

Airborne Science at the University of Tennessee Space Institute

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University of Tennessee Space Institute (UTSI) Briefing Agenda



- UTSI Location and Academic Disciplines
- UT Flight Research Laboratory
- Examples of UTSI Flight Research





University of Tennessee Space Institute



- University of Tennessee Graduate Education
- Leading Edge Research
- Short Courses
- Close Affiliation with U.S. Air Force Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC)





University of Tennessee System



- UTSI is part of UT Knoxville Graduate School
- UTSI graduate degrees conferred through UT Knoxville





UTSI Graduate Degree Programs





<u>MS</u>
Aviation Systems
Engineering
Management
Electrical
Engineering
Industrial
Engineering
Mathematics

• Also offer an MS degree in Engineering Science with a Concentration in Flight Test Engineering





UT Flight Research Laboratory (UT-FRL)

Rationale

- Conduct substantial flight research with unique UT fleet of research aircraft
- Available to efficiently and economically support academia, government, and industry flight test / research needs
- UT-FRL supports UTSI and UT academics
 - UTSI Aviation Systems
 - UTSI Engineering Science / Flight Test Engineering
 - UT Knoxville Aerospace Engineering





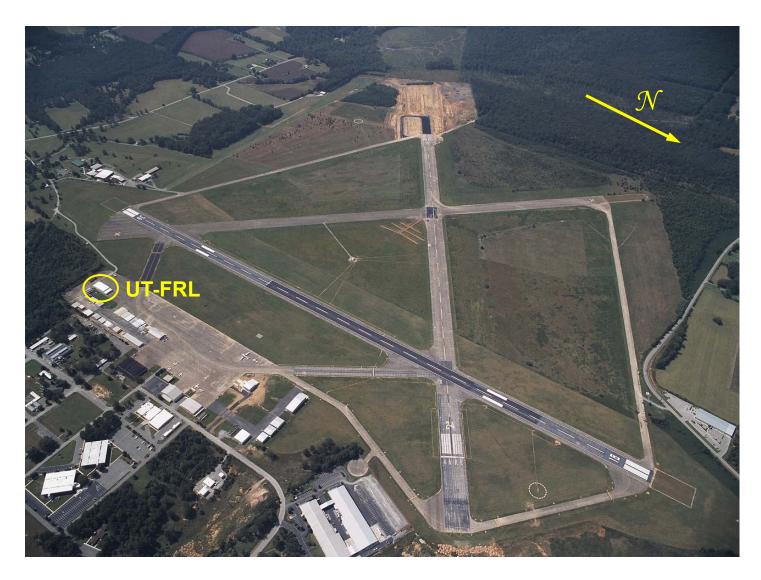
Av Systems Facilities

- Faculty and Student Offices at UTSI Main Campus
- Flight Research Laboratory
 - Located on Tullahoma Regional Airport (KTHA)
 - 10,000 sq ft, 2-bay hangar
 - Offices, Flight Briefing room, Flight Simulator, and classroom
 - Instrumentation and Fabrication shops
- Flight Simulation Laboratory (at Main Campus)
 - High fidelity Engineering Research Flight Simulator
 - "Desktop" flight simulators
 - Dedicated CFD analysis computers
- Flight Systems Laboratory (at Main Campus)
 - Work benches and tools
 - Systems, instrumentation, avionics hardware and software





UT-FRL Located at UTSI on Tullahoma Regional Airport







UT-FRL Current Strategic Investment Areas and Customers

- Airborne Science
 - NOAA, NASA, DoD
- Aviation Safety (Icing) and Flying Qualities
 - NASA
- Flight Test Engineering (FTE) Education
 - UT academics (Av Systems & MABE Flight Test Engineering)
 - Flight support for MTSU academics
 - Flight Test Short Courses



UT-FRL Airborne Research and Education Facilities









Airborne Science

- Piper Navajo
- Cessna 210
- Piper Super Cub
- Extra 300





- Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
 - Navion Surrogate UAV
- Flight Test Engineering Education
 - Piper Saratoga







