

# htmaa

eeecs section

week 3

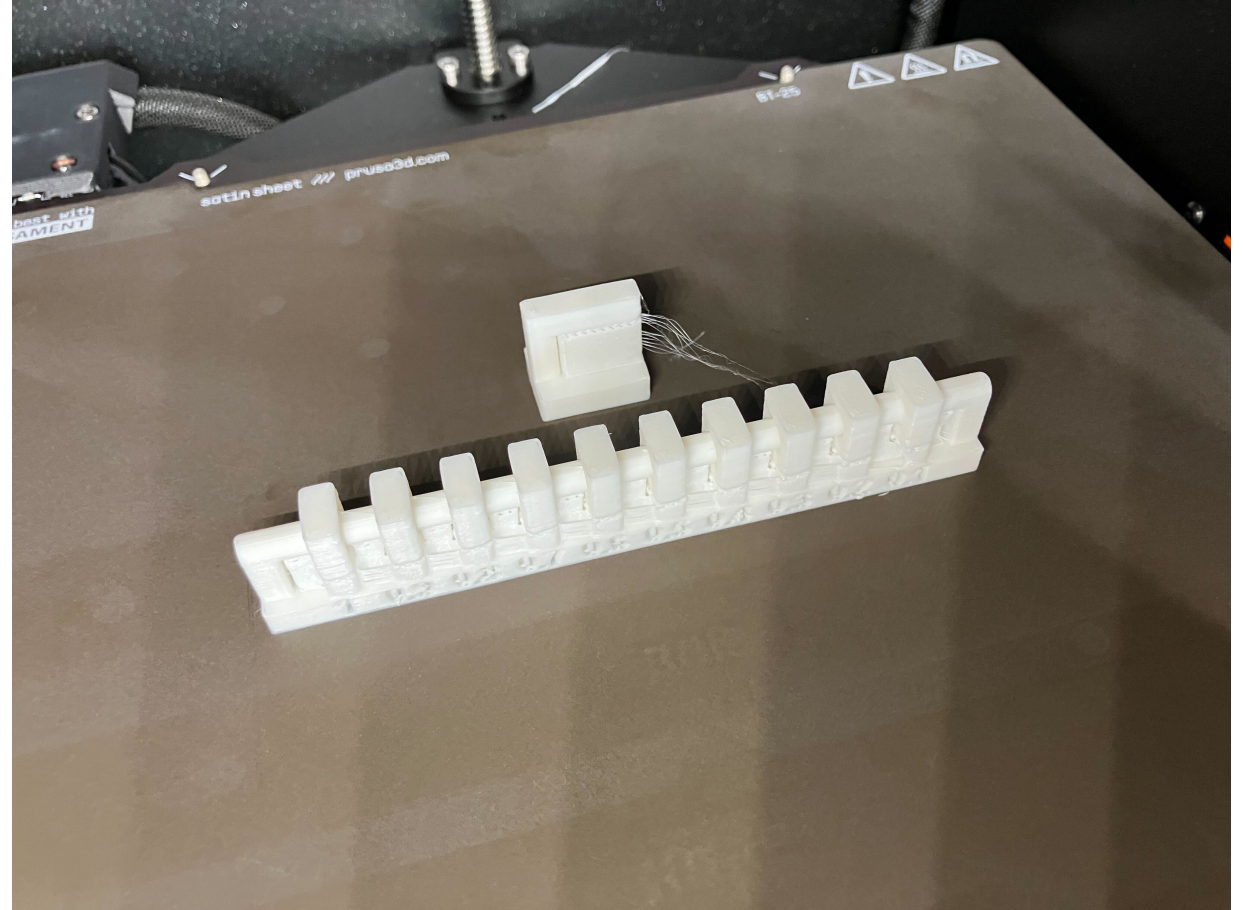
group assignment

3d printing design rules

[sdajani@mit.edu](mailto:sdajani@mit.edu)

# Supported tests

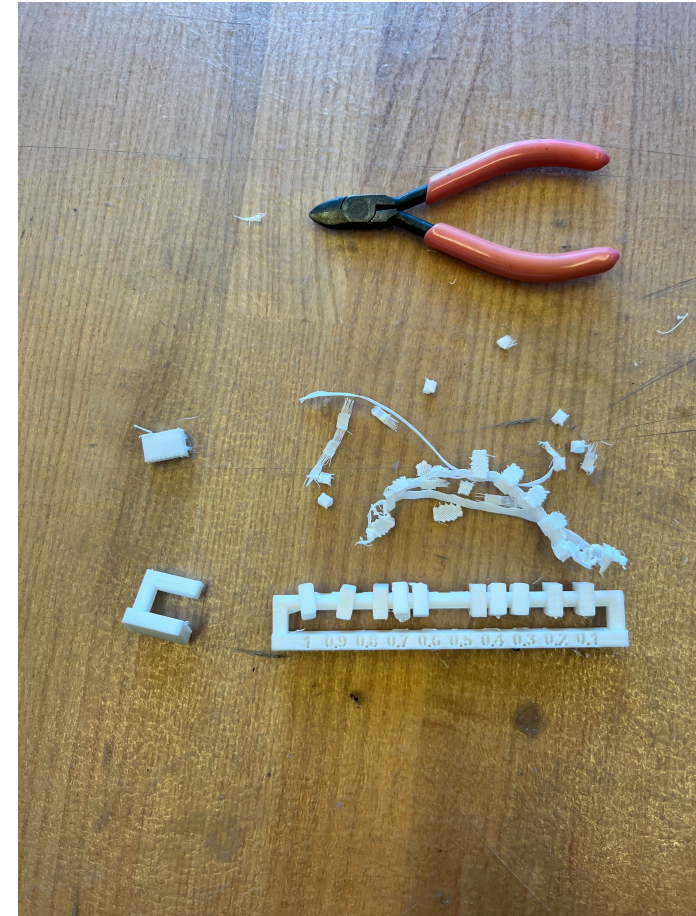
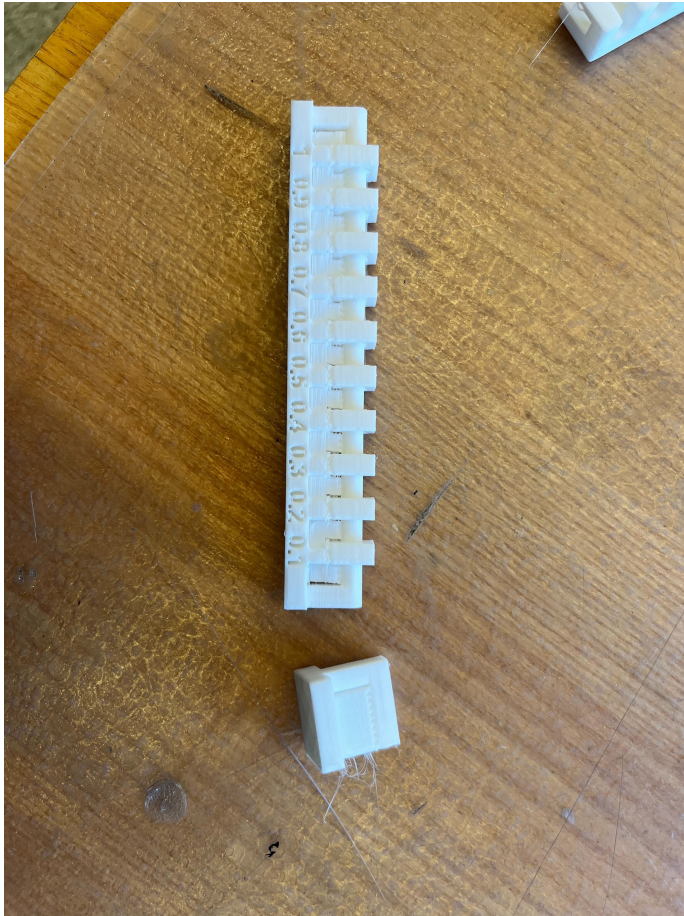
- Overhangs
- Clearance



