

# How to make your own Quadcopter?

## e-Yantra Team

Embedded Real-Time Systems (ERTS) Lab  
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay



IIT Bombay  
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# Agenda for Discussion

1 What do you need?

2 Hardware

3 Software/Firmware

4 Flight Modes

5 Intelligent Autopilot Stacks

6 Sample Configuration



# What do you need?

## ① Frame



# What do you need?

- ① Frame
- ② Propellers



# What do you need?

- ① Frame
- ② Propellers
- ③ Motors



# What do you need?

- ① Frame
- ② Propellers
- ③ Motors
- ④ Motor Drivers



# What do you need?

- ① Frame
- ② Propellers
- ③ Motors
- ④ Motor Drivers
- ⑤ Flight controller



# What do you need?

- ❶ Frame
- ❷ Propellers
- ❸ Motors
- ❹ Motor Drivers
- ❺ Flight controller
- ❻ Remote Controller (RC) and Receiver



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- ⑦ Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver



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- ⑧ Battery



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- ② Propellers
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- ④ Motor Drivers
- ⑤ Flight controller
- ⑥ Remote Controller (RC) and Receiver
- ⑦ Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver
- ⑧ Battery
- ⑨ Software/Firmware



[Outline](#)

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[Software/Firmware](#)

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**Frame**

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# Motors

Brushed Motors

Brushless Motors

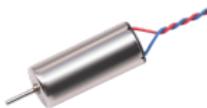


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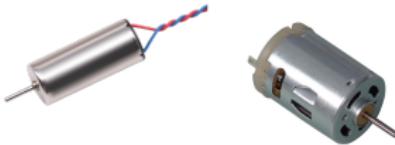


## Brushless Motors



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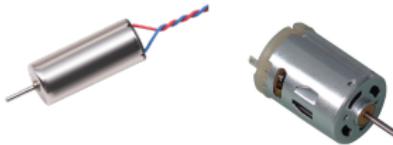


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# Motor Drivers

Brushed DC motor drivers

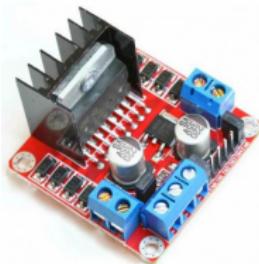
Brushless DC motor drivers or  
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# Motor Drivers

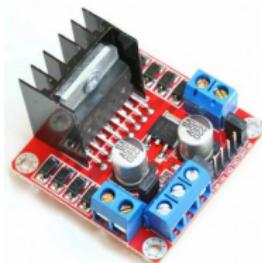
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# Flight Controller

A computer capable of running complex algorithms to control the aircraft.



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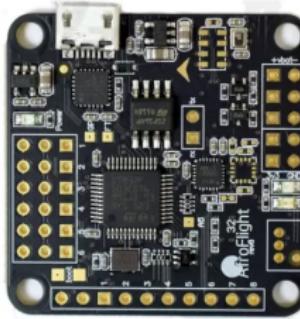


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A computer capable of running complex algorithms to control the aircraft.

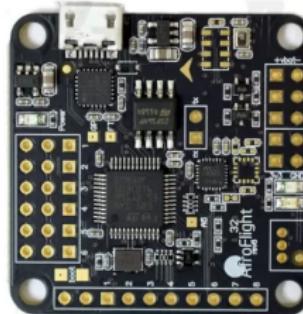


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# Remote Controller (RC) and Receiver



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# Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver



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# Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver



# Battery



# Battery



# Battery



# Firmware for flight controller

The software that runs on the flight controller board of a drone.



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Firmware for flight controller  
**PX4 & ArduPilot**  
Ground Control Station (GCS)

# PX4 & ArduPilot



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Firmware for flight controller  
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# PX4 & ArduPilot



- Open source flight control software



# PX4 & ArduPilot



- Open source flight control software
- Modular architecture



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- Optimised APIs and SDKs for developers



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- Modular architecture
- Optimised APIs and SDKs for developers
- Deeply coupled with embedded computer vision for autonomous capabilities
- Offers an ecosystem of supported devices.
- Powerful Safety Features



# Ground Control Station (GCS)

A ground station is typically a software application, running on a ground-based computer, that communicates with your UAV via wireless telemetry.



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- Data Recording and Analysis



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- Telemetry and Monitoring
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- Visualization and Mapping
- Data Recording and Analysis
- Communication and Connectivity



# Ground Control Station (GCS)



QGroundControl



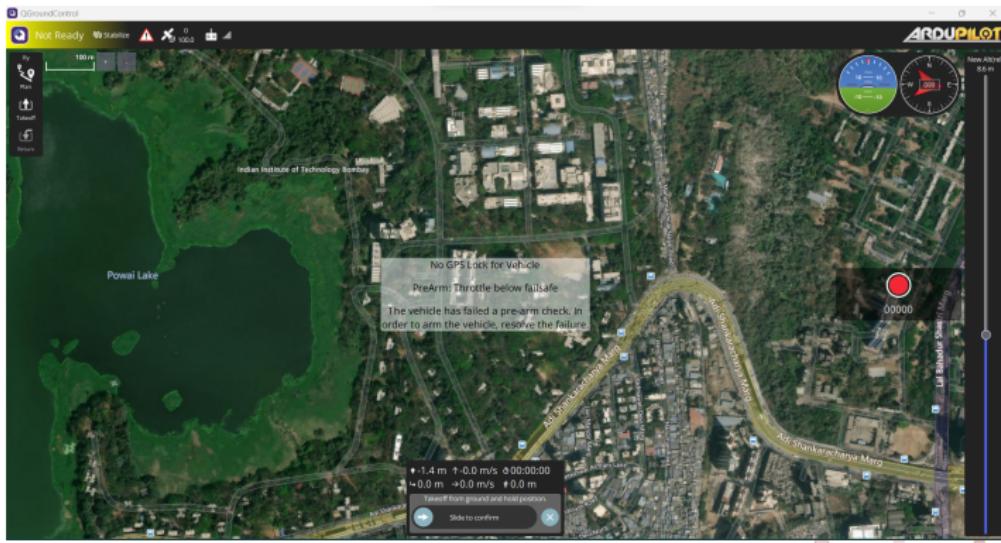
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## Ground Control Station (GCS)



