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# Michael Gutierrez

Caltech Astrophysics/Engineering



Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

[magutier@caltech.edu](mailto:magutier@caltech.edu)

<https://guutz.com>

TITLE		INITIAL	DATE
<b>Project Portfolio</b>		DESIGNED	MG 12.17.22
		DRAWN	MG 12.17.22
		CHECKED	MG 12.17.22
		APPROVED	MG 12.17.22
SCALE	1:1	UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES. REMOVE BURRS AND BREAK SHARP EDGES.	
		SHEET 1 OF 5	

4

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ORGANIZATION



	NAME	DATE	SHEET 2 OF 5
DRAWN	Michael Gutierrez	Dec. 2022	
PROJECT TITLE			
Refurbishing a Radio Telescope			

**What:** A 6-meter dish antenna donated to CIT in 2005 by NASA JPL. It hasn't been used for the better part of a decade and has fallen into disrepair. Servo motors and wideband feed remained intact.

**Why:** Caltech lacks many hands-on learning tools for astronomy and radio science which are accessible to undergrads. I wanted to change that!



The "before" picture, as of 12/10/22... new remote control software, UHF-capable front end, and hopefully a paint job coming soon!

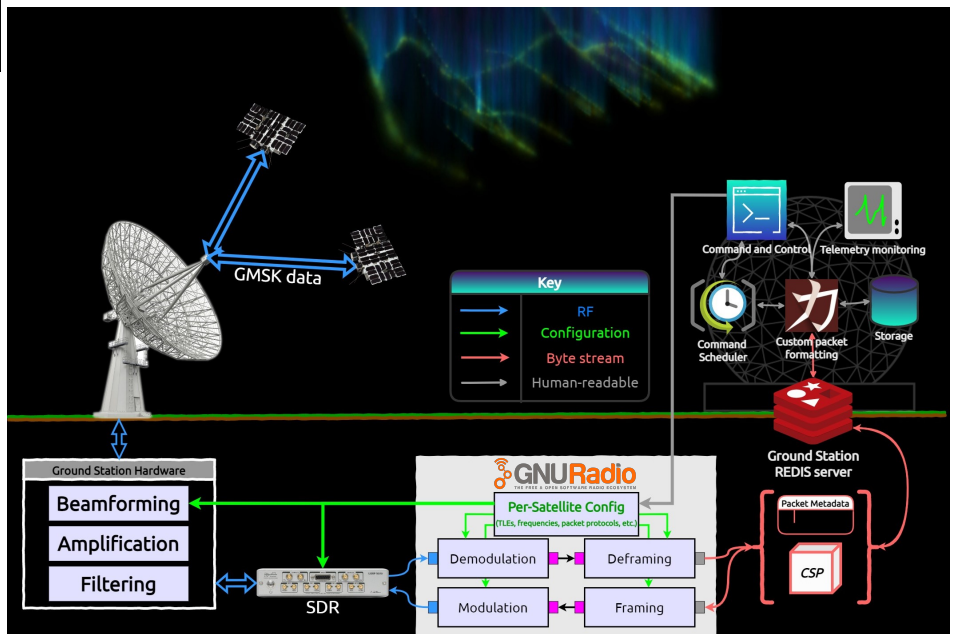
ORGANIZATION



	NAME	DATE	SHEET 2 OF 5
DRAWN	Michael Gutierrez	Aug. 2022	
PROJECT TITLE			
AERO/VISTA CubeSats			

**What:** An upcoming NASA mission featuring a pair of twin satellites with deployable vector antennas. They will make high quality recordings of radio emissions from the Aurora Borealis/Australis.

For my summer internship, I co-designed and coded a ground station interface customized to the particular needs of the AERO/VISTA mission. My work was focused on radio comms.



Block diagram of the ground station interface. Everything "underground" in the diagram is hardware I tested and/or software libraries I wrote.

ORGANIZATION



**XOS**

NAME

Michael Gutierrez

DATE

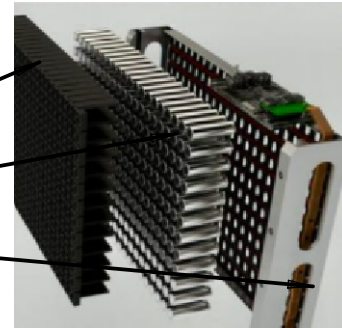
Sep. 2021

SHEET 3 OF 5

PROJECT TITLE

Lyra Battery Pack System

More info: [xostrucks.com](http://xostrucks.com)



**What:** A modular system of **30 and 60kWh electric vehicle batteries** designed, prototyped, manufactured, and tested all under one roof. During my internship I served a supporting role in the entire process from start to finish.



