Telemetry Systems for the Union College Aero Design Team

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SUMMARY

The 2015 Union College Aero Team aims to compete in the SAE Aero Design Regular Class competition this year and it is the goal of this project to provide this team with a telemetry system that will help improve prototypes and designs while also supplying next year’s team with a system to compete in the Advanced Class competition. This telemetry system will measure and record information such as altitude, airspeed, and ground speed while also relaying some of this information, along with a video feed from the aircraft, to a ground station. The information gained from a telemetry system on a prototype flight will help the engineers designing the aircraft understand their design better and will help them and future teams improve their designs and models.

The telemetry system has undergone two prototypes that have used the design requirements as the basis of their design. These systems are named The Yorktown, the first prototype, and The Hornet, the second. The Hornet is the current and improved system that fulfills more requirements and uses the lessons learned from the first prototype. This system measures and collects altitude, airspeed, temperature, and takeoff/landing times while the addition of a GPS device will add location, groundspeed, and UTC time.

The Yorktown was tested on the first prototype aircraft, P1 Murcielago, which flew unsuccessfully and a broken wire resulted in no telemetry results. The Hornet will be flown on the second prototype aircraft, P2 Murcielago, and with the lessons learned from The Yorktown the current system will be able to record information for the engineers to use in their design for the final competition aircraft. After the competition this system will be passed on to next year’s Aero Team so that they may compete in the Advanced Class competition for the first time in Union College’s history. This system has been built with this goal in mind and has been designed to be easily broken down and built up with the assistance of a user manual. The Hornet system will give the 2015 Aero Team better insight into their aircraft once the second prototype aircraft is ready to fly and after the GPS unit is integrated into the system it will be ready for the 2016 Aero Team and all future Union College Aero Design Teams.
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1.0 Introduction

The goal of this project is to design and build a telemetry system that can be used to test and improve prototype aircraft for the 2015 Union College Aero Team while also preparing the 2016 team with the means to compete in the Advanced Class competition. A telemetry system is a system that automatically measures and collects data from a place that is not accessible by normal means of testing. For example, a system that can measure and collect data from an unmanned aircraft during flight would be considered a telemetry system. Altitude, airspeed, groundspeed, location, and time are examples of measurements that could be made on an aircraft.

The 2015 Union College Aero Team will compete in the SAE Aero Design Regular Class Competition on April 24th through the 26th. Teams must design and build an aircraft that is capable of carrying as much weight as possible, the goal this year is 28 pounds, while adhering to design requirements such as size, power, and materials. No telemetry system is required for the Regular Class competition; however, a telemetry system would be beneficial to testing prototypes for the competition. This would allow the engineers designing and building the aircraft to gather information about the aircraft while it is in flight. Past Union College Aero Teams have never obtained empirical data about their aircraft during flight. This creates a gap from year to year as teams are not able to quantify past performances. A telemetry system would solve this problem and give future teams better results to start from.

The Advanced Class competition’s challenge is different than the Regular Class competition. Teams must design and build an aircraft that can drop a three pound humanitarian aid package, represented as a sandbag, onto a target from at least 100 feet. This competition does require a telemetry system that can gather altitude data as well as transmit a video feed from the aircraft to the copilot on the ground. The pilot is not allowed to see the video feed and must fly the aircraft by sight. The copilot uses the video feed to help the pilot line up the aircraft over the target zone, a circle with a 50 foot radius, and then releases the package over the target. It is the copilots mission to hit the target and the pilots mission to fly the aircraft. The telemetry system required is integral to this process. Just as an aircraft’s flight would be considered failed if the aircraft crashed, any failure in the telemetry system is also considered a failed flight. The telemetry system is why Union College has never competed in the Advanced Class. The 2015 team has electrical engineers and mechanical engineers, making it the first interdepartmental Union College Aero Design Team. This telemetry system will be mounted in the aircraft and will collect and store data from sensors, transmit data to a ground station, and provide a video feed for the copilot. The system will not only be
used this year for post-flight analysis of test flights and prototypes, but it will also allow Union College to compete in the Advanced Class competition for the first time next year.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 HISTORY

The Union College Aero Team has competed in the SAE Aero Design competition since 2004. In the past two years the team has placed in the top 10 out of more than 40 schools from countries all over the world. Last year the SAE Aero Design rules began mandating an electric motor with a 1000 Watt limit rather than a combustion motor which changed the strategies of the teams. This year is the first time that electrical engineering majors have been a part of the Union College Aero Team. Having two electrical engineers to work with the electric propulsion system and the telemetry system, for the advance class competition, will help diversify the team’s skills and design a better aircraft.

The 1000 Watt limit and the lack of actual data from the aircraft in flight were not addressed last year. In order to stay under the 1000 Watts limit the team chose a system that operated at a much lower power so that any noise in the system would never peak above 1000 Watts. Accurate speed and altitude data were never collected during flight which left this year’s team only with performance estimates of last year’s aircraft. This lack of information makes it more difficult to learn from last year’s mistakes and accomplishments because it is impossible to quantify their flight performance. Since there was no telemetry system implemented last year, this project does not have pervious Union College telemetry systems to learn from.

2.2 ECONOMIC

Building the aircraft will be expensive and last year’s team spent approximately $13,000 by the end of the project. This cost included everything such as building materials and the cost of travel down to Georgia for competition. There is no telemetry system budget from last year’s team to approximate this project’s budget. However, the Student Research Grant at Union College typical provide $500 maximum for projects such as this senior thesis. $500 will be the base amount for this project and the goal will be to spend no more than $500 since this is the typical maximum amount allowed for grants. However, due to previous grants this project was not eligible. Instead the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at Union College will pay for the project materials and components. No set amount was given from the department and so a $500 maximum was assumed.
To fund travel and shipping expenses for this project, outside funding along with the Student Conference Travel Grant were sought out. A $2500 grant from James Taylor, a $500 grant from Schneider Electric, and a $600 travel grants for each team member will pay for shipping and travel costs for the competition. This combined $3600 is not solely for telemetry systems, but it is for the entire team which includes this project. A full breakdown of costs and expenses can be seen in section 9.0 of this report.

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL

The environmental issues and problems associated with this project mainly concern the power source of the aircraft, a lithium-polymer battery. The rules mandate the use of a lithium-polymer battery, more specifically a 6 cell lithium-polymer battery. If the battery were to become damaged at any point then it will not only become dangerous, but it will also pose an environmental risk as well. The lithium in the battery could ignite and result in a combustion reaction that would be dangerous to the surroundings. However, because the competition now uses batteries and not gasoline, as it did for years, carbon emission has been reduced. There is risk involved with lithium-polymer batteries but these batteries are safer and more environmentally friendly than gasoline engines.

2.4 MANUFACTURABILITY

The telemetry system designed and built this year will not only be used for this year’s aircraft, but it will also be used for next year’s team as well. This means that this system needs to be constructed so that it can be rebuilt and modified easily. The system should be modular in its design and should be able to be moved around the aircraft in case of last minute aircraft design alterations or fixes. Sensors should be easily replaceable in the event of a crash and this should be a simple process. Therefore, sensors were designed to be connected using standard jumper wires and headers. An in-depth user manual was written so that next year’s team could easily rebuild the system and begin testing. Components and their datasheets have been logged in an accessible place for future teams and this should allow Union College to use this system for competitions and testing for any aircraft that is built.

2.5 HEALTH AND SAFETY

There are several safety issues associated with this project. There is a 6 cell battery operating close to 1000 Watts and a motor that is being rotating at approximately 6000 rpm. When using the 6 cell battery it will draw close to 40 A or more of current to reach 1000 Watts of power at 22 V. This amount of current and power could be fatal if

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not handled properly. If the two battery leads short out the battery it could be destroyed and could ignite. If a propeller became detached it could critically injure somebody. Because of these dangers several precautions were taken when testing to motor. Appendix A shows the procedure for charging the battery so that it does not damage cells and risk exploding. Doing this safely is critical for running tests on the motor. If the battery is charged incorrectly it could be damaged and even ignite.

When the motor is being tested with the propeller it is important for people to be out of the way and in a safe location. Appendix B lays out how to set up the test bed for testing the motor safely. If the propeller were to become detached from the motor it would likely fly forward, however, it could also fly outward from the motor. This is why safety glasses are worn during tests and why people always stand behind the motor.

### 3.0 Design Requirements

The design requirements for the telemetry system stem from two main sources. The *SAE International 2015 Collegiate Design Series: Design Aero East and West Rules* and the Union College 2015 Aero Design Team.

#### 3.1 Competition Requirements

The *SAE International 2015 Collegiate Design Series: Design Aero East and West Rules* clearly layout the requirements of a telemetry system and a data acquisition system (DAS). Table 1 below outlines the different requirements taken from the competition rules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Rule Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Altitude must be monitored in real-time at a ground station.</td>
<td>5.1.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must record the altitude at the moment the payload is released.</td>
<td>5.1.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altitude must be measured with the precision of ± 1 ft.</td>
<td>5.1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The DAS must have a visible read-out at the ground station.</td>
<td>5.1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The DAS must include an arming/reset switch.</td>
<td>5.1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The DAS cannot use the flight control frequency (2.4 GHz).</td>
<td>5.1.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Must include a first person view (FPV) system onboard the aircraft with a ground station display.</td>
<td>5.1.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are not many requirements that concern the telemetry or DAS and most of these requirements pertain to altitude. However, any failure of the DAS during flight or any violation of these requirements will result in a missed
flight attempt. Making sure that these requirements are met and that none of the rules are violated is a top priority for this project. These requirements are considered the mandatory project requirements.

3.2 TEAM REQUIREMENTS

Making a telemetry system for next year’s competition is not the only goal of this project. The other goal of this project is to provide a system for the current Union College Aero Design Team so that the engineers designing the prototypes can learn more about their aircraft in flight. The mechanical engineers were able to provide several ideas concerning what would be useful to them during the design process. Table 2 shows a list of features desired by the team and why these are important.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitor airspeed</td>
<td>Airspeed will help the team analyze the performance of the aircraft in flight. This can also be used to estimate the maximum takeoff weight of the aircraft which will help find the maximum payload weight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitor groundspeed</td>
<td>Groundspeed and altitude are used to calculate the path the payload would take when released from the aircraft. This allows the team to calculate how far ahead of the target the payload needs to be dropped in order to score.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record location</td>
<td>Location would let the team plot the path of the aircraft after a flight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ample non-volatile onboard memory</td>
<td>Having enough memory onboard the aircraft for an entire flight would allow the analysis of stored data post-flight. Non-volatile memory would ensure saved data even in the event of a power loss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record takeoff/landing time</td>
<td>Having a way of knowing when the aircraft took off and when it landed so that airspeed could be recorded at those moments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerometer data</td>
<td>Measuring the amount of force the aircraft endures during a flight could help the team quantify safety factors for design.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyroscopic data</td>
<td>This data could bring insight into how the aircraft performed in flight. This would be useful for determining how much shake or flutter the aircraft endured.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Failsafe drop**
Having a failsafe drop method so that the package could not be dropped unless the aircraft were above 100 feet would ensure that that rule was never violated.

**Data FPV overlay**
Overlaying the data transmitted to the ground station onto the first person display (FPD) would allow the copilot to monitor the data and watch the FPV feed all the in the same place.

**Transmit all data**
Transmitting all of the data stored on the aircraft would allow real-time performance evaluation of the aircraft while in flight.

**User Interface (UI) panel**
A panel that can be mounted on the outside of the aircraft so that the telemetry system can be controlled without the use of a computer.

### 3.3 REQUIREMENTS PRIORITIZED

Prioritizing these requirements helped determine the functional decomposition of the project. Since some of these requirements are more important than others, Table 3 was created to organize the project. Requirements are listed in three categories: M for mandatory, I for primary, and II for secondary. Each requirement also has a project requirement number (PR#) so that it may be referenced later.

