



# **Realizing NASA's Vision for Low Noise Subsonic Transport Aircraft**

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A Keynote Presentation  
Future Aircraft Design and Noise Impact  
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# Acknowledgments

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- Aircraft Noise Reduction (ANR) Subproject of the Advanced Air Transport Technology (AATT) Project for funding this research
- John Rawls and Stuart Pope for contributions to the Aircraft System Noise and PAA Team
- ANOPP2 Team, NASA Langley Aeroacoustics Branch, Dr. Leonard Lopes, Lead
- NASA Glenn Propulsion Systems Analysis Branch and the NASA Langley Aeronautics Systems Analysis Branch

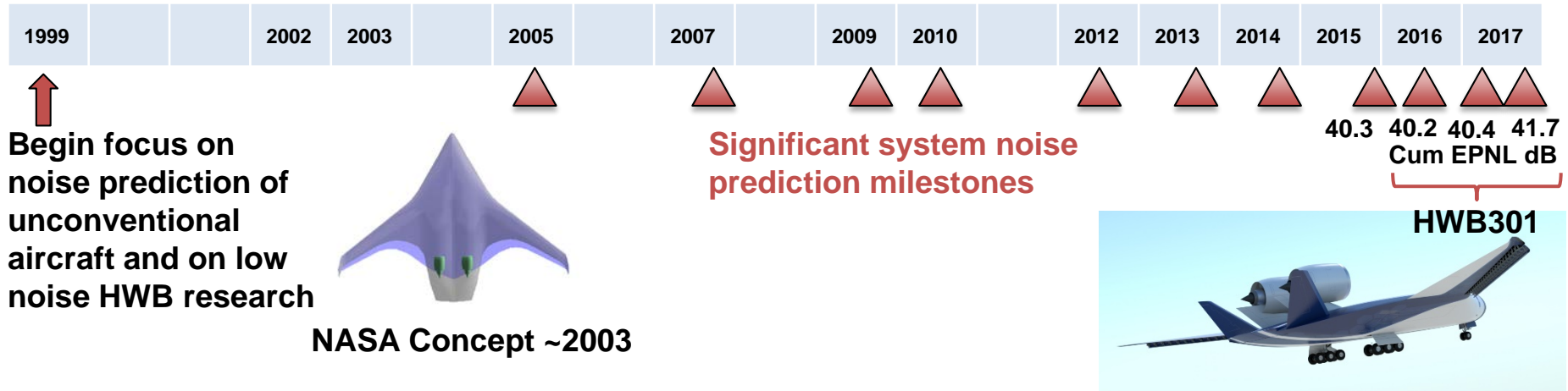
# Outline

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- Background and Motivation
- Critical Role of Favorable Propulsion Airframe Aeroacoustic Effects
- Hybrid Wing Body (HWB) Noise Reduction Potential
- Mid-Fuselage Nacelle (MFN) Noise Reduction Potential
- X-Plane Demonstrators for Acoustic Objectives
- Remarks on Future Low Noise Aircraft Prediction
- Summary

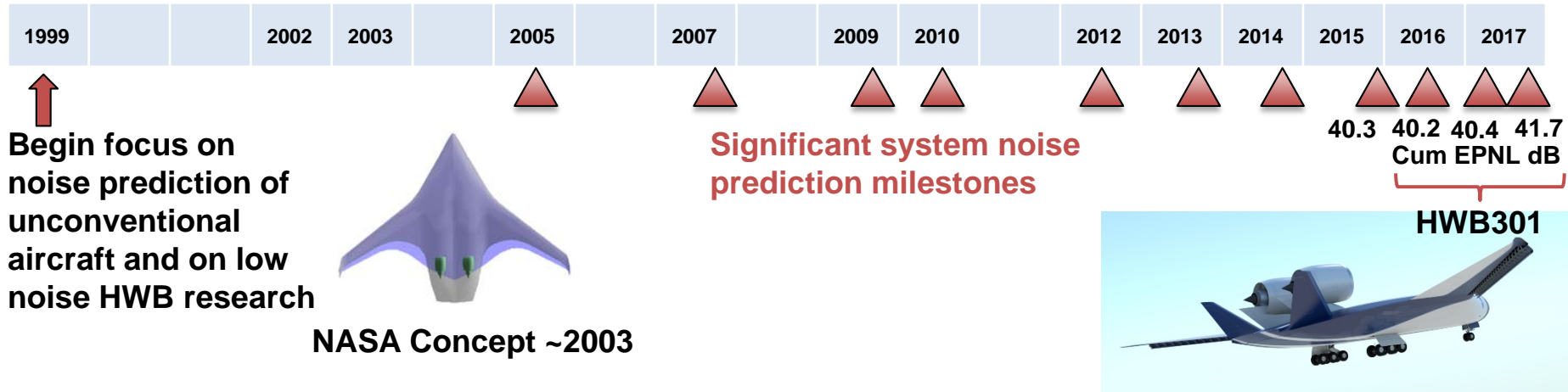
# Background



In 1999, NASA's Aircraft Noise Prediction Program (ANOPP) was inadequate for some key challenges of unconventional aircraft:

- Low pressure ratio and geared fan
- High pressure ratio core
- High lift systems (Krueger flap)
- Propulsion Airframe Aeroacoustic (PAA) Interactions: the aeroacoustic effects associated with integration including:
  - Integration effects on **inlet** and **exhaust** systems
  - **Flow interaction** and **acoustic scattering** effects
  - Configurations from **conventional** to **revolutionary**

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## Development in Major Areas:

### ANOPP2

Lopes, L.V. and Burley, C.L.,  
"ANOPP2 Users Manual,"  
NASA/TM-2016-219342

### ANOPP

Sources and PAA Interaction  
Prediction, System Noise  
Process

### Component and Integrated Technology and Experiments

### MDAO of Aircraft Concepts

# NASA Aeronautics Goals



## NASA Subsonic Transport Metrics

v2016.1

TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS	TECHNOLOGY GENERATIONS (Technology Readiness Level = 5-6)		
	Near Term 2015-2025	Mid Term 2025-2035	Far Term beyond 2035
<b>Noise</b> (cum below Stage 4)	22 - 32 dB	32 - 42 dB	42 - 52 dB
<b>LTO NOx Emissions</b> (below CAEP 6)	70 - 75%	80%	> 80%
<b>Cruise NOx Emissions</b> (rel. to 2005 best in class)	65 - 70%	80%	> 80%
<b>Aircraft Fuel/Energy Consumption</b> (rel. to 2005 best in class)	40 - 50%	50 - 60%	60 - 80%



