

# FABRICATION

CSE 599 N1: Modern Mobile Systems

[modernmobile.cs.washington.edu](http://modernmobile.cs.washington.edu)

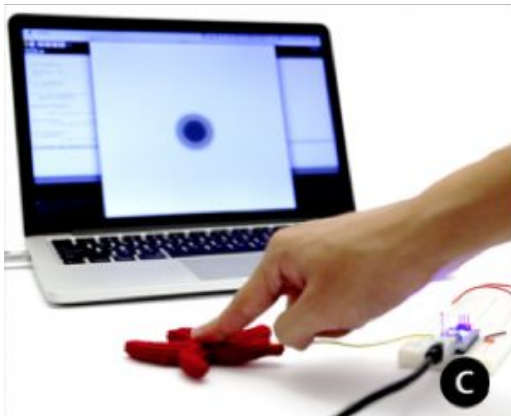
# 3D Printing Wireless Connected Objects

Can we **3D print** Wi-Fi connected objects?

# 3D Printed Interaction Devices

How can plastic objects **communicate**?

# Challenge: Printing Connectivity



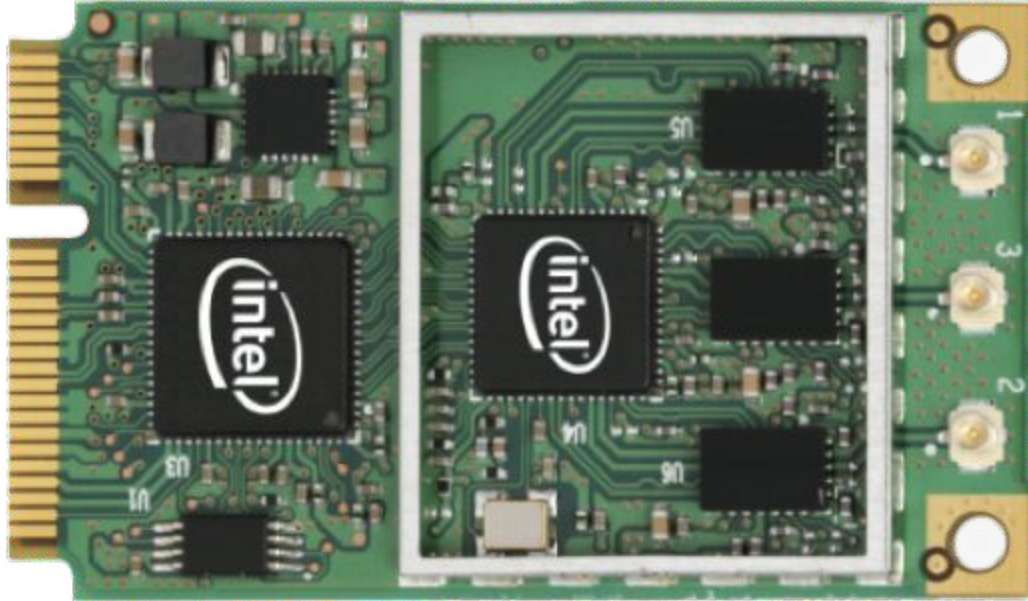
[CHI 2015]

+



Need communication using only **plastic**

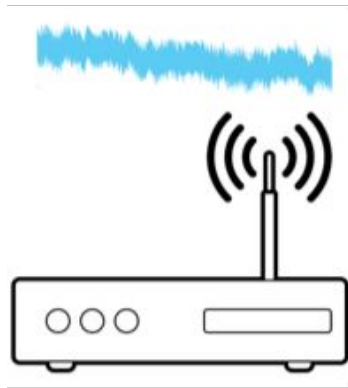
# Fundamental Challenge: Wi-Fi operates at 2.4 GHz



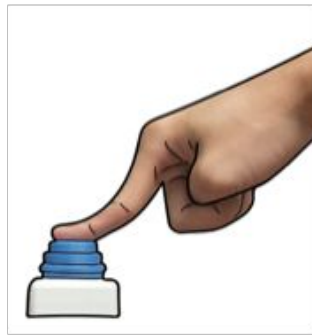
Can't print **2.4 GHz oscillator** with **plastic**

# Our Solution: Reflect Wi-Fi Signals Instead

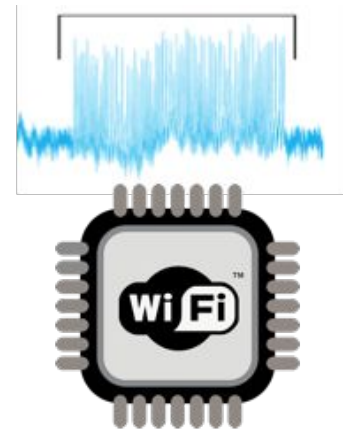
Key Idea: Use mechanical motion to send data



Wi-Fi Router



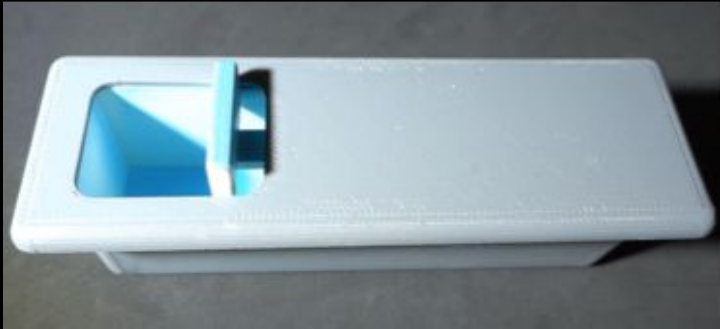
Printed Object



Smartphone

First **3D printed objects** that can connect with **Wi-Fi**

# First 3D printed Wi-Fi input Gadgets and Sensors

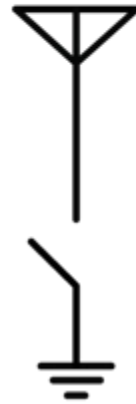
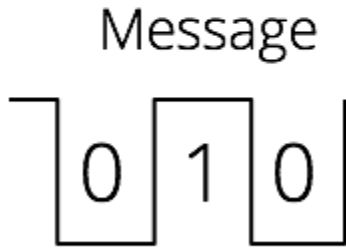




How does printed Wi-Fi work?

# Printed Wi-Fi has Three Key Components

Incoming Wi-Fi signal

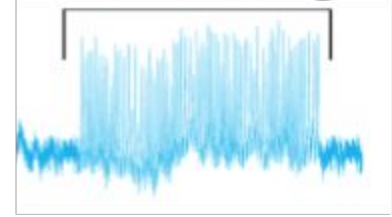


Antenna

Switch



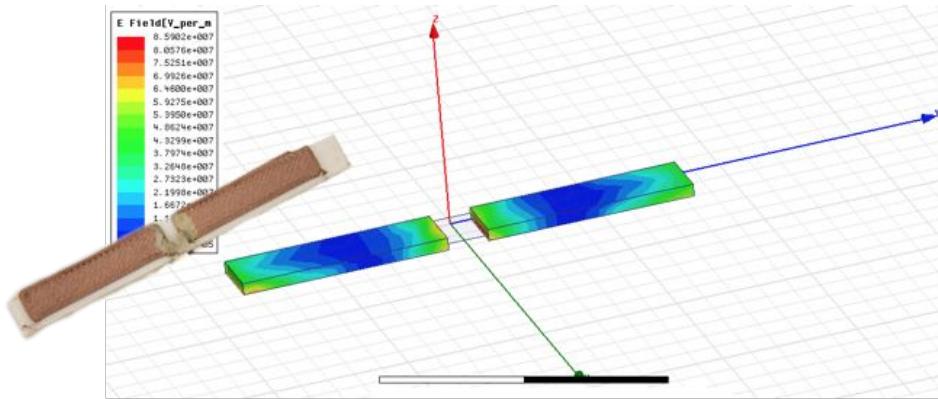
Reflected signal



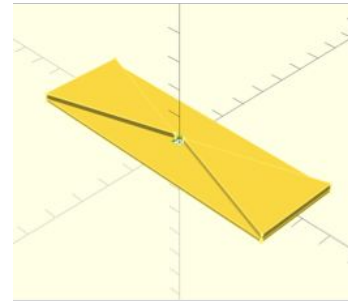
Switch produces **changing reflections**

# 3D Printed Antenna Design

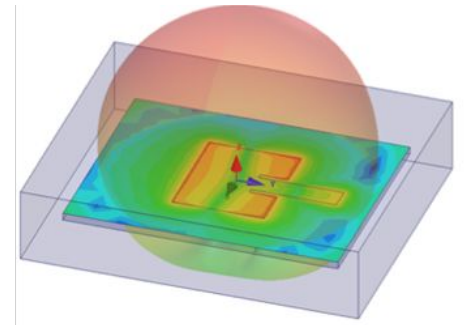
1. Start with **reference** metal antenna designs
2. Optimize **length, width, thickness** for printed materials
3. Integrate antennas into **3D printed** objects



