SPARK Program Student Research Project, Summer 2022

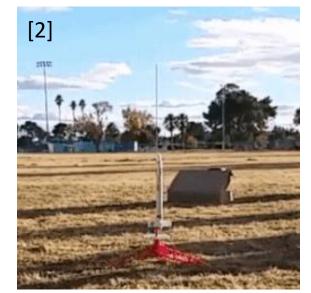
3D Printed Model Rockets For STEM Education

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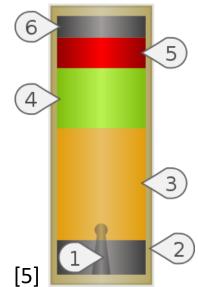
Model Rockets



- Low altitude rockets used by hobbyists for fun and education
- Made of carboard fuselage and plastic tailpiece/nose
- Use black powder single-use engines (available at hardware stores or hobby shops)
- Very popular among kids AND adults
- Safe and readily available- no license needed







Anatomy of a basic black-powder model rocket motor. A typical motor is about 7 cm (2.8 in) long. 1. Nozzle; 2. Case; 3. Propellant; 4. Delay charge; 5. Ejection charge; 6. End cap

Model Rocket Issues



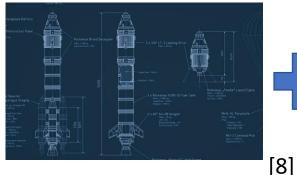
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Standard kit

Finished product

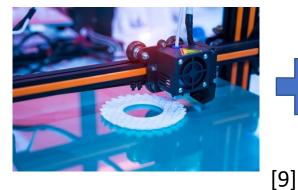
- Carboard fuselage not very strong
- NOT customizable- rockets come in kits ready to put together
- Rocket design not included- no engineering, just putting pieces together
- Components not usually recyclable (Subham's Project)

3D Printed Rockets As STEM Education Teaching Tool



Aerospace Engineering

- Successfully launch and fly
- 2. Lightweight
- 3. Fit most engines and recovery systems



3D Printing

- 1. Durable enough to last at least 10 flights
- 2. Recyclable and ecofriendly
- 3. Convenient



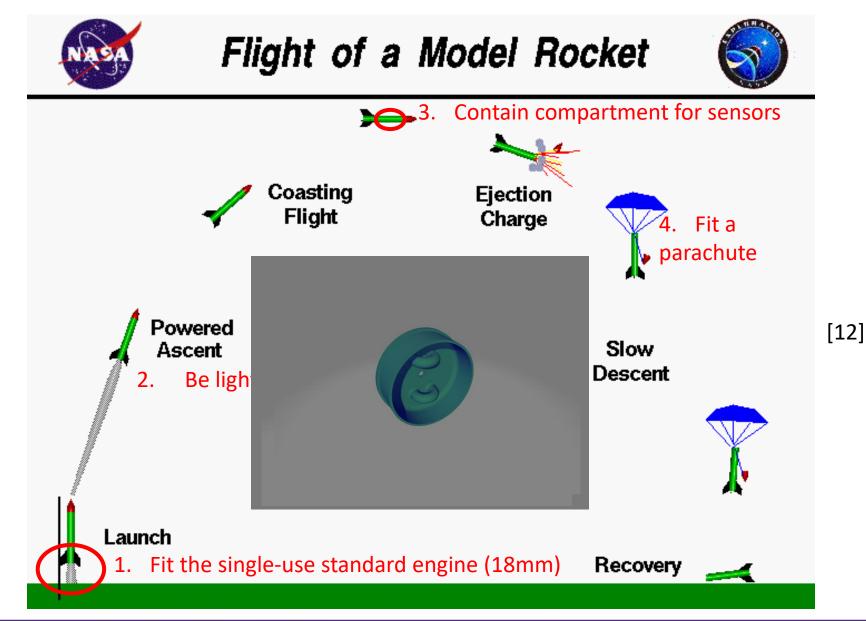
- 1. Customizable
- 2. Applicable to data science/engineering experiments
- 3. Educational

