



# Preliminary Design Review

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November 9th, 2023



# Presentation Overview

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- Launch Vehicle Leading Design
- Recovery Leading Design
- Mission Performance Predictions
- Payload Leading Design
- Requirements Compliance
- Project Plan



# Our Team



**Hanna**  
Team Lead



**Cameron**  
Structures



**Matthew**  
Aerodynamics



**Braden**  
Recovery



**Megan**  
Safety Officer



**Frank**  
Payload Electronics



**Joseph**  
Payload Structures



**Michael**  
Payload Software



**Shyanne**  
Integration

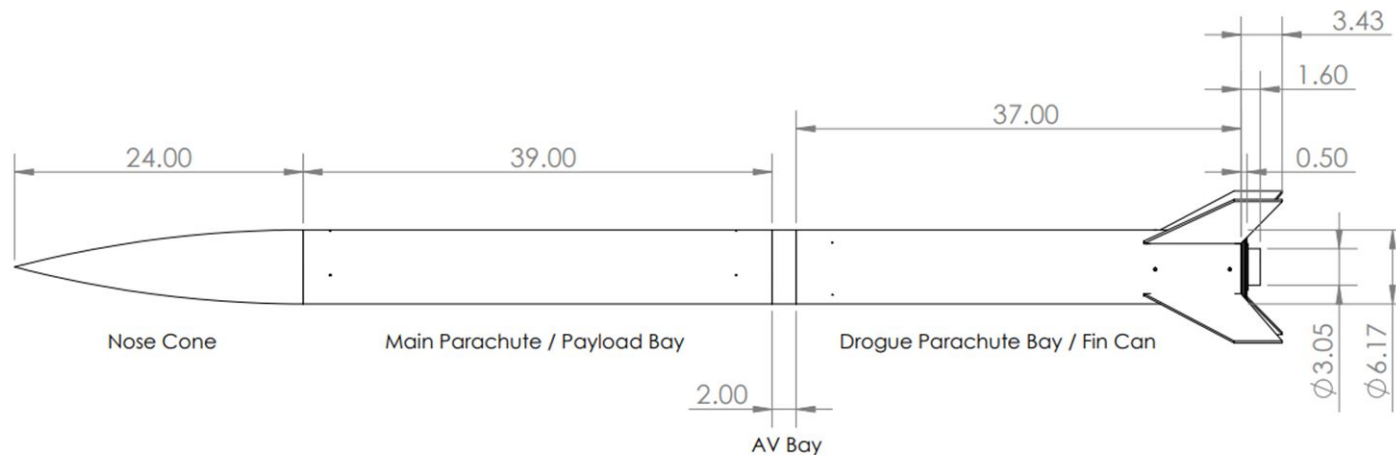


# Launch Vehicle Leading Design

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# Launch Vehicle Dimensions



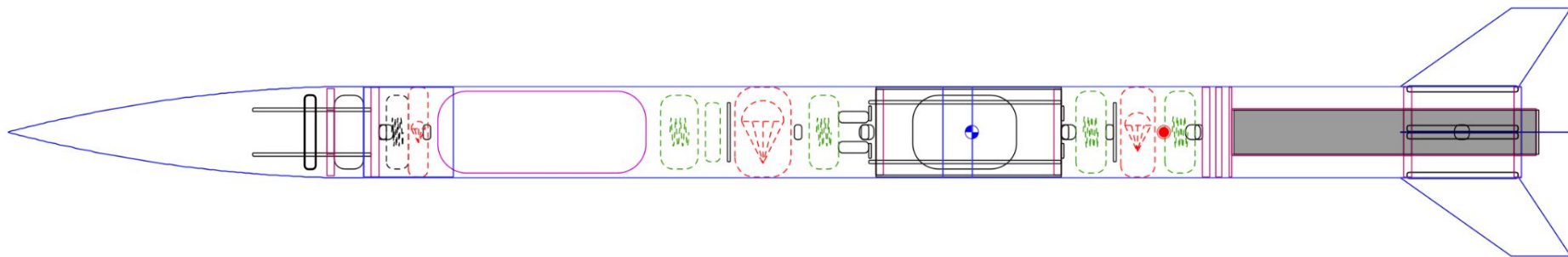


# Launch Vehicle Stability

Software	Stability Margin
OpenRocket	2.10 Calibers
RocketPy	2.04 Calibers
RasAero II	2.22 Calibers
Barrowman Method	2.07 Calibers

Rocket  
Length 105 in, max. diameter 6.17 in  
Mass with no motors 34.6 lb  
Mass with motors 42.6 lb

Stability: 2.1 cal  
• CG: 64.966 in  
• CP: 77.913 in  
at M=0.52





# Airframe Material

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- G12 Fiberglass (Chosen Material)
  - Spirally wound fiberglass roving and epoxy
  - Widely used in high-powered rocketry
  - Extremely resistant to abrasion, cracking, shattering, etc.
  - Water resistant
  - $\sim 1.05 \text{ oz/in}^3$
  - $\sim \$45/\text{ft.}$
- Blue Tube
  - Spirally wound vulcanized fiber
  - Widely used in high-powered rocketry
  - Extremely resistant to abrasion, cracking, shattering, etc.
  - Not water resistant
  - $\sim 0.751 \text{ oz/in}^3$
  - $\sim \$20/\text{ft.}$



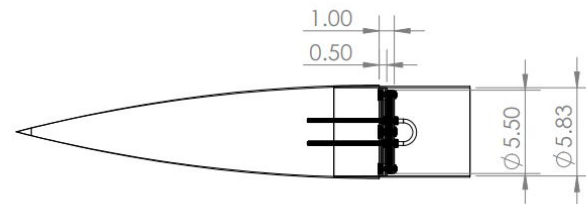
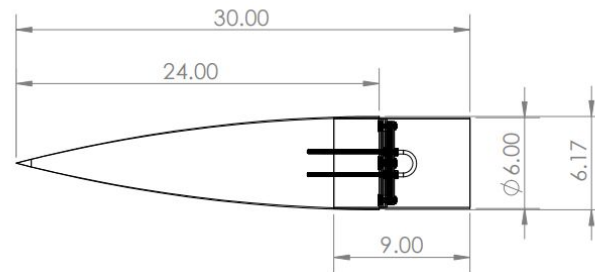
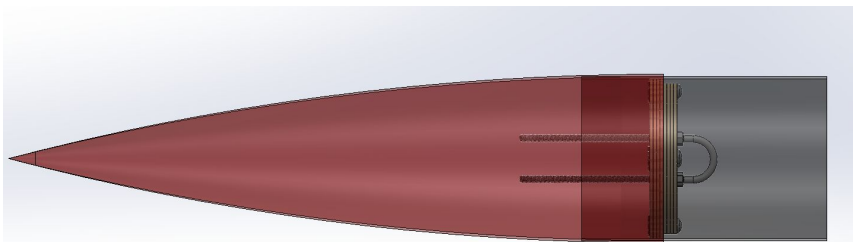
# Nose Cone

Location:

- Above the Main Parachute/Payload Bay

Contains:

- Permanent nose cone ring, removable nose cone bulkhead, payload/recovery electronics, latch

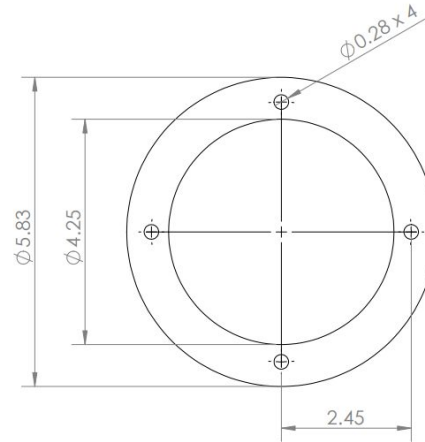
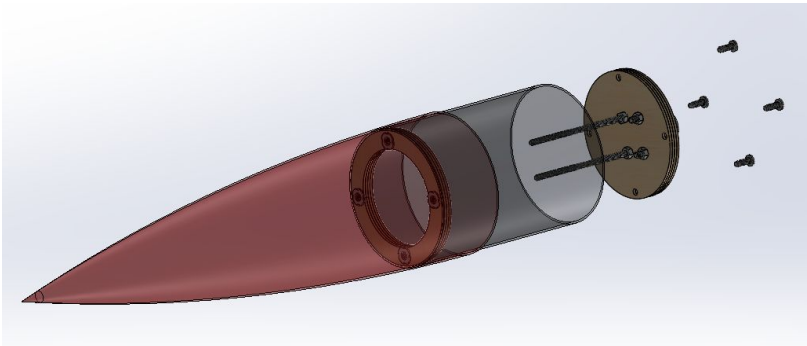




