

# Design and Development of an Autonomous Underwater Vehicle



Design Review II: Interim  
Presentation  
Team 23  
March 15th, 2016



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Other Team Members: Max Austin, John Nicholson, Ross Richardson

# The Competition

- AUVSI International Robosub Competition
- Objective of the competition:
  - Design an autonomous underwater vehicle to perform a series of tasks
- Rules posted as of January 2016

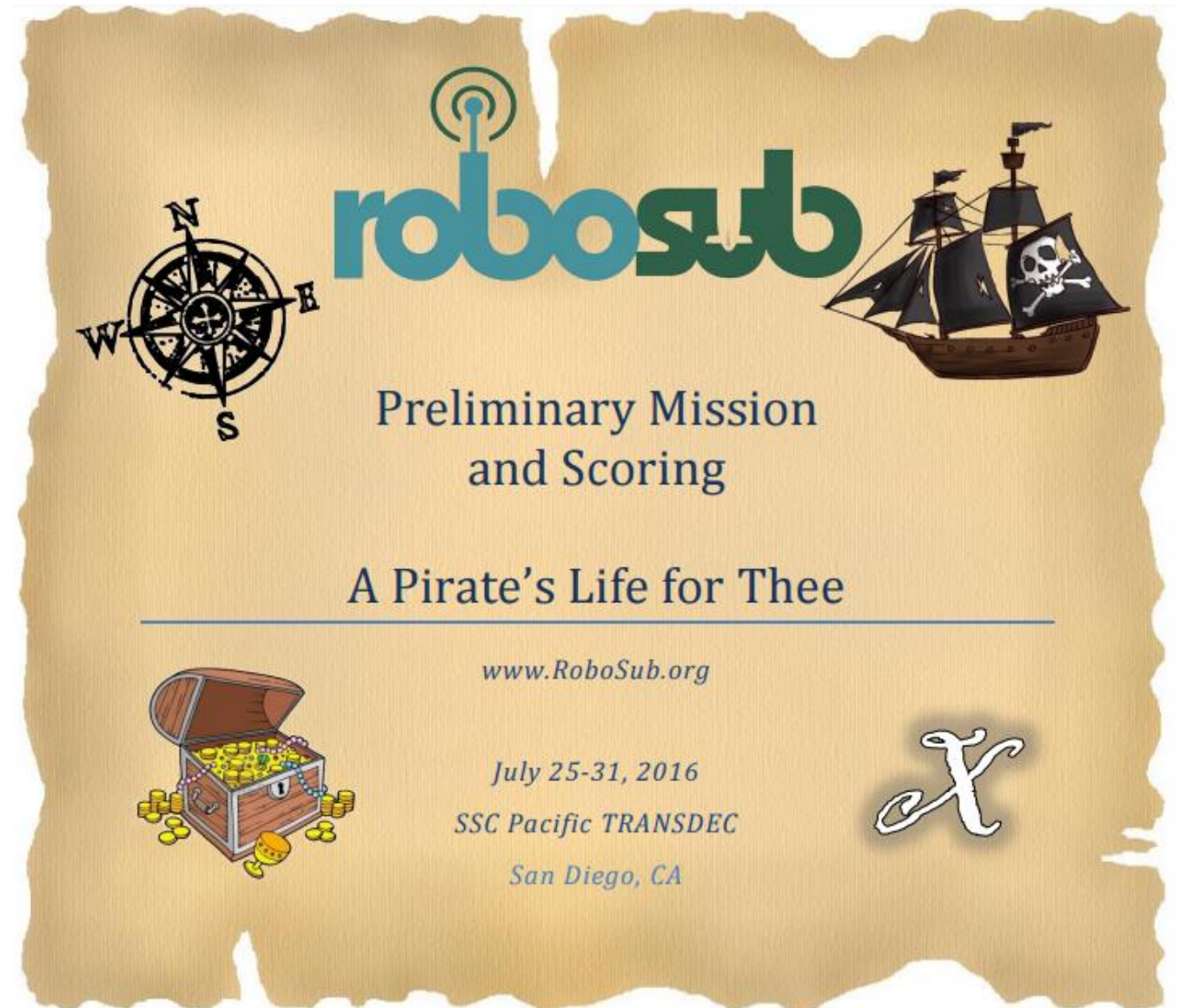


Figure 1: Robosub Competition Rules Cover Image

# Competition Tasks

1. Follow path markers between tasks
2. Interact with colored buoys
3. Pass over an Obstacle
4. Drop markers at a specified location
5. Fire Torpedoes through a specific target
6. Locate an object and pickup and move to a specified location

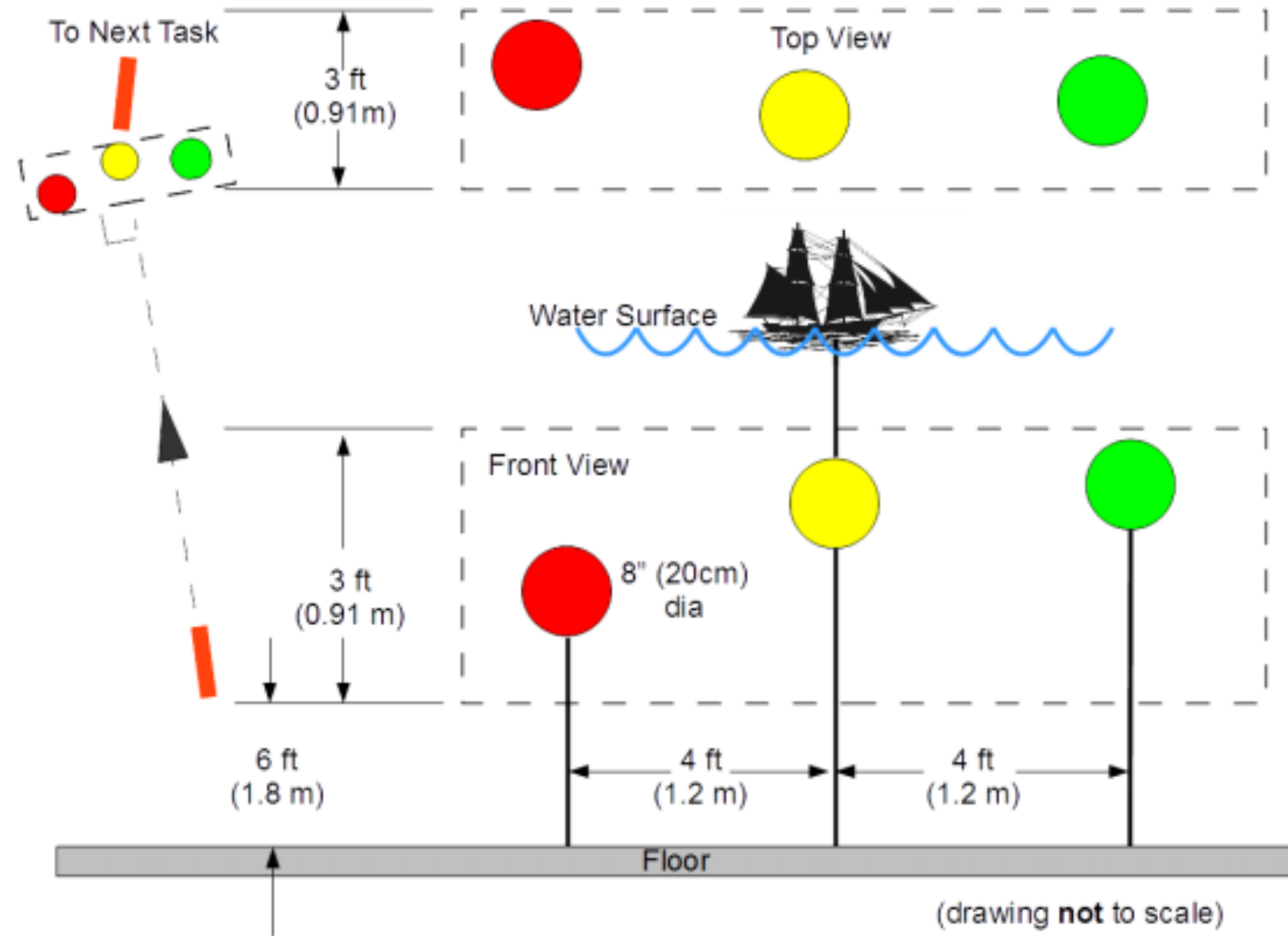


Figure 2: Buoy Interaction Task

# Team Robosub Breakdown

- ME Semester Objectives

- Fabricate, test, and transfer electronics to new hull
- Finish air system adaptation and integrate with gripper
- Physical systems integration
- Troubleshoot and Debug final design to ensure robust functionality of mechanical and electronic components

