

# MAKING WITH A SOCIAL PURPOSE

@jonfroehlich



**MAKEABILITY LAB**







# *Our Mission*

**DESIGN, BUILD, & STUDY INTERACTIVE  
TOOLS & TECHNIQUES TO ADDRESS  
PRESSING SOCIETAL CHALLENGES**

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**



**HEALTH  
& WELLNESS**



**ACCESSIBILITY**



**STEM  
EDUCATION**

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**



**HEALTH  
& WELLNESS**



**ACCESSIBILITY**



**STEM  
EDUCATION**

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**



HEALTH  
& WELLNESS



ACCESSIBILITY

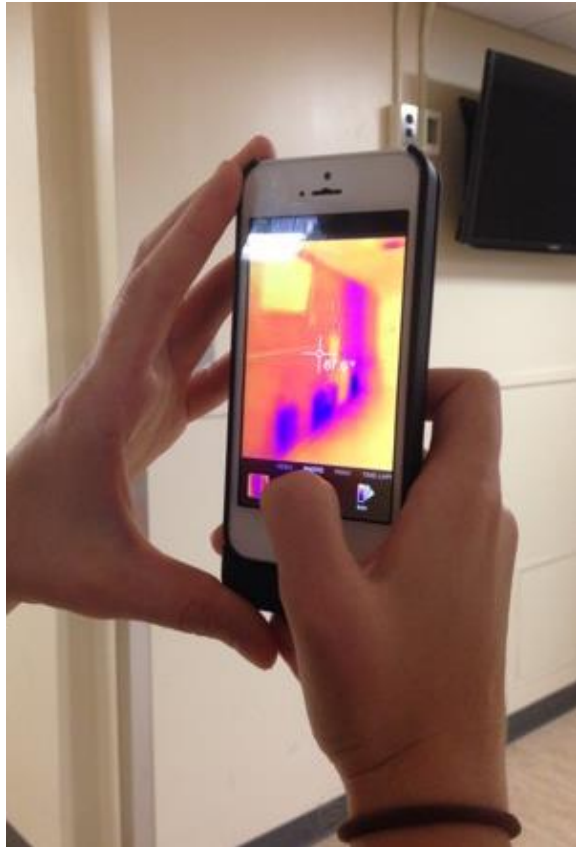


STEM  
EDUCATION



# PERVASIVE THERMOGRAPHY

With UMD CS PhD Student Matt Mauriello



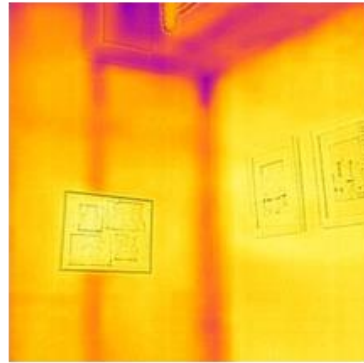
## Context



(a) Indoor (64.2%)



(b) Outdoor (35.6%)



(c) Walls (71.6%)



(d) Windows (30.3%)

## Subjects



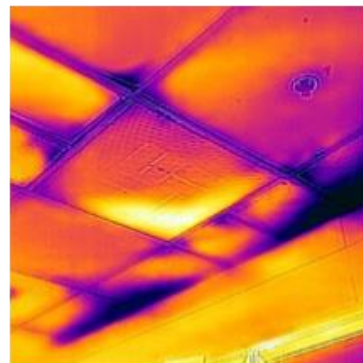
(e) Electronics (24.7%)



(f) Doors (24.4%)

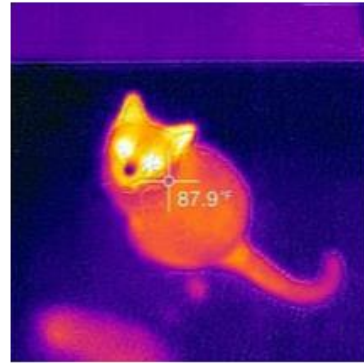


(g) Light Fixtures (23.8%)

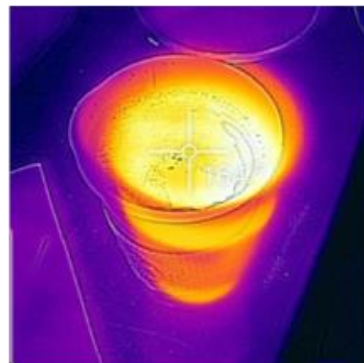


(h) Ceilings (22.7%)

## Misc./Fun



(i) People/Pets (4.7%)



(j) Play/Experiments (1.0%)

MAKEABILITY LAB

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



**HEALTH  
& WELLNESS**



ACCESSIBILITY



STEM  
EDUCATION

HEALTH & WELLNESS

# DESIGNING HEALTH SUPPORT SYSTEMS



[CHI'13 Best Paper, CHI'14]

MAKEABILITY LAB

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



**HEALTH  
& WELLNESS**



ACCESSIBILITY



**STEM  
EDUCATION**

HEALTH + STEM  
**BODYVIS**



[IDC'13, CHI'15 Honorable Mention, ICLS'16, IDC'16, CHI'17]

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**



**HEALTH  
& WELLNESS**



**ACCESSIBILITY**



**STEM  
EDUCATION**

MAKEABILITY LAB

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



HEALTH  
& WELLNESS



**ACCESSIBILITY**



STEM  
EDUCATION



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



HEALTH  
& WELLNESS



**ACCESSIBILITY**



STEM  
EDUCATION

***How to...***

make the *physical world* more  
accessible for people with disabilities

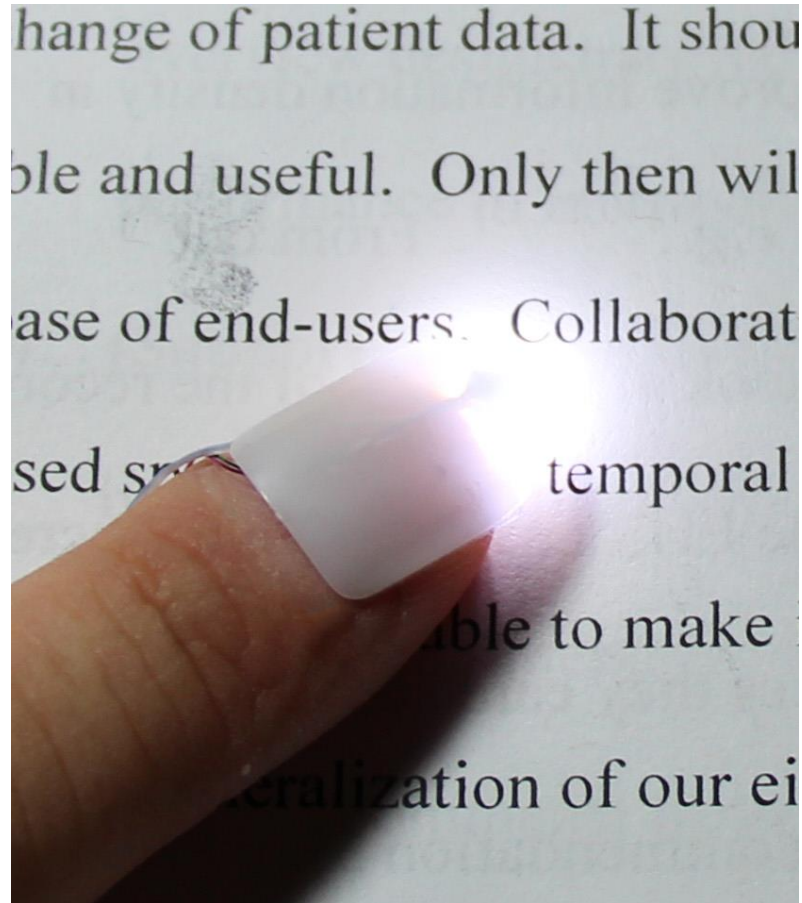


# IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE PHYSICAL WORLD



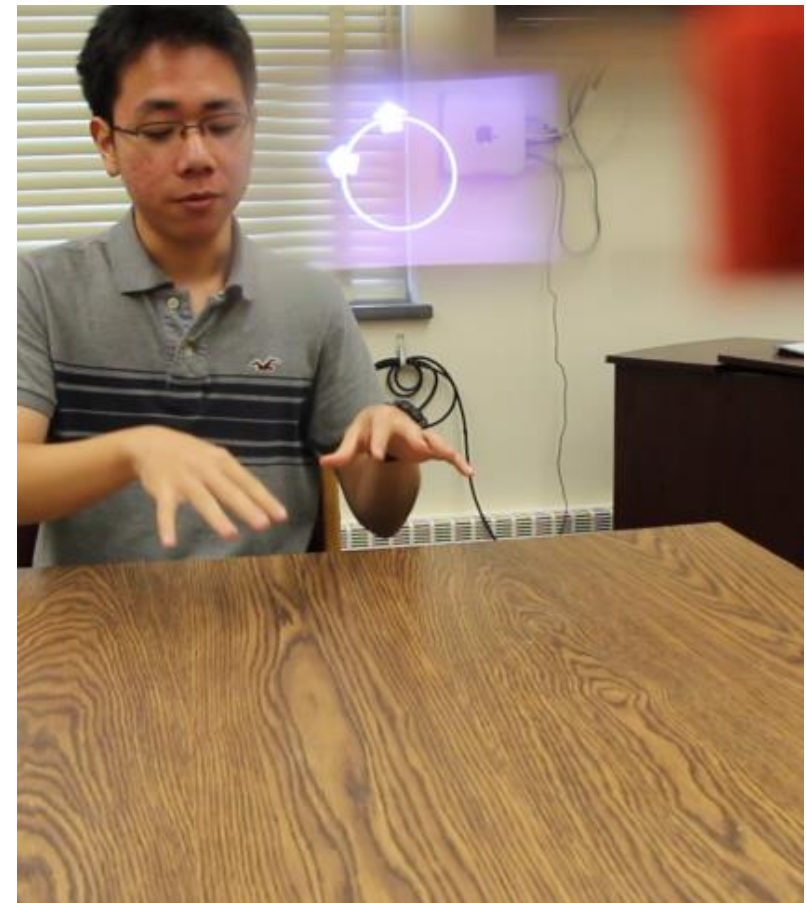
## PROJECT SIDEWALK

[ASSETS'12, CHI'13, HCOMP'13, ASSETS'13 Best Paper, UIST'14, TACCESS'15, SIGACCESS'15, CHI'16, ASSETS'17]



## HANDSIGHT

[ACVR'14, ASSETS'15, GI'16, TACCESS'16, ASSETS'17 x3, IMWUT'17]



## GLASSEAR

[CHI'15]

THREAD 1: ACCESSIBILITY

# IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE PHYSICAL WORLD

With UW CSE PhD Student Manaswi Saha



*How can we...*

develop scalable solutions that map the accessibility of urban infrastructure?

## PROJECT SIDEWALK

[ASSETS'12, CHI'13, HCOMP'13, ASSETS'13 Best Paper, UIST'14, TACCESS'15, SIGACCESS'15, CHI'16, ASSETS'17]

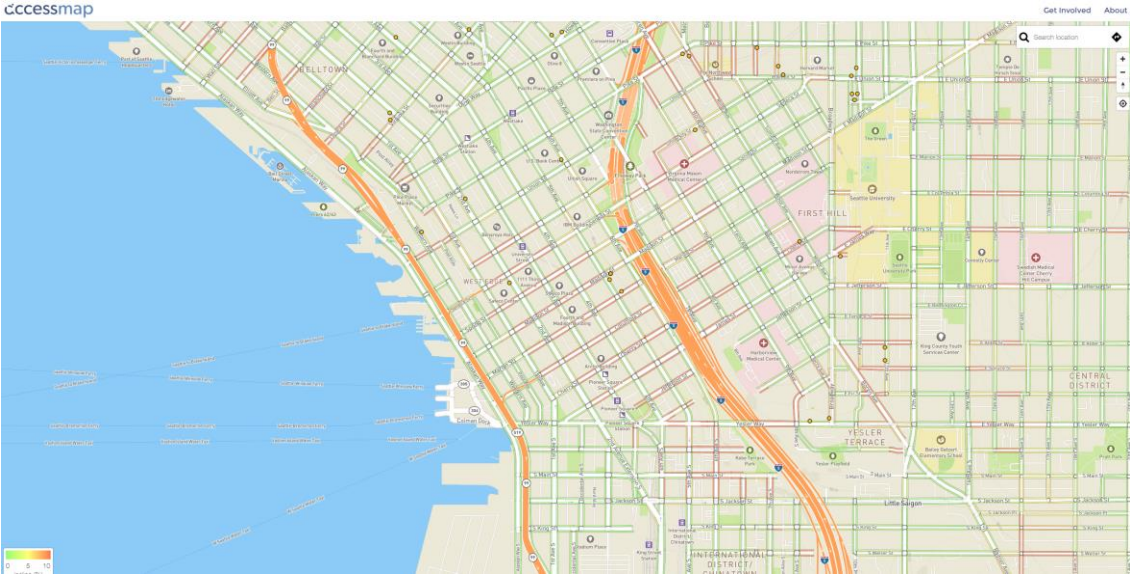
THREAD 1: ACCESSIBILITY

# PROJECT SIDEWALK

Nicely intersects and complements work already at UW in Taskar Center.



