

# Hilary Anna Johnson

“mechanically-minded design & impact driven problem solving”

## Education

### Thayer School of Engineering | June 2015

Bachelor of Engineering, Mechanical Concentration

### Dartmouth College | June 2015

Bachelor of Arts, Engineering Sciences

## Coursework

Computer-Aided Mechanical Engineering Design	Differential Equations
Machine Engineering	Linear Algebra
Engineering Design Methodology	Multi-variable calculus
Product Design	Calculus of Vector-Valued Functions
Microprocessors	Scientific Computing
Structural Analysis	Development Economics
Solid Mechanics	International Development
Systems	Contemporary Architecture
Distributed Systems & Fields	The Modern Healthcare System
Statistical Methods	Human Biology
Digital Electronics	Intro to Sociology
Thermodynamics	
Material Science	

## Skills

**Applications** | Certified SolidWorks Professional, Pro-E, SketchUp, Photoshop, Microsoft Office Suite

**Production** | CNC milling & routing, injection molding, mill, lathe, laser cutting, 3D printing, MIG welding, plasma cutting + prototyping

**Programming** | C, C++, Matlab, Processing, Arduino, Assembly

**Languages** | conversational Spanish, basic Serbo-Croatian

## Engineering Work Experience

### Thayer Design Fellow

July – Present | Thayer School of Engineering

### Medical Engineering & Design Intern

June – August 2014 | Insight Product Development LLC

### Research Assistant Amulet Mobile Health Project

February - May 2014 | Thayer School of Engineering

### Dartmouth Biomedical Engineering Center Research Assistant

Sept. 2012 – June 2013 | Thayer School of Engineering

## References

Peter Robbie, Thayer School of Engineering

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Gregg Fairbrothers, Retired Tuck School, Entrepreneurship

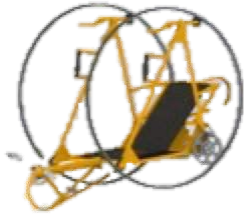
603•646•0290 | gfairbrothers@gmail.com

# About me

I am an adventurer and problem solver. I love tough challenges. Whether it's a mountain or a medical device, I see both the sweeping landscape and the minute details. I learn fast and love learning. I became an engineer because I deeply care about serving people by solving their problems. I grew up in Portland, Oregon and went to high school in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I've spent the last four years absorbing as much as I can at Dartmouth while earning both engineering and liberal arts degrees.



# Projects



## Diwheel

Mechanical | 04

// A two wheeled pedal powered vehicle



## An Adjustable Sling

Biomechanical | 08

// For post-prostatectomy continence



## Playful Robots

Mechanical | 12

// Thayer Baja machine design



## Amulet

Product Design | 16

// Wearable body-area health network hub

# Diwheel

// A two-wheeled, pedal powered vehicle

Team | Mechanical Engineering



SolidWorks rendering of the final vehicle.

# Challenge: Design, build, and race a pedal-powered diwheel

## Creative Fields

Engineering

## Course/Client

ENGS 146 Computer  
Aided Mechanical  
Design

## Completion Date

Spring 2015

## Skills

SolidWorks Professional  
Certificate  
SolidWorks Simulation Tools  
MIG Welding

## Team: Bevel's Advocate

*Winner of the 2015 ENGS 146 Diwheel Competition  
& the Best Fits and Finishes Award*

At an applied rider torque of 26 lb-ft, converting to 5.5 lb-ft per wheel, this diwheel accelerates from 0 to 5 mph in under 10 seconds. Helping to make Bevel's Advocate's sublime driving dynamics possible is a rigid open chassis that features hardened steel and Thayer machine shop manufacturing and welding techniques. The suspension is derived from hoop spring between the offset drive wheel several inches above the center of mass and the front guide wheel, and the custom made rear differential maintains smooth turning for tight maneuverability. Anti-gerbiling mechanisms provide both stylistic additions as well as balance and over-correction protection.



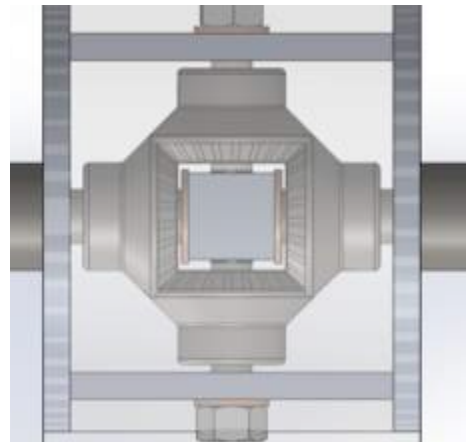
# Differential Design & Drive Train

To the right are SolidWorks renderings of the differential and drive train, as a full sub-assembly and also integrated into the frame. The differential I co-designed and built with a teammate uses four bevel gears to transfer power from the chain and sprocket to the drive shafts. Building a low friction differential was one of the central challenges of this project. Tight tolerances, precisely aligned bearings, and co-axial shafts were essential to building a low friction system.

