

# 2023 SAE Aero Design Competition Micro Class

Jacob Cabanyog  
Devin duBois  
Gabriela Liquidano  
Iain Pettit  
Alexander Vierhout  
Alec Zodrow



# Meet the Team



**Project Lead**  
Iain Pettit



**Logistics Manager**  
Alexander Vierhout



**Financial Manager**  
Gabriela Liquidano



**CAD Engineer**  
Jacob Cabanyog



**Testing Engineer**  
Devin Rossi duBois



**Manufacturing Engineer**  
Alec Zodrow



Project Client - David Willy

Project Sponsors:

W.L. Gore

NAU College of Engineering, Informatics,  
and Applied Sciences

Terrance Hall Research Award

# Project Description

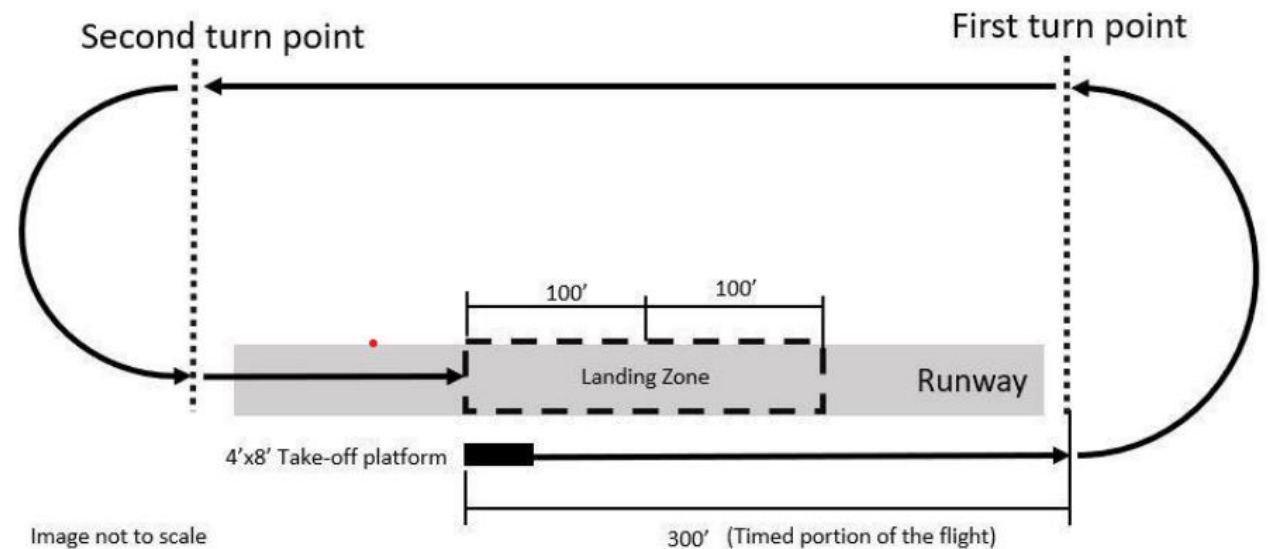


## Problem Statement

- Design a battery powered R.C aircraft to model real-world cargo planes
- Maximize Flight Speed
- Maximize Weight/Volume Cargo Capacity

## Competition Design Constraints:

- 450 W maximum power consumption
- 3' maximum wingspan
- 8' takeoff distance
- 200' landing Distance



# Project Requirements: CRs



Customer Requirements ranked from most important to least important:

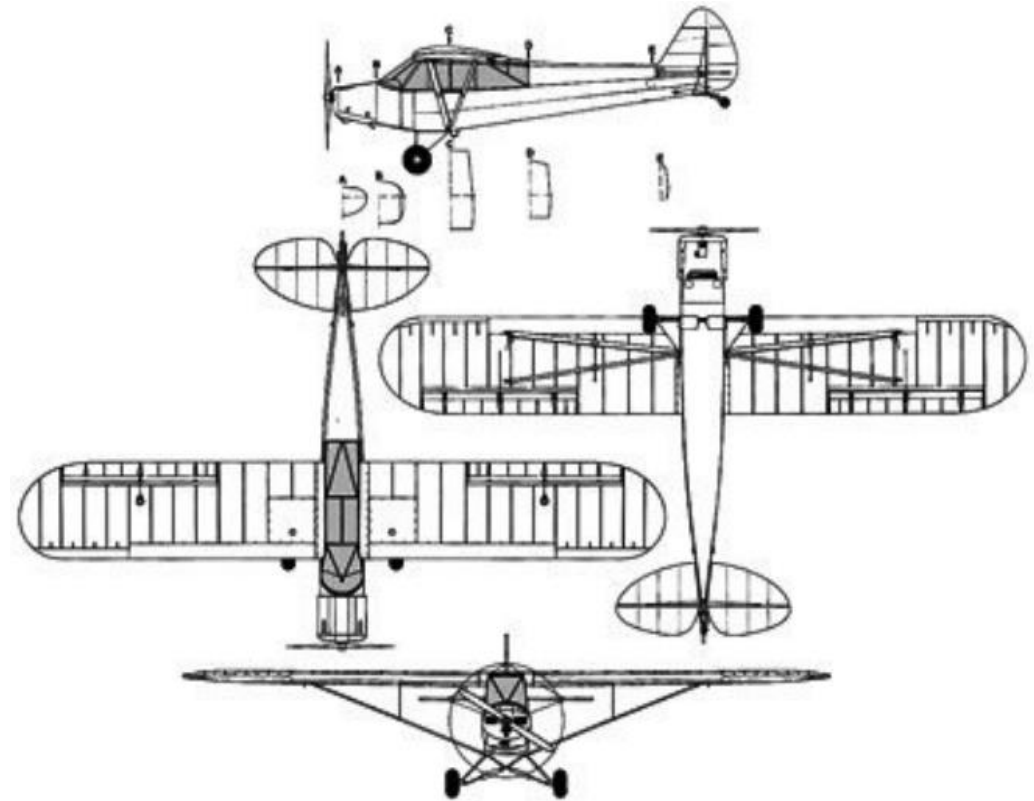


1. Competition Ready
2. High Speed
3. Cost Effective
4. Stable Flight
5. Lightweight
6. Ability to Land
7. High Maneuverability
8. Short Takeoff Distance
9. Payload Capacity
10. Repairable
11. Durable

# Project Requirements: ERs



1. Minimize Weight
2. High Thrust to Weight Ratio
3. High Lift to Drag Ratio
4. Maximize Power Consumption
5. Maximize Stress Tolerance
6. Minimize Total Cost



# Design Decision Matrix



NAU SAE Aero 2023  
9/21/2022

1	Reduce Total Cost
2	Reduce Total Weight
3	Increase Max Stress
4	High Thrust to Weight Ratio
5	High Lift to Drag Ratio
6	Increase Total Part Count
7	Maximize Power Consumption