- ECE Team Work

- Replaced broken CPU with upgraded version (Zotac Mini PC)
- Beginning to implement a new shape identification program
- Parsed through the inherited code and begun modularizing for efficiency
- Development of the gripper
- Responsible for software integration

# Project Background

- The AUV
  - Designed and Built in 2013
  - Weighs about 84 lbf
    - Contains 22.5 pounds of weights within the hull
  - Components
    - 6 Seabotics thrusters
    - Zotac Mini Computer (CPU)
    - Arduino Mega and Uno
    - 3 Motor Controllers
    - Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)
    - 2 Cameras
    - Depth Sensor



Figure 3: Current AUV

# Robosub Signal Diagram

Legend:

- Sensors
- Marker Dropper
- Gripper
- Torpedoes
- Thrusters
- CPU/Control

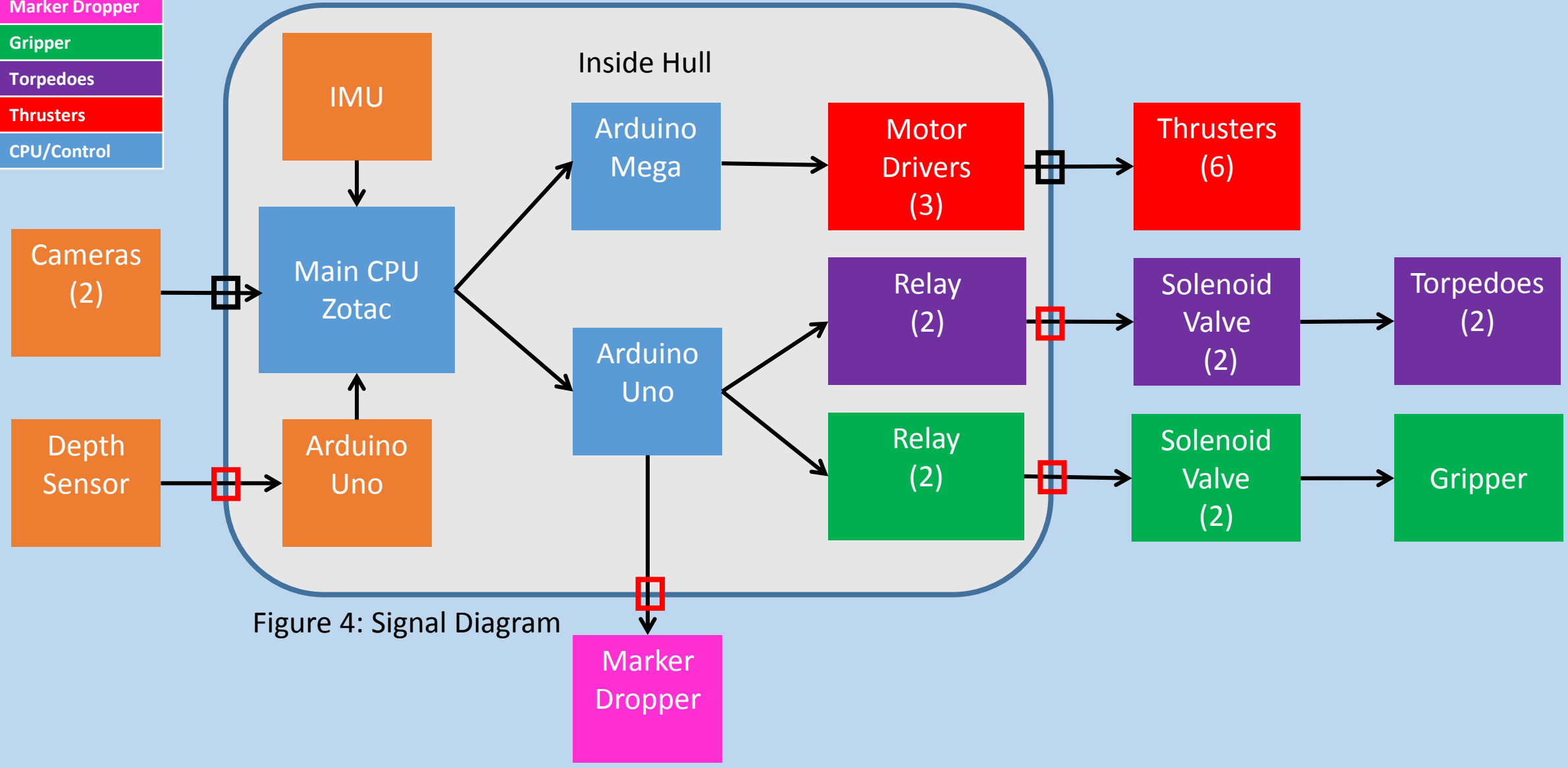
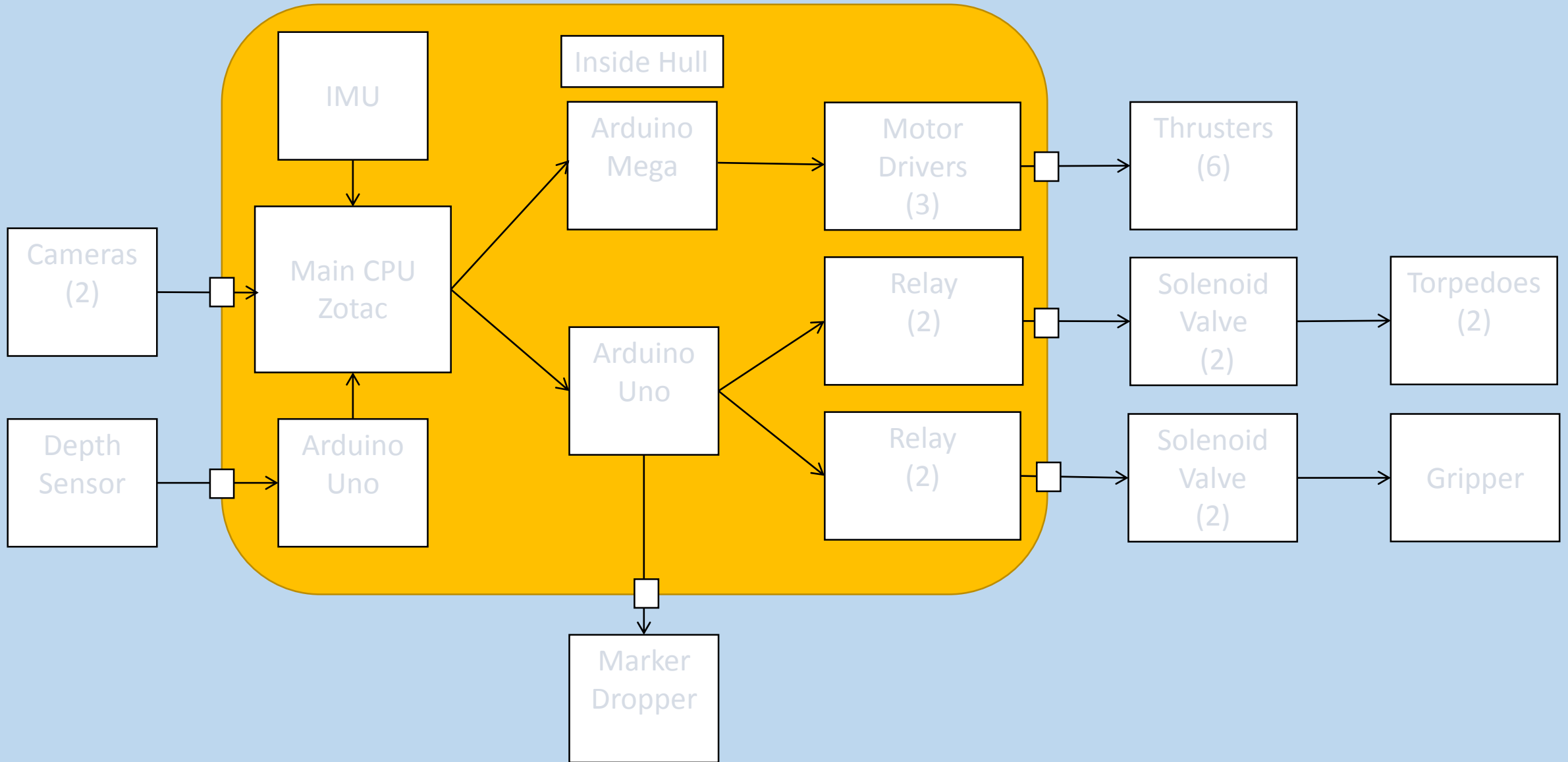


Figure 4: Signal Diagram

# The Hull



# The Hull

- From old to new
  - Decrease weight by 13 lbf
  - Decreased buoyancy by 28 lbf
  - Decreased volume by 900 in<sup>3</sup>
- Switched from aluminum to stainless steel for higher density
- 6 toggle latches instead of 16 nuts and bolts for easier access

