

Malachi Williams  
CAD | FEA | Structural Mechanics

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**I've learned that the greatest opportunities  
are a combination of hard work and grit.**

I've used this perspective through difficult times, and problems to find new solutions. I am seeking the opportunity to demonstrate my love of design, engineering, and problem solving to solve the toughest challenges at SpaceX.

- About Me
- Hyperloop
- Tesla
- Boeing
- Misc. projects

# About Me

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Major: Civil Engineering

Minor: Aerospace Engineering

## Relevant Coursework:

- Advanced Rocket Propulsion
- Aerospace Heat Transfer
- Steel Design
- Structural Analysis
- Fluid Mechanics
- Orbital and Space Flight Mechanics
- Atmospheric Flight Mechanics
- Mechanics of Materials
- Construction Engineering
- Construction Materials
- Transportation Engineering

# Skills

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**Mastery:** Solidworks, CATIA V5, ENOVIA, PDM, GD&T, Lean Manufacturing/5S, LaTeX, 3D printing, Public Speaking, Sketch (UI/UX), HTML/CSS Web Design

**Proficient:** ANSYS (structural), Fusion 360, Manufacturing/machine shop fabrication, MS Project, MatLab, Spanish

**Learning:** ANSYS Fluent (CFD), ANSYS Maxwell, Python, Javascript, ReactJS, AutoCAD (Civil 3D)

Current:

- Director
- Focal for Aerostructures,  
Composites, Suspension

Previous:

- Director
  - Manufacturing & Composites  
Engineer
  - Mechanical / Propulsion Lead
  - Manufacturing Lead
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**UWASHINGTON  
HYPERLOOP**

*The next era of transportation.*

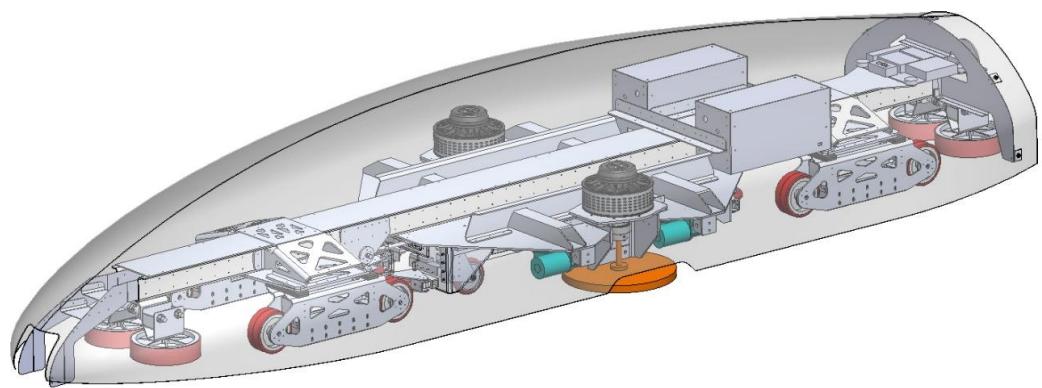
# Overview

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- Placed #6 in the world, and #4 in the nation in SpaceX's first Hyperloop Pod Race Competition 1/27/17
- Placed top 15, and won technical excellence award for best safety sub system in Design Weekend 1/27/16
- Participated as both governing Co-Director, and Focal in Competition II for Aerostructures, Composites, and Suspension

## Projects

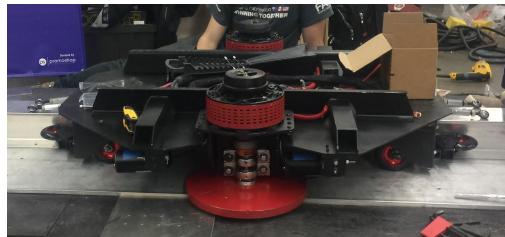
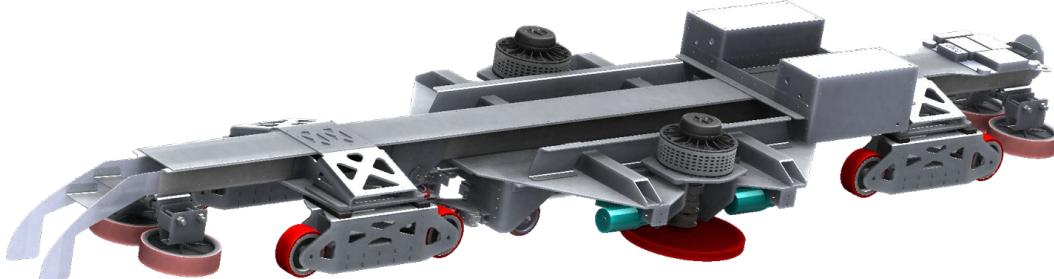
- Composite Design & Manufacturing
- Propulsion Design & Manufacturing
- GSE Design & Manufacturing
- Technical Leadership



# Structural Design

Supported design, mechanical analysis, manufacturing, and assembly of main support structures.

- Led approaches to ensure failure happened at predetermined mechanisms
- Supported top level design review to ensure proper load paths, shear planes, connections, and bolts
- Participated in all stages of manufacturing and assembly.  
*Especially the paint job!*



# Composite Fairing

Led sub team in the process planning, manufacturing.

Supported preliminary analysis and led physical build up.