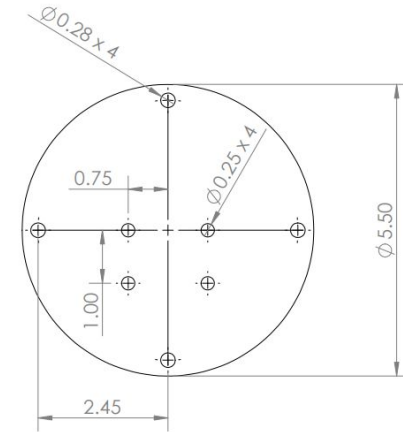


# Removable Nose Cone Bulkhead

Allows for electronics for the payload/recovery system to be stored in the nose cone



Nose Cone Permanent Ring (0.5 in. thick)



Removable Nose Cone Bulkhead (0.5 in. thick)



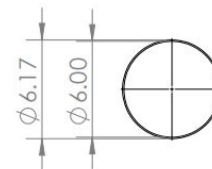
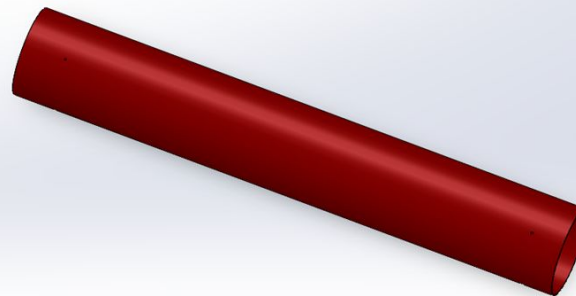
# Main Parachute/Payload Bay

Location:

- Between nose cone and AV bay

Contains:

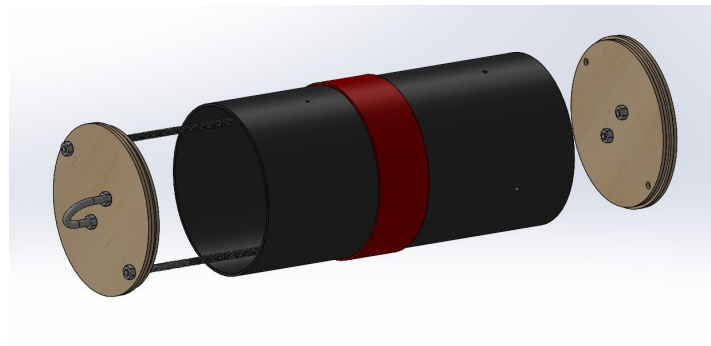
- Payload
- Main parachute
- Payload parachute in deployment bag
- Shock cord



# AV Bay

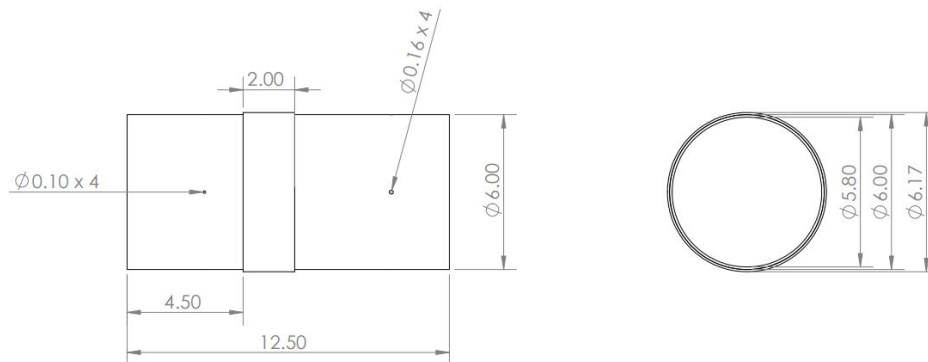
## Location:

- Between the main parachute/payload bay and the drogue parachute bay/fin can



## Contains

- Electronics sled, blast caps, terminal blocks





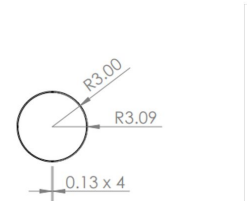
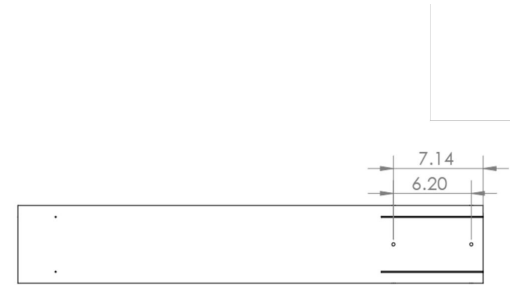
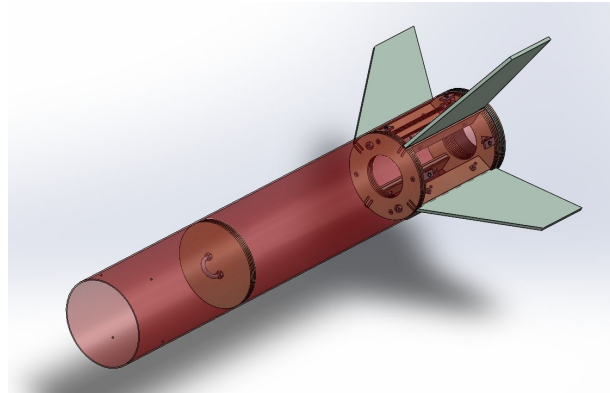
# Drogue Parachute Bay/Fin Can

Location:

- Below the AV bay

Contains:

- Fin can bulkhead
- Drogue parachute
- Removable fin system





# Removable Fin System

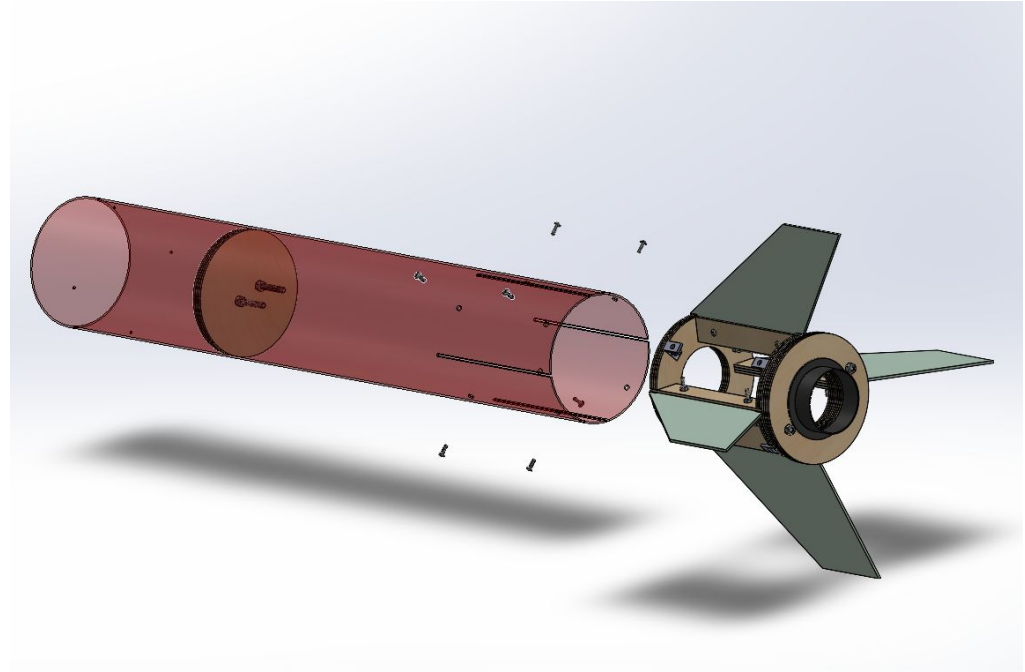
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## Fixed:

