

Information Sciences Institute & Space Engineering Research Center (SERC)



Space Power Workshop: Advanced Concepts

# Self foldable lunar lander solar panel: design concept

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**Space Power Workshop** New Space

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School of Engineering



## **Presentation contents**

- LEAPFROG PROJECT
  - ➢ Generation-II: overview
- Origami Solar Panel (OSP)
  - Pattern trade-off
  - Thickness troubleshooting
  - Gears design
  - System architecture
  - Test-bed description
  - Test-bed realization and manual test
  - Origami Solar Panel: PDCU
- CONCLUSIONS





# **LEAPFROG Project: Generation-II**

### **Innovative Design Focus**

<u>Re-think the function of a lander that can</u> <u>perform multiple activities</u>: capable to change a single monolithic functioning lunar lander into a multi-functional platform that uses various techniques and new technologies to extend the use of the mass embedded in the makeup of the landing platform.

### Increased Performance and Functionality

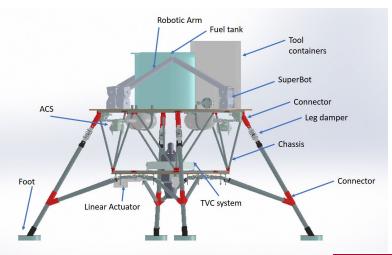
A lander should be able to:

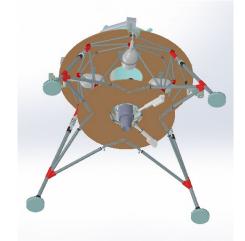
- Have increased flight performance
- Maintain total autonomy
- Transform to perform different activities after landing (i.e. structure becomes active, unfolds, changes shape etc.)
- Prove multi-functionality using new techniques

