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Routine & Affordable Access to Space



Hypersonics Industry Team Exhibition – Hypersonics Panel

Rosslyn, VA

24 May, 2011

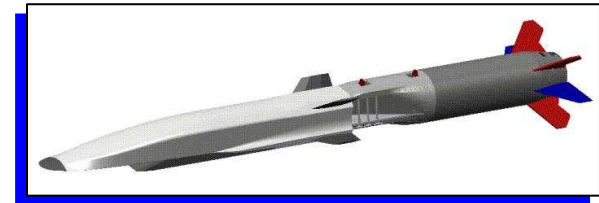
Dr. Kevin G. Bowcutt
Senior Technical Fellow
Chief Scientist of Hypersonics
The Boeing Company

Possible Applications of Hypersonic Vehicles

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- High speed cruise missiles (Mach 6-8)
 - Hundreds of miles in minutes
 - High kinetic energy: lethality and penetration of hard / buried targets
 - High survivability (as stealth benefits wane)
 - Operational flexibility of air-breathing engines
- Rapid global transportation
 - Anywhere in the world in a few hours
 - Global strike and reconnaissance
 - Commercial passenger and/or cargo transport
- Routine, affordable, safe access to space
 - Smaller gross weight allows horizontal takeoff
 - Aircraft-like operations and maintenance
 - Operational flexibility and safety



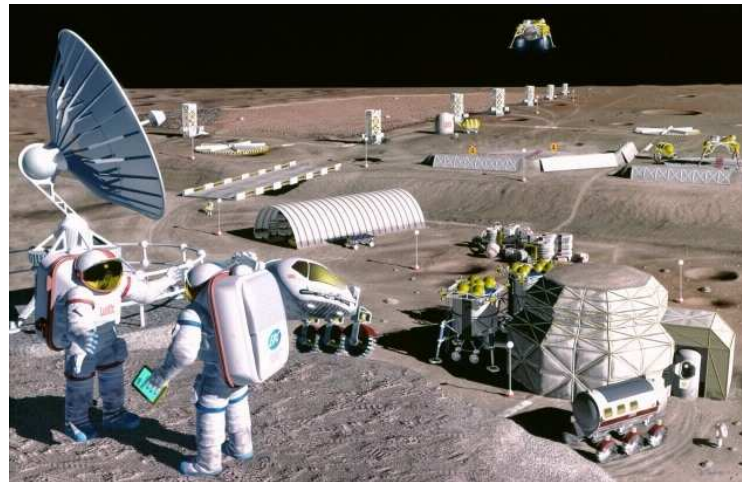
Looking Forward To Operational Hypersonic Systems ... We Need A Less Expensive Way to Get to Earth Orbit!

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Current launch costs of \$5,000 to \$10,000 per lb would require tens of \$B just to put manned space exploration payloads in low earth orbit

