Q-Sat CDR

Critical Design Review

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Team: Questionable Satellites

Date: 2025-02-09

github.com/questionable-innovations/QSAT_2024-2025



Concept Review

The MOST RETRO PSAT





Measures of Effectiveness

- 1. Number of photos taken
 - 2. Quality of film post-flight
- 3. Quality of photos post-development

Target: Take at least one photo of identifiable features.

Technical Schedule

Timeline:

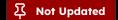
- 9th February 2nd Order & Critical Design Review (CDR)
- 1st March Test Launch
- 7th March Launch & Flight Readiness Review (FRR)



High-Level Requirements

Req Code	Description	Parent Requirement	Reasoning
REQ-01	Shall Deploy at apogee	REQ-02, REQ-03	Payload must eject from the rocket body for the camera to take a photo
REQ-02	Shall take up to 4 photos during deployment, and up to 20 photos during descent	Objective	Mission Objective
REQ-03	Shall record time-stamped data and digital photography	Objective	Objective validation and photograph info
REQ-04	Shall be recoverable	Objective	Mission Objective - Film must be recovered for processing





Subsystem Requirements - Electrical

Req Code	Description	Parent Requirement	Reasoning
ELEC-01	Shall supply a maximum of 0.63A to servos (stall current - for winding)	REQ-02	Required for camera operation. (Objective)
ELEC-02	Shall supply a maximum of 400mA to computing and data systems	REQ-02, REQ-03, REQ-04	Should be able to support each digital subsystem all running at max power draw
ELEC-03	Battery must supply at least 1000mAh	ELEC-01	Roughly calculated energy requirements given power draw of components



Subsystem Requirements - Command & Data

Req Code	Description	Parent Requirement	Reasoning
CDH-01	Shall take and store digital photos at the same time as film	REQ-03	Objective validation and photograph info
CDH-02	Shall report live data back to the ground control unit via LoRa	REQ-04	Monitoring to help ensure objective will be attained and unit recovered
CDH-03	Shall store timestamped accelerometer and gyro data as well as when photos are taken	REQ-03	Keeps data for validation and statistics purposes
CDH-04	Shall have a processor to read data and activate shutter	REQ-02	We need a way to interpret the data and send commands to activate shutter servo

Subsystem Requirements - Camera & Environment

Req Code	Description	Parent Requirement	Reasoning
CMEV-01	Shall allow access to film pre & post flight	Objective, REQ-04	Needs access for Pre-launch processing & Post launch Recovery
CMEV-02	Shall not leak light in its modified form	*REQ-04	If the film is prematurely exposed, then exposing the film for photos will have no effect
CMEV-03	Shall not allow for significant damage of camera upon landing	CMEV-01, CMEV-02, REQ-04	Film & camera must be intact to consider recovery a success. So camera can be reused and film can be developed



Subsystem Requirements - Mechanical

Req Code	Description	Parent Requirement	Reasoning
MECH-01	Shall repeatedly reload Film	REQ-02, REQ-03	Film must be reloaded to allow for multiple photos, sometimes more then once per photo
MECH-02	Shall repeatedly activate shutter	REQ-02, REQ-03	Shutter must be repeatedly pressed to take multiple photos
MECH-03	Shall hold all parts stable through flight	REQ-04, REQ-02, REQ-03	Boards, mechanisms & PSat body needs to be held together through flight and deployment to keep internal system stable
MECH-04	Shall fit into rocket body when stowed for flight	Objective	To Allow for launch, the whole PSat must fit in the body alongside the parachute, shock cord & nose cone lip



以 Not Updated

2. Solution

Mission Design

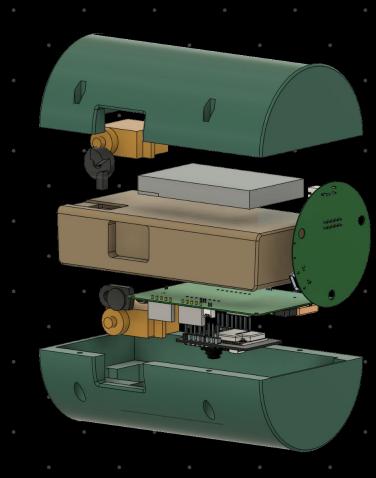
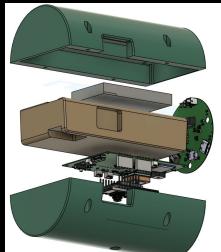
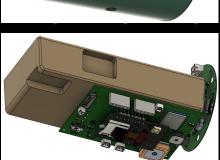
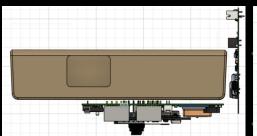
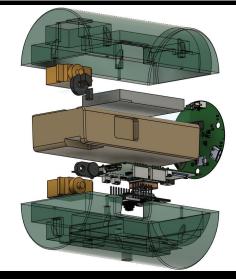


