Talke Biomedical Lab

Speakers:

1. Avinash Laha, Artificial Cornea Modeling for Validation of a Novel Handheld Ophthalmic Device
2. Darin Tsui, Optical Surgical Navigation: A promising low-cost alternative
3. Brian Li, 3D Printed Gyroid Elastomer and Silicone Composite for Controlled Anisotropy Simulating Human Tissue

CMRR Center for Magnetic Recording Research

CMRR Spring 2023 Research Review

May 25, 2023

UC San Diego JACOBS SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Artificial Cornea Modeling for Validation of a Novel Handheld Ophthalmic Device

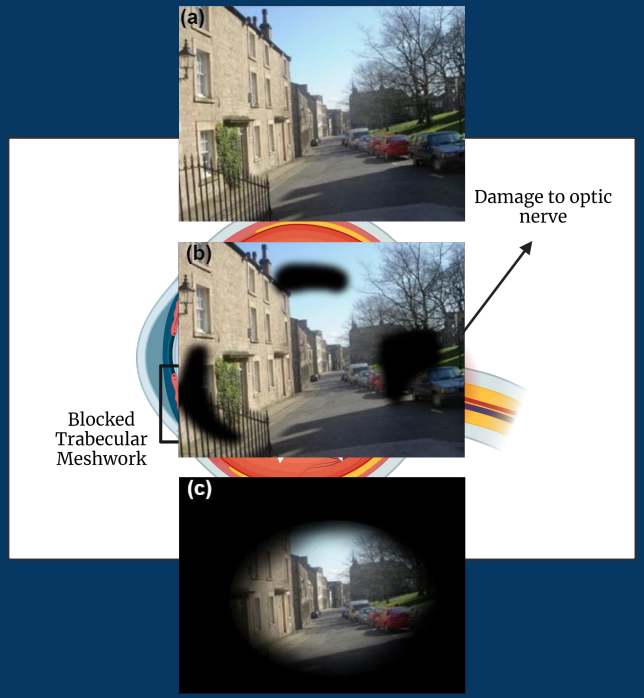
Presenter: *Avinash Laha, MAE, Graduate Student*
Advisor: *Dr. Frank Talke, CMRR & MAE*
Collaborator: *Dr. Gerrit Melles, Netherlands Institute of Ocular Surgery*

Outline

- Introduction to Glaucoma Screening
- State of the Art
- Developed 3-in-1 Handheld Device
  - Structural Description
  - Prototype Implementation
- Artificial Cornea Models
  - Design Considerations
  - Methods of Fabrication
  - Simulation of Intraocular Pressure
- Materials Characterization
- Performance Testing with Tonometers
- Summary

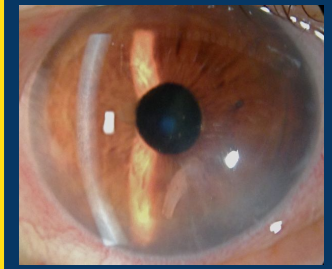
Introduction to Glaucoma

- Primary cause of irreversible blindness in the world
- Risk Factors
  - Old age, physical + mental health, genetics
  - Elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) causing pressure on optic nerve
- Causes slow deterioration of vision field
- Often not self-diagnosed and surgical cure at later stages proven ineffective



Comprehensive Screening

Standard Eye Examinations



Anterior Segment

Intraocular Pressure

Visual Acuity

Fundus

- Comprehensive exams for glaucoma can be time consuming and costly
  - Patients may not be able to travel or perform routine tests regularly
  - Post-surgery examinations required to screen for complications
- Need to develop easy-to-use, self-examining devices for glaucoma screening

Proposed Solution

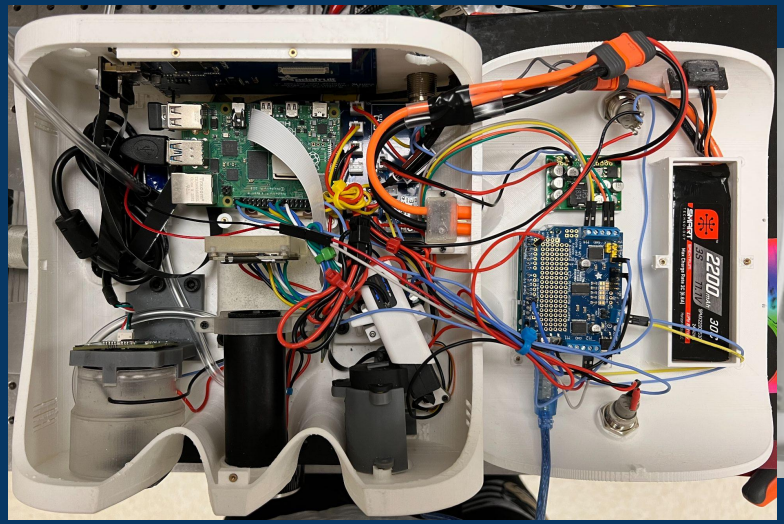
Design and **Rapid Prototyping** of a portable ophthalmic device that combines:

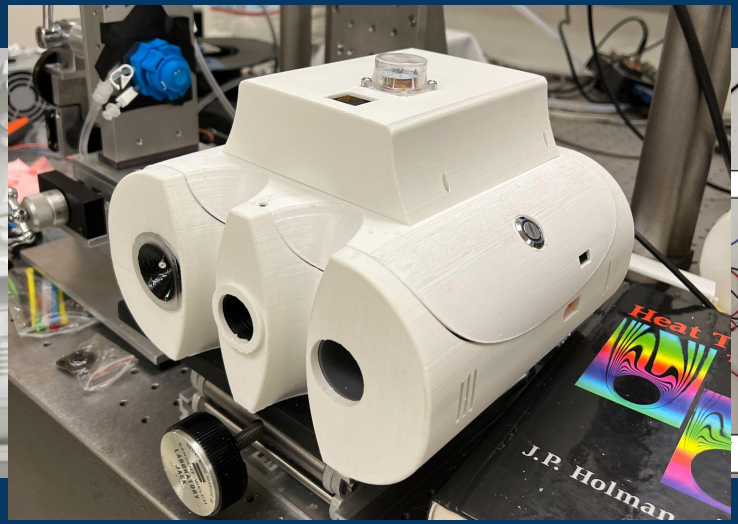
- **Slit-lamp** examination
- **Visual acuity** screener
- Non-contact **tonometer**

⟶ ***The device should be easy-to-use, internet-enabled and allow self-examination***

First Prototype Implementation

Layout | CAD Design | 3D Printing | Soldering & Wiring | Assembly & Testing





Tonometry and Calibration Standards

- IOP fluctuation is the biggest risk factor for glaucoma and related diseases
  - Tonometers essential for early detection
- However, high variability between different tonometers
  - Some use adjusted “bIOP” calculations to account for cornea thickness, curvature, etc.
- Calibration needed to ensure reliable IOP readings at varying eye pressures
- Controlled using manometer chamber filled with water/other fluid
  - Excised cornea samples (ex-vivo)
  - Cannulated samples (in-vivo)
  - Artificial Cornea Models

