

# **Manuel de FlightGear**

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Le manuel de FlightGear  
16 mars 2024  
Pour FlightGear version 2020.4.0

Éditeur : Scott Giese

**À propos de l'image de couverture :**

**Le Cessna 172P parqué dans le Val d'Aoste [LIMW] en Italie**, par Gilberto Agostinho, licence GNU GPL

Le Cessna 172 Skyhawk est un aéronef monomoteur quadriplace à aile haute. Premier vol en 1955 et toujours en production, plus de Cessna 172 ont été construits que tout autre avion.

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**Nouveautés dans cette édition :**

Chapitre 4, Instructions pour le lanceur intégré, contribution de Stuart Buchanan

Chapitre 8, Nouvelles copies d'écran, contribution de Jonathan Redpath

Chapitre 8, Coordinateur de virage, contribution de Scott Giese

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# Chapitre 1

## Préface

FlightGear est un simulateur de vol libre et gratuit développé grâce à Internet par une communauté de passionnés de simulation de vol et de programmation. Le manuel de FlightGear a pour but d'offrir aux débutants un guide à l'installation et à l'utilisation de FlightGear et aux premières heures de vol. Il n'a pas pour vocation de fournir une documentation complète de toutes les fonctionnalités et ajouts de FlightGear mais, plutôt, d'apporter au nouvel utilisateur les meilleures bases pour lui permettre d'explorer ce que FlightGear a à offrir.

Cette version du manuel a été écrite pour la version 2020.4.0 de FlightGear. Les utilisateurs de versions précédentes de FlightGear trouveront toujours une utilité à ce document, mais certaines des fonctionnalités qui y sont décrites peuvent être absentes de leur version.

Ce guide est scindé en trois parties et structuré de la façon suivante :

### Partie I : Installation

Le chapitre 2, [Vous voulez voler librement ? Choisissez FlightGear !](#), présente FlightGear, la philosophie qui porte le projet et décrit les pré-requis système.

Dans le chapitre 3, [Prévol : installer FlightGear](#), vous trouverez les instructions nécessaires à l'installation des binaires et des scènes et avions additionnels.

### Partie II : Voler avec FlightGear

Le chapitre 4, [Décollage : comment démarrer le programme](#), décrit comment lancer le programme une fois installé. Il comprend un survol des nombreuses options en ligne de commande ainsi que des fichiers de configuration.

Le chapitre 5, [En vol : tout sur les instruments, les raccourcis clavier et les menus](#), décrit comment utiliser le programme, c'est-à-dire à proprement parler comment voler avec FlightGear. Ceci comprend une liste exhaustive (nous l'espérons) des raccourcis claviers prédéfinis, une vue d'ensemble des entrées des menus, des descriptions détaillées du tableau de bord et du collimateur tête haute ([HUD](#)), ainsi que des astuces sur l'utilisation des fonctions de la souris.

Le chapitre 6, [Fonctionnalités](#), décrit certaines des fonctionnalités particulières que FlightGear offre à l'utilisateur avancé.

### Partie III : Tutoriels

Le chapitre 7, [Tutoriels](#), fournit des informations sur les nombreux tutoriels disponibles pour les apprentis pilotes.

Le chapitre 8, [Un tutoriel de base de simulation de vol](#), propose un tutoriel sur les bases du vol, illustré avec de nombreux exemples sur la façon dont les choses apparaissent dans FlightGear.

Le chapitre 9, [Un petit vol à travers la campagne](#), décrit un vol simple à travers la campagne dans la région de San Fransisco, qui peut être réalisé avec l'installation par défaut.

Le chapitre 10, [Une balade à travers champs en IFR](#), propose un vol similaire à travers la campagne comprenant l'utilisation des instruments afin de permettre de voler sans danger dans les nuages sous le régime de vol aux instruments (appelé [IFR](#), pour *Instrument Flight Rules*).

[Chapter 11, Un tutoriel pour l'hélicoptère](#), includes a brief tutorial with the basics for the start-up, lift-off, flying and landing of helicopters in FlightGear.

### Annexes

Dans l'annexe A, [Approche manquée : si rien ne fonctionne](#), nous essayons de vous aider à surmonter certaines difficultés fréquemment rencontrées lors de l'utilisation de FlightGear.

Dans l'annexe B, [Atterrissage : réflexions complémentaires avant de quitter l'avion](#), nous souhaiterions remercier ceux qui le méritent, dresser une vue d'ensemble du développement de FlightGear et souligner ce qu'il reste à accomplir.

[Appendix C, Index principal](#). Includes the main index of the present manual.

[Appendix D, Index des options de la ligne de commande](#). Includes the index of the command line options of FlightGear.

[Appendix E, Liste des acronymes](#). Includes the list and description of all the acronyms used along the present manual.

Appendices F and G include, respectively, the [Liste des tableaux](#) and [Liste des figures](#) of the manual.

## 1.1 Lecture condensée

Pour ceux qui ne veulent pas lire ce document de bout en bout, nous suggérons de lire les sections suivantes dans l'ordre afin de disposer des minimas pour s'envoler :

Installation	<a href="#">Prévol : installer FlightGear</a>
Démarrer le simulateur	<a href="#">Décollage : comment démarrer le programme</a>
Utiliser le simulateur	<a href="#">En vol : tout sur les instruments, les raccourcis clavier et les menus</a>

## 1.2 Instructions pour les grands impatients

Nous savons que la plupart des gens détestent lire les manuels. Si vous êtes certain que votre carte graphique prend en charge OpenGL (vérifiez dans votre documentation; par exemple, la plupart des cartes graphiques NVIDIA le font) et que vous utilisez Windows, macOS ou Linux, vous pouvez probablement au moins sauter la Partie I de ce manuel et utiliser des binaires pré-compilés. Ils peuvent être trouvés, accompagnés de leurs instructions d'installation, à l'adresse suivante :

<https://www.flightgear.org/download/>.

Si vous utilisez Linux, vous devriez pouvoir trouver FlightGear dans les paquetages de votre distribution.

Une fois que vous avez téléchargé et installé les binaires, reportez-vous au Chapitre 4 pour obtenir des détails sur le démarrage du simulateur.

## 1.3 Lecture complémentaire

Bien que ce guide d'introduction contienne en principe toutes les informations nécessaires, nous vous recommandons vivement de jeter un œil à d'autres documents, notamment :

- un petit **dépliant** nommé FGShortRef.pdf à imprimer; bien pratique en vol, il se trouve dans le dossier Docs du paquetage de base (lequel se trouve normalement dans un dossier FlightGear ou fgdata, voir FG\_ROOT);
- des **documentation complémentaires** sur des fonctionnalités particulières sont disponibles dans le sous-répertoire Docs du paquetage de base;
- il existe un **wiki** FlightGear officiel disponible à l'adresse <https://wiki.flightgear.org>;
- le **forum** FlightGear officiel se trouve à l'adresse <https://forum.flightgear.org>.



# **Partie I**

## **Installation**



## Chapitre 2

# Vous voulez voler librement ? Choisissez FlightGear !

### 2.1 Encore un autre simulateur de vol ?

N'avez-vous jamais voulu piloter un avion par vous-même, mais manqué d'argent ou de compétences pour le faire ? Etes-vous un véritable pilote désirant progresser sans devoir décoller ? Voulez-vous tenter quelques manœuvres dangereuses sans risquer votre vie ? Ou voulez-vous simplement vous amuser avec un jeu plus sérieux sans aucune violence ? Si l'une de ces questions s'applique à vous, alors les simulateurs de vol sur PC sont ce qu'il vous faut.

Vous avez peut-être déjà acquis de l'expérience aux commandes de Microsoft © Flight Simulator ou d'un autre simulateur de vol sur PC disponible dans le commerce ? Leurs prix se situant habituellement aux alentours de 70 euros, en acheter un ne devrait pas être une grosse difficulté, en sachant que, malgré la chute des prix, la configuration matérielle exigée pour faire fonctionner un simulateur de vol sérieux sur PC revient à peu près à 1 000 euros.

Avec tant de simulateurs de vol disponibles sur le marché, pourquoi passer des milliers d'heures de conception et de programmation pour construire un simulateur de vol libre et gratuit ? Et bien, il y a de nombreuses raisons, mais en voici les principales :

- tous les simulateurs du commerce ont un inconvénient majeur : ils sont conçus par un petit groupe de développeurs définissant leurs propriétés en fonction de ce qui leur est important et en fournissant des interfaces limitées aux utilisateurs. Toute personne ayant déjà essayé de contacter le développeur d'un logiciel du commerce sait que se faire entendre dans cet environnement est un réel défi. *A contrario*, FlightGear est conçu par des utilisateurs et pour des utilisateurs, tout étant fourni *de base*.
- les simulateurs commerciaux sont généralement un compromis entre fonctionnalités et facilité d'utilisation. La majeure partie des éditeurs commerciaux veulent pouvoir toucher un large segment d'utilisateurs, comprenant de véritables pilotes, des débutants et même des joueurs occasionnels. Au final, il y a donc toujours un compromis entre date de mise sur le marché et budget. Comme FlightGear est libre et ouvert, il n'a aucun besoin de ce genre de compromis. Nous n'avons aucun éditeur sur le dos, nous sommes tous des volontaires qui définissons nous-mêmes nos propres dates de lancement. Nous sommes

également libres de prendre en compte des marchés qu'aucun autre éditeur commercial ne considèrerait rentable, comme la communauté de la recherche scientifique.

- en raison de la fermeture de leur code source, les simulateurs du commerce doivent se passer de la contribution de développeurs imaginatifs et talentueux. Avec FlightGear, des développeurs de tous niveaux et débordants d'idées ont la possibilité d'apporter des améliorations énormes sur le projet. La contribution à un projet aussi grand et complexe que FlightGear est une grande récompense et offre aux développeurs la fierté de participer au futur d'un grand simulateur.
- Enfin, et au-delà de ces considérations, c'est juste du pur plaisir ! Je suppose que vous pourriez nous comparer aux vrais pilotes qui assemblent des avions en kit ou qui construisent eux-mêmes leurs avions. Bien sûr, nous pourrions aller acheter un avion déjà construit et paré à voler, mais il y a vraiment un sentiment si particulier quand on construit quelque chose de ses propres mains.

Les points mentionnés ci-dessus forment la base des motivations pour lesquelles nous avons créé FlightGear. Avec ces motivations à l'esprit, nous nous sommes lancés dans la création d'un simulateur de vol de haute qualité visant à être civil, multi-plateforme, ouvert, auto-maintenu, et pouvant être étendu par les utilisateurs eux-mêmes. Jetons un coup d'œil plus détaillé à chacune de ces caractéristiques :

- **Civil** : le projet vise essentiellement la simulation de vol civile. Il devrait permettre de simuler aussi bien l'aviation générale que civile. Notre but à long terme est de faire approuver FlightGear par la FAA comme plateforme d'entraînement au vol. Malheureusement pour les utilisateurs intéressés, ce n'est pas pour le moment un simulateur de combat; cependant, ces fonctionnalités ne sont pas explicitement exclues. C'est juste que nous n'avons pas eu de développeur sérieusement intéressé par les systèmes nécessaires à la simulation de combat.
- **Multi-plateformes** : les développeurs essayent de maintenir le code aussi indépendant que possible de la plate-forme. Cette motivation est basée sur leur observation que les gens intéressés par la simulation de vol utilisent toute une variété de matériel informatique et de systèmes d'exploitation. Le code actuel prend en charge les systèmes d'exploitation suivants :
  - Linux (n'importe quelle distribution récente);
  - Windows 11/10/8/7/Vista (plateforme Intel/AMD);
  - systèmes BSD;
  - macOS.

A notre connaissance, il n'existe pas aujourd'hui d'autre simulateur de vol, commercial ou libre, prenant en charge une gamme aussi étendue de plate-formes.

- **Ouvert** : le projet n'est pas restreint à un cadre statique ou élitiste de développeurs. Toute personne se sentant capable de contribuer est plus que bienvenue. Concernant les droits d'auteur, le code (y compris la documentation) sont protégés sous les termes de la licence GNU General Public License (GPL).

La licence GPL est souvent mal comprise. En termes simples, elle déclare que vous pouvez copier et distribuer librement le(s) programme(s) auxquels elle s'applique. Vous pouvez les modifier si vous le souhaitez et même demander de l'argent pour la distribution du logiciel concerné, qu'il s'agisse d'une version modifiée ou originale. Cependant,

lors de la distribution du logiciel, vous devez en fournir le code source aux destinataires et il doit conserver le copyright original. En résumé :

*« Vous pouvez faire ce que vous désirez du logiciel sauf le rendre non-libre. »*

Le texte intégral de la GPL peut être obtenu à partir du code source de FlightGear ou à l'adresse suivante :

<https://www.gnu.org/copyleft/gpl.html>.

- **Auto-maintenu et pouvant être étendu par les utilisateurs** : à la différence de la plupart des simulateurs commerciaux, dans FlightGear, les formats des scènes et des aéronefs, les variables internes, les APIs et tout le reste sont accessibles par l'utilisateur et documentés depuis le début. Même sans aucune documentation explicite du développement (qui naturellement doit être écrite à un moment ou un autre), on peut toujours consulter le code source pour voir comment quelque chose fonctionne. Le but des développeurs est de construire un moteur de base sur lequel les concepteurs des scènes, des tableaux de bord, et peut-être les auteurs de scénario d'aventures, de procédures de contrôle du trafic aérien (*Air Traffic Control, ATC*), les artistes audio, et d'autres, peuvent se greffer. Nous espérons que le projet, y compris ses développeurs et ses utilisateurs, tireront avantage de la créativité et des idées des centaines de "pilotes virtuels" talentueux de par le monde.

Sans aucun doute, le succès du projet Linux, initié par Linus Torvalds, a inspiré certains des développeurs. Non seulement Linux a montré que le développement distribué de projets hautement sophistiqués à travers Internet est possible, mais il a également prouvé qu'un tel effort peut surpasser le niveau de qualité de produits commerciaux concurrents.



FIGURE 2.1 – Une mauvaise approche à PHNL (Daniel K. Inouye International, Honolulu)

## 2.2 Pré-requis système

En comparaison avec d'autres simulateurs de vol récents, les pré-requis système de FlightGear ne sont pas exagérés. Un processeur AMD Athlon64 de vitesse moyenne, ou un Intel P4, ou même un AMD Athlon/K7 décent ou un Intel PIII devraient être suffisants pour faire fonctionner FlightGear assez bien, pour peu que vous ayez une carte graphique 3D appropriée.

Un des pré-requis les plus importants pour faire fonctionner FlightGear est une carte graphique dont le pilote prenne en charge OpenGL. Si vous ne savez pas ce qu'est OpenGL, la vue d'ensemble proposée sur le site Internet d'OpenGL l'explique très bien (traduit de l'anglais) :

OpenGL® est l'API pour graphismes 2D et 3D la plus utilisée dans l'industrie (...)

FlightGear ne fonctionne pas (et ne fonctionnera jamais) sur une carte graphique ne prenant en charge que Direct3D/DirectX. Contrairement à OpenGL, Direct3D est une interface propriétaire, étant limitée au système d'exploitation Windows.

Vous devriez pouvoir faire fonctionner FlightGear sur un ordinateur doté d'une carte graphique 3D ne prenant pas en charge l'accélération matérielle OpenGL (et même sur des systèmes sans matériel graphique 3D du tout). Cependant, l'absence de prise en charge matérielle de l'accélération OpenGL peut mettre sur les genoux même la plus rapide des machines. Les symptômes typiques de l'absence d'accélération matérielle sont des taux d'images (frame rate) inférieurs à 1 image par seconde.

Toute carte graphique 3D moderne prenant en charge OpenGL fera l'affaire. Pour les pilotes de carte graphique Windows qui prennent en charge OpenGL, visitez la page d'accueil de votre fabricant de carte vidéo. Notez que, parfois, les pilotes OpenGL sont fournis par les fabricants des processeurs graphiques et non par les fabricants des cartes. Si êtes sur le point d'acheter une carte graphique pour faire fonctionner FlightGear, une carte NVIDIA GeForce est recommandée, car elles ont tendance à bénéficier d'une meilleure prise en charge OpenGL que les cartes AMD/ATI Radeon. 256 Mo de mémoire graphique dédiée sera plus qu'approprié – de nombreuses personnes font fonctionner FlightGear sans souci avec moins.

Pour installer les exécutables et les scènes par défaut, vous aurez besoin d'environ 500 Mo d'espace disque libre. Au cas où vous voudriez/deviez compiler le programme vous-même, vous aurez besoin d'à peu près 500 Mo supplémentaires pour le code source et pour les fichiers temporaires créés durant la compilation. Celà ne comprend pas l'environnement de développement, qui variera en taille en fonction du système d'exploitation et de l'environnement utilisés. Les utilisateurs de Windows peuvent s'attendre à avoir besoin d'approximativement 300 Mo d'espace disque supplémentaire pour l'environnement de développement. Les machines fonctionnant sous Linux ou autres UNIX devraient avoir la plupart des outils de développement déjà installés, il est donc probable qu'il ne faille que peu d'espace disque supplémentaire sur ces plate-formes.

En ce qui concerne les effets sonores, n'importe quelle carte graphique devrait suffir. En raison de sa conception flexible, FlightGear prend en charge une large éventail de joysticks, de manches et de palonniers sous Linux et Windows. FlightGear peut également fournir des interfaces aux sièges de vol *full-motion*.

FlightGear est développé principalement sous Linux, un clone libre et gratuit d'UNIX (ainsi qu'un bon nombre d'outils GNU) développé coopérativement via Internet dans plus ou moins

le même esprit que FlightGear lui-même. FlightGear fonctionne également et est en partie développé sous plusieurs versions de Windows. Il est également possible de compiler FlightGear sur macOS ainsi que sur diverses stations de travail UNIX/X11. Dès l'instant où vous disposez d'un compilateur approprié installé, FlightGear peut-être compilé sous toutes ces plate-formes. Le principal compilateur sur toutes ces plateformes est le compilateur libre GNU C++ (le compilateur Cygnus Cygwin sous Win32).

Si vous voulez lancer FlightGear sous macOS, vous aurez besoin de macOS 10.4 ou supérieur. Les pré-requis minimums sont soit un Power PC G4 à 1 GHz ou un Mac Intel, mais nous vous suggérons un MacBook Pro, Intel iMac, Mac Pro ou Power Mac (Power PC G5) pour un confort de vol optimal.

## 2.3 Choisir une version

Nous vous recommandons d'utiliser la dernière version officielle, généralement produite annuellement et qui est utilisée pour créer les binaires pré-compilé. Elle est disponible à l'adresse :

<https://www.flightgear.org/download/>

Si vous voulez vraiment obtenir la toute dernière version du code (la plus évoluée et, parfois, la plus instable), vous pouvez cloner les sources à partir de l'adresse :

<https://sourceforge.net/p/flightgear/flightgear/ci/next/tree/>

pour obtenir le code le plus récent. Une description détaillée de la préparation de code en vue de l'exécution de FlightGear peut être trouvée à l'adresse :

<https://wiki.flightgear.org/Git>

## 2.4 Modèles de dynamique de vol

Historiquement, FlightGear était basé sur un modèle de vol qu'il a hérité de LaRCsim (ainsi que l'avion Navion). Comme cela imposait plusieurs limitations (la plus importante, beaucoup de caractéristiques étaient codées en dur au lieu de passer par des fichiers de configuration), quelques tentatives ont été faites pour développer ou inclure des modèles de vol alternatifs. En conséquence, FlightGear prend aujourd'hui en charge différents modèles de vol, qui doivent être choisis au lancement de l'application.

- Le plus important est probablement le modèle de vol JSB développé par Jon Berndt. Le modèle de vol JSB fait partie d'un projet autonome appelé JSBSim:  
<http://jsbsim.sourceforge.net/>.
- Andrew Ross a créé un autre modèle de vol appelé YASim pour *Yet Another Simulator* (encore un autre simulateur). YASim prend une approche fondamentalement différente de nombreux autres FDM, car il se base sur l'information géométrique plutôt que sur les coefficients aérodynamiques. YASim dispose d'un FDM particulièrement avancé pour les hélicoptères.

- Christian Mayer a développé le modèle de vol d'un ballon à air chaud. Curt Olson intégra ensuite un mode de déplacement spécial, appelé "UFO", qui vous aide à voler rapidement d'un point A à un point B.
- Enfin, il existe le modèle de vol UIUC, développé par une équipe de l'Université d'Illinois à Urbana-Champaign. Ce travail était initialement tourné vers la modélisation d'un aéronef rencontrant des conditions de givrage, mais il inclut maintenant l'aérodynamique « non-linéaire », qui a pour conséquence d'améliorer le réalisme dans des attitudes extrêmes, comme le décrochage et les vols à angle d'attaque élevé. Deux bons exemples qui illustrent cette capacité sont le deltaplane Airwave Xtreme 150 et le Wright Flyer de 1903. De plus amples détails du modèle de vol UIUC peuvent être obtenus à l'adresse :

<https://m-selig.ae.illinois.edu/apasim/Aircraft-uiuc.html>

Il est même possible de piloter l'affichage de la scène de FlightGear en utilisant un FDM externe fonctionnant sur un ordinateur différent ou par l'intermédiaire d'un canal nommé sur la machine locale (bien que cela ne soit pas recommandé aux utilisateurs découvrant FlightGear).

## 2.5 À propos de ce guide

Il y a peu, voire pas, de ressources dans ce guide qui y soient exclusivement présentées. Vous pourriez même dire comme Montaigne « Je n'ai fait qu'un bouquet de fleurs et n'ai rien fourni de moi-même que le lien qui les assemble. » La majeure partie (mais heureusement pas l'intégralité) des informations présentes ici peut également être obtenue à partir du site Internet de FlightGear situé à l'adresse :

<https://www.flightgear.org>

*Le manuel de FlightGear* a pour vocation d'être un premier pas vers une documentation complète de FlightGear. Il s'adresse à l'utilisateur final qui n'est pas intéressé par le fonctionnement interne d'OpenGL ou par la création de ses propres scènes. Nous espérons qu'un jour il y aura, pour accompagner ce document, un *Guide du programmeur de FlightGear*, un *Guide de création des scènes de FlightGear* décrivant les outils de scènes livrés avec TerraGear; et un paquetage *École de pilotage FlightGear*.

**Merci de nous aider à améliorer ce document en nous soumettant vos corrections, améliorations, suggestions et traductions. Tous les utilisateurs sont invités à contribuer aux descriptions des configurations alternatives (cartes graphiques, systèmes d'exploitation, etc.). Nous serons plus qu'heureux de les inclure dans les futures versions du *manuel de FlightGear* (bien entendu, sans oublier le crédit attribuable à leurs auteurs).**

## Chapitre 3

# Prévol : installer FlightGear

Pour faire fonctionner FlightGear, vous devez en installer les binaires. Une fois que vous aurez fait ceci vous pourrez, si vous le souhaitez, installer les paysages et avions additionnels.

Les binaires pré-compilés de la dernière version sont disponibles pour :

- Windows,
- macOS,
- Linux.

Pour les télécharger, rendez-vous sur la page :

<https://www.flightgear.org/download/>

et suivez les instructions qui y sont présentes.

### 3.1 Installer des scènes

Des scènes détaillées de FlightGear sont disponibles pour le monde entier, vous permettant de voler n'importe où, des sommets de l'Himalaya à la campagne du Kansas. Le paquetage de base de FlightGear comprend les scènes d'une petite zone autour de Keflavik, Islande, donc pour aller voler dans d'autres parties du monde vous aurez besoin de télécharger des scènes additionnelles.

Chaque portion de scène est regroupée dans une archive compressée (appelée *tarball*, en anglais), qui correspond à une tuile de 10 degrés par 10 degrés. Chaque archive est nommée en fonction de la tuile de 10x10 degrés qu'elle représente, par exemple w130n50.tgz.

Vous pouvez télécharger les scènes à partir d'une carte cliquable ici :

#### 3.1.1 Téléchargement automatiquement des scènes en plein vol

FlightGear est capable de télécharger automatiquement les scènes pendant que vous volez, si vous avez à votre disposition une connexion Internet permanente. Créez un répertoire de travail « fonctionnel » pour TerraSync, accessible en écriture pour l'utilisateur, et faites pointer FlightGear vers ce répertoire en utilisant la variable FG\_SCENERY (comme expliqué ci-dessus). Ne laissez **pas** TerraSync télécharger des scènes dans le répertoire Scenery créé lors de l'installation.

Le problème de la poule et de l'œuf est présent lorsque vous démarrez pour la première fois dans une nouvelle zone. FlightGear s'attend à trouver les scènes pour cette zone, mais il est possible qu'il ne les ait pas encore récupérées. Aussi, dès que TerraSync a chargé la nouvelle tuile (ce que vous pouvez vérifier à partir de la section Statut de la fenêtre Téléchargement de scènes), cliquez sur le bouton Rafraîchissement manuel pour recharger les scènes. Si vous rencontrez toujours des difficultés, redémarrez FlightGear.

Un des bénéfices majeurs de TerraSync est qu'il récupère toujours la dernière et meilleure version des scènes à partir du *FlightGear World (Custom) Scenery Project* et vous permet ainsi d'obtenir les mises à jour incrémentales indépendamment des versions complètes des scènes mondiales, qui sont généralement synchronisées avec les versions de FlightGear.

### 3.1.2 Installation manuelle des scènes

*Each piece of scenery is packaged into a compressed archive, or tarball, in a 10 degree by 10 degree chunk. Each tarball is named after the 10x10 degree chunk it represents, for example w130n50.tgz.*

You can download scenery outside of the simulator from a clickable map on the Internet or via the TerraMaster tool:

<https://www.flightgear.org/download/scenery>  
<https://wiki.flightgear.org/TerraMaster>

Sinon, vous pouvez soutenir le projet FlightGear en achetant un lot complet des scènes du monde entier sur DVD à l'adresse :

<https://store.flightgear.org>

Une fois le fichier compressé téléchargé sur votre ordinateur, il vous faut localiser le répertoire Scenery de votre installation FlightGear.

- Pour Windows, ce répertoire devrait être :

`C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data\Scenery.`

- Pour les machines fonctionnant sous la famille Unix, il s'agit généralement du répertoire :

`/usr/local/share/FlightGear/data/Scenery.`

- Pour macOS, il s'agit généralement de:

`/Applications/FlightGear.app/Contents/Resources/data/Scenery.`

Pour installer les scènes, décompressez le fichier compressé dans le répertoire Scenery. La plupart des systèmes d'exploitation proposent des outils pour décompresser des fichiers type *tarball*. Si vous ne parvenez pas à le décompresser, installez un programme d'extraction comme 7-zip (<https://www.7-zip.org>).

Notez que vous ne devez pas décompresser les fichiers de scènes numérotés présents au sein du fichier *tarball*, comme par exemple 958402.gz - cette action sera réalisée à la volée par FlightGear.

Une fois que ce fichier est décompressé, les répertoires Terrain et Objects contiendront de nouveaux sous-répertoires où se situent vos nouvelles scènes.

Pour utiliser ces nouvelles scènes, rendez-vous simplement à l'aéroport de démarrage de votre choix situé au sein de la nouvelle scène. Si vous utilisez l'assistant de démarrage de FlightGear, vous devrez appuyer sur le bouton **Rafraîchir** avant de choisir votre aéroport.

### MS Windows Vista/7

Si vous utilisez Windows Vista ou Windows 7, vous pourriez être confronté au fait que Windows installe les scènes (et aéronefs) téléchargés dans votre *Virtual Store* :

C:\Users\Votre Nom\AppData\Local\VirtualStore\Program Files\FlightGear\Scenery

S'il le fait, vous devrez copier manuellement les répertoires Terrain et Objects vers votre véritable répertoire Scenery de FlightGear, comme cela a été décrit ci-dessus.

### macOS

Vous pouvez installer les données des scènes et des avions téléchargés en utilisant l'interface de lancement (GUI launcher). Appuyez sur **Installer des scènes supplémentaires** dans l'onglet *Suppléments*, ceci ouvrira la fenêtre d'exploration des fichiers. En choisissant un ou plusieurs fichiers de scènes, ceci installera les données de scènes dans :

/Users/(Votre Nom)/Library/Application Support/FlightGear/Scenery

Les formats acceptables pour les données de scènes sont zip, tar.gz, tgz, tar, et dossier extrait. Si l'installation via le GUI launcher ne fonctionne pas, pour quelque raison que ce soit, vous avez toujours une possibilité alternative d'installer les données. Ouvrez le fichier de données en appuyant sur « Ouvrir le fichier de données » dans l'onglet Autres. Vous ouvrirez ainsi une fenêtre Rechercher pour le répertoire des données. Glisser le répertoire d'un avion vers le répertoire data/Aircraft (ou un répertoire de scènes vers un répertoire data/Scenery) sous le répertoire données permettra d'aboutir au même résultat.

### FG\_SCENERY

Si vous préférez conserver vos scènes téléchargées séparées de l'installation de base, vous pouvez le faire en précisant votre variable d'environnement FG\_SCENERY.

Il s'agit de l'emplacement auquel FlightGear recherche des fichiers de scènes. Il contient une liste de répertoires qui seront analysés dans l'ordre. Les répertoires sont séparés par des « : » sous Unix (dont macOS) et par des « ; » sous Windows.

Par exemple, sous Linux, une variable d'environnement FG\_SCENERY paramétrée à :

/home/jsmith/WorldScenery:

/usr/local/share/Flightgear/data/Scenery

précisera à FlightGear de rechercher des scènes en priorité dans le répertoire

/home/jsmith/WorldScenery,

suivi de :

/usr/local/share/Flightgear/data/Scenery.

Sous Windows, une variable d'environnement FG\_SCENERY paramétrée à :

C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data\Scenery;C:\data\WorldScenery

cherchera d'abord pour des scènes dans le répertoire :

C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data\Scenery

suivi de :

C:\data\WorldScenery

Le paramétrage de variables d'environnement sur différentes plate-formes dépasse le cadre de ce document.

### 3.1.3 Créez vos propres scènes

Si vous êtes intéressé par la création de vos propres scènes, jetez un œil à TerraGear - les outils qui sont utilisés pour générer les scènes pour FlightGear :

<https://wiki.flightgear.org/TerraGear>

L'arbre des sources les plus activement maintenues de la chaîne d'outils TerraGear est co-localisée sur le serveur des données géospatiales Mapserver de FlightGear :

<https://sourceforge.net/p/flightgear/terragear/ci/next/tree/>.

## 3.2 Installer des aéronefs

Le paquetage de base de FlightGear contient uniquement un petit nombre des aéronefs effectivement disponibles pour FlightGear. Les développeurs ont créé une large gamme d'aéronefs, des chasseurs de la seconde guerre mondiale comme le Spitfire aux avions de transport de passagers comme le Boeing 747.

Vous pouvez télécharger les aéronefs à partir de la page :

<https://www.flightgear.org/download/download-aircraft/>

Téléchargez simplement le fichier et décompressez-le dans le sous-répertoire data/Aircraft de votre installation. L'aéronef est téléchargé sous la forme d'un fichier .zip. Une fois que vous l'aurez décompressé, un nouveau sous-répertoire sera créé dans votre répertoire data/Aircraft, contenant le nouvel aéronef. La prochaine fois que vous lancerez FlightGear, le nouvel aéronef sera disponible.

Sous macOS, vous pouvez utiliser le GUI launcher pour installer les fichiers de l'aéronef téléchargé comme décrit dans la section [3.1.2](#).

## 3.3 Installer la documentation

La plupart des paquetages cités ci-dessus incluent la documentation complète de FlightGear, qui comprend une version au format PDF du *Manuel de FlightGear*, qui a été conçue pour un affichage et une impression de qualité en utilisant le logiciel Reader d'Adobe, disponible à l'adresse :

<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>

De plus, si elle est correctement installée, la version HTML de ce document est accessible à partir du menu *Aide* de FlightGear.

Enfin, le code source comporte un répertoire `docs-mini` qui contient de nombreuses idées et solutions pour des problèmes spécifiques. Il s'agit donc également d'un bon endroit pour trouver d'avantage d'informations.



## **Partie II**

# **Voler avec FlightGear**



## Chapitre 4

# Décollage : comment démarrer le programme

### 4.1 Démarrer le simulateur



FIGURE 4.1 – Paré à décoller : en attente à la position de démarrage par défaut de l'aéroport de Honolulu Intl., PHNL

Les binaires précompilés pour Windows sont livrés avec un assistant graphique pour démarrer FlightGear. Cliquez tout simplement sur l'élément *FlightGear Launcher* du menu Démarrer, ou double-cliquez sur l'icône présente sur le Bureau. L'assistant vous permet de choisir votre aéronef, l'aéroport de démarrage et la piste, l'heure du jour, la météo en cours, et de nombreux autres paramètres.

La première fois que vous le lancerez, il vous sera demandé de définir le paramètre FG\_ROOT,

par exemple :

```
C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data ou  
C:\Program Files\FlightGear 2020.4.0\data
```

Ceci fait, l'écran suivant devrait s'afficher :



FIGURE 4.2 – Résumé des paramètres du lanceur intégré : cliquez sur **Voler!** pour démarrer

The launcher defaults to starting a flight with the Cessna 172P at the default airport, which depends on the FlightGear release. Simply press the **Fly!** button to start the simulator. Alternatively, if you want to change any of your starting settings, select from the buttons on the left.

You can change your aircraft by navigating to the *Aircraft* tab on the left of the window. FlightGear comes pre-installed with the Cessna 172P, and a UFO. To fly other aircraft, the easiest way is to add a default FlightGear hangar with hundreds of aircraft. To do this, in the *Aircraft* tab, click the **Browse** button and then the **Add default hangar**. The list will fill up with lots of aircraft. You may download any of the other aircraft listed simply by clicking on the **Install** button. You can also download aircraft from the official website and private hangars.

Selecting *Location* allows you to select your starting position – tied down at a parking location, on the runway ready for take-off, on approach on an ILS approach, or relative to a VOR, FIX. By default, the current selected location is displayed. To select a completely different location, click the **Back** button and enter the name of where within the world you want to be.

FlightGear will automatically download any required scenery (assuming you have it selected in the *Settings* page).

The *Environment* page allows you to select the time of day and various parameters for weather modeling. You can choose to use the current real world weather conditions, or select a specific weather scenario such as a high pressure region, or a thunderstorm.

The *Settings* page allows you to select a variety of simulation settings, such as multiplayer,

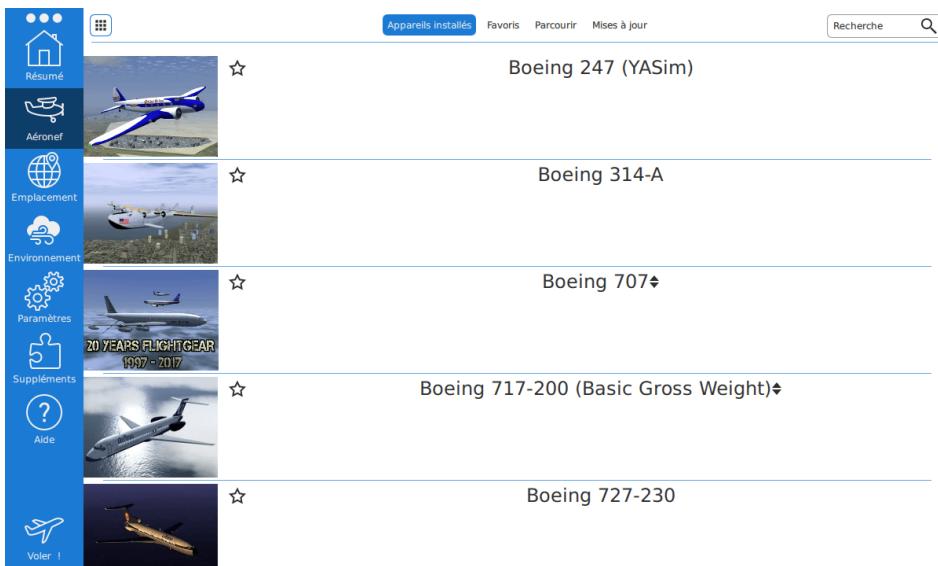


FIGURE 4.3 – Sélection de l'aéronef : choisissez parmi de nombreux aéronefs et téléchargez-les en un clic

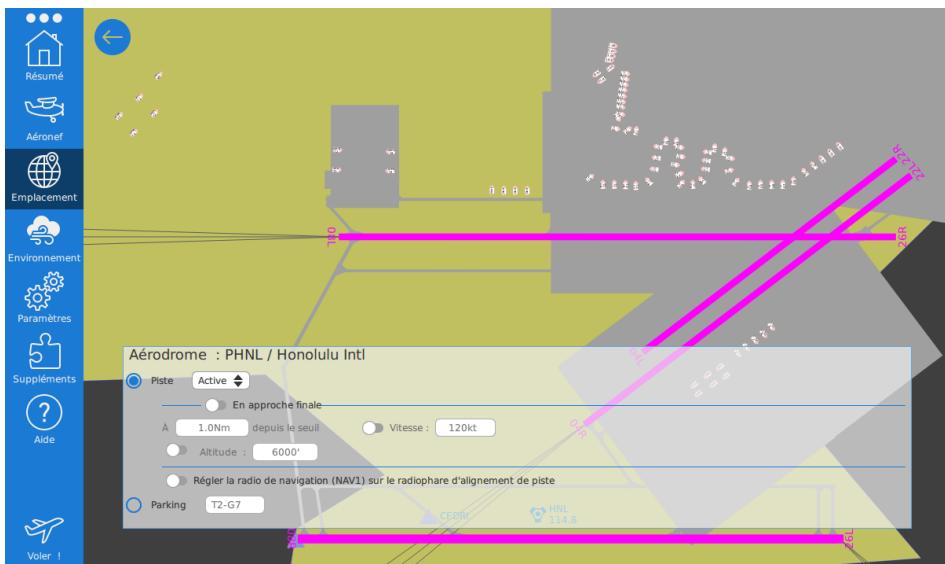


FIGURE 4.4 – Position initiale : choisissez une position initiale au sol ou dans les airs

automatic scenery download and graphics options. Advanced options are available from **Show More** on the right.

Finally, the *Add-ons* page allows you to select different hangars of aircraft to download. Once you are happy with your settings, click on the **Fly!** button to start the simulator.

## 4.2 Lancement à partir de la ligne de commande

Il existe deux variables d'environnement qui doivent être définies pour faire fonctionner FlightGear. Elles indiquent à FlightGear où trouver ses données et ses scènes.

Vous pouvez les paramétrier de plusieurs façons en fonction de votre plate-forme et de vos besoins.

Note that doing such settings is not always necessary (for instance, if you compiled FlightGear yourself and passed `-D FG_DATA_DIR:PATH=path` to CMake, then your fgfs executable has this directory as its default `FG_ROOT` setting). However, if you are not using the built-in launcher and either FlightGear can't find its *base package* or you want to add directories for custom scenery, then passing options `--fg-root` or `--fg-scenery`, or alternatively setting `FG_ROOT` or `FG_SCENERY` as environment variables, is likely to be helpful.

How to set environment variables largely depends on the operating system and the shell in use, if any. We'll get into such platform-specific details after a few general comments on `FG_ROOT` and `FG_SCENERY`.

### 4.2.1 FG\_ROOT

Il s'agit de l'emplacement où FlightGear recherchera ses fichiers de données comme les aéronefs, les emplacements des balises de navigation, les fréquences des aéroports. Il s'agit du sous-répertoire `data` de l'emplacement où vous avez installé FlightGear, par exemple : `/usr/local/share/FlightGear/data` ou `C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data`.

The contents of this directory comes directly from the FGData repository.<sup>1</sup> If you have installed FlightGear from a binary distribution on Windows or macOS, the directory name should be `data`. It can also be called `fgdata` (typically, after cloning the FGData repository), but other names are possible: for instance, the `flightgear-data-base` package in Debian ships it as `/usr/share/games/flightgear`. This directory contains files such as `version`, `defaults.xml` and `keyboard.xml` as well as subdirectories such as `Aircraft`, `Input` and `Nasal`.

In order to run, FlightGear absolutely needs to know where to find this directory. Users of the built-in launcher are prompted to select it from the graphical interface if FlightGear hasn't found it automatically. Unless the location recorded at compile-time points to a suitable directory, FlightGear command line users need to either set the `FG_ROOT` environment variable or pass the `--fg-root` option in order to specify an appropriate location (check that it has the aforementioned files and subdirectories).

If you are a user of the `download_and_compile.sh` script, the base data files are in `install/flightgear/fgdata` (relatively to the directory from which you ran the script),

---

1. <https://sourceforge.net/p/flightgear/fgdata/ci/next/tree/>

but you don't need to use `--fg-root` nor to set `FG_ROOT`: the `run_fgfs.sh` script created by `download_and_compile.sh` automatically passes the `--fg-root` option to `fgfs` for you with the appropriate value.



In most Unix shell languages, `$VAR` can be thought of as "the value of variable `VAR`". In explanations and documentation related to FlightGear, we often extend this notation a little bit. Typically, `$FG_ROOT` should be understood as "your `FG_ROOT` setting, regardless of the way FlightGear obtains it: compile time default, `FG_ROOT` environment variable or `--fg-root` option."

The same kind of sloppy wording is sometimes applied to other settings such as `FG_SCENERY` to mean "the list of scenery paths FlightGear has been configured to use", however this can get confusing. Indeed, the list of scenery paths considered by FlightGear is *assembled* from several things, including the values passed to `--fg-scenery` options and that of the `FG_SCENERY` environment variable, if set... value which is obtained via `$FG_SCENERY` in typical Unix shells!

#### 4.2.2 FG\_SCENERY

The scenery shown by FlightGear can be assembled from several places, and the whole is sometimes referred to as "`FG_SCENERY`". This is however sloppy wording: `FG_SCENERY` is actually the name of an environment variable that *may* be used (but there are several other ways) to point FlightGear to some folders containing scenery. FlightGear can use scenery from folders listed in `$FG_SCENERY` as well as folders given to the `--fg-scenery` option, all in the same run.

The most straightforward way to obtain FlightGear scenery if you have a good Internet connection is TerraSync: with this piece of the FlightGear infrastructure, scenery for the relevant area is downloaded as you fly. TerraSync scenery is automatically updated when you fly again to the same place. FlightGear can also use folders containing scenery that isn't managed by TerraSync; this is how "custom scenery" is used.

For users of the *built-in launcher*, enabling or disabling TerraSync is done under *Downloads* in the *Settings* tab: from there, you can enable or disable automatic scenery download and choose where the resulting files are stored (they can easily take up several gigabytes). Scenery directories not managed by TerraSync can be set in the *Add-ons* tab under *Additional scenery folders*.

For people who start FlightGear from the command line, TerraSync can be enabled or disabled with `--enable-terrasync` and `--disable-terrasync`. In order to choose where TerraSync stores the resulting files, you can use `--download-dir` or `--terrasync-dir` (if both are set, the latter takes precedence).



If you start FlightGear from the command line with the simple command `fgfs --enable-terrasync`, scenery will be downloaded to the default location:

- `%USERPROFILE%\FlightGear\Downloads\TerraSync` on the Windows operating system (`%USERPROFILE%` may be `C:\Users\username`, but this may depend on the Windows version);
- a TerraSync folder stored in the same place as where the `fgfsrc` configura-

tion file is looked for on other operating systems (see table 4.1).

This may be a good way to start FlightGear for the first time, if for some reason you don't want to use its built-in launcher. In case you don't have enough space in that location, simply specify another one using the `--download-dir` option.

Il s'agit de l'emplacement où FlightGear recherchera ses fichiers de scènes. Il s'agit d'une liste de répertoires qui seront analysés de manière séquentielle. Les répertoires sont séparés par « : » sous Unix et « ; » sous Windows, par exemple :

```
/home/joebloggs/my-fg-scenery:/home/joebloggs/.fgfs/TerraSync  
ou
```

```
D:\MyScenery;C:\Users\joebloggs\FlightGear\Downloads\TerraSync
```

If you want to use both TerraSync-managed scenery and custom scenery, it is generally advised to give the TerraSync directory as the last item, as in the above examples. This way, custom scenery can override TerraSync-managed scenery. Actually, unless it is already mentioned in `$FG_SCENERY` or via `--fg-scenery`, the TerraSync directory is automatically appended to the list of scenery paths used by FlightGear (and followed by `$FG_ROOT/Scenery` in case neither `FG_SCENERY` nor `--fg-scenery` specify anything).

#### 4.2.3 Démarrer le simulateur sous Windows

Alternativement, vous pouvez démarrer FlightGear à partir de la ligne de commande. Pour cela, vous devez paramétrier les variables d'environnement `FG_ROOT` et `FG_SCENERY` manuellement.

Ouvrez une invite de commandes, placez-vous dans le répertoire où sont positionnés vos binaires (généralement quelque chose comme `C:\Program Files\FlightGear\bin\Win32`), puis paramétrez les variables d'environnement en tapant :

```
C:  
cd \Program Files\FlightGear\bin
```

Then try simply running `fgfs`. If it complains that it can't find the "base data files", you need to either pass the `--fg-root` option or set the `FG_ROOT` environment variable:

```
fgfs "--fg-root=C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data"  
ou
```

```
SET FG_ROOT="C:\Program Files\FlightGear\data"  
fgfs
```

et démarrez FlightGear (dans la même fenêtre d'invite de commandes, car les variables d'environnement sont valides uniquement localement au sein de la même invite de commandes) par l'intermédiaire de la commande :

```
fgfs --option1 --option2 . . .
```

Les options de ligne de commande sont décrites dans le chapitre 4.4. Naturellement, vous pouvez créer un fichier *batch* avec un éditeur de texte Windows (comme le bloc-notes) contenant les lignes ci-dessus. Pour obtenir les meilleures performances à l'exécution, il est recommandé de réduire (icônisier) la fenêtre de sortie pendant que FlightGear est en fonctionnement.

#### 4.2.4 Démarrer le simulateur sous Unix/Linux

There are several cases to distinguish: if you used the `download_and_compile.sh` script to compile FlightGear, simply run the generated `run_fgfs.sh` script as if it were `fgfs`, giving it any of the options mentioned in section 4.4. In this case, don't pass `--fg-root` to `run_fgfs.sh`: this is already handled inside the script.

We now assume that you have an `fgfs` executable that wasn't obtained by running the `download_and_compile.sh` script. If you have compiled FlightGear yourself and passed `-D FG_DATA_DIR:PATH=path` to CMake where `path` tells where your FGData resides, then your `fgfs` executable has this directory as its default `FG_ROOT` setting; therefore, you don't need to pass `--fg-root` nor to set the `FG_ROOT` environment variable: you can simply run the `fgfs` executable and give it any of the options mentioned in section 4.4.

In case the `fgfs` executable comes from your distribution, things may or may not be as in the previous paragraph. Try simply running `fgfs`. If it complains that it can't find the "base data files", you need to either pass the `--fg-root` option or set the `FG_ROOT` environment variable. Using the option is done this way:

```
fgfs --fg-root=/usr/share/games/flightgear
```

(replace `/usr/share/games/flightgear` with the directory containing your FGData files; the above value is only where Debian puts them). As with any shell command, use double or single quotes if the path contains spaces. An alternative to using the `--fg-root` option is to set the `FG_ROOT` environment variable. In Bourne-style shells, this can be done like so:

```
export FG_ROOT=/usr/share/games/flightgear
```

On the other hand, you would use something like this instead in C-style shells:

```
setenv FG_ROOT /usr/share/games/flightgear
```

Then simply run `fgfs`. In case you have custom scenery, you might also want to use the same technique to set `FG_SCENERY` (cf. section 4.2.2). Une fois que ces variables d'environnement ont été paramétrées, démarrez tout simplement FlightGear en utilisant la commande

```
fgfs --option1 --option2 . . .
```

#### 4.2.5 Démarrer le simulateur sous macOS

Vous pouvez également démarrer le simulateur à partir de la ligne de commande sur macOS. Pour le faire, ouvrez Terminal.app (situé dans /Applications/Utilitaires) et tapez les commandes suivantes :

```
cd /Applications/FlightGear.app/Contents/MacOS
./fgfs --option1 --option2 . . .
```

Reportez-vous au chapitre 4.4 pour obtenir plus d'informations détaillées sur les options en ligne de commande. Contrairement aux autres plate-formes, vous n'avez pas besoin de préciser manuellement les variables d'environnement comme `FG_ROOT` et `FG_SCENERY` tant que vous utilisez un paquetage binaire précompilé.

### 4.3 Fichiers de configuration `fgfs`

The FlightGear executable is called `fgfs` (`fgfs.exe` on Windows). This program accepts a large number of options which will be listed in section 4.4. One of these options, namely `--launcher`, has already been presented in section 4.1 and starts the FlightGear built-in launcher. When this option is used, one rarely needs to pass other options manually to `fgfs`, because most settings can be performed from the built-in launcher.