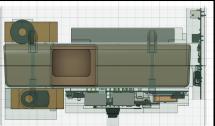
Photo Dump

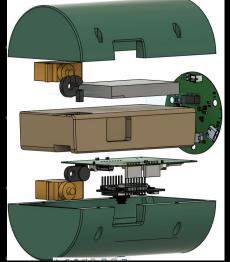


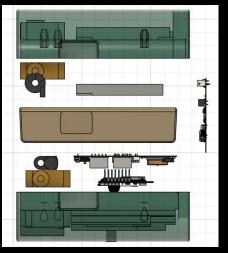


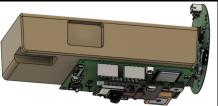


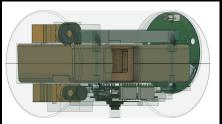














Design Solution Definition - Changes

- 1. No longer pursuing carbon fibre shell
- 2. No modifications required on the camera as the viewfinder can be left untouched without restricting the free space we needed.

Design Solution Definition

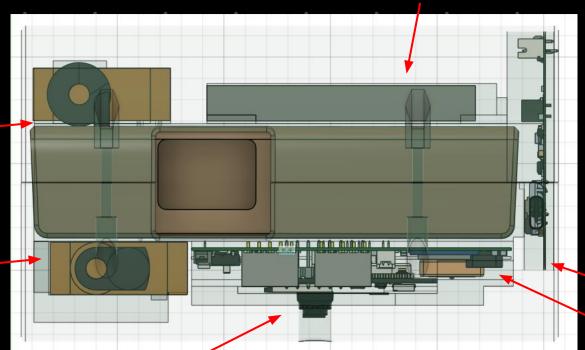
- One member found a small film camera to take photos. We will mount it to a capsule & create a system to automatically take photos.
- There will be a lot of chaotic movement on descent, so need a way to stabilize the camera on descent.
- Photos will look best at apogee, but will have high motion blur at deployment. So the shutter will be programmed to fire at set times.
- Film must be contained onboard, and in the dark at all times. We will be removing the camera's viewfinder which means we cannot rely on the camera's body to block all the light.

Design Solution Definition

Battery

2. Servo rotates pusher to push a pin into the shutter button.

1. Servo rotates a swing arm to pull a string connected to the reloader.



PSU

Motherboard

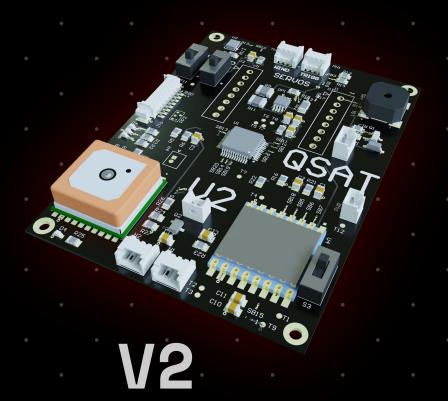
3. ESP-CAM captures images of surroundings.



