

# Geometric Processing Techniques for Urban Aerial Laser Scan Data

## Viva Presentation

8th April 2011

PhD Candidate

Tommy Hinks

Primary Supervisor

Dr Hamish Carr

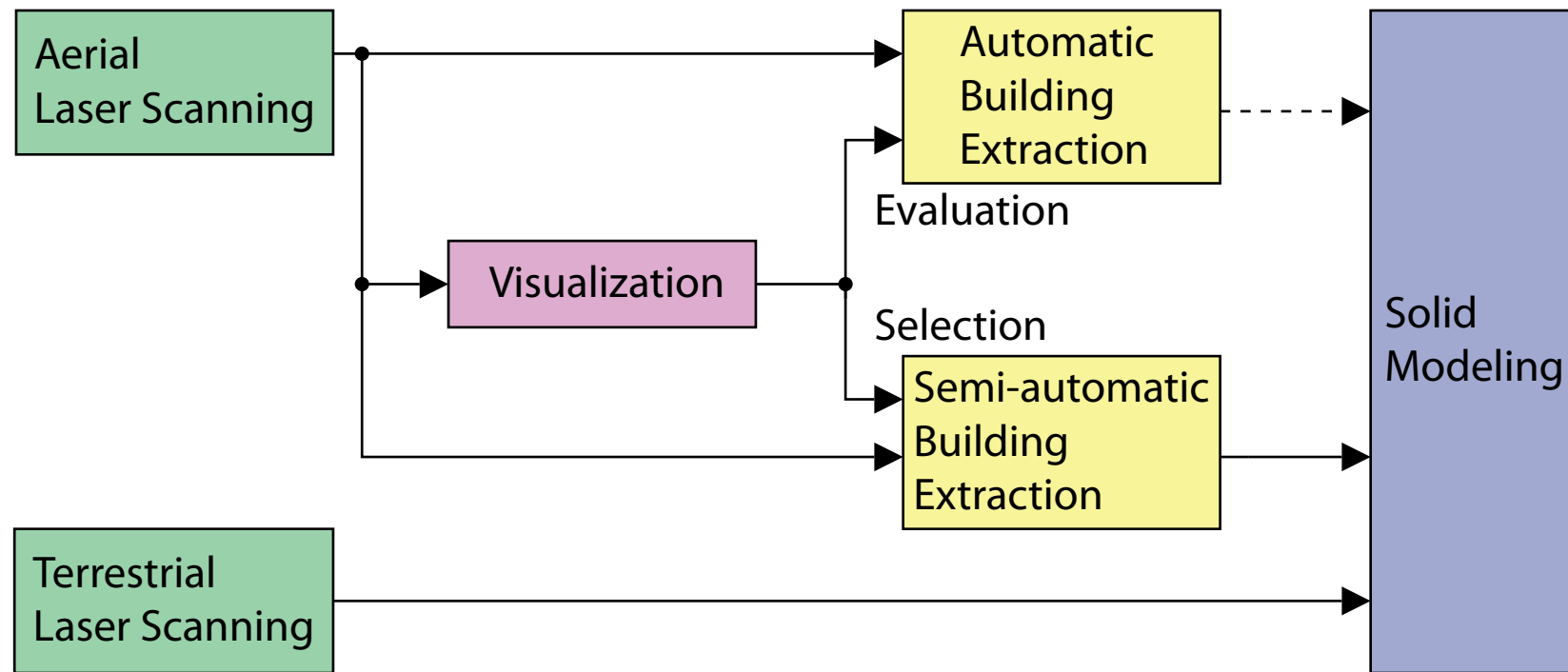
Secondary Supervisor

Dr Debra F. Laefer



# Overview

---



