

# Conception et commande d'un robot parallèle volant

## Journée technique "drones et manipulation"



LABORATOIRE  
DES SCIENCES  
DU NUMÉRIQUE  
DE NANTES



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# Content

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Introduction

Kinematics and dynamics

Control law

Two drones prototype

Conclusion and future work



# Aerial robotics

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**Flying UAV + Robotic device**  
=  
**New generation of aerial robots**



# Several Approaches

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- UAV + 1 DoF actuated mechanism
- UAV + serial or parallel robot
- Several UAVs + cable load transportation



## Several Approaches

- **UAV + 1 DoF actuated mechanism**  
→ *Limited in payload and manipulation abilities*
- UAV + serial or parallel robot
- Several UAVs + cable load transportation



Figure : Quadrotor + 1 DoF manipulator (University of Pennsylvania)

## Several Approaches

- UAV + 1 DoF actuated mechanism
- **UAV + serial or parallel robot**
  - (+) *Better manipulation ability*
  - (-) *Autonomy/payload*  
*additional embedded motors*  
*Stabilization while operating*
- Several UAVs + cable load transportation



Figure : UAV + robotic arm manipulator (LAAS-CNRS)

## Several Approaches

- UAV + 1 DoF actuated mechanism
- UAV + serial or parallel robot
- **Several UAVs + cable load transportation**
  - (+) *Large objects transportation*
  - (-) *Requires operator*
  - Cannot apply pushing forces*
  - Operation under the drones only*

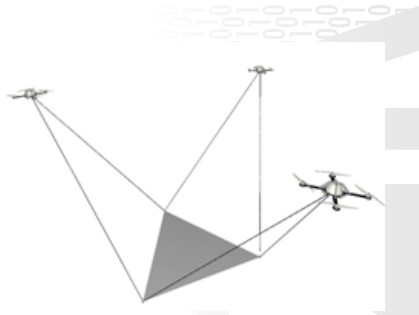


Figure : FlyCrane project (LAAS-CNRS)

# A new concept in aerial robotics

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Flying robot inspired from rigid parallel manipulators

**Several UAVs + Passive kinematic chain**





# A new concept in aerial robotics

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## Flying robot inspired from rigid parallel manipulators

### Several UAVs + Passive kinematic chain

- **Reconfiguration:** Tasks under and over the drones
- **Efforts are spread** over several drones
- **No additional embedded motors**
- **Effector away** from the drones
- Large choice of **leg topology**
- Advantages of the decoupling properties?

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# Study case

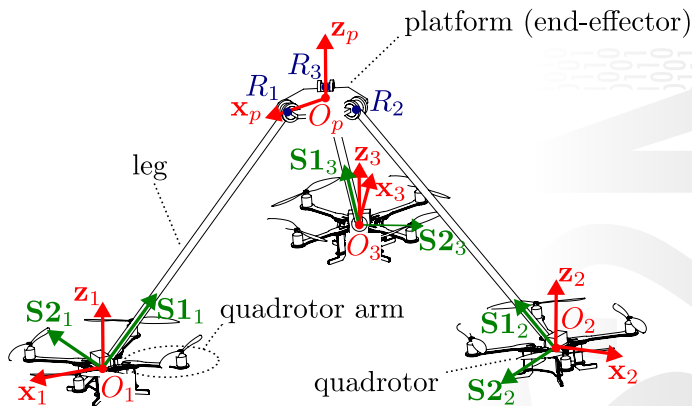


Figure : A flying parallel robot with three quadrotors

## Study case

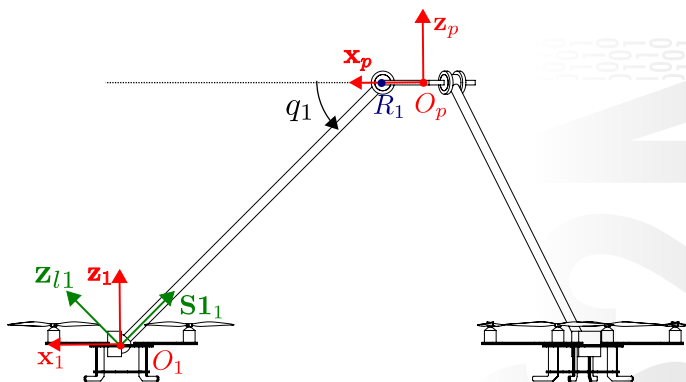
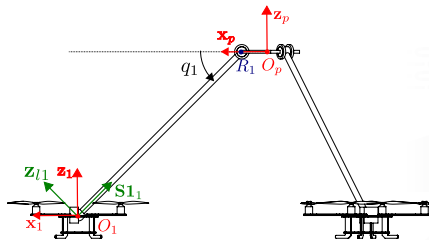


Figure : Side view of the flying parallel robot

# Kinematic parameters



Generalized coordinates  $\mathbf{q}$ :

- $x_p, y_p, z_p, \phi_p, \theta_p, \psi_p$  position and orientation coordinates of the moving platform;
- $q_1, q_2, q_3$  the relative angle between the platform plane and leg
- $\phi_1, \theta_1, \psi_1, \phi_2, \theta_2, \psi_2, \phi_3, \theta_3, \psi_3$  the orientation coordinates of the drones

# Robot dynamic model

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## Input/Output analysis

- Generalized coordinates  $\mathbf{q}$  is a 18-dimensional vector
- Three 4-dimensional input wrenches

**18 d.o.f. for 12 independant inputs**

Under-actuation as for a classic quadrotor  $\Rightarrow$  similar decoupling?

