



# ROBOTIC CARICATURE ARTIST

TEAM 2

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ECE 445, SENIOR DESIGN, SPRING 2018




# INTRODUCTION

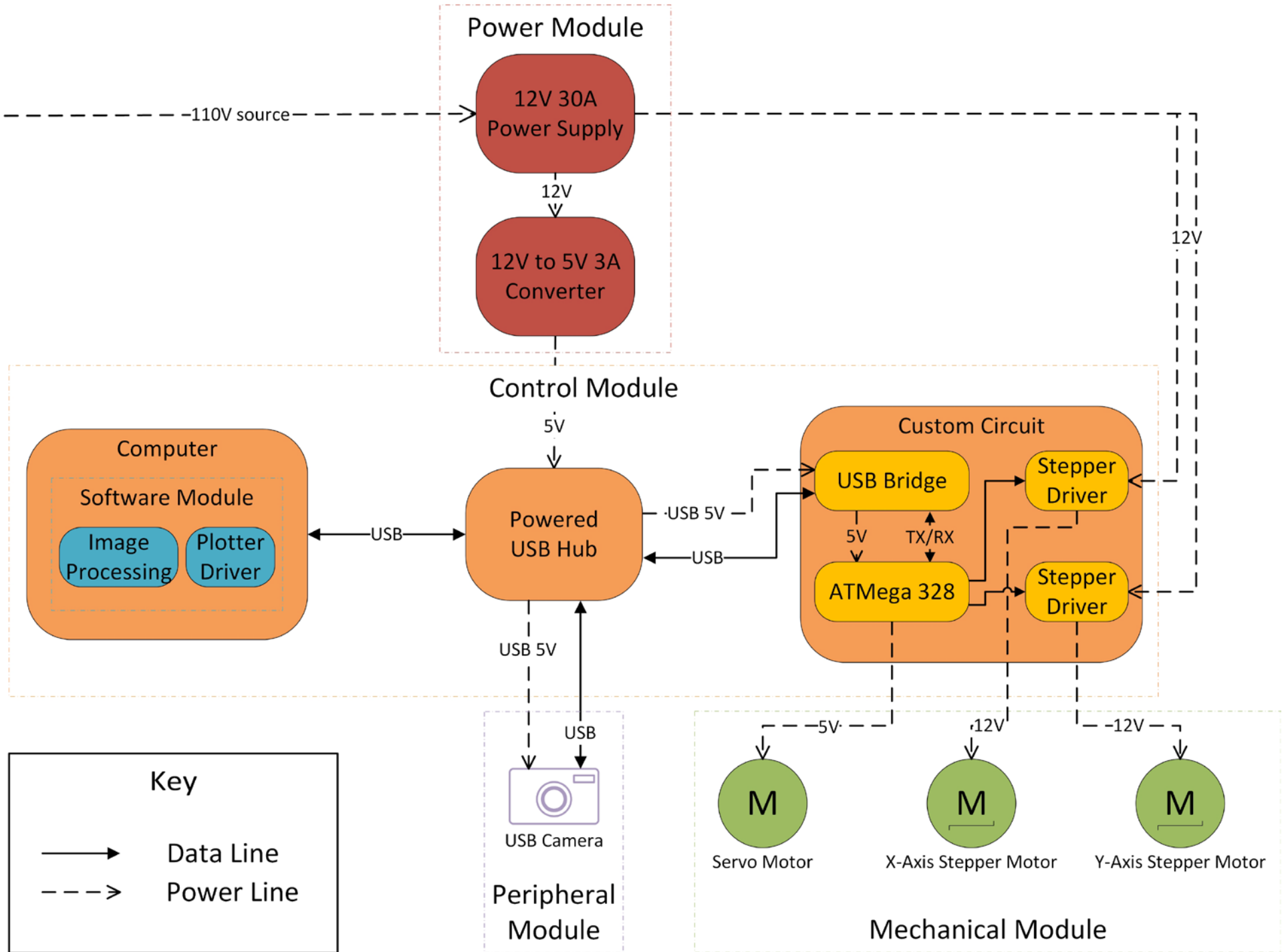
- Our goal: replicate the experience provided by a caricature artist

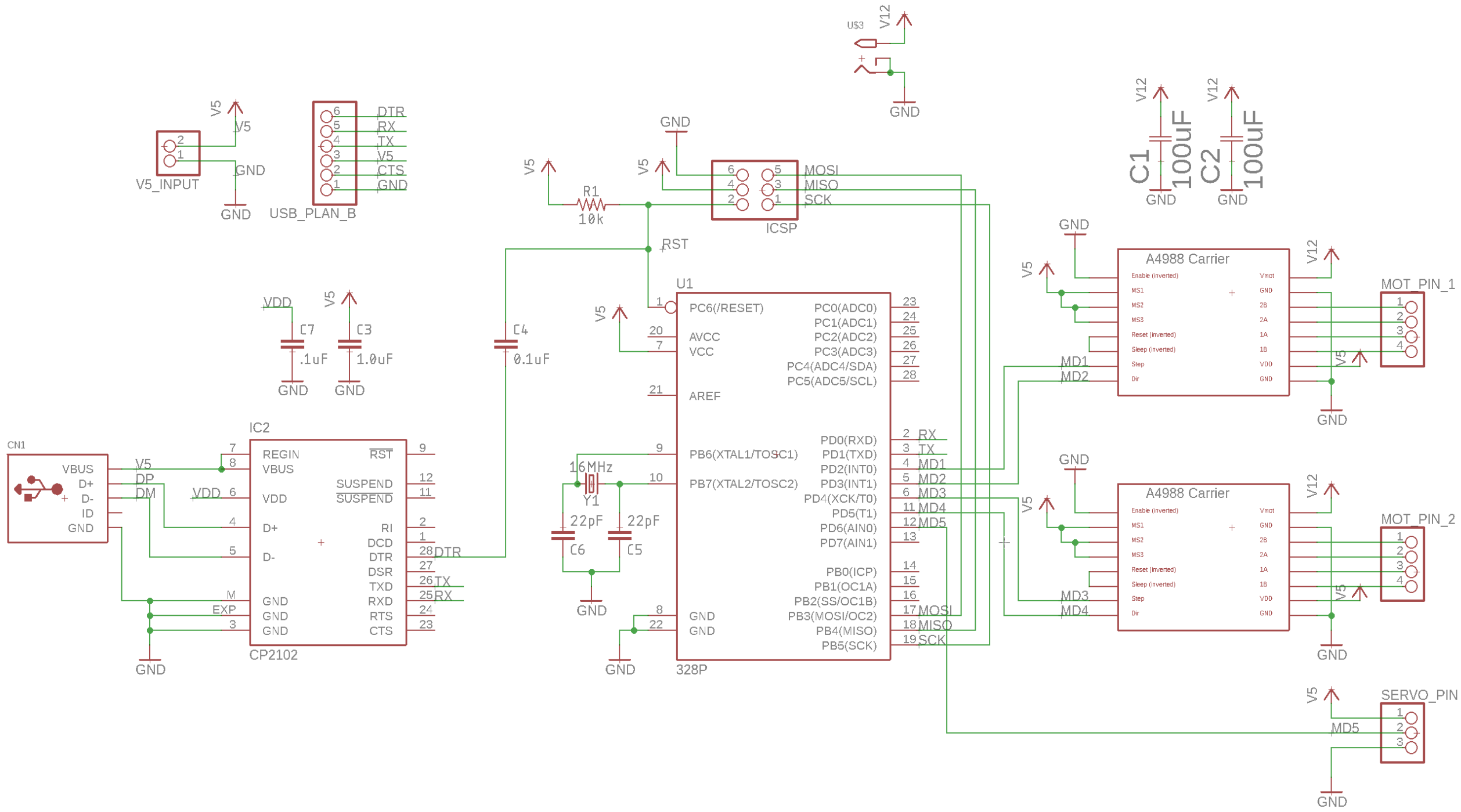




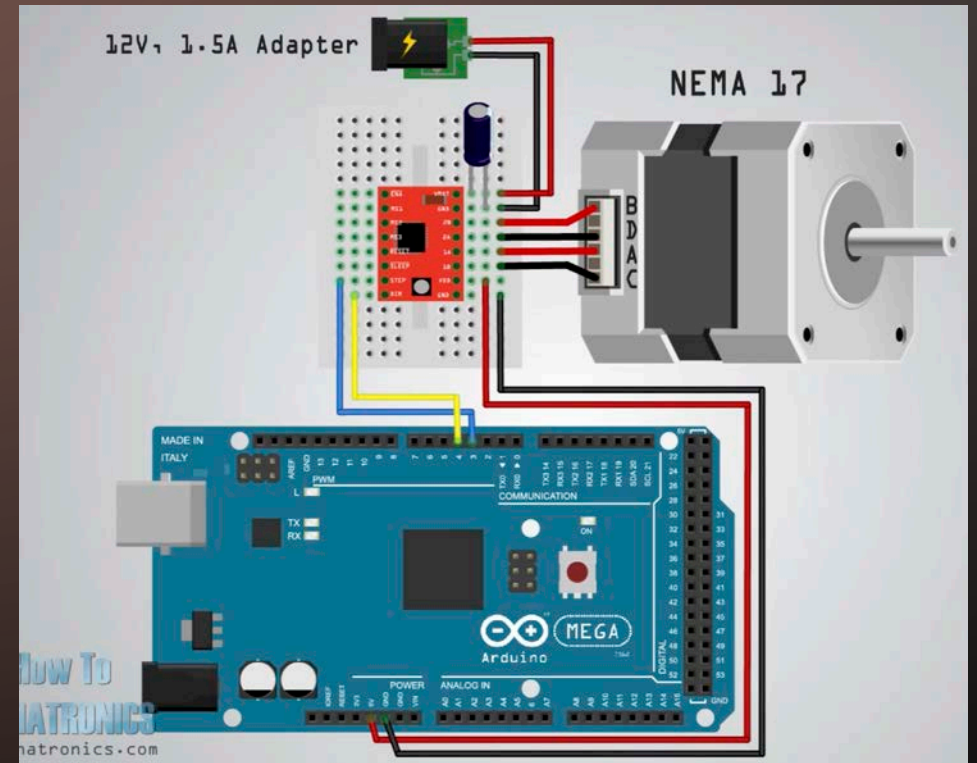
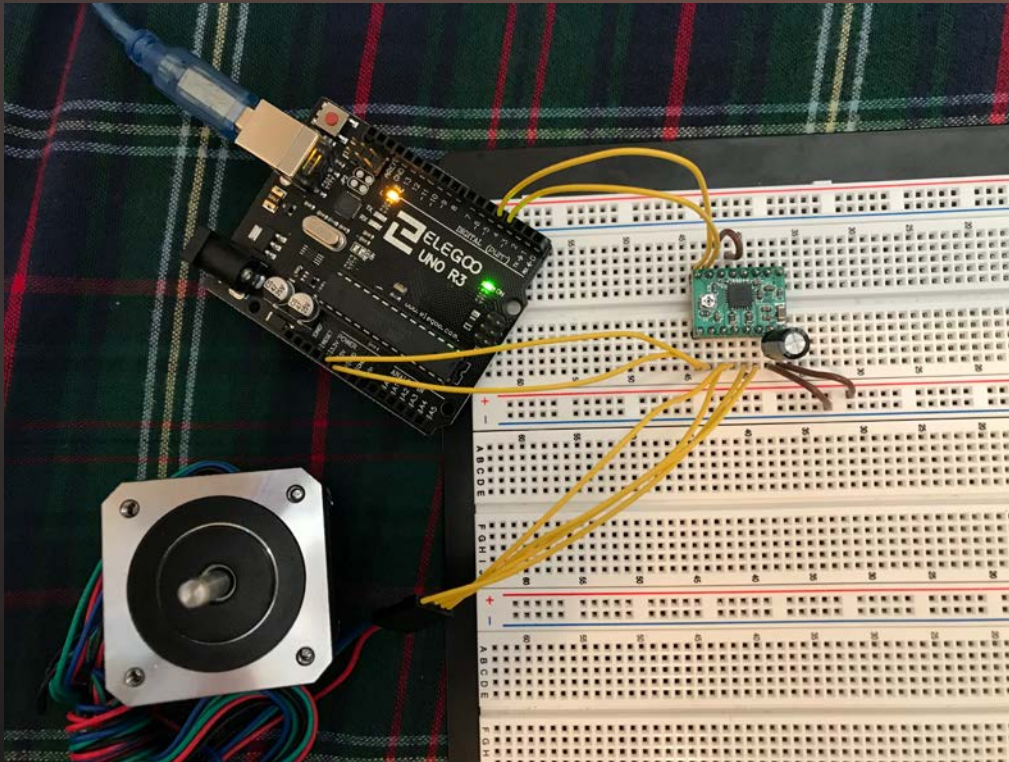
# OBJECTIVES

