

# SAE Aero

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# Project Description

- The purpose of this team is to design and manufacture an RC aircraft to compete in the SAE West Region competition.
- Fixed wing regular class
- All electric aircraft and has to carry payload
- Stakeholders: John Tester, Sarah Oman, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff Flyers, ASNAU
- Represent NAU in a positive manner



*Figure 1: SAE Aero West Competitor*

# NAU SAE Aero West Regular History

5 appearances at competition in the last 10 years

Most recent in 2015, placed 13th out of 41 teams

➔ 2019 goal: place top 10 ←



College of Engineering, Informatics,  
and Applied Sciences

# Wings Benchmarking

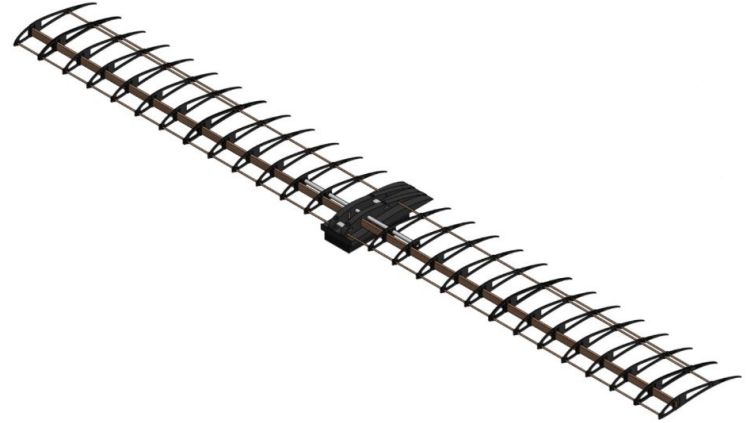
- Airfoil, aspect ratio, angle of incidence, wing platform, dihedral, wing loading, angle of attack, coefficient of drag, coefficient of lift
  - NAU's aero team from '16 used a S1223 airfoil because it gave the best lift to drag ratio[7]
  - The team from '12 used the airfoil Eppler 423 because of the high lift coefficient[8]
- Solidworks used for stress analysis
- Laser cutters to make precise airfoils
- Tapered wings are more aerodynamically efficient
- UM placed 1st with a twin tail and very large wingspan



*Figure 2: NAU 2016 SAE Aero capstone design [7]*

# Wings Design Research

- Ribbed Design
  - Minimize weight, ease of manufacturing, material constraints, used by top placing teams
- Past teams were successful in using MATLAB to assist in airfoil selection
- Flaps on the trailing edge of a wing can be used to increase lift
- Wingspan must comply with traveling conditions



*Figure 3: CAD from NAU 2016 SAE Aero capstone showing ribbed design [7]*

# Fuselage Benchmarking and Research

- Dimensions: Body Length
  - Typically 70-80% length of wings [6]
- Styles
  - More aerodynamic: Rounded, no hard edges on body (top)
  - Less aerodynamic: Rectangular, Geometric, hard edges (bottom)
    - Last 3 AERO teams chose this
- Materials:
  - Prior AERO team favorites
    - Balsa wood (very lightweight & fragile)
    - Plastic (lightweight & semi-durable )
    - Aluminum (heavy & durable)



Figure 8: Goldwing Edge [1]



Figure 9: Homemade model [2]

# Tail Benchmarking and Research

- Dimensions: Horizontal Wing
  - Typically 25% of the total wingspan [6]
  - The larger the tail, the further the CG is shifted back
  - Elevators & rudder design affects tail design heavily
- Styles:
  - SAE AERO favorites
    - Widely used for commercial and military purpose

