



# Ankle ExoSkeleton

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# Project Description

- Partnered with Zachary Lerner
- Partnered with NAU Biomechatronics
- Develop Ankle Exoskeleton
- Focus on structure of system (not motor)
- Aid in walking motion
- Commonly going to be used for Cerebral Palsy

# Background and Benchmarking

- ▶ There are currently multiple ankle exoskeleton products being developed
- ▶ These Three Below are products that we believe solve the current problem of a faulty transmission system between the ankle and the actuating system.

# Technaid Robotic Ankle H3

- ▶ This system use a wave gear system to actuate the ankle movement and uses a 22 V battery



Figure 1: Diagram of the Technaid Robotic Ankle H3

# The Rewalk Restore Soft Robotic Exosuit

- ▶ Uses a Bowden cable system with a gear driven actuating system



Figure 2: Diagram of the Rewalk Restore Soft Robotic Exosuit

# Untethered Robotic Ankle Exoskeleton

▶ Also use a Bowden cable actuating system

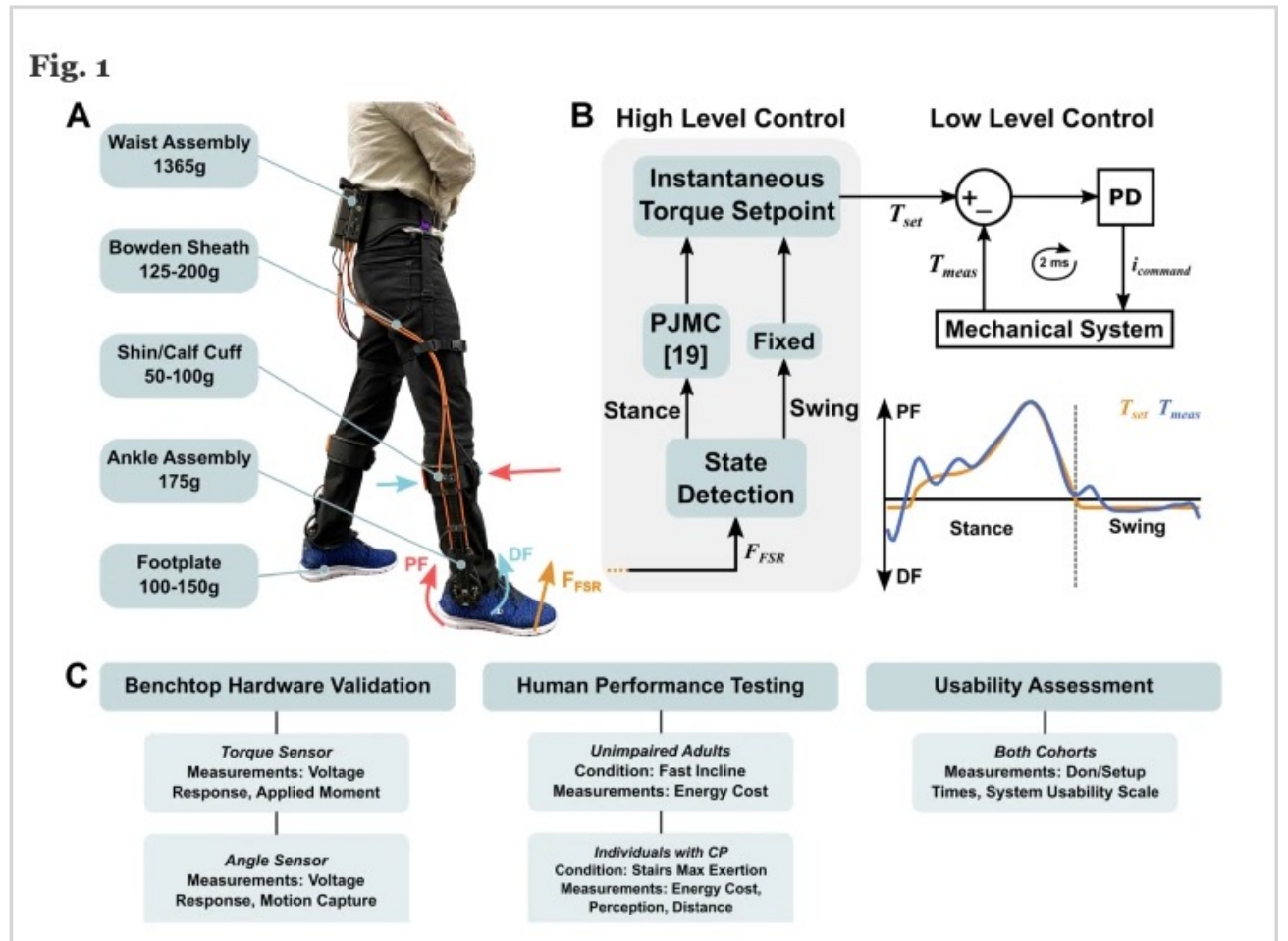


Figure 3: Diagram of the Untethered Robotic Ankle Exoskeleton

# Customer Requirements

- ▶ Lightweight
- ▶ Easy put on and taken off
- ▶ Durable
- ▶ Economical
- ▶ Low profile

# Engineering Requirements

- ▶ Given budget is \$4000.00
- ▶ Range of motion for foot should be at least  $45^\circ$  in either direction~standard range of motion when walking
- ▶ Weigh  $<1\text{kg}$  (ankle piece)
- ▶ Cannot extrude from the body more than 10cm
- ▶ Lifetime of 100,000 steps



# QFD

		Technical Requirements					Customer Opinion Survey				
		Decrease Weight	Increase Durability	Decrease Timing	Decrease Cost of Each Leg	Decrease Protrusion from Body	1 Poor	2	3 Acceptable	4	5 Excellent
1	Decrease Weight										
2	Increase Durability	-									
3	Decrease Timing		0	-							
