

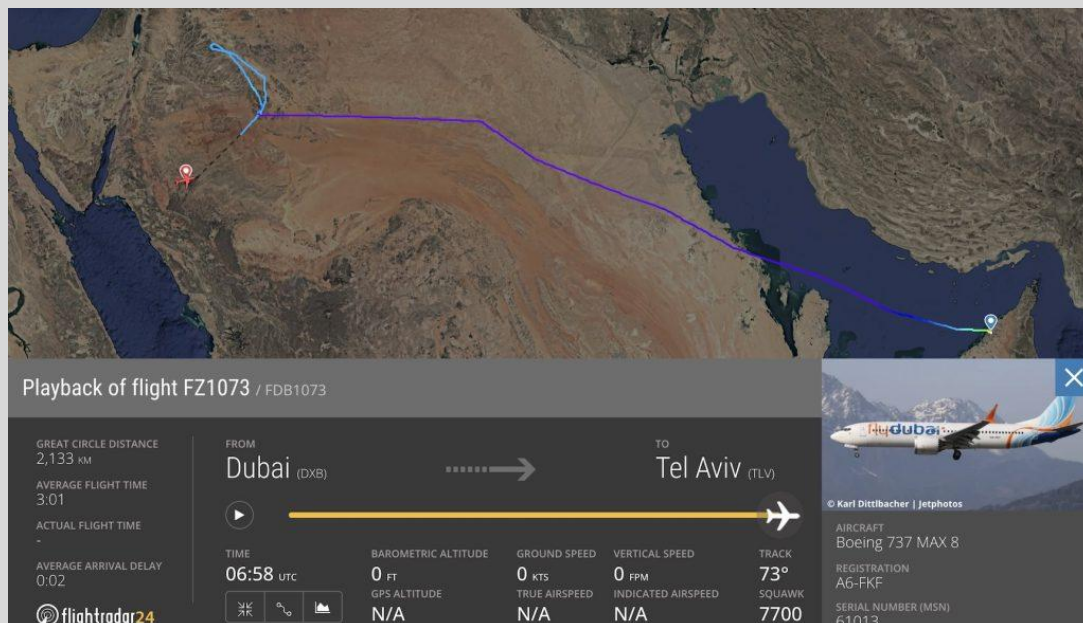


Flydubai flight to Tel Aviv diverts to Tabuk after pilot attack update

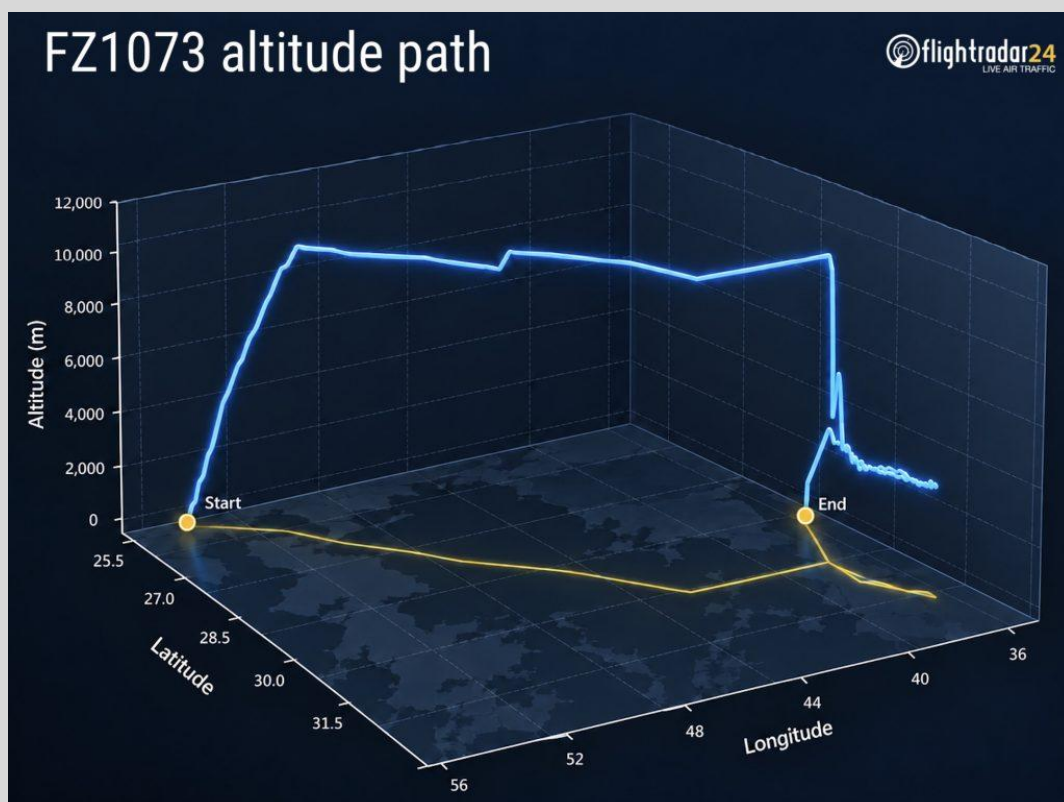
- One pilot attacked another, setting off a frantic effort to prevent disaster
- Flight was en route from Dubai to Tel Aviv, but diverted to Tabuk
- Aircraft squawked 7700, then 7500, then 7700 again

A Tel Aviv bound fly Dubai flight diverted to Tabuk Saudi Arabia on 30 September after broadcasting an emergency squawk code and indicating an unlawful interference squawk code for some time before switching back to general emergency. Multiple media and official sources now report that one pilot attacked the other and tried to take over the aircraft. Passengers and another set of pilots who were onboard were able to gain access to the flight deck and eventually safely land the aircraft.