Table 1: Hull Properties

Property	Equations	Old Hull	Revised Hull
Material Density (lb/in <sup>3</sup> )	$m/V$	0.0975	0.2781
Dimensions (inches)	$L \times W \times H$	22x15x6	12x18x5
Weight (lbf)	$m \times g$	84	71
Buoyancy (lbf)	$\rho_{\text{water}} \times V_{\text{displaced}} \times g$	100	72

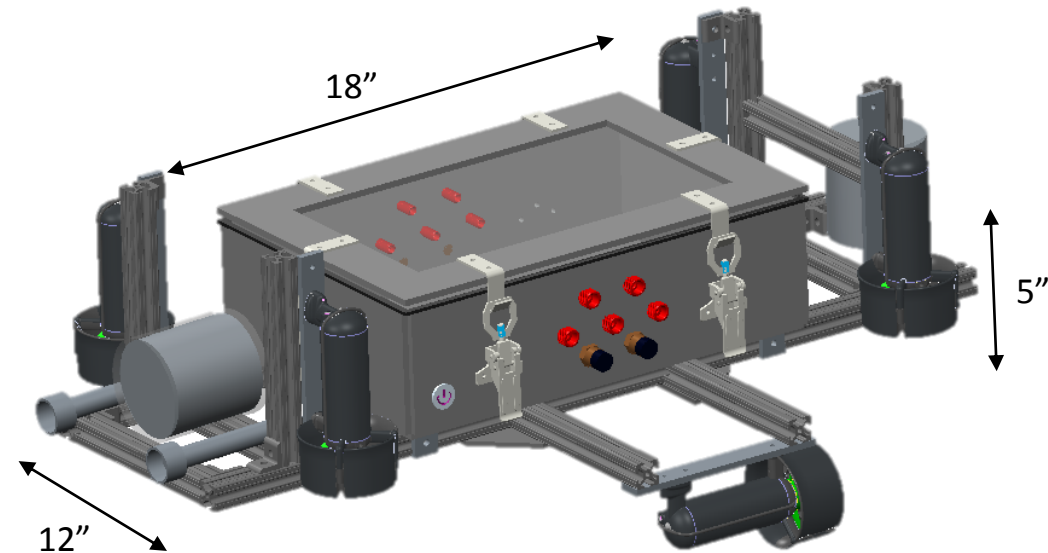
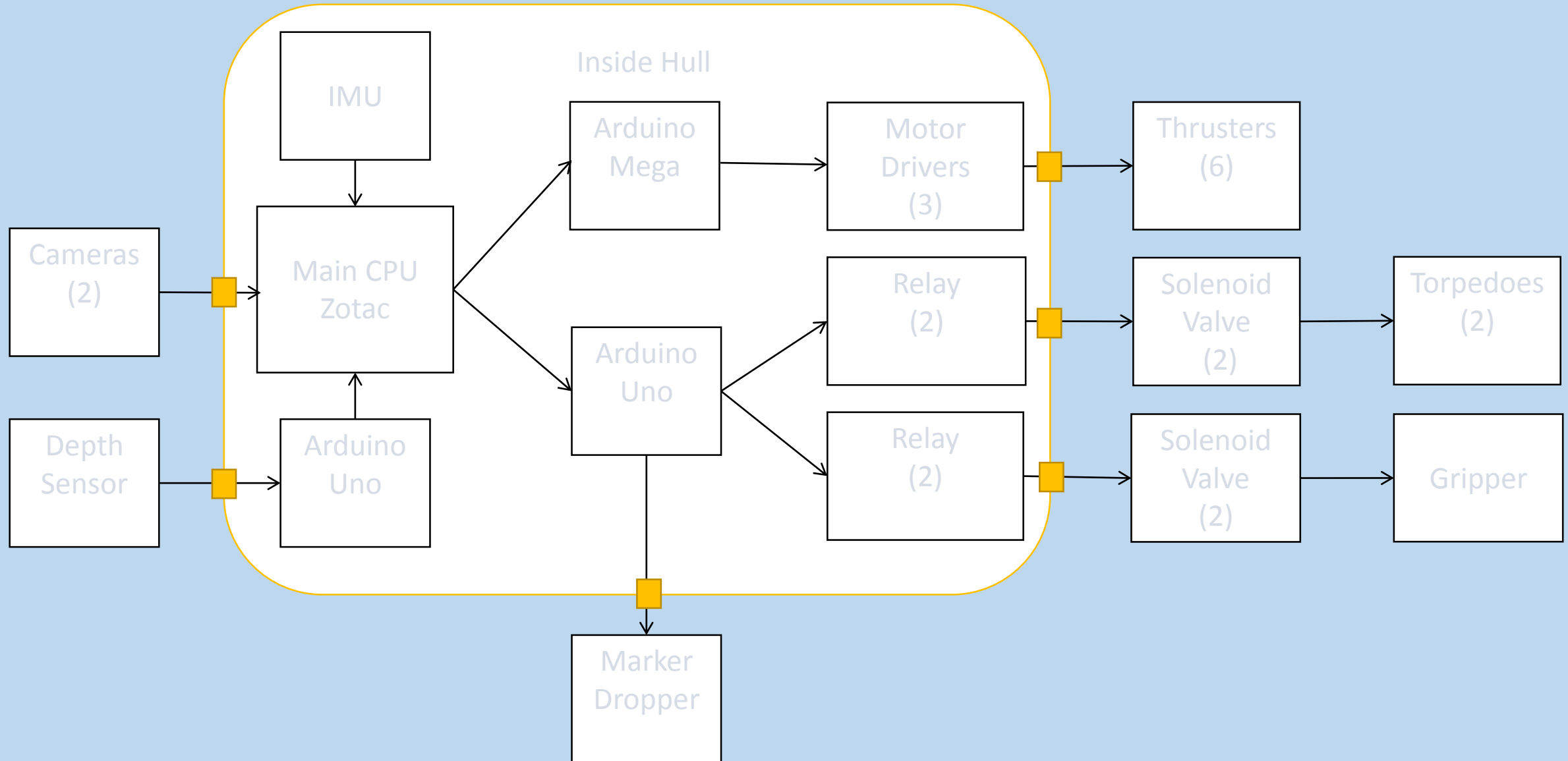


Figure 5: Hull and Frame Assembly



# Waterproof Electrical Connectors



# Waterproof Electrical Connectors

- Decision was made to keep some existing ports and replace others
- 4 Seacon heavy duty ports will be salvaged from old hull to accommodate thrusters and cameras
- 10 new cable penetrators will replace remaining Seacon ports
  - Pros: Cheap
  - Cons: Held with permanent marine epoxy

Table 2: Port Comparison

Item	Old hull	New hull
Seacon ports	\$100 X 16	\$100 X 4
Cable penetrators	\$4 X 0	\$4 x 10
Total Cost	\$1600	\$440