	+						
	-	-					
	+	+	-				
			+				
	+	-	-	-			
	-	-		+	+		

Technical Requirements

Customer Opinion Survey

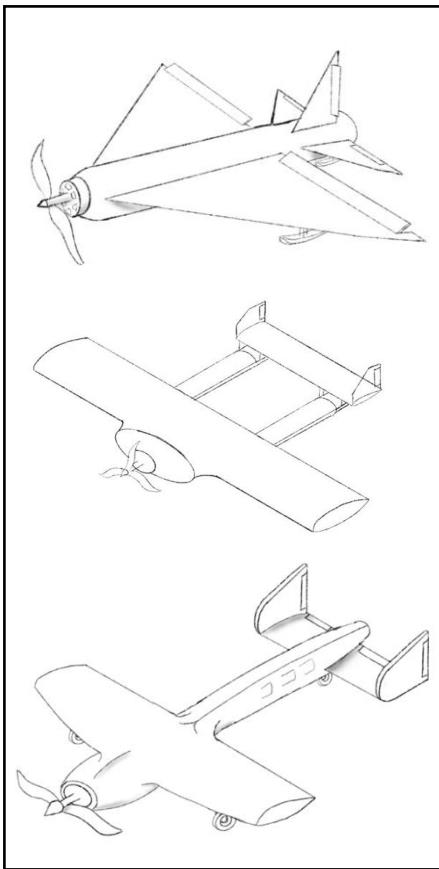
Customer Needs	Customer Weights	Technical Requirements							Customer Opinion Survey					Key	Project
		Reduce Total Cost	Reduce Total Weight	Increase Max Stress	High Thrust to Weight Ratio	High Lift to Drag Ratio	Increase Total Part Count	Maximize Power Consumption	1 Poor	2	3 Acceptable	4	5 Excellent		
1 High Maneuverability	4	3	9	0	9	9	0	1			C	A	B		
2 Stable Flight	13	9	3	3	9	9	0	3				B	A		A
3 Lightweight	17	9	9	3	9	0	9	3		C	B		A		B
4 Durability	10	9	9	9	1	3	3	1		C	A	B			C
5 Cost Effective	10	9	9	3	3	3	0	9		A	B	C			
6 Ability to Land	7	1	3	3	9	9	3	0		C	B		A		
7 Competition Ready	19	3	9	9	9	9	9	9			C			A B	
8 Short Takeoff	12	1	9	1	9	9	0	9			B C	A			
9 Payload Capacity	3	3	9	9	3	3	1	9	A		C	B			
10 Repairability	5	9	1	9	1	1	9	0		C	A B				
11 High Speed	2	1	9	3	9	9	0	9	C		A	B			

Technical Requirement Units	S	Lbs	PSI	Lbs/Lbs	Lbs/Lbs	#	W
Technical Requirement Targets	600	4	200	1:1.6	4:5	5	450
Absolute Technical Importance	594	749	531	655	608	318	483
Relative Technical Importance	4	1	5	2	3	7	6

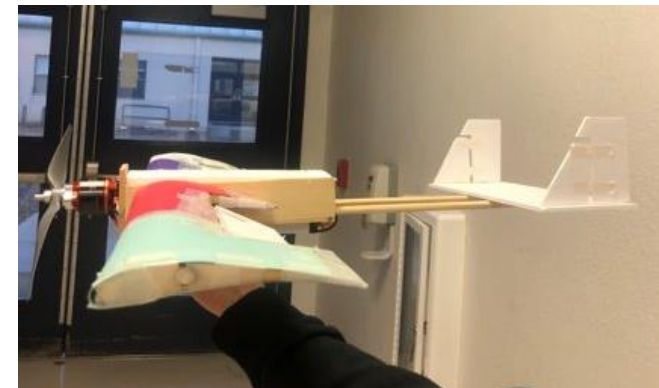
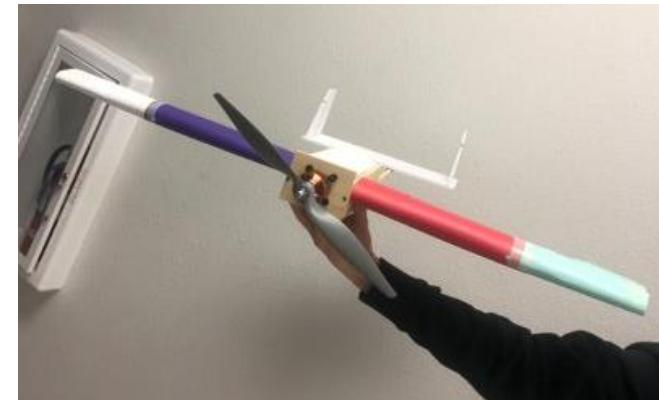
# Project Starting Point



## Conception Generation



## Proof of Concept (First Iteration)



# First Flight Test

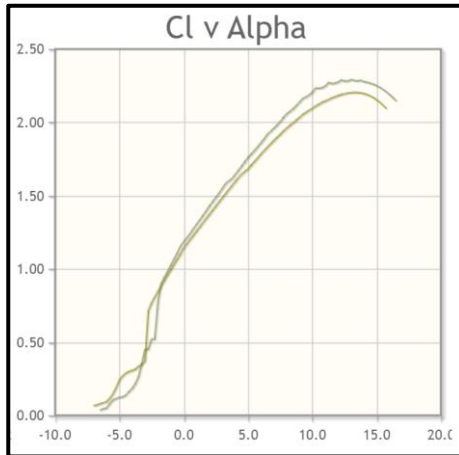




# Airfoil Analysis

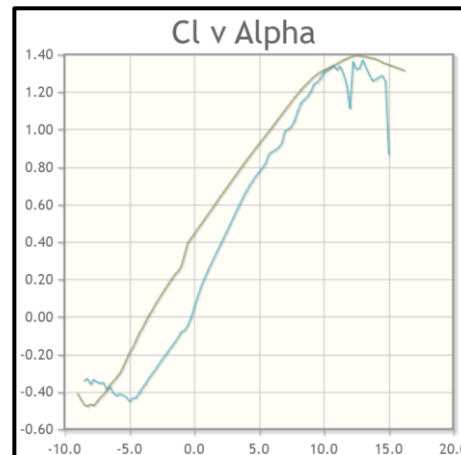


Selig S-1223



- High Camber
- High  $C_L$  for low speed aircrafts

Clark-Y

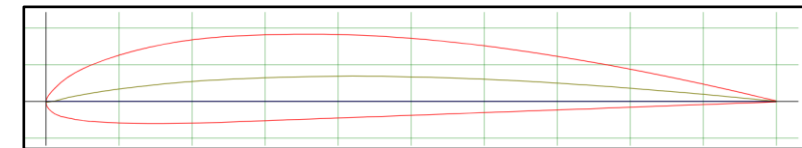


- Low Camber
- Allowed room for internals
- Easily Manufactured

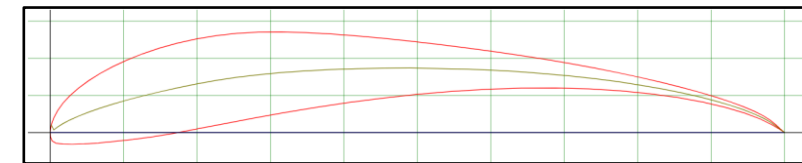
Critical Reynolds Numbers:

Takeoff ~ 20,000

Cruising ~ 190,000



Clark-Y



Selig S-1223

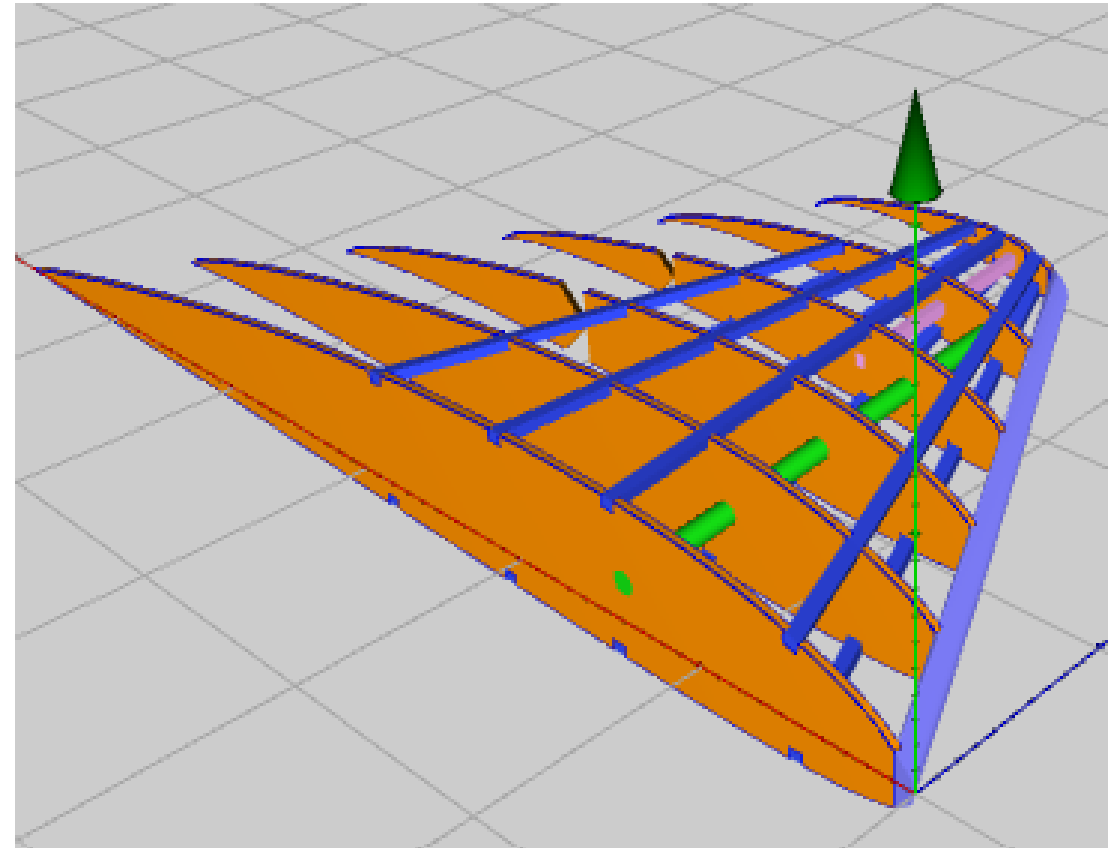
\*Design Utilizes an interpolation between the above airfoils geometries to construct the frame

# Wing Dimension Summary



## Initial Dimensions

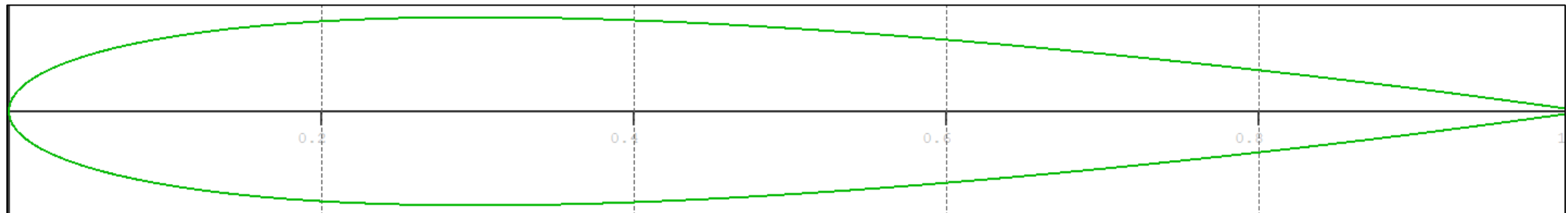
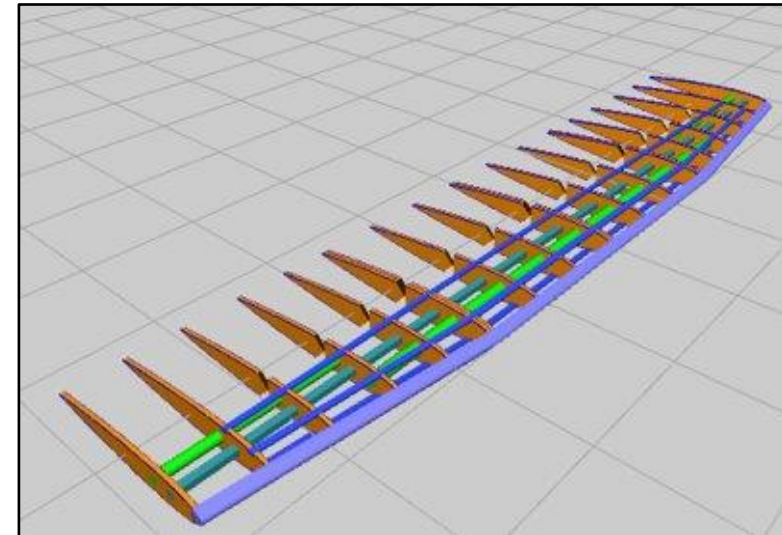
- Wingspan = 33 inches
- Average Wing Chord = 17.6 in
- Planform Area =  $580.2 \text{ in}^2$
- Aspect Ratio =  $\frac{\text{span}^2}{\text{area}} = 2.23$



