

Rough Draft

1 March 26, 2018.

2 >>Dr. Garrison: I want to introduce our
3 speaker today. This is Tim Crane. He's an
4 aerospace engineer and Vice President of
5 research and development at intuitive machines.
6 Proud alumni of Texas A&M university.

7 >>Dr. Crane: It's the other university,
8 the orange one.

9 >>Dr. Garrison: So he has degrees in
10 aerospace engineering. After graduation he
11 worked at NASA Johnson Space Center where he
12 worked on (inaudible) involved (indiscernible).
13 This involves navigation systems, proposed
14 human robotics, spacecrafts entry and landing
15 (indiscernible) proximity missions. There's
16 design used in 2009 (indiscernible) science
17 laboratory. At AR CAM flying inspection
18 vehicle, Hubble robotic servicing vehicle and
19 provide (indiscernible) for the Orion
20 exploration vehicle. In addition to that you
21 may know he worked as an adjunct here in the UH
22 physics program teaching astrodynamics course.
23 So some people who have been around may
24 remember that. So I guess five years ago he
25 helped founded a company intuitive machines,

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1 which is doing some really fascinating stuff.
2 He will tell you about it. And again last week
3 I want to remind you this is both the company
4 internship opportunity so this is somebody who
5 you may want to ask a lot of questions to.

6 >>Dr. Crane: Thanks, David. We will talk
7 about it intuitive machines as we get into
8 this. Very excited to be here. Seminars are
9 my favorite to talk to; more or less you want
10 to be here and I get to talk about whatever I
11 want. So that's a good combination. As we go
12 through I have time for Q and A at the end if
13 you want to debate or go deeper into something.
14 If something is not clear don't hesitate to
15 raise your hand and I'll clarify. I'll provide
16 an overview of the URV. We will talk about
17 intuitive machines. Talk about the motivation
18 that URT used to be the TRV. Terrestrial
19 return vehicle. NASA DNA that I like my three
20 letter acronyms and I can't escape them. TRV
21 became URV. Technology People with GAD and
22 design overview concept of operations bell talk
23 about and what we are trying to achieve and
24 where that program is and we will have time for
25 Q and A. Intuitive machines is Dr. Garrison

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1 said we founded in 2013. We felt like a lot of
2 the engineering processes and techniques we
3 have in NASA could also be gainfully employed
4 in the industry so we said we are in Houston
5 let's do aerospace and reach out with some of
6 the same techniques and do energy and medicine.
7 I'm happy to report that we have done very well
8 in energy. Medical sector is harder to crack.
9 Their business model is challenging. They want
10 you to stick with an invention for years and
11 years and it's a different model than a young
12 start up who isn't focused on a single device
13 which is what they like to do. We like to go
14 over challenging projects. Same that drew us:
15 To Nasa those momental challenges we seek out
16 in our commercial endeavor. 75 percent of the
17 work is aerospace, half government and half
18 commercial and 25 oil and gas. We specialize
19 in autonomous systems. The core of our company
20 is guidance navigation and control. Taking
21 sensor information, making sense of sensor
22 information, calculating what changes your
23 vehicle or robotic or RV or anything the number
24 for needs to change its course to take action.
25 So we take that smarts that's the part of

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1 intuitive machines we replay into other
2 industries. So, if you look at our website and
3 search the Internet you might come across
4 mention of the TRV. That was the original
5 design idea. The original product we were
6 trying to put forward to develop the priority
7 small payload return capsule. Right now the
8 International Space Station services the big
9 boats. A dragon or Cygnus coming upper three
10 to six months. If you are doing an experiment
11 or send something back you have to wait for a
12 dragon in particular to come up and you reload
13 it because it does re-order. When the dragon
14 comes down it plunks into the ocean and
15 everybody does the navy SEAL thing and unpacks
16 it and ships it. On the logistics of getting
17 payloads back from the space station are
18 challenging. You can imagine the compression
19 of resources and time once that cargo return
20 vehicle becomes a space station to get
21 everything done that has to be done and back
22 onto the ride home. One idea was what if we
23 had an ability to return payloads from space
24 station independent of the big boats coming
25 back. And now that decouples your experiment

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1 from the scheduled constraints or delays even
2 launch delays of when the dragon gets between
3 (indiscernible) might be able to bring some of
4 your cargo back. The Cygnus doesn't bring
5 cargo back that just burns on re-entry. So you
6 have a limited number of options. We wrote a
7 proposal to casis(ph) which is the office for
8 advancement of science and space chartered with
9 basically utilization of space stations and
10 national lab, we got a grant to be the
11 preliminary design. We found a customer
12 interested in funding it and able to take that
13 design all the way through pre CDR, critical
14 design review. CDR is an airspace industry
15 NASA term. You have done some analysis on the
16 design and basically ready to build it. So we
17 are actually a little further than ready to
18 build it in some areas and just right there
19 including some drop tests. I'll show you some
20 pictures in a little bit. So we hit a pause we
21 were sending TRVs and begun looking at what we
22 can do other than coming back from the
23 International Space Station, turns out that the
24 technology we are using for the TRV could be
25 applied in a broader sense and that's why we

