

# **Era of Unmanned Air Vehicles**

**UAVs or Drones**

# The category of UAVs

## By mission type

- **Target drones:**
  - Designed for training or weapon experiments



“Chang Kong-1” NUAA of China



“Fire bee”

# The category of UAVs

## By mission type

- Reconnaissance drones:



RQ-4 “Global hawk”



RQ-170

# The category of UAVs

## By mission type

- **Attack and reconnaissance drones:**
  - Armed with AGMs
  - Can stay in the air for more than 24 hours
  - Detect and destroy, highly effective



Predator



Pterosaur

# The category of UAVs

## By mission type

- **UCAV: The master of future sky!**



X-47

# The category of UAVs

## By mission type

- Civil UAVs



- Drone photographing
- Hazard detection
- GIS and mineral detection
- Weather detection
- Road surveillance
- Traffic control
- Telecomm relay
- Parcel delivering services





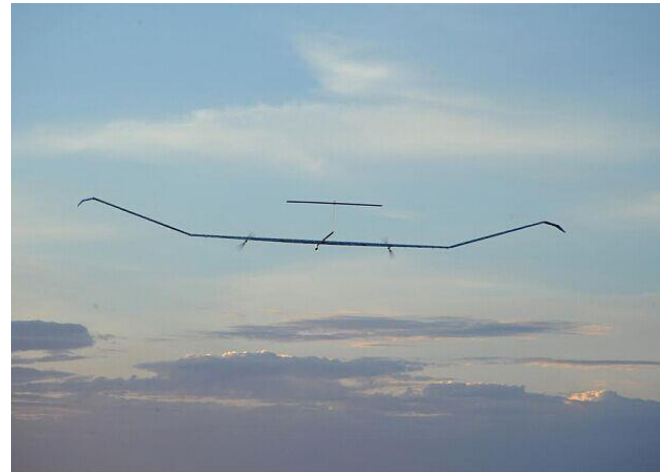
# The category of UAVs

## By weight and scale

- **HALE**
  - Mission range  $\geq 6000\text{KM}$
  - Endurance  $> 24\text{h}$
  - Cruising altitude  $\geq 18\text{KM}$
  - Take off weight  $> 1\text{T}$



“Global hawk”



Airbus “Zephyr” (90 days of endurance!)

# The category of UAVs

## By weight and scale

- MALE
  - Mission range  $\geq 1000\text{KM}$
  - Endurance  $\geq 24\text{h}$
  - Cruise altitude  $< 10\text{KM}$
  - Takeoff weight  $\sim 1\text{T}$



“Predator”



# The category of UAVs

## By weight and scale

- **Tactical drones:**
  - Mission range  $\geq 200\text{KM}$
  - Endurance  $\geq 4\text{h}$
  - Cruise altitude  $< 5000\text{m}$
  - Takeoff weight  $\sim 500\text{kg}$



General Atomics “Gnat, USA

# The category of UAVs

## By weight and scale

- **Mini UAVs**
  - Range  $\leq 60\text{KM}$
  - Endurance  $\geq 2\text{h}$
  - Cruise altitude  $< 5\text{KM}$
  - Takeoff weight  $< 20\text{kg}$



“Raven”



“Dracon eye”



“Scan eagle”

# The category of UAVs

## By weight and scale

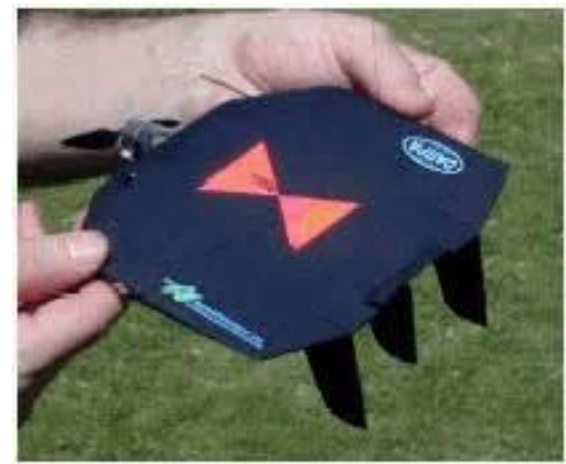
- **MAVs**
  - Range  $\leq 10\text{KM}$
  - Endurance  $\leq 1\text{h}$
  - Cruise altitude  $< 1\text{KM}$
  - Takeoff weight  $< 1\text{kg}$
  - Size  $< 1\text{m}$



