The Chorus Conflict and Loss of Separation Resolution Algorithms

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Abstract

The Chorus software is designed to investigate near-term, tactical conflict and loss of separation detection and resolution concepts for air traffic management. This software is currently being used in two different problem domains: en-route self-separation and sense and avoid for unmanned aircraft systems. This paper describes the core resolution algorithms that are part of Chorus. The combination of several features of the Chorus program distinguishes this software from other approaches to conflict and loss of separation resolution. First, the program stores a history of state information over time which enables it to handle communication dropouts and take advantage of previous input data. Second, the underlying conflict algorithms find resolutions that solve the most urgent conflict, but also seek to prevent secondary conflicts with the other aircraft. Third, if the program is run on multiple aircraft, and the two aircraft maneuver at the same time, the result will be implicitly coordinated. This implicit coordination property is established by ensuring that a resolution produced by Chorus will comply with a mathematically-defined criteria whose correctness has been formally verified. Fourth, the program produces both instantaneous solutions and kinematic solutions, which are based on simple acceleration models. Finally, the program provides resolutions for recovery from loss of separation. Different versions of this software are implemented as Java and C++ software programs, respectively.
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1 Introduction

The Chorus software is designed to investigate near-term, tactical conflict detection and resolution concepts for air traffic management. This software is used in two air traffic domains, self-separation concepts \[10,11\] and unmanned aircraft systems \[3\]. This paper describes the core conflict resolution algorithms that are part of Chorus. The combination of several features of the Chorus program distinguishes this software from other approaches to conflict resolution \[4\]. First, the program stores a history of state information over time which enables it to handle transient communication dropouts, and produce solutions that are sensitive to past inputs. Second, the underlying algorithms attempt to resolve both primary and secondary conflicts with all traffic aircraft. Primary conflicts are those conflicts that exist on the current trajectory of the aircraft. Secondary conflicts are those conflicts which arise when an aircraft is maneuvering to resolve a primary conflict. Single resolutions to solve conflicts for multiple aircraft are known in the literature as a “1 to \(N\)” solutions. Third, if the program is run on multiple aircraft, then the conflict resolutions between any two aircraft are implicitly coordinated. This implicit coordination property is established by ensuring that resolutions produced by Chorus will comply with a mathematically-defined criteria whose correctness has been formally verified \[1,2,6,8\]. Finally, the program was developed using a criteria theory that has undergone rigorous mathematical verification \[1,2,6,8\]. That is, the net effect of both aircraft maneuvering at the same time is beneficial and will avoid a loss of separation. Fourth, the program produces both instantaneous solutions and kinematic solutions, which are based on simple acceleration models. Finally, the program provides resolutions for recovery from loss of separation (LoS) in addition to conflicts.

Chorus provides several different resolution algorithms that are useful for different applications. All of the Chorus algorithms use iterative search to find resolutions. The algorithms search over a range of potential solutions and methodically step through them to determine if they meet the desired properties. This is a change from our earlier work where we relied exclusively on analytical solutions \[5\]. A key advantage of the analytical solutions is that they are known to satisfy the desired properties based on an a-priori mathematical analysis and are often computationally more efficient. The advantage of the iterative approach used in Chorus is that the desired properties of the resolution can be much more complicated, but this comes at the cost of higher execution times. Although all of the Chorus resolution algorithms are iterative, in certain cases where an iterative solution is not found, an analytical solution from the ACCoRD CRSS\(^1\) resolver is returned. The CRSS conflict resolution algorithm has been formally verified using the PVS theorem prover \[9\].

Resolution algorithms also differ in their design assumptions about how the aircraft will change from its current state (position and velocity) to the future resolution state. Chorus provides algorithms based on two different approaches: instantaneous and kinematic change. An instantaneous maneuver assumes the aircraft can instantly change from its current state to the target state. A kinematic solution

\(^1\)See \[5\] and other references at http://shemesh.larc.nasa.gov/fm/fm-atm-cdr.html
provides a simple model that uses a specified constant acceleration to achieve the target resolution state.

Another important aspect of a conflict resolution algorithm is the goal of the algorithm, in particular, the safety property that the resolution algorithm is seeking to maintain. Chorus provides algorithms for two different goals: conflict avoidance and loss of separation recovery. Conflict avoidance is a safety goal that ensures that the aircraft will not be closer than given horizontal and vertical minimum distances, typically 5 nautical miles horizontally and 1000 feet vertically. The goal of a loss of separation algorithm is to find a resolution that quickly separates the aircraft and prevents a collision. The Chorus loss of separation algorithms produce resolutions that increase the distance at the closest point of approach and avoid nearly parallel final states. Note that this is a weaker property than conflict avoidance, but it can be applied when separation has already been lost.

Sections in this paper describing the resolution algorithms are summarized in table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>instantaneous</th>
<th>kinematic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>conflict</td>
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<td>loss of separation (LoS)</td>
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Table 1. Resolution Algorithms in Chorus

The Chorus software has been released as open-source software and is available upon request. See http://shemesh.larc.nasa.gov/fm/fm-atm-codes.html for help in obtaining this software.

2 Assumptions

For the Chorus software to operate correctly, certain contextual assumptions must be satisfied. The most significant assumption is one of consistent shared knowledge. This is important for both conflict detection and for consistent criteria calculations. Specifically it is assumed that state information is accurate, within an error bound, and that any two aircraft in a conflict situation are using the same values. This can be achieved by having each aircraft send its state data according to a schedule based on a global clock. This ensures all aircraft use the same set of broadcasts as a basis for their calculations. In addition, the state data used for an aircraft’s internal calculations must be the same as the values that it broadcasts to other aircraft. This data is likely to be a discretized version of the native sensor data. For example, values could be read and timestamped on each second and broadcast before the next second. Calculations would then be based on data with timestamps that are at least a full second earlier than the current time. The time latency in the data can be compensated using standard linear projection. Fortunately, the mathematical criteria that serves as a basis of these algorithms calculates direction parameters that are insensitive to linear time projection.
Additionally, there is an assumption of a localized global awareness of traffic. That is, if aircraft A is considered to be the most urgent traffic by aircraft B, it is essential that A consider B to be its most urgent aircraft in order for there to be a guarantee of implicit coordination. There are subtle, multiple aircraft encounters where this property may not hold. For example, suppose that aircraft A is in conflict with aircraft B, but it is not in conflict with aircraft C. Further, suppose that aircraft B is in conflict with both C and A, but it loses separation with C before it loses separation with A. In this case, A views B as most urgent, while B views C as most urgent. Thus, aircraft A and aircraft B hold incompatible views about their most urgent aircraft. One subject of future work is to develop approaches to achieving compatible results for the most urgent aircraft even in complex scenarios such as these. It is important that this work take into consideration broadcast distances, which makes this problem even more difficult.

The positions and velocities used in these algorithms are specified as 3-dimensional inertial Euclidean coordinates. Measurements in other coordinate frames, such as air-relative or geodetic frames, need to be projected into an Euclidean space as appropriate. The Chorus software automatically performs these projections if the input data is geodetic although we do not present the details of those projections in this paper. The East-North-Down projections used in Chorus are believed to be valid given the short distances and short time horizon of the Chorus algorithms.

3 Notation

The Chorus algorithms are captured in two versions written in an object-oriented style in both the Java and C++ programming languages, respectively. The Chorus algorithms are documented in this paper in a pseudocode that is neither Java nor C++. Instead, this pseudocode is a hybrid language incorporating features of both functional languages and object-oriented languages. The purpose of the pseudocode is to capture the major logic of the algorithms without the distracting details of a normal programming language.

