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New Techniques for Contrail Forecasting

Authors: [Jeffrey L. Peters](#); [AIR WEATHER SERVICE SCOTT AFB IL](#)

Abstract: This report documents the results of a study requested by the Strategic Air Command Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (SAC/DO) to update previous contrail forecasting research done by Herbert Appleman for HQ Air Weather Service in 1953. Advancements in aircraft power plants, especially the development of bypass turbofan engines, made the new study necessary. This attempt to update and improve current contrail forecasting methods was performed by the SAC Directorate of Weather (SAC/DOW). It describes the development of new contrail forecast algorithms for several types of engines used in high-flying aircraft. It also provides contrail forecasting rules that correlate synoptic-scale upward vertical motion with contrail formation. The results indicate significant improvement in contrail forecasting accuracy over the Appleman technique now in use at the Air Force Global Weather Central. Weather, Climatology, **Clouds**, Cirrus, **Clouds**, Forecasting, Algorithms, Condensations trails, Contrails, Exhaust trails, **Vapor** trails.

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