

Report 60d
**Preliminary design of a parallelepiped-shaped tank for
CubeSat green mono-propellant systems**



Problem Formulation

As space miniaturization advances, it becomes increasingly important to integrate diverse fields of knowledge, such as green fuels, advanced manufacturing techniques, and innovative design shapes, to drive progress in the sector. This project focuses on the analysis and preliminary design of a CubeSat propellant tank with a parallelepiped shape, utilizing additive manufacturing (AM) techniques for green monopropellants. The goal is to design a competitive design solution, taking note of their respective advantages and disadvantages (Table 1).

Designing a parallelepiped-shaped propellant tank for CubeSats introduces both challenges and opportunities, especially when incorporating AM techniques and green monopropellants. The parallelepiped geometry offers space efficiency and modularity, which

simplifies spacecraft integration. However by it's nature it is not an ideal shape for a pressure vessel which will limit the internal pressure.

AM also presents multiple benefits for CubeSat propulsion systems, including rapid prototyping and simplifying the manufacturing process. It also enables the creation of more complex geometries. AM also supports high-performance alloys, such as Ti-6Al-4V and Inconel [14], ensuring structural integrity and chemical compatibility with green monopropellants. Nevertheless, challenges remain, such as post-processing requirements for flight-grade standards, print orientation, thermal issues, the need for supports etc.

Green monopropellants offer improved safety, lower toxicity, reduced environmental impact, and competitive performance compared to traditional propellants. Additionally, they exhibit better storage stability. However, due to their relatively recent development and limited testing, it is important to consider their compatibility with the selected structural material, propulsion management systems, and other related components.

Advantages	Disadvantages
Parallelepiped-Shaped Tanks	
Space Efficiency Modularity	Sharp corners Pressure limited
Additive Manufacturing	
Rapid Prototyping Complex Geometries	Surface Finish Chemical Compatibility
Green (Mono-)Propellant	
Safety Storage Stability	Chemical Compatability Limited Knowledge

Table 1: Key Advantages and Disadvantages of Parallelepiped-Shaped Tanks, Additive Manufacturing, and Green Monopropellants.

The success of this project hinges on a comprehensive understanding of the interaction between these factors, with the goal of designing a propellant tank that aligns with our current knowledge of these interactions. The design will aim to provide a solution that is easily integrable into existing CubeSat formats (primarily 3U, as detailed later) and leverages the capabilities of current additive manufacturing (AM) techniques, ensuring compatibility with green monopropellants. In doing so this report aspires to answer the following two research questions:

RQ1: What is the most suitable design for a parallelepiped-shaped tank, to meet the identified constraints and requirements?

RQ2: What are the most suitable materials, dimensions and shape/fluidic interfaces which allow for a fully operational design of the tank?

Requirements

Before exploring potential design options and developing a preliminary design, it is essential to first define the problem through a set of requirements. This was achieved through

an internal literature review, including an analysis of the Lunar Flashlight mission [12], reference to design manuals for pressure vessels [4], and research into constraints associated with additive manufacturing [1] and the use of green monopropellants [15]. Following a systems engineering approach, top-level requirements were established and subsequently broken down into related sub-requirements, resulting in the requirements discovery tree illustrated in Figure 1.

The requirements highlighted in light green represent stakeholder requirements, derived directly from the project description. Below these are system-level requirements, followed by more specific requirements that pertain to "subsystems" of the tank being designed. These subsystems include structural aspects, propellant management devices, CubeSat design specifications, and constraints related to additive manufacturing.

Each requirement is assigned a unique ID in the format PAMGMT-STK-XX-SYS-SUB-XX, where SUB represents one of the four subsystems: STR (Structure), PMD (Propellant Management Device), CDS (CubeSat Design Specification), or AM (Additive Manufacturing). The acronym PAMGMT stands for Parallelepiped-shaped Additively Manufactured Green Monopropellant Tank. This structured approach ensures clear traceability, linking each requirement to higher-level system goals and demonstrating how individual requirements contribute to fulfilling broader, less strictly defined objectives. The complete overview listing every requirement along with the associate rationale for including them is given in the Table below (see Table 3).

An implicit requirement is that the selected material must be compatible with L-PBF or EB-PBF additive manufacturing processes and chemically resistant to green monopropellants. According to literature [14], several materials have been identified as suitable for these manufacturing techniques, with some also exhibiting favorable chemical compatibility with green monopropellants. Table 2 provides an overview of these materials. These options will serve as the foundation for material selection in the subsequent preliminary design phase. In the table, "A" indicates excellent chemical compatibility with the specified green monopropellant. Throughout this report, L-PBF will be used as the default method for additive manufacturing, as EB-PBF generally involves higher costs due to the requirement for a vacuum environment [7]. However, if thermal issues arise with L-PBF, EB-PBF may be considered as an alternative (except for SS304L).

Table 2: Material Compatibility with Green Propellants [14]

MATERIAL	HNP225	LMP103S	AFM315E	FLP-106
Ti-6Al-4V	A	A	A	A
SS316L	A	A	A	A
SS304L	A	A	A	A
Inconel 625	A	A	A	A

*Only compatible with L-PBF (Laser Powder Bed Fusion) process.

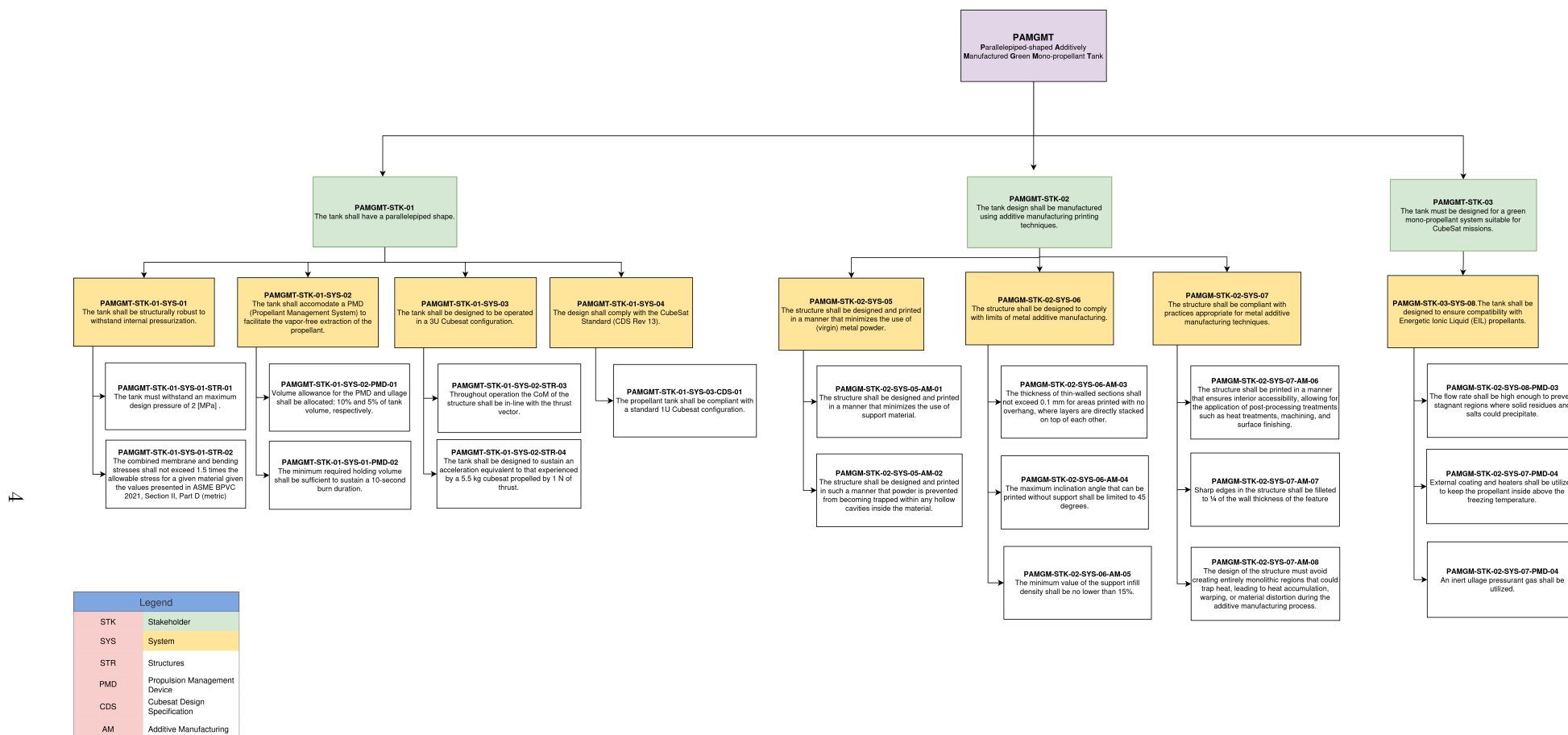


Figure 1: Requirements discovery tree for the PAMGMT.

Requirement Index	Description	Rationale
PAMGMT-STK-01	The tank shall have a parallelepiped shape.	Defined by supervisor.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01	The tank shall be structurally robust to withstand internal pressurization.	Regardless of the PMD, engine type, or propellant used, some ullage pressure is necessary. Given the tank's parallelepiped shape, special attention must be paid to ensuring structural integrity.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-STR-01	The tank must withstand an maximum design pressure of 2 [MPa].	monopropellant microthrusters produce 0.1–1 N of thrust [6], and for a specific 1 N thruster, chamber pressure ranges from 0.45 to 2.2 MPa [15]. To accommodate various thruster types, a Maximum Design Pressure (MDP) of approximately 2 MPa was chosen.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-STR-02	The combined membrane and bending stresses shall not exceed 1.5 times the allowable stress for a given material given the values presented in ASME BPVC 2021, Section II, Part D (metric)	The sizing must go according to standardization practices appropriate for pressure vessels. The ASME (The American Society of Mechanical Engineers) sizing for infinite rectangular pressure vessels was adapted for this purpose.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02	The tank shall accomodate a PMD (Propellant Management System) to facilitate the vapor-free extraction of the propellant.	Without settling thrust maneuvers, vapor-free propellant flow cannot be ensured without a PMD. Over time, liquid and gas phases mix, potentially covering the outlet. This can lead to combustion instabilities or even engine failure. [11]
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02-PMD-01	Volume allowance for the PMD and ullage shall be allocated: 10% and 5% of tank volume, respectively.	These values are used to provide a realistic estimate of the propellant volume while accounting for the space occupied by the PMD [15].
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-PMD-02	The minimum required holding volume shall be sufficient to sustain a 10-second burn duration.	It is assumed a CubeSat burn typically lasts up to 10 seconds [6]. The PMD must supply enough propellant to sustain this duration, defining the minimum required holding volume.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-03	The tank shall be designed to be operated in a 3U Cubesat configuration	Monopropellant thrusters are suitable for 3U and 12U CubeSats [6]. Since the market primarily targets 3U CubeSats, this propellant tank should be designed to align with that demand.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02-STR-03	Throughout operation the CoM of the structure shall be in-line with the thrust vector.	An asymmetrically designed PMD or an offset propellant mass will generate a moment proportional to the offset and thrust, requiring compensation from the attitude thrusters.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02-STR-04	The tank shall be designed to sustain an acceleration equivalent to that experienced by a 5.5 kg Cubesat propelled by 1 N of thrust.	A reference mass of approximately 5.5 kg was taken for a 3U CubeSat [22], which is expected to be accelerated by a 1 N thruster. This is considered suitable for a micropropulsion-driven CubeSat of this size and serves as a representative value for sizing the propellant tank.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-04	The design shall comply with the CubeSat Standard (CDS Rev 13).	The CubeSat Design Specification (CDS) [21] is a widely recognized standard for CubeSat design. Complying with this standard ensures compatibility with other CubeSat components and systems.
PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-03-CDS-01	The propellant tank shall be compliant with a standard 1U Cubesat configuration.	To create a versatile, "plug-and-play" system adaptable to various missions and configurations, the propellant tank dimensions were constrained to fit within a 1U CubeSat, ensuring adequate clearance for structural components like mounting points.
PAMGMT-STK-02	The tank design shall be manufactured using additive manufacturing printing techniques.	Defined by supervisor.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-05	The structure shall be designed and printed in a manner that minimizes the use of (virgin) metal powder.	Virgin metal powder will likely be required for flight parts [12], as studies suggest that reused powder can result in inconsistent material properties and performance. However, since this significantly increases costs, its use should be minimized.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-05-AM-01	The structure shall be designed and printed in a manner that minimizes the use of support material.	Since the supports will likely be made from the same virgin metal powder as the main structure, minimizing their use is essential to reduce material consumption.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-05-AM-02	The structure shall be designed and printed in such a manner that powder is prevented from becoming trapped within any hollow cavities inside the material.	Hollow structures without release holes trap powder, increasing mass and wasting material.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06	The structure shall be designed to comply with limits of metal additive manufacturing.	Like any manufacturing method, additive manufacturing has unique constraints that must be considered during the design process.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06-AM-03	The thickness of thin-walled sections shall not exceed 0.1 mm for areas printed with no overhang, where layers are directly stacked on top of each other.	A value of 0.1 mm is taken to be the minimum thickness that can be printed without support [23].
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06-AM-04	The maximum inclination angle that can be printed without support shall be limited to 45 degrees.	A value of 45 degrees is taken to be the maximum angle that can be printed without support [23].
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06-AM-05	The minimum value of the support infill density shall be no lower than 15%.	Support structures can be printed at a minimum distance of 2mm from eachother without causing thermal problems [23], a simple estimation on the available infill material for the supports can lead to a value as low as 5% but to remain conservative a value of 15% which is often utilized in conventional plastic 3D printing is used.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07	The structure shall be compliant with practices appropriate for metal additive manufacturing techniques.	The design must align with metal additive manufacturing requirements to ensure successful fabrication, including post-processing considerations and proper handling after production.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-AM-06	The structure shall be printed in a manner that ensures interior accessibility, allowing for the application of post-processing treatments such as heat treatments, machining, and surface finishing.	Post-processing treatments are often necessary to improve the mechanical properties of the printed structure [12]. Ensuring interior accessibility is essential for applying these treatments effectively.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-AM-07	Sharp edges in the structure shall be filleted to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the wall thickness of the feature.	Sharp edges on exterior components, such as ribs, must be filleted to reduce stress concentrations and enhance safety by preventing injuries during post-production handling and assembly [13].
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-AM-08	The design of the structure must avoid creating entirely monolithic regions that could trap heat, leading to heat accumulation, warping, or material distortion during the additive manufacturing process.	Monolithic regions can trap heat, leading to thermal issues during the additive manufacturing process. To prevent these issues, the design must incorporate features that promote heat dissipation and prevent heat accumulation.
PAMGMT-STK-03	The tank must be designed for a green mono-propellant system suitable for CubeSat missions.	Defined by supervisor.
PAMGM-STK-03-SYS-08.	The tank shall be designed to ensure compatibility with Energetic Ionic Liquid (EIL) propellants.	Energetic Ionic Liquid (EIL) propellants are a type of green monopropellant that offers high performance and low toxicity. The tank must be designed to accommodate the unique properties of EIL propellants to ensure safe and efficient storage and delivery.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-08-PMD-03	The flow rate shall be high enough to prevent stagnant regions where solid residues and salts could precipitate.	A notable issue with certain EIL propellants, particularly when used in propulsion systems, is the potential for slow decomposition. This can lead to the formation of solid residues and salt precipitation, which could create operational challenges, such as clogging of valves and feed lines. To prevent this, the propellant tank must be designed to ensure adequate flow rates (value of around 30mL/min taken from [15]) that prevent stagnation and promote propellant circulation.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-PMD-04	External coating and heaters shall be utilized to keep the propellant inside above the freezing temperature.	Energetic Ionic Liquid (EIL) propellants have a low freezing point, which can lead to solidification and clogging of the propellant lines. To prevent this, the tank must be equipped with external heating elements and coatings to maintain the propellant temperature above its freezing point.
PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-PMD-04	An inert ullage pressurant gas shall be utilized.	To maintain the propellant in a liquid state, an inert ullage pressurant gas must be used.

