

# **MARS ASCENT VEHICLE CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE**

**DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, AND LAUNCH OF A REUSABLE ROCKET AND  
AUTONOMOUS GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT**

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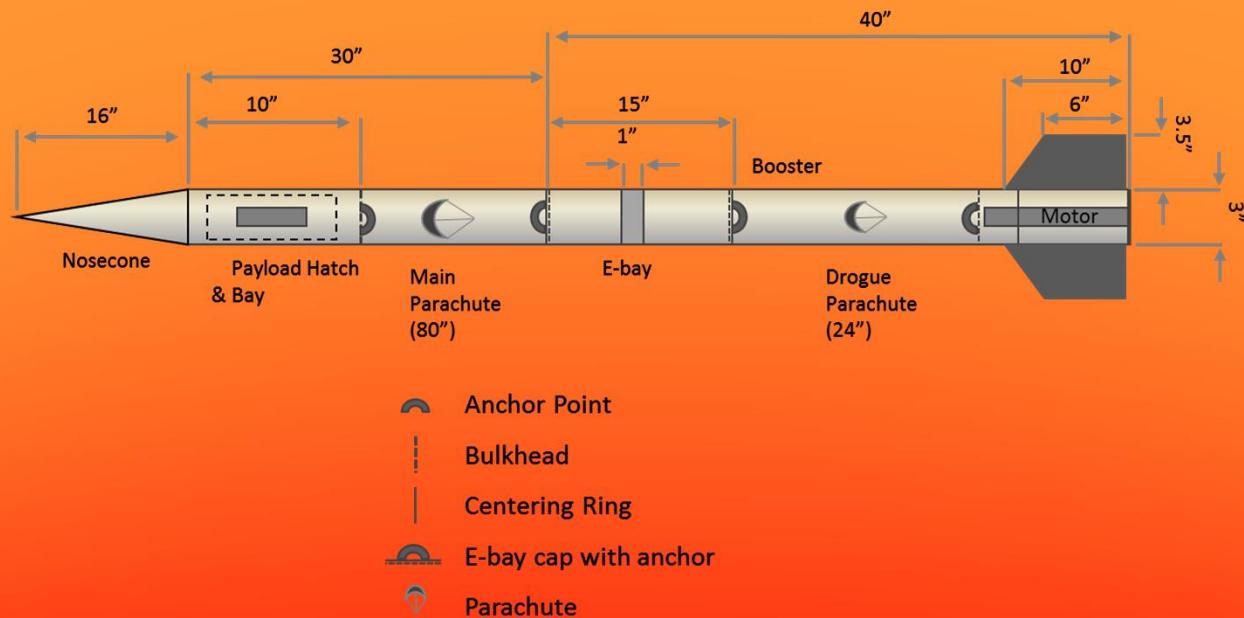
**PAYOUT OPTION 3.1.8 – CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE  
NON-ACADEMIC TEAM**



## **PRELIMINARY DESIGN REVIEW**

<http://martians.westrocketry.com/index.php>

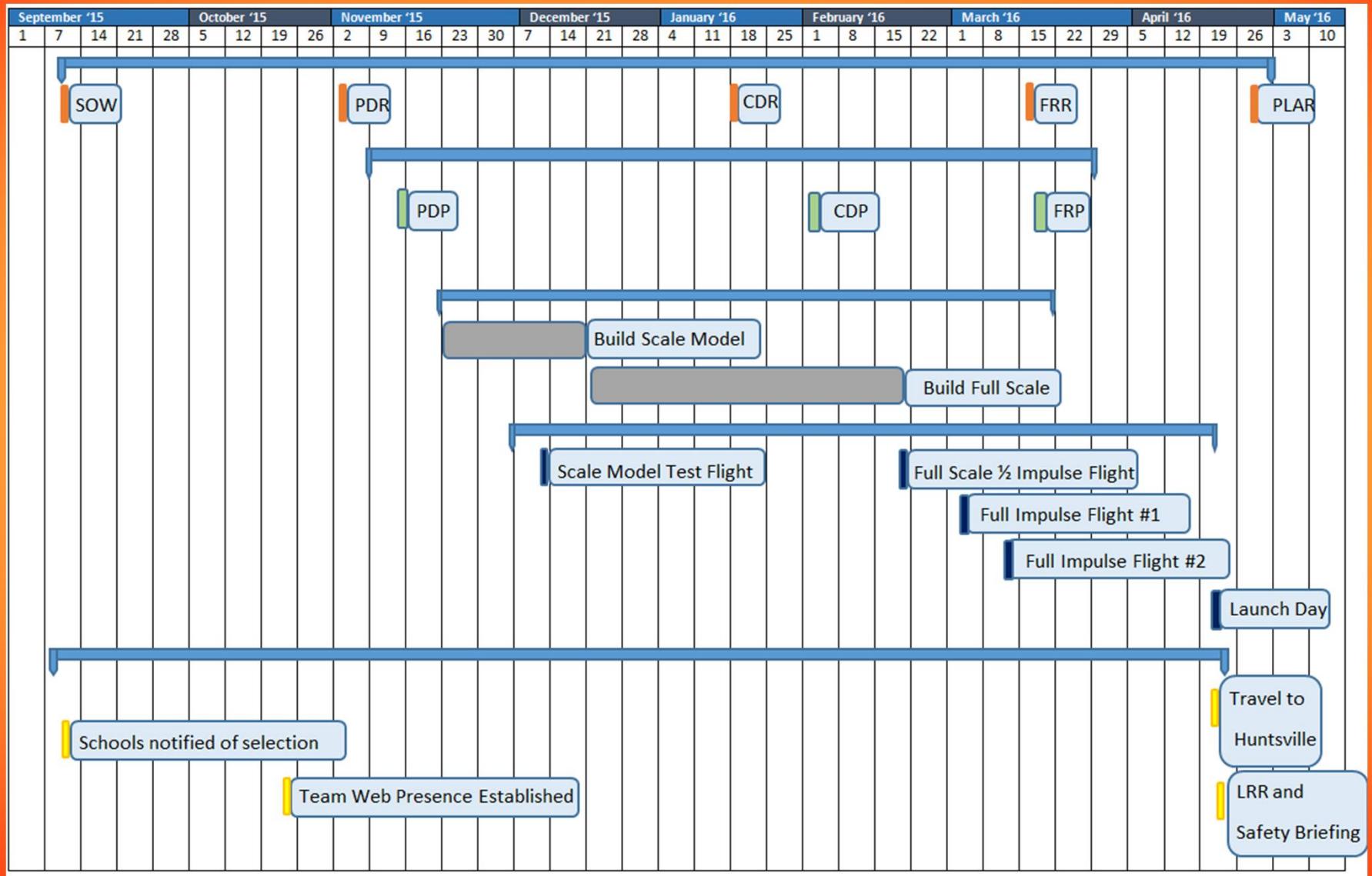
# PART 1: VEHICLE



# MAJOR MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Date	Milestone
Nov 21-Dec 11	Scale Model Building
Dec 12	Scale Model Flight
Jan 15	Critical Design Review due
Jan 19-29	Critical Design Presentations
Jan 19-Feb 19	Full Scale Building
Feb 20	Full Scale Half Impulse Flight
Feb 27	Full Scale Full Impulse Flight #1
Mar 5	Full Scale Full Impulse Flight #2
Mar 14	FRR due
Mar 17-30	FRP's
Apr 16	Launch Day in Huntsville
Apr 29	PLAR due

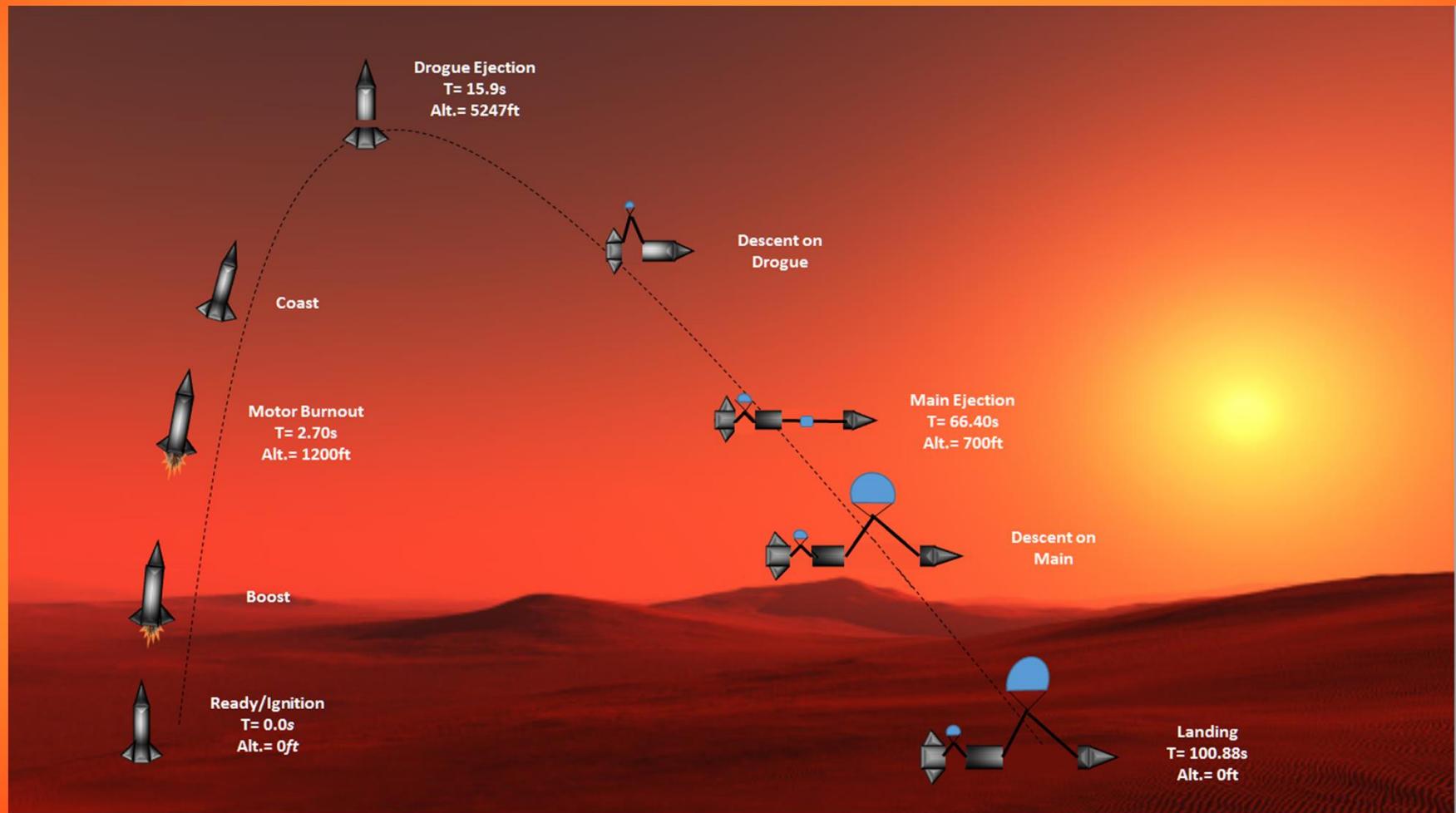
# GANTT CHART



# VEHICLE DEVELOPMENT PHASES

Activity	Dates	Time allocated	Time Required
Scale model parts acquisition	11/7-11/21	2 weeks	1 week
Scale model construction	11/21-12/10	3 weeks	2 weeks
Scale model ground tests, verification	12/10, 12/11	2 days	1 day
Scale model test flights (minimum 1 needed)	12/12, 12/19, 1/9	3 launch windows	1 windows
Full scale vehicle parts acquisition	1/9-1/23	2 weeks	1 week
Full scale vehicle construction	1/24-2/13	3 weeks	2 weeks
Full scale ground tests, verification	2/14-2/19	1 week	1 day
Full scale test flights (minimum 2 needed)	2/20, 2/27, 3/5	3 launch windows	2 windows
Full scale vehicle final preparations for SL launch in AL	3/6-4/9	5 weeks	1-2 weeks

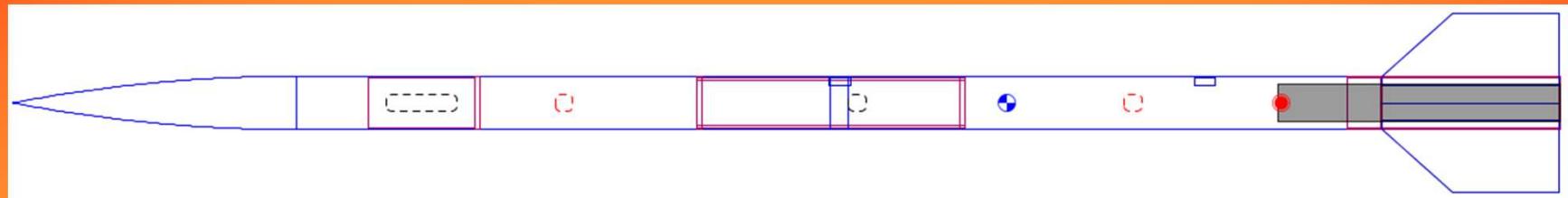
# MISSION PROFILE CHART



# VEHICLE MISSION CRITERIA

- Motor ignition
- Stable flight
- Altitude of 5,280 feet AGL reached but not exceeded
- Both drogue and main parachute deployed
- Entire vehicle returns to the ground safely with no damage (reflyable on the same day)
- Successful recovery of the rocket

# VEHICLE DESIGN



*Length*

87"

*Diameter*

3"

