



Visual Approximation of Nanosat Trajectories to Augment Ground-based Estimation

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Customer: Prof. Penina Axelrad (CCAR), John Gaebler (CCAR)

Advisor: Prof. Marcus Holzinger

Presenters

Overview	Marshall Herr
Schedule	Nick Renninger
Manufacturing	Zach Talpas, Aaron Aboaf, Jerry Wang, Dylan Bossie
Budget	Justin Fay



Project Overview



Project Purpose



Objectives:

The **long term vision** of this project is to augment existing, ground-based CubeSat Space Situational Awareness (SSA) by observing CubeSat deployments from the perspective of the NanoRacks (NR) ISS-based deployer.

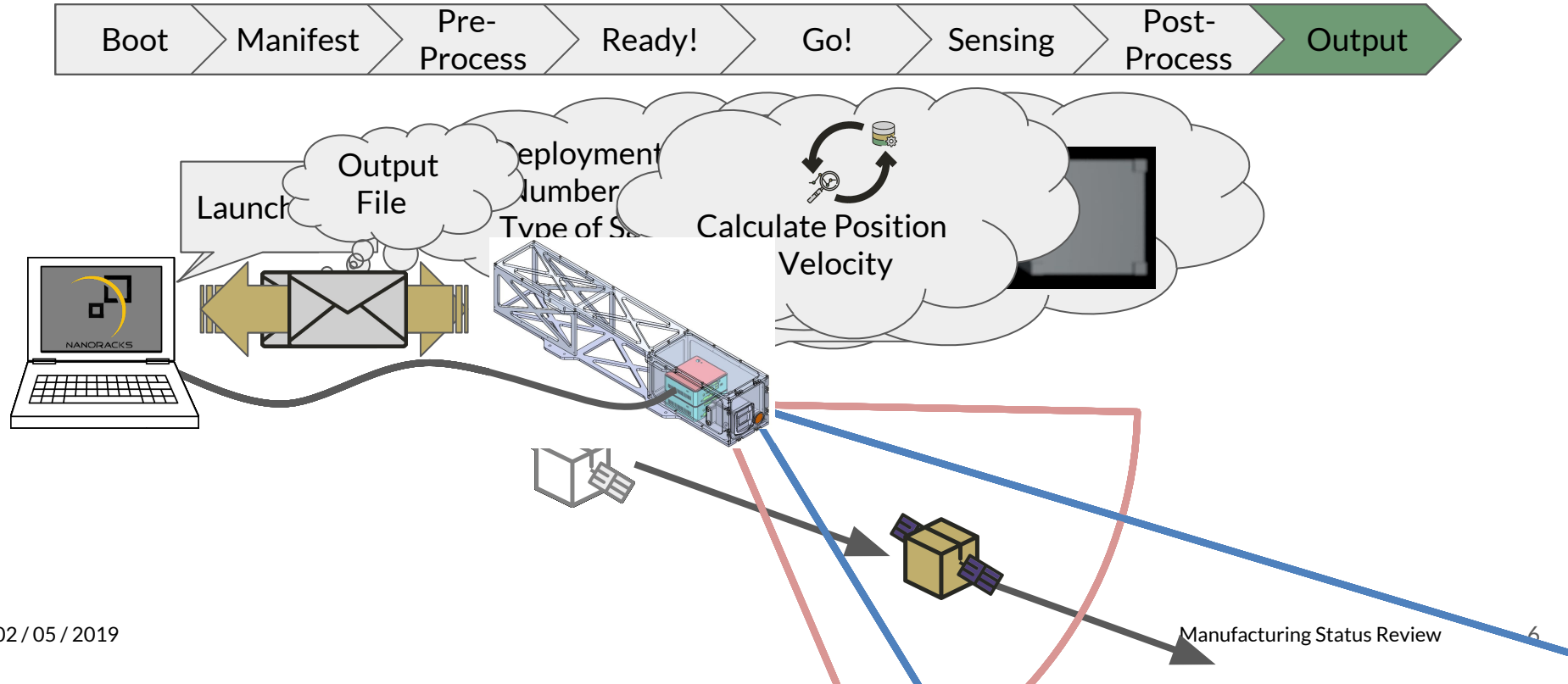
This year's VANTAGE team will produce a **proof of concept** for this mission by developing a **ground based prototype** which will be tested using a simulated CubeSat deployment in a laboratory environment.

Project Stakeholders:

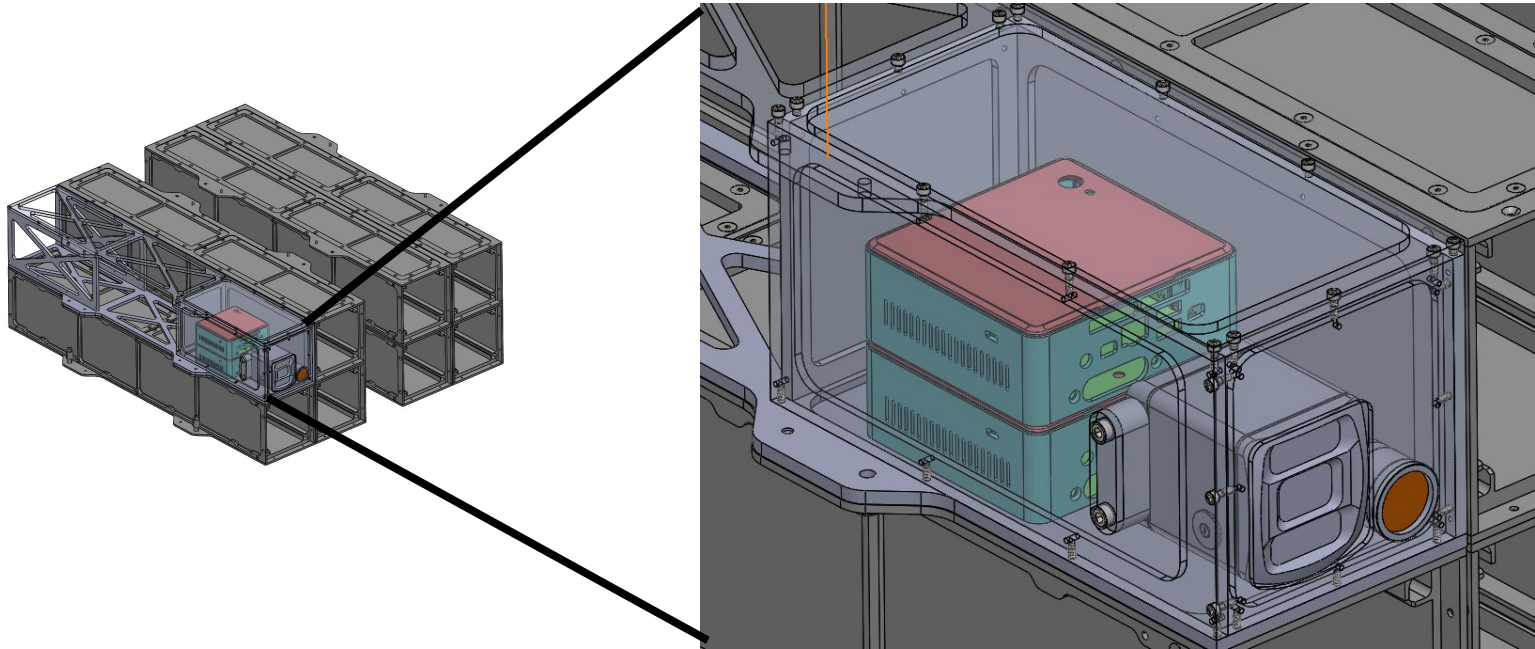
- Customer: Prof. Axelrad and John Gaebler
- Associated Company: NanoRacks

Specific Objectives

Structures - STR (level 2)	All key system components <i>fit</i> in the structure, but they only need to <i>function</i> as a “flat sat”
Tracking - TRK (level 2)	VANTAGE software will <i>track the states</i> of 1-6 mock CubeSats out to 100m and <i>report off-nominal velocities</i> of these CubeSats
Power - EPS (level 3)	VANTAGE’s EPS will distribute power corresponding to the available power from the NR deployer
Testing - TST (level 2)	Test rigs can <i>simulate physical deployment</i> of up to six (6) mock CubeSats <i>out to 100m</i> and record position <i>truth data</i>

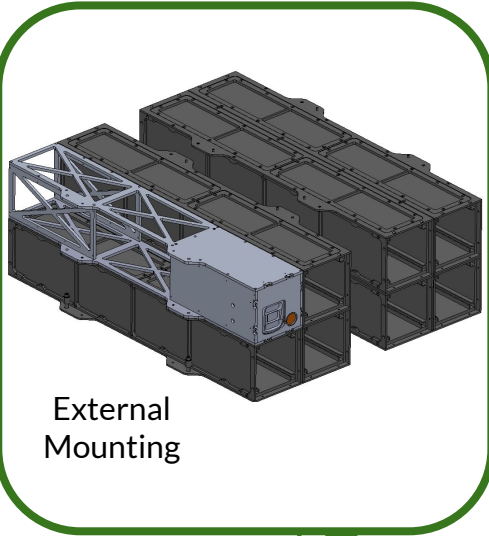


Baseline Design Overview



Baseline Design Overview

Interface With NanoRacks Ground-based Hardware

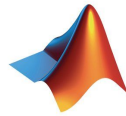


Avionics and Software

Next Unit of
Computing
(NUC)



MATLAB SW

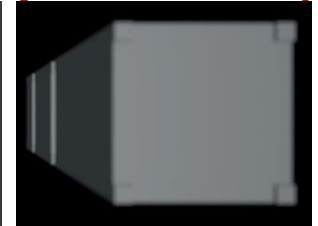
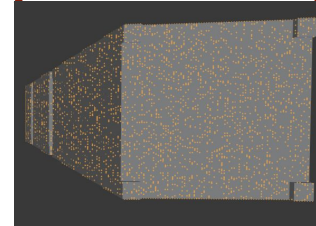