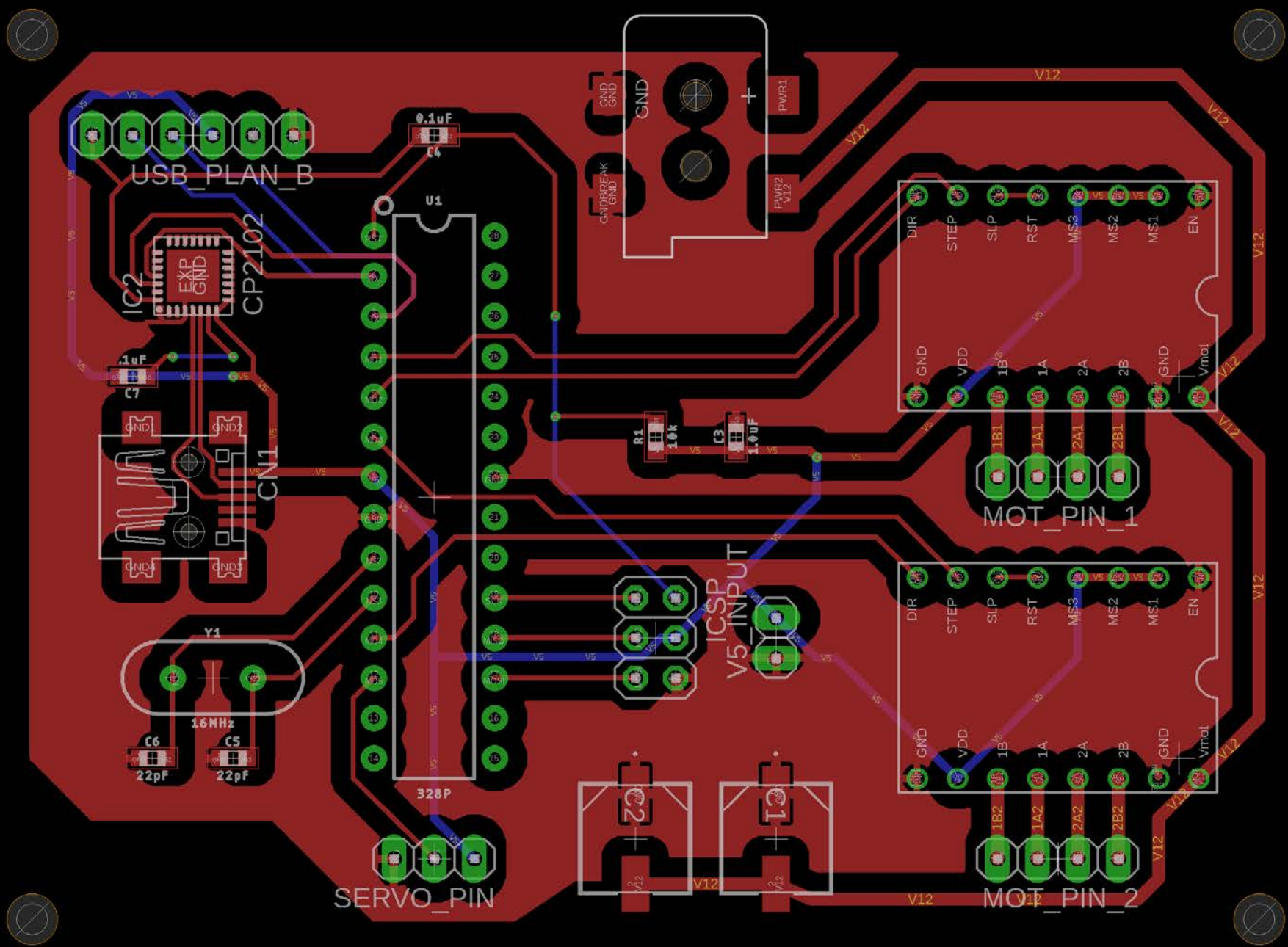
- Capable of operating in a variety of conditions
  - Drawing should take less than 20 minutes
  - Entire process should be autonomous
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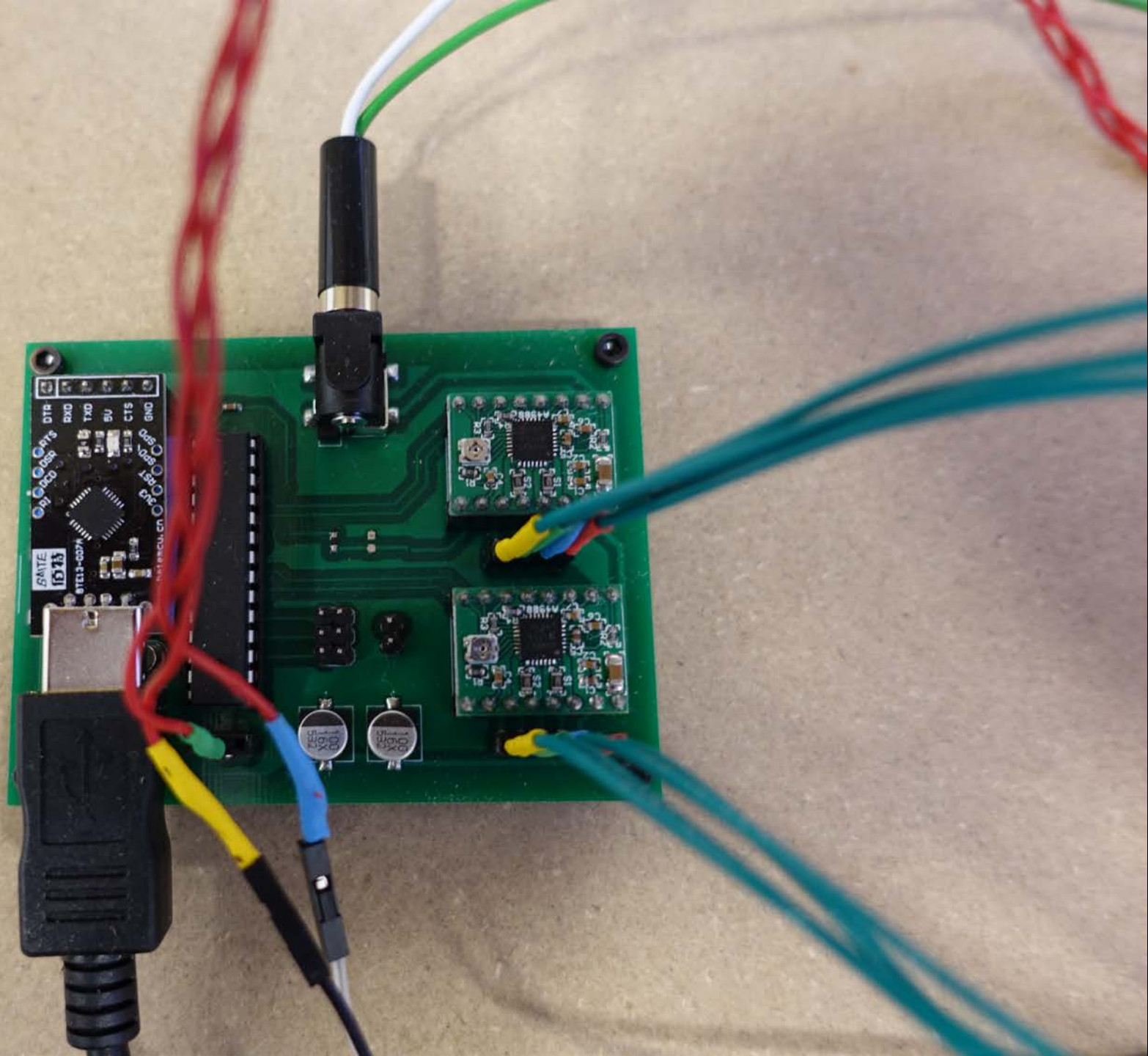




