Carousel mechanism design

Project: *LuSEE-Night*System: *Antenna Carousel*

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Abstract: Assessment of carousel (a.k.a. "turntable") mechanism and torques for the LuSEE-Night lunar instrument. The radio antennas rotate on a platform. Key design parameters and options for the rotation mechanism are considered here.

Preliminaries

Units and coordinate systems

Except where otherwise specified...

- all units are in meters, kilograms, newtons, and seconds
- all inertias and positions are with respect to a global coordinate system, with Z axis concentric to rotation axis

Python initializations and units

General material properties

```
In [2]: rho_SS = 8000 # stainless steel density
    rho_Ti = 4430 # titanium density
    rho_Al = 2700 # aluminum density
    rho_BeCu = 8300 # beryllium copper density
    rho_Cu = 8900 # copper density
    rho_plastic = 1300 # generic plastic density
    E_Cu = 117e9 # copper modulus of elasticity
    E_plastic = 2e9 # generic plastic modulus of elasticity
```

```
E_BeCu = 130e9 # beryllium copper modulus of elasticity
nu_BeCu = 0.3 # beryllium copper poisson ratio
```

Carbon fiber properties

Other basic system properties

```
In [4]: n_ant = 4 # number of antennas
  operating_range_deg = 180 # degrees, within which the turntable needs to be able to protation_range_margin_deg = 5 # degrees, extra mechanical positioning range for antity
  rotation_range_margin = math.radians(rotation_range_margin_deg)
  rotation_range = [math.radians(operating_range_deg)/2 + rotation_range_margin] # radiation_range = max(rotation_range) - min(rotation_range)
  print(f'Total rotation range = {total_rotation_range:.3f} rad = {math.degrees(total_rotation_range)
```

Total rotation range = 3.316 rad = 190.0 deg

Key mechanical design criteria

The design criteria below will be used in sizing components and ensuring sufficient mechanical factors of safey. These criteria are informed by key recommendations in NASA's General Environmental Verification Standards (GEVS) (accessed 2022-07-09).

Structural load limit

The limit loads for the carousel mechanism are derived from GEVS Table 2.4-3, *Generalized Random Vibration Test Levels*. For components weighing less than 22.7 kg, an overall qualification level (in G_{rms}) is directly specified. We then apply a proof factor per section 2.4.1.4.1, and a design factor to get the design limit. The design factor accommodated uncertainty in material properties and tolerances in the proof test method. These limits are applied for nominal accelerations in 3 orthogonal axes.

```
In [5]: Grms_qual = 14.1
    proof_factor = 1.25
    design_factor = 1.2
    Grms_design = Grms_qual * proof_factor * design_factor
    print(f'Design load level = {Grms_design:.1f} G(rms)')
Design load level = 21.1 G(rms)
```

Torque margin

Torque margin (TM) for the carousel turntable is assessed per GEVS section 2.4.5.3. Two safety factors, FS_k and FS_v are applied to the "known" and "variable" torques in the system. GEVS states:

The minimum available driving torque for the mechanism shall be determined based on the FS listed above. The Torque Margin (TM) shall be greater than zero and shall be calculated using the following formula:

$$TM = rac{T_{avail}}{FS_k \sum T_{known} + FS_v \sum T_{variable}} - 1$$

In the present study, the available driving torque T_{avail} is considered at output of the the gearmotor (which is the component whose performance requirements we are aiming to specify). The torques are defined in GEVS as:

Driving Torques

 T_{avail} = Minimum Available Torque or Force generated by the mechanism at worst case environmental conditions at any time in its life. If motors are used in the system, T_{avail} shall be determined at the output of the motor, not including gear heads or gear trains at its output based on minimum supplied motor voltage. T_{avail} similarly applies to other actuators such as springs, pyrotechnics, solenoids, heat actuated devices, etc.

Resistive Torques

 $\sum T_{known}$ = Sum of the fixed torques or forces that are known and quantifiable such as accelerated inertias ($T=I\alpha$) and not influenced by friction, temperature, life, etc. A constant Safety Factor is applied to the calculated torque.

 $\sum T_{variable}$ = Sum of the torques or forces that may vary over environmental conditions and life such as static or dynamic friction, alignment effects, latching forces, wire harness loads, damper drag, variations in lubricant effectiveness, including degradation or depletion of lubricant over life, etc.

Here we use the highest (PDR phase) torque safety factor values from GEVS:

Thermal criteria

The carousel system must survive the lunar day/night cycle. It must operate at intermediate temperatures around dusk/dawn.

The plots below, showing lunar temperature as a function of hour and latitude, were retrieved July 2022 from an article (exact reference?) found through citations here:

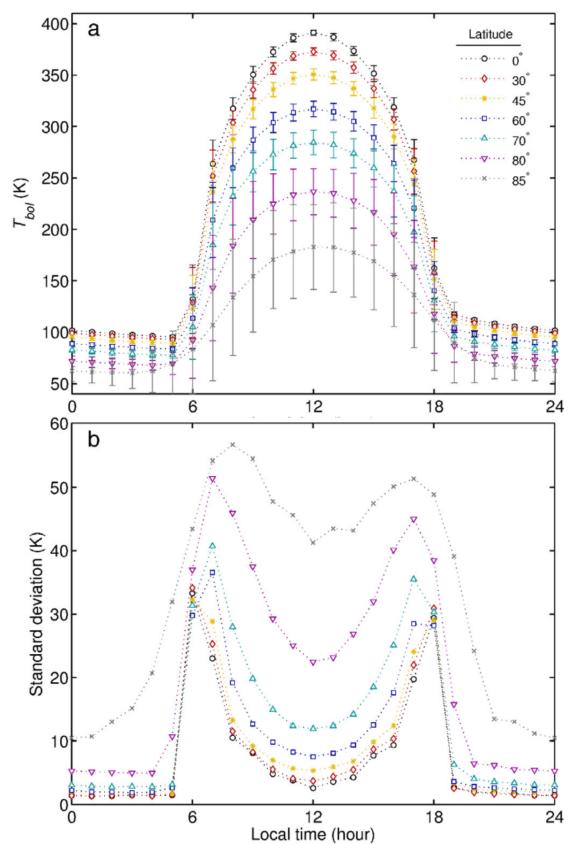


Fig. 9. (a) Zonal mean bolometric temperatures and (b) standard deviation versus local time for latitude bands 0° , 30° , 45° 60° , 70° , 80° , and 85° .

We anticipate LuSEE-Night will land at one of two sites:

```
1. 155^{o} E and 15^{o} S 2. 175^{o} E and 22^{o} S
```

These indicate that the lander will experience temperature extrema of:

```
In [7]: temp_ranges = {'extrema': [90, 390]} # Kelvin
```

Survival temperature range

For design and testing purposes, the survival temperature range is obtained by increasing the expected lunar range by a margin on either end.

Operating temperature range

The operating temperature for carousel rotation will be less extreme. We want a range which is moderate enough to includes practical motors, transmissions, and bearings, yet wide enough to allow a significant period in the dusk/dawn time window where ground-based operators can effectively send commands, monitor the response, and make any adjustments if necessary. A good operating temperature range also offers practical conditions for testing in the lab.

