#### Tohoku University

# Windnauts

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#### What is Windnauts?

- → We make the human powered aircraft for participating in the Birdman rally at Biwa lake.
- → We compete distance from taking off to landing on the water.
- → In 2021, 43 members belonged to our team.



Official name	Human-powered flight club	
Team name	Windnauts	
Founding	1993	
Number of people in each glade (1/2/3)	14/13/16	

#### Goals and Means of Windnauts 2021 Project

- → Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our activities at the university was limited.
- → We decided to divert 2020's HPA, sun(燦). Divert : Main wing, Flame, Drive system ...

- > Not to be ready for the competition.
- → We withdrew from that. (Apr. 2021)
- → Set goal as Test Flight.
  - Mainly to take over the method of TF.

#### **Design Concept**

#### "Improve wind resistance"

- > Increased wing loading (smaller wing area)
  - → More tolerant of gusty conditions
- >> Refined airfoils and wider wing
  - → Less drag and more range, or higher speed
- > Large area empennage and rigid airframe
  - → Highly controllable in rough wind

This year's aircraft was designed

#### Hard to be blowing in the wind and controllable

## **Making Scenery**



Tail (Elevator)



Flame jointing

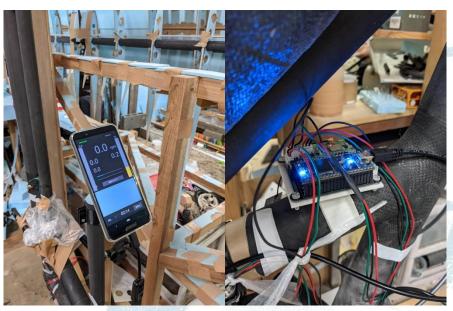
Propeller assembly







## **Making Scenery**





Avionics: speed meter

cadence meter

altimeter

rudder/elevator angle indicator

**GPS** 

(Real-time data transmission available)

Steering

## **Making Scenery**



Reducing foam for Fairing



## **Test**Load Test



Ensured airworthiness of wing (1.5G)

#### **Drive System Test**



Check operation of drive system and propeller

Check and adjust operation of control stick and horizontal/vertical stabilizer

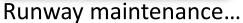
#### **Steering System Test**



## **Test Flight**

- The purpose of Test Flight is...
- Training of the Pilot and the members.
- Check-up of assembly correctness.
- Training of airplane handling.







## Test Flight at Kawauchi camps

**Assembly Test** 

**Running Test** 

**Jump Test** 





- Check safety and center of gravity
- Get the feeling of floating
- Cooperation with the crew

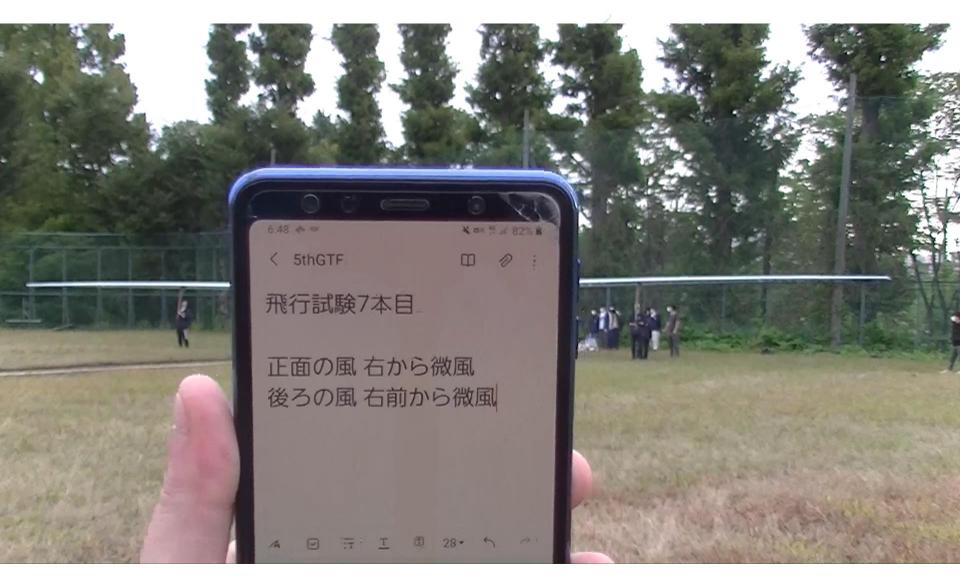
#### Test Flight at Kawauchi camps

**Elevator Test** Rudder Test



•Get the feeling of tail control and get used to it.

## Test Flight at Kawauchi camps



#### **Test Flight at Kakuda**

- The main purpose is training of airplane handling.
- Flight relatively long distance and high speed (design speed : 7.35m/s)

Running Test
Jump Test
Elevator Test
Rudder Test



## **Test Flight at Kakuda**



#### **Accident at Kakuda**

- Tire buried in the ground, breaking suddenly.
  - → The tip of the propeller broke off.

Downward bending force applied to wing beam.





#### Response to Accident

→ To check the damaged area can withstand the load, we took load test.

→ Decided to use propellers from two years ago, took drive system test.