# CIRCUIT – PROTOTYPE



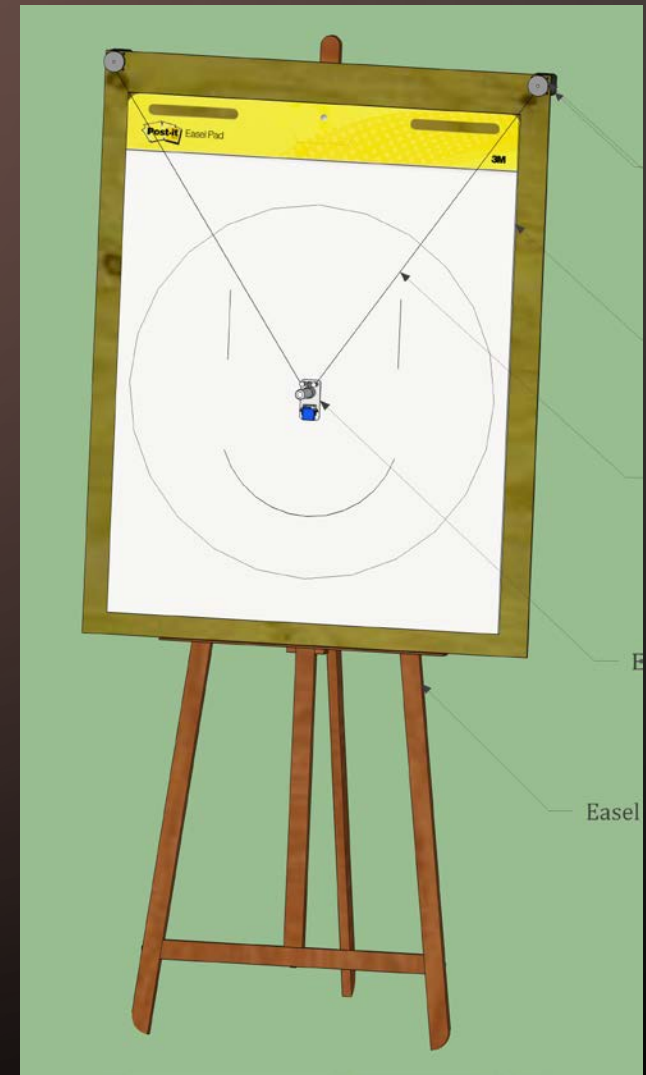






# MECHANICAL DESIGN – REQUIREMENTS

- Greatly influences rest of project
- Simple
- Support drawings  $> 8.5'' \times 11''$ 
  - (Pad is  $20'' \times 23''$ )
- No special tools
- Correct and reliable!



# MECHANICAL DESIGN – DIMENSIONS

## Accuracy Equations

$$x = \cos(\alpha) * d$$

$$y = \sin(\alpha) * d$$

$$d = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\alpha = \text{atan2}(y, x)$$

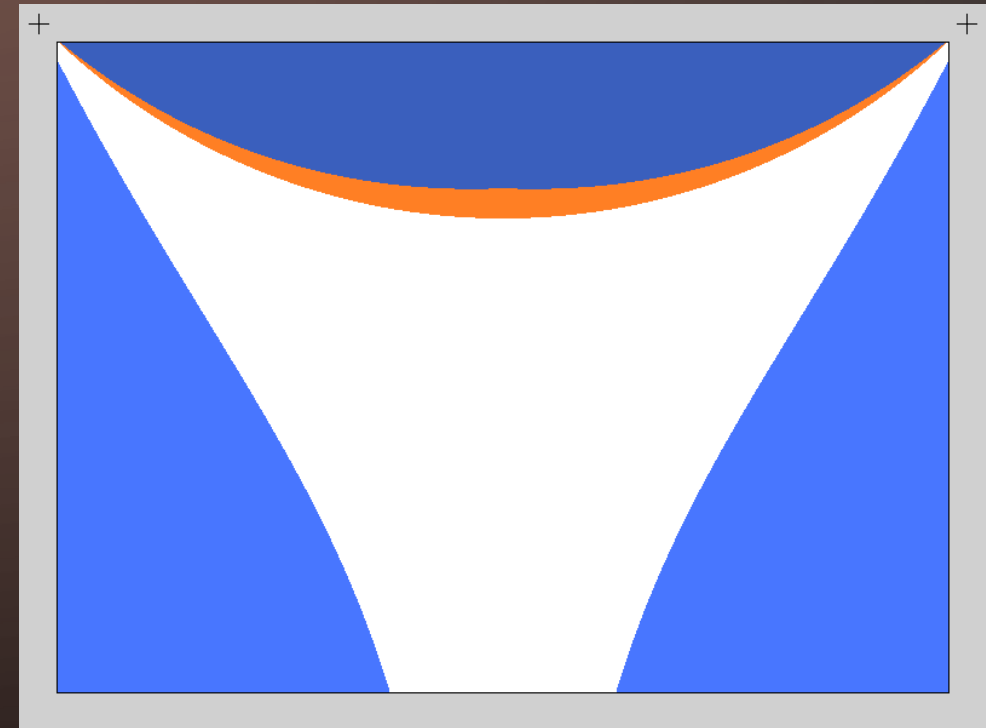
## Tension Equations

$$t_{left} = \frac{\cos(\alpha_{right}) * m}{\cos(\alpha_{left}) * \sin(\alpha_{right}) + \sin(\alpha_{left}) * \cos(\alpha_{right})}$$

$$t_{right} = \frac{\cos(\alpha_{left}) * m}{\cos(\alpha_{left}) * \sin(\alpha_{right}) + \sin(\alpha_{left}) * \cos(\alpha_{right})}$$

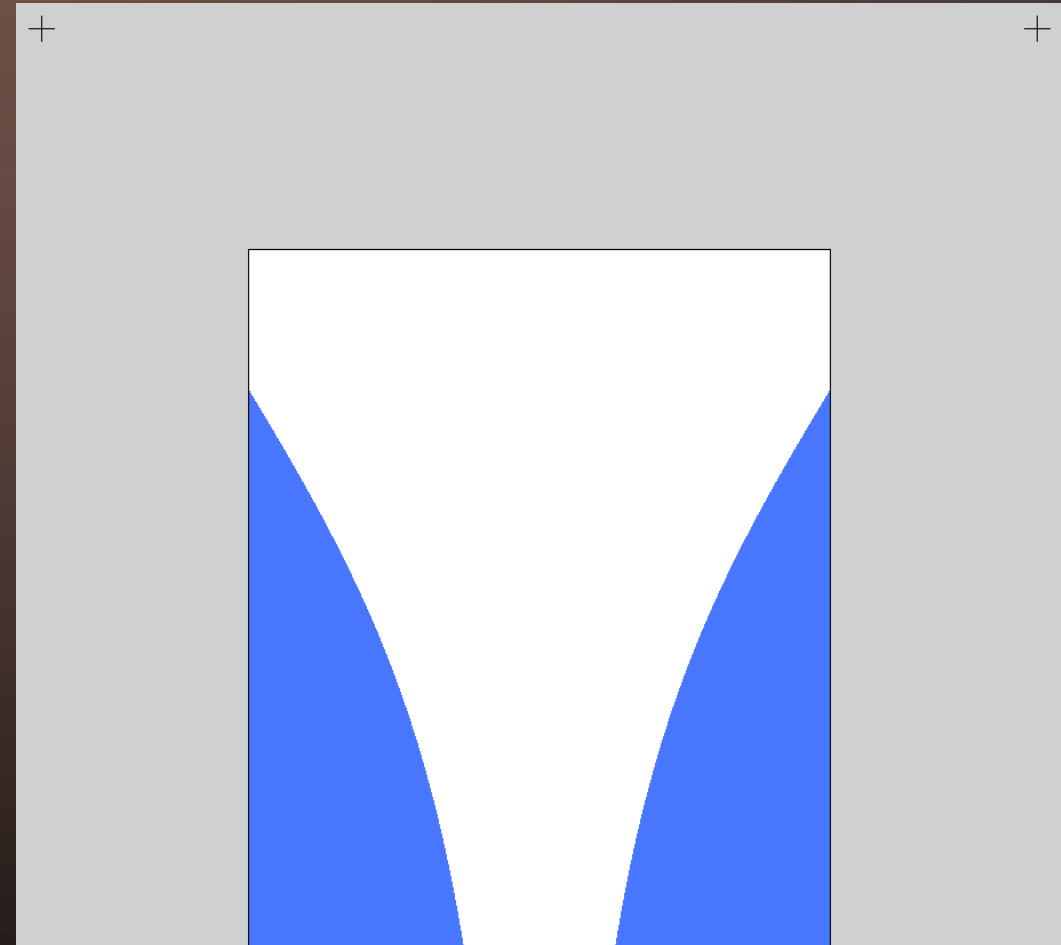
# MECHANICAL DESIGN – DIMENSIONS

- Program calculates tension/accuracy across area
- Orange = Poor Accuracy
  - (1 unit deviates more than 1.4 units)
- Blue = Poor Tension
  - ( $T < .5$  or  $T > 1.5$ )



# MECHANICAL DESIGN – DIMENSIONS

- 1mm = 1px
- Fix motors, allow border resizing
- Calculate plywood dimensions
  - 36" x 32.5"
- Calculate optimal draw area
  - 13.66" x 10.79"



# MECHANICAL DESIGN – DRIVE SYSTEM

- Many different options
  - (wire, beads, belts)
- Drive system should be consistent
- GT2 Belts, 16-Tooth Pulleys

