



# Hybrid Attitude Control of a Two-CubeSat Virtual Telescope in a Highly Elliptical Orbit

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# Outline

- Mission
- Orbit design
- System and mission design
- Controller design
- Conclusion



# Mission

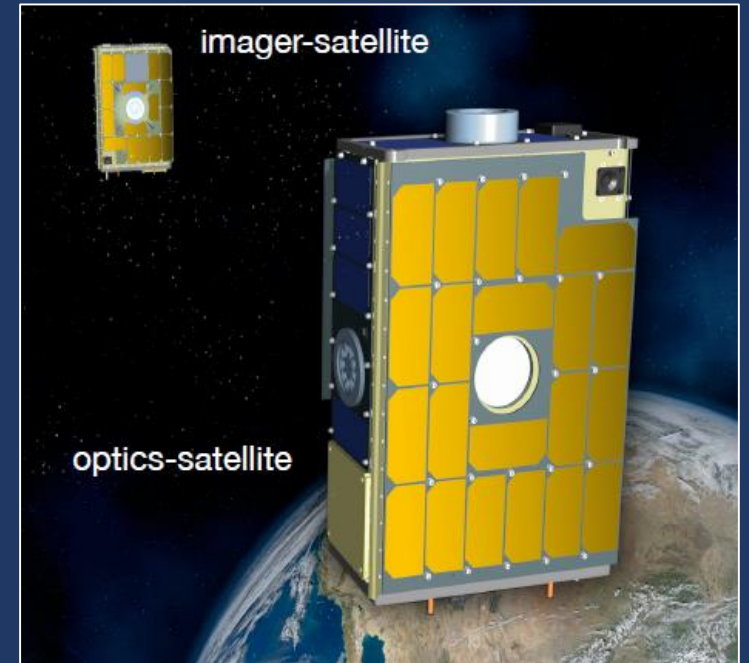
Virtual Telescope for X-ray Observations

Attitude formation control

High attitude formation accuracy

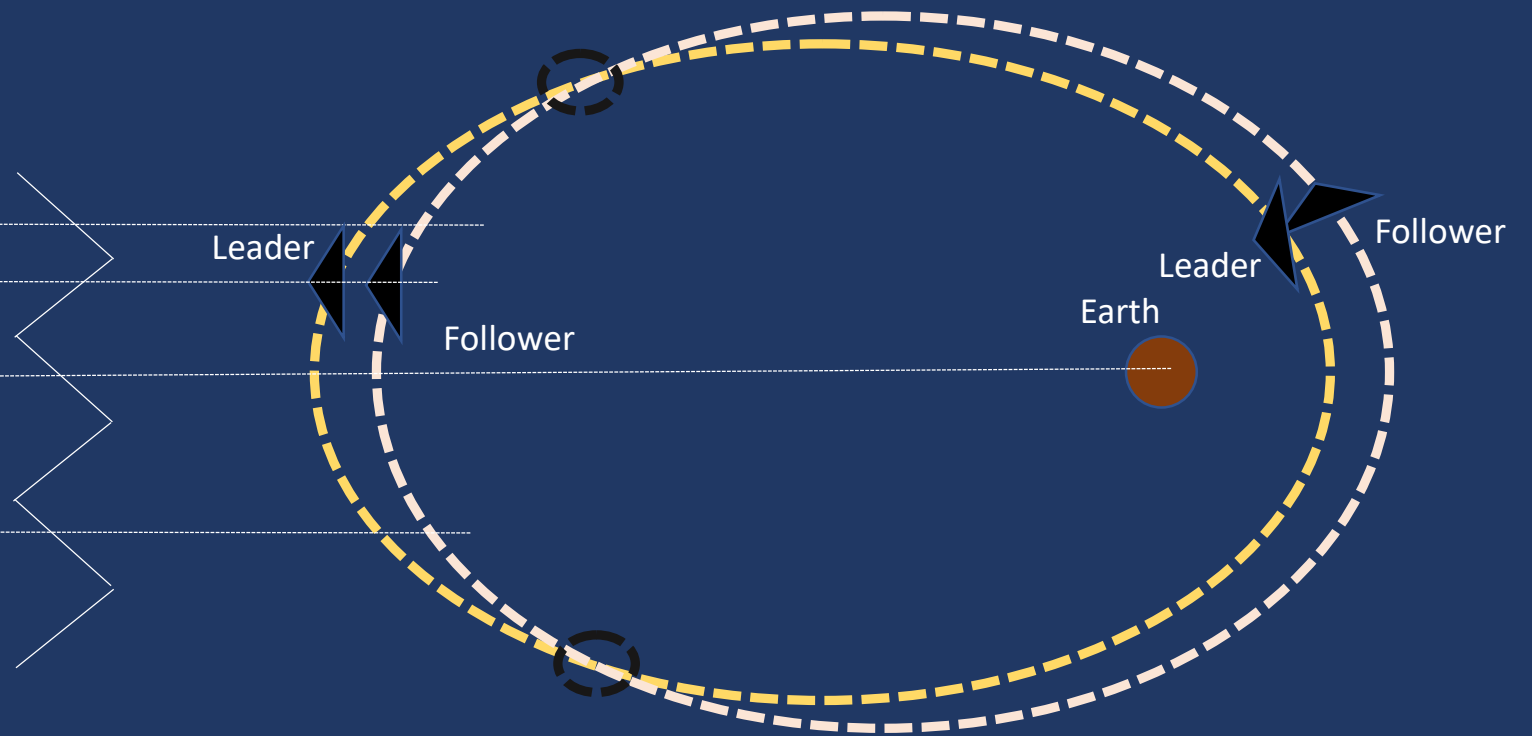
Highly eccentric geostationary orbit

Approximately 1 hour observing the Crab Nebula



# Orbit Design

- The orbits have the same parameters except the eccentricity
- Same period
- Collision avoided



# Mission Design

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- Phase 1:
  - open-loop formation phase
- Phase 2:
  - the development phase
- Phase 3:
  - scientific phase
- Phase 4:
  - semi-open-loop formation phase

mission phases specifications

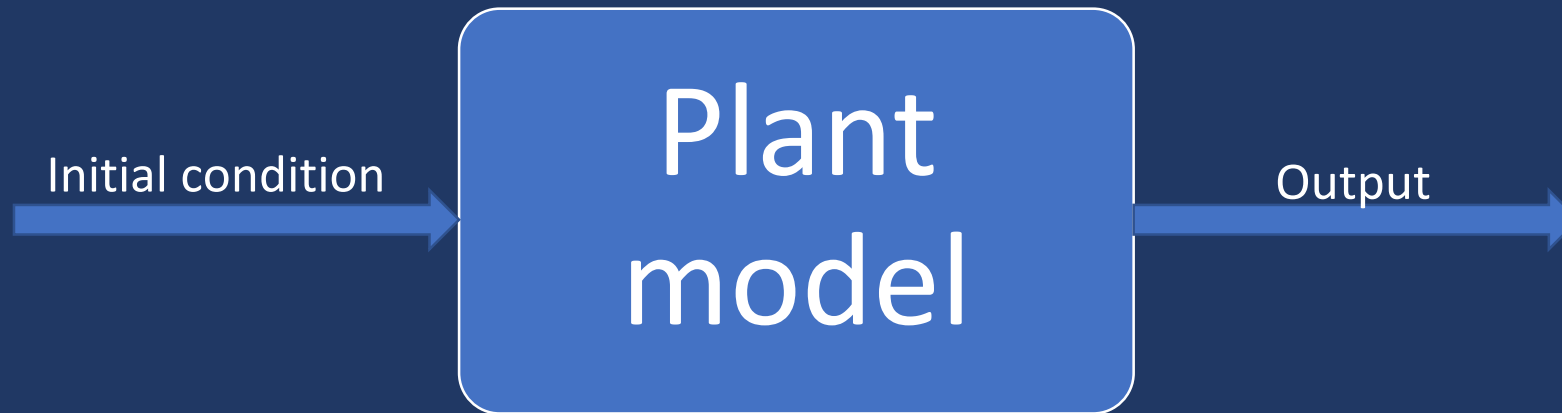
	controller	Sensors and filter	Camera
Phase 1	off	off	off
Phase 2	Sliding mode	On	Off
Phase 3	Sliding mode	On	On
Phase 4	Anti gravity gradient	Off	off