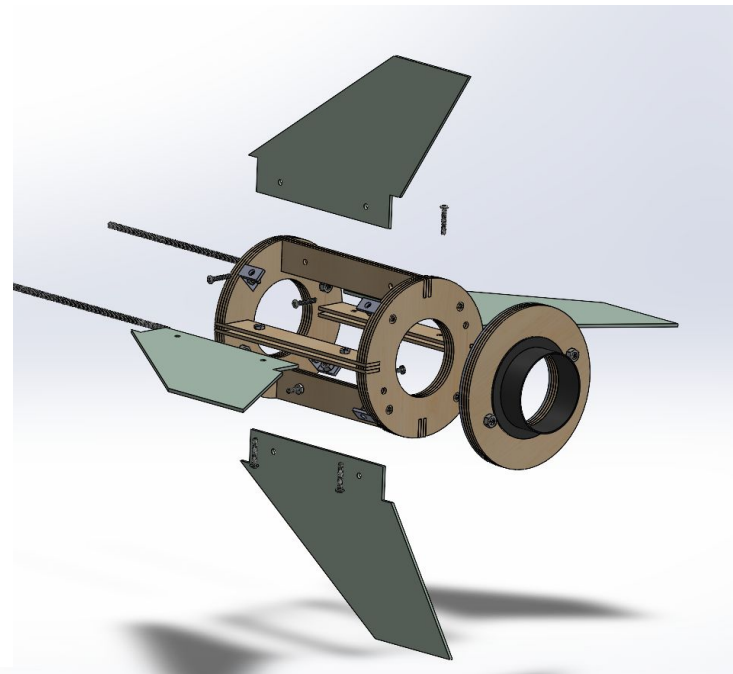
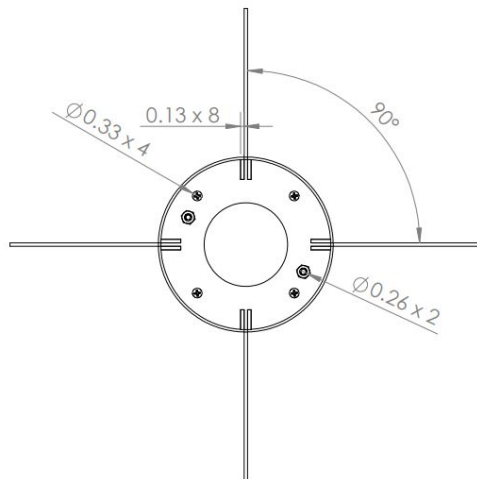
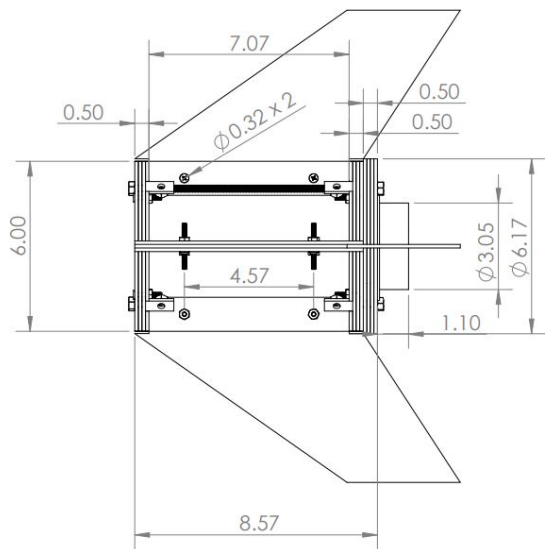
- Strong connection of fins to airframe
- Easy to manufacture
- Entire fin can must be replaced if a fin is damaged

## Removable:

- Damaged centering rings can be replaced
- Broken fins can be easily replaced
- Ballasts can be easily added if needed



# Removable Fin System

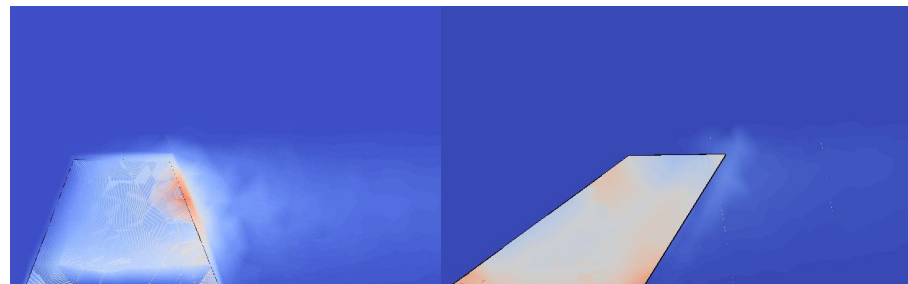
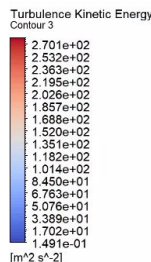




# Fin Design

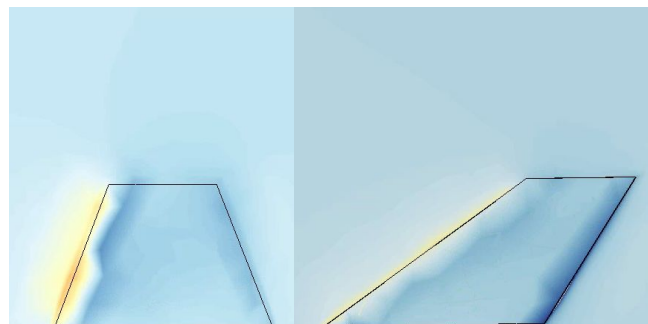
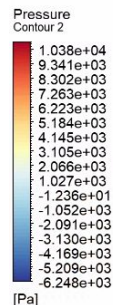
## Symmetric:

- Streamlined manufacturing
- 4.66 lbf. of drag at launch vehicle maximum velocity
- Higher turbulence profile aft of the fin



## Swept:

- Additional complexity in manufacturing angled edges
- 3.53 lbf. of drag at launch vehicle maximum velocity
- Lower turbulence profile aft of the fin





# Fin Material

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G10 Fiberglass	Aircraft-Grade Birch Plywood	Sandwich Composite
Easy to manufacture	Easy to manufacture	Difficult manufacturing process
Highly resistant to abrasion, cracking, chipping, and impacts	Moderate resistance to abrasion, cracking, chipping, and impacts	Moderate resistance to abrasion, cracking, chipping, and impacts
Known thickness	Known thickness	Unknown thickness
Heavy	Cheap	Lightweight

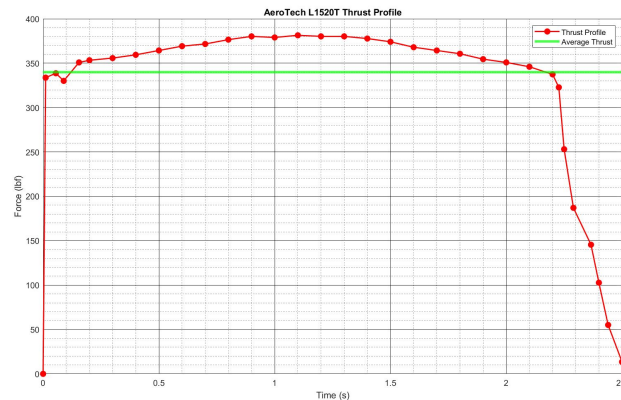




# Motor Selection

- Current launch vehicle mass estimates allow for the AeroTech L1520T to propel the launch vehicle to the desired apogee. If mass increases, alternative motors may be used to increase the total impulse.
- Thrust to Weight Ratio: **8.27**
- Maximum Acceleration: **8.16 G's**

Motor	Propellant Mass (slug)	Total Mass (slug)	Total Impulse (lb•sec)	Average Thrust (lb)	Maximum Thrust (lb)	Burn Time (sec)	Casing	Length (in)
L1390G	0.1351	0.2657	887.77	313.48	376.55	2.6	RMS-75/3840	20.86
L1520T	0.1270	0.2501	835.16	352.45	396.85	2.4	RMS-75/3840	20.39
L1256WS	0.1345	0.2573	850.90	282.60	339.12	3.0	RMS-75/3840	22.08





# Recovery Leading Design

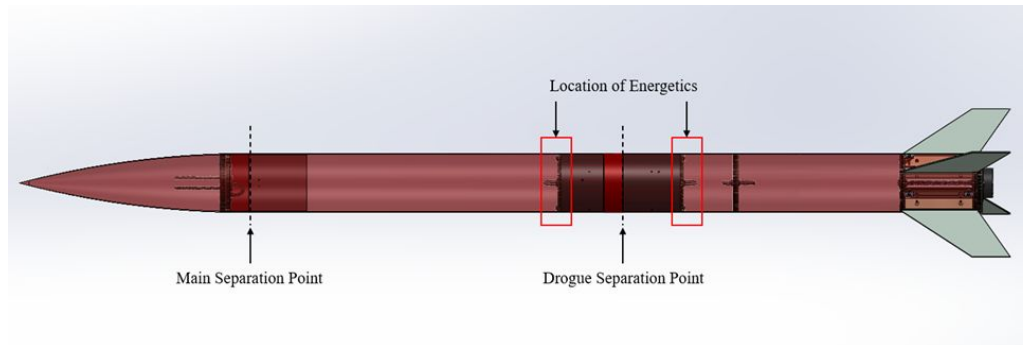
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# Points of Separation

