



# Mechanica: Rocket science



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**UHASSELT**

KNOWLEDGE IN ACTION

# Rocket height measurement

- Principles & Methods
- Electronic hardware & software
- Data structure & example



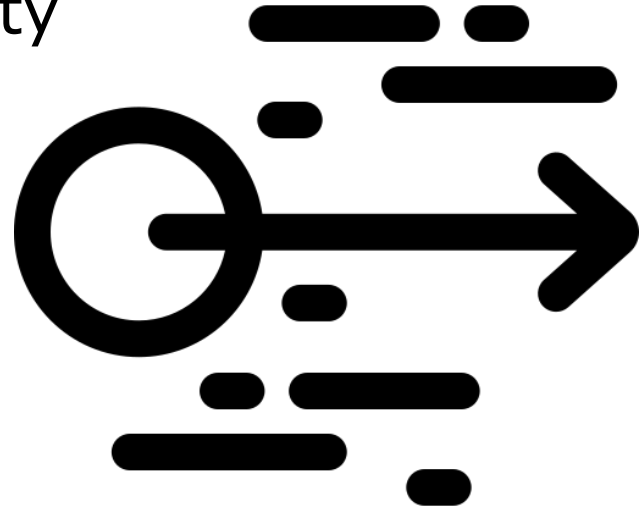
# Principles & Methods

- Height measurement?
  - Accelerometer?
  - Gyroscope?
  - Altimeter?
  - Gyroscope + Accelerometer?
  - **Altimeter + Accelerometer?**



# Accelerometer

- Measures acceleration of object
  - Measurements at steady intervals
  - Possible to acquire velocity
  - In function of time



# Gyroscope

- Measures orientation of object
  - No measurements of displacement of object
  - In function of time



# Accelerometer+ Gyroscope

- Measures acceleration & orientation of object
  - Problems with this method?
    - If object starts rotating around it's axis it introduces acceleration in all directions. → Height can not be estimated correctly



# Altimeter + Accelerometer

- Measures height and acceleration of object
  - Height in function of time
  - Acceleration in function of time
  - Velocity in function of height