Rotorcraft Expertise





- UTSI previously maintained, modified, instrumented, and operated OH-58A+ rotorcraft
- Also, have experience with other rotorcraft that have been used for UTSI research
- Used for education (academic courses and short courses) and flight research





UTSI Piper Saratoga (PA32-301)



- Fully instrumented, six-place aircraft
- Research air data system, including wingtip mounted air data boom
- Newly installed modern data acquisition system (DAS)
- Primarily used for student flight test engineering courses





UTSI Extra 300 (EA-300)



- Fully aerobatic, high-performance two-place aircraft
- Research instrumentation / data acquisition system with "glass" cockpit display in front and aft cockpits
- Post-flight data download via USB port inserted "memory stick"





UTSI Cessna Turbo-Centurion (T-210L)





- Single Engine, High-Performance, STOL Aircraft
 - 1 pilot and up to 3 researchers
 - Turbocharged engine, retractable landing gear
 - Very low speed capability with Robertson STOL kit
- Sensor / Systems Installation
 - Two (left and right) under-wing mounted pods allow "plug and play" integration
 - Main cabin area and aft cabin equipment bay
- Instrumentation / Data Acquisition
 - UTSI / National Instruments DAS Similar to UTSI Navajo





UTSI Piper Navajo (PA31-310)



- Cabin-Class, Twin Engine Aircraft
- Experimenter's Handbook Available





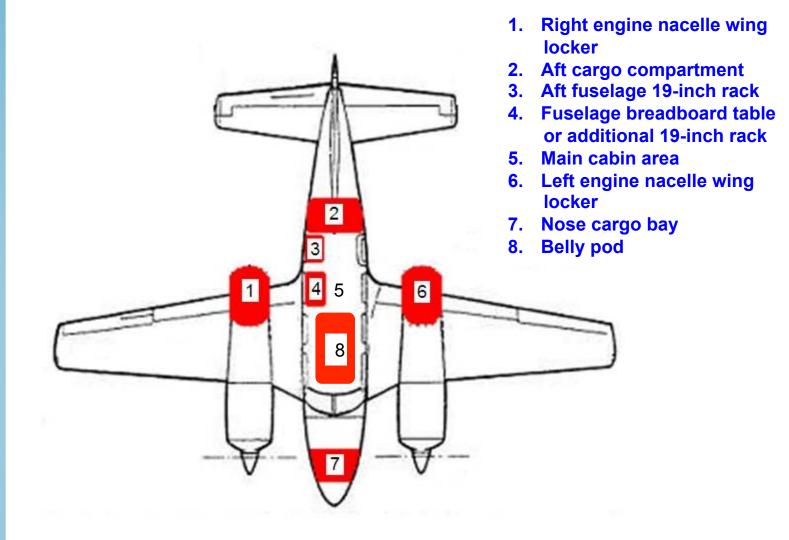
UTSI Navajo Performance

Absolute Ceiling	27,300 ft
 Top Speed 	260 mph
 Cruising Speed, 75% power at sea level 201 mph 	
 Cruising Speed, 75% power at 23,500 	247 mph
Fuel Consumption:	
• 75% power	35.6 gph
• 65% power	27.8 gph
 Endurance (190 gals fuel): 	
• 75% power	5.3 hrs
• 45% power	6.8 hrs
Cruising Range:	
 75% power at 23,500 ft 	1,300 mi
 65% power at 24,000 ft 	1,560 mi
 45% power at 24,000 ft 	1,685 mi





Equipment Integration Locations







Equipment Integration Locations



Engine Nacelle Wing Locker

Main Cabin Area

Aft Cargo Compartment





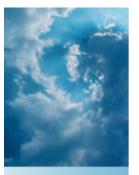
Instrumentation Racks



Aft 19-inch Rack



Mid-Cabin 19-inch Rack





Airborne Science Sensors / Instruments

- Currently Installed Sensors / Instruments
 - (All data is recorded and correlated with flight parameters, e.g. GPS position, airspeed, altitude)
 - Nadir Heitronics infrared pyrometer (earth surface temperature)
 - Nadir Omega infrared pyrometer (secondary Infrared device)
 - Digital video, nadir and forward-looking
 - Nadir Riegl laser altimeter (sub-meter accuracy up to 400 m)
 - Buck Research hygrometer (air dewpoint)
 - Outside air temperature (thermocouple) and pressure
 - Kipp and Zonen radiometers, nadir and zenith (incoming and reflected radiation)
 - Ocean Optics spectrometers, nadir and zenith (spectrum of incoming and reflected radiation)
- Additional Sensors / Instruments Available
 - Air sampling system (previously flown on NOAA missions)