---

## Major Contributions

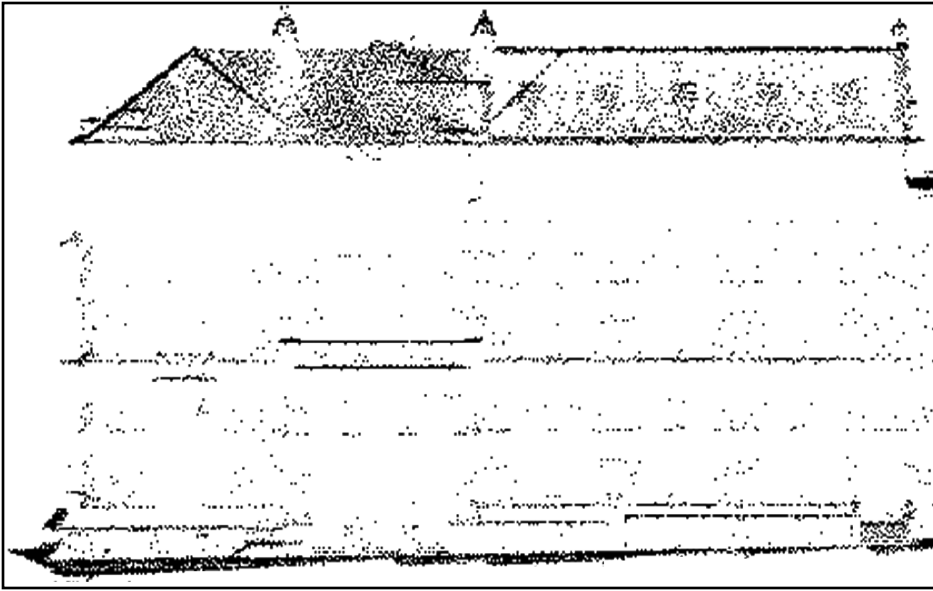
- Urban ALS Flight Paths
- Occlusion Images
- Engineering Models

## Minor Contributions

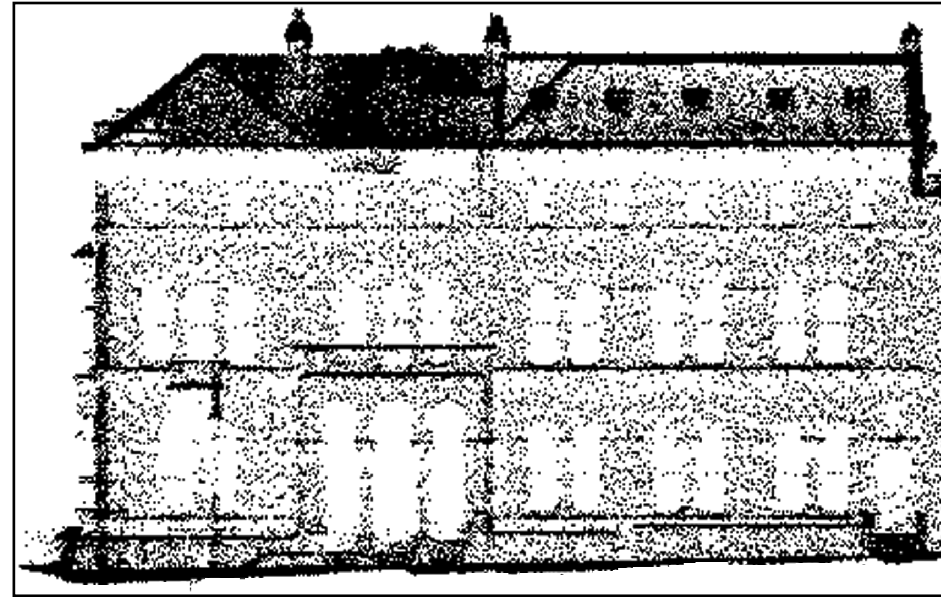
- Automatic Building Extraction
- Flight Path Model
- Missing Echoes

