6.7 Avoidance Concept

This section introduces *Platform Independent Avoidance Concept* core functionality (fig. ??) modules responsible for *path finding* and *navigation* including *data fusion* interface. The sections are organized like follow:

- 1. Data Fusion (sec. 6.7.1) implementation details of *input interface* responsible for *processing partial known world data* into final visibility, obstacle, intruder, and, constraints ratings.
- 2. Avoidance Grid Run (sec.6.7.2) (inner avoidance run) the best path finding in one Avoidance Grid with situation assessment done.
- 3. Mission Control Run (sec . 6.7.3) (outer navigation run) main navigation and decision making algorithm for non-cooperative obstacle avoidance.
- 4. Computation Complexity (sec. 6.7.4) the computational feasibility study and weak point identification of our approach.
- 5. Safety Margin Calculation (sec. 6.7.5) the boundaries of Safety Margin and identified impact factors.

6.7.1 Data fusion

The data fusion interfaces Sensor Field and Information Sources from cell/trajectory properties. The Data Fusion Function is outlined in (??).

First there will be an outline of $Partial\ Ratings$ commutation. Then these ratings will be discredited into Boolean values as properties of $Avoidance\ Grid/Trajectory$. Then these Boolean values will be used for further classification of space into Free(t), Occupied(t), Restricted(t) and Uncertain(t).

All mentioned ratings are result of *Filtered Sensor Readings* from *Sensor Field* and *Information Sources* with prior processing. This section will focus on *final fuzzy value calculation* and *discretization*.

Note. All rating values are in range: [0, 1] and they were introduced in previous sections.

Visibility: The sensor reading of sensor if Sensor field returns a value of visibility for cell space in time of decision t_i .

The *visibility* for cell is given in (eq. 6.1) as minimal visibility calculated from all capable sensors in *Sensor Field*.

$$visibility(cell_{i,j,k}) = \min \begin{cases} visibility(cell_{i,j,k}, sensor_i) :\\ \forall sensor_i \in SensorField \end{cases}$$
(6.1)

The example of *visibility* calculation for *LiDAR* sensor is given in (sec. ??).

Note. Sensor reliability for visibility is already accounted prior data fusion. If not weighted average should be used instead.

Detected Obstacle: The *physical obstacles* are detected by *sensors* is *Sensor Field*. Each *sensor* returns *detected obstacle rating* in range [0, 1] reflecting the probability of obstacle occurrence in given cell.

The maximal value of detected obstacle rating is selected from readings multiplied by visibility rating to enforce visibility bias.

$$obstacle(cell_{i,j,k}) = \max \left\{ obstacle(cell_{i,j,k}, sensor_i) : \\ \forall sensor_i \in SensorField \right\} \times \dots$$
$$\dots \times visibility(cell_{i,j,k}) \quad (6.2)$$

The example of $detected\ obstacle\ rating\ calculation\ for\ LiDAR\ sensor\ is\ given\ in\ (sec.\ \ref{eq:second}??).$

Map Obstacle: The *Information Sources* are feeding *Avoidance Grid* with partial information of *Map obstacle rating*. *Map Obstacle Rating* shows the certainty that *charted obstacle* is in given cell. This property is bound to *Information Source* and it has *range* in [0,1].

The Map Obstacle Rating for cell (eq. 6.3) is calculated as product of maximal Map Obstacle Rating and inverse visibility. This gives visibility biased certainty of Map Obstacle.

$$map(cell_{i,j,k}) = \max \left\{ \begin{aligned} map(cell_{i,j,k}, source_i) : \\ \forall source_i \in InformationSources \end{aligned} \right\} \times \dots \\ \dots \times (1 - visibility(cell_{i,j,k})) \quad (6.3)$$

The example of Map Obstacle Rating calculation is given in (sec. ??).

Intruder: There is a set of *Active Intruders*, each intruder is using its own *parametric intersection model*. This parametric *intersection* model calculates *partial intersection ratings* representing *intersection certainty* ranging in [0, 1]. The more *partial intersection rating* is closer to 1 the higher is the probability of aerial collision with that intruder in that cell.

The geometrical bias is used for cumulative of multiple intruders, the intruders are not cooperative, therefore their occurrence can not be addressed by simple maximum. The proposed formula (eq. 6.4) is simply bypassing the intruder rating if there is one intruder. If there is more intruders the geometrical bias is applied.

$$intruder(cell_{i,j,k}) = 1 - \prod_{\forall intruder_i \in Intruders} \left(1 - intersection \begin{pmatrix} cell_{i,j,k}, \\ intruder_i \end{pmatrix} \right)$$
 (6.4)

The intruder intersection models are outlined in (sec. ??).

Constraint: The *constraints* are coming from various *Information Sources*, the *hierarchical constraint application* is resolved by higher level logic. All *constraints* in this context are considered as *hard*.

The Constraints rating (eq. 6.5) is in range [0,1] reflecting certainty of constraint application in cell (usually 1).

$$constraint(cell_{i,j,k}) = \max \left\{ constraint(cell_{i,j,k}, source_i) : \\ \forall source_i \in InformationSources \right\}$$
 (6.5)

The Constraint Rating calculation example for static constraints is given in (sec. ??), the example for moving constraints is given in (sec. ??).

Note. Weather is already considered in constraints, the weather is handled as soft/hard static/moving constraints.

Threat: The concept of threat is rating of expected harm to receive in given segment of space. The threat can be time-bound to decision time t_i (time sensitive intruder intersection models).

The harm prioritization is addressed by higher navigation logic (fig. 6.7). All sources of harm are considered as equal. Threat is formalized in following definition:

Definition 1. Threat is considered as any source of harm. The threat is maximal aggregation of various harm ratings. Our threat for specific cell is defined by (eq. 6.6).

$$threat(cell_{i,j,k}) = \max \left\{ \begin{array}{c} obstacle(cell_{i,j,k}), map(cell_{i,j,k}), \\ intruder(cell_{i,j,k}), constraint(cell_{i,j,k}) \end{array} \right\}$$
(6.6)

Reachibility: The *Reachibility* for trajectory reflects how safe is *path along*. The *Threat* (def. 1) for each cell has been already assessed. The set of *Passing Cells* is defined in *Trajectory Footprint* (eq. ??).

The Trajectory Reachibility is given as product of Threats along the trajectory (eq. 6.7). The Trajectory Reachibility can be calculated for each trajectory segment given as $\{movement_1, \ldots, movement_i\} \subset Buffer$ originating from $state_0$.

$$reachibility(Trajectory) = \prod_{PassingCells}^{\forall cell_{i,j,k} \in} (1 - threat(c_{i,j,k}))$$
(6.7)

Note. The *Reachibility* of *trajectory* segment gives the property of *safety* of route from beginning, until last point of segment. There can be a very unsafe trajectory which is very safe from beginning.

The *Reachibility* of *cell* is given by best trajectory segment passing trough the *given* cell. This is given by property, that every trajectory is originating from root $state_0$, which means that one safe route is sufficient to reach space in cell.