Acquire Data

Time of Flight
(TOF) Camera

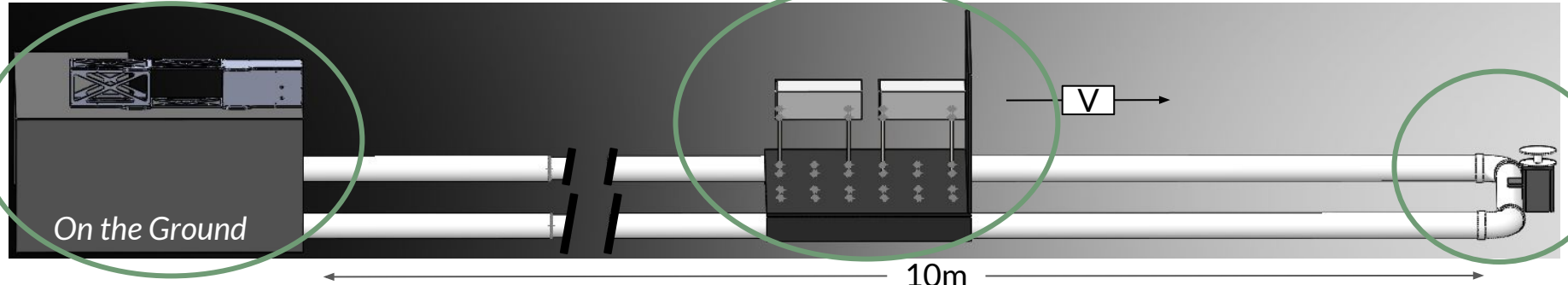


Monochrome
Camera



Modular Test Overview

Full Track Not Shown



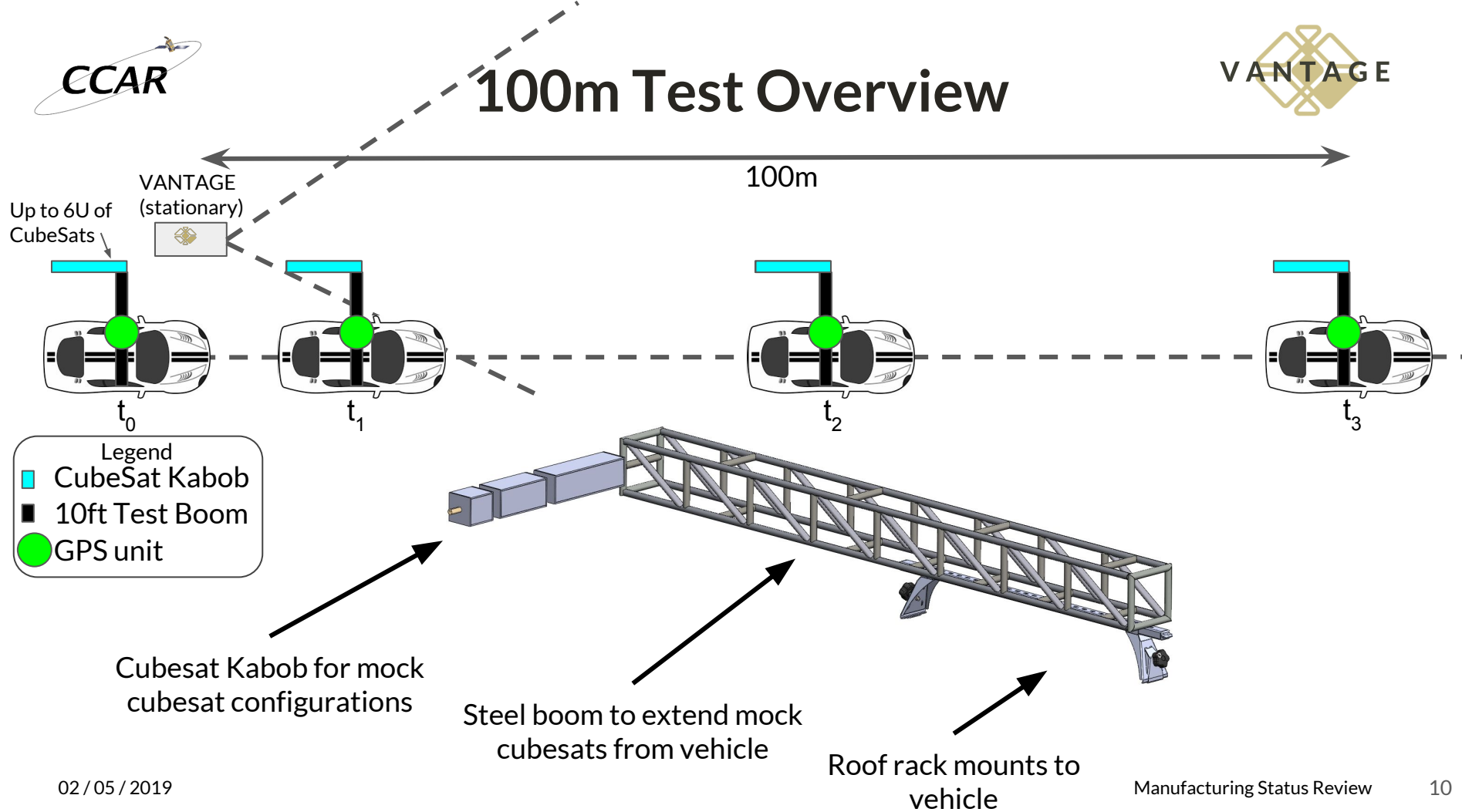
VANTAGE

Cart holds up to 6
1U mock cubesats

Shelf holds VANTAGE
structure

Motor pulls
Cart

100m Test Overview

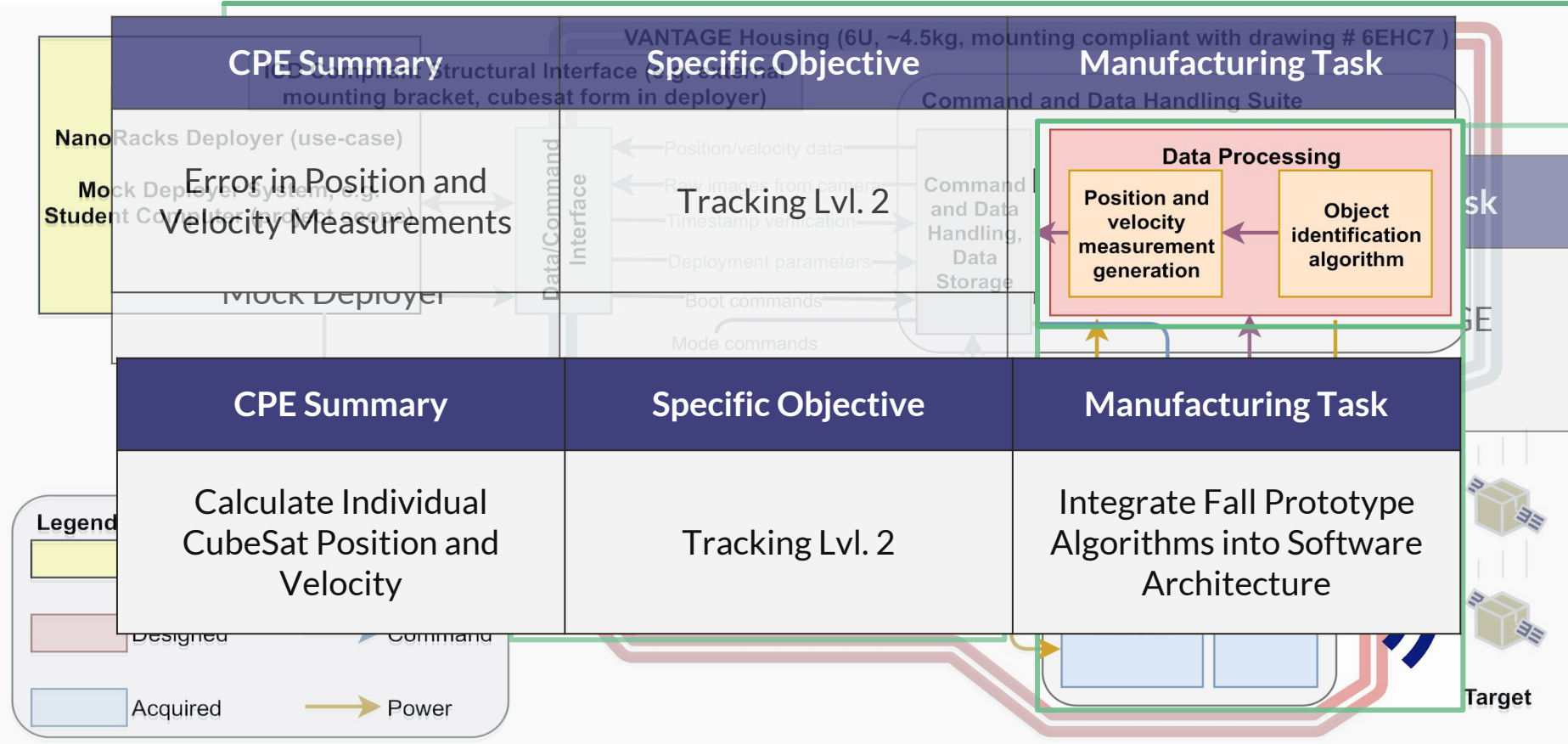




Design Updates Since CDR



- Swapped Arduino with Raspberry Pi for low-power mode
- Testing an additional GPS system for our 100m test
- Adding stabilizing harness to our 100m test boom mount