4	Decrease Cost of Each Leg	+		-	+						
5	Decrease Protrusion From Body	++	0	0	0	0					
1	Lightweight	3	5	3	3	3	A				BC
2	Easy to take on and off	4	3	1	5	3		BC		A	
3	Durable	4	2	5	1	2			ABC		
4	Cost Effective	5	4	4	1	5					
5	Small in size, close to body	3	5	2	3	2	A	B		C	
Technical Requirement Units		kg	steps	min	dollars	cm					
Technical Requirement Targets		<1	100,000	<1	<2000	<10					
Absolute Technical Importance		19	15	13	15	13					
Relative Technical Importance		1	2	3	2	3					

A	Technaid Eobotic Ankle H3
B	Rewalk Restore Soft robotic Exos
C	Untelthered Robotic Ankle Exos

Figure 4: House of Quality for Robotic Exoskeleton



# Literature Review of Biomechanics of the foot

- ▶ Dynamics HIBBELER, R. C. (2015). *Engineering mechanics: Dynamics*. PRENTICE HALL.
- ▶ Uchida, Thomas K. *Biomechanics of Movement: The Science of Sports, Robotics, and Rehabilitation*. MIT Press, 2021.
- ▶ Brockett, Claire L, and Graham J Chapman. "Biomechanics of the ankle." *Orthopaedics and trauma* vol. 30,3 (2016): 232-238. doi:10.1016/j.mporth.2016.04.015 ( Muscles involved with foot movement)
- ▶ Chan, Carl W, and Andrew Rudins. "Foot Biomechanics During Walking and Running." *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, 5th ed., vol. 69, 1994, pp. 448–461. (Foot mechanics when walking)
- ▶ Kharb, Ashutosh, et al. *A REVIEW OF GAIT CYCLE AND ITS PARAMETERS* , vol. 13, July 2011,
- ▶ "What Is Cerebral Palsy?" *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2 May 2022, [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/cp/facts.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/cp/facts.html).
- ▶ Jung, Taeyou, et al. "Biomechanical and Perceived Differences between Overground and Treadmill Walking in Children with Cerebral Palsy." *Gait & Posture*, 2016, pp. 1–6.

