

# A Model of Heave Dynamics for Bagged Air Cushioned Vehicles

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# **Air Cushioned Vehicles**

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# Air Cushioned Vehicle

Crafts supported by cushion of pressurized air

Robust craft, can handle waves and rough terrain

Dynamics principles formulated by Sir Christopher Cockerell in 1955



**Figure 1:** US Navy LCAC

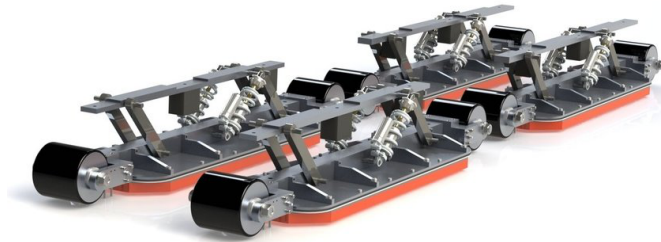
# Paradigm Hyperloop

Team for SpaceX Hyperloop Competition (MUN, NEU, CNA)

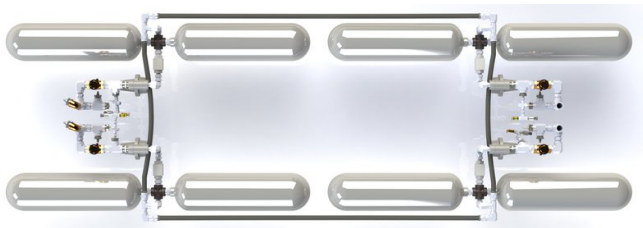


Figure 2: Competition 2 Pod

# Subsystems



(a) Levitation and Suspension subsystem ( $M = 909 \text{ kg}$ )



(b) Air supply subsystem ( $\dot{m}_{in} = 0.16 \text{ kg/s}$ )

# Pod in Atmosphere (101.3 kPa)

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Pod Video Atmospheric Pressure

## Pod at Tube Pressure (0.66 kPa)

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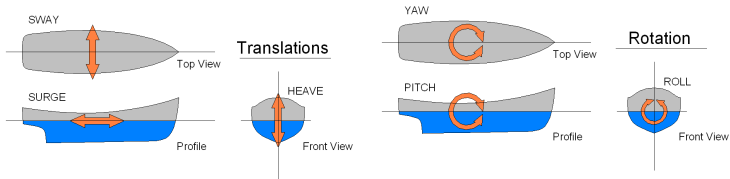
Pod Video Tube Pressure



Create full dynamic model for pod motion

**Table 1:** 6DOF of Pod motions

<b>Translational</b>		<b>Rotational</b>	
Heave	Focus of Paper	Roll	Out of Scope (3d)
Surge	External Propulsion	Pitch	Out of Scope (3d)
Sway	Spring/Mass Damper	Yaw	Spring Mass Damper



**Figure 4:** Credit to Jmvolc on Wikipedia 'Ship Motions'

# System Model

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# Sowayan and Khalid Model (2013)

## 3 state open-skirted ODE model

- $z$ : Craft Height
- $\dot{z}$ : Vertical Speed
- $p$ : Chamber Pressure

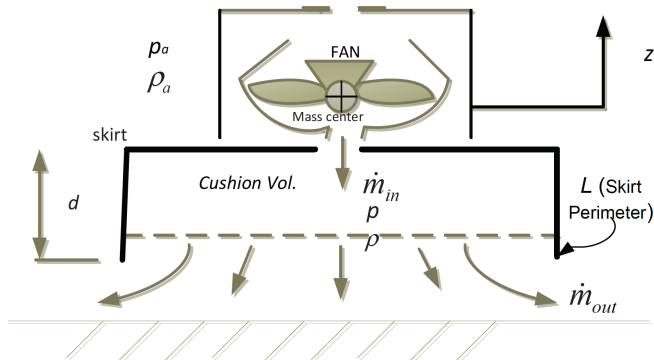


Figure 5: Image from [1]

# Model Equations

Dynamics:

$$M\ddot{z} = (p - p_{atmo})A - Mg \quad (1a)$$

$$\dot{p} = \frac{\gamma RT}{A(z+d)} \left( \dot{m}_{in} - \dot{m}_{escape} - \frac{pA\dot{z}}{RT} \right) \quad (1b)$$