It is also possible to start FlightGear without going through its built-in launcher, i.e., without using the `--launcher` option. This is particularly useful when testing things that require one to restart FlightGear many times in the same or similar conditions. There are also external launchers which work this way, calling the `fgfs` executable with all kinds of options, except `--launcher`.



The rest of this section goes into some details and is safe to skip if you are starting with FlightGear, especially if you use its built-in launcher.

When FlightGear (or rather, the `fgfs` executable) is started without the `--launcher` option, it tries to read options from a well-defined set of configuration files before processing the options passed as arguments to `fgfs`. These configuration files are `fgfsrc` in a location described in table 4.1, as well as `.fgfsrc` and `.fgfsrc.<hostname>` as explained in table 4.2. If you have options that you very often use, you can create one of these files and put the options there, one per line. Then you don't need to explicitly pass them to `fgfs` anymore. Such files can be created with any text editor (Notepad, Emacs, vi, etc.). If you don't know whether to create an `fgfsrc` or `.fgfsrc` file, we suggest the former: its expected location is tidier and its name not starting with a dot can make things easier in some situations.

Operating system	Where <code>fgfs</code> is looked for <sup>a</sup>
Windows	%APPDATA%\flightgear.org (typically: C:\Users\username\AppData\Roaming\flightgear.org on Vista or later, otherwise C:\Documents and Settings\username\Application Data\flightgear.org)
macOS	~/Library/Application Support/FlightGear
Unix/Linux	~/.fgfs

<sup>a</sup> That is, unless `FG_HOME` is set, in which case `fgfs` is looked for in the corresponding location; however, doing so is not advised unless you have a good reason.

TABLE 4.1 – Emplacement du fichier de configuration `fgfs`

Operating system	Where <code>.fgfs</code> and <code>.fgfs.&lt;hostname&gt;</code> are looked for
Windows	%USERPROFILE% (typically: C:\Users\username)
macOS	\$HOME (typically: /Users/username)
Unix/Linux	\$HOME (typically: /home/username)

TABLE 4.2 – Emplacement des fichiers de configuration `.fgfs` et `.fgfs.<nom hôte>`



As the order of fgfs options can matter, let's be a bit more explicit about it. If `--launcher` has been passed, configuration files specified with the `--config` option are first processed, followed by other options from the command line. Otherwise, options are processed in the following order:

- those from `fgfsrc`;
- those from `.fgfsrc`;
- those from `.fgfsrc.<hostname>` if `<hostname>` matches the host name (i.e., the name of the computer running FlightGear);
- those from `--config` options specifying non-XML files (in reverse order of these options, but in top-down order within each of the specified files);
- finally, the remaining options that were specified on the command line.

There can be exceptions, but usually, options that are processed later override those processed earlier.

The `fgfsrc`, `.fgfsrc`, `.fgfsrc.<hostname>` and non-XML files loaded with `--config` all obey the same syntax rules: they should have one `fgfs` option per line. Lines starting with a `#` character are treated as comments, i.e. they are ignored. Each option found outside a comment line is treated as if it had been passed as an argument to the `fgfs` executable.

## 4.4 Options de la ligne de commande

Nous allons présenter ci-dessous une liste complète des nombreuses options en ligne de commande de FlightGear (c'est-à-dire des options pouvant être passées à l'exécutable `fgfs`). Pour plus de confort, celles que vous utilisez systématiquement peuvent être placées dans un fichier de préférences, de sorte qu'elles seront automatiquement activées au démarrage de FlightGear (voir section 4.3).

### 4.4.1 Values for options

Some options don't require a value, such as `--help`, but there are options for which you should specify a value, such as `--fg-root`, as well as there are options for which you can optionally specify a value, such as for `--launcher`. You can separate the value from the option with either the `=` sign or a space, such as:

```
--fg-root=/path/to/fpdata
--fg-root /path/to/fpdata
```

In this manual, we always use the `=` character.

Options that act like an enable/disable switch take optional values as `true`, `1`, `yes` (enable) or `false`, `0`, `no` (disable). If you don't specify any value next to such an option, it will work by default as if you passed `true`, `1` or `yes`, i.e. enabled it, e.g.: `--launcher` will enable launcher, which is equivalent to `--launcher=yes`.

On the other hand, you can also pass a value that disables the option, e.g.: `--launcher=no`, which will cause the launcher not to be run.

In addition, most of such options have two additional versions without a value, but preceded by the prefix `enable-` and `disable-` e.g.: `--enable-launcher` will also enable the launcher.

#### 4.4.2 Options générales

- `--launcher=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]`, `--enable-launcher`, `--disable-launcher`  
Enable or disable starting the launcher (described above).
- `--help`  
Display the most relevant command line options.
- `--help --verbose`  
Display all command line options.
- `--version=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]`  
Display the current FlightGear version.
- `--fg-root=path`  
Tell FlightGear where to look for its base data files. If this option is not provided and the `FG_ROOT` environment variable is set, the latter is used. If neither the `--fg-root` option is passed nor the `FG_ROOT` environment variable set, FlightGear looks for its base data files in a place that was determined at compile time.  
Users of the FlightGear built-in launcher should not worry about passing `--fg-root` or setting the `FG_ROOT` environment variable: they can select the location of the base data files directly in the launcher, and it will be remembered.  
For more details, see section 4.2.1.
- `--fg-scenery=paths`  
List of paths to consider as scenery directories (it can be used to point FlightGear to custom scenery). These paths should be separated by ":" on Linux and macOS, ";" on Windows. If the `FG_SCENERY` environment variable is set (whose value should be a list of paths using the same syntax), the corresponding directories are added after those from `--fg-scenery` options.  
Let's call  $\ell$  the resulting list. If  $\ell$  is empty, the list of scenery paths considered by FlightGear is comprised of the TerraSync directory followed by `$FG_ROOT/Scenery`. Otherwise, the TerraSync directory is appended to  $\ell$  unless it was already there, and this becomes the list of scenery paths considered by FlightGear.  
Users of the FlightGear built-in launcher should not worry about passing `--fg-scenery` or setting the `FG_SCENERY` environment variable: they can set the list of scenery paths directly in the launcher, and it will be remembered.  
For more details, see section 4.2.2.
- `--fg-aircraft=paths`  
List of paths where FlightGear will look for aircraft, in addition to `$FG_ROOT/Aircraft` and the directories listed in `$FG_AIRCRAFT`.  
The paths should be separated by ":" on Linux and macOS, ";" on Windows. This option may be specified multiple times—its effect is additive.
- `--data=path`  
Specify an additional base data directory (FGData), before the `$FG_ROOT` directory.
- `--addon=path`  
Specify a path to addon. Multiple instances can be used.
- `--download-dir=path`  
Store aircraft and scenery downloaded via the simulator under *path*.

The TerraSync directory may be specifically set with the `--terrasync-dir` option.

- `--terrasync-dir=path`  
Set the path where the downloaded scenery will be stored.
- `--terrasync=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-terrasync,`  
`--disable-terrasync`  
Enable, disable automatic scenery downloads/updates. By default, TerraSync is turned off.
- `--language=code`  
Select the language for this session. The supported languages (codes) are: ca, de, en, en\_US, es, fr, it, nl, pl, pt, ru, tr, sk and zh\_CN.
- `--restore-defaults=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-restore-defaults,`  
`--disable-restore-defaults`  
Enable or disable resetting all user settings to their defaults.
- `--save-on-exit=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-save-on-exit,`  
`--disable-save-on-exit`  
Enable or disable saving of user-preferences on exit from the simulator.
- `--ignore-autosave=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-ignore-autosave,`  
`--disable-ignore-autosave`  
Enable or disable ignoring the user settings saved the previous time FlightGear was run. This option implies `--disable-save-on-exit`.
- `--read-only=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-read-only,`  
`--disable-read-only`  
Enable or disable making \$FG\_HOME (the location where user-specific FlightGear data is stored) read-only.
- `--allow-nasal-read=paths`  
Allow Nasal aircraft scripts to read files from the directories listed in *paths* (separate multiple paths with colons, or semicolons on Microsoft Windows operating systems). By default, for security reasons, Nasal scripts can only read data from certain directories, such as \$FG\_ROOT, \$FG\_HOME, etc.
- `--browser-app=path`  
Specify location of your web browser. E.g.  
`--browser-app="C:\Program Files\Internet Explorer\iexplore.exe"`  
(Note the "..." used because of the spaces!).
- `--config=path`  
Load additional properties from the given path. E.g.:  
`--config=./Aircraft/X15-set.xml.`
- `--no-default-config=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]`  
Enable or disable not loading any configuration files unless they were explicitly specified with `--config`.

- **--units-feet**  
Use feet as the unit of measurement.
- **--units-meters**  
Use meters as the unit of measurement.
- **--gui=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-gui, --disable-gui**  
Enable or disable GUI (disabling GUI means enabling headless mode.)

#### 4.4.3 Fonctionnalités

- **--freeze=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-freeze, --disable-freeze**  
Control whether FlightGear starts paused or not. Defaults to not paused.
- **--auto-coordination=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-auto-coordination,  
--disable-auto-coordination**  
Switches auto-coordination between aileron and rudder on and off. Auto-coordination is recommended for users without rudder pedals or a “twist” joystick. Defaults to off.
- **--composite-viewer=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-composite-viewer,  
--disable-composite-viewer**  
Enable or disable CompositeViewer (extra view windows).
- **--ai-models=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-ai-models,  
--disable-ai-models**  
Enable, disable the internal AI subsystem, which is required for multiplayer gaming, AI traffic and many other animations.  
Disabling the internal AI subsystem is deprecated.
- **--ai-traffic=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-ai-traffic,  
--disable-ai-traffic**  
Enable, disable artificial plane traffic.
- **--ai-scenario=*name***  
Enable a specific AI scenario (e.g. `--ai-scenario=vinson-demo`). May be used multiple times.
- **--load-tape={*file|URL*}**  
Load recording of earlier FlightGear session. For *file*, if *file* ends with “.fgdata” it is treated as the local path of the recording file; otherwise we form the local path by prepending *file* with the tape directory (by default it is the directory `recordreplay.py.tapes` in the directory where the FlightGear binary is located) and appending “.ftape”.  
For *URL* (starting with “`http://`” or “`https://`”) we download the remote recording (which must be a Continuous recording) in the background to a url-dependent filename while replaying it; if the url-dependent filename already exists it is assumed to be a truncated download and we only download any remaining data.
- **--load-tape-create-video=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-load-tape-create-video,**

- disable-load-tape-create-video  
Enable or disable encode video while replaying tape specified by --load-tape.
- --load-tape-fixed-dt=*value*  
Set fixed-dt mode while replaying tape specified by --load-tape. This can be used to generate high quality videos (with the --load-tape-create-video option) with high rendering settings, even on low-spec hardware.  
Enter a real number as the *value*, e.g. 0.04 will give you 25 frames per second of video, no matter what hardware you have. Of course, on less efficient hardware, creating the video will take much longer.
- --vr=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-vr, --disable-vr  
Enable, disable support for VR (*Virtual Reality*).
- --restart-launcher=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-restart-launcher,  
--disable-restart-launcher  
Enable or disable opening Launcher automatically when exiting FlightGear. Disabled as default.

#### 4.4.4 Son

- --sound=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-sound, --disable-sound  
Enable or disable sound.
- --show-sound-devices=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]  
Enable or disable listing of available sound devices.
- --sound-device="*device name*"  
Specify the sound device to use for audio.

#### 4.4.5 Aéronef

- --aircraft=*aircraft*, --vehicle=*name*  
Load the specified aircraft, (e.g. --aircraft=c172p) For available choices check the directory \$FG\_ROOT/Aircraft, and look for files ending in -set.xml. When specifying the aircraft, drop the -set.xml from the filename.  
Alternatively, use the --show-aircraft option described below to list the available aircraft. For information on downloading additional aircraft, see Section 3.2, Installer des aéronefs.
- --show-aircraft=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]  
Enable or disable printing a sorted list of the currently available aircraft types.
- --min-status={all|alpha|beta|early-production|production}  
Display only those aircraft with a specified minimum declared status, one of all, alpha, beta, early-production, production. For use with --show-aircraft.
- --aircraft-dir=*path*  
Aircraft directory relative to the executable location.  
Defaults to \$FG\_ROOT/Aircraft.
- --livery=*name*

Set the aircraft livery.

- `--state=value`  
Set the initial aircraft state to *value*. The states that can be used are aircraft-dependent.

#### 4.4.6 Modèle de vol

- `--fdm={ada|acms|aisim|balloon|jsb|larcsim|magic|network|pipe|ufo|yasim|external|null}`  
Select the core *Flight Dynamics Model* (FDM). Options are:
  - ada – an externally-driven, special purpose flight dynamics model designed by the Aeronautical Development Agency of Bangalore, India.
  - acms – the “Aircraft Condition Monitoring System” special purpose flight dynamics model intended to reproduce information stored in a flight data recorder.
  - aisim – special purpose flight dynamics model for AI aircraft.
  - balloon – special purpose flight dynamics model for hot air balloon simulation.
  - jsb – the JSBSim flight dynamics model, which takes a data-driven approach to modeling: given the performance data for an aircraft (mass and balance, ground reactions, propulsions, aerodynamics, etc.), it assembles it together to produce the global aircraft dynamics.
  - larcsim – the LaRCsim flight dynamics model, the original model used in FlightGear up to 2002, developed at NASA.
  - magic – the “Magic Carpet” special purpose flight model. It is a simple flight model useful for scenery makers to be able to move around in the virtual world without having to worry about the laws of physics. Currently replaced with ufo.
  - network – opens the network protocol (UDP) to retrieve flight dynamics data over the network from an external program. Usage template:  
`--fdm=network,host,port-out,port-in,port-cmd`,  
where *host* is the IP address/name of the computer to connect on the output port (*port-out*). Then we have a second port number as the input port (*port-in*) where FlightGear will accept connections. The last port number is the port to which the commands will be sent (*port-cmd*) via the HTTP protocol to the given *host*. Example of use: `--fdm=network,localhost,5501,5502,5503`.
  - pipe – external model of flight dynamics, using the “named pipe” mechanism in UNIX systems. In other words, it is a FIFO queue (first in, first out) from which FlightGear can read data about properties (as a name=value pair), e.g. from a file, which in turn is fed with data by external flight dynamics model. At the same time, the external flight dynamics model can also ask FlightGear for certain properties – so the communication is bidirectional.

This is an alternative to transferring the flight dynamics model over the network (see the network parameter for the `--fdm` option). The network is more nondeterministic (with the UDP protocol), where packets may be lost or arriving in a different order than they were sent, or arrive late, so this does not guarantee that the simulator will receive exactly what the flight dynamics model sends. Pipe does not have these inconveniences, but for pipe both processes (simulator and flight model) must run on the same machine.

Usage template: `--fdm=pipe,name,protocol`, where *protocol* must be binary or property.

- `ufo` – another flight model for fast and free movement, useful for scenery makers. FlightGear comes with a UFO aircraft by default, which is just using this flight model.
- `yasim` – the YASim flight dynamics model, which given the physical and flying characteristics of an aircraft, attempts to solve for them.
- `external` or `null` – disabling the generation of the flight dynamics model by FlightGear in order to use an external flight dynamics model (the `external` option has the same meaning as `null` and is maintained for backward compatibility purposes).

This option can normally be ignored, as the `--aircraft` option will set the FDM correctly.

Such flight dynamics models as `ada`, `acms`, `aisim`, `balloon` and `magic` are of special purpose that should not be of interest to the common user.

- `--aero=aircraft`  
Specifies the aircraft aeronautical model to load. This option can normally be ignored, as the `--aircraft` option will set the aircraft model correctly.
- `--model-hz=n`  
Run the Flight Dynamics Model with this rate (iterations per second).
- `--speed=n`  
Run the Flight Dynamics Model this much faster than real time.
- `--trim=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --notrim=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]`  
Trim (or not) when initializing JSBSim. Defaults to trim.
- `--on-ground=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --in-air=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]`  
Start up at ground level (default), or in the air. If specifying `--in-air` you must also set an initial altitude using `--altitude`, and may also want to set an initial velocity with `--vc`. Note that some aircraft (notably the X15) must be started in mid-air.
- `--fuel-freeze=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-fuel-freeze, --disable-fuel-freeze`  
Control whether fuel state is constant (e.g. frozen) or consumed normally (default).

#### 4.4.7 Position initiale et orientation

- `--airport=ICAO`  
Start at a specific airport. The airport is specified by its ICAO code, e.g. `--airport=KJFK` for JFK airport in New York. For US airport without an ICAO code, try prefixing the 3 character code with "K".
- `--parking-id=name, --parkpos=name`  
Start at a specific parking spot on the airport.
- `--runway>NNN`  
Start at the threshold of a specific runway (e.g. 28L). If no runway or parking ID is specified, a runway facing into the wind will be chosen for takeoff.
- `--vor=id, --nrb=id, --fix=id`  
Set the starting position relative to a VOR, NDB or FIX. Useful for practising ap-

proaches.

- **--vor-frequency=frequency**  
Set the frequency of the VOR. This option requires the **--vor** option to be present.
- **--ndb-frequency=frequency**  
Set the frequency of the NDB. This option requires the **--ndb** option to be present.
- **--carrier=name**  
Start on an aircraft carrier. See 6.2, Porte-avions for details of carrier operations.
- **--carrier-position={abeam|FOLS|name}**  
Specify a starting position relative to the carrier where you can use the predefined abeam (start on downwind abeam) or FOLS (start on final approach) values, or specify the name of the carrier's parking position. Must be used with **--carrier**. Defaults to a catapult launch position.
- **--lon=degrees, --lat=degrees**  
Start at a particular longitude and latitude, in decimal degrees (south, west negative).
- **--offset-distance=nm, --offset-azimuth=deg**  
Start at a particular distance (nautical miles) and heading from a position set using **--airport**, **--vor**, **--ndb**, **--fix**, **--carrier** or **--lat** and **--lon**.
- **--altitude=feet**  
Start at specific altitude. Implies **--in-air**. Altitude is specified in feet unless you also select **--units-meters**, in which case altitude is in meters. You may also want to set an initial velocity with **--vc** to avoid stalling immediately.
- **--heading=degrees, --roll=degrees, --pitch=degrees**  
Set the initial orientation of the aircraft. All values default to 0 – heading North, in straight and level flight.
- **--uBody=X, --vBody=Y, --wBody=Z**  
Set the initial speed along the X, Y and Z axes. Speed is in feet per second unless you also select **--units-meters**, in which case the speed is in meters per second.
- **--vNorth=N, --vEast=E, --vDown=D**  
Set the initial speed along the South-North, West-East and vertical axes. Speed is in feet per second unless you also select **--units-meters**, in which case the speed is in meters per second.
- **--vc=knots, --mach=num**  
Set the initial airspeed in knots or as a Mach number. Useful if setting **--altitude**, unless you want to stall immediately!
- **--glideslope=gradi, --roc=fpm**  
Set the initial glide slope angle in degrees or as a climb rate in feet per minute. May be positive or negative.

#### 4.4.8 Environnement

- **--metar=METAR STRING**  
Use a specific METAR string, e.g.  
**--metar="XXXX 012345Z 00000KT 99SM CLR 19/M01 A2992"**.  
The METAR may be specified in most common formats (US, European).

- Incompatible with `--enable-real-weather-fetch`.
  - `--real-weather-fetch=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-real-weather-fetch, --disable-real-weather-fetch`  
Control whether real-time weather information is downloaded and used.
  - `--visibility=meters, --visibility-miles=miles`  
Set the visibility in meters or statute miles.
  - `--wind=dir[:maxdir]@speed[:gust]`  
Specify the direction the wind blows from (dir) and its speed (speed knots), e.g. `--wind=180@10`. If the wind is not meant to blow from a fixed direction, but rather from a range of directions, specify the range as dir:maxdir, where dir and maxdir are the minimum and maximum angles in degrees. If you want the simulator to model wind gusts as well, set gust to their maximum intensity in knots, e.g. `--wind=180:220@10:15`  
– variable wind from 180 to 220 degrees, blowing at a speed of 10 knots in gusts up to 15 knots.
  - `--random-wind`  
Sets random wind direction and strength.
  - `--turbulence=n`  
Sets turbulence from completely calm (0.0) to severe (1.0).
  - `--ceiling=FT_ASL[:THICKNESS_FT]`  
Sets an overcast ceiling at a particular height, and with an optional thickness (defaults to 2000 ft).

#### 4.4.9 Graphismes

- `--graphics-preset={minimal-quality|low-quality|medium-quality|high-quality|ultra-quality}`  
Set graphic options from one of the presets. Allowed values are `minimal-quality`, `low-quality`, `medium-quality`, `high-quality` or `ultra-quality`.
- `--aspect-ratio-multiplier=n`  
Set a multiplier for the display aspect ratio. Default is 1.0.
- `--bpp={16|24|32}`  
Specify the bits per pixel.
- `--compositor=path`  
Specify the path to the XML file (including this file) for multi-pass rendering. The path must be relative to the `$FG_ROOT` directory. By default Compositor/default is used, that is `$FG_ROOT/Compositor/default.xml`
- `--clouds=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-clouds, --disable-clouds`  
Enable (default) or disable cloud layers.
- `--clouds3d=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-clouds3d, --disable-clouds3d`  
Enable (default), disable 3D clouds. Very pretty, but depend on your graphics card supporting GLSL Shaders, which some older, or less powerful graphics cards do not.
- `--distance-attenuation=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-distance-attenuation, --disable-distance-attenuation`

Enable or disable more realistic runway and approach light attenuation.

- `--fullscreen=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-fullscreen,`  
`--disable-fullscreen`  
 Enable, disable (default) full screen mode.
- `--horizon-effect=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-horizon-effect,`  
`--disable-horizon-effect`  
 Enable (default), disable celestial body growth illusion near the horizon.
- `--mouse-pointer=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-mouse-pointer,`  
`--disable-mouse-pointer`  
 Enable, disable (default) extra mouse pointer. Useful in full screen mode for old Voo-doo based cards.
- `--panel=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-panel, --disable-panel`  
 Enable (default) the instrument panel.
- `--random-buildings=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-random-buildings,`  
`--disable-random-buildings`  
 Enable, disable (default) random buildings. Note that random buildings take up a lot of memory.
- `--random-objects=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-random-objects,`  
`--disable-random-objects`  
 Enable (default), disable random scenery objects.
- `--random-vegetation=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-random-vegetation,`  
`--disable-random-vegetation`  
 Enable (default), disable random vegetation such as trees. Requires a graphics card that supports GLSL Shaders, which some older, or less powerful graphics cards do not.
- `--specular-highlight=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-specular-highlight,`  
`--disable-specular-highlight`  
 Enable (default), disable specular highlights.
- `--splash-screen=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-splash-screen,`  
`--disable-splash-screen`  
 Enable (default), disable the simulator splash screen while loading the aircraft/scenery.
- `--wireframe=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-wireframe,`  
`--disable-wireframe`  
 Enable, disable (default) display of wireframes. If you want to know what the world of FlightGear looks like internally, try this!
- `--fog-disable, --fog-fastest, --fog-nicest`  
 Set the fog level. To cut down the rendering efforts, distant regions vanish in fog

by default. If you disable fog you'll see farther, but your frame rates will drop. Using `--fog-fastest` will display a less realistic fog, by increase frame rate. Default is `--fog-nicest`.

- `--fov=degrees`  
Sets the field of view in degrees. Default is 55.0.
- `--materials-file=file`  
Specify the materials file used to render the scenery.  
Default: `Materials/regions/materials.xml`.
- `--geometry=WWWxHHH`  
Defines the window resolution. E.g., `--geometry=1366x768`.
- `--max-fps=Hz`  
Limit the maximum frame rate of the simulator to frequency Hz (frames per second).
- `--shading-smooth, --shading-flat`  
Use smooth shading (default), or flat shading which is faster but less pretty.
- `--texture-filtering=value`  
Configure anisotropic texture filtering. Values are 1 (default), 2, 4, 8 or 16.
- `--view-offset={LEFT|RIGHT|CENTER|own degrees}`  
Allows setting the default forward view direction as an offset from straight ahead. Possible values are LEFT (look left – 45°), RIGHT (look right – 315°), CENTER (look straight ahead – 0°), or a specific number of degrees. Useful for multi-window display.
- `--terrain-engine={tilecache|pagedLOD}`  
Choose the terrain engine to use: `tilecache` is the “traditional” terrain engine (recommended); `pagedLOD` is a new, experimental terrain engine designed to minimize memory usage by loading more detailed versions of scenery objects on demand. The `pagedLOD` engine is available only if FlightGear was compiled with GDAL support.
- `--lod-levels=levels`  
Set the level of detail levels, where `levels` is a space-separated list of numeric levels. This option is available only if the terrain engine in use is `pagedLOD`.
- `--lod-res=resolution`  
Set the terrain mesh resolution. This option is available only if the terrain engine in use is `pagedLOD`.
- `--lod-texturing={bluemarble|raster|debug}`  
Set the terrain texture method. This option is available only if the terrain engine in use is `pagedLOD`.
- `--lod-range-mult=multiplier`  
Set the range multiplier (the breakpoint from a low to a high level of detail). This option is available only if the terrain engine in use is `pagedLOD`.
- `--texture-cache={[true|false|1|0|yes|no]},  
--enable-texture-cache,  
--disable-texture-cache,  
--texture-cache-dir=path`  
Enable, disable (default) the texture cache for fast loading.  
Additionally, with `--texture-cache-dir` you can indicate the folder where the cache will be stored (the default is `$FG_HOME/TextureCache`).

#### 4.4.10 Options du HUD

- `--anti-alias-hud=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-anti-alias-hud,`  
`--disable-anti-alias-hud`  
Control whether the Head-Up Display (HUD) is shown anti-aliased.
- `--hud=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-hud, --disable-hud`  
Control whether the HUD is displayed. Defaults to disabled.
- `--hud-3d=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-hud-3d, --disable-hud-3d`  
Control whether the 3D HUD is displayed. Defaults to disabled.
- `--hud-culled, --hud-tris`  
Display the percentage of triangles culled, or the number of triangles rendered in the HUD. Mainly of interest to graphics developers.

#### 4.4.11 Systèmes de l'aéronef

- `--com1=frequency, --com2=frequency`  
Set the COM1/COM2 radio frequency.
- `--nav1=[radial:]frequency, --nav2=[radial:]frequency`  
Set the NAV1/NAV2 radio frequency and radial.
- `--adf1=[radial:]frequency, --adf2=[radial:]frequency`  
Set the ADF1/ADF2 frequency. You can optionally specify the rotation angle of its compass card by prefixing the frequency with the angle and a colon.
- `--dme={nav1/nav2/frequency}`  
Set the DME to NAV1, NAV2, or a specific frequency and radial.
- `--failure={electrical|pitot|static|vacuum}`  
Fail a specific aircraft system.  
Valid systems are `pitot`, `static`, `vacuum`, `electrical`. Specify multiple times to fail multiple systems.

#### 4.4.12 Options relatives au temps

- `--clock-freeze=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],`  
`--enable-clock-freeze,`  
`--disable-clock-freeze`  
Control whether time advances normally or is frozen.
- `--start-date-gmt=yyyy:mm:dd:hh:mm:ss,`  
`--start-date-lat=yyyy:mm:dd:hh:mm:ss,`  
`--start-date-sys=yyyy:mm:dd:hh:mm:ss`  
Specify the exact startup time/date. The three functions differ in that they take either Greenwich Mean Time, the local time of your virtual flight, or your computer system's local time as the reference point.  
Incompatible with `--time-match-local`, `--time-match-real`.
- `--time-match-local, --time-match-real`

With `--time-match-local` the simulator time is read from the system clock, and is used as is. When your virtual flight is in the same timezone as where your computer is located, this may be desirable, because the clocks are synchronized. However, when you fly in a different part of the world, it may not be the case, because there is a number of hours difference, between the position of your computer and the position of your virtual flight.

The option `--time-match-real` (default) takes care of this by computing the timezone difference between your real world time zone and the position of your virtual flight, and local clocks are synchronized.

Incompatible with:

- `--start-date-gmt,`
- `--start-date-lat,`
- `--start-date-sys.`
- `--time-offset=[+-]hh:mm:ss`  
Specify a time offset relative to one of the time options above.
- `--timeofday={real|dawn|morning|noon|afternoon|dusk|evening|midnight}`  
Set the time of day. Valid parameters are `real`, `dawn`, `morning`, `noon`, `afternoon`, `dusk`, `evening`, `midnight`.

#### 4.4.13 Options réseau

- `--multiplay={in/out},Hz,host,port, --callsign=name`  
Set multiplay options and aircraft call-sign. See Section 6.1, Multijoueurs.
- `--httpd=port, --telnet=port`  
Enable HTTP server or telnet server on the specified port to provide access to the property tree.
- `--jpg-httpd=port`  
Enable screen shot HTTP server on the specified port. This option is deprecated. Instead, use `--httpd`, where screenshots will be available at `http://{IP}:{port}/screenshot`, where `{IP}` is the IP number of the computer on which FlightGear is running, `{port}` is the port number specified for `--httpd`.
- `--proxy=[user:password@]host:port`  
Specify a proxy server to use. Username and password are optional; if present, they should be given as MD5 hashes.
- `--fgcom={[true|false|1|0|yes|no]}, --enable-fgcom, --disable-fgcom`  
Enable, disable the FGCom (voice ATC) integration.
- `--hold-short={[true|false|1|0|yes|no]}, --enable-hold-short, --disable-hold-short`  
In multiplayer mode, when we choose the starting position on the runway, by default we will be moved to the “hold short” position. The `--disable-hold-short` option allows you to disable this behavior, but keep in mind that this is undesirable as it may disrupt others taking off or landing.
- `--allow-nasal-from-sockets={[true|false|1|0|yes|no]},`

```
--enable-allow-nasal-from-sockets,
--disable-allow-nasal-from-sockets
```

Enable or disable allowing executing Nasal scripts from sockets. Enable means that network connections will have full access to the simulator, including running any Nasal scripts. Make sure you have adequate security (such as a firewall that is blocking external connections).

- `--sentry=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-sentry, --disable-sentry`  
Enable, disable crash and error reports to be sent to the development team for analysis. If enabled, data with crashes are sent to the Sentry.io platform.

#### 4.4.14 Itinéraire et points de cheminement

- `--wp=ID[@alt]`  
Allows specifying a waypoint for the GC autopilot; it is possible to specify multiple waypoints (i.e. a route) via multiple instances of this command.
- `--flight-plan=file`  
This is more comfortable if you have several waypoints. You can specify a file to read them from.

#### 4.4.15 Options d'entrées/sorties

These options are provided for the advanced user.

More detailed descriptions of the various IO parameters can be found in the README.IO file within the Docs directory of your FlightGear installation.

- `--atlas=params`  
Open connection using the Atlas protocol (used by Atlas and TerraSync).
- `--atcsim=params`  
Open connection using the ATC Sim protocol (atc610x).
- `--AV400=params`  
Open connection to drive a Garmin 196/296 series GPS.
- `--AV400Sim=params`  
Open connection to drive a Garmin 400 series GPS.
- `--AV400WSimA=params`  
Open connection for “A” channel using Garmin WAAS GPS protocol.
- `--AV400WSimB=params`  
Open connection for “B” channel using Garmin WAAS GPS protocol.
- `--flarm=params`  
Open connection using the FLARM protocol, which includes NMEA/GPS and traffic reporting messages.
- `--generic=medium,direction,hz,options,...`  
Open connection using a general protocol for which a specific protocol is defined in the XML file contained in the directory: \$FG\_ROOT/Protocol. This way we can easily extend I/O protocols by adding our own definitions in XML files. For more details on how to use this protocol, see the \$FG\_ROOT/Docs/README.protocol file.

- `--garmin=params`  
Open connection using the Garmin GPS protocol.
- `--igc=params`  
Open connection using the IGC (*International Gliding Commission*) protocol. Example of use: `fgfs --igc=file,out,1,output-file.igc`.
- `--joyclient=params`  
Open connection to an Agwagon joystick.
- `--jsclient=params`  
Open connection to a remote joystick.
- `--native-ctrls=params`  
Open connection using the FG native Controls protocol.
- `--native-fdm=params`  
Open connection using the FG Native FDM protocol.
- `--native-gui=params`  
Open connection using the FG Native GUI protocol.
- `--native=params`  
Open connection using the FG Native protocol.
- `--nmea=params`  
Open connection using the NMEA protocol.
- `--opengc=params`  
Open connection using the OpenGC protocol.
- `--props=params`  
Open connection using the interactive property manager.
- `--pve=params`  
Open connection using the PVE protocol.
- `--ray=params`  
Open connection using the RayWoodworth motion chair protocol.
- `--rul=params`  
Open connection using the RUL protocol.

#### 4.4.16 Débogage

These options are provided for the advanced user.

- `--console=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}]`  
Enable or disable displaying a console window for simulator/aircraft debugging purposes.  
This option is recognized only on Microsoft Windows operating systems; on other systems, debug messages are always printed to standard output/standard error.
- `--developer=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}],  
--enable-developer,  
--disable-developer`  
Enable or disable developer mode which will log more events.
- `--fpe=[{true|false|1|0|yes|no}], --enable-fpe, --disable-fpe`  
Enable or disable aborting on a Floating Point Exception.

- `--fgviewer filename`  
Instead of loading the entire simulator, load a lightweight OSG viewer with the object specified in *filename*. Useful for checking aircraft models.
- `--jsbsim-output-directive-file=file`  
Log JSBSim properties in a CSV file. An output directives file contains an `<output type="CSV"></output>` element, within which should be specified the parameters or parameter groups that should be logged.
- `--json-report=[{true/false/1/0/yes/no}]`  
Enable or disable printing a report in JSON format on the standard output. The report will give useful information for debugging purposes, such as the FlightGear version, the scenery/aircraft paths in use, the TerraSync and the data download directories and the paths to navigation data files.
- `--log-level={bulk/debug/info/warn/alert}`  
Set the minimum logging level. Valid values are `bulk`, `debug`, `info`, `warn`, `alert`. Log messages having a severity greater than or equal to the specified value are recorded; the others are discarded.
- `--log-class={none/terrain/astro/flight/input/gl/view/cockpit/general/math/event/aircraft/autopilot/io/clipper/network/atc/nasal/instrumentation/systems/ai/environment/sound/navaid/gui/terrasync/particles/headless/osg/undefined/all}`  
Log only events belonging to the specified log classes (`all` logs all events, `none` logs none). Multiple classes can be specified by separating them with commas or pipes, for example: `--log-class=ai,flight`.
- `--log-dir=dir`  
Save the logs file in the given directory. If *dir* is `desktop`, the logs are saved on the Desktop. This option may be given several times, using a different directory each time. Inside the specified directory, the log file will be named `FlightGear_YYYY-MM-DD_num.log`, where `YYYY-MM-DD` is the current date and `num` is a progressive number starting at 0.
- `--prop:[type:]property=value`  
Set *property* to *value*.  
Example: `--prop:/engines/engine[0]/running=true` starts the simulator with running engines. Another example, which fills the Cessna for a short flight:  

```
--aircraft=c172p
--prop:/consumables/fuel/tank[0]/level-gal_us=10
--prop:/consumables/fuel/tank[1]/level-gal_us=10
```

You may optionally specify the property *type* (`bool`, `double`, `float`, `int`, `long`, `string`).
- `--prop:browser=property`  
After starting the simulator, open the properties dialog immediately on the given property. If you need more dialogs, just add more browser indexes like `browser[1]`, `browser[2]`, etc., for example:  
`--prop:browser=/sim/presets # browser[0] by default`  
`--prop:browser[1]=/devices/status/keyboard/event`  
which will open two dialogs with the given properties.

- `--trace-read=property`  
Trace the reads for a property; multiple instances are allowed.
- `--trace-write=property`  
Trace the writes for a property; multiple instances are allowed.
- `--uninstall`  
Remove \$FG\_HOME directory. For Windows, it additionally removes TerraSync, Aircraft and TextureCache directories from download directory.

## 4.5 Support du joystick

Could you imagine a pilot in his or her Cessna controlling the machine with a keyboard alone? For getting the proper feeling of flight you will need a joystick/yoke plus rudder pedals.

FlightGear has integrated joystick support, which automatically detects any joystick, yoke, or pedals attached. Simply plug in your joystick and start the simulator.

You can see how FlightGear has configured your joystick by selecting *File* → *Joystick Configuration* from the menu. This dialog shows the name of your joystick, and what each of the buttons and control axes have been set to. You can press a button or move the joystick to see exactly what control it maps to.

If you have a common joystick, there's every chance that someone has already set up FlightGear specific configuration for it, and you can simply go and fly! If you wish to change the configuration of a particular button/axis, simply edit it using the Joystick Configuration dialog.

If your joystick is more unusual, then FlightGear will by default use a simple joystick configuration for it. To change the configuration, simply use the Joystick Configuration dialog to select what you wish each button or movement to do. The configuration takes effect immediately and will be saved for your next flight.



## Chapitre 5

# En vol : tout sur les instruments, les raccourcis clavier et les menus

Voici une description des principaux systèmes de contrôle du programme et de pilotage de l'avion. On suppose que le lecteur est déjà familiarisé avec le vol, peut-être grâce à de l'expérience acquise sur d'autres simulateurs. Si vous êtes un vrai débutant, les tutoriels de la section 7 sont plus appropriés pour vous apprendre à voler avec FlightGear.

Un petit livret, destiné à être imprimé, et contenant une liste des touches, est disponible à l'adresse :

[FlightGear/Docs/FGShortRef.pdf](#)

Une référence à la plupart des contrôles du clavier se trouve dans le menu Aide du simulateur.

### 5.1 Démarrer le moteur

Suivant le type d'aéronef, vous pouvez avoir à démarrer le(s) moteur(s) avant de pouvoir voler. Les instructions ci-dessous sont génériques. Consultez l'aide de l'aéronef ou les tutoriels de l'avion pour obtenir des instructions plus spécifiques.

Une fois le moteur démarré, vous devez vérifier si les freins de parking sont serrés. Si c'est le cas, lâchez-les en appuyant sur la touche **B**.

#### 5.1.1 Moteur à pistons

Pour les aéronefs disposant d'un moteur à pistons, les magnétos sont contrôlés par les touches **{** et **}**. Sur la plupart des aéronefs, le démarreur s'actionne en appuyant sur la touche **s**. Sur les aéronefs multi-moteurs, vous pouvez choisir quel moteur contrôler. Utilisez **~** pour sélectionner tous les moteurs à la fois. La plupart des magnétos ont 4 positions – OFF, LEFT, RIGHT et BOTH. Ainsi, pour démarrer le moteur sélectionné, appuyez 3 fois sur la touche **}**, puis maintenez la touche **s** enfoncee jusqu'au démarrage.

Notez que la procédure de démarrage est souvent plus complexe pour les puissants avions de chasse de la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Consultez l'aide de l'avion pour avoir plus de détails.

### 5.1.2 Aéronefs à turbopropulseurs

Le démarrage d'un moteur turbopropulsé ne nécessite généralement que de déplacer le levier de commande de *Off* à *Idle*, en appuyant sur la touche **m**.

### 5.1.3 Aéronefs à réaction

Le démarrage d'un aéronef à réaction est bien plus complexe, et les contrôles varient selon l'appareil.

1. Placer l'interrupteur général (*cutoff*) sur la position ON.
2. Actionner le démarreur (*starter*).
3. Lorsque les moteurs approchent des 5 % N1, remettez le *cutoff* sur OFF.
4. Coupez le démarreur une fois que le moteur a atteint sa vitesse opérationnelle.

## 5.2 Contrôles clavier

Bien que les joysticks, les volants et les pédales de palonnier soient pris en charge, vous pouvez choisir de voler avec FlightGear avec l'usage du clavier, seul ou utilisé conjointement avec la souris, comme décrit ci-dessous. Mais, quelle que soit la façon dont vous contrôlez votre aéronef, vous serez obligé d'utiliser le clavier, ne serait-ce que pour quelques actions.

L'attribution de fonctions à des touches (ne sont pas codés en durs, mais ajustables par l'utilisateur. Vous pouvez contrôler et modifier ces paramètres via le fichier `keyboard.xml`, qui peut être trouvé dans le répertoire principal de FlightGear. C'est un fichier texte au format ASCII lisible par un humain. Bien que les modifications à ce fichier ne soient pas recommandées aux débutants, des utilisateurs plus aguerris peuvent trouver utile de modifier l'attribution de fonctions aux touches, au gré de leurs souhaits, par exemple pour les faire correspondre à ce qui peut être trouvé sur d'autres simulateurs.

### 5.2.1 Contrôles de l'aéronef

Pour parvenir à contrôler pleinement votre avion en utilisant votre clavier pendant la phase de vol, vous devriez vous assurer que NumLock est activé, et que la fenêtre FlightGear est active. Les touches permettant de contrôler les surfaces de base de l'aéronef sont indiquées dans le tableau 5.1.

Les touches permettant de contrôler les moteurs sont indiquées dans le tableau 5.2.

Les touches permettant de contrôler les systèmes secondaires de l'aéronef sont indiquées dans le tableau 5.3.

### 5.2.2 Contrôles du simulateur

Pour changer la direction de la vue, vous devez désactiver **NumLock**. Les contrôles disponibles sont indiqués dans le tableau 5.4 :

<b>Touche</b>	<b>Action</b>
9 / 3	Commande des gaz
4 / 6	Aileron
8 / 2	Gouverne de profondeur
0 / Entrée	Gouverne de direction
5	Centrage des ailerons/gouverne de profondeur/direction
7 / 1	Trim de la gouverne de profondeur trim

TABLE 5.1 – Contrôles de base de l'aéronef

<b>Touche</b>	<b>Action</b>
!	Sélectionne le premier moteur
@	Sélectionne le deuxième moteur
#	Sélectionne le troisième moteur
\$	Sélectionne le quatrième moteur
~	Sélectionne tous les moteurs
{	Décrémente le magnéto sur le moteur sélectionné
}	Incrémente le magnéto sur le moteur sélectionné
s	Démarre le ou les moteurs sélectionnés
M / m	Appauvrit/Enrichit le mélange du moteur sélectionné
N / n	Diminue/Augmente le régime du moteur sélectionné

TABLE 5.2 – Touches de contrôle du moteur

<b>Touche</b>	<b>Action</b>
b	Actionne tous les freins
, / .	Actionne le frein gauche/droit (utile pour un freinage différentiel)
l	Active le verrouillage de la roue de queue
B	Active le frein de parking
g / G	Rentre/sort le train d'atterrissage
Espace	Appuyez pour parler (Push To Talk, PTT)
- / _	Entrée/menu du chat par clavier du mode multijoueurs
[ / ]	Rentre/déploie les volets
j / k	Rentre/déploie les aérofreins
Ctrl-b	Active les aérofreins

TABLE 5.3 – Contrôles secondaires de l'aéronef

<b>Touche pavé numérique</b>	<b>Angle de vue</b>
Shift-8	Vers l'avant
Shift-7	Avant/Gauche
Shift-4	Gauche
Shift-1	Arrière/Gauche
Shift-2	Arrière
Shift-3	Arrière/Droit
Shift-6	Droit
Shift-9	Avant/Droit

TABLE 5.4 – Directions de la vue

<b>Touche</b>	<b>Action</b>
P	Active/désactive le tableau de bord
c	Alterne cockpit 3D/2D (si les deux sont disponibles)
S	Change le style de tableau de bord (complet/simple)
Ctrl-c	Active la visibilité des zones cliquables du panneau/cockpit
h	Active le <b>HUD</b> (collimateur tête haute)
H	Change la luminosité du HUD
i / I	Minimise/augmente le HUD
x / X	Zoom +/-
Ctrl-x	Restaure le zoom à sa valeur par défaut
v / V	Alterne les modes de vue dans un sens ou l'autre
Ctrl-v	Réinitialise les modes de vue vers le mode pilote
z / Z	Augmente/diminue la visibilité (brouillard)
Ctrl-z	Restaure la visibilité à sa valeur par défaut
F10	Active/désactive la barre de menu
Shift-F10	Mode plein écran (bascule on/off)

TABLE 5.5 – Contrôle de l'affichage

De plus, les touches présentées dans le tableau 5.5 permettent de contrôler l'affichage :

Enfin, les touches de contrôle général du simulateur sont indiqués dans le tableau 5.6.

Touche	Action
p	Met le simulateur en pause
a / A	Accélère/ralentit la vitesse de simulation
t / T	Accélère/ralentit la vitesse de l'horloge
Ctrl-r	<i>Replay</i> instantané
F3	Effectue une capture d'écran
Alt-F3	Construit un panorama depuis les captures d'écran
Ctrl-F3	Construit une texture cubique à partir de captures d'écran
Esc	Quitte le programme
Shift-Esc	Redémarre le simulateur

TABLE 5.6 – Contrôles généraux du simulateur

### 5.2.3 Contrôles du pilote automatique

FlightGear prend en charge deux types de pilote automatique : un pilote automatique générique, qui fonctionne avec tous les aéronefs (même ceux qui, en temps normal, n'auraient pas de pilote automatique), et des pilotes automatiques spécifiques à un aéronef en particulier et qui sont contrôlés à partir du cockpit.

Le pilote automatique générique est contrôlé au moyen des touches présentées dans le tableau 5.7 :

**Ctrl-t** est particulièrement intéressant car il va faire se comporter votre aéronef comme un missile de croisière, en effectuant un suivi de terrain. **Ctrl-u** peut être utile si vous sentez que vous n'allez pas tarder à vous écraser.

## 5.3 Actions contrôlées par la souris

De même qu'elle permet de sélectionner des éléments du menu ou de cliquer sur des commandes au sein du cockpit, votre souris peut également être utilisée dans FlightGear à de nombreuses fins utiles.

Il y a trois modes souris : Normal (par défaut), Contrôle et Vue. Vous pouvez basculer de l'un à l'autre en utilisant le Tab.

### 5.3.1 Mode normal

En mode Normal, vous pouvez contrôler les menus et les commandes du tableau de bord. L'activation de ce mode est indiquée par un curseur disposant d'une flèche normale.

Touche	Action
Retour arrière	Active le pilote automatique
Ctrl-a	Active le verrouillage en altitude
Ctrl-g	Active le verrouillage sur la pente ILS (NAV 1)
Ctrl-h	Active le verrouillage du cap
Ctrl-n	Active le verrouillage du NAV 1
Ctrl-s	Active la manette des gaz automatique
Ctrl-t	Active le verrouillage en mode suivi de terrain (au-dessus du sol)
Ctrl-u	Ajoute 1000 pieds à votre altitude (urgence)
F6	Active le mode cap du pilote automatique
F11	Ouvre la boîte de dialogue du pilote automatique
8 / 2	Ajustement de l'altitude
4 / 6	Ajustement du cap
9 / 3	Ajustement de la manette des gaz

TABLE 5.7 – Contrôles du pilote automatique

Pour actionner un commutateur ou un interrupteur, cliquez simplement sur celui-ci avec le bouton gauche ou milieu de la souris.

Pour faire tourner un bouton sur une radio ou une commande linéaire comme la manette des gaz, cliquez sur le côté gauche de celui-ci pour faire diminuer sa valeur, et sur le côté droit pour l'augmenter. Cliquez avec le bouton gauche de la souris pour réaliser de petits ajustements, avec le bouton droit pour des ajustements plus importants. Certaines commandes, comme les radios, prennent également en charge la molette de la souris.

Un appui sur **Ctrl-c** illumine les zones et les objets cliquables.

### 5.3.2 Mode contrôle

En mode Contrôle, vous pouvez contrôler les commandes de vol de l'aéronef en bougeant la souris. L'activation de ce mode est indiquée par la présence d'un curseur de souris en forme de croix.

Dans ce mode, le déplacement de la souris vers la droite ou vers la gauche contrôle les ailerons et le roulis de l'avion. La déplacer vers l'avant ou vers l'arrière contrôle la gouverne de profondeur et change l'inclinaison de l'avion.

Maintenir le bouton gauche appuyé tout en bougeant la souris vers la droite ou la gauche contrôle le palonnier. Tenir appuyé le bouton du milieu tout en bougeant vers l'arrière ou l'avant la souris permet de contrôler la manette des gaz.

Enfin, la molette peut être utilisée pour paramétriser le trim.

Ce mode est particulièrement pratique si vous n'avez pas de joystick. On a ainsi un bien meilleur contrôle de l'aéronef qu'avec le clavier. Si vous avez l'intention de piloter régulièrement votre avion avec la souris, il vous est recommandé d'activer l'auto-coordination, qui solidarise ailerons et palonnier. Ceci peut être réalisé en activant l'option `--enable-auto-coordination`, ou en choisissant auto-coordination à partir de l'assistant.

