

# **Robots aéreos interaccionando físicamente con el entorno**

**Anibal Ollero**

**Professor and head of GRVC University of Seville  
(Spain)**

**aollero@us.es**

**Scientific Advisor of the Center for Advanced Aerospace  
Technologies (Seville, Spain)**  
**aollero@catec.aero**

# Outline

- Physical interaction of aerial robots
- Aerial manipulation
  - Modelling and control
  - Perception
  - Planning
  - Integrated experiments
- Conclusions

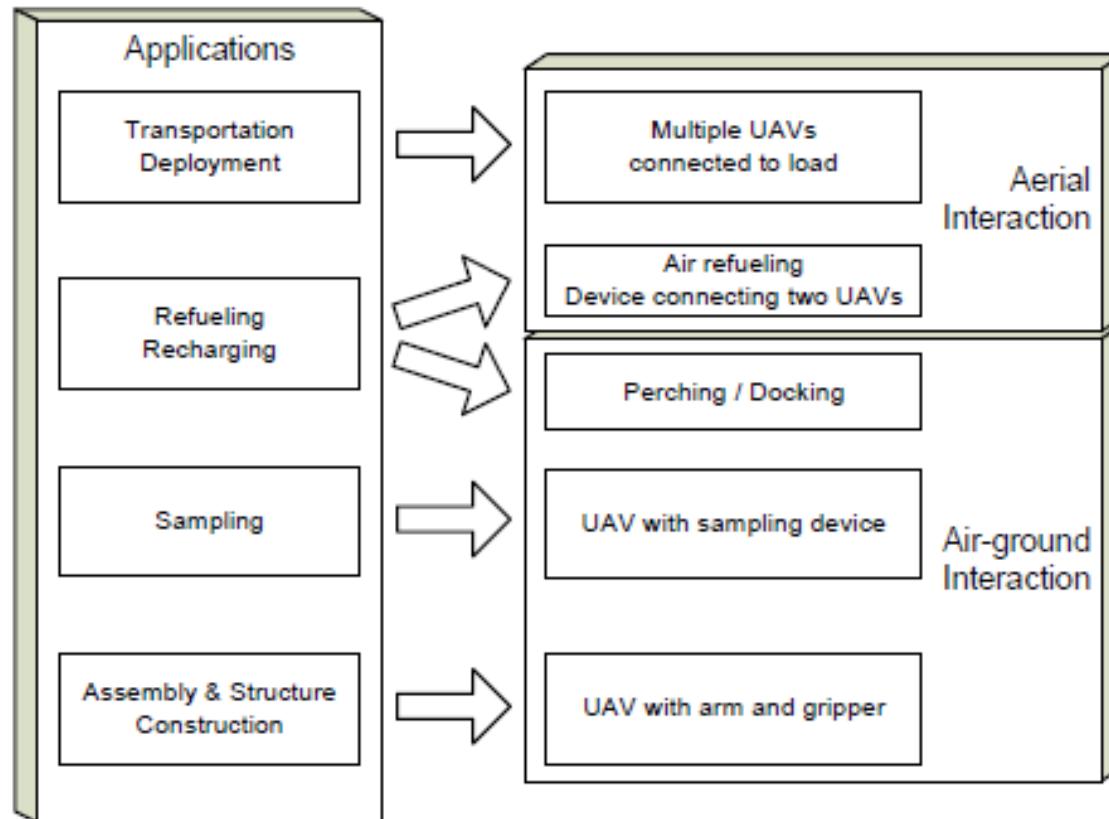


# 2013 Aerial Robots /RPAS Projects at USE and CATEC

- 80 researchers and technicians working in aerial robotics and RPAS
- 24 papers in 2013 (9 in Journals and 15 in Conf. Proceedings)
- 21 running projects in 2013
  - 8 European FP7 projects
    - Coordination of 3 projects: ARCAS, EC-SAFEMOBIL, MUAC-IREN
    - Partner in 5 projects: PLANET, FIELDCOPTER, ARIADNA, DEMORPAS, EUROATHLON
  - 13 Spanish Projects
    - 2 Projects National Programme: CLEAR, UGAV
    - 1 Project Regional Programme: UAS-WSAN
    - 2 INNPRONTA (6 contracts with companies): ADAM, PERIGEO
    - 2 CENIT (4 contracts with companies): SINTONIA, PROMETEO
    - 2 INNPACTO: IGNIS and ADALSCOM
    - 1 INNTERCONECTA (3 contracts with companies): CITIUS
    - Regional Programme (contract with company): TERMOFLY
    - 2 additional contracts with companies on VTOL systems

# Physical interactions

- Introduction



# Physical interactions

- Air-air refuelling
  - Interactions: boom or hose
  - Effects of the tanker stream



Global Hawk refuelling

- Deployment
  - Mechanics and aerodynamics in the releasing process
  - Stabilization

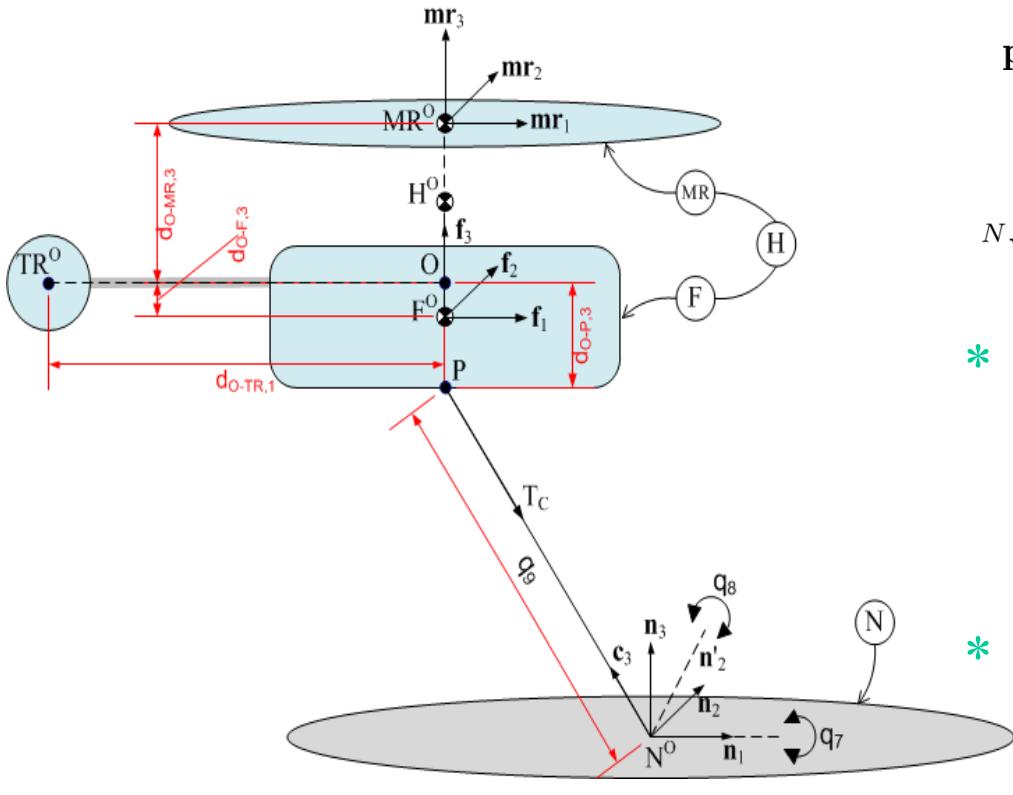


DC 130 Hercules and BQM34 Fire bee

# Physical interactions: Tethered Helicopter

EC-SAFEMOBILE FP7 project

- \* Spherical conf. variables + Cartesian motion variables



$$\mathbf{p}^{N^O \rightarrow H^O} = \mathbf{p}^{N^O \rightarrow P} + \mathbf{p}^{P \rightarrow H^O}$$
$$\mathbf{p}^{N^O \rightarrow P} = q_9 \mathbf{c}_3$$
$${}^N \mathbf{v}^{H^O} = u_1 \mathbf{n}_1 + u_2 \mathbf{n}_2 + u_3 \mathbf{n}_3$$

A 3D rendering of a robotic arm end effector. It features a cylindrical base with three rotational joints labeled  $q_7$ ,  $q_8$ , and  $q_9$ . A curved arrow labeled  $q_7$  indicates rotation around the  $c_3$  axis. A curved arrow labeled  $q_8$  indicates rotation around the  $n_2$  axis. A curved arrow labeled  $q_9$  indicates rotation around the  $n_3$  axis. The end effector is labeled  $N^O$ .