# Horizontal Tail Selection



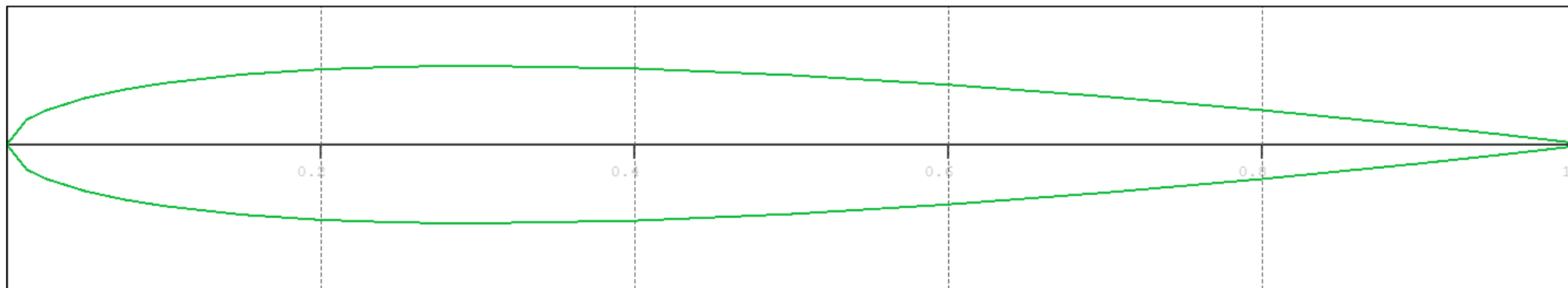
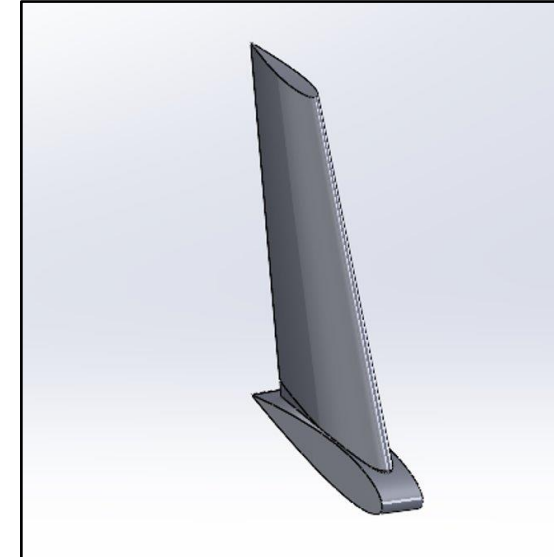
- NACA 0012 Airfoil
- Aspect Ratio: 1.6
- Planform Area: 157.5 in<sup>2</sup>
- Flap Chord: 62%
- Flap Span: 90%
- TVC: 0.38



# Vertical Tail Selection



- NACA 0010 Airfoil
- Planform Area: 22.5 in<sup>2</sup>
- Double Fin Geometry
- TVC: 0.05



# Propulsion Testing

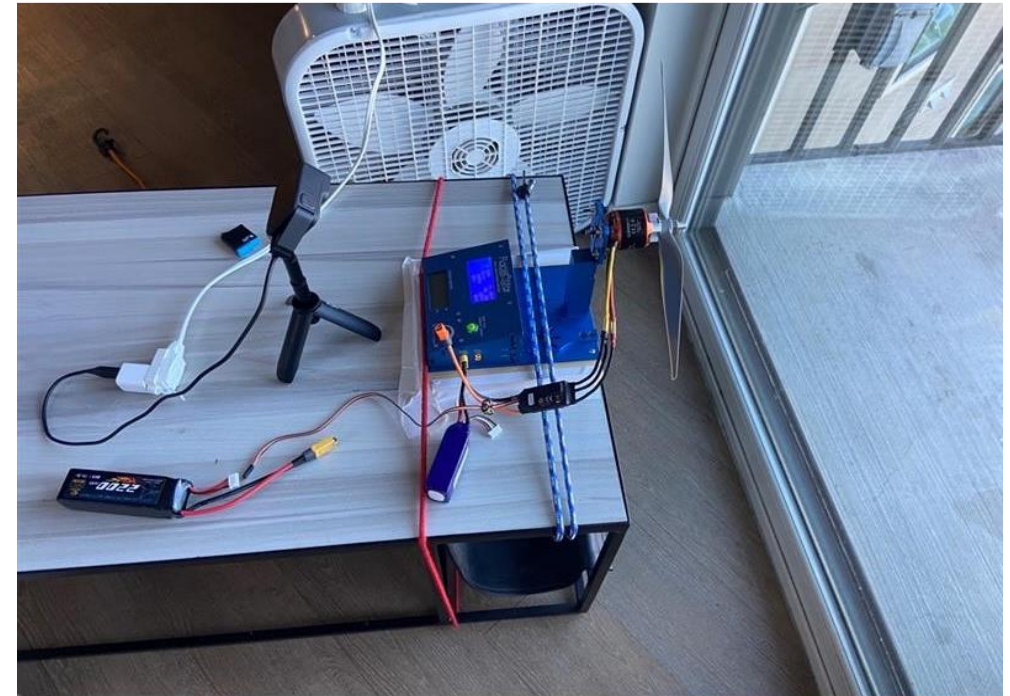


## Static Propulsion Testing Results

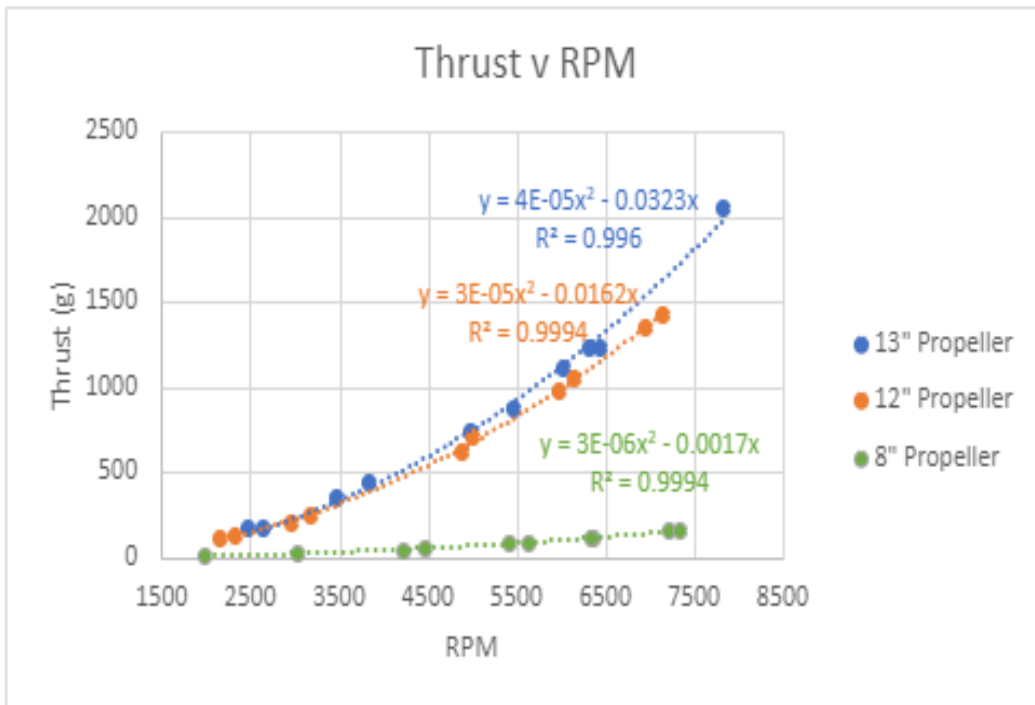
- From Three different sized propellers
- Thrust vs. RPM
- Thrust vs. Power
- Power vs. RPM
- COT and COP