Common operations on sets or lists are assumed, so a list size function exists, and elements can be accessed by index, as indicated by array subscript notation list[x]. Similarly, standard mathematical vectors are available, Vect2 for a 2-dimensional vector and Vect3 for a 3-dimensional vector. In addition, standard arithmetic on vectors is assumed, so for vectors u, v, and w and double a, v = u+w*a represents the assignments:

\[ v.x = u.x + w.x \times a \]
\[ v.y = u.y + w.y \times a \]
\[ v.z = u.z + w.z \times a \]

The pseudocode assumes the existence of an n-ary tuple data type, denoted by (x1,..,xn), which allow piecewise assignment,

\[(x1,..,xn) = (y1,..,yn)\]
thus assigning \( x_1 \) the value \( y_1 \), etc. In the Java and C++ source code, these operations are often implemented as separate instance variables using appropriate accessor functions, and sometimes may be set as side effects as opposed to being returned explicitly in a function.

Additionally, in order to simplify the presentation, pass-through parameters to longer function calls may be omitted. For example,

\[
\text{criteria}(s,v_o,v_i,v_o',\text{minRelVs})
\]

will generally be represented as

\[
\text{criteria}(...,v_o',...)
\]

Certain data that is expressed here as parameters may be implicitly passed as instance variables in the Java and C++ source code implementation.

The definitions of the operators (+, -, *, /, ==, !=, etc.) are the definitions from Java or C++, without relying on exotic behavior such as overflow. We use AND and OR for the boolean connectives rather than && and || used in Java and C++. The operator \(~\) is defined to mean “almost equals,” which means that the values are compared and if they are within a fixed floating point precision of each other, then they are considered to be equal.

The loop statement syntax is taken from Java and C++ and, like these languages, it has the semantics of a for loop.

\[
\text{for (initialization; test; increment) \{ ... \}}
\]

Our notation for function definitions departs from Java/C++ syntax in that the return type of the function follows the parameters. For example, a function that computes the sine function would be declared as follows:

\[
\text{sine}(x): \text{double} \{ ... \}
\]

Note that the types of the function parameters are not listed. We also allow an N-tuple return type:

\[
\text{func}(x,y,z): (a,b) \{ ... \}
\]

Here the function func has three parameters and returns two values with types: \( a \) and \( b \).

4 Common Variables and Functions

The following variables are commonly used in the Chorus algorithms:

- **\( s_0 \)** initial ownship position
- **\( v_o \)** initial ownship velocity
- **\( s_i \)** initial traffic position
- **\( v_i \)** initial traffic velocity
- **\( s \)** initial relative position
- **\( v \)** initial relative velocity
The algorithms use a vector library which provides the ability to algebraically manipulate vectors. The following are common functions:

- \[ v \cdot x \] \( x \) component of vector \( v \)
- \[ v \cdot y \] \( y \) component of vector \( v \)
- \[ v \cdot z \] \( z \) component of vector \( v \)
- \[ vo.trk() \] returns track component of velocity \( v_o \)
- \[ vo.gs() \] returns ground speed component (2-D vector magnitude) of velocity \( v_o \)
- \[ vo.vs() \] returns vertical speed component of velocity \( v_o \)
- \[ vo.mkTrk(trk) \] creates a 3-dimensional velocity vector from \( v_o \), where the track component is changed to \( trk \)
- \[ vo.mkGs(gs) \] creates a 3-dimensional velocity vector from \( v_o \), where the ground speed component is changed to \( gs \)
- \[ vo.mkVs(vs) \] creates a 3-dimensional velocity vector from \( v_o \), where the vertical speed component is changed to \( vs \)

Additionally, the following function is used to define loss of separation between two aircraft:

- \[ \text{LoS}(s, D, H) \] returns \( \text{TRUE} \) if the relative position \( s \) is in loss of separation with respect to a protection zone with horizontal separation \( D \) and vertical separation \( H \). This is defined as:
  \[ s \cdot x * s \cdot x + s \cdot y * s \cdot y < D * D \text{ AND } |s \cdot z| < H \]

The following are parameters that are assumed to be globally accessible and therefore these variables are not explicitly passed in the pseudocode:

- \( D \) minimum horizontal separation
- \( H \) minimum vertical separation
- \( Tres \) lookahead time for resolution
- \( \text{aircraftList} \) list of all traffic aircraft. The ownship aircraft is not included in this list. The information for each aircraft in this list can be used to return its position and velocity (possibly extrapolated) at a given time.
- \( \text{minGs} \) minimum ground speed allowed for ownship
- \( \text{maxGs} \) maximum ground speed allowed for ownship
- \( \text{minVs} \) minimum vertical speed allowed for ownship
- \( \text{maxVs} \) maximum vertical speed allowed for ownship
- \( \text{checkSecondary} \) a boolean flag, where \( \text{TRUE} \) indicates aircraft other than the most urgent are considered

## 5 Instantaneous Conflict Algorithms

Chorus’ instantaneous conflict resolution algorithm attempts to find a resolution that is free of conflicts with all traffic aircraft. However, if a resolution cannot be
found that satisfies this property, then a resolution that is free of conflicts with only the *most urgent* aircraft is returned. How Chorus determines the aircraft that is *most urgent* is described in section 5.1. The algorithm proceeds in two steps. The first step finds a starting point for iteration (track angle, ground speed, and vertical speed) using the analytical solutions from the CRSS algorithm. The CRSS class implements the ACCoRD algorithms that have been formally verified\(^2\). The first step of the instantaneous conflict algorithm is as follows:

```c
resolution_i = CRSS.resolution(s,vo,vi,epsh,epsv)
double trk0 = 0
double gs0 = 0
double vs0 = 0
if (CRSS.hasTrkOnly()) trk0 = CRSS.trkOnly()
if (CRSS.hasGsOnly()) gs0 = CRSS.gsOnly()
if (CRSS.hasVsOnly()) vs0 = CRSS.vsOnly()
```

The variable `resolution_i` is a status flag and it is used to indicate the nature of the resolution, for instance, “no conflict” or “loss of separation.”

The second step of the algorithm seeks to avoid secondary conflicts by iteratively searching starting from the computed values `trk0`, `gs0`, and `vs0`. In all of the algorithms, the search direction `(dir)` is determined by the mathematical criteria. Before we discuss the instantaneous iterative resolution algorithms, we introduce three key functions: `mostUrgent`, `nDetector` and `criteria` in the next three sections.

### 5.1 Most Urgent Aircraft

An aircraft may have multiple conflicts with other aircraft on its current trajectory or be in loss of separation with more than one aircraft. In the conflict case, Chorus determines which aircraft has the *most urgent* conflict, that is, the conflict with the minimum time into loss of separation. The solution to this conflict serves as a starting point for solving any remaining primary or secondary conflicts. In the loss of separation case, the determination of most urgent is more subtle. The function that determines the most urgent conflict uses the following ranking (highest to lowest):

1. Aircraft that are in loss of separation with the ownship that have convergent velocities, with the smallest cylindrical distance at time of closest approach \([7]\) ranked first.

2. Aircraft that are in loss of separation with the ownship having divergent velocities are ranked by the current horizontal distance.

3. Aircraft that are in conflict with the ownship, with those that are closest (in time) to a loss of separation ranked higher.

4. All other aircraft are ranked by current horizontal distance.

Resolving conflicts with multiple aircraft is quite challenging. There are cases where the traffic density is so high that the ownship cannot find a suitable maneuver. Although resolution of all conflicts is desirable, it is not always possible and a compromise must be made. In these cases, Chorus provides a resolution that solves the most urgent conflict and a flag is set to indicate unresolved conflicts. Furthermore, implicit coordination is only guaranteed with respect to the most urgent aircraft.

5.2 Multiple Aircraft Conflict Probe: nDetector

The nDetector function performs a conflict probe between the position and velocity of one aircraft (usually the ownship) and all other traffic aircraft. The iterative resolution algorithms described in this paper use the nDetector function to check potential resolutions, not just the current state of the ownship. Thus, the data sent to the nDetector function are possible ownship resolutions, not the actual ownship state data. This function requires the following parameters:

so    position of the ownship
vo    velocity vector of the ownship
tOwn  time when so and vo were collected
mu    index of the most urgent aircraft
ignore index of aircraft that should be ignored. Use −1 to accept all aircraft.