Properly welding the frame was a key part of making sure the drive shafts were co-axial. I built a welding jig to hold the shaft collars and their gussets rigid during welding to ensure that heat from the welds did not deform the frame.

I was the project manager for my team, making sure we finished several days ahead so that we could test, break and fix any weakness in our design before competition day.

I also designed, prototyped and built the steering and braking system and I MIG welded the entire chassis frame and built welding jigs for precise alignment.





# Manufacturing and Assembly

## Key Manufacturing Processes

- Plasma cut 1/8" steel gussets
- MIG welded steel bar stock frame (2,4)
- CNC milled drive wheels and differential case from SolidWorks model using HSM Works (3)
- Lathed retaining ring grooves on drive shafts and polyethylene tensioning wheels



1



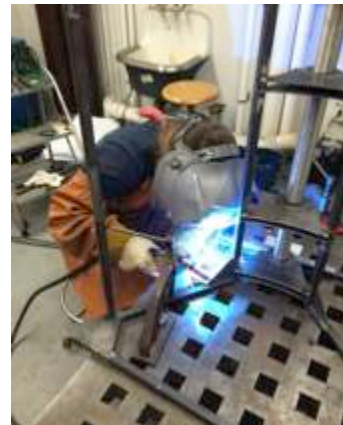
2

## The Bevel is in the Details

As our team philosophy, we knew that doing an excellent job on even the small details would make a difference on race day (5). We put extra care into making sure alignments were precise, that welds were strong and balanced heat across members to avoid deformation, and our shifter worked consistently under tension. We even calculated center of mass (1) of our diwheel with a dummy to ensure a balanced weight distribution to optimize speed and agility.



3



4



5



# An Adjustable Sling

// For Post-Prostatectomy Continence

Team | Biomechanical Engineering



SolidWorks rendering of the preliminary prototype.

# Challenge: How might we develop better products to restore urinary continence for post-prostatectomy males?

Creative Fields	Course/Client	Completion Date	Skills
Engineering Medicine	ENGS 89/90 Capstone Design Project American Medical Systems	March 2015	Design methodology Project management Design for medicine SolidWorks design Requirement testing

## Goals

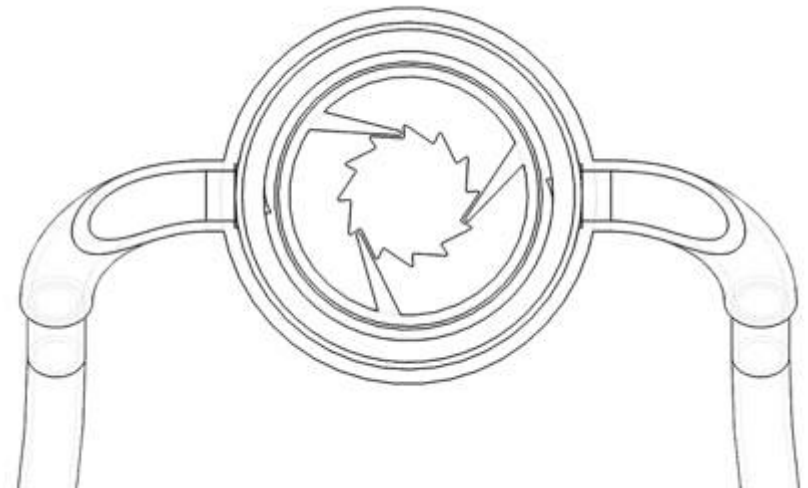
1. Draw germane insights & specifications from physician research
2. Thoroughly investigate the solution space and develop a comprehensive set of alternative concepts
3. Refine these concepts based on the most important specifications, technical feasibility, and IP-defensibility
4. Present a feasible product concept developed through engineering analysis, testing and design

## Solution

An adjustable sling that allows surgeons to easily implant and then fine tune adjustment post-surgery without re-incision to provide optimal urethral tensioning for maximum continence.

## Patent

Filed by American Medical Systems in June 2015: **Implants, Tools, and Methods for Treatment of Pelvic Conditions**

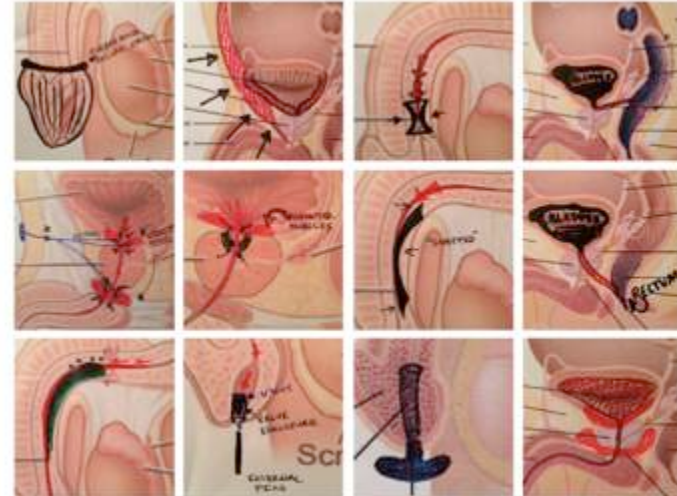


Cross sectional SolidWorks view of the interior ratchet mechanism.