QGroundControl



# Ground Control Station (GCS)



Mission Planner



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# Ground Control Station (GCS)



## Mission Planner



# Flight Modes

- ① Mission Mode
- ② Offboard Mode



# Mission Mode

## Autonomous Mode / Waypoint Navigation

- This mode requires 3d position information (e.g. GPS)



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## Autonomous Mode / Waypoint Navigation

- This mode requires 3d position information (e.g. GPS)
- The quadcopter execute a predefined autonomous mission (flight plan) that has been uploaded to the flight controller



# Mission Mode

## Autonomous Mode / Waypoint Navigation

- This mode requires 3d position information (e.g. GPS)
- The quadcopter execute a predefined autonomous mission (flight plan) that has been uploaded to the flight controller
- The mission is created and uploaded using a GCS application like QGC or MP



# Mission Mode

- This mode is automatic - no user intervention is required to control the quadcopter



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- RC control switches can be used to change flight modes on the quadcopter



# Mission Mode

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- RC control switches can be used to change flight modes on the quadcopter
- The quadcopter must be armed before this mode can be engaged.



# Mission Mode

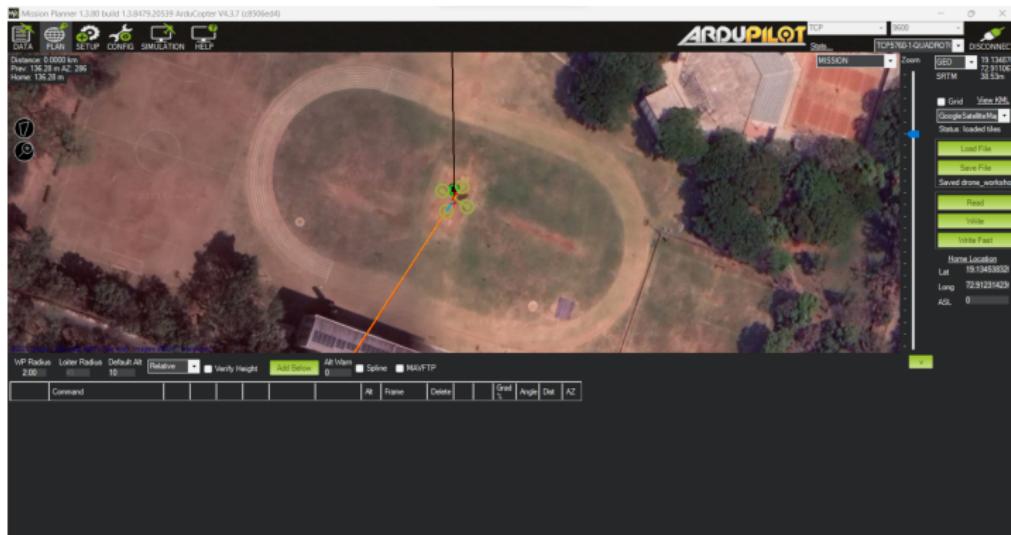
## Mission Planning

- Waypoint Definition
- Mission Parameters
- Pre-Flight Checks
- Mission Execution
- Monitoring and Safety
- Mission Completion