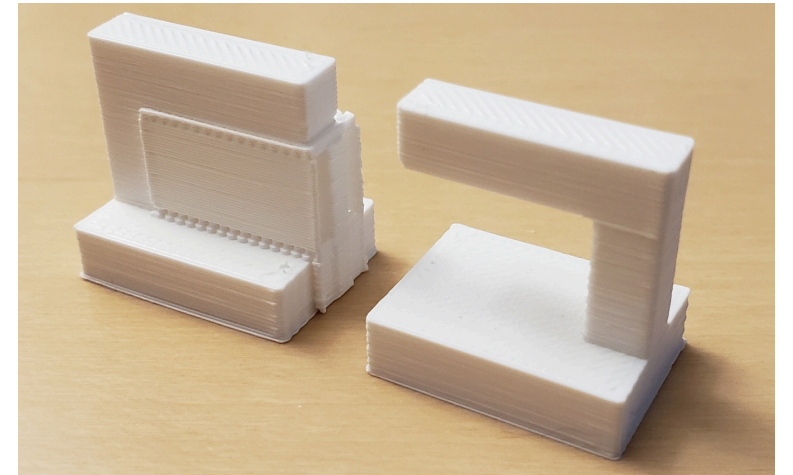
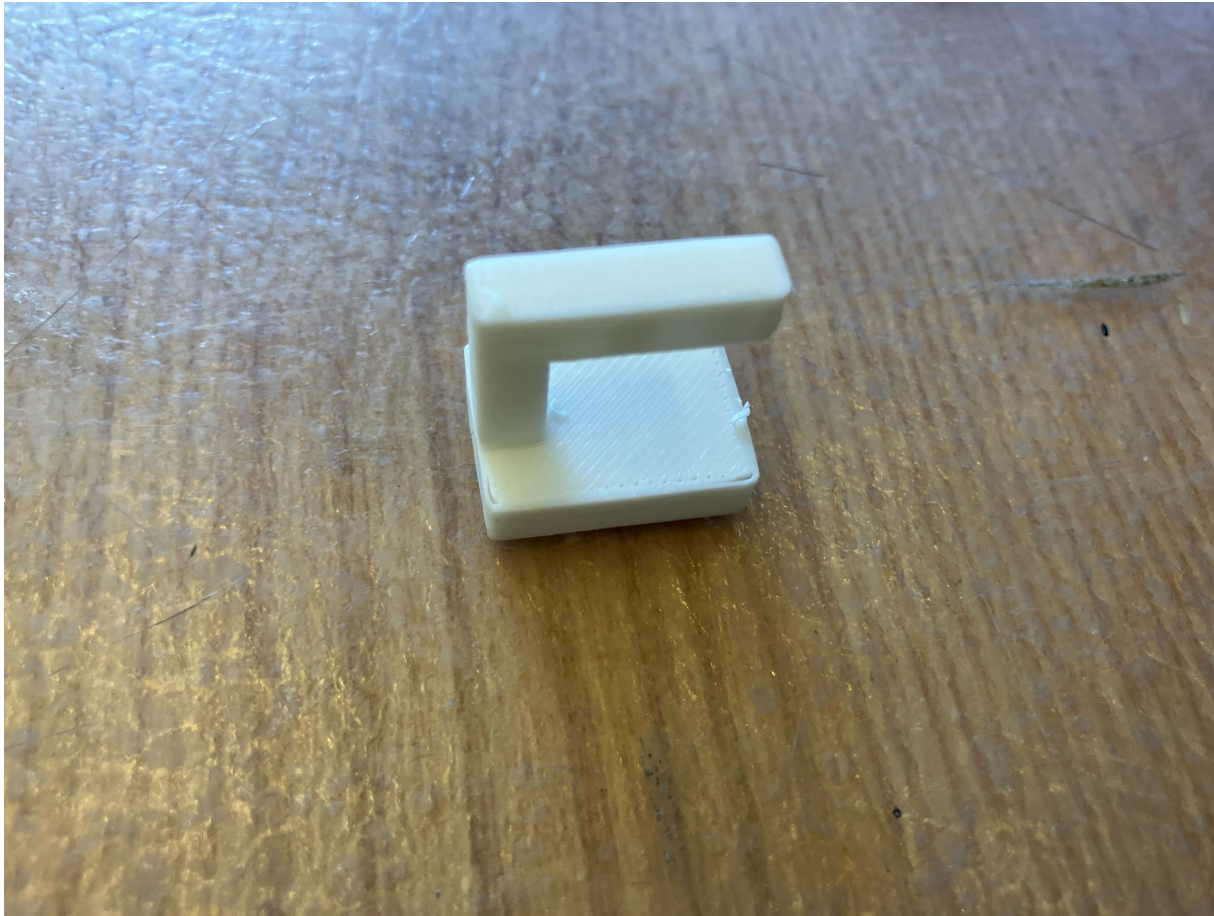
# Printer