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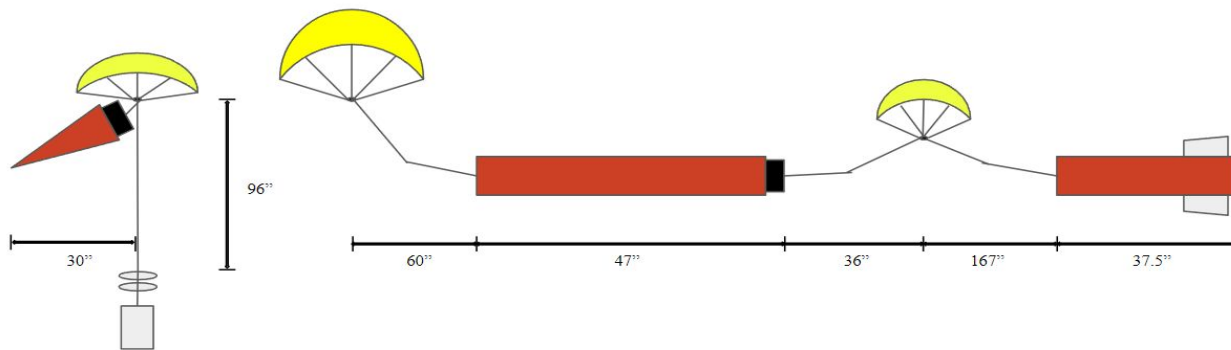
- The drogue parachute is located aft of the AV Bay in the fin can
- The main parachute is located forward of the AV bay in the main parachute/payload bay
- The AV bay holds all of the recovery electronics with the exception of the tracker in the nose cone.





# Recovery Overview

- The drogue parachute deploys at apogee
  - Secondary charge is set to a one second delay after apogee
- Main parachute deploys at 800 ft
  - Secondary charge set at 750 ft
- The nose cone parachute deploys after nose cone separation at 800 ft
- Payload is separated from the nose cone ~450 ft





# Altimeter Alternatives

## Desired Qualities:

- Precision
- Form factor
- Ease of use
- Reliability

Altimeter	Main Deployment Variability	Delay After Apogee	Altitude Logging Resolution	Dimensions	Data Recorded	Sampling Rate	Price	Owned by Club
Stratologger CF	100 - 9999 ft Increment: 1 ft	0 - 5 s Increment: 1 s	1 ft	L: 2" W: .84" H: 0.5"	Altitude, Velocity, Temperature	20/s	\$69.95	Yes
RRC3	300 - 3000 ft Increment: 100 ft	1 - 30 s Increment: 1 s	1 ft	L: 3.92" W: .925"	Altitude, Velocity, Temperature, Time to Apogee	20/s	\$101.33	Yes
Eggtimer Quasar	100 - 3000 ft	0 - 3 s Increment: .1 s or 3 - 30 s Increment: 1 s	1 ft	L: 3.816" W: 1.09" H: .5"	Altitude, Velocity, Milestone Events	20/s	\$100.00	Yes
Entacore AIM	100 - 100,000 ft Increment: 1 ft	Available	1 ft	L: 2.56" W: 0.98" H: 0.59"	Altitude, Velocity, Temperature	10/s	\$121.15	Yes
EasyMini	100 - 100,000 ft Increment: 100 ft on ascent, Increment: 10 ft on descent	Available	8 in	L: 1.5" W: 0.8" H: 0.6"	Altitude, Velocity, Acceleration, Voltage, Time to Apogee, Total Flight Time	100/s Ascent, 10/s Descent	\$101.78	No



# Tracker Alternatives

Tracker	License Required	Transmitter Power	Transmitter Frequency	Range	Owned by Club	Price	Comments
Big Red Bee 900	No	250 mW	900 MHz	6 Miles	Yes	\$209.00	The simplest option.
Big Red Bee Beeline	Yes	100 mW	420 - 450 MHz	40 + Miles	No	\$359.00	Various modes, too expensive.
EggTIMER Quasar	Yes	100 - 250 mW	420.250 MHz	11 + miles	Yes	\$100	Functions as a GPS Tracker, and a dual-deploy altimeter.
Feather-weight GPS Tracker	No	60 mW	915 MHz	26 miles	No	\$165.00	Can use with smartphone, though there will be difficulty setting up a pull-pin switch.



# Drogue Parachute Alternatives

Parachute	Drag Coefficient	Descent Velocity	Descent time from Apogee to Main Deployment	Wind Drift from Apogee to Main Deployment (20 mph)	Owned by Club
Fruity Chutes 12" Classic Elliptical	1.339	175.21 ft/s	20.33 s	596.35 ft	No
Fruity Chutes 15" Compact Elliptical	1.5	101.31 ft/s	35.17 s	1031.65 ft	Yes
Fruity Chutes 18" Classic Elliptical	1.428	113.10 ft/s	31.50 s	924.00 ft	Yes
Fruity Chutes 24" Classic Elliptical	1.473	83.53 ft/s	42.66 s	1251.36 ft	Yes



# Main Parachute Alternatives

Parachute	Drag Coefficient	Descent Velocity	Kinetic Energy	Descent time from Main Deployment	Wind Drift from Main Deployment (20 mph)	Owned by Club
Fruity Chutes 72" Iris Ultra Compact	2.033	18.95 ft/s	77.96 ft-lb	42.23 s	1238.75 ft	No
Fruity Chutes 84" Iris Ultra Compact	2.135	15.85 ft/s	54.56 ft-lb	50.48 s	1480.75 ft	No
Fruity Chutes 96" Iris Ultra Compact	2.088	14.02 ft/s	43.71 ft-lb	57.048 s	1673.41 ft	No
Fruity Chutes 120" Iris Ultra Compact	2.105	11.17 ft/s	27.11 ft-lb	71.61 s	2100.56 ft	Yes





# Nose Cone Parachute Alternatives

- With Payload Attached

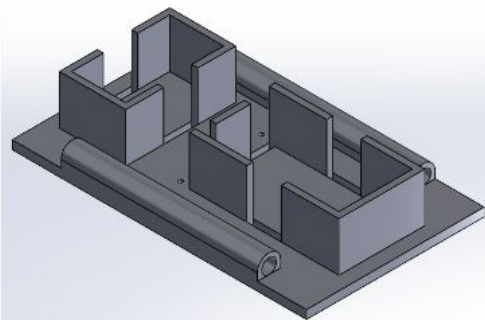
Parachute	Drag Coefficient	Descent Velocity	Descent time from Main Deployment	Owned by Club
Fruity Chutes 36" Compact Elliptical	1.428	33.97 ft/s	10.30 s	Yes
Fruity Chutes 42" Classic Elliptical	1.421	29.19 ft/s	11.99 s	No
Fruity Chutes 48" Classic Elliptical	1.439	25.38 ft/s	13.79 s	Yes

- Without Payload Attached

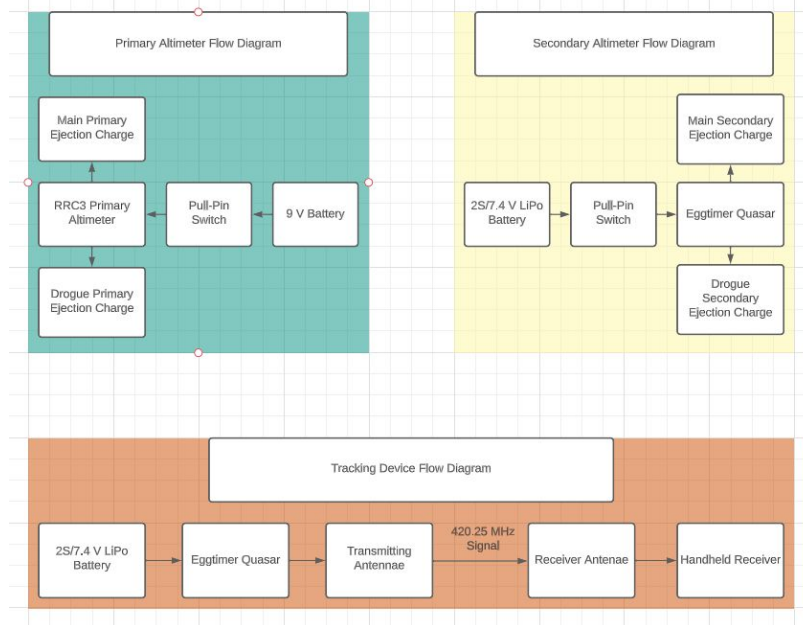
Parachute	Drag Coefficient	Descent Velocity	Kinetic Energy	Descent time from Payload Deployment	Wind Drift from Main Deployment (20 mph)	Owned by Club
Fruity Chutes 36" Compact Elliptical	1.428	24.74 ft/s	69.90 ft-lb	18.19 s	835.71 ft	Yes
Fruity Chutes 42" Classic Elliptical	1.421	21.26 ft/s	51.62 ft-lb	21.16 s	972.53 ft	No
Fruity Chutes 48" Classic Elliptical	1.439	18.49 ft/s	39.01 ft-lb	24.344 s	1118.65 ft	Yes