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1 get to the universal return vehicle. whether
2 we can return from the universe is a matter of
3 scale. The technology came from NASA in
4 particular a lot of engineers Johnson Space
5 Center had been studying a lift to drag
6 ellipsoid entry, entry bodied design for over
7 20 years. If you seen Apollo, the Orion
8 spacecraft have that standard capsule design
9 blunt air shell. Those are called a low lift
10 to drag. Low over D design. Might get a lift
11 to drag ratio of .2. They can banking and turn
12 but limited to when they hit the atmosphere.
13 The ellipsoid is .3 and .4 on the ratio to lift
14 and drag which means two things. One it means
15 you have a lot more cross range. The reentry
16 problem is like a severe coming down a slope.
17 Not straight down but S turns to bleed off
18 energy as they come in. Also modulate those S
19 turns to correct for dispersions when you hit
20 the atmosphere to land where you want to land.
21 Now the width of those S turns from a standard
22 reentry problem directly relates to the lift to
23 drag ratio. The higher you lift to drag ratio
24 the broader those S turns can be and cross
25 range is the term we use in aerospace

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1 engineering. If you go above this ellipsoid
2 design and to lifting both Sierra Nevada --
3 dream chaser has more than .3, .4 something in
4 that area. I'm getting a head nod. There's a
5 variety of designs. The reason NASA is looking
6 at it they envision a 10-meter diameter that
7 looks lift to drag entry vehicle for Mars for
8 putting down metric tons of human cargo. Human
9 habitats, nuclear reactors, hydroponic base.
10 The whole thing you need to set up an outpost
11 on Mars. One of the trades they use this
12 design. This is an excerpt from a paper by
13 Chris Cermillie(ph) about the Cobra Mars
14 reentry vehicle which shows a shape similar to
15 what we are using in the URV for Mars entry.
16 So we formed a partnership with NASA in 2015
17 with a space agreement that said if you will
18 help us with the design and analysis of the
19 shape we will do all the propulsion and
20 operations, and give them the reentry data to
21 validate the analysis they are doing for Mars
22 and other designations. The reason we are
23 calling it a universal reentry vehicle, is this
24 shape will scale so it can be used for this
25 International Space Station cargo return. You

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1 can send it to the moon and do a lunar sample
2 return with it. Or you can enter at Mars.
3 Actually you can do everything coming back from
4 Mars all at the same shape. I think that's it.
5 Middle lift to drag ratio also means you can
6 pull only about 3Gs. So instead OF slamming to
7 the atmosphere at six, SEVEN, EIGHT
8 gravitational accelerations, this provides a
9 smoother ride. Biological like
10 (indiscernible) sample from International Space
11 Station. So that's the technology backgrounds.
12 So we first look at this for ISS. Saying what
13 can we do. The idea was that we would use the
14 Japanese modules air locks called the GM air
15 lock which is built with a mechanism called the
16 Cyclopes tray or table. Basically what happens
17 is you can use the Cyclopes to eject payloads
18 into space from the (indiscernible). You mark
19 what you want to eject it has a spring
20 mechanism you close the door and the outer
21 hatch opens reach into the Japanese arm hold it
22 in the direction you want and release the
23 spring mechanism. So the first design concept
24 we had was let's scale this down and send it up
25 as a payload on one of the cargo missions to

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1 space station store it and when the time is
2 right load it and pick it up. It's fully
3 capable of maneuvering in space and landing on
4 a soft target. We will show you examples of
5 that. It could also be a free flier. So no
6 reason why it can't fly on it's own but the
7 initial idea was to put it in the space
8 station. How many people work or have
9 aspirations in working in space? Couple.
10 About a third. Half, maybe. Here's an
11 example. Taking a direct flight from Los
12 Angeles to New York and you have an aunt in St.
13 Louis and you are supposed to return her
14 baggage to her and you were not able to do it.
15 Imagine a bag as you flew over St. Louis the
16 airplane would kick out and it would
17 automatically fly to your aunt in St. Louis.
18 That's what the TRV is. If your aunt was a
19 scientist you would stay in orbit. So there's
20 your terrestrial example. We tried to sell
21 this to a shipping company originally for
22 advertising purposes. You can imagine the
23 parachute coming out and you have that shipping
24 company, logo and advertising on it. It
25 doesn't quite work out. This liability issue

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1 brings bringing it back from orbit. So the
2 idea is you would first load up the TRV or the
3 URV, at the processing facility. The guys get
4 in and make sure it's ready to get loaded. It
5 goes up on either falcon or an Aires rocket so
6 it's Cygnus or a dragon mission. Once it's up
7 on ISS it gets stowed with other baggage.
8 Something THAT looks like a golf bag, the
9 vehicle is about this big. It goes up and it
10 will be stowed and wait for the scientist on
11 board to perform the experiment. That could
12 take a view shames. It could be the completely
13 experiment or if you had a big enough
14 experiment, experiment that required
15 calibration, you can envision doing a small
16 sample of that experiment and sends those
17 results home to get them calibrated and
18 updating, the protocols you are going to run on
19 board so you don't run the whole series without
20 confirming the protocols. So the astronauts
21 run the experiment and this is, this is the
22 (indiscernible), the cyclopes tray fits in
23 here, the arm comes out and ejects it. It's
24 completely autonomous. In fact the original
25 design didn't even have a radio. Completely