### 5.3.3 Mode vue

En mode Vue, vous pouvez regarder autour de vous en utilisant la souris. L'activation de ce mode est indiquée par la présence d'un curseur de souris à double flèche.

Bouger simplement la souris vous permet de visualiser l'espace autour votre position actuelle. Ceci est particulièrement utile pour regarder autour du cockpit ou par une fenêtre latérale. On peut utiliser la molette pour zoomer ou dé-zoomer. Cliquer sur le bouton gauche de la souris rempositionne la vue à sa position initiale, en général droit devant.

En maintenant appuyé le bouton du milieu de la souris tout en bougeant cette dernière vous permet de faire varier le point de vue vers la gauche/la droite et vers le haut/le bas. En bougeant la souris tout en maintenant à la fois le bouton du milieu et la touche **Ctrl** enfoncés vous permet de faire bouger le point de vue vers l'avant et vers l'arrière.

## 5.4 Entrées du menu

La barre de menu permet d'accéder à différentes options du simulateur et de l'aéronef. La plupart des avions ont leurs propres entrées de menus, pour changer leur immatriculation ou démarrer automatiquement leurs moteurs. Ces éléments peuvent être trouvés tout à la fin de la barre de menu. Pour afficher ou cacher la barre de menu, appuyez sur **F10**. Vous pouvez aussi afficher le menu automatiquement en actionnant votre souris en haut de l'écran.

La barre de menu propose les menus et options suivantes.

#### – Fichier

- **Réinitialiser (**Shift-Esc**)** réinitialise le vol à la position de démarrage sélectionnée. Très pratique si jamais vous êtes perdu ou que quelque chose tourne mal.
- **Flight Recorder Control** opens the dialog configures, load and save flight recordings. **Shift-F1** and **Shift-F2** open the load and save flight tape dialogs, respectively.
- **Time Mode** opens a dialog to configure multiplayer delay times.
- **Capture d'écran (**F3**)** sauvegarde une capture d'écran comme `fgfs-YYYYMMDDHHmmSS.png`.
- **Répertoire des captures** vous permet de préciser le répertoire où les captures d'écran seront sauvegardées.
- **Video Start** starts recording the FlightGear window to a video file.
- **Video Stop** stops recording the FlightGear window to a video file.
- **Video Control** opens a dialog to configure the recording of a flight to a video file.
- **Configuration du son** permet de configurer le volume pour différents canaux sonores, et s'ils doivent être entendus en-dehors de l'aéronef.
- **Input Configuration** configure le comportement de la souris.
- **Informations sur le joystick** affiche des informations sur tout joystick en fonction, y compris des informations sur l'attribution des axes et des boutons.
- **Téléchargement de scènes** configure le téléchargement automatique des scènes via Internet en utilisant la fonctionnalité TerraSync.
- **Aircraft Center (Experimental)** allows you to download and install aircraft from within the simulator. Experimental.

- **Quitter (Esc)** quitte le programme.
- **Affichage**
- **Toggle Fullscreen (Shift-F10)** toggles between displaying the simulator within a window and displaying full screen.
- **Options de rendu** configure diverses fonctionnalités graphiques. Ceci vous permet de gérer le compromis entre les effets visuels sympathiques, comme les ombres, les nuages 3D et les réflexions spéculaires et le taux de rafraîchissement des images. Pour vous permettre d'arriver à un compromis acceptable, l'activation de l'option « Afficher le taux de rafraîchissement » dans le menu *Options d'affichage*, vous permettra de visualiser le taux d'images par seconde (*frames per second, fps*) actuel dans l'angle inférieur droit de l'écran. La plupart des personnes trouvent qu'un taux d'environ 20 fps est suffisant pour voler. Ce taux est dépendant des fonctionnalités graphiques que vous avez activé, la visibilité du moment (paramétré par **Z/z**), le nombre d'objets visibles et leur niveau de détails (*Level Of Detail, LOD*).
- **Options de la vue** permet de configurer diverses options d'affichage, notamment si le tableau de bord 2D, le taux de rafraîchissement d'images et les messages de clavardage sont affichés.
- **Options d'affichage du cockpit** configure la vue au sein du cockpit, le mouvement de la tête du pilote, le voile noir dû à la prise importante de G positifs et le voile rouge dû à la prise importante de G négatifs.
- **Adjust LOD Ranges** sets the range at which different levels of detail are displayed. This affects the textures and objects displayed in the simulator.
- **Ajuster la position de la vue** Affiche le décalage de vue actuel. Vous pouvez ajuster cette valeur en déplaçant les contrôles. Sinon, vous pouvez réaliser de petits ajustements de votre point de vue en utilisant la souris (voir ci-dessus).
- **Adjust HUD Properties** configures the *Head-Up Display (HUD)* settings, such as transparency and whether anti-aliasing is used to display it.
- **(Dés)Activer le tunnel ILS** (dés)active un tunnel virtuel ou vous guider jusqu'à la piste sur un plan d'approche normal. Utile si vous avez des difficultés à trouver le bon plan d'approche pour atterrir.
- **Rejeu instantané (Ctrl-R)** contrôle la fonctionnalité de rejeu instantané - un bon outil pour vérifier la qualité de vos atterrissages !
- **Earthview Orbital Rendering** controls the earthview orbital rendering based on the NASA Visible Earth image collection.
- **Options de vue stéréoscopique** configure l'affichage stéréoscopique (en relief 3D), en utilisant des lunettes Rouge/Verte ou d'autres méthodes d'affichage.
- **VR Options** opens a dialog to configure *Virtual Reality (VR)* headset.
- **ALS Filter Effects** opens a dialog to add *Atmospheric Light Scattering (ALS)* filters like set brightness, gamma, night or infrared vision.
- **Add Clone View** opens current view in a separate window. Changing the main window's view will leave the new window's view unchanged. This way we can have multiple windows open with different views (CompositeViewer).
- **Push Pair View** pushes the current main-window view onto a stack of views for future use with *Add Pair View* and *Add Pair Foreground View* options.

- **Add Pair View** opens a new top-level window showing a view derived from the last two remembered viewpoints pushed by *Push Pair View* option.
- **Add Pair Foreground View** – similar to *Add Pair View* option but this keeps the first viewpoint at a fixed distance in the foreground and the second viewpoint in the background. This works well when flying in formation.
- **Position**
  - **Positionner l'aéronef en vol** positionne l'aéronef à un point arbitraire en l'air. Vous devez sélectionner un point au sol connu, par exemple un aéroport, un VOR, des coordonnées longitude/latitude et une position relative par rapport à ce point, par exemple une distance, direction, altitude. Vous pouvez également configurer votre vitesse et cap initiaux. Ceci s'avère utile pour s'entraîner aux approches.
  - **Choisir un aéroport depuis la liste** positionne l'aéronef sur un aéroport. Vous pouvez choisir parmi tous les aéroports que vous avez installé. Cliquer sur *Apply* vous positionnera sur cet aéroport sur la piste en service en fonction de la direction du vent.
  - **Attitude aléatoire** Place l'aéronef avec une attitude, un cap et une vitesse aléatoires. Utile pour s'entraîner à la récupération depuis des attitudes inhabituelles.
  - **Position de la tour** configure la tour de l'aéroport utilisée pour les vues de la tour et « regarder à partir de la vue de la tour ».
- **Pilote automatique** Ce menu est uniquement disponible pour les aéronefs qui disposent du pilote automatique par défaut configuré. Certains aéronefs peuvent avoir leur propre pilote automatique, qui peut être configuré à partir du tableau de bord : dans ce cas, ce menu est désactivé.
  - **Paramètres (F11)** configure le pilote automatique de l'aéronef. Vous pouvez paramétriser le pilote automatique de différentes manières – du simple maintien du niveau des ailes au suivi d'un **ILS**.
  - **Gestionnaire de routes** prépare la feuille de route (points de cheminement) pour le pilote automatique. Les points de cheminements peuvent être des aéroports ou des points fixes. Les cap, distance et temps restant vers le point de cheminement actuel peuvent être affichés dans le HUD.
  - **Point de cheminement précédent** sélectionne le point de cheminement précédent à partir de la feuille de route.
  - **Point de cheminement suivant** sélectionne le point de cheminement suivant à partir de la feuille de route.
- **Environnement**
  - **Météo** vous permet de paramétriser la météo actuelle, choisir un scénario météo ou utiliser la météo telle qu'elle est diffusée par la station météo la plus proche (généralement un aéroport) via les **METAR**. Vous pouvez choisir la météo simple, qui paramètre explicitement les conditions, ou la météo avancée, qui simule un éventail plus large de systèmes météorologiques, au détriment de la précision des conditions locales.
  - **Environment Settings** allows you to configure the seasonal textures in use (from summer to late autumn) and ground conditions such as snow line level, snow thickness, ice, dust, humidity, vegetation and aurora effect. Additionally, you can enable

the option to have FlightGear automatically adjust the environment depending on the time and our geographical location. These are just graphical effects that do not affect the weather.

- **Paramètres du temps** vous permet de définir l'heure actuelle dans le simulateur, d'accélérer la simulation, et de changer la vitesse à laquelle l'heure défile dans le simulateur. Affiche l'heure locale et l'heure UTC.
- **Paramètres de feu de forêt** définit si le crash d'un avion au sol provoque un feu de forêt réaliste, qui peut s'étendre et peut être éteint à l'aide d'un aéronef bombardier d'eau approprié.
- **Volcanoes** allow for enabling active volcanic activity in the vicinity of your aircraft.
- **Equipement**
  - **Carte** affiche une carte mobile qui affiche les aéroports, les balises de radionavigation, etc.
  - **Carte (Canvas)** displays an alternative moving map using Canvas.
  - **Map (opens in browser)** displays an alternative moving map within a web browser (requires the internal web server to be running which can be done by `--httpd=8080` command line option.)
  - **Chronomètre** affiche un chronomètre basique, utile pour les approches aux instruments.
  - **Carburant et chargement** vous permet de paramétriser les niveaux de carburant et de chargement au sein de l'aéronef. Uniquement disponible sur certains aéronefs.
  - **Paramètres radio (F12)** fixe les fréquences et radiales utilisées par les radios et équipements de navigation.
  - **Paramètres GPS** configure les points de cheminement et visualise les informations de route pour le [GPS](#).
  - **Paramètres des instruments** vous permet de caler la pression de l'altimètre et l'indicateur de cap.
  - **Light switches** allows you to turn the lights on/off and adjust the intensity of the cockpit illumination.
  - **Pannes aléatoires** configure des pannes aléatoires de différents systèmes et instruments de l'aéronef, en précisant le temps moyen entre pannes (*Mean Time Between Failure, MTBF*) ou les cycles moyens entre pannes (*Mean Cycles Between Failure, MCBF*).
  - **Pannes système** configure des pannes aléatoires des systèmes de l'aéronef, comme la pompe à vide.
  - **Pannes des instruments** configure la panne d'un instrument spécifique de l'aéronef.
- **IA**
  - **Paramètres de trafic et de scénario** configure les scénarios **IA** (Intelligence Artificielle) actifs.
  - **ATC Services in Range** displays the airport communications frequencies for nearby airports.
  - **Contrôle des ailiers** vous permet, suivant les aéronefs, de contrôler vos ailiers IA.
  - **Contrôle du ravitailleur** vous permet de créer dynamiquement un avion de ravi-

tamment en vol, si votre aéronef le prend en charge. Voyez la section [6.8](#) pour de plus amples détails.

- **Paramètres des passerelles d'embarquement** vous permet de contrôler les passerelles d'embarquement sur certains aéroports.
- **AI Objects** lets you select an AI object to bring up its own control dialog.
- **Multijoueurs**
  - **Paramètres** vous permet de configurer le mode multijoueurs en paramétrant un indicatif et un serveur.
  - **FGCom Settings** vous permet de configurer les communications vocales avec d'autres utilisateurs multijoueurs.
  - **Fenêtre de clavardage** vous permet de discuter avec un autre aéronef dans l'environnement multijoueurs.
  - **Menu de clavardage (-)** vous permet d'envoyer des messages de discussion standards avec d'autres avions ou un organisme de contrôle aérien dans l'environnement multijoueurs. Certains menus contiennent des sous-menus d'options.
  - **Liste des pilotes** affiche une liste des autres pilotes multijoueurs à portée, avec leur distance, relèvement et altitude.
  - **Choix du porte-avions multijoueurs** affiche une liste des porte-avions multijoueurs disponibles.
  - **Lag settings** opens the network lag correction dialog.
  - **swift connection** opens the dialog to start a Swift server to connect to a swift client application previously installed on your computer, which allows you to connect to other networks like VATSIM.
- **Débogage** : ce menu contient différentes options qui ne sont pas l'objet de ce guide.
- **Aide**
  - **Aide (s'ouvre dans le navigateur)** ouvre le système d'aide dans une fenêtre de navigateur.
  - **Documentation browser** opens an in-sim documentation reader.
  - **Aide de l'aéronef** affiche des informations spécifiques à l'aéronef.
  - **Aircraft Checklists** displays specific checklists for this aircraft, if available.
  - **Touches communes aux aéronefs** liste les touches de base pour contrôler l'aéronef.
  - **Touches de base du simulateur** liste les touches de base pour contrôler le simulateur.
  - **Highlighting** allows you to point the mouse cursor at any cockpit element to get information about the properties associated with that element. Useful for developers as well as advanced users who want to e.g. change default key bindings.
  - **Tutoriels** vous permet de démarrer un tutoriel au sein du simulateur pour l'avion actuel. Cette option n'est disponible que pour certains aéronefs. Voir Tutoriels ci-dessous pour plus de détails.
  - **A props de FlightGear** affiche des informations sur cette version de FlightGear.

## 5.5 Le tableau de bord



FIGURE 5.1 – Le cockpit 3D d'un Cessna 172P Skyhawk (1982)

Les aéronefs au sein de FlightGear peuvent avoir à la fois un tableau de bord à deux dimensions et un cockpit à trois dimensions. Le cockpit à trois dimensions offre une vue beaucoup plus réaliste, comme si on était à la place du pilote, mais la lecture du tableau de bord peut être difficile avec des moniteurs de dimensions réduites.

Le Cessna 172P par défaut (c172p) dispose à la fois d'un cockpit à deux et trois dimensions. Le cockpit à 3 dimensions est activé par défaut lorsque vous démarrez FlightGear, mais vous pouvez y substituer le tableau de bord à deux dimensions en choisissant *Affichage → Options d'affichage → Show 2D Panel* à partir du menu, ou en appuyant sur la touche **P**.

Tous les boutons et leviers peuvent être actionnés avec la souris. Pour changer une commande, cliquez simplement avec le bouton gauche/milieu sur le levier/bouton en question. Pour les commandes qui ont une large gamme de positions, utilisez le bouton du milieu de la souris pour des ajustements plus grands. En général, un clic sur le côté droit de la commande augmentera sa valeur, alors qu'un clic sur le côté gauche la diminuera.

Certains instruments (en particulier les radios) supportent également l'utilisation de la molette de la souris pour l'ajustement de leurs valeurs.

## 5.6 Le collimateur tête haute (*Head-Up Display, HUD*)

FlightGear fournit également un collimateur tête haute ou **HUD** (*Head-Up Display*). On trouve généralement les HUD sur les aéronefs militaires et sur quelques avions à réaction modernes. Cependant, FlightGear vous permet également d'utiliser le HUD sur de nombreux aéronefs de l'aviation générale. Pour activer le HUD, appuyez sur **h**.

Le HUD, présenté à la Fig. 5.2 affiche tous les principaux paramètres de vol de l'aéronef. Au

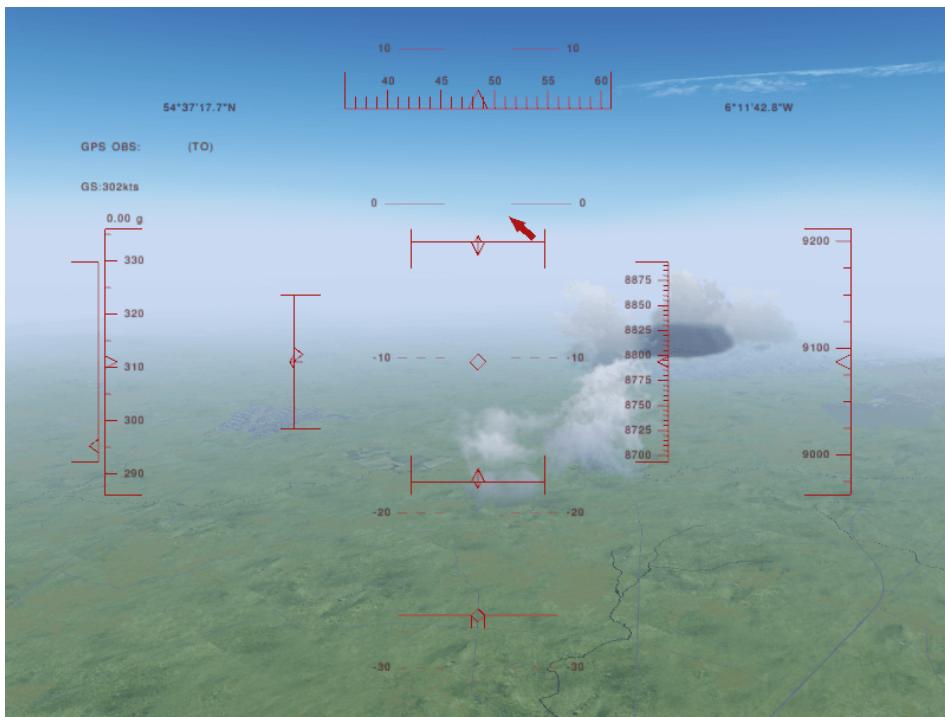


FIGURE 5.2 – Le collimateur tête haute, ou HUD (Head-Up Display)

centre, vous trouvez l'indicateur d'assiette (en degrés) avec l'indicateur des ailerons au-dessus et l'indicateur de la gouverne de direction dessous. Une échelle correspondante pour la peut être trouvé à gauche de l'indicateur d'échelle avec un indicateur de *trim*. En bas se trouve un simple indicateur de taux de virage.

Il y a deux échelles à l'extrême gauche : celle qui est à l'intérieur indique la vitesse (en noeuds) alors que celle à l'extérieur indique la position de la manette des gaz. Les deux échelles à l'extrême droite affichent votre altitude - celle de gauche indique l'altitude au-dessus du sol, alors que celle de droite indique l'altitude au-dessus du niveau de la mer, les deux étant indiquées en pieds.

Enfin, le HUD indique deux informations complémentaires. Dans le coin supérieur gauche vous aurez la date et l'heure, ainsi que votre position actuelle en latitude et longitude.

Vous pouvez modifier la couleur du **HUD** en utilisant les touches **H** ou **h**. Un appui sur la touche **i/I** minimise/agrandit le HUD.



# Chapitre 6

## Fonctionnalités

FlightGear contient de nombreuses fonctionnalités spécifiques, certaines d'entre elles n'étant pas directement apparentes pour le nouvel utilisateur. Ce chapitre décrit comment activer et utiliser quelques unes des fonctionnalités les plus avancées.

De nombreuses fonctionnalités sont en développement permanent, donc l'information présente dans le manuel peut ne pas être complètement à jour. For the very latest information (and new features), see the FlightGear Wiki, available from <https://wiki.flightgear.org>.

### 6.1 Multijoueurs

FlightGear offre un environnement multijoueurs, vous permettant de partager l'air avec d'autres amateurs de simulation de vol. Pour plus de détail sur les serveurs et pour voir qui est en ligne (et où ils volent), allez jeter un œil à l'excellente carte multijoueurs, disponible à l'adresse :

<http://mpmap02.flightgear.org>

Cliquez sur l'onglet “server” pour voir une liste des serveurs multijoueurs.

#### 6.1.1 Démarrage rapide

Vous pouvez vous connecter à l'environnement multijoueurs (MP) à partir de la boîte de dialogue du menu *Multijoueurs*. Choisissez simplement le serveur le plus proche de chez vous à partir de la liste, entrez un indicatif (qui sera vu par les autres joueurs) et cliquez sur “Connect”.

Pour afficher une liste des autres pilotes dans la zone, sélectionnez *Pilot List* à partir du menu *Multijoueurs*.

Sous les serveurs multijoueurs standard sont interconnectés, donc il n'est pas nécessaire d'être connecté sur le même serveur que les gens avec qui vous volez.

#### 6.1.2 Autres méthodes

Si vous vous connectez à un serveur non standard, ou si la méthode ci-dessus ne fonctionne pas, vous pouvez aussi vous connecter en utilisant les méthodes ci-dessous.

## Utilisation du lanceur FlightGear

L'écran final du lanceur FlightGear comporte une section pour les fonctions multijoueurs. Choisissez simplement la case à cocher, entrez le nom d'hôte et le numéro de port que vous avez noté ci-dessus et choisissez un indicatif pour vous identifier. Votre indicatif peut comporter jusqu'à 7 caractères. Vous devez également cocher la case AI models sous Features pour rendre les autres aéronefs visibles.

## Utilisation de la ligne de commande

Les arguments de base à passer à fgfs pour le mode multijoueurs sont les suivants :

```
--multiplay=out,10,<server>,<portnumber>
--multiplay=in,10,<client>,<portnumber>
--callsign=<callsign>
--enable-ai-models
```

où

1. <portnumber> est le numéro de port TCP du serveur, par exemple 5000.
2. <server> est le nom du serveur multijoueurs, par exemple mpserver01.flightgear.org.
3. <client> est le nom de votre ordinateur, ou l'adresse IP de l'interface réseau utilisée par FG pour se connecter au serveur, même s'il c'est une adresse locale du type 192.168, comme 192.168.0.1
4. <callsign> est l'indicatif pour vous identifier, jusqu'à 7 caractères, par exemple F-FGFS.

Une fois que le simulateur est lancé, vous devriez voir apparaître sur la carte. Si ce n'est pas le cas, vérifiez si la console contient des messages d'erreurs et voyez la section Résolution des problèmes ci-dessous.

### 6.1.3 Résolution des problèmes

Pour faire fonctionner le mode multijoueurs, nous avons besoin d'information sur l'adresse IP de notre ordinateur et sa capacité à communiquer avec le serveur. L'obtention de cette information dépend de votre configuration et est décrite ci-dessous.

#### Ceux qui utilisent un modem USB pour se connecter à Internet

Tout d'abord, vous devez connaître l'adresse IP de l'interface réseau sur laquelle vous allez utiliser le mode multijoueurs. Si votre connexion Internet est réalisée via un modem ADSL qui est directement raccordé à votre ordinateur par le biais d'une connexion USB, vous devriez être capable de trouver votre adresse IP en visitant le site <https://www.whatismyip.com>. Veuillez noter que cette adresse peut parfaitement varier de temps en temps. Si le mode multijoueurs ne fonctionne plus, vérifiez ce point en priorité.

### Those using some kind of Ethernet router to connect to the Internet

Otherwise, your connection is likely via some kind of router that connects to your computer via an RJ-45, or “Ethernet” connector (similar shape to most Western telephone plugs), or by a wireless link. You need to find the IP address of that network interface.

Under Linux, this can be found by logging in as root and typing “ifconfig”. You may find more than one interface listed, beginning with “lo” – ignore that one. You should have something like “eth0” or “wlan0” also listed – look through this block of text for “inet”. This will be followed directly by the number you’re looking for, e.g. “inet 192.168.0.150”

Under Windows 10, click menu Start and type “cmd”. In the terminal window which appears, type “ipconfig”. This should show you your IP address – note it down.

### If It Still Doesn’t Work

You MUST give your local, behind-the-router IP address for MultiPlayer to work. Trust me on this one!

You should check that your firewall is not causing problems – either turn it off temporarily or add an exception to allow incoming connections on port 5000.

If it’s still just not working for you, ask nicely on the FlightGear IRC channel and someone should be able to assist.

## 6.2 Porte-avions

FlightGear supports operations on several carriers, both in the US (such as Nimitz and Vinson in San Francisco) and the Mediterranean sea (such as Eisenhower and Foch). The carriers are equipped with working catapult, arrester wires, elevators, TACAN and FLOLS.

Note that several FG aircraft are carrier-capable, but the seahawk is possibly the easiest to fly to begin with.

### 6.2.1 Démarrage depuis un porte-avions

To position your aircraft on the carrier at startup, use the following command line options:

```
--carrier=Nimitz --aircraft=seahawk
```

Please note the uppercase “N” in “Nimitz”.

If you are using the launcher, you can select a carrier from the Location screen. Click on the “boat” button on the top right (to the right of the search bar). This will display a list of available carriers, and allow you to set the start position – either on deck or in the air.

If you are using the Windows or OS X launcher to run FG, you should find a text entry box in the gui that allows you to specify command line options, add the above options there.

### 6.2.2 Catapultage

Once FlightGear has started, you should ensure that the parking brakes are off and press and hold **L** to engage the launchbar. You must hold down **L** until the launch bar has engaged.

You should notice the aircraft being pulled into alignment with the catapult and see the strrops appear and hold down the aircraft. This will only happen if your aircraft is close enough to the correct spot on the catapult; as a rough guide, for the default parking position the seahawk's nose should be roughly level with the deck observation bubble.

To get the carrier into as good a position as possible for launch, open the *AI Objects* dialog from the *AI* menu, select the carrier you are at (in this case, Nimitz), and select the option *Turn to launch course*. You should now notice the carrier begin to pick up speed and turn into the wind, and naturally the deck may tilt somewhat as it turns. You should wait for this maneuver to finish and the deck to return to level before moving on to the next stage.

Being attached to the catapult, you should spool up the engines to full power, ensure the brakes are off and that all flight controls are in a suitable position for launch (stick held right back with the seahawk). When ready, press **C** to release the catapult. Your aircraft will be hurled forward off the deck, and you should be able to raise the undercarriage and climb slowly away, being careful to avoid stalling.

### 6.2.3 Utilisation du TACAN pour trouver le porte-avions

Actually finding the carrier in a vast expanse of open water can be very difficult, especially if visibility is poor. To assist with this task, Nimitz is equipped with TACAN (*TACTical Air Navigation*), which allows a suitably-equipped aircraft (including the Seahawk) to obtain a range and bearing to the carrier. First, you must set the appropriate TACAN channel, 029Y in this case, in the radios dialogue (**F12** or choose *Equipment* → *Radio Settings* from the FG menubar). You should, if within range, notice the *DME* (*Distance Measuring Equipment*) instrument show your distance from the carrier, and the *ADF* (*Automatic Direction Finder*) instrument (next to the DME in the seahawk) should indicate a bearing to the carrier. Turn to the indicated heading and you should see the DME dial indicate your closing in on the carrier.

### 6.2.4 Appontage

This is the most difficult part of the operation, as in real life. You might well find Andy Ross' tutorial on operating the A4 Skyhawk useful. It is available from here:

[https://wiki.flightgear.org/A-4F\\_Skyhawk\\_Operations\\_Manual](https://wiki.flightgear.org/A-4F_Skyhawk_Operations_Manual)

Once you have used the TACAN to locate the carrier, you must line up with the rear of the flight deck. As this part of the deck is at an angle to the course of the vessel, you may need to correct your alignment often. Ensure that the aircraft is in the correct configuration for approach (the *Help* → *Aircraft Help* menu should contain useful data for your aircraft) and that the gear and the arrestor hook are down.

As you approach you should see, on the left hand side of the deck, a set of brightly coloured lights – called the *Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System* (*FLOLS*). This indicates your position on the landing glideslope. You will see a horizontal row of green lights, and when approximately on the glideslope, an orange light (known in some circles as the “meatball”) approximately in line with the green lights. When approaching correctly, the meatball appears in line with the green lights. If you are high it is above, and when low it is below. If you are very low the meatball turns red. If you fly to keep the meatball aligned you should catch number 3 wire.

Carrier landings are often described as “controlled crashes” and you shouldn’t waste your time attempting to flare and place the aircraft gently on the deck like you would with a conventional landing – ensuring that you catch the wires is the main thing.

Immediately your wheels touch the deck, you should open the throttles to full power, in case you have missed the wires and need to “go around” again; the wires will hold the aircraft if you have caught them, even at full power.

If you wish, you can then raise the elevators (through the *AI → AI Objects → <your carrier>* menu), taxi onto one of the elevators, lower it (unchecked the box on the menu) and taxi off into the hangar.

Don’t be discouraged if you don’t succeed at first – it’s not an easy maneuver to master. If after a little practice you find the Seahawk too easy, you could move on to the Seafire for more of a challenge!

## 6.3 Atlas

Atlas is a “moving map” application for FlightGear. It displays the aircraft in relation to the terrain below, along with airports, navigation aids and radio frequencies.

Further details can be found on the Atlas website:

<http://atlas.sourceforge.net>

## 6.4 Affichage multi-écrans

FlightGear supports multiple displays. Using some straightforward XML, you can configure multiple “slave cameras” that are offset from the main view, so you can use multiple monitors to display a single view of the simulator. For example, you can have one display showing the view straight ahead, while two additional displays show the view to either side.

Information on configuring multiple displays can be found in the *README.multiscreen* file in the *docs* directory of your FlightGear installation.

## 6.5 Plusieurs ordinateurs

FlightGear allows you to connect multiple instances of the program using the very flexible I/O subsystem, and display completely different views and controls on different computers. This can be used in combination with the Multiple Display support to create a more sophisticated environment with separate cockpit panel displays and even a separate control station allowing an instructor to fail instruments, change the weather etc.

An example of this is the 747 cockpit project:

<http://geoffair.org/fg/site/Projects/747-JW/>

### 6.5.1 Concepts de base

Each instance of FlightGear can support a single display. Due to the complexity of the FDM and graphics, FlightGear is very processor-intensive, so running multiple instances of FlightGear on a single machine is not recommended.

You will therefore need a computer for each view of the simulation you wish to display, including the panel. The computers obviously must be networked and for simplicity should be on the same subnet.

One computer is designated as the primary machine. This computer will run the FDM and be connected to controls such as yokes, joysticks and pedals. As the machine is running the FDM, it usually only displays a simple view, typically the main panel, to maximize performance.

All other computers are designated as secondary. They are purely used for display purposes and receive FDM information from the primary.

### 6.5.2 Configuration simple

Creating a basic configuration for multiple displays is straightforward. The primary computer needs to broadcast the FDM and control information to the secondary machines. This is done using the following command line options:

```
--native-fdm=socket,out,60,<IP-secondary>,5505,udp
--native-ctrls=socket,out,60,<IP-secondary>,5506,udp
```

You should change <IP-secondary> to the IP of your secondary machine. Finding out the IP of your machine is dependent on your OS; how to do it you can see in Section 6.1.3. If you have multiple secondaries, you can copy these two options in the primary's command line as many times as required, changing the <IP-secondary> field appropriately for each secondary and keeping the rest of the fields identical.

After starting the primary, you can start the secondary computers. These need to listen for the information provided by the primary, and also need to have their own FDMs switched off:

```
--native-fdm=socket,in,60,,5505,udp
--native-ctrls=socket,in,60,,5506,udp
--fdm=null
```

### 6.5.3 Configuration avancée

The options listed above will simply show the same view on both machines. You will probably also want to set the following command-line options on most of the computers:

```
--enable-fullscreen (full screen for sdl or windows)
--prop:/sim/menubar/visibility=false (hide menu bar)
--prop:/sim/ai/enabled=false (disable AI ATC)
--prop:/sim/ai-traffic/enabled=false (disable AI planes)
--prop:/sim/rendering/bump-mapping=false
```

If using the primary to display a panel only, you may wish to create a full-screen panel for the aircraft you wish to fly (one is already available for the Cessna 172), and use the following

options on the primary:

```
--enable-panel (enable the display of the 2D cockpit panel)
--disable-hud (disable the HUD)
# switch off rendering the world:
--prop:/sim/rendering/draw-mask/terrain=false
--prop:/sim/rendering/draw-mask/aircraft=false
--prop:/sim/rendering/draw-mask/models=false
--prop:/sim/rendering/draw-mask/clouds=false
```

## 6.6 Enregistrement et “replay”

As well as the Instant Replay feature within the simulator, you can record your flight for later analysis or replay using the I/O system. Technical details of how to record specific FDM information can be found in the `$FG_ROOT/Docs/README.protocol` file.

To record a flight, use the following command line options:

```
--generic=file,out,20,flight.out,playback
```

This will record the FDM state at 20 Hz (20 times per second), using the playback protocol and write it to a file `flight.out`. To play it back later, use the following command line options:

```
--generic=file,in,20,flight.out,playback
--fdm=external
```

The `playback.xml` protocol file does not include information such as plane type, time of day, so you should use the same set of command line options as you did when recording.

## 6.7 Synthèse vocale avec Festival

FlightGear supports *Text To Speech* (TTS) for ATC and tutorial messages through the festival TTS engine (<http://www.cstr.ed.ac.uk/projects/festival/>). This is available on many Linux distros, and can also be installed easily on a Cygwin Windows system. At time of writing, support on other platforms is unknown.

### 6.7.1 Installation de Festival

1. Install festival. Some Linux distros (such as Ubuntu 20.04) have packages available to install from their package managers. Otherwise, you can install it from <http://www.cstr.ed.ac.uk/projects/festival/>.
2. Check if Festival works. Festival provides a direct console interface. Only the relevant lines are shown here. Note the parentheses!

```
$ festival
festival> (SayText "FlightGear")
festival> (quit)
```

3. Check if MBROLA is installed. Again, you may be lucky and find it in your distro's package manager. Otherwise, the official page of the project is:

<https://github.com/numediar/MBROLA>

MBROLA is optional, so you can skip it if you wish. But then you can't use the more realistic voices :(

Run MBROLA and marvel at the help screen. That's just to check if it's in the path and executable.

```
$ mbrola -h
```

### 6.7.2 Utilisation de FlightGear avec la synthèse vocale

First start the festival server:

```
$ festival --server
```

Now, start FlightGear with voice support enabled. You can do that by adding the following option to your command line:

```
--prop:/sim/sound/voices/enabled=true
```

Of course, you can put this option into your personal configuration file. This doesn't mean that you then always have to use FlightGear together with Festival. You'll just get a few error messages in the terminal window, but that's it. You cannot enable the voice subsystem when FlightGear is running.

To test it is all working, contact the KSFO ATC using the ' key. You should hear **your** voice first (and see the text in yellow color on top of the screen), then you should hear ATC answer with a different voice (and see it in light-green color).

### 6.7.3 En cas de problème

On some Linux distros, festival access is restricted, and you will get message like the following:

```
client(1) Tue Feb 21 13:29:46 2006 : \
    rejected from localhost.localdomain
not in access list
```

Details on this can be found from:

[http://www.festvox.org/docs/manual-2.4.0/festival\\_28.html](http://www.festvox.org/docs/manual-2.4.0/festival_28.html).

You can disable access restrictions from `localhost` and `localhost.localdomain` by adding the following to a `.festivalrc` file in `$HOME`:

```
(set! server_access_list '("localhost"))
(set! server_access_list '("localhost.localdomain"))
```

Or, you can just disable the access list altogether:

```
(set! server_access_list nil)
```

This will allow connections from anywhere, but should be OK if your machine is behind a firewall.

### 6.7.4 Installation de voix supplémentaires

I'm afraid this is a bit tedious. You can skip it if you are happy with the default voice. First find the Festival data directory. All Festival data goes to a common file tree, like in FlightGear. This can be `/usr/local/share/festival` on Unices. We'll call that directory `$FESTIVAL` for now.

1. Check which voices are available. You can test them by prepending `voice_`:

```
$ festival
festival> (print (mapcar (lambda (pair) (car pair)) \
                           voice-locations))
(kal_diphone rab_diphone don_diphone us1_mbrola \
               us2_mbrola us3_mbrola en1_mbrola)
nil
festival> (voice_us3_mbrola)
festival> (SayText "I've got a nice voice.")
festival> (quit)
```

2. Festival voices and MBROLA wrappers can be downloaded here:

<http://festvox.org/packed/festival/1.95/>

The `don_diphone` voice is not the best, but it is comparatively small and well suited for ai-planes. If you install it, it should end up as directory

`$FESTIVAL/voices/english/don_diphone/`. You also need to install `festlex_OALD.tar.gz` for it as `$FESTIVAL/dicts/oald/` and run the Makefile in this directory.  
(You may have to add `--heap 10000000` to the `festival` command arguments in the Makefile.)

3. Quite good voices are “`us2_mbrola`”, “`us3_mbrola`”, and “`en1_mbrola`”. For these you need to install MBROLA (see above) as well as these wrappers:

```
festvox_us2.tar.gz
festvox_us3.tar.gz
festvox_en1.tar.gz
```

They create directories `$FESTIVAL/voices/english/us2_mbrola/` etc. The voice data, however, has to be downloaded separately from another site (see point 4).

4. MBROLA voices can be downloaded from the MBROLA download page (see above). You want the voices labeled “`us2`” and “`us3`”. Unpack them in the directories that the wrappers have created: `$FESTIVAL/voices/english/us2_mbrola/` and likewise for “`us3`” and “`en1`”.

## 6.8 Ravitaillement en vol

As the name suggests, *Air-Air Refueling (AAR)* involves refueling an aircraft (typically a short-range jet fighter) from a tanker aircraft by flying in close formation. FlightGear supports several tankers, each of them supporting one of two systems. The first one comprises a boom

that connects to a receiver on the refueling aircraft. The second deploys a hose into which the refueling aircraft inserts a probe.

A number of aircraft support AAR, including the T-38, Lightning, A-4F, Vulcan, Victor (which can also act as a tanker) and A-6E. You can tell if a particular aircraft supports AAR by looking at the AI menu. If the *Tanker Controls* item is enabled, the aircraft supports AAR.

### 6.8.1 Procédure

To set up AAR, simply start FlightGear with an AAR-enabled aircraft, take-off and climb to about 15 000 ft. Once cruising at this altitude, open menu *AI* → *Tanker Controls*, select a tanker from the drop-down list and click on **Request**. This will spawn a new tanker in clear air.

FlightGear will report the altitude, heading, speed, and TACAN identifier of the tanker. Program your TACAN with the TACAN identifier reported by the tanker (through the *Equipment* → *Radio Settings* dialog, or your cockpit controls). Depending on your aircraft, the tanker may also appear on your radar. If you require more help to find the tanker, you can click on **Get Position** to be told the tanker location relative to yourself.

Turn to an appropriate heading, guided by the TACAN bearing (you should try a “leading” approach to close in on the tanker) and look for the tanker on the radar or nav. screen. Around 5 nm away, you should reduce your speed to around 20 kts faster than the tanker – a “slow overtake”. Bigger tankers will be visible from about 10 nm, but smaller ones may be visible just over 1 nm. If you find yourself overshooting, deploy your airbrakes.

Close to within 50 ft of the tanker (don’t get too close, or you may collide with the tanker itself). You should see indication in the cockpit that you are receiving fuel (e.g. the A4 fuel gauge has a green light), and you should see the indicated tank load increase. If you still have issues telling whether you are connecting to the tanker, you can turn on option *Report refueling* in the *Tanker controls* window. If you still can’t engage with the tanker, increase the *Contact radius* to make the maneuver more resilient to “disconnects”.

Once your tanks are full, or you have taken as much fuel as you wish, close the throttle a little, back away from the tanker and continue your intended flight.

Successfully refueling is not easy and can take a lot of practise, as in real life. Here are some helpful hints for making contact.

1. Approach the tanker slowly. It is very easy to overshoot and be unable to spot where the tanker has gone.
2. If you are having difficulty matching the speed of the tanker due to the throttle being too sensitive, try deploying your airbrakes. This will require more power to achieve the same speed and will reduce the throttle sensitivity.
3. To reduce your workload, you may be able to use the autopilot to stay at the correct altitude and/or speed. This is technically cheating, though NASA recently demonstrated that an advanced autopilot can perform AAR without pilot intervention.
4. Bear in mind that as you receive fuel your aircraft will become heavier and the center of gravity will move, affecting the trim of the aircraft.
5. The tanker aircraft flies a clock-wise “race-track” pattern in the sky. While it is possible to stay connected during these turns, you may find it easier to wait until the tanker has

settled on its new course before refueling. The tanker aircraft provides warnings when they are intending to turn.

### 6.8.2 Ravitaillement en mode multi-joueurs

Refuelling is possible within a Multiplayer session using the KC135 or Victor. The pilot of this aircraft should use the callsign “MOBIL1”, “MOBIL2” or “MOBIL3”. Other numbers are acceptable, but only these three have A-A TACAN channels assigned. These are 060X, 061X and 062X respectively.

If the receiving aircraft uses a YASim FDM, there are no further complications. Should the receiving aircraft be JSBSim-based, the user must make sure that there are no AI tankers in their configuration. This means disabling (commenting out) all refuelling scenarios in the relevant `aircraft-set.xml` and in `defaults.xml`.

MP refuelling works in exactly the same way as AI refuelling and is a fun challenge. It is best to ensure that your network connection is as free from interruptions as possible; the MP code does a degree of prediction if there is a “blip” in the stream of packets and this can make close formation flight very difficult or even impossible.



## **Partie III**

# **Tutoriels**



# Chapitre 7

## Tutoriels

Si voler est pour vous quelque chose de nouveau, l'utilisation d'un simulateur avancé comme FlightGear peut sembler ardue : vous vous retrouvez dans le cockpit d'un aéronef avec peu d'informations sur la manière de le faire voler

Dans la vraie vie, lorsque l'on apprend à voler, on a un instructeur assis à côté de soi pour nous apprendre comment piloter en toute sécurité.

Comme nous ne pouvons proposer un instructeur personnel à chaque pilote virtuel, il existe un certain nombre de tutoriels disponibles que vous pouvez suivre pour devenir un pilote virtuel expérimenté

### 7.1 Tutoriels en vol

FlightGear contient un système de tutoriels en vols, au cours desquels un instructeur simulé réalise une « leçon » virtuelle. Elles varient suivant les aéronefs entre de simples tutoriels vous expliquant comment démarrer les moteurs de l'aéronef à des leçons complètes vous expliquant comment voler pour la première fois. Pour accéder aux tutoriels, choisissez **Start Tutorial** à partir du menu *Aide*.

Le système de tutoriels fonctionne particulièrement bien avec le système **TTS Festival** décrit plus haut.

Pour plus de simplicité, pensez à lancer les tutoriels avec les aéronefs **IA** désactivés depuis l'item Options du menu *IA* → *ATC*. Sinon, les messages **ATC** pourraient rendre l'écoute de votre instructeur difficile.

Chaque tutoriel consiste en un certain nombre d'étapes incrémentielles que vous devez réussir. Votre instructeur vous donnera les instructions sur la manière de réussir chacune de ces étapes, et observera la manière dont vous appliquez ses instructions, en vous donnant des directives additionnelles si besoin est.

Au sein d'un tutoriel, pour demander à votre instructeur de répéter toute instruction, appuyez sur **+**. Vous pouvez mettre le tutoriel en pause à n'importe quel moment en appuyant sur la touche **p**. Pour arrêter le tutoriel, choisissez **Stop Tutorial** à partir du menu *Aide*.

### 7.1.1 Tutoriels Cessna 172P

Si c'est la première fois que vous volez, un certain nombre de tutoriels existent pour le Cessna 172P. Ils sont conçus pour vous apprendre les bases du vol, de manière semblable à ce qui est fait dans les véritables écoles de pilotage. Les tutoriels se déroulent autour des aérodromes de Half-Moon Bay (KHAF) et Livermore Municipal (KLVK) près de San Francisco. Ces deux aérodromes sont livrés dans le paquetage de base. Pour démarrer ces tutoriels, choisissez l'aéronef Cessna 172P, et démarrez à l'aérodrome de KHAF ou KLVK en utilisant l'assistant ou avec la ligne de commande suivante :

```
fgfs --aircraft=c172p --airport=PHTO
```

Lorsque le simulateur est lancé, choisissez **Start Tutorial** depuis le menu *Aide*. Il vous sera proposé une liste des tutoriels disponibles. Choisissez-en un et appuyez sur *Next*. Une description du tutoriel est affichée. Appuyez sur *Start* pour démarrer le tutoriel

## 7.2 Tutoriels FlightGear

Les chapitres suivants proposent des tutoriels spécifiques à FlightGear pour propulser l'aviateur en herbe de sa première entrée dans un cockpit à un vol dans les nuages en s'aidant de ses instruments pour la navigation. Si vous n'avez jamais volé dans un petit aéronef auparavant, suivre les tutoriels offre une excellente introduction au vol.

En-dehors de ce manuel, il y a un excellent tutoriel écrit par David Megginson – l'un des principaux développeurs de FlightGear – sur le vol de base en circuit d'aérodrome en utilisant spécifiquement FlightGear. Ce document inclut de nombreuses captures d'écran, des données numériques, ... et est disponible à l'adresse :

<https://web.archive.org/web/20070403233149/http://www.flightgear.org:80/Docs/Tutorials/circuit/>

## 7.3 Autres tutoriels

Il existe de nombreux autres tutoriels qui ne sont pas propres à FlightGear, la plupart d'entre eux étant cependant parfaitement applicables. Tout d'abord, un manuel assez complet de ce type est le Manuel d'information aéronautique, publié par la **FAA**, et disponible à l'adresse :

[https://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/](https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/)

Il s'agit du guide officiel à l'information de vol de base et aux procédures de contrôle aérien par la FAA. Il contient une grande quantité d'information sur les règles de vol, la sécurité des vols, la navigation, ... Si vous trouvez cela un peu trop difficile, vous pourriez y préférer le Livret d'entraînement FAA,

<http://avstop.com/AC/FlightTrainingHandbook/>,

qui couvre tous les aspects du vols, de la théorie du vol et de la construction des aéronefs, aux procédures comme le décollage et l'atterrissement aux situations d'urgence. C'est une lecture

idéale pour ceux qui veulent apprendre quelques bases du vol mais qui ne veulent pas (encore) dépenser de l'argent pour obtenir un manuel du pilote un peu cher.

Si le livret cité ci-dessus est une excellente introduction aux règles **VFR** (*Visual Flight Rules*), il n'aborde pas les règles de vol **IFR** (*Instrument Flight Rules*). Cependant, une très bonne introduction à la navigation et aux règles de vol IFR écrite par Charles Wood peut être trouvée à l'adresse :

[Flight Simulator Navigation \(PDF\)](#)<sup>1</sup>.

Un autre texte complet mais cependant abordable est le document de John Denker “Voyez comment il vole”, disponible à l'adresse :

<https://www.av8n.com/how/>

C'est un véritable livre en ligne, débutant avec le principe de Bernoulli, la traînée et la puissance, etc, les chapitres suivants couvrant même les aspects avancés du vol, VFR comme IFR.

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1. <https://static1.1.sqspcdn.com/static/f/1003521/14592887/1318406663403/Flight+Navigation.pdf>



## Chapitre 8

# Un tutoriel de base de simulation de vol

### 8.1 Préambule

L'aviation est faite d'extrêmes :

- Un aéronef est assez fragile et vole à des vitesses élevées. Cependant, c'est l'un des moyens de transports les plus sûrs.
- Les pilotes doivent constamment suivre des règles et des procédures. Cependant, un aéronef est un symbole de liberté.
- Avec un peu d'entraînement, piloter un petit aéronef est simple. Cependant, si un problème survient, vous devez être capable de le résoudre en quelques secondes.
- De nombreux tutoriels de vols sont écrits avec beaucoup d'humour. Cependant, ne pas prendre le vol au sérieux vous remènera sur le plancher des vaches de manière prématée.

L'aéronef utilisé dans ce tutoriel est le [Cessna 172P](#) (voir figure 8.1). Il s'agit d'un avion utilisé dans de nombreuses écoles de pilotage de la vie réelle, et c'est un avion très agréable en vol.

Les articles suivants complètent ce tutoriel et répondront à la plupart des questions qui pourraient survenir lors de votre lecture. Le premier, en particulier, est une bonne introduction aux principaux composants et contrôles de l'aéronef :

- <https://www.gleimaviation.com/resources/free-downloads/>
- [http://www.pilotfriend.com/training/flight\\_training/aero/principa.htm](http://www.pilotfriend.com/training/flight_training/aero/principa.htm)
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aircraft>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flight\\_control\\_surfaces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flight_control_surfaces)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airplane\\_flight\\_mechanics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airplane_flight_mechanics)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aircraft\\_engine\\_controls](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aircraft_engine_controls)
- Flight Simulator Navigation (PDF)<sup>1</sup>
- <http://www.free-online-private-pilot-ground-school.com>

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1. <https://static1.1.sqspcdn.com/static/f/1003521/14592887/1318406663403/Flight+Navigation.pdf>



FIGURE 8.1 – Le Cessna 172P

Ce tutoriel est précis dans les limites de mes meilleures connaissances, mais il contiendra inévitablement quelques erreurs. Je m'excuse par avance pour celles-ci.

## 8.2 Démarrer

Il existe différentes manières de démarrer FlightGear en fonction de la plate-forme et de la distribution que vous utilisez.