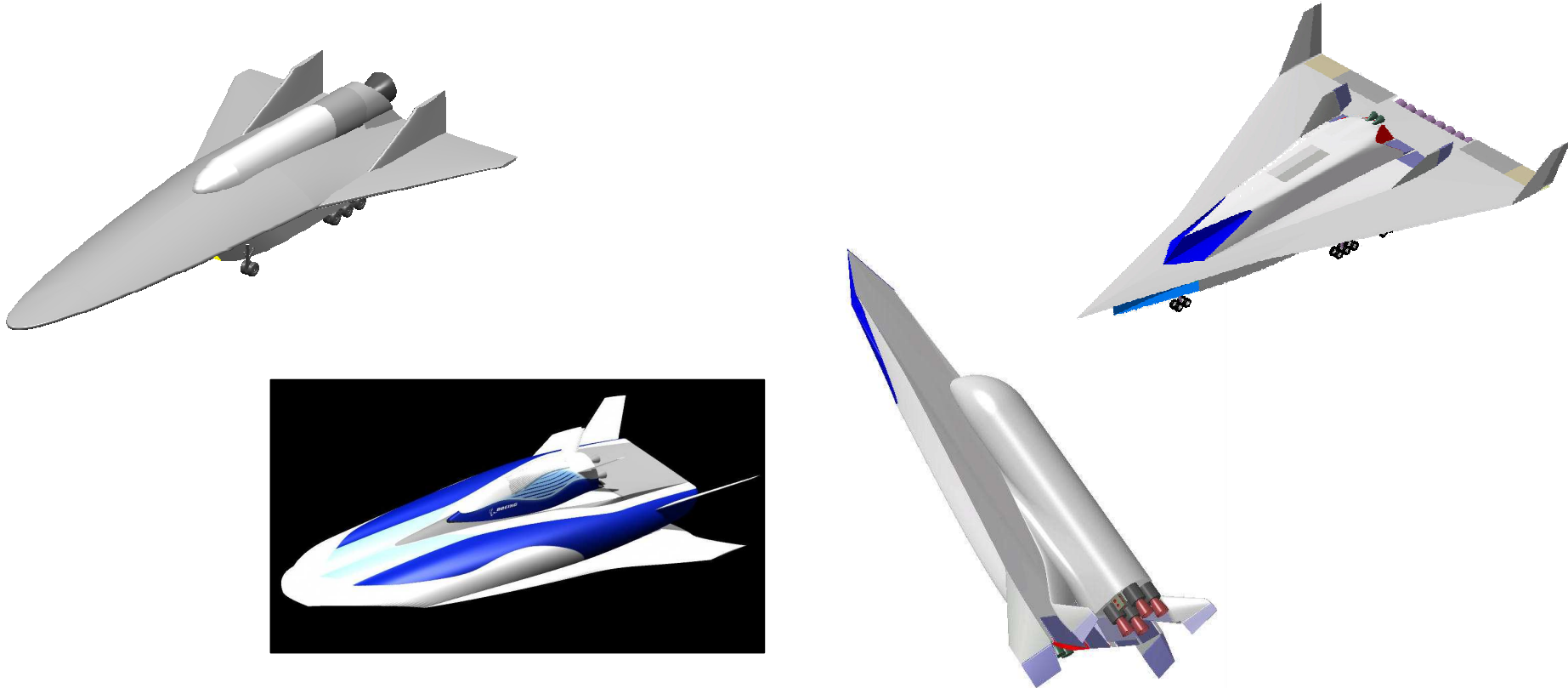
- Reductions limited with expendable systems



Reusability and Utilization Rate Are Primary Drivers of Launch Affordability

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Launch costs as low as \$200 to \$500 per lb possible with a fully reusable system, high system utility, and sufficient markets

- **Hypersonic technology and horizontal launch beneficial to goal**

Possible Advantages of Airbreathing Launch Vehicles

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- ◆ **Less propellant required**
 - **Permits increased dry weight to enhance system robustness/safety/reliability**
- ◆ **Less sensitive to dry weight growth**
- ◆ **Reduced gross weight**
 - **Airbreathing second stage reduces stage weight – results in smaller first-stage or larger orbital payload**
 - **Makes horizontal takeoff practical, increasing basing flexibility and reducing base vulnerability to attack**
- ◆ **Horizontal takeoff increases launch window, flight trajectory, and orbit flexibility**
- ◆ **Same technology required for hypersonic ISR aircraft and hypersonic missiles**
- ◆ **Viable growth path for ultimate single-stage-to-orbit**

Many Existing and Emerging Markets Can Be Addressed by an Affordable Launch System

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- More responsive and lower cost satellite launch
- Affordable launch of space-based solar power hardware, space science and manufacturing payloads, ISS re-supply, modular space exploration hardware, satellite maintenance and repair, etc.
- Orbital and suborbital space tourism

