- A 1 General symbol for area (see S).
 - 2 Aspect ratio (see As).
 - 3 Amperes.
 - 4 Atomic weight.
- 5 Moment of inertia about longitudinal axis, rolling mode.
 - 6 Anode.
 - 7 Amplitude.
 - 8 Degrees absolute.
 - 9 Amber airway, or light.
 - 10 IFR flight plan suffix, fitted DME and 4096-code.
 - 11 JETDS code: piloted aircraft, IR or UV radiation.
 - 12 Airborne Forces category aircraft (UK, 1944–46).
 - 13 Atomic (as in A-bomb).
 - 14 Sonobuoy standard size class, c 1 m/3 ft.
 - 15 Air Branch (UK Admiralty).
 - 16 Calibration (USAF role prefix 1948-62).
- 17 US military aircraft basic mission or modified mission: attack (USAS, USAAC, USAAF, 1924-48; USN 1948-62; USAF/USN since 1962).
- 18 Aircraft category, ambulance (USAAS 1919-24, USN 1943).
 - 19 Powered target (USAAC 1940-41).
 - 20 Amphibian (USAF 1948-55).
 - 21 Availability.
 - 22 Aeroplane (PPL).
- 23 Altitude, followed by digits indicating hundreds of feet.
 - 24 Arm, as distinct from safe.
 - 25 Antarctic (but Tor Bergeron's classification = Arctic).
 - 26 Alternate [airport].
 - 27 Weather: hail
 - 28 Accepted (EFIS or nav. display).
 - 29 Arrival chart.
- 30 Sport-parachuting certificate: 10 jumps, no accuracy demanded.
 - 31 Autotuned (navaid).
 - 32 Magnetic-vector potential.
 - 33 Aircraft category: free balloon (FAI).
 - 34 Cross-section area of wing torsion box.
- 35 Common but not universal usage for aft-acting aerodynamic force; not synonymous with drag but the x-axis component of Fa.
 - 36 Margin [e.g., 0.15 or 0.2] above stall speed.
- Structural resistance to buckling.
- Wing-section axial force parallel to chord, per unit
- $\hat{\mathbf{A}}$ Angström (10⁻¹⁰m), very small unit of length, contrary to SI.
- (A) Local time.
- 1 Velocity of sound in any medium.
 - 2 Structural cross-section area.
 - 3 Anode.
 - 4 (Prefix) atto, = $\times 10^{-18}$.
- 5 (Suffix) available (thus, LD_a = landing distance available).
 - 6 Ambient.
 - 7 Acceleration.
- à Average value of lift-curve slope due to angle of attack.

- ã Kussner factor.
- A0, A_0 Unmodulated (steady note) CW radio emission. A0A1 Unmodulated (steady note) radio emission identified by Morse coding in a break period.
- Unmodulated emission identified by Morse coding heard above unbroken carrier (eg an NDB).
- A1, A_1 1 Unmodulated but keyed radio emission, typically giving Morse dots and dashes.
- 2 Flying instructor category; two years and 400 h as instructor (British Commonwealth air forces).
- a₁ Lift-curve slope for wing or other primary aerodynamic surface, numerically equal to dCL/dα.
- A2 Military flying instructor category; 15 months and 250 h.
- a₂ Lift-curve slope for hinged trailing-edge control surface [arguably, also flap], numerically $dC_L/d\epsilon$.
- Army airborne [or airspace] command and control [S adds system] (USA).
- A2C2 Airborne airstrike command and control (GTACS); S adds system.
- A2IPB Automated assistance with intelligence preparation of the battlespace (USAF).
- AM radio transmission with double SB.
- Affordable acquisition approach (USAF).
- A3H AM, SSB transmission with full carrier.
- A³I Army/NASA aircrew/aircraft integration (USA/US).
- A3J AM, SSB transmission with suppressed carrier.
- A³M Advanced air-to-air missiles. A³TC Advanced automated air tra Advanced automated air traffic control.
- A8-20 Airworthiness approval for classic (usually ex-military) aircraft (CAA, UK).
- A-25 Royal Navy form for reporting aircraft accidents. A400 to A755 See Arinc, ARÎNC.
- A-battery Electric cell to heat cathode filament in valve (tube).
- A-bomb Atomic bomb, see nuclear weapon.
- A-check S-check plus routine inspection of flightcontrol system. For a modern airline engine, typically 750 h.
- A-class 1 Airspace = 18,000+ ft [5486 m] AMSL and controlled.
- 2 Aircraft accident = involving loss of life or damage exceeding US\$1 million.
- **A-frame hook** Aircraft arrester hook in form of an A; hook at vertex and hinged at base of each leg.
- A-gear Arrester gear, where type is not known.
- A-Licence Basic PPL without additions or endorsements.
- A-line
- **A-mode** Transponder sends aircraft identification code only.
- A-sector Sector of radio range in which Morse A is heard, hence A-signal.
- A-station In Loran, primary transmitting station.
- **A-Stoff** Liquid oxygen (G).
- A-type entry Fuselage passenger door meeting FAA emergency exit requirements; typical dimensions 41 in × 76 in.

> AA AAEE, A&AEE

AA 1 Anti-aircraft.

- 2 Airship Association [office, Folkestone CT20 3LG] (UK).
- 3 Acquisition Aiding, technique for matching EM waveforms (esp for ECM).
 - 4 Air-to-air (ICAO code).
 - 5 Alert annunciator.
 - 6 Antenna array.
 - 7 Airbrokers Association (UK, 1949, became AAB).

A/A Air-to-air (radar mode).

AAA 1 Airport advisory area.

- 2 Army Aviation Association (USA), now AAAA.
- 3 Antique Airplane Association [office at Airpower Museum Inc., Ottumwa, IA52501] (US).
 - 4 American Airship Association.
 - 5 Anti-aircraft artillery (triple-A).
- 6 Affordable acquisition approach (usually A³, USAF).
- 7 Associazione Arma Aeronautica [air force association] (I).
 - 8 African Airlines Association [office, Nairobi] (Int.).
- **AAAA** 1 Australian Aerial Agricultural Association.
- 2 Army Aviation Association of America Inc. [office, Westport, CT06880, (US).
 - 3 Antique Aeroplane Association of Australia.
 - 4 Advanced architecture for airborne arrays.
 - 5 American Aviation Aerospace Alliance.
 - 6 Arizona Antique Aircraft Association.
- 7 Aircraft Appraisal Assoc. of America [Oklahoma City, OK] (US).

