

Foliage Extracting Tele-Controlled Helicopter



The Team

- Kora Barnes Electrical Engineering
- Eric Johnston Electrical Engineering
- Elliot Dickison Computer Engineering
- Brian Lee Computer Engineering
- Cable Johnson Computer Science
- Theora Rice Computer Science

The Problem

- Sun foliage
 - Tops of trees, pre-dawn hours
- Current methods
 - Crane
 - Tree-climbers
 - Shotgun slugs
- Expensive, dangerous, inefficient

The Solution

- Remote controlled quad-copter
- Extendable arm
- Sheers capable of clipping and holding sample

Requirements

- 2 hours of training
- Trees up to 50 meters in height
- Branches up to 20 cm in length
- Branches up to 2.5 cm thick
- Operate in wind up to 10 mph
- Ability to sample in little/no light

Components

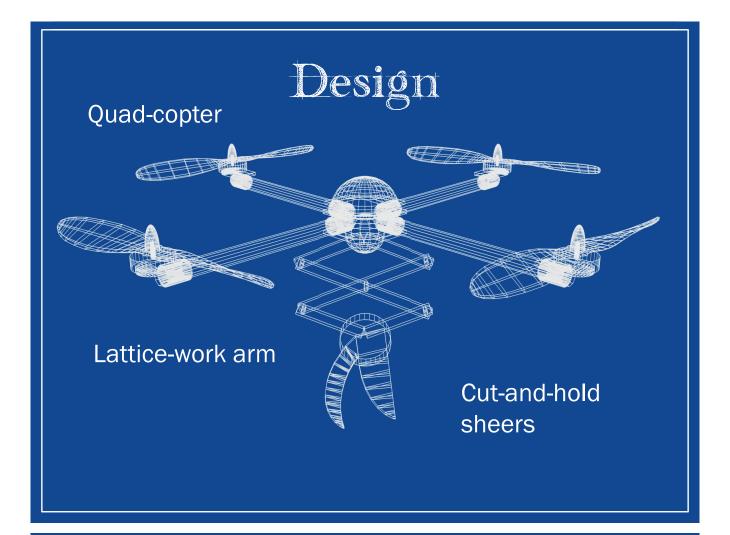
- Quad copter with arm attachment
- Ground station
 - Transmitter
 - Laptop
- Training
- Documentation

Learning

- Budget Management
- Cross Discipline Teamwork
- Hardware Manipulation
- Applied Programming

Research

- Flight design
 - Quad-copter? Hex? Octo?
- Arm design
 - Sideways? Straight?
 - Telescoping? Lattice?
- Cutting attachment design
 - Force measurements
 - Blowtorch? Saw? Clippers?



Building

- Budget managed, parts ordered
 - Waiting on delivery
- Parts we have:
 - Microcontroller
 - Propellers
 - Flight board
 - Arm framework

Software

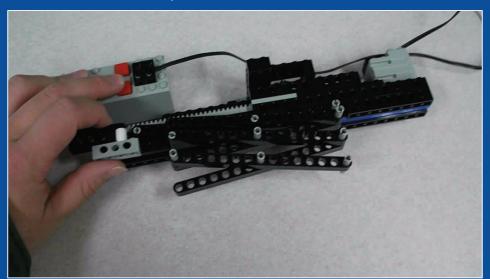
- Flight board
 - Pre-programmed for flight
- Microcontroller
 - Digilent Cerebot MX3CK PIC32
 - Control of the LEDs
 - Lowering/raising arm
 - Controlling cutters

LEDs

- 2 white high-powered LEDs
 - One pointed forward, one next to clippers
- Button-controlled
 - Set on ground

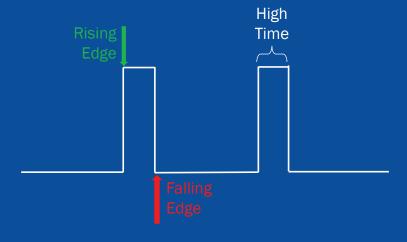
Arm Extension

- One DC Motor
- Remote Control, Receiver



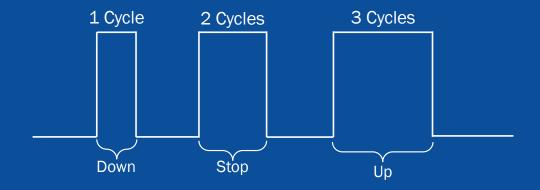
PWM Signals

- Reading
 - Built in function did not work properly



PWM Signals

- Interpretation
 - Up or down?



PWM Signals

- Writing
 - Translation

```
new_signal = translate( pwm );
dc_motor_write( new_signal );
```

- Conversion

```
if ( motorstate != stop )
    dc_motor_write( const_speed );
```



Checking for maximum extension

Cutting

- DC Motor
- Stepper motor
- Read and Interpret PWM fully portable
 - Write PWM requires minimal changes

Documentation

- Modified System and Software Design Document
- Instructions to Download
- Internal documentation for code structure
- Laid groundwork for training video and user manual

Questions?