

THREE DIMENSIONAL MATHEMATICAL MODEL OF THE CONTROL SYSTEM OF A HOMING  
MISSILE AND MISSILE-TARGET INTERSECTION EQUATIONS

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Abstract

On the first part of the paper the author has established the sight-line rotating rate equations by means of Euler angles. The sight-line rotating rate vector is projected first to the missile-body coordinate system, then to the antenna coordinate system. The antenna coordinate system is obtained by rotating three Euler angles of the missile body coordinate system. The

gyro precession rate vector is projected to the antenna coordinate-system too. The total error equations and the error equation of two channels of a homing head are established by comparison between the sight line rotating rate with the gyro precession rate in the antenna coordinate. The phase of the target image in the antenna coordinates decides the distributions of the error signals in the angle-tracking loop and in two channels of the control system. This mathematical model further resolved the channel coupling problem caused by the reference coordinate torsion. The phase problem of the control signals in the case of deflection or no deflection of the coordinator.

In the second part of the paper the author has established missile-target equations. Under some suppositions the intersection direction of the missile to the target may be decided. In the third part of the paper two simplified mathematical models are established under the supposition that the target maneuvered in one plane. As an example, using one of the simplified models, the author analysed the guidance accuracy of the homing missile and made some conclusions.

These mathematical models may be used to analyse the dynamic errors of the control system in the case of an arbitrary maneuver of the target, the influences of the missile rotation, channel coupling and unsymmetry of the parameters in two channels. Using these models the trajectory of parameters may be given out to analyse the kill-probability during space interception.

1. Space sight-line rate vector  $\vec{q}$

The solution of the rotating rate of a line may be transferred in solution of the instantaneous rate of rigid body. When this line is perpendicular to the instantaneous rotating axis of the rigid body, the both rotating angular rates are equal. The rotating rate of the rigid body may be presented by three Euler angles of a Cartesian coordinate system with respect to an inertial coordinate system. From this point of view we may establish a sight-line coordinate system  $Ox_s Y_s Z_s$ .  $Ox_s$  is the sight direction.  $Oy_s$  is the direction of the derivative of a unit vector on the sight-line.  $Oz_s$ ,  $Ox_s$ ,  $Oy_s$  are according to right hand rule. Three Euler angles of the sight-line coordinate-system with respect to the inertial coordinate system are

(Fig 1 )

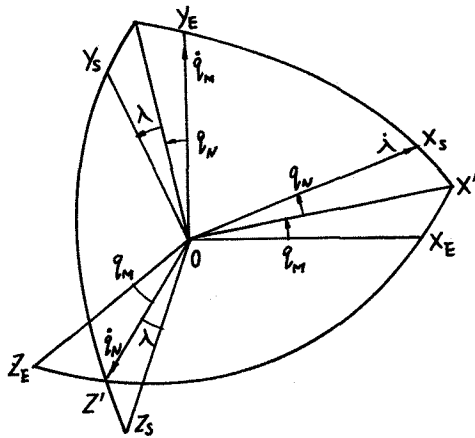


Fig 1. The sight-line coordinate system

Because of the properties of the established coordinate system, the rate vector of the sight-line is on  $OZ_S$  direction, and its components on the  $OX_S$   $OY_S$  directions are 0.

From the Euler equations we have

$$\vec{\dot{q}} = \vec{\dot{q}}_M + \vec{\dot{q}}_N + \vec{\lambda} \quad (2)$$

The components of the space sight-line rate on three axes of the sight-line coordinates are

$$\dot{q}_{x_s} = \dot{\lambda} + \dot{q}_M \sin q_N \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{q}_{y_s} = \dot{q}_M \cos q_N \cos \lambda + \dot{q}_N \sin \lambda \quad (3)$$

$$\dot{q}_{z_s} = -\dot{q}_M \cos q_N \sin \lambda + \dot{q}_N \cos \lambda \quad (4)$$

$$\dot{q}_{x_s} = 0$$

$$\dot{\lambda} = -\dot{q}_M \sin q_N \quad (5)$$

The components of  $\vec{\dot{q}}$  on three axes of the inertial coordinate system may be obtained by projecting  $\dot{q}_{z_s}$  to the inertial coordinate system. They are

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_{x_E} \\ \dot{q}_{y_E} \\ \dot{q}_{z_E} \end{bmatrix} = [A] \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \dot{q}_{z_s} \end{bmatrix}$$

[A] is the transformation matrix consist-

ed of direction cosines between two coordinate systems.

