



# Project Calypso

Design Concept Review

# Team Introduction



**Joshua Carver**  
*Program Manager*



**Ryan Lundell**  
*Airframe Lead*



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*Integration Lead*



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*Systems Engineer*



**Anthony Mclevsky**  
*Avionics Engineer*



**Khaled Alhammadi**  
*Propulsion Engineer*



**Tyler Phillips**  
*Structures Engineer*



**Marcello Montes**  
*Aerodynamics Engineer*



**Joshua Carver**

# Presentation Objectives

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Introduce aircraft use case & mission

- Identify design-driving mission requirements

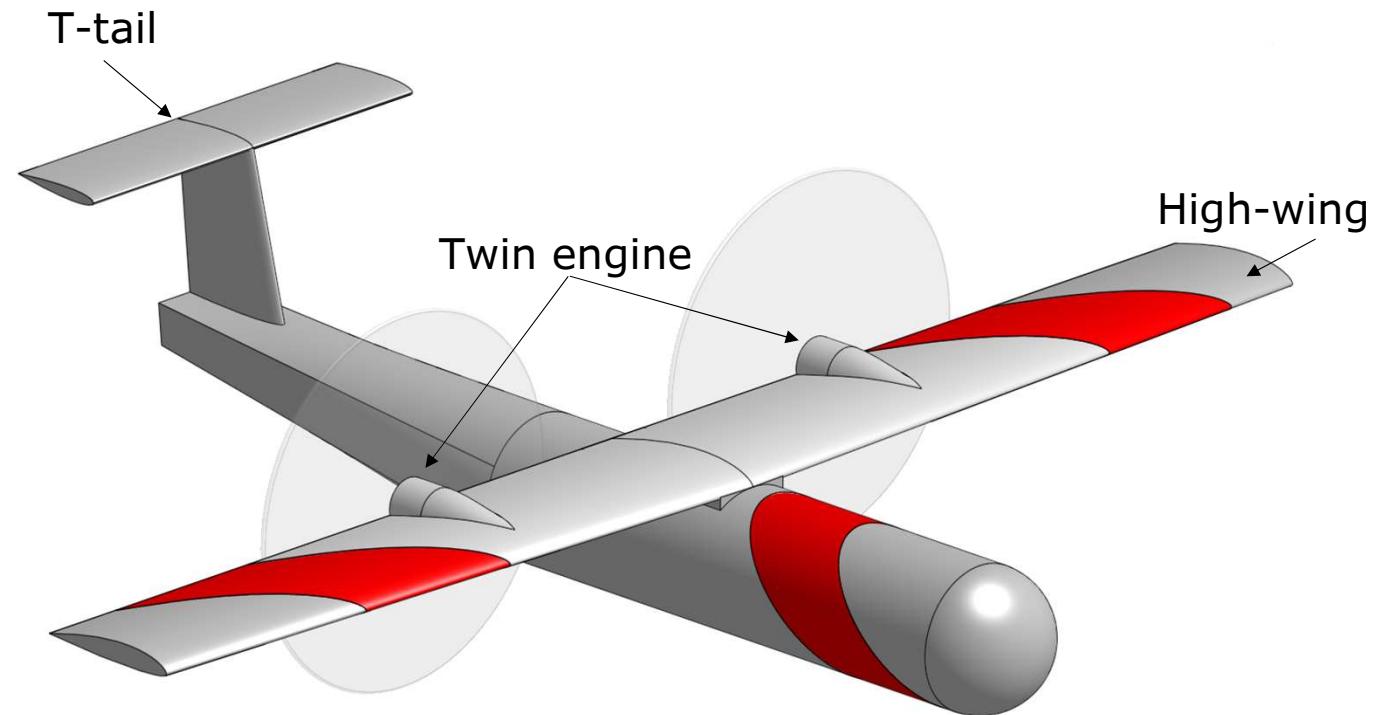
Compare three separate aircraft concepts

- Recommend two preferred designs

Compare & select design features

- Derived from requirements for wing, tail, propulsion, payloads, etc.