Most Importantly: FUN

1. Aerospace Engineering

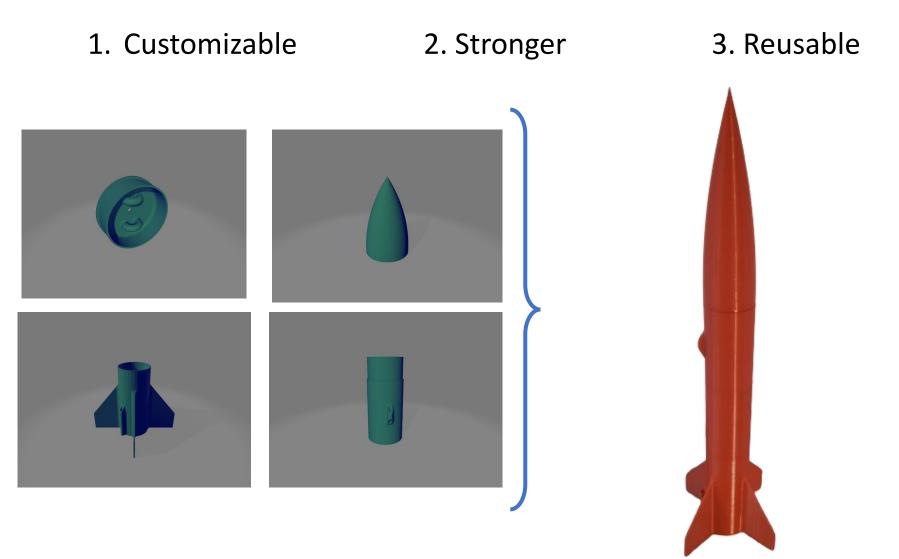


1. Aerospace Engineering: Design Requirements



3D Printing

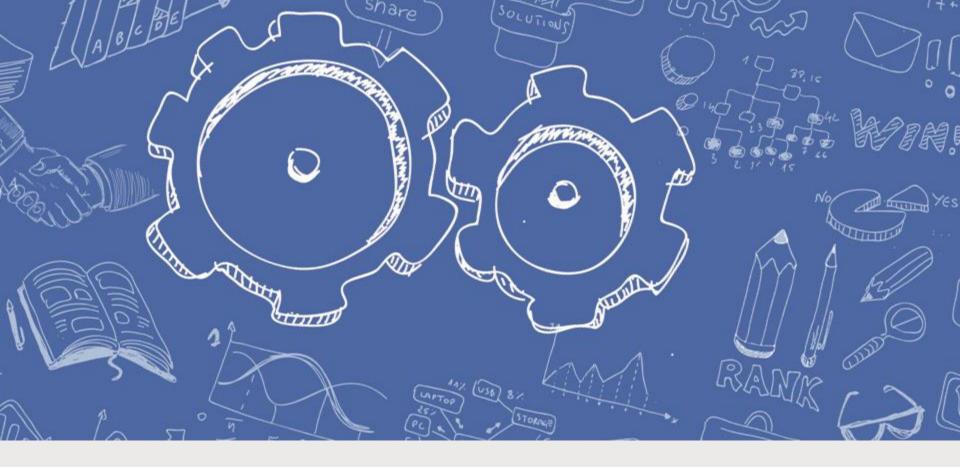
2.3D Printing



The Most Critical Question:

What should we name the rocket?



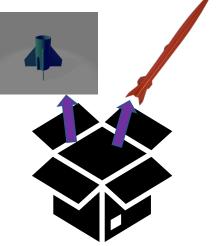


STEM Education

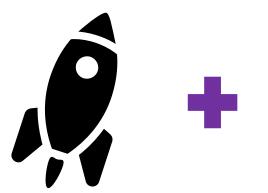
STEM Education: Main Goal

Design an educational tool that students of all backgrounds can use to learn data science and engineering

- Used in schools
- Ordered online
- Fun to work with



Short term goal: Integrate rocketry with MDS





STEM Education: Integrate Rocketry and MDS

Calculate the acceleration/velocity of the rocket at different stages of flight using cameras