The both sides of the equation (4) multiplied by  $\cos \lambda$  and using equation (3)  $\dot{q}_{y_s} = 0$  will result:

$$\dot{q}_{z_s} \cos \lambda = \dot{q}_N \quad (6)$$

The both sides of the equation (4) multiplied by  $\sin \lambda$ , using (3)  $\dot{q}_{y_s} = 0$  will result:

$$\dot{q}_{z_s} \sin \lambda = -\dot{q}_M \cos q_N \quad (7)$$

The equation of space  $\vec{\dot{q}}$  in the inertial system may be obtained, using equations (6) and (7).

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\dot{q}} = & (-\cos q_M \cos q_N \sin \lambda \dot{q}_M + \sin q_M \dot{q}_N) \vec{i} \\ & + \cos^2 q_N \dot{q}_M \vec{j} + (\cos q_M \dot{q}_N + \sin q_M \sin \lambda \dot{q}_M \cos q_N) \vec{k} \quad (8) \end{aligned}$$

## 2. The sight-line rate vector in the missile-body coordinate system

The missile-body coordinate system with respect to the inertial coordinate system can be specified by three Euler angles  $\Psi, \theta, \gamma$ . Using the direction cosines of the two coordinate systems may obtain three components of the rotating rate  $\dot{q}_{x_1}, \dot{q}_{y_1}, \dot{q}_{z_1}$  in the missile-body coordinate system.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_{x_1} \\ \dot{q}_{y_1} \\ \dot{q}_{z_1} \end{bmatrix} = [B] \begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_{x_E} \\ \dot{q}_{y_E} \\ \dot{q}_{z_E} \end{bmatrix}$$

[B] is the transformation matrix consisted of direction cosines between two coordinate systems.

3. The sight-line rate in the antenna coordinate system

The antenna coordinate system is the reference system of tracking error angles, with the center of the gimbals at the origine. The missile-body coordinate system is parallelly moved here. Suppose when

antenna gimbal angle  $\varphi=0$ , antenna coordinate system will be in coincidence with the missile-body coordinate system. When  $\varphi \neq 0$ , the antenna coordinate system can be obtained by rotating the missile-body coordinate system through three Euler angles

$\varphi_2, \varphi_1, \lambda_1$ . The antenna coordinate system is represented by  $OX_A Y_A Z_A$ .

For no self rotating antenna, the antenna coordinate system is fixed on the antenna. The rotating antenna may be considered as non-rotating, but antenna has its angular momentum.  $OX_A$  will be the electre-axis of the antenna, the relative motion between the antenna coordinate system and the missile-body coordinate systems only will result in angle  $\varphi$ , therefore vector  $\vec{\dot{\varphi}}$  is the rotating rate of the antenna coordinate system with respect to the missile body coordinate system.  $\vec{\dot{\varphi}}$  must be perpendicular to  $OX_A$ . That's why the projection of  $\vec{\dot{\varphi}}$  to  $OX_A$  direction will be 0. deduce

$$\dot{\lambda}_1 = -\dot{\varphi}_2 \sin \varphi_1 \quad (9)$$

Using the direction cosines of these two coordinate system, the components of the sight-line rotating rate on three axes of the antenna coordinate system may be obtained.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\varphi}_{x s . A} \\ \dot{\varphi}_{y s . A} \\ \dot{\varphi}_{z s . A} \end{bmatrix} = [C] \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\varphi}_{x 1} \\ \dot{\varphi}_{y 1} \\ \dot{\varphi}_{z 1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$[C]$  is the transformation matrix consisted of direction cosines between two coordinate systems.

$$\varphi = \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\sin^2 \varphi_1 + \cos^2 \varphi_1 \sin^2 \varphi_2} \quad (10)$$

4. The gyro precession rate in the antenna coordinate system

It may be proved (see Fig.2), that the gyro precession is on the  $OY_1Z_1$  plane of the missile-body coordinate system.