Figure 6: Seacon Port

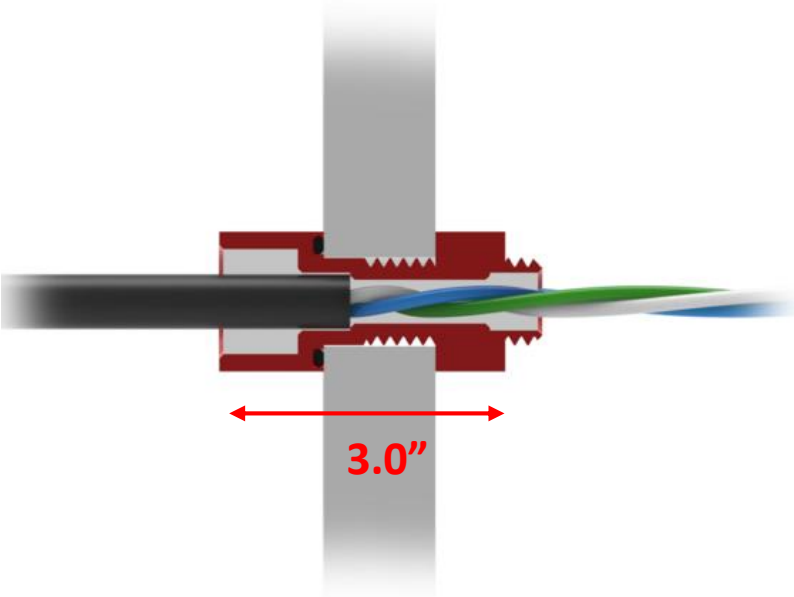
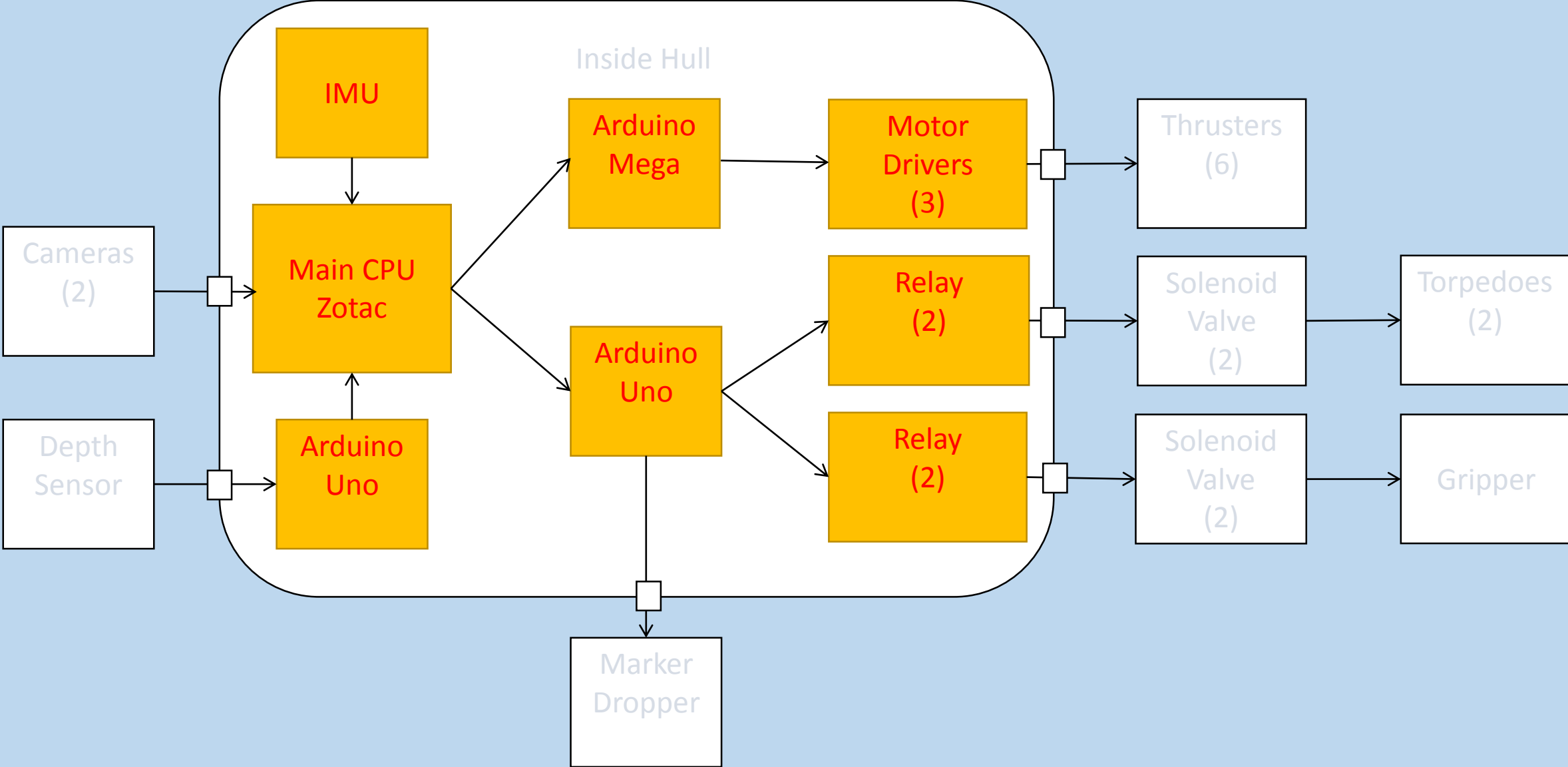


Figure 7: Cable Penetrator Cross Section

# Internal Electronics



# Battery

- 24V 2200 mAh battery pack
  - 3.5A preinstalled switch- if current gain becomes greater then 4A for a given component the battery shuts itself off
  - Max Discharge: 3.5A
  - Average continuous discharge: 1.8A
  - Weight: 1 lb
- Voltage regulators used to step down voltage to the different components
- 12v 5Ah lead acid battery to power smaller components
  - LED Strip
  - Blue LED ring on kill switch
  - Cooling fans
  - Common port for relays to open valves



Figure 8: 24V battery pack

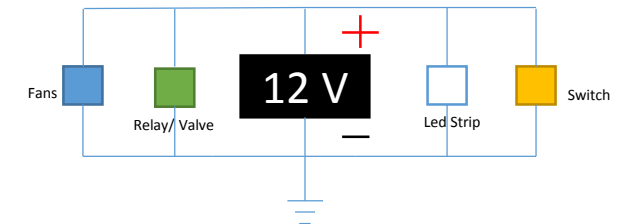


Figure 9: 12V battery circuit

Table 3: Component Requirements

Components	Max Current (A)	Ave. Current (A)	Voltage Required (V)
Zotac PC Board	3.5	1.5	19.0
Arduino UNO	0.75	0.5	7.0 - 12.0
Arduino Mega	0.75	0.5	7.0 - 12.0
Motor Controllers	2.0	1.5	5.0
IMU	0.075	0.060	3.5 - 16.0
Thrusters	12.0	3.0	19.1
Depth Sensor	0.020	0.012	8.0 - 11.0

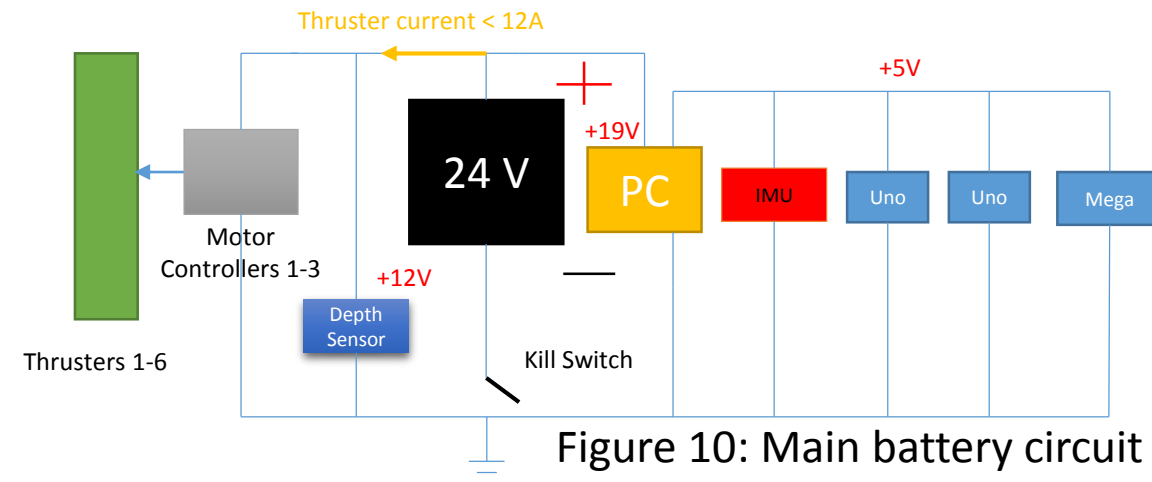


Figure 10: Main battery circuit

# Reorganization of Internal Electronics

- Original layout
  - Motor controllers in breadboard
  - Arduinos laying around
  - Wires everywhere
- Messy
- Not organized