*Liftoff Weight*

13.4lb

*CP*

71" from nosecone

*CG*

59" from nosecone

*Static margin*

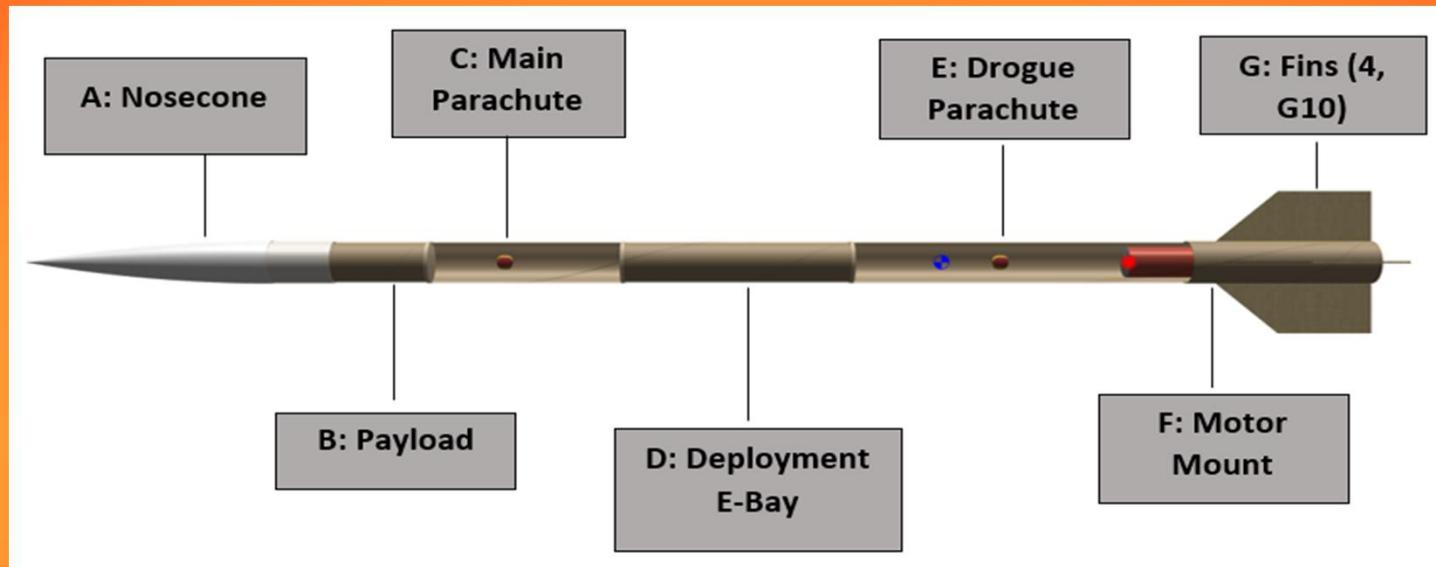
4.02 calibers

*Motor*

CTI K530SS (primary choice)

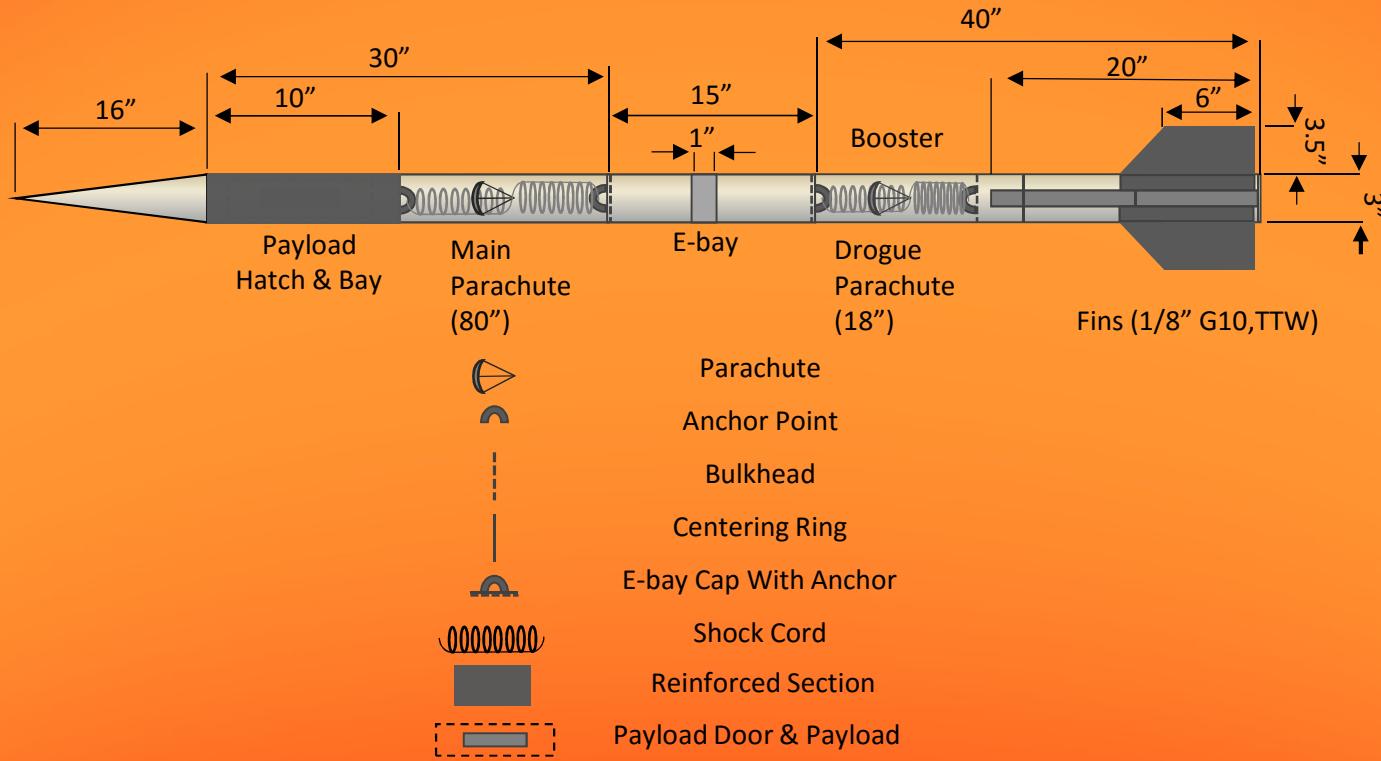
Motor	Diameter [mm]	Total Impulse [Ns]	Burn Time [s]	Stability Margin [calibers]	Thrust to weight ratio
CTI K530SS	54	1414	2.7	4.02	10.0
AT K535	54	1429	2.8	4.03	11.7

# VEHICLE PARTS



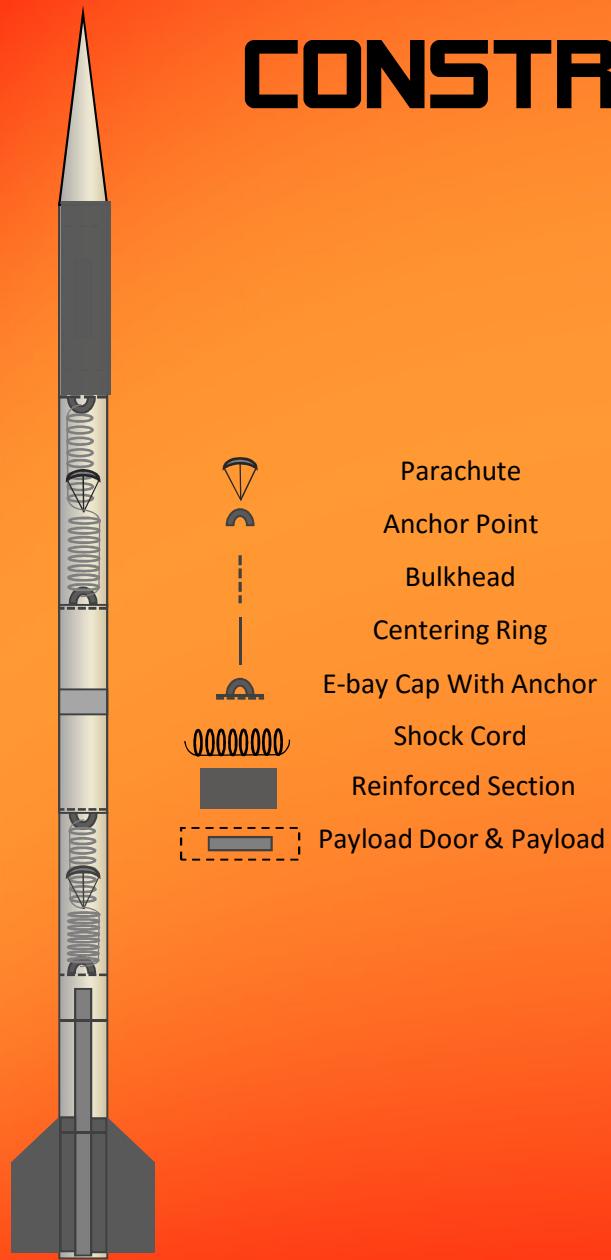
Letter	Part
A	Nosecone
B	Payload(section reinforced by coupler)
C	Main Parachute
D	Deployment E-Bay
E	Drogue Parachute
F	Motor Mount (75mm)
G	Fins (4, G10)

# DIMENSIONED DRAWING OF VEHICLE



**Nose Cone:** Fiberglass 3/32"  
**Payload Body Tube:** Fiberglass 1/8"  
**Booster Body tube:** Fiberglass 1/8"  
**Coupler Tubes:** Fiberglass 1/8"  
**Payload Door:** Fiberglass 1/8"

**Bulkheads:** Fiberglass 1/8"  
**Attachment Points:** U-Bolts 1/4"  
**Fins:** Fiberglass 1/8", TTW  
**Centering Rings:** Fiberglass 1/8"  
**Payload:** PVC pipe schedule 40



# CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

- **Nosecone**: fiberglass nose cone
- **Body**: 3" fiberglass (1/8") tubing
- **Bulkheads, centering rings**: fiberglass
- **Motor mount**: 54mm Kraft Phenolic
- **Rail buttons**: standard Nylon rail buttons
- **Shockcords**: ½" tubular Kevlar
- **Fins**: 1/8" G10 fiberglass, TTW fins
- **Payload**: PVC tube with dome caps, schedule 40
- **Payload door**: cutout from 1/8" fiberglass tube
- **Payload section reinforcement**: 1/8" fiberglass coupler
- **Motor retention system**: Aeropack screw-on motor retainer
- **Anchors**: 1/4" stainless steel U-Bolts
- **Epoxy**: West or Loctite epoxy

# MOTOR SELECTION

- We selected the CTI K530SS 54mm motor to propel our rocket to our target altitude (5247ft).
- The CTI K530SS motor provides an appropriate thrust to weight ratio for our vehicle (10).

Length [mm]	Mass [lbs]	Diameter [mm]	Motor Selection	Stability Margin <i>[calibers]</i>	Thrust to weight ratio
404	3.62	54	CTI K530SS	4.02	10

# FLIGHT SAFETY PARAMETERS

## MATURITY OF DESIGN

Parameter	Value
<i>Flight Stability Static Margin</i>	<b>4.02 calibers</b>
<i>Thrust to Weight Ratio</i>	<b>10</b>
<i>Velocity at Launch Guide Departure (5ft launch rail)</i>	<b>41.2 mph</b>

# MASS STATEMENT

## ❖ Current Status

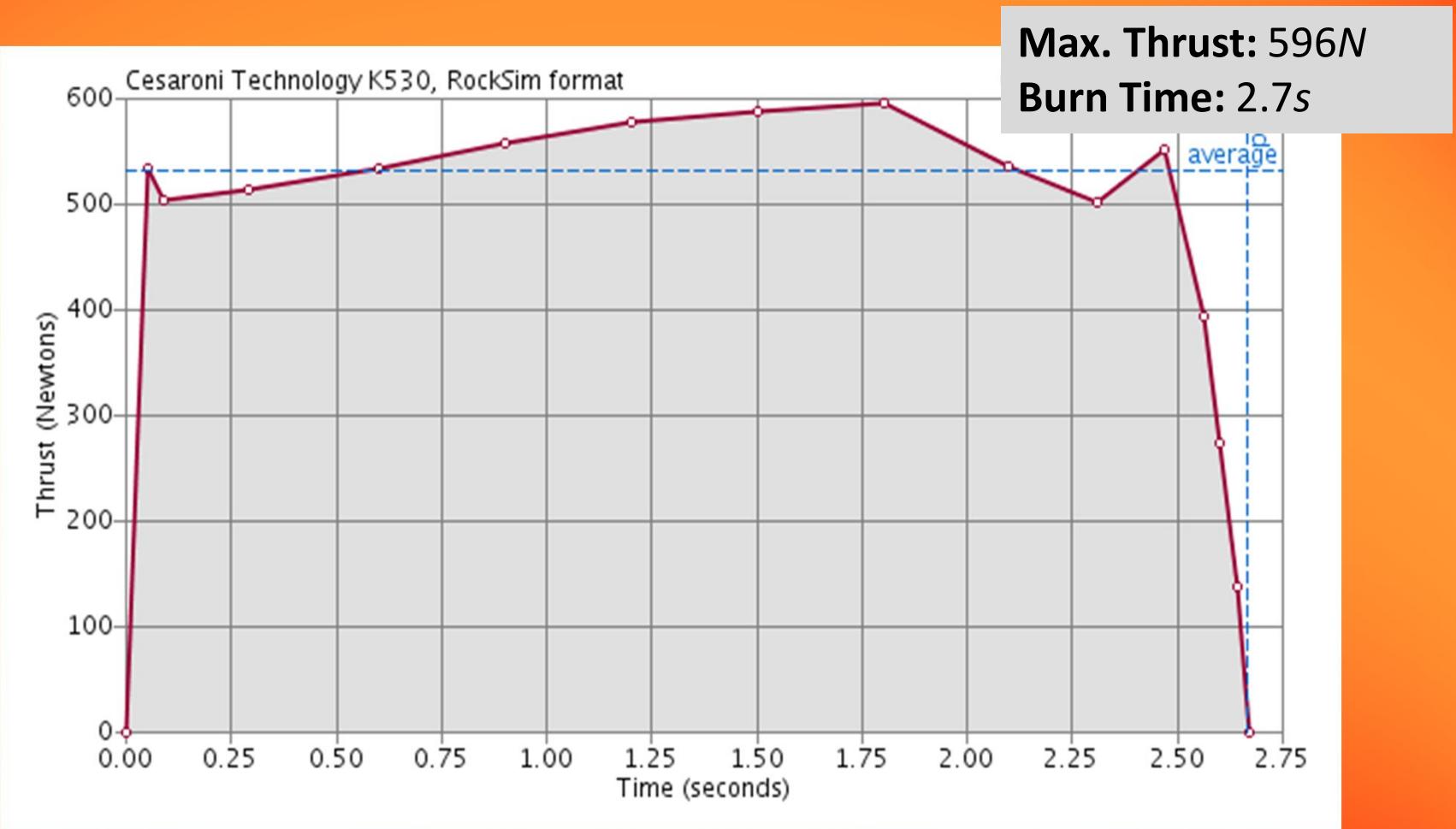
- Our rocket currently has a mass of  $13.4/lb$ , which includes a  $3.62/lb$  CTI K530-SS motor.
- This estimate of the mass comes from the OpenRocket database where our rocket is being designed.

