You Can and Should Make Hardware

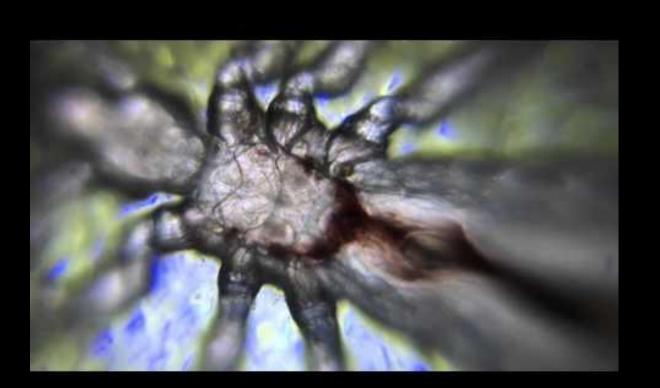
QCon/SF 2017



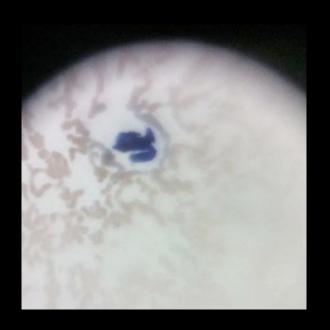




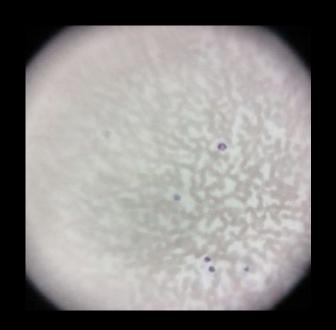
Two Microns at This Scale -> ||



Malaria Diagnosis



Diseased Blood



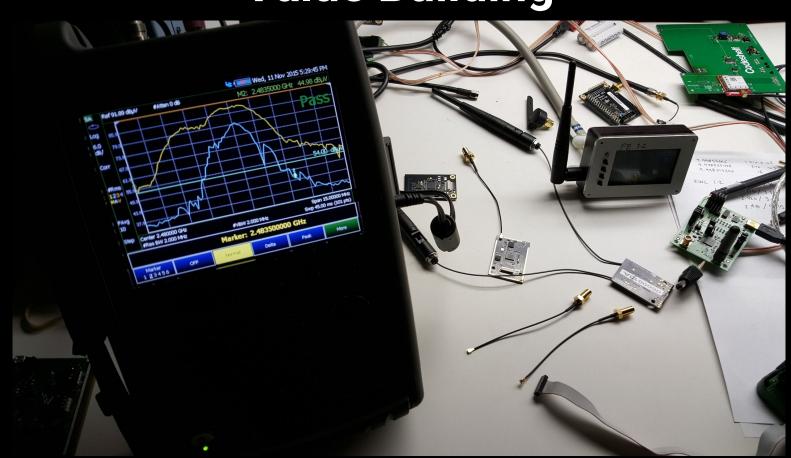
Healthy Blood



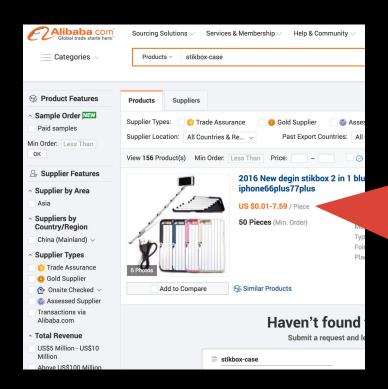


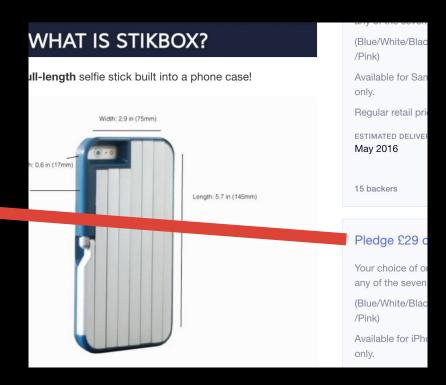
ECommerce Automation

Value Building



You Cannot Compete with This

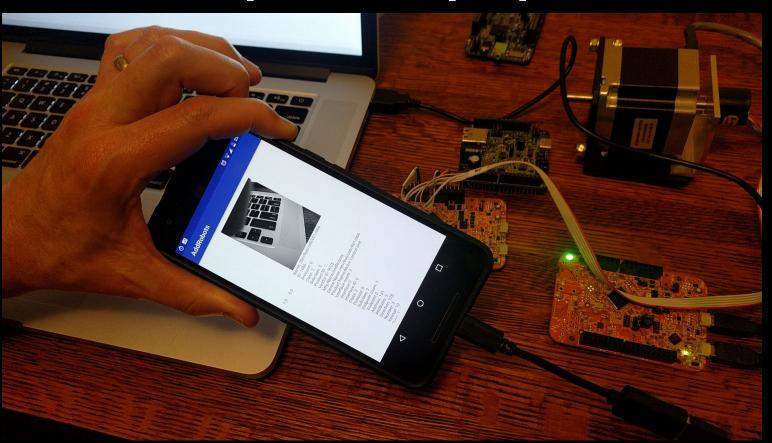




Pretotyping



Smartphone Superpower



Smartphone Upcycle



Go for it?



Design

Essential User Task

Hike to that Mountaintop

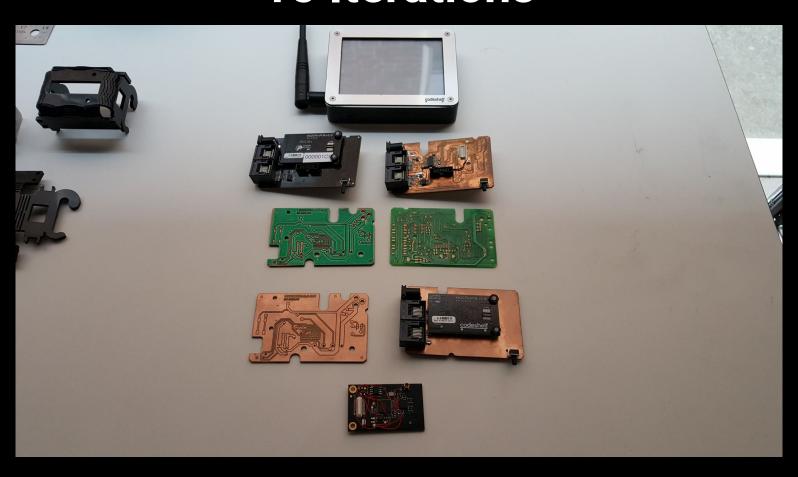
Economically Launch 5000kg into LEO

Reveal the Microscopic World for \$2

Use Heart Rate Biofeedback to improve CBT Treatment

Accurately and efficiently execute tens of thousands of e-commerce orders with wildly different daily sku mix using transient labor

15 Iterations



Cost Calculations

\$100/unit (remote) vs \$400/unit (local)

50 sets per build, two major builds

\$10k (remote) vs \$40k (local)

One week delay - \$40k

\$50k (remote) vs \$40k (local)

ZeroDiff

A Simple Philosophy

If you maintain zero difference between prototype and production designs, you can mass produce any revision even when you iterate designs rapidly