- \* Elastic tether mode

$$\mathbf{T}_C = -T_C \mathbf{c}_3 = -K_C (q_9 - L_N) \mathbf{c}_3$$

$$K_C \begin{cases} = 0 & \text{for } q_9 < L_N \\ > 0 & \text{for } q_9 > L_N \end{cases}$$

- \* Ground device for tension control

$$\frac{dL_N}{dt} = U_C$$

# Physical interactions: Tethered helicopters

- Tether influence in system dynamics
  - Tension force: **stabilizing properties in translational dynamics**
  - Tension moment: **undesired coupling (translation affects rotation)**

$$\begin{aligned} [\dot{q}_7 \quad \dot{q}_8 \quad \dot{q}_9]^T &= \mathbf{M} \cdot [u_1 \quad \cdots \quad u_6]^T \\ \dot{q}_4 &= -(s_6 u_5 - c_6 u_4) / c_5 \\ \dot{q}_5 &= s_6 u_4 + c_6 u_5 \\ \dot{q}_6 &= u_6 + s_5 (s_6 u_5 - c_6 u_4) / c_5 \end{aligned}$$

$$(m_F + m_{MR})\dot{u}_1 = RHS_1 - \mathbf{T}_C s_8$$

$$(m_F + m_{MR})\dot{u}_2 = RHS_2 + \mathbf{T}_C s_7 c_8$$

$$(m_F + m_{MR})\dot{u}_3 = RHS_3 - \mathbf{T}_C c_7 c_8$$

$$K_{4p4}\dot{u}_4 = RHS_4 + \mathbf{T}_C(d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}) \cdot (c_7 c_8 (s_4 c_6 + s_5 s_6 c_4) - s_7 c_8 (c_4 c_6 - s_4 s_5 s_6) - s_6 s_8 c_5)$$

$$K_{5p5}\dot{u}_5 = RHS_5 + \mathbf{T}_C(d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}) \cdot (s_7 c_8 (s_6 c_4 + s_4 s_5 c_6) - c_7 c_8 (s_4 s_6 - s_5 c_4 c_6) - s_8 c_5 c_6)$$

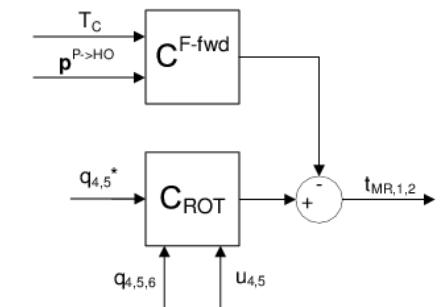
$$K_{6p6}\dot{u}_6 = RHS_6$$

# Physical interactions: Tethered helicopter

$$K_{4p4} \dot{u}_4 = t_{MR,1} + d_{O-H^O,3} f_{TR,2} + (K_{456} u_6 + K_{45}) u_5 + \\ + T_C (d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}) \cdot (c_7 c_8 (s_4 c_6 + s_5 s_6 c_4) - s_7 c_8 (c_4 c_6 - s_4 s_5 s_6) - s_6 s_8 c_5) \quad \} \text{ RHS}_4$$

$$K_{5p5} \dot{u}_5 = t_{MR,2} + t_{TR,2} + (K_{546} u_6 + K_{54}) u_4 + \\ + T_C (d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}) \cdot (s_7 c_8 (s_6 c_4 + s_4 s_5 c_6) - c_7 c_8 (s_4 s_6 - s_5 c_4 c_6) - s_8 c_5 c_6) \quad \} \quad RHS_5$$

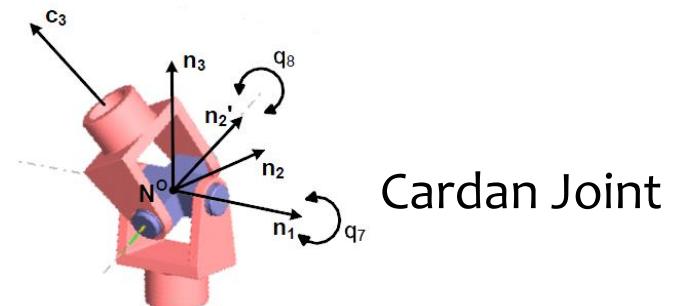
- Feed-Forward to counteract tether moment
    - Estimated moment is subtracted from moments calculated by helicopter orientation controller



$$t_{MR,1} = t_{MR,1}|^{C_{ROT}} - T_C^{est}(d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}) \cdot (c_7^{est} c_8^{est} (s_4 c_6 + s_5 s_6 c_4) - s_7^{est} c_8^{est} (c_4 c_6 - s_4 s_5 s_6) - s_6 s_8^{est} c_5)$$

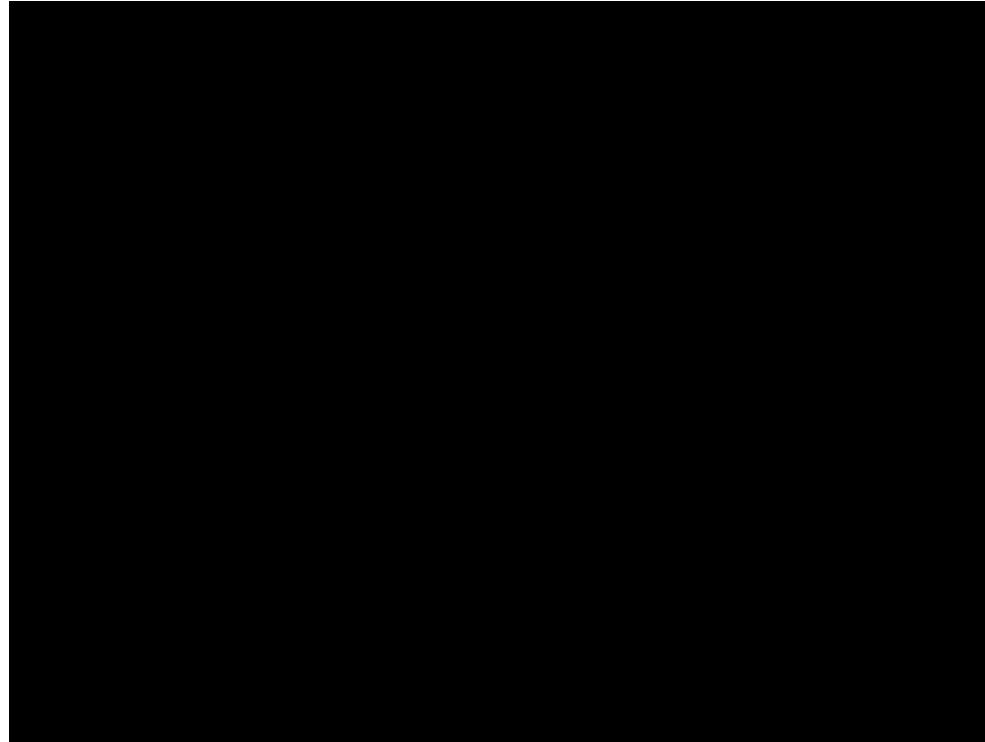
$$t_{MR,2} = t_{MR,2}^{\left| C_{ROT} - T_G^{est}(d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-HO,3}) \cdot (s_7^{est}c_8^{est}(s_6c_4 + s_4s_5c_6) - c_7^{est}c_8^{est}(s_4s_6 - s_5c_4c_6) - s_8^{est}c_5c_6) \right|}$$

- Estimation of tension vector
    - Load cell -> magnitude ( $T_C$ )
    - Optical encoders -> orientation ( $q_7, q_8$ )



- Landing with cable

## FP 7 EC-SAFEMOBIL Project



Tether tension: Higher as possible to maximize stabilizing properties in translation

Bounded since induced moment should be always less than maximum moment exerted by main rotor control action (saturation of cyclic pitch)

$$|\mathbf{p}^{P \rightarrow H^O} \times \mathbf{T}_C| < t_{MR1,2}^{\max} \Rightarrow |d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}| T_C < t_{MR1,2}^{\max}$$

$$T_C < \frac{t_{MR1,2}^{\max}}{|d_{O-P,3} - d_{O-H^O,3}|} \quad (\approx 0.2 \cdot f_{MR,3}^{\text{hover}})$$

=> Maximum value for tether tension should not exceed 20% of lifting force at hover (for a typical small-size helicopter)