- Pruse Core One
- Printed with white generic PLA

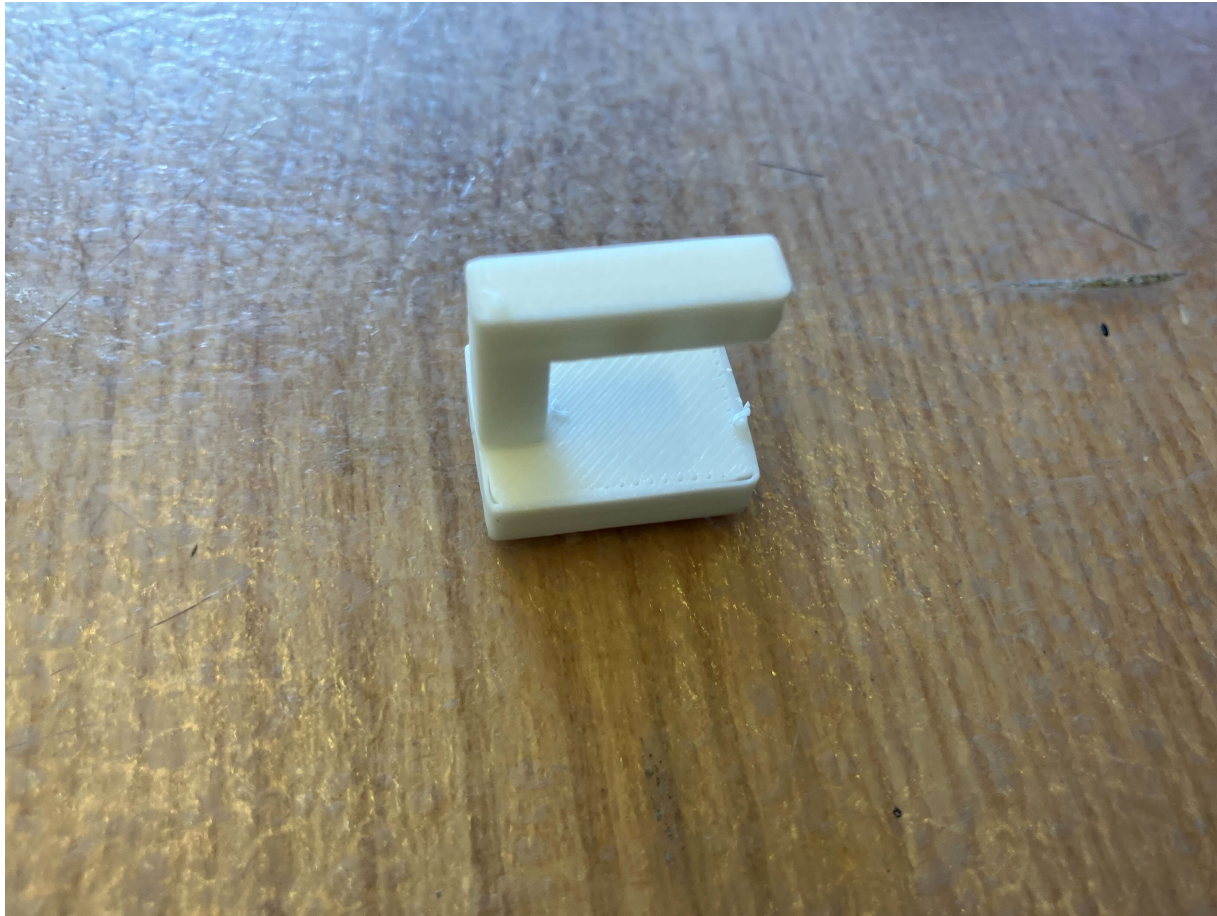
# Removing support with pliers



# Overhang (supported)

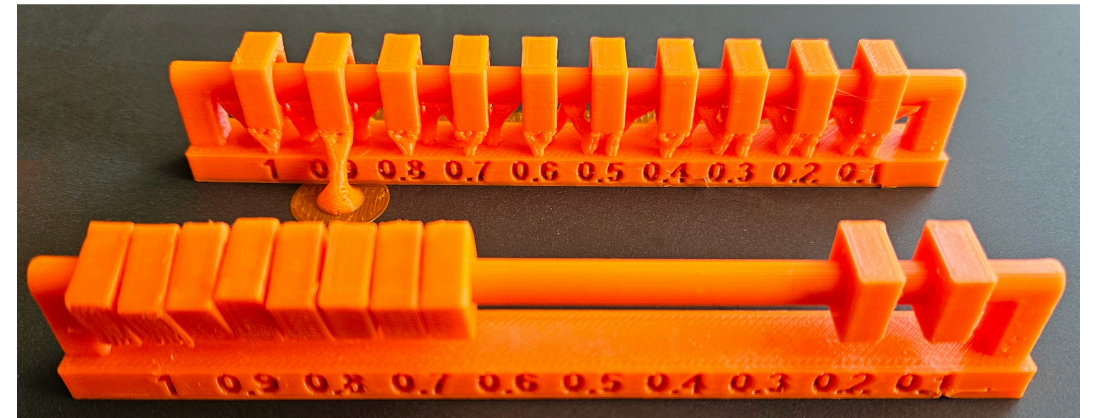
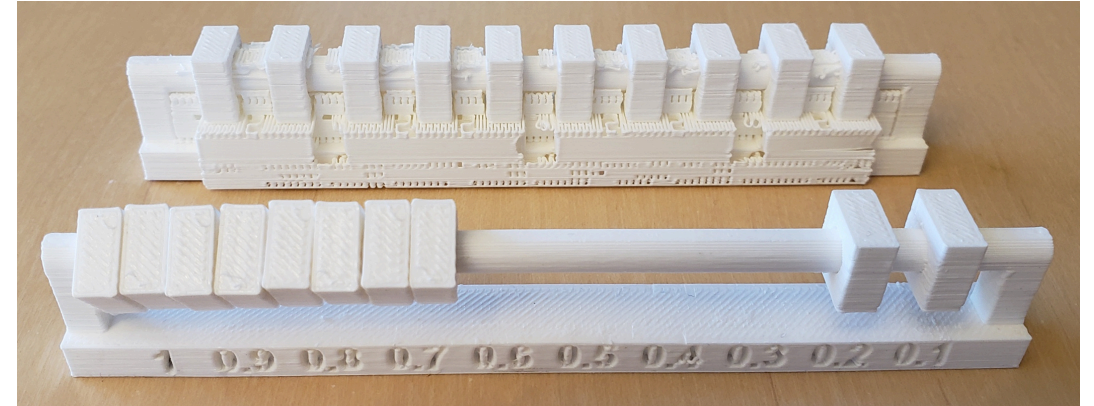
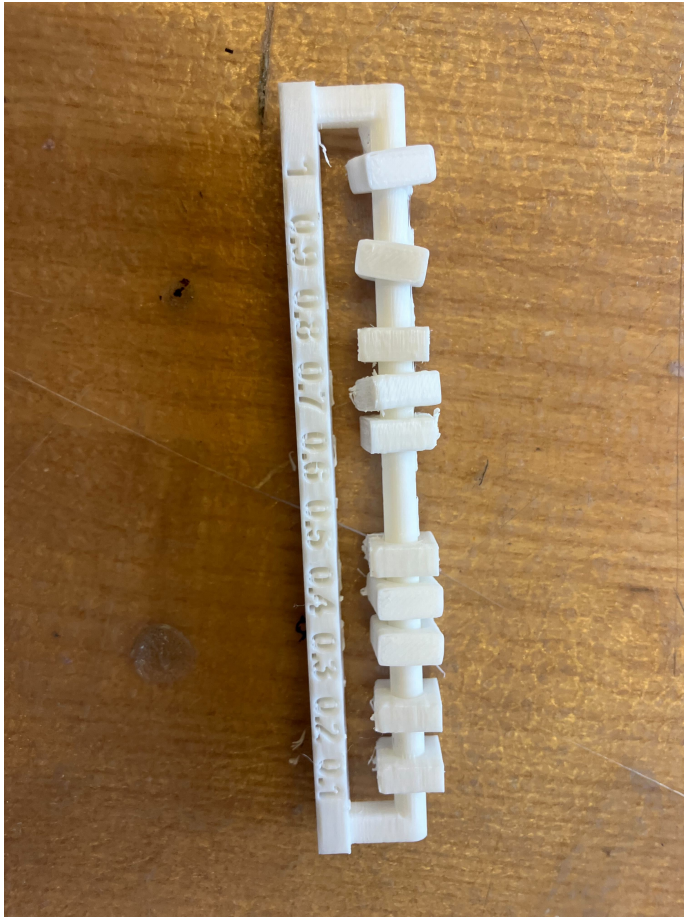


# Overhang (supported)

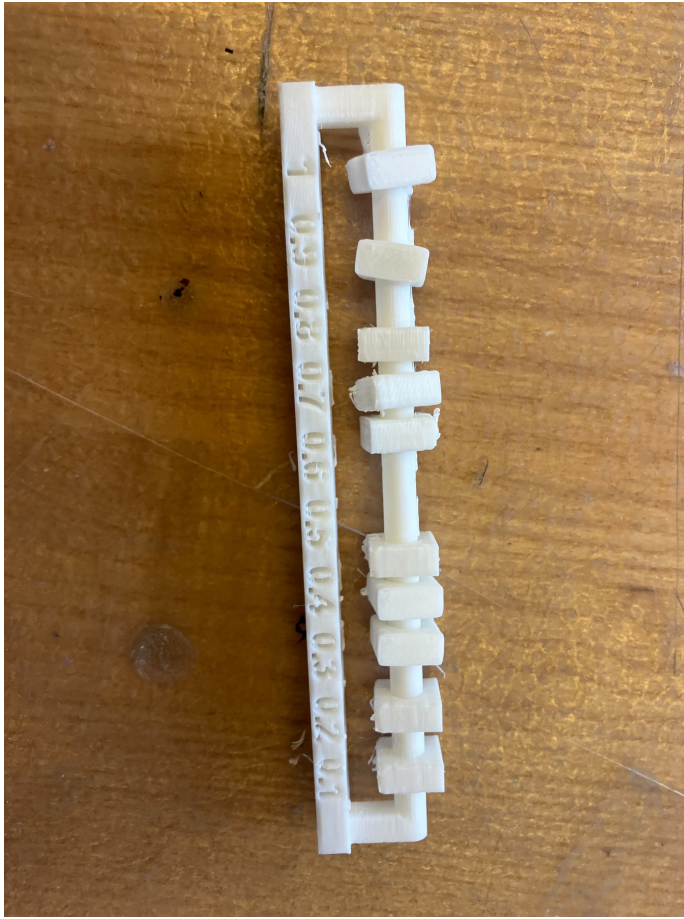


Supported right angle  
overhang was successful  
with snug support (default).  
We didn't need to try  
organic support.

# Clearance



# Clearance



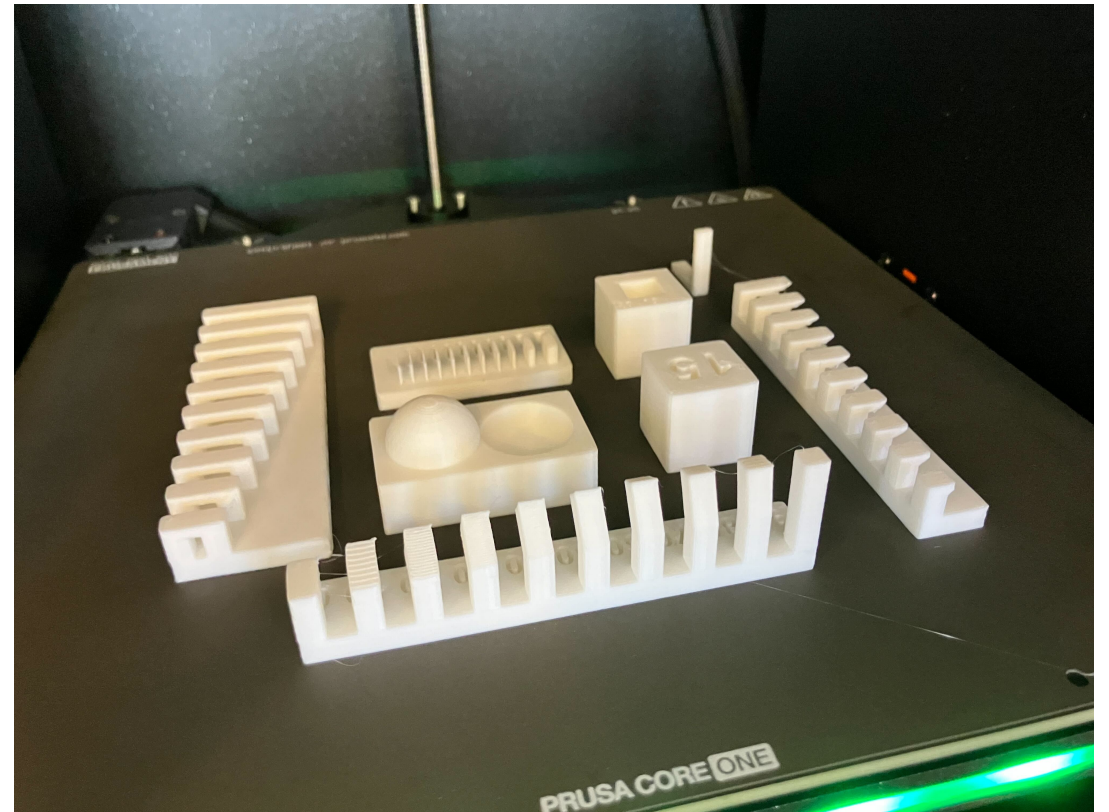
0.2mm is the minimum clearance for an object to be separable (tight fit, hard to rotate). Above or equal to 0.3 is looser, and below 0.2 is not separable.