## ❖ Design Changes Impact

- If the rocket gains  $5/lb$  of weight it will only reach an altitude of  $4,361ft$  which we consider *unacceptable performance*.
- The rocket would have to weigh  $26.8/lb$  for the thrust to weight ratio to drop under 5 (underpowered rocket).

# THRUST CURVE

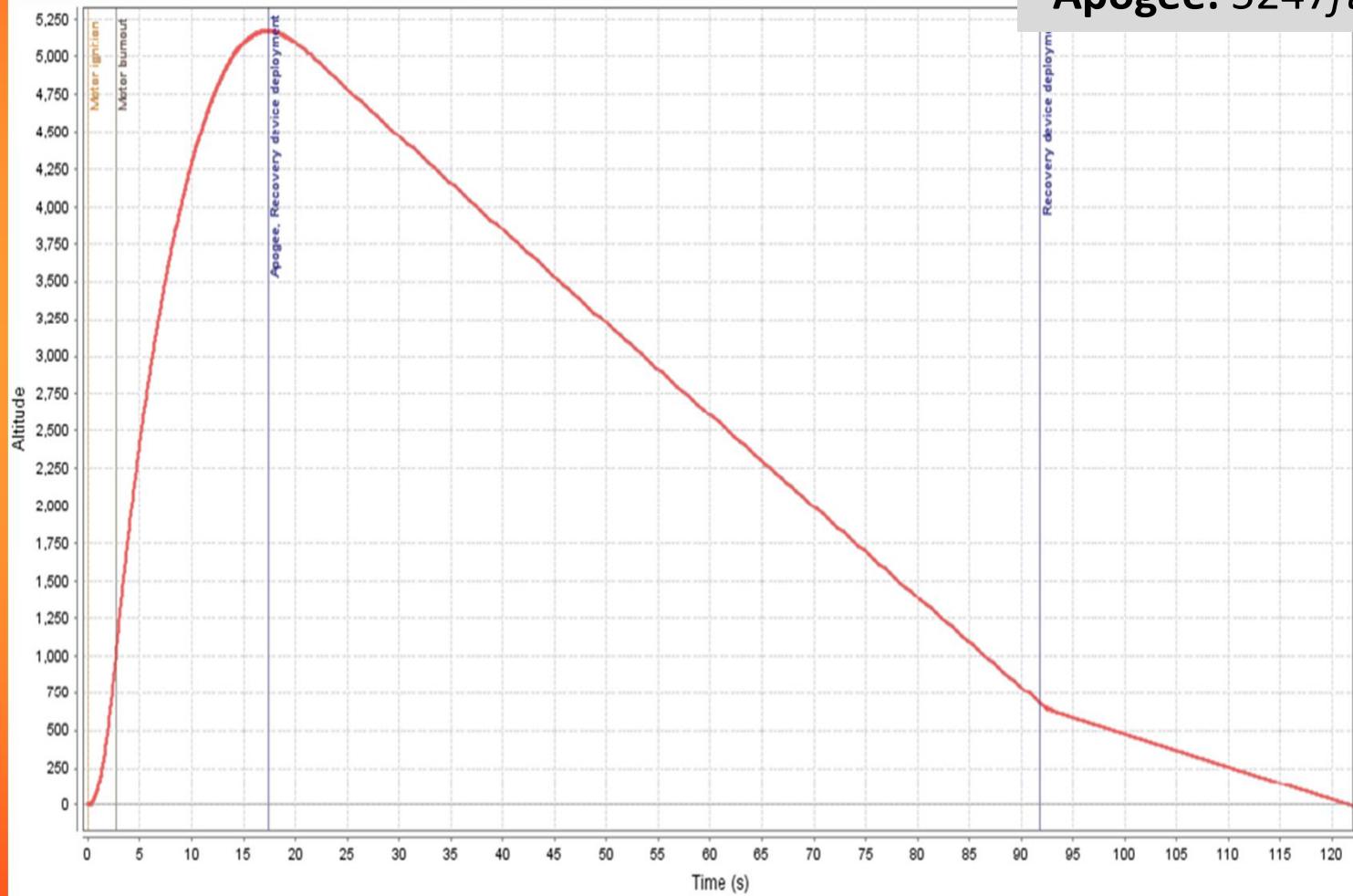
Thrust  
[Ns]



# ALTITUDE PROFILE

Apogee: 5247ft, 16s

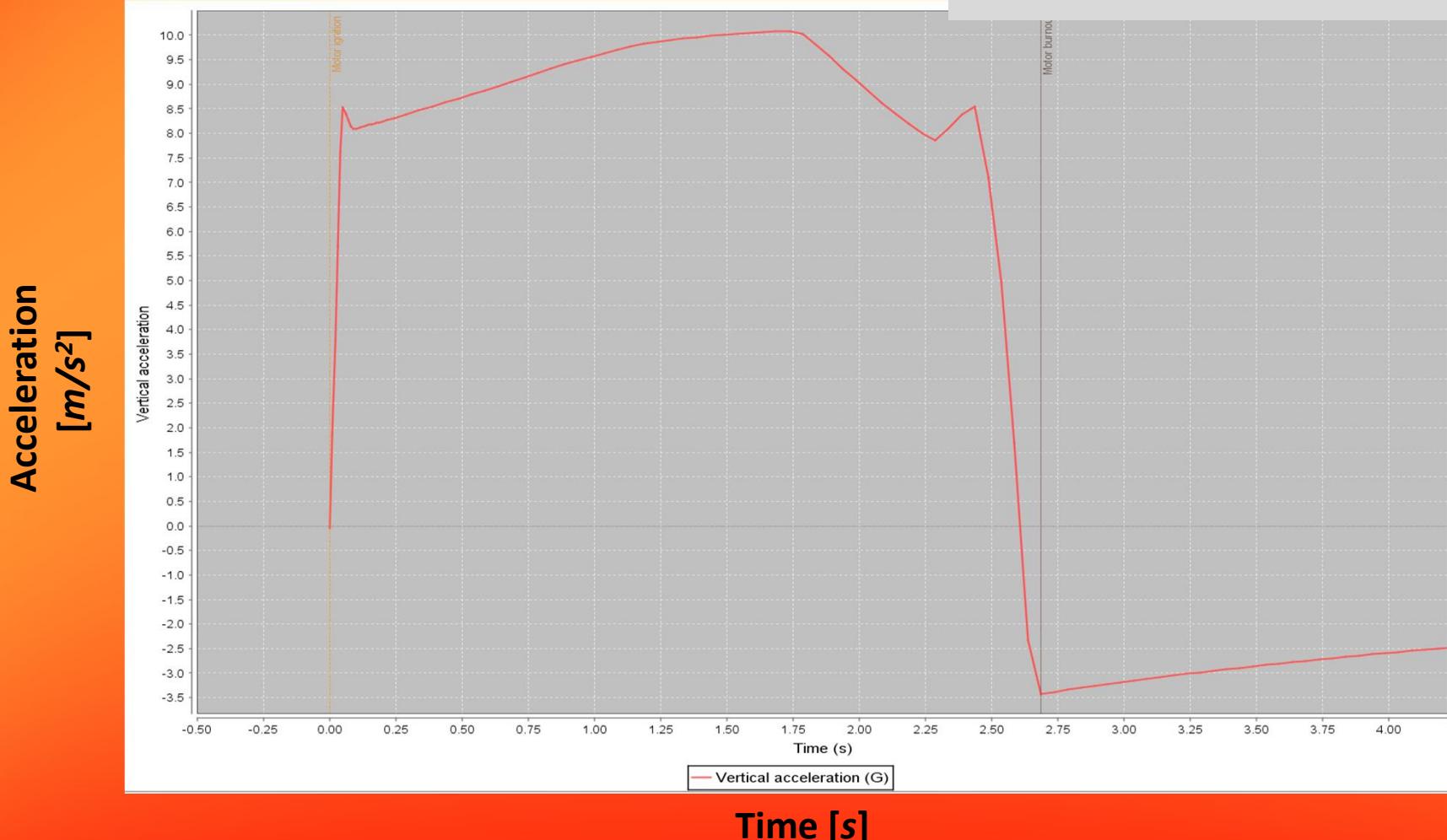
Altitude  
[ft]



Time [s]

