

# HOLOGRAM FRAGMENTS

@noahfeehan  
aka.farm

# HOLOGRAM FRAGMENTS

syncwalk.city || sourdough.city

sublime.cloud || hi-hi-hi.com



Who I am

Visual and Environmental Studies  
Hyperinstruments Group



Who I am

Visual and Environmental Studies  
Hyperinstruments Group

# Electrovibration

Dynamically change the perceived texture of a surface

Dynamically change the perceived texture of a surface (!!)

# Disney Research TeslaTouch

Olivier Bau, Ivan Poupyrev,  
Ali Israr, Chris Harrison

## TeslaTouch: Electrovibration for Touch Surfaces

Olivier Bau<sup>1,2</sup>, Ivan Poupyrev<sup>1</sup>, Ali Israr<sup>1</sup>, Chris Harrison<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Disney Research, Pittsburgh  
4615 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
{bau, ivan.poupyrev, israr}  
@disneyresearch.com

<sup>2</sup>InSituL, INRIA Saclay,  
Building 490,  
Université Paris-Sud,  
91405 Orsay, France

<sup>3</sup>Human-Computer Interaction Institute  
Carnegie Mellon University  
5000 Forbes Avenue,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
chris.harrison@cs.cmu.edu

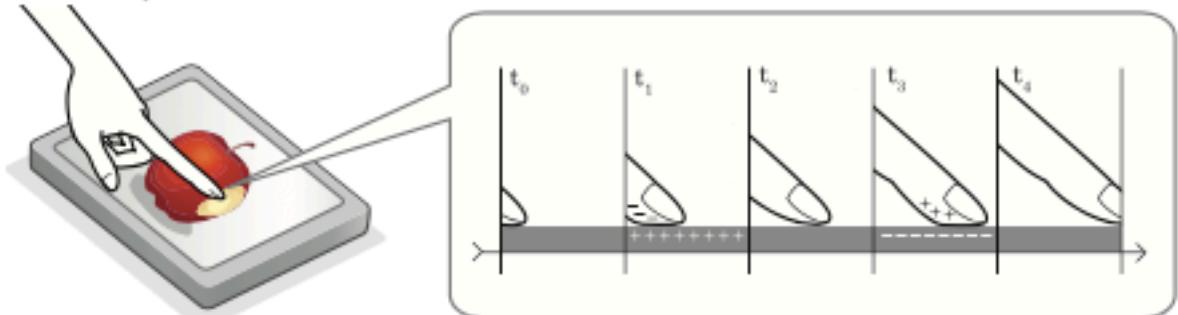


Figure 1: TeslaTouch uses electrovibration to control electrostatic friction between a touch surface and the user's finger.

### ABSTRACT

We present a new technology for enhancing touch interfaces with tactile feedback. The proposed technology is based on the electrovibration principle, does not use any moving parts and provides a wide range of tactile feedback sensations to fingers moving across a touch surface. When combined with an interactive display and touch input, it enables the design of a wide variety of interfaces that allow the user to feel virtual elements through touch. We present the principles of operation and an implementation of the technology. We also report the results of three controlled psychophysical experiments and a subjective user evaluation that describe and characterize users' perception of this technology. We conclude with an exploration of the design space of tactile touch screens using two comparable setups, one based on electrovibration and another on mechanical vibrotactile actuation.

**ACM Classification:** H5.2 [Information interfaces and presentation]: User Interfaces - Graphical user interfaces, Input devices and strategies, Haptic I/O.

**General terms:** Design, Measurement, Human Factors.

**Keywords:** Tactile feedback, touch screens, multitouch.

### INTRODUCTION

Interest in designing and investigating haptic interfaces for touch-based interactive systems has been rapidly growing. This interest is partially fueled by the popularity of touch-based interfaces, both in research and end-user communities. Despite their popularity, a major problem with touch interfaces is the lack of dynamic tactile feedback. Indeed, as observed by Buxton as early as 1985 [6], a lack of haptic feedback 1) decreases the realism of visual environments, 2) breaks the metaphor of direct interaction, and 3) reduces interface efficiency, because the user can not rely on familiar haptic cues for accomplishing even the most basic interaction tasks.

Most previous work on designing tactile interfaces for interactive touch surfaces falls into two categories. First, the touch surface itself can be actuated with various electromechanical actuators such as piezoelectric bending motors, voice coils, and solenoids [10, 27]. The actuation can be designed to create surface motion either in the normal [27] or lateral directions [4]. Second, the tools used to interact with a surface, such as pens, can be enhanced with mechanical actuation [9, 19].

In this paper, we present an alternative approach for creating tactile interfaces for touch surfaces that does not use any form of mechanical actuation. Instead, the proposed technique exploits the principle of *electrovibration*, which allows us to create a broad range of tactile sensations by controlling *electrostatic friction* between an instrumented touch surface and the user's fingers. When combined with an input-capable interactive display, it enables a wide variety of interactions augmented with tactile feedback.

Tactile feedback based on electrovibration has several compelling properties. It is fast, low-powered, dynamic, and can

Permission to make digital or hard copies of all or part of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page. To copy otherwise, or republish, to post on servers or to redistribute to lists, requires prior specific permission and/or a fee.

*UIST '10, October 3–6, 2010, New York, New York, USA.  
Copyright 2010 ACM 978-1-4503-0271-5/10/10...\$10.00.*

# Disney Research

## REVEL

### Olivier Bau, Ivan Poupyrev

## REVEL: Tactile Feedback Technology for Augmented Reality

Olivier Bau<sup>\*</sup>  
Disney Research, Pittsburgh

Ivan Poupyrev<sup>†</sup>  
Disney Research, Pittsburgh

### Abstract

REVEL is an augmented reality (AR) tactile technology that allows for change to the tactile feeling of real objects by augmenting them with virtual tactile textures using a device worn by the user. Unlike previous attempts to enhance AR environments with haptics, we neither physically actuate objects or use any force- or tactile-feedback devices, nor require users to wear tactile gloves or other apparatus on their hands. Instead, we employ the principle of *reverse electrovibration* where we inject a weak electrical signal anywhere on the user body creating an oscillating electrical field around the user's fingers. As the user then slides his or her fingers on a surface of the object, the user perceives highly distinctive tactile textures augmenting the physical object. By tracking the objects and location of the touch, we associate dynamic tactile sensations to the interaction context. REVEL is built upon our previous work on designing electrovibration-based tactile feedback for touch surfaces [Bau, et al. 2010]. In this paper we expand tactile interfaces based on electrovibration beyond touch surfaces and bring them into the real world. We demonstrate a broad range of application scenarios where our technology can be used to enhance AR interaction with dynamic and unobtrusive tactile feedback.

**CR Categories:** H5.2 [Information interfaces and presentation]; User Interfaces - Graphical user interfaces, Input devices and strategies, Haptic I/O.

**Keywords:** augmented reality, haptics, tactile displays, tangible interfaces, augmented surfaces, touch interaction.

Links: DL PDF

### 1. Introduction

Augmented Reality has recently emerged as one of the key application areas of interactive computer graphics and is rapidly expanding from research laboratories into everyday use. The fundamental premise of AR is to enable us to interact with virtual objects immediately and directly, seeing, feeling and manipulating them just as we do with physical objects. Most AR applications, however, provide only visual augmentation of the real world and do not provide the means to let the user *feel* tactile, physical properties of virtual objects or to enhance the physical world with computer-generated tactile textures. The absence of tactile feed-

back does not allow us to take advantage of the powerful mechanisms of the human sense of touch and diminishes the quality of the experience.

REVEL is an augmented reality (AR) tactile technology that allows us to change the tactile feeling of real world objects by augmenting them with virtual tactile textures (Figure 1). It is based on the principle of *reverse electrovibration* where a weak electrical signal is injected anywhere on the user's body, creating an oscillating electrical field around the user's fingers. As the user then slides his or her fingers on a surface of the object, the user perceives highly distinctive tactile textures overlying the physical object. By tracking touch locations, tactile textures can be dynamically modified in real time and enhanced with visual augmentation if required. The user's hands remain free and unencumbered, so that users can continue their natural interaction with the world around them, unconstrained by tactile feedback technology. In a broad sense we are programmatically controlling the user's tactile perception.

REVEL advances our previous research on electrovibration-based tactile displays for touch surfaces, i.e., TeslaTouch [Bau, Poupyrev, et al. 2010]. In TeslaTouch the electrical signal was injected into the surface electrode of the touch screens, the classic technique to design tactile displays based on electrovibration, e.g., devices for the blind proposed in the early 70s [Strong, 1970]. In all these displays, including TeslaTouch, the tactile sensation is localized within a specific device augmented with tactile feedback, which is not scalable. Indeed, to add virtual tactile sensations to more objects or devices, all of them must be instrumented with tactile feedback apparatus. REVEL produces the same tactile effect, but reverses this dependency on individual object instrumentation. It instead injects tactile signals directly into the user's body, so that the user becomes the carrier of the tactile signal at all times. The world and objects remain passive, requiring no instrumentation with additional technology. Therefore, this technology potentially allows for the creation of truly ubiquitous tactile interfaces that can be used anywhere and anytime.



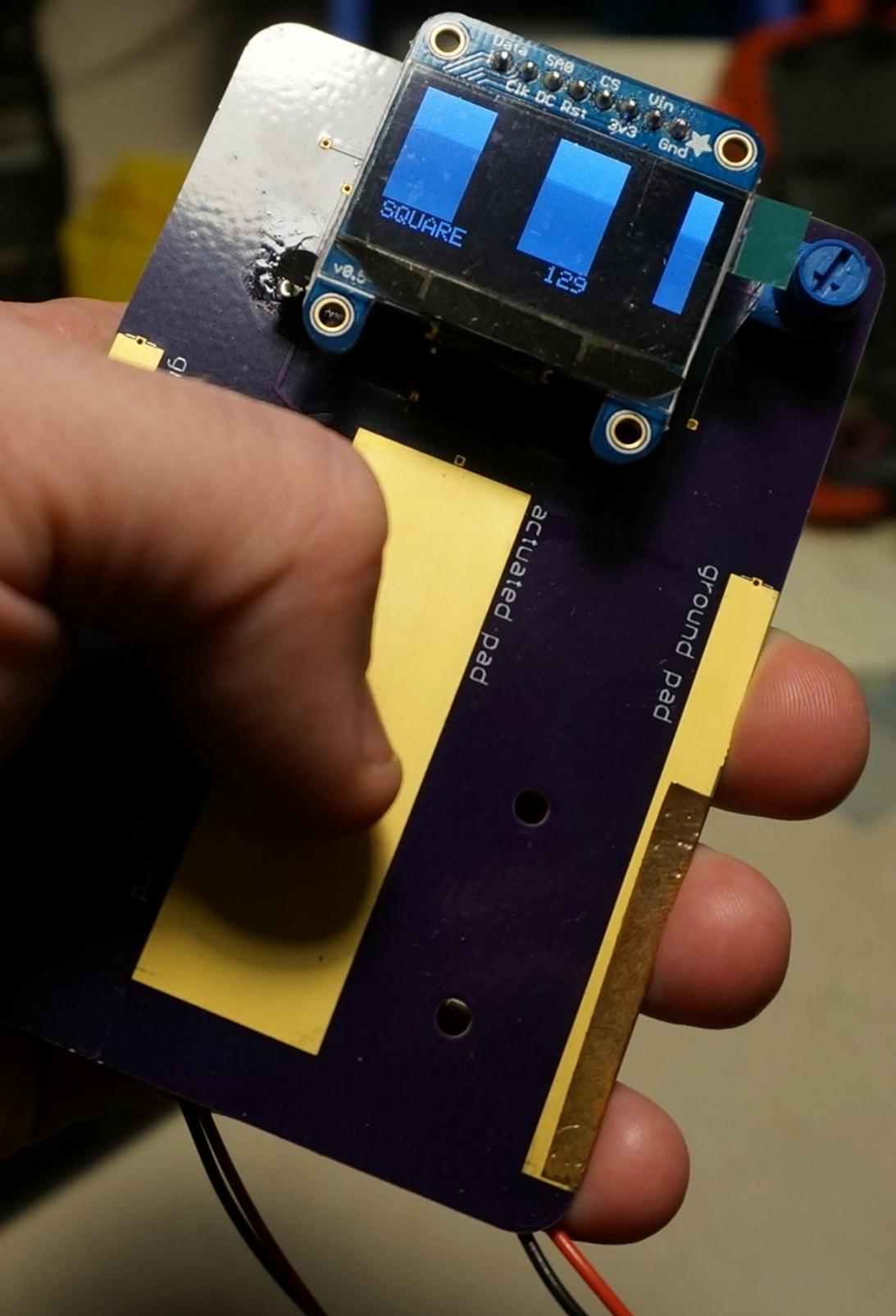
Figure 1: The user feels virtual tactile textures on a real object while observing them on a AR display. Note, that the object is not instrumented with any tactile actuation apparatus.

<sup>\*</sup>bau@disneyresearch.com  
<sup>†</sup>ivan.poupyrev@disneyresearch.com

ACM Reference Format  
Bau, O., Poupyrev, I. 2012. REVEL: Tactile Feedback Technology for Augmented Reality. ACM Trans. Graph. 31, 4, Article 89 (July 2012), 11 pages. DOI = 10.1145/2185520.2185585  
<http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2185520.2185585>

Copyright Notice  
Permission to make digital or hard copies of part or all of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distributed for profit or direct commercial advantage and that copies show this notice on the first page or initial screen of a display along with the full citation. Copying for components of this work owned by others than ACM must be honored. Abstracting with credit is permitted. To copy otherwise, to republish, to post on servers, to redistribute to lists, or to use any component of this work in other works requires prior specific permission and/or a fee. Permissions may be requested from Publications Dept., ACM, Inc., 2 Penn Plaza, Suite 701, New York, NY 10121-0701, fax +1 (212) 635-0481, or permissions@acm.org.  
© 2012 ACM 0730-0301/02/0700-015.00 DOI 10.1145/2185520.2185585  
<http://doi.acm.org/10.1145/2185520.2185585>

LEVER - nylabs



How does it work?