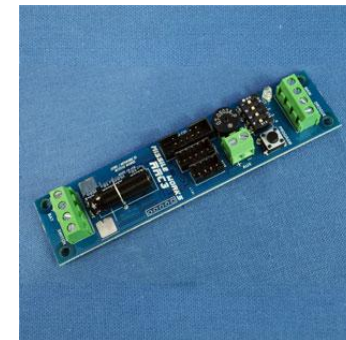
# Leading Avionics Design



Model of AV Sled



Electrical Schematic of AV Bay



Missile Works RRC3 Primary Dual Deployment Altimeter



Egg timer Quasar Tracker and Secondary Dual Deployment Altimeter



# Leading Parachute Configuration

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- Drogue Parachute:
  - Fruity Chutes 18 in. Classic Elliptical
  - Protected from ejection charges via Nomex cloth
- Main Parachute:
  - Fruity Chutes 84 in. Iris Ultra Compact
  - Protected from ejection charges via a deployment bag that is attached to the removable nose cone
  - Allows the landing kinetic energy of every section of the launch vehicle to be less than 65 ft-lb
- Nose Cone Parachute:
  - Fruity Chutes 48 in. Classic Elliptical
  - Protected from ejection charges via Nomex cloth



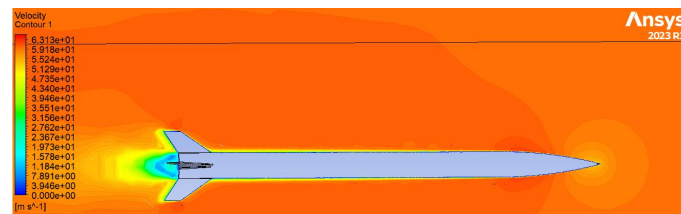
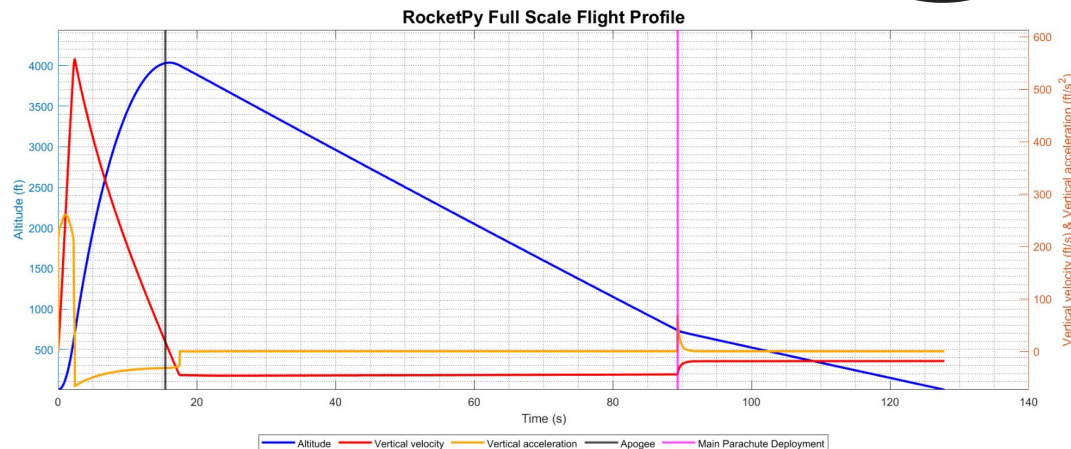
# Mission Performance Predictions

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# Aerodynamic Performance

- Launch vehicle drag profile characterized in ANSYS Fluent
- RocketPy python module used in simulation for real time atmospheric conditions
- Center of gravity and motor performance imported from OpenRocket
- Declared apogee: **4050 ft.**





# Descent Time and Wind Drift

Assumed that there is constant wind down range

Maximum Wind Drift:

- Launch Vehicle: 2404.76 ft
- Nose Cone: 2042.65 ft

Wind Velocity	Launch Vehicle Drift Distance	Nose Cone Drift Distance from Main Deployment
0 mph	0 ft	0 ft
5 mph	601.19 ft	279.66 ft
10 mph	1202.38 ft	559.33 ft
15 mph	1803.57 ft	838.99 ft
20 mph	2404.76 ft	1118.65 ft

Descent Time

- Launch Vehicle: 81.98 seconds
- Nose Cone: 38.134 seconds after main deployment

$$t = \frac{h_a - h_m}{v_d} + \frac{h_m}{v_m}$$

$$t_n = \frac{h_m - h_p}{v_p} + \frac{h_p}{v_{nc}}$$



# Kinetic Energy at Landing

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## Descent Velocity Requirements for Points

Section	Section of Mass	Descent Velocity Necessary to be Awarded Points	Descent Velocity Necessary to be Awarded Bonus Points
Nose Cone	.228 slugs	25.65 ft/s	23.88 ft/s
Main Parachute/ Payload Bay and Avionics Bay	.333	21.22 ft/s	19.76 ft/s
Drogue Bay/ Fin Can	.434 slugs	18.59 ft/s	17.31 ft/s

## Kinetic Energy at Landing

Section	Section of Mass	Velocity Under Main Parachute	Impact Energy
Nose Cone	.228 slugs	18.49 ft/s	38.97 ft-lb
Main Parachute/ Payload Bay and Avionics Bay	.333 slugs	15.85 ft/s	41.83 ft-lb
Drogue Bay/ Fin Can	.434 slugs	15.85 ft/s	54.56 ft-lb



# Maximum Opening Shock Force

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Upon parachute deployment, the launch vehicle will experience a shock force

- Maximum shock force experienced by the launch vehicle from main deployment: 299.47 lbf
- The Kevlar Webbed shock cord is rated for a maximum shock force of 6600 lbf.
- Factor of Safety: 22

Equation

$$F = \frac{m\Delta v}{t}$$





# Payload Leading Design

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# Payload Objective and Requirements

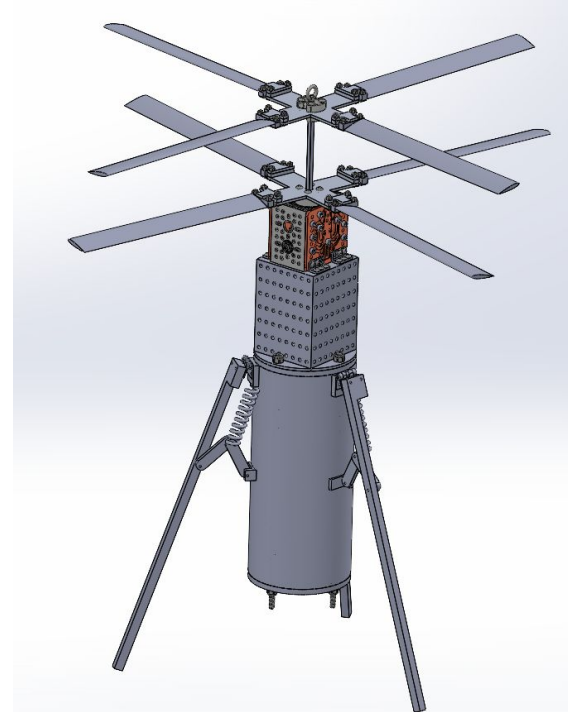
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- Design and build a lander capable of safely landing four STEMnauts without the use of parachutes or streamers
- Payload must deploy between 400 and 800 ft.
- Payload must weigh at least five lbs.
- Payload must land in a predefined orientation.
- Payload must land at a speed slower than 20 mph.



