

# Landing Risk Assessment of Carrier-Based Aircraft Based on Fuzzy Multi-Attribute Group Decision Making

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**Abstract.** In allusion to the special characteristic of longitudinal loop risk assessment in landing process of carrier-based aircraft, this paper extends the concept of decision-maker, and proposes a method of fuzzy multi-attribute decision making with normal fuzzy linguistic variables as decision-making information. Based on the establishment of carrier-based aircraft landing model, the expressions of risk evaluation indicators are ensured, and the relative attribute weight is calculated by the simulation of the safe flight area in landing process. The application of risk assessment is implemented by analogy between standard points and decision-maker. The analysis of numerical examples shows that the method is practical and the application in risk evaluation is reasonable. Multipoint decision information is complete and decision results accord with distributions of touchdown points. Comprehensive evaluation of flight safety with different pilots can be realized.

**Keywords:** Normal Fuzzy Number; Multi-Attribute Group Decision Making; Safe Flight Area; Relative Attribute Weight; Landing Risk Assessment

## 1 Introduction

Multi-attribute group decision making utilizes attribute information and attribute weights in advance to order and pick out the best one for a group limited alternatives [1-2]. As the complexity and fuzziness of objects in real, we always express decision information as linguistic variables or intervals [3]. Multi-attribute group decision making based on linguistic variables has been the research focus in decision making domain [4-8].

To solve the landing risk evaluation problem of carrier-based aircraft, we first present a brief problem description for risk assessment. The normal fuzzy linguistic variables is expressed for decision making, and a developed approach to solve multi-attribute decision making for landing risk is extended. An illustrative example is shown for proving the rationality of new decision method.

## 2 Problem Description

During landing process, the flight status of carrier-based aircraft should be guided by Landing Signal Officer (LSO) [10]. LSO, pilot and aircraft constitute a whole landing control system, as shown in Fig.1. After catching cable, LSO describes light result from positions and gestures to evaluate operation capability [9, 11].

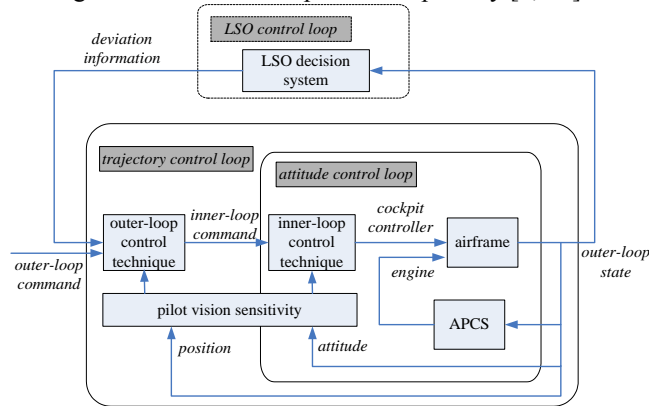


Fig. 1. LSO-pilot-aircraft guidance system

We know it is difficult to compare different pilots operation capabilities during the whole approach, and bring a convenience to comprehensive evaluation [12].

## 3 Normal Fuzzy Linguistic Variables

**Definition 1.** Let  $\hat{s}_\theta = [x_\theta, \sigma_\theta]$  is normal fuzzy linguistic variable, as shown in Fig.2, where membership function  $\mu_{\hat{s}_\theta}(x) : R \rightarrow [0,1]$  is [13-15]

$$\mu_{\hat{s}_\theta}(x) = e^{-\left(\frac{x-x_\theta}{\sigma_\theta}\right)^2} \quad (\sigma_\theta > 0). \quad (1)$$

Where  $\hat{s}_\theta \in \hat{S}$ ,  $x_\theta$  and  $\sigma_\theta$  are the expect and variance of normal fuzzy linguistic variable respectively [16].

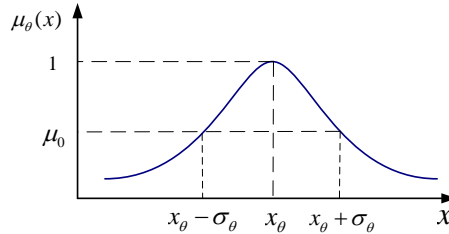


Fig. 2. Normal fuzzy linguistic variables

**Definition 2.** Let  $\hat{s}_1 = [x_{\theta_1}, \sigma_{\theta_1}]$  and  $\hat{s}_2 = [x_{\theta_2}, \sigma_{\theta_2}]$  are two normal fuzzy linguistic variable,, the possibility degree  $p(\hat{s}_1 \geq \hat{s}_2)$  of normal fuzzy linguistic variable  $\hat{s}_1 \geq \hat{s}_2$  by  $3\sigma$  law is

$$p(\hat{s}_1 \geq \hat{s}_2) = \max \{1 - \max(\frac{\hat{s}_2^+ - \hat{s}_1^-}{l_2 + l_1}, 0), 0\} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Where } \begin{cases} \hat{s}_i^+ = x_{\theta_i} + 2.58\sigma_{\theta_i} \\ \hat{s}_i^- = x_{\theta_i} - 2.58\sigma_{\theta_i} \\ l_i = \hat{s}_i^+ - \hat{s}_i^- \end{cases} \quad (i=1,2).$$

#### 4 Landing Risk Evaluation Based on Fuzzy Multi-Attribute Group Decision Making

The step of landing risk evaluation based on fuzzy multi-attribute group decision making are:

(1) For one multi-attribute group decision making problem, let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  be a discrete set of  $m$  feasible alternatives,  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$  is a finite set of attributes, and  $D = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$  is a set of decision makers. Construct  $R_k = (r_{ij}^{(k)})_{m \times n}$  a decision matrix.