? Under the assumption of a perfluoropolyether (PFPE) based lubricant in the gears and bearings ... ?

? For what temperature range do we have equipment on hand to practically test operation of the motors, bearings, transmissions---the full turntable assembly---in vacuum?

Considering these factors, we propose an operating temperature range of 280 K - 320 K, which should provide generous time windows (\sim 1 lunar hour \approx 30 earth hours each), at lunar dawn and dusk.

```
In [9]: temp_ranges['operating'] = [280, 320]
```

Temperature ranges summary

```
In [10]: for name, temp_range in temp_ranges.items():
    for unit, func in K_to_other.items():
        converted = [func(T) for T in temp_range]
        print(f'Temperature range = {min(converted):+4.0f} to {max(converted):+4.0f} {
        print('')
```

```
Temperature range = +90 to +390 °K (extrema)
Temperature range = -183 to +117 °C (extrema)
Temperature range = -298 to +242 °F (extrema)

Temperature range = +80 to +400 °K (survival)
Temperature range = -193 to +127 °C (survival)
Temperature range = -316 to +260 °F (survival)

Temperature range = +280 to +320 °K (operating)
Temperature range = +7 to +47 °C (operating)
Temperature range = +44 to +116 °F (operating)
```

Loads

Total mass budget for the carousel system is:

```
In [11]: mass_budget_total = 7.8 # kg
```

Some fraction of this mass (in particular the drive motor and transmission) will be static.

For the purposes of this document, we subdivide the rotating payload into the following estimated masses, moments, and transmission ratios.

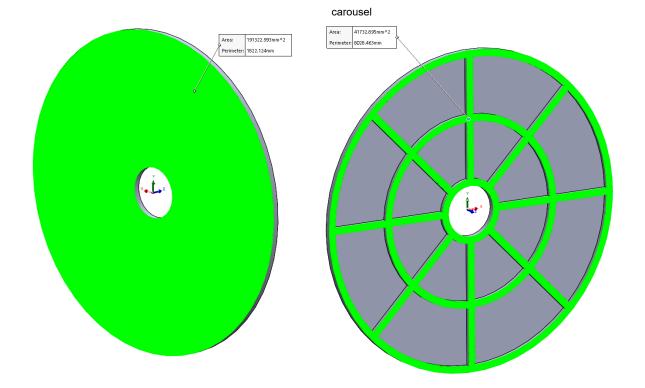
Turntable plate

Three common engineering materials are being considered for the turntable platter: aluminum, titanium, or carbon fiber reinforced plastic (CFRP).

```
In [12]: plate_od = 0.500 # outer diameter
   plate_id = 0.079 # inner diameter
   plate_t = 0.010 # thickness
   plate_r2, plate_r1 = plate_od/2, plate_id/2 # radii
   plate_area = math.pi * (plate_r2**2 - plate_r1**2)
   uniform_plate_inertia_over_mass = 0.5 * (plate_r1**2 + plate_r2**2)
```

Bending stiffness is achieved either through a honeycomb core or ribs (of which a nominal design might look like that illustrated here:

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```
In [13]: core_vf = 0.15 # honeycomb core volume fraction, typically about 8-32% depending on de ribs_af = 0.20 # approx area fraction of some nominal ribs stiffening design for turnt
```

CFRP sandwich construction

CFRP would have a higher stiffness per unit mass than the metals, as well as some natural structural damping. We would likely use an intermediate modulus fiber in a quasi-isotropic, balanced, symmetric layup. Matrix would be 350° F (450 K) cured resin such as Toray RS-3C, commonly used in spacecraft. The design would need to be sufficiently low-strain such that the total temperature change from processing (450 K) down to lunar night (100 K) does not exceed fiber strain limits. A honeycomb sandwich construction would be most mass-efficient, with titanium or aluminum inserts at bolted connections. Thermal expansion effects would be low, several parts per million (ppm) per degree K. Low out-of-plane thermal conductivity would be of some benefit in reducing the heat transfer rate from the turntable to the rest of the spacecraft below it. The main detractions of CFRP are the higher design and fabrication costs.

```
In [14]: plate_sandwich_skin_t = 0.0016
   plate_sandwich_core_t = plate_t - 2 * plate_sandwich_skin_t
   plate_sandwich_skin_rho = cfrp_density
   plate_sandwich_core_rho = rho_Al * core_vf
   plate_sandwich_mass = (2*plate_sandwich_skin_rho*plate_sandwich_skin_t + plate_sandwich_plate_masses = {'CFRP_sandwich': plate_sandwich_mass}
```

Metal ribbed plate construction

Material would be either titanium or aluminum.

A machined aluminum plate would be the least expensive to fabricate. Detractions are the higher CTE (\sim 12-25 ppm/K over the 100K-400K temperature range) and reduced stress allowables at sustained high temperature (7075-T651 aluminum, for example, may have yield

strength reduction from \sim 500 MPa at room temperature to \sim 180 MPa when sustained at 150° C (423 K). The high thermal conductivity of aluminum allows faster heat transfer toward the spacecraft. All these detractions can likely be mitigated with use of appropriate design allowables and thermal breaks.

Grade 5 titanium would be a robust solution. Material cost would be comparable to CFRP, though fabrication complexity would be simpler. CTE is relatively low and stable (\sim 5-9 ppm/K over range 100K-400K), strength is high, and the very low thermal conductivity (\sim 5-8 W/m*K) would provide some natural insulation of the rest of the spacecraft from the exposed turntable's temperature. For cost and ease of manufacturing we would probably not machine the plate out of thick titanium, but rather screw together a thinner face sheet with stiffening ribs.

Plate construction options summary

```
In [16]:    plate_inertias = {}
    for name, mass in plate_masses.items():
        plate_inertias[name] = mass * uniform_plate_inertia_over_mass # note this uniform
        print(f'Turntable mass = {plate_masses[name]:.3f} kg, inertia = {plate_inertias[na}

Turntable mass = 1.566 kg, inertia = 0.0502 kg/m^2 (CFRP sandwich)
Turntable mass = 1.695 kg, inertia = 0.0543 kg/m^2 (aluminum)
Turntable mass = 2.782 kg, inertia = 0.0891 kg/m^2 (titanium)

In [17]:  # For purposes of motor sizing, select the heaviest option.
    plate_mass = max(plate_masses.values())
    plate_inertia = max(plate_inertias.values())
```

Antennas

The four antennas will be stacer tubes, equally spaced around the turntable. Deployed length is 3 m for all antennas. Deployment angle is slightly above horizontal, counteracting gravity sag. Here this slight bend is neglected, and treated as purely horizontal.

