

Introduction to Aerial Robotics

Lab Tutorial 1



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Introduction

Logistics of Lab Tutorials

- Lab tutorial 1 (08&09 March): Drone assembling and manual flight
- Lab tutorial 2 (15&16 March): Development environment and fly in API mode with OptiTrack
- Lab tutorial 3 (26&27 April): State estimation and trajectory planning by your own

Today's Objective

- Assemble your quadrotor
- Let TA check your quadrotor
- Fly the quadrotor under manual control (ATTI Mode)

Prerequisite Knowledge

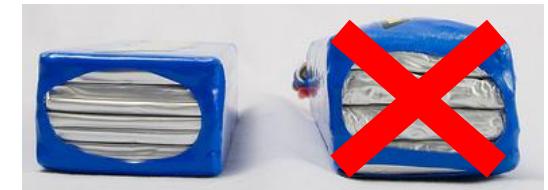
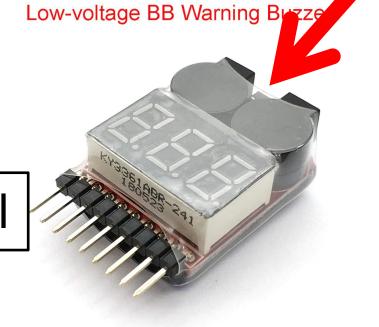
- Common sense of mechanical assembly
 - Types of screws
 - Properly tightening screws
- Soldering

Safety Reminder

Safety Reminder

- Battery
 - Use BB Buzzer to check battery every time before flight
 - !!! At least 15.8V before flight, duration should be less than 5 minutes
 - !!! Stop use the battery immediately when the buzzer starts “b~b~b~b~”
 - Do not charge it by yourself if you are not familiar with Li-Po
 - !!! Improper battery charging will burn Robotics Institute
 - !!! Do not use swollen batteries for flight
 - Put used batteries into the “Used Battery” box
 - Try not to make it less than 14.8V

set to 3.7V per cell



Safety Reminder

- Soldering
 - !!! Do not touch the working soldering iron (400 °C)
 - !!! Do not touch the soldering joint immediately after soldering
 - Put idle soldering iron in stand
 - Turn soldering iron off immediately when you finish your work
- Hot-melt adhesive
 - !!! Do not touch the iron head
 - !!! Do not touch the adhesive that is melt



Safety Reminder

- Electric Tools
 - Do not use electric tools if you have no experience
 - !!! Wrong way to use electric tools may cause a wrist sprain
- Propellers
 - Do not install any propellers until TA checks your UAV
 - !!! Spining propellers can cause severe damage
 - Also beware of rotors spining under high speed even without propellers

Assembled Quadrotor (Reference)



Quadrotor BOM

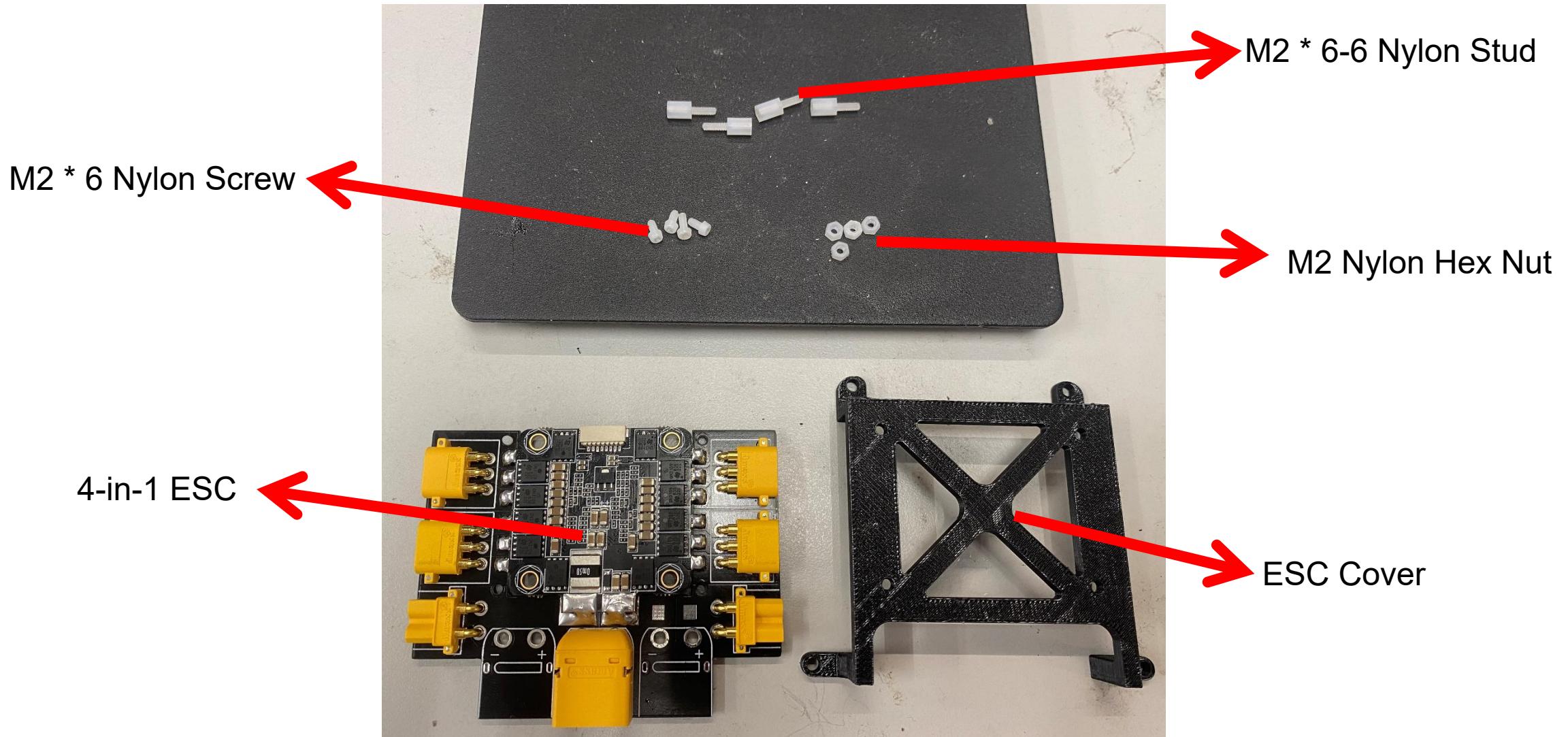
- Provided in equipment box, also uploaded to Canvas
- Be careful during your experiments, as the total cost of your quadrotor is more than **HKD 25,000!**
- Please check your equipment with the BOM list first.
Contact TAs if you find any part missing.

Part 1

Quadrotor Assembly Part 1

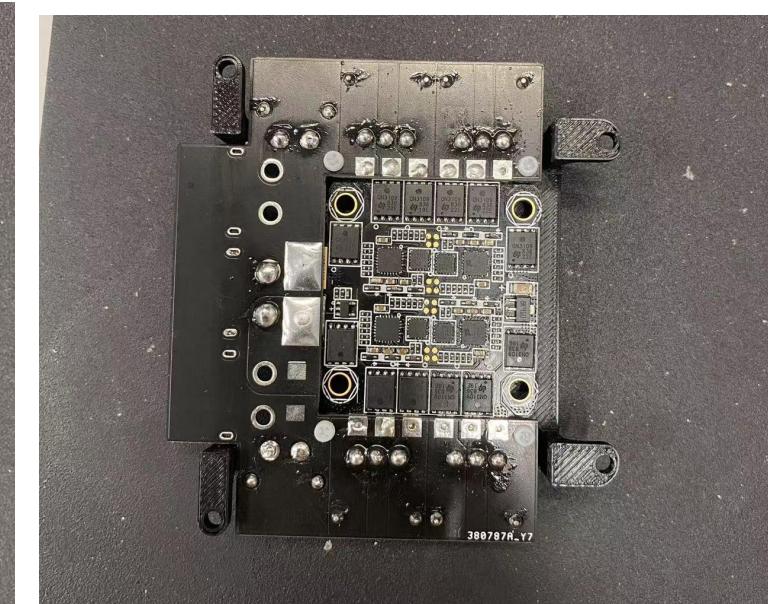
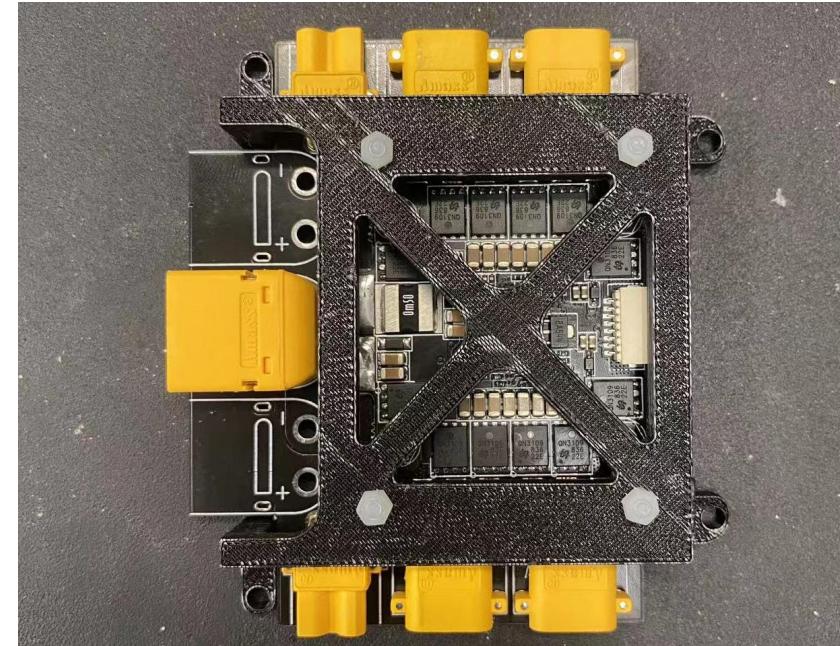
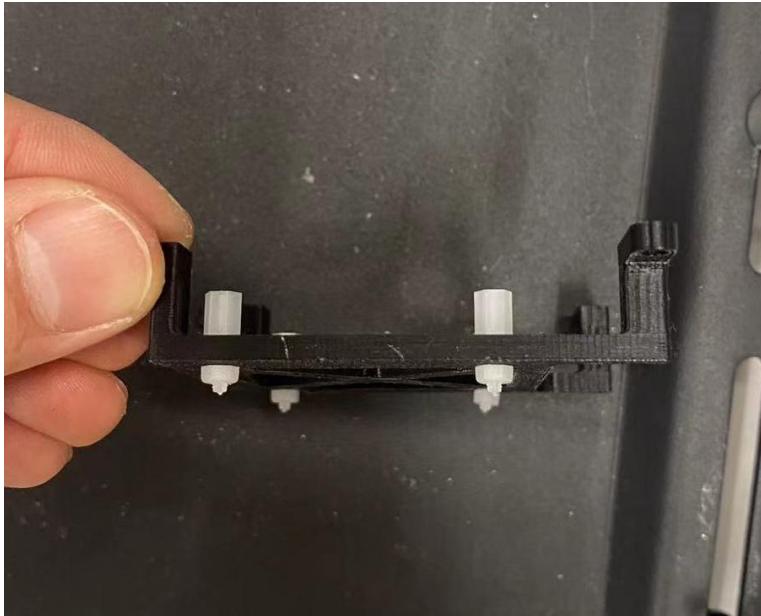
- Equipment List:

Item	Quant.
ESC Cover	1
4 in 1 ESC	1
M2 * 6 Nylon Screw	4
M2 * 6-6 Nylon Stud	4
M2 Nylon Hex Nut	4

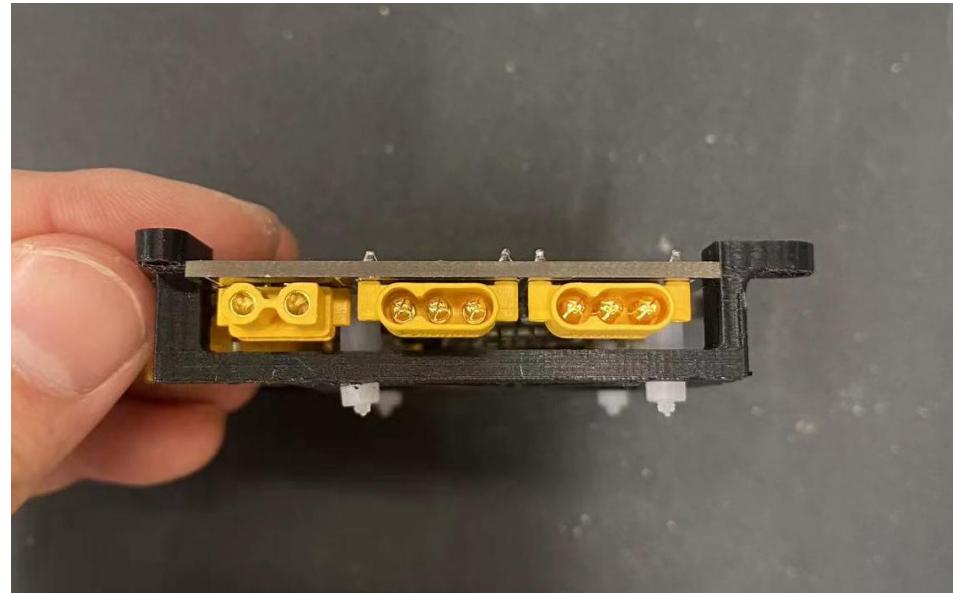


Quadrotor Assembly Part 1

- Part 1: Baseboard (power distribution & ESC)



Quadrotor Assembly Part 1



Part 2

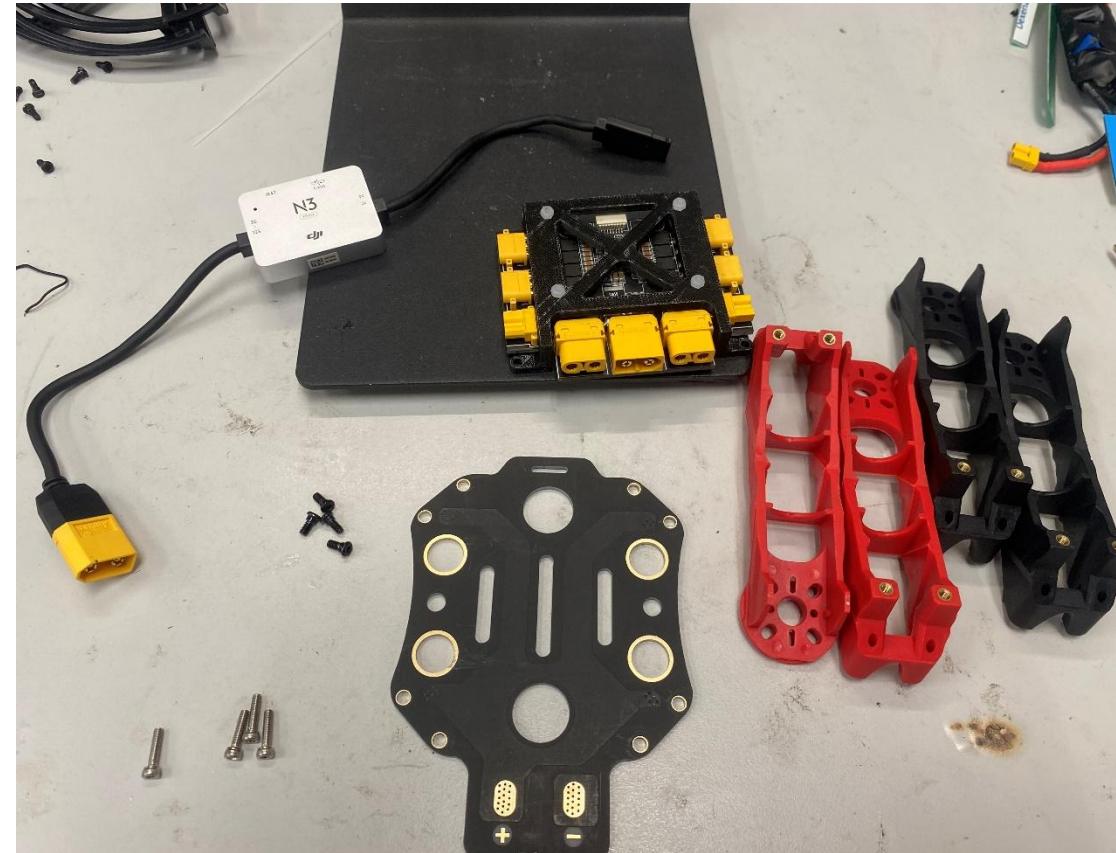
Quadrotor Assembly Part 2

- Equipment List:

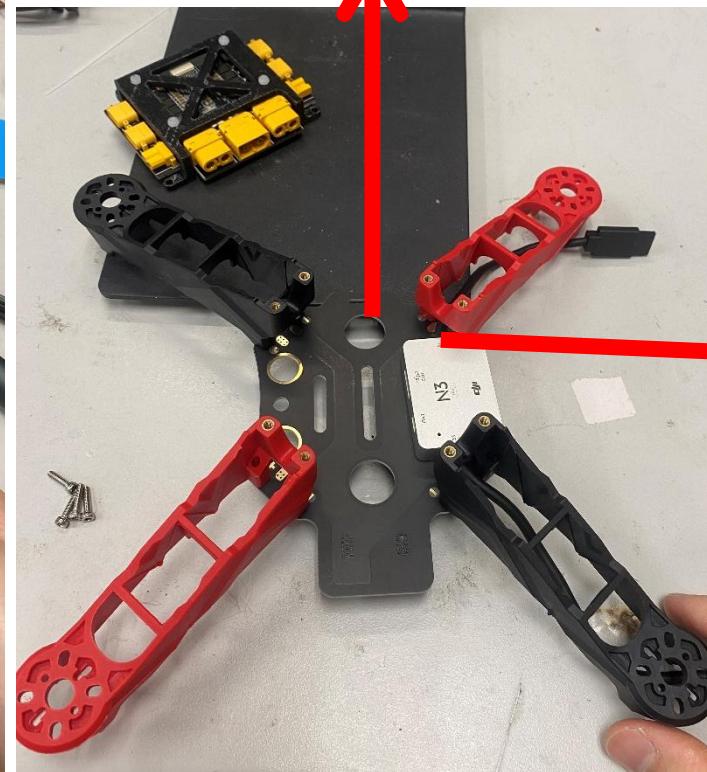
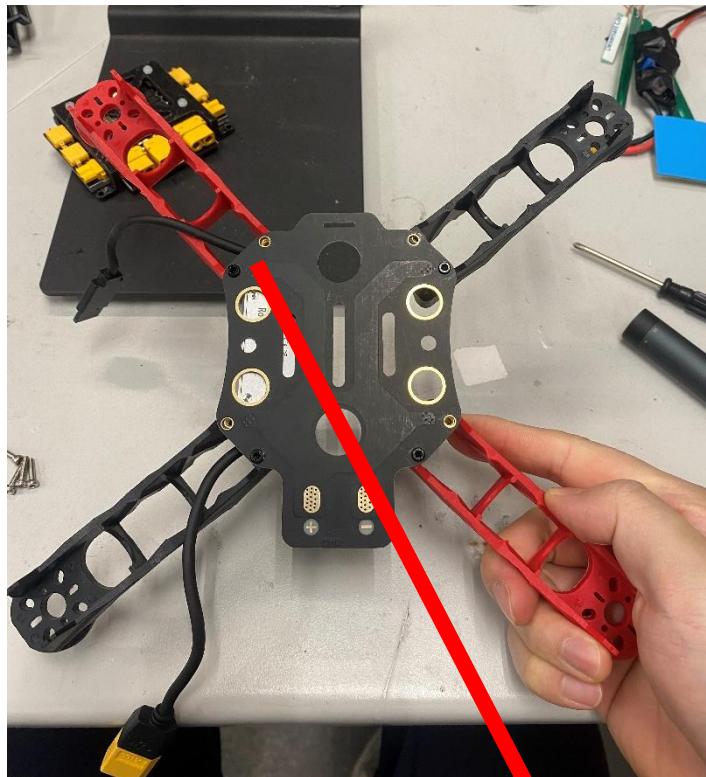
Item	Quant.
Q250 Arm	4
Baseboard	1
N3 PMU	1
M2.5 * 4 Step Screw	4
M2.5 * 10	4
Part1	1

Quadrotor Assembly Part 2

- **Part 2:** Assemble the base frame



Quadrotor Assembly Part 2



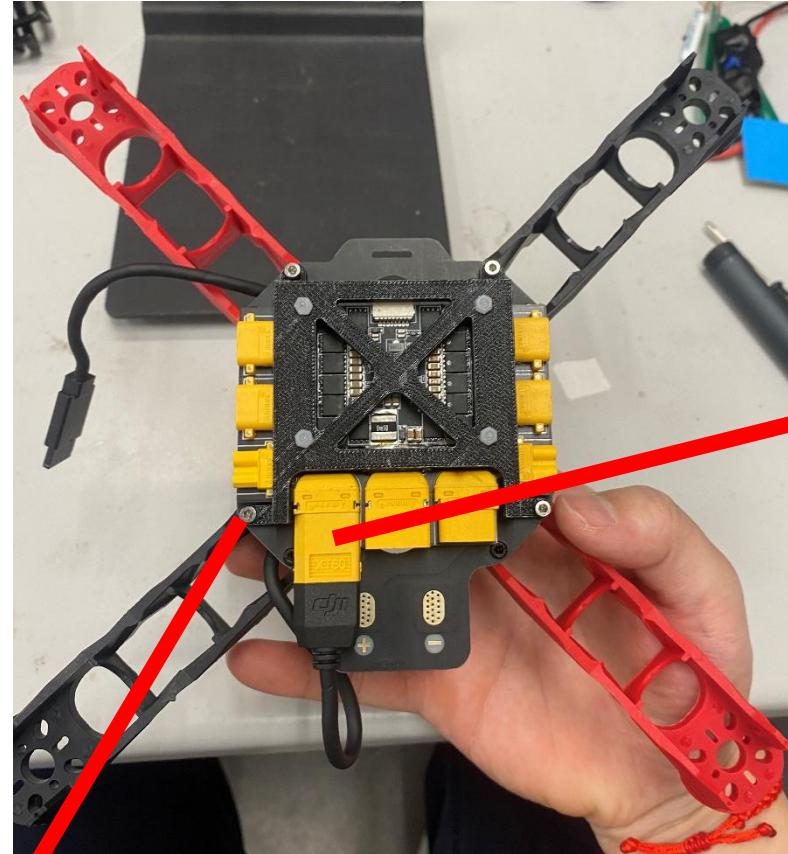
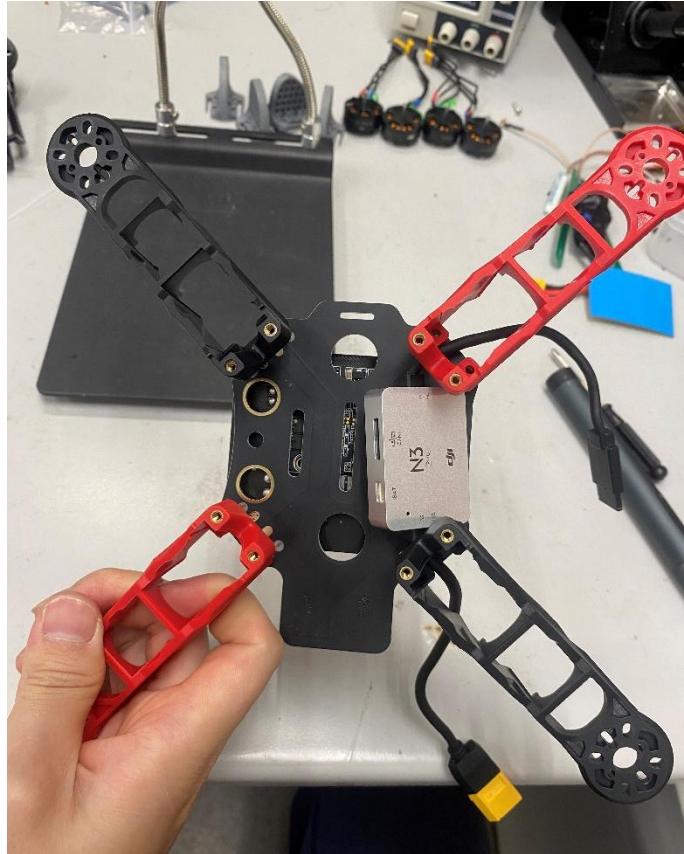
Head



N3 PMU wires should be installed inside the arms.
Be careful with N3's install position. It should be on the right side

Be careful with M2.5 *4 screws' position and direction

Quadrotor Assembly Part 2



Plug in PMU XT60 socket

Be careful with M2.5 *10 screws' position and direction

Quadrotor Assembly Part 3

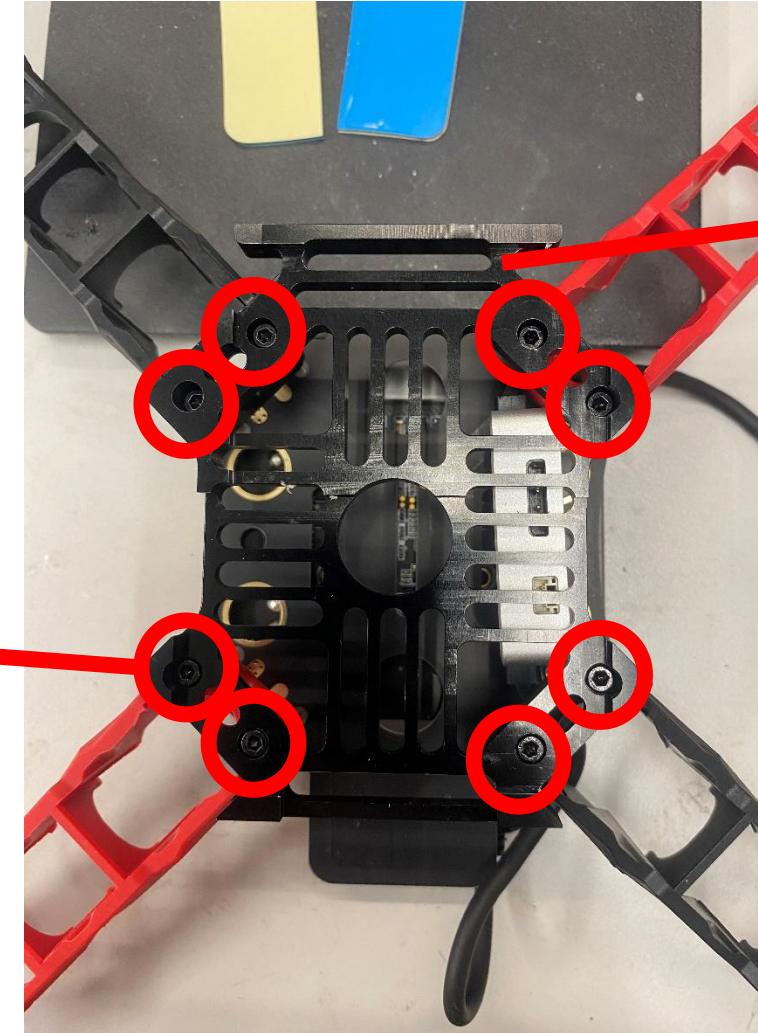
- Equipment List:

Item	Quant.
3M Double Coated Tissue Tape	2
N3/BL2 Carrier	1
N3 Autopilot	1
LightBridge 2	1
M2.5 * 4 Step Screw	8
Part2	1

Quadrotor Assembly Part 3



Quadrotor Assembly Part 3



Be careful with M2.5 * 4 screws'

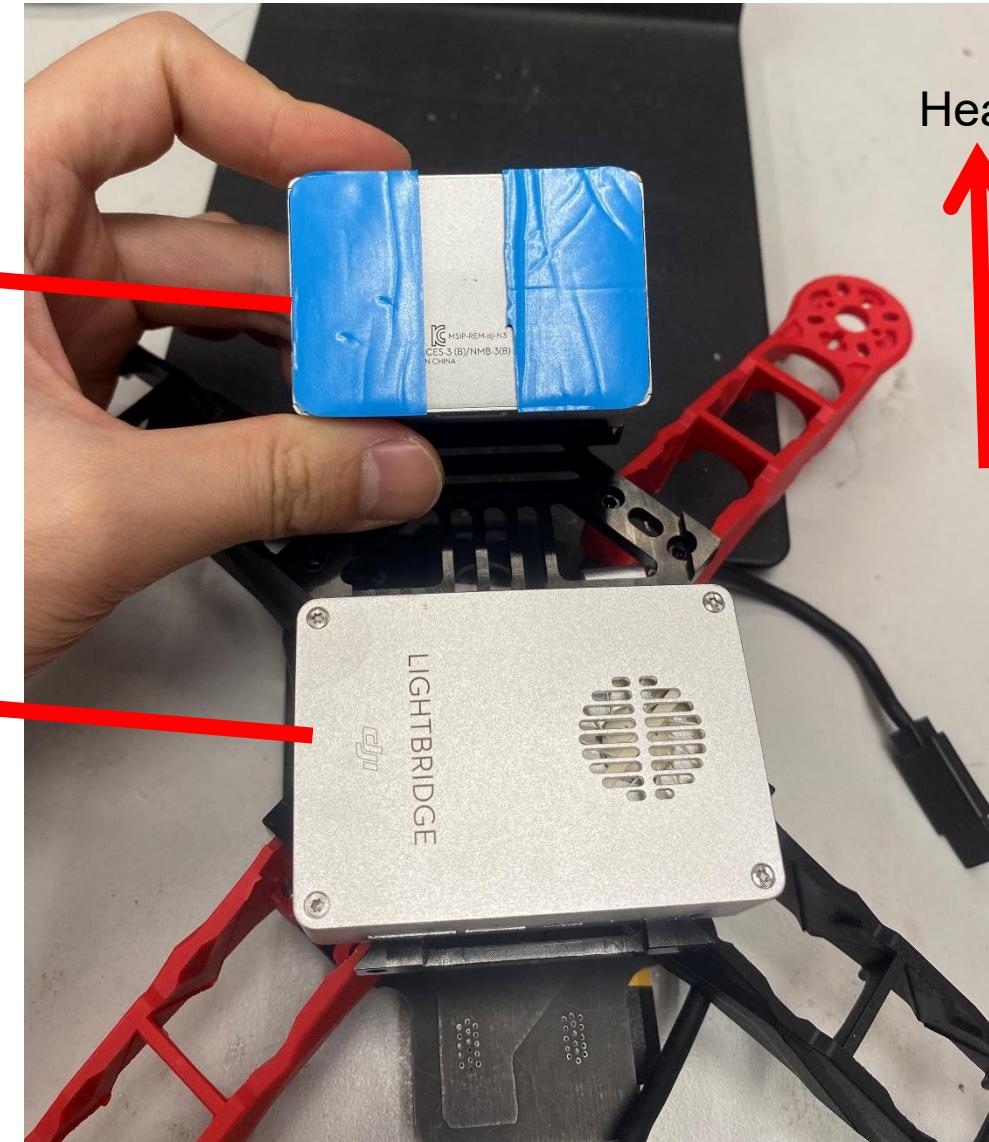
Be careful with N3/LB2 carrier
direction. Longer part toward
to head.

Quadrotor Assembly Part 3

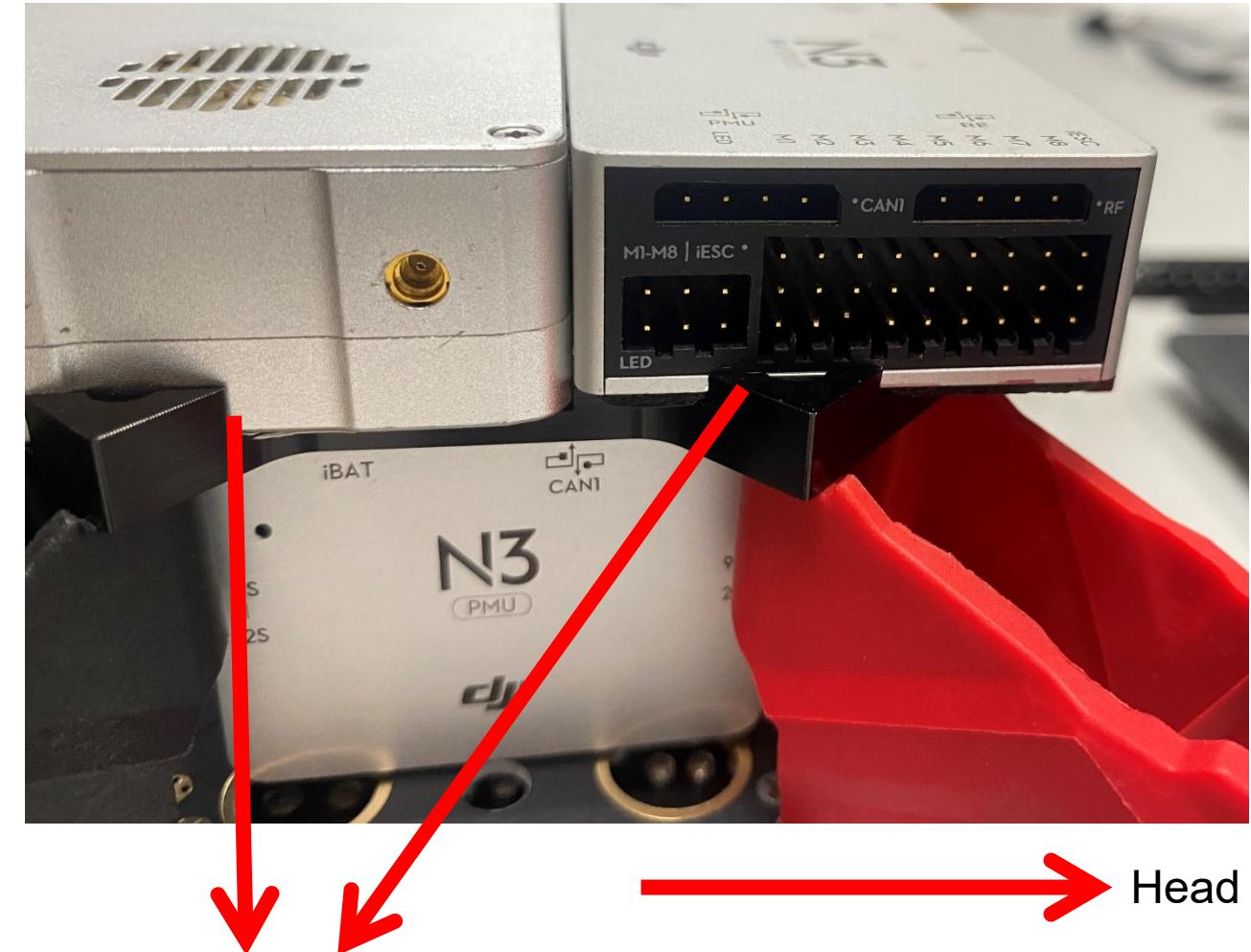
Paste M3 Double Coated
Tissue Tape in advance.