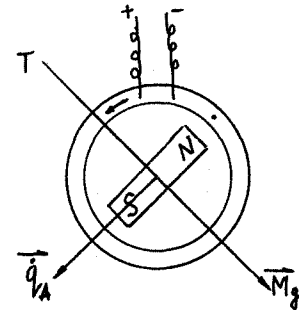


Fig. 2. the relationship between  $\vec{M}_g$  and  $\vec{q}_A$

The angular momentum of the magnet is pointing at the opposite direction of  $OX_A$ .  $\vec{M}_g$  is the external moment of gyro precession,  $\vec{q}_A$  is the rate vector of gyro precession. T presents the target, at this time the precession current reaches its positive max. Using the left hand rule, the force undertaken by the wire is on the longitudinal plane across the  $OX_1$ .

The external precession moment caused by the opposite force of the magnet must be on  $OY_1Z_1$  plane across the point O and perpendicular to this longitudinal. Relationships between the external moment and the precession angular rate, angular momentum are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{M}_g &= \vec{q}_A \times \vec{H} \\ \vec{H} \times \vec{M}_g &= \vec{H} \times (\vec{q}_A \times \vec{H}) \end{aligned}$$

We may deduce

$$\dot{\psi}_A = \frac{1}{H} \vec{H} \times \vec{M}_g$$

projected this vector to the antenna coordinate system.

$$\dot{\psi}_{YA} = \frac{1}{H} M_{zg} \quad (11)$$

$$\dot{\psi}_{ZA} = -\frac{1}{H} M_{yg} \quad (12)$$

$M_{YA}$   $M_{ZA}$  may be obtained through two components  $M_{Y1}$  and  $M_{Z1}$  of the external moment  $\vec{M}_g$  in the missile body coordinate system.  $[C]$  is the transformation matrix and the  $M_{Y1}$   $M_{Z1}$  are obtained from the precession current.

### 5. The total error angle

Consider angle between the sight-line and the antenna electric-axis as the total error angle. ( Fig. 3 )

$$\varepsilon = \sqrt{\varepsilon_1^2 + \varepsilon_2^2}$$

Because  $\varepsilon_1$ ,  $\varepsilon_2$  are very small.

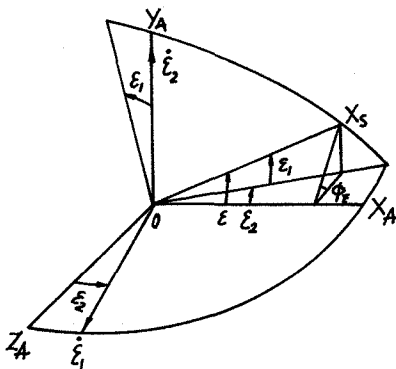


Fig.3. relationships between  $\varepsilon$  and  $\varepsilon_1$ ,  $\varepsilon_2$

$\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_2$  are the error angles with respect to two channels.

$$\varepsilon_1 = \int_0^t \dot{\varepsilon}_1 dt = \int_0^t [(\dot{\psi}_{zSA} - \dot{\psi}_{zA}) \cos \varepsilon_2 + (\dot{\psi}_{xSA} - \dot{\psi}_{xA}) \sin \varepsilon_2] dt$$

$$\dot{\varepsilon}_1 = \dot{\psi}_{zSA} - \dot{\psi}_{zA} \quad (13)$$

$$\varepsilon_2 = \dot{\psi}_{ySA} - \dot{\psi}_{yA} \quad (14)$$

### 6. The phase problem in the control signal

When  $\varphi = 0$ , the antenna coordinate system is in coincidence with the missile body coordinate system, the position of the target in the antenna coordinate system determined the phase in distributing the control signal to two control channels. From Fig.3 we may deduce

$$\phi_{\text{II}} = \arctan \frac{\varepsilon_1}{\varepsilon_2}$$

Consider a four-quadrant problem, we should add  $n\pi$  to the main magnitude  $\phi_{\text{II}}$

$$n = \begin{cases} 0 & \varepsilon_2 \geq 0 \\ 1 & \varepsilon_2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

The total precession current  $I_0 = f(\varepsilon)$  is given by test, and the precession current to two channels  $I_{YA}$   $I_{ZA}$  may be written.

