

Special Issue

Drones in the Wild

Message from the Guest Editors

Environments such as dense forests, mountainous or maritime regions, arctic regions, areas exposed to extreme atmospheric conditions, etc., require a high degree of robustness, safety and versatility. UAVs may need to react reliably to rapidly changing circumstances, navigate with minimal sensing, withstand strong perturbations, maneuver in severely restricted spaces, or operate safely in the vicinity of critical human-built infrastructure or delicate flora and fauna. This Special Issue focuses on the development, evaluation and testing of UAVs capable of operating in challenging, realistic outdoor environments, with a particular emphasis on natural environments. Key research focuses will include the following:

- Operations in cluttered spaces;
- Rapid navigation in unknown spaces;
- Novel, unconventional designs allowing new applications;
- Hybrid and multi-modal drones;
- Energy-efficient design, mission planning and control;
- Swarming and collaborative tasks;
- Highly autonomous mission execution;
- Planning and navigation in complex dynamic environments;
- Vision-based control, minimal sensing;
- Navigation in dim or unlit environments.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Drones is the only international open-access journal about the science, policy and technology of drones and its applications. Nowadays, the proliferation of drones is a reality for local policy makers, regulatory bodies, mapping authorities, startups and consolidated companies. There are many uses and benefits of drones: from the emergence of new sensors and the evolution of new platforms; to the development of specific software and the emergence of new applications. *Drones* publishes reviews, regular research papers, communications and short notes, without restriction on the length of papers. *Drones* seeks to provide a central forum for scholars engaged in drones' research and applications.

There is a need for high quality papers in this area and the *Drones* Editorial Board are widely recognized international leaders. *Drones* journal guarantees a serious peer review and a rapid publication across the whole discipline of drones.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Diego González-Aguilera

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