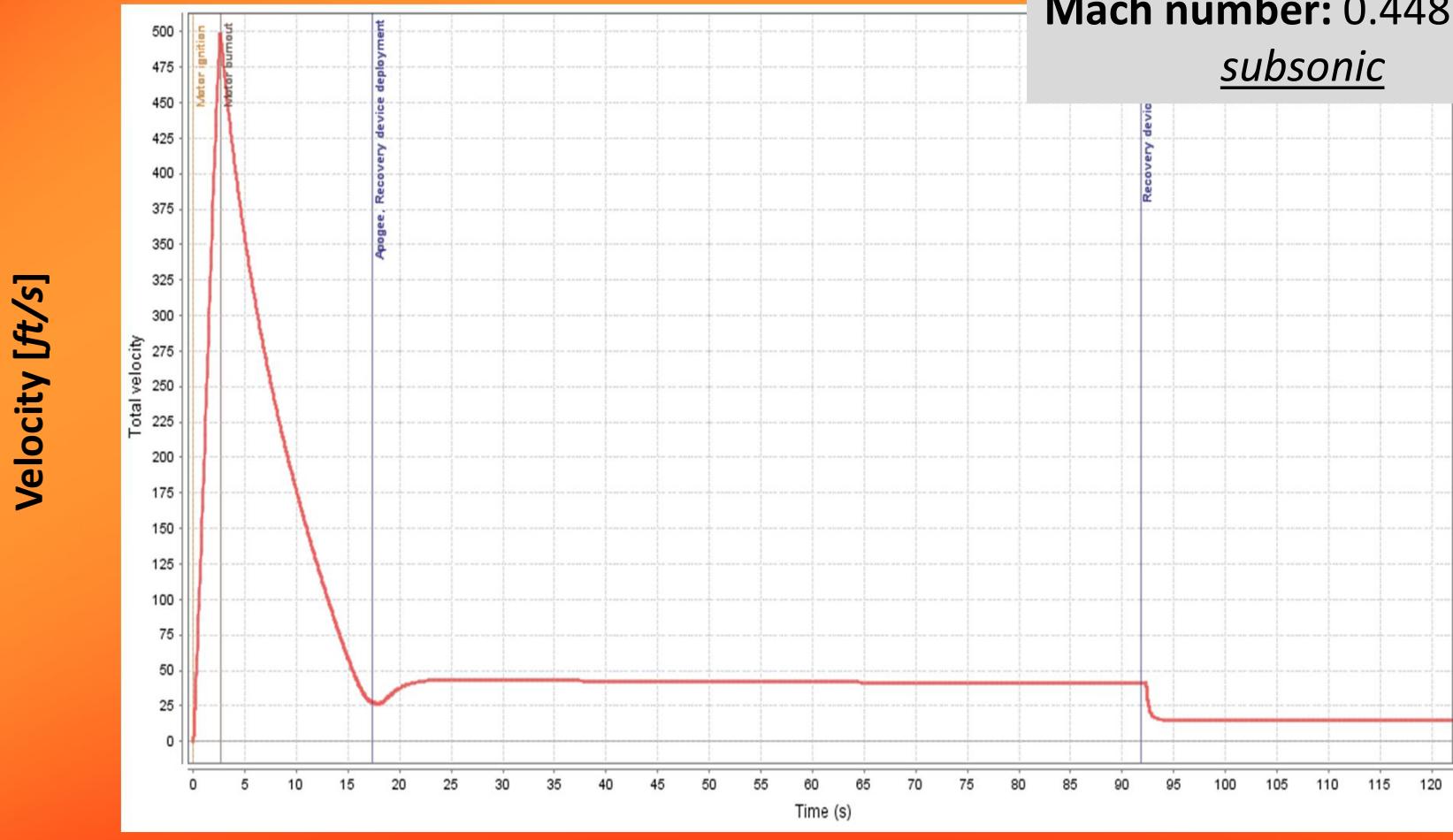
# ACCELERATION PROFILE

Maximum acceleration: 10G



# VELOCITY PROFILE

**Max. velocity: 498fps**  
**Mach number: 0.448**  
*subsonic*

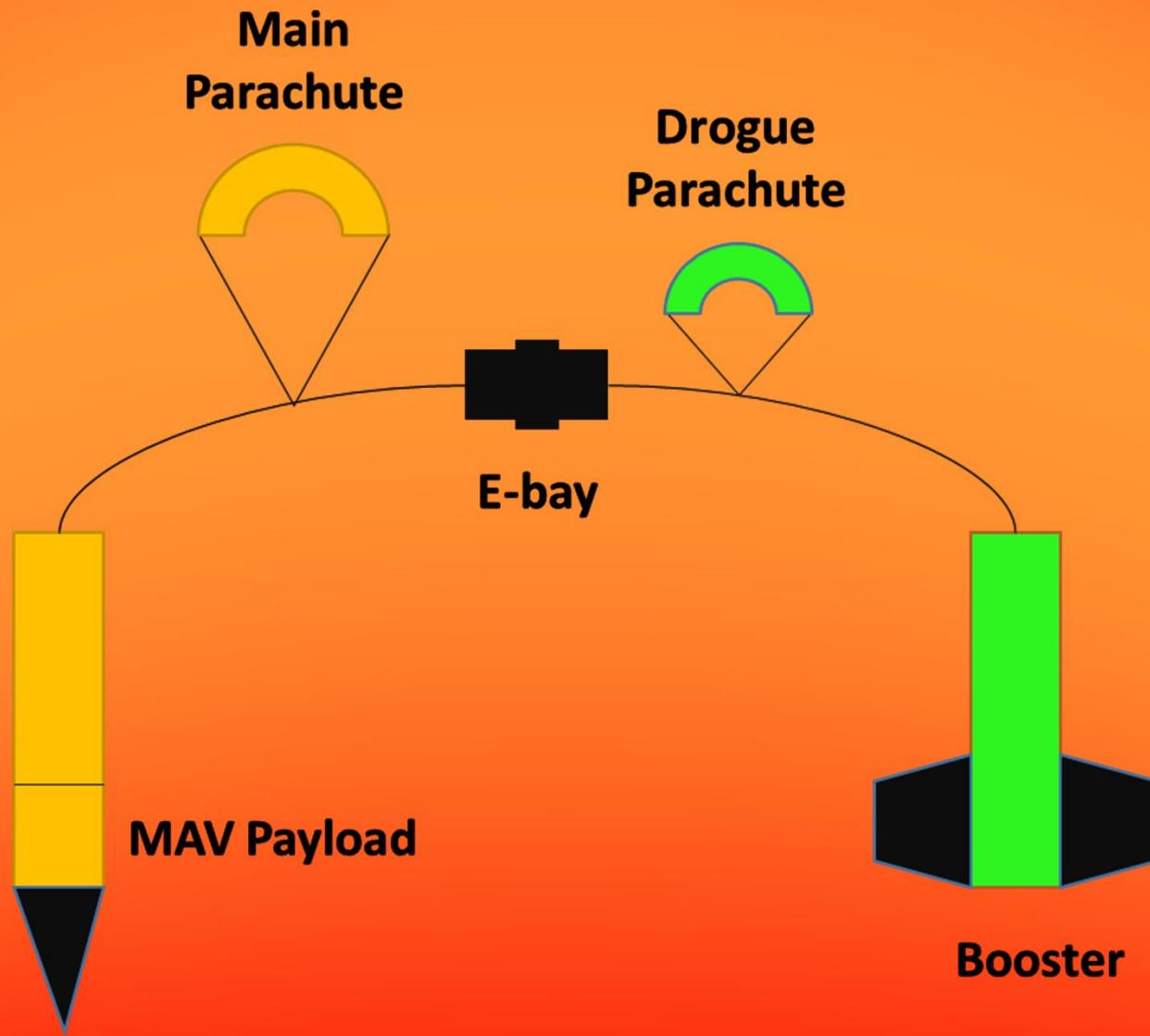


Time [s]

# ALTITUDE VS. WIND SPEED

Wind Speed [mph]	Altitude [ft]	Change in Apogee [%]
0	5247	0.00
5	5188	-1.12
10	5122	-2.38
15	5061	-3.53
20	5024	-4.23

# DEPLOYMENT SCHEME



# PARACHUTE SIZE

Parachute	Diameter [in]	Descent Rate [fps]	Ejection Charge [g]	Deployment Altitude [ft]	Descent Weight [lbs]	Impact Energy [ft-lbf]
Drogue	18	90.0	2.43	5247	13.51	--
Main	80	20.3	2.53	700	1.68 3.50 8.33	9.5 19.9 47.7

Impact energies and descent weights under main parachute listed in *payload section, electronics bay and booster section* order

# EJECTION CHARGE CALCULATIONS

$$W_p = dP * V / (R * T) * (454 / 12)$$

- $W_p$  - ejection charge weight [g]
- $dP$  - ejection pressure (15 [psi])
- $V$  - pressurized volume [ $in^3$ ]
- $R$  - universal gas constant  
(22.16 [ $ft-lb\ ^\circ R^{-1}\ lb-mol^{-1}$ ])
- $T$  - combustion gas temperature  
(3,307 [ $^\circ R$ ])

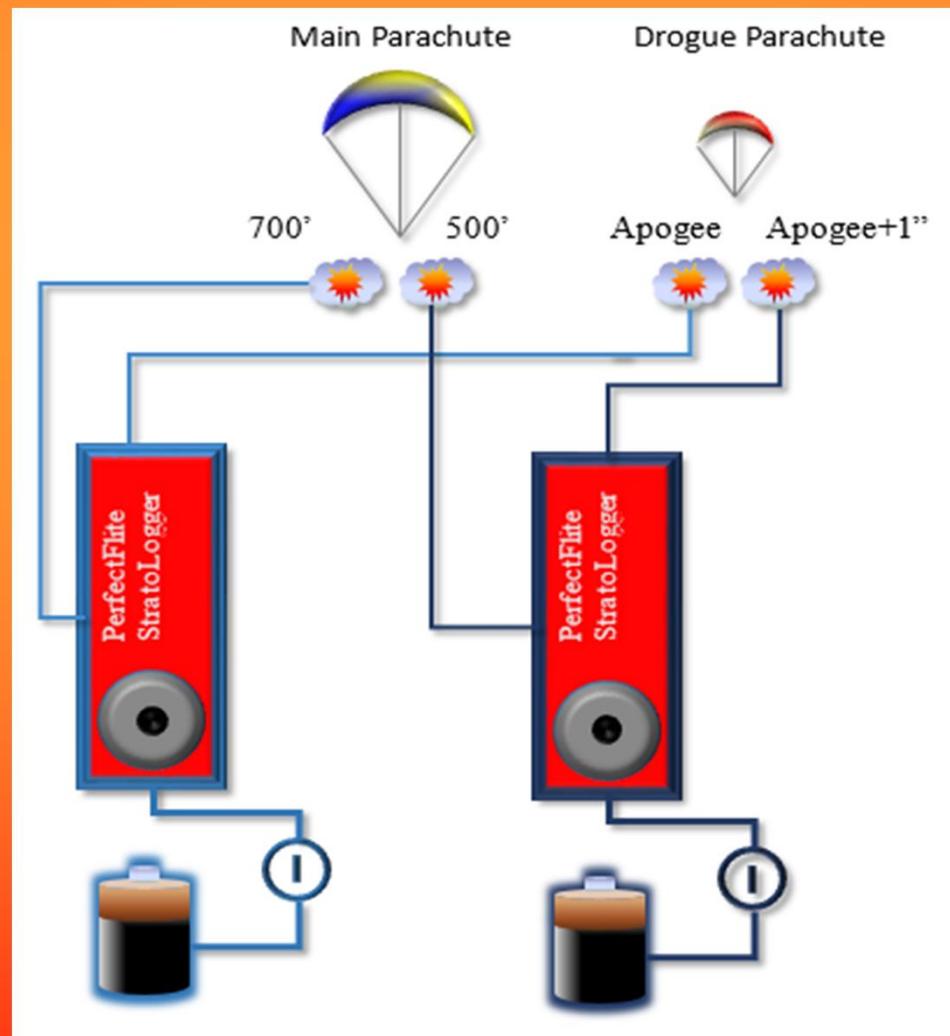
# **CALCULATED EJECTION CHARGES \***

<b>Parachute</b>	<b>Charge [<math>g</math>]**</b>
<b>Drogue</b>	<b>2.43</b>
<b>Main</b>	<b>2.53</b>

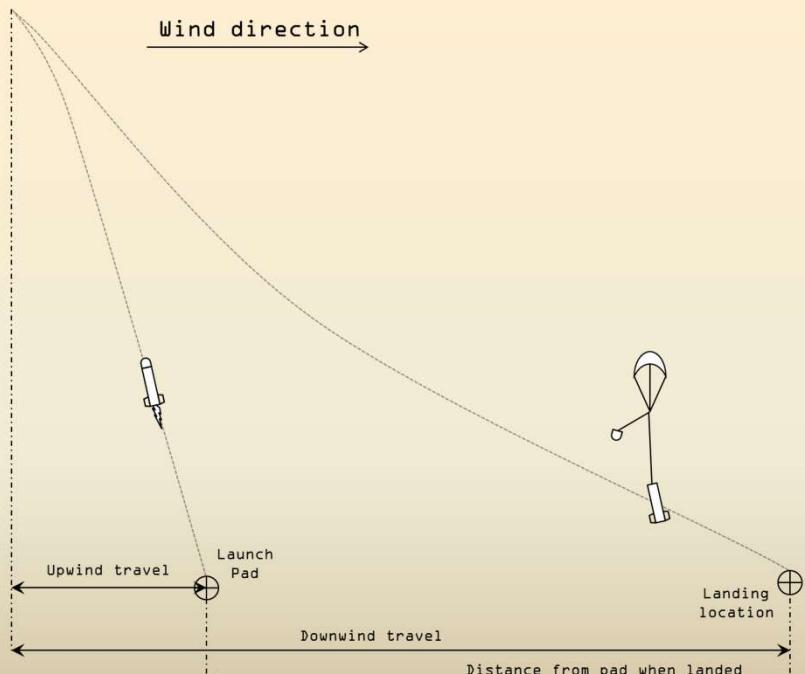
\* Ejection Charges will be finalized during static testing

\*\* Primary charges shown. Secondary charges will be 25% larger (Jeffries' backup scheme).

# REDUNDANT DEPLOYMENT



# VEHICLE DRIFT PREDICTIONS



Wind speed [mph]	Upwind Travel [ft]	Downwind Travel [ft]	Distance from pad when landed [ft]	Distance from pad when landed [mile]
0	25	0	25	0.005
5	1350	621	729	0.138
10	1550	1242	308	0.058
15	1700	1863	163	0.031
20	1750	2484	1234	0.234

# TRACKING AND TELEMETRY



**CLOUD AIDED TELEMETRY :** Cloud-Aided-Telemetry (CAT) system uses an on-board Android device and app to transmit flight, tracking and payload data from an airborne rocket using any available cellular network. The data travel along orange route to our data cloud (located in Houston, TX) from where they can be retrieved via blue route by any connected device (such as cell phone) and aid the search for the rocket and payload. CAT is an 'opportunistic uploader' and can store gigabytes of data on-board while searching for available connection.

This system has been successfully tested at LDRS 33 launch during 8K+ flight.

# VEHICLE SAFETY VERIFICATION

Phase	Method	Verifies/Provides
SOW	<b>Computer simulations (OpenRocket, RockSIM)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vehicle stability</li><li>• Preliminary performance predictions</li></ul>
PDR		
CDR	<b>Half-scale model</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vehicle stability/design</li><li>• Coefficient of drag</li><li>• Deployment scheme</li></ul>
FRR	<b>Full scale/half impulse flight</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vehicle stability</li><li>• Vehicle robustness</li><li>• Recovery system reliability</li><li>• Improved performance predictions</li></ul>
FRR	<b>Full scale/full impulse flight</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vehicle performance</li><li>• Vehicle robustness</li><li>• Flight constraints compliance</li></ul>

# **VERIFICATION PLAN**

## **Tested Components**

**C1:** Flight Electronics

**C2:** Recovery Systems

**C3:** Motor

**C4:** Power Supply

**C5:** Ejection Charges

**C6:** Tracking and Telemetry

**C7:** Launch System

# **VERIFICATION PLAN**

## **Verifications**

**V1: Functionality:** Ensure satisfactory performance of components.

**V2: Integrity:** Application of force to verify durability.

**V3: Integration:** Ensures proper fit of each component within its assigned compartment, free of interference of other components.