**ANAT CASPI**  
Director of Taskar Center



caccessmap

OpenSidewalks

# 30.6

million U.S. adults  
have a mobility impairment



# 15.2

million use an assistive aid





CHANEL

CHANEL

CHANE

CHANEL

CHANEL

CHANEL

ONE WAY

NO PARKING  
Between  
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

DIESEL

© 2013 Google



**NO CURB RAMPS**



**PHYSICAL OBSTACLES**





**INCOMPLETE SIDEWALKS**

# **SURFACE PROBLEMS**





**PHYSICAL OBSTACLES**

**NO CURB RAMP**

**SURFACE DEGRADATION**

Accessible infrastructure  
has a significant impact  
on the **independence**  
and **mobility of citizens**

[Thapar *et al.*, 2004 ; Nuernberger, 2008]





Central Av

Tokyo Fashion Clips & Hair Pieces Salon

GINZA GINZA

みやげ



The National Council on Disability noted that there is **no comprehensive information** on “the degree to which sidewalks are accessible” in cities.

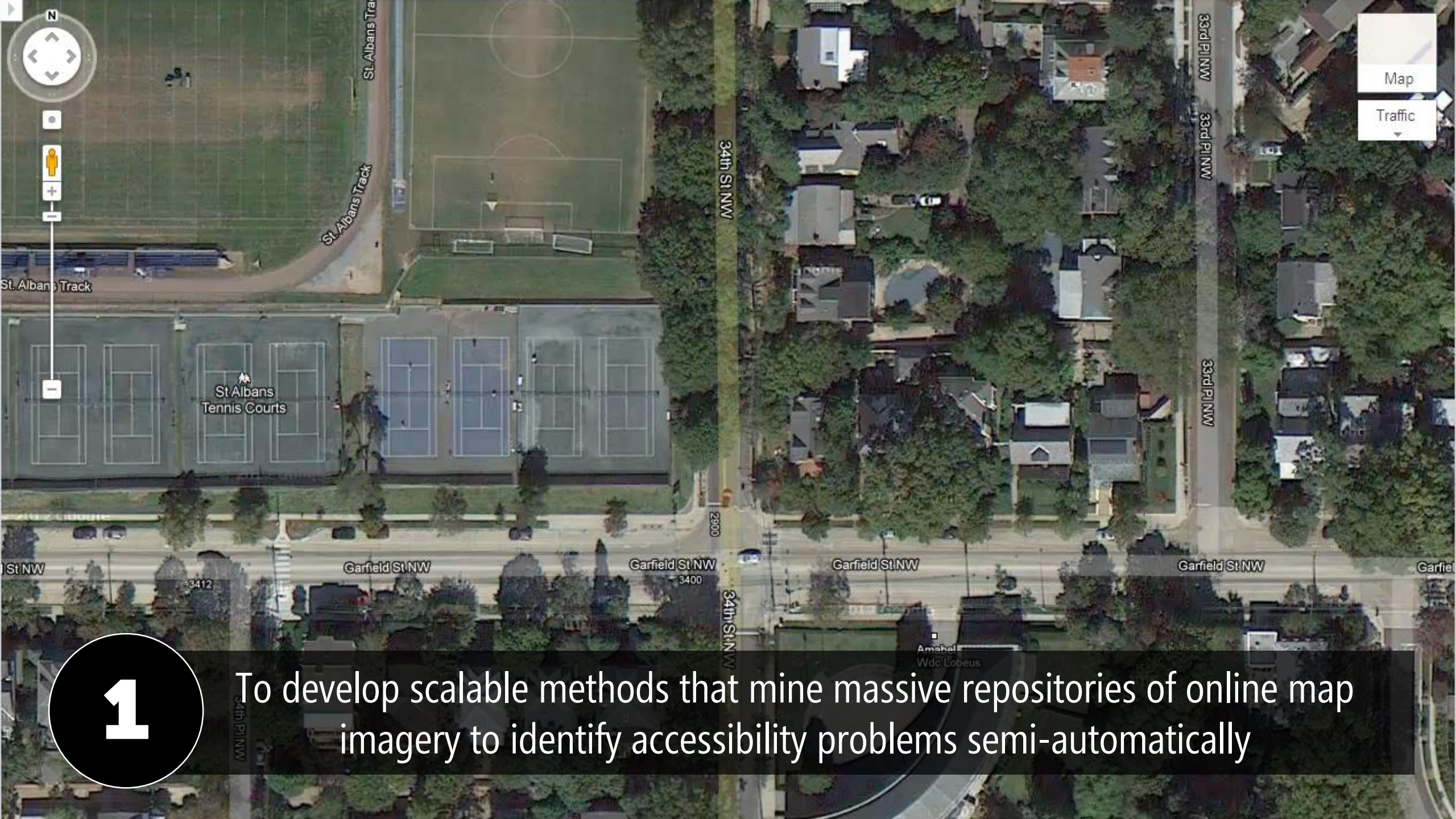


**National Council on Disability, 2007**

The impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act: Assessing the progress toward achieving the goals of the ADA

We are pursuing a **two-fold solution**





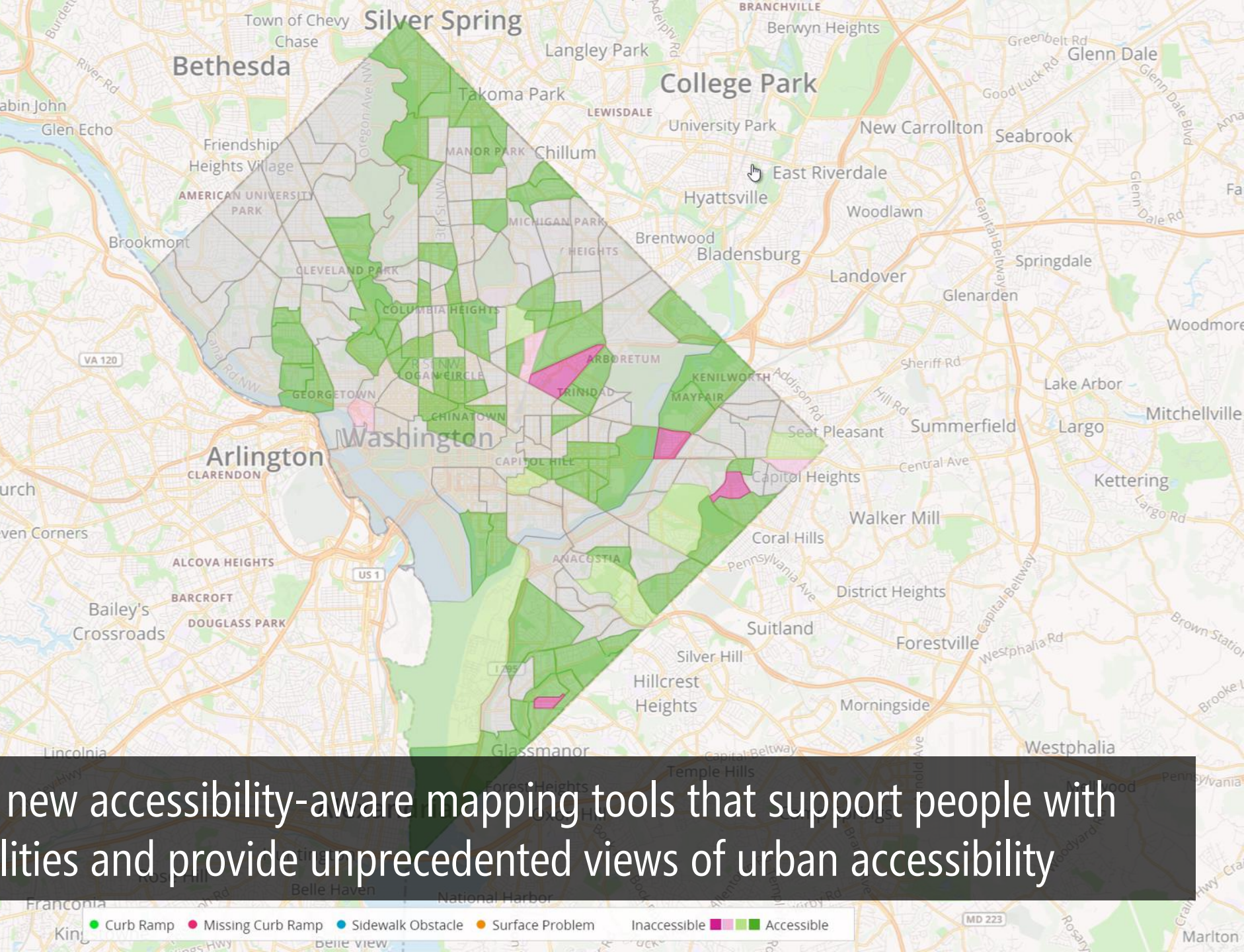
1

To develop scalable methods that mine massive repositories of online map imagery to identify accessibility problems semi-automatically

## Access Score<sup>beta</sup>

Use the sliders below to adjust the significance of each accessibility feature.

	Significance
Curb Ramp	<input type="range" value="52"/> 52
No Curb Ramp	<input type="range" value="100"/> 100
Obstacle	<input type="range" value="50"/> 50
Surface Problem	<input type="range" value="48"/> 48



2

To create new accessibility-aware mapping tools that support people with disabilities and provide unprecedented views of urban accessibility

● Curb Ramp ● Missing Curb Ramp ● Sidewalk Obstacle ● Surface Problem ● Inaccessible ● Accessible

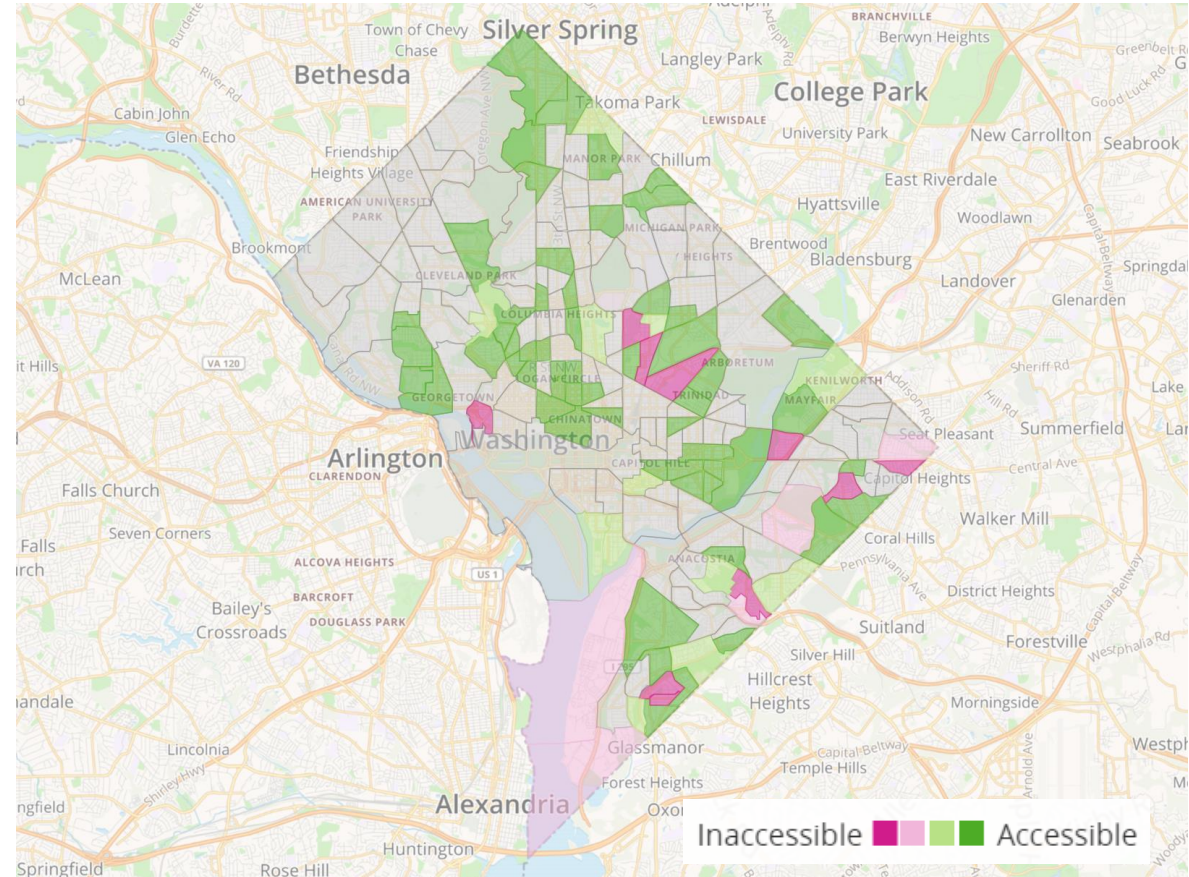
## MAPPING THE ACCESSIBILITY OF THE WORLD

# TWO FOCUS AREAS



## SCALABLE DATA COLLECTION METHODS

[ASSETS'12, CHI'13, HCOMP'13, ASSETS'13, UIST'14, TACCESS'15, ASSETS'17]



## NEW ACCESSIBILITY GIS TOOLS

[SIGACCESS '15, CHI'16]



**PROJECT**  
**SIDEWALK**

[HTTP://PROJECTSIDEWALK.IO](http://PROJECTSIDEWALK.IO)

A man wearing glasses and a dark jacket is sitting in a wheelchair on a paved path. He is looking to the right. The background shows a grassy area and trees with some autumn leaves.

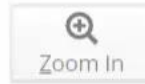
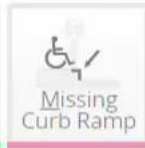
Let's create a path for  
everyone

[Start Mapping](#)

## How you can help

Virtually explore city streets to find and label accessibility

Find and label the following



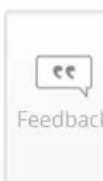
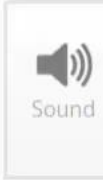
Current Neighborhood  
Fort Stanton, D.C.