FlyDubai flight 1073 departed Dubai at 03:05 UTC and climbed to a cruising altitude of 34,000 feet.



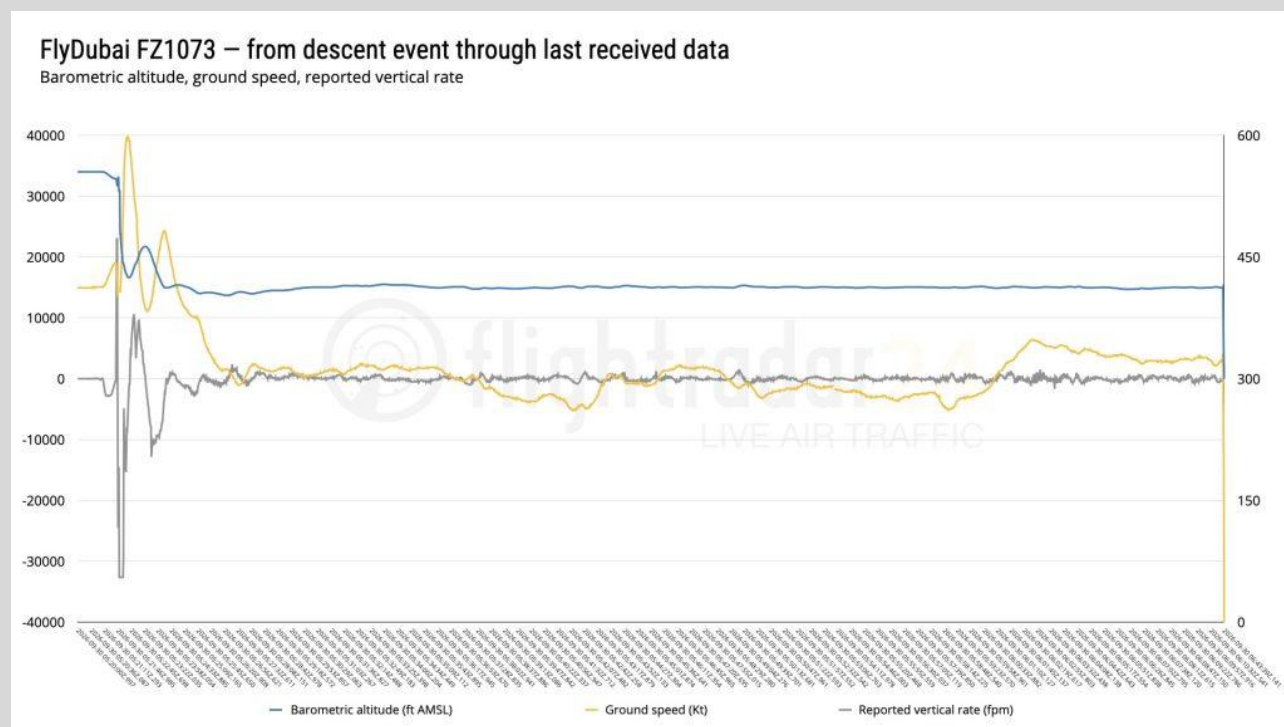
At 05:21 UTC, the flight began a steep descent, followed by a sharp ascent, followed by another sharp descent. The aircraft then centered its flight on an altitude of approximately 15,000 feet by 05:33 UTC. The aircraft's altitude oscillated around 15,000 feet and ground speed varied significantly throughout the rest of the flight.



The aircraft began [squawking 7700](#), a discreet code internationally standardized to indicate “general emergency”, at 05:28:48 UTC as it flew along the Saudi-Jordanian border.

The flight switched to [squawk 7500](#) at 05:35 UTC, another internationally standardized code to indicate “unlawful interference”, before turning west. After briefly entering Jordanian airspace, the flight turned back 180 degrees before heading southwest toward Tabuk.

The aircraft switched back to squawk 7700 as it approached Tabuk. The last ADS-B data received from the aircraft indicates a safe landing in Tabuk. The last ADS-B message received by Flightradar24 was at 06:58 UTC.



Aircraft information



fLyDubai flight 1073 was operated by a Boeing 737-8 MAX ([registration A6-FKF | MSN 61013](#)). The aircraft was delivered new to the airline in December 2022. The 737-8 MAX is powered by two CFM LEAP-1B engines.