**Table 3: Requirements prioritized.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PR#</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PR1</td>
<td>Altitude must be monitored in real-time at a ground station.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR2</td>
<td>Must record the altitude at the moment the payload is released.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR3</td>
<td>Altitude must be measured with the precision of ± 1 ft.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR4</td>
<td>The DAS must have a visible read-out at the ground station.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR5</td>
<td>The DAS must include an arming/reset switch.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR6</td>
<td>The DAS cannot use the flight control frequency (2.4 GHz).</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR7</td>
<td>Must include a FPV system onboard the aircraft with a ground station display.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR8</td>
<td>Ample non-volatile onboard memory.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR9</td>
<td>Minimize weight of telemetry system.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR10</td>
<td>Minimize size of telemetry system.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Functional Decomposition of the Project

With the requirements defined they can be assigned to different systems within the project. These four systems are: the FPV System, DAS, FPD system, and ground station data analysis system (GSDAS). Figure 1 outlines the four systems, their subsystems, and where they are implemented.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PR11</th>
<th>Single low power source (Advanced Class only).</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PR12</td>
<td>Use motor battery as power source (Regular Class only).</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR13</td>
<td>Monitor airspeed.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR14</td>
<td>Monitor groundspeed.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR15</td>
<td>Record location.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR16</td>
<td>Transmit altitude data.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR17</td>
<td>Project cost less than $500.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR18</td>
<td>Recording takeoff/landing time.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR19</td>
<td>UI panel.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR20</td>
<td>Accelerometer data.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR21</td>
<td>Gyroscopic data.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR22</td>
<td>Failsafe drop.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR23</td>
<td>Data FPV overlay.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.0 DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

With the requirements set and prioritized in Table 3 the selection of components and methods began. First, research was done to determine different methods of acquiring data such as altitude and groundspeed. Then a protocol for communicating with sensors was selected as well as memory unit solutions and microcontroller selection.

4.1 RESEARCH

4.1.1 DATA ACQUISITION RESEARCH

It was found that the most common method of measuring altitude was through the measurement of atmospheric pressure. By measuring the pressure and the subsequent changes in that pressure the change in altitude can be determined using the Barometric Formula, Equation 1. Where \( m \) is the mass of one molecule, \( k \) is the Boltzmann’s constant, \( g \) is gravity, \( h \) is height, \( T \) is temperature, \( P_0 \) pressure at ground level, and \( P_h \) is pressure measured above ground level.

\[
P_h = P_0 e^{-mgh/kT}
\]
This method is susceptible to error as the local pressure changes throughout the day. Over a long period of time the altitude measurements become less reliable. Altitude can also be measured using a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. This is can be done if four or more satellites are being received, however, GPS is inaccurate due to the slight variations in altitude and large distances to satellites. Even under ideal conditions this can be accurate to about 50 feet which does not agree with PR3 in Table 3.

Altitude may also be measured using ultrasonic or sonic methods and the amount of time the reflection takes to return to the sensor. At a consumer level this is only capable of short ranges such as 25 cm, the longer range sonic altimeters are expensive and not within the scope of this project. The consumer level method of recording altitude with ultrasonic is not sufficient because the range is extremely small.

Measuring airspeed can be done through the use of pressure with a pitot-static tube. Pictured in Figure 2, this tube uses the difference of total and static pressure to calculate velocity, Equation 2.

\[
v^2 = \frac{2(P_t - P_s)}{\rho}
\]

Figure 2: A pitot-static tube where \(P_t\) is total pressure and \(P_s\) is static pressure.

Equation 2 solves for airspeed, \(v\), by dynamic pressure, \(P_t - P_s\), and dividing by the air density, \(\rho\). This is a common technique and is known as the indicated airspeed (IAS).

Calibrated airspeed (CAS) uses the pitot-static tube as well, however, it attempts to correct for errors in the measured static pressure. A pitot-static tube must face directly forward on an aircraft such that the air flowing over the tube is perpendicular to the holes for static pressure. If the tube has been mounted incorrectly or the aircraft yaws
suddenly the static pressure measurement may be inaccurate. This is more difficult to calculate than IAS, however, it is more accurate.

Groundspeed differs from airspeed in that airspeed is the aircraft’s speed relative to the air around it and groundspeed is the speed relative to the earth below it. Groundspeed is important for calculating the projectile motion of a payload drop from an aircraft. Methods researched for calculating groundspeed were found using landmarks, airspeed and wind speed, and GPS. If the distance between two landmarks is known then the time it takes to get from one to another can be used to calculate groundspeed. This can be accurate if the distance known is accurate and if the time it takes to pass over each landmark is timed accurately. However, this is impractical in that the aircraft would have to fly directly over two known landmarks and the groundspeed would only be known for a moment. Image processing would make this possible but difficult, time consuming, and expensive.

Groundspeed can also be found by using airspeed and wind speed. By summing the airspeed and wind speed in the direction of the aircraft, groundspeed can be calculated with ease. However, measuring the wind speed at the ground is not necessarily the wind speed at the aircraft and this method proves to be easy theoretically but difficult practically. GPS calculates groundspeed by measuring the distance between two locations and time at those two locations. This calculates groundspeed easily and is much more accurate than finding altitude with GPS since it is easier to detect lateral and longitudinal movement rather than movement normal to the earth.

4.1.2 COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL RESEARCH

The research done for the information to be measured in the above section meant that sensor instrumentation would be a large part of the project. Communication with these sensors to read and save their data is a central aspect of the project. This is the DAS and it was decided that this would be done through the use of a microcontroller because of past experience and knowledge of C++. Two methods were researched and considered for this project, the first being serial peripheral interface (SPI) and the second being inter-integrated circuit (I2C).

SPI is a protocol commonly used in embedded systems similar to this project. SPI uses four wires, not including power and ground, to communicate with sensors. These serial wires carry the serial clock (SCLK), the master out slave in (MOSI), master in slave out (MISO), and the slave select (SS). When communicating with one slave device, such as a sensor, the SS is fixed and communication is essentially a three-wire system. The master, such as a microcontroller, sends read or write commands using MOSI to the slave and the slave sends information back across the MISO line. However, when multiple slave devices attempt to connect to the four serial buses the
communication becomes more complicated as the SS line must switch which slave to communicate with. SPI works well for embedded systems with fewer slave devices and less size constraints since four wires are required for communication this uses more pins on a microcontroller.

I2C protocol is similar to SPI in that a master device can control several slave devices; however, I2C only uses two wires, not including power and ground. These two serial lines are the serial clock (SCL) and serial data (SDA) lines. I2C is designed for multiple slave devices because each I2C compatible device has its own one byte address. Figure 3 below outlines a typical I2C circuit where the master device may be a microcontroller and the slave devices may be sensors.

![I2C example circuit](image)

Communicating with multiple sensors along the same serial buses reduces the amount of wires and pins that needed to be used by the microcontroller. This can be done because I2C sensors all have their own individual addresses. To read or write data from a sensor the master sends out the specified address and gets an acknowledge back from the sensor. Then the master knows to wait and receive data from the sensor or to write information, depending on the slave and command. This allows for quick communication since each slave has its own predetermined address in the datasheet and since this protocol is used regularly there is ample documentation for troubleshooting and design as well as many devices made to be I2C compatible.

4.2 JUSTIFICATION OF COMPONENTS

4.2.1 COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL AND MICROCONTROLLER SELECTION

Before selecting components and parts for the DAS it was decided to use the I2C protocol instead of the SPI protocol. This was because I2C’s two wire protocol would require fewer pins than the SPI method. The SPI method was found to be more complex with many variations that would not integrate easily with each other. Since
I2C only uses two data wires, for a total of four wires with power and ground, sensors can be daisy chained together and operate without using a complicated SS method. Fewer wires comply with PR9 and PR10 from Table 3 and simplify the overall design of sensor instrumentation.

Three microcontrollers were considered for this project, Digilent’s chipKIT Max32 Prototyping Platform, the Arduino Mega 2560, and the Arduino Mini Pro.

![Figure 4: From left to right, Digilent’s chipKIT Max32 Prototyping Platform, the Arduino Mega 2560, and the Arduino Mini Pro.](image)

The Digilent’s chipKIT Max32 Prototyping Platform was already in the possession of the Union College Aero Design Team and was therefore in compliance with PR17 for minimizing the cost of the project. However, this microcontroller was poorly documented when compared with the Arduino microcontrollers. The Arduino Mega 2560 is similar to the Digilent’s chipKIT Max32 Prototyping Platform in its size and weight but it is better documented and has many examples online. The Arduino Mini Pro is much smaller than the other two microcontrollers; however, it is more difficult to prototype with since the pins do not come equipped with headers already in place.

At the beginning of this project the chipKIT Max32 Prototyping Platform was tested first with an airspeed sensor from last year’s Aero Team. This airspeed sensor, the EagleTree Airspeed MicroSensor V3, is I2C compatible but proved very difficult to interface with the chipKIT Max32 Prototyping Platform. The decision was made to switch to the Arduino Mega 2560 due to its increased documentation and I2C examples online as well as its many pins and headers for easy prototyping. This microcontroller was able to communicate successfully with the I2C airspeed sensor was adopted for the preliminary telemetry system design. The Arduino Mini Pro replaced the
Laub Arduino Mega 2560 for the final design of the system due to its decreased size and weight. Having fewer pins was not an issue due to the two wire I2C method.

4.2.2 SENSOR AND MEMORY UNIT SELECTION

With the Arduino Mega 2560 or Arduino Mini Pro selected, depending on either the preliminary or final design, sensor components and a memory unit were selected. The EagleTree Airspeed MicroSensor V3, pictured in Appendix C was selected primarily because the Aero Team already owned this device from last year’s team. This sensor was built for a premade telemetry system package; however, it has a standalone I2C mode which was used for this project. Research into other airspeed sensors was considered but not seriously perused.

Altimeter selection was based on the research in section 4.1.1 of this report and it was decided to use the pressure to altitude technique. This was because it was more accurate than GPS and the ultrasonic range was inadequate. The MPL3115A2 and BMP180 were the primary considerations for this project. Both sensors are designed for I2C protocol and both claim to be within the one foot precision range which complies with PR3 in Table 3. The difference between the two was in there documentation. The MPL3115A2 had great detail in its documentation and provided an example sketch for the Arduino microcontrollers. This sample sketch would make understanding the sensor easier and this was why the MPL3115A2 was chosen, pictured in Appendix D.

GPS is unique in that there is a standard for receiving information set by the National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA). NMEA sentences are comma separated lines that a GPS unit outputs serially. Each line begins with a data type which defines how the rest of the sentence is to be interpreted. For example, a sentence starting with ‘$GPGGA’ is the Fix Information sentence with a set number of commas. These sentences can be understood because there is an order of information per data type. In the ‘$GPGGA’ sentence the information between the first and second commas contains the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) information from the satellites. Between the first and second commas will always be the UTC time following the Fix Information data type sentence. Since GPS is structured in a known way it is easy to determine what these sentences convey with online resources that help decode the sentence structure. However, this also means that a GPS unit outputs NMEA sentences serially and a parsing technique has to decode information in real-time if only specific data points are needed such as groundspeed.

I2C GPS devices are not common due to the method that GPS units output their data. The Navigation V2, which uses the GTPA010 GPS unit and pictured in Appendix E, attempts to access this data using an I2C breakout.
board. This breakout board and I2C compatible device was chosen for the project so that the sensors could be used on the same I2C data bus. Adding a serial communication device would complicate the design and use more pins on the microcontroller.

The VL6180 Time of Flight sensor, pictured in Appendix F, was donated to this project by Jim Hedrick. This sensor used IR and the time delay of the reflection to measure the distance to the reflecting surface. Measuring altitude with this sensor is not possible since its range is 25 cm, however, mounting this sensor on the bottom of the fuselage of the aircraft would allow the system to determine takeoff and landing time. When the sensor reads a value of about three inches, the distance from the runway to the fuselage when grounded, then the aircraft is on the runway. If the sensor reads a 25 cm, the maximum, the aircraft is in the air. This information can be used along with the other information onboard to the aircraft to mark the times in which the aircraft took off and landed.