## Measurement Devices

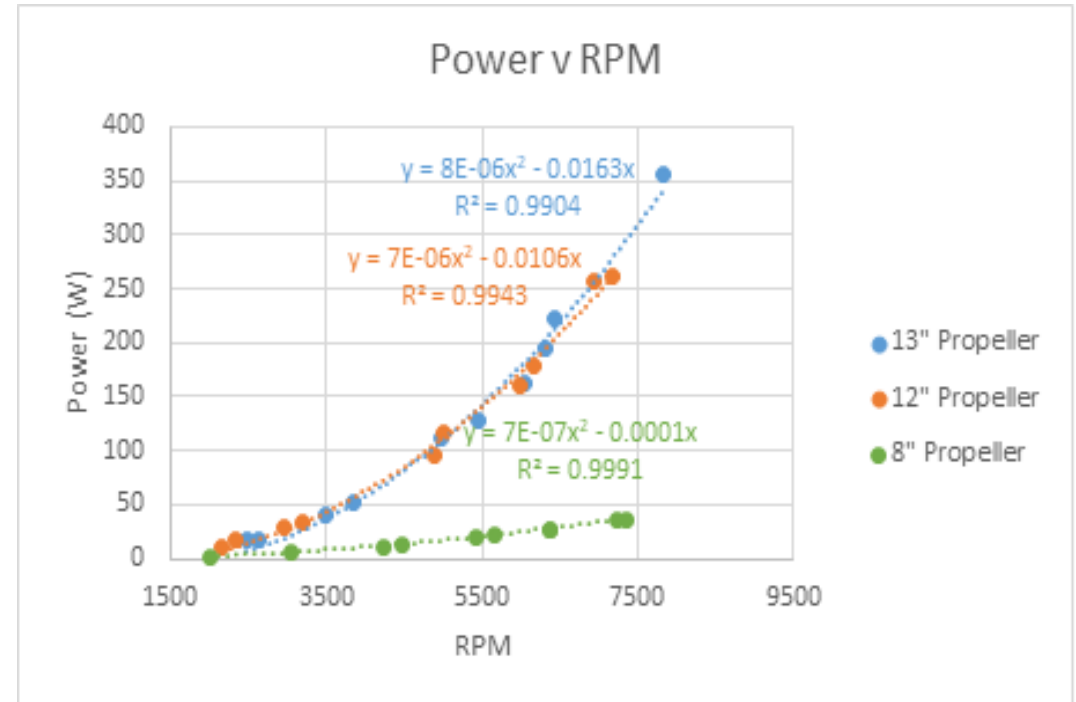
- Dynamometer
- Tachometer
- GoPro



# Propulsion Testing Results

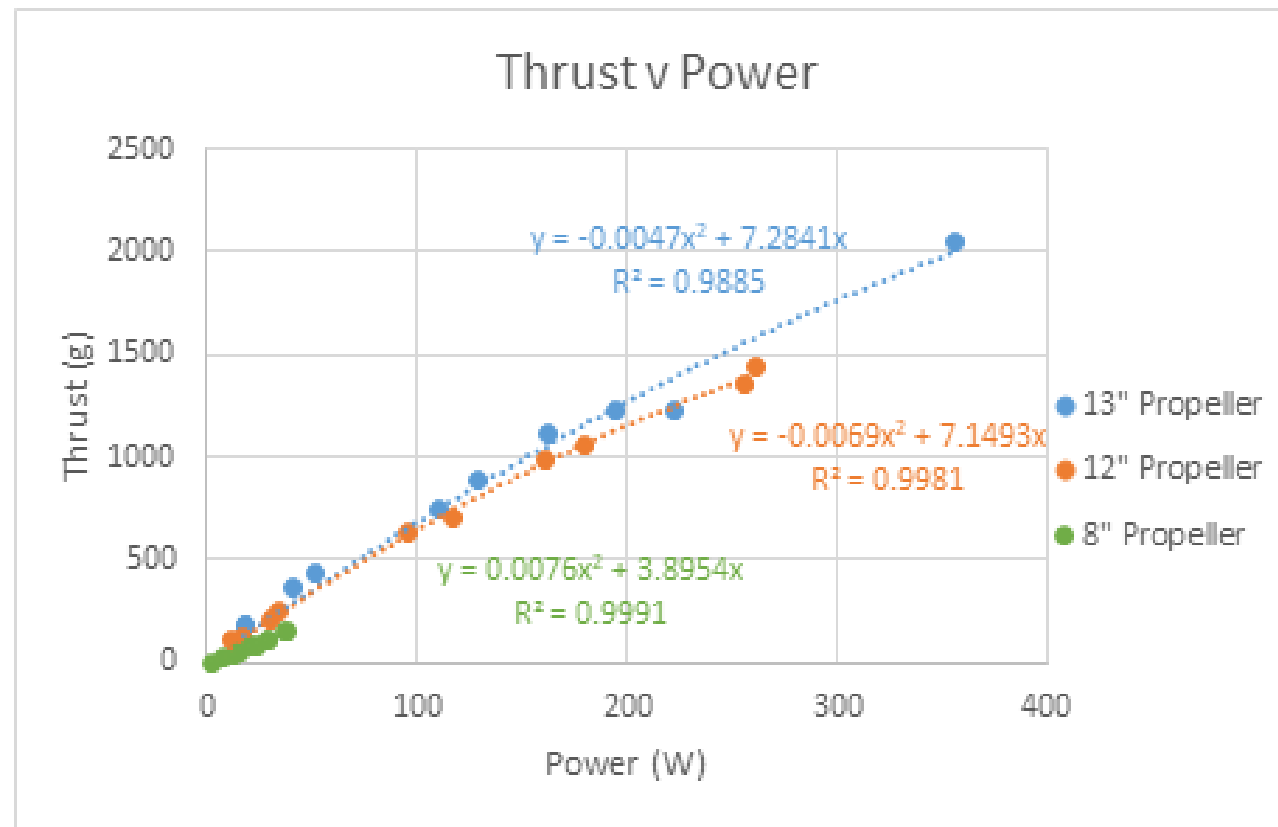


**Thrust vs RPM**



**Power vs RPM**

# Propulsion Testing Results Cont.



**Thrust vs Power**

# Propulsion Final Results Cont.



Propeller	Avg Coefficient of Thrust ( $C_T$ )	Avg Coefficient of Power ( $C_p$ )
8" Propeller	0.0456	0.0722
12" Propeller	0.0853	0.0607
13" Propeller	0.0703	0.0385



