Deployed RF Antennas for GPS-denied Optimization and Environmental Navigation

Dawson Beatty, Christian Carmack, Jeremy Fie, Chris Greer, Ross Kloetzel, Jack Maydan, Kyle Nieukirk, Virginia Nystrom, Amanda Siirola, Ryan Stewart, Luke Tafur, Ivan Yurkin



Project Overview

Design

Solution

Project

Overview



Requirements

Risk Mitigation

Verification & Validation

DRAGOI

Project Plan



Project Motivation

- Imagine a rover with an objective to explore a remote location, such as Martian deserts or urban canyons
- Methods of Navigation:
 - GPS
 - Landmarks
- The DRAGON team pursues a solution using deployed RF beacons as an in-situ GPS network to correct inertial error





Problem Statement

- The DRAGON team will provide a fully autonomous method to <u>navigate an</u> <u>unmanned rover in GPS-denied environments with 1m accuracy</u>
- This will be done by developing:
 - Pods which contain RF-Localization beacons.
 - Deployment mechanism to deploy pods to software-determined locations
 - Software to determine absolute position and navigate to waypoints
- As the pods will remain in the environment permanently, and can access areas the rover cannot, they will also have the *demonstrational ability* to collect and transmit environmental data.





Functional Requirements

ID	Description
M1	Rover shall autonomously navigate along software generated path within 1m accuracy using RF- Localization Beacon correction to inertial navigation
M2	The rover shall estimate its absolute position
M3	The deployment mech shall have capability to deploy pods to software defined locations
M4	The rover and ground inputs shall prevent damage to all hardware systems
M5	The pods shall function as RF navigation beacons and as environmental data monitors, to the rover
M6	The pods shall be able to function as a long-term deployable environmental data monitor
M_7	The team shall verify absolute navigation ability
M8	The team shall use the customer-provided hardware

Major Changes Since PDR

- Deployment Mechanism only needs to <u>deploy pods beyond 10m</u> and has no accuracy requirement
 - Rover is stationary while deploying pod
 - Software can determine accurate pod position post-launch
- Assume <u>flat terrain</u> on business field
 - Obstacles will be flat keep-out zones
 - No multipathing expected in testing environment

Design Solution

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FBD









1. Pre-deployment





- 2. Reloading
- 2 NEMA 17 stepper motors
- Timing belt/conveyor system
- Alternating sides





- 3. Azimuth Control
- NEMA 23 stepper motor
- Bevel Gears
- Swivel plate

Angle: $\pm 140^{\circ}$





4. Spring Compression

- 24V Brushed DC Motor
- Rack/pinion system





5. Deployment

Distance: 12 m





6. Repeat



FBD





Pod structure contains the ranging electronics which are deployed from 90mm diameter 30mm height





Pod structure contains batteries in tail for power, electronics are potted for resilience.

Batteries (AAA) stored in tail

Electronics (purple board) stored in blue tray, potted on all sides using polyurethane





Blue Pill Integration

- Purpose:
 - Provide ranging data and store environmental data.
- Design:
 - Used a Blue Pill with an STM32 processor to integrate ranging chip, SD card reader, and environmental sensor.
- Specs:
 - Accurate to ~22 cm, 30 measurements/second



21

DWM1000 Integration with Blue Pill

Custom PCB Design Board Layout

• Purpose:

- Integrates DWM1000, SD card reader, environmental sensor, and accelerometer into one board to reduce size, increase reliability, and add mounting holes.
- Design:
 - Used reference schematics to help form a board design.
- Specs:
 - 6 [cm] x 6 [cm]



Dragon Egg Shield for Blue Pill [6cm x 6cm]





Navigation Subsystem: Design Solution

- Subsystem Purpose:
 - Design and implement software to allow rover to navigate mission path while meeting functional requirements and sending proper commands to other subsystems
- Subsystem Goals:
 - Generate safest closed loop path for rover through waypoints while avoiding obstacles
 - Communicate with pod mesh network
 - Use pod ranging data to algorithmically correct odometry error (gSLAM) and correct path deviance using onboard control



Navigation Subsystem - Pathfinding

- Purpose:
 - Command rover to waypoints while avoiding obstacles using A* path algorithm
- Design:
 - A* determines shortest path between waypoints and around obstacles
 - Path points passed separately as commands for the rover to track
- Specs:
 - 1 m buffer to grazing keep-out zones
 - Variable tolerance for commands



25

MIP Map with Sample A* Path (Red is path points, blue is waypoints, black obstacles)

State Estimation Software Design

- Purpose:
 - Estimate rover and pod positions, high accuracy
- Design:
 - Graph-based SLAM (Simultaneous Localization And Mapping)
 - Builds up graph/matrix with rover and pod positions as vertices



Mesh Network Design

- Purpose:
 - Calculated distances between rover and pods as well as distances from different pods
 - Used in gSLAM calculations
- Design:
 - Use a DWM1000 RF module with unique identifiers
- Specs:
 - Tx Power: -42 dBm
 - Frequency: 3.5 GHz



Deployment Target Software Design

• Purpose:

- Tell rover at what position and angle 10 pods should be deployed to minimize error in rover position (< 1 m)
- Design:
 - Places pods to keep rover within a triangle of 3 pods
- Specs:
 - 10 pods keep total uncertainty in rover position < .92 m within a 100m x 100m map

1. Place 3 anchor pods in a triangle around rover



Design Requirements

Project Overview Design Solution Design Requirements Risk Mitigation

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Critical Project Elements

FBS





D3.8

DM shall have the following range: No less than 10m

• The rack and pinion device needs to deploy to the required distance while withstanding the forces caused by spring compression







1. Spring and Motor Forces and Torques

Component	Value
Max Spring Force	300 lbs
At the rack and bald gear	225 in-lb
Compound gear	225 in-lb
Gear ratio	5:1
Motor spur gear	45 in-lb
Maximum motor torque	59 in-lb

COTS steel gears will be used for reliability and precision



Spring Compression



2. Design space for rack Assumed:

- All tangential force applied to single tooth
- Beam support are 2" apart
- Mass must be less than 0.772 lbs