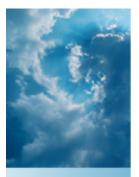




Aircraft Certification and Maintenance



- Airworthiness Certification
 - Several aircraft have FAA Standard Category certification
 - Can also operate all aircraft as Public Use
- Aircraft Maintenance
 - Maintenance performed by FAA certified IA and A&P Mechanics
 - Follow FAA Standard Category requirements & schedules





Experiment Integration

- Processes
 - Similar to NASA processes, but with less "overhead"
- Aircraft Installations and Modifications
 - Usually follow standards in accordance with FAA certification
- Objectives and Requirements Document (ORD)
 - Start of integration process
 - Experimenter defines requirements
- Integration Controls
 - Configuration Control Process





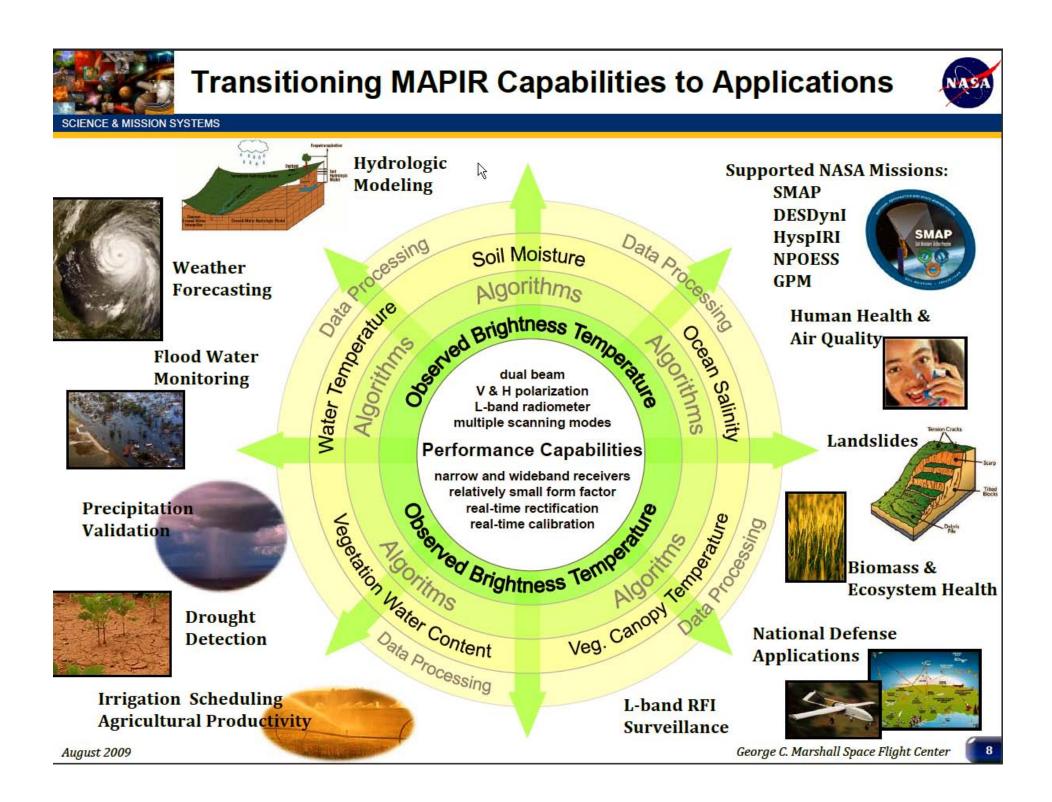
Flight Operations

Process

- Similar to NASA and other flight test organizations
- UTSI fleet designated as "NASA Catalog" aircraft
- Flight Readiness Preparations
 - Hazard Reports
 - Flight Safety Review
 - Flight and Logistics Plan
 - Test Cards
- Flight Research Campaigns
 - Capability to deploy aircraft and personnel
 - (Off-site flight campaigns benefit from reduction in UTSI overhead rates.)