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1 autonomous. So the vehicle is stowed away on
2 the space station. That's called IVA.
3 Internal vehicular activity. This is important
4 because that means that our propulsion system
5 has to be compatible with humans in an enclosed
6 area which is an inert blow down propulsion
7 system. Like taking a balloon -- a lot like
8 taking a balloon and not tying it off and
9 releasing it and the pressure blows out. We
10 have to make sure what blows out of the engine
11 is nonflammable and nontoxic. In the event the
12 whole thing released, we can't put the crew in
13 jeopardy. So the design for the universal
14 return vehicle which never has to go in the
15 space station went to higher orbit or to the
16 moon. We can use a different propulsion
17 systems that use a combustible type of design.
18 It wakes up, sees the sky, looks at the stars
19 and adjusts for altitude and orientation GPS.
20 And we have (indiscernible) most advanced
21 FNpeg, fully numeric predictive entry guidance.
22 FNPEG. With my engineers we call it F'g peg.
23 So actually we will complete all the maneuvers
24 and banking angles until we get to a parachute.
25 It deploys. In the end it lands on a surface

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1 area smaller than this room, about a 15-meter
2 land footprint, six hours from the time you
3 close the air lock. So same day delivery. You
4 can prove the experiment. Put it in the air,
5 lock, kick it out, and that day you have it
6 back on earth. Let me run through a quick
7 video. This is a general lock you can see the
8 Japanese flag there. This is the external
9 experiment area. That air lock is where the
10 Japanese arm pulls it out and the bottom is
11 covered -- there's the TRV. I'll point at it.
12 Let's look at -- this video is actually an
13 animation run with the actual software with a
14 high simulation. We have trick which runs a
15 package called geo. It's aerodynamic. We
16 modeled the sensors and took the flight
17 software for the TRV and dropped it in a
18 simulation. You see an animation driven by the
19 results with the actual flight software
20 executed a complete mission ejected from the
21 ISS. So when we leave the Cyclopes tens, pull
22 the timer, power source, basically, the vehicle
23 runs on double A batteries, and it powers up
24 and it begins a countdown. The reason it does
25 that is we will have enough change in velocity,

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1 thrust authority, or Delta V, as we call it in
2 aerospace world, to leave the orbit and hit the
3 atmosphere, which means we have enough Delta V
4 to point in the wrong direction we can
5 intercept with the International Space Station.
6 So we have to get a sufficient separation so
7 that all the systems are optimal. We are able
8 to orient and do a separation maneuver first
9 and do a (indiscernible) maneuver. But if we
10 don't make that, if the systems are not optimal
11 and can't execute the -- we go away. Right
12 there is a little spec that's the International
13 Space Station. There's a red line coming down
14 and forward. This is what is called a rotating
15 reference frame, a local V, vertical and
16 horizontal. Your frame of reference is stuck
17 on the space station and moving with it as it
18 goes around the earth. Now you have the
19 spirogyra motion plots that rendezvous analyst
20 are used to looking at. We come back up and
21 swoop and come up. And if nothing happened
22 different, that goes on and on until
23 differential drag causes it to separate from
24 the International Space Station. Each one of
25 these scallops is an orbital revolution. So if

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1 you go back to your fundamentals of kinetic and
2 potential energy, we have come down and come
3 back up. So the orbit of the TRV or URV in
4 this case is slightly more elliptical than the
5 orbit of the space station, because it has that
6 push so it's falling down and comes back up
7 later. The and that will repeat except for
8 once we are out here we do a maneuver. That
9 wasn't the maneuver. There it is. See how
10 that it is formed in the orbit. If we didn't
11 do that separation maneuver this bow tie
12 pattern would repeat indefinitely. Okay. Once
13 it's sufficiently far from the ISS we do the
14 actual (indiscernible) maneuver. This is not
15 realtime of course. A couple of different
16 shots. This is the same view on the bottom
17 left. You have a top down view on the top
18 right and then the top left and bottom right is
19 both different perspectives centered on the
20 vehicle. So you might be able to make out the
21 thruster (indiscernible). There's no moving
22 surfaces on this vehicle. So there's no rudder
23 or flaps or elevators. It's completely steered
24 by jets. The vehicle itself is statistically
25 stable and trims out at a certainly angle we

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1 use the jets to steer is like a surfer. So
2 begin to enter the atmosphere and S turns one
3 way, and coming around and back, get to 25-mile
4 altitude and we will deploy a supersonic
5 parachute. Those of you in California extra,
6 that's Vandenberg Air Force Base, a nice space
7 to land. It jets out into the ocean so we come
8 in a reentry path, if we run short we splash in
9 the owner ocean. On the first shoot this point
10 the vehicle itself is inert; it's not under
11 control. Aerodynamics stability and the
12 parafoil comes out. It's an adaptation of
13 military technology where it drops these big
14 pallets and has a GPS system of its own sphere
15 able and that's what brings it into an area of
16 this size. So to give you an example of what
17 that looks like. One of the things we were
18 worried about with the URV shape was it's
19 aerodynamic, .4, .3 lift to drag ratio means it
20 has flying properties. So we were talking to
21 the suppliers of thigh parafoiled systems.
22 They had systems before which were not
23 aerodynamic. So the military put a pallet and
24 wrapped it up as a brick that falls underneath
25 the parafoil. For this application, the