Spring Decompression Analysis

3. Verification of selected components

Plate and Rack mass = 320 [g]Pod mass = 500 [g] $k \cong 17,800 [N/m]$ Max Compression = 0.076 [m]







Vo = $11.21 \pm 1 \text{ [m/s]}$ A = 0.0065 [m^2] Cd = 1Zo = 0.5 [m]



Losses due to:

- Incomplete Spring Compression
- Cannon Friction

Ideal Distance = 12.2 [m] Min Distance = 10.5 [m]

D3.8

DM shall have the following range: No less than 10m

Critical Project Elements

FPS




D3.5.1

Reloading Mechanism: Gearing and Motor

DM shall be capable of reloading and deploying a new pod every 2 minutes

• Pods need to be loaded in a timely manner such that the mission can be completed in specified time

Design Point	Value	Requirement
Reload Time	< 5 sec	2 min
Max Motor RPM	600	0.5
Motor Holding Torque	6.12 kg-cm	3.81 kg-cm





D3.5.2

Reloading Mechanism: Funnel



Pods shall slide completely into deployment tube in a nose-forward configuration.



Drop height in video: ~0.75" Actual designed drop height: 0.79"



Critical Project Elements



Pod Structural Design: Aerodynamics

• Purpose:

- Minimize aerodynamic drag
- Maximize aerodynamic <u>stability</u>
- Design:
 - Cp is behind the Cg, aerodynamic stability is achieved
 - Minimizing drag: area rule, sweeping fins, and minimizing area
 - Fins also provide spin stability



40

215mm

$$cp \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{d}_{n}\mathbf{a}_{n} + \mathbf{d}_{b}\mathbf{a}_{b} + \mathbf{d}_{f}\mathbf{a}_{f}$$

Simplified cP calculation, validated via CFD

- Specs:
 - From Nose: Cp = 11.1cm, Cg = 11.0cm, with ballast Cg = 10.5cm = stable
 - A cD of 0.25 was calculated via CFD

P5.4.6 P - Pods shall be stable to promote range and impact orientation

Pod Structural Design: Impact Struct.

- Purpose:
 - Prevent launch & impact damage
- Design:
 - Potting bidirectional
 - Foam 'crumple zone' impact only
 - Elastic Suspension tested, unused
- Specs:
 - Potting minimize board bending, primary failure
 - Crumple zone increase acceleration distance
 - Add non-elastic damping to the system



Left: Electronics set in potting tray

41

Expect 3.5cm crumple dist.

Below: Foam nose crumple zone

Pod Structural Design: Crumple Zone

• Computer Sim: Drop Test 14m/s



Increases displacement by factor of 7

Decreases stress by factor of 26

Pod Structural Design: Potting



- Electronics surviving in kinetic impactors
 - Tank rounds: 25,000 g's accel



 $\sigma = \frac{(mass) (G's)(Amplification Factor)}{Loaded Area}$



Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics University of Colorado **Boulder**

- Electronics to survive spacecraft rocket launch environment
- LASP: NASA STD 8739 1b will survive impact



Potting Material	Strain Energy Transmitted (J)	Safety Factor
Conathane EN 4/9	.0436 or 4.36%	3.0

P5.4.3P - Pod's electronics shall
survive 14 m/s impact

Pod Structural Design: Antenna Pattern 44



<- 10m away, minimum expected Tx/Rx distance ->

R

Pod Structural Design: Landing Orientation

- Purpose:
 - Minimize antenna deadband interference
- Design:
 - The geometry of the tail only allows settling in two positions, both positions are ideal for antenna Tx/Rx pattern
- Specs:
 - Deadband cone limited to:
 - 20 degrees from zenith (antenna limit)
 - 70 degrees tilt due to anhedral angle of tail

P5.4.4 P - Pods shall be designed to encourage ideal antenna orientation



Critical Project Elements







P 5.2 The pods shall communicate data to the rover and amongst themselves





Mesh Network Test

Sequence Number	Actual Distance [m]	Average Calculated Distance [m]
0	16.5	17.2
1	12.0	12.7
2	9.0	9.4
3	8.0	8.8
02	14.0	14.7
03	20.5	21.6
12	7.5	8.4





Mesh Network Test

P 5.2 The pods shall communicate data to the rover and amongst themselves

Sequence Number	Actual Distance [m]	Corrected Distance [m]	Error [m]
0	16.5	16.5	0.001
1	12.0	11.9	0.115
2	9.0	8.5	0.483
3	8.0	7.9	0.061
02	14.0	14.0	0.038
03	20.5	21.0	0.467
12	7.5	7.5	0.018



Critical Project Elements





S 1.2	Rover shall use feedback control to autonomously navigate path
	waypoints

• Why?

- Software must command the rover to navigate to waypoints determined by the A* algorithm or user input
- Designs Driven:
 - Automatic control must keep rover within 1 m of desired path at all times
 - Rover must be able to reach 10 user defined waypoints using automatic control
- Demonstration Method:
 - Use physics simulation from rover manufacturer to show command feasibility
 - Implement working simulation code on the rover (ports directly without edits)

Navigation Feasibility - COHRINT Test Path

COHRINT Test Format

• Uses 0.2 m XY tolerance and 0.1 rad yaw tolerance

Implementation

S 1.2

- Rover follows general path and meets waypoint tolerances based on rover estimate
- Drift in magnetometer and IMU cause the largely inaccurate path following
- Vicon (MoCap) used for truth data only



10 Waypoint Figure 8 Path

Rover shall use feedback control to autonomously navigate path waypoints

Critical Project Elements





Navigation Feasibility - State Estimation

The software shall combine RF-Localization and inertial/odometry position estimates in order to enhance position estimation accuracy

• Why?

S2.1

- Inclusion of external measurements will reduce the error inherent in odometer/IMU position estimation
- Designs Driven:
 - Must be able to localize rover to within 1 meter at all points
- Demonstration Method:
 - Demonstrate the ability to include position from simulated pods to correct navigation in COHRINT space where truth is known
 - Show that graphSLAM is able to integrate actual odometer data and simulated range data to accurately estimate position



State Estimation Software Design Diagram







State Estimation Software Design Diagram

By solving the matrix <u>rover</u> <u>position</u> and <u>pod position</u> can be determined with high accuracy:

> Modeled (0.1m) BOM Modeled (0.88m) EOM

While error grows over time, the pods are non-moving and act as high accuracy references.