# How does it work?

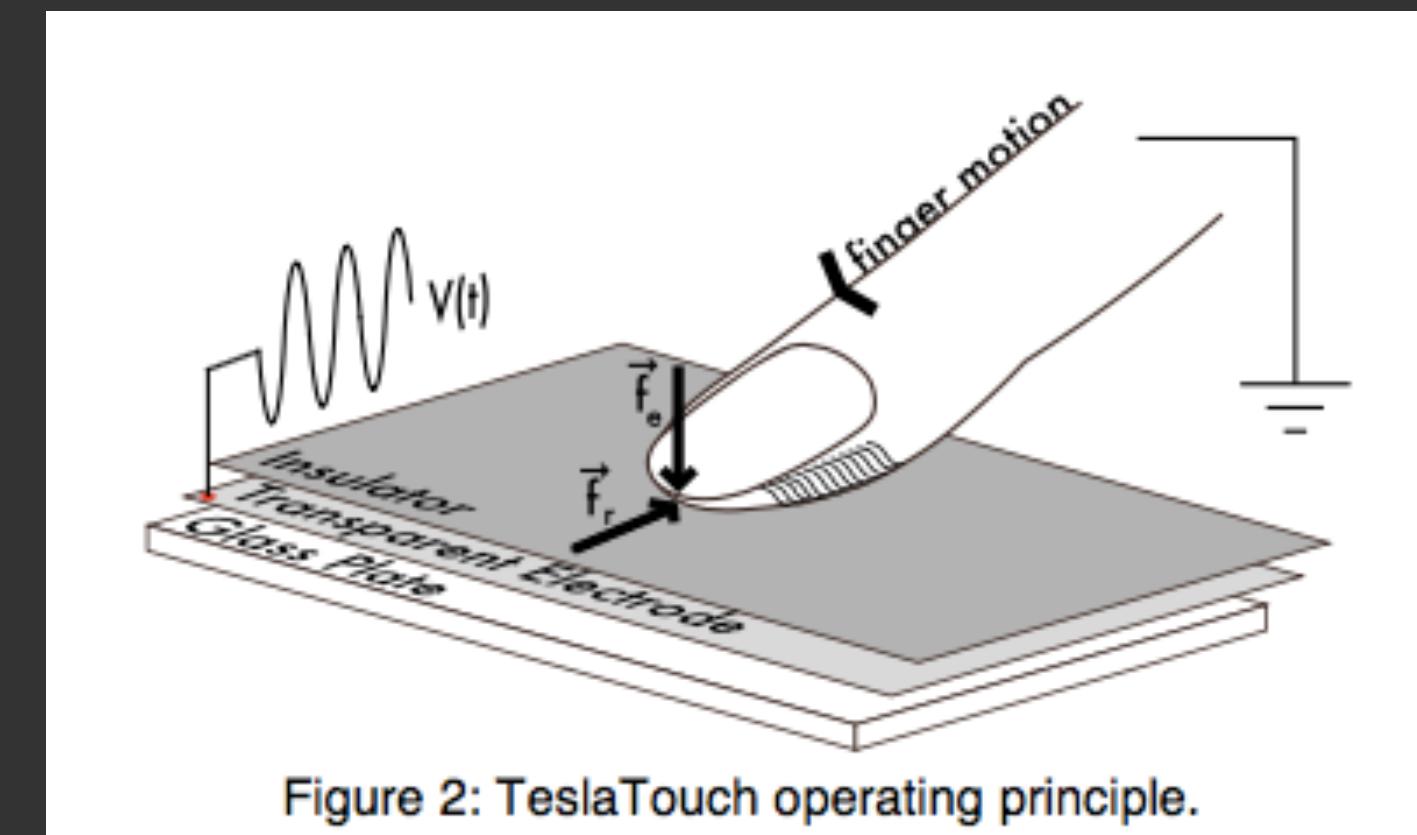


Figure 2: TeslaTouch operating principle.

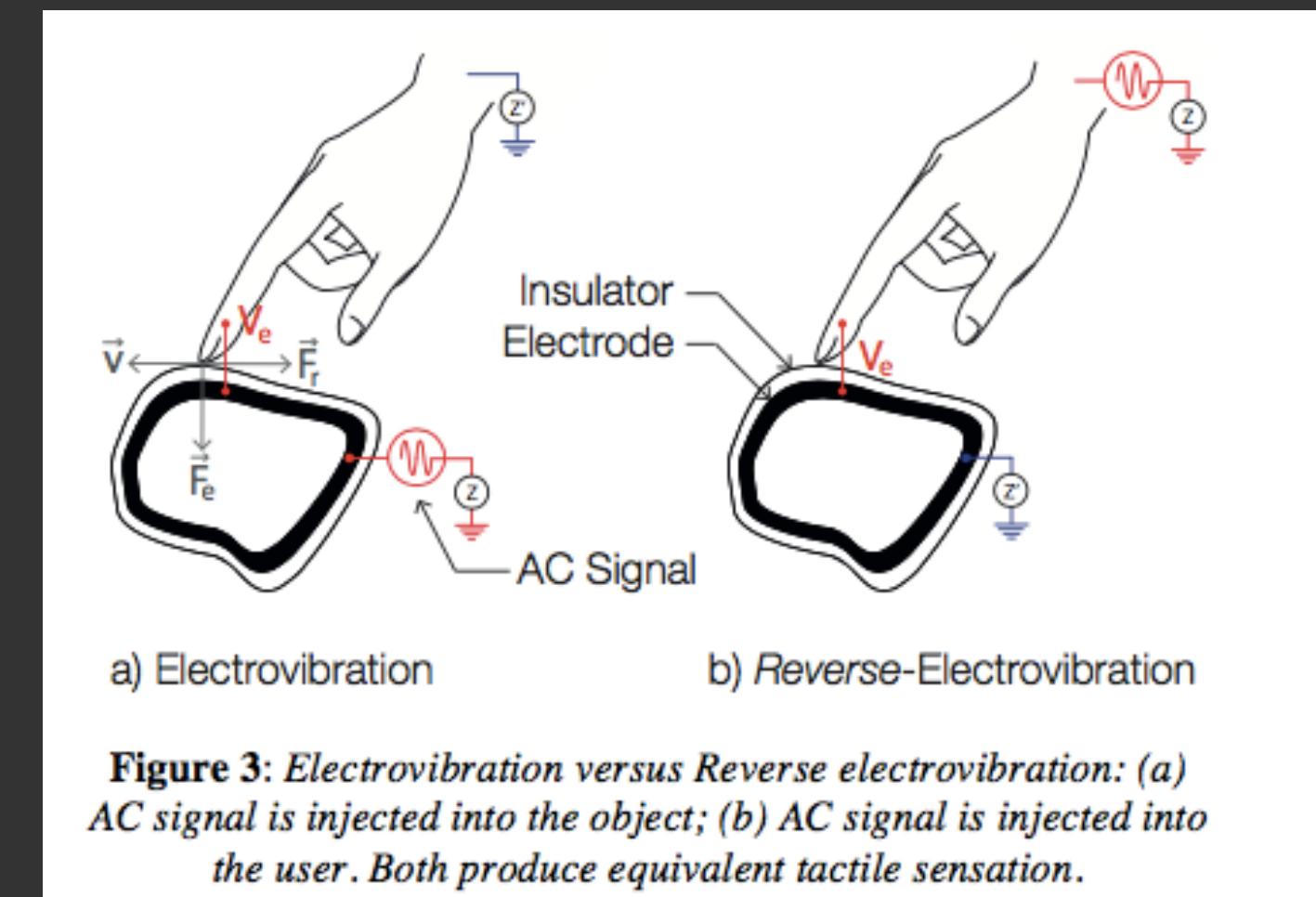


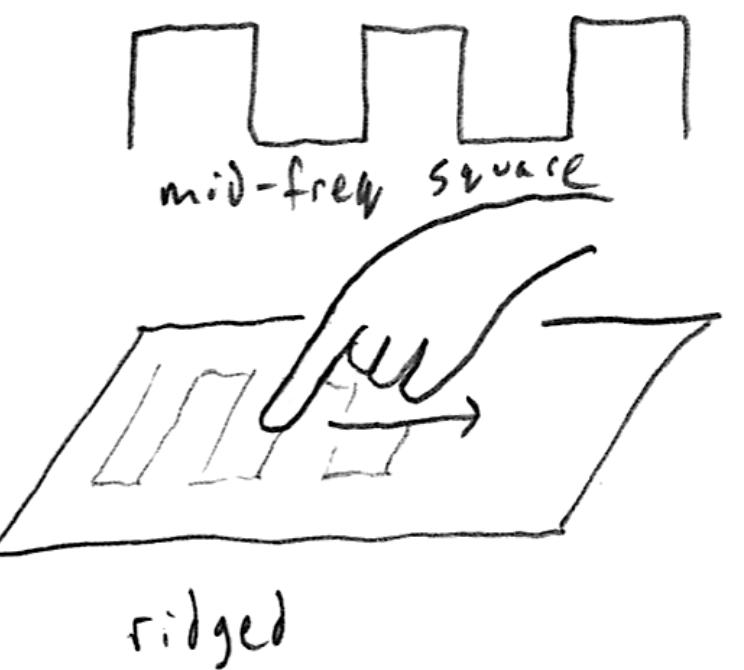
Figure 3: Electrovibration versus Reverse electrovibration: (a) AC signal is injected into the object; (b) AC signal is injected into the user. Both produce equivalent tactile sensation.

low-freq sine



rubbery

mid-freq square



ridged

hi-freq noise



scratchy

How does it feel?

