

# Forearm Fracture Model

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# Outline

- Client
- Problem Statement
- Background
- Existing Products/Procedures
- Design Specifications
- Design Matrix
- Final Design
- Future Work
- Acknowledgements

# Client

Dr. Matt Halanski  
Orthopedic Surgeon  
Clinical Medicine  
Orthopedic Research  
Associate Professor



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# Problem Statement

To develop a pediatric forearm fracture model that provides temperature, skin surface pressure, and bone alignment feedback for use by medical school residents in order to practice and learn safe, effective casting techniques.

# Background

- 75% pediatric forearm fractures are distal
- Both bones or only radius
- Caused by fall on outstretched hand
- May include wrist fracture
- Proximal fragment in neutral or slight supination
- Weight of hand with pronator quadratus pronates distal fragment



Distal forearm fracture  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distal\\_radius\\_fracture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distal_radius_fracture)

# Background



Volar Angulation

<http://www.learningradiology.com/archives05/COW%20157-Galeazzi%20Fx/galeazzicorrect.htm>

- When completely broken, bones shorten, angulate, and rotate within surrounding membrane and muscle attachments
- Angulation
  - Volar
  - Dorsal
  - Toward or away from interosseous space
- Axis of rotation from distal ulnar head to proximal radial head

# Background

## Fracture Types:

- Growth plate fracture (Physeal fracture)
- Torus fracture
- Metaphyseal fracture
- Greenstick fracture
- Galeazzi fracture
- Monteggia fracture

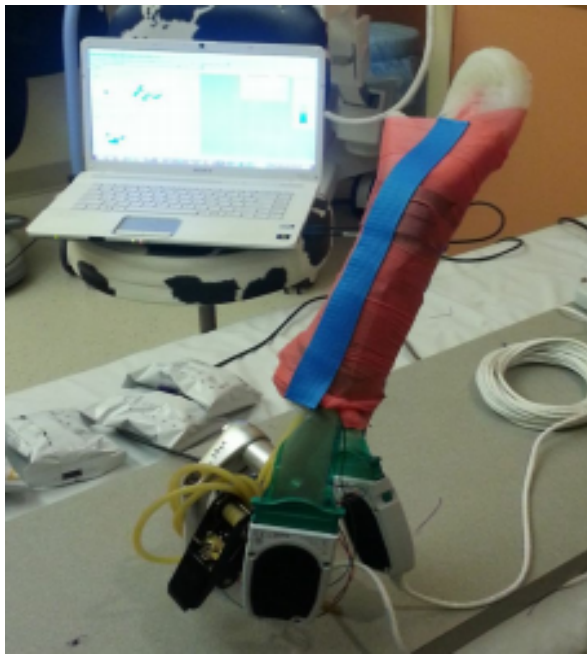


Greenstick Fracture

<http://www.imageinterpretation.co.uk/wrist.html>

# Existing Products/Procedures

- Teaching tools not commercially available
- BME 402 Team Spring 2013
- Residents currently learn casting in situ with instructions from experienced orthopedic surgeon



Final product in Spring 2013

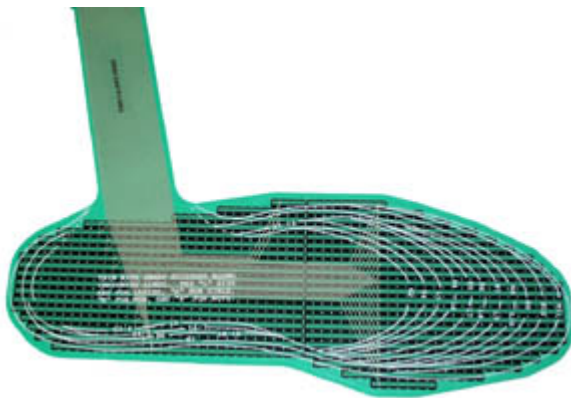


Client's previous forearm model

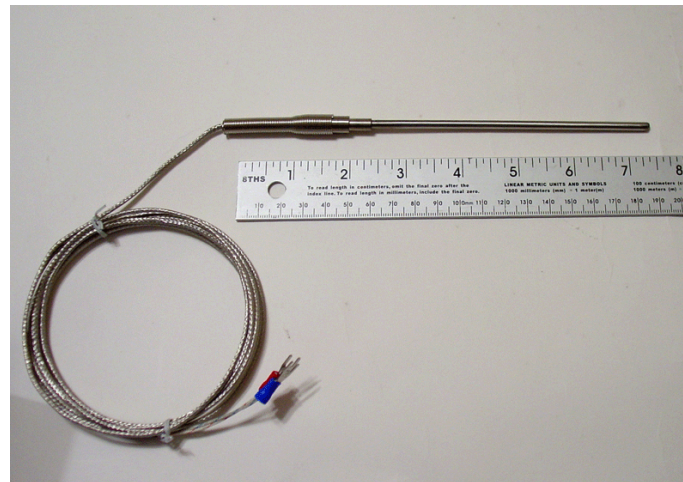


# BME 402 Team Spring 2013

- Radius and ulna represented as one piece
- Strain gage potentiometers measure fracture angle
- Tekscan Foot Pressure Mapping system
- Thermocouple for temperature sensing
- Platsil Gel-10 tissue representation
- Latex surgical tubing to create fracture/resistance