Evolutionary

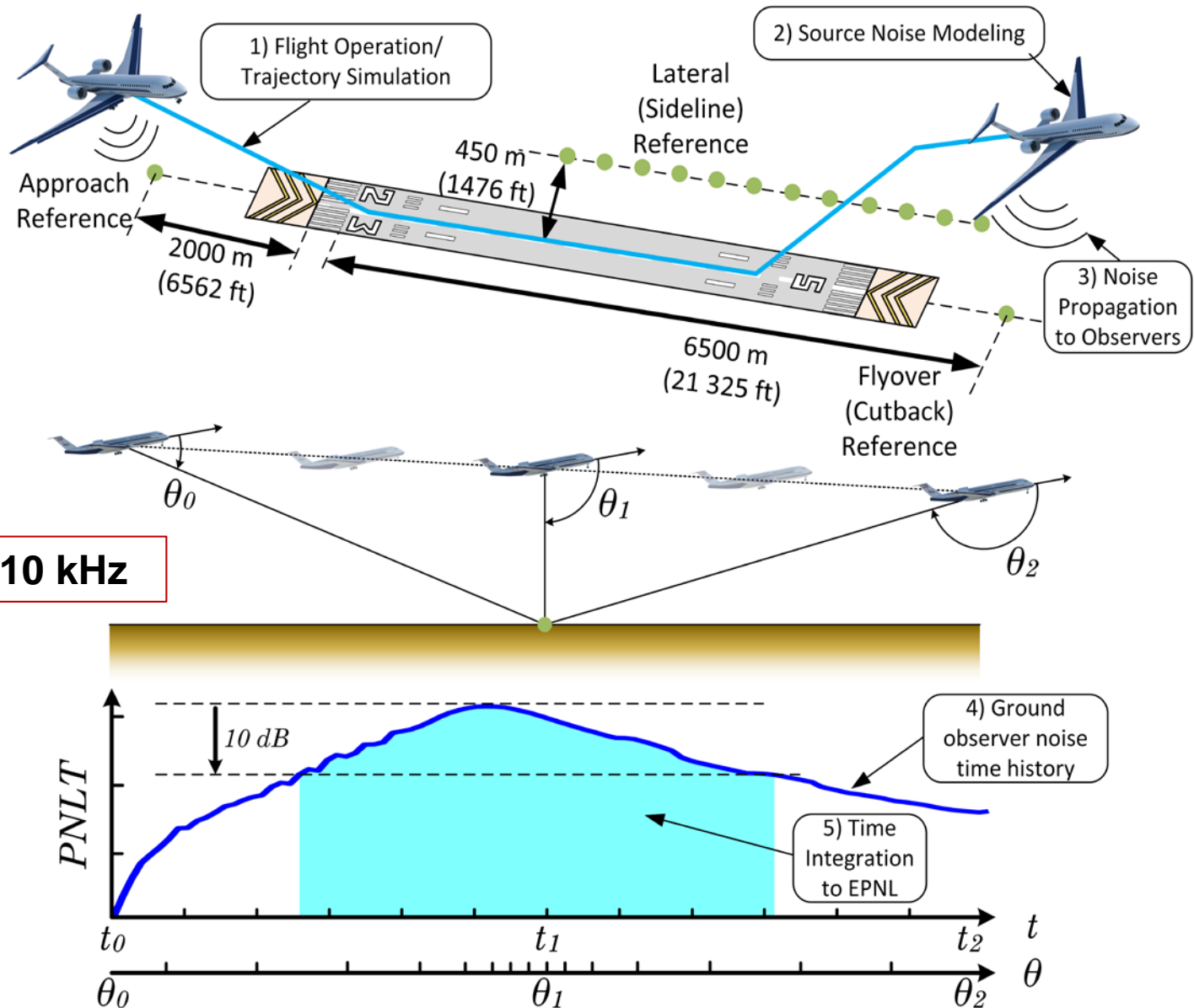


Revolutionary

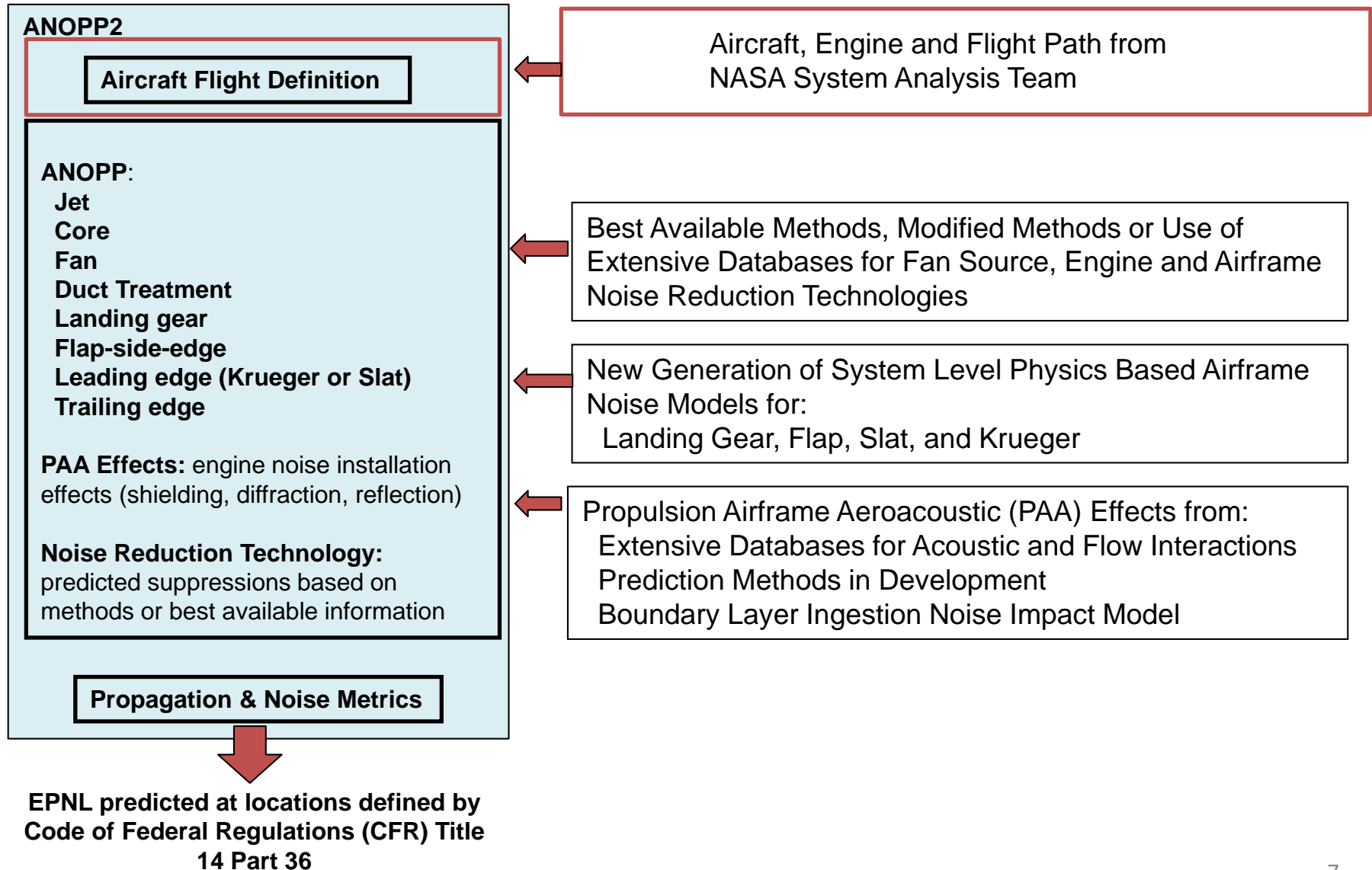


Transformational

# Certification Conditions for Aircraft System Noise

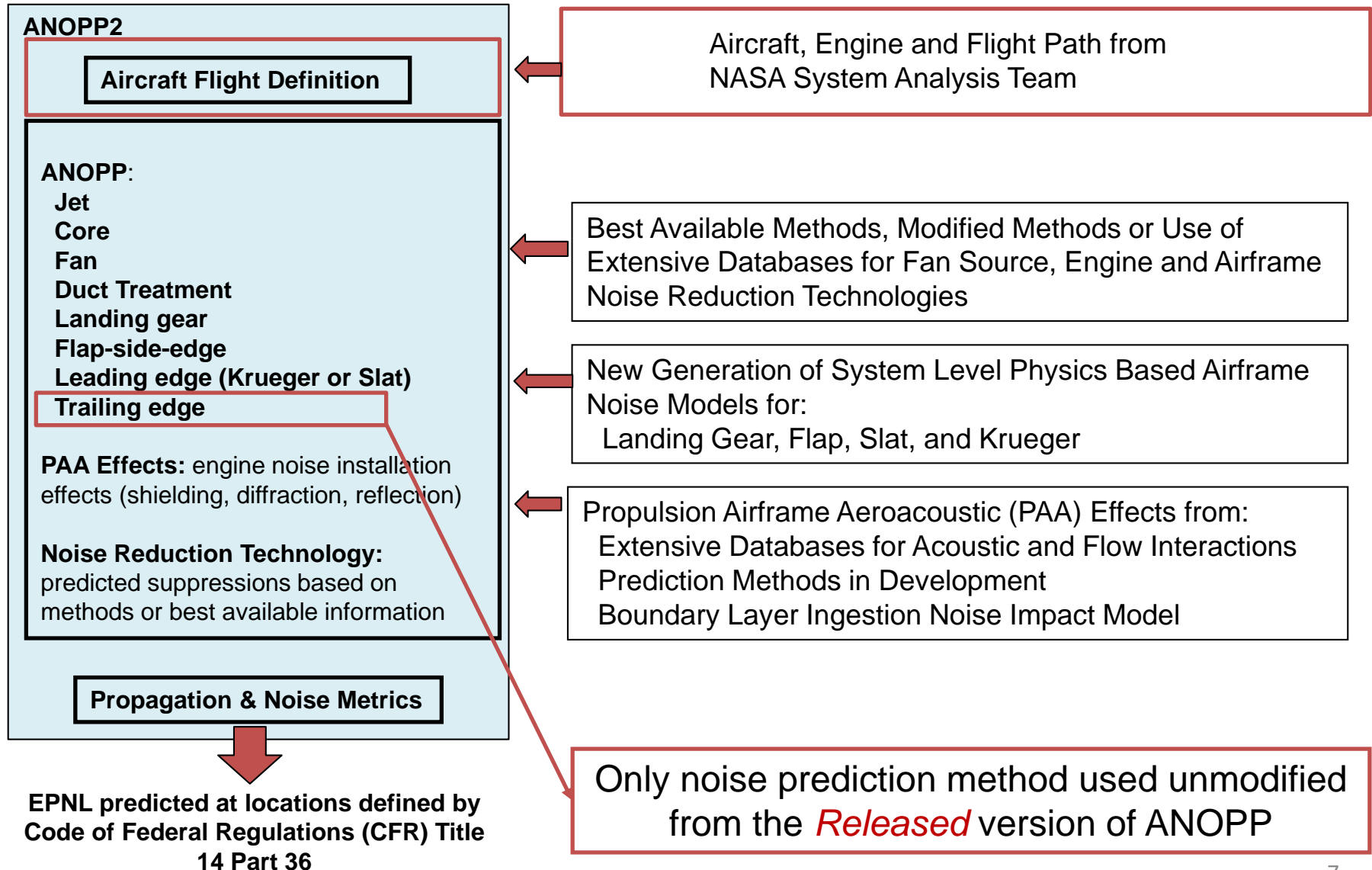


# Continuing Development of the NASA *Research* Level Aircraft System Noise Prediction Process

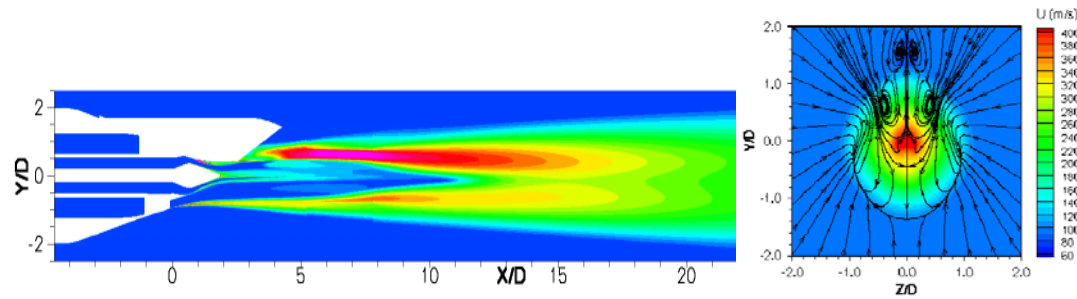




# Continuing Development of the NASA *Research* Level Aircraft System Noise Prediction Process

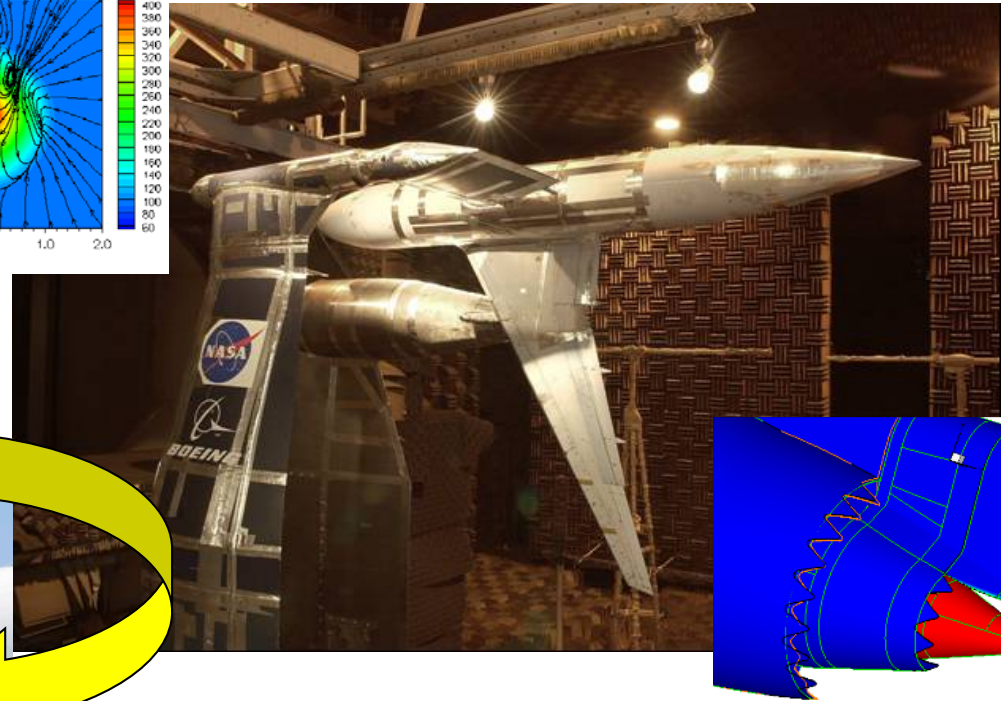


# PAA Chevron with Partner Boeing on QTD2: Concept to Flight in Two Years 2003-2005



Exploration of Possible PAA Concepts with QTD2  
Partners (5/03 – 4/04)

Extensive PAA CFD/Prediction Work (10/03 – 8/05)  
(AIAA 05-3083, 06-2436)



PAA on QTD2 – 8/05

- PAA T-Fan Chevron Nozzle
- PAA Effects Instrumentation

AIAA 06-2438, 06-2439

PAA Experiment at Boeing LSAF 9/04

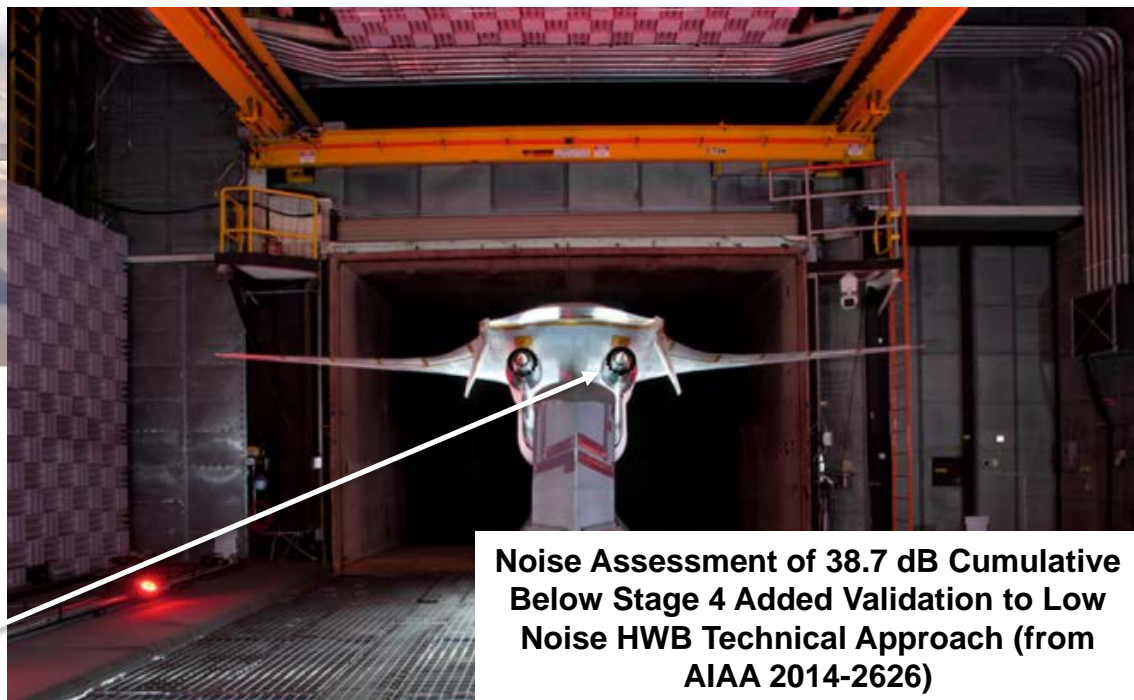
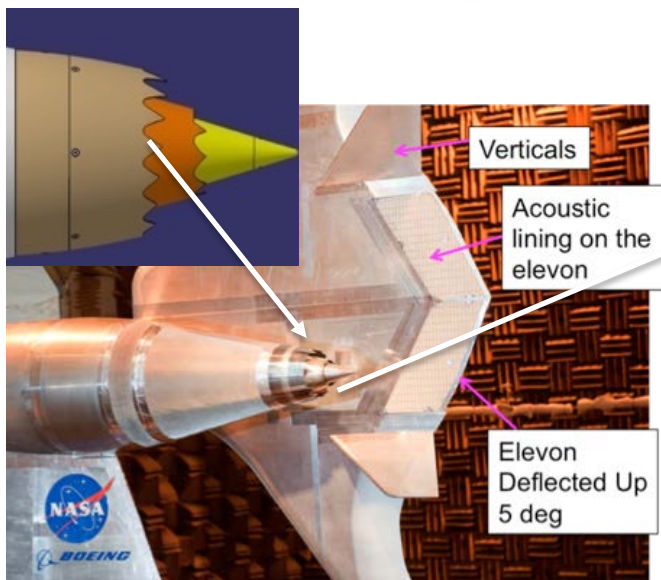
PAA Effects and Noise Reduction  
Technologies Studied

AIAA 06-2467, 06-2434, 06-2435

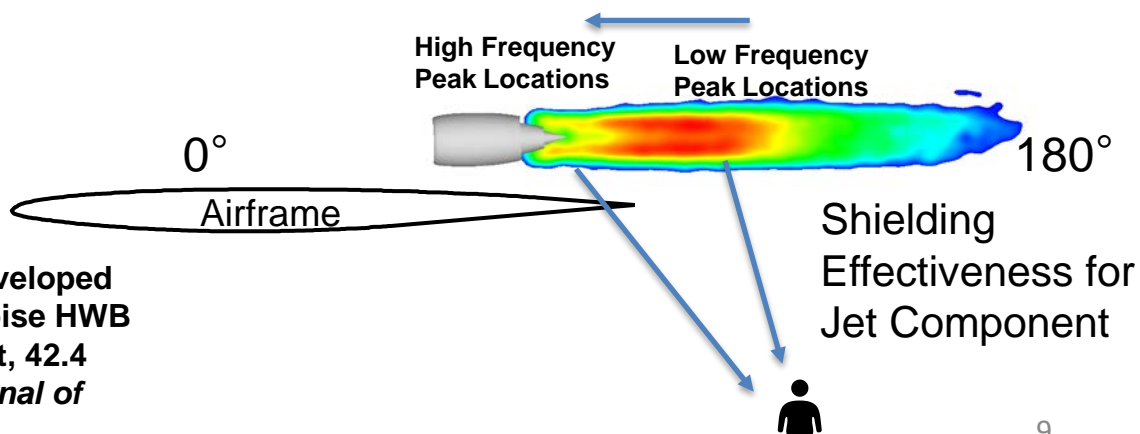
# 2004-2013: PAA on Hybrid Wing Body (HWB) Concept



Boeing Designed  
N2A Concept



Noise Assessment of 38.7 dB Cumulative Below Stage 4 Added Validation to Low Noise HWB Technical Approach (from AIAA 2014-2626)



Series of NASA/Boeing PAA experiments developed PAA database, technologies, and first Low Noise HWB Technical Roadmap and Noise Assessment, 42.4 EPNLdB below Stage 4 (*International Journal of Aeroacoustics*, Vol 11 (3+4), 2012)



# Mid Term Technology: Large Twin Aisle

## 301 Pax Class Results



Nickol, C.L. and Haller, W.J., "Assessment of the Performance Potential of Advanced Subsonic Transport Concepts for NASA's Environmentally Responsible Aviation Project," AIAA-2016-1030.  
Thomas, R.H., Burley, C.L., and Nickol, C.L., "Assessment of the Noise Reduction Potential of Advanced Subsonic Transport Concepts for the NASA Environmentally Responsible Aviation Project," AIAA-2016-0863.



Tube and Wing  
T+W301-GTF  
**22.1** EPNLdB cumulative below Stage 4



Mid-Fuselage Nacelle  
MFN301-GTF  
**33.9** EPNLdB cumulative below Stage 4



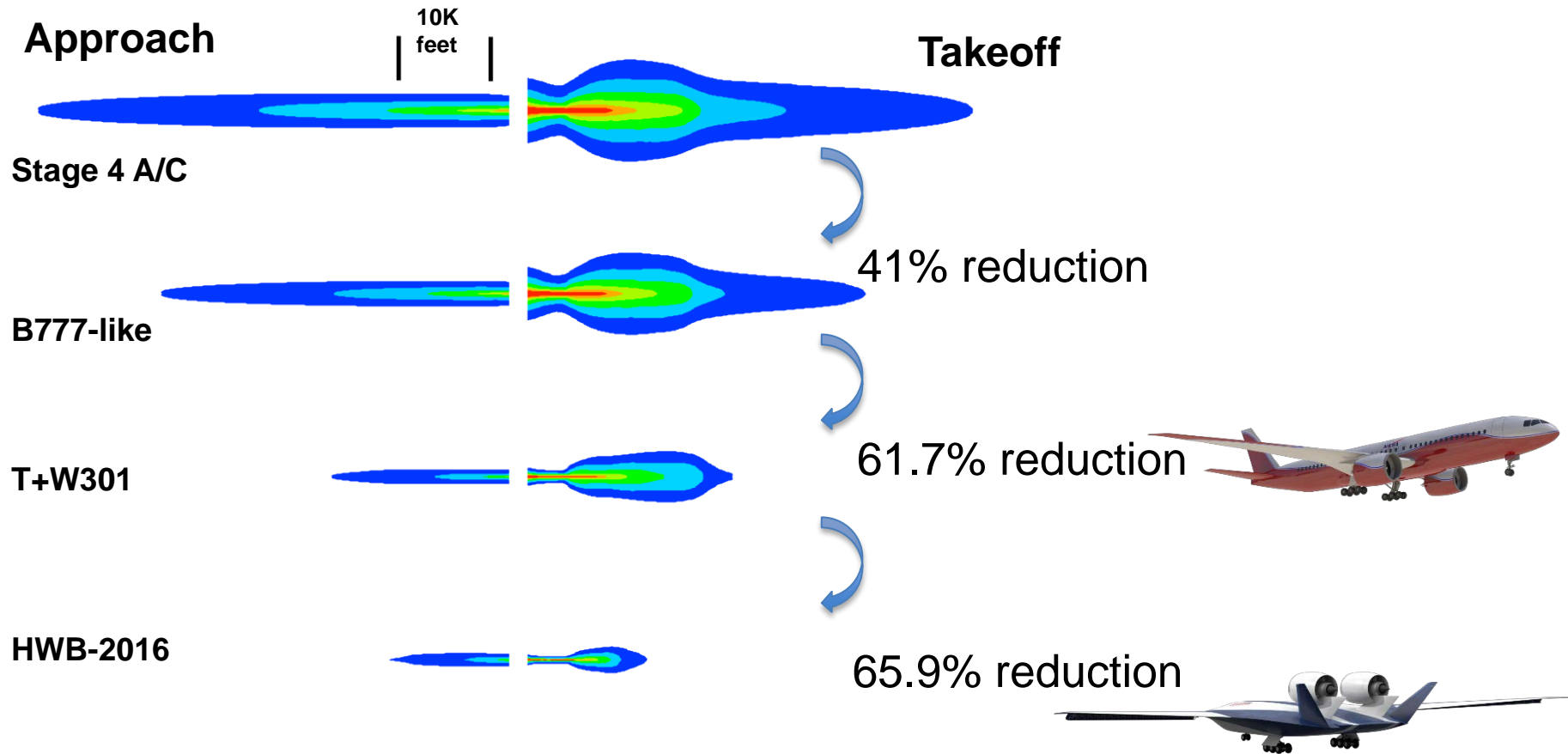
Hybrid Wing Body  
HWB301-GTF  
**40.3** EPNLdB cumulative below Stage 4