# Phase 1: Open-Loop Formation Phase

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- Sensors are off, No filtering, zero input torque



# Plant Model Equations

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$$\dot{q}^{bl} = \frac{1}{2} E(q^{bl}) \omega_b^{bl}$$

$$\dot{\omega}_b^{bl} = J^{-1} (-[\omega_b^{bl} \times] J \omega_b^{bl} + \bar{L} + L_g) + w_g$$

$$\dot{h} = -[\omega_b^{bl} \times] h - \bar{L}$$

$$L_g = \frac{3\mu}{r^3} [\vec{o}_{3b} \times] I \vec{o}_{3b}$$

$$\vec{o}_{3b} = \text{The third column of } R^{bo}$$

*o*: Orbital frame

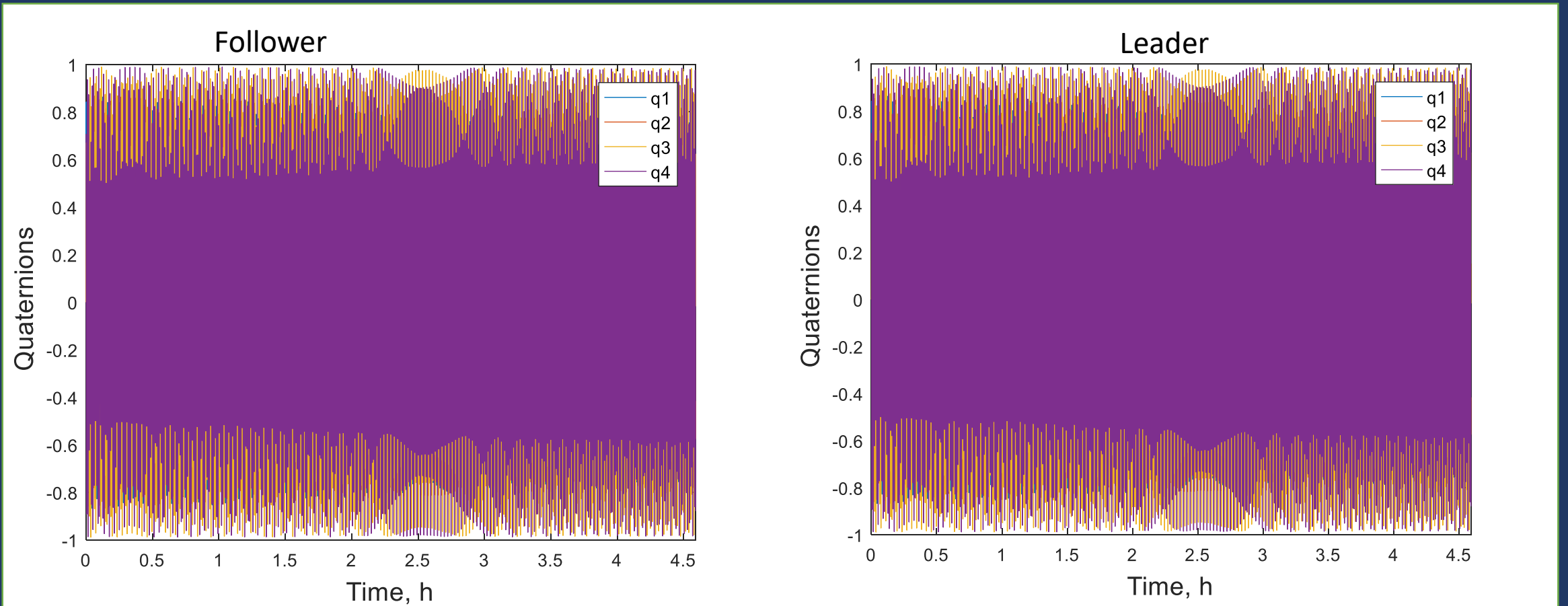
$\bar{L}$  = Input

$L_g$  = Gravity gradient torque

$w_g$  = Disturbances from drag, solar – radiation pressure, other celestial bodies, etc.



# Phase 1

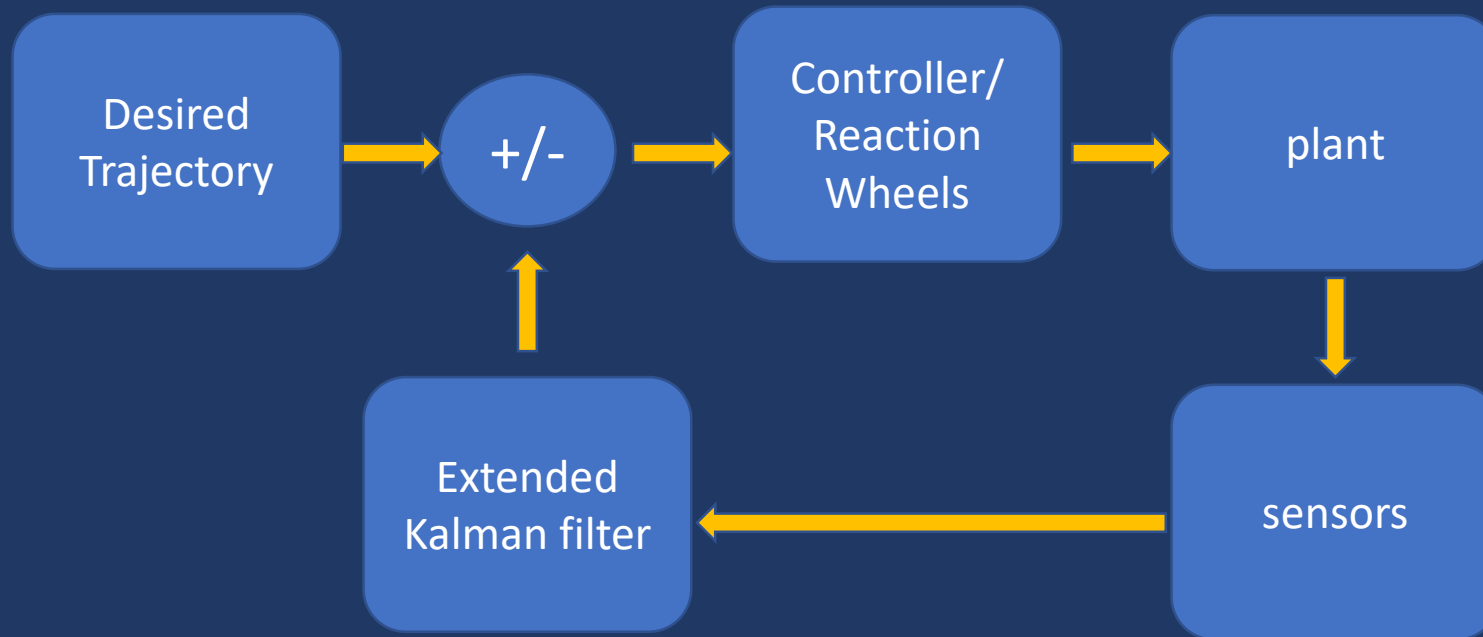




# Phase 2: Development Phase

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Sensors : gyroscope and star tracker; Camera is off



# Desired Trajectory

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- Desired quaternion based on observing the Crab Nebula

$$q = \begin{bmatrix} -0.5591 \\ 0.0158 \\ -0.0106 \\ 0.8289 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Desired Euler angles based on observing the Crab Nebula and 3-2-1 sequence