Dipole Antenna

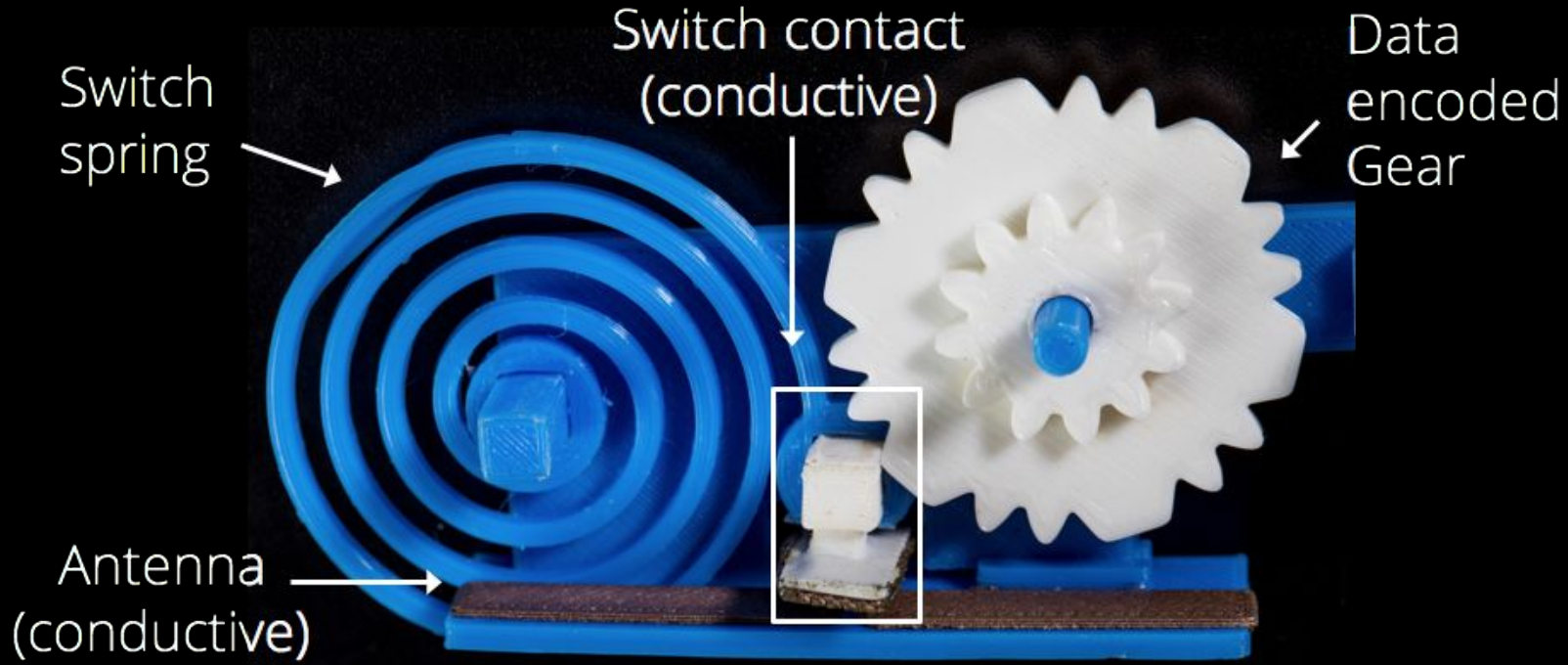


Bowtie Antenna



Patch Antenna

# 3D Printed Switch



# Encoding Information on the Gear Teeth

Choose  
Parameters



Generate  
3D model



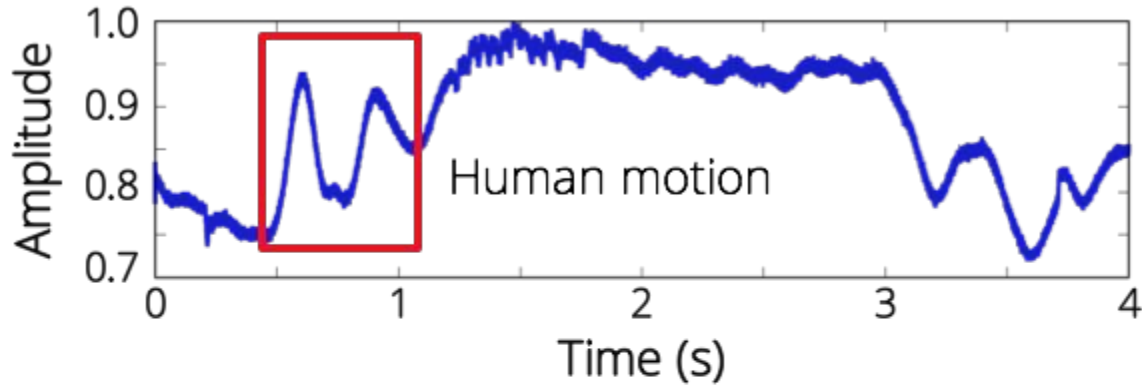
Printed  
Object



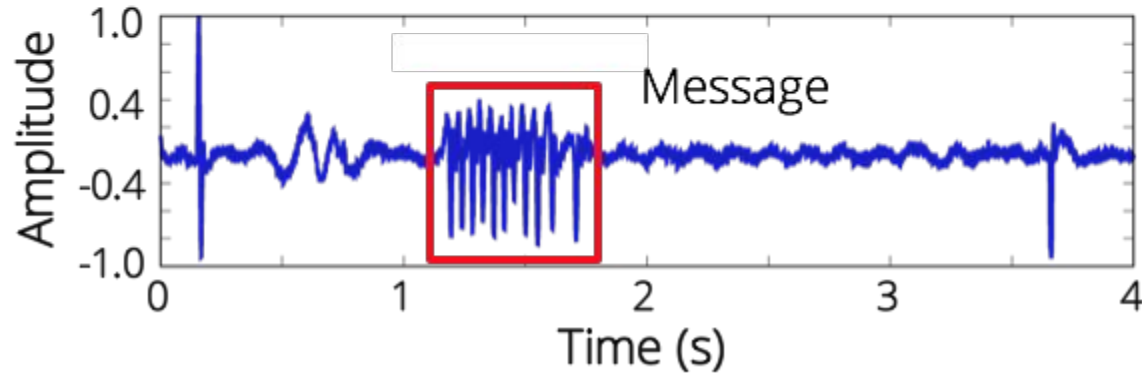
Encoding  
Message

# 3D Printed Slider: An Inside Look

# Separating human motion from printed objects



Raw signal with human motion



Filtered signal

# 3D Printed **Wireless** Sensors



# 3D Printed Wireless Sensors

# 3D Printed Wireless Sensors

# Flow Rate Sensing

# Performance Evaluation

**45 bps** data rates

**17 m** Line of Sight Range

**45 m<sup>2</sup>** Non-line of sight Area

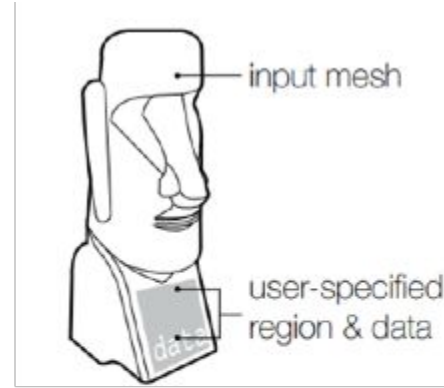
Can decode **multiple** printed objects **concurrently**

Can we embed **static information** in objects?

