

# Table of Content

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Motivation . . . . .	2
1.2	Problem definition . . . . .	3
1.3	Hypotheses . . . . .	5
1.4	Objectives . . . . .	5
1.4.1	General objective . . . . .	5
1.4.2	Specific objectives . . . . .	6
1.5	Contributions . . . . .	6
1.6	Thesis outline . . . . .	7
<b>2</b>	<b>Literature review</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Fundamentals of attitude determination . . . . .	8
2.1.1	Sensors for attitude determination . . . . .	9
2.1.2	Attitude determination modes . . . . .	10
2.1.3	Attitude representations . . . . .	10
2.1.4	The rotation matrix . . . . .	14
2.1.5	Reference frames . . . . .	15
2.1.6	Transformations between frames . . . . .	16
2.1.7	Attitude from the STT to other representations . . . . .	17
2.2	Algorithms for star identification . . . . .	17
2.3	Using <i>a priori</i> information . . . . .	18
2.3.1	Using TLE information . . . . .	18
2.3.2	Using Kalman filtering . . . . .	18
2.3.3	Kalman filter description for attitude determination . . . . .	19
2.4	Software and hardware tools for STT development . . . . .	20
2.4.1	Software . . . . .	20
2.4.2	Hardware . . . . .	24
2.5	Developing Star Trackers for CubeSats . . . . .	25
2.6	Use of COTS in space projects . . . . .	25
2.6.1	Use of COTS for STT development . . . . .	25
2.6.2	Using Raspberry Pi . . . . .	25
2.7	Considerations about space environment . . . . .	26
2.7.1	Environmental threats in LEO . . . . .	26
2.7.2	Effects produced by space radiation . . . . .	27
2.7.3	Study and mitigation of radiation effects . . . . .	30

<b>3</b>	<b>Algorithm Development</b>	<b>32</b>
3.1	Description . . . . .	32
3.2	Tangent plane projection of the stellar catalog . . . . .	32
3.3	Attitude determination algorithm . . . . .	33
3.4	Adapting the algorithm for different field of view . . . . .	36
<b>4</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>39</b>
4.1	Algorithm evaluation by using on-space images . . . . .	39
4.2	Platform evaluation . . . . .	40
4.2.1	Description . . . . .	40
4.2.2	Exposure Time . . . . .	41
4.2.3	Success rate, precision, catalog segmentation and processing time . .	42
4.2.4	Vacuum chamber test . . . . .	44
4.2.5	Power consumption . . . . .	45
4.2.6	Discussion . . . . .	46
4.3	Radiation effects assessment . . . . .	49
4.3.1	Method description . . . . .	49
4.3.2	Results . . . . .	52
<b>5</b>	<b>Star tracker integration and set up for on-flight evaluation</b>	<b>55</b>
5.1	Being part of a CubeSat project . . . . .	55
5.2	Payload integration with Flight Software (FS) . . . . .	55
5.3	Validation through on-flight experiments . . . . .	56
<b>6</b>	<b>Conclusions and future work</b>	<b>62</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>64</b>
	<b>Annex A Extended abstract</b>	<b>73</b>
	<b>Annex B Code links</b>	<b>75</b>