Aircraft Modification Capability

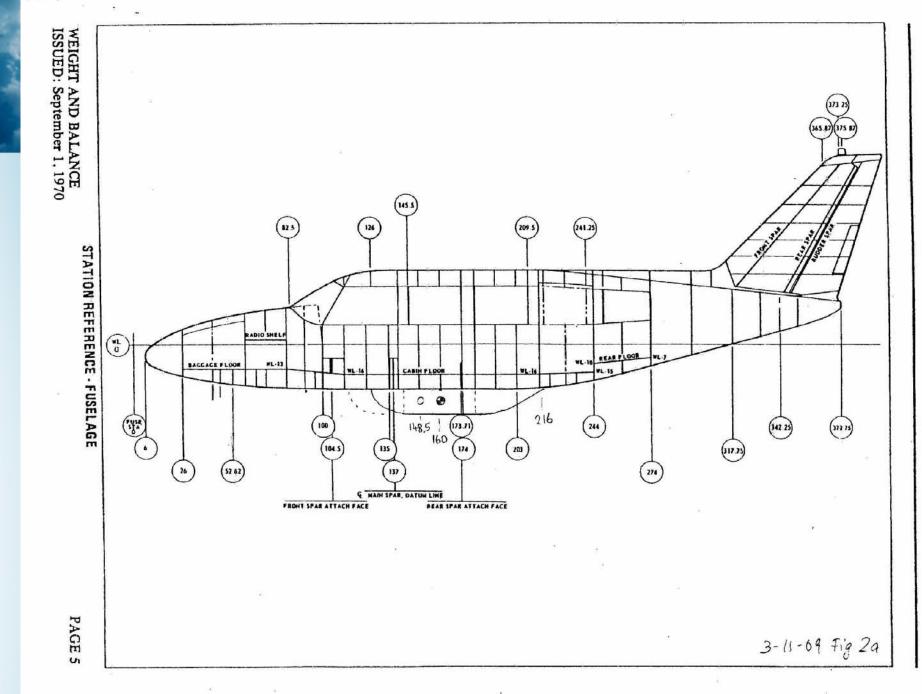


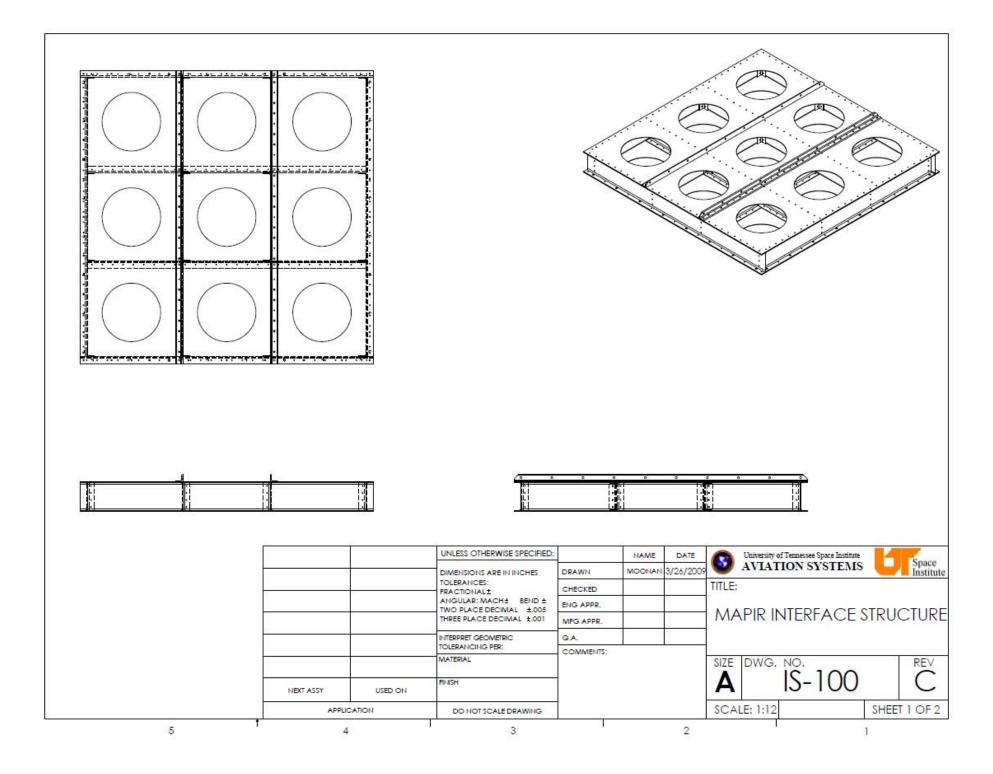






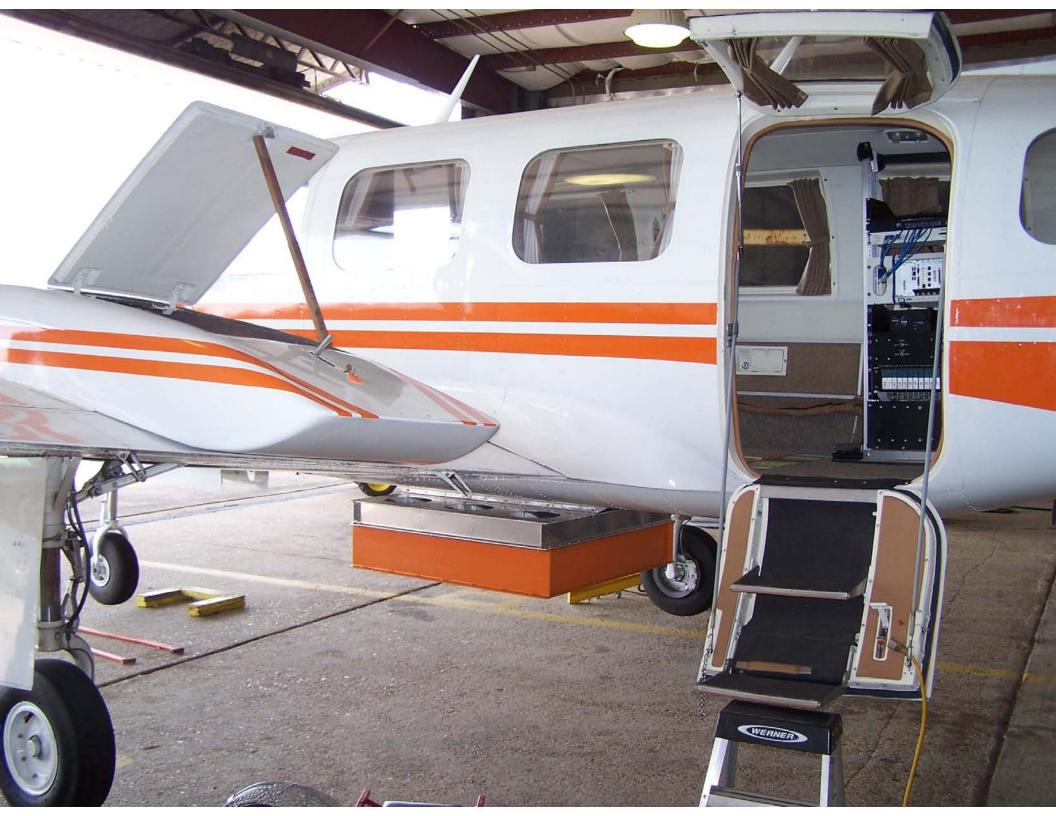




























UTSI Flight Research Piper Navajo with NASA Marshal Airborne Polarimetric Imaging Radiometer (MAPIR) Under Fuselage Nacelle