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phi \\ \theta \\ \psi \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2.0235 \\ 0.8173 \\ -68.0144 \end{bmatrix} \text{degrees}$$



# Controller/ Reaction Wheels

- Sliding mode controller

$$\delta q = \begin{bmatrix} \delta q_{1:3} \\ \delta q_4 \end{bmatrix} = q \otimes q_c^{-1}$$

$$s = (\omega - \omega_c) + k \text{sign}(\delta q_4) \delta q_{1:3}$$

$$L = J \left\{ \frac{k}{2} \left[ |\delta q_4| (\omega - \omega_c) - \text{sign}(\delta q_4) \delta q_{1:3} \times (\omega + \omega_c) \right] + \right\} \dot{\omega}_c - G \bar{s}$$

$$\bar{s}_i = \text{sat}(s_i, \varepsilon_i) \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

$$J = J + \text{Disturbance}, \quad \text{Disturbance} = 0.2 \begin{bmatrix} \cos(t) J_1^2 \\ \sin(t) J_2^2 \\ 0.5 J_3^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\bar{L} = \delta T(\varepsilon_L) \left[ \{ J_{3 \times 3} + \text{diag}(f_L) \} L + b_L + w_L \right]$$

$\varepsilon_L = \text{Misalignment}$

$f_L = \text{Scale factor biases}$

$b_L = \text{Bias}$

$w_L = \text{Actuator noise}$



# Sensors and Extended Kalman Filter

- Sensors: Star camera and gyroscope

$$\text{Gyro} = \delta T(\varepsilon_\omega) \left[ \left\{ J_{3 \times 3} + \text{diag}(f_\omega) \right\} \omega + b_\omega + w_\omega \right]$$

$\varepsilon_L = \text{Misalignment}$

$f_L = \text{Scale factor biases}$

$b_L = \text{Bias}$

$w_L = \text{noise}$

$$\text{Star camera} = T^{sb} \theta + b_s + w_s$$

$b_L = \text{Bias}$

$w_L = \text{noise}$

$$\text{States} = \begin{bmatrix} \theta \\ b_s \\ b_w \end{bmatrix}_{9 \times 1} = x$$

$$q^{bl+} = \delta q(\theta) \otimes q^{bl-}$$

## Kalman filter

### Model

$$\dot{x} = f(x, u, w, t), \quad w \sim N(0, S)$$

$$y_k = h(x) + v_k, \quad v_k \sim N(0, R_k)$$

Initialize:  $x_0, P_0$

### Propagation

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = f(\hat{x}, u, t)$$

$$\hat{P} = \hat{\phi} \hat{P}_0 \hat{\phi}^T + \hat{Q}$$

$$F = \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \Big|_{\hat{x}}$$

$$\hat{\phi} = e^{Fdt}$$

$$\hat{Q} = \int_{t_0}^t \hat{\phi} S \hat{\phi}^T dt$$

### Gain

$$K_k = P_k^- H_k^T [H_k P_k^- H_k^T + R_k]^{-1}$$

$$H_k = \frac{\delta h}{\delta x} \Big|_{\hat{x}_k^-}$$

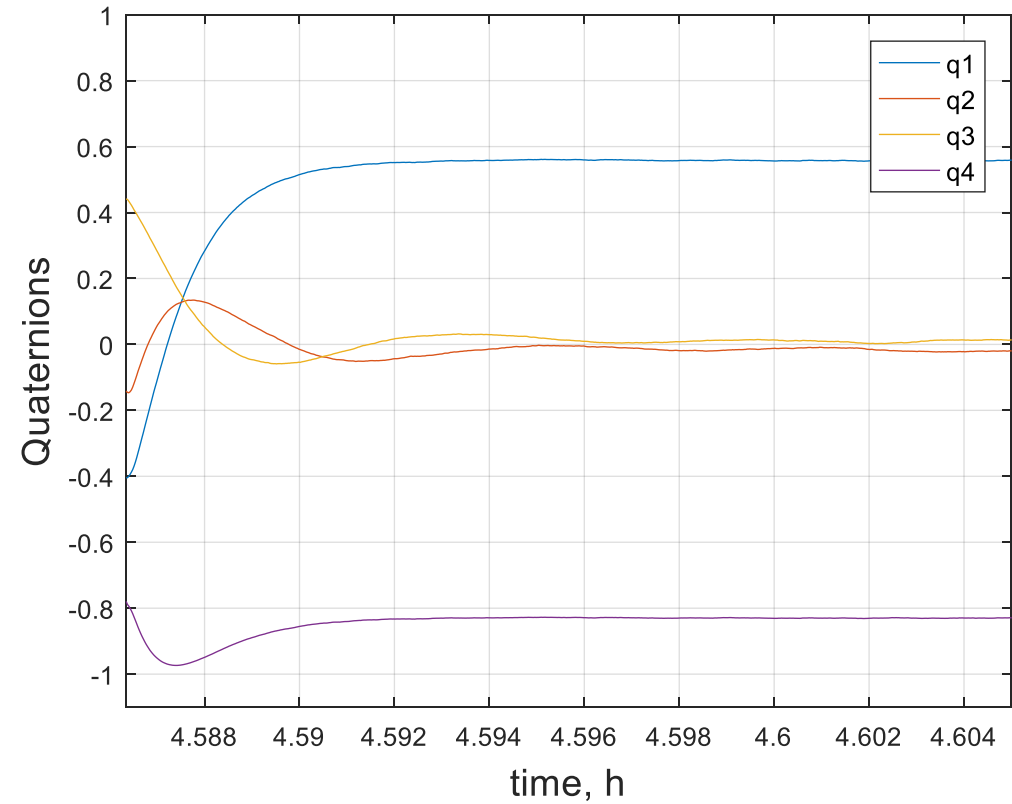
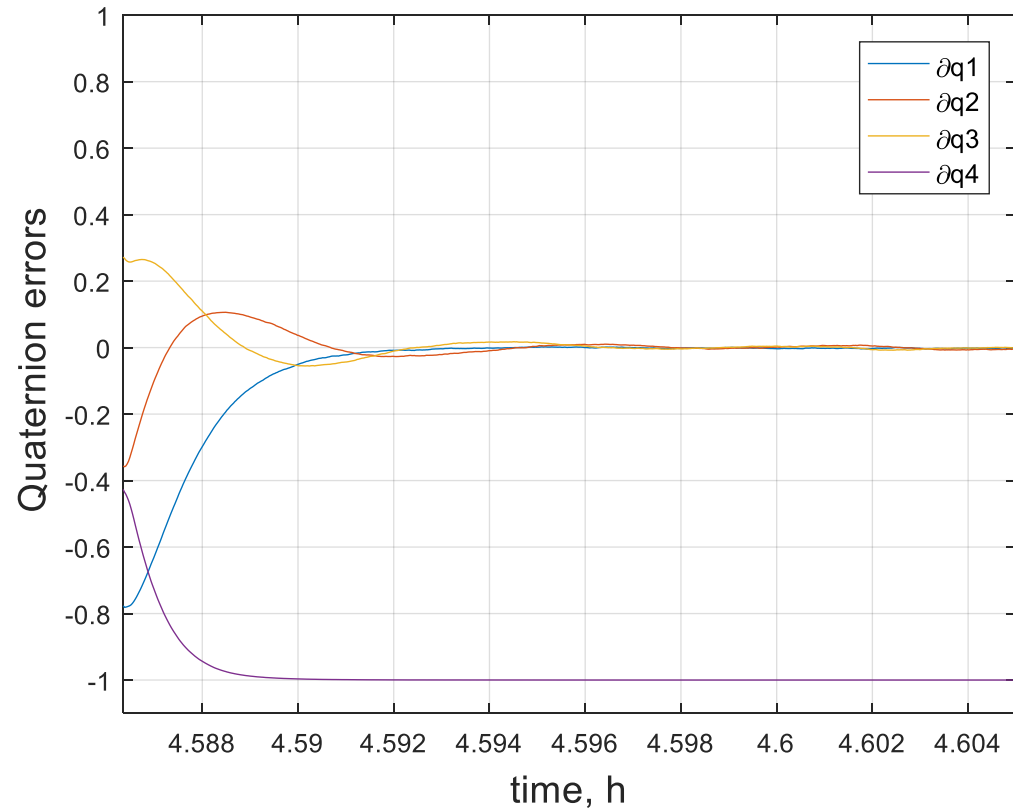
### Update