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1 parafoil folks we were working with were
2 concerned for this parafoil system, so we did a
3 series of drop tests out in the desert since
4 2015. The idea is we are going to go up in the
5 series of altitudes under this helicopter and
6 drop the vehicle and test the release mechanism
7 on the back of the vehicle, bell test the
8 winching on the motors to bring in the
9 parafoil, and test for aerodynamics stability.
10 So the drug(ph) chute helps stabilize the
11 vehicle and the door will release, there goes
12 the door. We did a total of four tests in this
13 sequence. Three were great. One the door
14 didn't release. But we built these for test
15 affordably. So this is not built to strike
16 aerospace tolerances and multi-million test
17 articles. These were built to be tested and
18 destroyed as part of that test. So we learned
19 a lot about the door mechanism interaction
20 under load with that drug shoot that would
21 potentially help us save a vehicle later on.
22 And it's always fun to go out in the field and
23 do rockettee stuff. So back to this guy. A
24 little detail on the system. This is our
25 operational timeline. what you see everybody

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1 laid in this timeline, the circular bubbles.
2 Those are the software flight modes. So later
3 on I'll show you a software schematic. These
4 circles relate back to the software modes of
5 the vehicle goes through sequences autonomous
6 for the reentry. So we have a deploy window,
7 all the mechanics you can't kick this out on
8 the wrong side of the planet you have to be
9 lined up or you will fly over Vandenberg and
10 kick the vehicle out. Another deploy window we
11 release and exit the keep out sphere. That's
12 the first distance. The space station has a
13 series of defined boundaries. They have a keep
14 out sphere and approach ellipsoid. These are
15 marks that you restrict motion of participating
16 vehicles within these different keep out zones.
17 So we have that keep out sphere. If the
18 Cyclopes fails that is what this represents.
19 we have gone from idle to a warm
20 initialization, turn the navigation system on,
21 and it is tracking as far as -- and GPS at this
22 time -- just observing where it is. Once the
23 timer reaches a certain set point, prop
24 inhibits propulsion was inhibited this whole
25 time to prevent inadvertent firing. The ISS

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1 application means we have applied power to the
2 valves. No power technologic system involved.
3 Point the vehicle, so basically we get a
4 pre-entry configuration. We maneuver to point
5 the vehicle in the opposite direction of its
6 velocity vector to execute the maneuvers and
7 separation. Any time you see a scientific
8 movie and shuttle and space spacecraft thrust
9 toward the earth it's completely wrong. It's
10 always the other way. You accelerate away to
11 come back. So we do the burn. First maneuver
12 the one we separated from space station lift is
13 a meter per second. That first swoop down and
14 away. And then the big burn the one we do
15 later for reentry is 170 meters per second.
16 This is important because what we get when we
17 get kicked out in space station is a third of a
18 meter per second. So even our small maneuvers
19 more Δv than we are imparted. We did a
20 lot of safety reviews with the ISS to make sure
21 we had the right protocols in place that we
22 would not execute this maneuver until we were
23 well away from space station and had confirmed
24 all the systems on board operated
25 (indiscernible). That gets back to the risks

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1 because (indiscernible) is a human vehicle the
2 way we protect the human risks if we didn't
3 pass all the checks for on board operation. We
4 just lose the payload. So that was the
5 tradeoff we had to make for safety. Another
6 diagram, the keep out sphere, the little red
7 circle is the approach ellipsoid. This
8 reference frame is down. This is the velocity
9 direction of the space station, moving around
10 the earth in this direction. We swoop. We
11 swoop. Get a separation and there we go.
12 Because the vehicle is on a timer an analysis
13 we had to do is what happens if we don't get
14 the full push. So we look at the worse case,
15 this green line where we have barely any
16 separation at all, and some minimal value.
17 Well, we proved even that was less desirable.
18 It could safely execute the maneuver. The
19 approach we were talking about before, this is
20 the California coast. Baha and this jet of
21 land is Vandenberg. As you come in from the
22 space station, 51 inclination, we have a nice
23 spot if we go short. No habitated areas. If
24 we go long, theoretically we can hit baha, but
25 the deal of it conditions are if you went long

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1 we won't go that far. So we did an analysis.
2 The FAA required us to do the analysis if the
3 probability of failure were 100 percent. So we
4 looked at every second from the time we
5 separated down to the atmosphere what would
6 happen if the vehicle totally stopped
7 responding from thereon and we convinced
8 ourselves we had an acceptable air footprint.
9 In fact, operationally we target an entry point
10 that short of the (indiscernible) point, so if
11 the system goes offline we go into the drink.
12 And then the control guidance system kicks on,
13 recognizes it doesn't have the range to meet
14 the final target. Some of those S turns does a
15 lift up to lost and end point and hit the end
16 point. So this is an operational trick we did.
17 This is some of our nominal analysis. This is
18 a dispersion same simulation we used to create
19 the animation. Has all the aerodynamics. We
20 ran our Monte-Carlo analysis. Thousands of
21 entry cases to evaluate the probability of our
22 dispersions. So this red is the first
23 parachute and (indiscernible) this
24 5-kilometer -- we would be able to fly down and
25 hit that 5-kilometer target. We are inert