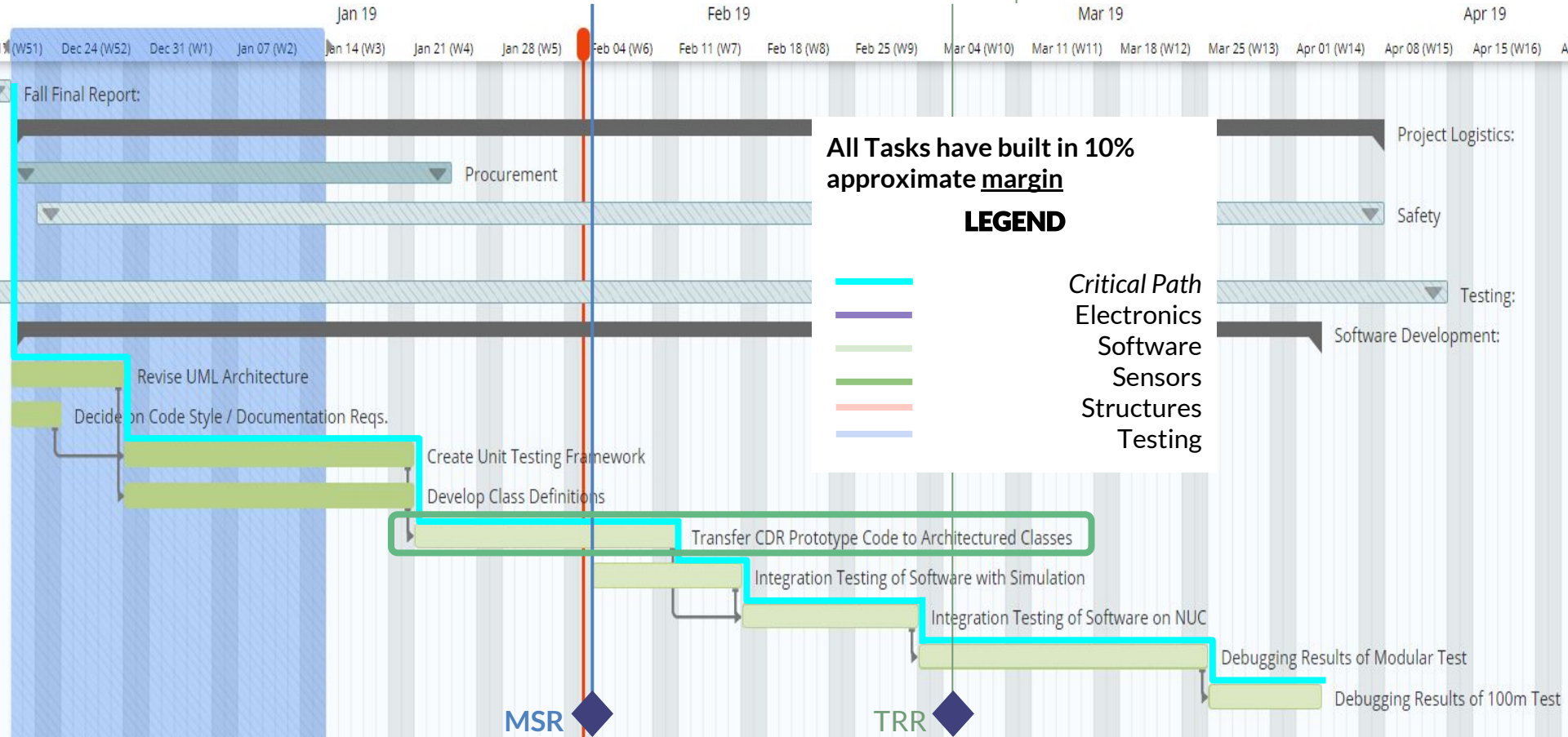




Schedule



MSR Test Integration Schedule



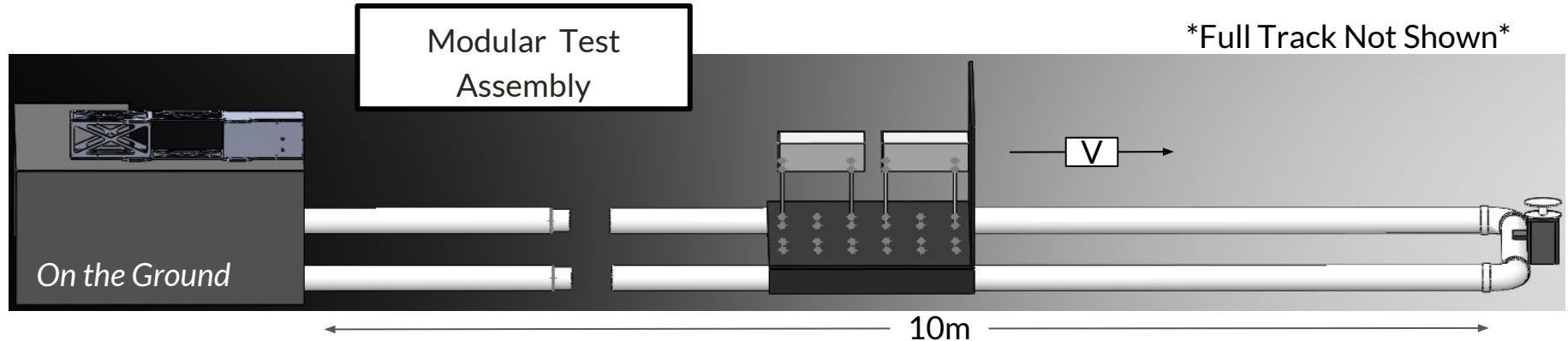


Work Completed:

- Cart, Motor Assembly, and Shelf manufacturing and assembly
- Assembly & Test Procedure
- Motor Qualification Test

Pending:

- Mock CubeSats printing
- VICON training - scheduled for Feb. 6 (Tomorrow)



- **Problem:**
 - Current max speed is 1.3 m/s
 - Requirement: $[0, 2]$ m/s
- **Source:**
 - Controller angular velocity is limited