# Embedding Information in 3D Prints



Infrastructs  
SIGGRAPH '13



Aircode  
UIST '17

Read data on **smartphones**

# Our Solution: Use Magnetic Materials



Read data using phone **magnetometer**

# How do we encode data?

Original objects

Magnetic Plastic



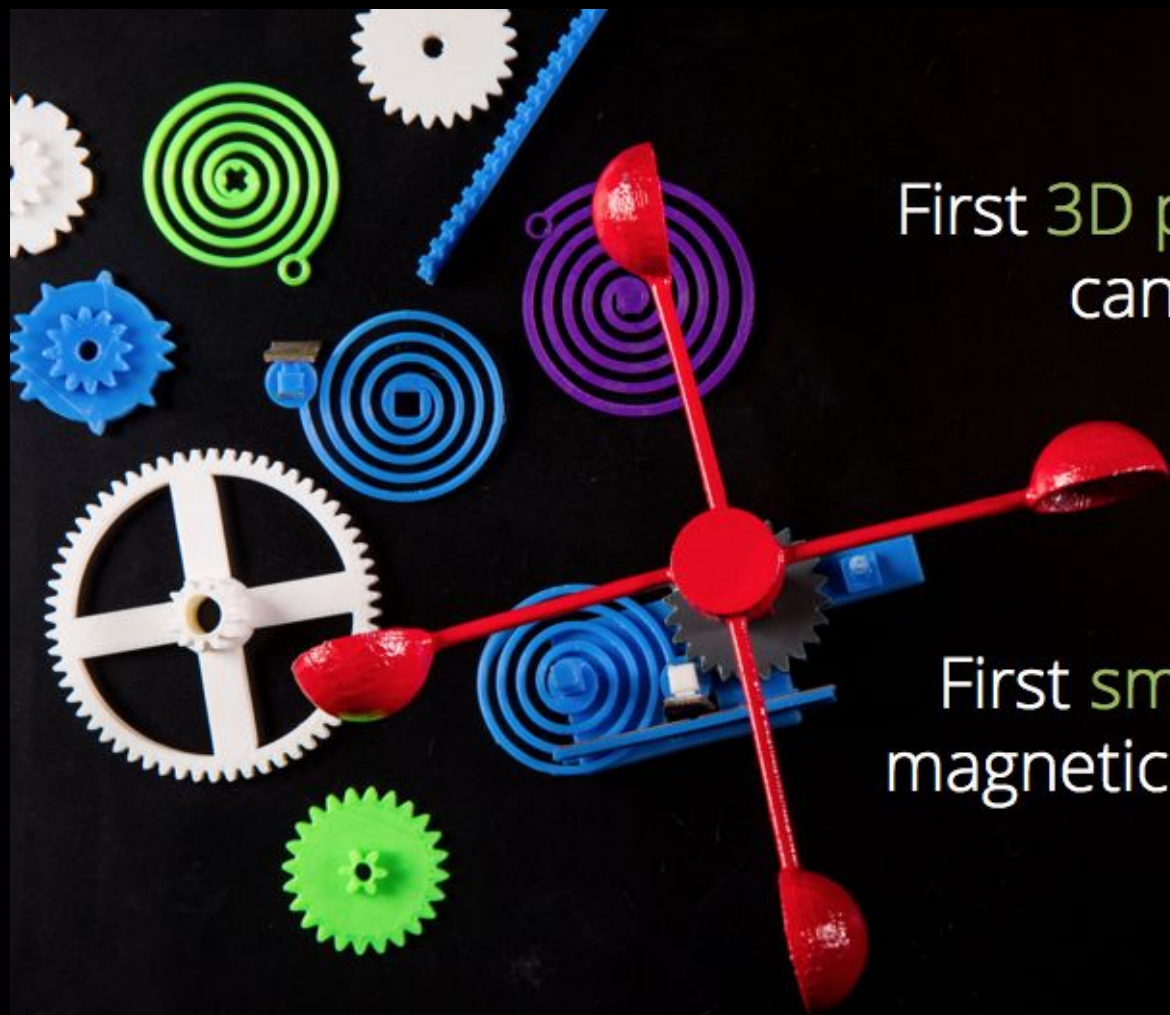
Painted objects





# Decoding Data on a Smartphone

# Embedding Information in 2D



First 3D printed objects that  
can connect with Wi-Fi

First smartphone readable  
magnetic 3D printed objects

# Wireless Analytics for 3D Printed Objects

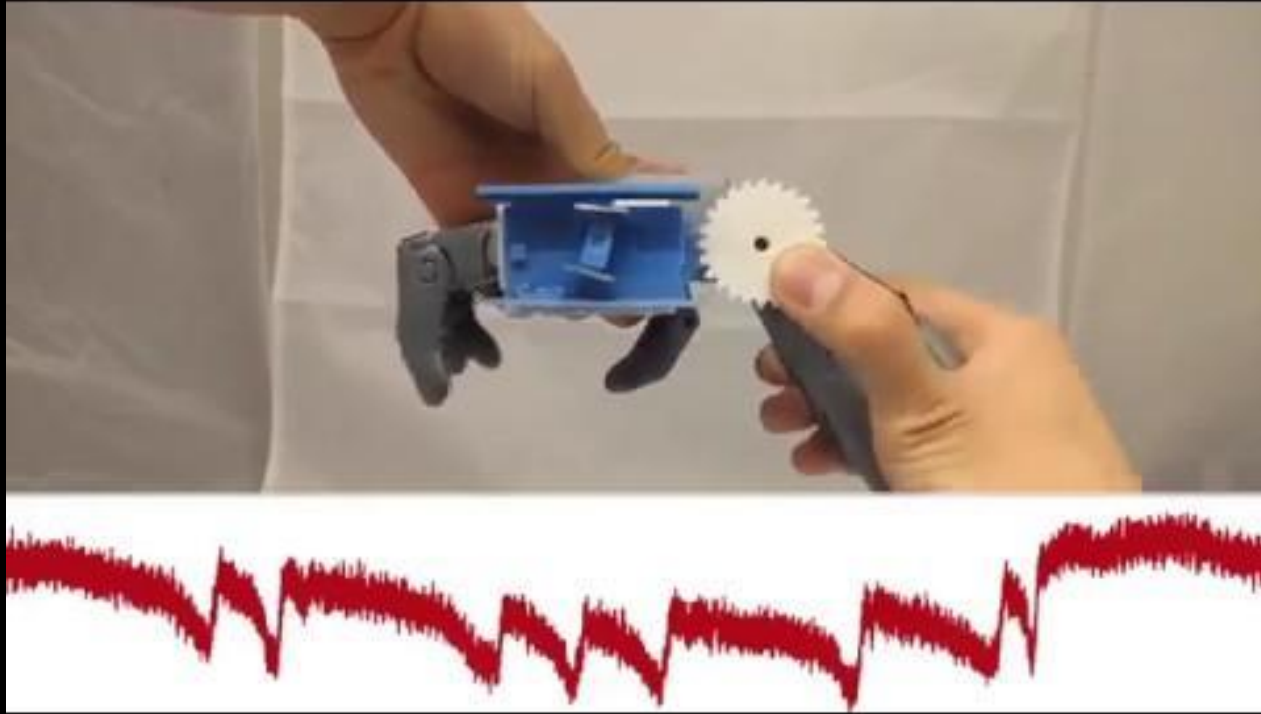
# What do we mean by analytics?

**Track** the use of printed objects over time



Embed **wireless sensing** in printed objects

# What else could we do with wireless analytics?



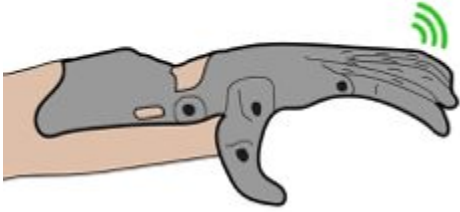
# Why not use electronics?

- Requires designers to understand **electronics**
- Requires **power** source

Enable communication using **plastic** objects

# Printed Analytics

Wireless, circuitless physical analytics capture for 3D printed objects



Printed prosthetics



Smart pill bottle



Wireless insulin pen

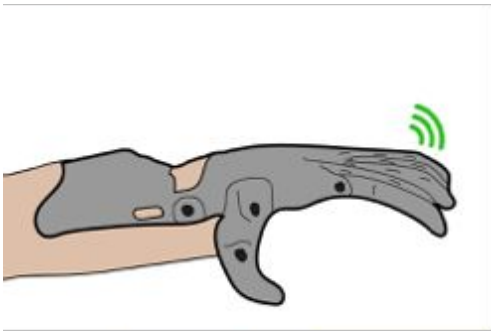


# Our Contributions

- Backscatter communication **across a room** using conductive plastic
- 3D printed designs to sense **bi-directional linear** and **rotational** motion
- **Data storage** for printed objects for sensing beyond wireless range



3D Printing wireless devices



Decoding wireless signals

Tracking rotational motion

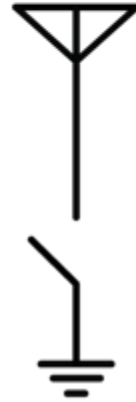
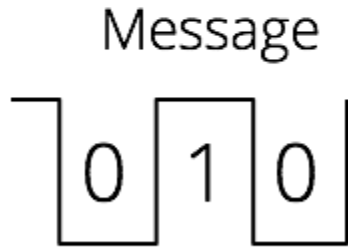


Analytics outside wireless range

How can plastic objects **communicate**?