The *Trajectory segment* reachability is sufficient, because the overall performance is not interesting, the *local reachability* is sufficient. The cell reachability is formally defined in (eq. 6.8).

$$reachibility(cell_{i,j,k}) = \max\{Trajectory.Segment(cell_{i,j,k}).Reachibility: \\ \forall Trajectory \in PassingTrajectories(celli, j, k)\}$$
 (6.8)

Note. Function Trajectory.Segment $(cell_{i,j,k})$.Reachibility gives same results for any segment in $cell_{i,j,k}$, because (eq. 6.7) accounts each cell threat only once.

Discretization: The fault tolerant implementation needs to implement sharp Boolean values of properties mentioned before. The fuzzy values are usually threshold to Boolean equivalent. The operational standards for Manned Aviation [1] demands the fail rate below 10^{-7} , because there is no definition for UAS the minimal fail rate is expected to be at similar level.

The fuzzy values [0,1] are projected to Boolean properties of cell and Trajectory in following manner (tab. 6.1).

The high values of *Visibility* (eq. 6.1) and *Reachability* (eq. 6.8, 6.7) are expected. The low *threshold* for *threaths* values is expected. The error margin is solved by *Sensor Fusion* therefore initial *false positive* cases have low rate. The *Detected Obstacle Rate* (eq. 6.2), *Map Obstacle Rate* (eq. 6.3), *Intruder Rate* (eq. 6.4), and *Constraint Rate* (eq. 6.5) thresholds are considered low.

Threshold = 10^{-7}			
Visibile	$visibility(cell_{i,j,k})$	\geq	(1 - threshold)
Detected Obstacle	$obstacle(cell_{i,j,k})$	\geq	threshold
Map Obstacle	$map(cell_{i,j,k})$	\geq	threshold
Intruder	$intruder(cell_{i,j,k})$	\geq	threshold
Constraint	$constraint(cell_{i,j,k})$	\geq	threshold
Reachable Trajectory	reachibility (trajectory)	\geq	(1 - threshold)
Reachable Cell	$reachibility(cell_{i,j,k})$	\geq	(1 - threshold)

Table 6.1: Changing ratings from fuzzy to Boolean parameters.

Space Classification: The *Data Fusion Function* is outlined in (??). This classification is resulting into four distinct space sets.

The *Uncertain* space for decision time t_i is a portion of *Avoidance Grid* which *UAS* can not read with *Sensor Field*. The cells with $\neg Visible$ property. The *Uncertain* space is given by (eq. 6.9).

$$Uncertain(t_i) = \{cell_{i,j,k} : cell_{i,j,k} \in AvoidanceGrid(t_i), cell_{i,j,k}. \neg Visible\}$$
 (6.9)

The Occupied space for decision time t_i is a set of cell which are classified as Detected Obstacles. The Visibility is not an issue, due the initial damping in (eq. 6.2). The formal definition is the space portion where it is possible to detect obstacle bodies or their portions (eq. 6.10).

$$Occupied(t_i) = \left\{ cell_{i,j,k} : \frac{cell_{i,j,k} \in AvoidanceGrid(t_i),}{cell_{i,j,k}.DetectedObstacle} \right\}$$
(6.10)

The Constrained space for decision time t_i is Visible portion of Avoidance Grid where the Intruder or Constraint is present. The mathematical formulation is given in (eq. 6.11).

$$Constrained(t_i) = \begin{cases} cell_{i,j,k} \in AvoidanceGrid(t_i), \\ cell_{i,j,k} : cell_{i,j,k}.Visible, \\ cell_{i,j,k}.Constraint \lor cell_{i,j,k}.Intruder \end{cases}$$

$$(6.11)$$

The Free space is the space which is Visible and $\neg Obstacle$, $\neg Intruder$, and, $\neg Constrained$. The mathematical definition is simple set subtractions from Avoidance Grid (eq. 6.12).

$$Free(t_i) = AvoidanceGrid(t_i) - \dots$$

 $\dots - (Uncertain(t_i) \cup Occupied(t_i) \cup Constrained(t_i))$ (6.12)

The Reachable space for time t_i , used in Avoidance because its free and there is a safe trajectory, is given as a set of cells from Avoidance Grid which are Reachable. The mathematical definition is given in (eq. 6.13).

$$Reachable(t_i) = \left\{ cell_{i,j,k} : \begin{array}{c} cell_{i,j,k} \in AvoidanceGrid(t_i), \\ cell_{i,j,k} \cdot Reachable \end{array} \right\}$$
(6.13)

Note. The Reachable Space at decision time t_i : The Reachable space is non-empty set and its a subset of $Free(t_i)$ space:

$$|Reachable(t_i)| > 0, \quad Reachable(t_i) \subset Free(t)$$
 (6.14)

6.7.2 Avoidance Grid Run

Main Goal: The main goal of this section is to introduce the trajectory selection process, based on a *situation assessment*, originating from *Data Fusion Procedure* (sec. 6.7.1).

Note. The *rating calculation* is outlined in (sec. 6.7.1). Low cost sensor fusion example usable to feed our data fusion procedure is given in [2]. Semi-optimal concatenation trajectory search like ours can be found in [3].

Note. The Sensor Fusion Procedure is solving all following steps (sec. 6.7.1). The main purpose of Avoidance Run is finding best path under certain conditions.

Space Assessment Principle: The *Avoidance Grid* is fed trough *Data Fusion* (sec. 6.7.1). The process of *ratings assessment* (tab. 6.1) is given in (fig. 6.1):

- 1. Obstacle detection (fig. 6.1a) assessment of detected obstacles (eq. 6.2). The red (O) cells have Detected obstacle set as true. The other threats: map obstacles (eq. 6.3), intruders (eq. 6.4), constraints (eq. 6.5) are false. The red (0) cells are representing $Occupied(t_i)$ (eq. 6.10) space in $Avoidance\ Grid$ at decision time t_i .
- 2. Uncertainty assessment (fig. 6.1b) the uncertain cells are cells which status can not be assessed. The Visibility (eq. 6.1) is low. The Uncertain cells (yellow (U) mark) are equal to Uncertain(t_i) (eq. 6.9) in Avoidance Grid in decision time t_i . The Constrained(t_i) (eq. 6.10) space is equal to \varnothing in this example.
- 3. Trajectory reachibility evaluation (fig. 6.1c) the Reach Set given as Trajectory Set (eq. ??). is then projected trough Avoidance Grid and pruned according to (def. ??). Reachable Trajectories (eq. 6.7) are only those contained in Free(t_i) space (eq. 6.12). The Reachable Trajectories are denoted as green lines. The Unreachable trajectory segments are denoted as red lines.
- 4. Cell reachibility evaluation (fig. 6.1d) the evaluation of cells reachibility is going according to (eq. 6.8). The Reachable cells are those which contains at least one Reachable Trajectory Segment.

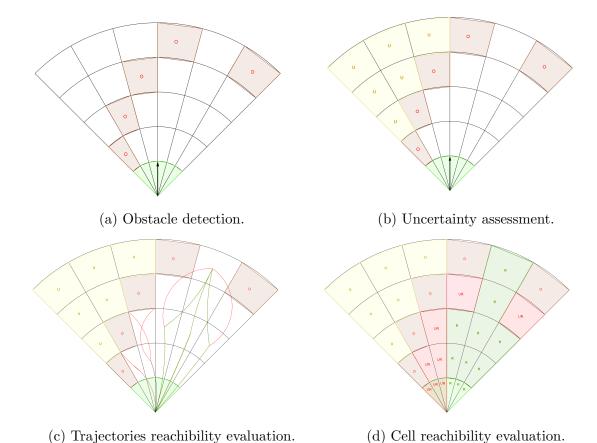


Figure 6.1: Significant steps of Avoidance grid run (inner loop).