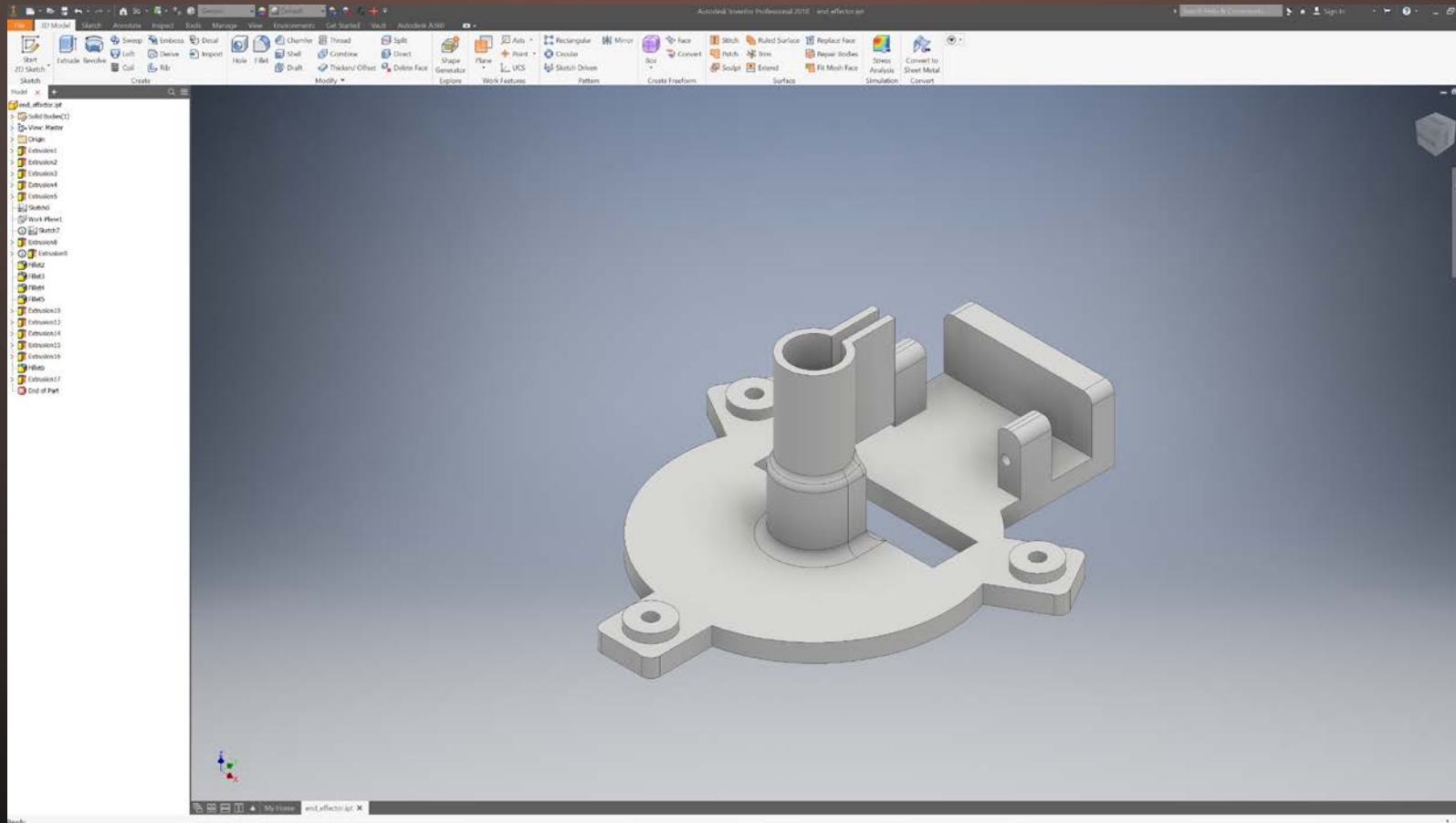


$$STEPS\_PER\_MM = \frac{STEPS\_REV * MICRO\_STEPS}{BELT\_PITCH * PULLEY\_TEETH} = \frac{200 * 16}{2 * 16} = 100$$

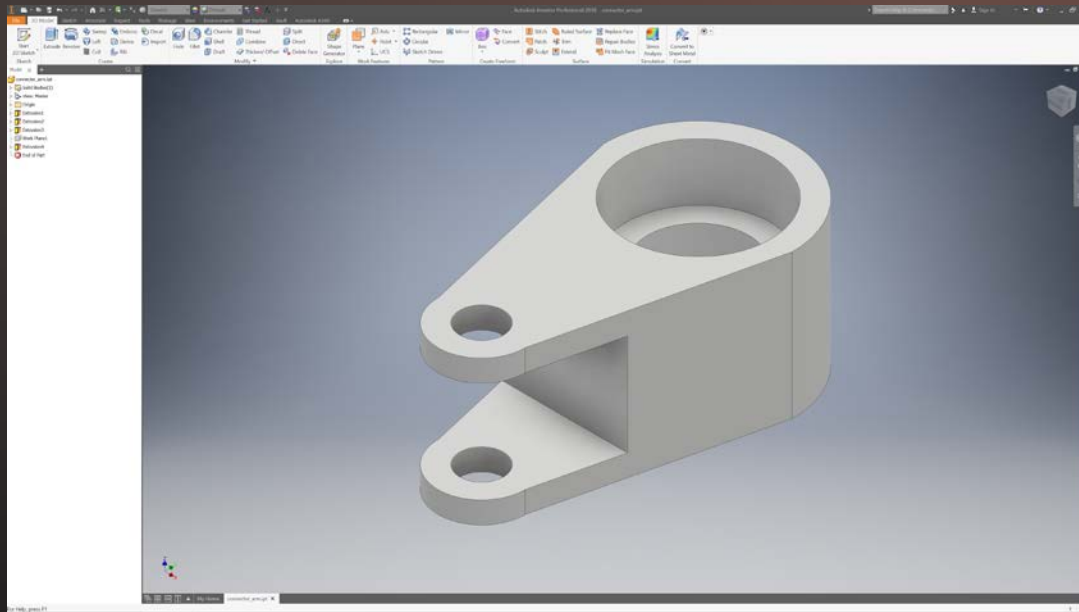
# MECHANICAL DESIGN – END EFFECTOR

- Servo lifts end effector
- Screwless pen holder
- No plastic on plastic contact
- Adjustable weight

# MECHANICAL DESIGN – END EFFECTOR

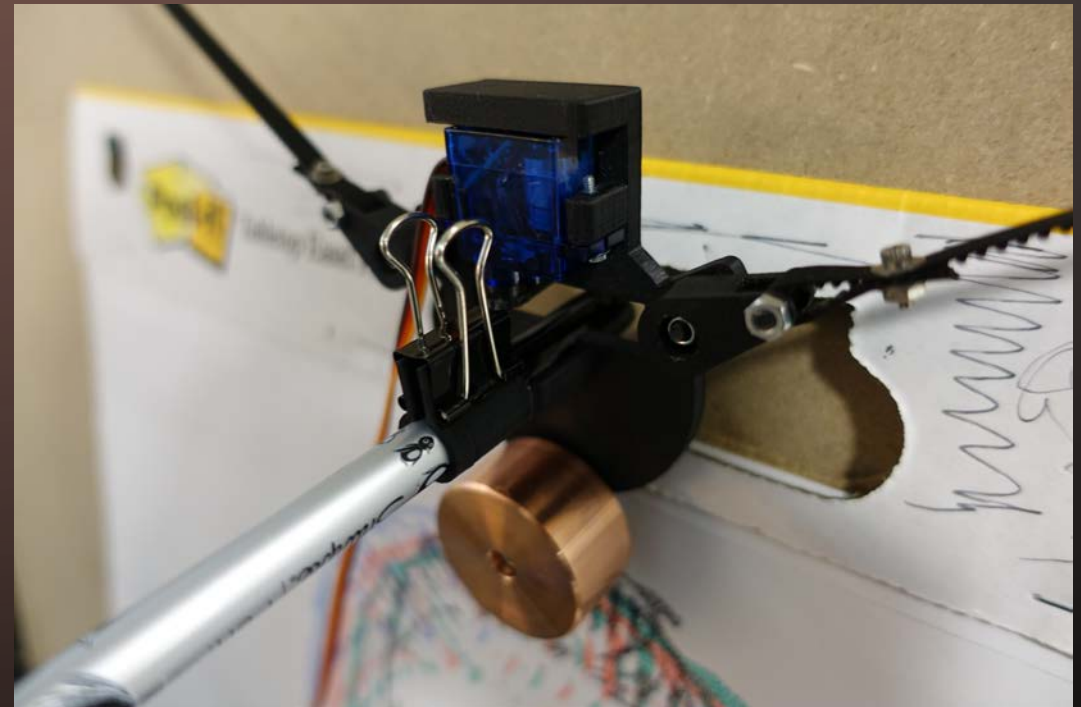


# MECHANICAL DESIGN – END EFFECTOR

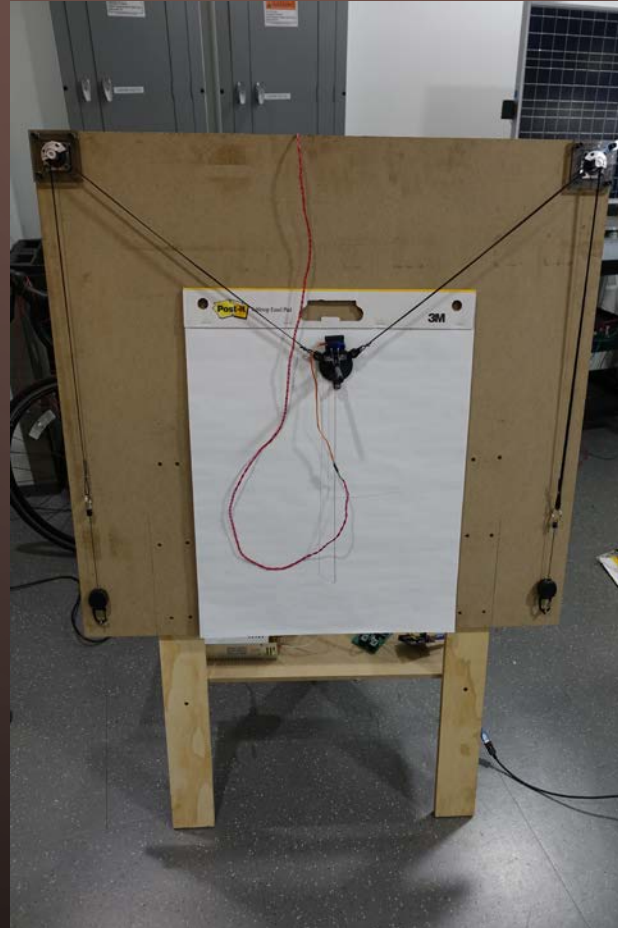




# MECHANICAL DESIGN – END EFFECTOR




# MECHANICAL DESIGN





# FIRMWARE – REQUIREMENTS

- Interface with computer
  - Execute G-Code instructions
  - Fault-tolerant
  - Fast and reliable
- 