- Aircraft with the most favorable PAA effects are the ones able to achieve the Mid Term goal
- Configuration change is required to achieve low noise levels

# Aircraft Configuration Impact on Ground Contour Area



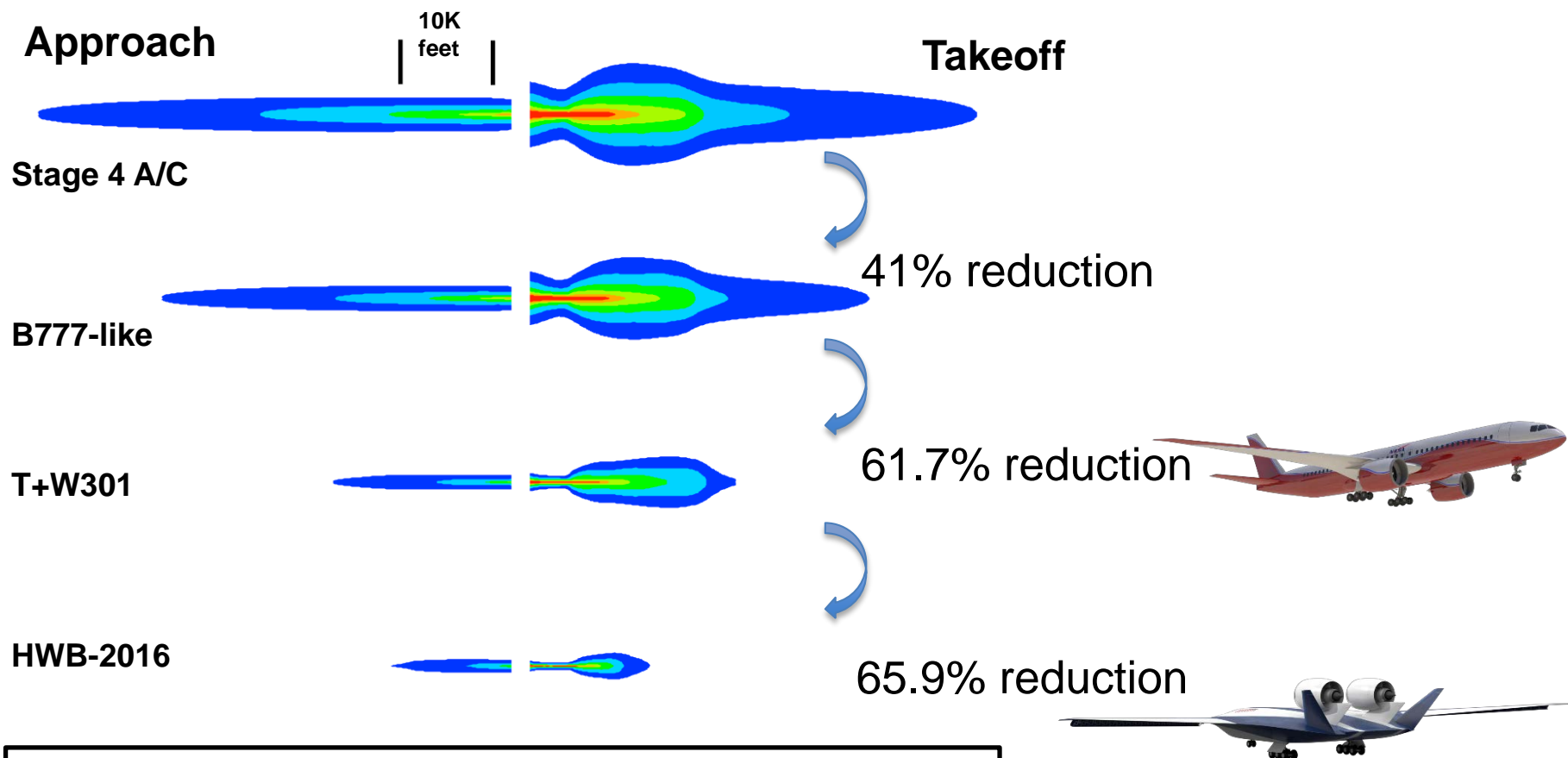
From AIAA-2017-3194



# Aircraft Configuration Impact on Ground Contour Area



From AIAA-2017-3194

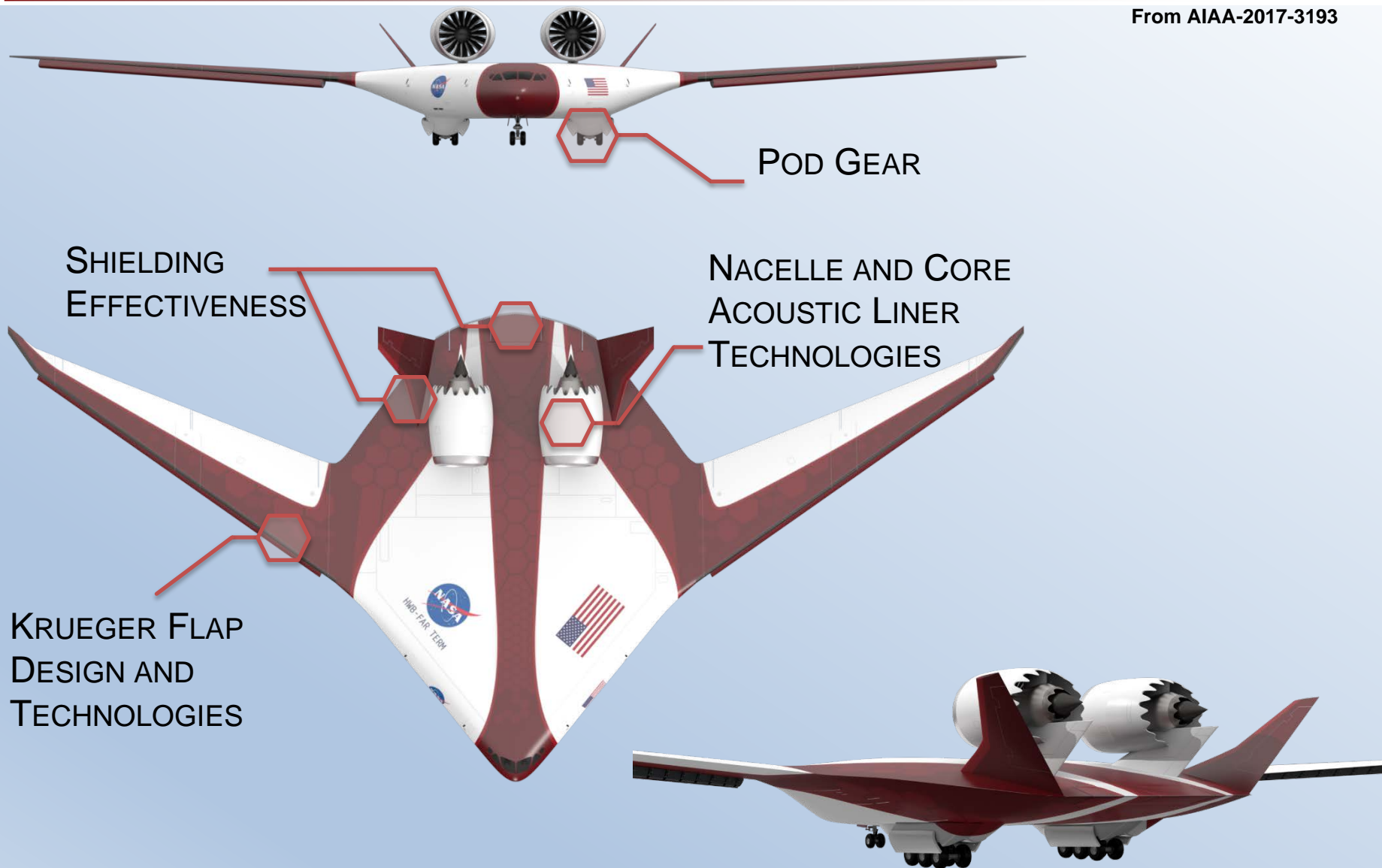


- T+W301 and HWB-2016 are of equal technology levels except for aircraft configuration
- About 12 of the 17.7 EPNL dB total difference is due to PAA effects

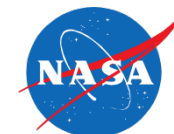
# HWB Far Term Technology Roadmap



From AIAA-2017-3193



# HWB Far Term Roadmap One Off Results



From AIAA-2017-3193

One technology at a time from the final configuration is the most effective way of measuring impact at the system level on equivalent basis

Description	Cumulative below Stage 4 with one technology "off"	One-off cumulative noise reduction due to technology	
Lip Liner	50.9	0.0	Nacelle and Core Liner Technologies <b>1.7 dB</b>
Center Plug Liner	49.7	1.3	
Over-the-Rotor Treatment	50.6	0.4	
Center Elevon PAA Liner	50.4	0.5	
Increase Upper Bifurcation Liner	50.9	0.0	Shielding Effectiveness Technologies and Design <b>2.5 dB</b>
PAA Chevrons	50.0	0.9	
Fan Noise Shielding Effectiveness via Duct Liner	50.5	0.4	
Fan Noise Shielding Effectiveness via PAA Design	50.6	0.3	
Trailing Edge Treatment	50.5	0.4	Krueger and Main Gear Technologies and Design <b>7.0 dB</b>
Krueger Flap Bracket Alignment	48.4	2.6	
Krueger Flap Cove Filler	49.8	1.1	
Pod Gear	47.7	3.3	
Aircraft cumulative margin to Stage 4, with all technologies	<b>50.9</b>		



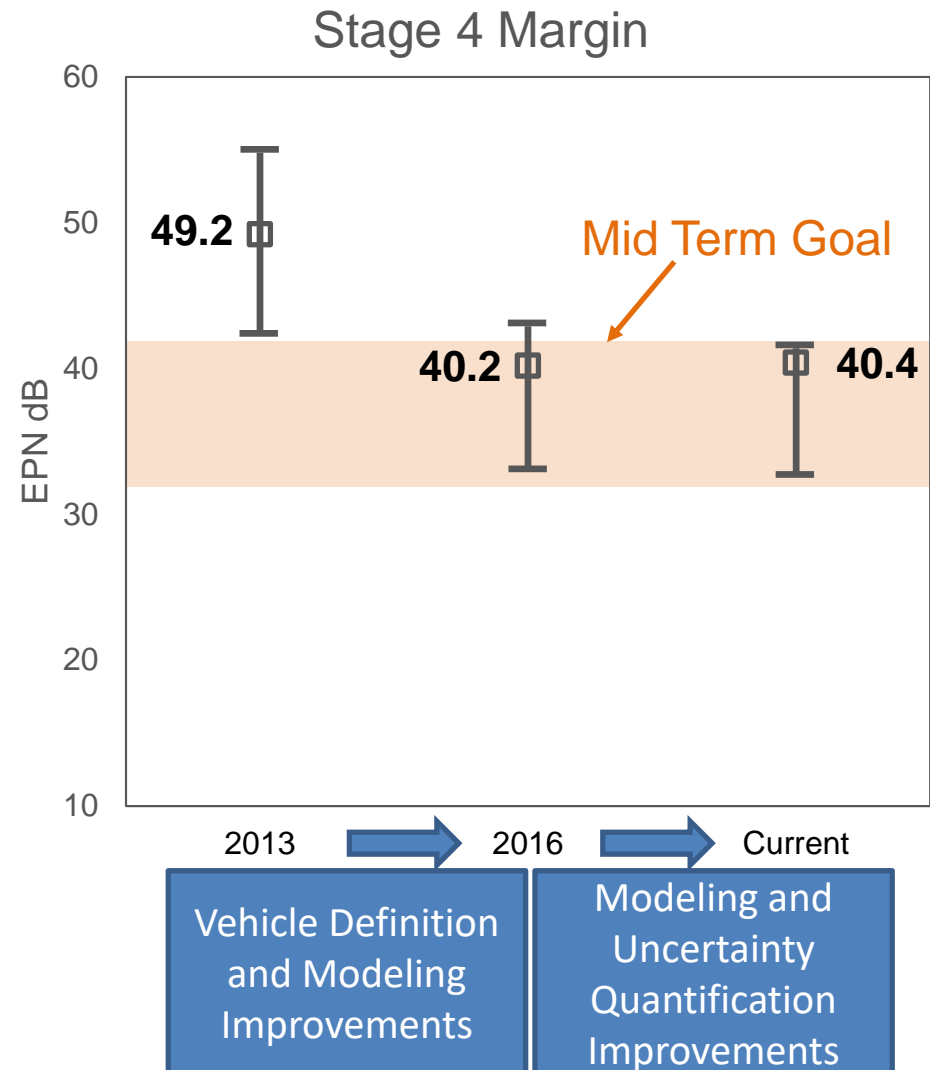
# Uncertainty Quantification for the System Noise Prediction of the HWB



June, J.C., Thomas, R.H., and Guo, Y., "Aircraft System Noise Prediction Uncertainty Quantification for a Hybrid Wind Body Subsonic Transport Concept," AIAA 2018-3125.