The function is defined as follows:

\[
\text{nDetector}(so,vo,tOwn,mu,ignore) : \text{boolean} \{ \\
\text{for} (j = 0; j < \text{aircraftList.size()}; j++) \{ \\
\text{T} = \text{Tres} \\
\text{if} \ (j == mu) \text{T} = \text{MAXDOUBLE} \\
\text{if} \ (j != \text{ignore}) \{ \\
\text{(si,vi)} = \text{predLinear(aircraftList[j],tOwn)} \\
\text{Vect3 s} = so - si \\
\text{if} \ (\text{CDSS.conflict}(s,vo,vi,D,H,T)) \text{return TRUE} \\
\} \\
\} \\
\text{return FALSE} \\
\}
\]

The function \text{predLinear(ac, tOwn)} estimates the position and velocity vectors for the traffic aircraft \text{ac} at time \text{tOwn}, using a linear extrapolation from the aircraft’s last position and velocity. The \text{CDSS.conflict} function performs the conflict detection and it is defined in Appendix B. If there is a conflict with any aircraft the \text{nDetector} function returns TRUE, otherwise it returns FALSE. The time parameter, \text{T}, indicates how far in the future conflicts should be checked. Setting \text{T} to \text{MAXDOUBLE} ensures resolutions will be sufficient to fully resolve the immediate conflict and any secondary conflicts with the most urgent aircraft.
The **ignore** value represents an aircraft to be ignored by the conflict detection. It is set to \(-1\) (an invalid index) for primary detection (i.e. include all aircraft) and the index of the most urgent traffic for secondary conflict detection.

### 5.3 Coordinated Maneuver Criteria: criteria

Two resolution algorithms are said to be coordinated if they produce resolutions that solve the conflict when either one aircraft maneuvers or both aircraft maneuver simultaneously. Coordination criteria is a boolean function that takes as inputs the state information for two aircraft. Criteria serves as a mathematical requirement for resolution algorithms such that if any two algorithms satisfy the criteria, then resolutions from those algorithms are coordinated. An elaborate mathematical theory of coordination criteria is presented in [2, 6, 8]. This theory provides important system-wide safety properties, which have been mathematically proven and proofs are contained in the references.

In the Chorus resolution algorithms, criteria are used to set the search direction. Since the initial resolution (from the CRSS algorithm) is already coordinated, setting the iterative search direction in the coordinated direction ensures that an iterated solution is also coordinated.

The function criteria requires the following parameters:

- `s`: position of the ownship relative to the traffic aircraft
- `vo`: velocity of the ownship aircraft
- `vi`: velocity of the traffic aircraft
- `vo'`: velocity vector of the ownship to be checked against the criteria
- `minRelVs`: desired minimum relative exit vertical speed (used in LoS only)

### 5.4 Track Algorithm

The track algorithm depends upon both the mDetector conflict detector and the criteria function. The algorithm uses iteration on the variable `trkDelta` in the direction \(\text{dir} = \pm 1\) and with an increment size `step`. At each iteration step a new track is computed: \(\text{trk0} + \text{dir} \times \text{trkDelta}\) where `trk0` is the solution obtained from CRSS. The iteration is continued until the mDetector function indicates there is no conflict with any traffic aircraft and criteria indicates that the new vector meets the implicit coordination criteria, or until \(180^\circ\) have been searched. If a track solution cannot be found that solves the conflict with the most urgent aircraft (primary conflict) and also avoids secondary conflicts, then the resolution that only resolves the conflict with the most urgent aircraft, which is supplied by the CRSS function, is returned.

```plaintext
inst_track(so, vo, tOwn, mu, trk0, dir, step) : (boolean, double) {
    hasTrk = FALSE
    for (trkDelta = 0; trkDelta < PI; trkDelta = trkDelta + step) {
```
trk = trk0 + dir * trkDelta
vo' = vo.mkTrk(trk)
if ( NOT nDetector(so,vo',tOwn,mu,-1) AND criteria(..., vo',...)) {
    (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (TRUE,trk)
    break
} } 
if ( NOT hasTrk) {
    (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (CRSS.hasTrkOnly(),CRSS.trkOnly())
} 
return (hasTrk,trkOnly)

5.5 Ground Speed Algorithm

The ground speed algorithm depends upon the nDetector conflict detector and the criteria function. The algorithm uses iteration on the variable gsDelta in the direction dir = ±1 and with an increment size step. At each iteration step a new ground speed is computed: gs0+dir*gsDelta, where gs0 is the ground speed solution obtained from CRSS. The iteration is continued until the nDetector function indicates there is no conflict with any traffic aircraft and criteria indicates that the new vector meets the implicit coordination criteria, or until the ground speed exceeds the preset minGs, maxGs bounds. If no ground speed solution can be found that resolves the conflict with the most urgent aircraft (primary conflict) and that also avoids secondary conflicts, then a resolution that only resolves the conflict with the most urgent aircraft is returned. This resolution is computed by the CRSS function,

```
inst_gs(so,vo,tOwn,mu,gs0,dir,step) : (boolean,double) {
    for (gsDelta = 0; ; gsDelta = gsDelta + step) {
        nvGs = gs0 + dir * gsDelta
        if (nvGs < minGs OR nvGs > maxGs ) break
        vo' = vo.mkGs(nvGs)
        if ( NOT nDetector(so,vo',tOwn,mu,-1) AND criteria(..., vo',...)) {
            (hasGs,gsOnly) = (TRUE,nvGs)
            break
        }
    }
    if ( NOT hasGs) {
        (hasGs,gsOnly) = (CRSS.hasGsOnly(),CRSS.gsOnly())
    }
    return (hasGs,gsOnly)
}
```
5.6 Vertical Speed Algorithm

The vertical speed algorithm depends upon the nDetector conflict detector and the criteria function. The algorithm uses iteration on the variable vsDelta in the direction dir = ±1 and with an increment size step. At each iteration step a new track is computed: vs0+dir*vsDelta where vs0 is the vertical speed solution obtained from CRSS. The iteration continues until the nDetector function indicates there is no conflict with any traffic aircraft and criteria indicates that the new vector meets the implicit coordination criteria, or until the vertical speed exceeds the preset minVs, maxVs bounds. If no vertical speed solution can be found that solves the primary conflict (with the most urgent aircraft) and also avoids secondary conflicts, then the resolution that only resolves the conflict with the most urgent aircraft (which is computed by the CRSS function) is returned.

```java
inst_vs(so,vo,tOwn,mu,vs0,dir,step) : (boolean,double) {
    for (vsDelta = 0; ; vsDelta = vsDelta + step) {
        nVs = vs0 + dir * vsDelta
        if ((nVs > maxVs) OR (nVs < minVs)) break
        vo' = vo.mkVs(nVs)
        if ( NOT nDetector(so,vo',tOwn,mu,-1) AND criteria(..., vo',...)) {
            (hasVs,vsOnly) = (TRUE,nVs)
            break
        }
    }
    if ( NOT hasVs) {
        (hasVs,vsOnly) = (CRSS.hasVsOnly(),CRSS.vsOnly())
    }
    return (hasVs,vsOnly)
}
```

6 Kinematic Conflict Algorithms

The kinematic algorithms are more complex than the instantaneous algorithms, but provide better solutions because they take into consideration the fact that aircraft must maneuver over time to achieve the resolutions. Since the aircraft converge over time, the kinematic algorithms produce larger resolutions than the instantaneous algorithms. The difference between these resolutions will grow depending on how close the two aircraft are to each other, as shown in figure 1. In this figure, the original velocity is shown in red, the instantaneous solution is the straight resolution vector and the kinematic solution is the curved resolution vector. The kinematic solvers use models of aircraft dynamics with an assumed constant acceleration to project the positions of the ownship and traffic as the iteration as time progresses. The kinematic models used by these algorithms are defined in Appendix A. The determination of the most urgent conflict is described in section 5.1.
6.1 Future Conflict Detection: nDetectorConfFut

The function nDetectorConfFut uses a kinematic projection of the future position of the aircraft and performs a conflict probe at the future point.