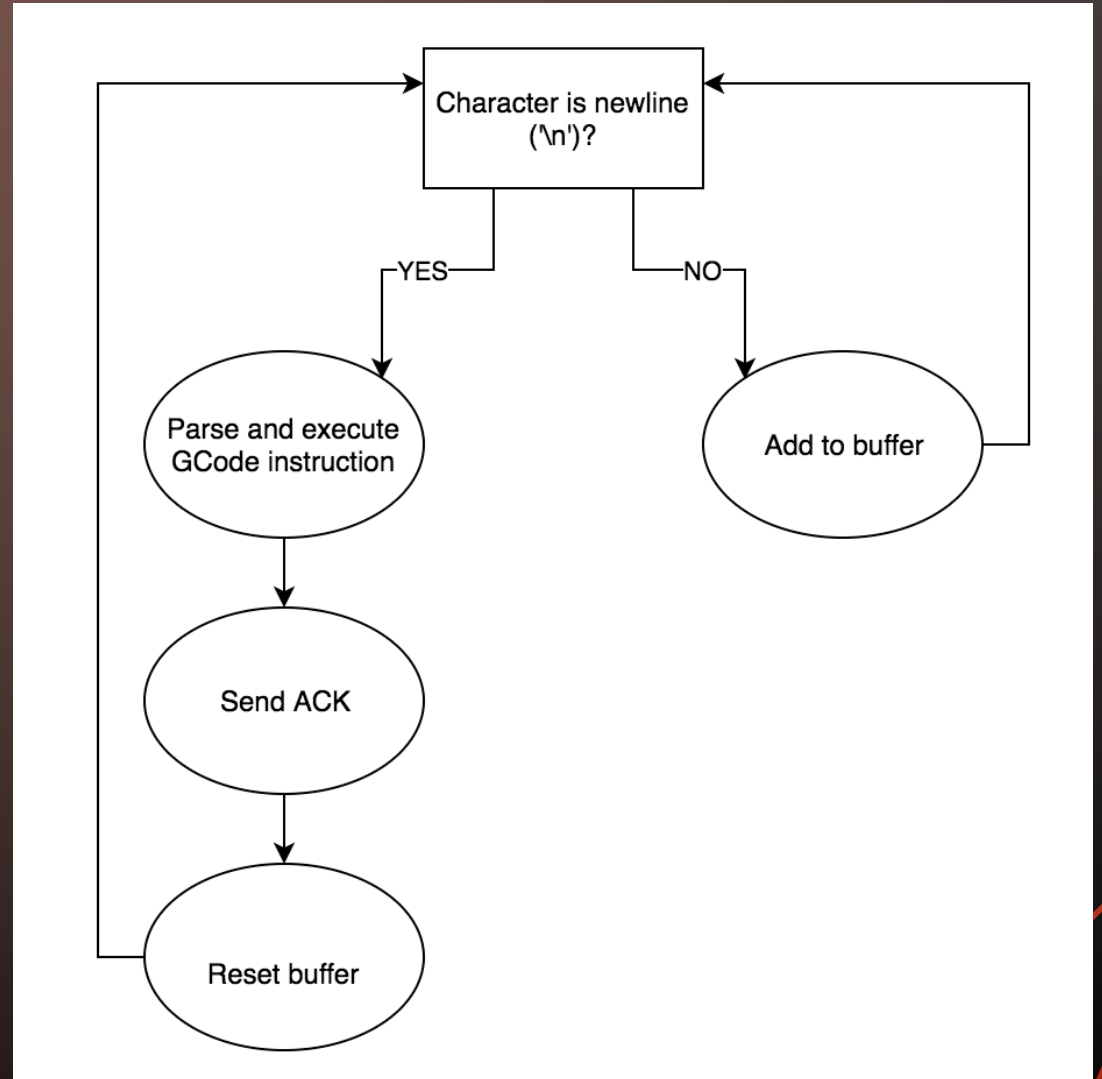


# FIRMWARE – CHALLENGES

- How do we quickly and reliably communicate G-Code instructions?
- How do we draw a line?

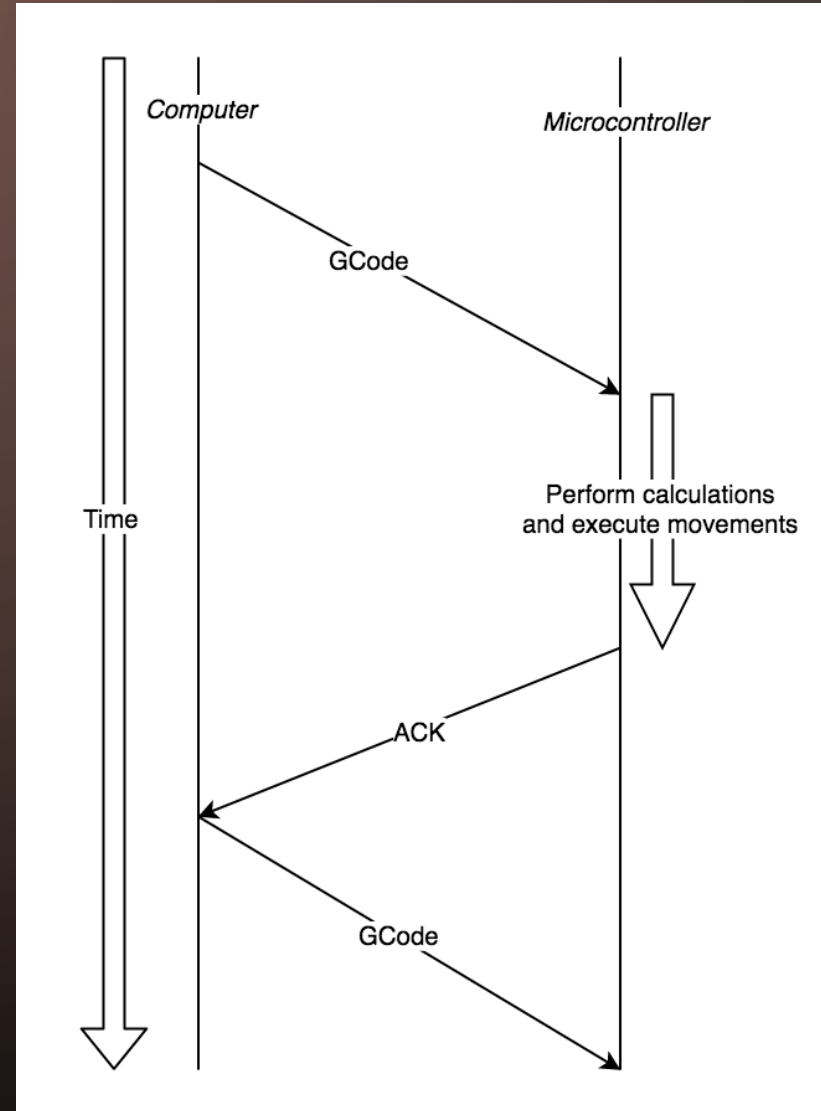
# FIRMWARE – COMMUNICATE G-CODE?

- G-Code is delimited by new line characters
- G-Code example:
  - “G0 X25 Y93 Z1 F32\n”
  - X – X position
  - Y – Y position
  - Z – servo position
  - F – stepper motor speed
- Python for communication on the sender side



# FIRMWARE – SMALL BUFFER SIZE ☹️

- 64 byte serial buffer size on ATmega328 (too small!)
- Solution: communicate acknowledgement of executed instruction



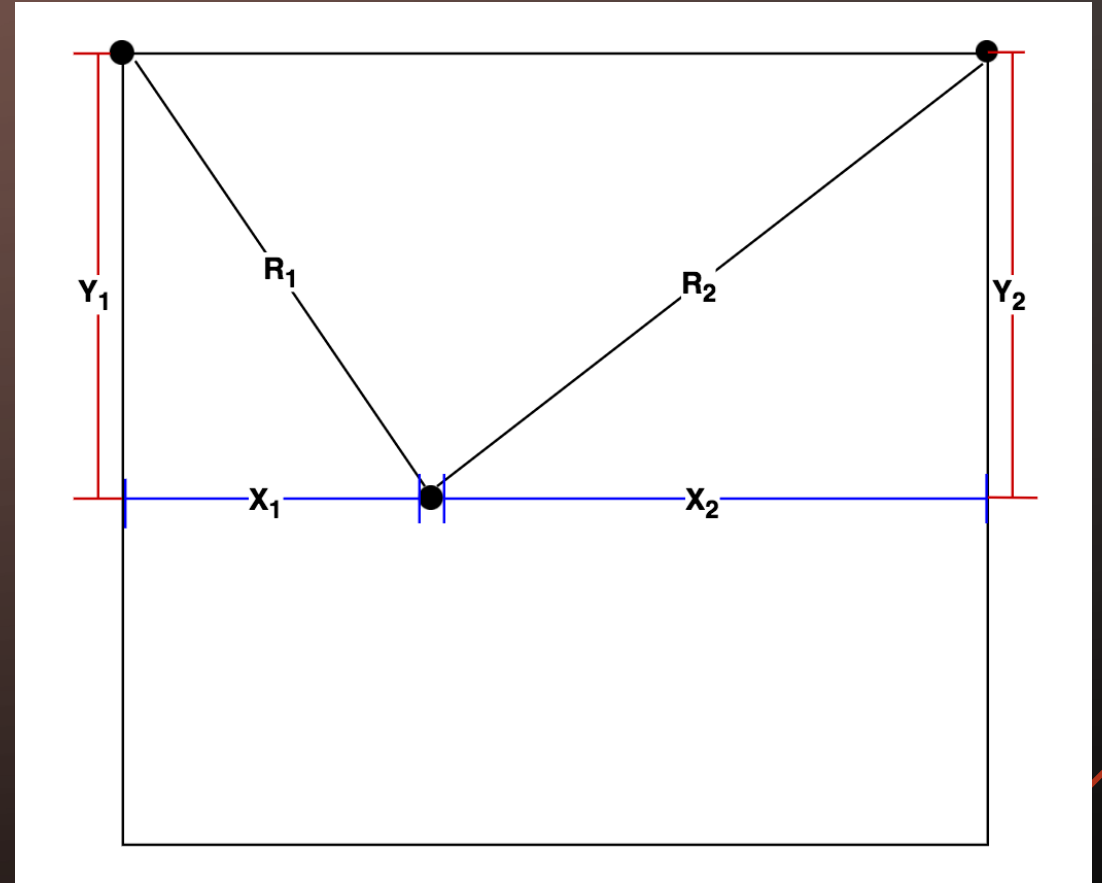
# FIRMWARE – HOW DO WE DRAW A LINE?

$$\Delta R_1 = \sqrt{X_{1,final}^2 + Y_{1,final}^2} - \sqrt{X_{1,initial}^2 + Y_{1,initial}^2}$$