以色列“蚊子”无人机



洛克希德·马丁“蜂鸟”



美国“黑寡妇”

# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

- **Fixed wing**
  - **Conventional configuration**



**"Hunter" , Northrop Gruman**

**Feature: Matured design with good stability and wide C.G. range. Relatively heavy**

# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

- **Fixed wing**
  - **Canard**



“Rainbow 3”

**Feature: All wings produces lift, wide C.G location. No highly effective flaps are allowed.**

# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

- **Fixed wing**
  - **Tailless aircraft**



“Wasp III” , Aeroviroment

**Feature: Simple and clean profile. Relatively lighter structure. Very sensitive to the location of C.G. Poor takeoff and landing performance with stability issues.**



# **The category of UAVs**

## **By configurations**

- **Rotorcraft**
  - **Helicopters**



**“Fire scout”**

**Feature: Matured design with VTOL. Can be heavily loaded. Significant lower efficiency and maximum speed than fixed wing aircraft. Heavy noise from**

# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

- **Rotorcraft**
  - Tail sitter



Google Project Wing

**Feature: The most simple configuration that can fly at high speed with VTOL capability. Low power plant efficiency. Difficult to land with high accuracy.**

# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

- **Rotorcraft**
  - **Tilt rotor aircraft**



“Eagle eye” , Bell aircraft

**Feature: Relatively matured design. Can fly at very high efficiency with VTOL capabilities. Very complex power plant and less reliable.**

# **The category of UAVs**

## **By configurations**

- **Rotorcraft**
  - **Tilt rotor aircraft**



**Boeing “Dragon fly”**

**Feature: Fly at high speed with VTOL capability. Very difficult to control during transition.**

# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

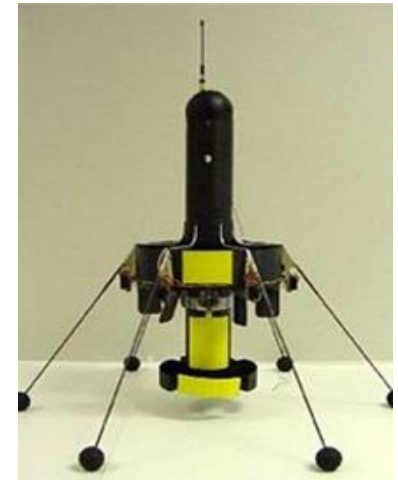
- **Rotorcraft**
  - **Ducted fan**



“CYPHER” , Sikorski



“T-hawk”, Honeywell



HELI SPY

**Feature: VTOL aircraft. Excellent hovering efficiency and low speed flight performance. Heavily loaded with stability issues. Heavy and expensive structure.**

# **The category of UAVs**

## **By configurations**

- **Rotorcraft**
  - Quad rotor/ Multi rotor



**Feature: Very simple and stable. Not efficient. Difficult to be enlarged. Short endurance and small payload capability. Very suitable to MAVs**



# The category of UAVs

## By configurations

- **Flapping wings**



**"Humming bird" , Lockheed**

**Feature: Highly efficient at low Reynolds number and mini scale. One of the best choice for MAVs**

# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

- Take off/Landing on runway



**Predator**

**Pros: Highly reliable**

**Cons: Need runway**

# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

- Ejection



Boeing “Scan eagle”

