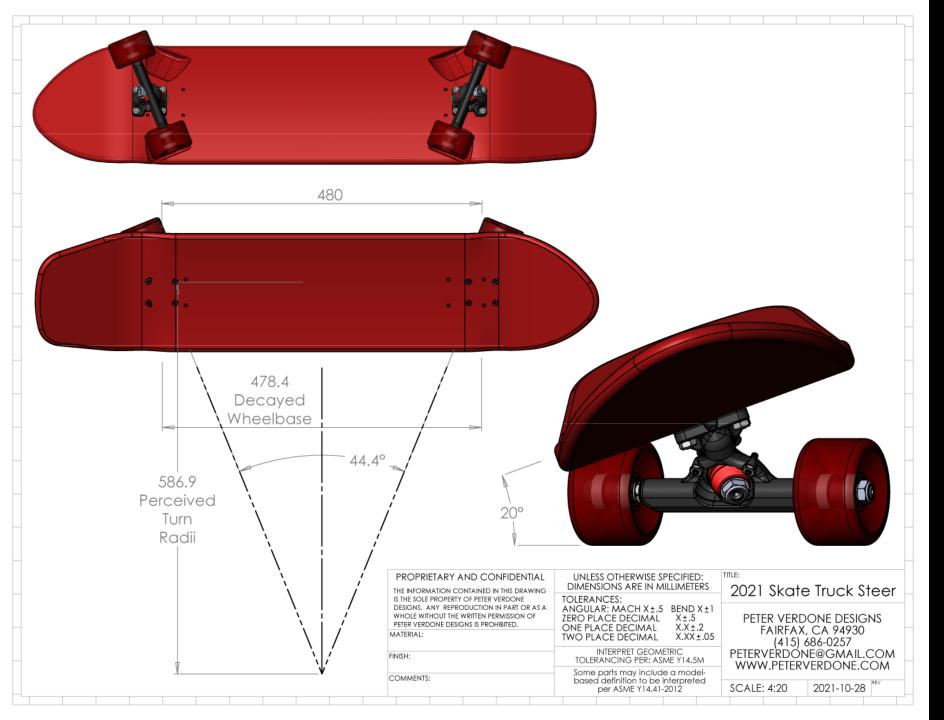
Modern Bicycle Design & Engineering for the Framebuilder

A lecture on the basic principles and methods for modern and progressive bicycle design with an emphasis on use in dirt.

Because this topic would far exceed one hour, the talk will scan the methodological concepts and meanings without going into granular detail. Ideal for framebuilders looking to take advantage of state-of-the-art performance developments in modern bicycle design.

Peter Verdone Saturday November 6, 2021 4:30-5:30pm Breakout following lecture: Aldo and Manny Pizza and Pasta 1431 Arch St. (@ N. 15th, across from venue)



"All of the math and science in the world won't tell you what will work at the racetrack... but it will tell you what won't." -Dan Kyle

Marketing and sales is not engineering

- The problem with the profit model: sell more crap
- Selling bicycles is a marketing problem
- No matter how much better you make a bike, it means little to the market
- The consumer is shopping for increased status, not for a better bike

Problems in the zeitgeist

- Everything you've read is from marketing guys
- Early builders and designers didn't know what they were doing
- Bike design has been shaped around what is easiest to make
 - Antique road bikes were designed with lugs to reduce BOM, to make fixturing simple, sales simple, and to be built by the lowest possible skill level
 - Early mountain bikes were just copies of road bikes, now welded together
 - Consumers weren't interested in improvements so there was no need to try
 - It wasn't (very simply) until the rise of the Downieville All-Mountain Pro, the popularity of enduro racing, and the dropper post that we really saw major changes happening
 - Nothing has changed in road bike design except additional importance made for aerodynamics

The McNamara Fallacy:

"If you can't measure what's important, make important what you can measure."

Meaning: What got me here

- 1980s/1990s Boston skate scene, made a lot of small and large ramps
- Maximus/Kenny Deutsch. Building of young men and a skatepark
- Bike messenger/Fat City Cycles/CNC machinist/Durango/Motorcycle mechanic/Marin/Factory Pro/AMA Superbikes/Toolroom machinist/Sears Point/SFSU-STEM
- Learning to take the hard line
- Publishing to the internet since ~1999
- Independent fabrications dropouts in ~1998; Ground Effect skate trucks 2000-2001; Motorcycle suspension and tuning 2004-6; Framebuilding 2006; Firefly fly wing dropout; Engin dropouts, yokes, seat collar, and 90% of the stem
- The tuner When you can't compete on skill or strength, use brains

What got you here?