Same Technology Enables Hypersonic Aircraft

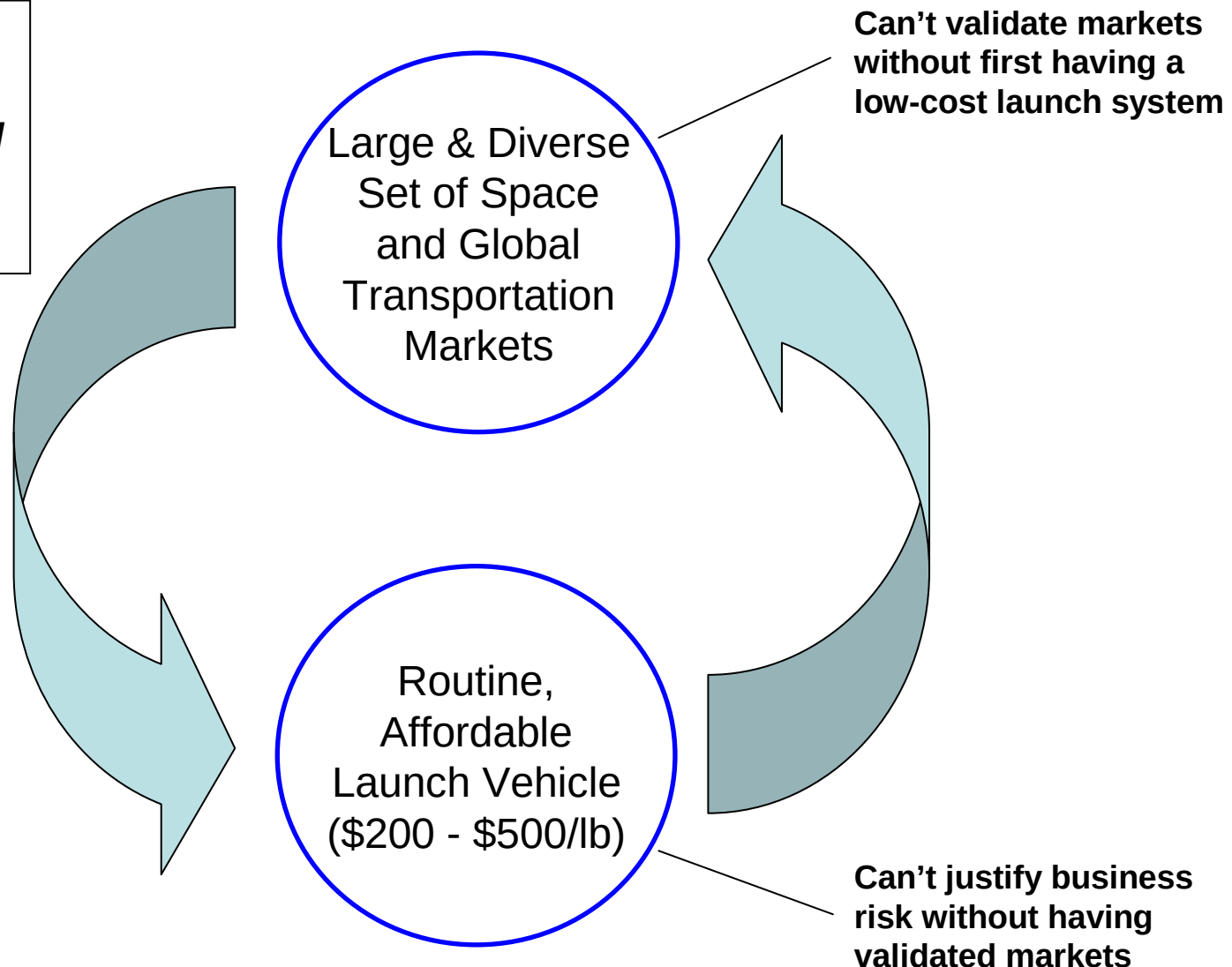
- Responsive ISR to enhance or substitute for lost satellite capability
- Time-critical transport of personnel and cargo
- Business/first-class high-speed travel

Space Transportation “Chicken or Egg” Dilemma

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Q: How do we jump-start the low-cost launch / expanded space market cycle?



