



# GAUCHOHAWK CRITICAL DESIGN REVIEW

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Jack Zang, Richard Young, and Shawn Zhang

# INTRODUCTION

## What is the Pixhawk?

Pixhawk is an independent, open-hardware project aiming at providing high-end autopilot hardware and open-source flight control software to the academic, hobby, and industrial communities at low costs and high availability.



## Pixhawk Pitfalls

1. No high quality inertial measurement unit (IMU) for precision flight control.
2. No magnetometer for extended periods of inertial guidance and state estimation.
3. No Ethernet interface for high speed connection to Linux Computers or IP data links.
4. No Real Time Kinetic (RTK) capable GPS for accurate reference "truth" measurements.
5. No precise time source for time-stamping sensor data in absence of GPS.



**Pixhawk + Improved Hardware + a few Gauchos  
(and a little help from Aerovironment)**

= **GauchoHawk**

# MEET THE TEAM

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Vikram Sastry      Team Lead, System Design

Yesh Ramesh      Software Porting, Digital Design

Kurt Madland      Analog & Digital Design, System Design

Jack Zang      Analog & Digital Design, System Design

Shawn Zhang      Software Porting, Interface Design

Richard Young      Software Porting, Interface Design

Philip Tokumaru      Project Advisor from Aerovironment





# PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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## Shield Hardware Development

We propose to use the STMicroelectronics Nucleo-STM32F767ZI board in conjunction with a "Shield" daughterboard to introduce a high quality IMU, Barometer/Altimeter, Magnetometer, Airspeed Sensor, RTK GPS, XBEE Radio, SBUS, CAN, Servo/Motor PWM, and Interrupt/GPIO capability.