This function performs conflict detection with respect to all aircraft on a future state of the ownship. The ownship future state is passed as a parameter. The traffic states are projected linearly using a relative time (delTm). It uses a list of traffic state data called aircraftList. A function predLinear is used to interpolate the traffic data linearly to match the times of the ownship. It is expected that most of the time the interpolation will be unnecessary because the time stamps should match (except during communications dropouts).

The function nDetectorConfFut returns a status per table 2 and has the following parameters:

- soFut: the future position of the ownship
- v': the velocity vector to be checked for conflicts
- delTm: the amount of time that the ownship is projected into the future (i.e., the time after tOwn when soFut is valid)
- mu: the most urgent aircraft index
- tOwn: timestamp for the current position and velocity (i.e., so and vo)

Pseudocode for the function is:

```c
nDetectorConfFut(soFut,v',tOwn,delTm,mu) : int {
    int rtn = -1
    for (i = 0; i < aircraftList.size(); i++) {
        (si,vi) = predLinear(aircraftList[i],tOwn)
        Vect3 s = soFut - si
        if (LoS(s,D,H)) {
            if (i == mu) return 3 // LoS with primary
        }
    }
}
```
### 6.2 Common Variables

In addition to $D$, $H$, $Tres$, and `aircraftList` described in section 4, the following variables are assumed to exist in the kinematic calculations:

- **maxBank**: maximum bank angle allowed for ownship
- **gsAccel**: ground speed acceleration allowed for ownship
- **vsAccel**: vertical speed acceleration allowed for ownship
- **minRelGs**: desired minimum relative speed for horizontal exit (used in LoS only)
- **minRelVs**: desired minimum relative speed for vertical exit (used in LoS only)

### 6.3 Kinematic Track Algorithm

The kinematic track algorithm iteratively searches for a solution that satisfies the criteria and is also free of secondary conflicts. It has the following parameters:

- **so**: position of the ownship
- **vo**: velocity of the ownship
- **tOwn**: timestamp for the so,vo data
- **mu**: index of the most urgent aircraft
- **step**: the iteration step size

Pseudocode for the function is:

```java
kinematicTrack(so,vo,tOwn,mu,step) : (boolean, double) {
    omega = turnRate(vo.gs(), dir*maxBankAngle)
    Tresolve = Tres
    if (i == mu) Tresolve = MAX_VALUE
    boolean conf = CDSS.conflict(s,v',vi,D,H,Tres)
    if (conf AND rtn < 0) rtn = 0
    if (i == mu AND conf AND rtn < 1) rtn = 1
    return rtn
}
```
nDetKin = 0
crit = TRUE
nvTrk = 0
Vect3 firstFound = ZERO
hasTrk = FALSE
for (trkDelta = 0; trkDelta < PI; trkDelta = trkDelta + step) {
    tm = dir * trkDelta / omega
    nvTrk = vo.trk() + dir * trkDelta
    (soAtTm,vo') = turnOmega(so,vo,tm,omega)
    nDetKin = nDetectorConfFut(soAtTm,vo',tOwn,tm,mu)
    crit = criteria(..., vo',...)
    if (nDetKin == 0 AND crit AND firstFound == ZERO) firstFound = vo'
    if (nDetKin >= 2) break // check for LoS
    if (nDetKin < 0 AND crit) {
        (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (TRUE,nvTrk)
        break
    }
}
if ( NOT hasTrk AND nDetKin < 2 AND firstFound != ZERO) {
    (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (TRUE,firstFound.trk())
}
if ( NOT hasTrk AND nDetKin >= 2) {
    if (infeasibleUseFutureLos) {
        if (nDetKin == 3) { // entered LoS while iterating
            (hasTrk,trkOnly) = projectAndUseKinTrkLoS(tm,mu,step)
        } else {
            (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (TRUE,nvTrk)
        }
    } else {
        if (nDetKin == 3) {
            (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (CRSS.hasTrkOnly(),CRSS.trkOnly())
        }
    }
}
return (hasTrk,trkOnly)

A variable firstFound holds the first vector that is conflict-free with respect to
the most urgent conflict. If a solution free of secondary conflicts is not found,
the algorithm reverts to this solution. If the returned hasTrk value is FALSE, the
returned trkOnly value is undefined.

This algorithm contains a configuration flag, infeasibleUseFutureLos, which
describes what should be done with the iteratively discovered solution that still
has at least one loss of separation. If infeasibleUseFutureLos is FALSE then the
solution from CRSS is returned. If infeasibleUseFutureLos is TRUE, then one of
two possible solutions is returned. If the only solutions found continue to have
conflicts, then the algorithm projects the aircraft states into the future to exactly one half second after entry into LoS and computes a LoS resolution, using the function \texttt{projectAndUseKinTrkLoS} that is described below. Otherwise it returns a solution that is free of conflicts with the most urgent aircraft, but still has losses of separation with other aircraft.

The projection into the future is accomplished by the function \texttt{projectAndUseKinTrkLoS} which is defined as follows:

\begin{verbatim}
projectAndUseKinTrkLoS(timeIntoLoS,mu,step) : (boolean,double) {
    si = aircraftList.get(mu).position(timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
    vi = aircraftList.get(mu).velocity(timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
    soFut = so.linear(vo,timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
    sFut = soFut - si
    if (sFut*(vo-vi) > 0 OR sFut.vect2().norm() < D/2.0) {
        (hasTrk,trkOnly) = (TRUE,vo.trk()+dir*pi/4.0)
    } else {
        (hasTrk,trkOnly) = trackLoS(soFut,si,vo,vi,mu,TRUE,step)
    }
}
\end{verbatim}

The variable \texttt{timeIntoLos} is the computed relative time into LoS from the current position. The first if-branch is used for cases where the loss of separation entry point is the top or bottom of the protection zone, that is, there is already a horizontal loss of separation. The function \texttt{trackLoS} is defined in section 7.3.

### 6.4 Kinematic Ground Speed Algorithm

The kinematic ground speed algorithm iteratively searches for a solution that satisfies the criteria and is also free of secondary conflicts. It has the following parameters:

- \texttt{so} position of the ownship
- \texttt{vo} velocity of the ownship
- \texttt{tOwn} timestamp for the so,vo data
- \texttt{mu} index of the most urgent aircraft
- \texttt{step} step size for search

\begin{verbatim}
kinematicGroundSpeed(so,vo,tOwn,mu,step) : (boolean,double) {
    int nDetKin = 0
    Vect3 firstFound = ZERO
    hasGs = FALSE
    for (gsDelta = 0; TRUE; gsDelta = gsDelta + step) {
        double tm = gsDelta / gsAccel
        double nvoGs = vo.gs() + gsDir * gsDelta
        if ((nvoGs > maxGs) OR (nvoGs < 0)) break
        (soAtTm,vo') = gsAccel(so,vo,tm,gsDir*gsAccel)
        nDetKin = nDetectorConfFut(soAtTm,vo',tOwn,tm,mu)
        boolean crit = criteria(s,vo,vi,vo',...)
    }
}
\end{verbatim}
if (nDetKin == 0 AND crit AND firstFound == ZERO) firstFound = vo’
if (nDetKin >= 2) break // check for LoS
if (nDetKin < 0 AND crit) {
    (hasGs,gsOnly) = (TRUE,vo’)
    break
}
if ( NOT hasGs AND nDetKin < 2 AND firstFound != ZERO) {
    (hasGs,gsOnly) = (TRUE,firstFound.gs())
}
if (nDetKin >= 2) { // some LoS or still in conflict
    if (infeasibleUseFutureLos) {
        si = aircraftList.get(mu).position(timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
        vi = aircraftList.get(mu).velocity(timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
        soFut = so.linear(vo,timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
        siFut = si.linear(vi,timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
        (hasGs,gsOnly) = gsLoS(soFut,vo,siFut,vi,TRUE,step)
    } else {
        (hasGs,gsOnly) = (CRSS.hasGsOnly(),CRSS.gsOnly())
    }
}
return (hasGs,gsOnly)

