Zicen Xiong

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Interests: Dynamics and Control, Reinforcement Learning, Formation Flying

Education

• Beihang University

M.S. Candidate in Spacecraft Dynamics and Control, GPA:3.89/4 (5%)

Sept. 2022 - Now

• Beihang University

B.Eng. in Aerospace Engineering, GPA:3.8/4 (5%), National Scholarship (1%) Sept. 2018 - Jun. 2022

Publications

Under Review

• <u>Zicen Xiong</u>, Yue Wang, "Constant-Thrust Orbital Transfer about Binary Asteroids Using Bilinear Tangent Guidance", *IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, TAES*: minor revision[pdf]

Conferences

- Pengfei Lu, Shuhao Cui, <u>Zicen Xiong</u>, Yongjie Cheng, Yue Wang, "Trajectory Design of Reusable Transport Stations Between the <u>Earth and Mars</u>", 35th National Symposium on Space Exploration (in Chinese), NSSE, 2023[slide]
- <u>Zicen Xiong</u>, Ruikang Zhang, Yue Wang, "Near-optimal Finite-thrust Orbital Control Near A Binary Asteroid System", 28th International Symposium on Space Flight Dynamics, ISSFD, 2022 [pdf]

Researches

• Satellite Formation Reconfiguration using Reinforcement Learning

Master's Thesis

Nov. 2023 - Present

- **Problem:** The deterministic control methods have limited autonomy and difficulties in handling non-linear constraints in satellite formation flying. How to achieve near-optimal/optimal multi-agent cooperation, reconfiguration and collision avoidance control in the absence/insufficient knowledge of prior dynamics?
- **Method:** Multi-agent learning based MPC is being developed for satellite formation flying tracking problems.
- Free-Flying Cubic Robot for Space Station

Conceptual Design for IAF-Space Universities CubeSat Challenge, SUCC

Jun. 2023 - Present

- Aim: Self-propelled in-cabin assistant robot for astronauts in space stations with 6-DoF arm
- **Method:** Double-gimbal fans enables the robot to have 6 DoF. SLAM mapping is used for in-cabin navigation. The PyTorch deep neural network is applied to monitoring astronauts's emotion.
- The prototype is still under development and the conceptual design won 2nd Prize in China Grand Finale.[pdf][report]
- Trajectory Design of Reusable Transport Stations Between the Earth and Mars

Solution to China Trajectory Optimization Competition, CTOC

Aug. 2022 - Oct. 2022

- **Problem:** Martian migration mission requires the design of interplanetary transfers, escapes and captures of the Earth-Moon system, the optimization of massive missions and station sequences.
- Method: The interplanetary transfer are obtained by developing a definitely matching gravity-assist optimization method and weak stability boundary (WSB). The low-energy escapes and captures in the Earth-Moon system is achieved via solving of a time-phase decoupling nonlinear programming (NLP) using particle swarm optimization (PSO) and dynamic programing (DP). [pdf]
- Efficiently transporting over 4,000 passengers to Mars in 20 yrs with only 24 ships. Ranked 3rd Team in CTOC12 and orally reported at 35th NSSE.[report]
- Constant-Thrust Orbital Transfer about Binary Asteroids Using Bilinear Tangent Guidance
 Bachelor Thesis

 Dec. 2021 May 2023

- Problem: Current guidance algorithms in circular restricted 3-body problem(R3BP) are computationally expensive for autonomous orbital tracking near asteroids. This research tries to achieve efficient guidance for autonomous constant low-thrust guidance about binary asteroid systems.
- Method: Spherical harmonic model is used for gravitational field modelling. A bilinear tangent constant-thrust guidance is derived by Pontryagin's maximum principle and manifold theory.
- Acquire near-optimal and fuel-efficient control profiles and 200 times faster than IPOPT results. Talks on 2nd International Stardust Conference [abstract] and ISSFD28[pdf][slide]

• Design and Modelling of a CubeSat with Controllable Brake Sail

Course Project of Spacecraft System Design

Apr. 2021 - Jun. 2021

• SolidWorks, ANSYS and STK practices on structural design, orbital control, modal, thermal and communication analysis. Score:95/100[pdf][slide]

• Multi-functional Electronic Scale with Quotation

Course Project of Electrical and Electronic Experiment 2

Sept. 2020 - Dec. 2020

• Proteus design, prototype made with 74 series and NE555. Support functions: tare module, unit price-total price display. Score:95/100.[slide]

• Heavy Load P3E Class Piston-Powered Aeromodelling

Member, Beihang Aeromodelling Team

Sept. 2018 - Dec. 2019

- The aircraft for time-limited airdrop competition. Participated in manufacturing the composite parts for all race aircraft and fixed-point automatic airdrop mechanism based on Arduino PIX and GPS.
- Achievement: Championship in 2019 China Aeromodelling Design Challenge. [video]

Competitions

• 2nd Prize, 2nd Space Universities CubeSat Challenge, SUCC	Aug. 2023
by International Astronautical Federation	
• 1st Prize, 12th China's Trajectory Optimization Competition, CTOC	Oct. 2022

by Center for Space Utilization, Chinese Academy of Sciences Ranked 3rd Team[rankinglist] • 2nd Prize, 13th National Mechanics Competition for College Students May. 2021

by Chinese Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics Ranked 130th[rankinglist] • 1st Prize in 12th National Mathematics Competition for College Students Dec. 2020

by Chinese Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics • 2nd Prize in China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling 2020 Oct. 2020 by China Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

• Champion in China Aeromodelling Design Challenge 2019 Oct. 2019

by Aero Sports Federation of China

Champion Team[rankinglist]

Honors and Awards

Items by Ministry of Education

• National Scholarship, Top 1% Student in the Academic Year [announcement] [report] 2021

Items by Beihang University

2022, 2023 • Academic Excellence Scholarship for Graduates

• Freshman Scholarship

2022 • Outstanding Graduate 2022

2019 - 2021 • Academic Excellence Scholarship for Undergraduates

Skills

- Language: English(IELTS 8.0, R9L9W7.5S6), Chinese(Native)
- Coding: Python, MATLAB, C/C++, LATEX
- Hard&Software: Arduino, ROS, CAD (SolidWorks), STK, ANSYS, Multisim, Proteus, ADAMS
- Photograph: Aircrafts[homepage]/Railway/Astronomical/Underwater/Wildlife[video]
- Misc.: HAM(Amateur Radio)[BI1RKD's QRZ], Illustration[report], Rescue Diver, Weightlifting, Miniature Model Manufacturing