COHRINT State Estimation, Odometry Only



- True Position
- Odometer Position
- Rover estimates position by integrating odometer data
- Quickly diverges from true path, off by several meters in some places



COHRINT State Estimation with Simulated Pods



- True Position
- Odometer Position
- gSLAM Position
- Pods
- Add simulated pods to run graphSLAM
- Equations for graphSLAM
 - Rover motion: Real odometer data
 - Pod-to-rover and pod-topod measurements: simulated measurements with error



S2.1

COHRINT State Estimation Error



- Odometry Estimate Error
- **—** gSLAM Estimate Error
- --- Error Requirement
- Pod Range Error
- Large reduction in error with the use of simulated pods
- Demonstrates integration of real odometer data with simulated pod ranges

The software shall combine RF-Localization and inertial/odometry position estimates in order to enhance position estimation accuracy



Pod Placement for Error Reduction

Software can determine pod location for placement for most effective ranging

• Why?

S 3.1.1

- Software must understand the environment and determine where to place pods for most effective localization and ranging data while avoiding obstacles
- Designs Driven:
 - Deployment Target Software must **reduce uncertainty in rover position to under 1m**
- Demonstration Method:
 - Simulate pod placement method along sample paths
 - Use Monte Carlo simulation on sources of error to show that pods can be placed such that uncertainty in rover position remains under 1m at all points along paths

Error in Rover Position Along Path



Risk Mitigation

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5

7

PCB rev delays in schedule

Risk Descriptions

ID	Description				Consequence							
2	Mass too high				1	2	3	4	5			
3	Antenna interference			5				5	7			
6	Recoil forces			4				1,9	4			
8	Potting material interference		Likelihood	3			6	3,8				
9	Software development integration			2					10			
10	Networking/Comm development			1					2			
4	Reloading jam or electrical complications											
				<u>Mi</u>	tigation:							
1	Electronics damage from	- Compou	unding multiple	e met	hods for imr	pact damper	ning					

deployment	-	Drop tests have been performed to demonstrate survivability with some of the selected electronics.
Deployment unable to reach max range	-	Significant range margin included in design which should surmount unanticipated parasitic forces. Modelling efforts do have high fidelity and scaled testing.

- PCB boards have been designed and first rev printed pre-cdr
 - Testing commencing and expect to send 2nd rev before Dec 20 2018



			P	re-Mitigat	tion		Post-Mitigation									
			C	Consequenc	e				Consequence							
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5			
Likelihood	5				5	7		5			5					
	4				1,9	4		4								
	3			6	3,8		Likelihood	3				1				
	2					10	•	2			3,7	9	4			
	1					2		1		6	2,10	8				

Verification

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Testing and Requirement Flow



Testing and Requirement Flow

	Piecewise Testing			Piecewise Su Testing						Subsystem Testing						Full System Testing					
Test Type	Test ID	Re	quireme	ents							Test Type	Test ID	Require	ements							
Mission Tests	FST1	M1										NT0	S1.3								
	FST2	M4										NT1	S1.2	S1.2.1	S1.2.2	G4.2	G4.2.1	G4.2.2			
	FST3	М5	P5.2	P5.2.1	P5.2.2	P5.2.3						NT2	S1.3.3								
	FST4											NT3	S1.3.3.1								
						P5.4.3.						NT4	S2.1.2								
	PT2	P5.4	P5.4.2	P5.4.3	P5.4.3.1	2	P5.4.3.3	P5.4.4	P5.4.4.1	P5.4.6	Navigation	NT5	S2.1.1								
Pod Team	PT4	M6									Team Tests	NT6	S2.1.3								
lests	PT5	P5.3.2	P5.3.3	P6.2	P6.3	P6.4	P6.4.1	P6.3.1.1	P6.3.1.2			NT7	S3.1	S3.1.1	S3.1.2	S3.1.3	S3.1.4				
	PT6	P6.4.2	\$9.2.3									NT8	\$3.1.3.1								
	DT1	M3										NT9	S9.2.1	\$9.2.2							
	DT2`	D3 8	D4 4	P5 1	D8 3 1							NT10	S1.3.2	S1.3.2.1	G9.4	G9.4.1	G9.4.2				
Destaura	DT2	D3.6	D4.4	1 3.1	D0.3.1							NT11	M2	S2.1							
Team Tests	DIS	D3.5	D3.5.1								Inspection	Inspection	D4.1.2	D4.3	D4.5	P5.1.1	P5.1.2	P5.3	P5.3.1		
	D14	D3.4									Ground	GT1	G1.1	G1.1.1	P3.8.1	P3.81.1	P6.1.5				
	DI5	D3.6									Support Tosts	GT2	S1.3.1	M7	S7.1	\$9.2.6					
	DT6	D3.7	D4.1	D4.1.1							16212	GT3	G7.3	G7.3.1							



Verification Plan



Full System Testing:

- Team is ready to demonstrate full system functionality
- Verify a majority of our mission requirements at high levels

We plan <u>four</u> Full System Tests:

<u>Full Mission Demonstration Test</u> <u>RF State Estimate Test</u> FST3 and FST4

Testing Plan: RF State Estimate Test

Testing Location: Open flat grass field (business field or kittredge)

Materials and Special Reqts:

- Jackal rover and ranging boards
- Obtain permission for field operations
- GPS system pre-calibrated (COTS)
- Weather cooperation

Testing Procedure:

- 1. Begin GPS recording on rover (1e-2m accuracy)
- 2. 'Hand Place' pods at desired locations
- 3. Upload mission sequence
- 4. Collect first pod readings -
- 5. Build pose estimate with rover
- 6. Tele-op rover to second known position
- 7. 'Hand Place' additional pods
- 8. Build second pose estimate with rover



.tar file upload, rover data ingest and process < 30 seconds

2e-2 m accuracy, 30Hz sample rate, several readings

Pose estimate, 0.3Hz generation rate, 3e-1 m accuracy Success:

- Rover can range to pods
- Calculate pose
- Add new pods to network



Objective: Full mission completion and demonstration

71

Testing Location: Open flat grass field (business field or kittredge)

Necessary Materials:

- Jackal rover modified with DM and 10 pods
- GPS system pre-calibrated
- MIP



Testing Plan: Full Mission Demo Test

72_{-}

Success: GPS

EOM

readings and rover internal estimates

match within 1m at

Testing Procedure:

- 1. Mark waypoints and rover obstacles
- 2. Place team members surrounding area for range safety
- 3. Begin GPS recording on rover, pre-verified
- 4. Perform all safety checks, check: remote kill, takeover
- 5. Load pods and zero cannon azimuth
- 6. Upload mission sequence
- 7. Perform initial deployment, collect pod readings
- 8. Rover builds pose estimate, proceeds with mission
- 9. Collect post data mission and verify mission success

Special Requirements:

- Obtain permission for field operations
- Mark out hazard zone for range safety
- Weather cooperation

1e-2 m accuracy, 10Hz sample rate, record to ground station computer

5e-1 m accuracy, 30Hz sample rate per pod, closed loop control on rover

Waypoint A Waypoint A Waypoint B
Project Plan

Project Overview Design Solution Design Requirements Risk Mitigation

Verification & Validation

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Organizational Chart



Work Breakdown Structure

Deliverables	Management	Rover	Deployment		Pod Electronics		Safety/Test
PDD	Org Chart	Research	Research		Research		Research
CDD	WBS	Software Flow	CAD Model		RF Testing		Requirements
PDR	Gantt Chart	Path Generation	Part Sele	Part Selection		r Prototyping	Facilities Permission
CDR	Budget	State Estimation	Mass Bu	dget	Ром	ver Budget	Procedures
FFR	Cost Plan	Deployment Algorithm	Prototyp	oing	Sc	hematics	Equipment
MSR	Test Plan	Executive Node	Manufact	uring	Bill o	of Materials	
TFR	Risk Matrix	Rover Controls	Power & Co	ontrols		PCB	
AIAA		Navigation Test	Pod Shell		Senso	r Calibration	
SPR		GPS Integration Electronics Mounting		Iounting	Mesh Ne	twork Software	
SPP		Verification/Validation	Deployment Test		Mode Toggle Software		
PFR	User Manual		Verification/Validation		Verification/Validation		
			Rover Integration		Shell Integration		
		Complete In	n Progress Future		Work		



Gannt Chart





- Rover Testing (Now-Mar):
 - Requires use of VICON Space and Rover
 - 3 team members have 24-hour access and can reserve testing space and rover
 - Team members have been trained on camera calibration
- Ranging Testing (Now-Mar):
 - Requires 2-5 antennas and boards
 - Have 3 of our own (2 additional can be requested 24 hours in advance from COHRINT)
- Deployment Testing (Feb-Mar):
 - Requires use of business field & safety cones to mark keepout zones
 - Safety materials from ITLL and Matt/Bobby will help supervise.
- Final Demonstration (April):
 - Requires use of business field & safety cones to mark keepout zones
 - Safety materials from ITLL and Matt/Bobby will help supervise.





Deployed RF Antennas for GPS-denied Optimization and Environmental Navigation

Thank you for your time --Come check out our progress in the spring!



Appendix



A: Rover Navigation



Navigation Subsystem - A* Optimality

- Algorithm has been used since 1950s and the optimality has been proven before
- This assumes an admissible heuristic (never overestimates cost)
- A* designed as start to end, needs to be extended to include more than one end point

Lemma 3

Let (n_1, n_2, \dots, n_l) be the sequence of nodes closed by A^* . Then, if the consistency assumption is satisfied, $p \leq q$ implies $\hat{f}(n_p) \leq \hat{f}(n_q)$.

Proof: Let n be the next node closed by A^* after closing m. Suppose first that the optimum path to n does not go through m. Then n was available at the time m was selected, and the lemma is trivially true. Then suppose that the optimum path to n does, in fact, go through m. Then g(n) = g(m) + h(m, n). Since, by Lemma 2, we have $\hat{g}(n) = g(n)$ and $\hat{g}(m) = g(m)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f}(n) &= \hat{g}(n) + \hat{h}(n) \\ &= g(n) + \hat{h}(n) \\ &= g(m) + h(m, n) + \hat{h}(n) \\ &\geq g(m) + \hat{h}(m) \\ &= \hat{g}(m) + \hat{h}(m) \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality follows by application of (5). Thus we have

$$\widehat{f}(n) \ge \widehat{f}(m).$$

Since this fact is true for any pair of nodes n_k and n_{k+1} in the sequence, the proof is complete.

Navigation Subsystem - Heuristic

- Heuristic functions are "means to an end" approaches to problems that revolve around practicality
- For search algorithms, this means estimating the lowest cost from point A -> B
- Includes **Euclidean distance**, Manhattan distance (absolute difference between X and Y coordinates), etc.
- Must be admissible (underestimate of actual distance)



Navigation Subsystem - A* N-Search

- Vanilla A* will search 8 nearest neighbors for least cost path
- Valid solution but provides grid-dependent paths that are not continuous
- Increasing number of searched neighbors "extends" A*'s range and allows for shorter, continuous paths to be developed that do not "hug" the grid (at cost of computation time)



20 x 20 Grids with 8, 128, and 4096 neighbors

Navigation Subsystem - Rover Porting

- A* and other path planning nodes exist within ROS library global_planner
- Vanilla 8 neighbor search but still useful for porting from MATLAB to ROS compatible language
- Ported to Python code and tested using Python IDE



Navigation Subsystem - Computer

- Using MATLAB, maximum memory used at one time was never greater than 1.06 MB, well within available memory on rover
- MATLAB is much more costly in terms of RAM due to UI, low level ROS compatible languages will not be nearly as expensive
- Plenty of heritage and help offered from COHRINT team in porting and implementing autonomously on Jackal

