

# AMRUTH PARAKKUNNATH

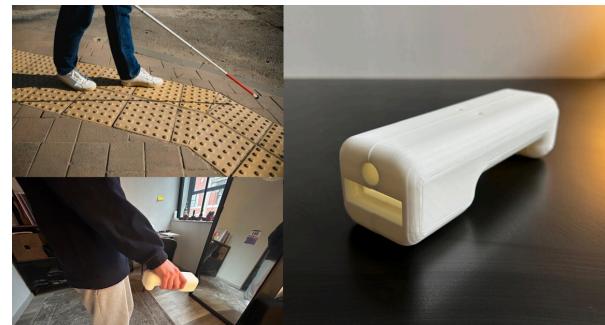
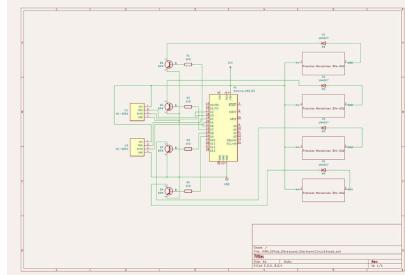
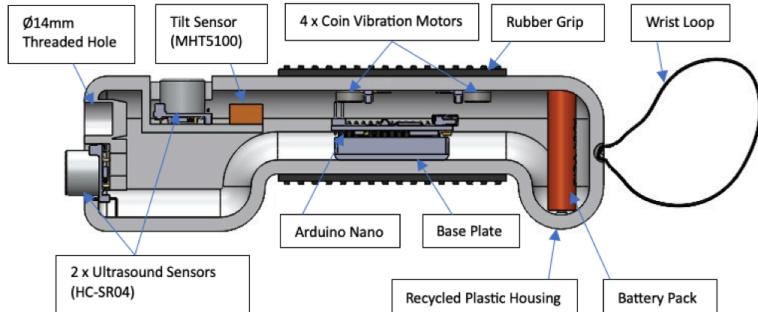
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

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## VIMA - VISUAL IMPAIRMENT MOTION ASSISTANT



[click the VIMA logo to learn more](#)



### What?

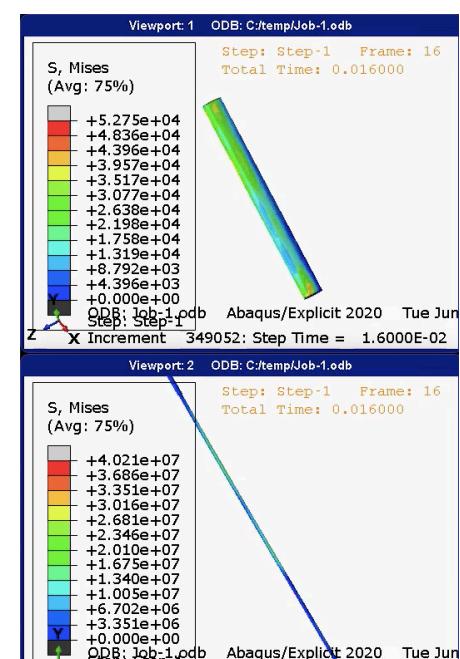
- VIMA is a detachable handle equipped with strategically positioned sensors and vibratory actuators, delivering real-time feedback to detect obstacles.
- It identifies overhanging objects and simulates the tactile sensations of a white cane.