# Urban ALS Flight Paths I

---



Single Flight Strip



Multiple Flight Strips

---

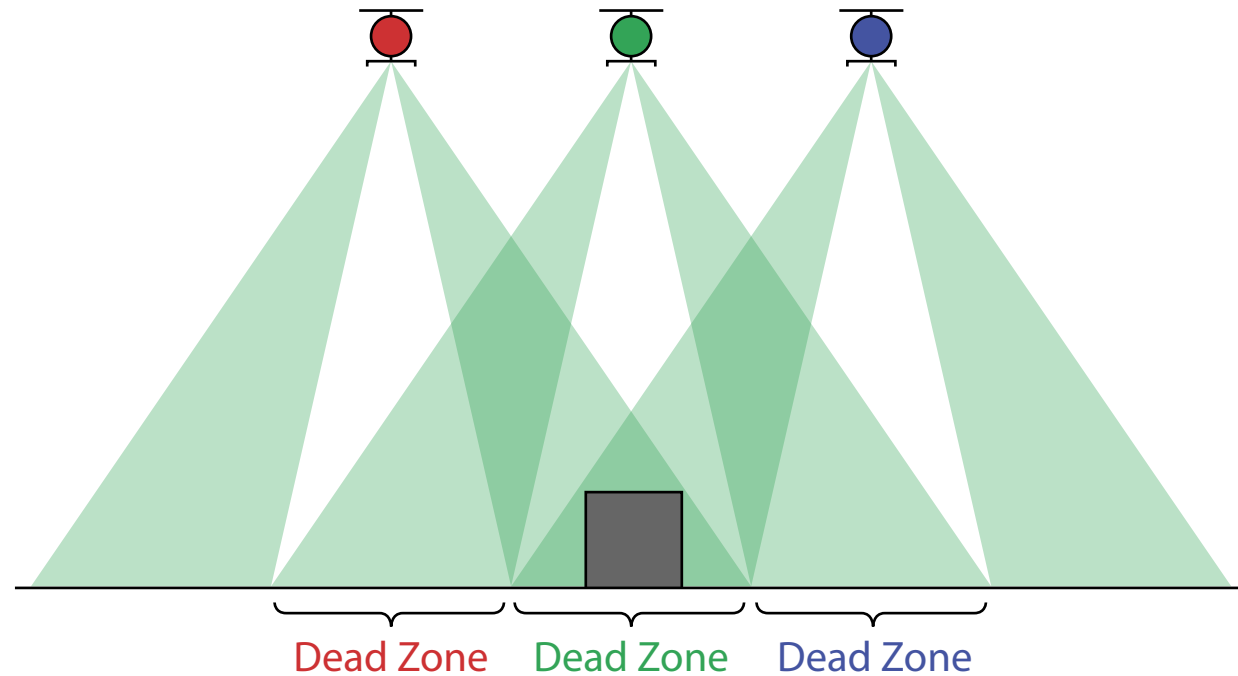
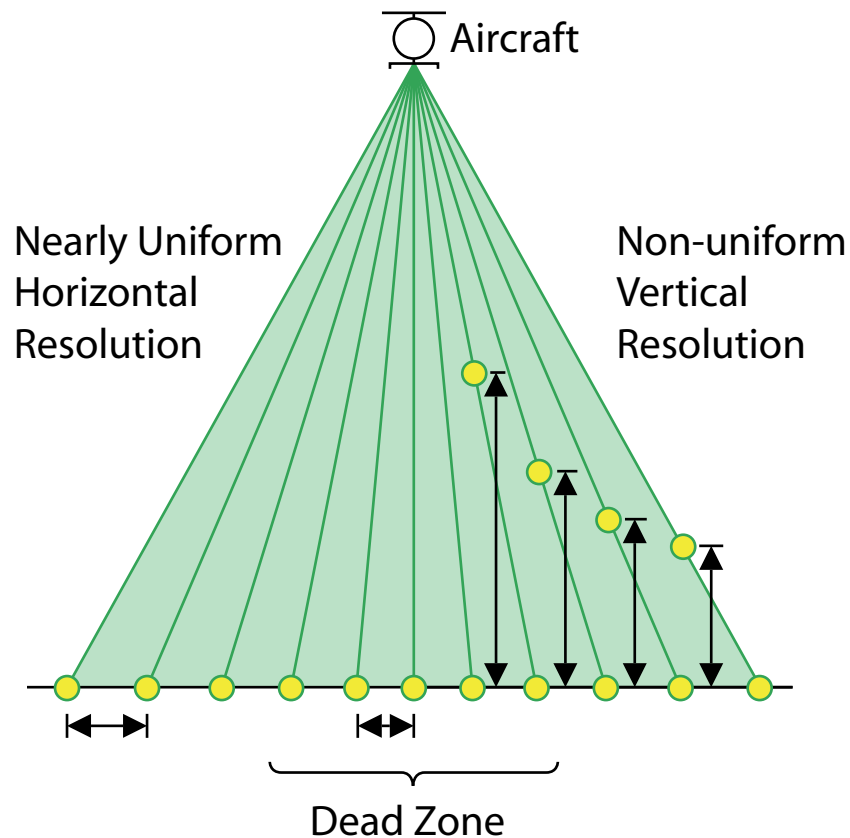
## Problems

