

Radio - Navigation

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01 Basic Radio Propagation Theory

Basic principles

- A1A**
- M 1 Type Modulation main carrier
- S 2 Nature Signal
- I 3 Type Information

phase: fraction of one wavelength expressed in degrees from 000° to 360°

phase difference: angular difference

pulse power of a radar pulse string
↳ peak power

Modulation: adding of low frequency (deep slow voice) onto high frequency carrier wave

Pulse modulation used in Radar
↳ burst of high energy
→ peak pulse power

$$\lambda = \frac{c}{f} \quad c = 3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ m/s}$$

Single Side Band (SSB)
↳ HF two-way communication
→ used to receive meteorological information (HF-VOLMET)

Frequency Band	Frequency Range	Wavelength	Uses
Very low frequency (VLF)	3 - 30 kHz	100 - 10 km (myriametric)	Very long range navigation
Low frequency (LF)	30 - 300 kHz	10 - 1 km (kilometric)	Decca, NDB, Loran-C and LW/MW broadcasting stations
Medium frequency (MF)	300 - 3000 kHz	1 km - 100 m (hectometric)	NDB and radio range broadcasting stations
High frequency (HF)	3 - 30 MHz	100 - 10 m (decametric)	Surface sky wave HF radio telephony
Very high frequency (VHF)	30 - 300 MHz	10 - 1 m (metric)	VHF radio telephony, VDF, VOR, marker beacon and ILS
Ultra high frequency (UHF)	300 - 3000 MHz	1 m - 10 cm (decimetric)	ILS glide path, DME and surveillance radars
Super high frequency (SHF)	3 - 30 GHz	10 - 1 cm (centimetric)	Surveillance radars, Doppler, aerodrome surface movement radar, airborne weather radar and radio altimeter
Extremely high frequency (EHF)	30 - 300 GHz	1 cm - 1 mm (millimetric)	Aerodrome surface movement radar

Antennas

flat plate antenna generates less side lobes than parabolic reflector

PSR Primary Radar System

One directional antenna for TX and RX

Dipole length should be $\frac{1}{2}$ wave length

Directional antennas:

- Loop
- Parabolic
- Slotted planar
- Helical

Omnidirectional antennas:

- Sense
- Dipole

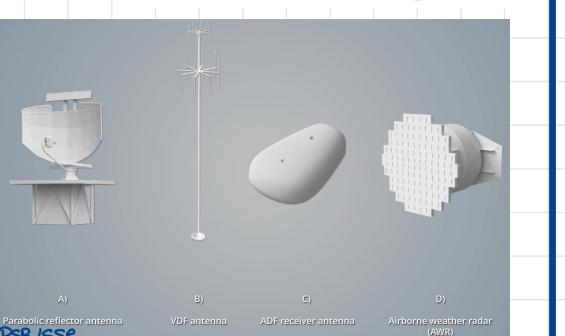
Antenna shadowing

→ block signal with airframe when orbit

Slotted antennas

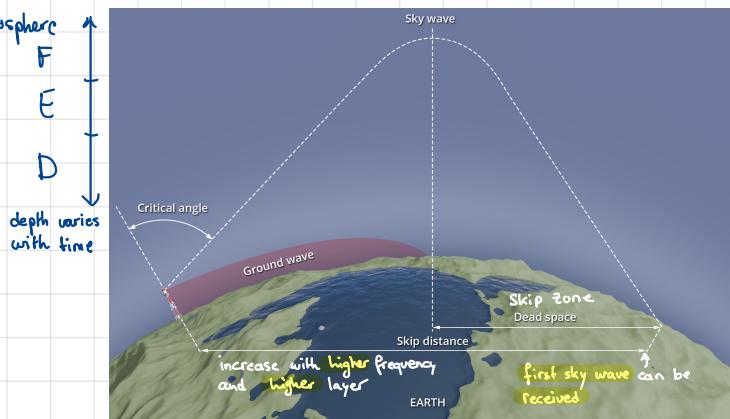
→ narrow beam, eliminates lateral lobes

GPS use helical antennas → signal has circular polarization



Wave propagation

- fading** Twilight/night Effect
- beginning to end twilight
- Mostly at night combination of sky and ground waves
- MF Most Fading
- VLF Very Least Fading



