

Undergraduate Research as a Launchpad:

Insights from a Post-doctoral Fellow

Dr. Michael West Jr., PhD – Provost's Post-doctoral Fellow

Haptics and Medical Robotics (HAMR) Lab

Laboratory for Computational Sensing and Robotics (LCSR)

Advisor Open House

August 13th, 2025



About Me



Originally from Rancho Cucamonga, CA

College: Yale University

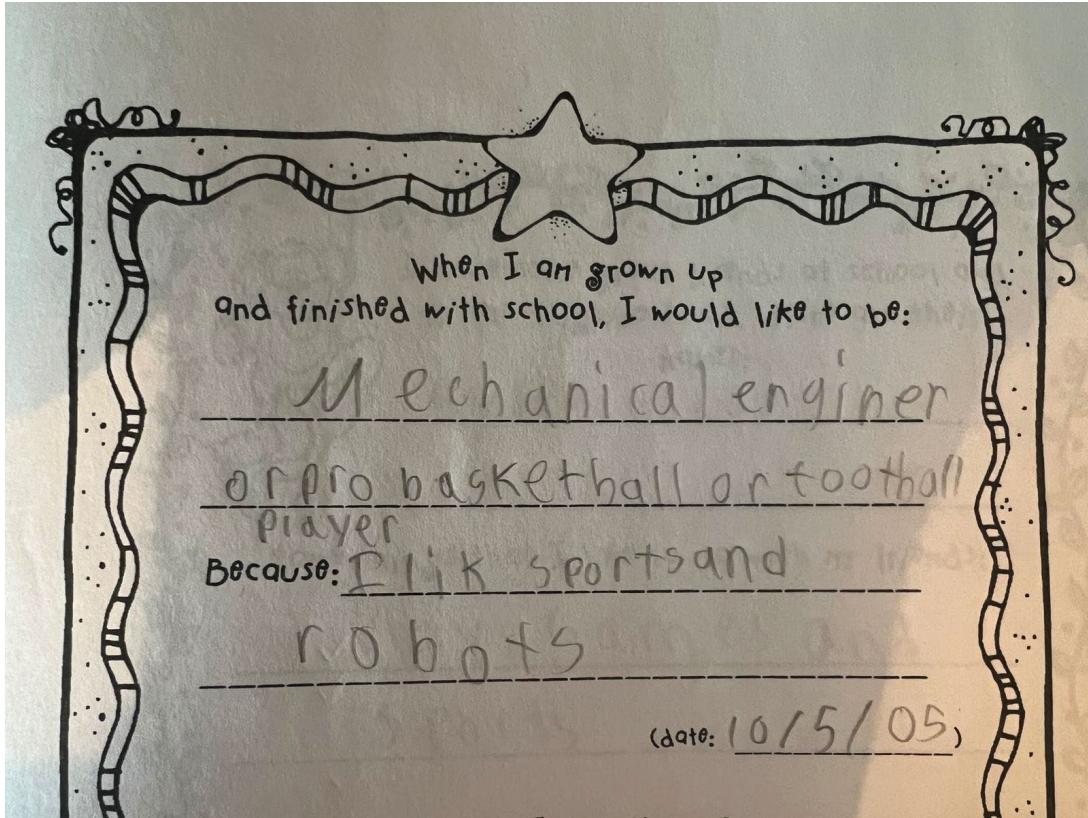
Graduate School: MIT

Postdoc: Johns Hopkins University

Faculty: Incoming Assistant Professor at Georgia Tech starting in August 2027

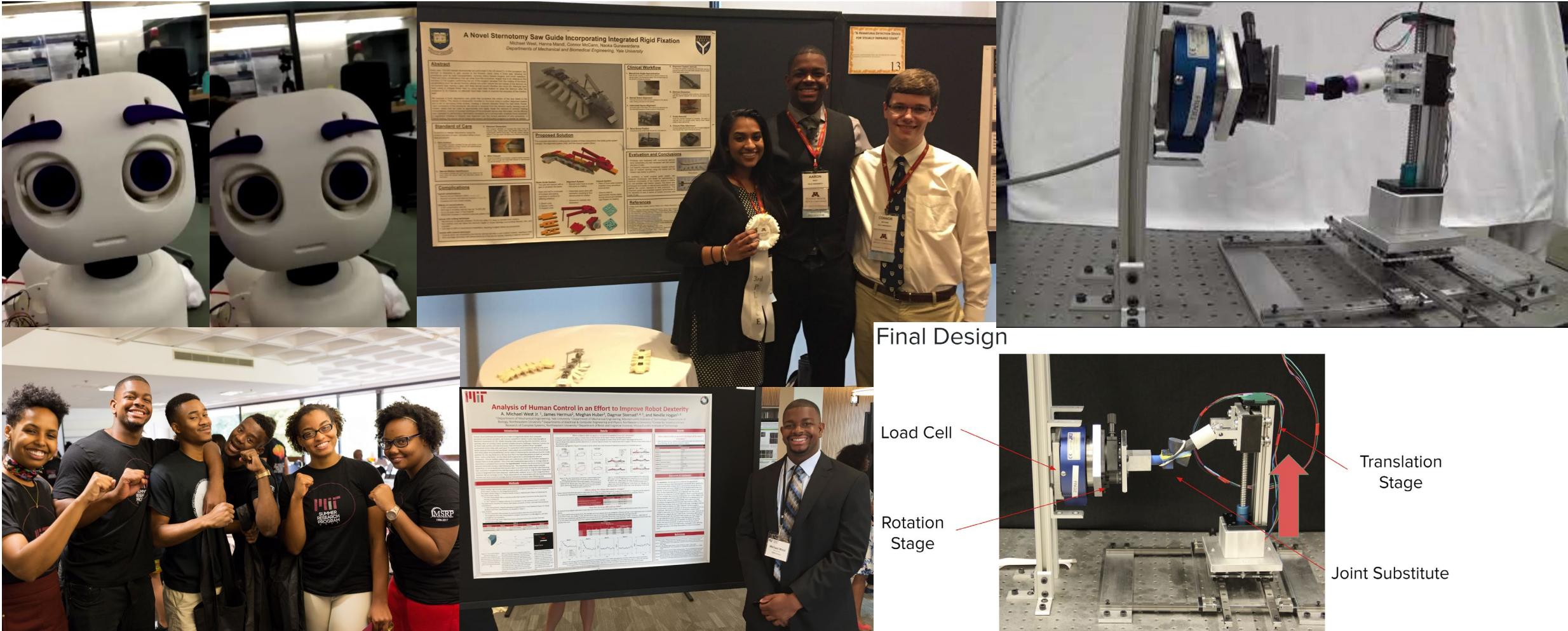


How I became an Engineer



- Mom is a doctor, and I liked how she helped people.
- Dad is a software engineer.
- I thought robots were cool and I was good at math.