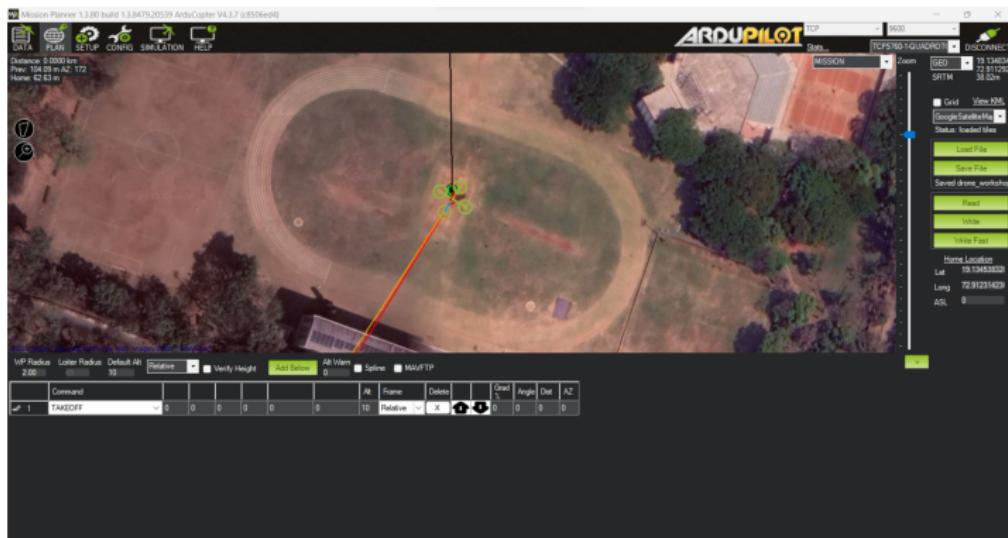
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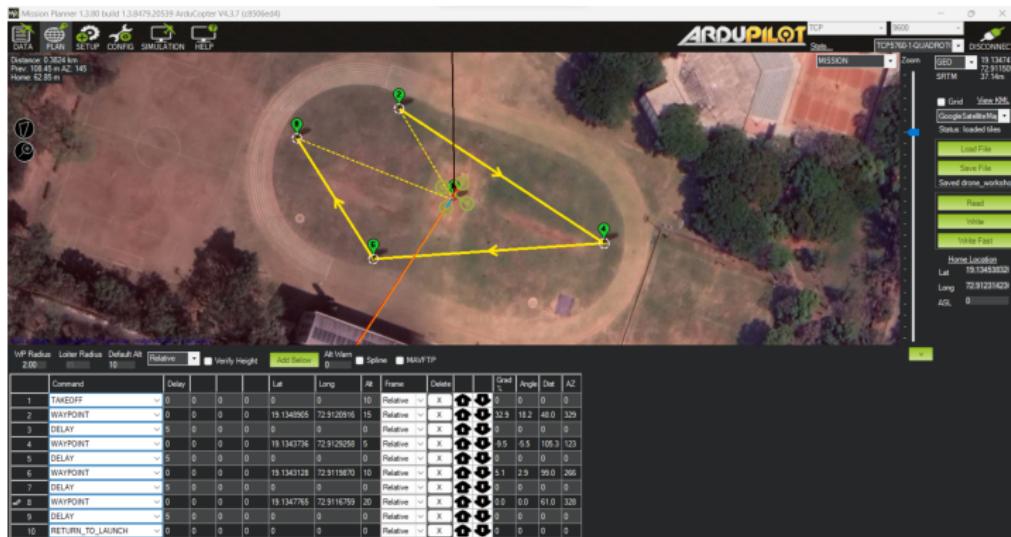
# Mission Mode

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## Mission Mode

- Mission Parameters

ARDUPILOT						
ARDUPILOT		COMS-AQUADRON		DISCONNECT		
GeoFence						
Basic Tuning	A	Value	Default	Units	Options	Desc
Extended Tuning	ACRO_BAL_PITCH	1	1		0.3	which pitch angle returns to level in acro and apo mode. A higher value causes the vehicle to return to level faster. For helicopter sets the decay rate of the virtual rollbar in the pitch axis. A higher value causes faster decay of desired to actual attitude.
Standard Params	ACRO_BAL_ROLL	1	1		0.3	rate at which roll angle returns to level in acro and apo mode. A higher value causes the vehicle to return to level faster. For helicopter sets the decay rate of the virtual rollbar in the roll axis. A higher value causes faster decay of desired to actual attitude.
Advanced Params	ACRO_OPTIONS	0	0			Any value of option 0-15 allows the user to change how attitude is controlled. Option 0 is standard. Options 1-15 are KTC, THR, MIX, MAX at all times (period has no effect on helicop). Rate Loop Only disables the use of angle stabilization and uses angular rate stabilization only
Onboard OSD	ACRO_WP_EXPO	0.3	0.3		0.5-0.95	Desired 0.1 Very Low 0.2 Low 0.3 Medium 0.4 High 0.5 Very High
MAVFrtp	ACRO_WP_RATE	360	360	deg/s		Acro mid pitch expo to allow faster rotation when click at edges
User Params	ACRO_WP_RATE_TC	0	0	s	0.1-0.5	Acro mid rate TC. Very Soft 0.2 Soft 0.3 Medium 0.1 Clip 0.45 Very Hard
<b>Fall Parameter List</b>						
<b>Full Parameter Tree</b>						
Planner	ACRO_TRAINER	2	2		0.Disabled 1.Leveling 2.Leveling and Limited	Type of trainer used in acro mode
	ACRO_Y_EXPO	0	0		0.1-0.95	Desired 0.1 Very Low 0.2 Low 0.3 Medium 0.4 High 0.5 Very High
	ACRO_Y_RATE	202.5	202.5	deg/s	1.950	Acro yaw expo to allow faster rotation when click at edges
	ACRO_Y_RATE_TC	0	0	s	0.1-0.5	Acro yaw rate control input rate. Higher values mean faster rate of rotation
	ADSB_EMIT_TYPE	14	14		0.1-0.5	0.Light 1.2-Small 2-Large 4-HighVoltage 5-History 6-Transponder 7-Transponder 8-Transponder 11-Parscale 12-Ultralight 13-FlightID 14-FlightID 15-FlightID 16-RESERVED 17-Emergency/Custom 18-FlightID 19-FlightID
	ADSB_ICAO_ID	0	0		-1.1677215	ICAO ID unique vehicle identification number of this aircraft. This is an integer limited to 24bits. If set to 0 then one will be randomly generated. If set to -1 then static information is not sent, transceiver is assumed to be engaged
	ADSB_ICAO_SPEC	0	0		0.1-0.5	ICAO ID of specific vehicle that ignores ADSB_LIST_RACHIS and ADSB_LIST_ALT. The vehicle is always tracked. Use 0 to disable
	ADSB_LLEN_WIDTH	1	1	m		Aircraft length and width dimension options in Length and Width in meters. In most cases, use a value of 1 for smallest size
	ADSB_LIST_ALT	0	0	m	0.32767	ADSB vehicle list altitude filter. Vehicles detected above this altitude will be completely ground. They will not show up in the SRx_ADSB stream or the GCS and will not be used in avoidance calculations
	ADSB_LIST_MAX	25	25	m	1.100	ADSB vehicle list max radius. Leds will take priority over this with their SRx_ADSB values
	ADSB_LIST_RADIUS	2000	2000	m	0.100000	ADSB vehicle list radius filter. Vehicles detected outside this radius will be completely ground. They will not show up in the SRx_ADSB stream or the GCS and will not be considered in any avoidance calculations. A value of 0 will double this filter



