

High Cycle Fatigue of Electroactive Membranes

Project Update

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AME | Aeropropulsion
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ARL

Project Scope

Need Statement: There is a lack of information on the fatigue of electroactive membranes.

- Electroactive membranes are being studied for application onto robots.
- There is insufficient data on the fatigue behavior for electroactive membranes [1]
- The purpose of this project is the design and implementation of a fatigue mechanism for electroactive membranes

[1] Oates, William and Jonathan Clark. "High Cycle Fatigue of Electroactive Membranes." Florida A&M/Florida State University, 2014. Print.

[2] Newton, Jason. "Design And Characterization Of A Dielectric Elastomer Based Variable Stiffness Mechanism For Implementation Onto A Dynamic Running Robot." Thesis. Florida State University - College Of Engineering, 2014. Print

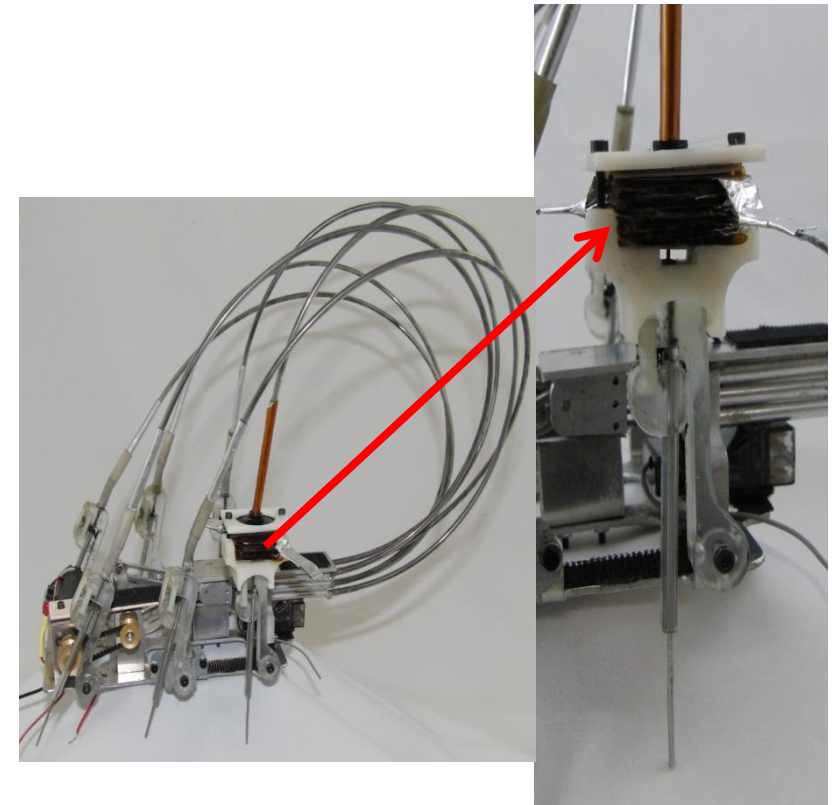


Figure 1. iSprawl Robot with VHB membrane stack[2]

Project Scope

Goal Statement: Design and build a device that produces high cycle sinusoidal mechanical fatigue of electroactive membranes.

Objectives:

- Accurately measure the fatigue placed on the specimen
- Produce various frequencies of cycling
- Produce varying stroke distances to displace the membrane
- Allow for tracking of the displacements controlled by the fatigue machine
- Measure the load associated with the stroke by implementing with the MTS machine

Project Scope

Updated Constraints

- System should be a tabletop mechanism that is mounted to the MTS machine
- **Vary stroke - 2.5mm, 5mm, 7.5mm**
- Vary frequency from 0 to 25 Hz
- **Implement LVDT (Linear Variable Differential Transducer)**
- Produce consistent functionality for various specimens
- Test 1 to 5 specimens at a time
- Complete within the budget