To analyze this information on the aircraft post-flight, the information needs to be stored onboard the aircraft. Transmitting all of the data to a ground station includes the possibility of losing information or receiving incorrect data. Therefore, storing information in a non-volatile memory unit is required as seen in PR8. The microcontrollers in Figure 4 have built-in Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory (EEPROM) that is non-volatile. The Arduino Mega 2560 has 4096 bytes and the Arduino Mini Pro has 512 bytes of storage. This was one of the contributing factors for selecting the Arduino Mega 2560 originally. However, as sensors were added to the project and more was learned about storing information and the length of flights it was determined that more than 4096 bytes of space would be needed. For example, if 20 bytes of information need to be recorded, the estimated amount based on all of the sensor outputs, at a sample time of 0.5 seconds, then at 4096 bytes only about 1.7 minutes of information may be stored. Flights at competition were found to average about 2.5 minutes based on videos found from last year’s competition. Using the onboard EEPROM space on the Arduino Mega 2560 does not meet PR8; therefore, other solutions were explored. The I2C EEPROM 256 kbit, Appendix G, component fulfills PR8 by containing 32,768 bytes of space which equates to approximately 13.7 minutes of flight information based on the parameters given in the example earlier. This component was also selected for it I2C compatibility, allowing it to be easily integrated into the system on the I2C buses.

PR1 and PR16 require that altitude be monitored at the ground station. To accomplish this a transmitter and receiver pair was chosen. The 434 MHz RF Link Transmitter and the 315 MHz RF Link Transmitter are both able to transmit data wirelessly to a matching receiver at the ground station. Using a form of Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK)
the transmitters transmit bits over their given frequencies. The 315 MHz transmitter’s 5th harmonic overlaps with the GPS’s frequency of 1575.42 MHz. Therefore, the 434 MHz transmitter, shown with the receiver in Appendix H, was chosen to avoid interference.

The FPV and FPD system components were selected by greatly considering PR9 and PR10 from Table 3. Reducing the size and weight of these components was essential in their selection because a camera such as the GoPro was considered too large and heavy. The cameras shown in Figure 5 below were the two smallest commercially available cameras found on the market.

![Figure 5: Airy 3g Camera (Left). Sony FPV Camera (Right).](image)

The Airy 3g camera was selected because of the clear weight and size reductions compared to the Sony FPV Camera where the Airy weighs 3 grams the Sony weighs 71 grams. The Sony FPV Camera’s main advantages are price, $40 cheaper, and the swivel arm that could be connected to the aircraft. The camera could be easily rotated for a more precise angle; however, the size and weight advantages of the Airy 3g Camera are more important to the project than the swivel arm advantage. The Airy 3g Camera also has a recommended Boscam Transmitter and Receiver pair, pictured in Appendix I, which help simplify the FPV and FPD systems. The receiver RCA plugs can connect to any monitor with RCA ports.

4.3 REQUIREMENTS MET

Through the selection of these components most of the mandatory and priority I requirements were filled along with some of the priority II requirements. Table 4 below shows which requirements had been met by which component and how.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PR#</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>How</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PR1</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>434 MHz transmitter to receiver and Arduino Mega 2560 connected to a laptop and serially monitoring software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR2</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Future work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR3</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>MPL3115A2 altimeter’s precision within one foot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR4</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>434 MHz transmitter to receiver and Arduino Mega 2560 connected to a laptop and serially monitoring software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR5</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>Arduino microcontrollers contain reset switches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR6</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>No components operate at 2.4 GHz.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR7</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>Airy 3g Camera and Boscam Transmitter/Receivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR8</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>I2C EEPROM 256 kbit component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR9</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>Microcontroller, components, and I2C protocol selected to reduce weight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR10</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>Microcontroller, components, and I2C protocol selected to reduce size.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR11</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>A 9 V battery powers the Arduino Mini Pro which steps down and regulates 3.3 V for components.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR12</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>A voltage divider can be used to step down voltage from 6 cell motor battery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR13</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>EagleTree Airspeed MicroSensor V3 component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR14</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>Navigatron V2 component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR15</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>Navigatron V2 component.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR16</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>434 MHz transmitter/receiver components.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR17</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>See section 9.0 for cost analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR18</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>VL6180 Time of Flight sensor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR19</td>
<td>Filled</td>
<td>See section 6.0 for UI design.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR20</td>
<td>Future Work</td>
<td>See section 11.0 for future work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR21</td>
<td>Future Work</td>
<td>See section 11.0 for future work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR22</td>
<td>Future Work</td>
<td>See section 11.0 for future work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR23</td>
<td>Future Work</td>
<td>See section 11.0 for future work.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.0 PRELIMINARY PROPOSED DESIGN

5.1 PRELIMINARY TELEMETRY SYSTEM DESIGN

The preliminary proposed design for the telemetry system project was named The Yorktown. This was designed during the fall of 2014 and was the telemetry system on the aircraft up until January of 2015 when it was replaced by the design in section 6.0 named The Hornet. From the systems and subsystems of Figure 1 from section 3.4, The Yorktown consisted of the DAS, the FPV system, and the FPD system. However, given the cost of the FPV and FPD systems these were never mounted on the aircraft due to concerns of possible crash before the competition. The GPS, memory unit, transmitter, and UI had not been designed or implemented yet. The preliminary proposed design block diagram can be seen below in Figure 6.

Figure 6: The preliminary proposed design for the telemetry system.
Most of the work on The Yorktown was related to the DAS. The design includes the MPL3115A2 altimeter and the EagleTree Airspeed MicroSensor V3. Using these two sensors airspeed, altitude, and temperature were recorded. Temperature was recorded as a placeholder for other variables in future designs.

At the beginning of this project research was done for the Advanced Class competition by simulating the drop of a three pound humanitarian aid package. When the aircraft is airborne it will be collecting data and relaying altitude, airspeed, and groundspeed to the ground station. Latitude and longitude are not relevant for the copilot at the ground station. This information can then be processed and the estimated amount of lead distance to the target can be computed.

MATLAB was used to simulate the fall of a three pound payload from a given altitude and groundspeed. Taking drag forces into account, a simulated fall from the aircraft from 100 feet at 10 mph, a reasonable speed for a slow flying aircraft based on videos from past competitions, can be seen in Figure 7.

![Figure 7: The left plot show the payload in 3D space. The right plot shows this from a side view.](image)

Appendix J shows the full MATLAB script for calculating these paths. The script uses the altitude and the velocities of the aircraft which will be found by the sensors in the DAS. From these simulations it was determined that drag forces are not influential to the accuracy of the payload drop and can be ignored to simplify the calculation. Figure 8 shows the difference of two identical drops, one with drag forces and one without.
Figure 8: A payload path with and without drag forces at 30 mph at 100 feet.

Here 30 mph was chosen for a faster aircraft because drag forces are dependent partially on velocity so the larger the velocity the larger the drag. Figure 8 shows that the difference the drag force makes is only about 2 meters at a higher speed. If the aircraft were flying slowly over the target the difference the drag forces make are negligible as seen in Figure 9 below, therefore, they can be ignored.

Figure 9: A payload path with and without drag forces at 10 mph at 100 feet.

The fall of 2014 was largely focused on the simulation and research of the telemetry system. By the end of the winter break The Yorktown system was operating as expected with altitude and airspeed being recorded. The ChipKit Max32 Prototyping Platform was used as the microcontroller for the DAS in the beginning. But due to
issues interfacing with the airspeed sensor this microcontroller was replaced with the Arduino Mega 2560 in November of 2014.

5.2 Preliminary Design Conclusions

In December of 2014 the first prototype aircraft, P1 Murcielago, had finished construction and was ready for testing. The Yorktown had been tested in the lab prior to the test of the aircraft and was installed in the fuselage of the aircraft for the first test flight.

Figure 10: P1 Murcielago under construction (left). Top view of the fuselage with The Yorktown (right).

P1 Murcielago was tested on December 15th, 2014 and suffered two crashes. The first test was conducted to get the aircraft moving forward, as if down a runway. The aircraft swerved into a snowbank and the front landing gear was destroyed and no telemetry data was gathered from this test.

The second test was conducted in the field house at Union College and the telemetry system was tested before use. However, at some point before or during testing the SCL wire broke off of the Arduino Mega 2560 and no data was recorded during the field house tests. The aircraft was able to takeoff but stalled due to the angle of the wing. The aircraft crashed nearly immediately after takeoff and P1 Murcielago was decommissioned shortly after.

From testing The Yorktown system several lessons were learned about circuit construction, test procedures, and code structure. Solid wire is more prone to breaking than stranded wire because of its stiffness. The SCL line in The Yorktown was a solid wire and it snapped off in the microcontroller header. At the time of these test flights only the 4096 bytes of EEPROM space were available on the Arduino Mega 2560. This meant that test runs had to be under two minutes and this restricted the team’s ability to test quickly. The code structure needed to be changed to
allow for a start and stop function so that data acquisition could be paused while other members of the team are preparing the aircraft for the next test.

6.0 Final Design and Implementation

6.1 Final Design Functional Decomposition

Figure 1 in section 3.4 outlines the systems and subsystems implemented in the final design for the telemetry system. This design of the telemetry system, named The Hornet, includes all four systems and their subsystems. Table 5 breaks down the components for each system and subsystem along with the voltage requirements of each device. Figure 11 below, illustrates the block diagram for The Hornet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Subsystem</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Voltage Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum (V)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Person View</td>
<td>Camera</td>
<td>Airy 3g Camera</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System</td>
<td>Video Transmitter</td>
<td>Boscam 5.8 GHz FPV Transmitter</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Microcontroller</td>
<td>Arduino Mini Pro</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Memory Unit</td>
<td>I2C EEPROM 256kbit Chip</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data Transmitter</td>
<td>434 MHz RF Link Transmitter</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FTDI Port</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>User Interface</td>
<td>Red LED</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yellow LED</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Push Button</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>200 Ω Resistor</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>200 Ω Resistor</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300 Ω Resistor</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Acquisition</td>
<td>Sensors</td>
<td>EagleTree Airspeed MicroSensor V3</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System</td>
<td></td>
<td>MPL3115A2 Altimeter</td>
<td>1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Navigatron V2 GPTA010 GPS</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VL6180 Time of Flight</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The FPV system is made up of two subsystems, the camera and video transmitter. These can both be powered by a 3 cell 11.1 V battery or they can use voltage from a 6 cell battery that is stepped down with a voltage divider or regulator. This system has been tested in the lab using a HD TV with RCA connectors; it has not been mounted to the aircraft for test flights due to risk of damages.
The DAS is made up of four subsystems, two of which overlap. The memory unit subsystem and the sensors subsystem overlap because the memory unit, which is an I2C EEPROM chip, is I2C compatible like the sensors. This means that the memory unit and sensors operate on the same I2C bus which reduces the amount of pins required by the board and the amount of wires needed for the hardware. The sensors are connected using the I2C bus and a 3.3 V power line and ground line can power each component. All of the sensors chosen for this subsystem were chosen for the 3.3 V output of the Arduino Mini Pro. The sensors have a wide range of voltage requirements, however, 3.3 V works for each of the components.

The data transmitter subsystem is made up of just the 434 MHz Transmitter which can also be powered by the 3.3 V output of the Arduino Mini Pro or by the power source of the Arduino Pro which is a 3 cell 11.1 battery, or a 9 V battery for testing in the lab. In order to maximize the signal strength of this component the supply voltage should be as large as possible. By using the 11.1 V battery instead of the 3.3 V output, the signal should be more powerful and therefore have a larger range.

