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Group Pursuit on a Plane with Modeling Detection Area

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Abstract- This article describes the pursuit model by the method of chasing a group of objects. All objects participating in the pursuit model move at a constant modulo velocity. The pursuing object moves along a certain trajectory and releases objects at specified intervals, whose task is to overtake the target by the chase method. A single target, in turn, is tasked to overtake the pursuer by the method of parallel convergence. A detection area is formed for each pursuing object. The detection area is formed by two beams. The velocity vector of an object is the bisector of the angle formed by such rays. If the target is in the detection area, then the object begins the pursuit by the chase method. If the target leaves the detection area, then the object makes a uniform and rectilinear movement.

The task is to implement a dynamic model of multiple group pursuing, where each object has its own tasks, its own strategies. The model is developed using computer mathematics systems. According to the results of the research, animated images were created. Targeting methods such as the chase method, the parallel approach method and the proportional approach method are widely used in military affairs. But they, for the most part, require external control, such as pointing the target with a laser beam or satellite guidance to the target. There is no description of methods of targeting in offline mode in open sources of information. The research results may be in demand when designing unmanned aerial vehicles with elements of autonomous control and artificial intelligence.

Keywords: iparallel pursuit, chase method, target, pursuer, trajectory, correction.

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Group Pursuit on a Plane with Modeling Detection Area

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I. INTRODUCTION

ethods of chase and parallel approach, as well as proportional approach are widely used methods of aircraft guidance.

In this article, a model of group pursuit is proposed for consideration, when the pursuer moves along a certain trajectory. The target approaches the pursuer by the method of parallel approach. The pursuer releases objects at certain intervals that will pursue the target using the chase method. Objects start from their points on the pursuer's path.

This model is given in the article as an example. The target can approach the pursuer by both the chase method and the proportional method or some other method. The pursuer has little maneuverability, but releases objects that have the ability to homing. In the model of the article, homing objects are released perpendicular to the pursuer'strajectory.

This article describes the modeling of a group survey. Earlier, in the works of R. Isaacs [1], L. O. Petrosyan [2], N.N. Krasovsky [3], the methods of parallel approach and pursuit were described, the concept of a terminal set was introduced. The articles by A.S. Bannikov [4], M.V. Khachumov [5], [6] considered algorithmic aspects of group pursuing. In the works of T.G. Abramyants, E.P. Maslov, V.P. Yakhno [7], Gusyatnikov P.B. [8], [9], [10] the issues of evasion in three-dimensional space were considered. The article by Bogdanov A.V., Filonov A.A., Kovalev A.A., Kuchina A.A., Lyutikova I.V. [11] discussed methods of homing fighters and air-to-air missiles to a group air target. In the work of Nikitchenko S. N., Bassauer A. A. [12], the issues of mutual pursuit of air targets were considered. The article by Kuzmina L.I., OsipovaYu.V. [13] considered the calculation of the trajectory length in pursuit tasks.

In the model of the article, the pursuing objects descend perpendicular to the trajectory of the pursuer. The vanishing angle in the model is chosen as an example. The vanishing angle can be any Descending from the trajectory in the model, sequential and at regular intervals are selected.

Each pursuing object has a detection area formed. In the model, for example, the area is formed as an angle with a vertex at the point where the object is located. The bisector of this angle coincides with the direction of the object's velocity.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Consider the movement of the pursuer along a certain trajectory on the plane:

$$\vec{P}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} X_P(t) \\ Y_P(t) \end{bmatrix}.$$

At time t_n , an object is separated from the pursuer's trajectory in a direction perpendicular to the pursuer's velocity vector:

$$\vec{N}(t_n) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{dY_p}{dt}(t = t_n) \\ \frac{dX_p}{dt}(t = t_n) \end{bmatrix}.$$
(1)

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Fig. 1 shows that in the model considered in the article, five objects are sent perpendicular from the pursuer trajectory, which after separation will move uniformly and rectilinearly with a speed equal to modulo V_G .

Fig. 1 is supplemented with an animated image [14], where it will be possible to see how from the pursuer's trajectory at certain intervals objects $G_n(t)$ are separated.

The simulation is performed on a section of the plane $[-60:130] \times [0:190]$. The measurement is made

in meters. The pursuer moves at a constant speed $V_P = 20 m / s$. Objects that break off perpendicular to its trajectory have a velocity $V_G = 40 m / s$.

Figure 2 shows a network of parallel lines. As you can see, the initial positions of the pursuer and the target, the pursuer's initial speed determine the entire course of the iterative process. The pursuer's trajectory completely and unambiguously determines the trajectory of the target.