```
In [18]: boom_deployed_wall_in = 0.005  # inches, antenna approx wall thickness when deployed
    boom_deployed_diam_in = 0.35  # inches, antenna approx diameter when deployed
    boom_wall, boom_diam, boom_area, boom_length, boom_inertia = {}, {}, {}, {}, {},
    boom_wall['deployed'] = boom_deployed_wall_in * m_per_in
    boom_diam['deployed'] = boom_deployed_diam_in * m_per_in
    boom_area['deployed'] = math.pi * boom_diam['deployed'] * boom_wall['deployed']
    boom_length['deployed'] = 3.0
    boom_volume = boom_length['deployed'] * boom_area['deployed']
    boom_rho = rho_BeCu  # select material for antenna
```

```
boom_mass = boom_volume * boom_rho
print(f'Antenna boom mass = {boom_mass:.3f} kg each')

Antenna boom mass = 0.088 kg each

In [19]: boom_length['stowed'] = 0.105 # assumption based on July 2022 CAD model
boom_area['stowed'] = boom_volume / boom_length['stowed']
boom_diam['stowed'] = boom_diam['deployed'] # approx guess
boom_wall['stowed'] = boom_area['stowed'] / (math.pi * boom_diam['stowed'])
```

Each antenna also has a tip piece. The mass and size are estimated here from the July 2022 CAD model.

```
In [20]: ant_tip_mass = 0.029
         ant tip length = 0.156
         ant_tip_diam = boom_diam['deployed'] - boom_wall['deployed']
          ant tip inertia about cg = ant tip mass/48 * (3*ant tip diam**2 + 4*ant tip length**2)
          print(f'Antenna mass (boom + tip) = {boom_mass + ant_tip_mass:.3f} kg each')
         Antenna mass (boom + tip) = 0.117 kg each
         boom_root_radial_position = plate_od/2 - boom_length['stowed'] # where the antenna bas
In [21]:
          ant inertia = {}
          for k in ('deployed', 'stowed'):
             boom_OD = boom_diam[k] + boom_wall[k] / 2
             boom ID = boom diam[k] - boom wall[k] / 2
             boom_inertia_about_cg = boom_mass/48 * (3*boom_OD**2 + 3*boom_ID**2 + 4*boom_lengt
             boom offset = boom root radial position + boom length[k] / 2
             ant tip offset = boom root radial position + boom length[k] - ant tip length/2
             boom inertia = boom inertia about cg + boom mass * boom offset**2
             ant_tip_inertia = ant_tip_inertia_about_cg + ant_tip_mass * ant_tip_offset**2
             ant inertia[k] = boom inertia + ant tip inertia
             print(f'Antenna inertia (boom + tip) = {ant inertia[k]:.4f} kg/m^2 each ({k})')
         Antenna inertia (boom + tip) = 0.5781 kg/m^2 each (deployed)
         Antenna inertia (boom + tip) = 0.0044 kg/m^2 each (stowed)
```

Antenna deployers

As of July 2022, the deployers and attached hardware (including pre-amp?) are assumed to be \sim 0.75 kg per antenna. This value will change somewhat as the design is refined.

For the purposes of this calculation, the deployer geometry is treated as a cuboid with side lengths estimated based on the stowed antenna length.

```
In [22]: deployer_mass = 0.75
    deployer_length = boom_length['stowed'] * 3
    deployer_width = boom_length['stowed']
    deployer_radial_position = plate_od / 2
    deployer_inertia_about_cg = deployer_mass / 12 * (deployer_width**2 + deployer_length*
    deployer_inertia = deployer_inertia_about_cg + deployer_mass * deployer_radial_positic
    print(f'Deployer mass = {deployer_mass:.3f} kg (each)')
    print(f'Deployer inertia = {deployer_inertia:.4} kg/m^2 (each)')

Deployer mass = 0.750 kg (each)
    Deployer inertia = 0.05377 kg/m^2 (each)
```

Central shaft and bearings

These rotating components are lumped together and approximated as a single tube of metal.

```
In [23]: central_od = 0.080  # outer diameter
    central_id = 0.070  # inner diameter
    central_length = 0.020  # length
    central_r1, central_r2 = central_id/2, central_od/2  # radii
    central_rho = rho_SS
    central_mass = central_rho * central_length * math.pi * (central_r2**2 - central_inertia = 0.5 * central_mass * (central_r1**2 + central_r2**2)
    print(f'Central shaft and bearing mass = {central_mass:.3f} kg')
    print(f'Central shaft and bearing inertia = {central_inertia:.4} kg/m^2')

Central shaft and bearing mass = 0.188 kg
    Central shaft and bearing inertia = 0.0002662 kg/m^2
```

Parallel-axis transmission

The motor will be mounted off-axis and parallel to the central bearing.

In the present study (July 2022), details of this transmission are not considered. For code completeness, a gear ratio is included, but here set to 1:1. A simple torque reduction factor is assumed, accounting for frictional loss in this transmission.

```
In [24]: # Note: The transmission ratio here does *not* include the internal gearing of the mot # This value is only about the transmission between it and the turntable. transmission_ratio = 1.0 / 1.0 # gearmotor output revolutions per turntable revolution transmission_efficiency = 0.90 # assumption based on typical roller chain drives
```

Motor shaft, gearhead, bearing

In the present study (July 2022), whose initial purpose is to define specifications for the motor, the internal details of the motor are not considered. They could be added to this study at a later date, after we have selected a specific motor model.

External dust seal

Some dust seal(s) will be required to prevent lunar dust from accessing the bearing and transmission. These impose some friction load on the assembly.

Here I assume the seal contact is made against a flat face by annular, thin-walled polyimide. In this approach, there would be one seal at the turntable rotation axis, and another at the motor output, covering the off-axis transmission components. (The motor may additionally have internal seals in its bearing at the output shaft, TBD.)

The seal at the central axis will bear either on the rotating turntable, or else be mounted to the turntable and bear on its opposing counterpart (i.e. the top plate or the central shaft support). Preload force will be relatively low, since only dust needs to be excluded.

Some comments are offered in another section about the option of alternatively, or additionally, having internal seals integral to the bearing. There are both advantages and disadvantages. It would be necessary for the bearing vendor to fabricate using a seal material with which we are comfortable at the lunar temperature extremes and in vacuum.

```
In [25]: seal_contact_radius = 0.080 # annulus of contact for the seals
    seal_contact_width = 0.003 # rough guess as to desirable contact width, will depend of
    seal_contact_pressure_millibar = 5 # rough guess as to desirable clamping pressure (pressure_contact_pressure = seal_contact_pressure_millibar * 1000
    seal_contact_area = 2 * math.pi * seal_contact_radius * seal_contact_width
    seal_clamping_force = seal_contact_pressure * seal_contact_area
    print(f'External dust seal at radius {seal_contact_radius:.3f} m: clamping force = {seal_contact_radius:.3f}
```

External dust seal at radius 0.080 m: clamping force = 7.5 N

Datasheet values for the static and dynamic friction coefficient of Vespel SP-1 are listed at 0.29 and 0.35, respectively. I presume a fixed, static value of 0.35 for the purposes of this calculation, and estimate a fixed torque based on the assumed contact annulus.