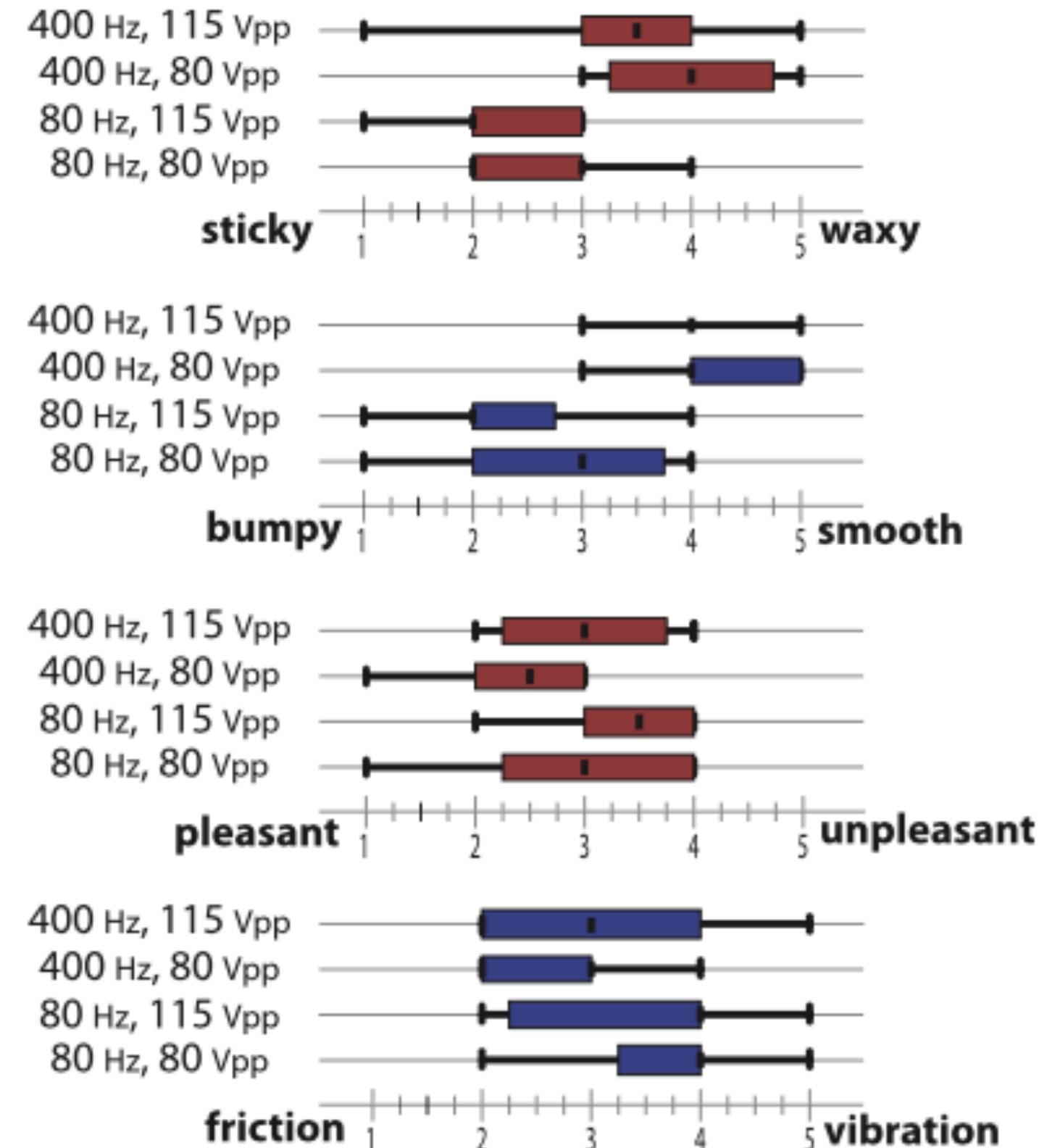
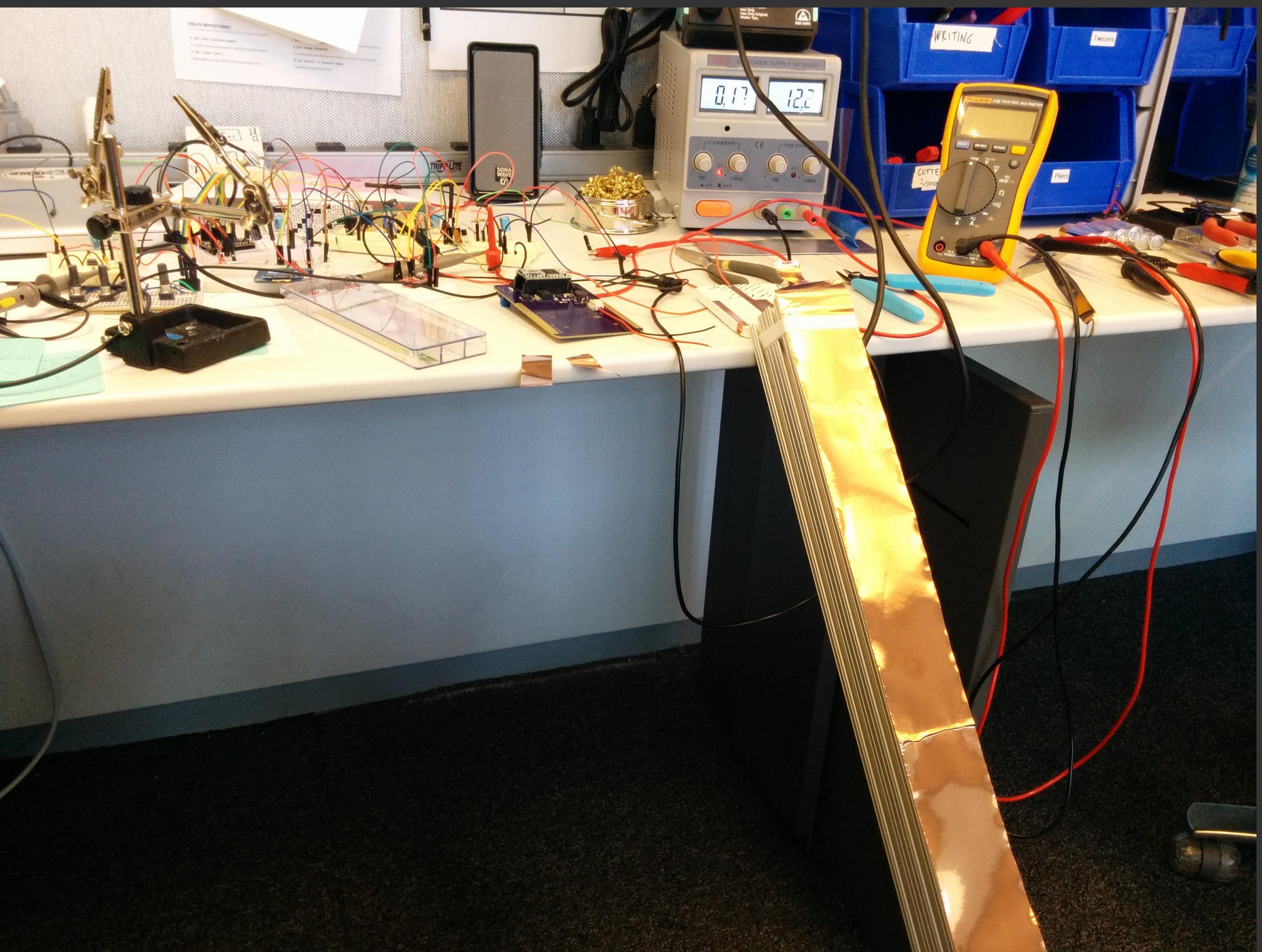
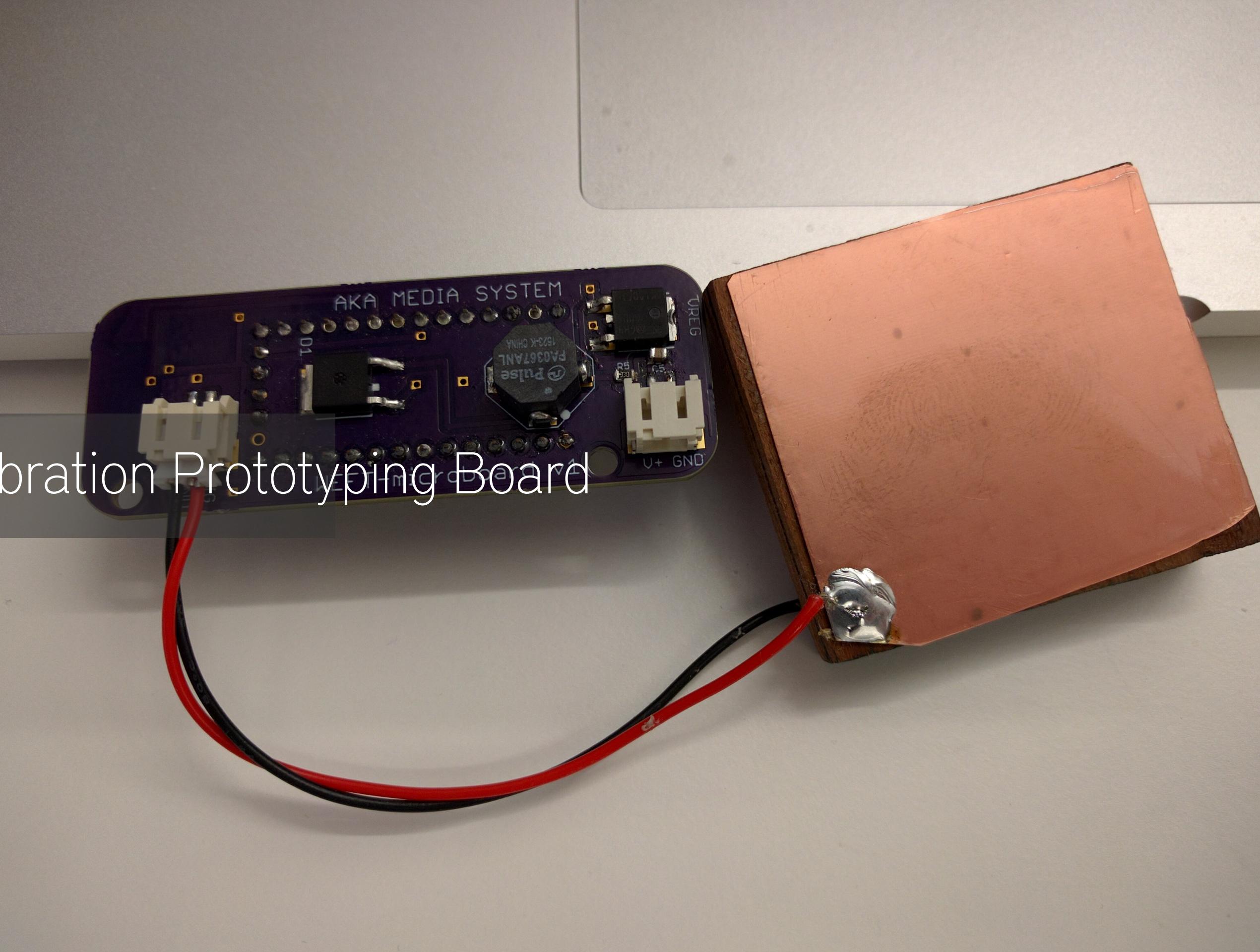


Figure 4: Ratings of stickiness, smoothness, pleasure and level of friction vs. vibration.

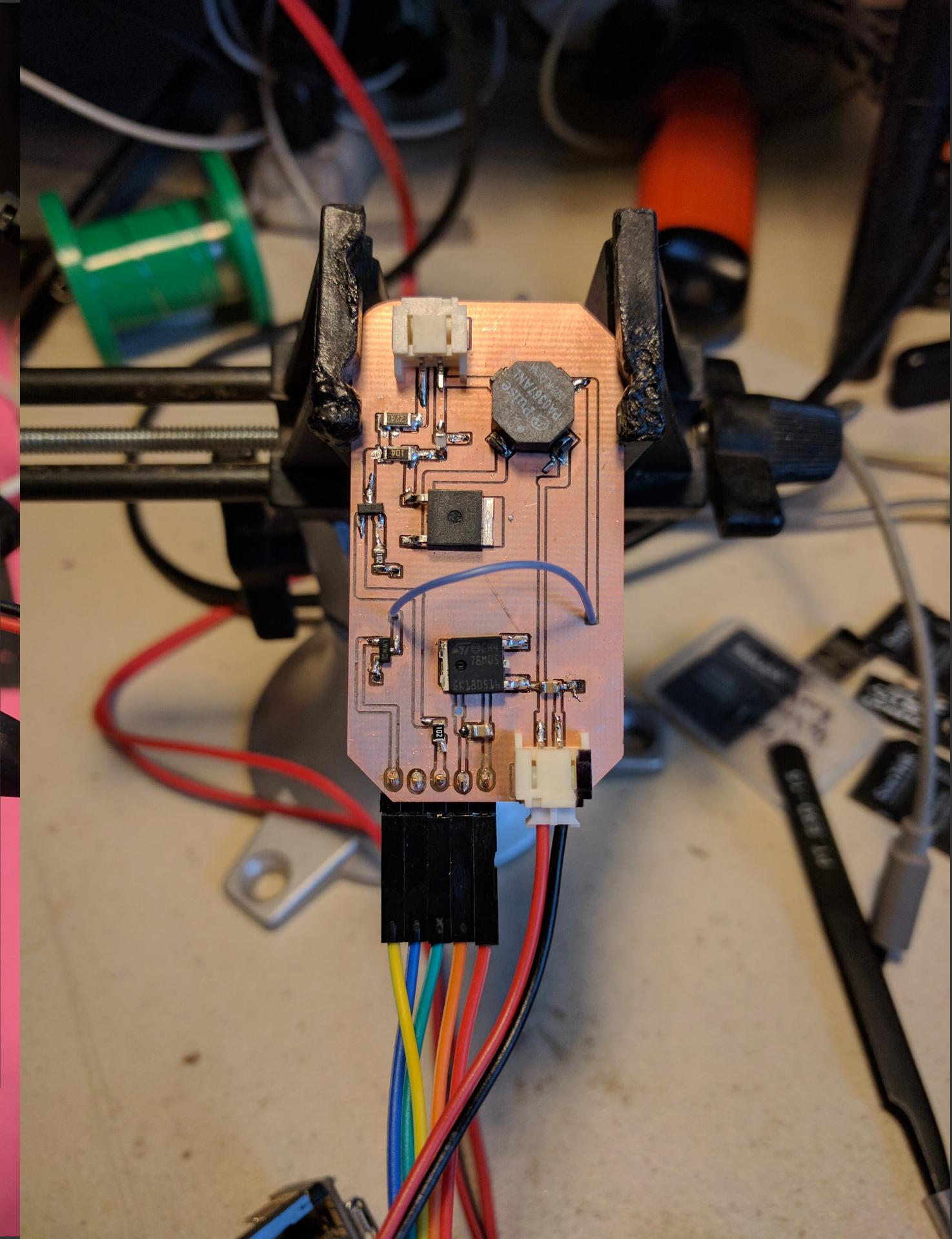
(Wu-Tang rig)



# Electrovibration Prototyping Board



- ## Electrovibration Prototyping Board
- Simple i2c interface
  - Self-contained boost/power circuits and feedback
  - Library of preset textures
  - Custom textures loadable via i2c



# Challenges

## Challenges

- feedback circuit / normalization across different bodies
- manufacturability (conformal coating, potting)
- marketing and promotion (ie, me)
- support / desirability

Exciting

## Exciting

- build a team of people I love working with
- grow beyond prototyping
- make something long-wanted but newly-possible

