

Mahdi Shahrajabian

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A passionate advanced control researcher dedicated to developing fundamental theories in optimal control of uncertain nonlinear systems using safe learning-based control methods

Research Interests

- Optimal Control
- Model Predictive Control
- Adaptive Nonlinear Control
- Safe Learning-Based Control
- Data-Driven Modeling and Control

Education

Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering (Dynamics and Control) <i>Sharif University of Technology (SUT)</i> CGPA: 19.32/20.0 (4-point scale CGPA: 4.0/4.0)	Tehran, Iran 2022–Present
Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering (Dynamics and Control) <i>Amirkabir University of Technology - Tehran Polytechnic (AUT)</i> CGPA: 18.11/20.0 (4-point scale CGPA: 3.86/4.0 and last six semester GPA: 4.0/4.0)	Tehran, Iran 2017–2022
Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (Control Systems) <i>Amirkabir University of Technology - Tehran Polytechnic (AUT)</i> CGPA: 17.76/20.0 (4-point scale CGPA: 3.64/4.0)	Tehran, Iran 2017–2022

Work & Research Experiences

Graduate Research Assistant <i>Department of Aerospace Engineering, SUT</i> Supervisor: Prof. Fariborz Saghafi	Tehran, Iran Jan 2024 – Present
Master's Thesis: Fault-Tolerant Adaptive Intelligent Control of an Autonomous Multi-rotor eVTOL Air Taxi <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Modeling and simulation of an octodecarotor eVTOL air taxi▪ Barrier Lyapunov function-based adaptive neural control system design for trajectory tracking of an autonomous octodecarotor air taxi in the presence of uncertainties, disturbances and actuator faults▪ Development of a dynamic control allocation algorithm for the new configuration to handle motor failures considering actuator saturation and fault estimation error	
Undergraduate Research Assistant <i>Hardware-in-the-Loop Lab, Department of Aerospace Engineering, AUT</i> Supervisor: Dr. Seyed Majid Esmailifar	Tehran, Iran May 2021 – Sep 2022
Bachelor's Thesis: Design and Implementation of Autopilot for Automatic Takeoff and Landing of a Quadrotor using the Model-Based Design Approach <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Modeling of quadrotor dynamics, Brushless DC motors and wind effects▪ Designed and implemented flight management, waypoint following and control algorithms for the quadrotor▪ Implemented custom automatic flight control algorithms on the Pixhawk using Simulink▪ Performed Software-in-the-Loop (SIL) simulation, Hardware-in-the-Loop (HIL) simulation and flight tests for verification of custom-designed autopilot using Simulink and the Pixhawk	
Embedded Software Engineer (Part-time) <i>Avionics Office, ARC Aerosystems Ltd.</i>	Tehran, Iran Oct 2021 – Sep 2022
Contributed as a junior Embedded Software Engineer in an air taxi development co. <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Conducted a comprehensive survey of basic standards for the design, development, and manufacturing of aircraft Flight Control Computer (FCC)▪ Participated in flight control software design and development for a lift + cruise eVTOL aircraft according to DO-178C and Model-Based Design (MBD) approach (DO-331)▪ Implemented C code on the FCC hardware with TI C2000 microcontroller▪ Setting up embedded systems communication protocols▪ Created an intuitive GUI for eVTOL aircraft simulation using MATLAB app designer	

Engineering Intern

Avionics Office, ARC Aerosystems Ltd.

Tehran, Iran

Jul 2021 – Sep 2021

- Gained expertise in utilizing Pixhawk autopilot and PX4 firmware
- Acquired proficiency in working with QGroundControl
- Conducted an in-depth study and analysis of quadrotor control methods and algorithms
- Compared and evaluated various control methods employed in control system of a lift + cruise eVTOL aircraft.

Publications

1. **Shahrajabian, M.**, Saghafi, F. (2025). Safe learning-based control of an autonomous multirotor eVTOL air taxi in the presence of uncertainties and actuator faults (in progress)
2. **Shahrajabian, M.**, Otroushi, H., Emami, S. A. (2025). End-to-end deep reinforcement learning for minimum-time aerial manipulation in cluttered environments (in progress)

Teaching Experiences

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Intelligent Control & Fault Diagnosis, Department of Electrical Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Spring 2025

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Principles of Machine Learning, Department of Aerospace Engineering, SUT

Tehran, Iran

Spring 2025

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Optimal Control Theory, Department of Aerospace Engineering, SUT

Tehran, Iran

Fall 2024

Head Teaching Assistant

Modern Control, Department of Electrical Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Dynamics, Department of Aerospace Engineering, SUT

Tehran, Iran

Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Instructor

Advanced MATLAB and Simulink, Scientific Association of Mechanical Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Summer 2024

Instructor

Introduction to MATLAB, Scientific Association of Mechanical Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Spring 2024

Lab Instructor

Linear Control Systems Lab, Department of Electrical Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Spring 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Automatic Control, Department of Aerospace Engineering, SUT

Tehran, Iran

Spring 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Automatic Control, Department of Aerospace Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Spring 2023

Instructor

Calculus and Differential Equations Exam Preparation Courses (offered 8 times),
Scientific Association of Aerospace Engineering, AUT

