Research Opportunities in Spacecraft Actuator Design

We are seeking students with a variety of technical skills (**MAE**,**ECE**, **AEP**) to participate in a **NASA Project**: Control of Resident Space Objects through Eddy-Current Actuation. Contact: Professor Hencey (bmh78@cornell.edu)

A key component of the investigations involves the development of a novel low-friction test bed.



Power Electronics: This subteam will implement a high bandwidth current control loop for an electromagnet.

Skills: Experience with analog circuit design required.

Matlab, Simulink, and Labview experience a plus.



Experimental Modeling: This subteam will refine the test bed to empirically model eddy-current interactions among spacecraft.

Skills: (1) CAD and fabrication experience beyond Sophomore Design. OR (2) Dynamical systems modeling.



Micro-Controller: This subteam will instrument the test bed using a microcontroller and a suite of heterogeneous sensors. Challenges include: no contact, wireless collection, and low weight constraints

Skills: Experience with microcontrollers desired. Experience with Matlab and Simulink a plus.