# Helical support thickness (new!)

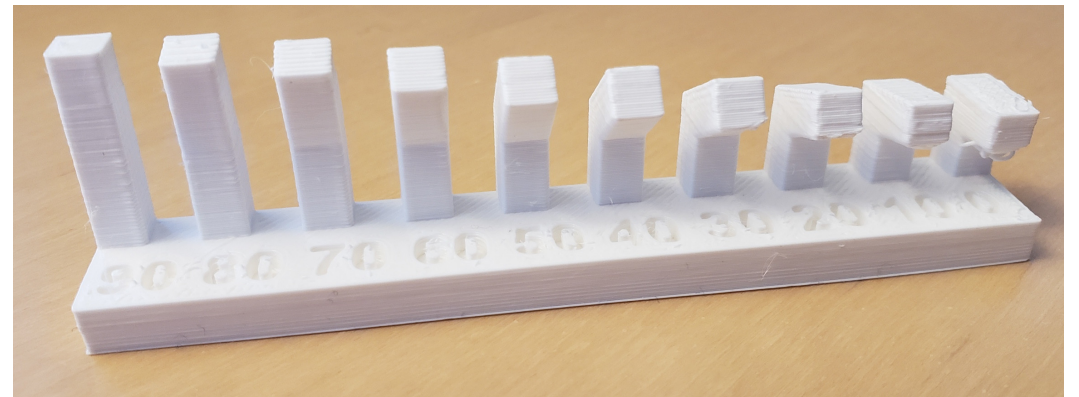
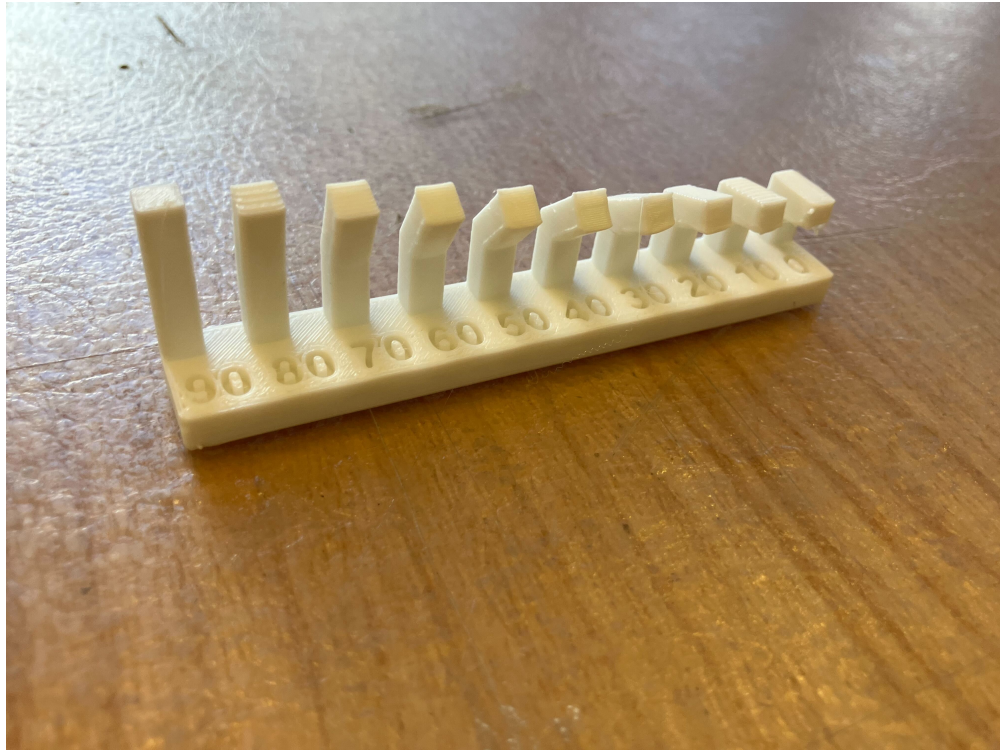
- 0.48 revolutions/mm — too fused (28 revolutions over 60mm with 6mm diameter with 2mm thickness)
  - 0.35 revolutions/mm — works (21 revolutions over 60mm with 6mm diameter with 2mm thickness)
- > optimal exists between 0.35-0.48 revolutions/mm

# Unsupported tests

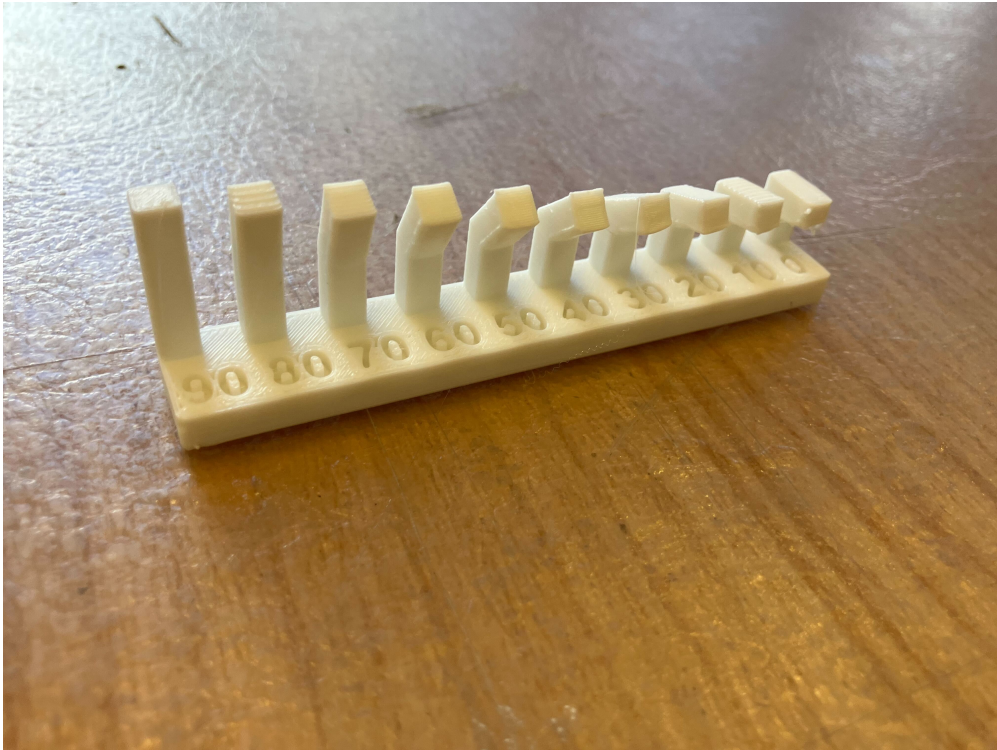
- Angle
- Overhang
- Bridging
- Wall thickness
- Dimensions
- Anisotropy/orientation
- Surface finish
- Infill



