



iFly: ASAS Self Separation – Airborne Perspective

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iFly Objectives

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Develop



Highly automated ATM design for en-route traffic based on autonomous aircraft concept



Autonomous Aircraft Advanced (A3) Concept of Operations

&

Validate

- Assess the highest level of en-route traffic demand in which equipped aircraft can safely self separate
- Develop the airborne system requirements that must be met to ensure the safe 2025+ operations
- Cost –Effectiveness Analysis

Project Consortium

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Aviation Participants

- ✦ National Aerospace Laboratory (NLR) 
- ✦ Honeywell 
- ✦ Isdefe 
- ✦ Dedale 
- ✦ UK NATS En Route Ltd. 
- ✦ Eurocontrol EEC 
- ✦ DSNA-DTI-SDER 



University Participants

- ✦ National Technical University of Athens 
- ✦ University of Twente 
- ✦ Ecole National de l'Aviation Civile 
- ✦ University of Tartu 
- ✦ Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique 
- ✦ University of Leicester 
- ✦ Athens University of Economics And Business 
- ✦ Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule Zurich 
- ✦ University of l'Aquila 
- ✦ Politecnico di Milano 
- ✦ University of Cambridge 

Unique blend of university and aviation partners!

Assumptions

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✓ En-route phase of the flight

✓ All aircraft are equipped to self separate

✓ No ATC involvement

✓ Ground information sharing support (SWIM) available



Design & Validation Elements of iFly

- **Human Factors** – identification and analysis of responsibility issues, bottlenecks, information needs
- **Traffic Complexity** assessment – development of suitable metrics, prediction
- **Conflict Resolution Algorithms** – development of CR algorithms suitable for short, medium, and long term timeframe
- **Complementary Safety-based design** approaches:
 1. TOPAZ modeling and Monte Carlo simulation based **Hazard and Collision Risk Analysis**
 2. RTCA/Eurocae ED78a based **System Safety Engineering**
 3. **Formal verification using critical observability** analysis of hybrid automaton

A3 Airborne System Objectives

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Objectives



Functionality

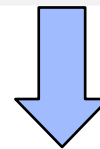
Safety

Separation Management

Performance (Flight Efficiency)

Trajectory management

Situation Awareness = Key Enabler



Information Sharing Process

Reliable

Continuous

Effective

Information Support

Information Sharing Process

Level 1: Air–Air Broadcast, State only

Level 2: Air–Air Broadcast, State + Intent

Level 3: Air–Air Broadcast + SWIM support, State + Intent

SM Characteristics

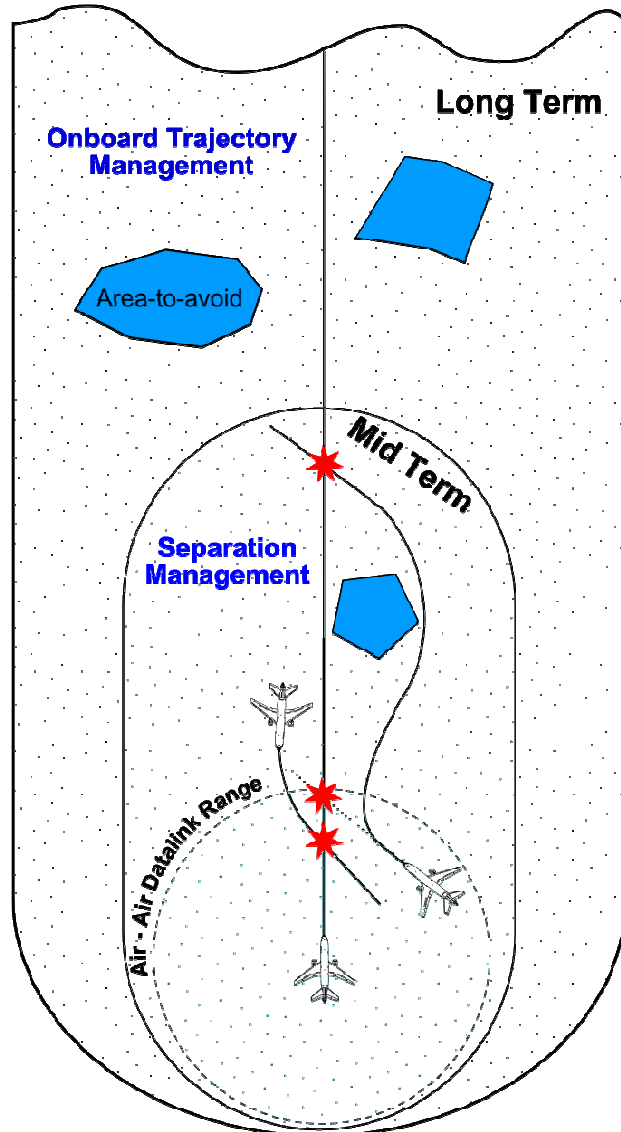
- Air–Air data link range
- CD further limited by accuracy of state-based TP
- No information back up

