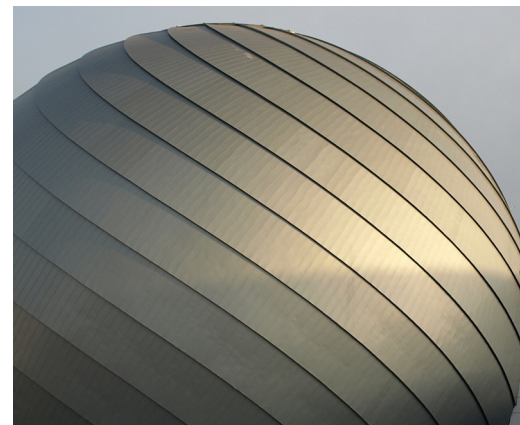
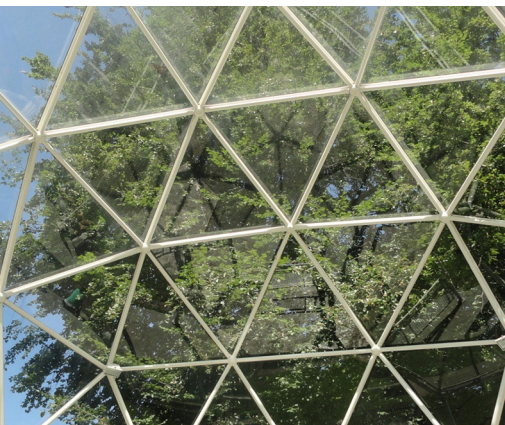


# (GRID)SHELLS



A gridshell is a form- and cross-section-active, lightweight structure, composed of discrete members following a curved free-form shape. Through its shape, a gridshell is designed to carry loading as efficiently as possible, resulting in an efficient, self-supporting structure, able to span large distances using relatively little material. Gridshells derive their strength from its single or double curvature and are usually applied to create free form, geometric or geodesic building skins.

A gridshell is usually based on a grid of many triangles or rectangles. The repetition of the individual elements often creates a homogenous appearance. Through its form, the gridshell offers support for a wide variety of cladding materials such as glass or membranes, while the slender elements allow for maximum light to enter. Octatube has wide experience with clad-shells and transparent gridshells.