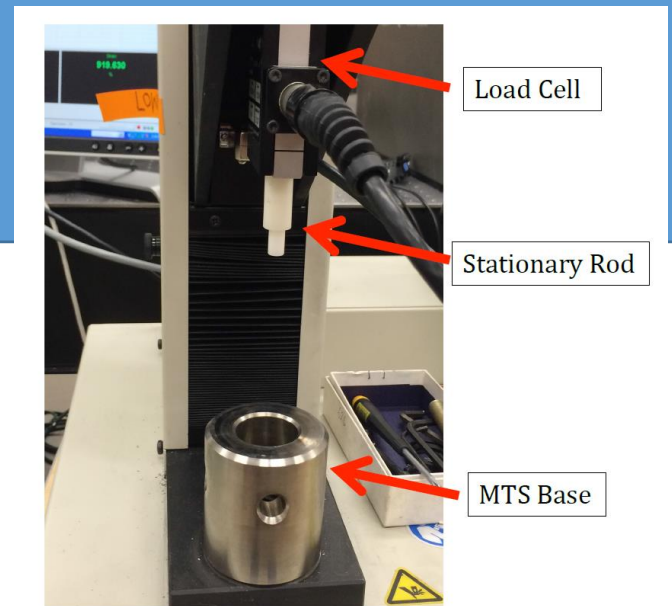


Figure 2. MTS machine

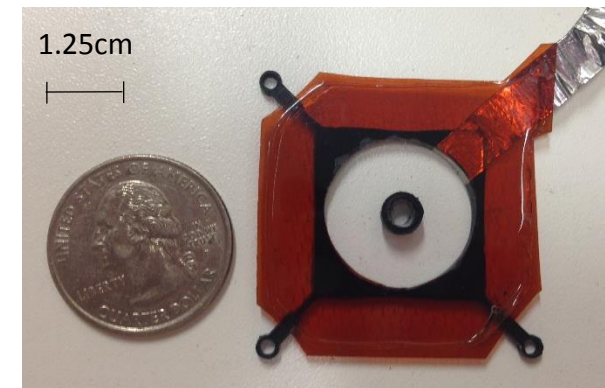
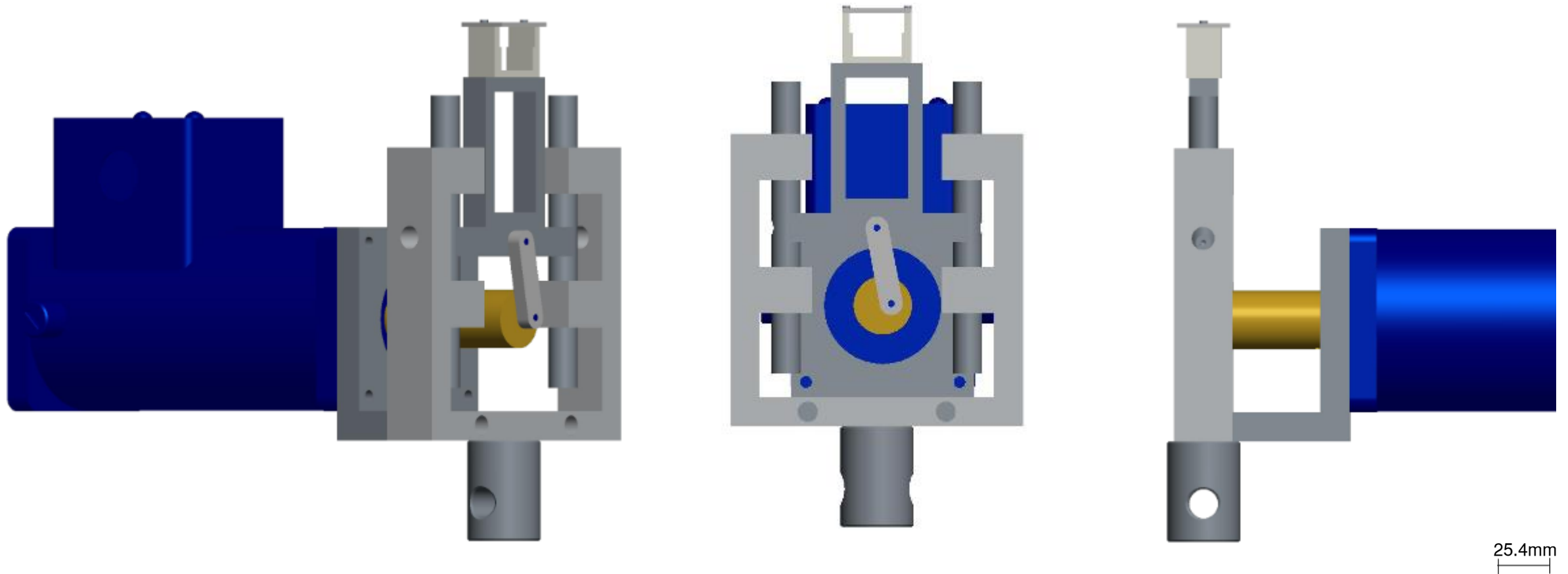


