

Remote Sensing Skywalker



Airelectronics has developed a new complete solution meeting the needs of the farming science.

The completely test Skywalkerplatform has been equipped with both thermal and multispectral cameras to measure breeding parameters, and the system has been adapted to match the remote sensing requirements.

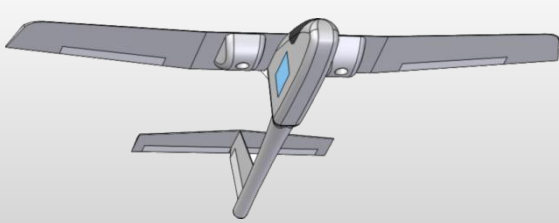
Remote sensing of fields is helping farmers all around the world improving their breeding yields. Measuring the plants growing state and the influence of water in them can help choosing the best seed for each field, considering soil substratum and other environmental characteristics. The Thermal camera on board the Skywalker measure the water stress of the plants, meanwhile the combined information of the thermal and multispectral cameras provide the NDVI (Normalized Differential Vegetation Index).

To make this information compiling process easier, Airelectronics has developed and integrated some tools into its system, such as flight plan pattern designer and imagegeoreference data.

Using a standard computer, the user can design the flight plan, defining a zone to flyover and letting the software define the waypoints. As in all Airelectronics systems, the user can modify the mission in real time, thanks to the U-Pilot flight control system and the U-See software. The operator doesn't need any previous flight experience and it is not even necessary to have a manual joystick because the system can fly 100% in automatic mode: from the take-off to the landing. In case of a communications problem the plane will come back home and land safely.



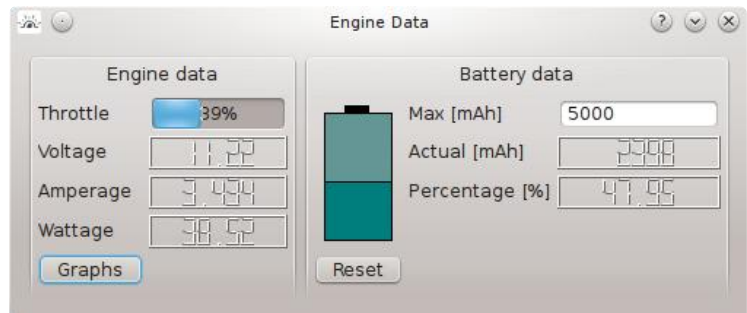
The plane is based in COTS materials (Commercial off-the-shelf) and has been adapted to become a complete UAV. Due to the fact that the plane has been built using composites and EPO its weight is really low (1.3 kg without the payload) it is really easy to handle, launch it and to land it: any operator can do it, even without any previous skill, and it will land on its fuselage without big damage in almost any terrain. UAV Remote Sensing Skywalker.



Remote Sensing Skywalker

The brain for the plane is the Airelectronics' U-Pilot flight control system, which is embedded inside the plane's fuselage, leaving a lot of space on board to install a payload. Being based in FPGA technology, U-Pilot's configurability and flexibility is unsurpassed and the advanced sensor mixture using extended Kalman filtering assures an optimal attitude and navigation control.

Its control laws has been optimized for the control of the electric motor the UAV Skywalkeruses, having automatic modes that take advantage of the energy present in the atmosphere: The plane has capability to climb taking advantage of the convective activity (thermal soaring). This way it gains flight time and extends its range. This gives almost unlimited loiter time over a forest fire.