# Takeoff Calculations



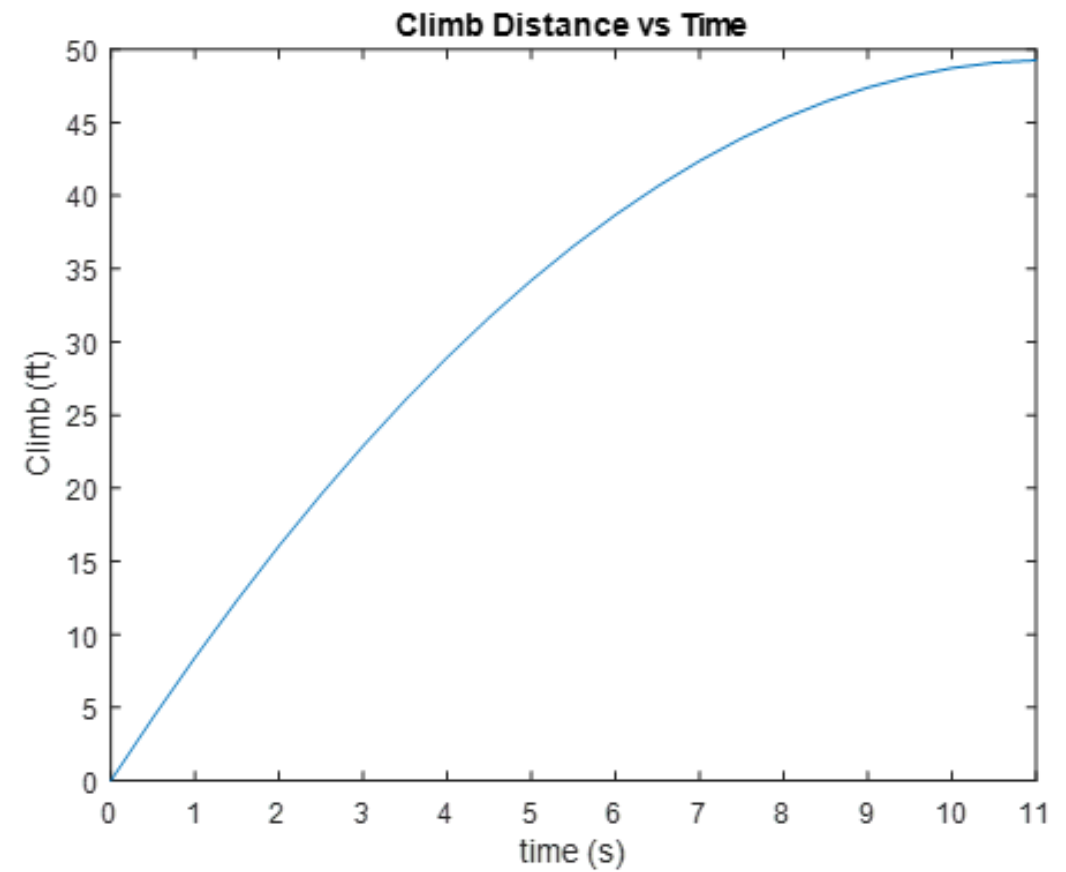
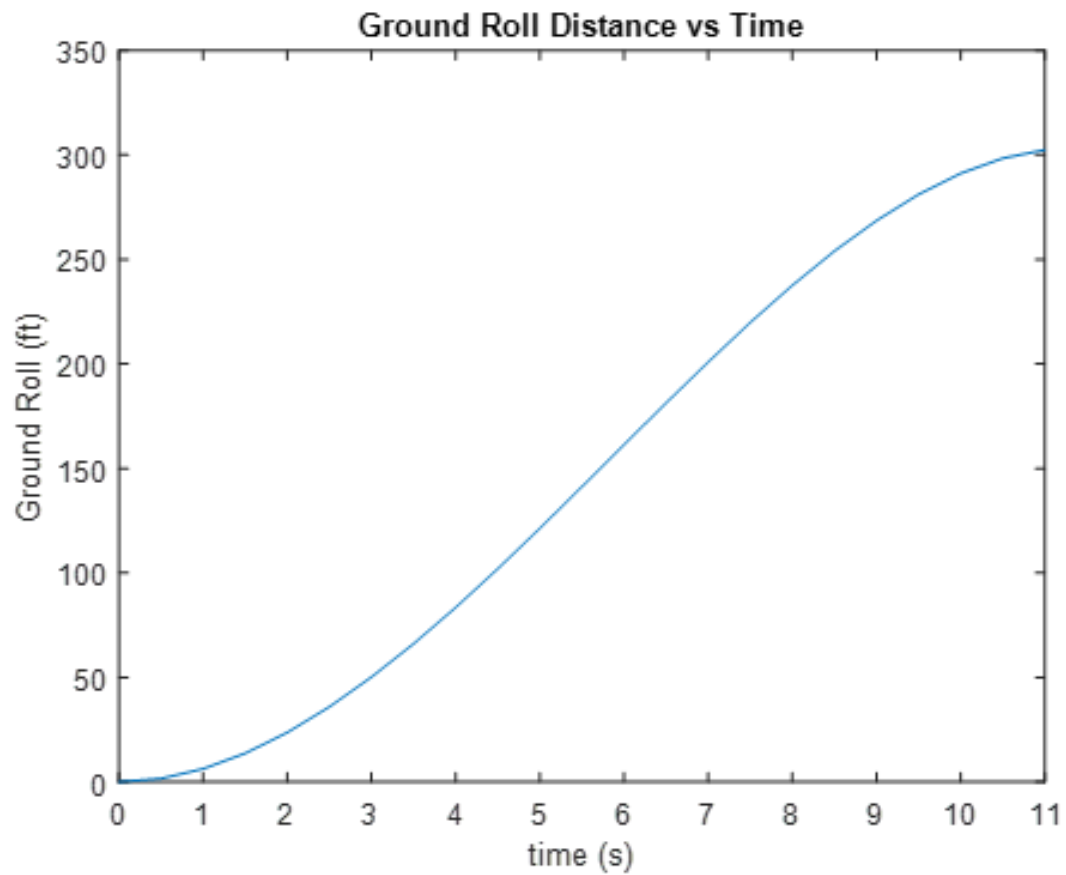
Distance to Takeoff:

$$D_{takeoff} = \frac{1.21 * \frac{W_{empty}}{A_p}}{g * \rho * \frac{T}{W_{empty}}}$$