A Different Approach To “Closing The Business Case”

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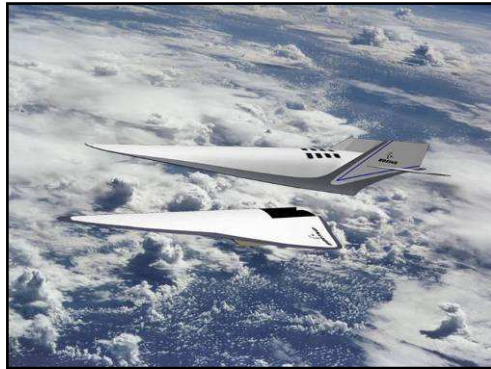
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- **Joint commercial and governmental international venture**
 - Access large pool of financial resources and global markets
 - Leverage knowledge, experience, financial and human resources of corporations, governments, and entrepreneurs
- **Leverage existing space access and high-speed global travel ambitions and latent markets of several countries**
 - United States, Europe, Japan, Australia, India, ...
- **Focused international research effort**
 - Advance technical knowledge, technology maturation, system design, and operational approaches
 - Integrate analysis, simulation, ground test, flight experiments, and spiral flight demonstration (increasing scope and physical scale)

International Approach to Hypersonic Transportation System Development May Be Required For Economic Feasibility

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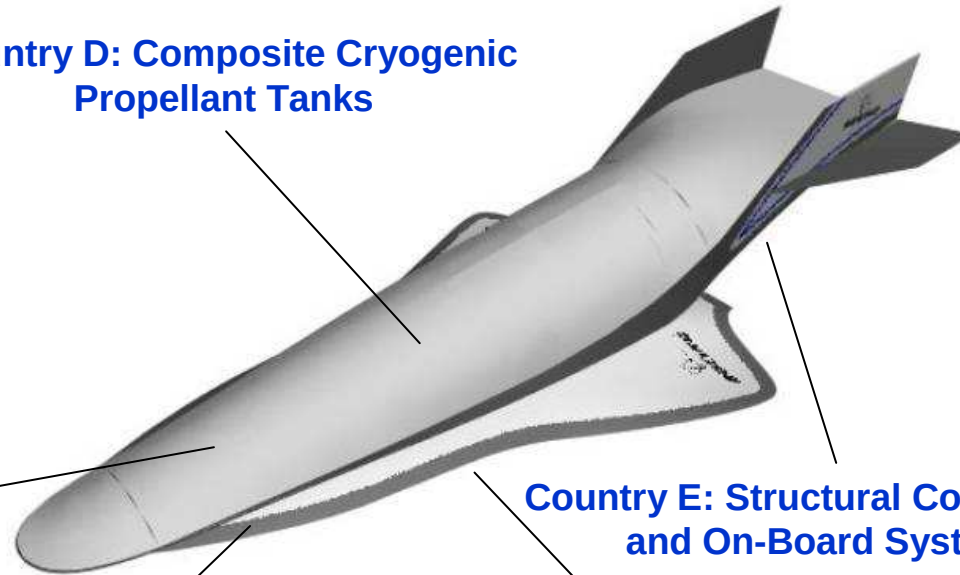
Country C: Primary Structure and IVHM