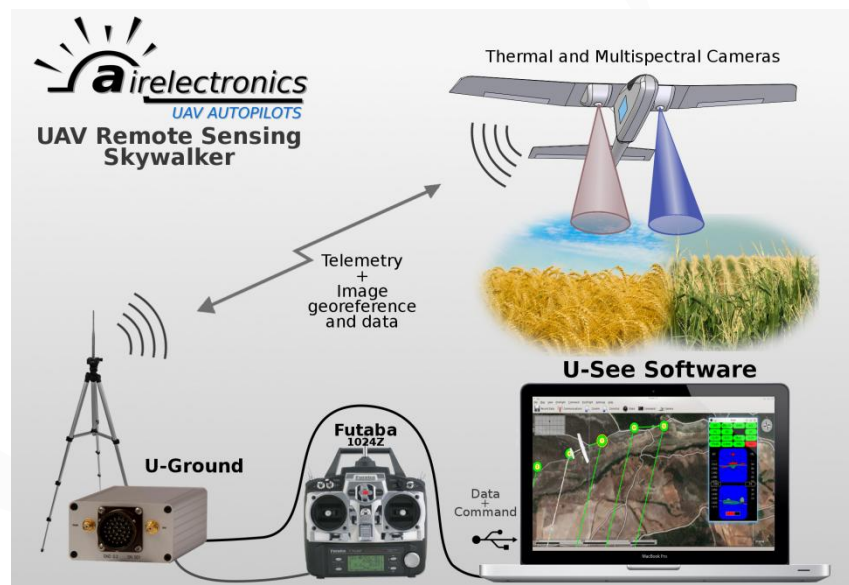


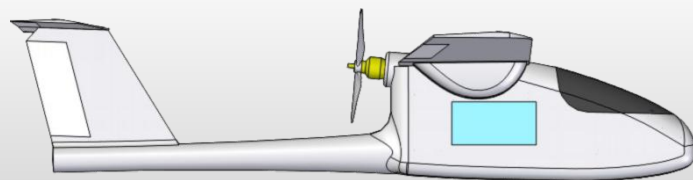
The system also monitors the amount of energy that came from the batteries and uses the batteries up to the point it is bingo time. Batteries packs are available from 5.000 mAh to 13.000 mAh

The UAV Skywalker is available in the basic and Pro versions, providing the latter some additional features that are useful in some applications.

The electronics inside the Skywalker Pro have sensor redundancy, meanwhile the plane has a belly protection that reduces the damage absorbed by the hull when landing in hard environments. The Skywalker Pro features a new Li-Ion Battery that doubles the standard Skywalker endurance and allows the plane to perform a high slope takeoff, recommended when working in areas with obstacles.

To allow landing in these areas, the Pro version also has spoilers that allow the plane to land within a few meters. A landing and takeoff slope diagram can be found at the end of this document.





Remote Sensing Skywaker

Highlights



Thermal Soaring

Take advantage of the atmosphere energy



Fully autonomous

No human intervention required during flight



Multi-Payload

The plane can accomodate a great number of payloads



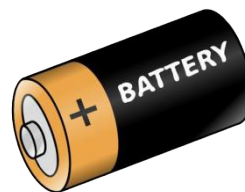
Affordable

Unlike other solutions, the prices are reasonable



Hull renovation

We will supply you a new hull free of charge if yours is damaged



Bat. monitoring

Real time battery monitoring assures that you won't lose the aircraft due to overuse