- Considerable progress over time in 95% coverage interval (CI)
- One-sided distributions increasingly important over time

Case	Standard Uncertainty	95% CI Span	Reduction
2013	3.1	12.2	—
2016	2.4	9.6	2.6
Current	2.2	8.5	1.1



# Boeing Advanced Tube-and-Wing from 2013

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Bonet et al., NASA CR 2013-216519



ERA-0027 Configuration  
assessed at 28.0 EPNL dB  
below St 4 with a  
Direct Drive BPR 13.5  
Turbofan at Fan Pressure  
Ratio 1.6

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AIAA 2014-0257 an  
additional detailed noise  
prediction was performed  
with an early far term suite of  
technologies,  
36 EPNL dB below St 4

With advanced GTF, FPR  
1.375, estimated the system  
noise could reach 40-42  
EPNL dB below St 4

# NASA MFN Aircraft in 2016



- AIAA Paper 2016-1030, Nickol and Haller
- Mid Term Technology Level



Block Fuel Reduction of 46.8%  
relative to 777-200LR-like  
on a 7500 nm mission

Airframe	T+W
Fuselage	Double Deck
Engine	GTF
Engine Mounting	Fuselage
Leading Edge Device	Krueger
Trailing Edge Device	Simple Flap
Main Gear Type	6 Wheels
Takeoff Gross Weight	544,748 lb
Lift/Drag Ratio (Sideline/Cutback/Approach)	13.92/13.5/8.9
Bypass Ratio (Sideline/Cutback/Approach)	23.34/25.38/31.91
Fan Pressure Ratio (Sideline/Cutback/Approach)	1.25/1.2/1.06

# MFN System Noise in 2016



Reported in AIAA 2016-0863, Thomas, Burley and Nickol  
(with calculations updated)

	<i>Approach</i>	<i>Cutback</i>	<i>Sideline</i>	<i>Cumulative</i>
MFN (C0)	91.0	84.8	85.0	260.8
Stage 4 Limit	104.6	98.4	101.2	294.2
Margin to Stage 4	13.6	13.6	16.2	33.4
NASA Mid Term Goal	-	-	-	32 - 42

MFN aircraft with mid term technology

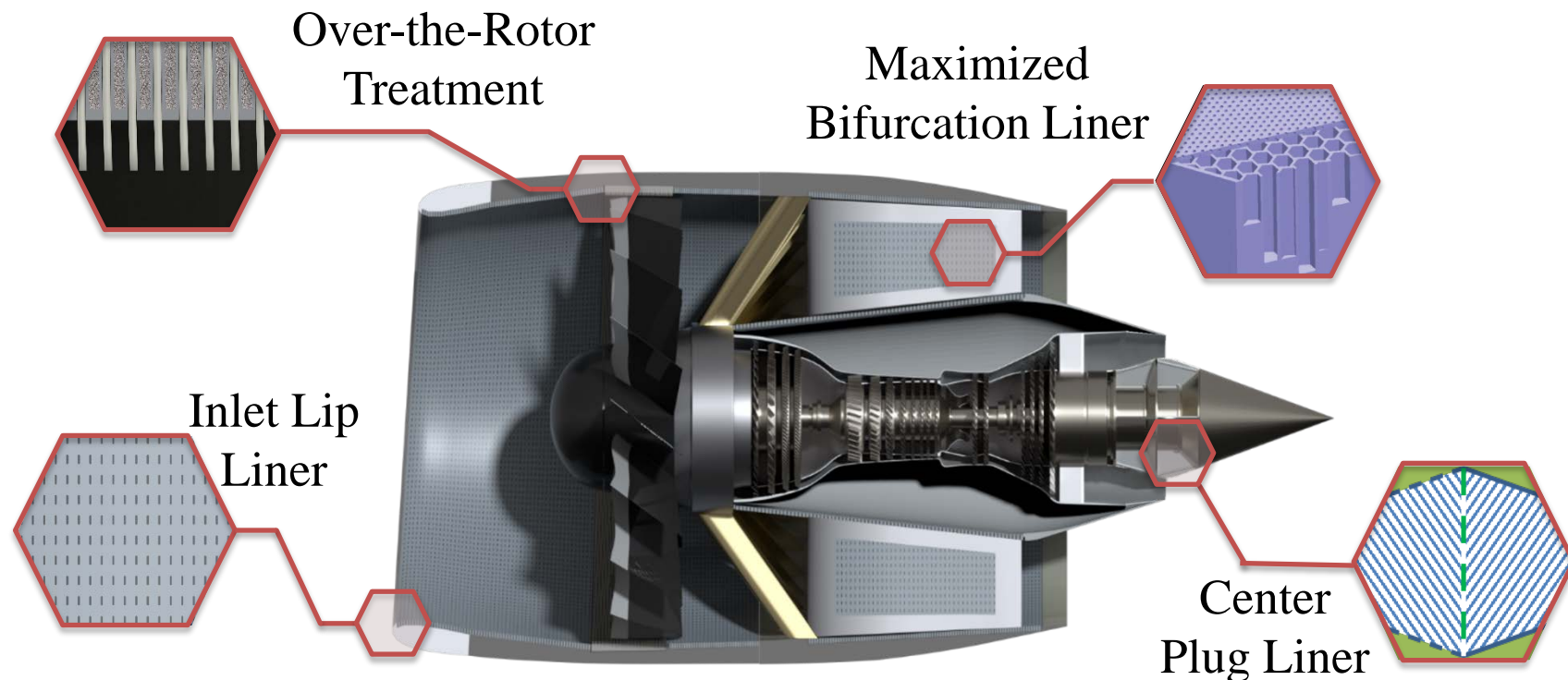
- PAA: propulsion airframe aeroacoustics
- MDOF: multidegree-of-freedom duct acoustic liner
- MG: main gear partial fairing
- Fan: soft stator vane treatment
- Flap: side edge treatment

Establishes the starting point for the far term roadmap

# MFN Engine Far Term Noise Technologies



From AIAA-2018-3126

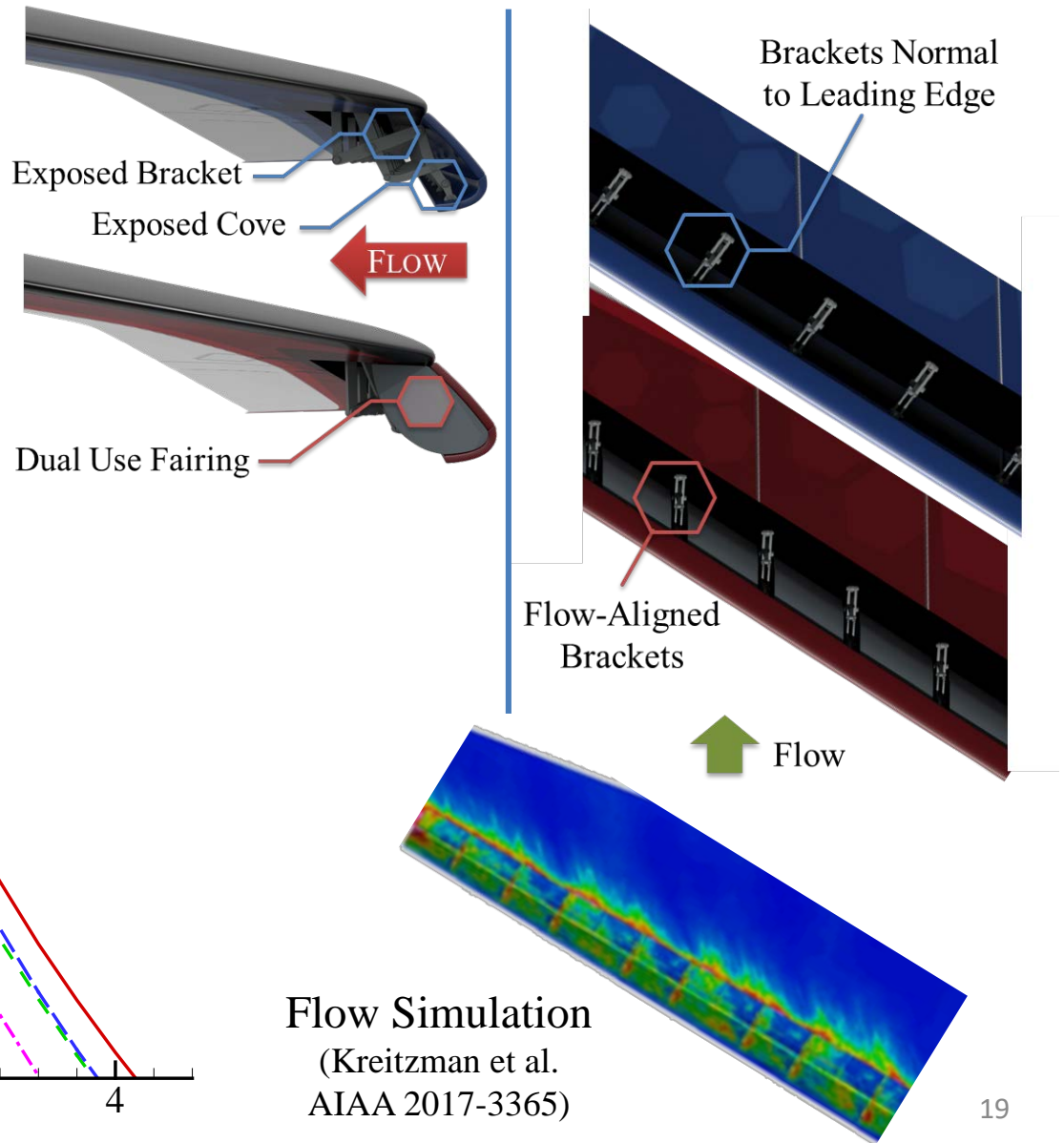
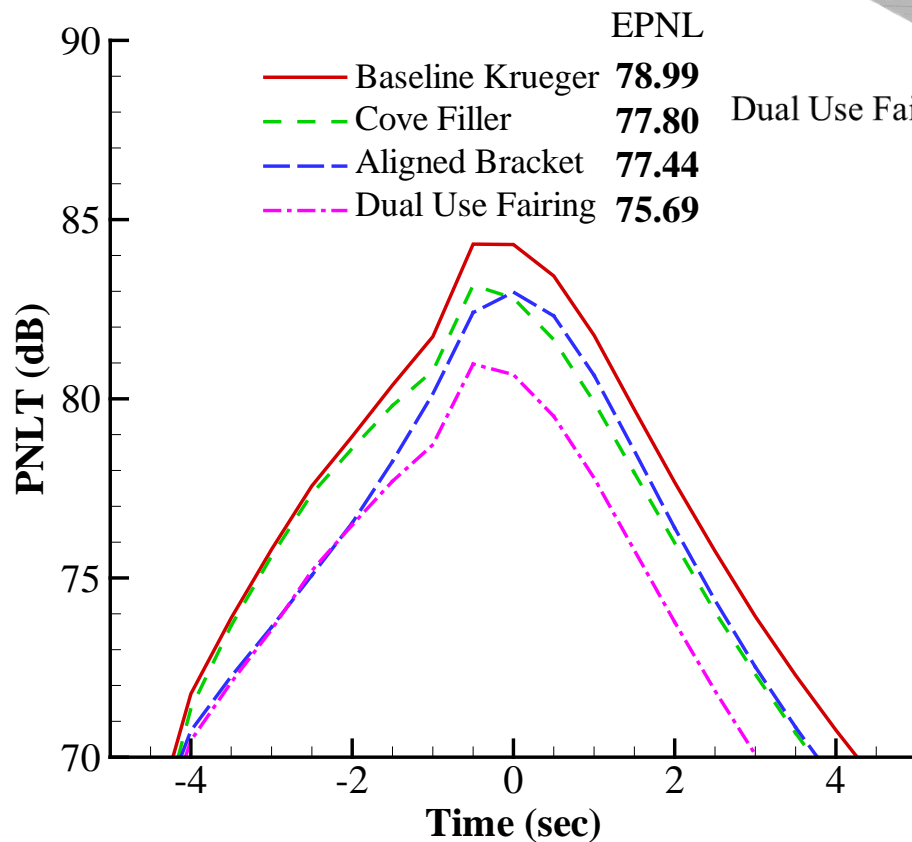


- No chevrons and scarf on MFN engine
- Example references
  - Inlet lip liner: AIAA 2006-2720, Herkes, Olsen and Uellenberg
  - Over-the-rotor treatment: AIAA 2006-2681, Sutliff, Jones and Hartley
  - Center plug liner: AIAA 2009-3141, Yu and Chien
  - Maximized Bifurcation liner: AIAA 2017-3193, Thomas et al.

# Krueger Dual Use Fairing



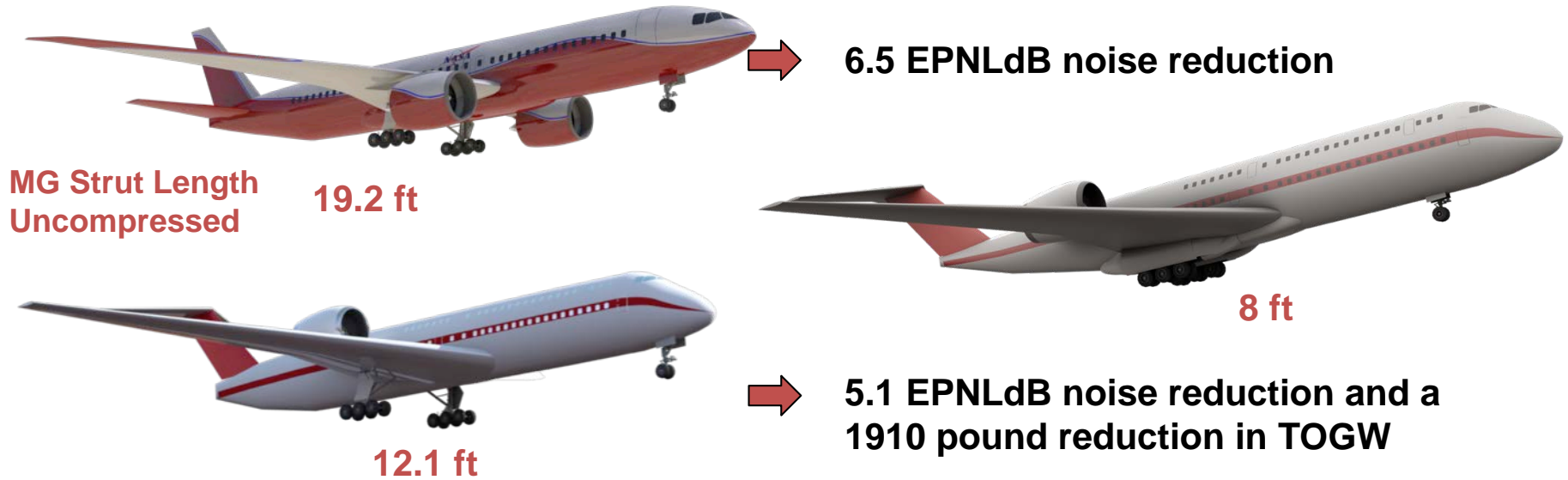
From AIAA-2018-3126



# MFN Pod Gear in 2016



Pod gear concept has the potential of a breakthrough in reducing main landing gear component noise



Thomas, R.H., Nickol, C.L., Burley, C.L., and Guo, Y. "Potential for Landing Gear Noise Reduction on Advanced Aircraft Configurations," AIAA-2016-3039.