**How:** Battery modules (above) run cell-level diagnostics and can be easily expanded or replaced. Full packs (left, below) have a cooling unit and overload failsafes. They can be chained together to increase vehicle range. I participated in **design reviews**, implemented changes in **CAD**, fabricated test parts, communicated updates to manufacturers, and ran **environmental testing**.

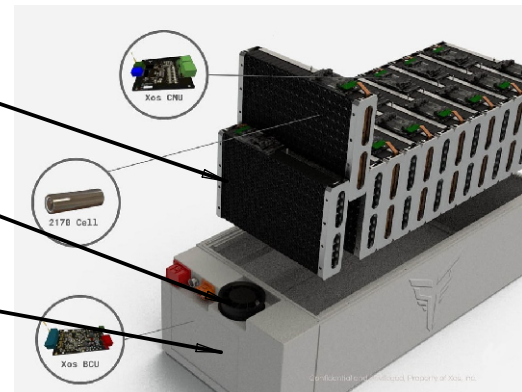
**Tools used:**

- 3DX CATIA / ENOVIA
- 2D Drafting / GD&T
- Finite Element Analysis
- Vibration Testing
- Water jet
- MIG Welding

Modular battery system

Internal Air Cooling


Battery Control Unit



**Why:** These packs were designed specifically for Xos's **last-mile delivery fleets**. 4 of them can provide about **200 miles of range**, making them ideal for routes that return to the same location each night. Designing and manufacturing them in-house allows for **more flexibility** in implementing changes and responding to customers' needs.

Xos's trucks are not self-driving, nor do they have any fancy bells or whistles; the goal is to build reliable, low-maintenance, environmentally friendly trucks that work today. And they happen to be electric.

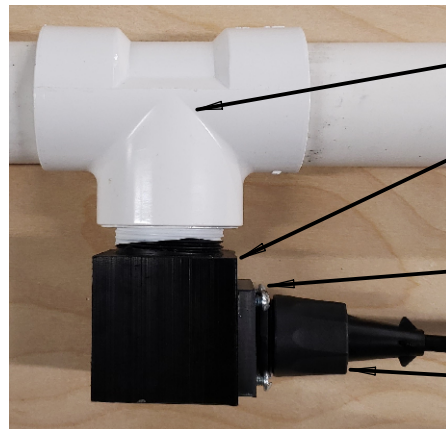
Xos has **successfully deployed trucks with UPS and Loomis**, and has orders for many more with FedEx and others.

ORGANIZATION 		NAME	DATE	SHEET 4 OF 5
	DESIGNED	Michael Gutierrez	May 2021	
	PROJECT TITLE			

# AquaSensors

**What:** A compact, low-cost assembly of chemical and optical sensors that **remotely measure and transmit water quality information.**

More info: [h2okinnovations.com](http://h2okinnovations.com)



Process connection

Pressure-proof (120psi) measurement chamber

Replaceable optical window + o-ring gasket

Spectroscopy sensor

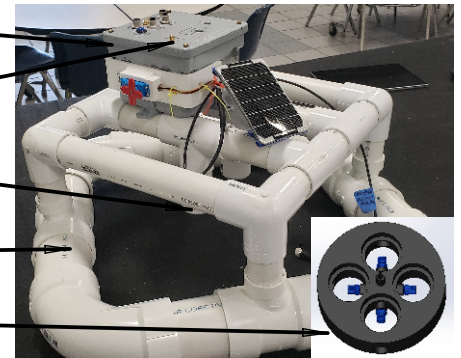
IP69 electronics enclosure

Long range radio antenna

Plug-and-play sensor slots (pH, dissolved oxygen, etc.)

Flotation/ballast structure

Water jet self-cleaning system



**How:** This floating AquaSensor package (**above**), designed for long-term autonomous operation in harsh marine environments, was my first independent project at H2Ok.

I designed this pipe-mounted AquaSensor (**left**) according to specifications of a potential client's water processing plant, as well as an electronics enclosure for the "brains" (**below**).

