

Fundamental Electromagnetics and HHC knowledge:

https://shura.shu.ac.uk/24854/1/TAES-201800546R_manuscript_doublecolumn.pdf

<https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/tr/pdf/ADA557488.pdf>

B-dot detumbling algorithm: Development, Integrated Investigation, Laboratory and In-flight Testing of Chibis-M Microsatellite ADCS (2014)

Testing of Attitude Control Algorithms for Microsatellite 'Chibis-M' at Laboratory Facility (2012)

GWSAT Satellite Test-Bed (2025)

CaNOP CubeSat Cage (2018)

UC CubeCats Helmholtz Cage (code for the HHC):

<https://github.com/uccubecats/Helmholtz-Cage>

Items to further research:

- Testing & Validation Methods
 - Uniformity characterization procedures: How to measure and validate field uniformity across the test volume - what are acceptable tolerances? Where exactly do they measure (Helmholtz Cage Design and Validation for Nanosatellites HWIL Testing is good starting point)?
 - Calibration procedures: How often do cages need recalibration? What causes drift? How to calibrate magnetometers inside the cage?
 - Ambient field cancellation strategies: Active vs passive shielding, measurement techniques, how to null Earth's field effectively
 - Error sources and mitigation: Temperature effects on coil resistance, magnetic interference from power supplies
- Control System Design
 - Transfer function characterization: Voltage to magnetic field ($V \rightarrow |B|$), system dynamics, inductance effects, time constants
 - Control law comparison: PID vs other approaches, tuning methods (Ziegler-Nichols), feedforward compensation
 - Sampling rates and latency requirements: For different test scenarios (passive calibration vs active detumbling), communication bottlenecks
 - Closed-loop stability analysis: How to ensure stable field control, handling sensor noise in feedback
 - Investigate HWIL, and get an understanding of how they built their feedback system (Helmholtz Cage Design and Validation for Nanosatellites HWIL Testing is a starting point)
 - What kinds of scenarios will our Helmholtz cage need to be able to simulate, and testing procedures. What are the measures of success?
 - From that, we can figure out how quickly our cage needs to be able to switch polarities.
- Mechanical/Physical Design
 - Coil geometry trade-offs: Square vs circular coils (square uses $\gamma=0.5445$), nested arrangement optimization, spacing constraints
 - Thermal management: Power dissipation in coils, cooling requirements, temperature effects on field accuracy

- Structural materials: Why aluminum vs other materials, magnetic vs non-magnetic considerations, frame rigidity requirements (less important, standard seems to be aluminum)
 - Wire gauge selection rationale: Why AFIT used 12 AWG, how to calculate required wire size, current density limits
 - Investigate how square rounded corners might impact calculations (Helmholtz Cage Design and Validation for Nanosatellites HWIL Testing)
- Electrical Architecture
 - Power supply specifications: Why specific voltages (60V vs 20V), current ratings, ripple requirements, unipolar vs bipolar supplies
 - H-bridge design considerations: Current ratings, switching frequency capabilities, protection circuits, heat sinking
 - Relay specification: Contact ratings, switching speed, lifetime expectations, bounce characteristics (understand the context in which a relay is used)
 - Grounding and noise: How to minimize electromagnetic interference (EMI) , proper grounding schemes, shielding requirements
 - Figure out necessity of H-bridges (typically for how quickly we need to switch polarities), type of wire, power supplies, etc.
- Software & Integration
 - Communication protocols: GPIB (mentioned in AFIT), RS-232, Ethernet - latency comparison
 - Real-time operating system requirements: For HWIL, what determines if you need RTOS, and do we need it?
 - Orbital propagation integration: How STK or other tools interface with cage control, coordinate frame transformations
 - Data logging and analysis: What parameters to record, sampling rates, post-processing methods
- Cost Analysis
 - Component cost breakdown: Coils/wire, power supplies, control hardware, sensors, frame materials
 - Budget vs capability trade-offs: What you lose going from \$50k cage to \$5k cage
 - Commercial vs DIY approaches: When to buy vs build components
- Scaling Considerations
 - Size vs uniformity trade-offs: Larger cages (AFIT 8'x8'x8' vs typical 2m), how size affects design
 - CubeSat size accommodation: 1U, 3U, 6U testing - does cage size need to scale (this will also be determined at the end with the cost analysis)
 - Field strength requirements: Why some projects need $\pm 200 \mu\text{T}$ vs $\pm 50 \mu\text{T}$, and re-check our requirement in the ADCS testing requirements document
- Specific Scenario Testing Details
 - Detumbling scenario parameters: Initial tumble rates, convergence criteria, typical test duration
 - Orbit simulation fidelity: LEO, polar vs equatorial, update rates needed for realism

- Sun acquisition testing: How to simulate sun sensors in conjunction with magnetic field
 - Nadir pointing validation: Testing requirements, accuracy metrics
- Safety & Practical Considerations
 - High current safety: Fusing, interlocks, emergency shutoff procedures
 - Magnetic field exposure limits: For operators working near cage, safety (no jewelery, etc.)
 - Failure mode analysis: What happens if power supply fails, relay sticks, sensor malfunctions?
- Literature Gaps to Fill
 - Comparative studies: Papers that directly compare different cage designs/approaches
 - Lessons learned papers: Post-mortem analyses of what worked/didn't work
 - Frequency response testing: Dynamic characterization methods
- From Past Research - Specific Follow-ups
 - Why University of Brasilia Y-axis was limited: Power supply voltage issue - generalize this lesson
 - Relay vs H-bridge decision matrix: Create concrete decision criteria based on application requirements
 - What determines acceptable update rates?
 - Cross-coupling rejection in closed-loop systems: How feedback suppresses induction effects