

ABSTRACT**A system and method for optimising the control of an aircraft at an airport**

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A system (1) and method for optimising the control of an aircraft (8) at an airport. The system (1) comprises a state store module (16) which is configured to store flight schedule data for the aircraft (8) and a connection management module (17) which is coupled for communication with the state store module (16). The connection management module (17) being configured to receive and process aircraft status data and connection data which is indicative of at least a time of transfer of a passenger and/or baggage from a previous aircraft to the aircraft (8). The connection management module (17) is configured to compare the flight schedule data with the aircraft status data and the connection data and to calculate, based on the comparison, a connection indicator. The system further comprises a recommendation module (27) which is configured to generate, based on the connection indicator, a recommendation output message to control the aircraft (8) to either wait or not wait for a passenger and/or baggage to transfer from the previous aircraft to the aircraft (8).

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[Figure 1]

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