

# Real-Time Drone Detection and Tracking With Visible, Thermal and Acoustic Sensors

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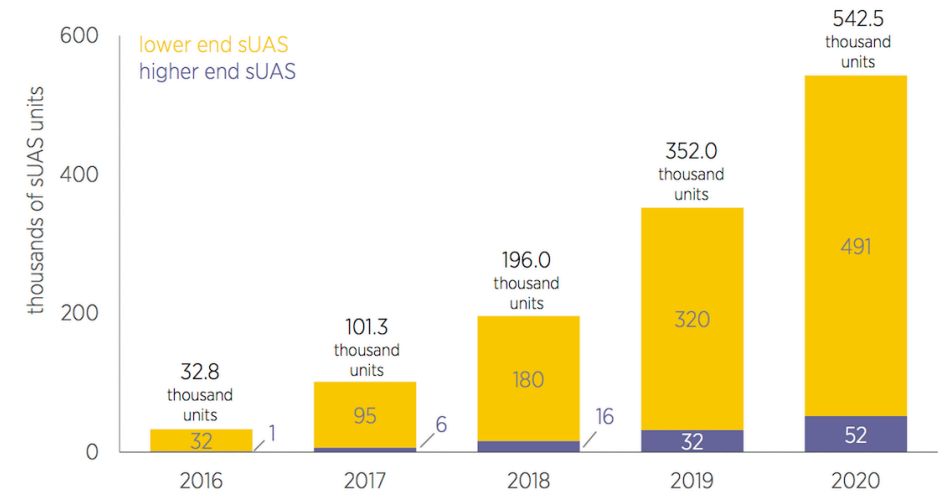
# Problem formulation

Both private and commercial usage of drones is increasing.

Monitoring crop, forest, powerlines, fences, photography, surveillance and delivery etc.

How can we make sure drones are not misused, intentionally or unintentionally?

Projected Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems  
Fleet by Unit, FY 2016–FY 2020



MERCATUS CENTER  
George Mason University

Source: FAA Aerospace Forecast, Fiscal Years 2016–2036.  
Data note: Higher end sUAS are defined as sUAS units with an average sales price of \$40,000, while lower end sUAS have an average sales price of \$2,500.  
Produced by Eli Dourado and Andrea Castillo, May 2016.

# Aim

This paper explores the possibilities and limitations of designing and constructing an automatic multi-sensor drone detection and tracking system building on state-of-the-art machine learning techniques.



# Solution - Hardware

Thermal infrared camera (IRcam) and a  
Video camera in visible range (Vcam)

ADS-B antenna.

