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AIPG - aeroelasticy induced power generation

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Acrosapce Engineering team and three Electrical Engineering teams. The ultimate goal for this multi-year project is to fly a 3-D printed UAV electric propulsion aircraft that generates power from multiple environtemental sources to facilitate a new world record for the longest flight time. Regenerative braking is currently being used in the automotive industry to charge hybrid vehicle batteries; the goal of this project is to research and develop new regenerative power mechanisms for the Aerospace industry. The system is designed to generate electrical power from multiple sources; oscillatory vibrations of a flexible wing due to aeroelastic flutter and gust response exciting motor generators, piezoelectric devices, with additional solar power generation. Light weight power storage devices are being developed including 3-D printed batteries and graphine super-capacitors. The motor generation mechanisms are stored in a pod attached to the bottom of the wing and the piezos are attached to the wing spar. A long term goal of the project is to enable simultaneous 3-D printing of the power generation and storage devices are currently under development. These generation and storage mechanisms are interfaced with a power management circuit capable of collecting electrical power inputs from multiple power sources, charging the batteries to drive the electric motor propeller.

Biography

Jonathan Aaron Franco is currently a senior Aerospace Engineering student at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He is the Project Manager of this multi-disciplinary senior project including three Electrical Engineering teams. He has aided the project as an Underclassmen Assistant for the past four academic quarters prior to achieving senior standing.

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