$$\hat{x}_k^+ = \hat{x}_k^- + K_k [y_k - h(\hat{x}_k^-)]$$

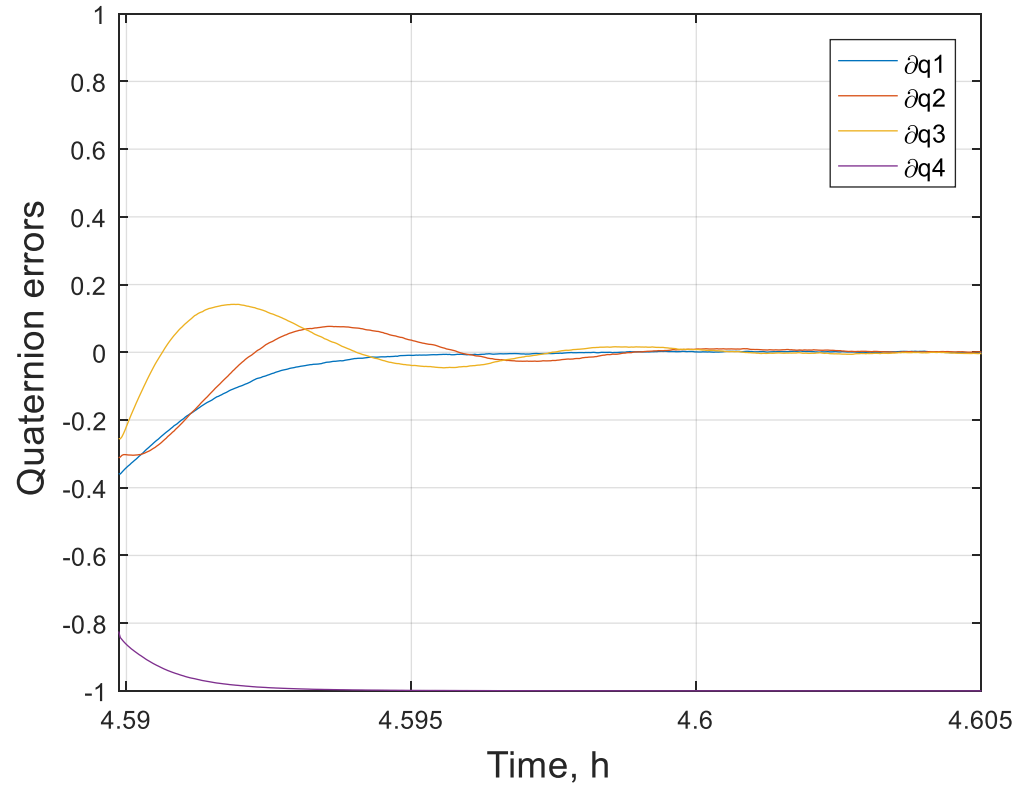
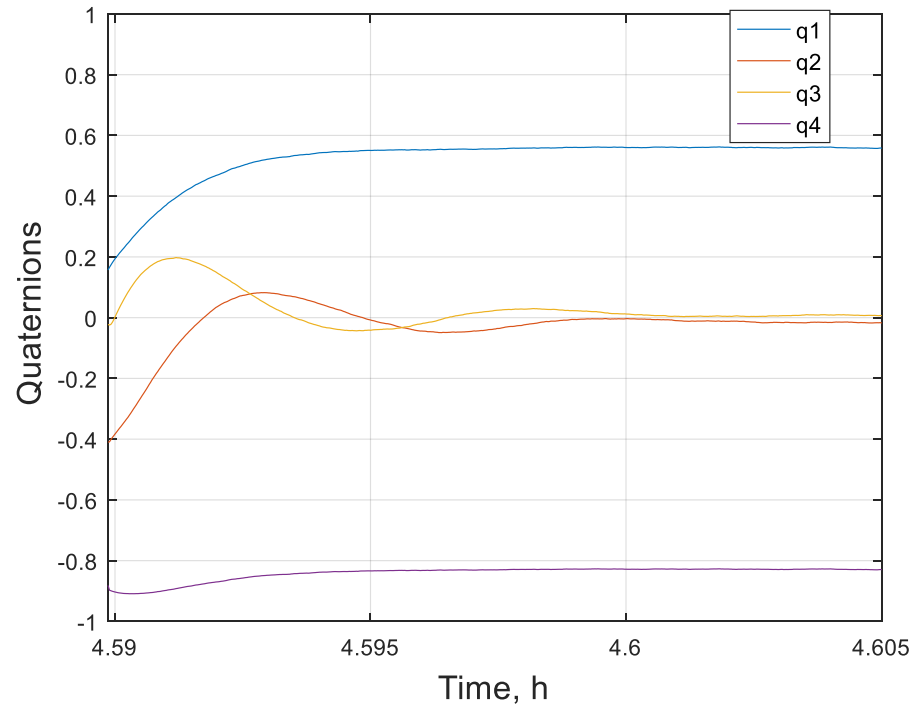
$$P_k^+ = [I - K_k H_k] P_k^-$$