Corollary

Always manufacture prototype and production designs on the same tooling - always

Velocity



World Speed Record: 574km/hr

Velocity



Paris -> Brussels: 314 km

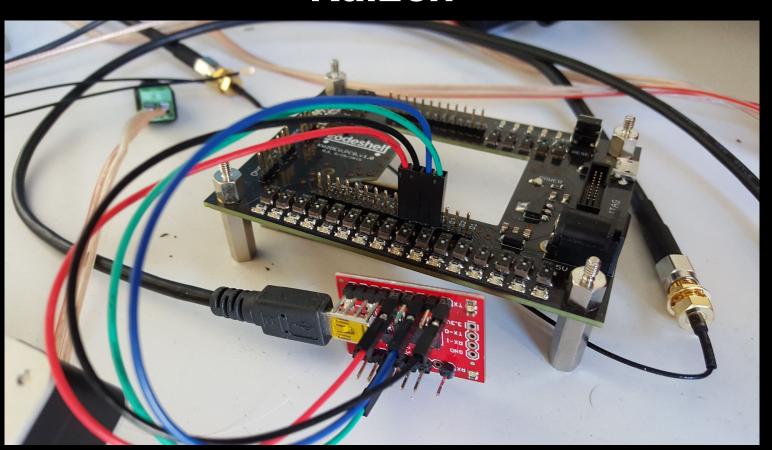
SNCF 574 km/hr -> 32 minutes

10 minute station delay... now it's 42 minutes

Average velocity is now 448 km/hr... Taking us back to 1996!

Use a less expensive train, and still get there faster!

Kaizen



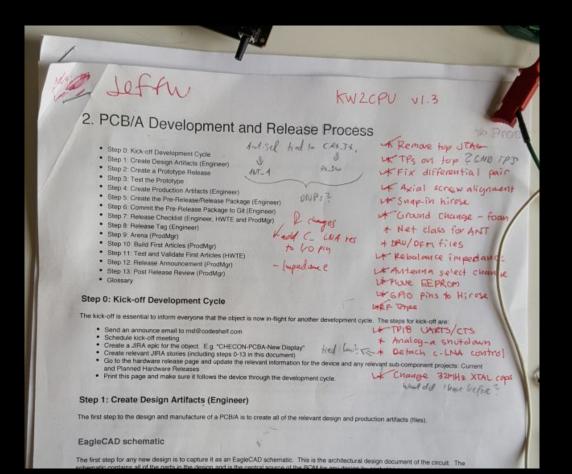
NY Review of Books

"A pen is not a magic wand. The critical faculty is not conjured from nothing. But it was remarkable how many students improved their performance with this simple stratagem. There is something predatory, cruel even, about a pen suspended over a text. Like a hawk over a field, it is on the lookout for something vulnerable."

-Tim Park

Image credit: Jeff Williams

Read with a Pen



Markdown + mkdocs + Github

ZeroDiff Beginners -Design ▼ Home Hardware -Glossarv About **▼** Kaizen Kaizen From the "Read with a Pen" TinyLetter post. From the "Read with a Pen" TinvLetter post. Saved by the New York Review of https://tinyletter.com/zerodiff/letters/zerodiff-efficient-kaizen-read-with-a-pen **Books** Done right, Kaizen reduces mistakes and waste. But what happens when process itself is the waste? We all experience this: the Read with a pen application of process to reduce mistakes (and waste) sometimes ends up being worse than the mistakes the new process reduces! Ditch the retrospectives to be really To me, this is a central difficulty to "being in charge."

> I started my career in factory automation with a mentor who embraced lean manufacturing decades ahead of its current stylishness. I would read anything even remotely connected to 1950s-80s Toyota Motor Company, I read "The Machine that Changed the World" twice. Because my natural inclination is laziness, "lean process" appeals to me deeply. So of course I'm a sucker for Eric Ries and Steve Blank's "Lean Startup" movement. Ditto for "The Pretotyping Manifesto."

OGitHub

The key to lean operation is efficient, well-documented processes that everyone can easily follow and get right. Our process docs work like checklists. Checklists have been proven to prevent stupid mistakes by smart people - it's why doctors and pilots use them without exception.

Despite a big investment in good process and documentation, we used to make a lot of repeat mistakes. It drove me nuts, One careless mistake by a smart person cost us about \$75K. The harder I tried to stop these, the more frustrated the staff would get. The psychic load would offset the process wins. Plus, we'd invest more process only to trade one set of problems for another and have little gain to show for the investment. Sound familiar? No one likes this, yet we do it all the time!