- **Mitigation Strategy:**
 - Design spool with larger radius
 - Increases cart speed
- **Next Steps:**
 - VICON Integration
 - Sensor Interface Testing



Pending



Fit Check Planned

eSat on Kabob

- Verbal permission obtained
- VANTAGE team has reached out several times to get written permission
- Airport contact has been slow to respond with written permission



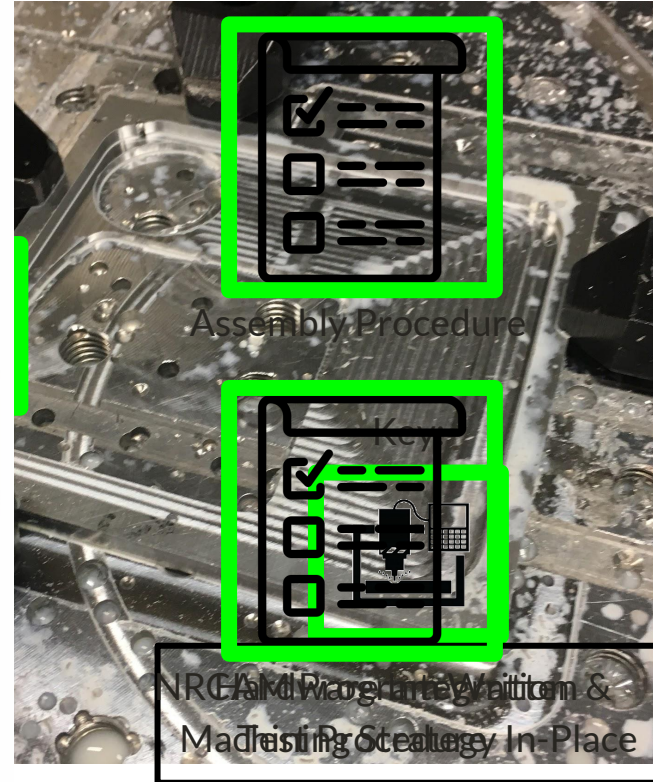
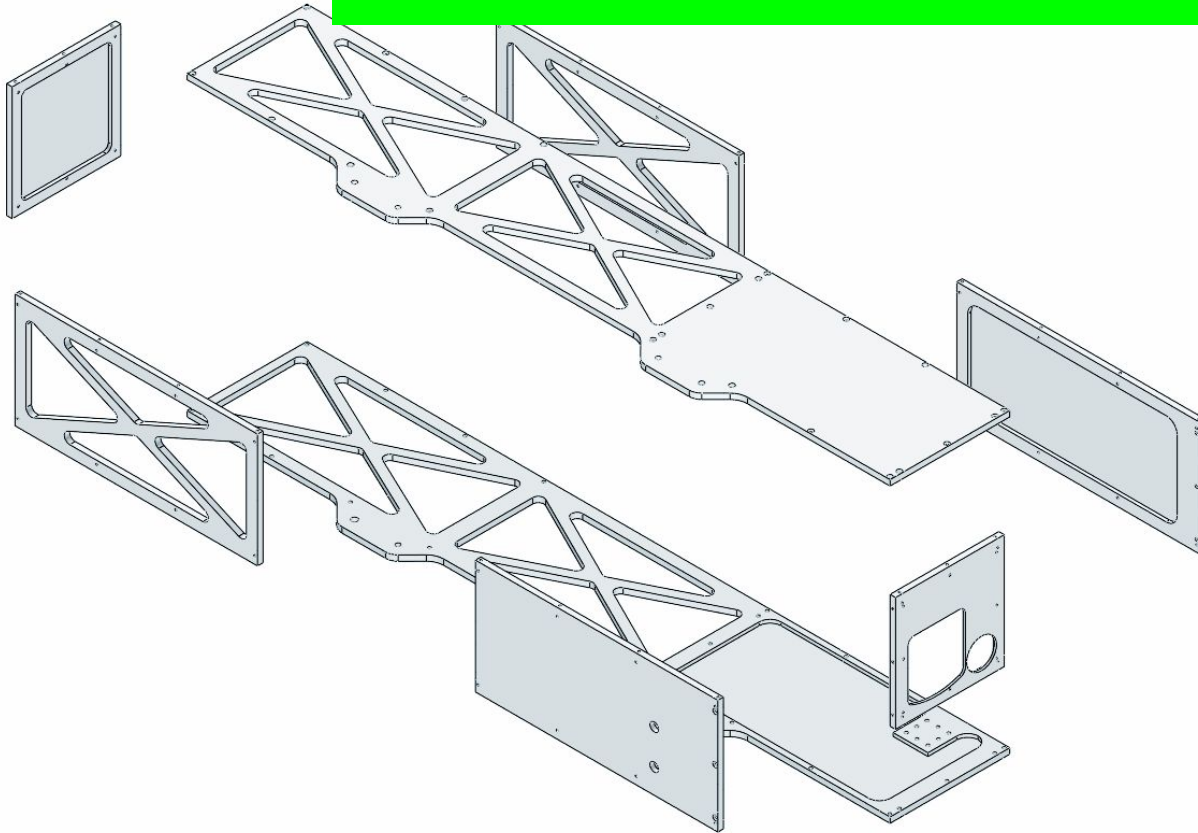
Written Approval to use Airport Location