GPS not needed for landing

# Physical interactions

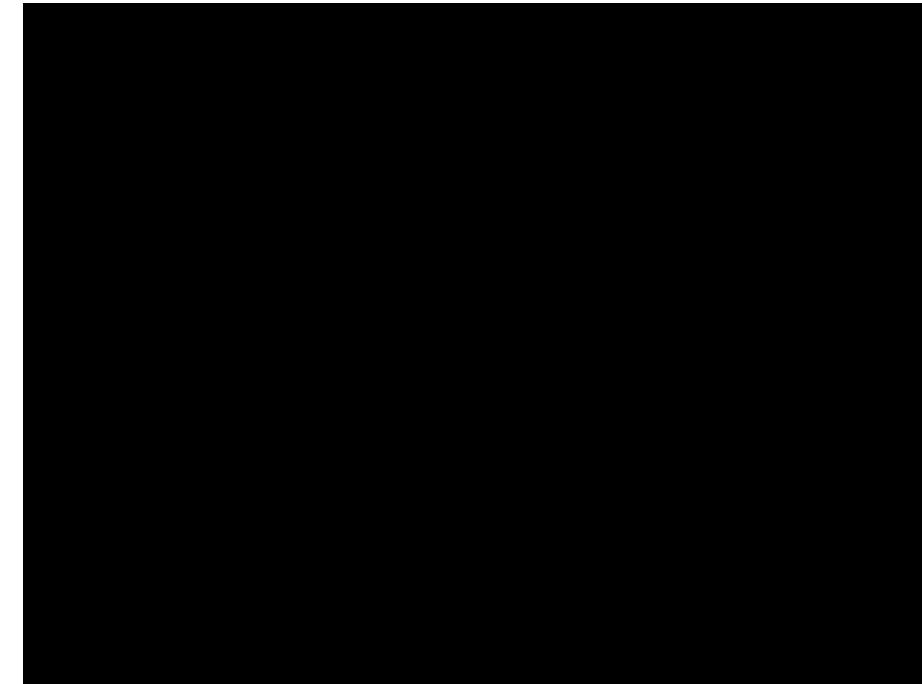
- Joint load transportation and deployment



FP6 AWARE (2006-2009)

# Physical interactions

- Sampling
  - FP7 PLANET



- Force interaction
  - Contact inspection (i.e. ultrasounds, eddy current)
  - Cleaning with special devices
- Manipulation: Robotic manipulation with multi-joint arms

# Robotic manipulation



## Aerial Robotics Cooperative Assembly System (ARCAS): First Results



LAAS-CNRS



ALSTOM  
Inspection Robotics



Large-scale integrating project (IP) Project No. 287617 • FP7-ICT-2011-7

<http://www.arcas-project.eu>



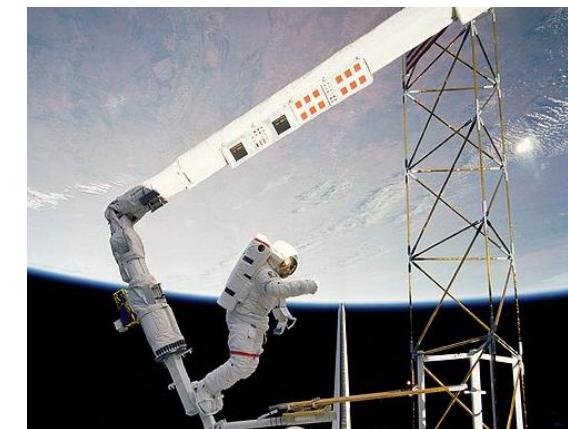


# Physical interactions with the environment

## Aerial Robotics Cooperative Assembly System

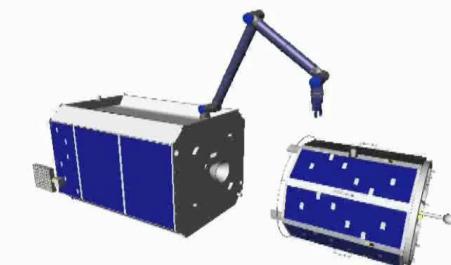
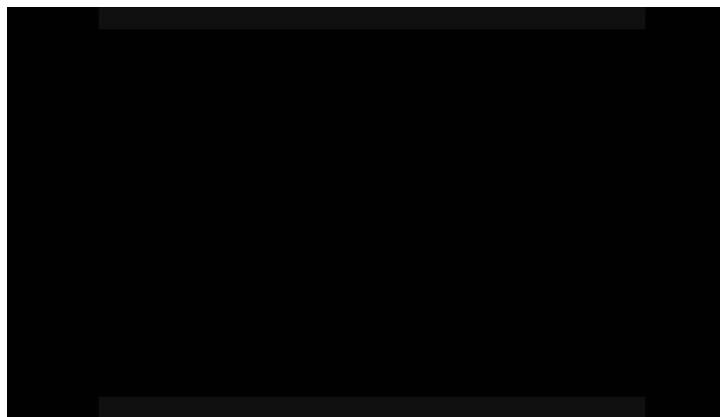
### FP7 ARCAS (2011-2015)

Flying + Manipulation + Perception + Multi-robot Cooperation



Aerial Robotics Applications

Space  
Applications





# Aerial Robotics Cooperative Assembly System (ARCAS)

FP7-ICT-2011-7

Development and experimental validation of the first cooperative free-flying robot system for assembly and structure construction



Several robotic aircrafts: enhanced manipulation capabilities, increased reliability and reduced costs.



# Objectives

**Motion control.** Manipulator in contact with a grasped object and coordinated control of multiple cooperating flying robots with manipulators in contact with the same object

**Perception.** Model, identify and recognize the scenario, guidance in the assembly operations, Range only SLAM, cooperative perception.

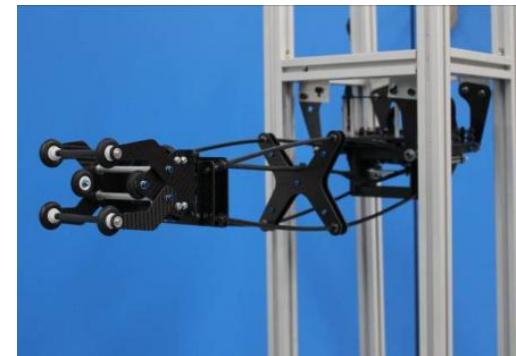
**Cooperative assembly planning.** Mission planning, task planning, collision detection and avoidance.