Table 3: Requirements table

Design Options

To effectively define the scope of the design problem, it is essential to systematically present all possible design options within the established constraints—namely, additive manufacturing, the use of green monopropellants, and a parallelepiped-shaped configuration. This ideation process is structured through a design option tree, which aims to comprehensively explore all conceivable alternatives at this stage within the defined design space.

As a baseline, the tank design used in the Lunar Flashlight mission [12] was considered, along with hypothetical design concepts such as those proposed by Shcheglov et al. [16] and various types of additively manufactured pressure vessels discussed in Tepponen et al. [20]. Based on this, several design possibilities were identified, including a generic parallelepiped-shaped configuration (rectangular but not necessarily conforming to the CubeSat standard and potentially incorporating angled surfaces), a rounded rectangular design, a variable thickness structure, an inner lattice design, a uniform thickness rectangular design, and an externally ribbed rectangular design.

These designs come with their own benefits and drawbacks [20]:

- **Generic Parallelepiped Design**

- **Description:** A generic rectangular tank design (i.e. follows from $V = |\vec{a} \cdot (\vec{b} \times \vec{c})|$) that can be adapted to various enclosures but lacks predefined constraints.
- **Advantages:**
 - * Can be tailored for specific enclosures.
- **Disadvantages:**
 - * Hard to design due to fewer constraints.
 - * Cannot be designed as a "plug-and-play" solution.

- **Rounded Rectangular Design**

- **Description:** A rectangular tank with rounded edges to minimize stress concentrations and improve structural durability.
- **Advantages:**
 - * Reduces stress concentrations at corners, improving fatigue life.
 - * May marginally improve weight reduction in comparison to uniform thickness.
- **Disadvantages:**
 - * May slightly reduce usable internal volume due to rounded edges.

- **Variable Thickness Rectangular Design**

- **Description:** A rectangular tank with varying wall thickness to optimize weight-to-strength ratio.
- **Advantages:**
 - * Improves weight-to-strength ratio by reinforcing high-stress areas.

- * Reduces material usage, leading to cost savings.
- * Enhances fatigue life by minimizing stress concentration zones.
- **Disadvantages:**
 - * Complex manufacturing due to varying wall thickness.
 - * Requires advanced simulation and optimization tools.
 - * Potential issues with residual stresses and distortions during printing.
- **Uniform Thickness Rectangular Design**
 - **Description:** A simple rectangular tank with uniform wall thickness for ease of manufacturing and predictable performance.
 - **Advantages:**
 - * Simplifies manufacturing and analysis with minimal support structures.
 - * Predictable mechanical behavior under pressure loads (well understood from theory [4]).
 - * Easier post-processing and quality control.
 - **Disadvantages:**
 - * Not optimized for weight reduction.
 - * Doesn't fully leverage the potential of additive manufacturing.
- **Inner Lattice Rectangular Design**
 - **Description:** A rectangular tank with an internal lattice structure to reduce weight while maintaining structural integrity.
 - **Advantages:**
 - * Enables significant weight reduction while maintaining structural integrity.
 - * Difficult to manufacture using traditional methods, making AM a perfect fit.
 - **Disadvantages:**
 - * Can introduce stress concentration points at lattice junctions.
 - * Post-processing and inspection are more complex.
 - * Inner ribs require filleting or other design modifications to prevent propellant entrapment.
- **Ribbed Rectangular Design**
 - **Description:** A rectangular tank reinforced with external or internal ribs to improve stiffness and resistance to buckling.
 - **Advantages:**
 - * Increases stiffness and resistance to buckling.
 - * Provides significant weight reduction while maintaining structural integrity.
 - * Ribs can serve as mounting points for structural integration.
 - **Disadvantages:**
 - * Requires additional supports between ribs during manufacturing.

These design options were evaluated using a trade-off matrix, considering factors such as weight reduction, design simplicity, adaptability, volume utilization, and printability. As shown in Table 4, the ribbed and uniform rectangular designs emerged as the most favorable. While they may not be the most intricate or most compelling options for showcasing additive manufacturing techniques, they offer a balanced combination of simplicity, high printability, and well-documented stress and thickness relationships [3] [4]. Therefore given the objectives of this design and analysis study these options were chosen to be implemented in the preliminary sizing.

Design	Weight Reduction (5)	Design Simplicity (4)	Adaptable (3)	Volume Utilization (2)	Printable (1)	Total Score
Generic Parallelepiped	2 (10)	1 (4)	5 (15)	5 (10)	2 (2)	41
Rounded Rectangular	3 (15)	3 (12)	3 (9)	3 (6)	4 (4)	46
Variable Thickness	4 (20)	2 (8)	3 (9)	3 (6)	1 (1)	44
Uniform Thickness	2 (10)	5 (20)	4 (12)	4 (8)	5 (5)	55
Inner Lattice	4 (20)	2 (8)	3 (9)	2 (4)	4 (4)	45
Ribbed Rectangular	4 (20)	4 (16)	4 (12)	4 (8)	4 (4)	60

Table 4: Trade-off analysis of different tank designs. Numbers in parentheses represent weighted scores.

The next set of design considerations involves selecting the most appropriate Propellant Management Device (PMD). Given PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02, which aims to ensure vapor-free propellant delivery to the engine, a thorough evaluation of PMD options is essential. The choice of PMD directly affects the required internal pressure, influencing skin thickness and other structural aspects of the design. The most commonly used PMDs in CubeSats include elastic diaphragms, actuated expulsion mechanisms, surface tension components, and gas pressurization [14].

These common PMD types are described and their advantages and disadvantages are presented below [11]:

- **Elastic Diaphragms**

- **Description:** Utilizes a flexible membrane that separates the pressurant gas from the liquid propellant.
- **Advantages:**
 - * Prevents gas-propellant mixing, ensuring vapor-free propellant delivery.
 - * Effective for slosh control.
- **Disadvantages:**
 - * Limited lifespan due to elastomeric material degradation.
 - * Additional mass due to the diaphragm.

- **Actuated Expulsion Mechanisms (Pistons, Bladders etc.)**

- **Description:** Uses some type of actuated mechanism such as pistons, bladders or even pumps to actively expel propellant.
- **Advantages:**
 - * The ability to control the propellant mass flow rate.
 - * High expulsion efficiency.
 - * Allows for higher propellant storage volumes by eliminating the need for gas pressurization systems (in case of using pumps).
- **Disadvantages:**
 - * Requires power.
 - * Increased system mass and complexity.
- **Surface Tension Components (Capillary PMDs)**
 - **Description:** Utilizes capillary forces to control and direct liquid propellant within the tank, ensuring vapor-free expulsion under microgravity conditions.
 - **Advantages:**
 - * Passive operation with no moving parts, increasing reliability.
 - * Lightweight and highly adaptable to different tank geometries.
 - * Effective in managing liquid positioning and preventing vapor ingestion.
 - **Disadvantages:**
 - * Performance depends on precise geometric design and wettability properties.
 - * Limited capability to handle high flow rates compared to active expulsion methods.
 - * Complex manufacturing and integration, especially for intricate structures.
- **Gas Pressurization**
 - **Description:** Uses inert gas (e.g., helium, nitrogen) to directly pressurize the propellant.
 - **Advantages:**
 - * Simple design, widely used in propulsion systems.
 - **Disadvantages:**
 - * Requires large storage tanks for pressurant gases.
 - * Creates larger internal pressure.

A trade-off matrix was created based on the criteria of weight reduction, design simplicity, adaptability, ullage pressure, and power consumption. The last two criteria specifically assess the additional internal pressure required by each PMD and whether the system requires power to operate (with a score of 5 indicating no power requirement and 1 representing a high, continuous power demand). The results are presented in Table 5. Surface tension methods are clearly favored due to their simplicity, lack of power requirements, and minimal impact on the necessary ullage pressure.

PMD Type	Weight Reduction (5)	Design Simplicity (4)	Adaptable Ullage (3)	Ullage Pressure (2)	Power Consumption (1)	Total Score
Elastic Diaphragms	2 (10)	3 (12)	3 (9)	2 (4)	3 (3)	38
Actuated Expulsion	3 (15)	2 (8)	5 (15)	4 (8)	1 (1)	47
Surface Tension	5 (25)	5 (20)	2 (6)	4 (8)	5 (5)	64
Gas Pressurization	4 (20)	4 (16)	3 (9)	1 (2)	2 (2)	49

Table 5: Trade-off analysis of different PMD options. Numbers in parentheses represent weighted scores.

After selecting for the PMD category, various components within the surface tension category can still be considered to ensure vapor-free propellant delivery. Table 6 provides an overview of these components, including a brief description, their advantages, and their disadvantages.

According to literature [6], monopropellant thrusters are among the most suitable propulsion choices for 3U and 12U CubeSats, with the current market primarily catering to the 3U class. The proposed tank should be compact enough to fit within the structural frame of a 1U CubeSat while being designed primarily for integration into 3U CubeSat missions. This means it must withstand the accelerations typical for such a class of spacecraft.

As a baseline, an acceleration of approximately 0.018 [g] is assumed, based on a 5.5 [kg] spacecraft mass [22] and a total thrust of about 1 [N] (see PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02-STR-04). Unlike the Lunar Flashlight mission, this tank is not being developed for a specific mission but rather as a versatile, multi-functional, plug-and-play solution. For most CubeSats, propulsion is primarily required for orbit adjustments and station-keeping maneuvers, typically involving burn durations of no more than 10 seconds (see PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-PMD-02).