# Printed objects communicate using reflections

Incoming Wi-Fi signal

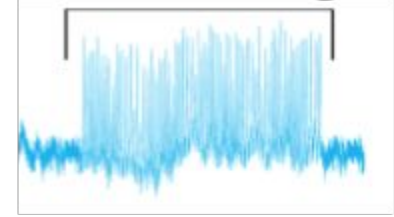


Antenna

Switch



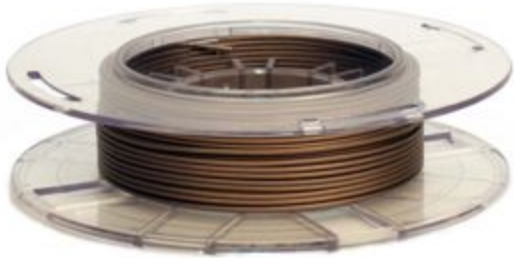
Reflected signal



Switch produces **changing reflections**

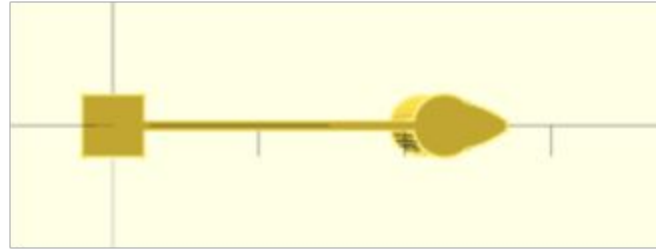
# How do we build a switch?

1. Conductive contact



**Conductive filament**

2. Bi-directional spring

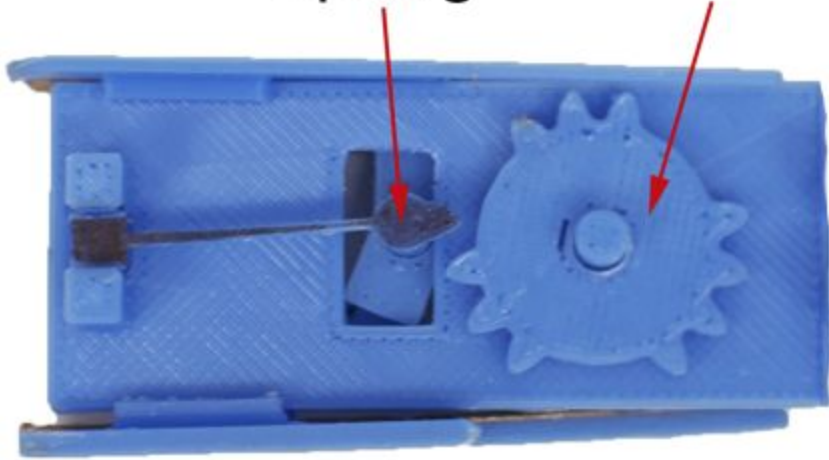


**Cantilever spring**

# How do our switches work?

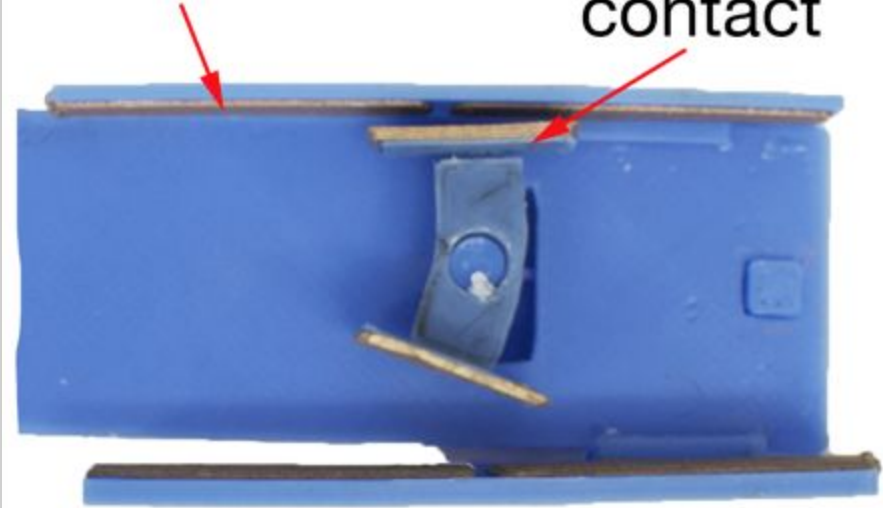
cantilever  
spring

gear

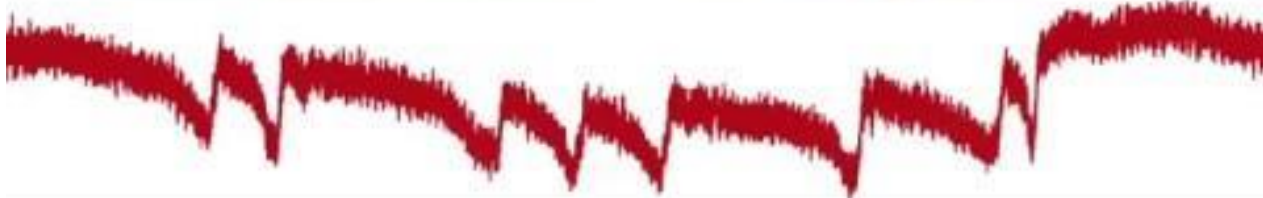
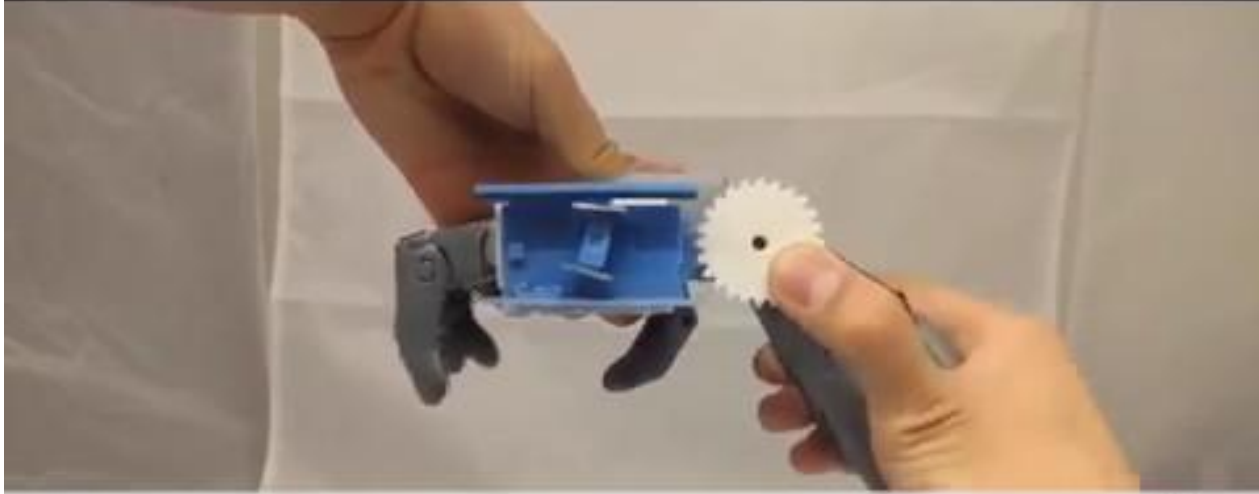