**Integration.** ARCAS system

**Validation**

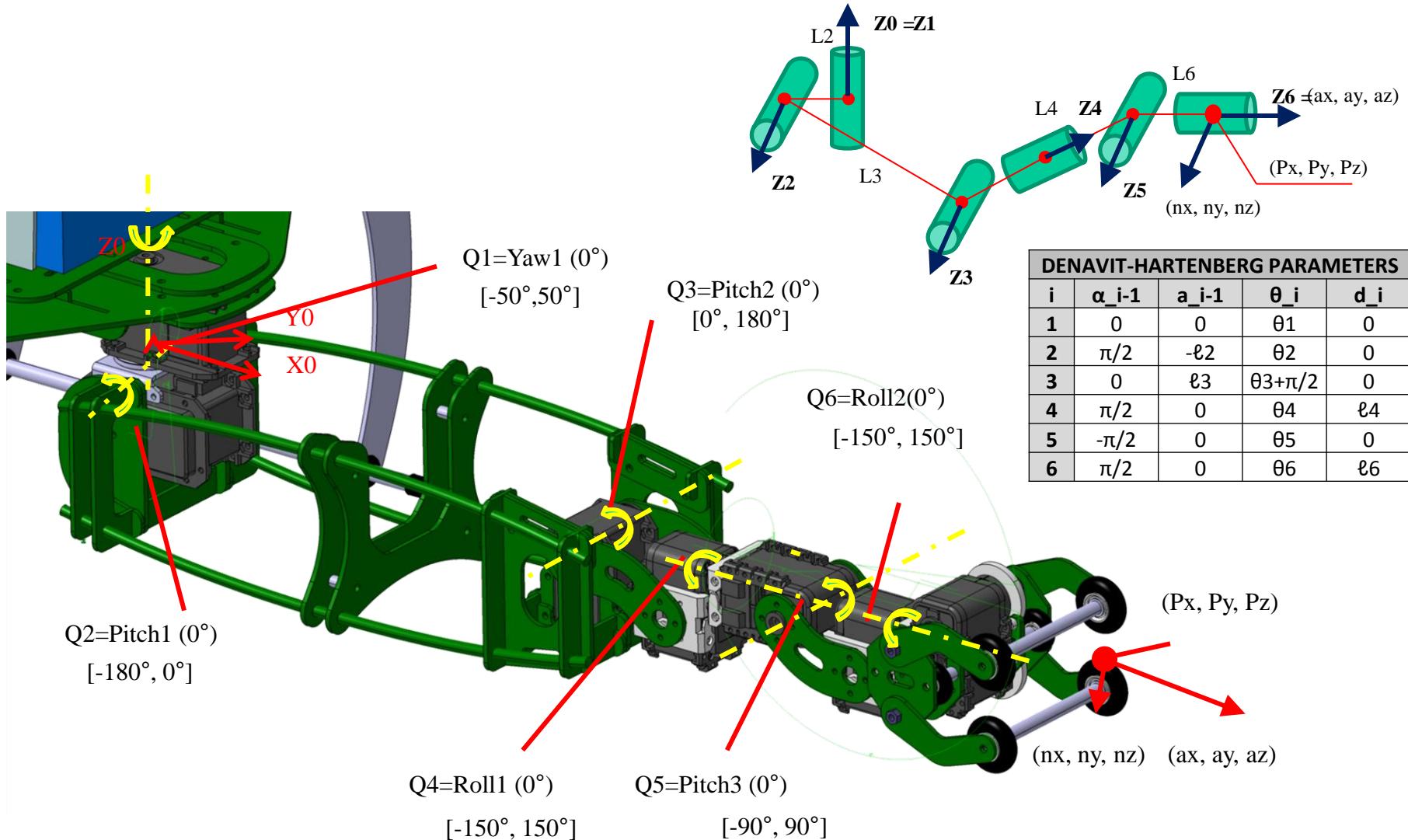


# New aerial platforms and arms





# V3 arm kinematic model

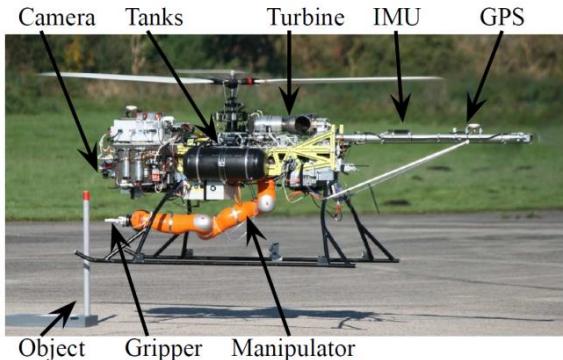




# Modelling and control in ARCAS

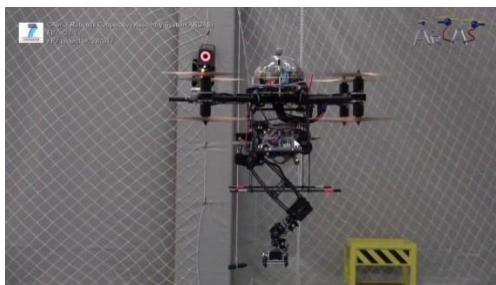
**Modelling tools:** Modelica/Dymola, Matlab/Simulink

## Helicopters with 7DoF arms



Analysis of interactions between helicopter and manipulator  
Dynamic model inversion  
Impedance control

## Multi-rotors with 2/6/7 DoF arms



Impedance control  
Image based control

Integral backstepping  
Adaptive control  
Passivity  
Force/moment estimator

## Space environment



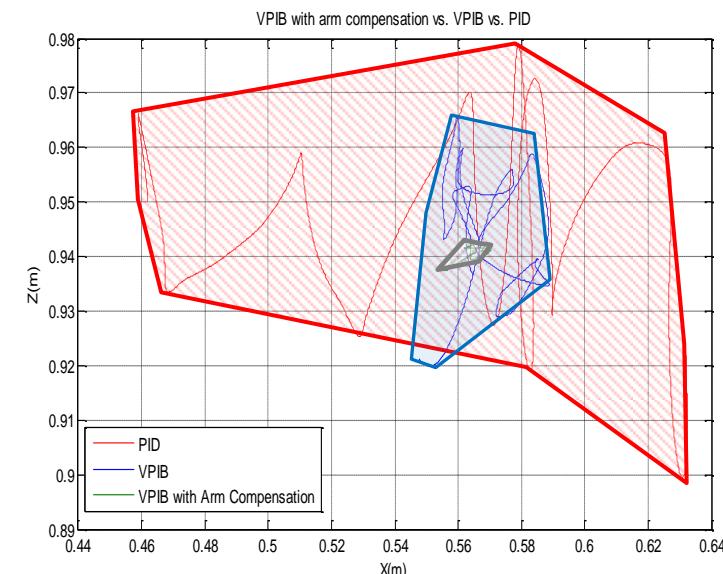
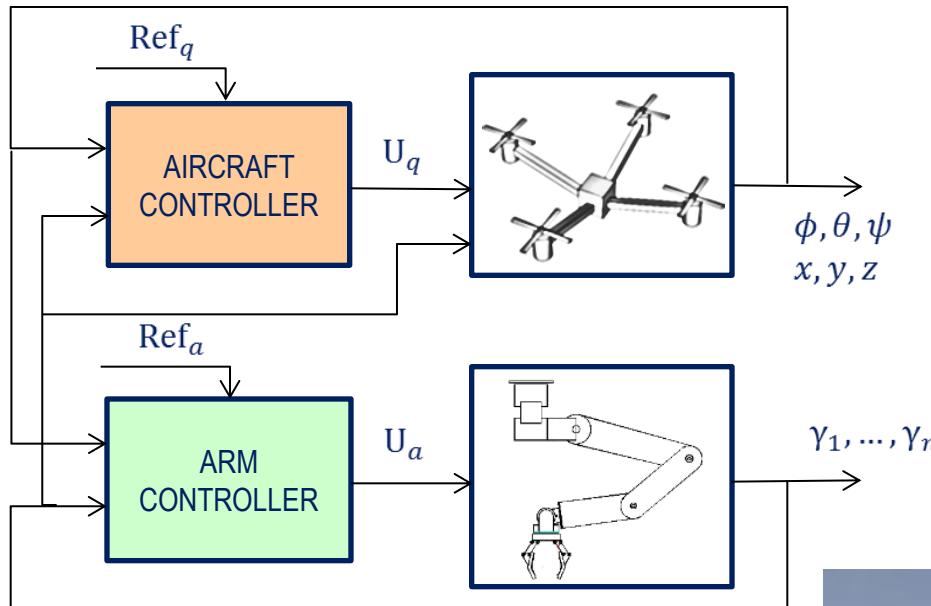
Cooperative Control of Servicer Satellite and Manipulator  
Client trajectory following



# Adaptive Integral Backstepping Controller Vs PID

## Variable parameter Integral Backstepping Control

$$m\dot{V} + \Omega \times (mV) = F_{prop} + F_{aero} + F_{grav} + F_{contact}$$
$$J(\gamma)\ddot{\Omega} + \Omega \times (J(\gamma)\dot{\Omega}) = T_{prop} + T_{aero} + T_{arm}(\gamma) + T_{contact}$$





## Control of Multirotor Aerial Manipulator

- **Full-Dynamics Integral Backstepping (FD-IB)** controller for Multirotor attitude and position.
  - **Full 3D multicopter+arm dynamic model** considered in controller.
  - **Implementation-oriented formulation** for easy adaptation and tuning starting from standard PID-based baseline multirotor controllers.
- If  $U$  is the control input vector, the controller terms can be rearranged in the following matrix form:

$$U = K_{VG} [K_P e_p + K_D e_v + K_I e_I] + G(q) + D(q, \dot{q}) + C_1(q, \dot{q})$$

$K_{VG}$ : variable gain matrix (depends on arm joints)

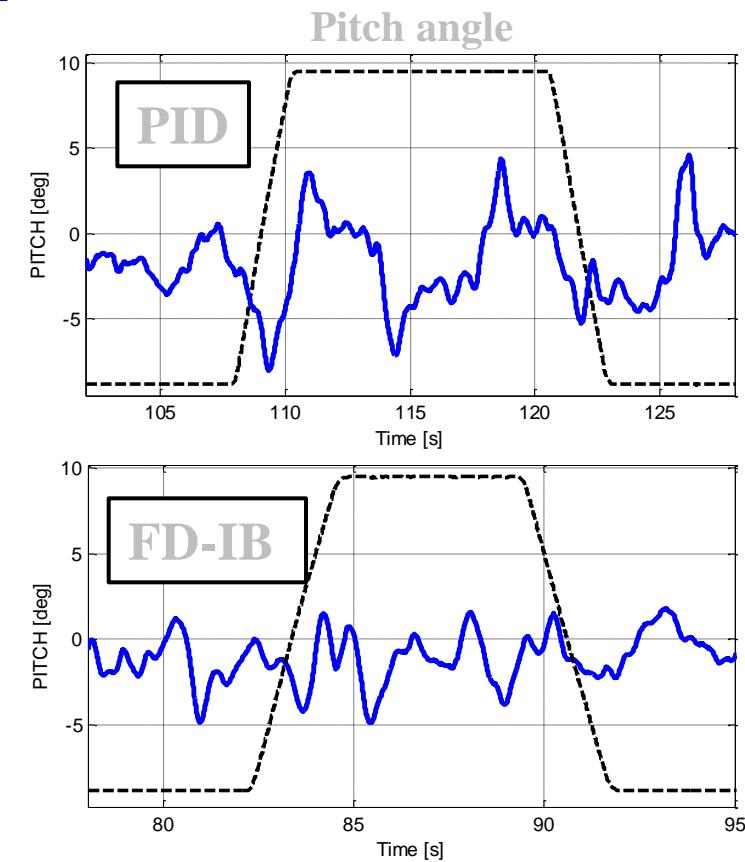
$K_P, K_D, K_I$ : diagonal matrices, PID parameters