# Design Method

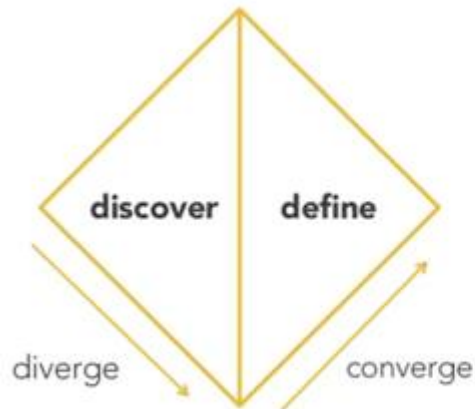
## Discover |

We conducted 8 in-depth physician interviews with prostatectomy and continence experts from the US, Germany and Egypt. Through a review of 35 medical journal articles and ex vivo pig dissections we characterized incontinence pathophysiology and identified six underlying biological bases of incontinence. We studied current state of the art for incontinence solutions, including European competitors to AMS's US products. All of this led us to generate 65 initial concept ideas.



## Define |

Using specifications we developed, and judging concepts based on feasibility and IP-defensibility we distilled the 65 concepts into three new solutions: an electronically actuated artificial urinary sphincter, a new prostate removal procedure that preserves the urethral length, and a non-invasively adjustable urethral sling. We identified failures in current state of the art through physician interviews and reviewed our concepts with physician experts.

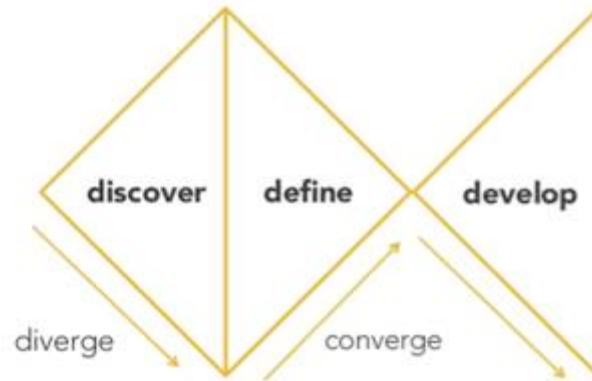


1. Electronic AUS
2. Urethral Length
3. Adjustable Sling

# Design Method

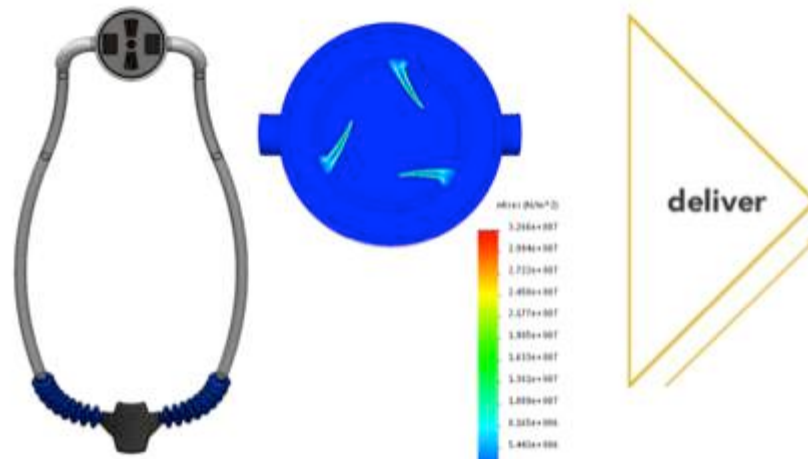
## Develop |

I iteratively prototyped the adjustable sling design concept in parallel with testing and feedback. The design process included sketches, rough physical mock-ups, SolidWorks models, and a works-like, looks-like functional prototype. Getting early prototypes into the hands of surgeons and physicians was essential to our development process.



## Deliver |

We refined prototypes and conducted testing for adjustability, ratchet torque, flow rate efficacy, sling base force, sling base failure, and preliminary FMEA analysis. We also laid out initial flow of the new surgical procedure for implantation and adjustment. We documented our design decisions and provided recommendations on further refinement, materials and initial cost estimates. All our development, testing and recommendations were compiled into a product concept paper to deliver to sponsor.



# Analysis & Deliverables

## Analysis

I developed both SolidWorks analyses and bench-top prototype testing for the force exerted by the sling, the torque necessary to rotate the spindle, and stress analysis of the pawls in the ratchet.