- Irregular sampling resolution
  - "Dead zone"
- Street shadows
  - Self-shadows
- Missing facade data

## Solutions

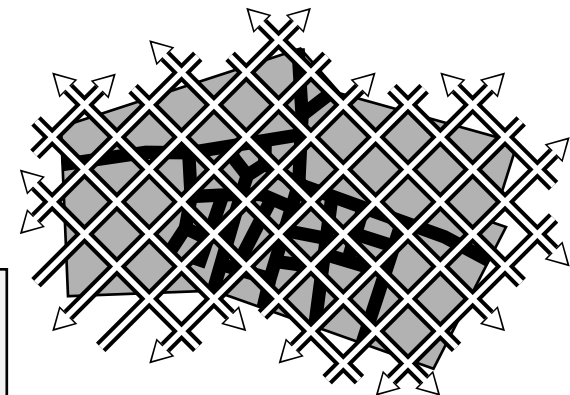
- Multiple flight strip overlap
  - Wide scan angle
- Flight track orientation

# Urban ALS Flight Paths II



- Poor vertical sampling beneath the aircraft
- Fairly uniform horizontal sampling

- Multiple flight strip overlap compensates for "Dead Zones"
- Dublin flight path



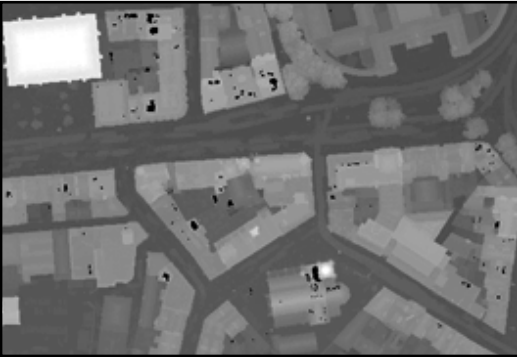


# Occlusion Images I

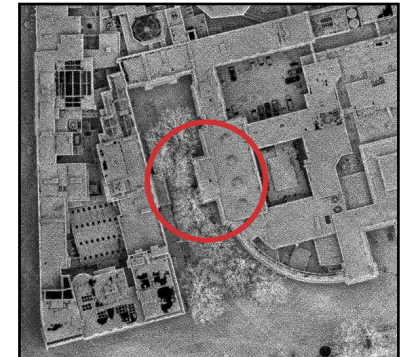
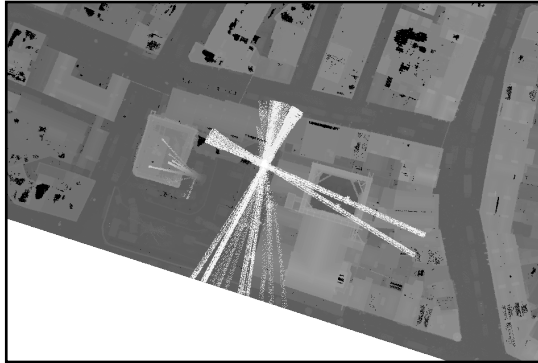
---