- Performed two complete layups within one week
- First layup resulted in failure due to improper setting of resin throughout fiber
  - Resulted in delamination between layers, high porosity and dry spots
- Utilized working experience to prepare foam tool, secure new materials, and produce a new 30hr cure, room temp wet layup



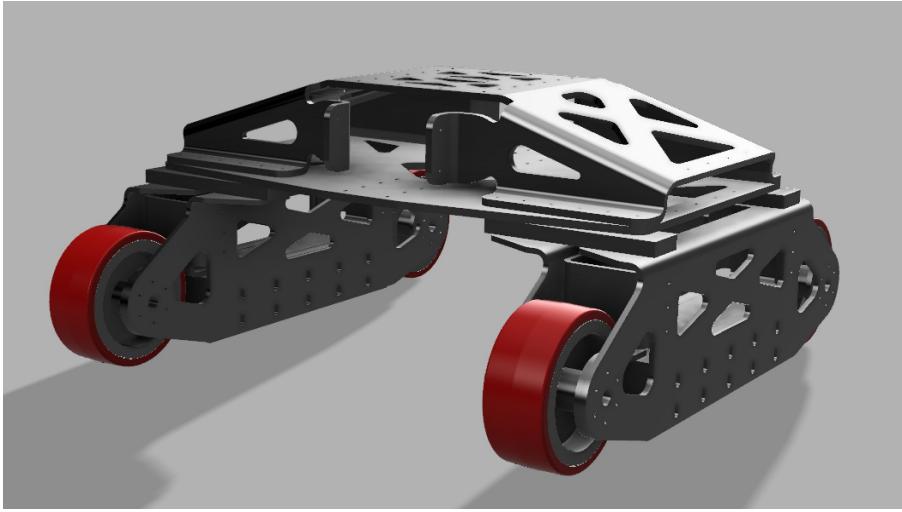
Attempt #1



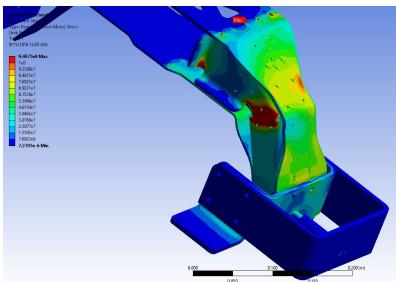
Attempt #2

# Levitation

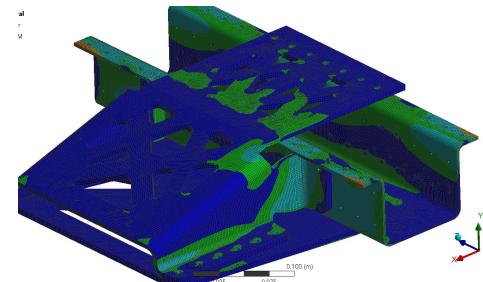
- Supported structural components from an analytical perspective.  
Worked with design team to ensure 2.0 minimum safety factor.
- Performed initial FEA to determine stress concentrations, and how we could lightweight the structure.  
Initial concept could not support large bending moments.
- Worked cross functionally to maintain high level system integrity, and model simplified system dynamics.



Final Structure



Initial Concept



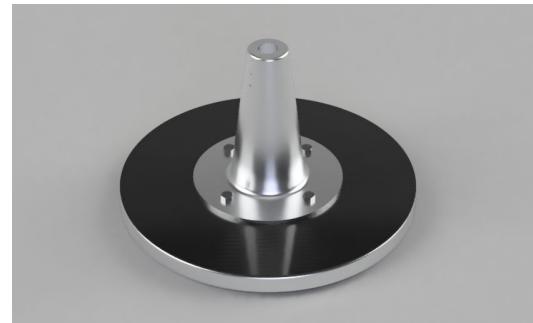
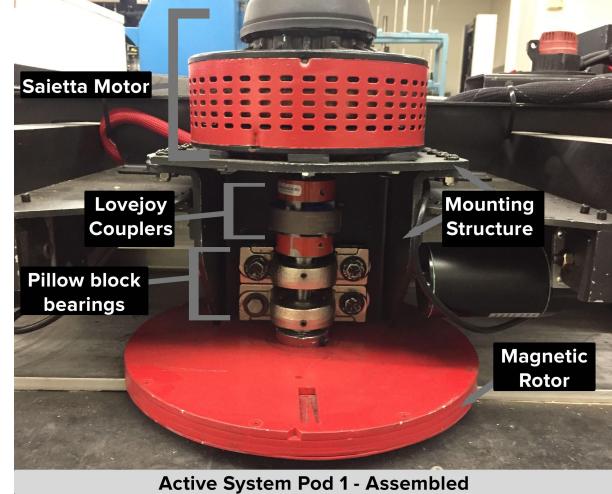
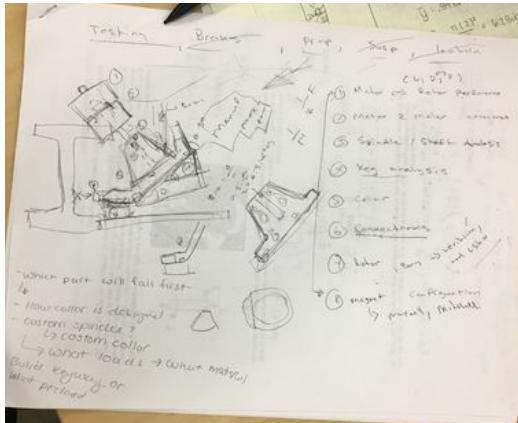
Revised Version

# Propulsion

Performed trade study to determine performance vs. cost vs. manufacturability of electrodynamic rotors.