Given these constraints, the CubeSat is expected to experience low accelerations for relatively short periods. From Table 6, sponges and vanes emerge as suitable options for guiding and controlling propellant flow, with porous elements inherently incorporated within sponge structures. While baffles could help mitigate sloshing, their necessity is reduced due to the relatively small propellant mass fraction in a 3U CubeSat and the expected low acceleration levels. Therefore, at this stage of the design, sloshing is not considered a critical concern. Figure 2 shows the completed design option tree with all previously discussed options.



Name	Image	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
Vane		Lightweight "sheet metal" structures that use surface tension to guide propellant to the outlet. Propellant clings to the vanes and moves along formed corners.	Simple, low cost, effective for low-acceleration burns, reliable.	Cannot lift propellant at high accelerations, limited to low-g applications.
Gallery		Closed flow paths covered with porous elements to prevent gas ingestion while allowing liquid flow. Used for vapor-free propellant delivery.	Effective at high accelerations, ensures gas-free flow, reliable for long-duration missions.	Heavy, complex, inefficient, lower reliability.
Sponge		Open metal structures with tapered gaps that control propellant flow and prevent gas intrusion. Used in stationkeeping and settling applications.	Refillable after acceleration, reliable, effective in low-g conditions.	Cannot retain liquid at high accelerations, limited liquid retention capacity.
Trap		Solid wall containers holding propellant with porous element-covered inlets, used for one-time critical burns.	Suitable for high-acceleration events, effective for gas retention.	Not passively refillable in zero-g, unsuitable for frequent maneuvers.
Trough		Uses hydrostatics to retain propellant in an acceleration field. Can be designed for refillability or omnidirectional retention.	Works in high-g conditions, useful for specific launch and reentry needs.	Heavy, expensive, not mass-efficient compared to sponges.
Porous Elements		Used in various PMDs to allow liquid flow while preventing gas penetration. Commonly made from woven screen or perforated sheet.	Ensures gas-free propellant delivery, essential for PMD performance.	Small pores increase flow resistance, difficult to manufacture and integrate.
Baffle		Structures used to reduce sloshing by limiting propellant movement within the tank.	Enhances stability, prevents unwanted fluid motion.	Does not assist in direct propellant retention, adds weight.

Table 6: Comparison of various Propellant Management Devices (PMDs). [19]

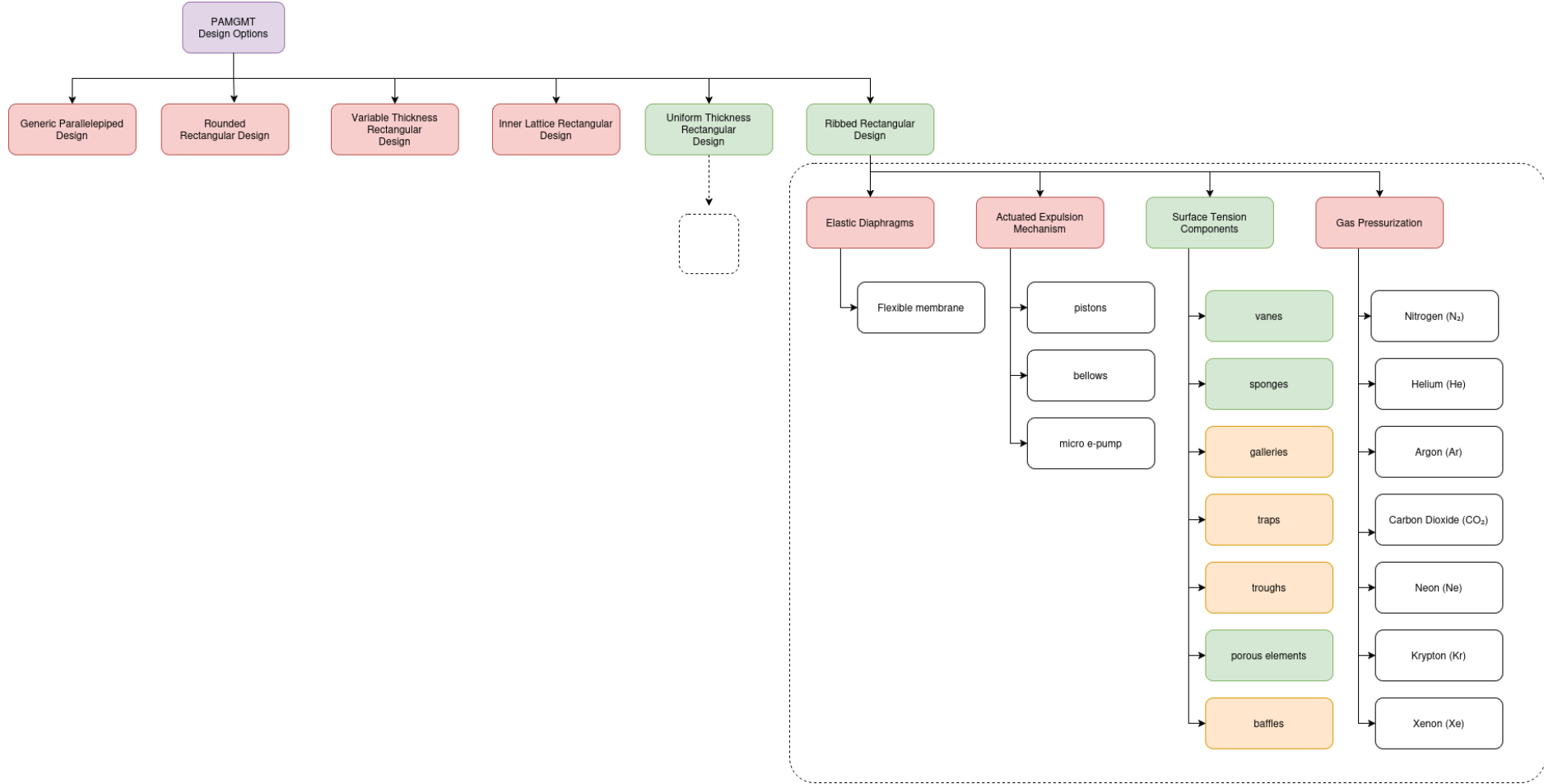


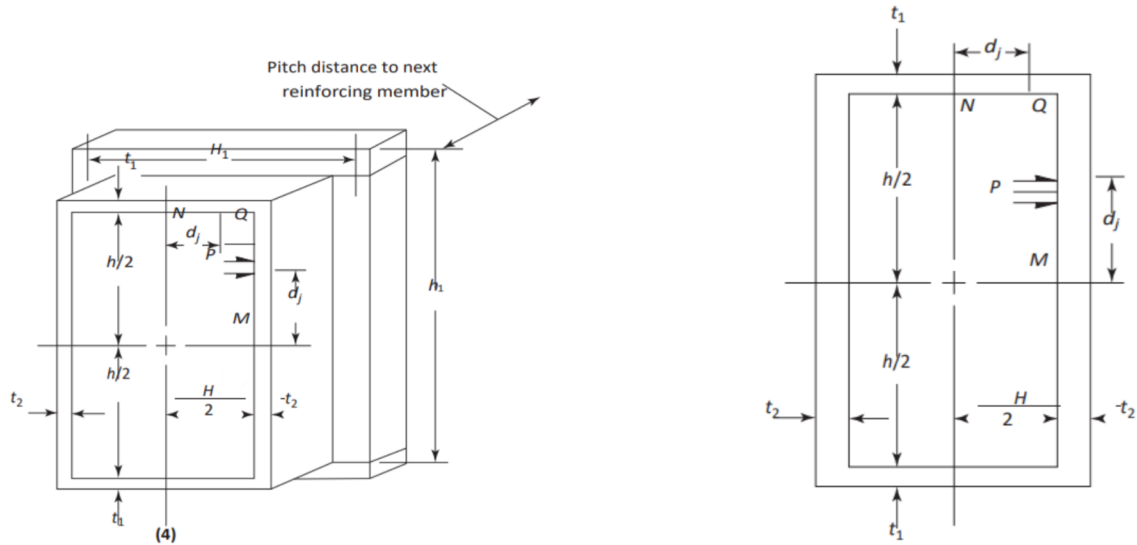
Figure 2: Design option tree

Preliminary Design

Main Structure

After specifying the design options for the tank dimensions and the PMD system, and defining the requirements, it is necessary to discuss the method used for sizing the tank. To design both a uniform thickness and ribbed rectangular pressure vessel, a method from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) was utilized to relate the internal pressure to the required thickness and the number or spacing of ribs (i.e., stiffening elements). This method idealizes a cross-section of an infinitely long rectangular pressure vessel. Alternative methods for finite pressure vessels are described by Blach et al. [4].

The decision not to use these alternative methods (e.g., the small and large deflection methods mentioned by Blach et al.) was due to the stiffening effect induced by the corners of a 3D finite pressure vessel, which may alleviate the internal stress. To remain conservative and consistent with established standards, the ASME code method [3] was chosen. Additionally, using the ASME code offers the advantage of readily available resources and example calculations, as demonstrated by Blach et al. (calctools). Further mass reductions could be made in the future by employing less conservative sizing methods and performing real-life pressurization validation tests. Given the chosen design options the following two generalized cross-sections were used as shown in Figure 3a and Figure 3b



(a) Cross-section of unstiffened rectangular pressure vessel.

(b) Cross-section of stiffened rectangular pressure vessel

Figure 3: Parametric rectangular pressure vessel cross-sections from ASME handbook [3]

As required by PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-STR-02, the combined membrane and bending stresses shall not exceed 1.5 times the allowable stress for a given material, as specified in ASME BPVC 2021, Section II, Part D (metric) [2]. The allowable stress varies with temperature, and a simplified radiative heat balance is implemented within the code (see section) to provide a conservative estimate of the allowable stress.

The script in the code section utilizes the method outlined in Appendix 13 of the ASME handbook [3] to evaluate compliance with the specified requirement. The dimensions of the rectangular pressure vessel are predefined to fit within a 1U enclosure, as stipulated by PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-03-CDS-01, ensuring sufficient clearance for surrounding structures (Table 8). The ribbed or stiffened configuration, illustrated in Figure 3a, is designed using predefined stiffener properties listed in Table 7.

Table 7: Summary of stiffener properties

Parameter	Description	Value
t_s	Thickness	5 mm
h_s	Height of stiffener	5 mm

Table 8: Summary of Rectangular Pressure Vessel Dimensions

Parameter	Description	Value
h	Side length	70 mm
L	Height	90 mm

The spacing between stiffeners is calculated using the following equation:

$$P = \frac{L - h_s}{n - 1} \quad (1)$$

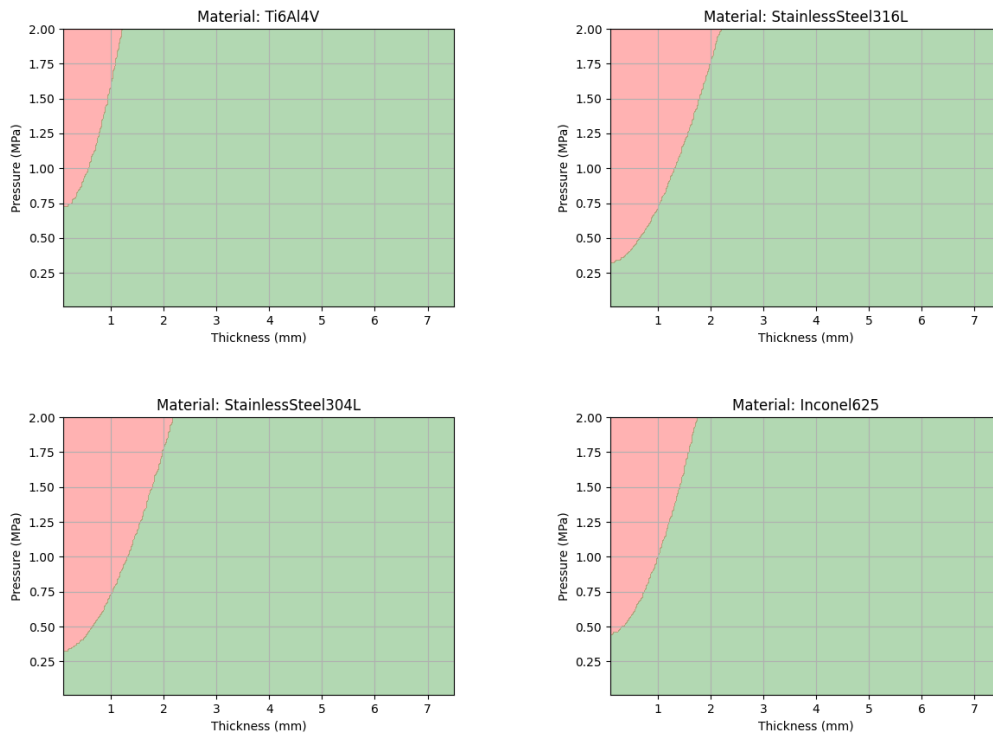
where:

- P = Spacing between stiffeners
- L = Total height of the tank
- h_s = Height of each stiffener
- n = Number of stiffeners

Based on the material selected, as shown in Table 2, the adapted method was applied with the assumption that $t_1 = t_2$ (i.e., a uniform thickness cross-section). As illustrated in Figure 4, the safe pressure ranges are influenced by factors such as internal pressure, material properties, and the presence of stiffening elements. The results demonstrate that the stiffened structure allows for thinner walls at any given pressure, with Ti6Al4V, in particular, performing exceptionally well.