AAAC Australian Army Aviation Corps.

AAACF Airline Aviation & Aerospace Christian Fellowships [a charity, Lightwater, Surrey GU18 5JS]

AAAD 1 Airborne anti-armour defence.

2 All-arms air-defence (UK).

AAADA Atlantic Alliance of Aerospace and Dfence Associations [Halifax, Nova Scotia] (Int).

AAAE American Association of Airport Executives. (Washington, DC).

AAAF 1 Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France. [office, Paris]

2 Previously the Association des Assurances Aviation de France, now Afsat.

AAAI 1 American Association for Artificial Intelligence [Menlo Park, CA94025]

2 Association of Australian Aerospace Industries [ACT 26081 (Australia).

AAAM Advanced air-to-air missile.

AAAS American Association for the Advancement of Sciences.

AAASS Australian airborne acoustic systems strategy [sonobuoy system, also rendered A³S²].

AAATC AAssociation of American Air Travel Clubs [office, Hallandale, FL] (US).

AAAT Australian Advanced Air-Traffic System [first nationwide ADS-B system in the world].

AAAV Azienda Autonoma Assistenza al Volo, agency for air navigation and air traffic service (Italy).

AAAW Air-launched, or advanced airborne, antiarmour weapon.

AAB 1 Association of Air Brokers, now BACA.

2 Air Assualt Brigade.

AABM Air-to-air battle management.

AABNCP Advanced airborne (national) command post (DoD).

AAC 1 Army Air Corps (UK, from 1 September 1957). 2 Army Air Corps (US, 1926–March 1942).

3 Army Aviation Centre (Middle Wallop, SO20 8DY, UK).

4 Air Armament Center (AFMC).

5 Aviation Advisory Commission (US).

6 Alaskan Air Command (from 1945).

7 All-aspect capability.

8 Advance-acquisition contract (US).

9 Aeronautical, or airline, administrative control, or communications (Satnav).

10 Airborne Analysis Center.

11 Alberta Aviation Council [office, Edmonton].

AACA Alaska Air Carriers Association Inc. (Anchorage AK)

AACAS Auto air-collision avoidance system.

AACC 1 Airport Associations Co-ordinating Council (Int., office, Geneva). 2 See A2C², A2C2.

AACE Aircraft alerting communications EMP.

AACI Aircraft and Accident Commission of Indonesia.

AACMI Autonomous air-combat manoeuvring instrumentation; S adds system, T training.

AACO Arab Air Carriers Organisation (Beirut).
AACPP Airport access control pilot program (TSA; note: pilot means initial or preliminary).

AACR Airborne analog cassette recorder.

1 Army Airways Communications Service [to AACS 1946], Airways and Air Communications Service [1946–51], subsequently AF Com. Service (USAF).

2 Airborne advanced communications system.

AACT Air-to-air combat test (USN)

AACU Anti-Aircraft Co-operation Unit (UK, various dates 1937-47)

AAD 1 Aging Aircraft Division (WPAFB).

2 Assigned altitude deviation.

3 Additional Airworthiness Directive (CAA).

AADC 1 Area Air-Defense Commander (USN).

2 Analytical air-defence cell (NATO).

AADGE Allied air-defence ground environment (NATO, pronounced a-adge).

AADI Advanced area-defence interceptor.

AADP Advanced-architecture display processor.

AADRM Advanced air-breathing dual-range missile.

AADS 1 Advanced air-data system.

- 2 Airborne active dipping sonar.
- 3 Airspeed and director sensor.
- 4 Aircraft activity display system (program).

5 Advanced air-delivered sensor.

AADV Autonomous aerial, or air, delivery vehicle.

AAE 1 Above aerodrome/airport/airfield elevation.

2 Army Acquisition Executive (USA).

3 Asociación de Aviación Experimental [homebuilders], (Spain).

4 Agrupación Astronáutica Española [E-08006 Barcelona] (Spain).

AAED Advanced airborne expendable decoy.

AAEE, A&AEE Aeroplane & Armament Experimental Establishment (Martlesham Heath 1924-39, then at Boscombe Down to the present but from 1959 under different titles). Now called ATEC. (UK).

> AAEEA AARGM

AAEEA Association des Anciens Elèves de l'Ecole de l'Air (F).

AAES 1 Association of Aerospace Engineering Societies (US).

2 American Association of Engineering Societies.

AAExS Army/Air Force Exchange Service (US, became AAFES).

AAF Army Air Force[s], full title USAAF, (June 1941-1947).

AAFARS Advanced aviation forward-area refuelling system

AAFBU AAF Base Unit.

AAFCE Allied Air Forces Central Europe (NATO, pronounced af-see).

AAFEA Australian Airline Flight Engineers' Association.

AAFES Army and Air Force Exchange Service (US).

Automated air-facility information file, compiled by DMA.

AAFRA Association of African Airlines.

AAFSS Advanced aerial fire-support system.

AAG, A/AG 1 Air-to-air gunnery

2 Air Adjunct General (USAF, ANG).

3 Asociación Colombiana de Aviacion Civil General (Columbia).

4 Advanced arresting gear [carriers].

AAGE The Association of Aeronautical Ground Engineers (UK, 1935-).

AAGF Advanced aerial gun, far-field.

AAH Advanced attack helicopter (USA).

AAHIS Advanced airborne hyperspectral imaging system.

AAHM 1 American Airpower Heritage Museum [Midland, TX].

2 Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum [Fairbanks, AK]. AAHS American Aviation Historical Society [Santa Ana, CA 92704].

AAI 1 Angle-of-approach indicator, or indication (see VASI).

2 Angle-of-attack indicator.

3 Airline Avionics Institute (US).

4 Air aid to intercept (AI was more common).

5 Air-to-air interrogator; see AAICP.

6 Arrival, or arriving, aircraft interval.

7 Airports Authority of India.

AAIB 1 Air Accident Investigation Branch (DETR,

2 Air Accident Investigation Bureau (Singapore).

AAIC Air Accidents Investigation Commission (US).

AAICP Air-to-air interrogator control panel.

AAII Accelerated accuracy improvement initiative (GPS Navstar).

AAILS Airmedical airborne information for lateral spacing.

AAIM Aircraft autonomous, or acoustic airframe, integrity monitoring.

AAIP Analog autoland improvement program[me].

AAIR AmSafe aviation inflation restraint.

AAIRA Assistant Air Attaché (US, pronounced A-aira).