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1 under that, so we are flying a parachute. We
2 got to a more uncertainty than the parafoil
3 comes out. And when that drops it takes that
4 uncertainty back out because we are in control
5 again. So the ellipse of uncertainty comes
6 down and comes down, and because we are divided
7 the parachute comes out and expands again. And
8 the parafoil comes out and drives us down to
9 the 15-meter type landing accuracy the size of
10 this room. We did sonic boom analysis. Turns
11 out this is something you have to do for the
12 FAA for reentry vehicles. We can land at
13 Vandenberg because the sonic boom would be too
14 much for areas around Houston. To give you an
15 example, this is called a M03 bag. It looks
16 like a box or yeti cooler. This is a standard
17 stow bag. The design we had for space station
18 is it will fit in that standard cargo. So when
19 the drag in Cygnus arrives at ISS and taking the
20 cargo through the hatch, this is another white
21 bag they are stowing away in the storage space
22 on ISS. And it sits there until the time the
23 crew comes around to doing whatever experiments
24 you might be doing, which is a point of
25 interest. What kind of experiments would you

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1 be doing? We can return up to 20 kilograms in
2 30 meters back to the earth surface. So micro
3 gravity crystal (indiscernible) rodent
4 enclosures, (indiscernible) cultures, busted
5 parts. If something broke and you need a
6 forensic, why did that break and you have that
7 equipment, those are the things we would bring
8 back. So that's the shape because this green
9 area is the published volume of the Cyclopes
10 ejection mechanism. We couldn't make it bigger
11 because it won't fit inside the safe operating
12 volume. The last thing you want is wedge
13 locked on a multi-billion dollars orbital
14 facility. The top of the vehicle here, this
15 little purple contraption is what locks into
16 the Cyclopes with its spring loading mechanism.
17 It is a complete vehicle even though it doesn't
18 fly up like the space shuttle. All the
19 subsystems you would expect. We have
20 structures. We came up with a design which is
21 an all carbon composite frame with no
22 fasteners. It has a zipper type design and
23 pieces come together. And we want to carbon
24 ride and it locks it into place. Takes about
25 15Gs. Entry is for 3 Gs. Thermal protection,

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1 and we will be using shuttle tile material.
2 There's a surplus of that. We are working with
3 NASA to use that. Payloads. GNAC control
4 systems. Measuring units which measures change
5 in altitude and acceleration. Really change of
6 velocity acceleration. GPS. There's a new
7 generation of star trackers. The way you
8 determine your altitude and orbit, if you take
9 a picture of a field of stars there's a
10 (indiscernible). You can do triangle math and
11 identify as long as you can see them five
12 stars. By the time you identify five stars in
13 a 4,000 star catalog, the odds are you have a
14 misidentified what those five are. There's
15 something like one in 15 trillion. So it's a
16 great algorithm for these five stars once you
17 know them. That's what your altitude goes to
18 the (indiscernible) exploded view, because the
19 propulsion system was a blowdown system we use
20 (indiscernible) tanks and they take up some
21 volume of the vehicle. Its original design had
22 smaller tanks than these. What happens in a
23 thermodynamic system when you release the
24 pressure on a pressurized volume? Anybody?
25 Starts to cool. So if you took an aerosol can

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1 and -- any scuba divers? The tanks get frosty.
2 If you go back and look at the equations, one
3 of the problems we ran into, we blew this down
4 to the 107-meter per second engine burn and the
5 propellant turned to liquid. It cooled to the
6 point we got liquid. It's no good for gas. So
7 we had to expand the volume slightly so the
8 proportional effect of that blow down didn't
9 liquefy the propellant.

10 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

11 >>Dr. Crane: We have to have limits. But
12 we took a simple analysis first and the point
13 mass of the total CG allocation and moved it
14 from the center of the payload to the outer
15 (indiscernible) line, and that was within
16 acceptable control tolerances. So that was
17 good. Speaking of that, this is the control
18 payload area here. You can see access port
19 there. This is the hatch covering the
20 parafoil. The way we design the primary heat
21 shield is separable. We didn't design it for
22 reviews but it's possible we can pull it apart
23 and reuse the top half. Our entry conditions
24 are such that the shuttle tile will deform. So
25 better hotter than the shuttle is on reentry

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1 but still looking at it on design wise. I had
2 to pull all will numbers off this to make sure
3 it was presentable. A lot of the CG analysis
4 trim line considerations we did 50 degrees
5 depending on Mac number. That's what these
6 lines represent. We had to be aware of where
7 our CG was with respect to that ejection
8 mechanism out of alignment and you can get a
9 torque and come back and impact the Cyclopes
10 mechanism.