Finding Best Path: ¹ Each $cell_{i,j,k}$ in Avoidance Grid at decision time t_i has assessed ratings according to data fusion procedure (tab. 6.1). The following properties are know prior the trajectory selection:

- 1. Reachibility for each $cell_{i,j,k}$ (eq. 6.8).
- 2. Reachibility for each $Trajectory(\circ)$ (eq. 6.7).
- 3. Free Space as non empty set of cells in Avoidance Grid (eq. 6.12), with Reachable Space (eq. 6.13).
- 4. Goal Waypoint WP_G from Mission Control Run (sec. 6.7.3).

The Algorithm (alg. 6.1) is based on shortest path search. Navigation is trying to reach goal waypoint, therefore it tries to shorter distance between trajectory final cell and goal waypoint. If there is reachable space two situations can occur:

- 1. Goal waypoint is inside the Avoidance Grid the avoidance cell is $\operatorname{cell}_{i,j,k}$ containing goal waypoint if reachable.
- 2. Goal waypoint is outside the Avoidance Grid the avoidance cell is closest cell considered as outer cell to goal waypoint.

¹Avoidance Run Function Implementation: RuleEngine/MissionControl/MissionControl.m:: findBestPath(avoidanceGrid)

The Avoidance Path selection is simple lowest cost selection of $Trajectory \in cell_{i,i,k}$.

```
Algorithm 6.1: Find best Path in Avoidance Grid
 Input : Cell[] reachable (eq. 6.13), Waypoint goal, AvoidanceGrid(t_i) grid
 Output: Trajectory avoidancePath, Error message
 # Initialization & Reachibility test;
 avoidancePath = \emptyset;
 if reachable == \emptyset then
     return [avoidancePath,"No path available, empty Reach Set"]
 end
 avoidanceCell = GetRandomCell(reachable);
 # Look for for goal cell;
 if goal \in grid then
     # Goal is inside Avoidance Grid, Check if reachable;
     avoidanceCell = grid.selectCellXYZ(goal);
     if avoidanceCell.Reachable != true then
        return [avoidancePath," Waypoint not Reachable"]
     end
 else
     # Goal is outside Avoidance Grid, look for closest reachable \text{cell}_{i,j,k};
     minimalDistance = distance(avoidanceCell,goal);
     for cell_{i,j,k} \in reachable do
         if distance(cell_{i,j,k},goal) < minimal Distance then
             if isOuterCell(cell_{i,j,k}) then
                \begin{aligned} & \text{minimalDistance} &= \text{distance}(\text{cell}_{i,j,k}, \text{goal}); \\ & \text{avoidanceCell} &= \text{cell}_{i,j,k}; \end{aligned}
         end
     end
 end
 # Reachable cell was found, Look for cheapest reachable trajectory;
 avoidancePath = GetRandomTrajectory(avoidanceCell);
 for trajectory \in avoidance Cell \&\& trajectory.Reachable == true do
     if trajectory.Cost < avoidancePath.cost then
         avoidancePath = trajectory;
     end
 end
 message = \emptyset;
 return [avoidancePath, message]
```

Note. Outer cell is a $cell_{i,j,k}$ which has at least one wall directly neighbouring with outer

space $(Universe - KnownWorld(t_i))$. The outer cell is selected to prevent navigation to the trap.

Space Assessment Example: For better understanding there is following example of space assessment and Best Path Selection.

The *UAS* (blue plane) is following *mission plan* in open space. Then there is a detection of an *collision situation* (fig. 6.2). The *Obstacle* is detected in *top-right* Avoidance Grid corner.

The LiDAR hits are denoted as red filled circles. The Avoidance Grid space is constrained by black dashed line. The Avoidance Grid is separated into 5 layers going from top to bottom. The Reach Set is projected as a set of Trajectories with colorization.

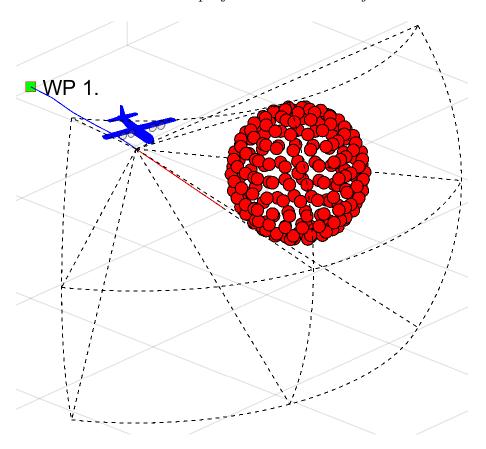


Figure 6.2: Example: The situation to be evaluated by Avoidance Run.

Visibility Assessment: The visibility assessment (fig. 6.3) divides the *Avoidance Grid* into two

- 1. Visible space (blue filled cells) is space trough which LiDAR rays roamed freely until they hit an Obstacle.
- 2. *Uncertain space* (black filled cells) is space where no *LiDAR ray* passed nor hit. Therefore its status is uncertain.

Note. The detected obstacle cells are part of visible space, because there is certainty about its containment.

The *Reach Set* trajectories are colored based on their visibility, blue for *uncertain* trajectories and *green* for visible trajectories.

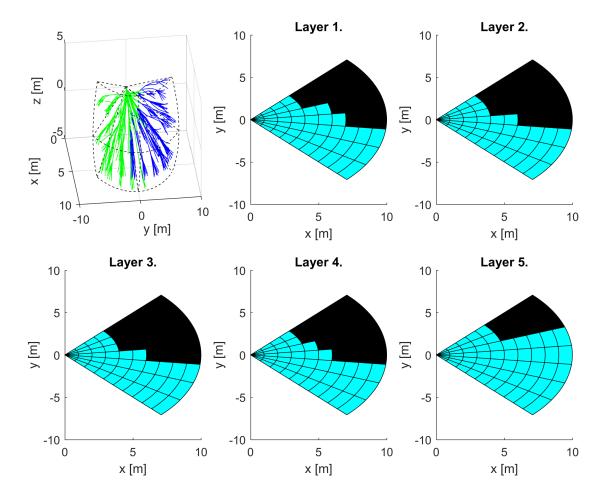


Figure 6.3: Example: The *Visibility* evaluation by *Avoidance Run*.

Reachibility Assessment: For Each trajectory the *Reachibility* is assessed (fig. 6.4). The *Obstacle Space* and *Uncertain Space* are rendering *reachibility*, effectively separating *trajectories* into two categories:

- 1. *Unreachable Trajectories* (red lines) there is at least one trajectory segment leading trough *Obstacle* or *Uncertain* space.
- 2. Reachable Trajectories (green lines) all trajectory segments are lying in Free space.