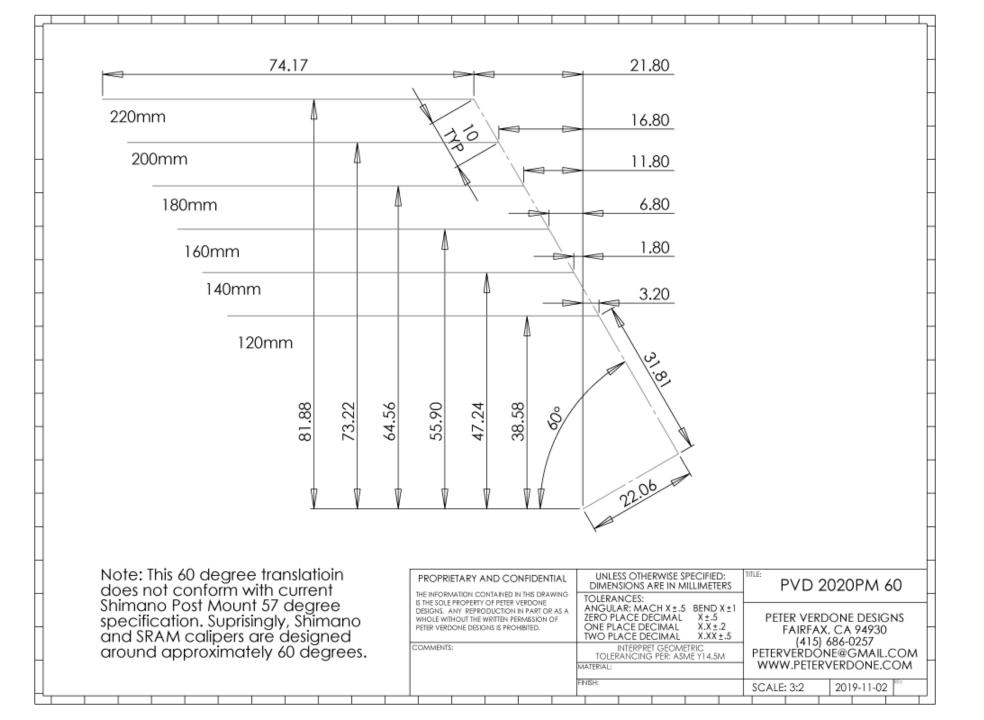
Authenticity, value, truth, and status

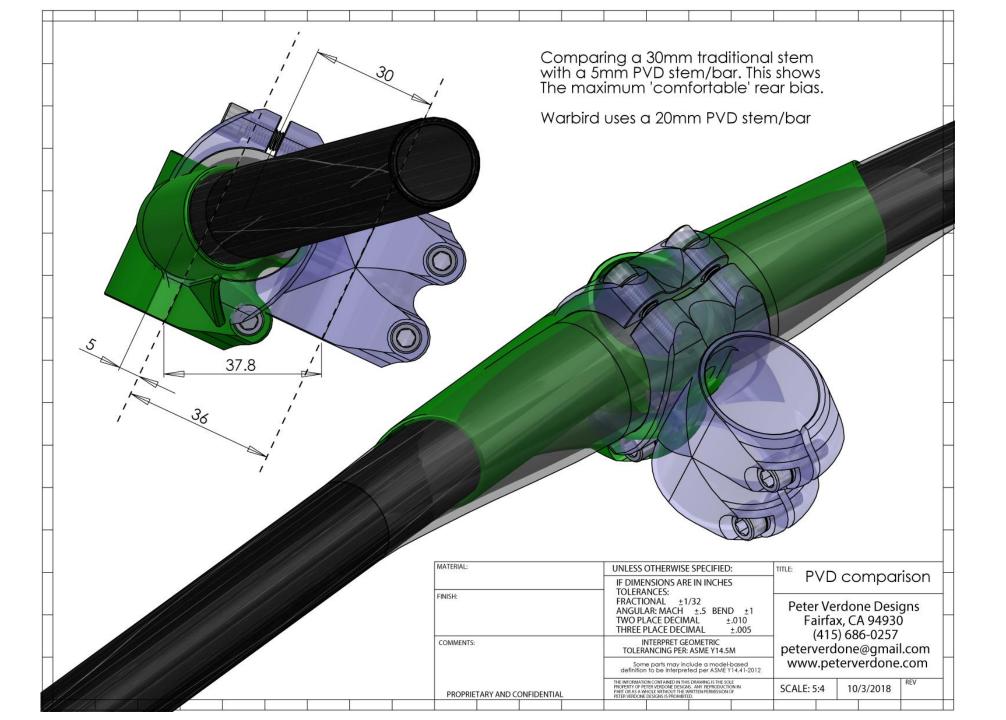
- Why are you doing this?
 - Is this really what is most important to you?
 - Don't make when you can buy
 - Are you just looking for attention?
 - Are you filling your time rather than doing something?
 - Nobody cares about your story
- Learn the rules before you decide to break them
 - Why are you deviating from 'normal'?
 - What makes you think you're right?
- Do you really need a better bike? Why?
- How are you creating value? Are you just making more junk?
- Are you brave enough to leave the cave?
- Will you lose status if you are truly honest?
- The truth isn't contained in facts. It's in our stories. Tell yourself the story that motivates you to do <u>real</u> work. Work that connects with your truth.

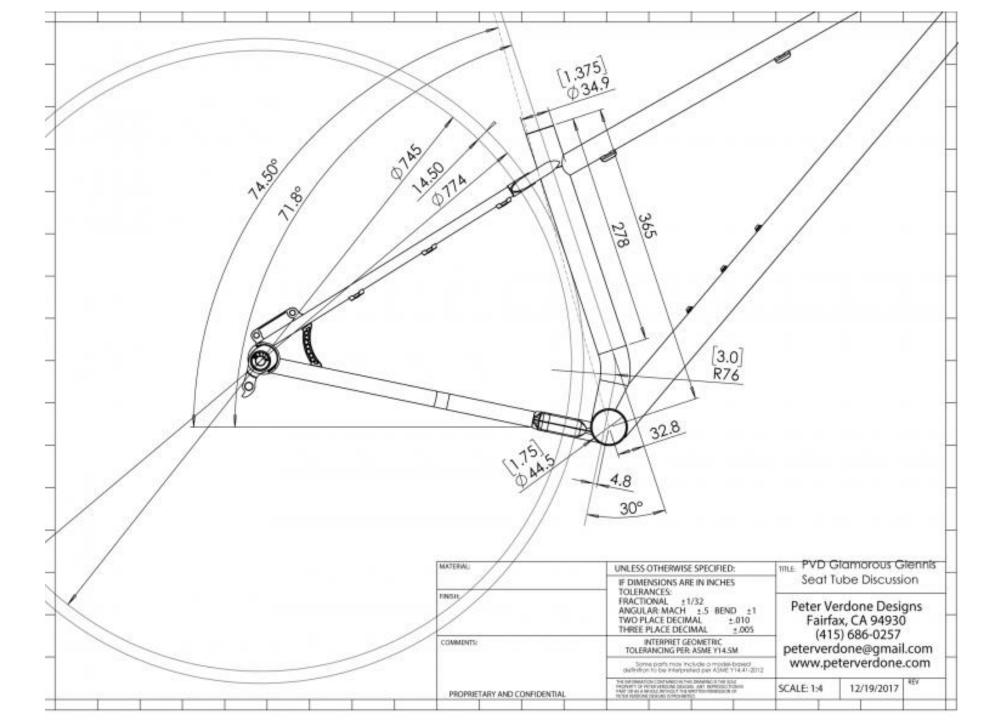
Engineering, or what is the problem that needs to be solved?

- "Necessity is the mother of invention"
- It is difficult to compete playing by the rules of the powerful
 - You will never beat Taiwan at their game
 - You can never work harder than the Chinese
- A problem well-defined is a problem half solved
- Always: What are your goals?
- Is this a legitimate problem? Instagram or YouTube content is a terrible motivator
- Speed? Climbing? Descending? Cargo? Special purpose? Special users?
- Worthy adversaries / Teams of rivals / Competition
- You need to be able to defend EVERY decision in the solution and design
- Are you looking to 'easy' solutions rather than 'great' solutions?
- Complex/expensive solutions are bad. Simple/cheap solutions are good.
- AR-15 (M4) vs AK-47 (AK-74M) vs Sturmgewehr 44

Ride other peoples bikes!!







Risks and failure

- You are 100% responsible!
- Fail fast, fail often
- Fortune favors the bold
- When bikes break…
- If your mistake kills someone else, you will go to hell
- Picking yourself up off the floor
- Why projects die

What does it mean to fail?

Failsafe!





Talking to experts

- Who is an expert?
- How do you evaluate the people that you talk to?
- Weighting information depending on the source
- Cold calling
- Motorcycle books
 - Motorcycle Handling and Chassis Design, The Art and Science. Tony Foale
 - Motorcycle Dynamics. V. Cossalter
 - The Racing Motorcycle, A Technical Guide for Constructors. Volume 1. John Bradley
 - Motorcycle Design and Technology. Cocco
 - Bicycles & Tricycles, A Classic Treatise on Their Design and Construction. A. Sharp
- Follow up
 - Stay in touch
 - Let them know how they helped



Dover 0-486-42987-3 7

MOTORCYCLE HANDLING AND CHASSIS DESIGN
the art and science



V. Cossalter - Motorcycle Dynamics

The Racing Motorcycle

A technical guide for constructors. Volume 1

John Bradley



MOTORBOOKS WORKSHOP MOLOSGACTE DESIGN WIND LECHNOTOGA

Cocco

MOTORBOOKS



Sandy Kosman, Windsor, CA 2008

Testing

- "One good test launch is worth a thousand expert opinions."
 Werner von Braun
- If you imagine that your first draft is your final draft, you're not cut out for the game
- "All of the math and science in the world won't tell you what will work at the racetrack, but it will tell you what won't."
- Never waste a prototype
- Racers are the worst
- Cumulative distribution function
- Good riders, with an understanding of engineering, that can feel differences, in a variety of conditions, and can communicate in writing. AND THEY DON'T JUST TALK
- Bracketing
- The limits is where we do the most learning
- By deciding where we want to be between the limits, we have a target
- Margin of error in design
- How close to optimal does the rider need to perform?