# Design Overview



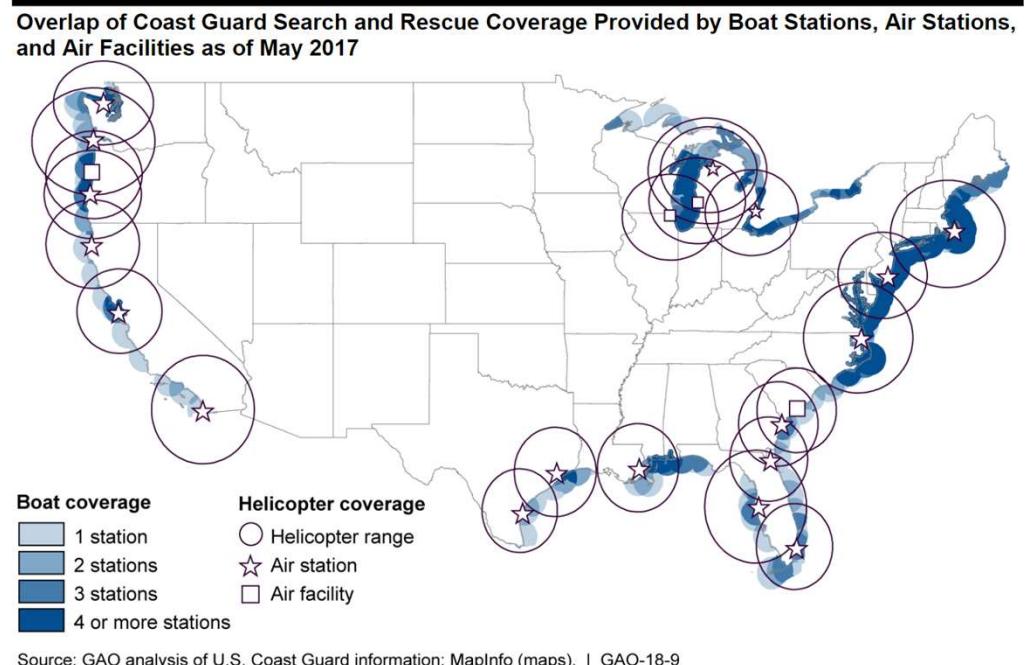
# Concept and Requirements



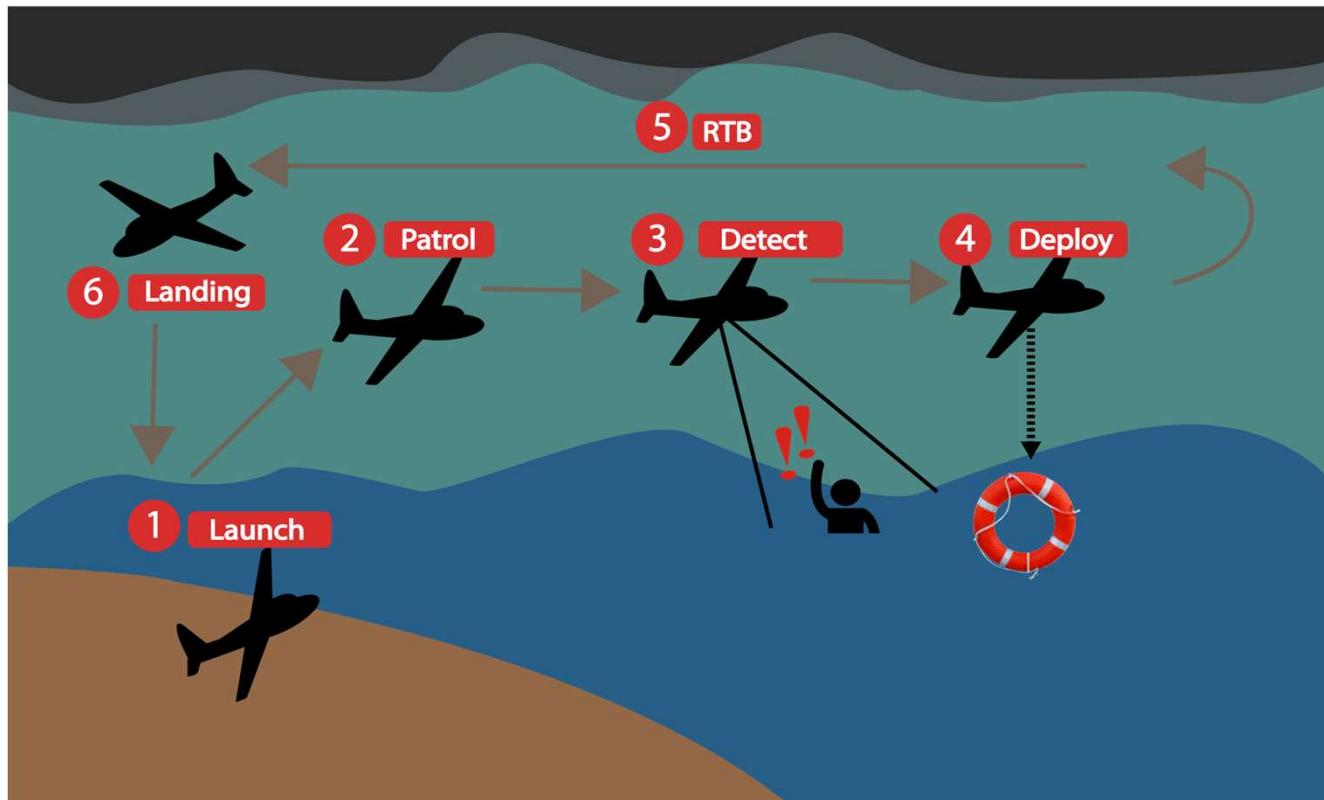
Joshua Carver and Tyler Phillips

# Maritime Search & Rescue (SAR) Response Needs to Improve

- In FY2017, 32% of lives lost were after Coast Guard notification[1]
- Deployment of rapid-response aircraft will buy time for the Coast Guard to rescue victims



# Rapid-Response Search Plan



# Design-Driving Requirements

Operational Radius	20 mi
Takeoff/Landing Distance	Vertical/Catapult Launched
Payload	4 lb sensor gimbal Specified life raft
Dash Speed	100 kts
Minimum Loiter Time	30 min
Standby Time	3 months
Maximum Takeoff Weight	25 lb
Environmental	Withstand maritime environment Fly in Beaufort Level 7 Conditions (28-33 kts)
Operational	Autonomous takeoff, landing, and transit to search point



Tyler Phillips

# Manned Platforms Not Suited to Rapid-Response Search\*

- Infrastructure for takeoff and landing
- Regular maintenance
- Large crews
- Operator risk[5]

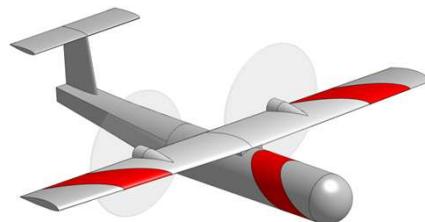
\*Sourced from [2][3][4]



Joshua Carver

# Calypso Exceeds Capabilities of Other Unmanned Aircraft

	Calypso	UAVISION Spyro [6]	Boeing ScanEagle [7]
Operational Radius	20 mi	7.5 mi	600 mi
Dash Speed	100 kts	30 kts	80 kts
Endurance	1 hr	1 hr	18 hr
Max Takeoff Weight	25 lb	26 lb	58 lb
Payload Capacity	10 lb	15 lb	10 lb*



\*No payload accommodations for life raft or preserver



Joshua Carver

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# Concept & Configuration Selection



Ryan Lundell

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# High-Level Concepts Considered



4+1 Vertical Takeoff & Landing (VTOL)

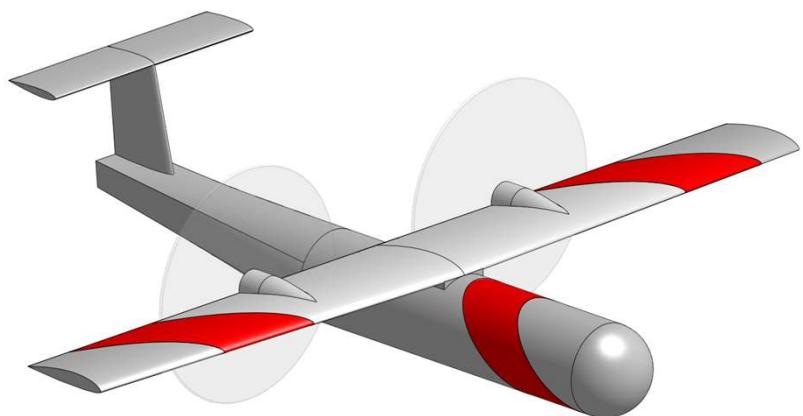
Tail-sitter Vertical Takeoff & Landing (VTOL)



Catapult Launched Conventional (CATOBAR)

# Conventional Configuration Outperforms Alternatives

- Simplified controls & stability
- Larger payload capacity
- Smaller drag profile
- Higher cruising speeds



# Sensitivity Analysis

Design driving sensitivities

1. Endurance: 6.65 lb per hour flight time
2. Range: 3.99 lb per 60 miles of flight
3. Payload Weight: 2.49 lb take-off weight per 1 lb of payload

Prioritize minimizing structural & payload weight to allow for increasing range & endurance

# Design Point Allows for Excess Performance

## Weight Fractions

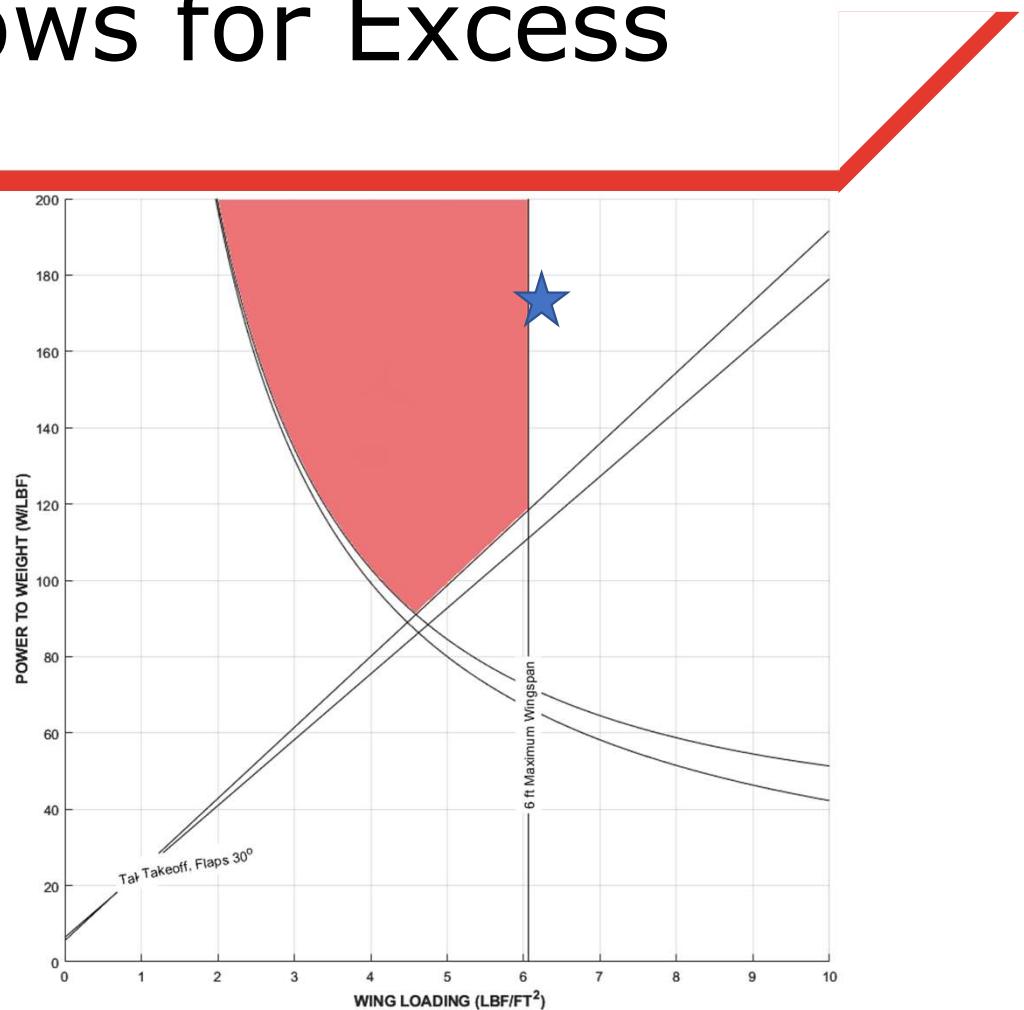
- 40% Payload
- 30% Structural
- 30% Propulsion

