

# University Rover Challenge 2025-

Alec- URC Chief Engineer (PhD student)

URC Competition Team Meeting

2025-09-12

UTSA - AET Room 1.202



# Missions

- Science (life detection)
  - Drill 10cm, collect soil samples, analysis
- Delivery (carry objects to astronauts)
- Equipment Servicing (interact with equip.)
  - Carry objects
  - Type on keyboard
- Autonomy (Autonomous navigation)
  - GPS and Visual Markers

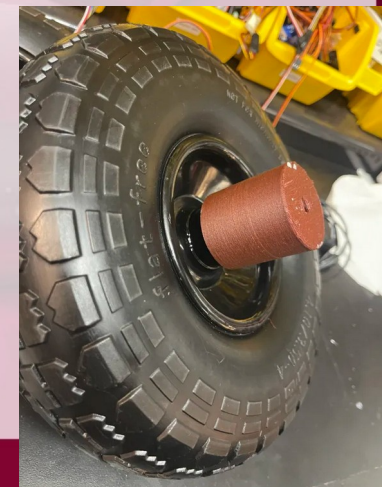
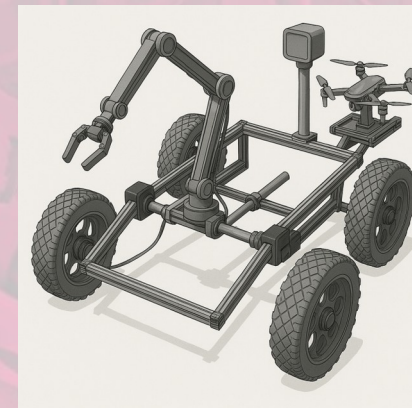
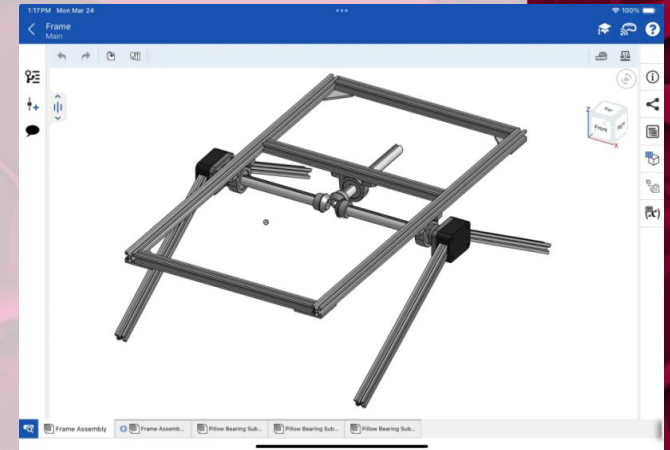


# Rover Module Teams

- Rover – base system
  - Leader: Matthew
- Autonomy – Control and autonomy software
  - Leader: Preston
- Arm – carry and interact
  - Leader: David
- Science – collect and analyze samples
  - Leader: Alec

# Rover Module

- Onshape
- Mechanical
  - Drivetrain
- Electrical power distribution
  - Electronic speed controllers
  - Lithium-Polymer (LiPo batteries)
- Software
  - ArduRover: <https://ardupilot.org/rover/>





# Autonomy Module



- Software

- Linux
- ROS 2
- Python
- Computer Vision
- MAV-ROS / ArduRover: <https://ardupilot.org/rover/>