- You, alone, are a terrible engineer. Utilize test riders and critics
- Pride is one of the deadly sins
- Was your test rider 'average'?
- Goofy vs regular footing
- Skinny legs vs fat legs
- Wide vs skinny hips
- A roadie testing a DH bike?
- Telemetry
- Strain gauging
- Potentiometer
- Logging
- What does this mean?
- The importance of cleaning the bike
- Finding what you didn't realize
- Remembering issues on the trail
- Spotting wear, rub, cracks
- Time to think deeper

...Testing

- Laboratory testing
- Non-destructive
 - Stress deflection
 - Spring Scales
 - Dynomometer
- Destructive
 - Fatigue cycling
- -Virtual testing
 - FEA
 - CFD
 - · In what state?

Official testing specifications

– EN

- EN 4210
- EN 14764:2005 for City and Trekking bicycles
- EN 14765:2005 for Children's bicycles
- EN 14766:2005 for Mountain bicycles
- EN 14781:2005 for Racing bicycles
- EN 14872:2005 for Bicycles Accessories for bicycles Luggage carriers
- EN 15194:2005 for Electrically Power Assisted Cycles

-ISO

- 43.150
- · ISO 4210-1:2014 Cycles Safety Requirements
- · ISO 8098 Cycles Safety Requirements for bicycles for young children
- Others
- United States
 - CPSC
 - Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
 - · Title 16, Part 1512
- Testing Services
 - ACT Lab
 - Long Beach, CA and Asian locations
 - Engineering Materials Laboratory (EML)
 - · Santa Fe, NM; Springs CA



Drawing and data

"I'm the worlds worst writer but I'm one hell of a re-writer."

Design for manufacturing!

File names with dates in them

Save waypoints!

Driving versus driven parameters

Boolean vs parametric

The more times you return to the model, the better it will become

Paper drawing is for notes on the fly, not production or documentation

BikeCAD

- -Dimension Templates!!!
 - Communicating the bike
 - Building the bike
- -Handlebar, stem, seatpost, and saddle data are crucial! (CRUCIAL!)

RattleCAD

3D parametric CAD

- Solidworks
 - Siemens Parasolid
 - Industry 'standard'
 - 3DExperience Solidworks for Makers. \$99 per year solidworks.com/makers
 - · Watermarks? Storage? Local option
- -Fusion360
 - Cheap
 - · CAM, CAE Support
 - CNC
 - Additive
 - FEA
 - Generative (?)
- -Common
- -Import/export
- edu friendly
- -Who owns your data?

OnShape

- -Who owns your data?
- -When does it cost you?

FreeCAD (BikeCAD Export)

Free

-Buggy

Others

-Siemens Solid Edge, Catia, Pro Engineer, ZWsoft

Construction geometry and Equations

- -Always mate to geometry!!!
- Seriously, Geometry based on equations is the foundation for durable, flexible models.
- -Pay attention to the normal direction
- -Be careful of layered references

Additive Manufacturing software

- -AutoDesk Nettfab
- Printing alignment
- -Supports

Geometric dimension and tolerance and Units

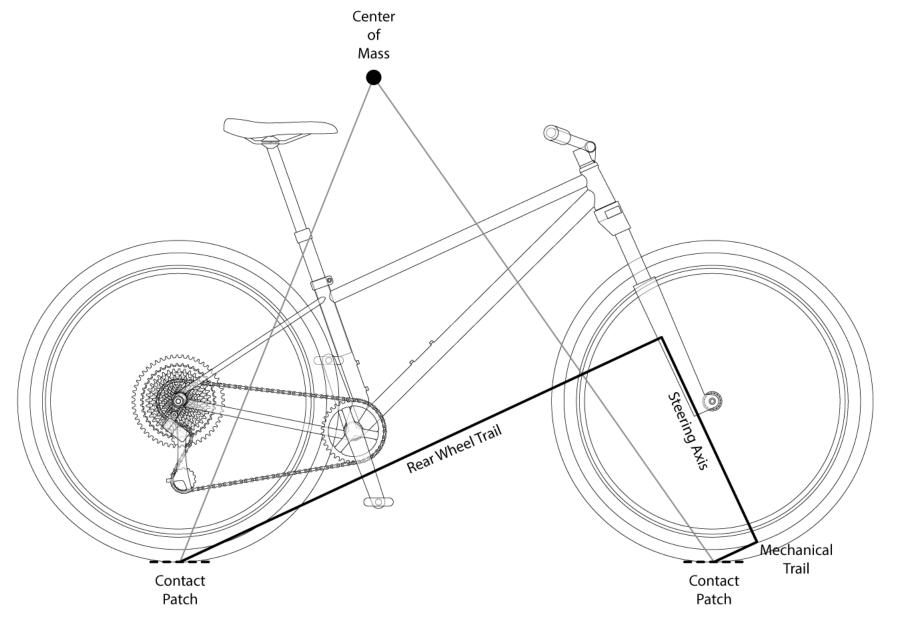
- -Work in metric (for describing bicycles)
- Less than 1/10th mm precision is useless with bicycle fabrication
- -What is important, geometrically, in a frame

Proper 2D drawings are IMPORTANT

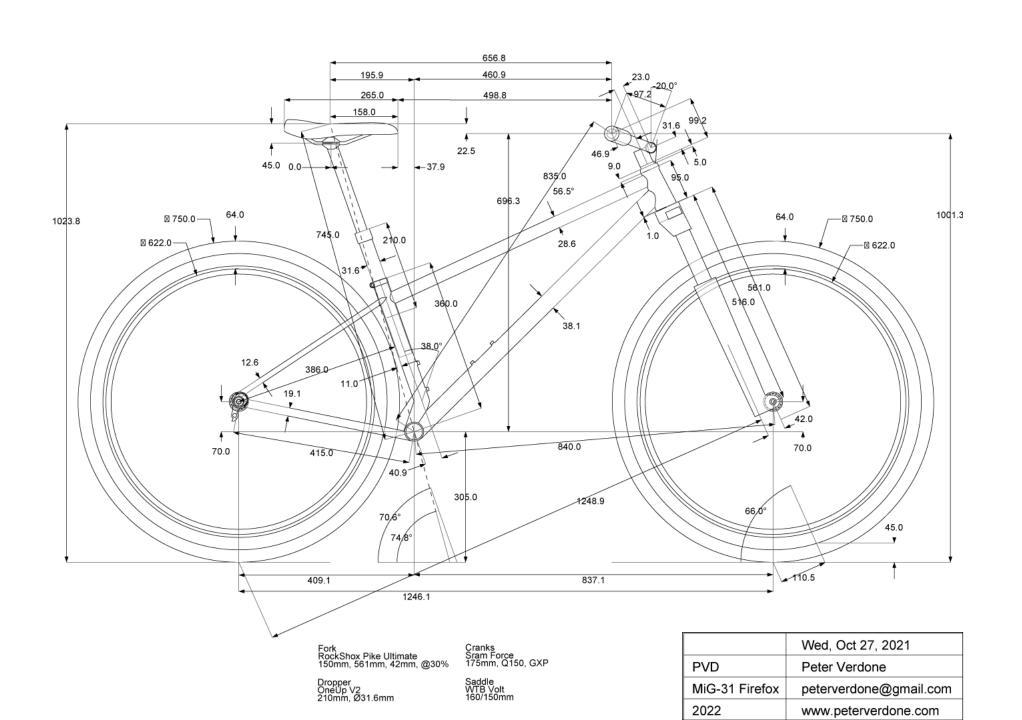
- -Make proper 2D drawings
- -Change of perspective
- Finding problems and improving design
- -Always be loosening tolerances!!!
- Good 2D .pdf can be emailed for critique and communication