# Angle

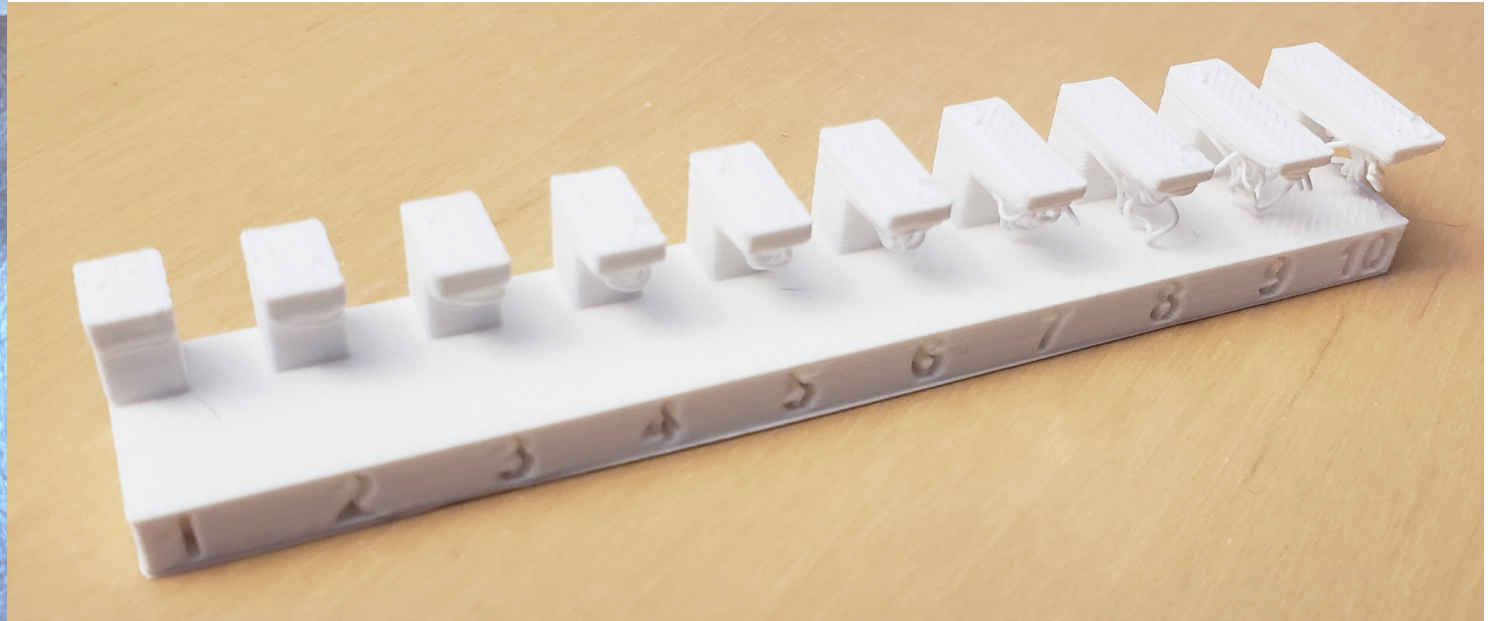
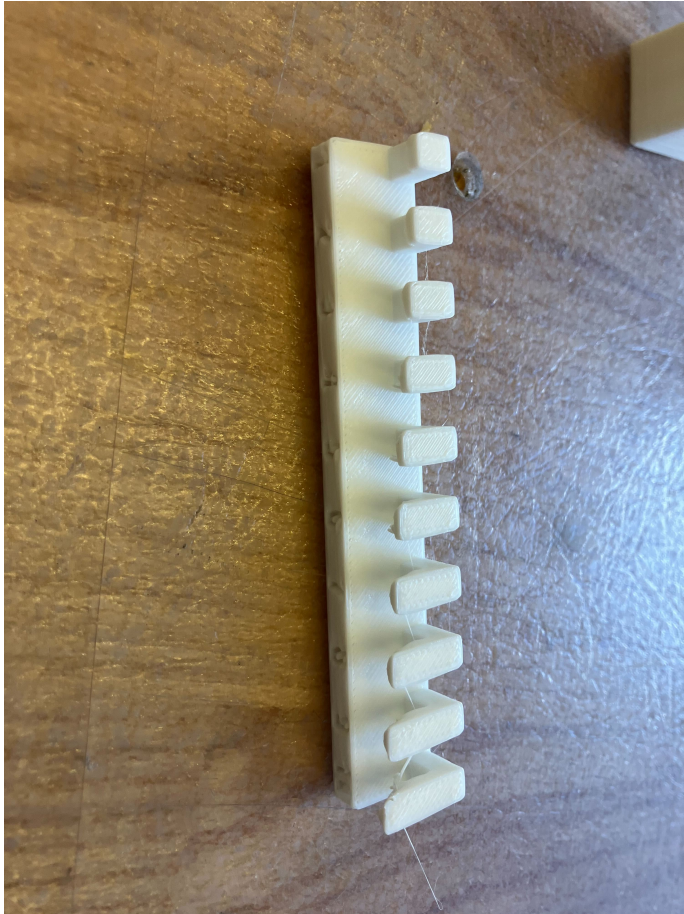


# Angle

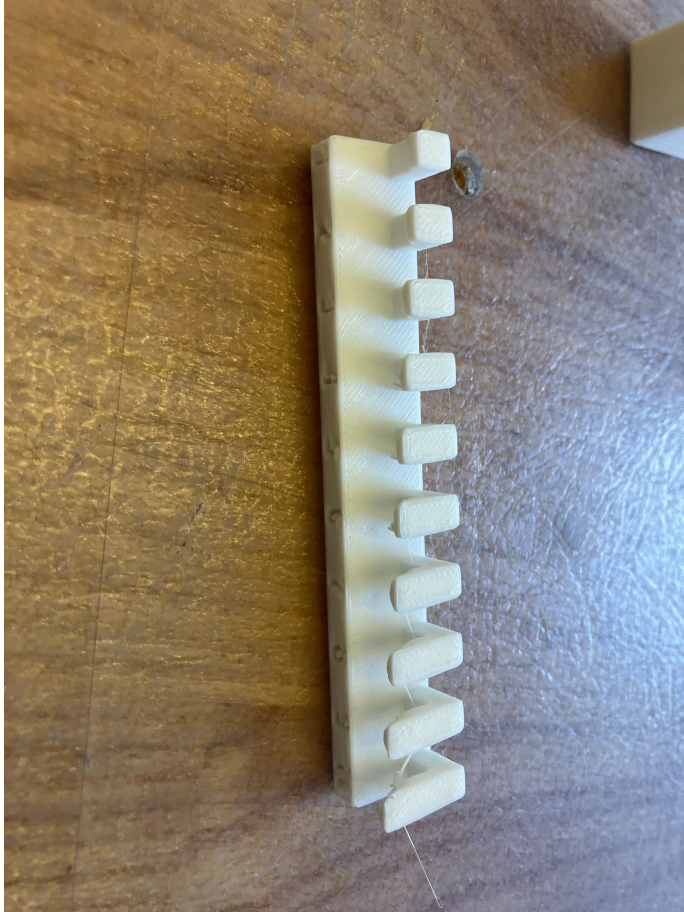


20 degrees is minimum overhang angle (defined as degrees above right angle). 30 degrees and above are nicely formed. 10 degrees and below spaghetti.

# Overhang (unsupported)

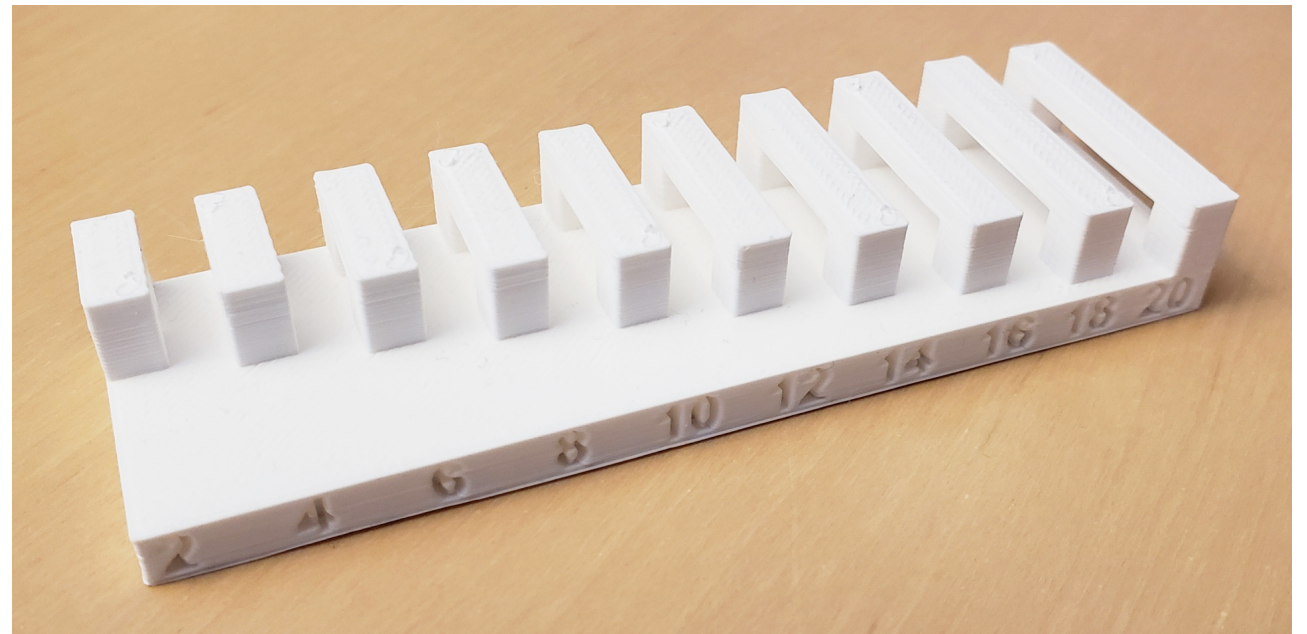
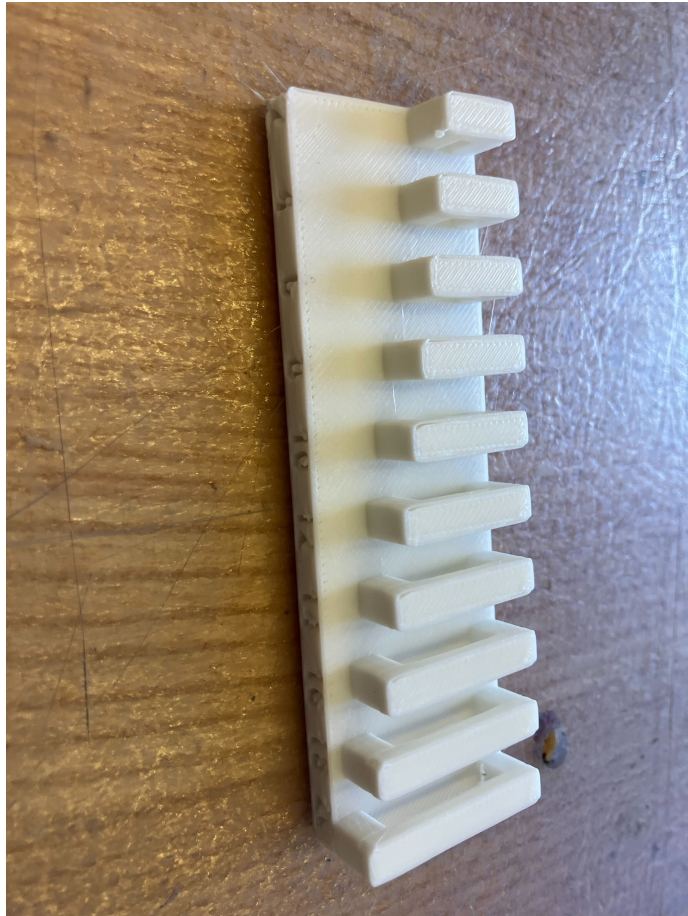