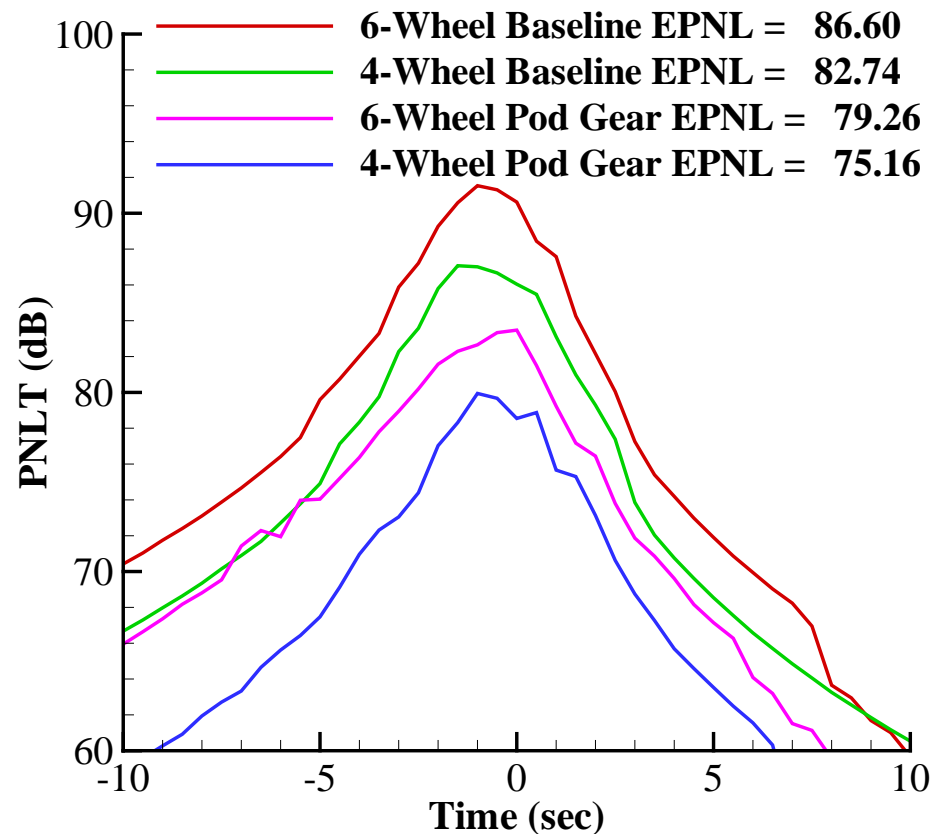
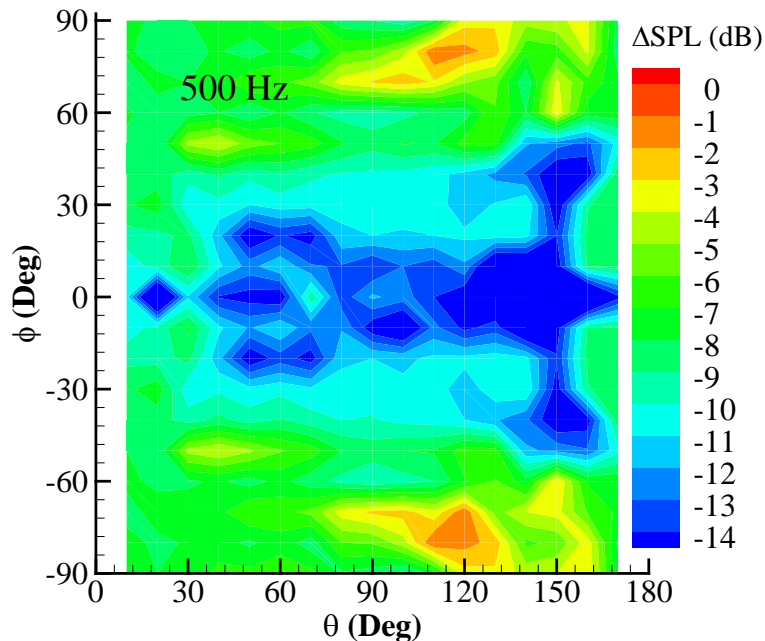
# MFN Pod Gear in 2018



From AIAA-2018-3126

Noise calculation:

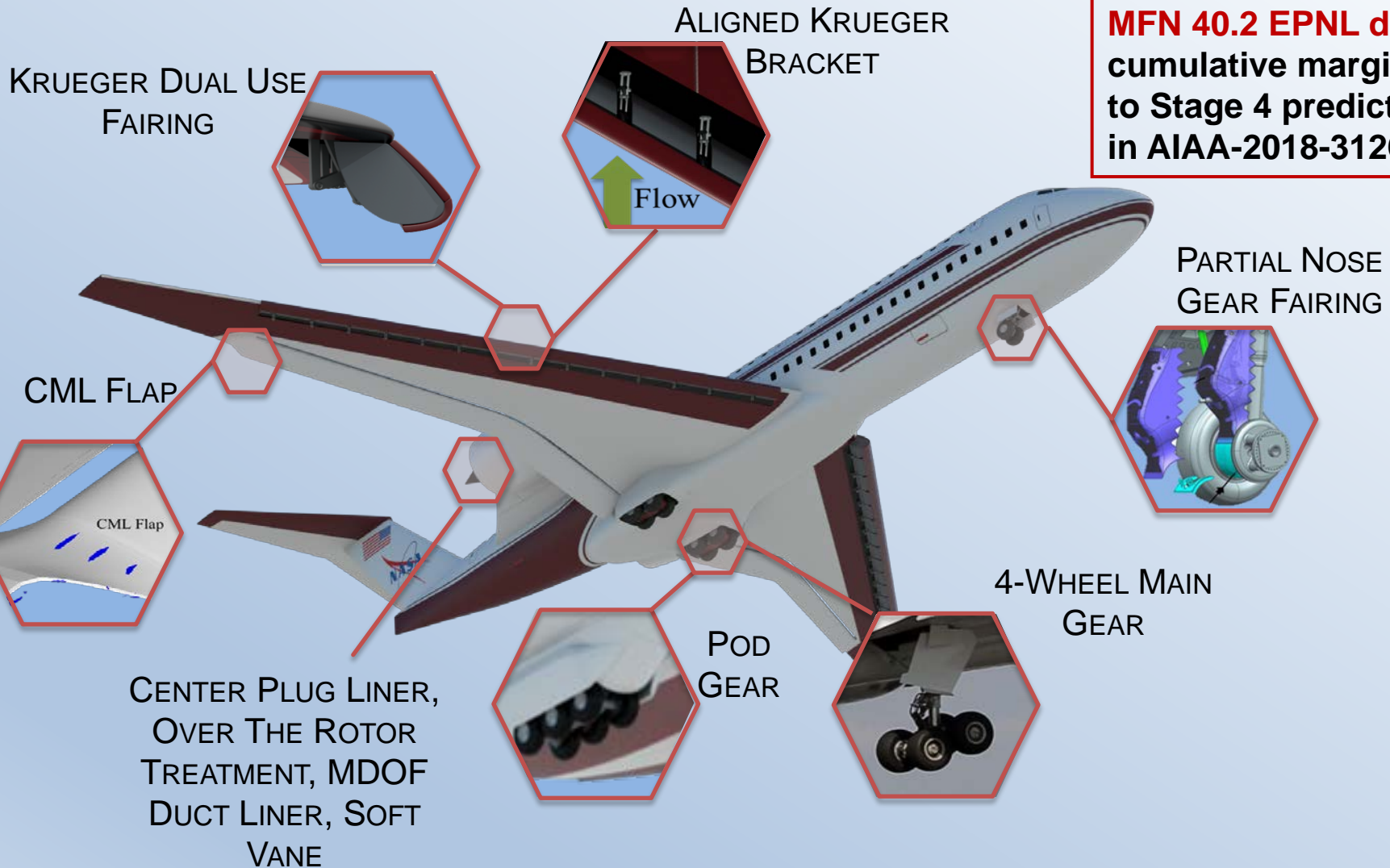
- Reflection from airframe with pod geometry
- Reduced flow velocity inside the pod



# MFN Far Term Technology Roadmap



**MFN 40.2 EPNL dB**  
cumulative margin  
to Stage 4 predicted  
in AIAA-2018-3126



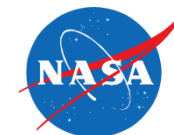
# MFN Far Term Predicted at 40.2 EPNL dB below Stage 4



From AIAA-2018-3126

<i>Reduction</i>	<i>Technology</i>	<i>EPNL Impact (dB)</i>
Significant	• PAA Effects	4.7
	• MDOF Liner (mid term)	2.4
	• 4-Wheel Pod Gear	2.2
Substantial	• Soft Vane Liner (mid term)	1.0
	• Center Plug Liner	0.8
	• Over-the-Rotor Liner	1.6
	• Dual Use Krueger Fairing	0.6
	• Continuous Mold Line Flap	0.6
Small	• Inlet Lip Liner	~0.0
	• Increased Outer Bifurcation Liner	
	• Sealed Krueger Gap	
	• Partial Nose Gear Fairing	
Not Used	• 6-Wheel Pod Gear	-
	• Krueger Bracket Alignment	

# Precedence for MFN Configuration



## Design Heritage Examples:

- Engine Above Wing
- Short Gear
- Double Deck
- Pod Gear Similar



Accessed [www.lockheedmartin.com](http://www.lockheedmartin.com) August 19, 2018



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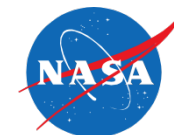
## MFN Advantages:

- Improved Weight/Balance from Mid-Fuselage
- Engine Mounting Structure through the Deck
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- Faster Passenger Loading
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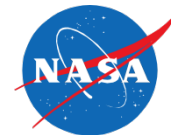


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40.2 EPNL dB below Stage 4 represents a community noise breakthrough with what is still a “Tube-and-Wing” aircraft

# NASA X-59 QueSST



April 3, 2018 Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company awarded the Low-Boom Flight Demonstration contract for \$247.5 million to design, build and test an experimental aircraft that reduces the sonic boom to a gentle thump.



Beginning in mid-2022, NASA will fly the X-59 over select cities to collect data on community responses.

# Scenarios for a Subsonic X-Plane Demonstrator for Acoustic Research



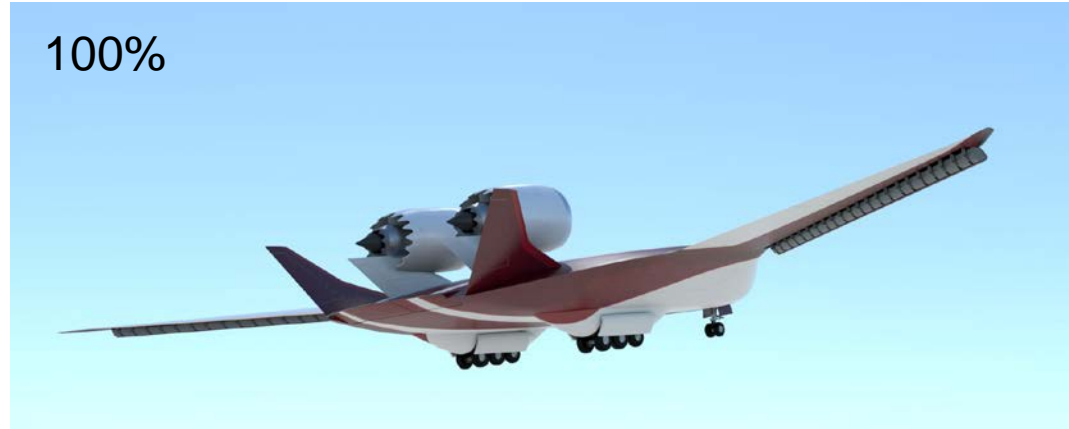
X-48B 8.5% Dynamically Scaled  
Built and Flight Tested for Low Speed  
Flight Dynamics Characteristics



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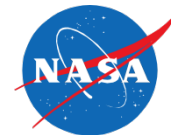
X-48B 8.5% Dynamically Scaled  
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One-of-a-kind HWB X-Plane

- At what scale ?
- What type of scaling ?
  - Perfect scaling
  - Realistic scaling
- Engine Selection ?
- Technologies ?

# Subsonic X-Plane Demonstrator Framework



A key development step toward maturing an unconventional advanced aircraft configuration with favorable PAA effects and noise reduction technologies

Aircraft configuration, engine selection, technology selection, integration, and scale factor will all drive the cost AND be critical to the value

Therefore, expect:

- X-Plane not an exact copy of the vision vehicle
- focus on selected technologies including the configuration
- use a commercial-off-the-shelf engine

Reference develops a process for formulating the acoustic aspects of an X-Plane Demonstrator scale, design, and flight research

General objectives:

- acoustic flight validation of configuration PAA effects and selected technologies
- improving the prediction of the vision vehicle

Thomas, R.H. and Guo, Y., "Challenges and Opportunities for Subsonic Transport X-Plane Acoustic Flight Research," AIAA 2018-3127