```
In [26]: seal_mu = 0.35
    seal_torque = seal_mu * seal_contact_radius * seal_clamping_force
    print(f'External dust seal static torque = {seal_torque:.3f} N*m = {seal_torque / Nm_relation | Nm_relation |
```

Bearing friction

For the purposes of preliminary overall system torque calculations, I presume a bearing with its own integrated dust seal. This may not be the case, as discussed in more detail in the bearing selection section below. But presently, in sizing the motor and transmission, I assume selection of a single Type-X, nitrile double-sealed, stainless steel bearing, e.g. Kaydon WA025XPO. The vendor provides a static torque value for this bearing, given default lubrication and temperature conditions:

```
In [27]: bearing_torque_ozin = 8.0 # oz*in
   bearing_torque = bearing_torque_ozin * Nm_per_ozin
   print(f'Central bearing static torque = {bearing_torque:.3f} N*m')
```

Central bearing static torque = 0.056 N*m

Harness

The primary elastic contributor to motor driving torque is the cable harness. Its torsional stiffness is estimated here by counting the number of conductors, assuming a diameter for each conductor, and then adding up their torsional stiffness plus their insulating coatings in parallel. The individual conductors are here treated as solid core, though in reality they would be stranded.

```
In [28]: wires_per_antenna = 20
    n_wires = n_ant * wires_per_antenna
    wire_diam_mm = 0.35
```

```
wire insul wall mm = 0.15 # wall thickness of insulator on wire
wire diam = wire diam mm / 1000
wire insul wall = wire insul wall mm / 1000
J wire = math.pi/32 * wire diam**4 # wire polar moment of inertia
J insul = math.pi/32 * ((wire diam + 2*wire insul wall)**4 - wire diam**4) # insulati
harness_length = 0.3 # estimated from July 2022 CAD model
shear modulus = lambda E: E / (2*(1 + 0.3)) # approx shear modulus for typical poisse
insulated_wire_stiffness = (shear_modulus(E_Cu) * J_wire + shear_modulus(E_plastic) *
harness_stiffness = n_wires * insulated_wire_stiffness
harness max torque = harness stiffness * max(rotation range)
for unit, scale in {'N*m/rad': 1.0, 'N*mm/deg': 180/math.pi*1000, 'oz*in/deg': 180/mat
    print(f'Harness approx torsional stiffness = {harness stiffness*scale:.4g} {unit}'
for unit, scale in {'N*m': 1.0, 'N*mm': 1000., 'oz*in': 1/Nm_per_ozin}.items():
    print(f'Harness max torque resistance = {harness_max_torque*scale:.4g} {unit}')
Harness approx torsional stiffness = 0.02097 N*m/rad
Harness approx torsional stiffness = 1202 N*mm/deg
Harness approx torsional stiffness = 170.2 oz*in/deg
Harness max torque resistance = 0.03477 N*m
Harness max torque resistance = 34.77 N*mm
Harness max torque resistance = 4.924 oz*in
```

Gear inertia

The vendor datasheet for Globe Motors A-1430, as an example, indicates a maximum gear inertia. While included here for completeness, in practice this value is negligible with respect to the overall system. (This fact is displayed further down, see printout in the "Known" torques calculation below.)

```
In [29]: max_gear_inertia_ozinsec2 = 1.8e-6 # oz*in*sec^2, Globe A-1430
max_gear_inertia = max_gear_inertia_ozinsec2 * Nm_per_ozin # kg*m^2
```

Performance

Our needs for rotational speed and acceleration are relatively low.

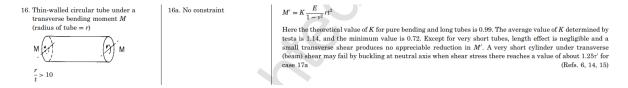
Speed

Repositioning will take on the order of minutes. The constraints imposed here are generally based on rough practical assumptions. There are no strong constraints at either the too-slow or too-fast ends of this range.

```
In [30]: min_slew_time = 5. # when going the maximum slew distance
    max_slew_time = 300. # when going the maximum slew distance
    antibacklash_move_deg = 3.0
    antibacklash_move = math.radians(antibacklash_move_deg)
    max_slew_distance = total_rotation_range + antibacklash_move
    min_allowable_speed = max_slew_distance / (max_slew_time)
    max_allowable_speed = max_slew_distance / (min_slew_time)
    print(f'Min allowable speed = {min_allowable_speed/radpersec_per_rpm:.3g} rpm = {math.print(f'Max allowable speed = {max_allowable_speed/radpersec_per_rpm:.3g} rpm = {math.print(f'Max allowable speed = 0.107 rpm = 0.6 deg/s.
    Max allowable speed = 6.43 rpm = 38.6 deg/s.
```

Acceleration

Acceleration must not exceed the buckling strength of the extended antenna. Here we estimate the buckling critical load per Roark's 7th Edition:



```
In [31]: buckling_design_safety_factor = 100  # stay conservative, since this is both Euler ins
tube_transverse_buckling_K = 0.72  # using minimum value here, to stay on conservative
boom_root_radial_position = plate_od
boom_critical_moment = tube_transverse_buckling_K * E_BeCu / (1 - nu_BeCu**2) * boom_l
boom_allowable_moment = boom_critical_moment / buckling_design_safety_factor
boom_allowable_accel = boom_allowable_moment / ant_inertia['deployed']
boom_allowable_accel_period = max_allowable_speed / boom_allowable_accel
print(f'Antenna critical buckling moment = {boom_critical_moment:.1f} N*m')
print(f'Applying safety factor of {buckling_design_safety_factor} --> allowable moment
print(f'--> max_allowable_acceleration = {boom_allowable_accel_period:.3g} s
```

```
Antenna critical buckling moment = 4976.9 N*m

Applying safety factor of 100 --> allowable moment = 49.8 N*m

--> max allowable acceleration = 86.1 rad/s^2 = 4932.8 deg/s^2 = 13.7 rev/s^2

--> min allowable period of acceleration = 0.00783 sec
```

The boom buckling-limited acceleration is indeed many orders of magnitude faster than we expect any practical real-world system to perform, and hence is ignored for the remainder of the calculations.

We assert limits on nominal acceleration based on the margin of extra mechanical range we are mechanically providing the turntable. We prefer the system to be capable of fully accelerating within about twice that angular distance. This is not a hard physical constraint, just a practical consideration.

Torque margin calculation

Resistive known torques

```
In [33]: total_inertia = plate_inertia + n_ant * (ant_inertia['deployed'] + deployer_inertia) -
T_known_range = [total_inertia * a for a in nom_accel]
T_known_range_ozin = [T / Nm_per_ozin for T in T_known_range]
print(f'Total payload inertia (i.e. not including motor) = {total_inertia:.4g} kg*m^2
```

```
print(f'(Note: max gear inertia {max gear inertia:.3g} kg*m^2 represents a fraction {m
print(f'Possible range for total "known" resistive torque @ min accel = {min(T_known_r
print(f'
                                                       ... @ max accel = {max(T known r
# Select a single nominal T known
# Note that GEVS torque margins, applied later below, will add significant torque to t
# In other words, this is not the place to apply large margin.
T_known_margin = 0.01 # small, arbitrary fraction between the (wide-ranging) min and
T_known = T_known_margin * (max(T_known_range) - min(T_known_range)) + min(T_known_range)
T known ozin = T known / Nm per ozin
print(f'\nNominal design value selected for total "known" resistive torque = {T known:
Total payload inertia (i.e. not including motor) = 2.617 kg*m^2
(Note: max gear inertia 1.27e-08 kg*m^2 represents a fraction 4.9e-09 of total.)
Possible range for total "known" resistive torque @ min accel = 0.000945 N*m = 0.134
oz*in
                                               ... @ max accel = 3.4 N*m = 482 oz*in
```

Nominal design value selected for total "known" resistive torque = $0.035 \, N*m = 4.95 \, oz*in$

Resistive variable torques

Minimum driving torque

We use the resistive known and variable torques, in combination with the GEVS safety factors, to determine the minimum allowable motor torque.