Head

Install LB2 receiver



Quadrotor Assembly Part 3



N3 and LB2 receivers
should just fit the carrier

Quadrotor Assembly Part 4

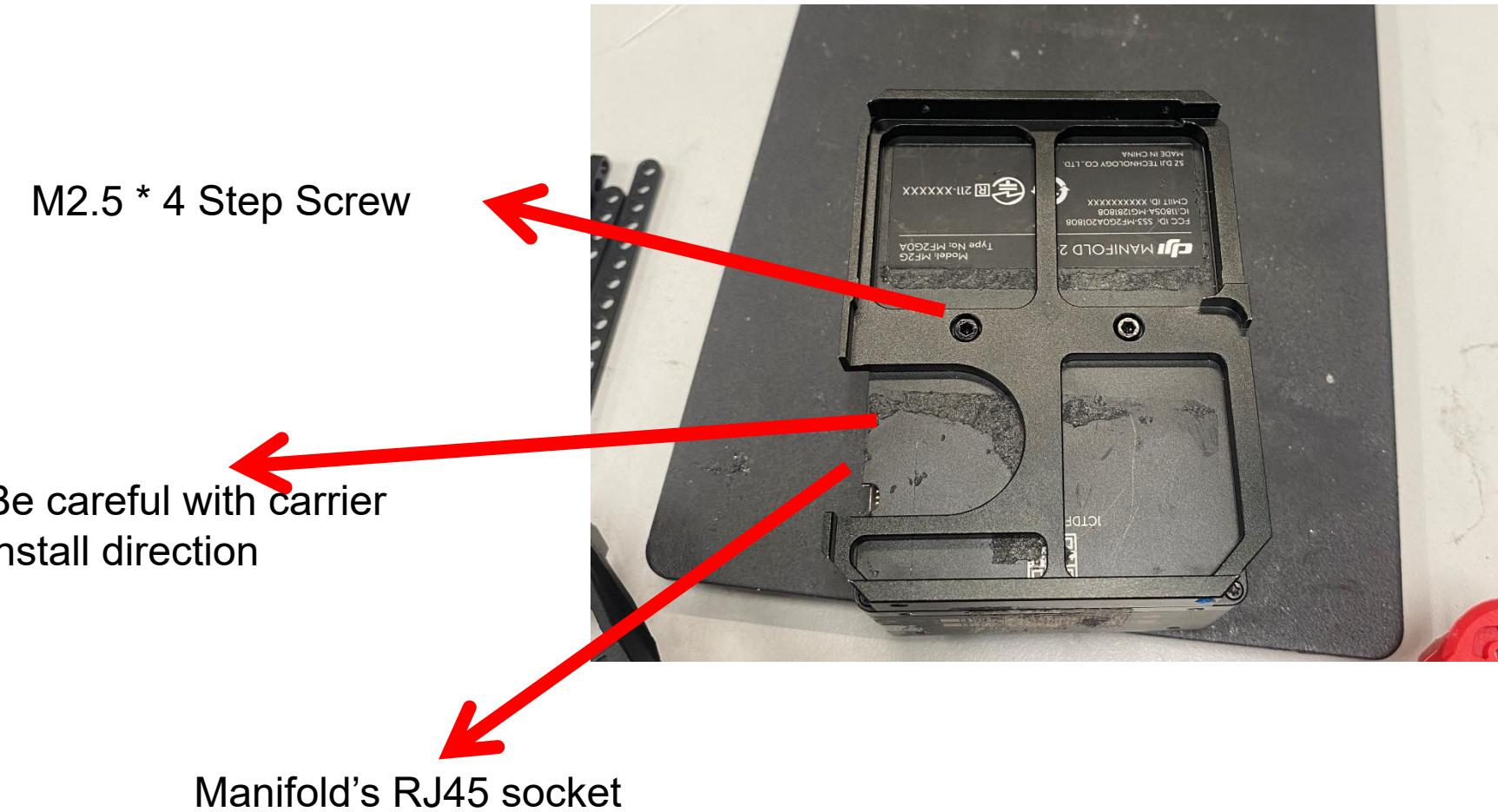
- Equipment List:

Item	Quant.
Linear Bar Connector	4
Manifold-2G	1
Manifold carrier	1
M2.5 * 4 Step Screw	10
Part3	1

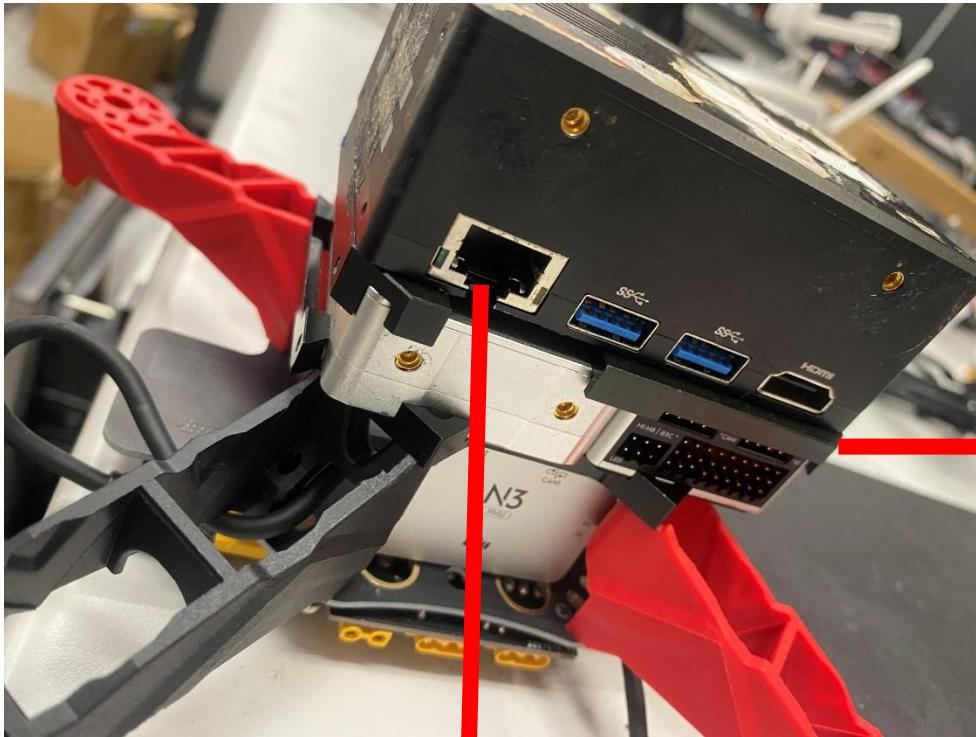
Quadrotor Assembly Part 4



Quadrotor Assembly Part 4



Quadrotor Assembly Part 4



Right side view

Manifold's RJ45 socket



Left side view

Quadrotor Assembly Part 4

Be care with
M2.5 * 4 Step
Screws' position



Head view



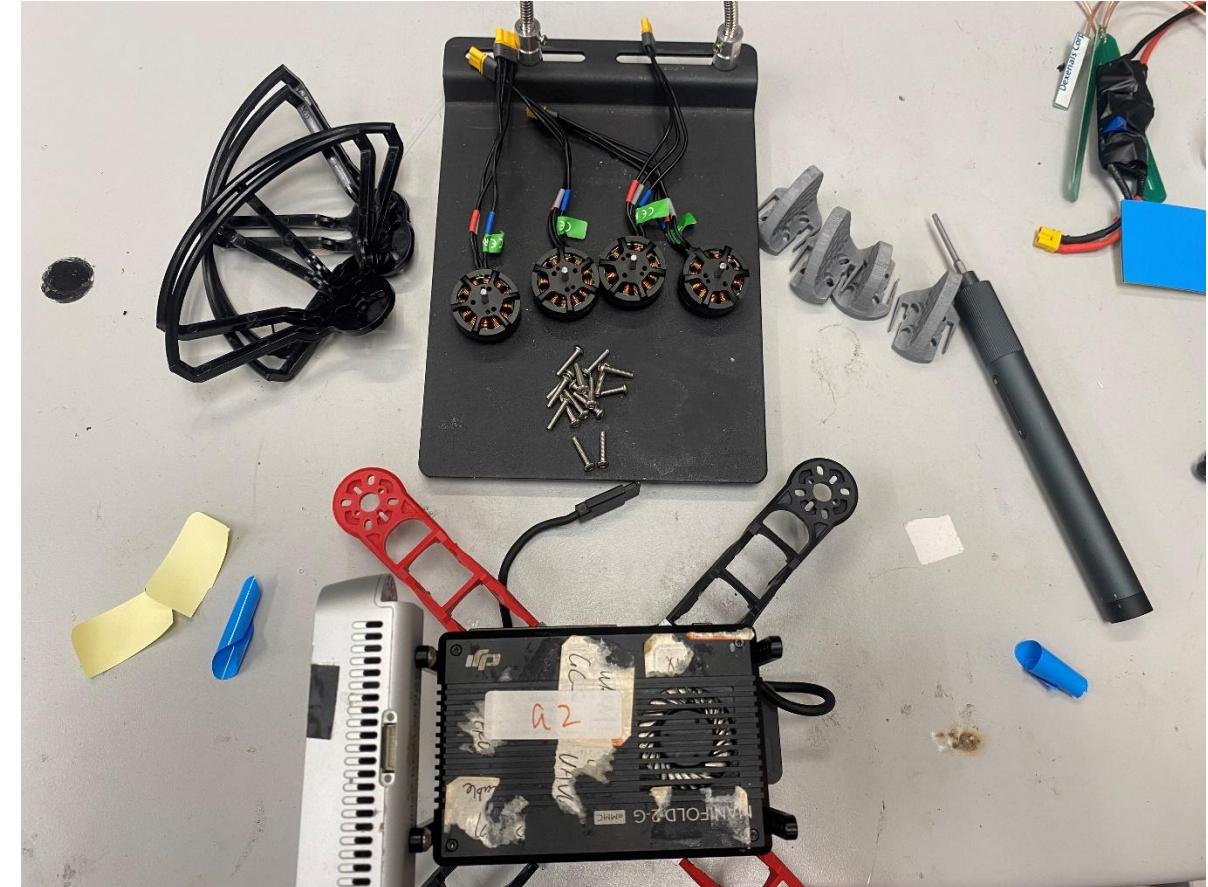
Tail view

Quadrotor Assembly Part 5

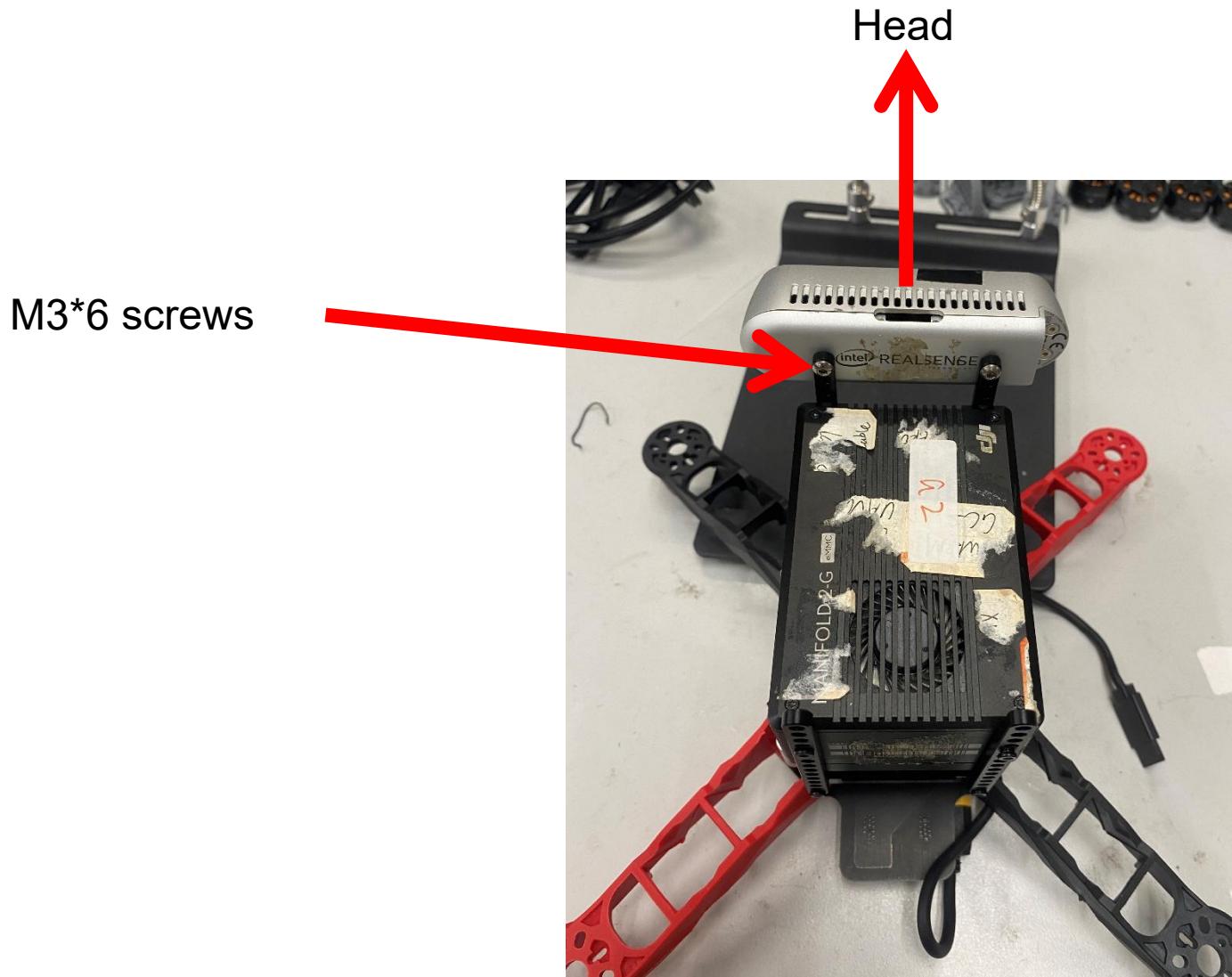
- Equipment List:

Item	Quant.
Real-sense	1
Motors	4
Propeller protector	4
Landing Gear	4
M3*6 screws	2
M3*14 round head	16