AAIS Association of Aerospace Industries (Singapore) [2002-].

AAL 1 also **a.a.l.**, Above airfield level.

2 Australian Air League [W. Marrickville, NSW].

3 Aircraft approach limitations, UK service usage specifying minima for aircraft type in association with specified ground aids.

AALAAW Advanced air-launched anti-armour weapon.

AALAE Association of Australian Licensed Aircraft Engineers.

AALB Ailes Anciennes Le Bourget (F).

AALC Antonomous approach [and] landing capability (AFRL).

AALS Army Aviation Logistics School [Fort Eustis, VA23604-5414] (US).

AAM 1 Air-to-air missile.

2 Azimuth-angle measuring [unit] (Madge).

3 Archive Air Museum (BAA).

AAMA Association des Amis du Musée de l'Air (F).

AAME Association of Aviation Medical Examiners (UK).

AAMP 1 Advanced-architecture microprocessor.

2 Advanced aircraft maneuvering program.

AAMPV Advanced anti-materiel/personnel/vehicles (US)

AAMRL Harry G Armstrong Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory (USAF).

AAMS Association of Air Medical Services [Alexandria, VA22314] (US).

AAN Airworthiness approval note.

AANCP Advanced airborne national command post (US)

A&AS Advisory and Assistance Services.

A&D 1 Arrival and departure chart.

2 Aerospace and defense (industry sector).

A&E Airframe and Engine, qualified engineer.

Arming and fuzing (ICBM).

AANDI Airworthiness Assurance Non-destructive Inspection validation center [at Sandia National Laboratory, N.M.] (US)

A&P Airframe and Powerplant qualified mechanic (US).

A&R Assemble and recycle.

AAO 1 Air-to-air operation[s].

2 Airborne area of operation.

3 Air Attack Officer (US Forest Service)

AAP 1 Apollo Applications Program (NASA).

2 Acceptable alternative product (NATO). 3 Aircraft Acceptance Park (RFC/RAF, to 1918).

4 Ass. of Aviation Pilots (Mexico DF).

5 Ass. of Aviation Psychologists [Columbus, OH] (US).

AAp Angle of approach lights.

AAPA Association of Asia-Pacific Airlines.

Airborne auxiliary powerplant. **AAPP**

AAPS Advanced aviation protection system (EW).

AAR 1 Aircraft accident report.

2 Air-augmented rocket.

3 Air-to-air refuelling, or automatic aerial refuelling.

4 Antenna azimuth rate.

5 Airport acceptance rate.

6 Airport arrival rate. 7 Active-array radar.

8 After-action review.

AARA Air-to-air refuelling area.

AARB Advanced aerial refuelling boom.

AARF Aircraft accident report form.

AARGM Advanced anti-radiation guided missile.

AARL abeam

AARL Advanced applications rotary launcher (S adds system).

AAR points Ground position of intended hookups.

AARS 1 Automatic altitude-reporting system.

2 Attitude/altitude retention system.

3 Advance [not advanced] airborne reconnaissance system (BAE Systems).

AARTA Army Aviation research and technology activity (USA).

AAS 1 Airport Advisory Service (FAA).

2 Army Aviation School (USA).

3 American Astronomical Society [office, Washington, DC20009] (US).

4 American Astronautical Society [office, Springfield, VA22152–2323] (US).

5 Air Armament School [formerly] (UK).

6 Advanced automation system (NAS 2).

7 Aerospace Audiovisual Service [1981–, previously APS, APCS] (USAF).

8 Alternative access to [space] station (NASA).

AASA 1 Aging Aircraft Safety Act [Congress, 1991] (US).

2 The Airlines Association of South Africa [Springbok, Transvaal].

AASE Advanced aircraft survivability equipment.

AASF 1 Advanced Air Striking Force [in France, 1939–40] (RAF).

2 Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation [office, Anchorage, AK99502] (US).

3 Army Aviation Support Facility (USA).

AASM 1 Advanced air-to-surface missile.

2 Armement air-sol modulaire (F).

3 Association of Aviation and Space Museums [Alexandria, VA] (US).

AASU Western rendition "Aviation army (or armies) of the Soviet Union" [to 1990].

AAT 1 Airworthiness approval tag.

2 Airports Authority of Thailand.

AATA 1 Associación Argentina de Transportadores Aéreos.

2 Animal Air Transport Association [Fort Washington, MD] (Int.).

AATC 1 American Air-Traffic Controllers' Council.

2 ANG/Afres Test Center (USAF).

3 Alabama Aviation & Technology Campus [Ozark AL36361–1209] (US).

AATD 1 Aviation Applied Technology Directorate (USA).

2 Advanced aviation training device (FAA).

AATF Airport and airway trust fund (FAA).

AATG Average annual traffic growth.

AATH Automatic approach to hover (anti-submarine helicopters).

AATMS Airborne air-traffic management system (Euret).

AATS 1 Alternate aircraft takeoff systems.

2 Access-approval test set [or system].

3 Aviation and Air-Traffic Services.

AATT Advanced aviation and transportation technology.

AATSR Advanced along-track scanning radiometer.
AATTC Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center (USAF).

AAU 1 Aircrew Allocation Unit (UK, 1943–53).

2 Aircraft Assembly Unit (UK, WW2).

3 Association of Aerospace Universities, 21 plus 5 commercial organisations [c/o Coventry University CV1 5FB], (UK).

4 Audio amplifier unit.

5 Antenna adaptor unit (IFF).

6 Articulated audio unit (threat warning).

7 Assigned amount unit[s] [emissions].

AAUR All-altitude upset recovery.

AAV Autonomous aerial vehicle.

AAv See AAVN.

AAVN Army Aviation (UK).

AAVS Aerospace Audio-Visual Service (USAF).

AAW 1 Anti-air warfare.

2 Active aeroelastic wing.

3 Aeromedical Airlift Wing (USAF).

AAWEX Anti-air warfare exercise.

AAWG Airworthiness Assurance Working Group.

AAWS 1 Automatic Aviation Weather Service.

2 Advanced anti-tank weapon system.

AAWWS Airborne adverse-weather weapon system.

AB Air base (USAF).

A/B, AB, a/b 1 Afterburner.

2 Airbrake.

 A_b 1 Cross-section area of spar boom.

2 Projected blade area of helicopter rotor.

ABA American Bar Association; IPC adds International Procurement Committee.