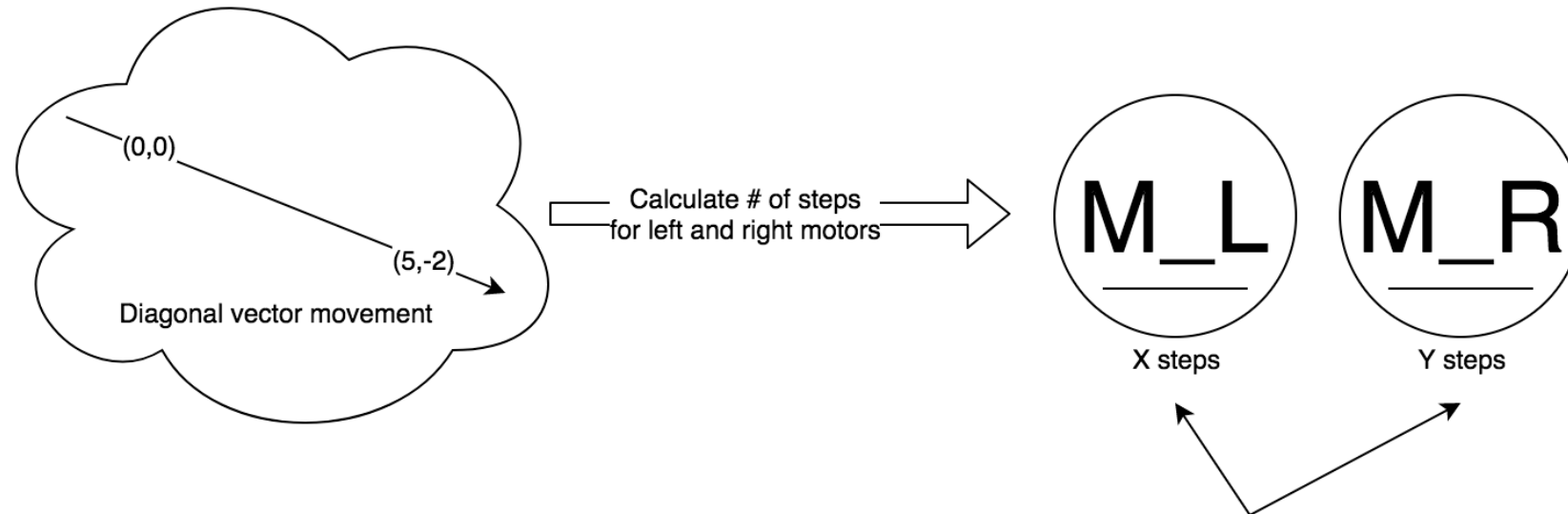
$$\Delta R_2 = \sqrt{X_{2,final}^2 + Y_{2,final}^2} - \sqrt{X_{2,initial}^2 + Y_{2,initial}^2}$$

$$MSteps_1 = STEPS\_PER\_MM * \Delta R_1$$

$$MSteps_2 = STEPS\_PER\_MM * \Delta R_2$$



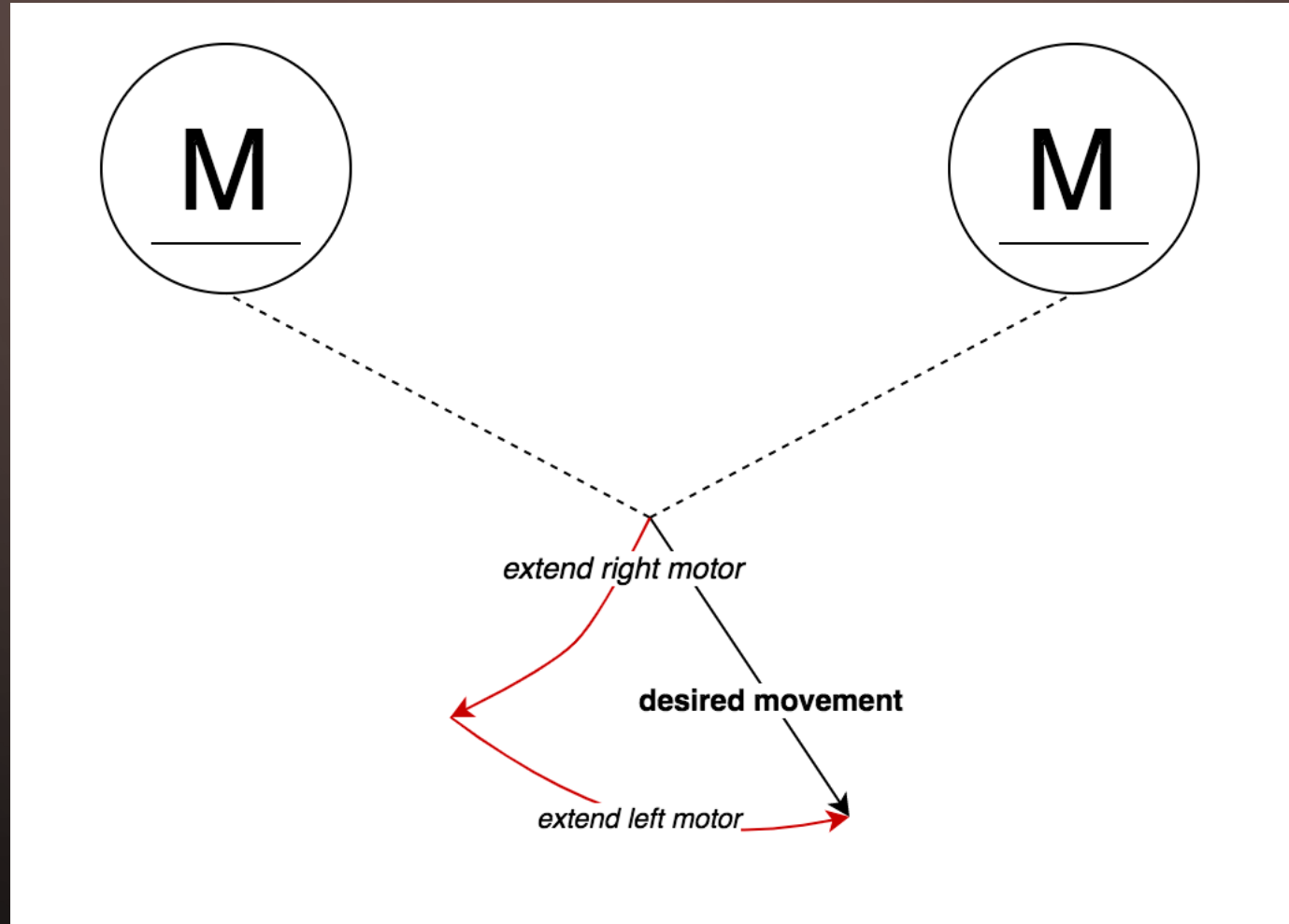
# FIRMWARE – HOW DO WE DRAW A LINE?



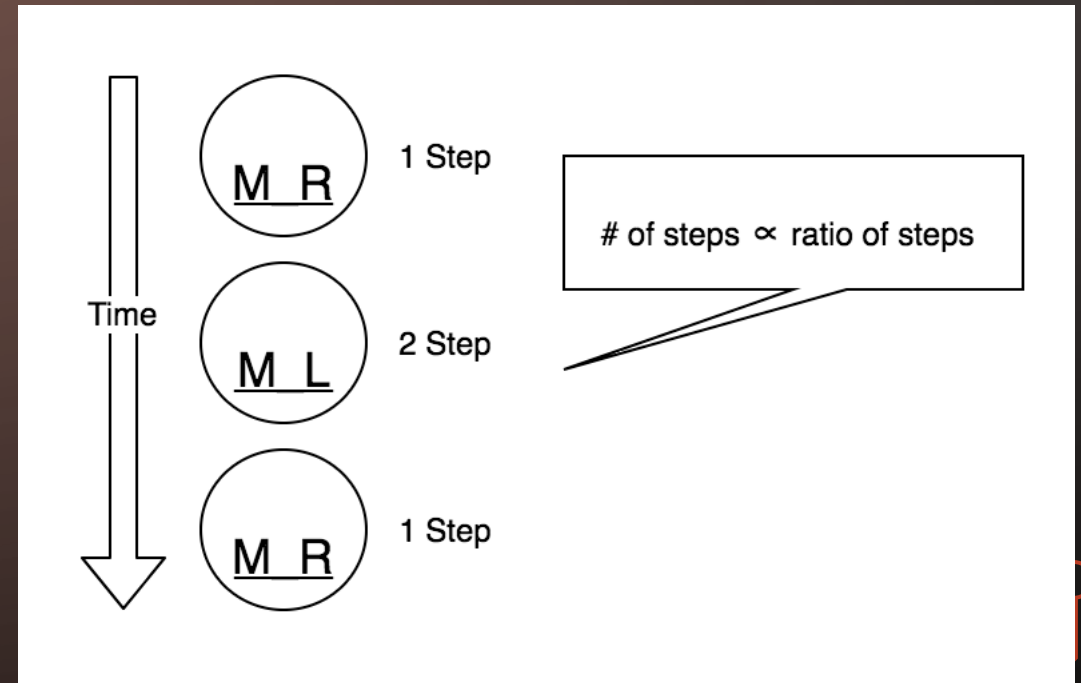
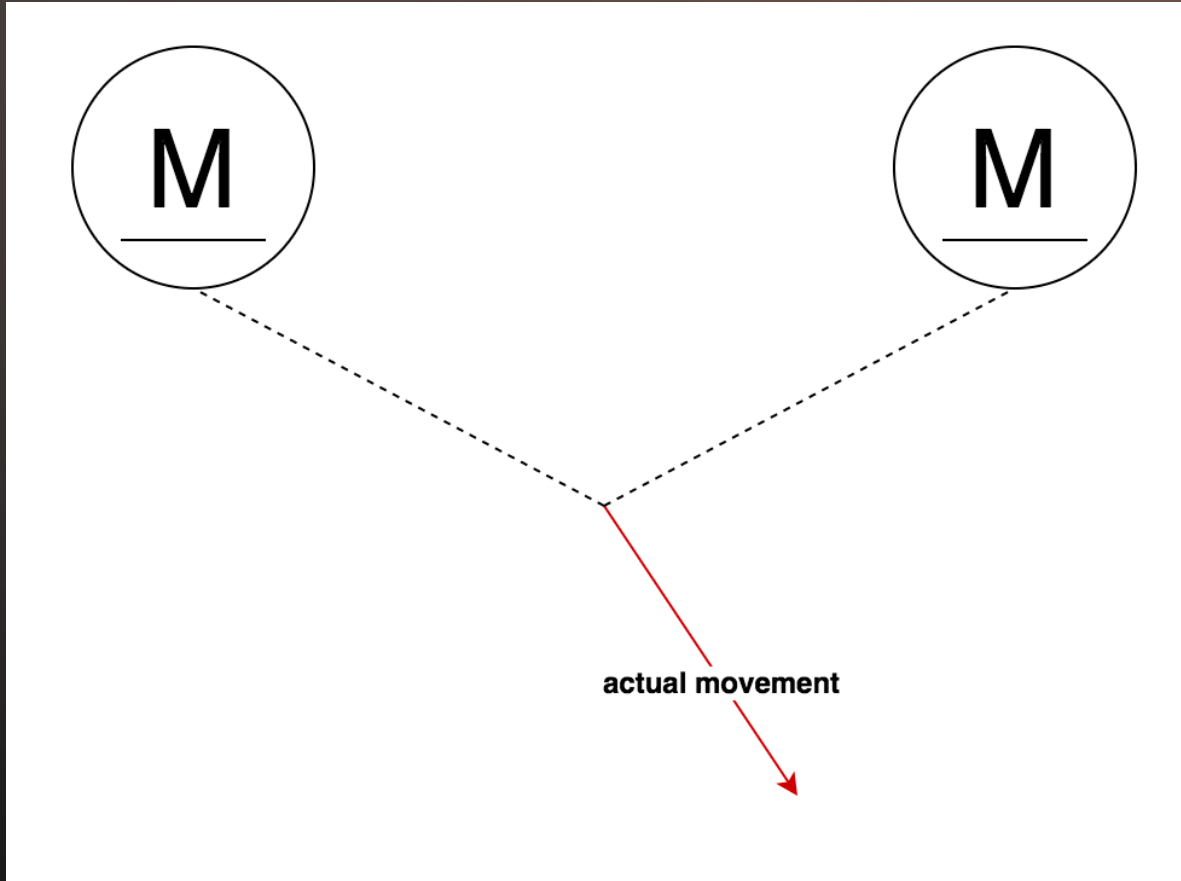
**How do we execute these steps to create a diagonal line?**