Figure 3. VHB membrane specimen

Selected Design - Crank Slider Mechanism



Approach to Assembly - Mechanical

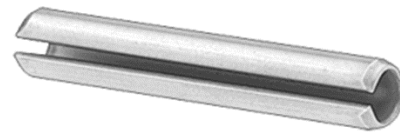
Challenge: Easily change coupler to vary stroke distance

Spring Pins

- OD 3mm
- Length 26mm

Ball Bearings

- OD 6mm
- ID 3mm



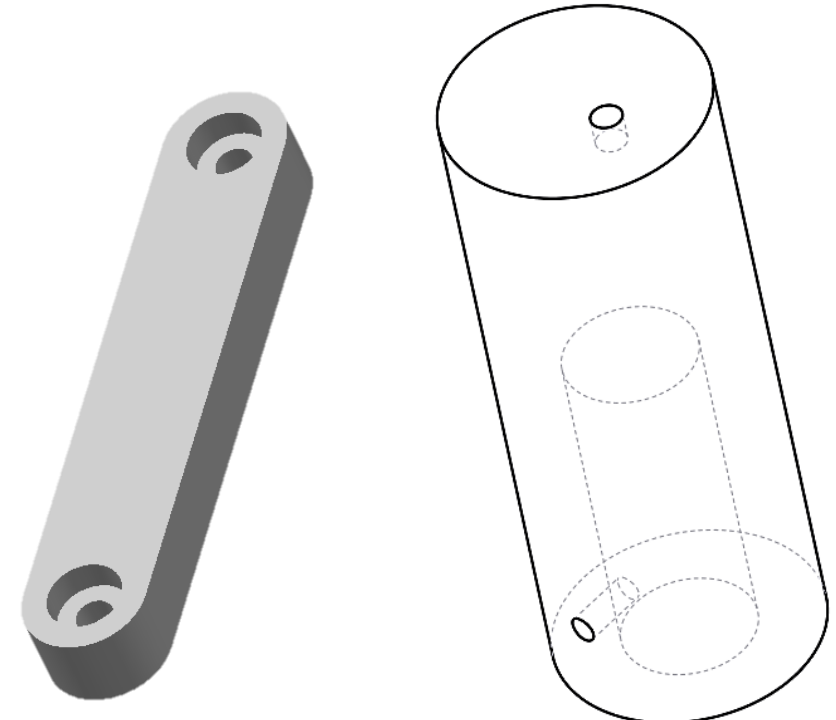
(a)



(b)

Figure 4. (a) Spring pin and (b) bearing. [3]