Real-Time Video Feed

Using a video transmitter you can receive real-time the video feed



Flight-Plan

Automatic flight plan following allows to complete unattended missions



Camera geo-reference

The system can give geo-referenced images

Possible Applications



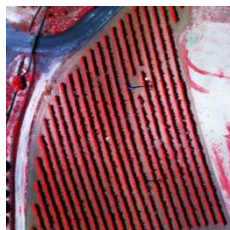
Border control

Surveillance in terrestrial and maritime borders



Police Usage

Demonstration control, anti-drug operations



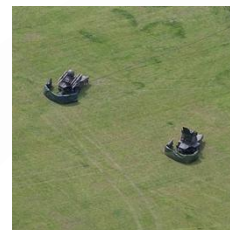
Agriculture

Status of crops, Forest mass control, study of soil



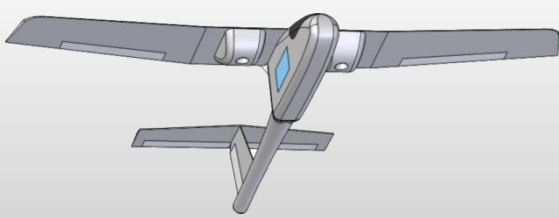
Fire Fighting

Monitor Active fires, avoid reactivation of controlled fires

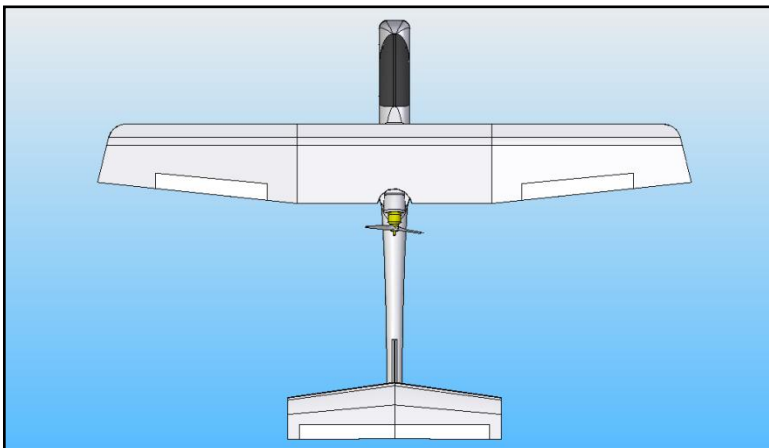
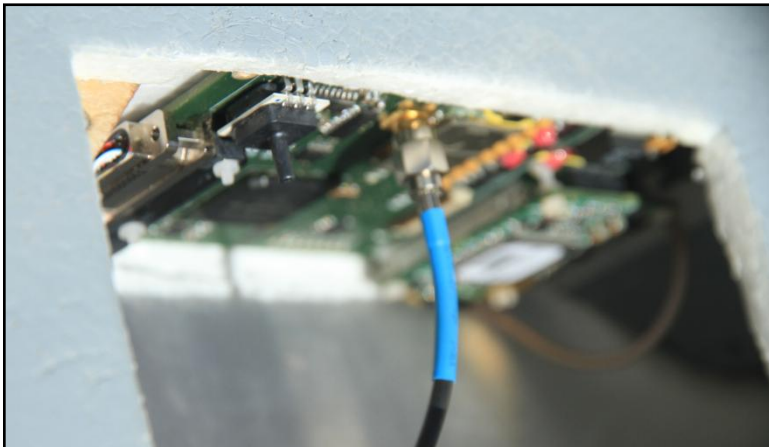
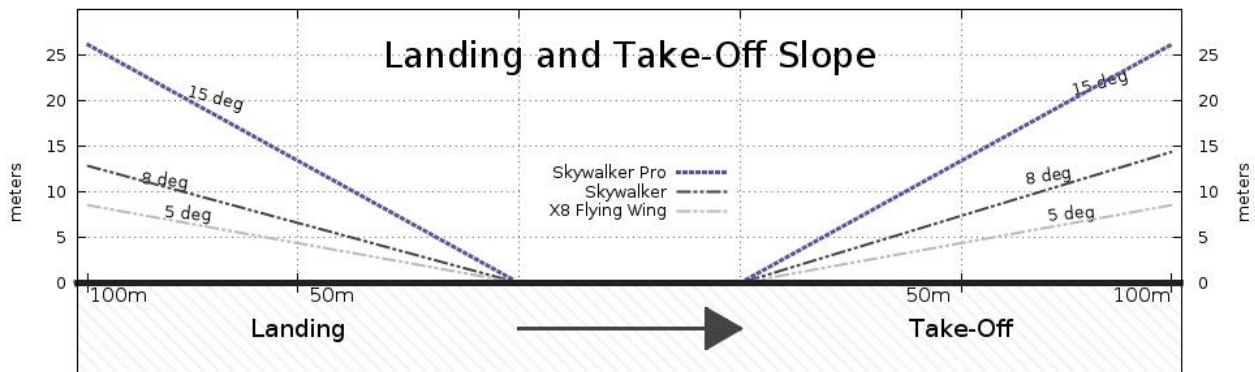
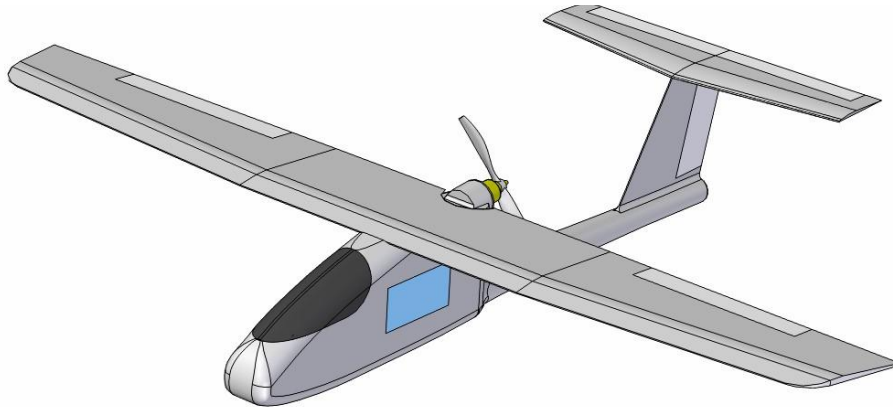