# Audit 1000ft of Fort Stanton



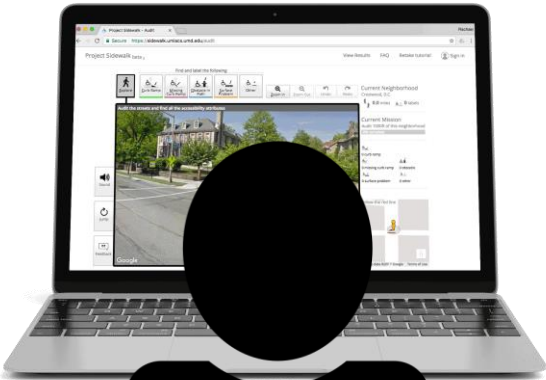
Your mission is to audit 1000ft of Fort Stanton and find all the accessibility features that affect mobility impaired travelers!

OK

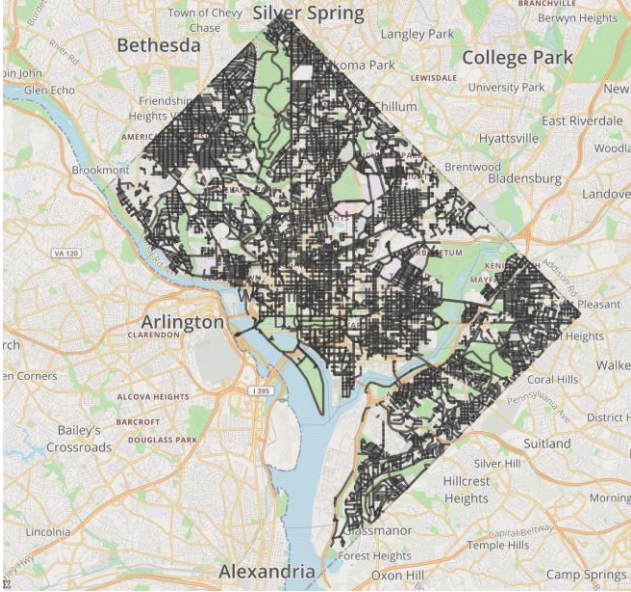


CURRENT & FUTURE WORK

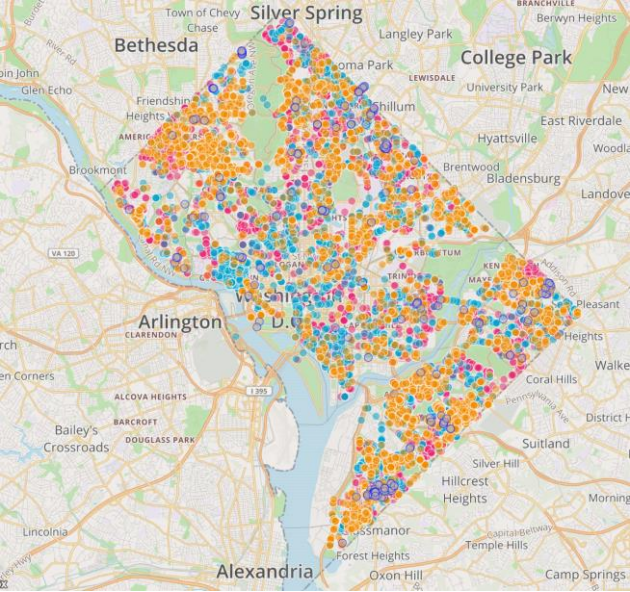
# PROJECT SIDEWALK USER CONTRIBUTIONS



**800**  
USERS



**819**  
MILES AUDITED



**105,000**  
SIDEWALK LABELS

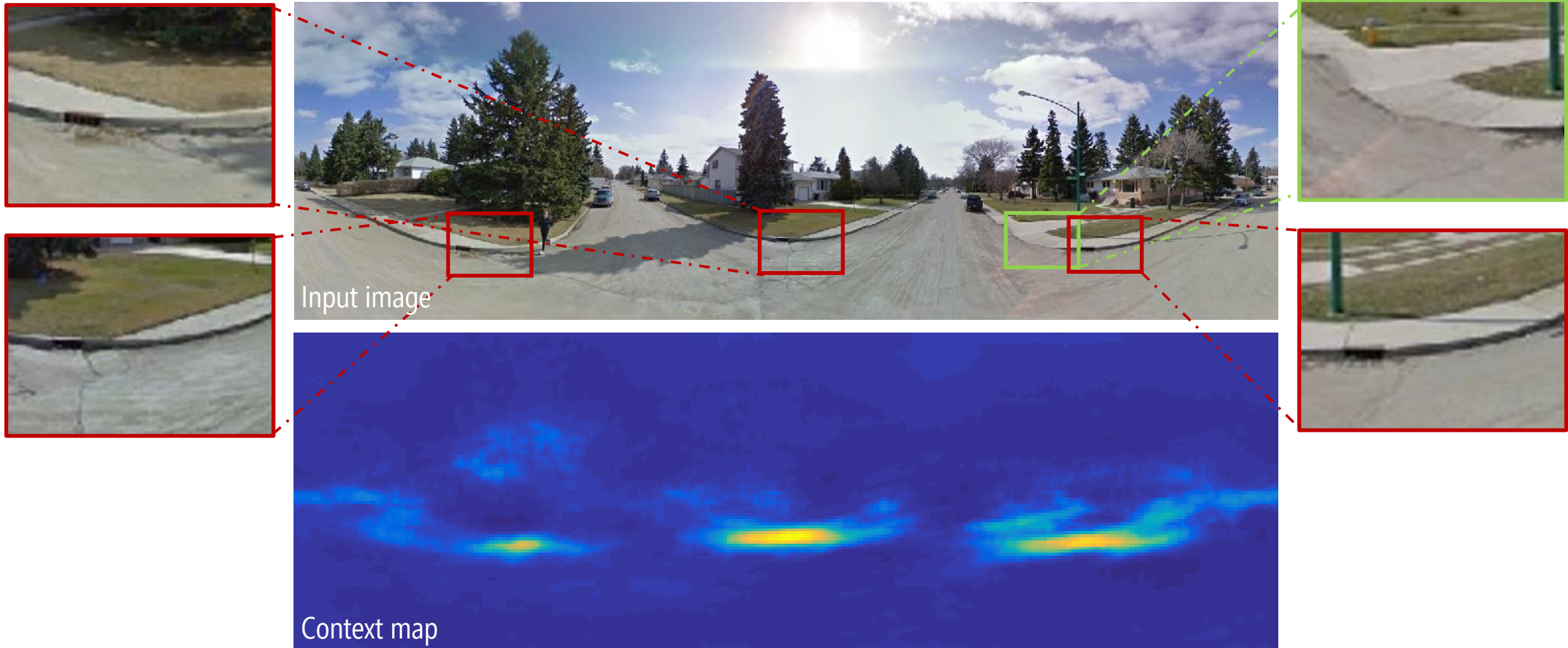




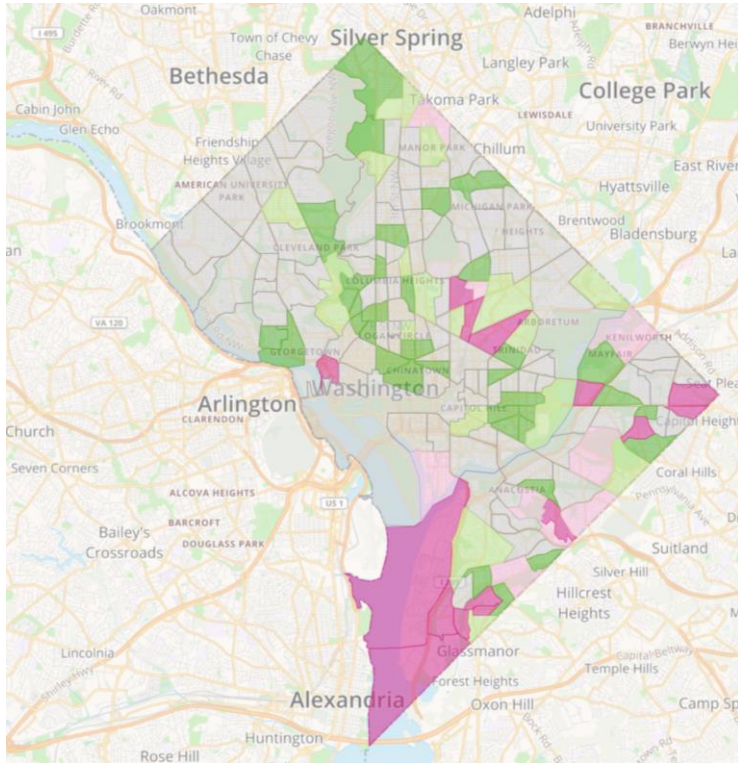
CURRENT & FUTURE WORK

# APPLYING CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORKS

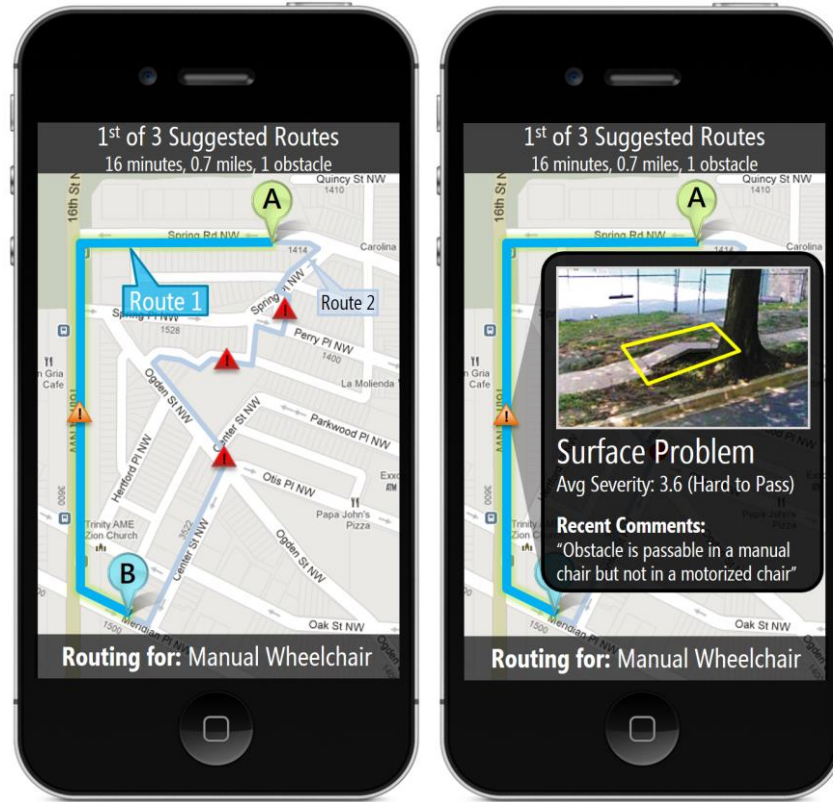
Recently accepted to CVPR'17



# NOVEL ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS



New models & viz of city accessibility



Smart routing for people with impairments



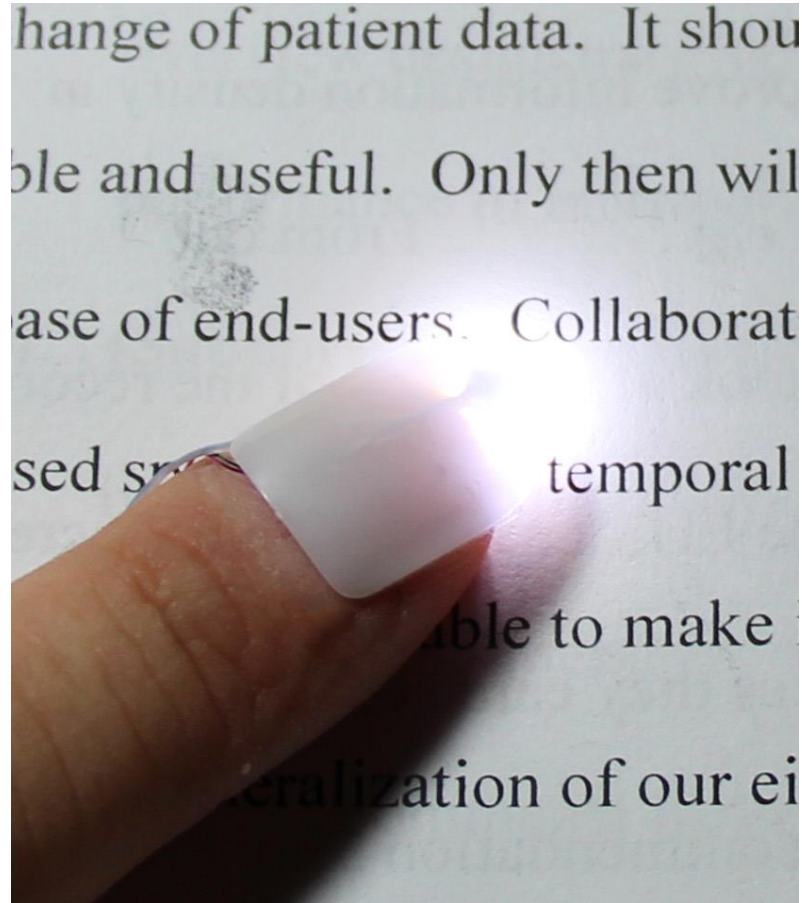
Cross-city comparison tools

# IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE PHYSICAL WORLD



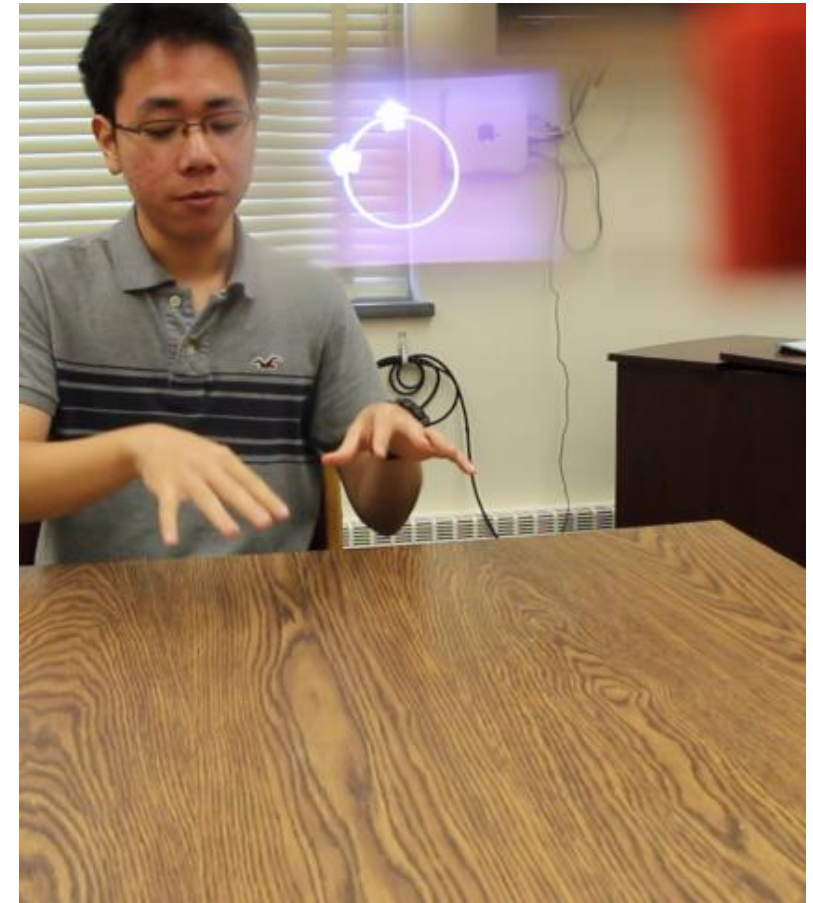
## PROJECT SIDEWALK

[ASSETS'12, CHI'13, HCOMP'13, ASSETS'13 Best Paper, UIST'14, TACCESS'15, SIGACCESS'15, CHI'16, ASSETS'17]



## HANDSIGHT

[ACVR'14, ASSETS'15, GI'16, TACCESS'16, ASSETS'17 x3, IMWUT'17]



## GLASSEAR

[CHI'15]

THREAD 1: ACCESSIBILITY

# IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE PHYSICAL WORLD

With UW CSE PhD student Liang He