# Overhang (unsupported)

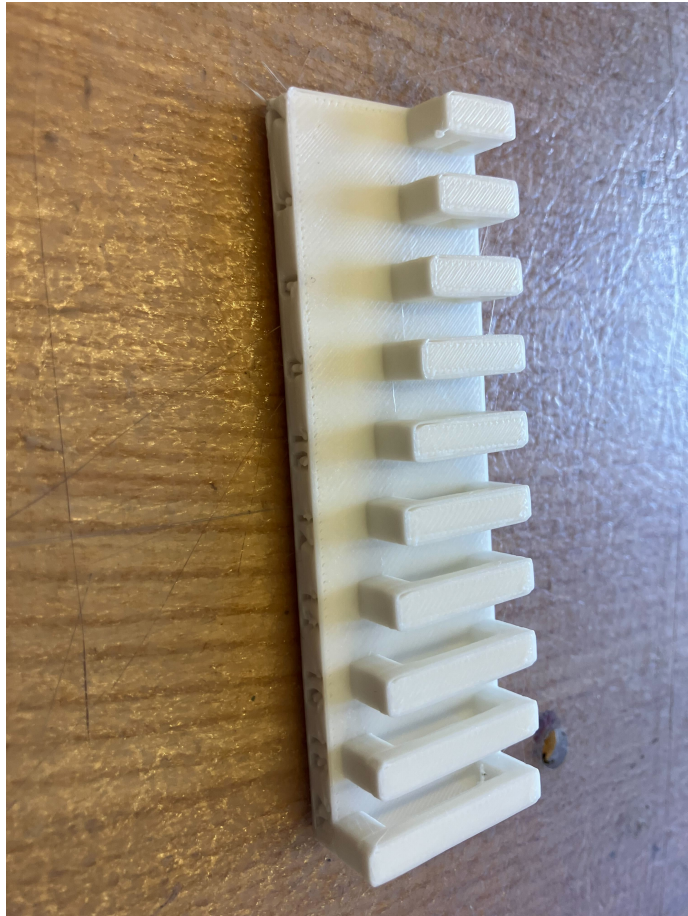


Maximum unsupported overhang distance before spaghetti is 2-3mm. Below is fine, after is awkward.

# Bridging

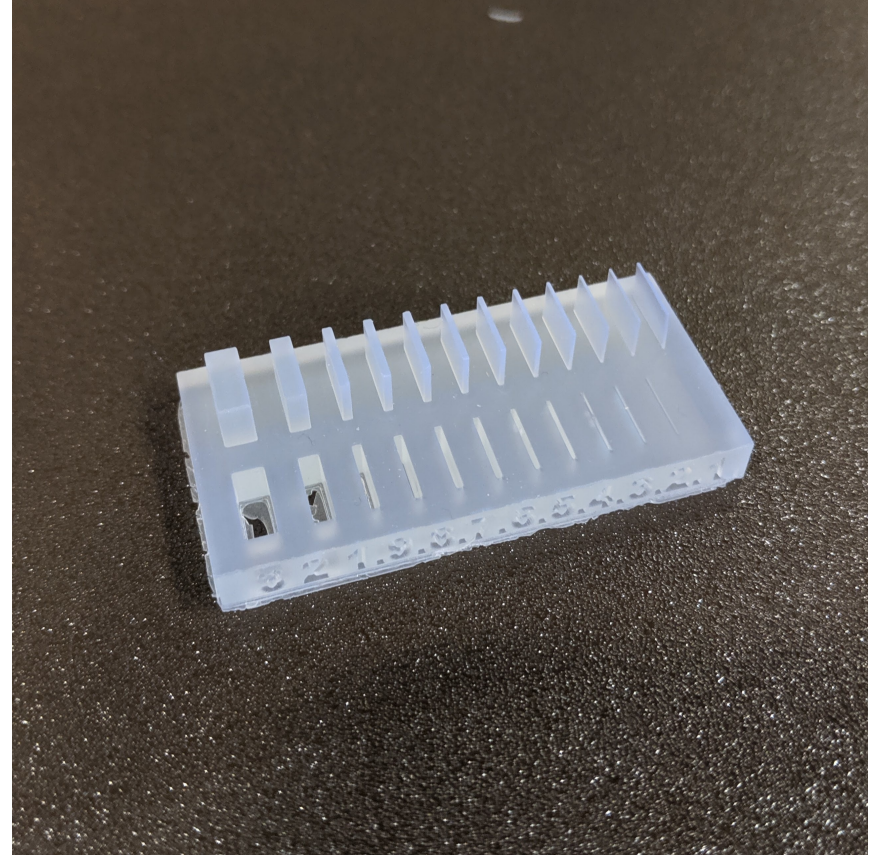
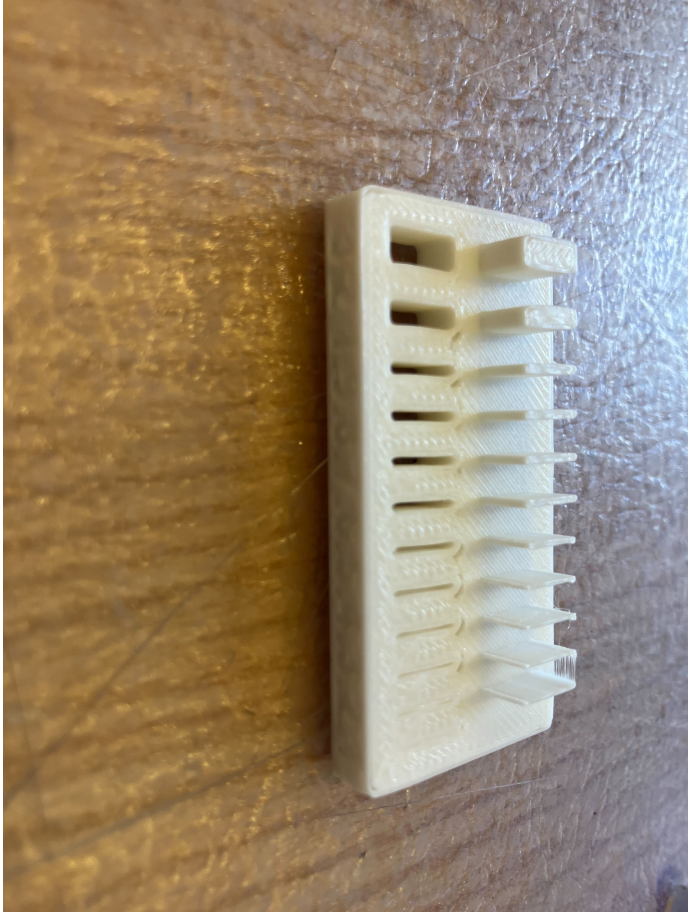


# Bridging

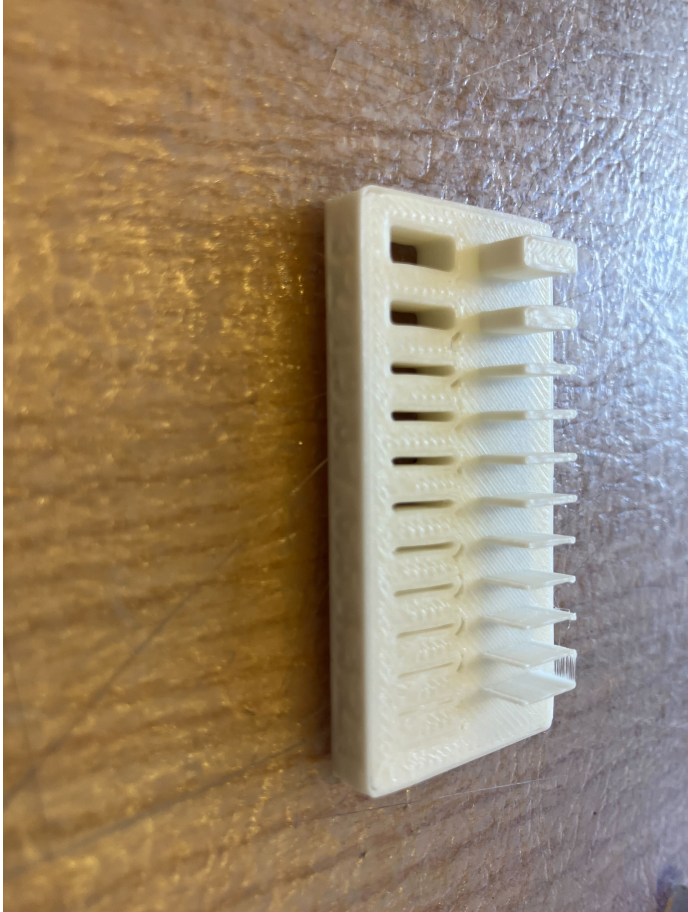


18mm is maximum bridge size. 20mm is actually not too bad.