Arithmetic Expressions:

$$\dot{m}_{escape} = \frac{c_0 p L z}{\sqrt{RT}} \sqrt{\frac{2\gamma}{\gamma-1} \left( \left( \frac{p_{atmo}}{p} \right)^{\frac{2}{\gamma}} - \left( \frac{p_{atmo}}{p} \right)^{\frac{\gamma+1}{\gamma}} \right)} \quad (1c)$$

Based on Bernoulli's Equation and Isentropic Expansion

Pod 2 in Atmosphere

- $\dot{m}_{in}^* = 0.16 \text{ kg/s}$ ,  $z^* = 0.12 \text{ mm}$
- Equilibrium is unstable

# Bagged Model

Add porous bag to retain pressurized air (reduce  $\dot{m}_{escape}$ )

Darcy (linear, [2]):

$$\dot{m}_{escape} \approx -\frac{\rho_{atmo} \kappa A_e}{\mu} \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \quad (2a)$$

Forchheimer (quadratic, [3]):

$$\rho_{atmo} \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} \approx \beta \left( \frac{\dot{m}_{escape}}{A_e} \right)^2 + \frac{\mu}{\kappa} \left( \frac{\dot{m}_{escape}}{A_e} \right) \quad (2b)$$

Escape area  $A_e = Lz$

# Equations of Motion

Dynamics:

$$M\ddot{z} = (p - p_{atmo})A - Mg \quad (3a)$$

$$\dot{p} = \frac{\gamma RT}{Az} (\dot{m}_{in} - \dot{m}_{escape} - \frac{pA\dot{z}}{RT}) \quad (3b)$$

Arithmetic Expressions:

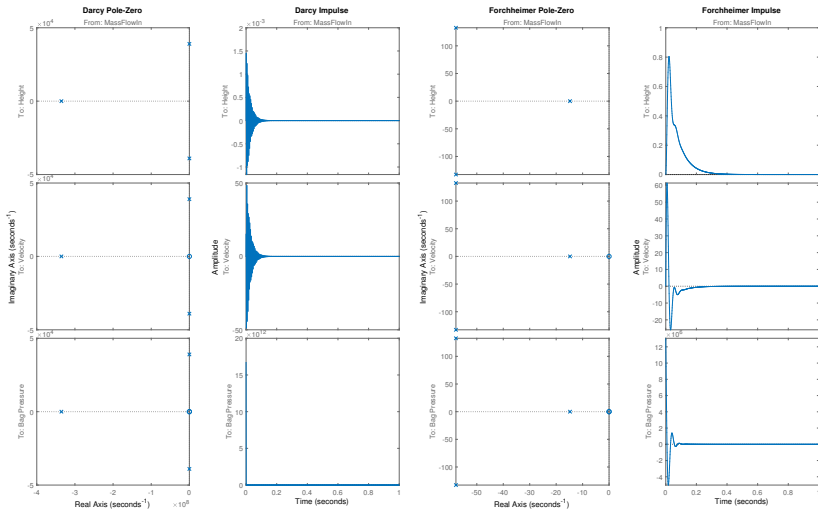
$$\rho_{atmo} \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = \beta \left( \frac{\dot{m}_{escape}}{A_e} \right)^2 + \frac{\mu}{\kappa} \left( \frac{\dot{m}_{escape}}{A_e} \right) \quad (3c)$$

$$A_e = Lz \quad (3d)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = \frac{p - p_{atmo}}{\ell} \quad (3e)$$



# Darcy/Forchheimer (with Impulse Response)





# Open Loop Stability in Atmosphere

Bilinear Sum-of-Squares optimization [4]