**V4: Scale Model:** Verifies the predicted performance of the vehicle.

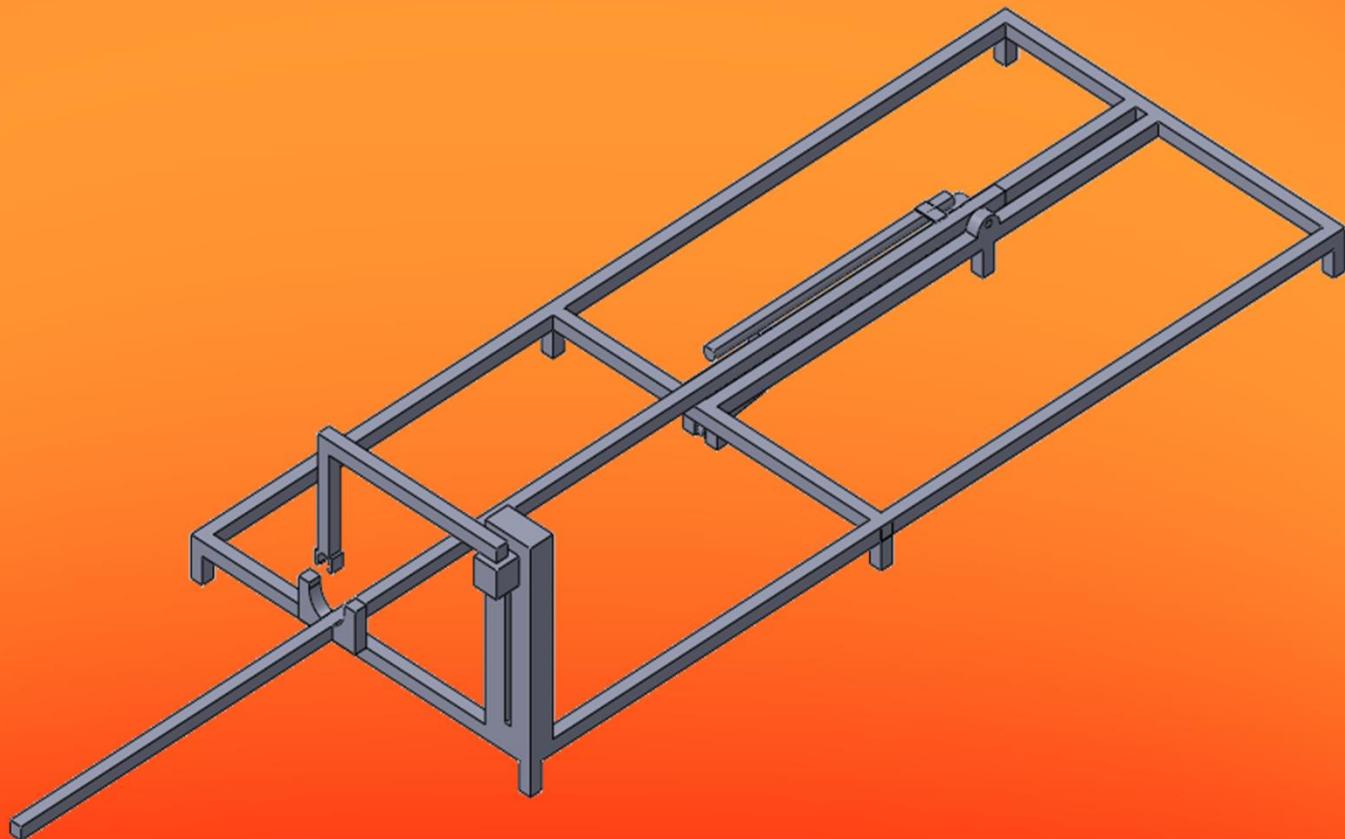
# VERIFICATION MATRIX

	V1	V2	V3	V4
C1	1.2	2.5	2.4	1.2
C2	2.5	1.3	1.4	1.4
C3	1.5	2.5	1.12	1.2
C4	1.7	1.7	1.12	1.7
C5	2.2	2.5	1.12	1.13.1
C6	2.11	2.5	2.11	2.11
C7	1.8	2.5	1.8	1.8

P = planned, C = successfully completed

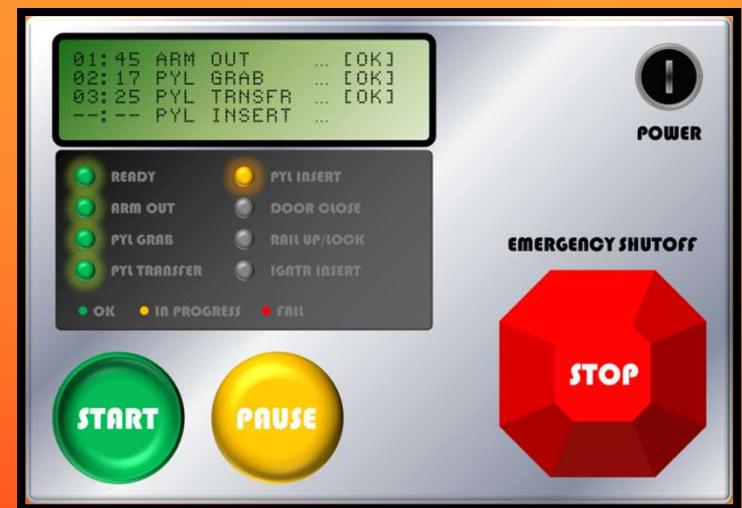
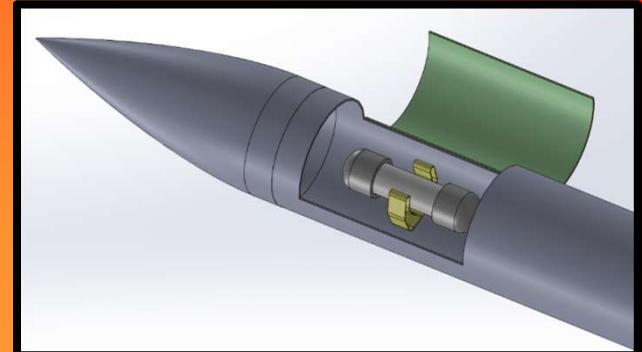
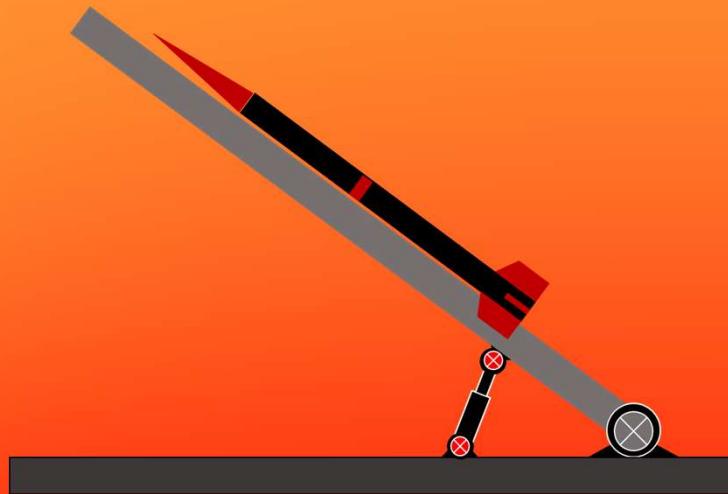
Status: Verification will begin after PDR conference.

# PART II: AGSE

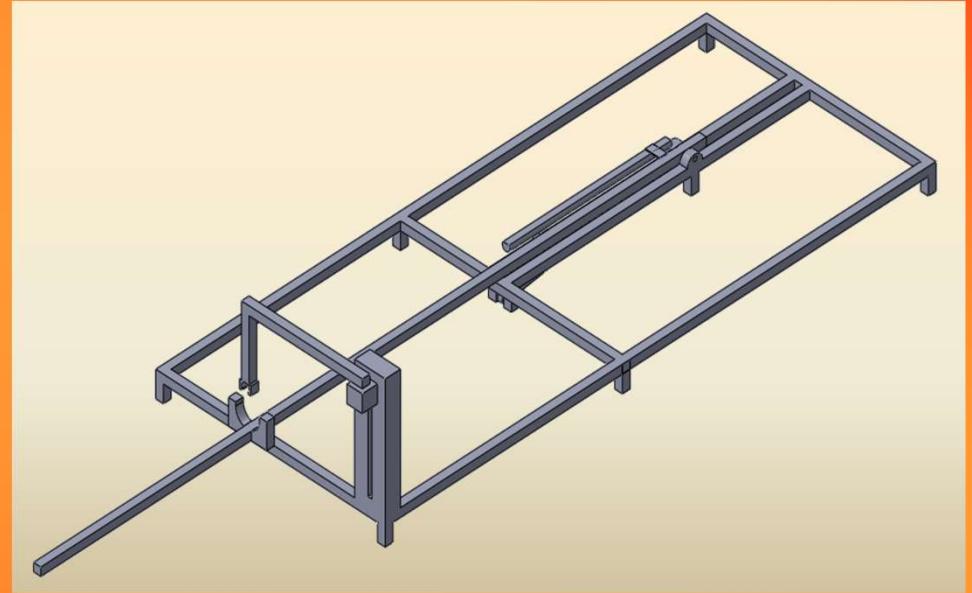
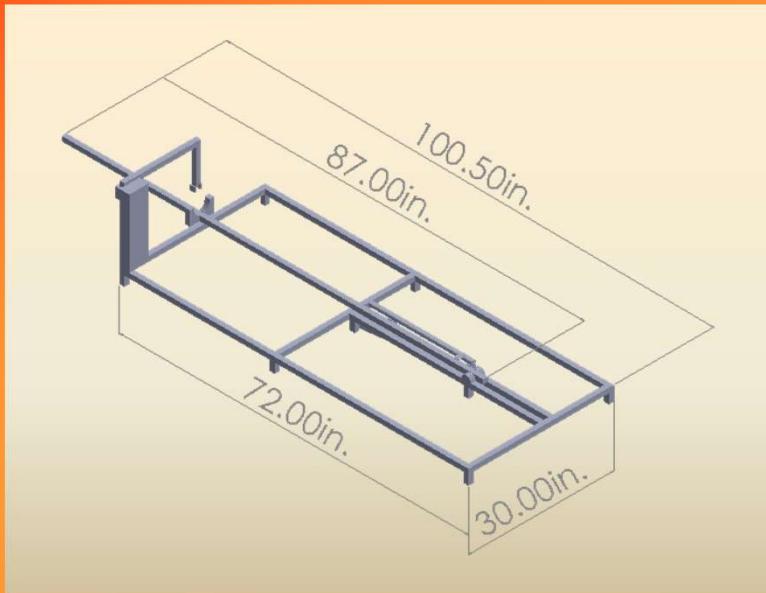


# AGSE TASKS

- Acquire payload container
- Insert container into payload bay
- Close the bay door
- Raise rocket into launch position
- Insert igniter into motor



# AGSE SUPERSTRUCTURE

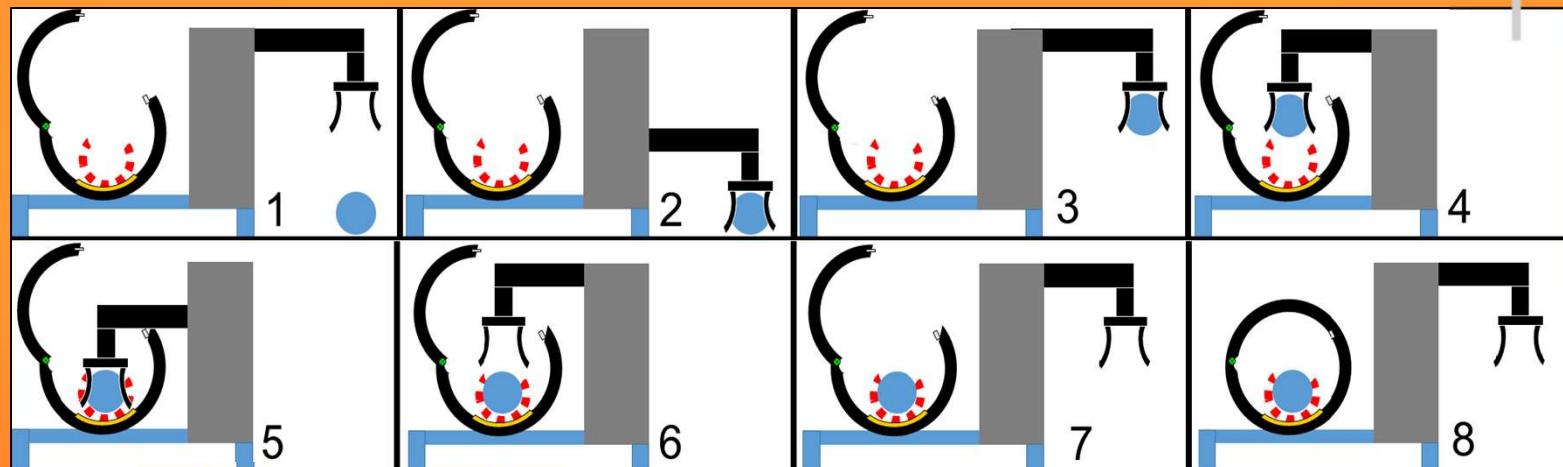
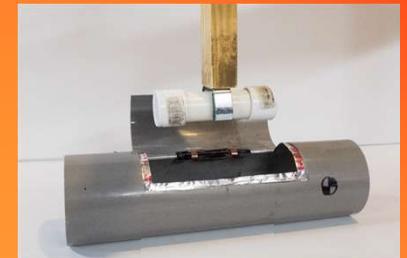


- Concept structure anticipates meeting volume, mass, and performance requirements
- Envelope approximately  $8.5 \times 3 \times 3 \text{ ft}^3$  closed,  $8 \times 3 \times 8 \text{ ft}^3$  in launch configuration
- Full system (with rocket and all aspects) anticipated to be <120 lbs

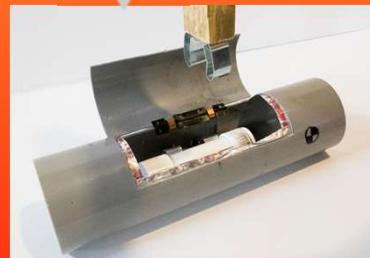
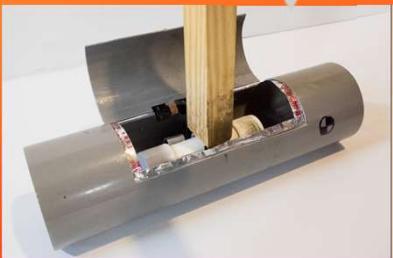
# PAYLOAD RETRIEVAL AND INSERTION