Country B: Thermal Protection Systems and On-Board Systems

Country D: Composite Cryogenic Propellant Tanks

Country A: Engines, Flight Controls, and System Integration

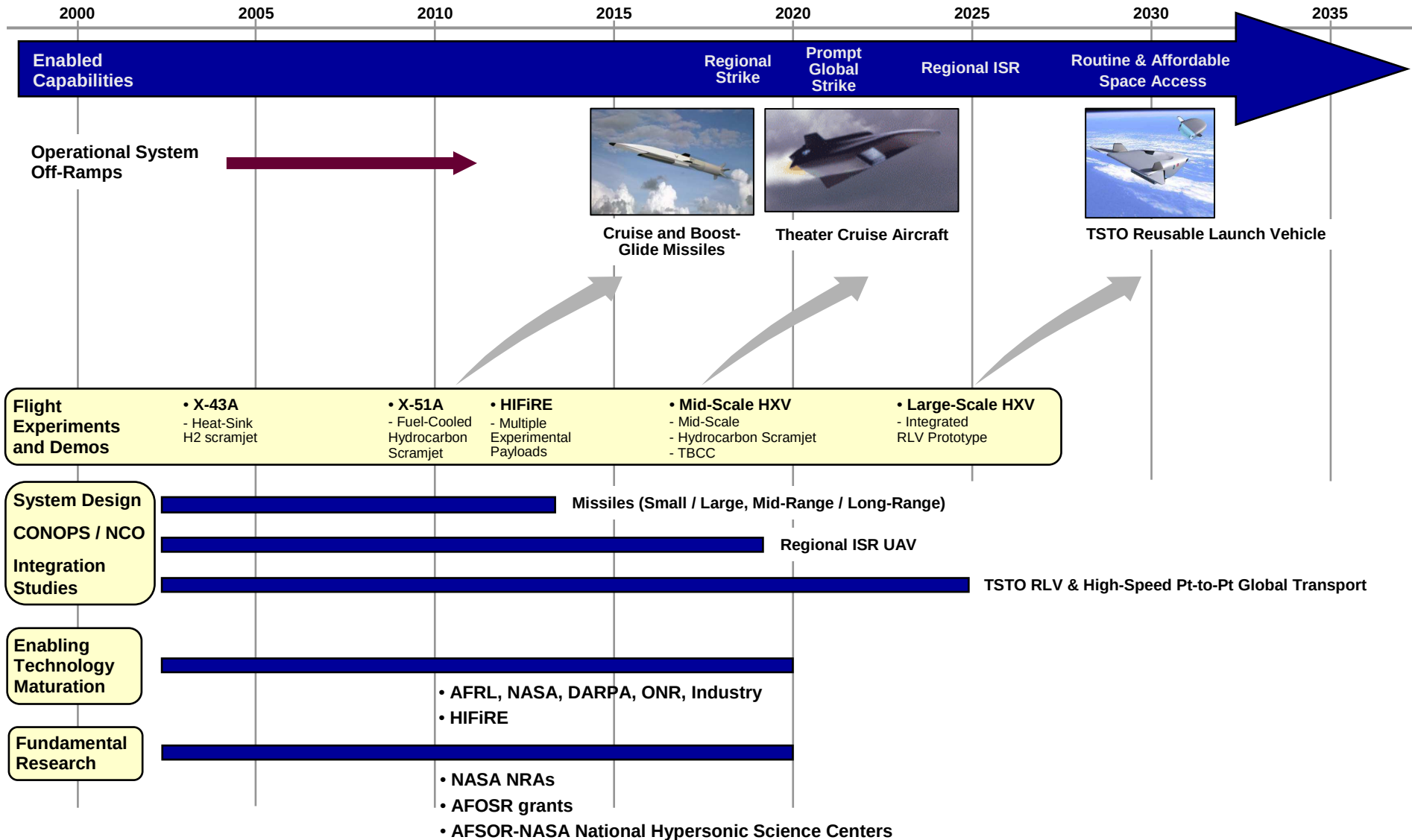
Country E: Structural Components and On-Board Systems



A Plausible Roadmap to Operational Hypersonic Systems

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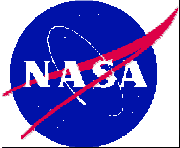
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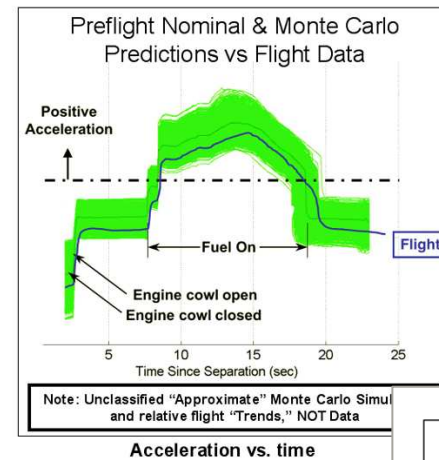
X-43A: Scramjet Operation and Performance Proven in Flight