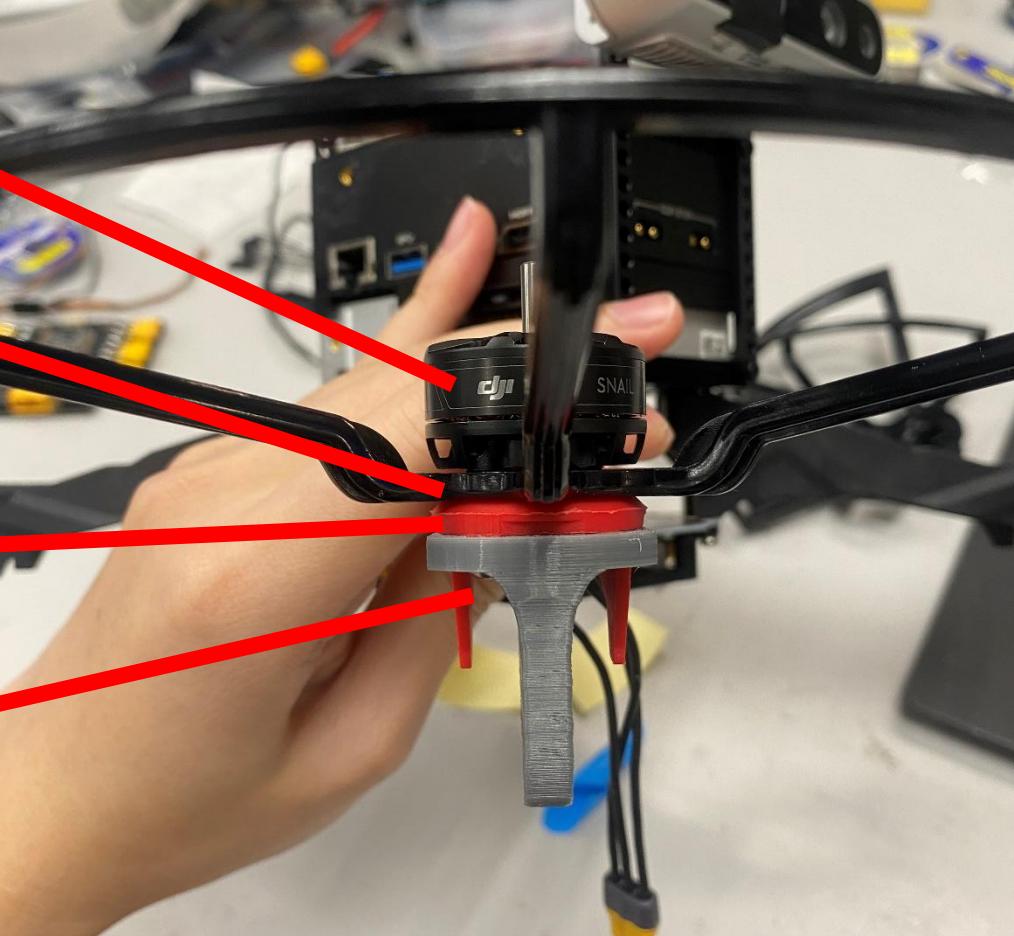
Quadrotor Assembly Part 5



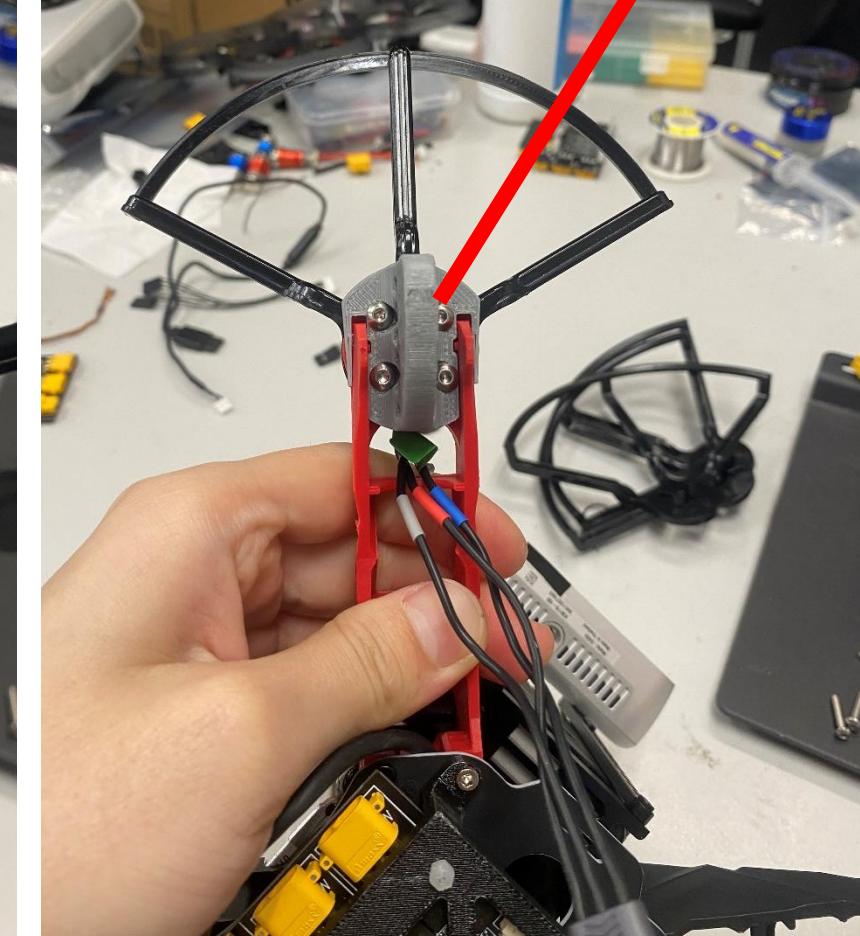
Quadrotor Assembly Part 5



Quadrotor Assembly Part 5

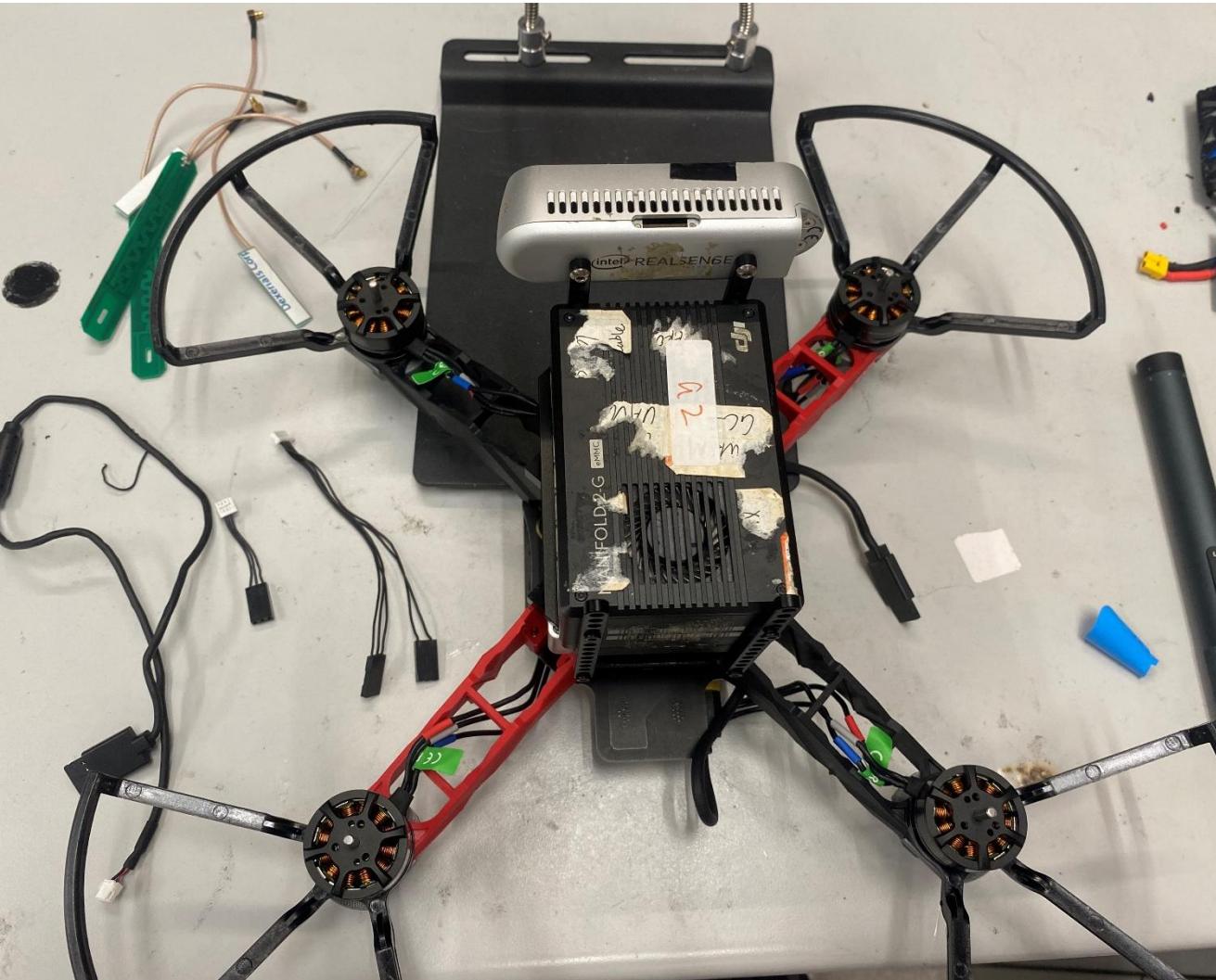


Motor
Propeller protector
Arm
Landing gear



M3*14 screws

Quadrotor Assembly Part 5



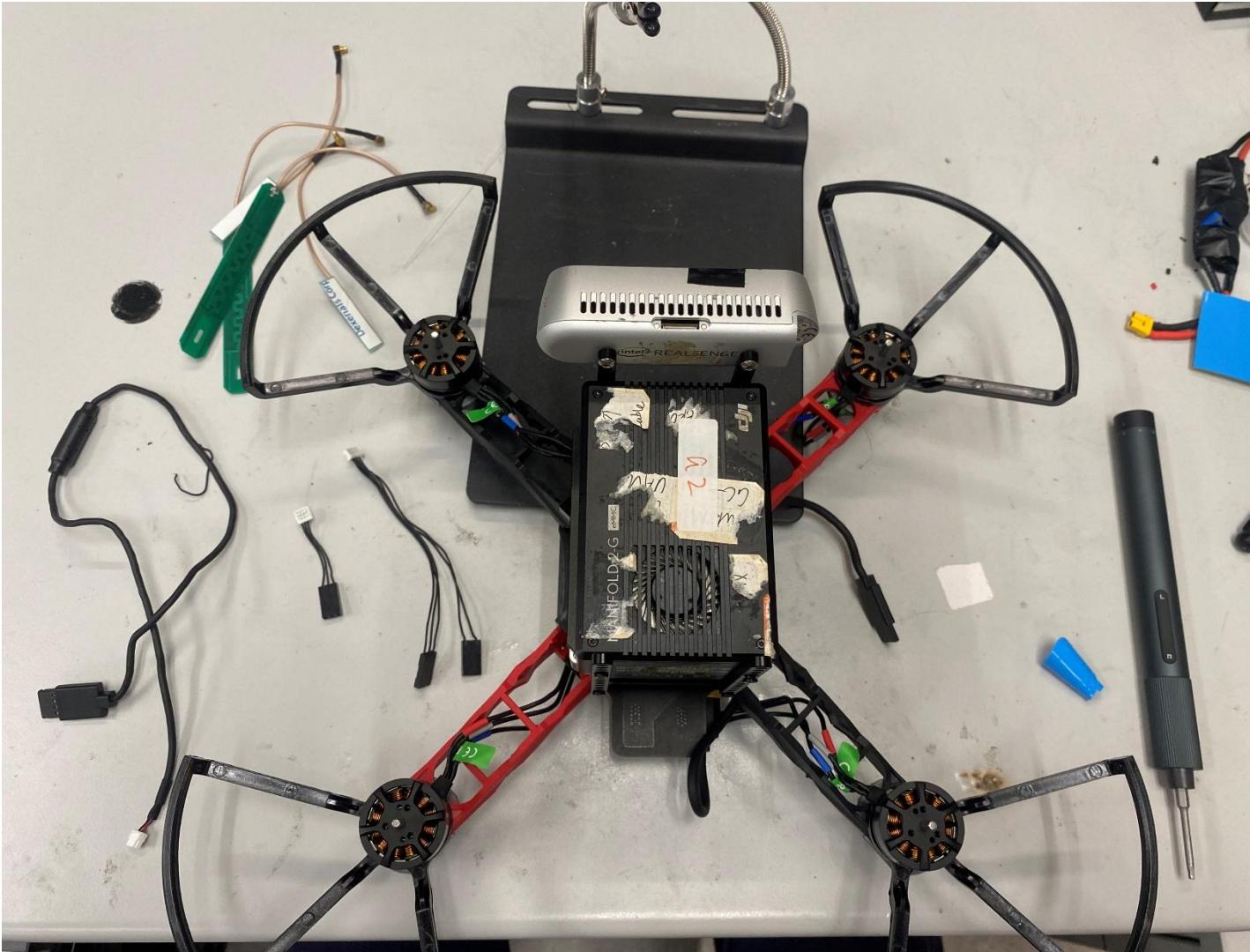
Almost done!

Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

- Equipment List:

Item	Quant.
USB Type-C Cable	1
Dupont 4-pin to GH1.25 4-pin	1
SH 8-pin to Dupont 3-pin * 2	1
Dupont 3-pin to GH1.25 3-pin	1
Manifold Antenna	2
LB2 Antenna	2
Voltage Regulator	1
XT30 Power Cable	2

Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

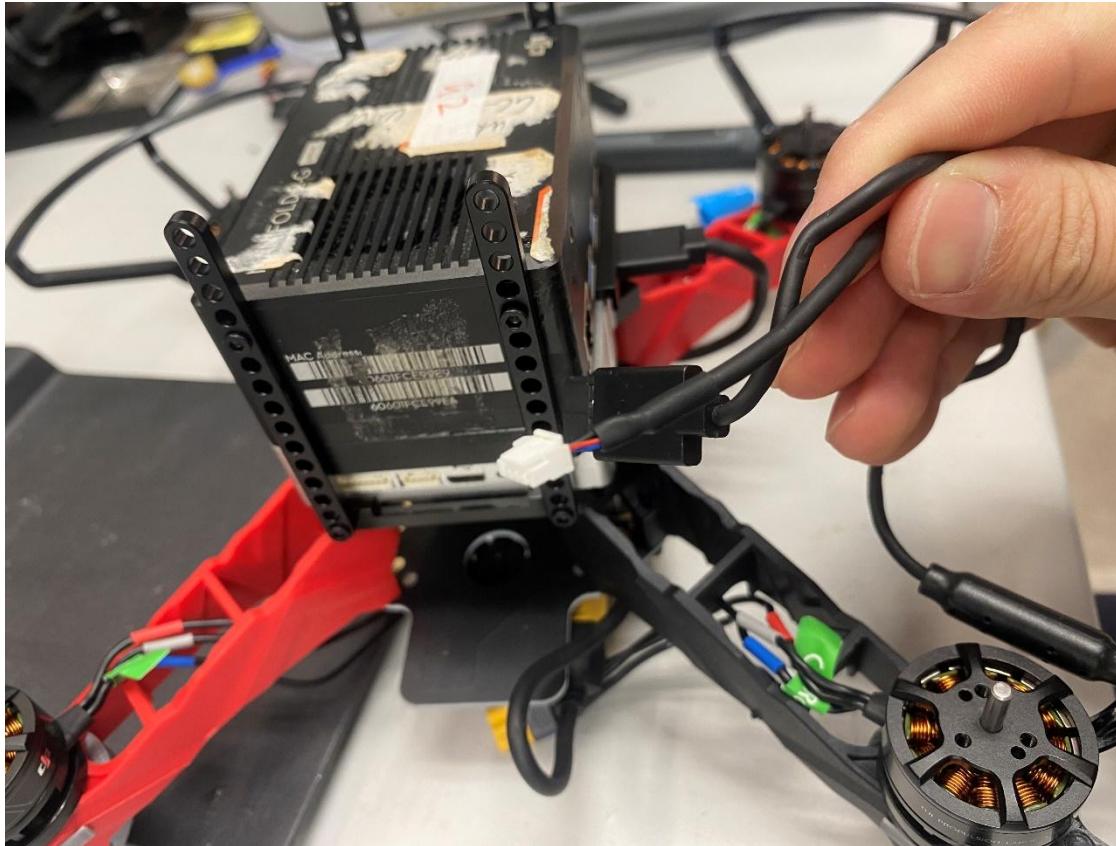


Quadrotor Assembly Part 6



Connect PMU to N3 (CAN port)

Quadrotor Assembly Part 6



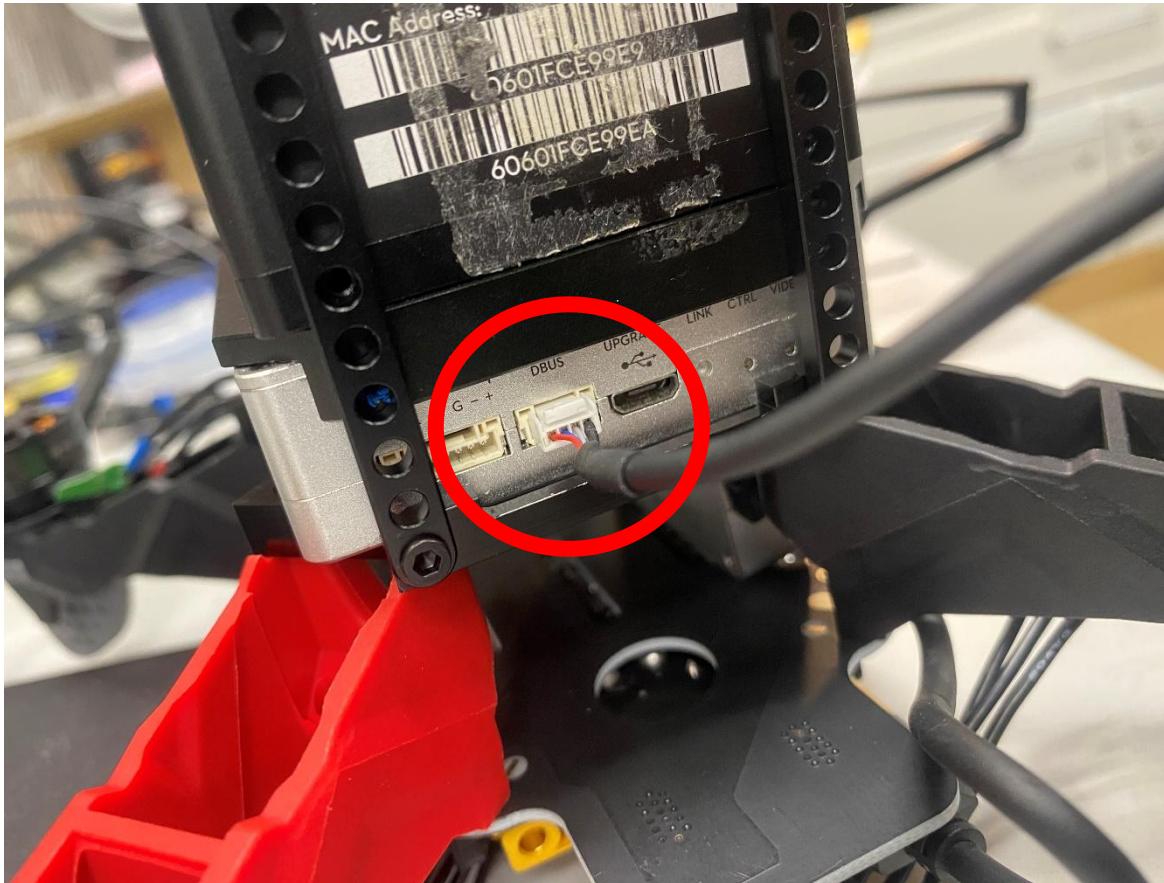
Connect N3 with LB2 receiver with
Dupont 4-pin to GH1.25 4-pin



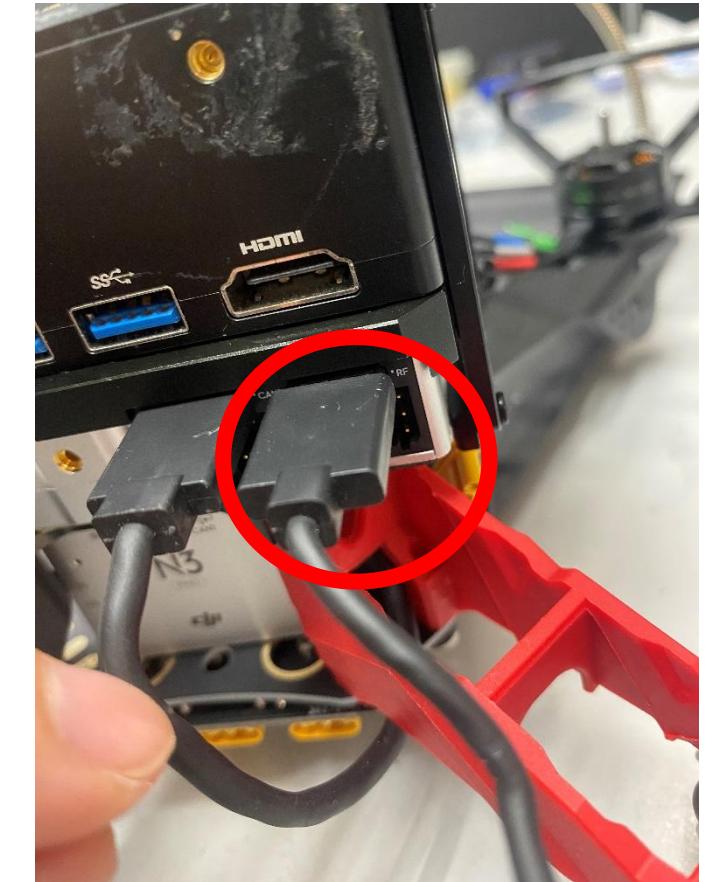
Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect N3 with LB2 receiver with
Dupont 4-pin to GH1.25 4-pin