[3] www.mcmaster.com

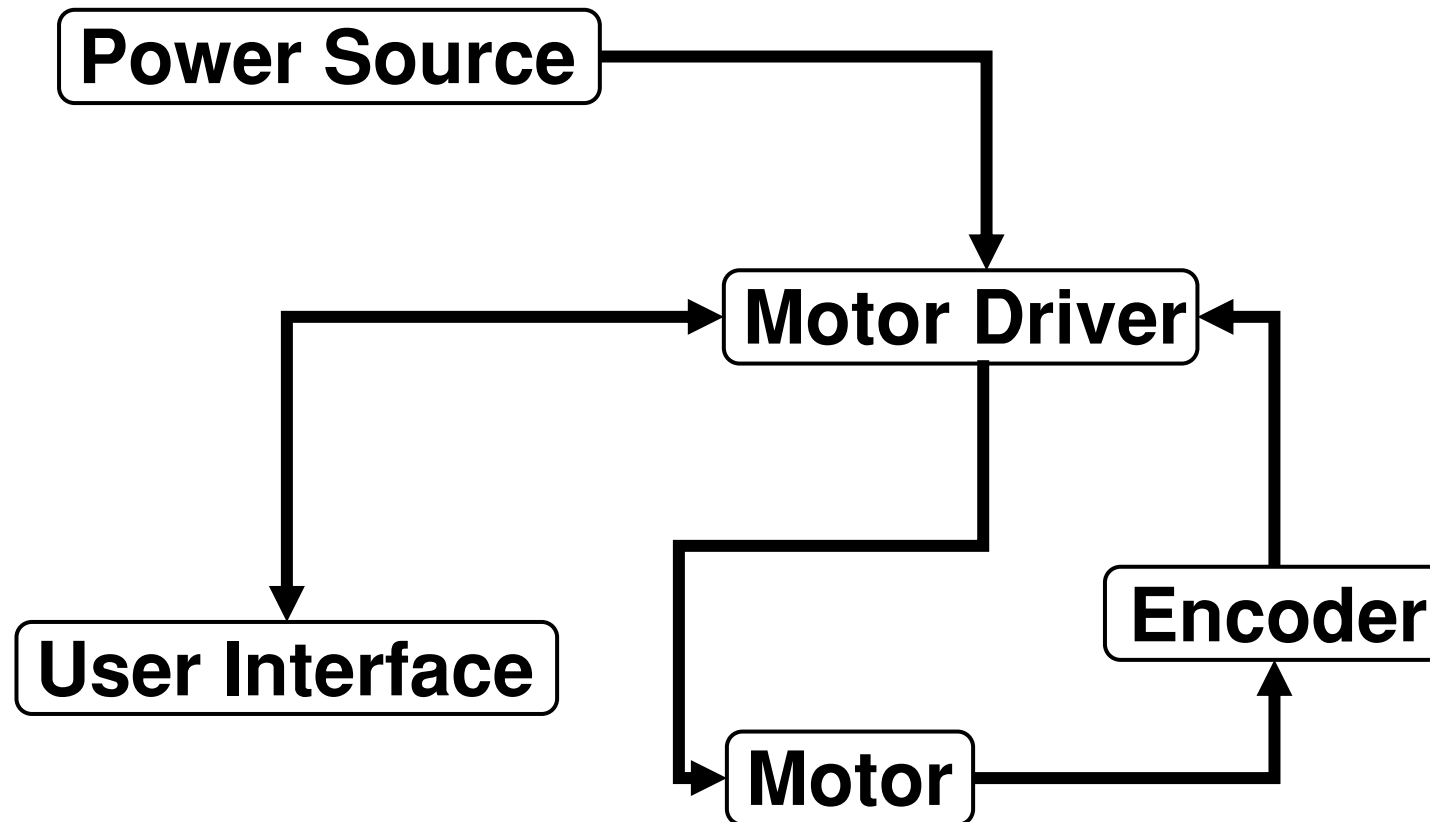


(a)

(b)

Figure 5. (a) Linkage and (b) coupler.

