





Towards Realistic CFD Analysis of Rotorcraft: How Far are We?

> George N. Barakos g.barakos@liverpool.ac.uk CFD Laboratory School of Engineering University of Liverpool Liverpool, L69 3GH, UK

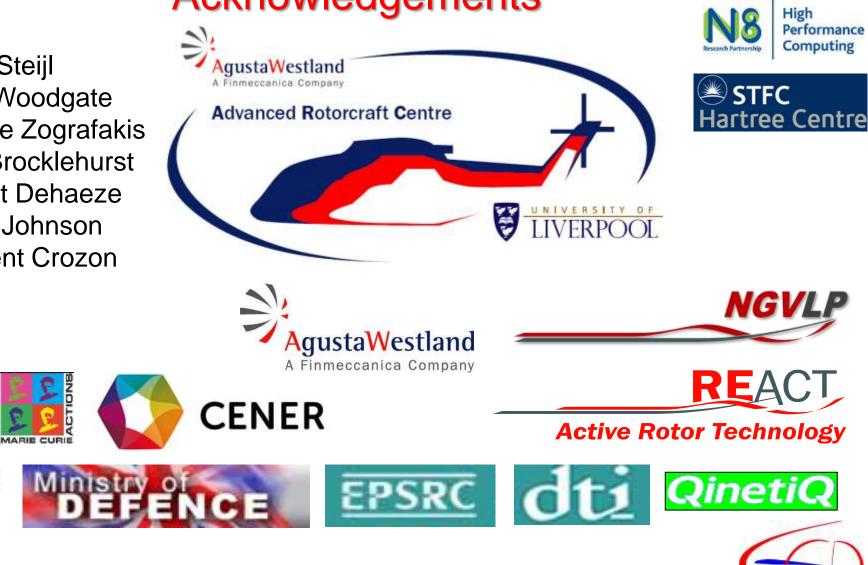
## MUSAF II Colloquium 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – Toulouse (CIC)



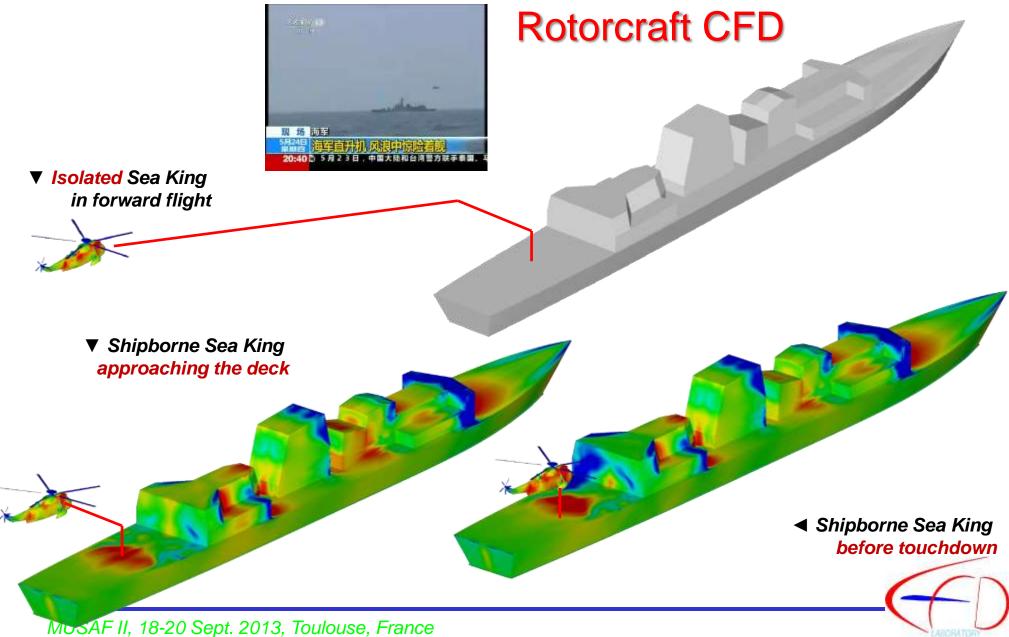
SEVENTH FRAMEWORK



**Rene Steijl** Mark Woodgate George Zografakis Alan Brocklehurst Florent Dehaeze Cathy Johnson **Clement Crozon** 

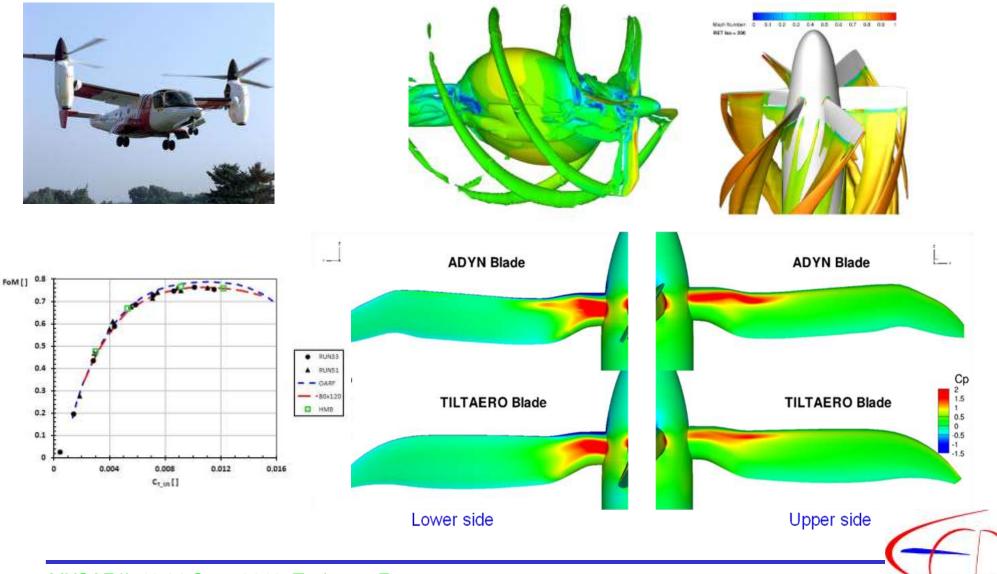








## **Propellers and Tilt-Rotors**

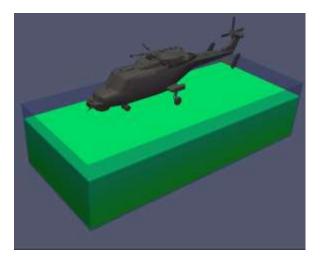


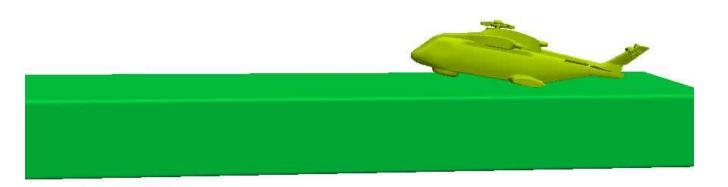


### **Helicopter Ditching**

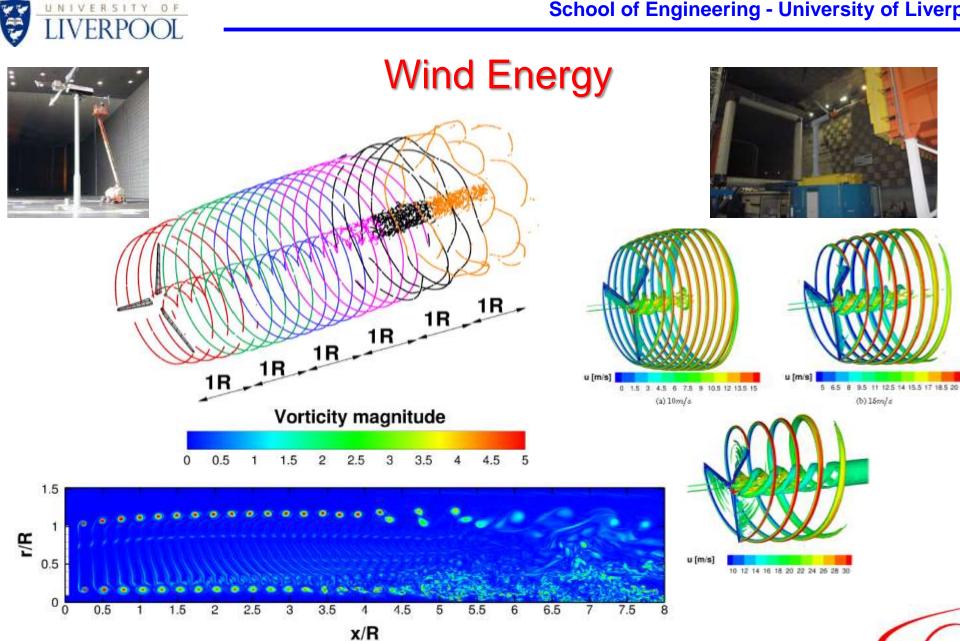








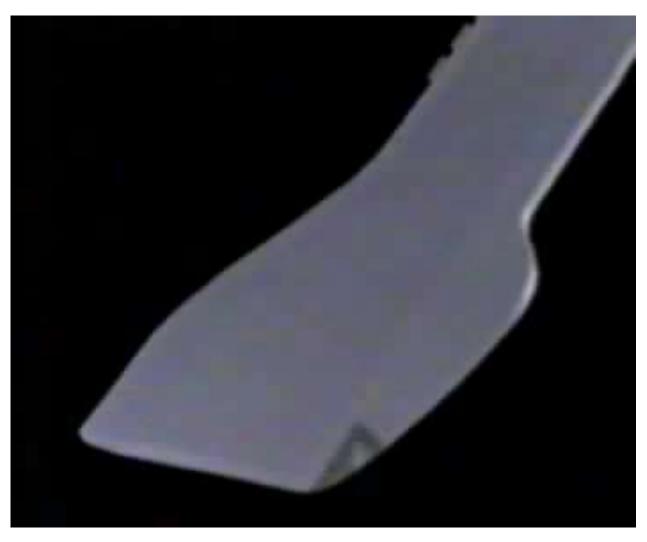








## Rotorcraft is Different...

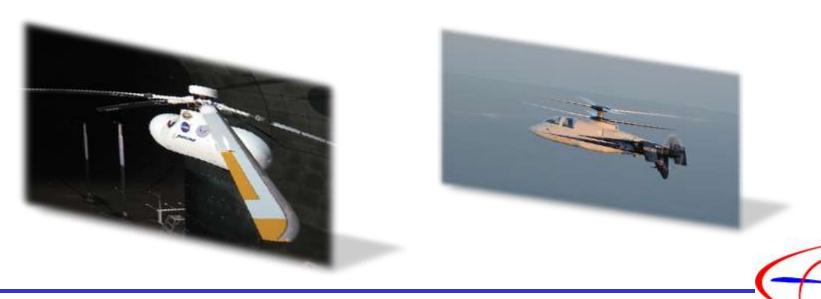






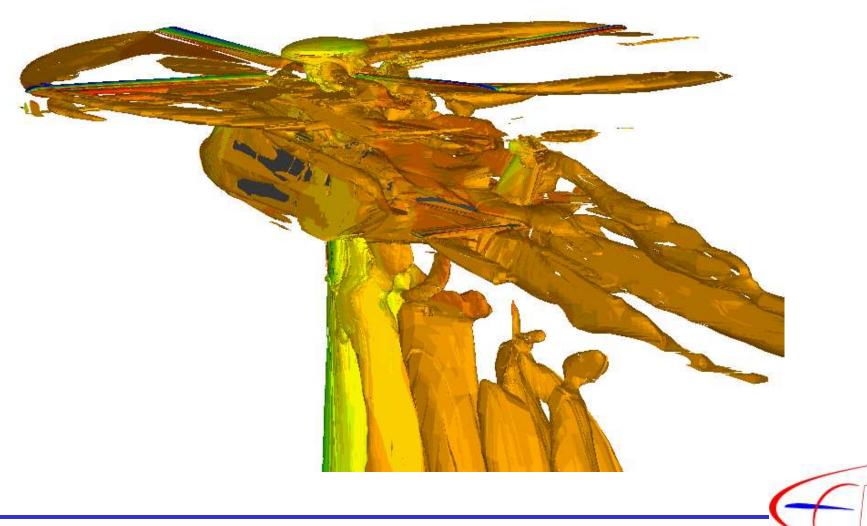
### Tilt Rotors, Active Rotors, Compound Aircraft





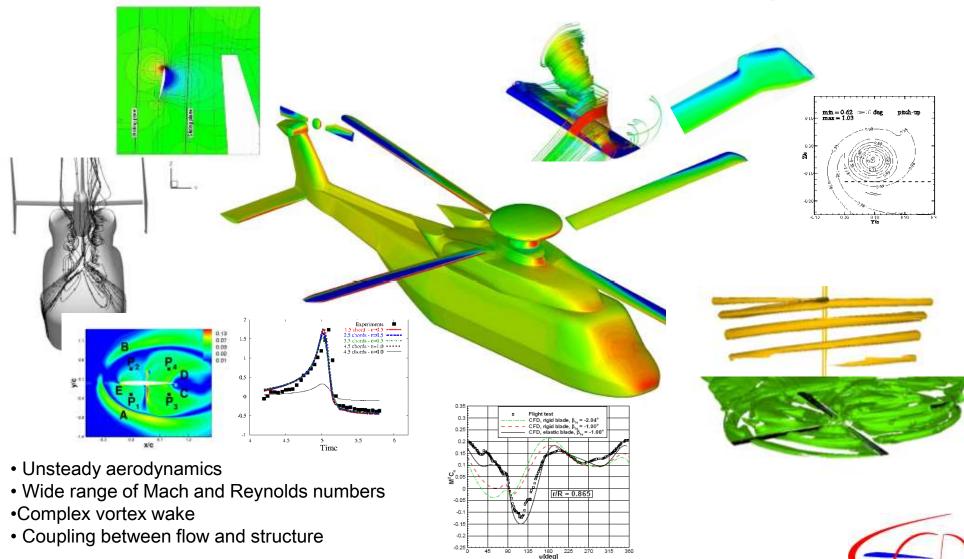






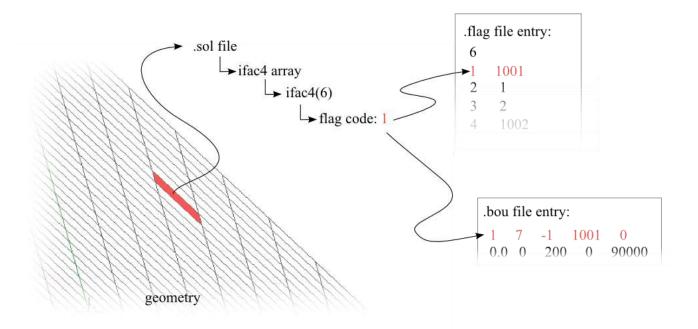


## Flow Phenomena Associated with Helicopter Flow





# **Time Marching CFD Method**



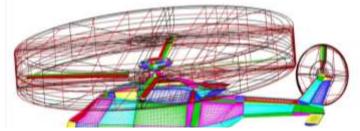


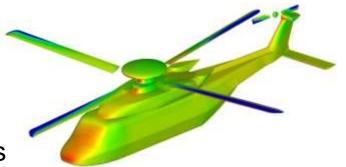


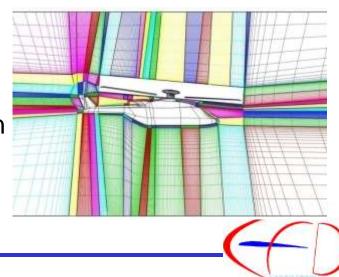
### Solver – Overview of the core HMB features



- Control volume method
- Parallel Shared and Distributed memory
- Multi-block (complex geometry) structured grids
- Unsteady RANS Variety of turbulence models including LES/DES
- Implicit time marching
- Osher, Roe, AUSM schemes for convective fluxes
- All Mach schemes
- MUSCL scheme for accuracy
- Central differences for viscous fluxes
- Moving grids, sliding planes
- Hover formulation, rotor trimming, blade actuation
- 1-1 face matching
- Overset grids
- Aeroelastic method

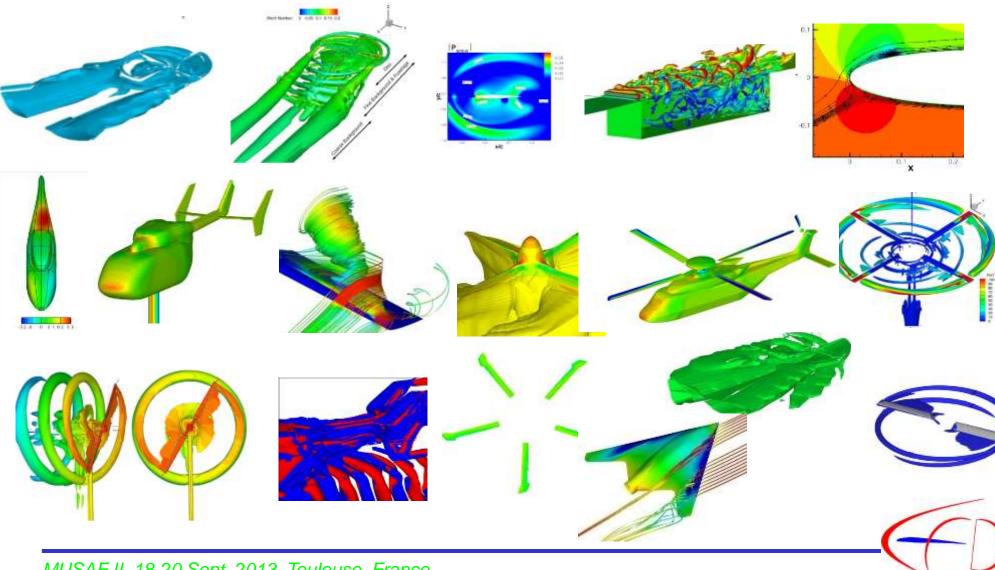








### Some of the Flows Analysed with the Helicopter Multi-Block Method





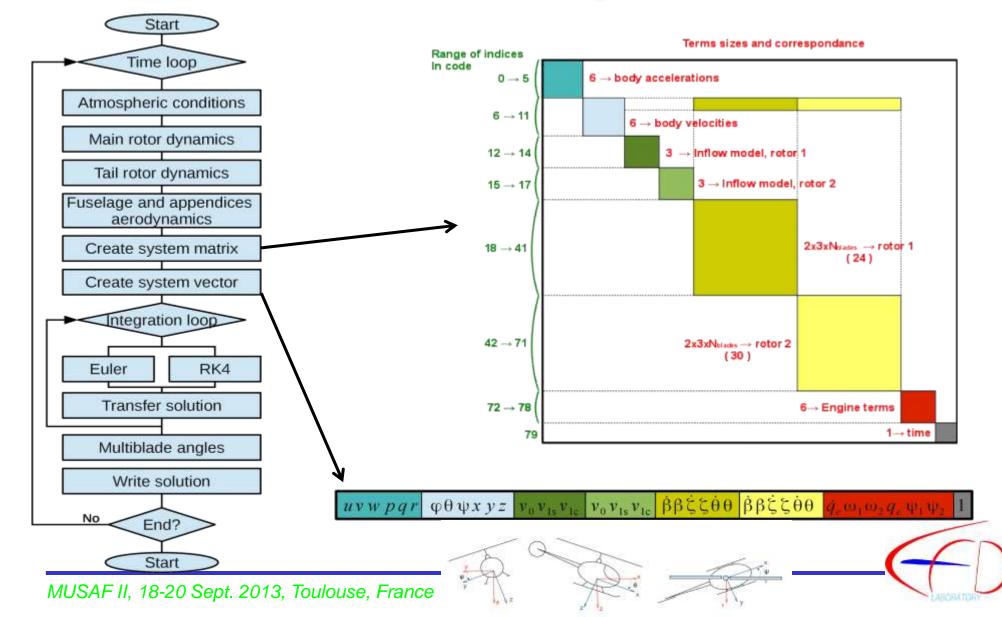
## **Blade Filmed During Flight**

- Rotor motion is dictated by aerodynamics and blade dynamics
- Helicopter blades usually with high aspect ratio, therefore can not be considered as rigid
- Aerodynamic and centrifugal loads result in blade deformation
- High fidelity predictions should include the structural influence