The variable timeIntoLos is the computed relative time into LoS from the current position. Just as in section 6.3, the infeasibleUseFutureLos flag is a configuration parameter that chooses between two different algorithms when the iterative solver cannot find a solution free of LoS for all aircraft. If the infeasibleUseFutureLos flag is FALSE then it reverts back to the CRSS solution. If the infeasibleUseFutureLos flag is TRUE, then the algorithm projects the aircraft states into the future to exactly one half second after entry into LoS and computes a LoS resolution. The function gsLoS is defined in section 7.4.

### 6.5 Kinematic Vertical Speed Algorithm

The kinematic vertical speed algorithm iteratively searches for a solution that satisfies the criteria and is also free of secondary conflicts. It has the following parameters

- so  position of the ownship
- vo  velocity of the ownship
- tOwn  timestamp for the so,vo data
- mu  index of the most urgent aircraft
- step  step size for search

kinematicVerticalSpeed(so,vo,tOwn,mu) : (boolean,double) {
    int nDetKin = 0
 Vect3 firstFound = ZERO
 hasVs = FALSE
 for (vsDelta = 0; TRUE; vsDelta = vsDelta + step) {
   nVs = vo.vs() + dir * vsDelta
   if ((nVs > maxVs) OR (nVs < minVs)) break
   tm = |nVs - vo.vs()| / vsAccel
   (soAtTm,vo’) = vsAccel(so,vo,tm,vsDir*vsAccel)
   nDetKin = nDetectorConfFut(soAtTm,vo’,tOwn,tm,mu)
   boolean crit = criteria(s,vo,vi,vo’,...)
   if (nDetKin == 0 AND crit AND firstFound == ZERO) firstFound = vo’
   if (nDetKin >= 2) break
   if (nDetKin < 0 AND crit) {
     (hasVs,vsOnly) = (TRUE,nVs)
     break
   }
 } 
 if ( NOT hasVs AND nDetKin < 2 AND firstFound != ZERO) {
   (hasVs,vsOnly) = (TRUE,firstFound.vs())
 }
 if (nDetKin >= 1) { // LoS with primary or secondary or still conflict
   if (infeasibleUseFutureLos) {
     si = aircraftList.get(mu).position(timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
     vi = aircraftList.get(mu).velocity(timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
     soFut = so.linear(vo,timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
     siFut = si.linear(vi,timeIntoLoS + 0.5)
     (hasVs,vsOnly) = vsLoS(soFut,vo,si,vi,TRUE,step,epsv)
   } else {
     (hasVs,vsOnly) = (CRSS.hasVsOnly(),CRSS.vsOnly())
   }
 }
 return (hasVs,vsOnly)
}

The variable timeIntoLos is the computed relative time into LoS from the current position. Just as in section 6.3, the infeasibleUseFutureLos flag is a configuration parameter that chooses between two different algorithms when the iterative solver cannot find a solution free of LoS for all aircraft. If the infeasibleUseFutureLos flag is TRUE, the algorithm projects the aircraft states into the future to exactly one half second after entry into LoS and computes a LoS resolution. If the infeasibleUseFutureLos flag is FALSE, then it uses the CRSS solution. The function vsLoS is defined in section 7.5.
7 Loss of Separation Algorithms

The criteria [8] provides a notion of correctness for loss of separation (LoS) algorithms that is based on the concept of repulsion. A solution is repulsive if the distance at the time of closest approach between the two aircraft is greater than the current distance. This is a fairly weak property, but the algorithms obtain good results by seeking maximally repulsive solutions. That is, the iterations continue until the maximum vector that is repulsive is found. In the loss of separation case, the key factor is that the resolutions are implicitly coordinated. Therefore, the direction of the maneuver is far more important than the magnitude of the maneuvers. The LoS algorithms also seek to achieve a minimum relative exiting speed to avoid solutions that place the aircraft in nearly parallel trajectories at the end of the maneuvers.

Each of the resolution algorithms presented below can produce either an instantaneous solution or a kinematic solution, controlled by the parameter kinematic. Recall that an instantaneous solution is one where the aircraft is assumed to immediately achieve the maneuver whereas a kinematic solution is one where the aircraft must accelerate from its current position to achieve the resolution.

7.1 Detect Future LoS: nDetectorLoSFut

This function nDetectorLoSFut performs detection with respect to all aircraft (except a designated most urgent aircraft, which is ignored) on a future state. The ownship future state is passed as a parameter. The traffic states are projected linearly using a relative time (delTm). The return values are listed in table 3. The parameters are:

- soFut future position of the ownship
- nv velocity vector to be checked for conflicts
- tOwn timestamp for so, vo data
- delTm the amount of time that the ownship is projected into the future (i.e., the time after tOwn when soFut is valid)
- mu index of the most urgent aircraft

The nDetectorLoSFut function is used in the LoS case and hence it does not check for conflicts with the LoS aircraft (i.e. mu).

```
nDetectorLoSFut(soFut, nv, tOwn, delTm, mu) : int {
    int rtn = -1
```

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>no conflict</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>primary conflict</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>LoS with most urgent aircraft</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. Values returned from nDetectorLoSFut
for (j = 0; j < aircraftList.size(); j++) {
    if (j != mu) {
        (si, vi) = predLinear(aircraftList[j], tOwn)
        si = si.linear(vi, delTm)
        Vect3 s = soFut - si
        if (LoS(s, D, H)) {
            rtn = 2
            break
        }
        boolean conf = CDSS.conflict(s, nv, vi, D, H, Tres)
        if (conf AND rtn == -1) rtn = 1
    }
}
return rtn

The function predLinear(tOwn) retrieves the position and velocity vectors for the traffic aircraft for time tOwn. The CDSS.conflict function performs the conflict detection (See appendix B). If there is a conflict with any aircraft the nDetectorLoSFut function returns TRUE, otherwise it returns FALSE.

7.2 Determine Divergence: divergentHorizGt

A pair are aircraft are said to be divergent if the separation at all future positions is greater than their current separation. The function divergentHorizGt determines if the current state between the two aircraft is divergent and the relative speed is greater than a specified minimum relative speed:

divergentHorizGt(s, vo, vi) : boolean {
    Vect2 v = vo - vi
    return s.dot(v) > 0 AND v.norm() > minRelGs
}