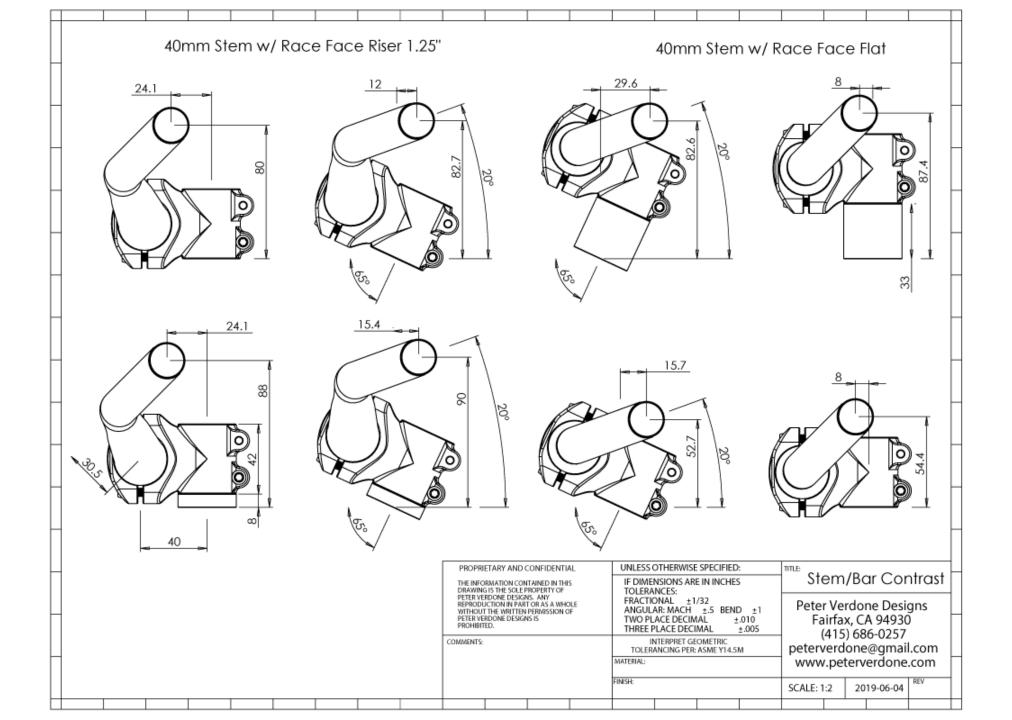
Do the math

- Trigonometry
- -Spreadsheets
- Shortcuts for models
- Understanding

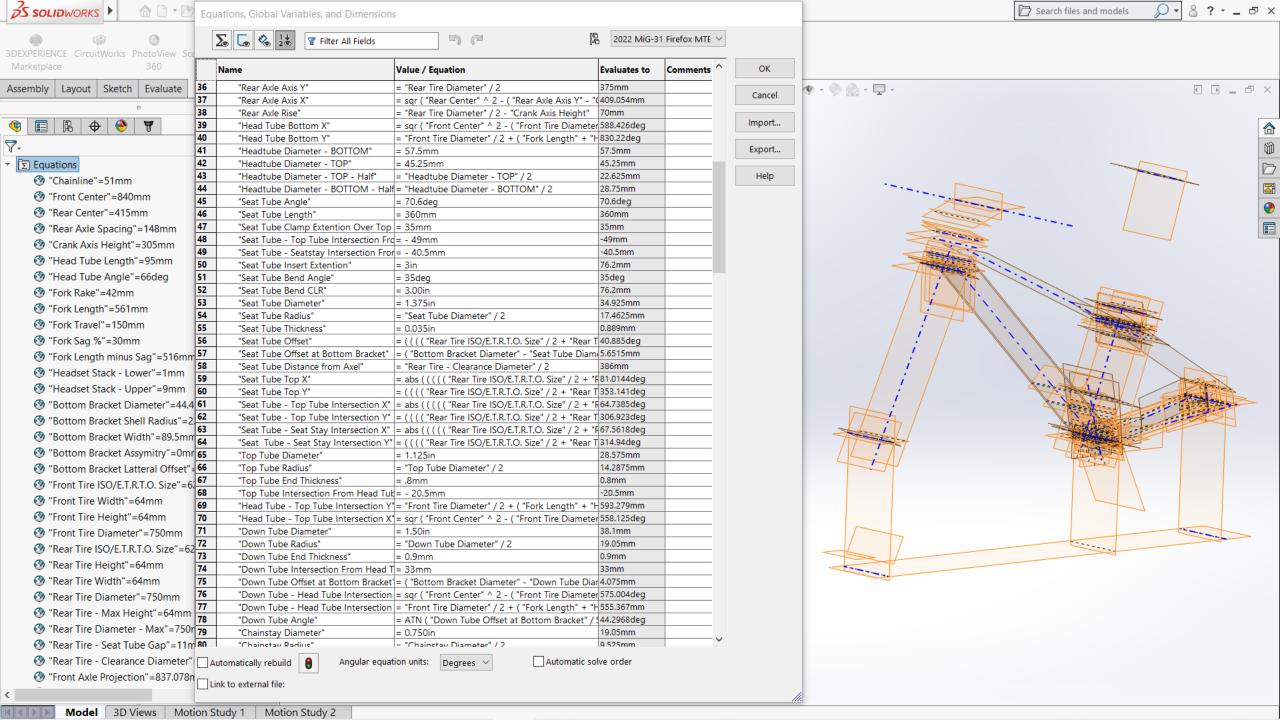


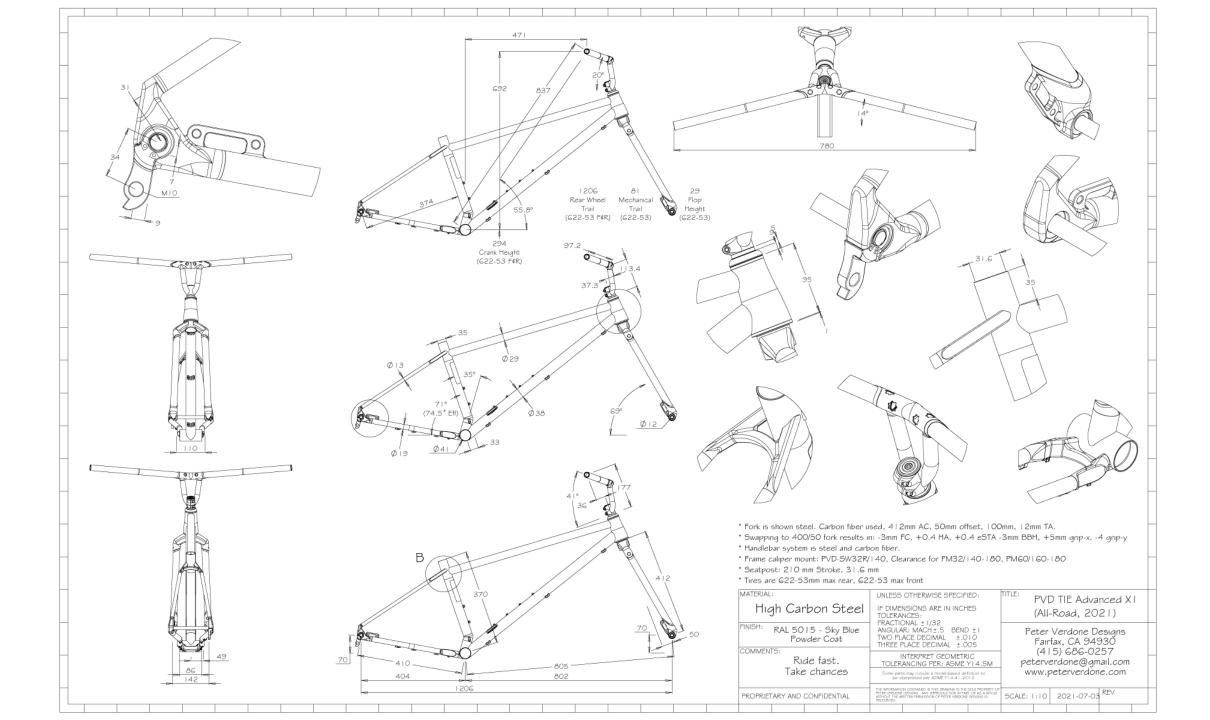
	Fri, Oct 29, 2021	
PVD	Peter Verdone	
MiG-31 Firefox	peterverdone@gmail.com	
2022	www.peterverdone.com	