Examples of UTSI Flight Research





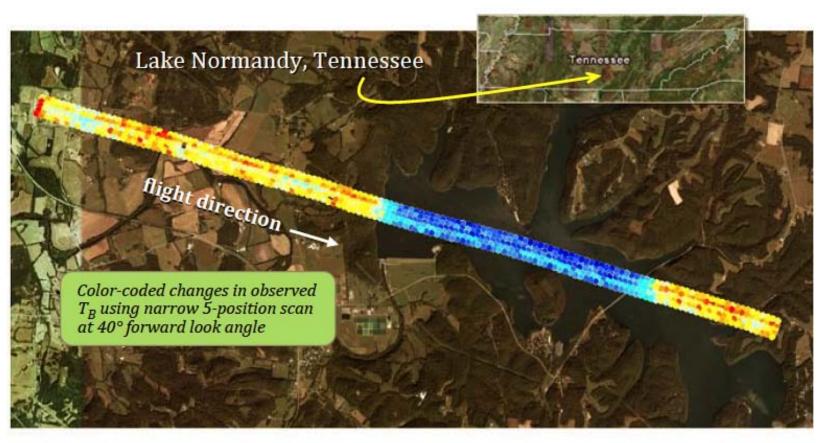
NASA MAPIR

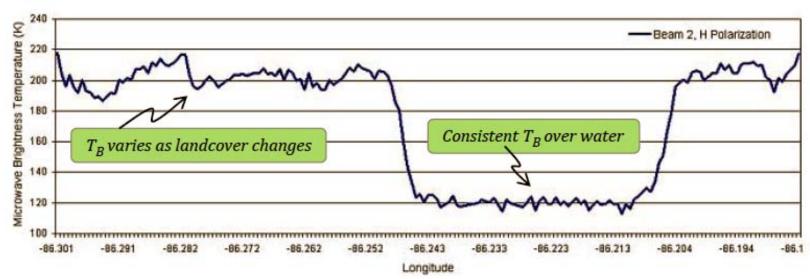


- NASA Marshall Airborne Polarimetric Imaging Radiometer (MAPIR), novel airborne, passive L-band imaging system
- Flown in unique, UTSI designed and fabricated "belly" sensor pod on Piper Navajo
- MAPIR Flight Campaigns
 - Airborne measurements of nuclear power plant cooling water temperatures to improve computational models, Fall 2009
 - Earth surface temperature measurements around NOAA CRN sites, Spring 2010
 - NASA MAPIR Oklahoma (next chart)













NASA MAPIR Oklahoma





- NASA Marshall Airborne Polarimetric Imaging Radiometer (MAPIR), novel airborne, passive L-band imaging system
- Flown in unique, UTSI designed and fabricated "belly" sensor pod
 on Piper Navajo
- MAPIR Flight Campaign flown by Aviation Systems in UTSI Piper Navajo in May-June 2011 in Ponca City, Oklahoma
- UTSI Piper Navajo part of airborne science data collection team with NASA ER-2 and UND Cessna Citation Jet





MAPIR Marshall Airborne Polarimetric Imaging Radiometer

Dr. Charles Laymon, PI Earth Science Office, VP61 NASA George C. Marshall Space Flight Center Huntsville, Alabama charles.laymon@nasa.gov





August 2009 Successful demonstration of MAPIR	August 2009	Completed MAPIR modifications and integration into UTSI Piper Navajo
GN ₂ tank in the left wing locker		
		GN ₂ tank in the GPS Antenna video camera
	h i	
		Data Rack / N MAPIR Instrument MAPIR Rack