COMPUTER	Standard		Performance		
	Celeron J1800 Dual core, 2.4GHz 2 GB RAM	WIFI Adapter 32 GB Hard Drive	Intel Core i5 4570T Dual core, 2.9GHz 4 GB RAM	WIFI Adapter 128GB Hard Drive	

Jackal Datasheet Specs

Navigation Subsystem - Nav Stack



Navigation Subsystem - Gazebo



Navigation Feasibility - Simulated Test Path

Test Path Format

- Simple Figure-8 pattern with 10 total waypoints
- Rover physics simulator models basic rover behavior/ports directly to Jackal

Design Parameters

- XY distance/yaw tolerance
- Any number of waypoints
- Controller and map update frequencies



10 Waypoint Figure 8 Path

Navigation Feasibility - COHRINT Test







B: Pod Electronics



Mesh Network Design

• Purpose:

- Calculated distances between rover and pods as well as distances from different pods
- Design:
 - Use a DWM1000 RF module with a STM32 Processor
- Specs:
 - Able calculate 30 distance measurements per input with minimal timeouts

Data[0]	Data[1]	Data[2]		Data[14]	Data[15]	Data[16]	Data[17]	Data[17]
Signal Instruction	Reserved For Timestamp Transmit and Distance Calculation Transmit					Return Id	Target Id	Mesh Id
Mesh Id		Target Id	OR	Mesh Id		Rover Id		Calculate Distance
Mesh Id	\neq	Target Id	AND	Mesh Id	\neq	Rover Id		Mesh Network



Mesh Network Test



















Mesh Network Background

• DSDV

- Table Routing Routine
- No Multicasting
- Network hops are known sequences
- Low complexity with known number of nodes.
- With 10 nodes(pods) less than 100 combinations are needed for rover to pod to pod communications



Reference Schematic - DWM1000

5.2 Application Circuit Diagram

A simple application circuit integrating the DWM1000 module need only power the device and connect the device to a host controller, see Figure 10.



Figure 10: Example DWM1000 Application Circuit

https://www.decawave.com/sites/default/files/r esources/dwm1000-datasheet-v1.3.pdf

Reference Schematic - Accelerometer





GND

https://cdnlearn.adafruit.com/assets/assets/000/036/127/ original/adafruit_products_schem.png?1475251

Reference Schematic - Altimeter



https://cdnlearn.adafruit.com/assets/assets/000/036/127/ original/adafruit_products_schem.png?1475251 909

106

Figure 2. Pin Connections

Reference Schematic - SD Card Reader 107



Custom PCB Design Schematic


What is a Blue Pill?

- Purpose:
 - Breaks out the STMF103C8 Microcontroller into pinouts that can be used without having to account for support components.
- Design:
 - Give direct access to the chip pins without worry of improper support components.
- Specs:
 - Are ~\$3/each, which is cheaper than just buying the processor





Deployment Module Design: Software

FR





Power Budget For Pods

D5.3.2	Battery shall have sufficient capacity to meet a 5% duty cycle between low and high power mode for 2 hour duration test	
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Component	Current [mA]	Duration [minutes]	Usage [mAh]
Blue Pill (STMF32)	50	120	100
DWM1000	140	120	280
Sensor Breakout	0.04	120	0.08
Accelerometer	0.145	120	0.19
SD Card Reader	100	120	200

Total Usage: 580.27 [mAh]

AAA Battery Capacity: 1100[mAh]

B2: Pod Structure



Pod Structural Design: Manufacturing ¹¹³

All joints bonded with epoxy, sufficient strength due to majority of stress being compressive

Exceptions: A - Removable hardware for battery swap

> B - Friction rotation slot-lock for electronics access, can pin if needed

Green: Laser Cut Polycarb/Acrylic Red: 3D Printed, likely outsource Blue: COTS, modified Yellow: COTS, add-on

P5.3.1 P - Battery hot swap & rechargeableP5.4.7 P - Pods can be serial manufactured

Pod Structural Design: Mass and size

- Purpose:
 - Lower mass minimizes impact force, improves range
- Design:
 - High strength plastics (polycarbonate)
 - Little to no metal (obstructs antenna)
 - Lightweight foam, and material removal wherever possible
 - Using high strength adhesives (epoxy) rather than hardware
- Specs:
 - Mass model: 500 grams with 30g ballast margin
 - Length = 24cm, Diameter 8.5cm

Mass properties of pod_new_new_new Configuration: Default Coordinate system: -- default --



Volume = 449.38 cubic centimeters

Surface area = 1563.93 square centimeters

Center of mass: (centimeters) X = 2.76 Y = 12.64 Z = 7.08

Principal axes of inertia and principal moments of inertia: (grams * square centimete Taken at the center of mass.

Ix = (0.01, 1.00, 0.00) Px = 3979.06 Iy = (-0.95, 0.01, -0.31) Py = 20353.18 Iz = (-0.31, 0.01, 0.95) Pz = 21879.14

Moments of inertia: (gr	ams * square centimeters)	
Taken at the center of m	hass and aligned with the ou	utput coordinate system.
Lxx = 20496.22	Lxy = 210.79	Lxz = 448.09
Lyx = 210.79	Lyy = 3981.79	Lyz = -33.87
Lzx = 448.09	Lzy = -33.87	Lzz = 21733.37

Solidworks Mass Prop. Table and Major Pod Dimensions

P5.1.1P - Pods under 600 gramsP5.1.2P - Pods <9cm diameter</td>



Pod Locking Mechanism

Shear Analysis

$$\tau_y = 6000 \text{ psi} (\text{Polycarbonate})$$

$$A = 1/64$$
" $n = 4$ $F = 300$ lbs

$$\tau = \frac{F}{nA} = \frac{300}{4(1/64)} = 4800 \,\mathrm{psi}$$







Pod Locking Mechanism

Bending Moment

 σ_y = 13,500 psi (Polycarbonate)

$$F = 300$$
 $b=h=\frac{1}{8}$ "

 $I = \frac{1}{12}bh^2$
 $\sigma = \frac{Mc}{I} = \frac{F(\frac{L}{2})(\frac{b}{2})}{\frac{1}{12}bh^2} = 57600L$
 $M = F\frac{L}{2}$
 $\sigma = \frac{Mc}{I} = \frac{F(\frac{L}{2})(\frac{b}{2})}{\frac{1}{12}bh^2} = 57600L$



 $\sigma \leq \sigma_v \longrightarrow L \leq 0.2343$ [in]



Pod structure contains the ranging electronics which are deployed from 90mm diameter, 30mm height



215mm

Pod Tail-Boom Structural Analysis

Under worst case impact:

tail boom was able to deflect top of fuselage by up to 2mm. Additional height was included to permit this flexure.



