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AEROSPACE ENGINEERING EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITIES USING CUBESATS

Abstract

Cubesats design, manufacture, launch and operation has boosted in a large scale since 2003, more than one hundred cubesats have or had been injected into orbits through less than 10 batches of launch, while a big portion of these cubesats were launched in the past 5 years.

More than that, over 60 percent of these missions were carried out by university students. Cubesats has shown a great potential in aerospace engineering education.

Based on a vast survey and study of already launched missions as well as those in plan (around 60 missions over the world), this paper tries to find an achievable approach in building an aerospace engineering oriented educational and experimental platform and system via cubesat technology and missions, cost-effective and mainly based on COTS.