# Splitting the dynamic model

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## Quadrotor dynamic model

Translation coordinates  $\xi$   
controlled by thrust  $\mathbf{t}$

$$\mathbf{R}(\eta)\mathbf{t} = m\ddot{\xi} - m\mathbf{g}$$

Angular velocities  $\omega$  controlled by torques  $\tau$

$$\tau = \Sigma\dot{\omega} + \omega \times \Sigma\omega$$

## Flying robot dynamic model

# Splitting the dynamic model

## Quadrotor dynamic model

Translation coordinates  $\xi$   
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## Flying robot dynamic model

Passive chain coordinates  $\mathbf{q}_p$  controlled by thrust  $\mathbf{t}$

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_p + \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{R}_t \mathbf{t}$$



# Splitting the dynamic model

## Quadrotor dynamic model

Translation coordinates  $\xi$   
controlled by thrust  $\mathbf{t}$

$$\mathbf{R}(\eta)\mathbf{t} = m\ddot{\xi} - m\mathbf{g}$$

Angular velocities  $\omega$  controlled by torques  $\tau$

$$\tau = \Sigma\dot{\omega} + \omega \times \Sigma\omega$$

## Flying robot dynamic model

Passive chain coordinates  $\mathbf{q}_p$  controlled by thrust  $\mathbf{t}$

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{q}}_p + \mathbf{c} = \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{R}_t \mathbf{t}$$

Attitude coordinates  $\omega_i$  controlled by torques  $\tau_i$

$$\tau_i = \Sigma_i \dot{\omega}_i + \omega_i \times \Sigma_i \omega_i$$

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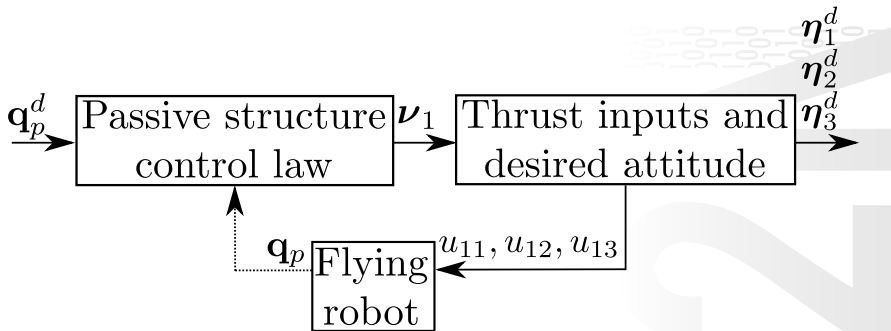
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Conclusion and future work

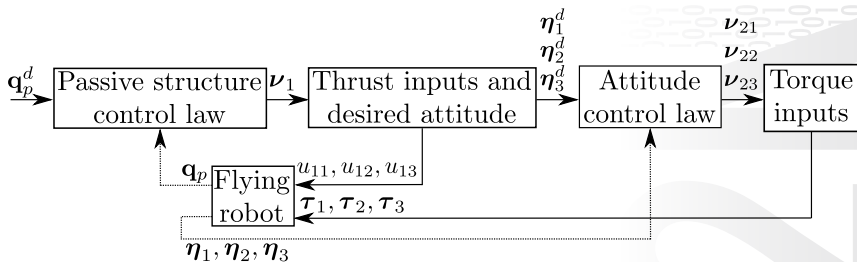


## Passive chain control law



**Computed torque** control law for the passive chain

# Attitude control law



## Sliding mode control law for attitude

# Content

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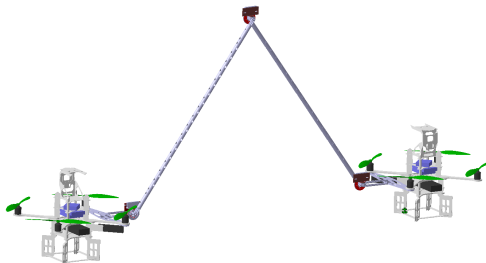
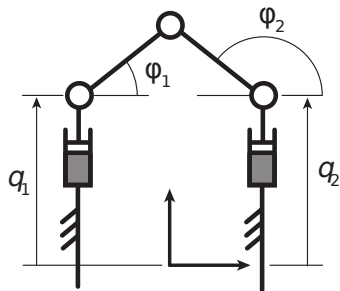
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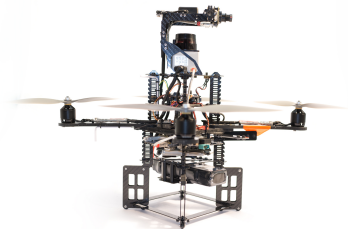