7.3 Track LoS Algorithm

The following pseudocode describes the iterative LoS track algorithm. It can produce an instantaneous resolution or a kinematic one. The following parameters are used:

so ownership’s position
vo ownership’s velocity
si traffic aircraft’s position
vi traffic aircraft’s velocity
mu index of the aircraft to be resolved against, usually the most urgent aircraft
kinematic flag which determines whether a kinematic or an instantaneous solution is desired
step step size for search
The trackLos function is defined as follows:

```cpp
trackLos(so,si,vo,vi,mu,kinematic,step) : (boolean,double) {

vo' = ZERO
omega = turnRate(vo.gs(),maxBank)
boolean criteriaEverSatisfied = FALSE
for (trkDelta = step; trkDelta < PI/2; trkDelta = trkDelta + step) {
    nvoTrk = vo.trk() + trkDir * trkDelta
    tm = 0.0
    Vect3 soAtTm = so
    Vect3 siAtTm = si
    if (kinematic) {
        tm = trkDelta / omega
        soAtTm = turnOmega(so,vo,tm,trkDir * omega).first
        siAtTm = si.linear(vi,tm)
    }
    sAtTm = soAtTm - siAtTm
    prevVo' = vo'
    vo' = vo.mkTrk(nvoTrk)
    boolean divg = divergentHorizGt(sAtTm,vo',vi)
    criteria = criteria(sAtTm,prevNvo,vi,vo',...)
    if (criteria) criteriaEverSatisfied = TRUE
    if (checkSecondary) {
        nDetKin = nDetectorLoSFut(soAtTm,vo',tOwn,tm,mu)
    }
    divgOrNotCrit = (divg OR NOT criteria)
    if (divgOrNotCrit) {
        if ( NOT criteria) lastSolution = prevVo'
            else lastSolution = nvo
        if (firstSolution == ZERO) firstSolution = lastSolution
        if ( NOT criteria OR nDetKin <= 0 OR nDetKin >= 2) break
    }
}
if (firstSolution == ZERO) {
    trkSolution = vo'
} else if (divgOrNotCrit AND nDetKin <= 0) {
    trkSolution = lastSolution
} else {
    trkSolution = firstSolution
}
hasTrk = (NOT (trkSolution = ZERO) AND criteriaEverSatisfied)
return (hasTrk,trkSolution.trk())
}
```

The repulsive criteria is usually satisfied in one direction up to a particular track value. This algorithm seeks to find the maximally repulsive track, but will stop
earlier if divergence is reached. There are some cases where there are no repulsive
tracks available in the search direction. Therefore a flag criteriaEverSatisfied
informs hasTrk. If the non-criteria region is reached, there is no need to search
further. When in the divergent region and the solution is free of all secondary
conflicts, the search is stopped. Finally, if a secondary LoS occurs while searching,
then the search is abandoned at that point. It is not clear whether it is better
to return no track solution at this point, or just accept that a second LoS must
occur and defer its resolution until later. The algorithm above does the latter.
In the instantaneous (i.e., non-kinematic) version, the value of sAtTm is set to s
and remains constant throughout the for loop. The tests at the end cover several
different cases. The first branch covers the case where the criteria is satisfied all
the way through the loop and divergence is not reached. In this case the maximal
search value is used. The second branch covers the case where divergence or not
criteria was reached, and so lastSolution is used. The last branch occurs when
a LoS occurs or no solution free of secondary conflicts is found (nDetKin > 0). In
this case the firstSolution value is used.

The parameter minRelHoriz impacts the timeliness of the speed of exit from
loss of separation. If this parameter is set to 0, then the algorithm merely seeks to
achieve some positive relative speed. But if a larger value is specified, the algorithm
seeks to achieve a higher relative exiting speed. This is likely to result in a larger
maneuver.

7.4 Ground Speed LoS Algorithm

The following parameters are used by the ground speed LoS algorithm

\[
\begin{align*}
so & \quad \text{initial ownership position} \\
vo & \quad \text{initial ownership velocity} \\
si & \quad \text{initial traffic position} \\
vi & \quad \text{initial traffic velocity} \\
mu & \quad \text{the index of the aircraft to be resolved against, usually} \\
    & \quad \text{the most urgent aircraft} \\
\text{kinematic} & \quad \text{flag which determines whether a kinematic or an in-} \\
    & \quad \text{stantaneous solution is desired} \\
\text{step} & \quad \text{step size for search}
\end{align*}
\]

The following pseudo code describes the iterative ground speed algorithm:

\[
gsLoS(so, si, vo, vi, \text{kinematic}, \text{step}) : (\text{boolean, double}) \{
    \text{boolean divgOrNotCrit} = \text{FALSE} \\
    \text{boolean minSepOk} = \text{TRUE} \\
    \text{int nDetKin} = 0 \\
    \text{Vect3 sAtTm} = \text{ZERO} \\
    \text{Vect3 vo'} = vo \\
    \text{Vect3 prevVo'} = \text{ZERO} \\
    \text{Vect3 firstSolution} = \text{ZERO} \\
    \text{Vect3 lastSolution} = \text{ZERO}
\}
\]
boolean criteriaEverSatisfied = FALSE
for (gsDelta = step; TRUE; gsDelta = gsDelta + step) {
    nvoGs = vo.gs() + gsDir * gsDelta
    if ((nvoGs > maxGs) OR (nvoGs < minGs)) break
    tm = 0.0
    Vect3 soAtTm = so
    Vect3 siAtTm = si
    if (kinematic) {
        tm = gsDelta / gsAccel
        soAtTm = gsAccel(so,vo,tm,gsDir * gsAccel)
        siAtTm = si.linear(vi,tm)
    }
    sAtTm = soAtTm.Sub(siAtTm)
    prevVo' = vo'
    vo' = vo.mkGs(nvoGs)
    distBetw = sAtTm.vect2().norm()
    if (distBetw < minSep) minSep = distBetw
    boolean divg = divergentHorizGt(sAtTm,vo',vi)
    boolean criteria = criteria(sAtTm,prevVo,vi,vo',...)
    if (criteria) criteriaEverSatisfied = TRUE
    if (minSep <= gsLosDiscard) break
    divgOrNotCrit = (divg OR NOT criteria)
    if (divgOrNotCrit) {
        if ( NOT criteria) lastSolution = prevVo'
        else lastSolution = vo'
        if (firstSolution == ZERO) firstSolution = lastSolution
    }
}
if (checkSecondary) {
    nDetKin = nDetectorLoSFut(soAtTm,vo',tOwn,tm,mu)
}
if (divgOrNotCrit) {
    if ( NOT criteria OR nDetKin <= 0 OR nDetKin >= 2) break
}
if (firstSolution == ZERO) {
    gsSolution = prevVo'
} else if (divgOrNotCrit AND nDetKin <= 0) {
    gsSolution = lastSolution
} else {
    gsSolution = firstSolution
}
boolean divg0 = divergentHorizGt(sAtTm,vo',vi)
double distAtTau = distAtTau(sAtTm,vo',vi,TRUE)
if (NOT divg0 AND distAtTau <= ChorusConfig.gsLosDiscard) {
In the instantaneous (i.e., non-kinematic) version, the value of \( s_{AtTm} \) is set to \( s \) and remains constant throughout the for loop. The algorithm searches for a maximally repulsive solution that satisfies the criteria. If divergence is reached, then the search continues until a solution free of secondary conflicts is found (i.e. \( \text{lastSolution} \)). If the additional search is unfruitful, then the algorithm reverts back to the first solution that was divergent (i.e. \( \text{firstSolution} \)). An additional test is applied that eliminates the ground speed solution when the projected distance at the closest point of approach (\( \tau \)) is smaller than the parameter \( \text{gsLosDiscard} \). The search is also short-circuited if a LoS occurs or the minimum separation becomes less than \( \text{gsLosDiscard} \). There are some cases where there are no repulsive ground speeds available in the search direction. Therefore a flag \( \text{criteriaEverSatisfied} \) informs \( \text{hasGs} \). The case where the criteria is satisfied over the entire search range and divergence is not reached must also be covered. In this case, \( \text{firstSolution} \) will still be \( \text{ZERO} \). We use the next-to-last value searched, i.e., \( \text{prevVo}' \) as the solution, because the last value may be outside of the \((\text{minGs}, \text{maxGs})\) range.