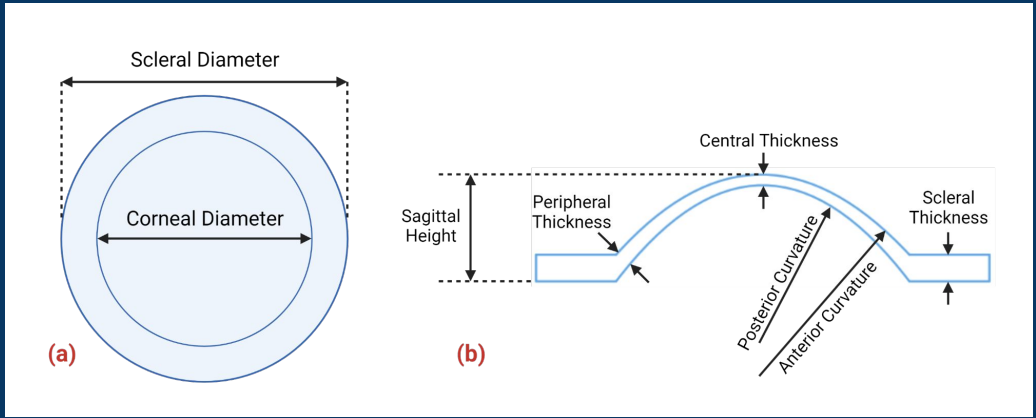
Excised Cornea

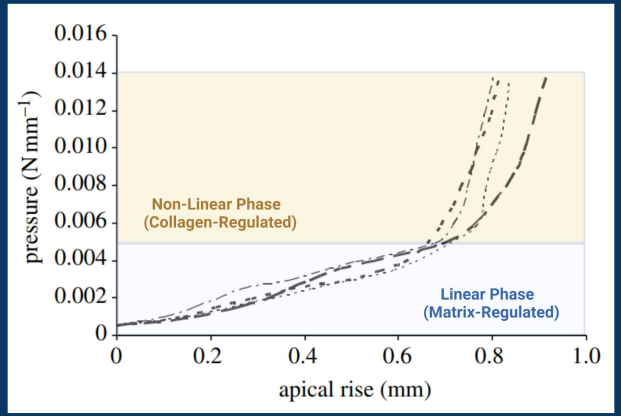
Artificial Cornea

Cannulated Cornea

Artificial Cornea Design Considerations

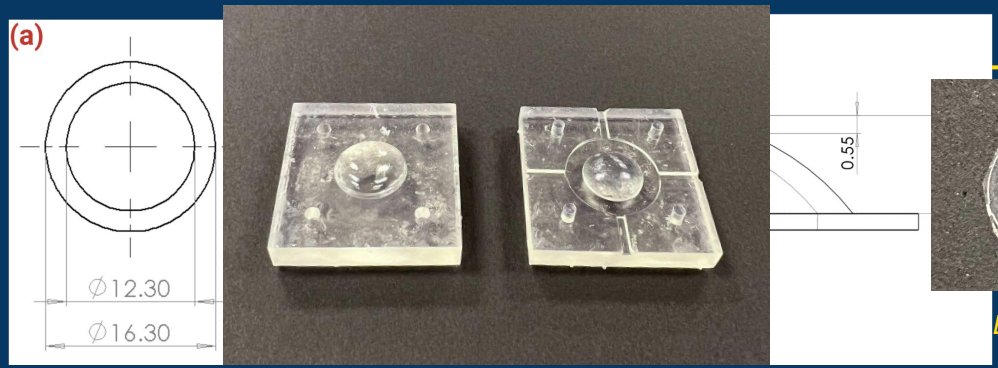
- Goal: To validate working principle and calibrate the tonometer system
- Important to capture:
  - Geometrical dimensions of human cornea
    - Variance in some can create inaccurate tonometer readings
  - Mechanical behavior similar to human cornea in response to elevated IOP





Methods of Fabrication

- CAD Model designed using human corneal dimensions in literature
- Silicone Molding Process
  - 3D printed custom two-part molds developed with this geometry
  - Three silicone materials chosen with documented Young's moduli within human corneal range
  - Silicone mixed and cured for 24 hrs @ room temperature to obtain samples



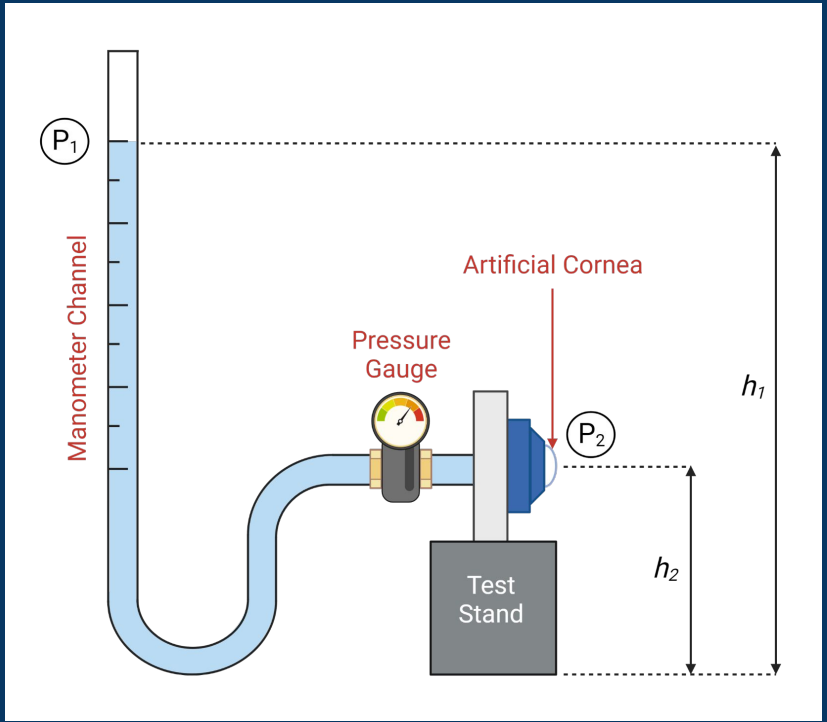
Simulation of Intraocular Pressure

- Silicone corneas clamped and connected to a manometer water column
- Height can be adjusted to simulate varying range of IOP

