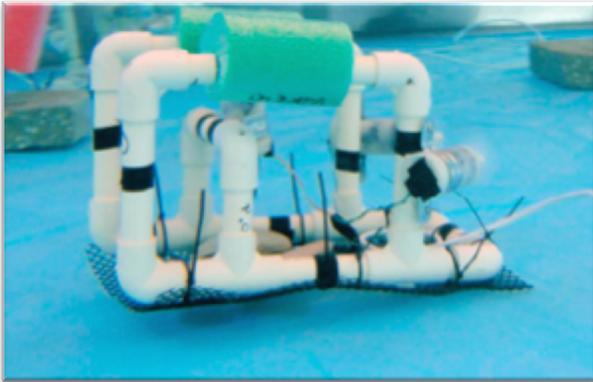
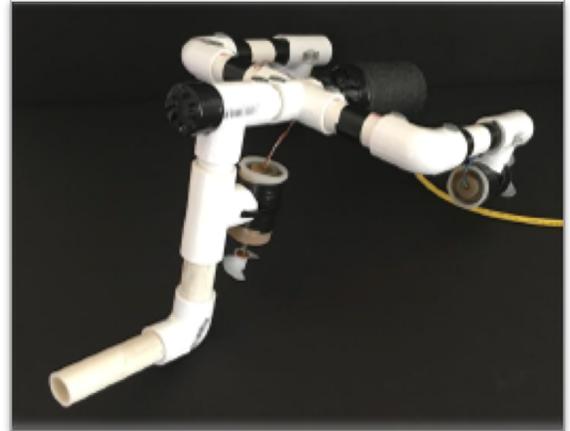


SeaPerch Structural System



Standard SeaPerch ROV



Custom SeaPerch ROV



Structural Technology

Structural Technology is the engineering of putting mechanical parts and materials together to create supports, containers, shelters, connectors, and functional shapes.



What makes a structure?

- Supports a load
- Resists various forces
- Holds elements in a relative position to other parts



Structural Failures



Structural Failures



What Happened to the MOL Comfort?

In June 2013, the 8,110 ton container ship MOL Comfort broke in two in the Indian Ocean after encountering adverse weather during its voyage from Singapore to Jeddah. The aft section sank on 27 June and the fore section caught fire on 6 July and sank five days later.

An investigation later determined that a crack-like defect existed on a bottom plate, in a weld line, and that slamming-induced vibration (ship's hull contacting with large waves) caused the crack to grow quickly which finally resulted in a catastrophic hull girder failure.



Structural Failures



Can a bridge survive an earthquake?

On October 17, 1989 in Oakland, CA, a 7.1 earthquake hit, shaking the bridge for 15 minutes causing one upper section of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge to collapse onto the lower deck. The bridge was opened in 1936 and carried westbound traffic on the upper deck and eastbound traffic on the lower deck.

The bridge was repaired after the collapse and most of the bridge has been retrofitted to withstand future seismic activity. The eastern section was replaced with a new span in 2013 as it was deemed too expensive to retrofit.



Structural Failures



Sign failure on the highway

On January 9, 2019 in Melbourne, Australia, video was captured of a sign falling from an overhead truss onto a moving car. See the video here: <https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/world/video-large-freeway-sign-falls-onto-moving-vehicle-in-melbourne-australia>

While the investigation of what happened to cause this incident is ongoing, it is likely an engineering failure at the heart of this accident. Brainstorm some possible causes for this failure.



Structural Failures



How a roof works – or not.

On December 12, 2010, the roof of the Minnesota Vikings stadium, the Metrodome, in Minneapolis, Minnesota collapsed after a large winter storm. The stadium opened in 1982. The roof was an air pressure supported structure that had been designed with two layers: the outer layers were Teflon-coated fiberglass and the inner was a proprietary acoustical fabric. Warm air was pumped in between the layers and workers also used steam and high-pressure hot water hoses to melt snow.

The roof was inspected in April 2010 and the outer shell was deemed in good condition. The inner shell was labeled “fair to poor” with a recommendation to monitor some small tears. The winter storm included heavy snows and high winds which caused a small sag in the roof. This sag caused a safety hazard that prevented the snow cleaning crews from clearing the snow. Snow accumulation caused the roof collapse – highlighting the need for continued vigilance during snow events.