But wait!! There's more

## Prototyping board

- solve EE problems
- learn from initial users
- test market interest

## Prototyping board

- solve EE problems
- learn from initial users
- test market interest

## Wearable Device

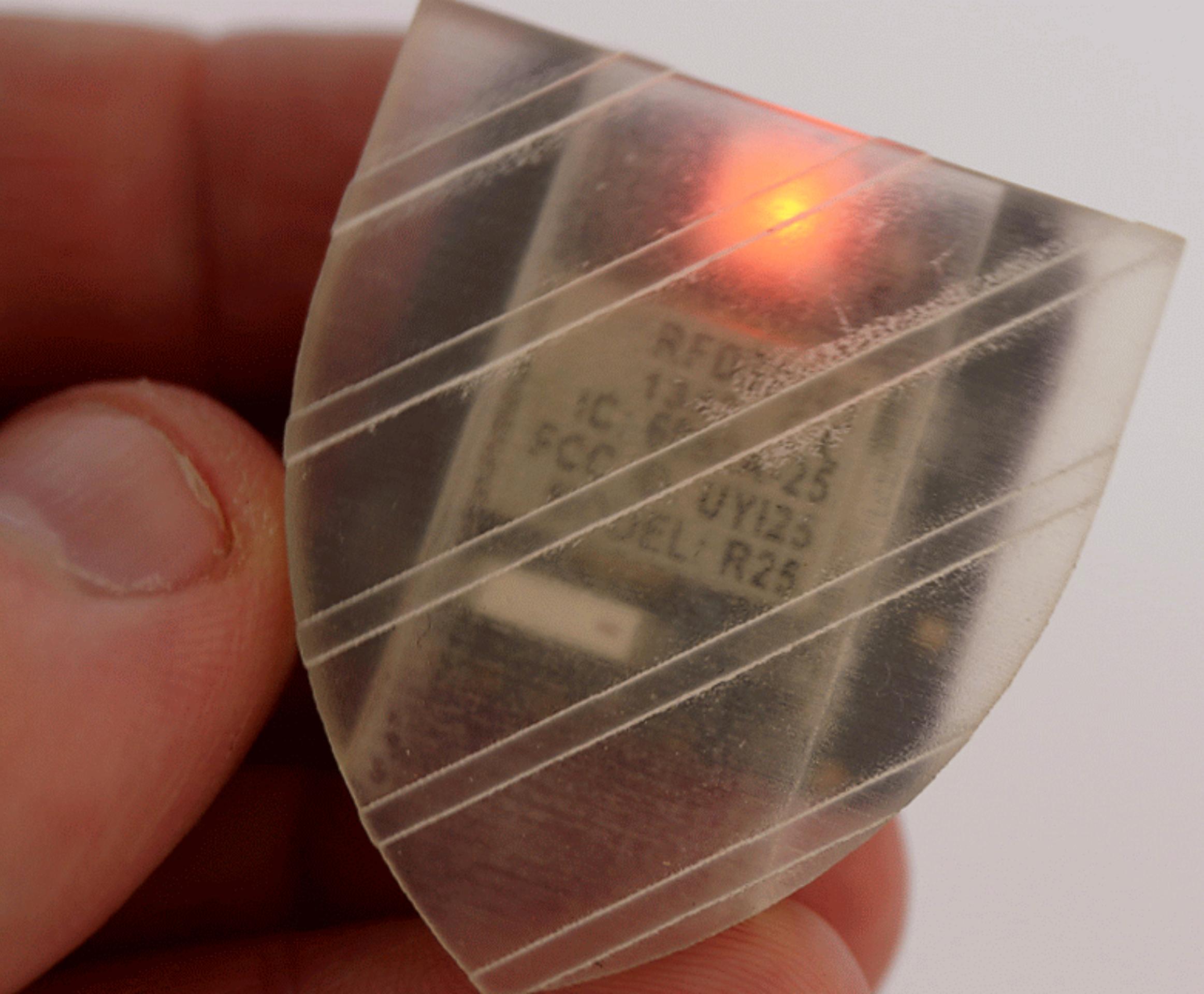
- scale improved design
- hone product-mkt fit
- get...funding?

A pet theory: Social Wearables

## Social Wearables

objects you carry on your person not for their “listening” function (ie, activity trackers, photo/audio recorders), but for their ability to enhance interpersonal interactions

BLUSH



## BLUSH

- listens with your conversations
- lights up when you mention something you've been researching online



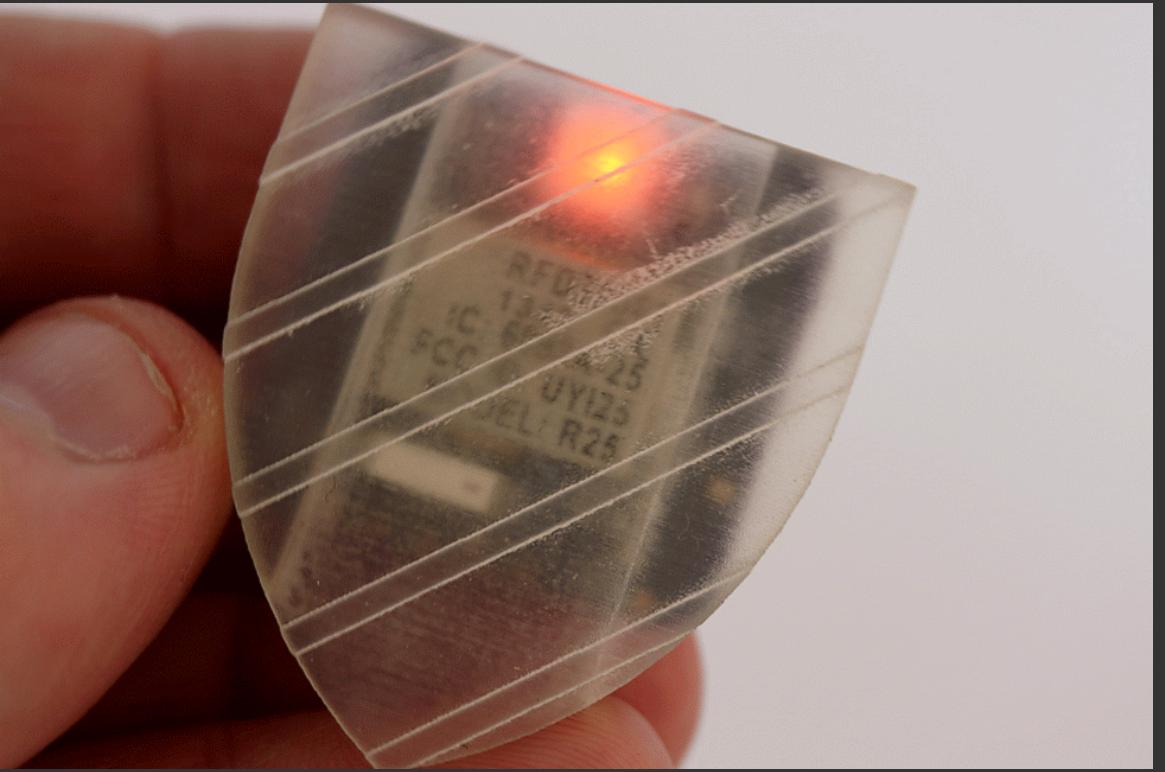
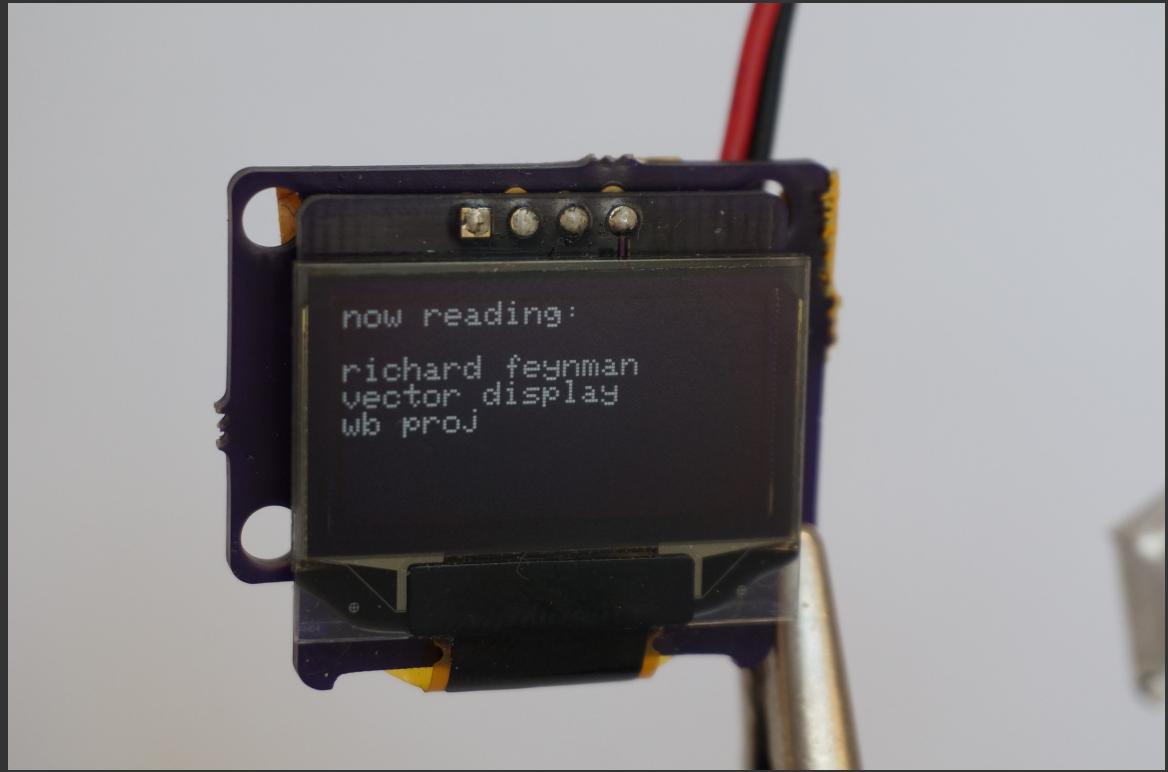
CLIP-E



## CLIP-E

- watches your semantic tags (pinboard)
- displays selection of the last tags you applied





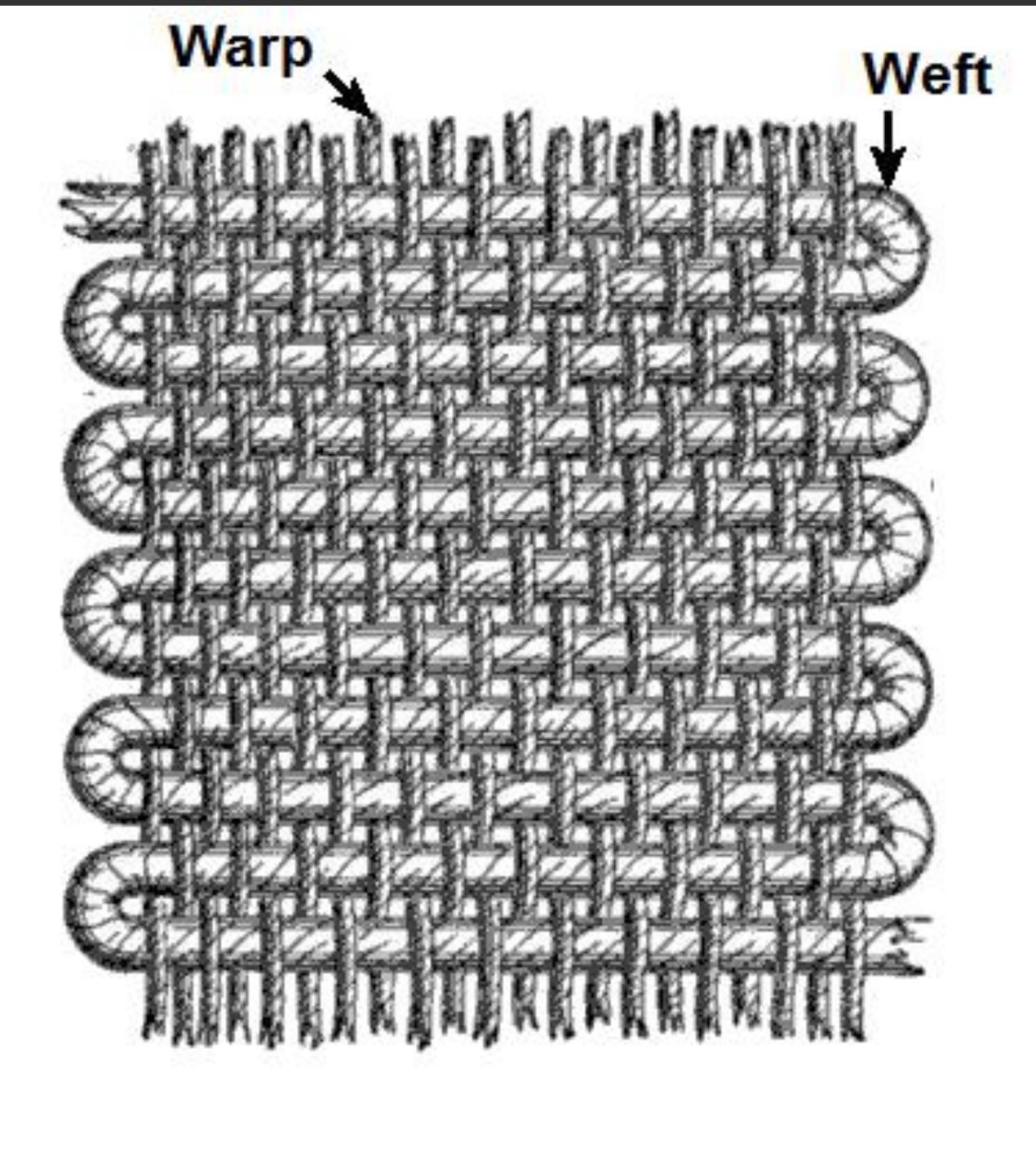
## CLIP-E

- explicit
- asynchronous
- elicits questions / starts conversations

## BLUSH

- implicit signals
- synchronous
- enormous, unworkable consent problem
- elicits questions / starts conversations

WEFT  
BLE-enabled electrovibration wearable



WEFT  
touchable notification  
summaries



Challenge: how to focus on  
what's around me,  
rather than what's  
on my phone

Challenge: how to focus on  
what's around me,  
rather than what's  
on my phone

...without FOMO

Passive (user decides when  
to query device)

Covert (checking status is not  
distracting or off-putting)

Expressive / nonbinary

How will people prototype with this?

How will people find out about it?

Can you build critical hardware as a business, not an academic/art pursuit??

New customs / new spaces



“What's the wifi here?”