$$P_2 = \rho g(h_2 - h_1) = \rho g \Delta h$$

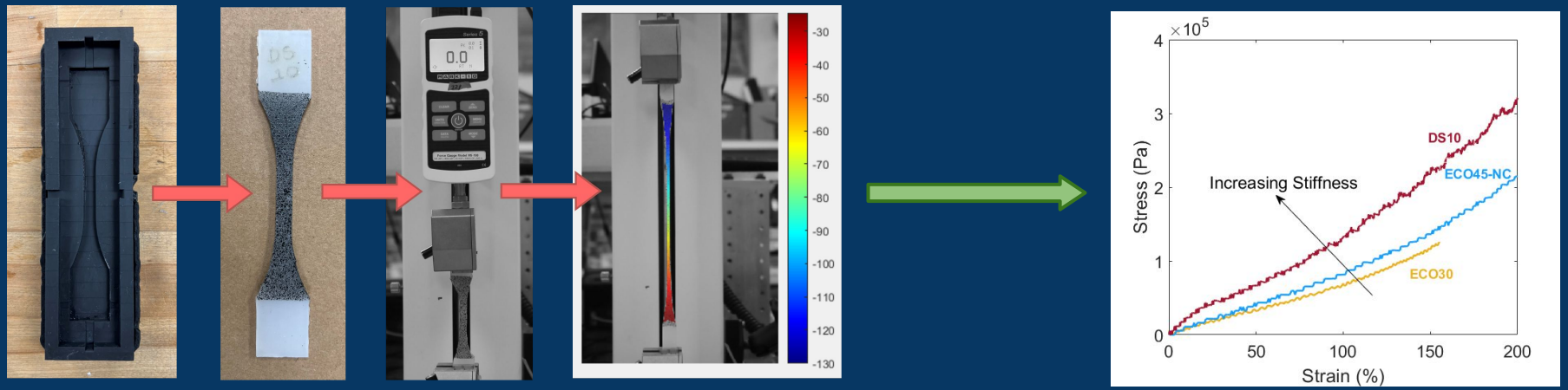
Table 3.2. Calibration table for manometer channel in the phantom eye setup.

Manometer Pressure (mmHg)	0	10	20	30	40
Column Height, Δh (cm)	0	13.60	27.21	40.81	54.42



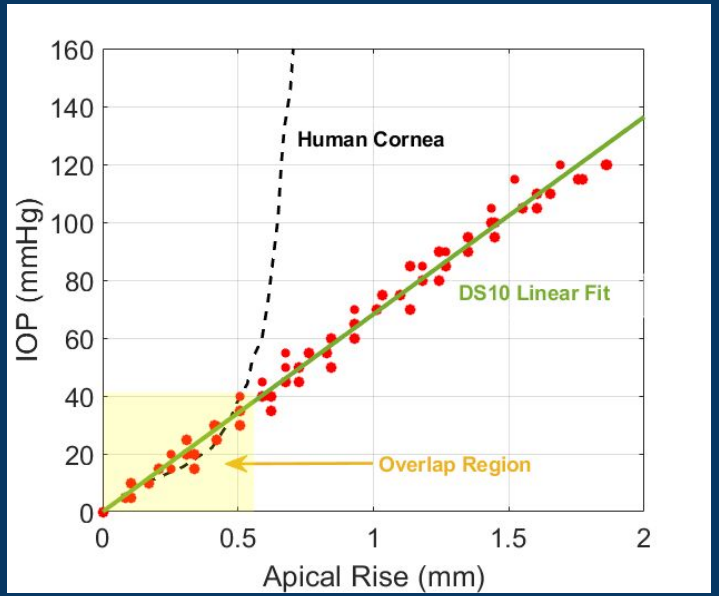
Materials Characterization - Tensile Testing

- Coupon tensile testing performed to confirm uniaxial test data and Young's modulus values
- Coupons molded using 3D printed mold (ASTM D638-14)
- Uniaxial testing and DIC performed on all chosen materials