Cells in Avoidance grid are divided in similar matter, depending on count of *reachable* trajectories passing trough them:

- 1. Unreachable Cells (red fill) there is no trajectory trough free space or the cell is not in free space.
- 2. Reachable cells (green fill) there is at least one feasible trajectory reaching free cell.

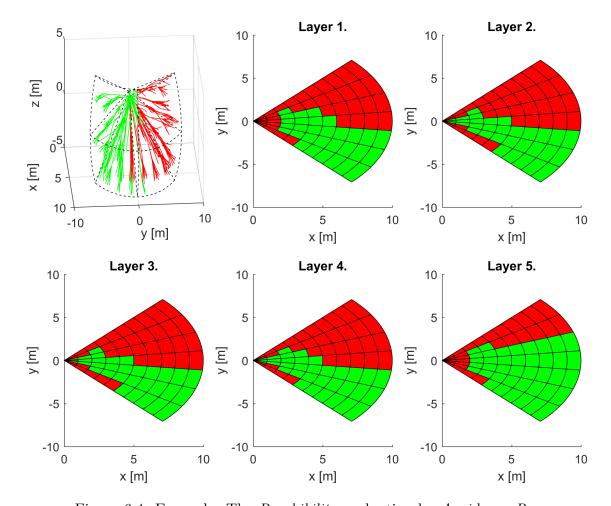


Figure 6.4: Example: The *Reachibility* evaluation by *Avoidance Run*.

Note. The best avoidance path is selected form reachable outer cells (green fill in fig. 6.4), depending on goal waypoint according to (alg. 6.1).

6.7.3 Mission Control Run

Introduction and Motivation: This section will introduce Navigation Concept using Reach Set Approximation. The Avoidance Framework Concept (fig. ??) defines Navigation Module as sub-system for long term trajectory tracking. The Avoidance Grid Run (sec. 6.7.2) is solving the Path Search problem inside operation space constrained by Avoidance Grid for time t_i .

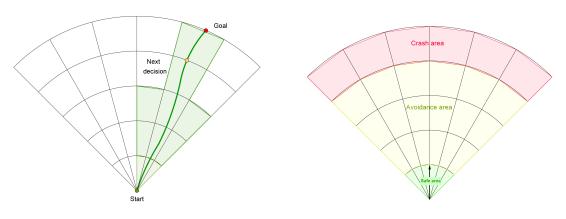
There is a need to build a trajectory between Waypoints which are further away than distance of one Avoidance Grid. The UAS is controlled via Movement Automaton. The Movements which are in Movement Buffer can be replaced with another movements. This feature of Movement Automaton is called Movement Chaining (eq. ??).

To join the multiple $Avoidance\ Grids$ paths following terminology needs to be established (fig. 6.5a):

- 1. Goal (Selecting Goal of Navigation) the point where UAS want to get in global coordinate frame. The selection needs to be defined.
- 2. Next Decision the point when the next Avoidance Grid Run is applied. The outline of events and triggers is required. The decision will be made in next decision time t_{i+1} .

The Avoidance Grid from UAS viewpoint can be separated into following zones (fig. 6.5b):

- 1. Crash Area (last layers) there is no place for safe return and the border of Avoidance Grid is near. The Decision Point needs to lie before this zone.
- 2. Avoidance Area (middle layers) the area of Active Avoidance Maneuvering. The Reach Set Approximation performance (sec. ??) is important in this area.
- 3. Safe Zone (first layers) there is space for safe return or damage mitigation.



(a) Mission control run example.

(b) Grid Zones.

Figure 6.5: Definitions for *Mission Control Run* (outer loop).

Joining Avoidance Grid Runs (fig. 6.6) example portrays Avoidance Grid Runs invoked on various Decision Points to achieve Navigation functionality. The UAS (blue plane) is flying Mission (green numbered waypoints). The Avoidance Grid boundary (black dashed line) for each Decision Point (UAS position at time t_i). Following example of Navigation (fig. 6.7) run is shown:

- 1. Mission Start (fig. 6.6a) UAS at the start of the mission have one Avoidance Grid at its position to determine the Navigation Path to Waypoint 2 (goal waypoint). The planned path (red line) is leading directly to Avoidance Grid boundary (black dashed line).
- 2. Mission End (fig. 6.6b) UAS have reached last waypoint. All Avoidance Grid boundaries (black dashed line) for all runs are drawn along flown trajectory.
- 3. Waypoint Reach (fig. 6.6c) the waypoint is inside Avoidance Grid, the navigation path (red line) leads directly to goal waypoint. (Excessive Avoidance Grid boundaries are removed.)
- 4. Next Waypoint (fig. 6.6d) the new Goal Waypoint is selected, the UAS moves to new goal (invoking Avoidance Grid Runs when necessary).

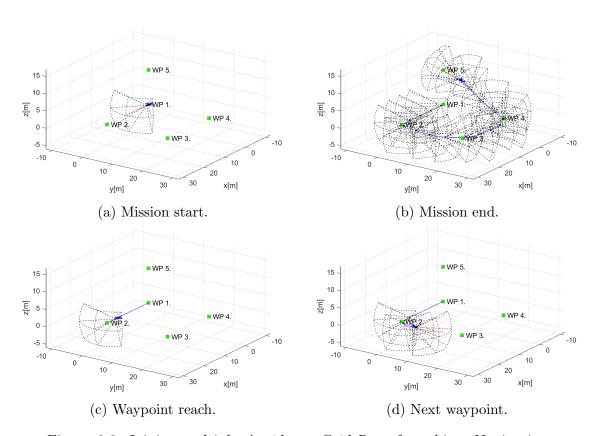


Figure 6.6: Joining multiple Avoidance Grid Runs for achieve Navigation.

General Concept: ² The *General Concept* is taken from [4, 5], consisting from following main modules:

- 1. Navigation Loop module responsible for Navigation providing Goal Waypoint.
- 2. Data Fusion (background in sec. 6.7.1) module responsible for Surveillance Data Feed.
- 3. Situation Assessment module responsible for UAS Safety Evaluation.
- 4. Avoidance Run (background in sec. 6.7.2) responsible for Avoidance Path selection.

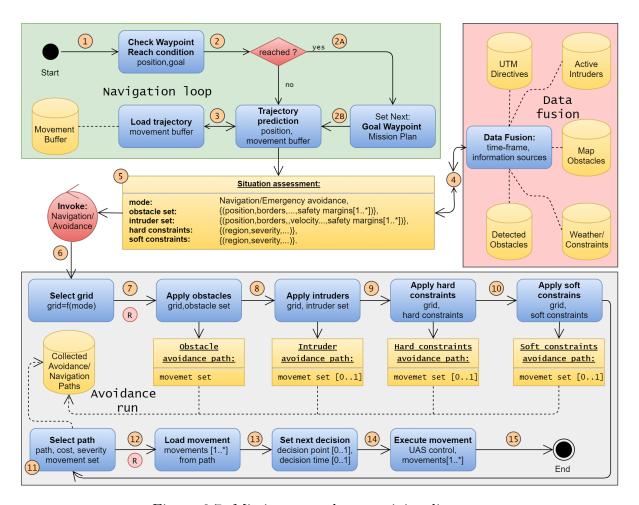


Figure 6.7: Mission control run activity diagram.