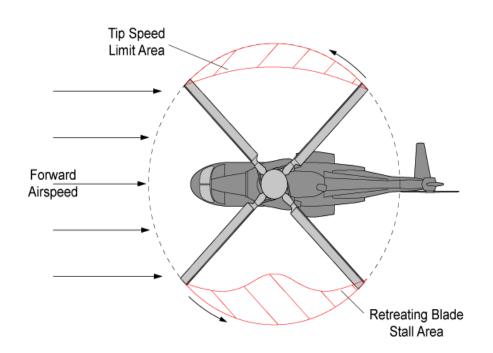


## **Flight Mechanics Model**





# **Fundamentals**

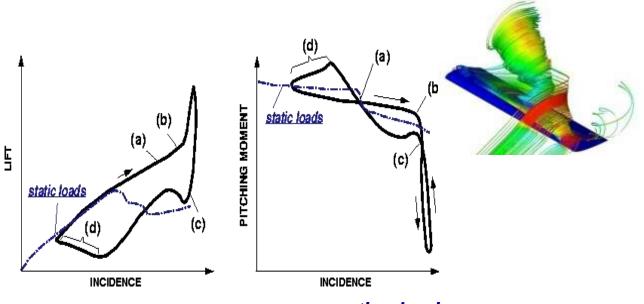






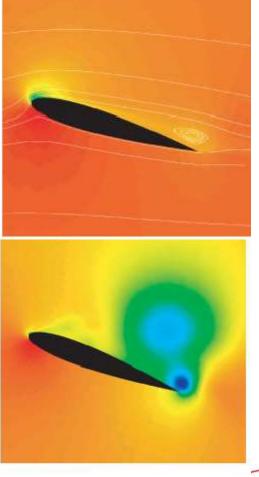


## **Dynamic Stall**



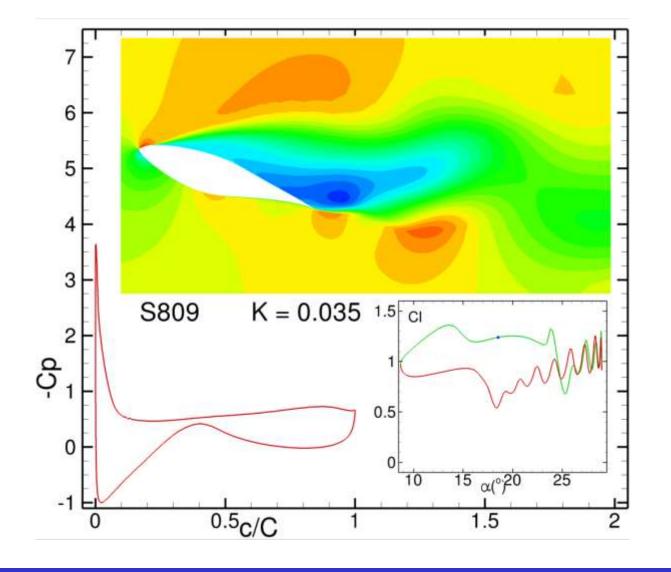
a—separation begins b—leading-edge vortex forms c—full stall d—reattachment and return to static state

- Rapid motion and hysteresis produce increased lift
- A great deal of work has been done on aerofoils, very little on wings
- Important to any manoeuvering aircraft





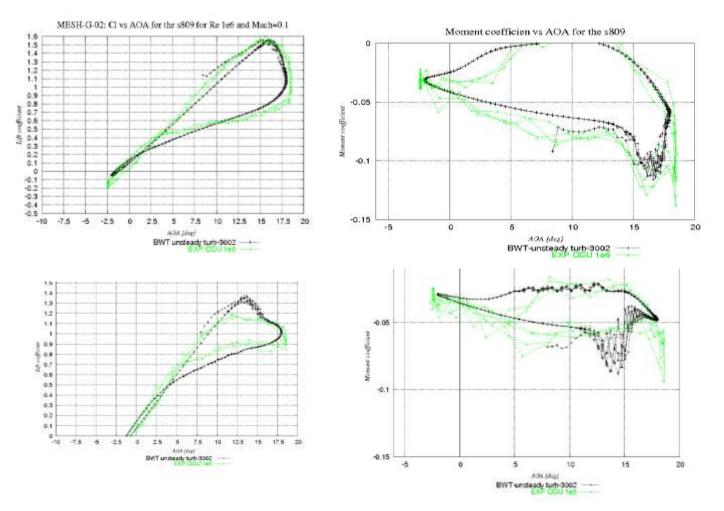






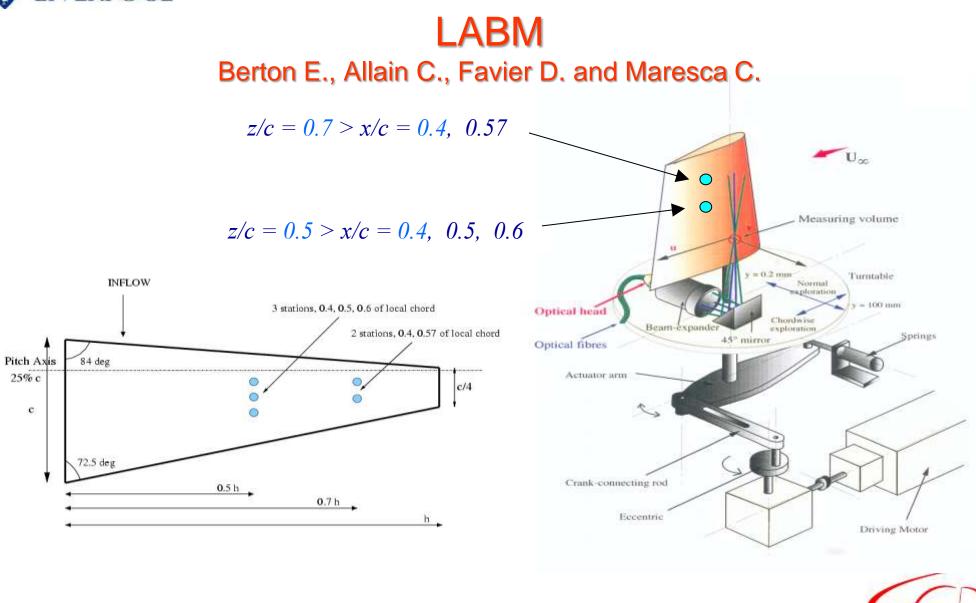


## **2D Dynamic Stall - Blind Comparisons**







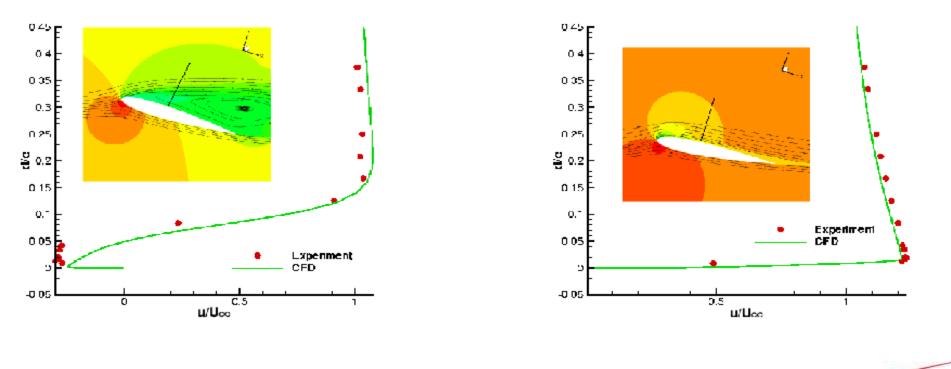


AoA = 12 deg



### 3D validation - LABM (ii)

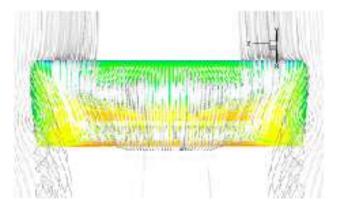
Pitching motion, k = 0.048 AoA=18 + 6 sin(wt) x/c = 0.4z/c = 0.5





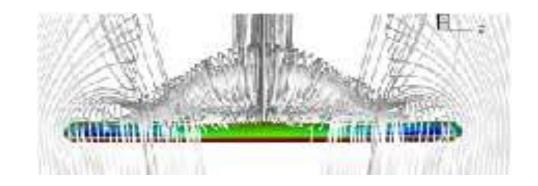
## Experiments by Moir & Coton





Top view, 30 degrees of pitch



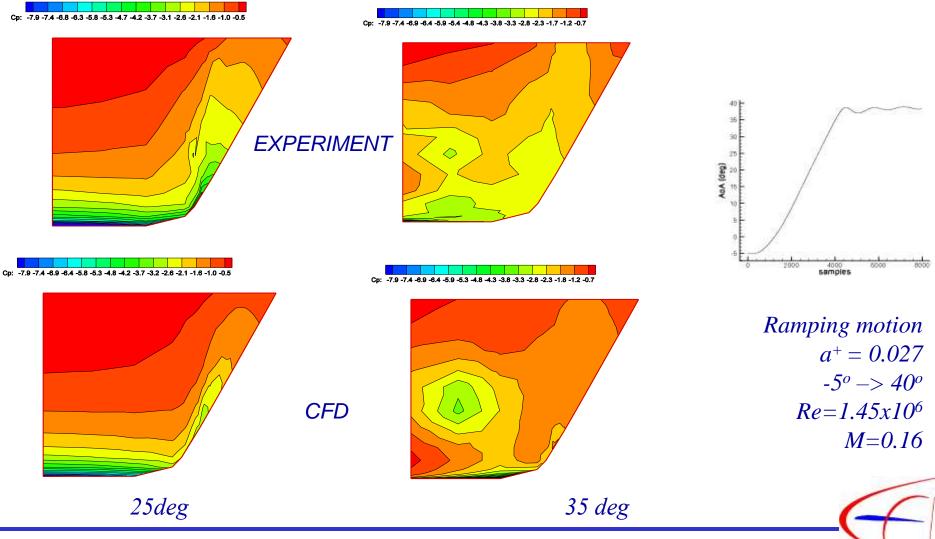


Leading edge view, 40 degrees of pitch





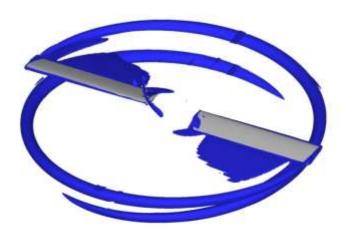
## **Experiements by Coton & Galbraith**





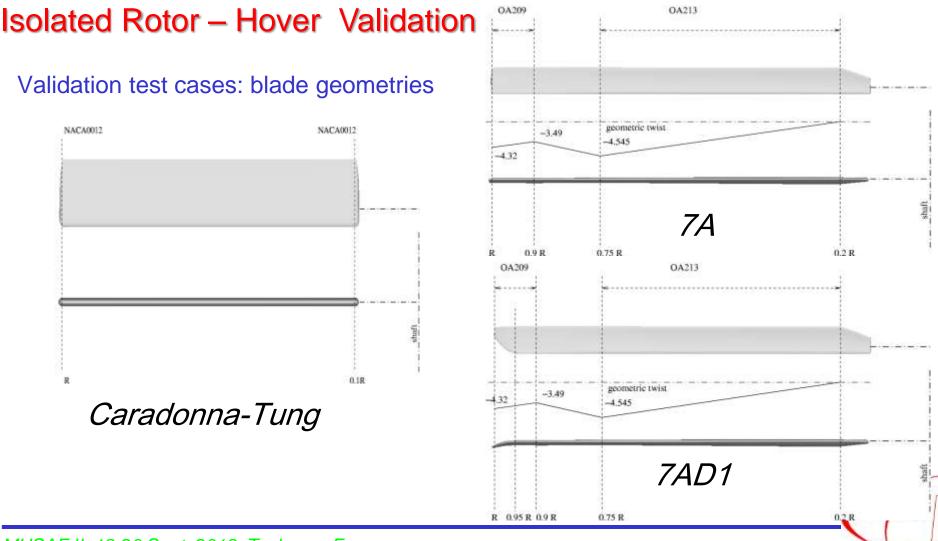
## Hovering and Forward Flying Rotors





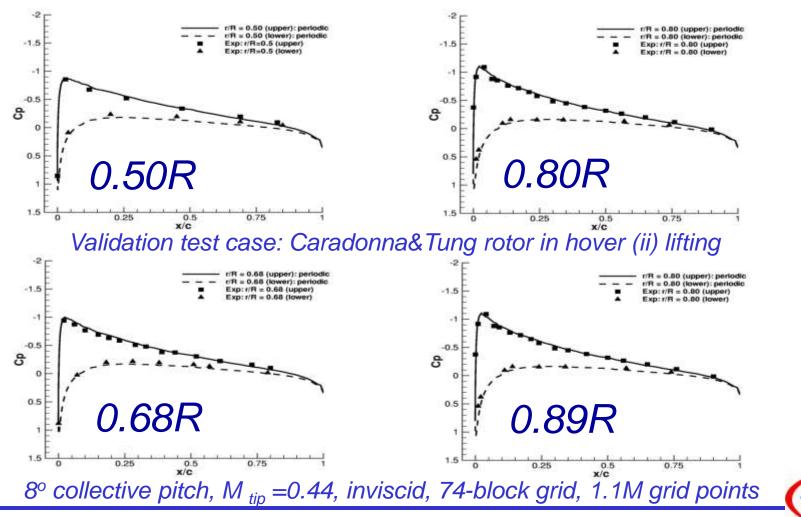






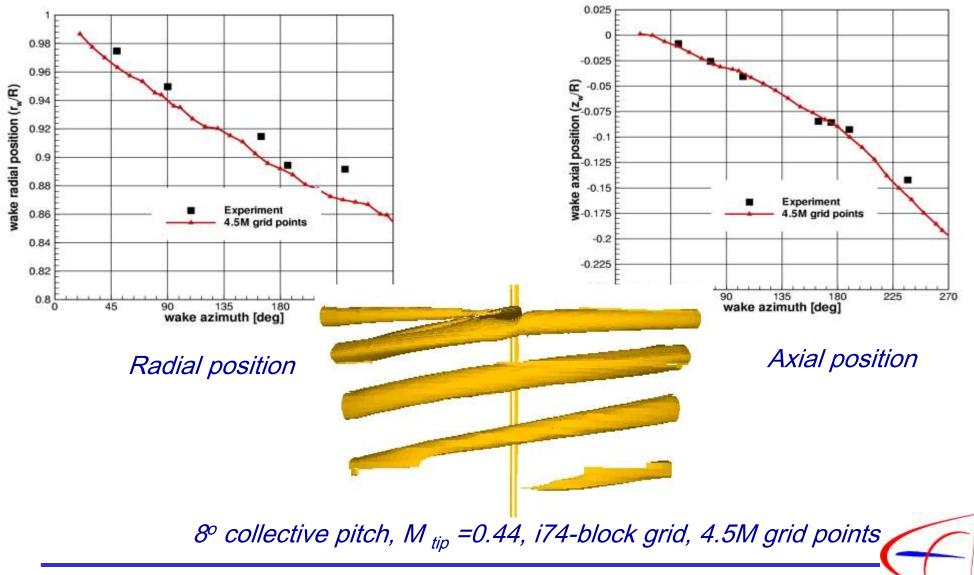


### Isolated Rotor – Hover - Validation



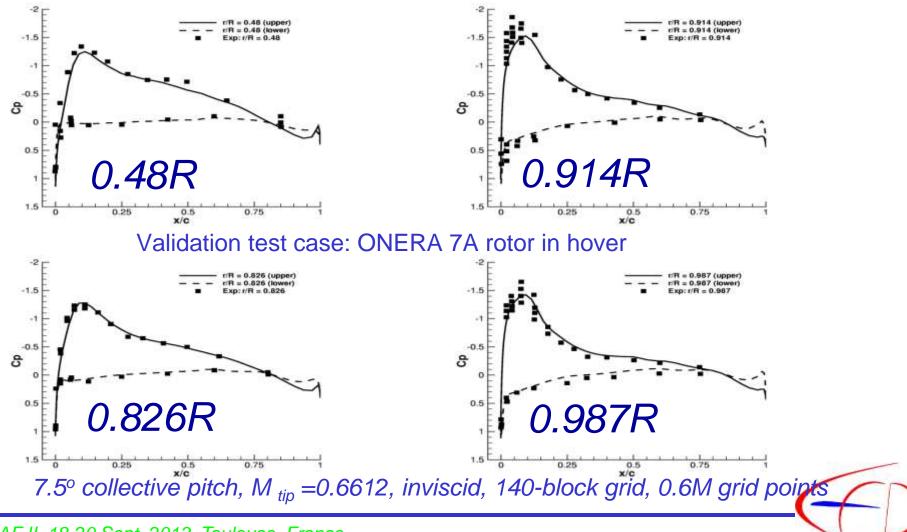


### Caradonna & Tung Rotor in Hover





### **Isolated Rotor – Hover Validation**





-2

-1.5

- 1

-0.5

0.5

1.5

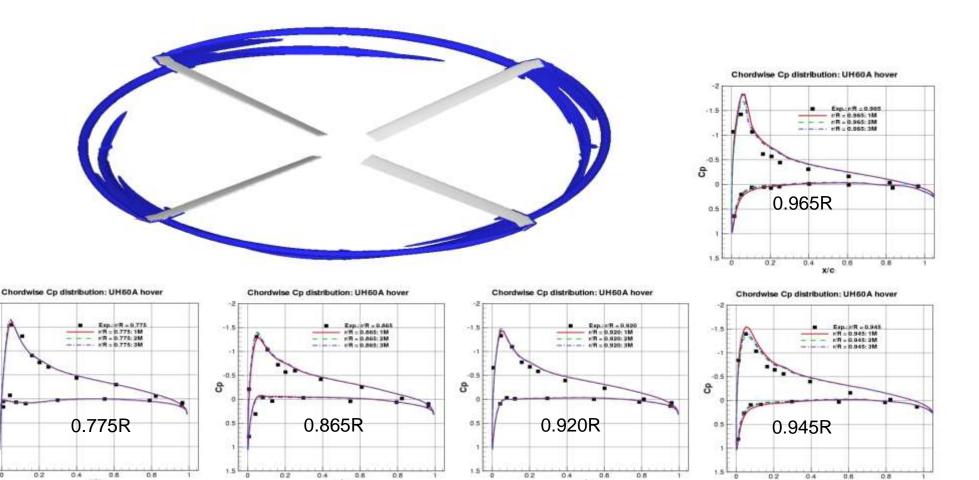
8

x/c

### CFD – Validation - UH-60A Model Tail Rotor Tests (Lorber)

UH60A - Hover  $M_T = 0.626$ , 10.5° collective, 2.31° coning

x/c



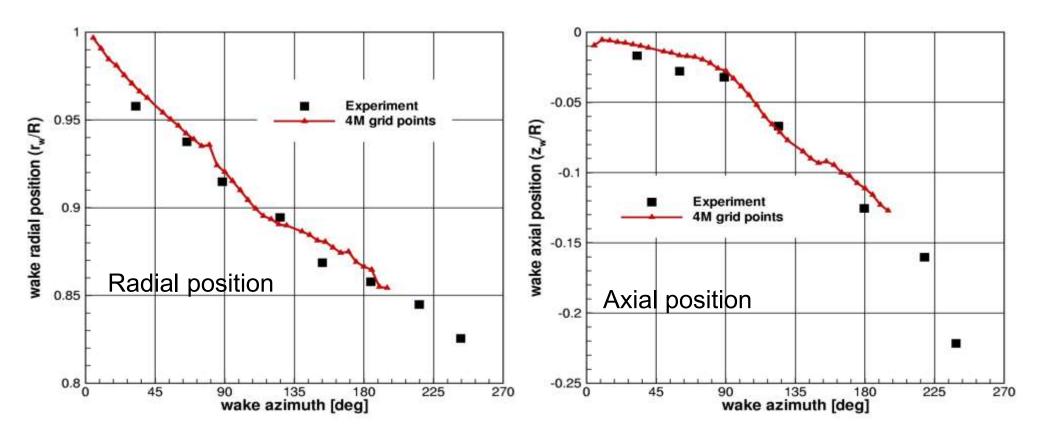
x/c

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x/c



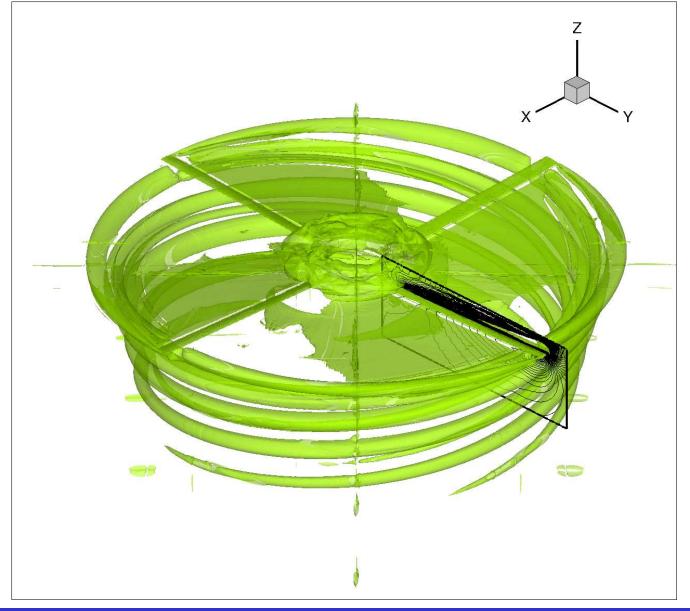
### **Isolated Rotor – Hover - Validation**