$$I_{YA} = -I_0 \sin(n\pi + \phi_{\text{II}}) \quad (15)$$

$$I_{ZA} = I_0 \cos(n\pi + \phi_{\text{II}}) \quad (16)$$

The components of the precession moment on the missile-body coordinates  $OY_1$ ,  $OZ_1$  are

$$M_{Y1} = KI_{YA}$$

$$M_{Z1} = KI_{ZA}$$

When  $\varphi = 0$  the components of the external moment in the missile-body coordinate system and in the antenna coordinate system are equal.

$$\dot{\psi}_{zA} = \frac{K}{H} I_0 \sin(n\pi + \phi_{\text{II}}) \quad (17)$$

$$\dot{\psi}_{yA} = \frac{K}{H} I_0 \cos(n\pi + \phi_{\text{II}}) \quad (18)$$

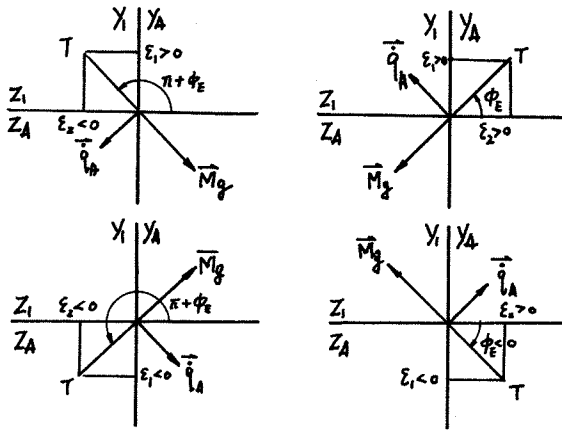


Fig. 4. A four-quadrant phase problem

Using equations ( 17 ) and ( 18 ) from the Fig.4. you can see that the calculated results will be true.

When  $\varphi \neq 0$  in this case the antenna coordinate system is not in coincidence with the missile-body coordinate system.

Suppose a plane consisted of instantaneous sight-line  $OX_s$  and missile axis  $OX_1$  will across with the plane  $OY_1Z_1$  with the line  $OP$ . The antenna on the  $OP$   $OX_1$  plane will result in angle  $\varphi$  because of its target tracking. At that time the antenna coordinate system  $OX_A Y_A Z_A$  will rotate around the instantaneous axis  $\vec{q}_A$   $OZ_A$  moves around  $\vec{q}_A$  and consists of a conic and angle with  $\vec{q}_A$  is the same  $\alpha'$ . The angle between  $\vec{\phi}_E$  and generating line of the conic ( i.e. the phase angle ) is also not variable. When  $OX_A$  makes precession on a curved surface the antenna coordinates also may transfer from  $\varphi = 0$  condition to the condition with a no variable  $\vec{\phi}_E$ . Only the axis of the conic is not the instantaneous precession rate vector.

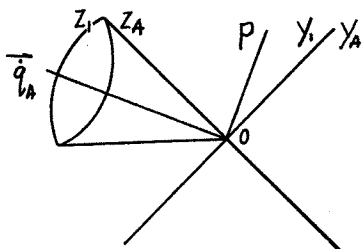


Fig.5.

## 7. Reference coordinate torsion

The torsion of the reference coordinates in decomposing error signals will result in the channel coupling. If the torsion angle of the reference coordinates is the currents of the control signal to the control loops may be written:

$$I_{11} = I_0 \sin(n\pi + \phi_E - \beta) \quad (19)$$

$$I_{12} = I_0 \cos(n\pi + \phi_E - \beta) \quad (20)$$

Angle may be positive and negative, actually  $\beta$  is small, but through this angle the influence of the channel coupling may be calculated.

## 8. The feedback problem of the angle $\varphi$

The angle  $\varphi$  is the angle between the antenna axis and the missile axis. In order to find  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  you should find the expressions of  $\dot{\varphi}_1, \dot{\varphi}_2$ .

However  $\dot{\varphi}_1$  and  $\dot{\varphi}_2$  may be obtained by projecting the space rotating rate  $\vec{Q}$  of the missile axis and the space rotating rate  $\vec{q}_A$  of the antenna to  $\vec{\phi}_2, \vec{\phi}_1$  direction.