Weight	Thrust	Thrust-to-Weight Ratio
2.8 lbs	6.7 lbs	2.39

$$D_{takeoff} = 7.9 \text{ ft}$$

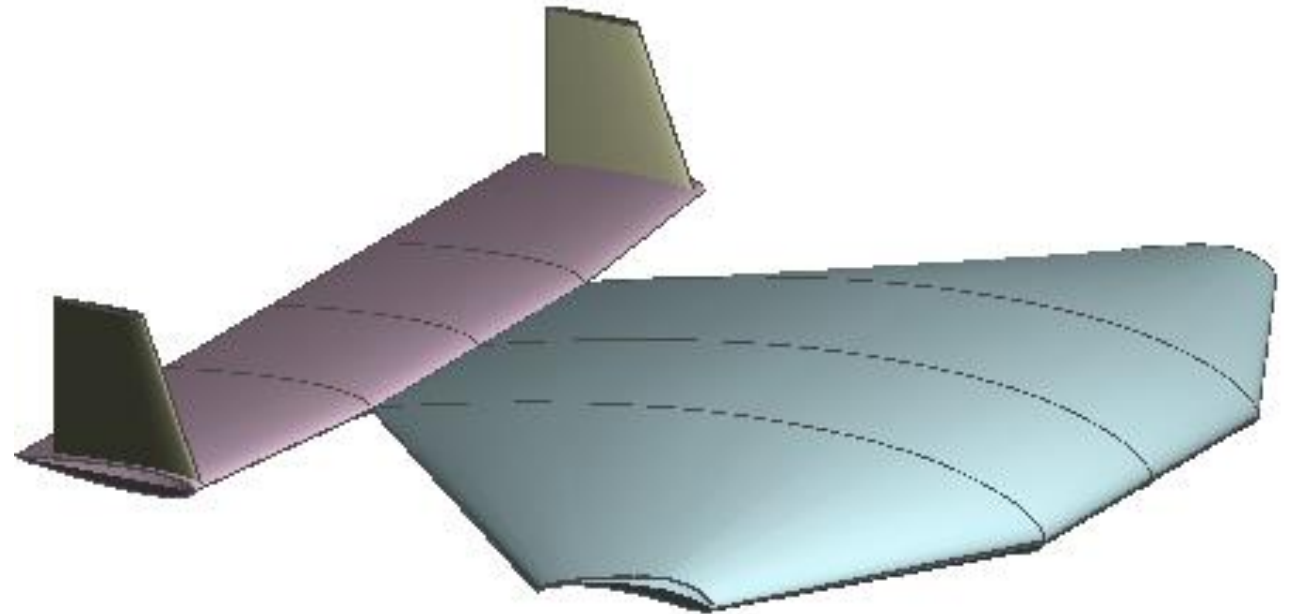
# Payload Prediction Graph



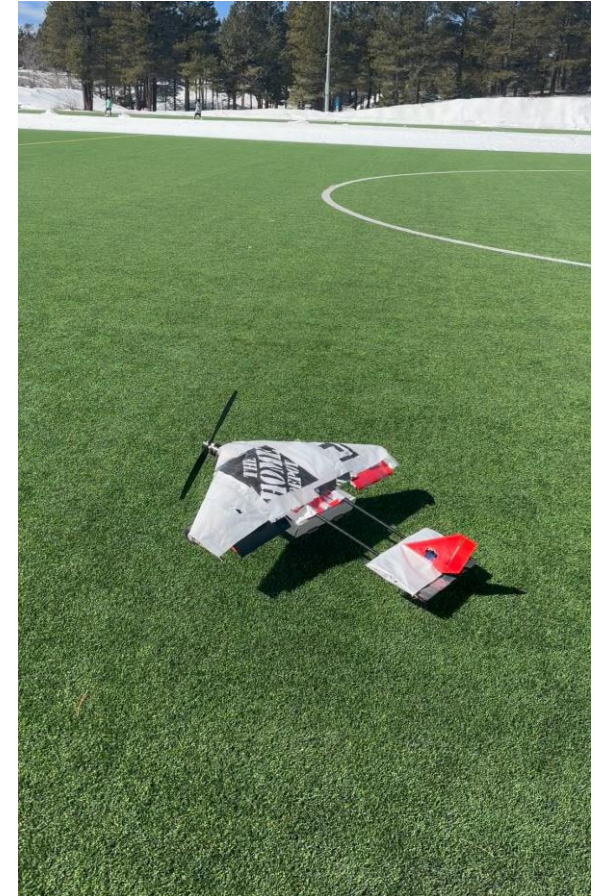
# Stability and Control



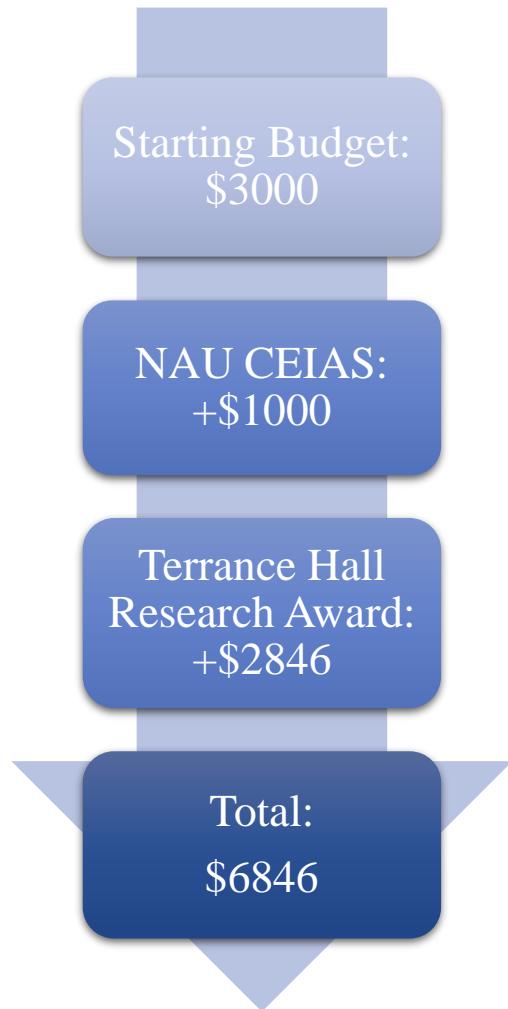
- COG: 6.1 in
- NP: 7.97 in
- MAC: 19.4 in
- Static Margin: 9.6%