UH-60A rotor in hover: wake vortex position

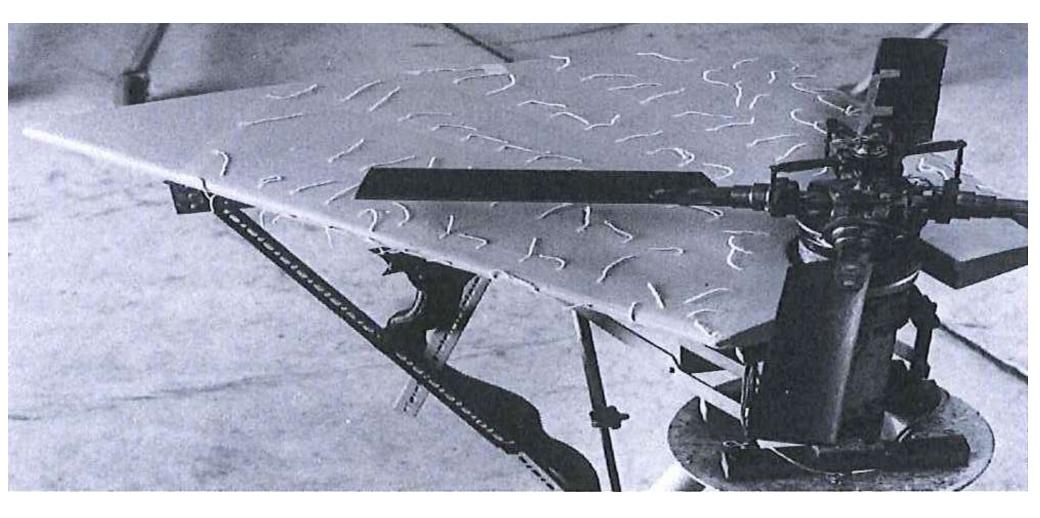
11.47° collective pitch, M  $_{tip}$  =0.628, 240-block grid, 4.5M grid points







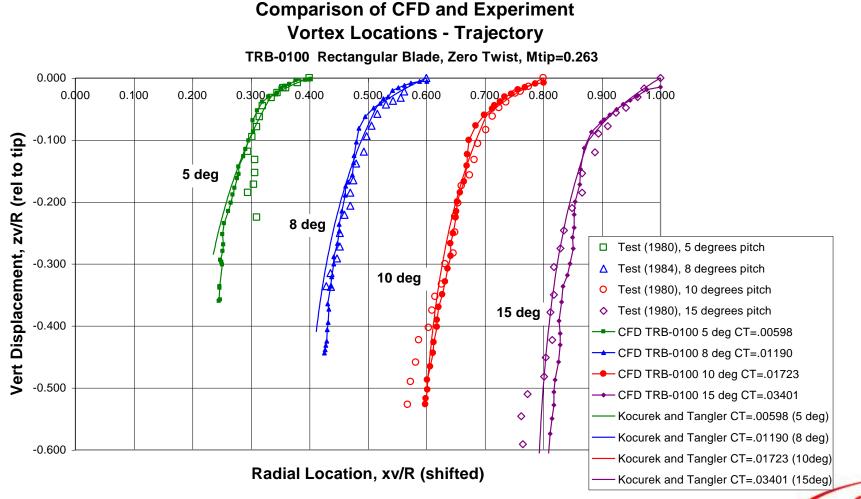


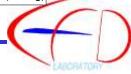






### **Comparison with Model Rotor Wake Flow Visualisation Tests**



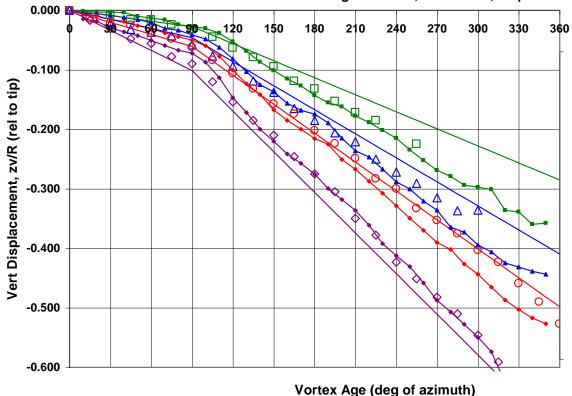




### Comparison – Model Tail Rotor Vortex Wake Trajectories

Comparison of CFD and Experiment Vortex Locations - Vertical Displacement

TRB-0100 Rectangular Blade, Zero Twist, Mtip=0.263



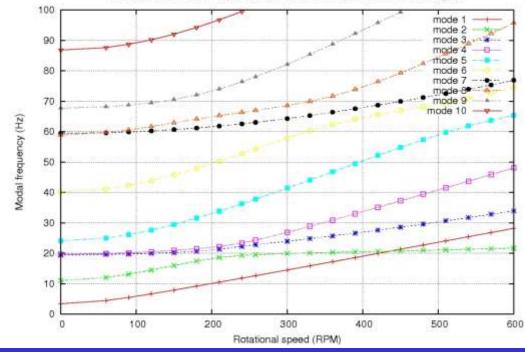
Vortex locations around the azimuth





### Structural models – "UH-60A blade"

	Flap 1	Flap 2	Flap 3	Flap 4	Flap 5	Flap 6	Chord 1	Chord 2	Torsion 1	Torsion 2
Experiment	4.80	12.82	25.61	41.97	64.46	95.83	26.09	69.57	45.80	83.85
NASTRAN	4.36	12.81	25.09	41.17	65.52	95.97	25.55	69.81	44.42	84.05



Variation of the modal frequencies of the UH-60 blade with the rotational speed

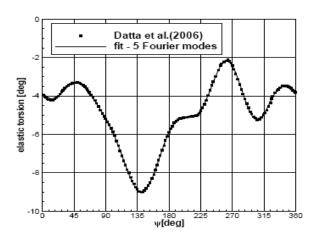
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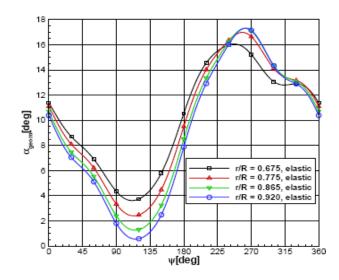


## **UH-60A Blade**

Case	rotor		$\mu$	$M_{tip}$	$\theta_{sha}$	$f_{ft} = \theta_0$	$\theta_{1s}$	$\theta_1$	c	$\beta_0$	$\beta_{1s}$	$\beta_{1c}$
UH-60 baseline	UH-60A		0.368	0.648	7.3	3 14.6	8.63	-2.	39	3.43	-2.04	-0.70
UH-60 red.flap	UH-60A		0.368	0.648	7.3	3 14.6	8.63	-2.39		3.43	-1.04	-0.70
UH-60 elastic	UH-60.	UH-60A		0.648	7.3	3 14.6	8.63	-2.	39	3.43	-1.04	-0.70
Case	r/R=0.775			r/R=0.865			Т	r/R=0.920				
	θ	$M^{2}C$	$C_n = M$	$^{2}C_{M}$	$\theta$	$M^2C_n$	$M^2C_N$	ſ	$\theta$	$M^2$	$^{2}C_{n}$	$M^2C_M$
UH-60 baseline	$84^{o}$	604	2	85°	$85^{o}$	$95^{o}$	$110^{o}$		85°	9.	5°	$115^{o}$
UH-60 red.flap	92°	$62^{\circ}$	2	85°	93°	$100^{o}$	$115^{o}$		93°	10	0°	$117^{o}$
UH-60 elastic	$113^o$	120	° 1	.20°	$115^{o}$	$120^{o}$	130°		116°	12	20°	$140^{o}$



**Reconstructed from Datta et al., 2006** 

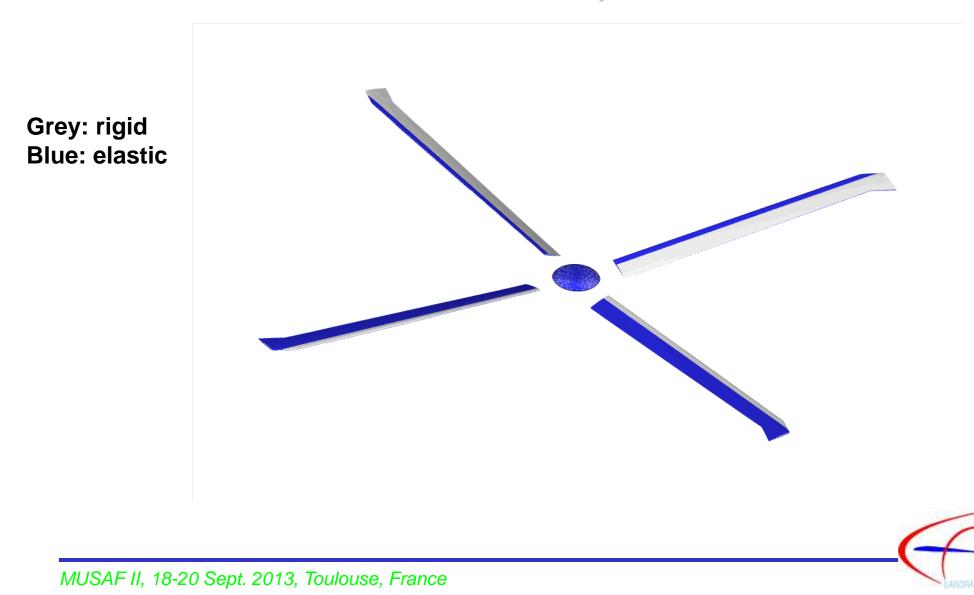


### Torsional Mode



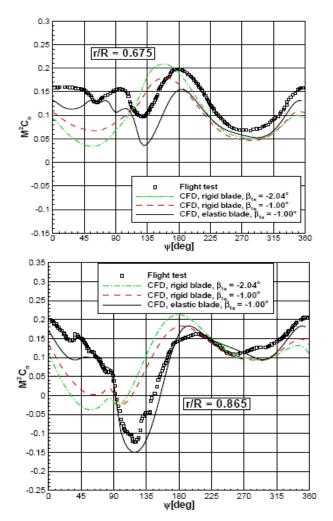


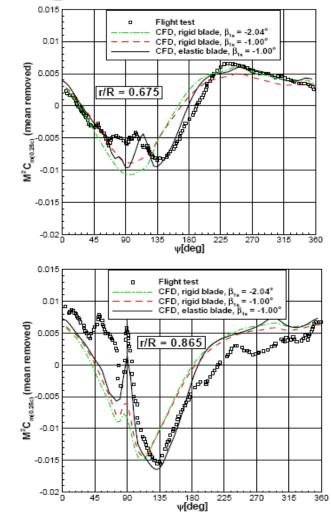
## **Aeroelastic Computation**





## **Comparison with Flight Test Data**

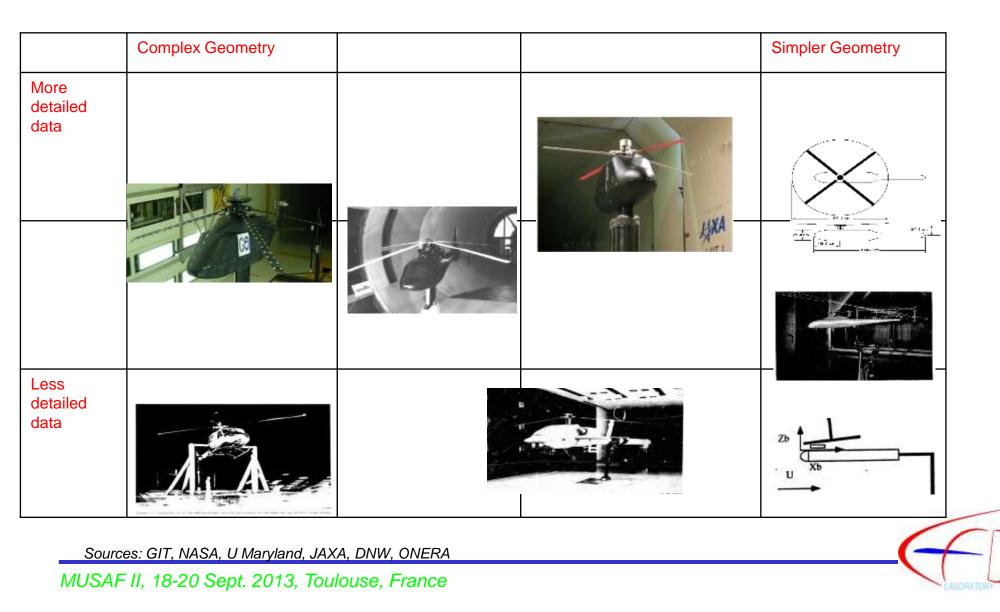






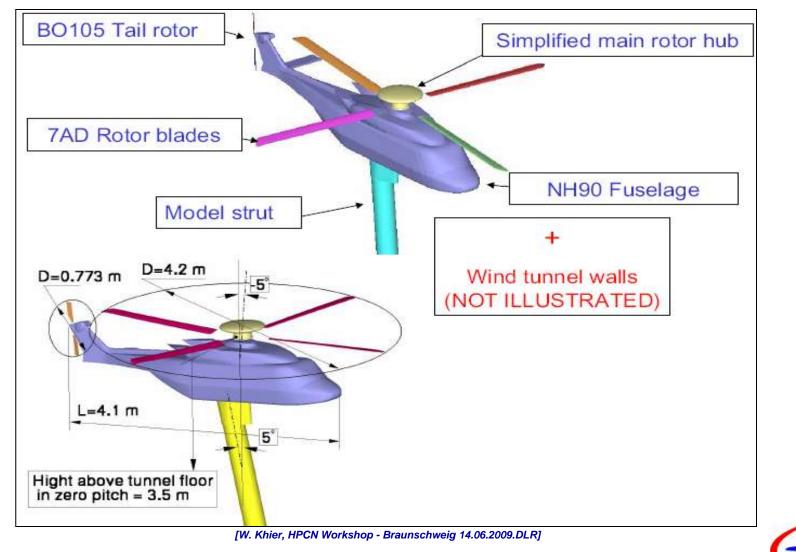


## Rotor-Fuselage Studies – validation cases for HMB





## The GOAHEAD Model





## GOAHEAD

- F6 EC Project
- Exploited by few EC partners
- Fuselage based on he NH90 aircraft
- Main rotor based on the Puma aircraft
- Tail rotor from the BO105 aircraft
- Experiments by DNW
- Many partners with different methods
- Perhaps the most complete database of measurements ever conducted for helicopter
- Realistic configuration

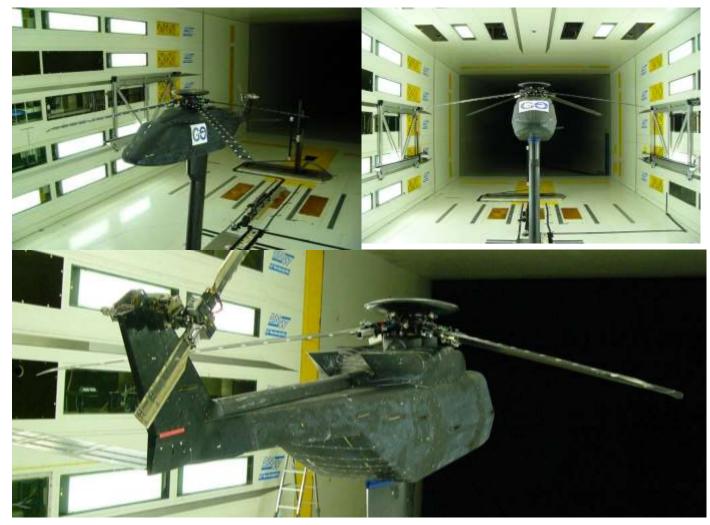
















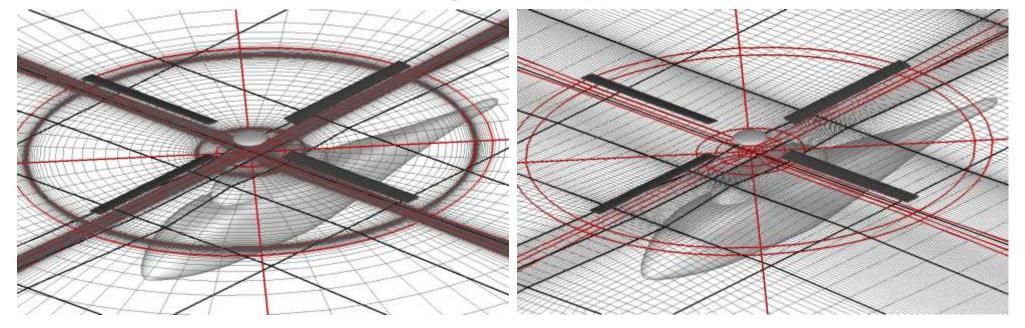
## Video Clip from GOAHEAD







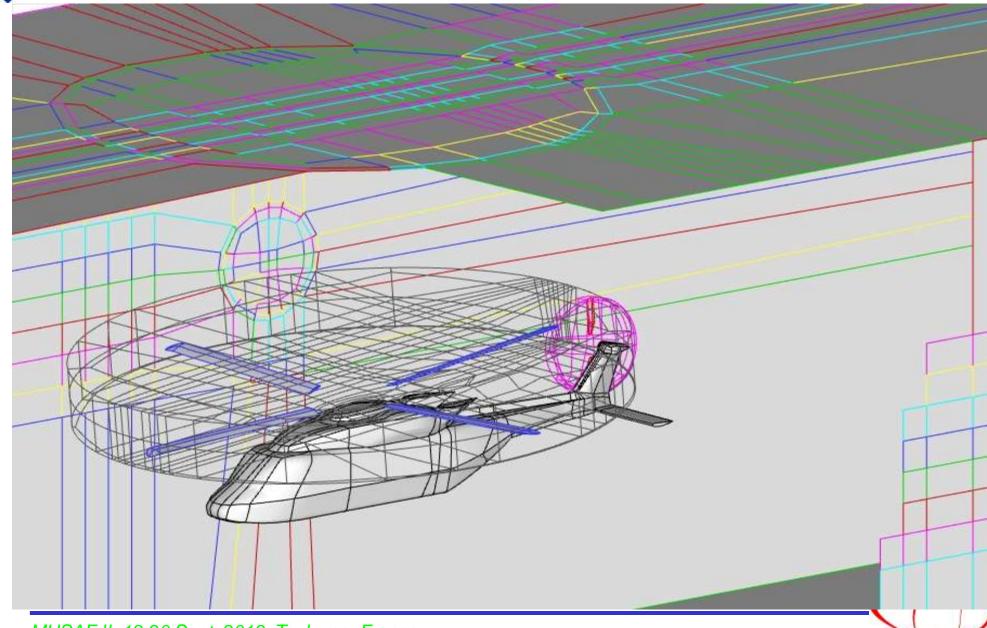
## **Sliding Plane Approach**



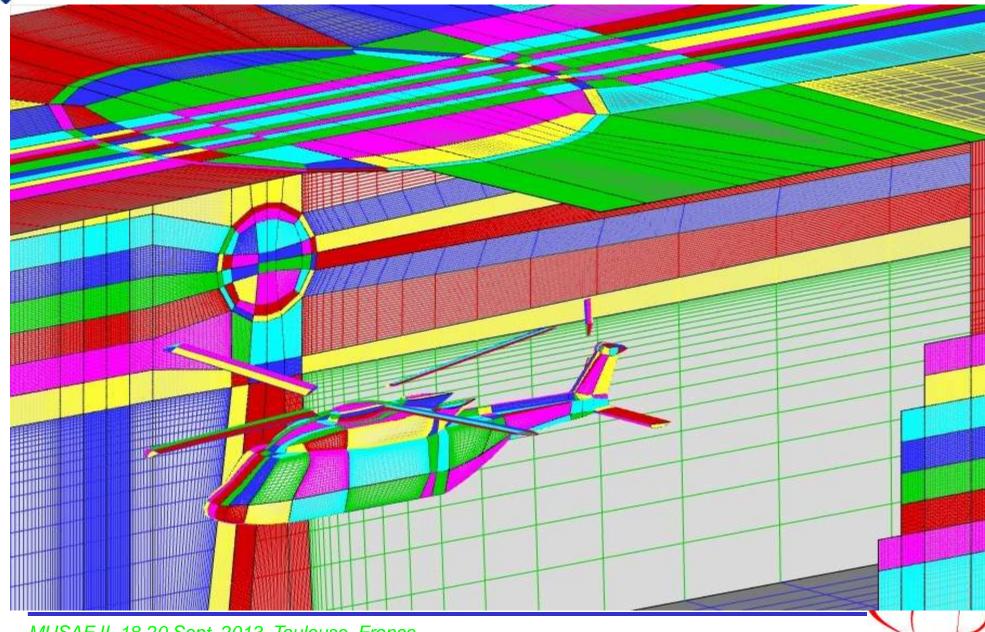
- Sliding-plane method can be regarded as an extension to the regular multiblock approach
- Halo cells are formed on both sides of interface
- Two steps are involved:
  - identification of neighbours
  - Interpolation of neighbour cell centre values to form halo value