Just as to deduce the expression of the space  $\vec{q}$ , we may write out the values of  $\dot{Q}_{Y1}$  and  $\dot{Q}_{Z1}$  in the inertial coordinate system and in the missile body coordinate system.

Using the direction cosines of the antenna coordinates and the missile-body coordinates, the three components  $\dot{q}_{XA1}, \dot{q}_{YA1}, \dot{q}_{ZA1}$  of gyro precession rate in the missile-body coordinate system may be obtained. In the end we will get

$$\dot{\varphi}_2 = \dot{q}_{YA1} \cos \varphi_2 - \dot{Q}_{Y1} \quad (21)$$

$$\dot{\varphi}_1 = \dot{q}_{ZA1} \cos \varphi_2 + \dot{q}_{YA1} \sin \varphi_2 - \dot{Q}_{Z1} \cos \varphi_2 \quad (22)$$

### 9. The space kinetic equations

According to the formula on velocity of a point of the composite motion we may obtain;

$$\vec{V}_T = \vec{V}_M + \vec{\omega} \times \vec{D} + \frac{d\vec{D}}{dt} \quad (23-a)$$

Were  $\vec{V}_T$  is the target velocity vector,  $\vec{V}_M$  is the missile velocity vector,  $\vec{\omega}$  is the rotating rate of the moving coordinates  $OXY_Z'$  ( Fig 1 ) with the respect to the inertial coordinates and is equal to  $\dot{q}_M$ .  $\vec{D}$  is the missile-target distance. Project the relation ( 23-a ) to the selected coordinates. We may write out:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{D} = & \{ V_T \cos \theta_T \cos(\Psi_T - \varphi_M) - V_M \cdot \\ & \cos \theta_M \cos(\Psi_M - \varphi_M) + D \sin \dot{q}_N \sin \varphi_N \} \\ & / \cos \varphi_N \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{q}_N = & 57.3 \{ V_T \sin \theta_T - V_M \sin \theta_M - D \sin \varphi_N \} \\ & / D \cos \varphi_N \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\varphi}_M = & 57.3 \{ V_T \cos \theta_T \sin(\Psi_T - \varphi_M) - V_M \cdot \\ & \cos \theta_M \sin(\Psi_M - \varphi_M) \} / D \cos \varphi_N \end{aligned}$$

### 10. The space intersection equation

The space intersection angle is the angle between the missile velocity vector and the target velocity vector at the instant of missile-target collision.

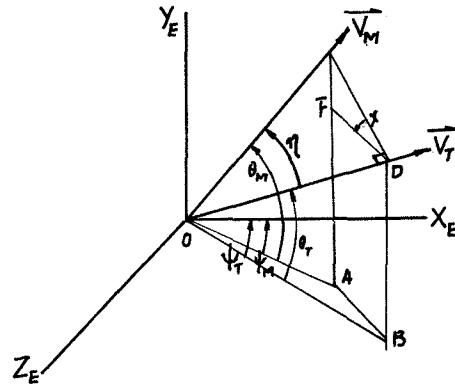


Fig. 6. the relationship in the case of space intersection.

From Fig. 6. we may deduce:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \eta \cos \{ \sin^{-1} (\sin \theta_M \cos \eta \sin \theta_T) / \sin \eta \} = & \{ (\cos^2 \eta \cos^2 \theta_T + \cos^2 \theta_M - \\ & 2 \cos \eta \cos \theta_M \cos(\Psi_T - \Psi_M)) \}^{1/2} \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Through iteration we may find space intersection angle  $\eta$ .

### 11. The determination of the missile-target aspect at the instant of intersection.

In order to study the kill probability of the fuze-warhead system in the condition of space intersection we should know the azimuth and pitch angles of the missile when it closes to the target.