Performed hand calculations to determine

- Learned electrodynamic characterization to gain understanding of propulsive force
- Utilized top down study to iterate initial concept to a tapered base
- Drove thorough design analysis of connections, intentioned design failures, and safety factor
- Led assembly for finalized run

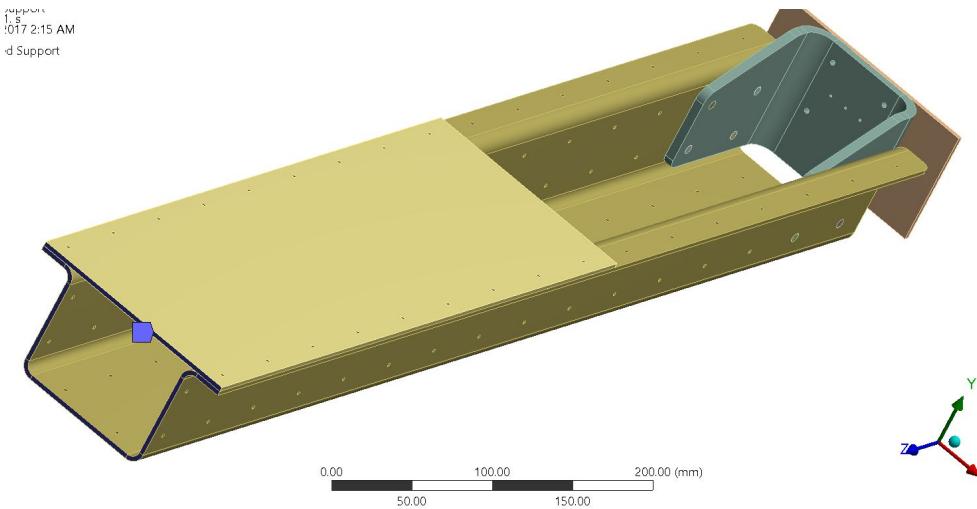


Tapered Rotor Concepts

# FEA

## Meshing and Mechanical Connection

- Two models were built, one with the circular plate as shown in the official design and one with the square plate to be identical with the physical crush test.
- A cylindrical extrusion was used as a “dummy rivet” to simulate shear stress on the rivets. Bolt contact was bonded.
- Hex mesh was used with 3-4 elements over the thickness to accurately give bending stress result, 6-10 elements were used at the holes to reduce singularity stress and for increased stress resolution.