- Air–Air data link range
- No information back up

- Range defined by the area of interest (in principle)
- CD limited by the range of intent information
- Information back up (point-to-point communication, SWIM)

iFly considers Level 3, but performance and safety assessment may be performed for multiple levels.

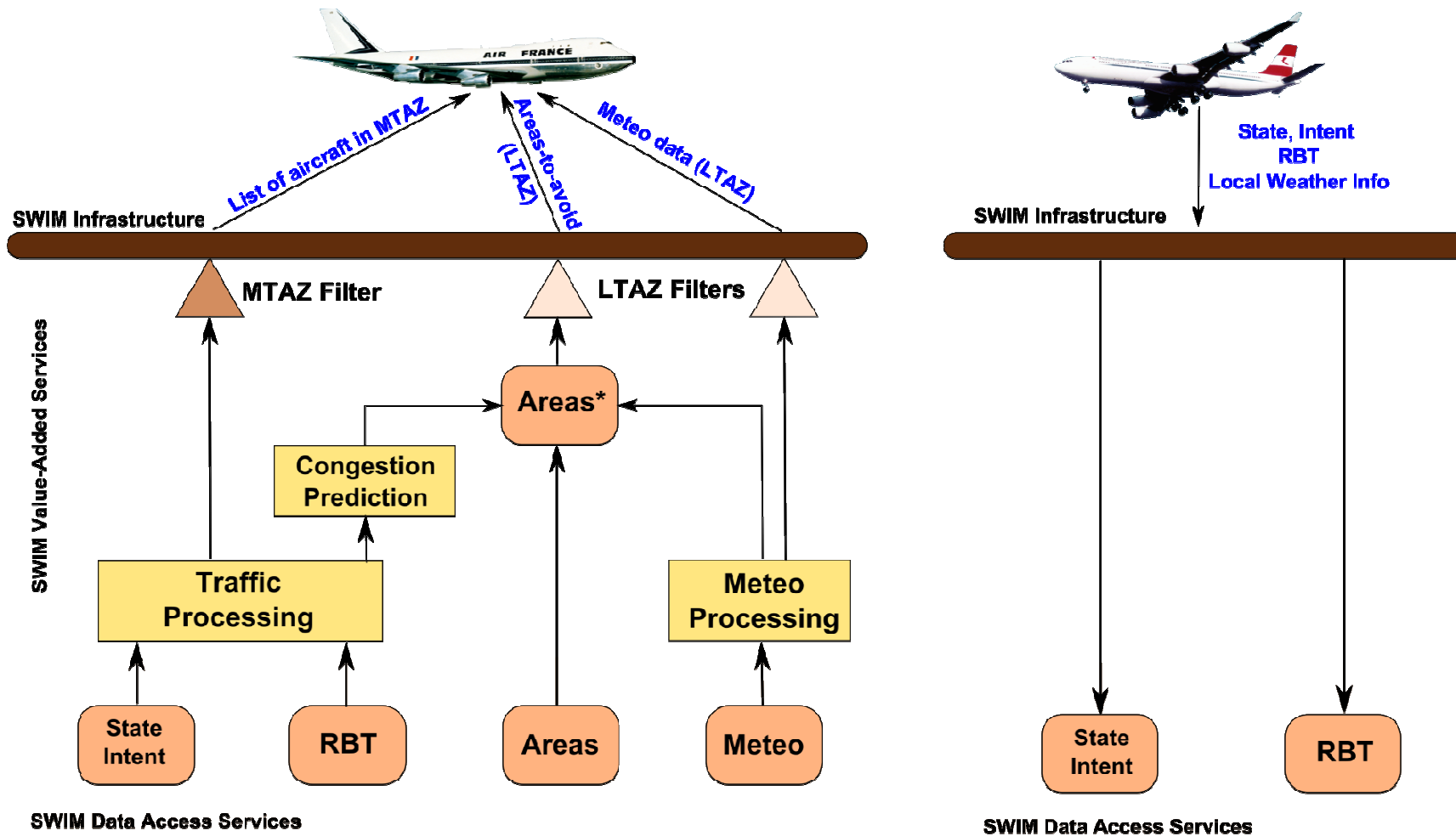
Situation Awareness



Areas of interest:

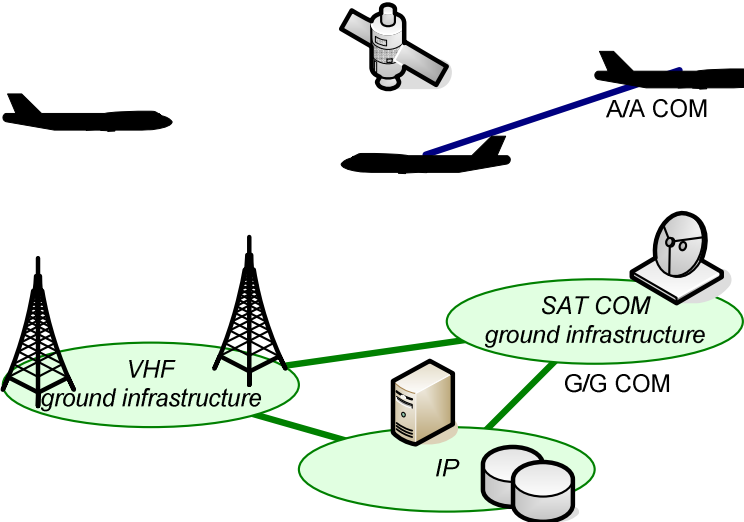
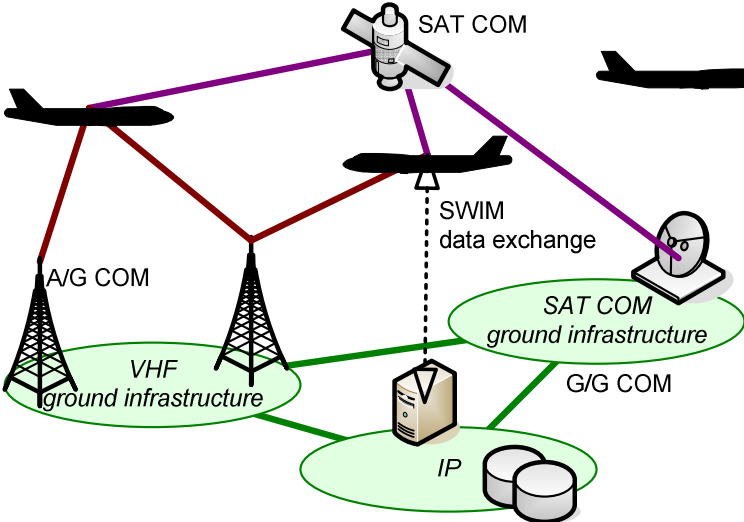
- **Long Term Awareness Zone(LTAZ)** – relevant for Trajectory Management (optimization)
- **Mid Term Awareness Zone(MTAZ)** – used for Separation Management
- **Air-Air Data link Range** – additional state-based Conflict Detection

SWIM and Envisioned Functionality



Data Link Communications (Traffic Data)