# Payload Design Overview

- Contra-rotating rotor blades to slow descent
- Powered by RC helicopter motor
- Rotor blades and legs will fold to allow the payload to fit inside the launch vehicle

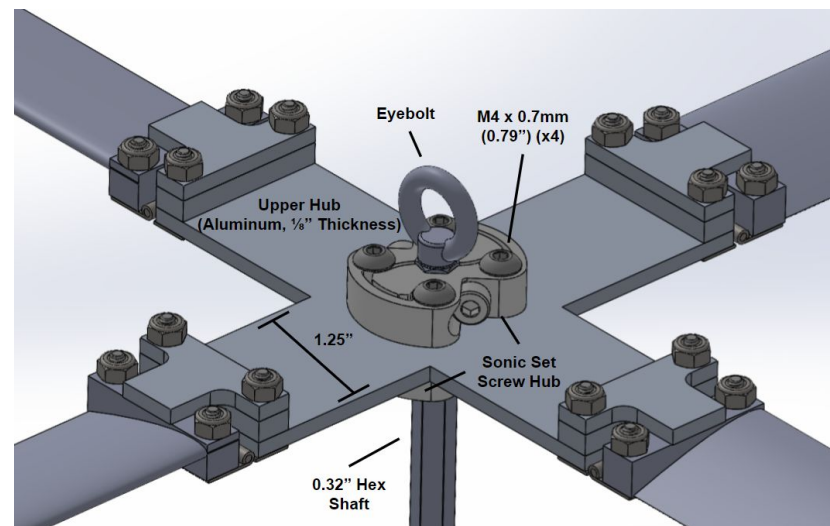




# Hub Assembly

## Upper Hub

- $\frac{1}{8}$  in. aluminum
- 1.25 in. prongs
- Eye bolt screwed into hex shaft for release mechanism
- Attached to hex shaft
  - Sonic set screw hubs bolted through hub

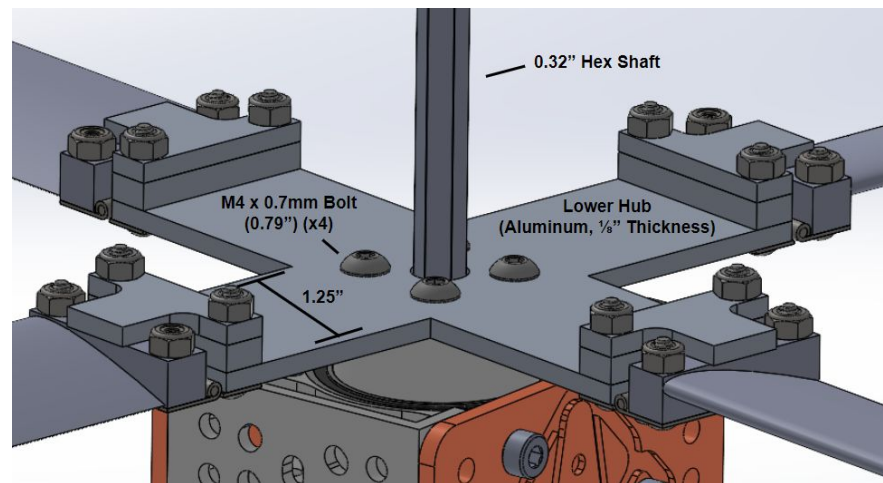




# Hub Assembly

## Lower Hub

- Similar to upper hub
  - Central hole size different
- Bolted to GoTube

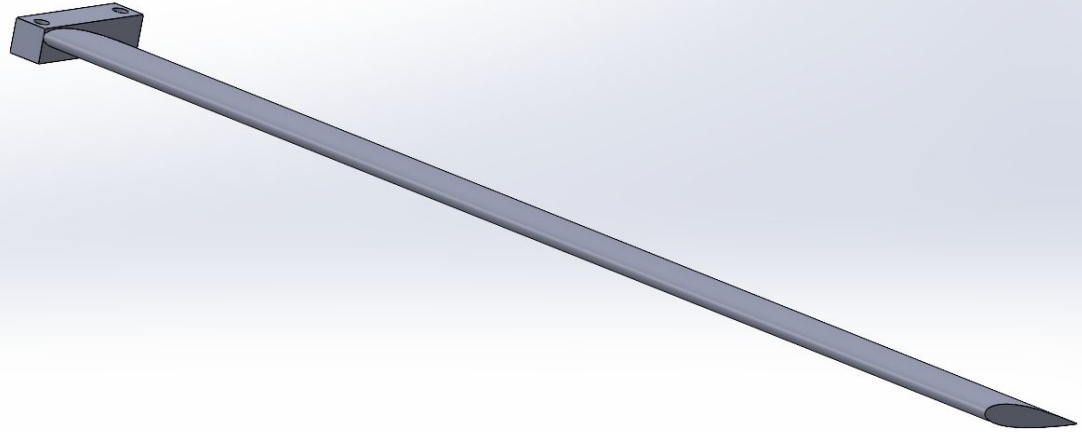




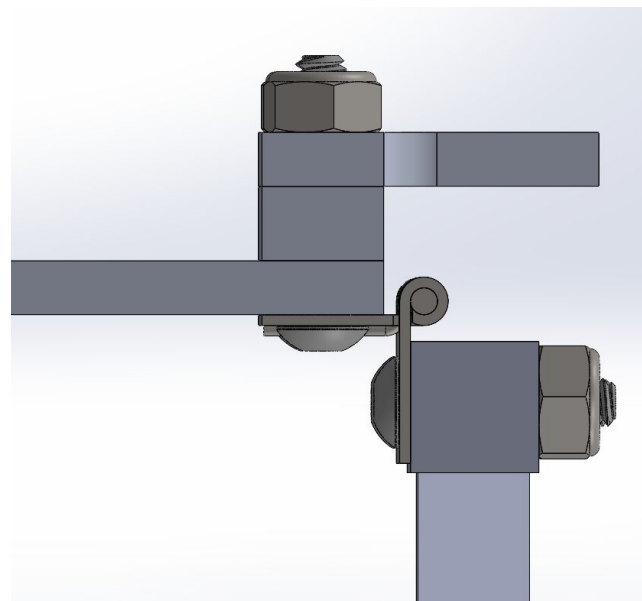
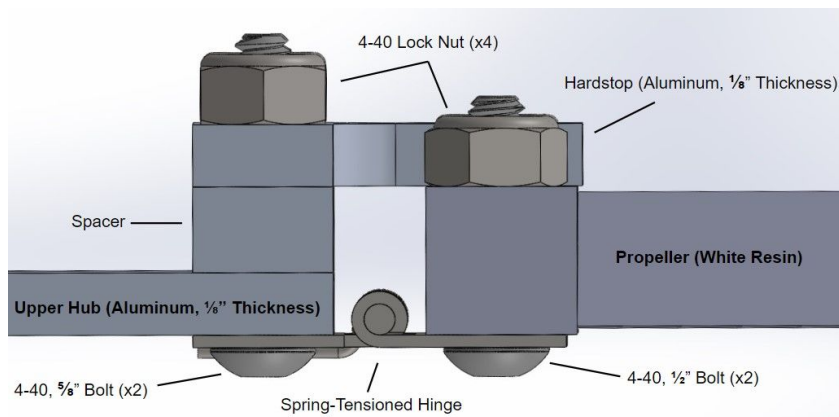
# Rotor Blades

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- NACA 0015 airfoil
- SLA resin printed
- 13 in. span
- 4 blades per rotor



# Hub-to-Propeller Assembly

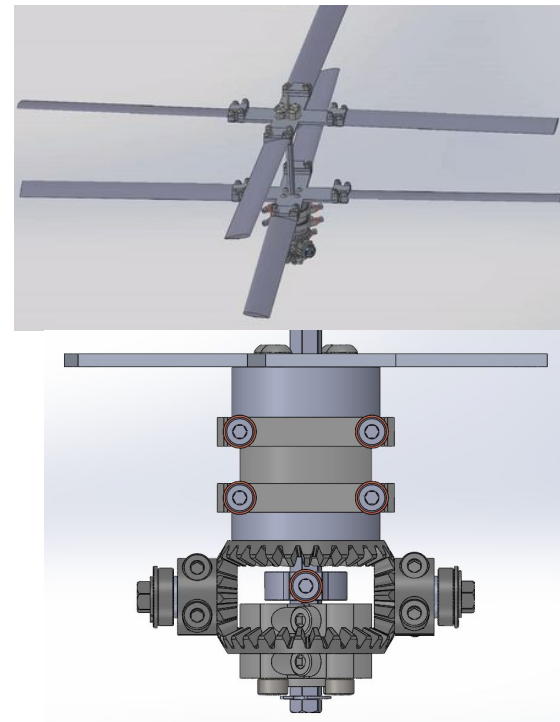


- Spring-loaded hinge
- Hub bolted to hardstop
  - Prevents propellers from moving beyond the horizontal position



# Gear Box

- 2 Concentric Axles
  - Bottom bevel gear - hex shaft - upper hub
  - Upper bevel gear - GoTube - lower hub
- 6 Bearings
  - 2 GoTube bearings
  - 4 hex shaft bearings
    - 1 between bevel gears
    - 1 between GoTube and hex shaft
    - 2 for vertical bevel gears
- Coaxial Rotation