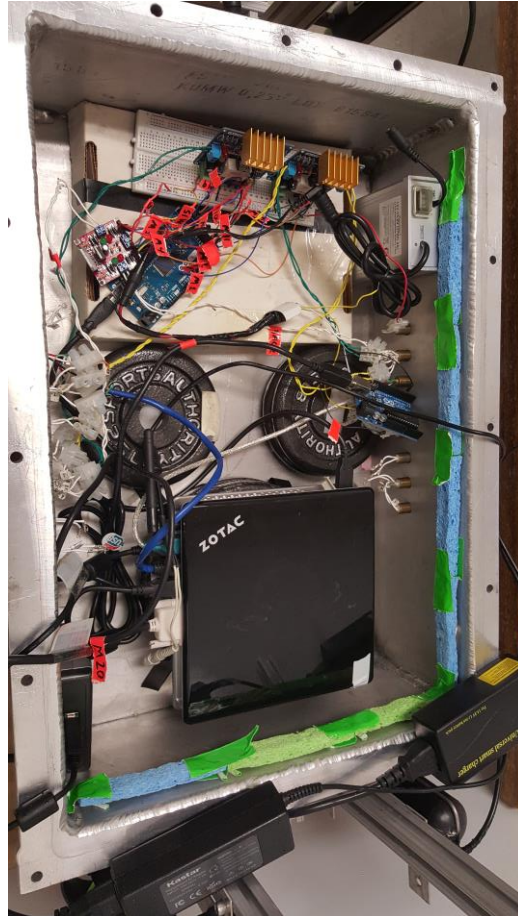


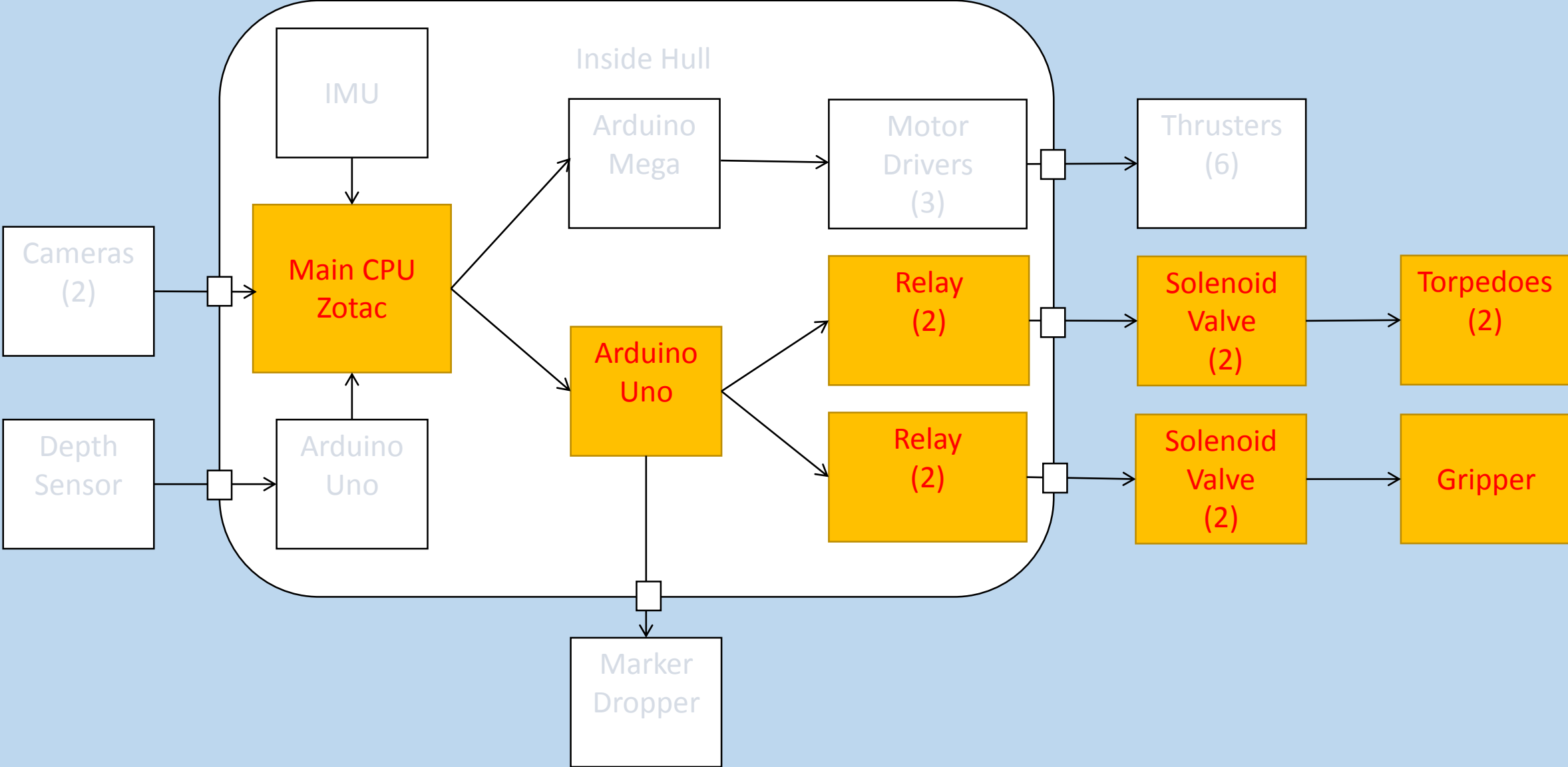
Figure 11: Original Hull Interior



Figure 12: Updated Hull Interior

- Eliminated breadboard
  - Reorganized in black boxes
    - Thruster Box
      - 3 Motor controllers
      - 1 Arduino Mega
    - Torpedo/Gripper Box
      - Arduino Uno
      - Four relays
- Further improvements
  - Implement cooling fans
  - Ensure electronics do not overheat

# Air System



# Air System

- Fully Assembled
  - Actuators
  - Tubing
  - Airtight and waterproof seals
  - Electronic relays for actuators
  - 12v battery
- Functioning Code
  - Can launch left and right torpedo based off of keyboard input
  - Next Step is changing keyboard input to identifying image

