



## Navigation, Control and Mission Planning Advances for Safe, Efficient and Autonomous Drones

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### Message from the Guest Editors

In UAV swarms and formations, the challenges extend to the need for mission-level architectures to coordinate the path planning and path following using centralised or decentralised navigation, control and communication systems, including ground station–vehicle communications.

The state-of-the-art methods used to address challenges in single and distributed drone systems are often based on advances in the navigation and control theory, increasingly based on machine learning, or a combination of those two approaches, such as artificial intelligence (AI)-enhanced navigation and control. Advances in new technologies such as the Internet of things and Detect and Avoid are also increasingly exploited to enhance navigation and control safety and performance.

This Special Issue will therefore bring together papers which describe recent research in the navigation, control and mission planning of drones, including ground, air, marine or space vehicles. Papers with theoretical, simulation and practical experimental results in this field are all encouraged. This includes review papers, tutorials, as well as original research papers.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Drones* is an international open access journal focusing on advancing research in drone science, policy, technology, and applications. Today, drones have become indispensable for policymakers, regulatory authorities, mapping agencies, start-ups, and established firms. Their expanding societal and economic relevance is reflected in the rapid development of new sensors, upgraded platforms, specialized software, and novel applications. The journal provides a central forum for scholars in drone research and applications to exchange findings and innovations. With growing demand for high-quality research, our Editorial Board comprises international leaders and experts across relevant scientific areas. We offer rigorous peer review and rapid publication of papers from across all areas of drone science. We welcome you to submit your next paper to *Drones* and to contribute to the continued advancement of and innovations in the field of drones.

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