Driving Parameters MiG-31 Firefox MTB			2021-10-03		
Front Center	840.0	Geometric Properties		Fixture Inputs	
Rear Center	415.0	Mechanical Trail	110.5	Fixture Centerline Height	140.0
Crank Height	305.0	"Flop" Height	45.0	Head Tube Rail Y	304.8
Bottom Bracket Diameter	44.5	Rear Wheel Trail	1248.9	Seat Tube Rail Y	304.8
Down Tube Diameter	38.1	Front Wheel Diameter	750.0	Head Tube Pivot Y from BB	345.0
Down Tube Thickness at Bottom Shell	0.9	Rear Wheel Diameter	750.0	Seat Tube Pivot Y from BB	345.0
Top Tube Diameter	28.6	Maximum Rear Tire Diameter	750.0	Cosine Pin Radius	270.0
Head Angle (°)	66.0	Limit Tire Diameter	772.0	Cosine Pin Angle Shift	0.0
Head Tube Length	95.0	Seat Tube Distance from Axle	403.5	Cosine Pin Diameter	16.0
Seat Tube Angle (°)	70.6	Seat Tube Back from Axle	386.0	Centerline from Rail	18.0
Seat Tube Length	360.0	Seat Tube Bend from BB Center	5.7	Fixture Settings	
Seat Tube Diameter	34.9	Wheelbase	1246.1	Seat Tube Pivot X from BB	-78.1
Seat Tube Wall Thickness	0.9	Front Center to Rear Center Projection	67.2 / 32.8	Head Tube Pivot X from BB	668.7
Bent Seat Tube?	Y	Bottom Bracket Drop - Rear	70.0	Head Tube Bottom From Pivot	197.3
Seat Tube Bottom Tangent to Rear of BB Shell?	Υ	Bottom Bracket Drop - Front	70.0	Head Tube Cosine Spacer	83.8
Seat Tube Bend Angle	35.0	Sag Amount	45.0	Seat Tube Cosine Spacer	63.7
Seat Tube Bend CLR	0.0	Fork Length minus Sag	516.0	Rear Axle X	-409.1
Front Tire ISO/E.T.R.T.O. Size	622.0	Seat Tube Offset	40.9	Rear Axle Y	70.0
Front Tire Height	64.0	bent)	5.7		
Rear Rim ISO/E.T.R.T.O. Size	622.0	Frame Relative to Crank Axis		Frame Relative to Ground	
Rear Tire Height	64.0	Crank Axis X	0.0	Crank Axle X	0.0
Rear Tire Height -Max	64.0	Crank Axis Y	0.0	Crank Axle Y	305.0
Rear Tire Gap	11.0	Rear Axle X	-409.1	Rear Axle Height	375.0
Fork Length	561.0	Rear Axle Y	70.0	Rear Axle Projection	-409.1
Fork Offset	42.0	Front Axle X	837.1	Front Axle Projection	837.1
Fork Travel	150.0	Front Axle Y	70.0	Front Axle Height	375.0
Sag %	30.0	Head Tube Bottom X	588.4	Head Tube Height	830.2
Lower Headset Stack	1.0	Head Tube Bottom Y	525.2	Head Tube Projection	588.4
Construction Details		Head Tube Top X (Reach)	549.8	Head Tube Top Projection	549.8
Clamp Area From Seat Tube Top	-37.5	Head Tube Top Y (Stack)	612.0	Head Tube Top Height	917.0
Down Tube Intersection Above Head Tube	32.0	Head Tube Top Tube Intersection X	559.1	. 0	
Top Tube Intersection From Head Tube Top	-23.0	Head Tube Top Tube Intersection Y	591.0	Hand Grip Information	
Top Tube Intersection From Seat Tube Top	-49.0	Head Tube Down Tube Intersection X	575.4	Hand Grip End Width	780.0
Chainstay From Crank Axis	-11.5	Head Tube Down Tube Intersection Y	554.5	Crank Axis	835.0
Chainstay From Rear Axle Axis	-5.5	Down Tube Direct	799.1	Crank Axis	56.5
Seatstay Intersection From Seat Tube Top	-40.5	Seat Tube Top X	-81.0	Upper Headset Stack	9.0
Seatstay From Rear Axle Axis	35.0	Seat Tube Top Y	353.1	Headset Spacers	5.0
Head Tube Top Diameter		Seat Tube Top Tube Intersection X	-64.7	Hand Grip Sweep Angle	14.0
Head Tube Bottom Diameter		Seat Tube Top Tube Intersection Y	306.9	(Ground)	20.0
		Seat Tube Seatstay Intersection X	-67.6	(Stem)	46.0
		Seat Tube Seatstay Intersection Y	314.9	x	460.9
		Axis	4.1	Y	696.3
		Top Tube Angle	24.5	X	544.1
		Down Tube Angle	44.2	Y	624.8
		Chainstay Angle (Theoretical) (°)	9.7		
		Chainstay Correction Angle (°)	0.8		
		Chainstay Angle (Actual) (°)	10.5		
		Seatstay Angle (Theoretical) (°)	35.7		
		Seatstay Direct	420.3		
		Seatstay Correction Angle (*)	4.8		
		Seatstay Angle (Actual) (°)	30.9		





Metrology

- Calipers, micrometers
- Gauging, comparators
- CMM
- Using a DRO mill to measure (ghetto CMM)
- Laser levels
- Imaginary measurements!
 - Handlebar sweep points to the belly button when seated
 - You can ride as fast as you can look ahead
 - Flat light is like darkness