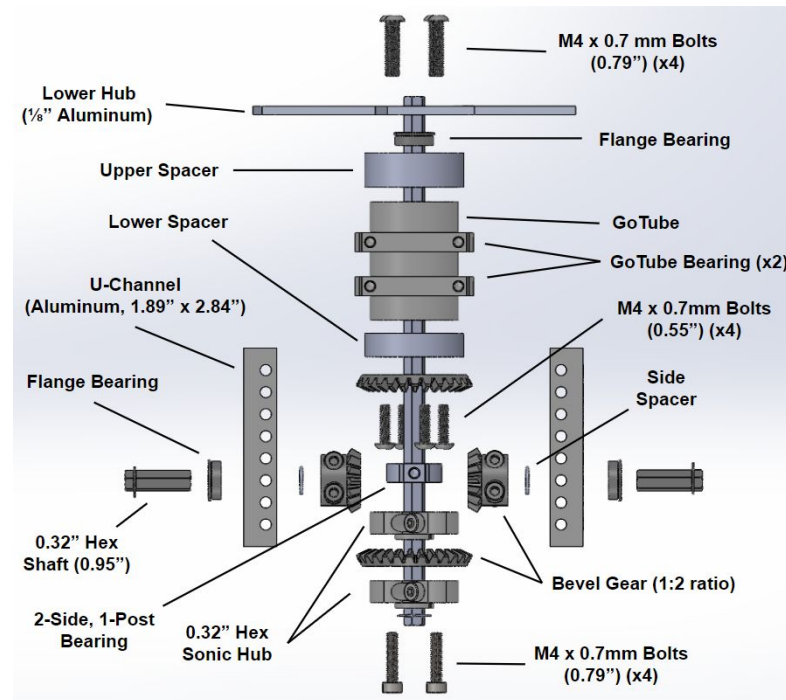






# Gear Box

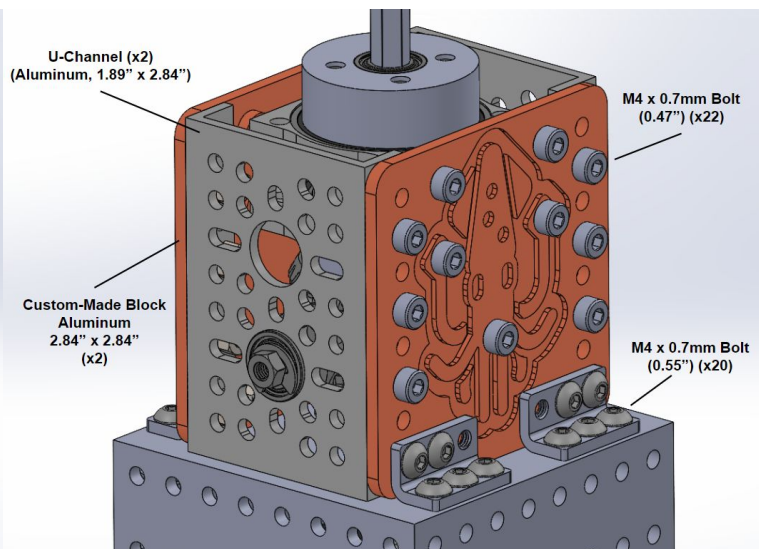
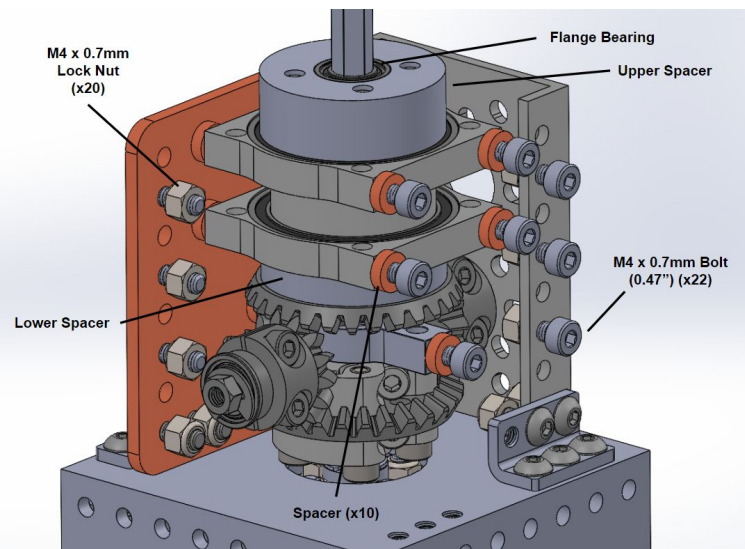
- Spacers
  - Upper and lower spacer
    - Prevents lower hub - upper bevel gear assembly from moving
  - Side Spacer (2x)
    - Prevents vertical bevel gear shaft from sliding
- GoTube
  - Fastened to upper bevel gear
- Sonic Hub (x2)
  - Fastened to lower bevel gear



# Gear Box

- Outer Structure

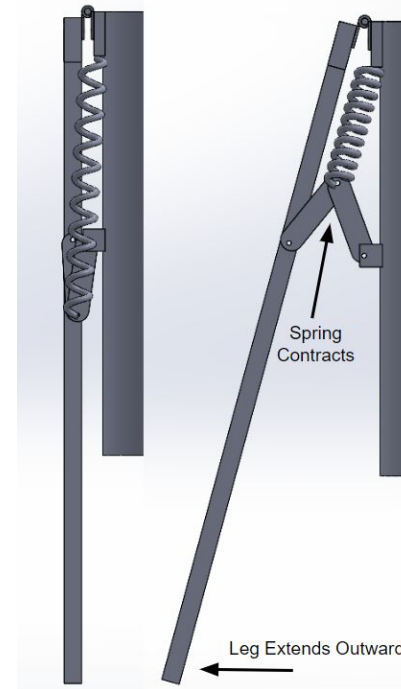
- U-Channels and plates bolted together
- Plates bolted to bearings
- L-brackets secure the gearbox to the motor housing





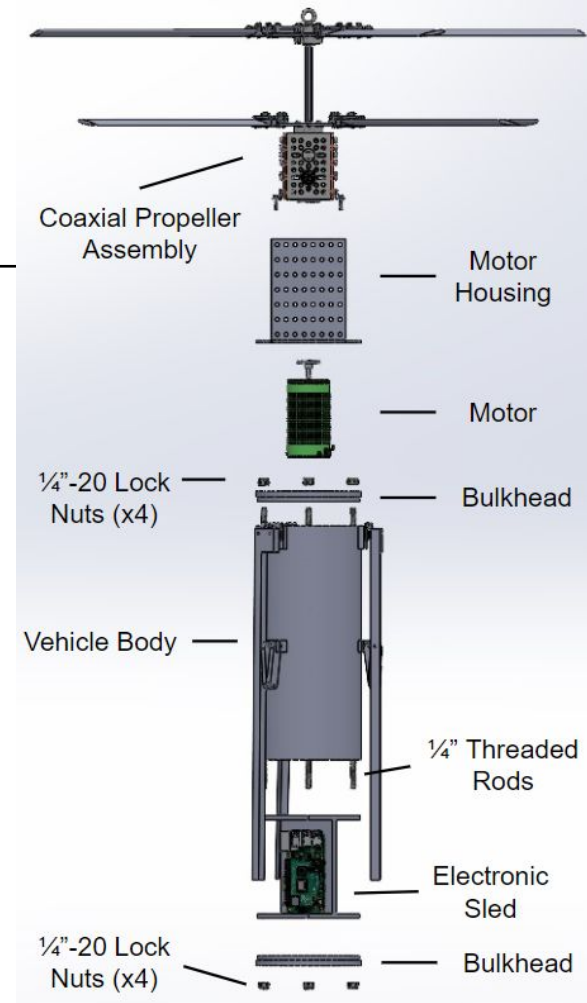
# Landing Legs

- Spring loaded folding mechanism
- Made of aluminum
- Fabricated using a water jet



# Payload Body Assembly

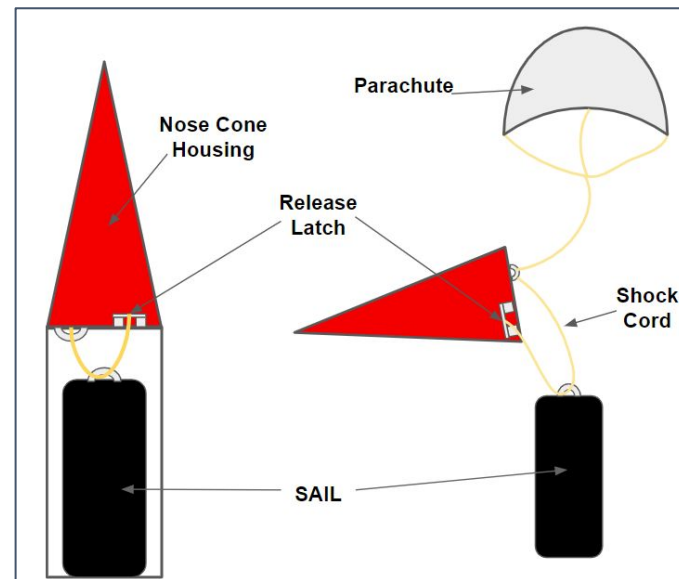
- Body made from 4.5 in. diameter fiberglass
- The major components will be fixed in place using threaded rods and lock nuts
- Electronics will be mounted on 3D printed sleds





