

METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING CONDITIONAL ESTIMATED
ARRIVAL TIMES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Aircraft systems and methods are provided for assisting sequencing of aircraft by providing
conditional estimated arrival times for short arrivals or early clearances. One method involves
identifying a geographic location associated with a merge point for an approach to an airport
associated with a flight plan for an aircraft, determining an alternative lateral trajectory for the
aircraft from a second geographic location along a sequencing route between arrival and the merge
10 point, determining a conditional estimated arrival time for the aircraft at the merge point based at
least in part on the alternative lateral trajectory, and transmitting a message including the
conditional estimated arrival time for the aircraft to an external computing system.