Microphone

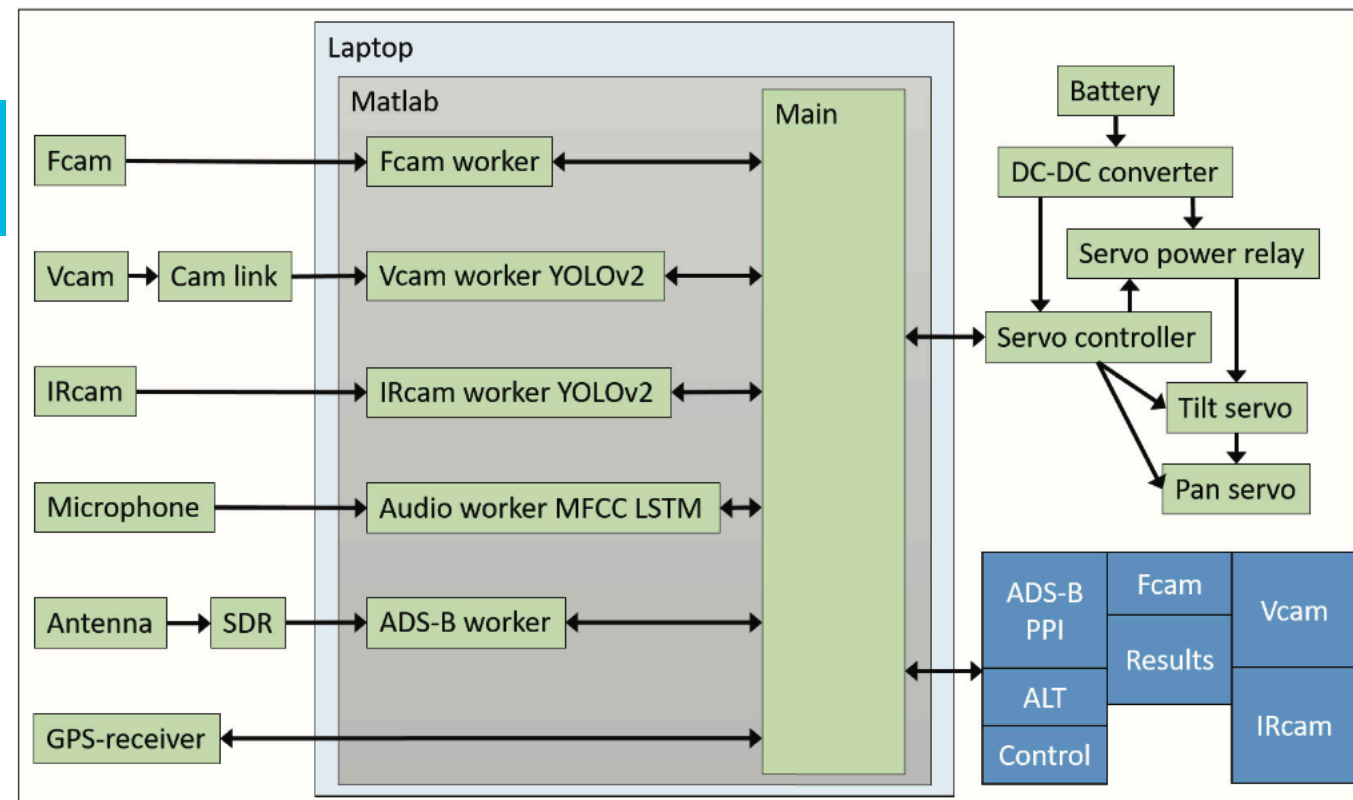
Fish-eye lens camera (Fcam) covering 180°  
horizontally and 90° vertically.