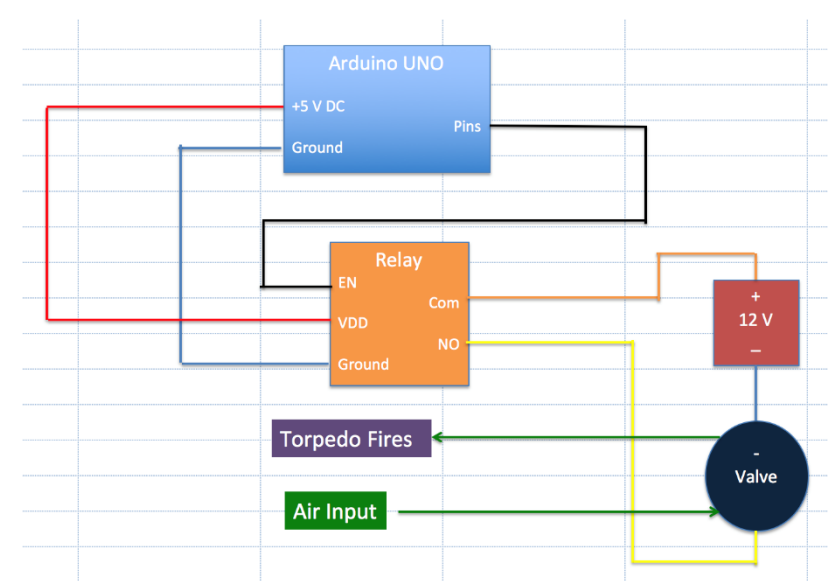


Figure 13: Air System Diagram

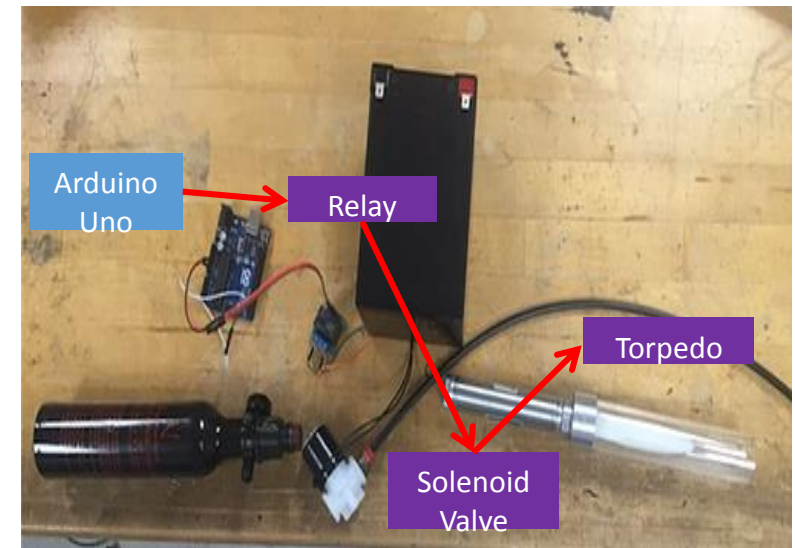
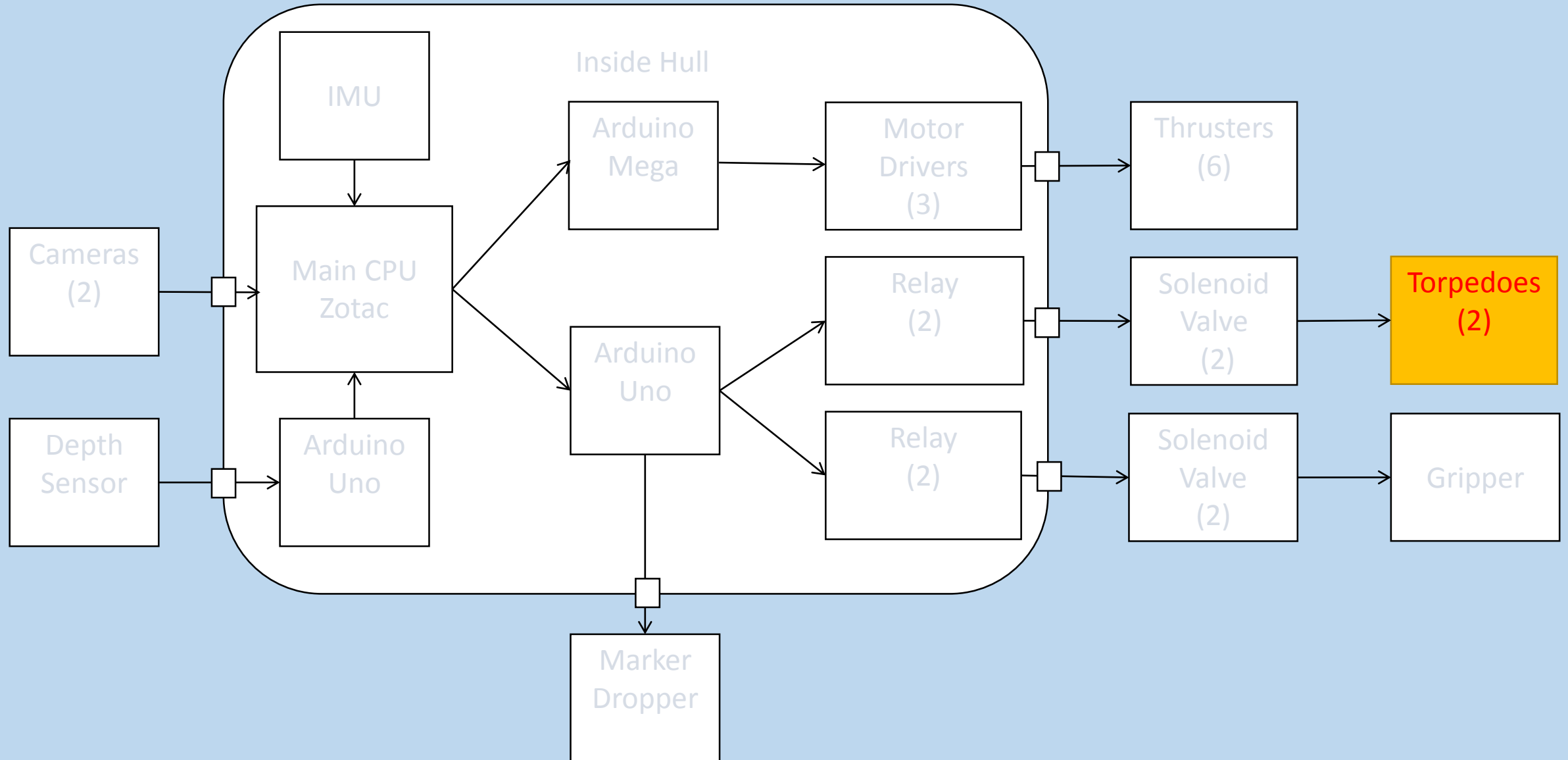


Figure 14: Air System Configuration

# Torpedos





# Torpedo Development



## CAD design

- Small fins for easy mold release
- Small diameter to ensure piston fit

## 3D printed torpedo

- High buoyancy abs plastic
- Rapid prototyping

## Plaster mold

- Plaster of Paris
- Mold around 3D printed torpedo
- Recoverable molds

## Simpact 85A urethane rubber

- Relatively high density rubber (sinks in water)
- Easy pour but short pot life for rubber positive mold

# Torpedoes Completed

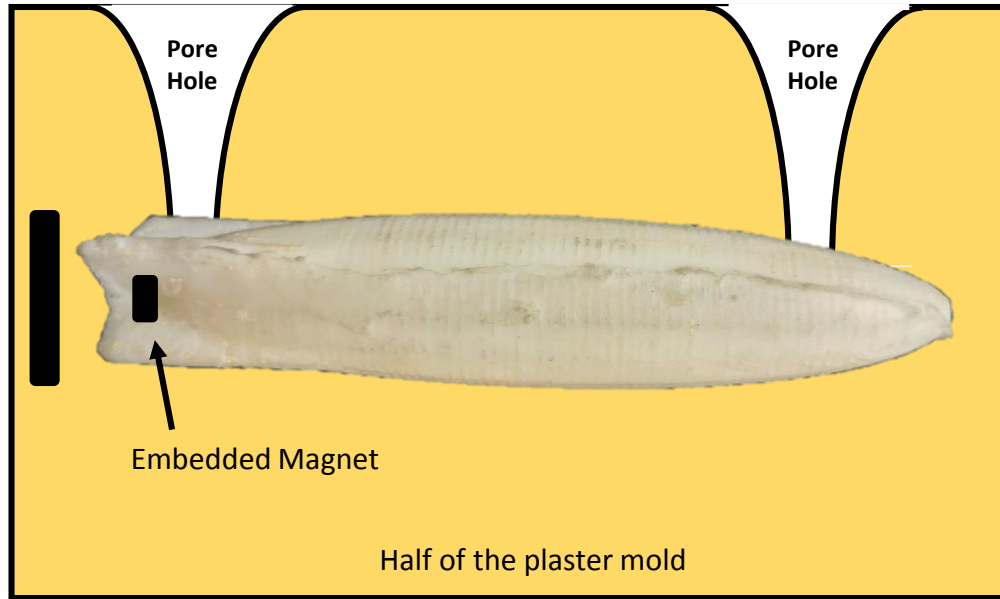
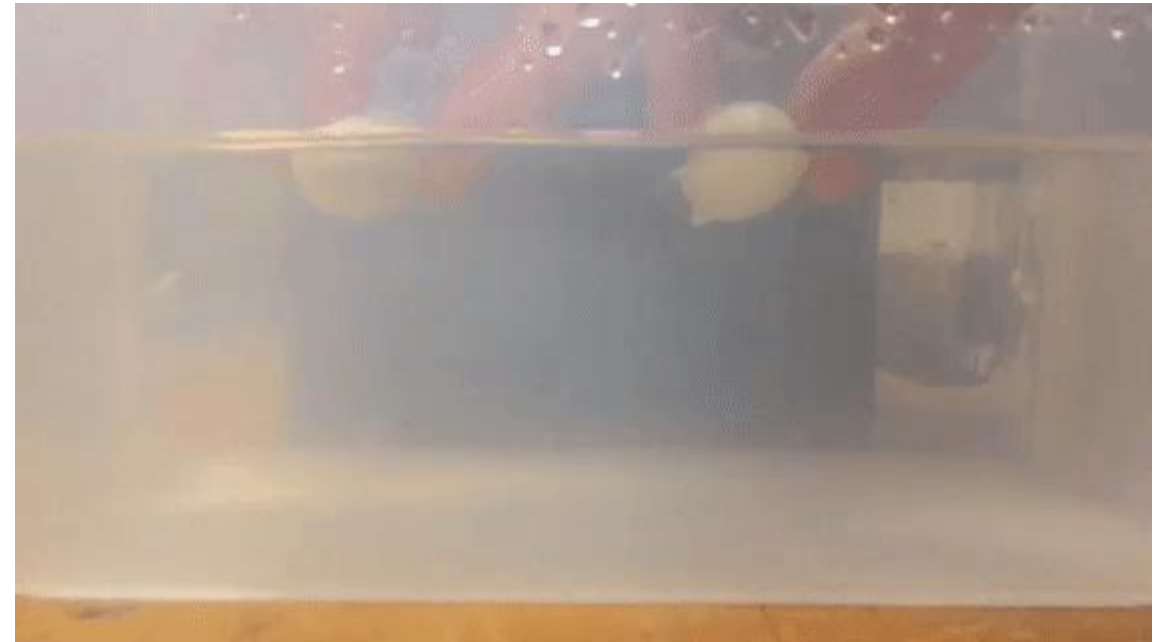