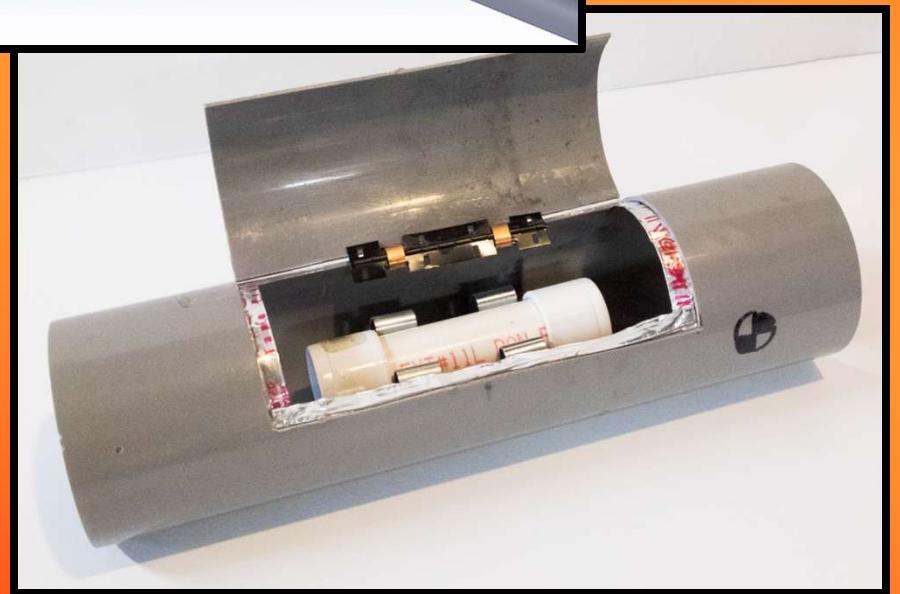
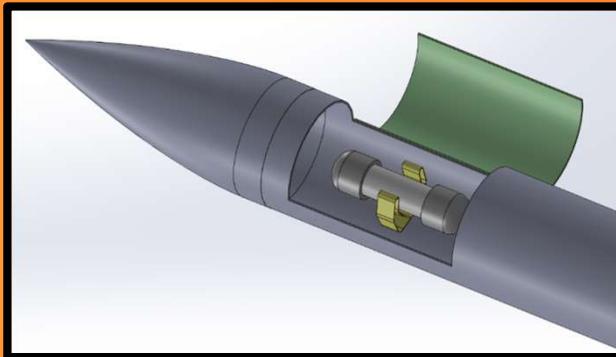
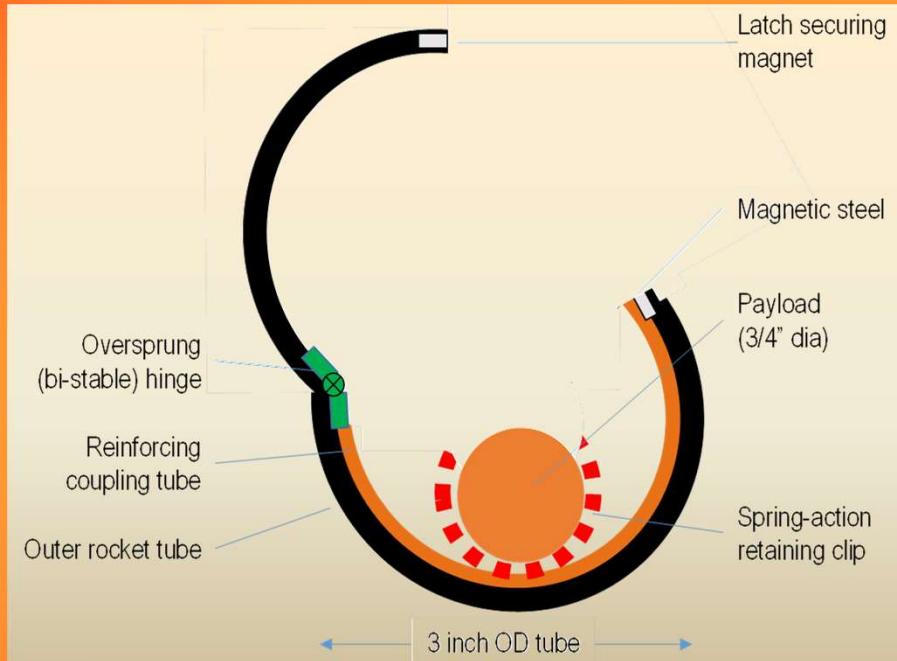
Payload placement  
guide (laser mark)



1-8 RETRIEVAL AND INSERTION SEQUENCE

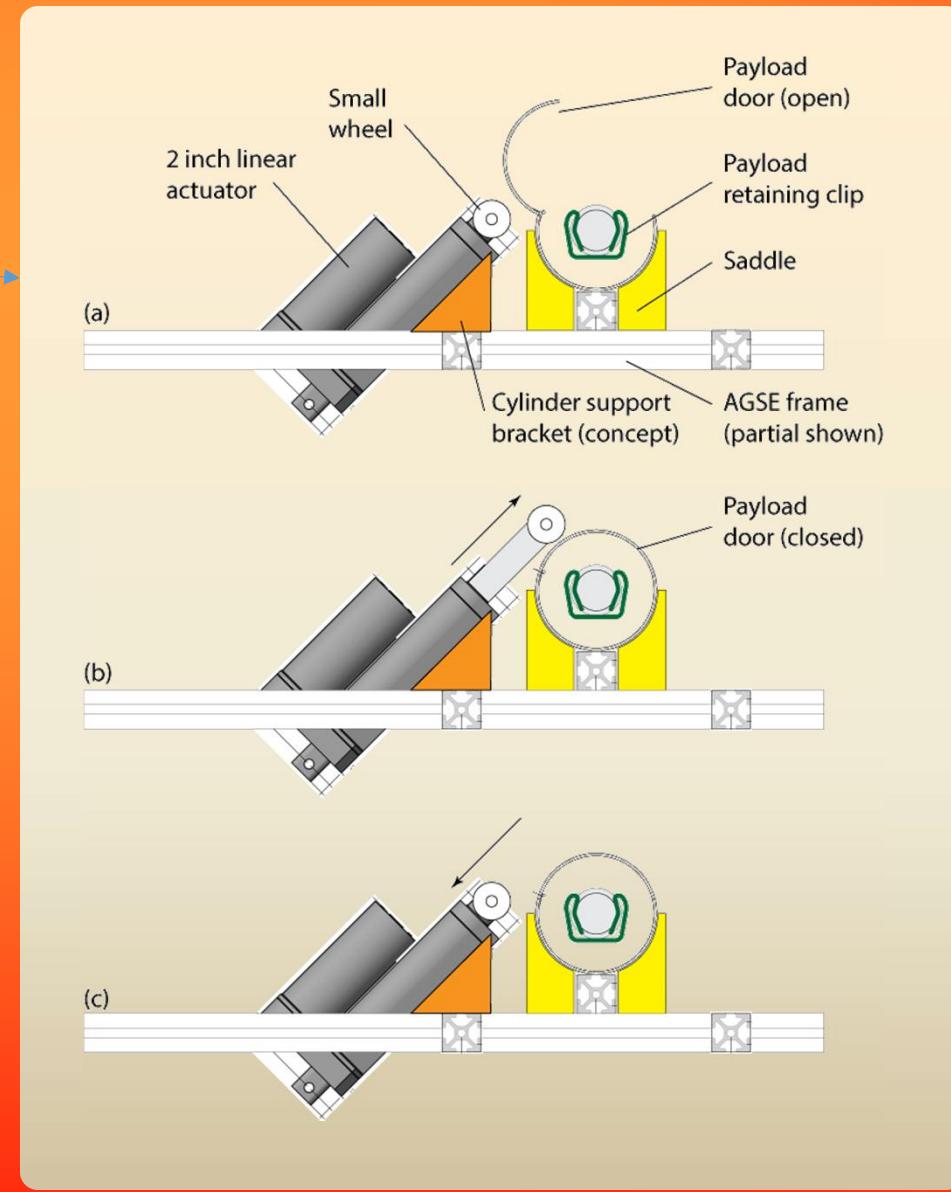


# PAYLOAD SECUREMENT SYSTEM

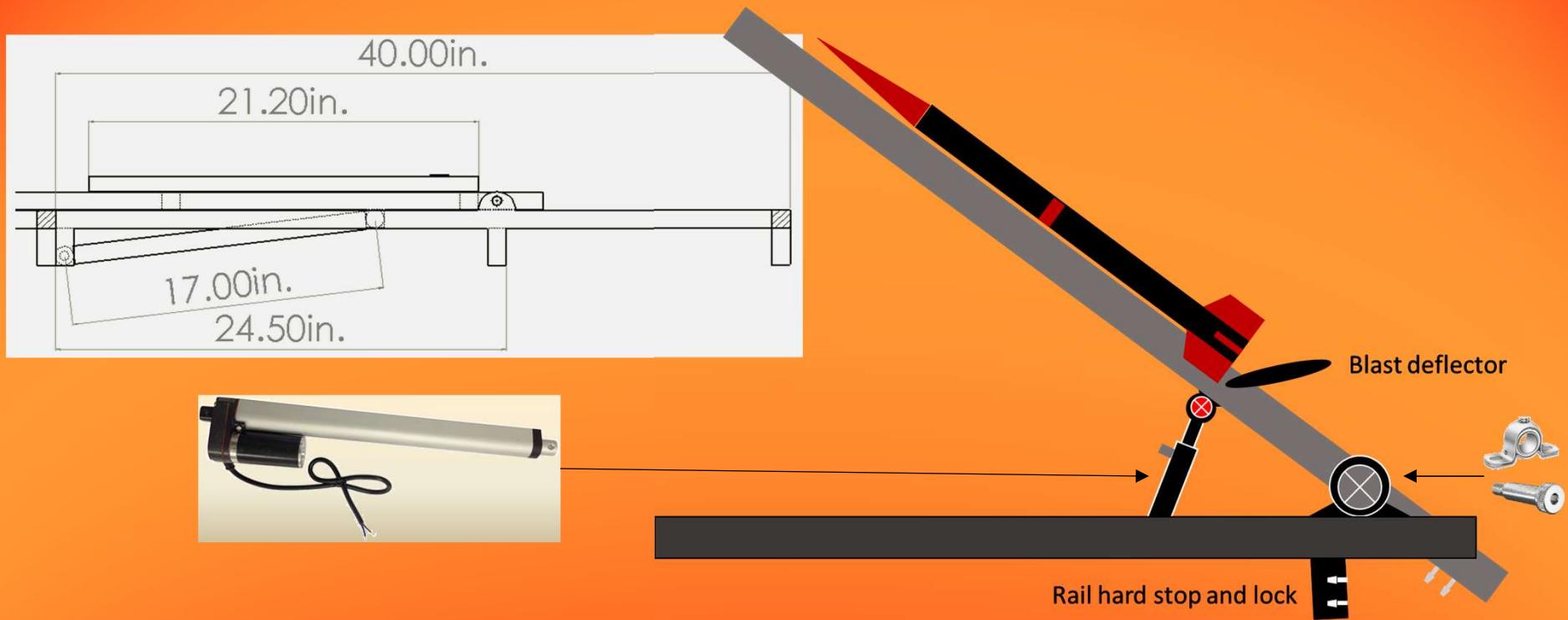


The payload securement system uses a set of passive grippers to secure the payload. Magnets will be used to secure the door.

# DOOR CLOSURE SYSTEM

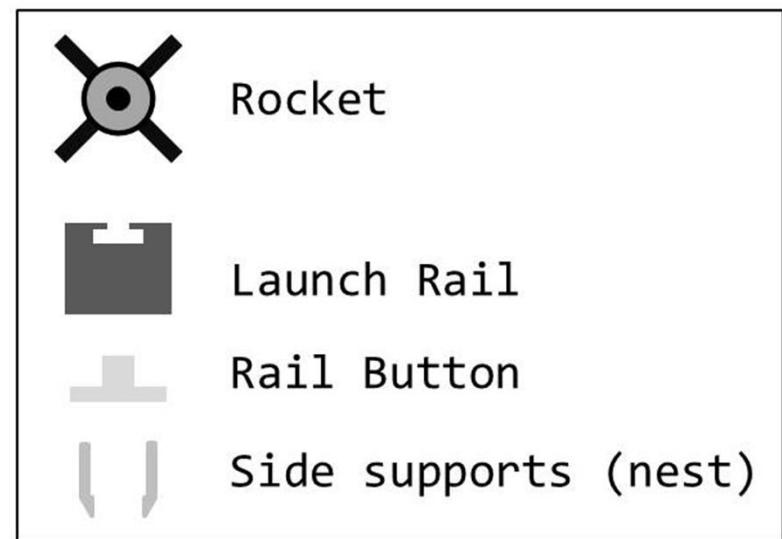
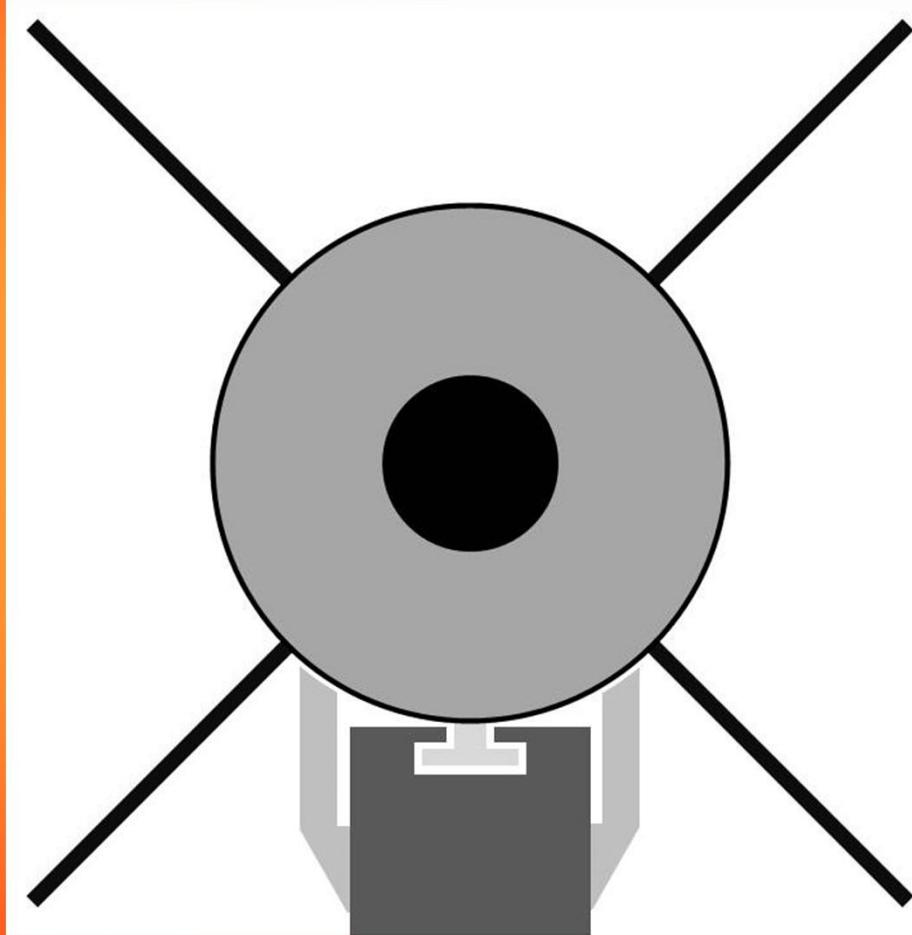