# Literature Review of Gear System

- ▶ BDYNAS. (2020). *SHIGLEY'S MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DESIGN, 11<sup>TH</sup> EDITION, SI UNITS* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). MCGRAW-HILL EDUCATION (AS.
- ▶ Cammit, Joel (2013). *Exploring Robotics*, <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=http://www.sci.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~kammet/syllabus-spr13.pdf&ved=2ahUKEwjb3pe3x7WBAx>
- ▶ “Gear Train: Gear Ratios, Torque, and Speed Calculations”. <https://www.smlease.com/entries/mechanism/gear-train-gear-ratio-torque-and-speed-calculation/>
- ▶ Groover, M. P. (2021). *Fundamentals of modern manufacturing: materials, processes, and systems*. Wiley.
- ▶ Lerner, Zachary (2022). Usability and performance validation of an ultra-lightweight and versatile untethered robotic ankle exoskeleton. Northern Arizona University. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12984-021-00954-9>.
- ▶ Lewsley, Fred (2013). *Functioning 'mechanical gears' seen in nature for the first time*. University of Cambridge. <https://www.cam.ac.uk/research/news/functioning-mechanical-gears-seen-in-nature-for-the-first-time>

# Literature for Materials of Exoskeleton

- ▶ [1] A. I. Alateyah et al., “Design optimization of a 4-bar exoskeleton with natural trajectories using unique gait-based synthesis approach,” De Gruyter, <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/eng-2022-0405/html?lang=en> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
  - ▶ Provides more information on exoskeletons and different materials to build the devices out of.
- ▶ [2] X. Wang, S. Guo, B. Qu, M. Song, and H. Qu, “Design of a Passive Gait-based Ankle-foot Exoskeleton with Self-adaptive Capability - Chinese Journal of Mechanical Engineering,” SpringerOpen, <https://cjme.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s10033-020-00465-z> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
  - ▶ Has a good schematic on how a motor assembly has worked for published designs.
- ▶ [3] Orekhov, Greg & Fang, Ying & Cuddeback, Chance & Lerner, Zachary. (2021). Usability and performance validation of an ultra-lightweight and versatile untethered robotic ankle exoskeleton. *Journal of NeuroEngineering and Rehabilitation*. 18. 10.1186/s12984-021-00954-9.
  - ▶ This publication is a previous one from Dr. Lerner, provided a schematic of the motor assembly the client has used in the past and materials used.
- ▶ [14] T. Philpot and J. S. Thomas, *Mechanics of Materials: An Integrated Learning System*. Etats Units d'Amèrica: Wiley, 2020.
  - ▶ Used to learn about different material properties
- ▶ [15] W. D. Callister and D. G. Rethwisch, *Materials Science and Engineering: An Introduction*. Milton, QLD: John Wiley and Sons Australia, Ltd, 2021.
  - ▶ Used for equations to calculate the thickness needed
- ▶ Online sources used for material properties can be found on slide 23

