#### National Aeronautics and Space Administration



#### Concepts and technologies for Green Aviation



Green Engineering Masters Forum September 30-October 3, 2009

www.nasa.gov





- Introduction
- N+1 Vehicle Themes and Progress
- N+2 Vehicle Themes and Progress
- N+3 Vehicle Themes and Progress
- Alternative Fuels Research
- Wrapup

#### **Motivation**



#### **Economic Impact of Aviation**

- Manufacturing and services account for \$436 billion in direct economic activity
- Provides \$60.6B positive trade balance
  - Reduces the total negative trade balance by 8%
- 25% of all companies' sales depend on air transportation
- 655,500 jobs in the U.S. Aviation Industry
  - 490,300 domestic manufacturing
  - 165,200 air transportation services
- 650 million travelers annually (~ 2 million travelers/day)
  - 151 domestic airlines flying 8,100 aircraft
  - Airline annual operating revenue is \$143B
- 51,000 controlled domestic flights/day
  - 38,000 commercial or air taxi flights
  - FAA simultaneously controls over 4,000 flights for most of the day







### Aviation has a huge impact on the nation's economy and touches most of the general public/taxpayers



#### Why Green Aviation? – National Challenges

#### **Fuel Efficiency**

In 2008, U.S. major commercial carriers burned 19.6B gallons of jet fuel.
 DoD burned 4.6B gallons

•At an average price of \$3.00/gallon, fuel cost was \$73B

#### **Emissions**

•40 of the top 50 U.S. airports are in non-attainment areas that do not meet EPA local air quality standards for particulate matter and ozone
•The fuel consumed by U.S. commercial carriers and DoD releases more than 250 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere each year

#### Noise

•Aircraft noise continues to be regarded as the most significant hindrance to NAS capacity growth.

•FAA's attempt to reconfigure New York airspace resulted in 14 lawsuits.

•Since 1980 FAA has invested over \$5B in airport noise reduction

programs











Magnitude of emissions growth and gap is dependent upon aviation traffic growth assumptions



Enabling "Game Changing" concepts and technologies from advancing fundamental research ultimately to understand the feasibility of advanced systems



### NASA Aeronautics Programs in FY2010



#### **Fundamental Aeronautics Program**

Conduct cutting-edge research that will produce innovative concepts, tools, and technologies to enable revolutionary changes for vehicles that fly in all speed regimes.

#### Integrated Systems Research Program

Conduct research at an integrated system-level on promising concepts and technologies and explore/assess/demonstrate the benefits in a relevant environment



#### **Airspace Systems Program**

Directly address the fundamental ATM research needs for NextGen by developing revolutionary concepts, capabilities, and technologies that will enable significant increases in the capacity, efficiency and flexibility of the NAS.







Aviation Safety Program Conduct cutting-edge research that will produce innovative concepts, tools, and technologies to improve the intrinsic safety

attributes of current and future aircraft.





#### Aeronautics Test Program

Preserve and promote the testing capabilities of one of the United States' largest, most versatile and comprehensive set of flight and ground-based research facilities.



#### **Portfolio Relevance to NASA and Nation**

- The Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen)
  - Joint Planning and Development Office (JPDO): Vision 100 (2003)
  - Revolutionary transformation of the airspace, the vehicles that fly in it, and their operations, safety and environmental impact
- National Aeronautics R&D Policy (December 2006), Plan (December 2007) and Technical Appendix (December 2008)
  - "Mobility thru the air is vital . . . "
  - "Aviation is vital to national security and homeland defense."
  - "Assuring energy availability and efficiency . . . "
     and "The environment must be protected."
- NASA Strategic Plan (2006)
  - Strategic Goal 3: "Develop a balanced overall program of science, exploration and aeronautics consistent with the redirection of the human spaceflight program to focus on exploration."
  - Sub-goal 3E: "Advance knowledge in the fundamental disciplines of aeronautics and develop technologies for safer aircraft and higher capacity airspace systems."









- Introduction and Effects of "Technology on the ATS"
- N+1 Vehicle Themes and Progress
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### **Quantifiable System Level Metrics**

.. technology for dramatically improving noise, emissions, & performance

CORNERS OF THE TRADE SPACE	N+1 (2015)*** Generation Conventional Tube and Wing (relative to B737/CFM56)	N+2 (2020)*** Generation Unconventional Hybrid Wing Body (relative to B777/GE90)	N+3 (2025)*** Generation Advanced Aircraft Concepts (relative to user defined reference)
Noise	- 32 dB (cum below Stage 4)	- 42 dB (cum below Stage 4)	55 LDN (dB) at average airport boundary
LTO NOx Emissions (below CAEP 6)	-60%	-75%	better than -75%
Performance: Aircraft Fuel Burn	-33%**	-40%**	better than -70%
Performance: Field Length	-33%	-50%	exploit metro-plex* concepts