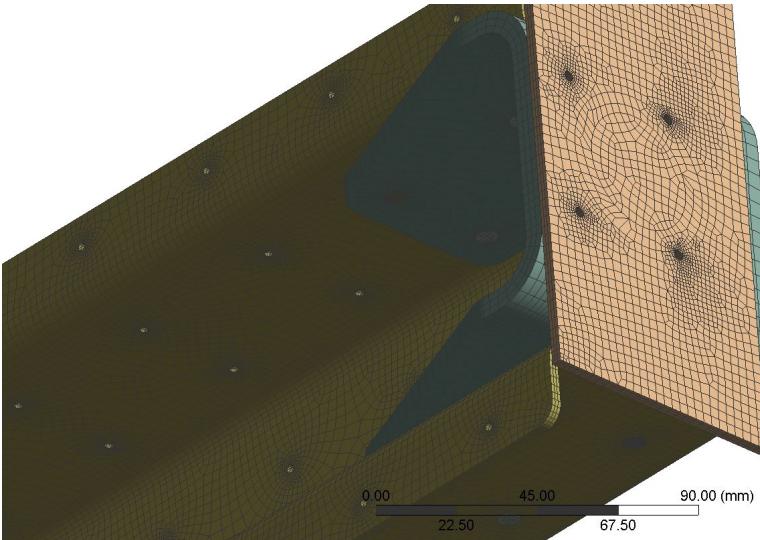


# Boundary Conditions

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## FEA Model Assumptions

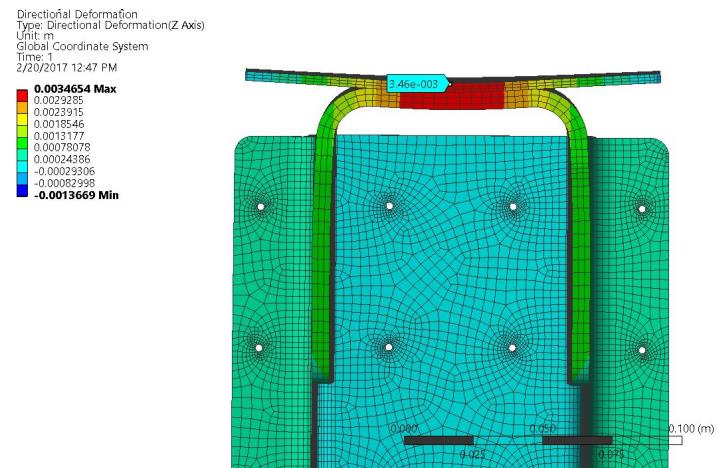
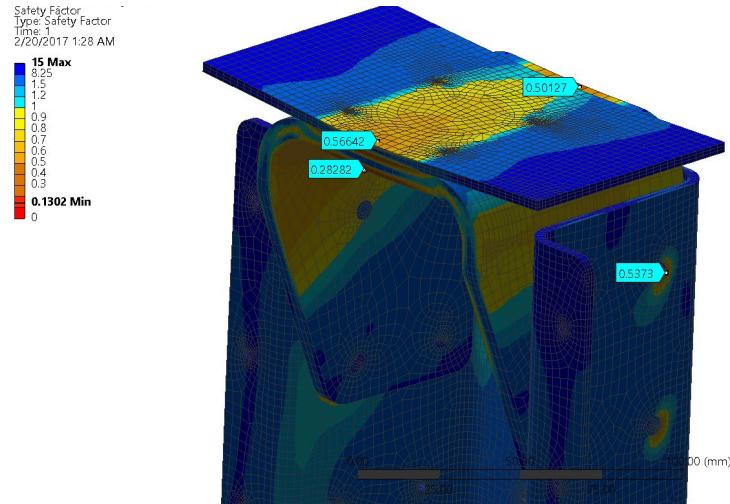
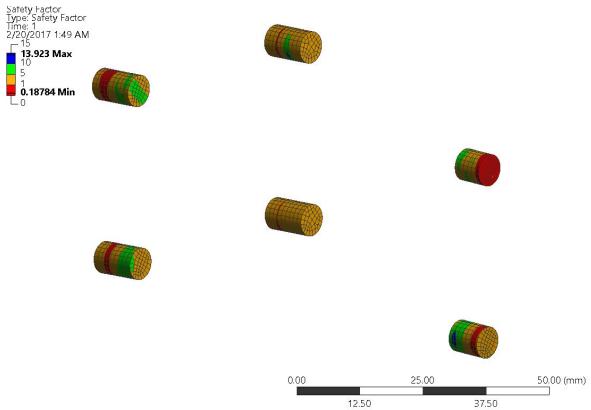
- Middle region of the chassis represents the center of gravity of all pod subsystems.
- The center of gravity has inertia reaction as the pod accelerates 2.5G, thus the fixed support was used at that center of gravity region.
- The 1925lb load applied at the circular mesh region at the back plate in the forward direction to simulate acceleration load.



# Results

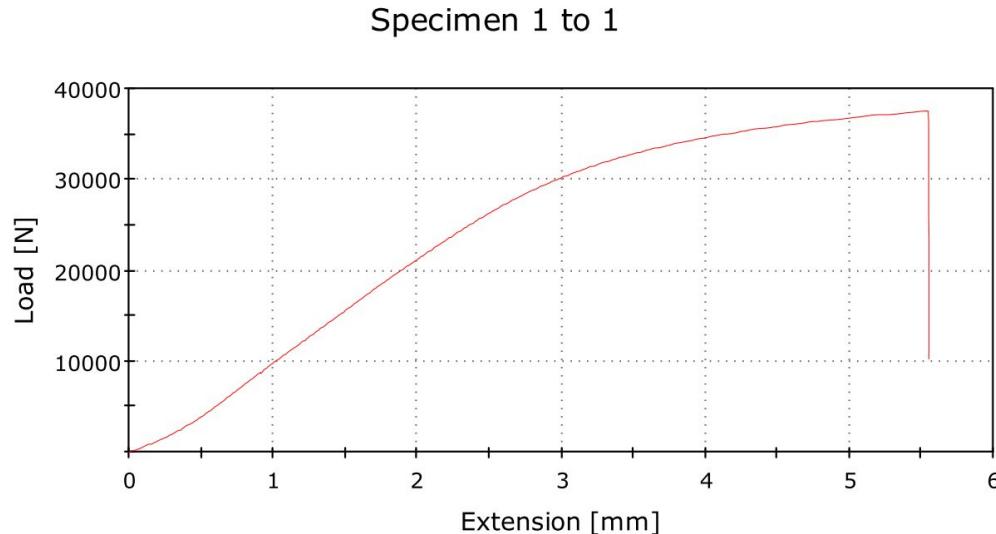
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- Based on the safety factor, the bolt would be very close to failure at this load.
- Deformation is comparable to real life.



# Physical Testing

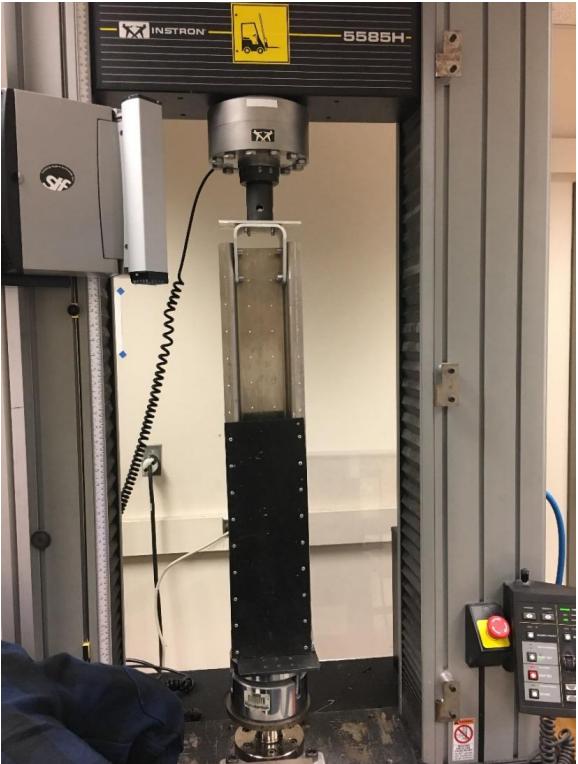
- An INSTRON quasi-static crushing test was done to validate the FEA model.
- A steel tube pushed the plate down slowly until failure. At the time of test, I did not have a chance to install a strain gage to the chassis to compare strain result with the FEA model.



