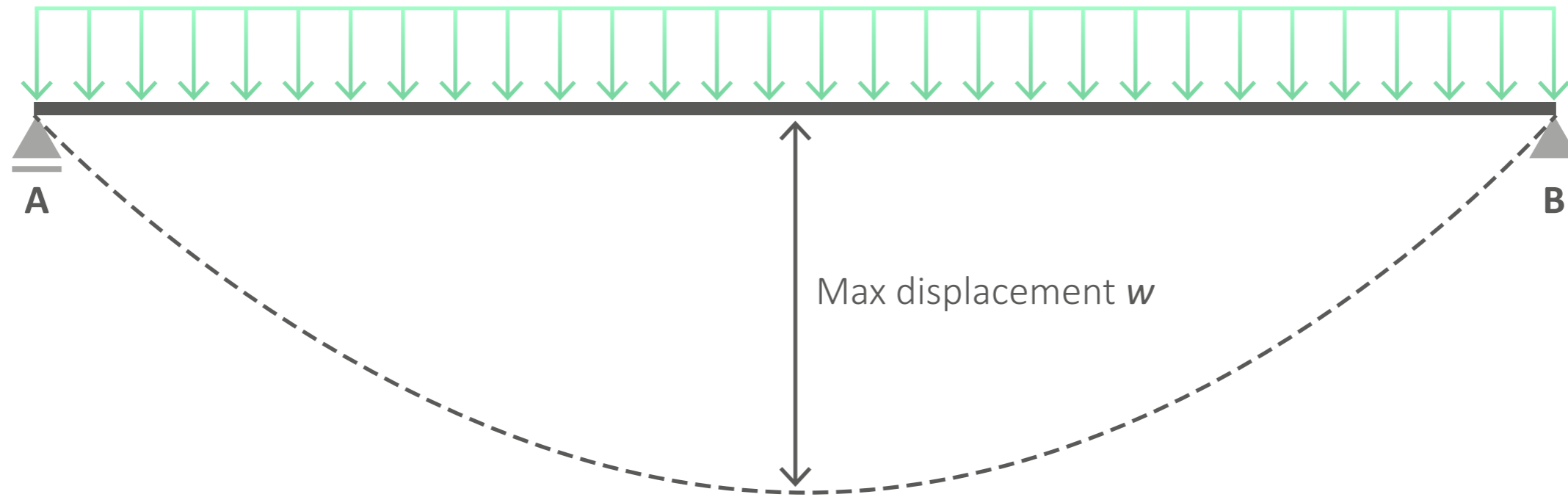
**Segment width**  
10 mm

**Segment height**  
6 mm

**Open surface area**  
30%

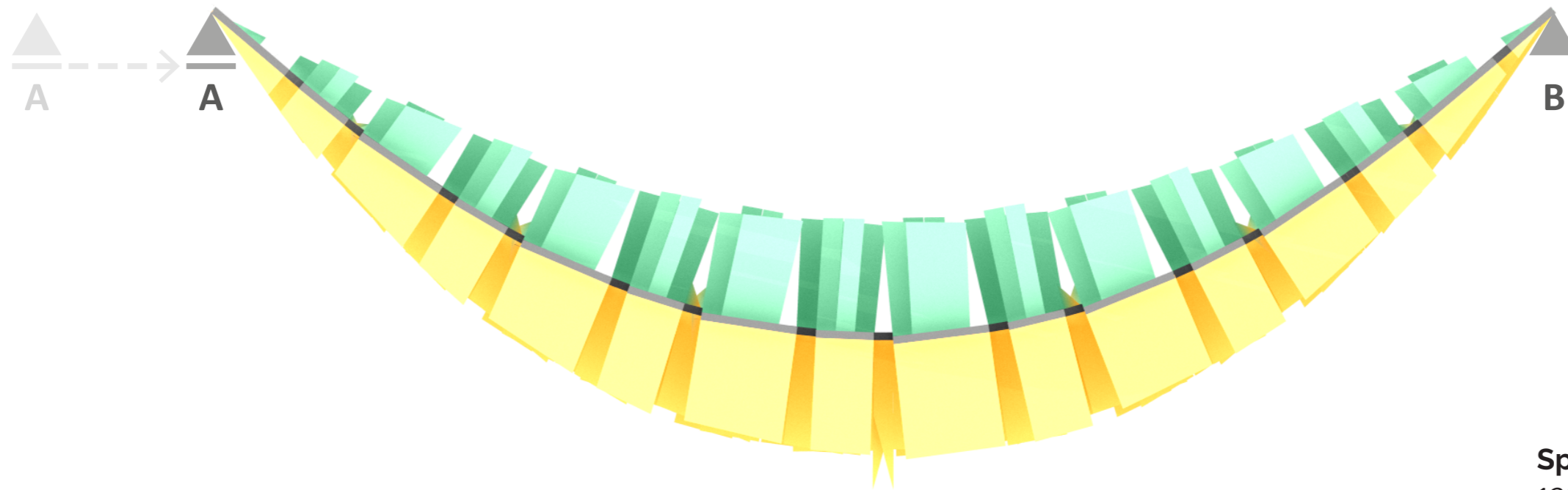
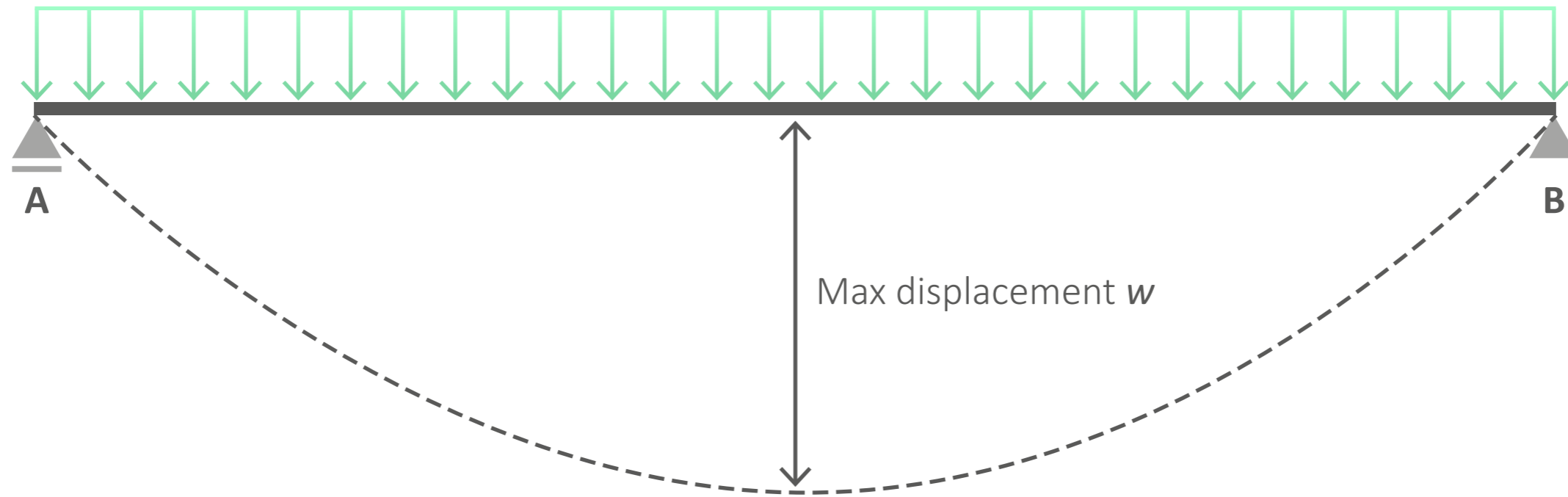