### 8.2.1 Utilisation du lanceur intégré

FlightGear comporte un lanceur intégré permettant de choisir l'aéronef et la position de démarrage. Depuis la bande située à gauche, activez l'onglet *Aéronef* puis sélectionnez l'avion *Cessna 172P Skyhawk* (voir figure 8.2). Activez ensuite l'onglet *Emplacement* pour choisir votre aérodrome.

Vous pouvez démarrer de n'importe quel aéroport pour ce tutoriel, mais je partirai du principe que vous démarrez de l'aéroport Daniel K. Inouye International à Honolulu (PHNL, voir figure 8.3).

Dans l'onglet *Emplacement*, après avoir choisi PHNL (cliquez sur le bouton **Retour** représenté par une flèche vers la gauche pour changer d'aérodrome), vous pouvez paramétriser toutes sortes d'options pour le simulateur. Pour votre premier vol, je suggère de choisir midi comme « moment de la journée » dans l'onglet *Environnement* (voir figure 8.4).

Je recommanderais également de débuter avec une petite résolution de  $800 \times 600$ . Pour changer la résolution, cliquez sur **Voir plus** dans la section **Vue et fenêtre** de l'onglet *Para-*

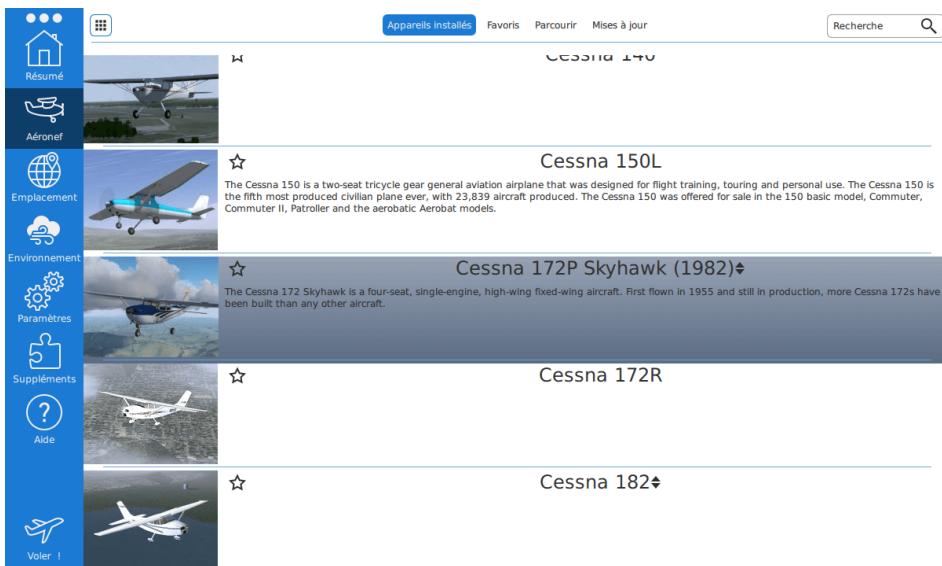


FIGURE 8.2 – Choix de l'aéronef

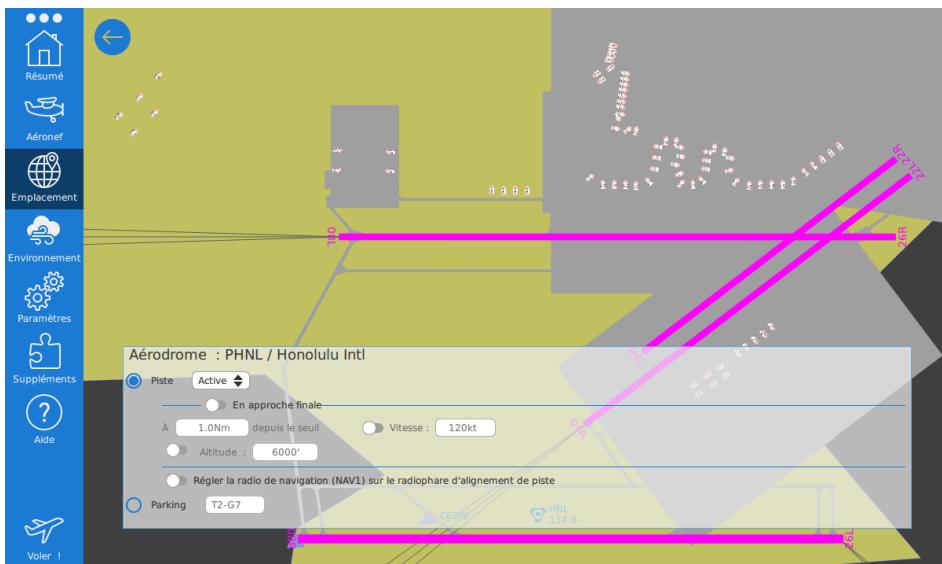


FIGURE 8.3 – Diagramme de l'aéroport PHNL dans le lanceur intégré

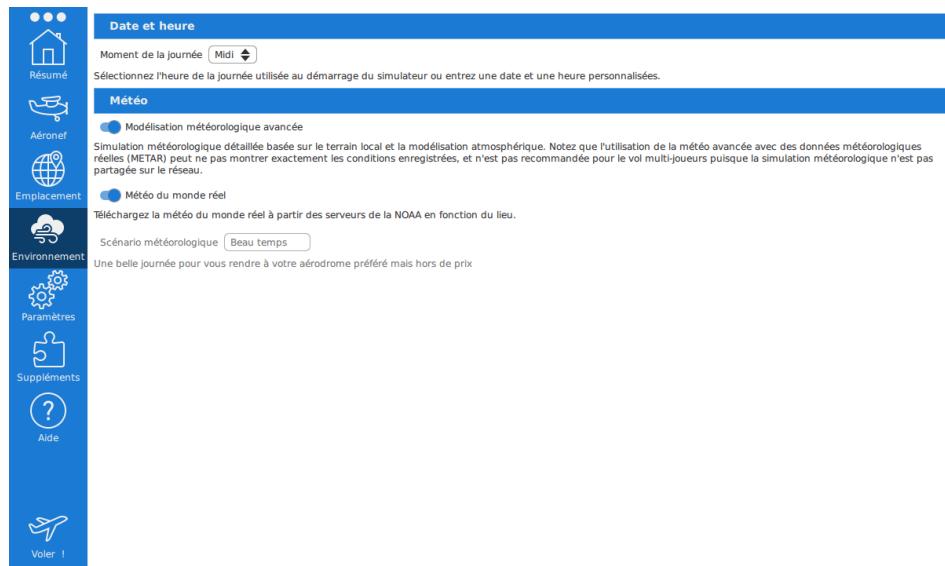


FIGURE 8.4 – L’onglet *Environnement* du lanceur intégré

*mètres* (voir figure 8.5). Par la suite, vous pourrez vous amuser avec les options et utiliser une meilleure résolution, sachant que cela dégrade évidemment les performances. Cliquez sur le bouton **Voler!** pour lancer FlightGear avec les options que vous avez choisies.

Si vous rencontrez des difficultés à faire fonctionner la dernière version de FlightGear sur votre système Windows, vous pouvez essayer une version avec des pré-requis moindres en matière de graphisme. Vous pouvez trouver les versions précédentes sur les miroirs FTP mentionnés en haut de la page de téléchargement de FlightGear : <https://www.flightgear.org/download/mirror/>.

### 8.3 Premier défi : voler en ligne droite

Once FlightGear is started, you will see the scene shown in figure 8.6. Your first task is to get the engine running, which is most easily performed via the menu bar *Cessna C172P → Autostart*.

The aircraft is at the start of the runway with the engine running at low power. With the propeller now spinning, the airplane may occasionally tremble a little, but it should not move (see figure 8.7).

#### À propos du clavier

- In this tutorial, a lowercase letter key indicates you should simply press that key. An uppercase means you must press **Shift** (marked with blue in figure 8.8) and that key. In other words: if you are told to type “v”, simply hit the **v** key briefly. If you are told to type **V**, first press the **Shift** key and hold it down; while it is held down, press the **v** key, release it then release the **Shift** key. (In short: **V** is the same as **Shift-v**.)

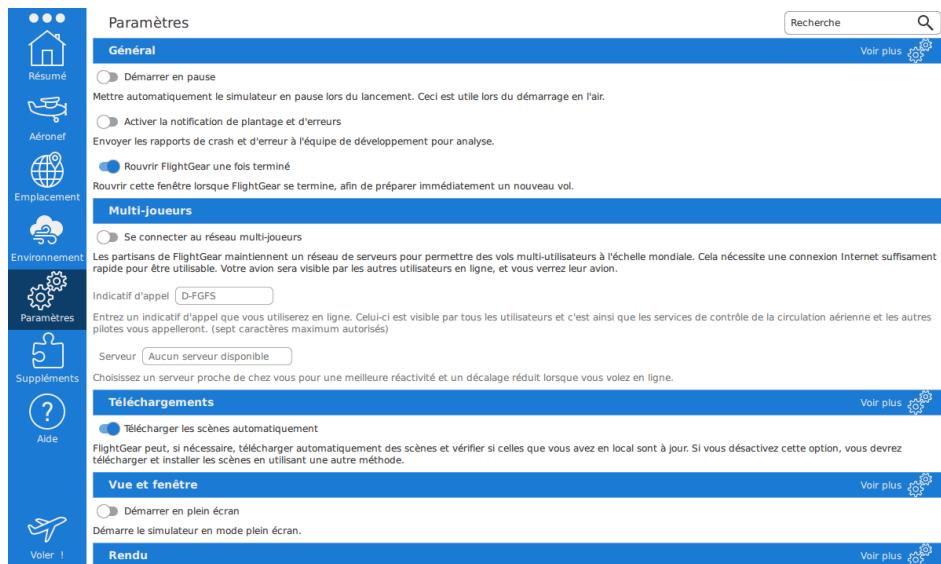
FIGURE 8.5 – L'onglet *Paramètres* du lanceur intégré

FIGURE 8.6 – Démarrage automatique du Cessna 172P



FIGURE 8.7 – Cessna 172P sur la piste avec le moteur démarré

- To be sure that the keys will work regardless of the platform on which you run FlightGear, this tutorial will assume you have the **NumLock** key on. When this is the case, you should see a small green LED at the right of your keyboard. Press the **NumLock** key once to turn the LED on in case it is switched off (marked with green in figure 8.8).  
Having NumLock turned on, we can use the **Home/End** (for trim) and **PageUp/PageDown** (throttle control) keys, located above the arrow keys (marked with red in figure 8.8). Normally for the Cessna 172P, you should be able to use these keys from the numeric keypad as well, but depending on the platform and operating system it may be different.

Press **v** to view the aircraft from the outside, as shown in figure 8.9. Type **v** repeatedly to cycle through a number of different available views until you return to the cockpit. Pressing **v** will cycle backwards through the views. **Ctrl-v** will return you directly back to the cockpit view.

In real life, we would have inspected all around the plane to check that everything is working, to confirm that nothing is hampering the moving parts, and that nothing is obstructing the instrument openings. In the simulator, this is already done for us before we start.

Hold the **PageUp** (or **NumPad-9**) key down for about eight seconds. You will hear the engine sound rise as the throttle is advanced to full power.

The airplane will start accelerating down the runway. As it does so, it will drift to the left, before finally taking off, banking to the left, falling to the ground and crashing (probably).

You can see a replay of the crash using the *View → Instant Replay* menu. Click the **Replay** button at the bottom of the dialog window, then use **v** and **V** to see the airplane from the outside. Figure 8.10 shows the end part of the flight. You can take a snapshot by typing the **F3** key. You can also use the **F10** key to toggle the menu bar on or off.

Having observed your crash, reset FlightGear using *File → Reset* (or the keyboard shortcut

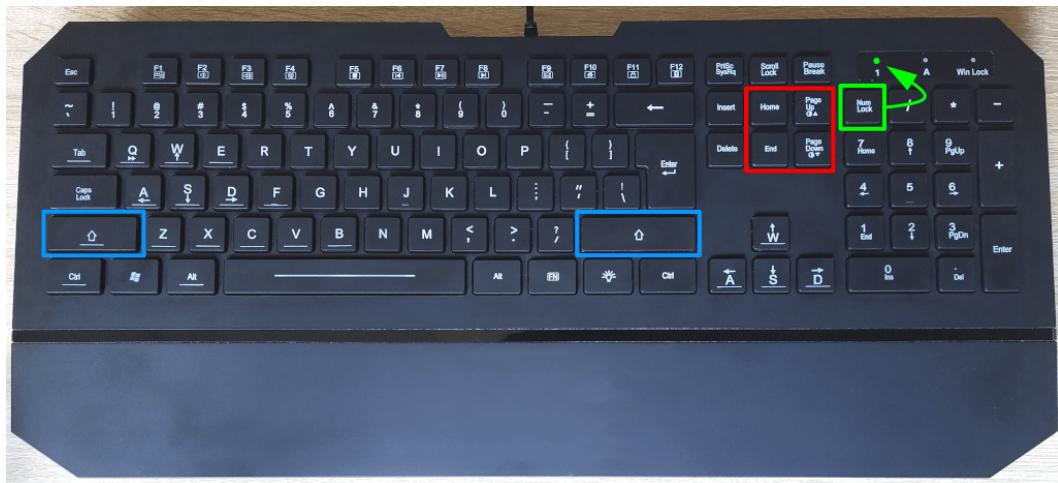


FIGURE 8.8 – La touche **Verr Num** (encadrée en vert)



FIGURE 8.9 – Vues de l’extérieur



FIGURE 8.10 – Visualisation du crash à l’aide du *replay*

**Shift-Esc**), to return to the pre-crash condition.

In order to fly straight, we will need to use the airplane control yoke (see figure 8.11).



FIGURE 8.11 – Le manche à balai

You can control the yoke using a joystick, or by moving the mouse. To use the mouse you need to be in mouse yoke mode. Get into that mode by pressing **Tab**. The mouse cursor becomes a + symbol. Move the mouse and see the yoke moving accordingly. Type **v** to see the plane from the outside. If you move the mouse again you will see movement of the rudder, elevator (tail) and the ailerons (wings). If your viewpoint is too far from the aircraft to see any movement, type **x** a few times to zoom in. Type **x** to zoom back out. **Ctrl-x** returns the view to the default zoom level. Use **Ctrl-v** to change the view back into the cockpit.

Pressing **Tab** again gets you into mouse view mode. In this mode the mouse cursor will be a ↔ symbol. This allows you to look around easily by moving the mouse. Clicking the left mouse button will re-center the view. You can also change your view direction in the normal and yoke modes by holding down the right mouse button and moving the mouse. A further press of **Tab** will return you to the normal mouse mode.

To summarize, the **Tab** key cycles the mouse through three modes:

- *Normal mode*. This mode allows you to click on the menu and on the instrument panel.
- *Yoke mode*. The mouse controls the yoke (+ pointer).
- *View mode*. The mouse controls the view direction (↔ pointer).

Try taking off again using the mouse to control the yoke. Press **Tab** to put the mouse in yoke mode (+ pointer) and raise the engine throttle to maximum by holding the **PageUp** key down. Do not try too hard to keep the airplane rolling straight on the runway using the mouse/yoke. It is okay to let it drift a bit leftwards. Wait until it rises into the air. Then use the mouse to try and get the airplane to fly straight. (If you want to control the airplane on the ground see section 8.5.)

You will find that you must prevent the airplane from banking to the left or to the right (cf. figure 8.12)... or from plunging toward the ground (figure 8.13). Try to fly more or less straight,

with the horizon line slightly above the airplane nose (see figure 8.14).



FIGURE 8.12 – Inclinaison en roulis vers la gauche ou vers la droite



FIGURE 8.13 – Une descente intentionnelle ?

Whatever your skills at video games or simpler simulators, you will probably not succeed at first. The airplane will crash, probably quite soon after take-off. This is the moment where it is common for the novice pilot to begin to despair and abandon trying to fly a simulator or a real aircraft. Just hold tight and keep trying. Eventually you will develop a feel for the subtle control inputs required.

### Erreurs fréquentes

The most common errors are moving the controls too much, which lead to the aircraft getting out of your control, or moving the mouse forward in an attempt to bring the nose up.

You will learn that small yoke movements have a fairly large effect on the aircraft's reaction. Go easy on the controls by using small yoke movement. You may always add a touch more control input if you see the aircraft is responding too subtly. Inversely, too much yoke movement can cause a severe response from the aircraft and then you find yourself in a poor situation as you desperately attempt to regain control. If over-control is especially difficult for you, then you may find that decreasing your mouse sensitivity could help during your initial training.

Remember, pull the nose up and push the nose down. You must pull the yoke aft, by moving the mouse backwards, to raise the nose. Equally, when you want to lower the airplane's



FIGURE 8.14 – Vol rectiligne en palier

nose, you must move the mouse forwards. This can seem odd, but all airplane control yokes are designed that way. With time, you will wonder how you every thought it worked any other way.

If you have difficulty visualising this, the following analogy may help. Imagine a soccer ball is on your desk and you have “glued” your hand to the top of it. If you move your hand forward the ball will roll forward and your fingers will point toward the desk. If you move your hand backward the ball will roll backward and your fingers will now point up at the ceiling. Your hand is the airplane.

Another common mistake is the assumption that the control inputs directly match airplane bank. In other words, you believe if the control yoke is level, the airplane will fly level. This is not true. The yoke controls the *rate* at which the airplane banks. If the airplane is banked 20° to the left and the control yoke is level, the airplane will stay banked at 20° left until some other force affects it. If you want to return the airplane to level flight, you have to turn the control yoke slightly to the right (move the mouse slightly rightwards) and keep it slightly to the right for a while. The airplane will turn slowly rightwards. Once it is level with the horizon, bring the control yoke level too. Then the airplane will stay level (until some other force changes its orientation).

A third error is trying to find “the right position” for the yoke/mouse. Naturally, you will want to find the fine tuning that will leave the airplane fly straight. Actually there is no such ideal yoke position. The airplane is inherently unstable in the air. You must constantly correct the airplane’s attitude and keep it flying straight with tiny movements of the mouse. This may seem to take all your concentration initially, but just like driving a car, keeping the aircraft straight and level will soon become second nature. For longer flights, you will eventually use the autopilot to keep the airplane level, but this is outside the scope of this tutorial.

To help fine-tune your senses to the control inputs required, keep your eyes on the outside scenery and not get fixated on the instruments or the yoke. Check the angle of the horizon and its height above the airplane's nose. The horizon line and the airplane engine cover are your main flight instruments. Look at the instrument panel only once in a while.

While the mouse is in yoke control mode (+ pointer), do not move it close to the FlightGear window edge. Once the mouse leaves the window, it stops controlling the aircraft, often at the worse possible moment! If you wish to use the mouse outside of the window, first go back to standard mouse mode by pressing **Tab** twice. Or use FlightGear in full screen mode.

You can also control the yoke using the four **keyboard arrow** keys or the keypad **8**, **2**, **4** and **6** keys. While initially this may seem easier than the mouse, you cannot make the very fine adjustments required for accurate flying, so it is much better to persevere with the mouse.

You may hear beeping sounds while flying around the airport. These are landing aid signals. Don't worry about them for the moment.

You will know that you have mastered this when you can make the aircraft climb steadily in the air. The next step is to learn to keep the aircraft at a constant altitude, or to make it ascend or descend slowly and under your control.

Keeping the aircraft at a constant altitude involves observing the altimeter and making small changes with the mouse forwards or backwards to stop the aircraft ascending or descending respectively.

The altimeter instrument is at the middle top of the instrument panel. The long needle shows hundreds of feet, the medium needle shows thousands of feet, the short needle shows tens of thousands of feet. The altimeter represented in figure 8.15 shows an altitude of about 1800 ft, i.e. approximately 549 meters.



FIGURE 8.15 – L'altimètre

As you ascend or descend the altimeter will change accordingly, turning anti-clockwise as you descend, and clockwise as you gain height. If you see the altimeter "unwinding" you will be able to tell that you are losing height and move the mouse backwards slightly to raise the

nose. After a while you will notice that when flying level the nose of the aircraft is always in the same position relative to the horizon. This is the aircraft attitude for level flight. By putting the nose in that same position, you will achieve almost level flight without having to reference the instruments. From there you can fine-tune your altitude.

Beware: an altimeter does not automatically show the absolute altitude above sea level. You must adjust for the local air pressure. The little black knob on the lower left side of the altimeter allows you to adjust the altimeter. Start FlightGear and stay on the ground. Click (in normal mouse mode) inside the black knob and drag the mouse left or right. A drag toward the left makes the altimeter decrease in indicated altitude. Dragging toward the right will result in an increase in indicated altitude. An even more convenient method is to use the mouse wheel on the black altimeter knob. Use that little knob to set the altimeter to the field elevation of your airport. The principle is that you use the knob when you know your present altitude. If you know you are at 1100 ft altitude, tune in 1100 ft on the altimeter. Type **ctrl-c** to see the knob highlighted so that you understand the allowable click region.

To make settings the altimeter easier, airports advertise their altitude in various ways. They may provide a radio service, called **ATIS** (*Automatic Terminal Information Service*) in the USA, to broadcast the current air pressure at sea level. This is expressed in inches of mercury. The altimeter contains a small scale inside which is calibrated in this way. You can set your altimeter using this scale. Alternatively, if you are on the ground and know the altitude of the airport, you can simply adjust your altimeter until it displays the correct altitude.

Note that there is an important difference between “altitude above mean sea level” and “altitude above ground level”. If you fly near Mount Everest at an altitude of 24 000 ft above *Mean Sea Level (MSL)*, your altitude *Above Ground Level (AGL)* will be much less. Knowing the altitude of the ground around you is obviously useful.

## 8.4 Virages simples



FIGURE 8.16 – Indicateur de virage

While, if you had enough fuel, you could return to the same airport by flying straight head for thousands of miles, being able to change direction will make your flying more enjoyable

and useful.

Once you are able to fly more or less straight, it is time to learn to turn. The principle is simple:

- When the airplane is banked to the left, it turns to the left.
- When banked to the right, it turns to the right.

To turn, you do not need high levels of bank.  $20^\circ$  is more than enough for a safe and steady turn. Besides, passengers find excessive bank angles very disheartening. They don't like it!

#### The turn coordinator does NOT represent bank angle.



The inquisitive pilot may be interested in the fact that the bank angle required to establish a  $3^\circ$ , standard rate turn varies with *True Air Speed (TAS)*. You could calculate an approximation with the formula:

$$\text{angle} \approx \frac{\text{TAS(knots)}}{10} + 7$$

TAS (knots)	formula	angle
80	$8 + 7$	$15^\circ$
100	$10 + 7$	$17^\circ$
120	$12 + 7$	$19^\circ$

The turn coordinator represents Rate of Turn. The standard rate of turn is defined as  $3^\circ$  of travel per second. Why is this important? Frankly, because it can save your life! If you even find yourself suddenly in poor visibility, your smart reaction is to turn around  $180^\circ$ . In poor visibility, how are you suppose to know when you have turned halfway around? Hopefully, the standard rate of turn is now making sense to you. If you perform a standard rate turn, covering  $3^\circ$  of the turn every second, then a  $180^\circ$  turn will complete in one minute. After two minutes, you would have turned in a full circle and returned back to where you started your turn. This explains the “2 minute” placard you often see printed on the face of the instrument.

With this knowledge, let us explore how to properly utilize the turn coordinator instrument. As you bank the aircraft to the right, notice how the airplane depicted on the instrument lowers its right wing. Likewise, banking the aircraft to the left is duplicated on the face of the turn coordinator. When the wingtip aligns with the tickmark along the rim, at that point neutralize the control yoke to maintain that angle. Glance quickly at the clock and roll out of the turn one minute later. I know you were curious as to why airplanes had clocks.

Try the following: keep the airplane banked in a standard rate turn for a few minutes and keep your eyes outside the aircraft. You will see the same ground features appear again and again, every 120 seconds. This demonstrates that you need 120 seconds to make a  $360^\circ$  turn (or 60 seconds for a  $180^\circ$  turn.) This is particularly useful when navigating. Whatever speed the airplane is flying, if you hold a bank at the standard rate you always need 60 seconds to make a  $180^\circ$  turn in the Cessna 172P (or any other aircraft).

So, by banking the airplane to the left or to the right, you make it turn to the left or to the right. Keeping the airplane level, in relation to the horizon, establishes you into a straight and level flight path.

The little ball, at the bottom of the turn indicator, shows the sideways forces acting upon the aircraft. In real life you would feel these forces as you turn. However, it is not possible to simulate these, so you must simply keep an “eye on the ball”. Think of the ball as representing the position of the tail of the airplane. If you turn neatly (a.k.a. a coordinated turn), the ball will remain centered. If the ball is pushed, say rightwards, this means that you the pilot too are pushed rightwards. During a coordinated turn, even a strong turn, the plane occupants do not endure a sideways force. They are only pushed a little harder into their seats by the centrifugal force. To maintain coordination, simply “step on the ball”. When you see the ball deflected toward the right, push on the right pedal to return the ball to the center. Likewise, the left pedal will return the ball to the center when deflected to the left.

By experimenting you will notice you can make much steeper turns by banking the airplane to high angles and pulling back on the yoke. Turns at over 60° bank angle are the realm of aerobatics and military flying, and dangerous to aircraft such as the Cessna.

## 8.5 Tourner au sol

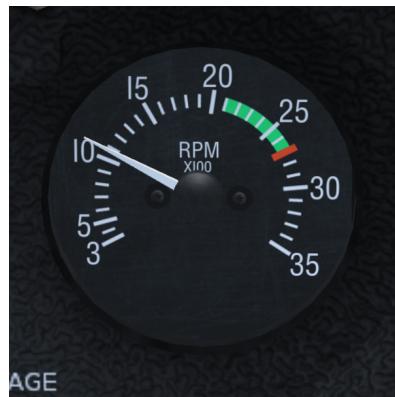


FIGURE 8.17 – Tachymètre ou compte-tours

While FlightGear is able to start you off conveniently lined up on the runway, you may be wondering how to get your aircraft from its hangar, along the taxiways, to the runway. This is taxiing.

Figure 8.17 shows the tachometer instrument. It displays how fast the engine is turning in hundreds of *Revolutions Per Minute* (RPM).

Tap the **PageUp** key a few times, until the tachometer is showing 1,000 RPM (as shown above). If required tap the **PageDown** key to decrease the engine speed.

At roughly 1,000 RPM, the airplane will move forward on the runway, but it will not accelerate and take off.

Tap the “.” key (**Shift**-; on Azerty keyboards). The airplane will make a sharp turn to the right. If you keep the “.” key down the airplane will halt. When you tap the “.” key, you are activating the brake on the right wheel of the airplane.

To activate the brake on the left wheel, use the “,” key.

The “,” and “.” keys simulate two brake pedals located at your feet on a real airplane. Using the throttle and the brake pedals you can control the speed of the aircraft and cause it to turn on the ground.

The brakes can be very useful when taxiing slowly on the ramp and taxiways. You can also steer the nose-wheel of the aircraft. In a real airplane this is done by pushing the rudder pedals with your feet. You push with your feet on the side you want to turn toward. If you don't have real rudder pedals, there are two ways to control the virtual rudder pedals:

- Using the keypad **0** and **Enter** keys. If you type the keypad **Enter** key say seven times, you will see the airplane firmly turns to the right and stays turning that way. Type the keypad **0** key seven times to get the airplane back rolling (almost) straight.
- Using the mouse. While the mouse is in yoke control mode (+ pointer), if you hold the left mouse button down, the mouse controls the rudder pedals instead of the yoke. The rudder pedals are connected to both the rudder and nose-wheel. This method is much more precise.

Start the simulator, Type **v** or **V** to view the airplane from the outside and keep **x** down a couple of seconds to zoom in on the airplane. Look at the front wheel and keep keypad **0** down. Then keep keypad **Enter** down. See the front wheel turn. Press **Tab** to get in yoke control mode (+ pointer). Keep the left mouse button down to get in rudder control mode and move the mouse to the left and to the right. Note that the rudder, that big vertical control surface at the rear of the plane, moves together with the front wheel.

I tend to control the rudder pedals using the mouse while the front wheel is on the ground and use the keypad **0** and **Enter** keys once it has lifted off. In other words: I keep the left mouse button down while the front wheel is on the ground. This allows for a precise and easy rudder control on the ground. Then I simply release the left mouse button once the front wheel lifts off the surface.

### 8.5.1 Vitesse par rapport à l'air



FIGURE 8.18 – Anémomètre ou badin

Just like driving a car, it is good to know how fast you are traveling. The aviation equivalent of a speedometer is the *Air Speed Indicator* (ASI), calibrated to nautical miles per hour (knots).



One nautical mile is the distance covered by 1 arc minute of latitude (1852 meters.)  
One knot is equivalent to the speed required to travel one nautical mile per hour.  
(60 knots = 60 nm/hour)

A knot is 1,852 km/h. So, if you want to have a rough idea of your speed in flight expressed in km/h, multiply the knots displayed by 2. A knot is 1.15115 miles per hour, so very roughly, 1 knot is 1 mph. Note that some aircraft ASIs (in particular the Piper J3 Cub) display mph instead of knots.

The airspeed indicator displays the speed of the aircraft compared to the surrounding air, not the speed compared to the ground like a car speedometer does. If the plane is halted on the ground and there is a 10 kt wind blowing from straight ahead, the airspeed indicator will display 10 knots airspeed, although the plane will not be moving relative to the ground.

When the airplane rolls over the runway at more than 40 knots, you must prevent the front wheel from touching the ground. The nosewheel is not designed for high speeds and in real life would shimmy and wear out.

During take off, once over 40 knots you can make the front wheel leave the ground by pulling back gently on the control yoke. Don't turn sharply at high speed on the ground. Doing so may cause the aircraft to tip over.

Figure 8.19 shows the front wheel slightly lifted. Don't overdo this. Keep the airplane's white nose cover well below the horizon. You just need to lift the plane's nose very slightly.



FIGURE 8.19 – La roue avant légèrement au-dessus du sol

Question: if the front wheel no longer touches the runway, how do you steer the airplane?  
Answer: still using the rudder pedals. As mentioned above, the rudder pedals are linked to both the nose-wheel and the tail rudder, that big vertical moving part at the tail of the plane shown in figure 8.20. At airspeeds above 40 knots, the rudder has enough airflow over it to steer the airplane.

Note the front wheel and the tail rudder don't make the airplane turn at exactly the same



FIGURE 8.20 – Empennage et gouverne de direction

rate. So when the rudder takes over the front wheel, you must adapt the rudder pedals angle. That means fast typing keypad **0** and keypad **Enter** (or hold the left mouse button down and tightly control the rudder with the mouse.)

Once you've become familiar with the nose-wheel and rudder, you can use these new controls to keep the airplane straight on the runway during take-off.

Say the airplane is heading too much to the right. You type keypad **0** a few times to make it turn back to the left. Do not wait till the aircraft has straightened up completely. Type keypad **Enter** before the aircraft reaches the direction you wish to travel. Otherwise you will find that you will over-correct and have to turn back again. If you use the mouse, such corrections are much easier and more precise.

To summarise: two methods exist to steer the airplane on the ground: the differential brakes on the main wheels and the rudder pedals. This control redundancy is very common in aviation. If one method fails, you still have another method available to perform the task.

You may be wondering why the aircraft drifts to the left when it rolls on the ground, forcing you to compensate with a little push on the right rudder pedal? The main reason is engine torque. As the propeller rotates clockwise, an opposite force is rolling the aircraft counter-clockwise. This transfers a force onto the left main gear and tire. This force results in a slight increase in drag and a slightly smaller tire radius. A secondary reason is the flow of air produced by the propeller. It blows along the airplane body, but also corkscrews around the airplane fuselage. The upper part of that slight vortex pushes the vertical tail to the right. This causes the front of the aircraft to yaw a bit to the left.

You can center all yoke and rudder controls by typing **5** on the keypad. This is a good preflight precaution. Sometimes it can "save your life" in flight if you find yourself with controls all over the place!

## 8.6 Virages avancés

As with turning on the ground, there are two methods of turning in the air. You can use the wing ailerons (steered by the yoke/mouse) as described above or you can use the tail rudder

(steered by the rudder pedals/the keypad keys **0** and **Enter**).

Why two ways? Partially for redundancy, but mainly because they are complementary. The main effect of the rudder is yaw (rotation around the vertical axis), while the main effect of the ailerons is roll (rotation around the longitudinal axis.)

- When flying close to the ground, it is better not to bank the airplane in order to turn. The rudder is used more instead. Acting on the rudder pedals allows you to turn the airplane without excessive banking.
- When the plane is just above the runway, the two side wheels need to be at the same height above the runway for landing. That means the wings must be level with the horizon. The plane is not allowed to bank. You keep the plane wings level with the horizon by using the yoke/mouse/ailerons. Note this does not need to be perfect. A bank of a few degrees is harmless.
- In flight, especially at high speed, the rudder is an in-efficient way to turn the aircraft:
  - It causes the airplane to present its flank to the airstream, increasing drag.
  - The airplane turns very slowly.
  - You will lack control while turning.
  - At high flight speed the centrifugal force will be disturbing or even dangerous.
- Using the yoke/mouse/ailerons allows for efficient, fast, reliable and comfortable turns.
- The rudder can be vital when the wings are stalled. Indeed, during a stall the wing ailerons become less effective or even useless. (Note that some airplanes can go in a very dangerous stall if you overdo the rudder control at low speed.)

When you turn in flight, using the ailerons, you still need the rudder a little bit. You add a little bit of rudder. This allows you to compensate for the adverse yaw created when you roll using the ailerons. In a real aircraft, you can feel this sideways motion. In the simulator, you can check this visually on the turn coordinator. In figure 8.21, the little ball is pushed rightwards during a strong turn to the left using the ailerons. That means you the pilot endure a rightwards force too. You can compensate this by pushing the right rudder pedal (type the keypad **Enter** key a few times.) In normal flight, you should use the rudder to keep the little ball centered.



FIGURE 8.21 – Indicateur de virage

So, in normal flight use the ailerons to turn, while close to the ground at low speed use the rudder. However, one method never completely cancels out the other. You still need the rudder at high altitudes and speeds. Reciprocally you have to use the ailerons a little bit when close to the ground, to keep the wings level with the horizon.

Even when taxiing, you should use the ailerons. Otherwise, strong winds can blow the aircraft onto its side. To counteract this, your should turn the ailerons into the wind. This

raises the aileron in the wind, helping to keep the wing down.

You should avoid making quick and aggressive movements of the rudder. On the ground at high speed this can make the airplane turn too sharply. In flight at low speed it can cause a very dangerous type of stall. In flight at high speed it can cause all kinds of aerodynamic and physical discomfort. Instead, make gentle movements of the rudder.

I recommend you practise turning with the rudder in flight. Fly at a low speed of about 70 knots. Try to keep the altitude stable by increasing and decreasing the engine power. Use the rudder to turn towards a ground feature and maintain a heading, then turn the aircraft towards a new heading. See how the plane yaws. Learn to anticipate rudder control. Don't try to make steep turns. Use the yoke/ailerons to keep the wings level constantly.

## 8.7 Un peu de « wieheisterologie »

Wieheisterology comes from the German phrase “Wie heißt Er” – “What's that name”. This section is about gauges, switches and controls of the aircraft. While in the simulator you can take off and land a basic airplane with just the engine throttle and the yoke, but you will need all the controls to perform securely and efficiently.

### 8.7.1 Contrôle moteur

An airplane engine is designed for simplicity, reliability and efficiency. Rather than use advanced electronic ignition and fuel injection systems found in modern cars, they instead use older technology that doesn't rely on electrical power. That way, the plane can still fly even if it suffers complete electrical failure.

#### Magnéto

On the bottom left, below the instrument panel, you will find the magneto switch and engine starter (see figure 8.22).



FIGURE 8.22 – Magnétos d'allumage

To better view the magneto switch, click the place where the yoke column enters the cockpit to hide the yoke. You can also press **x** key several times to zoom out (**x** or **ctrl-x** to zoom back in.)

You can move the switch with the { and } keys (use the **A1t Gr** key on Azerty keyboards).

You are probably aware that the fuel inside a car engine is ignited by electric sparks. Modern car engines use electronic ignition. An airplane engine uses a more old-fashioned (but more reliable) magneto ignition instead. For redundancy, it contains two such magnetos: the “left” one and the “right” one. When you change the magneto switch to OFF, both magnetos are switched off and the engine will not run. With the magneto switch on L you are using the left magneto. On R you are using the right magneto. On BOTH you use both. In flight you will use BOTH.

Given that you use both magnetos in flight, why have the switch? The reason is that during your preflight checks you will verify that each of the magnetos is working correctly. To do this, increase the RPM to about 1500 then switch the magneto switch to L and observe the tachometer. You should observe a slight drop in RPM. If the engine cuts out, the left magneto is broken. If you do not see an RPM drop, then the switch may be faulty, as both magnetos are still switched on. You can then perform the same test on the right magneto. Of course, in the simulator, the magnetos are unlikely to fail!

Should one of the two magnetos fail in flight, the other one will keep the engine running. The failure of one magneto is rare, the failure of both simultaneously is almost unheard of.

You may have typed { to shut the engine down. To start the engine again after doing so, type } three times in order to put the magneto switch on BOTH. Then use the starter motor by pressing the **s** for a few seconds, till the engine is started.

You can also turn the magneto switch with the mouse by simply clicking the left and middle mouse button. Click and hold near “START” to start the engine.

If you turn the switch to OFF, the engine noise stops. If you quickly turn the switch back to L, the engine starts again as the propeller is still turning. If you wait for the propeller to stop, placing the switch on L, R or BOTH won’t start the engine. (Once the engine is halted, always place the magneto switch to OFF.)

## Manette des gaz



FIGURE 8.23 – Manette des gaz et manette de richesse

You already know that you increase the engine power by pushing that throttle rod in (**PageUp** key). You decrease the power by pulling the control out (**PageDown** key). You can also use the mouse wheel while its cursor is on the throttle, or you can hold down the left mouse button and drag the mouse.

What does “increase the power” actually mean? Does it mean you increase the amount of fuel delivered to the engine? Yes, but this is not enough to fully understand what you are doing. You need to be aware that the engine is also fed with a huge amount of air. The engine cylinders burn a mixture of fuel and air. Fuel alone wouldn’t burn. Only a mixture of fuel and air can detonate and move the engine pistons. So when you push the throttle in, you increase both the fuel and the air fed to the engine.

## Mélange

The amount of air compared to the amount of fuel is critical. The proportion of the two has to be tuned closely. This is the purpose of the mixture lever. Figure 8.23 displays the mixture lever (in red color).

When the mixture lever is fully pushed in, you feed the engine with lots of fuel and little air. This is known as a “rich” mixture. When the lever is pulled out completely, there is an excess of air, known as a “lean” mixture. The correct position to produce maximum power is in between these two extremes, usually quite close to fully pushed in.

When you start the engine and when you take off, you need a fuel-rich mixture. That means the mixture lever should be pushed in (**m** key). A fuel-rich mixture allows the engine to start easily. It also makes the engine a little more reliable. The drawback is that a part of the fuel is not burned inside the engine. It is simply wasted and pushed out the exhaust. This makes the engine more polluting, it decreases the energy the engine can deliver and it slowly degrades the engine by causing deposits of residues inside the cylinders.

Once in normal flight, you have to pull the mixture lever a little, to get a more optimal mixture. Check this out by doing the following. Start the simulator. Put the parking brakes on with key **B**. Push the throttle in to its maximum. The engine RPM should now be close to the maximum. Slowly pull on the mixture lever (using the mouse in normal pointer mode or **M** key.) You will see the RPM increases a little. You get more power, without increasing the fuel intake. You waste no fuel and it pollutes less. If you continue to pull the mixture lever, the RPM will decrease back away, because now there is too much air. The excess of air slows the explosions down inside the cylinders and decreases the explosion temperature, hence the thermodynamic yield decreases. You have to tune in the optimal mixture. For thermodynamic reasons, the best mixture isn’t exactly at maximum power – it is better for the engine to be running very slight richer or leaner than maximum power. This also avoids the possibility of the fuel detonating explosively damaging the engine. You can find the maximum power point by the fact you get the highest RPM. (Another method is to check the engine exhaust temperature. Roughly, this is the point at which you get the highest temperature.)

The mixture control allows you to burn less fuel for the same speed and distance, and therefore fly farther and pollute less. However, if you mis-manage it, it can cause serious problems. Suppose you go flying at high altitude and pull out the mixture lever accordingly. At high altitude there is less oxygen available so the correct mixture will be quite lean – i.e. with little fuel being used. Then you descend back in order to land. If you forget to push the mixture lever in as you descend, the fuel/air mixture will become far too lean and the engine will simply halt.

When landing, you have to tune back in a mixture that is a little too rich in fuel. This means pushing the mixture lever in. That way the engine becomes a little more reliable and will be

better adapted to a decrease in altitude.

I wrote above that placing the magneto on OFF is not the right way to stop the engine. The right method is to pull the mixture lever. First pull the throttle out completely, to get the engine to minimum power and fuel consumption. Then pull the mixture lever, till the engine stops because the mixture contains too much air. This ensures the engine doesn't get choked by waste fuel residues. Finally, turn the magneto switch to OFF to ensure the engine won't start again accidentally.

An important warning: you may think the RPM indicator reflects the engine power. Wrong. Two things make the RPM increase: the engine power and the airplane speed. To check this, fly to a given altitude then pull the engine power to minimum. Try out diving to the ground then rising back to altitude. You will see the RPM varies significantly as does your airspeed. It rises while diving and decreases while climbing.

One pitfall of this is when you intend to tune the engine power in for landing. Suppose you're descending towards the airport, flying fast. You know the ideal RPM for landing is around 1,900 RPM. So you pull the throttle till you get 1,900 RPM. You think you tuned in the appropriate RPM. You think you shouldn't bother any more about it. But when you level off, the plane's speed starts to decrease, along with the RPM. A few minutes later, you get the low flight speed you wanted. You don't see the RPM is now far too slow. You will either lose altitude or stall. Or both. Be cautious with the throttle and with the RPM indicator. Either pull on the throttle more steadily or be mentally prepared to push it back in quickly.

### 8.7.2 Ailes et vitesse

Say you are flying with full engine power. Dropping the nose a little makes you lose altitude and raising the nose a little makes you gain altitude. You may think this is quite straightforward. The plane travels in the direction it is heading; the direction the propeller is heading. This is not the best way to think about it. This model would be fine for a rocket, but not for an airplane. A rocket is lifted by its engine, while a plane is lifted by its wings. That's a huge difference.

Get a big rigid square of cardboard, hold it horizontally in your hand with your arm stretched out and make it do fast horizontal movements while rotating your torso. When the cardboard moves flat through the air, it experiences no lift force. If you twist your arm slightly to give the cardboard a slight upward angle, you will feel it tends to lift in the air. There is an upward force acting on the cardboard. That's the way a wing holds a plane in the air. The wings have a slight upward angle and lift the airplane. The more angle you give the cardboard, the more lift force. (Till you give it too steep an angle. Then you will rather feel a brake force. The cardboard is "stalling" (see below).)

- When you pull the yoke, the airplane's nose rises up. Hence the wings travel through the air at a steeper angle. Hence the lift force on the wings is stronger. Hence the plane rises in the air.
- When you push the yoke, the airplane's nose dives. Hence the wings travel through the air with less angle. Hence the lift force on the wings decreases. Hence the plane descends.

What matters is the angle the wings travel through the air. This is the angle of attack.

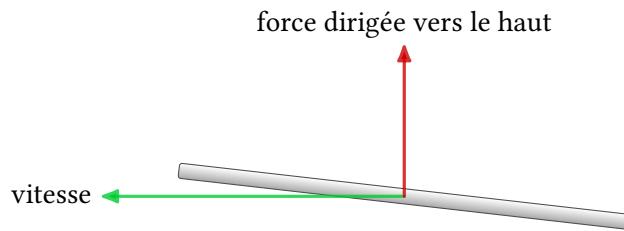


FIGURE 8.24 – La portance

I wrote above that when the wings travel through the air with no angle of attack, they don't produce lift. This is false. It would be true if the wings were a flat plate like the cardboard. But they aren't. The wings are a slightly curved airfoil. This makes them create lift even when traveling through the air at no angle of attack. Actually, even with a little negative angle of attack, they still create a lift force. At high speed, the airplane flies with the wings slightly angled towards the ground!



FIGURE 8.25 – Profil aérodynamique

The angle at which the wings travel through the air matters. Something else matters too: the speed. Take the cardboard again in your hand. Hold it with a given slight angle and don't change that angle. Move it at different speeds through the air. The faster you move the cardboard, the more upward force it experiences.

- When you increase the engine power, the plane increases speed, the lift force on the wings increases and the plane gains altitude.
- When you decrease the engine power, the plane decreases speed, the lift force on the wings decreases and the plane loses altitude.

To make things a little more complicated: when rising in the air, the airplane tends to lose speed. When descending, it tends to gain speed.

That's all a matter of compromises. If you want to fly at a constant altitude and at a given speed, you will have to tune both the engine power and the yoke/elevator (or better: the trim—see section 8.7.5), till you get what you want. If you want to descend yet keep the same speed, you have to push the yoke a little and decrease the engine power. And so on. You constantly have to tune both the engine power and the yoke. However, during a normal flight you can simplify this by simply choosing a comfortable engine power level then relying on the yoke and trim for altitude.

A very interesting exercise you can perform with the simulator is to fly straight with full engine power. Get maximum speed while keeping in horizontal flight. Then decrease the engine power to minimum. Pull steadily on the yoke to keep the plane at constant altitude. The plane slows down steadily, meanwhile you have pull more and more on the yoke to stay level. Since the speed decreases the lift from the wing will decrease, but you compensate the loss of speed

by increasing the wing angle of attack. This proves the plane does not necessarily travel in the direction its nose is heading. In this experiment we make the nose rise in order to stay at constant altitude. Once the plane is flying very slowly, and the nose is very high, you may hear a siren yell. That's the stall warning (see below.) This indicates that the angle of attack is too high for the airfoil to produce lift. The wings are no longer producing lift and the plane quickly loses altitude. The only way to correct this is push the yoke forwards to reduce the angle of attack, making the nose drop, then apply full power to gain speed and finally bring the yoke carefully back to level flight.

Question: is it better to control the airplane's speed and altitude with the yoke or with the throttle? Answer: it depends on what exactly you intent to do and on the situation you are in. In normal flight, as said above, you tend to set a comfortable engine power level, forget about it and rely on the yoke and trim. During take off and landing the procedures are quite strict about the use of yoke and throttle. You do the opposite: control the speed with the yoke and trim, control the altitude and descent speed with the engine throttle. This will be discussed further below.

### 8.7.3 Les volets

The flaps are situated at the rear of the wings, either side of the aircraft fuselage. You deploy the flaps and retract them back in by using the flaps control lever (see figure 8.26).



FIGURE 8.26 – Les volets et leur levier

You can either click on it with the mouse or use the [ and ] keys. Key [ to retract the flaps one step, ] to deploy them one step at a time. Type v to view the plane from the outside and try out [ and ]. (On the schematic instrument panel, the flaps lever is located at the lower right.)

In the Cessna 172P, there are four flaps settings:

- 0° – for normal flight and normal take off.
- 10° – for short field take off, when you want to gain altitude while flying slowly. Or during the first stage of an approach to land.
- 20° – to slow the aircraft and lose altitude quickly, for example when descending towards the runway to land.
- 30° – to lose altitude even more quickly.

The flaps are somewhat delicate. Do not deploy the first step of flaps above 110 knots. Do not deploy the second or third stage of flaps above 85 knots.

The flaps create large amounts of drag on the aircraft and brake the plane at high speed. This is one more reason not to forget to pull the flaps back in once you fly above 85 or 110 knots.

To check the flaps position visually, either use the mouse view mode to look at the back of the wing, or type **Shift**-→ to shift the view to the right and then quickly **Shift**-↑ to get back to front view.

Flaps increase wing lift by altering the shape of the airfoil. The wing lifts more at a given speed with the first stage of flaps set. Hence you will get in the air a little sooner during take off. It also has the effect to make the plane fly with a lower nose attitude. This is useful as it provides a better view of the runway when taking off or landing.

The flaps also increase drag on the aircraft. The second and third stage of flaps produce much more drag than lift, so they are used to brake the plane. This is particularly useful when landing, because the airplane glides very well. If you cut down the engine power completely, the plane will descend, yet but too slowly. You need to deploy two or three flaps steps in order to brake and really descend towards the ground.

The fact that the flaps brake during landing makes you need more engine power during the landing. This can seem odd. Why not simply throttle the engine down to minimum and use less flaps steps? The answer is that it is better to have a strongly braking plane and lots of engine power, as the plane reacts faster to your commands. Should the engine fail, then just retract flaps as needed and glide to the runway.