Highly reliable and needs no runway

# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

- Launch by rocket



NWPU ASN-206

Highly reliable and needs no runway

# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

- Hand launch



AeroVironment “Raven”

Needs no runway, but only suitable for mini-UAVs/MAVs

# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

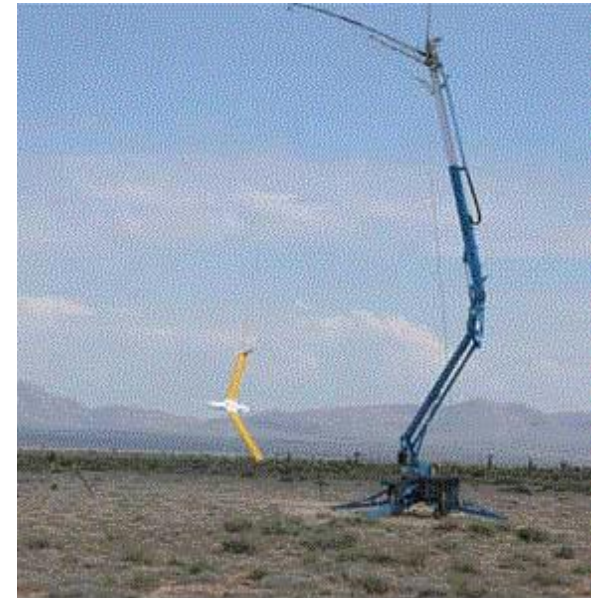
- Recovery by parachute/nets/robe



NWPU ASN-206



Northrop "Bat"



Boeing "Scan eagle"

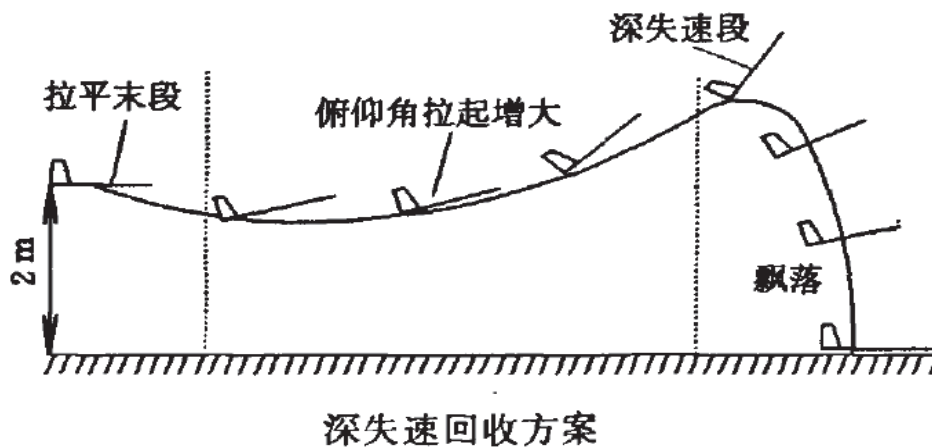
Simple, reliable, needs no runway



# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

- Recovery by deep stall



Aerovironment公司 “Raven”