# FLEXIBILITY SIMULATIONS



**Span**  
1200 mm

# FLEXIBILITY SIMULATIONS

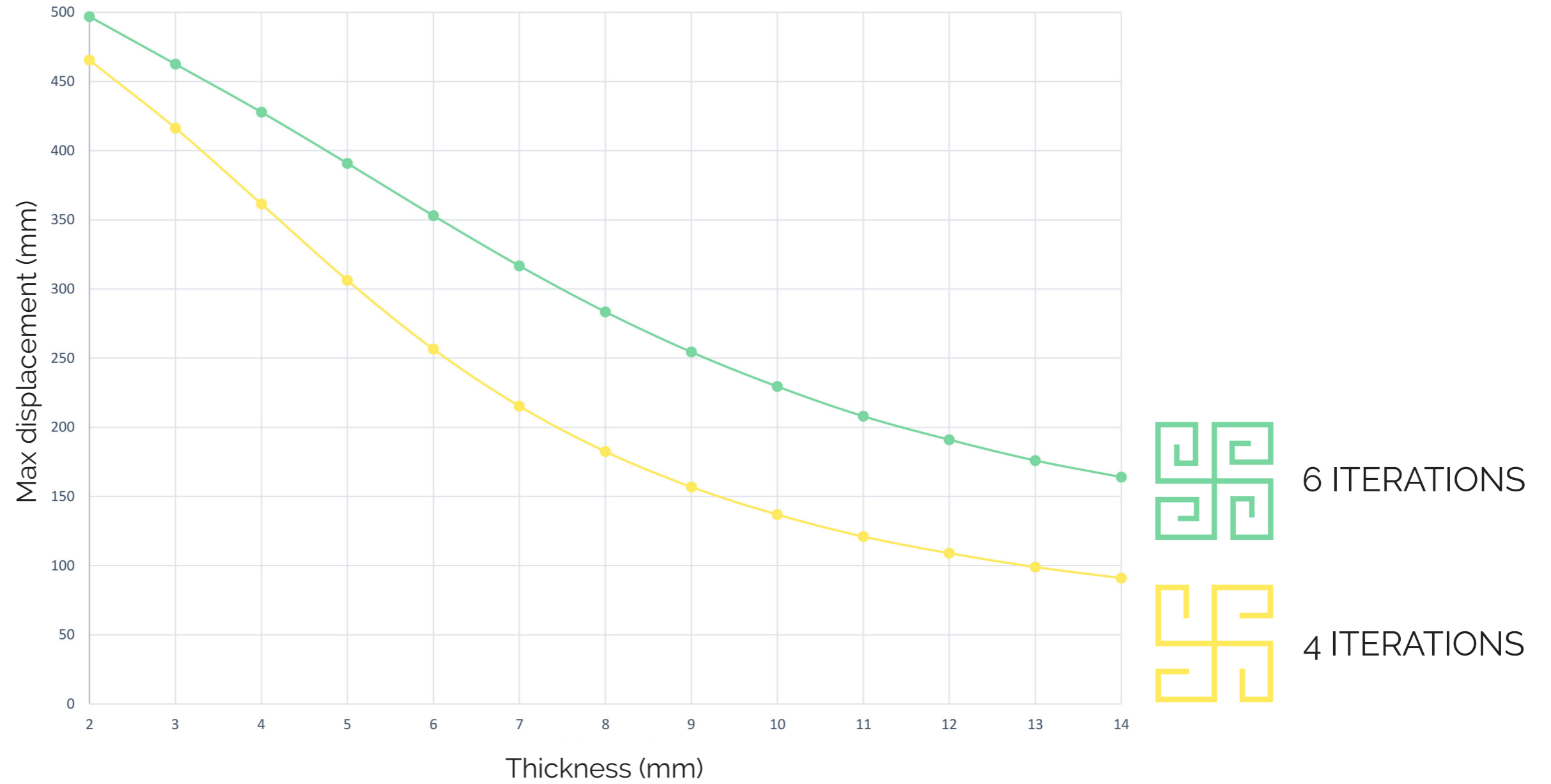


**Span**  
1200 mm

**Max displacement**  
257 mm

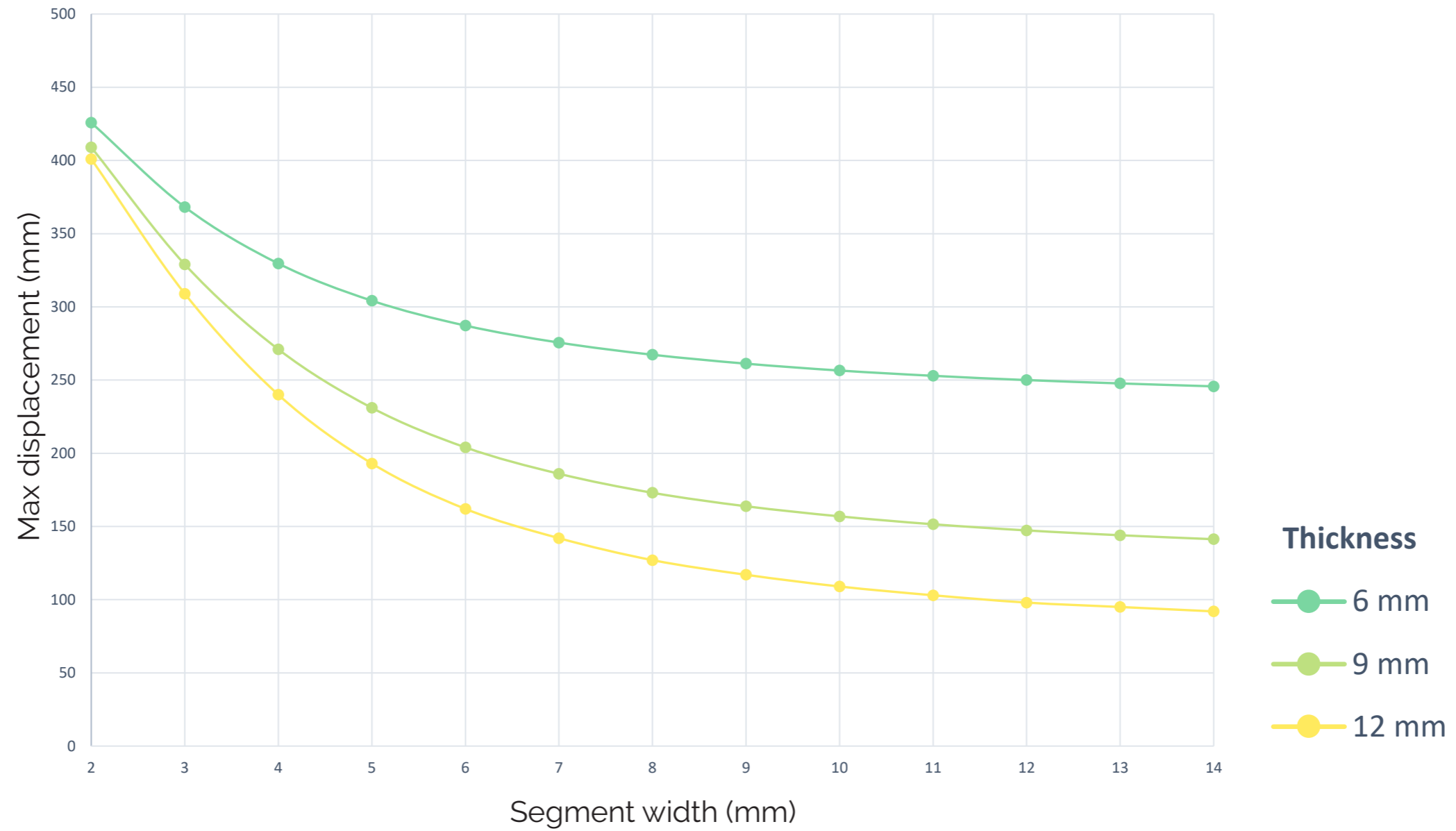
# FLEXIBILITY SIMULATIONS

## Max displacement - Segment width 10 mm



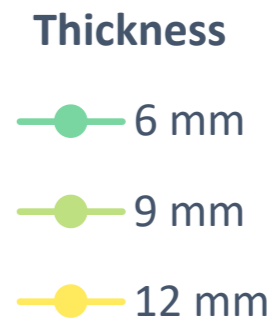
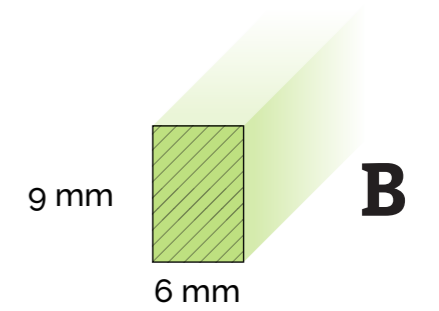
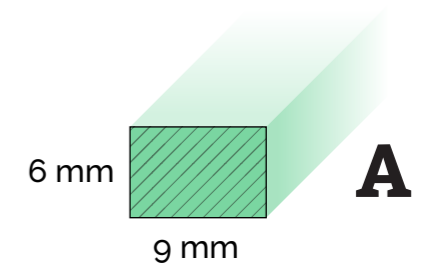
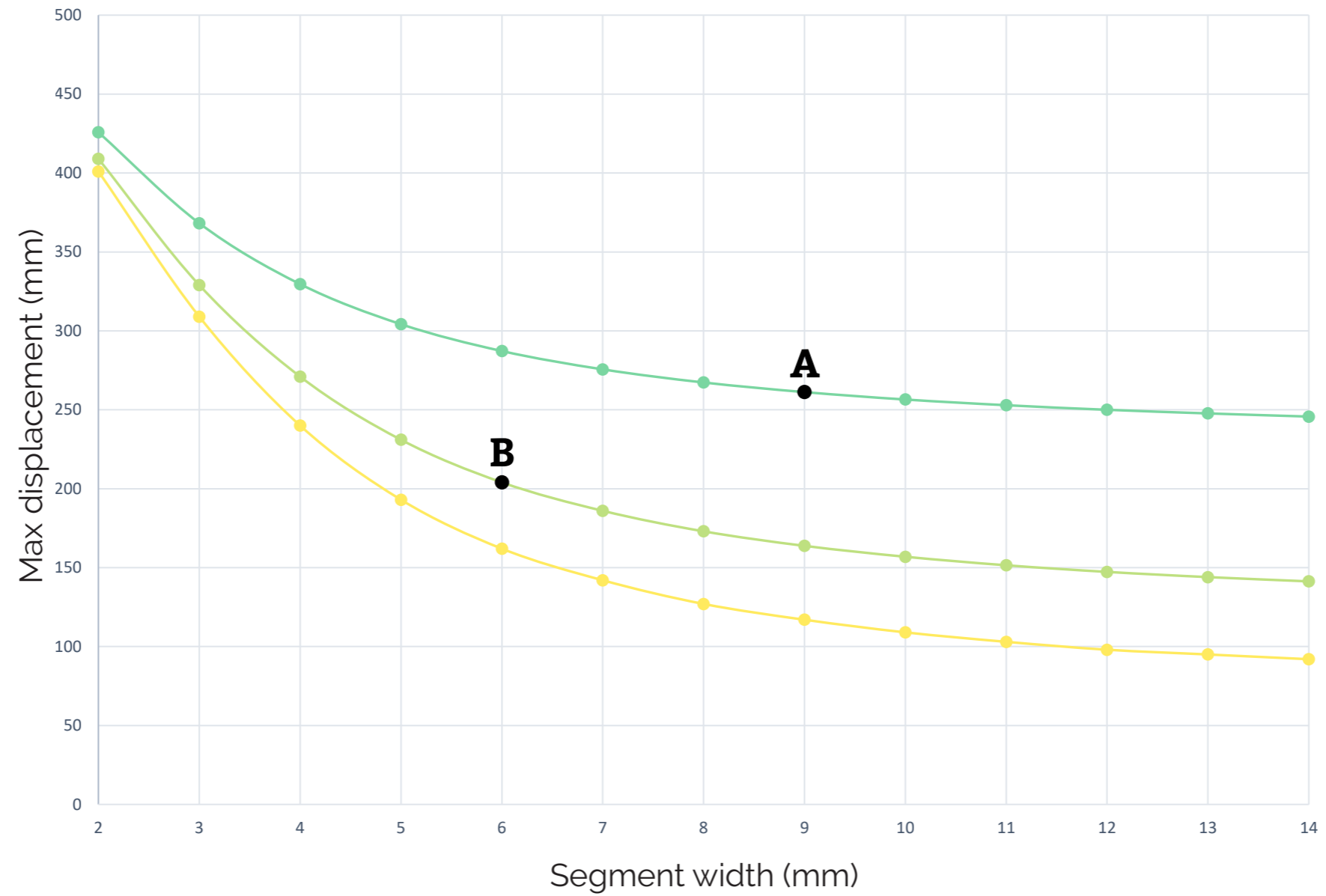
# FLEXIBILITY SIMULATIONS

## Max displacement - 4 iterations



# FLEXIBILITY SIMULATIONS

## Max displacement - 4 iterations



**FLEXIBILITY**  
CONCLUSIONS

**SUB-QUESTION**

**PATTERN**  
*on*  
**FLEXIBILITY**

How does pattern kerfing  
influence the attainable  
curvature of a panel?

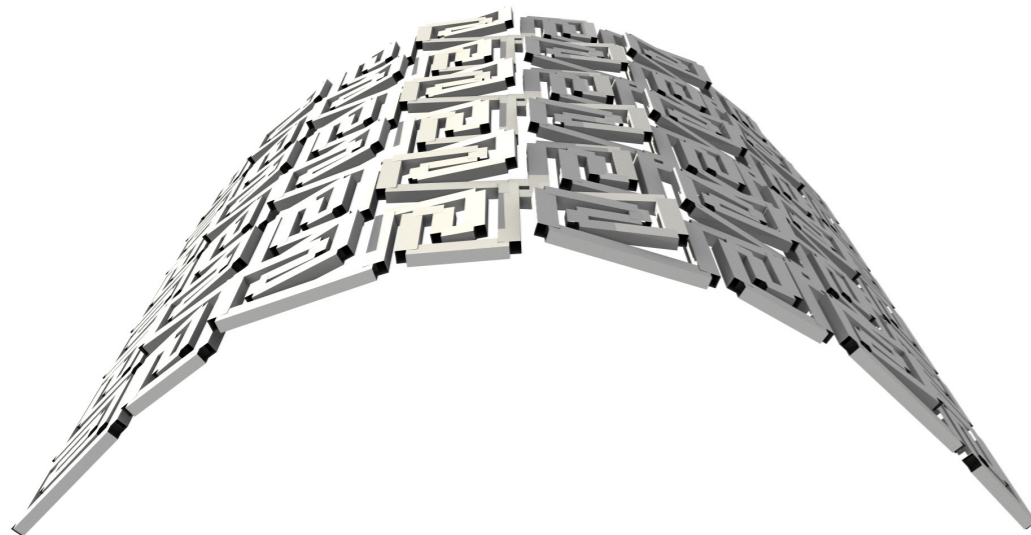


**FLEXIBILITY**  
CONCLUSIONS

**SUB-QUESTION**

**PATTERN**  
*on*  
**FLEXIBILITY**

How does pattern kerfing influence the attainable curvature of a panel?



*Interconnected segments enhance flexibility by means of torsion and bending, based on the chosen pattern parameters.*

# ACOUSTICS

# ACOUSTICS PARAMETERS



TYPE OF PATTERN

# ACOUSTICS PARAMETERS



TYPE OF PATTERN



OPEN SURFACE AREA



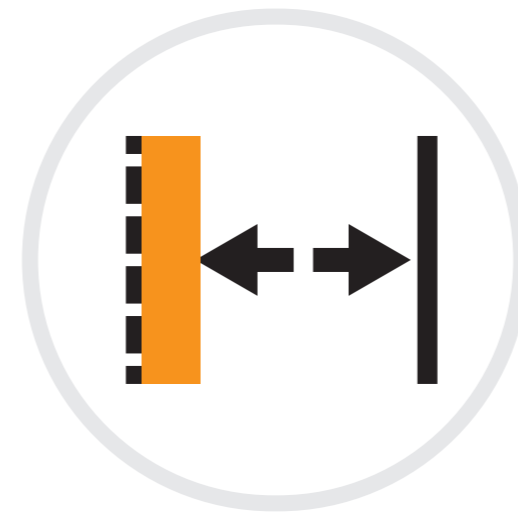
# ACOUSTICS PARAMETERS



TYPE OF PATTERN



OPEN SURFACE AREA



AIR CAVITY

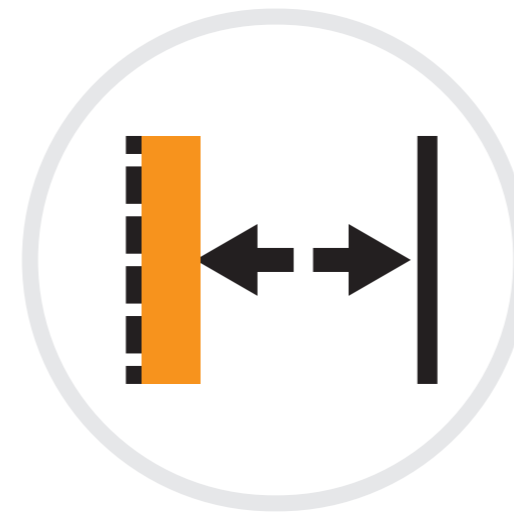
# ACOUSTICS PARAMETERS



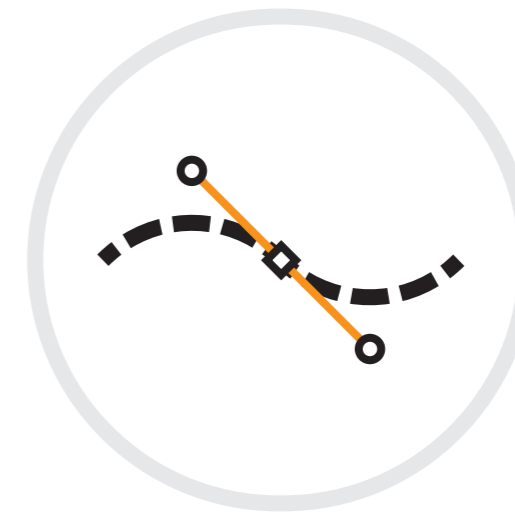
TYPE OF PATTERN



OPEN SURFACE AREA



AIR CAVITY



SURFACE CURVATURE

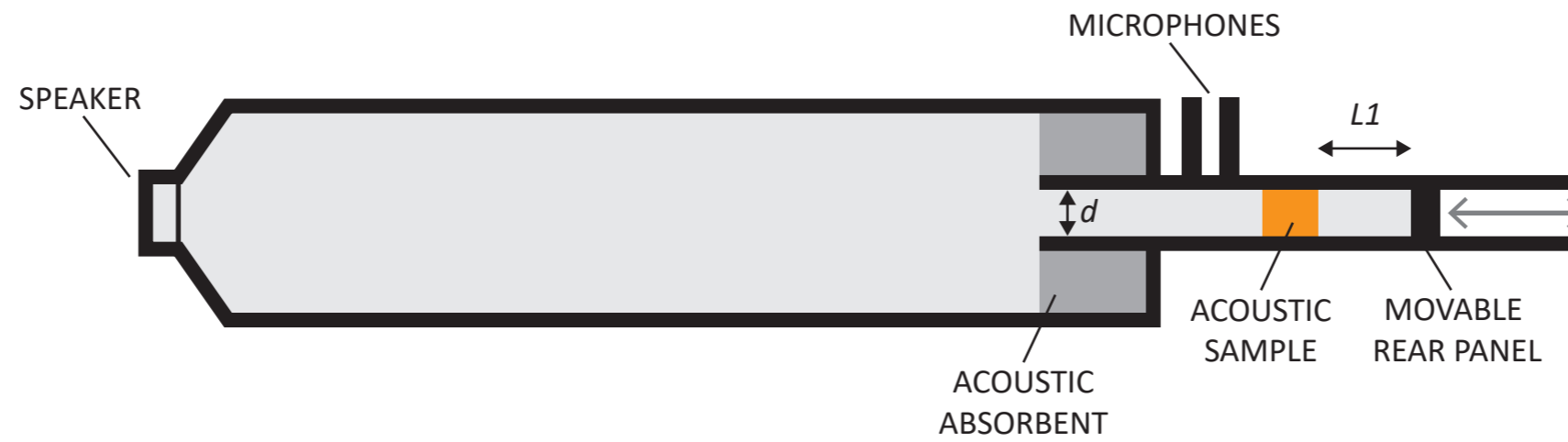
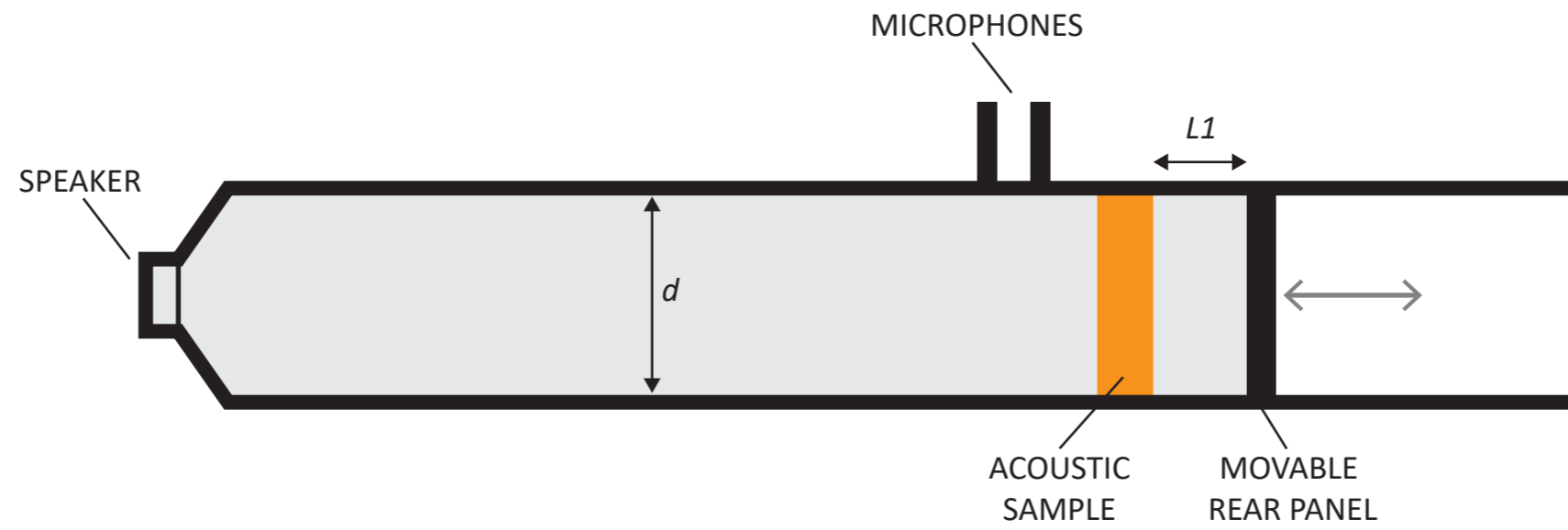
# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE



# ACOUSTICS

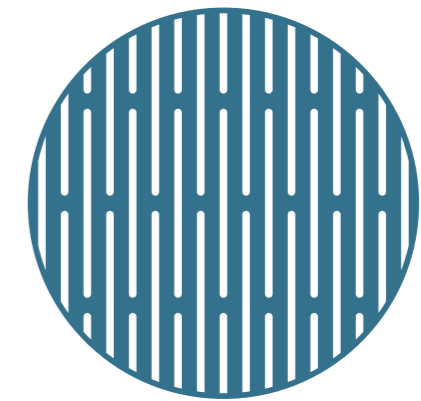
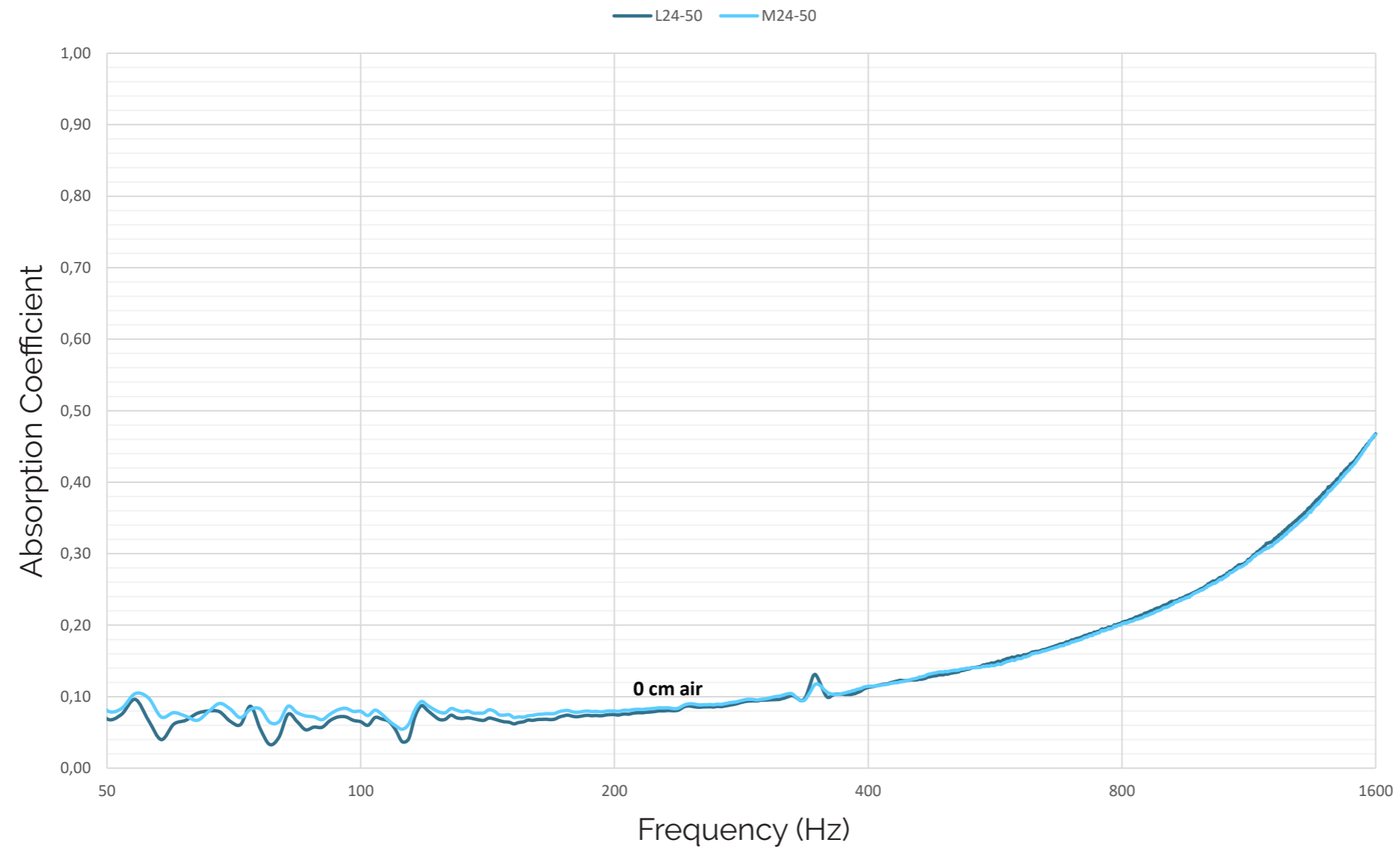
## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE



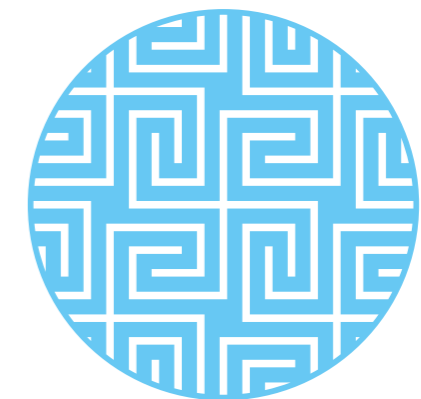
# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE

ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-50 (31,1%) & M24-50 (30,5%)



L24-50



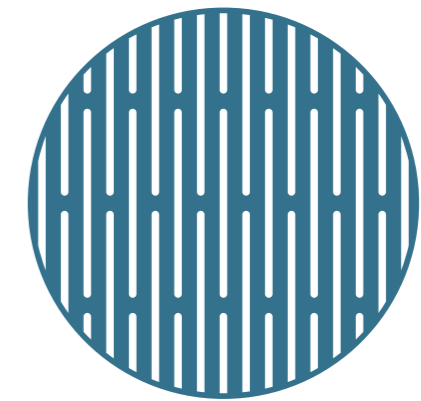
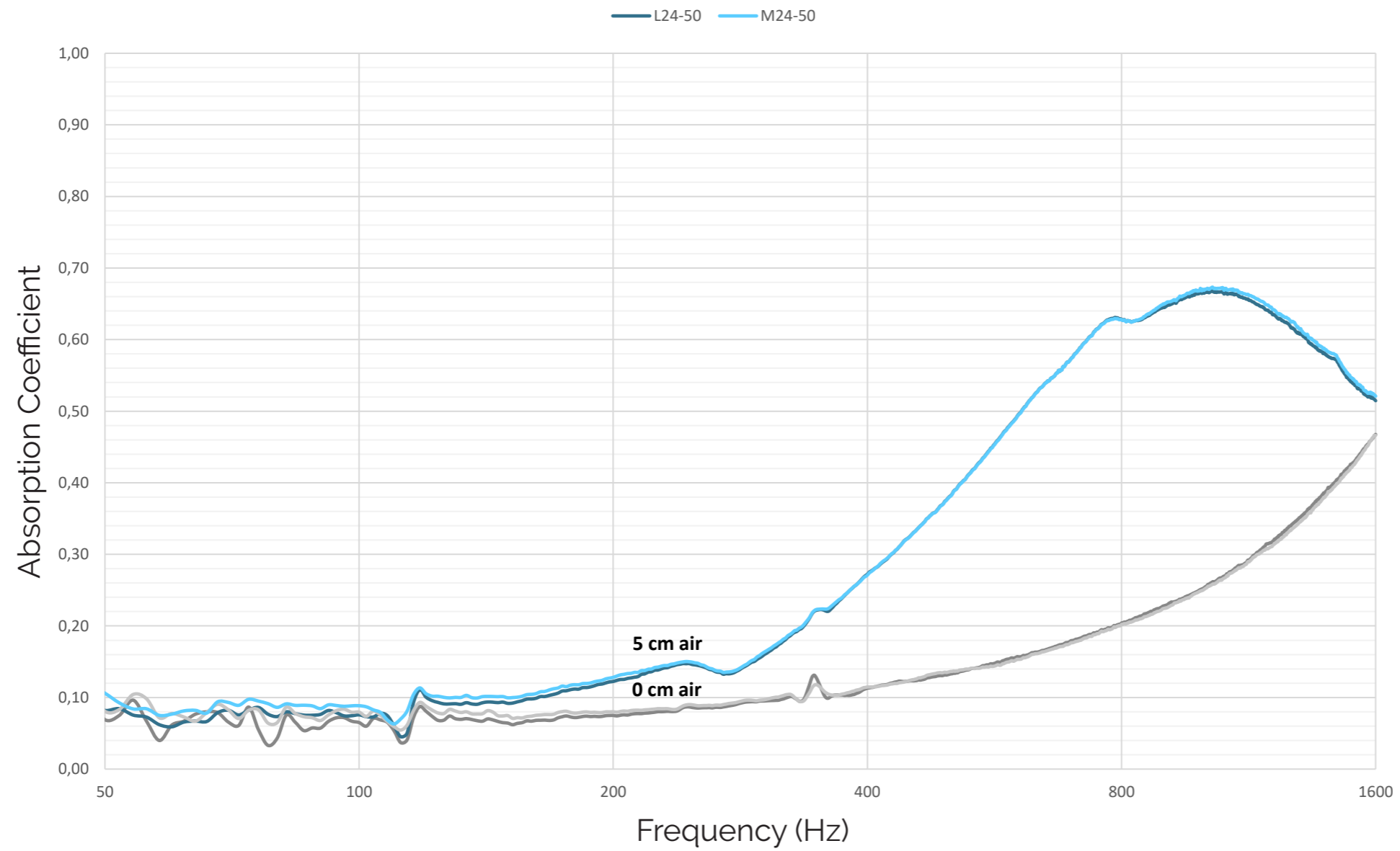
M24-50



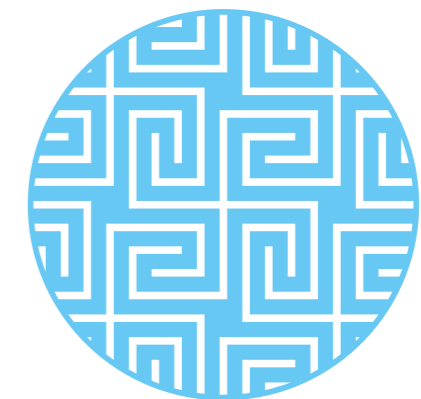
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ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-50 (31,1%) & M24-50 (30,5%)



L24-50

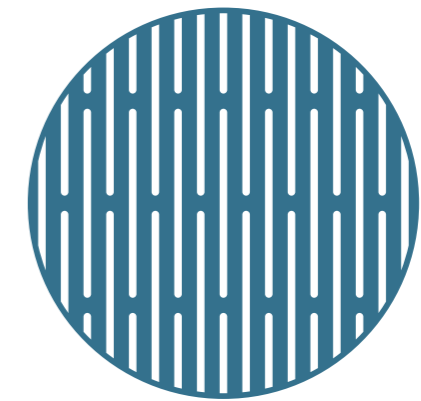
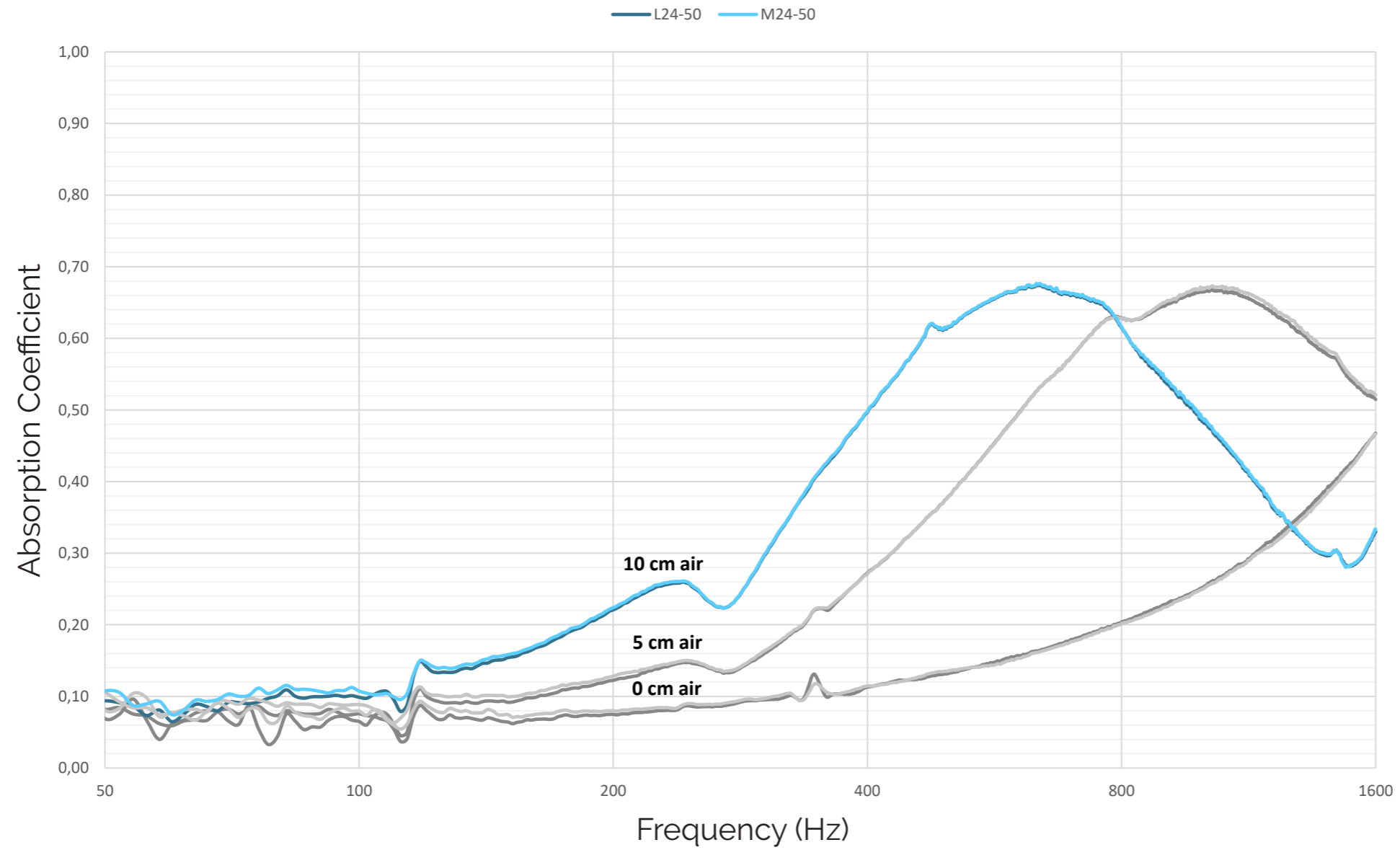


M24-50

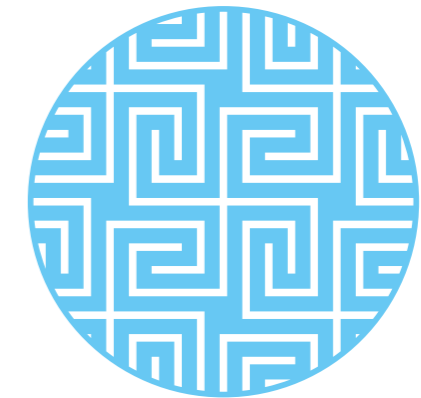
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ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-50 (31,1%) & M24-50 (30,5%)