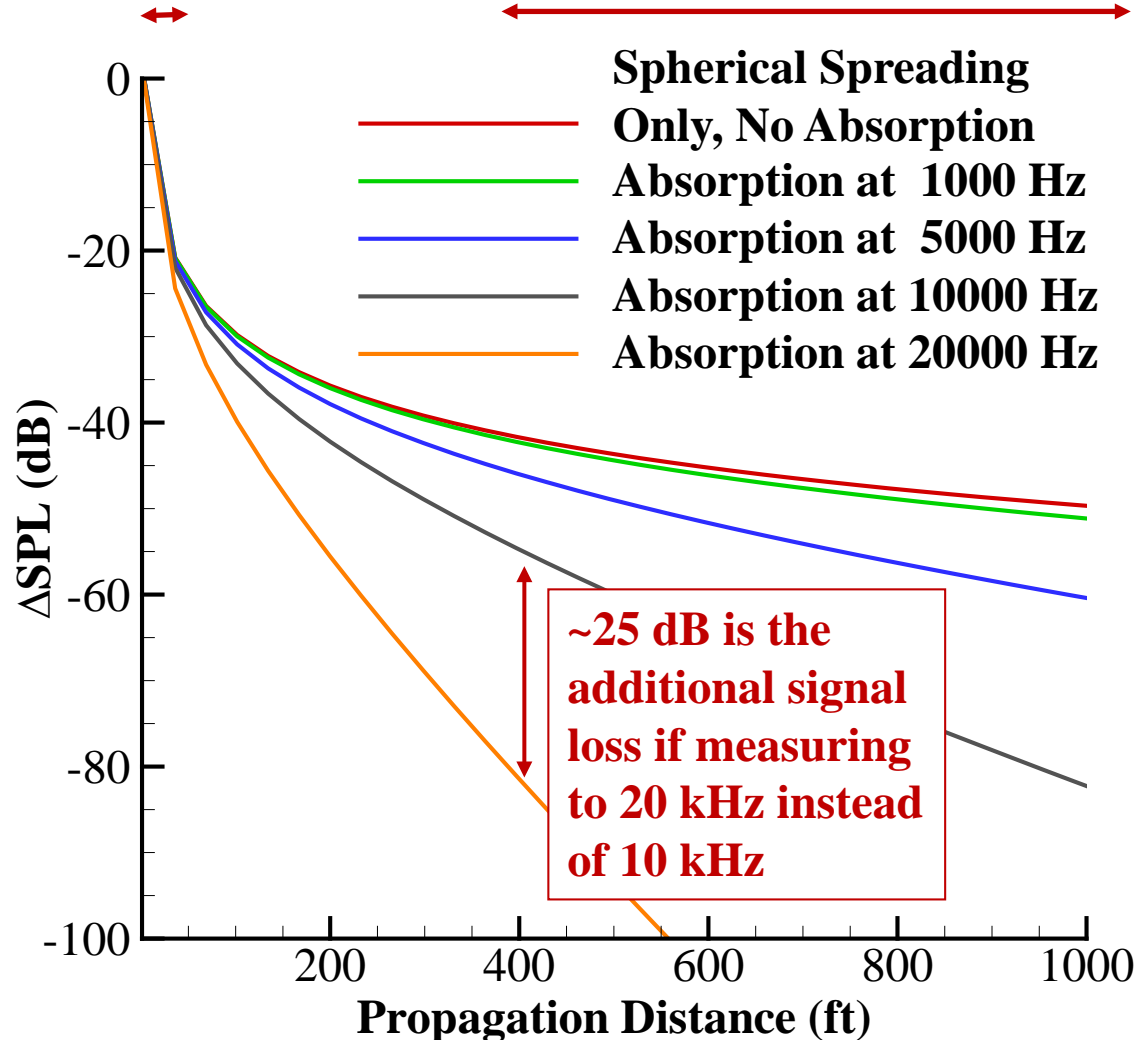
# Flight Test Distances and Absorption



From AIAA-2018-3127

**Propagation distances  
for wind tunnel tests**

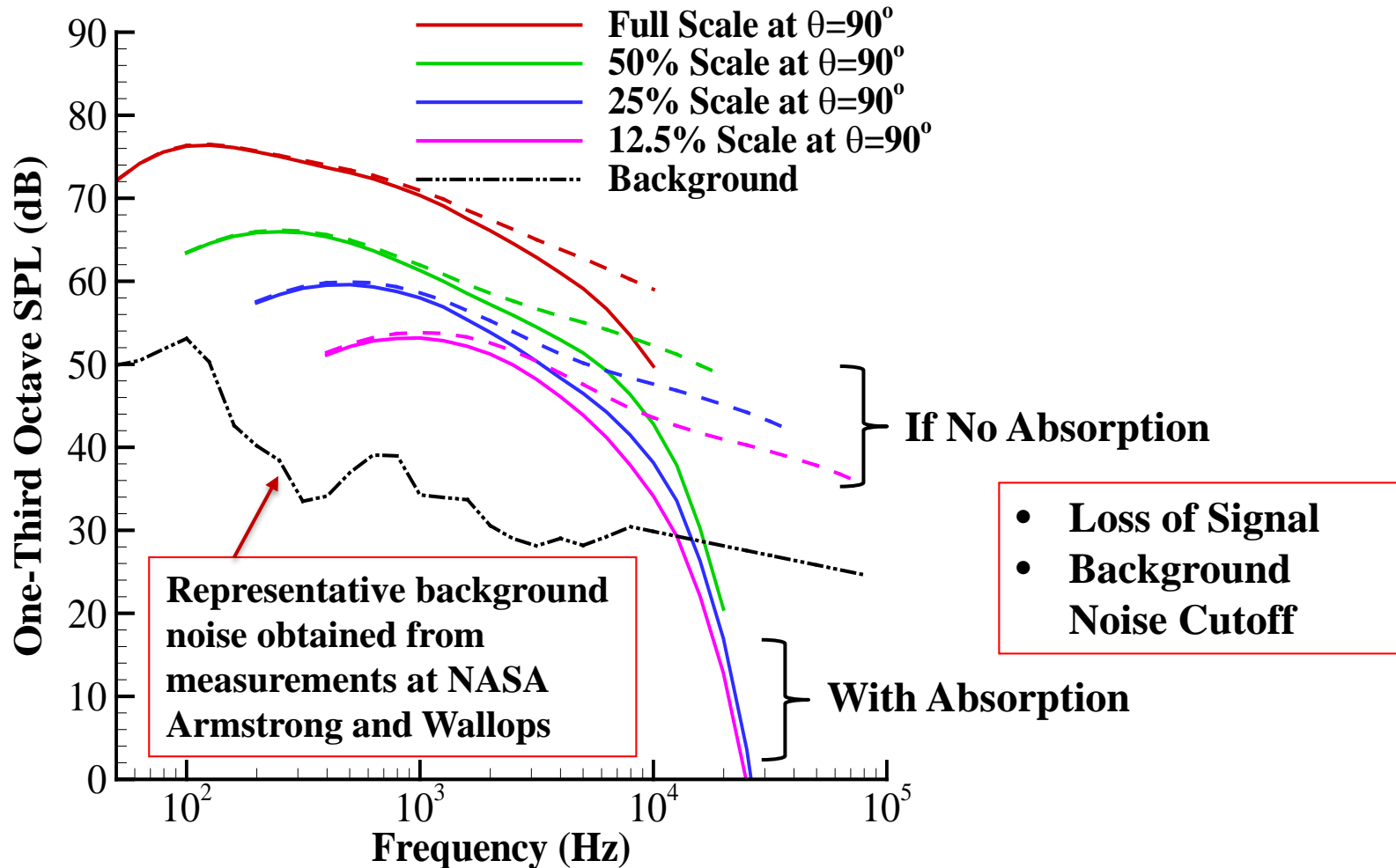
**Propagation distances  
for flight testing**



# Scaled MFN at Approach



From AIAA-2018-3127

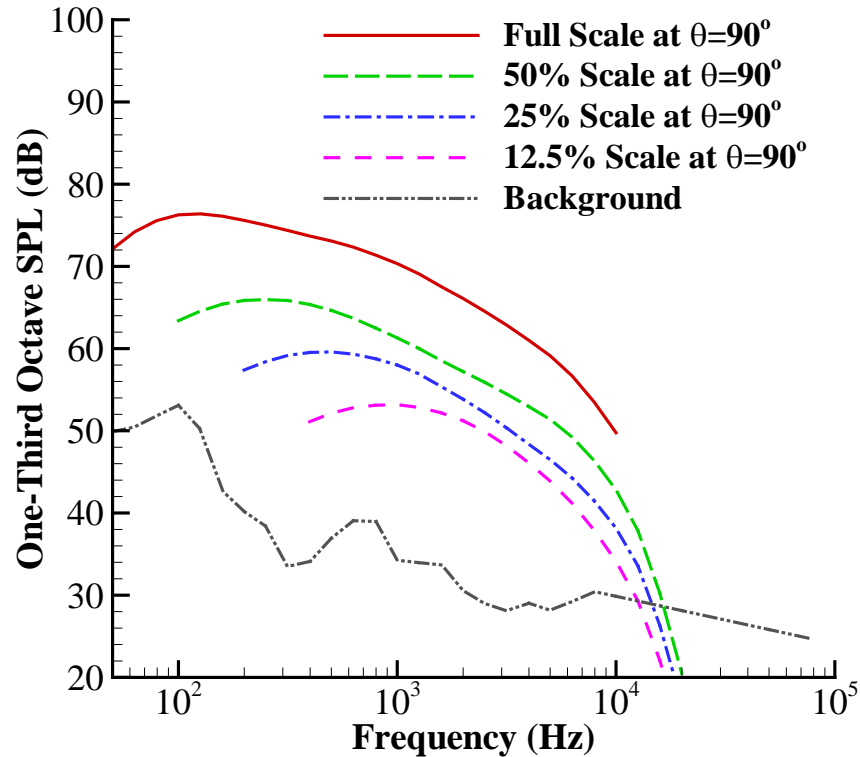


Acknowledgments to Dr. Christopher Bahr and  
Dr. Patricio Ravetta for supplying background noise data

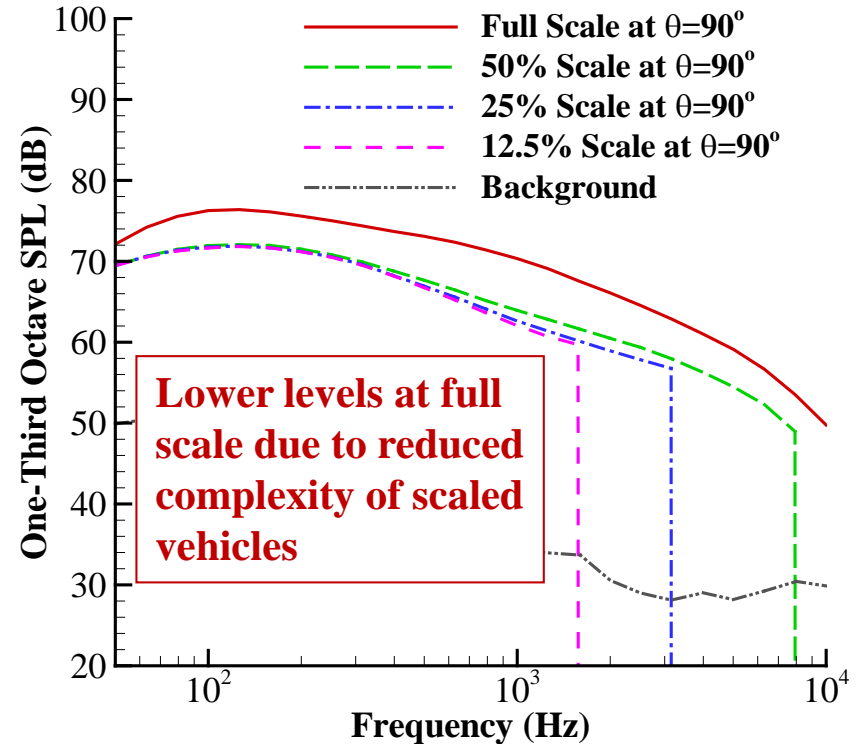
# Realistically Scaled MFN



From AIAA-2018-3127



**Realistically scaled (reduced geometric fidelity) as measured, propagation length of 396 ft.**



**Realistically scaled (reduced geometric fidelity) processed to full scale. Vertical lines indicate the frequency cutoff.**

# Subsonic X-Plane Study Summary

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- An X-Plane focused system noise analysis process is essential to engage in:
  - X-Plane design requirements,
  - acoustic technical objectives,
  - flight research planning, and
  - analysis for application to prediction of the vision aircraft
- Highlights the interrelated issues of
  - scale
  - atmospheric absorption and background noise levels
  - geometric fidelity
  - source ranking
  - engine selection
  - instrumentation requirements
- X-Plane scale of 75% or more is most directly useful. Limitations become more severe as the scale factor approaches 50%.
- Selection of a UHB representative engine is valuable for prediction of engine system, PAA effects, and vision aircraft



# Consider a Single Aisle Replacement, 160-230 pax, MFN Vision Vehicle



## X-Plane Demonstrator B717 Hybrid Example

~45% for MFN301  
~80% for a 160-230 pax

From David H. Reed, Boeing, "Aircraft Noise – Prospects for a Quieter Future," Langley Symposium Lecture, December 3, 2003



Ultra Quiet B717  
Notional Concept

20+ bypass ratio  
geared turbofan  
engine

Variable area fan  
nozzle cycle

Low noise landing gear





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# Remarks on Future Low Noise Aircraft Prediction



Starts with excellent modeling teams for the engine and airframe

Combining experience in one team from:

- Acoustics Experimentation
- Noise Reduction Technology Development
- Prediction Method Development
- Aircraft System Noise



Experience from wide variety of technologies and concepts provides valuable perspective and insight

Advanced concepts require advanced methods

- PAA effects from scattering, flow interaction, BLI
- Noise reduction concepts such as Pod Gear, MDOF Liner, etc.



# Summary Remarks

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HWB acoustics has matured considerably, 40 EPNL dB below St 4 is clearly achievable in the mid term

Credible far term technology roadmap developed to enable the HWB to reach 50.9 EPNL dB below St 4

MFN concept is a revolutionary and yet still tube-and-wing type vehicle capable of reaching 40.2 EPNL dB below St 4 enabling:

- shift from under to over-wing
- fundamentally quieter landing gear installation

Flight testing of advanced configurations and technologies will be valuable step

An X-plane subsonic demonstrator should be large scale (~75%) to produce the most directly useable community noise measurements

Portfolio of advanced concepts, missions, and technologies continues to expand and will require advanced methods, experiments and rigorous analysis

# Grand Opportunity to Realize a Step Change in Aircraft Noise



Contour area for an aircraft meeting the Stage 4 limit = 100% area

B777-like:  
Stage 4 – 7.8  
EPNL dB, Area  
= 59.0%

HWB ERA (C6):  
Stage 4 – 41.7  
EPNL dB, Area  
= 6.9%

HWB-Far Term:  
Stage 4 – 50.9  
EPNL dB, Area  
= 3.3%

Brake release  
Runway threshold

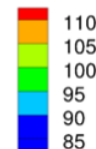
10K ft

88.3% area reduction

94.4% area reduction

From AIAA-2017-3193

SEL contour levels, dB



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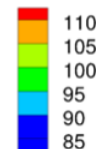
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94.4% area  
reduction

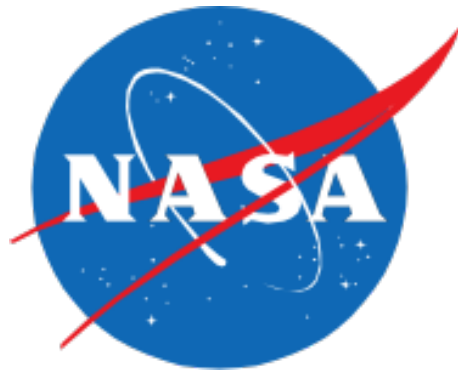
From AIAA-2017-3193

SEL contour  
levels, dB



52.2% reduction in area  
from HWB Mid Term  
to HWB Far Term





# ERA Aircraft System Level Cumulative Noise Results from AIAA-2016-0863, January 2016



## N+2 includes:

- UHB GTF or DD engines
- Light weight structures
- Single element trailing edge flap
- Leading edge Krueger flap
- Configuration dependent PAA effects
- MDOF duct liners

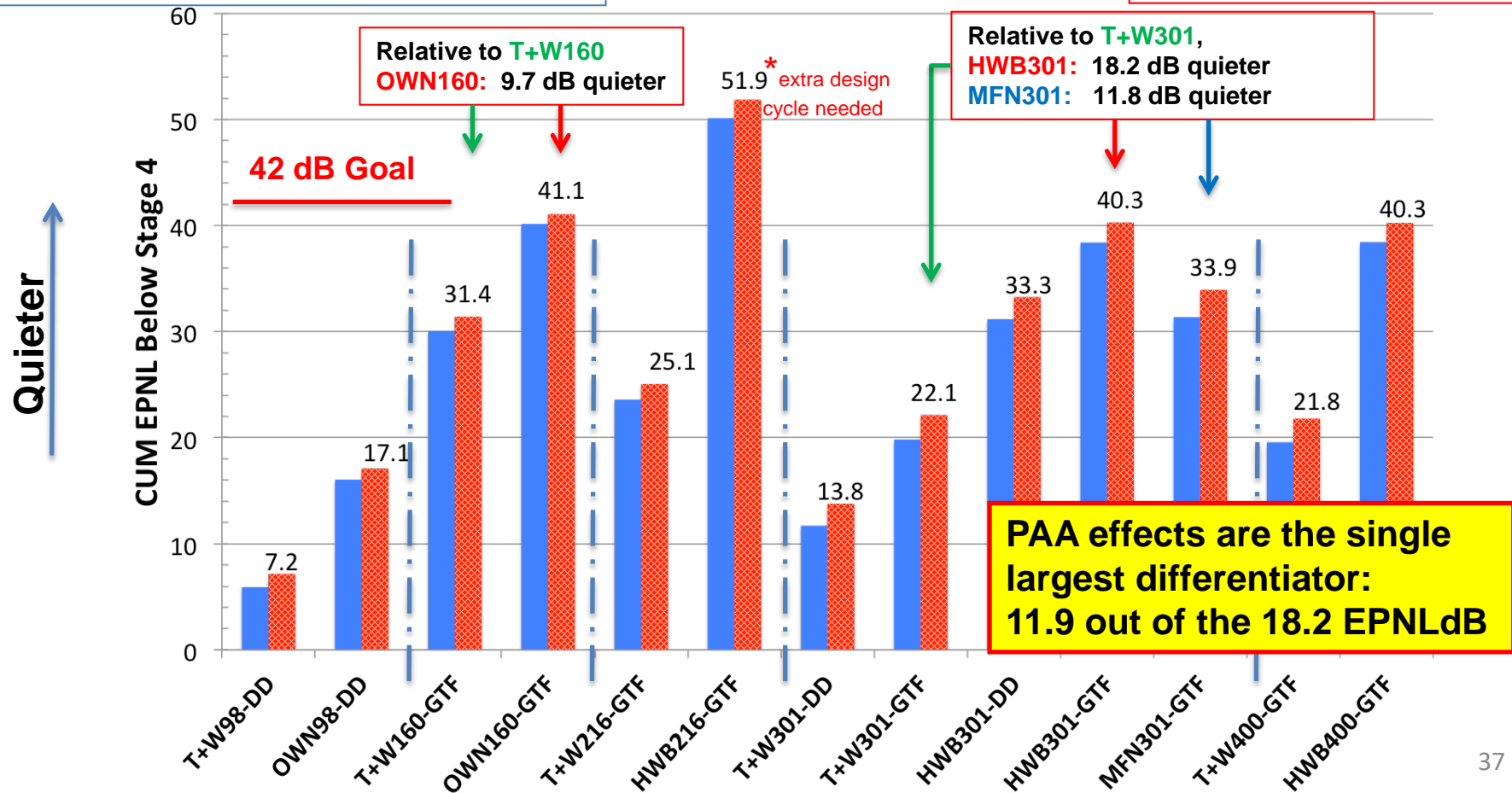
## ITD Noise Reduction adds:

- Soft vane
- Flap side edge treatment
- Partial main gear fairing

Combined 0.9 to 2.5 dB more noise reduction

N+2

N+2 w/ITDNR





# NASA-developed Concept Vehicles for UAM



**NOT “BEST” DESIGNS; NO INTENT TO BUILD AND FLY**

Passengers	50 nm trips per full charge/refuel	Market	Type	Propulsion
1	1 x 50 nm	Air Taxi	Multicopter	Battery
2	2 x 50 nm	Commuter Scheduled	Side by Side (no tilt)	Parallel hybrid
4	4 x 50 nm	Mass Transit	(multi-) Tilt wing	Turboelectric
6	8 x 50 nm	Air Line	(multi-) Tilt rotor	Turboshaft
15			Lift + cruise	Hydrogen fuel cell
30			Vectored thrust Compound	

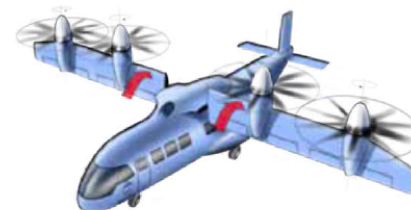
Quadrotor  
“Air Taxi”



Side by Side  
“Vanpool”



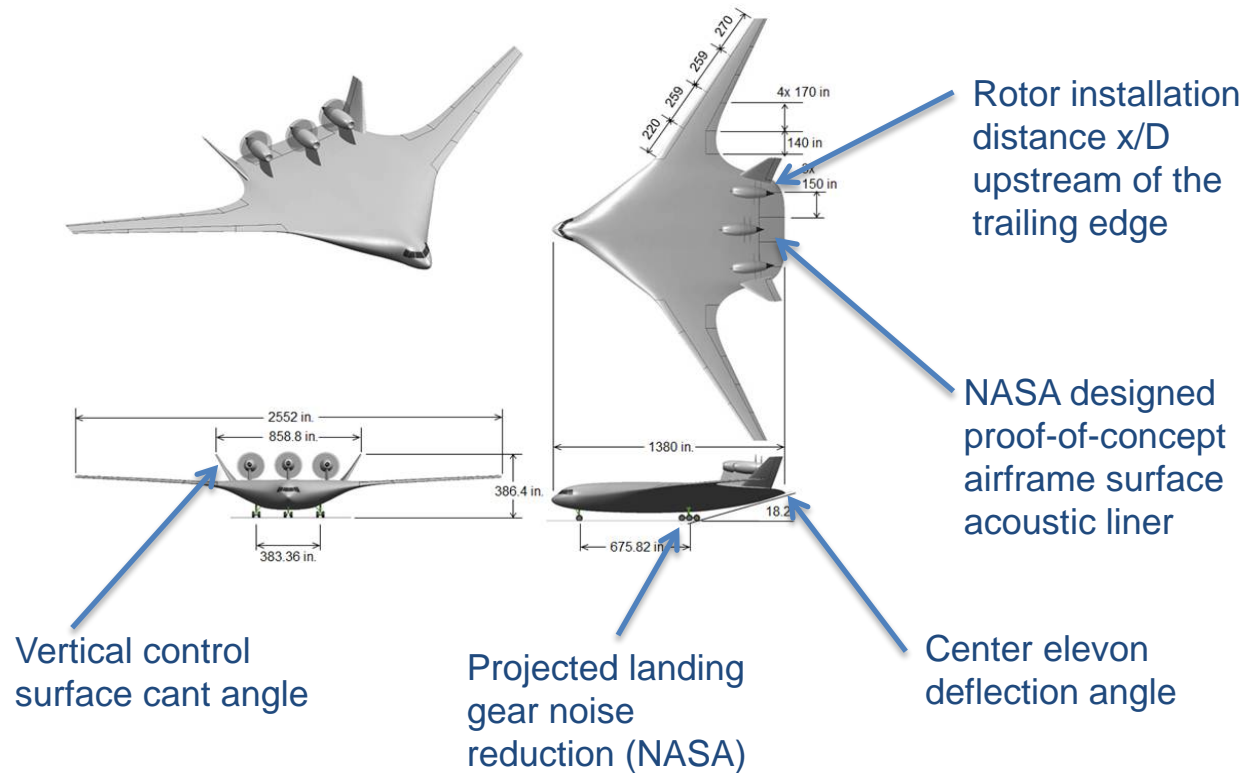
Tilt wing  
“Airliner”



- Aircraft designed through use of NASA conceptual design and sizing tool for vertical lift, NDARC.
- Concepts described in detail in publication “Concept Vehicles for Air Taxi Operations,” by W. Johnson, C. Silva and E. Solis. AHS Aeromechanics Design for Transformative Vertical Lift, San Francisco, Jan. 2018.

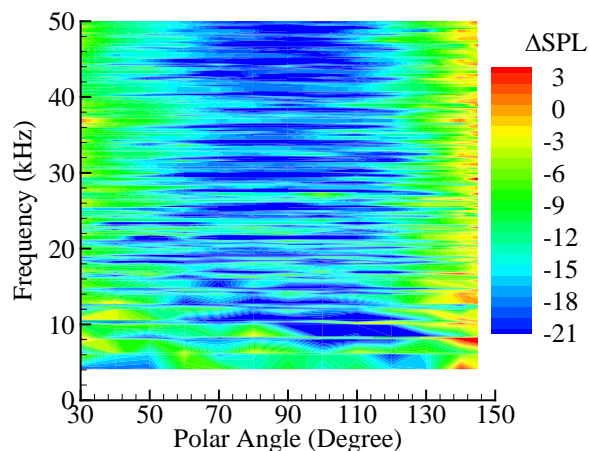
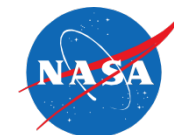
06 Feb 2018

# Configuration and Parameter Changes for the OREIO Noise Assessment

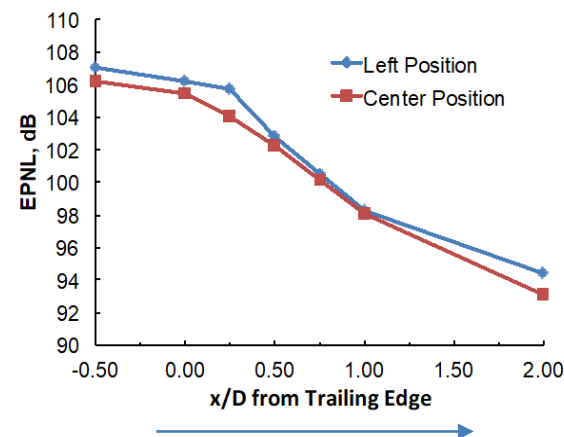


AIAA 2014-0258, "System Noise Assessment and the Potential for Low Noise Hybrid Wing Aircraft with Open Rotor Propulsion"

# NASA/Boeing Open Rotor PAA Experiment



Shielding in the flyover plane for interaction tones at takeoff power



Upstream on airframe

“Open Rotor Aeroacoustic Installation Effects for Conventional and Unconventional Airframes,” Czech and Thomas, AIAA-2013-2185

Methods for application of PAA experimental effects to a future rotor of arbitrary design:

“Open Rotor Tone Shielding Methods for System Noise Assessments Using Multiple Databases,” Bahr et al., AIAA Paper 2014-0367.

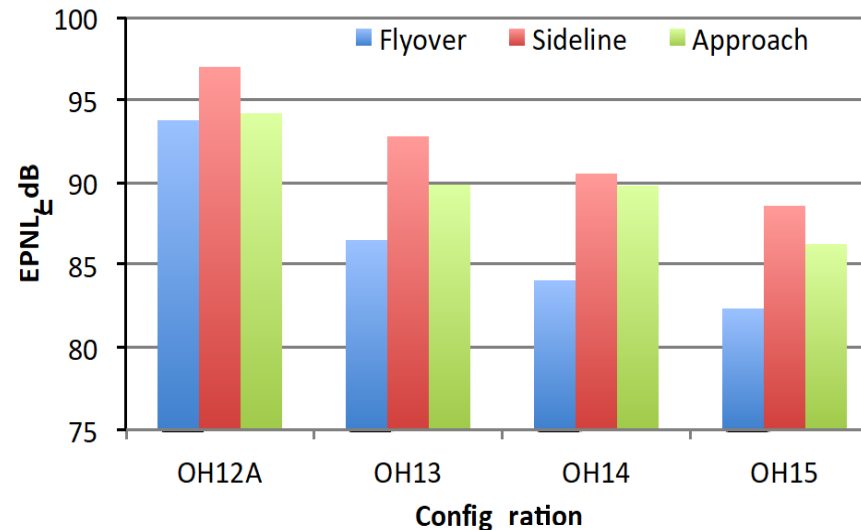
“Open Rotor Noise Shielding by Blended Wing Body Aircraft,” Guo and Thomas, AIAA Journal Vol 54 No 1, January 2016.

# Open Rotor HWB Aircraft System Level Results



Cumulative EPNLdB rel Stage 4	-10.3	-26.0	-30.8	-38.0
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AQR =  
Advanced  
Quiet  
Rotor, 2025  
Projection



Isolated AQR,  
Baseline  
Airframe,  
No Shielding

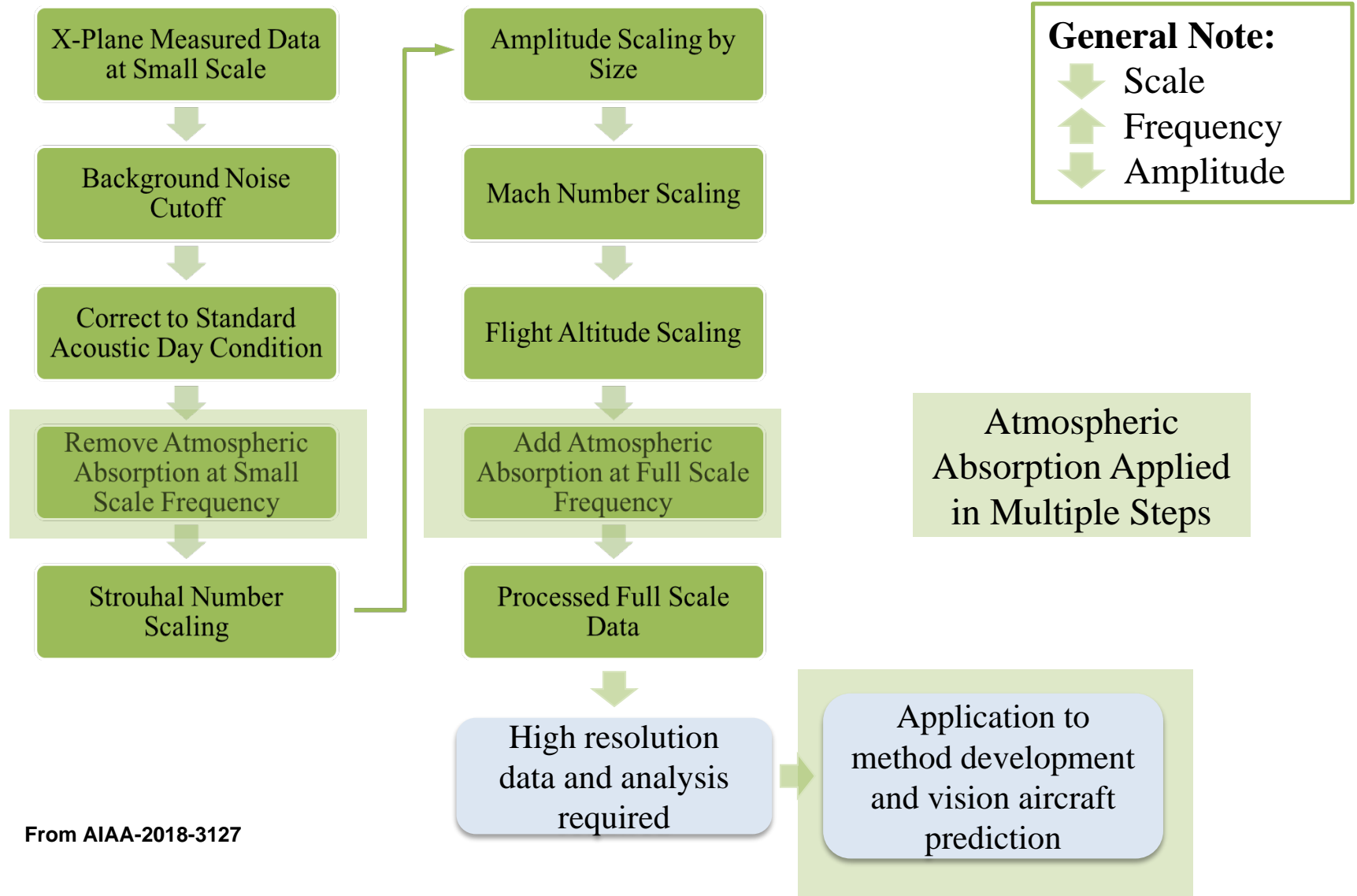
OREIO,  
AQR at 1D,  
Airframe w/  
Noise  
Reduction  
(NR) Techs

OREIO,  
AQR at  
1.5D,  
Airframe  
w/ NR

OREIO, AQR at 1.5D,  
Airframe w/ NR +  
Additional Possible  
Approaches

AIAA 2014-0258, "System Noise Assessment and the Potential for Low Noise Hybrid Wing Aircraft with Open Rotor Propulsion"