118

Pod Structural Design: Mech/Aero

Mass properties of pod_new_new_new_ Configuration: Default Coordinate system: default	new
Mass = 468.41 grams	
Volume = 449.38 cubic centimeters	
Surface area = 1563.93 square centimet	ers
Center of mass: (centimeters) X = 2.76 Y = 12.64 Z = 7.08	

- Purpose: Cannon compatibility
- **Design:** Low mass bonded plastics
- Specs:
 - Mass: 500 grams with 30g ballast
 - Length: 21.5cm
 - Diameter 8.5cm



- **Purpose:** Minimize drag, maximize stability
- **Design:** Area rule, swept surfaces, Cg < Cp
- Specs:
 - From Nose: Cp = 11.1cm, Cg = 11.0cm,
 - with ballast Cg = 10.5cm = stable
 - cD of 0.25 was calculated via CFD





Pod Structural Design: Aerodynamics

• Purpose:

- Minimize aerodynamic drag
- Maximize aerodynamic <u>stability</u>
- Design:
 - Cp is behind the Cg, aerodynamic stability is achieved
 - Minimizing drag: area rule, sweeping fins, and minimizing area
 - Fins also provide spin stability



120

Simplified cP calculation, validated via CFD

- Specs:
 - From Nose: Cp = 11.1cm, Cg = 11.0cm, with ballast Cg = 10.5cm = stable
 - A cD of 0.25 was calculated via CFD

P5.4.6 P - Pods shall be stable to promote range and impact orientation

Pod Structural Design: Power Connect.

- Purpose:
 - Secure batteries, connect them to board securely
- Design:
 - Spring tension on batteries to maintain connection
 - Hot-swappable from end of tail
 - Twisted pairs to prevent signal interference
- Specs:
 - 3 AAA in series (4 avail but unneeded)
 - 1100 mAh
 - 3.6V



121

Wiring diagram

Pod Structural Design: Crumple Zone

122

• Real: Drop Test 2m/s



Decreases acceleration by factor of 2

C: Pod Deployment





Deployment Module: Budgets

				Component	Weight (kg)
	Douron Droug	Duration	En ongr [Mott	Pods	5
Component	Fower Draw	[minutes]	Energy [watt	Motors	1.86
	[**]	Linnutcoj	minutesj	Gears (1018 Carbon steel)	2.36
24V Compression	33.6	1.72	0.97	Base Plates and Lazy Susan	F 4
Motor	00.1	,/		(Polycarbonate and Aluminum)	5.4
Nema 23 Stepper	5.7	5	12.83	Barrel and Funnel (Polycarbonate)	1.25
Motor	0 /	0	Ŭ	Launch Plate and Rack (6061	0.0 -
Nema 17 Stepper	0.91km	40	3.33	Aluminum)	0.25
Motors (x2) · 1	9.2185			Base Support (6061 Aluminum)	0.8
Sensors (Photo interrupter, etc.)	0.5	20	0.17	Reloading Material	0.9
			_	Spring	0.39
Total: 20.63 watt hour				Binding Materials	1
			Total: 19.21	kg	

D4.1.2	Module and pods shall weigh less than 20kg together	
D8.3.1	Deployment module shall be compatible with provided onboard power (270 watt hour)	



Manufacturing

Component	Material	Process	Allotted Time
Cannon Barrel	Plexiglass/Acrylic	Band Saw	2 days
Plates (Mounting, base, support structure, etc.)	Plexiglass/Acrylic , Aluminum	Band Saw	1 week
Rack	Aluminum	CNC	1 day
Reloading Support	Aluminum		2 days
Spring Cannon Base Support	Aluminum	CNC	1 week
Motor Mounts	Acrylic?		1 day
Funnel	Acrylic		1 week
Launch Plate	Aluminum	CNC	1 day

Deployment Module Design: Reloading Mechanism 126

- Purpose:
 - Feed pods into the cannon barrel
- Design:
 - Twin NEMA 17 stepper motor
 - Timing belt, conveyor system
- Specs:
 - Loading time: 5 seconds
 - Maximum Power Draw: 5W





Reloading Mechanism: Funnel

DM shall be capable of reloading and deploying a new pod every 2 minutes

- Test: Do pods jam? If so, when?
- Results:

D3.5.1

- If pods are oriented properly, no jamming occurs and they slide tail first into tube
- Jams if:
 - Fin catches on ramp
 - Fin catches on top of barrel
- **Mitigation**: Arm holding pod releases pod above edge of ramp, also moved forward on ramp





Deployment Module Design: Azimuth Control

- Purpose:
 - Rotate the cannon from -140° to 140° relative to rover
- Design:
 - Rotating base plate mounted to a swivel stand
 - NEMA 23 motor drives a bevel gear set
 - Photo interrupter used to reset step count
- Specs:
 - Pointing Accuracy: 12°
 - Maximum Power Draw: 5.7W



128



Azimuth Control

M3 The deployment mech shall have capability to deploy pods to software defined locations	
---	--

- Why?
 - Pods must be placed at locations that will not always be in line with the rover's direction of travel
- Designs Driven:
 - Allows for one stationary hub with the cannon and reloading mechanism rotating around the center gear
- Demonstration Method:
 - Lazy susan used to minimize torque requirement needed to rotate the base plate



Reloading Mechanism: Center of Mass

D4.1.1 DM and mounting interface shall not modify Jackal's center of gravity to a point where it cannot sustain 30 degree slope in any orientation.