L24-50

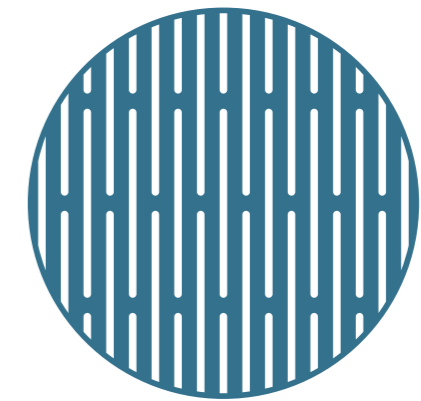
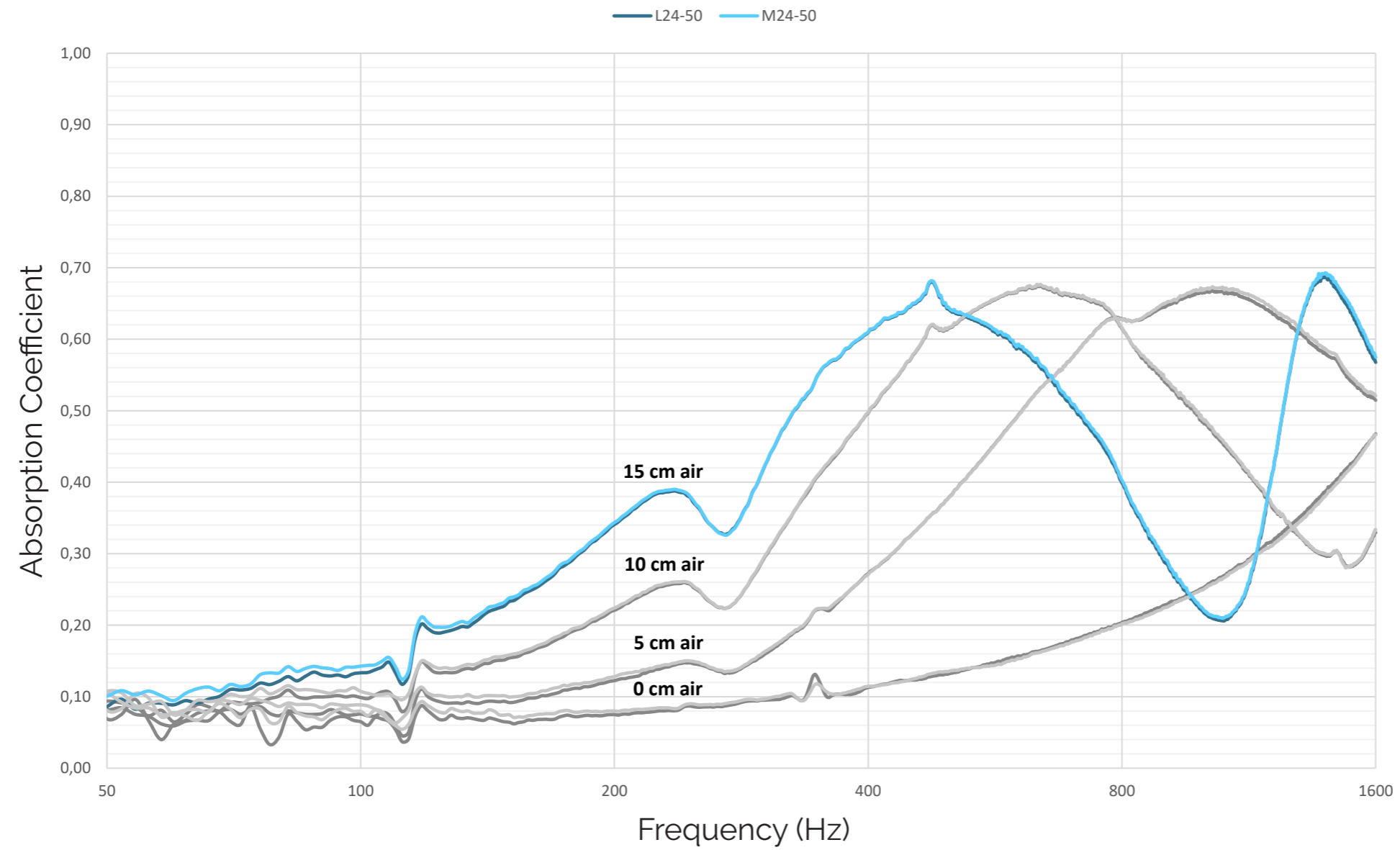


M24-50

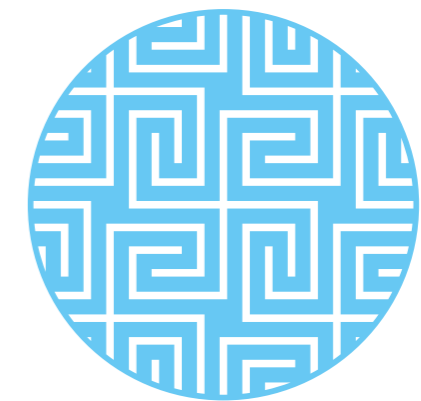
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ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-50 (31,1%) & M24-50 (30,5%)



L24-50

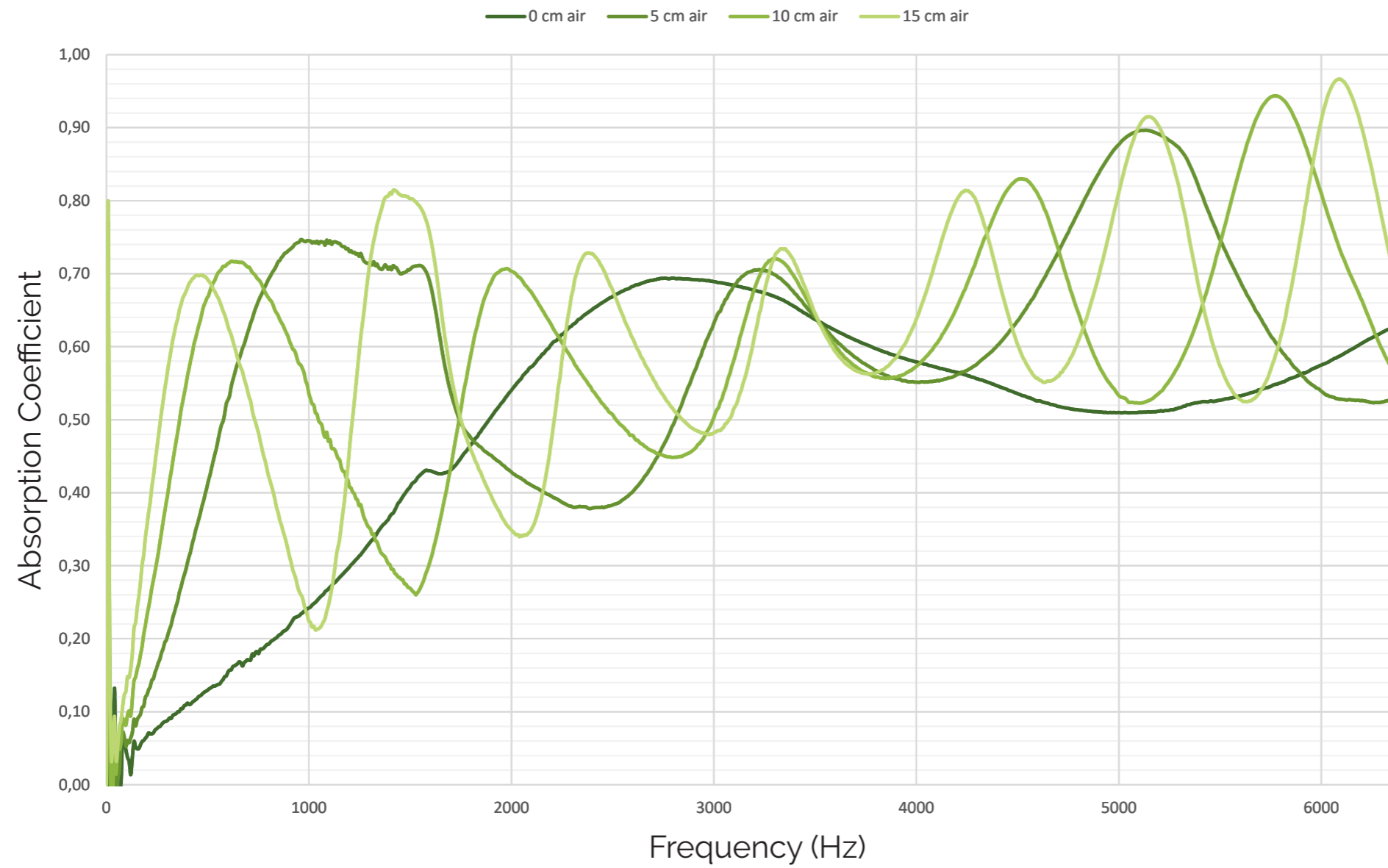


M24-50

# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE

ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-40 (Ø29MM; 31,8%)

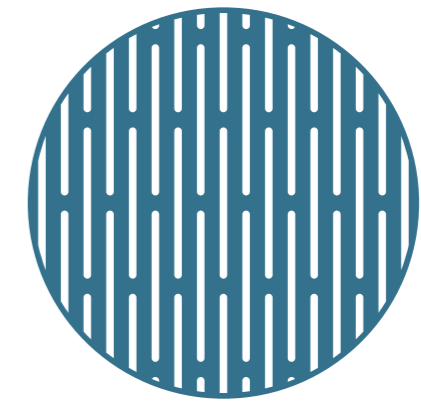
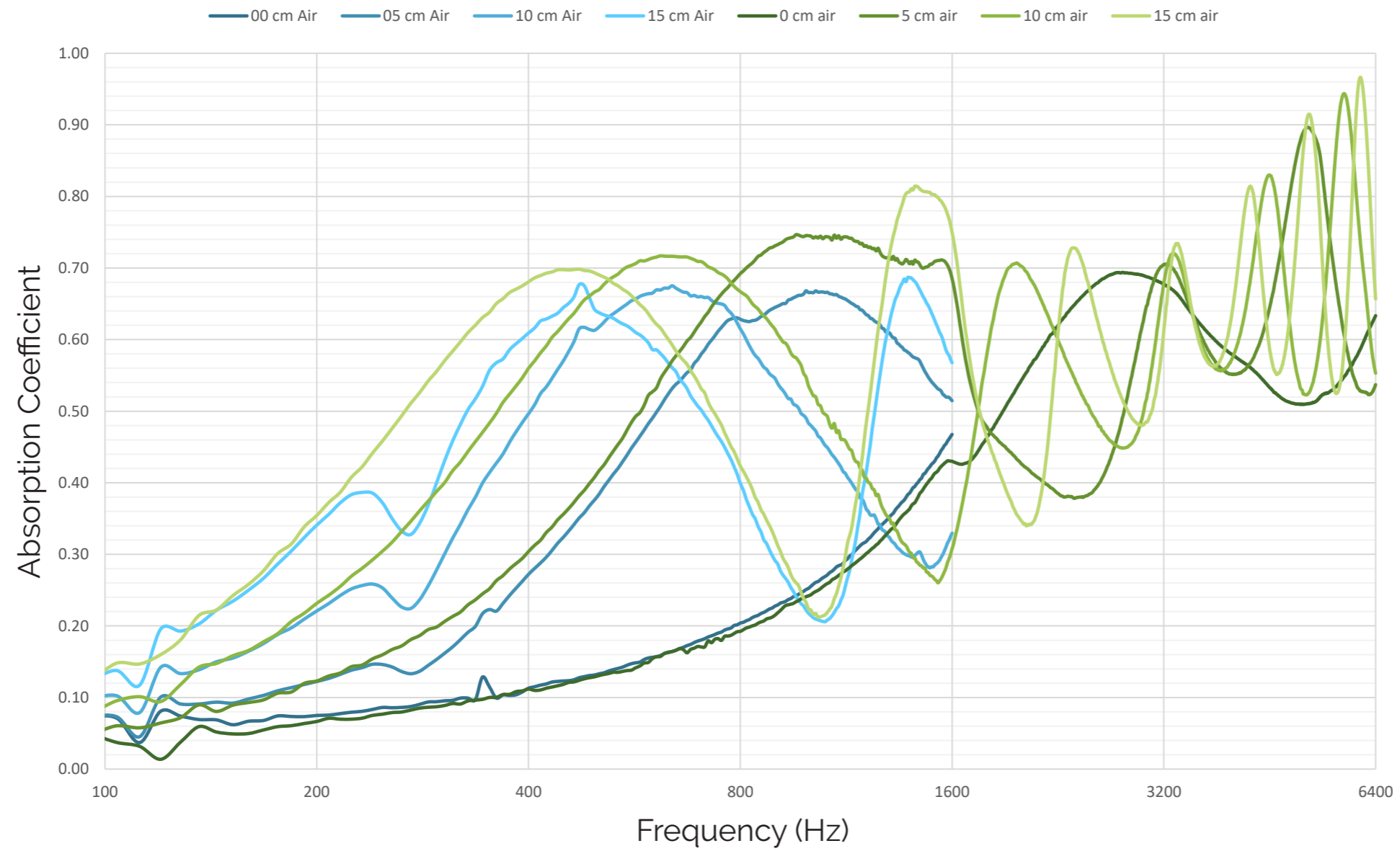


L24-40

# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE

### ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-40 & L24-40 (~30%)



L24-40



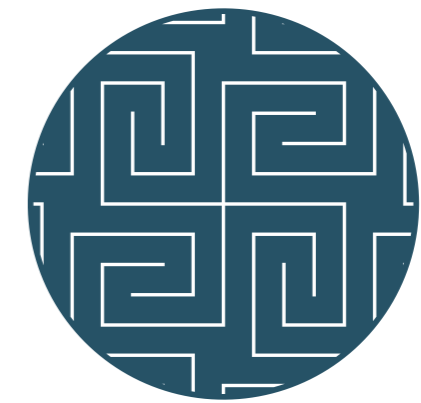
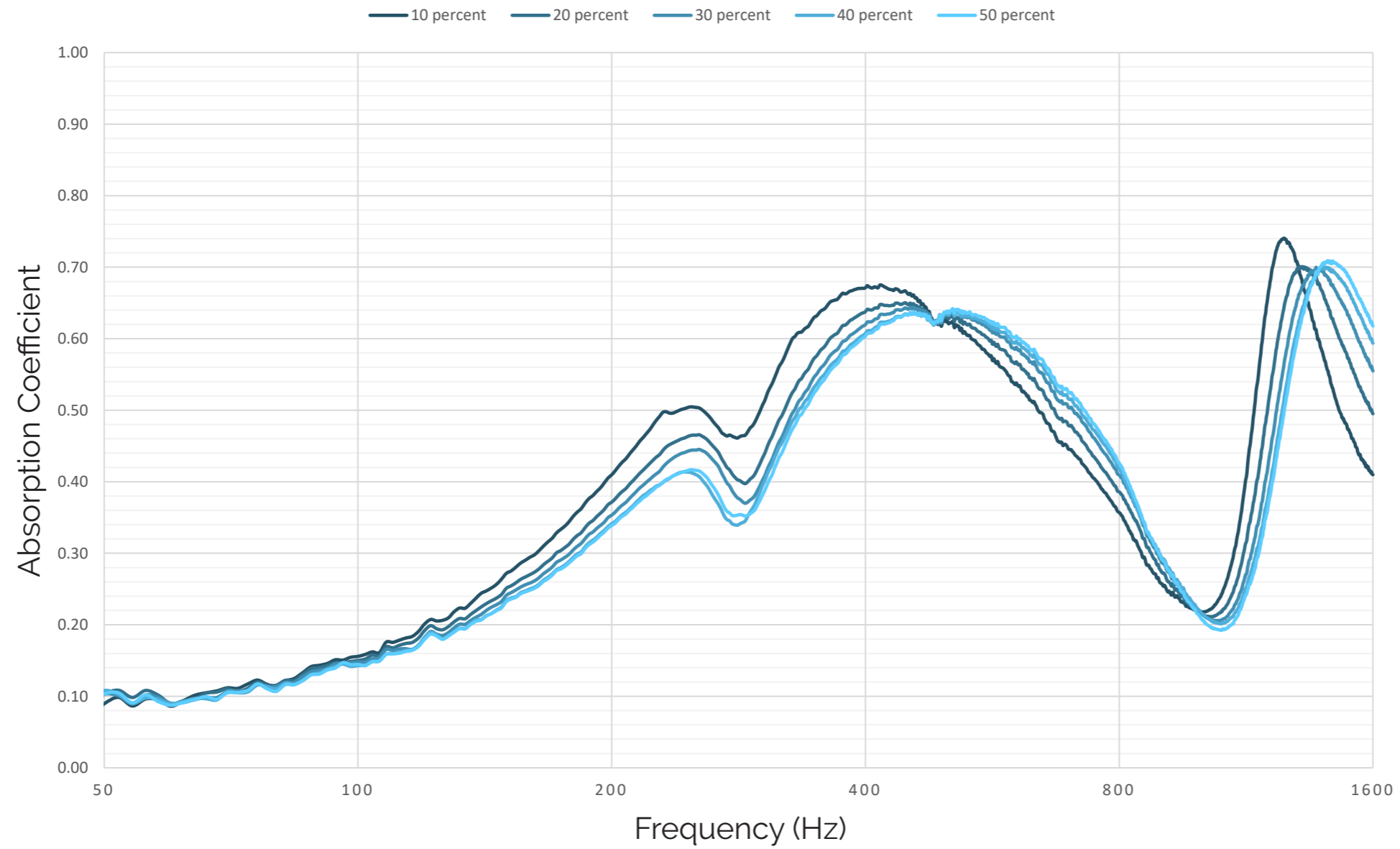
L24-40