## Problems

- Direct visualization of measurements
- Moving objects
- Overhanging objects



Elevation Image



Occlusion Image

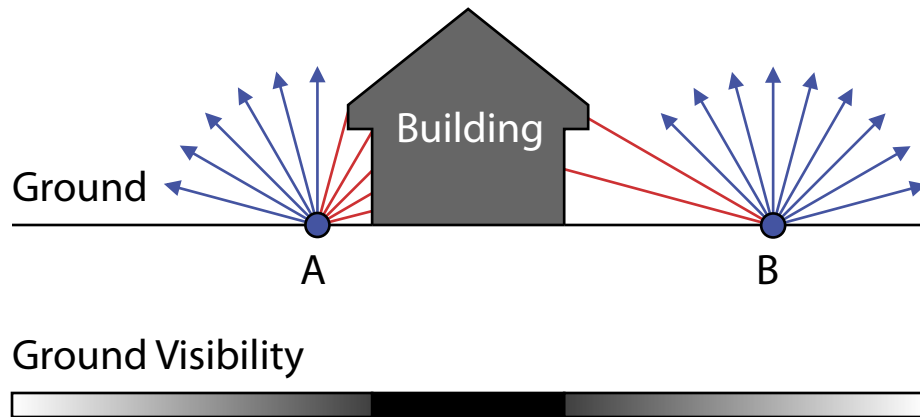
## Solutions

- Visualize patterns
- Treat ALS points as visibility samples

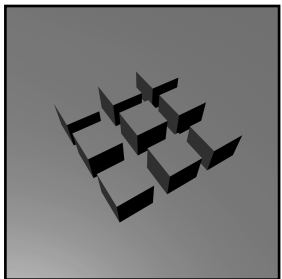
# Occlusion Images II

- Occlusion patterns
  - Visibility is proportional to clear sky views

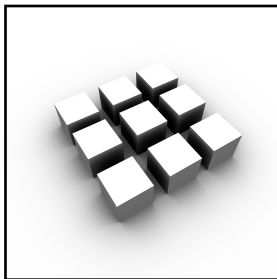
Sky



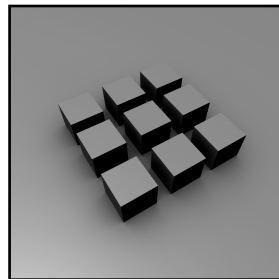
## ■ Ambient Occlusion



Local  