What can you do if you have full flaps extended and need to increase your rate of descent further? Slowly push the rudder pedals on one side. This will make the plane present its flank to the air stream and brake. Compensate the turning by using the ailerons (yoke). This is known as side-slipping, and is a very effective way to lose height progressively as it is easy to stop at any point.

#### 8.7.4 Décrochage

An aircraft relies on the smooth flow of air over the surface of the wing to produce lift. However, if the wing is at too high an angle of attack, this flow is broken, and the wing no-longer produces lift. With no lift, the aircraft cannot fly, and quickly drops back to earth. This is known as a stall.

A stall is an emergency situation. While it can happen at any speed, it commonly occurs in slow flight. A given aircraft has a specific stall speed, at which no angle of attack can produce enough lift. You should always keep your aircraft well above the stall speed. To help, aircraft are equipped with stall sirens that sound when the angle of attack is approached.

If you encounter a stall, the remedial action is to immediately drop the nose, and apply full power, bringing the nose level when flying speed has been attained again. However, doing so will cause the aircraft to lose altitude, which you may not have to spare when landing or taking off!

A spin occurs when one wing stalls before the other, which can occur in a steep turn at low speed. As one wing is still flying, the aircraft turns around the stalled wing, spinning tighter and tighter. To get out of a spin, you need to apply rudder to straighten out the spin into a normal stall, then recover as above.

Aircraft like the Cessna 172 and Piper Cub, have benign stalls, and are unlikely to enter a spin. High performance jets, such as the F16 have much more aggressive stalls, and can easily enter a spin.

To practise this in the simulator, do the following:

- Fly at constant altitude and attitude.
- Reduce engine power, raising the nose to avoid entering a descent.
- Continue to reduce power until the stall begins.
- Try to control the plane while it stalls and descends to the ground.
- Keep the yoke pulled to the maximum and the plane in a steady attitude, the wings parallel with the horizon. Try to change direction.
- Recover by lowering the nose, applying full power, and correcting the attitude once flying speed has been regained.

You can also experiment with stalls with different flap settings, and high speed stalls by making abrupt attitude changes.

Experiment with different aircraft. Compared with the Cessna 172 the Cessna Citation jet, stalls much more aggressively and with little warning.

### 8.7.5 Le compensateur de profondeur

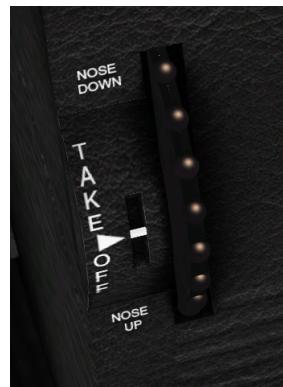


FIGURE 8.27 – Contrôle du compensateur de profondeur

The trim is the dark big vertical wheel with gray dots located at the middle below the instrument panel (see figure 8.27).

In FlightGear, the keys **Home** and **End** adjust the trim. **Home** rolls the wheel upwards while the **End** rolls the wheel downwards. You can also left-click the trimmer wheel to rotate it up, or middle-click to rotate it down.

In first approximation, the trim does the same as the yoke: it acts on the elevator. Turning the trim wheel downwards is the same as pulling on the yoke. Yet there is a key difference between the trim and the yoke. The trim remains in position after you make a change, while the yoke only continues to affect the elevator while you apply pressure and returns the elevator to neutral when you release it.

During cruise flight, the required elevator position to keep the aircraft at constant altitude will not be completely neutral – it will vary depending on the air outside the aircraft, the current fuel level, and the payload. Obviously, holding the yoke continually to retain a constant attitude would quickly become tiring. By using the trim to “trim out” the elevator force required for cruise flight, the yoke can be kept neutral.

During take off the trim should be neutral. Otherwise you may find that it either refuses to take-off with the normal level of yoke control, or takes off too quickly.

During landing, try to get the yoke/mouse/elevator towards neutral position by tuning the trim. This makes making small adjustments to your attitude and position easier. On the Cessna 172p this means trim on neutral. On the Cherokee Warrior II this means the trim a little “pulled”.

The trim wheel movement is much slower than the yoke, allowing for delicate changes in trim. Be patient.

### 8.7.6 What direction am I flying?

Knowing the direction you are going is obviously a good idea. There are three basic ways to determine the direction you are flying:

- Look through the windows. If you are flying regularly from the same airport, you will learn to recognize the ground features such as roads, hills, bridges, cities, forests. In a simulator, you only have a narrow view of the virtual outside world. Several ways exist to allow you to pan your virtual head inside the airplane:
  - Use **Shift** and the four arrow keys to look to the front, rear, left and right.
  - Use **Shift** and the keypad keys to look in the four directions mentioned above and in four diagonal directions in-between.
  - Hold down the right mouse button in normal or yoke mode and move the mouse to change the view direction.
  - Use the mouse in view mode (**Tab**,  $\leftrightarrow$ ). This allows you to look in every direction, including up and down. Click the left mouse button to bring the view back to straight ahead.
- The magnetic compass. This is located above the instrument panel. The compass is simple, but is affected by the acceleration of the aircraft, and magnetic abnormalities on the ground. Also, the compass points towards magnetic north rather than true north. This deviation varies depending on your location.
- The directional gyro or “heading indicator” (see figure 8.28). The gyro is powered by a vacuum system. The gyro is set to match the magnetic compass, and is not affected by magnetic issues, or aircraft movement. However, due to gyroscopic precession and friction in the instrument, over time it drifts and must be reset by reference to the magnetic compass on occasion. To reset the HI, during cruise flight, use the black knob on the bottom left of the instrument (normal mouse pointer mode, use the mouse wheel, in addition, you can hold **Shift** key to move faster, **Ctrl-c** to highlight clickable areas.) Remember to adjust the gyro heading indicator only when flying straight, at a constant speed. Then you will be sure that the magnetic compass will not have any distortions. (The red knob, bottom right, is used to tell the autopilot what direction you wish to fly (**HDG** = “heading”).)



FIGURE 8.28 – Compas magnétique et gyro directionnel (également appelé « gyro compas », « plateau de route » ou « conservateur de cap »)

### 8.7.7 Le tableau de bord

Finally, let's have a look at the instrument panel, combining the instruments described above with some new ones.

#### Les six instruments de base



FIGURE 8.29 – L'horizon artificiel

Let us start with the most important instruments any simulator pilot must know, these are known as the “holy six” or the “six-pack”. In the center of the instrument panel (fig. 5.1), in the upper row, you will find the artificial horizon (attitude indicator) displaying pitch and bank of your plane. It has pitch marks as well as bank marks at 10, 20, 30, 60, and 90 degrees (see figure 8.29).

Left of the artificial horizon, you'll see the airspeed indicator shown in figure 8.18. Not only does it provide a speed indication in knots but also several arcs showing characteristic velocity ranges you have to consider. At first, there is a green arc indicating the normal operating range of speed with the flaps fully retracted. The white arc indicates the range of speed with flaps in action. The yellow arc shows a range which should only be used in smooth air. The upper end of it has a red radial indicating the speed you must never exceed, unless you want to break up the plane in mid-flights...

Below the airspeed indicator, you can find the turn indicator (cf. figure 8.16). The airplane in the middle indicates the roll of your plane. If the left or right wing of the plane is aligned with one of the marks, this would indicate a standard turn, i.e. a turn of 360 degrees in exactly two minutes.

Below the plane, still in the turn indicator, is the inclinometer. It indicates whether the rudder and ailerons are co-ordinated. During turns, you always have to operate aileron and rudder in such a way that the ball in the tube remains centered; otherwise the plane is skidding. A simple rule says: "Step on the ball", i.e. step onto the left rudder pedal when the ball is on the left-hand side.

If you don't have pedals or lack the experience to handle the proper ratio between aileron and rudder automatically, you can start FlightGear with the option:

```
--enable-auto-coordination
```

To the right-hand side of the artificial horizon, you will find the altimeter showing the height above sea level (not ground!) in hundreds of feet (cf. figure 8.15). Below the altimeter is the VSI (*Vertical Speed Indicator*) (see figure 8.30) indicating the rate of climbing or sinking of your plane in hundreds of feet per minute. While you may find it more convenient to use than the altimeter in certain cases, keep in mind that its display usually has a certain time-lag.



FIGURE 8.30 – Le variomètre

Below the turn coordinator is the propeller tachometer, or RPM (*Revolutions Per Minute*) indicator, which displays the rotations per minute in hundreds (cf. figure 8.17). The green arc marks the optimum region for cruise flight.

The group of the main instruments further includes the gyro compass being situated below the artificial horizon. Besides this one, there is a magnetic compass sitting on top of the panel;

both are shown in figure 8.28.

Four of these gauges being arranged in the from of a “T” are of special importance: The air speed indicator, the artificial horizon, the altimeter, and the compass should be scanned regularly during flight.

### Instruments supplémentaires

Beside the six-pack, there are several supplementary instruments. To the very left you will find the clock, obviously being an important tool for instance for determining turn rates. Below the clock there are several smaller gauges displaying the technical state of your engine. Certainly the most important of them is the fuel indicator – as any pilot should know.

The ignition switch is situated in the lower left corner of the panel (cf. Fig. 8.22). It has five positions: “OFF”, “L”, “R”, “BOTH”, and “START”. The first one is obvious. “L” and “R” do not refer to two engines (as the Cessna 172 only has one) but the two magnetos, providing redundancy in the case of a failure. The two switch positions can be used for test purposes during preflight. During normal flight the switch should point on “BOTH”. The extreme right position is for starting the engine using a battery-powered starter (operated with the **s** key).

The handle below the yoke is the parking brake. In the vertical position, the parking brake is ON. The parking brake is operated with the **B** key.

### La radio

The right hand side of the panel is occupied by the radio stack. Here you find two VOR receivers (NAV), an NDB receiver (ADF) and two communication radios (COMM1/2) as well as the *AutoPilot* (AP).

The communication radio is used for communication with air traffic facilities; it is just a usual radio transceiver working in a special frequency range. The frequency is displayed in the LEDs. Usually there are two COM transceivers; this way you can dial in the frequency of the next controller to contact while still being in contact with the previous one.

The COM radio can be used to listen to the current weather conditions at an airport, known as ATIS. To do this, simply dial in the ATIS frequency of the relevant airport. You can find this by selecting *AI → ATC Services in Range* from the menu, and selecting the 4-letter ICAO (*International Civil Aviation Organization*) code of a nearby airport.

Each COM radio has two frequencies configured – an “active” frequency which the pilot is transmitting and receiving on, and a “standby” frequency which may be changed. In this way, you can continue to listen on one frequency while tuning another one.

You can change the radio frequency using the mouse. For this purpose, click left/right to the circular knob below the corresponding number. The corresponding switch left to this knob can be used for toggling between the active/standby frequency.

Use of the autopilot and radio navigation equipment is covered in later tutorials. For the moment you can ignore these radio instruments as long as you are strictly flying according to VFR (*Visual Flight Rules*).

## 8.8 Volons !

By now you will be able to keep on runway while taking off by using the rudder and you're able to fly straight, descend, climb and make gentle turns. This section will describe a slightly more realistic approach to taking off and landing, and introduce some of the more subtle concepts you should be aware of.

### 8.8.1 Un décollage réaliste

The following general rules apply during a normal take-off:

- The nose-wheel should be lifted from the runway at approximately 40 knots.
- Immediately after take-off, you should accelerate to 70 knots, to stay well above stall speed, in case of a gust of wind, or engine failure.
- Don't fly much above 75 knots to ensure you gain height as quickly as possible.
- Follow the runway heading until at 500 ft. This way, if you suffer an engine failure, you can easily land back on the runway you left.
- Don't over-fly buildings until at least 1000 ft.
- Close to the ground, turns should be gentle and well coordinated using the rudder.

So, you need to take off and rise in the air at a steady speed of around 75 knots. However, when you raise the nose slightly at 40 knots, the aircraft will probably take-off at around 55 knots. To accelerate quickly to 75 knots, lower the nose slightly immediately on take-off, then raise it once 75 knots has been achieved. You are using the yoke to control the speed of the aircraft.

Putting this all together with what you have learned previously, a normal take-off using the mouse will consist of the following:

1. Adjust the altimeter to the correct altitude, based on the airport altitude. For reference, KSFO is at sea level – 0 ft.
2. Check aileron and elevator are neutral by observing the yoke position.
3. Change the mouse to control mode by pressing **Tab**.
4. Hold the left mouse button down to control the rudder.
5. Apply full power (hold **PgUp** until the throttle is fully in.)
6. As the aircraft accelerates down the runway, keep it in the center by making small adjustments using the mouse.
7. As 40 kts is reached, release the left mouse button, and pull back slightly to raise the nose-wheel. You are now controlling the yoke with the mouse.
8. The aircraft will fly off the runway at approximately 55 knots.
9. Lower the nose slightly to accelerate to 70 knots.
10. Keep alignment with the runway.
11. Use the yoke to keep the **ASI** at 70 knots as you climb. If the airspeed is dropping, lower the nose. If the airspeed is increasing, raise the nose slightly.
12. Once you reach 500 ft, turn to your required heading, staying away from buildings until you are over 1000 ft.

### 8.8.2 Atterrissage

The rules for landing are almost identical to that of take-off, but in reverse order:

- Close to the ground, turns should be gentle and well coordinated using the rudder.
- Stay above 500 ft until on final approach to the runway.
- Approach the runway at approximately 70 knots.
- Touch down on the two main wheels at 55 kts.
- Let the nosewheel touch down at 40 kts.

Landings are much easier if you have an aiming point picked out on the runway. By observing the aiming point, you can easily tell if you are descending too fast or too slowly. If the aiming point appears to move upwards, you are descending too fast.

Obviously, you need to be lined up with the runway. That means your flight direction has to match the middle line of the runway (see figure 8.31 (a)). In order to arrive at this, don't aim at the start of the runway (b). Rather aim at a fictitious point well in front of the runway (c). And begin to turn gently towards the runway well before you reach that fictitious point (d). Note the turns and bankings you make for these flight corrections are often very soft. You wouldn't even notice them on the turn coordinator. This is one example where you better rely on the outside horizon line than on the inside flight instruments.

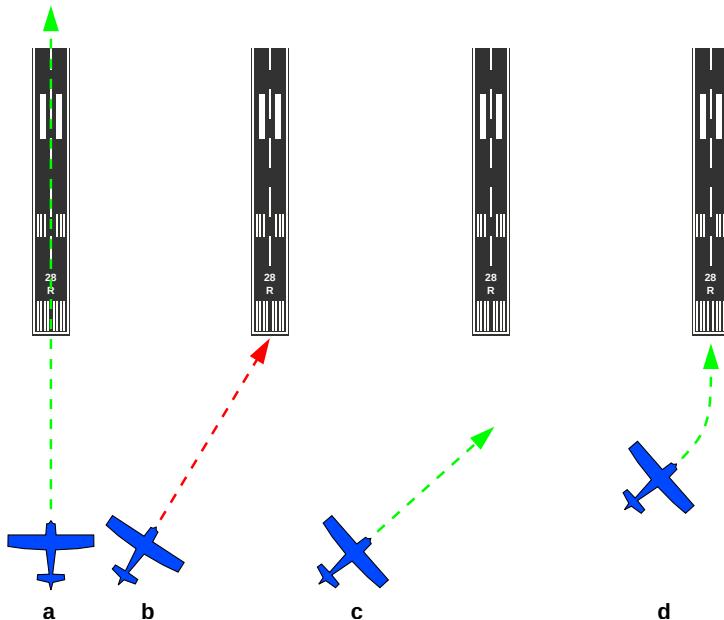


FIGURE 8.31 – Alignement avec la piste

A straight in landing using the mouse would consist of the following:

1. 1500 ft above the airport, and a couple of miles out, an in-line with the runway, reduce power to approximately 1500 RPM. This will slow you down somewhat and start a gradual descent.
2. Once below 115 knots, apply one step of flaps (J). This will increase lift, but also slow

you down.

3. Re-trim the aircraft so you continue to descend.
4. At around 1000 ft, apply another step of flaps (]) This increase drag significantly, but also improve the view over the nose.
5. Tune the speed using the elevator and trim: push the yoke if you are flying below 70 kt, pull the yoke if you are flying above 70 knots. If using a joystick, use the trim to relieve any pressure on the elevator.
6. Tune the altitude using the engine throttle. Add power if you are descending too fast, reduce power if you are too high. It is much easier to work out if you are too high or too low by observing the numbers on the runway. If they are moving up the screen, you are descending too fast – increase power. If they are moving down, you are too high and need to reduce power.
7. Make minor adjustments to heading to keep aligned with the runway.
8. At about 500 ft, apply the final step of flaps. (]) This increase drag significantly, so be prepared to increase power to keep your descent constant.
9. When you are just above the runway, reduce power to idle, and use the yoke to gently pull back the aircraft to horizontal. This is the “round-out” and should result in the aircraft flying level with the runway a couple of feet above the surface. Performing the round-out at the correct height is a difficult task to master. To make it easier, observe the horizon rather than getting fixated on the aiming point.
10. Keep the wings level using small inputs with the yoke. We want both wheels to touch down at the same time.
11. Continue pulling back on the yoke to lifting the nose slightly – this is the “flare”. The main wheels should touch down at about 55 knots.
12. As you touch down, be ready to use the rudder to keep the aircraft straight (keypad **0** and keypad **Enter**)
13. Once you are below 40 knots, lower the nose-wheel to the ground.
14. Hold down the left mouse button to control the nosewheel/rudder using the mouse.
15. Once below 30 knots, use the brakes **b** to slow the aircraft further.

Once the plane is halted or at very low speed, you can release the **b** key and add a little engine power to taxi to the parking or hangar.

### 8.8.3 Arrêter le moteur

To shut the engine down:

- Set the parking brake, type **B**.
- Engine throttle to minimum (hold **PageDown** down for a while.)
- Pull the mixture lever to halt the engine (mouse in normal pointer mode, click on the left of the red mixture lever to pull it out.)
- Rotate the magneto switch to OFF (a few hits on {}).



FIGURE 8.32 – Atterrissage

#### 8.8.4 Atterrissage interrompu

You must be mentally prepared to abort landing any time the landing does not look good, or due to external factors such as:

- an order from the control tower.
- incorrect speed or landing angle when there is insufficient time to correct it.
- a strong gust blow of wind.
- birds flying over the runway.

To abort the landing, apply full power (hold **PgUp**), raise the nose to climb, and once you are climbing, retract the flaps (**[L]**).

Landing is much harder than taking off. Landing on a large runway, such as KSFO (San Francisco) is much easier than smaller runways such as KHAF (Half Moon Bay, about 10 miles to the south west of KSFO.)

To practise landings, use the command line below in a terminal window to start the simulator in flight and heading for the runway. The airplane is placed 5 miles ahead of the runway, at an altitude of **1500** feet and a speed of about 120 knots.

```
fgfs --offset-distance=5 --altitude=1500 --vc=120 --timeofday=noon
```

Approaching to land at 65 knots instead of 70 knots allows to use a much shorter runway length. However, this requires better control, particularly as it is much closer to the stall speed. It is quite different from landing at 70 knots.

### 8.9 Prise en compte du vent

Consider a hot air balloon. Think of it as being in the middle of a gigantic cube of air. The cube of air may move at high speed compared to the ground, but the balloon itself is completely

static in the middle of the cube. Whatever the wind speed, persons aboard a hot air balloon experience not a breath of wind.

In the same way, an aircraft flies in the middle of a gigantic cube of air and flies relative to that air mass. The motion of the cube of air relative to the ground has no effect on the aircraft.

You, the pilot, on the contrary, are interested in the speed of the surrounding air compared to the ground. It can make you drift to the left or to the right. It can make you arrive at your destination much later or much sooner than planned.

When the wind blows in the same direction as you fly, the speed of the wind adds itself to the airspeed of the plane. Hence you move faster compared to the ground. You will arrive earlier at your destination.

When the wind blows in the opposite direction (towards the nose of the plane), the speed of the wind subtracts itself from the airspeed of the plane. Hence you move slower compared to the ground. You will arrive later at your destination and have more time to enjoy the landscape.

The two cases above are quite simple. More complex is when the wind blows towards the side of the airplane. Consider figure 8.33.

- On picture (a) there is no wind. The pilot wants to reach the green hill situated to the North. He heads for the hill, towards the North, and reaches the hill after a while. When there is no wind, you just head towards your destination and everything's fine.
- On picture (b), the pilot keeps heading to the North. Yet there is wind blowing from the left; from the West. The airplane drifts to the right and misses the hill.
- On picture (c), the pilot keeps heading towards the hill. This time he will arrive at the hill. Yet the plane flies a curved path. This makes the pilot lose time to get to the hill. Such a curved path is awful when you need to make precise navigation.
- Picture (d) shows the optimal way to get to the hill. The plane is directed to the left of the hill, slightly towards the West and the wind. That way it compensates for the wind and remains on a straight path towards the hill.

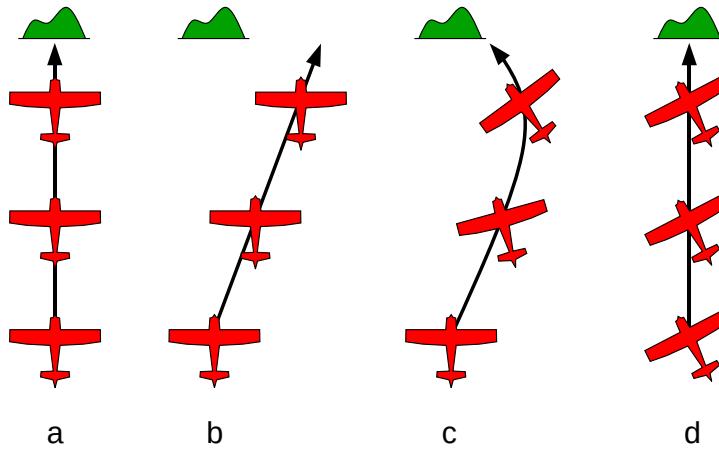


FIGURE 8.33 – Vent de travers

How much to the left or to the right of the object must you head? At what angle? Serious pilots use geometry and trigonometric computations to calculate the correct angle. You need

no computations at all to fly roughly straight. The trick is to choose an aiming point in the direction you wish to fly, then observe how it moves. You will become aware if you are drifting leftwards or rightwards. Then let your instinct slowly head the plane to the right or to the left to compensate the obvious drift. To begin with, you may need to think about what you are doing. Very soon this will become automatic, just like when you learned to fly straight. You will no more keep the plane headed towards the object. You will rather keep it flying towards the object.

The faster the flight airspeed compared to the wind speed, the less correction you will need.

### 8.9.1 Décollage par vent de travers

Taking off when the wind is coming from the side is tricky. Airport designers avoid this by placing runways so that they face into the prevailing wind. Often airports have multiple runways, placed such that there will be a runway facing straight into wind as much of the time as possible.

Taking off with a wind blowing straight towards the nose of the aircraft makes life easier as it is the speed of the wing relative to the air that causes lift. When there is no wind, the aircraft must accelerate to 55 knots to take off. However, if there is a 10 knot headwind, the aircraft has an airspeed of 10 knots standing still and only has to accelerate to 45 knots relative to the ground to take off. This shortens take-off distances.

Just as a headwind shortens take-off, a tailwind increases take-off length. Anything more than a knot or two makes a huge difference to take-off distance. As (most) runways can be flown from either end, you can easily take off from the other end of the runway and benefit from the headwind.

The main way to know the wind direction and speed is to go to the control tower or ask the control tower by radio. A necessary and complementary tool are the windsocks at both ends of the runway. They show the wind direction and speed. The longer and the stiffer the windsock, the more wind there is. The windsock on figure 8.34 shows an airspeed of 5 knots.



FIGURE 8.34 – Une manche à air

Unfortunately, sometimes there isn't a runway facing the wind, and you have to take off when the wind is blowing from the side.

The technique is as for a normal take-off with two changes:

- During the take-off roll, the aircraft will try to “weather-cock” into wind. You must react by using the rudder to keep the aircraft running straight. You will have to apply the rudder at quite a strong angle to stay aligned with the runway. You will need to keep applying rudder throughout the take-off.
- As you take off, the aircraft will react to the rudder and try to turn. You will need to correct for this using the ailerons. Once the aircraft is in the air, you can reduce the rudder pressure and aileron, then correct for the wind, to keep aligned with the runway as described above.

### 8.9.2 Atterrissage par vent de travers

Landing in a crosswind is very similar to the take-off:

- Stay aligned with the runway by compensating for the crosswind.
- As you begin to round-out, use the yoke to straighten the aircraft so it is pointed down the runway. Apply rudder to stop the aircraft turning.
- The aircraft will land on one wheel first. Use the rudder to keep the aircraft pointed straight down the runway as the other wheel touches down.

The technique described here is the slip landing. Another crosswind landing technique is the crab landing.

### 8.9.3 Roulage dans le vent

Under 10 knots wind the Cessna 172p seems not to need particular precautions when taxiing. Yet any sudden increase in wind speed can tilt it and tumble it over. So best apply the recommendations whenever there is wind.

To train taxiing on the ground when there is wind, configure the simulator for a strong wind, like 20 knots. Such a wind can tilt the plane and blow it away tumbling any moment. One single error during taxiing and the plane is lost.

Main rule is you must *push the yoke towards the wind*. This deserves some physical explanation:

- When the wind is blowing from 12 o'clock, this is quite logical. The yoke is pushed (towards 12 o'clock) and the elevator makes the tail rise a little. That's the most stable position to avoid the plane be tilted by the wind.
- When the wind comes from 10 o'clock, pushing the yoke towards 10 o'clock means that the elevator is almost neutral, while the left aileron is upward and the right aileron is downward. This pushes the left wing down and lifts the right wing. Again, that's the most stable position to avoid the plane be tilted by the wind.
- When the wind blows from 8 o'clock, you would think you should invert the position of the ailerons, to keep the left wing being pushed down. Hence you should push the yoke to 4 o'clock. Wrong! Keep pushing the yoke to 8 o'clock. The reason is the downward position of the aileron on the right wing makes it act like a slat. This increases the lift

on the right wing and this is all we want. Symmetrically, the upward position of the left aileron decreases the lift of the left wing.

- When the wind comes from the rear, from 6 o'clock, the yoke is pulled (toward 6 o'clock). The upward position of the elevator tends to make the tail be pushed down. Once again this is the best. Strong wind can push the tail against the ground. This is impressive but the tail is conceived to withstand this.

If you want to move towards the wind, you will need more engine power. When the wind blows from the rear you may need no engine power at all. Always keep the engine power to the minimum needed.

Especially when turning, move very slowly. Make little changes at a time. Take your time and closely survey the yoke angle. Constantly keep it pushed towards the wind. Constantly try to reduce the engine power. Keep in mind using the brakes too firmly may shortly tilt the plane at an angle that allows the wind to tilt it and blow it away.

## 8.10 Le pilote automatique



FIGURE 8.35 – Le pilote automatique

An *AutoPilot* (AP) is not an “intelligent” pilot. It just takes over simple tasks for the pilot. You still are the pilot aboard and have to keep aware of everything. Be prepared to shut the autopilot down as they often go wrong, both in real life, and in the simulator.

The autopilot is mounted to the right of the yoke.

Switch it on by pressing the **AP** button. The autopilot then controls the roll of the aircraft. It keeps the wings level with the horizon. This is displayed in figure 8.35 by the **ROL** marking. To switch the autopilot off press **AP** again.

If you press the **HDG** button the autopilot will try to keep the plane flying towards the direction tuned on the directional gyro by the red marking (see section 8.7.6.) **HDG** stands for “heading”. Press again on the **HDG** button to get back to roll control mode (or **AP** to switch the autopilot off).

The buttons **ALT**, **UP** and **DN** are used to tell the autopilot either to control the vertical speed **VS** or the altitude **ALT**. For more advanced use of the autopilot, see the reference document for the autopilot modelled in the Cessna 172: [Bendix King website](#).

## 8.11 Et maintenant?

This tutorial has introduced you to the basics to flight in the Cessna 172. From here you can explore the many features that FlightGear has to offer.

Once you have mastered the content of this tutorial, you may want to look at the other tutorials in this Manual, covering flying to other airports, flying using instruments when clouds obscure the ground, and flying helicopters.

This tutorial has skipped over a number of topics that a real-life pilot would have to consider:

- How to follow real checklists.
- How to make emergency landing on very short fields, after and engine failure.
- How to navigate with regard to the laws of the air, charts, laws, radio beacons and weather conditions.
- How to create a flight plan and fly it accurately.
- How to place people, fuel and baggage in an airplane to get a correct center of gravity.
- How to deal with the control tower and with other airplanes.
- How to deal with several fuel tanks and their systems.
- How to deal with the failure of every possible part of the plane.

This tutorial has also not covered features of more advanced aircraft, including:

- retractable landing gear
- variable pitch propellers
- multiple engines
- jet engines.

## 8.12 Voler à bord d'autres aéronefs

I cross-checked all the data about the Cessna 172p, a pilot friend verified I did not write too much rubbish and I made numerous virtual test flights. This section contains less reliable data about other airplanes based on my experience in the simulator. You may find it useful as an introduction to those airplanes but bear in mind my only goal was to make flights that seem OK and acquire basic knowledge.

### 8.12.1 Comment faire atterrir le Cherokee Warrior II?

The Cherokee Warrior II has some advantages upon the Cessna 172p. Thanks to its low wings it is far less sensitive to crosswind. Fully extended flaps provide more braking and allow it to land on a much shorter distance.

Take off is the same as for the Cessna 172p in FlightGear. In real life their take off checklists are not exactly the same.

You have to get used to some minor differences of the Cherokee Warrior II for the landing:

- During the steady horizontal flight before landing, the trim must be pulled a little below neutral in order to get the yoke around neutral.
- The optimal tachometer RPM during landing is at a lower RPM than the tachometer green zone. Roughly, keep the needle vertical.

- Only put use two steps of flaps during landing. Don't decrease the engine throttle too much.
- If you remain at two flaps deployed during landing, the round-out and flare will be similar to the Cessna 172p. However, using the third set of flaps will slow the aircraft down dramatically. It will very quickly touch the runway then come to a near halt. Be prepared to lower the front wheel very soon. (It is possible to use the third flaps step during the descent towards the runway, instead of tuning the engine power down. Oscillating between two steps and three steps allows to aim the runway start. Yet keep two flaps steps and tune the engine seems easier. An interesting stunt is to fly stable till nearly above the runway start, then tune the engine to minimum and deploy three flaps steps. The plane almost falls to the runway. It's impressive but it works.)

In real life, an advantage of the Cessna 172p upon the Cherokee Warrior II is the fuel reservoirs of the Cessna are located in the wings close above the center of the plane and higher than the engine. What's more an automatic system switches between the reservoirs. That means you almost don't have to bother for the way the fuel gets to the engine in flight. On the contrary, on the Cherokee Warrior II the reservoirs are located separately, on both wings and lower than the engine. That means you have to constantly switch between the two reservoirs in flight. Should one reservoir become much lighter than the other, this would destabilize the airplane. The fact the reservoirs are lower than the engine means you have to control the fuel pumps and the backup fuel pumps.

Some links:

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piper\\_Cherokee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piper_Cherokee)
- <http://freechecklists.net/Resources/Piper/PA-28-151+Warrior/>

### 8.12.2 Comment faire décoller et atterrir le Piper J3 Cub

The Piper J3 Cub is a very different airplane from the Cessna 172p and the Cherokee Warrior II. The Cessna 172p and the Cherokee Warrior II are nose-wheel airplanes, while the Piper J3 Cub is a tail wheel airplane. Take off and landing with tail wheel airplanes is more difficult. You have to tightly use the rudder pedals when rolling over the runway. The yoke often needs to be pulled backwards to the maximum. The Piper J3 Cub is a good introduction to tail-wheel aircraft and it is quite easy to take off and land provided you follow an appropriate procedure. Stall speed seems to be a little below 40 mph (the airspeed indicator is in mph) (about 27 knots). Take-off is below 50 mph.

My take off procedure for the Piper Cub is to fully pull the yoke backwards then throttle the engine to maximum. Once the front wheels clearly rises from the ground, gently push the yoke back to neutral, towards a normal flight close above the runway. Let the plane accelerate to 50 mph. Then pull the yoke to keep a little more than 50 mph while rising in the air.

The landing procedure is quite different to that of 172, as the aircraft is very light, and has no flaps.

1. Fly at say 500 ft constant altitude and “exactly” 52 mph speed towards the runway. Let the engine cover eat up the runway start. The engine cover will hide the runway completely. To see where the runway is, push the yoke/mouse very shortly then stabilize again in normal flight.

2. Once the runway start matches with the set of instruments (if you could see through the instrument panel), reduce the throttle to a near minimum and begin the dive towards the runway start. Keep 52 mph using the yoke. Add some throttle if you are going to miss the runway edge. (Keep in mind just a little wind is enough to change things a lot for the Piper J3 Cub.)
3. Make the rounding and pull the throttle to minimum. Do not pull steadily on the yoke. Instead let the wheels roll on the runway immediately.
4. Once the wheels roll on the runway, *push* firmly on the yoke, to its maximum. This rises the tail in the air. You would think the propeller will hit the runway or the airplane will tilt over and be damaged. But everything's fine. The wings are at a strong negative angle and this brakes the plane. (Don't push the yoke this way on other airplanes, even if their shape seems close to that of the Piper J3 Cub. Most of them will tumble forwards.)
5. The yoke being pushed in to its maximum, push the left mouse button and keep it pushed to go in rudder control mode. Keep the plane more or less centered on the runway. This is quite uneasy. One tip is to stop aiming the rudder to say the left already when the plane just starts to turn to the left.
6. Once the speed is really low (and the rudder control stabilized), you will see the tail begins to sink to the ground. Release the left mouse button to go back to yoke control. Pull the yoke backwards completely, to the other extreme. The tail now touches the ground and the nose is high up. Now you can use the wheel brakes (**b**). (If you use the brakes too early, the plane nose will hit the ground.)

The take off procedure mentioned above is symmetrical to the first landing procedure. There exists a second take off procedure, symmetrical to the second landing procedure. Yet I don't succeed it properly so I won't write about it.

### 8.12.3 Comment faire décoller et atterrir un jet

Take off on a jet is easy but you must have fast reflexes. My favorite jet on FlightGear is the A-4 Skyhawk. You get it with the `--aircraft=a4-uiuc` parameter, provided it is installed.

This is the "calm" procedure to take off:

- Ask for a red and full HUD by typing **h** twice. The engine throttle indicator is the left-most on the HUD.
- The airspeed indicator is the one labeled "KIAS" on the upper left side of the instrument panel. You can also use the airspeed indicator on the HUD, of course.
- Tune in half of the engine power.
- Keep the yoke pulled in halfway (see the arrow on the right side of the vertical line shown in figure 8.36).
- It is not mandatory to use the rudder to keep on the runway. The airplane will take off before it drifts off the runway. (For sure it is better and more "secure" to keep in the middle of the runway. But using the rudder can make things hectic for a beginner.)
- Once above about 160 knots, the plane rises its nose in the air. Immediately push the yoke back to neutral or almost and stabilize at 200 knots airspeed (which makes a fair

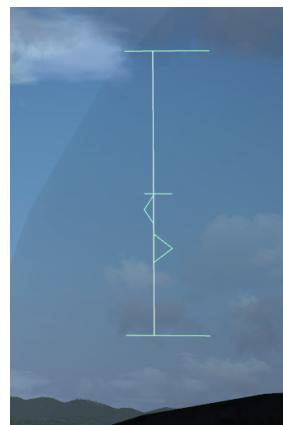


FIGURE 8.36 – Indicateur du manche à balai sur le HUD

climb angle) (I've no idea whether 200 knots is the right climb speed for a real A-4. What's more I suppose one should rather use the AoA – see below.)

- Retract the landing gear using key **g**.
- Either maintain the engine power at  $\frac{1}{2}$  and a speed of 200 knots to get above the clouds, or reduce the engine power to less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  and fly normally. (Of course you can "fly normally" with full engine power. Great fun.)

The "nervous" take off procedure is the same but you push in full engine power. The plane takes off quickly and you need to settle a very steep climb angle to keep 200 knots. Best retract the landing gear immediately.

You don't land a jet the same way you land a little propeller airplane. My way to land the A-4, inspired by some texts I found on the Web, is this:

- Really far from the runway, keep below 2000 ft and get the speed below 200 knots. Then lower the landing gear (key **G**) and I deploy full flaps (all three steps, by hitting **]** three times.)
- Keep a steady altitude of about 1000 ft and a speed of "exactly" 150 knots. Use the mouse/yoke/elevator to tune the altitude and the engine throttle to tune the speed. (The opposite from the Cessna.)
- Try to align with the runway.
- When do you know the dive towards the runway must begin? For this you need the HUD; the full default HUD with lots of features. Look at the figure 8.37. When you see the "distance" between the green  $0^\circ$  lines and the runway start is 25 % the distance between the green  $0^\circ$  lines and the green  $-10^\circ$  dotted line, it is time to dive, aiming at the runway start. (In the figure 8.37, that "distance" is 64 %, far too much to start a landing.)

Let's explain this. The two horizontal lines labeled "0" show the horizon line. Rather they show where the horizon would be if the Earth was flat. When your eyes aim at those "0" lines, you are looking horizontally. Look at the dotted green lines labeled " $-10$ ". A feature on the ground situated there is situated  $10^\circ$  below the ideal horizon. In other words: when you look to objects "hidden" by the lines labeled "0", you have to lower your eyes of  $10^\circ$  to look at objects "hidden" by the dotted lines labeled " $-10$ ". This implies,

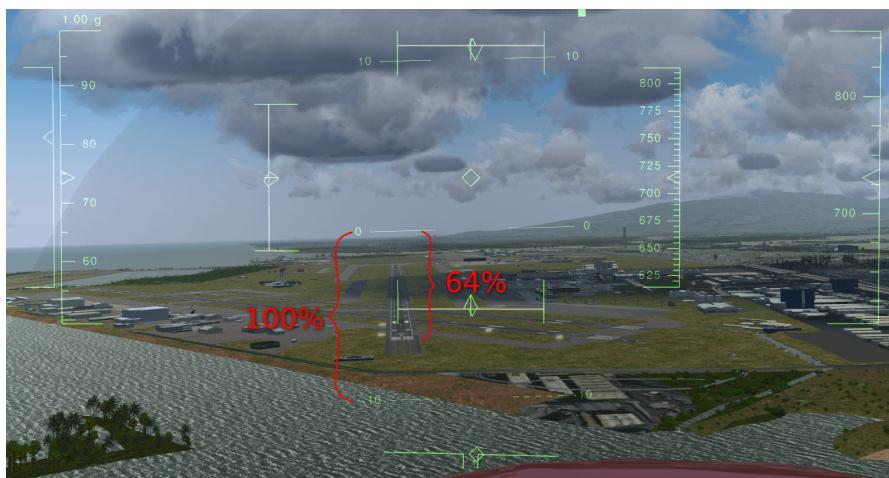


FIGURE 8.37 – Viser le seuil de piste avec le HUD

and it is very important, that a person in a rowboat, “hidden” by the dotted lines labeled “-10”, has to rise his eyes up  $10^\circ$  to look at your plane. He sees you  $10^\circ$  above the horizon. In figure 8.37, the start of the runway is situated at 64 % of the way towards the green “-10” dotted lines. That means you have to lower your eyes of  $6,4^\circ$  to look at the runway start. This also means that if you start now to descent towards the runway start, the descent path will be of  $6,4^\circ$  (too steep). So, the HUD allows to measure precisely the angle of the descent path. On a jet plane you need an angle of  $2,5^\circ$  (up to  $3^\circ$ ), that is 25 % of  $-10^\circ$  (up to 30 %).

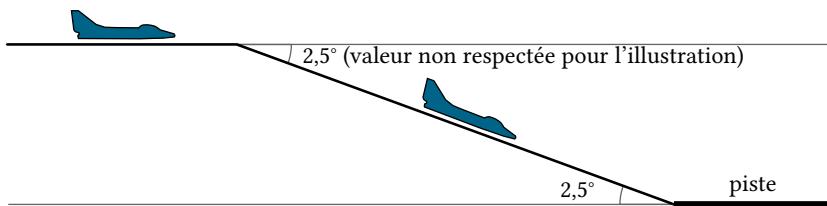


FIGURE 8.38 – Plan de descente

- Once descending towards the runway start, aim at it using the yoke/mouse. And keep 150 knots speed using the engine throttle lever.
- Keep measuring the angle between the ideal horizon and the runway start. It must keep  $2,5^\circ$  (that is 25 % of  $-10^\circ$ ):
  - If the angle increases above  $2,5^\circ$ , you are above the desired path and you must loose altitude faster. Both decrease the engine power and dive the nose a little.
  - If the angle decreases below  $2,5^\circ$ , you are under the desired path. I wouldn't say you should gain altitude, rather you should loose altitude less fast. Both add a little engine power and rise the nose a little.
- Once very close to the runway start, do no rounding. Don't pull steadily on the yoke

like you would for the Cessna 172p. Simply let the plane touch the ground immediately, at high speed. Let it smash on the runway, so to say. All three wheels almost together. Just throttle the engine down to minimum. (If you try to pull steadily on the yoke and hover over the runway while the plane nose rises steadily, on a F-16 you would scrape the plane rear and probably destroy it.)

- Keep the key **b** down to brake and use the rudder to stay aligned with the runway. Make only very little tunings with the rudder, otherwise the plane will tumble on one of its sides.

The HUD in a real jet contains a symbol to show towards what the airplane is moving. It is shown in figure 8.39. When you are flying at constant altitude, that symbol is on the ideal horizon line. Once you dive towards the runway start, you simply have to place that symbol on the runway start. This is quite an easy and precise way to aim at the runway start. (The diamond in the center of the FlightGear HUD sometimes can help but it does not have the same purpose. It shows towards what the airplane nose is pointing. For example, if you descend towards the ground at low speed, the symbol would be somewhere on the ground while the FlightGear diamond will be up in the sky.) (By the way, the HUD on the virtual B-52 on FlightGear has that symbol. It is great to use while landing.)

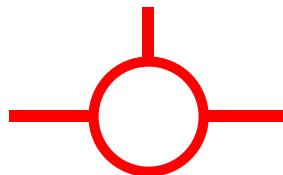


FIGURE 8.39 – Aim point symbol

Also, a real HUD shows a dotted line at  $-2,5^\circ$ , to help find the correct descent path. Simply keep that dotted line on the runway thresh-hold.

In addition to airspeed, military fast jet pilots rely on using the correct angle of attack during approach. The *Angle of Attack (AoA)* is the angle at which the wings are pitched against the relative airflow. The advantage of keeping to an optimal AoA is that the optimal AoA for landing does not depend on the plane load, while the optimal airspeed speed does. By ensuring that the AoA is correct for every landing, you will land at the correct speed, whatever the plane load.

The Angle of Attack is displayed within the HUD, and/or as a set of three lights (see figure 8.40). When the upper  $\vee$  is lit, your *Angle of Attack (AoA)* is too high and you need to pitch down. When the lower  $\wedge$  is lit, your AoA is too low and you need to pitch up. The center  $\circ$  indicates your the AoA is OK. Obviously, as you pitch up or down your airspeed and descent rate will change, so you will need to change your throttle setting appropriately.

The Cessna 172 and the A-4 Skyhawk are two extremes. Most other airplanes are in-between these two extremes. If you trained them both (and one or two tail wheel airplanes), you should be able to find out how to take off and land most other airplanes.

160 knots seems an appropriate landing speed for the F-16 Falcon. Also you need to throttle down the engine to minimum just before the plane should touch the runway. Otherwise it will



FIGURE 8.40 – VTH du F-14B

hover over the runway. Don't bother for the flaps. It seems they are deployed automatically with the landing gear. (Read the section 8.7.4 about the stall.)

140 up to 150 knots and all 8 flaps steps deployed seem appropriate to land the virtual Boeing 737. But don't trust me especially on that one. I just made a few experiments and didn't search for serious data. The landing speed varies a lot depending on the plane load, I suppose 140 knots is for a plane with no load. The Boeing 737 seems to like a gentle rounding before the wheels touch the runway. Start the rounding early.

In the take off procedure for the Cessna 172 and the A-4 Skyhawk I recommend you pull the yoke/mouse/elevator halfway, from the start on. This seems to be a bad practice on the Pilatus PC-7. Keep the elevator neutral. Let the plane accelerate and wait till the speed gets over 100 knots. Then pull calmly on the yoke. During landing, deploy full flaps once you start plunging to the runway but don't decrease the engine throttle. Decrease it only when the hovering above the runway starts. 100 knots seems a good landing speed.

For the Cessna 310 too you better leave the elevator neutral during the acceleration on the runway. The plane will raise its nose by its own provided you deployed one flaps step. (If you keep the yoke pulled from the start on, the nose will rise sooner and you will get **yawful yaw** problems.)

(Some virtual airplanes, like some big airliners or fast aircraft, need faster physical computations. Then add the `--mode1-hz=480` parameter to the command line. If the plane is difficult to control during landings, try this.)

The angle at which you land a Cessna 172p is far steeper than the narrow 2,5° for a jet. Nevertheless you are allowed to land the Cessna at a narrow angle too. (Provided the terrain around the runway allows for this, of course.) If you have passengers who have ears problems with the variation of air pressure...

#### 8.12.4 Comment faire décoller et atterrir le P-51D Mustang

Should you ever get a chance to pilot a P-51 Mustang, just say no. It is quite dangerous to take off and land. That's the kind of airplane you fly only when your country is in danger. You need a lot of training. Yet once in the air the P-51 Mustang seems no more dangerous to its

pilot than other common military airplanes. It is quite easy to pilot.

At low and medium altitude the P-51 wasn't better than the Spitfire and the Messerschmitts. The big difference was at high altitude. The P-51 kept efficient and maneuverable while enemy fighters were just capable to hang in the air. This was an advantage at medium altitude too because the P-51 was able to plunge towards enemy airplanes from high altitude. Another key difference was the P-51 is very streamlined. Hence it was capable to fly much further than the Spitfire. These two differences let the P-51 Mustang fulfill its purpose: escort Allied bombers all the way to their targets in Germany. This allowed the bombings to be much more efficient and contributed to the defeat of the Nazis.

To get the P-51D Mustang, use the `--aircraft=p51d` command line parameter.

To take off the P-51D Mustang in FlightGear, deploy one flaps step, pull and keep the yoke completely backwards, push the engine throttle to maximum and keep the left mouse button pressed to control the rudder and keep on the runway. Once you reach exactly 100 mph, suddenly push the rudder  $\frac{1}{3}$  of its total way to the right. Immediately release the left mouse button and push the yoke to rise the tail (don't push it too much, as the sooner the wheels leave the ground the better.) From now on, keep the left mouse button released. Only make very short adjustments to the rudder. Let the plane rise from the runway and get to altitude at a speed of say 150 mph. Don't forget to retract the landing gear and the flaps.

Don't make too steep turns. You would loose control on the plane and crash.

To land, deploy full flaps and lower the landing gear from the start on. 130 mph speed seems fine, up to 140 mph. Make an approach from 1000 ft altitude and a dive at a low angle, like for a jet. Once over the runway, shut the engine down completely (key `{`). Don't hover over the runway. Get the wheels rolling soon (like for a jet). Hold the left mouse button down to steer the plane using the rudder. Once the tail sinks in, briskly pull the yoke (left mouse button shortly released) to force the tail on the runway. Go on steering the plane using the rudder. Now the tail is firmly on the ground, use the brakes if you want.

### 8.12.5 Comment faire décoller et atterrir le B-52 Stratofortress

The B-52F bomber implemented in FlightGear is a success. It is one of my favorite airplanes. I'm sorry it was conceived to terrify me. One single B-52 bomber can wipe out every main town of my country and rise a nightmare of sicknesses and children malformation for centuries. All B-52 bombers united can wipe out mankind and almost every kinds of plants and animals on Earth.

The differences between the virtual B-52F bomber and the Cessna 172p are these:

- The B-52F starts with the flaps deployed and the parking brakes set.
- There are only two flaps steps: retracted and deployed. When deployed they are only meant to make the wings lift more, not to brake. If you want to brake, you need the spoilers. They deploy on the upper side of the wings. Use the key `k` to deploy the spoilers and the key `j` to retract them. There are seven steps of spoilers.
- The main landing gear of the Cessna 172p is composed of two wheels, one on each side of the airplane. In order for these wheels to leave and touch the ground altogether, you need to keep the wings parallel with the ground. The main landing gear of the B-52F is composed of a set of wheels at the front and a set of wheels at the rear. This implies that

in order for these wheels to leave and touch the ground altogether, you need to keep the airplane body parallel with the ground.