# Teen burglar wakes up California couple, asks to use their Wi-Fi



by **BRYAN CLARK** — 1 day ago in **SECURITY**





Network-space as a site of hospitality

11:33

Tuesday, July 28



<http://speedtest.local>

<http://curriculum.local>

[VIEW MORE](#)



29° Sunny

# Barnacles

11:09  
2 cards

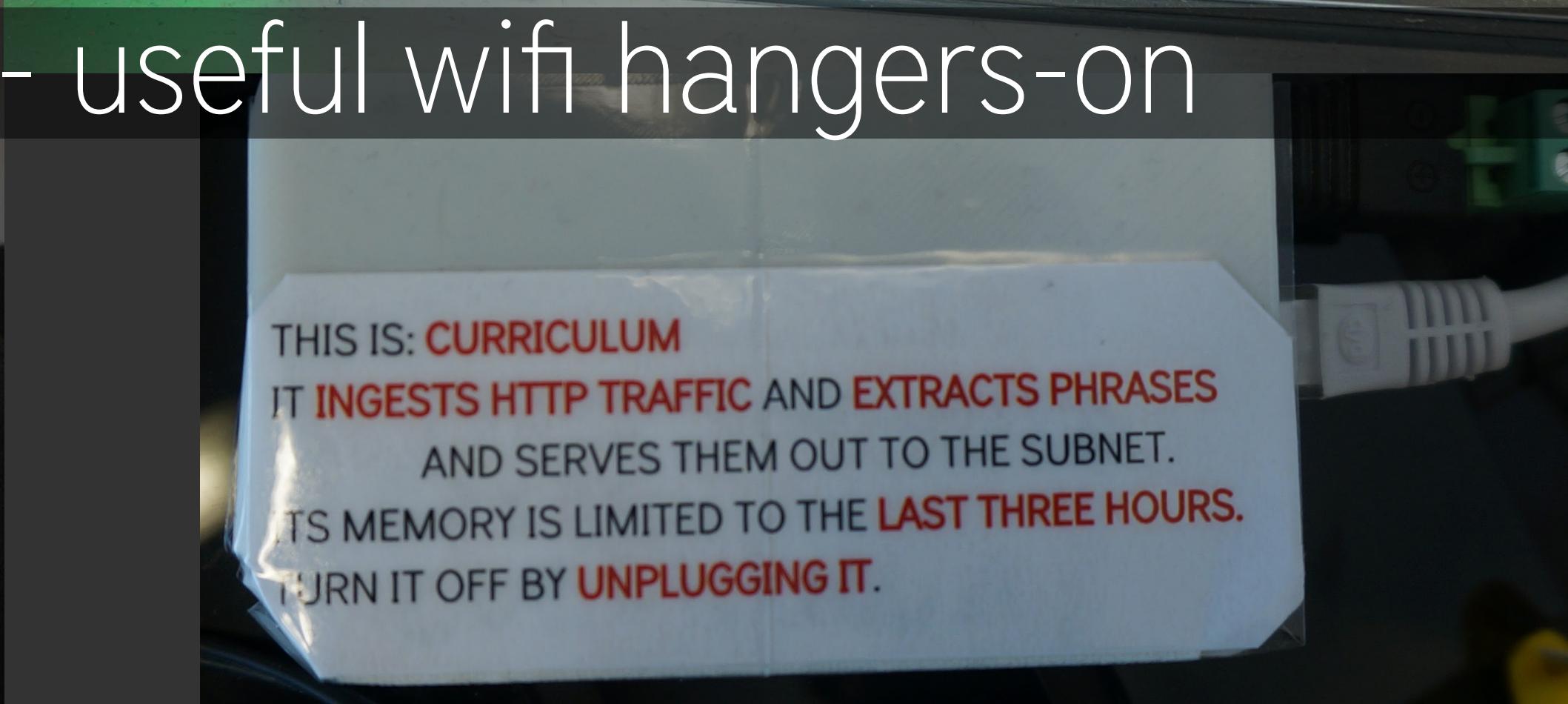
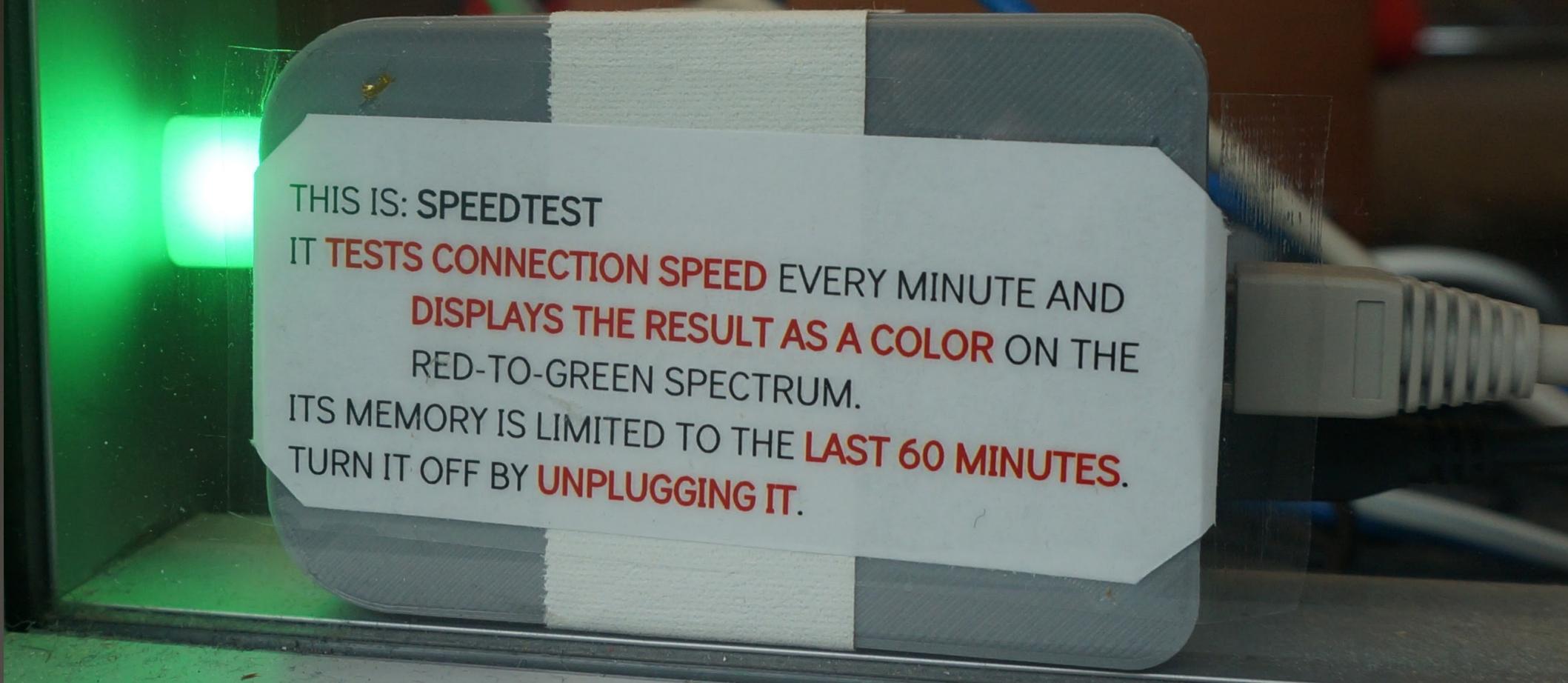


TextSecure is unlocked

Touch to open.

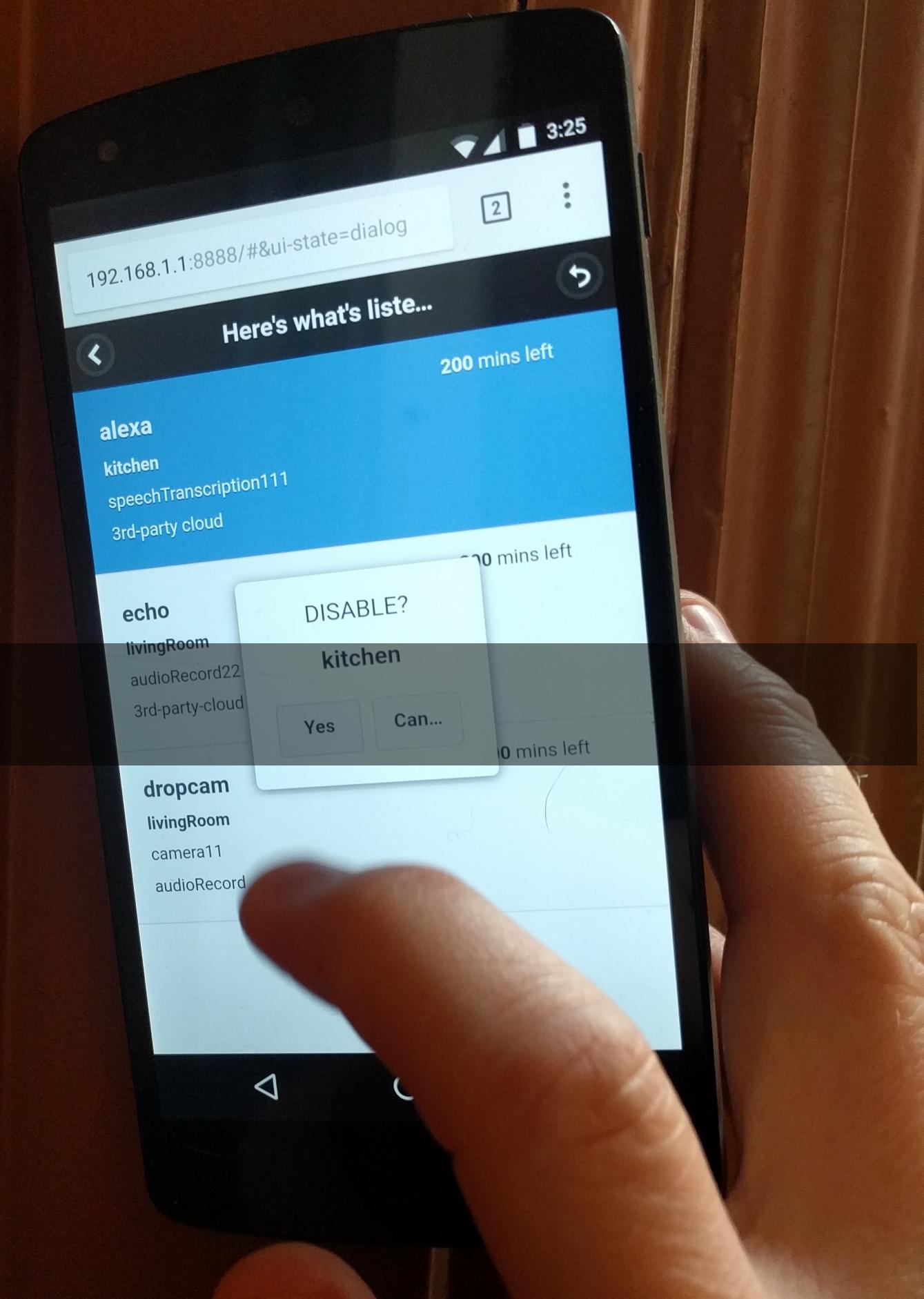
trevor

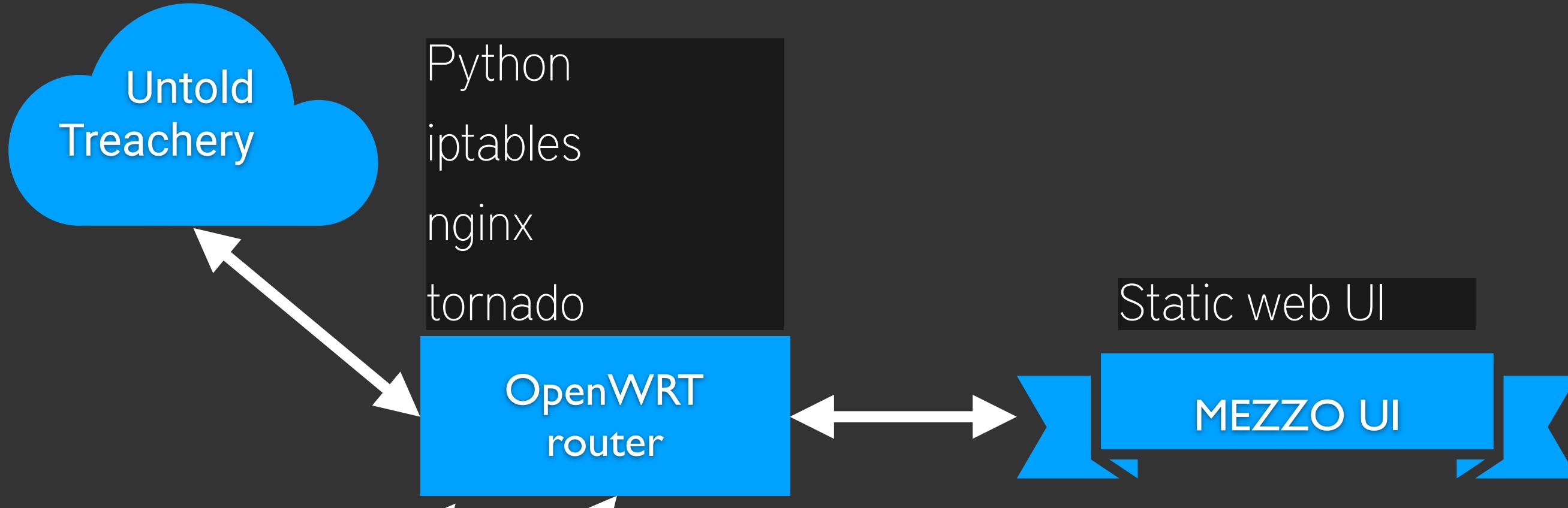
18:00 – 19:00



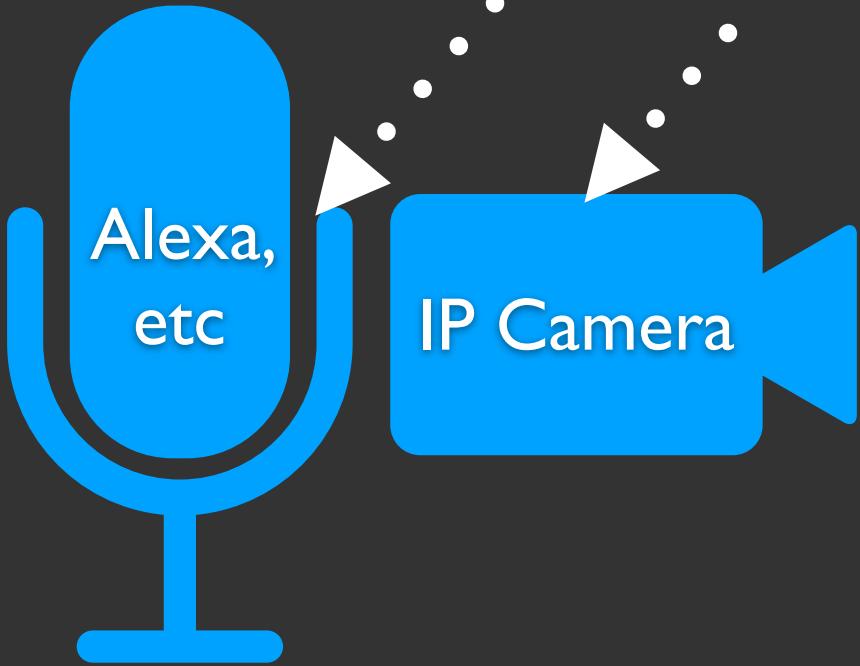
“Oh BTW Alexa’s recording everything”

