Abstract:

The increase in capabilities of information systems has pushed advances in almost every field of human endeavor. In the field of aerospace controls, it has allowed engineers to consider new possibilities that would have been impossible just two decades ago. While aerospace controls engineers must maintain a core competency in the traditional discipline, it is becoming increasingly important for them to embrace new technologies from other fields such as operational research and computer science. A glimpse into the interdisciplinary challenges that controls community is facing in the aerospace arena will be provided. Specifically, control issues and research covering a broad range of aerospace vehicles will be discussed.

Speaker's Bio:

Dr. Siva Banda is the Director of the Control Science Center of Excellence located at the Air Vehicles Directorate, Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. He received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Regional Engineering College; M.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Indian Institute of Science; another M.S. in Systems Engineering from Wright State University; and a PhD in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Dayton in 1974, 1976, 1978 and 1980 respectively. He has been working at AFRL since 1981. His current research efforts focus on autonomous and cooperative control of multiple unmanned air vehicles, guidance and control of access-to-space vehicles, and aerodynamic flow control. His primary responsibility is the transition of basic research results from control theory to the aerospace industry. He serves as a technical advisor to the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), Office of Naval Research (ONR), Army Research Office (ARO), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Research Council (NRC) and several leading academic institutions worldwide. He served as an Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology, Editor of the International Journal of Robust and Nonlinear Control, and Associate Editor of the Journal of Guidance, Control and Dynamics. He is a recipient of the IEEE Control Systems Technology Award and the Royal Aeronautical Society's Silver Medal. Dr. Banda is a Fellow of AIAA, and IEEE, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering in the United States.

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