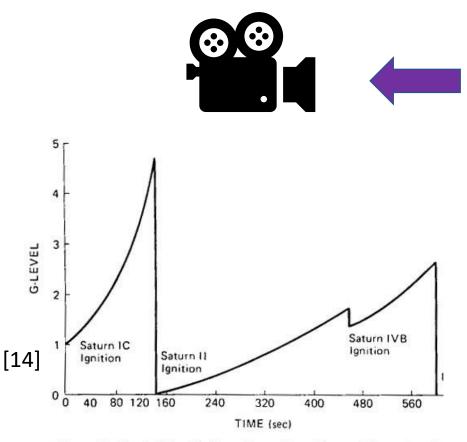
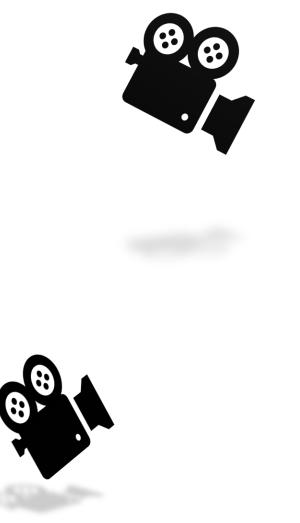


Figure 2. Typical Apollo launch profile - Saturn V launch vehicle.



This is a 3D problem!

We can set up three cameras to accurately plot the 3D motion





[1]

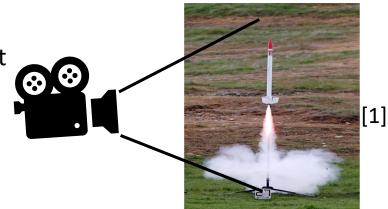


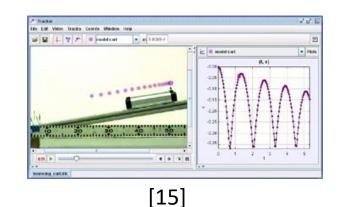
STEM Education: MDS Plan

1. 3 cameras will be set up and film the rocket lifting off

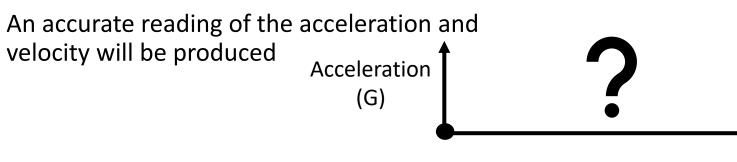
- 2. An object detection tracking software will be used to track the motion
- 3. PCA will then be used for dimension reduction

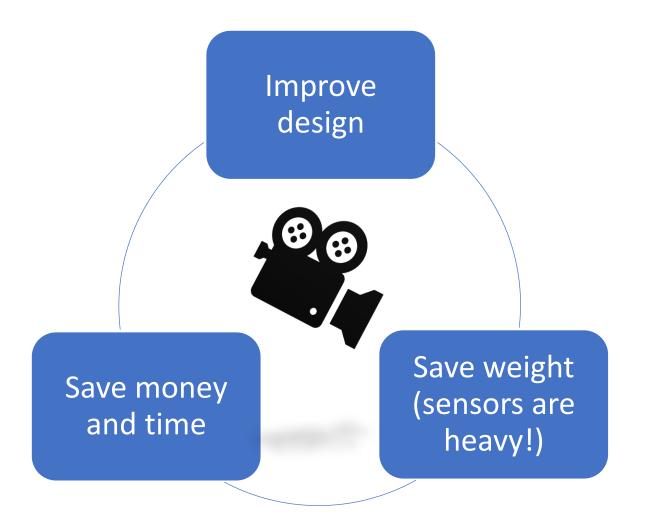
4.