Dynamics Taylor-expanded to 5th order

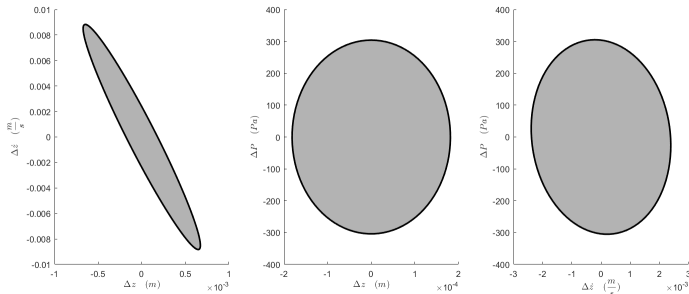
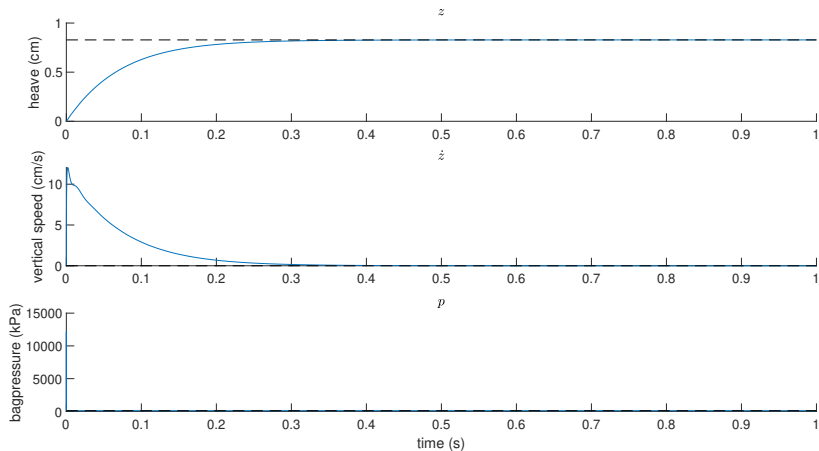


Figure 7: 1-sublevel set of  $V(x)$

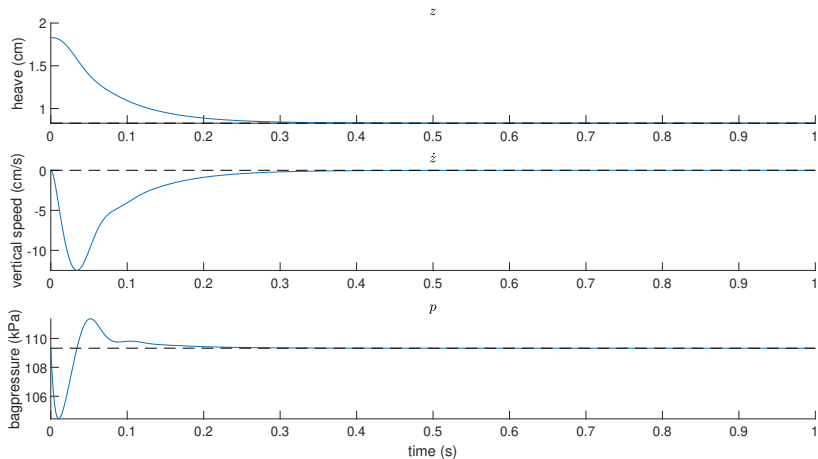
# Dynamics Simulation

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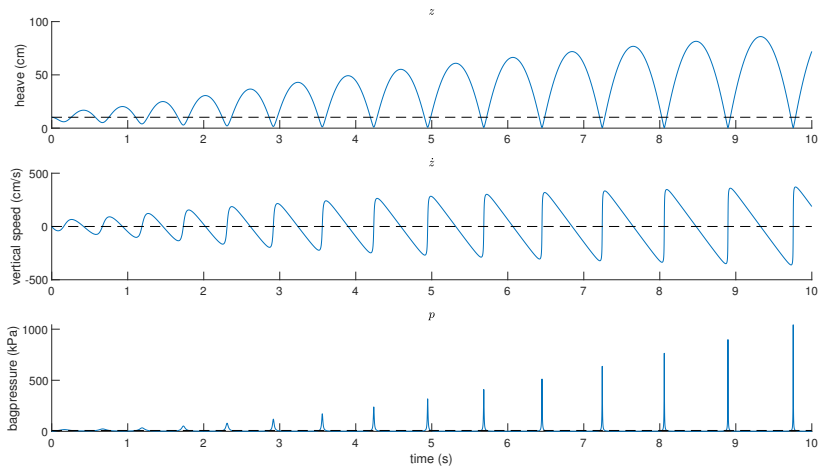
# Pod Liftoff (atmosphere)