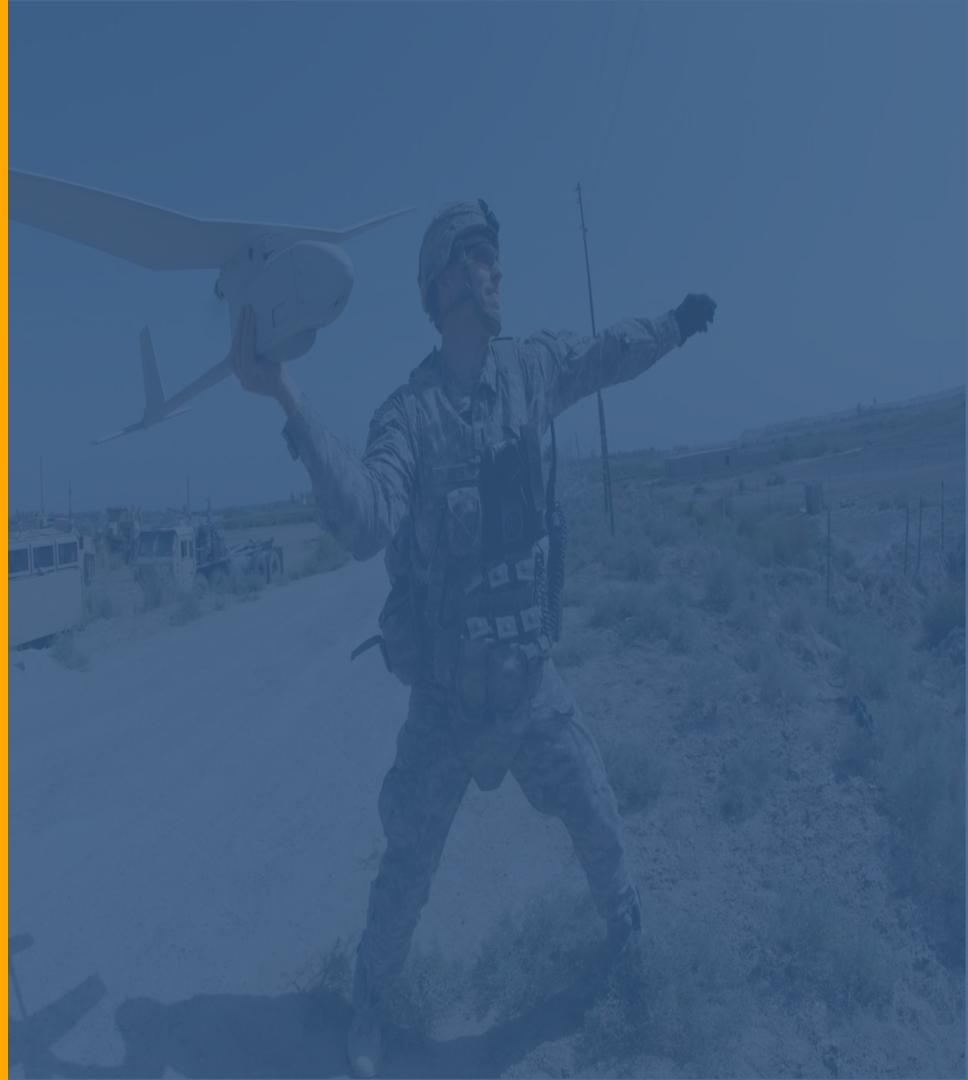
## PX4 Software Implementation

We propose to port the open source PX4 middleware, flight control stack, and NuttX OS to the Nucleo board and develop a new sensor driver suite to support the full expanded functionality of the sensor shield daughterboard.

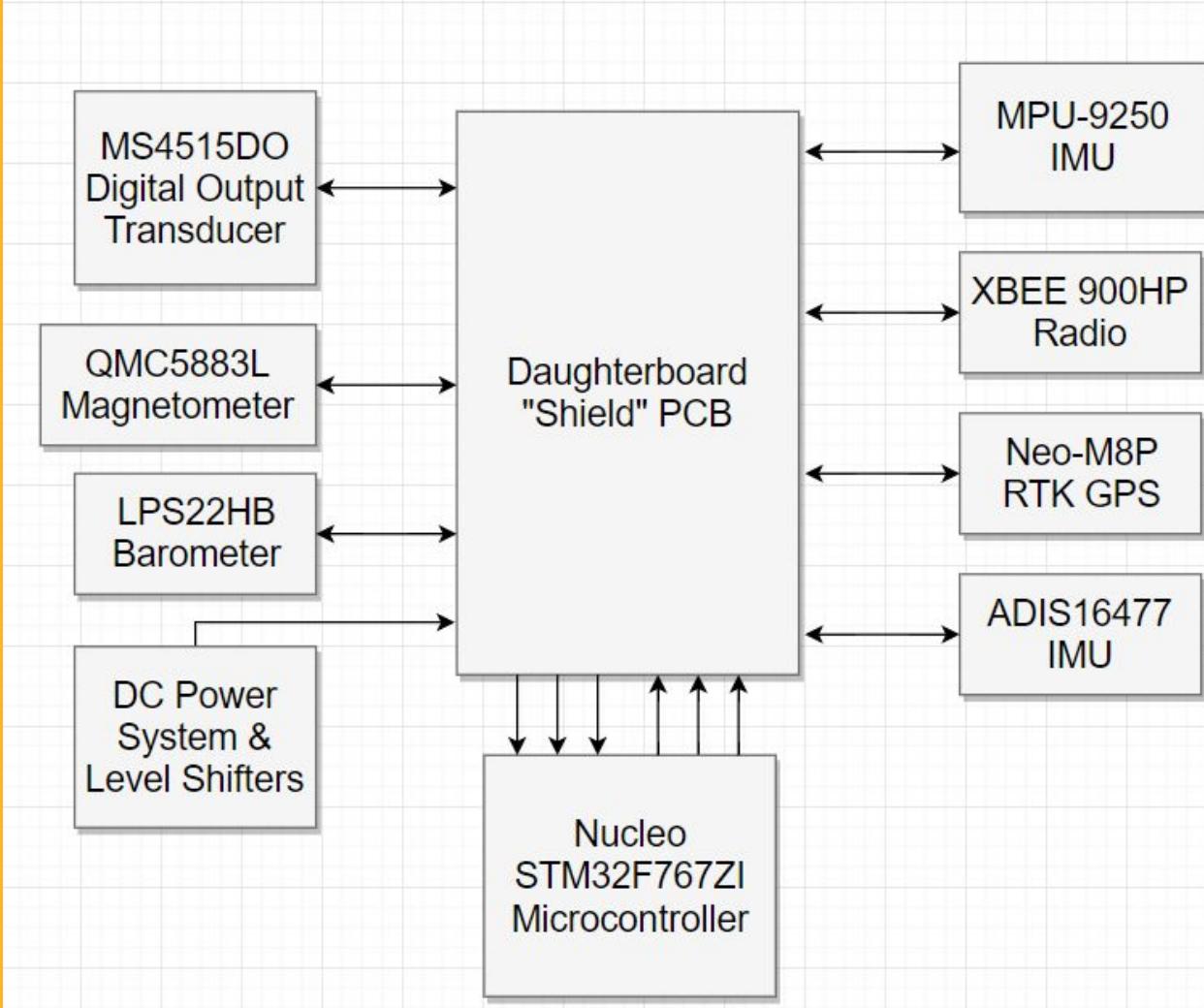
# PROJECT APPLICATIONS

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1. Agriculture
  - Identifying irrigation deficiencies, inspect crops for stress, etc.
2. Military
  - Training, tactical UAV missions, missile guidance, etc.
3. Online Retail
  - Reduce delivery overhead, etc.
4. Many more...



