Advances of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Communication

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), widely known as drones, can act as autonomous communicating nodes, aerial relays, or even aerial base stations (BSs), and strongly support the conventional networks in propagation scenarios with obstacles and highly mobile and remote network nodes. By flying at modest altitudes, at high elevation angles, and across urban, suburban, and rural terrains, UAVs can facilitate the establishment of an adaptable and reliable multi-hop communication backbone, thus enabling the provision of challenging applications, including disaster and crisis management, agricultural, transportation, environmental monitoring, remote sensing, and healthcare services. Nevertheless, several scientific and technical challenges exist for enabling the successful and long-term operation of UAV-aided communication networks in highly dynamic and heterogeneous environments. Therefore, advanced communication, antenna, networking, sensor, and computing technologies should be proposed, revised, and developed.

Special Issue

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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.

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