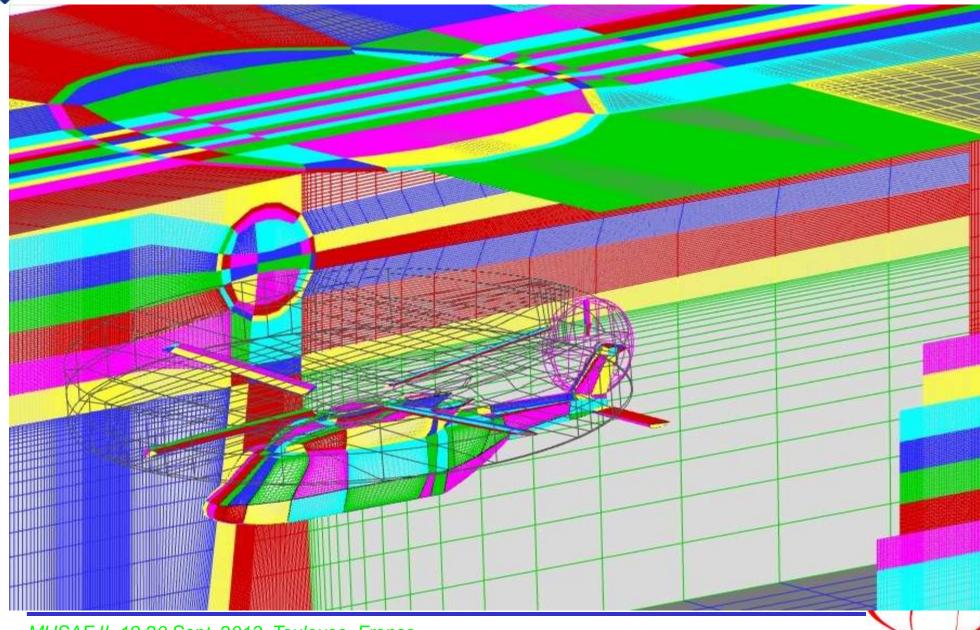




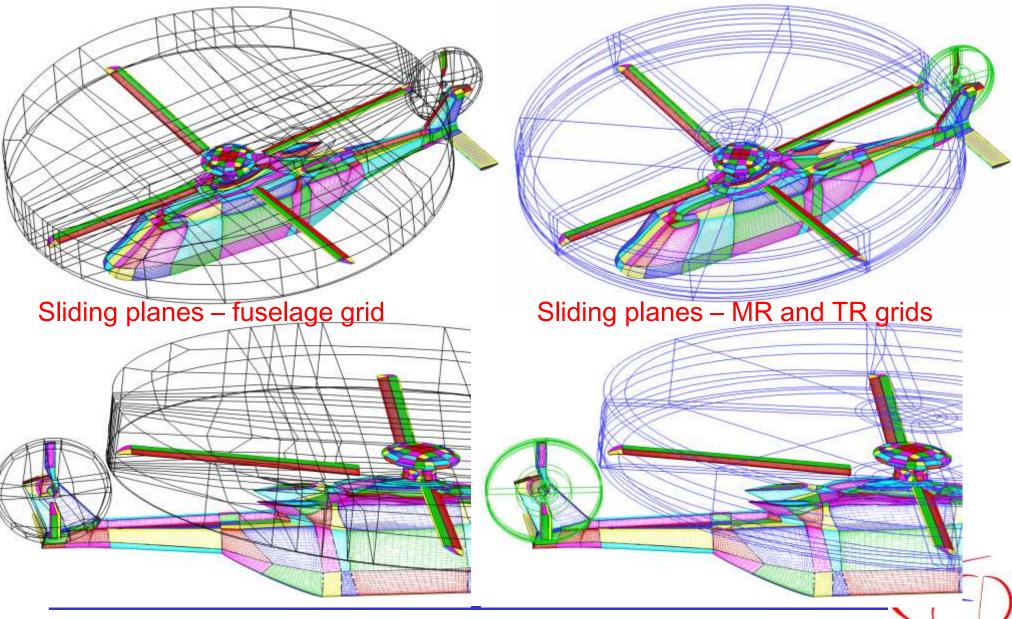






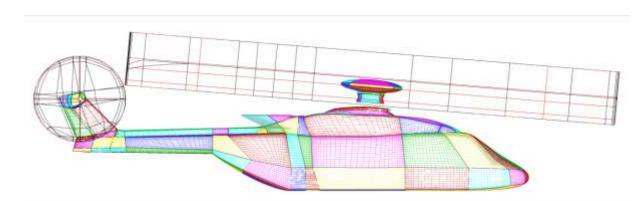






# isolated' fuselage mesh

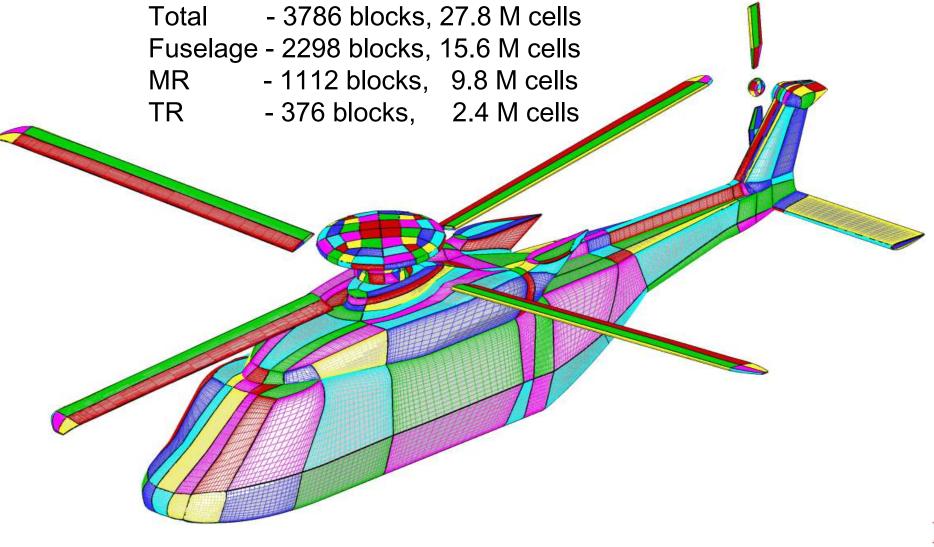
- Re-use of fuselage grid of full geometry
- Main rotor grid replaced with mesh for rotor head

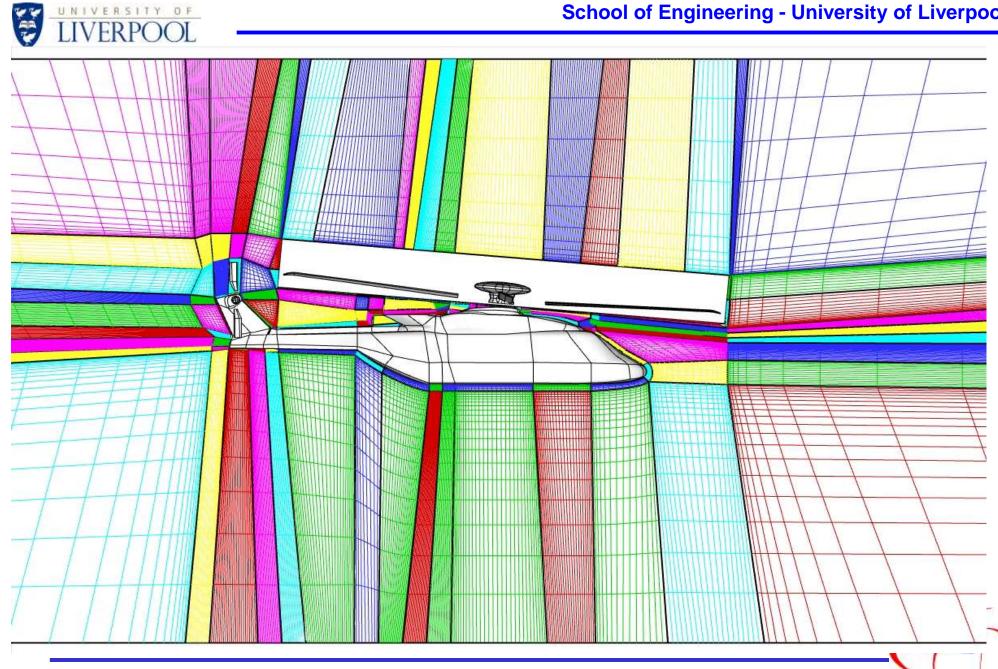


 Tail rotor grid replaced with 'empty' grid All grids generated using ICEMCFD

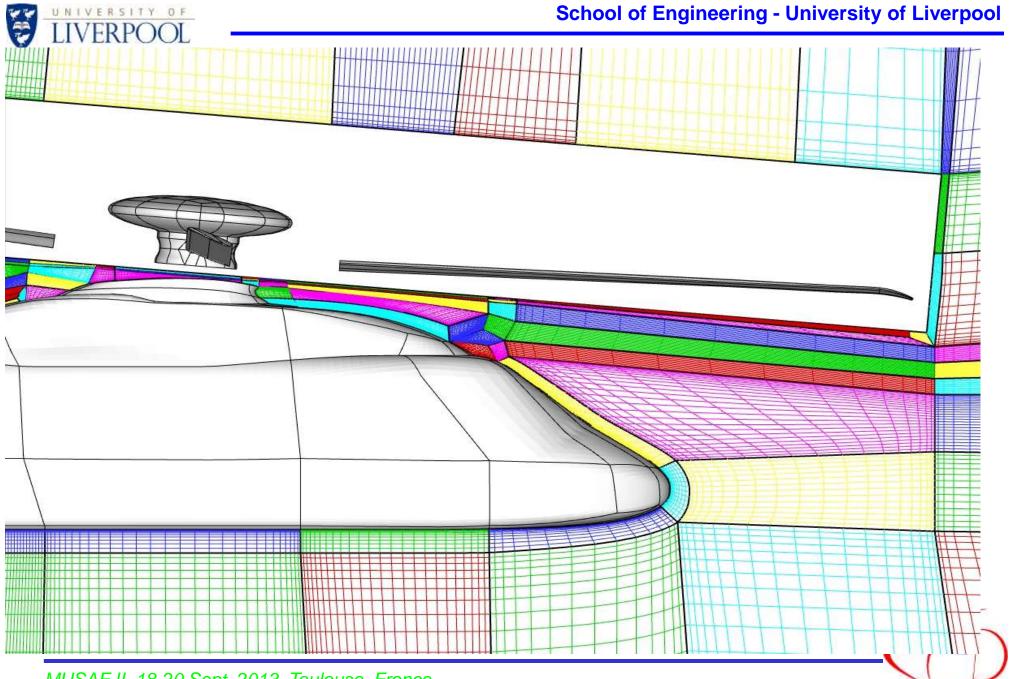


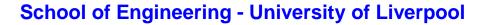
## Multi-block mesh for full geometry



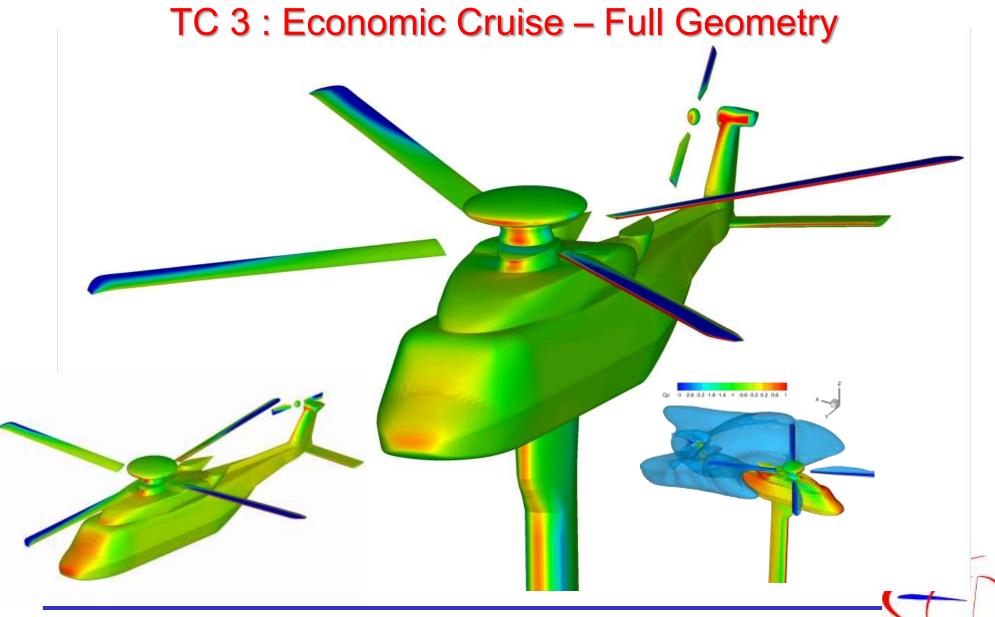


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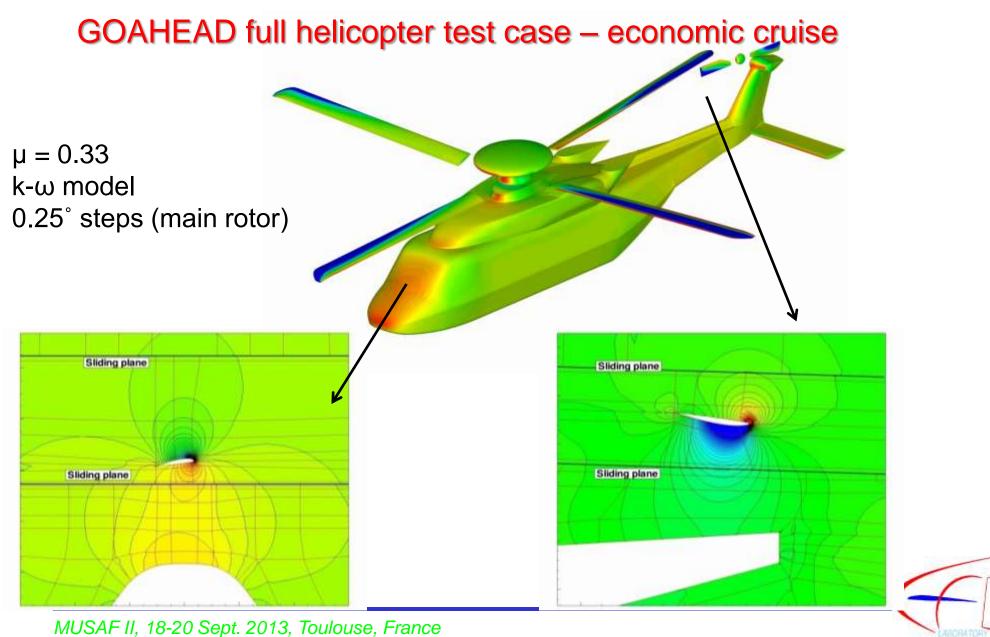




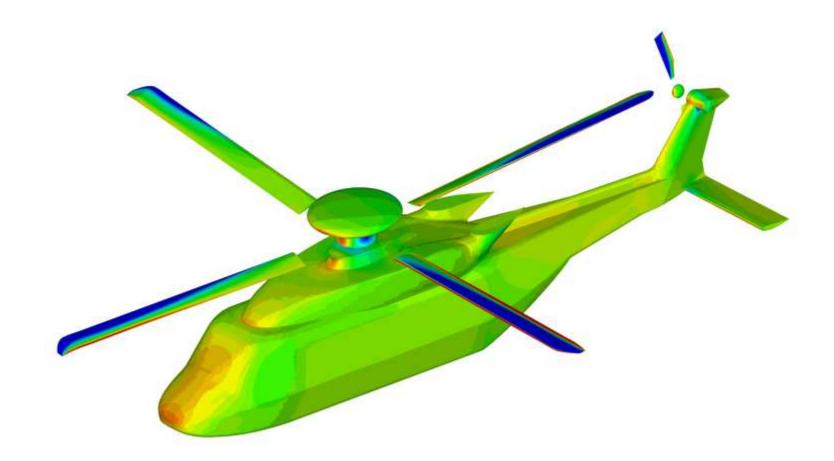








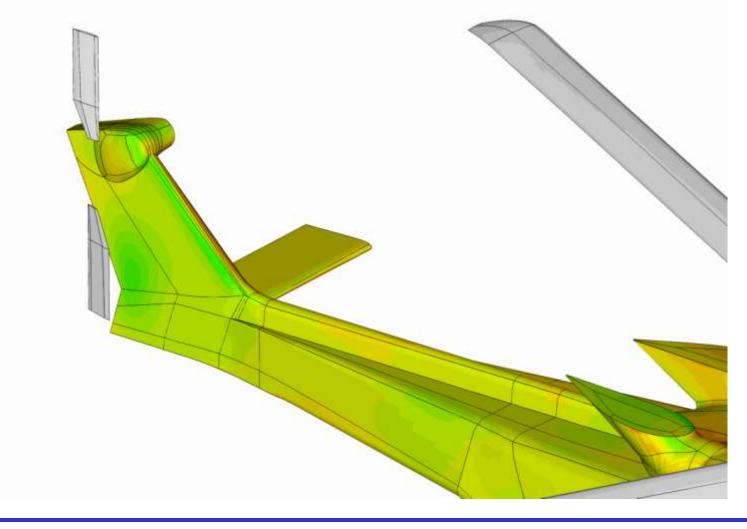








'Unsteady' pressure – instantaneous minus mean taken over 1 full TR revolution 'blind' results







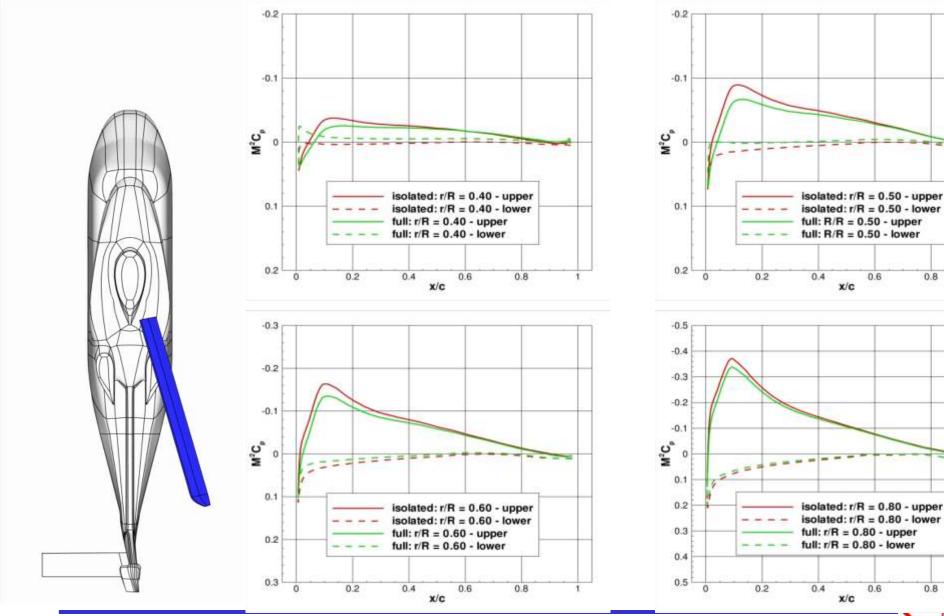
0.6

0.6

x/c

x/c

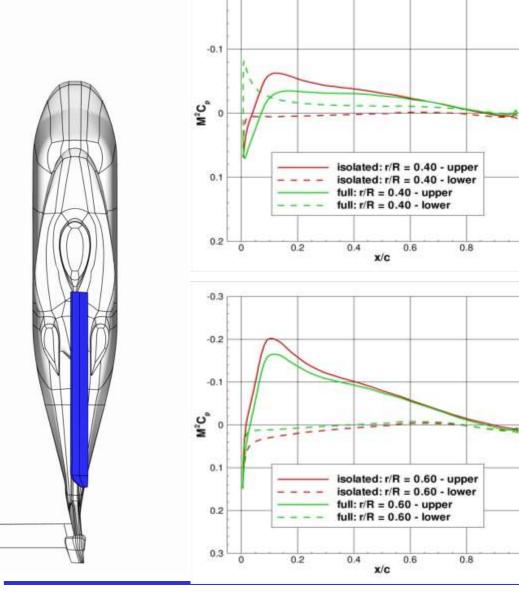
0.8



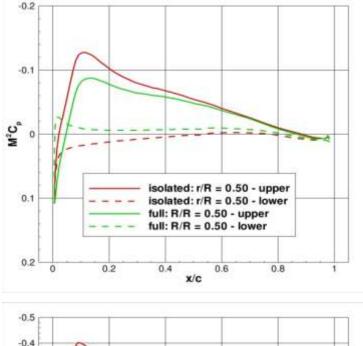
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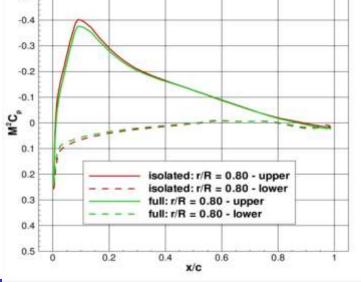
0.8