```
In [35]: TM = 0.0 # set to 0 for minimum allowable, i.e. positive torque margin
   T_avail_min = (TM + 1) * (FSk * T_known + FSv * max(T_variable))
   print(f'For positive torque margin, with safety factors FSk = {FSk} and FSv = {FSv},\r
        f'minimum gearmotor torque shall be T_avail = {T_avail_min:.3g} N*m = {T_avail_n}
   For positive torque margin, with safety factors FSk = 2.0 and FSv = 4.0,
   minimum gearmotor torque shall be T avail = 1.4 N*m = 198 oz*in
```

Maximum driving torque (buckling constraint)

As discussed above, the acceleration rate to cause antenna boom buckling is many orders of magnitude outside what any practical motor in this application will achieve. This is confirmed below, by a simple scaling argument:

To even approach the boom buckling safety factor 100, available motor driving torque would have to be >= 6444.3 N*m = 912588.2 oz*in

Appendix: Motor selection

As of July 2022, we have been presuming usage of Globe Motor A-1430. This model indeed is offered with reduction ratios that deliver 300 oz-in of torque. Therefore we can proceed further with this motor family.

At the nominal operating voltage, the Globe Motors have two armature winding options:

Among enclosed type motors, the family includes numerous options. The 12 gearhead configurations with max continous torque > = 45 oz*in are tested below:

```
globe_gear = {'43A147': {'speed reduction ratio': 321,
In [38]:
                                    'torque multiplier ratio': 130,
                                    'length (in)': 3.11,
                                    'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 45.,
                                   },
                        '43A148': {'speed reduction ratio': 485,
                                    'torque multiplier ratio': 200,
                                    'length (in)': 3.11,
                                    'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 70.,
                        '43A149': {'speed reduction ratio': 733,
                                    'torque multiplier ratio': 300,
                                    'length (in)': 3.11,
                                    'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 100.,
                                   },
                        '43A150': {'speed reduction ratio': 1108,
                                    'torque multiplier ratio': 450,
                                    'length (in)': 3.11,
                                    'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 150.,
                                   },
                        '43A151': {'speed reduction ratio': 1853,
                                    'torque multiplier ratio': 600,
                                    'length (in)': 3.28,
```

```
'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 200.,
           },
 '43A152': {'speed reduction ratio': 2799,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 900,
            'length (in)': 3.28,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
 '43A153': {'speed reduction ratio': 4230,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 1400,
            'length (in)': 3.28,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
           },
 '43A154': {'speed reduction ratio': 6391,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 2100,
            'length (in)': 3.28,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
           },
 '43A155': {'speed reduction ratio': 10689,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 2800,
            'length (in)': 3.45,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
           },
 '43A156': {'speed reduction ratio': 16150,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 4200,
            'length (in)': 3.45,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
 '43A157': {'speed reduction ratio': 24403,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 6400,
            'length (in)': 3.45,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
           },
 '43A158': {'speed reduction ratio': 36873,
            'torque multiplier ratio': 9700,
            'length (in)': 3.45,
            'max continuous torque (oz*in)': 300.,
           },
}
```

Speed is calculated by a linear assumption for the torque/speed curve, i.e.:

$$\omega_rpprox (1-rac{ au_r}{ au_o})\omega_o$$

where:

```
\omega_r = angular speed of rotor
```

 ω_o = no load speed

 τ_r = torque of rotor

 τ_o = stall torque

Electrical power consumed, mechanical power output, and efficiency of this conversion are estimated:

$$P_{elec}pprox IV+I^2R=rac{ au_r}{K_t}V+\left(rac{ au_r}{K_t}
ight)^2R$$

$$P_{mech} = au_g \omega_g pprox rac{eta_ au}{eta_\omega} au_r \omega_r$$

$$\eta = rac{P_{mech}}{P_{elec}} = rac{eta_{ au}}{eta_{\omega}}rac{K_t}{V}\omega_r$$

where:

I = current

V = voltage

R = resistance

 K_t = motor torque constant (N*m/A or oz*in/A)

 τ_g = torque at gearhead output shaft

 ω_g = angular speed at gearhead output shaft

 $eta_{ au} = rac{ au_g}{ au_r}$ = torque multiplier ratio of gearhead

 $eta_{\omega} = rac{\omega_r}{\omega_g}$ = speed reduction ratio of gearhead

```
In [39]: avg_harness_torque = harness_max_torque / 2
         estim_loads = {'min continuous tau_g (oz*in)': (min(T_static_friction) + min(T_friction)
                         'max continuous tau_g (oz*in)': (max(T_static_friction) + max(T_friction)
                         'min intermittent tau_g (oz*in)': (T_known + min(T_variable)) / Nm_per
                         'max intermittent tau_g (oz*in)': (T_known + max(T_variable)) / Nm_per_
         gearmotor = []
         for a, arm in globe_armature.items():
             tau0_ozin = arm['theoretical stall (oz*in)']
             w0_rpm = max(arm['no load speed (rpm)']) # pick one of the vendor values for simple
             Kt_ozinperA = arm['Kt (oz*in/A)']
             for g, gear in globe_gear.items():
                 gearmotor += [{'part': f'{g}{a}'}]
                  gearmotor[-1]['arm'] = arm
                  gearmotor[-1]['gear'] = gear
                  beta_t = gear['torque multiplier ratio']
                  beta_w = gear['speed reduction ratio']
                  gearmotor[-1]['rated tau_r (oz*in)'] = arm['max rated torque (oz*in)'] # prad
                  gearmotor[-1]['rated tau_g (oz*in)'] = gearmotor[-1][f'rated tau_r (oz*in)'] '
                  for prefix in ['rated'] + ['min continuous', 'max continuous', 'min intermitte
                      tau_g_ozin = gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} tau_g (oz*in)'] if prefix == 'rated'
                     tau_r_ozin = tau_g_ozin / beta_t
                     tau_r = tau_r_ozin * Nm_per_ozin
                     I = tau_r_ozin / Kt_ozinperA
                     VI = I * motor_voltage
                     w_r_rpm = (1 - tau_r_ozin / tau0_ozin) * w0_rpm
                     w_r = w_r_rpm * radpersec_per_rpm
                      gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} tau_r (oz*in)'] = tau_r_ozin
                      gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} I'] = I
                     gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} P_elec'] = VI + I**2 * arm['R']
```