# Construction Process

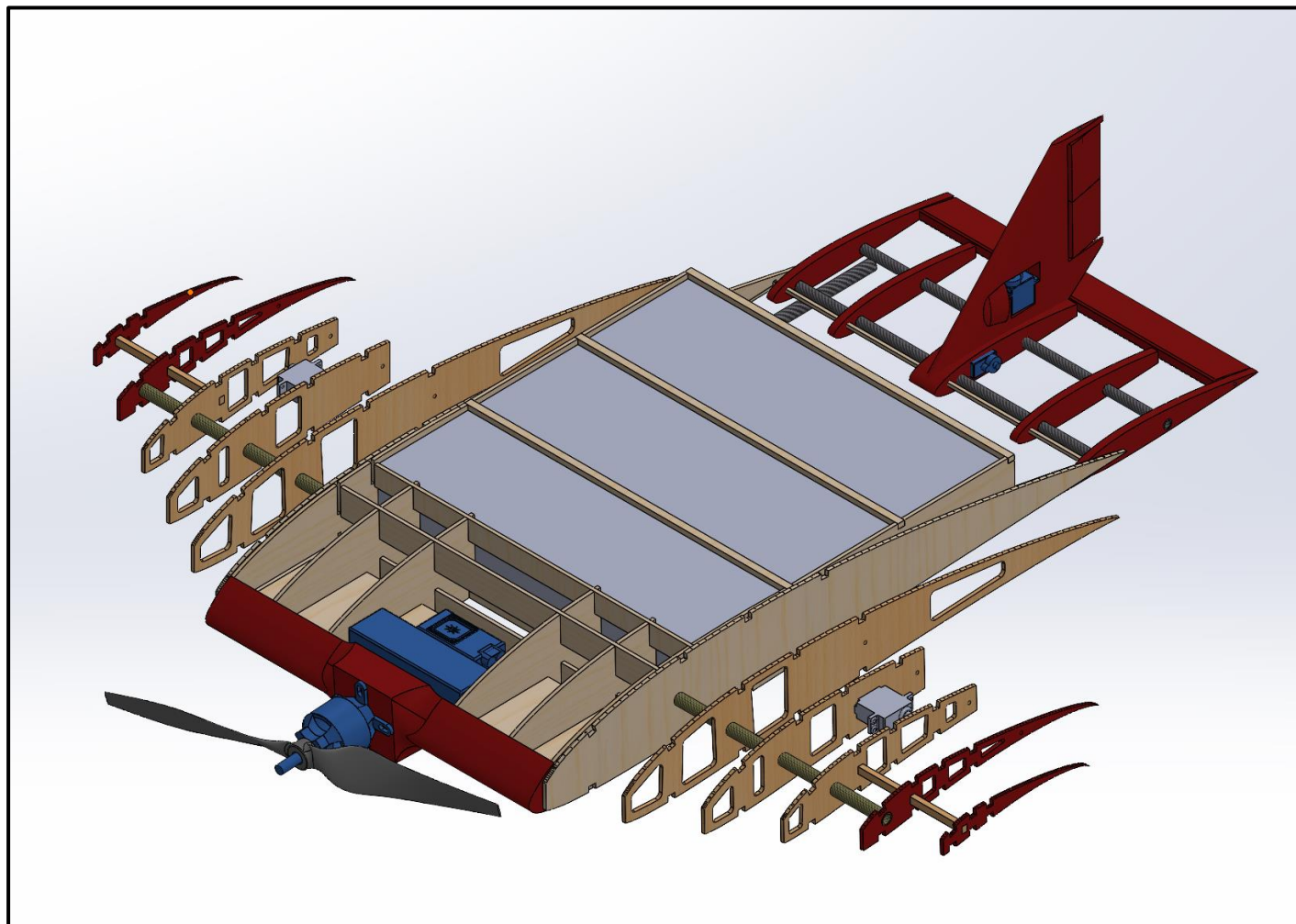


# Bill of Materials



Item	Cost	Quantity	Total Price	Description	Primary Vendor/ Manufacturer
Sport Propeller 16x10 - 3 Blade	\$5.13	1	\$5.13	Main Motor Propeller	22F NAU SAE Team
Landing Gear Rear Wheel	\$6.87	1	\$6.87	The wheel for our rear langing gear mount	Amazon
Landing Gear Front Wheels	N/A	2	Donated	The wheels for our front langing gear mount	22F NAU SAE Team
Spektrum AR620 Receiver	N/A	1	Donated	"Motherboard" of plane	22F NAU SAE Team
Spektrum DX8E Transmitter	N/A	1	Donated	Plane Controller	22F NAU SAE Team
Avian 45 Amp Brushless Smart ESC, 3S-6S	\$59.99	1	\$59.99	Throttle controller for main motor	Horizon Hobby
Avian 4250-800Kv Outrunner Brushless Motor	\$89.99	1	\$89.99	Main Motor	Horizon Hobby
Spektrum 4 cell LiPo battery	\$64.99	1	\$64.99	Main Power Source	Horizon Hobby
Servo Motors	\$10.20	4	\$40.80	Control Surface motors	Horizon Hobby
SAE Power Limiter - Mirco	\$85.00	1	\$85.00	Competition required Watt Limiter	Neumotors
Red Arming Plug	\$8.99	1	\$8.99	Competition required "kill switch"	Gator RC
LED Kit	\$2.50	1	\$2.50	Indicating direction of flight	Home Depot
Fasteners	\$4.16	2	\$8.32	Various bots, screw, and nuts	Home Depot
Carbon Fiber Rods - 10mm x 500mm	\$11.34	4	\$45.37	Main Support Beams	Grainger
Carbon Fiber Rods - 8mm x 500mm	\$6.15	4	\$24.63	Main Support Beams	Grainger
Ultra-Coat	\$20.00	2	\$40.00	The wrap that will encompass the plane body	Hobby Bench
4 Pin Spinner 1-1/2", yellow	\$9.00	1	\$9.00	Safety cap for motor	Hobby Bench
Balsa Wood Airfoils	N/A	24	\$25.00	Main Wing, Tail Wing, and Elevator ribs	NAU Idea lab
Balsa Wood Fuselage Components	N/A	6	\$20.00	Balsa wood plates for housing cargo and internal components	NAU Idea lab
Control Surfaces	N/A	5	\$7.50	All control surfaces for the planes (ailerons)	3D Printing
Vertical Tail Wing	N/A	1	\$1.50	The Vertical Tail Wing (rudder)	3D Printing
Front Motor Mount	N/A	1	\$1.00	Mounting design to hold the motor in place	3D Printing
Mounting Brackets	N/A	4	\$6.50	Carbon Fiber/Nylon joints for main support beams	3D Printing
Front Landing Gear Mount	\$8.97	1	\$8.97	Mounting design to hold the front landing gear to the plane	Hobby Bench
Rear Landing Gear Mount	N/A	1	\$5.00	Mounting design to hold the rear landing gear to the plane	3D Printing
Weight Plates	N/A	2	Donated	Weighted plates for competition scoring	Nau Machine Shop 21
		Total	\$567.05		

# Final Design



# References



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12. Brezina and S. Thomas, “Measurement of static and dynamic performance characteristics of Electric Propulsion Systems,” 51st AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition, May 2013.
13. Daniel P. Raymer, Aircraft Design: A Conceptual Approach, 2nd ed., AIAA Education Series, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Washington, 1992.
14. M. Bedding, “Control surface flutter, balance, and Vne,” *Motion RC*, 13-Oct-2020. [Online]. Available: <https://www.motionrc.com/blogs/motion-rc-blog/control-surface-flutter-balance-and-vne>. [Accessed: 05-Feb-2023].



Thank you SAE