Illumination



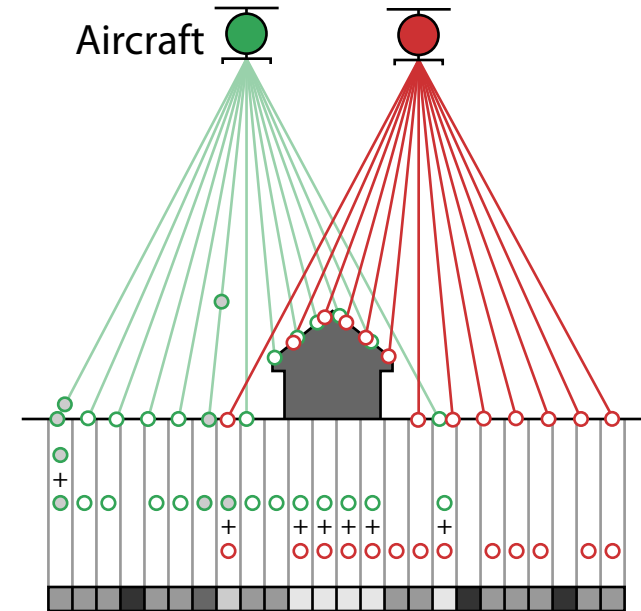
Occlusion



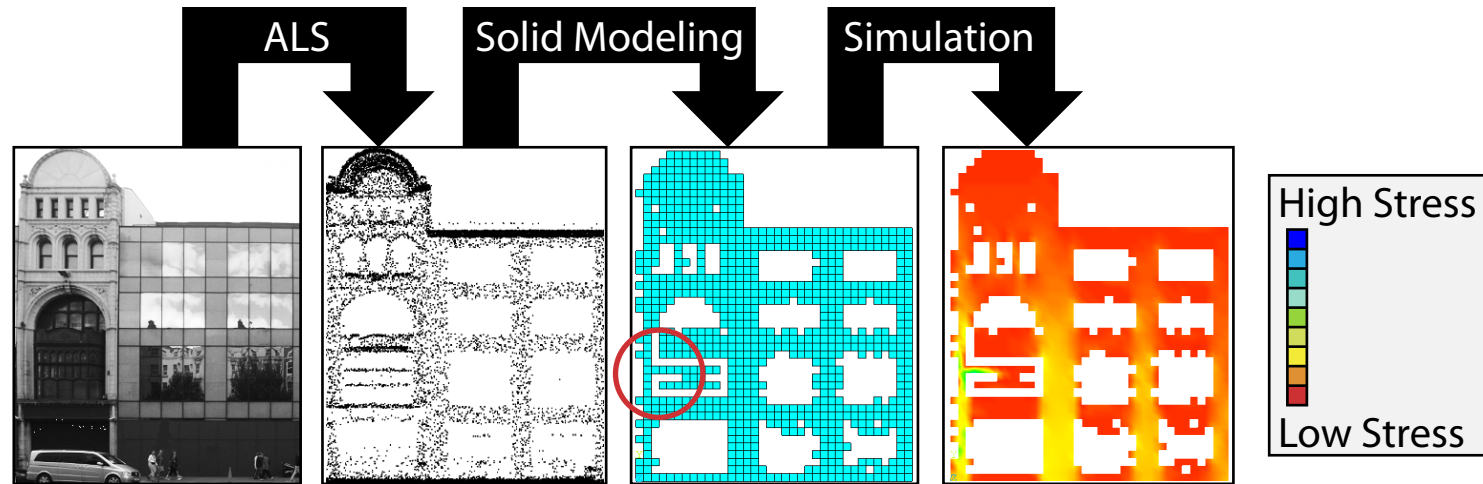
Combined

- Accumulate visibility at pixels
  - Point samples treated as visibility from aircraft

Sky



# Engineering Models I



## Problems

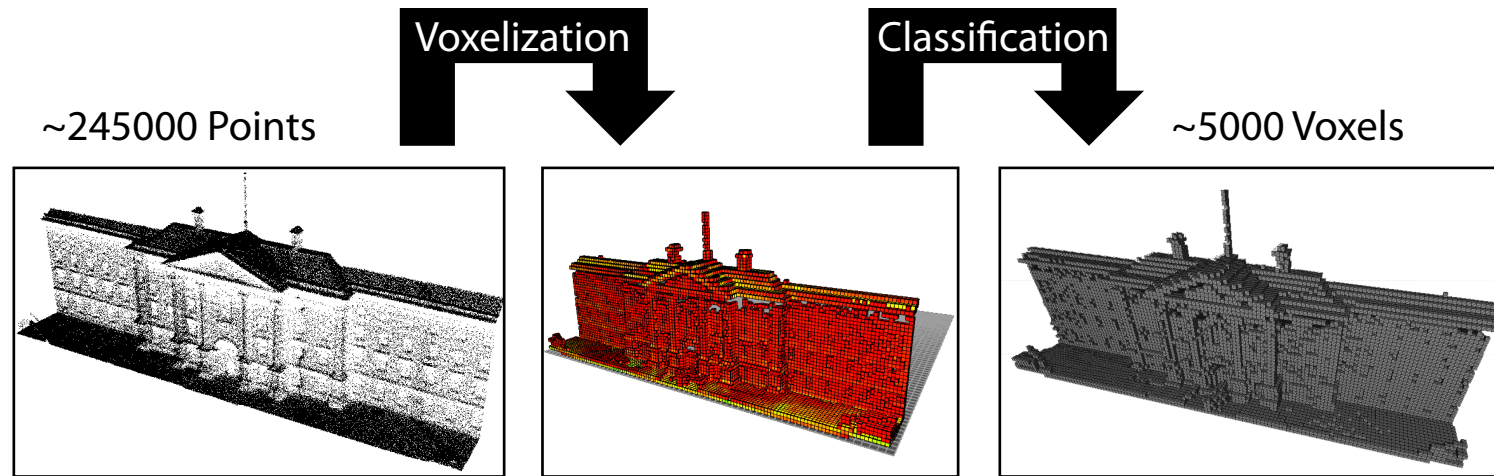
- How to create geometric models used in engineering simulations from ALS data?
  - Each building wall as separate model
- Triangulation does not handle openings and is not volumetric
  - ALS data is fairly sparse