Can land in very narrow space. Only valid for MAVs

# Modern UAVs

## Launch and recovery

- VTOL



**Pros: Needs no airport. Can takeoff and landing anywhere  
Highly flexible.**

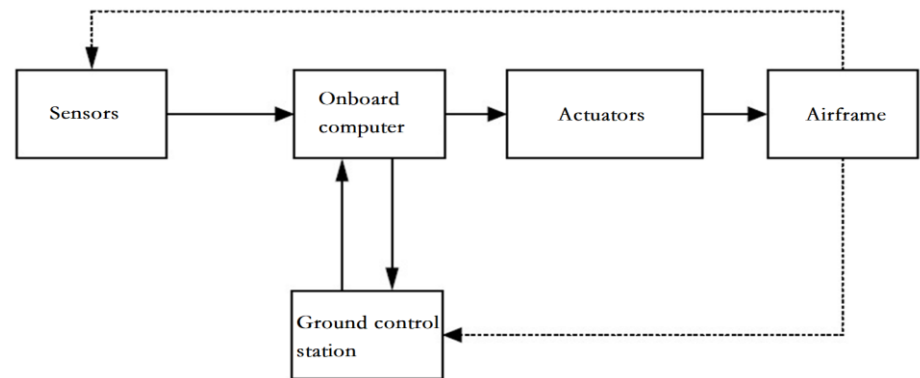
**Cons: Very complex system.  
Weight penalties  
Performance penalties**

# Development of UAVs

## Avionics

- **Flight control system**

- Attitude control
- Navigate and mission plan
- Automatic takeoff and landing
- Mission payload control



# Development of UAVs

## Avionics

- **Remote control and sensing**
  - Ground station, data link and image transmission
- **Sensors**
  - Gyro and accelerometer
  - Navigation
    - GPS
    - INS
    - Optical/Imaging (Light, Infra red, Night vision)
    - Laser/ultrasonic



# Development of UAVs

## Propulsion systems

- Jet engine (Ram jet, Turbojet, Turbofan)



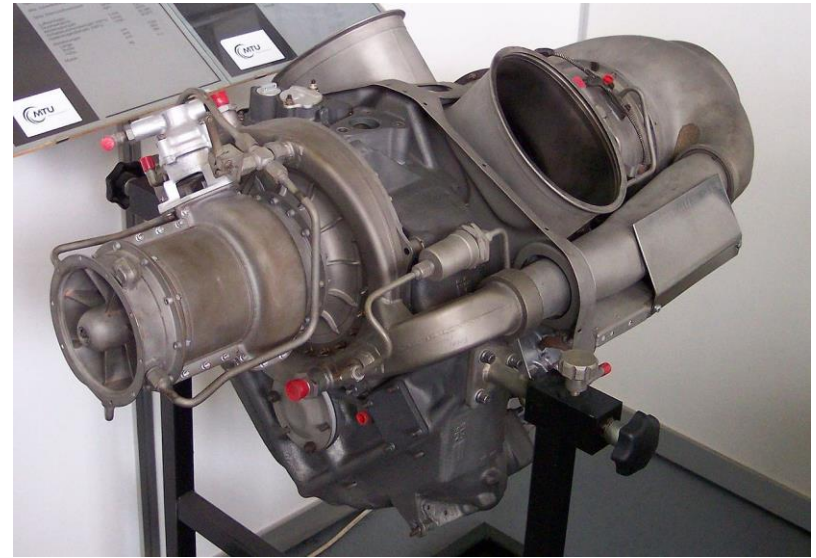
Rolls Royce AE3007 Turbofan engine and Global hawk

Suitable for large scale or high speed UAVs

# Development of UAVs

## Propulsion systems

- **Turboshaft and turboprop engine**



Fire Scout and its Rolls Royce M250 Turboshaft

Suitable for large to medium size UAVs



# Development of UAVs

## Propulsion systems

- **Piston engine (4 stroke, 2 stroke and rotary engine)**



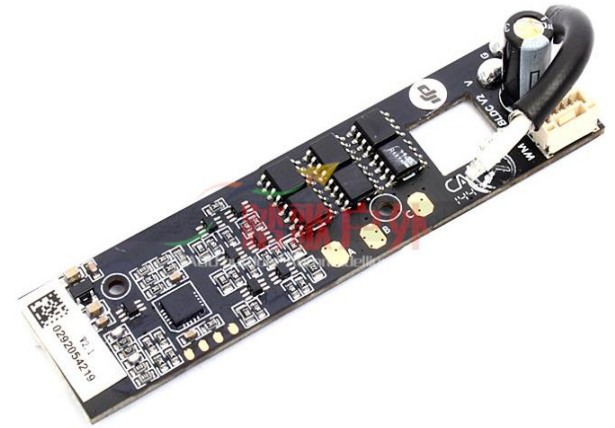
**Sweden APID 60 and its Rotron Wankle engine**