The main changes to *Navigation architecture* are given in *Mission Control Run* activity diagram (fig. 6.7):

- 1. Situation Assessment added event-based mode switching control.
- 2. Avoidance Run added hierarchical evaluation for Avoidance Path selection. Prioritizing threat avoidance according to a type.

²Mission Control Run Function Implementation: RuleEngine/MissionControl/MissionControl.m::runOnce(.)

The Operation Mode is introduced, based on Situation assessment and Triggering Events one of following modes are selected in Avoidance Run:

- 1. Navigation Mode the UAS is navigating trough Airspace following cost effective patterns and obeying Airspace Authority (UTM). The Navigation Grid is a instance of Avoidance Grid (sec. ??) with initialized Navigation Reach Set (ex. Harmonic Reach Set Approximation (sec. ??)).
- 2. Emergency Avoidance Mode the UAS is threatened by obstacle, intruder, hard constraint or soft constraint, the UAS is navigating trough Airspace following safe avoidance patterns and minimizing the impact of possible damages. The Avoidance Grid is term used for Emergency Avoidance Mode. The Avoidance Reach Set Approximation is initialized in Avoidance Grid (ex. Chaotic Reach Set Approximation (sec. ??))

Note. Depending on Operation Mode the pair of Avoidance Grid and Reach Set is selected in Avoidance Run part.

The Navigation Grid and Avoidance Grid shares the space segmentation pattern, therefore the Data Fusion (sec. 6.7.1) needs to be evaluated only once for both grids.

Decision Time Frame ($[t_i, t_{i+1}]$): The Mission Control Run is executed for Decision Time Frame bounded to the period of the UAS executed movement (fig. ??).

The *UAS System* (sec. ??) controlled by *Movement Automaton Implementation* (sec. ??) *Planned Movements* can be changed at any time. The real impact on control is shown after the *actual movement* is executed.

Note. For our Movement Automaton Implementation movements the average movement duration is 1/velocity second (tab. ??, ??).

The *Decisions* are made based on *system* state in *current* time-frame started at t_i for next time frame starting at t_{i+1} .

Note. Because the Decision Delay is crucial in Avoidance System it is beneficial to have short time movements. On the other hands, the length and duration of movements is impacting Reach Set Complexity. The proper construction of movement automaton is greatly impacting overall approach performance.

Initialization: The *UAS* is going to solve a problem for *Rules of the Air* (eq. ??). Using control scheme (fig. ??) with given *Sensors*:

$$Sensors = \{LiDAR, ADS - B\}$$

$$(6.15)$$

The sensors obstacle assessment into avoidance grid is outlined for static obstacles in (sec. ??) and for moving obstacles in (sec. ??.)

The Data Fusion Procedure is given as follow:

$$DataFusion = \{RatingBasedDataFusion \quad (sec. 6.7.1)\}$$
 (6.16)

Then the *UAS system* (sec. ??) with *Movement Automaton Implementation* (sec. ??) with empty movement buffer:

$$MovementBuffer = \{\}$$
 (6.17)

The Avoidance Grids for both Operation Modes are created with identical space segmentation. The Reach Set Approximations are loaded based on initial UAS State at decision time 0. The Reach Set Approximation is always selected based on UAS System State. The initial Operation Mode is set up as Navigation. The initialization is summarized like follow:

$$AvoidanceGrid(0) = \{UAS.position(0), AvoidanceReachSet(UAS.ReachSet)\}$$

$$NavigationGrid(0) = \{UAS.position(0), NavigationReachSet(UAS.ReachSet)\}$$

$$OperationMode = Navigation$$

$$(6.18)$$

The *Mission* is set up as a set of *ordered waypoints*. The *initial goal waypoint* is *first waypoint*. The initialization is summarized like follow:

$$Mission = \{Waypoint_1 \dots Waypoint_n\}$$

$$GoalWaypoint = Mission.waypoint_1$$

$$LastWaypoint = Mission.waypoint_n$$
(6.19)

The actual threats are set as empty sets for decision time $t_i = 0$:

$$obstacles = \{\}, intruders = \{\}, hardConstraints = \{\}, softConstraints = \{\} \quad (6.20)$$

Navigation Loop (1st-3rd step): The purpose of *Navigation Loop* is to select proper *Goal Waypoint* from *Mission* (sec. ??). If *last waypoint* have been reached the *Landing Procedure* will be initiated and *Mission Control Run* Ends.

First start with definition of waypoint reach condition (def. 2) and Unreachable waypoint (def. 3).

Definition 2. Waypoint Reach Condition for current decision time t_i for UAS position and current Goal Waypoint is satisfied only if:

$$distance(UAS.position(t_i), GoalWaypoint(t_i))$$

$$\leq \\ 2 \times \max \{length(movement) : \forall movement \in MovementSet \} \quad (6.21)$$

Note. The movements in our solution have uniform length of 1 m (tab. ??, ??), therefore the waypoint reach condition is satisfied when distance to goal waypoint is lesser than 2 m. The maximal movement length has impact on navigation/avoidance precision.

Definition 3. Unreachable Waypoint. The Goal Waypoint is evaluated as unreachable in decision time t_i when Avoidance Grid Run (alg. 6.1) can not find the navigation/avoidance path leading to it.

Formally: The Avoidance/Navigation Grid has range defined as final layer distance. When the Goal Waypoint is in range of Grid:

$$Grid(t_i).range \ge distance(UAS.position(t_i), GoalWaypoint(t_i))$$
 (6.22)
and following condition is satisfied:

$$\forall cell_{i,j,k} \in Grid(t_i) \not\exists cell_{i,j,k}.Reachable == true \land \dots \\ \dots \land distance(cell_{i,j,k}, GoalWaypoint(t_i)) \leq \dots \\ \dots \leq 2 \times \max \{length(movement) : \forall movement \in MovementSet\}$$
 (6.23)

The Goal Waypoint is unreachable.

Then the Navigation Loop is invoked every decision time t_i , Mission Control Run (fig. 6.7), it is described as sequence of following steps:

1st Check Waypoint Reach Condition - the *UAS position* for given time frame t_i is checked under condition (eq. 6.21). If condition is met continue with 2nd step otherwise continue with 3rd step.

2nd Set Next Waypoint - until following condition is met:

$$GoalWaypoint == LastWaypoint$$

Set next goal waypoint like follow:

$$GoalWaypoint = Mission.getNextWaypoint()$$

Otherwise enforce Landing sequence (Out of Scope).

3rd Trajectory Prediction - the *Movement Buffer* is loaded with planned movements from *Movement Automaton*. The *future trajectory* is predicted according to (eq. ??):

PredictedTrajectory = $Trajectory(state = UAS.state(t_i), buffer = futureMovements)$

The Predicted Trajectory is used in 5th step Situation Assessment.

Data Fusion (4th step) The *Data Fusion* (sec. 6.7.1) in this context is *Threat Sets* preparation for *Avoidance Run*. It is depending on values of *Boolean values* defined in (tab. 6.1) for *threat* classification.

Note. Avoidance Grid's Data fusion (sec. 6.7.1) is run in 7th- 10th step (fig. 6.7).