VLF ground wave only

VHF Limited range because of Earth's curvature

Line of sight propagation

Space waves No sky wave under normal conditions

MF: daytime ground wave

nighttime ground wave and sky wave

HF daytime sky wave } ground wave is very small
nighttime sky wave }

uses refraction from ionospheric layers

Multipath interference in ground-based radar system is caused by echoes from targets caused, for example, by ground reflection

02 Radio Aids

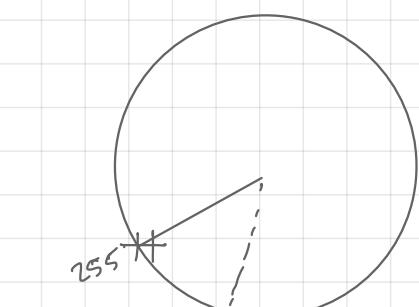
Ground direction finding (DF)

VHF Direction Finder

- VDF used to provide position in absence of radar
↳ 30 - 300 MHz = 10 m to 1m (metric)
→ doesn't take into account the wind
- Variation at the station
- Multipath may result in bearing errors
- ATC can use auto-triangulation from different VDF position to find aircraft's position

Class letter associated with VDF bearings relates to accuracy of angle in degrees

- Class A $\pm 2^\circ$
- Class B $\pm 5^\circ$
- Class C $\pm 10^\circ$
- Class D



Refraction change of speed

Doppler effect

$\frac{f}{f_0} \rightarrow \frac{f}{f_0} \rightarrow f \downarrow$
TX RX TX

Used in VOR, GPS and MTS and turbulence mode & AWL

$$\text{Range [NM]} = 1.23 \cdot \left(\sqrt{H_1} + \sqrt{H_2} \right)$$



radial QDR bearing from station
QDM magnetic track to station

Non-directional radio beacon (NDB)/ Automatic direction finding (ADF)

Considered established during approach with ADF

- within half full scale deflection for the ILS and VOR
- within $\pm 5^\circ$ of the required bearing for the NDB

Identify NDB → for A2 modulation, use the ADF function

↳ if failure no warning

- BFO circuit → makes the NDB ident audible by imposing a tone on the carrier wave to identify NON/A1A
→ Amplitude and frequency stay the same
→ Activated automatically

Highest interference for an ADF → interference during the night

Locator

Low power NDB used for approach

Low range = 10 - 25 NM

LF/MF

Differ from NDB because different 1) operational use 2) transmission power

ADF indication in the cockpit is relative bearing on a fixed card indicator

With an A2 modulated wave you can hear the wave in ADF mode

ADF → you can hear commercial radio station 190 - 1750 kHz

hecto-kilometric

Factor to affect most NDB/ADF:

static interference

night effect → change in direction of the plane of polarization due to reflection in ionosphere
→ Skyswave distortion of the null position and is maximum at dawn/dusk

absence of failure warning system

Coastal refraction affect mainly NDB

max inland and bearing crosses coast at acute angle

Mountain effect → caused by diffraction and affects NDB

→ caused by reflections onto steep slopes of mountainous terrain + big error on bearing

Quadrantal errors → caused by signal bending by aircraft metallic surfaces (refraction)
→ and is compensated for

"Hunting" needle → ground wave contaminated by sky wave

NDB range depends on (day/time):

power output

nature of earth surface over which ground wave travels

At night → range increases, accuracy decreases

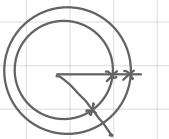
Magnetic variation

- NDB aircraft position
- VOR beacon position

VHF omnidirectional radio range (VOR): conventional VOR (CVOR) and Doppler VOR (DVOR)

VOR

- Principle in VOR bearing measurement → phase comparison
- Same radial unequal phase ref unequal variable signal
- Different radial equal phase ref unequal variable signal
- Established on VOR approach → half full-scale deflection