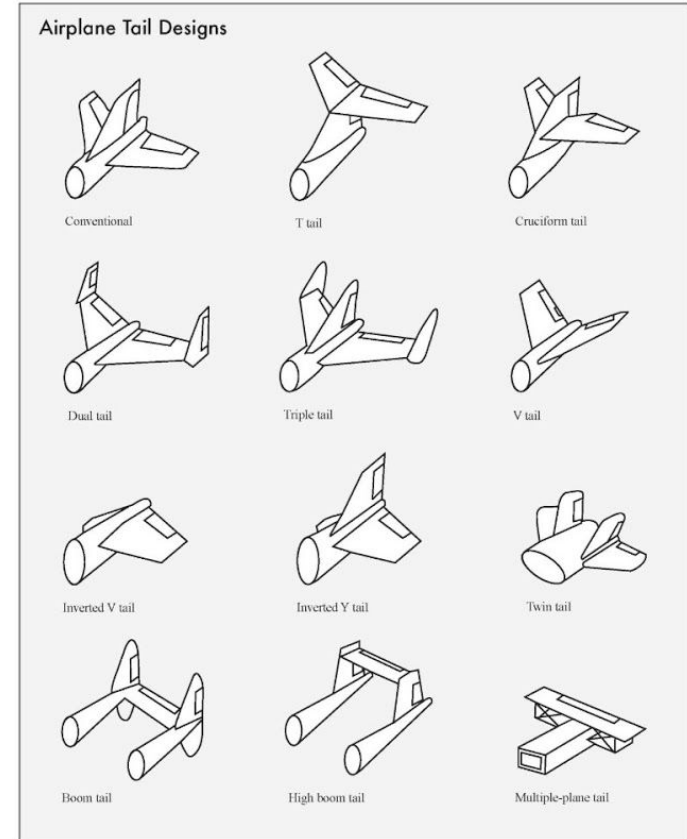
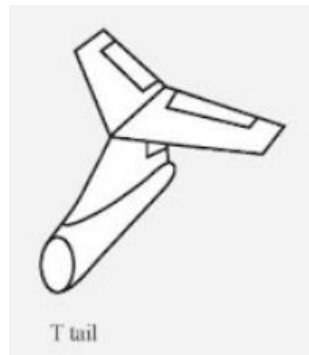
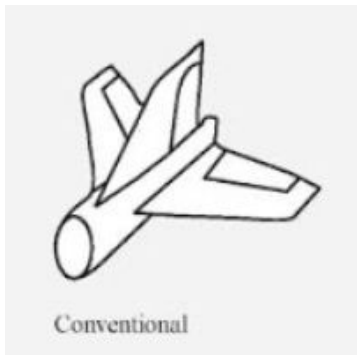


Figure 10: Airplane Tail Design Chart [9]

# Propeller Benchmarking and Research

- Propellers measured using two dimensions:
  - Diameter
    - Ranges from 4.5 in. to 16 in.
  - Pitch
    - Ranges from 3 in. to 12 in.
- Two Blades
  - More blades, less efficiency
- Engine size to propeller size
- Thrust-to-Weight Ratio
- '15-'16 Aero Team Propeller: 18" x 12"
- '11-'12 Aero Team Propeller: 14" x 4"

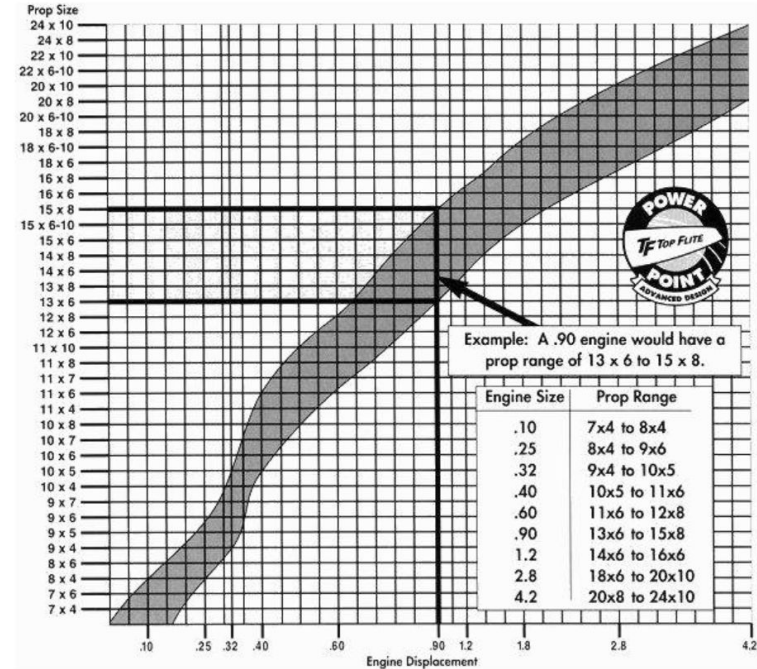


Figure 4: Top Flights power point range of props [3]

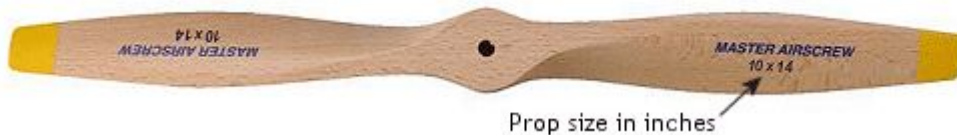


Figure 5: Propeller size labeling [3]



# Servos Benchmarking and Research

- Servos for:
  - Rudder
  - Elevator
  - Nose Gear
  - Aileron
- Past Teams:
  - Extra High Torque Servo (SPMS601H)
    - Speed: 0.15 (sec/60 degrees) @ 7.4V
    - Torque: 162 (oz-in) @ 7.4V
  - TS-150
  - TS-140
  - TS1-126
    - Speed Range: 0.21 (sec/60 degrees) @ 6V - 0.15 (sec/60 degrees) @ 6V
    - Torque Range: 65 (oz-in) - 162 (oz-in)