# Mission Mode

- Pre-Flight Check



# Mission Mode

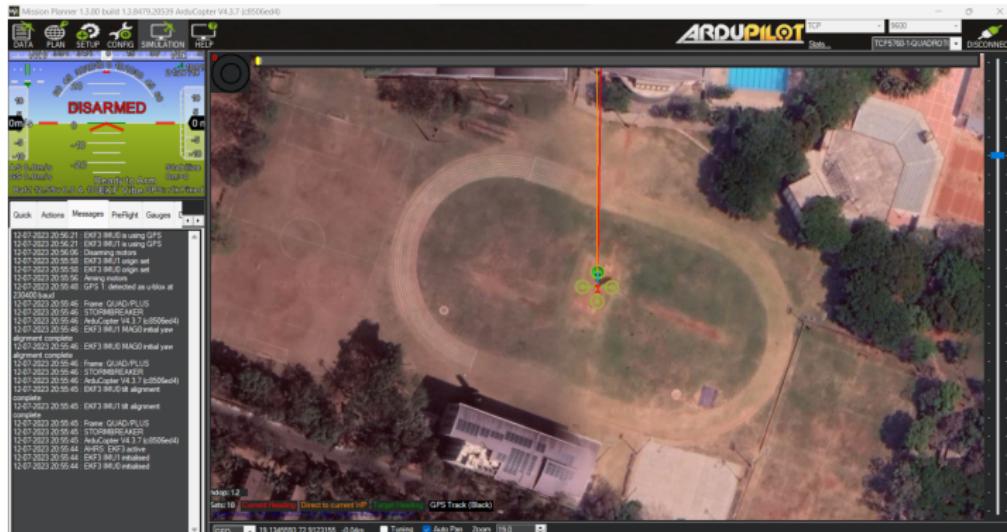
- Mission Execution

Video



# Mission Mode

- Monitoring and Safety



# Mission Mode

- Monitoring and Safety



# Mission Mode

- Mission Completion



# Offboard Mode

- The quadcopter obeys position, velocity, acceleration, attitude, attitude rates or thrust/torque setpoints



# Offboard Mode

- The quadcopter obeys position, velocity, acceleration, attitude, attitude rates or thrust/torque setpoints
- These setpoints are provided by an external source such as a companion computer



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- The quadcopter obeys position, velocity, acceleration, attitude, attitude rates or thrust/torque setpoints
- These setpoints are provided by an external source such as a companion computer
- This mode requires position or pose/attitude information



# Offboard Mode

- Uses The setpoints may be provided using MAVLink or by ROS/ROS2 commands



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- **This mode is used for controlling vehicle movement and attitude**

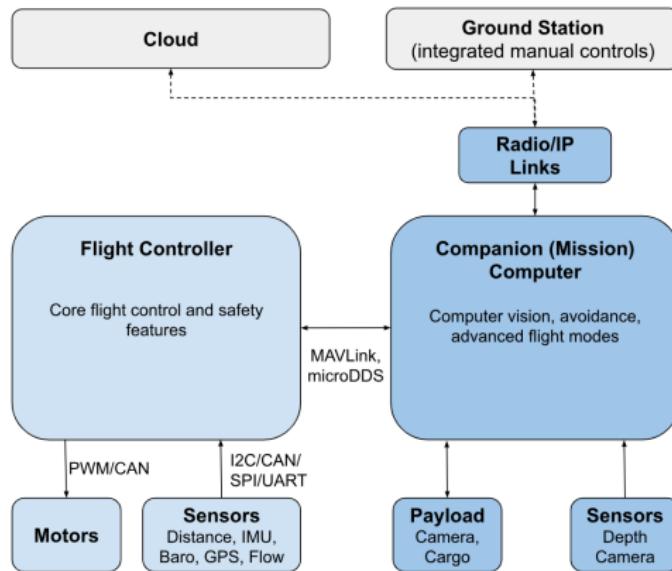


# Offboard Mode

- Uses The setpoints may be provided using MAVLink or by ROS/ROS2 commands
- RC control is disabled except to change modes
- This mode is used for controlling vehicle movement and attitude
- Used in research, development, and advanced applications