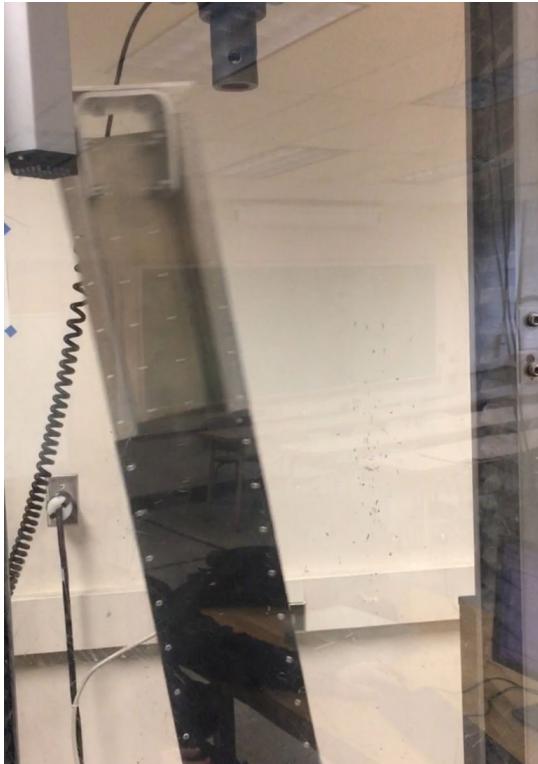
The load history of the test, the chassis failed at the rivet joints at 37,500N (8431lbs)

# Physical Testing Continued

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During test

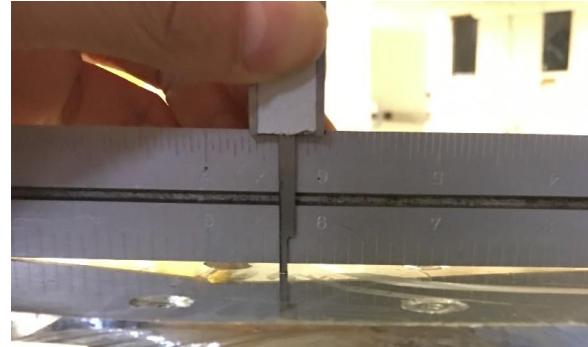


Moment of Failure

# Failure Analysis

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- Two rivets on the rear right side failed before the structure as expected. Maximum shear force rated on those rivets was 780N.



# Business Management

Led the direction of sponsorship procurement and finance allocation.

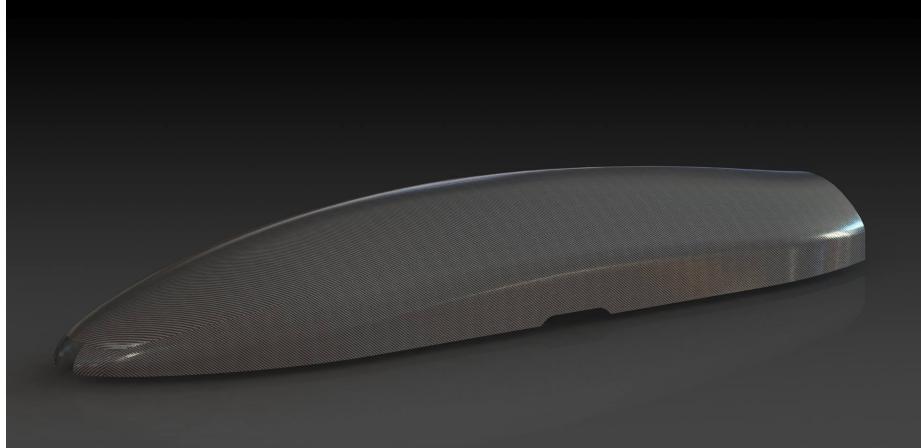
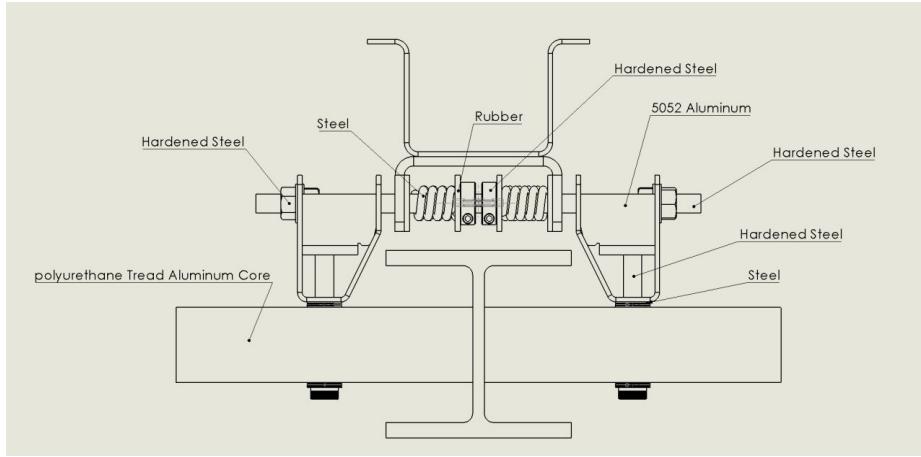
- Achieved lowest cost pod for approved race, of ~\$27,000
- Selected as one of 36, out of 2,000+ in the Hyperloop One Global grand challenge
- Led direction of branding, marketing, initial designs, and web development
- Driving competition sponsorship goal of \$100,000



# Technical Leadership

Investigating kinematic and load analysis, material selection, fault tolerance, and verifying that they meet all SpaceX requirements.

Additionally maintained high fidelity production packages for vendor manufacturing and support.