LB2 DBUS Port

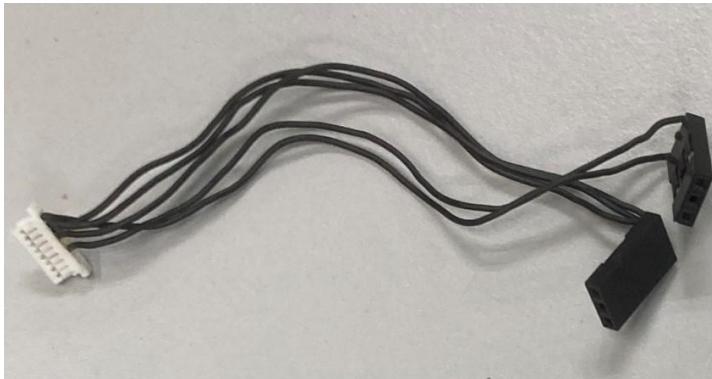


N3 RF Port

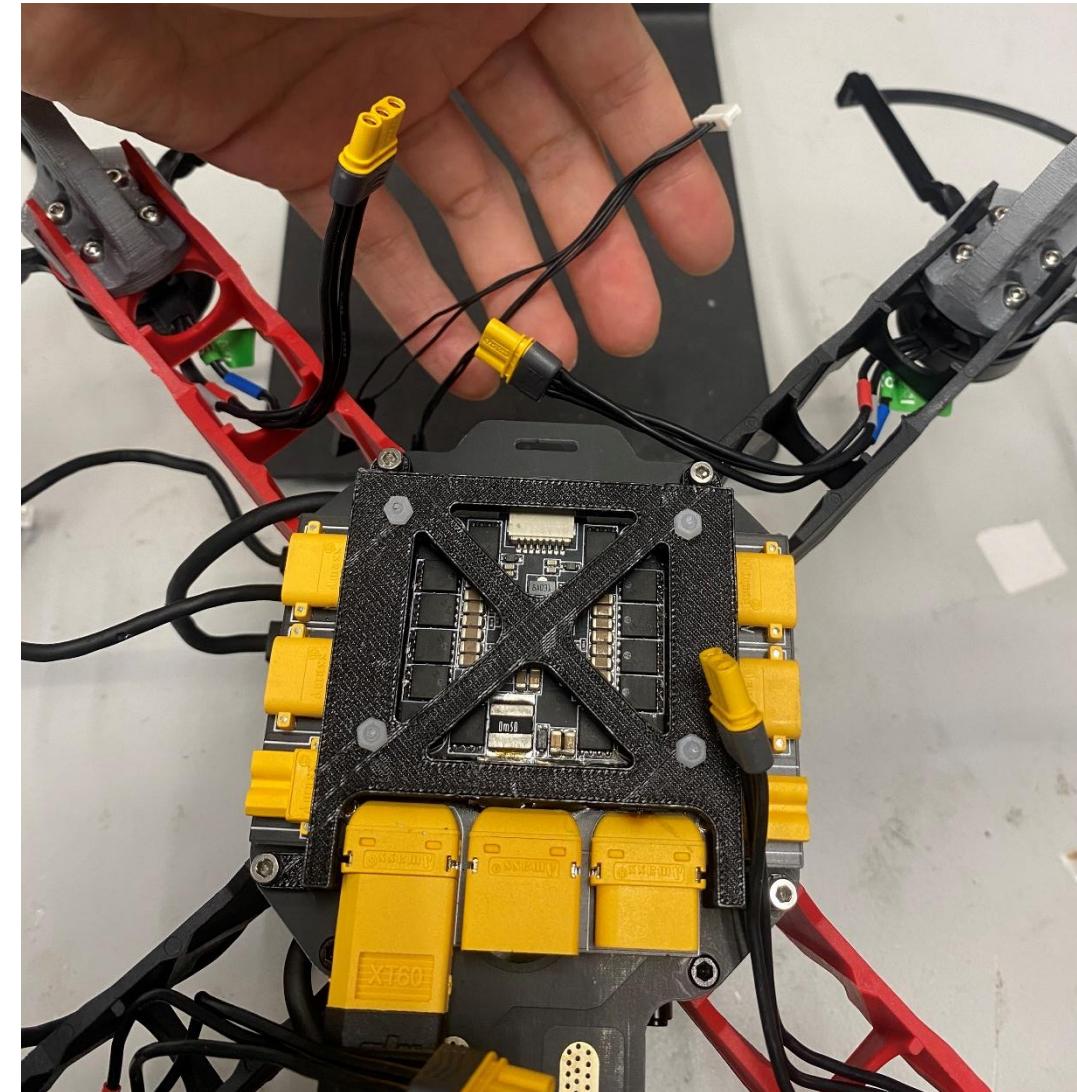


Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect ESC and N3 with:
SH 8-pin to Dupont 3-pin * 2



Connect motors with ESC



Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect ESC and N3 with:
SH 8-pin to Dupont 3-pin * 2



2-wire Dupont connector
You can see iron connectors
from this direction.

Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect Manifold and N3 with
Dupont 3-pin to GH1.25 3-pin

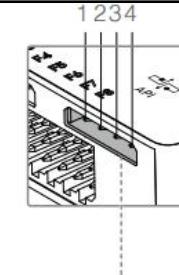
1

GND RXD TXD N/A

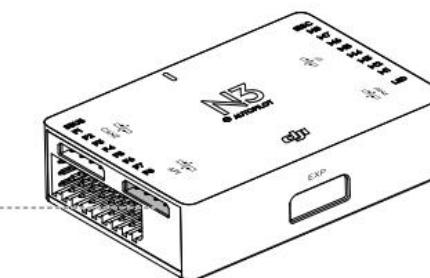
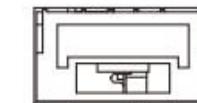


**DO NOT connect to Pin 1.
Please double-check the connection!
The wrong connection will damage N3!!!**

**DO NOT connect to
Pin 1**



UART 0



API Pin Descriptions

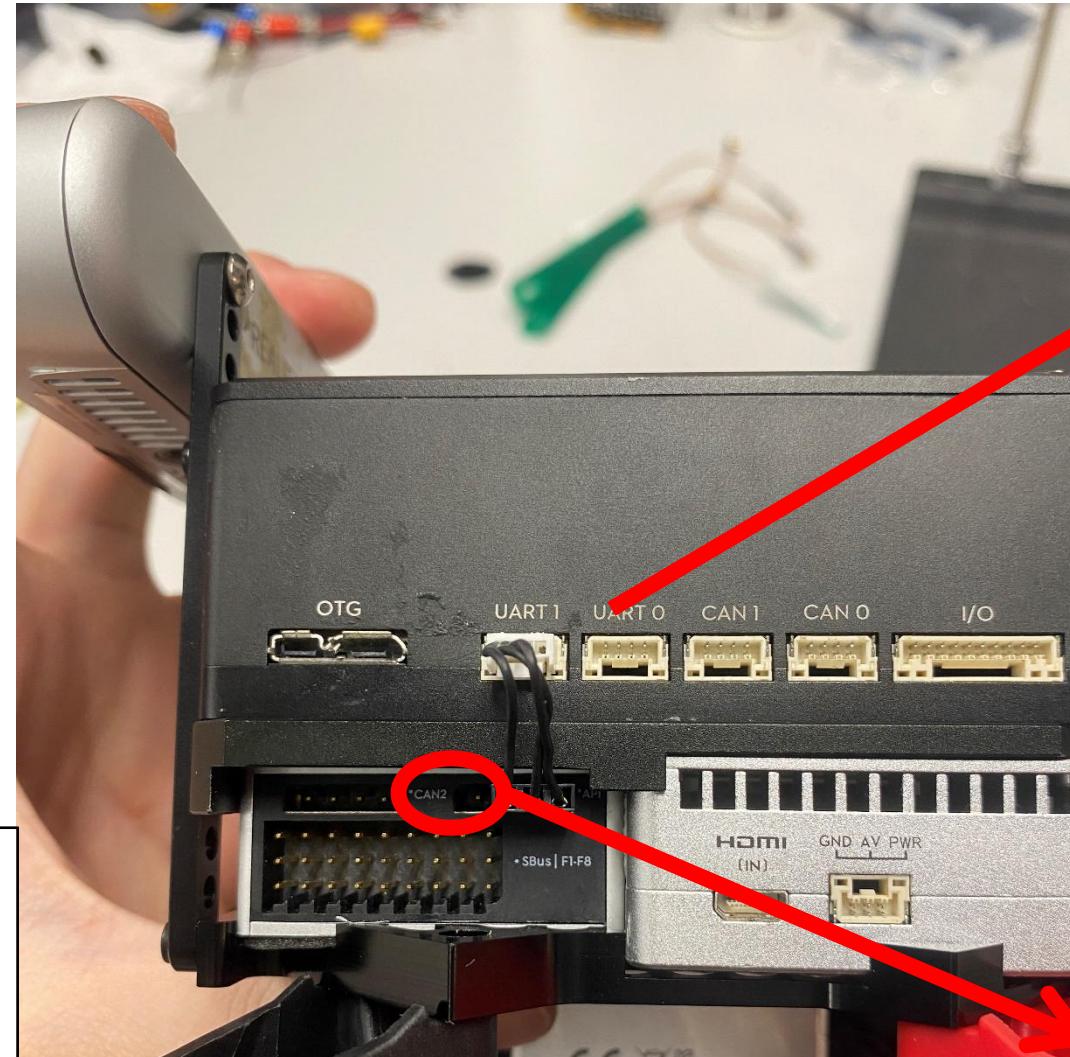
1. Power pin: Supply voltage of 9 V and power consumption of 9 W. If the API device does not satisfy the above voltage and consumption requirements, provide an alternate power supply.
2. GND pin: Connects to the API device's GND (ground) pin.
3. UART-TXD pin: Serial signal pin with voltage level of 3.3 V, should be connected to the API device's RXD pin.
4. UART-RXD pin: Serial signal pin with voltage level of 3.3 V, should be connected to the API device's TXD pin.

Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect Manifold and N3 with
Dupont 3-pin to GH1.25 3-pin



**DO NOT connect to Pin 1.
Please double-check the connection!
The wrong connection will damage
N3!!!**

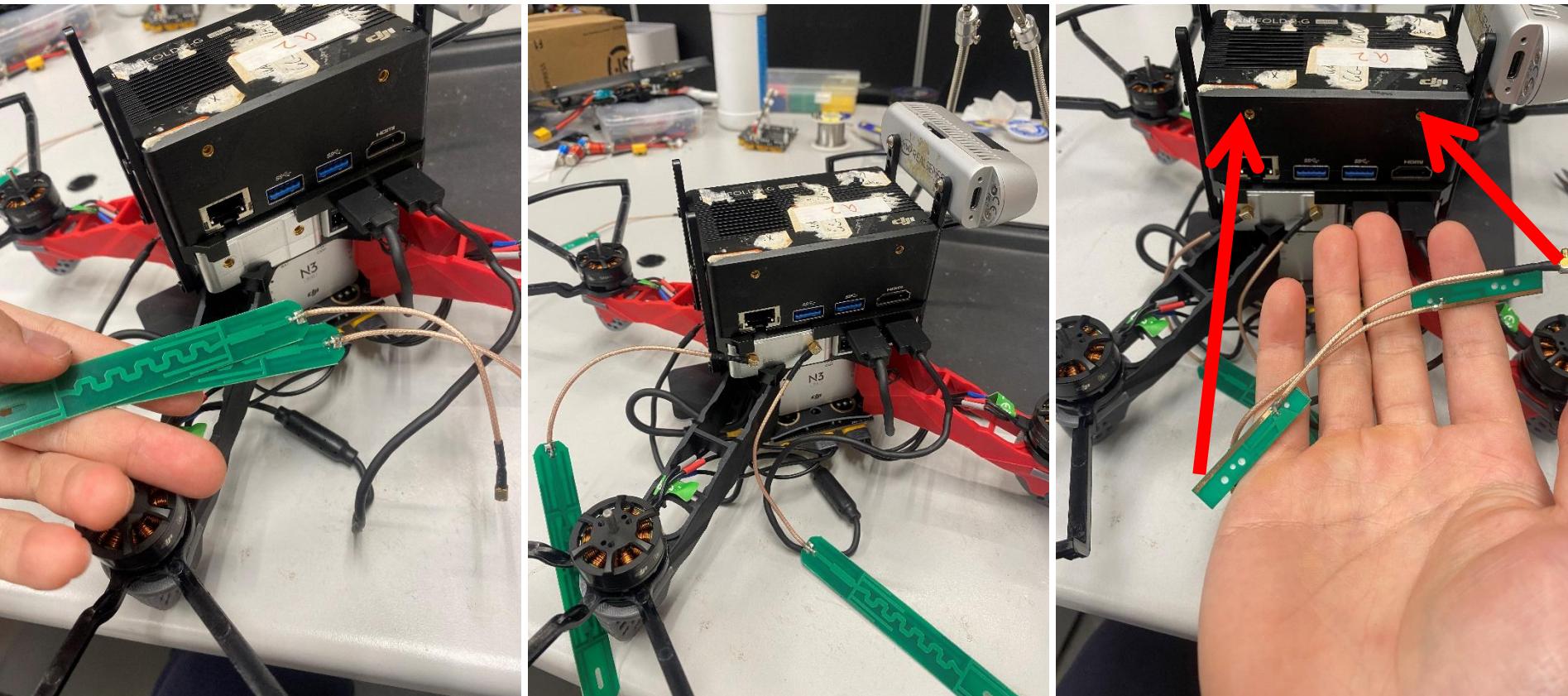


Three cables should
not intersect with each
other

Left pin should not be
connected

Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect LB2 Antenna and Manifold-2G
Antenna



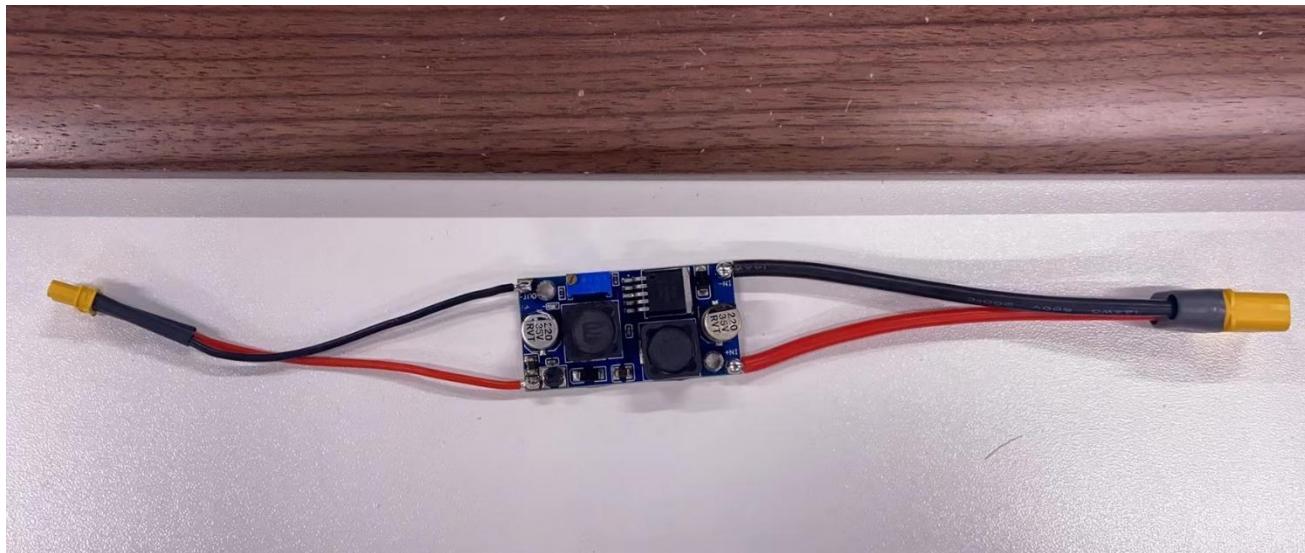
Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect realsense and manifold-2G
with typeC-usb cable.



