

SMALL-FORMAT AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY BY DRONE PIXY CONCEPT

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Abstract

A various range of remote sensors are currently available to help to explore a landscape and other natural components. The mainly part of this field is based on a small format aerial photographs (SFAP) taken from a small aircraft. The scientific benefit arises from the combination of knowledge achieved by conventional field work and the visual information gleaned from SFAP. In monitoring studies, temporal changes of forms and patterns give additional clues. The coupling of field data and interpretation of SFAP may lead to a deeper understanding of the geoscientific processes. Self-made aerial photographs offer to the researchers a maximum operability. The technical parameters of the capturing device and platform help to the photographer in determining not only place and time but also viewing angle, image coverage, and exposure settings. The Drone PIXY is a slow moving model of motorized paraglider primarily used for closeup remote sensing, allowing classical or digital aerial images and video recording at ultra-low height (50 - 500 m). This conception points to simplicity of piloting, easiness of use and transportation, high protection of the equipment loaded and allows a wide usage. This device can be operated under the model aircraft rules. The aim of this paper is to present experience with PIXY in the local conditions of the Czech Republic.

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