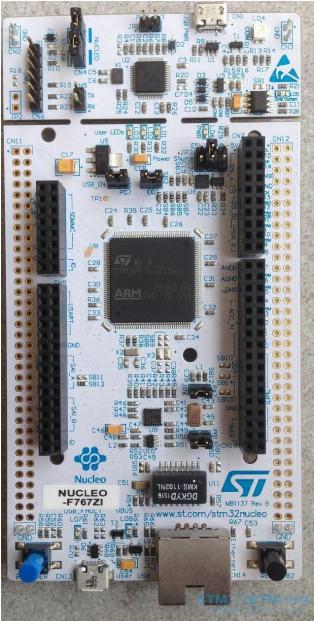
# SYSTEM DESIGN OVERVIEW



# Components

- Features that we concern about:
  - I2C or SPI interface
  - Power Efficiency
- List of Components
  - Microcontroller Unit - STM32F767ZI
  - Wireless Network - XBEE 900HP
  - Pressure - LPS22HB
  - Pressure & Temperature - MS4515DO
  - Navigation - Neo-M8P
  - Magnetometer - QMC5883L
  - Motion Tracking - MPU-9250 IMU

# STM32F767ZI



## Microcontroller Unit

- Arm® 32-bit Cortex®-M7 CPU
- Up to 216 MHz CPU frequency
- Up to 2 Mbytes of Flash memory
- SRAM: 512 Kbytes
- Up to 4 I2C interfaces
- Up to 6 SPIs

## XBEE 900HP

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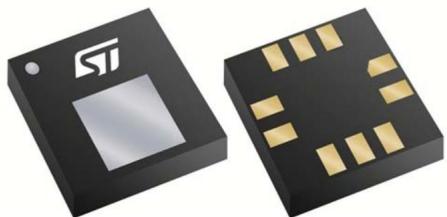


## Radio Frequency Module

- Provide wireless connectivity to end-point devices in mesh networks
- ADF7023 transceiver, Cortex-M3 EFM32G230 @ 28 MHz
- RF data rate at 200 kbps and 10 kbps
- 10 Kbps: up to 2000 ft (610 m)
- 200 Kbps: up to 1000 ft (305 m)
- 128-bit AES encryption

## LPS22HB

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**HLGA-10L**  
**(2.0 x 2.0 x 0.76 mm)**

## Barometer

- Full-mold, holed LGA package (HLGA)
- 260 to 1260 hPa absolute pressure range
- Need to be separated from heat source

## MS4515DO

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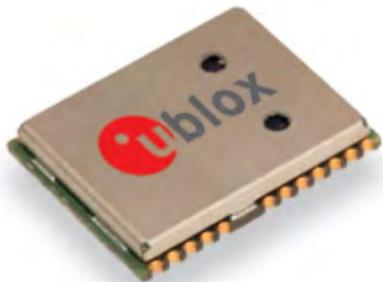


# Pressure & Temperature Transducer

- Pressure Ranges from 2 to 30 inches H<sub>2</sub>O
- Differential & Gage Temperature Compensated
- Total error band (TEB) of less than 1.0% over the compensated range
- Standby mode (1 uA)

## Neo-M8P

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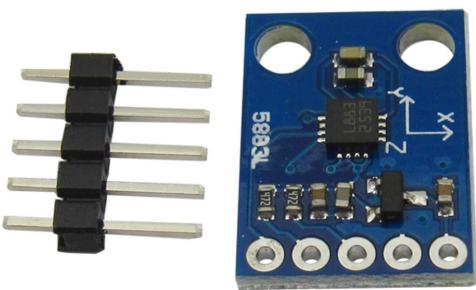
NEO-M8P  
12.2 x 16.0 x 2.4 mm

## High Precision GNSS Modules

- GNSS = Global Navigation Satellite System
- Integrated Real Time Kinematics (RTK)
- Moving Baseline support
- Centimeter-level accurate position measurement between base and rover
- Convergence time 2 RTK < 60 sec