# Calculating Torque of Achilles Tendon

► Using this equation

$$-W*d1\cos(\theta)+F_a*d2\cos(\theta_2)=0$$

$$W = \text{Weight} / 2$$

D1 = Distance from the Balls of feet to the Tibia

F<sub>a</sub> = Force of Achilles

D2 = Distance from tibia to Achilles

θ = angle of elevation of the heel

θ<sub>2</sub> = Angle of Achilles in relation to tibia

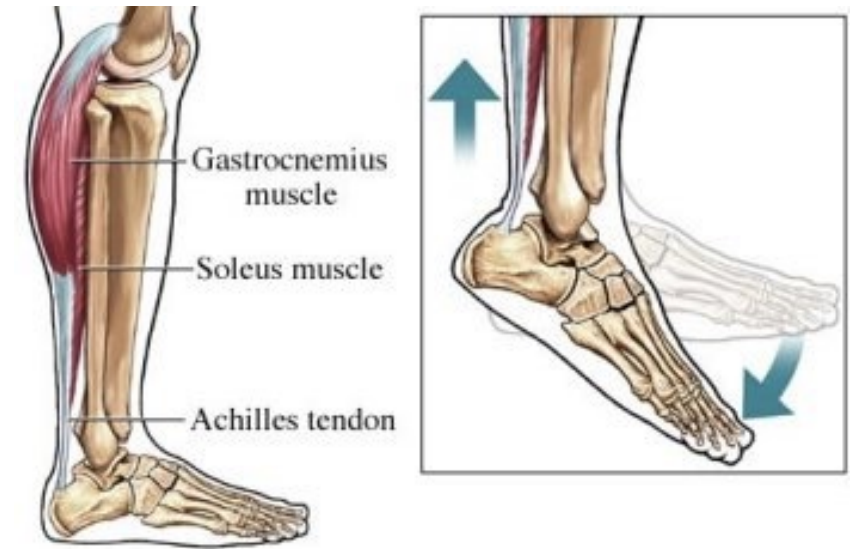


Figure 5: Diagram of how the Achilles Tendon functions

# Free Body Diagram

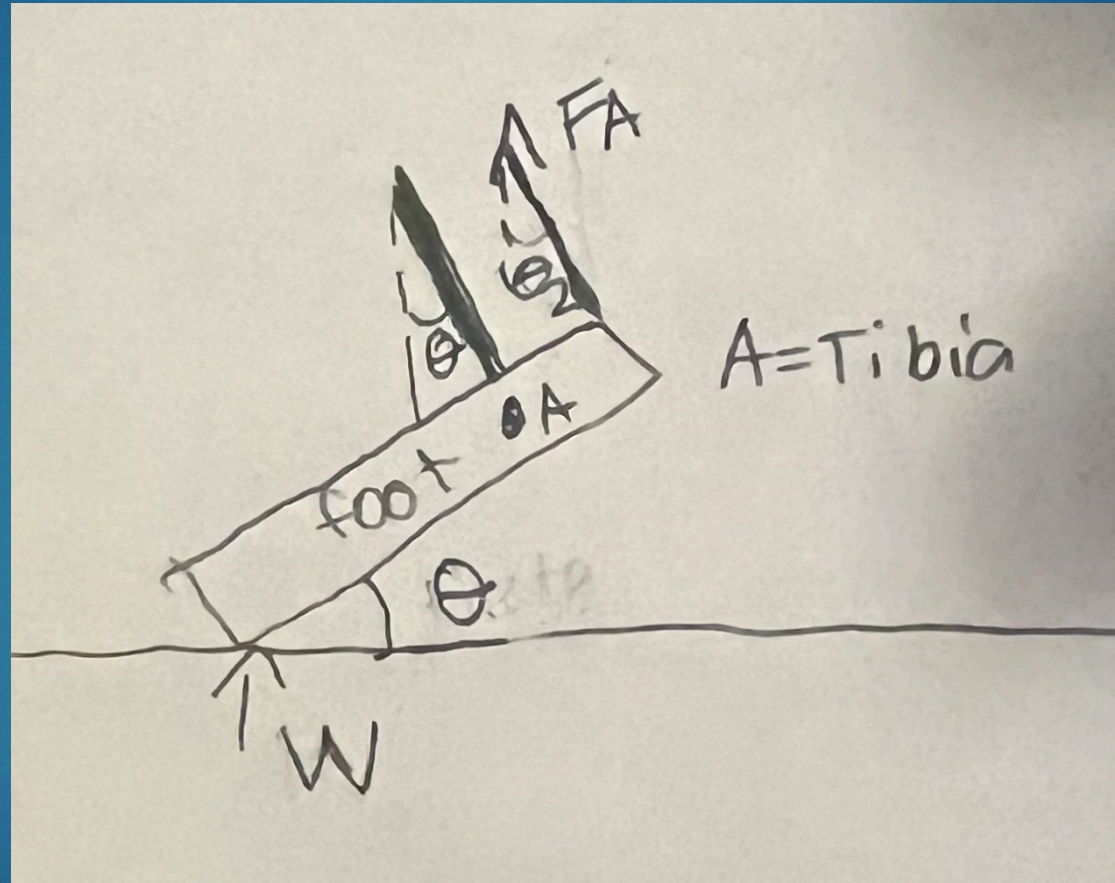


Figure 6: Free body diagram of Torque analysis

# Results

- ▶ Assuming average Foot size and mass of 14-year-old male and a distance of 6 cm between tibia and Achillies
- ▶ Max torque of 47.3 NM