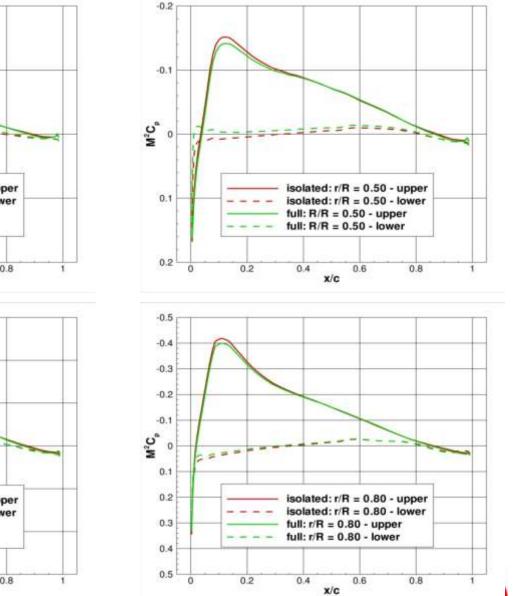


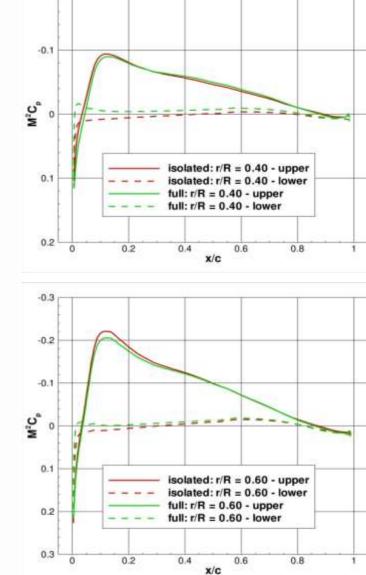
-0.2







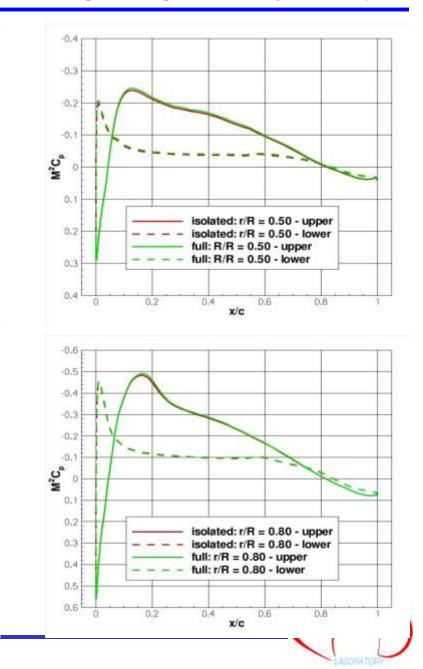


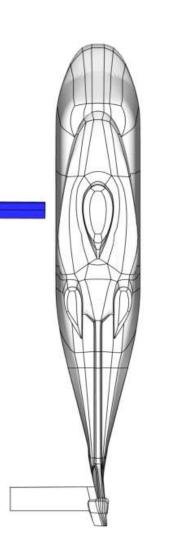


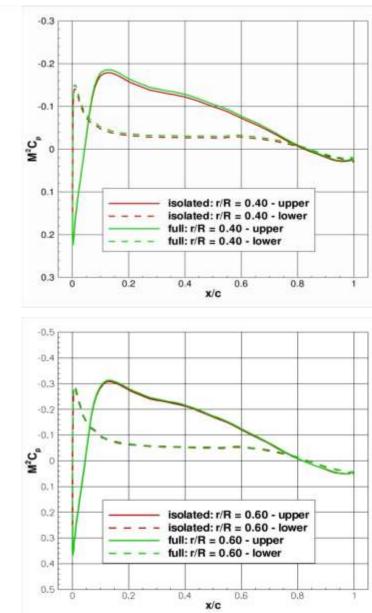
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-0.2



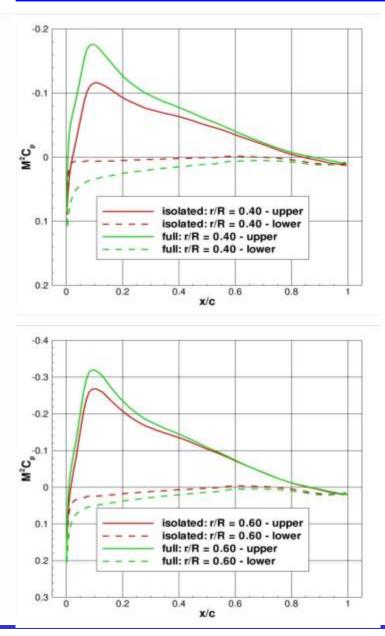


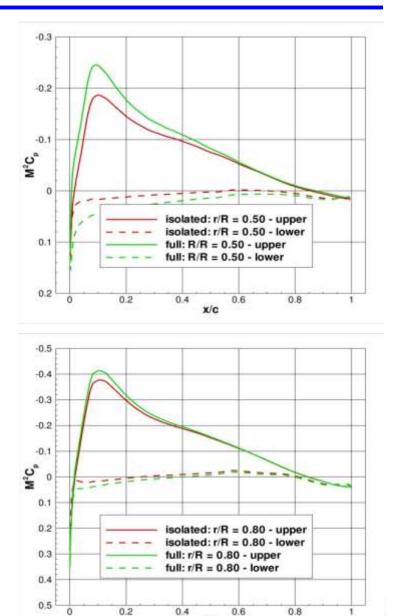




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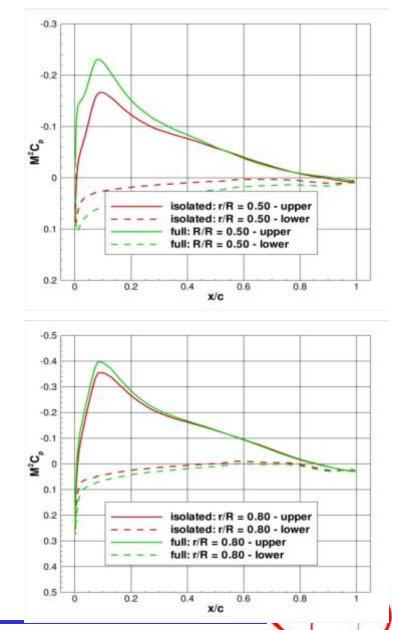
x/c



#### -0.2 -0.1 M<sup>2</sup>C<sub>p</sub> isolated: r/R = 0.40 - upper 0.1 isolated: r/R = 0.40 - lower full: r/R = 0.40 - upper full: r/R = 0.40 - lower 0.2 0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 x/c -0.4 -0.3 -0.2 M<sup>2</sup>C<sub>P-</sub> 0 isolated: r/R = 0.60 - upper 0.1 isolated: r/R = 0.60 - lower full: r/R = 0.60 - upper 0.2 full: r/R = 0.60 - lower

-

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0.3

0

0.2

0.4

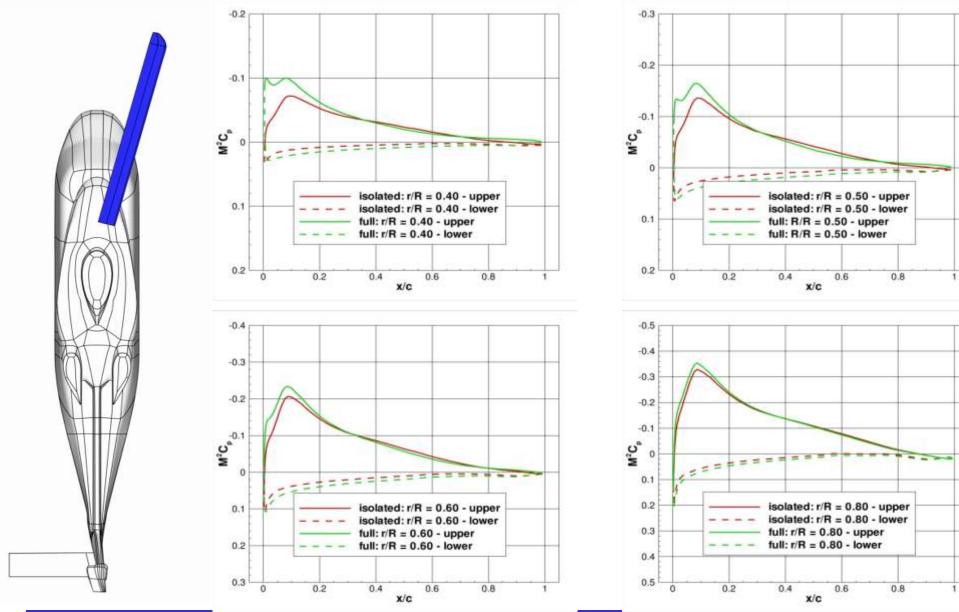
0.6

x/c

0.8

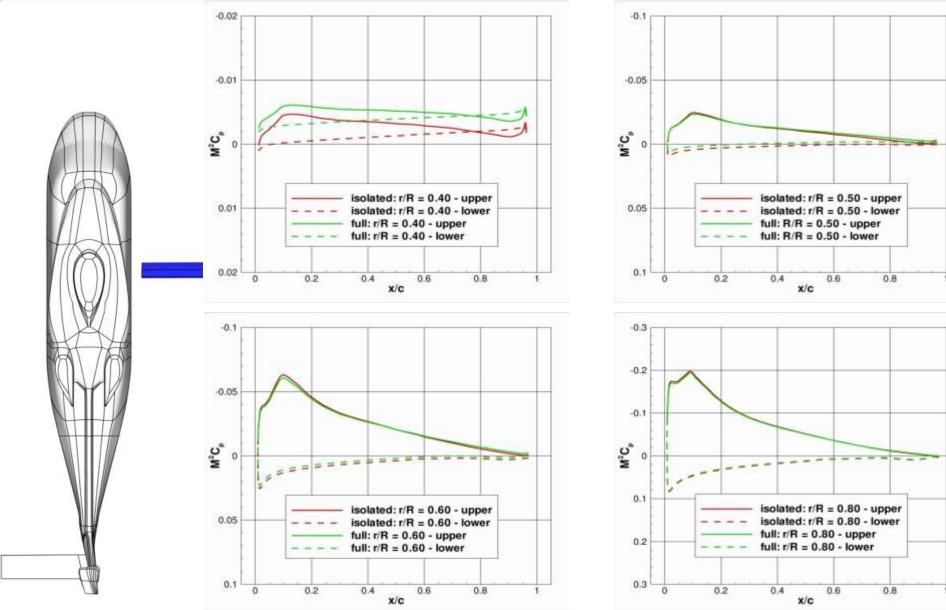
LABORATORY





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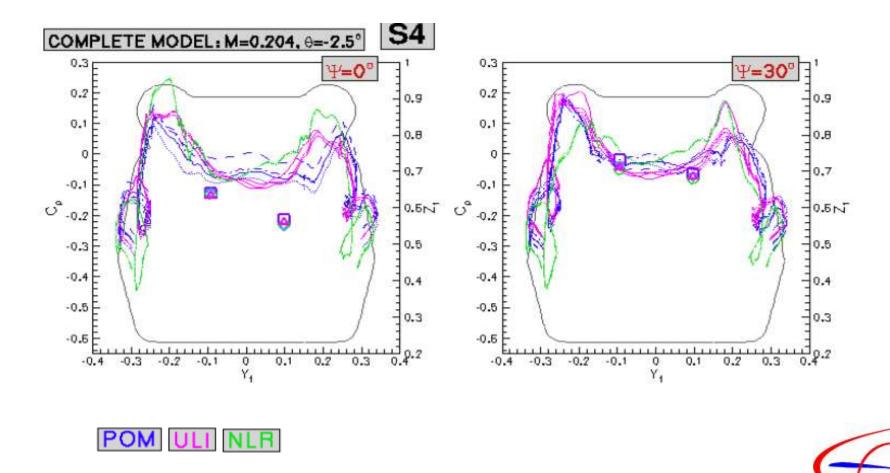