ABAC 1 Conversion namegram eg for pletting

ABAC 1 Conversion nomogram, eg for plotting greatcircle bearings on Mercator projection.

2 Association of British Aviation Consultants.

3 Association of British Aero Clubs and Centres, formed 1926 as Associated Light Aeroplane Clubs, reconstituted as ABAC 1946, became BLAC 1966.

4 The Association of Balloon and Airship Constructors [San Diego, CA 92169] (US).

ABAG Associação Brasileira de Aviação Geral (Brazilian NBAA).

ABB Automated beam-builder (space).

ABBCC Airborne battlefield control center.

Abbey Hill ESM for British warships, tuned to hostile air (and other) emissions.

ABC 1 Advance-booking charter.

2 Advancing-blade concept (Sikorsky).

3 Automatic boost control.

4 Airborne commander (SAC).

5 See Airborne Cigar.

6 After bottom [dead] centre.

ABCA American, British, Canadian, Australian Standardization Loan Programme.

ABCCC Airborne Battlefield Command and Control Center (USAF), upgraded to II and III.

ABCT Airfields of Britain Conservation Trust (UK).

ABCU Alternate [ie alternative] braking control unit.

ABD *1* Airborne broadband defence (ECM).

2 See next.

ABDR Aircraft battle damage repair.

Abeam Across the borders European ATM(7) systems effects (Euret).

abeam Bearing approximately 090° or 270° relative to vehicle.

> Aberporth absolute alcohol

Aberporth Chief UK missile test centre, formerly administrated by RAE, on Cardigan Bay, now Parc Aberporth.

aberration Geometrical inaccuracy introduced by optical, IR or similar electromagnetic system in which radiation is processed by mirrors, lenses, diffraction gratings and other elements.

ABE 1 Air-breathing engine [S adds system].

2 Aerodrome beacon.

3 Arinc 429 bus emulator.

ABET Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (US).

ABF 1 Annular blast fragmentation (warhead).

2 Auto beam forming (passive sonobuoys).

3 Advanced bomb family (USN).

ABFAC Airborne forward air controller.

ABFI Association of Belgian Flight Instructors [Antwerp B-2140] (Belgium).

ABG Air Base Group (USAF).
ABGS Air Bombing and Gunnery School (RAF).

ABI 1 Advanced[d] boundary information.

2 Airborne broadcast intelligence.

3 Advanced baseline imager (NOAA).

ABIA Associação Brasileira das Industrias Aeronauticas.

ABICS, Abics, Ada-based interception [or integrated] control system.

ABIHS Airborne broadcast intelligence hardware system (hazard avoidance).

ABILA Airborne instrument landing approach.

ab initio Aircraft or syllabus intended to train pupil pilot with no previous experience [lierally "from the beginning"].

ABIP Advisory Board of Interested Parties [EASA] (Int.).

ABIS All-bus instrumentation system.

ABIT, Abit ADS–B implementation team.

ABITA Association Belge des Ingénieurs et Techniciens de l'Aéronautique et de l'Astronautique [office, B-1930, Zaventem].

ABJPAA Association Belge des Journalistes Professionnels de l'Aéronautique et de l'Astronautique [B-1030, Brussels] (Belgium).

ABL 1 Airborne laser.

2 Atmospheric boundary layer.

3 Armoured box launcher.

4 Allegany Ballistics Laboratory (VS).

ablation Erosion of outer surface of body travelling at hypersonic speed in an atmosphere. An ablative material (ablator) chars or melts and is finally lost by vaporisation or separation of fragments. Char has poor thermal conductivity, chemical reactions within ablative layer may be endothermic, and generated gases may afford transpiration cooling. Main mechanism of thermal protection for spacecraft or ICBM re-entry vehicles reentering Earth atmosphere.

AB/LD Airbrakes/lift dumpers.

ABM 1 Apogee boost motor.

2 Anti-ballistic missile, with capability of intercepting re-entry vehicle(s) of ICBM.

3 Abeam (ICAO code).

4 Air-burst munition.

5 Aviation business machine.

6 Asychronous balanced mode.

7 Aircraft base maintenance.

8 Adams Bashforth-Moulton, an LMM.

abm Abeam.

ABMA US Army Ballistic Missile Agency, 1 February 1956, Huntsville.

ABMD Anti- [or advanced] ballistic missile defense; A adds agency, I initiative, P program, S system and T treaty (US).

ABN Airborne.

ABn Aerodrome beacon.

Abney level A spirit-level clinometer (obs.).

abnormality The presence of abnormal material forms or physical shapes that are not permitted by the engineering specification (FAA).

abnormal spin Originally defined as spin which continued for two or more turns after initiation of recovery action; today obscure.

A-bomb Colloquial term for fission bomb based upon plutonium or enriched uranium (A = atomic).

abort 1 To abandon course of action, such as takeoff or mission.

2 Action thus abandoned, thus an *.

abort drill Rehearsed and instinctive sequence of actions for coping with emergency abort situation; thus, RTO sequence would normally includes throttles closed, wheel brakes, spoilers, then full reverse on all available engines consistent with ability to steer along runway.

above-wing nozzle Socket for gravity filling of fuel tanks. ABP Aerodynamic balance panel.

AB/PM Air-base protective measure (US).
ABPNL Association Belge des Pilotes et Navigants techniciens de Ligne [office, B-1140 Brussels] (Belgium).

A-BPSK Aeronautical binary phase-shift keying.

ABR 1 Amphibian bomber reconnaissance.

2 Agile-beam radar.

abradable seal Surface layer of material, usually nonstructural, forming almost gas-tight seal with moving member and which can abrade harmlessly in event of mechanical contact. Some fan and compressor-blade** are silicone rubber with 20% fill of fine glass beads.

ABRC Advisory Board for the Research Councils (UK).

Abres, **ABRES** Advanced ballistic re-entry system[s].

ABRU Advanced bomb rack unit.

ABRV 1 Advanced ballistic re-entry vehicle.

2 Abbreviation.

ABS 1 Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, strong thermosetting plastic material.

2 Anti-blocking system.

3 Anti-lock braking system.

abs Absolute scale of units.

ABSA Advanced base support aircraft.

abscissa 1 In co-ordinate geometry, X-axis.

2 X-axis location of a point.

ABSL Ambient background sound level.

absolute aerodynamic ceiling Altitude at which maximum rate of climb of aerodyne, under specified conditions, falls to zero. Usually pressure altitude amsl, atmosphere ISA, aircraft loading 1 g, and weight must be specified. Except for zoom ceiling, this is greatest height attainable.

absolute alcohol Pure ethyl alcohol (ethanol) with all water removed.