**Suitable for medium sized UAVs**

# Development of UAVs

## Propulsion systems

- **Electrical motor**



**DJI drone and its brushless motor**

**Quiet and high efficiency. Suitable for small and miniature UAVs**

# Development of UAVs

## Energy systems

- **Kerosine (Turbo-engines)**
- **Gas (Piston engine)**
- **Methanol (Piston engine)**
- **Batteries (Electrical aircraft)**
  - Nickel cadmium, Nickel metal hydride battery
  - Lithium iron
  - Li-Po
  - Fuel cell
  - Solar power

	<i>WH / kg</i>
Ni—Cd	25
MH-Ni	50
Li-ion	125
Li-Po	150–200
$H_2 - O_2$ Fuel cell	500
Gas (20% efficiency)	2600

**Energy density (WH/kg)**

# Development of UAVs

## Future of UAVs

- **UCAV**
  - Excellent, all-round stealth performance
  - High L/D configuration
  - Excellent Maneuverability
  - Highly intelligent, it can automatically complete many difficult tasks, such as autonomous take-off and landing / landing, automatic aerial



Autonomous refueling



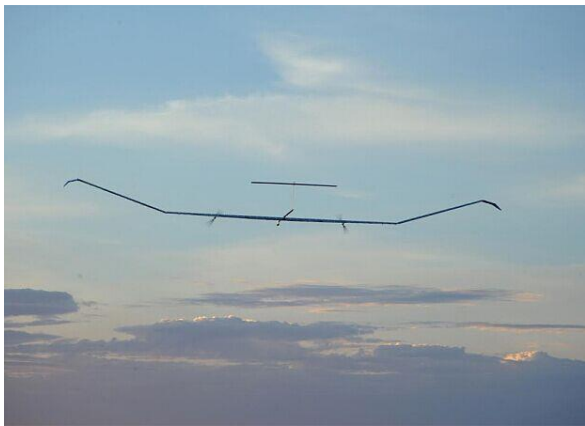
X-47 Autonomous takeoff and landing



# Development of UAVs

## Future of UAVs

- **Longer endurance and range**
  - Solar powered drones can keep afloat for 3 months
  - Small UAVs have been able to fly across the Atlantic
  - The fuel powered UAV can stay in the air for more than 40 hours



空客的无人机可滞空90天



飞越大西洋的小型无人机  
(航程3020km)



全球鹰航时41小时，曾  
不间断从美国飞越太平  
洋，抵达澳大利亚

# Development of UAVs

## Future of UAVs

- **Messo-scale UAVs / MAVs**
  - In the future, the MAVs will aim at the size of flies and mosquitoes, but it is difficult to achieve at present due to the development level of electronics, batteries, motors



Robot mosquito



# Development of UAVs

## Future of UAVs

- Explosive growth in the civil market



DJI Spirit



Fixed wing UAV



Zano Drone

- The consumer level drone has getting more and more popular
- They feature simplicity, low price, high degree of intelligence, low entry threshold



# Development of UAVs

## Future of UAVs

- Explosive growth in the civil market



Amazon Prim air



Parcel delivery drones

- Active in the field of logistics and transportation, agriculture, surveillance and control

# **The market for UAVs**

- **Military market:**
  - UCAV will dominate the future sky
  - Unprecedented large-scale participation in the battle field
  - Small and mini-UAVs will occupy the majority of the market, but most of the funds are concentrated in medium and large UAVs
- **Civil market:**
  - Can be used in aerial photography, disaster monitoring, line patrol, communication relay and express service
  - The cost and threshold of use will continue to reduce
  - It can participate in social public service and form a UAV service network