# Pod Drop (atmosphere)



# Pod Drop (tube)



# Closed Loop System

Flow controllers are  $G \frac{3}{8}$  pneumatic MPYE's from FESTO

Have critical frequency of 65 Hz = 408.4 rad/s

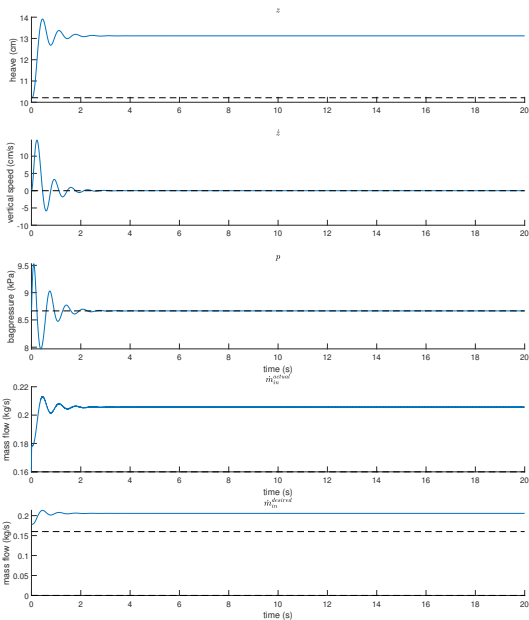
Add new state  $\dot{m}_{in}$  to system:

$$\ddot{m}_{in} = 408.4(\dot{m}_{in}^{\text{desired}} - \dot{m}_{in}) \quad (4)$$



**Figure 8:** Example of MPYE flow controller

# Pod Drop LQR Control (tube)



## External Disturbances

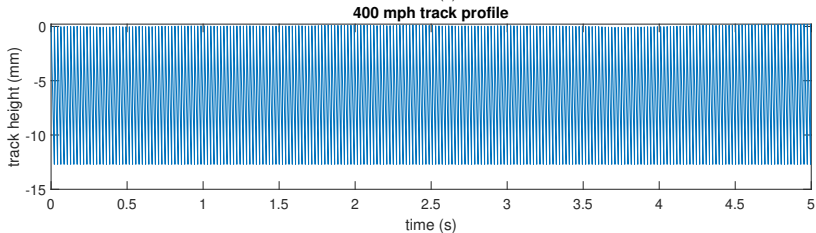
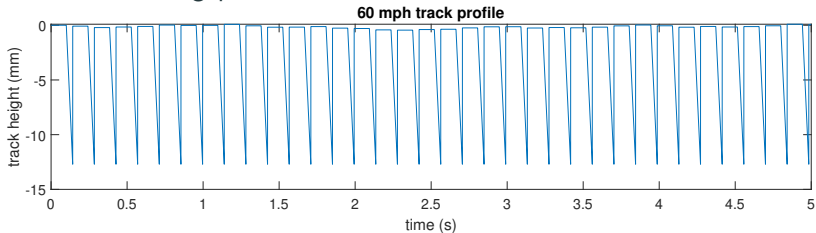
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# Track Profile

Subtrack made of 12.5' plates

0.25" horizontal gap,  $\pm 0.004$ " vertical drift



# Disturbed System

Dynamics:

$$M\ddot{z} = (P_{bag} - P_{atmo})A - Mg \quad (5a)$$

$$\dot{p} = \frac{\gamma RT}{A(z + W_{height})} (\dot{m}_{in} - \dot{m}_{escape} - \frac{P_{bag} A \dot{z}}{RT}) \quad (5b)$$