# Prototype presentation



## Available equipment

### 2 PELICAN from ASCITEC/INTEL

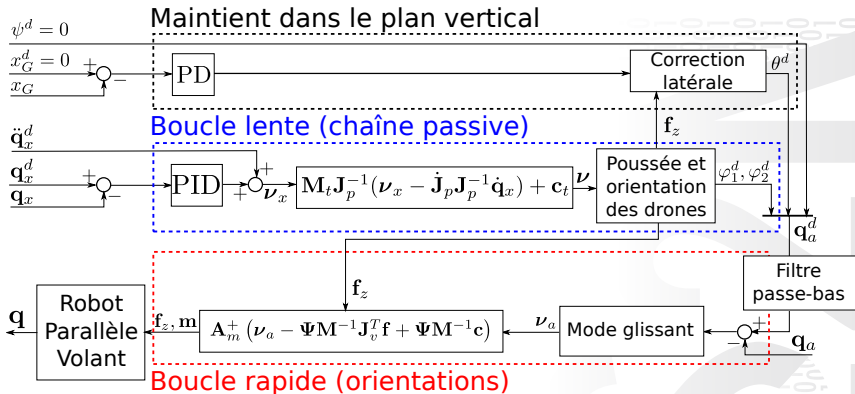


### QUALISYS MOCAP system

- 8 cameras
- Position capture at 250 Hz

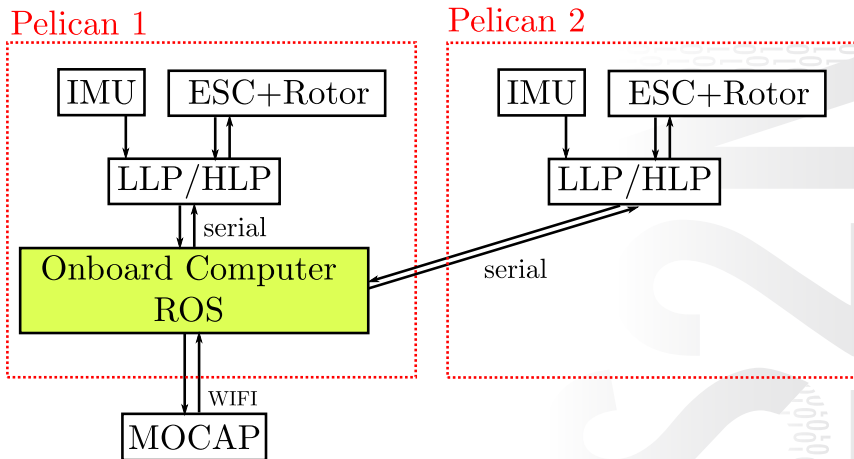


# Controller





## Equipment and communication



# Trajectory tracking: "Up" configuration

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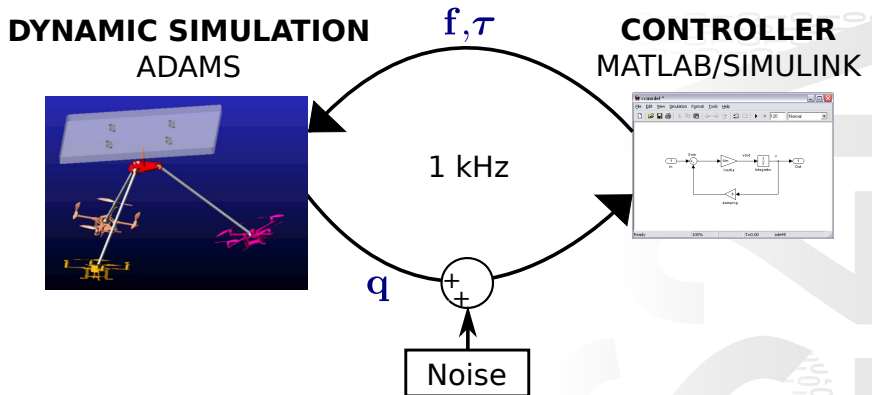


# "Down" configuration

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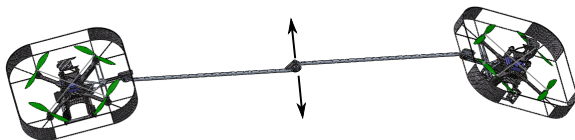
# Simulator



## Singularity crossing

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- Specific for each passive structure  $\Rightarrow$  Kinematic study
- One uncontrolled DoF when crossing the singularity



- Degeneracy of the dynamic model  $\Rightarrow$  Specific controller

# Singularity crossing

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# Task example

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# Main contributions

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- New concept of a **flying structure with collaborative quadrotors** inspired from **rigid parallel robot**.
- Expression and properties of its **dynamic model**. Design of a **stabilizing control law**.
- Design and experimentation with 2 drones as a **proof of concept**.
- Design of a 3 drones flying parallel robot that allows control of the **6 DoFs** of a platform.

# Potential future work

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- Experimental prototype with three quadrotors
- Reconfiguration (singularity crossing) in experimental conditions
- Towards manipulation: use legs to actuate a gripper or add a tool to the platform.

Thank you for your attention

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