## Minimum power needed

- 120 W/lbf @ 6ft wingspan

## Power Selected

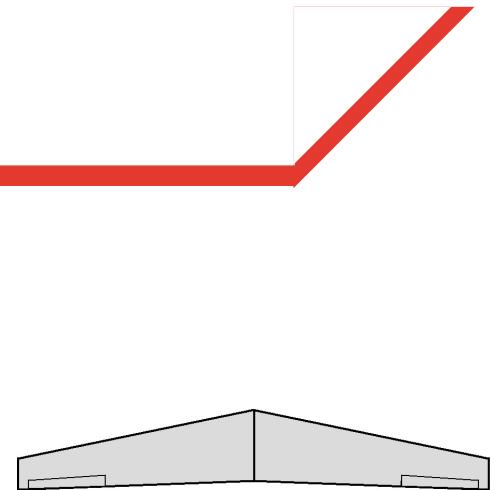
- 175 W/lbf @ 6ft wingspan
- 45% excess power



# Tapered High Wing Configuration Preferred

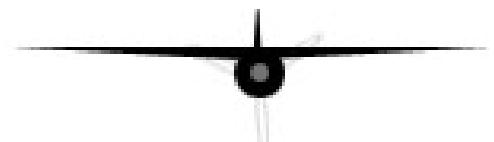
## Tapered Wing

- Manufacturing
- Mounting control surfaces
- Lift & stability



## High Wing

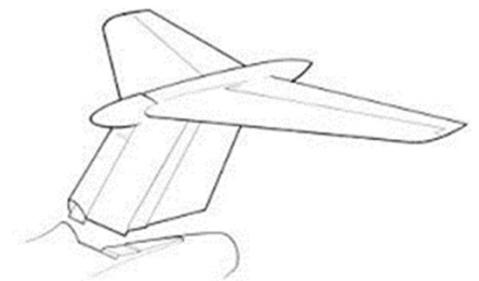
- Payload space
- Structural integrity
- Roll characteristics