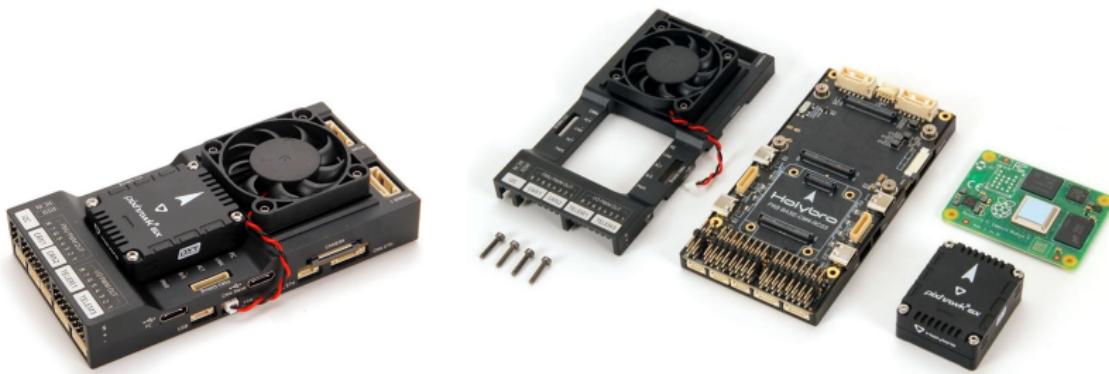
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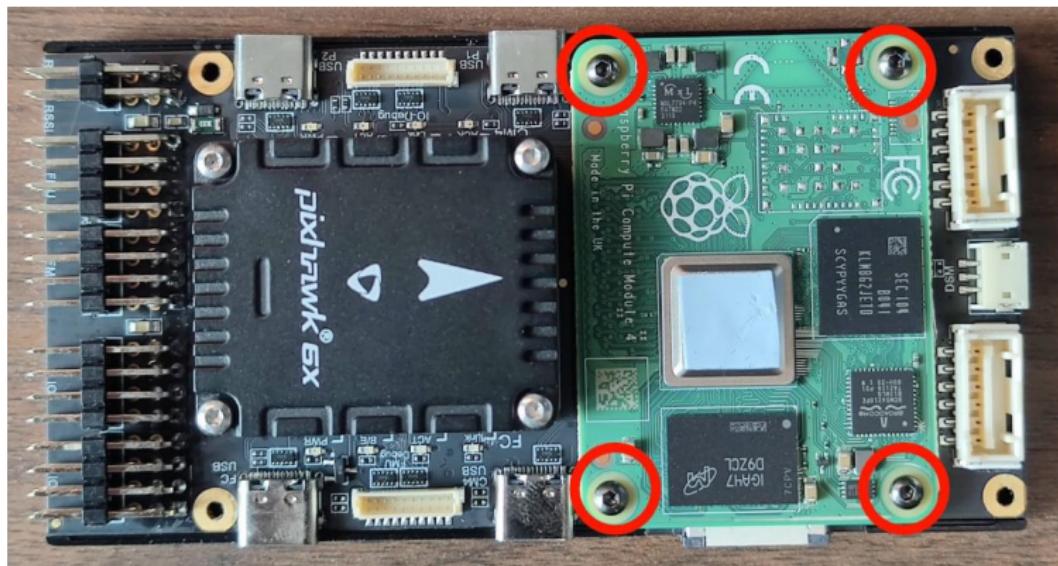
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# Offboard Mode



# Offboard Mode



# Offboard Mode

Video



# Intelligent Autopilot Stacks

- ① SLAM
- ② 3DVFH



Outline

What do you need?

Hardware

Software/Firmware

Flight Modes

Intelligent Autopilot Stacks

Sample Configuration

SLAM

3DVFH

# SLAM

## Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

- Mapping



Outline

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# SLAM

## Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

- Mapping
- Localization



# SLAM

## Simultaneous Localization and Mapping

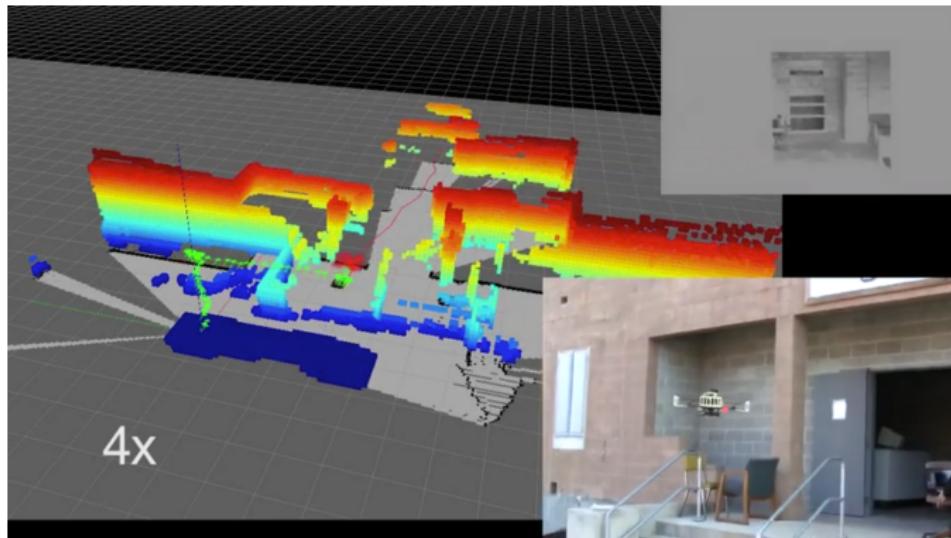
- Mapping
- Localization
- Odometry and Sensor Fusion