## Tools used:

- SolidWorks
- Fusion CAM
- Python/C
- Microcontrollers
- 3D Printers
- CNC mill/lathe
- Laser cutter

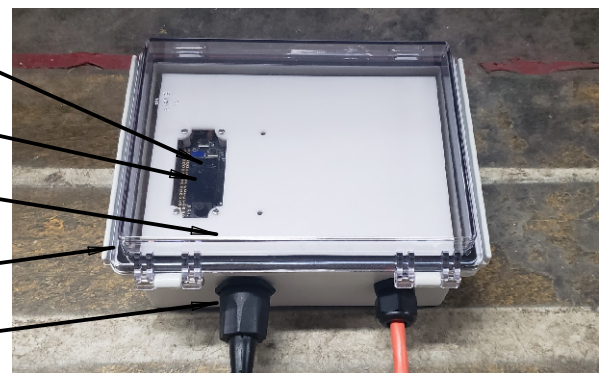
Readout screen

Microcontroller

Wireless transmitter

Waterproof enclosure

Sensor connections



**Why:** AquaSensors can be cheaply deployed en masse and constantly send data to an AI algorithm in the cloud.

**Upcoming changes in water quality can be accurately predicted**, enabling preventative action for large-scale water supply issues like harmful algal blooms or sudden spikes in industrial process contaminants.

The floating AquaSensor was **successfully piloted with the U.S. Geological Survey** in Fall 2020, and the inline sensors were **deployed with a major manufacturing company** in Winter 2021.

ORGANIZATION



NAME

DATE

SHEET 5 OF 5

DESIGNED

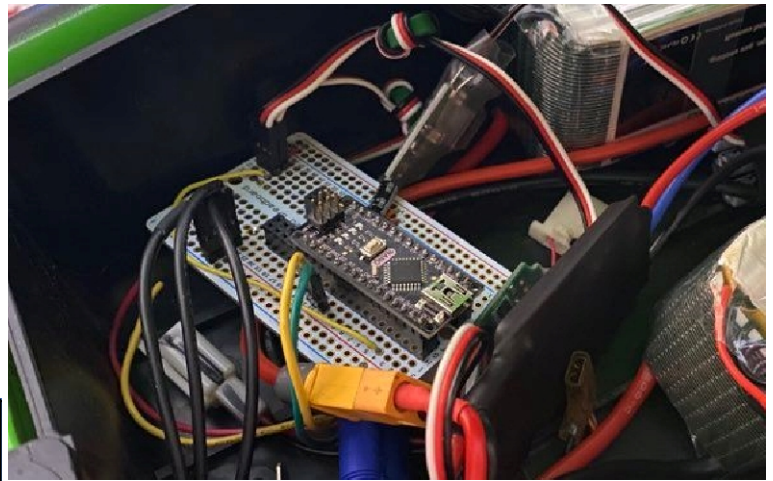
Michael Gutierrez

May 2021

PROJECT TITLE

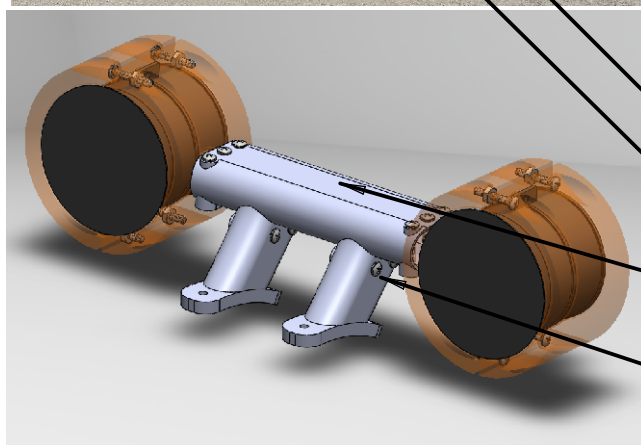
# Jet Scooter

**What:** Two model aircraft EDF fans strapped onto the back of a broken motor scooter (stripped of the motor) I found in a cruff pile.



**How:** The powertrain consisted of two **6000mAh LiPo batteries** with 50C discharge rate, two **80A ESC units**, and two 70mm EDF engines. The ESCs are controlled by an **Arduino Nano** attached to one of those solderable breadboards that Adafruit sends you for free with some orders that you never have anything to do with... until now! I used the throttle already on the scooter for power on/off, and a potentiometer mounted on the handlebar for speed control. Preliminary testing indicated that while the engines are powerful enough to send loose dust and leaves flying, they **can't quite get a human over ~10mph**. Also the battery life leaves something to be desired. In the next iteration, **I plan to switch to Li-ion cells and add afterburners** to make it a real jet scooter!

Video: [youtube.com/watch?v=ld7ZNdEKoJc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ld7ZNdEKoJc)



Power cables

Back axle w/ hand brake converted from chain drive to free-spinning

Custom-modeled 3D-printed mounting structure

Detachable parts for ease of printing and assembly