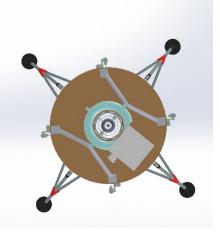




## **LEAPFROG Project: Generation-II**



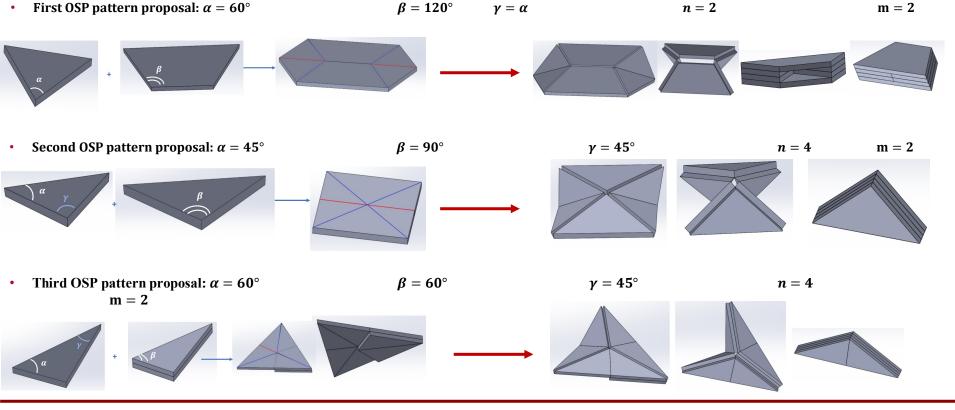






# **Origami Solar Panel: pattern trade-off**

 $n\alpha + m\beta = 360^{\circ}$ 



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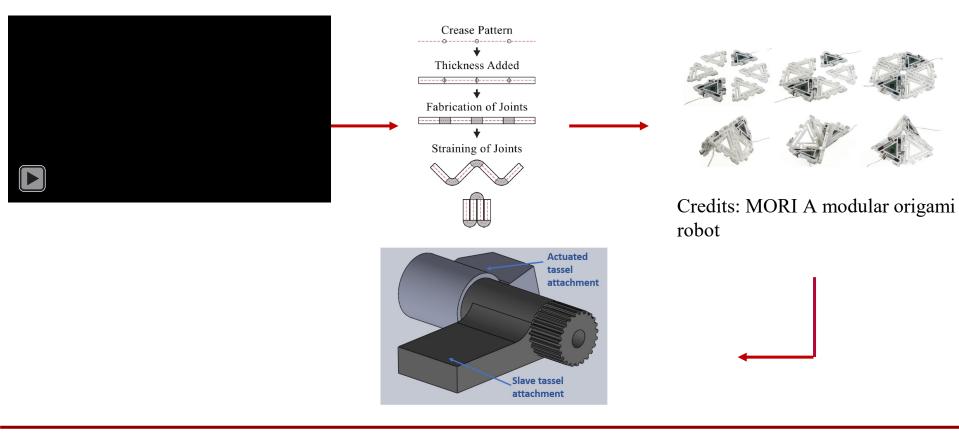
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## **Origami Solar Panel: thickness troubleshooting**



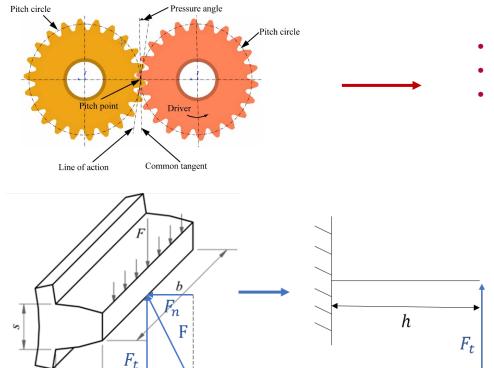




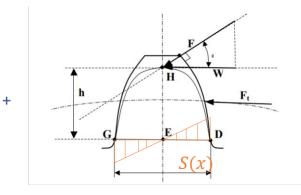


## **Origami Solar Panel: gears design**





- Spur gears
- Teeth evolving profile
- Static and flexural solicitation design: Lewis method





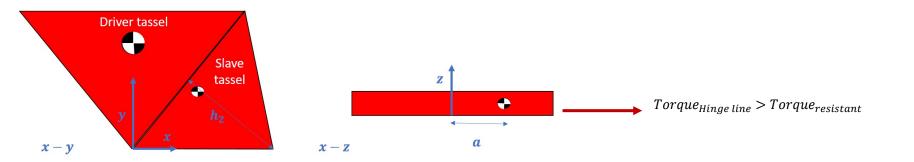
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## **Origami Solar Panel: gears design trade-off**

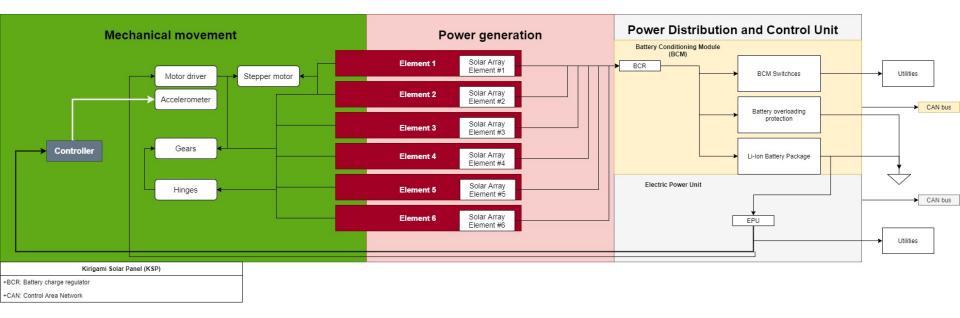






## **Origami Solar Panel: system architecture**





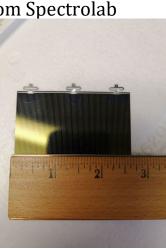






### HARDWARE

- **Stepper motor**: PG20L-D20-HHC0
- Motor driver: The DRV8835 Dual Motor Driver
- Controller: Arduino Mega
- **PCB Circuit Board**: Uxcell Single-Sided Copper Clad Laminate
- Solar cells: Already available in SERC from Spectrolab