Figure 15: Magnet Embedded Torpedo Process

## Next step

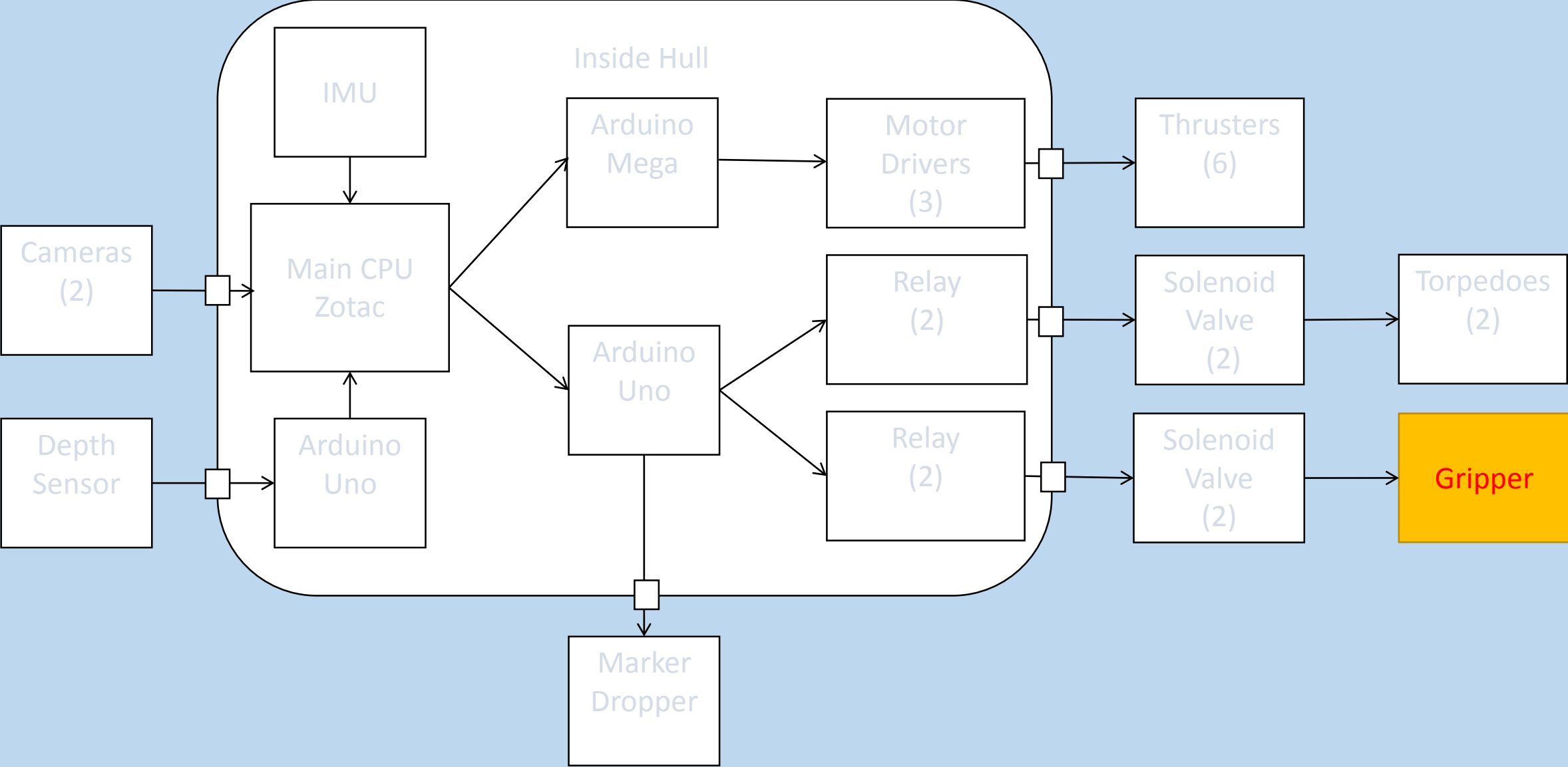
- Optimize for buoyancy (towards neutrality)
- Embed surface magnets to the torpedo back



## Successful Testing

- Rubber torpedo successfully negatively buoyant
- Improvement over old design

# Gripper



# Gripper Development



Figure 16: Old Mechanism

- Lack of actuation mechanism
- Large ineffective claws

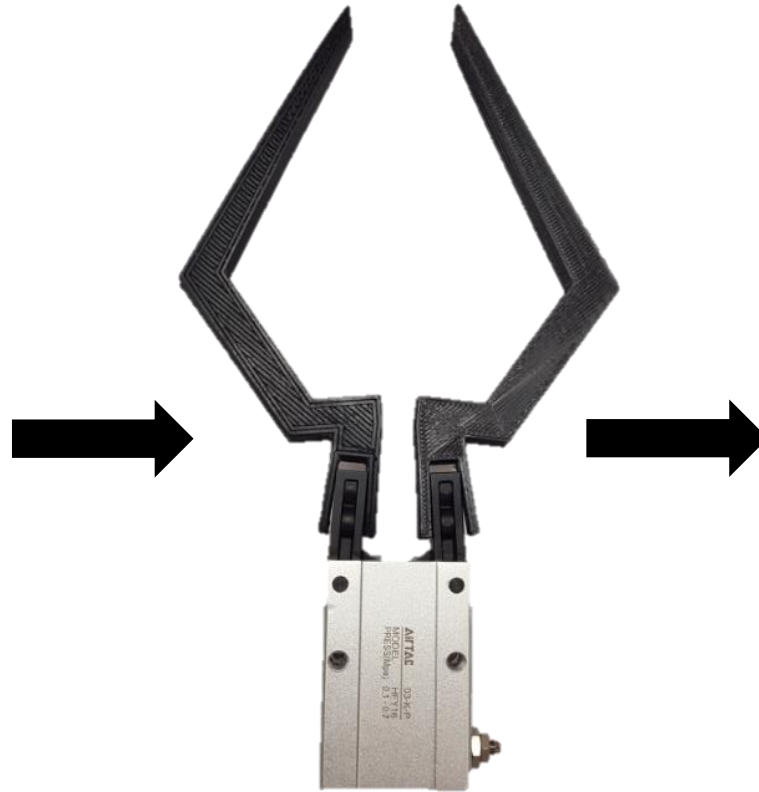


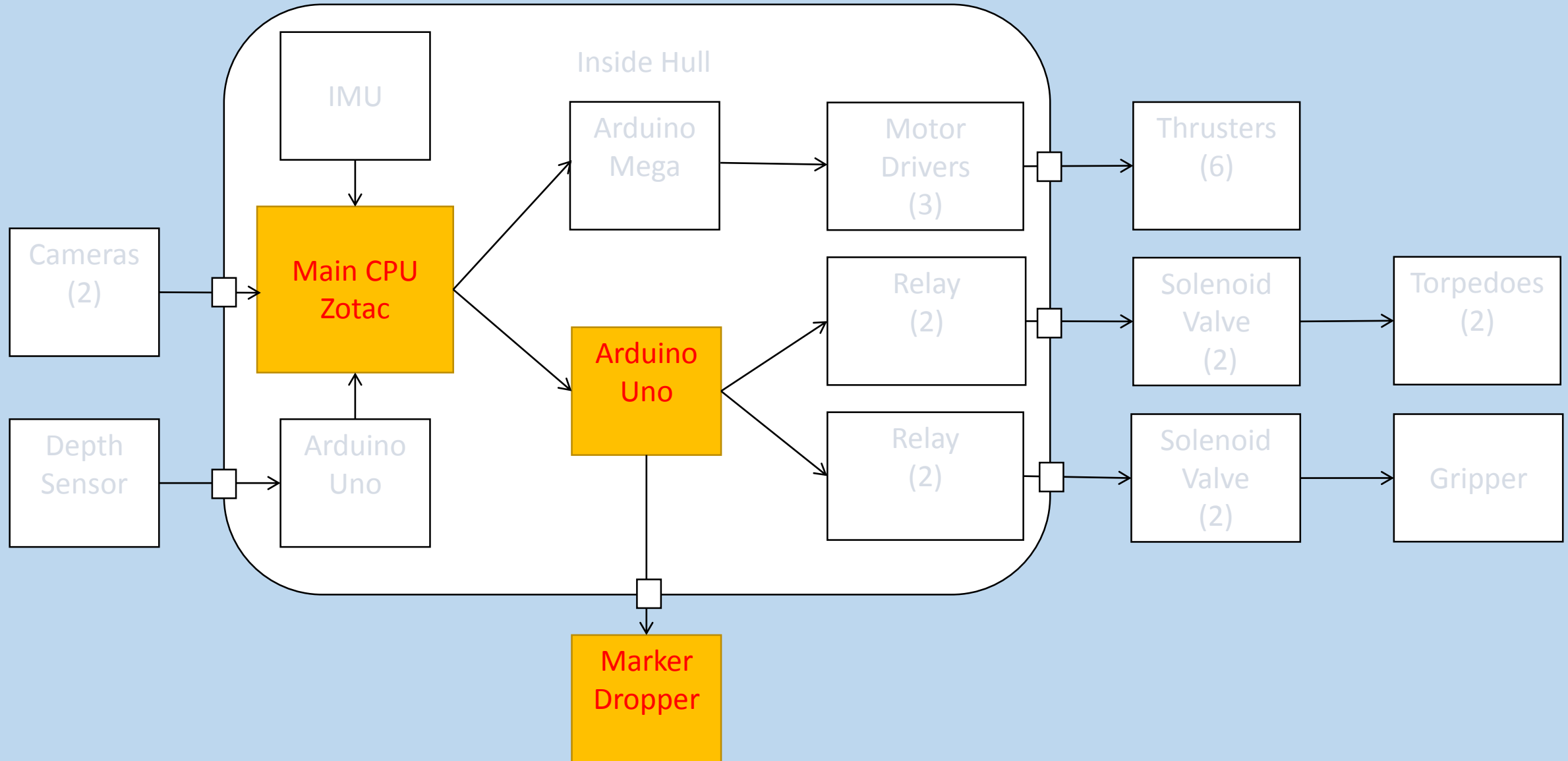
Figure 17: Gripper Prototype

- Purchased pneumatic actuator
- 3D printed gripping mechanism

- ME team next step
  - Create appropriate mounting platform for gripper on submersible frame
  - ✓ Find and implement component for air system integration