```
gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} P_mech'] = beta_t / beta_w * tau_r * w_r
gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} w_r (rpm)'] = w_r_rpm
gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} w_g (rpm)'] = w_r_rpm / beta_w
gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} efficiency'] = gearmotor[-1][f'{prefix} P_mech']
gearmotor[-1]['gearhead continuous torque safety factor'] = gear['max continuous gearmotor[-1]['gearhead intermittent torque safety factor'] = 2 * gear['max continuous factor']
```

From this list, we select those motors which pass requirements on:

- continuous torque limit (per vendor datasheet)
- intermittent torque (per vendor datasheet)
- max and min design speeds (see section above)

```
In [40]: torque_sf_tol = 0.1 # allow a bit of tolerance here for borderline cases, since in pr
continuous_torque_ok, intermittent_torque_ok, max_speed_ok, min_speed_ok = set(), set(
    for idx, g in enumerate(gearmotor):
        if g['gearhead continuous torque safety factor'] >= (1.0 - torque_sf_tol):
             continuous_torque_ok.add(idx)
        if g['gearhead intermittent torque safety factor'] >= (1.0 - torque_sf_tol):
             intermittent_torque_ok.add(idx)
        if g['max continuous w_g (rpm)'] * radpersec_per_rpm <= max_allowable_speed:
             max_speed_ok.add(idx)
        if g['min continuous w_g (rpm)'] * radpersec_per_rpm >= min_allowable_speed:
              min_speed_ok.add(idx)
        selected_idxs = continuous_torque_ok & intermittent_torque_ok & max_speed_ok & min_speed_ok & min_s
```

Selected 3 motors, summarized below.

```
In [41]: for idx in sorted(selected_idxs):
             gm = gearmotor[idx]
             print(f'\n{horiz_rule}\n')
             print(f'Part: {gm["part"]}')
             print(f'Speed reduction ratio = {gm["gear"]["speed reduction ratio"]}')
             for kind in ['continuous', 'intermittent']:
                  print(f'Gearhead {kind} torque safety factor = {gm[f"gearhead {kind} torque sa
             for prefix, description in {'rated': 'Motor is rated for',
                                   'min continuous': 'Estimated lows during continuous operation
                                   'max continuous': 'Estimated highs during continuous operation
                                   'min intermittent': 'Estimated lows during intermittent opera
                                   'max intermittent': 'Estimated highs during intermittent oper
                                  }.items():
                  print('')
                  print(f'{description}:')
                 tau_g_ozin = gm[f"{prefix} tau_g (oz*in)"] if prefix == 'rated' else estim_loa
                  print(f'{tab}Output torque = {tau_g_ozin*Nm_per_ozin:.3f} N*m = {tau_g_ozin:.1
                  print(f'{tab}Output speed = {gm[f"{prefix} w_g (rpm)"]:.3f} rpm = {math.degree
                  print(f'{tab}Power consumption = {gm[f"{prefix} P_elec"]:.3f} W')
             for prefix in ['min', 'max']:
                 print('')
                  print(f'Max slew ({math.degrees(max_slew_distance):.1f}{deg}) at {prefix.upper
                 w_g = gm[f'{prefix} continuous w_g (rpm)'] * radpersec_per_rpm
                  continuous_tau_g = estim_loads[f'{prefix} continuous tau_g (oz*in)'] * Nm_per_
                  intermittent_tau_g = estim_loads[f'{prefix} intermittent tau_g (oz*in)'] * Nm_
                  accel_avg_tau_g = (continuous_tau_g + intermittent_tau_g) / 2
                  accel_avg = accel_avg_tau_g / total_inertia
                 accel_time = w_g / accel_avg
```

```
accel_energy = accel_time * gm[f'{prefix} intermittent P_elec']
accel_distance = 0.5 * accel_avg * accel_time**2
coast_distance = max_slew_distance - accel_distance # ignoring decel distance
coast_time = coast_distance / w_g
coast_energy = coast_time * gm[f'{prefix} continuous P_elec']
total_est_time = coast_time + accel_time
print(f'{tab}total time = {total_est_time:.1f} sec = {total_est_time/60:.1f} n
print(f'{tab}total energy = {coast_energy + accel_energy:.1f} J')
```