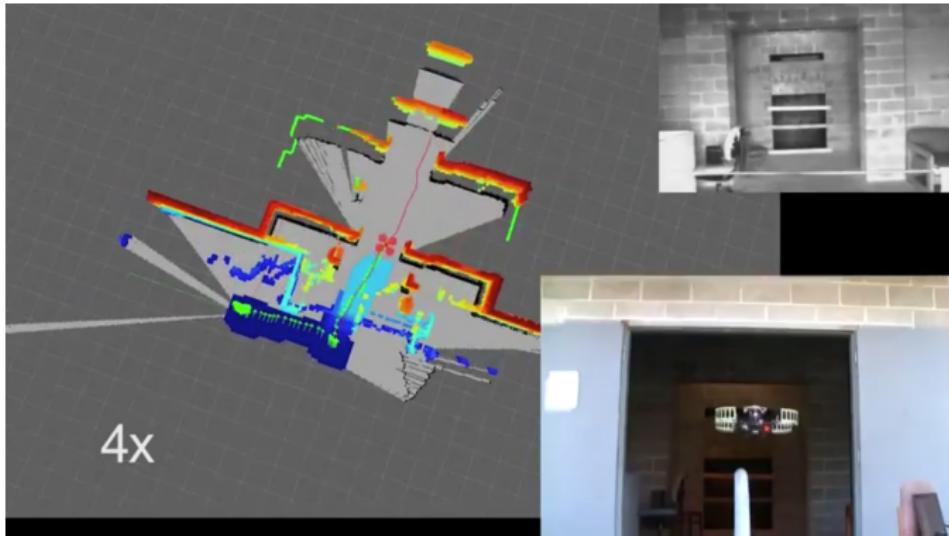
# SLAM



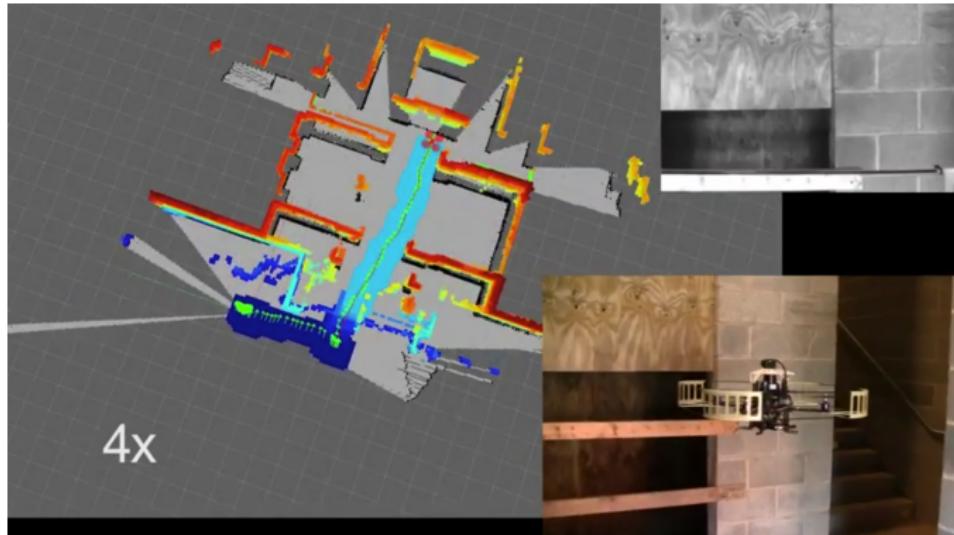
SLAM



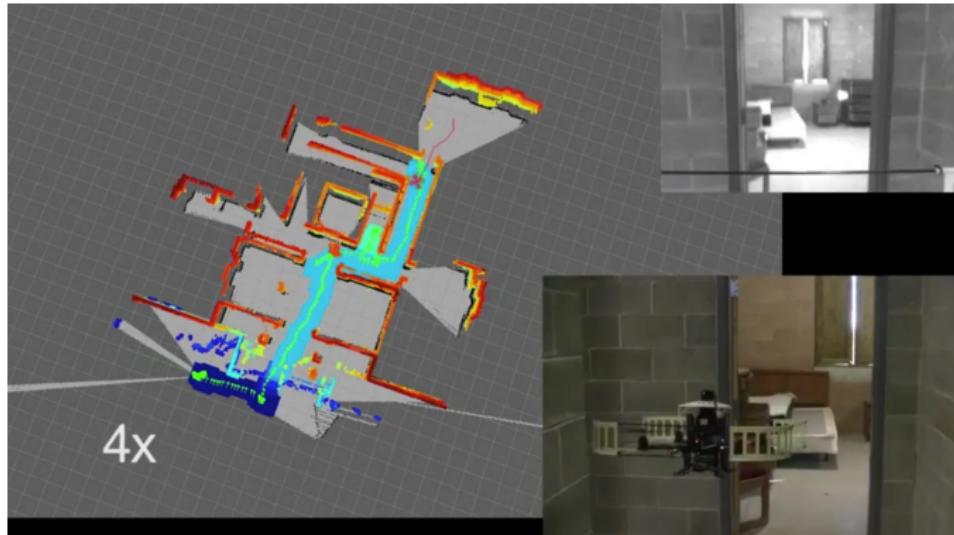
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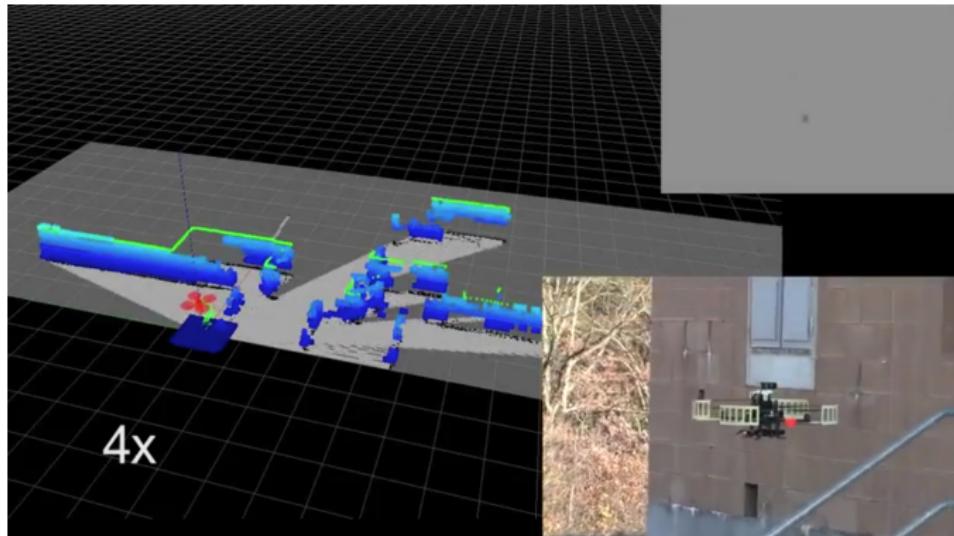
# SLAM