### How?

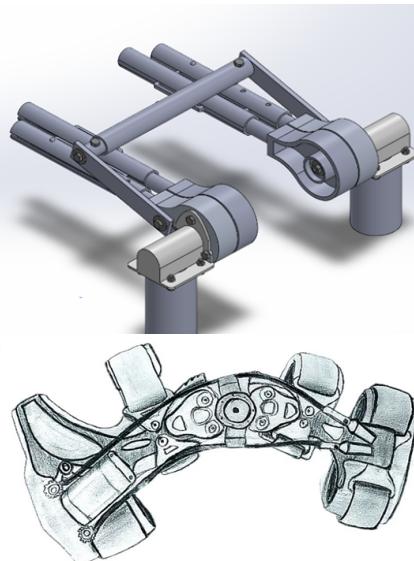
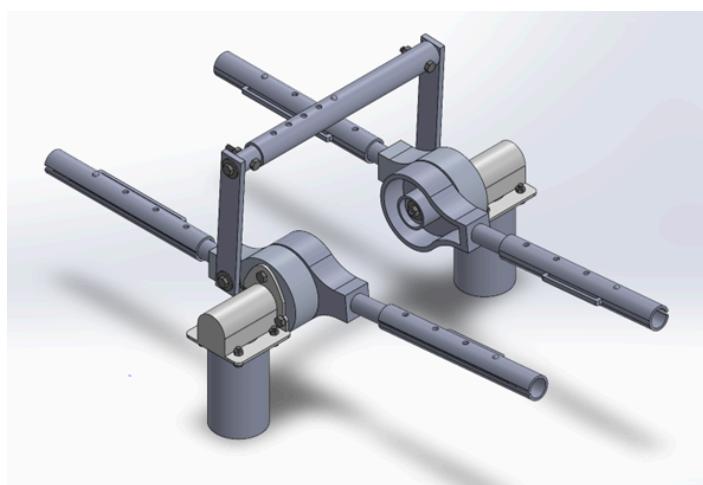
- Designed 3D CAD models and created detailed 2D engineering drawings for VIMA's enclosure using SolidWorks.
- Developed the electrical infrastructure with Arduino and multiple sensors.
- Utilised rapid prototyping techniques, including 3D printing, for fabrication.

### Results

- Outputted obstacle detection data and haptic feedback with a **95% similarity** to traditional white canes.
- Secured £3700 grant from Sister, Manchester's Innovation District



## YEAR 4 DESIGN PROJECT



### What?

- Designed a portable, home use knee Continuous Passive Motion device to support post operative rehabilitation by delivering controlled passive flexion and extension without active effort from the patient.
- Addressed the gap between bulky hospital CPM systems and low cost manual aids by prioritising portability, safety, adjustability, and clinically relevant motion control.
- Targeted independent use in domestic settings with a compact folding geometry, intuitive set up, and a user interface that allows range, speed, and session duration to be set and monitored.

### How?

- Converted customer and clinical needs into a quantified specification, defining a motion range of -10 to 120 degrees and speeds up to 220 degrees per minute.
- Developed a final design using a folding frame with telescopic aluminium poles and dual-motor actuation to ensure portability and stability.
- Performed torque sizing for a 27.1 Nm worst-case load and conducted structural checks on the telescopic components to justify engineering decisions.
- Defined the control architecture using an Arduino-based interface with real-time angle monitoring and layered safety controls including emergency stop, limit switches, and software limits.

### Results

- Outputted a portable, foldable design suitable for independent home use without clinical supervision
- Verified structural integrity of telescopic poles through FEA checks.
- Delivered a fully costed bill of materials, maintaining affordability compared to hospital-grade systems.

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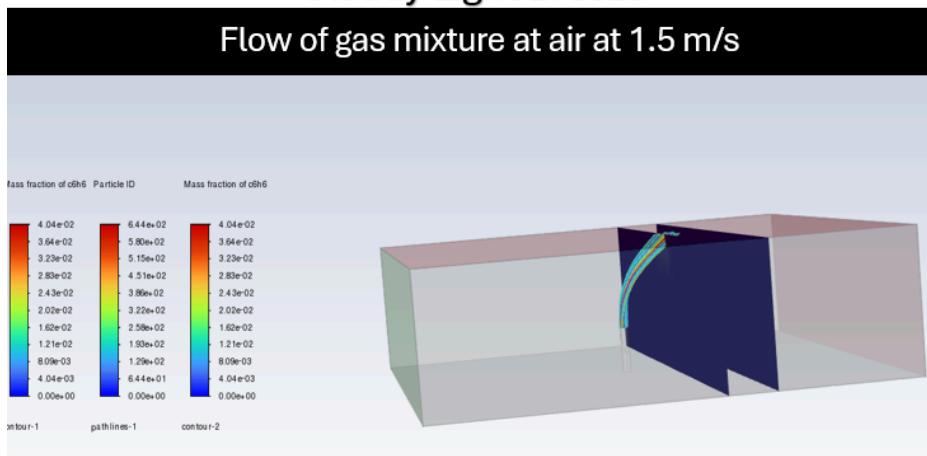
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## TANK MIXTURE DISPERSION CFD