**ONDULÉ**

[CompFab'17, UIST'17 Poster]

*How can we...*

Enable designers to rapidly build, simulate, and fabricate 3D-printable objects with embedded mechanical springs?

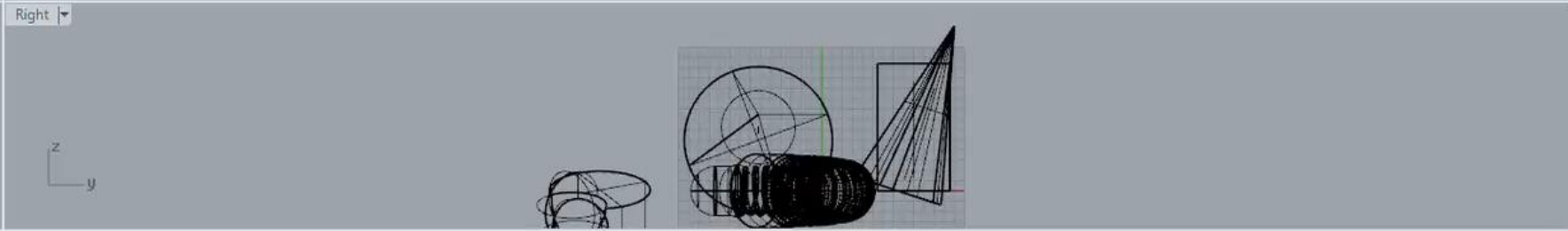
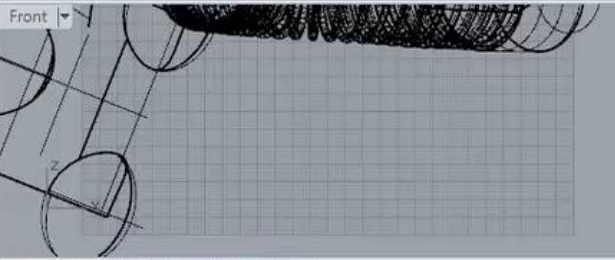
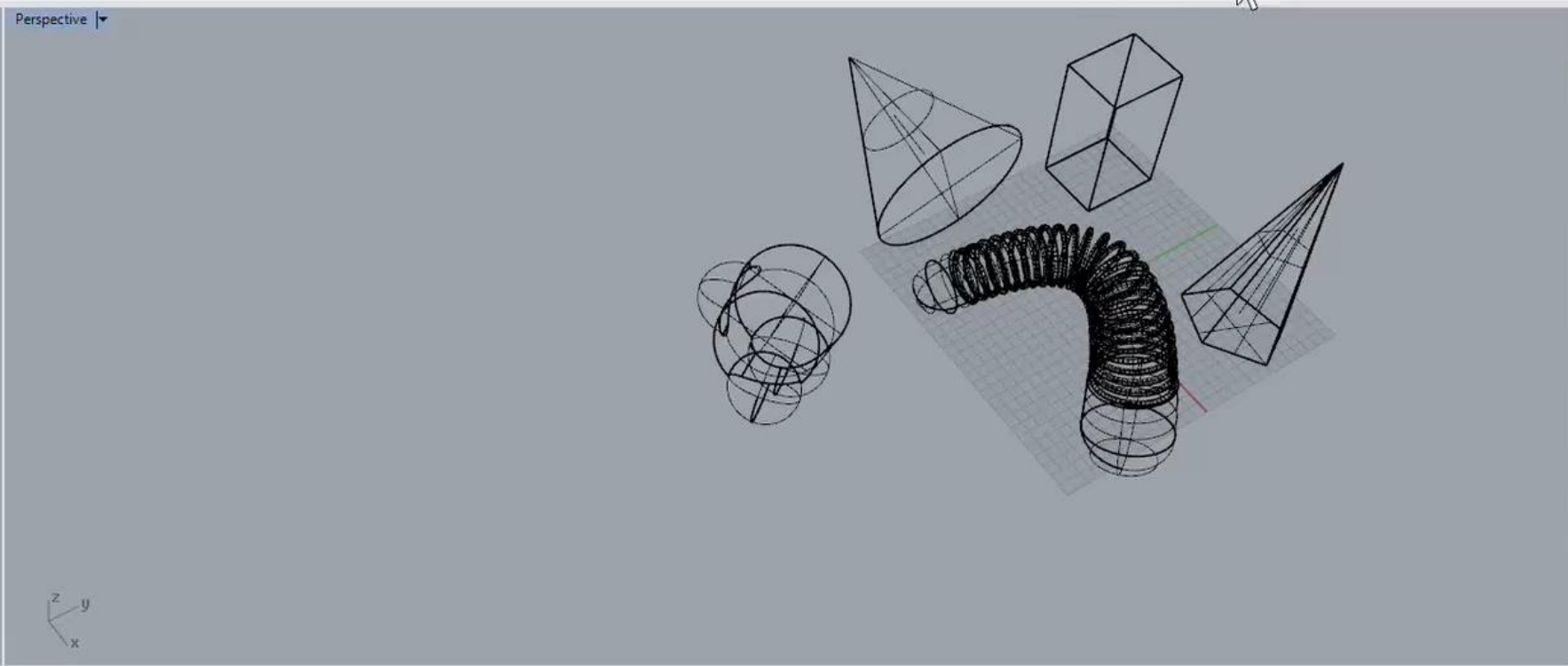
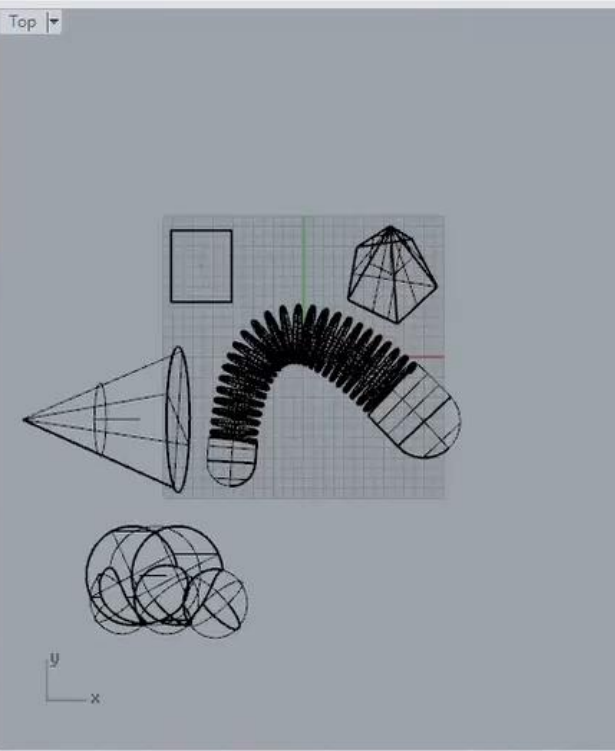
Display mode set to "Wireframe".

# COMPUTATIONAL FABRICATION PROJECT ONDULÉ

Transform Curve Tools Surface Tools Solid Tools Mesh Tools Render Tools Drafting New in V5



GeneratePointCloud Select an Area Generate Medial Axis Compress/Stretch Twist Bend Linear + Twist Linear + Bend Twist + Bend Linear + Twist + Bend Spring generation



Perspective Top Front Right

Viewport  
Title  
Width  
Height  
Project  
Camera  
Lens L  
Rotati  
X Loca  
Y Loca  
Z Loca  
Locati  
Target  
X Targ  
Y Targ  
Z Targ  
Locati  
Wallpap  
Filenam  
Show  
Gray

PROJECT ONDULÉ

# EXAMPLE DEFORMATIONS



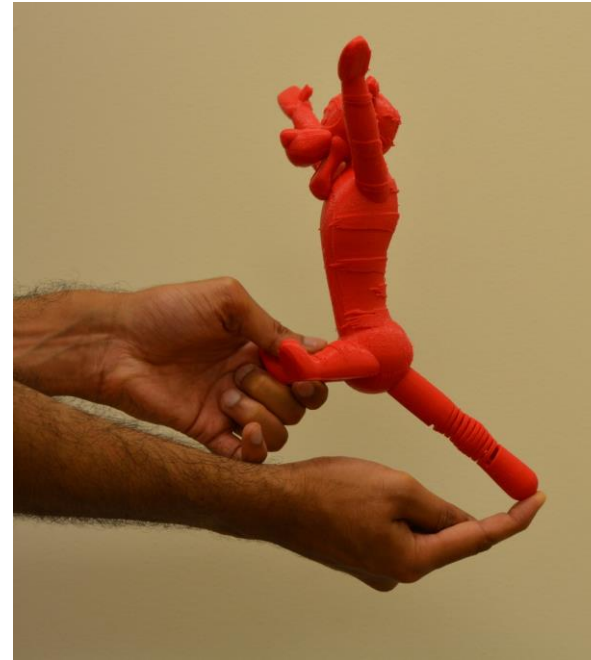
## ORIGINAL PRINT

Tigger with traditional helical spring



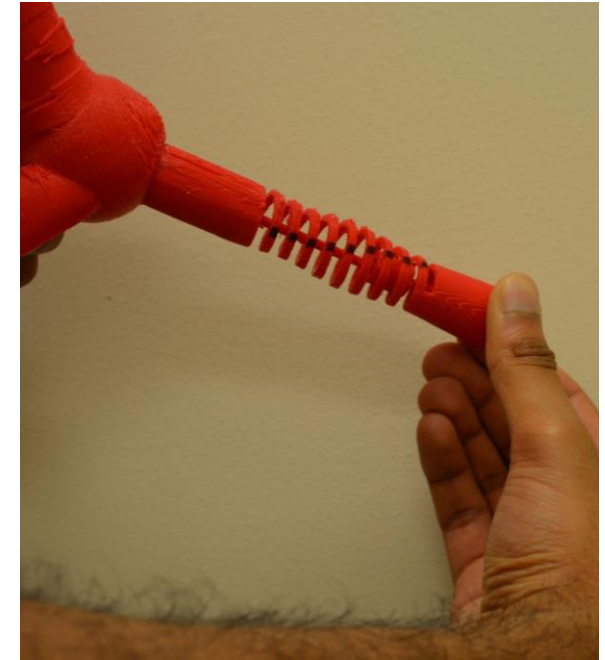
## DESIGN #1: BEND ONLY

Helical spring with embedded flexible sawtooth backbone



## DESIGN #2: LINEAR ONLY

Helical spring with a prismatic joint



## DESIGN #3: TWIST ONLY

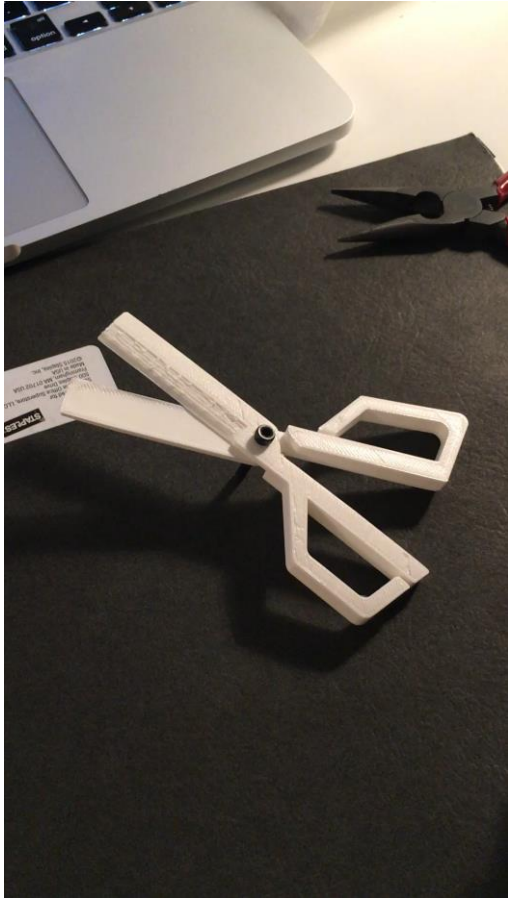
Helical spring with a ring bearing structure