Reverse engineering

Copy the work of others

- Good practice
- Gets you into someone else's mind
- Learn important details

3D scanning

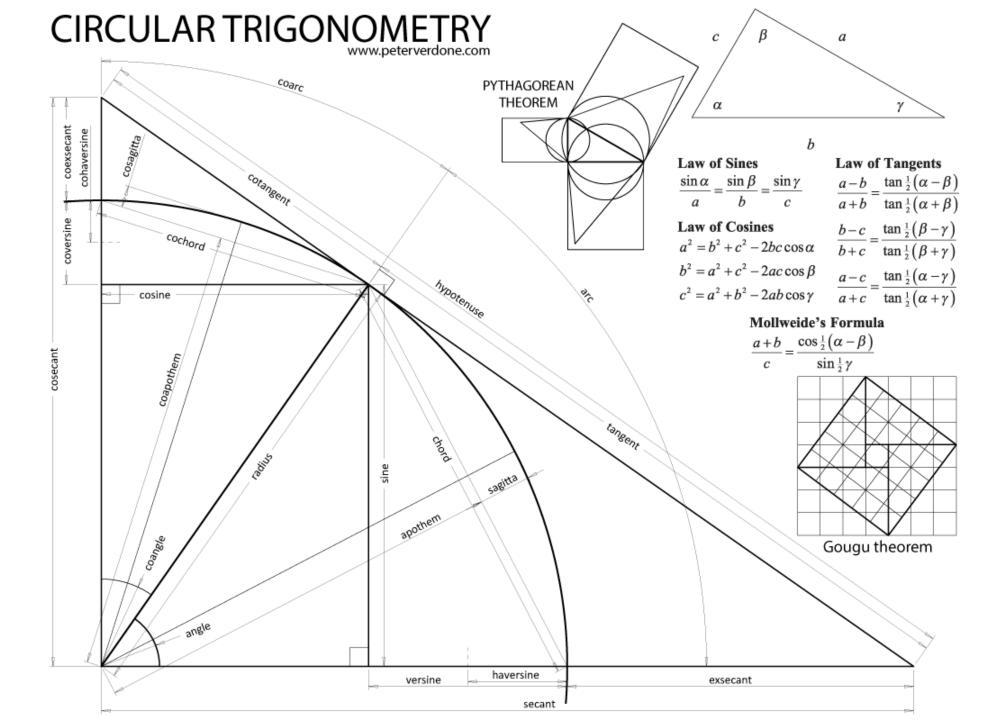
- LiDAR
- IR
- Photogrammetry
- White light and blue light scanning
- CT scan

Sagitta and Cord

Imperial vs metric

- Imperial Divisions
- Metric Decimals
- Example: 3.375mm and 1.3" is super rare

Learn how to take photographs at bike shows



Modern production methods in common use

Waterjet cutting

- The king of machine tools!!!
- No dead stop corners
- Keep table cost down

Fiber laser

- Cutting
 - No dead stop corners
 - No titanium
- Engraving
 - Marking metal parts
 - Tooling marks

CO2 laser

- Plastic
- Leather
- Paper

3-axis CNC

- Common
- Maximize cutter radii
- Minimize use of ball nose

5-axis CNC

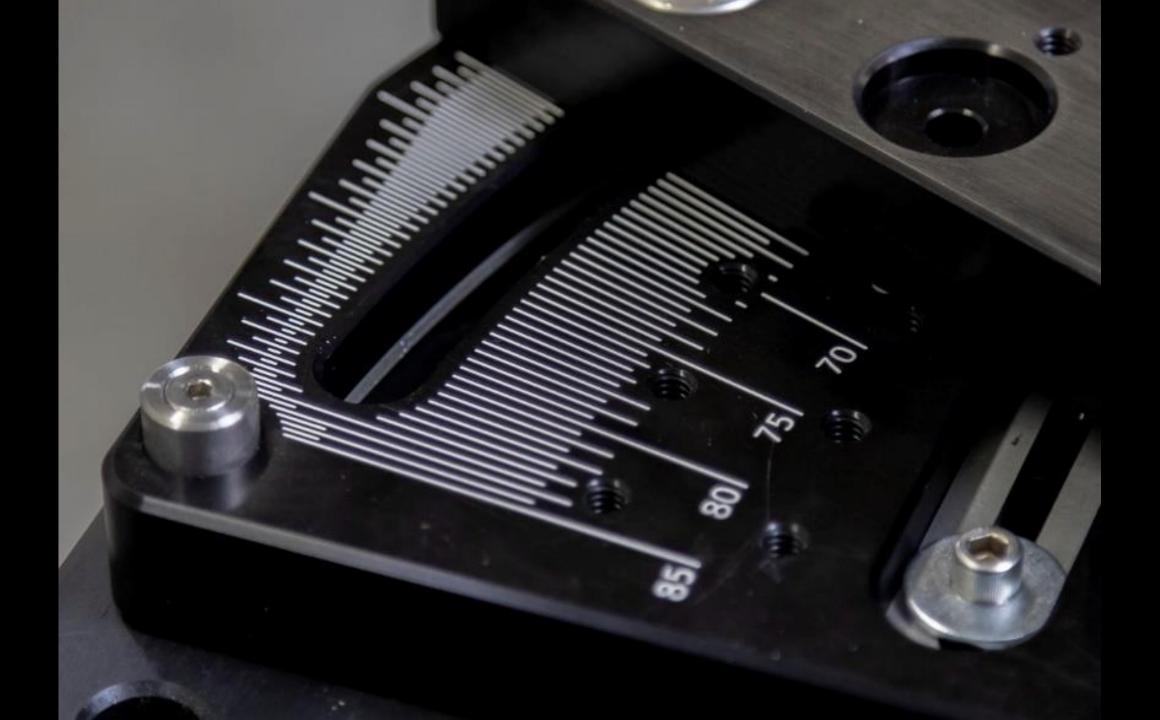
- Used to be unobtainable
- Expensive
- Choose your parts wisely, reducing setups.

3D printing

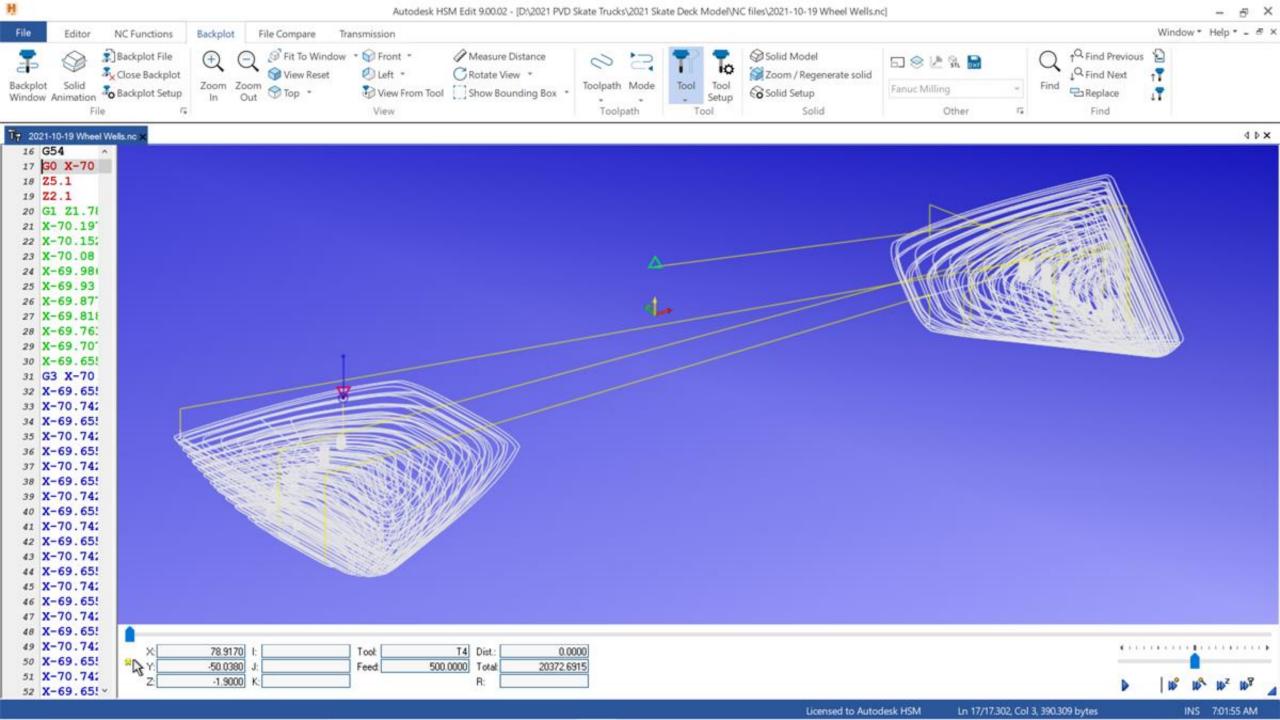
- DMLS, Direct Metal Laser Sintering
- SLM, Selective Laser Melting
- CMF, Cold Metal Fusion
- Learning to think for printing

Keep trying new things!