# T-tail Configuration Selected

## T-Tail

- Better control
- Less prop interference
- Ease of future modification



## Conventional Tail

- Structural strength
- Control surface actuator mounting

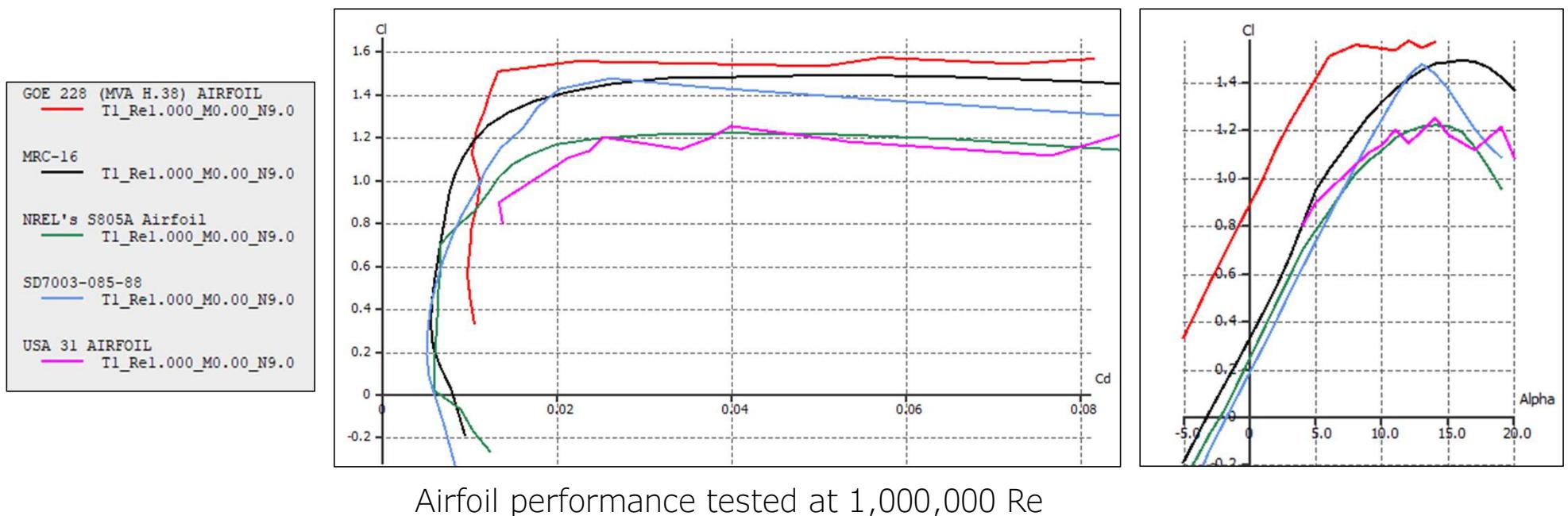
# Aerodynamic Design



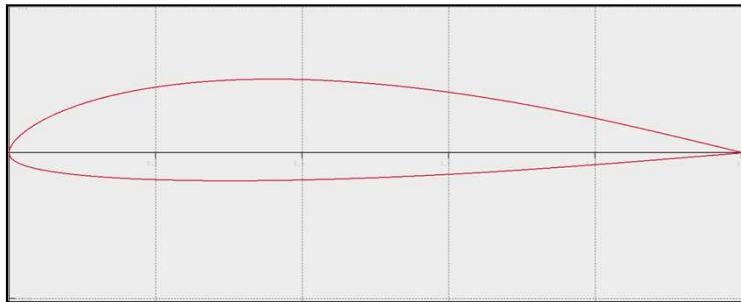
Marcello Montes & Tyler Phillips

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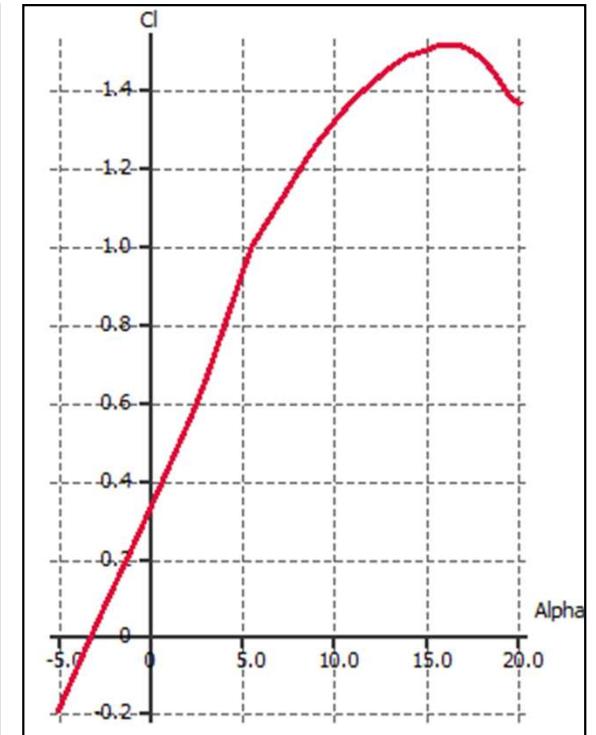
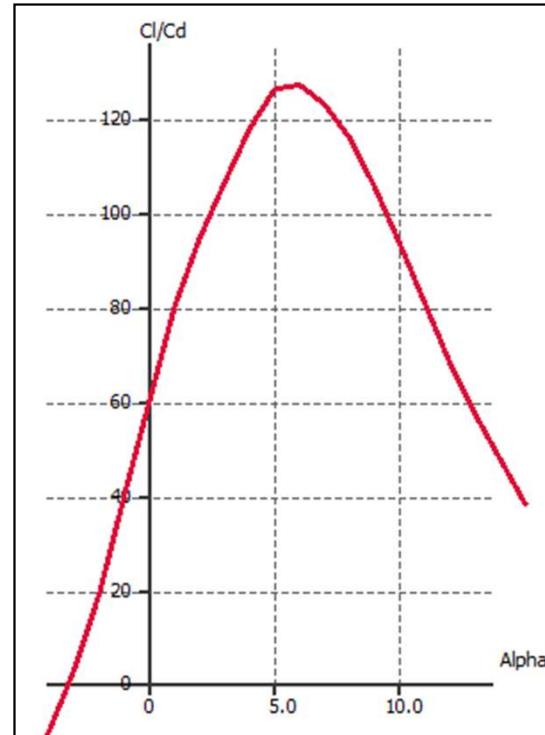
# MRC-16 Chosen for Balanced Lift vs Drag & Post-Stall Performance



# MRC-16 Airfoil Performance

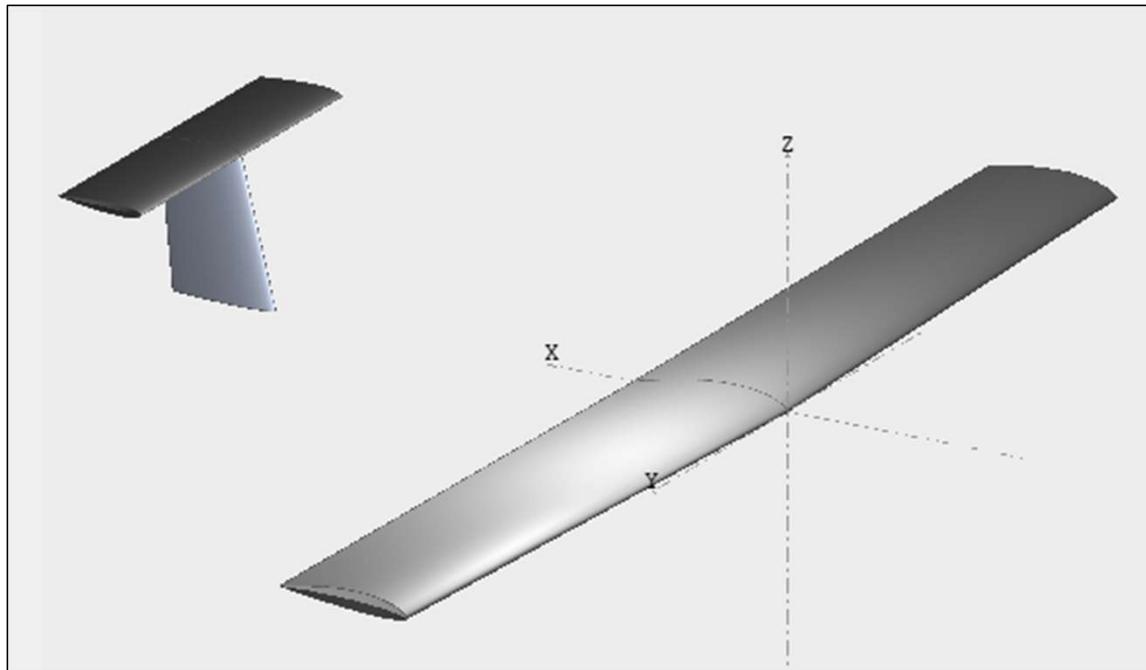


2-D Direct foil design



Airfoil tests at  $Re = 1,150,000$  ( $V_{dash}$ )

# Configured Aircraft Design



Tested aircraft configuration

Wing Area	594 in <sup>2</sup>
Wingspan	72 in
Root Chord	9 in
Aspect Ratio	8.73
Taper Ratio	0.83

# Aircraft is Statically & Dynamically Stable

Variable	Value
$C_L$ Max	1.4 , 14° AoA
$C_L/C_D$ Max	30 , 4° AoA
$C_M$ Curve	Negative gradient
$C_D$ Min	0.01

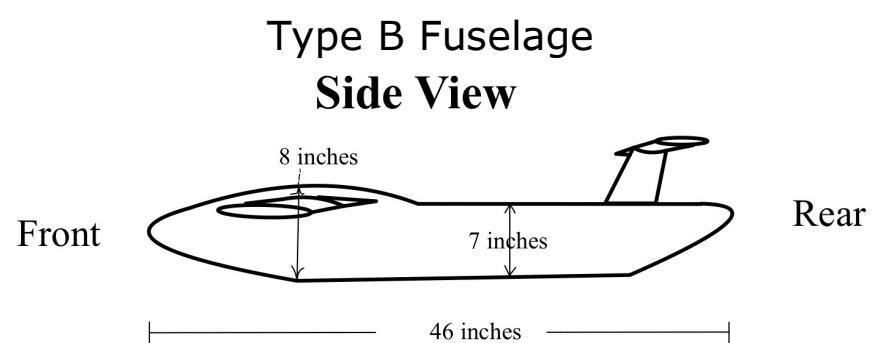
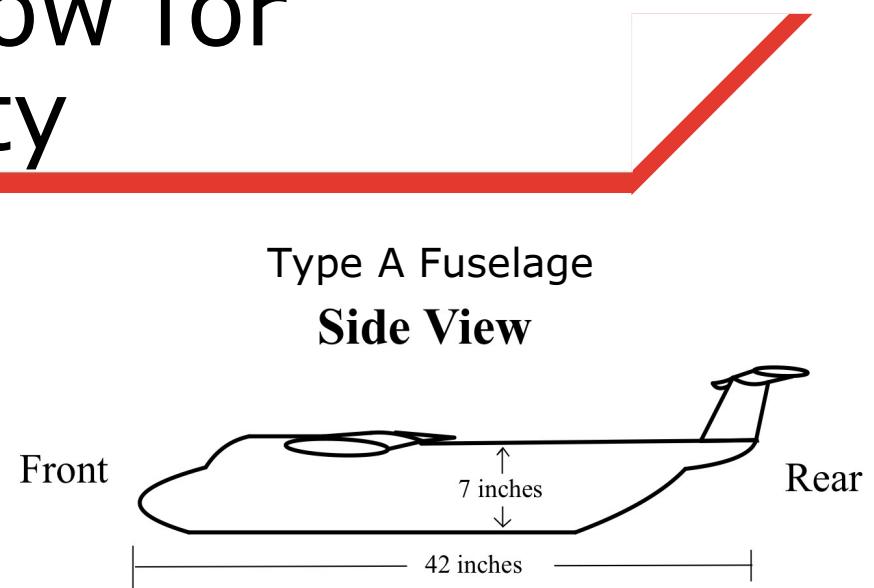
Test Type	Stability	$F_1$ (damped nat. freq.)	$\zeta$ (damping ratio)
SPPO	Stable	3.19	0.283
Phugoid	Stable	0.03	0.056
Roll Mode	Stable	~	~
Dutch Roll	Stable	1.43	0.060
Spiral Mode	Unstable	~	~