*Figure 7: Example of servo from 2016 Aero Team [5]*

# Motor Benchmarking and Research

- Electric motor
- Brushless motor, higher speeds
- Electronic speed controller needed
- Past Teams:
  - Brushless motor
  - The team from 2016 used an AXI 5325/16 Gold Line motor



*Figure 6: Example of the motor from 2016 [7]*

# Landing Gear Benchmarking and Research

- Tricycle landing gear commonly used in SAE Aero
  - Front wheel controls plane on the ground
  - Main gear and nose gear
  - Simpler center of gravity
- Materials:
  - Carbon Fiber
  - Aluminum

## Three common types of landing gear

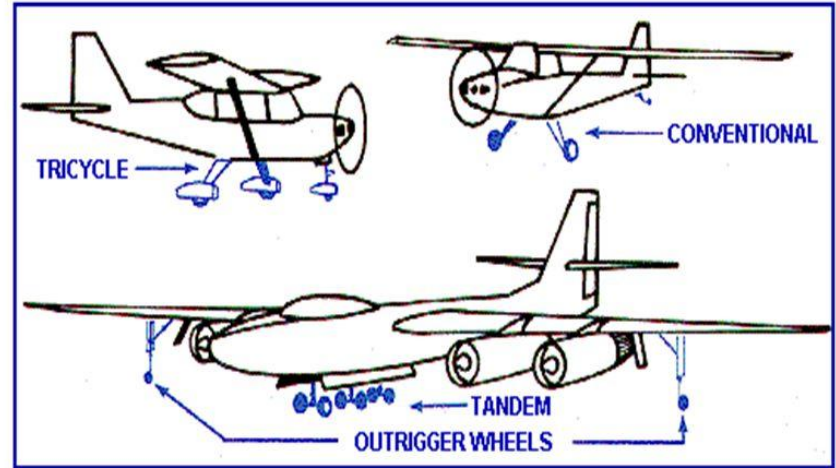


Figure 11: Common landing gear chart

# Customer Requirements

- Fixed Wing Aircraft
- Must be able to take-off, fly, and land
- Must be safe
- Must be an electric motor
- Must be a cargo plane
- Must carry a payload of at least 6.5 pounds
- Original design
- Must be repeatable
- Must be durable/ repairable

# Engineering Requirements

- 12' Max Wingspan
- 2.4 GHz radio control system
- 1000 W Power Limiter
- Battery standardized (6 cell 22.2V Lithium Polymer battery pack)
- Max weight of 55 pounds
- Red arming plug present on aircraft as a safety shutoff
- Takeoff distance: 200 ft
- Landing distance: 400ft
- Straight flight distance: 400 ft
- Must fly empty and with payload

# Engineering Constraints

- No use of fiber reinforced polymers [FRP] for body/wings
- No metal propellers
- Use of lead is strictly prohibited
- Aircraft must be powered by engine/motor onboard. No internal/external forms of stored potential energy
- The payload cannot contribute to structural integrity of airframe
- No multiple motors

## House of Quality (HoQ)

Customer Requirement	Weight	Engineering Requirement	Wingspan	Power Limit	Weight	Takeoff Distance	Landing Distance	Stored Energy	Fuselage Capacity	Payload	Lift	Cost	Thrust
1. Low Cost	0.12		9		9			3	1			9	
2. Durable	0.1		3		3								
3. Safe	0.05			9									
4. Repeatability	0.05		1		1						9		9
5. Take Off	0.16		9		9	9		3			9		9
6. Landing	0.16		9		3		9				3		9
7. Repairability	0.05		1									9	
8. Scoring	0.16				1	1	1		9	9	9		9
9. Transportation	0.05		9										
10. Controllability	0.1		9	3	9			3	3	9	9		9
Absolute Technical Importance (ATI)			5.71	0.75	4.41	1.6	1.6	1.14	1.86	2.34	4.71	1.53	5.67
Relative Technical Importance (RTI)			1	11	4	7	7	10	6	5	3	9	2
Target ER values			10	1000	45	100	100	6000	15	10	300	1000	200
Tolerances of Ers			±2	±50	±10	±50	±50	±500	±5	±4.5	±50	±300	±50
Testing Procedure (TP#)			ft	W	lbs	ft	ft	mAh	#balls	lbs	N	\$	N

Approval (print name, sign, and date):

Team member 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Team member 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Team member 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Team member 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Team member 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Client Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

