

MEC 427 Advanced Sensors and Actuators Challenges 1-5

Date & Time

- **Report Date:** 10-25-2025
 - **Time Block:** 10-20 – 10-25
 - **Time Spent This Session:** 3 hours / 30 minutes
 - **Cumulative Time on Project:** 12 hours / 30 minutes
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Project Overview

- **Project Title:** Challenge 1 - 3 Water Level Sensor and Actuator System
 - **Project Objective:** Assemble and program a water level sensor and actuator system using the Adafruit CPX microcontroller to control water flow based on sensor input.
 - **Current Phase:** Setup Phase
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Task / Activity Details

- **Module / Subsystem:** Construction of water tower
 - **Specific Task or Activity:** Assemble water tower structure using PVC pipes and rubber tubing
 - **Time Spent on This Task:** 3 hours / 30 minutes
 - **% of Total Time:** 100%
 - **Resources Used:**
 - **Hardware:** PVC pipe, rubber tubing, Adafruit CPX microcontroller, capacitive sensors, servo motor, 3D printed pinch valve
 - **Software:**
 - **Tools:** 3D printer
 - **Documentation:**
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Progress Tracking

- **Task/Module Completion Status:** e.g., 15% complete
 - **Project Completion Status:** 15% complete
 - **Milestones Reached:** Gathered all materials, assembled water tower structure
 - **Blockers or Issues:** Pinch valve design needs refinement to ensure proper sealing
 - **Next Steps / Planned Actions:** Refine pinch valve design and reprint, begin programming CPX microcontroller to read sensor data and control servo motor
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Results & Deliverables

- **What Was Achieved:** Assembled the water tower and tested prototype of pinch valve
 - **Artifacts Created:** 3D printed pinch valve prototype, water tower assembly
 - **Validation / Testing Outcomes:**
 - **Changes Made to Design or Approach:**
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Narrative & Observations

Use this section for detailed descriptions, reflections, and context. Include technical notes, emotional observations, and rationale for decisions.

- **Narrative Summary:** Frustrated with the delay in needing to reprint the pinch valve. But the tower should work for my project. Hoped to get to programming this week. Will look over challenge 4 and 5 while waiting for the print to finish.
 - **Technical Notes:**
 - **Lessons Learned / Insights:**
 - **Emotional/Workflow Reflections (optional):**
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