11 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

12 >>Dr. Crane: Mach number 25.

13 Twenty-five. It trims with mach number. It's
14 stable at high-end of the tack. So 50 degrees
15 sounds scary, but it's actually quite stable.
16 That was the benefit of taking the design and
17 analyzing for 20 years and bringing it in.
18 These are the kind of things NASA helped us
19 with the heating analysis. So this is the
20 snapshot of an aero thermal analysis, similar
21 to fluid dynamics, but taking a flight
22 condition at that mach number, number that
23 density, and the constituent components of the
24 atmosphere of that altitude and did an analysis
25 of what the heating looks like on the vehicle.

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1 So from that we came back and began designing
2 how much of the vehicle needs to be shuttle
3 tile, in the red how much frizzy, which is that
4 white spacey type suit cloth material. That's
5 what we used to do these on these 1301-degree
6 foot lines. So a whole series was done. If
7 you look in the literature a lot of the designs
8 NASA looked at for these ellipsoidal reentry
9 vehicles. They look like bullets. We went
10 through 12 design iterations with NASA because
11 we found out the first we had was
12 uncontrollable at mach number five. One pound
13 jets couldn't control the vehicle and move on a
14 flat spin at mach number five. So we added an
15 original on the bottom side, kind of a keel
16 almost. But a mach number five you need they
17 are very subtle so it doesn't look like a
18 straight line. It's a very small rise in the
19 shape. That got us down to mach number three.
20 Then we did iterations on the vehicle. So what
21 we were able to do was take this academic trade
22 study design that NASA refined and moved to the
23 next level.

24 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

25 >>Dr. Crane: Bobby brown, he's been in

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1 the guided entry community at Nasa and academia
2 for quite a while. I worked with him when I
3 first worked at Nasa. He's doing more of the
4 chron calibration tick(ph) reentry where it
5 hits the atmosphere and -- but same field.
6 This is a view of how the Cyclopes mechanism,
7 that gripping mechanism, you see the spring
8 load? So that whole thing locks back and
9 ejects and gives us that .3 meters per second
10 when we came off. Two parachutes. This is my
11 baby. So we developed an approach for very
12 efficient software development and reuse on a
13 project called (indiscernible), four years
14 ago, five years ago. You may have seen a
15 rocket being tested out. We set the field on
16 fire. That was me. So we found a way to reuse
17 a lot of the software NASA developed and got an
18 85 reuse out of the code. So there's open
19 source core flight software spacecraft
20 operating system that NASA developed. That
21 provided a lot of your basic services and you
22 can host your specify applications within that
23 your guidance and navigation and control. So
24 we use that for an architecture. Open source
25 trick simulation also, that's a framework you

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1 can tie simulation into atmosphere, engines,
2 gravity, torque, all of that stuff. We were
3 using a program called ITOS. Something NASA
4 used over and over and we thought this approach
5 we kind of prototyped and stumbled. Turns out
6 half the company we were doing the URV
7 development (indiscernible) we hired them away
8 from NASA (indiscernible). So this is an
9 approach we are familiar with.

10 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

11 >>Dr. Crane: So it's an open source
12 software and you might know 23 you do computer
13 programming their many shades of what open
14 source can mean from it's yours if you do
15 something bad with you it's on you not me to if
16 you attach any other software not only you have
17 to give back the software you borrowed but give
18 the (indiscernible) back. If you modify CFE
19 those modifications you have to give back. But
20 the application code you host is not CFE. So
21 it's just in that right spot. An example of
22 what that looks like. Say you were developing
23 a heart surgery simulation and you went to a
24 great biomedical research institution, say Mayo
25 Clinic and get their cardiovascular simulation

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1 environment. If you make changes for that, you
2 have to give it back. But you write your own
3 heart model that the simulation talks to as a
4 separate process and application, you didn't
5 change what they gave you to wrap around it but
6 wrote your own piece within it, so that's kind
7 of that area. Now -- great question -- oil and
8 gas customers we have to be careful. A lot of
9 open source codes we use and if you are not
10 careful you can deliver something to the
11 customer they share with their competitors.

12 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

13 >>Dr. Crane: Yeah. All of that stuff you
14 have to make sure you manage in your
15 configuration process for sure. Just another
16 example I mentioned that core flight software
17 comes with built in capability. This green and
18 blue. Processes and software, limit checking,
19 data storage, cable services, timing services.
20 All the things you might need from an operating
21 system. This comes with CPA and CFS.
22 Automated flight, IME processing all the
23 applications we wrote to compliment we were
24 able to get from NASA to make that full flight
25 software build. GN&C symmetric. Fairly

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1 simple. De orbit targetter and guidance. A
2 very high speed navigation processor. Entry
3 guidance control 25-hertz, Kalman filters.
4 Fairly standard AFM. A schematic of our
5 operating modes and software. Remember I
6 showed you the graphic of the vehicle leaving
7 the space station and called them bubbles?
8 These are the same modes. Software model, idle
9 from (indiscernible). This shows the
10 sequencing of our machine through the different
11 modes of flight. One thing we did we
12 genericized(ph) the maneuver sequence so that
13 we did this de orbit burn and maneuver to EI
14 altitude. This was an earlier version. We
15 maneuver the -- separation maneuver or re host
16 that software on a different vehicle and do
17 trans -- or whatever the vehicle called for.
18 We test whenever we can so we develop
19 techniques for initially hosting our flight
20 software and simulated environment. That's
21 what drove the animation you saw earlier. As
22 far as the flight software and the degree in
23 the blue bubble, it ran on a flight processors
24 but running in a simulation environment. But
25 then we can move that to a standalone