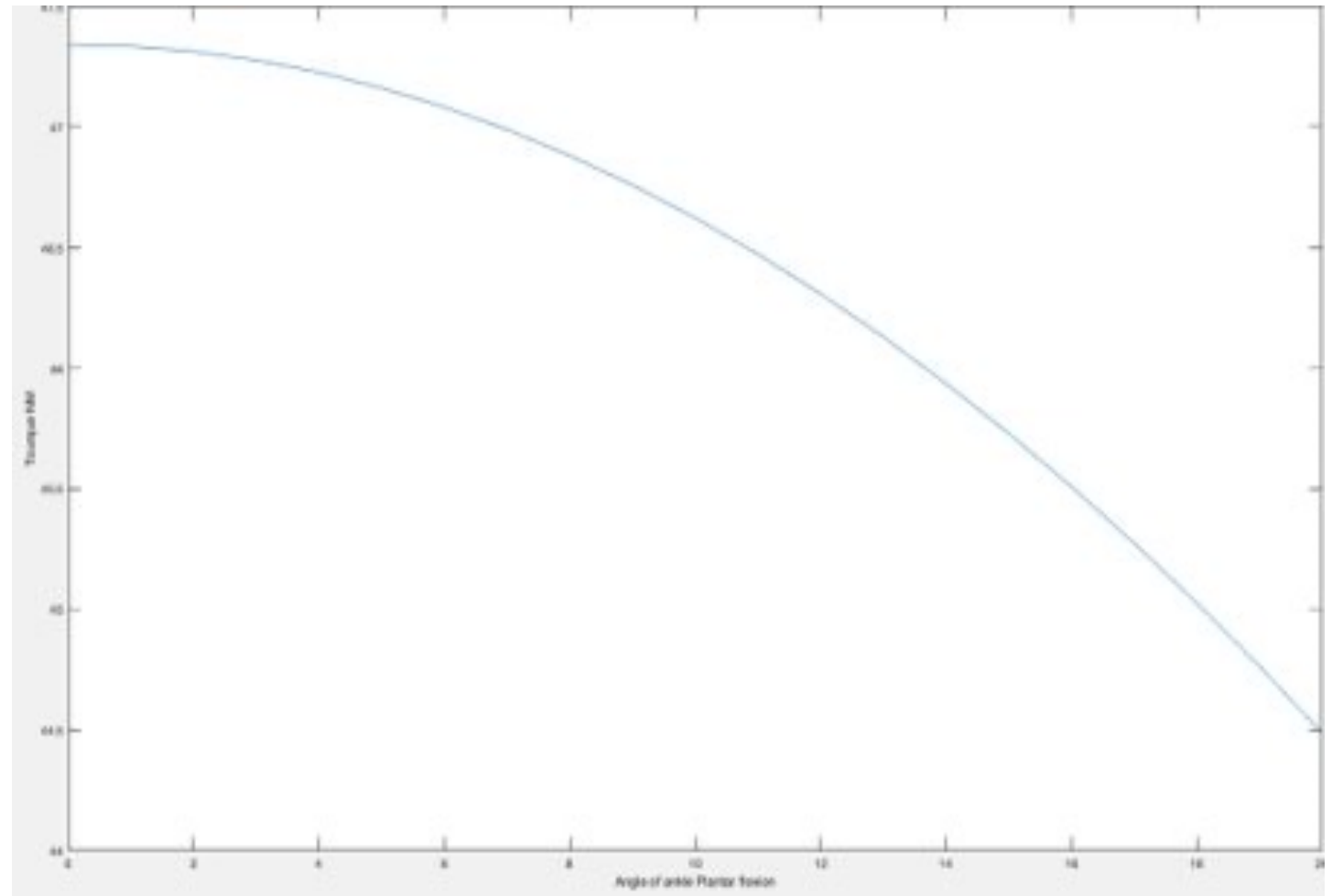
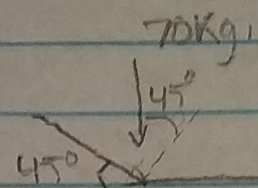


Figure 7: Graph of results of torque and tension

# Designing Gear System

Assumptions:

- Person weighs ~ 70Kg
- Weight concentration is @  $l \approx 2/3$  Foot
- Average Foot is 25cm