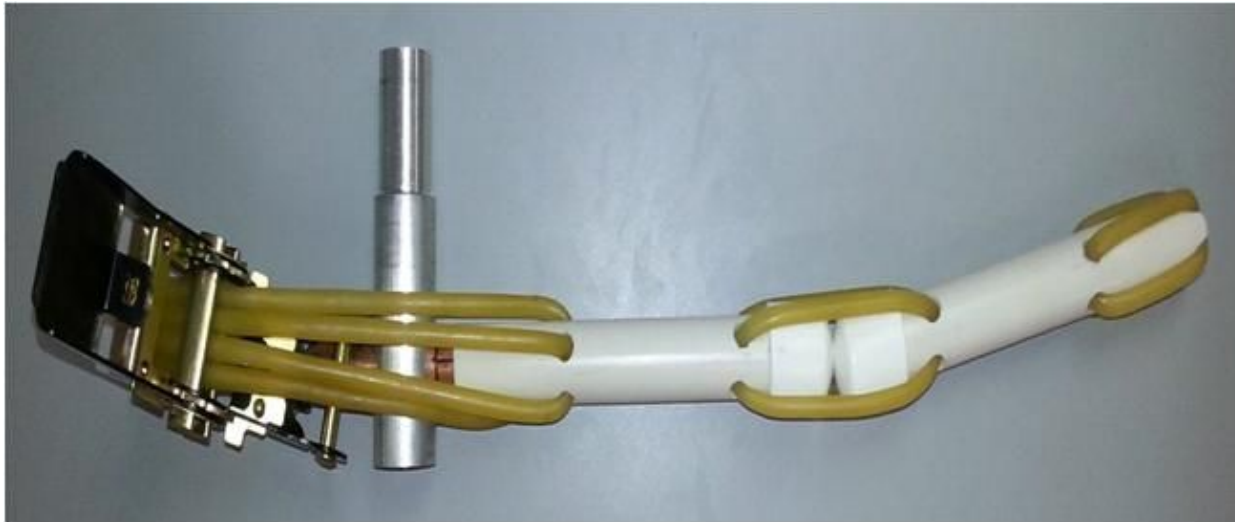
Tekscan Foot Pressure Mapping System  
<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2009/09/prweb2886554.htm>



Thermocouple  
[http://www.auberins.com/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=20\\_3](http://www.auberins.com/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=20_3)

# Problems with Existing Design

- Fracture location
- Not user friendly
- Poor accuracy in 3D for alignment
- Poor modular resistance for bone realignment
- No protection for hardware



Bone alignment after Spring 2013. Fracture in the middle, not at the distal end of the arm. Use of bands to create resistance.

# Design Specifications

- Create distal fracture in model
- Computer interface
- Mechanical modular resistance
- Record pressure
- Record temperature
- Protect hardware from heat and force
- Realistic model of pediatric forearm

# Software Specifications

- Single user interface presenting all data
- Live color coded pressure map
- Internal and external temperature display with alerts for high temperatures
- Fracture angle and displacement display
- Data logging enabling user to analyze



Software interface

[http://sci.washington.edu/info/forums/reports/pressure\\_map.asp](http://sci.washington.edu/info/forums/reports/pressure_map.asp)