# MEZZO - consent for IoT





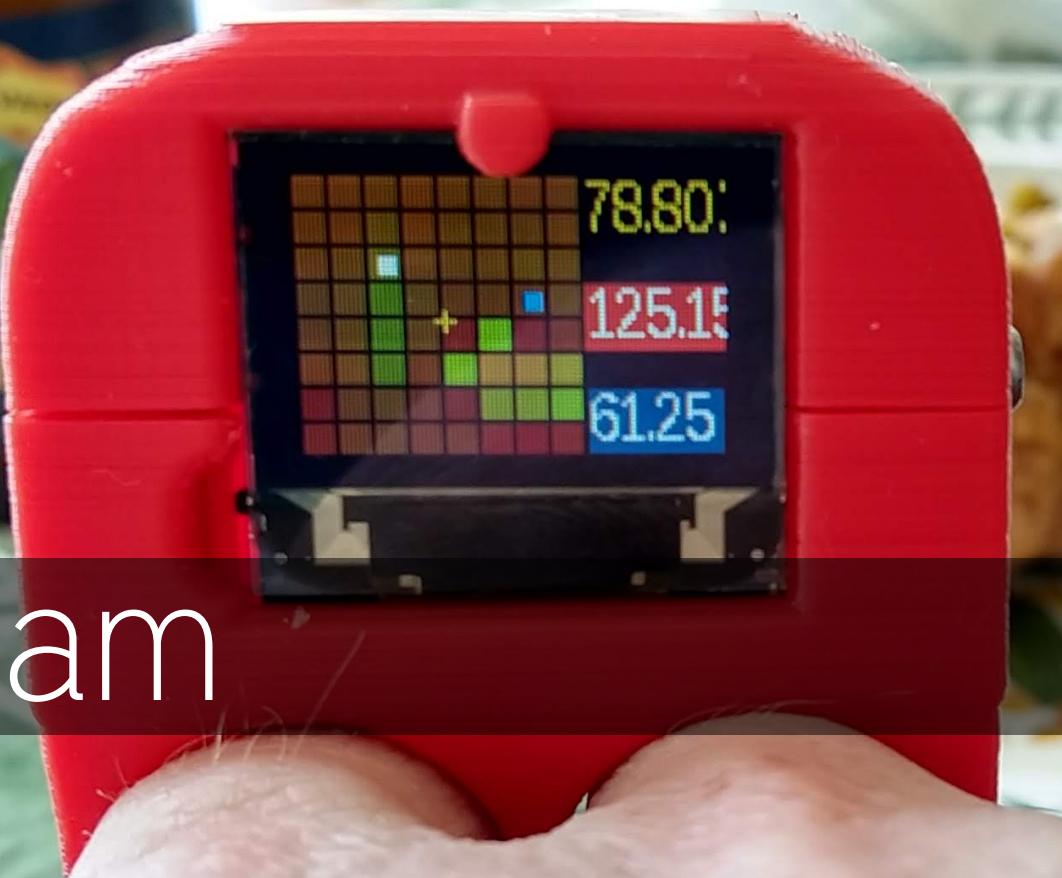
The irony: it's a compromised router



“Consent mezuzah”

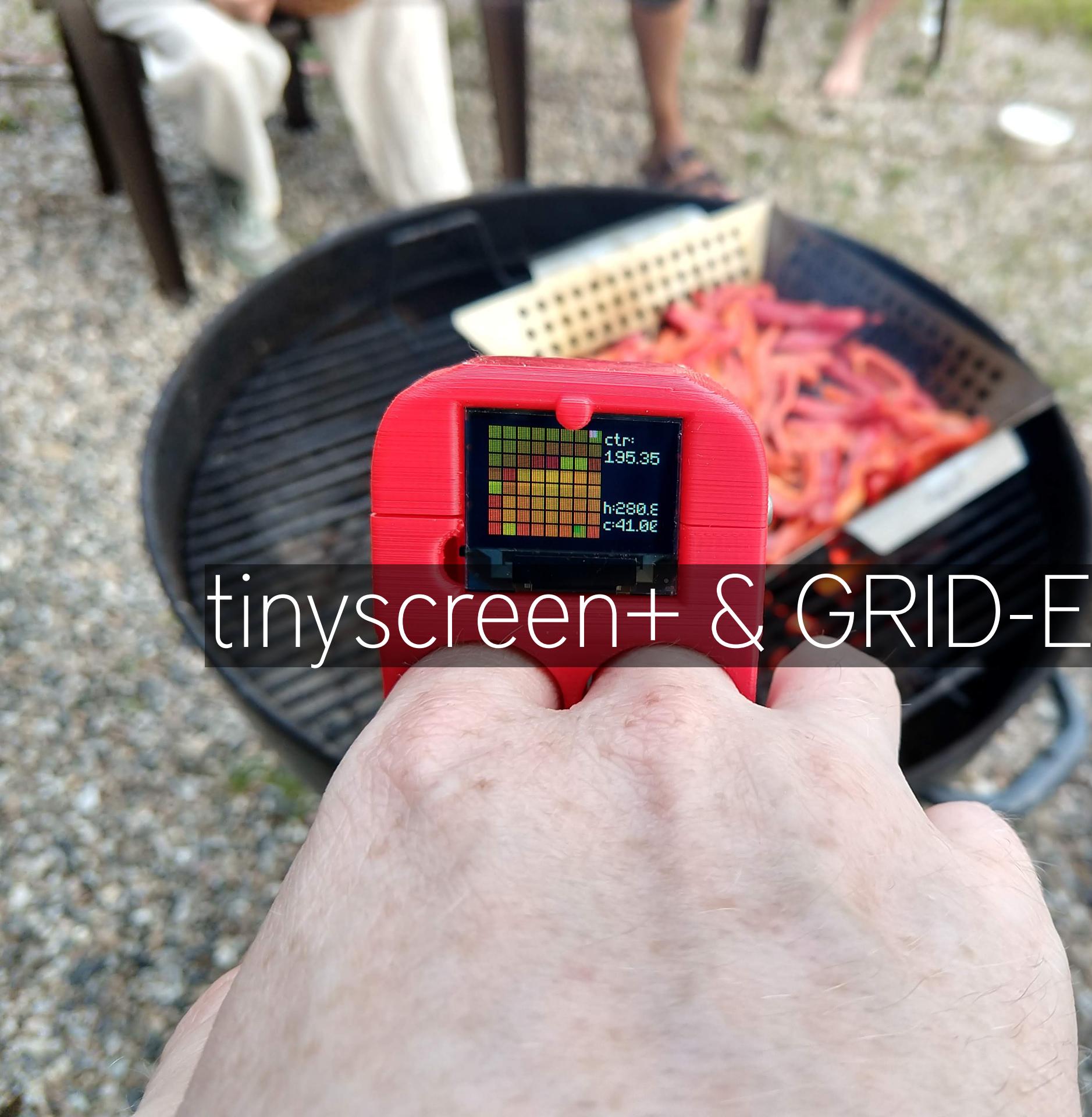
“Enchant us, Mezzo!”

pointy.cam



lil thermal camera





tinyscreen+ & GRID-EYE





third: works on remote intimacy

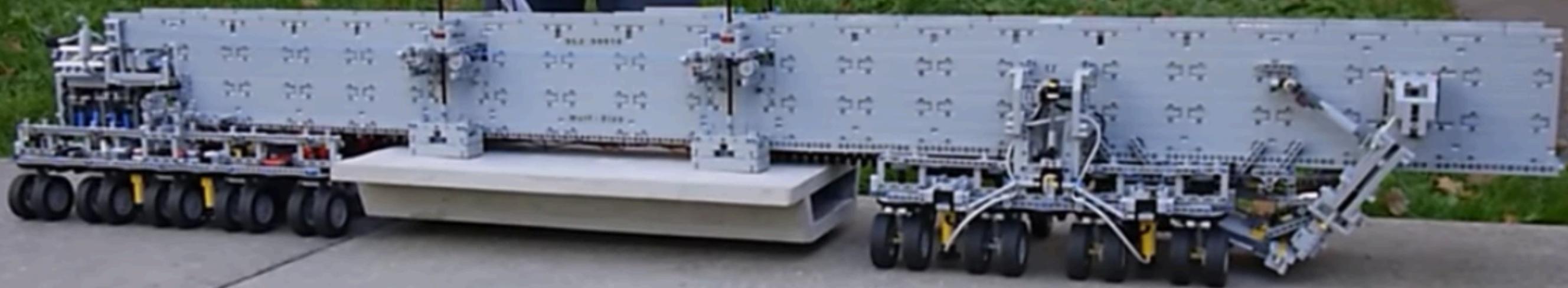
# FIXTURE

Continuous linear mapping between display and phone accel values;  
A taut line between the space and the device