# Follower



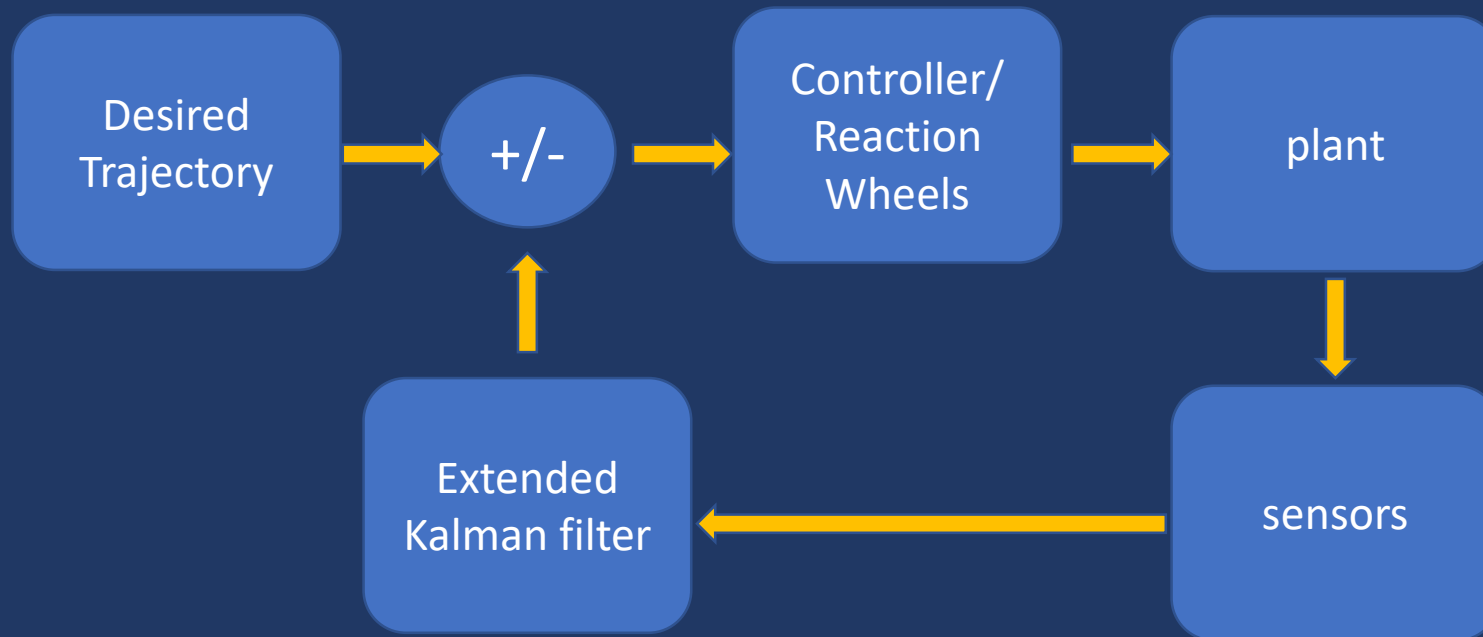
# Leader



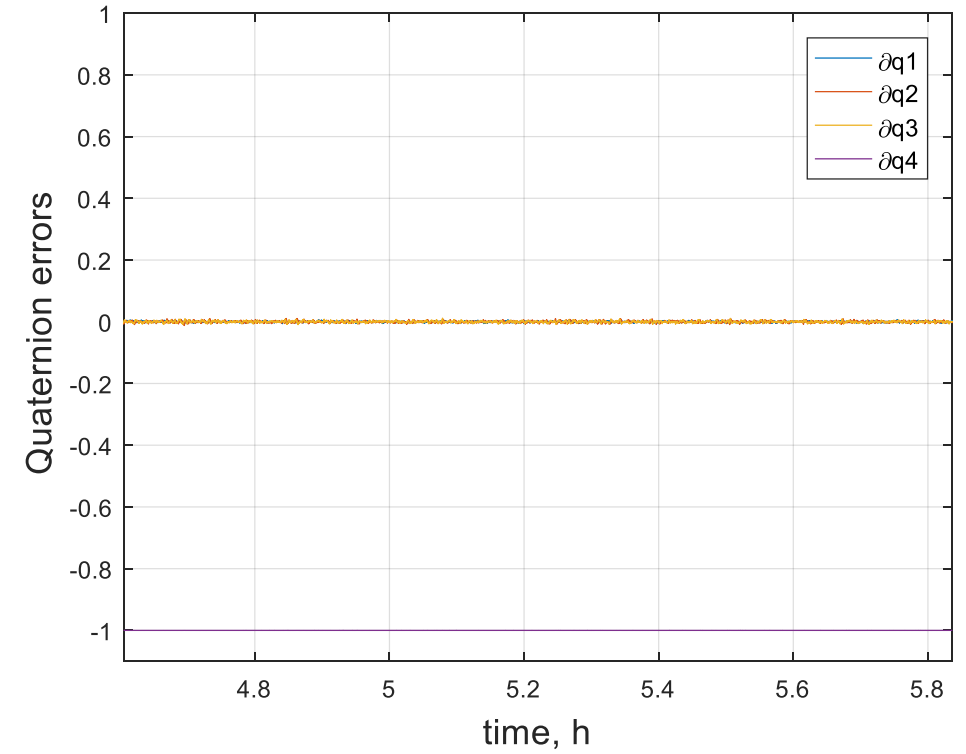
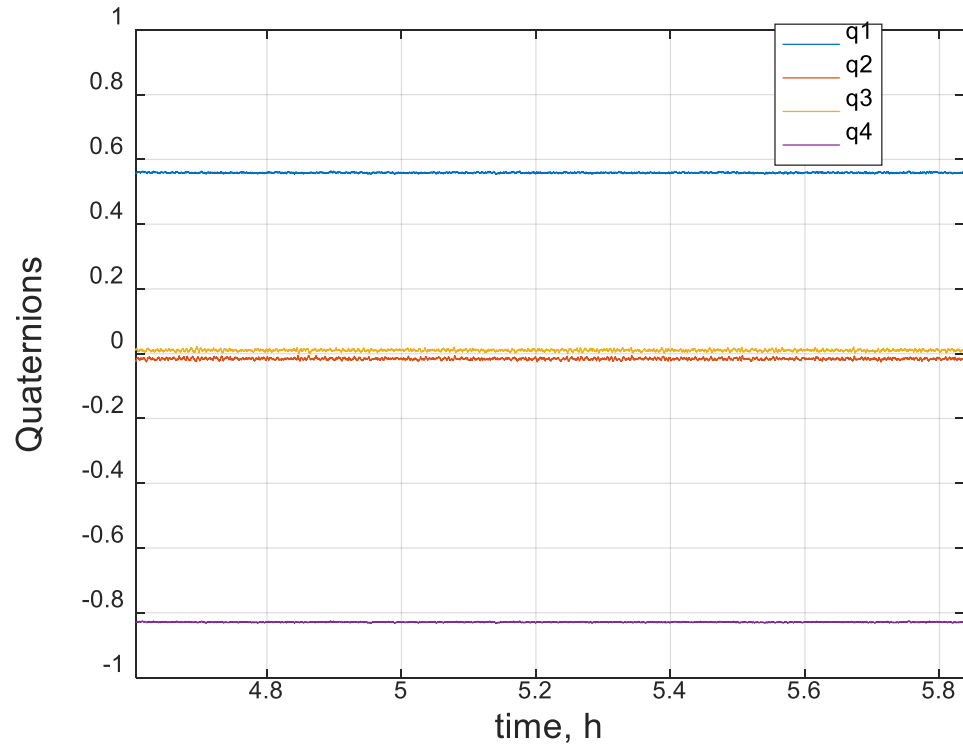
# Phase 3: Scientific Phase

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Sensors : gyroscope and star tracker; Camera is on