# FIRMWARE – PROBLEM



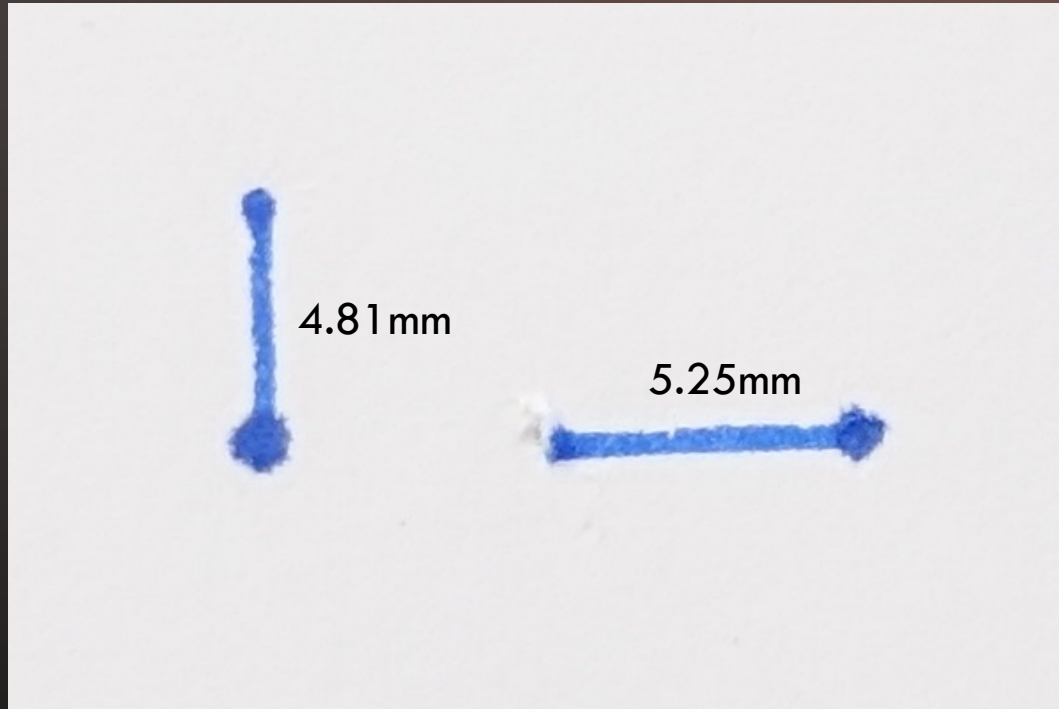
# FIRMWARE – SOLUTION



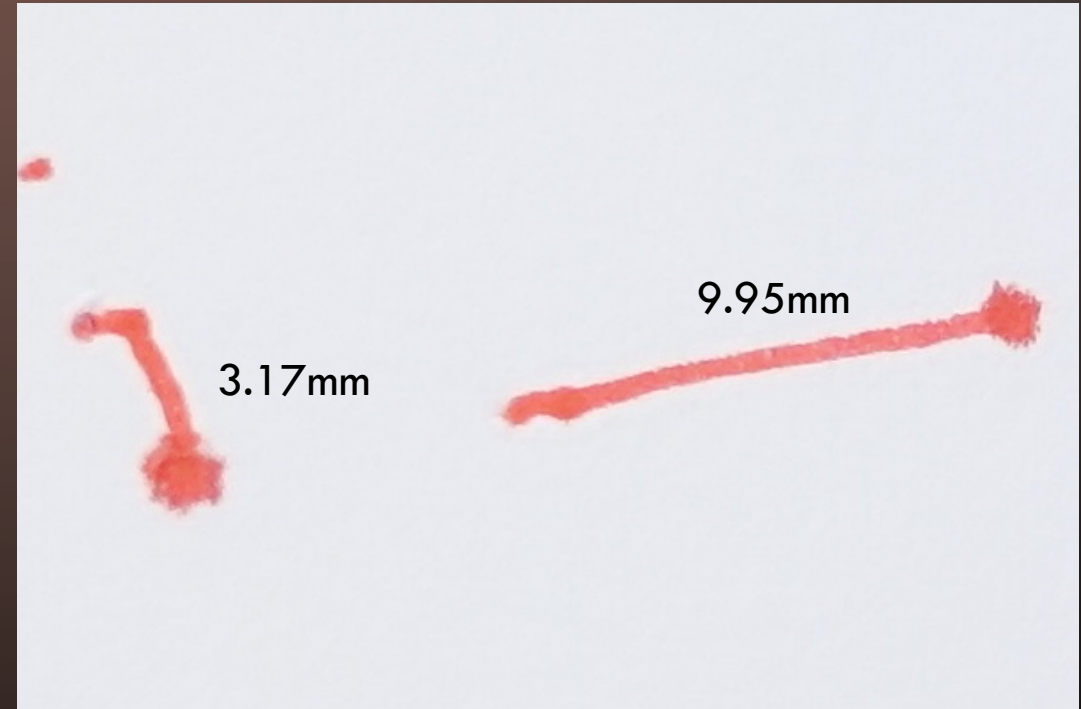
# FIRMWARE –BETTER SOLUTION

- Interleaving worked!
- We had to send the HI/LO signals ourselves
  - Jerky movements
  - Single speed PWM wave
  - Non-adjustable speed
- External library (better solution)
  - 30% speed increase
  - Less jerkiness
  - Speed adjustable by G-Code
  - Cleaner code (no need to calculate interleaving)

# FIRMWARE – TOLERANCE ANALYSIS 5MM

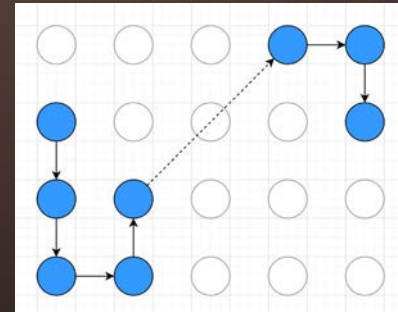


good region



bad region

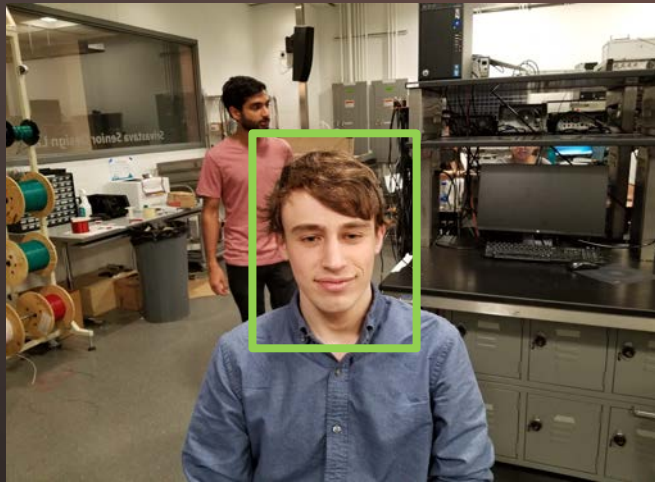
# SOFTWARE OVERVIEW



```
1 G0 X0 Y0 Z1 F25
2 G0 X-40.8 Y0.0 Z1
3 G0 X-40.8 Y0.0 Z0
4 G0 X-39.6 Y0.0 Z0
5 G0 X-38.4 Y0.0 Z0
6 G0 X-37.2 Y0.0 Z0
7 G0 X-36.0 Y0.0 Z0
```

# SEGMENTATION

Face detection with Haar Cascades [1]