Approach to Assembly - Electrical



Prototyping

ABS Prototype

- Showed proof of concept
- Successful sinusoidal motion

Challenges

- Friction
- Alignment
- Vibration

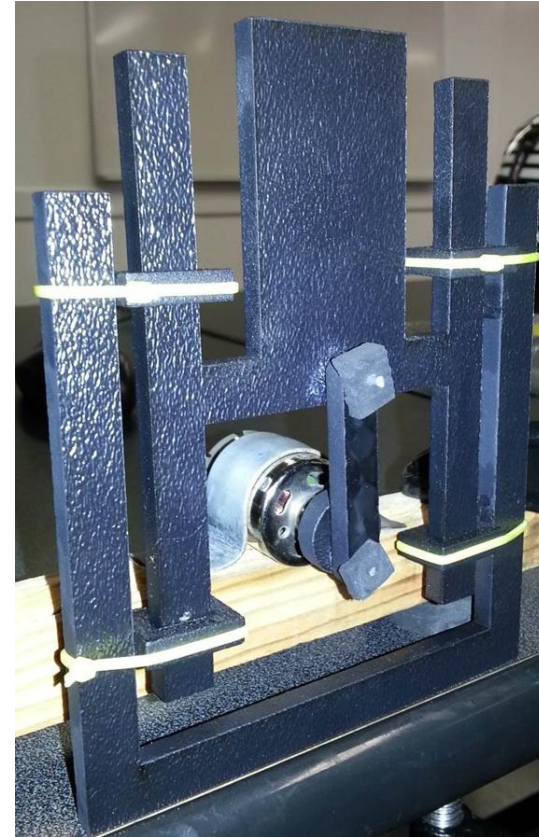


Figure 6. ABS Prototype

Updated Motor Requirements

Most Extreme Conditions

Displacement, $x = 7.5\text{mm}$

Radius, $r = 3.75\text{mm}$

Frequency, $f = 25\text{ Hz}$

Mass, $m \sim 0.5\text{ kg}$

Acceleration: $\ddot{x} = x_o \omega^2 \sin(\omega t)$

Total Force: $F = m * a = m * \ddot{x}$

Max. Allowable Force (F.S. of 2) = **185N**

Minimum Required Torque

$$Torque = F_{max} \cdot r = 185\text{N} \cdot 3.75\text{mm}$$

$$\boxed{Torque = 0.7\text{ N} \cdot \text{m}}$$

Minimum Required Angular Velocity

$$\omega = 2\pi \cdot f = 2\pi \cdot 25\text{Hz} \cdot \frac{60\text{s}}{1\text{min}} \cdot \frac{1\text{rev}}{2\pi}$$

$$\boxed{\omega = 1500\text{ rpm}}$$

Selected Motor & Controller

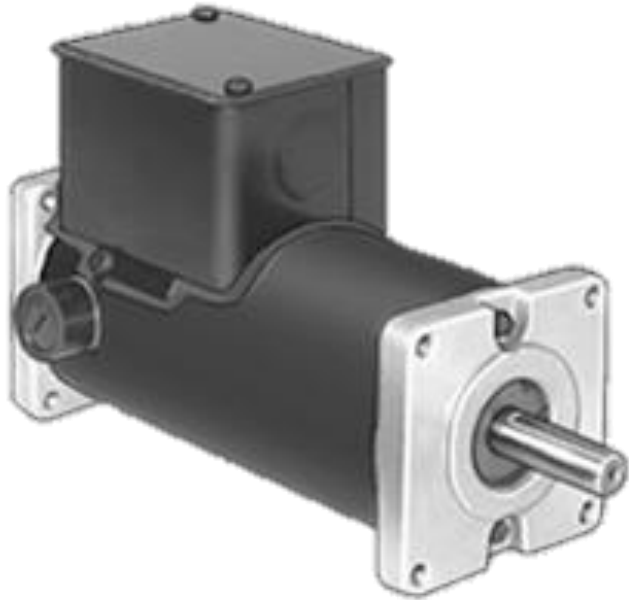


Figure 7. Compact DC Motor [3]



Figure 8. Motor Controller[4]