Saved by the New York Review of Books

Often, late at night, I vacuum up the Internet on the hunt for cool ideas that I can apply to innovation of all sorts: product, process and people. One night last year, right after we started ZeroDiff, I ran across this Tim Park essay in the New York Review of Books:

http://www.nvbooks.com/blogs/nvrblog/2014/dec/03/weapon-for-readers/

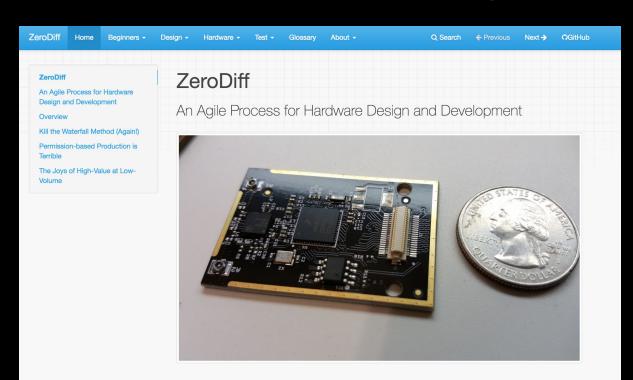
This sentence from Tim's essay hit me like lightning:

agile

who knew?

Pens are a powerful Kaizen tool,

www.zerodiff.org



A New Way to Design and Develop Products

Generic Business-y Slide



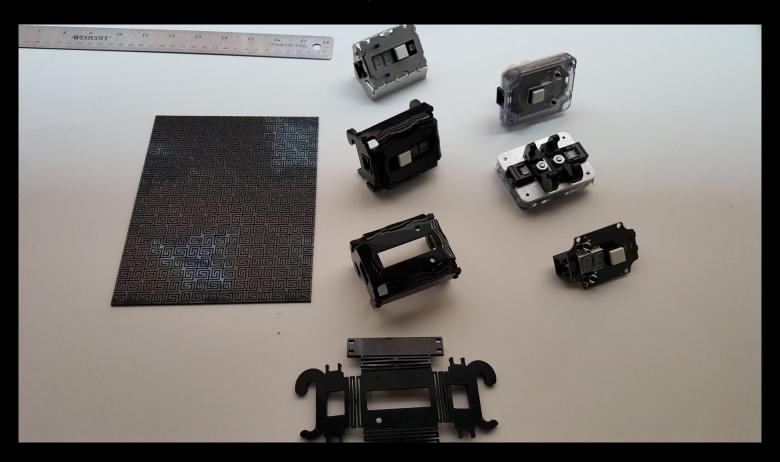
Origami



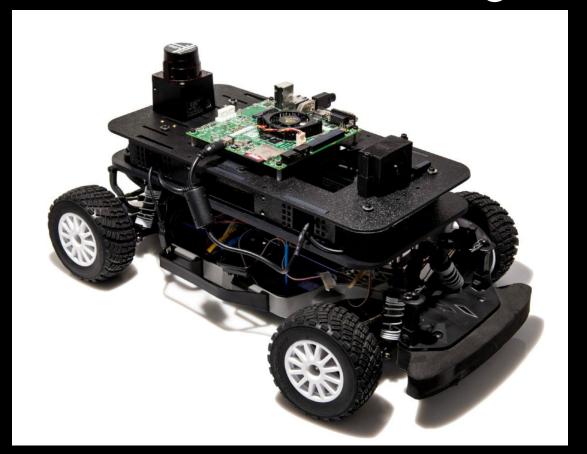