> absolute altimeter **ACAP**

absolute altimeter Altimeter that indicates absolute altitude; nearest approach to this theoretical ideal is laser altimeter, closely followed by instruments using longer EM wavelengths (radio altimeter).

absolute altitude Distance along local vertical between aircraft and point where local vertical cuts Earth's surface.

absolute angle of attack Angle of attack measured from angle for zero lift (which with cambered wing is negative with respect to chord line).

absolute ceiling Usually, absolute aerodynamic ceiling. **absolute density** Theoretical density (symbol ρ) at specified height in model atmosphere.

absolute fix Fix (2) established by two or more position lines crossing at large angles near 90°.

absolute humidity Humidity of local atmoshere, expressed as gm⁻³

absolute inclinometer Inclinometer reading attitude with respect to local horizontal, usually by precise spirit level

absolute optical shaft encoder Electromechanical transducer giving coded non-ambiguous output exactly proportional to shaft angular position.

absolute pressure Gauge pressure plus local atmospheric pressure.

absolute system Of several ** of units, or for calculating aerospace parameters, most important is reduction of aerodynamic forces to dimensionless coefficients by dividing by dynamic pressure head $\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2$.

absolute temperature Temperature related to absolute zero. Two scales in common use: absolute (°A) using same unit as Fahrenheit or Rankine scale (contrary to SI), and Kelvin (K) using same unit as Celsius scale.

absolute zero Temperature at which all gross molecular (thermal) motion ceases, with all substances (probably except helium) in solid state. 0K = -273.16°C.

absorbed dose Energy imparted by nuclear or ionising radiation to unit mass of recipient matter; measured in

absorption band Range of frequencies or wavelengths within which specified EM radiation is absorbed by specified material; narrow spread(s) of frequencies for which absorption is at clear maximum.

absorption coefficient 1 In acoustics, percentage of sound energy absorbed by supposed infinitely large area of surface or body.

2 In EM radiation, percentage of energy that fails to be reflected by opaque body or transmitted by transparent body (in case of reflection, part of radiation may be scattered). Water vapour is good absorber of EM at long wavelengths at which solar energy is reflected from Earth's surface, so ** for solar energy varies greatly with

absorption process Chemical production of petrols (gasolines) by passing natural gas through heavy hydro-

absorption cross-section Absorption coefficient of radar target expressed as ratio of absorbed energy to incident energy.

1 About (ICAO).

2 Air-breathing threat[s].

Abta, ABTA Association of British Travel Agents, [office, London].

ABTJ Aferburning turobjet.

ABU 1 Aviation bird unit (airport).

2 Avionics block upgrade.

ABV 1 Air-bleed valve.

2 Above (ICAO).

3 Alternative boost vehicle (BMDS).

ABW Air Base Wing (USAF).

AC 1 Aligned continuous (FRP1).

2 Aircraft commander.

3 Army co-operation (UK).

4 Aerodynamic centre (a.c. is preferred).

5 Or A_c, acceleration command.

6 Acquisition cycle.

7 Advisory circular (FAA).

8 Aircraft characteristic (JAR).

9 Automated circumferential (riveting).

10 Airworthiness circular.

11 Air carrier.

12 Air conditioner.

13 Airman certification (US).

14 Active component.

15 Area coverage (Satcoms).

16 Analyst console.

17 Approach control.

Ac Altocumulus cloud.
A/C Approach Control (FAA style).

ac Aerodynamic centre.

a.c. 1 Alternating current (electricity).

2 Aerodynamic centre of wing or other surface; often

a/c Aircraft (FAA = acft).

ACA 1 Air Crew Association (UK).

2 Aerobatic Club of America (Fort Worth, TX).

3 Advanced cargo aircraft.

4 Ammunition-container assembly

5 Airspace coordination area (GFS).

6 Arms Control Association (US).

7 Address compression algorithm. 8 Advisory Committee for Aeronautics [1909, became ARC 1920] (UK).

9 Advanced computing architecture.

ACAA 1 Air-Carrier Association of America.

2 Australian Civil Aviation Authority.

3 Academic Center for Aging Aircraft (universities + DoD).

4 African Civil Aviation Agency, oversees five regional bodies (2007-).

ACAAI Air Cargo Agents Association of India [office, Mumbai].

ACAAR Aircraft communications addressing and reporting [s adds system].

ACAB Air Cavalry Attack Brigade (USA).

1 Arab Civil Aviation Council (Int). ACAC

2 African Civil Aviation Commission [Dakar, Senegal] (Int.).

3 Aircooled air cooler.

ACAMS Aircraft communications and management system.

ACAN Amicale des Centres Aéronautiques Nationaux [F-7501b Paris] (F).

ACAP 1 Aviation Consumer Action Project [1971–, office, Washington, DC 20009] (US).

2 Advanced composite aircraft (helicopter) program (US).

ACARE accelerator pump

ACARE Advisory Council for Aeronautical Research in Europe (Int.).

Acars, ACARS 1 Aircraft communications and automatic reporting system; most common interpretation.

- 2 Airborne communication and recording system.
- 3 Arinc communications addressing and reporting system.
- 4 Airline communication and reporting system (Rockwell Collins).

ACAS 1 Air-cycle air-conditioning system.

- 2 Assistant Chief of the Air Staff.
- 3 Aluminium core, aluminium skin.
- 4 Airborne collision-avoidance system.
- 5 Aircraft collision-avoidance system (ICAO is currently *II; 2002).
- 6 Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (UK).
 - 7 Airfield chemical-alarm system.
 - 8 Aircraft analytical system (software).

ACASS Advanced close air support system (US).

Acassa Army close air support situational awareness (USA/USAF).

Acat, ACAT 1 Association of Colleges of Aerospace Technology [Weybridge KT13 8TT] (UK).

2 Air Carrier Ab initio Training, MPL adds Multiple crew pilot license (US).

Acatt Army combined arms team trainer (Cobra/Apache/Scout).

ACAVS Advanced cab and visual system.

ACAWS Advisory caution and warning system.

ACBM Additional conventional-bomb module.

ACC 1 Air, or air traffic, or area, or aerodrome, or airfield control centre.