$r_1 = 25 \times \frac{2}{3} = 16.67 \text{ cm}$

$70 \cos 45 = 49.5 \text{ Kg}$

$T_{\text{ankle}} = F \times d = 9.81(49.5) \times 0.166 = 80.6 \text{ Nm}$

In order to produce more torque from motor, a gear system is needed

Figure 8: Written work from gear system analysis part 1



# Designing Gear System

gear system analysis

24  
1  
hip

48  
24  
2 3  
knee

60  
36  
4  
ankle

Doctor Lerner's previous group had a motor that could produce 30 Nm of torque

Studying the leg from the bottom up

$$\text{Gear ratio} = \frac{\text{driven}}{\text{driver}} \Rightarrow \frac{48}{24} * \frac{60}{36} = 3.\bar{3}$$
$$\tau_{\text{ankle}} = \text{Gear train ratio} * \tau_{\text{hip}}$$
$$3.\bar{3} * 30 = 100 \text{ Nm } \checkmark$$

Figure 9: Written work from gear system analysis part 2

# Possible Materials for Exoskeleton

- ▶ Suggested Materials from the Degruyter publication [1]
  - ▶ Aluminum 6061-T6
    - ▶ Hardness, Vickers: 107, Ultimate Tensile Strength: 310 MPa, Yield Tensile Strength: 276 MPa [3], about \$4.67-\$252.94 (depending on thickness) [7], density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>): 2700 [11]
  - ▶ Steel Low Carbon
    - ▶ Hardness, Vickers: 131, Ultimate Tensile Strength: 440 MPa, Yield Tensile Strength: 370 MPa [4], about \$0.55 per kg [8], density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>): 7850 [12]
  - ▶ Steel 4140
    - ▶ Hardness, Vickers: 207, Tensile Strength: 655 MPa, Yield Strength: 415 MPa [5], about \$0.55 per kg [9], density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>): 7833 [13]
  - ▶ Titanium Grade 5
    - ▶ Hardness, Vickers: 349, Ultimate Tensile Strength: 950 MPa, Yield Tensile Strength: 880 MPa [6], about \$50 per kg [10], density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>): 4540 [14]
- ▶ Dr. Lerner will provide a carbon fiber footplate and the calf cuff
- ▶ Carbon fiber and Aluminum

# Possible Materials for Exoskeleton

- ▶ Dr. Lerner will provide a carbon fiber footplate
- ▶ Calculate the needed thickness of the footplate

$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A}$$

- ▶  $F =$  force exerted by user
- ▶  $A =$  to the surface area of the foot
- ▶  $\sigma =$  normal stress

$$t = \sigma \frac{L}{S}$$

- ▶  $L =$  length of footplate
- ▶  $S =$  allowable stress of material

- ▶ Assuming the user is an average 14-year-old male
  - ▶ Mass: 60 kg
  - ▶ Foot length: 24.45 cm
  - ▶ Foot width: 9.65 cm
  - ▶  $S = 3.5$  GPA or  $3.5 \cdot 10^9$  Pa

$$F = mg\mu \rightarrow F = (60\text{kg})(0.5) \left(9.81 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right) \rightarrow$$
$$F = 294 \text{ N}$$
$$\mu = 0.5$$

(friction coefficient of shoe against ground)

$$t = 8.7 * 10^{-4} \text{ mm}$$

# Schedule

Project Item	Due Date	Days Left	Completion Status
Timecard Wk1	9/4/23 11:59 PM	-16	Completed
Staff Meeting #1	9/8/23 5:30 PM	-12	Completed
Timecard Wk2	9/11/23 11:59 PM	-9	Completed
Client Meeting #1	9/14/23 4:00-4:30 PM	-6	Completed
Staff Meeting #2	9/15/23 5:30 PM	-5	Completed
Timecard Wk3	9/18/23 11:59 PM	-2	Completed
Presentation 1	9/19/23 5:30 PM	-1	In Progress
Project Description			
Background & Benchmarking			
Customer and Engineering Requirements			
Research within Your Design Space- A Literature Review			
Research within Your Design Space- Mathematical Modelling			
Schedule & Budget			
Timecard Wk4	9/25/23 11:59 PM	5	
Client Meeting #2	9/26/23 3:45-4:00 PM	6	
Staff Meeting #3	9/29/23 5:30 PM	9	
Timecard Wk5	10/2/23 11:59 PM	12	
Staff Meeting #4	10/6/23 5:30 PM	16	
Timecard Wk6	10/9/23 11:59 PM	19	
Presentation 2	10/10/23 5:30 PM	20	
Project Description			