Compact Face Mount DC Motor

- 24V
- 13A
- 3500 rpm @ 0.72 Nm

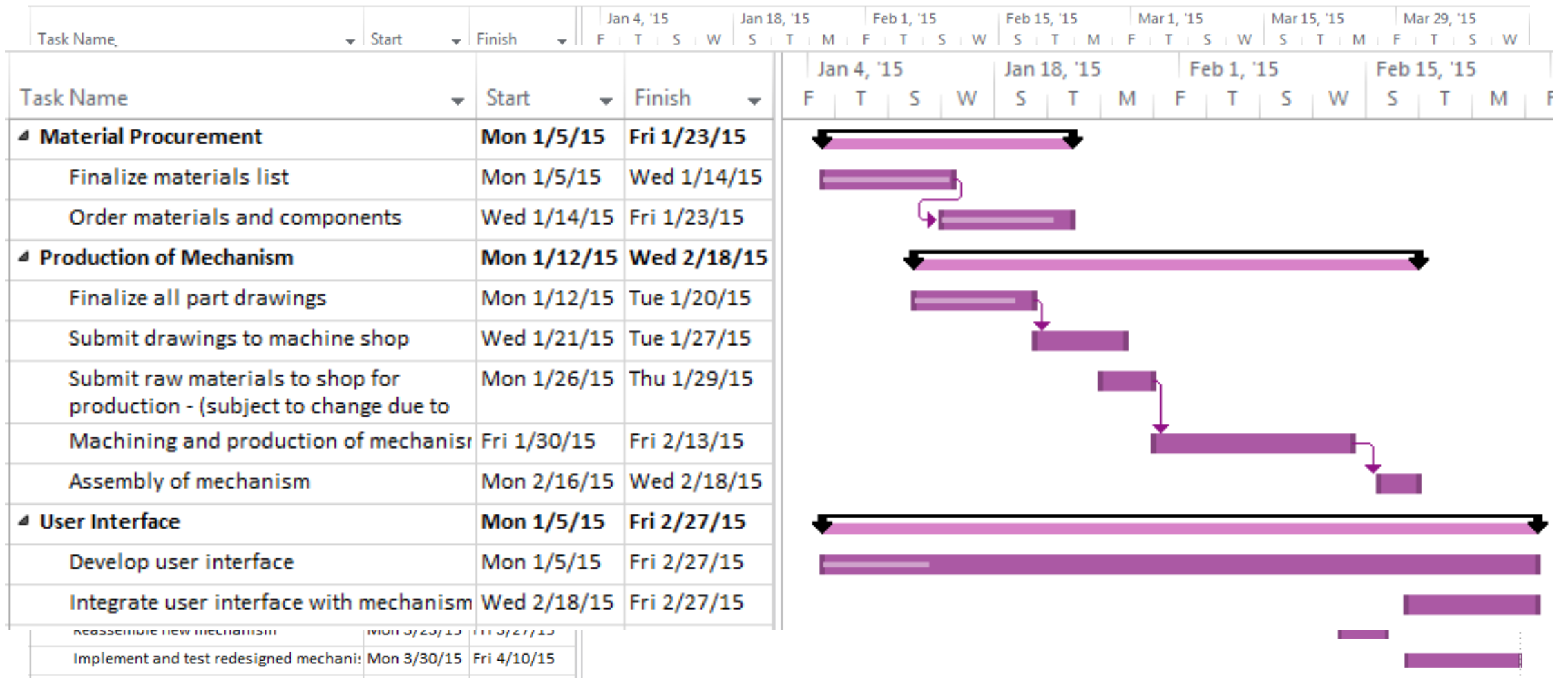
RoboClaw Motor Controller

- USB or serial
- 2 channel
- 30A

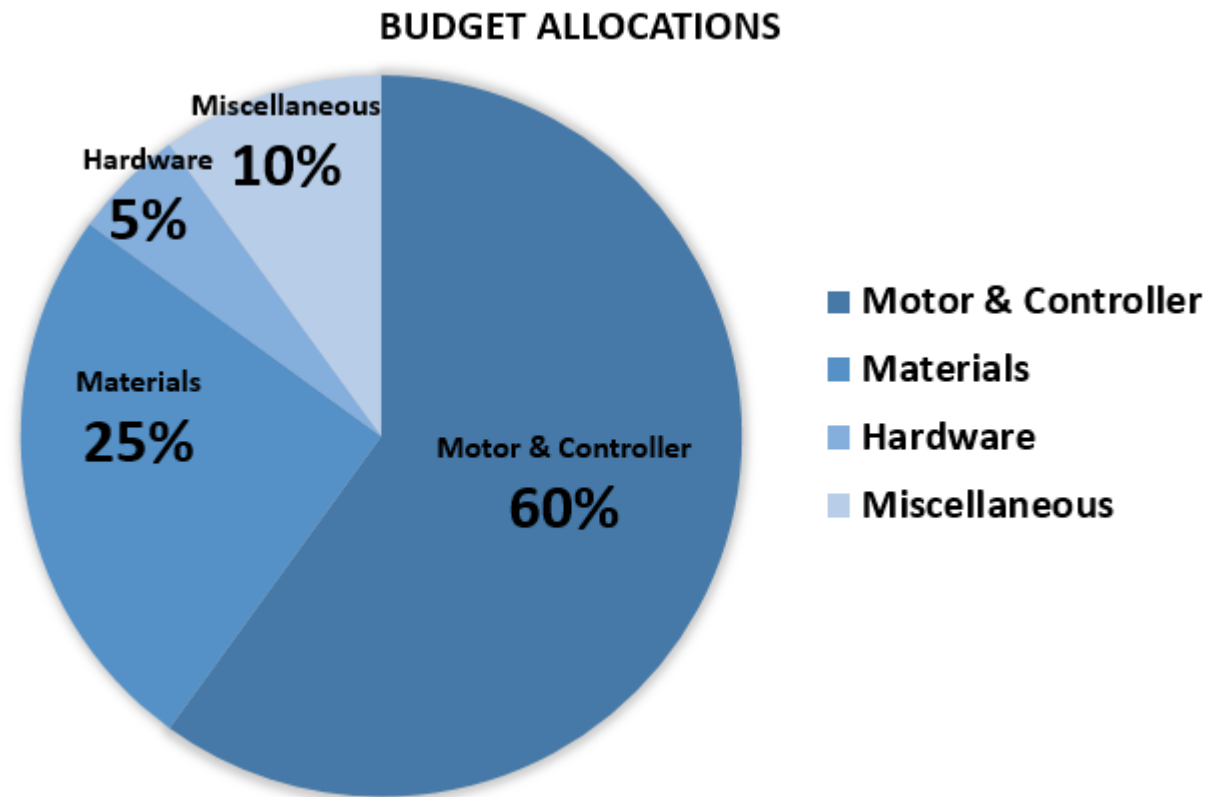
[3] <http://www.mcmaster.com/#59835k63/=vjpspd>

[4] <https://www.pololu.com/product/2393>

Schedule



Budget & Procurement



Budget: approx. \$2000

Purchasing Estimates:

- Raw Materials ~10%
- Motor & Controller ~20%
- Hardware ~30%
 - Power supply
 - LVDT
 - Encoder

Figure 9. Pie Chart of Budget Allocation

Summary

Need Statement: There is a lack of information on the fatigue of electroactive membranes.

Goal Statement: Design and build a device that produces high cycle sinusoidal mechanical fatigue of electroactive membranes.

- Vary frequency - 0 to 25 Hz
- Vary stroke - 2.5mm, 5mm, 7.5mm

Mechanism Design: Crank Slider

Latest Achieved Milestone: Purchased motor and raw materials.

Key Next Step: Submit raw materials and drawings for machining.
Purchase LVDT, power supply, and encoder.

References

- [1] Oates, William and Jonathan Clark. "High Cycle Fatigue of Electroactive Membranes." Florida A&M/Florida State University, 2014. Print.
- [2] Newton, Jason. "Design And Characterization Of A Dielectric Elastomer Based Variable Stiffness Mechanism For Implementation Onto A Dynamic Running Robot." Thesis. Florida State University - College Of Engineering, 2014. Print
- [3] <http://www.mcmaster.com/#59835k63/=vjpspd>
- [4] <https://www.pololu.com/product/2393>

Questions?

For more information visit our website:
www.eng.fsu.edu/me/senior_design/2015/team20/