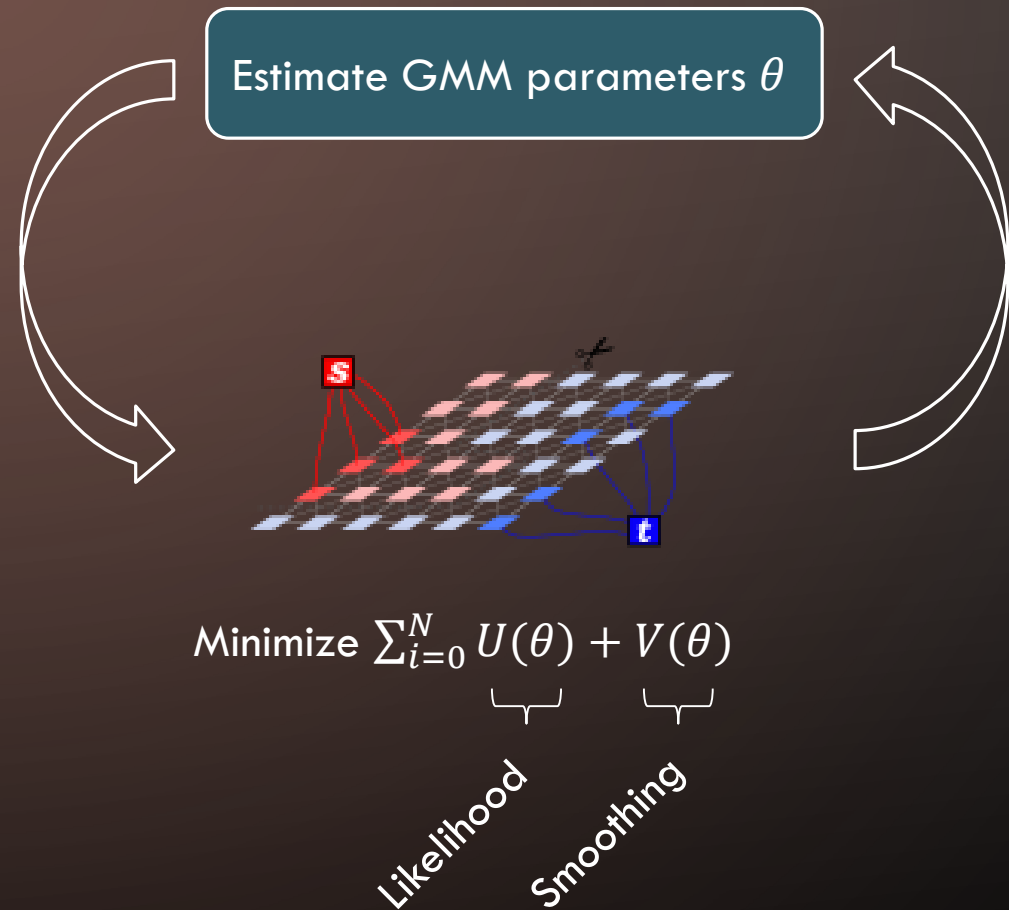
Outside rectangle = “probable background”  
Inside rectangle = “probable foreground”

After ~5 iterations of GrabCut

[1] [https://docs.opencv.org/3.3.0/d7/d8b/tutorial\\_py\\_face\\_detection.html](https://docs.opencv.org/3.3.0/d7/d8b/tutorial_py_face_detection.html)

# SEGMENTATION

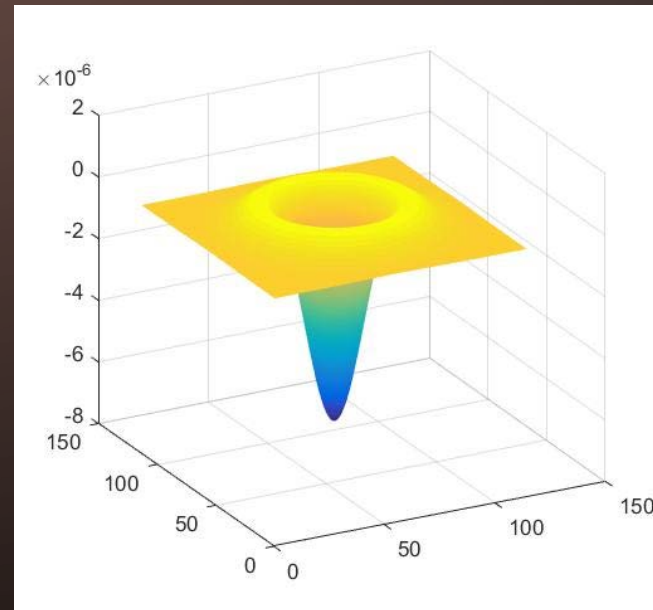
- “GrabCut” — Interactive Foreground Extraction using Iterated Graph Cuts [2]
- Gaussian Mixture Models represent foreground and background
- Algorithm: alternate between parameter estimation and segmentation



# FILTERING & MORPHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS

- Edge detection: Laplacian of Gaussian filter
- Tune sigma using our dataset
- Apply threshold to get binary image

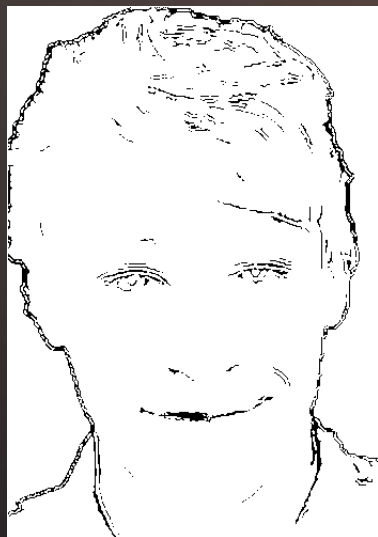
$$\text{LoG}(x, y) = -\frac{1}{\pi\sigma^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] e^{-\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$







# FILTERING & MORPHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS



$\sigma=1$   
 $N=897$



$\sigma=4$   
 $N=10,327$



$\sigma=6$   
 $N=15,325$



$\sigma=8$   
 $N=20,187$



$\sigma=10$   
 $N=24,263$



# TOOL PATH OPTIMIZATION



# TOOL PATH OPTIMIZATION – RESULTS

- Optimization with greedy TSP solver gives 58% average reduction in draw time
- Leverage sparse structure of images
- Runs in < 10 sec on laptop CPU for all images tested

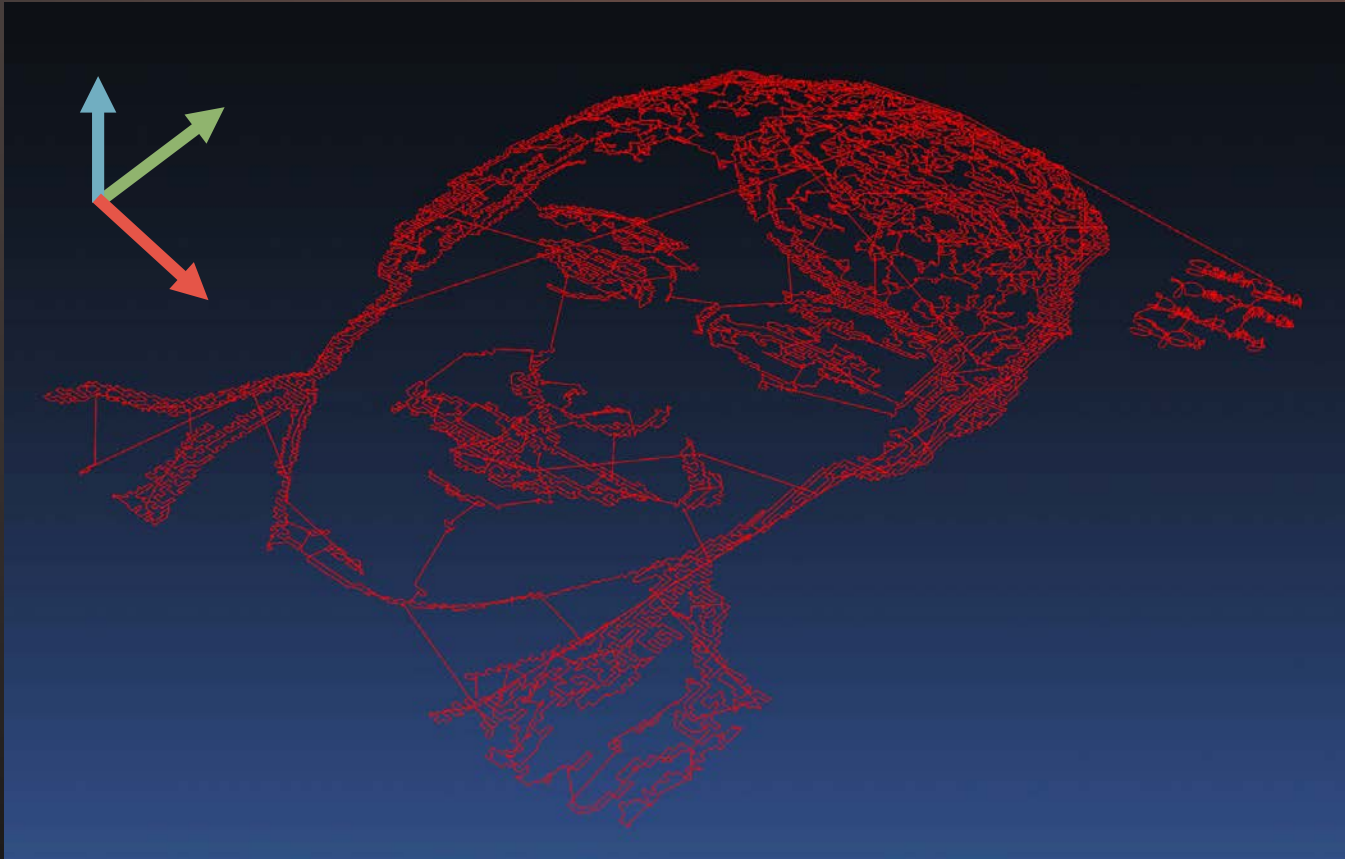
	Zig-Zag pattern	Optimized
Travel distance (mm)	36,900 ( $\pm$ 1,780)	14,300 ( $\pm$ 2,210)
Pen lifts	237 ( $\pm$ 7.10)	309 ( $\pm$ 42.1)
Travel time (s) *	1,480 ( $\pm$ 71.3)	573 ( $\pm$ 88.5)
Pen lift time (s) **	59.3 ( $\pm$ 1.77)	77.3 ( $\pm$ 10.5)
<b>Total draw time (min)</b>	<b>25.6 (<math>\pm</math> 1.21)</b>	<b>10.8 (<math>\pm</math> 1.63)</b>

Table 1: Results of tool path optimization

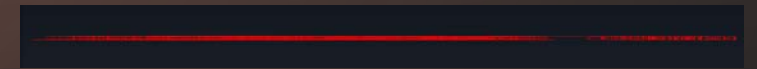
\* Running at 25mm / s

\*\* Assuming 0.250s / pen lift

# G-CODE VALIDATION – SIMULATION



isomorph view



side view



# ETHICS

- Overfitting issues need to be examined closely
- Our project isn't art; it's just for fun (entertainment?)

# CONCLUSION

- Works from start to finish
- Single command to complete entire process
- Drawings take ~15 minutes to complete
- Future work?