# RIDING TO BOGGLESHAM

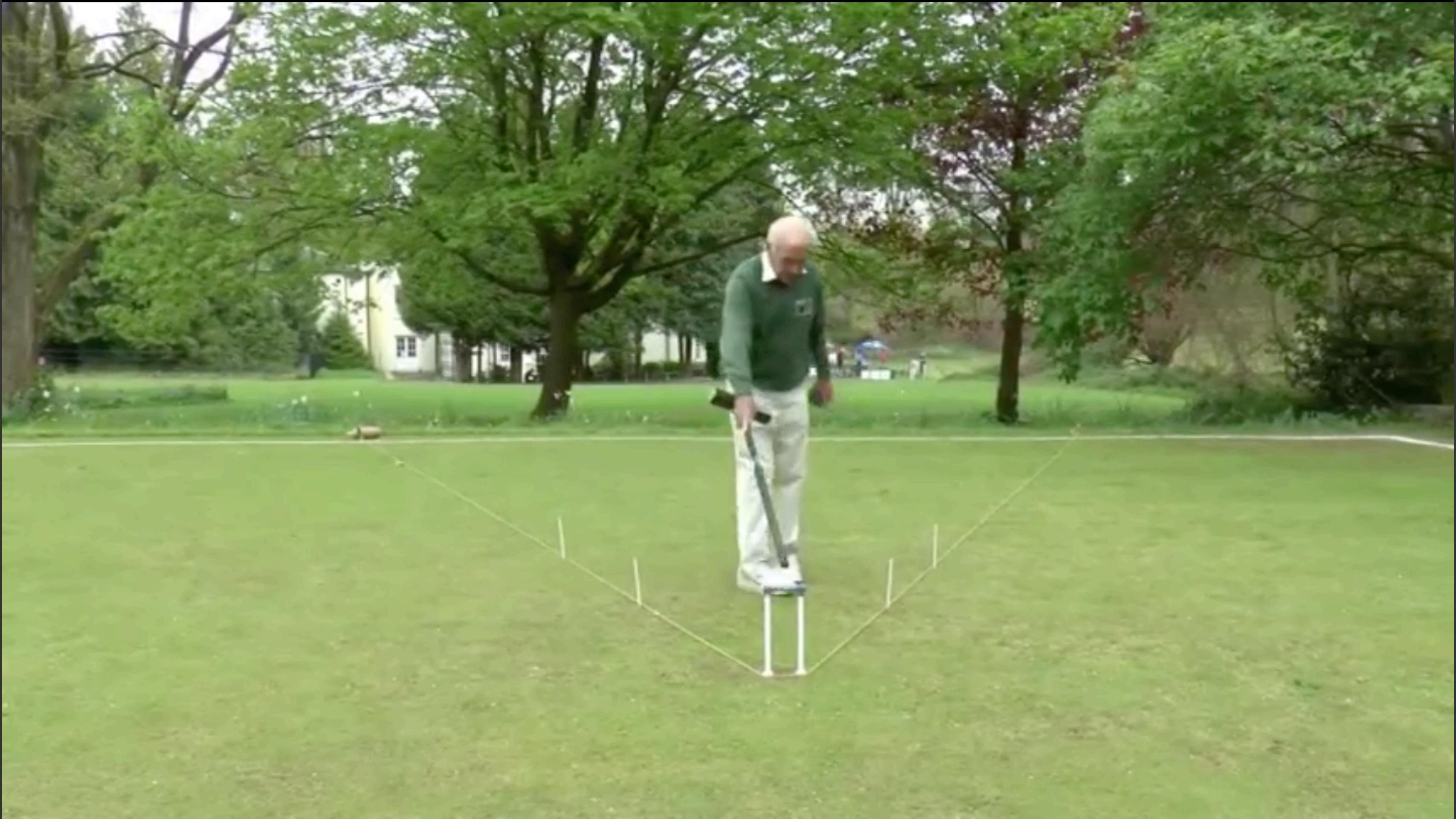






Drive sideways







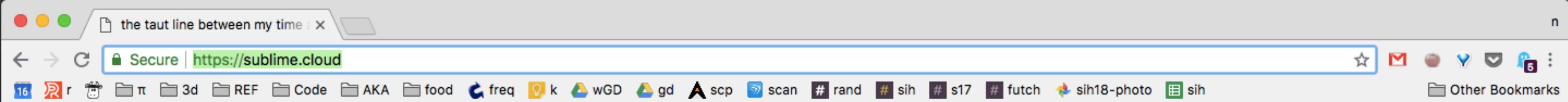
**Why Do  
Horses Push  
On People?**





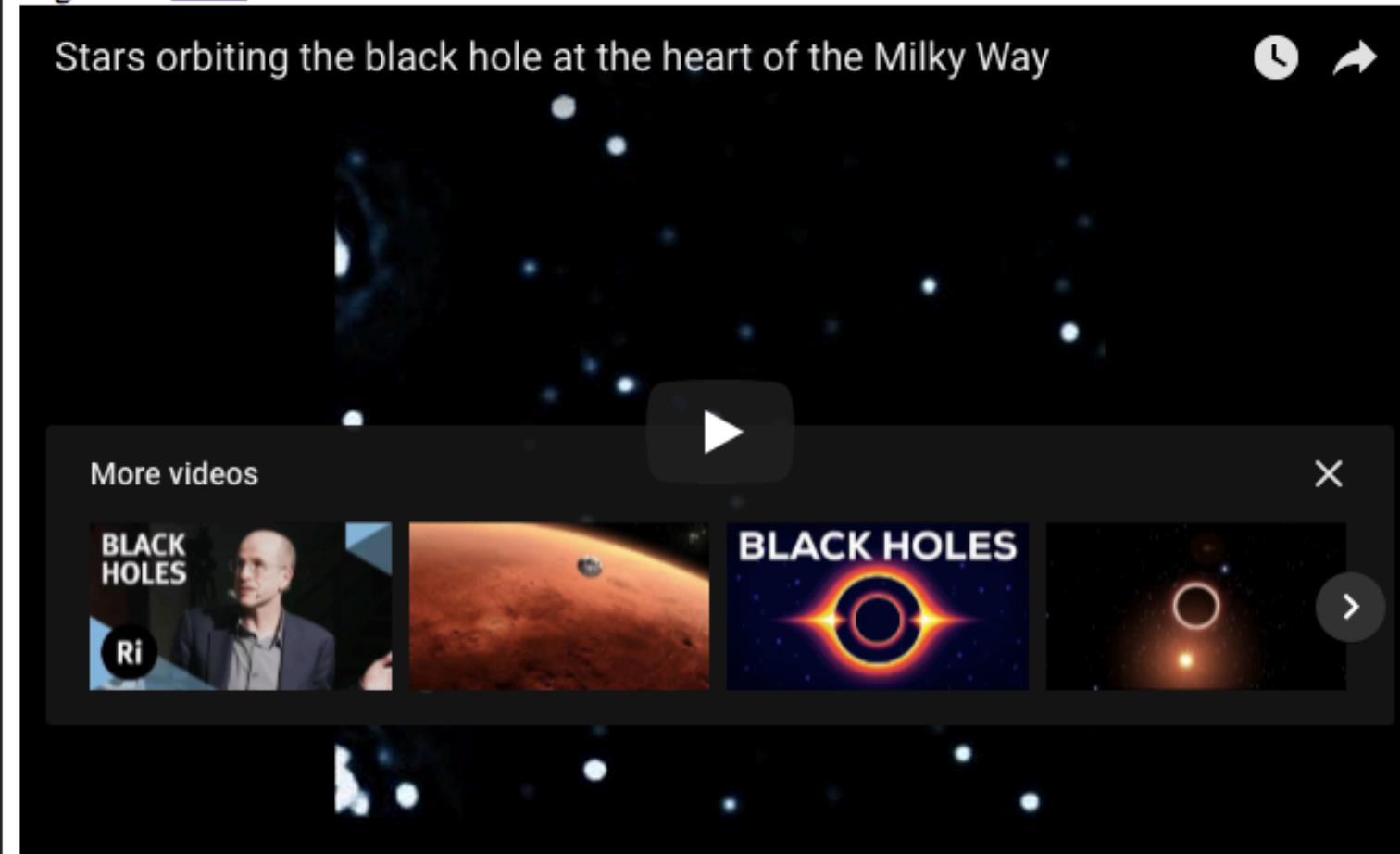
**Close to the sweat spot**





## the taut line between my time and yours

when the page loads, press "play" and then "pause," and I'll take it from there (this is just a lil prototype!)  
hugs from [AKA](#)



youtube-taut

<https://sublime.cloud>

[github.com/akamediasystem/youtube-taut](https://github.com/akamediasystem/youtube-taut)

## Voltage Regulators ➔

Inbox ✖

Projects ✖



**Rob Faludi**

to me ▾

Sat, Jul 21, 5:07 PM (3 days ago)



I'm learning a lot about MacBook repair today. Also YouTube now recommends me videos based upon what you watch. That's new...



**noah feehan / AKA**

oh amazing!! you caught a semantic STD from this!

Sat, Jul 21, 5:07 PM (3 days ago)



**noah feehan / AKA <nfeehan@gmail.com>**

to Rob ▾

Sat, Jul 21, 5:08 PM (3 days ago)



PS I am in love with Fred the steeplejack!!

...