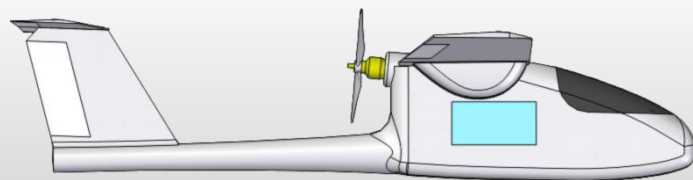
Military

Forward observer, over the hill recon missions



Remote Sensing Skywalker





Remote Sensing Skywaker

Flight control Specification

Flight control

Attitude Estimation & control..... 1000Hz rate
Flight-plan..... Up to 200 way-points
Speed Control..... Auto-throttle
Take-Off & Landing..... Automatic

GPS Positioning

SBAS..... Global coverage
Differential navigation..... available on request

Interface with Payloads & Actuators

PWM & GPIO outputs.....30
PWM rate..... Configurable
RS-232 ports..... 4 RS-232 compliant ports
RS-232 Rates..... 9600 – 115200 bps
External ADC channels.....3 channel 12bit - 0-30 V
Main Voltage supply supervisor

Telemetry

Data-Link Frequency 900MHz/1.4 Ghz/2.4GHz
Power..... 1 W
Range..... 100 km / 80km / 40 km
baud rate..... 115200 bps

Air Data System

Dynamic pressure sensor range..... 0 – 200 km/h
Static pressure, low altitude option 0-2000 m
Static pressure, high altitude option..... 0-4000 m

Cammera Control

Protocols.....VISCA®, Controp & PWM
..... Other protocols upon request
Camera modes..... Geo-Pointed, Stable, Manual

Minimum Hardware for Control Computer

The recommended hardware is the MacBook Pro 13" with BootCamp and Microsoft Windows 7.

OS..... Windows or Linux
Processor..... Intel Core i5
RAM..... 2GB
Hard drive..... 5 free Gb
Video Card..... OpenGL supported
Screen..... at least 13"
Ports 1 RS-232 port
..... (native or through USB adaptor)

Plane Specification

Dimensions

Length..... 1100 mm
Wing Span..... 1680 mm/1880mm
..... (Two Options available)
Payload Bay..... 3450 cm³

Weights

Empty Weight..... 1,3 kg.
Maximum Take-Off Weight..... 3,0 kg.

Endurance

5000 mAh battery option..... 30 min minimum
10000 mAh battery option..... 1 hour minimum
Long endurance battery option.... 2 hour minimum

Typical Crusing speed..... 45 km/h

Air Brake for short landing..... Optional

Cameras

Thermal Camera..... Miricle 307k
Multispectral Camera..... ADC Camera