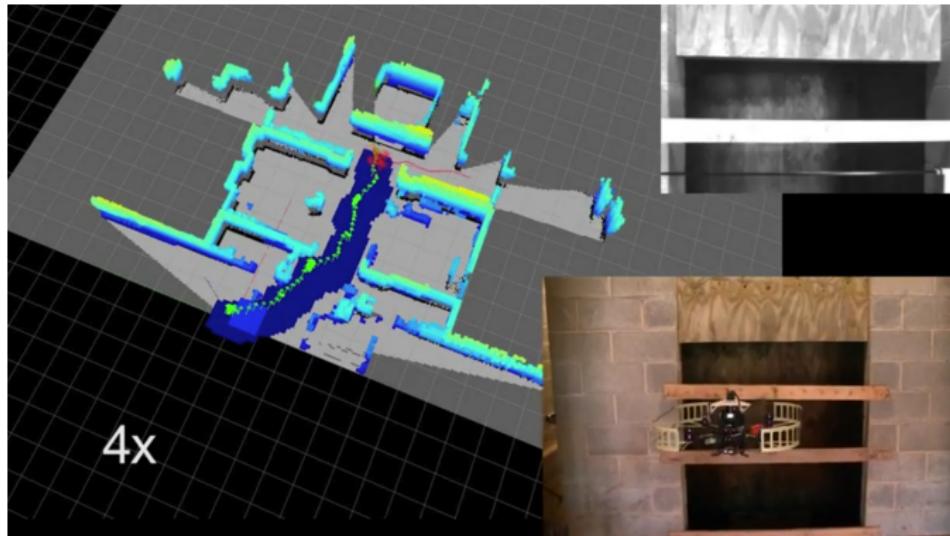
# SLAM



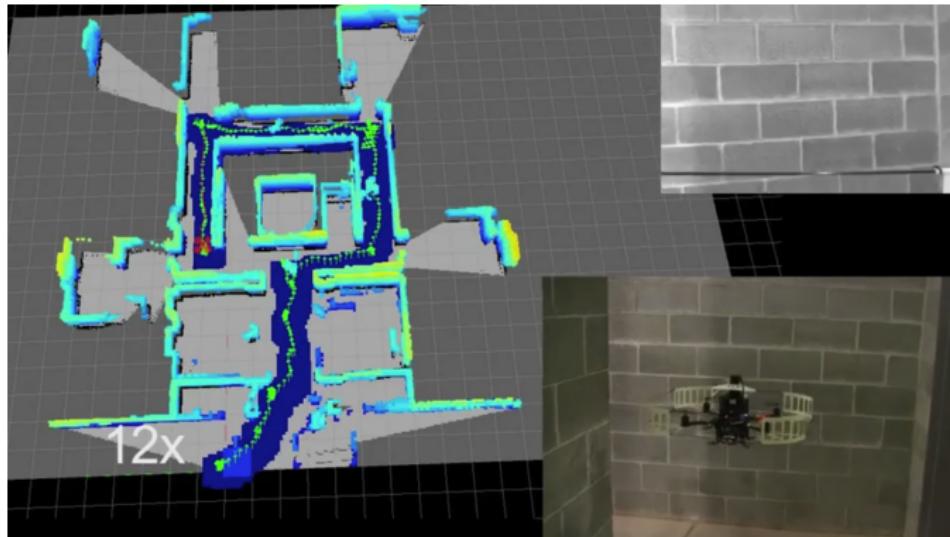
# SLAM



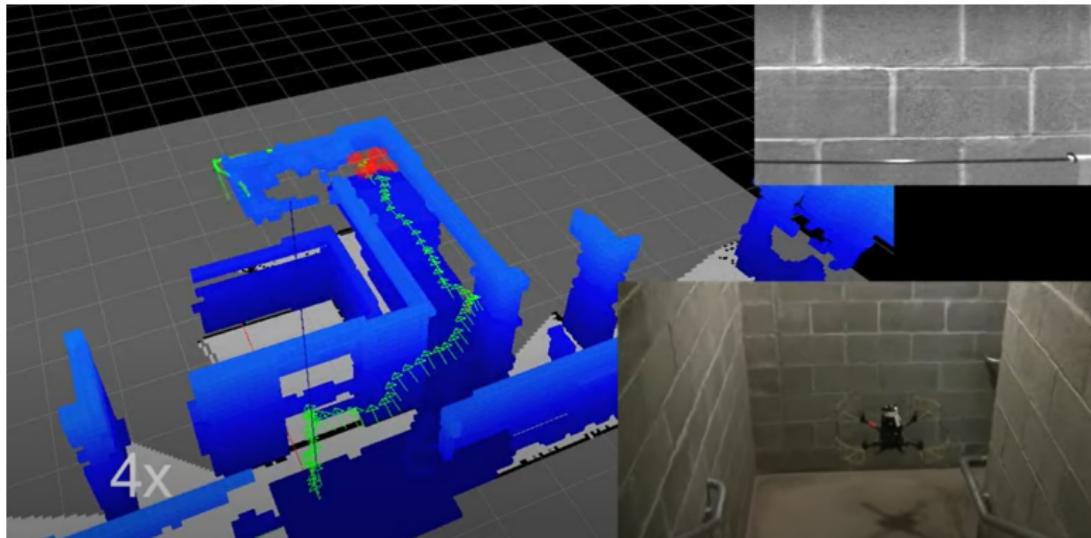
SLAM



# SLAM



# SLAM



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**SLAM**

3DVFH

# SLAM

Video



# 3DVFH

## Three-Dimensional Vector Field Histogram

- A feature descriptor used in robotics and autonomous navigation



# 3DVFH

## Three-Dimensional Vector Field Histogram

- A feature descriptor used in robotics and autonomous navigation
- Used to analyze and classify the environment around a robot or drone



# 3DVFH

## Three-Dimensional Vector Field Histogram

- A feature descriptor used in robotics and autonomous navigation
- Used to analyze and classify the environment around a robot or drone
- **Obstacle detection and avoidance**



# 3DVFH

## Three-Dimensional Vector Field Histogram

- A feature descriptor used in robotics and autonomous navigation
- Used to analyze and classify the environment around a robot or drone
- Obstacle detection and avoidance
- Object recognition and tracking



# 3DVFH

## Three-Dimensional Vector Field Histogram

- A feature descriptor used in robotics and autonomous navigation
- Used to analyze and classify the environment around a robot or drone
- Obstacle detection and avoidance
- Object recognition and tracking
- Environmental mapping



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**3DVFH**

# 3DVFH

Video



# Sample Configuration

## ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370
- ④ ESC - T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370
- ④ ESC - T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC
- ⑤ Flight controller - Cube Orange + with ADS-B carrier board



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370
- ④ ESC - T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC
- ⑤ Flight controller - Cube Orange + with ADS-B carrier board