The UI subsystem was built out of six components, which includes three resistors. Two LEDs, a red LED and a yellow LED, are connected to pins 3 and 4 on the Arduino Mini Pro. These two LEDs are used to let the user know from a glance what the approximate status of the telemetry system is. If the system has power then the red LED is on. If the system is working, as in acquiring data, zeroing altitude, reading, or clearing data then the yellow LED is on. The pushbutton was designed for starting and stopping the telemetry system instead having to connect it to a computer via USB.

The FTDI port allows the FTDI pins on the Arduino Mini Pro to be accessed via a mini USB. This allows a computer to be connected and can act as a serial output for troubleshooting or control. The FTDI port is used in the UI as the downloading port for the information saved onboard the aircraft. The user can connect a mini USB to USB cord to the FTDI port and their computer. Then they will be prompted with the option to read the information saved on the I2C chip, they may also clear this information.

The GSDAS uses three components to interpret the information sent from the aircraft. A data receiver, the 434 MHz Receiver, receives the information from the DAS and is connected to an Arduino Mega 2560. The microcontroller is then able to process the information and eliminate noise using the Virtual Wire library for Arduino microcontrollers. Then the information can be outputted to the computer serially and read with a serial communication software such as the Arduino Integrated Development Environment (IDE) software or puTTY.
6.2 HARDWARE SETUP

The hardware design for this was broken down into the four systems with the DAS being the most complex. The FPV, FPD, and GSDAS systems did not require as much design because of their relative simplicity. Figure 11 below shows the hardware design for the DAS.

![Figure 11: DAS hardware design.](image)

The I2C bus seen in Figure 12 is critical to the DAS. This is where all of the sensors and the memory unit get their commands and information. The microcontroller cannot receive or send information without the SCL and SDA lines and the power and ground lines are used by multiple subsystems. Pins 2, 3, and 4 are used for the UI and to simplify the design the pins uses the GND and 3.3V bus lines to reduce pin usage and wire length. The transmitter also uses the 3.3V and GND lines from the bus, however, alternative designs have had the VCC input of the transmitter connect to the positive terminal on the battery for a more powerful signal.

![Figure 12: DAS hardware diagram. Unused pins not shown.](image)

The FTDI port connects to the Arduino Mini Pro with a six-wire jumper cable and having a USB port that is independent of the microcontroller has been beneficial to the design of the system. The FTDI board has the USB port needed to interface with the microcontroller and because it is separate it can be moved around on the aircraft.
without having to relocate the microcontroller. In the second prototype of the aircraft a slot was made for the USB port and the UI. This makes it easier to connect to the port from the outside of the aircraft.

![Image of the outside ports of the fuselage](image)

**Figure 13: Ports on the outside of the fuselage.**

There was no design process needed for the FPV or FPD systems. These systems were simplified by the selection of pre-made subsystem components. The only assembly needed is connecting the power, camera, and monitors to the transmitter or receiver. Figure 14 below shows two diagrams for both the FPV and FPD systems. Both the transmitter and receiver have built-in antennas that are not shown in the diagrams.
The GSDAS uses only two components and a computer to display the information received from the aircraft. The microcontroller is the Arduino Mega 2560, which has a built-in USB connection, and it can be powered from the computer that it is connected to. Figure 15 shows the setup of the microcontroller and the data receiver, the USB to computer serial connection is not shown in this diagram.
6.3 SOFTWARE

To control the four sensors and store data several sketches had to be written in the Arduino IDE software which uses a modified C++ programming language. This system gives the user three options when powered on and connected with a USB cable to computer. The user may run the data acquisition mode, read the EEPROM memory, or clear the EEPROM memory. This can be done by sending the microcontroller a ‘1,’ ‘2,’ or ‘3’ serially from the computer. The data acquisition loop may also be started by pressing the push button on the UI. If the data acquisition loop has been started it can also be stopped by pressing the push button. Figure 16 below shows the flowchart for the DAS diagram, this is order of events that take place when the system is powered on.

![Flowchart for DAS software](image)

**Figure 16: Flowchart for DAS software. See Appendix K for C++ sketches.**

Reading and clearing the memory is a quick process that allows the user the reset the system for the next flight. When the memory is being read or cleared the yellow LED on the UI will become solid to indicate that the system is working and it will turn off when it is finished. If the data acquisition loop is chosen, then the LED will blink once to indicate that it is zeroing altitude; then it will become solid once it is zeroed and acquiring data. An entire dataset is acquired every 0.5 seconds and one variable is measured at a time during this dataset. Time is the first value that is measured and this is obtained from the Arduino Mini Pro’s clock in the microcontroller. Time is
used for post-flight analysis and is recorded in milliseconds. This variable uses two bytes of EEPROM space per measurement on the EEPROM chip.

Airspeed is the found from the Airspeed MicroSensor V3 and is recorded in miles per hour. This variable only requires one byte of space from the EEPROM per data point. Then pressure is found from the MPL3115A2 and is used to calculate altitude in feet. One byte per data point is allocated for this variable. Temperature is then measured from the MPL3115A2 and is in Fahrenheit. This information requires one byte per data point and even though this variable is not of major post-flight analysis importance, it is still recorded because of its availability on the MPL3115A2.

The VL6180 range finder information is measured after the MPL3115A2. This returns the range in centimeters from the bottom of the fuselage to the ground. However, due to its short range it will return 25.5cm when the aircraft is airborne. This is because nothing is within its range and so it returns the maximum value it can measure. This information will be useful for determining if the aircraft is on the runway or not and it requires one byte of EEPROM space per data point.

The GTPA010 GPS is the last sensor to be used during each loop. It returns latitude, longitude, UTC time, and groundspeed. Latitude and longitude will be interesting to examine after a flight and could be used to plot the path the airplane took during flight. Both latitude and longitude require four bytes each of EEPROM space. UTC time is the time from the satellites and this information will be used to help determine when the flight took place. Due to the precision of the UTC time this requires four bytes of space on the EEPROM chip per data point. Groundspeed is an important measurement for calculating the lead time to a target with altitude. This is the last measurement and is recorded in meters per second. Groundspeed requires two bytes of EEPROM space per data point.

After acquiring all of the data for the current dataset, some of the information needs to be scaled because of the way in which some sensors return values. Altitude information calculated from pressure is divided by 100 to scale it down to feet. Some of the other information is scaled up by devices, however, it is kept this way and post-flight analysis compensates for this known scaling. The groundspeed, UTC time, and location data have all been scaled by 100 to make them integers for storage and they are scaled down during in the post-flight analysis.

Each variable is stored on the EEPROM chip one at a time. EEPROM data can be explained as two columns of data, addresses on the left and data on the right. The EEPROM chip contains 32,768 addresses that can
be written to one at a time. Data is written to one address and then the next data point is written to the incremented address and so on. This creates one column of mixed data points; however, because the method of writing data is known then the pattern of the data can be separated out during analysis. Figure 17 illustrates this two column explanation and how the order of data can be predicted.

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
\text{Addresses} & \text{Data} \\
0 & 0 & \text{Airspeed} \\
1 & 49 & \text{Altitude MSB} \\
2 & 20 & \text{Altitude LSB} \\
3 & 69 & \text{Temperature} \\
4 & 0 & \text{Airspeed} \\
5 & 122 & \text{Altitude MSB} \\
6 & 89 & \text{Altitude LSB} \\
7 & 69 & \text{Temperature} \\
8 & 0 & \text{Airspeed} \\
9 & 124 & \\
10 & 91 & \\
11 & 69 & \\
12 & 0 & \\
13 & 124 & \\
14 & 64 & \\
\vdots & \vdots & \\
\end{array}
\]

**Figure 17: Example of stored EEPROM data points from The Yorktown system.**

Since the pattern of the information in the column is known, it can be extracted easily using a MATLAB script developed for the project, Appendix L.

After the information has been saved the altitude information is then transmitted to the ground station. Then the loop checks the push button and if it has been pressed it enters standby mode, else it continues looping. When the system enters standby mode the next ten addresses on the EEPROM space have the value 255 written to them. When reading the memory, the read function knows where to stop when reading all of the data because ten 255 data points in a succession indicates a stop. It would be inefficient to read all of the 32,768 addresses onboard the chip if large amounts haven’t been used. This minimizes the time that the user has to wait while the data is read from the EEPROM chip.
7.0 PERFORMANCE ESTIMATES AND RESULTS

7.1 SYSTEM RESULTS

The Hornet system is the current design of the telemetry system for this project and can be seen in Figure 11 from section 6.1. This system was completed with the exception of the GPS component. The Navigatron V2, which uses the GTPA010 GPS, was selected for its ability to communicate with a microcontroller using the I2C protocol. However, this device was never successful in communicating over the I2C bus. The component was tested serially to determine if it was functioning correctly and when using a serial communication method it is able to return the NMEA sentences with accurate location and time information. A parser sketch was developed to read the information serially from the GPS; however, it is still under development and has not been integrated into the overall Hornet design yet. The GPS component is the only incomplete component from the Figure 11 diagram.

The remainder of the system works as expected in the lab and results have been produced by lifting the system up and down and imitating a flight. Figure 18 below shows a fake flight test using all of the components with the exception of the GPS.

Figure 18: Fake flight testing in the lab.
This test shows the system working as expected. The airspeed plot shows several spikes as someone blew into the airspeed sensor to simulate airflow. The VL6180 range finder returns approximately 40 mm when the ‘aircraft’ is close to the ground and 255 mm when it is ‘airborne.’ The MPL3115A2 shows altitude as the system was raised up and down in the lab by fishing wire. The zero point for altitude in this test was 10 feet. This was done so that negative numbers were not recorded when the altitude data drifted by a few feet. Temperature data is shown in the fourth plot but it is insignificant.

This information was interpreted by the MATLAB file “EEPROMRead.m” seen in Appendix L. “EEPROMRead.m” was written to accept a comma separated file such as .txt or .csv. It reads the column of data and parses the information based on a user input of the order and length of data.

The Hornet has not been tested in an aircraft because the second prototype aircraft, P2 Murcielago, has not been completed yet. The system is ready to be tested once the aircraft’s fuselage has been finished. If the aircraft is able to fly data will be recorded on the telemetry system and will be analyzed using the same method that the fake flight was analyzed.

When test flights take place they will be recorded on two main cameras. A high frames per second (FPS) camera will be used to monitor the takeoff and landing of the aircraft. This will be placed facing normal to the runway so that the aircraft runs left to right on the screen. By setting up a meter stick on the runway distance can be measured and then the time the aircraft takes to cross this distance will determine its speed. This will be compared to the airspeed measurement at that moment to determine its accuracy. To determine when that moment was a second camera will be used. By filming the yellow LED with a handheld camera the timecode of the video file and the time of the data acquisition can be synced. This way, when reviewing the footage, viewers can look at the plot of data and match any time on the plot to the synced footage from the camera. This combines the video and the data for a visual and empirical analysis post flight.

7.2 REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED

The competition that this year’s team is competing in is April the 24th through the 26th. Work on the telemetry system will continue and the final design of the system, The Enterprise, will become the final system based off of The Hornet. The Enterprise system will incorporate the GPS and will be packaged in a custom 3D printed package. This will allow the team to easily install or uninstall the telemetry package on or off the aircraft. To date, Table 6 shows which requirements that have been completed.
Table 6: Requirements based on Table 3. Green represents completed. Red represented incomplete. Blue represents unknown.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PR#</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PR1</td>
<td>Altitude must be monitored in real-time at a ground station.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR2</td>
<td>Must record the altitude at the moment the payload is released.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR3</td>
<td>Altitude must be measured with the precision of ± 1 ft.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR4</td>
<td>The DAS must have a visible read-out at the ground station.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR5</td>
<td>The DAS must include an arming/reset switch.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR6</td>
<td>The DAS cannot use the flight control frequency (2.4 GHz)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR7</td>
<td>Must include a FPV system onboard the aircraft with a ground station display.</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR8</td>
<td>Ample onboard non-volatile memory.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR9</td>
<td>Minimize weight of telemetry system.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR10</td>
<td>Minimize size of telemetry system.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR11</td>
<td>Single low power source (Advanced Class only)</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR12</td>
<td>Use motor battery as power source (Regular Class only)</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR13</td>
<td>Monitor airspeed.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR14</td>
<td>Monitor groundspeed.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR15</td>
<td>Record location.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR16</td>
<td>Transmit altitude data.</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR17</td>
<td>Project cost less than $500.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR18</td>
<td>Recording takeoff/landing time.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR19</td>
<td>UI panel</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR20</td>
<td>Accelerometer data.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR21</td>
<td>Gyroscopic data.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR22</td>
<td>Failsafe drop.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR23</td>
<td>Data FPV overlay.</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PR3 states that altitude must be precise within one foot; however, the altitude returned by MPL3115A2 sometimes has a drift characteristic that may violate this requirement. In some tests the altitude measured by the sensor is precise to a foot and other times it is off by three or four feet. For example, when climbing a 31 foot staircase the altimeter was able to provide accurate information most of the time as seen in Figure 19.