PROJECT ONDULÉ

# ACCESSIBILITY APPLICATIONS

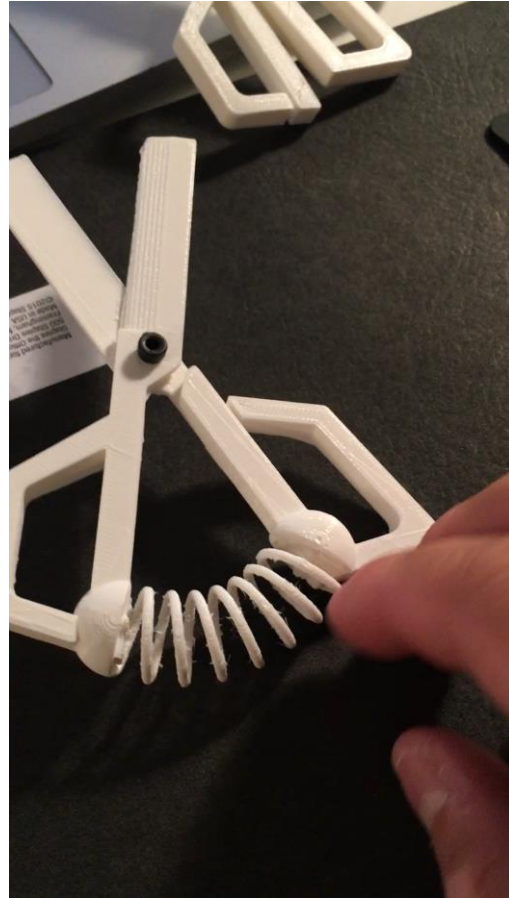
PROJECT ONDULÉ

# ACCESSIBILITY APPLICATIONS



## TRADITIONAL SCISSORS

Requires fine motor abilities



## SPRING SCISSORS

Spring automatically reopens  
scissors after a cut

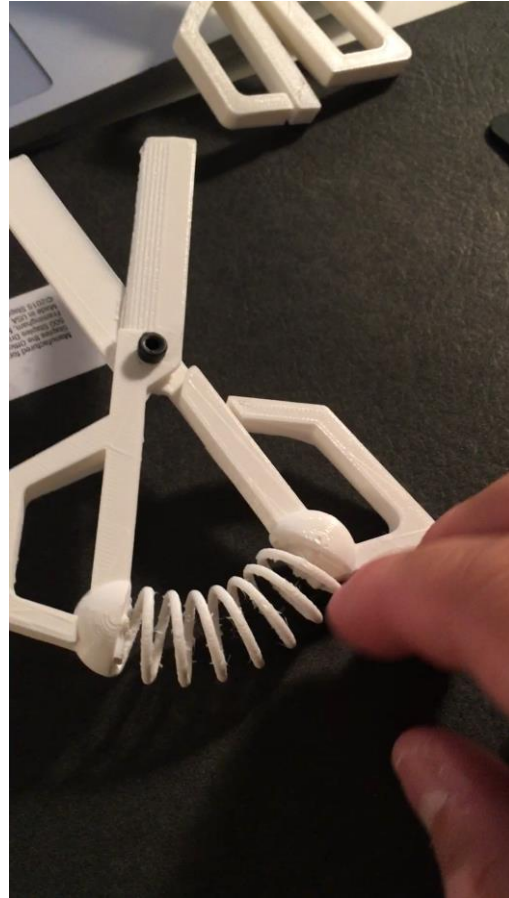


# ACCESSIBILITY APPLICATIONS



**TRADITIONAL SCISSORS**

Requires fine motor abilities



**SPRING SCISSORS**

Spring automatically reopens scissors after a cut

YOUR IDEA HERE!

YOUR IDEA HERE!

YOUR IDEA

MAKEABILITY LAB

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



HEALTH  
& WELLNESS



**ACCESSIBILITY**



STEM  
EDUCATION

MAKEABILITY LAB

# FOUR FOCUS AREAS



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



HEALTH  
& WELLNESS



ACCESSIBILITY



**STEM  
EDUCATION**



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY



HEALTH  
& WELLNESS



ACCESSIBILITY



**STEM  
EDUCATION**

***How can we...***

design wearables that engage and scaffold children in life-relevant, personally meaningful STEM learning experiences.

# ENABLING NEW STEM LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH WEARABLES



## BODYVIS

[IDC'13, CHI'15 Honorable Mention, ICLS'16, IDC'16, CHI'17]



## MAKERWEAR

[IDC'15, CHI'16 Best Poster, CHI'17 Best Paper]

# ENABLING NEW STEM LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH WEARABLES

With UMD CS PhD student Seokbin Kang



*How can we...*

design wearables that use the human body and physical activity as a platform for experimentation & scientific inquiry?

**BODYVIS**

[IDC'13, CHI'15 Honorable Mention, ICLS'16, IDC'16, CHI'17]

“Does my heart beat faster when running vs. reading a book? Why?”

“How does my breathing rate compare to my classmate’s and why may this be?”

“How does food travel through my body?”

# BODYVIS PROTOTYPES



## PROTOTYPE 1: MID-FI

Stuffed fabric organs  
Heart rate Only  
LEDs, EL-Wire  
Arduino Uno



## PROTOTYPE 2

Improved Anatomy  
Heart rate, Breathing  
LEDs  
LilyPad Arduino



## PROTOTYPE 3

Labeled, Removable Anatomy  
Heart rate, Breathing, Digestion  
LEDs, Sound, Touchscreen  
Arduino Uno, Smartphone

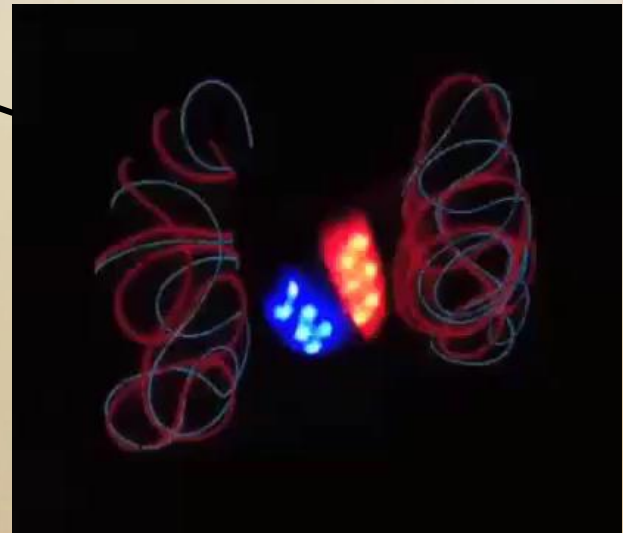


## PROTOTYPE 4: HI-FI

Added Organs (*e.g.*, Bladder)  
Heart rate, Breathing, Digestion  
LEDs, Sound, Haptics, Touchscreen  
Arduino BLE Mini, Smartphone



Optical heart rate sensor





The heart and lungs visualize wearers' live heart and breathing rate.

BODYVIS

# EVALUATIONS (N=200)



**TEACHER INTERVIEWS**



**AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**



**SCIENCE CAMPS**



**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

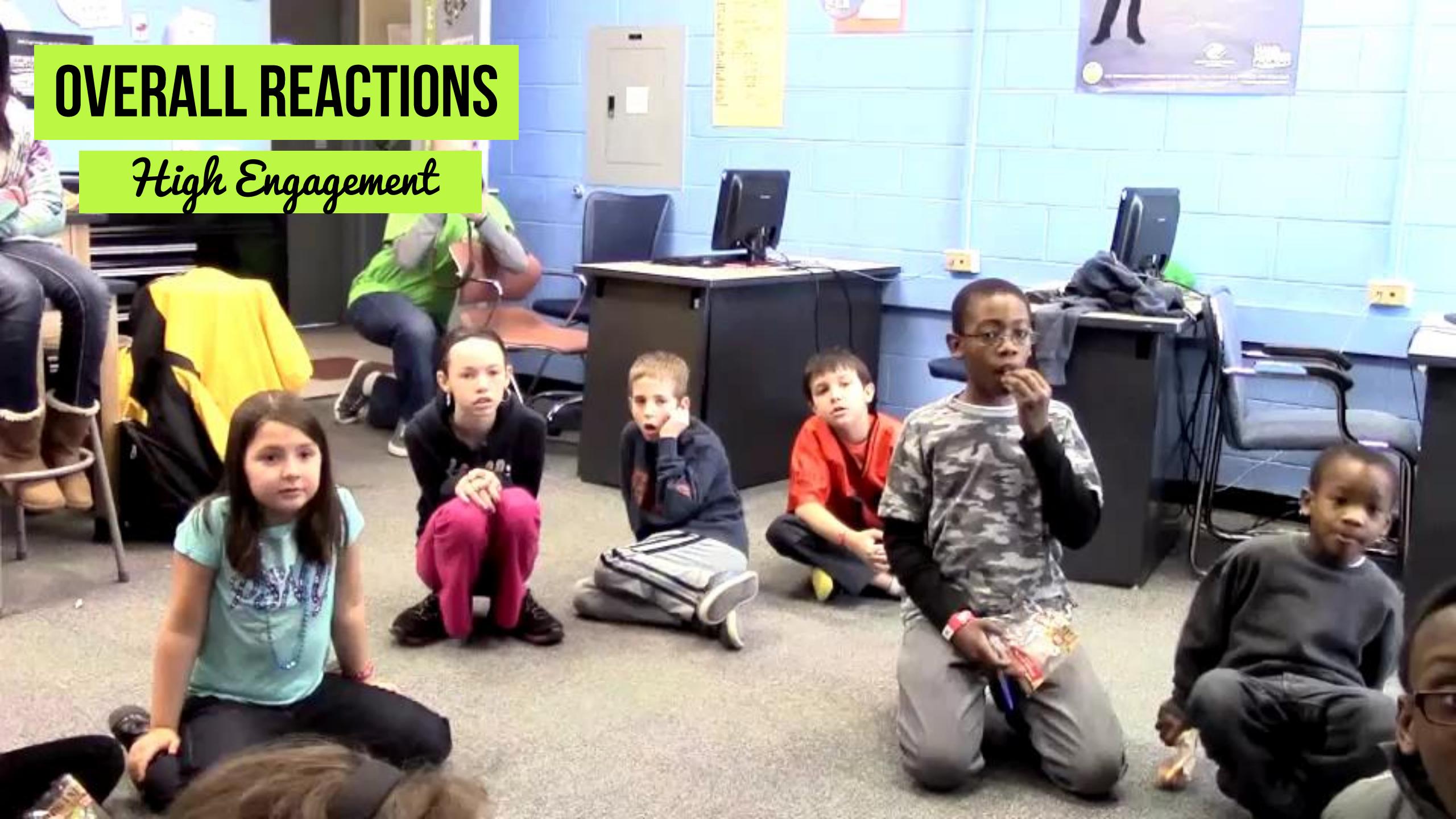
# OVERALL REACTIONS

*High Engagement*



# OVERALL REACTIONS

*High Engagement*



# Word Wall

Main Idea: what the paragraph is about  
Details: support the main idea

INCREASE	Physical	Heart Rate
1st	Conclusion	Start → Finish
2nd	Challenges and/or problems	125 bpm → 160 bpm
3rd	Challenges and/or problems	140 bpm → 150 bpm
4th	Homework made by students after the trial	120 bpm → 150 bpm



Teacher

Student 1

Student 2

Student 3

Computer Center

# UNEXPECTED FINDING

*How Does It Work?*



# ENABLING NEW STEM LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH WEARABLES



## BODYVIS

[IDC'13, CHI'15 Honorable Mention, ICLS'16, IDC'16, CHI'17]



## MAKERWEAR

[IDC'15, CHI'16 Best Poster, CHI'17 Best Paper]



# ENABLING NEW STEM LEARNING EXPERIENCES WITH WEARABLES



*How can we...*

enable young children to build their own interactive wearables?