Industrial Origami



Poscon Origami Example



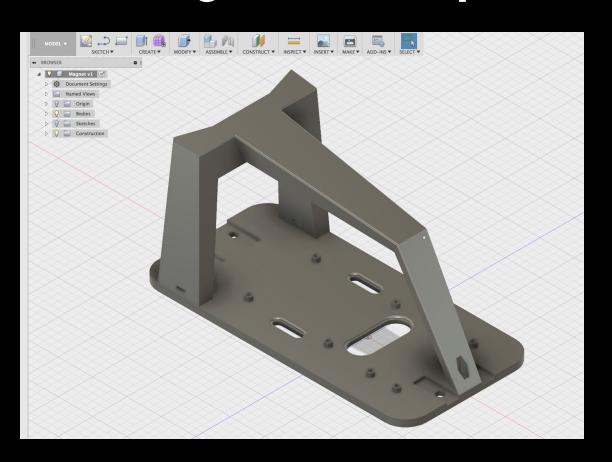
F 1/10 Robot Racing



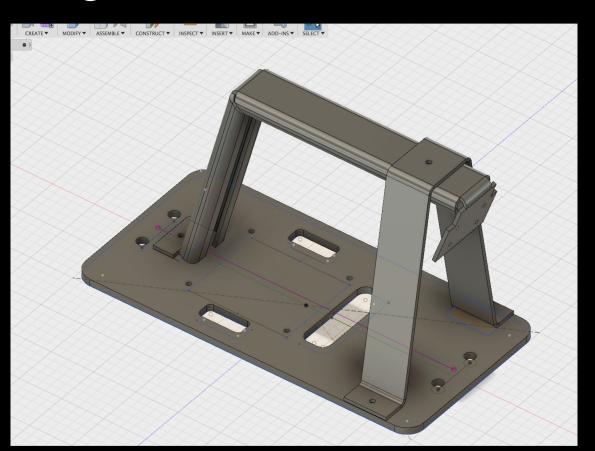
Donkey Car



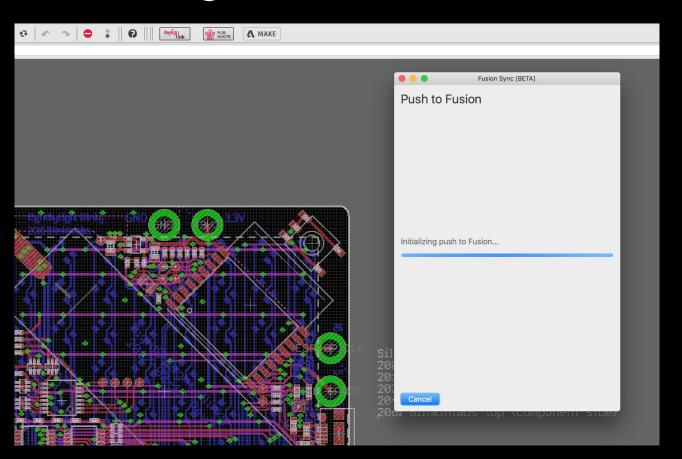
3D Printing is Slow/Expensive



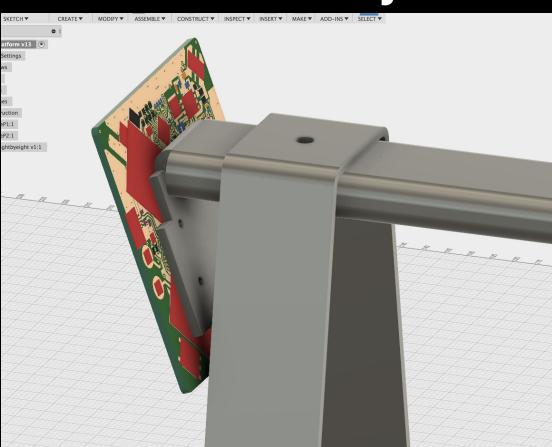
Design Stuff with Fusion 360



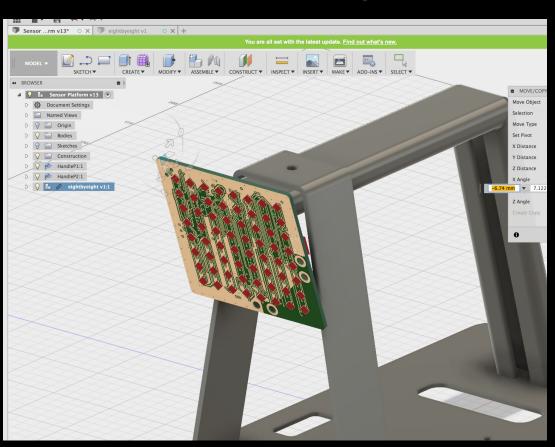
Push EagleCAD to Fusion360



Combined Object



Iteration Toward a \$25 Robot!



Don't Even









If they fear bill collectors or authorities, they can never ride

My Essential User Task



Cheap Open Source Robots that Workers Own and Program

Bits

tinyletter.com/zerodiff

www.zerodiff.org

jeff.williams@addrobots.com