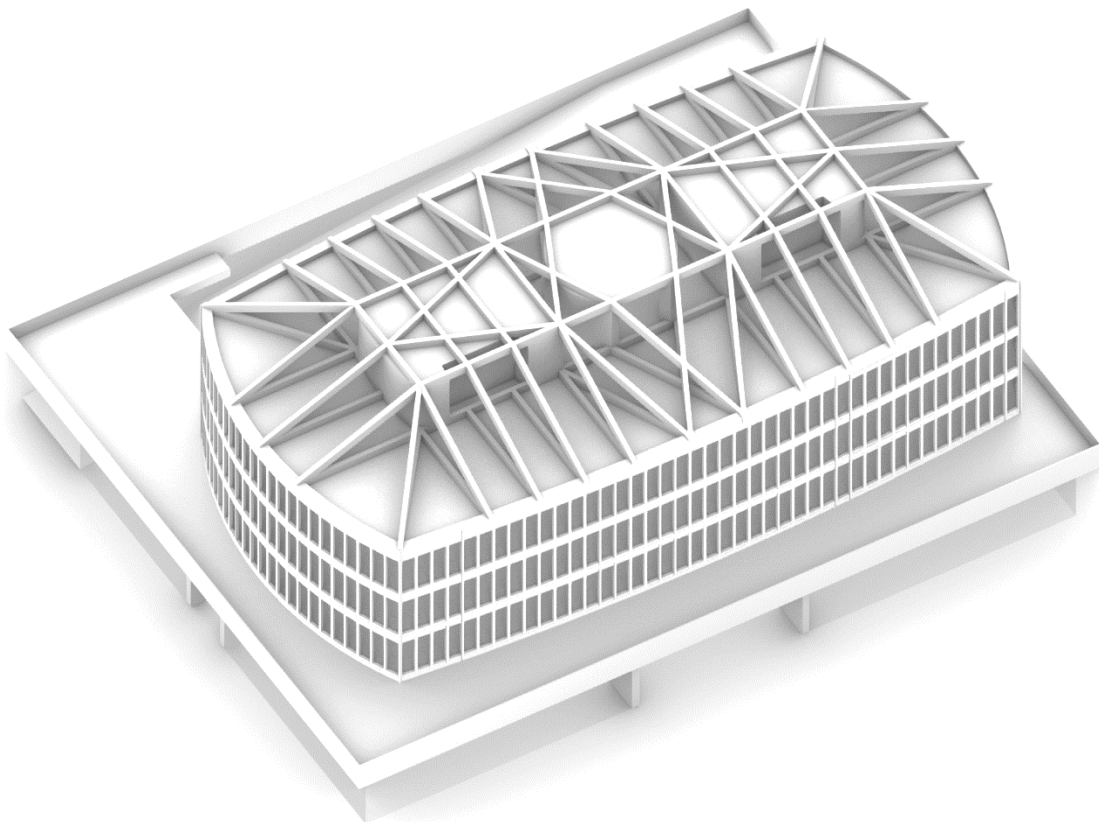


Preserving instead of replacing means to limit embodied energy consumption but also to pass on to future generation the material witnesses in which architectural and cultural qualities are deposited. In addition, there is the need to adapt the existing buildings to the more recent energy containment standards. Facing these two themes in a combined way means to analyse the architectural detail choices, to relate them to the overall architectural outcome and to exploit technological innovation to identify such a design strategy which allows to reach better performances without affecting the preservation.

The architecture of the 20th century is fragile, even buildings which have been recognised as historically or culturally valuable risk to be radically transformed for the sake of energy retrofiting. These buildings were built before the oil crisis, their envelope is characterized by low energy performances but, since they are relatively recent, often they are not adequately protected. For intervening on these constructions, it is necessary to develop ad hoc solutions, which should represent a reasoned compromise between preservation and retrofit.

This thesis addresses these issues by considering the case study of Palazzo Affari, an office building still in use, conceived by Carlo Mollino together with Carlo Graffi, Alberto Galardi and Antonio Migliasso for the Turin Chamber of Commerce. The competition brief, launched in 1963, requested a palace which could respond to the most modern and progressed needs in the matter of offices organization. The core of the proposal is a free plan, completely clear from any structural encumbrances. This solution is made possible thanks to the avant-garde solution of the suspension technique: the floors are hanging to



Schema concettuale della struttura di Palazzo Affari

Soluzione progettuale proposta

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