# Electronic hardware & software

- Components

- Espressif-ESP32 Microcontroller
- MMA8451Q Accelerometer
- MPL3115A2 Altimeter

- Specs

- Operating voltage: 2.6v – 3.6V
- Weight : ~40g



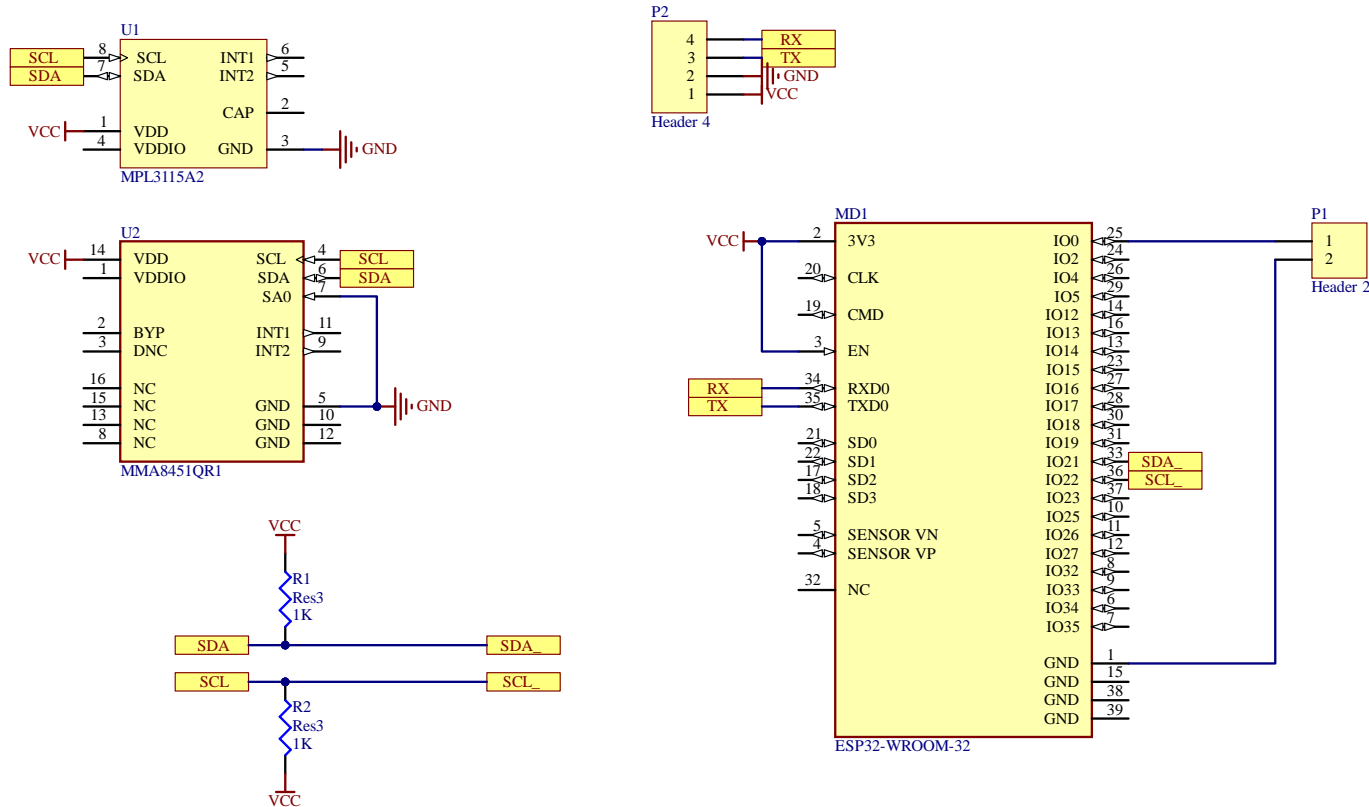


# Electronic hardware & software: Datasheets

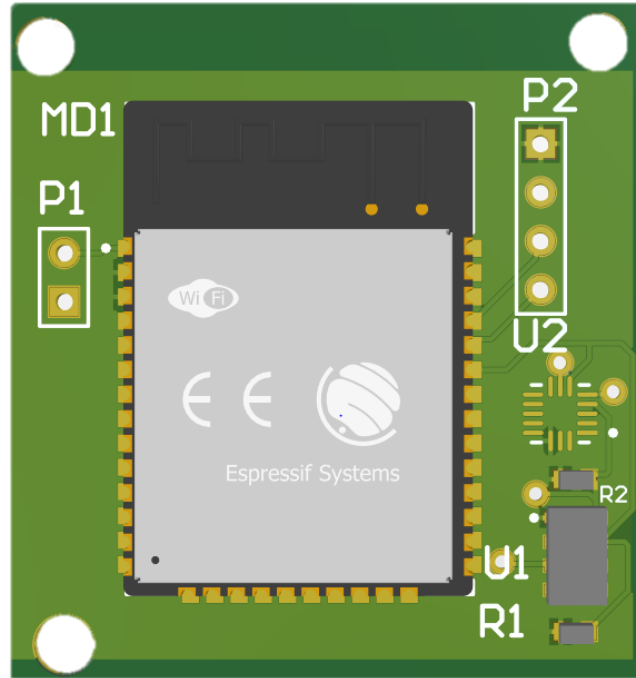
- Espressif-ESP32 Microcontroller
  - [https://www.espressif.com/sites/default/files/documentation/esp32-wroom-32e\\_esp32-wroom-32ue\\_datasheet\\_en.pdf](https://www.espressif.com/sites/default/files/documentation/esp32-wroom-32e_esp32-wroom-32ue_datasheet_en.pdf)
- MMA8451Q Accelerometer
  - <https://www.nxp.com/docs/en/data-sheet/MMA8451Q.pdf>
- MPL3115A2 Altimeter
  - <https://www.nxp.com/docs/en/data-sheet/MPL3115A2.pdf>



# Electronic hardware & software: Schematic



# Electronic hardware & software: PCB



# Electronic hardware & software

- Language driver C++
- Language dashboard/ parser: Python
  - See attachment



# Data structure & example

- Data structure: .CSV FORMAT
  - Comma separated value
    - Height , accel\_x, accel\_y, accel\_z



# Rocket Science

- Place the circuit board as seen fit in your design
- Read out the data and visualize to see the height trajectory of the rocket
- Utilize acceleration and height data to get  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  directions of the trajectory.
  - Visualize this data





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