```
Part: 43A152-15
Speed reduction ratio = 2799
Gearhead continuous torque safety factor = 1.52 (must be ~ 1 or greater)
Gearhead intermittent torque safety factor = 11.53 (must be ~ 1 or greater)
Motor is rated for:
    Output torque = 1.398 N*m = 198.0 oz*in
    Output speed = 5.560 rpm = 33.36 deg/sec
    Power consumption = 2.977 W
Estimated lows during continuous operation:
    Output torque = 0.080 \text{ N*m} = 11.3 \text{ oz*in}
    Output speed = 6.044 \text{ rpm} = 36.27 \text{ deg/sec}
    Power consumption = 0.159 W
Estimated highs during continuous operation:
    Output torque = 0.312 \text{ N*m} = 44.1 \text{ oz*in}
    Output speed = 5.959 rpm = 35.75 deg/sec
    Power consumption = 0.629 W
Estimated lows during intermittent operation:
    Output torque = 0.101 \text{ N*m} = 14.2 \text{ oz*in}
    Output speed = 6.037 rpm = 36.22 deg/sec
    Power consumption = 0.201 W
Estimated highs during intermittent operation:
    Output torque = 0.368 \text{ N*m} = 52.1 \text{ oz*in}
    Output speed = 5.938 rpm = 35.63 deg/sec
    Power consumption = 0.744 W
Max slew (193.0°) at MIN speed:
    total time = 14.5 sec = 0.2 min
    total energy = 3.1 J
Max slew (193.0°) at MAX speed:
    total time = 7.8 \text{ sec} = 0.1 \text{ min}
    total energy = 5.5 J
------
Part: 43A153-15
Speed reduction ratio = 4230
Gearhead continuous torque safety factor = 0.97 (must be ~ 1 or greater)
Gearhead intermittent torque safety factor = 11.53 (must be ~ 1 or greater)
Motor is rated for:
    Output torque = 2.175 \text{ N*m} = 308.0 \text{ oz*in}
    Output speed = 3.679 rpm = 22.07 deg/sec
    Power consumption = 2.977 W
Estimated lows during continuous operation:
    Output torque = 0.080 \text{ N*m} = 11.3 \text{ oz*in}
    Output speed = 4.006 rpm = 24.04 deg/sec
    Power consumption = 0.102 W
Estimated highs during continuous operation:
    Output torque = 0.312 \text{ N*m} = 44.1 \text{ oz*in}
```

Output speed = 3.970 rpm = 23.82 deg/sec

Power consumption = 0.402 W

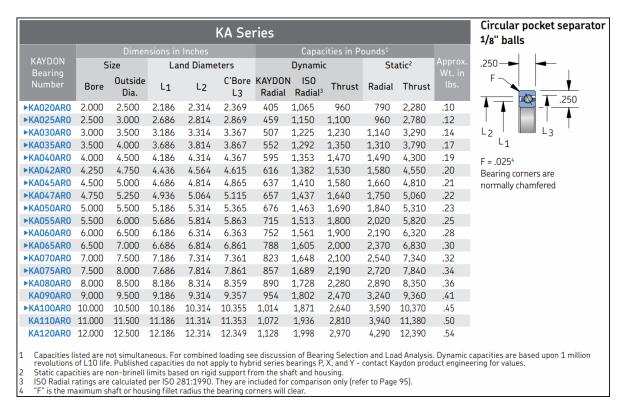
Estimated lows during intermittent operation: Output torque = 0.101 N*m = 14.2 oz*inOutput speed = 4.003 rpm = 24.02 deg/sec Power consumption = 0.129 W Estimated highs during intermittent operation: Output torque = 0.368 N*m = 52.1 oz*inOutput speed = 3.961 rpm = 23.77 deg/sec Power consumption = 0.475 W Max slew (193.0°) at MIN speed: total time = 14.1 sec = 0.2 min total energy = 1.8 J Max slew (193.0°) at MAX speed: total time = 9.7 sec = 0.2 mintotal energy = 4.1 J _____ Part: 43A152-14 Speed reduction ratio = 2799 Gearhead continuous torque safety factor = 1.01 (must be ~ 1 or greater) Gearhead intermittent torque safety factor = 11.53 (must be ~ 1 or greater) Motor is rated for: Output torque = $2.097 \, N*m = 297.0 \, oz*in$ Output speed = 3.878 rpm = 23.27 deg/sec Power consumption = 3.404 W Estimated lows during continuous operation: Output torque = 0.080 N*m = 11.3 oz*inOutput speed = 4.615 rpm = 27.69 deg/sec Power consumption = 0.114 W Estimated highs during continuous operation: Output torque = 0.312 N*m = 44.1 oz*inOutput speed = 4.531 rpm = 27.18 deg/sec Power consumption = 0.455 W Estimated lows during intermittent operation: Output torque = 0.101 N*m = 14.2 oz*inOutput speed = 4.608 rpm = 27.65 deg/sec Power consumption = 0.145 W Estimated highs during intermittent operation: Output torque = 0.368 N*m = 52.1 oz*inOutput speed = 4.510 rpm = 27.06 deg/sec Power consumption = 0.538 W Max slew (193.0°) at MIN speed: total time = 14.0 sec = 0.2 min total energy = 2.0 J Max slew (193.0°) at MAX speed: total time = 8.9 sec = 0.1 min total energy = 4.4 J

Among these, I select the motor/gear combination with lower max speed and fewer gear stages: **43A152-14**

Appendix: Bearings selection

Bearing type and size

The preliminary design (July 2022) packaging acommodates a pair of Kaydon KA025AR0 bearings:



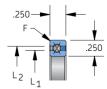
This is a thin section, angular contact, open bearing, with bore 2.5\" (63.5 mm), O.D. 3.0\" (76.2 mm), and thickness 0.25\" (6.35 mm). Mass is low, \sim 0.12 lbs = 55 g. We utilize the common design pattern of mounting in pairs, to provide tilt resistance.

Stainless steel options (may have custom lead-times and will be more expensive) are available. Replace "K" with "S" in the part number.

Kaydon also offers an attractive "Type X" four-point contact bearing. We have previously used such a bearing (at a much larger scale) in the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI) ADC rotator mechanism. The type X controls 5 degrees of freedom in a single unit, rather than the typical angular contact duplex. This has the advantage of fewer parts and less weight, as well as removing the need to control thrust preload in the mounting between the two separate bearing units. A type X unit of similar package size as KA025AR0 would be KA025XP0:

KA Series														
Dimensions in Inches						Capacities ¹								
KAYDON Bearing	5176		Land Diameters		Dynamic			Static ²			Approx. Wt. in			
Number	Bore	Outside Dia.	L1	L2	Radial (lbs)	Thrust (lbs)	Moment (in-lbs)	Radial (lbs)	Thrust (lbs)	Moment (in-lbs)	lbs.			
►KA020XP0	2.000	2.500	2.186	2.314	514	790	434	680	1,710	770	.10			
►KA025XP0	2.500	3.000	2.686	2.814	583	910	601	830	2,090	1,150	.13			
KA027XP0	2.750	3.250	2.936	3.064	614	960	690	910	2,275	1,365	.14			
►KA030XP0	3.000	3.500	3.186	3.314	643	1,010	785	990	2,470	1,600	.15			
►KA035XP0	3.500	4.000	3.686	3.814	701	1,110	986	1,140	2,850	2,130	.18			
►KA040XP0	4.000	4.500	4.186	4.314	756	1,210	1,205	1,290	3,220	2,740	.19			
►KA042XP0	4.250	4.750	4.436	4.564	783	1,260	1,321	1,370	3,410	3,070	.20			
►KA045XP0	4.500	5.000	4.686	4.814	809	1,310	1,441	1,440	3,600	3,420	.22			
►KA047XP0	4.750	5.250	4.936	5.064	834	1,350	1,565	1,520	3,790	3,790	.23			
►KA050XP0	5.000	5.500	5.186	5.314	859	1,400	1,693	1,590	3,980	4,180	.24			
►KA055XP0	5.500	6.000	5.686	5.814	908	1,480	1,959	1,750	4,360	5,020	.25			
►KA060XP0	6.000	6.500	6.186	6.314	955	1,570	2,240	1,900	4,740	5,930	.28			
►KA065XP0	6.500	7.000	6.686	6.814	1,001	1,650	2,535	2,050	5,120	6,910	.30			
►KA070XP0	7.000	7.500	7.186	7.314	1,046	1,730	2,844	2,200	5,500	7,980	.31			
►KA075XP0	7.500	8.000	7.686	7.814	1,089	1,810	3,165	2,350	5,880	9,120	.34			
►KA080XP0	8.000	8.500	8.186	8.314	1,131	1,890	3,499	2,500	6,260	10,330	.38			
►KA090XP0	9.000	9.500	9.186	9.314	1,212	2,040	4,204	2,810	7,020	12,990	.44			
►KA100XP0	10.000	10.500	10.186	10.314	1,289	2,180	4,956	3,110	7,780	15,940	.50			
KA110XP0	11.000	11.500	11.186	11.314	1,362	2,320	5,750	3,410	8,540	19,210	.52			
►KA120XP0	12.000	12.500	12.186	12.314	1,433	2,450	6,587	3,720	9,300	22,770	.56			

Snap-over separator 1/8" balls



F = .025³ Bearing corners are normally chamfered

Again, replace "K" with "S" for equivalent stainless option.

External vs internal bearing seals