# THE ERECTION SYSTEM



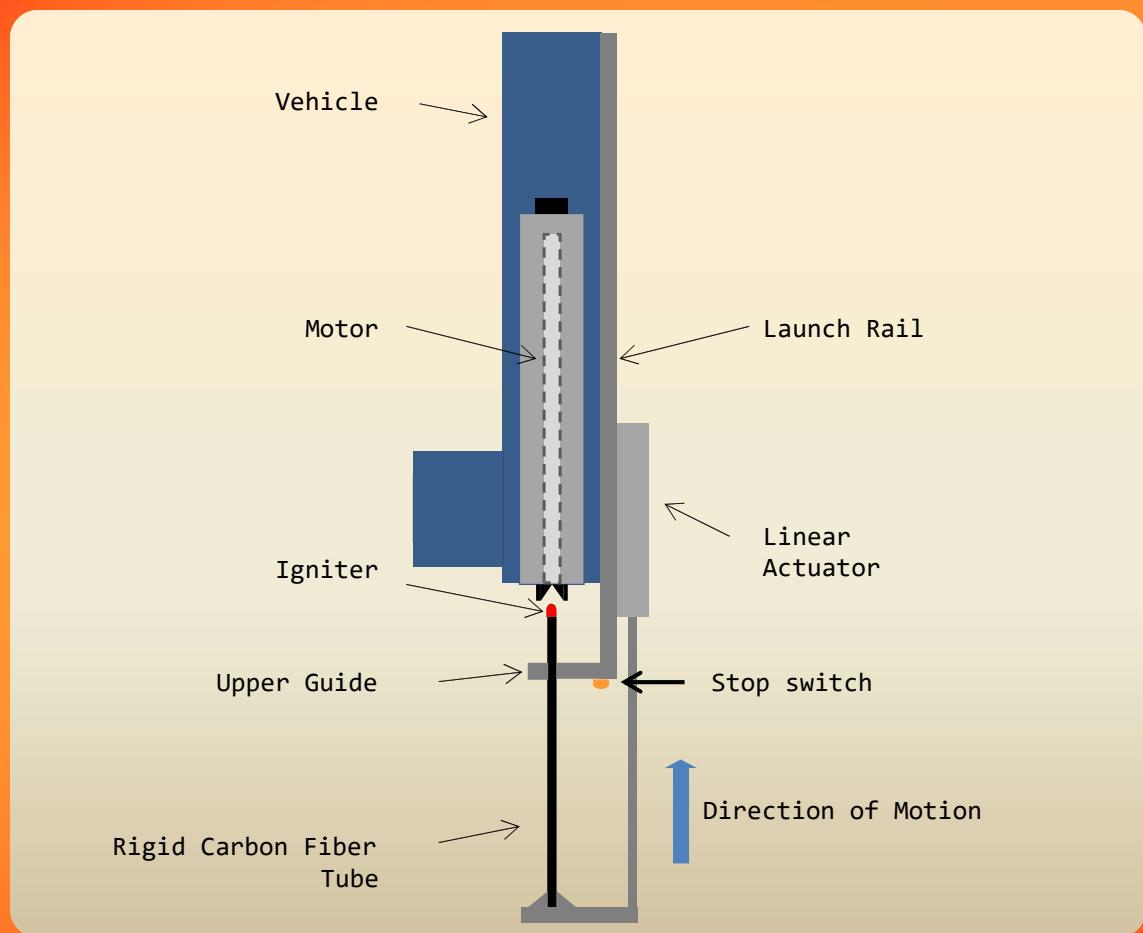
We will be using a linear actuator for the erection system. Linear actuator will start at an angle and push the rail to a  $85^\circ$  launch position. After reaching the hard stop rail will be lock itself using the spring loaded snap-in pins (similar to Pogo™ pins).

# ROCKET STABILIZATION

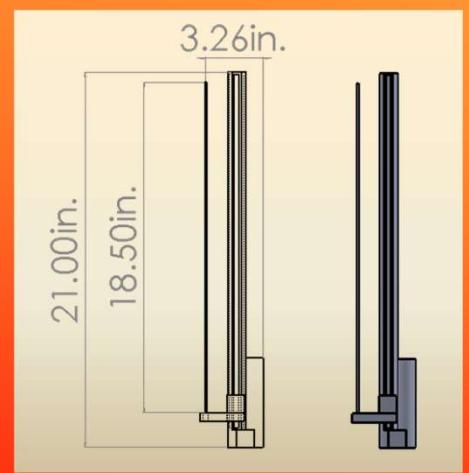


The stabilization system will be used to prevent rocket from rolling off the rail and damaging rail buttons

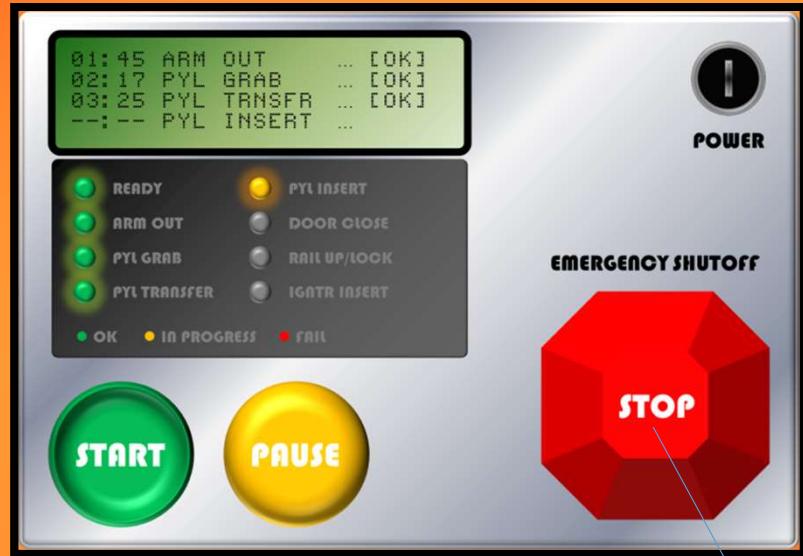
# THE IGNITER INSERTION SYSTEM



We are also using a linear actuator, of the same type as the erection system, for the igniter insertion system. It will push the igniter a set distance into the motor.



# CONTROL DRIVER



Control panel

There will be LED display designed to communicate the conditions and progress of the AGSE



E-stop button



Information display



Driver electronics

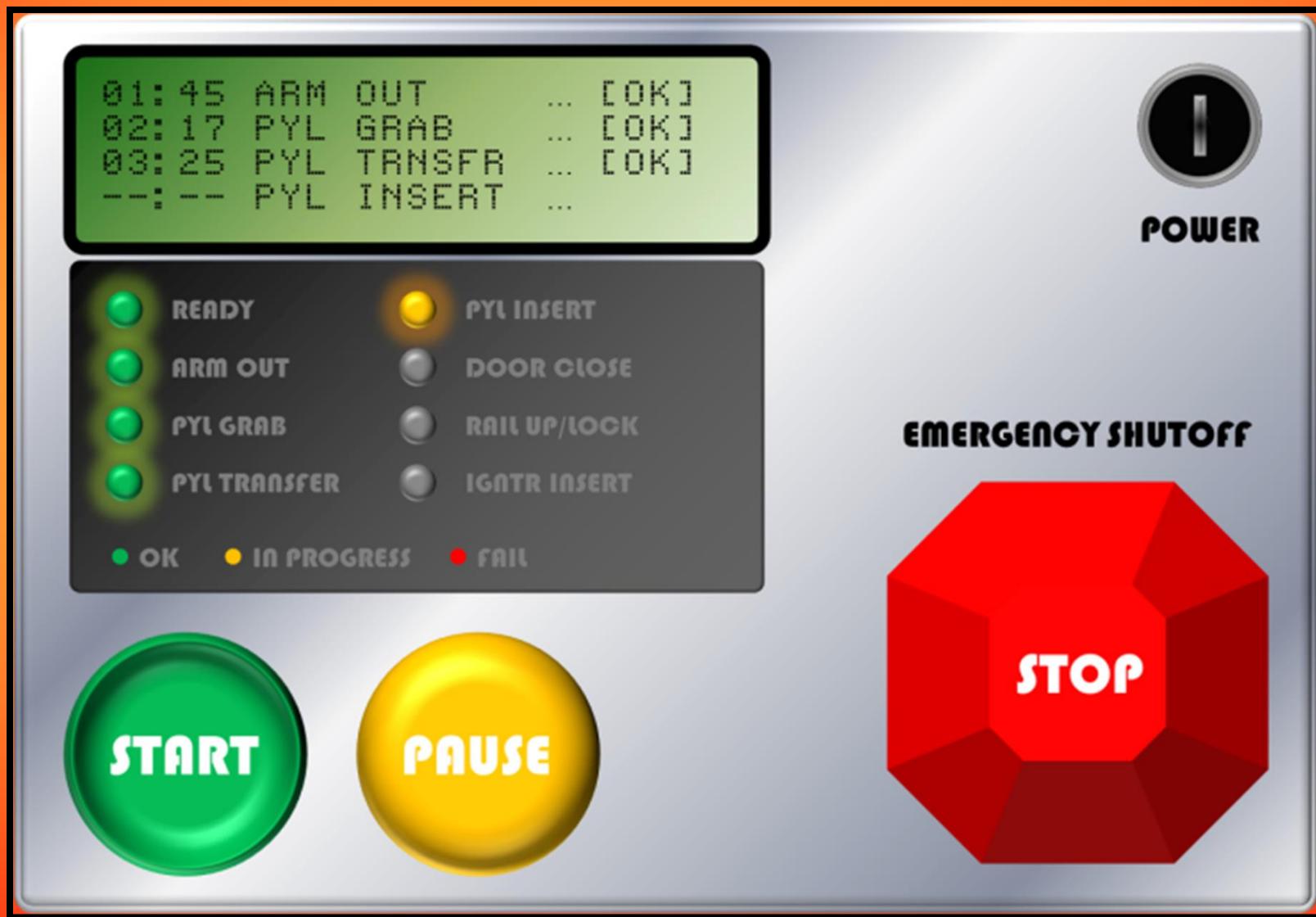


Stack lights (information)

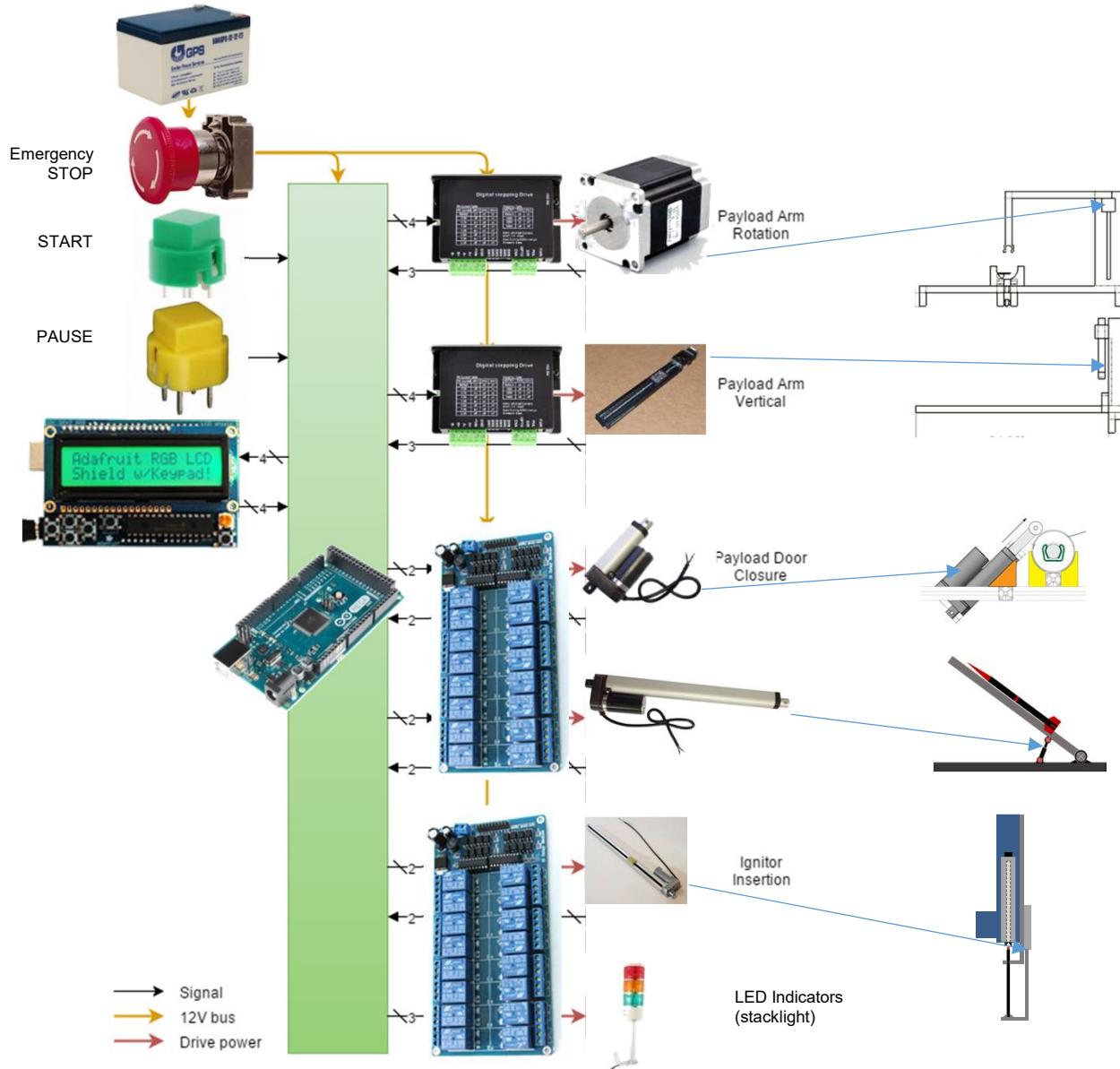


Power source (battery)