MUSAF II, 18-20 Sept. 2013, Toulouse, France



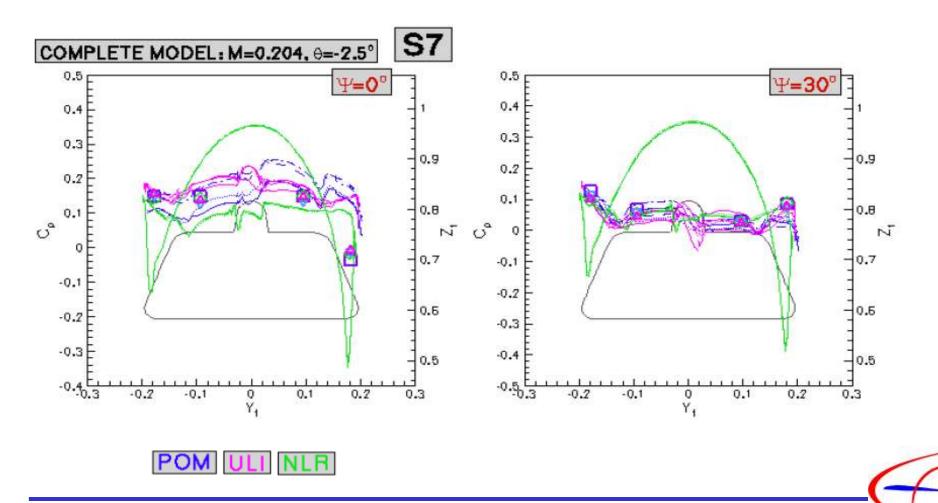
## **Economic Cruise Case**







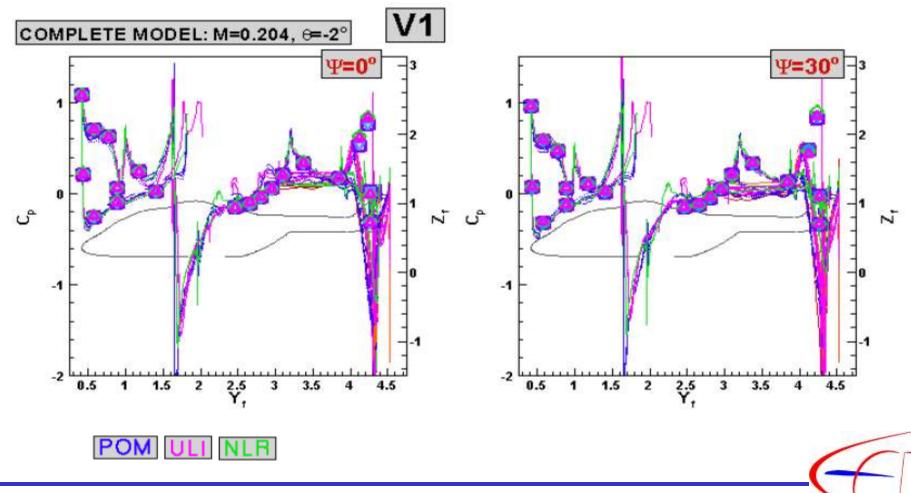
## **Economic Cruise**



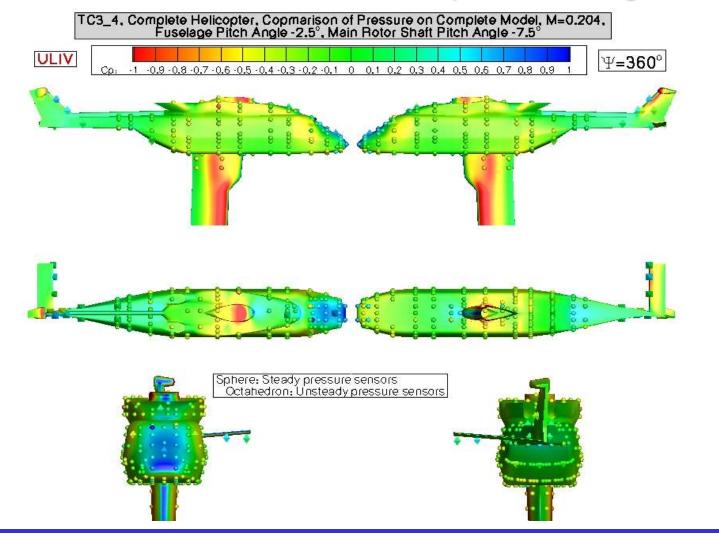




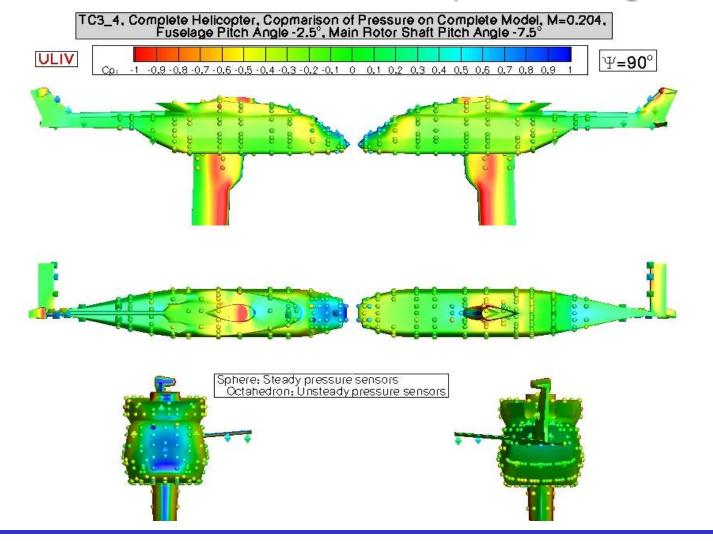
## Post Test – Economic Cruise





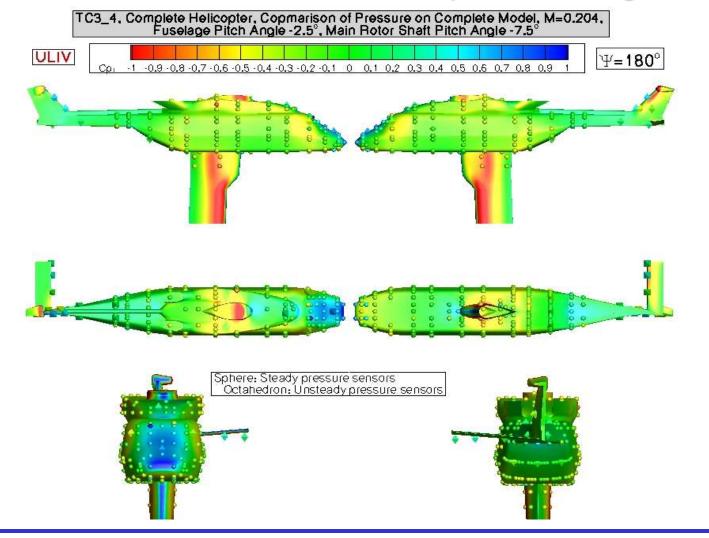




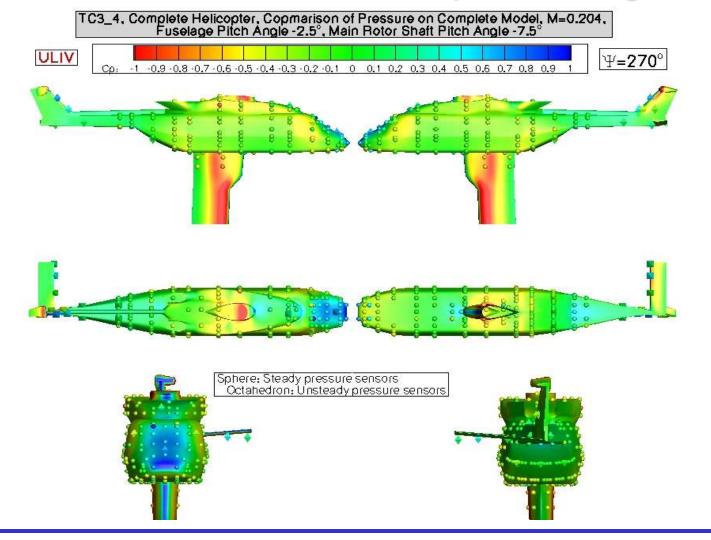






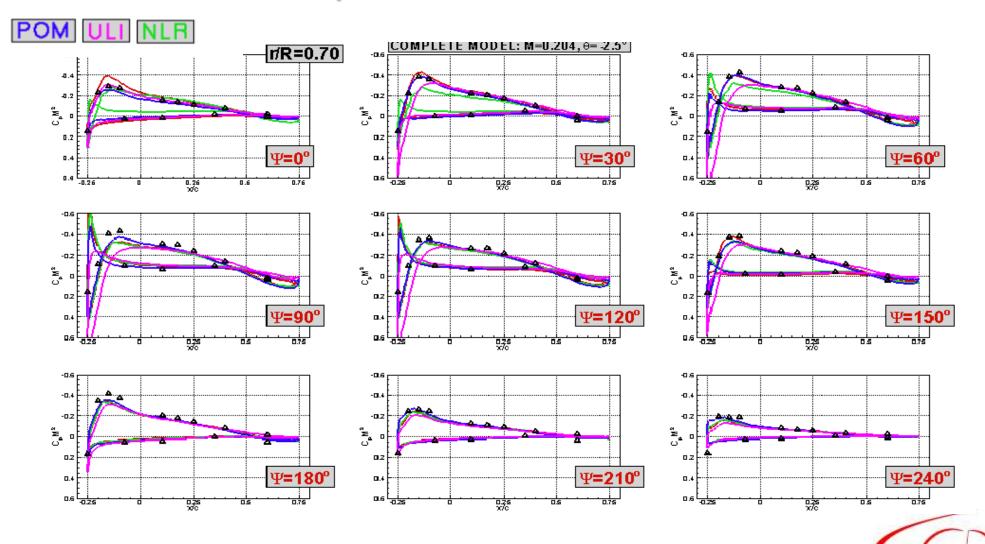








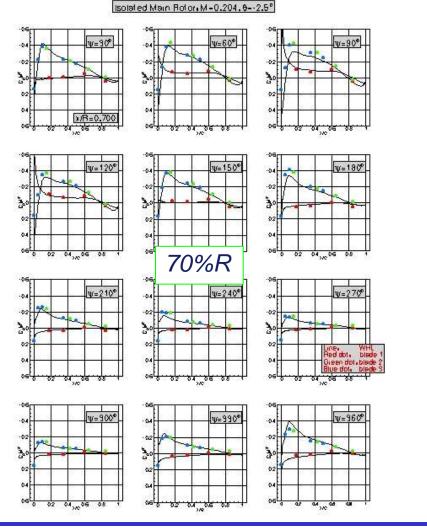
## Some Comparisons – Economic Cruise

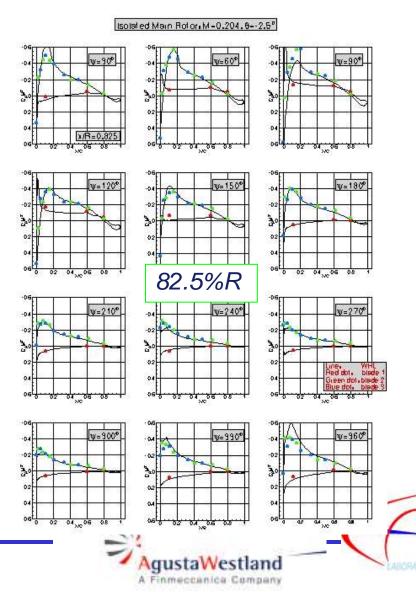




#### HMB, Post-Test Cruise Condition, TC3

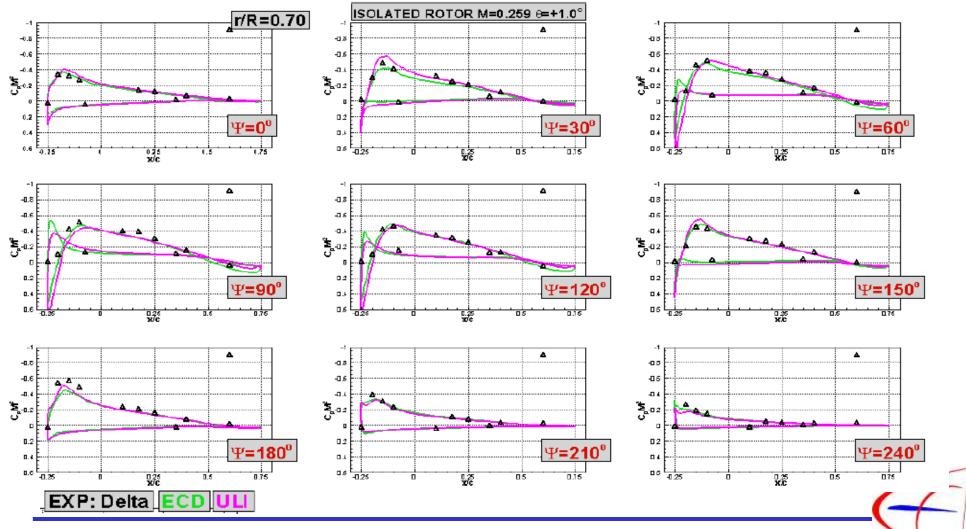
Cp.M<sup>2</sup> vs x/c - Isolated Rotor – Navier-Stokes Simulation in Cruise Conditions





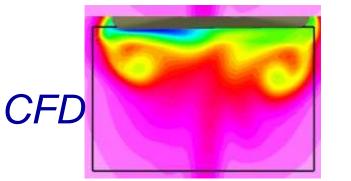


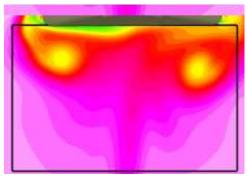
#### **Dynamic Stall Case**

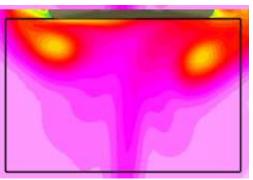




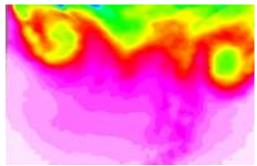
#### **GOAHEAD TC3 – Economic Cruise**



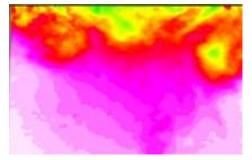


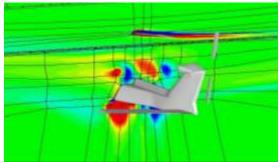


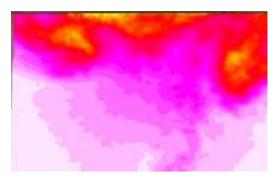
#### PIV planes below tail boom - Stream-wise velocity



*Experiments* 

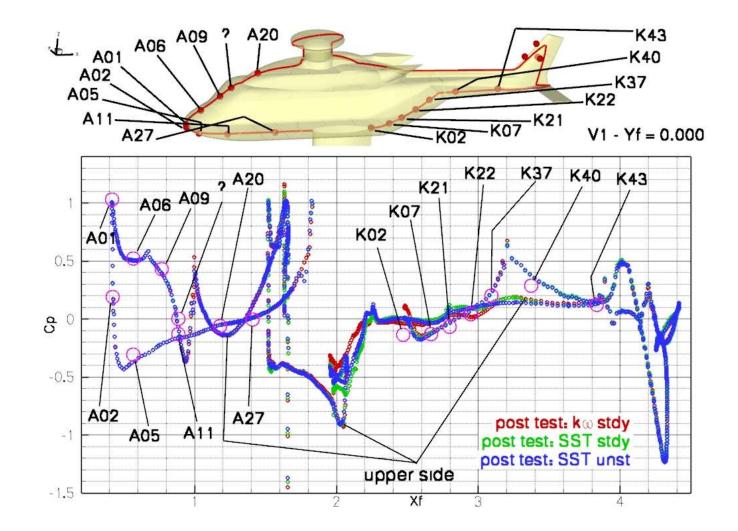








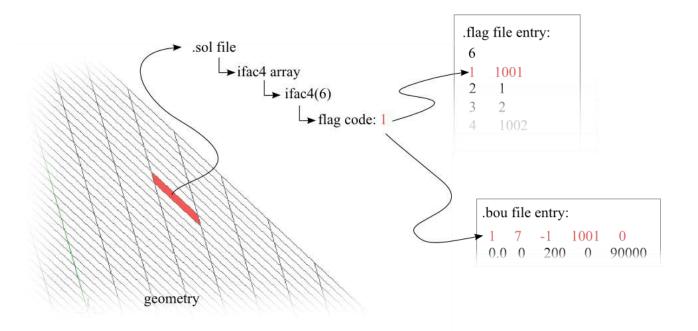






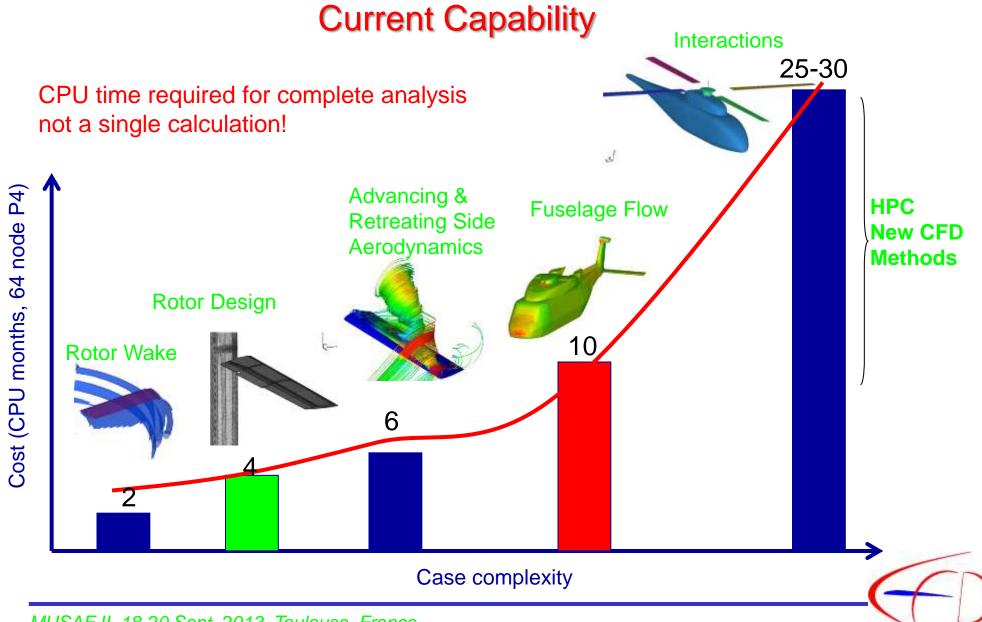


# HPC and CFD Methods





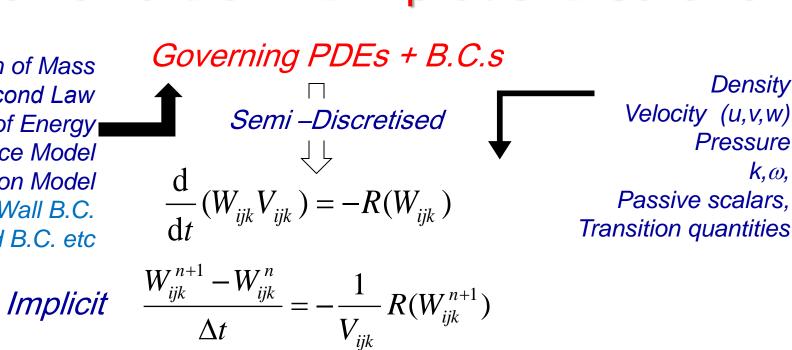




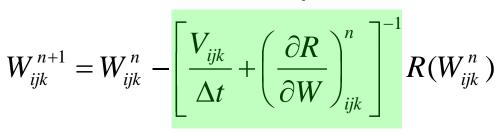


# Overview of the HMB Implicit CFD Scheme

Conservation of Mass Newton's Second Law Conservation of Energy Turbulence Model Transition Model No Slip Wall B.C. Far-field B.C. etc



Linearize



As time step gets very large, the implicit method recovers the convergence rate of Newton's method

Density

Pressure

*k*,*ω*,

Jacobian Matrix

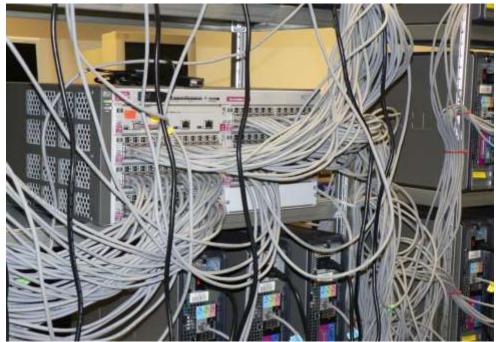
An approximate Jacobian matrix solved using iterative method





#### Parallel Computer – Low Cost Clusters





#### Parallel PC Cluster exclusive to CFD Lab

- -1997 jupiter 1 16, 200MhZ nodes
- -2000 jupiter 2 32, 700 MHz nodes
- -2003 jupiter 3 130, 2.5 GHz nodes
- -2006 jupiter 4 196, 3.0 GHz nodes
- -2008 jupiter 5 512, 3.2 GHz nodes

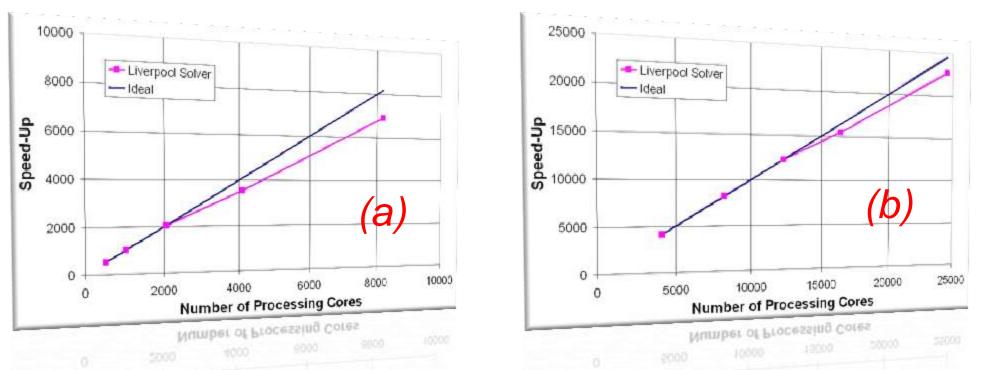
#### -2013 jupiter 6, 2048 3.1 GHz cores





#### Hector Phase 2B

Current capability at Liverpool as a result of AAC2



Helicopter Multi-Block solver using (a) 105 million point mesh with 24576 blocks and (b) 1100 million point mesh with 196608 blocks







### Harmonic Balance / Time Spectral Method

$$V \frac{\mathrm{d}W}{\mathrm{d}t} + R(W) = 0 \qquad \text{Assume Period} \quad T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$
  
with  $W = 0$ 

Expand in Fourier series

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} (ik\omega V\hat{W}_k + \hat{R}_k)e^{ik\omega t} = 0$$

# Orthogonal basis $ik\omega V\hat{W}_k + \hat{R}_k = 0, \quad \forall k$ implies

Infinite number of steady state equations in frequency domain – McMullen et al solved subset yielding non linear frequency domain method

May be impossible to determine an explicit expression, so transform back into time domain (Hall et al. / Gopinath and Jameson)





### Harmonic Balance / Time Spectral Method

*Truncate the series to*  $N_h$  *Modes and use uniform sampling* 

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} W(t_0 + \Delta t) \\ W(t_0 + 2\Delta t) \\ \vdots \\ W(t_0 + T) \end{pmatrix} \qquad W_n = \sum_{k=-N_h}^{N_h} \hat{W}_k e^{ik\omega n\Delta t} \qquad 1 \le n \le 2N_h + 1$$

Transforming back to the time domain and using pseudo time  $V \frac{\partial W}{\partial \tau} + \omega V D_t(W_n) + R(W_n) = 0 \qquad 1 \le n \le 2N_h + 1$ 

Pseudo time Unsteady source term term Couples all snapshots Residual evaluation

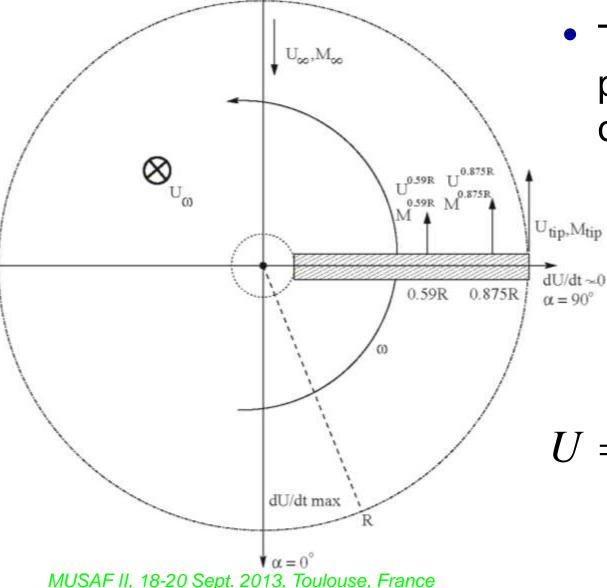
Very large steady state problem





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# Pitching-Translational motions (dM/dt)



- This combines the pitching and translation of the blade
  - The sections are forced into harmonic pitching motion
- a = 90° The centre of rotation carries out a harmonic translational motion

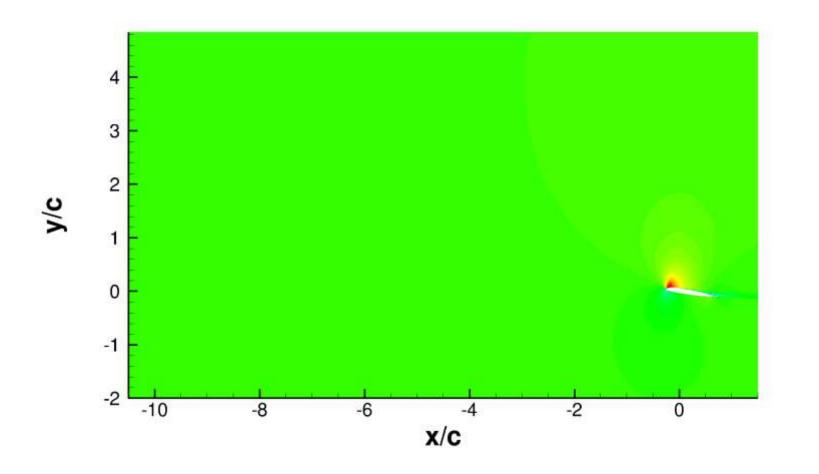
$$U = U_{\rm tip} \frac{r}{R} + U_{\infty} \sin(\omega t)$$





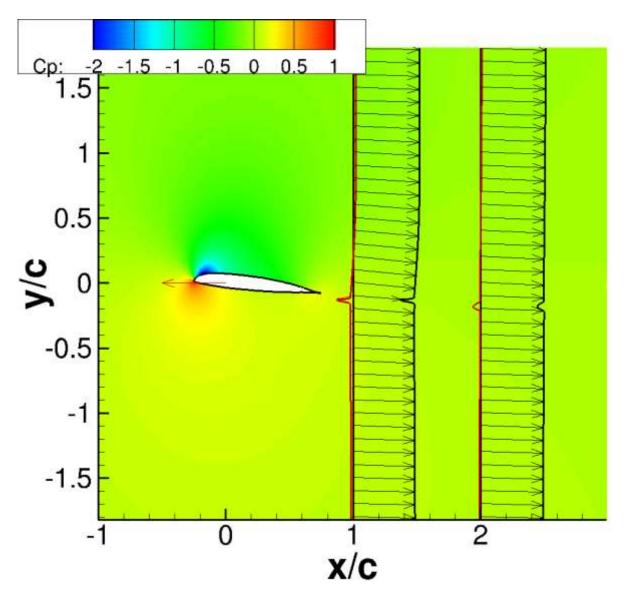
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#### **Rotor Blade Section**





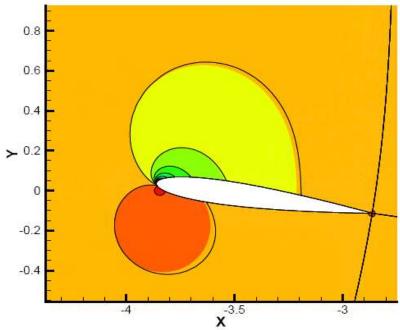




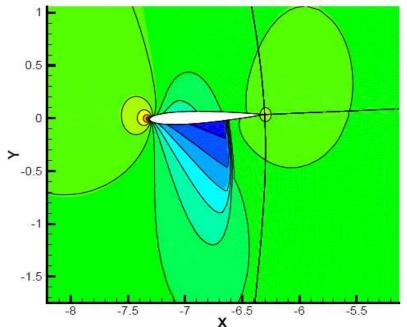


#### Harmonic Balance vs Time Marching

 Harmonic balance results using 5 modes for the inviscid dMdt case. The implicit flow solver was used.