antenna

switch  
contact

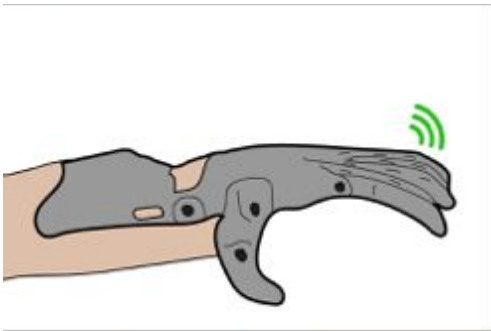


# Switch in action: e-NABLE arm





3D Printing wireless devices



Decoding wireless signals

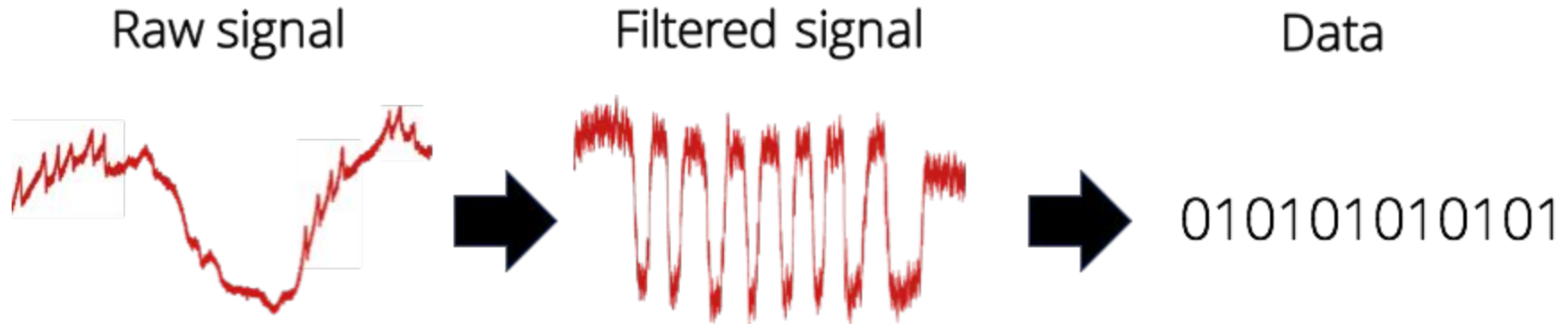
Tracking rotational motion



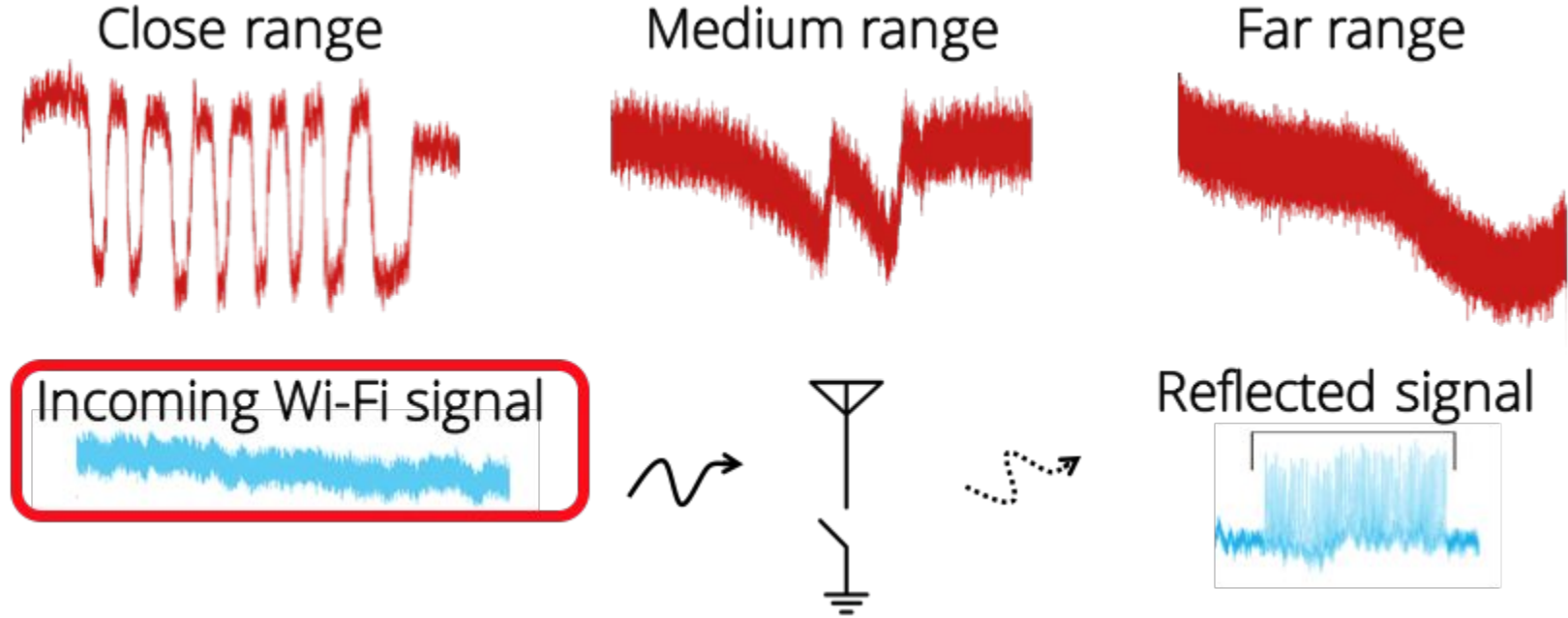
Analytics outside wireless range



# How do we decode the data?



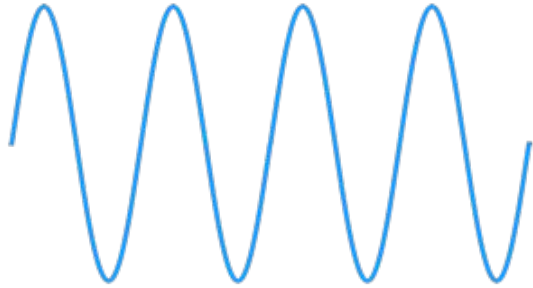
# What happens at long range?



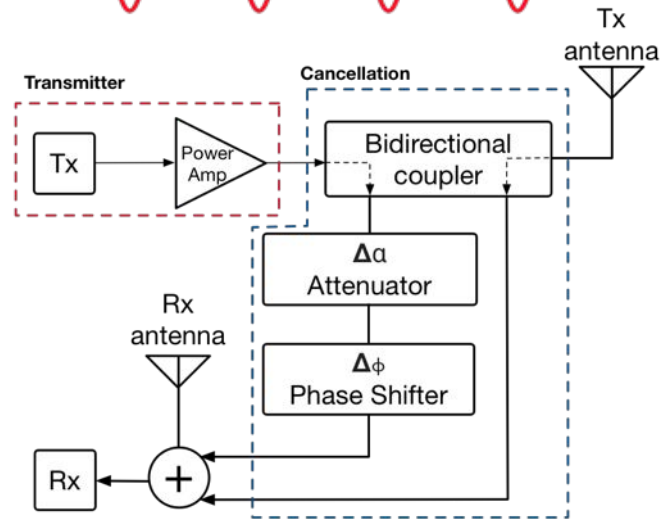
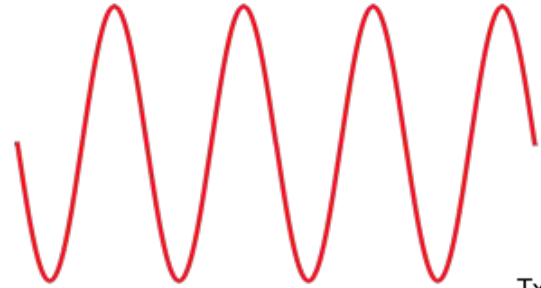
Self-interference limits range

# Solution: Cancel out the interference

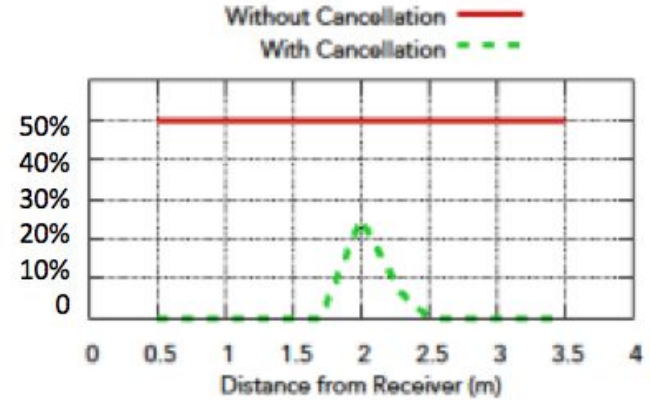
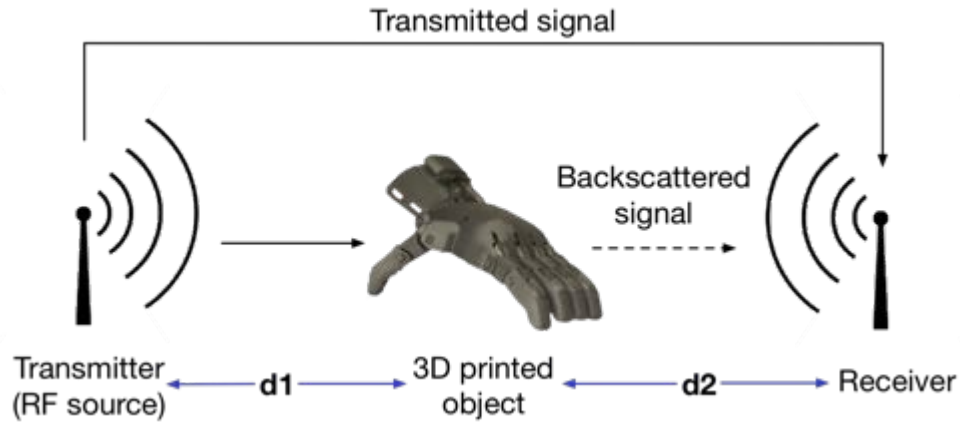
Transmitter signal



Inverted signal



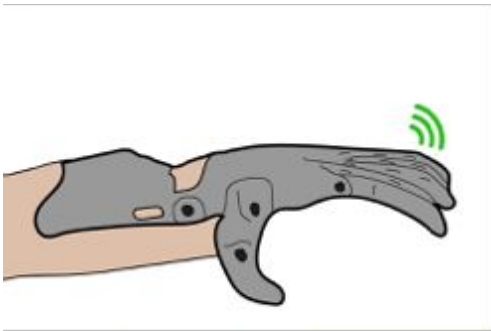
# How well does cancellation work?