Working with vendors

- The importance of drawings and MBD
- When to farm out
- Paragon Machine Works Mark Norstad
- Local machine shops
- Remote machine shops
- Mail order brides, the printing paradox
 - Domestic vs offshore
 - Quality differences
 - Engineering support
 - Create your own supports!

Debrief

- The notebook
- Organize files for storage
- Clean up
 - Models
 - Assemblies
 - Spreadsheets
 - Equations
 - Reference Geometry
- Photographs, lots of photographs
 - Cropped for attention focus
 - Adjusted levels for clarity
- Critique, critique, critique
 - "Pay attention to your enemies, for they are the first to discover your mistakes." – Antisthenes

- Make nice clean prints!!
- Was this a success?
- Was the problem solved?
- Were new problems created?
- Who needs to know?
- Intellectual honesty
 - See: Julia Galef

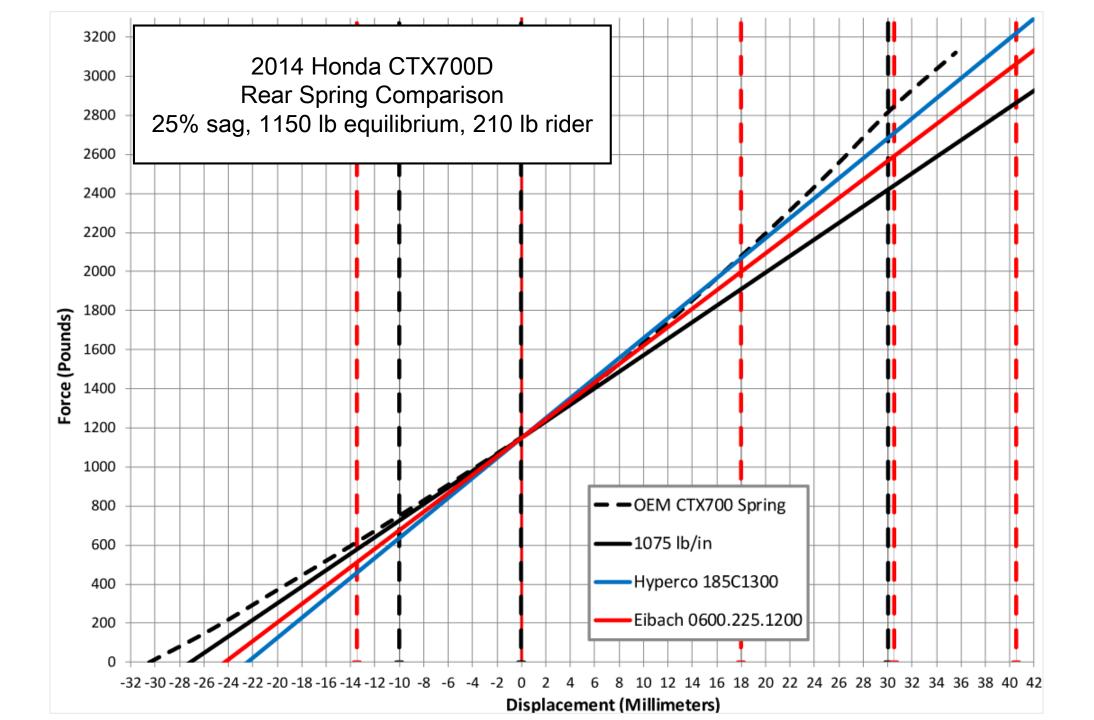
Posting my work to the internet has served me far more than anyone else.

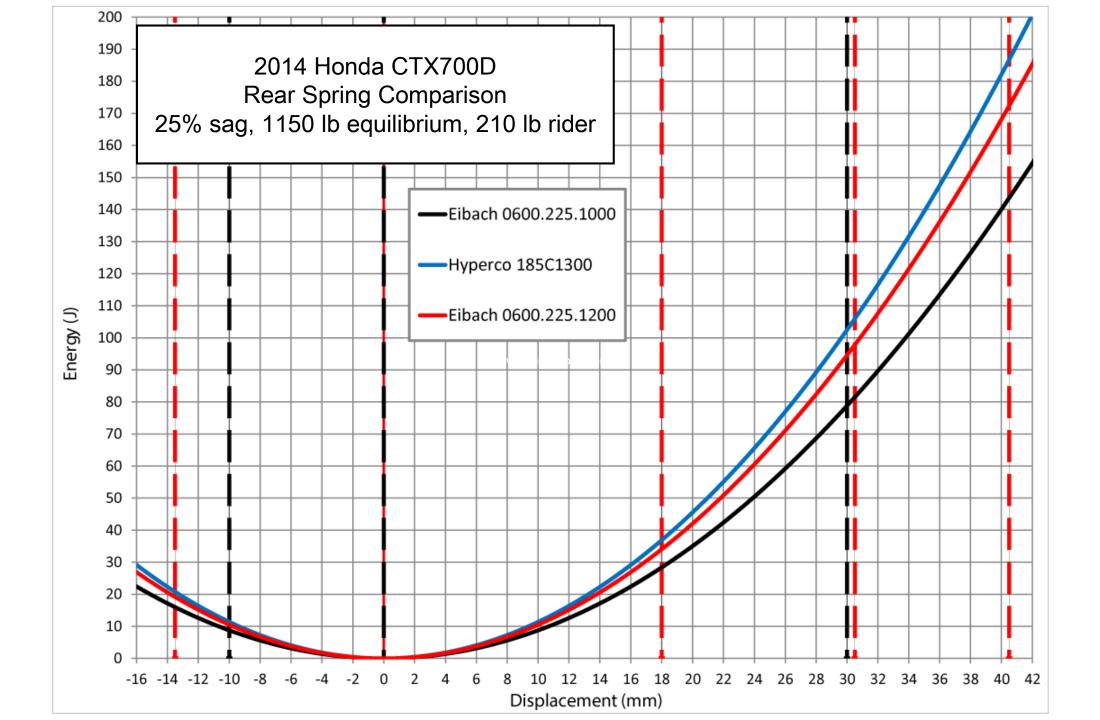
Development

- Step-by-step progress
- Pattern of documentation over time
- Predicting paths for change
- Learning lessons
- Every time you get on a bike be critical
 - Look for the flaws
 - What is it doing poorly?