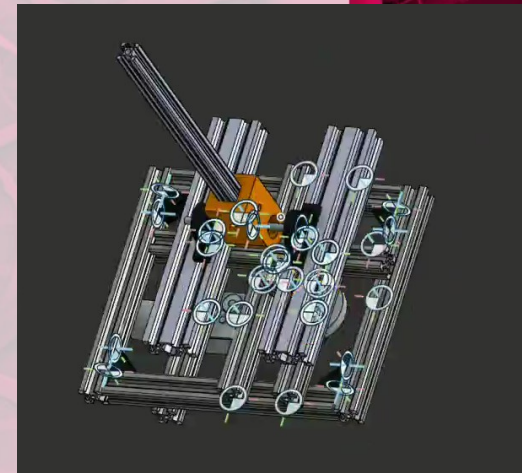
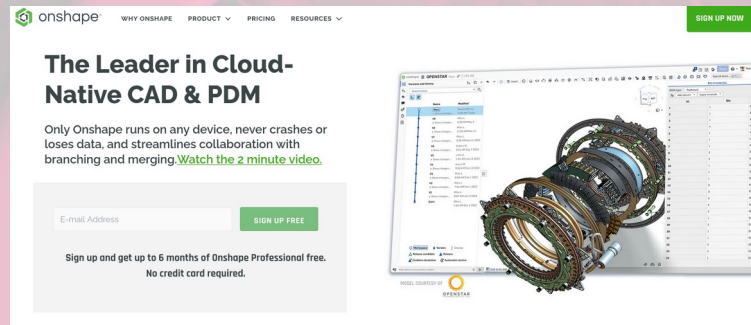
- Sensors

- Realsense depth camera
- GPS



# Arm Module

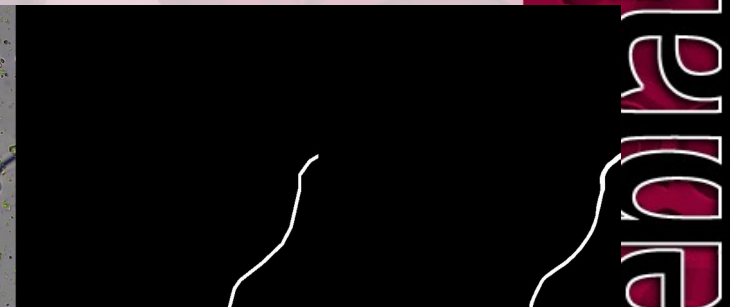
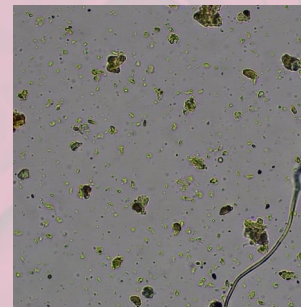
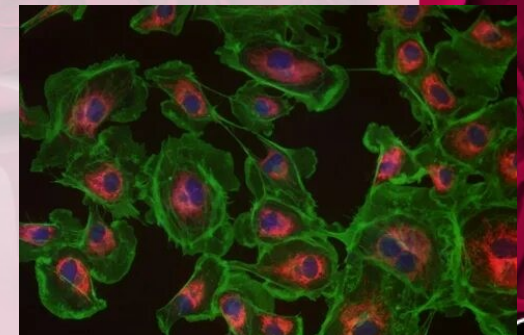
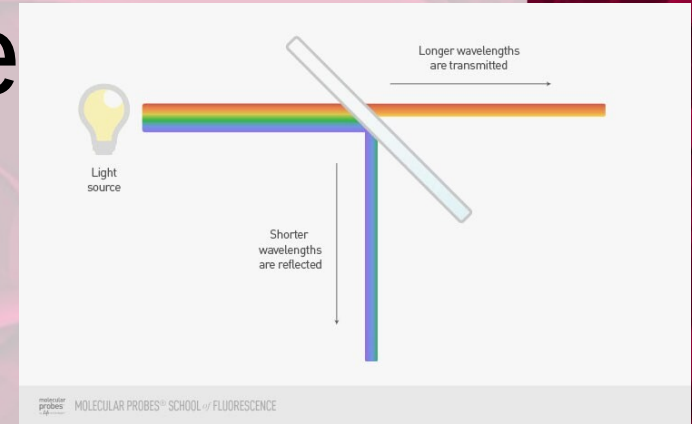
- Onshape
- Arm design
  - 10lbs
  - 3ft max reach
  - Type on keyboard (end effector design)





# Science Module

- 10" Sampling Drill
- Sample Collection and Storage
- Automated Sample Processing
- AI Epifluorescent Microscope



# Timeline

- December 2025 – working prototype rover
  - Rover Complete – 1mi remote operation
  - Arm functional, can lift 10 lbs
  - Science module can collect and analyze sample
- February 2026 – Design Review Videos
- May 2026 – Competition!





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