» N+1



\*\*\* Technology readiness level for key technologies = 4-6

\*\* Additional gains may be possible through operational improvements

\* Concepts that enable optimal use of runways at multiple airports within the metropolitan area

#### <u>Approach</u>

- Enable Major Changes in Engine Cycle/Airframe Configurations
- Reduce Uncertainty in Multi-Disciplinary Design and Analysis Tools and Processes
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- Conduct Discipline-based Foundational Research



### **Impact of Green Operations**



United Airlines, Quantas, Air New Zealand, Japan Airlines



### Goals for a single landing and takeoff

Current Noise Rule (Stage 4):





#### Performance - Fuel Burn - N+1 Detailed System Analysis





#### **UHB Propulsor Technology - Roadmap**





#### Ultra High Bypass Engine Cycle Collaborative Research

#### Pratt & Whitney Geared Turbofan

- Nacelle/Wing Interaction Test
  - Highly successful collaboration between Industry Partner and three NASA centers
  - Test data provided design confidence for nacelle-wing integration at BPR = 12

#### Geared Turbofan Demonstrator Engine

- Successful ground demonstration of Geared Turbofan concept completed May 2008
  - Predicted fan performance verified
  - Acoustic characteristics within expectations
- Future Collaboration
  - Space Act Agreement negotiations initiated for continued research collaboration into next generation Geared Turbofan, starting with system analysis and design studies in 2009

Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project

Flamm, Lord, Hughes, et al



Powered half-span model test in Ames 11' wind tunnel

GTF Demonstrator Engine ground test





#### Ultra High Bypass Engine Cycle Collaborative Research

#### General Electric Open Rotor

- Space Act Agreement
  - Signed August 2008
  - Initiates collaborative research on Open Rotor propulsion concepts in NASA Glenn 9'x15' and 8'x6' wind tunnels in 2Q 2009
    - > Test Objectives
      - Investigate performance and noise
      - Produce shareable open rotor fan design
      - Generate shareable database of test results
    - > Plan
      - NASA refurbish 1980s counter-rotation propfan drive rig
      - GE will design, fabricate and test 1980s technology based open rotor fan as Historical Baseline



GE Open Rotor Concept



NASA Glenn Open Rotor Propulsion Rig

Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project

Hughes, GEAE, et al



# Historical Collaboration in Laminar Flow

a few examples



- History/experience/solutions on which to build
- Today, fuel cost share of DOC is significantly higher
- Global environmental concerns widely acknowledged



# Laminar (Boundary Layer) Flow Research

#### Aero Objectives for NTF Tests

- Determine LF extent relative to predictions
- Determine effectiveness of TSP for transition detection
- Determine the suitability of the NTF for NLF testing
- Determine the effectiveness of small scale model manufacturing quality for NLF testing
- Determine drag (increments) for NLF relative to predictions

Preliminary Results



Rivers, Campbell, BCA (Om), et al





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o N+1



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Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project



### **Potential Reduction in Fuel Consumption**

Reference Fuel Burn = 237,100 lbs 1997 Technology Large Twin Aisle Vehicle "777-200ER-like"





Includes estimate of maximum propulsion noise shielding



Environmentally Responsible Aviation

Thomas, Berton, et al



#### Potential N+2 LTO NO<sub>x</sub> Reduction





### Reduced LTO NO<sub>x</sub> Emissions

Low NOx combustor concepts for high OPR environment

Increase thermal efficiency without increasing NOx emissions



NASA Injector Concepts

- Partial Pre-Mixed
- Lean Direct Multi-Injection

#### Enabling Technology

- lightweight CMC liners
- advanced instability controls

- Improved fuel-air mixing to minimize hot spots that create additional NOx
- Lightweight liners to handle higher temperatures associated with higher OPR
- Fuel flexibility to accommodate emerging alternative fuels
- Coordinating with DoD Programs



## Progress (1)

#### Working Long Poles - Low speed flight controls



Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project Risch, Vicroy, Princeon, et al





Working long poles - Non-circular pressurized fuselage





# Working long poles - noise characteristics

CHARGING STATION

FAN NOZZLE

CORE FC#3

JES MOUNT

FAN PLENUM

PLUG

CORE NOZZLE

- Twin High Bypass Ratio Jet Simulators
- Simplified Fan Noise Simulator
- Instrumentation and Processing for Low Noise Levels