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1 application simulation over process that begins
2 to separate the simulation from the flight
3 software. And then we become more advanced we
4 move the flight software to its own processor
5 and communicates over a realtime protocol so
6 you get more flight like. By the time we were
7 at pre CDR we had the software running and it
8 can figures to a -- simulation running realtime
9 overnight we get the report next day of the
10 status of the (indiscernible). Not original.
11 We got that from Space X. But it's a great
12 idea so flattery and comments and all of that.
13 So engineers, especially GNC, love our
14 Monte-Carlo simulations. Take the fist Sigma
15 of the universe and wrap it around the software
16 running on the vehicle and make it think it's
17 the vehicle itself. And we run thousands of
18 trajectory cases. That's the keep out sphere
19 the circle in the right is the approach
20 ellipsoid. Each of these colored lines is a
21 different Monte-Carlo realization of
22 (indiscernible) and the values listed on the
23 left are the things we have changed. We
24 changed the initial pitch angle. We changed
25 the CG location. We had changed the inertia

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1 property. Thrust to force magnitude.
2 Properties of the star tracker and GPS. Thrust
3 level of the main engine. Percent of the burn
4 we got, and not one at a time. We changed them
5 all together. So each value is a statistical
6 distribution based upon our best understanding
7 of how the system performed and you sum those
8 up and this is the kind of performance you get.
9 If you take these trajectories down to
10 parachute deploy you get the plot that I showed
11 earlier with the 5-kilometer ellipse. And this
12 is the way we validate our design.

13 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

14 >>Dr. Crane: We had a risk managed
15 approach. We were trying to do the whole
16 design in 24 months and we got about 12 months
17 into it. So we were designing for minimal
18 failure. But we didn't have a standard NASA
19 prove to me your three sigma (indiscernible).
20 So that's what a thousand trajectories looks
21 like. Very interested in how long it took for
22 us to cross that keep out sphere. This is a
23 histogram of how many cases took what amount of
24 time. You want to make sure we used this to
25 set our timer for activating the system

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1 appropriately. If I set my timer to 1200
2 seconds, I capture so many cases. Similarly
3 looking at the velocity at parachute deploy,
4 these are all the kind of things once you have
5 the simulation set up and running you will
6 begin to pull apart and understand what the
7 design performance margin in the system is.

8 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

9 >>Dr. Crane: The supersonic drill comes
10 out about mach number three. The exciting
11 region mach number three and five. Hypersonic
12 region you get toward the end of your control
13 authority but you have not got the parachute
14 out yet. So did a lot of work between mach
15 number three and five. And we get subsonic the
16 parafoil comes out. So that's the design in a
17 nutshell. Free to take any questions. I will
18 mention one other thing we did. That I don't
19 have a chart for but it's kind of a, I think
20 it's interesting. I mentioned we had problems
21 at mach number five. The vehicle run a flat
22 spin and the thrusters we had two on the back
23 of the vehicle. Somewhere back here we had two
24 pods of thrusters. Someone used to working on
25 Mars entry vehicles a one pound thrust sounds

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1 small. This whole vehicle weighs up to
2 300 pounds. So once you do the torque that
3 pressure is about what you need for this
4 vehicle. We started getting Millie cycle. We
5 made a design change recommendation, send it to
6 NASA. Takes them a week or two. This is
7 intense computations to get these analyses out.
8 Give it back to us and update the aerodynamics
9 and we find out if we did better or worse. We
10 3-D presented a couple of versions of the TRV.
11 Something about the size of a cup, a small shoe
12 size (indiscernible). And we can configured
13 it to change the CG and broke a subsonic wind
14 tunnel. It used a shot fan and 10,000 straws
15 and (indiscernible). Probably cost 250 bucks.
16 Clearly not a certified wind tunnel facility
17 but we got insight of the trim, spin, damping
18 conditions. We provided feedback and -- didn't
19 claim we were validating a hypersonic design
20 with a 250 wind tunnel. Rather we used to gain
21 insight and intuition we can interact with and
22 we use that to make recommendations to NASA to
23 put it in their design tools. And they come
24 back and say turns out those recommendations
25 are valid and it accelerated the conversion of

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1 our design. Sometimes you can go with the
2 super high fidelity large facility validated
3 approach, but that can be an end point opposed
4 to a starting point. We save time and money by
5 using simpler techniques for starting points
6 and submit those for consideration of those end
7 point analysis tools that are more
8 sophisticated than expensive to run. That's
9 it. Any questions?

