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SMALL SATELLITE APPLICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Organizers
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ABSTRACT

The mini symposium on Small Satellites' Applications and Technologies is intended to present the current status-of-the art and research advances of small satellite platforms, ranging from pico- to mini-sats (including Cubesats) on themes ranging from technology development, in-flight operational experience, innovative test and qualification procedures, current and future missions (including architectures, applications and user needs), access to space.
From an historical perspective, small satellites were low-mass platforms that allowed educational institutions low-cost access to space. In the last decade, these small platforms have been utilized extensively by a growing number of actors (academia, industry and government agencies) for low-cost in-flight demonstration of innovative technologies. As technologies and system capabilities have matured, small satellites are currently transitioning to carry out complex operational missions. In particular, small satellites play an essential role in the implementation of distributed space missions, where multiple platforms operate in coordination thanks to new advanced capabilities: formation flying, satellite interlink, virtual integration of elementary payloads.