- ECE team next step
  - Iterating design for larger gripping surface
  - Development of high friction gripping surface

# Marker Dropper



# Marker Dropper Development



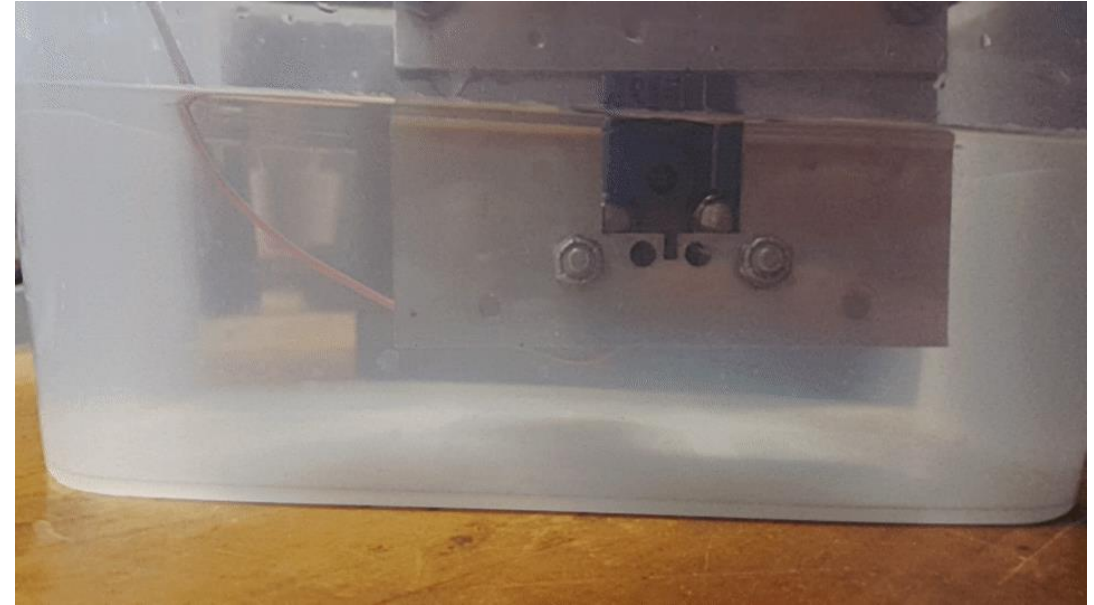
## Old System

- Normal DC motor
- Poor waterproofing
- Usable frame



## New actuator

- waterproof servo
- Adjusted bracket positioning to allow the servo arm enough space to move



## Tested servo underwater

- Markers successfully drop when prompted by user
- Mount to frame

## Final step

- Integrate with main CPU (working with ECE Team)

# Current Work

- Transfer Components from old to new hull
  - Cameras
  - Thrusters
  - Electronics
- Water Test all subsystems in pool
  - Torpedo
  - Gripper
  - Marker Dropper
- Code created to control sub remotely to test systems
  - Needed to test subsystems until image processing is finished
  - Works through serial from external computer



Figure 18: New hull with components

# Gantt Chart Spring 2016

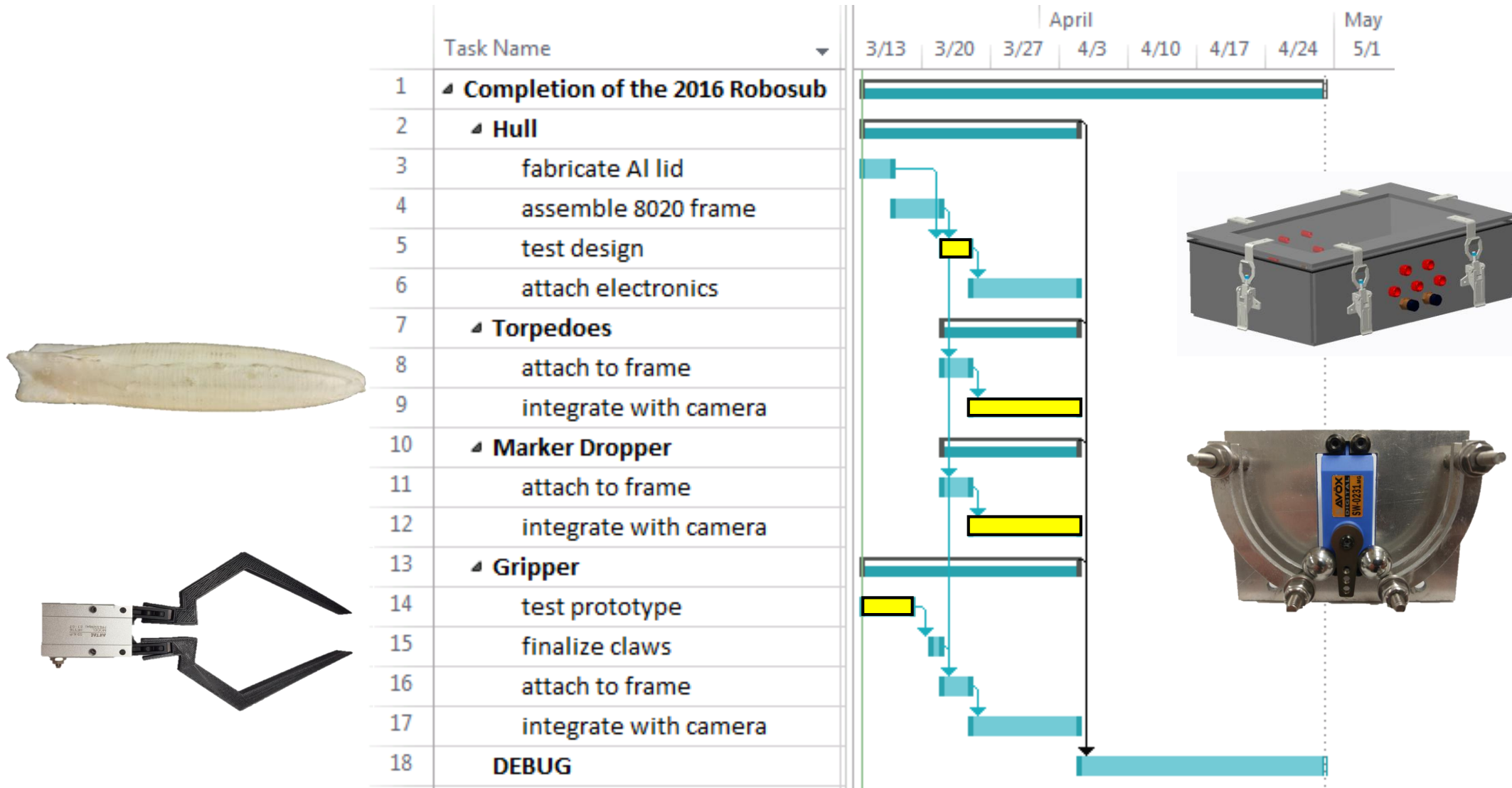


Figure 19: Time allocation and scheduling for spring 2016 semester



# Testing Schedule

Test	Date	Notes
Gate Navigation	ECE Dependent	Remote control implemented
✓ Marker Dropper	January 22	Success
✓ Torpedoes	February 1	Success
✓ Gripper and Air Systems	February 1	Success
Testing of New Hull	March 25	Fabricating lid now
Systems Integration	Monthly	

# Conclusion

- Fully assembled and tested torpedos and marker dropper
- Reorganized, electrically insulated, and modularized hull electronics
- Pneumatics system fully operational
- New hull fabrication completed

# References

- [1] Auvfoundation.org, "Home - Foundation", 2016. [Online]. Available: <http://www.auvsifoundation.org/home>. [Accessed: 16- Feb- 2016].
- [2] Onr.navy.mil, "Office of Naval Research Home Page", 2016. [Online]. Available: <http://www.onr.navy.mil/>. [Accessed: 16- Feb- 2016].
- [3] F. Engineering, "FAMU-FSU College of Engineering :: Welcome", *Eng.fsu.edu*, 2016. [Online]. Available: <http://www.eng.fsu.edu/>. [Accessed: 16- Feb- 2016].

# Questions?