( observe from the target coordinate system )

Suppose the target velocity vector is in coincidence with its axis, the motion equation of the target center of gravity may be written:

$$V_T = c \cos t \quad (27)$$

$$\dot{\theta}_T = 57.3 \eta y_T \cdot g / V_T \quad (28)$$

$$\dot{\psi}_T = -57.3 \eta z_T g / V_T \cos \theta_T \quad (29)$$

While the relative velocity

$$V_R = (\sqrt{V_M^2 + V_T^2 - 2V_M V_T \cos \eta})^2 \quad (30)$$

If the target load factors in the vertical plane  $n_{YT}$  and in the horizontal plane  $n_{ZT}$  are given, the target may maneuver arbitrarily in space.

$$r_T = t g^{-1} \frac{n_{YT}}{n_{ZT}} \quad (31)$$

Three Euler angles  $\psi_T, \theta_T, \gamma_T$  of the target coordinates with respect to the inertial coordinates. The relationship between the relative velocity vector and the inertial coordinates may use the equation (26) to obtain  $\psi_R, \theta_R$  ( see Fig.7. )

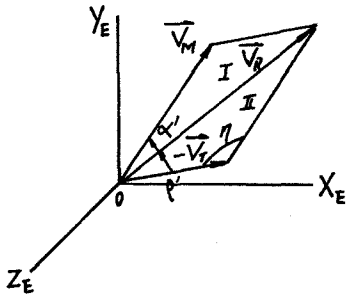


Fig.7.

In the triangle I

$$V_M^2 + V_R^2 - 2V_M V_R \cos \alpha' = V_T^2$$

$$\alpha' = \cos^{-1} (V_M^2 + V_R^2 - V_T^2) / 2V_M V_R$$

$$\beta' = \pi - \eta - \alpha'$$

If  $V_M, V_R, V_T, \eta$  are given  $\alpha', \beta'$  may be obtained. If  $\alpha', \beta'$  are known, using equation (26) we may solve the simultaneous equations and obtain

$$\sin \alpha' \cos [\sin^{-1} (\sin \theta_M - \cos \alpha' \sin \theta_R) / \sin \alpha'] = (\cos^2 \alpha' \cos^2 \theta_R + \cos^2 \theta_M - 2 \cos \alpha' \cos \theta_M \cos (\psi_R - \psi_M))^2$$

$$\sin \beta' \cos [\sin^{-1} (\sin \theta_R - \cos \beta' \sin \theta_M) / \sin \beta'] = (\cos^2 \beta' \cos^2 \theta_M + \cos^2 \theta_R - 2 \cos \beta' \cos \theta_R \cos (\psi_M - \psi_R))^2 \quad (32)$$

Two unknown factors  $\psi_R, \theta_R$  may be solved with two equations. Then we may deter-

mine these components of the relative velocity in the inertial coordinate system.

Using three Euler angles of the target coordinate system with respect to the inertial coordinate system three components of the relative velocity in the target coordinate system  $V_{RX}, V_{RY}, V_{RZ}$  may be determined. Then at the instant of intersection the pitch angle and the azimuth angle are:

$$\psi_{NT} = \sin^{-1} (V_{RY} / V_R) \quad (33)$$

$$\psi_{MT} = t g^{-1} (V_{RZ} / V_{RX}) \quad (34)$$

When  $V_{RY} > 0$ , the missile intersects below the target, When  $V_{RZ} > 0$ , the missile intersects from the right side of the target, when  $V_{RX} > 0$  the missile intersects from the rear part of the target.

## 12. Two simplified models and some calculated results.

When the target maneuvers in one plane and the control system works in three channels, two simplified models may be obtained.

The first simplified model:

The first simplified model is established on the fact that the projection of the vector  $\vec{q}$  to the missile-body coordinate system is the same as to the antenna coordinate system. Because in the case of plane motion, for an example, on the vertical plane, then the directions of  $\vec{q}$  and  $\vec{q}_A$  are the same. As the phase problem proved before ( see Fig.5 ) in the course of target tracking by the antenna, as  $\alpha'$  is not variable, the projections of  $\vec{q}_A, \vec{q}$  to the missile-body coordinate system and the antenna coordinate system are the same.

The second simplified model:

This simplified model is used to solve

three Euler angles  $\xi_2, \xi_1, \lambda_2$  between sight-line coordinate system and the antenna coordinate system.