The *static obstacles* source is from LiDAR scan received at least at beginning of current decision frame t_i :

$$obstacles = LiDAR.scan(UAS.position(t_i))$$

The intruders source are valid active intruders notifications received from ADS-B In positioned to future expected positions at decision time t_{i+1} :

$$intruders = ADS - B.getActiveIntruders(t_{i+1})$$

Note. The Intruders needs to be predicted for the next decision time-frame starting at time t_{i+1} Due their mobility.

The hard/soft constraints are obtained from Information Sources and the area of next decision time t_{i+1} Avoidance Frame is used as space parameter in search. The sets of hard and soft constraints are obtained in following manner:

 $hard Constraints = Information Sources. fuse (Avoidance Grid(t_{i+1}))$

 $softConstraints = InformationSources.fuse(AvoidanceGrid(t_{i+1}))$

The results of *Data Fusion* threats set preparation are used in next step.

Invoke Navigation/Avoidance based on Situation Assessment (5th-6th step): The deciding events depending on Trajectory Prediction (3rd step) and Data Fusion (4th step) (fig. 6.7) are following:

1. General Events are triggered regardless Operation Mode. They are considered after specific mode events are handled and Navigation/Avoidance Grid is selected:

- a. Empty Movement Buffer (MovementBuffer = \varnothing) if there is no movement in Movement buffer to be executed (from 3rd step: Load Trajectory), the Avoidance Run is enforced to run with Navigation/Avoidance Reach Set Approximation to generate new path.
- b. Waypoint Reached (2nd step) the Navigation Loop run is forced to set goal Goal Waypoint. If last waypoint from Mission (sec. ??) the Landing Procedure is enforced.
- c. Waypoint Unreachable this type of event is very situations based. The Waypoint Reachibility (assumption. ??) has not been relaxed, therefore this event is not properly handled in approach. The implementation considers selecting next waypoint in mission as a goal waypoint of first waypoint if unreached/unreachable waypoints are exhausted.
- 2. Navigation Mode Events are triggered if Operation Mode is set as Navigation:
 - a. Empty Navigation Grid (|threats| = 0) if movement buffer contains at least one movement, the Avoidance Run is omitted. The Operation Mode stays in Navigation Mode.
 - b. Collision Case Resolution (|ActiveCollisionCases| > 0) there is new/active Collision Case (sec. ??), the Navigation Reach Set Approximation trajectories will be constrained according to active Collision Case(s) requirements. If there exists at least one Reachable avoidance path, the Operation Mode will remain Navigation. If there is no Reachable avoidance path, the Operation Mode switches to Emergency Avoidance.
 - c. Static Obstacle Detection (LiDAR.Hits > threshold) if static obstacle set contains at least one detected obstacle (sec. ??) intersecting with Navigation grid the Operation Mode will be switched to Emergency Avoidance Mode.
 - d. Intruder Detection (intruders > 0) if active intruders set contains at least one intruder which expected impact area (intersection models (sec. ??)) Navigation grid the Operation Mode will be switched to Emergency Avoidance Mode.
 - e. Hard or Soft Constraint Occurrence ($|hardConstraints| > 0 \lor |softConstraints| > 0$) if hard/soft constraint set contains at least one constraints which intersects (static constraints (sec. ??), moving constraints (sec. ??)) Navigation grid the Operation Mode will be switched to Emergency Avoidance Mode.
- 3. Emergency Avoidance Events are triggered if Operation Mode is set as Emergency Avoidance:
 - a. $Empty\ Avoidance\ Grid\ (|threats|=0)$ if there is no detectable threat, the remainder of $avoidance\ path$ is removed from $Movement\ Buffer$. The $Operation\ Mode$ is switched to $Navigation\ and\ new\ navigation\ path$ is selected.

5th Situation Assessment - if there is any flag raised by *Event Triggers*, there is an avoidance situation.

The Event Triggers describe complex Operation Mode switching. The simplified principle is following: If UAS is in Emergency Avoidance Mode Always Invoke Avoidance Run. If UAS is in Navigation Mode Invoke Only if Necessary.

If there was event trigger continue with 7^{th} step, otherwise wait for next decision time t_{i+1} , execute movement and continue with 1^{st} step.

6th Invoke Navigation/Avoidance depending on the Operation Mode the Reach Set/Grid pair is selected. The future $state(t_{i+1})$ in next decision frame t_{i+1} is necessary for Grid/Reach Set initialization. The next decision frame initial state is obtained by prediction:

$$state(t_{i+1}) = Trajectory(state(t_i), currentMovement)$$

The Reach Set Approximation is loaded based on mode and $state(t_{i+1})$. The Grid is initialized as $Free(t_{i+1})$ (eq. 6.12) for all cells.

Avoidance Run (7th-15th step): The Avoidance Run goal is to obtain Path represented as $Trajectory(state(t_{+1},MovementBuffer))$ (eq. ??) from Navigation/Avoidance Grid and associated Navigation/Avoidance Reach Set Approximation.

If the Operation Mode is set as Navigation Mode the algorithm continues with 11^{th} step. Otherwise the Avoidance Grid Space Assessment is run multiple times to obtain $Reachable(t_{i+1})$ (eq. 6.13). The Threat Data obtained from 4^{th} step are used.

7th Apply Obstacles - The *Space assessment* (tab. 6.1) for *Avoidance Grid* is calculated with following threat modification:

$$intruders = \varnothing, softConstraints = \varnothing, hardConstraints = \varnothing$$

The Find Best Path (alg. 6.1) is applied, the resulting avoidance path is labeled as Obstacle Avoidance Path.

8th Apply Intruders - The *Space assessment* (tab. 6.1) for *Avoidance Grid* is calculated with following threat modification:

$$softConstraints = \varnothing, hardConstraints = \varnothing$$

The Find Best Path (alg. 6.1) is applied, the resulting avoidance path is labeled as Intruders Avoidance Path.

9th Apply Hard Constraints - The *Space assessment* (tab. 6.1) for *Avoidance Grid* is calculated with following threat modification:

$hardConstraints = \emptyset$

The Find Best Path (alg. 6.1) is applied, the resulting avoidance path is labeled as Hard Constraint Avoidance Path.

10th Apply Soft Constraints - The *Space assessment* (tab. 6.1) for *Avoidance Grid* is calculated without any modification.

The Find Best Path (alg. 6.1) is applied, the resulting avoidance path is labeled as Soft Constraints Avoidance Path.

Note. The 7th to 10th steps are code-optimized for efficient calculation.

11th Select Path - based on Operation Mode the Navigation/Avoidance Path is selected.

The Navigation Path for Navigation Mode is selected by standard Find Best Path (alg. 6.1) procedure. The Navigation Reach Set Approximation can be constrained by Rule Engine (fig. ??).

The Avoidance Path for Emergency Avoidance Mode is selected from Collected Avoidance Paths with following priority:

- 1. Soft Constraints Avoidance Path if exists continue with 12th step, if does not exist try to select:
- 2. Hard Constraints Avoidance Path if exists continue with 12th step, if does not exist try to select:
- 3. Intruders Avoidance Path if exists continue with 12th step, if does not exist try to select:
- 4. Obstacle Avoidance Path continue with 12th step.