Works up to transmitter-receiver distances of **4 m**



3D Printing wireless devices



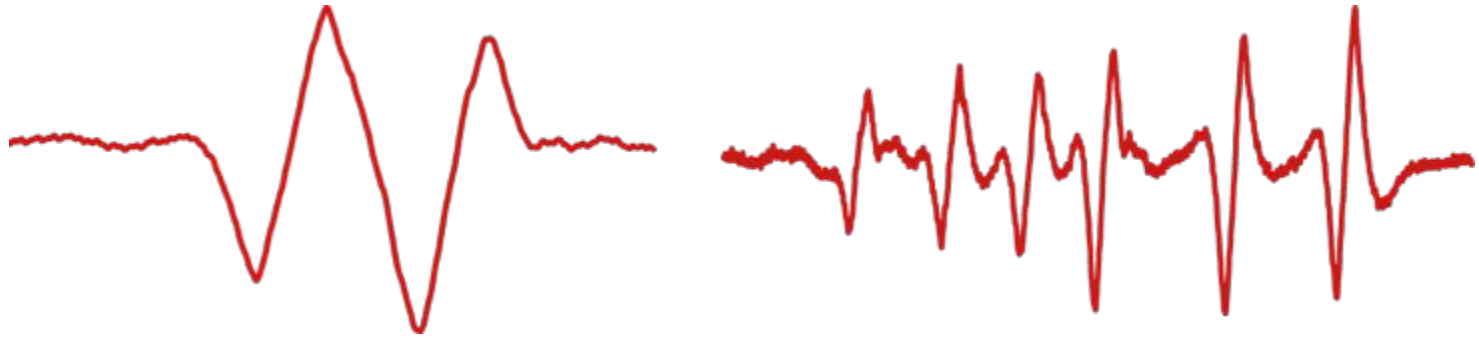
Decoding wireless signals

Tracking rotational motion



Analytics outside wireless range

# How do we measure angle?

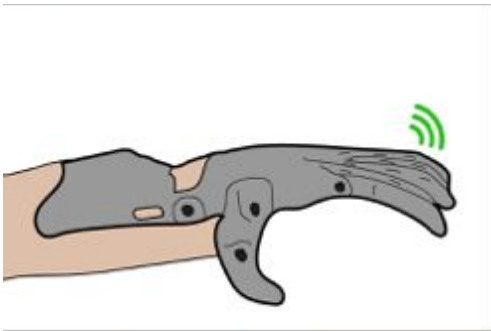


# How do we measure direction?





3D Printing wireless devices



Decoding wireless signals

Tracking rotational motion



Analytics outside wireless range



# How do we read outside the wireless range?

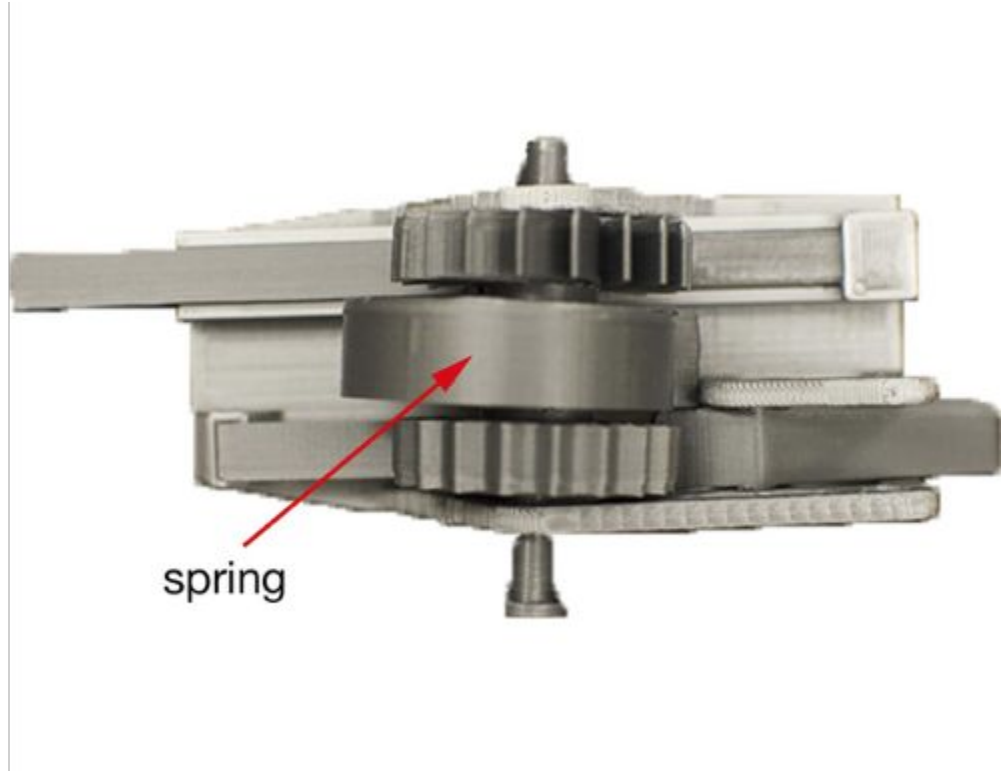
- **Store** analytics outside range
- Wirelessly **upload** the data when back in range

# Insulin pen requirements



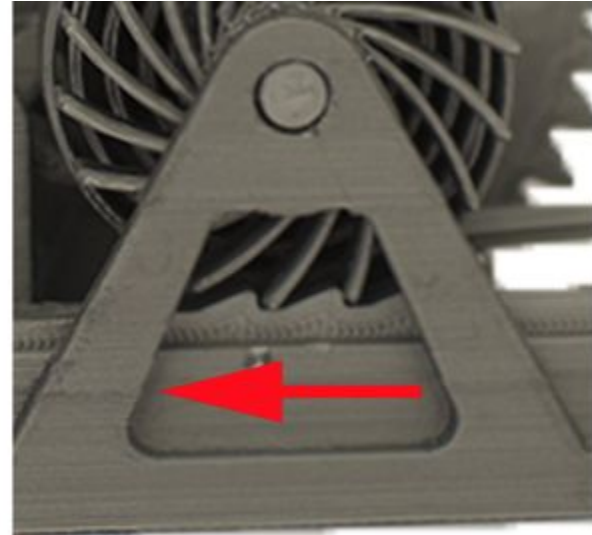
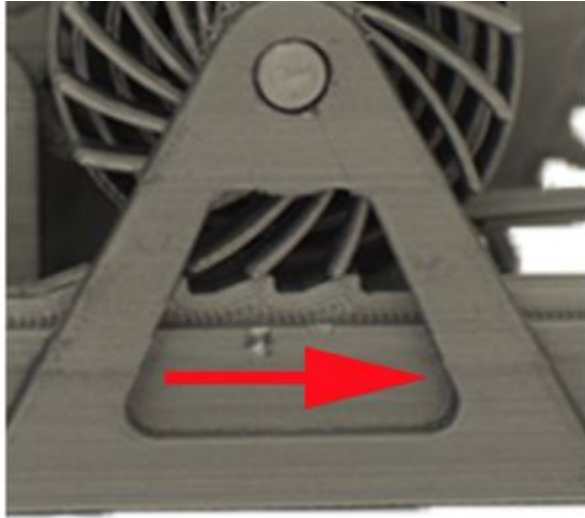
- Store count of presses
- Accumulate each press
- Upload the data when back in range