![Figure 19: Stairwell test 2.](image)

Filtered altitude data means that the first data point was a spike which disrupted the zeroing process for this test. These tests were conducted using The Yorktown system in December of 2014. The Hornet has been designed to compensate for these preliminary spikes by throwing out outliers during the zeroing process.

In MATLAB, the information was shifted down and the first data point corrected. The Figure 19 test showed that at the top of the stairwell, the system was measuring 31.65 feet. This precision satisfies PR3; however, the data in Figure 20 shows that the max altitude was 34.18 feet which does not satisfy PR3.

![Figure 20: Stairwell test 3.](image)

Since altitude is based on pressure, this test is prone to a lot of noise from heat and weather. If the competition judges base PR3 off of the datasheet then this sensor is sufficient for competition, but if PR3 is based off of performance then a new sensor will need to be selected.
PR2 is incomplete because no payload drop mechanism has been constructed. However, this requirement will not be difficult for next year’s team to fulfill. When the drop mechanism is activated a flag byte can be sent to the ground station via the transmitter onboard the telemetry system. This flag byte indicates when the drop mechanism was activated and the altitude information sent directly after this flag will be the altitude at the time of the drop. PR22 also pertains to the drop mechanism and this can be achieved by only allowing the drop command to be sent if the previous altitude measurement was above 100 feet.

Using the main battery on the aircraft as the system’s power source has not been completed because work on other aspects of the project took priority. This requirement, PR12, will be completed if the team decides that the telemetry package will fly on the competition aircraft and not just the prototypes. PR14 and PR15 both depend on the GPS’ integration into the system and this will be completed during the design of The Enterprise system.

PR20, PR21, and PR23 are goals that would bring more information and streamlined use to the team. These goals are considered future work and are not within the scope of this project. If more time was available then these components could be researched and integrated, but there is not enough time before the competition to focus on secondary goals such as these.

8.0 PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

The majority of the fall of 2014 was spent researching components, protocols, and techniques that could be applied to this project. In December of 2014 the first prototype was completed and tested unsuccessfully; however, lessons were learned and work on the second prototype, The Hornet, started shortly after. Table 7 below indicates milestones and updates as they occurred over the course of this project.
Table 7: Project milestones and dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/6/2014</td>
<td>Preliminary research and requirements completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/13/2014</td>
<td>chipKit Max32 Prototyping Platform and airspeed sensor testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20/2014</td>
<td>MATLAB projectile simulation begins, continued chipKit Max32 and airspeed testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/27/2014</td>
<td>MATLAB projectile simulation shows drag and groundspeed relevance to path of payload drop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/3/2014</td>
<td>EEPROM and I2C research completed. I2C protocol selected for sensor communication design. FPV and FPD components ordered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/10/2014</td>
<td>I2C software testing and research with chipKit Max32 Prototyping Platform. Altimeter component research begins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17/2014</td>
<td>Arduino Mega 2560 is selected as the microcontroller. Arduino Mega 2560 and MPL3115A2 ordered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/9/2014</td>
<td>Arduino Mega 2560, MPL3115A2, and Airspeed MicroSensor V3 interfacing successfully. The Yorktown is designed, built, and tested. GPS component ordered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/14/2015</td>
<td>Research for The Hornet design and GPS testing begins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/23/2015</td>
<td>Continued GPS troubleshooting. RF link components and Arduino Mini Pro ordered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30/2015</td>
<td>The Hornet system is built with the Arduino Mini Pro and the UI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/11/2015</td>
<td>Data transmitter and receiver tested successfully and continued GPS I2C testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20/2015</td>
<td>GPS I2C communication method replaced with serial communication method.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27/2015</td>
<td>The Hornet system is finished with the exception of the GPS integration. The Enterprise system design begins.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Inefficiencies in this project can be attributed to the GPS selection and the initial chipKit Max32 Prototyping Platform tests. The chipKit Max32 Prototyping Platform was tested for several weeks because it was already owned and did not need to be ordered. This microcontroller was unable to interface with the airspeed sensor and was eventually replaced by the Arduino Mega 2560. Had the Arduino Mega 2560 been selected earlier, a couple weeks could have been saved. The GPS selected for this project was intended to work with the I2C bus; however, it was unable to communicate using this protocol. Troubleshooting took many weeks and it was determined that the
documentation available for the I2C GPS was inadequate. Had the selection of the GPS been more careful, then this could have been avoided, however, the GPS currently works with a serial communication method.

### 9.0 COST ANALYSIS

The total cost of the components and materials for this project was $379.18 as seen below in Table 8.

**Table 8: Project costs and totals without shipping.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost/Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airy 3g Mini Camera</td>
<td>$69.90</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$69.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boscam 5.8Ghz FPV System</td>
<td>$139.90</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$139.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPL3115A2</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arduino Mega 2560</td>
<td>$43.09</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$43.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break Away Headers - Straight</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper Wire - 0.1&quot;, 4-pin, 12&quot;</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>$7.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ProtoBoard - Square 2&quot;</td>
<td>$2.95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$2.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigatron v2</td>
<td>$59.89</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$59.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arduino Pro Mini 328 3.3 V</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$9.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTDI Basic Breakout 3.3 V</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$14.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumper Wire - 0.1&quot;, 6-pin, 6&quot;</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RF Link Transmitter - 434MHz</td>
<td>$3.95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$3.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RF Link Receiver - 434MHz</td>
<td>$4.95</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$4.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I2C EEPROM - 256kbit</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$379.18</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This satisfies PR17’s goal of $500, however, this does not take into account shipping costs for the various components. Travel costs to competition are not included in this table, because these are being covered through a Student Conference Travel Grant and donation money to the Union College Aero Design Team.
10.0 USER MANUAL

The user manual for this project can be seen in Appendix M. This manual is intended for next year’s team and was written so that anyone may take the telemetry system and install it on an aircraft. The user manual is subject to change based on future work of The Enterprise system.

11.0 CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

The goal of this telemetry system project was to design and build a system that could be used for testing prototypes and for the Advanced Class competition. The current system, The Hornet, accomplishes most of the goals set in Table 3. This system is ready to be installed on an aircraft and flown for testing as soon as the current prototype aircraft is complete. Work will continue and The Enterprise system will become the final telemetry system for next year’s team. By designing this system to fulfill the telemetry and data acquisition requirements set for the Advanced Class competition, next year’s team can focus on the aircraft design and not the telemetry. It is not possible to classify the success of this project until the prototype aircraft has flown and data is recorded. The outcome of the test flight with the telemetry system will determine if this project has been a success for this year’s team. Lab tests and simulations have been able to prove that this system works, however, no field tests have been completed to this date. The telemetry system project will continue past the scope of this capstone project to make sure that next year’s team can compete in the Advanced Class competition for the first time in Union College’s history.

12.0 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Brad Bruno  
John Butkus  
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Josh Fields  
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Robert Lattanzi  
Ervin Meneses  
Schneider Electric

John Spinelli  
James Taylor  
Matthew Wenner
13.0 REFERENCES


14.0 APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

1. Make sure the battery is in the fireproof container/bag.
2. Before plugging in the EZ Peak Plus charger.
   a. Connect the multicolored connectors from the battery to the appropriate spot on the balance adapter board (You’ll know you’re correct because it only fits on way).
      i. 4s batteries to the 4s slot, 6s batteries to the 6s slot, etc.
   b. Connect the power cable deans connectors (from battery) to the deans connectors on the charger.
3. Plug in the AC power cord for the EZ Peak Plus charger to the closest outlet.
4. Use the “STOP/BATTERY TYPE” key to select the “PROGRAM SELECT LiPo BATT” category.
5. Press “ENTER/START” to advance to the “LiPo CHARGE” screen.
6. Use the “STATUS/+/-” key to scroll to the “LiPo BALANCE” screen and press “ENTER/START.”
   a. The amp rate value will flash on and off.
7. Use the “STATUS/+/-” key to scroll the amp rate up or down to the desired rate.
   a. To find desired rate take the capacity of the battery divided by 1000.
      i. mAh/1000 = amp rate
8. Press the “ENTER/START” key again.
   a. Battery voltage will flash
9. Use the “STATUS/+/-” key to adjust the voltage up or down to match the voltage and cell count indicated on the battery.
10. Press and hold the “ENTER/START” key.
    a. Charge will chime and display “BATTERY CHECK WAIT…”
11. Next the display will show “R: #SER S: #SER” to indicate the number of cells the charger detected (R) and the number you selected (S).
    a. If these values do not match press “STOP”
    b. DO NOT start charging if values do not match.
12. If these values match press “ENTER/START”
13. As the pack charges the display will show the battery type, cell count, charge rate, pack voltage, charge time, and amount of milliamps the pack is receiving.
14. When completed it will display “FULL”
15. To stop charging press “STOP”

APPENDIX B

1. Find a large, open, and empty room for testing.
2. Move the test bed to a safe location in the room so that people are not likely to walk by the spinning propellers.
3. Place damping blocks (foam) underneath the corners of the test bed.
4. Place a 10 lb weight flush up against the back rail of the test bed.
5. Mount the motor to the front of the test bed and tighten.
6. Attach the propeller to the front of the motor.
7. Double check that the bolt holding the propeller on the motor is in fact secure.
8. Attach the leads of the motor to the electronic speed controller (ESC).
9. Connect the deans power leads from the power limiter to the deans power leads on the ESC.
   a. If the ESC does not have deans connected already. Solder deans connectors to the power leads.
10. Connect to the “Programmer” output of the ESC to any open connection on the receiver.
11. Use the blank signal connection from the ESC to connect to the power limiter.
   a. Ensure that the blue wire from the power limiter connects to the white wire from the ESC.
12. Connect the remaining signal connection from the power limiter to the throttle on the receiver.
13. Attach the wattmeter to the deans connectors on the power limiter.
   a. If no deans connectors attached, solder then on the meter’s leads.
14. Make sure you are standing behind and clear of the motor. DO NOT stand to the sides of the spinning propellers and wear goggles.
15. Place battery in wooden box.
16. Attach deans connections from the battery to the watt meter.
   a. If no deans connectors, solder them in place.
   b. The watt meter will light up, indicating the battery voltage, current, and power.
17. Before activating the transmitter, make sure throttle (left stick) is at zero (all the way down).
18. Power on the transmitter. You should hear a series of beeps and the motor will stall a little bit.
   a. If you see a flashing orange light on the receiver, then the transmitter is not bound. Refer to “Binding Procedure” for more information.
19. You are now able to run the motor with the transmitter and begin a testing procedure.

APPENDIX C

APPENDIX D
APPENDIX J

payloadDrop.m attached below.
Humanitarian Aid
Package Drop Simulation

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Reset Workspace ................................................................. 1
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Joseph Laub
2015 Union College Aero Design Team
Telemetry Systems Engineer
11/14/14

This script is intended for the Union College Aero Design Teams for the SAE Advanced Class Competition. A simulated payload drop of a humanitarian aid package from a moving aircraft onto a circle target. This script uses gravity and drag forces to simulate the drop from any altitude and velocity. The User Defined Constants section can be used to change the simulate to the needs of the user.