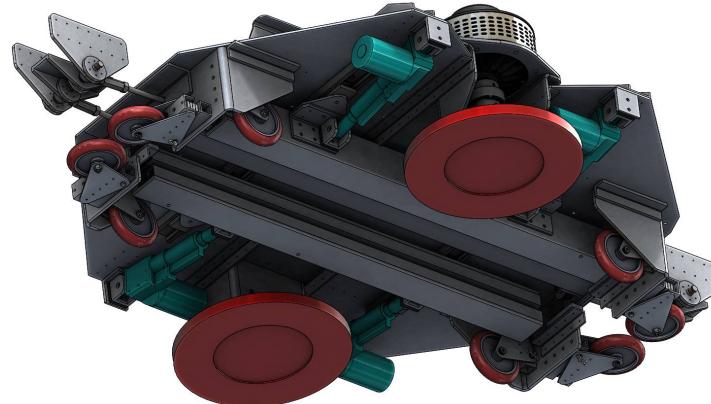


# Technical Leadership 2

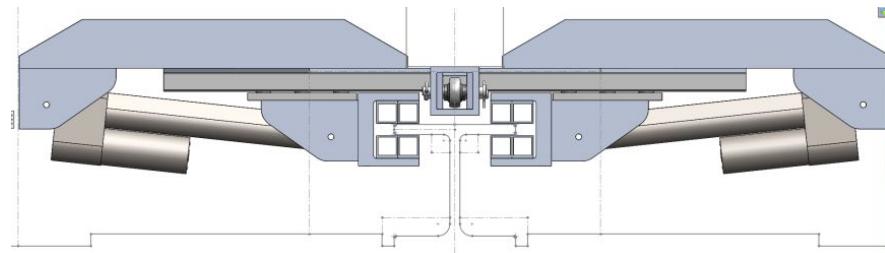
Serving as focal for multiple groups equates to vetting designs for their mechanical proficiency.

Under my supervision

- Chassis
- Composites
- Suspension / Stability
- GSE & Testing Rigs
- Braking
- Propulsion
- Levitation
- Analysis: Structural, CFD, Magnetic



Integrated braking, stability, propulsion bogie



Braking Front View



TESLA

Design Engineering, Exteriors

# Design Engineering

For my internship at Tesla, I focused on CAD and working with other engineering groups to improve exterior vehicle systems!

## Advanced CATIA V5 learning

- Delved deeper into CATIA V5 Generative Shape Design workbench
- Focused on Boolean Operation centered design

## Cross Functional Support

- Worked with body engineering, manufacturing, electrical and tooling to ensure designs were optimized for manufacturing and met product design requirements



# Front Trunk Seal

- Designed and developed front trunk seal and testing concept to validate performance for Model 3
- The front trunk seal serves the purpose as its name entails, to seal the mechanical and electrical closure components for the front trunk
- Designing the part using boolean operations was key here due to the complex mating surface geometry



Due to the proprietary nature I cannot share pictures of actual work.

# NVH Foam Absorber

Here I was able to work with and learn how all of the vehicle systems interact with one another and alter my part accordingly.

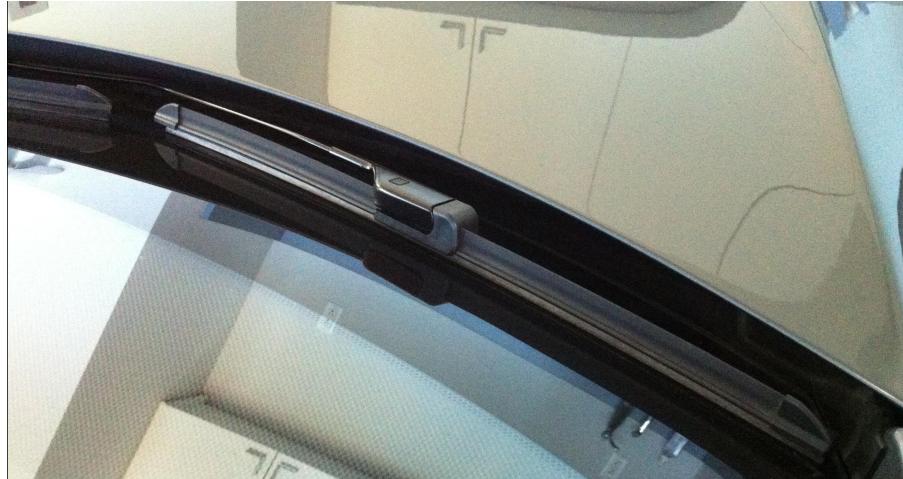
- Designed and developed high frequency NVH foam absorber for Model 3
- The foam absorber is fabricated by compression molding a rigid polyurethane foam and is designed to nest in the vehicle's sheet metal structure
- Design requirements were to maintain a set material thickness to meet NVH requirements and energy transfer characteristics



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# Wiper Arm Rework

- Optimized electro-mechanical wiper systems to eliminate arm rework on assembly line
- Created surfaces of re-worked wiper arms using point cloud data and compared to production designs
- Coordinated with vendors to verify proposed design changes