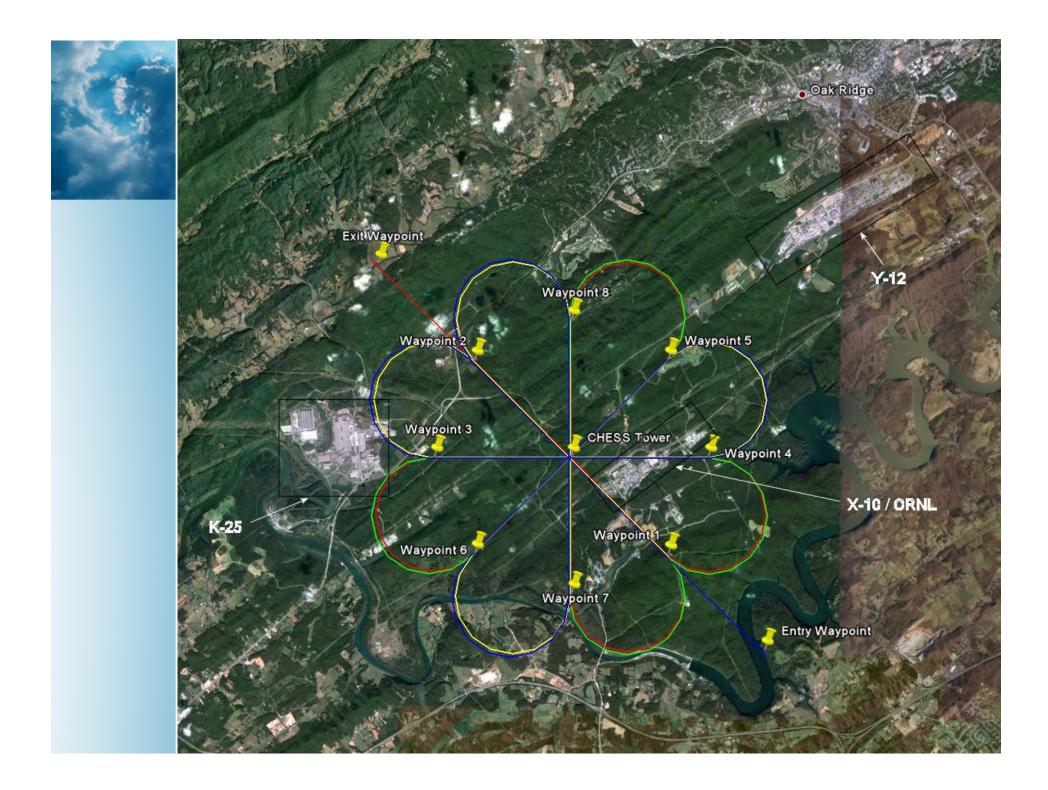


NOAA Atmospheric Mercury 2nd Flight Campaign in the Gulf of Mexico





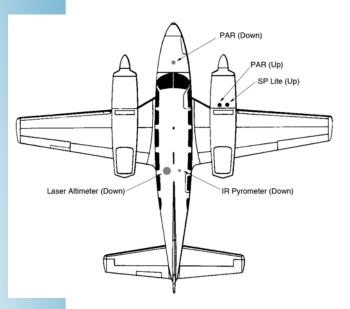
- Supported by T. Hynes, U. Miami
- NOAA sponsored flight & ground research campaign in Gulf of Mexico
- Intensive field study to investigate the chemistry, transport, and deposition of mercury compounds in the atmosphere
- 2nd Flight Campaign completed by Aviation Systems flying the UTSI Piper Navajo research aircraft in April-May 2011

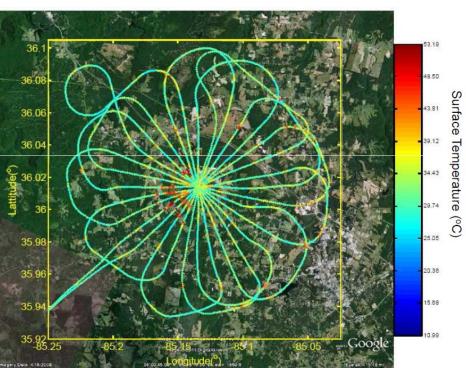






NOAA Land Surface Temperature Sensing





- Cooperative research with NOAA Atmospheric Turbulence & Diffusion Division, Oak Ridge, Tennessee
 - Characterization of spatial variability of surface temperature measurements around NOAA Climate Research Network (CRN) ground sites and improvement in accuracy of satellite-derived surface temperature data
- Science flights flown over NOAA CRN sites in Tennessee and under satellite over-passes, flown in Summer and Fall 2011