# Solution - Software

## Five workers – functions

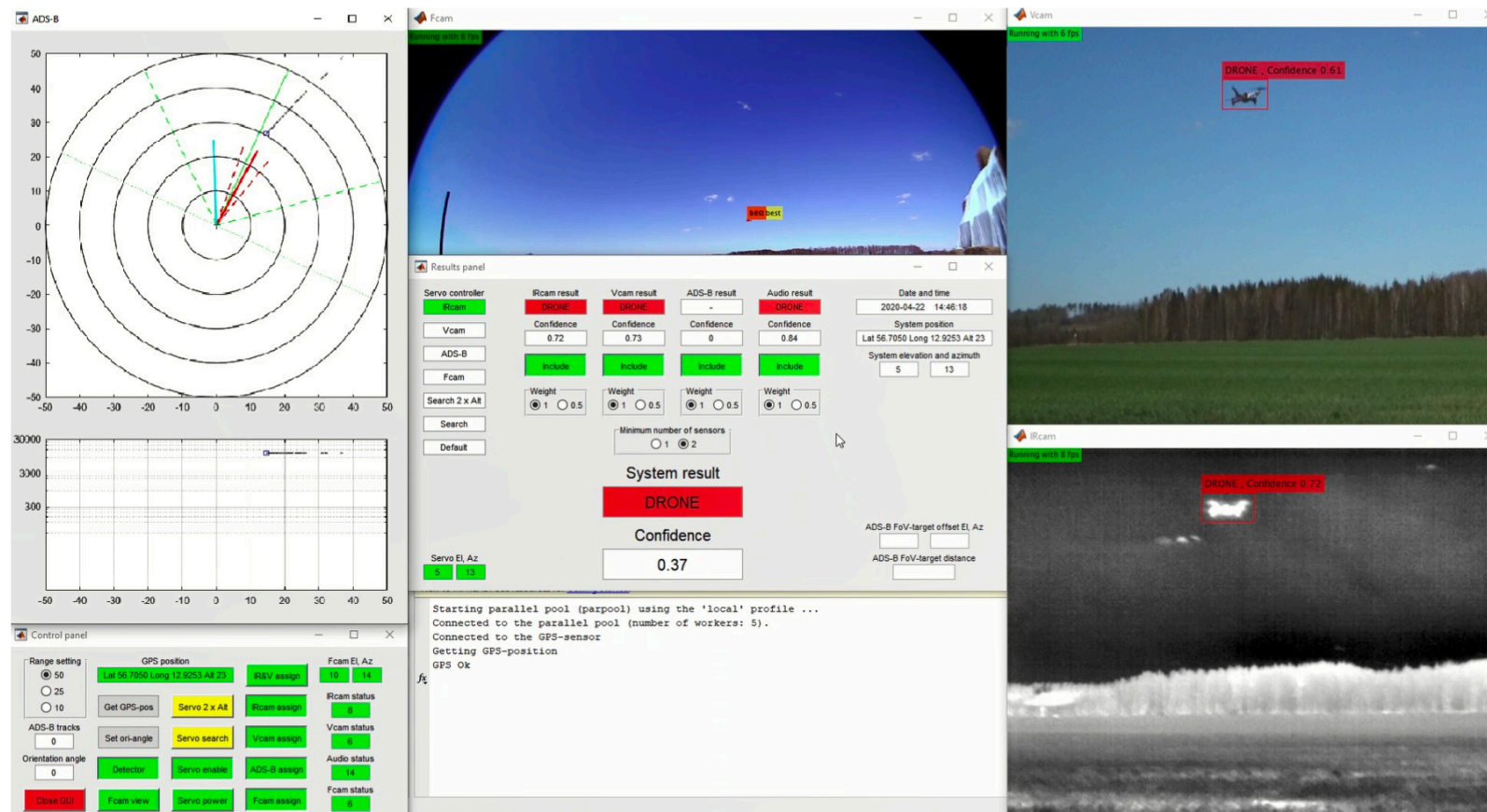
- Fcam
  - ELP 8 megapixel 180° fish-eye lens 1024×768
  - Gaussian mixture model (foreground/background)
  - Multi-object Kalman filter tracker
- Vcam
  - CNN (YOLO v2)
  - Sony HDR- CX405 video camera
    - Elgato Cam Link 4K frame grabber 1280×720
- IRcam
  - CNN (YOLO v2)
  - FLIR Breach PTQ-I36 using the Boson 320×256 pixels detector
- Audio
  - MFCC Features feed into LSTM
- ADS-B
  - Antenna and a NooElec Nano 2+ Software Defined Radio receiver





# Solution - GUI

Results of the different sensors/workers, and  
Possibility of controlling the system.



# Drone Detection Dataset

Dataset captured at three airports in Sweden:

- Halmstad Airport (IATA/ICAO code: HAD/ESMT),
- Gothenburg City Airport (GSE/ESGP) and
- Malmö Airport (MMX/ESMS).

Three different drones are used:

- Hubsan H107D+, a small-sized first-person-view(FPV);
- DJI Phantom 4 Pro;
- DJI Flame Wheel. Quadcopter (F450) Hexacopter (F550).

Ten-second clips

- 90 audio clips and 650 videos (365 IR and 285 visible)
- 203328 annotated image (!)

<https://github.com/DroneDetectionThesis/Drone-detection-dataset>



Fig. 4. Examples of varying weather conditions in the dataset.



Fig. 3. The three drones of our dataset. Left: Hubsan H107D+. Middle: DJI Phantom 4 Pro. Right: DJI Flame Wheel F450.