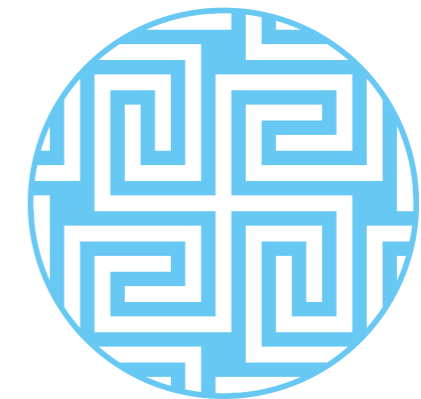
# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE

### ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: AIR CAVITY 15 CM



OSA: 10 %

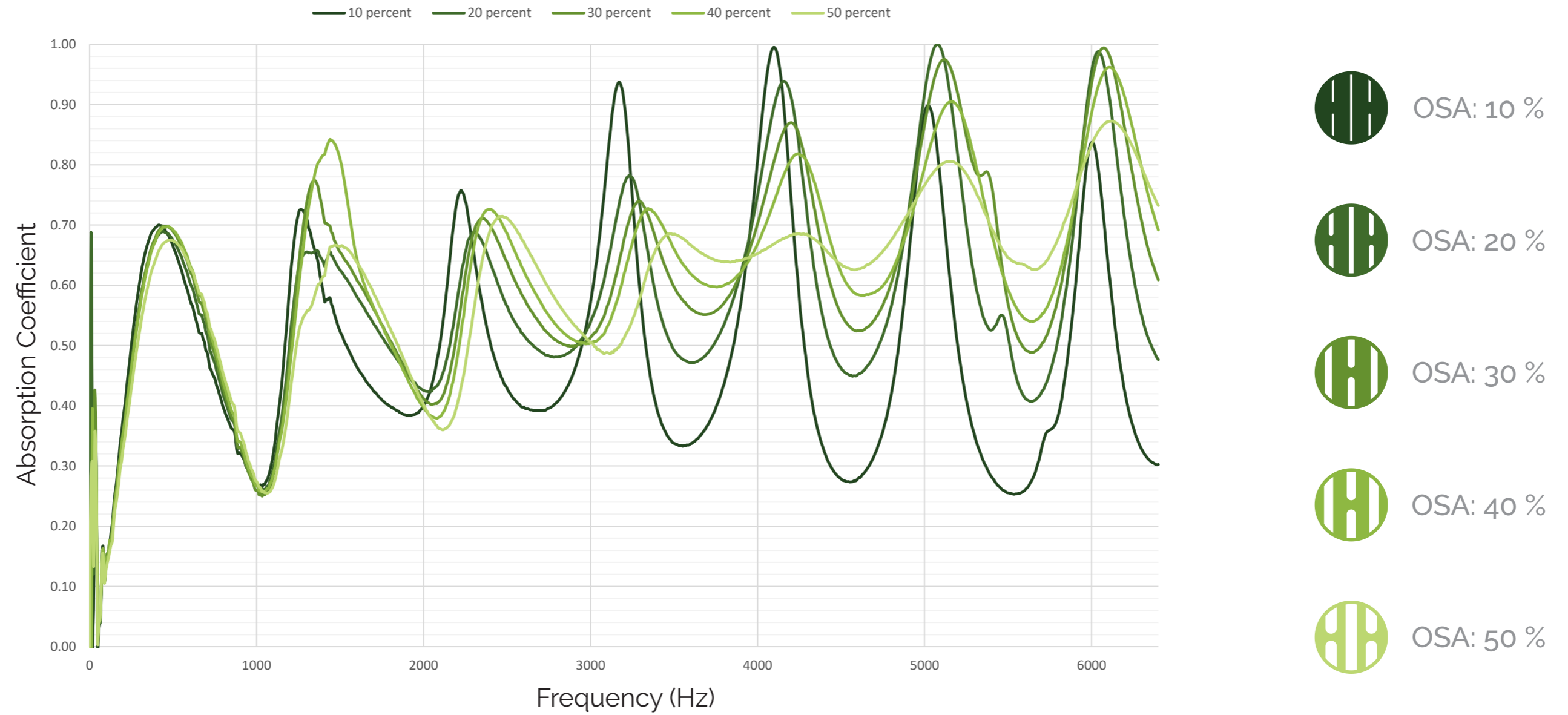


OSA: 50 %

# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE

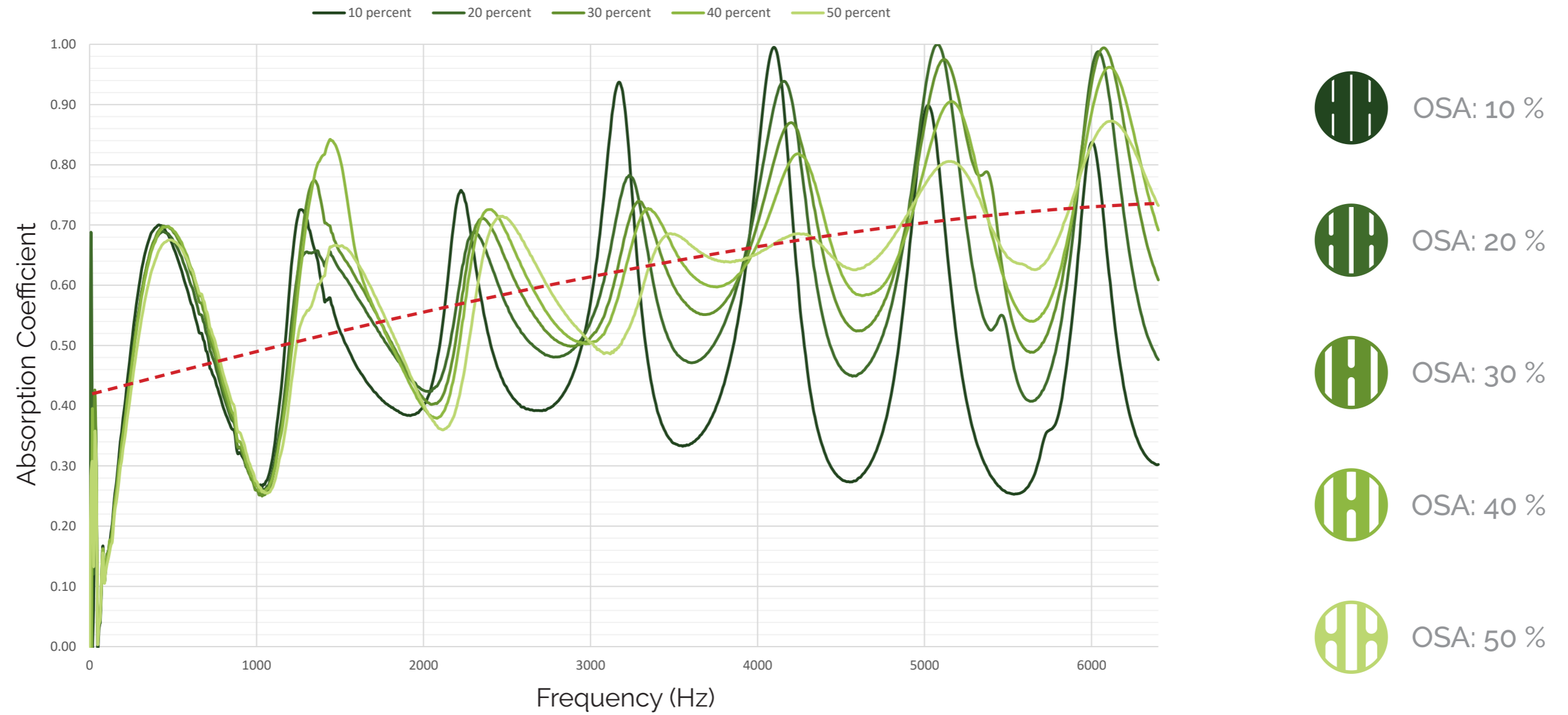
### ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: AIR CAVITY 15 CM



# ACOUSTICS

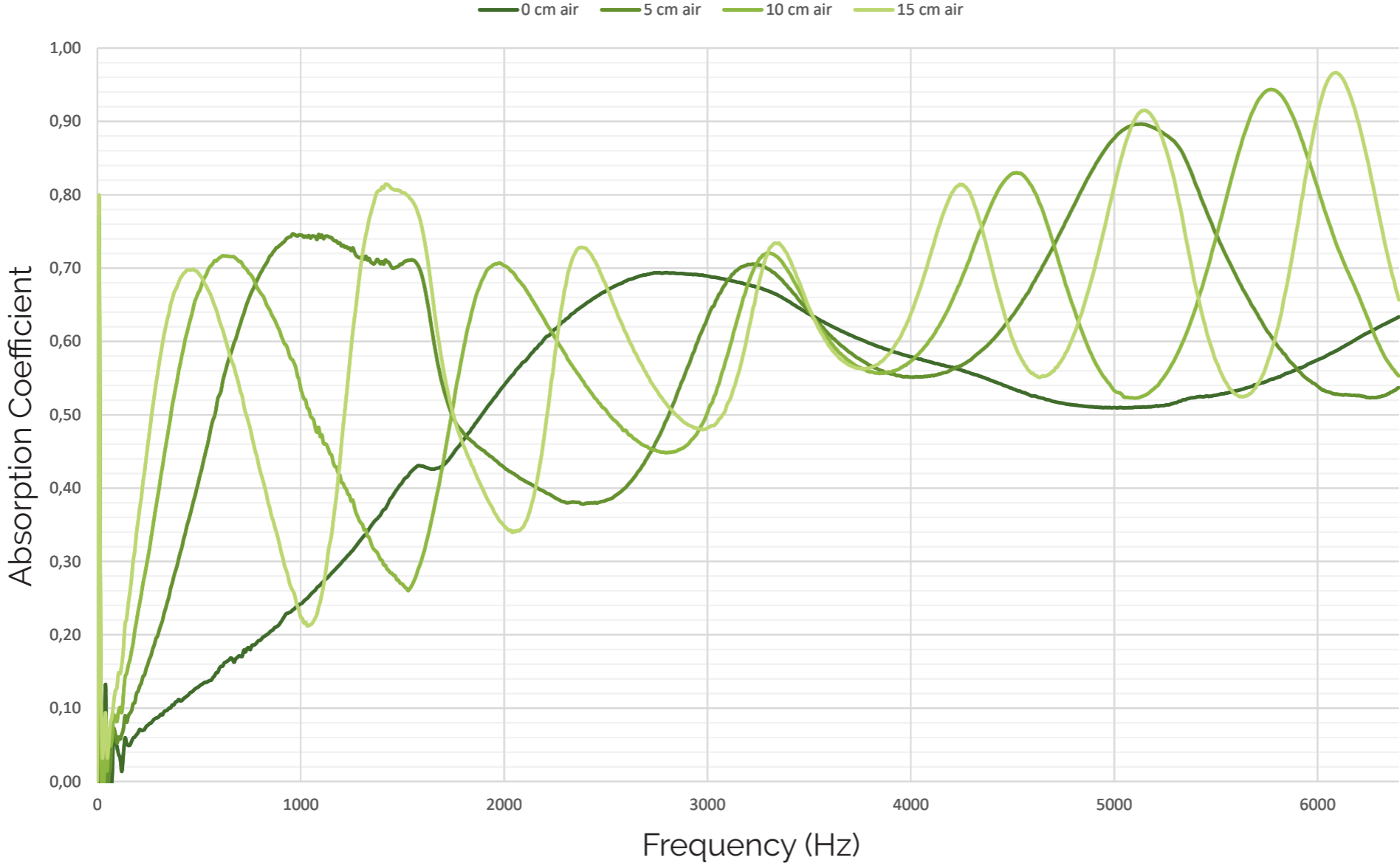
## MEASUREMENTS IMPEDANCE TUBE

### ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: AIR CAVITY 15 CM



# ACOUSTICS CONCLUSIONS

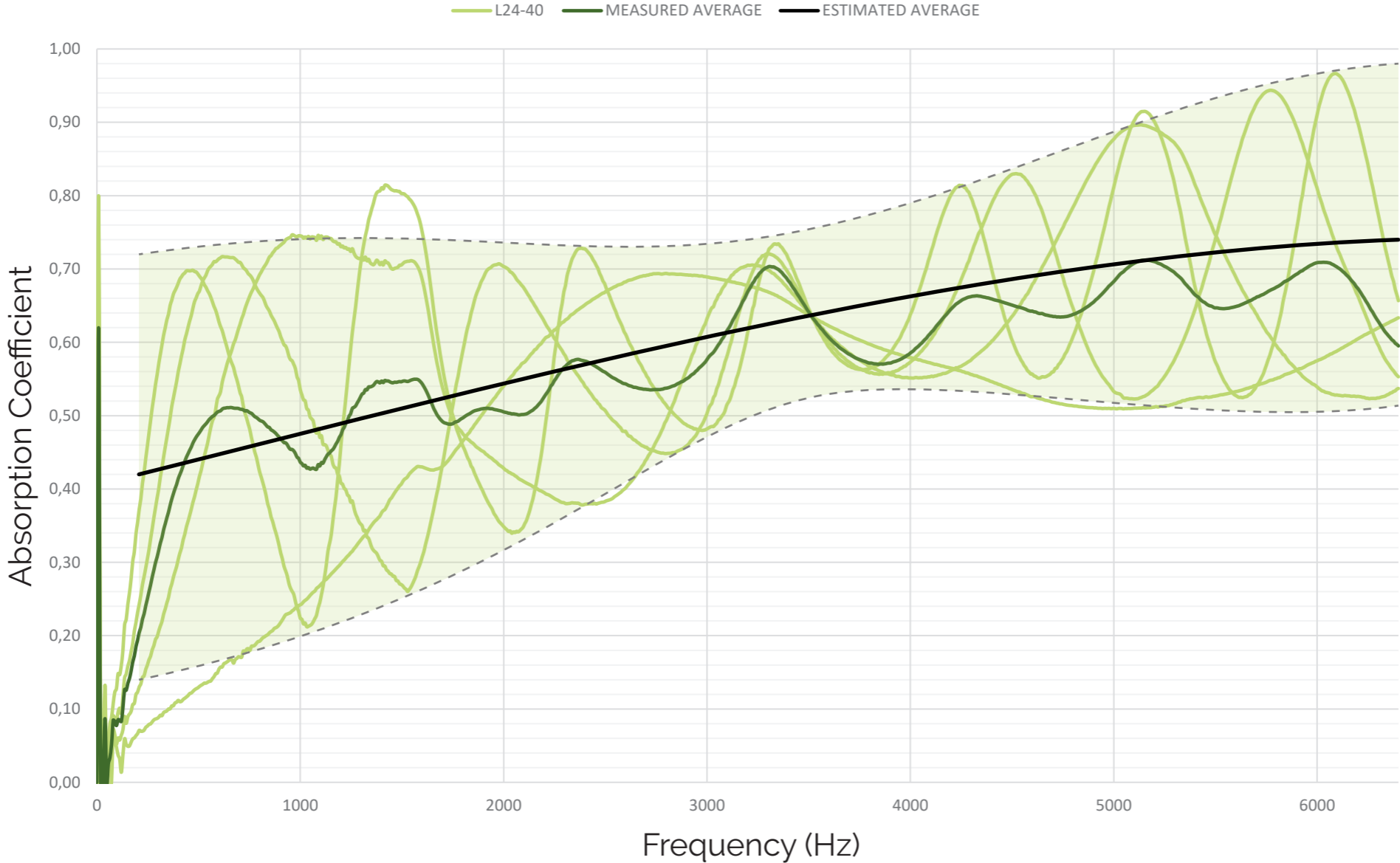
**ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24-40 (Ø29MM; 31,8%)**