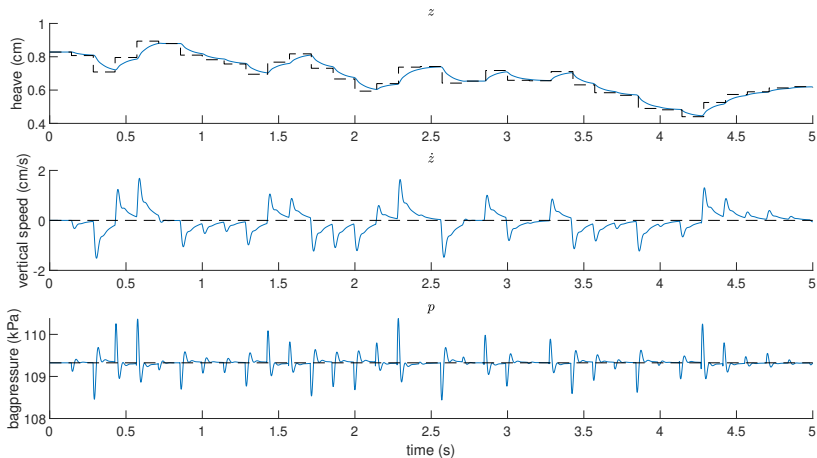
Arithmetic Expressions:

$$\rho_{atmo} \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = \beta \left( \frac{\dot{m}_{escape}}{A_e} \right)^2 + \frac{\mu}{\kappa} \left( \frac{\dot{m}_{escape}}{A_e} \right) \quad (5c)$$

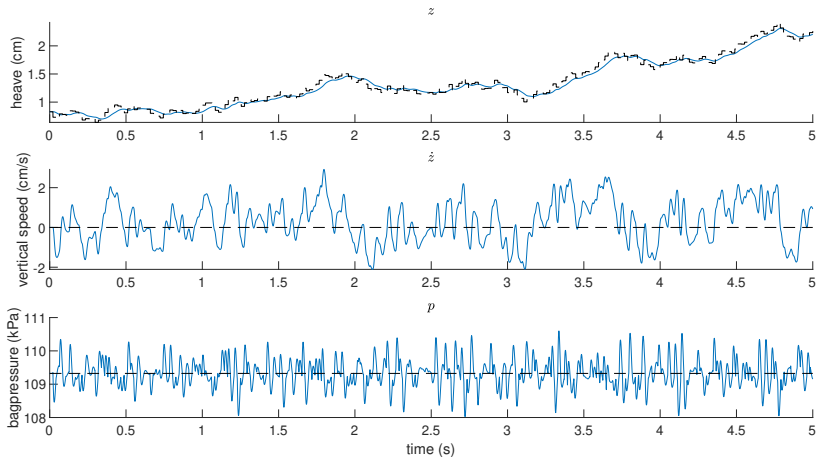
$$A_e = L(z + W_{height}) + W W_{gap} \quad (5d)$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = \frac{p - p_{atmo}}{\ell} \quad (5e)$$

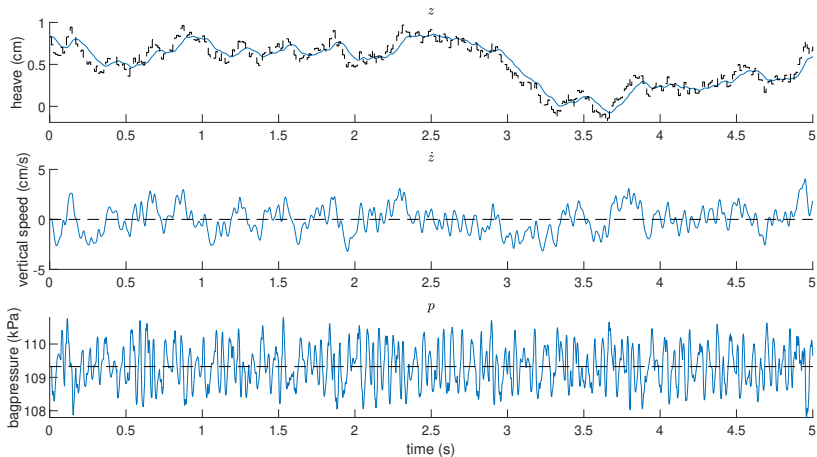
# 60 mph simulation



# 400 mph simulation



# 700 mph simulation



# Issues with Model

Breaks down in low pressure

Full model requires 4 skates, include pitch and roll

ODE approximation to Navier-Stokes

Neglects spatial pressure dependence

Ignores bag tearing effects

Hybrid contact dynamics





Couette/Poiseuille flow lowers outside pressure

Simple model of Air Cushion Vehicle

Stable in atmospheric pressure

Tendency towards instability at low pressure

## References

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