The lead distance and lead time to the target are returned. This is how far ahead of the target area the payload needs to be dropped in order to hit the center of the target.

Contact Info: Joseph.Laub92@gmail.com

Note that axes are defined as:
x is axis parallel to center axis of aircraft (forward and backward)
y is axis perpendicular to center axis of aircraft (left and right)
z is altitude (up and down)

Reset Workspace

close all
clear
clc

User Defined Constants

altitude = 100; % feet
xSpeed = 30; % mph
ySpeed = 0; % mph
zSpeed = 0; % mph

r = 0.05; % meters, radius of payload package
tr = 50; % feet, radius of target
m = 3; % pounds, max of package
CD = 0.6; % Estimated from:
    % <http://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/drag-coefficient-d_627.html>

Equations

Drag Force Equation $F_D = \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 C_D A$

Initialize Constants

% Coverstions
mphToMetersSecond = 0.44704;
metersSecondToMPH = 1/0.44704;
feetToMeters = 0.3048;
metersToFeet = 1/0.3048;

% Initial Conditions
alt = altitude; % Feet
vx0 = xSpeed; % mph
vy0 = ySpeed; % mph
vz0 = zSpeed; % mph

% Initial conditions converted into metric
alt = alt*feetToMeters; % Meters, drop height of 100 feet = 30.5 meters
vx0 = vx0*mphToMetersSecond; % m/s, initial x velocity
vy0 = vy0*mphToMetersSecond; % m/s, initial y velocity
vz0 = vz0*mphToMetersSecond; % m/s, initial z velocity

% Coefficients
rho = 1.225; % kg/m^3
CD;

% Constants
A = pi*r^2; % Area of package, estimated as a 5cm radius
g = 9.81; % Gravity, m/s/s
m = m*0.453592; % mass of package, kg
targetR = tr*feetToMeters; % Radius of target area meters
dt = 0.01; % Time step
n = 0; % Step stopping number

Calculations

vy(1) = vy0;
vx(1) = vx0;
vz(1) = vz0;
dx(1) = 0;
dy(1) = 0;
dz(1) = alt;
i = 1;
while dz(i) >= 0
    az = -g + 0.5*rho*CD*A*vz(i)^2;           % acceleration in z-direction
    vz(i+1) = vz(i) + az*dt;                  % velocity in z-direction
    dz(i+1) = dz(i) + vz(i)*dt + 0.5*az*dt^2; % new distance in z

    ax = -0.5*rho*CD*A*vx(i)^2;               % acceleration in x-direction
    vx(i+1) = vx(i) + ax*dt;                  % velocity in x-direction
    dx(i+1) = dx(i) + vx(i)*dt + 0.5*ax*dt^2; % new distance in x

    ay = -0.5*rho*CD*A*vy(i)^2;               % acceleration in y-direction
    vy(i+1) = vy(i) + ay*dt;                  % velocity in y-direction
    dy(i+1) = dy(i) + vy(i)*dt + 0.5*ay*dt^2; % new distance in y

    i = i + 1;
end

leadTime     = (length(dx)-1)*dt;
leadDistance = dx(length(dx)-1);

Create Target Circle

theta = 0:pi/50:2*pi;
targetX = targetR * cos(theta) + leadDistance;
targetY = targetR * sin(theta);

Plot Results

if max(dx) > max(dz)
    axisLimit = ceil(max(dx)*1.15);
else
    axisLimit = ceil(max(dz)*1.15);
end

figure;
str1 = ([ 'Aircraft traveling at ', num2str(xSpeed), 'x, ', ...
    num2str(ySpeed), 'y, ', num2str(zSpeed), 'z> mph, Altitude: ', ...
    num2str(altitude), ' ft']); % Makes the title for figure
plot3(dx, dy, dz, 'r', 'LineWidth',2); hold on
plot3(targetX, targetY, zeros(length(targetX)), 'b--');
axis([0 axisLimit -axisLimit/2 axisLimit/2 0 axisLimit]);
axis square
title(str1);
xlabel('X-Direction (meters)');
ylabel('Y-Direction (meters)');
zlabel('Z-Direction (meters)');
legend('Projectile Path', 'Target Area');
figure;
str2 = ('Aircraft traveling at <', num2str(xSpeed), ', ', num2str(ySpeed), ', ', num2str(zSpeed), '> mph, Altitude: ', num2str(altitude), ' ft (Side View)'); % Makes the title for figure
plot(dx, dz, 'r', 'LineWidth', 2);
axis([0 axisLimit 0 axisLimit]);
title(str2);
xlabel('X-Direction (meters)');
ylabel('Z-Direction (meters)');
legend('Projectile Path');
grid ON
Results

\[
\text{leadDistance} = \text{max(dx)} \times \text{metersToFeet};
\]
\[
\text{disp}([\text{'Lead Distance: ' num2str(leadDistance), ' feet'}]);
\]
\[
\text{disp}([\text{'Lead Time: ' num2str(leadTime), ' seconds'}]);
\]
\[
\text{disp}([\text{char(10) 'Done with payloadDrop.m'}]);
\]

Lead Distance: 106.1988 feet
Lead Time: 2.53 seconds

Done with payloadDrop.m

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APPENDIX K

Telemetry Hornet sketches below.

telemetryHornet

// Joseph Laub
// 2/21/15
// Telemetry System Prototype 2
// Code name Hornet
// Prototype system to be used on the Aircraft Murcielago 2
//------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

// Arduino Library Setup
#include <Wire.h>            // For the i2c bus
#include "Arduino.h"         // For communicating with the EagleTree Air Speed Sensor V3
#include "MPL3115A2.h"       // For communicating with the MPL3115A2
#include <EEPROM.h>          // Load the EEPROM library
#include <VirtualWire.h>     // Load Virtual Wire Library so that RF ground link can be established.
#include <SFE_VL6180X.h>     // Load the VL6180 Library for Time of Flight sensor
#include <Average.h>

MPL3115A2 myPressure;        //Create an instance of the object for altitude sensor

const int onLEDPin   = 4;   // Red LED
const int infoLEDPin = 3;   // Yellow LED
const int buttonPin  = 2;   // Button on the User Interface Board

#define VL6180X_ADDRESS 0x29

VL6180xIdentification identification;
VL6180x sensor(VL6180X_ADDRESS);

void setup() {
  Serial.begin(115200);
  Serial.println("Telemetry System v2.0: Hornet");

  Wire.begin();  // Join i2c bus

  pinMode(onLEDPin, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(infoLEDPin, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(buttonPin, INPUT);

  if(sensor.VL6180xInit() != 0)
    Serial.println("FAILED TO INITIALIZE"); //Initialize device and check for errors

  sensor.VL6180xDefaultSettings(); //Load default settings to get started.

  // vw_set_ptt_inverted(true);  // Required for RF Link Module
// vw_setup(1200); // Bits per second
// vw_set_tx_pin(1); // pin 1 used a as the transmit data out into the TX link module

myPressure.begin(); // Get sensor online
myPressure.setModeBarometer(); // Measure pressure in Pascals from 20 to 110 kPa
myPressure.setOversampleRate(7); // Set Oversample to the recommended 128
myPressure.enableEventFlags(); // Enable all three pressure and temp event flags

delay(1000);

Serial.println("System Setup Successfully");
digitalWrite(onLEDPin, HIGH);
Serial.println("Enter 1 for Data Acquisition Mode");
Serial.println("Enter 2 for Read EEPROM Mode");
Serial.println("Enter 3 for Clear EEPROM Mode");

int buttonState = 0; // variable for reading the pushbutton status
int byteRead = 0;
boolean waiting = true;
void loop() {

    waiting = true;
    delay(1000);
    while (waiting == true) {

        buttonState = digitalRead(buttonPin);

        if (Serial.available()) {
            byteRead = Serial.read();
        }

        if (buttonState == HIGH) {
            Serial.println("DATA ACQUISITION MODE SELECTED");
dataAcquisitionLoop();
            waiting = false;
            delay(2000);
        }

        if (byteRead == 49) {
            Serial.println("DATA ACQUISITION MODE SELECTED");
dataAcquisitionLoop();
            waiting = false;
            delay(2000);
        }

        if (byteRead == 50) {
            Serial.println("READ EEPROM MODE SELECTED");
readEEPROM();
            Serial.println("EEPROM READ");
            byteRead = 0;
            waiting = false;
        }
    }
}

}
```cpp
// Joseph Laub
// Altitude Zeroing
// 2/19/15

int g = 1;
int zeroing = 0;
int avgAmount = 2;
float tempAlt = 0;
int tempAltitude[200];

float altitudeZero()
{
  digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, HIGH);
delay(250);
digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, LOW);

  Serial.println("ZEROING ALTITUDE");
  // Ignore the first 50 samples
  for (g = 0; g <= 100; g++) {
    tempAlt = pressureToAltitude(findPressure())/100;
delay(100);
  }

  Serial.println(tempAlt);
  return (tempAlt-10);
}
```

clearEEPROM

// Joseph Laub
// 2/16/15
// Clears the EEPROM addresses within the I2C Chip
// Address for the I2C Chip is 0x50

unsigned int clearAddr;
int clearData;
void clearEEPROM() {
    clearData = 255;
    digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, HIGH);
    // write 255 to all 32768 bytes of the EEPROM Chip
    for (clearAddr = 0; clearAddr < 32768; clearAddr++) {
        Wire.beginTransmission(0x50);
        Wire.write((int)(clearAddr >> 8)); // MSB
        Wire.write((int)(clearAddr & 0xFF)); // LSB
        Wire.write(clearData);
        Wire.endTransmission();
        delay(5);
    }
    digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, LOW);
}

dataAcquisitionLoop

/*
Joseph Laub
2/16/15
This is the Data Acquisition Loop for Hornet.
Hornet uses I2C protocol to communicate with various sensors.
The order of events in the Data Acquisition Loop are:
Find Data
Make Necessary Corrections to Data
Store Data in EEPROM Chip
Transmit Data
Check for Stop Button
Repeat
The following variables are recorded by the system:
Air Speed
Altitude
Ground Speed
GPS Altitude
Latitude
Longitude
Pressure
Temperature
Time
Time of Flight
The following sensors are used in the Hornet system:
Eagle Tree Air Speed Sensor V3...........Air Speed
MPL3115A2................................Altitude, Pressure, Temperature
Navigatron v2............................Ground Speed, GPS Altitude, Latitude, Longitude
VL6180...................................Time of Flight
*/