Principle

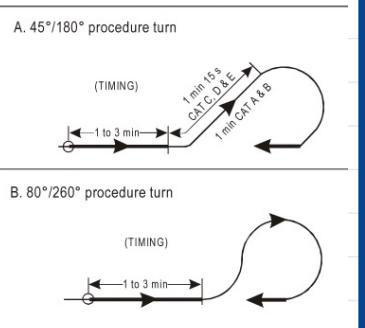
- Radial determined by phase difference between variable signal and reference signal
- 108 to 117.95 MHz (VHF), metric
- Rotation of the variable signal 30 Hz
- Full scale deviation 10°
- Navigation, voice (ATIS) and identification modulation signal found on VOR freq

Presentation and interpretation

- A VOT is a test VOR
- Terminal VOR (TVOR)**
 - Limited range / shorter range part of approach and departure at major aerodrome
 - odd decimal (109.25, 108.20) not to confuse with ILS
- Doppler VOR (DVOR)**
 - Up to 75 NM from terminal area
 - Doppler effect received as a frequency modulated signal
- RMI**
 - Tail indicates current radial

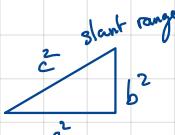
Errors and accuracy

- Scalloping**
 - negative effect on the accuracy of navigation
- Mountain effect** concerns both VOR and NDB
- VOR used beyond published range
 - interference from other transmitter
- Integrity improved by using automatic ground monitoring system

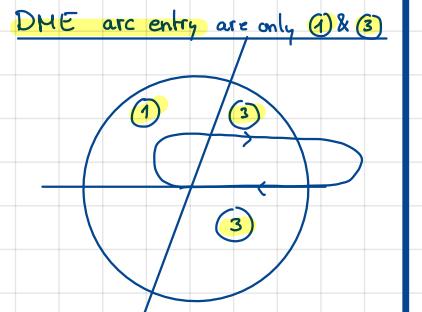


Distance-measuring equipment (DME)

- pulse pair is unique to that aircraft
 - Rho-theta from terminal VOR/DME
 - VOR/DME collocated** → DME freq is UHF paired with VOR VHF frequency
300 - 3000 MHz
 - Ident every 40 seconds
- ↳ DME Morse code ident has higher pitch and broadcasts 1 every 40 s



- TACAN can provide DME distance
- The TX doesn't lock on its own signal as DME ground transmits on different frequency
- Display counter rotating throughout their range
 - airborne receiver conducting range search



Instrument Landing System (ILS)

Principles

Localiser (LOC)

- located 300 m at end of RWY
- VHF space waves 108.10 - 111.975 MHz
- only frequencies with odd number in first decimal (108.1, 108.15, 108.3)

Glide path (GP)

- located on non-approach end of RWY, 300 m behind threshold
- operates in the UHF band
- selected automatically by ILS/LGC frequency
- Intercept 3-10 NM from threshold

- DDM (Depth of Modulation) increase linearly with angular displacement

Side lobes

- Produced by both LOC and GP
- Give rise to false centre-line and false GP indication

- Back beam** may be used as non-precision approach on reciprocal RWY

- Using HSI → must set course arrow to localizer front-beam

- Fake beam** only found above the correct GP

- FM-immune filter** makes the LOC only receive less radio/television signals

Marker beacons

- Operate on 75 MHz carrier frequency

Outer marker

- Blue
- low frequency modulation 400 Hz
- 2 dashed per second continuously
- 6500 m from threshold

Middle marker

Amber

- medium frequency modulation 1300 Hz
- continuous series of alternate dots and dashes
- 1000 m (0.6 NM) from threshold
- Indicates the position for missed approach decision during CAT I

Inner marker

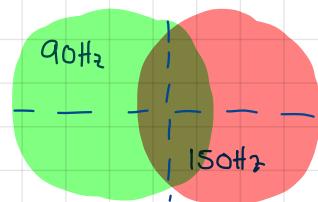
White

- high frequency modulation 3000 Hz
- 6 dots per second continuously

Presentation and interpretation

- ILS identification 2-3 letter Morse Code
- Full scale deflection CDI 2.5° GP 0.7°