CORE BURNER

PROPANE SUPPLY

CORE CERAMIC

IGNITER-

CORE FC#

CORE INLET



Top view with some array positions

Phased Array (DAMAS type) processing to measure low noise levels in 14 x 22

Hutchinson, Gatlin, Kawai, et al





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- Identify advanced airframe and propulsion concepts, as well as corresponding enabling technologies for commercial aircraft anticipated for entry into service in the 2030-35 timeframe, market permitting
  - Advanced Vehicle Concept Study
  - Commercial Aircraft include both passenger and cargo vehicles
  - Anticipate changes in environmental sensitivity, demand, & energy
- Results to aid planning of follow-on technology programs



# N+3 Advanced Concept Study NRA

- 29 Nov 07 bidders conference
- 15 Apr 08 solicitation
- 29 May 08 proposals due
- 2 July 08 selections made
- 1 Oct 08 contract start
- Phase I: 18 Months
  - NASA Independent Assessment
     @ 15 months
- Phase II: 18-24 Months with significant technology demonstration





# N+3 NRA Requirements

- Develop a Future Scenario for commercial aircraft operators in the 2030-35 timeframe
  - provide a context within which the proposer's advanced vehicle concept(s) may meet a market need and enter into service.
- Develop an <u>Advanced Vehicle Concept</u> to fill a broad, primary need within the future scenario.
- Assess <u>Technology</u> Risk establish suite of enabling technologies and corresponding technology development roadmaps; a risk analysis must be provided to characterize the relative importance of each technology toward enabling the N+3 vehicle concept, and the relative difficulty anticipated in overcoming development challenges.
- Establish <u>Credibility and Traceability</u> of the proposed advanced vehicle concept(s) benefits. Detailed System Study must include:
  - A current technology reference vehicle and mission
    - to be used to calibrate capabilities and establish the credibility of the results.
  - A 2030-35 technology conventional configuration vehicle and mission
    - to quantify improvements toward the goals in the proposer's future scenario due to the use of advanced technologies, and improvements due to the advanced vehicle configuration.
  - A 2030-35 technology advanced configuration vehicle and mission



Subsonic Ultra-Green Aircraft Research (SUGAR)

#### A Wide Variety of Concepts Will Be Considered

Engineering, Operations & Technology | Phantom Works



Joined Wing



Hydrogen Powered



**Platform Performance Technology** 

Boeing

Strut-braced Wing



Aerial Refueling



Hybrid Wing Body



Formation Flight



Changes in Mission & Operation



Podded or Integral Batteries



Other Concepts from Worksl

### Northrop Grumman





Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project



# Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Aircraft & Technology Concepts for an N+3 Subsonic Transport



- MIT
- Aurora
- Aerodyne
- Pratt & Whitney
- Boeing PW

### **General Electric**



Small Commercial Efficient & Quiet Air Transportation for 2030-2035







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### **Alternative Fuels**

- Goals:
  - Characterization of FT and biomass fuels against ASTM standards
  - Fuel flexible combustor design

### **Alternative Fuels**

Feb, 2009



NASA DC-8 with CFM56 engines Palmdale, CA





**PWA Geared Turbofan Demonstrator Engine** January, 2008

A new standard for blends of JP-8 and synthetic fuel was just approved by ASTM. A standard for biofuel blends is coming.

There are no standardized methods to measure volatile and particulate matter in engine exhausts

NASA is leading efforts to develop measurement methods and to document local air quality characteristics of alternative synthetic fuels (Fischer-Tropsch (F-T) fuels)

First ever test of 100% F-T fuel in Feb. 2009 - Particulate matter reduced by 90% at engine idle, 30-40% at higher power settings - No sulfur dioxide emissions (no sulfur in F-T fuel) - Results to be disseminated in NASA Workshop, Fall 2009

#### **Partners**:

Air Force – AFRL and AEDC Aerodyne Research Inc (ARI) Montana State University (MSU) EPA Pratt & Whitney **General Electric** 





#### N3-X Distributed Turboelectric Propulsion System



Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project Felder, Kim, Brown

# Alternative Fuels - Cryogenic Cooling Options

- Jet fuel with Refrigeration
  - Jet-A fuel weight is baseline for comparison
- Liquid Hydrogen cooled and fueled
  - No refrigeration required
  - 4 times the volume & 1/3 the weight of the jet fuel baseline
- Liquid Methane cooled and fueled
  - 5% of the baseline refrigeration
  - 64% larger volume & 14% less weight the jet fuel baseline
- Liquid Hydrogen cooled and Hydrogen/Jet-A fueled
  - No refrigeration required
  - 32% larger volume & 6% less weight than the jet fuel baseline
- Liquid Methane/Refrigeration cooled and Methane/Jet-A fueled
  - 5% of the baseline refrigeration

- 17% larger volume & 2% less weight than the jet fuel baseline Fundamental Aeronautics Program Subsonic Fixed Wing Project Felder, Kim, Brown



## Structural Concepts for Storing the LH2







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# NASA

#### The stakeholders say they want it all - ultra low emissions and "nearly silent"