## MAKERWEAR

[IDC'15, CHI'16 Best Poster, CHI'17 Best Paper]

**LILYPAD ARDUINO**

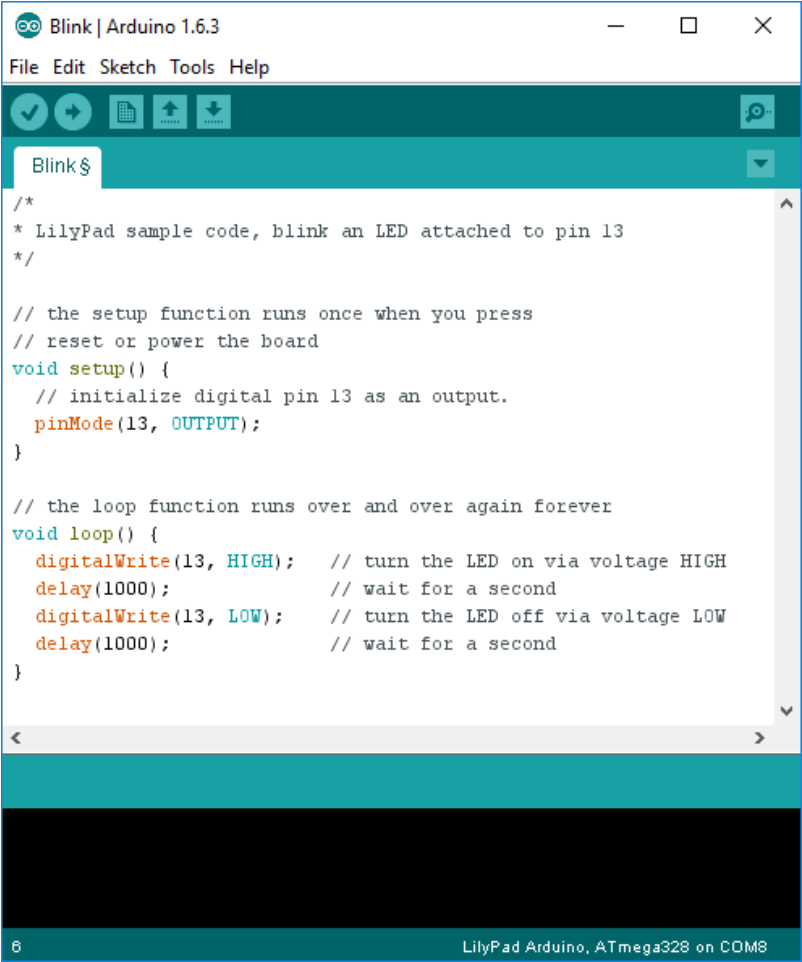




See: Buechley & Hill, 2010; Kafai, Lee, *et al.*, 2014; Kafai, Fields, & Searle, 2014

MAKERWEAR INTRODUCTION

# CURRENT WEARABLE TOOLKITS



```
Blink | Arduino 1.6.3
File Edit Sketch Tools Help
Blink$
/**
 * LilyPad sample code, blink an LED attached to pin 13
 */

// the setup function runs once when you press
// reset or power the board
void setup() {
  // initialize digital pin 13 as an output.
  pinMode(13, OUTPUT);
}

// the loop function runs over and over again forever
void loop() {
  digitalWrite(13, HIGH); // turn the LED on via voltage HIGH
  delay(1000);           // wait for a second
  digitalWrite(13, LOW); // turn the LED off via voltage LOW
  delay(1000);           // wait for a second
}
```

6 LilyPad Arduino, ATmega328 on COM8

**EMBEDDED PROGRAMMING**



**BASIC CIRCUIT & ELECTRONICS KNOWLEDGE**



**MANUAL SKILLS LIKE SEWING / SOLDERING**



# THE MAKERWEAR SYSTEM

<https://github.com/MakerWear>

1

MAKERWEAR SYSTEM  
TANGIBLE MODULES

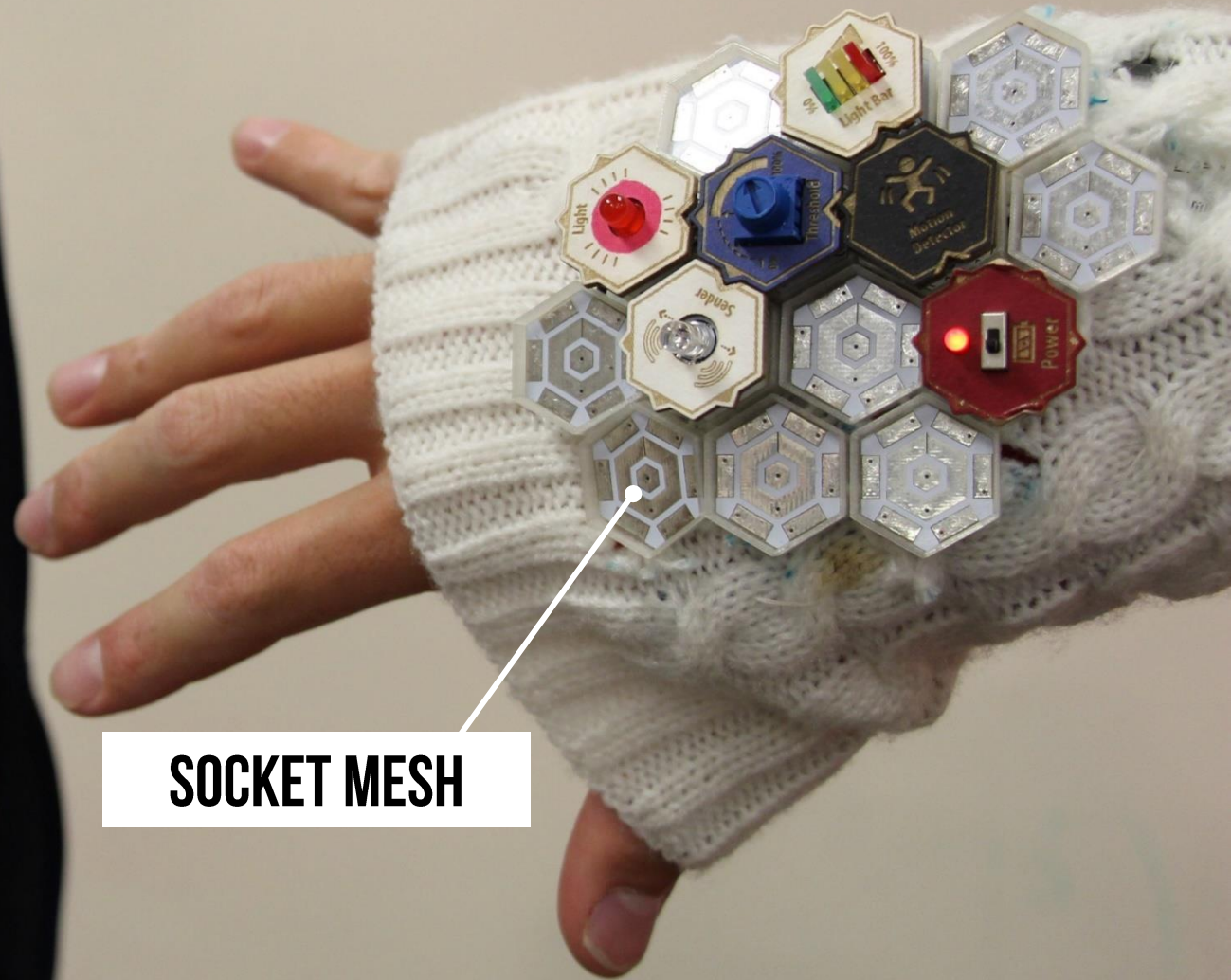


2

MAKERWEAR SYSTEM  
MAGNETIC SOCKET MESH

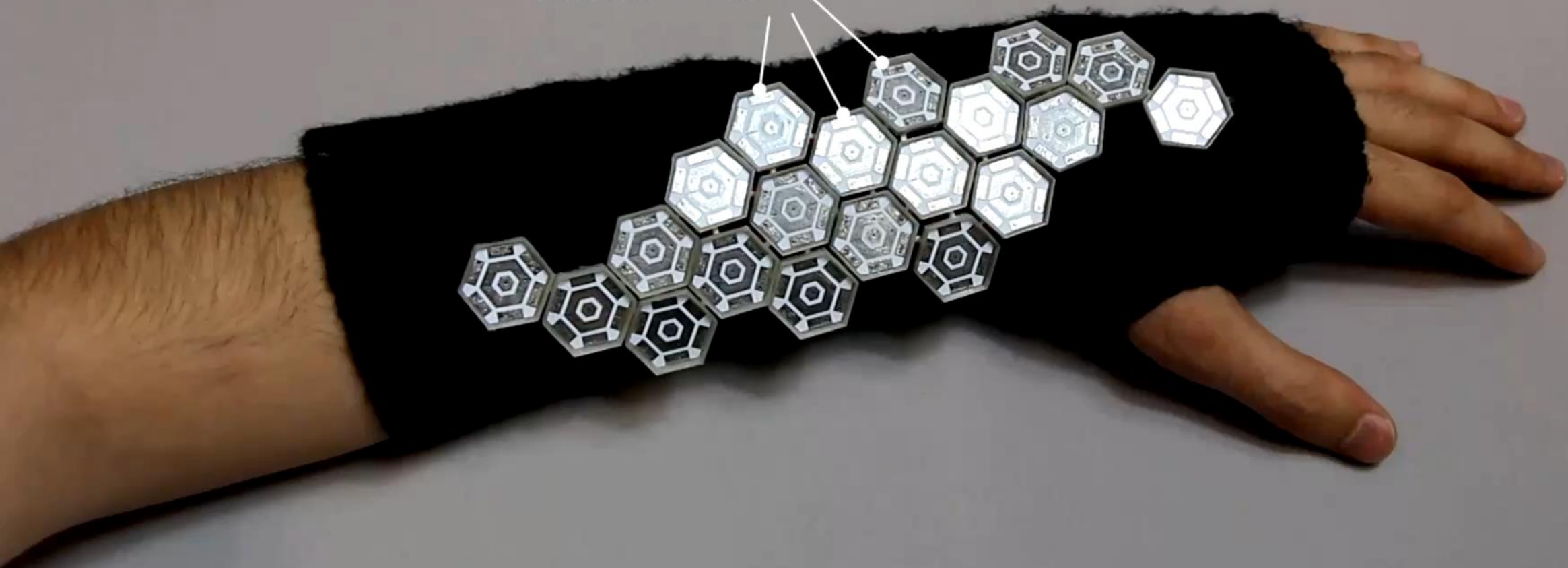


SOCKET MESH

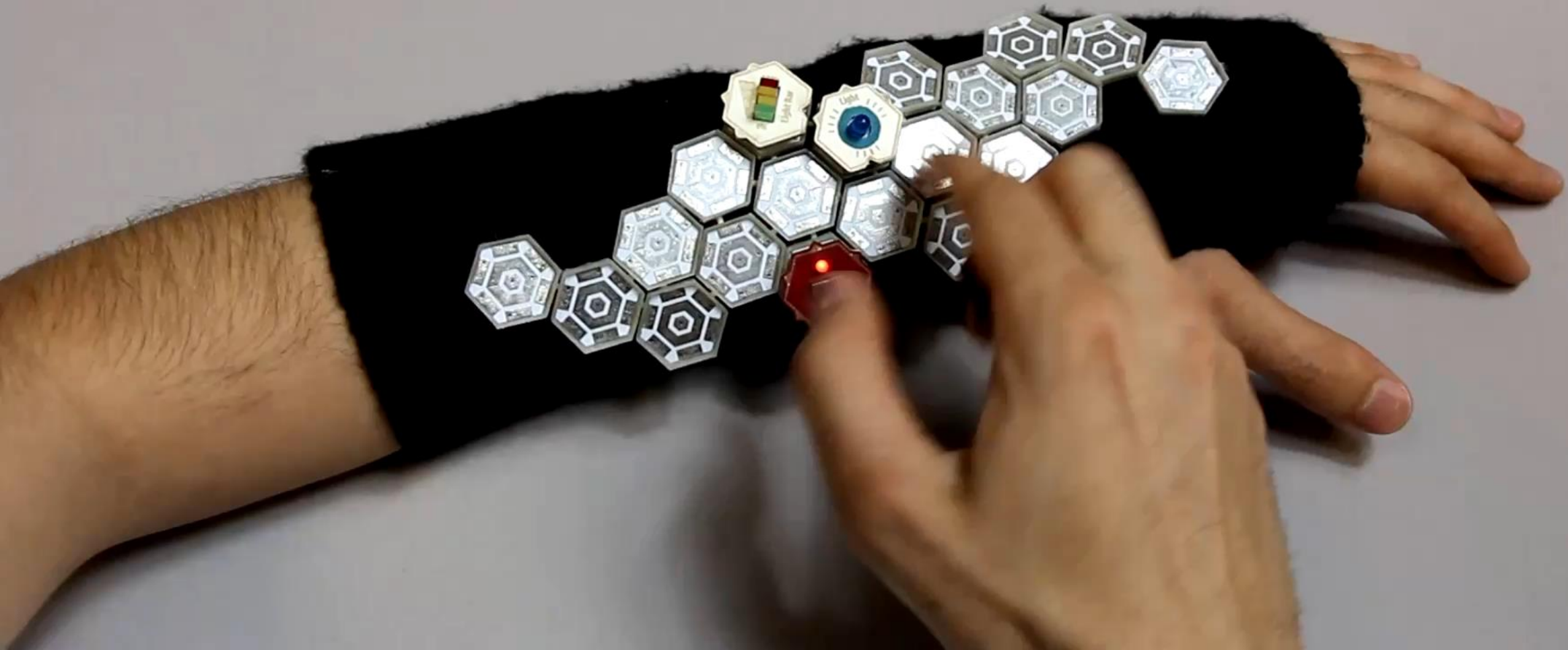


SOCKET MESH

Socket Mesh







# MAKERWEAR EVALUATION



# WORKSHOP-BASED EVALUATIONS

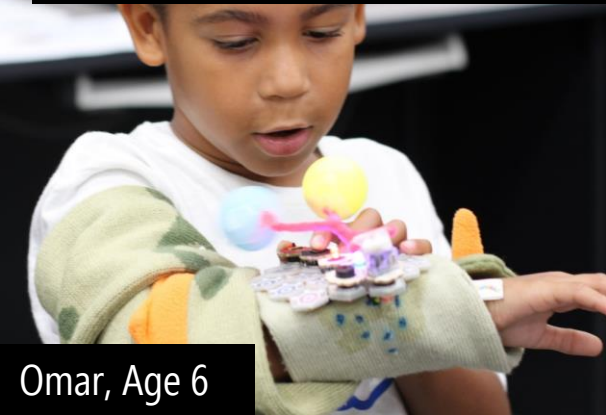
32 children (16 female; ages 5-12; *avg*=8.3)

Two single-session workshops ( $N=13$ )