### Steady Light Breeze

Flow of gas mixture at air at 1.5 m/s

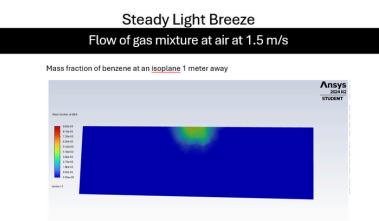
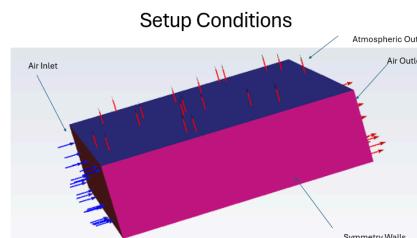


#### What?

- Estimate mass fraction benzene vented out at nearby distances
- Prevent risk of workers inhaling carcinogenic benzene vapour

#### How?

- Used Ansys Fluent Multiphase simulation.
- Post processed results using isoplanes to find mass fraction



#### Results

- It was found that since benzene was a lot lighter than air, unless directly above the pipe, it is very unlikely for someone to inhale, as it is effectively dispersed

## CII RATING DASHBOARD



### ATTAINED CIIship for 2023

### ATTAINED CIIship for 2024

### ATTAINED CIIship for 2025

### ATTAINED CIIship for 2026

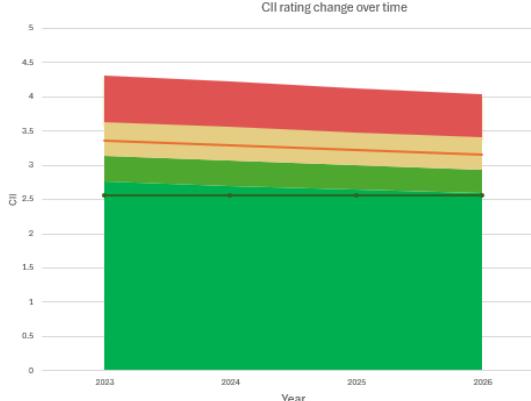
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#### CII rating change over time



These are the CII ratings vessel will achieve if it maintains current operations		
Year	CII Rating Achieved	
2023	2023	A
2024	2024	A
2025	2025	A
2026	2026	A

#### What?

- Excel-Based CII Calculator: A compact, on-device tool for calculating carbon intensity.
- Simplified & Independent: Removes the need for a complex network-based version.

#### How?

- Used IMO (International Maritime Organisation) documentation and formulas.
- Considering the factors for a wide range of vessel and fuel types

#### Results

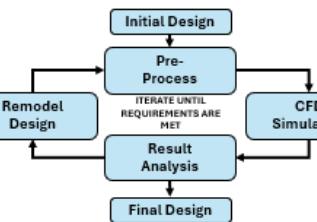
- Simplified work for all consultants
- Enhanced presentations to client and lead time to provide CII related services

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## SOLAR CAR FINAL YEAR PROJECT



Total  $C_D A$  of outer shell = 0.3928  $m^2$   
 $C_D$  = Drag coefficient  
 $A$  = Frontal area normal to the flow  
Drag force  $\propto C_D A$

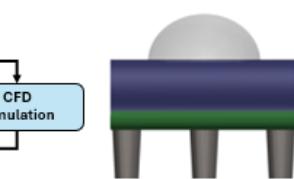
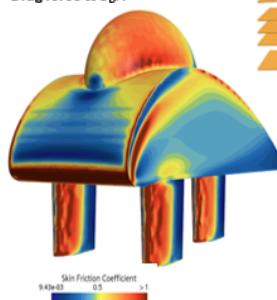


Fig 4: 3-wheel outer shell design chosen for analysis is based on a NACA 6412 aerofoil, with an ellipsoidal canopy for the cockpit and 3 wheel-fairings.