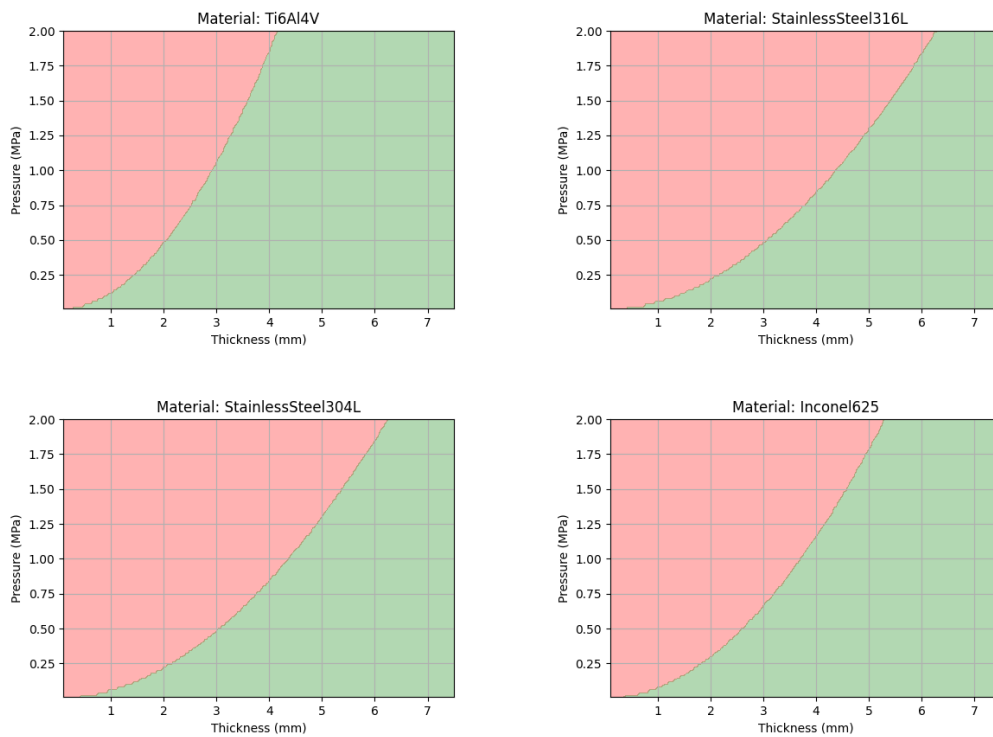
Naturally, the stiffened structure will require additional mass, and the choice of materials is also influenced by their density and the cost of the metal powder needed for construction. This relationship is illustrated in Figure 5, where the radial distance from the origin represents the viability of each design based on these two factors. The top 5 closes points to the origin are tabulated in Table 9.

stiffened Pressure Vessel Safety Analysis for Different Materials



(a) Stiffened Pressure Thickness Analysis (5 stiffeners applied)

unstiffened Pressure Vessel Safety Analysis for Different Materials



(b) Unstiffened Pressure Thickness Analysis (no stiffeners applied)

Figure 4: Comparison of Pressure Thickness Analysis for Stiffened and Unstiffened Configurations

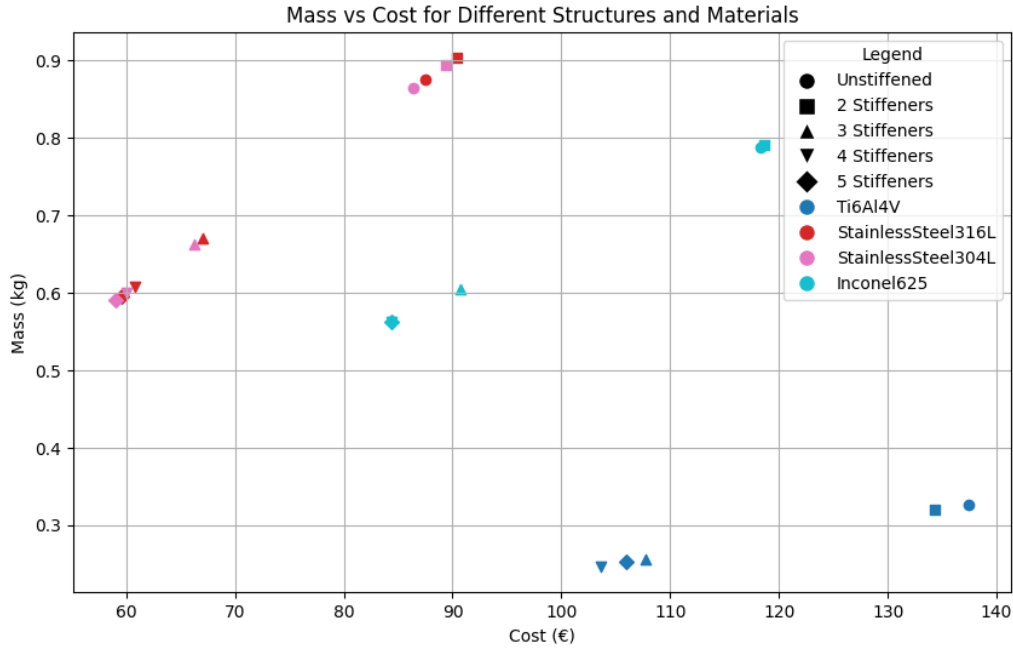


Figure 5: Mass / Cost Tradeoff for given structure type and material at a MDP of 2 [MPa]

Table 9: Top 5 Closest Points to the Origin (Mass and Cost)

Material	Structure	Mass (kg)	Cost (€)	Thickness (mm)
SS304L	5 Stiffeners	0.59	59.06	2.13
SS316L	5 Stiffeners	0.60	59.58	2.13
SS304L	4 Stiffeners	0.60	60.08	2.59
SS316L	4 Stiffeners	0.61	60.83	2.61
SS304L	3 Stiffeners	0.66	66.27	3.42

As per requirement PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-STR-01, the tank is sized for an internal pressure of 2 [MPa] which will be maintained through an inert pressurant as per requirement PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-PMD-04. From looking at the graphs at a pressure of 2 [MPa]. It is clear that although the Titanium options are extremely lightweight, they come with the highest costs. On the other hand, the stainless steel options are the most affordable but typically have the greatest mass. The top 5 entries in the table above represent the best solutions if cost and mass were equally prioritized. However, other factors like PMD sizing, propellant requirements, and necessary supports must also be considered in the trade-off analysis. Therefore, further investigation into these aspects is necessary.

Vane sizing

As demonstrated in the previous sections, the design must include a method for extracting vapor-free propellant to meet the requirement PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02. Surface tension devices were selected as the most suitable solution given the constraints, with sponges and vanes being the preferred options. The vanes will be positioned at the corner

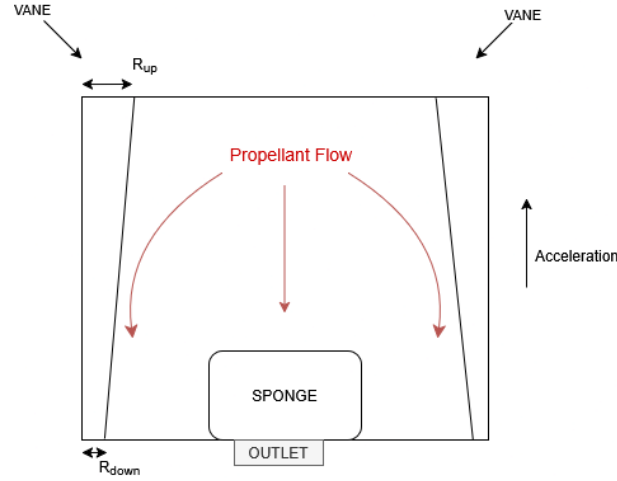


Figure 6: Diagram of PMD showing propellant flow.

points to prevent fluid from becoming trapped and to direct the propellant downward. Additionally, a central sponge will be incorporated to retain a specific amount of propellant, which will then be connected to the outlet. This has been illustrated in Figure 6.

The sizing of the vane was determined using established literature [8] [19] and is based on the following pressure balance: propellant will flow along the vane only if the "downstream radius" is sufficiently small. Essentially, the surface driving pressure is counteracted by dynamic forces, viscous losses, and hydrostatic forces. If the driving pressure is not strong enough to overcome these opposing forces, the propellant will not flow. This force balance can be represented by the following equation:

$$\sigma \left(\frac{1}{R_{down}} - \frac{1}{R_{up}} \right) = \rho(z_{down} - z_{up}) + \frac{2\mu Q s^2 L}{A^3} + \frac{\rho Q^2}{2A^2} \quad (2)$$

Where:

- σ - Surface tension of the propellant
- R_{down} - Downstream radius of curvature
- R_{up} - Upstream radius of curvature
- ρ - Density of the propellant
- z_{down} - Vertical position at the downstream point
- z_{up} - Vertical position at the upstream point
- μ - Dynamic viscosity of the propellant
- Q - Volumetric flow rate of the propellant
- s - Wetting area of the vane.
- L - Length of the flow path along the vane
- A - Vane surface area.

The first term on the right-hand side represents the hydrostatic losses, the second term accounts for the viscous losses, and the third term corresponds to the dynamic pressure losses. Several assumptions and simplifications are made: first, the hydrostatic losses are neglected because the acceleration vector is largely aligned with the flow vector. Additionally, it is assumed that the wetting area is equal to the total surface area of the vane. This assumption is made because the wettability of the propellants is not fully understood and would require additional effort to model accurately. Given the limited time available, it is assumed that complete wetting will result in the maximum viscous losses.

Due to the unknown liquid properties of the propellants, such as viscosity and surface tension, similar liquids were used as references. For AF-M315E, an ethylene glycol/glycerin mixture was used; for LMP-103S, ethanol-water mixtures served as a reference; nitromethane was used for HNP225; and a nitromethane/acetonitrile mixture was used for FLP-106 [17], [5],[10]. Extra care was also taken that the overhang angle created between R_{up} and R_{down} could not surpass 45° as per requirement PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06-AM-04.

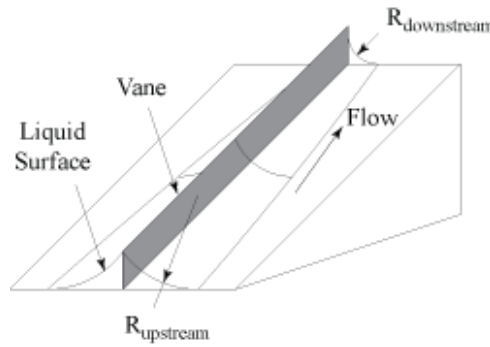


Figure 7: Vane sketch

Based on these assumptions and a constant flow rate of 30 mL/min (as per PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-08-PMD-03) regardless of the propellant type, the dynamic and viscous losses were minimal, with only a minimal difference in up-/downstream vane radius. As a result, a relatively small vane was selected using the dimensions shown in Table 10.

Table 10: Summary of Vane Radius Dimensions

Parameter	Description	Value
R_{down}	Vane radius (downstream)	0.75 mm
R_{up}	Vane radius (upstream)	0.84 mm

Additionally a spacing of around 1.5 [mm] was utilized to give enough clearance between the two vane halves and to ensure printability.