Note. The Waypoint Reachibility (assumption ??) is weakened to the point that it is necessary for waypoint to be Reachable only in static obstacle environment. The Constrained and Occupied spaces are shrunk in following matter to increase UAS survival chances. There are following relaxations with their conditions:

- 1. Soft Constraint Relaxation they are breakable by default. This kind of situation is allowed to happen under any circumstances.
- 2. Hard Constraints Relaxation they can be broken in case of emergency (airspace constraints) or UAS robust build (Weather Constraints). This kind of situation is allowed under very specific conditions depending on broken constraint severity.

- 3. Intruder Occupied Space Relaxation this can be broken if and only if there is guarantee the Intruder dynamic and navigation algorithm allows to avoid Collision with UAS. This relaxation should be used as the last resort.
- 12th Load Movements the Movement Buffer is flushed for future decision times t_{i+1}, \ldots, t_{i+k} . The Navigation/Avoidance Path movements are pushed into Movement Buffer instead. The executed movement for decision time t_i remains (because its executed at this time point).

13th Set Next Decision - the next decision point is set depending on circumstances:

- 1. Navigation Mode (no active collision cases) Decision Point is set as point before UAS enters into Crash Zone (fig. 6.5b) in Navigation Grid.
- 2. Navigation Mode (at least one active collision case) Decision Point is set after next movement execution. Current decision point $UAS.Position(t_i)$, next decision point $UAS.Position(t_{i+1})$.
- 3. Emergency Avoidance Mode (any circumstances) Decision Point is set after next movement execution. Current decision point $UAS.Position(t_i)$, next decision point $UAS.Position(t_{i+1})$.
- 14th Execute Movement the *First Movement* from *Movement Buffer* is loaded to be executed in decision time frame $[t_{i+1}, t_{i+2}]$.
- 15th Finish Avoidance Run if the *UAS* is flying, continue with 1st step.

Decision Frame: The mission control run (fig. 6.7) describes overall process in sequence. The orchestration overview is given in (fig. 6.8).

The key idea is to explain what happen in one decision frame. The mission control run is implemented as multi-thread application which sends the signals between threads. Each thread is semi-independent process with forced synchronization on decision frame switch.

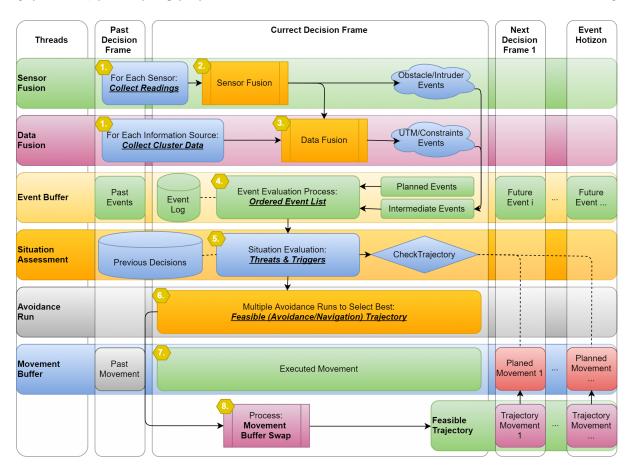


Figure 6.8: Mission control orchestration diagram.

The notable threads and their roles & responsibilities are summarized like follow:

- 1. Sensor Fusion responsible for processing real time sensor array (sec. ??). The output is partial known world assessment (sec. ??). An obstacle detection and intruder detection events can be risen by this thread.
- 2. Data Fusion responsible for enhancing data from sensor fusion by mixing data originating from information sources (sec. ??). The information sources used in this work contains constraints originating from geo-fencing, weather, airspace restrictions. This thread is delayed by sensor fusion. A data fusion procedure strongly depends on operational space context (controlled/non-controlled airspace). The output of data fusion is full known world assessment (sec. ??, 6.7.1). The UTM-related and constraint related events can arise from data fusion.
- 3. Event Buffer special data structure to store, raise, handle, prioritize events raised by other threads.
 - The *implemented events* are listed in 5th-6th step of *mission control run*. The events can be categorized like follow:
 - a. Planned events raised in previous decision frames to be executed in actual or future decision frame.

b. Intermediate events - raised in actual decision frame by other threads to be solved intermediate.

The event buffer thread executes following event-related activities:

- a. Storing the events are stored in event log. The trace is useful for process and rule fine-tuning.
- b. Raising the combination of events (multiple avoidance events) (example sec. ??) can trigger additional avoidance behaviour in form of combined-event.
- c. *Handling* the events are handled by invoking the *situation assessment* or by rule engine invocation (sec. ??).
- d. *Prioritizing* the multiple events can be risen during one *decision frame*. Some events can not be merged and needs to have proper prioritization before handling, like the *obstacle detection* events before *intruder detection event*.
- 4. Situation Assessment invoked by event buffer o assess situation, responsible for proper avoidance run (sec. 6.7.2) dataset preparation and invocation. The main responsibility is to check planned trajectory feasibility stored in movement buffer as planned movements.
- 5. Avoidance Run invoked by necessity to plan trajectory originating from event buffer or situation assessment threads. The avoidance run produces one or multiple avoidance/navigation feasible trajectories according to 7th-11th step of mission control run.
- 6. Movement Buffer represents movement automaton implementation (sec. ??). The movement automaton consumes movement automaton buffer each decision frame contains exactly one movement. The movements can be viewed as:
 - a. Past movements already executed movements in past decision frames.
 - b. *Executed movement* actually executed movement in current decision frame, this movement can not be changed.
 - c. Future movements future planned movements to be executed after current decision frame expires. These movements outlines planned trajectory (predictor mode sec. ??).
- 7. Feasible Trajectory consists of future planned movements taking place directly after correct decision frame. If its necessary, the planned trajectory in movement buffer is no longer feasible, the planned movements will throw away and replaced by trajectory movements.

The roles & responsibilities of each thread have been explained to outline their orchestration and roles in mission control run (fig. 6.7). The numbered steps in (fig. 6.8) shows the threads orchestration in following manner:

- 1. Sensor & Data fusion data set preparation/collection the sensor readings are collected trough multiple past and over current decision frame. Each sensor reading is filtered and processed according to best practices.
 - The raw information from various data sources is loaded for relevant space clusters. The relevant space clusters are determined based on UAS expected position.
- 2. Sensor fusion the readings from sensors are preprocessed according to (sec. ??, ??).
- 3. Data fusion the information sources are preprocessed according to (sec. ??, ??).
- 4. Event evaluation process the events are evaluated, if there is any triggering event (5th-6th mission control run steps) the situation evaluation process is called.
- 5. Situation evaluation process the situation is evaluated according to $5^{\rm th}$ - $6^{\rm th}$ mission control run steps.
- 6. Feasible trajectory selection process from collected navigation/avoidance trajectories (7th-10th mission control run steps). If there are more feasible trajectories (increasing threat) the one compliant with the most of the threats is selected.
- 7. Movement execution the movement for current decision frame is being executed.
- 8. Movement buffer swap if there is a new feasible trajectory the future movements for next decision frames are flushed away. The movement buffer is then filled with feasible trajectory movements.
 - Note. This step impacts the duration of future decision frames.