Three four-session workshops ( $N=19$ )

MAKERWEAR FINDINGS

# FINAL PROJECTS



Omar, Age 6



Justin, Age 8



Tyrese, Age 5



LeShawn, Age 6



Sarah, Age 9



Keisha, Age 6



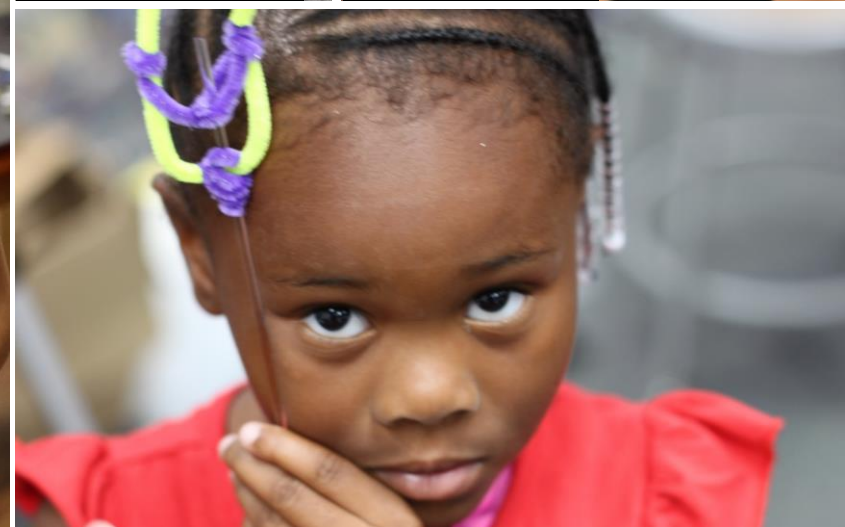
Austin, Age 9



Amelia, Age 10



Tina, Age 8



Kayla, Age 6

MAKERWEAR FINAL PROJECTS

# WHAT DID CHILDREN MAKE?



SPORTS/FITNESS

**38%**



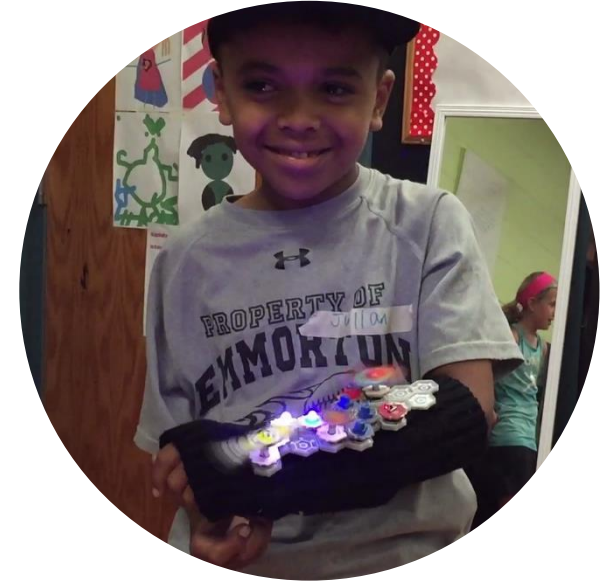
ROLE PLAY

**31%**



SOCIO-DRAMATIC PLAY

**19%**



OTHER

**13%**

MAKERWEAR FINAL PROJECTS

# WHAT DID CHILDREN MAKE?



SPORTS/FITNESS

**38%**



ROLE PLAY

**31%**



SOCIO-DRAMATIC PLAY

**19%**



OTHER

**13%**

MAKERWEAR FINAL PROJECT

# “MAGIC POKÉMON”

Austin, Age 9









# MAGIC YVELTAL POKÉMON

Maker: Austin, Age 9

14 modules: 9 actions, 2 sensors, 1 modifier

2 socket meshes

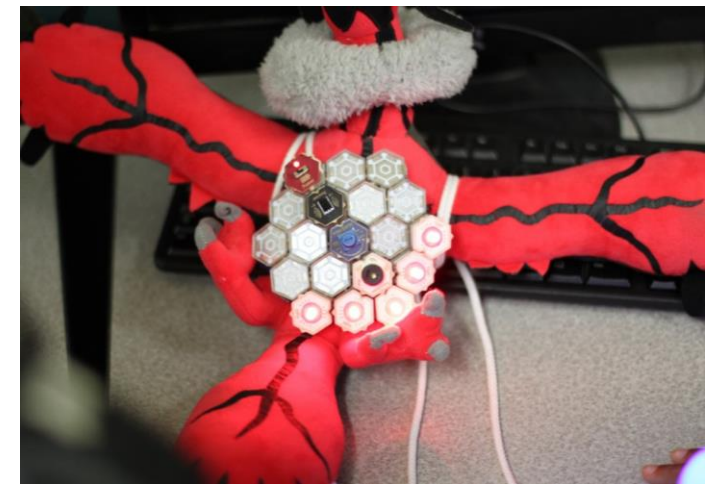
3 lo-fi pieces + pokemon



VEST



POKÉMON DOLL



# WHAT DID CHILDREN MAKE?



SPORTS/FITNESS

**38%**



ROLE PLAY

**31%**



SOCIO-DRAMATIC PLAY

**19%**



OTHER

**13%**

MAKERWEAR FINAL PROJECT

# “SMART LACROSSE STICK”



Sarah, Age 9



...HAVE...  
...personal...  
~~BAD AD'S~~

SUPERMAN  
LOVES STEM

KEEP  
GOING  
GOING  
GOING





# SMART LACROSSE STICK

Maker: Sarah, Age 9

8 modules: 6 actions, 1 sensor

1 socket mesh

3 lo-fi pieces + lacrosse stick



MAKERWEAR FINAL PROJECT

# “NEXT GEN RUNNING CLOTHES”



Amelia, Age 10













# NEXT GENERATION RUNNING CLOTHES

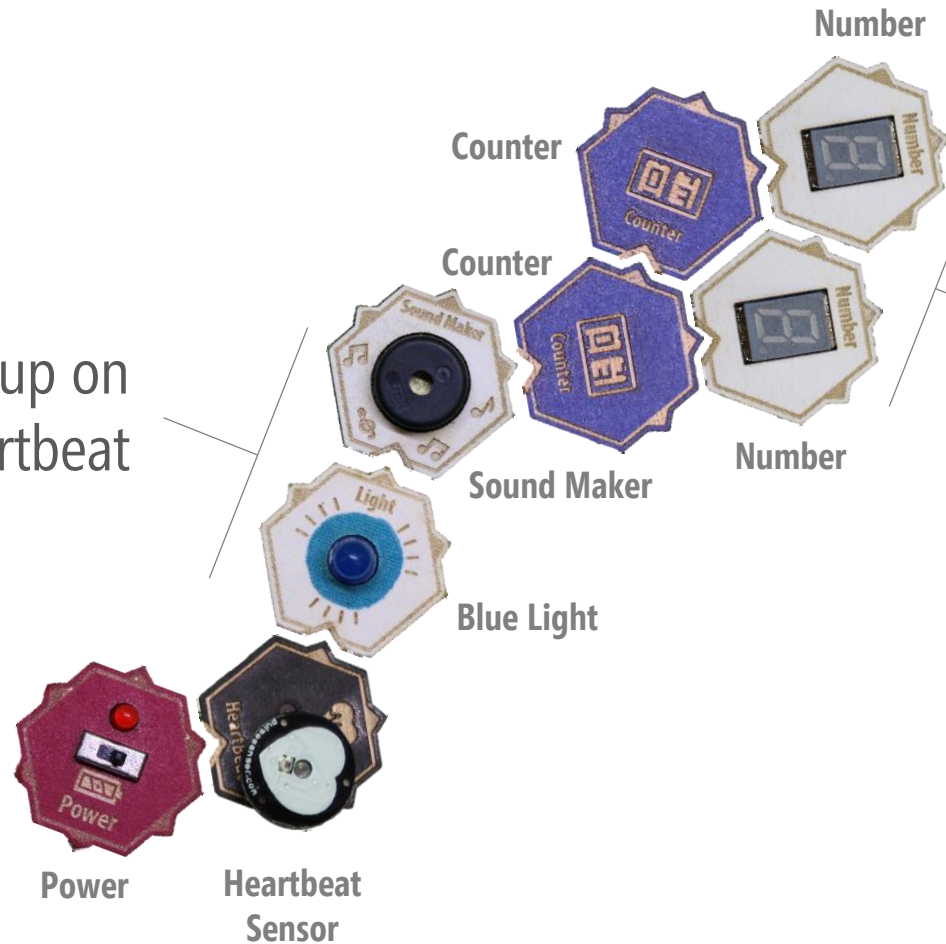
Maker: Amelia, Age 10

40 modules: 25 actions, 3 sensors, 5 modifiers

4 socket meshes; 2 lo-fi pieces

## “HEART TRACKER” ARMBAND

Beeps & lights up on each heartbeat



Counts heartbeats up to 99

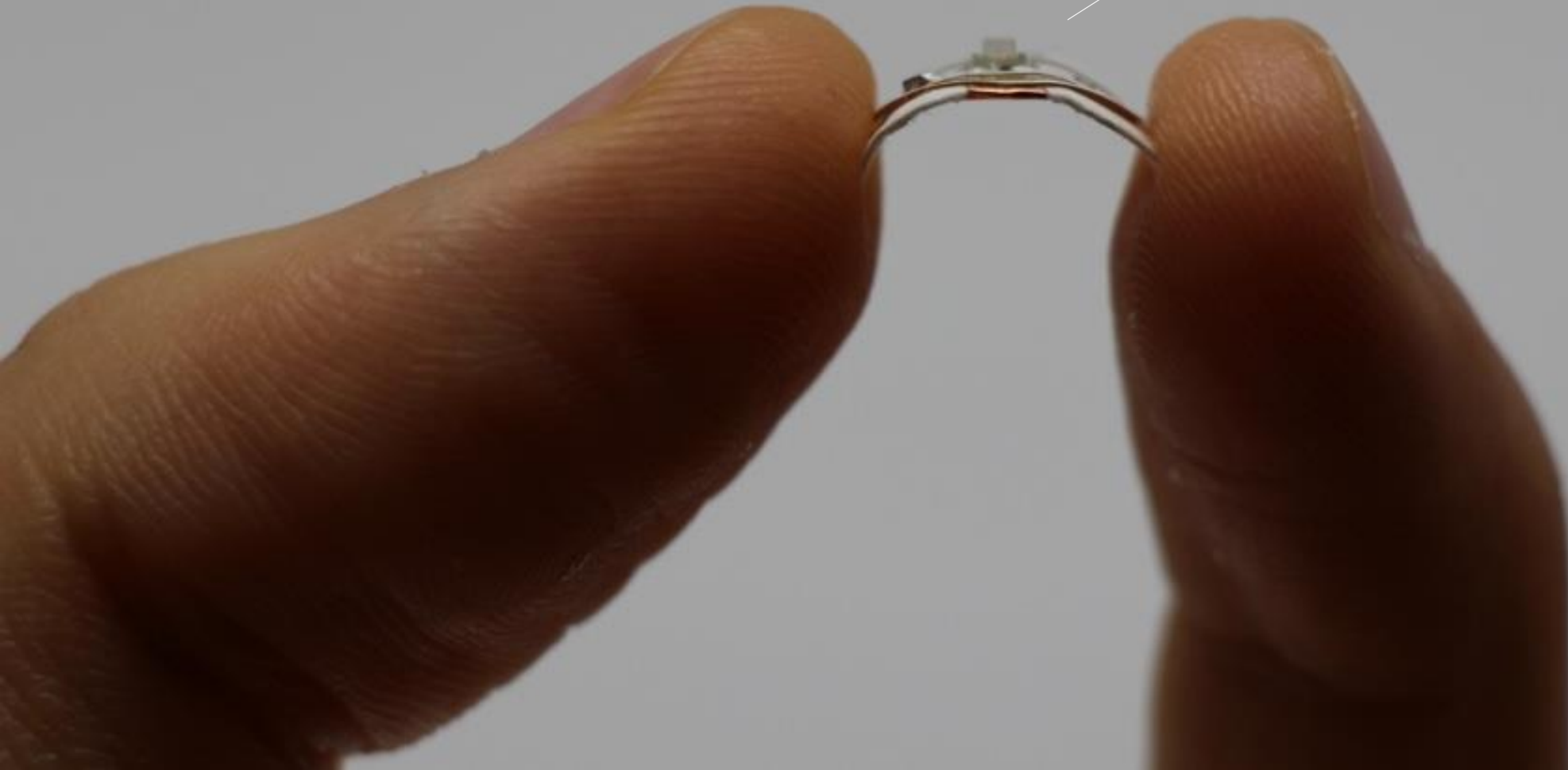
The image shows two young boys in a classroom-like setting. The boy on the left is smiling and wearing a dark grey long-sleeved shirt. He is holding a white, textured glove with a cluster of white hexagonal sensors on the back of his hand. The boy on the right is looking intently at the camera, wearing a purple t-shirt with a space-themed graphic. He is also wearing a similar white glove on his left hand. The background is slightly blurred, showing a colorful poster on the wall.