Reception of data broadcasted by other aircraft



Querying ground infrastructure (e.g., SWIM)
Direct querying another aircraft

A3 Airborne System Architecture Overview



Information Management

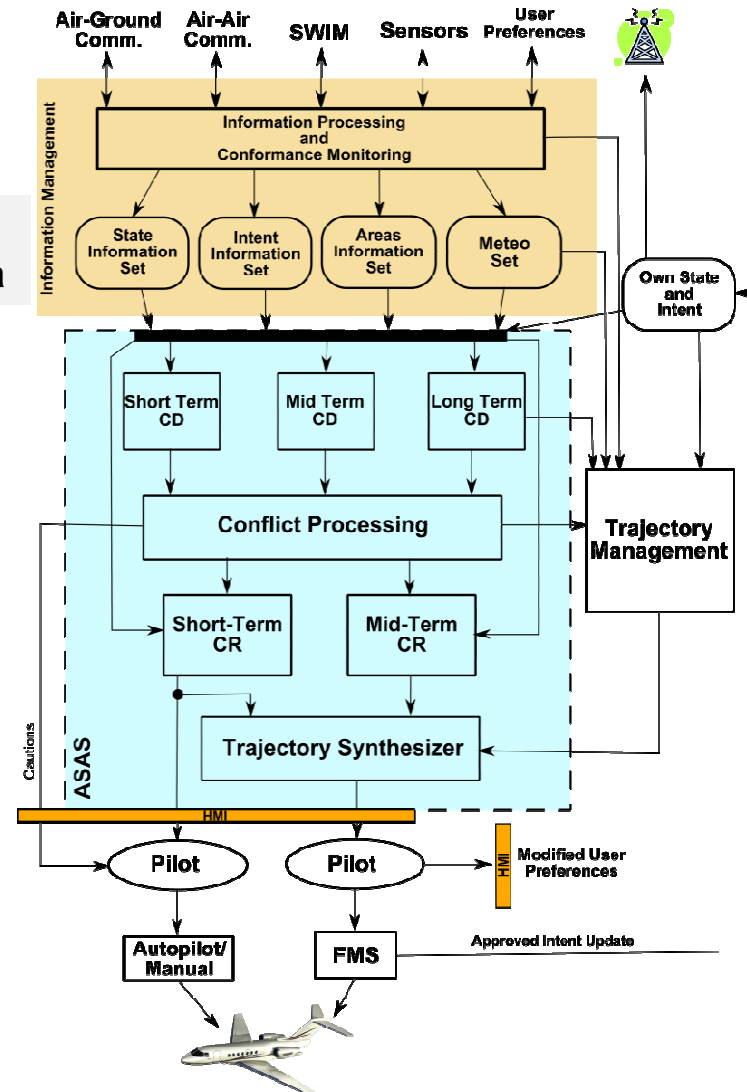
- Shields communications details
- Collect and process required data

Separation & Trajectory Management

- Situation Assessment
- Resolution Advisories

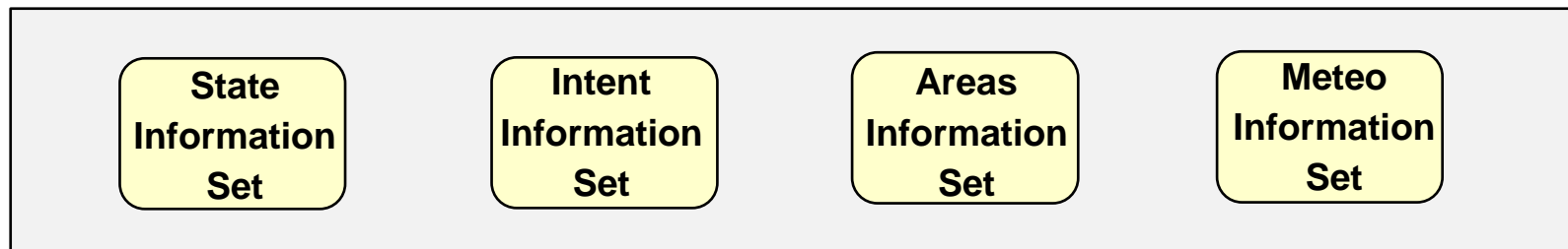
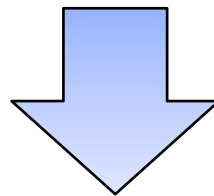
Human Machine Interface