L24-40

# ACOUSTICS CONCLUSIONS

## ABSORPTION COEFFICIENT: L24 -40 (Ø29MM; 31,8%) AVERAGE



L24-40



# ACOUSTICS

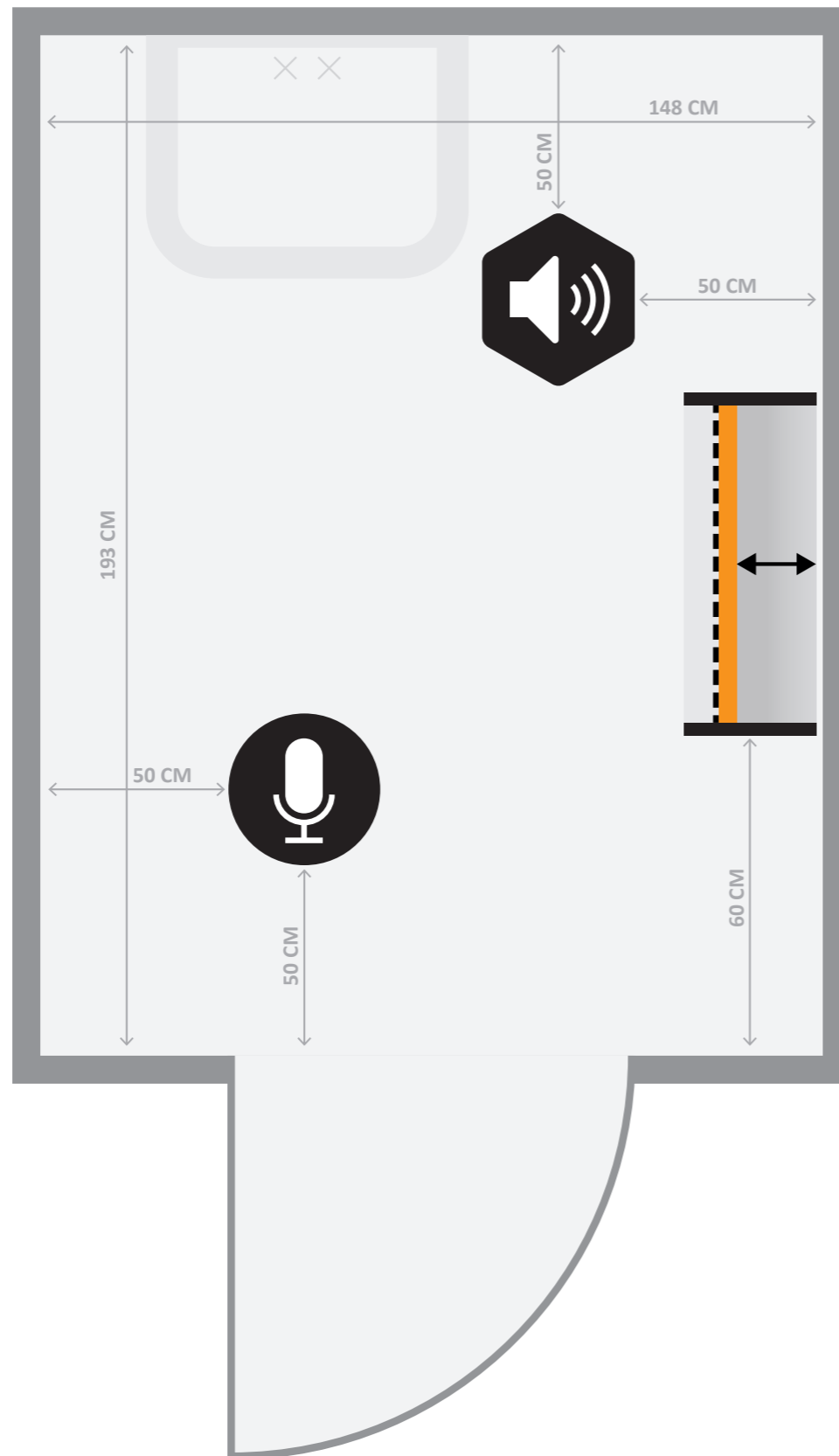
## MEASUREMENTS IMPULSE RESPONSE



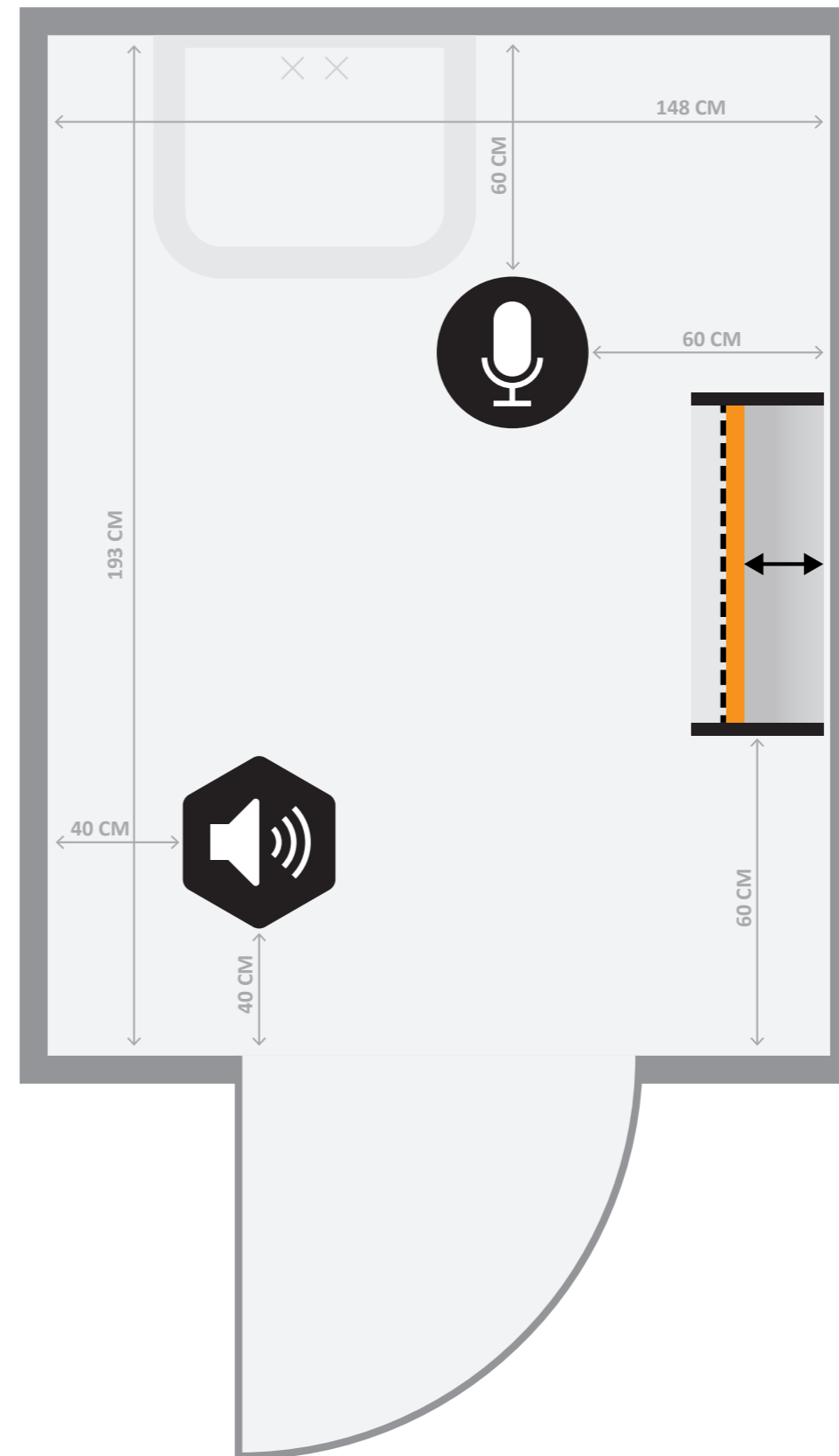
# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPULSE RESPONSE

### SETUP A



### SETUP B





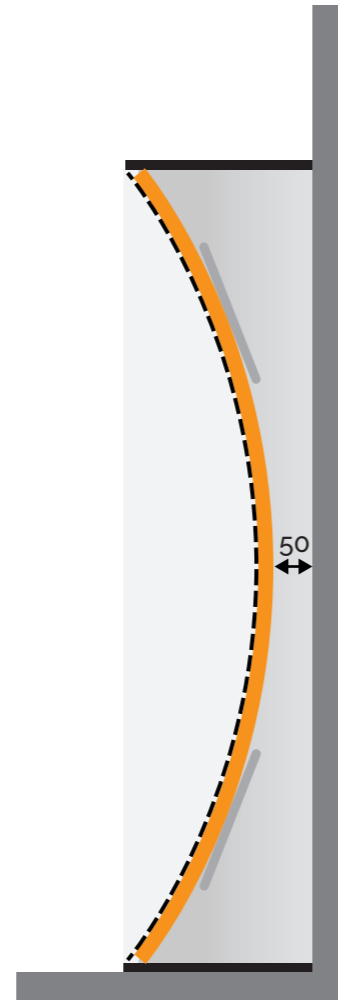
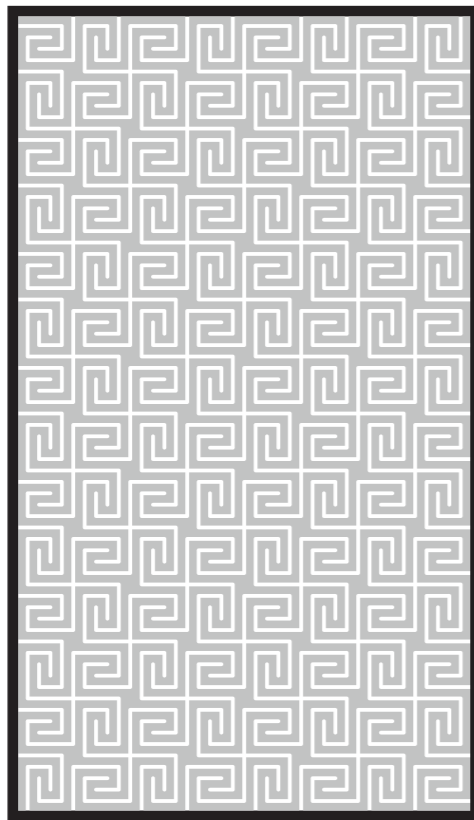
# DESIGN

