

Aerial sensor platform

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To my family.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank to

Also, to

At last,

Abstract

This work addresses the gathering of data in areas of difficult access or which are potentially dangerous. Examples include high tension power lines, collapsed buildings and fire areas. We build a flying platform with the ability of carrying light sensors (e.g., small cameras or infrared cameras) and transmit the sensed data wirelessly to a control point. The platform is a highly manoeuvrable multicopter that uses the Arduino microcontroller and the multiwii software.

Resum

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Contents

List of figures	xi
List of tables	xiii
List of Abbreviations	xv
1 INTRODUCTION	1
2 PLANNING REPORT	3
2.1 Pieces adquisition	3
2.2 Assembling infrastructure device	3
2.3 Software Implementation	3
2.4 Flight Tests	3
2.5 Camera incorporation	4
2.6 Device improvements	4
2.7 Final report	4
2.8 Gantt chart	4

List of Figures

List of Tables

List of Abbreviations

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

This thesis consist on the construction of an ardupilot in order to the gathering of data in areas of difficult access due to the ability of carrying light sensors and transmit the sensed data wirelessly to a control point. An ardupilot is a remotely controlled UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) based on Arduino, a free hardware platform based on a board with a microcontroller and a development environment, and MultiWii, a free software used to control multirotor RC models;

An Arduino board consists on a microcontroller with complementary components to facilitate programming and incorporation into other circuits. An important aspect of the Arduino is the standard way that connectors are exposed, allowing the CPU board to be connected to a variety of interchangeable add-on modules known as shields, which are printed circuit expansion boards that plug into the normally supplied Arduino pin-headers providing i.e. motor controls or GPS.

The Arduino integrated development environment (IDE) is a cross-platform application written in Java, and is derived from the IDE for the Processing programming language and the Wiring projects. The Arduino IDE uses the GNU toolchain and AVR Libc to compile programs, and uses avrdude to upload programs to the board. Arduino programs are written in C or C++ and called "sketch".

The MultiWii is an open source software project aiming to provide the brain of a RC controlled multi rotor flying platform. It is compatible with several hardware boards and sensors and have a lot of supported features.

Chapter 2

PLANNING REPORT

The following sections explain the tasks that I will do in the course of this project.

2.1 Pieces adquisition

This item includes the estimate time to plan which pieces are needed, how many of each, the purchase of them and the average waiting time until them arrive.

2.2 Assembling infrastructure device

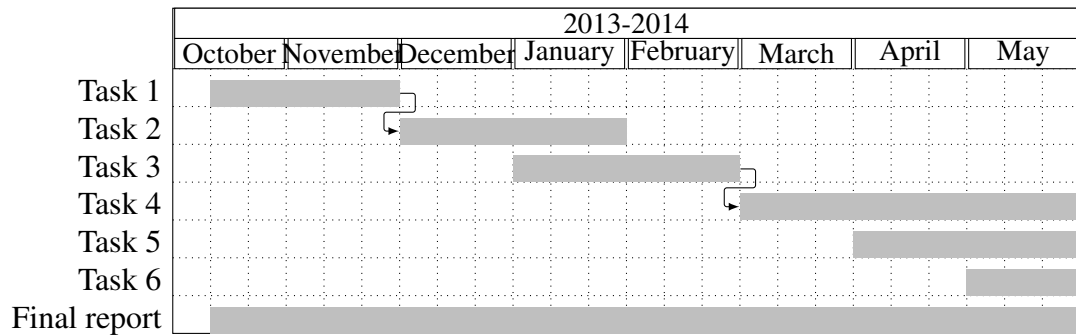
This item includes the required time to assembling the device once the pieces have arrived and we have all the needed tools.

2.3 Software Implementation

This item includes the required time to install the different software on the arduinos: the transmissor, the receptor and the controller; plus all the required software to be able to configure the arduinos through the PC.

2.4 Flight Tests

This item includes the required time to do the flight tests itself and the time to calibrate the device based on the results obtained on the tests and their interpretation.



2.5 Camera incorporation

This item includes the time needed to incorporate a camera to the device in order to take video images and transmitt it on live.

2.6 Device improvements

This item includes the required time to incorporate a bluetooth module to facilitate the connection between the arduino and the PC on a wireless mode, plus the incorporation of a GPS module, in order to extend the device possibilities.

2.7 Final report

The wording of the report is performed in parallel with the tasks that are being performed.

2.8 Gantt chart