Sponge sizing

Additionally, a certain volume of propellant must be retained within a sponge. By positioning sponge panels (thin solid sheets) close together, liquid can be contained in the gaps, allowing large quantities of propellant to be managed even during thruster accelerations. At sufficiently high lateral accelerations, the propellant does not need to remain continuous and may exist in two separate regions of the sponge. This could result in isolated, inaccessible propellant within the sponge. [19]

$$a_{limit} = \frac{dg}{dz} \frac{\sigma}{\rho} \frac{2}{g^2} \quad (3)$$

- a_{limit} = limiting acceleration
- $\frac{dg}{dz}$ = gradient of gap size with respect to height
- σ = absolute surface tension
- ρ = liquid density
- g = gap size

It should be noted that the acceleration vector is assumed to align with the core of the sponge, around which the plates radiate outward (see Figure 6). This alignment suggests that the acceleration is unlikely to impose any significant constraints on the sponge's design. The sponge is sized to hold enough propellant for a 10-second burn, as specified by requirement PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-01-PMD-02. The inner core will provide the necessary supply, while the surrounding radial plates are sized to ensure adequate taper, minimizing the likelihood of flow separation under perpendicular acceleration (should that occur during re-orientation of the spacecraft) [9].

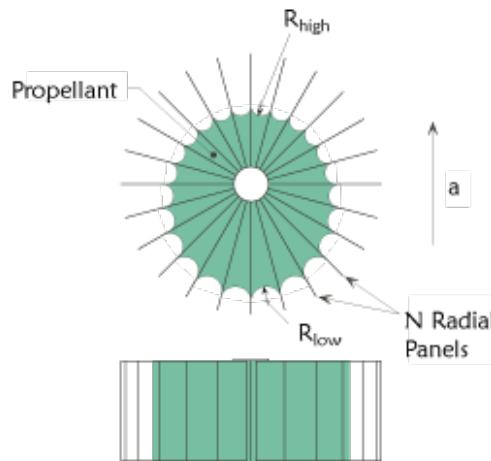


Figure 8: Sponge sketch

The thickness of the radial plates is constrained by requirement PAMGMT-STK-01-SYS-02-PMD-01. Running the main script, as shown in the code section , reveals that, based on the flow and burn time requirements, the sponges must extend up to the ceiling of the tank. It became apparent that the core would need to be quite large, and the thickness

of the radial plates would be less than 1 mm. Previous work in additively manufacturing PMDs [18] highlighted the importance of aspect ratio (i.e., the height-to-thickness ratio of the radial plates) for successful printing. Without a central core to provide rigidity, the print would likely fail based on the current results. Therefore, it is crucial that the core is made of a porous material that also connects to the radial plates. This becomes even more critical since the core is too large to depend on surface tension or capillary action to prevent gas injection. A centrally located porous material helps block gas bubbles, with the bubble point pressure (ΔP) being key to the performance of the porous device. This pressure defines the minimum level required to prevent gas from passing through the barrier (see Equation (4)).

$$\Delta P_{BP} = \frac{2\sigma \cos(\alpha)}{r} \quad (4)$$

- P_{BP} = bubble point pressure
- σ = absolute surface tension
- α = contact angle
- r = pore radius

A bubble point pressure of 200 [Pa] is selected as a baseline, based on a H_2O_2 propellant system [18]. It is likely that the propellants used in this design would require a higher bubble point pressure due to their increased viscosity and surface tension compared to H_2O_2 . However, increasing this pressure would necessitate a reduction in the pore radius, which would complicate the printing process of the sponge. The sponge, especially the central porous core, represents the most challenging aspect in terms of printability, making it the most difficult component to manufacture in bringing the proposed designs to reality. The feasibility of printing the porous central core with a lattice structure, based on the calculated pore radius, should be verified through a series of test prints.

Supports

In accordance with the requirement PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-05-AM-01, support material should be minimized. For the proposed structures with stiffeners, supports are necessary due to the 90-degree overhang of these elements. However, printing solid rectangular blocks from the chosen metallic powder would be inefficient. To address this, an effort was made to design a more material-efficient support structure. A 15% infill was selected in line with PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06-AM-05. The choice of infill pattern is particularly important, as PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-05-AM-02 specifies that powder should not become trapped, nor should the pattern require excessive powder or cause any thermal problems, while still providing sufficient rigidity. Similar to sponge structures, it will be essential to validate different infill patterns through real-world test prints, with options like Gyroid infill being considered for its strength in all directions and its ability to avoid trapping powder in enclosed areas.

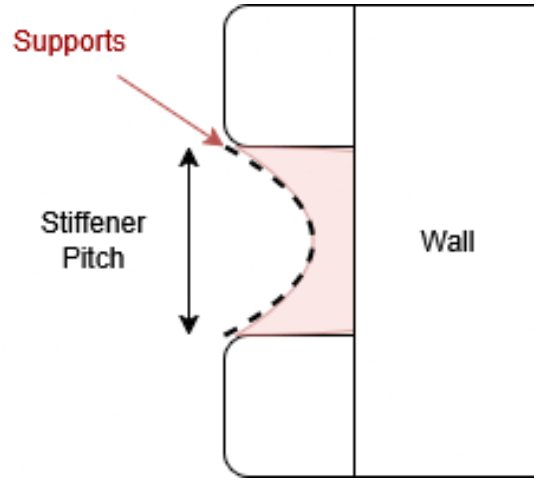


Figure 9: Sketch showing support curve in between two stiffeners

As per requirement PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-06-AM-04, overhangs of up to 45° can be printed without the need for supports. An investigation was conducted to explore the possibility of incorporating a parabolic curve within the stiffener pitch (see Figure 9). With the intention that this could reduce the amount of material needed for the supports. A simple parabolic curve was designed to fit within the available space, ensuring it extended up to the thickness of the stiffeners without exceeding a 45° angle. (Through $\tan(\theta) = dy/dx$) Additionally, the "throat" of the curve was limited to 0.5 [mm] to maintain both proper printability and structural rigidity.

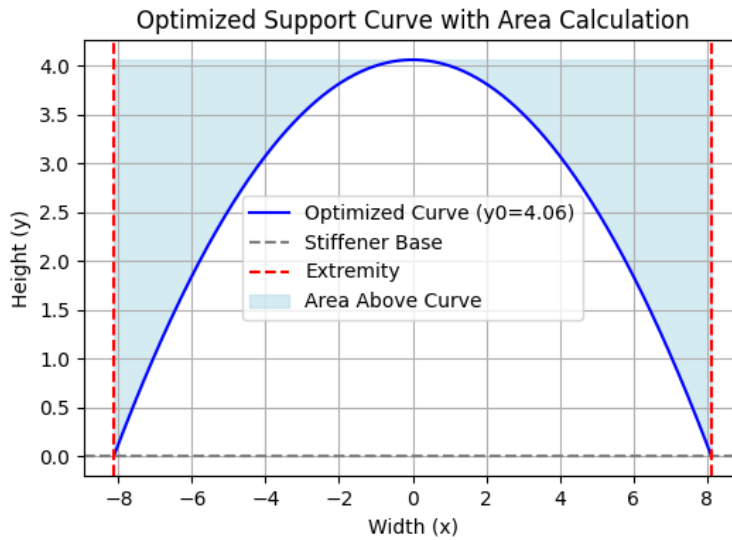


Figure 10: Optimized parabolic support curve for a 5 stiffener pitch.

In Figure 10, the optimized curve for 5 stiffener configuration is shown, the area above is calculated to be considered for the amount of support material required. Given the current proposed designs only the stiffeners necessitate these supporting structures. It is known from the literature that a theoretical overhang angle of 65° is could be feasible, suggesting that such a parabolic support structure might work. However, real-world validation tests would need to be performed to confirm this theory [23].

Trade Off

To conclude the design part of this report, the final design will be selected through a trade-off to identify the most suitable design option by evaluating different structure types, materials, and propellant types against several criteria, including the following:

- **Mass:** Lower mass is naturally preferred.
- **Effective Tank Volume:** A higher volume is desired for increased propellant capacity.
- **Cost:** Minimization of cost is preferred.
- **Printability:** This metric combines three sub-criteria:
 - Higher r_{lattice} (mm) to mitigate the issues with printing the porous central sponge material.
 - Higher t_{sponge} (mm) for better rigidity.
 - Lower support mass for reduced material usage.

The *min-max scaling* approach is used to normalize the criteria between 0 and 1. In cases where minimization is desired (e.g., mass, cost, support mass), values are inverted after normalization:

$$\text{Normalized Value} = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{v - \min(v)}{\max(v) - \min(v)}, & \text{if minimizing} \\ \frac{v - \min(v)}{\max(v) - \min(v)}, & \text{if maximizing} \end{cases}$$

This ensures consistency in the interpretation of normalized values, where higher values are always better. The trade-off score is calculated as a weighted sum of normalized values. The chosen weights reflect the relative importance of each criterion:

- **Mass:** $w = 4$ – Highly prioritized given its usual importance in space applications.
- **Effective Tank Volume:** $w = 1$ – Given little weight since having a rectangular tank should already allow for higher volume utilization.
- **Cost:** $w = 3$ – Given some more weight given the design should ultimately be able to compete with commercial offerings.
- **Printability:** $w = 2$ – Also given some weight considering just prioritizing weight would cause many dimensions to be very close to the printable limit.

The trade-off score is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Trade-off Score} = \frac{\sum w_i \cdot \text{Normalized Value}_i}{\sum w_i}$$

The results of this trade-off analysis are shown in Table 12, which presents the top 10 highest-rated designs out of a total of 80 variations. In contrast to the earlier mass and cost distribution, Titanium designs dominate the top 10 despite receiving low cost scores. This outcome highlights that, even with cost weighted at 3, Titanium remains the most favorable choice due to its superior performance across the other criteria.

Rank	Material	Structure	Propellant	Mass	Vol.	Cost	Print.	Score
1	Ti6Al4V	5 Stiffeners	AF-M315E	0.986	1.000	0.174	1.000	0.747
2	Ti6Al4V	4 Stiffeners	AF-M315E	1.000	0.929	0.191	0.919	0.734
3	Ti6Al4V	3 Stiffeners	AF-M315E	0.996	0.816	0.176	0.867	0.706
4	Ti6Al4V	5 Stiffeners	FLP-106	0.986	1.000	0.174	0.735	0.694
5	Ti6Al4V	5 Stiffeners	LMP-103S	0.986	1.000	0.174	0.705	0.687
6	Ti6Al4V	4 Stiffeners	FLP-106	1.000	0.929	0.191	0.648	0.680
7	Ti6Al4V	5 Stiffeners	HNP225	0.986	1.000	0.174	0.642	0.675
8	Ti6Al4V	4 Stiffeners	LMP-103S	1.000	0.929	0.191	0.621	0.674
9	SS304L	5 Stiffeners	AF-M315E	0.339	0.786	1.000	0.790	0.672
10	SS316L	5 Stiffeners	AF-M315E	0.328	0.786	0.993	0.788	0.665

Table 11: Top 10 designs with normalized values for different materials, structure types, and propellants.

The final design proposed based on the trade-off analysis is presented in Table 12. Titanium was chosen for its excellent mechanical properties, while AF-M315E was selected for its high surface tension, which enhances capillary action and enables effective liquid control in microgravity. Additionally, AF-M315E’s high maturity level for space applications adds to its suitability for this design. The inclusion of stiffeners contributes to mass reduction, and the optimized support structure allows for some cost savings. However, to fully validate the proposed solutions, multiple real-world test prints are necessary.

A draft of the design is presented in Figure 11, illustrating key dimensions. It is important to note that the pores depicted in the porous core are not intended to represent the final pore structure. While the pore radius corresponds to the calculations from the sponge sizing section, various lattice structures should be explored. The representation of the porous core includes a selected number of pore circles for visualization purposes.

It is worth noting that the tank does not include top or bottom plates. Since only the cross-section was designed using the ASME code method, the end plates are assumed to have the same thickness as the walls and are intended to cover the top and bottom portion of the tank. These plates can be welded on using EB-welding, as has been done in previous similar projects [12]. This approach also ensures compliance with requirement PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-07-AM-08, which prohibits the creation of entirely monolithic structures, and requirement PAMGM-STK-02-SYS-05-AM-02, which prevents the formation of hollow cavities. Additionally, manufacturing the main walls, sponge, and top and bottom plates separately reduces potential material loss due to print failures.

Table 12: Overview of final chosen design

Property	Value
Material	Ti6Al4V
Structure Type	5 Stiffeners
Propellant	AF-M315E
Wall Thickness (mm)	1.18
R_{down} (mm)	0.750
R_{up} (mm)	0.840
V_{vane} (m ³)	3.41e-07
Vane Mass (kg)	1.51e-03
r_{sponge} (mm)	4.21
R_{sponge} (mm)	22.8
h_{sponge} (mm)	90.0
t_{sponge} (mm)	0.180
N_{sponge}	10
V_{sponge} (m ³)	4.01e-05
r_{lattice} (mm)	0.550
Sponge Mass (kg)	0.177
Support Mass (kg)	0.0163
Support Cost (€)	6.86
Total Mass (kg)	0.431
Total Cost (€)	188

Conclusion

In conclusion, this report aimed to answer two key research questions:

RQ1: *What is the most suitable design for a parallelepiped-shaped tank to meet the identified constraints and requirements?*

The report concluded that an externally stiffened, ribbed structure with a uniform wall thickness is the optimal solution. This design strikes a balance between a non-stiffened, uniform-thickness structure and a more complex internal lattice structure. Additionally, the ribs offer the advantage of serving as mounting points for the surrounding structure.