#### **Test Flight After Accident**

- After safety check, we conducted some TFs and these were successful.
- → With the ejection test, our 2021 project was finished Test to check if pilot can get out of the fairing.





#### Summary

- → We couldn't create an aircraft from scratch and get into the competition.
- → However, we improved the operation of aircraft to be more effective and safer.



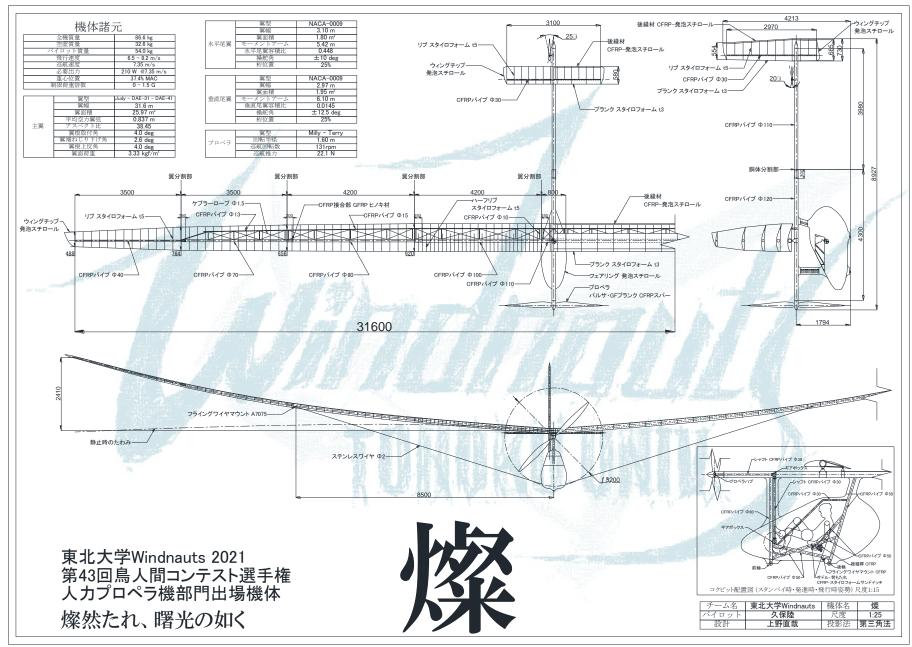


## **Specification**

Specification			
Gross weight	88.0[kg]		
Empty weight	32.3[kg]		
Design cruising speed	7.35[m/s]		
Need Power	214[W]		

	Propeller		
ie:			
	Airfoil	Milly-Terry(original)	
	Rudius	1.60[m]	
	Rotational speed	131[rpm]	
	Thrust power	22.1[N]	

ı	Main wing		
Airfoil	Judy-DAE31-DAE41		
Span of wing	31.6[m]		
Wing area	25.97[m <sup>2</sup> ]		
Aspect ratio	38.45		
Angle of attack	Judy	4.0[deg]	
	DAE-31	4.0-2.7[deg]	
	DAE-41	2.7-1.4[deg]	
Dihedral angle	4.0[deg]		

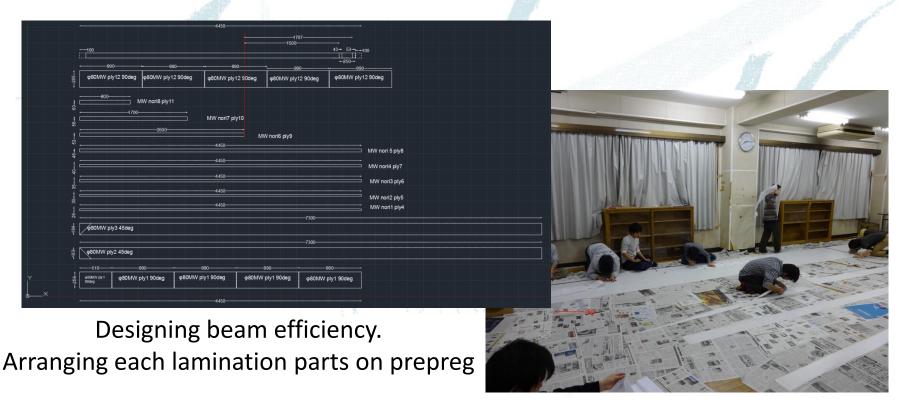


## Columnar beam made by CFRP

Making columnar beam made by CFRP is most important work of all.

So, we set to work it every member.

We spend all weekend on making them.



Drawing line using pencils and ruler. Cutting follow the line using scissors.

#### Columnar beam made by CFRP





Lamination

Ply190°

Ply20°

Ply3 45°

Ply4 -45°

Ply5~ base on each design

Cloth is overlaid with prepreg.
Cloth absorbs futile epoxy,
and beam become light.
Surface became rough,
and workability are increase.

#### Columnar beam made by CFRP



Heating with electric heating wire inside to cure epoxy resin.

Cure cycle:  $60 \rightarrow 130^{\circ}\text{C}$  1h  $130^{\circ}\text{C}$  1h  $130 \rightarrow 60^{\circ}\text{C}$  1h