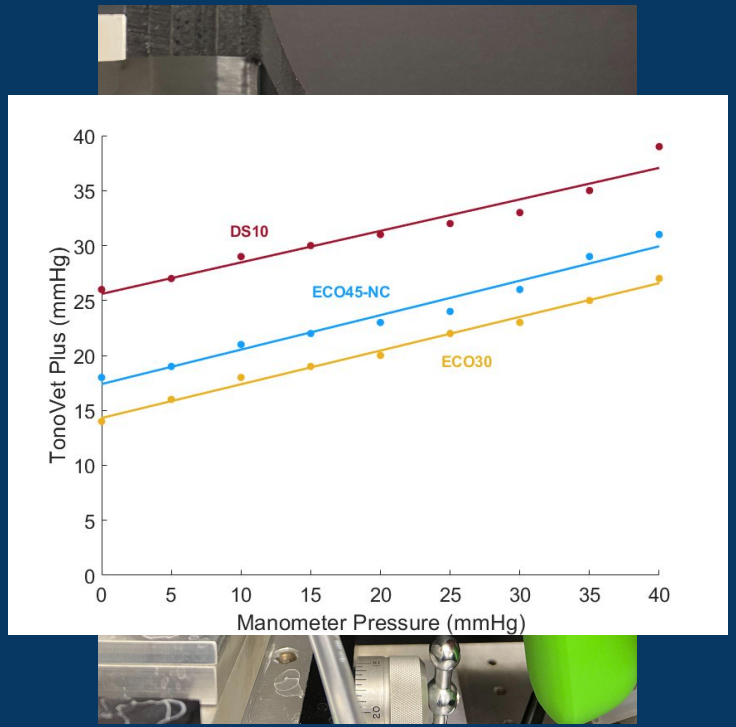
Materials Characterization - Inflation Tests

- Corneal response under elevation of IOP can be studied to reveal similarities and differences with human cornea
- Corneal setup tested between 0-120 mmHg
- Results
  - DS10 linear up to 120 mmHg
  - ECO45-NC linear up to 55 mmHg
  - ECO30 nonlinear after 25 mmHg
- DS10 closest to human cornea apical displacement
  - Up to 40 mmHg



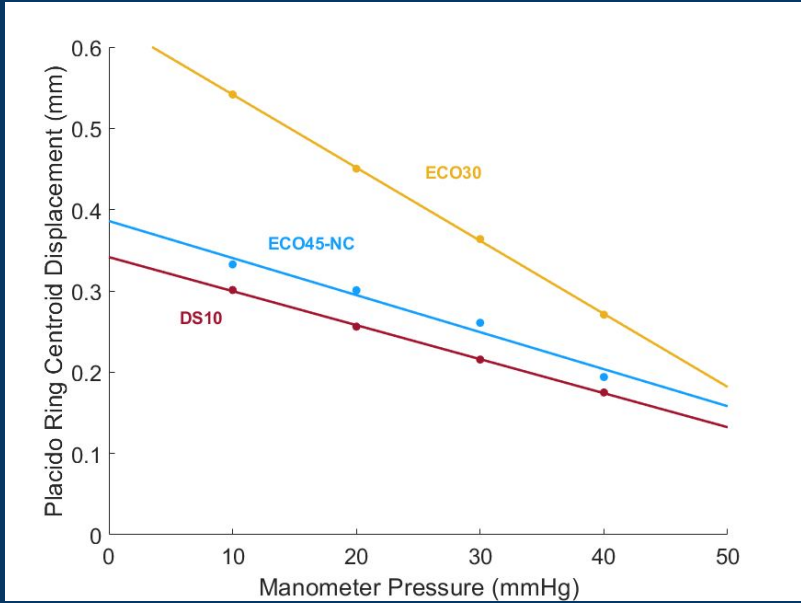
Performance Testing - Commercial Tonometer

- iCare TonoVet Plus Rebound Tonometer
  - Measures speed of miniature probe rebounding off the corneal surface to calculate IOP
- Tested on rabbit setting → similar corneal thickness to humans
- Testing to validate all developed cornea samples at different IOP
- Results
  - Linear increase with increasing IOP
  - Higher stiffness → Higher reading range



Performance Testing - 3-in-1 Device

- Air jet pulse mechanically applanates the cornea while recording movement of projected placido rings
- MATLAB filtering algorithms employed to analyze change in ring centroid displacement
- Results
  - Inverse relationship between IOP and placido ring deformation
  - Stiffer samples → lower range of deformation



Summary

- Successful rapid prototyping of a portable ophthalmic device that allows self-examination of the eye
- Artificial cornea-based validation and pre-clinical calibration of the device
- Tunable geometry and materials properties that can closely match human corneal behavior at pressure levels up to 40 mmHg

Future Work:

- Exploration of composite materials to imitate strain-stiffening in corneal tissue
- Follow-up testing with accurate human tonometers and excised corneas
- Making the device more user-friendly for higher patient variance
- Planning first clinical tests and further research development

Thank You!