- 90 Hz and 150 Hz amplitude modulated on LOC and GP



Coverage and range

LOC



GP



Errors and Accuracy

Facility performance categories

- CAT I down to 200 ft above RWY THR
- CAT II down to 50 ft above RWY THR
- CAT III down and along RWY surface

	DH [ft]	min RVR [m]
CAT I	> 200	550
CAT II	> 100 and < 200	300
CAT III A	≤ 50	200
CAT III B	≤ 50	> 75 and 200
CAT III C	no DH	no RVR

$$ROD = 68.5$$

$$\text{Height [ft]} = \frac{\text{GS} \cdot \text{distance [NM]}}{60} \cdot 6080$$

Microwave Landing System (MLS)

Frequency SHF band

- 300 kHz frequency separation
- 200 channels available worldwide

- Separate azimuth and elevation transmitters, DME facility

Set up:

- Select published channel
- Select approach profile in azimuth and elevation

- The time interval between TO and FROM determine aircraft pos in coverage area

- Addition of DME/P necessary to obtain three dimensional positions

- Flight director bars → ok for curved approach

- 2D representation of a 3D segmented approach

- Time the passage of 2 scanning beams from transmitters co-located with DME

- Advantage: transmission can be interrupted to avoid reflections by stationary objects

- MMR → reduces training requirements

Coverage and range

- ± 40° of the RWY centreline

- Range = 20 NM

Radar

Pulse techniques

- Min range determined by pulse length

- Max unambiguous range determined by pulse recurrence frequency

PRR (Pulse Recurrence Rate)
= number of pulses per second

To double the range in radar increase power by 4 back and forth = $4 \times 4 = 16$

AWR radar most commonly used in civilian aircraft
↳ uses primary radar principle

All Radar = Pulse

PRR (Pulse Recurrence Rate) = number of pulses per second

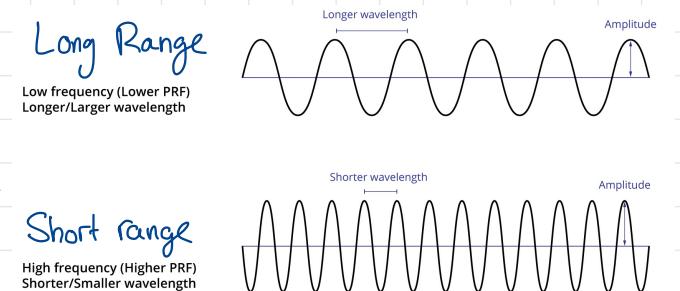
Max range determined by pulse repetition frequency (PRF) (must wait for return to avoid ambiguity)

Pulse length determines minimum measurable range

must be short, if object close, bounce will happen while radar not finished transmitting

Double range, power increase by 16

To increase range, PRF becomes lower (need more time for echo) and pulse length larger (more energy put in pulse)



Ground Radar

Primary radar: bearing, distance of targets

Max range from ATC Long Range Surveillance Radar = 200 - 300 NM

Primary continuous wave most suited for short range operation (think of RA, uses continuous wave as well)

Primary radar detect aircraft not equipped with SSR

Moving target indicator eliminates all stationary targets

ATC use input from various sensors

Best screen picture with short pulse length and narrow beam

Aerodrome Surface Movement Radar (ASMR)

↳ give indication of shape and type of aircraft

Minimum info for controllers surveillance is: Position and any map info needed (if available) aircraft identification and level

Airborne weather radar

Main tasks:

- Weather detection
- Ground mapping
- Precipitation and turbulence detection

Principles

Wavelength of about 3 cm centimetric (to reflect wet hailstones)

STF band 9375 MHz (9.375 GHz)

10 GHz optimum for large droplets and small antenna

Antenna stabilization → in Roll and Pitch

Pencil beam (3-5° width)

