The LA-SiGMA Experience: A PreFreshman's Encounter with Research

By Natasha Navejar

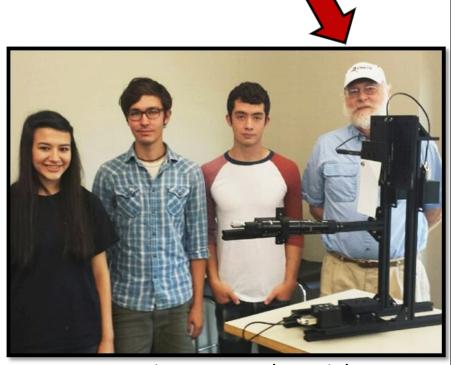
Before I Arrived



- Recent graduate of Saint Louis Catholic High School in Lake Charles, LA
- Interests in neuroscience, physics, and mathematics

Dr. Butler's Lab





AJ Pisano Zack Daniels

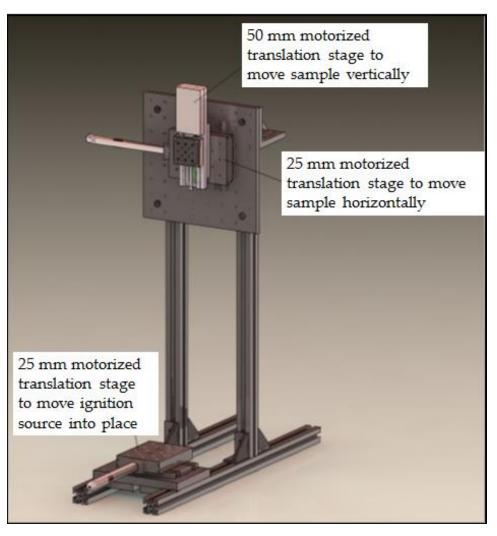
The Research Problem

Engineer a machine with the capability of tracking moving samples and attaining chemical data from them efficiently despite an extremely small field of view





Initial SolidWorks Design



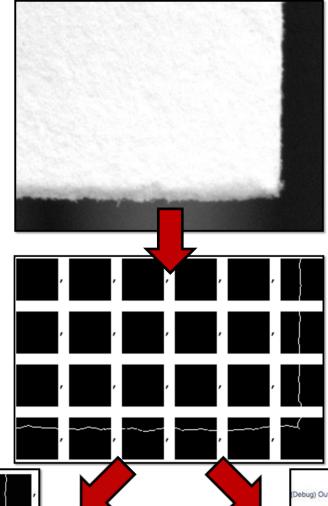
Field Trip to Burn Test Lab

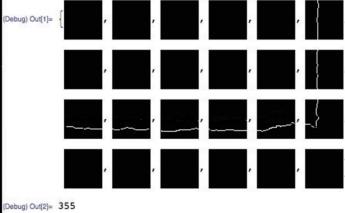


▲ ALBEMARLE®

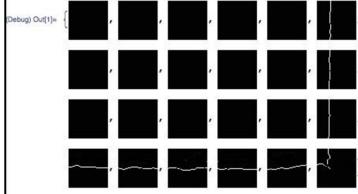
Image Processing

Computer #1 (Mac)





(Debug) Out[3]= 1

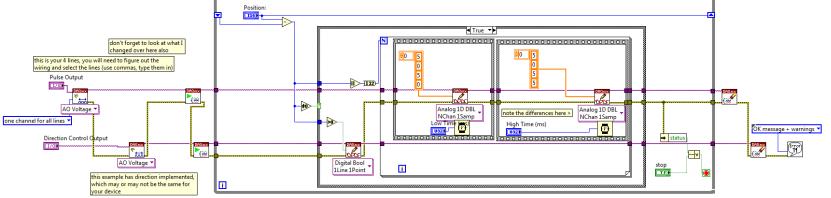


(Debug) Out[2]= 98 (Debug) Out[3]= 0

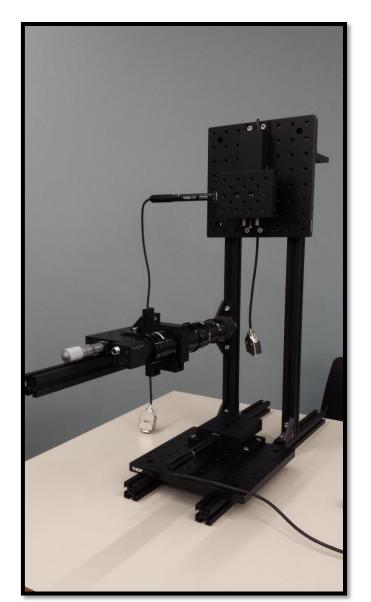
Motor Control

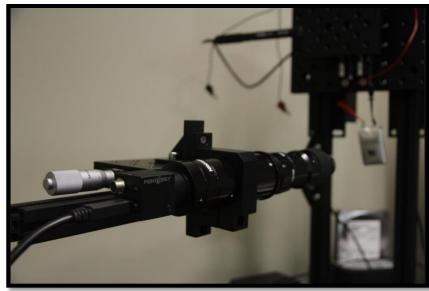
Computer #2 (Windows)

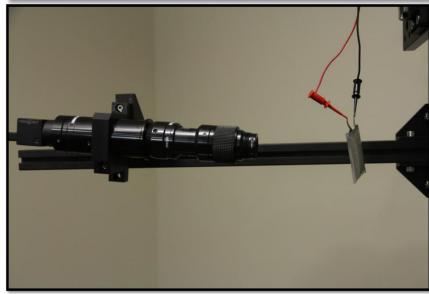




Finished Product







Challenges

- Mac
- Mechanical Engineering
- Computer Programming
 - SolidWorks
 - Python(initially)
 - Mathematica
 - LabVIEW
- System Integration

```
wbije voi ( res. le. i) res() but or (int or es) ( res. le. i) i cor (int or es) ( res. le. i) i cor (int or es) ( res. le. i) i cor (int or es) ( res. le. i) i cor (int or es) ( res. length) {

if i = 0;

if
```

Future Plans

- Neuroscience major
 (possible minor or double
 major in engineering) at
 Tulane University
- Research in college



Acknowledgments

This material is founded on work supported by the National Science Foundation under an NSF GOALI (Butler/Albemarle) and the NSF EPSCoR Cooperative Agreement No. EPS-1003897 with support from the Louisiana Board of Regents and funded by the W.M. Keck Foundation. Special thanks to Les Butler for having me as his researcher, LA-SiGMA for the opportunity, Bruno Beltran for his wisdom, and Zack Daniels and AJ Pisano for their support and optimism.