How I got into Research



About Me

My Research

HAMR Lab

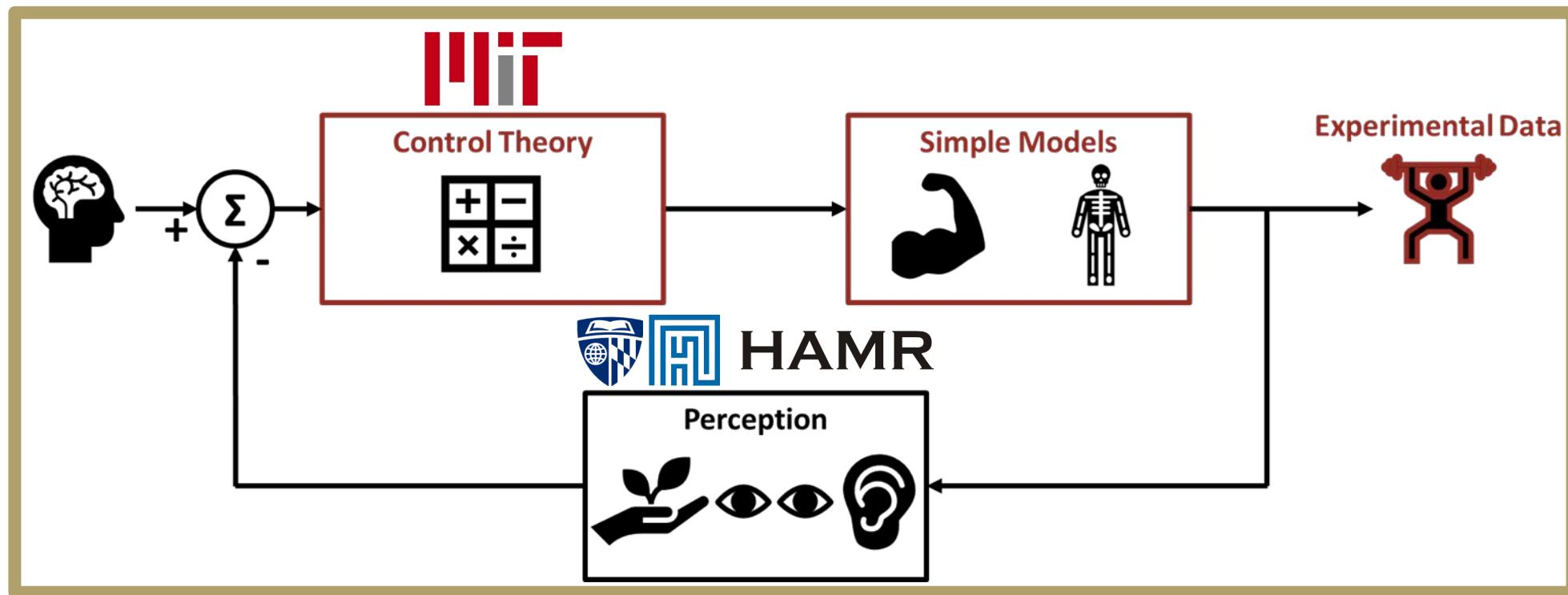
2024 Grads

Q & A

My Research

Goal: Develop simple models and use control theory to better understand human motor control, perception, and learning.

Applications: Robotics, Rehabilitation, Skill Acquisition



Haptics and Medical Robotics (HAMR) Laboratory

Principal Investigator: Jeremy Brown

Goal: Extend the current knowledge surrounding the human haptic perception.

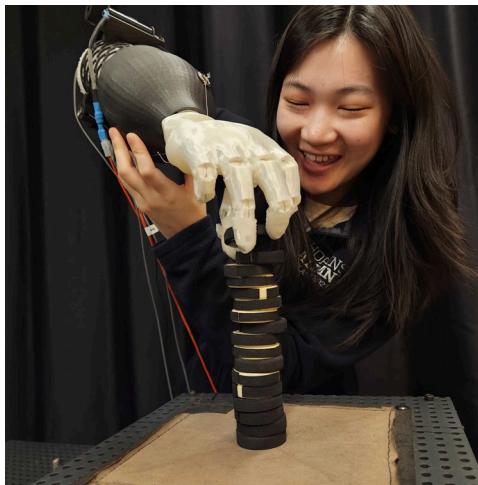
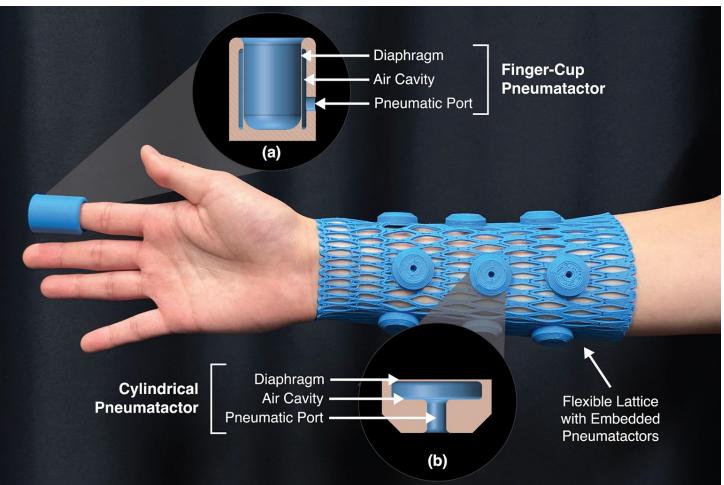
Applications: Minimally Invasive Surgical Robotics, Upper-Limb Prosthetic Devices, Rehab Robotics

Current Members: 1 Post-Doc, 6 PhDs, 1 Masters Student, 3 Undergrads, 2 High Schoolers

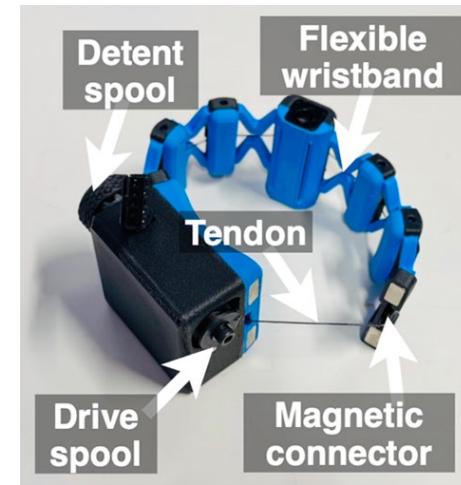
Recent Alumni: 3 PhDs in c/o 2024, 4 Masters Students in c/o 2024, 3 External Summer REU students