$e_p, e_v, e_I$ : position, velocity and integral error vectors

$G$ : gravity compensation term ;  $D, C_1$  : dynamic torque compensation terms

## FD-IB attitude control experiments

- Experiments with AMUSE multirotor with 7 dof arm.
- Multirotor in hover, command large excursion movements to arm (worst case, large variations of mass center and inertias).
- Comparison of FD-IB with standard PID: oscillations with PID almost double FD-IB.
- Remaining oscillations due to wind and position controller.



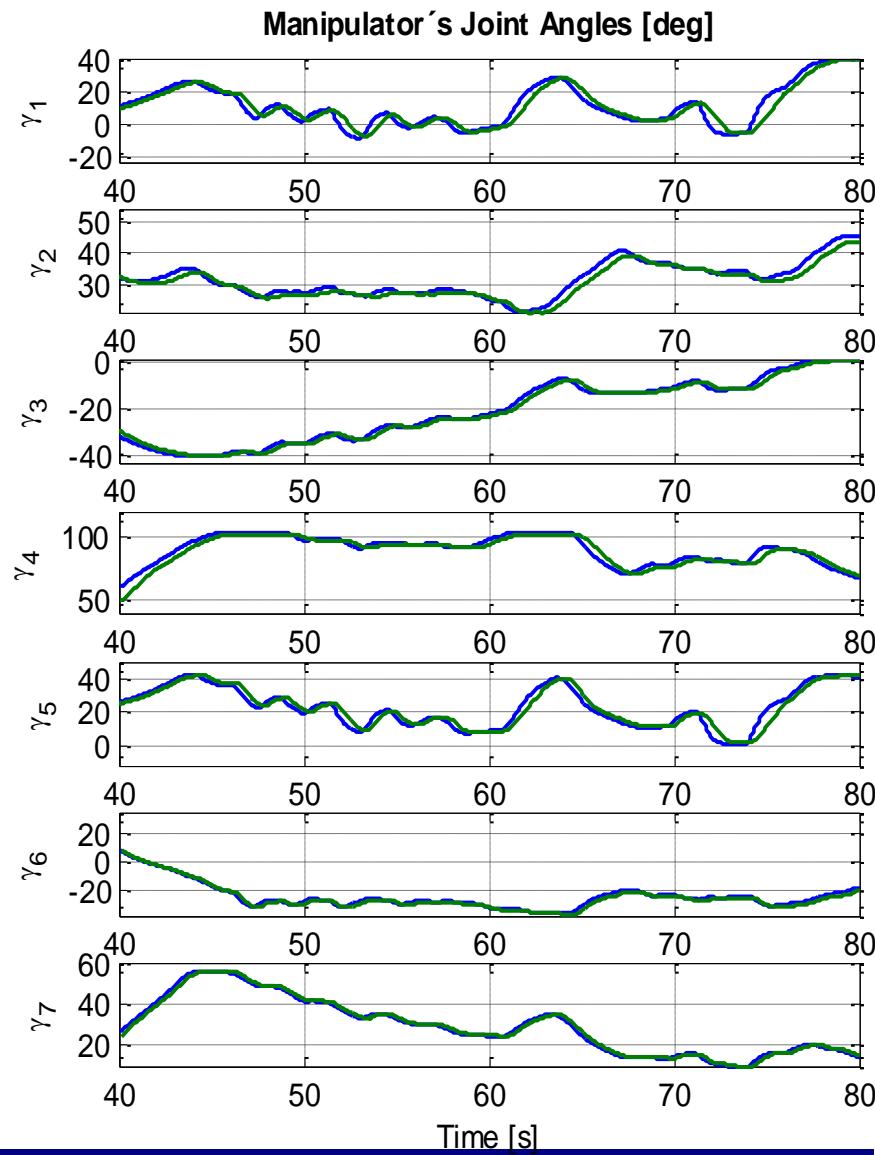
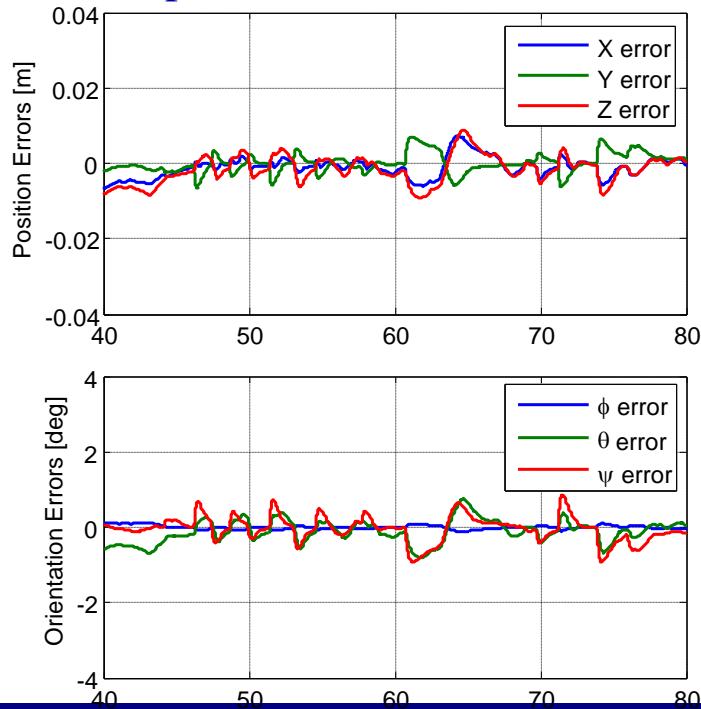


## Arm control experiments

- Experiments with arm following references from video system:
  - Blue:** joint references computed by arm controller.
  - Green:** joint trajectories.