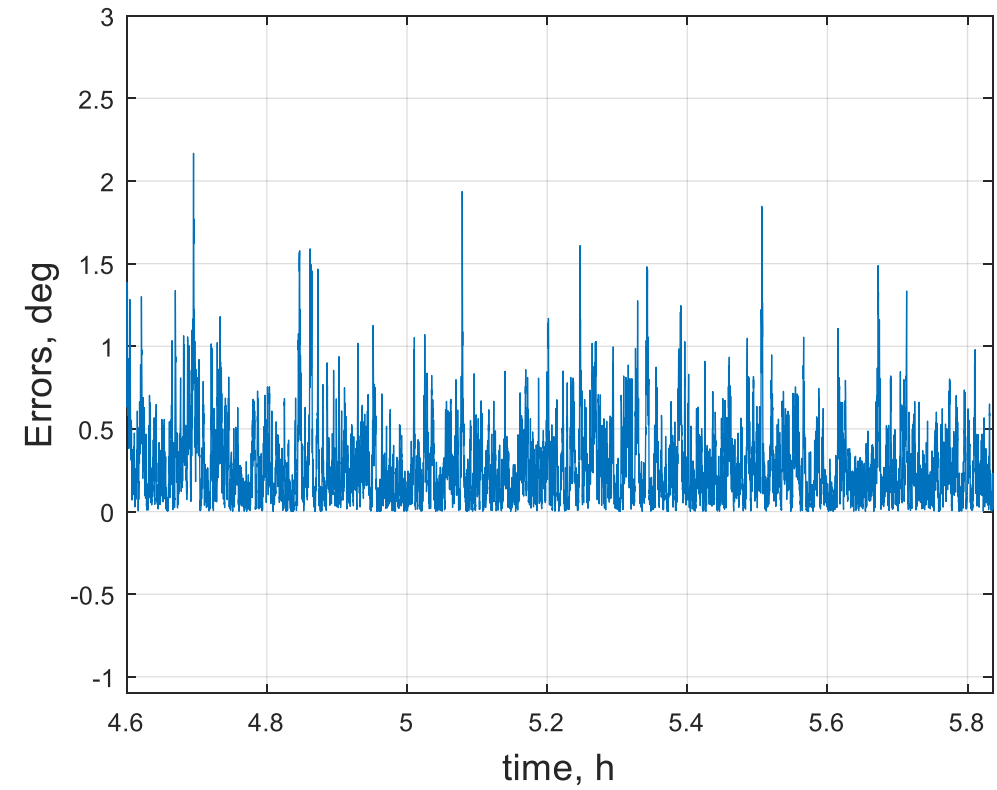
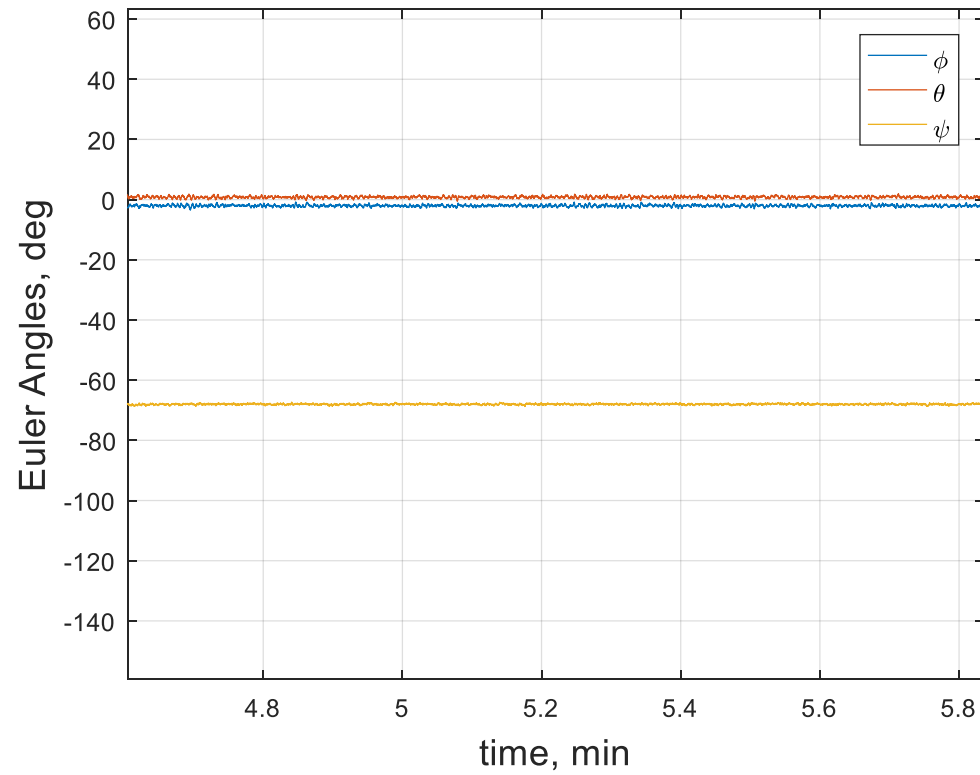


# Follower

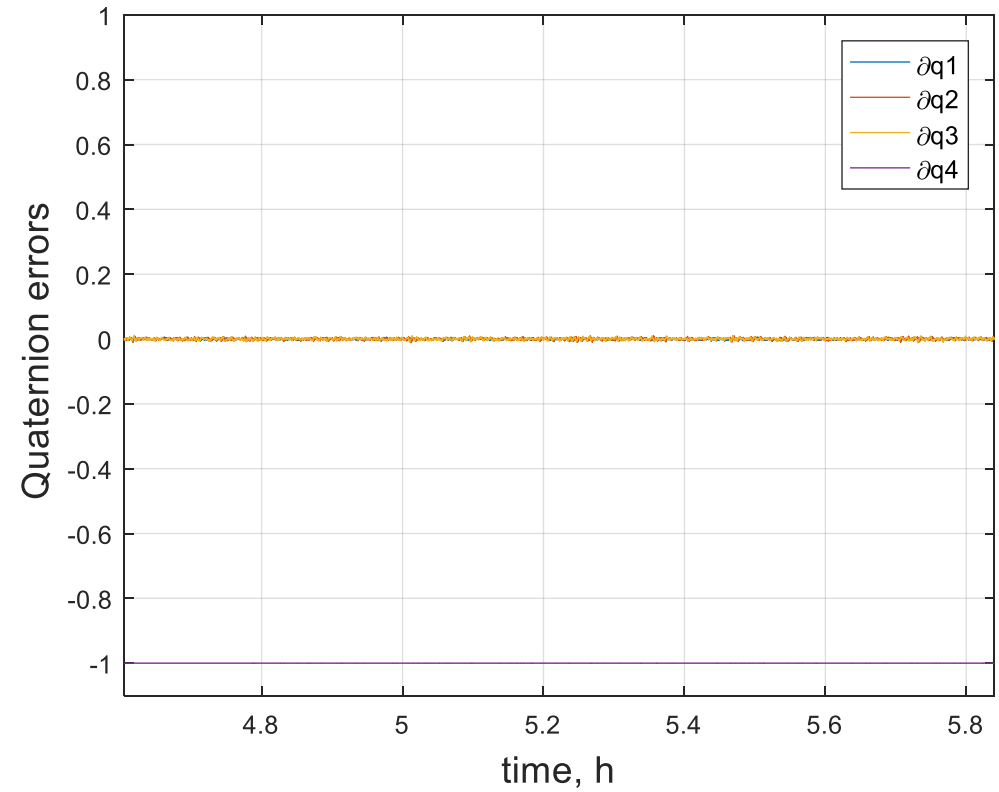
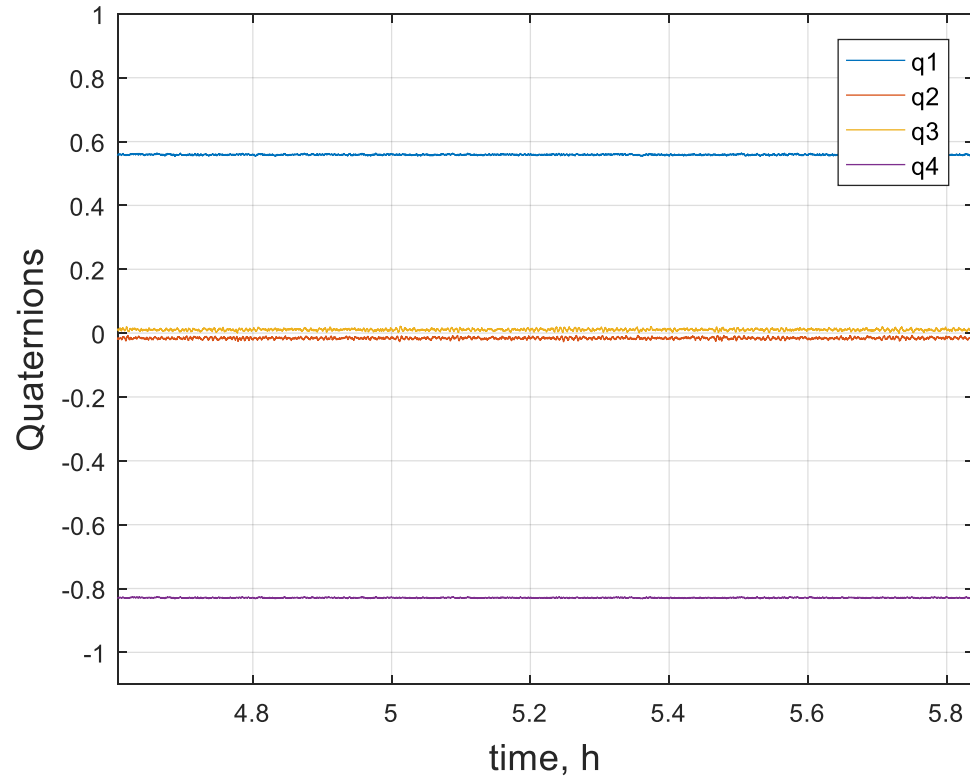