## Deliverables to our Sponsor

- *Product Concept Paper* |
  - Preliminary descriptions and analysis for three concepts
  - Work-like prototype of adjustable sling design
  - CAD models and simulations for prototype
  - Desktop and bench-top testing, literature review and recommendations
- *Final Patent Disclosure* | Adjustable ratchet sling embodiments for patent filing

	<1 pad/day	1 pad/day	2-3 pads/day	4+ pads/day
Sling		Sling if high patient bother	Core Sling Patients	Try sling first
Sphincter	Weekly, monthly, or mid daily incontinence	Use security pads	Sphincter if sling failure	Core Sphincter Patients
Adjustable Sling			Core Adjustable Sling Patients	

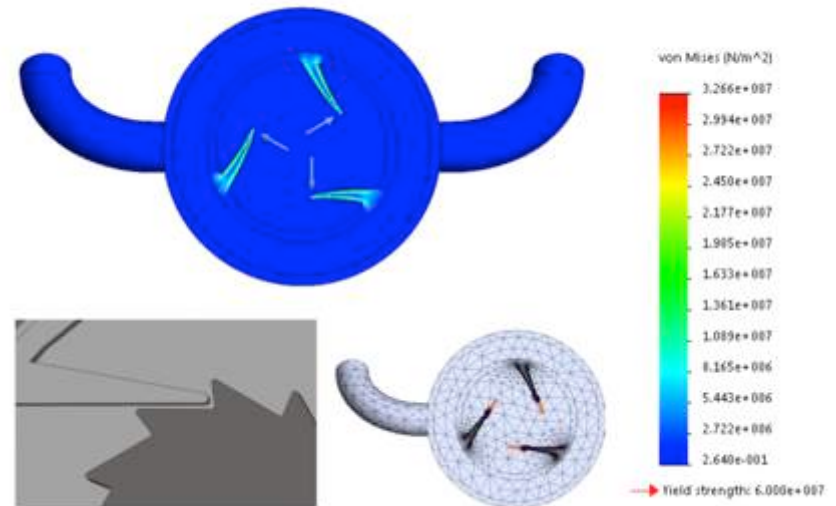
User Segmentation in US markets and adjustable sling niche.



Interior ratchet mechanism



Force testing with prototype



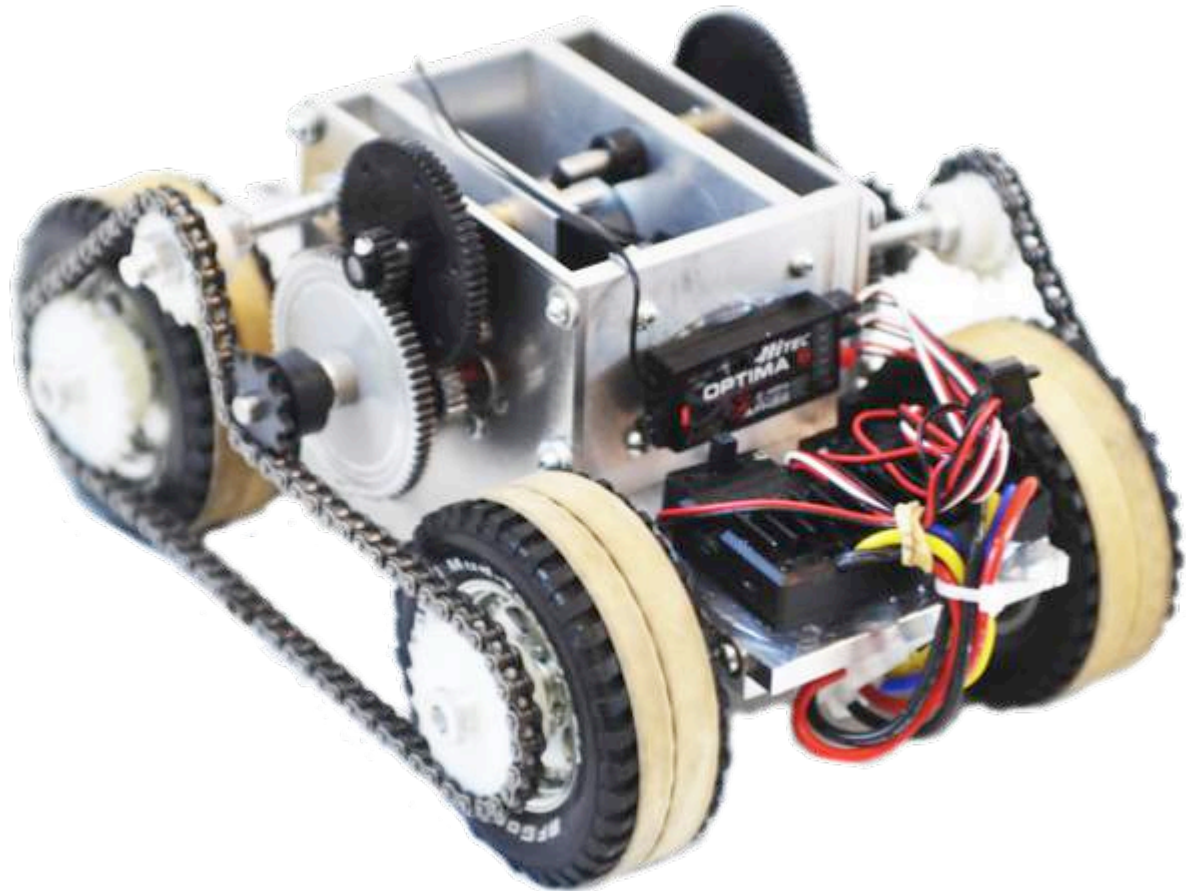
Data driven physical design and materials selection based on SolidWorks von Mises stress and deformation analysis.