- Situation Awareness
- Flight changes advisories



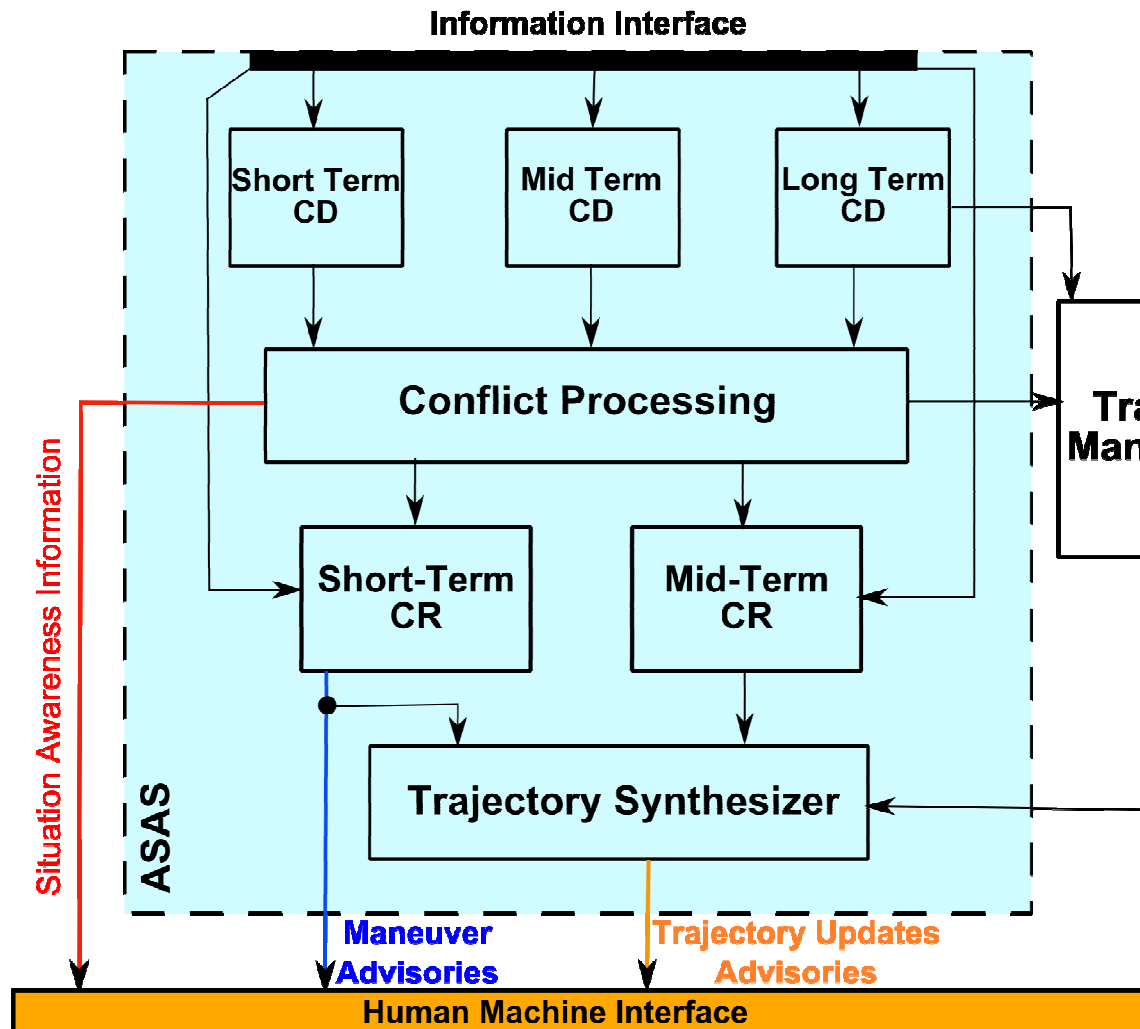
Information Management

- ✓ Process all incoming broadcasted data
- ✓ Process the list of MTAZ traffic
- ✓ Query aircraft or SWIM for missing information
- ✓ Process areas-to-avoid (restricted areas, weather hazards, ...), uploaded meteo data and data from sensors (weather radar, EGPWS)
- ✓ Monitor the conformance of aircraft to the intent
- ✓ Data fusion to determine the most probable trajectories of aircraft



CD&R And Trajectory Management

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Mid Term Conflict:

1. Predicted LoS
2. Potential CR risk (complex situation)
 - Complexity, or
 - Maneuvering flexibility

Short Term Conflict:

- State-based predicted LoS

Long Term Conflict:

- Predicted LoS with Areas-to-avoid

A3 – iFly Next Steps

- **Assessment Cycle**
 - Hazard and Collision Risk Analysis
 - Cost-Effectiveness Analysis
- **Second Design Cycle**
 - Integration of innovative methods (complexity, CR algorithms)
 - ConOps refinement
- **System Safety Engineering using ED78A methodology**
 - Airborne System Design Requirements
 - Non-airborne System Requirements

Airborne System Requirements

- Provide aircrew with automation and decision support tools to ensure planned trajectory is clear of traffic, weather and restricted airspace
 - Integrated ownship and surveillance (ADS-B/C) data visualization
 - Real-time traffic, flow management and airspace hazard data;
 - Complementary conflict alerting and multiple resolution maneuvering options

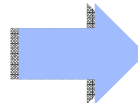
- ✈ HMI must be designed to allow for a quick and easy data input/understanding, which is tailored to users needs
- ✈ Level of information
 - Amplification of human functions by machines
 - Situation awareness needs of ATM & aircrew

Surveillance Today

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Separate Products

- TCAS (Collision Avoidance)
- EGPWS (Terrain Avoidance)
- Surface moving maps
- Weather Radars
- FMS (Navigation, Guidance, Flight Optimization)
- Multi-Function Radar Display
 - Weather
 - Terrain
 - Traffic
 - Lightning
 - FMS/NAV
 - Checklist

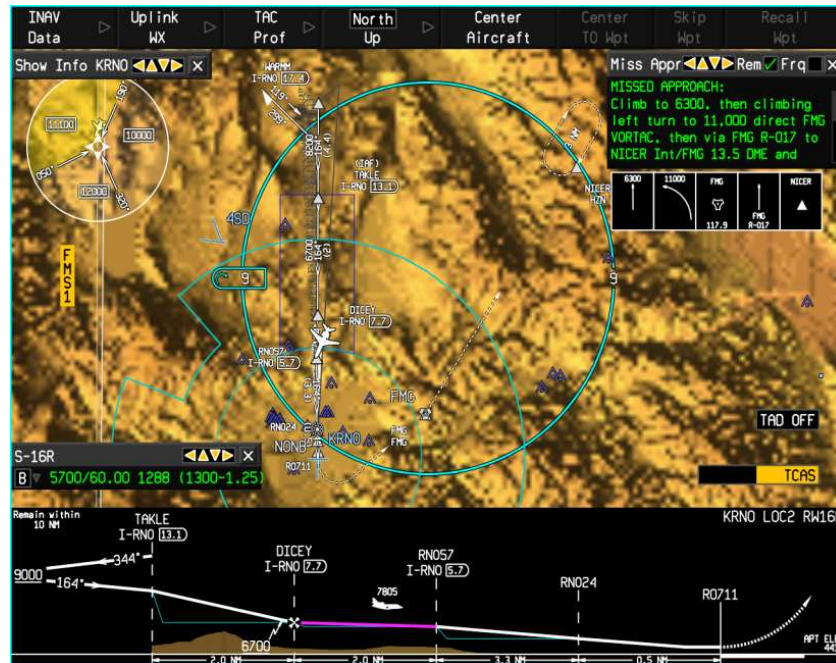


Integrated Surveillance Systems

- Integrated Hazard Avoidance System for BGA, e.g., Honeywell Bendix/King
 - Positioning
 - Weather avoidance
 - Traffic advisories
 - Terrain avoidance
- Aircraft Environment Surveillance System (AESS)
 - A380, A350, B787
 - TCAS
 - Mode-S transponder
 - EGPWS
 - 3D-Volumetric Wx radar

