

Open Source Rover: Rocker-Bogie Assembly Instructions

Authors: Michael Cox, Eric Junkins Olivia Lofaro



Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply its endorsement by the United States Government or the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology. ©2018 California Institute of Technology. Government sponsorship acknowledged.

CONTENTS

Contents

1	Machining/Fabrication Steps 1.1. Cutting the Aleminum Channels						
	1.1	Cutting the Aluminum Channels	3				
	1.2	Cutting the Aluminum Rod	3				
${f 2}$	Med	chanical/Structural Assembly	4				

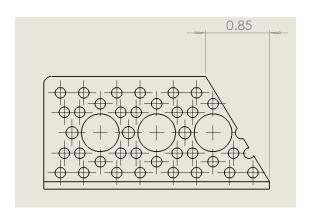
1 Machining/Fabrication Steps

Table 1: Parts/Tools Necessary

Item	Ref	Qty	Image	Item	Ref	Qty	Image
3" Channel	S2	4		Metal Hacksaw or Bandsaw			

1.1 Cutting the Aluminum Channels

On piece **S2**, measure the distance shown in Figure 1 from the edge and mark a straight line from the opposite corner to that point. Cut off the corner along that line¹. In total, you will need 4 of these modified pieces. Cut those now.



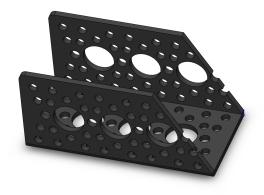


Figure 1: Channel Cutting Dimensions

1.2 Cutting the Aluminum Rod

Take the 4 inch aluminum rod ${\bf S18}$ and cut it down to 3 inches long, indicated by Figure 2

². In total, you will need 2 of these 3-inch aluminum rods. Cut those now.

¹We use this piece to make the geometry of the rocker-bogie more structurally reinforced across its lateral bending moment. However, these channels will need to have their corners cut out because of clearance issues further on.

²These cuts keep the rod from sticking out too far from either end of the rocker-bogie pivot joint

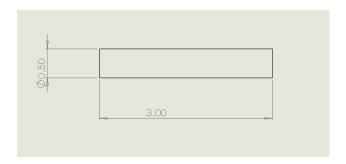


Figure 2: Aluminum Rod cutting dimensions

2 Mechanical/Structural Assembly

The Rocker-Bogie assembly is what attaches your wheels to the rover's body and allows it to climb over obstacles.

Table 2: Parts/Tools Necessary

Item	Ref	Qty	Image	ltem	Ref	Qty	Image
3" Channel (Modified)	S2A	4		#6 Washer	W1	28	
3.75" Channel	S 3	4		0.5" Nylon Washer	W3	12	
9" Channel	S5	2		#6×1/4" Standoff	T1	32	
Pattern F Bracket	S 7	8		#6-32x3/8" Button Head Screw	B2	52	
0.5" Pillow Block	S11	4		#6-32×1/2" Button Head Screw	В3	32	
0.5" Face Tapped Clamping Hub	S13	2		#6-32 Locking Hex	B11	60	
0.5" × 3" Aluminum Tube (Modified)	S18A	2	••	Allen Key Set			
0.5" Collar Clamp	S22	4		5/16 Wrench			

1. **Begin the Rocker Attachment:** Attach 9 inch channel **S5** and the a modified 3 inch channel **S2A** to pattern F bracket **S7** using screws **B2** and hex nuts **B11** making sure to put a 6-32 washer **W1** in between the channels and the bracket. Make sure that the cut modification in **S2A** is angled towards the 9 inch channel as shown in Figure 4.

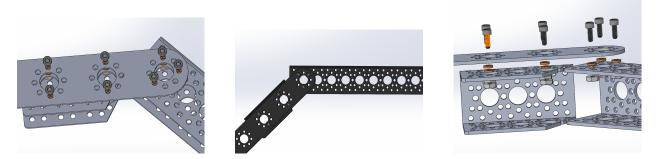
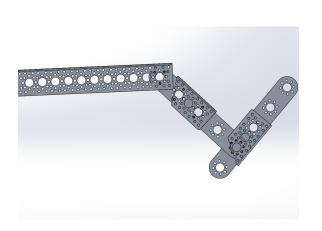


Figure 3: Begin the Rocker attachment

2. Start the Bogie pivot joint: Put rod S18A though the last hole in the pattern F bracket. Then, assemble the pivot joint by attaching another modified 3 inch channel S2A and another pattern F bracket using washers W3, collar clamp S22, standoffs T2, and screws B3. Make sure to use the 2nd from the bottom hole on the 2nd pattern F bracket. See Figure 4:



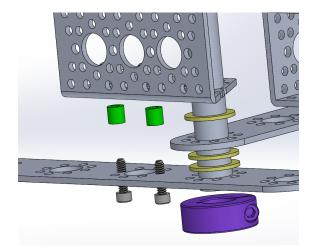
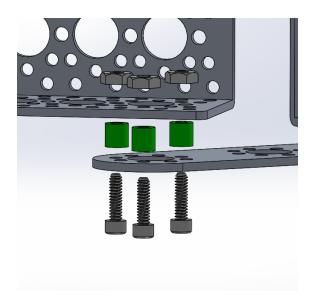


Figure 4: Start Rocker-Bogie pivot joint

3. Attachment for Front Corner: Attach 3.75 inch channel S3 to the top hole of the

pattern F bracket using spacers **T1**, screws **B3**, and hex nuts **B11** as shown in Figure 5.