Learn to Write!!! This is a superpower







Tooling

The frame fixture

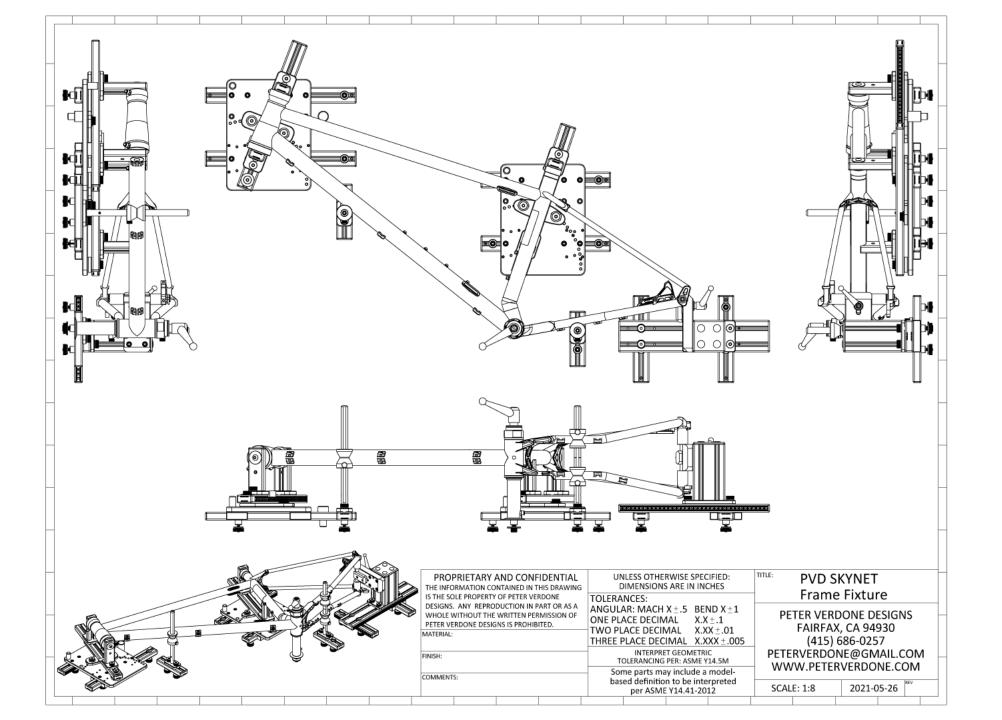
- Range and capacity
- Configurable
- Offset seat tube capability
- X/Y location needed for FS bikes
- How important is access?
- Opportunity costs, space costs

Accessory fixtures

- Fork
- Caliper mounting
- Stay fixturing

Bending

- Die and follow block
- Press bending
- Mandrel bending



	Frame Driving Parameters (mm)	PVD All-Road (2021)	PVD Warbird	PVD Supermarine Spitfire				
1	Front Center	805.0	850.0	845.0				
2	Rear Center	410.0	425.0	410.0				
3	Crank Height	281.0	300.0	305.0				
4	Head Angle (°)	69.0	65.0	65.0				
5	Seat Tube Angle (°)	71.4	69.8	68.5				
<u>6</u>	Seat Tube Diameter	34.9	34.9	34.9				
7	Front Rim ISO/E.T.R.T.O. Size	622.0	622.0	622.0				
8	Front Tire Height	40.0	64.0	76.2				
9	Rear Rim ISO/E.T.R.T.O. Size	622.0	622.0	622.0				
<u>10</u>	Rear Tire Height	40.0	64.0	64.0				
<u>11</u>	Max Rear Tire Height	53.3	66.0	66.0				
<u>12</u>	Rear Tire Gap	10.0	12.0	8.0				
13	Fork Length	412.0	591.0	440.0				
14	Fork Offset	50.0	51.0	42.0				
<u>15</u>	Fork Travel	0.0	180.0	0.0				
<u>16</u>	Sag (%)	0.0	30.0	0.0				
17	Lower Headset Stack	1.0	1.0	1.0				
	Fixture Inputs							
1	Fixture Centerline Height	150.0	150.0	150.0				
2	Head Tube Pivot Y from BB	355.6	457.2	355.6				
3	Seat Tube Pivot Y from BB	152.4	152.4	152.4				
4	Cosine Arm Radius	228.6	228.6	228.6				
5	Cosine Pin Angle Shift (°)	9.0	9.0	9.0				
6	Cosine Pin Diameter	15.9	15.9	15.9				
7	Centerline from Beam Face	19.1	19.1	19.1				
	Fixture Settings							
1	Seat Tube Pivot X from BB	18.3	13.7	3.9				
2	Head Tube Pivot X from BB	638.8	612.2	667.2				
3	Head Tube Bottom From Pivot (Minimum: 79mm)	87.89	92.51	119.75				
4	Rear Axle X	404.0	418.3	404.0				
5	Rear Axle Y	70.0	75.0	70.0				
6	Head Tube Cosine Spacer	87.31	100.84	100.84				
7	Seat Tube Cosine Spacer	78.92	84.57	89.04				
	Important Value for BikeCAD							
1	Seat Tube Offset	31.2	39.8	52.2				

Materials

- Choose with intention
- Why are you working with the materials you choose? What is being made easier/harder with this choice?
- Full discussion outside scope this seminar
- Titanium is a terrible material for prototyping!

Fundamental details and why

How bikes work

- -Handling
- –Fit
- The devil in the details

The chassis starts at the tires

- Big wheels
- -27.5/650b is a very special case
- -Rear tire width
- -Big tires on front of rigid bikes

Center of mass

- -The triangle
- -Bikes don't (often) get ridden backwards

Fit and 'handling'

-Aggressive XC on a DH bike

Stack and reach can help for basic sizing, but not in real design

Front center

- -What's the limit?
- -The front center tells me how fast a bike can go

Rear center

- -Typically, we want these as short as possible. How short is too short?
- -Why is the industry using long rear centers? For easy work

Mechanical trail

- -We don't use ground trail, ever
- -Caster effect
- -Contact patch, it's important

Flop

Potential energy
Mellowing agent

Head angle

- The steering rate
- Stanchion bind
- Slacker is generally much worse
- -Aligning forces along stroke

Head tube and bearings

- -Best choices
- EC49 lower
- -IS41/52
 - IS42, FFS
- Tapered steerers
- Angle Adjust Components
- -Gimbles vs. junk
- -Not really needed anymore

Rear wheel trail

PVD/RAD – Formulaic approaches to fit

The dropper post

- Longer is almost always better
- -31.6 bore beats 30.9. Give up on 27.2mm
- This is a short term solution

Effective seat tube angle

- Marketing driven designPNW vs. the rest of us
- -What is right?
 - •Hardtails vs. suspension

Brake caliper mounting

- -Why not radial calipers?
- -Flat mount is the current standard
- Post mount refinements
- -Wildcat systems

Cranks

- -Crank length
- -Q-factor
- -Shell interface

Crank shell specifications

- -What went wrong with BB30/PF30?
- -PF41/86(92)(89.5)
- -TH47/86(92)(89.5)
- -TH35/68(72)

Down tube bends

Seat tube bends

Handlebars

- The problem with handlebars and stems
- -Flat bar width
- Sweep angle
- -Rise
- -What do drop bars do?
- -Wide drop bars?
- -Bi-planes!!!!
- -31.8mm vs 35mm

E-bikes

- Sensors!!!!
 - Cadence sensor
 - Wheel Speed sensor
- Battery

Wheels

Moment of Inertia

Hose and housing routing

- Flat mount on the mounted stay
- Seat tube entry
- -Down tube entry
- -The hole in the roof.

Flat pedals

Pedal height higher than with clipless

The hybrid

Gravel, all-road, etc.

- Dirt 'road' racing
- Actual riding
- -What is the real use?
- Tires
- -Handlebars
- -Gearing
- -Dropper

Anti-squat percent should not be used on bicycle

Coil vs Air

- Breaking force
- -Progression

UDH

- -What's it for?
- What are the issues?

Aerodynamics

- Especially for road bikes
- Not important in dirt (other than dirt road race)

Top tube length doesn't exist