# Playful Robots

## // Thayer Baja Machine Design

September – November 2014, Team | MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



# Challenge: Design & build a robot to navigate a challenge course

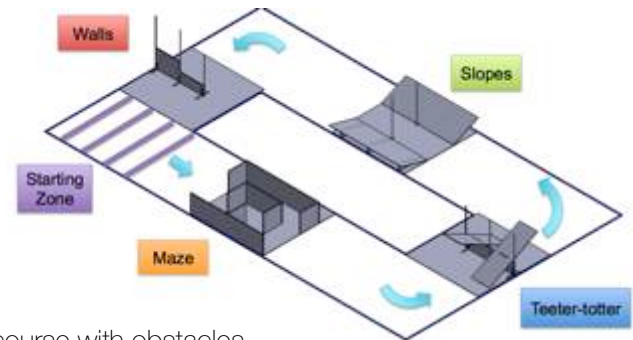
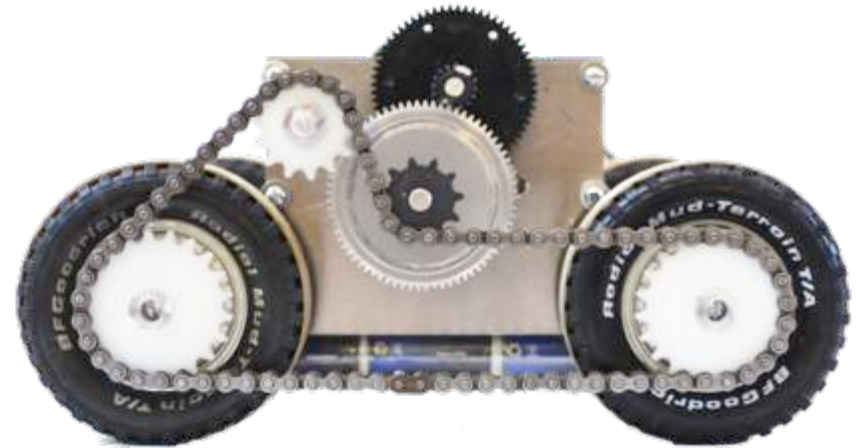
Creative Fields	Course/Client	Completion Date	Skills
Mechanical Engineering	ENGS 76 Machine Engineering	Fall 2014	SolidWorks Certification Mechanical Design Milling, lathing, gear box design

## Objective

To design and manufacture a remote controlled robot using limited materials to navigate a four part obstacle course. Our requirement specifications drove the design process and testing. The goals of the course were to develop an understanding of the machine design process develop competency in mechanical CAD design and machining to specification.

## My Contribution

- Created 25 iterative designs with sketches, foam core, SolidWorks and machining
- Led chassis/gearbox design, manufacturing & assembly
- Calculated optimal gear ratio & fits necessary for bearings & bushings
- Created chassis and gearbox engineering drawings



Challenge course with obstacles.