CG Location without Pods



Constraints for the rack and launch plate:

- Mass **[250g]**
- Spring inner diameter
- Beam deflection
- Tensile Stress

Design Parameters

- Pitch height
- Face width
- Length







Tensile Stress Calculations

$$\sigma_t = \frac{W_t P_d}{FY}$$

- Wt is the tangential load [lbs]
- Pd is the diametral pitch [in⁻¹]
- F is the face width [in]
- Y is the Lewis form factor (dimensionless)

Mass/Volume Constraint Calculations

$$w = \frac{m}{\rho lh}$$

- m is the maximum allowable mass
- ρ is the density [lbs/in³]
- l and h are length and pitch height respectively [in]



Spring Compression Device

Beam Deflection Calculations

$$I = \frac{1}{12}wh^3$$

- I is moment of inertia [in⁴]
- w is face width
- h is diametic height

$$\sigma_b = \frac{F_R l^3}{3EI}$$



- σb is beam deflection (constrained to 0.01 [in])
- FR is radial load
- l is length [in]
- E is the Young's modulus [psi]

Rearrange to solve for deflection as a function of face width and height



Deployment Module Design: Rack Support

- Purpose:
 - Guide rack during compression and decompression
- Design:
 - Two linear ball bearings
 - Support beam to prevent beam deflection
- Specs:
 - Maximum dynamic load: 353lbs
 - ID Tolerance: +/-.0004
 - Steady state speed: 83.3 in/sec





Deployment Module: Safety

• Why:

- Prevent unwanted deployment, safely store the rover, indicate safe state to approach rover
- Designs Driven:
 - Multiple safety inhibits
 - Lights to indicate safety state
 - Defined states with corresponding safety procedures

Inhibit Type	Description
Mechanical	Pin to keep baseplate from rotating (also used for storage)
Electrical	Prevents motors from moving (remove before flight pin)
Remote Kill Switch	PS4 controller to send kill command to rover (COHRINT provided)

Indicator Type	Description
Green Light	Safe state to approach rover
Red Light	Unsafe state to approach rover, corresponding to State 1-3





Deployment Module: Safety States

State	Description	Steps to abort	Notes	
1	Pod in tube, electrical inhibit OUT, spring compressing	 Send software stop Send software command to reverse motor direction Proceed from State 2.2 	Front of rover clear at all times. Red light ON	
2	Pod in tube, electrical inhibit OUT, spring uncompressed	 Send software stop Place electrical inhibit IN Remove pod from tube 	Front of rover clear until after step 2. Red light ON	
3	No pod in tube, electrical inhibit OUT , spring uncompressed	1) Place electrical inhibit IN	Red light ON	
4	No pod in tube, electrical inhibit IN, spring uncompressed	None	Safe state to transport rover and upload MIP. Green light ON	

*Azimuth control occurs between State 1 and 2. State 2 is considered fire-ready and full range safety measures are to be in place.



Deployment Module Design: Electronics



137



5 m/s of Wind (11.2 mph) Opposing the Pod Trajectory

Cross



138

Pod Trajectories

Worst case: 12° azimuthal accuracy

• Discretized angles for launching



D: Risk Backup





Risk Descriptions

ID	Description					(Consequend	ce		
2	Mass too high				1	2	3	4	5	
3	Antenna interference			5				5	7	
6	Recoil forces			4				1,9	4	
8	Potting material interference		Likelihood	3			6	3,8		
9	Software development integration			2					10	
10	Networking/Comm development			1					2	
						<u>Mitigat</u>	tion:			
1	Electronics damage from deployment	 Compounding multiple methods for impact dampening Drop tests have been performed to demonstrate survivability with some of the selected electronics. 								
4	Reloading jam or electrical complications	 Prototype built for demonstration. Considerations included in design to provide a remote kill switch 								
5	Deployment unable to reach max range	 Significant range margin included in design which should surmount unanticipated parasitic forces. Modelling efforts do have high fidelity and scaled testing. 								
7	PCB rev delays in schedule	 PCB boards have been designed and first rev printed pre-cdr Testing commencing and expect to send 2nd rev before Dec 20 2018 								



Pre-Mitigation							Post-Mitigation						
		Consequence						Consequence					
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5
Likelihood	5				5	7	Likelihood	5			5		
	4				1,9	4		4					
	3			6	3,8			3				1	
	2					10		2			3,7	9	4
	1					2		1		6	2,10	8	



Risk Descriptions

Subsystem	ID	Rank: (L,C)	Description	Details
Pod Structure	1	4,4	Electronics damage from deployment	Electronics damage due to launch/impact acceleration will prohibit functionality
Pod Structure	2	1,5	Mass too high	Mass budget exceedance will inhibit max deployment distance
Pod Structure	3	3,4	Antenna interference	Antenna interference due to env. or pod structure could severely limit functionality and increase error
Deployment	4	4,5	Reloading jam or electrical complications	Reloading is a process which must succeed 10x in every mission, jamming or electronics complications can prevent every subsequent deployment
Deployment	5	5,4	Deployment unable to reach max range	Parasitic forces on deployment are difficult to predict. Current models account for many of them such as drag, friction, dead weight, but likely not all. An underestimate or misconception of the parasitic forces during deployment will lower range.
Deployment	6	3,3	Recoil forces	Recoil forces during launch may negatively impact the rover, by tipping or by unduly stressing the mounting fixtures of the cannon to the rover.
Pod Electronics	7	5,5	PCB rev delays in schedule	PCBs are known to take more revisions than expected, which can cause hardware damage, schedule slip, and stagnation of other subsystem progress.
Pod Electronics	8	3,4	Potting material interference	Potting material applied to the electronics boards can impact performance due to overheating, sensor blockage, and by limiting access to board level components.
Navigation SW	9	4,4	Disparate software development integration	Multiple methods of error reduction are being developed, integration of multiple methods can result in software that is complex, cumbersome, and difficult to diagnose.
Pod SW	10	2,5	Networking/Comm development	A complex mesh network and communication protocol must be developed to support localization