→ detect ground features beyond 50-60 NM (more power in narrow beam)

Flat plate antenna pencil or conical beam with downward tilt for ground mapping

Radar Control Panel

- On/Off switch
- Turbulence
- Mode switch: WX, WX+T, MAP → changes shape and orientation of transmission beam down to ground
- Gain - control setting: adjusts receiver sensitivity
- Tilt/ Autotilt switch: adjusts according to altitude

Presentation and Interpretation

- Reflection intensity: Green, Yellow, Red, Magenta
- Azimuth - marker and range lines: relative bearing, distance to thunderstorm
- Errors, Accuracy, Limitations

AWR caution on ground: risk in polar area of mistaking coastal ice for real coastline

Factors Affecting Range and Accuracy

- Shadow area: behind heavy rain, no radar wave penetration
- Tilt settings: altitude, thunderstorm related, greatest reflectivity from wet hail and rain
- High tilt may miss thunderstorm

Application for Navigation

- Mapping mode: navigation function, large ground zone echo
- Use of cosecant beam which enables scanning of large ground zone up to max 50-60 NM (short range)
- Avoid thunderstorm: fly around, avoid red/magenta areas
- Turbulence detection: heaviest near thunderstorm cell edge
- Wind shear detection: Doppler technique, inertial data, air data

Secondary Surveillance Radar and transponder

- ATC based on airborne transponder replies
- Ground ATC secondary radar provides extra information
- Airborne transponder provides coded-reply signals for ground radar, TCAS
- SSR advantages: better range, more info, lower power required, active participation
- Interrogator transmits pulse pairs
- Interrogation modes: Mode A transponder code 4-digit 4096 codes
Mode C pressure altitude in 100ft increment
Mode S selects aircraft address, transmits flight data

Interrogation and reply frequency: 1030 MHz (ground)

1090 MHz (aircraft)

Decoding time between pulse pairs determines which mode

Special position identification (SPI) pulse IDENT transmitted on ATC request (normal pulse train)

Mode S compatibility with Mode A and C required Mode S Broadcast transmits info to all mode S transponder

Mode S receives interrogations from TCAS and SSR

Mode S interrogation contains aircraft address, selective call, or all-call address

ICAO aircraft address hard-coded in Mode S transponder

24-bit address used in Mode S transmission for specific aircraft targeting

↳ aircraft identified by unique code

Mode S: enhanced vertical tracking, 25-ft altitude increment

SSR used for ADS-B

ATC display system presents: pressure altitude, flight level, registration, GS

Selector modes: OFF, STDBY, ON (Mode A), ALT (Mode A, C, S), reply lamp

06 Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSSs)

Global navigation satellite systems (GNSSs)

Main GNSSs

NAVSTAR GPS (USA)

GLONASS (Russia)

Galileo (Europe, under construction)

BeiDou (China, under construction)

GNSS Operation

Two modes: SPS (civilians), PPS (authorised users)

Three segments: Space, Control, User

1) Space segment (eg NAVSTAR GPS)

Broadcasts on UHF frequencies: L1, L2

SPS uses L1, PPS uses L1 and L2

Transmits ranging signal: PRN code (identification of satellites), timing, navigation

Navigation message contains:- clock correction (correct satellite time)

- UTC parameters

- ionospheric model

- satellite health

L1 (higher frequency) transmits C/A code (only code for civilian) and P code

L2 transmits only P code

2 non-identical atomic clock for time reference

2) Control Segment

Consists of master control station, ground antenna, monitoring stations

Monitors constellation, corrects orbital parameters, uploads navigation data

Detects malfunctioning satellites



3) User Segment

Provides 3D position, speed, precise time

Receiver calculates distance by transmission and reception time difference

Initial distance: pseudo-range (includes receiver clock error)

4 unknowns ($x, y, z, \Delta t$) need 4 satellites for positioning

Synchronizes time reference with 4 satellites (multi-channel receiver)