- 2 Active clearance control.
- 3 Air Combat Command (USAF, from 1 June 1992, HQ Langley AFB).
- 4 Air Co-ordinating Committee (US, military/civilian, 1945–60).
 - 5 Axis-controlled carrier.
 - 6 Avionics computer control.
 - 7 Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce (US, 1921 on).
 - 8 Automatic code change (IFF).
 - 9 Aero Club of Canada [Ontario K7C 4L7].
 - 10 Aerobatic Certificate Course (AOPA).
 - 11 Audio control console.
- AcC Altocumulus castellanus.

ACCA 1 Air Courier Conference of America [office, Falls Church, VA] (US).

2 Air Charters Carriers' Association.

ACCC 1 Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

2 Aluminium [aluminum] conductor, composite core [cable].

ACCE Air Command and Control Element (RAF). accelerated flight Although aircraft that gains or loses speed is accelerating in horizontal plane, term should be used only for acceleration in plane perpendicular to flightpath, esp. in vertical plane.

accelerated history Test record of specimen subjected to overstress cycling, overtemperature cycling or any other way of 'ageing' at abnormally rapid rate.

accelerated mission endurance test An engine or other item is subjected to a non-stop succession of simulated inservice missions.

accelerated stall Stall entered in accelerated flight. As common way of inducing stall is to keep pulling up nose, it might be thought all stalls must be accelerated, but in gradual entry flight path may be substantially horizontal. "High-speed stall" is possible in violent manoeuvre because acceleration in vertical plane requires wing to exceed stalling angle of attack. Stall-protection systems are generally designed to respond to rate of change of angle of attack close to stalling angle, so stick-pusher (or whatever form system takes) is fired early enough for critical value not to be reached.

accelerate-stop Simulation of RTO by accelerating from rest to V_1 or other chosen speed and immediately bringing aircraft to rest in shortest possible distance; hence * distance

accelerating pump In piston engine carburettor, pump provided to enrich mixture each time throttle is opened, to assist acceleration of engine masses.

accelerating well Originally receptacle for small supply of fuel automatically fed into choke tube by increased suction when throttle was opened. Later became small volume connected by bleed holes to mixture delivery passage. Usually absent from modern engines.

acceleration Rate of change of velocity, having dimensions LT⁻² and in SI usually measured in ms⁻² = 3.28084 fts⁻² [reciprocal, 0.3048]. As velocity is vector quantity, * can be imparted by changing trajectory without changing speed, and this is meaning most often applied in aerospace.

acceleration control unit Major element in engine fuel control unit, usually a servo sensing compressor delivery pressure to make fuel flow keep pace with demand for extra fuel to accelerate engine as throttle is opened.

acceleration datum Engine N_1 corresponding to typical approach power, used in engine type testing for $2\frac{1}{2}$ min. rest period before each simulated overshoot acceleration (repeated 8 or 15 times).

acceleration errors Traditional direct-reading magnetic compass misreads under linear acceleration (change of speed at constant heading) and in turn (apparent vertical acceleration at constant speed); former is a maximum on E–W headings, increasing speed on W heading in N hemisphere indicating apparent turn to N; Northerly Turning Error (N hemisphere) causes simple compass to lag true reading, while Southerly Turning Error results in overreading. Simple suction horizon misreads under all applied accelerations, most serious under linear positive acceleration (t-o or overshoot), when indication is falsely nose-up and usually right-wing down (with clockwise rotor, indication is diving left turn).

acceleration manoeuvre High-speed yo-yo.

acceleration-onset cueing Simulator technique in which real acceleration is initially imparted and then reduced, usually to zero, at a rate too low for body to notice; thus trainee can even believe in sustained afterburner takeoff. acceleration stress Physical deformation of human body caused by acceleration, esp. longitudinal.

acceleration tolerance See *g-tolerance*.

accelerator 1 Device, not carried on aircraft, for increasing linear acceleration on takeoff; original name for *catapult*.

2 Software for boosting throughput of digital data, especially for satellite transmission.

accelerator pump Accelerating pump.



accelerometer Accu-Time

accelerometer Device for measuring acceleration. INS contains most sensitive * possible. Usually one for each axis, arranged to emit electrical signal proportional to sensed acceleration. Recording * makes continuous hard-copy record of sensed acceleration, or indicates peak. Direct reading * generally fitted in test flying but not in regular aircraft operation.

Accept Automated cargo clearance enforcement processing technique, computerised inspection of selected items only, to help identify high-risk items (US customs). acceptable alternative product One which may be used in place of another for extended periods without technical advice (NATO).

acceptance One meaning is agreement of air-traffic control to take control of particular aircraft. Hence * rate is (1) actual rate in one-hour period, or (2) the maximum that can safely be handled.

acceptance test Mainly historic, test of hardware witnessed by customer or his designated authority to demonstrate acceptability of product (usually military). Schedule typically covered operation within design limits, ignoring service life, fatigue, MTBF, MMH/FH and fault protection.

acceptance trials Trials of flight vehicle carried out by eventual military user or his nominated representative to determine if specified customer requirement has been met. Access Assembly concept for construction of erectable space structures.

access door Hinged door openable to provide access to interior space or equipment.

access light Until about 1940, light placed near airfield boundary indicating favourable area over which to approach and land.

access panel Quickly removable aircraft-skin panel, either of replaceable or interchangeable type, removed to provide access to interior.

accessories Replaceable system components forming functioning integral part of aircraft. Except in general aviation, term is vague; includes pumps, motors and valves, excludes such items as life-rafts and furnishing. In case of fuel system (for example) would include pumps, valves, contents gauges and flowmeters, but not tanks or pinelines

accessory drive Shaft drive, typically for group of rotary accessory units, from main engine, APU, EPU, MEPU or other power source.

access time 1 Time required to access any part of computer program (typically 10^{-3} to 10^{-9} s).

2 Time required to project any desired part of film or roller map in pictorial cockpit display (typically about 3 s).

3 Time necessary to open working section of tunnel and reach model installed (typically about 1,000 s, but varies greatly).

ACCGS Air Cadet Central Gliding School (Syerston, UK).