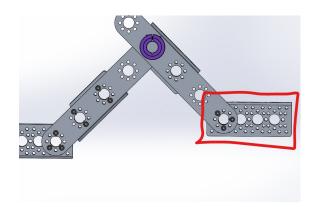
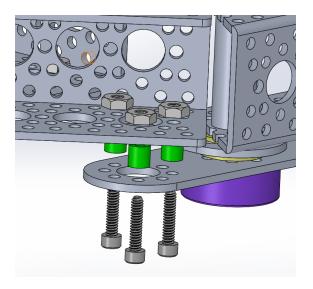


Figure 5: Attaching channel to corner steering

4. Attachment for middle Wheel: Attach another 3.75 inch channel S3 to the bottom hole of the pattern F bracket using spacers T1, screws B3, and hex nuts B11 as shown in Figure 6.



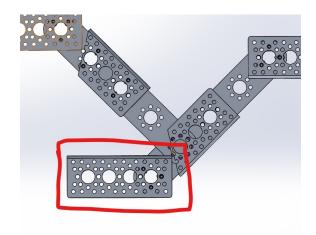


Figure 6: Attachment for middle wheel

5. Opposite edge of Rocker-Bogie Joint: Attach another Pattern F bracket S7 to

the opposite side of the channels using washers **W1** and **W3**, screws **B3**, and hex nuts **B8** as shown in Figure 7.

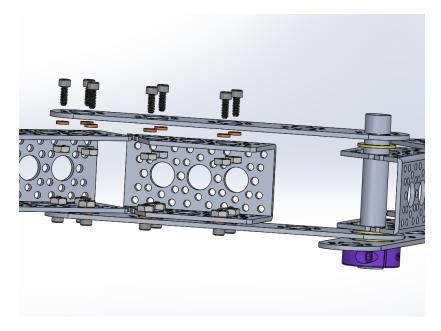
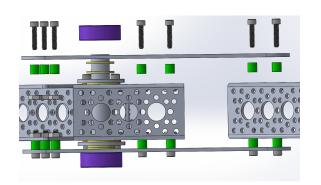


Figure 7: Start the other side of Rocker-Bogie joint

6. Other edge of Rocker-Bogie Joint Cont: Using washers W1, collar clamp S22, spacers T1, and screws B10 attach pattern F bracket to the final connecting channels as shown in Figure 8.



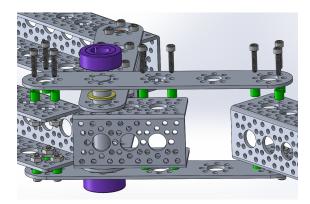
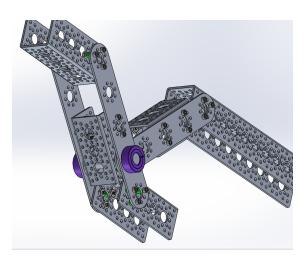


Figure 8: Other edge of Rocker-Bogie joint

7. Checkpoint: At this point your rocker bogie joint should look like Figure 9:



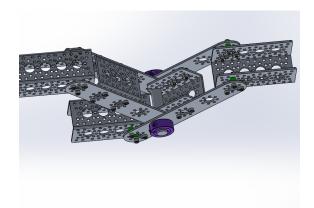


Figure 9: Rocker-Bogie Checkpoint

8. Attach Bearing Blocks: Attach two Pillow Bearing Blocks S11 using screws B2 and hex huts B11 as shown in Figure 10. The bearing blocks should be aligned with the 5th large hole back from the front of the 9-inch U channel.



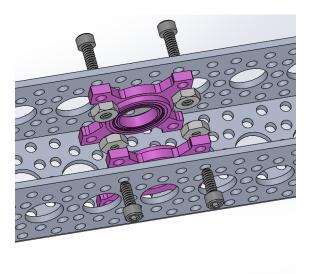


Figure 10: Pillow bearing block attachment

9. Attach Clamping Hub: Attach the Clamping Hub S13 using screws B2 and hex nuts B11 as shown in Figure 11. The clamping hub should be centered above where you just placed the pillow bearing blocks.



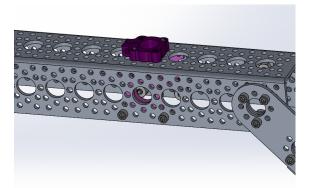


Figure 11: Clamping hub attachment

Your rocker-bogie suspension joint is now complete! Repeat all of section 2 in this document to create the suspension for the other side of the rover.