This is my procedure to take off the virtual B-52F:

- Push the yoke  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the total way.
- Push the engine throttle to maximum.
- Release the parking brakes (key **B**).
- Push down the left mouse button to control the rudder pedals and keep the airplane on the runway.
- The whole runway length is needed till the B-52F rises from the ground (KSFO).
- Once the B-52F leaves the ground, around 190 knots seems appropriate to get to altitude.
- Retract the flaps and the landing gear.

To land, the B-52F's HUD offers that great airplane-shaped symbol I talked about in the section about jets. So you just have to put that symbol on the airplane threshold (a few pixels further seems optimal) and keep the runway start  $2,5^\circ$  below the ideal horizon line. 130 up to 140 knots seems a good landing speed. (Instead of the speed you can make use of the AoA indicator displayed on the schematic instrument panel (**P**).) Simply keep the AoA at  $3^\circ$ . I must confess I prefer to tune the speed rather than the AoA.) If the plane gets to the runway at 130 up to 140 knots, simply "let it smash" on the runway. Otherwise, if the speed is higher, make a rounding and a short hover. The brakes seem to be very effective **b**). They allow to stop the B-52F on roughly the same short runway length as the Cessna 172p.

Replays of the flights are a delight. They allow to check the plane body left the runway and landed back parallel with it. One of the points of view is situated inside the B-52F rear turret, which allows you to be your own passenger and to compare what you see with what you experienced as a passenger in airliners. The key **K** allows to visualize the airplane trajectory.

To cause an accident with the B-52 do this:

- Make a steep turn with a very strong bank; the wings nearly perpendicular to the ground.
- Try to get the plane back level. It will obey but very slowly. You will get aware that the turn will go on for a while and that you will turn further than your intended flight direction.
- Do something that accelerates the stabilization on some airplanes: push the rudder to an extreme, opposite to the current turn. This will suddenly make the airplane drop from the sky.

## 8.13 Remerciements

I wish to thank:

- Benno Schulenberg who corrected lots of mistakes in my English in this tutorial.
- Albert Frank who gave me key data on piloting and corrected technical errors.
- Vassili Khachaturov who taught me new things about FlightGear.
- Roy Vegard Ovesen for pointing me to the official Autopilot Pilots Guide.
- Dene Maxwell for his solution for problems under Windows ME.
- Mark Akermann and Paul Surgeon for their remarks.

- Michael “Sam van der Mac” Maciejewski who made the translation in Polish and converted the tutorial for use in the manual.
- The FlightGear mailing list users for their hearty welcome.
- 4p8 webmaster my friend Frédéric Cloth for the web space used by this tutorial.

# Chapitre 9

## Un petit vol à travers la campagne

### 9.1 Introduction

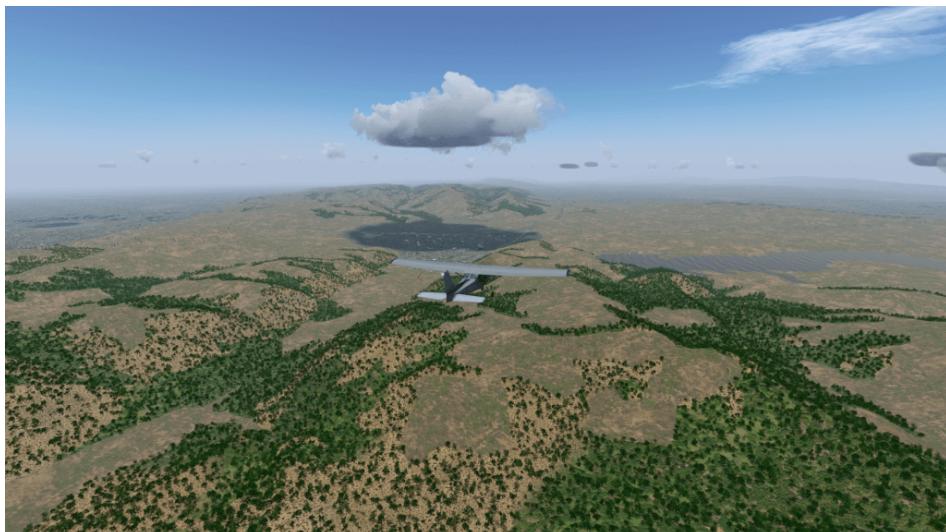


FIGURE 9.1 – Survol du barrage de San Antonio en route vers Livermore

This tutorial simulates a cross-country flight from Reid-Hillview (KRHV) to Livermore (KLVK) under *Visual Flight Rules* (VFR). Both airports are not included in the standard FlightGear package, therefore make sure that in the Launcher you have enabled the option *Download scenery automatically*, which is in the *Settings* tab.

I'll assume that you are happy taking off, climbing, turning, descending and landing in FlightGear. If not, have a look at the tutorials in chapters 7 (Tutoriels) and 8 (Un tutoriel de base de simulation de vol). This tutorial is designed to follow on from them and provide information on some of the slightly more complicated flight systems and procedures.

#### 9.1.1 Avertissement et remerciements

A quick disclaimer. I fly microlights rather than Cessnas in real life. Most of this information has been gleaned from various non-authoritive sources. If you find an error or misunderstanding, please let me know. Mail me at stuart\_d\_buchanan -at- yahoo.co.uk.

I'd like to thank the following people for helping make this tutorial accurate and readable: Benno Schulenberg, Sid Boyce, Vassilii Khachaturov, James Briggs.

## 9.2 Plan de vol

Before we begin, we need to plan our flight. Otherwise we'll be taking off not knowing whether to turn left or right.

First, have a look at the Sectional for the area. This is an aeronautical map which shows airports, navigational aids, and obstructions. There are two scales of sectionals for VFR flight – the 1:500 000 sectionals themselves, and a number of 1:250 000 VFR Terminal Area Charts which cover particularly busy areas.

They are available from pilot shops, or on the web from various sources. You can access a Google-map style interface here:

<https://skyvector.com>

Simple click “Flight Plan” and enter KRHV to “Departure” field. An extract from the chart is shown in Figure 9.2.

If you want a map of the entire area showing exactly where the plane is, you can use Atlas. This is a moving-map program that connects to FlightGear. See Section 6.3 for details.

An even simpler option is to use “Phi”, which is a map in the browser. Just run FlightGear with the command line option `--httpd=8080` and then in the simulator choose *Equipment → Map (opens in browser)* from main menu.

So, how are we going to fly from Reid-Hillview to Livermore?

We'll be taking off from runway 31R at KRHV. KRHV is the ICAO code for Reid-Hillview airport, and you can find them in Launcher in *Location* tab. (It is marked on the sectional as RVH for historic reasons. To get the ICAO code, simply prefix a “K”.)

The 31 indicates that the magnetic heading of the runway is around 310 degrees, and the R indicates that it's the runway on the right. As can be seen from the sectional, there are two parallel runways at KRHV. This is to handle the large amount of traffic that uses the airport. Each of the runways can be used in either direction. Runway 31 can be used from the other end as runway 13. So, the runways available are 13R, 13L, 31R, 31L. Taking off and landing is easier done into the wind, so when the wind is coming from the North West, runways 31L and 31R will be in use. The name of the runway is written in large letters at the beginning and is easily seen from the air.

Once we take off we'll head at 350° magnetic towards Livermore (KLVK). We'll fly at about 3500 ft above sea-level. This puts us at least 500 ft above any terrain or obstructions like radio masts on the way.

We'll fly over the Calaveras Reservoir then the San Antonio Reservoir. These are both large bodies of water and we can use them as navigation aids to ensure we stay on the right track.

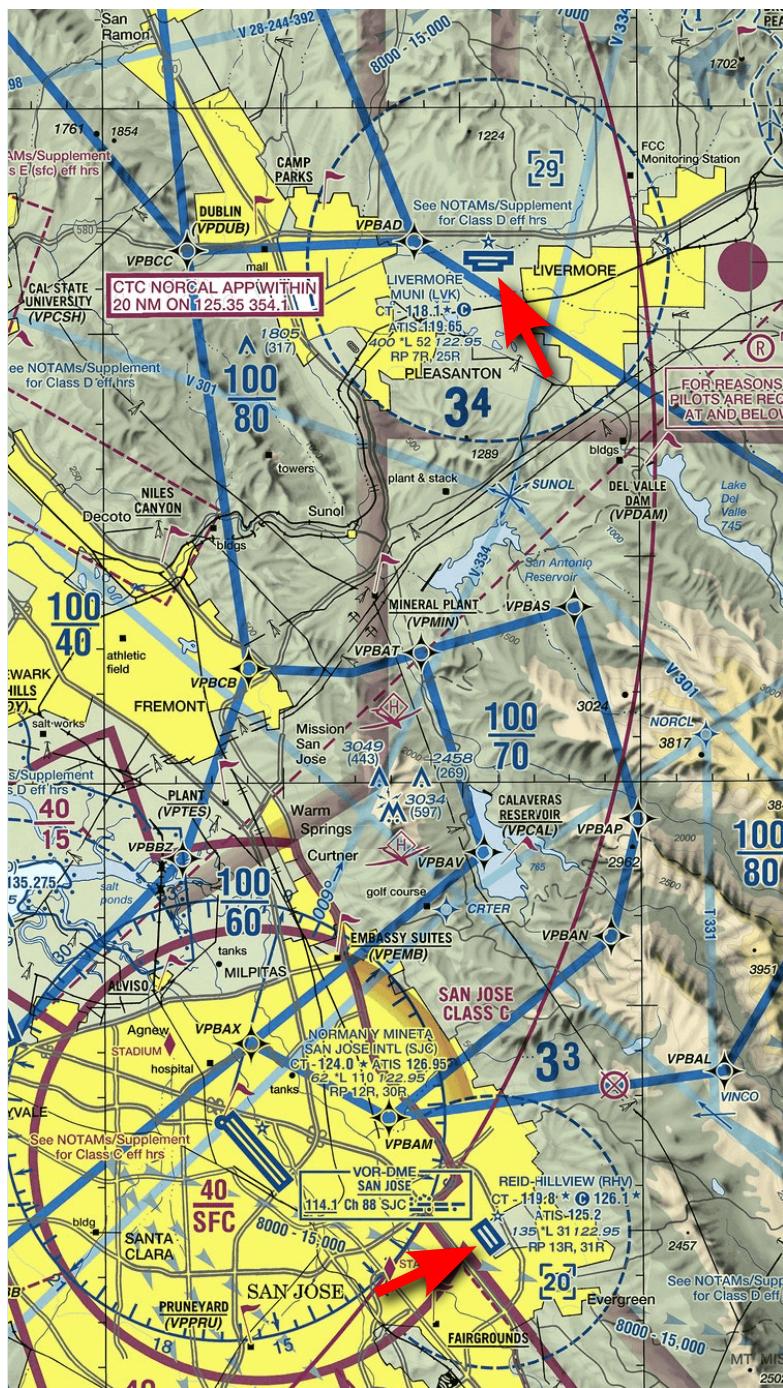


FIGURE 9.2 – Extrait d'une carte aéronautique montrant les aérodromes de Reid-Hillview et Livermore

Once we get about 10 miles out of Livermore (above the San Antonio Reservoir), we'll contact the Livermore Air Traffic Control (ATC) to find out where we should land. We'll then join the circuit and land.

### 9.3 C'est parti!

OK, we know where we're going and how we'll get there. Time to get started.

Start FlightGear using the launcher (or command-line if you prefer). We want to use a C172P and take off from runway 31R at Reid-Hillview of Santa Clara County (KRHV). Dawn is a nice time to fly in California.

If you want, you can fly in the current weather at KRHV (which is recommended to be able to listen the ATIS.) To do this, in the Launcher, go to the *Environment* tab and check the *Real-world weather* option.



FIGURE 9.3 – Sur la piste de KRHV

#### 9.3.1 Visite avant vol

Before we take off, we need to preflight the aircraft. In the real world, this consists of walking around the aircraft to check nothing has fallen off, and checking we have enough fuel. If you want, you can do this by selecting *Walker* → *Toggle Walker outside* from the main menu.

However, in our case, we'll take the opportunity to check the weather, set our altimeter and pre-set things that are easier to do when you're not flying.

The weather is obviously important when flying. We need to know if there is any sort of cross-wind that might affect take-off, at what altitude any clouds are (this is a VFR flight – so we need to stay well away from clouds at all times), and any wind that might blow us off course.

We also need to calibrate our altimeter. Altimeters calculate the current altitude indirectly by measuring air pressure, which decreases as you ascend. However, weather systems can affect the air pressure and lead to incorrect altimeter readings, which can be deadly if flying in mountains.

### 9.3.2 ATIS

Conveniently, airports broadcast the current sea-level pressure along with useful weather and airport information over the *Automatic Terminal Information Service* (ATIS). This is a recorded message that is broadcast over the radio. However, to listen to it, we need to tune the radio to the correct frequency.

The ATIS frequency is displayed on the sectional (look for “ATIS” near the airport), but is also available from within FlightGear. To find out the frequencies for an airport (including the tower, ground and approach if appropriate), use the *AI → ATC Services in Range* menu. Then, in the dialog box, click the button with the ICAO code of our airport, i.e. KRHV. The various frequencies associated with the airport are then displayed. Duplicates indicate that the airport uses multiple frequencies for that task, and you may use either.

Either way, the ATIS frequency for Reid-Hillview is 125,2 MHz.

### 9.3.3 La radio

We now need to tune the radio. The radio is located in the Radio Stack to the right of the main instruments. There are actually two independent radio systems, 1 and 2. Each radio is split in two, with a communications (COMM) radio on the left, and a navigation radio (NAV) on the right. We want to tune COMM1 to the ATIS frequency.



FIGURE 9.4 – Émetteur-récepteur de communication du C172 avec COMM1 entouré

The radio has two frequencies, the active frequency, which is currently in use, and the standby frequency, which we tune to the frequency we wish to use next. The active frequency is shown on the left 6 digits, while the standby frequency is shown on the right. We change the standby frequency, then swap the two over, so the standby becomes active and the active standby. This way, we don't lose radio contact while tuning the radio.



FIGURE 9.5 – Bouton sélecteur de fréquence COMM1

To change the frequency, use the mouse wheel on the black knob below the standby frequency (highlighted in the Figure 9.5), just to the right of the "STBY". Turning the mouse wheel over the small (inner) knob changes the decimal point (kHz), and turning the wheel over the large (outer) knob changes the number before the decimal place (MHz). Turnning the wheel in both ways – you will see the values go up and down. Alternatively, you can click each knob. Left click mouse button increasing the frequency, and middle click decreasing.

As for the COMM radio, note that the frequency before the decimal point (MHz) can be set in the range from 118 to 136, in 1 MHz step. However, the frequency after the decimal point can work in two standards, the older one with a spacing of 25 kHz, or the new one with a spacing of 8,33 kHz. The default is 8,33 kHz spacing, giving you more frequencies to choose from. If you want you can switch the radio between 25 kHz and 8,33 kHz spacing, just hold down the **Shift** key and click the little knob. When you look closely, you will notice that a small, inner knob is pushed in.

If you are having difficulty clicking on the correct place, press **Ctrl-c** to highlight the hot-spots for clicking.

Once you have tuned the frequency to 125,2 MHz, press the white button with arrows, located between the words "COMM" and "STBY" to swap the active and standby frequencies (highlighted in Figure 9.6). After a second or so, you'll hear the ATIS information. If you can't hear ATIS, make sure the "COMM1" switch above the frequencies is in the *Speaker* or *Phone* position (see Figure 9.7).



FIGURE 9.6 – Poussoir de transfert de fréquence de communication COMM1 (pour permuter les fréquences)



FIGURE 9.7 – Clé d'écoute COMM1

### 9.3.4 Altimètre et gyro directionnel



FIGURE 9.8 – Bouton de réglage de l’altimètre

Listen for the “Altimeter” setting. If you are not using real weather, the atmospheric pressure will depend on the weather conditions set, according to the selected weather scenario. Then listening to ATIS will be impossible. Therefore, to check the pressure, go to menu *Environment → Weather*. In the bottom of new window, there is a METAR (*Meteorological Aerodrome Report*) message with atmospheric pressure. If you don’t know how to read the METAR please use the “METAR Description” button.

As you can see, the atmospheric pressure can be different every time. Therefore, we need to set the altimeter to the correct value. To do this, use the knob at the bottom left of the altimeter (circled in red in Figure 9.8), in the same way as you changed the radio frequency. Turning the knob changes the value in the little window on the right of the altimeter. You must set the same value as given by ATIS (or METAR). Notice that the altitude indicated by the altimeter is changing too.

The other way to set the altimeter is to match it to the elevation above sea-level of the airport. The elevation is listed on the sectional. For KRHV it is 133 ft. This means you can double-check the pressure value reported over ATIS.



As you may have noticed, the pressure on the Cessna altimeter can only be set in units of inHg. Fortunately, we fly in the USA, where ATIS also gives us the pressure in inHg. But when flying in Europe, for example, the pressure will be given in hPa. Then we have to convert hPa to inHg, or simply use the “METAR Description” window mentioned above. Another way is to use the menu *Equipment → Instrument Settings*, where you can set the pressure for the altimeter, both in hPa and inHg.

We will also take the opportunity to set the heading bug on the heading indicator to 350° – our bearing from KRHV to KLVK. To do this, use the amber knob on the heading indicator



FIGURE 9.9 – Bouton de sélection de cap

housing (highlighted in Figure 9.9), just as you've done before. For faster rotation, hold down the **Shift** key to increase the increment value by  $5^\circ$ . The value of  $350^\circ$  is just anti-clockwise of the labeled value of N (North –  $000^\circ$ ).

### 9.3.5 Décollage

OK, now we've done that we can actually take off! In my case this usually involves weaving all over the runway, and swerving to the left once I've actually left the ground, but you'll probably have better control than me. Once above 1000 ft, make a gentle turn to the right to a heading of  $350^\circ$ . As we've set the heading bug, it will be easy to follow. We're aiming for a fairly prominent valley.

Continue climbing to 3500 ft at around 500-700 fpm. Once you reach that altitude, reduce power, level off to level flight and trim appropriately. Check the power again and adjust so it's in the green arc of the RPM gauge. We shouldn't run the engine at maximum RPM except during take-off.

## 9.4 Vol de croisière

OK, we've taken off and are on our way to Livermore. Now we can make our life a bit easier by using the autopilot and our plane more fuel efficient by tuning the engine. We'll also want to check we're on-course.

### 9.4.1 Le pilote automatique

We can make our life a bit easier by handing some control of the aircraft over to "George" – the autopilot.



FIGURE 9.10 – Décollage depuis KRHV



FIGURE 9.11 – Pilote automatique du C172

The autopilot panel is located towards the bottom of the radio stack (highlighted in Figure 9.11). It is easily distinguishable as it has many more buttons than the other components on the stack. It can work in a number of different modes, but we are only interested in one of them for this flight – HDG. As the names suggest, HDG will cause the autopilot to follow the heading bug on the heading indicator, which we set earlier.

To set the autopilot, press the AP button to switch the autopilot on, then press the HDG button to activate heading mode. While the autopilot is switched on, it will use the ailerons controls to keep the plane on the heading. You can change the heading bug, and the autopilot will maneuver appropriately. However, the autopilot doesn't make any allowances for wind speed or direction, it only sets the heading of the airplane. If flying in a cross-wind, the plane may be pointed in one direction, but be travelling in quite another.

You should use the trim controls to keep a level flight. You can use the autopilot for this, but it is a bit more complicated.

Once the aircraft has settled down under the autopilot's control, we can pay more attention to the outside world and higher level tasks.

#### 9.4.2 Navigation

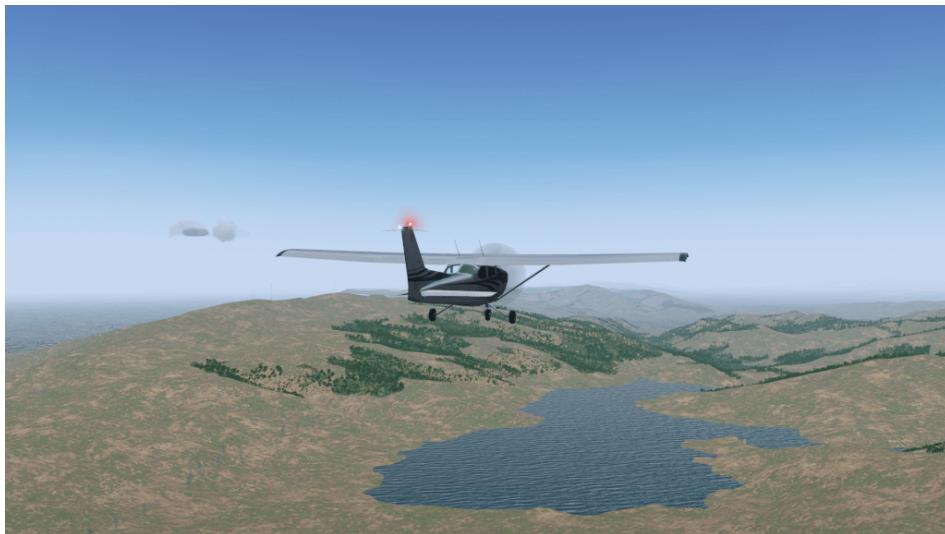


FIGURE 9.12 – Le lac de retenue de Calaveras

As we noted above, we're going to be travelling over a couple of reservoirs. When you leveled off, the first (Calaveras) was probably right in front of you. You can use them to check your position on the map. If it looks like you're heading off course, twist the heading bug to compensate.

#### 9.4.3 Le mélange ou « mixture »



FIGURE 9.13 – Le lac de retenue de Calaveras

As altitude increases, the air gets thinner and contains less oxygen. This means that less fuel can be burnt each engine cycle. The engine in the C172 is simple and doesn't automatically adjust the amount of fuel to compensate for this lack of oxygen. This results in an inefficient fuel burn and a reduction in power because the fuel-air mixture is too "rich". We can control the amount of fuel entering the engine every cycle using the mixture control. This is the red lever next to the throttle (Figure 9.14). By pulling it out, we "lean" the mixture. We don't want the mixture too rich, nor too lean. Both these conditions don't produce as much power as we'd like. Nor do we want it perfect, because this causes the fuel-air to explode, rather than burn in a controlled manner, which is a quick way to trash an engine.

The mixture is controlled by the red lever to the right of the yoke. You may need to pan your cockpit view to see it.

To pan the cockpit view, hold down the right mouse button. Moving the mouse now pans the view. Once you can see the mixture lever clearly, release the right mouse button.

Pull the mixture lever out slowly (use **Ctrl-c** to see the hot spots), leaning the mixture. As you do so, you'll see various engine instruments (on the left of the panel) change. Fuel flow will go down (we're burning less fuel), EGT (*Exhaust Gas Temperature*) will go up (we're getting closer to a "perfect mixture") and RPM will increase (we're producing more power). Pull the mixture lever out until you see the EGT go off the scale, then push it in a bit (see Figure 9.15). We're now running slightly rich of peak. While at 3500 ft we don't need to lean much, at higher altitudes leaning the engine is critical for performance.

## 9.5 Getting Down

Once you reach the second reservoir (the San Antonio Reservoir), we need to start planning our descent and landing at Livermore. Landing is a lot more complicated than taking off,



FIGURE 9.14 – Manette de richesse (ou mixture)

FIGURE 9.15 – L'indicateur EGT (*Exhaust Gas Temperature* – température des gaz d'échappement)

assuming you want to get down in one piece, so you may want to pause the simulator (press **P**) while reading this.

### 9.5.1 Air Traffic Control

In the Real World, we'd have been in contact with *Air Traffic Control* (ATC) continually, as the bay area is quite congested in the air as well as on the ground. ATC would probably provide us with a "flight following" service, and would continually warn us about planes around us, helping to avoid any possible collisions. The FlightGear skies are generally clear of traffic, so we don't need a flight following service. If you want to change the amount of traffic in the sky, you can do so from the *AI* menu.

Livermore Airport is Towered (towered airports are drawn in blue on the sectional), so we will need to communicate with the tower to receive instructions on how and where to land.

Before that, we should listen to the ATIS, and re-adjust our altimeter, just in case anything has changed. This is quite unlikely on such a short flight, but if flying hundreds of miles, it might make a difference. To save time when tuning radios, you can access the Radio Frequencies dialog from the *Equipment → Radio Settings* menu. The Livermore ATIS frequency is 119,65 MHz.

An ATIS message also has a phonetic letter (Alpha, Bravo, ... Zulu) to identify the message. This phonetic is changed each time the recorded message is updated. When first contacting a tower, the pilot mentions the identifier, so the tower can double-check the pilot has up to date information.

Besides the altitude and weather information, the ATIS will also say which runway is in use. This is useful for planning our landing. Normally, due to the prevalent Westerly wind, Livermore has runways 25R and 25L in use.

Once you've got the ATIS, tune the radio to Livermore Tower. The frequency is 118,1 MHz. Depending on the level of **AI** traffic you have configured on your system, you may hear Livermore Tower talking to other aircraft that are landing or departing.

Once the frequency goes quiet, press the **'** key. This will bring up the ATC menu. Click on the radio button on the left to select what you wish to say (you only have one option), then click **OK**.

Your transmission will be displayed at the top of the screen. It will indicate who you are (type and tail number), where you are (e.g. 6 miles south), that you are landing, and the ATIS you have.

After a couple of seconds, Livermore Tower will respond, addressing you by callsign and telling you what runway to use, which pattern is in use and when to contact them, for example:

"Golf Foxtrot Sierra, Livermore Tower, Report left downwind runway two five left."

To understand what this means, we'll have to describe the Traffic Pattern.

### 9.5.2 The Traffic Pattern

With the number of aircraft flying around, there have to be standard procedures for take-off and landing, otherwise someone might try to land on-top of an aircraft taking off.

The Traffic Pattern is a standard route all aircraft must follow when near an airport, either taking off or landing. The traffic pattern has four stages (or “legs”), shown in Figure 9.16. The “downwind” mentioned above refers to one of these, the one with the number 3.

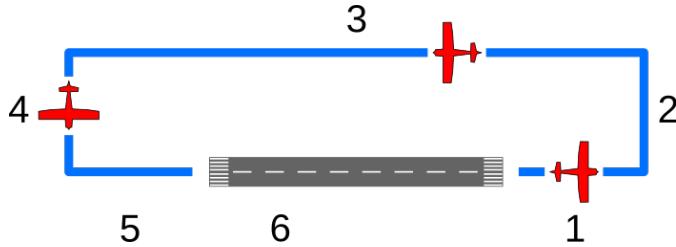


FIGURE 9.16 – The Traffic Pattern

1. Aircraft take off from the runway and climb. If they are leaving the airport, they just continue climbing straight ahead until clear of the pattern and then do whatever they like. If they are returning to the runway (for example to practise landing), they continue climbing until they reach a couple of hundred feet below “pattern altitude”. This varies from country to country, but is usually between 500 ft and 1000 ft *Above Ground Level* (AGL). This is called the *upwind* leg.
2. The pilot makes a 90 degree left-hand turn onto the *crosswind* leg. They continue their climb to “pattern altitude” and level out.
3. After about 45 seconds to a minute on the crosswind leg, the pilot again makes a 90 degree left turn onto the *downwind* leg. Aircraft arriving from other airports join the pattern at this point, approaching from a 45 degree angle away from the runway.
4. When a mile or so past the end of the runway (a good guide is when the runway is 45 degrees behind you), the pilot turns 90 degrees again onto the *base* leg and begins the descent to the runway, dropping flaps as appropriate. A descent rate of about 500 fpm is good.
5. After about 45 seconds the pilot turns again onto the *final* leg. It can be hard to estimate exactly when to perform this turn. Final adjustments for landing are made. I usually have to make small turns to align with the runway properly.
6. The aircraft lands. If the pilot is practising take-offs and landings, full power can be applied and flaps retracted for takeoff, and the aircraft can take off once more. This is known as “touch-and-go”.

Most patterns are left-handed, i.e. all turns are to the left, as described above. Right-hand patterns also exist, and are marked as “RP” on the sectional. ATC will also advise you what pattern is in use.

### 9.5.3 Approach

We’re approaching Livermore airport from the South, while the runways align East to West. Due to the prevailing Westerly wind, we’ll usually be directed to either runway 25R or 25L. 25R

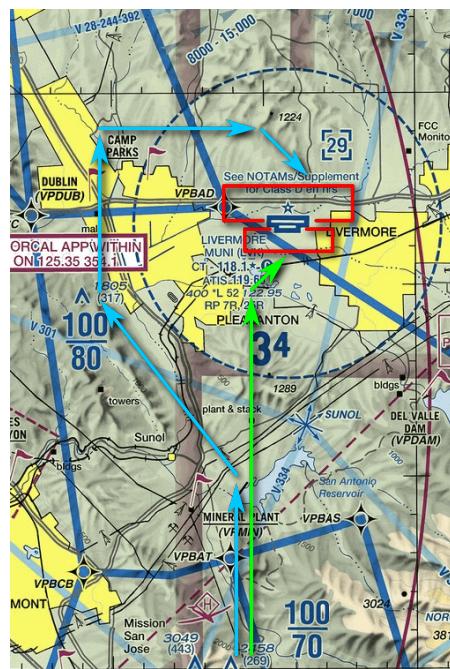


FIGURE 9.17 – Sectional extract showing approaches to Livermore

uses a right-hand pattern, while 25L uses a left-hand pattern. Both the patterns are illustrated in Figure 9.17. Depending on the runway we've been assigned, we'll approach the airport in one of two ways. If we've been asked to land on runway 25R, we'll follow the blue line in the diagram. If we've been asked to land on runway 25L, we'll follow the green line.

We also need to reduce our altitude. We want to end up joining the pattern at pattern altitude, about 1000 ft **AGL** (*Above Ground Level*). Livermore airport is at 400 ft **ASL** (*Above Sea Level*), so we need to descend to an altitude of 1400 ft **ASL**.

We want to begin our maneuvers well before we reach the airport. Otherwise we're likely to arrive too high, too fast, and probably coming from the wrong direction. Not the best start for a perfect landing :).

So, let's start descending immediately.

1. First switch off the autopilot by pressing the AP switch.
2. Return mixture to fully rich (pushed right in). If we were landing at a high airport, we'd just enrich the mixture slightly and re-adjust when we reached the pattern.
3. Apply carb-heat. This stops ice forming when the fuel and air mix before entering the cylinder, something that can often happen during descent in humid air. The carb-heat lever is located between the throttle and mixture. Pull it out to apply heat.
4. Reduce power quite a bit. Otherwise we might stress the airframe due to over-speeding.
5. Drop the nose slightly to start the descent.
6. Trim the aircraft.

Use your location relative to the airport and the two towns of Pleasanton and Livermore to navigate yourself to the appropriate pattern as shown in the figure 9.17.

Once you're established on the downwind leg, you'll need to report to ATC again. Do this in the same way as before. They will then tell you where you are in the queue to land. "Number 1" means there are no planes ahead of you, while "Number 9" means you might want to go to a less busy airport! They'll also tell you who is ahead of you and where. For example "Number 2 for landing, follow the Cessna on short final" means that there is a single aircraft in front of you that is currently on the final leg of the pattern. When they land and are clear of the runway, they'll tell ATC, who can then tell you "Number 1 for landing".

#### 9.5.4 VASI



FIGURE 9.18 – On Final at Livermore with VASI on the left

Once on final, you'll notice two sets of lights on the left of the runway (enhanced in Figure 9.18). This is the VASI (*Visual Approach Slope Indicator*) and provides a nice visual clue as to whether you're too low or too high on approach. Each set of lights can either be white or red. White means too high, red means too low. White and red together means just perfect. On a Cessna approaching at 60 kts, a descent rate of about 500 fpm should be fine. If you are too high, just decrease power to increase your descent rate to 700 fpm. If you are too low, increase power to decrease your descent rate to 200 fpm.

#### 9.5.5 Go Around

If for some reason it looks like you're going to mess up the landing you can abort the landing and try again. This is called a "Go Around". To do this:

1. Apply full power.



FIGURE 9.19 – Missed approach at Livermore

2. Wait until you have a positive rate of climb – i.e. your altitude is increasing according to the altimeter.
3. Raise your flaps to 10 degrees (first-stage).
4. Tell ATC you are “going around”.
5. Climb to pattern height.
6. If you aborted on final approach, continue over the runway to re-join the pattern on the crosswind leg. If on base, fly past the turn for final, then turn and fly parallel to the runway on the opposite side from downwind to rejoin on the crosswind leg.
7. Fly the complete pattern, telling ATC when you are on downwind, and try again.

#### 9.5.6 Clearing the Runway

Once you’re on the ground, you should taxi off the runway, then tell ATC you are clear. At high-altitude airports, you would lean the engine to avoid fouling the spark-plugs with an over-rich mixture. Find somewhere nice to park, shut down the engine by pulling mixture to full lean, then throttle off and magnetos to off (knob on the bottom left of the panel). Switch off the avionics master switch, tie down the aircraft, then go get that hamburger!

I hope this tutorial is of some use. If you have any comments, please let me know at [stuart\\_d\\_buchanan {at} yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stuart_d_buchanan@yahoo.co.uk).

# Chapitre 10

## Une balade à travers champs en IFR

### 10.1 Introduction



FIGURE 10.1 – Flying over the San Antonio Dam to Livermore (I think)

In the cross country flight tutorial (see chapter 9), you learned about VFR flight, and in the course of the flight you were introduced to most of the flight instruments in the C172P. Now we're going to do an *Instrument Flight Rules* (IFR) flight. In this flight you'll be introduced to the remaining instruments, learn a bit about IFR flight, and learn many, many TLAs (*Three-Letter Acronyms*).

We'll fly the same flight, from Reid-Hillview (KRHV), runway 31R, to Livermore (KLVK), runway 25R, only this time we'll do it in IFR conditions: a ceiling 200 ft above ground level, and 800 metre visibility. This tutorial assumes you've completed the cross country flight tutorial.

#### 10.1.1 Disclaimers



FIGURE 10.2 – On runway 31R at KRHV

This is not intended to teach you how to fly IFR. Rather, it is meant to give a flavour of what IFR flying is like, and remove the mystery of the panel instruments not covered by the cross country flight tutorial.

I'm not a pilot. Like the previous tutorial, this information has been gleaned from various non-authoritative sources. If you find an error or misunderstanding, please let me know. Mail me at [bschack-flightgear -at- usa -dot- net](mailto:bschack-flightgear-at-usa-dot-net).

This flight was flown using FlightGear 3.0. Newer or older versions of FlightGear might be slightly different (the screenshots have been updated to version 2020.3.11. The approach map for Livermore has been changed, but FlightGear still offers withdrawn navaids, so the tutorial can be followed.)

## 10.2 Before Takeoff

We need to tell FlightGear about our flight conditions. There are different ways to set our “desired” weather, but we’ll use the global weather menu. After launching FlightGear, click *Environment → Weather* to bring up the weather dialog. In the **Weather Conditions** list, select **CAT I minimum**.

This will give us a low ceiling and reduced visibility. Unfortunately, it will also give us rather stiff winds. If you don’t want to deal with them, then you can easily turn off the winds:

- Click on **Weather Conditions** again, and select **Manual input**.
- In the METAR string at the bottom, change “15015KT” (15 knot winds coming from 150°) to “15000KT” (0 knot winds coming from 150°).

Hit **OK** to make FlightGear accept the changes and close the dialog.

### 10.2.1 Flight Planning

When you look out the window, you'll see something like Figure 10.2. Those clouds don't look very friendly, and it's hard to even see past the end of the runway. Maybe we should just *drive* there in the Cessna. We had been planning to practice ground steering anyway ...

So how do you get from A to B when you can't see? There are a variety of ways that have evolved over the years, with various advantages and disadvantages. Our flight will use all of the navigation instruments the standard Cessna C172P has, just to give a taste of what's possible.

Our entire route, and the aids we'll be using, are shown in Figure 10.3. Our route is in green, the navigational aids blue and red. The route looks a bit crazy – in fact, you might wonder if we're *more* lost using our fancy equipment than just flying by the seat of our pants – but there is a method to the madness. Rather than overwhelming you with details by explaining it all now, I'll explain it bit by bit as we go along.

### 10.2.2 VHF Omnidirectional Range

The first bit will involve VOR<sup>1</sup> navigation, and will get us to a point about 5 nm (nautical miles) south of Livermore.

VOR stations are indicated on the sectional by a big bluish-green circle with compass markings around the outside. I've helped you by marking their centers with a big blue dot as well. Reid-Hillview is very close to one, San Jose, which you can see in Figure 10.3. Near the centre of the circle, in a bluish-green rectangle, is the station information. According to the station information, it's a VOR-DME station (I'll explain DME later), its name is San Jose, its frequency is 114.1 MHz (or Channel 88, which is an alternative way to say the same thing), and its identifier, or "ident", is SJC (which in Morse code is ⋯ ·--- -··).

To tune into a VOR station, we use one of the NAV receivers, which are paired with the COMM receivers (see Figure 10.4). And we navigate using the corresponding VOR gauge. We'll choose the NAV1 receiver (and VOR1 gauge) in this case (NAV2 would have worked just as well). Before setting the frequency, check out the VOR1 gauge. It should look like VOR1 on the left in Figure 10.5. The important thing is the red "NAV" flag. That means there's no VOR signal, so we can't trust the gauge.

The NAV receiver has an active frequency, a standby frequency, and a tuning knob, just like the COMM receiver.<sup>2</sup> Tune it to 114.1, and press the swap button. If you look at VOR1, you should notice that the red "NAV" flag has disappeared, to be replaced with a "TO" flag, as shown on the right of Figure 10.5. That means we're receiving a signal. But is it the correct one? What if we accidentally set the wrong frequency?

NAV1 ⇒ 114.1<sup>4</sup>

To confirm that we're tuned into the correct VOR, we listen for its ident. If you can't hear the ident, or if it doesn't match the chart, don't trust the needle. So far, you probably haven't heard a thing. Why? Check the audio panel (see Figure 10.4). You'll note there's a switch for all the instruments that produce useful sounds, and NAV1 is one of them. Flip the switch up (or

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1. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/VHF\\_omnidirectional\\_range](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/VHF_omnidirectional_range) for more information.

2. Operation of the COMM receivers was covered in the cross country flight tutorial.

4. All important actions and events will be given in the margin. This should provide a nice summary of the flight, uncluttered by the verbiage of the text.

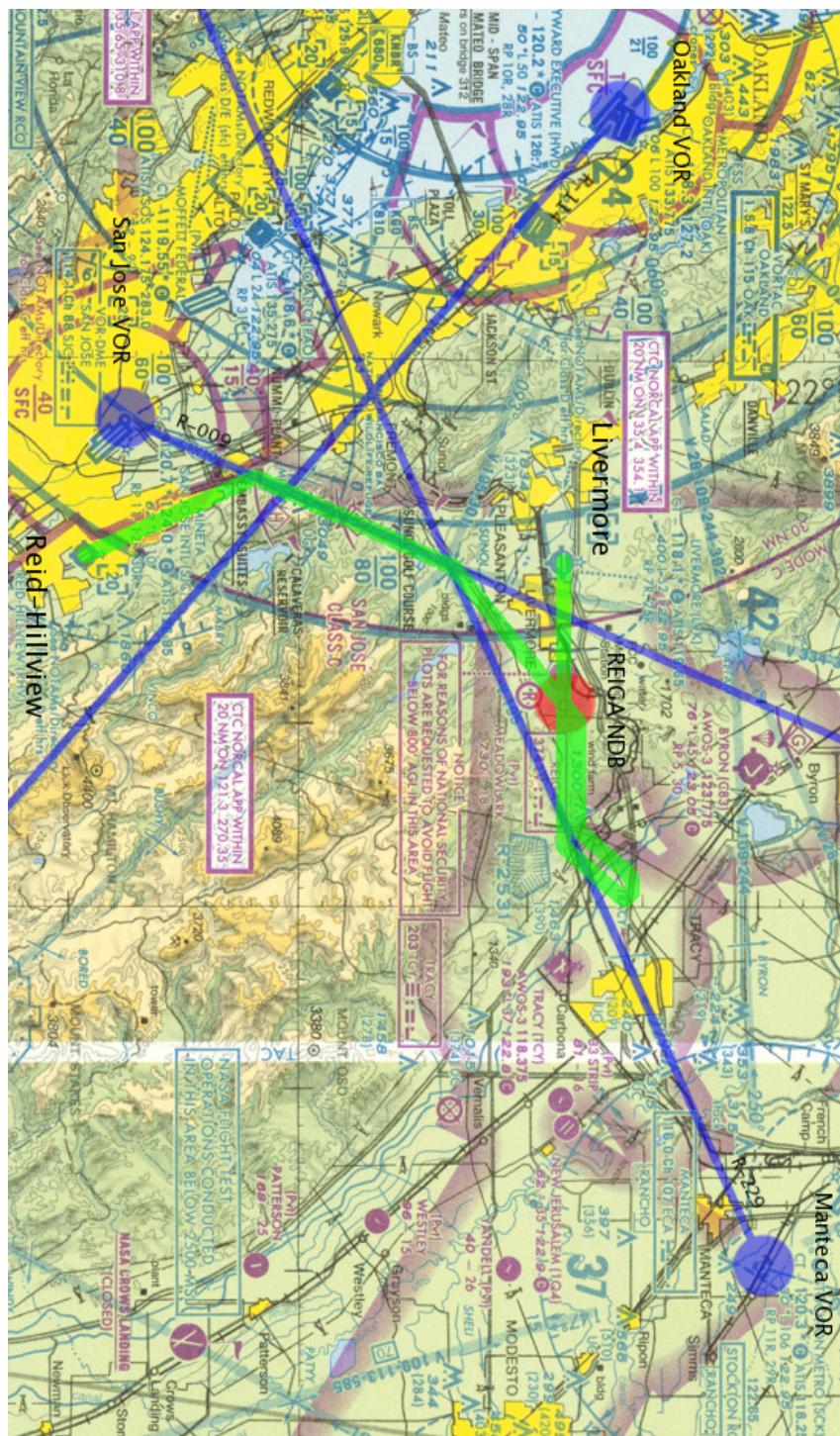


FIGURE 10.3 – Green: our route, Blue: VORs and radials, Red: NDBs



FIGURE 10.4 – IFR navigation instruments

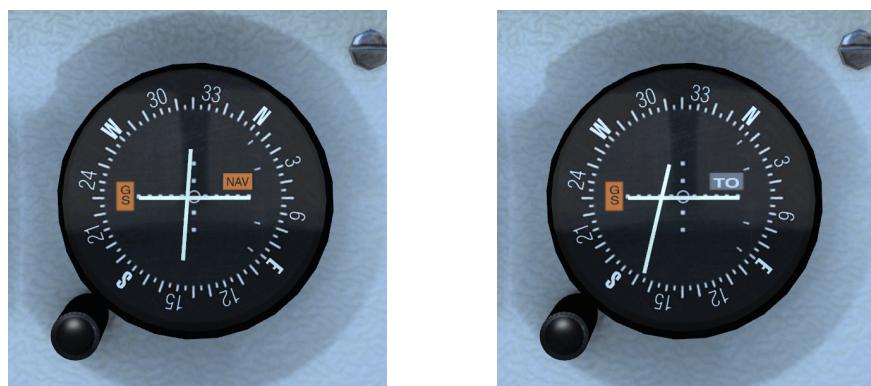


FIGURE 10.5 – VOR1, before and after tuning

down – it doesn't matter), and you should hear this: ⋯ ··· ··· ···.<sup>5</sup> Nice. Flip the switch back to the centre when you get tired of listening to dots and dashes.

Back to VOR1. There's a knob on the lower left, called the **OBS** (*Omni Bearing Selector*). As the name vaguely suggests, it is used to select a bearing. If you turn it, you should see the vertical needle, called the **CDI** (*Course Deviation Indicator*) move.<sup>6</sup> Try to center the needle. It should center when the little arrow at the top points to somewhere around 277. That number, and the TO flag means: "Flying at a heading of 277° will lead you directly *to the station*".

That's great, except, according to our route, we don't want to go *to* the station. We actually want to intercept the light blue line labelled "009" (the "9 degree radial") coming *from* the station. How do we do that? Simple. Set the OBS to 9. When we fly across the radial, the needle will center, and the flag will say FROM. This tells us: "flying at a heading of 009° will lead you directly away *from* the station", which is what we want. At that point we'll turn right to a heading of 009°.

VOR1 OBS ⇒ 009

One final thing – set the heading bug on the directional gyro to our current runway heading (about 310°).

Heading bug ⇒ 310

### 10.2.3 How High Are We Really?

One effect of our changing the weather conditions is that the barometric pressure is no longer the standard value of 29,92 inHg. Our altimeter needs to know the correct value, otherwise it will report the wrong altitude. This isn't critical at takeoff, but it can make a *huge* difference when descending through the clouds (can you say "controlled flight into terrain"?).

As described in the cross-country flight tutorial, we get the current barometric pressure via ATIS. To recap, click *AI* → *ATC Services in Range*, select our airport, and look up the ATIS frequency (it should be 125,2 MHz). Dial this frequency into COMM1 or COMM2 (remembering to flip the appropriate switch on the audio panel), listen to the ATIS report, and set the altimeter to the given barometric pressure.

We are going to be using the autopilot (see Figures 10.4 and 10.6) to hold an altitude (more on that later), so it also needs to know the barometric pressure. To do so, click the **BARO** button on the autopilot. You should see "29.92" displayed – this is what the autopilot thinks the barometric pressure is. Before the "29.92" disappears (within about 3 seconds), rotate the big dial to change it to the correct value.

## 10.3 Takeoff

We're ready to take off. There are other preparations that we should have made, but again, in the interests of not overwhelming your brains, I'm only feeding you a bare minimum of information, and feeding it in trickles. This brings us to the most important control you have – the **p** key. Use this often, especially when a new concept is introduced.

Take off; climb on runway heading

Okay. Take off, keeping a heading of 310° for now. Establish a steady rate of climb. We plan

---

5. Still can't hear it? Check the volume control on the NAV1 receiver. If that has no effect, click *File* → *Sound Configuration* and adjust the settings. If that doesn't work, check the volume on your computer. If that doesn't work, and you have external speakers, adjust the volume on the speakers. And if that doesn't work, check your ears.

6. The horizontal needle is used in ILS landings, which will be explained later.

to climb to 4000 ft. There's just one problem though – those ugly-looking clouds are standing in our way.

## 10.4 In the Air

If this is your first attempt at IFR flight, you will find it impossible to fly once you enter the clouds. When you enter the clouds, you will be momentarily disconcerted by the lack of visual cues. "No matter", you then think. "I'll just keep things steady". In a few moments, though, you'll probably notice dials and needles spinning crazily, and without knowing it, you'll be flying upside down, or diving towards the ground, or stalling, or all three.

It takes practice to get used to flying without external visual clues, although it's a skill that you definitely *must* master if you want to fly IFR. For now though, we'll use "George", the autopilot, to make this part of flying easier.

### 10.4.1 George I

Once you've established a steady rate of climb and heading, engage the autopilot by pressing the **AP** button. You should see "ROL" displayed on the left to show that it's in "roll mode" – it is keeping the wings level. In the middle it will display "VS", to show it is in "vertical speed" mode – it is maintaining a constant vertical speed. On the right it will *momentarily* display that vertical speed (in feet per minute). Initially, the value is your vertical speed at the moment the autopilot is turned on. In the case of Figure 10.6, the autopilot has set the vertical speed to 300 feet per minute.



FIGURE 10.6 – Autopilot after engaging

When you engage the autopilot, **CHECK THIS CAREFULLY**. It may occur that you engage the autopilot at a time when you had an irrational rate of climb, such as 1800 feet per minute. Our little Cessna cannot sustain this, and if the autopilot tries to maintain this (and it will), you will stall before you can say "Icarus".

We want a vertical speed of around 500 to 700 feet per minute. Hit the up and down (**UP** and **DN**) buttons to adjust the vertical speed to a nice value. Take into account the airspeed as well. We want a sustainable rate of climb.

Finally, once you're climbing nicely, hit the heading (**HDG**) button. On the display, "ROL" will change to "HDG", and the autopilot will turn the airplane to track the heading bug. Since you set the heading bug to the runway heading, and you took off straight ahead (didn't you?), it shouldn't turn much.

Engage autopilot;  
set vertical speed;  
engage heading  
mode

### 10.4.2 MISON Impossible

It's around 8 nm to the 009 radial intercept, so we've got a bit of time. Since there's no scenery to admire (eg, see Figure 10.7), we might as well prepare for the next phase of the flight.



FIGURE 10.7 – Typical IFR scenery

If you look along our route, just after we intercept the 009 radial and turn north, we pass by a point labelled MISON (see Figure 10.8 for a closeup of that section of the chart without my fat blue and green lines drawn on top. MISON is in the lower right). Just above and to the left of MISON are two crossed arrows. MISON is an intersection. We're actually going to pass east of MISON, but the radial passing roughly from northwest to southeast through MISON (and our route) is of interest to us. We're going to use it to monitor our progress.