# Solution: Store information mechanically



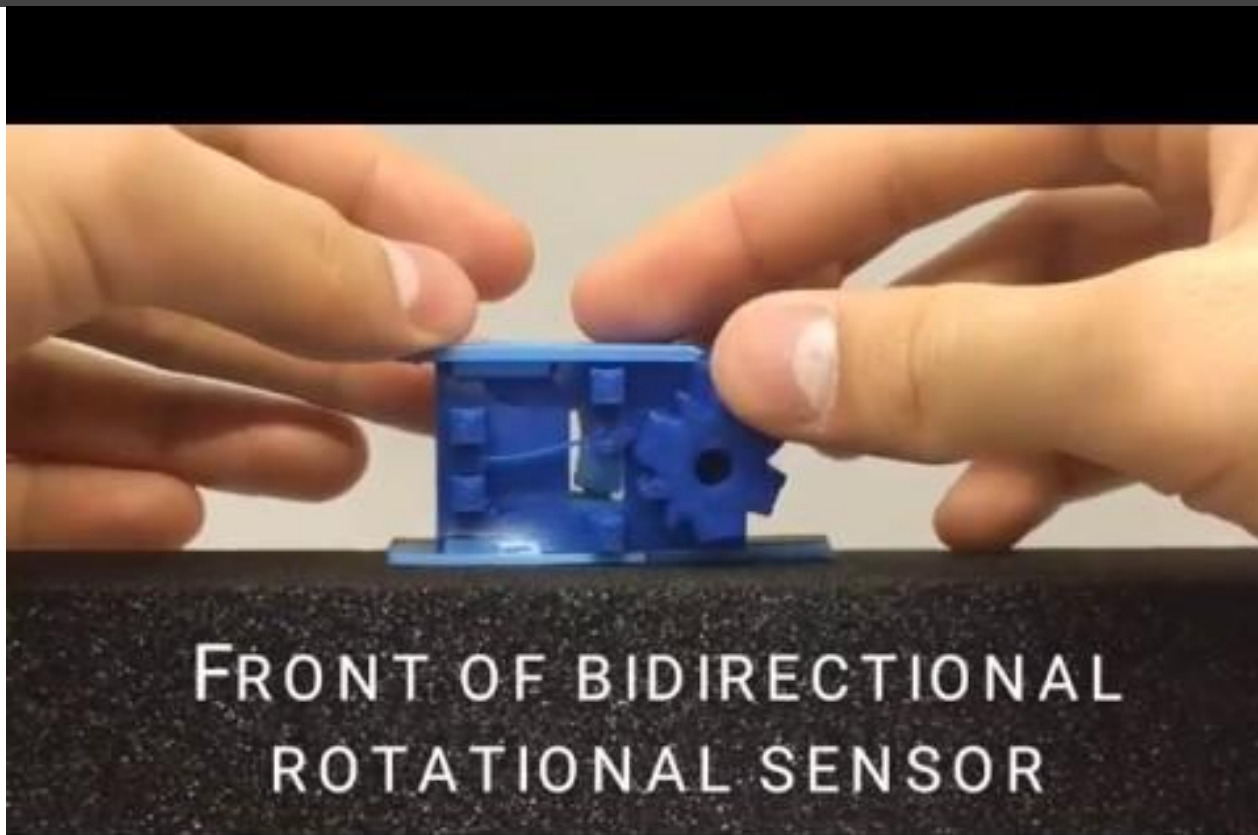
# How do we keep the spring coiled?

Key idea: Use a ratchet to coil the spring

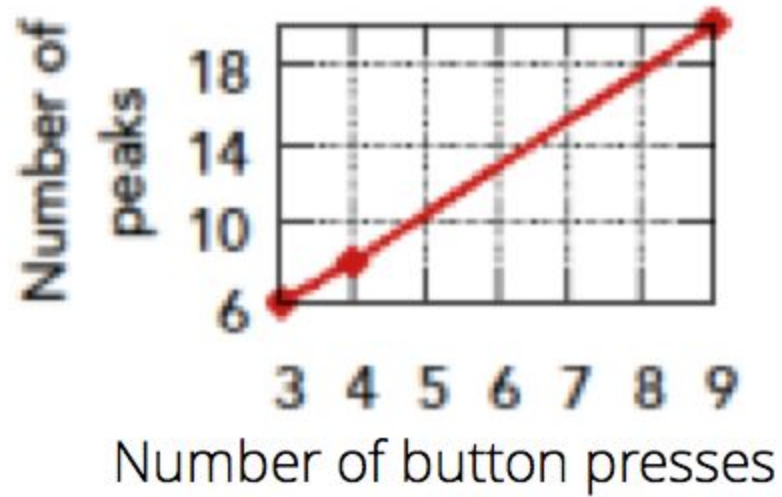
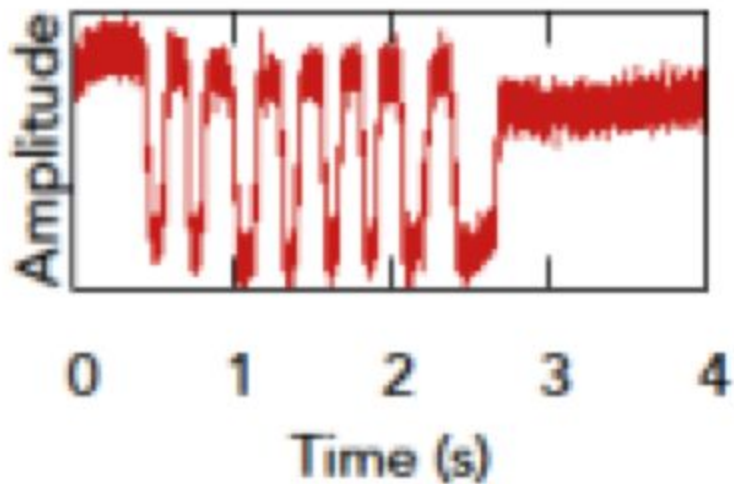


Ratchet **accumulates rotation** in spring

# Storing and reading data from an insulin pen



# Reading back the data



# Future work

- Designing better form factor mechanism
- Recording timestamps of usage
- Increasing range to work across a whole home

# Design and Fabrication by Example



# Design and Fabrication by Example

Data driven approach for designing 3D models that are actually fabricable

**Reality:** When fabricating something beyond what can be produced by a 3D printed, one has to consider many complex requirements in particular the connectors like screws and connectors

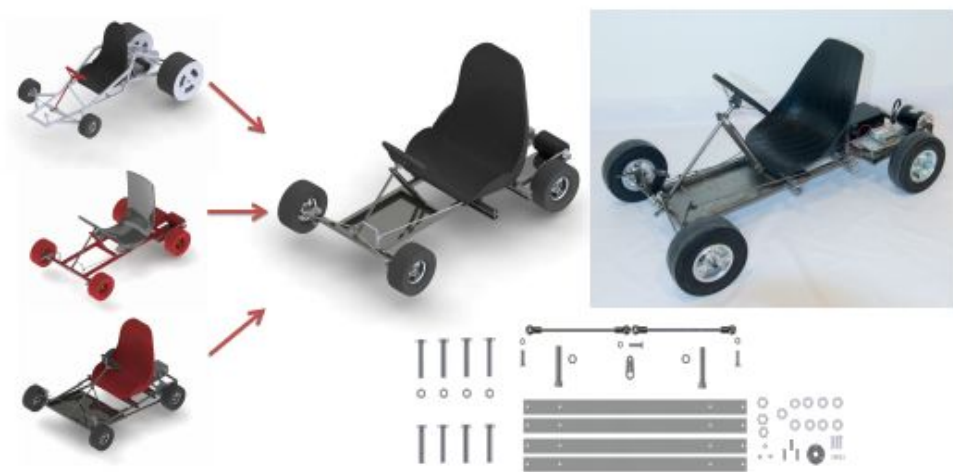
System creates a database of parameterized templates that were converted from expert designs.

Automatically extracts constraints/parameters

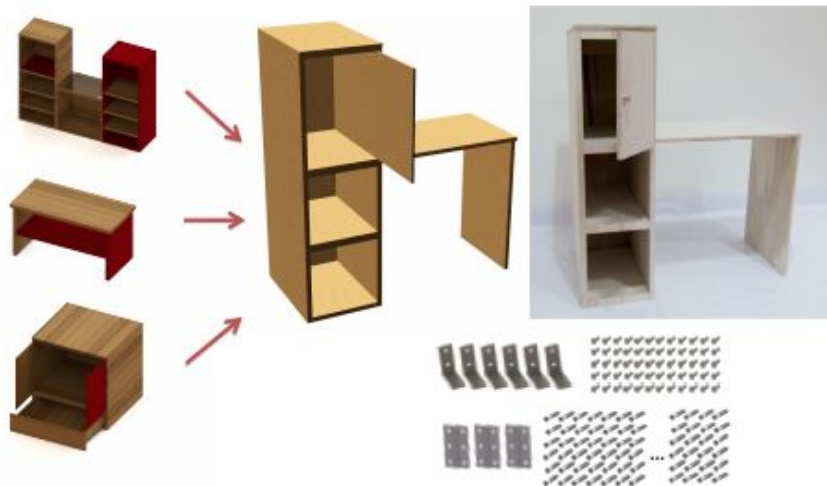
Guides users through the process of manipulation, positioning and stability analysis

