Using the Dimension 3D Printer

- Turn the printer on if it is not already, remove any previous prints, and then make sure an empty build plate is installed. Close the door.
- Open CatalystEX on the left-hand computer.
- Open your STL by going to File > Open STL…
- Confirm the unit dimensions if asked.
- Under the General tab, choose the options for layer resolution, interior fill, etc. that you want.
- Under the Orientation tab, orient your model by clicking the appropriate radio button under “Orient Selected Surface,” then click on the corresponding surface on the part.
- Click [Process STL] at the bottom of the window, then [Add to Pack].
- Add any additional STL files as needed. Layer heights must be the same for all models in a single pack.
- Switch to the Pack tab.
- Place the model on the build plate as desired. If reusing an old build plate, choose a fresh surface if possible. Start from the edges if using a fresh plate. The edge of the plate with the handle corresponds to the bottom of the build window.
- Name the pack list using the format TeamName_PartName, then fill out the 3D printer log (located on the desktop).
- Back in Catalyst, click [Print].
- On the Dimension printer’s front panel, press “Start Model”.
- After the print is done, remove the build platform.
- Remove the part from the build plate. Flexing the plate can be helpful. Be careful, as the support material can be sharp.
- If necessary, place the part in the large caustic bath to remove any support material that does not come off by hand. Wear gloves when handling parts, as it is a lye solution! You have been wearing goggles the whole time you’re in the wet lab, so we don’t need to remind you again here, right?
- After soaking, rinse the part in the sink.