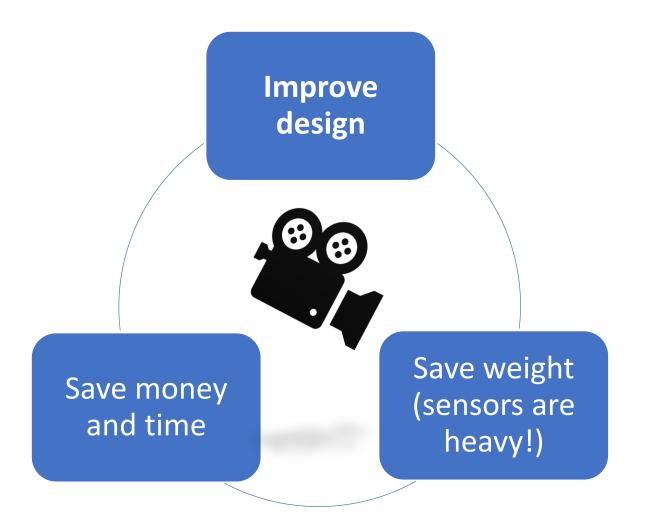


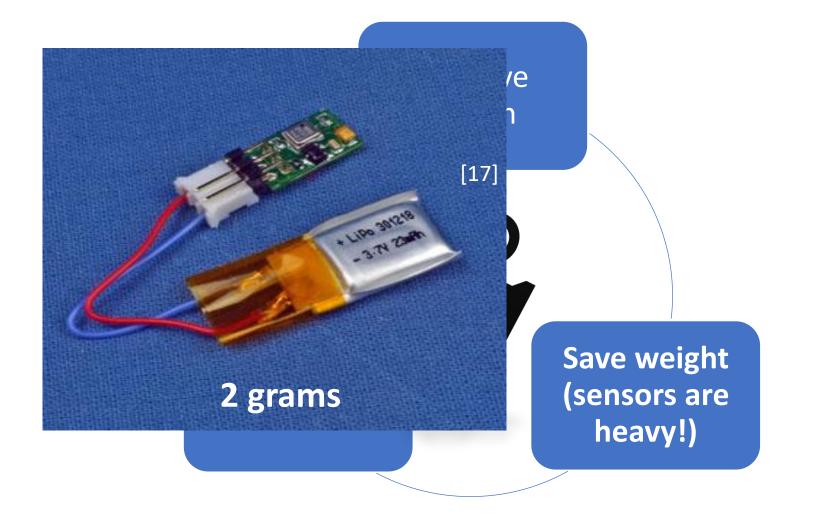


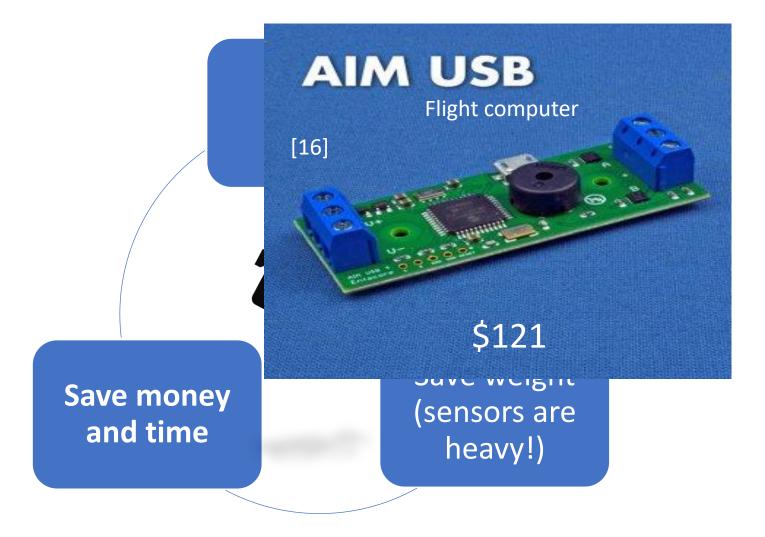
Time (s)







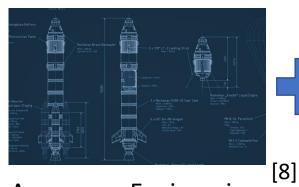




STEM Education: Other applications?

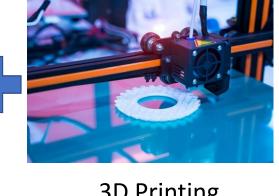
- 1. Optimize heat resistance
- 2. Predict flight path
- 3. Optimize weight
- 4. Self-landing rocket
- 5. Electric powered rocket
- 6. Strength simulations
- 7. Your thoughts...

A STEM Education Teaching Tool



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- Customizable 1.
- 2. Applicable to data science/engineering experiments
- Educational 3.

Special thanks to

Professor Wing Kam Liu Satyajit Mojumder Chanwook Park Stefan Knapik Xiaoyu Xie Subham Mitra

And anyone else not listed who contributed!

Questions/discussion

-What should we name the rocket?

-What other applications do you see for this project?

References

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