// Initializing variables
boolean dataLoop = true;  // If true then keep looping the data acquisition loop. If false, return.
byte timeLSB = 0;        // Holds the least significant 8 bits of the timeBin
byte timeMSB = 0;        // Holds the most significant 8 bits of the timeBin
float airSpeedData = 0;  // Set air speed value to zero for start
float altitudeData = 0;  // Set altitude value to zero for start
float pressureData = 0;  // Set pressure value to zero for start
float timeBeforeLoop = 0; // This variable holds the time value for the script
float timeDiff = 0;      // Holds the difference in time that has been calculated. Used for determining sampling times
float timeZero = 0;      // Used for zeroing time
float zed = 0;
long address = 0;       // This variable chooses which EEPROM address to write to for function writeEEPROM
int altDecData = 0;     // Variable holds the decimal places from the altitude
long maxAddress = 32768; // The maximum address that will be reached by the system before ending
int sampleTime = 500;   // in milliseconds, time between measurements
int temperatureData = 0; // Set temperature value to zero for start
intToFData = 0;         // in mm, Time of Flight data for liftoff confirmation
int timeBin = 0;        // Holds the time as a binary value

void dataAcquisitionLoop() {
    zed = altitudeZero();
timeZero = millis(); // Take a time stamp of when this loop starts so that data can be synced to this starting time.
digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, HIGH); // Turn on infoLED to indicate that data is being acquired.
Serial.println("DATA ACQUISITION LOOP EXECUTED");

while (dataLoop == true) {
    timeBeforeLoop = millis() - timeZero; // in ms, time before data is acquired
    airSpeedData = findAirSpeed();        // in mph, air speed is returned
    pressureData = findPressure();       // in Pa, pressure is returned multiplied by 1000 to preserve decimal values
    temperatureData = findTemperature(); // in F, temperature is returned
    altitudeData = pressureToAltitude(pressureData); // in ft, altitude is returned multiplied by 100 to preserve two decimal places
    ToFData = sensor.getDistance();       // in mm, Time of Flight data measures distance from base of plane to ground (to about 25 cm)
    altitudeData = altitudeData/100 - zed; // Altitude was multiplied by 100 to preserve two decimal places. Correct this magnitude.
pressureData = pressureData/1000;                        // Pressure was multiplied by 1000 to preserve accuracy for int
variables. Correct the magnitude

altDecData = (altitudeData - floor(altitudeData))*100;      // This takes the decimal value of the altitude
altitudeData = floor(altitudeData);                        // Rounds down the altitude so that we can add the decimal values
back later

timeBin = timeBeforeLoop/10;                               // Time is stored in units of centiseconds.
timeMSB = timeBin >> 8;                                     // The most significant bits of time in cs
timeLSB = timeBin & 255;                                   // The least significant bits of time in cs

Serial.println("HORNET TELEMETRY DATA");
Serial.print("TIME ELAPSED:	"); Serial.print(timeBeforeLoop/1000); Serial.println("(s)");
//  Serial.print("TIME ELAPSED:	"); Serial.print(timeBin, BIN); Serial.println("(cs) in binary");
Serial.print("TIME MSB:	");   Serial.println(timeMSB);
Serial.print("TIME LSB:	");   Serial.println(timeLSB);
Serial.print("ADDRESS:	");   Serial.println(address);
Serial.print("AIR SPEED:	");  Serial.println(airSpeedData);
Serial.print("TIME OF FLIGHT:	"); Serial.println(ToFData);
//  Serial.print("PRESSURE:	"); Serial.println(pressureData);
Serial.print("ALTITUDE:	");  Serial.println(altitudeData);
//  Serial.print("ALTITUDE DECIMAL:	"); Serial.println(altDecData);
Serial.print("TEMPERATURE:	"); Serial.println(temperatureData);

// writeEEPROM returns an incremented address value for the next writeEEPROM
address = writeEEPROM(address, timeMSB);                   // Write the first part of the time
address = writeEEPROM(address, timeLSB);                    // Write the second part of the time
address = writeEEPROM(address, airSpeedData);               // Write the air speed to address.
address = writeEEPROM(address, ToFData);                    // Time of Flight Data
address = writeEEPROM(address, altitudeData);              // Write the change in altitude to address.
//address = writeEEPROM(address, altDecData);                // Write the change in altitude decimal places to address.
address = writeEEPROM(address, temperatureData);           // Write the temperature to address.

//transmitData(stopType);

while (timeDiff < sampleTime) {                                // Waits until one entire sampleTime has passed from the start of
dataAcquisitionLoop
    timeDiff = (millis() - timeZero) - timeBeforeLoop;        // This time difference is how much time has elapsed since
this loop started
}

timeDiff = 0;                                                  // Resets timeDiff for next loop

if (address >= maxAddress) {                                     // If the address is at its limit
    address = 0;                                             // Reset address to 0 so that data can loop
}

buttonState = digitalRead(buttonPin);

if (buttonState == HIGH) {
    Serial.println("DATA ACQUISITION LOOP TERMINATED");
dataLoop = false;
delay(1000);
}

digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, LOW); // Turn on infoLED to indicate that data is being acquired.
return;
}

findAirSpeed

// Joseph Laub
// 12/3/14
// Finds and returns the air speed using the EagleTree Air Speed Sensor V3

int addressAirSpeed = 0x75; // Data sheet claims 0xEA, however, use the high 7 version (0x75)
int w = 0x07; // Not sure why 0x07, however, I think this puts the sensor in read mode
float r = 0; // Used to store the air speed

float findAirSpeed() {
    r = 0; // reset r to 0
    Wire.beginTransmission(addressAirSpeed);
    Wire.write(w);
    Wire.endTransmission();

    Wire.requestFrom(addressAirSpeed, 2); // request 2 bytes from device
    Wire.available(); //check and see how many bytes are available, should be 2
    r = Wire.read();

    Wire.endTransmission();

    return r;
}

findAltitude

// Joseph Laub
// 12/7/14
// Finds the pressure recorded on the MPL3115A2. This can later be converted to a change in altitude

float findAltitude() {
    float f = myPressure.readAltitudeFt();

    return f;
}

findPressure

// Joseph Laub
// 12/3/14
// Finds the pressure recorded on the MPL3115A2. This can later be converted to a change in altitude

float findPressure() {
    float p = myPressure.readPressure();
    return p*1000;
}

float findTemperature() {
    float t = myPressure.readTempF();
    return t;
}

int pressureToAltitude(float pre) {
    // p = 101325(1 - 2.25577e-5 * h)^5.25588
    // p = z(x - c * h)^v
    // solve for h
    // h = (x-(p/z)^(1/d))/v

    const float z = 101325;
    const float x = 1;
    const float c = 0.0000225577;
    const float v = 5.25588;
    float h = 0; // Altitude to be calculated
    pre = pre/1000;

    float part1 = pow((pre/z), (1/v));
    h = (x-part1)/c;
    h = h*3.28084;

    return h*100;
}

readEEPROM

// Joseph Laub
// 2/16/15
// Reads the EEPROM addresses within the I2C Chip
// Address for the I2C Chip is 0x50
void readEEPROM() {
  long j = 0;
  int flagEnd = 0; // flagEnd will determine if there is no more data. Ten 255's in a row means it is the end.
  digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, HIGH);

  while (j < 32768 && flagEnd < 10) {
    byte rdata = 0xFF;
    Wire.beginTransmission(0x50);
    Wire.write((int)(j >> 8)); // MSB
    Wire.write((int)(j & 0xFF)); // LSB
    Wire.endTransmission();
    Wire.requestFrom(0x50, 1);
    if (Wire.available()) rdata = Wire.read();
    Serial.print("Address:\t"); Serial.print(j); Serial.print("\tData:\t"); Serial.println(rdata);
    j++;

    if (rdata == 255) {
      flagEnd++;
    } else {
      flagEnd = 0;
    }
  }

  digitalWrite(infoLEDPin, LOW);
}

transmitData

// Joseph Laub
// 2/10/15
// Function that transmit a given data type and data

void transmitData(int data) {
  //
  char dataMsg[4];
  data = abs(data);

  vw_set_ptt_inverted(true); // Required for RF Link Module
  vw_setup(1200); // Bits per second
  vw_set_tx_pin(1); // pin 1 used a as the transmit data out into the TX link module
  // delay(200);

  itoa(data, dataMsg, 10);
  vw_send((uint8_t *)dataMsg, strlen(dataMsg));
  vw_wait_tx();

  // Serial.println("SENT");
}
writeEEPROM

// Joseph Laub
// 12/3/14
// Writes to a given address a given value

int writeEEPROM(unsigned int addr, byte val) {
  int writeData = val;
  Wire.beginTransmission(0x50);
  Wire.write((int)(addr >> 8)); // MSB
  Wire.write((int)(addr & 0xFF)); // LSB
  Wire.write(writeData);
  Wire.endTransmission();
  delay(10);
  addr++;
  return addr;
}

APPENDIX L

EEPROMRead.m attached on next page.
Reading and Formating EEPROM Data from File with Custom Data Type Order

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Joseph Laub
2015 Union College Aero Design Team
Telemetry Systems Engineering
1/31/15

This script loads a data file from a flight or test and plots the data. The user must input the order that the information is in in the data column of the test file. Make sure that there are no extra spaces of headers in the text file and that it is only two columns of data. Addresses on the left and data on the right.

Follow the instructions in the command window and results should be plotted. A basic understanding of the telemetry system and EEPROM is needed to understand this script accurately. Reference <http://muse.union.edu/seniorproject-laubj/> for more information.

Reset the workspace

close all
clear
clc

Load in EEPROM Data File

Load in data using the dlmread function. Store two columned matrix in N. The first column are addresses and the second column contains the data.

dataFile = ''; % Filename goes here, including the extension. Make sure % there are no extra spaces or headers in file.
N = dlmread(dataFile, '\t');
disp([ dataFile ' file read.' char(10) ])
% Separate the addresses and data into individual columns.
addresses = N(:,1);
dataRead = N(:,2);
Declaring Variable Type Order

Using a for loop, enter the data types in the order that EEPROM stores the different types. For now ignore the fact that some data contains more bytes than others.

```matlab
% i keeps the while loop going.
i = 1;

% Keeps track of the amount of variables.
varCount = 0;

while (i == 1)
    s1 = ['Enter variable type ', num2str(varCount+1), ' or enter "0" when done:' char(10)];
dataTypeInput = input(s1, 's');

    if (dataTypeInput == '0')
i = 0;
    else
        varCount = varCount + 1;
        eval(['var', num2str(varCount), ' = ', 'dataTypeInput']);
    end
end
clc
disp([ 'Variable(s) type order declared.' char(10) ]);```

Declaring Byte Values to Data Types

Here we declare the amount of bytes used per data type using a for loop.

```matlab
% Keeps track of the amount of bytes used per cycle.
cycleLength = 0;

for (i = 1:varCount)
    s2 = ['Enter number of bytes associated with ', eval(['var', num2str(i), ']'), ' char(10)];
byteAmountInput = input(s2);
    eval(['dataLength', num2str(i), ' = ', 'byteAmountInput']);
cycleLength = cycleLength + byteAmountInput;
end
clc
disp([ 'Variable byte values declared.' char(10) ]);```

Sorting EEPROM Data and Separate Out Data Types

This for loop sorts through the data from the file given and sorts the data based on the variables/byte amounts entered by the user.
Reading and Formating EEP-ROM Data from File with Custom Data Type Order

% Create data variables. Later I will delete this first index.
for (i = 1:varCount)
    eval([ 'data', num2str(i), ' = ', '0;' ]);  
end

% Used for the index of the data variables.
k = 1;

for i = 1:cycleLength:length(dataRead)-cycleLength
    index = i;
    for (j = 1:varCount)
        bytes = eval([ 'dataLength', num2str(j) ]);  
        for (b = 1:bytes)
            d = [ 'data'  num2str(j) ];
            dl = eval([ 'length(', 'data', num2str(j), ')', ' ]);
            dl = dl + 1;
            in = dataRead(index);
            eval([ 'data', num2str(j), '(' , num2str(dl), ')' , ' = ' , ...  
                num2str(in) ' ];' ]);  
            index = index + 1;
        end
        j = j + 1;
    end
    k = k + 1;
    index = index + 1;
end

% Delete the first index because it was created earlier just to create the
% variable.
for (i = 1:varCount)
    eval([ 'data', num2str(i), '(1)', ' = ', '[]; ']);
end

Binary Shifting

For the variables that are saved using multiple bytes, bitshift functions are need to shift and or the bytes
so that the actual value may be obtained.

for (j = 1:varCount)
    % c holds the amount of bytes in the selected variable (j)
    % j is the number of the variable. It cycles through the variables
    eval([ 'c = dataLength', num2str(j), ';' ]);  
    % if the amount of bytes in the selected variable is more than 1, then
    % we are going to have to shift over the most significant bytes and or
    % them with the least significant bytes.
    if (c > 1)
        % i holds the index of the tempData.
        % tempData is used to hold the variable data until it is all
        % shifted and or'ed together. Then the variable becomes tempData.
        i = 1;

        % This for loop cycles through the entire data vector. Where k is
Reading and Formating EEP-ROM Data from File with Custom Data Type Order

