



Hugo Pereira


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EDUCATION

Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering (Control & Systems branch)	2020 - 2022 GPA: 19 / 20
Technical University of Denmark Exchange Student	2020 - 2021 GPA: 11 / 12
Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering	2017 - 2020 GPA: 17 / 20

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

 Institute for Systems and Robotics, IST-UL <i>Student Researcher (Full-time)</i>	<i>Lisbon, Portugal</i> <i>Mar. 2022 - June 2023</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research on singularity avoidance for spacecraft attitude control with control moment gyros (CMGs).• Derived a novel convex MPC-based solution for CMG allocation.• Developed a medium-fidelity 6 DoF simulator for astrodynamics in the LEO environment.• Worked towards my master's thesis titled "A Convex Allocation Framework for Singularity Avoidance in Control Moment Gyro Clusters", which was awarded the grade of 20 out of 20.	

WORK EXPERIENCE

 GMV <i>Control systems engineer (Full-time)</i>	<i>Lisbon, Portugal</i> <i>July 2023 - Present</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible for the design and development of the attitude controllers for the Rapid Apophis Mission for Space Safety (RAMSES) through the PDR and CDR phases. Carried out control synthesis and frequency-domain analysis for all the control modes of the GNC (S/C detumbling, Sun pointing operations during Safe mode, RW and RCT control for attitude stabilization and slew maneuvers, and wheel off-loading).• Co-developed the attitude controllers for the ARIEL telescope during the PDR phase. Integrated and fine-tuned an estimator for star tracker bias removal by fusing fine guidance sensor data.• Worked as a system engineer during the development of a testbed for single-axis attitude control of a spacecraft with challenging flexible dynamics. Co-developed an in-house reaction wheel, designed the avionics for the platform, handled all the hardware procurement, and took responsibility in the development of a digital twin using MATLAB/SIMULINK.• Participated in several stages of research-oriented ESA-funded activities on spacecraft collision avoidance (literature review and requirements definition) and space launchers (derivation of flight dynamics models and synthesis of convex methods for thruster allocation).• Co-supervised and oversaw the work of five interns on the topics of convex optimization, control theory, and system identification applied to space structures.	

- Served as an invited lecturer for the Convex Optimization course, delivering 6 hrs/week of problem-solving sessions to MSc classes. Helped students with the project work and assisted in grading exams.

- Short-term internship where I contributed to the design of a signal demodulation program for an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon. The system, developed in collaboration with other interns, was sketched in GNU Radio and written in Python.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Developed autonomous driving algorithms, using ROS/C++, for a driverless Formula car. The software pipeline encompasses machine learning for point cloud processing, state estimation via Kalman filtering, simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM), and model predictive control (MPC).
- In specific, I implemented new data association methods for SLAM, developed an iterative closest point (ICP) method for point cloud alignment, implemented point cloud processing algorithms, and designed and fine-tuned longitudinal and lateral nonlinear controllers for path tracking.
- Achieved a 3rd place at Formula Student Germany 2022 and a 1st at Formula Student Spain 2022 (driverless categories).

- Part of the student team that set the altitude world record for collegiate bi-liquid rocketry. Apogee: 6545 m AGL.
- Led the development of the rocket's telemetry system. Established a communication link based on LoRa technology that operated at a 9 km range. Designed and tested PCBs for radio communication, using KiCad, within an STM32-based flight computer architecture.
- Carried out robust flight simulations using the OpenRocket software, which resulted in a predicted apogee error of less than 3%.
- Achieved a 1st place at the European Rocketry Challenge 2021 (bi-liquid propulsion category).

- Built a UAV from scratch over the course of two years. Initially, I was involved in the design, 3D modelling, and construction of the UAV. At a later stage, I joined the development of the flight controller, which involved PID control, filtering, path planning, sensor fusion, and parameter identification. The simulations were conducted in MATLAB/SIMULINK and the on-board code was implemented in an RPi.
- Gave workshops about rocketry to high school students. These consisted of a hands-on experience that included planning, building, and launching a small rocket made from cheap conventional materials.

PUBLICATIONS

H. Pereira, P. Lourenço, P. Batista, *From singularity analysis to singularity avoidance: novel metric and convex allocation for spacecraft attitude control with control moment gyros*, Acta Astronautica 225 (2024) 41-54, doi: 10.1016/j.actaastro.2024.08.047.

[MSc thesis] H. Pereira, *A Convex Allocation Framework for Singularity Avoidance in Control Moment Gyro Clusters*, Instituto Superior Técnico, 2022.

SKILLS SUMMARY

Languages	English (C1 certificate), Portuguese (Native)
Programming	C++, C, MATLAB, Python
Software	SIMULINK, KiCad, OpenRocket, SolidWorks
Tools	Git, LATEX, Microsoft Office
Platforms	Linux, Windows, ROS, STM32, PIC24, Arduino
Miscellaneous	Soldering, Driving License

COMPLEMENTARY TRAINING

- *Inter-Agency GNC V&V Workshop (IAGNC 2025), ISAE-SUPAERO, July. 2025*. Short training course on H_∞ control and dynamic systems modeling and verification applied to spacecraft attitude control.
- *Ladybird Guide to Spacecraft Communications Training Course, 2022, ESA Academy*. Selected to attend a remote spacecraft communications course featuring live sessions given by ESA experts.
- *Summer course in Robotics, University of Twente, Aug. 2019*. On-site summer camp in Robotics at the University of Twente in the Netherlands. This consisted of a hands-on experience with real-time robotics systems and included a group project centered on Arduino manipulation.

VOLUNTEERING

Formula Student Portugal, FSPT25

July. 2025

- Acted as a design judge for the driverless system, evaluating and providing feedback on teams' autonomous navigation solutions, including SLAM implementation and Kalman filter design.

Erasmus Student Network, DTU section

Feb. 2021 - June 2021

- Member of a multinational team of volunteers whose goal is to facilitate the integration of international students in the local community.
- Organized social events and provided general support and guidance for exchange students.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Academic Excellence, Instituto Superior Técnico, 2021/2022
- Outstanding Performance at EuRoc 2021, DTU Blue Dot, Oct. 2021
- Academic Merit, Instituto Superior Técnico, 2017/2018, 2019/2020
- Best Student Award, Escola Secundária Marquesa de Alorna, 2015/2016, 2016/2017