

C.R.O.P.P- CubeSat Research of Plants Platform

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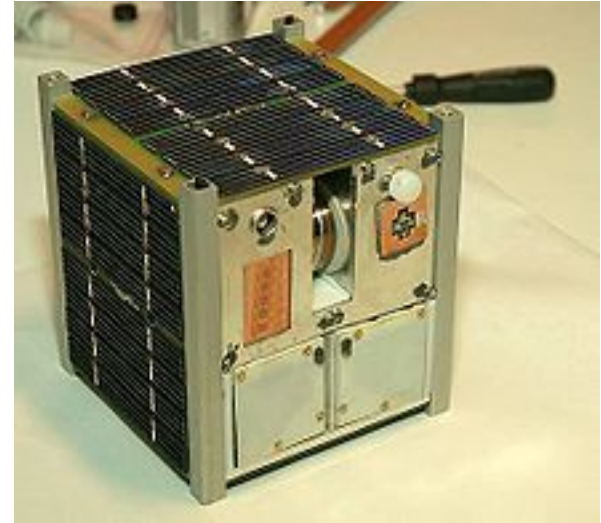
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What is a CubeSat?

- CubeSats are a type of miniaturized satellite made up of 10cm^3 units
- Typically made with COTS components
- Commonly put into orbit by the ISS
- Typically used for smaller experiments with higher risks, due to low cost



The Mission

- Testing the effects of radiation on Brine shrimp and microgreens in Low Earth Orbit (LEO)
- Finding a viable food source for long term space missions
- Some hurdles have emerged



CS Approach

- Programming the onboard sensors to monitor environmental conditions
 - Tracking humidity, temperature, pressure, radiation levels, etc
- Controlled with Arduino or similar microcontrollers



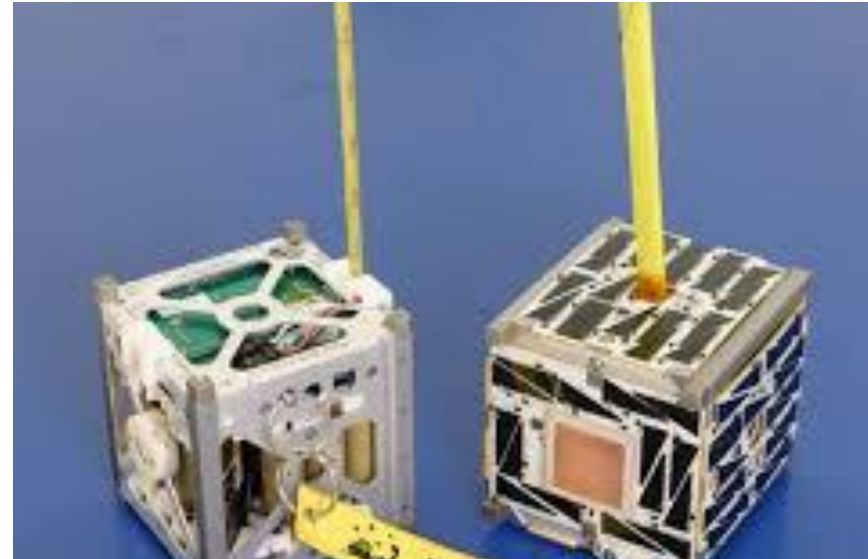
CS Approach

- Recognize and count population of brine shrimp via multispectral imaging
- Help determine affects of LEO on the shrimp based on population changes



CS Approach

- Specialize one of the current available control systems
- Many open source options exist
- Customize features for mission at hand



Novel Feature

- Use of multispectral imaging to identify separate organisms to determine population



Technical Challenges

- I never have used the control system software before
 - Open source, lots of documentation
- Challenges brought by being in LEO
 - High radiation can affect the logic state of memory
 - Error-correcting code such as checksums or cyclic redundancy checks
 - Large temperature fluctuations can affect performance



References

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