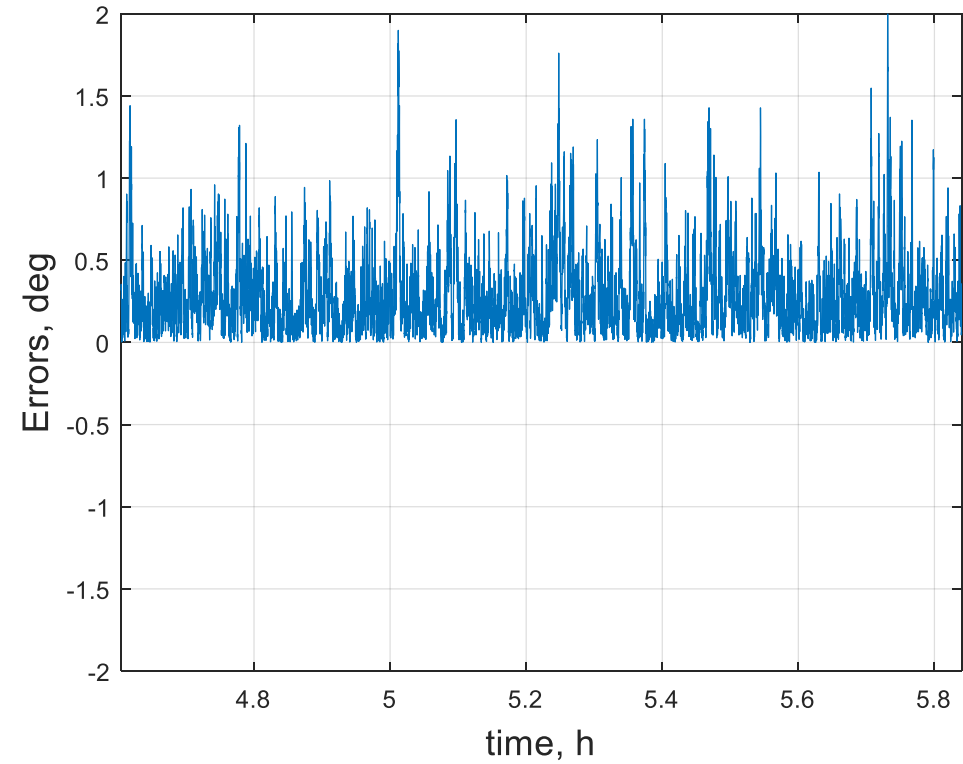
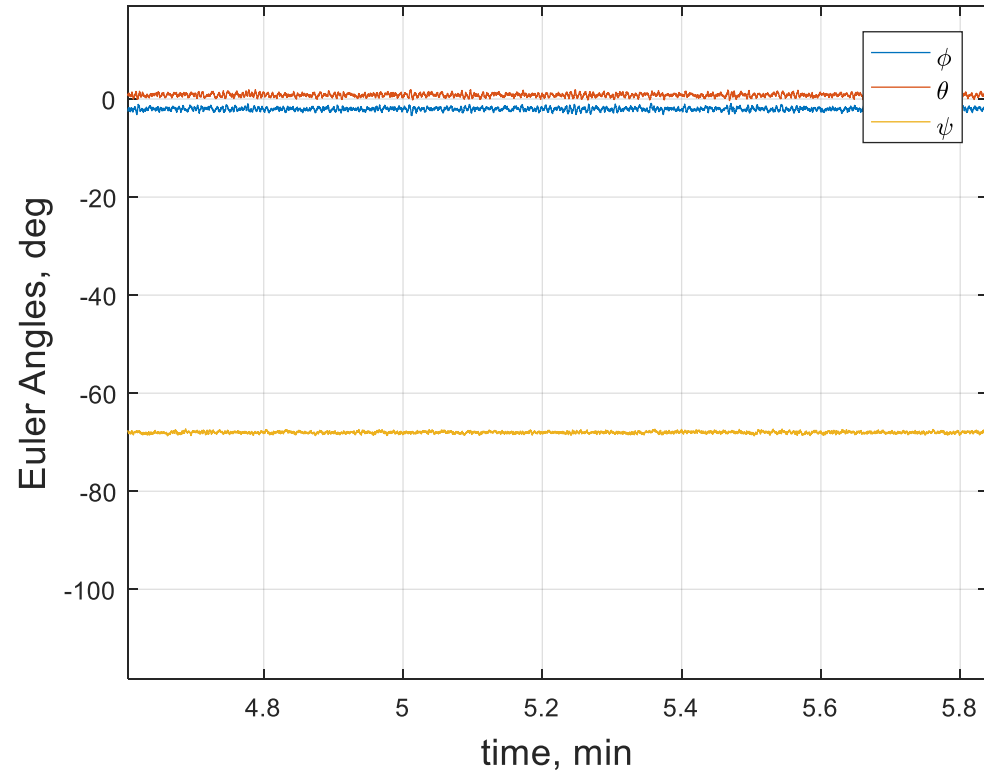
# Follower