# Schedule

## Design Process Delegation

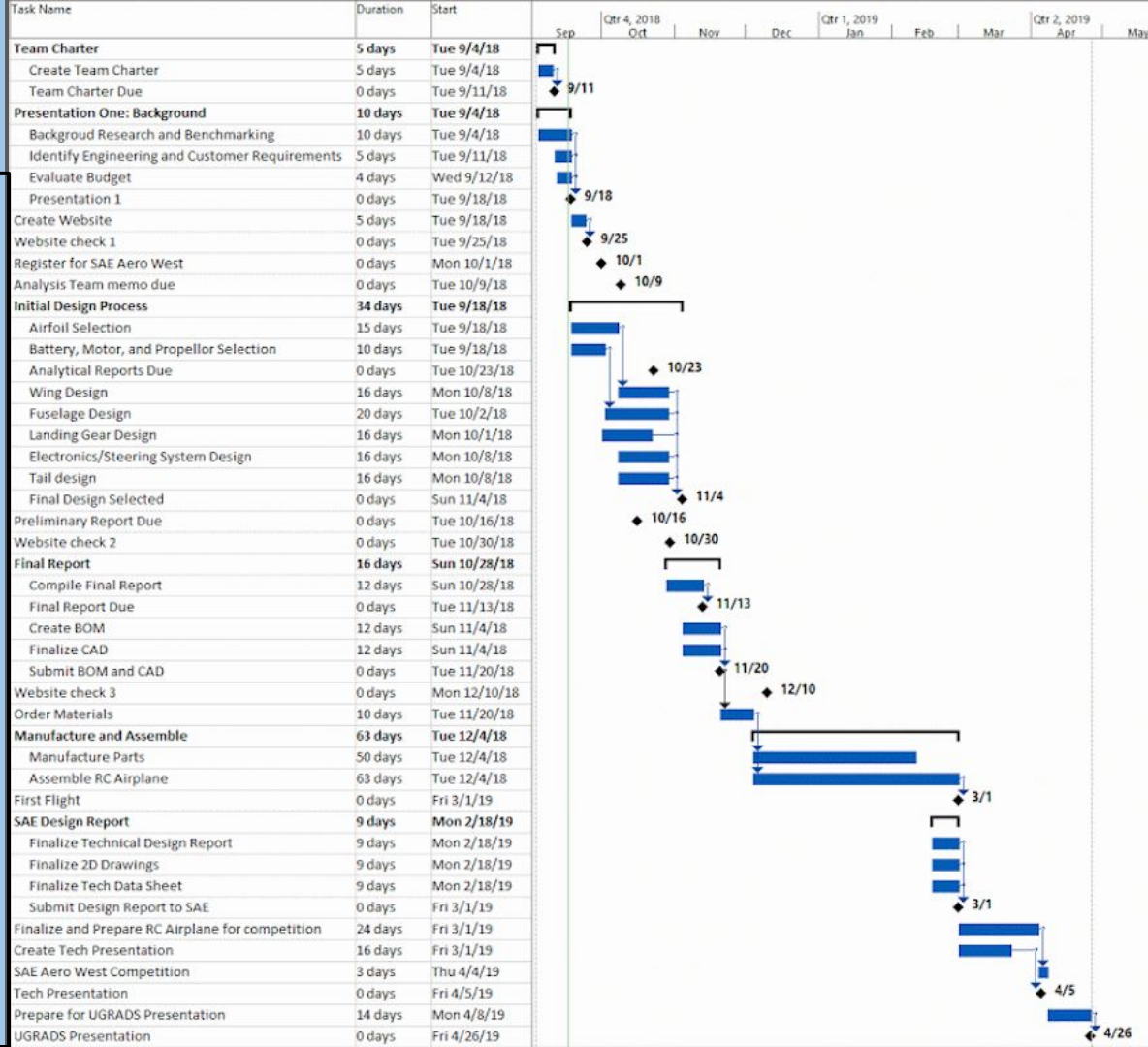
James - Flaps and Wing Design

Damian - Propellor and Powertrain

Braden - Landing Gear and Powertrain

Angel - Fuselage Design

Caleb - Airfoil and Wing Design





# Budget

	Item	Cost	Source of funding
	SAE membership	\$ 125.00	
	Registration	\$ 1,050.00	Engineering Department
<i>reference book</i>	Fundamentals of Aerodynamics (Anderson)	\$ 111.00	
<i>Insuring Safe Repeatable Flights</i>	AMA Membership	\$ 75.00	
	Flagstaff Flyers Membership	\$ 200.00	
	RC practice plane	\$ 220.00	
	material/manufacturing cost estimates	\$ 1,100.00	
<i>travel estimates</i>	hotel	\$ 375.00	NAU SAE club / ASNAU
	gas	\$ 400.00	
	<b>total</b>	<b>\$ 3,656.00</b>	
	<b>estimated total currently without funding source</b>	<b>\$ 1,831.00</b>	

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