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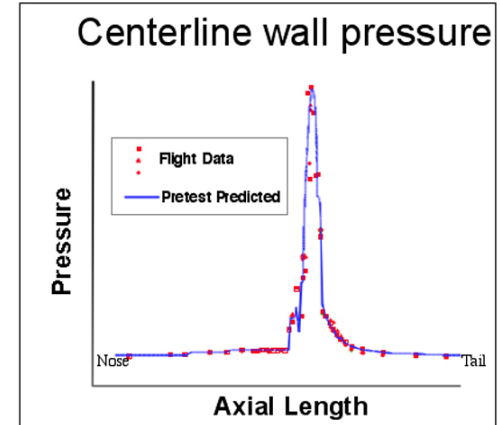


Two flights at Mach numbers of 6.83 and 9.68 achieved in 2004



Technical Objectives:

- Hypersonic vehicle design risk reduction
- Flight validation of design methods
- Design method enhancement



X-51A 1st Flight Accomplishments

- On its first flight in May 2010, an ATACMS booster accelerated X-51A WaveRider to ~ Mach 4.7, then a JP-7 scramjet engine accelerated vehicle to ~ Mach 5
- Reached an altitude of ~ 70,000 ft
- Experienced the longest scramjet burn time in history at ~ 140 sec
- Accomplished most test objectives
- Thrust, drag, trim, stability, and acceleration very close to predictions
- First operation of a practical, flight-weight hydrocarbon-fueled scramjet



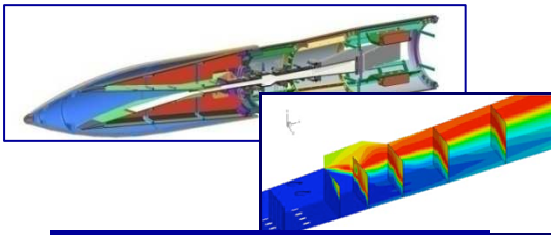
2nd flight scheduled for June 2011

HIFiRE: Hypersonic International Flight Research & Experimentation

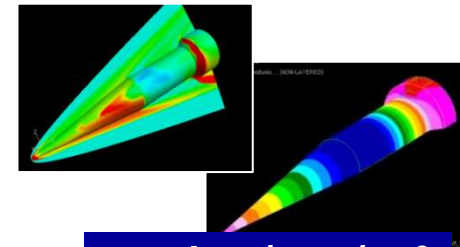
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Joint US-Australian Flight Experiments Aimed at Fundamental Science Investigations and Enabling Technology Development for Hypersonics



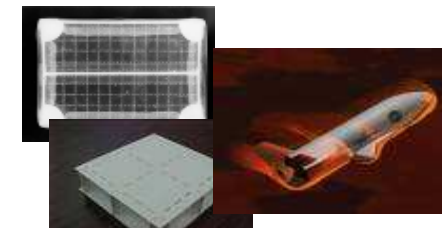
Propulsion and Aero-Propulsion Integration



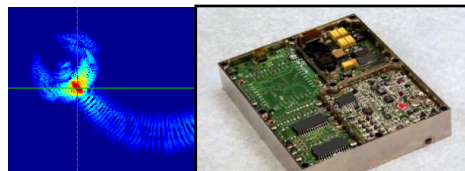
Aerodynamics & Aerothermodynamics



Leading Edges & Hot Structures



Thermal Protection Systems & Engine Structures



Seekers, Sensors and GPS



Integrated GNC

Summary

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Platform Performance Technology

- ◆ **Enabling technologies for hypersonic vehicles are maturing rapidly via ground and flight test**
- ◆ **Hypersonic vehicles can provide valuable new capabilities for defense, space access, and global transportation**