# Fuselage Size Driven by Life Raft

- 7" to 8" diameter
- Length of 42" to 46" long for a fineness ratio close to 6
- Fineness ratio of 6 allows for minimum drag
- Allows internal fuselage clearance for life raft payload

# Fuselage Designs Allow for Payload Bay Flexibility

- Interchangeable fuselages for future payload delivery methods
- Type A & Type B fuselage designs have very similar aerodynamic stability



# Propulsion Design

# Motor Comparison



Electric

Pros:

- High efficiency
- Longer lifespan
- High reliability

Cons:

- More complicated
- Battery limitation



Gas

Pros:

- Higher energy & power densities
- Long flight time

Cons:

- Not self-starting
- High acoustic & thermal signatures
- Hygroscopic fuel



Glow

Pros:

- fuel efficient
- Has highest speed

Cons:

- Not self-starting
- Tune & maintenance
- Hygroscopic fuel

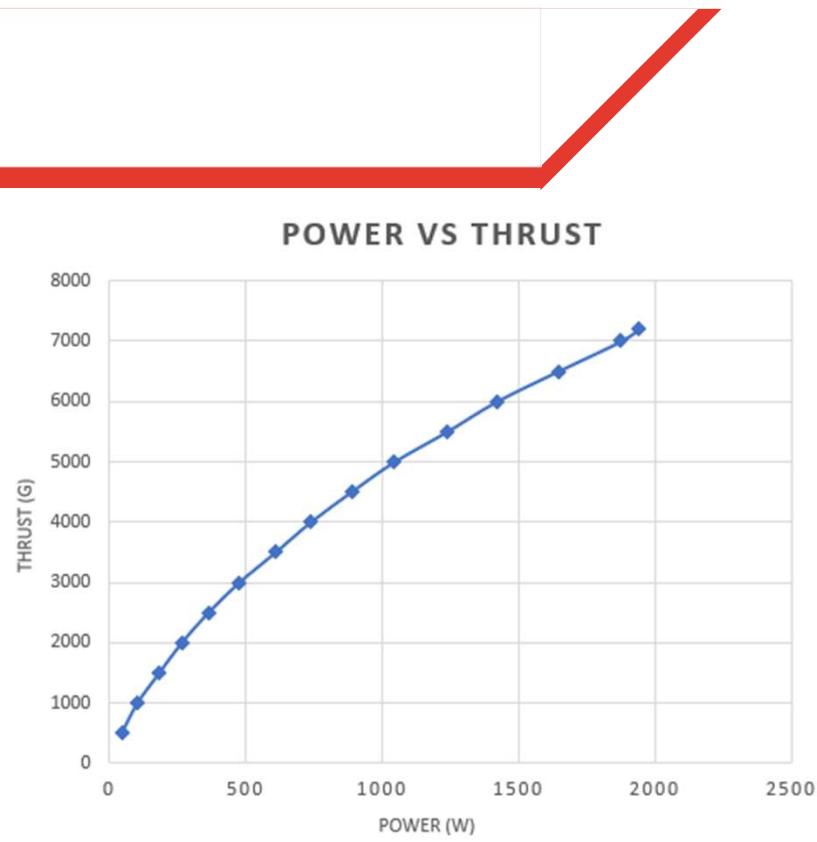
# Motor Selection

- SunnySky X5320 Brushless Motors
- Aircraft will have 2 Motors
- Power requirements  
175 W/lbf for both motors



# Prop Selection

- Prop diameter by Prop pitch 18"x10"
- High pitch to get to speed desired
- Manufacturer Recommended prop
- Allows for 1.27 thrust-to-weight ratio



# Life Raft & Deployment



Jacob McMillin

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# Off-the-Shelf (OTS) Rafts Not Satisfactory

	ThrowRaft Survivor [8]	Uncharted Supply Rapid Raft [9]	Winslow RescueRaft [10]
Buoyancy, lb	100	400	800
Weight, lb	2.8	3.8	16
Packed Dimensions, in	12x2.5x9	15x5Ø	8x14x16
Deployed Dimensions, in	48x42x4	72x33x12	72x72x18



# Modified OTS Raft Meets Needs

- “Modified Rapid Raft”
  - Added ballast bags & CO<sub>2</sub> inflator
- 400 lb buoyancy
- 5 lb weight
- 15”x5.25”Ø packed dimensions



# Two Payload Deployment Systems (PDS) Designed

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## Bomb Bay Type

### Pros:

- Smaller size
- Light Weight

### Cons:

- Complex (18 Parts)
- Requires modification to raft

## Ejector Type

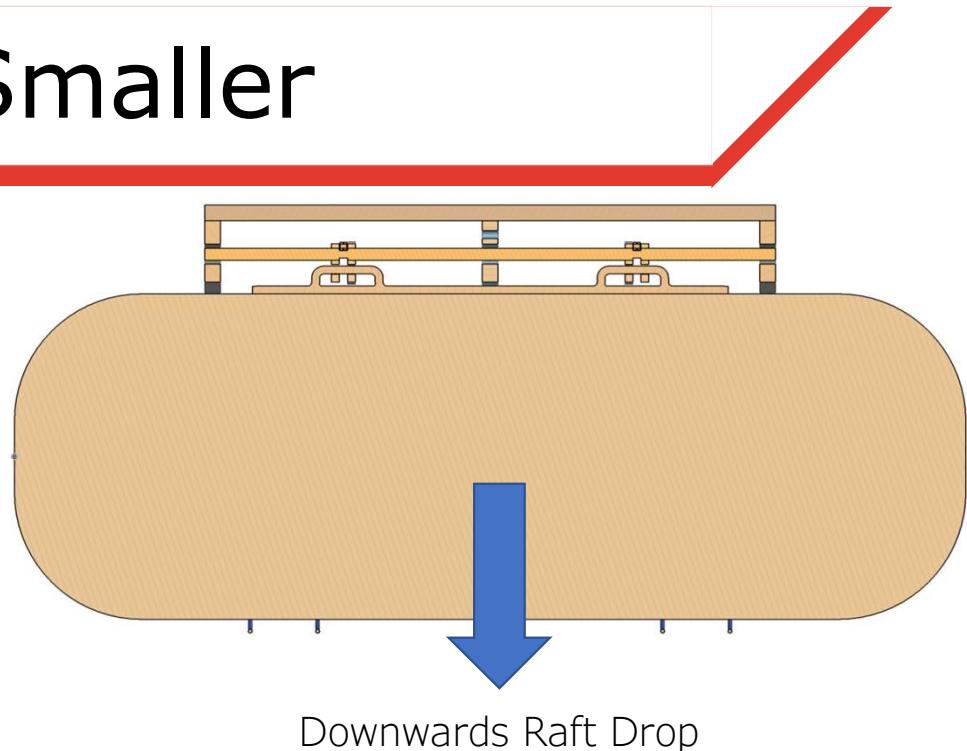
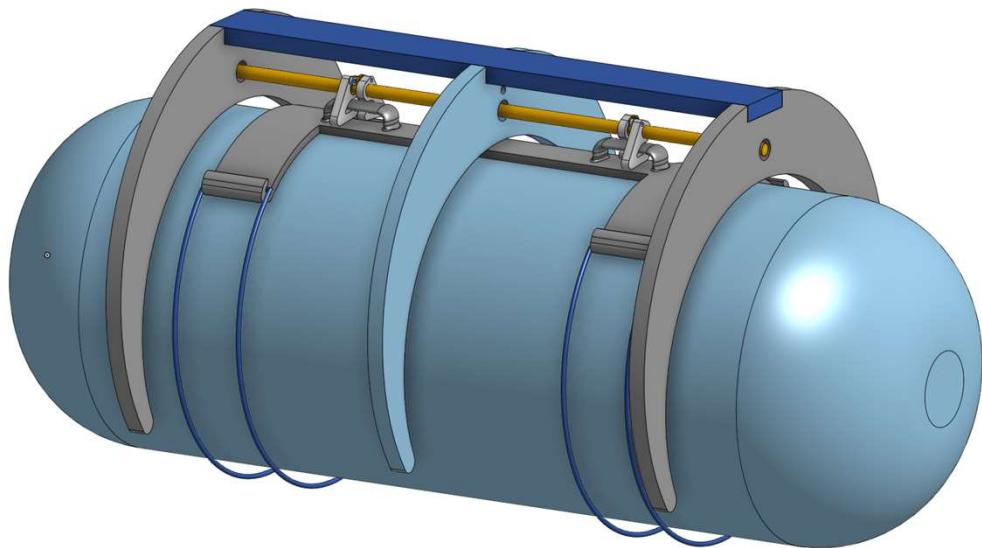
### Pros:

- Simple (5 Parts)
- Robust

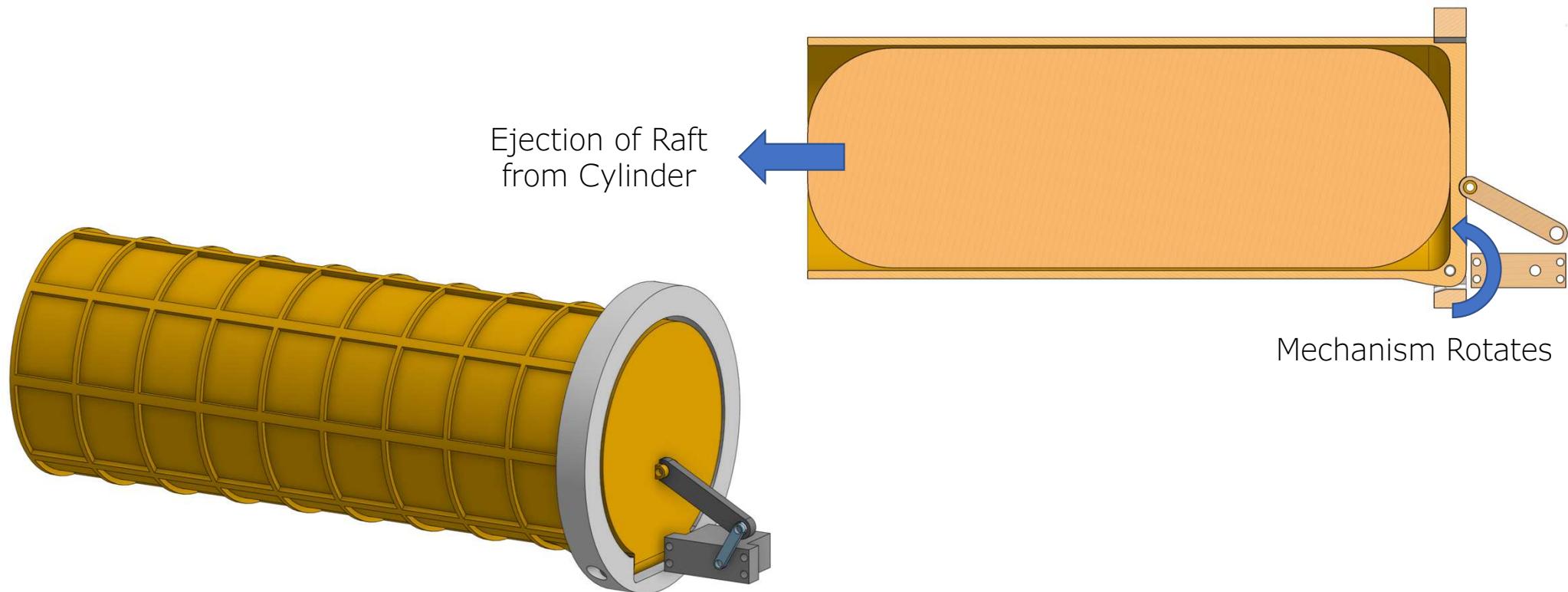
### Cons:

- Heavier than Bomb Bay Type
- Larger than Bomb Bay Type

# Bomb Bay Type is Smaller



# Ejector Type is Simpler



# Communications & Flight Control

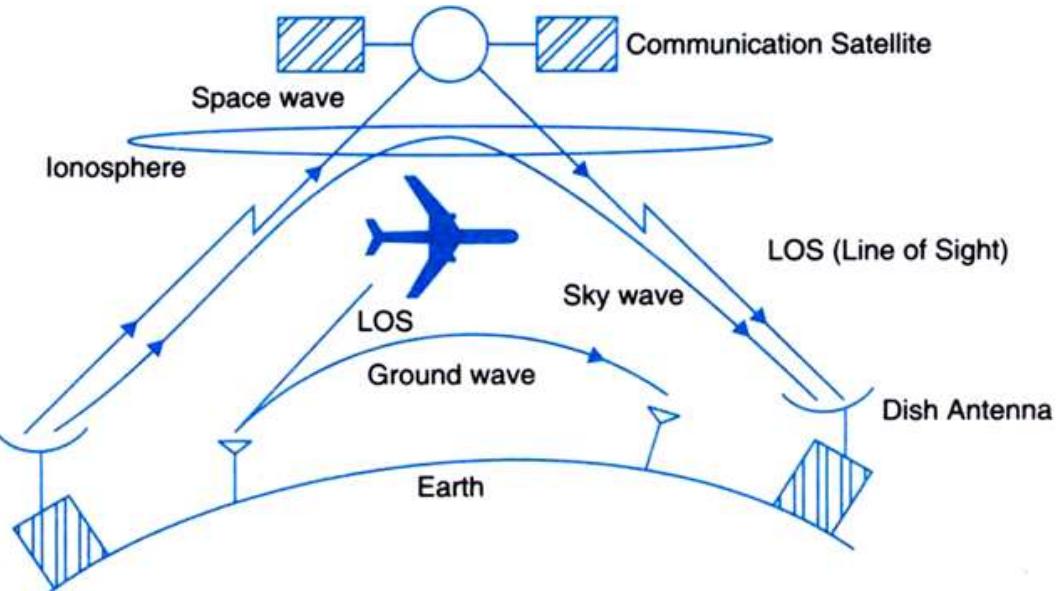
# Communication Categories

## Satellite

- Good Range
- Used for trans-oceanic flights

## LOS Radio

- Good Bandwidth
- Used with high altitude long endurance UAVs.