RQ2: *What are the most suitable materials, dimensions, and shape/fluidic interfaces to enable a fully operational tank design?*

It was determined that Titanium, specifically Ti-6Al-4V, is the most suitable material for this application. Despite its higher cost, Titanium's excellent mechanical properties and compatibility with green monopropellants and additive manufacturing make it ideal for the task. Regarding fluidic interfaces, surface tension devices provide a simple yet effective method for guiding and storing propellant. This approach has been deemed sufficient for the types of missions this tank is designed for.



Figure 11: Technical drawing of the selected propellant tank design

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Code

The full code base can be found at [\[github\]](#).

main.py

```

1 import sys
2 import os
3 import toml
4 import math
5 import copy
6 import csv
7 import numpy as np
8 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
9 import matplotlib.cm as cm
10 from scipy.interpolate import griddata
11 from ASME._Appendix13_7_a import Appendix13_7_aParams,
    Appendix13_7_aCalcs
12 from ASME._Appendix13_8_e import _Appendix13_8_eCalcs
13 from ASME._Appendix13_7_c import Appendix13_7_cParams,
    Appendix13_7_cCalcs
14 from curve import optimize_stiffener_curve
15
16
17 def read_material_data(filename):
18     try:
19         with open(filename, "r") as file:
20             return toml.load(file)
21     except FileNotFoundError:
22         print("TOML file not found.")
23         return {}
24
25
26 def calculate_thermal_equilibrium(material_properties):
27     SOLAR_CONSTANT = 1361 # W/m^2
28     BOLTZMANN_CONSTANT = 5.670374419e-8 # W/m^2/K^4
29     AREA = 0.1 * 0.1 # m^2 for a 10 cm x 10 cm plate
30
31     absorptivity = material_properties["absorptivity"]
32     emissivity = material_properties["emissivity"]
33
34     left_side = absorptivity * AREA * SOLAR_CONSTANT
35     right_side_factor = emissivity * BOLTZMANN_CONSTANT * AREA
36
37     temperature_kelvin = (left_side / right_side_factor) ** 0.25
38     return temperature_kelvin
39
40
41 def interpolate_allowable_stress(material_properties,
    temperature_celsius):
42     room_temp_stress = material_properties.get("
    allowable_stress_mpa_room_temp", 0)
43     elevated_temp_stress = material_properties.get("
    allowable_stress_mpa_300C", 0)
44
45     if temperature_celsius <= 20:
46         return room_temp_stress
47     elif temperature_celsius >= 300:

```

```

48         return elevated_temp_stress
49
50     interpolated_stress = room_temp_stress + (temperature_celsius - 20)
51     * (
52         (elevated_temp_stress - room_temp_stress) / (300 - 20)
53     )
54     return interpolated_stress
55
56 def run_pressure_vessel_analysis(material_properties, allowable_stress):
57     thickness_range = np.linspace(0.1, 7.5, 500) / 1000 # Thickness
58     values in meters
59     pressure_range = np.linspace(0.01, 2, 100) * 10**6 # Pressure
60     values in Pa
61
62     points = []
63     labels = []
64
65     for thickness in thickness_range:
66         for pressure in pressure_range:
67             params_inner = Appendix13_7_aParams(
68                 long_side_length_inside=(70 / 1000),
69                 short_side_length_inside=(70 / 1000),
70                 internal_pressure=pressure,
71                 short_side_thickness=thickness,
72                 long_side_thickness=thickness,
73                 allowable_stress=allowable_stress,
74                 joint_efficiency=1,
75             )
76
77             params_outer = copy.deepcopy(params_inner)
78             params_outer.evalAtOuterWalls = True
79
80             calc_inner = Appendix13_7_aCalcs(params_inner)
81             calc_outer = Appendix13_7_aCalcs(params_outer)
82
83             max_inner_stress = max(
84                 abs(calc_inner.S_T_N()), abs(calc_inner.S_T_Q_short()),
85                 abs(calc_inner.S_T_M()), abs(calc_inner.S_T_Q_long())
86             )
87             max_outer_stress = max(
88                 abs(calc_outer.S_T_N()), abs(calc_outer.S_T_Q_short()),
89                 abs(calc_outer.S_T_M()), abs(calc_outer.S_T_Q_long())
90             )
91
92             stress_limit = 1.5 * allowable_stress
93
94             is_safe = max_inner_stress <= stress_limit and
95             max_outer_stress <= stress_limit
96
97             points.append((thickness * 1000, pressure / 10**6)) #
98             Convert thickness to mm, pressure to MPa
99             labels.append(is_safe)
100
101     return points, labels
102
103 def run_rounded_structure_analysis(material_properties, allowable_stress
104 ):

```

```

128     thickness_range = np.linspace(0.1, 7.5, 500) / 1000 # Thickness
129     values in meters
130     pressure_range = np.linspace(0.01, 2, 100) * 10**6 # Pressure
131     values in Pa
132
133     points = []
134     labels = []
135
136     for thickness in thickness_range:
137         for pressure in pressure_range:
138             # Define input parameters for Appendix 13-7(c) analysis
139             params_inner = Appendix13_7_cParams(
140                 internal_pressure=pressure,
141                 corner_radius= 100 / 1000, # 15 mm in meters
142                 short_side_half_length=70 / 2 / 1000, # 35 mm as half
143                 length in meters
144                 long_side_half_length=70 / 2 / 1000, # 35 mm as half
145                 length in meters
146                 thickness=thickness
147             )
148
149             calc_inner = Appendix13_7_cCalcs(params_inner)
150
151             # Evaluate at outer walls
152             params_outer = copy.deepcopy(params_inner)
153             params_outer.eval_at_outer_walls = True
154             calc_outer = Appendix13_7_cCalcs(params_outer)
155
156             # Maximum stress evaluations
157             max_inner_stress = max(
158                 abs(calc_inner.S_T_C()), abs(calc_inner.S_T_D()), abs(
159                 calc_inner.S_T_A()), abs(calc_inner.S_T_B())
160             )
161             max_outer_stress = max(
162                 abs(calc_outer.S_T_C()), abs(calc_outer.S_T_D()), abs(
163                 calc_outer.S_T_A()), abs(calc_outer.S_T_B())
164             )
165
166             stress_limit = 1.5 * allowable_stress
167
168             is_safe = max_inner_stress <= stress_limit and
169             max_outer_stress <= stress_limit
170
171             points.append((thickness * 1000, pressure / 10**6)) #
172             Convert thickness to mm, pressure to MPa
173             labels.append(is_safe)
174
175     return points, labels
176
177 def run_stiffened_structure_analysis(material_properties,
178     allowable_stress, n_stiffeners):
179     thickness_range = np.linspace(0.1, 7.5, 500) / 1000 # Thickness
180     values in meters
181     pressure_range = np.linspace(0.01, 2, 100) * 10**6 # Pressure
182     values in Pa
183
184     points = []

```

```

145     labels = []
146
147     side_length = 70 / 1000
148     stiffner_thickness = 5 / 1000
149     stiffner_height = 5 / 1000
150     total_height = 90 / 1000
151     #n_stiffeners = 5
152
153     pitch = (total_height - stiffner_height) / (n_stiffeners - 1)
154
155     for thickness in thickness_range:
156         for pressure in pressure_range:
157             params = {
158                 "P": pressure,
159                 "H": 0.07,
160                 "h": 0.07,
161                 "t_1": thickness,
162                 "t_2": thickness,
163                 "ts_1": stiffner_thickness,
164                 "ts_2": stiffner_thickness,
165                 "A_1": 0.07 * stiffner_thickness,
166                 "A_2": 0.07 * stiffner_thickness,
167                 "H_1": stiffner_height,
168                 "h_1": stiffner_height,
169                 "p": pitch,
170                 "S": allowable_stress,
171                 "S_y": material_properties.get("yield_strength_mpa", 0)
172                 *10**6,
173                 "E_2": material_properties.get("
modulus_of_elasticity_gpa", 0) *10**9,
174                 "E_3": material_properties.get("
modulus_of_elasticity_gpa", 0) *10**9,
175             }
176
177             params_obj = type("Params", (object,), params)()
178             calc = _Appendix13_8_eCalcs(params_obj)
179
180             max_stress = max(
181                 abs(calc.S_T_N()), abs(calc.S_T_Q_short()), abs(calc.
S_T_M()), abs(calc.S_T_Q_long())
182             )
183
184             stress_limit = 1.5 * allowable_stress
185
186             is_safe = max_stress <= stress_limit
187
188             points.append((thickness * 1000, pressure / 10**6)) #
Convert thickness to mm, pressure to MPa
189             labels.append(is_safe)
190
191     return points, labels
192
193
194 def plot_pressure_thickness_analysis(materials_data):
195     # Ask the user which structure type to plot
196     structure_type = input("Enter 'unstiffened' to plot the unstiffened
structure, 'stiffened' to plot the stiffened structure, or 'rounded'

```

```

to plot the rounded structure: ").strip().lower()

197
198 # Create the figures directory if it doesn't exist
199 figures_dir = os.path.join(os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__)), "figures")
200 if not os.path.exists(figures_dir):
201     os.makedirs(figures_dir)
202
203 fig, axes = plt.subplots(2, 2, figsize=(14, 10))
204 plt.subplots_adjust(hspace=0.4, wspace=0.4)
205
206 for ax, (material_name, material_properties) in zip(axes.ravel(),
materials_data.items()):
207     thermal_equilibrium_temp = calculate_thermal_equilibrium(
material_properties)
208     allowable_stress = interpolate_allowable_stress(
material_properties, thermal_equilibrium_temp)
209     allowable_stress = allowable_stress * 10**6 # Convert to Pa
210
211     if structure_type == 'stiffened':
212         points, labels = run_stiffened_structure_analysis(
material_properties, allowable_stress, n_stiffeners=5)
213     elif structure_type == 'rounded':
214         points, labels = run_rounded_structure_analysis(
material_properties, allowable_stress)
215     else:
216         points, labels = run_pressure_vessel_analysis(
material_properties, allowable_stress)
217
218     points = np.array(points)
219     labels = np.array(labels)
220
221     # Prepare grid for contour plot
222     thickness = points[:, 0]
223     pressure = points[:, 1]
224     safe_zone = labels.astype(int)
225
226     grid_thickness, grid_pressure = np.meshgrid(
227         np.linspace(thickness.min(), thickness.max(), 200),
228         np.linspace(pressure.min(), pressure.max(), 200)
229     )
230
231     grid_points = np.column_stack((grid_thickness.ravel(),
grid_pressure.ravel()))
232     interpolated_labels = griddata(points, safe_zone, grid_points,
method="linear")
233
234     # Plot hatched regions
235     ax.contourf(
236         grid_thickness, grid_pressure, interpolated_labels.reshape(
grid_thickness.shape),
237         levels=[0, 0.5, 1], colors=["red", "green"], alpha=0.3
238     )
239
240     ax.set_title(f"Material: {material_name}")
241     ax.set_xlabel("Thickness (mm)")
242     ax.set_ylabel("Pressure (MPa)")
243     ax.set_xlim(thickness.min(), thickness.max())

```



```

244     ax.set_ylim(pressure.min(), pressure.max())
245     ax.grid(True)
246
247     plt.suptitle(f"{structure_type} Pressure Vessel Safety Analysis for
248     Different Materials")
249
250     # Save the plot to the figures directory
251     plot_path = os.path.join(figures_dir, f"pressure_thickness_analysis_
252     {structure_type}.png")
253     plt.savefig(plot_path)
254     plt.show()
255
256 def extract_feasible_solution(points, labels, target_pressure=2):
257     """
258     Extract the first feasible solution for a pressure near 2 MPa
259     """
260     for idx, point in enumerate(points):
261         pressure = point[1] # Pressure in MPa
262         if abs(pressure - target_pressure) < 0.1 and labels[idx]: #
263             Check near 2 MPa and safe design
264             return point[0] # Return thickness (mm)
265     return None
266
267 def calculate_mass_cost(material_properties, thickness, n_stiffeners):
268     """
269     Calculate mass and cost of the design based on thickness and number
270     of stiffeners
271     """
272     side_length = 70 / 1000
273     height = 90 / 1000
274     stiffener_thickness = 5 / 1000
275     stiffener_height = 5 / 1000
276     design_volume = (2 * side_length * thickness + (side_length - 2 *
277     thickness) * thickness) * height
278
279     if n_stiffeners > 0:
280         stiffener_volume = 4 * n_stiffeners * side_length *
281         stiffener_thickness * stiffener_height
282         design_volume += stiffener_volume
283
284     density = material_properties.get("density_kg_m3", 0)
285     price_per_kg = material_properties.get("price_per_kg_eur", 0)
286
287     mass = design_volume * density
288     cost = mass * price_per_kg
289
290     return mass, cost
291
292 def plot_mass_vs_cost(materials_data):
293     """
294     Plot mass vs. cost for different materials and stiffener
295     configurations
296     """
297     fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(10, 6))