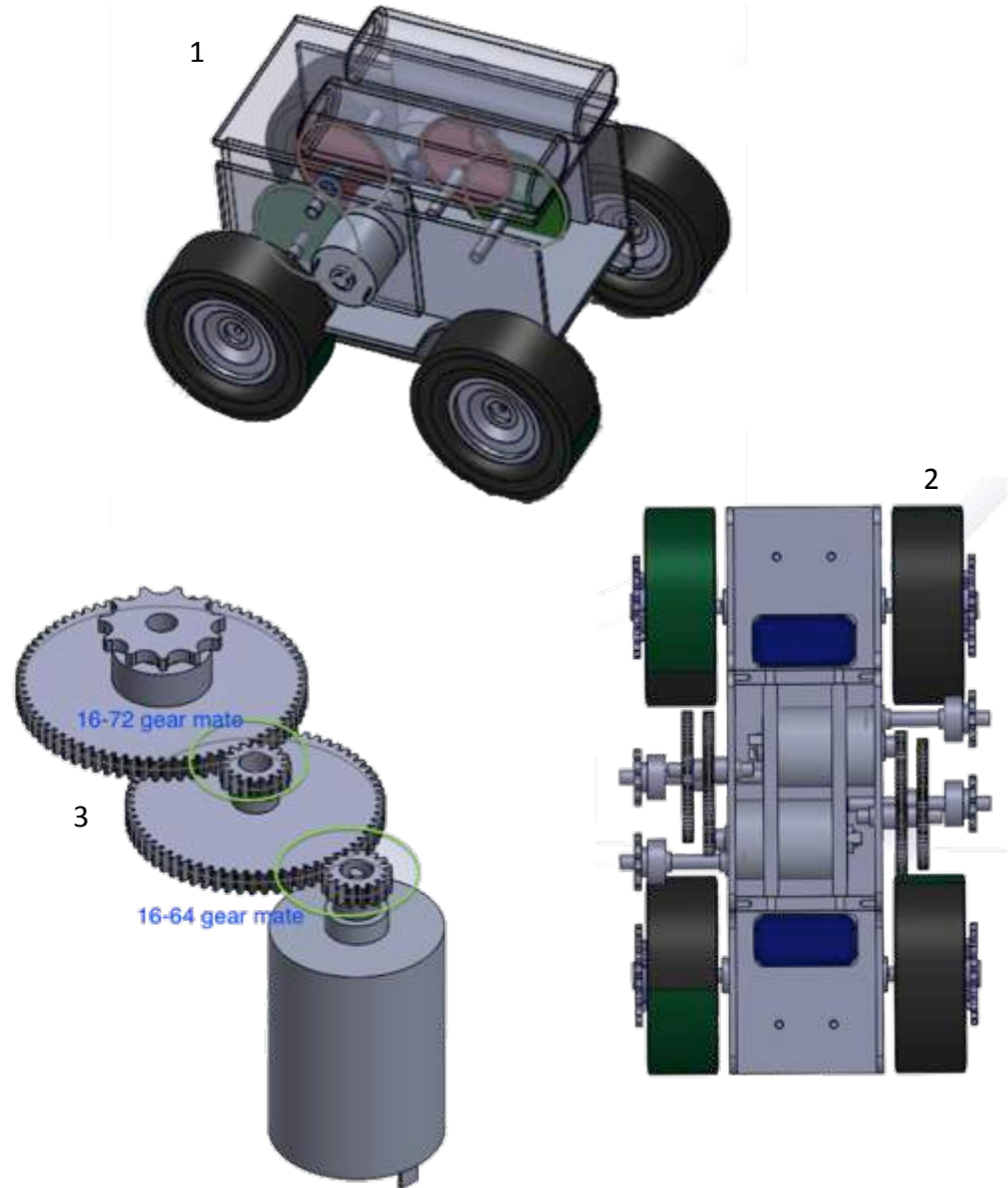


# The Design Process

Initially, our team brainstormed and prototyped competing designs. To the right (1) is my initial design, which my team chose to pursue for the final competition. Advantages: low to the ground chassis, parallel motor configuration, and optimized gear box design resulted in a small footprint best for the maze challenge, and it also maintained a low center of mass critical for the slope and teeter-totter challenges.

To optimize the gearbox ratio for our desired torque and speed specifications using the motors given, I developed a flexible model which suggests the gears necessary to achieve desired velocity and Newton-meter inputs.

I also used a flexible CAD assembly of the motor and selected gears (3) to arrange the gearbox between the wheels (2), keeping the vehicle narrow. Knowing from previous competitions that access to the gearbox is important for refinement and repair I placed it accessibly on the outside of the chassis wall, and secured the chain on sprockets outside the wheels for ease of removal.



# Design Constraints & Manufacturing

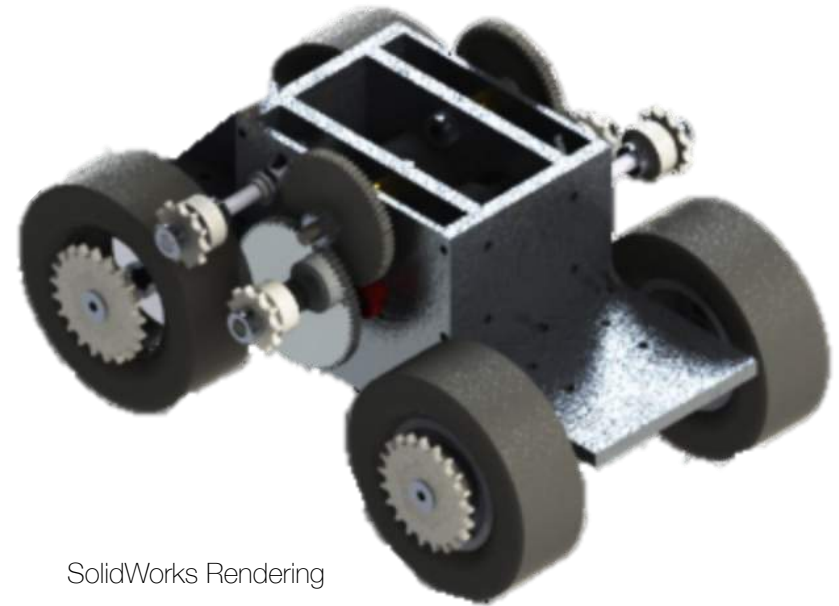
## Constraints

- **Two Mabuchi motor drive system & high gear reduction** provides both necessary speed and torque, mitigates need for a differential
- **Maneuverable steering** through tank drive system
- **Small 10"x 7" footprint** enables vehicle to fit through the hard maze
- **Low center of mass** maintains stability over the teeter-totter and slope challenges
- **Rigid chassis** enables precise meshing of the gearbox for efficient power transmission and smooth driving