Noting our passage of that radial isn't strictly necessary – we can just keep flying along the 009 radial from San Jose until we need to turn. But it's useful for two reasons: First, it's nice to know exactly where we are. Second, it confirms we are where we think we are. If we fly and fly and never cross the radial, alarm bells should start going off.

Looking at the sectional, we see that the radial is the 114 radial from the Oakland VORTAC (VOR TACAN, where TACAN stands for *TACTical Air Navigation*). Oakland's frequency is 116.8, and its ident is OAK (--- ·- -··). NAV2 should already be tuned to Oakland, but if it isn't, do it now. Turn on NAV2 in the audio panel and make sure you're getting the correct ident.

$\text{NAV2} \Rightarrow 116.8$

$\text{VOR2 OBS} \Rightarrow 114$  7 See if you can guess whether the flag should read TO or FROM when we cross the 114 radial. And see if you can guess whether the needle will move from left to right or right to left as we cross the radial.

---

7. If you get tired of clicking on the knobs, much of this can be done more easily using the *Equipment → Radio Settings* dialog.

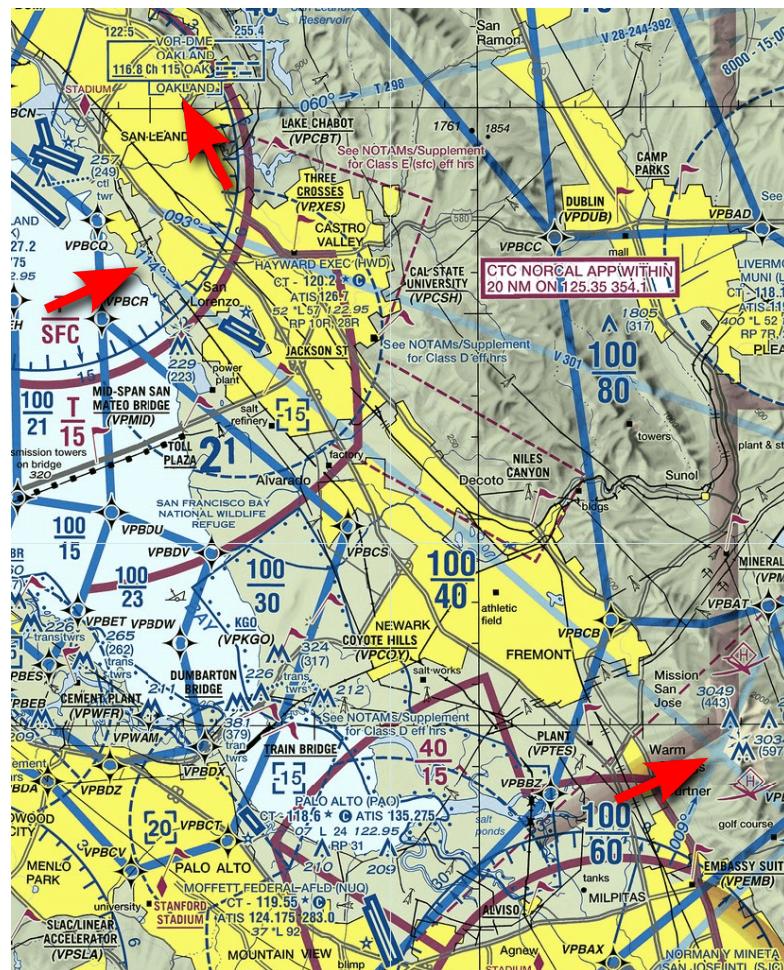


FIGURE 10.8 – Oakland VOR and 114 radial to MISON intersection

A final note: For our purposes, there's nothing magical about the 114 radial – we could have used 113, or 115, or 100, or 090. The reason I chose 114 is because there was a line on the map already drawn along the 114 radial, which saved me the trouble of drawing a line myself.

### 10.4.3 George II

As we continue towards the 009 radial intercept, let's look a bit more closely at the autopilot. First of all, if you aren't in the habit of trimming the airplane, you'll probably notice a flashing "PT" with an arrow on the autopilot. This means you need to trim the plane, which the autopilot will do for you automatically. The arrows indicate the trim direction, the up arrow – nose up, down arrow – nose down.

Also, on the right there's a big knob, the altitude select knob, which we can use to dial in a target altitude. We're going to use it. Turn it until you see our desired cruising altitude, 4000 ft, displayed on the right. When you started turning it, "ALT ARM" should have appeared in the autopilot display (as in Figure 10.9). This indicates that you've selected a target altitude. The autopilot will maintain the current rate of climb until reaching that altitude, at which point it will level off and change from vertical speed (VS) mode to altitude hold (ALT) mode. In altitude hold mode it maintains an altitude (in this case our target altitude of 4000 ft).<sup>8</sup> It will also politely beep 5 times when you cross 3000 ft to remind you that you're within 1000 ft the armed altitude.



FIGURE 10.9 – Autopilot with altitude armed

Don't forget that the autopilot won't adjust the throttle, so when it levels out, the airplane (and engine) will speed up. You'll need to adjust the throttle to get a proper cruise.

### 10.4.4 Staying the Course

At some point you'll intercept the 009 radial (the VOR1 needle will centre). Turn to a heading of 009. You can do this using the heading bug on the directional gyro if you're using the autopilot.

Unless you're good or lucky, the needle probably won't be centered. We need to adjust our course. The CDI needle (the vertical needle on the VOR) tells us where to go. If it's to the left, that means the radial is to the left, so we need to go left. Ditto for right.

<sup>8</sup>. Of course, you don't really have to do this – you could just watch the altimeter, and when it gets to 4000 ft, reduce the vertical speed to 0, or press the ALT button to enter altitude hold mode. But by using the altitude select knob, we've demystified one more mystery button.

Set autopilot altitude to  
4000

It's quite easy in theory, although in practice you may find that it's hard to keep the needle centered, and that you are slaloming down the radial. The key is to realize this: the *position* of the needle tells us where we *are*, the *motion* of the needle tells us what to *do*.

I'll explain. If the needle is to our left, then, yes, the radial is definitely to our left.<sup>9</sup> But if the needle is *moving* towards us, that means we're going to cross the radial, sooner or later, so our situation is improving, and we probably just need to wait for the needle to center. On the other hand, if the needle is *moving* away, we need to turn towards it to stop, and reverse, its motion.

Note that the amount we need to turn is difficult to guess correctly at first, so experiment. Try 10°. If the needle moves too fast, cut it down to 5° (ie, turn back 5°). If, on the other hand, the needle moves too slowly, double it to 20° (ie, add another 10°), and see what happens.

#### 10.4.5 Yet More Cross-Checks

Cross-checking your position is always a good thing. The intersection with the Oakland 114 radial is one way. Ahead of that lies the SUNOL intersection. If you look closely, 5 separate radials join at the point, so we have an embarrassment of choices with regards to the intersecting radial. Because it will come in useful later, we're going to use the one coming in from the upper right. Another check of the sectional reveals that this is the 229 radial of the Manteca VORTAC, 116.0 MHz, ident ECA (- -·- ·-).

Cross OAK 114 radial

You should know the drill by now: Tune NAV2 to 116.0, set the OBS to 229, and check the ident to confirm the station.

NAV2 ⇒ 116.0  
VOR2 OBS ⇒ 229

Meanwhile, let's introduce another piece of gear on the panel that will cross-check the SUNOL passage. Some VOR stations have a distance capability, called DME (*Distance Measuring Equipment*)<sup>10</sup>. For example, San Jose does (remember it's a VOR-DME station), as do Oakland and Manteca (VORTACs have DME capabilities).

Using DME, you can find out how far you are, in straight-line distance, from the VOR station. In our scenario, the DME isn't necessary, but we'll use it anyway, just to see how it works, and to reconfirm our position.

The DME is the instrument below the autopilot (refer to Figure 10.4). Make sure it's turned on. The selector to the left of the on/off switch is probably set to N1, where "N1" means "listen to NAV1". Since NAV1 is tuned to San Jose, it's telling us the distance to the San Jose VOR-DME. Switch the DME to N2. It now shows us the distance to the Manteca VOR.

DME ⇒ N2

The DME shows you 3 things: the distance in nautical miles to the station, your speed towards or away from the station, and estimated time to the station at the current speed. Note that the distance is the direct distance from your plane to the station (called the "slant distance"), not the ground distance. Note as well that the speed is relative to the station, so unless you're flying directly to or from the station, it will probably be lower than your true groundspeed. For example, the speed from San Jose, which is directly behind us, should be greater than the speed towards Manteca, which is off to the right.

If we look up information about the SUNOL intersection,<sup>11</sup> it tells us that it is 33.35 nm (as

9. Unless you're heading in the opposite direction, but that's another story.

10. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distance\\_Measuring\\_Equipment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distance_Measuring_Equipment) for more information.

11. For example, from <https://www.airnav.com/airspace/fix/SUNOL>.

measured by a DME receiver) from ECA on the 229.00 radial (that's what "ECA229.00/33.35" means).

Now we have two ways to confirm the SUNOL intersection: The VOR2 needle will center, and the DME will read 33.4 or so. Note that the DME doesn't provide us with a very precise fix here because Manteca is at such an oblique angle. But it does give us a good warning of SUNOL's impending arrival. Moreover, if it has an unexpected value (like 30), it should raise a few alarm bells.

You may be wondering what "HLD" means (the setting between N1 and N2 on the DME). It stands for "hold", and means "retain the current frequency, regardless of whether NAV1 or NAV2 are retuned". For example, if we switch from N2 to HLD, the DME will continue to display (and update) information to Manteca. Even if we retune NAV2, the DME will remain tuned to Manteca. This is handy, because it basically represents a third independent receiver, and in IFR flight two receivers just never seem like enough.

## 10.5 Getting Down

We're getting close to SUNOL, flying along the 009 radial from San Jose, monitoring our position with the DME. At SUNOL we'll be less than 5 nm from Livermore, somewhere down there in the clouds. Perhaps if we just descended to 700 ft or so (Livermore is at 400, the ceiling is at 750) and headed more or less directly north after SUNOL, we'd get there? A recipe for disaster my friend, and you know it.

### 10.5.1 Instrument Approach Procedures

As you recall from the previous tutorial, when flying VFR, you don't just point your airplane to the nearest runway to land. You need to fly a pattern. This helps you line up, and helps prevent planes from crashing into one another, which is a Good Thing.

Similarly with IFR landings. There's a procedure to follow. In fact, there are *procedures* to follow. Because of the complexity of landing in IFR conditions, there's no single procedure for all airports. You need to check for your particular airport. In fact, you usually need to check for your particular airport, runway, and navigation equipment.

Our airport is Livermore (KLVK). Let's check the information for that airport. Go to <https://www.airnav.com/airport/KLVK> to see what they've got. Down near the bottom, we have IAPs (*Instrument Approach Procedures*). There are three listed for runway 25R. The first is an ILS (*Instrument Landing System*) approach, the second is a GPS (*Global Positioning System*) approach and the third is a LOC (*Localizer*). For this tutorial, let's choose the ILS approach (which I'll explain later).

Although Livermore only has three different instrument approach procedures, big airports have many many more. If you look at nearby San Francisco, you'll see they have a *slew* of procedures. There are ILS procedures, GPS procedures, LDA (*Localizer-type Directional Aid*) procedures, VOR procedures, ... I wouldn't be surprised if they had a procedure for someone with a sextant and an hourglass in there. To learn IFR flight, you'll need to master all of them.

Back to Livermore. If you download the procedure, you'll see something like Figure 10.10 (except for the colour). It's pretty overwhelming at first – it compresses a lot of information in

a small space. We'll ignore as much as we can, restricting ourselves to the three parts that have been coloured in. And we'll do those parts on a "need to know" basis – we'll only look at them when we really have to.

Where to start? At the beginning of course. An IAP will have one or more *Initial Approach Fixes (IAFs)*. These are your entry points to the approach procedure and can be found in the "plan view", which I've coloured purple in Figure 10.10. Our IAP lists two, one in the middle and one on the right (see Figure 10.11 for a close-up).

An IAF is a *fix*, and a fix is an identifiable point in space. In fact, we've already encountered another kind of fix, namely a VOR intersection. Fixes are also usually named (eg, MISON, SUNOL). The IAF on the right is named TRACY, and consists of a radial, a distance, and an altitude. Specifically, it's 15 DME (15 nm as measured by a DME receiver) along the 229 radial from the ECA (ie, Manteca) VOR.

### 10.5.2 Non-directional Beacons

However, we're not going to use TRACY as our IAF. We're going to use the IAF in the middle, which is a marker (**LOM** stands for *Locator Outer Marker*). We'll worry about what an outer marker is later. For now let's concentrate on the locator part. The locator in an LOM is an **NDB** (*Non-Directional Beacon*)<sup>12</sup>. It's a bit like a VOR, in that it can be used to determine your heading and navigate from place to place. Like a VOR, it has a name (REIGA, in this case), a frequency (374 kHz), and an ident (LV, or ···· ···· in Morse). NDBs also appear on sectionals, as fuzzy red circles with a small circle in the middle, with their identification information placed in a red box nearby. (see Figure 10.12 for a closeup. Don't confuse the NDB, which is fuzzy, with the solid red circle on the left, nor the circle below with the "R" inside).

An NDB station basically broadcasts a signal that says "I'm over here", and the receiver on the plane can receive that signal and tell you, the pilot, "the station is over there". You just need to tune the receiver and monitor the correct instruments. The receiver, labelled **ADF** (*Automatic Direction Finder*) Receiver, and the corresponding instrument, also labelled ADF, are shown in Figure 10.4.

To tune into REIGA, turn the tuning knob on the receiver until 374 is displayed as the standby (STDBY) frequency. Use the big knob to change the frequency every 100 kHz, and the small knob to change the frequency every 1 kHz. Additionally, as always, you can hold down the **Shift** key to increase the pitch, respectively every 600 kHz for a large knob and every 10 kHz for a small knob. Then hit the swap button (labelled "FRQ"). The 374 is now displayed as the selected (USE) frequency. The needle on the ADF should swing around, eventually pointing ahead to the right, to REIGA. But it might not. Why? Because the receiver might be in antenna mode (as show by the "ANT" in the upper-left portion of the display).<sup>13</sup> If it is in antenna mode, hit the **ADF** button so that "ADF" shows. Now the needle should swing to point to REIGA. Like VORs, to be sure we're really tuned into the right station, we need to hear the ident as well, so hit the ADF switch on the audio panel and check.

**ADF** ⇒ 374

12. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-directional\\_beacon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Non-directional_beacon) for more information.

13. Antenna mode, by the way, is usually used to identify an NDB, because it gives better audio reception. While in antenna mode, however, the ADF will *not* point to the station – the needle will be parked pointing directly right.

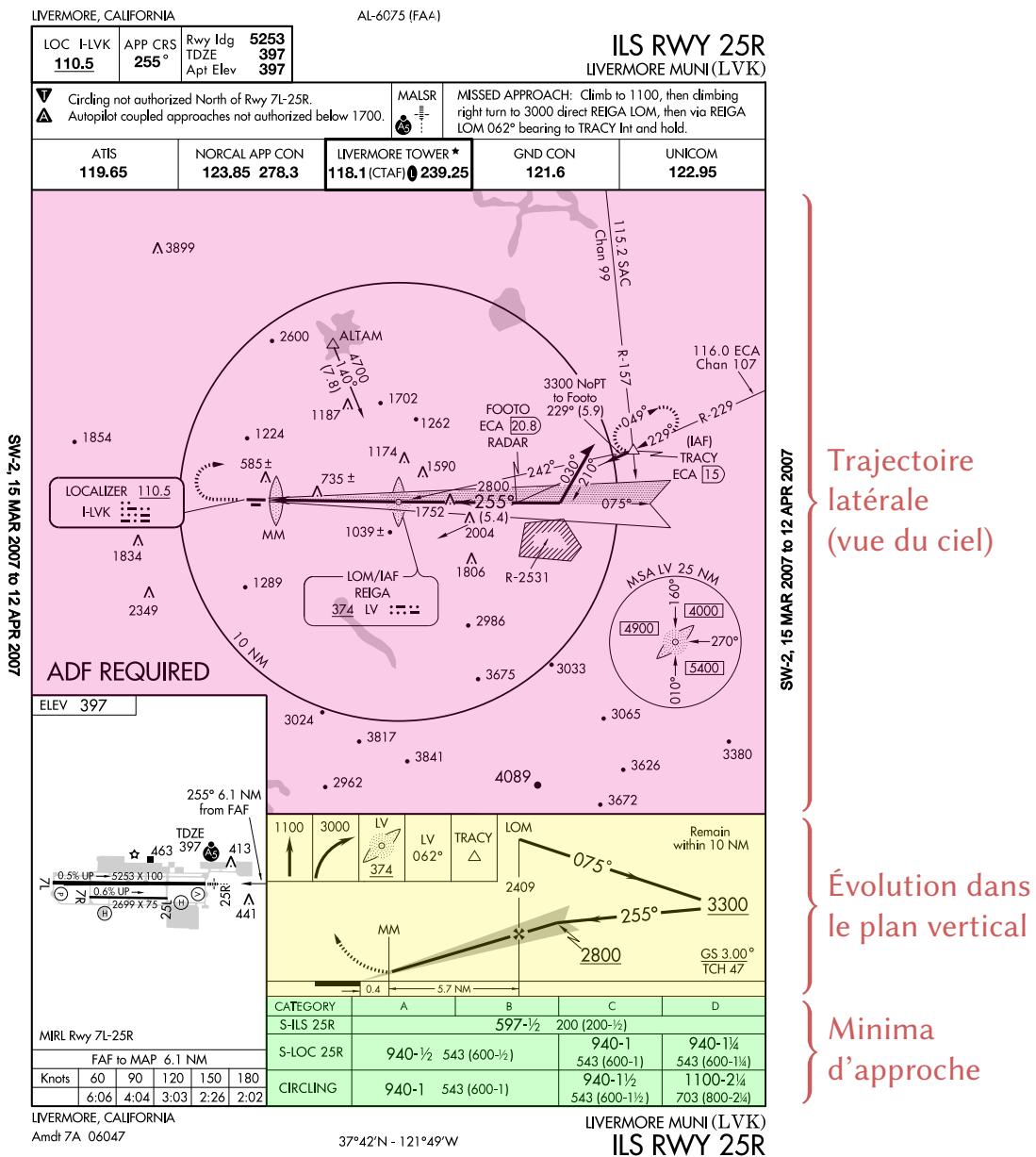


FIGURE 10.10 – ILS approach plate for Livermore runway 25R

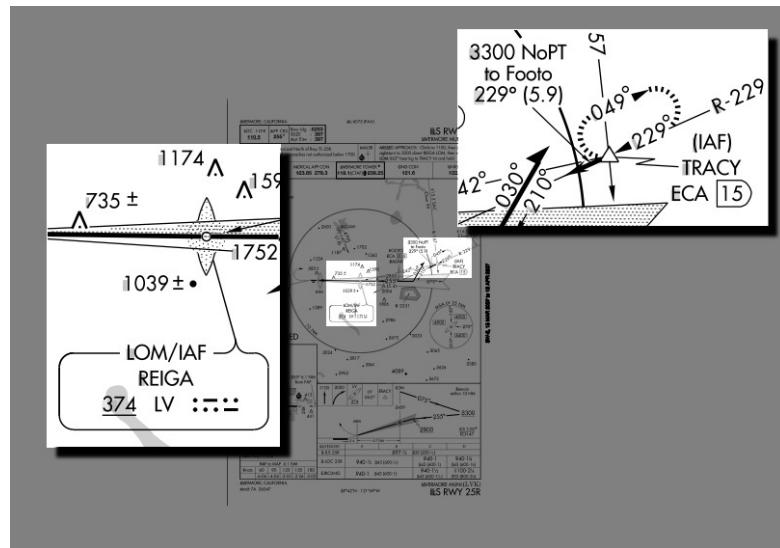


FIGURE 10.11 – Initial approach fixes

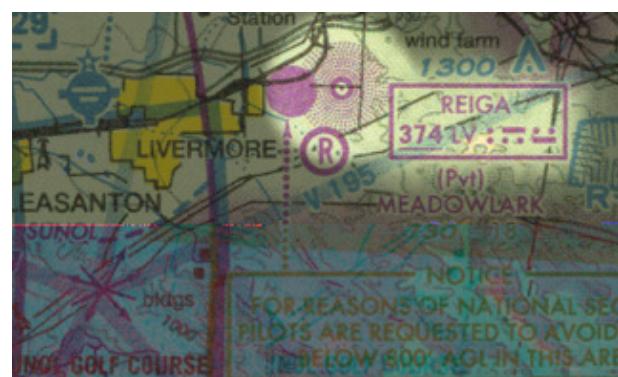


FIGURE 10.12 – REIGA non-directional beacon

Notice there's no OBS to set for an ADF – the needle just points to the station, which is nice. This leads us to our first rule for ADFs:

**ADF Rule 1:** The needle points to the station.

Pretty simple. In fact, you may not think it merits a “rule”, but it's important to emphasize the difference between ADFs and VORs. A VOR, remember, tracks a single radial, which you specify by turning the OBS. An ADF has a knob, and a identical-looking compass card, so it's tempting to believe it acts the same way. It doesn't. Turn the ADF heading knob (labelled “HDG”) and see what happens. The compass card moves, but the arrow doesn't. It just *points to the station*.

In our current situation, where we just want to fly to REIGA, that's all we need to know to use the ADF. If the needle points “over there”, then we'll fly “over there”, and eventually we'll pass over REIGA. However, for the sake of practice, and because it will be necessary later, I'm going to give the second rule for ADFs, which explains what the compass card is there for:

**ADF Rule 2:** *If* the compass card reflects our current heading, then the needle gives the bearing *to* the station.

In other words, the compass card gives “over there” a number.

Now we're ready to head to REIGA. Rotate the ADF heading knob until our current heading is at the top (basically, the ADF should match the directional gyro). When we pass the SUNOL intersection, look at the ADF needle, and set the HDG bug to that heading (I assume you're using the autopilot. If not, just turn to that heading). At the end of the turn, the ADF needle should point straight ahead. And if it doesn't, adjust your heading so that it does.<sup>14</sup>

By the way, the closer you get to REIGA, the more sensitive the needle becomes to changes in your heading. Don't go crazy trying to keep the needle centered as you get close. Maintain a steady heading, and get ready for the ...

Cross SUNOL; turn to  
REIGA

### 10.5.3 Procedure Turn

So, once we hit REIGA, do we just turn left and head down to the runway? Ah, if only life were so simple. No, we turn right, *away* from the airport, and do a *procedure turn*. We know there's a procedure turn because of the barbed arrow in the plan view (see Figure 10.13). As you can see if you follow the arrow, we need to fly away, on a heading of 075°, then turn left 45° to a heading of 030°. We do a U-turn (to the right, *away* from the airport – that's one of the rules about procedure turns) to come back at 210°, then a 45° right turn to 255°, heading straight towards the runway. All of this turning gives us time to set ourselves correctly on course, at the right altitude, to land on 25R.

Hmmm. I mentioned “right altitude”, but how do we know that is? That's down below, in the profile view (the yellow part of Figure 10.10). You can see that at the top is the LOM, our IAF. Now follow the arrows. After the IAF, we head out at 075°. During the procedure turn we can descend to 3300 ft, but *no lower* (that's what the line *under* the 3300 means). After we finish our procedure turn and are heading back at 255°, we can descend to 2800 ft, but *no lower*, until we intercept the glide slope.

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14. Which is actually bad technique in the presence of a crosswind, but I'm ignoring the wind to simplify the tutorial.

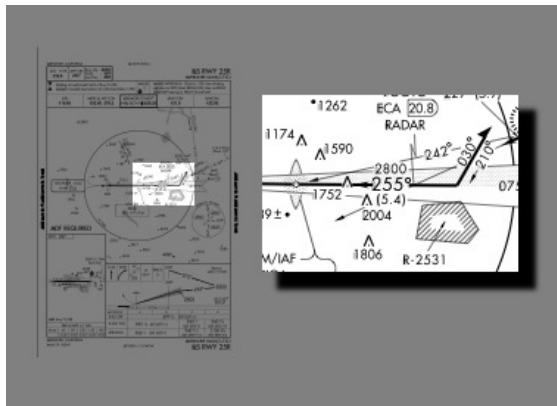


FIGURE 10.13 – Livermore ILS procedure turn

One thing the instrument approach procedure does *not* tell you is the length of the procedure turn. The only constraint is that you must not fly more than 10 nm away from the NDB. You'll notice there's a 10 nm circle drawn around it in the plan view, and a note in the profile view saying "Remain within 10 NM". They're not kidding. So, since we fly at around 110 knots, two minutes on each leg is reasonable – two minutes at 075°, and two minutes at 030°. On the way back we don't care about times – we just want to intercept 255°.

So, after we pass REIGA, turn right to 075°. Our ADF receiver has a built-in timer, so we'll use that to time our two-minute leg. Hit the "FLT/ET" (flight time/elapsed time) button. The "FRQ" in the middle of the display will disappear, "FLT" will appear on the right, and the standby frequency will be replaced by a time. This is the total flight time, and cannot be changed, except by cycling the power. Hit "FLT/ET" again. Now you'll see "ET" displayed, and a time, probably the same as the flight time. To reset the elapsed time, hit the next switch, labelled "SET/RST". The timer should reset to 0, then start counting up (see Figure 10.14).<sup>15</sup> Each time you hit "SET/RST", the elapsed time will reset to 0. If you want to see the standby frequency again, hit "FRQ" once. The timers will continue to run.



FIGURE 10.14 – ADF with timer running

#### 10.5.4 Chasing the Needle

15. The timer can also be set to count down from a time you specify – except that feature has not yet been implemented.

When we approached REIGA, we weren't particularly concerned about our course – we just aimed for REIGA. Now, however, our course is important. We want to be flying directly away from REIGA *on a course of 075°*.

Cross REIGA;  
Fly at 075° away from  
REIGA for two minutes

Now, in an ideal world, after we turned to 075°, the ADF needle would be pointed directly behind you (ie, we'd be on course). Probably it isn't, so we need to adjust our course. The key to adjusting our course is ADF Rule 2. If we've set the compass card correctly, then the needle shows us the current NDB bearing. If we turn and fly until we intercept the 255 bearing, then turn to 075°, we'll be right on course.

Figure 10.15 shows what I mean. In the figure, the plane, flying along the green line, is initially off course.<sup>16</sup> The heading is correct, 075°, but the station is at 225°, not 255°. To correct this, we turn right (remembering to adjust the ADF compass card to match our new heading). As we fly on this new heading, we get closer to the correct position, crossing the 235 and 245 bearings (shown in red). Finally, when we the ADF needle points to 255°, we turn left to 075°, and readjust the ADF compass card.<sup>17</sup> We are now on course.

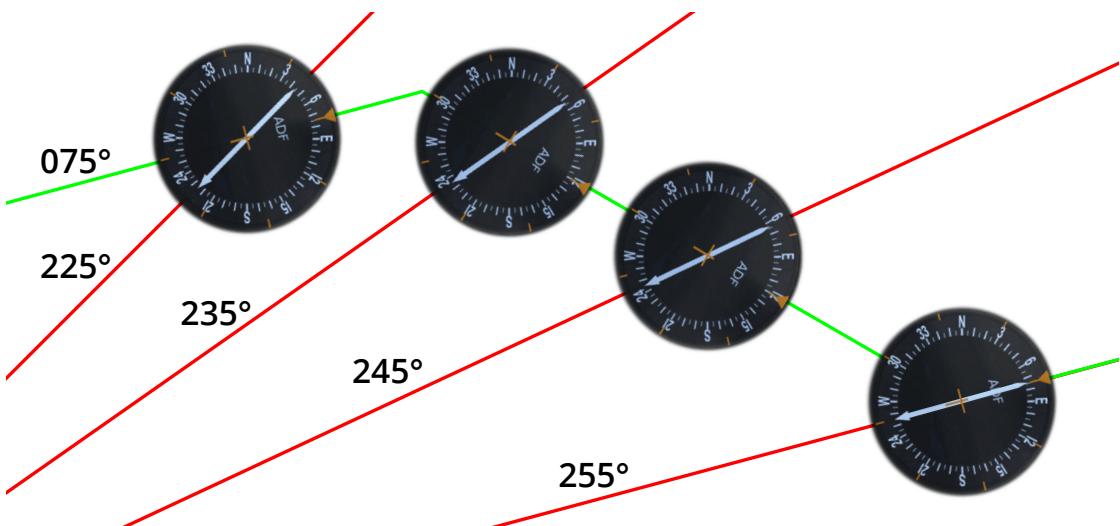


FIGURE 10.15 – Getting back on course

Of course, even when you get back on track, that won't be the end of the story. Your airplane drifts; your mind drifts; your compass drifts; the wind pushes you around. What you find is that you will be constantly making little corrections. That's okay, as long as we're close. And anyway, before long (2 minutes actually), we'll turn left 45° to 030° as part of our procedure turn, at which point we'll just ignore the NDB anyway. Sigh. All that effort for just 2 minutes. Hardly seems worth it.

### 10.5.5 FOOTO Time

16. Way off course, actually. I've exaggerated the angles to make the explanation clearer.

17. You might be thinking "Wouldn't it be nice if there was an ADF where the compass card rotated automatically?" Well, such an ADF does exist, and it comes with its own acronym – **RMI** (*Radio Magnetic Indicator*).

While you're flying outbound, take an occasional look at VOR2, tuned to Manteca, and the DME. Assuming the OBS is still at 229, and the DME still tuned to N2, at some point the needle should center, meaning you've crossed the 229 radial, and, if you're on course, at the same time the DME should read 20.8. How do I know that? If you look at the approach plate (Figure 10.10), you'll notice an intersection, named FOOTO. FOOTO is on the approach, and is defined to be 20.8 DME from ECA. Although this intersection is not strictly necessary for us, it comes for free, and provides good confirmation of our position both outbound and, later, inbound.

Depending on how fast you're flying, you'll probably pass FOOTO close to the time your two minutes at 075° are up. At the end of two minutes, turn left 45° to 030°. Reset the timer, and fly for another two minutes on this heading.

### 10.5.6 George III

This leg is relatively uneventful, so we'll take advantage of the lull in the action to descend to 3300 ft. Before descending, check the KLVK ATIS (it should be 119.65 MHz) and make sure your altimeter is correct.

Assuming you're using the autopilot, you will need to do a few things to descend:

1. If you're in altitude hold (ALT) mode, you need to get back into vertical speed (VS) mode. Press the **ALT** button – the “ALT” in the middle of the display should change to “VS”, and your current vertical speed (probably 0) should be displayed momentarily on the right.
2. Click the **DN** button until you get a vertical speed of -500 feet per minute.
3. If you want to set the target altitude, like before, rotate the big knob on the right until “3300” shows up on the right side of the display. “ALT ARM” should appear on the bottom.

Turn left to 030°; fly for two minutes while descending to 3300

Note that if you're using the autopilot to descend, it will just push the nose down, like a bad pilot, so the airplane will speed up. We want to go down, but we don't want to speed up, so we need to reduce engine RPMs to keep the speed at 110 knots. Later, when you level off at 3300 ft, you'll have to increase power again.

If you're flying manually, then you just need to adjust the engine to get the descent rate you want – the plane should stay magically at 110 knots if it's already trimmed for 110.

### 10.5.7 ILS Landings

While descending, we also need to start considering how we're going to intercept 255° on the way back and follow it down to the runway. You might think we're going to use the NDB like we did on the outbound leg, but at this point, the NDB is not good enough. This is an **ILS** landing, a so-called “precision” landing, and an NDB is just not precise enough. It can get us close to the runway, but not close enough.

So, we're going to switch over to our ILS system. It is much more accurate horizontally. As well, it offers vertical guidance, something which the NDB does not give at all. And hey, it also gives you something else to learn in our few remaining minutes so that you don't get bored.

As with NDB and VOR navigation, the ILS system<sup>18</sup> has a transmitter (or *transmitters* – a localizer *and* a glide slope) on the ground, and a receiver and a gauge in the aircraft. The receiver, it turns out, is just a NAV receiver, of which we have two. The gauge is like a VOR indicator, but it has an added glide slope indicator, which is a horizontal (you hope) needle. Like a VOR, the vertical needle shows whether you're left or right. The horizontal needle shows whether you're high or low. Our ILS gauge is our old friend VOR1.

As you might have guessed, the localizer has a frequency and ident associated with it (there's no need to tune the glide slope separately. If you tune the localizer, you've tuned the glide slope). This is shown on the approach plate in two places: at the top left corner, and in the plan view by the runway (see Figure 10.16). As we can see, the frequency is 110,5 MHz, and the ident is I-LVK (· · · · · · · · · ·).

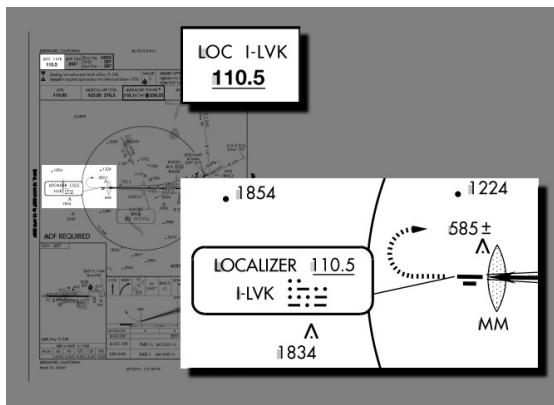


FIGURE 10.16 – Livermore 25R localizer

If you look at VOR1 now, it should be showing a red “GS” flag (this can be seen in Figure 10.5). This indicates that there is no glideslope signal. Now tune NAV1 to 110.5. The red “GS” flag should disappear. Check for the ident. Sounds lovely, doesn't it? That localizer is going to save your bacon and get you out of this interminable soup. When you tuned into the localizer, you'll also have noticed the ILS needles move. And the OBS? Well, it's useless. Try moving it. No matter how you turn it, the needles don't move in response. That's by design. A localizer is basically a VOR with *one* radial, the approach heading. We don't care about any others, so we don't need an OBS to declare interest in any others. However, it does serve as a useful reminder, so move the OBS to 255, our desired heading.

VOR1 OBS ⇒ 255

### 10.5.8 Intercepting the Localizer

We're now ready to intercept the ILS localizer. When the two minutes on the 030° leg have passed, make your U-turn to the right to 210°. Soon after you complete your turn, the vertical (localizer) needle on the ILS will begin to move. And it will move *fast*, much faster than the ADF and VOR needles did. A localizer is 4 times as sensitive as a VOR, relatively small movements

Turn right 180° to 210°

Intercept localizer

18. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Instrument\\_Landing\\_System](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Instrument_Landing_System) for more information.

of the aircraft make big changes in the needles. You'll probably overshoot, but don't worry, because we have around 5 or 10 minutes to get things straightened out.

Just remember: don't chase the needles. That mantra is now more important than ever. Those needles are sensitive – if you just turn left when the localizer needle is to the left and right when it's to the right, you'll be flying like a drunken sailor. If you're lucky, the runway will be passing underneath you as you swing across the track for the umpteenth time. Luck, though, is something we should not be relying on. Determine on how the needles are moving before making your move.

Now that you're heading back inbound at 255°, slow to 75 knots, drop a notch of flaps, and descend to 2800 ft (but no lower). And check for the inbound passage of FOOTO to confirm your position. And pat your head and rub your stomach.

Slow to 75 knots; drop a notch of flaps; descend to 2800

### 10.5.9 Intercepting the Glide Slope

As we fly towards the runway, don't forget to look at the horizontal needle, the glide-slope needle. When we intercepted the localizer, it should have been high above us, because we were actually under the glide slope. As we levelled out at 2800, the glide slope started coming "down" to us. Eventually, you should see the needle start to move down. When the needle is horizontal, that means you're on the glide slope.<sup>19</sup> And, soon after we intercept the glide slope, we should pass over the outer marker. Several things will happen more or less simultaneously, all of which confirm your position:

1. You'll hear a continuous series of dashes.
2. The blue light labelled "O" above COMM1 will flash.
3. The ADF needle will swing around.

Once on the glideslope, we need to start descending. What's a good rate? It depends on our groundspeed. In our case, we're going at 75 knots (there's almost no wind, so our airspeed and groundspeed are the same), and it turns out that we need to descend at around 400 feet per minute. With the autopilot, that's pretty easy – just dial in -400, and you're set (but remember to reduce power to keep our speed at 75 knots, or you'll hit the runway going pretty fast, and be prepared to adjust things if you drift above or below the glide slope).

Without the autopilot, it's also pretty easy – just reduce power. How much? In this case, with our plane, to around 1700 RPM. Again, it depends on many things – plane, elevation, winds, weight, ..., so you'll have to adjust things if you see the glide-slope needle start to move up or down. Like the localizer needle though, ... (are you ready?) DON'T CHASE IT. Watch how it's moving, then make your adjustment.

Intercept glideslope;  
cross outer marker;  
drop second notch  
of flaps

Since we're on final approach, you might want to drop a second notch of flaps. This will affect your trim, and you'll have to adjust power a bit as well.

### 10.5.10 Touchdown, Almost

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<sup>19</sup>. Maybe. There can be false glideslopes, and FlightGear models these, so we have to make sure we're on the real one. One purpose of the procedure turn is to get you in the correct position, at the correct altitude, to intercept the true glideslope.

After all the excitement of the procedure turn, it will seem like a long way down to the runway from the outer marker. There's not much to do but stare at those needles. In fact, you'll probably stare at them like you've never stared at them before. Take a look around at the other gauges too, though – they have useful things to tell you. Is our airspeed okay? We don't want to stall. RPMs about right? If flying manually, you'll want to constantly check the attitude indicator and directional gyro. This being a simulator, we don't have to worry about oil pressure and engine temperature, but you might want to glance over there anyway, just to get into the habit. And I hope you've done things like set the mixture to full rich (you did lean it out while cruising, didn't you?). If you want, you can lower the flaps completely as you get closer.

### 10.5.11 A Confession

I've actually made you do more work than you have to. We've been using the autopilot as a fancy steering wheel, but it's capable of more than that. You may have noticed that the autopilot has some buttons I haven't explained – NAV, APR, and REV. Well, using those buttons, the autopilot can:

**NAV:** Track a VOR radial or localizer.

**APR:** Do a direct ILS approach, tracking both the localizer *and* the glideslope.

**REV:** Intercept the ILS before the procedure turn (ie, head *away* from the localizer).

So, in fact, even more of the work you've done could have been done by the autopilot. After takeoff, you could have asked it to track the 009 radial from SJC all the way to SUNOL in NAV mode; at SUNOL, you could have asked it to fly the “back-course approach” from I-LVK in REV mode; done the procedure turn in HDG mode; finally, tracked the localizer and glideslope in APR mode.

However, I didn't give you this information for two reasons. First, flying by hand (even with the autopilot gently holding your hand, as we've been doing) gives you a better idea of what's happening. Second, the autopilot doesn't behave quite as the official manual says it should for some of these functions – best stick to the features that are known to work well.

### 10.5.12 Touchdown, Not

Although ILS approaches can get us close to the runway, closer than VFR, NDB, or VOR approaches can, we still need *some* visibility to land,<sup>20</sup> so we need a way to decide if landing is possible or not. That's what the landing minimums section of the procedure plate is for (coloured green in Figure 10.10). In the category labelled “S-ILS 25R” (that's us), you'll see “597-1/2 200(200-1/2)”. This tells us that we can track the glide slope down to an altitude of 597 feet (200 ft above the runway). At 597 ft we make our decision – if we can't see the runway, then we have to execute a missed approach. 597 ft is our Decision Height (DH).

In addition to the altimeter, this particular approach also has another indication that we're close – a *Middle Marker* (MM). This marker will sound – in this case, a dot dash series – and

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20. Well, unless it's a Category IIIC ILS approach.

the yellow light labelled “M” above COMM1 will flash. Passage over the middle marker should coincide with reaching decision height.<sup>21</sup>

So, what if you can’t see the runway at decision height? As you might have expected, just as you can’t land willy-nilly, you can’t just go around willy-nilly. There’s a Procedure. A Missed Approach Procedure. This is shown in several places on the approach plate (see Figure 10.17): At the top, where it says “MISSED APPROACH”, in the plan view, where you can see a dashed arrow coming off the end of the runway and a dashed oval on the right, and in the profile view, where a series of boxes shows graphically what to do. In our case, these all tell us to:

1. Climb straight ahead to 1100 ft
2. Make a climbing right turn to 3000 ft
3. Fly to REIGA
4. Fly outbound from REIGA at 062°
5. Fly a holding pattern at the TRACY intersection

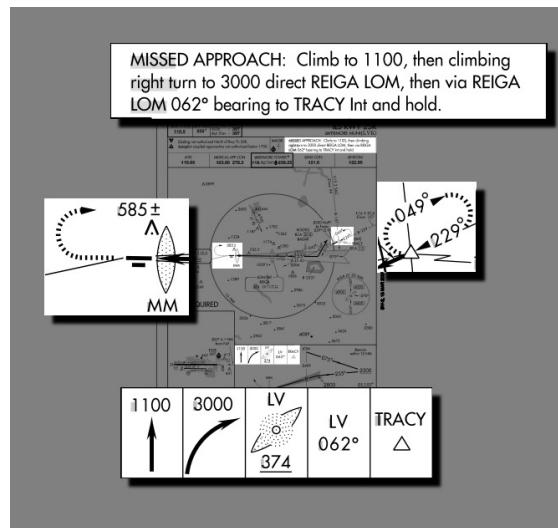


FIGURE 10.17 – Missed approach procedure

The holding pattern, as you might have guessed, is a place where you can “park” while sorting things out, and has its own set of procedures and techniques which we won’t go into here, because ...

### 10.5.13 Touchdown

In our ideal simulator world, you probably won’t have to execute a missed approach. As-

21. As you may have guessed, the remaining light – white, and labelled “A” – indicates passage of the inner marker. Our approach doesn’t have one, but San Fransisco’s runway 28R does. While passing over it, you should hear a rapid, high-pitched series of dots. Why is it labelled “A” and not “I”? Because in ancient times, it was also used to identify passage over “airway” markers along radio range tracks.

Sight runway;  
disengage autopilot;  
cross mid-marker

Land;  
eat hamburger

suming you stayed on the glide slope, you should have popped out of the murk at the decision height, and with 800 metre visibility, the runway should have been in view soon after. With the runway in sight, you could then turn wildly to get on course<sup>22</sup> (it's very hard to be lined up perfectly) and land "normally" (which for me involves a lot of bouncing around and cursing). Park the plane, then stagger out of the cockpit and have another hamburger!



FIGURE 10.18 – On course, runway in view. We're going to live!

## 10.6 Epilogue

That was a lot of information in a short time, a rather brutal introduction to IFR flying. Hopefully, instead of turning you off, it has whetted your appetite for more, because there *is* more. Some of the major issues I've ignored are:

**Wind** This is a big one. Flying IFR in a crosswind affects everything you do, and you need to be aware of it or your navigation will suffer.

**Flying without the autopilot** George tries his best, but he's not completely trustworthy. You have to be prepared to go it alone.

**DG precession** The *Directional Gyro* (DG) in the C172P is not perfect. Over time, the values it gives you are less and less reliable – it *precesses*. It needs to be periodically calibrated against the compass (using the OBS knob on the DG to adjust it).

**IFR charts** We used sectionals, which are really intended for VFR flight. There are a whole set of charts devoted exclusively to IFR flight.

**ATC** The other people out there need to know what you're doing. As well, they'll probably tell you what to do, including to ignore the approach plate you so fastidiously studied.

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22. Remembering, of course, to disengage the autopilot.

**SIDs/DPs, Airways, and STARs** This tutorial introduced IAPs, which are standard ways to make approaches. In IFR flight, there are standard ways to *leave* airports (*Standard Instrument Departures* – SIDs, or *Departure Procedures* – DPs), standard ways to travel *between* airports (airways), and standard ways to go from airways to IAPs (*Standard Terminal Arrival Routes* – STARs).

**Holding Patterns** Most missed approaches end in a holding pattern somewhere, so you'd better know how to fly them.

**GPS** Nowadays most small aircraft are equipped with GPS, which is rapidly replacing radio-based navaids.

If you want to learn more, try the following resources:

- *Flight Simulator Navigation*, written by Charles Wood. It covers everything from basic navigation to ILS approaches, with lots of examples and practice flights to improve your skills. Everything is linked together by an entertaining storyline in which you are the pilot for a fictional charter service.

Two caveats, though. First, it is Microsoft Flight Simulator 98 based, so you'll have to translate into “FlightGear-ese” as appropriate. Second, it is a bit out of date, and things in the real world have changed since it was written. NDB beacons have been decommissioned, new approaches have replaced old ones – even an airport has disappeared (!). Treat this as a learning opportunity. You'll get better at finding more up to date information, and learn not to blindly trust your charts, just as you have learned not to blindly trust your instruments.

- If you're *really* keen and want to hear it straight from the horse's mouth, there's the official *FAA Instrument Flying Handbook*. It's big and detailed, and there's *no* interesting storyline in which you're a pilot for a fictional charter service. More documents can be found at their *Aviation Handbooks & Manuals* page.
- If you'd like practice deciphering what the instruments are telling you, without the bother flying (or even virtual flying), you can try *luizmonteiro.com*, which has Flash tutorials of various instruments, including a VOR and an ADF.
- Another simulated instrument site is *Fergo IFR Simulator*, where you can learn navigation by playing NAVAIDs finding missions.
- If it's navigation information you're after, an excellent site is *AirNav.Com*, which I've used extensively in the course of this tutorial. It has detailed airport, navaid, and fix information, and links to IAPs. Unfortunately, the information is only for the USA.
- *FlightSim.Com* has a very informative series of articles entitled “How To ... Use Approach Plates”. It starts with a *very, very* dense tutorial on how to read an approach plate, then follows with a set of approaches at Kodiak, Alaska. These are an excellent supplement to the approaches given in Charles Wood's *Flight Simulator Navigation* (see above).

Most interesting, though, is section two – “Dangerous Approaches.” Approaches at six airports around the world, from Penticton, BC to Kathmandu, Nepal, are described. Fly them if you dare!

Warning – this series is even more Microsoft Flight Simulator (2000) focused than Charles Wood's, and some of it is out of date (some outside links are broken, and some

of the approaches have changed).

- Also from *FlightSim.Com* is “Golden Argosy”, a description of a flight from New York to Rome by Tony Vallillo, an American Airlines 767 captain. It gives some interesting information about navigation that doesn’t appear in the other sites mentioned here, such as the **North Atlantic Tracks**. However, its main appeal is that it gives a good answer to the question “What’s it *really* like to be a pilot?” The author’s love of flying is evident throughout the article.
- For those who are interested in the ATC side of things, and want information from an authoritative source, check out Michael Oxner’s “Aviation Topic of the Week”, a series of articles about flying “in many types of airspaces in many situations.” Michael Oxner is a professional controller and private pilot who obviously can’t get enough of airplanes, because in his spare time he’s also an on-line controller with VATSIM. Particularly interesting are a set of articles describing a complete IFR flight and a complete VFR flight.

# Chapitre 11

## Un tutoriel pour l'hélicoptère

### 11.1 Préambule

First: in principle everything that applies to real helicopters, applies to FlightGear. Fundamental maneuvers are well described here: <https://www.cybercom.net/~copters/pilot/maneuvers.html>. Some details are simplified in FlightGear, in particular the engine handling and some overstresses are not simulated or are without any consequence. In FlightGear it is (up to now) not possible to damage a helicopter in flight.



FIGURE 11.1 – In the Bo105 helicopter cockpit

The helicopter flight model of FlightGear is quite realistic. The only exceptions are “vortex ring conditions”. These occur if you descend too fast and perpendicularly (without forward speed). The heli can get into its own rotor downwash causing the lift to be substantially reduced. Recovering from this condition is possible only at higher altitudes. On the Internet you can find a video of a Seaking helicopter, which got into this condition during a flight demonstration

and touched down so hard afterwards that it was completely destroyed.

For all FlightGear helicopters the parameters are not completely optimized and thus the performance data between model and original can deviate slightly. On the hardware side I recommend the use of a “good” joystick. A joystick without springs is recommended because it will not center by itself. You can either remove the spring from a normal joystick, or use a force feedback joystick, with a disconnected voltage supply. Further, the joystick should have a “thrust controller” (throttle). For controlling the tail rotor you should have pedals or at least a twistable joystick – using a keyboard is hard. FlightGear supports multiple joysticks attached at the same time.

## 11.2 Premiers pas

The number of available helicopters in FlightGear is limited. In my opinion the Bo105 is the easiest to fly, since it reacts substantially more directly than other helicopters. For flight behavior I can also recommend the S76C. The S76C reacts more retarded than the Bo.