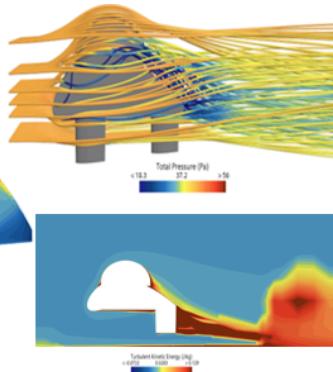
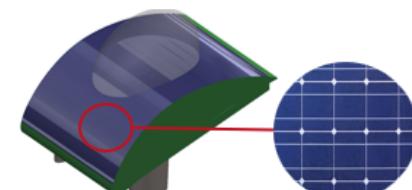
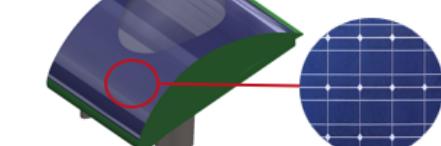


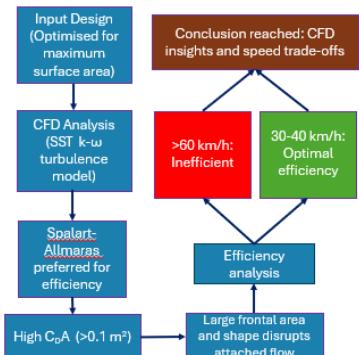
Fig 5: Flow features obtained by a CFD analysis.



Sun



Sun



### What?

- I designed a solar car outer shell to minimize drag and maximize solar panel area.
- I developed a concept to enhance the vehicle's overall energy efficiency.

### How?

- I conducted CFD simulations using SST k- $\omega$  and Spalart-Allmaras turbulence models.
- I integrated a Python model to evaluate efficiency by factoring in rolling resistance, solar power data, and benchmark comparisons.

### Results

- I achieved improved aerodynamic efficiency at optimal speeds (30–40 km/h).
- I demonstrated higher energy performance, with further wind tunnel testing planned.

## YEAR 3 DESIGN CHALLENGE

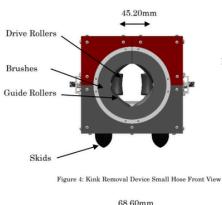


Figure 4: Kink Removal Device Small Hose Front View

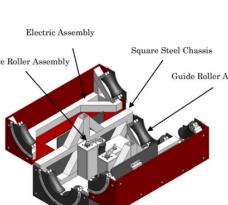


Figure 5: Kink Removal Device Open Position Isometric

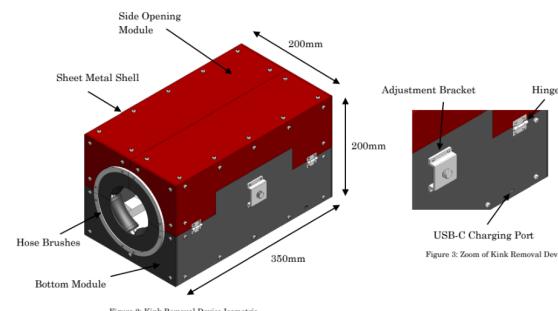
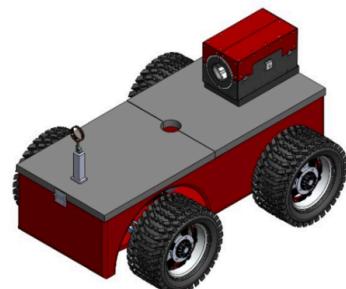


Figure 6: Kink Removal Device Isometric



### What?

- Designed a two-part firefighting device that integrates a kink removal system with a hose advancer.
- Project aimed to optimize hose management, improving both efficiency and safety during fire suppression.

### How?

- Used a rigorous selection matrix and iterative design modifications to refine our concepts.
- Modular system features mechanical components such as guide and drive rollers, a hinge mechanism, and a rack-and-pinion steering system.