## Manufacturing

One of our key specifications was ease of manufacturing. In designing the chassis, I thought carefully about the aluminum plate thickness, 1/8" versus 1/4". Eighth inch minimizes weight, but quarter inch is thick enough to tap a 3/16<sup>th</sup> screw hole. I also knew that a rigid chassis was important for precise gear meshing. This forethought enabled our team to easily assemble and disassemble our design for quick changes and refinement.

All of our components were made using traditional milling and lathing techniques. Engineering drawings were made for each component. Wheels and gears were given as part of the material constraints.



SolidWorks Rendering



Arm attachment added to knock down the hard teeter-totter obstacle.

# Amulet Wearable

// Body area health network hub

January – May 2014, Individual | PRODUCT DESIGN



Two Amulets: a developer model made to fit the current hardware, and a future model once hardware is miniaturized.

# Challenge: Design a secure wearable mobile health device

## Creative Fields

Engineering  
Product Design

## Course/Client

Dartmouth Center for  
Technology, Security &  
Society

## Completion Date

Spring 2014

## Skills

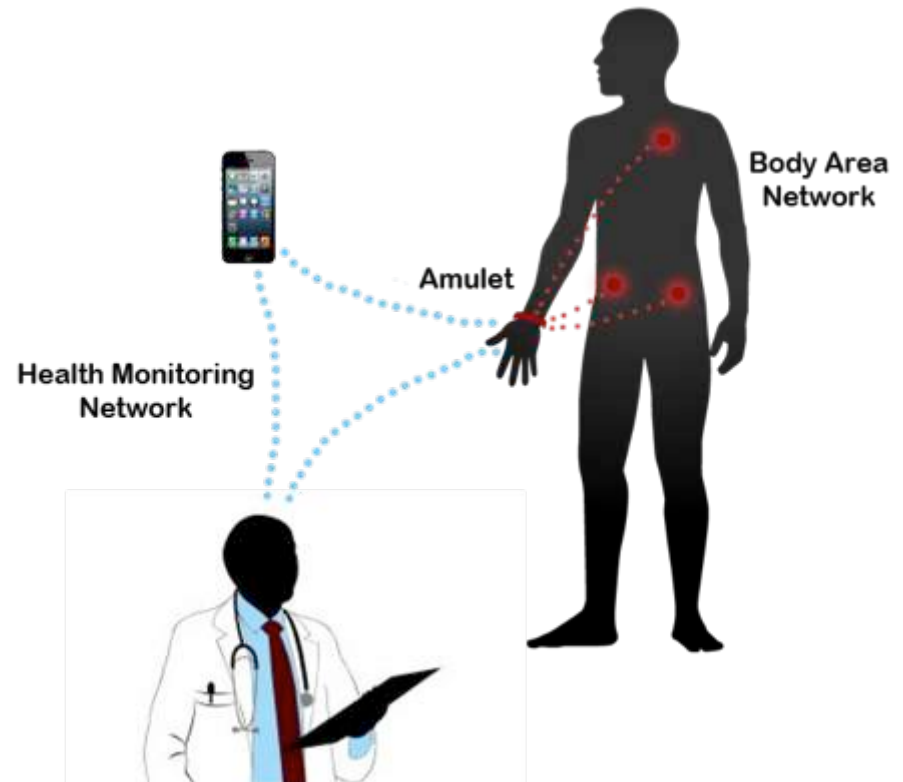
Product Design  
Injection Molding  
Integration of electronics  
Human factors

### Overview

The Amulet is a mobile health hub which interacts with body area sensors to streamline data collection, actuation and data analysis. Working in conjunction with an interdisciplinary team of Dartmouth professors, I iteratively prototyped several physical bracelets and envisioned the UI/UX. This project was begun and envisioned in the early days of mobile and wearable health. The core idea behind the Amulet network hub is important both for medical researchers as well as users who need to consistently monitor symptoms of chronic disease. The vision is that computational jewelry will provide available, reliable and secure hubs for body-area mHealth networks.

### My Contribution

This project gave me my first insight into the breadth of the human centered design process. I spearheaded initial user research, brainstorming, rapid prototyping, the integration of the physical bracelet and hardware, user interaction design, and future thinking on development of the brand and use cases.



# Case Study: How might we enable people with type II diabetes to consistently monitor symptoms and improve health outcomes?

Future envisioning

## Key Insight

Consistently monitoring health indicators provides the opportunity to accurately diagnose and intervene at critical moments to prevent or manage the exacerbation of chronic diseases. Amulet is a disease disruptive technology.