FWRI Marine Mammal Aerial Surveys



- Partnership with Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI), St. Petersburg, Florida
- Aerial surveys of manatees to develop improved techniques for estimating population size and distribution around warm-water aggregation sites (near power plants).
- First survey flights planned for February 2012







Backup Slides



UTSI Aviation Systems and Flight Test Engineering





Aviation Systems and Flight Test Engineering Programs

- Master of Science (MS) degree program
- Fundamentals of Flight Test Engineering education, including "hands-on" flight laboratory courses
- Mix of Aerospace Engineering and Flight Sciences
- Interdisciplinary "systems" philosophy
- Not a Pilot Training or Test Pilot School
- Graduate students with diverse undergraduate degrees
 - Aerospace, Electrical, & Mechanical Engineering
 - Atmospheric Science
 - Oceanography
 - Other



UT Flight Research Laboratory



UT Flight Research Laboratory Research Aircraft





UTSI Navajo Specifications

Seating	2 pilots + (u	ıp to) 4 PAX
• Wing Span		40.7 ft
• Length		32.6 ft
• Powerplant	2 x Lycoming TIO-540-A	A, 310 hp ea.
• Maximum Takeoff We	eight	6,500 lbs
• Empty Weight		4,387 lbs
Payload (includes ma	ax fuel)	2,113 lbs
• Maximum Fuel Load		190 gals
• Payload (excluding m	nax fuel) 973 lbs	S



UT Flight Research Laboratory Flight Research Instrumentation





Aircraft Instrumentation / Data Acquisition System (DAS)

- National Instruments PXI-8104 Data Acquisition System
 - Celeron M 1.83 GHz CPU with Windows XP and LabVIEW
 - Over 100 flight parameters, incl. aircraft GPS position, attitude, angular rates, linear accelerations, airspeed, altitude, control surface positions and forces, and engine parameters
 - Sample rate of 20 sps, logged on solid state disk, higher sps is available
 - Time base synchronized to GPS time
 - 5 UltraMobile PCs with 7 inch color touch-screens for data display using LabVIEW
- Time stamped aircraft communications (intercom and air-toground) recorded onboard
- Digital video system, nadir and forward views
- Four additional USB 2.0 ports devices include
 - RS-232 serial converter for serial data acquisition
 - NI USB 6218 data acquisition unit capable of 16 differential / 32 single ended analog measurements
 - CD / DVD writer
 - Solid state memory stick (32GB)





Dedicated Data Interface Ports for Airborne Science Instruments

- Three RS-232 serial ports (can be expanded by eight)
- Four 1 GBPS power over ethernet (POE) ports (can be expanded)
- One GPS RF direct feed from science GPS antenna
- Three USB 2.0 ports (can be expanded by 8 ports)
- 10 differential analog channels (+/-10 VDC) (can be expanded by 16 channels)
- 5 thermocouple channels
- Time distributed by Network Timing Protocol (NTP) over ethernet
- Dedicated science voice intercomm
- All data acquired by aircraft flight test system broadcast in real time over aircraft ethernet (accessible to onboard scientists)





Aircraft Power

- 24-28 VDC Aircraft Power
 - Electrical buses isolating research systems & instrumentation from aircraft systems & avionics
- Two Main Buses for Experimenter Use
 - Bus Shared with Flight Test Instrumentation
 - 20A capacity at 28VDC (10A baseline load for standard equipment)
 - +5 VDC and +15 VDC provided by DC-DC converters
 - Instrumentation system programmable power supply can provide +/-15 and 0 to 6 VDC
 - 5A AC inverter provides 120 VAC
 - Dedicated Experiment Bus
 - 30A load capacity at 28VDC
 - 7A AC inverter provides 120VAC
 - Load shed relay automatically sheds experimenter load if one aircraft inverter or engine is inoperative.
- Additional Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) downstream of AC inverter is available if required.



UT Flight Research Laboratory Experiment Integration and Flight Operations