Drinking and Climbing



Drinking and Climbing



and now for something broader

Landscape with a piping shepherd. Claude Lorrain

# BLACK MIRROR

Landscape with a piping shepherd. Claude Lorrain

# MAKE YOUR OWN CLAUDE GLASS OR BLACK MIRROR

By gmjhowe in Technology > Photography

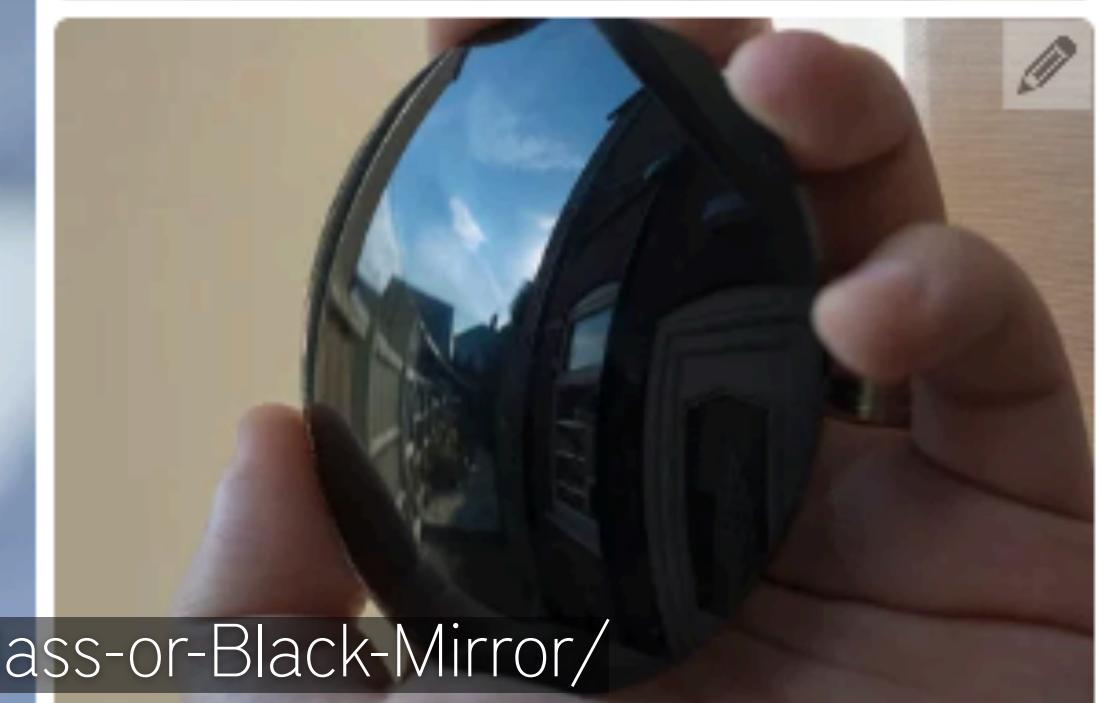
82,626

197

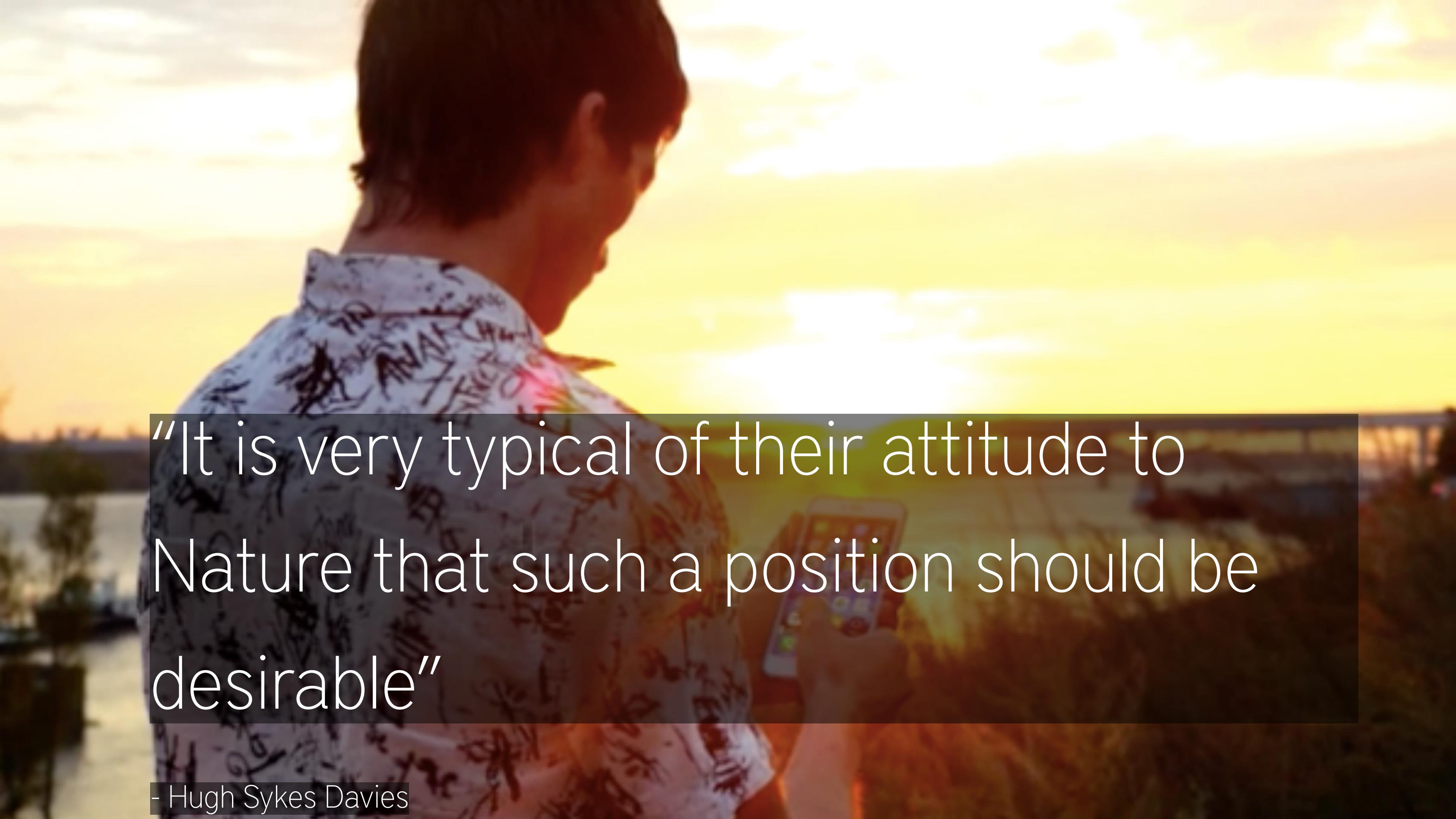
20

Featured

Published Apr. 30, 2012



<https://www.instructables.com/id/Make-your-own-Claude-Glass-or-Black-Mirror/>



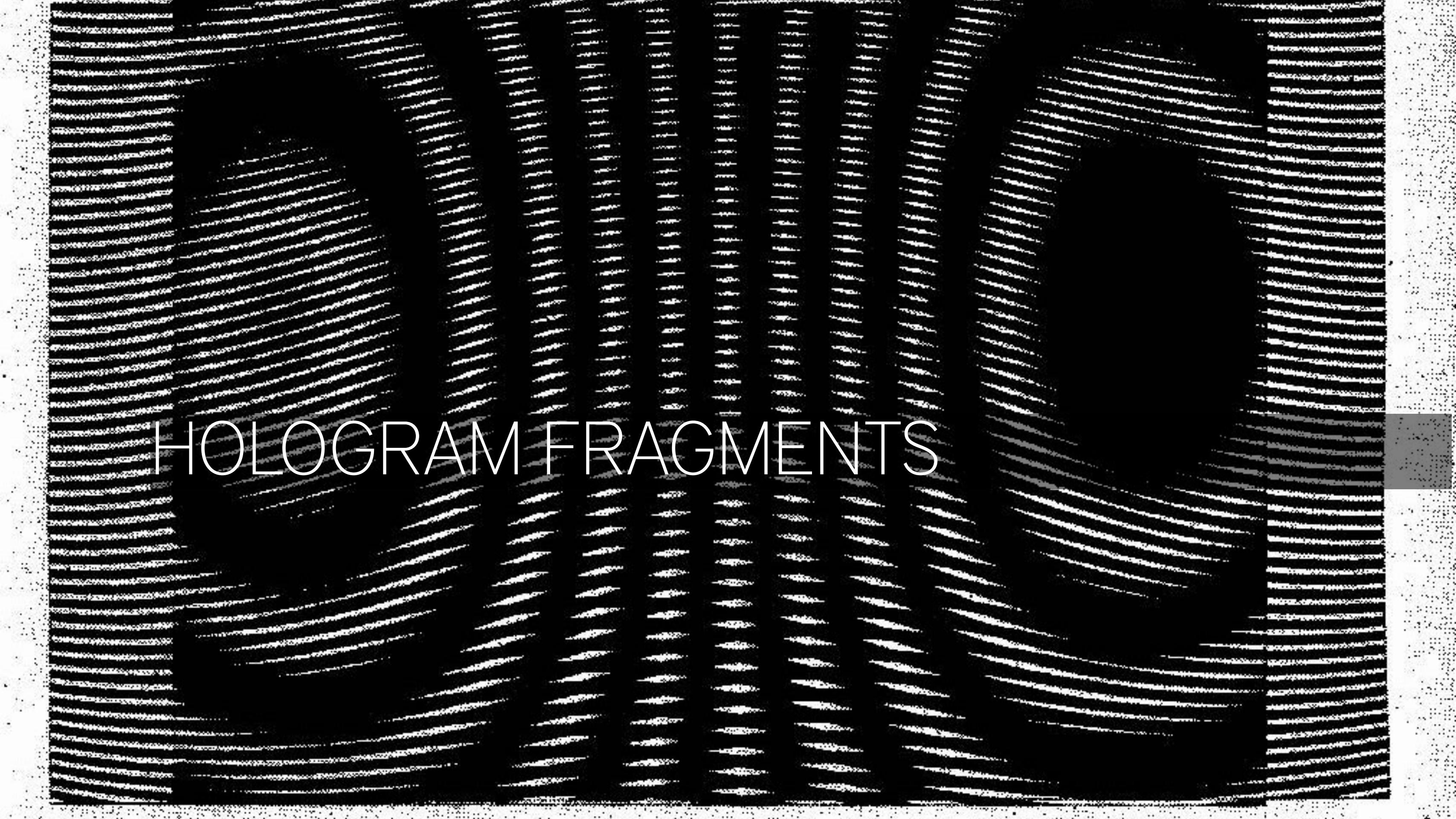
“It is very typical of their attitude to  
Nature that such a position should be  
desirable”

- Hugh Sykes Davies

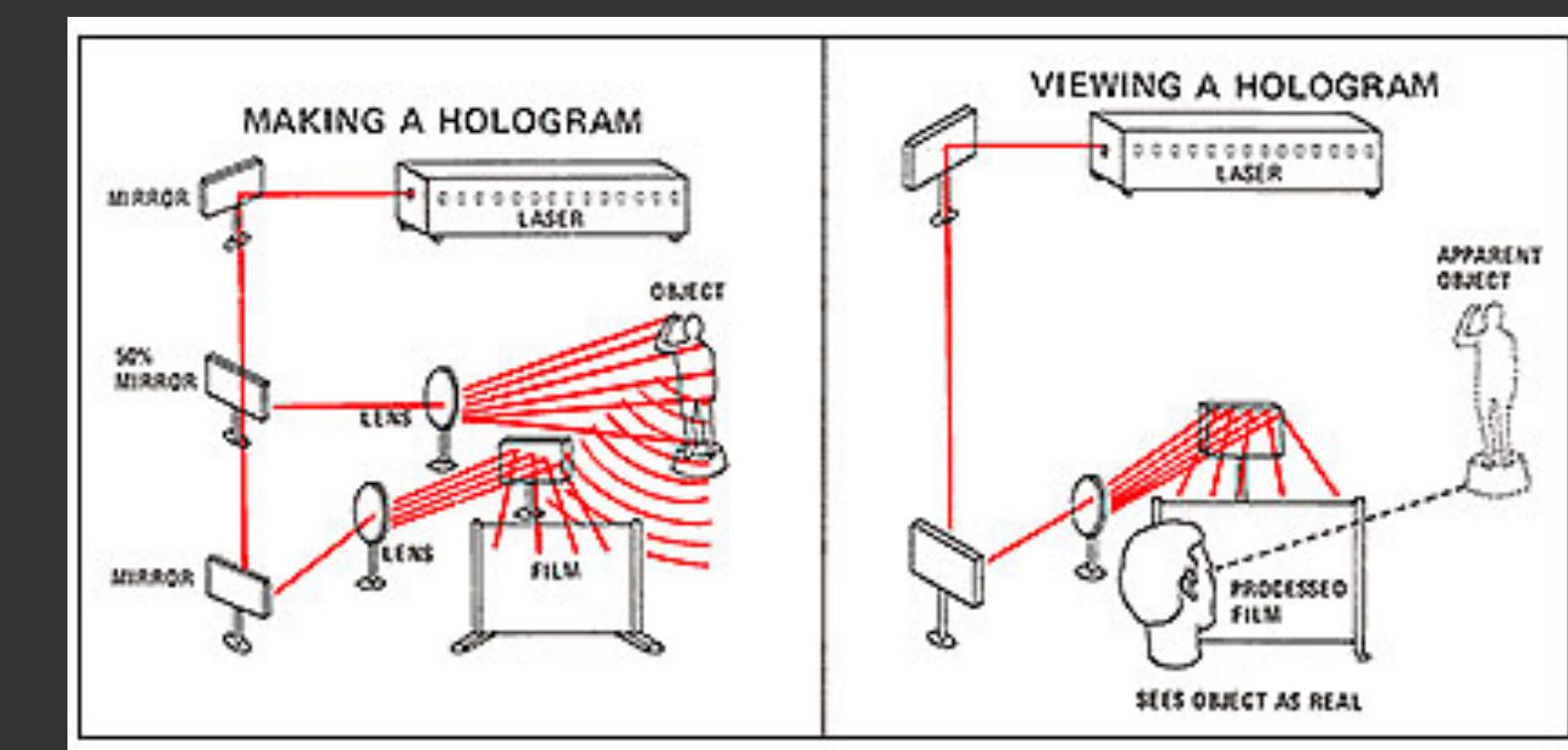
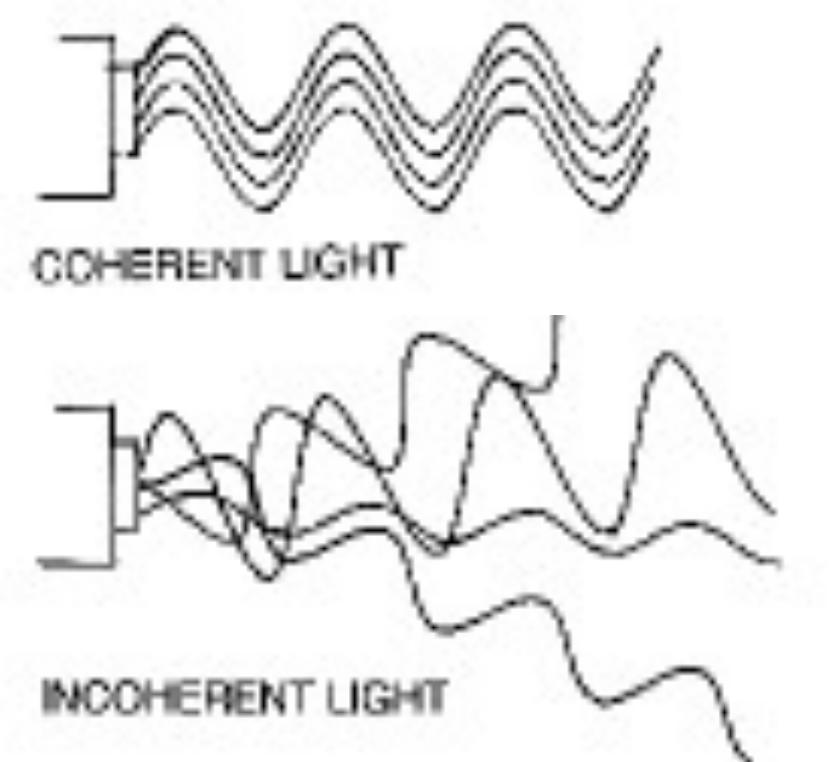


# OBJECT METONYMY

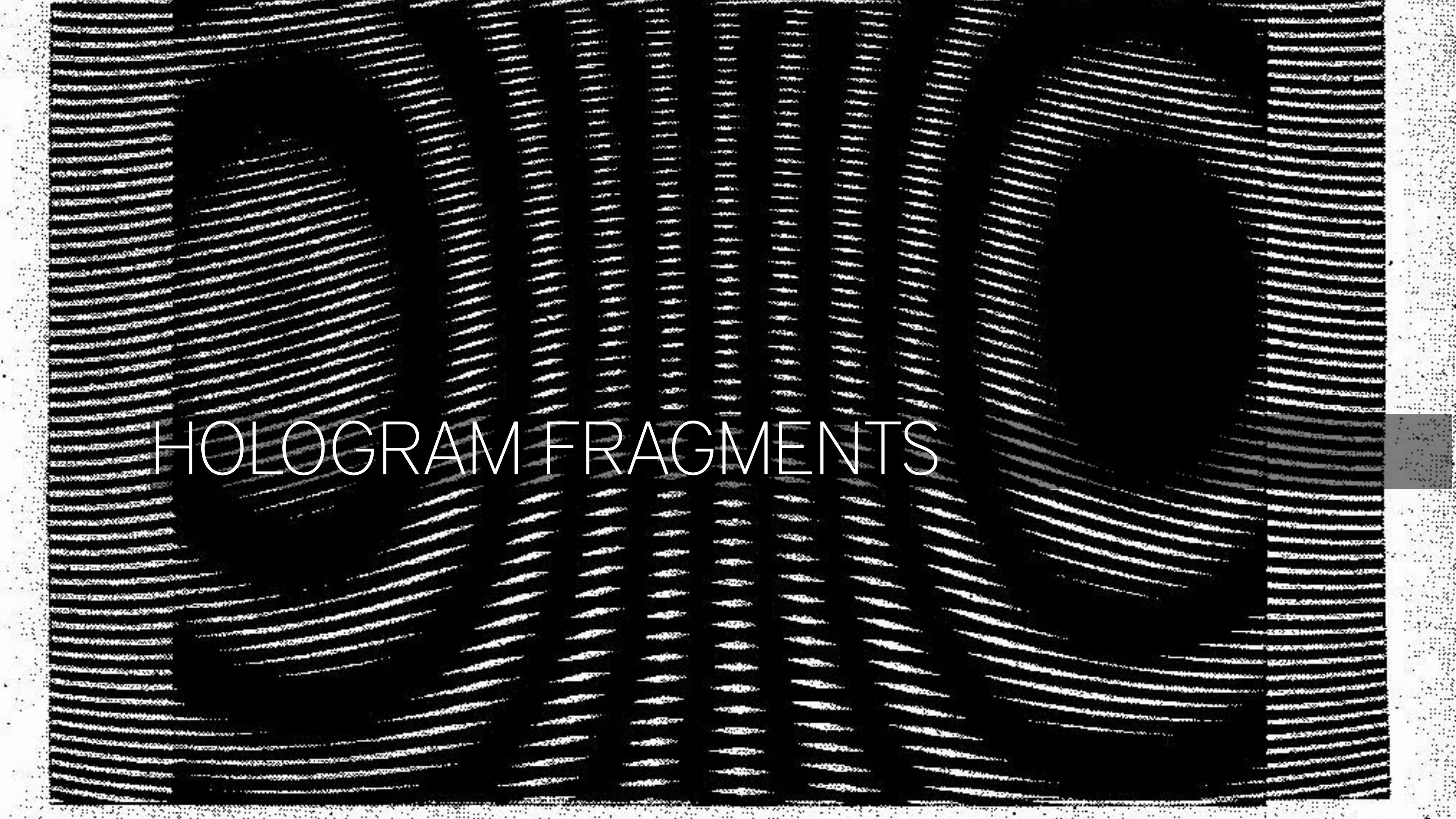




HOLOGRAM FRAGMENTS



# HOLOGRAM FRAGMENTS



HOLOGRAM FRAGMENTS



A man with glasses and a blue shirt stands in front of a large digital screen displaying financial data. The screen shows various indices and sectors, including the Nasdaq Composite at 159.28, the Finance Sector at +0.1%, and the Telecommunications Sector at +0.4%. The background is a city skyline at night.

Thanks!

@noahfeehan

aka.farm || weft.rocks

[linkedin.com/in/akamediasystem/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/akamediasystem/)

Sources + more:

[pinboard.in/u:akamediasystem/t:sketching18](https://pinboard.in/u:akamediasystem/t:sketching18)