Once you have loaded FlightGear, take a moment to centralize the controls by moving them around. In particular the collective is often at maximum on startup.



FIGURE 11.2 – Sikorsky S76C ready to start

The helicopter is controlled by four functions. The stick (joystick) controls two of them, the inclination of the rotor disc (and thus the inclination of the helicopter) to the right/left and forwards/back. Together these functions are called “cyclic blade control”. Next there is the “collective blade control”, which is controlled by the thrust controller. This causes a change of the thrust produced by the rotor. Since the powering of the main rotor transfers a torque to the fuselage, this must be compensated by the tail rotor. Since the torque is dependent on the collective and on the flight condition as well as the wind on the fuselage, the tail rotor is also controlled by the pilot using the pedals. If you push the right pedal, the helicopter turns to the

right (!). The pedals are not a steering wheel. Using the pedals you can yaw helicopter around the vertical axis. The number of revolutions of the rotor is kept constant (if possible) by the aircraft.

### 11.3 Décollage

First reduce the collective to minimum. To increase the rotor thrust, you have to “pull” the collective. Therefore for minimum collective you have to push the control down (that is the full acceleration position (!) of the thrust controller). Equally, “full power” has the thrust controller at idle. Start the engine with  $\text{J}$ . After few seconds the rotor will start to turn and accelerate slowly. Keep the stick and the pedals approximately centered. Wait until the rotor has finished accelerating. For the Bo105 there is an instrument for engine and rotor speed on the left of the upper row.



FIGURE 11.3 – Eurocopter EC135 lift-off

Once rotor acceleration is complete, pull the collective very slowly. Keep your eye on the horizon. If the heli tilts or turns even slightly, stop increasing the collective and correct the position/movement with stick and pedals. If you are successful, continue pulling the collective (slowly!).

As the helicopter takes off, increase the collective a little bit more and try to keep the helicopter in a leveled position. The main challenge is reacting to the inadvertent rotating motion of the helicopter with the correct control inputs. Only three things can help you: practice, practice and practice. It is quite common for it to take hours of practice to achieve a halfway good looking hovering flight. Note: The stick position in a stable hover is not the center position of the joystick.

## 11.4 En l'air

To avoid the continual frustration of trying to achieve level flight, you may want to try forward flight. After take off continue pulling the collective a short time and then lower the nose a slightly using the control stick. The helicopter will accelerate forward. With forward speed the tail rotor does not have to be controlled as precisely due to the relative wind coming from directly ahead. Altogether the flight behavior in forward flight is quite similar to that of an badly trimmed airplane. The “neutral” position of the stick will depend upon airspeed and collective.

Transitioning from forward flight to hovering is easiest if you reduce speed slowly by raising the nose of the helicopter. At the same time, reduce the collective to stop the helicopter from climbing. As the helicopter slows, “translation lift” is reduced, and you will have to compensate by pulling the collective. When the speed is nearly zero, lower the nose to the position it was when hovering. Otherwise the helicopter will accelerate backwards!

## 11.5 Regagner le sol I

To land the helicopter transition to a hover as described above while reducing the altitude using the collective. Briefly before hitting the ground reduce the rate of descent slowly. A perfect landing is achieved if you managed to zero the altitude, speed and descent rate at the same time (gently). However, such landing are extremely difficult. Most pilots perform a hover more or less near to the ground and then decent slowly to the ground. Landing with forward velocity is easier, however you must make sure you don't land with any lateral (sideways) component to avoid a rollover.



FIGURE 11.4 – Bo105 landing on the roof of VU Medical Center in Amsterdam

## 11.6 Regagner le sol II

It is worth mentioning autorotation briefly. This is an unpowered flight condition, where the flow of air through the rotors rotates the rotor itself. At an appropriate altitude select a landing point (at first in the size of a larger airfield) and then switch the engine off by pressing  $\{\$ . Reduce collective to minimum, place the tail rotor to approximately  $0^\circ$  incidence (with the Bo push the right pedal about half, with As350 the left). Approach at approximately 80 knots. Don't allow the rotor speed to rise more than a few percent over 100 %, otherwise the rotor will be damaged (though this is not currently simulated). As you reach the ground, reduce the airspeed by lifting the nose. The descent rate will drop at the same time, so you do not need to pull the collective. It may be the case that the rotor speed rises beyond the permitted range. Counteract this by raising the collective if required. Just above the ground, reduce the descent rate by pulling the collective. The goal is it to touch down with a very low descent rate and no forward speed. With forward speed it is easier, but there is a danger of a roll over if the skids are not aligned parallel to the flight direction. During the approach it is not necessary to adjust the tail rotor, since without power there is almost no torque. If you feel (after some practice), that autorotation is too easy, try it with a more realistic payload via the *Equipment → Fuel and Payload* menu.



FIGURE 11.5 – Bo105 landing



## **Partie IV**

## **Annexes**



## Annexe A

# Approche manquée : si rien ne fonctionne

Dans la section suivante, nous avons essayé de trier quelques problèmes qui peuvent être rencontrés, en fonction des systèmes d'exploitation. Cependant, si jamais vous rencontrez un problème, sachez qu'il peut parfois être une bonne idée de regarder plus loin que "votre" système d'exploitation - au cas où. Si vous rencontrez des difficultés, nous vous recommandons vivement de consulter en premier lieu la FAQ maintenue par Cameron Moore à l'adresse suivante :

[https://wiki.flightgear.org/Frequently\\_asked\\_questions](https://wiki.flightgear.org/Frequently_asked_questions)

De plus, le code source comporte un répertoire docs-mini qui contient de nombreuses idées et solutions pour des problèmes spécifiques. Il s'agit donc également d'un bon endroit pour trouver d'avantage d'informations.

### A.1 Signaler des problèmes relatifs à FlightGear

Le meilleur endroit pour obtenir de l'aide est généralement de faire appel aux listes de diffusion, et tout particulièrement à la liste de diffusion [**Flightgear-User**], ainsi que les forums. Si jamais vous utilisez une version Git de FlightGear, vous pourriez vouloir vous inscrire à la liste de diffusion [**Flightgear-Devel**]. Les informations pour s'y inscrire peuvent être trouvées à l'adresse :

[https://wiki.flightgear.org/Mailing\\_lists](https://wiki.flightgear.org/Mailing_lists)

Bien souvent, vous n'êtes pas le premier à rencontrer ce type de difficulté. Donc une recherche sur les archives des listes de diffusion devrait vous permettre de trouver une solution rapide. Ces archives peuvent être consultées à l'adresse :

[https://sourceforge.net/mailarchive/forum.php?forum\\_name=flightgear-devel](https://sourceforge.net/mailarchive/forum.php?forum_name=flightgear-devel)

[https://sourceforge.net/mailarchive/forum.php?forum\\_name=flightgear-users](https://sourceforge.net/mailarchive/forum.php?forum_name=flightgear-users)

Vous devriez également considérer visiter les forums FlightGear pour rechercher de l'aide, des instructions et des archives à l'adresse :

<https://forum.flightgear.org>

De nombreux développeurs et utilisateurs lisent ces listes et forums, donc les questions trouvent généralement une réponse. Cependant, avouez qu'il est difficile de répondre à des messages du type : *Je n'arrive pas à compiler FlightGear sur mon système, que dois-je faire ?* si vous ne donnez pas plus de détails, non ? Voici donc quelques éléments qu'il serait bon d'inclure dans votre message lorsque vous signalez un problème :

- **Système d'exploitation** : (Linux Fedora 17.../Windows Seven 64 bits...)
- **Ordinateur** : (Pentium Dual Core, 2,3 GHz...)
- **Carte graphique/processeur** : (ATI Radeon HD 770 XT/Nvidia GeForce GTX 590...)
- **Compilateur/version** : (GCC version 4.6.3...)
- **Versions des librairies concernées** : (PLIB 1.8.5, OpenSceneGraph 3.0.1...)
- **Type de problème** : (Le compilateur s'arrête avec le message suivant...)
- **Etapes pour reproduire le problème** : Démarrer à KSFO, lâcher les freins...

Afin d'analyser ce qui s'est passé pendant la dernière session FlightGear, la commande suivante peut s'avérer utile (le chemin `~/.fgfs` correspond à `$FG_HOME` sur les systèmes d'exploitation de type Unix; il faut l'adapter pour les autres systèmes, ou bien utiliser l'option `--log-dir` afin que FlightGear écrive le fichier de log ailleurs) :

```
less ~/.fgfs/fgfs.log
```

Le niveau de log par défaut est `alert`; ceci correspond à l'option `--log-level=alert` de `fgfs`. Si l'on passe l'option `--log-level=debug` à `fgfs`, il y aura nettement plus de messages de diagnostic dans le fichier de log écrit par FlightGear.

Certains messages, provenant *a priori* de dépendances de FlightGear, ne sont pas écrits dans le fichier de log. Afin de capturer tous les messages directement ou indirectement produits par FlightGear, on peut rediriger sa sortie standard et sa sortie standard d'erreur :

```
fgfs --log-level=debug >log.txt 2>&1
```

**Une dernière petite remarque** : merci d'essayer d'éviter de poster du code binaire sur ces forums ou sur ces listes ! Il y a de nombreux abonnés et personnes consultant ces informations, et certains disposent de bandes passantes limitées et/ou facturées. Des messages trop volumineux pourraient être refusés par l'administrateur des listes de diffusion. Merci.

## A.2 Problèmes généraux

- FlightGear fonctionne siiiiii lentement.  
Si FlightGear fonctionne, disons à quelque chose comme une image par seconde (*fps, frame per second*), ou moins, c'est que vous n'avez pas de matériel prenant en charge OpenGL. Il peut y avoir plusieurs raisons à cela. Tout d'abord, il peut effectivement n'y avoir aucun pilote matériel OpenGL disponible pour des cartes anciennes. Dans ce cas, il vous est vivement recommandé d'envisager l'achat d'une nouvelle carte.

Ensuite, vérifiez que vos pilotes sont correctement installés. Plusieurs cartes nécessaires des pilotes complémentaires pour faire fonctionner OpenGL en complément des pilotes “nativs” du gestionnaire de fenêtres.

- `configure` ou `make` échouent car ils ne trouvent pas les en-têtes ou bibliothèques PLIB. Soyez certains de disposer de la dernière version de PLIB (> version 1.8.4) compilée et installée. Ses en-têtes comme `pu.h` doivent se situer dans le répertoire `/usr/include/plib` et ses bibliothèques, comme `libplibpu.a`, dans le répertoire `/lib`. Vérifiez à nouveau qu'il n'y a pas d'autre en-têtes ou bibliothèques PLIB parasites présentes ailleurs !

Enfin, vérifiez attentivement les messages d'erreur(s) de `configure`. Dans de nombreux cas, ils donnent des informations précieuses sur les éléments manquants.

## A.3 Problèmes potentiels sous Linux

Comme nous n'avons pas accès à toutes les versions possibles des distributions Linux, voici quelques-unes des causes possibles de problèmes sous cet environnement. (Cette section comprend des contributions de Kai Troester.)

- Mauvaises versions des bibliothèques

C'est une origine assez commune de griefs tout spécialement lorsque vous préférez installer les bibliothèques nécessaires à FlightGear à la main. Vérifiez bien que, en particulier, la bibliothèque Mesa comprend bien la prise en charge de la carte 3DFX et que les bibliothèques GLIDE sont installées et qu'elles peuvent être trouvées. Si un `ldd` `se plaint de bibliothèques manquantes, alors vous aurez des difficultés.

Soyez également certain de *toujours* disposer de la *dernière* version de PLIB sur votre système. De nombreuses personnes ont lamentablement échoué à compiler FlightGear simplement à cause d'une version trop ancienne de PLIB.

- Options d'installation particulières

FlightGear affichera un nombre important d'informations de diagnostic lors de son lancement. S'il se plaint de fichiers incorrects ou manquants, vérifiez que vous les avez installés de la manière dont ils sont supposés être installés (c'est-à-dire dans leur version la plus récente et à l'emplacement prévu). L'emplacement canonique de FlightGear attend ses données dans le répertoire `/usr/local/lib`. Soyez certain de récupérer les dernières versions de tout ce qui peut être nécessaire !

- Problèmes plus généraux de compilation

Soyez certain de disposer de la dernière version officielle de gcc. D'anciennes versions de gcc la cause de nombreux problèmes ! D'un autre côté, certaines versions de RedHat 7.0 sont connues pour avoir des difficultés de compilation de FlightGear, car elles incluent une version préliminaire de gcc.

## A.4 Problèmes potentiels sous Windows

- L'exécutable refuse de se lancer.

Vous pouvez avoir essayé de lancer l'exécutable directement en double-cliquant sur `fgfs.exe` dans l'explorateur Windows ou en l'invoquant au travers d'une invite de commandes MS-DOS. Double-cliquer via l'explorateur de fonctionne jamais (sauf si vous avez défini la variable d'environnement `FG_ROOT` dans l'`autoexec.bat` ou d'une autre manière). Préférez le double-clic sur `fgrun`. Pour plus de détails, consultez le chapitre 4.

Une autre cause de grief peut s'expliquer par le fait que vous n'avez pas téléchargé les versions les plus récentes du paquetage de base nécessaires à FlightGear, ou que vous ne les avez pas téléchargé du tout. Jetez souvent un œil à ceux-ci, car le format des scènes et des textures fait toujours l'objet d'un développement intensif. Pour plus de détails, reportez-vous au chapitre 3.

Ensuite, si vous rencontrez un problème au démarrage, n'utilisez pas les utilitaires Windows pour décompresser les fichiers `.tar.gz`. Si vous l'avez fait, essayez de le faire dans l'invite de commandes Cygnus en préférant un `tar -xvzf` à la place.

- FlightGear ignore les paramètres de ligne de commande.

Il peut y avoir une difficulté à passer des options de ligne de commande contenant un caractère « = » sur la ligne de commande. Préférez plutôt la création d'un fichier *batch* pour y inclure vos options et lancez plutôt celui-ci.

- Je ne parviens pas à compiler FlightGear avec MSVC/MS DevStudio.

Par défaut, FlightGear est compilé avec GNU GCC. Le portage Win32 de GNU GCC est connu sous le nom de Cygwin. Pour obtenir des astuces sur les fichiers *Makefile* nécessaires pour MSVC ou MSC DevStudio veuillez consulter :

[https://wiki.flightgear.org/Building\\_using\\_CMake\\_-\\_Windows](https://wiki.flightgear.org/Building_using_CMake_-_Windows)

En principe, il devrait être possible de compiler FlightGear à l'aide des fichiers de projet fournis avec le code source.

- La compilation de FlightGear échoue.

Il peut y avoir plusieurs raisons à cela, y compris l'existence de véritables anomalies. Cependant, avant de tenter quoi que ce soit ou de signaler un problème, soyez certain de disposer de la dernière version du compilateur Cygwin. En cas de doute, lancez à nouveau `setup.exe` et téléchargez et installez la version la plus récente de l'ensemble, car il est possible que cette version ait changé.

## Annexe B

# Atterrissage : quelques réflexions complémentaires avant de quitter l'avion

### B.1 Une ébauche de l'histoire de FlightGear

L'histoire peut rapidement devenir un sujet barbant. Cependant, de temps en temps il y a des personnes qui s'intéressent à l'histoire de FlightGear. En conséquence, nous allons en dresser un aperçu rapide.

A l'origine, le projet FlightGear remonte à une discussion entre un groupe de citoyens du net en 1996 qui a eu pour résultat l'écriture d'une proposition par David Murr qui, malheureusement, a quitté le projet (ainsi que le net) plus tard. La proposition d'origine est toujours disponible à partir du site Internet de FlightGear à l'adresse :

[https://groups.google.com/g/rec.aviation.simulators/c/ny8HFB5\\_T8/m/OdtIiGNGJc8J](https://groups.google.com/g/rec.aviation.simulators/c/ny8HFB5_T8/m/OdtIiGNGJc8J)

Bien que les noms des personnes et des détails aient évolué au fil du temps, l'esprit de cette proposition a clairement été maintenu au fil du temps jusqu'à aujourd'hui.

La véritable écriture du code a débuté à l'été 1996 et, dès la fin de l'année, l'essentiel des routines graphiques était écrit. A cette époque, la programmation était essentiellement réalisée et coordonnée par Eric Korpela de l'université de Berkeley. Le tout premier code fonctionnait sous Linux ainsi que sous DOS, OS/2, Windows 95/NT, et Sun-OS. C'était un projet assez ambitieux car il nécessitait notamment d'écrire, en partant de rien, toutes les routines graphiques d'une manière indépendante du système.

Le développement ralentit pour finalement s'arrêter au début de l'année 1997 lorsque Eric termina sa thèse. A ce moment, le projet semblait mort et le trafic sur la liste de diffusion était quasiment réduit à néant.

Curt Olson, de l'Université du Minnesota, relança le projet au milieu de l'année 1997. Son idée était aussi simple que puissante : pourquoi réinventer la route une seconde fois ? Il y avait déjà eu plusieurs simulateurs de vol libres disponibles sur des stations de travail sous différentes moutures d'UNIX. L'un de ceux-ci, LaRCsim (développé par Bruce Jackson de la NASA), sem-

blait être particulièrement approprié à cette approche. Curt s'y intéressa et en ré-écrivit plusieurs routines afin de les faire compiler et fonctionner sur les plate-formes ciblées. Ce-faisant, l'idée maîtresse était d'exploiter une plate-forme graphique indépendante du système : OpenGL.

En complément, la (bonne) décision du choix des données des scènes de base a été prise dès la toute première version. Les scènes de FlightGear sont générées en se basant sur les données satellite publiées par le U.S. Geological Survey. Ces données de terrain sont disponibles respectivement à partir de, respectivement :

<https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/ngp/tnm-delivery/gis-data-download>

pour les États-Unis et

<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/eros/science/usgs-eros-archive-digital-elevation-global-30-arc-second-elevation-gtopo30>

pour les autres pays. Ces données de scènes accessibles librement, en conjonction avec les outils de construction des scènes inclus dans FlightGear, sont des fonctionnalités importantes permettant à chacun(e) de créer ses propres scènes.

Ce nouveau code de FlightGear – toujours largement basé sur le code original de LaRCsim – a été mis à disposition en juillet 1997. A partir de cet instant, le projet reprit de l'inertie. Voici les principales étapes dans l'histoire récente du développement.

### B.1.1 Scènes

- La prise en charge des textures a été ajouté par Curt Olson à l'automne 1998. Ceci a marqué un tournant important en termes de réalisme. Quelques textures de haute qualité pour le projet FlightGear ont été ajoutées par Eric Mitchell. Depuis, d'autres textures de haute qualité ont été ajoutées par Erik Hofman.
- Après avoir amélioré la prise en charge des scènes et des textures, le taux de rafraîchissement de l'image diminua à tel point qu'il était impossible de faire voler un avion dans FlightGear au printemps 1998. Cette difficulté fut contournée en exploitant la prise en charge matérielle d'OpenGL, qui devint disponible à cette date, et par l'implémentation de la « vue frustum culling », réalisée par Curt Olson, (une technique de rendu qui ignore la partie du paysage non visible d'une scène). En ce qui concerne le taux de rafraîchissement, il convient de se rappeler que le code, tel qu'il est aujourd'hui, n'est en aucun cas optimisé, ce qui laisse des possibilités pour de futures améliorations.
- En septembre 1998, Curt Olson parvint à créer un modèle de terrain complet pour les Etats-Unis. Les scènes sont aujourd'hui mondiales, et disponibles via une carte cliquable, située à l'adresse :

<https://www.flightgear.org/download/scenery>

- Les scènes ont ensuite été améliorées par l'ajout de éléments géographiques comme les lacs, les rivières et, par la suite, les traits de côte. Les textures des pistes ont été ajoutées par Dave Cornish au printemps 2001. Les textures de lumière s'ajoutent à l'impression visuelle la nuit. Pour faire face à la croissance constante des données de scène, un format binaire des scènes a été introduit au printemps 2001. L'éclairage des pistes a été introduit par Curt Olson au printemps 2001. Enfin, un nouvel ensemble de fichiers de données de

scènes pour le monde entier a été créé par William Riley en se basant sur un travail de documentation préalable de David Megginson à l'été 2002. Il repose sur un ensemble de données appelé VMap0, comme alternative aux données GSHHS utilisées jusqu'alors. Ces données sont une grande amélioration car elles offrent une couverture mondiale des rues principales, rivières, etc., au détriment d'un trait de côte moins précis. Les scènes de base de FlightGear s'appuient sur ces nouvelles données depuis l'été 2002.

- La prise en charge des objets statiques a été implémentée dans les scènes en 2001, ce qui a permis d'ajouter, entre autres, des immeubles, des avions statiques, des arbres, dans les scènes.
- Le monde est couvert d'objets aléatoires au sol de densité et de type appropriés avec le type d'occupation du sol depuis l'été 2002. Ceci marque une amélioration majeure dans le réalisme, et est principalement à attribuer au travail de D. Megginson.
- Aujourd'hui, l'effort se poursuit, avec l'utilisation de TerraSync, l'outil de téléchargement des scènes à la volée, l'infrastructure puissante de cartographie *mapserver* et notre base de données *scenemodels*, des formulaires web permettant l'ajout et la mise à jour rapide d'objets. Les outils de génération des scènes ont été améliorés pour utiliser des données plus précises, comme le format de données 8.50 d'apt.dat, ainsi que les données externes comme OpenStreetMap, lorsque leur licence le permettra.

### B.1.2 Aéronefs

- Un collimateur tête haute (ou HUD, head-up display) a été ajouté en se basant sur du code fourni par Michele America et Charlie Hotchkiss à l'automne 1997 et a été par la suite amélioré par Norman Vine. Bien que n'étant pas généralement disponible pour le véritable Cessna 172, le HUD rend compte de manière pratique de la performance en vol actuelle de la simulation et peut-être d'utilité complémentaire sur des aéronefs militaires par la suite.
- Un pilote automatique rudimentaire implémentant le maintien de cap a été proposé par Jeff Goeke-Smith en avril 1998. Il a été amélioré par l'ajout d'un maintien d'altitude et d'un interrupteur de suivi de terrain en octobre 1998 et développé par la suite par Norman Vine.
- Friedemann Reinhard a développé un code de prise en charge pour tableau d'instruments, qui a été ajouté en juin 1998. Malheureusement, le développement de ce panneau a ralenti par la suite. Enfin, David Megginson décida de reconstruire le code du panneau à partir de zéro en janvier 2000. Ceci conduit à des ajouts rapides de nouveaux instruments et de nouvelles fonctionnalités au tableau, avec comme résultats l'ajout de pratiquement tous les principaux instruments jusqu'au printemps 2001. Un petit tableau bien pratique a été ajouté à l'été 2001.
- Enfin, le Navion de LaRCsim fut remplacé comme avion par défaut lorsque le Cessna 172 devint suffisamment stable en février 2000 - un changement que la plupart des utilisateurs apprécia. Il y a dorénavant plusieurs modèles de vol et options d'aéronefs qui peuvent être sélectionnés au démarrage. Jon Berndt a investi beaucoup de son temps dans un modèle de vol plus réaliste et verstatile, avec une méthode de configuration des aéronefs plus puissante. JSBSim, comme il fut appelé par la suite, remplaça LaRC-

sim comme modèle de dynamique de vol (FDM) par défaut, et il est prévu d'ajouter des fonctionnalités comme les effets de carène dus au carburant, la turbulence, des systèmes complets de contrôle du vol, et d'autres fonctionnalités généralement non présentes ensembles dans un simulateur de vol. Comme alternative, Andy Ross ajouta un autre modèle de dynamique de vol appelé YASim (Yet Another Flight Dynamics Simulator, encore un autre simulateur de dynamique de vol), qui a pour but de pouvoir être utilisé facilement, en s'appuyant sur la dynamique des fluides, fin 2001. Il nous permit d'obtenir des modèles de vol pour un 747, un A4 et un DC-3. Alternativement, un groupe formé autour de Michael Selig du group UIUC fournit un autre modèle de vol avec d'autres aéronefs autour de l'année 2000.

- Une pile radio complète et fonctionnelle fut ajoutée au tableau par Curt Olson au printemps 2000. Une base de données volumineuse comprenant les aides radioélectriques pour la navigation fut fournie par Robin Peel et permet, depuis, la navigation IFR. Une prise en charge basique du contrôle aérien ATC fut ajoutée à l'automne 2001 par David Luff. Il n'est toujours pas complètement implémenté, mais l'affichage des messages ATIS est déjà possible. Un commutateur magnéto avec des fonctions qui lui sont propres a été ajouté à la fin de l'année 2001 par John Check et David Megginson. De plus, plusieurs tableaux de bord ont été améliorés durant les années 2001 et 2002 par John et d'autres. FlightGear permet aujourd'hui d'effectuer des approches ILS et offre un transpondeur Bendix.
- En 2002, une prise en charge multimoteurs fut également intégrée à FlightGear. JSBSim est dorénavant le FDM par défaut dans FlightGear.
- La prise en charge de « véritables » tableaux de bord 3D devint stable grâce aux contributions de John Check et d'autres au printemps 2002. En complément, nous avons alors obtenu des surfaces de contrôle mobiles comme les propulseurs, etc., grâce à David Megginson.

### B.1.3 Environnement

- L'affichage du soleil, de la lune et des étoiles a été pendant longtemps un point faible des simulateurs de vol pour PC. Une des grandes réussites de FlightGear a été d'inclure une modélisation et un affichage du soleil, de la lune et des planètes de manière très anticipée. Le code astronomique correspondant a été implémenté à l'automne 1997 par Durk Talsma.
- Christian Mayer, avec Durk Talsma, a contribué au code météorologique durant l'hiver 1999. Ce qui comprenait les nuages, vents, et même les orages.

### B.1.4 User Interface

- The foundation for a menu system was laid based on another library, the Portable Library PLIB, in June 1998. After having been idle for a time, the first working menu entries came to life in spring 1999.
- PLIB underwent rapid development later. It has been distributed as a separate package by Steve Baker with a much broader range of applications in mind, since spring

1999. It has provided the basic graphics rendering engine for FlightGear since fall 1999.
- In 1998 there was basic audio support, i.e. an audio library and some basic background engine sound. This was later integrated into the above-mentioned portable library, PLIB. This same library was extended to support joystick/yoke/rudder in October 1999, again marking a huge step in terms of realism. To adapt on different joystick, configuration options were introduced in fall 2000. Joystick support was further improved by adding a self detection feature based on xml joystick files, by David Megginson in summer 2002.
  - Networking/multiplayer code has been integrated by Oliver Delise and Curt Olson starting fall 1999. This effort is aimed at enabling FlightGear to run concurrently on several machines over a network, either an Intranet or the Internet, coupling it to a flight planner running on a second machine, and more. There emerged several approaches for remotely controlling FlightGear over a Network during 2001. Notably there was added support for the “Atlas” moving map program. Besides, an embedded HTTP server developed by Curt Olson late in 2001 can now act a property manager for external programs.
  - Manually changing views in a flight simulator is in a sense always “unreal” but nonetheless required in certain situations. A possible solution was supplied by Norman Vine in the winter of 1999 by implementing code for changing views using the mouse. Alternatively, you can use a hat switch for this purpose, today.
  - A property manager was implemented by David Megginson in fall 2000. It allows parsing a file called .fgfsrc for input options. This plain ASCII file has proven useful in submitting the growing number of input options, and notably the joystick settings. This has shown to be a useful concept, and joystick, keyboard, and panel settings are no longer hard coded but set using \*.xml files since spring 2001 thanks to work mainly by David Megginson and John Check.

During development there were several code reorganization efforts. Various code subsystems were moved into packages. As a result, code is organized as follows at present:

The base of the graphics engine is **OpenGL**, a platform independent graphics library. Based on OpenGL, the Portable Library PLIB provides basic rendering, audio, joystick etc routines. Based on PLIB is SimGear, which includes all of the basic routines required for the flight simulator as well as for building scenery. On top of SimGear there are (i) FlightGear (the simulator itself), and (ii) TerraGear, which comprises the scenery building tools.

This is by no means an exhaustive history and most likely some people who have made important contributions have been left out. Besides the above-named contributions there was a lot of work done concerning the internal structure by: Jon S. Berndt, Oliver Delise, Christian Mayer, Curt Olson, Tony Peden, Gary R. Van Sickel, Norman Vine, and others. A more comprehensive list of contributors can be found in Chapter B as well as in the Thanks file provided with the code. Also, the FlightGear Wiki contains a detailed history worth reading of all of the notable development milestones at

[https://wiki.flightgear.org/Category:FlightGear\\_changelogs](https://wiki.flightgear.org/Category:FlightGear_changelogs)

## B.2 Those, who did the work

Did you enjoy the flight? In case you did, don't forget those who devoted hundreds of hours to that project. All of this work is done on a voluntary basis within spare time, thus please bear with the programmers in case something does not work the way you want it to. Instead, sit down and write them a kind (!) mail proposing what to change. Alternatively, you can subscribe to the FlightGear mailing lists and contribute your thoughts there. Instructions to do so can be found at

[https://wiki.flightgear.org/Mailing\\_lists](https://wiki.flightgear.org/Mailing_lists)

Essentially, there are two lists: one of which being mainly for the developers and the other one for end users. Besides, there is a very low-traffic list for announcements.

The following names the people who did the job (this information was essentially taken from the `Thanks` file accompanying the code).

## A1 Free Sounds

Granted permission for the FlightGear project to use some of the sound effects from their site.

### Syd Adams

Added clipping for 2D instruments, ATC volume control and created a wide variety of aircraft.

### Raul Alonzo

Mr. Alonzo is the author of Ssystem and provided his kind permission for using the moon texture. Parts of his code were used as a template when adding the texture. Ssystem Homepage can be found at:

<http://openuniverse.sourceforge.net>

### Michele America

Contributed to the HUD code.

### Michael Basler

Author of Installation and Getting Started. Flight Simulation Page at:

<https://www.flusi.info>

### Jon S. Berndt

Working on a complete C++ rewrite/reimplementation of the core FDM. Initially he is using X15 data to test his code, but once things are all in place we should be able to simulate arbitrary aircraft. Jon maintains a page dealing with Flight Dynamics at:

<http://jsbsim.sourceforge.net>

Special attention to X15 is paid in separate pages on this site. Besides, Jon contributed via a lot of suggestions/corrections to this Guide.

**Paul Bleisch**

Redid the debug system so that it would be much more flexible, so it could be easily disabled for production system, and so that messages for certain subsystems could be selectively enabled. Also contributed a first stab at a config file/command line parsing system.

**Jim Brennan**

Provided a big chunk of online space to store USA scenery for FlightGear!

**Bernie Bright**

Many C++ style, usage, and implementation improvements, STL portability and much, much more. Added threading support and a threaded tile pager.

**Stuart Buchanan**

Updated various parts of the manual, wrote the initial tutorial subsystem, developed random vegetation and buildings.

**Bernhard H. Buckel**

Contributed the README.Linux. Contributed several sections to earlier versions of Installation and Getting Started.

**Gene Buckle**

A lot of work getting FlightGear to compile with the MSVC++ compiler. Numerous hints on detailed improvements.

**Ralph Carmichael**

Support of the project. The Public Domain Aeronautical Software web site at

<https://www.pdas.com/>

has the PDAS CD-ROM for sale containing great programs for astronomical engineers.

**Didier Chauveau**

Provided some initial code to parse the 30 arcsec DEM files found at:

<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/eros/science/usgs-eros-archive-digital-elevation-global-30-arc-second-elevation-gtopo30>.

### **John Check**

John maintains the base package CVS repository. He contributed cloud textures, wrote an excellent Joystick Howto as well as a panel Howto. Moreover, he contributed new instrument panel configurations.

### **Dave Cornish**

Dave created new cool runway textures plus some of our cloud textures.

### **Oliver Delise**

Started a FAQ, Documentation, Public relations. Working on adding some networking/multi-user code. Founder of the FlightGear MultiPilot.

### **Jean-Francois Doue**

Vector 2D, 3D, 4D and Matrix 3D and 4D inlined C++ classes. (Based on Graphics Gems IV, Ed. Paul S. Heckbert)

[https://www.animats.com/simplepp/ftp/public\\_html/topics/developers.html](https://www.animats.com/simplepp/ftp/public_html/topics/developers.html)

### **Dave Eberly**

Contributed some sphere interpolation code used by Christian Mayer's weather data base system.

### **Francine Evans**

Wrote the GPL'd tri-striper we use:

<https://www3.cs.stonybrook.edu/~stripe/>

### **Oscar Everitt**

Created single engine piston engine sounds as part of an F4U package for FS98. They are pretty cool and Oscar was happy to contribute them to our little project.

### **Bruce Finney**

Contributed patches for MSVC5 compatibility.

### **Olaf Flebbe**

Improved the build system for Windows and provided pre-built dependencies.

**Melchior Franz**

Contributed joystick hat support, a LED font, improvements of the telnet and the HTTP interface. Notable effort in hunting memory leaks in FlightGear, SimGear, and JSBSim.

**Jean-loup Gailly and Mark Adler**

Authors of the zlib library. Used for on-the-fly compression and decompression routines:

<https://zlib.net>.

**Mohit Garg**

Contributed to the manual.

**Thomas Gellekum**

Changes and updates for compiling on FreeBSD.

**Neetha Girish**

Contributed the changes for the XML-configurable HUD.

**Jeff Goeke-Smith**

Contributed our first autopilot (Heading Hold). Better autoconf check for external timezone and daylight variables.

**Michael I. Gold**

Patiently answered questions on OpenGL.

**Habibe**

Made RedHat package building changes for SimGear.

**Mike Hill**

For allowing us to concert and use his wonderful planes for FlightGear.

**Erik Hofman**

Major overhaul and parameterization of the sound module to allow aircraft-specific sound configuration at runtime. Contributed SGI IRIX support (including binaries) and some really great textures.

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### **Charlie Hotchkiss**

Worked on improving and enhancing the HUD code. Lots of code style tips and code tweaks.

### **Bruce Jackson (NASA)**

Developed the LaRCsim code under funding by NASA which we use to provide the flight model. Bruce has patiently answered many, many questions.

### **Maik Justus**

Added helicopter support, gear/ground interaction and aerotow/winch support to the YA-Sim FDM.

### **Ove Kaaven**

Contributed the Debian binary.

### **Richard Kaszeta**

Contributed screen buffer to ppm screen shot routine. Also helped in the early development of the “altitude hold autopilot module” by teaching Curt Olson the basics of Control Theory and helping him code and debug early versions. Curt’s “Boss” Bob Hain also contributed to that. Further details available in “Flight Gear Autopilot: Altitude Hold Module” on archive.org.<sup>1</sup>

Rich’s Homepage is at

<http://www.kaszeta.org/rich/>

### **Tom Knienieder**

Ported the audio library first to OpenBSD and IRIX and after that to Win32.

### **Reto Koradi**

Helped with setting up fog effects.

### **Bob Kuehne**

Redid the Makefile system so it is simpler and more robust.

### **Kyler B Laird**

Contributed corrections to the manual.

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1. <https://web.archive.org/web/20030803143303/http://www.menet.umn.edu:80/~curt/fvfs/Docs/Autopilot/AltitudeHold/AltitudeHold.html>

**Roman Ludwicki**

A apporté des corrections à certains points du manuel, effectué la traduction en polonais, rafraîchi toutes les captures d'écran en utilisant une version de FlightGear à jour (en 2021), amélioré ou refait d'autres illustrations (par exemple, pour les avoir dans un format vectoriel) et aidé à rendre plus propre le balisage  $\text{\LaTeX}$  de ce manuel.

**David Luff**

Contributed heavily to the IO360 piston engine model.

**Sam van der Mac**

Contributed to the manual by translating HTML tutorials to  $\text{\LaTeX}$ .

**Christian Mayer**

Working on multi-lingual conversion tools for fgfs as a demonstration of technology. Contributed code to read Microsoft Flight Simulator scenery textures. Christian is working on a completely new weather subsystem. Donated a hot air balloon to the project.

**David Megginson**

Contributed patches to allow mouse input to control view direction yoke. Contributed financially towards hard drive space for use by the FlightGear project. Updates to README.running. Working on getting fgfs and ssg to work without textures. Also added the new 2D panel and the save/load support. Further, he developed new panel code, playing better with OpenGL, with new features. Developed the property manager and contributed to joystick support. Random ground cover objects.

**Cameron Moore**

FAQ maintainer. Reigning list administrator. Provided man pages.

**Eric Mitchell**

Contributed some topnotch scenery textures being all original creations by him.

**Anders Morken**

Former maintainer of European web pages.

**Alan Murtas**

Created the Generic Polygon Clipping library.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General\\_Polygon\\_Clipper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Polygon_Clipper)

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### **Phil Nelson**

Author of GNU dbm, a set of database routines that use extendible hashing and work similar to the standard UNIX dbm routines.

### **Alexei Novikov**

Created European Scenery. Contributed a script to turn fgfs scenery into beautifully rendered 2D maps. Wrote a first draft of a Scenery Creation Howto.

### **Curt Olson**

Primary organization of the project.  
First implementation and modifications based on LaRCsim.  
Besides putting together all the pieces provided by others mainly concentrating on the scenery subsystem as well as the graphics stuff.

### **Brian Paul**

We made use of his TR library and of course of Mesa:  
<https://www.ssec.wisc.edu/~billh/bp/TR.html>,  
<https://www.mesa3d.org>

### **Tony Peden**

Contributions on flight model development, including a LaRCsim based Cessna 172. Contributed to JSBSim the initial conditions code, a more complete standard atmosphere model, and other bugfixes/additions.

### **Robin Peel**

Maintains worldwide airport and runway database for FlightGear as well as X-Plane.

### **Alex Perry**

Contributed code to more accurately model VSI, DG, Altitude. Suggestions for improvements of the layout of the simulator on the mailing list and help on documentation.

### **Friedemann Reinhard**

Development of an early textured instrument panel.

### **Petter Reinholtsen**

Incorporated the GNU automake/autoconf system (with libtool). This should streamline and standardize the build process for all UNIX-like platforms. It should have little effect on IDE type environments since they don't use the UNIX make system.

**William Riley**

Contributed code to add “brakes”. Also wrote a patch to support a first joystick with more than 2 axes. Did the job to create scenery based on VMap0 data.

**Andy Ross**

Contributed a new configurable FDM called YASim (Yet Another Flight Dynamics Simulator), based on geometry information rather than aerodynamic coefficients.

**Paul Schlyter**

Provided Durk Talsma with all the information he needed to write the astro code. Mr. Schlyter is also willing to answer astro-related questions whenever one needs to.

<https://stjarnhimlen.se/english.php>

**Chris Schoeneman**

Contributed ideas on audio support.

**Phil Schubert**

Contributed various textures and engine modeling.

**Jonathan R. Shewchuk**

Author of the Triangle program. Triangle is used to calculate the Delaunay triangulation of our irregular terrain.

**Gordan Sikic**

Contributed a Cherokee flight model for LaRCsim. Currently is not working and needs to be debugged. Use `--fdm=larcsim --aero=cherokee` options to run the Cherokee instead of the Cessna.

**Michael Smith**

Contributed cockpit graphics, 3D models, logos, and other images. Project Bonanza.

**Martin Spott**

Co-Author of The Manual.

**Jon Stockill**

Maintains a database of objects and their location to populate the worldwide scenery.

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### Durk Talsma

Accurate Sun, Moon, and Planets. Sun changes color based on position in sky. Moon has correct phase and blends well into the sky. Planets are correctly positioned and have proper magnitude. Help with time functions, GUI, and other things. Contributed 2D cloud layer. Website at

<http://www.durktalsma.nl>.

### UIUC – Department of Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering

Contributed modifications to LaRCsim to allow loading of aircraft parameters from a file. These modifications were made as part of an icing research project.

Those did the coding and made it all work:

Jeff Scott

Bipin Sehgal

Michael Selig

Moreover, those helped to support the effort:

Jay Thomas

Eunice Lee

Elizabeth Rendon

Sudhi Uppuluri

### U.S. Geological Survey

Provided geographic data used by this project.

<https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/ngp/tnm-delivery/gis-data-download>

### Mark Vallevand

Contributed some METAR parsing code and some Win32 screen printing routines.

### Gary R. Van Sickle

Contributed some initial GameGLUT support and other fixes. Has done preliminary work on a binary file format.

### Norman Vine

Provided numerous URLs to the FlightGear community. Many performance optimizations throughout the code. Many contributions and much advice for the scenery generation section. Lots of Windows related contributions. Contributed wgs84 distance and course routines. Contributed a great circle route autopilot mode based on wgs84 routines. Many other GUI, HUD and autopilot contributions. Patch to allow mouse input to control view direction. Ultra hires tiled screen dumps. Contributed the initial goto airport and reset functions and the initial HTTP image server code.

**Roland Voegtli**

Contributed great photorealistic textures. Founder of European Scenery Project for X-Plane.

**Carmelo Volpe**

Porting FlightGear to the Metro Works development environment (PC/Mac).

**Darrell Walisser**

Contributed a large number of changes to porting FlightGear to the Metro Works development environment (PC/Mac). Finally produced the first Macintosh port. Contributed to the Mac part of Getting Started, too.

**Ed Williams**

Contributed magnetic variation code (implements Nima WMM 2000). We've also borrowed from Ed's wonderful aviation formulary at various times as well. Website at:

<https://edwilliams.org>

**Jim Wilson**

Wrote a major overhaul of the viewer code to make it more flexible and modular. Contributed many small fixes and bug reports. Contributed to the PUI property browser and to the autopilot.

**Jean-Claude Wippler**

Author of MetaKit – a portable, embeddable database with a portable data file format previously used in FlightGear. Please see the following URL for more info:

<https://www.equi4.com/metakit/>

**Woodsoup Project**

While FlightGear no longer uses Woodsoup services we appreciate the support provided to our project during the time they hosted us. Once upon a time, they provided computing resources and services so that the FlightGear project could have a real home.

**Robert Allan Zeh**

Helped tremendously in figuring out the Cygnus Win32 compiler and how to link with .dll's. Without him, the first run-able Win32 version of FlightGear would have been impossible.

**Pablo Barrio and Gonzalo Pesquero**

Contributed to the Spanish translation of the manual and the FlightGear GUI.

## Autres

The following individuals have contributed to the scenery object database: Jon Stockill, Martin Spott, Dave Martin, Thomas Foerster, Chris Metzler, Frédéric Bouvier, Melchior Franz, Roberto Inzerillo, Erik Hofman, Mike Round, Innis Cunningham, David Megginson, Stuart Buchanan, Josh Babcock, Esa Hytyia, Mircea Lutic, Jens Thoms Toerring, Mark Akermann, Torssten Dreyer, Martin C. Doege, Alexis Bory, Sebastian Bechtold, Julien Pierru, Bertrand Augras, Gerard Robin, Jakub Skibinski, Morten Oesterlund Joergensen, Carsten Vogel, Dominique Lemestre, Daniel Leygnat, Bertrand Gilot, Morten Skyt Eriksen, Alex Bamesreiter, Oliver Predelli, Georg Vollnals, and Paul Richter.

## B.3 What remains to be done

If you read (and, maybe, followed) this guide up to this point you may probably agree: FlightGear even in its present state, is not at all for the birds. It is already a flight simulator that supports even several flight models, many planes with 3D cockpits, HUD, terrain scenery with realistic buildings, roads, rivers, water awakens, all basic controls with many joysticks support and real weather.

Despite, FlightGear needs – and gets – further development. Except internal tweaks, there are several fields where FlightGear needs basics improvement and development. A first direction is adding airports, buildings, and more of those things bringing scenery to real life and belonging to realistic airports and cities. Another task is further implementation of the menu system, which should not be too hard with the basics being working now. A lot of options at present set via command line or even during compile time should finally make it into menu entries. Finally, FlightGear doesn't have a good ATC so far.

There are already people working in all of these directions. If you're a programmer and think you can contribute, you are invited to do so.

## Acknowledgements

Obviously this document could not have been written without all of the contributors mentioned above for making FlightGear a reality.

First, I was very glad to see Martin Spott entering the documentation effort. Martin provided not only several updates and contributions (notably in the OpenGL section) on the Linux side of the project but also several general ideas on the documentation in general.

I would like to express a special thanks to Curt Olson, whose numerous scattered READMEs, Thanks, Webpages, and personal emails were of special help to me and were freely exploited in the making of this booklet.

Next, Bernhard Buckel wrote several sections of early versions of that Guide and contributed a lot of ideas to it.

Jon S. Berndt supported me by critical proofreading of several versions of the document, pointing out inconsistencies and suggesting improvements.

Moreover, I gained a lot of help and support from Norman Vine. Maybe, without Norman's answers I would have never been able to tame different versions of the Cygwin – FlightGear

couple.

We were glad, our Mac expert Darrell Walisser contributed the section on compiling under macOS. In addition, he submitted several Mac-related hints and fixes.

Further contributions and donations on special points came from John Check, (general layout), Oliver Delise (several suggestions including notes on that chapter), Mohit Garg (OpenGL), Kyler B. Laird (corrections), Alex Perry (OpenGL), Kai Troester (compile problems), Dave Perry (joystick support), and Michael Selig (UIUC models).

Besides those whose names got lost withing the last-minute-trouble we'd like to express our gratitude to the following people for contributing valuable “bug fixes” to this version of The FlightGear Manual (in random order): Cameron Moore, Melchior Franz, David Megginson, Jon Berndt, Alex Perry, Dave Perry, Andy Ross, Erik Hofman, and Julian Foad.

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## Annexe E

# Liste des acronymes

**AAR** Air-Air Refueling

**ADF** Automatic Direction Finder

**AGL** Above Ground Level

**AI** Artificial Intelligence (Intelligence Artificielle – IA)

**ALS** Atmospheric Light Scattering

**AoA** Angle of Attack

**AP** AutoPilot

**ASI** Air Speed Indicator

**ASL** Above Sea Level

**ATC** Air Traffic Control (contrôle de la circulation aérienne)

**ATIS** Automatic Terminal Information Service

**CDI** Course Deviation Indicator

**DG** Directional Gyro

**DH** Decision Height

**DME** Distance Measuring Equipment

**DP** Departure Procedure

**EGT** Exhaust Gas Temperature (température des gaz d'échappement du moteur)

**FAA** Federal Aviation Administration (agence fédérale de l'aviation des États-Unis)

**FDM** Flight Dynamics Model

**FOLIS** Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System

**GPS** Global Positioning System

**HUD** Head-Up Display (affichage tête haute, visualisation tête haute ou encore collimateur tête haute)

**IA** Intelligence Artificielle (en anglais, *Artificial Intelligence* – AI)

**IAF** Initial Approach Fix

- IAP** Instrument Approach Procedure
- ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization
- IFR** Instrument Flight Rules (règles de vol aux instruments)
- IGC** International Gliding Commission
- ILS** Instrument Landing System
- LDA** Localizer-type Directional Aid
- LOC** Localizer
- LOD** Level Of Detail
- LOM** Locator Outer Marker
- MCBF** Mean Cycles Between Failures
- METAR** Meteorological Aerodrome Report
- MM** Middle Marker
- MP** MultiPlayer
- MSL** Mean Sea Level
- MTBF** Mean Time Between Failures
- NAV** NAVigation
- NDB** Non-Directional Beacon
- OBS** Omni Bearing Selector
- PTT** Push To Talk
- RMI** Radio Magnetic Indicator
- RPM** Revolutions Per Minute
- SID** Standard Instrument Departure
- STAR** Standard Terminal Arrival Route
- TACAN** TACtical Air Navigation
- TAS** True Air Speed
- TLA** Three-Letter Acronym
- TTS** Text To Speech (système informatique permettant de transformer un texte écrit en un texte parlé)
- UFO** Unidentified Flying Object
- VASI** Visual Approach Slope Indicator
- VFR** Visual Flight Rules (règles de vol à vue)
- VOR** VHF Omnidirectional Range
- VR** Virtual Reality
- VSI** Vertical Speed Indicator

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## Annexe G

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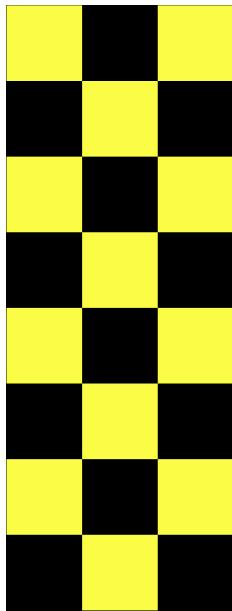
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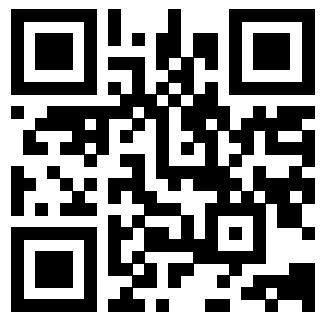
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