```

```

295     markers = {
296         "Unstiffened": "o",
297         "2 Stiffeners": "s",
298         "3 Stiffeners": "^",
299         "4 Stiffeners": "v",
300         "5 Stiffeners": "D"
301     }
302
303     all_points = []
304     material_colors = {}
305     color_map = cm.get_cmap('tab10', len(materials_data))
306
307     for idx, (material_name, material_properties) in enumerate(
308         materials_data.items()):
309         thermal_equilibrium_temp = calculate_thermal_equilibrium(
310             material_properties)
311         allowable_stress = interpolate_allowable_stress(
312             material_properties, thermal_equilibrium_temp)
313         allowable_stress *= 10 ** 6
314
315         masses = []
316         costs = []
317         labels = []
318
319         # Unstiffened structure
320         points, safe_labels = run_pressure_vessel_analysis(
321             material_properties, allowable_stress)
322         points = np.array(points)
323         safe_labels = np.array(safe_labels)
324
325         thickness = extract_feasible_solution(points, safe_labels)
326         if thickness:
327             thickness_m = thickness / 1000
328             mass, cost = calculate_mass_cost(material_properties,
329                 thickness_m, n_stiffeners=0)
330             masses.append(mass)
331             costs.append(cost)
332             labels.append("Unstiffened")
333             all_points.append((mass, cost, material_name, "Unstiffened",
334                 thickness))
335
336         # Stiffened structures
337         for n_stiffeners in range(2, 6):
338             points, safe_labels = run_stiffened_structure_analysis(
339                 material_properties, allowable_stress, n_stiffeners)
340             points = np.array(points)
341             safe_labels = np.array(safe_labels)
342
343             thickness = extract_feasible_solution(points, safe_labels)
344             if thickness:
345                 thickness_m = thickness / 1000
346                 mass, cost = calculate_mass_cost(material_properties,
347                     thickness_m, n_stiffeners=n_stiffeners)
348                 masses.append(mass)
349                 costs.append(cost)
350                 labels.append(f"{n_stiffeners} Stiffeners")
351                 all_points.append((mass, cost, material_name, f"{
352                     n_stiffeners} Stiffeners", thickness))

```

```

344
345     # Assign color to the material
346     material_colors[material_name] = color_map(idx)
347
348     # Plot mass vs. cost for each material
349     for i, label in enumerate(labels):
350         ax.scatter(costs[i], masses[i], color=material_colors[
material_name], marker=markers[label])
351         #ax.annotate(label, (costs[i], masses[i]))
352
353     # Calculate distances from the origin and print the top 10 closest
points
354     distances = [((mass**2 + cost**2)**0.5, mass, cost, material_name,
structure_type, thickness) for mass, cost, material_name,
structure_type, thickness in all_points]
355     distances.sort()
356     print("Top 20 closest points to the origin (0,0):")
357     for i in range(20):
358         distance, mass, cost, material_name, structure_type, thickness =
distances[i]
359         print(f"Material: {material_name}, Structure: {structure_type},
Mass: {mass:.2f} kg, Cost: {cost:.2f}      , Thickness: {thickness:.2f}
mm")
360
361     ax.set_title("Mass vs Cost for Different Structures and Materials")
362     ax.set_xlabel("Cost ( )")
363     ax.set_ylabel("Mass (kg)")
364     ax.grid(True)
365
366     # Create custom legend
367     handles = [plt.Line2D([0], [0], marker=markers[label], color='w',
label=label, markerfacecolor='k', markersize=10) for label in markers
]
368     handles += [plt.Line2D([0], [0], marker='o', color='w', label=
material_name, markerfacecolor=color, markersize=10) for
material_name, color in material_colors.items()]
369     ax.legend(handles=handles, title="Legend")
370
371     # Save and show plot
372     plot_path = os.path.join("figures", "mass_cost_tradeoff.png")
373     plt.savefig(plot_path)
374     plt.show()
375
376     # Save designs to CSV
377     csv_path = os.path.join("data", "designs.csv")
378     with open(csv_path, mode='w', newline='') as file:
379         writer = csv.writer(file)
380         writer.writerow(["Material", "Structure Type", "Mass (kg)", "
Cost ( )", "Thickness (mm)"])
381         for mass, cost, material_name, structure_type, thickness in
all_points:
382             writer.writerow([material_name, structure_type, mass, cost,
thickness])
383
384
385
386 def capillary_length(material_properties, thickness):

```

```

387     surface_tension = material_properties.get("surface_tension_mN_per_m"
388     , 0)
389     density = material_properties.get("density_g_per_cm3", 0)
390     #convert to SI units
391     surface_tension = surface_tension * 10**-3
392     density = density * 10**3
393
394     #assumption on acceleration on 3U cubesat
395     m_assumed = 5.5 #[kg]
396     T_assumed = 1.0 #[N]
397     a = T_assumed / m_assumed #[m/s^2]
398
399     #calculate capillary length
400     lamda = (surface_tension / (density * a))**(1/2)
401
402     #get fillet radius to resist capillary effect
403     L =math.sqrt((35 - thickness)**2 + (35 - thickness)**2)
404     R = L - math.sqrt((lamda**2)/4)
405
406     return lamda, R
407
408 #TODO make function that compares PMD (Propellant Management Device)
409 # designs
410 # fillet on the edges to resist the capillary effect
411 # vanes to transfer fluid from the corners to the center
412 # sponge to absorb the fluid
413
414 #for the vane get surface area from frustum (1/4)lateral area (1/2 for
415 #total)
416 #source: https://www.calculatorsoup.com/calculators/geometry-solids/
417 #conicalfrustum.php
418
419 def vane_sizing(material_properties):
420     flow_rate = 30 #[mL / min] (from MiMPS-G e-micro pump)
421     #flow_rate = 420 #[mL / min] (exaggerated)
422     viscosity = material_properties.get("absolute_viscosity_mPas", 0)
423     density = material_properties.get("density_g_per_cm3", 0)
424     surface_tension = material_properties.get("surface_tension_mN_per_m"
425     , 0)
426     delta = (1.5/1000) #[m] thickness of "sheet metal vane" (in
427     accordance with printable thickness)
428     L = (90/1000) #[m] length of the vane
429
430     #convert to SI units
431     flow_rate = flow_rate * 10**-6 / 60          #[m^3 / s]
432     viscosity = viscosity * 10**-3                #[Pa s]
433     density = density * 10**3                    #[kg / m^3]
434     surface_tension = surface_tension * 10**-3   #[N / m]
435
436     #Slant height of a conical frustum:
437     #s = ((r1 - r2)^2 + h^2)
438     #Lateral surface area of a conical frustum:
439     # S = * (r1 + r2) * s = * (r1 + r2) * ((r1 - r2)^2 + h^2)
440     #Volume of a conical frustum:
441     #V = (1/3) * * h * (r1^2 + r2^2 + (r1 * r2))
442
443     vanes = []

```

```

439     #Get relation for Rdown and Rup from knowing total height and
overhang angle can at most be 45 degrees
440     for R in np.arange(delta/2, 10*delta, 0.001):
441         for theta in np.arange(0, math.pi/4, 0.001):
442             R_down = R
443             R_up = R + L * math.tan(theta)
444
445             s = math.sqrt((R_up - R_down)**2 + L**2)
446             S = math.pi * (R_up + R_down) * s
447             V = (1/3) * math.pi * L * (R_up**2 + R_down**2 + (R_up *
R_down))
448             A = S / 2                                #[m^2] (1/2 of the
TOTAL lateral area)
449             #Q = flow_rate / 4                        #assume 4 vanes,
one for each corner
450             Q = flow_rate
451
452
453             viscous_losses = (2*viscosity*Q*L)/A      #assume wetted area
= surface area
454             dynamic_losses = (density*Q**2)/(2*A**2)
455
456             young_laplace = surface_tension * (1/R_down - 1/R_up)
457
458             V_vane = R_up*delta*L + L*(R_up+ delta/2)**2 #assumption on
volume of vane
459
460             #Print pressures
461             #print(f"viscous_losses: {viscous_losses}, dynamic_losses: {
dynamic_losses}, young_laplace: {young_laplace}")
462
463             #Check if absolute value of young_laplace is greater than
combined absolute value of viscous and dynamic losses
464             if abs(young_laplace) > abs(viscous_losses + dynamic_losses)
:
465                 vane = [R_down, R_up, V_vane]
466                 vanes.append(vane)
467
468
469             #Sort vanes based on V_vane and return the smallest one
470             min_vane = min(vanes, key=lambda x: x[2])
471             #print(f"R_down: {min_vane[0]*1000} mm, R_up: {min_vane[1]*1000} mm
")
472             #print(f"viscous_losses: {viscous_losses}, dynamic_losses: {
dynamic_losses}, young_laplace: {young_laplace}")
473
474             return min_vane
475
476 def sponge_sizing(propellant_properties, thickness):
477     # sigma, rho, a, V_req, r_sponge, t=0.3e-3, g_min_fab=0.5e-3,
g_max_ratio=2
478     propellant_name = propellant_properties.get("name", "")
479
480     # Obtain propellant properties
481     sigma = propellant_properties.get("surface_tension_mN_per_m", 0) *
10**-3
482     rho = propellant_properties.get("density_g_per_cm3", 0) * 10**3
483     # assumption on acceleration on 3U cubesat

```

```

484     m_assumed = 5.5 #[kg]
485     T_assumed = 1.0 #[N]
486     a = T_assumed / m_assumed #[m/s^2]
487
488     # Get V_req through burntime and flowrate
489     burntime = 10 #[s] (estimate)
490     flowrate = 30 #[mL / min] (from MiMPS-G e-micro pump)
491     V_req = (flowrate * 10**-6 / 60) * burntime #[m^3]
492
493     P_bubble_point = 200 # Bubble point pressure (Pa) (assumption)
494     #ratio = 47438 # Get thickness through simple cantilever
495     model s source: https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/AD1098357.pdf
496
497     sponges = []
498
499     # Cycle through a range of radii and thicknesses
500     for N in range(10,36):
501         r = (2* sigma)/P_bubble_point
502         g_max = math.sqrt(sigma/(a*rho))
503         R = (g_max*N)/(2*math.pi)
504         h = V_req/(math.pi*r**2)
505
506         #TODO Add requirement to get thickness by setting constraint on
507         #percentage of total volume dedicated to PMD
508         V_tank = ((70/1000)-2*thickness)**2 * (90/1000 - 2*thickness)
509         V_PMD = 0.1 * V_tank
510         t = V_PMD / (N*(R-r))
511
512         if h > 90e-3:
513             h = 90e-3
514             r = math.sqrt((V_req)/(h*math.pi))
515             r_lattice = (2* sigma)/P_bubble_point
516
517         if R < 0.05:
518             sponge = [propellant_name, r, R, h, t, N, V_PMD, r_lattice]
519             sponges.append(sponge)
520
521     # Sort sponges based on V and return the smallest one
522     best_design = min(sponges, key=lambda x: x[5])
523
524     if best_design[2] >= 90e-3:
525         print("r too large to rely on surface tension or capillary
526         action to prevent gas injection. Lattice is required.")
527
528     return best_design
529
530 def PMD_design():
531     # Material densities
532     densities = {"Ti6Al4V": 4420, "StainlessSteel316L": 8000, "
533     StainlessSteel304L": 7930, "Inconel625": 8440}
534     structure_types = {"Unstiffened": 0, "2 Stiffeners": 2, "3
535     Stiffeners": 3, "4 Stiffeners": 4, "5 Stiffeners": 5}
536
537     designs_file_path = os.path.join("data", "designs.csv")
538     output_file_path = os.path.join("data", "PMD_designs.csv")