# Wall thickness

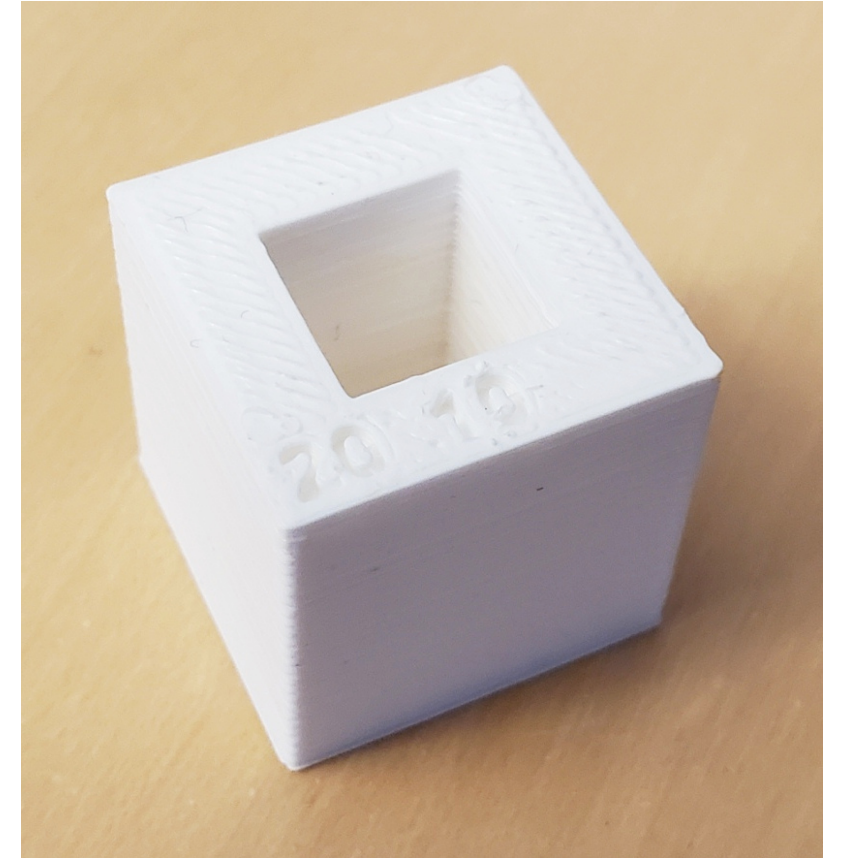
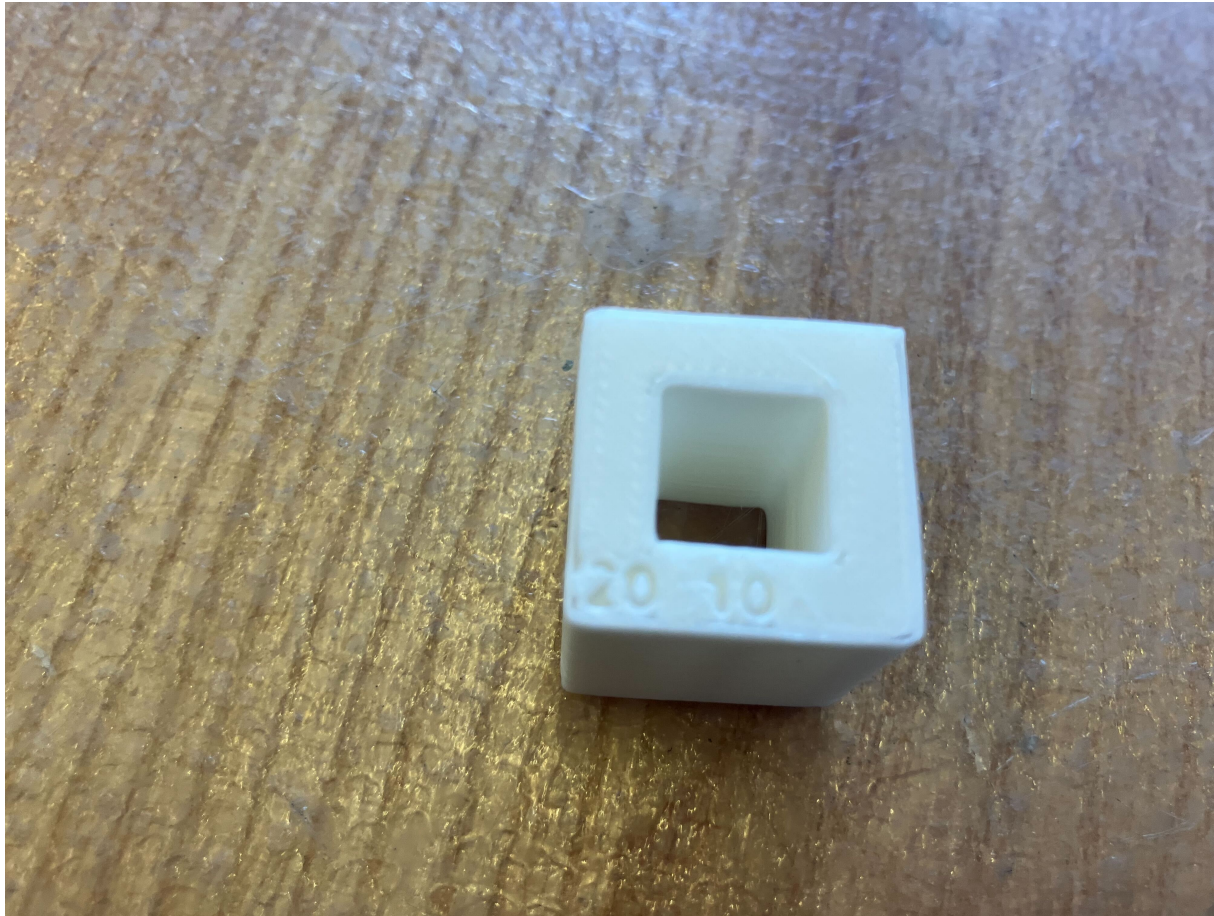


# Wall thickness

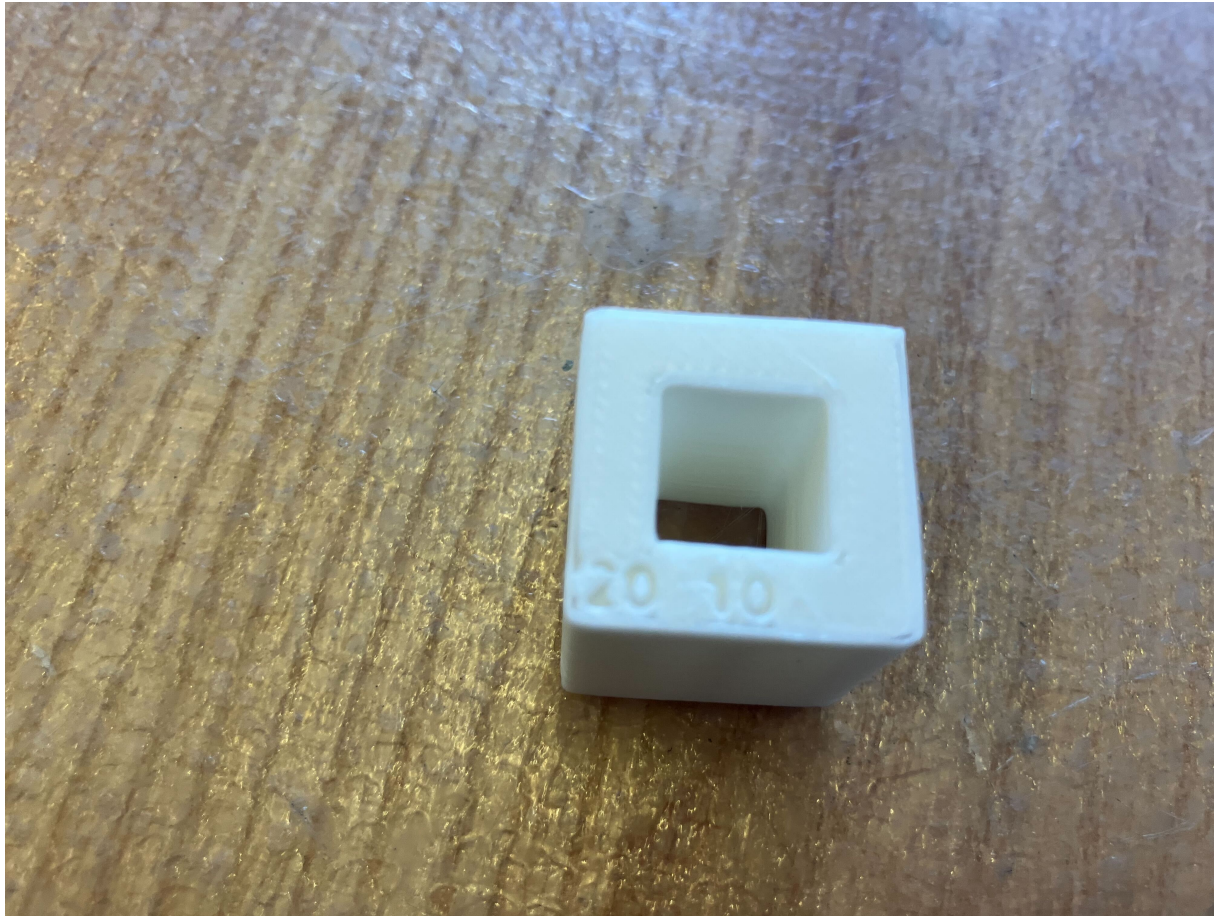


0.6mm is the minimum wall thickness that is sturdy. The rest just break off if you touch it