Figure 1: Simulation of the movement of objects descending perpendicular to the pursuer's trajectory

The target $\vec{T}(t)$ pursues $\vec{P}(t)$ by the method of parallel approach. Figure 2 is supplemented with an animated image [15], where it will be possible to see the movement on the plane of the target and the pursuer.

Let's simulate a situation when objects moving on a plane approach. One object pursues another by the method of parallel approach (Figure 2). Figure 2 shows the trajectory of the target $\vec{T}(t)$ moving uniformly with a velocity modulus $V_T = 25 m / s$.



Figure 2: Modeling of the trajectory of the target moving towards the pursuer by the method of parallel approach

One of the objects, trying to defend itself, releases a group of homing objects.

The task that we have set in this article is to simulate the trajectories of objects $G_n(t)$ pursuing the goal $\vec{T}(t)$ using the chase method.

The method of parallel approach can be schematically depicted as shown in Figure 3a, when the target T(t) approaches in parallel to the pursuer P(t).



Figure 3: Methods of parallel approach and correction during the chase

Following the iterative scheme shown in Figure 3a, the step of the target trajectory \vec{T}_{i+1} satisfies the solution of the system of equations (2), with respect to the parameter h:

$$\begin{cases} \left(\vec{T}_{i+1} - \vec{T}_{i}\right)^{2} = \left(\left|\vec{V}_{T}\right| \cdot \Delta t\right)^{2} \\ \vec{T}_{i+1} = \vec{P}_{i+1} + h \cdot \frac{\vec{T}_{i} - \vec{P}_{i}}{\left|\vec{T}_{i} - \vec{P}_{i}\right|} \end{cases}$$
(2)

The target's next step \vec{T}_{i+1} belongs to a circle of radius $|\vec{V}_T| \cdot \Delta t$, centered at the point of the previous location \vec{T}_i , the first equation of the system (2). At the same time, the point of the next position \vec{T}_{i+1} belongs to a straight line applied to the point \vec{P}_{i+1} with a guide vector $\vec{T}_i - \vec{P}_i$. The second equation of the system (2) displays the parametric equation of this line.

In the chase method, the velocity vector of the object that is catching up is always directed at the object that is being overtaken.

In our case, this is not the case. Let the catching object be located at some time t_i at the point G_i , while having a velocity vector \vec{V}_{G_i} (Fig. 3b). After a period of time Δt , the catching object rotates by an angle $\omega_G \times \Delta t$ and moves to a distance $V_G \cdot \Delta t$, where ω_G is the angular rotation frequency of the catching object. The angular rotation frequency can be interpreted as:

$$\omega_G = \frac{V_G}{R_G},$$

Where R_G is the minimum curvature radius of the trajectory of the catching object, that is, the curvature limit.

Consider the motion function of catching up objects \vec{G}_n (Figure 1), when they move along the pursuer's trajectory $\vec{P}(t)$ before the moment of time t_n .

If at the moment of time t_n the direction changes to the direction $\vec{N}(t_n)$ specified in (1), then the coordinates of the object \vec{G}_n are determined as follows:

$$\vec{G}_n(t) = \begin{cases} \text{если } t < t_n, & \text{ то } \vec{G}_n(t) = \vec{P}(t) \\ \text{если } t \ge t_n, & \text{ то } \vec{G}_n(t) = \vec{P}(t_n) + V_G \cdot (t - t_n) \cdot \frac{\vec{N}(t_n)}{|\vec{N}(t_n)|} \end{cases}$$

Based on the results of modeling the process of group pursuit of an object by the chase method, a program was written in a computer mathematics system, the results of which are shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4: The process of chasing a target by a group of objects using the chase method

An animated image of the group pursuit of a single target by objects that descend perpendicular at certain intervals from the pursuer's trajectory was also produced [16].

The formation of the tracking area of objects \vec{G}_n for the target \vec{T} is performed as follows.



Figure 5: Forming the Tracking Area

A local coordinate system is being created $(\vec{E}_1 \ \vec{G}_i \ \vec{E}_2)$ (Figure 5), where \vec{G}_i is the location of the pursuing object at the moment t_i . The abscissa vector \vec{E}_1 of the object is co-directed to the velocity vector \vec{V}_{G_i} . Accordingly, the ordinate vector \vec{E}_2 is orthogonal to the velocity vector \vec{V}_{G_i} .