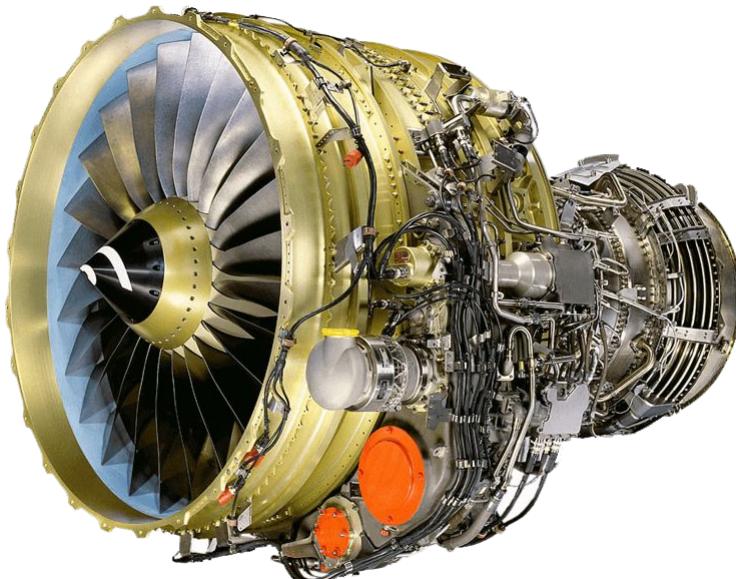
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**Engine Build up Design | Materials Review Board | Fuel Systems Design**

# Engine Build Up Design

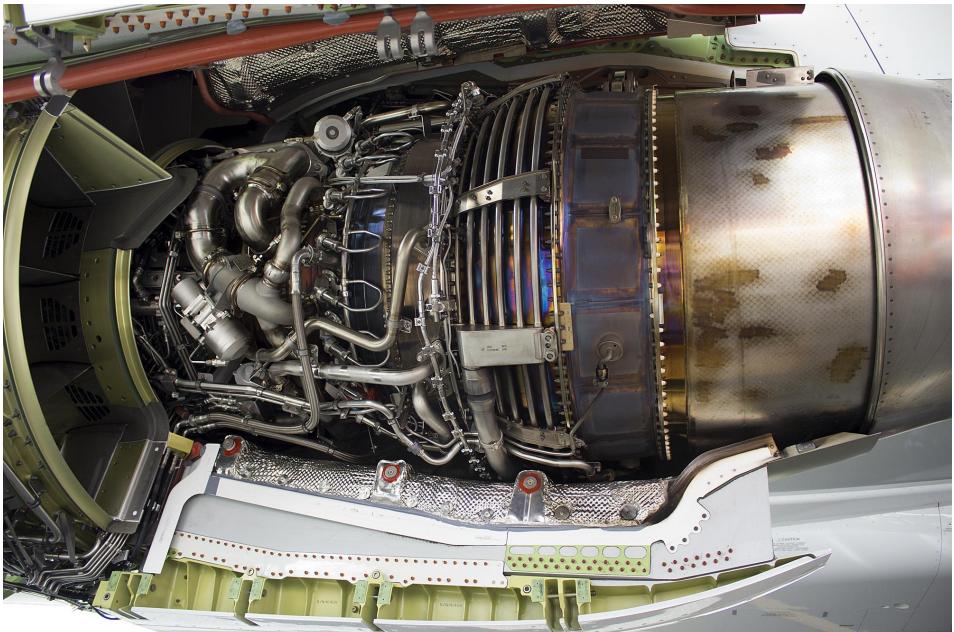
- First intern in the Propulsion Systems Division to lead a product revision improvement project
  - Directed Cowl Thermal Anti-Ice Valve through design release workflow
  - Coordinated with vendor to ensure design changes did not impact part quality
- Developed, maintained and modified structural engine component designs using CATIA V5



Due to the proprietary nature I cannot share pictures of actual work.

# Materials Review Board

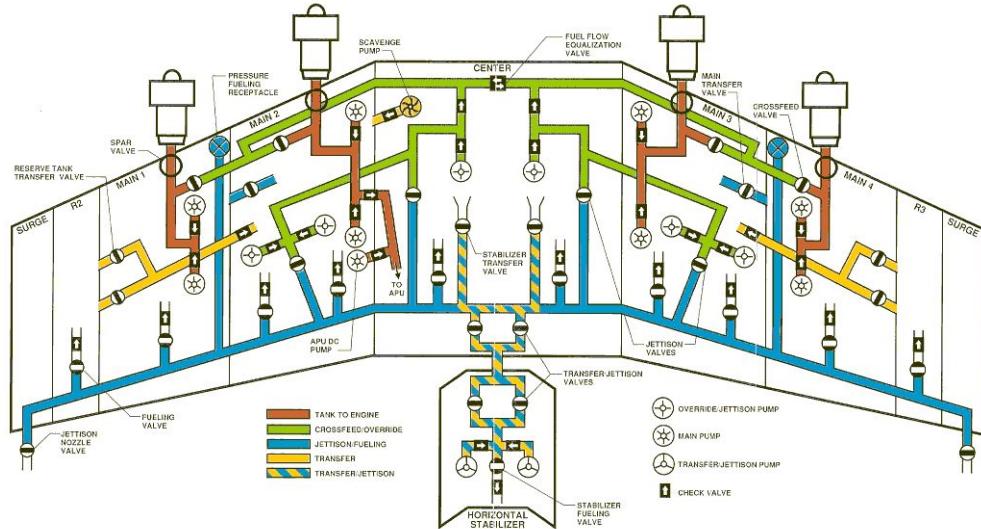
- Developed repair instructions to resolve damage/deviations on the CFM56-7B turbofan engine structure and components
- Utilized knowledge of material specifications and manufacturing methods to ensure that specifications, design, criteria and performance schedules were maintained
- First intern to be sole engineer on site to facilitate engine build up line at 42 airplanes per month build rate



Due to the proprietary nature I cannot share pictures of actual work.