# Commtact MDLS Selected

Radio	Type	Weight (g)	Range KM	Bandwidth
Commtact MDLS (1)	Radio	100	40	Excellent
Commtact IDLS MK-II	Radio	2,500	250	Excellent
AKSON C-BAND DLS	Radio	< 3,000	200	Good
COBHAM AVIATOR UAV 200 (2)	Satellite	1,450	3760	Poor



1



2



Anthony Mclevsky

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# Pixhawk 4 Selected



Component	Price USD	I/O ports	Notes
Pixhawk 4 (1)	190.00	16	Newer, better Documentation.
Pixhawk 4 mini	159.00	8	Inexpensive, older, harder to source.
CUAV Pixhawk V6X	519.00	16	Expensive, more features than necessary.



# Sensing Capabilities Necessitated by Pixhawk Integration

- Global Positioning System (GPS)
- 3D Gyroscopes
- Inertial Navigation System (INS)
- Pitot-Static Probe & Sensor

# Launch & Recovery Systems



Caleb Lynch

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# 3 Typical Launch Systems Available

Elastic System (ELS) -  
Elastic bands, short rail,  
lightweight



Pneumatic System (PLS) -  
Compressed air & cables,  
large scale, heavyweight



Ballistic System (BLS) -  
Rockets on short rail,  
sustained thrust, high  
speed

# Project Will Use Elastic Launch System

- Integrated flexibility for multiple airframes & mission profiles
- High acceleration at low cost & size



# 3 Typical Recovery Systems Available

Net System (NRS) -

Large margin for error,  
entangles airframe to  
stop

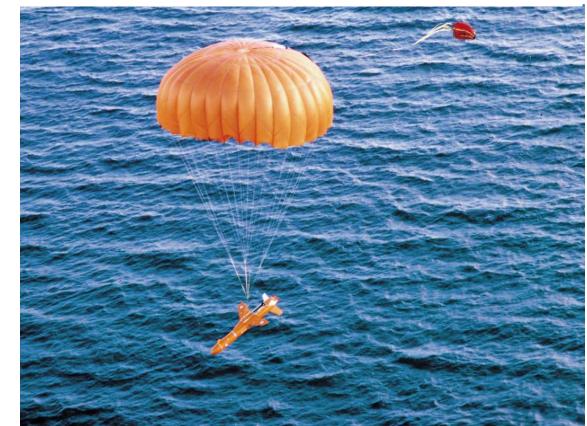


Cable System (CRS) -

Low margin for error, one  
or both wings catch cable

Parachute System (PRS)-

Low accuracy, impacts  
airframe fuselage design,  
last resort



Caleb Lynch

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# Project Will Use Cable Recovery System

- Integrated flexibility for multiple airframes & mission profiles
- High accuracy with an entirely passive system & minimal impact on the airframe



# Conclusions & Recommendations

# Recommended Design

## CATOBAR Conventional

- Superior performance in cruise
- 4-by-1 fallback using aerodynamic commonality

## Twin engine, electric

- Necessary performance for take-off & cruise
- Lighter than gasoline engine, eliminates fuel concerns

## Pusher-prop arrangement

- Less likely to be damaged on recovery

## T-tail & high-wing design

- Superior stability & take-off performance



# What Are Our Next Milestones?

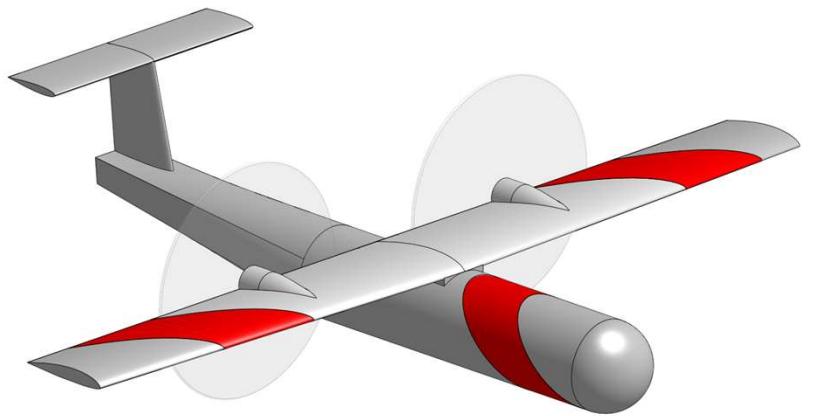
## Creation of scale glider before design freeze (March 27<sup>th</sup>)

- Verify aerodynamic estimates
- Evaluate airframe control response
- Fabrication experience

## Testing of launch mechanisms before FRR (April 7<sup>th</sup>)

- Determine acceptable launch performance
- Collaborate with other Capstone teams to consolidate catapult design
- Collect launch data & compare with predictions

# Questions?



# Appendix

# Sensitivity Analysis

Parameter	Sensitivity
Payload Weight	2.475 lb/lb
Empty Weight	1.900 lb/lb
Range	0.066 lb/mi
Endurance	6.645 lb/hr
L/D	-0.199 lb

Initial Parameters	
L/D	20
Range	60 mi
Payload Weight	10 lb
MTOW	25 lb
$C_P$	10.736 lb/hp/hr



# Aircraft Configuration Trade Study Table

Aircraft Configuration				
Category	4+1	Tailsitter VTOL	Catapult Conventional	Score Factor
TO/Landing	9	9	1	5
System Weight	1	3	9	3
Speed	3	3	9	5
Stability	3	9	9	2
Controllability	3	9	9	3
Power requirements	3	3	9	1
Complexity	9	3	9	4
<b>Total:</b>	117	129	167	

# Wing Configuration Trade Study Tables

Wing Configuration						
	Rectangular	Tapered Straight	Sweptwing (low speed)	Elliptical	Rear Wing Canards	Score Factor
Stability	5	3	3	4	2	4
Lift	4	4	4	3	4	4
Drag	1	4	3	4	3	3
Maneuverability	3	3	2	3	3	3
Fabrication	4	4	2	1	3	2
Structural Weight	2	3	3	3	3	2
Totals:	60	63	53	57	54	

Wing Location				
	High	Mid	Low	Score Factor
Roll and Stability	4	4	3	4
Tail Interference	3	3	4	2
Maneuverability	3	4	4	2
Cruise	3	2	3	2
Payload	4	2	4	3
Stall Characteristics	4	5	3	4
Totals:	62	60	58	

# Tail Configuration Trade Study Table

	Tail Configuration					
	Conventional	T- Tail	V Tail	Inverted V tail (twin boom)	Score Factor	
Stability	4	4		2	3	4
Control	3	4		4	3	5
Drag	3	4		3	2	2
Structural Weight	3	2		4	2	2
Totals:	43	48		42	35	

# Aircraft Testing

Wing Span	72.00 in
Area	594.00 in <sup>2</sup>
Projected Span	72.00 in
Projected Area	594.00 in <sup>2</sup>
Mean Geom. Chord	8.25 in
Mean Aero Chord	8.27 in
Aspect ratio	8.73
Taper Ratio	0.83
Root to Tip Sweep	1.79 °