# Release Configuration

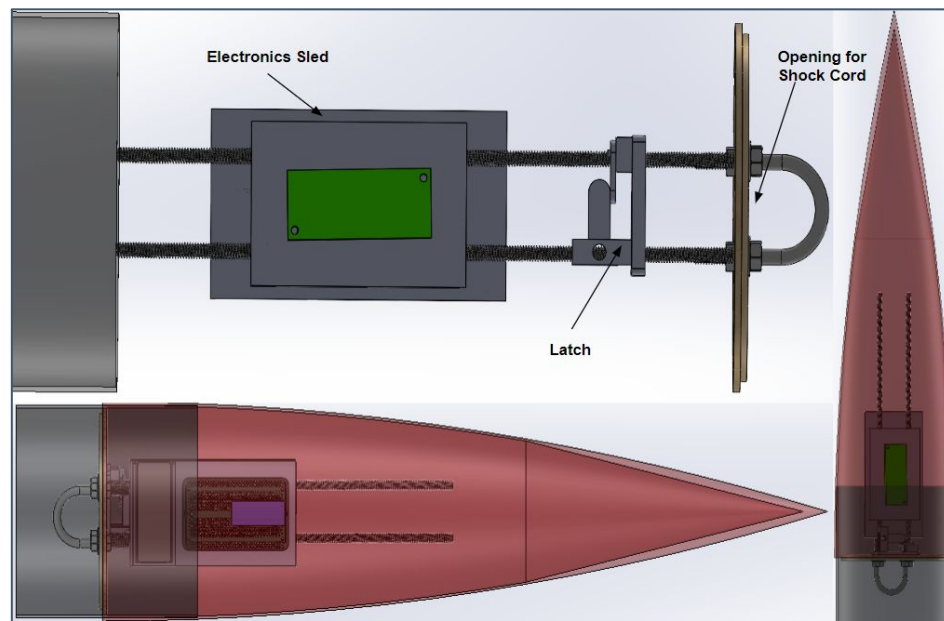
- Nose cone will separate from payload bay, with drogue pulling out SAIL
- SAIL will descend under parachute until RSO permission is given
- Latch will release, feeding shock cord through eye bolt, releasing SAIL





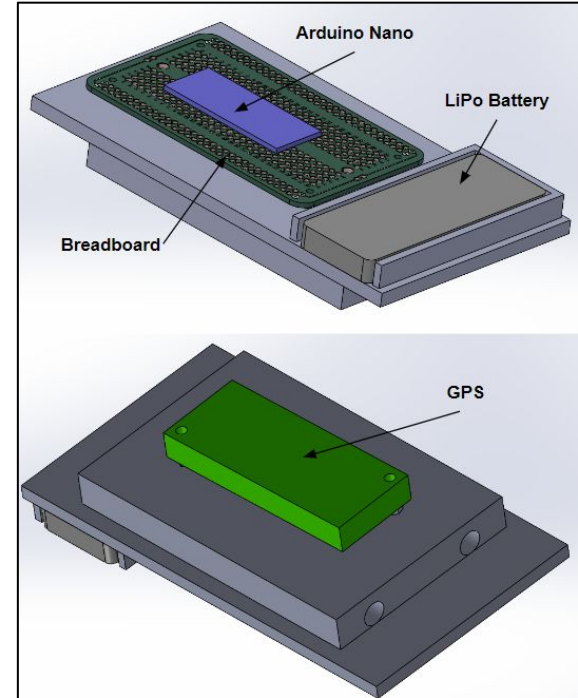
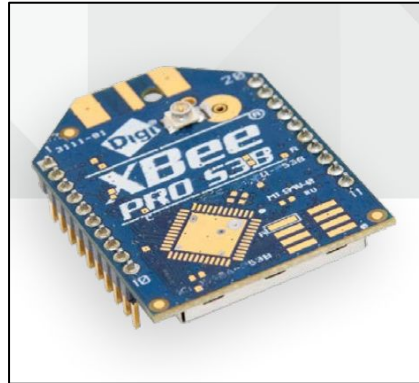
# Release System Components

- Electronics and latch will be stored in nosecone
- Latch will be mounted on top of the nose cone bulkhead
- Electronics on 3D printed sled



# Release Electronics

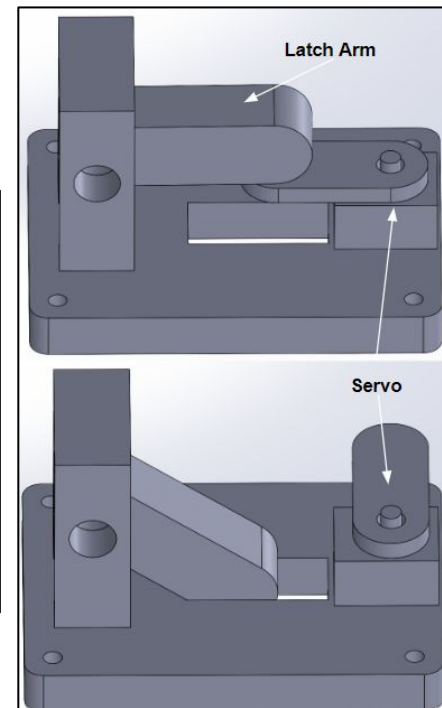
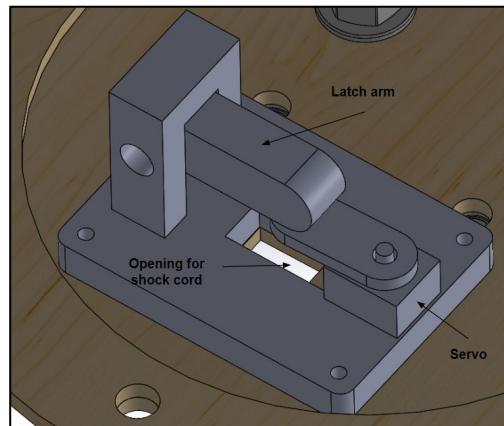
- RF command to release - XBee Pro
- Command processing - Arduino Nano
- Latch Release - Servo
- GPS for nose cone
- LiPo Battery





# Latch Structure

- Shock cord fitted onto latch arm, will release upon servo movement.
- Preliminary ideas for material
  - Needs to withstand shocks
  - Carbon fiber PETG, metal
- Can be easily modified if needed after testing.







# STEMnauts

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- Commander Jeffrey
- Flight experience in the 2022-2023 SLI
- Approximately 0.47 in. long, 0.47 in. wide and 0.52 in. tall
- Weighs 0.003 lbs.





# Requirements Compliance

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# Requirements Compliance

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- Each requirement has its own success criteria
- Requirements verified with analysis will be completed by CDR
- Test plans included in CDR will be verified by FRR
- Inspection and Demonstration requirements verified by FRR

\* Most success criteria require full scale to be built or launched



# Team Derived Requirements

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- Determined for Vehicle, Recovery, Payload and Safety
- Created to increase safety during project flight and fabrication as well as increase chances of launch vehicle/payload success
  
- Examples:
  - LVF 4 - the launch vehicle SHALL be designed with removable ballast.
  - PD 1 - The SAIL SHALL land with an impact velocity of less than 15 mph.



# Risk Assessment Matrix

- Additional risk assessment
- Monitors likelihood of failure
- Different risk levels
- Probability analysis

		Level of Severity			
		1 Low Risk	2 Medium Risk	3 High Risk	4 Severe Risk
Likelihood of Occurrence	A Very Unlikely	1A	2A	3A	4A
	B Unlikely	1B	2B	3B	4B
	C Likely	1C	2C	3C	4C
	D Very Likely	1D	2D	3D	4D



# Project Plan

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# Funding Schedule

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Organization	Fall Semester	Spring Semester	Academic Year
Educational and Technology Fee	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Engineering Enhancement Fund	\$0	\$7,500	\$7,500
NC State Student Government	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
North Carolina Space Grant	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Sponsorship	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
<b>Total Funding:</b>			<b>\$20,500.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>			<b>\$20,202.87</b>
<b>Difference:</b>			<b>\$297.13</b>