# MAKERWEAR FUTURE WORK

MAKERWEAR FUTURE WORK

# FORM FACTOR

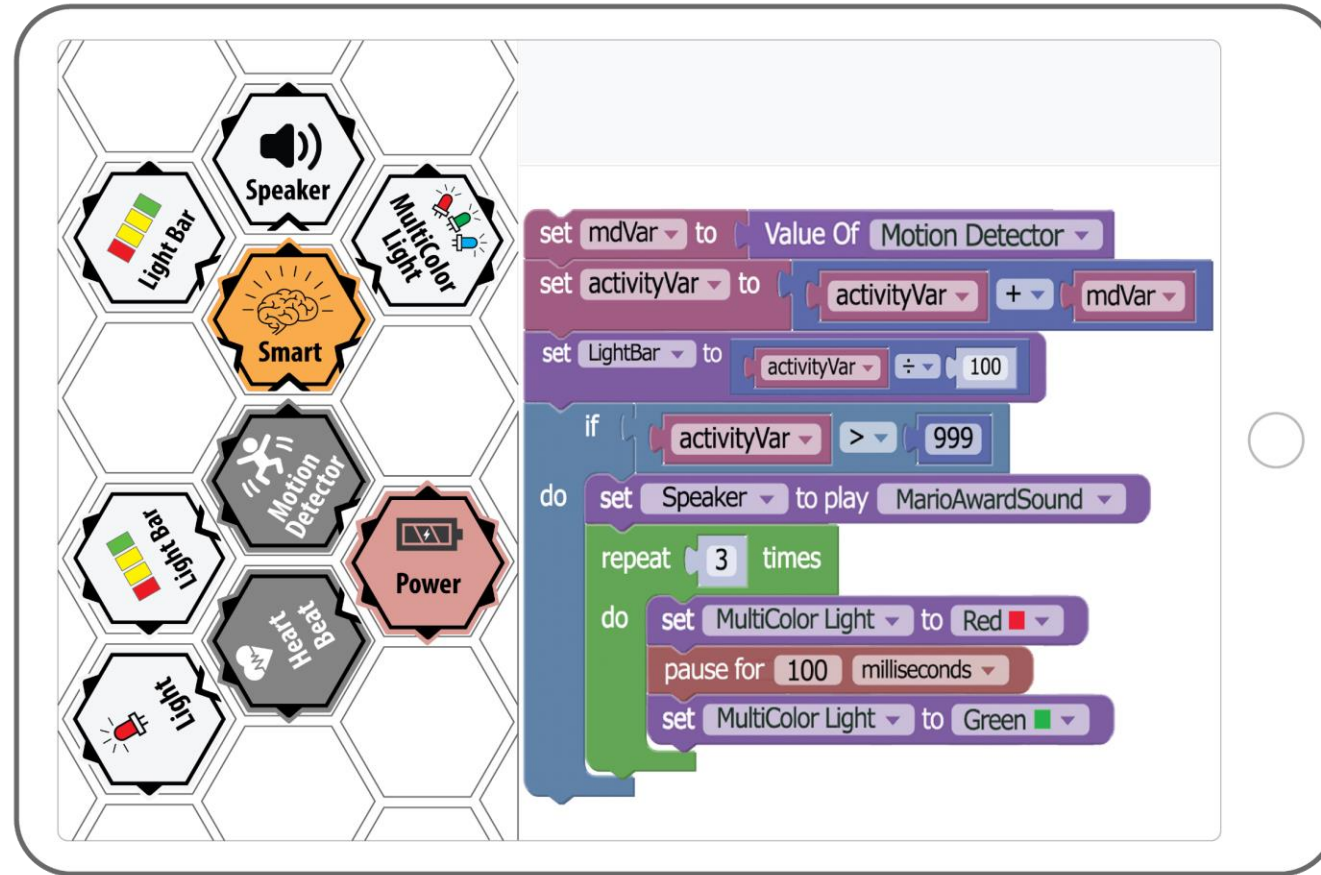
More flexible  
Reduced weight  
Thinner



FUTURE WORK

# HYBRID TANGIBLE-GRAPHICAL PROGRAMMING INTERFACE

Modules will be wirelessly programmable via a custom tablet programming interface



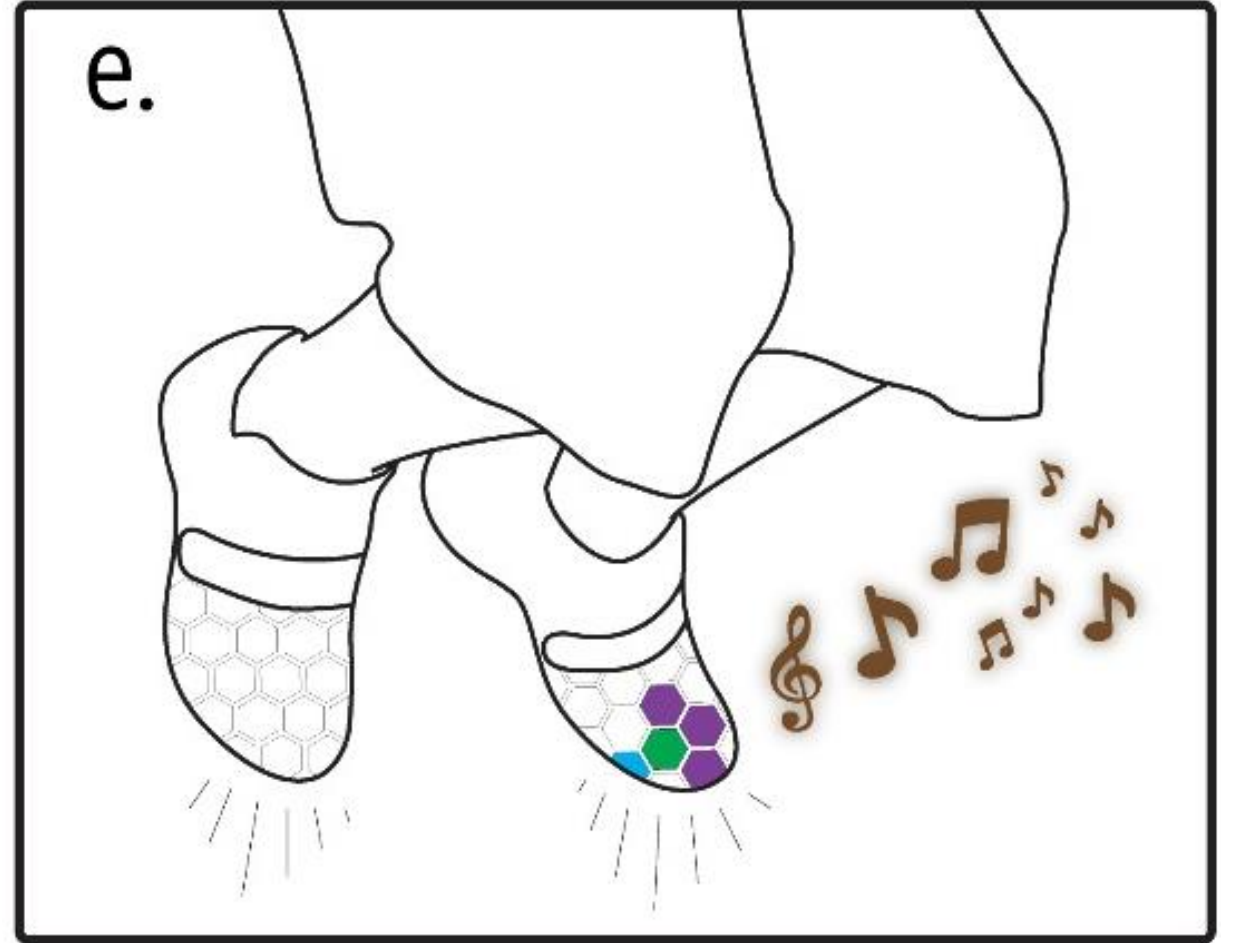
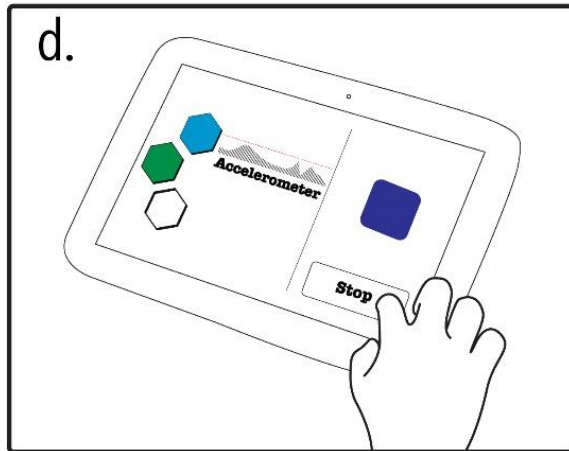
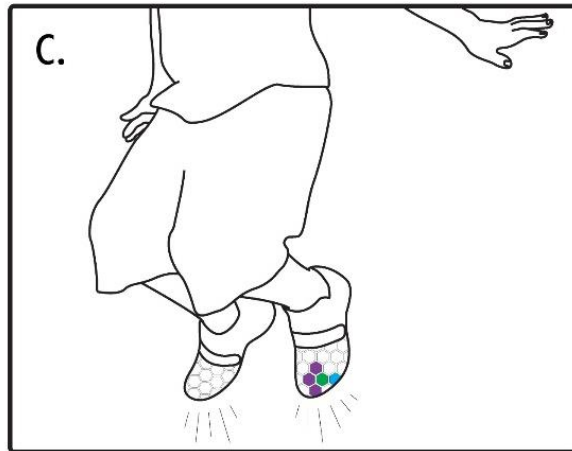
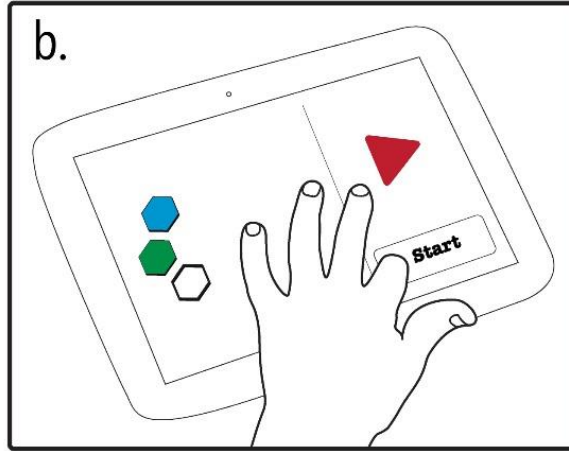
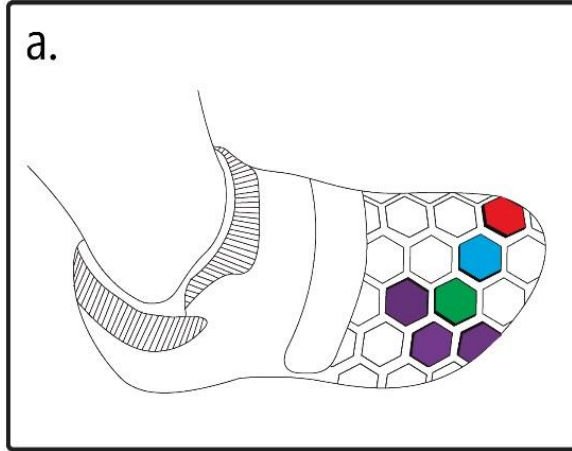
## Sample Application:

Making a fitness tracker using a *Motion Detector* and a *HeartBeat Detector*.

FUTURE WORK

# INTERACTIVE MACHINE LEARNING

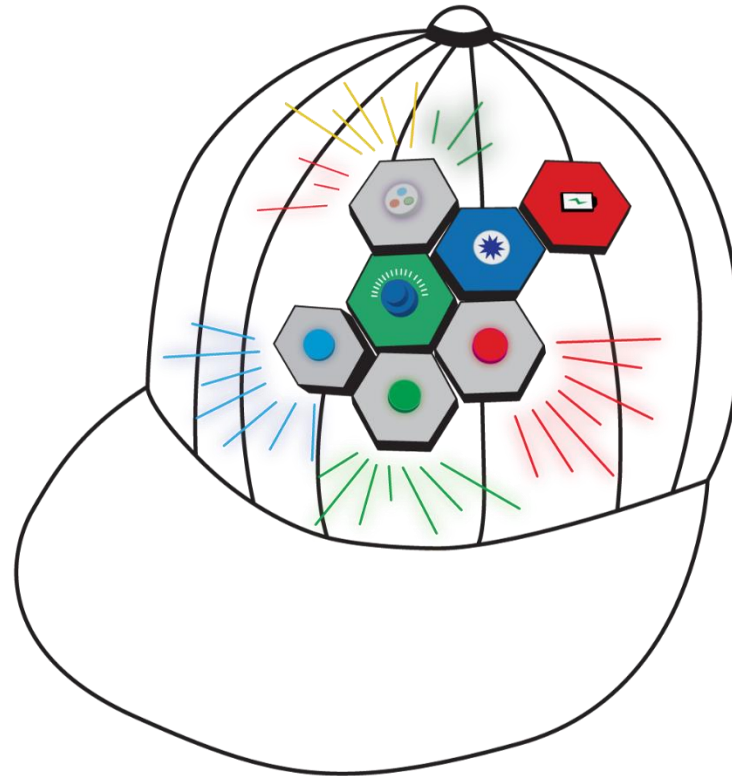
Children can program complex behavior via a novel machine learning interface



FUTURE WORK

# SUPPORTING SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY

Children can build their own scientific instruments that allow them to investigate and compare phenomena over time and across contexts.



# JOIN US!



<http://makeabilitylab.io>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

# FUNDING SOURCES



## MAPPING ACCESSIBILITY OF THE WORLD

NSF #1302338, Google, IBM  
PI Froehlich, Co-PI David Jacobs

## HMD SOUND AWARENESS

Google Faculty Research Award  
PI Leah Findlater, Co-PI Froehlich

## HANDSIGHT TOUCH VISION

Department of Defense CDMRP  
PI Froehlich, Co-PIs Leah Findlater & Rama Chellappa

## BODYVIS & SHAREDPHYS

NSF #1441184  
PI Froehlich, Co-PI Tamara Clegg

## MAKERWEAR

NSF CAREER #1652339  
PI Froehlich

# MAKING WITH A SOCIAL PURPOSE

@jonfroehlich