## QMC5883L

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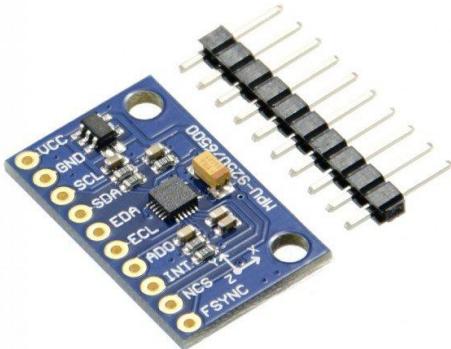


### 3-Axis Magnetic Sensor

- 1° to 2° compass heading accuracy
- Designed for battery powered applications
- Offering two modes:
  - Continuous measuring mode
  - Standby mode

# MPU-9250 IMU

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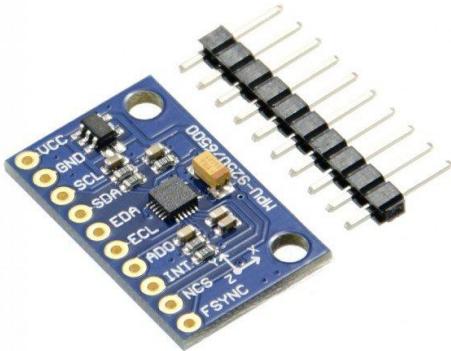


## 9-Axis Motion Tracking device

- IMU = Inertial Measurement Unit
- 3-Axis gyroscope
- 3-Axis accelerometer
- 3-axis magnetometer
- Digital Motion Processor
- Low power consumption
  - Normal Mode - 9.3  $\mu\text{A}$
  - Low Power Mode - 6.4  $\mu\text{A}$

# ADIS16477 HP IMU

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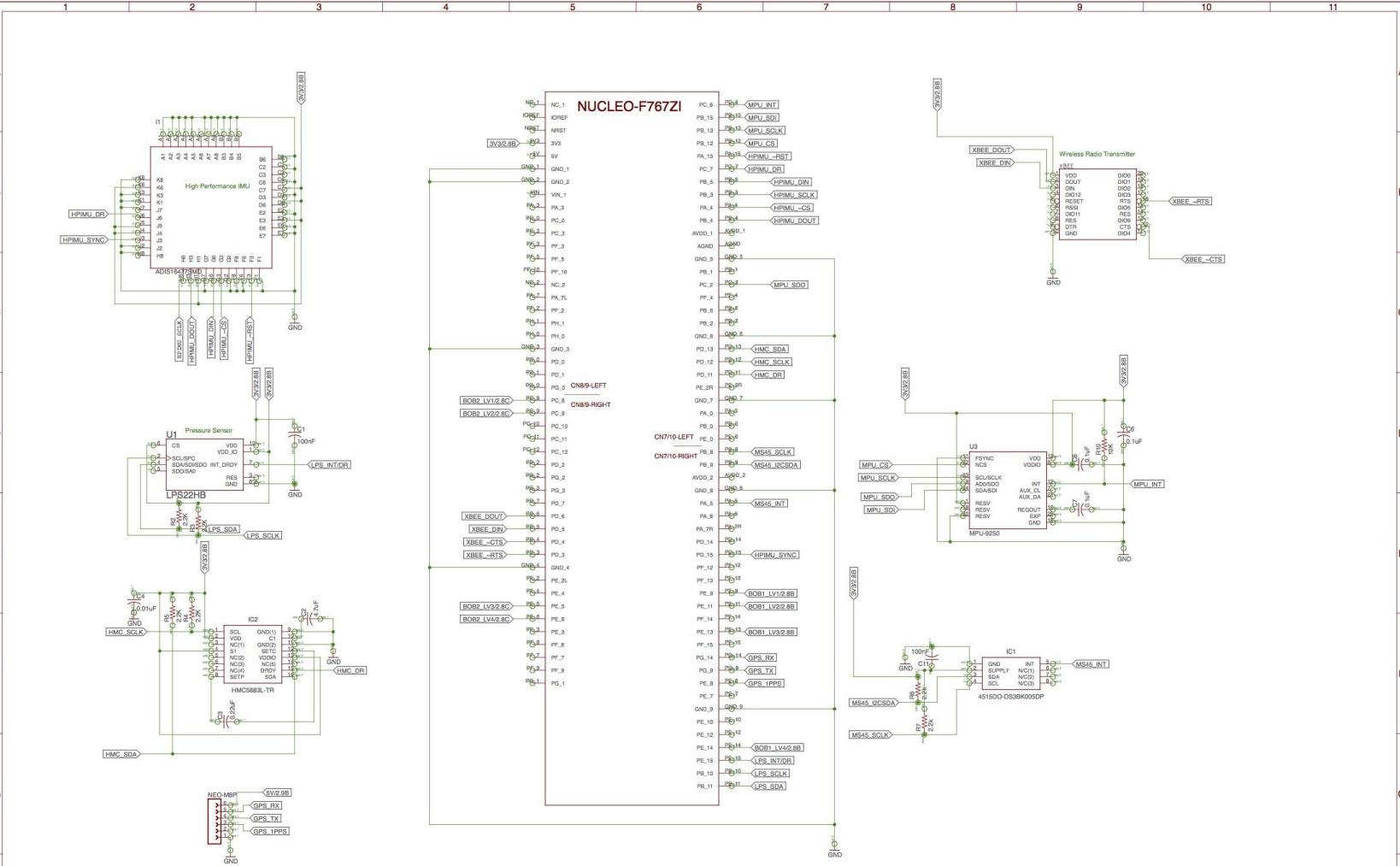