For these open bearings, we would make a dust seal that rides on the shaft and/or flat face. Call this an "external" seal. It has the advantages of being:

- independent from the bearing selection and procurement
- easily replaceable
- visible and inspectable
- material of our choice (i.e. robust, low cte, temperature tolerant material like polyimide)

We can alternatively purchase a bearing with integrated seals. Call this an "internal" seal. It has the advantages of:

- lower part count
- lower mass
- more compact packaging

Again taking Kaydon as an example bearing manufacturer, their standard seal material is nitrile rubber. This would need to be qualified for our temperature range (100 K - 400 K). Kaydon does offer customization options in alternate seal materials, but we have not yet checked whether polyimide in particular would work for them. Several models Kaydon offers with an integrated double-seal are given in this table:

[.] Capacities listed are not simultaneous. For combined loading see discussion of Bearing Selection and Load Analysis. Dynamic capacities are based upon 1 million revolutions of L10 life. Published capacities do not apply to hybrid series bearings P, X, and Y - contact Kaydon product engineering for values.

Static capacities are non-brinell limits based on rigid support from the shaft and housing.
 "F" is the maximum shaft or housing fillet radius the bearing corners will clear.

Popular item

		Dimensions	mensions in inches			Capacities						Torque		
Kaydon part		Outside	Land dia.	Land dia.		Dynamic			Static ²		Limiting speeds	max. no load	Approx. weight	
number	Bore	dia.	L ₁	L ₂	Radial (lbs)	Thrust (lbs)	Moment (in-lbs)	Radial (lbs)	Thrust (lbs)	Moment (in-lbs)	(RPM)	(in-oz) ³	(lbs)	
JA020XP0	2.000	2.500	2.148	2.356	514	790	434	680	1,710	770	1,500	6	0.10	
<u>JA025XP0</u>	2.500	3.000	2.648	2.856	583	910	601	830	2,090	1,150	1,200	8	0.12	
JA030XP0	3.000	3.500	3.148	3.356	643	1,010	785	990	2,470	1,600	830	12	0.14	
<u>JA035XP0</u>	3.500	4.000	3.648	3.856	701	1,110	986	1,140	2,850	2,130	710	16	0.17	
JA040XP0	4.000	4.500	4.148	4.356	756	1,210	1,205	1,290	3,220	2,740	620	20	0.19	
JA042XP0	4.250	4.750	4.398	4.606	783	1,260	1,321	1,370	3,410	3,070	580	24	0.20	
JA045XP0	4.500	5.000	4.648	4.856	809	1,310	1,441	1,440	3,600	3,420	550	28	0.21	
JA047XP0	4.750	5.250	4.898	5.106	834	1,350	1,565	1,520	3,790	3,790	520	32	0.22	
<u>JA050XP0</u>	5.000	5.500	5.148	5.356	859	1,400	1,693	1,590	3,980	4,180	500	36	0.23	
<u>JA055XP0</u>	5.500	6.000	5.648	5.856	908	1,480	1,959	1,750	4,360	5,020	450	44	0.25	
JA060XP0	6.000	6.500	6.148	6.356	955	1,570	2,240	1,900	4,740	5,930	330	52	0.28	
<u>JA065XP0</u>	6.500	7.000	6.648	6.856	1,001	1,650	2,535	2,050	5,120	6,910	300	61	0.30	
<u>JA070XP0</u>	7.000	7.500	7.148	7.356	1,046	1,730	2,844	2,200	5,500	7,980	280	70	0.31	
<u>JA075XP0</u>	7.500	8.000	7.648	7.856	1,089	1,810	3,165	2,350	5,880	9,120	260	80	0.34	
Notes 1 Capacities listed are not simultaneous. For combined loading see discussion of Bearing Selection and Load Analysis in the Kaydon Reali-Slim® bearing catalog. Dynamic capacities are based upon 1 million revolutions of L ₁₀ life. Published capacities do not apply to hybrid series bearings P, X, and Y. Contact Kaydon product engineering for values. 2 Static capacities are non-brinell limits based on rigid support from the shaft and housing. 3 Torque figures shown are for single bearings with standard lubricant at room temperature and under 5 pounds thrust load. 4 "F" is the maximum shaft or housing fillet radius the bearing corners will clear. * Values apply to bearings loaded up to 20% of their dynamic capacity. Sealed series bearings are supplied with general purpose grease, satisfactory for operating temperatures of -65°F to +250°F (-54°C to +121°C). Other lubricants are available on special order.											.250			

The Kaydon line-up does not have sealed bearings in angular contact configurations.

For sealed bearings, replace "J" with "W" in the part number for the stainless option.

Bearing seal materials

If we fabricate our own seals, one might consider using Vespel SP-3. This is a 15% MoS₂-filled polyimide with a long history of use in space applications, with low creep, high strength, and low coefficient of thermal expansion (for a polymer), and which should survive the temperature extremes.

A concern I have is that the friction coefficient of SP-3 in vacuum is reported to be very low (0.03) in the Dupont datasheet. Normally lower friction is "good" in a bearing, however in our design, having some consistent friction is helpful, to guarantee stability of the position of the turntable stable when powered off. So we probably rather prefer having a consistent friction

whether testing in lab air or operating in vacuum. In this respect, unfilled Vespel SP-1 may be a simpler and better choice. However, the DuPont datasheet does not specifically list a vacuum friction coefficient, so this bears some further investigation.

Graphite-filled polyimide grades would not be chosen, since the graphite lubricant can in fact become abrasive in a moisture-free environment.

Turntable bearings

There are some bearings available with more integrated turntable functionality, for example including an external gear profile. An attractive option may be Kaydon T01-00325EAA:

Four-point contact bearing (Reali-Slim TT* series)												
Kaydon Bearings basic part number		Dynamic			Static	Static torque	Weight					
	Radial (lbs)	Thrust (lbs)	Moment (in-lbs)	Radial (lbs)	Thrust (lbs)	Moment (in-lbs)	(in-lbs)	(lbs)				
T01-00225	520	790	440	680	1,710	770	3.4	0.35				
T01-00275	580	910	600	830	2,090	1,150	4.4	0.43				
T01-00325	640	1,010	780	990	2,470	1,600	5.5	0.50				
T01-00375	700	1,110	980	1,140	2,850	2,130	6.5	0.59				
T01-00425	750	1,210	1,200	1,290	3,220	2,740	7.4	0.67				

External gear											
Kaydon Bearings part number with through holes	Bore (in)	Gear O.D. (in)	Inner land (in)	Outer land (in)	Inner bolt circle (in)	Number of holes	Outer bolt circle (in)	Number of holes	Gear pitch diameter (in)	Number of teeth	
T01-00225EAA	1.500	3.078	2.148	2.356	1.813	6	2.688	8	3.047	195	
T01-00275EAA	2.000	3.578	2.648	2.856	2.313	8	3.188	10	3.547	227	
T01-00325EAA	2.500	4.078	3.148	3.356	2.813	9	3.688	12	4.047	259	
T01-00375EAA	3.000	4.578	3.648	3.856	3.313	10	4.188	14	4.547	291	
T01-00425EAA	3.500	5.078	4.148	4.356	3.813	12	4.688	15	5.047	323	



No gear with through holes



External gear with tapped holes



Externally geared bearing with countersunk holes



Internal gear with tapped holes

These turntables are not off-the-shelf parts. Cost and lead-time would be TBD. Performance is not particularly any better than the other options; the attraction here would be the compact packaging. The gearing would need some exterior protection from lunar dust.

References

NASA General Environmental Verification Standards (GEVS)

- Kaydon turntable bearings
- Kaydon sealed, slim bearings