The tracking area is given by an angle of magnitude 2α , the direction of the velocity vector \vec{V}_{G_i} is the bisector of this angle. In the coordinate system $(\vec{E}_1 \quad \vec{G}_i \quad \vec{E}_2)$ the vectors \vec{V}_1 and \vec{V}_2 defining the tracking area are determined:

$$\vec{V}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\alpha) \\ -\sin(\alpha) \end{bmatrix}, \vec{V}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\alpha) \\ \sin(\alpha) \end{bmatrix}$$

The conversion of the coordinates of the target point \vec{T}_i is carried out according to the formulas:

$$\vec{T}_i^* = \begin{bmatrix} \left(\vec{T}_i - \vec{G}_i\right) \cdot \vec{E}_1 \\ \left(\vec{T}_i - \vec{G}_i\right) \cdot \vec{E}_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

If the angle φ between the vectors $\vec{T}_i - \vec{G}_i$ and \vec{V}_{G_i} is less than α , then the target \vec{T} at time t_i is in the tracking area of the pursuing object. The angle φ is equal to:

$$\varphi = \left| \arccos\left(\frac{(\vec{T}_i - \vec{G}_i) \cdot \vec{V}_{G_i}}{|\vec{T}_i - \vec{G}_i| \cdot |\vec{V}_{G_i}|}\right) \right|.$$

a) The Behavior Model of the Pursuing Object

Modeling tracking angles of pursuing objects G_n in the world coordinate system $(H_1 \quad H_2)$ is essentially aconversion vectors \vec{V}_1 and \vec{V}_2 from the coordinate system $(\vec{E}_1 \quad \vec{G}_i \quad \vec{E}_2)$ to the world.



Figure 6: Dynamic Tracking Areas of Pursuing Objects

Converting vectors \vec{V}_1 and \vec{V}_2 from the coordinate system $(\vec{E}_1 \ \vec{G}_i \ \vec{E}_2)$ to the world $(\vec{H}_1 \ \vec{H}_2)$ it looks like this:

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{V}_1 \cdot \vec{h}_1 \\ \vec{V}_1 \cdot \vec{h}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \vec{G}_i, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{V}_2 \cdot \vec{h}_1 \\ \vec{V}_2 \cdot \vec{h}_2 \end{bmatrix} + \vec{G}_i.\vec{h}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{H}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_1 \\ \vec{H}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_2 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{h}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{H}_2 \cdot \vec{E}_1 \\ \vec{H}_2 \cdot \vec{E}_2 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{H}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{H}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Figure 6 shows how the tracking areas of the pursuing objects are formed, Figure 6 is supplemented with an animated image [17]. In Figure 5, the pursuing objects catch up with the target by the chase method without changing behavior, depending on whether the

target enters the tracking area. Tracking areas are displayed for each object. The lines of sight connecting the pursuing object with the target are also displayed. Consider the behavior of the pursuing object.



Figure 7: The Target is Out of the Detection Zone

Figure 7 shows that if at some point in time the target does not enter the detection area, then the pursuing object moves in a straight line. If the target has entered the detection area, then the behavior of the pursuing object corresponds to the chase method. Figure 7 is supplemented with an animated image [18].

IV. Results

In modeling the process of group pursuit, the method of chasing objects starting perpendicular to the pursuer'strajectory is used. In the model described in the article, nothing prevents us from replacing the chase method with the parallel approach method for catching up objects. Andnothing prevents us from replacing the descent perpendicular to the pursuer's trajectory is replaced by a tangent descent. Based on the results of the research presented in this article, modeling was performed in a rectangular area $[-60:130] \times [0:190]$, measurement in meters.



Figure 8: Group Pursuing Model

Figure 8 shows the simulation results. The pursuer's speed is 20 m/s, the target's speed is 20 m/s. The speed of the pursuing objects is 60 m/s. The curvature radius of the pursuer's trajectory should not be less than 50 m. The target pursues by parallel approach, the curvature radius of the trajectories of the pursuing objects should not be less than 10 m. The pursuing objects descend perpendicularly from the pursuer's trajectory at regular intervals of 0.02 s. Figure 8 is supplemented with an animated image [19], where it will be possible to get acquainted with the results of such a group pursuit.

In the simulation presented in this article, all objects released from the trajectory reach the target. This result depends on several factors: on the angle of the detection zone, on the speed of the pursuing objects, on the value of the minimum curvature radius of the object trajectories.

In the model considered in the article, it is found out that in order to avoid being hit by a pursuing object, it is necessary to leave the detection area. The closer the pursuing object is, the fewer iteration steps the target needs to take in order to leave the detection area.

For the pursuing object, the guaranteed result of catching the target would be to switch to the movement direction, the vector of which would be codirected to the vector of the target's speed. Based on the results of the program, a certificate of state registration of the computer program No. 2020614336 "Modeling of trajectories from the pursuer to the target with curvature restrictions and with specified boundary conditions" was issued [20].

V. Conclusions

The results obtained in this article could be used in the development of unmanned aerial vehicles with autonomous control, equipped with elements of artificial intelligence. It is also possible to use the results with satellite guidance of barrage projectiles.

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