Figure 10: Small Portion of teams current schedule

# Budget

- ▶ Total Budget: \$4,000
- ▶ Each Leg must be <\$2,000
- ▶ Based off previous designs put out by Dr. Lerner, we might need materials below, per leg
  - ▶ Torque Transducer
  - ▶ Pully System
  - ▶ Transmission Crimping site
  - ▶ Thrust Ball bearings x2
  - ▶ Shoulder Belt
  - ▶ Steel bolts x4
  - ▶ Pully Bridge



# Thank You

Any Questions?

# References

- ▶ [3] ASM Material Data Sheet, <https://asm.matweb.com/search/SpecificMaterial.asp?bassnum=ma6061t6> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [4] F. S. S. Instruments et al., "AISI 1018 Mild/Low Carbon Steel," AZoM.com, <https://www.azom.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=6115> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [5] F. S. S. Instruments et al., "AISI 4140 Alloy Steel (UNS G41400)," AZoM.com, <https://www.azom.com/article.aspx?ArticleID=6769> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [6] ASM Material Data Sheet, <https://asm.matweb.com/search/SpecificMaterial.asp?bassnum=mtp641> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [7] "Aluminum Sheet/Plate 6061 T6/T651," Aluminum Sheet 6061 T6/T651 | Online Metals, <https://www.onlinemetals.com/en/buy/aluminum-sheet-plate-6061-t6-t651> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [8] "What is Price of Low-carbon Steel - Definition," Material Properties, <https://material-properties.org/what-is-price-of-low-carbon-steel-definition/> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [9] "ASTM Steel A36 Steel Plate 50mm Thick A36 S235 S355 Steel Plate Price Per Kg," Astm Steel A36 Steel Plate 50mm Thick A36 S235 S355 Steel Plate Price Per Kg - Buy Astm Steel, Hot Rolled Carbon Steel Plate, Astm A36 Steel Plate Product on Alibaba.com, [https://www.alibaba.com/product-detail/ASTM-Steel-A36-Steel-Plate-50mm\\_1600329933029.html?spm=a2700.7724857.0.0.2edb28558RMN1z](https://www.alibaba.com/product-detail/ASTM-Steel-A36-Steel-Plate-50mm_1600329933029.html?spm=a2700.7724857.0.0.2edb28558RMN1z) (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [10] "Titanium 6Al-4V Grade 5, UNS R56400 Titanium Grade 5 Product Supplier," Titanium Grade 5 Ti-6Al-4V Supplier, Titanium Gr.5 Price Per Kg in India, <https://www.fastwell.in/titanium-grade-5.html> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [11] World Material, "Weight & Density of Aluminum 6061 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, lbs/in<sup>3</sup>, kg/m<sup>3</sup>, g/ml, lb/ft<sup>3</sup>, g/mm<sup>3</sup>, Cubic Inch," World Material, <https://www.theworldmaterial.com/weight-density-of-aluminum/> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [12] "Density of steel," Home, <https://www.pipingmaterial.ae/blog/density-of-steel/#:~:text=Density%20of%20carbon%20steel%20and,%2C%20at%207%2C860%20kg%2Fm3>. (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [13] "4140 Product Guide," alloy-steel 4140 Product Guide from Online Metals, <https://www.onlinemetals.com/en/product-guide/alloy/4140> (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).
- ▶ [14] Properties of Titanium - Roy Mech, [https://roytech.org/Useful\\_Tables/Matter/Titanium.html#:~:text=Titanium%20is%20a%20light%20metal,than%20iron%20at1560oC](https://roytech.org/Useful_Tables/Matter/Titanium.html#:~:text=Titanium%20is%20a%20light%20metal,than%20iron%20at1560oC). (accessed Sep. 19, 2023).