## Solutions

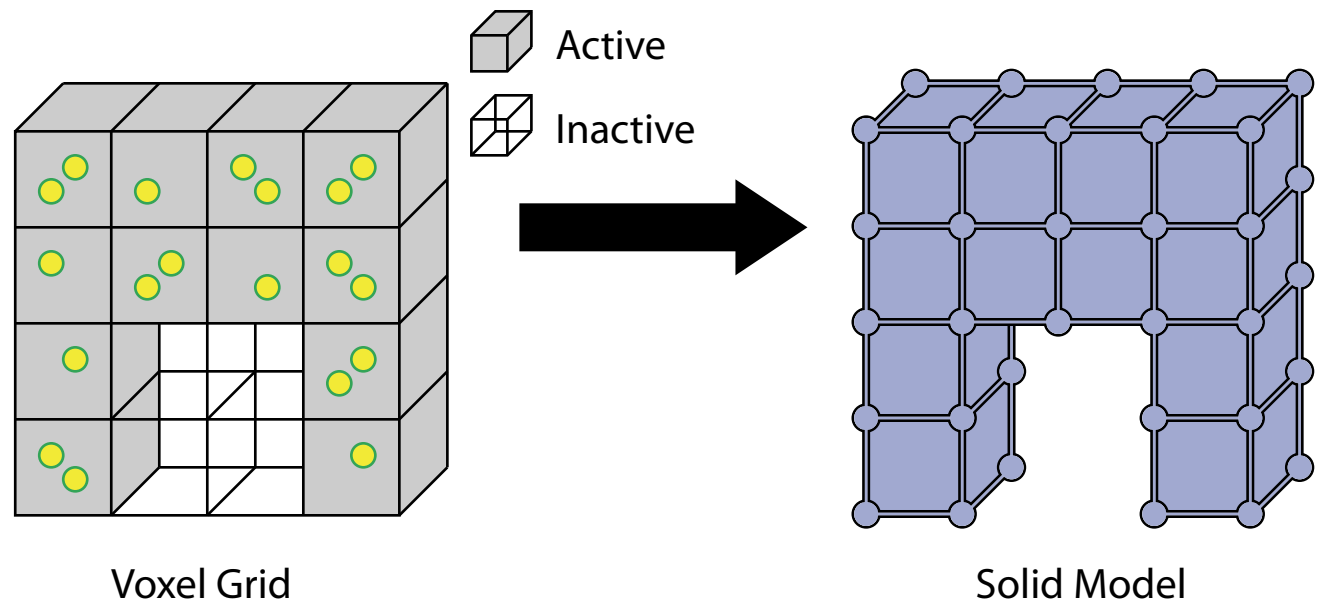
- Create voxel grid and convert to solid model
  - Voxels are volumetric
  - Simple and robust
  - Requires verification