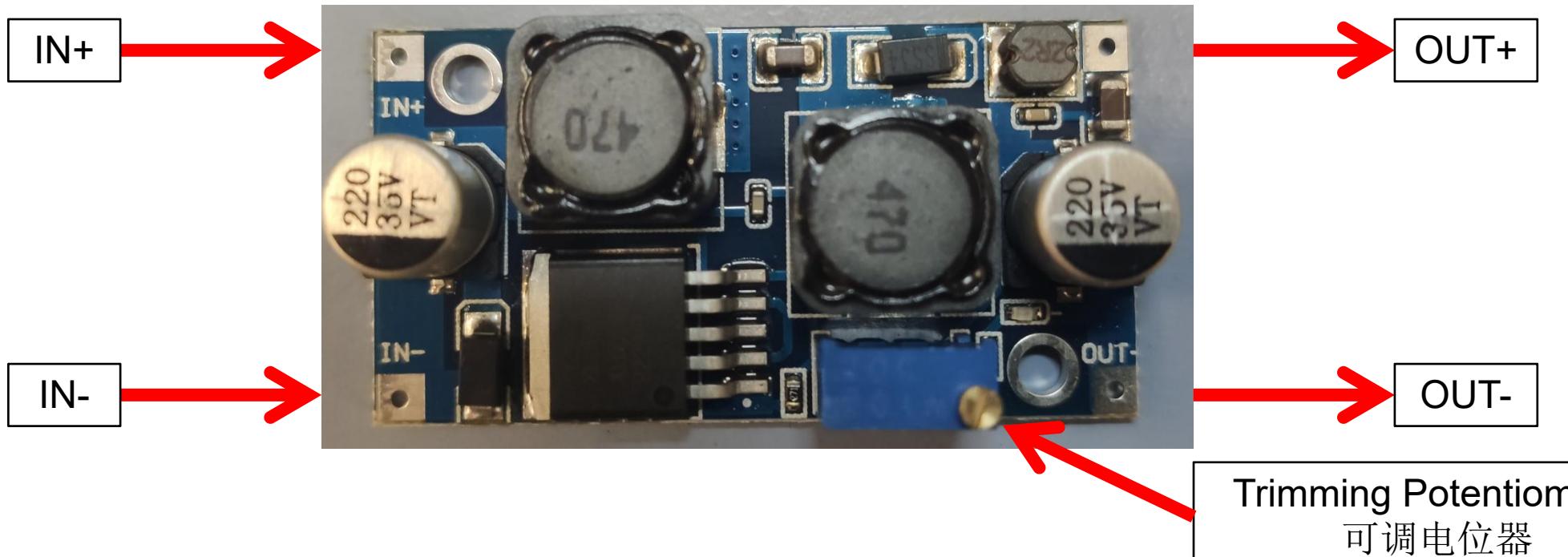
Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Connect manifold and ESC with Voltage
Regulator



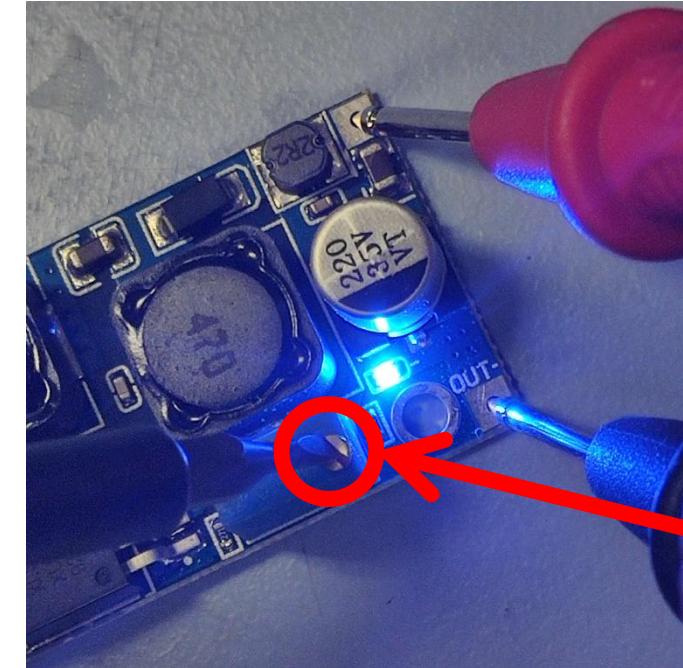
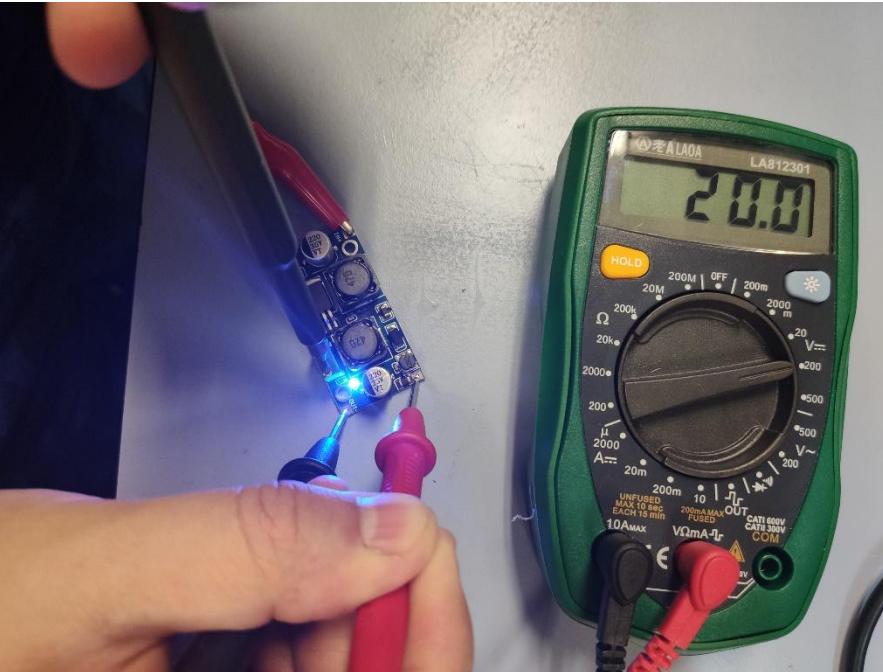
Install Voltage Stabilizer for Manifold 2-G

- XL6009 buck - boost converter
- Without it, your Manifold 2-G may suffer from unexpected shutdown and reboot during flight



Install Voltage Stabilizer for Manifold 2-G

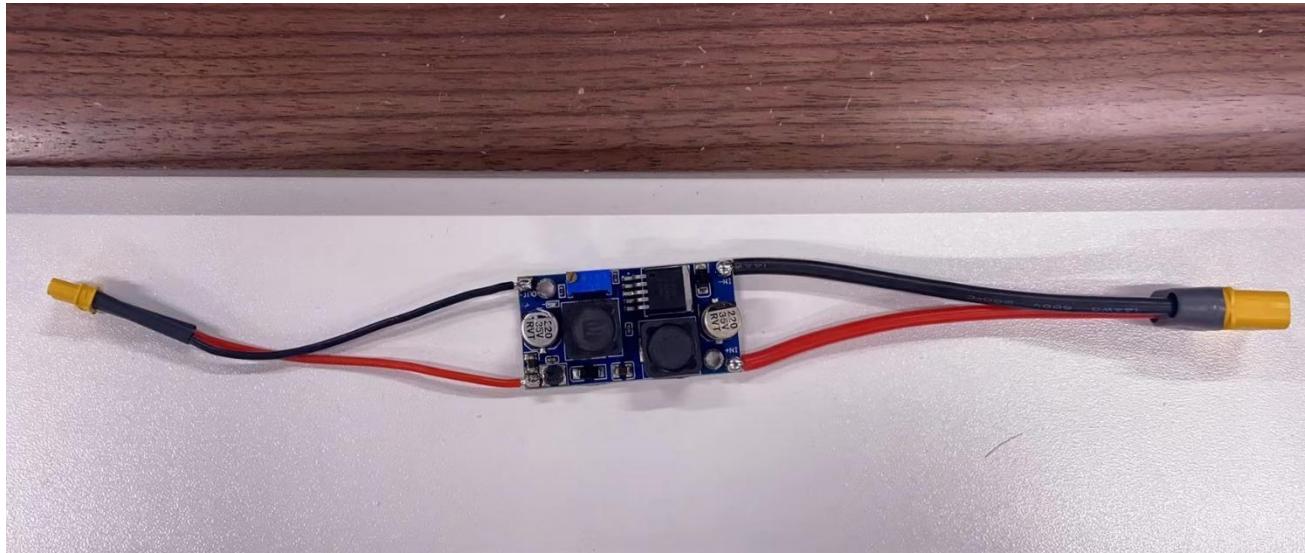
- Connect to the power supply (IN) and adjust output voltage to around 20V by a flat-blade screwdriver



Adjust this

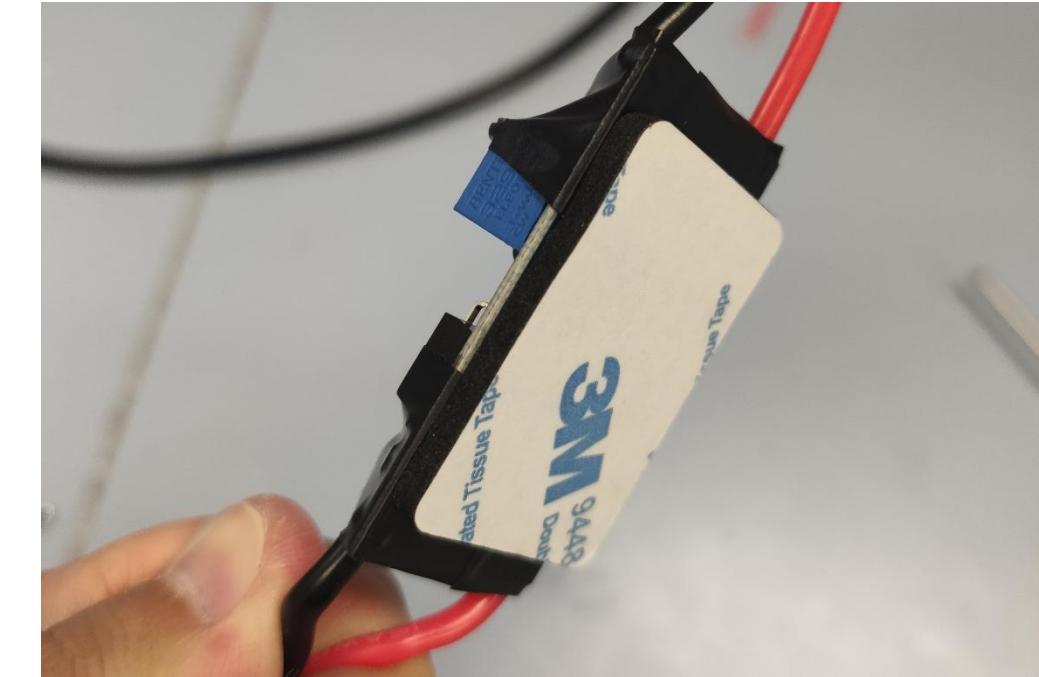
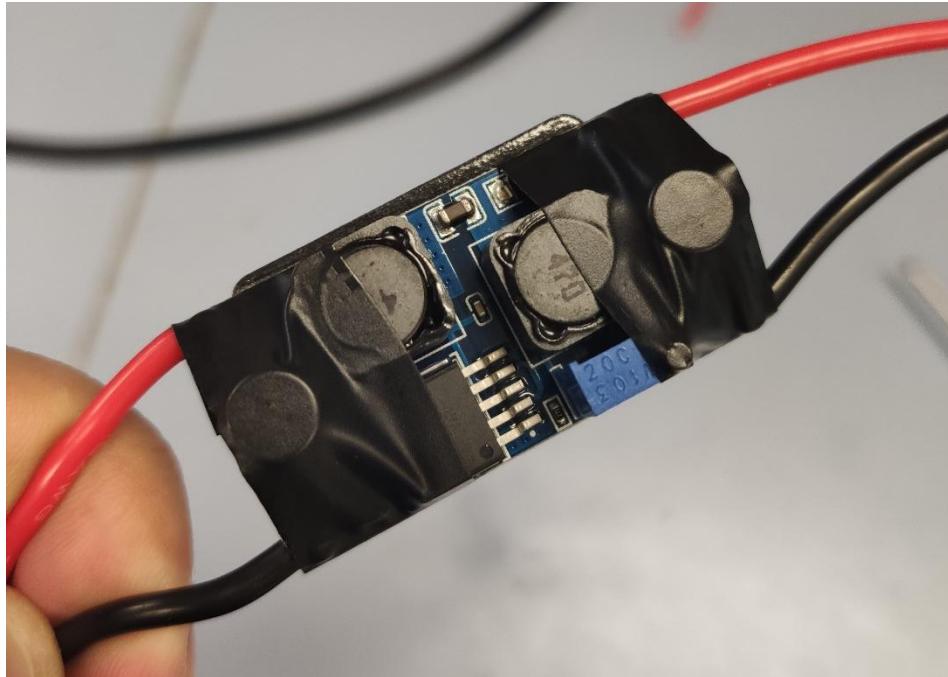
Install Voltage Stabilizer for Manifold 2-G

- Soldering power cable at each side



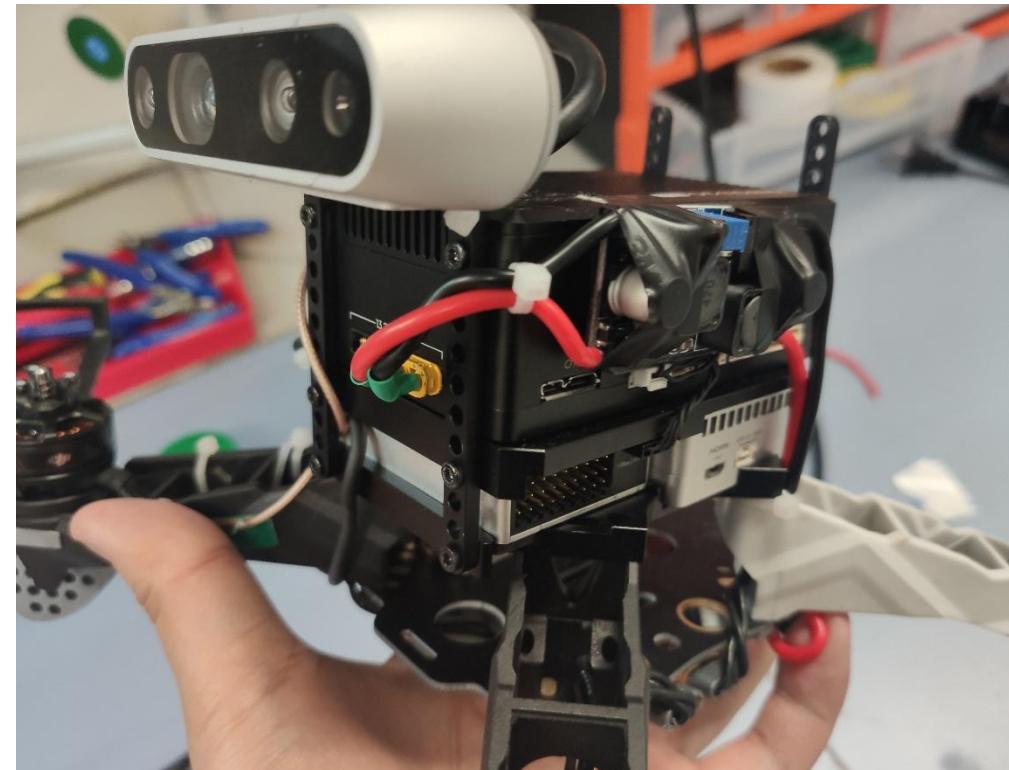
Install Voltage Stabilizer for Manifold 2-G

- Protect soldering joints by electrical tape
- Stick a double-sided tape at backside



Install Voltage Stabilizer for Manifold 2-G

- Fix it on your drone and wire the cables carefully



Quadrotor Assembly Part 6

Well done! Organize your cables and make your drone looks more compact!!!



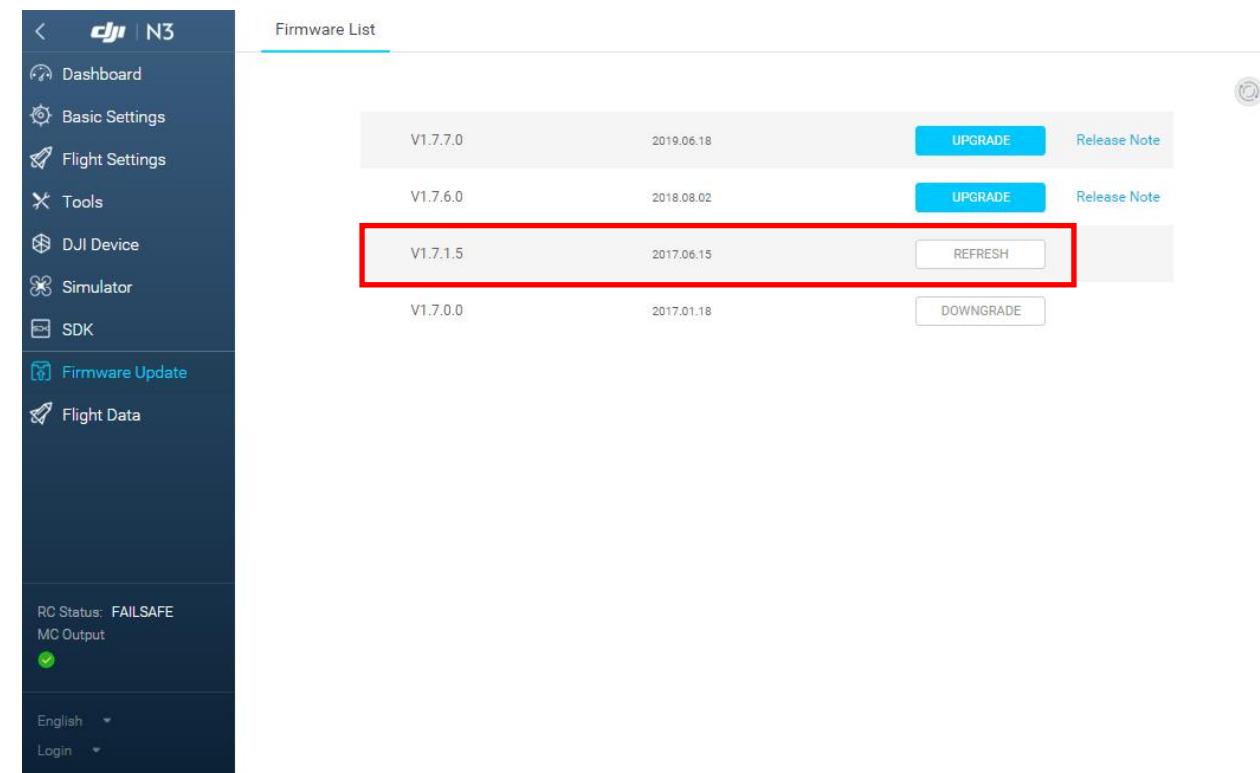
Part 7 Settings

Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Install DJI Assistant 2 for Autopilot (Win & Mac)
 - <https://www.dji.com/hk-en/downloads/softwares/assistant-dji-2-for-autopilot>
- Or you can use the computer in the flying testing field
- Connect N3 autopilot to computer using N3 LED & a micro-USB cable

