

# OPTIMIZING DATA PROCESSING IN IDENTIFICATION FRIEND OR FOE SYSTEMS

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**ABSTRACT.** *This paper proposes, in accordance with the Neyman–Pearson criterion, an optimal framework of data processing in airborne object detection by identification friend or foe (IFF) systems with due regard to the current IFF system design as a single-channel fault-tolerant queuing system, which dictates multichannel reception of request signals and imposes limitations on aircraft transponder availability factor. We consider two signal-processing models with two alternative implementations in each one: (1) cross-channel merging of previous channel decisions on tracking either request signals or their impulse components and (2) either preliminary or subsequent inter-period processing of response signals. Data processing is optimized for both temporal and spatial request signal parameters, the aircraft transponder availability factor also being considered. The preliminary inter-channel merging of request/response signal-pulse component detection results proves to be preferable to the current algorithm of subsequent merging request/response signal detection results as this procedure improves the quality of signal detection and reduces the dependence of detection probability on the aircraft transponder availability factor.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Identification Friend or Foe, air traffic control, airborne object, aircraft transponder, data processing, request signal, response signal, signal detection optimization, airborne object detection optimization, Neyman-Pearson criterion, aircraft transponder availability.*

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