### End-effector position and attitude errors



# Control and grasping experiments

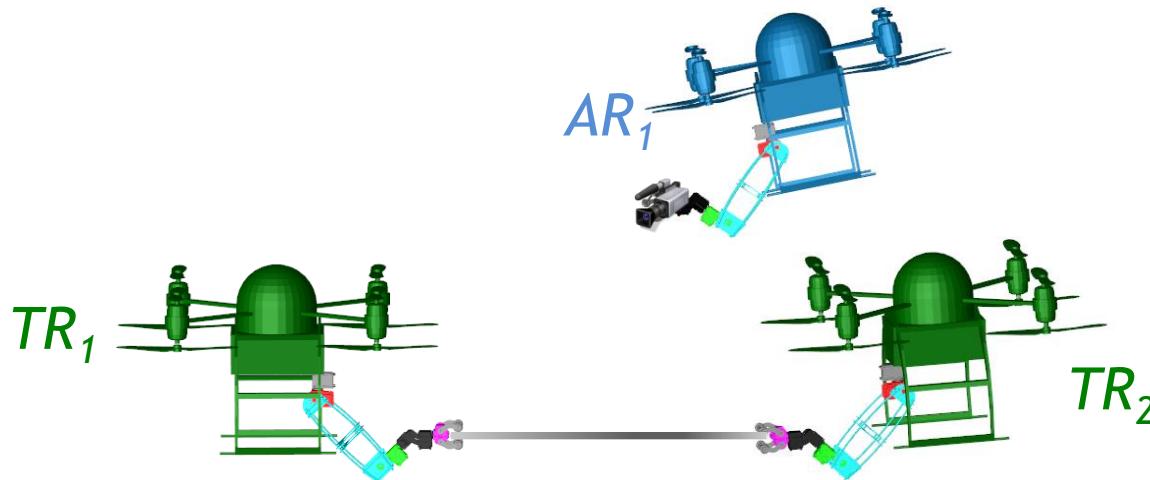


**AERIAL ROBOTIC MANIPULATION**  
**OUTDOOR PLATFORM**

# Coordinated Control: General configuration

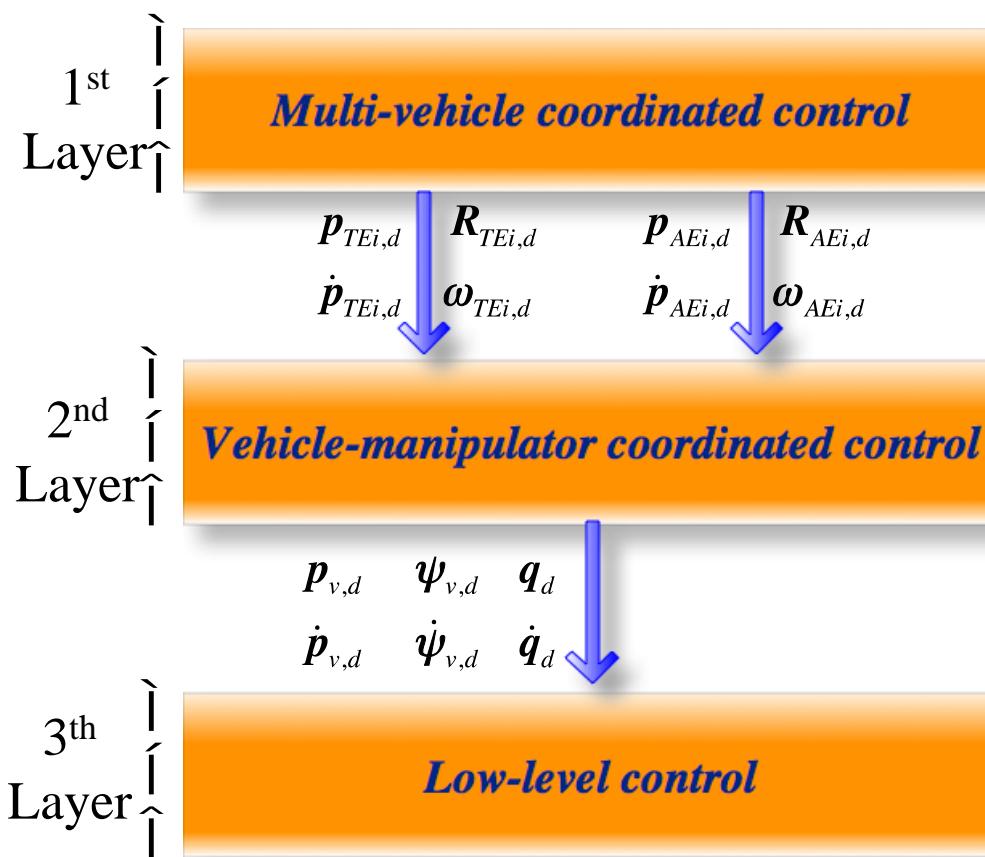
The task formulation is developed for multi-robot systems composed by two types of robots:

- $N_T$  **Transporting Robots** (TRs), i.e. robots grasping an object and move it according to a planned trajectory
- $N_A$  **Auxiliary Robots** (ARs), i.e. robots whose motion needs to be coordinated with that of the object grasped by TRs

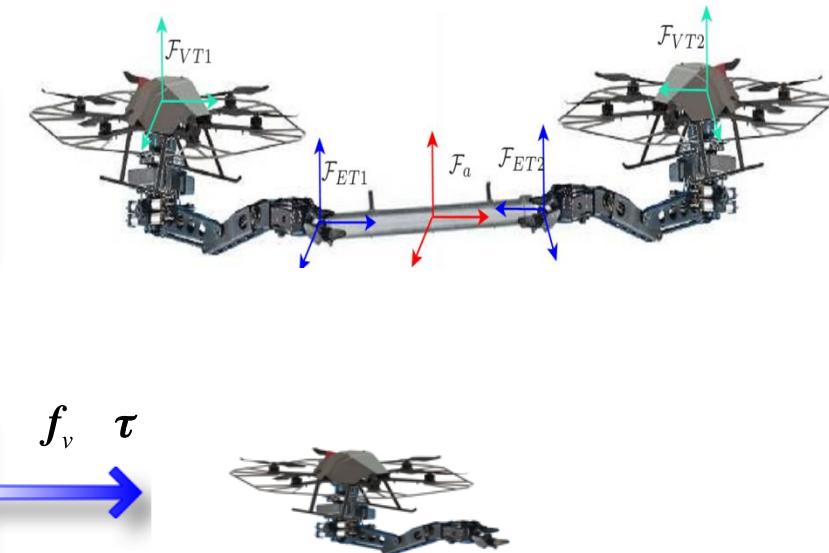




# Coordinated control

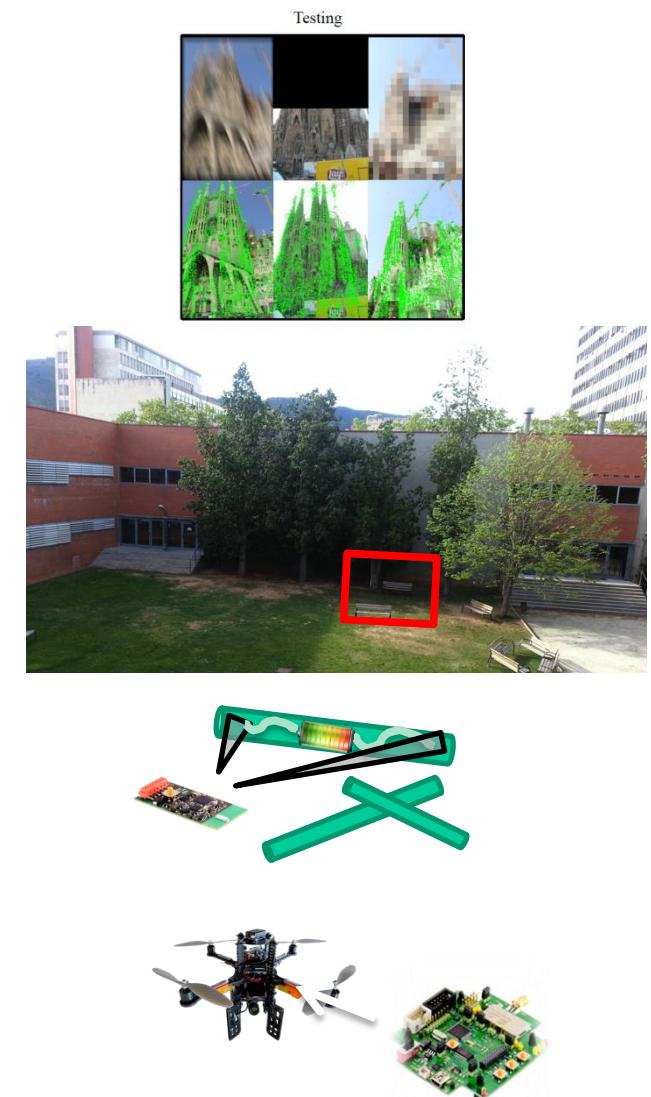


From off-line  
Motion planner



# Environment perception in ARCAS

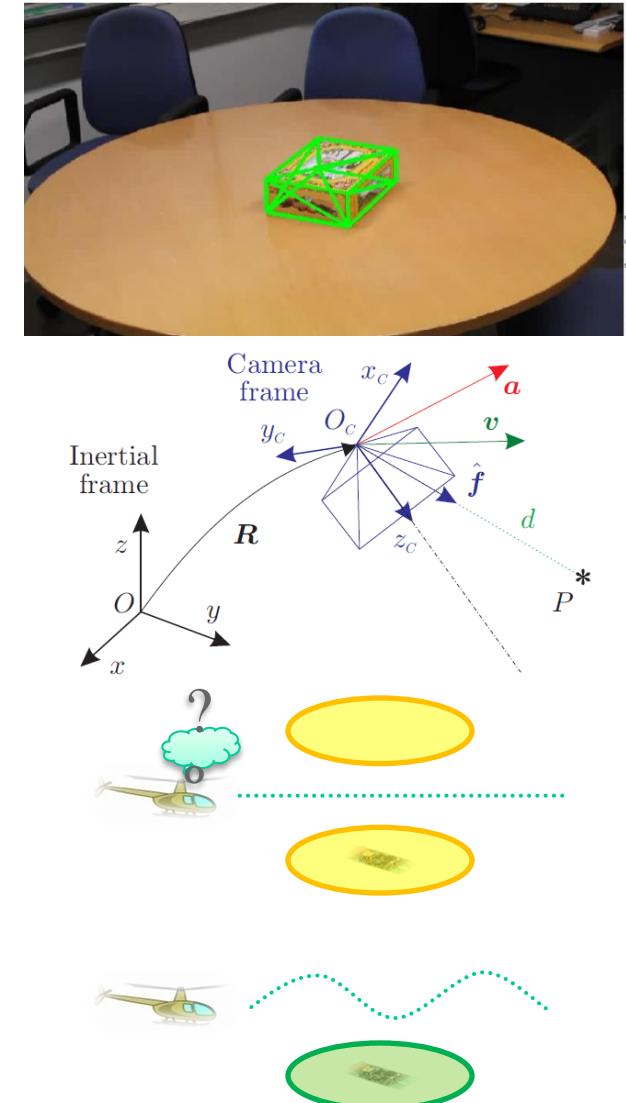
- **Pose estimation from low resolution images:** apply a classifier trained with high resolution images (3D map) to compute the robot pose from low resolution images taken from the robot (robust to motion blur, image degradation, and occlusions) and low computational cost.
- **Object detection and recognition** by means of n-line Random Ferns, Rotationally-invariant.
- **Detection of landing areas** (landing or building the structure) without training based on 3D maps (built with visual odometry with refined Map/Pose and dense mapping) and local plane fitting.
- **Range-only SLAM** in structure assembly: SLAM based on radio beacons and ultrasound, structure parts with embedded radio emitters (bearing to be estimated)