# Fuel Systems Design

- Traveled to permanent mold casting foundry to create visual inspection criteria and guidelines for suppliers to mitigate surface discontinuities found on aluminum cast parts
- Built support brackets using CATIA V5 sheetmetal workbench and created detailed installation drawings for fuel quantity indication system wash line tubing
- Investigated and resolved pre-flight volumetric tap off issues and completed drawing change release in time to not impact production



Due to the proprietary nature I cannot share pictures of actual work.

# misc

*Developing engineering excellence through side projects.*

# L-2 Rocket

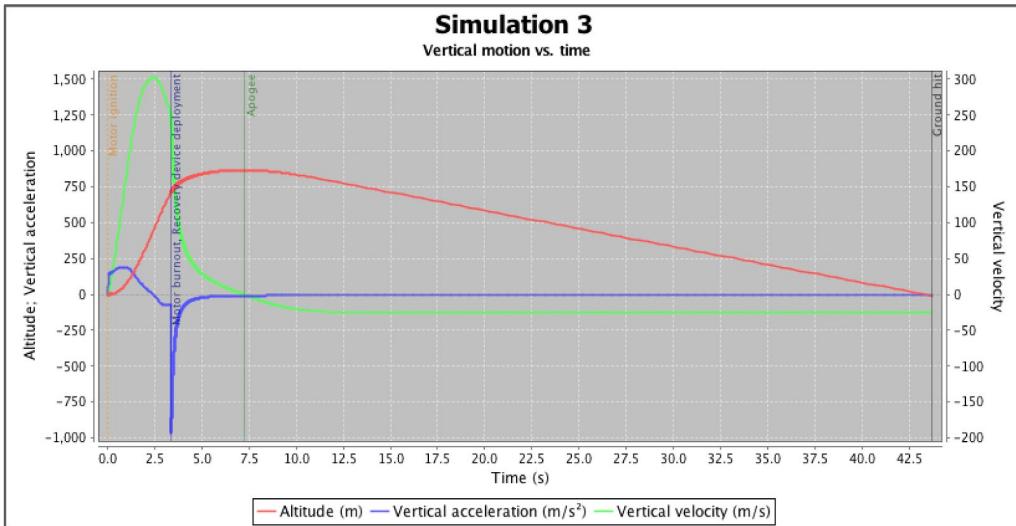
Worked in a group of engineering students to build and launch an L-2 rocket.

- Designed, manufactured and launched a fiberglass single stage, K695R-L motor rocket
- Utilized main and drogue dual parachute system for redundancy



# L-2 Rocket Analysis

- Used OpenRocket to create flight simulation using given stage design and motor configuration
- Designed, manufactured and soldered wires for the electronics payload, that consisted of a flight altimeter, batteries and safety switches
- Designed to reach apogee at 890 meters with a speed of Mach 0.91

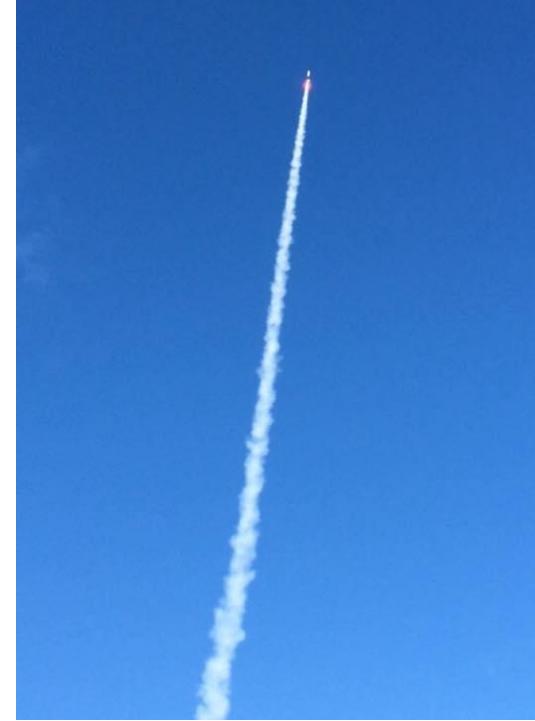


# L-2 Rocket Flight

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Take Off

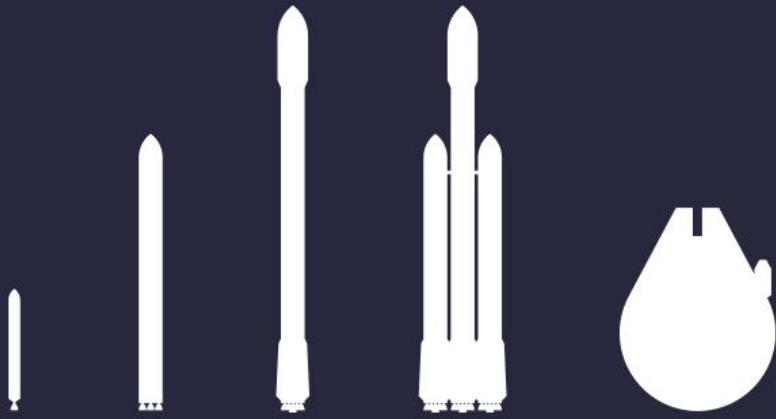


There it goes!

# UAV Drone

- 
- Gained in depth experience in Solidworks parametric design, GD&T, and complex assemblies
  - Utilized complex surfacing
  - Designed utilizing pictures from google searches





Thank you!  
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