# Processing of Predicted “Flight Test” Data

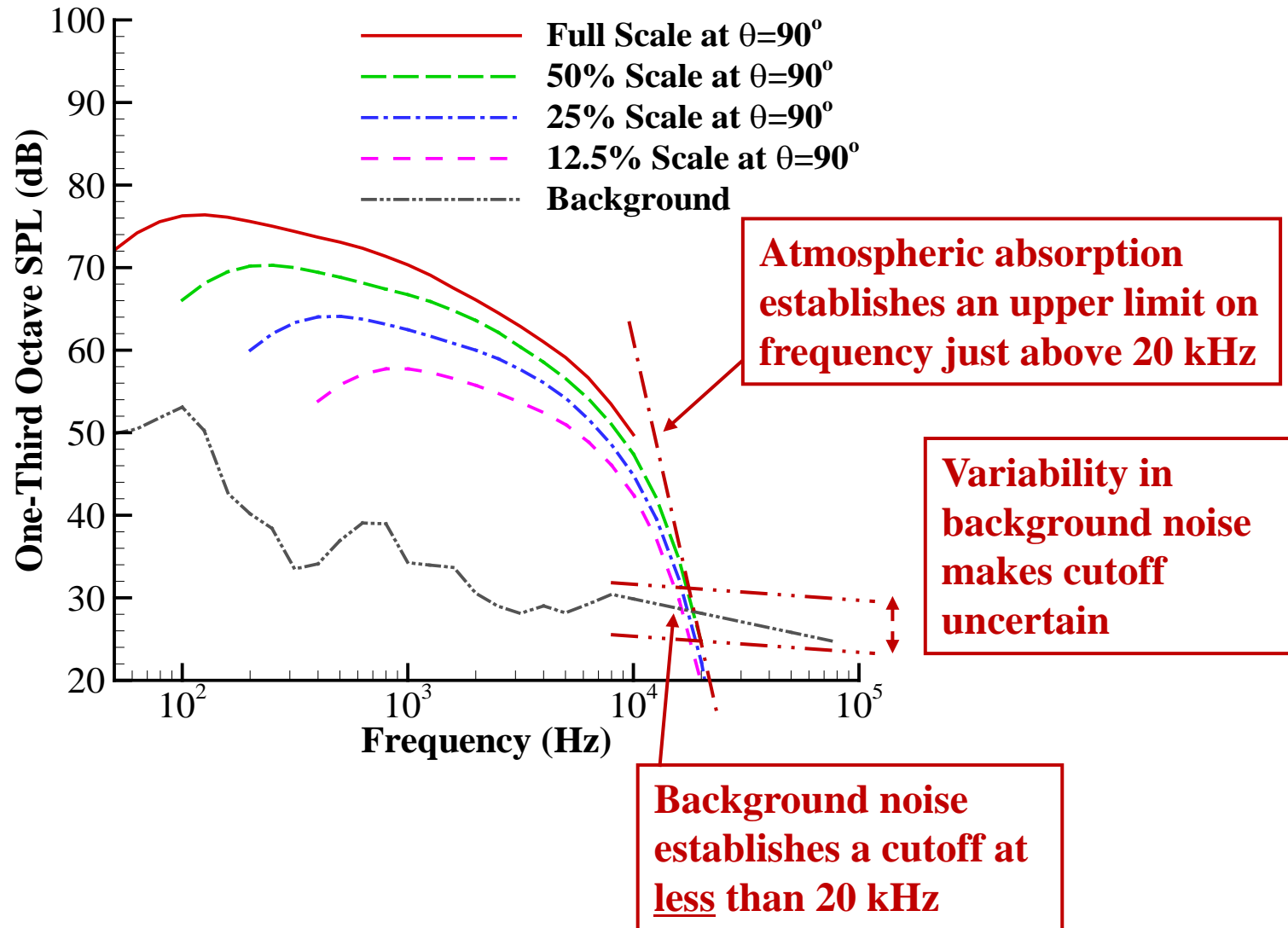


# Limitations on Measuring High Frequencies



From AIAA-2018-3127

Perfectly Scalable Aircraft



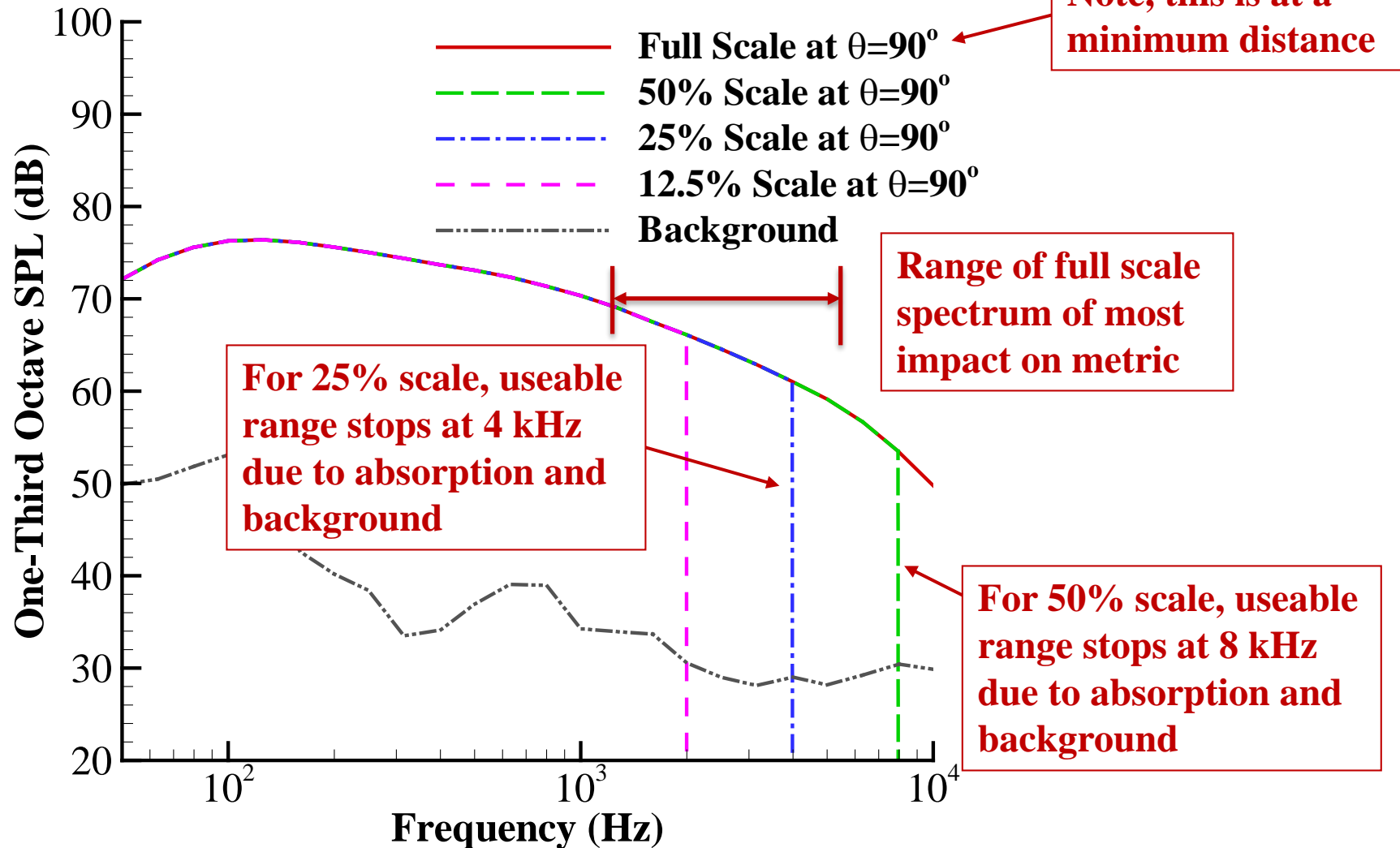


# Loss of Signal Impacts Full Scale Result



From AIAA-2018-3127

Perfectly Scalable Results Processed to Full Scale



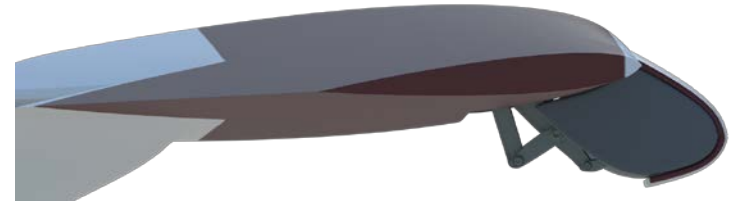
# MFN Vision Vehicle and Airframe Noise Reduction Technologies



From AIAA-2018-3127



**Mid Term** MFN Aircraft Concept



**Dual Use Krueger Fairing**  
(fills cove and fair the brackets)



**Far Term** MFN Aircraft Concept

**Continuous Mold Line (CML) Flap**

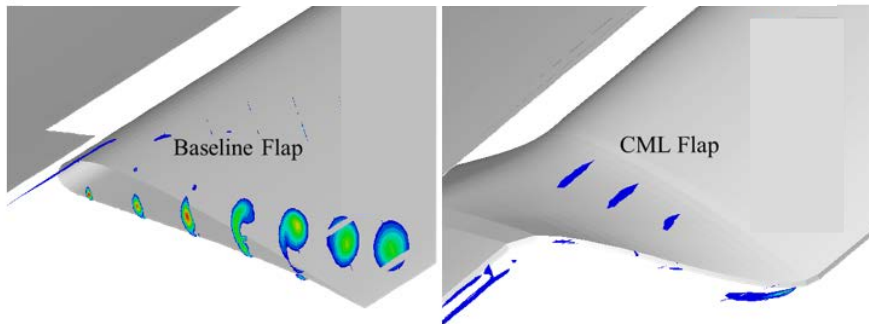


Figure 7 Illustration of continuous mold line technology

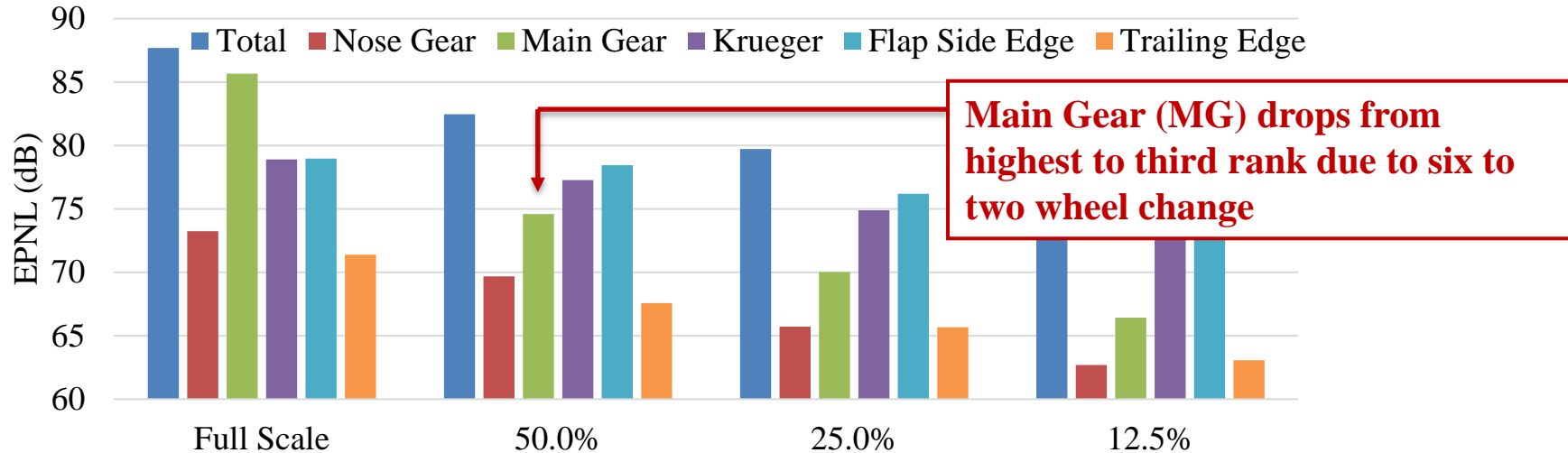
**MFN Concept Redesigned**  
**with Pod Gear Concept**

# Realistically Scaled MFN with Technologies

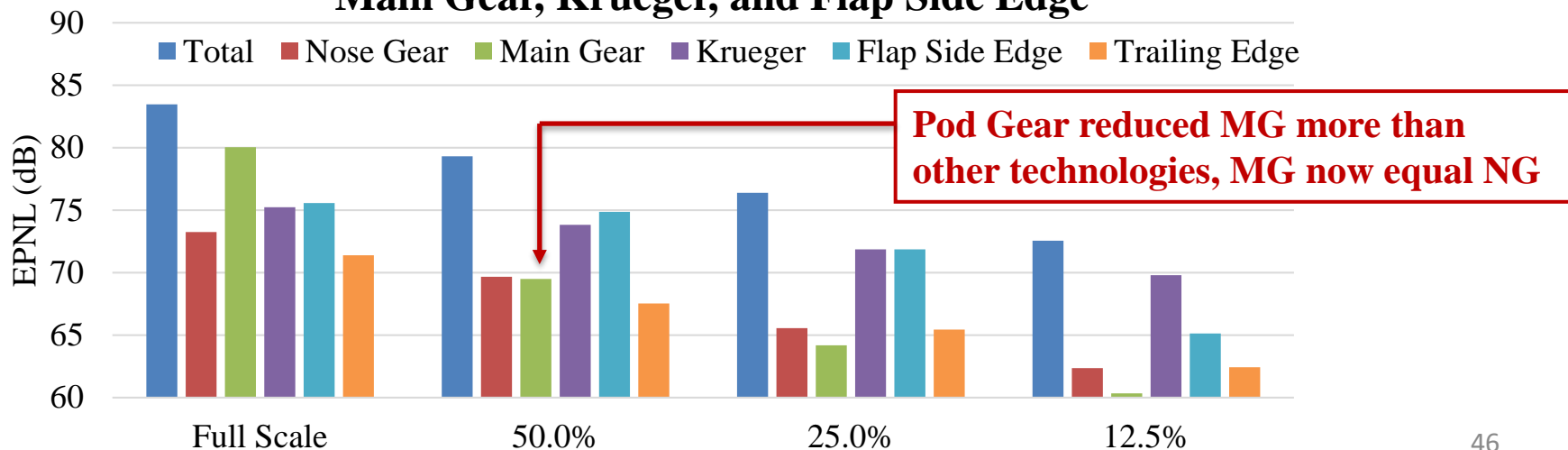


From AIAA-2018-3127

## Without Noise Reduction Technologies



## With Noise Reduction Technologies Applied to Main Gear, Krueger, and Flap Side Edge

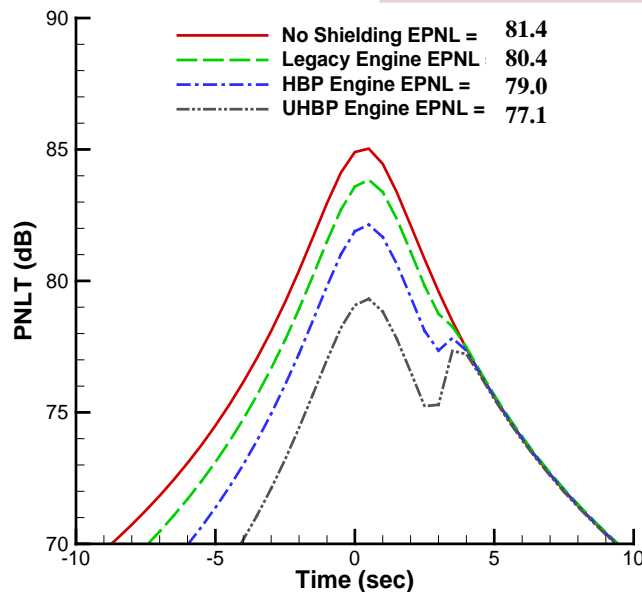


# Impact of Engine Selection on PAA Effects

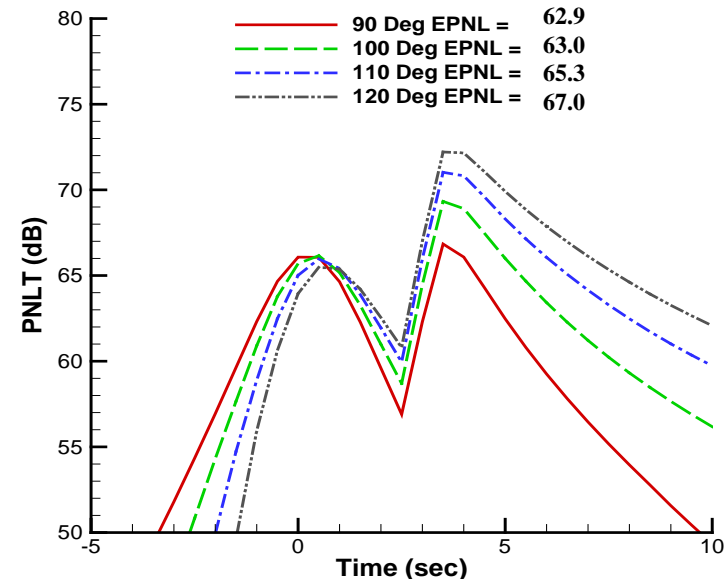


From AIAA-2018-3127

Engine Class	BPR	Dominant Source
Legacy	6-9	Jet
Current EIS HBP	9-12	Fan and Jet
UHBP Vision Engine	15+	Fan



Effect of Engine Source  
Ranking on Shielding



Effect of Engine Source  
Directivity on Shielding

Isolated engine characterization, engine source ranking, and analysis required to apply X-Plane Engine and PAA results to Vision Vehicle