



**WAKENET-3 Europe / GREENWAKE  
WORKSHOP – 29/03/2010  
LIDAR Airborne Aerodynamic Sensors  
Thales Avionics**



# Thales LIDAR Products and developments

- 1980's Trials on mirage, Caravelle and Puma
- 1988 – 1990  
**ALEV 3** (10.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ) Anemometry reference for flight tests (Airbus A340, A320, A318, etc)
- 2001 –2004  
**DALHEC** (1.55  $\mu\text{m}$ ) Demonstrator of laser anemometer for Helicopter
- 2003- 2005  
**DALAS** (1.55  $\mu\text{m}$ ) Demonstrator of laser anemometer for military aircraft
- 2006 – 2007  
**DALEV** (1.55  $\mu\text{m}$ ) Anemometry reference for flight tests (Airbus A380, A350, etc)
- 2006 – 2009  
**NESLIE**: operational Laser anemometer for primary system, demonstrator development
- 2008 – 2011  
**DANIELA**: operational Laser anemometer for primary system prototype product for flight tests
- 2009- 2012  
**DELICAT** demonstration of medium range turbulence detection



# Background and airborne applications



## Flight test Air data LIDAR

100m or more in order to be out of aircraft perturbation

ALEV 3

DALEV

## Operational Air data LIDAR

Helicopters: Short distance, 15-20 m in order to get out of rotor blast

Aircraft: 1 m to minimize necessary power and allowing reduce size and cost

NESLIE & DANIELA demonstrators

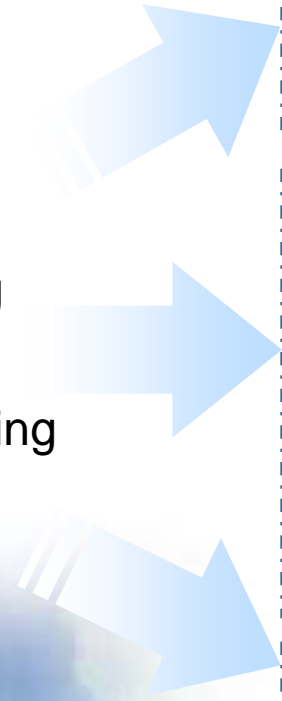
## Atmospheric hazards LIDAR systems

DETAC

Flysafe

DELICAT

- Laser source
- Optical architecture
- Optical signal processing
- Detection
- Analogue signal processing
- High sped digital signal processing

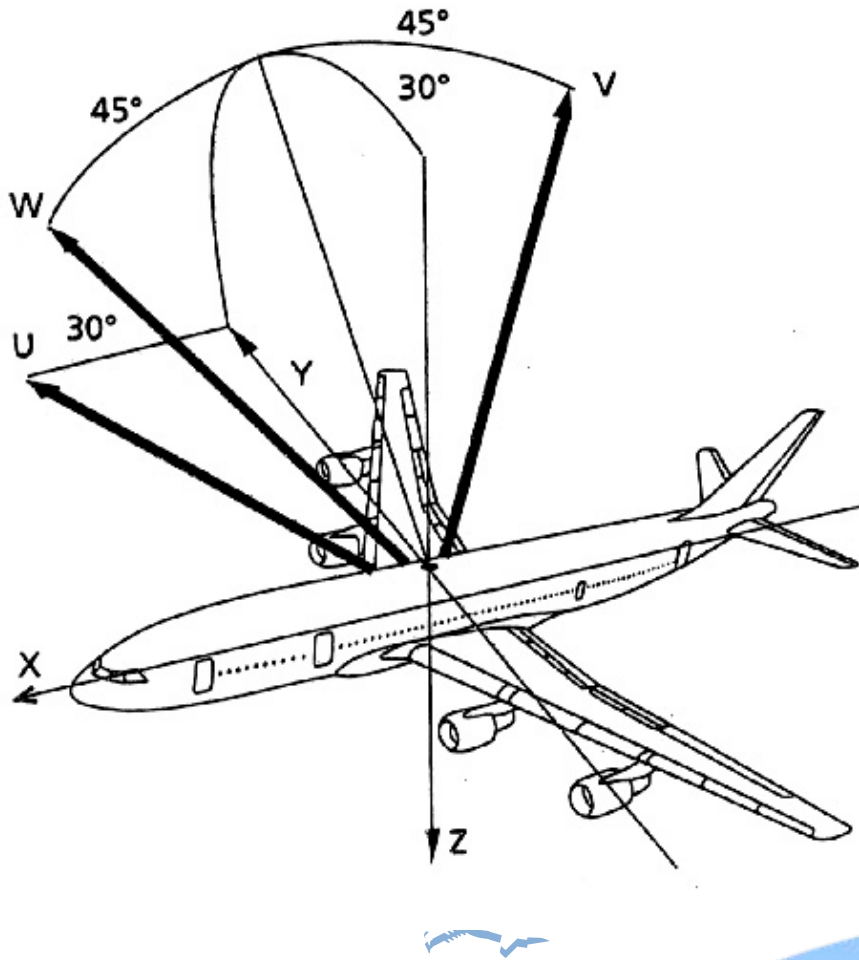




## FLIGHT TEST APPLICATIONS



# Reference air velocity measurement



Measurement is made far enough to be out of the aircraft perturbation

The measurement principle avoid bias



## 1<sup>st</sup> generation: ALEV3

DALEV is an air data reference system based on air velocity measurement using Doppler effect on signal back-scattered from particles contained in air at a distance free from aircraft aerodynamic perturbation