INAV Display

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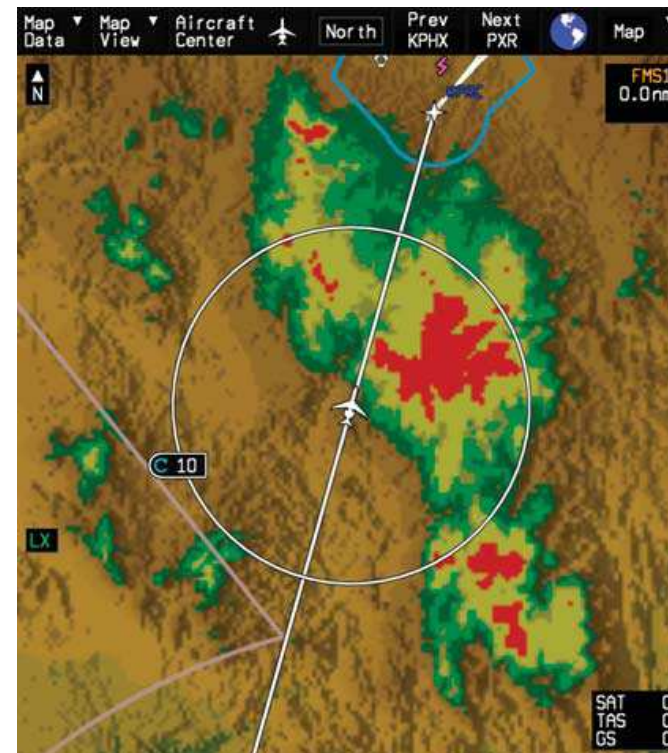


Navigation data

- Terrain database
- Airspace, Airways, Airports
- Active flight plan
- Vertical situation

Sensor data

- EGPWS cautions, warnings
- TCAS
- Airborne Wx radar
- Uplinked weather



INAV™ displays impediments and details of point to point flight, e.g.,

- Restrictive airspace, terrain
- Obstacles: weather and other aircraft
- Graphical Flight Planning™
- Vertical Situation Display (VSD)

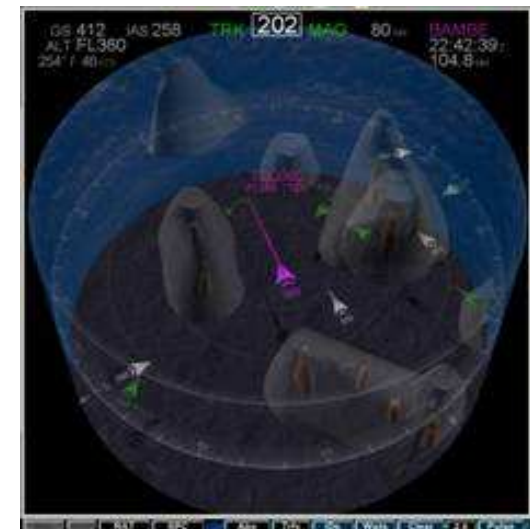
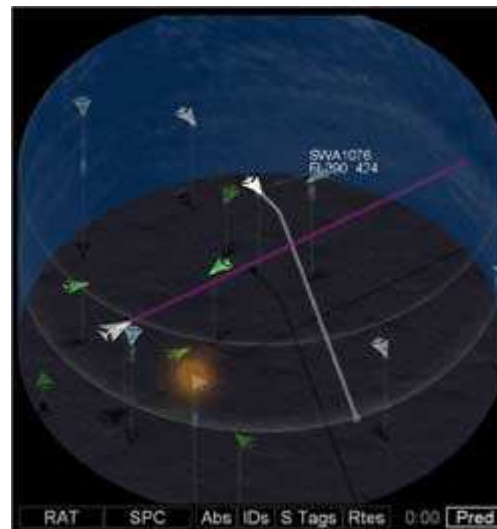
Cockpit Display of Traffic Information (CDTI)

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NASA Ames Flight Deck Research Laboratory

3D CDTI

2D/3D Weather Display: weather and terrain integrated into the CDTI display



<http://human-factors.arc.nasa.gov/ihh/cdti/cdti.html>

Advanced Cockpit Situation Display

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- Integrated CDTI and CD&R.
- Based on flight path “Intent”
- Detects conflicts up to 12 minutes in advance
- Presents pilot with list of pre-computed maneuvers
- User-preferred resolution types?



Acknowledgements

iFly A3 ConOps has benefitted from NASA's pro-bono involvement:

- **NASA's advanced airborne self separation ConOps and research**
- **Active iFly participation by [NASA Langley ATM Research Team](#)**
 - **David Wing, Maria Consiglio**
 - **Frank Bussink, previously at LaRc on loan from NLR**

Web site: <http://iFLY.nlr.nl>

Coordinator: Henk Blom (NLR)

A3 Concept of Operations documents:

- High level A3 available at the web site
- A3 ConOps will follow soon (final draft under review)

Thank You!