

Elia Costantini

Ph.D. Student in Aerospace Science and Technology

Biography

He is a doctoral candidate in Aerospace Science and Technology at the University of Bologna within the Flight Mechanics Laboratory. His research interests include performance analysis and optimization of rotary-wing aircraft; sizing of battery-powered unmanned vehicles; control system design, prototyping, and validation; development of estimation strategies. His work also focuses on innovative control strategies in cooperative transportation scenarios of UAVs.

Education

University of Bologna
2022 - present Ph.D. in Aerospace Science and Technology

Title: "Advanced Dynamics Modeling and Innovative Control Strategies for Cooperative Air Delivery Applications"

10/2024 - 04/2025 University of Twente

Visiting PhD researcher at the Robotics and Mechatronics
Laboratory, EEMCS Faculty

Theoretical, simulation, and experimental work on the control of a cable-suspended load manipulated by two aerial robots. Design of a robust formation control law for the two UAVs, tested in Matlab/Simulink and simulated in Gazebo Classic with PX4 Software-in-the-Loop (SITL). Experimental activities with two Holybro X500 quadrotors that allowed to validate:

- Filter for the estimation of the payload oscillation angle relying only on the on-board IMUs, without the need for any extra sensors
- Cooperative formation control algorithm in both unloaded and loaded configurations

2020 - 2022 University of Bologna
Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering

Thesis: "Modeling, Simulation, and Control of a Formation of Multirotor Aircraft for Transportation of Suspended Loads"

2017 - 2020 University of Bologna
Bachelor's Degree in Aerospace Engineering

Thesis: "Analisi dinamica e ottimizzazione delle prestazioni per velivoli multirotore"

Awards

January 2019

University of Bologna Merit Award

"Bando di concorso per l'assegnazione di incentivi alle iscrizioni a corsi di studio inerenti ad aree disciplinari di particolare interesse nazionale per l'Anno Accademico 2017/2018"

Publications

2024

Journal Publications

Costantini, E., "Modeling, Simulation, and Control of a Formation of Multirotor Aircraft for Transportation of Suspended Loads". Aerotec. Missili Spaz. 103, 233–244 (2024). https://doi.org/10.1007/s42496-023-00192-3

Costantini, E., de Angelis, E.L., Giulietti, F., "Cooperative Drone Transportation of a Cable-Suspended Load: Dynamics and Control", *Drones* **2024**, 8, 434. https://doi.org/10.3390/drones8090434

Costantini E., de Angelis E. L., Giulietti F., "Cooperative Transportation using Rotorcraft: Swing State Estimation and Control". [Submitted for review to Aerospace Science and Technology]

2023 - 2024

Conference Papers

Costantini, E., de Angelis, E.L., Giulietti, F., "Cooperative Transportation of a Cable–Suspended Load Using Rotorcraft: A Minimal Swing Approach", in: Proc. of 49th European Rotorcraft Forum, **2023**, 1–14.

Costantini E., de Angelis E. L., Giulietti F., "Cooperative Transportation of a Cable-Suspended Load: Dynamics and Control", 2024 International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (ICUAS), Chania - Crete, Greece, 2024, pp. 224-233, https://doi.org/10.1109/icuas60882.2024.10556923.

Costantini E., de Angelis E. L., Giulietti F., "Cooperative Transportation Using Rotorcraft: Swing State Estimation and Control", in: Proc. of 50th European Rotorcraft Forum, Marseille, France, **2024**

Languages

Italian

Native language

English

Advanced Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing

C1 level - Academic English Skills (AcES, 2024)