### Results

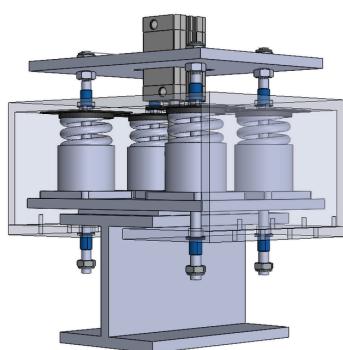
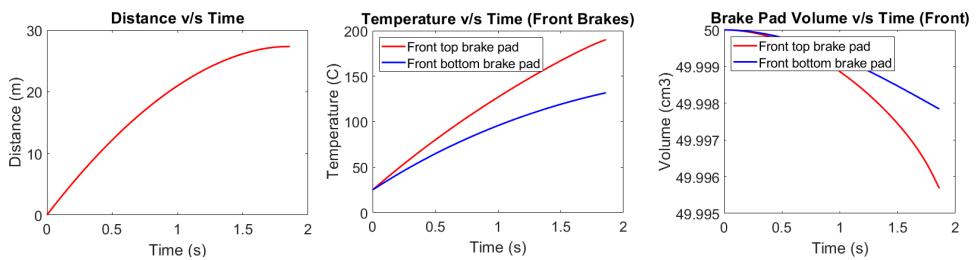
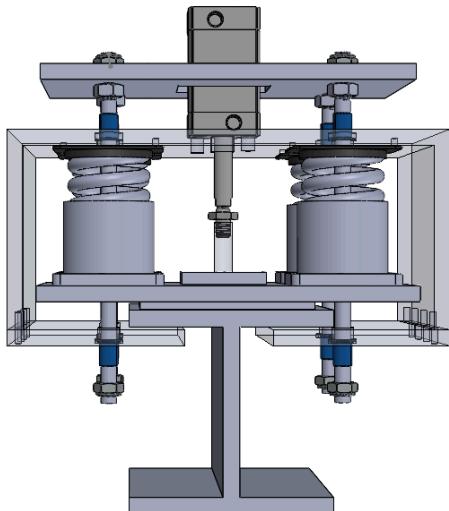
- The final design delivers enhanced hose handling, reducing manual labor and boosting operational reliability.
- It meets sustainability goals by incorporating eco-friendly materials while significantly improving firefighter safety and efficiency.

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## HYPEROLOOP - HYPERLOOP MANCHESTER



### What?

- Designed Hyperloop Braking System
- Small scale demonstration model

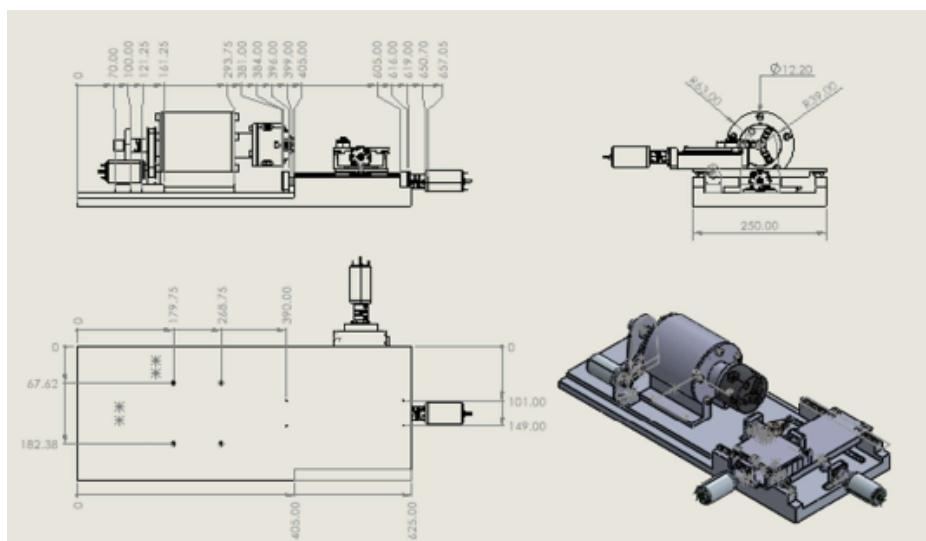
### How?

- Used **SolidWorks** to design braking system assembly
- Used **ANSYS** for FEA simulation of braking rods for deflection
- Conducted material research on brake pads and ran MATLAB models to assess their effects.

### Results

- Designed a highly efficient braking system capable of working with only 1 pneumatic actuator.
- Passed EHW safety regulations

## LATHE



### What?

- Designed a lathe with a 3 jaw chuck

### How?

- Used **SolidWorks** to design this due to the lathe's complex geometry and multiple components.
- Calculated cutting force, spindle bearing loads and deflection.
- Applied **GD&T** on all drawings

### Results

- Calculations confirmed the lathe's ability to handle cutting forces and spindle loads.
- GD&T application ensured precise manufacturing and assembly.