# Dimensions

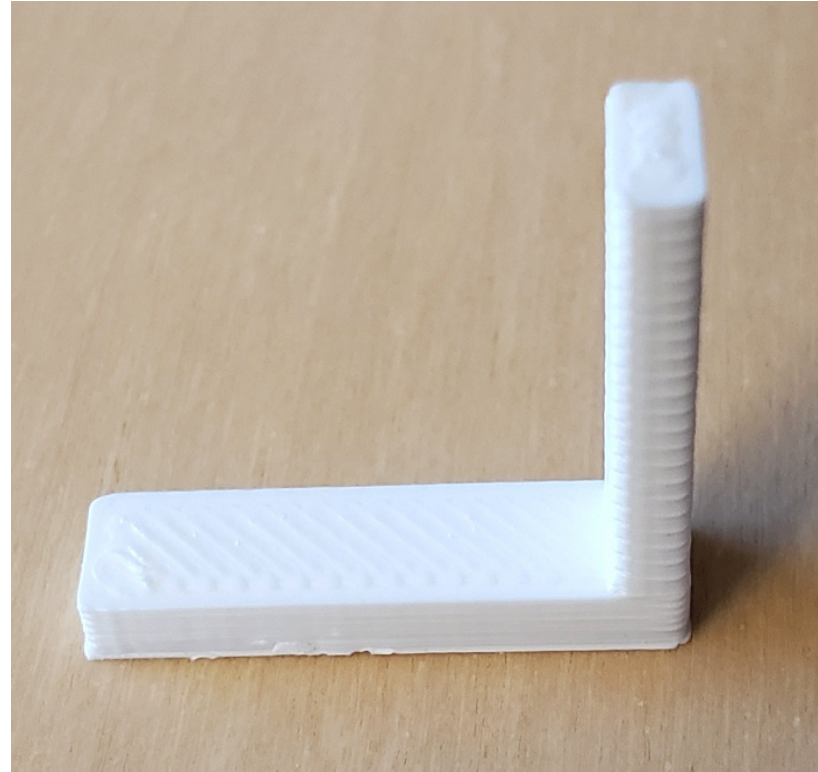


# Dimensions



At the base, outer distance is 20.05 (one offset) and inner distance is 9.90mm (twice offset). Dimensions are off by 0.05mm. It actually slightly differs as a function of height.

# Anisotropy/orientation



# Anisotropy/orientation



## Quantifying Print Anisotropy

- **Mechanical test:** Print samples in X, Y, Z orientations and measure tensile/flexural strength.  
 $A = \sigma_{\text{max}} / \sigma_{\text{min}}$ ,  $A > 1 \Rightarrow$  anisotropy
- **Geometric approximation:** Use filament width (w, XY) and layer height (h, Z).  
 $A \approx w / h$

ImageJ on unsupported elbow

w= 730

h= 545

Unsupported A=  $730/545 = 1.339$

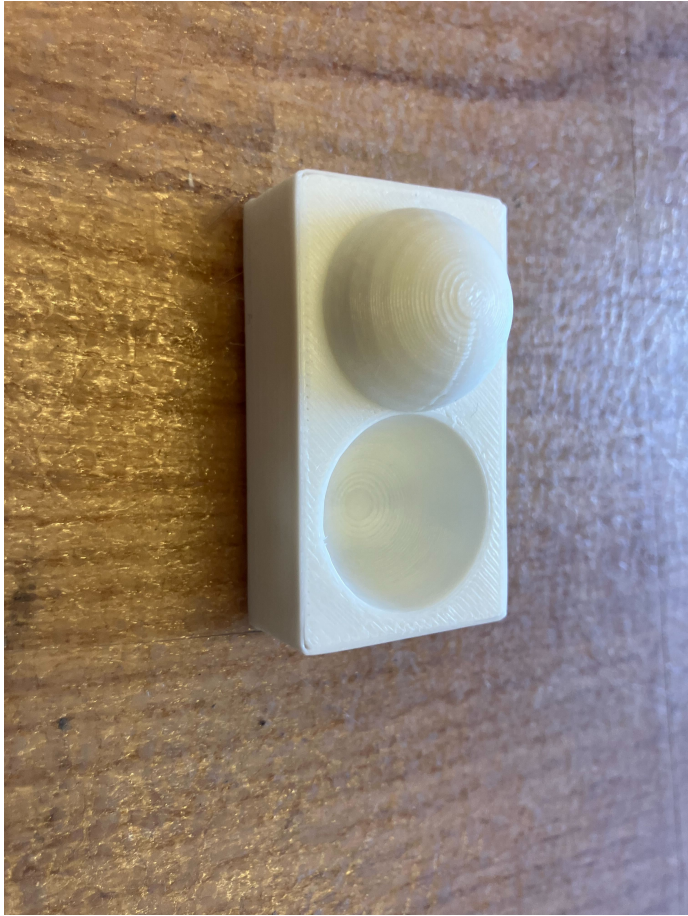
Measurements on supported elbow

h=20.16

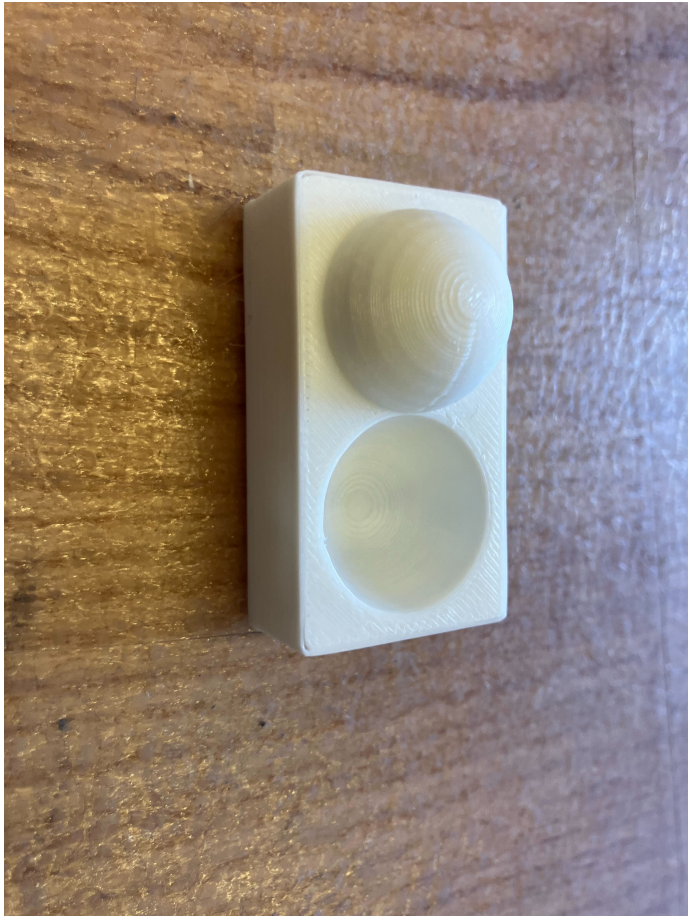
w= 20.11

Supported A=  $20.11/20.16 = 0.998$

# Surface finish



# Surface finish



With default surface finish settings, we clearly can see the layers. Further optimization is necessary for smoothing the surface finish.

We can see the track of the nozzle during step height process. In advanced settings, the step height can be adjusted and tuned for the curvature needed.

The roundedness is limited, it's flat at the top, which can also be adjusted from the step height.

# Infill



# Infill



15% infill is optimal. There is spaghetti in the interior, but very minimal.

Further characterization of other infills can be done. Higher infill is better for stiffer structures, and lower infill is better for flexible structures.

# Tapers/corners

- TBD

# Z offset, leveling, measurement

- TBD

# Adhesion, warping, rafts, brims

- TBD

# Post-processing, plating

- TBD

# references

- lecture notes
- office hours insights
- week 3 course website: [https://academy.cba.mit.edu/classes/scanning\\_printing/index.html](https://academy.cba.mit.edu/classes/scanning_printing/index.html)