- ⑥ GNSS - Holybro H-RTK F9P



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370
- ④ ESC - T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC
- ⑤ Flight controller - Cube Orange + with ADS-B carrier board
- ⑥ GNSS - Holybro H-RTK F9P
- ⑦ Remote controller - FrSky Taranis X9D Plus



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370
- ④ ESC - T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC
- ⑤ Flight controller - Cube Orange + with ADS-B carrier board
- ⑥ GNSS - Holybro H-RTK F9P
- ⑦ Remote controller - FrSky Taranis X9D Plus
- ⑧ Receiver - FrSky Archer R8 PRO



# Sample Configuration

- ① Frame - Tarot Iron Man 650
- ② Propellers - T-Motors CFProp 15x5R
- ③ Motors - T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370
- ④ ESC - T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC
- ⑤ Flight controller - Cube Orange + with ADS-B carrier board
- ⑥ GNSS - Holybro H-RTK F9P
- ⑦ Remote controller - FrSky Taranis X9D Plus
- ⑧ Receiver - FrSky Archer R8 PRO
- ⑨ Battery - GenX Power Premium 22.2V 6S 10000mAH 25C LiPo Battery



# Tarot Iron Man 650



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# T-Motors CFProp 15x5R



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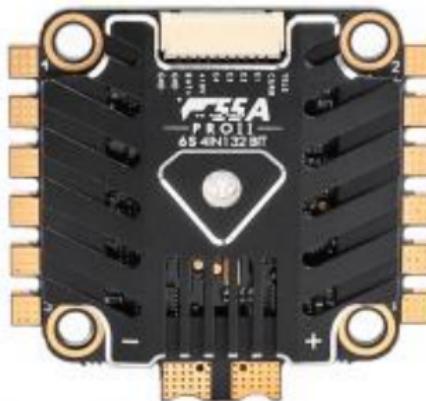
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# T-Motor MN4010-14 KV370



# T-Motor F55A Pro II 55A 3-6s BLHeli32 4-in-1 ESC with BEC0



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# Cube Orange + with ADS-B carrier board



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# Holybro H-RTK F9P



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# FrSky Taranis X9D Plus



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# FrSky Archer R8 PRO



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# GenX Power Premium 22.2V 6S 10000mAH 25C LiPo Battery



# Thank You!