## MEASUREMENTS IMPULSE RESPONSE

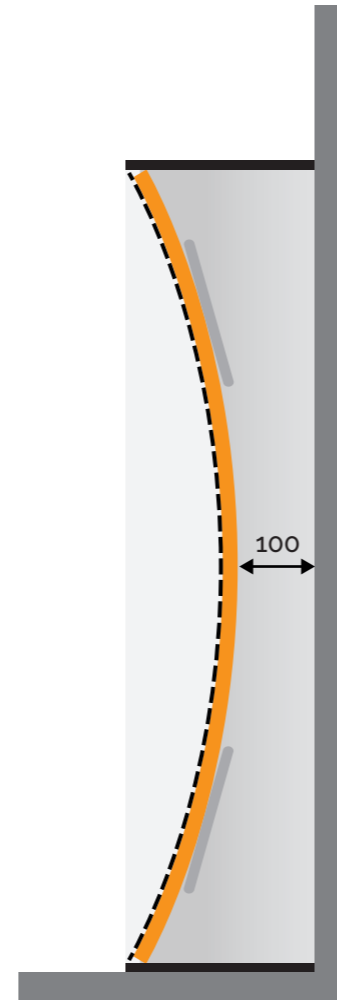


# ACOUSTICS

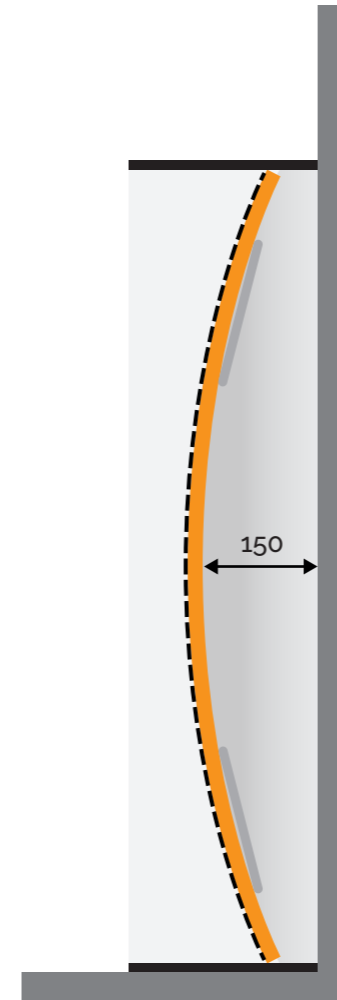
## MEASUREMENTS IMPULSE RESPONSE



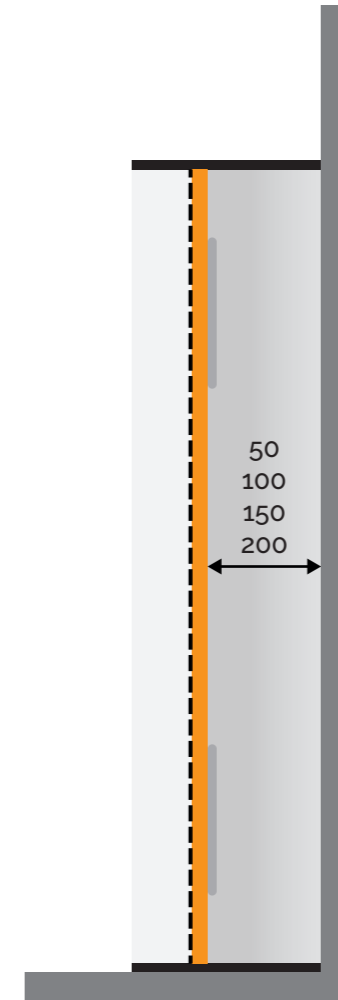
BOX\_CONCAVE\_05



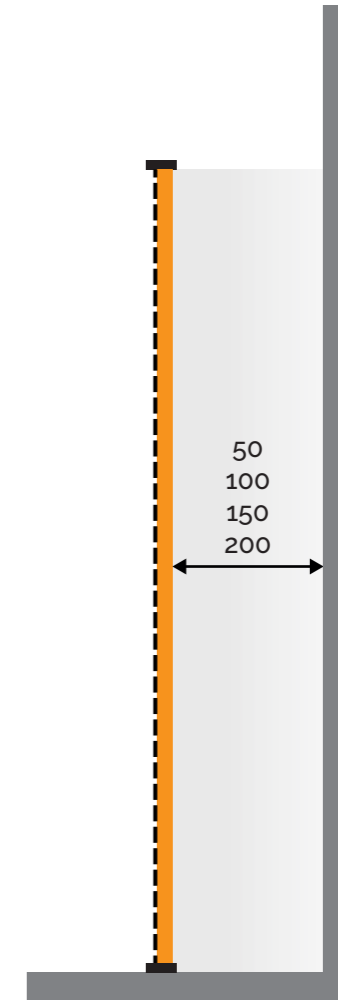
BOX\_CONCAVE\_10



BOX\_CONVEX\_15



BOX\_05, 10, 15, 20

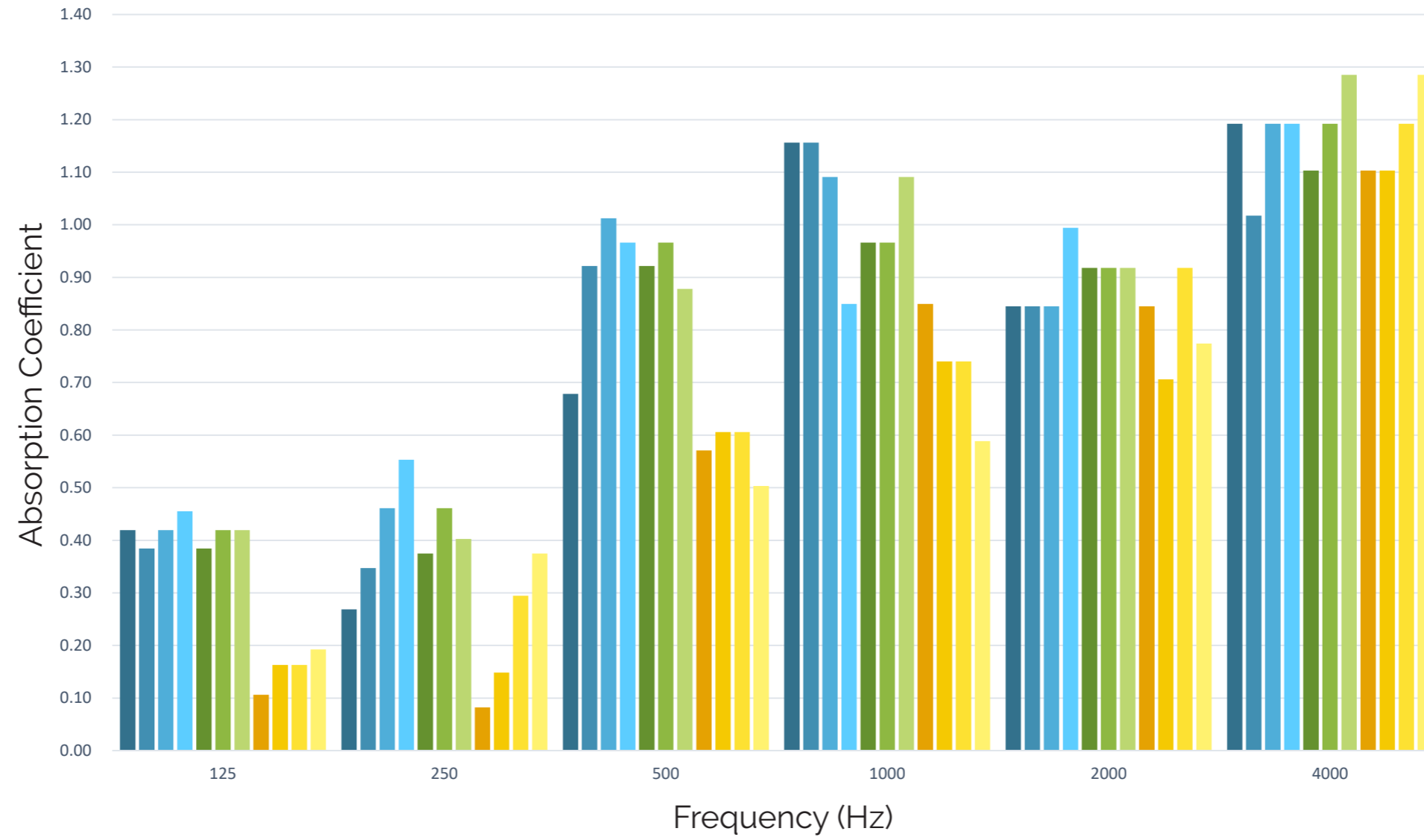


FRAME\_05, 10, 15, 20

# ACOUSTICS

## MEASUREMENTS IMPULSE RESPONSE

Absorption Coefficient - Setup B T<sub>20</sub>





**ACOUSTICS**  
CONCLUSIONS

**SUB-QUESTIONS**

**PATTERN**  
*on*  
**ACOUSTICS**

How does pattern kerfing influence the acoustic performance of a panel?

**FLEXIBILITY**  
*on*  
**ACOUSTICS**

What effect has a curved surface of a panel on its acoustic performance?

**ACOUSTICS**  
CONCLUSIONS

**SUB-QUESTIONS**

**PATTERN**  
*on*  
**ACOUSTICS**

How does pattern kerfing influence the acoustic performance of a panel?

**FLEXIBILITY**  
*on*  
**ACOUSTICS**

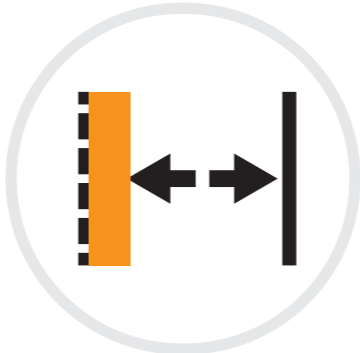
What effect has a curved surface of a panel on its acoustic performance?



>> *No effect*



>> *Amplitude*



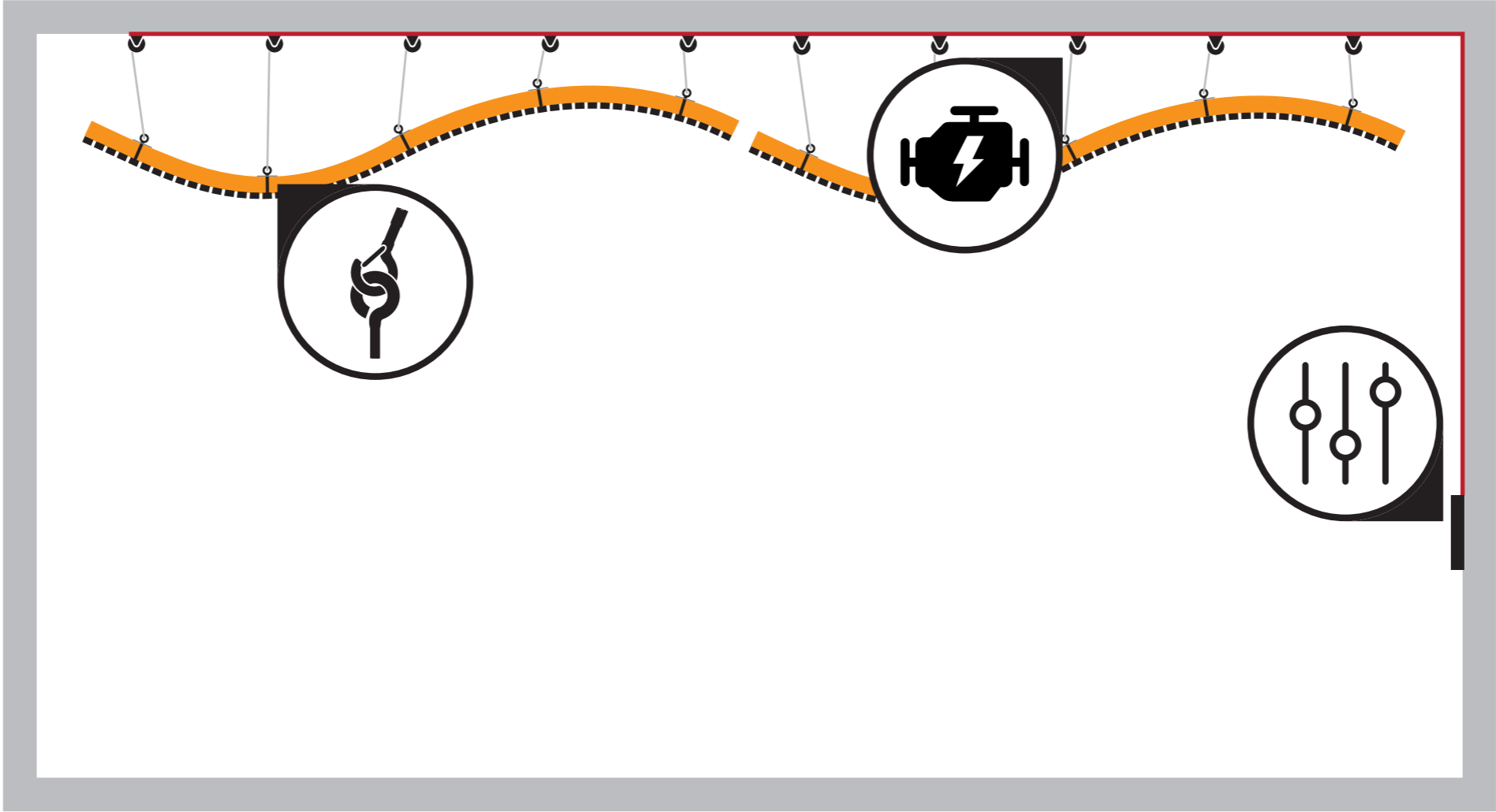
>> *Peak position*



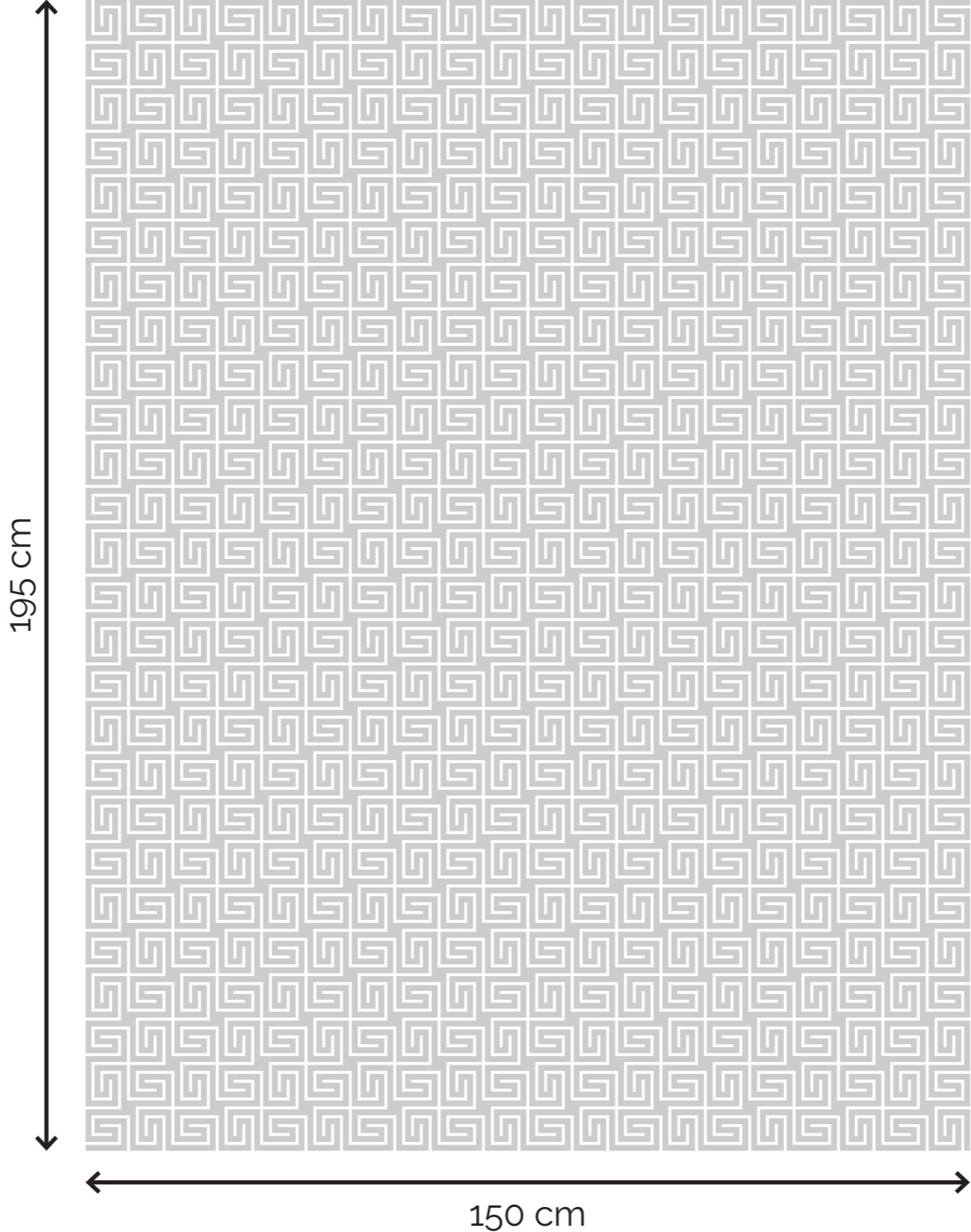
>> *Air cavity  
(reflection)*

**DESIGN**

**DESIGN**  
CONCEPT



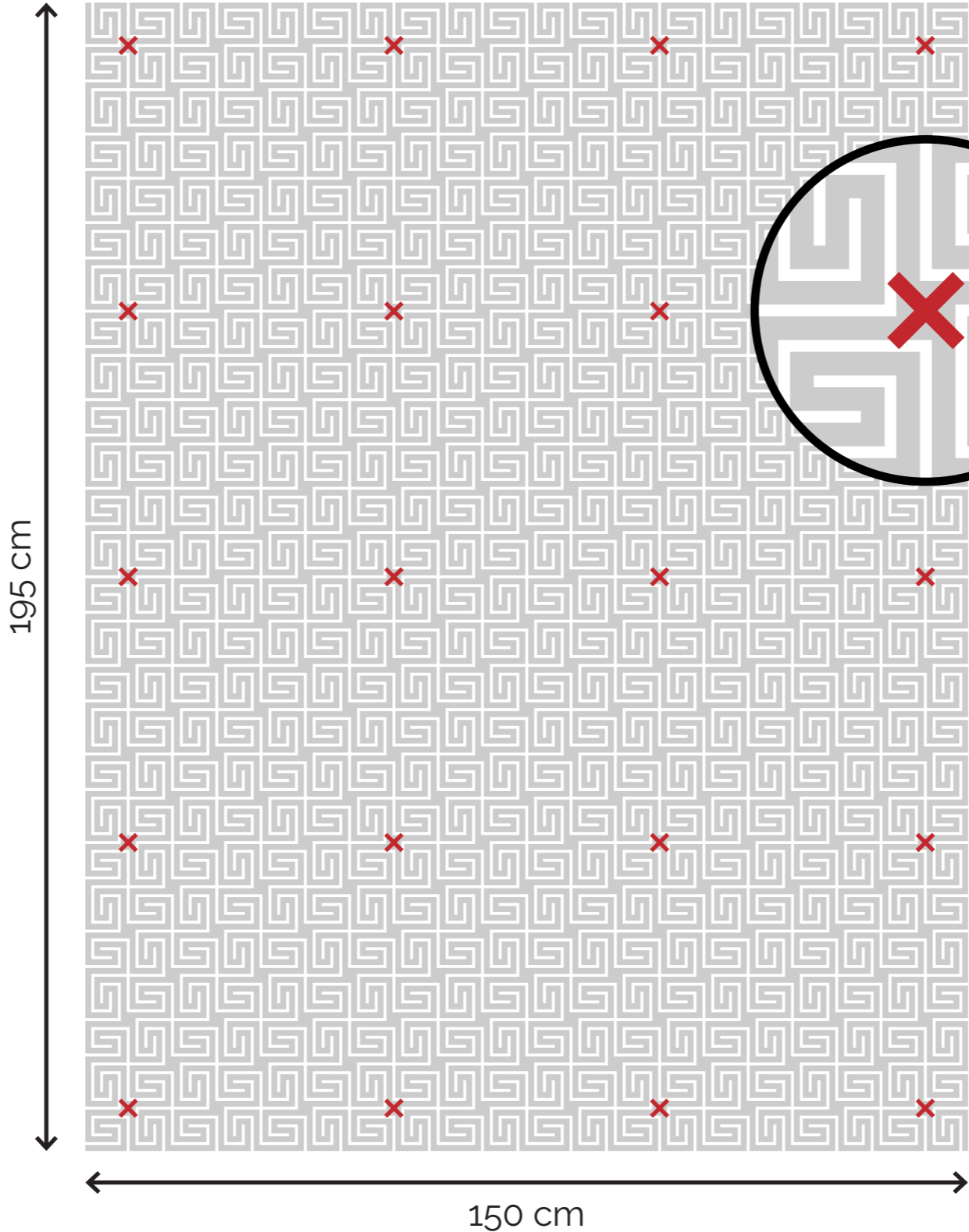
**DESIGN**  
CONCEPT



- Unit size**  
150 mm
- Number of iterations**  
4
- Kerf width**  
5 mm
- Segment width**  
10 mm
- Segment height**  
6 mm
- Open surface area**  
30%