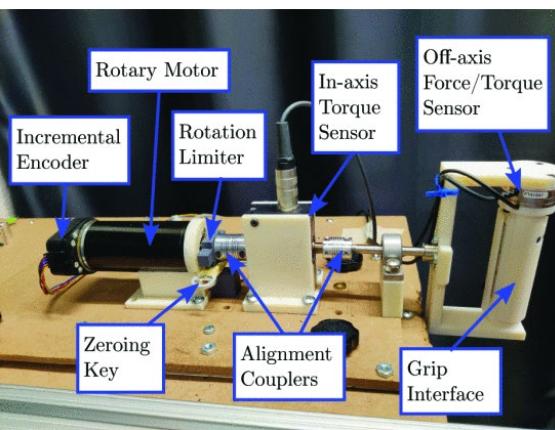
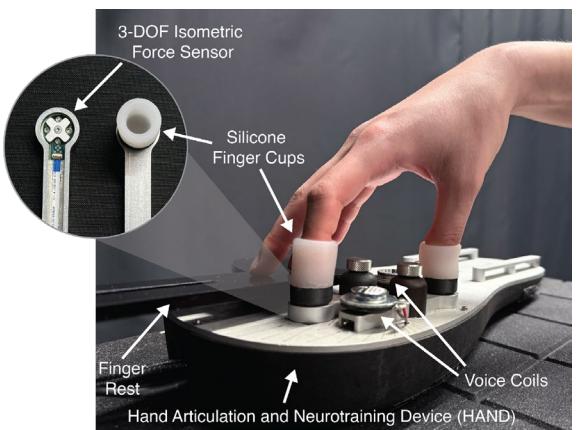
Prosthetics



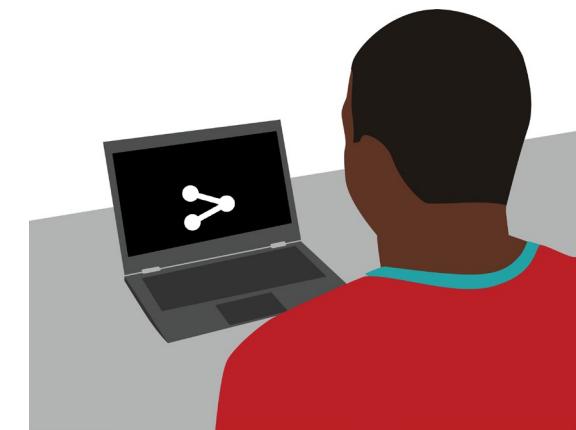
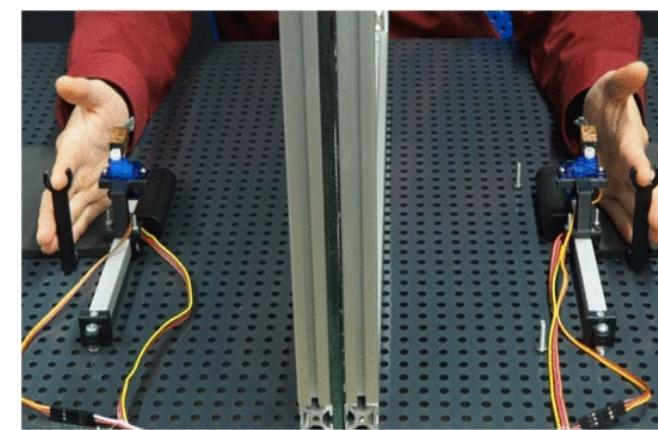
Surgical Robotics



Rehabilitation



Perception



2024 Graduates

Master's Graduates

Anway Pimpalkar – Harvard PhD Candidate

Hannah Qu – Boston Scientific

Delphine Tan – Johnson & Johnson

Ariana Diaz – Future PhD Candidate

PhD Graduates

Dr. Naveed Riaziat, PhD – Intuitive Surgical

Dr. Sergio Machaca, PhD – Sensetics

Dr. Alex Miller, PhD – Business Owner



Thank you! Questions?



About Me

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