```

```

537     infill = 0.15 # assumed for support and non-structural 15% infill
538
539     with open(designs_file_path, mode='r') as file:
540         reader = csv.DictReader(file)
541         designs = list(reader)
542
543     with open(output_file_path, mode='w', newline='') as file:
544         writer = csv.writer(file)
545         writer.writerow(["Material", "Structure Type", "Propellant", "
Thickness (mm)", "R_down (mm)", "R_up (mm)", "V_vane (m^3)", "Vane
Mass (kg)", "r_sponge (mm)", "R_sponge (mm)", "h_sponge (mm)", "
t_sponge (mm)", "N_sponge", "V_sponge (m^3)", "r_lattice (mm)", "
Sponge Mass (kg)", "Support Mass (kg)", "Support Cost ( )", "Total
Mass (kg)", "Total Cost ( )"])
546
547     for design in designs:
548         material = design["Material"]
549         cost = float(design["Cost ( )"])
550         mass = float(design["Mass (kg)"])
551         price_per_kg = cost / mass
552         structure_type = design["Structure Type"]
553         thickness = float(design["Thickness (mm)"]) / 1000 #
Convert thickness to meters
554         density_material = densities.get(material, 0)
555
556         propellant_data = read_material_data(os.path.join(base_dir,
"data", "propellants.toml"))
557         if propellant_data:
558             propellants = propellant_data.get("propellants", {})
559             for propellant_name, propellant_properties in
propellants.items():
560
561                 lamda, R = capillary_length(propellant_properties,
thickness)
562
563                 lamda = lamda / 1000 # Convert from mm to m
564                 R = R / 1000 # Convert from mm to m
565
566                 h = 90 / 1000 # Height in meters
567
568                 # Calculate the volume of the fillet
569                 volume_fillet = 0.5 * R * h
570
571                 # Calculate the mass of the fillet assuming 15%
infill
572
573                 mass_fillet = volume_fillet * density_material *
infill
574
575                 # Get mass of support for stiffeners
576                 if structure_type == "Unstiffened":
577                     n_stiffeners = 0
578                     mass_support = 0
579                 else:
580                     n_stiffeners = structure_types.get(
structure_type, 0)
581                     area_support = optimize_stiffener_curve(L=90, h
=5, n=n_stiffeners, t=5, plot=False)[1]
582                     volume_support = 4 * (n_stiffeners - 1) * 70 *
area_support

```

```

581         volume_support = volume_support / 10**9 #
Convert from mm^3 to m^3
582         mass_support = volume_support * density_material
    * infill
583
584         vane_design = vane_sizing(propellant_properties)
585         vane_mass = vane_design[2] * density_material
586
587         sponge_design = sponge_sizing(propellant_properties,
thickness)
588         sponge_mass = sponge_design[6] * density_material
589
590         total_mass = vane_mass + sponge_mass + mass
591         support_cost = mass_support * price_per_kg
592         total_cost = total_mass * price_per_kg +
support_cost
593
594         #TODO limit the accuracy to 0.00 i.e. 3 significant
figures
595         writer.writerow([material, structure_type,
propellant_name, thickness * 1000, vane_design[0] * 1000, vane_design
[1] * 1000, vane_design[2], vane_mass, sponge_design[1] * 1000,
sponge_design[2] * 1000, sponge_design[3] * 1000, sponge_design[4] *
1000, sponge_design[5], sponge_design[6], sponge_design[7] * 1000,
sponge_mass, mass_support, support_cost, total_mass, total_cost])
596
597         #print(f"Material: {material}, Structure Type: {
structure_type}, Propellant: {propellant_name}, Thickness: {thickness
* 1000} mm, R_down: {vane_design[0] * 1000} mm, R_up: {vane_design
[1] * 1000} mm, V_vane: {vane_design[2]} m^3, Vane Mass: {vane_mass}
kg, r_sponge: {sponge_design[1] * 1000} mm, R_sponge: {sponge_design
[2] * 1000} mm, h_sponge: {sponge_design[3] * 1000} mm, t_sponge: {
sponge_design[4] * 1000} mm, N_sponge: {sponge_design[5]}, V_sponge:
{sponge_design[6]} m^3, r_lattice: {sponge_design[7] * 1000} mm,
Sponge Mass: {sponge_mass} kg, Support Mass: {mass_support} kg,
Support Cost: {support_cost} , Total Mass: {total_mass} kg, Total
Cost: {total_cost} ")
598
599 # Normalize using min-max scaling, with an option to invert values for
minimization
600 def normalize(values, invert=False):
601     min_val, max_val = min(values), max(values)
602     norm_values = [(v - min_val) / (max_val - min_val) if max_val >
min_val else 0 for v in values]
603
604     return [1 - v if invert else v for v in norm_values] # Invert if we
want to minimize
605
606 def trade_off():
607     # Dictionary of volumetric ISPs (gs/cm )
608     volumetric_specific_impulse_gs_per_cm3 = {
609         "AF_M315E": 391, "LMP_103S": 312.48, "HNP225": 245, "FLP_106":
344.6
610     }
611
612     # Read CSV file
613     designs_file_path = os.path.join("data", "PMD_designs.csv")
614     with open(designs_file_path, mode='r') as file:

```



```

615     reader = csv.DictReader(file)
616     designs = list(reader)
617
618     # Extract values for normalization
619     mass_values = []
620     eff_tank_values = []
621     cost_values = []
622     r_lattice_values = []
623     t_sponge_values = []
624     support_mass_values = []
625
626     for design in designs:
627         mass_values.append(float(design["Total Mass (kg)"])) # Want
LESS
628         cost_values.append(float(design["Total Cost ( )"])) # Want
LESS
629         r_lattice_values.append(float(design["r_lattice (mm)"])) # Want
MORE
630         t_sponge_values.append(float(design["t_sponge (mm)"])) # Want
MORE
631         support_mass_values.append(float(design["Support Mass (kg)"]))
# Want LESS
632
633         thickness = float(design["Thickness (mm)"])
634         V_vane = float(design["V_vane (m^3)"])
635         V_sponge = float(design["V_sponge (m^3)"])
636
637         V_tank_mm3 = (70 - 2*thickness) ** 2 * (90 - 2*thickness) #
mm
638         V_tank = V_tank_mm3 / 10**9 # Convert to m
639         V_propellant = (V_tank - V_vane - V_sponge) * (85/90) # m
640         V_propellant_cm3 = V_propellant * 10**6 # Convert to cm
641         eff_tank_values.append(V_propellant) # Want MORE
642
643     # Normalize values (inverting where needed)
644     mass_norm = normalize(mass_values, invert=True) # LESS is better
645     eff_tank_norm = normalize(eff_tank_values) # MORE is better
646     cost_norm = normalize(cost_values, invert=True) # LESS is better
647     r_lattice_norm = normalize(r_lattice_values) # MORE is better
648     t_sponge_norm = normalize(t_sponge_values) # MORE is better
649     support_mass_norm = normalize(support_mass_values, invert=True) #
LESS is better
650
651     # Compute printability (favoring higher r_lattice, t_sponge, and
lower support mass)
652     printability_values = [
653         (r + t + s) / 3 for r, t, s in zip(r_lattice_norm, t_sponge_norm
, support_mass_norm)
654     ]
655
656     # Normalize printability
657     printability_norm = normalize(printability_values)
658
659     # Compute final trade-off score using weights
660     weights = {"Mass": 4, "Effective Tank Volume": 1, "Cost": 3, "
Printability": 2}
661
662     trade_off_scores = [

```

```

663         (weights["Mass"] * m +
664         weights["Effective Tank Volume"] * e +
665         weights["Cost"] * c +
666         weights["Printability"] * p) / sum(weights.values())
667     for m, e, c, p in zip(mass_norm, eff_tank_norm, cost_norm,
printability_norm)
668 ]
669
670 # Store normalized results
671 for i, design in enumerate(designs):
672     design["Normalized Mass"] = mass_norm[i]
673     design["Normalized Effective Tank Volume"] = eff_tank_norm[i]
674     design["Normalized Cost"] = cost_norm[i]
675     design["Normalized Printability"] = printability_norm[i]
676     design["Trade-off Score"] = trade_off_scores[i]
677
678 # Write updated data with normalized values to a new CSV
679 output_file_path = os.path.join("data", "PMD_designs_with_tradeoff.
csv")
680 with open(output_file_path, mode='w', newline='') as file:
681     fieldnames = designs[0].keys()
682     writer = csv.DictWriter(file, fieldnames=fieldnames)
683     writer.writeheader()
684     writer.writerows(designs)
685
686     print(f"Trade-off analysis completed. Results saved to {
output_file_path}")
687
688 # Print top 10 designs with normalized values
689 designs.sort(key=lambda x: x["Trade-off Score"], reverse=True)
690 print("\nTop 10 designs with Normalized Values:")
691 for i in range(min(10, len(designs))):
692     print(f"""
693     Material: {designs[i]['Material']}
694     Structure Type: {designs[i]['Structure Type']}
695     Propellant: {designs[i]['Propellant']}
696     Normalized Mass: {designs[i]['Normalized Mass']:.3f}
697     Normalized Effective Tank Volume: {designs[i]['Normalized
Effective Tank Volume']:.3f}
698     Normalized Cost: {designs[i]['Normalized Cost']:.3f}
699     Normalized Printability: {designs[i]['Normalized Printability
']:.3f}
700     Trade-off Score: {designs[i]['Trade-off Score']:.3f}
701     """)
702
703 if __name__ == "__main__":
704     base_dir = os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__))
705     materials_file_path = os.path.join(base_dir, "data", "materials.toml
")
706
707     material_data = read_material_data(materials_file_path)
708
709     if material_data:
710         materials = material_data.get("materials", {})
711         #plot_mass_vs_cost(materials)
712
713         #plot_pressure_thickness_analysis(materials)
714         #plot_stiffened_vs_unstiffened(materials)

```

```

715
716 PMD_design()
717 trade_off()

```

Listing 1: Main script

curve.py

```

1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3 import scipy.integrate as spi
4
5 def optimize_stiffener_curve(L, h, n, t, plot=True):
6     """
7     Optimize the stiffener support curve while ensuring the slope does
8     not exceed 45 degrees.
9
10    Parameters:
11        L (float): Total height of the box.
12        h (float): Height of stiffener.
13        n (int): Number of stiffeners.
14        t (float): Extremity thickness of stiffeners.
15        plot (bool): Whether to generate the plot (default: True).
16
17    Returns:
18        tuple: (t - y0, area_above_curve)
19    """
20    # Calculate pitch and curve width
21    P = (L - h) / (n - 1)
22    curve_width = (P - h) / 2 # Half-width of the curve
23
24    # Start with initial height guess and reduce if needed
25    y0 = t
26
27    # Define x range
28    x_range = np.linspace(-curve_width, curve_width, 1000)
29
30    # Adjust y0 until all slopes are 45 degrees
31    while True:
32        # Define the parabolic curve: y = a*x^2 + y0
33        a = -y0 / curve_width**2 # Ensuring parabola peaks at (0, y0)
34        y_curve = a * x_range**2 + y0
35
36        # Analytical derivative dy/dx = 2 * a * x
37        derivative = 2 * a * x_range
38
39        # Compute angles in degrees
40        angles = np.abs(np.arctan(derivative) * (180 / np.pi))
41
42        # If all angles are <= 45 degrees, break loop
43        if np.all(angles <= 45):
44            break
45
46        # Reduce y0 slightly if any angle exceeds 45 degrees
47        y0 -= 0.01
48
49    # Bounding box area

```

```

49     box_area = 2 * curve_width * y0
50
51     # Integrate the area under the curve
52     area_under_curve, _ = spi.quad(lambda x: a * x**2 + y0, -curve_width
, curve_width)
53
54     # Area above the curve
55     area_above_curve = box_area - area_under_curve
56
57
58
59     # Generate plot if requested
60     if plot:
61         plt.figure(figsize=(6, 4))
62         plt.plot(x_range, y_curve, label=f"Optimized Curve (y0={y0:.2f})
", color="blue")
63         plt.axhline(0, color='gray', linestyle='--', label="Stiffener
Base")
64         plt.axvline(-curve_width, color='red', linestyle='--', label="
Extremity")
65         plt.axvline(curve_width, color='red', linestyle='--')
66         plt.fill_between(x_range, y_curve, y0, color='lightblue', alpha
=0.5, label="Area Above Curve")
67         plt.xlabel("Width (x)")
68         plt.ylabel("Height (y)")
69         plt.legend()
70         plt.title("Optimized Support Curve with Area Calculation")
71         plt.grid()
72         plt.show()
73
74     # Print results
75     print(f"Optimized curve height (y0) to keep slope      45 : {y0
:.4f}")
76     print(f"Adjusted thickness (t - y0): {t - y0:.4f}")
77     print(f"Area above the curve: {area_above_curve:.4f} [mm^2]")
78
79     return t - y0, area_above_curve
80
81 # Example Usage
82 #adjusted_thickness, area_above = optimize_stiffener_curve(L=90, h=5, n
=2, t=5, plot=True)

```

Listing 2: Optimizes curve for support structure