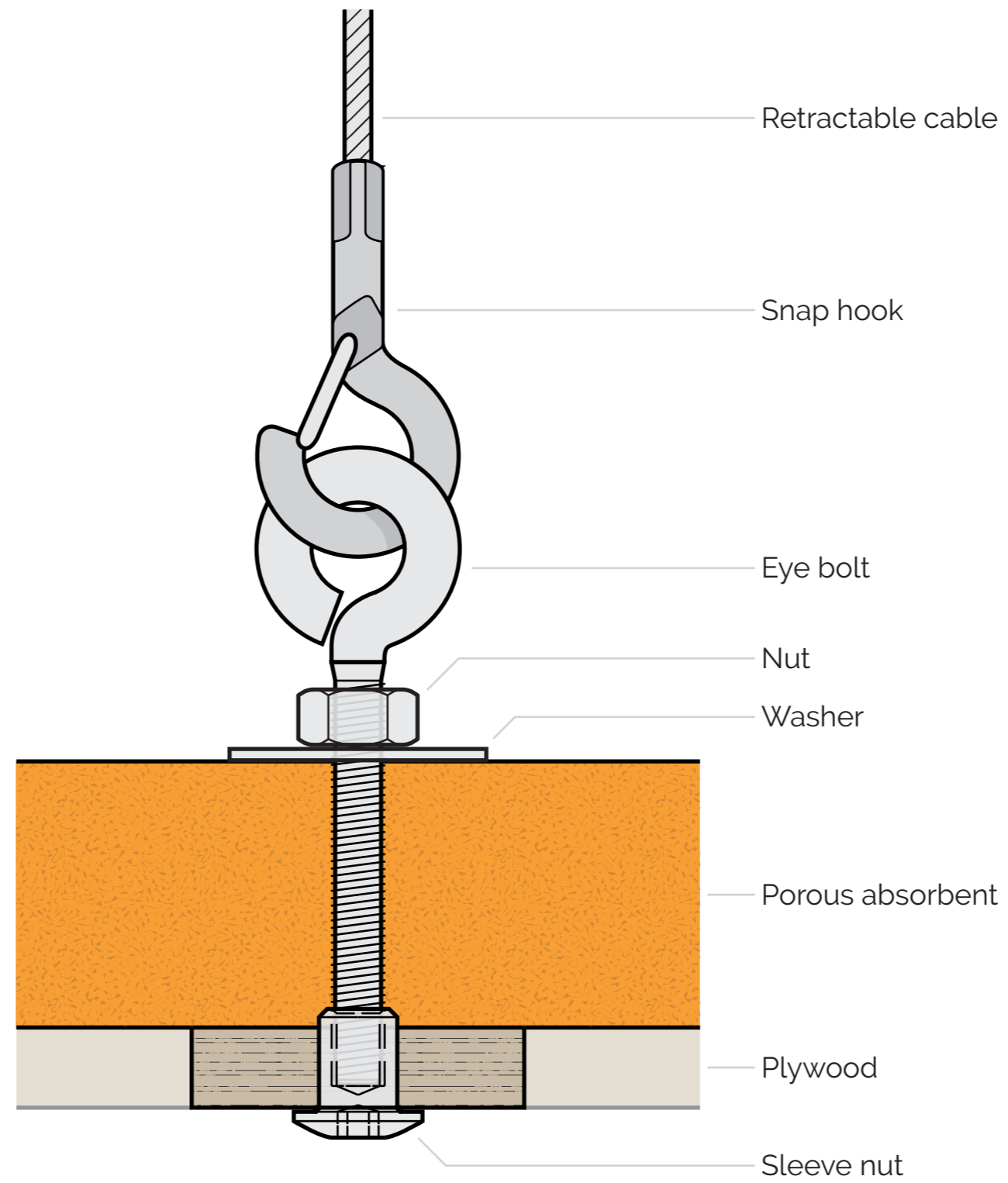


**DESIGN**  
CONCEPT



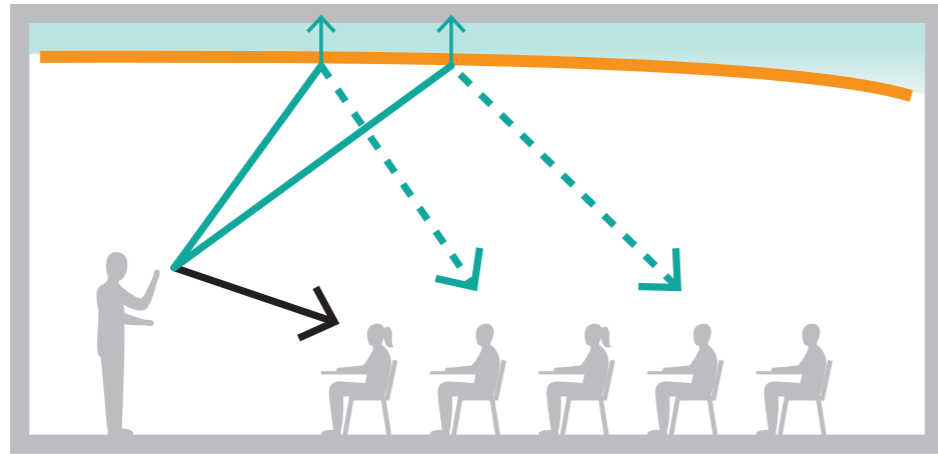
- Unit size**  
150 mm
- Number of iterations**  
4
- Kerf width**  
5 mm
- Segment width**  
10 mm
- Segment height**  
6 mm
- Open surface area**  
30%

# DESIGN DETAIL

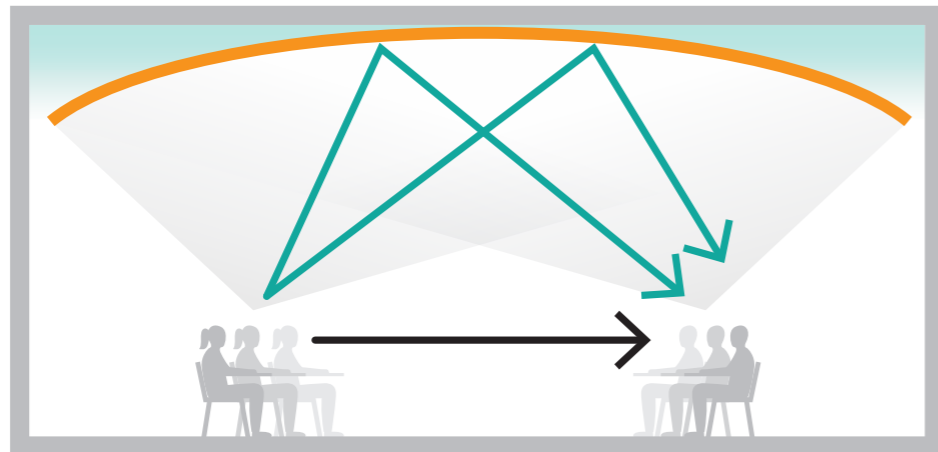


# DESIGN

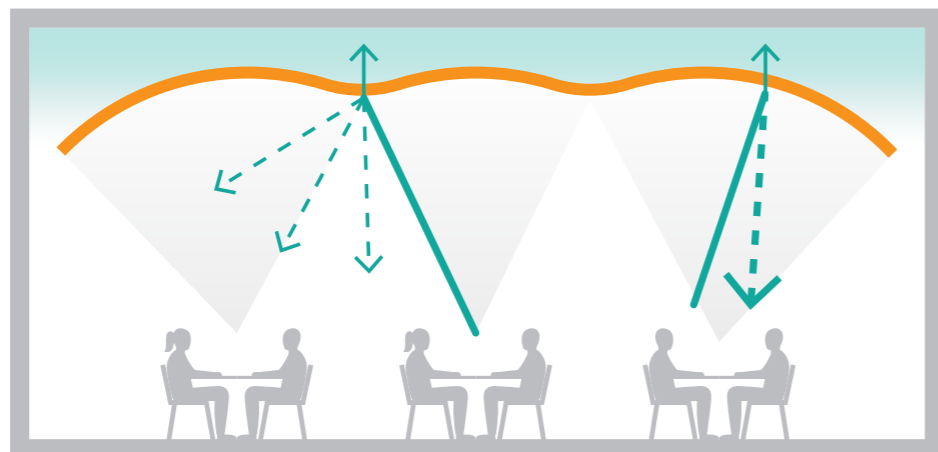
## DIFFERENT COMPOSITIONS



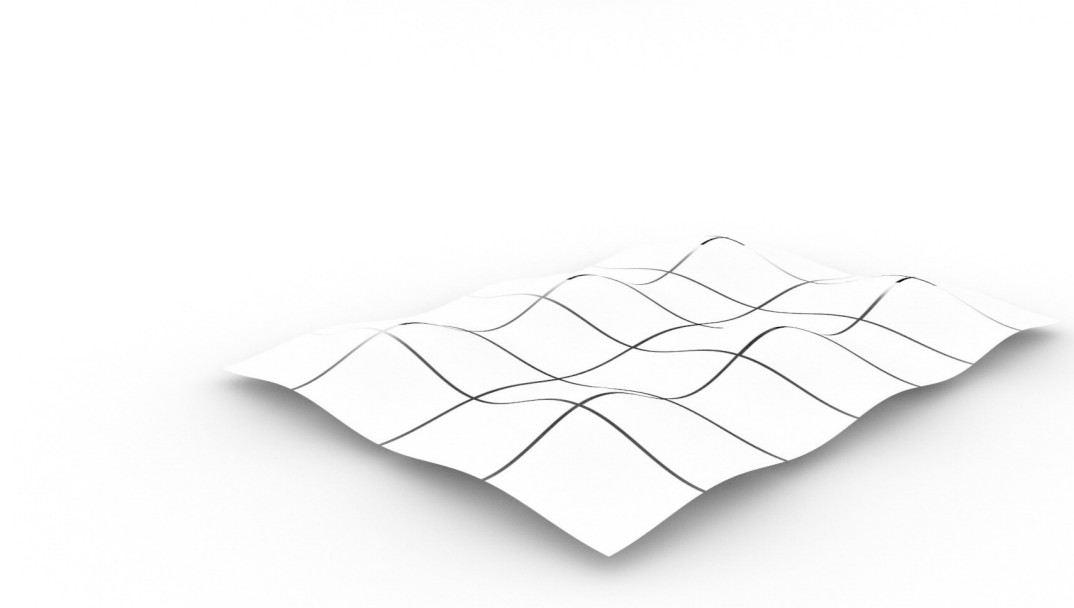
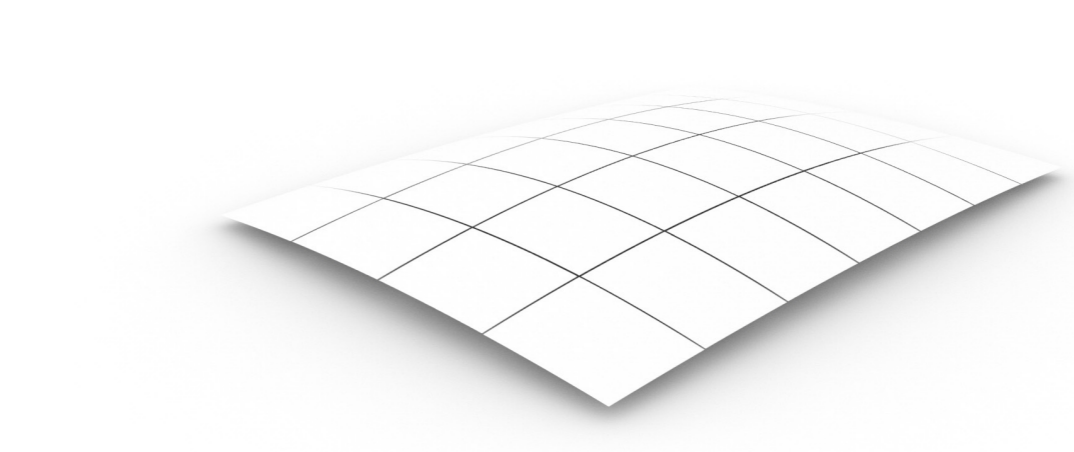
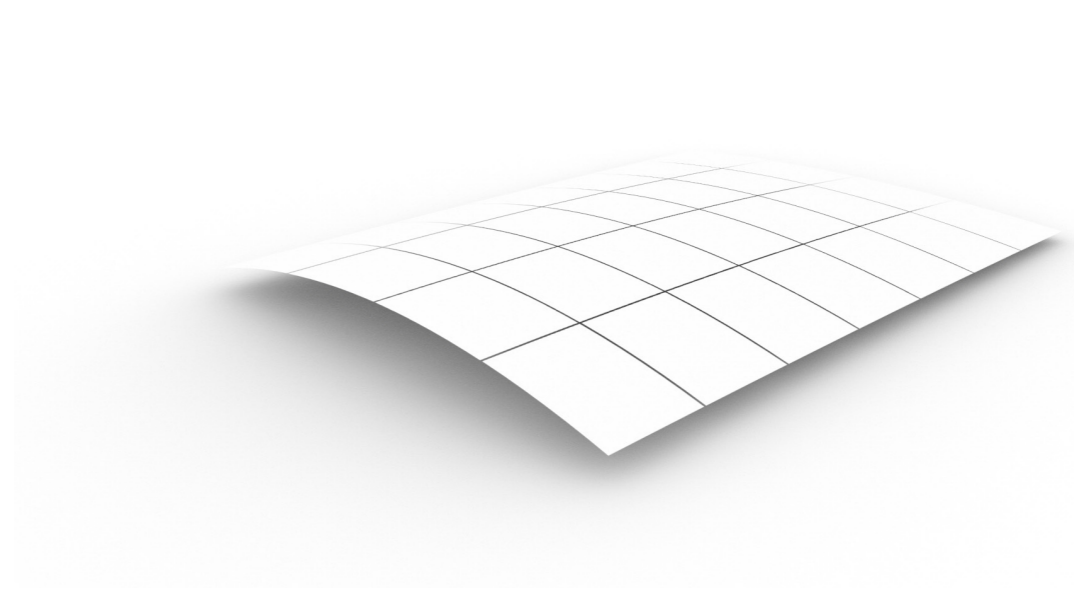
SINGLE SPEAKER



ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION



SMALL GROUPS

















**DESIGN**  
CONCLUSIONS

## **SUB-QUESTION**

### **APPLICATION** *of* **SYSTEM**

What are potential uses  
of responsive surfaces on  
acoustic performance?

**DESIGN**  
CONCLUSIONS

**SUB-QUESTION**

**APPLICATION**  
of  
**SYSTEM**

What are potential uses  
of responsive surfaces on  
acoustic performance?

*>> Beneficial for changing acoustic needs in a lecture room,  
but also applicable when this is not required.*

**CONCLUSION**

## CONCLUSIONS

### RESEARCH QUESTION

How can we formalize the pattern kerfing techniques in order to produce responsive wooden surfaces for better acoustic performance?



## CONCLUSIONS

### RESEARCH QUESTION

How can we formalize the pattern kerfing techniques in order to produce responsive wooden surfaces for better acoustic performance?

*>> Pattern kerfing techniques enhance the flexibility towards better acoustic performance, but provides limited possibilities to respond to specific acoustic needs.*



THANK YOU.