10 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

11 >>Dr. Crane: Probably not. (LAUGHTER).
12 That would be a bad day. I will say that one
13 of the things we have been looking at. So long
14 story of funding and stop funding and looking
15 at this again and in a sales mode we are out
16 talking to folks about the URV is net capture.
17 So if you go on line Space X captures the
18 shroud, their launch shroud with a boat or
19 basically a trap, lean in the back of it and
20 drive the boat underneath as it comes down in
21 the shutes and usually they grab it. Another
22 approach we have had in order to completely
23 eliminate not completely but mostly the
24 possibility of hitting a populated center is
25 push the (indiscernible) out in the water and

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1 drive underneath it with a speed boat and snag
2 it out of the air is another approach. It
3 actually cool watching it land. When it hits
4 it's just bumps along and it's kind of neat to
5 watch. Any other questions?

6 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

7 >>Dr. Crane: Actually no. We did the
8 analysis and we can pack the payload with ice,
9 ice blocks, and it will maintain that
10 temperature. So the heat is what you are
11 worried about and we don't soak through so you
12 can maintain cold or room temperature down to
13 the surface. If you don't we will get it once
14 it lands eventually that 1300 degrees will work
15 it's way through and melt whatever you did.
16 But we can bring frozen samples still frozen.
17 Yip. For sure. If you take the same design
18 and put it in a lanner land on the moon and put
19 a package on it, a similar design would be able
20 to do a reentry back from the moon. There
21 would be some changes. Not a build to print,
22 and I can go anywhere in the universe, but the
23 design changes would be minimal.

24 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

25 >>Dr. Crane: The X38.

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1 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

2 >>Dr. Crane: We have been asked that.

3 The NASA administrator asked us when we
4 presented this can you make it an escape pod
5 and that's something we are looking at to.
6 However this is the caveat our approach to
7 human safety was if all the systems didn't work
8 when we left ISS relevant risk in the
9 re-contact with the space station we would go
10 dark and the vehicle would fade away and reenter
11 on it's own. So you lose your business
12 opportunity to payload but preserve the life of
13 human life on the space station. Everything
14 had to work and you know not a whole lot of
15 risk but if you didn't you lose the whole
16 thing. For the escape pod everything is
17 redundant and now the costs would go way up.
18 Except for this. If you built this and you
19 flew ten or 12 of them out of the space station
20 and had a backlog of performance and understood
21 the systems had that flight heritage and said
22 could you make me a (indiscernible) version.
23 I think that's a lot cheaper if you started out
24 with a human rated version from the beginning
25 and layer the requirements of reliability and

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1 triple redundant from the beginning if you know
2 the design basically works and you are scaling
3 up and now adding redundancy it's a better
4 approach. But yeah I would love to build an
5 escape pod. The X38 was a JSC effort that
6 would basically take a crew of six from the
7 ISS. And they were work on that just about the
8 time I started at the Johnson Space Center
9 started winding down. You would be need to
10 make it a single person. The problem you run
11 into. Space station you have two
12 (indiscernible) people up there. So that six
13 people in space station I have two
14 (indiscernible). One of the people gets a
15 kidney stone. They break out the ultra sound
16 and it doesn't go away. Person starts
17 bleeding. Now you have a situation. what do
18 you do. Can't put one person in a
19 (indiscernible). You put three. Flight rules
20 are you can't have more people on board space
21 station than you have the ability to bring them
22 home. So one person gets sick three people
23 come home. An escape pod would be an
24 additional person that one person sick, put the
25 sick person in and this is actually a much

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1 nicer ride, that 3Gs is better than you pull on
2 a (indiscernible) so that would be an
3 application. The space station is
4 (indiscernible) in 2025 so we might have missed
5 our window but hopefully commercial space
6 stations will think about that.

7 >>Audience Member: (inaudible).

8 >>Dr. Crane: 30 liters and 20 kilograms.
9 I think -- on the bump at the bottom or the
10 reentry? I think it was a shock of less than
11 6Gs. Not much. Pretty -- one of the things we
12 did avoid the parafoil has the option to a
13 flare at the last minute. But to get that to
14 work you need an altimeter, and that's a layer
15 of complications. So we took the bump and
16 damage the heat shield. That's why it's
17 separable, to get rid of it and throw it away.
18 Now my plug, intuitive machines is located on
19 the first floor of the Boeing building just
20 across the street. We have a vibrant
21 internship program. We just closed our summer
22 internships program nothing for the summer but
23 we are open again in the fall. The way the
24 internship work we look at projects and see
25 what needs support. If you are interested in

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1 doing some work some analysis work for hire
2 outside of the internship program we do too.
3 so if you are a programmer analyst, physicist,
4 don't hesitate to go to our careers page and
5 submit your resume. You can sent it to me my
6 email is Tim at intuitive machines.com nothing
7 but a small company. we get first name emails.
8 And no promises but we don't know we are there
9 unless we have your resume and the things you
10 do and we are excited that (indiscernible)
11 wants closer ties with the student body and
12 faculty here. If you are interested in these
13 kinds of projects or things you see on our
14 website don't hesitate to send me your resume
15 and see if we find a match. I appreciate your
16 time. This was a fun project.

17 (APPLAUSE).

18 >>Dr. Garrison: Thank you very much.

19 (End of seminar)

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