# Leader



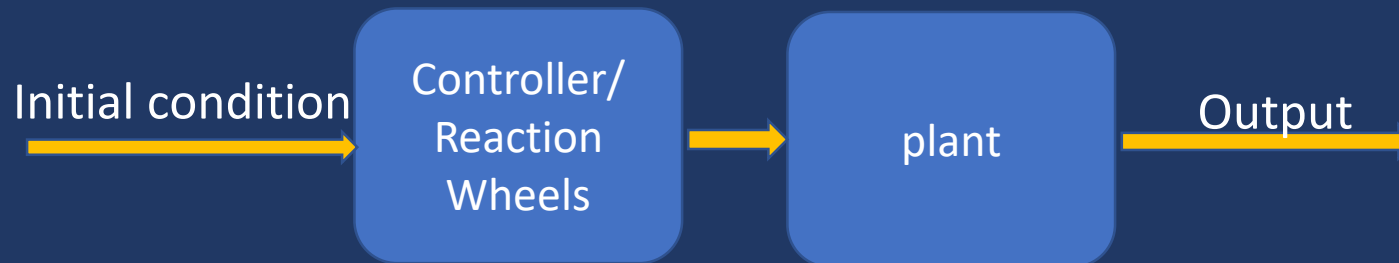
# Leader



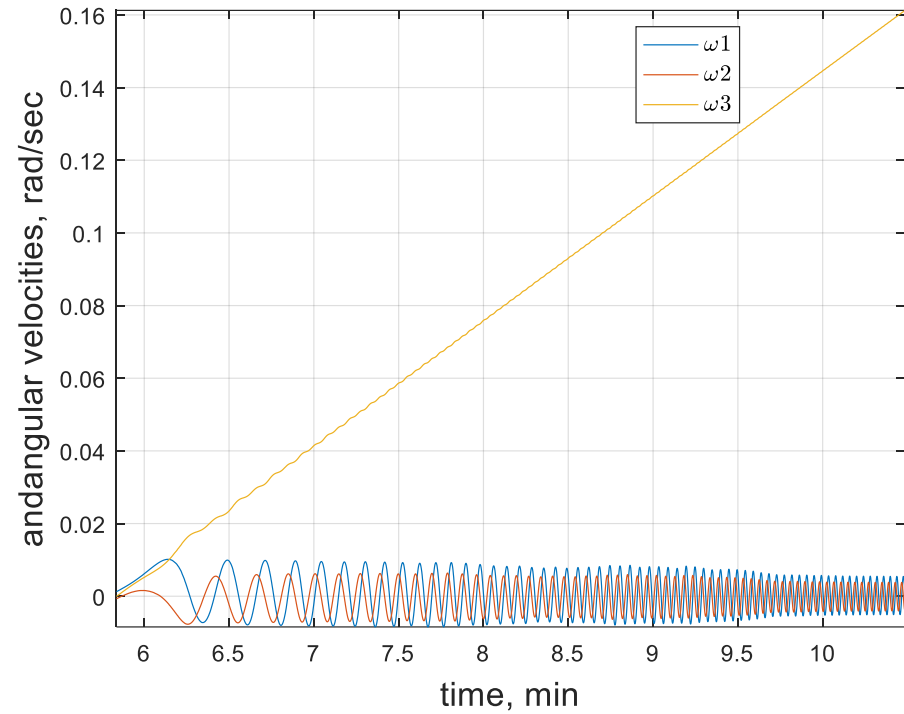
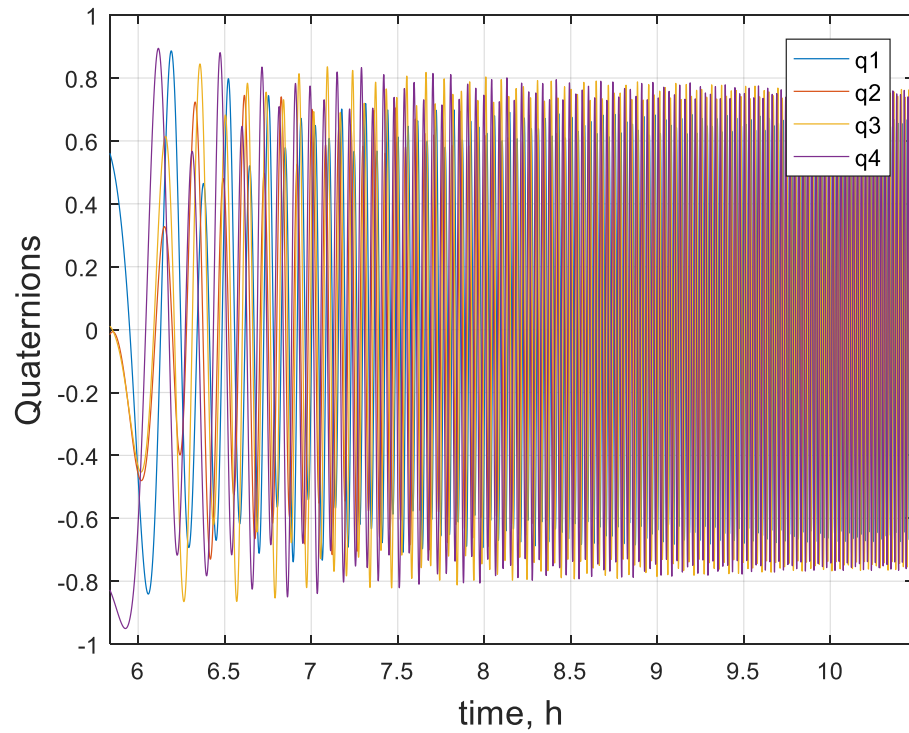
# Phase 4: Semi-Open Loop Formation Phase

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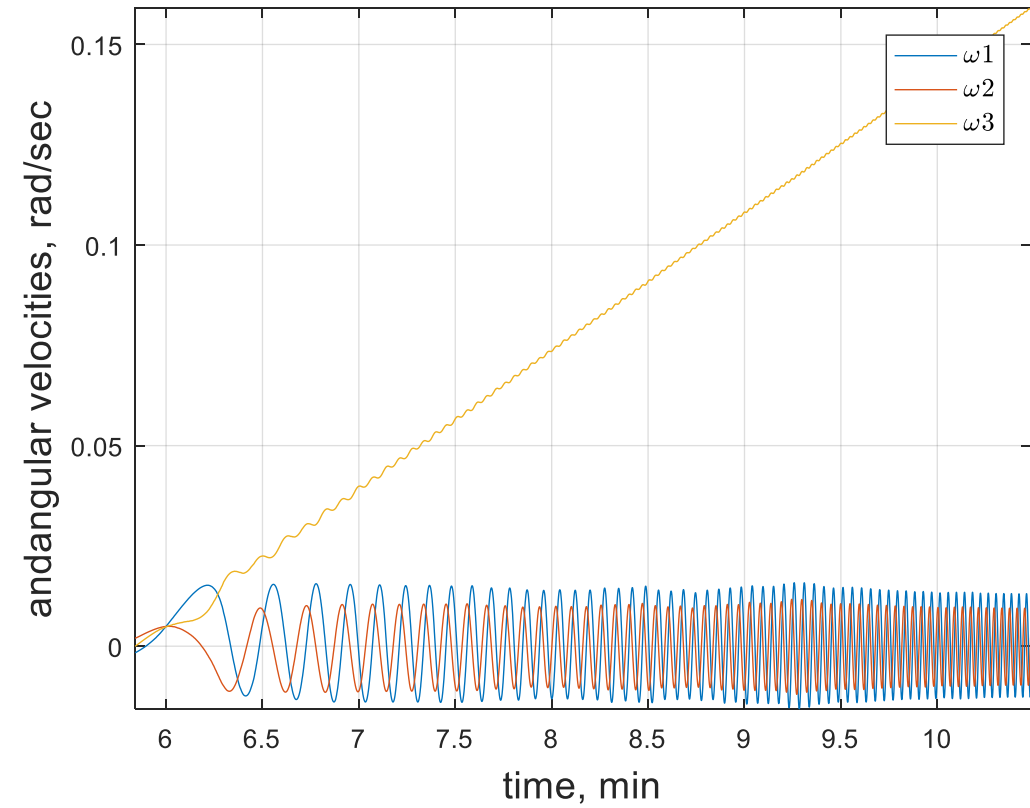
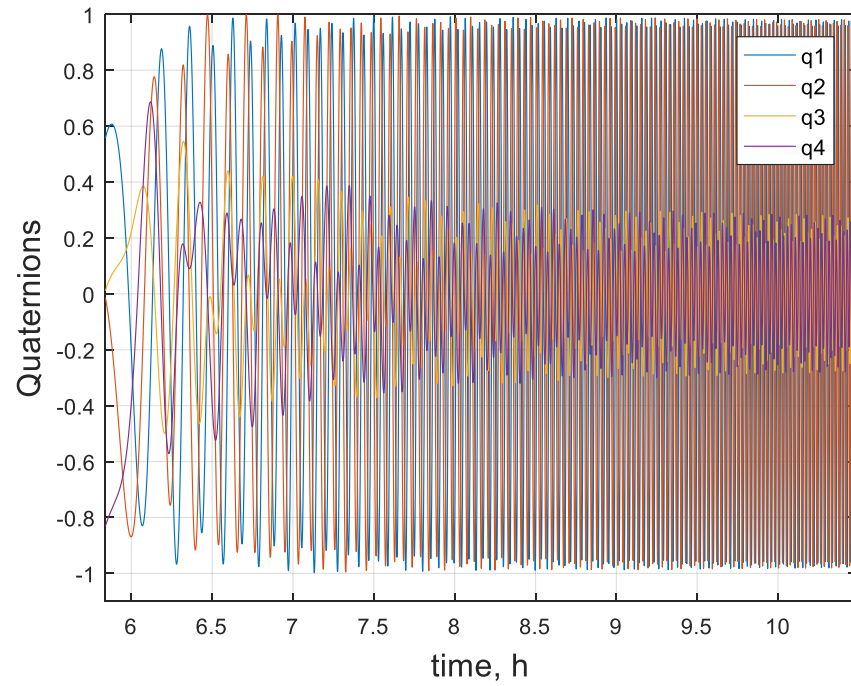
No sensor, Camera is off, Anti gravity gradient torque



# Follower



# Leader



# Conclusion - Future Work

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- The designed orbits worked well.
- The sliding mode controller is robust against system uncertainty.
- The EKF and the sliding mode controller, in the presence of noise, give us 0.5 deg accuracy.
- To reach the desired sub-arcsecond accuracy, we need to introduce additional constraints, such as relative position, and filtering techniques.
- In the future work, the third angular velocity, which is the axis pointing at the Crab Nebula, will be set for better accuracy, and the energy consumption will be optimized for the whole system.



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Questions/Comments?