Tehran, Iran

Oct 2018 – May 2022

Honors & Awards

- Ranked 1st among all 64 peer master's students in the Aerospace Engineering Department at SUT (Sep 2024)
- Winner of the Shahid Vezvaei Award from Iran's National Elite Foundation (Jan 2023)
- Received a merit-based direct admission offer for the Master of Aerospace Engineering at SUT (Feb 2022)
- Ranked 3rd among all 71 bachelor's students in the Aerospace Engineering Department at AUT (Nov 2020)
- Recognized as an outstanding student (exceptional talent) and granted the opportunity to pursue Electrical Engineering as a second major during my BSc at AUT (Sep 2019)
- Ranked within the top 1.3% among more than 148000 participants in the 2017 Iranian University Entrance Exam issued by the National Organization for Educational Testing (Aug 2017)

Selected Academic Projects

System Identification

Frequency response analysis for equivalent linear state-space model identification of a jet airliner

Supervisor: Prof. Afshin Banazadeh

Jan 2024 – Jun 2024

Nonlinear Control	Jan 2024 – Jun 2024
<i>Nonlinear Fault-tolerant control of a quadrotor subject to disturbances using an OS-ELM-based actuator loss of effectiveness fault estimator</i>	
Supervisor: Dr. Seyyed Ali Emami	
Intelligent Control	Jan 2023 – Jun 2023
<i>Resilient trajectory tracking of a quadrotor based on adaptive neural model predictive control</i>	
Supervisor: Dr. Seyyed Ali Emami	
Optimal Control Theory	Jan 2023 – Jun 2023
<i>Optimal attitude control of a tri-axial air-bearing satellite simulator platform</i>	
Supervisor: Prof. Seid H. Pourtakdoust	
Advanced Automatic Control	Sep 2022 – Jan 2023
<i>Paper Regeneration: Feedback Linearization with Zero Dynamics Stabilization for Quadrotor Control</i>	
Supervisor: Prof. Afshin Banazadeh	
Digital Control Systems	Jan 2022 – Jun 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation of discrete-time PID controller on Raspberry Pi for motion control of a wheeled mobile robot ▪ Control system design for a two-robot soccer game in Webots 	
Supervisor: Prof. Heidar Ali Talebi	
Aircraft Design	Mar 2021 – Jun 2021
<i>Conceptual design of the 116-seat regional jet aircraft (Teamwork-Leader)</i>	
Supervisor: Dr. Mohammad Ali Vaziri Zanjani	
Flight Dynamics and Control	Mar 2021 – Jun 2021
<i>6DOF flight simulation of the Boeing 757-200 using XFLR5, AVL and Simulink</i>	
Supervisor: Dr. Hamed Mohammadkarimi	
Instrumentation	Mar 2021 – Jun 2021
<i>Efficient Smart Home Lighting: Energy-efficient brightness adjustment based on ambient light and movement detection (Teamwork-Leader)</i>	
Supervisor: Dr. Iman Sharifi	
Computational Intelligence	Nov 2020 – Dec 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fuzzy Logic Control of a three-link gymnastic robot (Teamwork-Leader) ▪ Adaptive cruise control of an autonomous vehicle based on self-tuning fuzzy PID control ▪ System identification of robotic manipulator using neural networks 	
Supervisor: Prof. Farzaneh Abdollahi	

Languages

- **Persian:** Mother Tongue
- **English:** Fluent

Exam: TOEFL test will be taken as soon as possible.

Skills

- **Programming:** MATLAB (Script, Simulink, Stateflow, Simscape), Python (Numpy, TensorFlow, Keras, Gym), C, C++, familiar with VHDL
- **Engineering Softwares:** Solidworks, Ansys Fluent, XFLR5, AVL, OpenVSP, QGroundControl, PX4 firmware, Gazebo, CIPHER, Keil uVision, STM32 CubeMX, Code Composer Studio, Proteus, Arduino
- **General:** Windows, Ubuntu, Microsoft Office Collection, Git, \LaTeX

Voluntary Experience

Contributing Author	Aug 2023 – Dec 2023
Book: Emami, S. A., Castaldi, P., Narimani, M., Ezabadi, M., <i>Neural Network-based Control Systems with Application to Flight Control: From Classical Neural Control to Reinforcement Learning.</i> (in preparation)	
Responsibilities: Designing multiple examples, writing the solutions, conducting the corresponding simulations, analyzing the results, and drawing conclusions	

Notable Courses

■ Related Courses in M.Sc.

- ◇ Advanced Automatic Control (1st rank)
- ◇ Nonlinear Control (1st rank)
- ◇ Optimal Control 1 (1st rank)
- ◇ Optimal Control 2 (1st rank)
- ◇ Intelligent Control (3rd rank)
- ◇ Deep Reinforcement Learning (TBD)
- ◇ Advanced Mathematics
- ◇ System Identification (1st rank)
- ◇ Advanced Flight Dynamics and Control (1st rank)
- ◇ Modeling of Aerospace Dynamic Systems
- ◇ Flight Simulation (1st rank)

■ Related Courses in B.Sc.

- ◇ Linear Control Systems + Lab (1st rank)
- ◇ Applied Linear Algebra (1st rank)
- ◇ Computational Intelligence + Lab (2nd rank)
- ◇ Digital Control Systems + Lab
- ◇ Modern Control (2nd rank)
- ◇ Industrial Control + Lab
- ◇ Mechatronics
- ◇ Avionics + Workshop
- ◇ Flight Dynamics + Lab (1st rank)
- ◇ Aircraft Design (1st rank)
- ◇ Satellite Systems (1st rank)
- ◇ Computational Fluid Dynamics (1st rank)

■ Coursera

- ◇ Machine Learning Specialization (Certificate)
- ◇ Robotics Specialization (Audited)

■ Others

- ◇ Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning (Certificate)
- ◇ ETHZ Computational Control (Course page)

References

Fariborz Saghafi

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Sharif University of Technology
Tehran, Iran
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