# Results – individual sensors

- Evaluation individual sensors
  - precision,
  - recall and
  - F1-score
    - $2 \times ((\text{precision} \times \text{recall}) / (\text{precision} + \text{recall}))$
- CLOSE: 0 m – 15 px in IRcam
- MEDIUM: 15 px-5 px in IRcam
- DISTANT: 5 px- 1 px in IRcam

distance bin: CLOSE					
	airplane	bird	drone	helicopter	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.9197	0.7591	0.9159	0.9993	0.8985
<b>Recall</b>	0.87367	0.85087	0.87907	0.87927	0.8706
<b>F1-score</b>					0.88447

distance bin: MEDIUM					
	airplane	bird	drone	helicopter	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.82817	0.50637	0.89517	0.95547	0.7962
<b>Recall</b>	0.70397	0.70337	0.80347	0.83557	0.7615
<b>F1-score</b>					0.77857

distance bin: DISTANT					
	airplane	bird	drone	helicopter	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.78227	0.61617	0.82787	0.79827	0.7561
<b>Recall</b>	0.40437	0.74317	0.48367	0.45647	0.5218
<b>F1-score</b>					0.61757

TABLE III  
RESULTS WITH THE THERMAL INFRARED SENSOR. THE AVERAGE OF THE THREE F1-SCORES IS 0.7601

	drone	helicopter	background	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.9694	0.8482	0.9885	0.9354
<b>Recall</b>	0.9596	0.9596	0.8687	0.9293
<b>F1-score</b>				0.9323

TABLE V  
RESULTS WITH THE AUDIO DETECTOR.

distance bin: CLOSE					
	airplane	bird	drone	helicopter	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.8989	0.8284	0.8283	0.9225	0.8695
<b>Recall</b>	0.7355	0.7949	0.9536	0.9832	0.8668
<b>F1-score</b>					0.8682

distance bin: MEDIUM					
	airplane	bird	drone	helicopter	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.8391	0.7186	0.7710	0.9680	0.8242
<b>Recall</b>	0.7306	0.7830	0.7987	0.7526	0.7662
<b>F1-score</b>					0.7942

distance bin: DISTANT					
	airplane	bird	drone	helicopter	average
<b>Precision</b>	0.7726	0.6479	0.8378	0.6631	0.7303
<b>Recall</b>	0.7785	0.7841	0.5519	0.5171	0.6579
<b>F1-score</b>					0.6922

TABLE IV  
RESULTS WITH THE VISIBLE CAMERA. THE AVERAGE OF THE THREE F1-SCORES IS 0.7849





# Results – sensor fusion

- Weight on selected sensors
- Averaging between frames

Results panel

Servo controller	IRcam result	Vcam result	ADS-B result	Audio result	Date and time
IRcam	AIRPLANE	AIRPLANE	AIRPLANE	-	2020-04-22 16:27:32
Vcam	Confidence 0.79	Confidence 0.56	Confidence 1	Confidence 0	System position
ADS-B	Include	Include	Include	Include	Lat 56.7052 Long 12.9255 Alt 13
Fcam	Weight <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 0.5	Weight <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 0.5	Weight <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 0.5	Weight <input checked="" type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 0.5	System elevation and azimuth
Search 2 x Alt					37 17
Search					
Default					
					ADS-B FoV-target offset El, Az
					-3 0
					ADS-B FoV-target distance
					20800

Servo El, Az  
37 -8

System result  
AIRPLANE

Confidence  
0.44



# Conclusions

- We explored the possibility to design and build a **multi-sensor drone detection system** utilizing state-of-the-art machine learning techniques and sensor fusion,
- The system incorporates common **video** and **audio** sensors, and a thermal **infrared** camera,
- A **fish-eye** lens camera with a wider field-of-view is used to steer the sensors in any direction,
- An **ADS-B** receiver allows to keep track of cooperative aircrafts in the surrounding airspace,
- Results confirm that machine learning techniques can be applied to input data from infrared sensors, making them well suited for the drone detection task,
- The **infrared detector achieves a F1-score of 0.76**, showing similar performance as the **visible video detector with a F1-score of 0.78**,
- The **audio classifier achieves a F1-score of 0.93**,
- A multiclass dataset is published for other researchers to use and compare results with.

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