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Abstract

Imagine making a cup of coffee: you need coffee beans (preferably grounded), hot water, a filter, and a device to put them together to make a brown liquid that you need to drink to wake up in the morning. Now imagine making that coffee in a space cruise ship orbiting about 250 miles (402 km) over the Earth! Suddenly, you have a host of new factors: no gravity to keep the ingredients from floating away, no convection currents to boil the water, and coffee cups that can't hold the drink. It is time to think differently about design. Each and every creature comfort that we are accustomed to for living, working, and playing on Earth has to be reinvented when humans begin to live off-world. This paper will touch upon several creature comforts, how NASA astronauts deal with them, and some proposed designs to bring a little bit of Earth to future space tourists and interplanetary settlers.

A short bio

Samuel Coniglio is writer, photographer, inventor, and private space industry advocate. His Cocktail making-robots have been showcased on the Discovery Channel and made the cover of the Wall Street Journal. Samuel's research with the Space Tourism Society is featured on the History Channel's "The Universe" TV show. His Zero Gravity Cocktail Glass Project won international acclaim and re-invents the concept of how to drink liquids in a zero gravity environment. Samuel is also writing a book on Designing the Orbital Lifestyle, showcasing designs of creature comforts for future off-world travelers.