### 7.5 Vertical Speed LoS Algorithm

The vertical LoS solver uses an inner collision region, a cylinder defined by a radius, \( \text{caD} \), equal to 1000 ft and a half-height, \( \text{caH} \), equal to 200 ft. The iterative search varies the vertical speed until there is no longer a conflict with this inner collision region and the relative exit speed is sufficiently large. The following parameters are used by the ground speed LoS algorithm:

- \( \text{so} \) initial ownership position
- \( \text{vo} \) initial ownership velocity
- \( \text{si} \) initial traffic position
- \( \text{vi} \) initial traffic velocity
- \( \text{mu} \) index of the aircraft to be resolved against, usually the most urgent aircraft
- \( \text{kinematic} \) flag which determines whether a kinematic or an instantaneous solution is desired
- \( \text{step} \) step size for search
- \( \text{epsv} \) The vertical epsilon value calculated by the criteria

The vertical LoS algorithm is defined as follows:

\[
\text{vsLoS}(\text{so}, \text{si}, \text{vo}, \text{vi}, \text{kinematic}, \text{step}, \text{epsv}) : (\text{boolean}, \text{double}) \{
    \text{boolean solFound} = \text{FALSE}
\]

22
boolean innerConf = FALSE
vsSolution = ZERO
int nDetKin = 0
Vect3 firstSoln = ZERO
for (vsDelta = step/2; TRUE; vsDelta = vsDelta + step) {
    double nvoVs = vo.vs() + dir * vsDelta
    if ((nvoVs > maxVs) OR (nvoVs < minVs)) break
    double tm = 0.0
    Vect3 soAtTm = so
    Vect3 siAtTm = si
    if (kinematic) {
        tm = |nvoVs-voVs| / vsAccel
        soAtTm = vsAccel(so,vo,tm,dir * vsAccel)
        siAtTm = si.linear(vi,tm)
    }
    Vect3 sAtTm = soAtTm - siAtTm
    vo' = vo.mkVs(nvoVs)
    double algInnerFactor = 2.0
    boolean innerLos = CD3D.lossOfSep(soAtTm,siAtTm,caD,
                                         algInnerFactor*caH)
    if (innerLos) break
    innerConf = CD3D.cd3d(sAtTm,vo',vi,caD,algInnerFactor*caH)
    solFound = (epsv*(nvoVs - vi.z) >= minRelVs AND NOT innerConf)
    if (checkSecondary) {
        nDetKin = nDetectorFut(soAtTm,vo',tm,mu)
        if (nDetKin == 2) {
            solFound = FALSE
            break
        }
    }
    if (solFound AND firstSoln == ZERO) firstSoln = vo'
    solFound = (solFound AND nDetKin <= 0)
    if (solFound) break
}
if (solFound) { // solution free of secondary conflicts found
    vsSolution = vo'
    hasVs = TRUE
} else {
    if (firstSoln != ZERO) {
        vsSolution = firstSoln
        hasVs = TRUE
    } else {
        hasVs = FALSE
    }
}
return (hasVs, vsSolution.vs())
}

As noted earlier, in the instantaneous (i.e., non-kinematic) version, the value of \( s_{AtTm} \) is set to \( s \) and remains constant throughout the for loop. The algorithm searches in the repulsive direction until there is no conflict with the inner collision region and the relative exit speed is sufficiently large. The vertical LoS criteria is simpler in that it is satisfied for all vertical speeds in the appropriate direction so a specific test is not needed (i.e. it is implicitly satisfied). The search continues beyond this point if there are secondary conflicts in hope of reaching a solution free of secondary conflicts. If the additional search is unfruitful, then the algorithm reverts to the first solution that was found (i.e. \( \text{firstSoln} \)). The search is also short-circuited if a loss of separation occurs. The criteria variable \( \text{epsv} \) is used in the test \( \text{epsv} \times (nvoVs - vi.z) \geq \text{minRelVs} \) as a fast absolute value (i.e. \( |nvoVs - vi.z| \geq \text{minRelVs} \)).

8 Summary

Nine Chorus resolution algorithms have been defined that provide instantaneous and kinematic resolutions for both conflict and loss of separation situations. These algorithms have been documented using a pseudocode that clarifies the essential features of the algorithms. The rationale and key design decisions used in these algorithms are highlighted and discussed.

References


Appendix A

Kinematic Trajectory Generation

We formulate trajectory generation for turns as the computation of the future position and velocity of the aircraft, \( s(t) \) and \( v(t) \), given a constant turn rate (angular velocity), \( \omega \), and a time \( t \). The initial position of the aircraft is \( s_o = (s_{ox}, s_{oy}) \) and the initial velocity vector is \( v_o = (v_{ox}, v_{oy}) \). We let \( v \) be the speed of the aircraft, which equals \( |v_o| \), and \( \theta \) is the track angle of the initial velocity vector. In aircraft navigation, track angles and headings are measured from true north in the clockwise direction, thus \( \theta = \arctan(v_{ox}, v_{oy}) \). Using these definitions, the initial velocity is

\[
\begin{align*}
  v_{ox} &= v \sin \theta \\
  v_{oy} &= v \cos \theta
\end{align*} \tag{A1}
\]

By assumption, the aircraft’s new target velocity vector will be achieved by a constant angular velocity \( \omega \) (i.e. \( \omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt} \)). This will result in time based velocity vector of \( v(t) = (v_x(t), v_y(t)) \), where

\[
\begin{align*}
  v_x(t) &= v \sin(\theta + \omega t) \\
  v_y(t) &= v \cos(\theta + \omega t)
\end{align*} \tag{A2}
\]

These relationships are shown in figure A1.

Integrating, we obtain the trajectory of positions:

\[
\begin{align*}
  s_x(t) - s_x(0) &= -\frac{v}{\omega} \cos(\theta + \omega t) |^t_0 = \frac{v}{\omega} \left[ \cos \theta - \cos(\theta + \omega t) \right] \\
  s_y(t) - s_y(0) &= \frac{v}{\omega} \sin(\theta + \omega t) |^t_0 = -\frac{v}{\omega} \left[ \sin \theta - \sin(\theta + \omega t) \right]
\end{align*} \tag{A3}
\]
Collecting terms yields:

\[
\begin{align*}
  s_x(t) &= s_x(0) + \frac{v}{\omega} [\cos \theta - \cos(\theta + \omega t)] \\
  s_y(t) &= s_y(0) - \frac{v}{\omega} [\sin \theta - \sin(\theta + \omega t)]
\end{align*}
\]

This is directly coded into the function `turnOmega` which takes the following parameters:

- `s0` starting position
- `v0` initial velocity
- `t` time of turn
- `omega` rate of change of track, sign indicates direction

The `turnOmega` function is defined:

\[
\text{turnOmega}(s0,v0,t,\omega) : (\text{Vect3}, \text{Vect3}) \{
  \text{if (omega } \neq \text{ 0) return (s0 + v0 * t,v0)} \\
  v = v0.gs() \\
  \theta = v0.trk() \\
  xT = s0.x + \frac{v}{\omega} \cdot (\cos(\theta) - \cos(\omega t + \theta)) \\
  yT = s0.y - \frac{v}{\omega} \cdot (\sin(\theta) - \sin(\omega t + \theta)) \\
  zT = s0.z + v0.z*t \\
  s' = (xT,yT,zT) \\
  v' = v0.mkTrk(v0.track() + \omega \cdot t) \\
  \text{return (s',v')}
\}
\]

Note, the symbol "\(\neq\)" should be read as "almost equals," which means that the values are compared and if they are within a fixed floating point precision of each other, then they are considered to be equal.

Instead of a turn rate, \(\omega\), turns are often specified with a bank angle. Thus, a means is needed to compute \(\omega\) from a bank angle, usually represented as \(\phi\). First, consider the equation for the turn radius of aircraft turning in level flight with bank angle \(\phi\):

\[
R = \frac{v^2}{g \tan \phi}
\]

where \(R\) is the turn radius, and \(g\) is gravitational acceleration. This formula relies on the assumption that the wing provides most of the lift force. For high bank angles, \(\phi > 45\), where the body of the aircraft starts to provide lift, this equation is no longer valid. Continuing the development of an equation for \(\omega\), we use the relationship \(v = |\omega|R\) to obtain

\[
\omega = \frac{g \tan \phi}{v}
\]

This equation is captured in the function `turnRate`.