Because of the plane motion,  $\vec{q}$  is in coincidence with  $\vec{q}_A$ . The difference between them is the relative rate of the two coordinate system.

$$\vec{\dot{\epsilon}} = \vec{\dot{\epsilon}}_2 + \vec{\dot{\epsilon}}_1 + \vec{\lambda}_2$$

$\vec{\xi}$  is the same as  $\vec{q}$  and has its value only on  $OZ_s$  direction. The following expressions may be deduced:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{\epsilon} &= \dot{q} - \dot{q}_A \\ \dot{q}_A &= K\epsilon \\ \dot{\epsilon}_1 &= \dot{\epsilon} \cos \lambda_2 \\ \dot{\epsilon}_2 \cos \epsilon_1 &= -\dot{\epsilon} \sin \lambda_2 \\ \dot{\lambda}_2 &= -\dot{\epsilon}_2 \sin \epsilon_1 \end{aligned} \right\} (36)$$

Solve this simultaneous equations we may obtain  $\xi, q_A, \xi_1, \xi_2, \lambda_2, \dot{q}$  may be obtained using equation (4). Using the first simplified model a calculation was made for "a certain missile." The dynamic error influences were considered with different time constant, constant roll, channel coupling, unsymmetry of K etc.

The influences of angle tracking amplification, time constant and the roll rate to the miss distance are only given here (Fig. 8, 9)

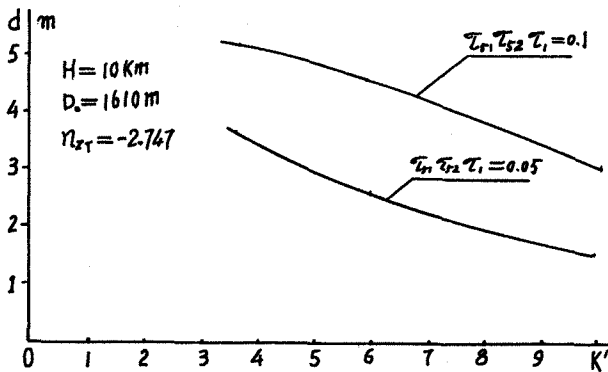


Fig. 8. Relationships between miss-distance and angle-tracking amplification

It is obvious that enhancement of the system rapidity will reduce the dynamic error (of course the enhancement of amplification is limited because of noise).

The relationship between miss distance and constant roll rate is: if the roll rate is not large, it will have small effect to the dynamic error, and if the roll rate approaches the certain degree the increase of roll rate will strongly increase the miss distance. At the same time we may come to the conclusion that the enhancement of the system rapidity will permit to have more roll rate.

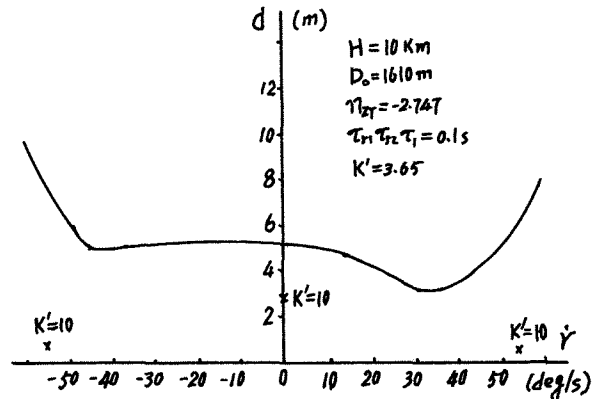
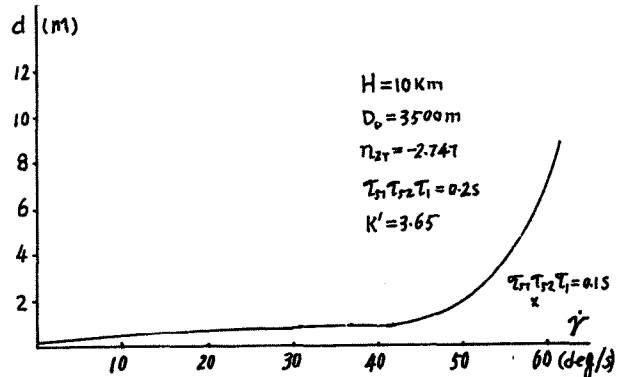


Fig. 9. The relationship between miss distance and missile roll motion

Reference:

"Flight — Dynamics Of Pilotless Aircraft"

by A.A Leberjeiv and R.C Chilnorberelovejin.