## PRINTING MATERIALS

- Stratasys ABSplus-P430 Cartridge White for the tassels
- P400-SC Soluble Concentrate for the support printing material
- Red MAKERBOT PLA for the hinges, pins and gears



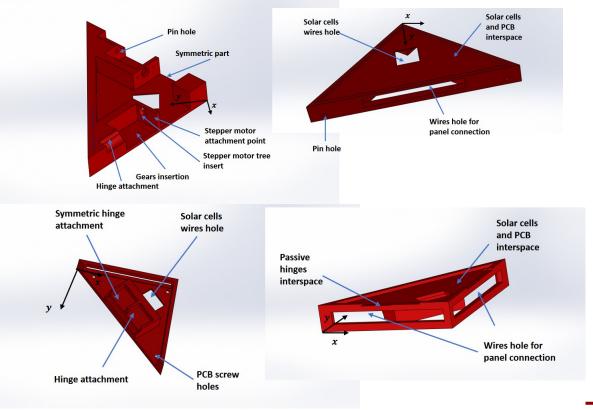


## **Origami Solar Panel: test-bed description**



• Bigger tassels

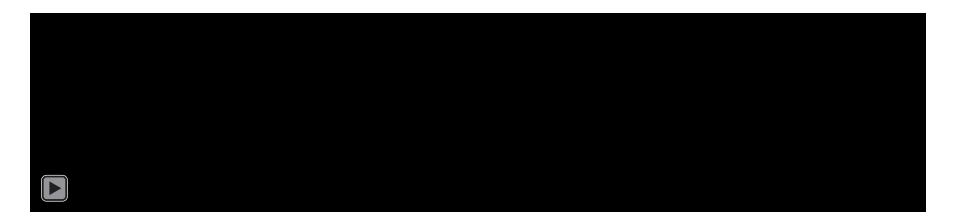
• Smaller tassels











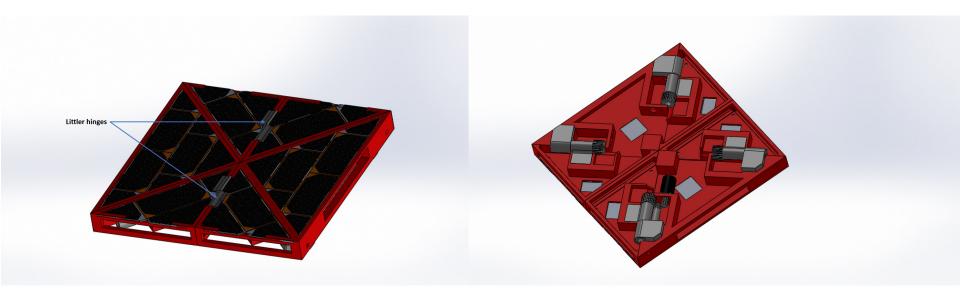






## **Origami Solar Panel: test-bed assembly**









## Origami Solar Panel: realization and trouble shooting











## **Origami Solar Panel: deployment manual test**





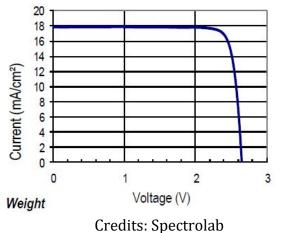




## **Origami Solar Panel: PDCU**







- 29.5% NeXt Triple Junction (XTJ)
- 26,6  $cm^2$
- 29.62W





## **Conclusions and future improvements**



#### • Origami Solar Panel (OSP)

- > The test-bed evidences good applications for compact systems
- Hardware test should be done with solar cells surface oriented upward
- The Power Management Distribution Unit has to be tested, as well as the solar cell array





## **Thanks for the attention!**



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