% the first byte of a byte word in each cycle. The cycle length is
% the amount of bytes for each data point in a variable.
for (k = 1:c:((index-1)/cycleLength)*c)
    eval([ 'MSB = data', num2str(j), ', ', num2str(k), ', ']);
    % This loop cycles through a byte word and shifts and or's it
    % all together for one data point. t is the current byte in the
    % cycle.
    for (t = 1:(c-1))
        eval([ 'LSB = data', num2str(j), ', ', num2str(k+t), ', ']);
        MSB = bitor(bitshift(MSB, 8), LSB);
    end
    tempData(i) = MSB;
    i = i + 1;
end
eval([ 'data', num2str(j), ' = tempData;' ]); end
end
disp([ 'Data sorted and restored.' char(10) ]); 

Recorect Data Scaling

Some of the data might have been scaled before it was written to the EEPROM. Use the For loops to
correct the data.
for (i = 1:varCount)
    s2 = [ 'Enter a scale to multiply with ' eval([ 'var', num2str(i) ])
        '. Or enter 1 for no scaling.' char(10)];
    scaler = input(s2);
    eval([ 'data', num2str(i), ' = data', num2str(i), '.*scaler;' ]); end
clc
disp([ 'Data scaled where appropriate' char(10) ]); 

Enter Units for Data

User enters the units associated with the variables
for (i = 1:varCount)
    s3 = [ 'Enter the units associated with ' eval([ 'var', num2str(i) ])
        '.' char(10)];
    unitsInput = input(s3, 's' );
    eval([ 'data', num2str(i), 'Units = unitsInput' ]); end

Plot Data

User chooses if he/she wants all of the data in a subplot plot or individual plots.
clc
s4 = ['Choose a method to plot data:' char(10)...
     'Enter 0 for no plots.' char(10)...
     'Enter 1 for subplot method.' char(10)...
     'Enter 2 for individual variable plots.' char(10) ];

method = input(s4);
clc

switch (method)
    case 0
        disp('No plots created');
    case 1
        s5 = ['Are one of these variables the x-axis?' char(10)...
             'Enter the corresponding variable number or 0'
             ' for no x-axis.' char(10) char(10) ];
        s5Temp = [''];
        % Creates a string list of the variables for the user to see.
        for (sTemp = 1:varCount)
            s5Temp = [s5Temp 'Variable ' num2str(sTemp) ': '...
                     eval(['var', num2str(sTemp)]) char(10) ];
        end
        s5 = [ s5 s5Temp ];
        xAxisInput = input(s5);
        % This switch/case statement will decide how to plot the
        % individual plots.
        switch(xAxisInput)
            case 0
                disp('No x-axis selected.');
                for (p = 1:varCount)
                    subplot(varCount, 1, p);
                    plot(eval(['data', num2str(p)]), 'b-o');
                    title(eval(['var', num2str(p)]),...
                        'Plot from file ' dataFile);
                    xlabel('Index');
                    ylabel(eval(['var', num2str(p)]) ' ('
                        eval(['data', num2str(p), 'Units']) ')');
                end
            case num2cell(1:varCount)
                xAxisTitle = eval(['var' num2str(xAxisInput), ';']);
                disp(['x-AxisTitle ' selected as x-axis.']);
                xAxis = eval(['data', num2str(xAxisInput), ';']);
                xAxisUnits = ... eval(['data', num2str(xAxisInput), 'Units;']);
                sub1n = 1;
                for (p = 1:varCount)
                    switch(xAxisTitle)
                        case (eval(['var', num2str(p)]))
otherwise
    subplot((varCount-1), 1, subIn);
    plot(xAxis, eval([ 'data', ...
        num2str(p) ]), 'b-o');
    title([eval([ 'var', num2str(p) ])... ' Plot from file ' dataFile],...
        'FontWeight', 'bold');
    xlabel([xAxisTitle ' (' xAxisUnits ')' ]);
    ylabel([eval([ 'var', num2str(p) ])... char(10) ' (' eval([ 'data',...
        num2str(p), 'Units' ] ) ')']);
    subIn = subIn + 1;
end
end
otherwise
disp('Unknown input. No plots created');
end

% Individual plots method
case 2
    s5 = ['Are one of these variables the x-axis?' char(10)...
        'Enter the corresponding variable number or'...
        ' 0 for no x-axis.' char(10) char(10) ];
    s5Temp = [''];
    % Creates a string list of the variables for the user to see.
    for (sTemp = 1:varCount)
        s5Temp = [s5Temp 'Variable ' num2str(sTemp): '...
            eval([ 'var', num2str(sTemp)]) char(10) ];
    end
    s5 = [ s5 s5Temp ];
    xAxisInput = input(s5);
    % This switch/case statement will decide how to plot the
    % individual plots.

switch(xAxisInput)
    % No x-axis selected. Plot all variables singularly.
    case 0
        disp('No x-axis selected.');
        for (p = 1:varCount)
            figure;
            plot(eval([ 'data', num2str(p) ]), 'b-o');
            title([eval([ 'var', num2str(p) ])... ' Plot from file ' dataFile]);
            xlabel('Index');
            ylabel([eval([ 'var', num2str(p) ])... eval([ 'data', num2str(p), 'Units' ] ) ]');
        end
    % x-Axis selected. Plot all variables with the x-axis.
    case num2cell(1:varCount)
        xAxisTitle = eval([ 'var' num2str(xAxisInput), ';' ]);
        disp([ xAxisTitle ' selected as x-axis.' ]);
Reading and Formating EEPROM Data from File with Custom Data Type Order

```matlab
xAxis = eval(['data', num2str(xAxisInput), ';']);
xAxisUnits = eval(['data', num2str(xAxisInput), 'Units;']);
for (p = 1:varCount)
    switch(xAxisTitle)
        case (eval(['var', num2str(p)]))
        otherwise
            figure;
            plot(xAxis, eval(['data', num2str(p)]), 'b-o');
            title(eval(['var', num2str(p)]), 'Plot from file ' dataFile);
            xlabel(eval(['var', num2str(p)]), 'xAxisUnits');
            ylabel(eval(['var', num2str(p)]), 'Units');
    end
end
otherwise
    disp('Unknown input. No plots created');
end
otherwise
    disp('Unexpected input. No plots created.');
end
clc
disp('EEPROMRead.m done');
```

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APPENDIX M

Telemetry System V2.0: Hornet User Manual attached on next page.
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**Parts List:**
A log of photographs for each part can be seen in Appendix.

1) Arduino Mini Pro Board  
2) 6-Wire Jumper  
3) FTDI Port  
4) USB to Mini USB  
5) Computer  
6) User Interface  
7) 3-Wire Jumper  
8) I2C Bus Hub  
9) AirSpeed MicroSensor V3  
10) VL6180 (Time of Flight) Sensor  
11) GTPA010 (GPS) Sensor  
12) MPL3115A2 (Altimeter) Sensor  
13) 256 kbit EEPROM Chip  
14) Battery Jumper  
15) 9 V Battery

**Test Setup:**  
For testing The Hornet telemetry system follow these steps. This setup is not meant to be installed on an aircraft. For aircraft installation, go to page _______.

1) Begin with the Arduino Mini Pro microcontroller.

2) Connect the 6-Wire Jumper to the Arduino Mini Pro’s BLK through GRN headers.

3) Then connect the FTDI Port to the other end of the 6-Wire Jumper. Make sure that the BLK ports of the Arduino Mini Pro and FTDI port are connected. The FTDI port and the Arduino Mini Pro’s BLK-GRN headers should line up one-to-one.

4) Then take the USB to Mini USB cord and connect the mini USB to the FTDI port.
5) The USB end of the USB to Mini USB cord connects to any computer capable of running the Arduino IDE software.

6) Now place the User Interface board near the Arduino Mini Pro.

7) Take the 3-Wire Jumper and connect it to pins 2-4 on the Arduino Mini Pro. Note which color wire is connected to pin 2.

8) Take the other end of the wire and connect it to the User Interface. Make sure that the pin 2 color wire is connected to the header closest to the yellow wire on the board as seen in Figure 8.
9) The power connection for the User Interface is soldered to the Arduino Mini Pro. It is the 2-Wire female connections (red and black). Connect this to the User Interface board and insure that the red wire lines up with the small red wire on the User Interface board.

10) Now we will set up the I2C Bus Hub which is already connected to the Arduino through soldered black, red, brown, and blue connections.

11) Each of the four sensors (parts 9-12) have multicolored 4-wire jumpers connected to them. Each jumper is aligned to match the black, red, brown, and blue wires from the Arduino Mini Pro. Connect all four sensors such that the green wires all alright with the black wire’s row. Seen in Figure 11. It is important these rows to not cross as this will ruin the system.

12) Now connect the Battery Jumper connector to the Arduino Mini Pro’s RAW and GND headers. Red to RAW and black to GND.

13) Now connect a 9 V battery to the Battery Jumper. A 9 V battery will only connect one way.
Now that the hardware portion of The Hornet system has been assembled, upload the telemetryHornet Arduino Sketch. If you do not have the Arduino IDE software then visit this link: http://arduino.cc/en/Main/Software. To upload this sketch follow these steps:

1) Open the telemetryHornet.ino file in the Arduino IDE software.

2) Select the correct Serial Port for the system that is connected to your computer. Note that this may be different depending on the type of computer you are using. For more information about Serial Ports visit http://arduino.cc/en/Guide/Windows

3) Select the correct Board next. Select: Arduino Pro or Pro Mini (3.3V, 8MHz) w/ ATmega328

4) Upload the telemetryHornet sketch by pressing the upload button.

5) Now open the Serial Monitor.

6) Make sure the baud is set to 115200.
7) You should now see an output screen that matches Figure 20.

Enter a ‘1’ to initiate the data acquisition system. The system will take a moment to zero the altitude and then it will begin displaying data. Go to the troubleshooting section of the manual to confirm that the data is correct or if any issues have been encountered.

Aircraft Setup:
For installing The Hornet telemetry system in an aircraft make sure the following guidelines are noted. This installation will largely depend on the design of the aircraft but it is important to keep these guidelines in mind when installing this system.

- The airspeed sensor uses a Prandtl style pitot-static tube, pictured in Appendix J, which measures total pressure and static pressure to find air speed. The pitot-static tube must face directly forward to get an accurate measurement. Place the airspeed sensor inside the wing section normal to the leading edge and away from the propeller to avoid wash. Figure 21 demonstrates this technique.

- The MPL3115A2 altimeter sensor also measures pressure to find a change in altitude. Keep this sensor away from the wash of the propeller and from any significant heat sources such as the battery and motor.

- The VL6180 Time of Flight sensor should be mounted on the bottom of the fuselage. Make sure that it has a clear line of sight to the ground. It uses IR and the delay of the reflection to determine distance, therefore any objects in its path, such as the landing gear, would make it inaccurate.

- The GTPA010 GPS communicates with satellites at 1575.42 MHz and is susceptible to interference from electronic devices, the motor in particular. Mount this sensor as far away from
the motor and electrical systems as reasonably possible and keep it as high as possible. As clear of a line of sight to the satellites as possible is also important but not entirely necessary.

- The User Interface board should be easily accessible for the system to be started or stopped. The LEDs are important indicators that allow the status of the system to be observed without a computer.
- The FDTI port must be accessible in order to read and clear the memory.
Appendices:

Appendix A: Arduino Mini Pro.

Appendix B: 6-Wire Jumper.

Appendix C: FDTI Port.

Appendix D: USB to Mini USB.

Appendix E: Computer with USB ports.

Appendix F: User Interface Board.

Appendix G: 3-Wire Jumper.

Appendix H: I2C Bus Hub.


Appendix K: VL6180.

Appendix L: GTPA010.

Appendix M: MPL3115A2.

Appendix N: 256 kbit EEPROM Chip.

Appendix O: Battery Jumper.

Appendix P: 9 V Battery.