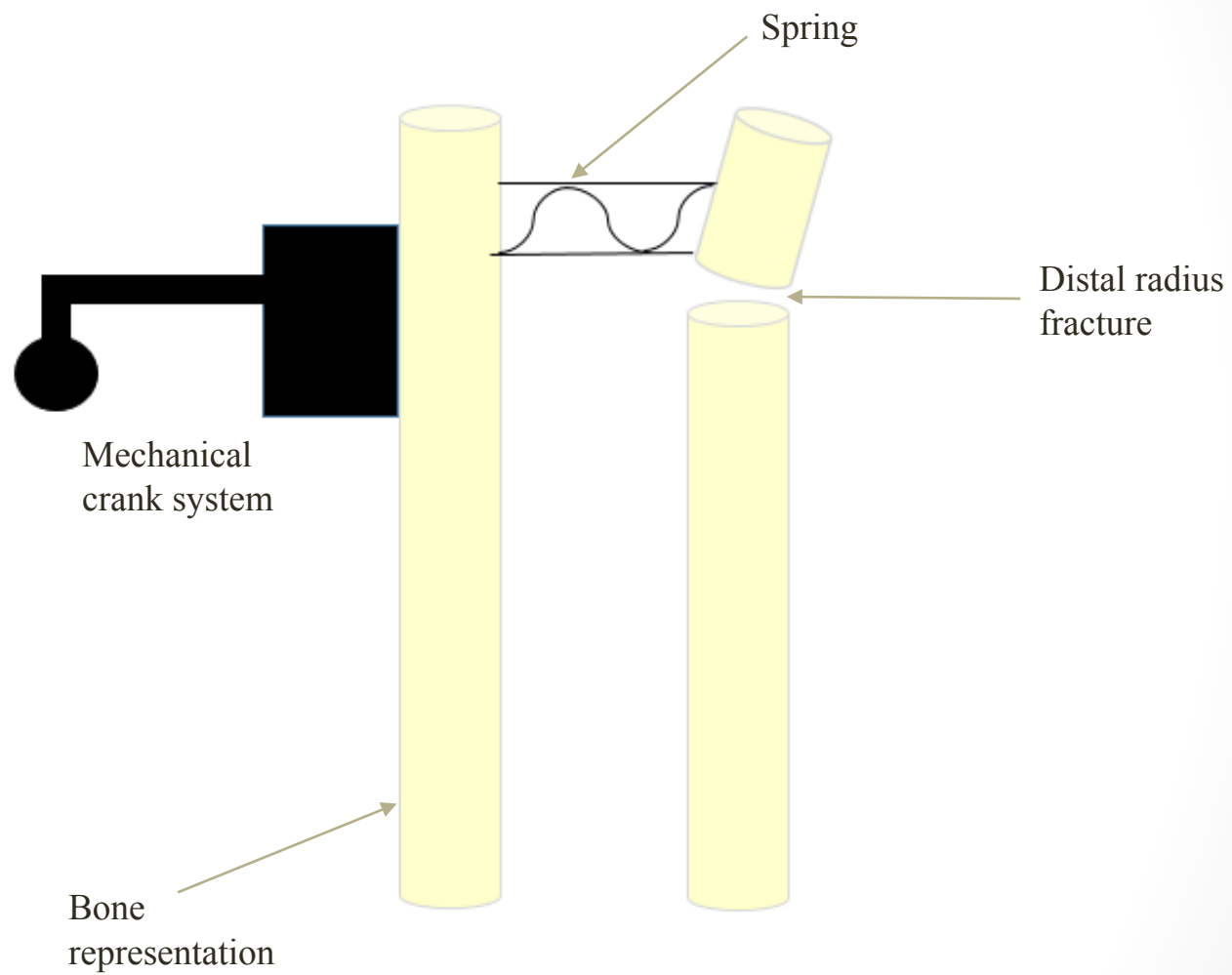
# Component Design Matrices

- Pressure Mapping System
- Modular Fracture System

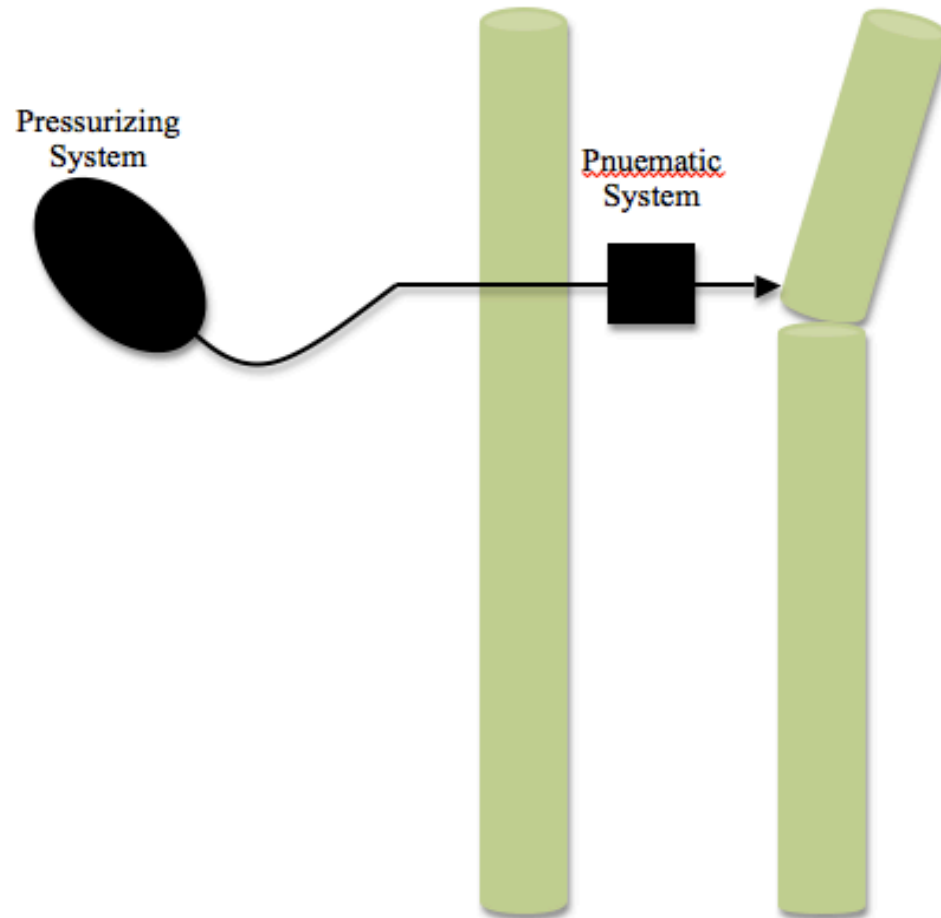
# Pressure Mapping Design Matrix

Design Criteria	Weight	TekScan (Foot)		TactArray		Custom Forearm Sensors	
Accuracy	30	2	12	3	18		
Data Output	25	3	15	3	15		
Usability	20	2	8	4	16		
Cost	15	3	9	1	3		
Safety	10	4	8	4	8		
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>52</b>		<b>62</b>			

# Mechanical System



# Pneumatic System



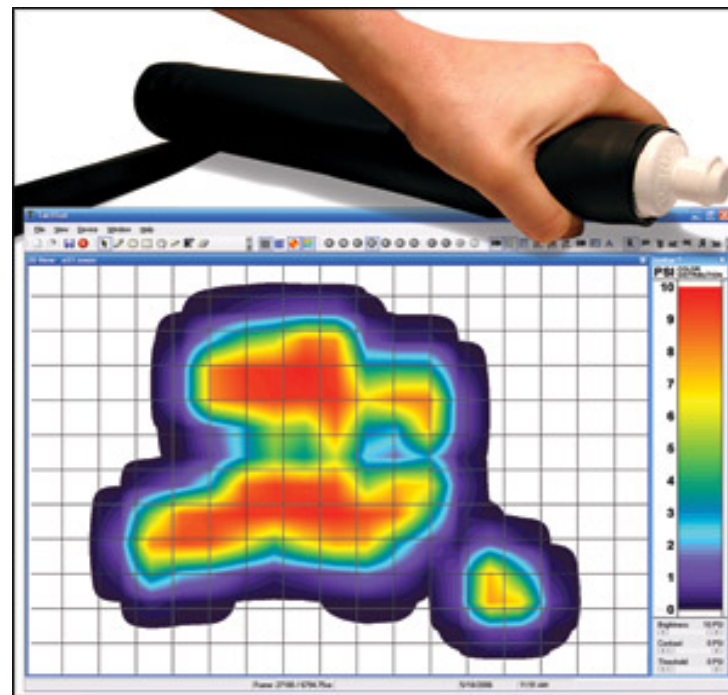


# Modular Fracture Design Matrix

Design Criteria	Weight	Bands		Pneumatic System		Mechanical System	
Resistance Variability	30	2	12	5	30	4	25
Usability	25	2	10	4	20	3	15
Manufacturability	25	4	20	3	15	3	15
Cost	10	5	10	3	6	4	8
Safety	10	4	8	4	8	4	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>60</b>		<b>77</b>		<b>71</b>	

# Final Design

- Pneumatic system for different resistances for bone fracture
- Use two bones made of PVC with 0.5" diameter
- Improve software-user interface to show pressure during casting
- Move fracture to distal
- Custom forearm pressure mapping system



Custom pressure mapping system

[http://www.sensorprod.com/news/pr/2008-04\\_foodmarketing/image01.jpg](http://www.sensorprod.com/news/pr/2008-04_foodmarketing/image01.jpg)

# Future Work

- Purchase PVC pipe
- Explore custom forearm pressure system
- Develop pneumatic system to control fracture
- Recreate Platsil forearm representation
- Testing of pressure and alignment system
- Develop protective sleeve
- Integrate software into one user display
- Residents test device



# Acknowledgements

- Dr. Matt Halanski
- Professor Mitchell Tyler
- Gabe Bautista
- Dr. John Kao
- Professor Tom Yen

# References

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