## The Solution

I envision Amulet providing a multifaceted mobile health intervention for this case study by integrating glucose monitoring, insulin injections, exercise monitoring, and healthy eating on one platform.



amulet  
body area health network hub



"The Evolution of Amulet" showing iterative prototyping was featured at the Dartmouth Arts Exhibition digital arts showcase. The Amulet was presented at the 2014 USA Science and Engineering Festival and funded by the NSF.

# Design & Manufacturing Process

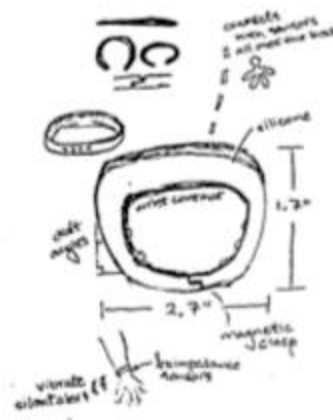
The goal for this prototype was to create a flexible molded wristband to integrate with current electronics, using Thayer machine shop resources.

My design and manufacturing process involved numerous sketches, rough proof of concepts, rapid 3D printing, silicone molding, all building up to a hand injection prototype with a 3D printed mold. I designed our shop's first 3D printed molds and created numerous wrist band iterations with different materials as well as experimented with potting electronics into the wristband.

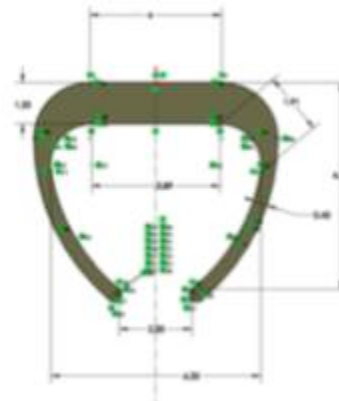
While 3D printing an injection mold is not cost effective for large quantities, and does not deliver precise GD&T - for this case where only several prototypes were needed it was a flexible and relatively fast method.

I conducted the entire research, ideation, and prototyping process, including self-teaching myself the basics of injection molding and SolidWorks advanced mold design in eight weeks to finish a working prototype with integrated electronics for a presentation at the USA Science and Engineering Festival and the National Science Foundation.

Sketches



SolidWorks



3D Printing



Silicon Mold



Hand Injection



Embedded Electronics





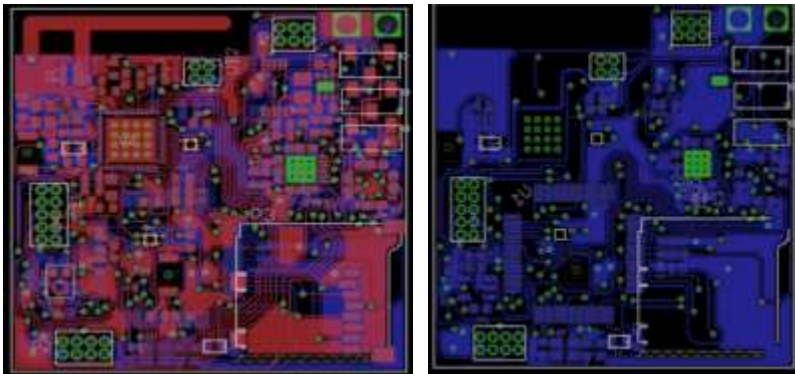
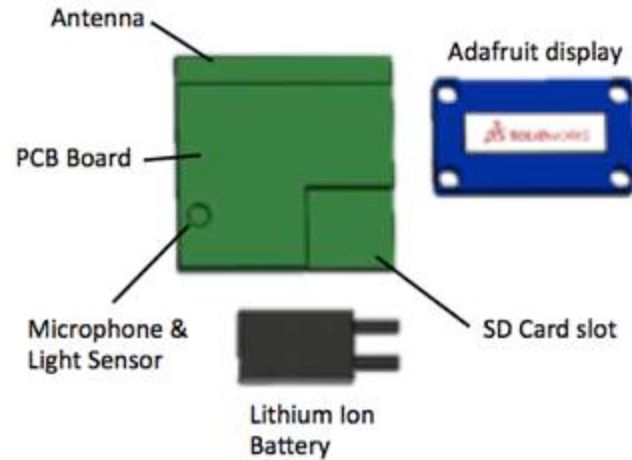
# Electronic Integration

## Features

- Monochrome 128x32 I2C, 7x25mm OLED display
- Polymer lithium ion battery, 110mAh, 3.7V, 7.5x12x28mm, 2.65 g
- Band 7.35 inch inner circumference, approx. 2.2 oz.

## Requirements and Constraints

- Microphone and ambient light sensors need to be accessible from the top surface
- Display must be flush with surface of the band
- The antenna cannot be covered by the display or battery due to interference with transmission
- Battery leads face outwards for ease of connectivity
- SD card slot must face outwards for easy access
- Worked with hardware engineer to consolidate board from 24 sq. inches to 2 sq. inches, and optimally position components



Top

Bottom



Current Electronics