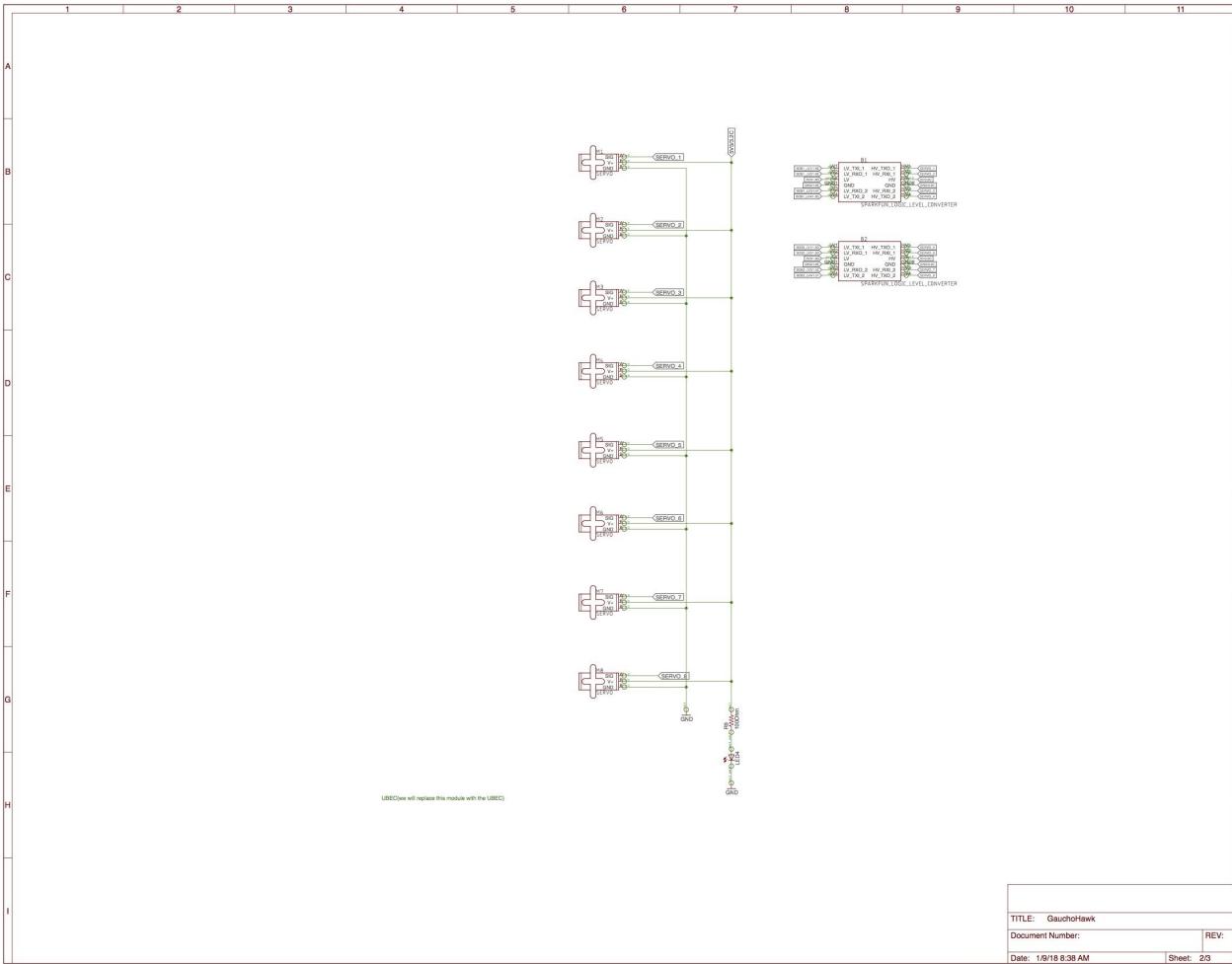
## High Performance IMU

- IMU = Inertial Measurement Unit
- Triaxial digital gyroscope
- Triaxial digital accelerometer
- Triaxial digital magnetometer
- Digital Motion Processor
- Low power consumption
  - Normal Mode - 9.3  $\mu$ A
  - Low Power Mode - 6.4  $\mu$ A

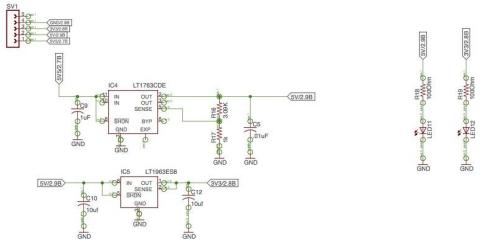
# PCB SCHEMATIC

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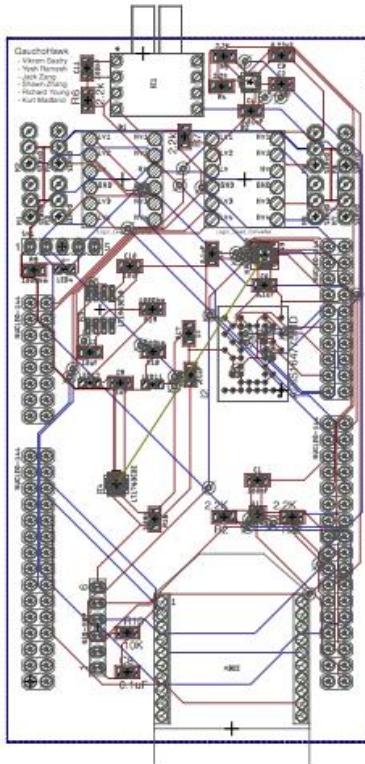


# Power System



# PCB LAYOUT

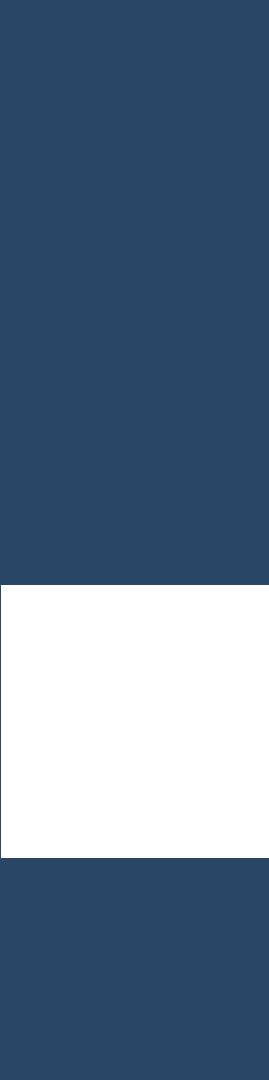
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# BILL OF MATERIALS

Attached to this project

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# POWER DISTRIBUTION

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## Power Distribution

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### Supplying 24V to our PCB

- 5.5 V analog (servos), 5V digital, and 3.3V digital
- Servos require 5.5V to VDD

Component	Supply Voltage
Servos (8)	5.5V
Peripherals (7)	3.3V
Servos Signal (8)	5V



# CRITICAL ELEMENTS (potential failure points)

## Critical Elements

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- IMU sensors are noisy
  - High performance IMU is sensitive to noise
- PX4 software is not portable as is
  - PX4 Opensource Autopilot for F7 may need modifications to be compatible with the board.
  - Autopilot drivers may not work with custom peripherals
- Traces to Servos are too thin
  - Servos draw a lot of current
  - Traces are 12 mil

# Moving Forward

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- Winter Quarter
  - Port PX4 onto STM32F7
  - Have a working board with all peripherals communicating
- Spring Quarter
  - Depends on how far we get in winter



Thanks!

Any questions?