Calculates ground speed via SV Doppler shift or position change

NAVSTAR GPS integrity

RAIM: consistency checks among range measurements (aircraft based) determines integrity of GNSS navigation signal using only GPS signals

Basic RAIM needs 5 satellite (to find error)

6 satellite to isolate faulty (which one)

Different GNSS have unique data and services

but compatibility and interoperability of NAVSTAR and GLONASS

Errors and accuracy factors

- Ionospheric propagation delay → most significant error
- Dilution of Precision (DOP)
- Satellite clock error
- Satellite orbital variations (ephemeris)
- Multipath
- UERE computed from these factors
- Geometric Dilution of Precision (DOP) depends on satellite geometry (position) and number
- Satellite orbit errors due to solar winds, gravitation from Sun and Moon

IPD Errors Ionospheric propagation delay

- Reduced by modelling or using two frequencies
- UERE represents the residual errors in receivers, which have not been corrected
- GDOP calculates position accuracy from UERE and DOP

Ground-, satellite- and aircraft-based augmentation systems

- (GBAS) Ground-based augmentation systems
 - Ground errors measured, relayed for GNSS signal correction errors due to ionospheric and tropospheric delay
 - ICAO GBAS standard: data link in ILS-VOR systems VHF band (108-118 MHz)
 - GBAS station coverage ~20 NM
 - Guidance: terminal area, 3D final approach segment (FAS) VHF + differential position corrections
 - One station supports aircraft within coverage: approach data, corrections, GNSS integrity
 - Software coverage: ± 10° of final approach path, 15-20 NM distance, ± 35° up to 15 NM
 - FAS data unused outside this area
 - GBAS + GPS = LAAS (aircraft closer to ground station has more precision)
 - GBAS approach = GLS approach • Requires 4 satellites



SBAS Satellite based

- Ground equipment measure errors, relayed for navigation satellite correction
- Data link frequency = GPS signal frequency UHF
- Geostationary satellites enable wide area broadcast Wide area differential GPS
- Pseudo-range measurements to geostationary satellite like GPS satellites
more area than GPS
- 2 Elements: ground infrastructure (monitoring, processing), communication satellite
- Supports 3D Type A and B approaches
- Examples: EGNOS (Europe) European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service 3 geostationary satellites
WAAS (USA)
MSAS (Japan)
GAGAN (India)
- Improves accuracy, integrity; alerts within 6 seconds of GPS malfunction (instead of 3h)
- Able to provide approach and landing operation with vertical guidance

ABAS Aircraft based

- Uses GPS constellation redundancy or combines GNSS measurements with other navigation sensors for integrity control
- GNSS-only ABAS = RAIM
- Additional onboard sensors = AAIM measures FD, FDE
Typical Sensors: barometric altimeter, IRS

07 Performance Based Navigation

Performance-based navigation (PBN) concept

PBN principle

RNAV/RNP factors:

- Accuracy: Conformance of true and required position
- Integrity: Trustworthiness of system's information; Includes timely, valid alerts
- Continuity: Uninterrupted function capability
- Purpose: Optimize airspace utilization
- Awareness: Flight crew, ATC must know RNAV/RNP capabilities
- PBN vs conventional: PBN non-sensor specific
- Raw vs computed difference → can check validity and consistency of computed data
- Availability: System's annual usable time percentage

RNP: navigation performance within an airspace

PBN components

Memory: IS A

- NAVAID Infrastructure
- Navigation Specification RNAV2, RNP2, RNAV5
- Navigation Application

• Can not be based on NDB (too imprecise)

PBN scope

- Oceanic/Remote, En-route, Terminal Phases: Linear lateral performance/time constraints
- Approach Phase: Linear/angular laterally guided ops

Navigation specification

- RNAV vs RNP: Difference is on-board performance monitoring/alerting required in RNP
- Navigation Functional Requirements

RNAV/RNP Functions:

- Lateral deviation
- Distance/bearing to waypoint
- GS/time to waypoint
- Navigation data storage
- Failure indication