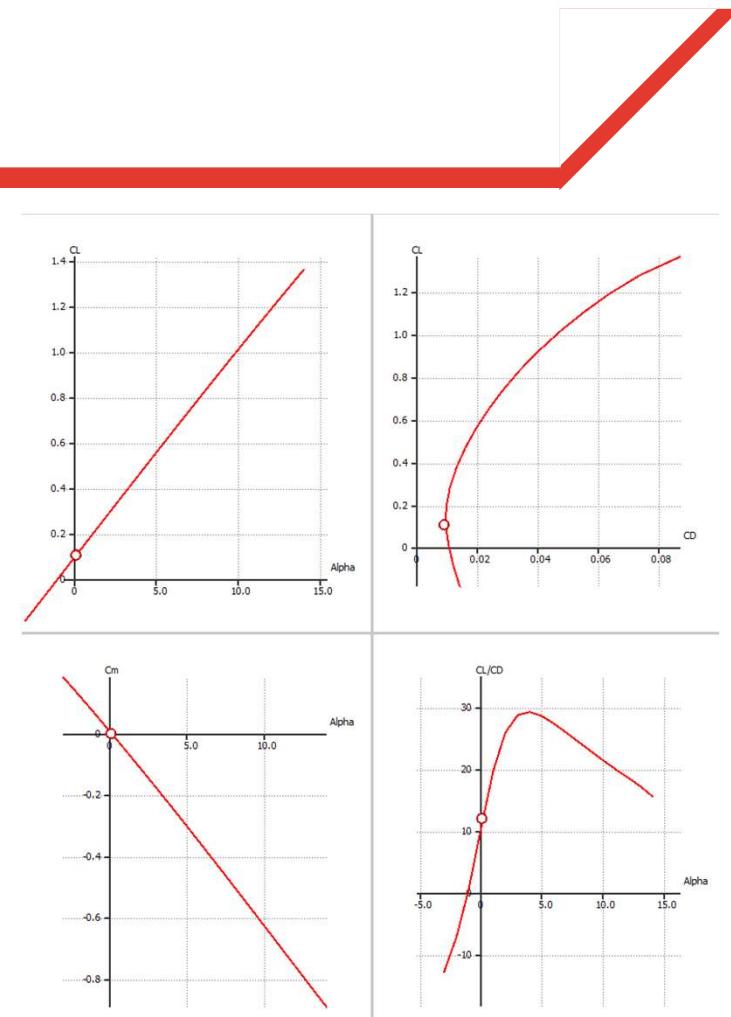
Wing

Wing Span	20.40 in
Area	97.92 in <sup>2</sup>
Projected Span	20.40 in
Projected Area	97.92 in <sup>2</sup>
Mean Geom. Chord	4.80 in
Mean Aero Chord	4.80 in
Aspect ratio	4.25
Taper Ratio	1.00
Root to Tip Sweep	0.00 °

Elevator

Wing Span	16.00 in
Area	43.20 in <sup>2</sup>
Projected Span	16.00 in
Projected Area	43.20 in <sup>2</sup>
Mean Geom. Chord	5.40 in
Mean Aero Chord	5.42 in
Aspect ratio	5.93
Taper Ratio	0.80
Root to Tip Sweep	12.00 °

Tail



# Aircraft Testing Inertias

Weight	Mass (lb)	X (in)	Y (in)	Z (in)
L Motor	1	9	-6	0
R Motor	1	9	6	0
Gimbal	4	-18	0	-3.5
Batteries	4	-12	0	-3.5
Electronics	1	-12	0	-3.5
Fuselage (empty)	2	0	0	-3.5
Life Raft system	6	0	0	-3.5

# Propeller-Motor Data

Prop(inch)	Voltage(V)	Amps(A)	Thrust(gf)	Watts(W)	Efficiency(g/W)	Load temperature in 100% throttle
18*10	22.2	2.1	500	46.62	10.72501073	95°C
		4.7	1000	104.34	9.584052137	
		8.3	1500	184.26	8.140670791	
		12	2000	266.4	7.507507508	
		16.4	2500	364.08	6.86662272	
		21.5	3000	477.3	6.285355123	
		27.5	3500	610.5	5.733005733	
		33.3	4000	739.26	5.410816222	
		40	4500	888	5.067567568	
		47.1	5000	1045.62	4.781851916	
		55.8	5500	1238.76	4.439923795	
		64	6000	1420.8	4.222972973	
		74.1	6500	1645.02	3.951319741	
		84.5	7000	1875.9	3.731542193	
		87.5	7200	1942.5	3.706563707	

# Launch System Comparison

Design Considerations	ELS	PLS	BLS
Takeoff Speed	1	2	3
G-Loading	3	2	1
Size	2	1	3
User Input	3	1	2
Cost	3	2	1
Total	12	8	10



# Recovery System Comparison

Design Considerations	NRS	CRS	PRS
Accuracy	3	2	1
Airframe Impact	2	3	1
G-Loading	2	1	3
User Input	2	3	1
Cost	2	3	1
Total	11	12	7

# References

- [1] United States Coast Guard, *Search and Rescue Summary Statistics*, 2017.
- [2] Schuld, D. and Kurucar, J., *Maritime Search and Rescue via Multiple Coordinated UAS*, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, 2017.
- [3] Remmers, T., "U.S. Coast Guard Unmanned Systems," *U.S. Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Capability*, 2022.
- [4] United States Coast Guard, "Search Planning Guide," *U.S. Guard Addendum to the U.S. NSS*, 2013
- [5] Woodman, W., Telephone interview, 11 February 2023.
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- [8] ThrowRaft Inc., "The Survivor Personal Safety Life Ra," <https://throwraft.com/collections/inflatable-throwables/products/the-survivor>, 2023.
- [9] Uncharted Supply Co., "Rapid Raft," <https://unchartedsupplyco.com/products/rapid-raft>, 2023.
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- [11] PX4 Dev Team, "Pixhawk 4," *PX4 Autopilot User Guide*, 2020.

# References

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[http://aero.us.es/adesign/Slides/Extra/Stability/Design\\_Control\\_Surface\\_Chapter%2012.%20Desig%20of%20Control%20Surfaces%20\(Aileron\).pdf](http://aero.us.es/adesign/Slides/Extra/Stability/Design_Control_Surface_Chapter%2012.%20Desig%20of%20Control%20Surfaces%20(Aileron).pdf)
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[http://aero.us.es/adesign/Slides/Extra/Stability/Design\\_Control\\_Surface/Chapter%2012.%20Desig%20of%20Control%20Surfaces%20\(Rudder\).pdf](http://aero.us.es/adesign/Slides/Extra/Stability/Design_Control_Surface/Chapter%2012.%20Desig%20of%20Control%20Surfaces%20(Rudder).pdf)
- [15] *Charles River Radio Controllers - conventional vs. V-tails* Available:  
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- [16] "Comparative analysis of aerodynamic characteristics of rectangular and ..." Available:  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/344160569\\_Comparative\\_Analysis\\_of\\_Aerodynamic\\_Characteristics\\_of\\_Rectangular\\_and\\_Curved\\_Leading\\_Edge\\_Wing\\_Planforms](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/344160569_Comparative_Analysis_of_Aerodynamic_Characteristics_of_Rectangular_and_Curved_Leading_Edge_Wing_Planforms).

# Figure References

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9	MH-65 Dolphin Helicopter	<a href="#">Link</a>
10	UAVision Spyro Drone	<a href="#">Link</a>
10	Boeing/Insitu ScanEagle In Flight	<a href="#">Link</a>
12	Hybrid Drone	<a href="#">Link</a>
12	Heurobotics Tail-Sitter Drone	<a href="#">Link</a>
12	Boeing/Insitu ScanEagle On Catapult	<a href="#">Link</a>
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26	Gas Motor	<a href="#">Link</a>
26	Glow Motor	<a href="#">Link</a>

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30	ThrowRaft Survivor Life Raft	<a href="#">Link</a>
30	Uncharted Supply Co. Rapid Raft	<a href="#">Link</a>
30	Winslow Marine Super Light RescueRaft	<a href="#">Link</a>
31	Uncharted Supply Co. Rapid Raft Outdoors	<a href="#">Link</a>
36	LOS vs Satellite	<a href="#">Link</a>
37	Commtact MDLS Radio Communications	<a href="#">Link</a>
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