ACCID Notification of aircraft accident (ICAO).

accident Incident in life of aircraft which causes significant damage or personal injury (see *notifiable*).

accident-protected recorder Flight recorder meeting mandatory requirements intended to ensure accurate playback after any crash.

accident rate In military aviation most common parameter is accidents per 100,000 flying hours; other

common measures are fatal accidents, crew fatalities and aircraft write-offs on same time basis, usually reckoned by calendar year. In commercial aviation preferred yard-sticks are number of accidents (divided into notifiable and fatal) per 100 million passenger-miles (to be replaced by passenger-km) or per 100,000 stage flights, either per calendar year or as five-year moving average. In General Aviation usual measure is fatal accidents per 100,000 take-offs.

accident recorder Device, usually self-contained and enclosed in casing proof against severe impact, crushing forces and intense fire, which records on magnetic tape, wire, or other material, flight parameters most likely to indicate cause of accident. Typical parameters are time, altitude, IAS, pitch and roll attitude, control-surface positions and normal acceleration; many other parameters can be added, and some ** on transports are linked with maintenance recording systems. Record may continuously superimpose and erase that of earlier flight, or recorder may be regularly reloaded so that record can be studied.

ACCIS Automated command and control information system (NATO).

ACCISRC See AC²ISRC [alphabetically, AC two...]. acclrm Accelerometer.

accompanying cargo/supplies Cargo and/or supplies carried by combat units into objective area.

ACCP Automatic configuration control processor.

ACC-R Area control centre radar.

accredited medical conclusion Decision by licensing authority on individual's fitness to fly, in whatever capacity.

accredited sortie One that puts bomb on target.

ACCS *1* Airborne Command and Control Squadron (USAF, NATO).

- 2 Air command and control system (NATO).
- 3 Air-cycle [modular] cooling system.

4 Airborne computing and communications system.

ACCSA Allied Communications and Computer Security Agency (NATO, Brussels).

ACCTS Aviation Co-ordinating Committee for telecommunications Services (US).

accumulator 1 Electrical storage battery, invariably liquid-electrolyte and generally lead/acid.

2 Device for storing energy in hydraulic system, or for increasing system elasticity to avoid excessive dynamic pressure loading. Can act as emergency source of pressure of fluid, damp out pressure fluctuations, prevent incessant shuttling of pressure regulators and act as pump back-up at peak load.

3 Device for storing limited quantity of fuel, often under pressure, for engine starting, inverted flight or other time when normal supply may be unavailable or need supplementing.

4 Portion of computer central processor or arithmetic unit used for addition.

accuracy jump Para-sport jump in which criterion is distance from target.

accuracy landing In flying training or demonstration, dead-stick landing on designated spot (= spot landing). accuracy of fire Linear distance between point of aim and mean point of strikes.

Accu-Time Magnetron circuit capable of being precisely tuned to different wavelengths.

ACD

ACD 1 Automatic [or automated] chart display.

2 Aeronautical Charting Division (NOAA).

ACDA Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

ACDAC Associación Colombiana de Aviadores Civiles [pilots' union; Bogotá] (Colombia).

ACDB Airport characteristics data-bank (ICAO).

AC/DC Air refuelling tanker able both to dispense and receive fuel in flight (colloq).

ACDO Air-carrier district office (US).

ACDP Armament control and display panel.

ACDS 1 Automatic countermeasures [or computer-controlled] dispenser [or dispensing] system.

2 Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (UK).

3 Air-, or advanced, combat direction system.

ACDTR Airborne central data tape recorder (now generally called RSD).

ACE 1 Automatic check-out equipment.

2 Association of Consulting Engineers [London SW1H 0QL] (UK).

3 Air combat evaluator (CIU software).

4 Aircrew (or accelerated copilot) enrichment.

5 Allied Command Europe (NATO).

6 Association des Compagnies Aériennes de la Communauté Européenne [all EC7 members of IACA; office, B-1930 Zaventem] (Int.).

7 Advanced crew-station evaluator (helicopter).

8 Automated center for electronics, computer control of all phases of circuit design, development, assembly and test (Lockheed)

9 'Technical acknowlegement' (ACARS code).

10 Actuator control electronics.

11 Advanced-certification equipment.

12 Aerospace Committee (BSI).

13 Avionics capabilities enhancement.

14 Analysis [and] control element.

15 Agile control experiment.

16 Aerobatic certification evaluator.

17 Aviation Career Education, or Educator (US).

18 Aviation Combat Element of MEU

19 Autonomous combat [manoeuvres] evaluation.

20 Air-combat emulator.

21 Adaptive-cycle engine.

22 Association of Cost Engineers [Sandbach, Cheshire] (UK).

23 Aviation [airport] capacity evaluation (FAA 2002–). 24 Aviation Centre of Excellence (45 European

members).

25 Aéro Club d'Egypte [Cairo].

26 Airborne Command Element (Awacs).

27 Airside capacity enhancement.

ace Combat pilot with many victories over enemy aircraft. WW2 USAAF scores included strafing (air/ground) "victories". Number required to qualify has varied, but in modern world is usually five confirmed in air combat.

ACEA *1* Action Committee for European Aerospace (international shop-floor pressure group).

2 Aero Club of East Africa (Kenya).

ACEBP Air-conditioning engine bleed pipe.

ACEC Ada-compiler evaluation capability

ACED Air cargo explosives detection; PP adds pilot program (DHS).

ACEE Aircraft energy efficiency (NASA).

ACEL Air Crew Equipment Laboratory (USN).

achieved navigation performance

ACEM Aerial camera electro-optical magazine.

ACER Air Corps Enlisted Reserves (USA).

ACES 1 Advanced-concept escape system.

2 Advanced-concept ejection seat.

3 Air-carrier engineering support.

4 Aerial combat enhanced [or evaluation, or evaluator]

5 Advanced carry-on Elint/ESM suite.

6 Adaptation controlled environment system (ATC).

7 Airborne capability extension system.

ACeS Asia cellular satellite system.

ACESNA Agence Centrafricaine pour la Sécurité Navigation Aérienne. [office Bangui, Central African Rep.]

ACESS Aircraft computerized equipment support system.

ACET 1 Air-cushion equipment transporter, for moving aircraft and other loads over soft surfaces, especially over airbase with paved areas heavily cratered (S adds 'system').

2 Automatic cancellation of extended [radar] target[s].

3 Affordable capable engine technology, TDP adds technology demonstrator programme [2005–] (UK).

acetate Compound or solution of acetic acid and alkali. * dope is traditionally based upon acetic acid and cellulose; was used for less inflammable properties (see *nitrate dope*).

ACETEF Air-combat environmental test and evaluation facility (USA).

acetone CH₃.CO.CH₃, inflammable, generally reactive chemical, often prepared by special fermentation of grain, used as solvent. Basis of many 'dopes' and 'thinners'.