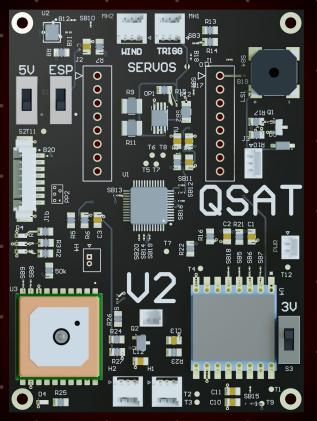






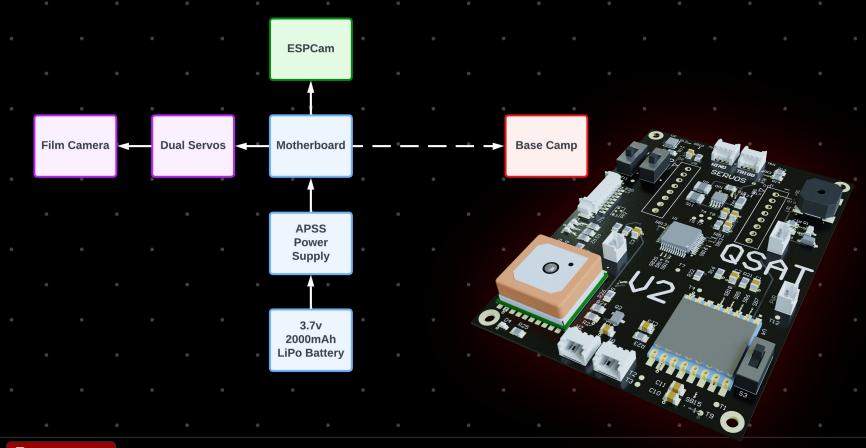


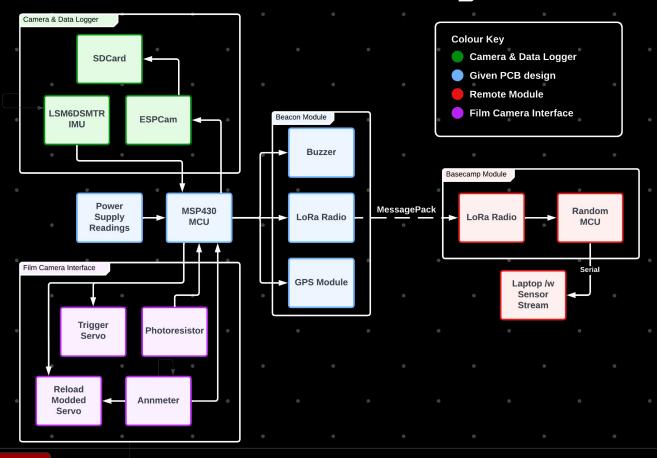
CHANGES



- Sockets moved to better position and angle to align with mechanical components
- Power switches added for 5V, 3V & ESP32
- Save with correct amount of layers
- Repositioned ESP headers slightly
- Added more test pads
- MSP430 pins reconfigured for PWM output after dev board testing (servo)
- ESP-CAM closer to the main board
 - Increased resistor power rating for the current sense circuit



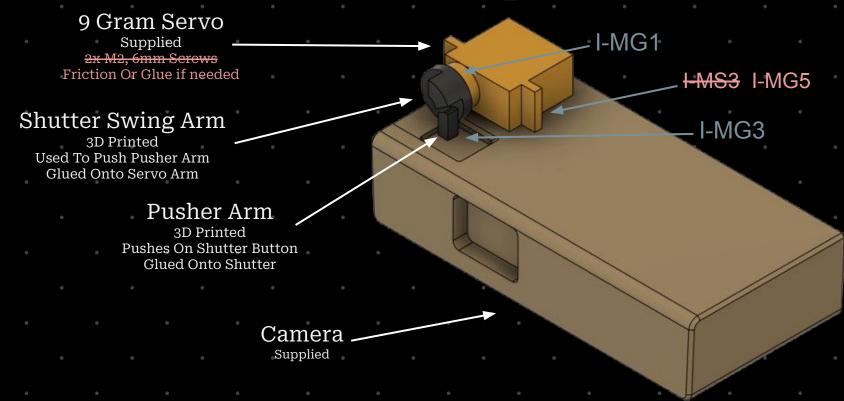




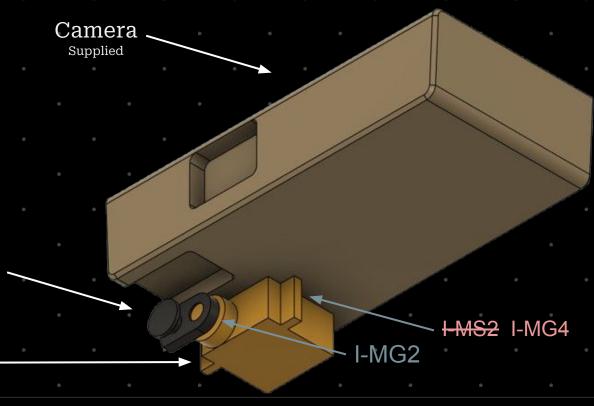


SHUTTER

Mechanical Subsystem



Mechanical Subsystem



Reloader Swing Arm

3D Printed
Used To Pull Reloader Via Fishing Line
Camera Has Built In Spring For Return
Glued Onto Servo Arm

