- The Boeing 777 has two inertia units,
 - the ADIRU (Air Data Inertial Reference Unit) and
 - the SAARU (Secondary Attitude and Arial Data Reference Unit)
- We will look at the ADIRU, based on the discussion in the paper
 - A Fault-Tolerant Air Data/Inertial Reference Unit
 - » Michael L. Sheffels
 - » IEEE AES Systems Magazine, March 1993

Air Data/Inertial Reference Unit

- ADIRU production unit



Main features

- » inertial and air data reference for ARINC 651 Integrated Modular Avionics distributed architecture
- » low life cycle cost
- » deferred maintenance
- » high reliability
- » high integrity fault detection
- » fault isolation
- » redundancy management
- » quad channel redundancy
- » robust partitioning
- » simple serial internal interfaces
- » simple voting
- » 3 ARINC 629 bus interfaces

Architecture

- 5 basic functions required for operation, referred to as *Fault Containment Areas* (FCA)
 - » processor
 - » gyro
 - » accelerometer
 - » ARINC 629 interface
 - » power supply
- Individual resources making up a FCA are referred to as *Fault Containment Models* (FCM)
 - » each FCA can tolerate the loss of 2 FCMs
 - » third failure will cause loss of the ADIRU
 - » ARINC 629 interfaces differ



Requirements

			Deferred
FCA	Function	Dispatch	Maintenance
Processor	2	3	4
Gyro	4	5	6
Accelerometer	4	5	6
Power Supply	1	2	3
ARINC 629 Left	1	1	2
ARINC 629 Center	0	1	2
ARINC 629 Right	1	1	2

Interconnections

- FCMs communicate via serial busses
 - » this keeps hardware complexity to a minimum
- Power distribution
 - » there are 3 robust power busses
 - » the power of all 3 power supplies is summed for each bus
 - » each FCM has own regulator
 - » fault isolation keeps regulator failures independent
- ADIRU transmits on 2 of 3 channels (left, right)
- ADIRU receives on all 3 channels
- 3 rd channel used for SAARU (Secondary Air data Attitude Reference Unit)

Processor FCA

- contains fault tolerant clock (FTC)
- used for 100 Hz synchronization interrupts providing processor synchronization
- ARINC 629
 - failures in any ARINC 629 bus are independent
 - votes on processor output before transmitting on bus
 - watchdog timers and power monitors are used to assure graceful shutdown if processor control over ARINC 629 interface is lost.

Power supply

- 3 supplies
- each has independent inputs for +28VDC primary power and +28VDC battery backup
- outputs are summed to produce single source of power (used by the 3 power busses)
- each supply employs
 - » over-voltage monitoring
 - » shut-down circuitry in case of power surge
 - » under-voltage is not problem due to the power summing

Redundancy management

- Hardware data-consistency-checks used to provide same input to all processors.
- Fault-tolerant detection and isolation software manages gyros and accelerometers.
 - » tries to eliminate benign faults
- Outputs from processors are voted on by the ARINC 629 interfaces.
- Power supplies are mainly tested upon power-up and shut down for deferred maintenance.

• Fault Isolation

- Design objectives are to maximize fault independence.
- Electrical fault isolation
 - » important since time to repair might be long
- Mechanical fault isolation
 - » shorts caused by foreign objects
- Occams raiser approach: keep things simple.
- Multiple methods (layers) of fault isolation
 - » at least 2 levels to protect interfaces between FCMs
 - » serial busses and discrete interconnections via isolation resisters on both ends

Reliability

- Typical Inertial Reference Unit
 - » Mean Time Between Failure (MTBF)
 - typical 10,000 h
 - » Mean Time to First Failure (MTFF)
 - typical 8,000 h
 - » using TMR: MTBF=10,000/3 = 3,333h
- Deferred Maintenance Approach
 - » Mean Time to Dispatch Alert with no maintenance
 - > 25, 000h
 - assuming 1 fault sustained in each FCA
 - » With better maintenance, i.e. fix unit at convenient time after annunciation
 - Mean Time to Dispatch Alert = 300,000h