RNP and RNAV specs

- X means aircraft follows a lateral navigation within X NM accuracy during 95% of the flight time
- Higher accuracy aircraft: May lack functional requirements for less accurate specs
- RNAV 10/ RNP 4: Oceanic/remote phase
- RNAV 5: En-route, arrival phases outside 30NM STAR
- RNAV 2/ RNP 2: Navigation specs
- RNP2: En-route, oceanic/remote phases
- RNAV2: En-route continental, arrival, departure phases
- RNAV 1/ RNP 1: Arrival, departure phases STAR
- RNP APCH: Approach phase
- RNP AR APCH: Approach phase authorization Required
- RNP 0.3: All phases (except oceanic/remote, final approach); Primarily helicopters
- RNAV 1/ RNP 1/ RNP 0.3: Enroute phases, low-level IFR helicopter flights

Use of Performance-based navigation (PBN)

Specific RNAV and RNP System Functions

Fixed Radius Tracks

- Fixed Radius Turn (FRT) → en-route

RF radius-to-fix leg based on fixed radius terminal approach

Fly-by / Fly over

- Fly-by waypoint requires turn anticipation to allow tangential interception of the next segment of a route or procedure
- Fly-by → used in RNP
- Fly-over turns are excluded

Offset flight path

- lateral offset can be specified in increment of 1NM up to 20NM

RNP path terminator

- specific type of termination of the previous flight path
- CA: Course to an Altitude
- FA: Fix to an Altitude
- CF: Course to a Fix

Performance-based navigation (PBN) operations

PBN Principles

Assumed to be zero and depends on integrity of Nav database

- Path Definition Error (PDE): Inability to specify desired path accurately
- Flight Technical Errors (FTE): Path-following error executed by autoflight system/pilot
- Navigation System Error (NSE): Navigation system accuracy / Estimated position and actual position
- Total System Error (TSE): Geometric sum of PDE, FTE, NSE
- Navigation Accuracy: Depends on TSE

On-board Performance Monitoring and Alerting

- Flight Technical Errors: Managed by on-board systems/flight crew procedures
- Navigation System Errors: On-board equipment requirement for RNP
- Path Definition Error: Managed by gross reasonableness checks of nav data
- Estimate Position Error (EPE): Compared with required navigation specification depending on navigation sensor

Abnormal Situations

- Abnormal and Contingency Procedures: Use in case of loss of PBN capability
 - Fail to engage correct approach mode
 - Loss of satellite signal
 - CDI > half-scale displacement

Database management

- Navigation Database: Must be valid for current AIRAC cycle

Additional Terms

- RNP: Required Navigation Performance
- ANP: Actual Navigation Performance

Requirement of specific RNAV and RNP application

RNAV 10

- Requires 2 independant LRNSs: INS, IRS / FMS, GNSS
- Navigation capability time extendable

RNAV 5

- Manual data entry acceptable

RNAV 1 / RNAV 2 / RNP 1 / RNP 2

- Fly SID/STAR: retrievable by route name, conforms to charted route
- Route modification: insertion / deletion of waypoints
- No manual entry of lat/long or place/bearing/distance

RNP APCH

- LNAV with GNSS, vertical guidance with SBAS or Baro - VNAV
- Baro - VNAV: aerodrome temperature within range if not auto-temp compensated
- LNAV/VNAV and LPV minima: 3D operations ^{↪ Final approach}
- LPV minima: requires FFS data block, SBAS
- RNP APCH not flown unless retrievable and conforms to charted procedure
- Don't fly RNP APCH in case of discrepancy

RNP AR APCH

↪ require authorization

Advance RNP (A-RNP)

Incorporates RNAV 5, RNAV 2, RNAV 1, RNP 2, RNP 1, RNP APCH not RNAV APCH

PBN PinS Approach

- Designed for helicopters, RNP APCH procedure, LNAV or LPV minima
- Includes "proceed VFR" or "proceed visually" from MAPt to landing

3D Approaches

- RNP APCH (Baro - VNAV)
- GLS (GBA Landing system)
- PAR (Precision approach radar)
- ILS
- RNP APCH (SBAS)