9 Gram Servo

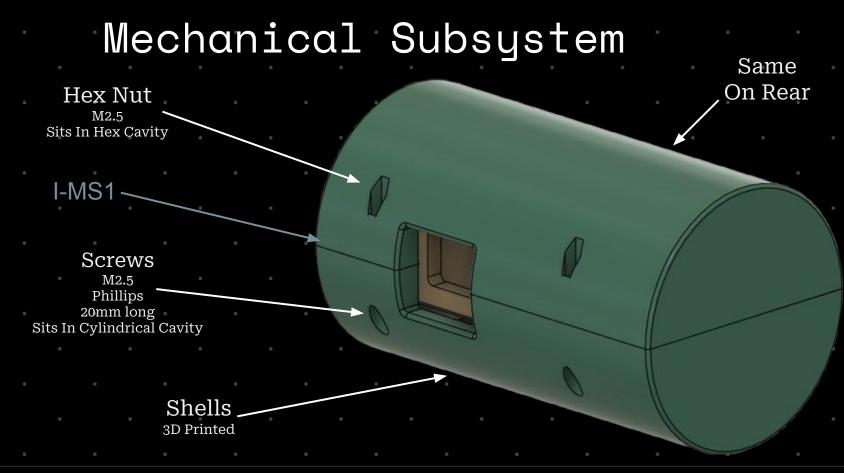
Supplied

2x M2, 6mm Screws

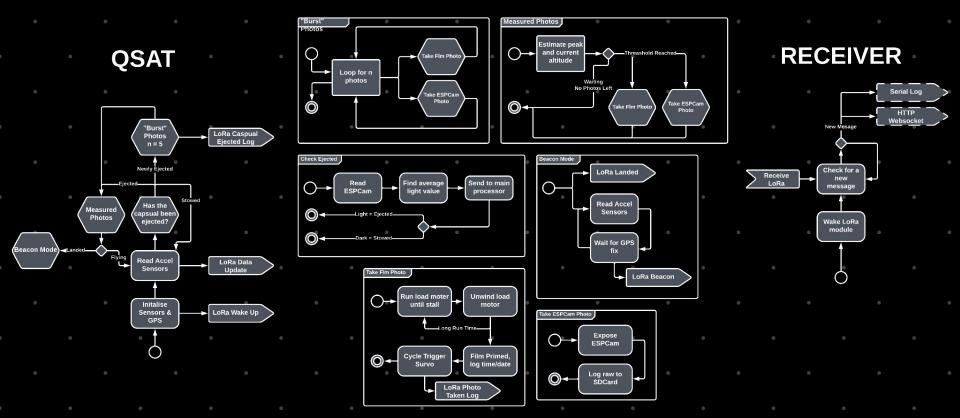
Friction Or Glue if needed



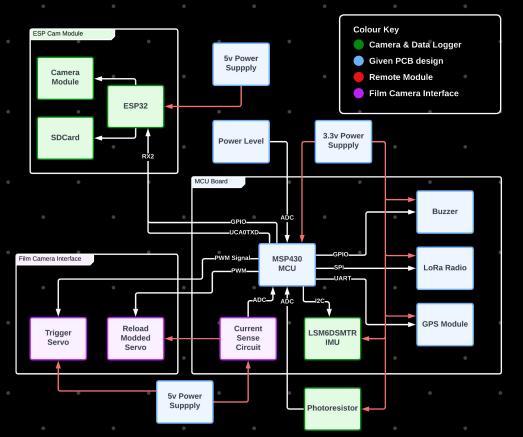
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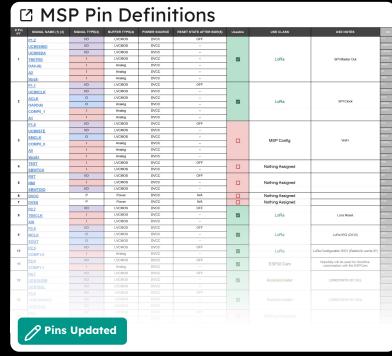