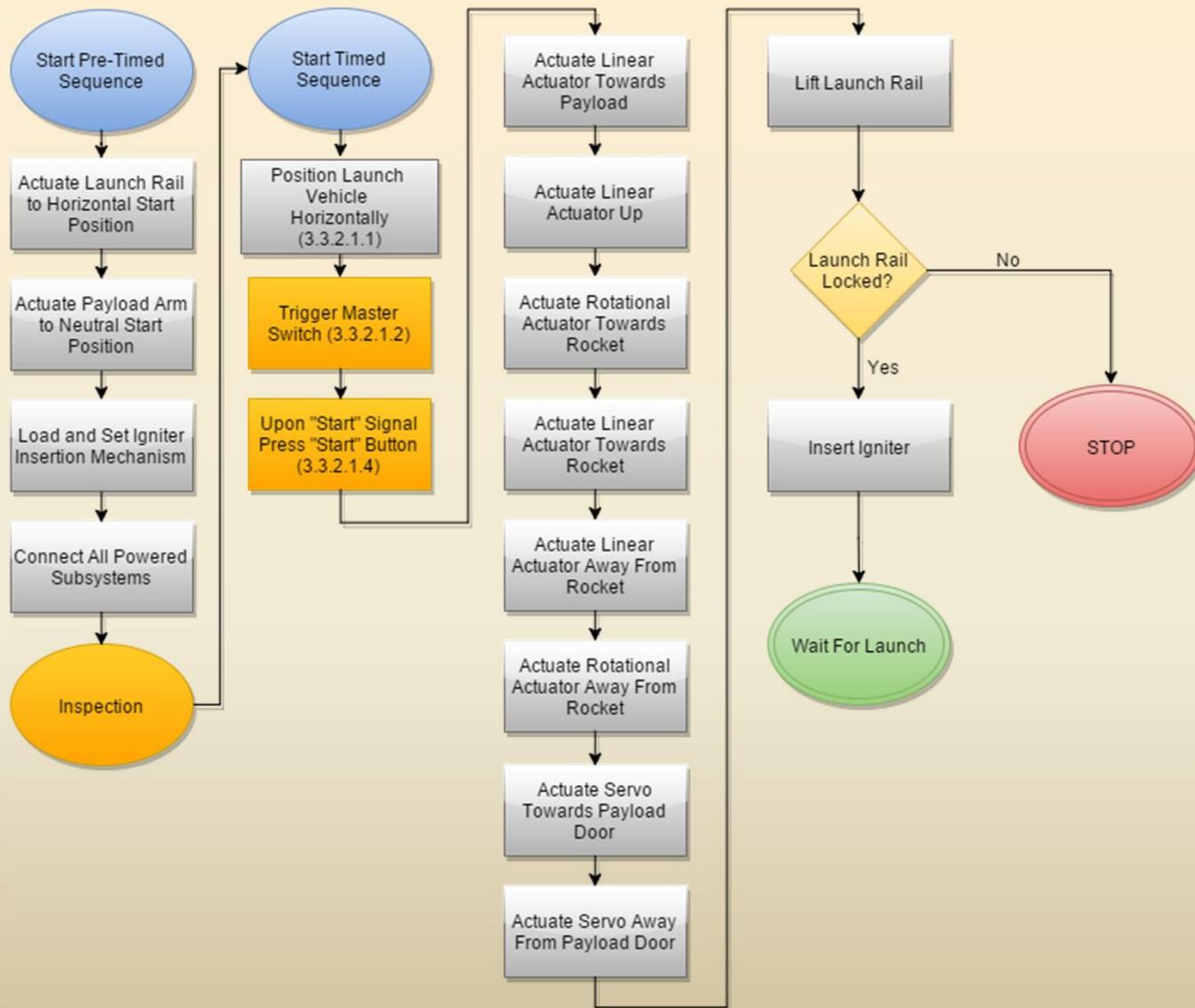
# CONTROL PANEL



# AGSE BLOCK DIAGRAM



# PROCESS FLOW



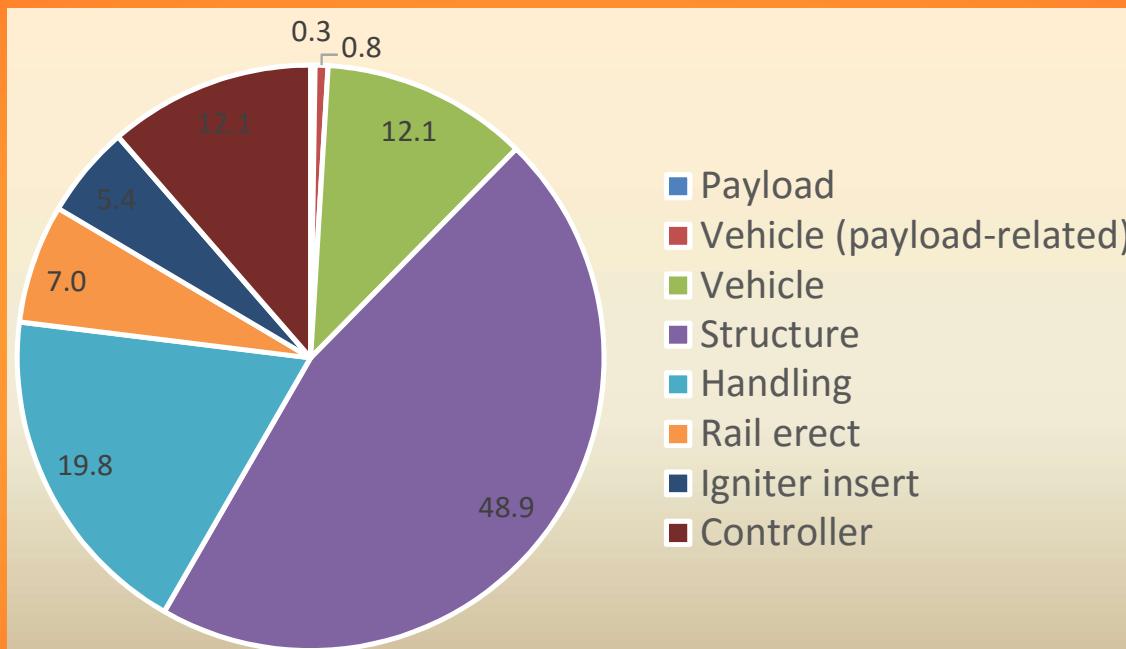
# TIME TO COMPLETE SEQUENCE

Step #	Action	Duration [sec]	
1	Press button to start sequence	2	
2	Rotate arm 90° over payload	15	
3	Lower arm to engage payload	20	
4	Raise arm with payload	20	
5	Rotate arm 180° over vehicle	30	
6	Lower arm to push in payload	10	
7	Retreat vertically	10	
8	Rotate arm 90° to neutral position	10	
9	Push door closed	8	
9b	Check microswitches	1	
10	Retreat door push plunger	8	
10b	Check microswitches	1	
11	Erect launch rail	30	
11b	Check microswitches	1	
12	Insert igniter	18	
12b	Check microswitches	1	
13	Signal "complete"	1	
		186	sec
		3.1	min

# KEY COMPONENTS AND SUBSYSTEMS

Subsystem	Description	Manufacturer/Supplier	Model
Payload retention	Dowel holder / spring steel clip	True value	
Payload retention	Eyeglass case spring hinge	Donation from local Costco	n/a
Payload retention	Magnet	KH magnetics	
Structure	8020 rail	club inventory, McMaster-Carr	
Structure	8020 assembly hardware	McMaster-Carr	
Handling	Laser line generator	Craftsman/Amazon	
Handling	Gripper	True value	
Handling	Linear motor stage (8") / vertical	THK/eBay	N/A
Handling	Stepper motor with encoder	StepperOnline (NEMA 17/23 size)	N/A
Handling	Linear actuator (2") / door closer	Everest Supply or Firgelli	
Erection	Linear actuator (18")	Everest Supply or Firgelli	N/A
Erection	Pillow sleeve bearing	McMaster-Carr	
Erection	Shoulder bolt	McMaster-Carr	
Insertion	Linear actuator with track mount	Firgelli	
Insertion	Carbon-fiber tube	McMaster-Carr	
Controller	Microcontroller	Sparkfun	Arduino Uno R3
Controller	Relay shield	Sparkfun	
Controller	Stepper driver with microstep	TBD	
Controller	Battery, 12 Pb-acid/gel	Tenergy or similar	e.g., TB12120
Controller	Indicator tower	uxcell/Amazon	12V tricolor

# MASS ALLOCATION ESTIMATE



## Subsystem Mass (lbs) Comment

Vehicle (payload-related)	Payload	0.3	just the PVC payload and weighting
	Vehicle (payload-related)	0.8	includes items required to retain and secure the payload
	Vehicle	12.1	all aspects of the rocket including structure, propulsion, recovery, telemetry
	Structure	48.9	the static superstructure of the ASGE
	Handling	19.8	the robotic motion control for acquiring and depositing the payload
	Rail erect	7.0	lifting the launch rail into a near-vertical position
	Igniter insert	5.4	insertion of the igniter into the engine
	Controller	12.1	all aspects of control including microcontroller, drivers, indicators, safety lights, housing, and power
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>106.4</b>	

# VERIFICATION PLAN

## Tested Components

- **C1:** AGSE Frame
- **C2:** Rail Erection System
- **C3:** End Effector
- **C4:** Payload Retrieval System
- **C5:** Igniter Insertion System
- **C6:** Control Panel
- **C7:** Emergency Stop Button
- **C8:** Power Source

# VERIFICATION PLAN

## Verifications

- **V1 Integrity Test:** applying force to verify durability.
- **V2 Force Stall Test:** applying force to verify stall force of motor.
- **V3 Holding Force Test:** applying force to verify holding force of motor.
- **V4 Time Test:** verifying time taken for action.
- **V5 Functionality Test:** test of basic functionality of a device on the ground.
- **V6 Power Draw Test:** determining the amount of power required to sustain this component for a certain amount of time.
- **V7 Conditions Test:** verifying that components will function in launch conditions.
- **V8 Hard Stop Test:** verifying that all hard stops function.
- **V9 Weight Test:** verifying that the AGSE remains under 150 pounds
- **V10 Volume Test:** verifying that the AGSE does not surpass the allowable volume

# VERIFICATION MATRIX

	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8	V9	V10
C1	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3		3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	3.3.3.3
C2	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.5.6	3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	3.3.3.3
C3	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3		3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	
C4	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.5.6	3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	3.3.3.3
C5	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.5.6	3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	3.3.3.3
C6	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3		3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	
C7	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3		3.3.2.1	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	
C8	3.1	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.2.1.3		3.3.3.2	3.3.6.1.1	3.3.4	3.3.2.1.3	3.3.3.3	

P = planned, C = successfully completed

Status: Verification will begin after PDR conference.

# OUTREACH PLAN

Date	School	Outreach	# of People (estimate)
<b>Oct. 8, 2015</b>	Cub Scouts	Pneumatic Rockets, Displays, Q&A	50
<b>Oct. 16, 2015</b>	Randall Elementary	West High Homecoming Parade	200
<b>Oct. 24 &amp; 25, 2015</b>	Wisconsin Science Festival	Pneumatic Rockets, Rocket and Payload Displays	3070
<b>Feb. 13, 2016</b>	Physics Open House	Pneumatic Rockets, Displays, presentations	300
<b>Mar. 12, 2016</b>	Franklin and Randall Elementary Super Science Saturday	Pneumatic Rockets, Displays	100
<b>Mar. 19, 2016</b>	O'Keefe Middle School Super Science Saturday	Pneumatic Rockets, Displays	80
<b>Apr. 1, 2016</b>	Kids' Express	Pneumatic Rockets	50
			Total: 3850

# OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY



Wisconsin Science Festival

MCC Grant Acceptance Ceremony



Painting at Madison Science Museum



**QUESTIONS?**