(a) Retreating side 5 modes, 295 degrees of azimuth

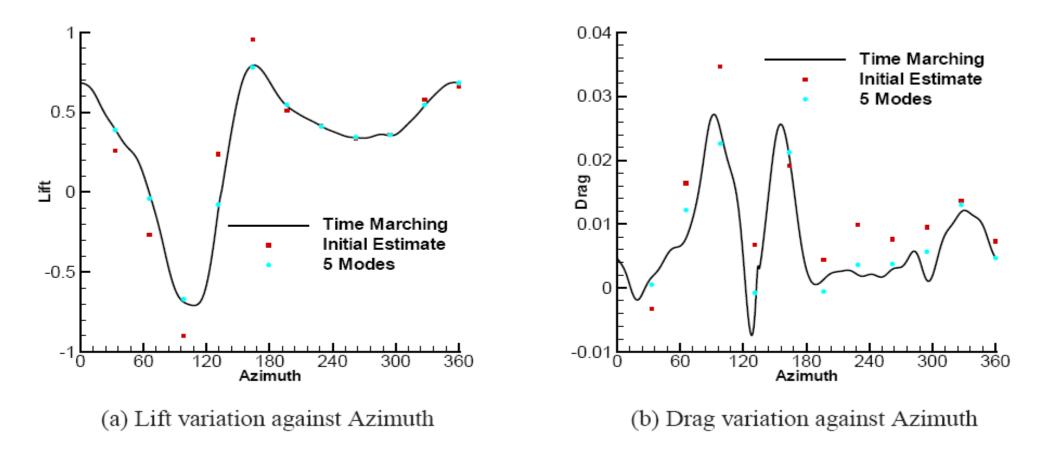


(b) Advancing side 5 modes, 98 degrees of azimuth



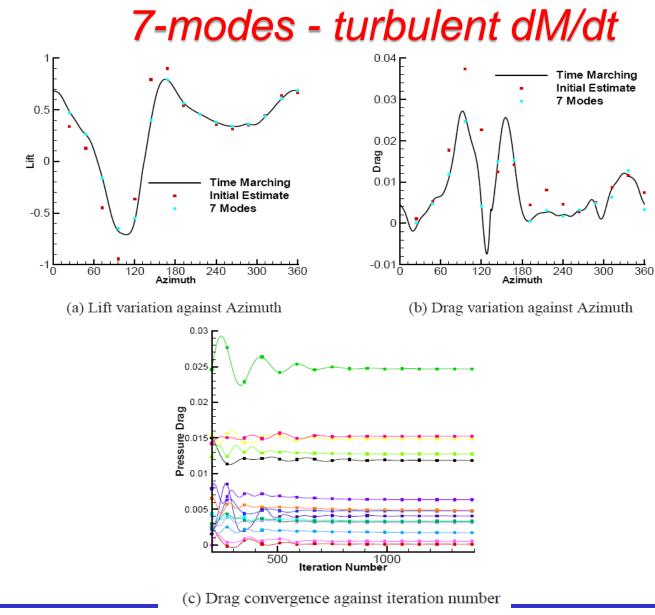


#### dM/dt, 5 modes, turbulent









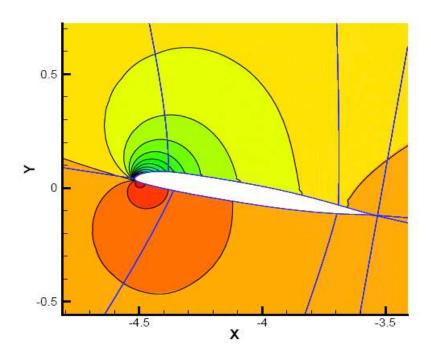
MUSAF II, 18-20 Sept. 2013, Toulouse, France



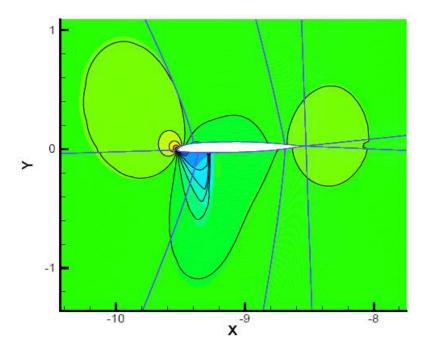


## Harmonic Balance vs Time-Marching - Turbulent

Harmonic balance results using 7 modes



(a) Retreating side 7 modes, 288 degrees of azimuth

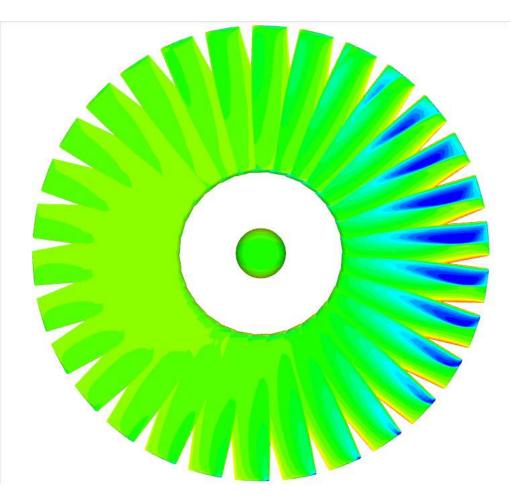


(b) Advancing side 7 modes, 120 degrees of azimuth





#### **ONERA 2-blade** Non-lifting Rotor Pressure Disks



Harmonic Balance 7 Modes

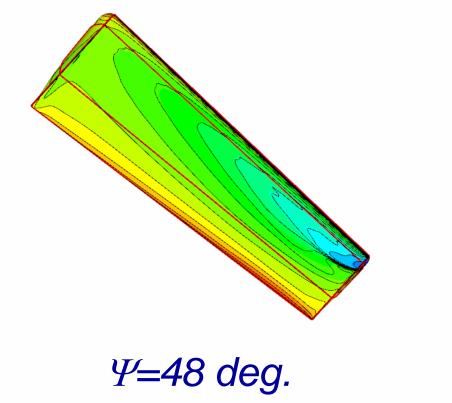


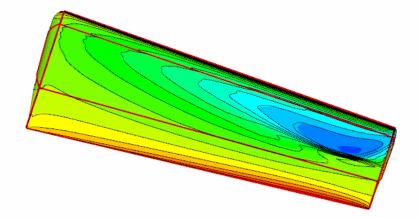
Time Marching



#### **ONERA 2-blade Non-lifting Rotor**

Solid lines correspond to the harmonic balance solution Colour contours correspond to the time-marching





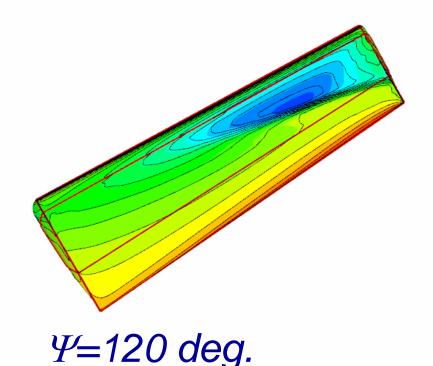


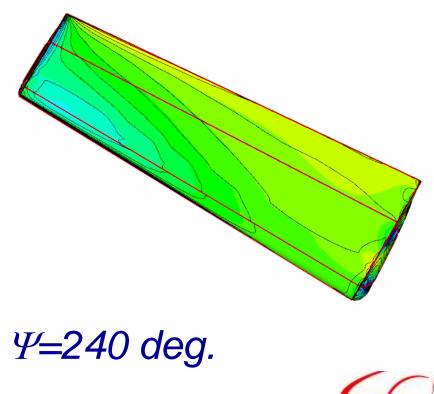




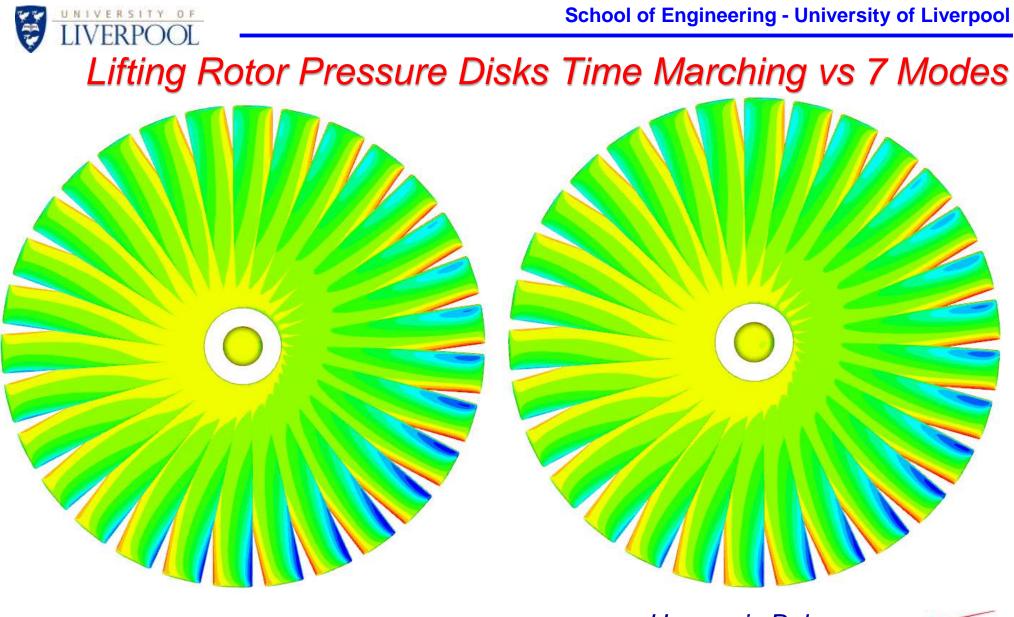
#### **ONERA 2-blade Non-lifting Rotor**

Solid lines correspond to the harmonic balance solution Colour contours correspond to the time-marching









Time Marching

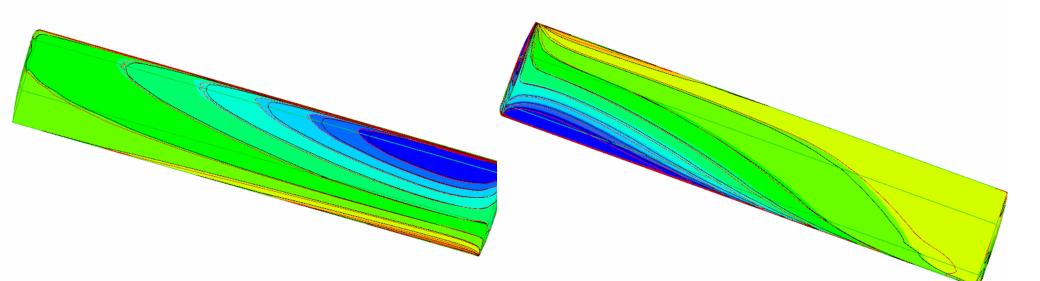
Harmonic Balance





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#### Lifting Rotor Surface Pressure Comparison





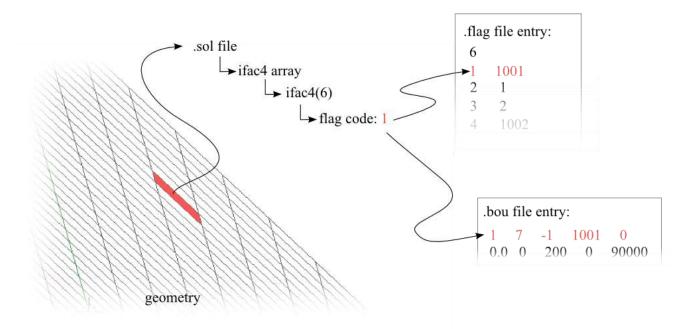
Colour Time-Marching Black lines Inviscid 7 Modes HB Red lines Turbulent 2 Modes HB

 $\Psi$ =252 deg.



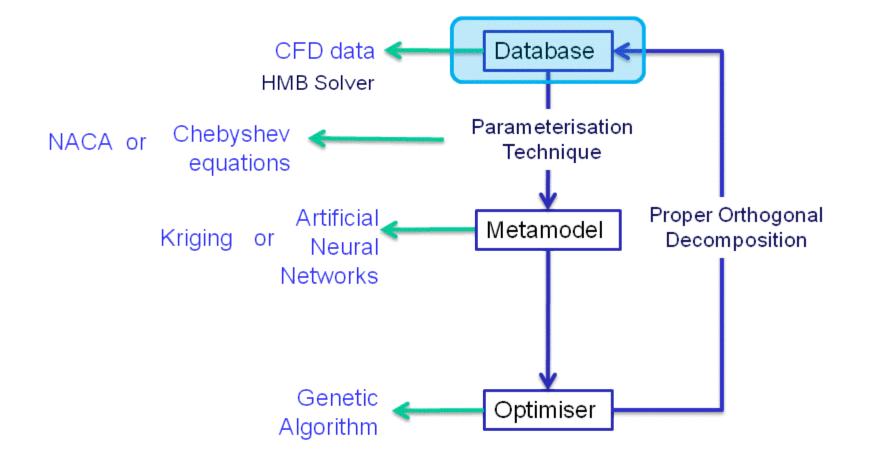


# **Optimisation and Design**





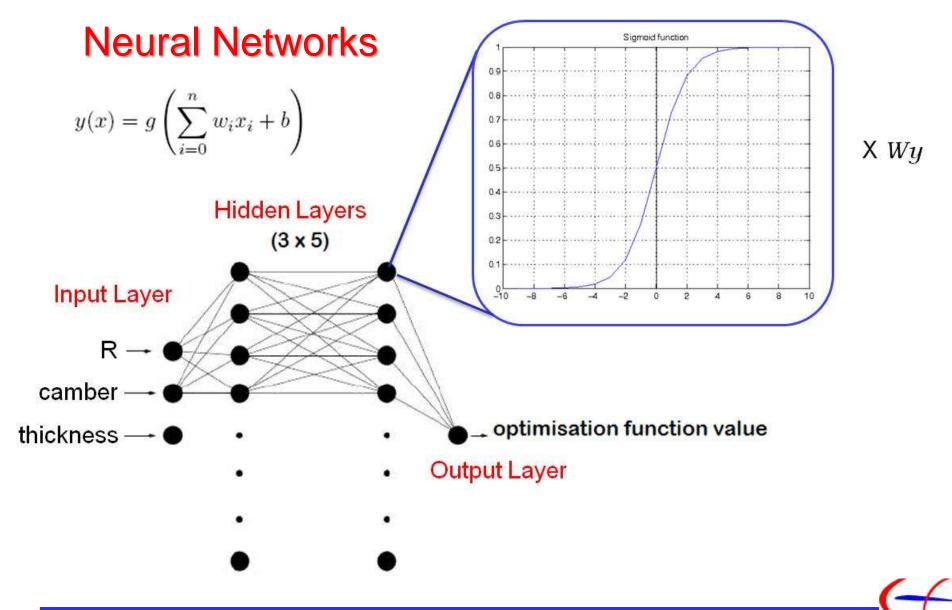




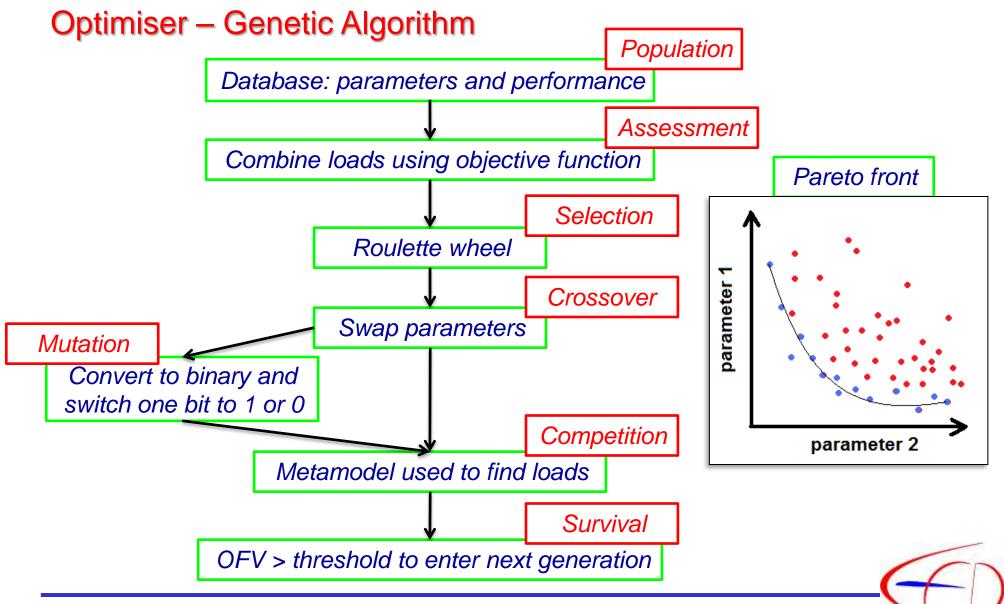
- CFD



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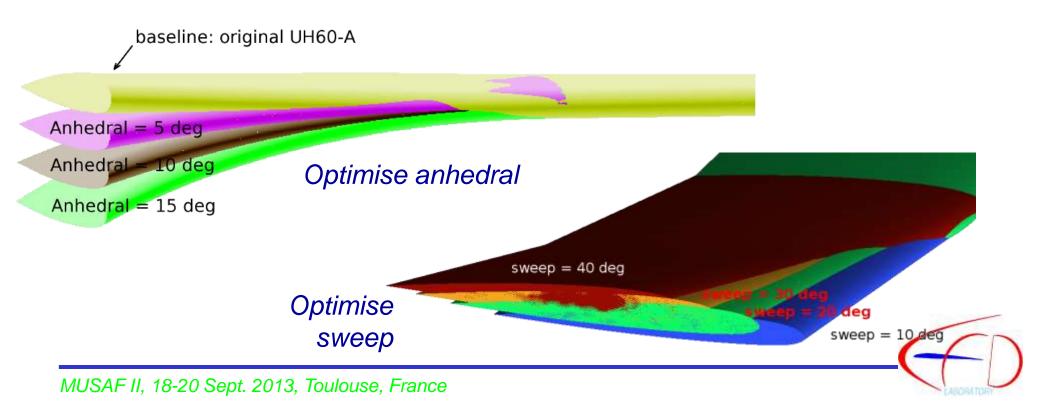