Concept Of Operations



Interface Definitions - Electrical





Interface Definitions - Mechanical

Interface Code	Definition
I-MS1	4 screws to hold shell together. M2.5, 20mm long. 92005A077 on McMaster Received by 4 Hex nuts to sandwich shells. 90592A080 on McMaster
I-MS2 I-MG4	2 serews for attaching the Reloader Servo. M2, 6mm long. 94209A343 on McMaster Serews straight into 3D print Friction press fit, or Glue if required.
I-MS3 I-MG5	2 screws for attaching the Shutter Servo. M2, 6mm long. 94209A343 on McMaster Screws straight into 3D print Friction press fit, or Glue if required.
I-MG1	Glued attachment of shutter swing arm to shutter servo. Exact attachment dependant on state of servo on arrival. Most likely superglue
I-MG2	Glued attachment of reloader swing arm to reloader servo. Exact attachment dependant on state of servo on arrival. Most likely superglue
I-MG3	Glued pusher arm to shutter button. Most likely Hot glue to not damage camera too much



Implementation Plans

COMPLETED

- Order 1 Received
- Order 1 Printed
- Order 1 Assembled
- Order 1 Feedback Implemented
- Develop Launch & Recovery Operations

- Order 2 Evolution Plans
- Finalise Internal Structure Update with Order 1 learning. Cable runs, airboxes, light sensor & usb-c.
- Implement Parachute Attachment Points
- Develop Carbon Composite Outer Shell
- Cut Down Camera Size
- Develop Light Blocking Measures
- Submit Order 2
- Print Order 2
- Assemble Order 2
- Test ORder 2
 - Assemble Flight Article.

Technical Measures of Effectiveness

- Have we successfully taken a picture?
 - Is the film recoverable/processable?
 - How many film photos did we capture?
 - Are the objects in the film identifiable?

Validation Plans

- Fit Checks Feb 6th Completed - Whole Team
- Bench test camera mechanism Feb 6th Partial Completion Due To Motherboard & Sizing Issue - Whole Team
- Bench test camera with spare film Mid Feb
 - Electrical Team
- Packing Test with Final Layout Mid Feb
 - Mechanical Team
- Drop test inside engineering final test with prototype (incase of RUD) Mid Feb
 - Whole Team

Operational Procedures - Programming

ESPCam

Plug ESPCam programming connector into the ESP PWR header

Connect 5v, Gnd, TX, and RX to a USBTTL adapter

Plug the USBTTL adapter into the dev-laptop

Open PlatformIO on the "QSat_espcam" folder

Click "Upload & Monitor", and ensure that the firmware uploads correctly, and starts outputting debug info

Unplug the USBTTL adapter, and disconnect the programming hardware

Operational Procedures - Programming MSP

Ensure the PSU Power is off, and turn power off for the ESPCam

Connect the JTAG connector to the APSS programming adapter, and the adapter into a TI MSPDebug device.

Git pull the latest code from the repository on a Linux dev-laptop.

MSP430

Plug the TI MSPDebug into the laptop via Micro USB

Connect the 3V3 power supply to the Dev Power Header

Open PlatformIO on the "QSat_msp" folder

Click "Upload & Monitor", and ensure that the firmware uploads correctly, and starts outputting debug info

Unplug the 3V3 power supply, and disconnect the programming hardware

Operational Procedures - Pre Launch - Programs

NOTES:	Charge battery via USB-C port on power supply unit
connections	Remove RBF bridge
Bring power supply	
• • •	Enable LoRa base station & logging
	Enable board power and confirm LoRa connection & sensor data
	Follow Operational Procedures - ASSEMBLY



Operational Procedures - Pre Launch - Assembly Part 1

NOTES: Bring screwdrivers, blade, sandpaper, & glue

Insert reloader servo, glue if required

Install ESPcam + Motherboard, aligning the camera with the hole.

Insert camera, aligned with camera hole

Insert shutter servo, glue if required

Insert PSU board, align with cable runs

Insert battery, aligned with cable runs.

Put halves together

Insert nuts into holes using bolt transfer method

Insert bolts













Operational Procedures - Pre Launch - Assembly Part 2

NOTES:		Ensure PSAT is programmed (see Programming Operational Procedure)
	,	Ensure PSAT is assembled (see Assembly Part 1 Operational Procedure)
		Remove cone and parachute from rocket
	,	Place PSAT into rocket
		Attach parachute to PSAT, and the nose cone.
	,	Place nose cone on top of the rocket.



Operational Procedure -

Q-Sat CDR

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