(2) Utilize the NFLWA operator to aggregate the attribute value  $r_{ij}^{(1)}$  in the  $i$ th column of the decision matrix  $R_1$  into a overall attribute value of the alternative  $x_i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,m$ ):

$$r_i^{(k)} = \text{NFLWA}_{\omega^{(k)}}(r_{i1}^{(k)}, \dots, r_{in}^{(k)}) = \omega_1^{(k)} r_{i1}^{(k)} + \dots + \omega_n^{(k)} r_{in}^{(k)} \quad (i \in M, k = 1, 2, 3, 4). \quad (3)$$

(3) Use the NFLWA operator to aggregate the attribute value  $r_i^{(k)}$  ( $i \in M, k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) of the four standard positions into a overall attribute value of the alternative  $x_i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,m$ ):

$$r_i = \text{NFLWA}_{\omega}(r_i^{(1)}, \dots, r_i^{(4)}) = \omega_1 r_i^{(1)} + \dots + \omega_4 r_i^{(4)} \quad (i \in M). \quad (4)$$

(4) Compare each  $r_i$  ( $i \in M$ ) by using the possibility-degree formula(2), then construct the possibility-degree matrix  $\mathbf{P}^{(1)} = (P_{ij}^{(1)})_{m \times m}$ .

(5) The ordering vector  $\omega^P = (\omega_1^P, \omega_2^P, \dots, \omega_m^P)^T$

(6) Reorder  $r_i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,m$ ) in descending order in accordance with  $\omega_i^P$  ( $i \in M$ ). Then we can rank all the alternatives  $x_i$  and select the most desirable one in accordance with the value of  $r_i$ .

## 5 Simulation

Aircraft landing process is simulated for five times. The flight states of landing process are indicated in Fig.3-5, and final distributions of touchdown points are shown in Fig.6. Finally, the landing risk are evaluated.

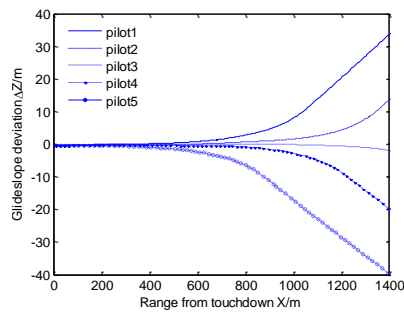


Fig. 3. Glideslope deviations curves

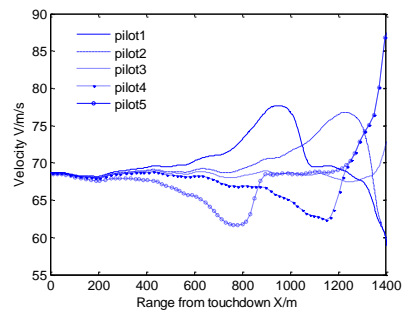


Fig. 4. Speed curves

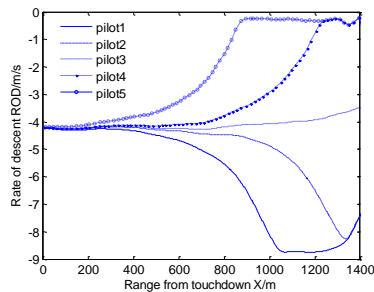


Fig. 5. ROD family of curves

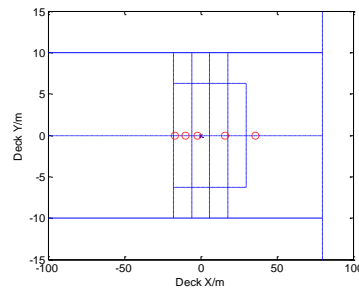


Fig. 6. Distributions of touchdown points

Ordering vector:

$$\omega^P = (0.166405, 0.23374, 0.28477, 0.18145, 0.133635)^T$$

Rank all the alternatives  $r_i$  in accordance with the values of  $\omega^P$ . We can see that the ranking order is:

$$r_3 > r_2 > r_4 > r_1 > r_5$$

The decision result shows that the landing risk of group 3 is the least. Comparing with Figure 6, correspondingly the touchdown point locates between the second cable and the third one, and it is closest to the desired touchdown, however, other voyages points distributions are far from the desired one, and the decision risk is increased. The decision result equates with the distributions of touchdown points, and it proves the practicality of this decision method.

## 6 Conclusion

This paper has presented possibility-degree algorithm of normal fuzzy variable, and introduced an improved multi-attribute group decision making approach. After establishing LSO-pilot-carrier-based aircraft model, it has built Safe Flight Area, and get relative attribute weighted vector. At last normal fuzzy multi-attribute group decision making has an application in landing risk evaluation of carrier-based aircraft. Simulation results show that the reasonable and application of the new algorithm.

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