Trimble GPS System
Rigid Mount and Power

the Sats

- Trimble system has battery powered receiver box which does calculations and data storage
- Cables will connect to antenna and pass through the sunroof of the car

Optical Camera in same configuration as VANTAGE

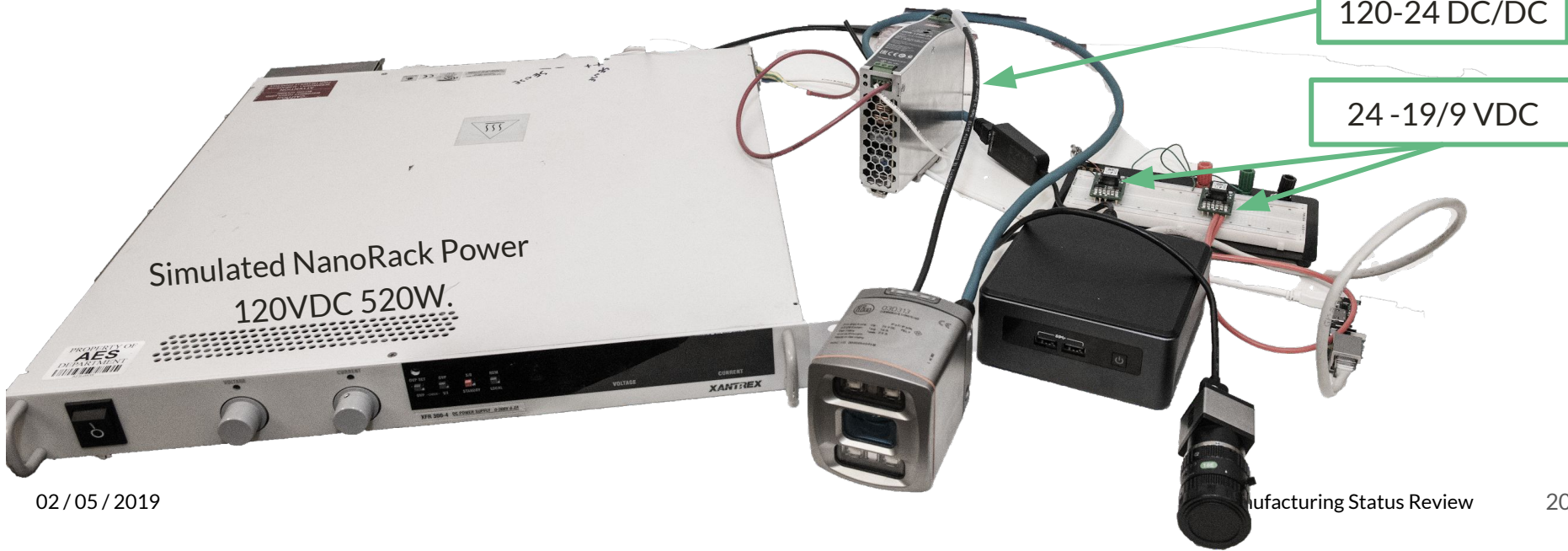


Avionics Power System Actual EPS System

- All testing before final integration will be done with provided wall adapters
- Converters demonstrated to produce desired voltage with static load

120-24 DC/DC

24-19/9 VDC



Avionics Power System Power Budget

- **CDR Predicted Power Usage**

- *Based on Data Sheets*
- *ToF Sensor* - **10.0** W
- *Total (41.6% Margin)* - **81.8** W

DC-DC Power Limit is 120W:

- **After Hardware Inspection**

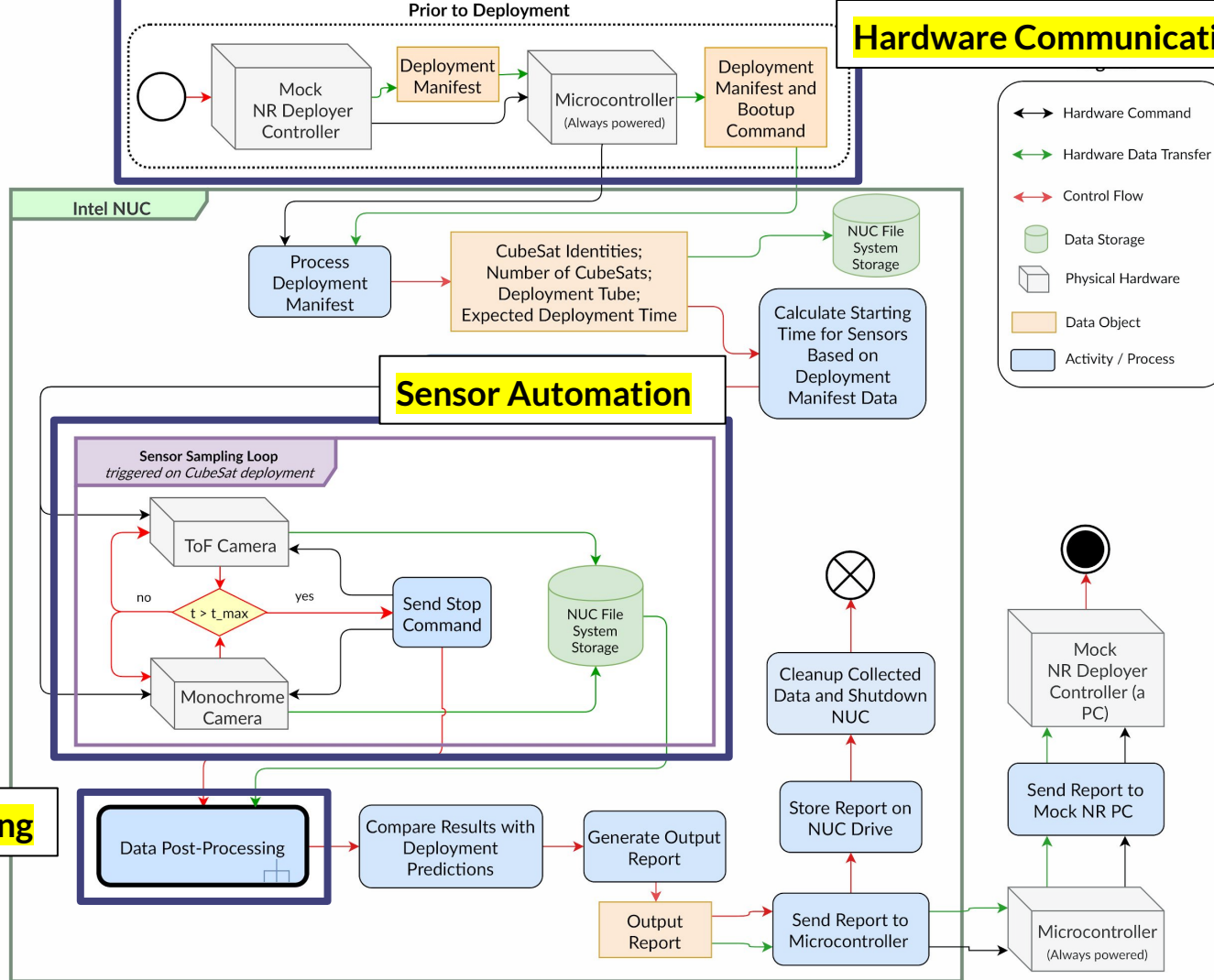
- *Label has discrepancy from data sheet*
- *ToF Sensor* - **62.4** W
- *Total (11.6% Over)* - **133.4** W

Pending

1. Load Test ToF Sensor
2. Load Test Avionics Power System

Potential Solutions

1. Underclock NUC
2. DC-DC OC mode.
3. Purchase a new power supply.



Tasks:

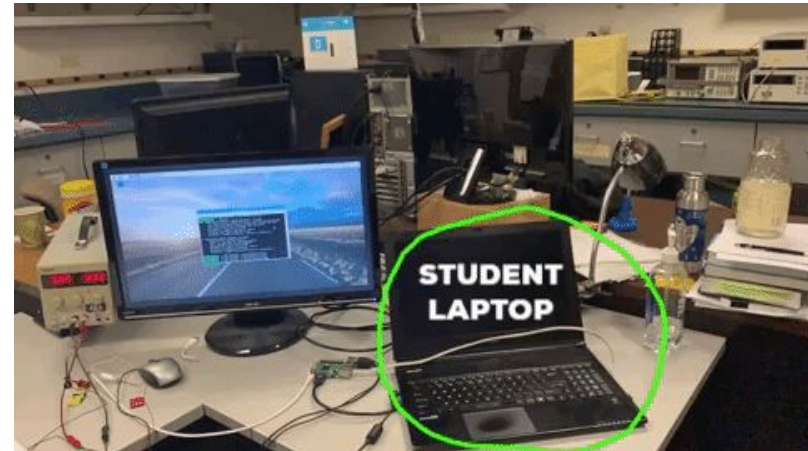
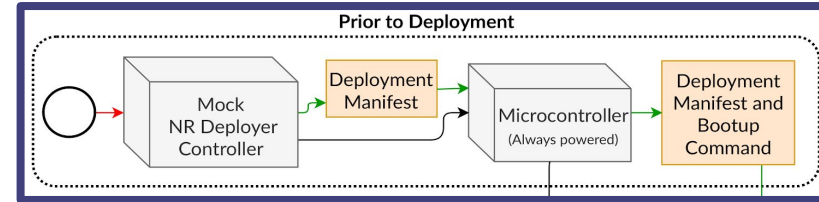
- Raspberry Pi boots NUC over LAN
- Data transfer from student laptop to NUC

Done:

- Raspberry Pi demonstrated to boot laptop over LAN
- See video

In Progress:

- Boot NUC over LAN with Raspberry Pi
- Set up data transfer from student laptop to NUC



Tasks:

- Manual sensor data capture on student laptop
- Automated sensor data capture on NUC

Done:

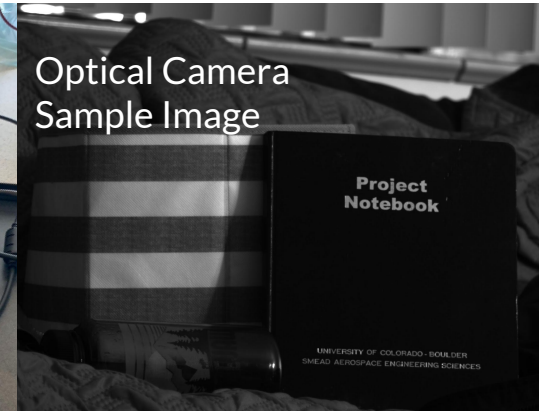
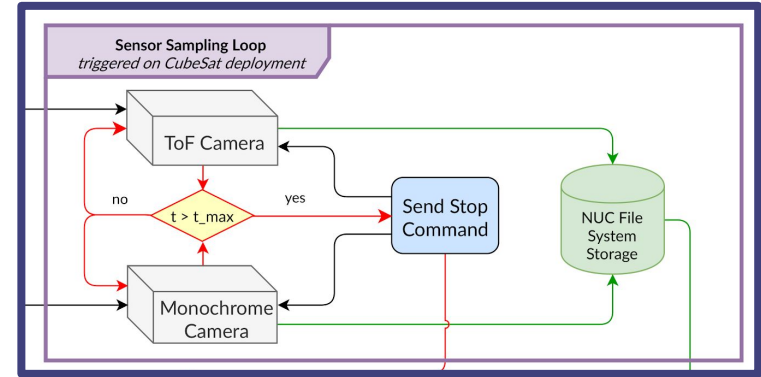
- Manual sensor data capture on student laptop
- Automated sensor data capture on student laptop

In Progress:

- Automated sensor data capture on NUC

Challenges:

- Integrating sensor controls with MATLAB
- Measuring accurate sensor parameters



Tasks:

- TOF data processing and centroiding
- Optical camera data processing and centroiding
- Sensor Fusion

Done:

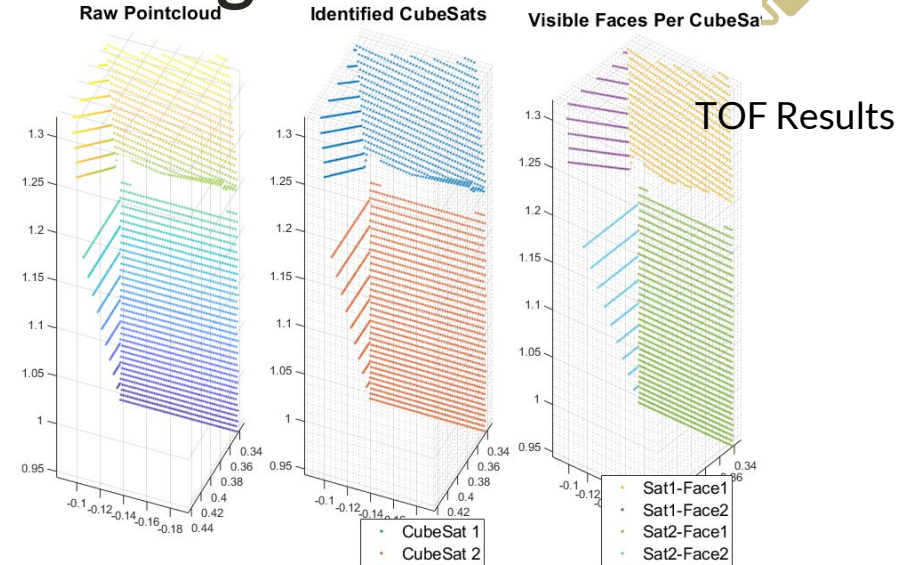
- TOF data processing
- Optical camera data processing
- Sensor Fusion

In Progress:

- TOF centroiding
- Optical camera data centroiding
- Further, Exhaustive Testing

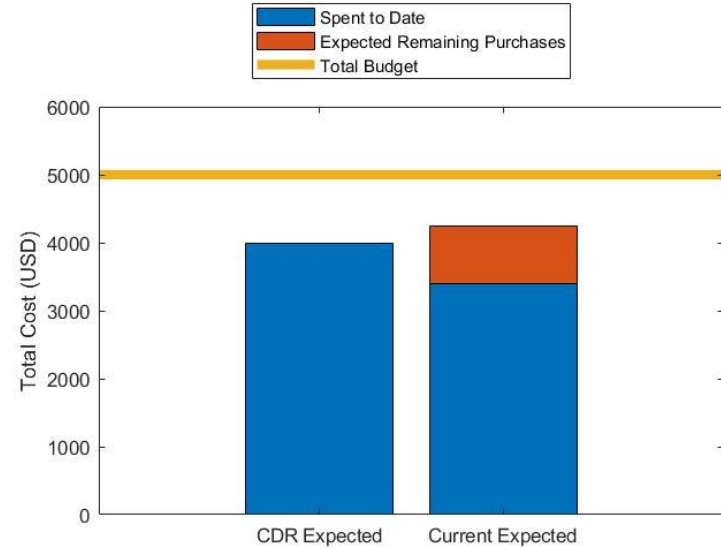
Challenges:

- Solving image processing edge cases



Budget

Incomplete Procurements	Subsystem	Expected Cost	Status
INTEL® NUC KIT NUC8I7BEH	Electronics	\$671.28	Pending Changes
PHYS Machine Shop Use	Structures	\$170.00	Scheduled



Subsystem:	Structures	Sensors	Software	Electronics	Testing	Total
CDR Expected Total:	\$365.86	\$2,430.00	\$0.00	\$916.22	\$645.85	\$3,992.07
Remaining Purchases:	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$671.28	\$0.00	\$841.28
Total Spent:	\$252.69	\$2,589.13	\$0.00	\$207.44	\$357.47	\$3,406.73
Current Expected Total:	\$422.69	\$2,589.13	\$0.00	\$878.72	\$357.47	\$4,248.01