# Engineering Models II

- Create voxel grid and classify voxels as **{Active}** or **{Inactive}**



- Create solid model from connected **{Active}** voxels





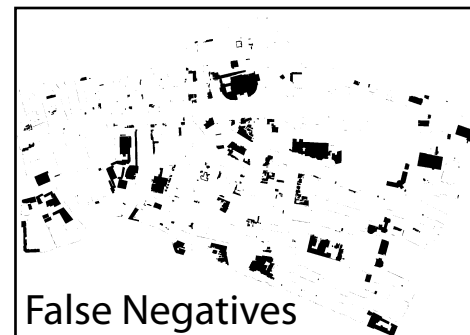
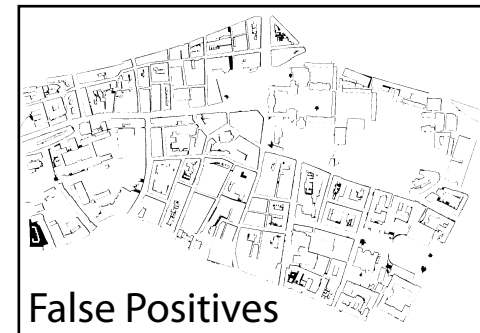
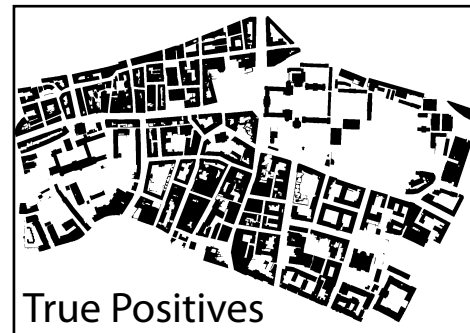
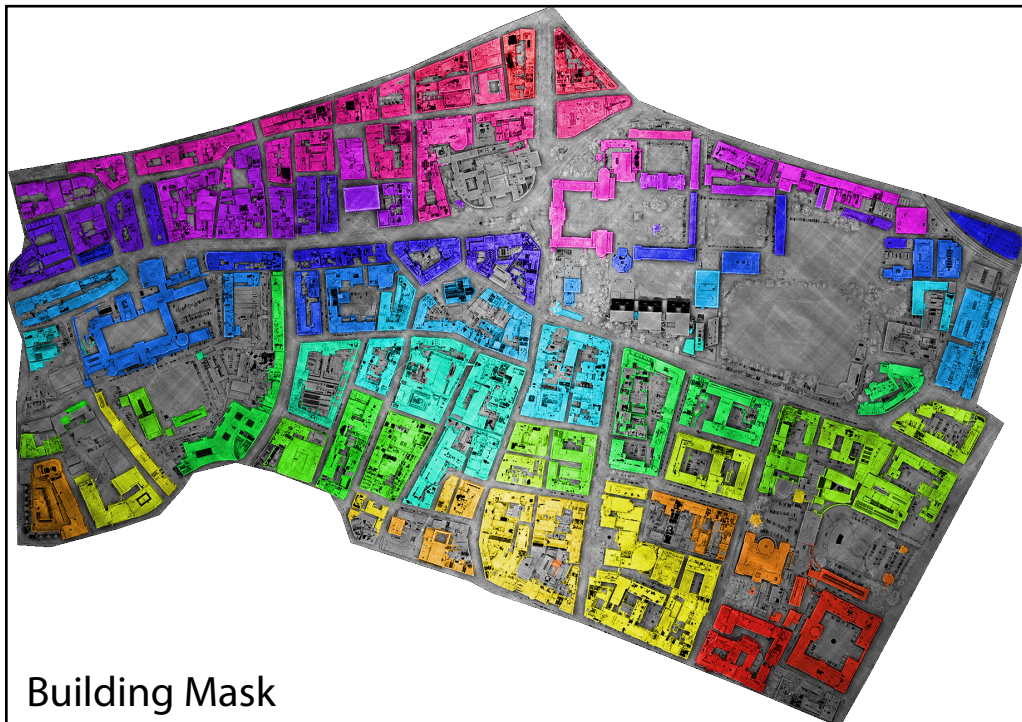
# Building Extraction I

## Problems

- How to extract points acquired on buildings?
- Densely built-up urban regions

## Solutions

- Identify building outlines through points sampled on walls
- Use image processing to identify building interiors
- ~82% of buildings detected





# Acknowledgements

---

- Supervisors
- Urban Modeling Group
  - Linh Troung Hong



- Funding Agency -  
Science Foundation Ireland (SFI)



- Dr Yann Morvan and Dr Carol O'Sullivan  
at Trinity College Dublin