Risk Mitigation: Highest Risks Only

144

Subsystem	ID	Description	Effect	Mitigation
Pod Structure	1	Electronics damage during launch or landing	Ranging functionality failure, pod is unusable for localization	Compounding three methods for impact dampening is expected to be beyond sufficient, moreover, drop tests have been performed to demonstrate survivability with some of the selected electronics.
Deployment	4	Reloading: Jamming or difficulties in control	Failure to deploy, potentially unsafe stored energy, unexpected deployment	Prototype built for demonstration. Considerations included in design to provide a remote kill switch, and de-tension procedure for stored energy. Tube is clear so observers can monitor and kill a jam.
Deployment	5	Unmodeled parasitic forces reduce range	Limited range has a substantially negative impact on localization accuracy	Significant range margin included in design which should surmount unanticipated parasitic forces. Modelling efforts do have high fidelity and have already lead to several design changes.
Pod Electronics	7	PCB rev delays in schedule	Delay in electronics testing or development, impact other subsystems	PCB boards have been designed and first rev printed pre-cdr, testing commencing presently and expect to send 2nd rev before Dec 20 2018
Navigation Software	9	Combination of multiple error reduction methods	Complex, cumbersome, slow execution software product	Multiple error reduction methods have already been developed independently and are well understood. This provides additional integration time, and proves individual methods function correctly, thus the combination of all methods will be efficient and effective.


Risk Mitigation: Lower Risks

Subsystem	ID	Description	Effect	Mitigation
Pod Electronics	2	Mass too high	Mass budget exceedance will inhibit maximum range possible	A high-fidelity solidworks model was constructed and studied using the correct expected mass properties. Shows 80g of margin.
Pod Electronics	3	Antenna Obstruction or Interference	Unreliable high error measurements with limited ability to detect	Tests were performed to characterize environmental effects, the open air test range (think business field) will not impact signal. Pod is constructed of benign plastics and bonding (limited metal hardware), batteries will interfere with signal and antenna pattern is understood.
Deployment	4	Reloading jam or electrical complications	Failure to deploy will interrupt mission and require human intervention	A rough physical model of the feed system was built and tested with a high fidelity model of the pod, it showed promising functionality and highlighted areas of concern to be revised.
Deployment	6	Recoil forces	Rover tips over or has other unintended dynamic responses	Measurements of rover CG and expected forces to impart showed that significant margin exists against tipping. Design consideration towards using an outrigger system serves as a solution thus nullifying this risk.
Pod Electronics	8	Potting material interference	Potting it may impact signal, trap heat, and limit observational/debug access.	Research on heritage systems for material selection indicates several non- conductive options. 3D printed 'pour mold' to be developed which will prevent potting material seeping into undesired areas.
Pod SW	10	Mesh Network/Comms	Missing lower levels of success	The required hardware was procured in advance and a preliminary demonstration of the mesh network (on pod hardware only) was performed

E: Testing Additional





Verification Plan



Piecewise testing has been in progress for some time now. This type of testing consists of testing individual parts to prove their <u>feasibility</u> or <u>functionality</u>.

Tests performed pre-CDR

Pod Electronics: Test IDs: PT2, PT8

- 1 rover to 1 pod ranging: Demonstrated capability for pod electronics to communicate and range accurately.
- 1 rover to multi-pod ranging: Demonstrated capability for 'rover' to select which pod to communicate with.
- Mesh network ranging: Demonstrated the capability of rover-pod ranging, and rover-pod-pod ranging.

Deployment: Test IDs: DT2, DT5

- Test deployment range characterization: Demonstrates scale deployment model to reach correct (scaled) range.
- Pod drop testing of foam/potting: Demonstrates independent capability of suspension methods to protect elect.
- Pod reloading mechanism testing: Demonstrates pod into funnel without jamming, pod egress without jamming.

Navigation Software: Test IDs: NT10, NT1

- Software simulation of error propagation over time, incorporated minimization techniques and validated
- Rover path upload and follow using A* algorithm



Verification Plan

Piecewise Testing

Subsystem Testing

Integration Testing

Full System Testing

Subsystem tests consist of proving that all parts of a specific subsystem can combine and cooperate to function properly.

Pod Electronics New Rev Tests: Test ID PT7

- Receive and manufacture custom PCB with components, compare functionality to already functional non-custom hardware

Pod Power Draw Test: Test ID PT5

- With a near-flight-like electronics suite, characterize power draw over a simulated 2-hour mission duration

Deployment Safety Test: Test ID NT1,

- Demonstrate kill switch functionality, and decompression functionality.

Deployment Controls Test: Test ID DT4

- Demonstrate deployment mechanism can be installed to baseplate, and actuated via its microcontroller commands.

Deployment Range Test: Test ID DT2A

- Demonstrate using a mass-sim pod that the cannon can obtain the required range of +10m.
- This will also demonstrate pod structure's aerodynamic stability.

Pod Structure Test: Test ID PT2

- With 'Flight-like' pod manufactured, install latest-rev electronics into system, perform drop testing repeatedly and demonstrate board functionality pre/post each drop test.

Navigation Software Incorporation Test: Test ID NT7

- Using the pre-developed software simulation, test that error reduction methods functioning as intended and to the proper requirement levels even under worst case 3-sigma scenarios.
 - Push validation further by including monte-carlo test data and other non-optimal environmental factors.



Verification Plan



Integration Testing: The objective of integration testing is to demonstrate that subsystems have been successfully integrated together, and that all subsystems are functioning with the rover and overarching needs for mission success. They are defined based on key interfaces:

Navigation Software to Deployment: Test ID DT4

- Ensure that navigation software (on rover) can send data/commands to the deployment microcontroller (on cannon), demonstrate controlled deployment at specified attitude and that behavior is expected.

Deployment to Pod Structure: Test ID DT3, PT4

- Test deployment mechanism ability to reload and launch pods repeatedly. Test that any unexpected stresses on the pod do not damage internal electronics. Test robustness to jamming by moving rover throughout environment and inducing vibrations/off-nominal loading.

Navigation Software to Pod Electronics: Test ID FST3, FST4

- Test the interface which allows serial read/write commands between the rover and all pods on the network, demonstrate ability to collect ranging data from software-selected pods.

F: Budget Backup



Budget

*Notes:

Budget based on estimated 12 pods + 4 pods for prototyping

• Jackal Rover provided by customer