ACETS, Acets Air-cushion equipment transportation system (for post-attack airfields).

acetylene CH.CH or C₂H₂, colourless gas, explosive mixed with air or when pressurized but safe dissolved in acetone (trade name Prestolite and others). Burns with oxygen to give 3,500°C flame for gas welding; important ingredient of plastics.

Aceval Air-combat evaluation.

ACEX Air-coupled electronic transducer.

ACF 1 Aircraft Components Flight (RAF).

2 Advanced common flightdeck.

3 Area control facility.

ACFC 1 Aircooled flight-critical.

2 Aircooled fuel cooler.

ACFD Advanced civil flight deck.

AC⁴ISR Adaptive C⁴ISR.

ACFR Australian Centre for Field Robotics.

acft Aircraft (ICAO), also loosely ACFT.

ACG 1 Austro Control GmbH (Austria).

2 Airfield Construction Group (RAF, WW2).

3 Airport Compatibility Group.

ACGF Aluminium-coated glassfibre (chaff).

ACGS Aerospace Cartographic and Geodetic Service (USAF, formerly MAC).

ACH 1 Advanced Chain Home (UK WW2).

2 Advanced compound helicopter.

ACH/GD Aircraft-hand, General Duties, "lowest form of life" in RAF (WW2).

achieved navigation performance The measure of uncertainty in the position element.

> achromatic ACOS

achromatic Transmitting white light without diffraction into special colours; lens system so designed that sum of chromatic dispersions is zero.

ACI 1 Air Council Instruction (UK).

- 2 Airports Council International; suffixes denote regions, thus - NA = North America [office, 1215 Geneva 16] (Int.).
 - 3 Avionics caution indicator.
 - 4 Armament control indicator.

ACID Aircraft identification.

acid engine Rocket engine in which one propellant is an acid, usually RFNA or WFNA.

acid extraction Stage in production of lubricating oils in which sulphuric acid is used to extract impurities.

Acids, ACIDS 1 Automated communications and intercom distribution system.

2 Air conformal ice detection system.

ACI-E Airports Council International – Europe.

ACINT, Acint Active acoustic intelligence.

Acips Airfoil and cowl ice protection system.

ACIS 1 Advanced CCD imaging spectrometer.

2 Armament, or advanced, control/indicator set.

3 Advanced cabin interphone system.

ACJ Advisory circular, Joint.

ACJN Adaptive joint C4ISR node.

ACK Acknowlegement of uplink (Acars).

ack Acknowlegement (ICAO)

Ack-ack Anti-aircraft (UK WW1, became passé in

Ackeret formula There are many, most important being, for thin wing above MDET, regardless of camber, $C_L = 4\alpha/\sqrt{M^2-1}$.

Ackeret theory First detailed treatment [1925] for supersonic flow past infinite wing, suggesting sharp leading and trailing edges and low t/c ratio; favoured profiles were biconvex or trapezium (parallel double wedge).

acknowledged program A special-access program whose existence is admitted.

acknowledgement Confirmation from addressee that message has been received and understood.

ACL 1 Anti-collision light.

2 Allowable cabin load.

3 Aeronautical-chart legend.

4 Altimeter check location.

5 Air Cadet League of Canada.

6 ATC1 clearance[s].

Aclaim Airborne coherent lidar for air inflight measurement.

Aclant Allied Command, Atlantic (NATO).

The Air Cadet league of Canada [office, ACLC Ottawa].

ACLD, ACld Above cloud[s].

ACLG Air-cushion landing gear; underside of aircraft is fitted with inflatable skirt to contain ACV type cushion, suitable for all land, marsh, sand or water surfaces

Aclics Airborne communications location, identification and collection system (USA).

aclinic line Isoclinic line linking all points whose angle of dip is zero.

Aclos, ACLOS Automatic command to line of sight.

ACLS 1 Automatic carrier landing system (Bell/USN). 2 Air-cushion landing system.

ACLT 1 Aircraft-carrier landing training.

2 Actual calculated landing time.

ACLU American Civil Liberties Union (US).

ACM 1 Air-combat manoeuvring, or manoeuvre [US maneuver]; EST adds expert-systems trainer, I instrumentation, R range and S simulator.

- 2 Air-cycle machine.
- 3 Anti-armour cluster munition.
- 4 Air Chief Marshal (not normally abbrev.).
- 5 Air-conditioning module.
- 6 Advanced cruise missile (USAF).
- 7 Aircraft-condition monitoring.
- 8 Aircraft manual.
- 9 Attitude-control module.
- 10 Air Commercial Manual (US Bureau of Air Commerce).

11 Aircraft-cabin mattress.

12 Advanced contouring machine.

13 ATC 1 communications management.

ACMA Advanced concepts and material applications (MoD, UK).

ACMDS Advanced countermeasures dispensing system.

ACME Advanced-core military engine.

ACMF Aircraft-condition monitoring function.

ACMG Air-Cargo Management Group (US).

ACMI 1 Air-combat manoeuvring instrumentation, or installation.

2 Aircraft, crew, maintenance and insurance.

ACMP Alternating-current motor/pump.

ACMR Air-combat manoeuvring range.

ACMS 1 Avionics, or advanced, control and management system.

2 Aircraft, also airport, condition monitoring system.

3 Armament control and monitoring system.

ACMT Advanced cruise-missile technology.

ACN 1 Aircraft Classification Number (ICAO proposal for pavements).

2 Airborne communications node, C4ISR, now called AJCN.

3 Academia Cosmologica Nova (G).

4 Ascension.

ACNA Aéro Club National d'Algérie (Algeria).

ACNDT Advisory Committe for Non-Destructive Testing.

ACNIP Auxiliary, or advanced, CNI panel.

ACNS Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff (UK).

ACNSS Advanced com/nav/surveillance system.

ACO 1 Airspace control, or coordination, order.

2 Airborne Control, or Communications, Officer.

3 Aerosat coordination office.

4 Advanced concepts of applications.

5 Air-combat order.

ACOC Aircooled oil cooler.

acorn 1 Streamlined body or forebody added at intersection of two aerodynamic surfaces [e.g. fin/tailplane] to reduce peak suction.

2 Streamlined body introduced at intersection of crossing bracing wires to prevent chafing.

3 Steamlined fairing over external DF loop.

acorn valve Small thermionic valve (radio tube) formerly added to VHF or UHF circuit to improve efficiency.

ACOS 1 Assistant Chief of Staff.

2 Air Crew Officers' School.