#### Case 5 - UH60-A Forward Flight

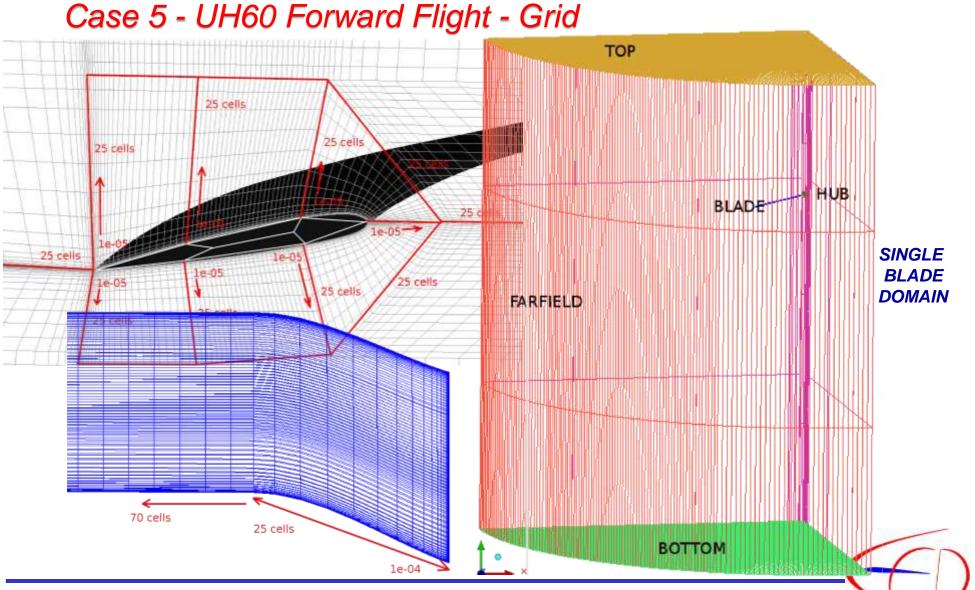
Optimise UH60-A Rotor sweep and anhedral

Objective: Improve pitching moment, reduce stall on retreating side and shock on advancing side

Database: 5 values of sweep (0, 10, 20 30 and 40 deg) 4 values of anhedral (0, 5, 10 and 15 deg)



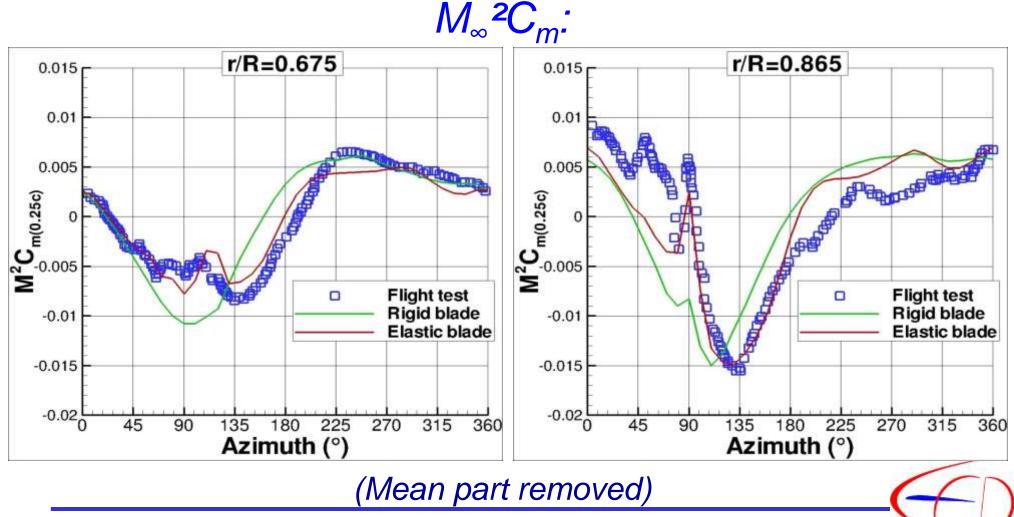




MUSAF II, 18-20 Sept. 2013, Toulouse, France

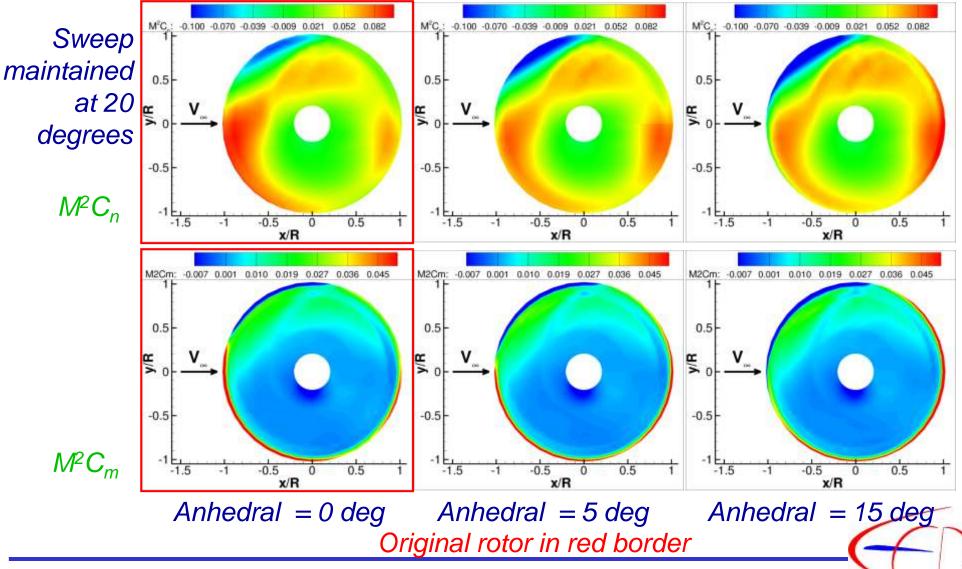


#### Case 5 - UH60 Forward Flight Validation





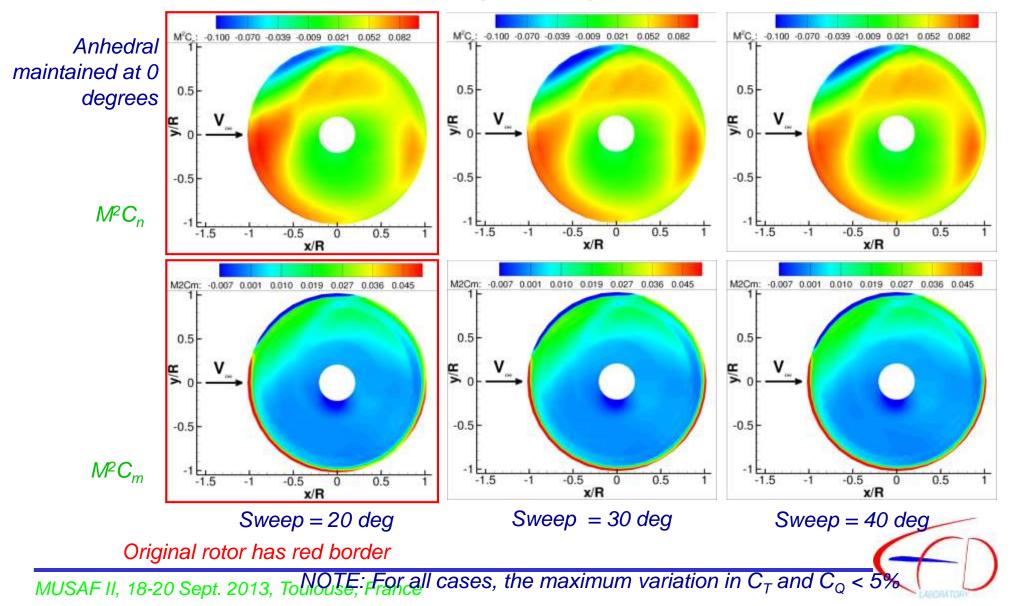
#### Variation of Tip Anhedral



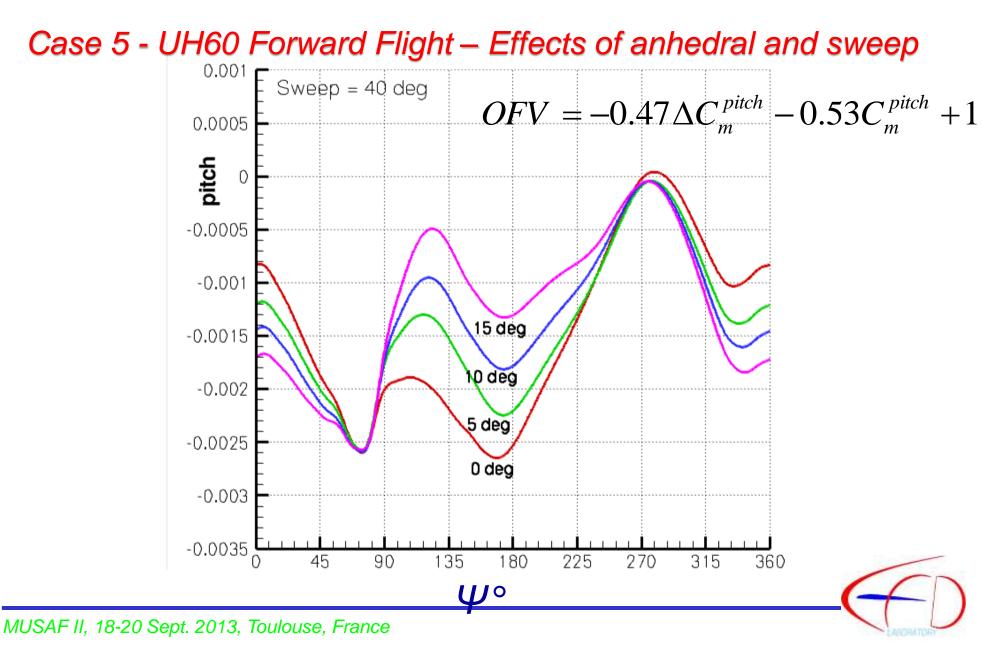




#### Variation of Tip Sweep

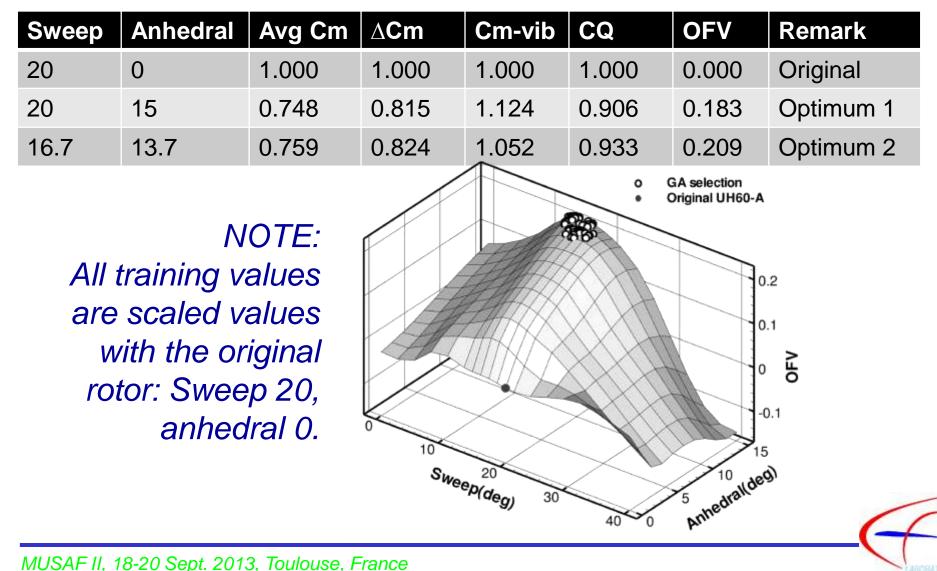






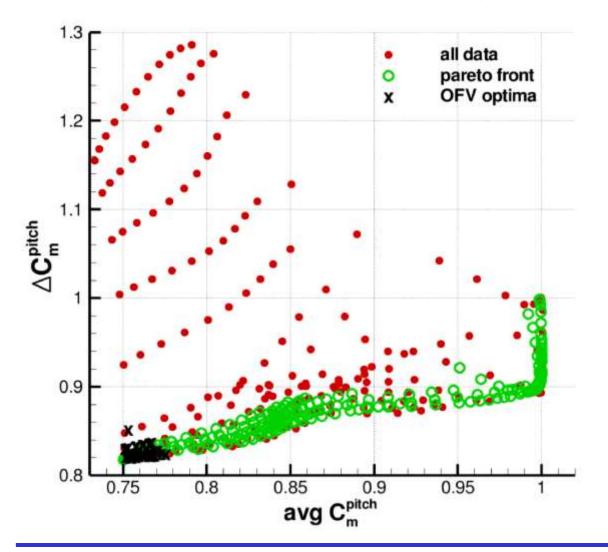


#### Case 5 - UH60 Forward Flight - Optimum





#### Case 5 - UH60 Forward Flight – Pareto comparison

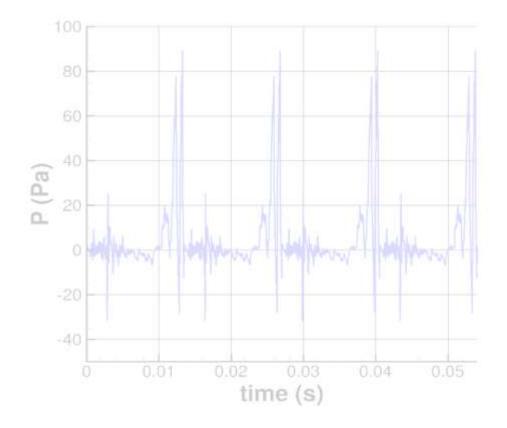


NOTE: All training values are scaled values with the original rotor: Sweep 20, anhedral 0.





#### **Acoustics**









Isosurfaces

of  $\lambda_2$ 

criterion

100

80

60

-20

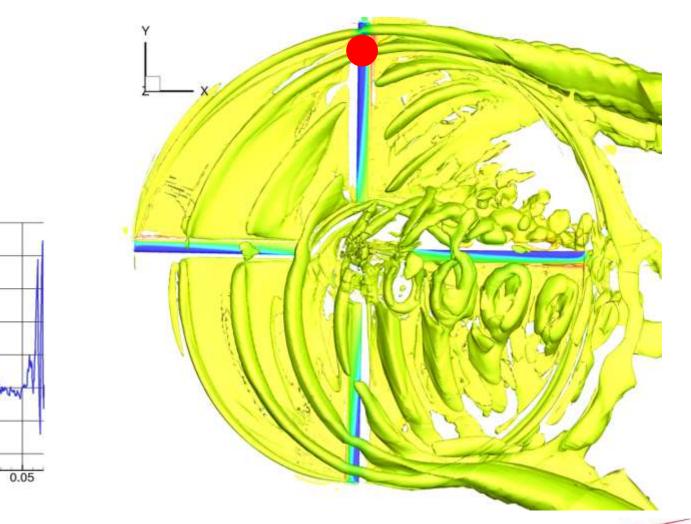
-40

0

0.01

(ed) d

#### HART-II Rotor in Forward Flight



Sound field computed for full-size rotor

MUSAF II, 18-20 Sept. 2013, Toulouse, France

0.04

0.03

time (s)

0.02



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#### Find the real recording!

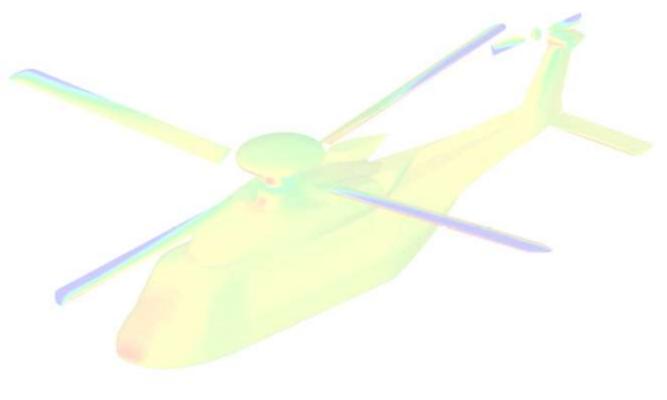


#### Simulated flight of a Lynx-size aircraft





# Summary & Outlook







# **CFD for Helicopter Configurations – Summary**

- Realistic predictions are possible with current methods and computers.
  - Experiments are now available for validation of the methods.
- High fidelity predictions require attention to many effects (conditions, shape, blade dynamics, trimming, turbulence modelling)
  - Still in the RANS/URANS framework
  - Transition to turbulence
  - DES, simulation of turbulence
- There are also other questions to ask:
  - Do we learn enough from these CFD calculations and how fast can we compute?
  - How can CFD be used in industrial practice?
  - HPC and Frequency Domain methods present an opportunity!
- Need for a low cost facility for rotor testing
  - To support research with data and rapid assessment of ideas





#### **Further Reading**

- A. Spentzos, G.N. Barakos, K. Badcock, B.E. Richards, F.N. Coton, R.A. McD. Galbraith, A. Berton and D. Favier, CFD Study of Three- Dimensional Dynamic Stall of Various Planform Shapes, accepted for publication, AIAA Journal of Aircraft, August 2007.
- A. Spentzos, G.N. Barakos, K. Badcock and B. Richards, Modelling three-dimensional dynamic stall of helicopter blades using computational fluid dynamics and neural networks, Proc. IMechE Vol 220 Part G: J. Aerospace Engineering, pp. 605-618,2006, DOI: 10.1243 / 09544100 JAERO101.
- R. Steijl, G.N. Barakos and K. Badcock, A Framework for CFD Analysis of Helicopter Rotors in Hover and Forward Flight, Int. Journal of Numerical Methods in Fluids, 51, 819-847, 2006, DOI 10.1002/fld.1086.
- A. Spentzos, G. Barakos, K. Badcock, B. Richards, P. Wernert, S. Schreck and M. Raffel, CFD Investigation of 2D and 3D Dynamic Stall, AIAA J., 34(5), 1023-1033, May 2005.
- R. Morvant K. J. Badcock G. N. Barakos and B. E. Richards, Aerofoil-Vortex Interaction Using the Compressible Vorticity Confinement Method, AIAA J., 0001-1452 vol.43 no.1 (63-75) 2004.
- Beedy J. and Barakos, G., "Non-linear Analysis of Stall Flutter based on the ONERA Aerodynamic Model", The Aeronautical Journal, 107(1074), 495-509, August 2003.
- Steijl, R., Barakos, G. and Badcock, K. " A CFD study of advancing side aerodynamics", accepted for publication, AIAA J. Aircraft, September 2007.





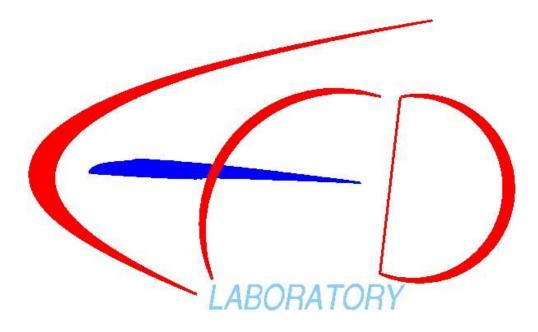
#### **Further Reading**

- Johnson, C., Woodgate, M. and Barakos, G., Optimisation of Aspects of Rotor Blades in forward flight, Int. J. Engineering Systems Modelling and Simulation, Vol. 4, Issue 1-2, pp. 79-93, 2011.
- Woodgate, M. and Barakos, G, Implicit CFD Methods for Fast Analysis of Rotor Flows, AIAA Journal, Vol. 50, Issue 6, pp. 1217-1244, 2012.
- Johnson, C., Woodgate, M. and Barakos, G. ,Optimising Aspects of a BERP-like Rotor using Frequency-Domain Methods, 51st Aerospace Sciences Meeting, Special session on Rotorcraft Computational Methods, 7-10 January 2013,
- Woodgate M., and Barakos, G., Implicit CFD Methods for Fast Analysis of Rotor Flows, Paper No AIAA-2012-421, 50th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition, Nashville, Tennessee, Jan. 9-12, 2012.
- Johnson C., and Barakos, G., Development of a Framework for Optimising Aspects of Helicopter Aerodynamics Paper 93, proceedings of the 37th European Rotorcraft Forum, September 13-15, 2011, MAGA Gallarate (VA) Italy
- Woodgate M. and Barakos, G., Harmonic Balance Solutions for Realistic Rotor Configurations Paper 97, proceedings of the 37th European Rotorcraft Forum, September 13-15, 2011, MAGA Gallarate (VA) Italy.
- Johnson C., and Barakos, G., Development of a Framework for Optimising Rotor Blade Designs, 46th Symposium of Applied Aerodynamics - Aerodynamics of rotating bodies, Orleans, France, March 28-30, 2011, proceedings by 3AF.
- Johnson C., and Barakos, G., Optimising Aspects of Rotor Blades in Forward Flight, AIAA Paper 2011-1194, 49th AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting including the New Horizons Forum and Aerospace Exposition, Orlando, Florida, USA, 4-7 January 2011.

### Thank you very much for attending! Happy to take on any questions you may have.

Active Learning Lab – University of Liverpool





CFD Laboratory Department of Engineering University of Liverpool Liverpool, L69 3GH United Kingdom www.liv.ac.uk/engdept