# Environment perception in ARCAS

- **Reliable tracking of 3D objects in unstructured environment.** 3D Pose Estimation and Tracking, uncalibrated system, Uncalibrated Image-Based Visual Servo, Image-based UAV onboard velocity estimation (close for solution using visual and inertial data)
- **Cooperative perception.** RO-SLAM techniques combined with robot local sensors and environment perception for enhanced robot localization estimation and map refinement: optimal selection of waypoints to maximize information gathering, POMDP framework for decision making, Generation of waypoints which increase the information gain

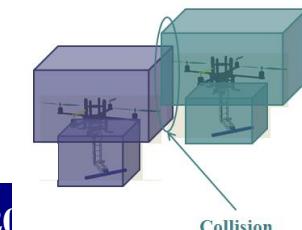
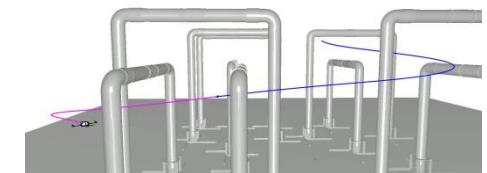
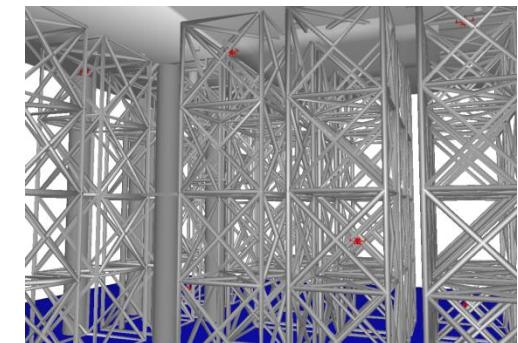
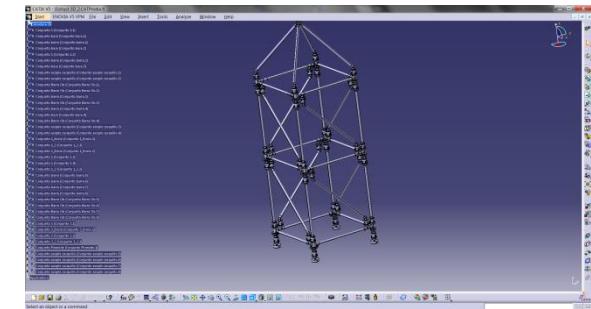


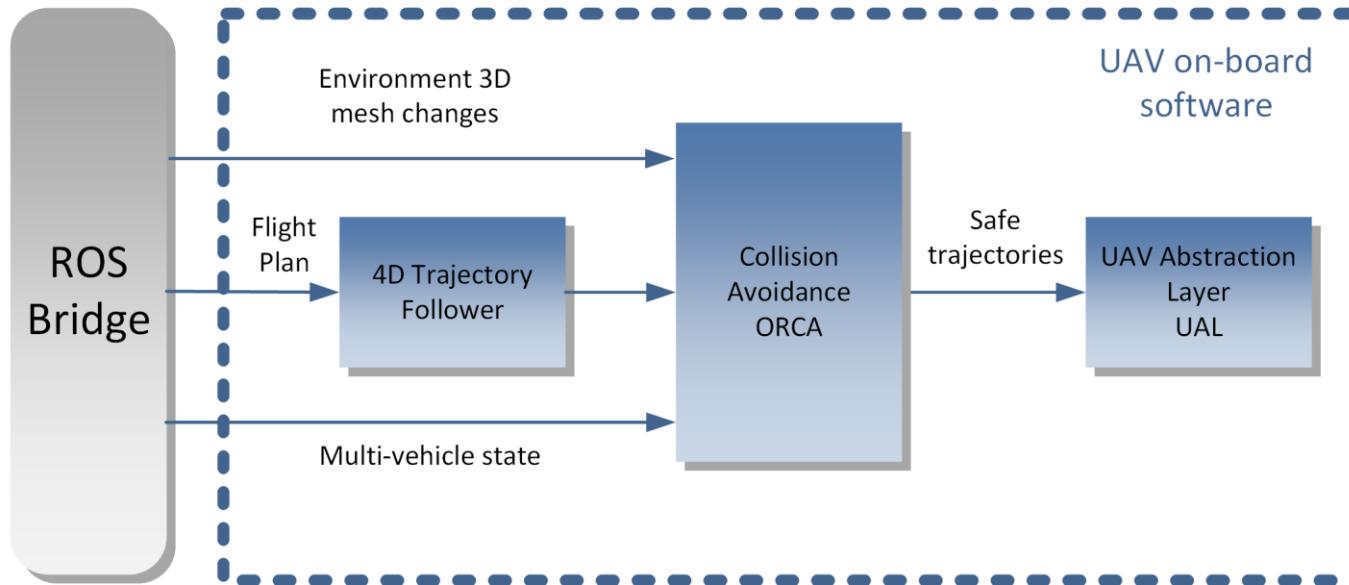


# Planning

## Structure Assembly in ARCAS

- **Assembly sequence planning.** Construction of a non-directional blocking graph, get sequence plans from assembly-by-disassembly technique, select best sequence by a metric value.
- **Task Planning** Several UAVs working in parallel, link with assembly planner (through a parser), assembly grammar defined to represent assembly plan
- **Motion planning.** Industrial inspection problem (mockup created with AIR), the planner computes good-quality paths and a good order to move between points, Multi-T-RRT with clearance-based cost (CPU time = 8 sec).
- **Multi-UAV real time Collision detection and resolution.** Efficient any-time optimal approach





### Optimal Reciprocal Collision Avoidance (ORCA)

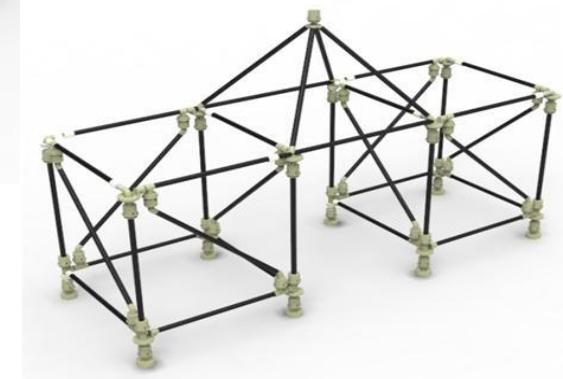
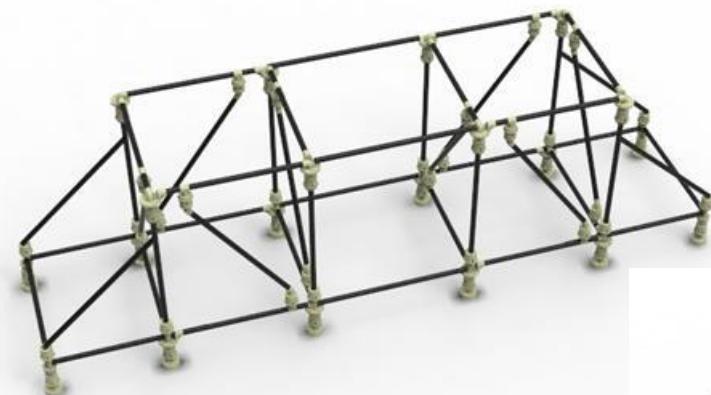
- Time horizon  $\tau$  for the detection and avoidance
- Works in the velocity space (first order algorithm)
- Avoidance effort shared among the involved vehicles in each potential collision
- Minimize the difference with the planned cruise speeds
- Characteristics: Low computation time (< 1 ms); Kinematic constraints modeled; Changes triggered when the safety regions overlap in the velocity space; Velocity vector changes allowed (module and direction); Static obstacles are considered (meshes import - assimp library); PQP (proximity query package) collision detection library; ROS module generated