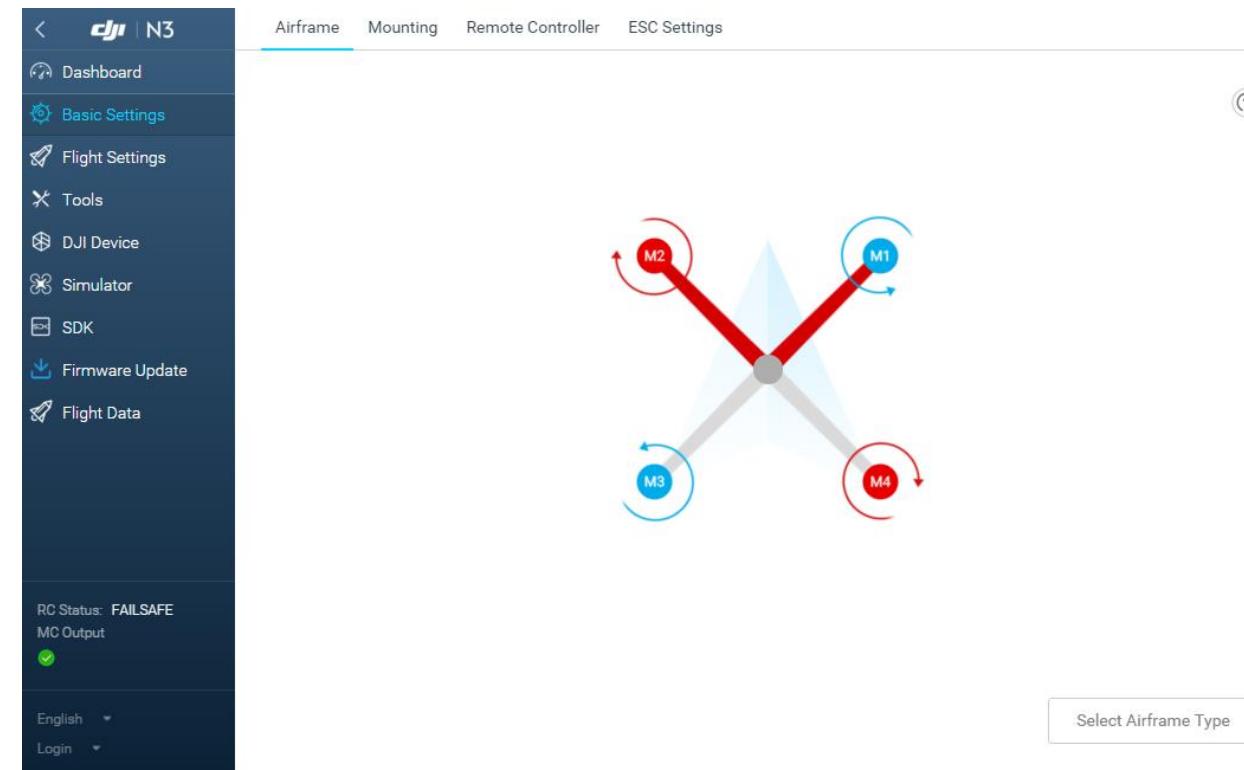
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check firmware (Must be V1.7.1.5)



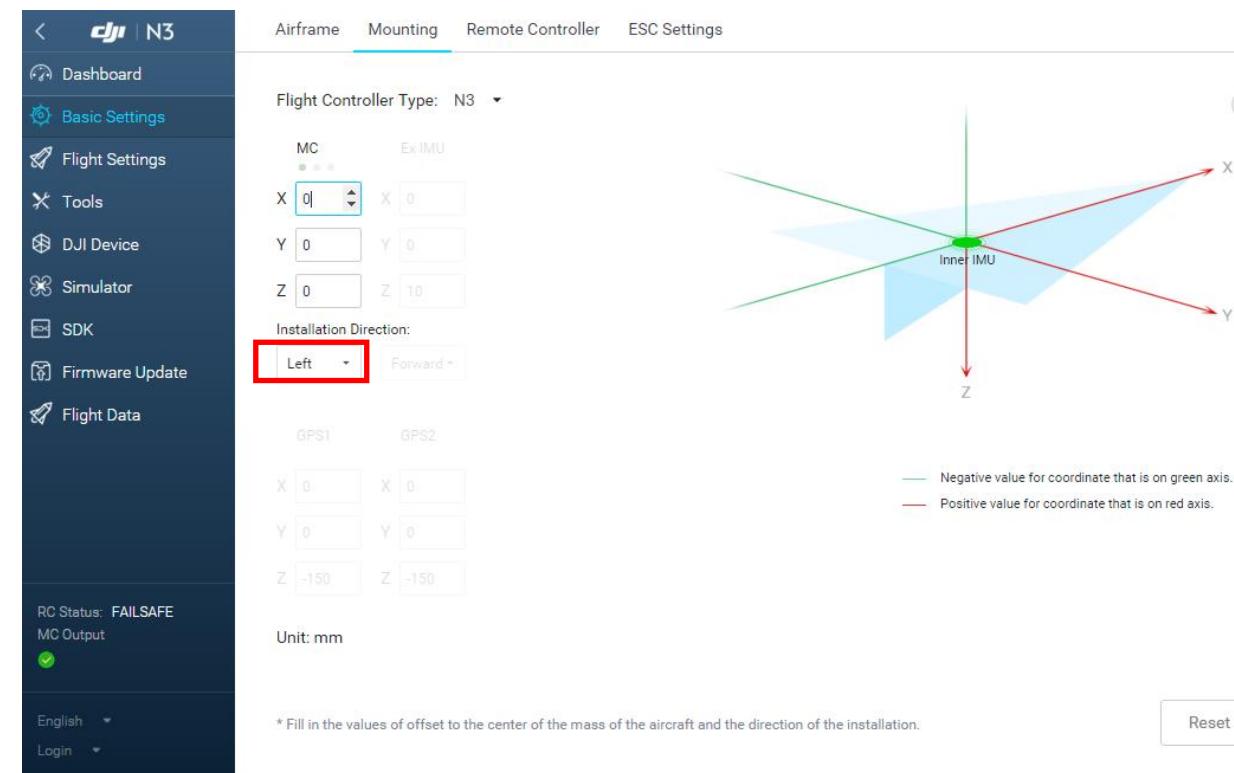
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check airfram type
 - Quad X, Battery 4S (Low: 14.8V, 3.7V/cell)



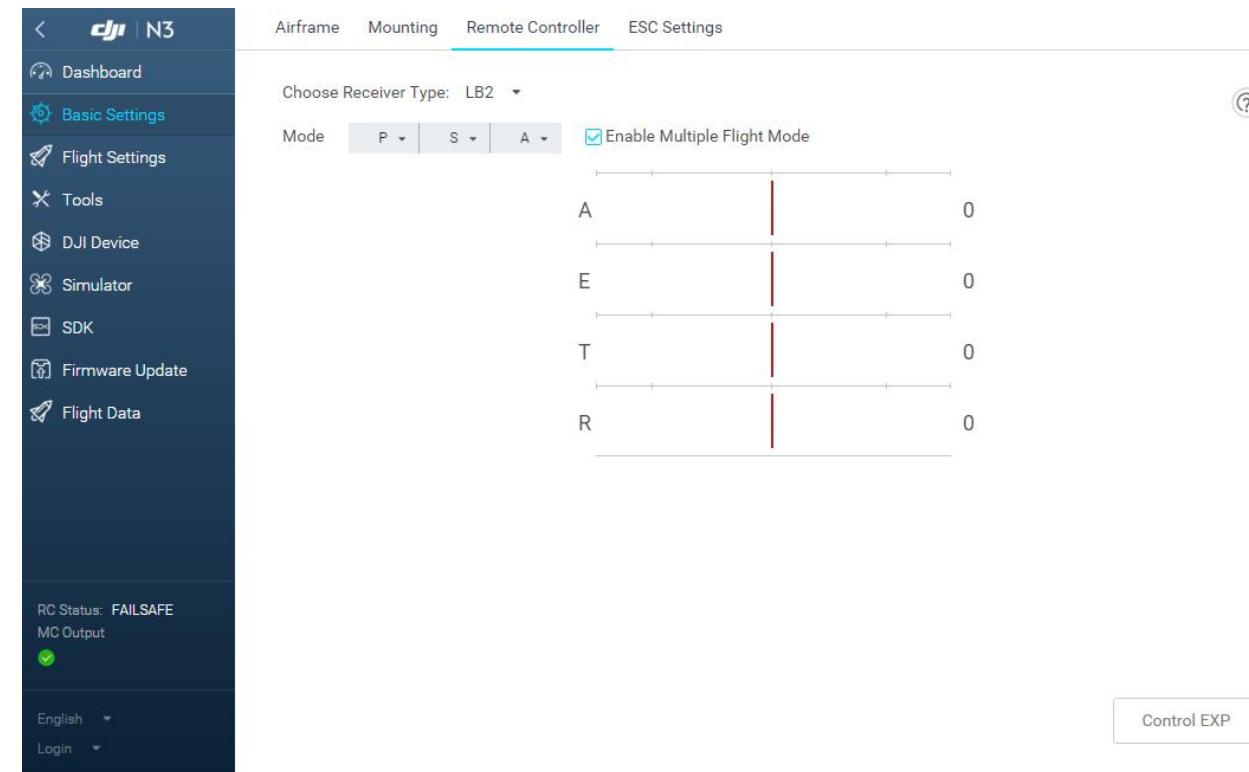
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check mounting



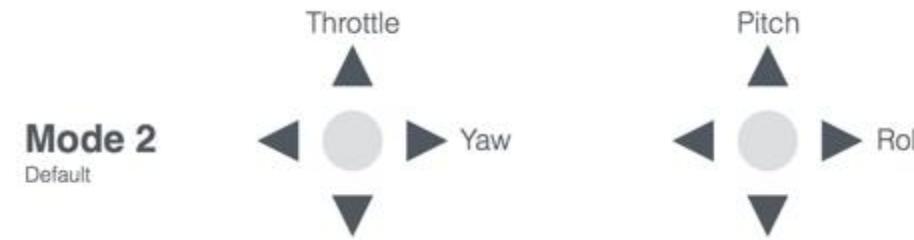
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check LightBridge 2 remote controller
 - Pairing first / Check channels



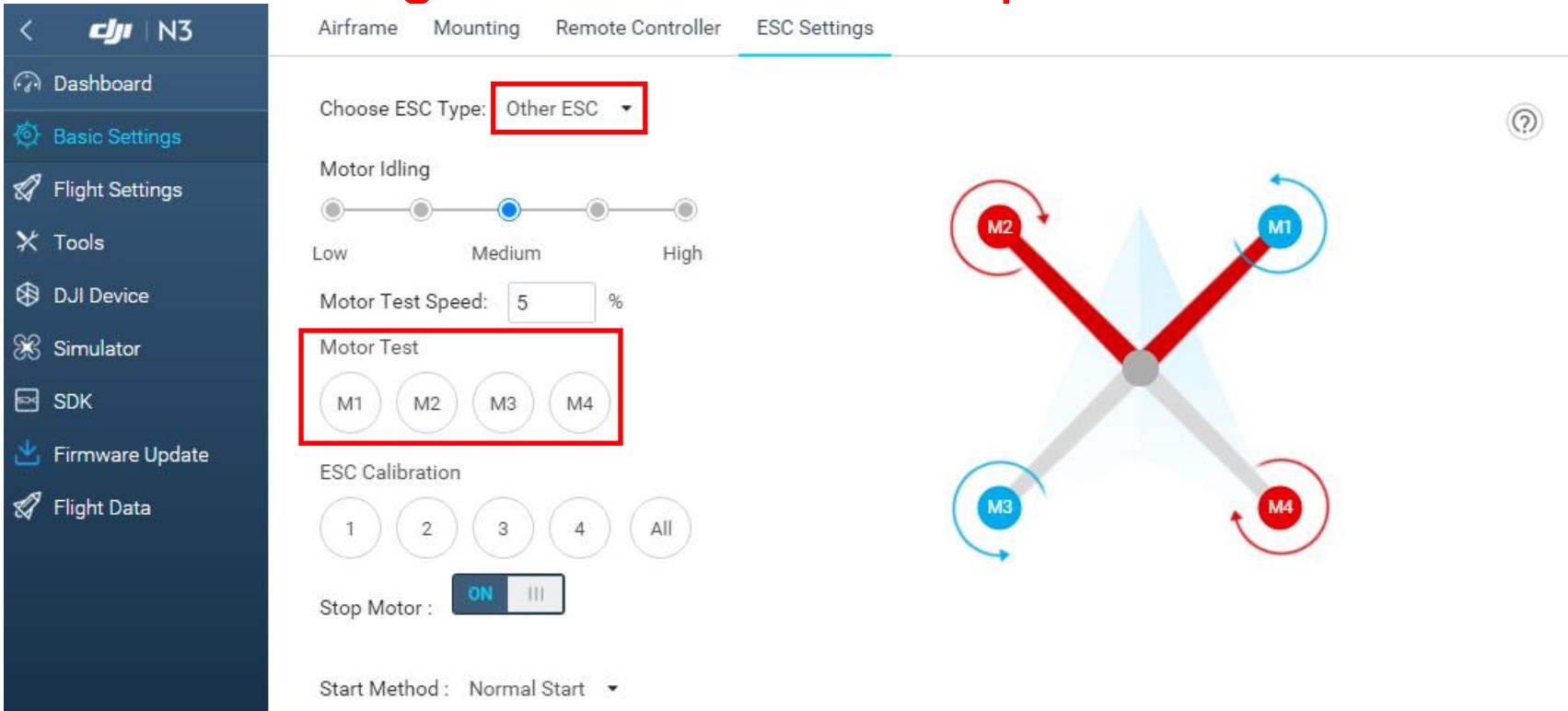
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check LightBridge 2 remote controller
 - Check channels
 - A: Aileron/Roll
 - E: Elevator/Pitch
 - T: Throttle
 - R: Rudder/Yaw



Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

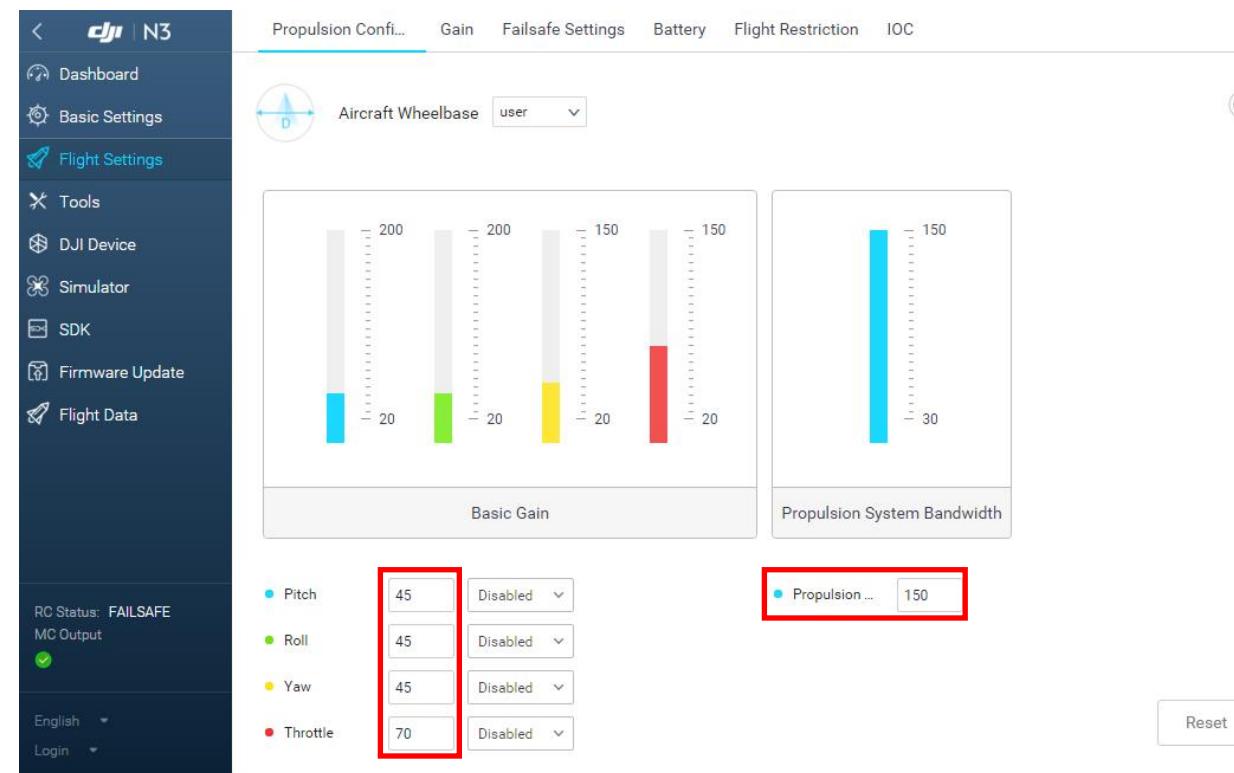
- Check motors and ESC, use Motor Test
 - Check motor direction and sequence (ALL must be correct !!!)
 - !!! Do not install propellers
 - If you need to change motors'direction please contact TA



The screenshot shows the DJI N3 Autopilot software interface. The left sidebar has icons for Dashboard, Basic Settings (highlighted), Flight Settings, Tools, DJI Device, Simulator, SDK, Firmware Update, and Flight Data. The top navigation bar includes Airframe, Mounting, Remote Controller, and ESC Settings (highlighted). The main area shows 'Choose ESC Type: Other ESC' with a dropdown menu. Below it are sliders for 'Motor Idling' (Low, Medium, High) and 'Motor Test Speed' (5%). A 'Motor Test' section contains buttons for M1, M2, M3, and M4, all of which are highlighted with a red box. At the bottom are 'ESC Calibration' buttons for 1, 2, 3, 4, and All, and a 'Stop Motor' switch set to 'ON'. The 'Start Method' is set to 'Normal Start'. To the right of the interface is a diagram of a quadcopter with four motors labeled M1 through M4. Motor M1 is at the top right, M2 at the top left, M3 at the bottom left, and M4 at the bottom right. Each motor is shown with a curved arrow indicating its rotation direction.

Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check controller parameters



The screenshot shows the DJI N3 Autopilot software interface. The left sidebar includes options like Dashboard, Basic Settings (selected), Flight Settings, Tools, DJI Device, Simulator, SDK, Firmware Update, and Flight Data. The status bar at the bottom indicates RC Status: FAILSAFE and MC Output: Enabled.

The main content area has a header with tabs: Propulsion Config..., Gain, Failsafe Settings, Battery, Flight Restriction, and IOC. Below the tabs, there's a section for Aircraft Wheelbase set to user. Two bar charts are displayed: "Basic Gain" and "Propulsion System Bandwidth".

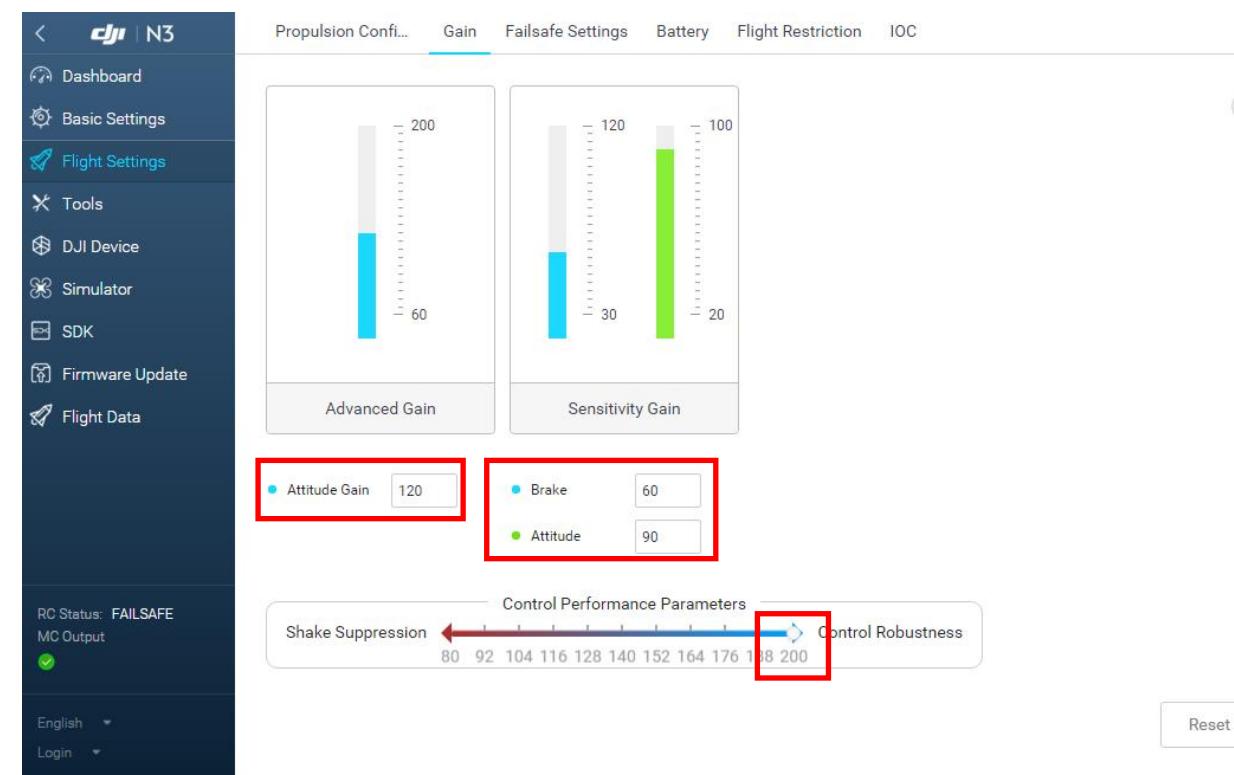
Under "Basic Gain", four sliders are shown with values: Pitch (45), Roll (45), Yaw (45), and Throttle (70). The Throttle slider is highlighted with a red border.

Under "Propulsion System Bandwidth", a single slider for Propulsion is set to 150. This slider is also highlighted with a red border.

At the bottom right, there are "Reset" and "Logout" buttons.

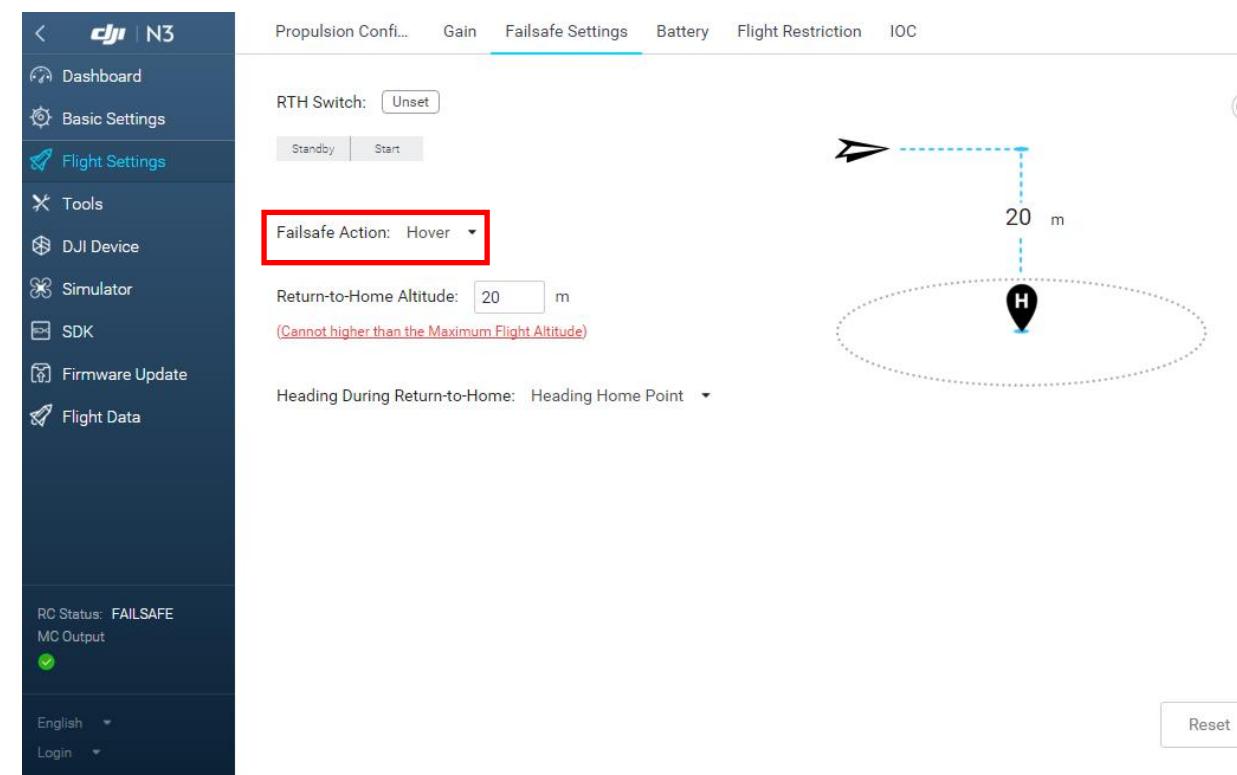
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check controller parameters



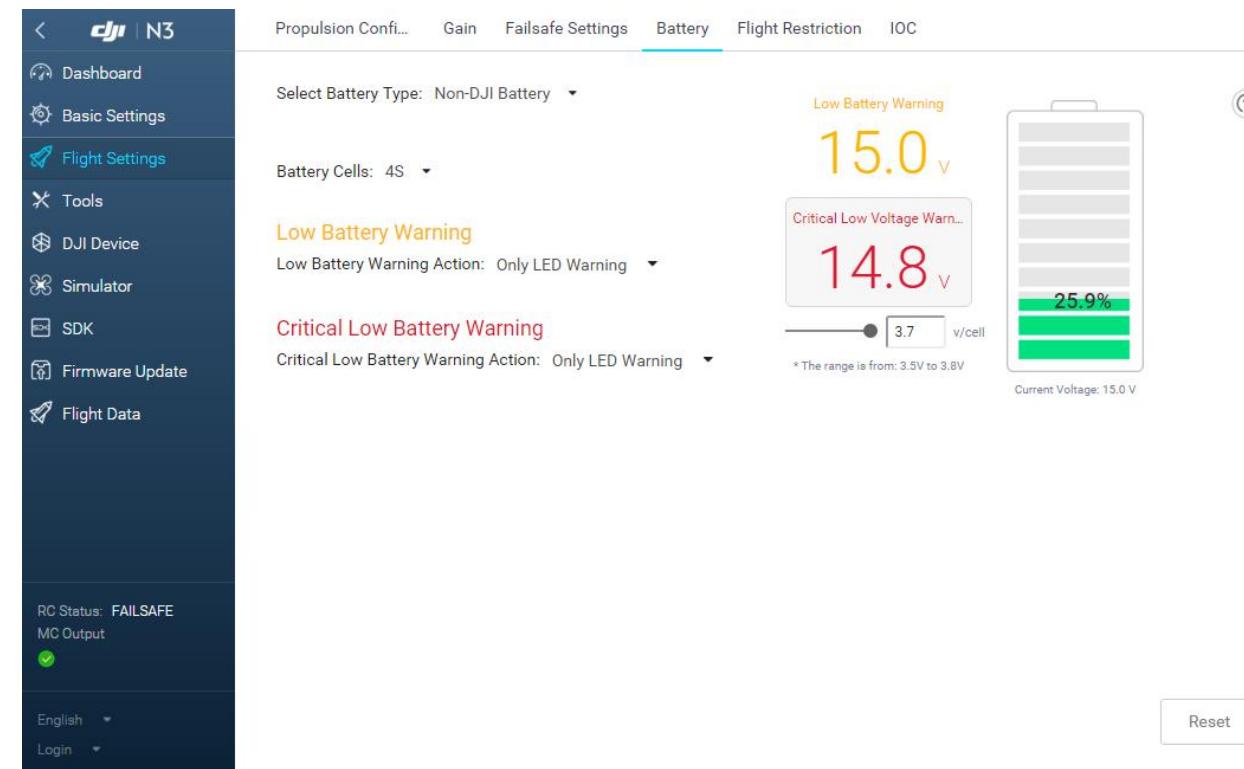
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

• Failsafe Setting



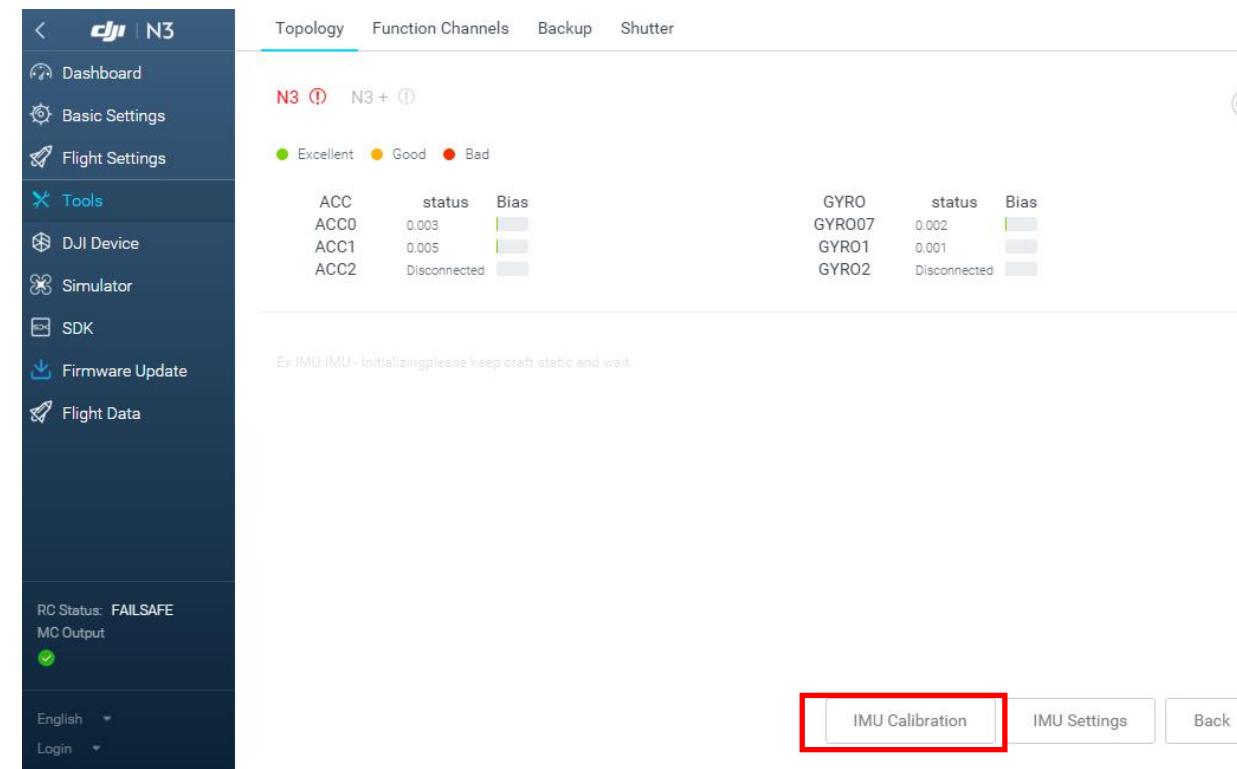
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check battery settings
 - Battery 4S (Low: 14.8V, 3.7V/cell)



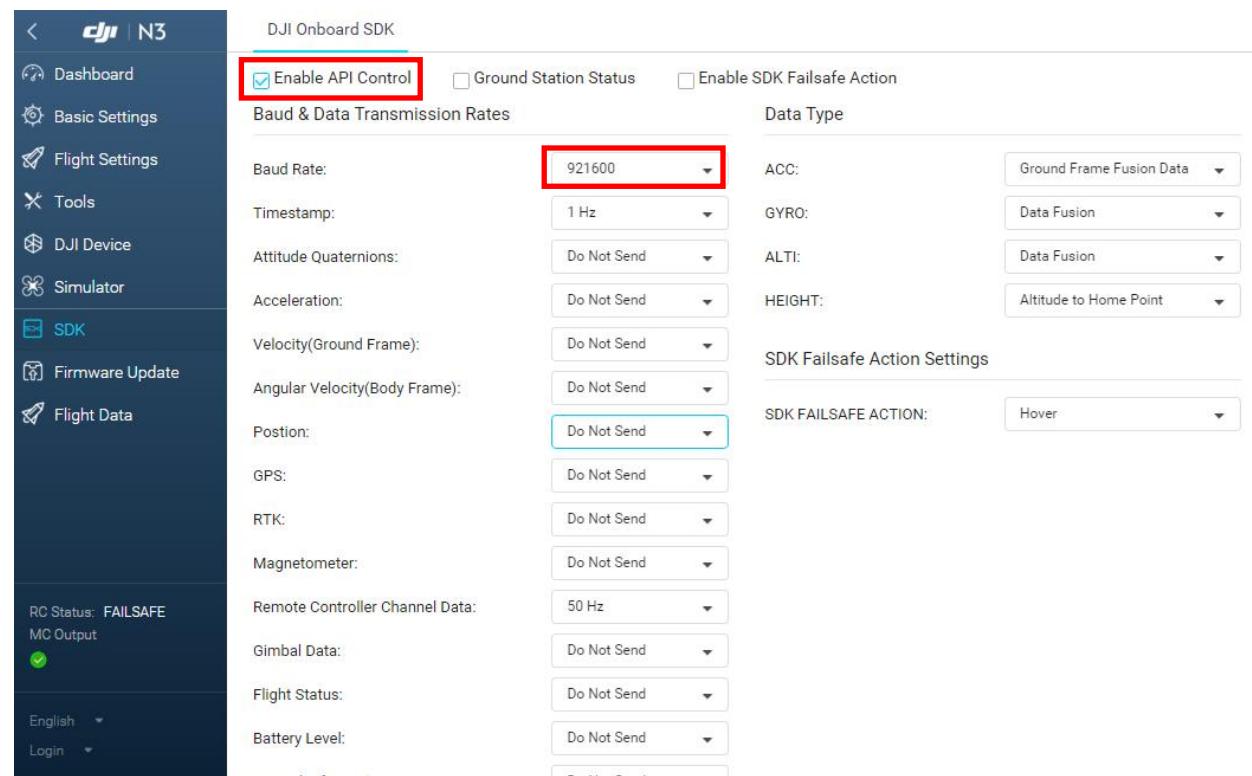
Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check IMU state, calibrate if bias is large
 - Press N3 Autopilot under Tools/Topology



Part 7: N3 Autopilot Set-up

- Check SDK settings



Before Flight

- Make sure ALL your work is correct
 - Any mistake will be very likely to cause drone crash
- **!!! Let TA check your work before flight**
- Acquire propellers from TA
- Install propellers (Next page)

- Assembling the propellers

1. Make sure you have tightened the nut !!!!
2. To remove the propeller, use the plier hold motor first, and then remove the nut with the spanner





READY FOR TAKEOFF