Different components from expert database

Final user-designed prototype



Structural parts + Mechanical joints



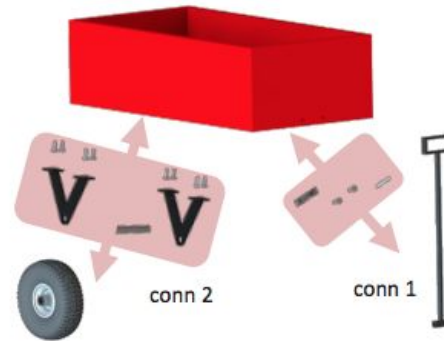
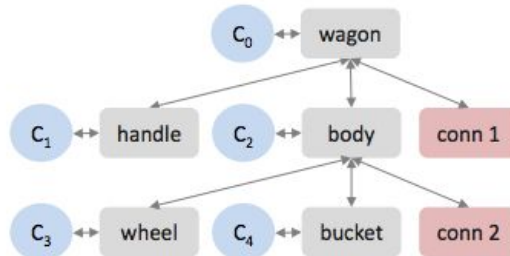
Output: bill of materials

# Hierarchical template representation

System creates a taxonomy that takes these complexities into account with categories for mechanical joints (prismatic, ball, hinge), structural parts (screws, hinges, brackets), principal parts (shelves, legs, wheels)

Geosemantic relationships are labelled by experts.

Leaves of tree are 'least fabricable units'



# Snapping method

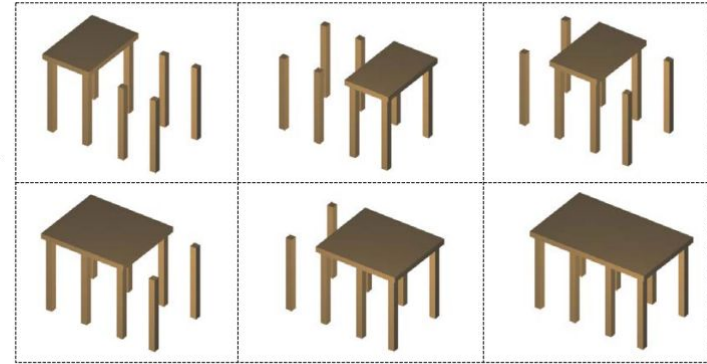
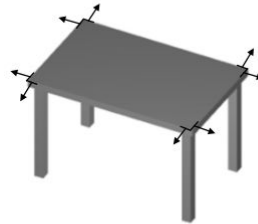
$q^i$ : degrees of freedom

$F^i$ : deformation function that computes new geometry

$A^i$ : feasible space of  $q^i$  that is fabricable and collision free

Consider various geometric relationships:

Concentricity, coplanarity, symmetry, order



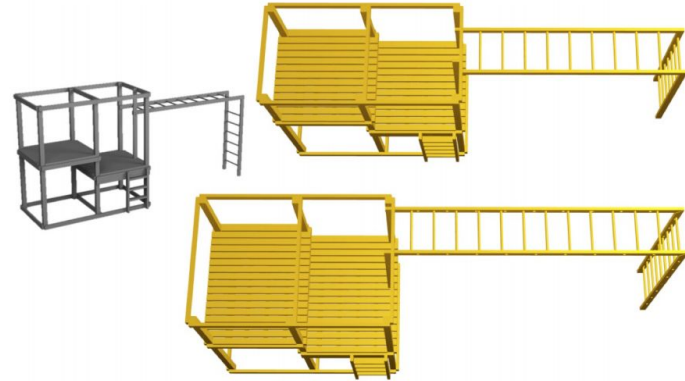
# Snapping method

Constraint propagations are propagated through the hierarchy. Constraints remain intact when one principal component higher up in the hierarchy has changed.

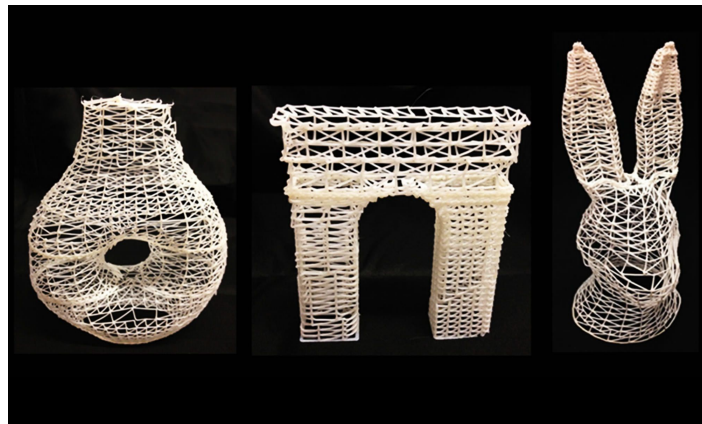
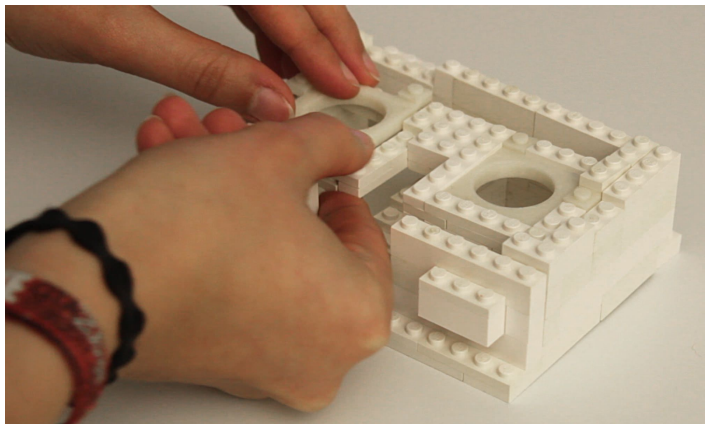
Fabrication:

Snapping - When dragging a new model, system automatically adjusts position and size to align with working model

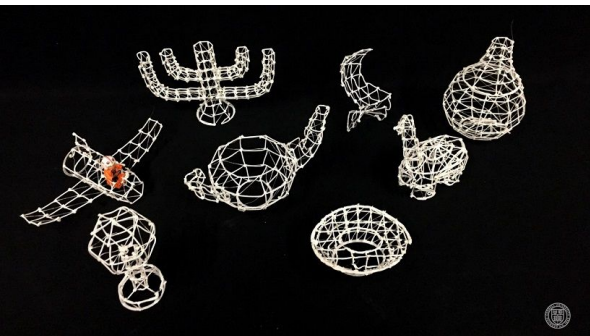
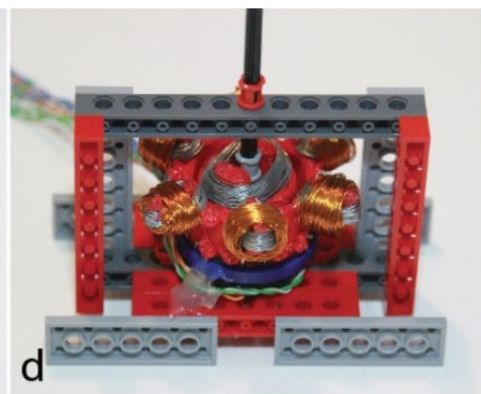
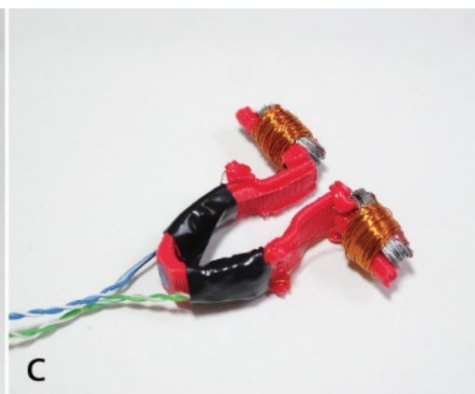
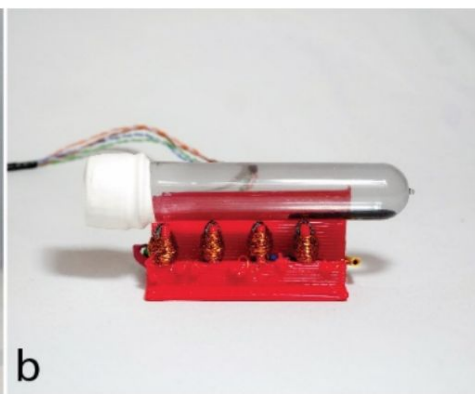
Connecting - Automatically retrieves new connecting elements and computes new geosemantic relationships



How can this be applied to Printed Wi-Fi?







**Soft Stanford Bunny**