*Safe coordinated trajectories generation and execution with collision detection and avoidance*

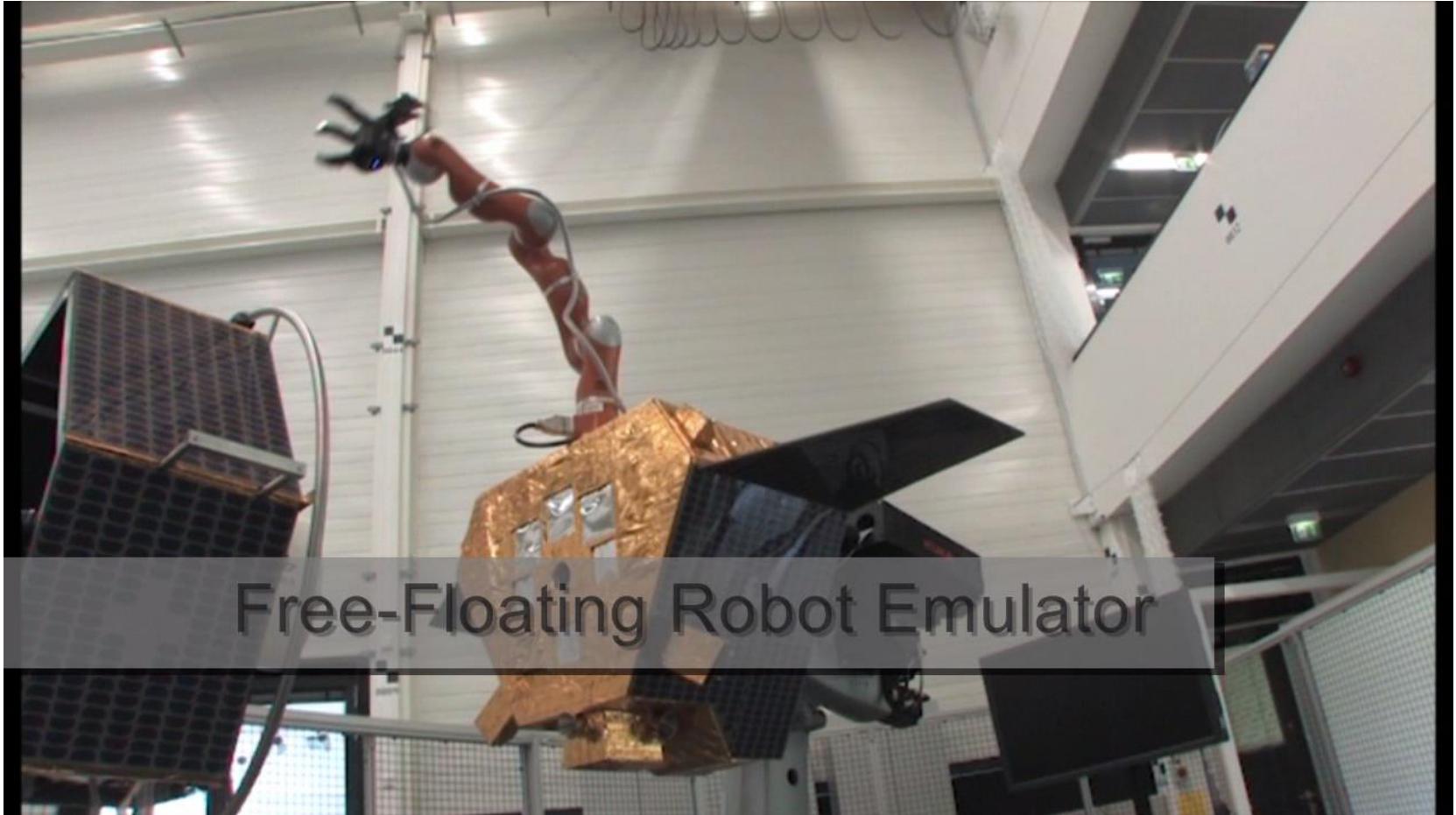


## *Indoor scenario*

- Preparation of the indoor experiments:
  - Assembly parts (from current 2D to future 3D structure designs)



# Emulation of the flying robots assembly tasks by using the DLR manipulator testbed





# Experiments Year 1

- [....\...\Desktop\ARCAS\\_3bars\\_xvid\\_001.avi - Acceso directo.lnk](#)
- [...\...\Desktop\agarre\\_LWR-SWISSUAV - Acceso directo.lnk](#)

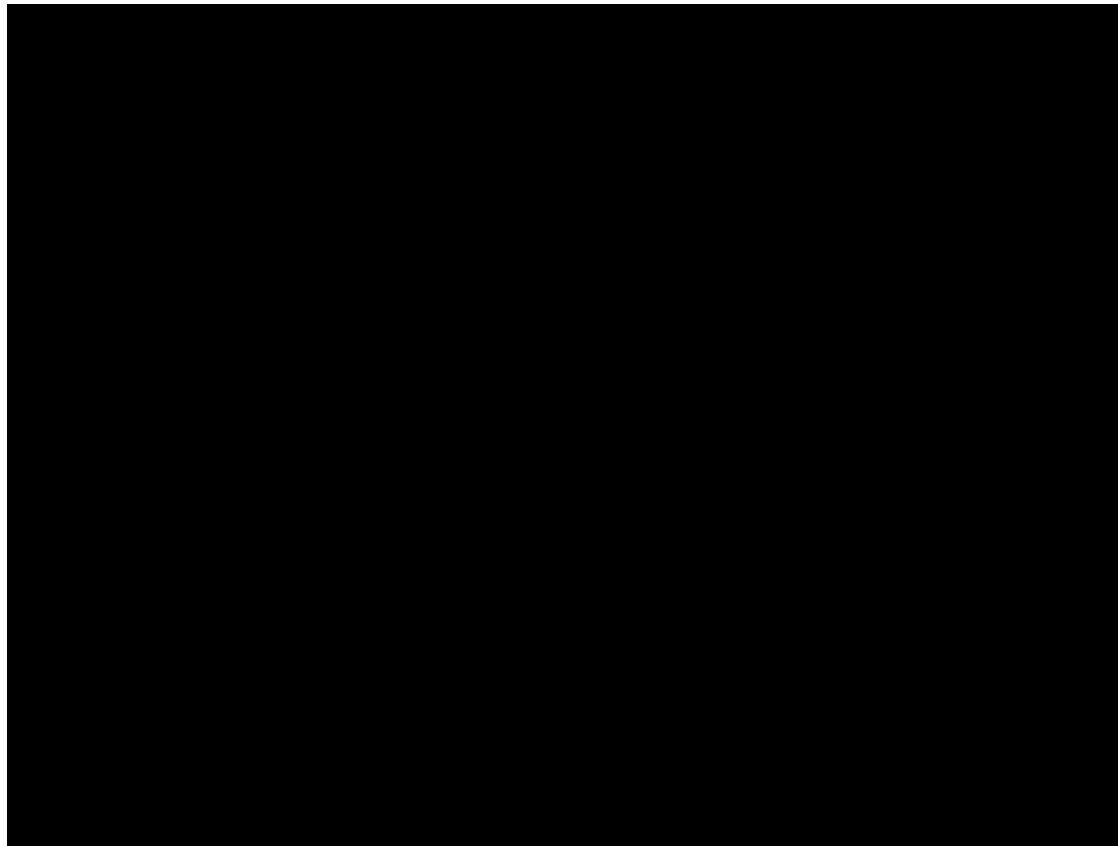


# 2014 Indoor Experiments

- [...\\..\\Desktop\\ARCAS\\_Year2 - Acceso directo.lnk](#)



# Euronews (September 2014)



# Conclusions

- First steps of cooperative aerial manipulation
  - First world-wide demonstrations: aerial robots general manipulation with multi-joint arms, structure assembly
- New control methods: coordinated control, robust and adaptive control, force/torque control
  - Full model integrated control
  - Decoupled control
- New robust perception techniques
- Integration of new mission (assembly) planning, task planning and motion planning techniques for multiple UAVs
- Large number of applications
- Intensive experimentation is needed
- Increasing relevance of regulatory issues for industrial applications
- Small systems: More easy/safe application but operational constraints
- Larger systems are required for many applications

## AEROARMS