6.7.4 Computation Complexity

Introduction: The *Computation Complexity* one mission control run assessment is necessary to identify the strong and weak points of approach. Lets get trough modules to assess notable calculations/algorithms complexity on high abstraction level.

Navigation Loop: I the navigation loop, the waypoint reach condition (eq. 6.21) is checked, this is unitary operation with worst complexity O(1). The selection process of the next Goal Waypoint can get trough all waypoints in the mission if they are all unreachable the complexity is O(|waypoints|).

The *notable steps* complexity is following:

Reach Condition: O(1)

Select Next Waypoint: O(|waypoints|)

Data Fusion: The data fusion is all about threat selection.

If UAS is in *controlled airspace* it needs to iterate over received *collision Cases* to select *active ones*. The complexity of this step is linear, therefore boundary is given as O(|collisionCases|).

Thresholding *Detected Obstacles* is done by simple comparison of LiDAR ray hits in given $cell_{i,j,k}$ of $Avoidance\ Grid$.

Any loading of threats from information sources is depending on clustering. The Airspace Clustering is considered as static for our setup. Therefore the count of active airspace clusters has main impact on complexity. The count of information sources is static and not changing over mission time. Information sources usually implement Hash search function with complexity $O \ln |searchedItemSet|$.

The computation complexity boundaries for Data fusion in our setup are following:

Select Active Collision Cases: O(|collisionCases|)

Threshold Detected Obstacles: O(|cells|)

Note. The real-time clustering is hard non-polynomial problem [6]. Usually all information sources and sensor have polynomial complexity of processing. The controlled airspace clusters are usually set for very long period of time. Therefore Obstacle Map, Airspace Constraints, and, Weather Constraints can be considered as preprocessed

Situation Assessment: The *Situation Assessment* is evaluating triggering events. The *evaluation* is usually simple existence question without further calculations. The *complexity* of *event evaluation* for our case is O(1). There are 8 triggers. The count of *triggers* needs to be accounted in complexity boundary:

$$O(|triggers| \times eventEvaluationComplexity)$$

Note. The trigger calculation complexity needs to stay low, because the triggers are verified every Mission Control Run. The Avoidance Run trigger frequency should be very low under normal conditions.

Avoidance Run: The Avoidance run is most critical part of Mission Control Run, because Avoidance Path calculation. The Navigation Path calculation is less complex (Rule engine is not accounted), therefore Emergency Avoidance Mode is assumed.

The threat insertion is realized in 7^{th} to 10^{th} step. The first is Avoidance Grid filled with Static Obstacles. The Avoidance Grid is designed to separate rotary LiDAR ray space into hit count even cells. Insertion of LiDAR scan into Avoidance Grid complexity depends on total cell count. The upper boundary for insert obstacles is given like follow:

Insert Obstacles:
$$O(|cells|)$$

The intruders intersection model type impact the insertion complexity. The linear intersection (sec. ??) is going trough maximum of layers count cells.

The body volume intersection model (sec. ??) can check the simple intersection condition over all Avoidance Grid in worst case, therefore complexity for this check is bounded by count of cells.

The Maneuverability Uncertainty Intersection (sec. ??) can hit all cells in Avoidance Grid. The calculation complexity boundary is exponential depending on horizontal/vertical spread in [rad]. The intersection implementation was done ad-hoc. The impact of intersection application is visible only when there is more than 4 concurrence intruders (fig. ??).

The *complexity boundary for* intruder insertion is given like follow:

Note. The intruder intersection is critical in non-controlled airspace. The main complexity gain in controlled airspace is from rule application. Our rule complexity is in worst case depending on Reach Set node count and Active Collision Cases count.

Apply Our Rules:
$$O(|activeCollisionCases| \times |nodes|)$$

For *Hard/Soft Constraints* The algorithm used for intersection polygons was selected based on study [7], the selected algorithm *Shamos-Hoey* [8]. The *calculation complexity* boundary is given like follow:

Hard Constraints Intersection:

$$O(|cells| \times |hardConstraints| \times \max |constraintPoints|^2)$$

Soft Constraints Intersection:

$$O(|cells| \times |softConstraints| \times \max |constraintPoints|^2)$$

Each threat category application in Mission Control Run is done after each intersection in 7th to 10th step. All ratings (tab. 6.1) expect Reachibility(cell_{ij,k}) and Reachibility(Trajectory) are calculated. The calculation complexity boundary for one reachibility rating is O(1). (eq. 6.7, 6.8). The Recalculate Reachibility operation applied $4\times$ have maximal complexity boundary given as follow:

Recalculate Reachibility:
$$O(4 \times (|nodes| + |cells|))$$

Each time at the end of in 7th to 10th step the *Avoidance Path is Selected*. The *Worst Case* (expected) scenario is to *select* four paths for each *treath* application. The algorithm for *best path selection* (alg. 6.1) iterates over all *cells* in avoidance grid and over all *trajectories* passing trough that cell. The complexity boundary for *path selection* is given as follow:

Select Path:
$$O\left(4 \times \left(|cells| + \frac{|nodes|}{|cells|}\right)\right)$$

Conclusion: Overall approach complexity is *low*. If proper *Information Sources* with efficient clustering and *intersection models for intruders* are used, the approach will stay within *non-polynomial complexity*. The average load time for *testing scenarios* is summarized in (tab. ??).

Note. The calculation of Reach Set is eliminated by pre-calculation for state range [9].

6.7.5 Safety Margin Calculation

Safety Margin Determination: To determine *safety Margin* the *Rule of Thumb* is used:

$$maximalBodyRadius \le safetyMargin \le 2 \times turningRadius$$
 (6.24)

The lower boundary is given by UAS construction, because the UAS body is considered as unit ball with radius given as maximal body radius.

The *upper boundary* is optional, The *double of* turning radius is used by the *conservative approach* [10].

Safety Margin Bloating: The discretization of Reach Set, Operation Space and Decisions imposes standard mixed integer problem in terms of safety. This section covers non-exhaustive list of possible Safety Margin Bloats in our approach.

Own Position Uncertainty Bloat: The *sensor fusion* is precise, but not *exact* in own UAS position determination. The maximal usual disparity needs to be accounted into *Safety Margin*.

Intruder Position Uncertainty Bloat: The sensor fusion of Intruder is precise, but not exact in own UAS position determination. The maximal usual disparity needs to be accounted into Safety Margin.

Weather bloat: The Weather impact type may result to increased safety margin. Example: UAS is not humidity resistant, the clouds will be avoided from greater distance.

Airspace bloat: The *Airspace* depending on cluster or *country* may require greater separation distances, depending on circumstances. The example can be UAS directive to keep minimal separation from obstacles. The *Safety Margin* is usually overridden by UTM directive value.

UTM Synchronization Bloat: Both UAS decision times were synchronized. The intruder can be offset for full decision frame. This is not an assumption, but it shows critical performance. Usually safety margin is bloated for (worst case offset):

$$safetyMarginBloat = \begin{pmatrix} intruderVelocity \times \dots \\ intruderDecisionFrame \end{pmatrix} [m, ms^{-1}, s]$$
 (6.25)

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