27
turnRate(speed, bankAngle) : double {
    if (bankAngle == 0.0) return 0.0
    return g * tan(bankAngle) / speed
}

The function turnTime computes the time it takes to complete a turn given a ground speed, the magnitude of the track change and the maximum bank angle:

turnTime(groundSpeed, deltaTrack, bankAngle) : double {
    omega = turnRate(groundSpeed, bankAngle)
    if (omega == 0.0) return MAXDOUBLE
    return |deltaTrack / omega|
}

The functions gsAccel and vsAccel are used to compute the trajectory for a constant ground speed acceleration and a constant vertical speed acceleration, respectively.

gsAccel(so3, vo3, t, a) : (Vect3, Vect3) {
    Vect3 so = so3.vect2()
    Vect3 vo = vo3.vect2()
    Vect2 sK = so.Add(vo.Hat()).Scal(vo.norm() * t + 0.5 * a * t * t)
    double nz = so3.z + vo3.z * t
    Vect3 nso = new Vect3(sK, nz)
    double nvoGs = vo3.gs() + a * t
    Vect3 nvo = vo3.mkGs(nvoGs)
    return (nso, nvo)
}

vsAccel(so3, vo3, t, a) : (Vect3, Vect3) {
    nvoVs = vo3.vs() + a * t
    Vect3 nvo = vo3.mkVs(nvoVs)
    Vect3 nso = (so3.x + t * vo3.x, 
                 so3.y + t * vo3.y, 
                 so3.z + vo3.z * t + 0.5 * a * t * t)
    return (nso, nvo)
}
Appendix B

The CDSS Conflict Probe

The CDSS.conflict function takes the following parameters:

- \( s \) the relative position of the aircraft
- \( \mathbf{v}_o \) the ownship’s velocity
- \( \mathbf{v}_i \) the intruder’s velocity
- \( D \) the minimum horizontal distance
- \( H \) the minimum vertical distance
- \( B \) the the lower bound of the lookahead time (the value 0 is is implicitly passed in the pseudocode calls)
- \( T \) the upper bound of the lookahead time (\( T < 0 \) means infinite lookahead time)

It is defined as follows:

```plaintext
conflict(s,\mathbf{v}_o,\mathbf{v}_i,D,H,B,T) : boolean {
    if (T >= 0 AND B >= T) return FALSE
    \mathbf{v}_2 = s.vect2()
    \mathbf{v}_1 = \mathbf{v}_o.vect2()
    \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{v}_i.vect2()
    if (\mathbf{v}_o.z \neq \mathbf{v}_i.z) AND |s.z| < H) {
        return CD2D.cd2d(s.vect2(),\mathbf{v}_1,\mathbf{v}_2,D,B,T)
    }
    \mathbf{v}_z = \mathbf{v}_o.z - \mathbf{v}_i.z
    m_1 = \max(-H - \text{sign}(vz) * s.z,B * |vz|)
    if (T < 0) {
        m_2 = H - \text{sign}(vz) * s.z
    } else {
        m_2 = \min(H - \text{sign}(vz) * s.z, T * |vz|)
    }
    if ( NOT (\mathbf{v}_o.z \neq \mathbf{v}_i.z) AND m_1 < m_2) {
        return CD2D.cd2d(|vz|s2,\mathbf{v}_1,\mathbf{v}_2,D * |vz|,m_1,m_2)
    } else {
        return FALSE
    }
}
```

where \( \text{cd2d} \) is defined as follows

```plaintext
\text{cd2d}(s,\mathbf{v}_o,\mathbf{v}_i,D,B,T) : boolean {
    if (T < 0) {
        \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_o - \mathbf{v}_i
        return \text{almost_horizontal_los}(s,D) OR Delta(s,\mathbf{v},D) > 0 AND s \cdot \mathbf{v} < 0
    }
```

29
if (B >= T) return FALSE
v = vo - vi
return almost_horizontal_los(s+Bv,D) OR omega_vv(s,v,D,B,T) < 0

and $\text{almost_horizontal_los}(s,D)$ is defined as

$\text{almost_horizontal_los}(s,D) : \text{boolean} \{ \newline$$\text{return NOT } (s*s \sim= D * D) \text{ AND } s * s < D * D$$\}\}$

and $\text{omega}_v(s,v,D,B,T)$ is defined as follows:

$\text{omega}_v(s,v,D,B,T) : \text{double} \{ \newline$$\text{if } (s*s \sim= D * D) \text{ AND } B \sim= 0) \{ \newline$$\text{return } s*v$$\} \text{ else } { \newline$$\tau = \min(\max(B * v * v,-(s * v)),T * v * v)$$\} \newline$$\text{return } v*v*s*s + (2*tau)*(s*v) + tau*tau - D*D*v*v$$\}$

and $\text{Delta}(s,v,D)$ and $\text{det}(s,v)$ are defined as

$\text{Delta}(s,v,D) : \text{double} \{ \newline$$\text{return } D * D * V * V - \text{det}(s,v) * \text{det}(s,v)$$\}$

$\text{det}(s,v) : \text{double} \{ \newline$$\text{return } s.x * v.y - s.y * v.x$$\}$

In the above functions, the notation $\sim$ is used for approximately equal: equal within a specified floating point precision.
The Chorus Conflict and Loss of Separation Resolution Algorithms

The Chorus software is designed to investigate near-term, tactical conflict and loss of separation detection and resolution concepts for air traffic management. This software is currently being used in two different problem domains: en-route self-separation and sense and avoid for unmanned aircraft systems. This paper describes the core resolution algorithms that are part of Chorus. The combination of several features of the Chorus program distinguishes this software from other approaches to conflict and loss of separation resolution. First, the program stores a history of state information over time which enables it to handle communication dropouts and take advantage of previous input data. Second, the underlying conflict algorithms find resolutions that solve the most urgent conflict, but also seek to prevent secondary conflicts with the other aircraft. Third, if the program is run on multiple aircraft, and the two aircraft maneuver at the same time, the result will be implicitly coordinated. This implicit coordination property is established by ensuring that a resolution produced by Chorus will comply with a mathematically-defined criteria whose correctness has been formally verified. Fourth, the program produces both instantaneous solutions and kinematic solutions, which are based on simple acceleration models. Finally, the program provides resolutions for recovery from loss of separation. Different versions of this software are implemented as Java and C++ software programs, respectively.

14. ABSTRACT

The Chorus software is designed to investigate near-term, tactical conflict and loss of separation detection and resolution concepts for air traffic management. This software is currently being used in two different problem domains: en-route self-separation and sense and avoid for unmanned aircraft systems. This paper describes the core resolution algorithms that are part of Chorus. The combination of several features of the Chorus program distinguishes this software from other approaches to conflict and loss of separation resolution. First, the program stores a history of state information over time which enables it to handle communication dropouts and take advantage of previous input data. Second, the underlying conflict algorithms find resolutions that solve the most urgent conflict, but also seek to prevent secondary conflicts with the other aircraft. Third, if the program is run on multiple aircraft, and the two aircraft maneuver at the same time, the result will be implicitly coordinated. This implicit coordination property is established by ensuring that a resolution produced by Chorus will comply with a mathematically-defined criteria whose correctness has been formally verified. Fourth, the program produces both instantaneous solutions and kinematic solutions, which are based on simple acceleration models. Finally, the program provides resolutions for recovery from loss of separation. Different versions of this software are implemented as Java and C++ software programs, respectively.

15. SUBJECT TERMS

air traffic, conflict, detection, resolution, avoidance, prevention, bands, verification, secondary conflict, track, angle, ground, vertical, speed