Following ALEV3, DALEV is the second generation of such air data reference system produced by Thales

Measurement performances:  $1 \sigma < 0.25 \text{ kt}$



## 2<sup>nd</sup> generation: DALEV



# AIR DATA SYSTEM FOR HELICOPTERS



# Helicopter low speed issue



At low speed (<25 kts) the probes are not free from rotor blast, making the airspeed measurement impossible

Medium range anemometry for Helicopter:

Thanks to remote measurement, provide **unique solution for long awaited function**

Air data measurement over full flight envelope, providing not only TAS module but TAS vector

Can provide warning against hazardous rotor vortex conditions





## SOURCE : Solid state Laser 1.54 $\mu\text{m}$

- Ocular safety
- Very good spectral and spatial qualities
- Excellent atmospheric transmission
- Compact and reliable

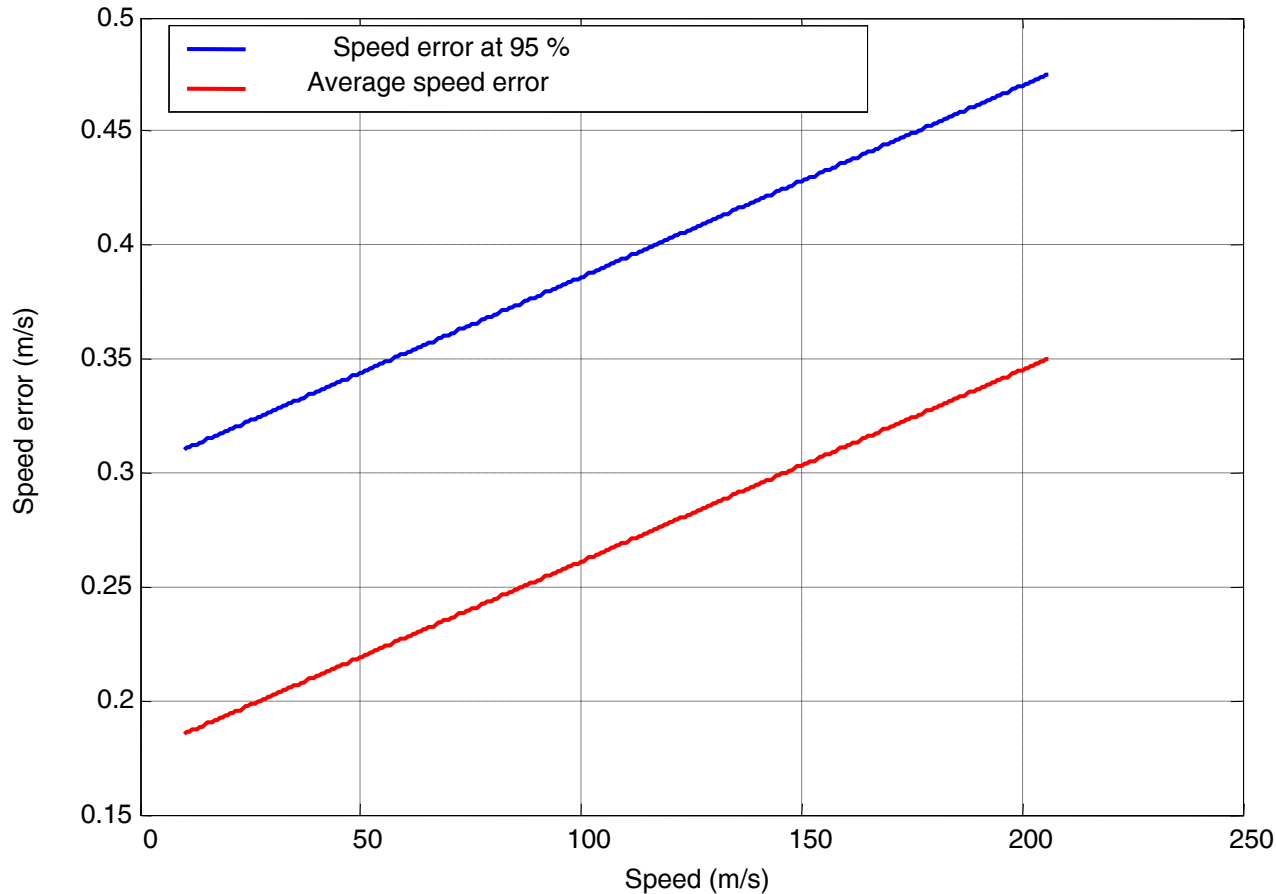


## OPTICAL FIBER ARCHITECTURE :

- Compact and reliable
- Availability of high performance components developed for telecoms
- Easy to use and to adjust



# Laser anemometry performances



- **Speed errors calculated for DALHEC system and an orthogonal trihedron**
- **Typical Angle Of Attack and Angle Of Sideslip errors are in the range 0.15° to 0.18°**



# AIR DATA SYSTEM FOR AIRCRAFT



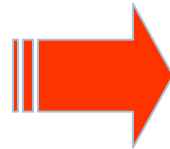


## Benefit provided to ADS by LIDAR

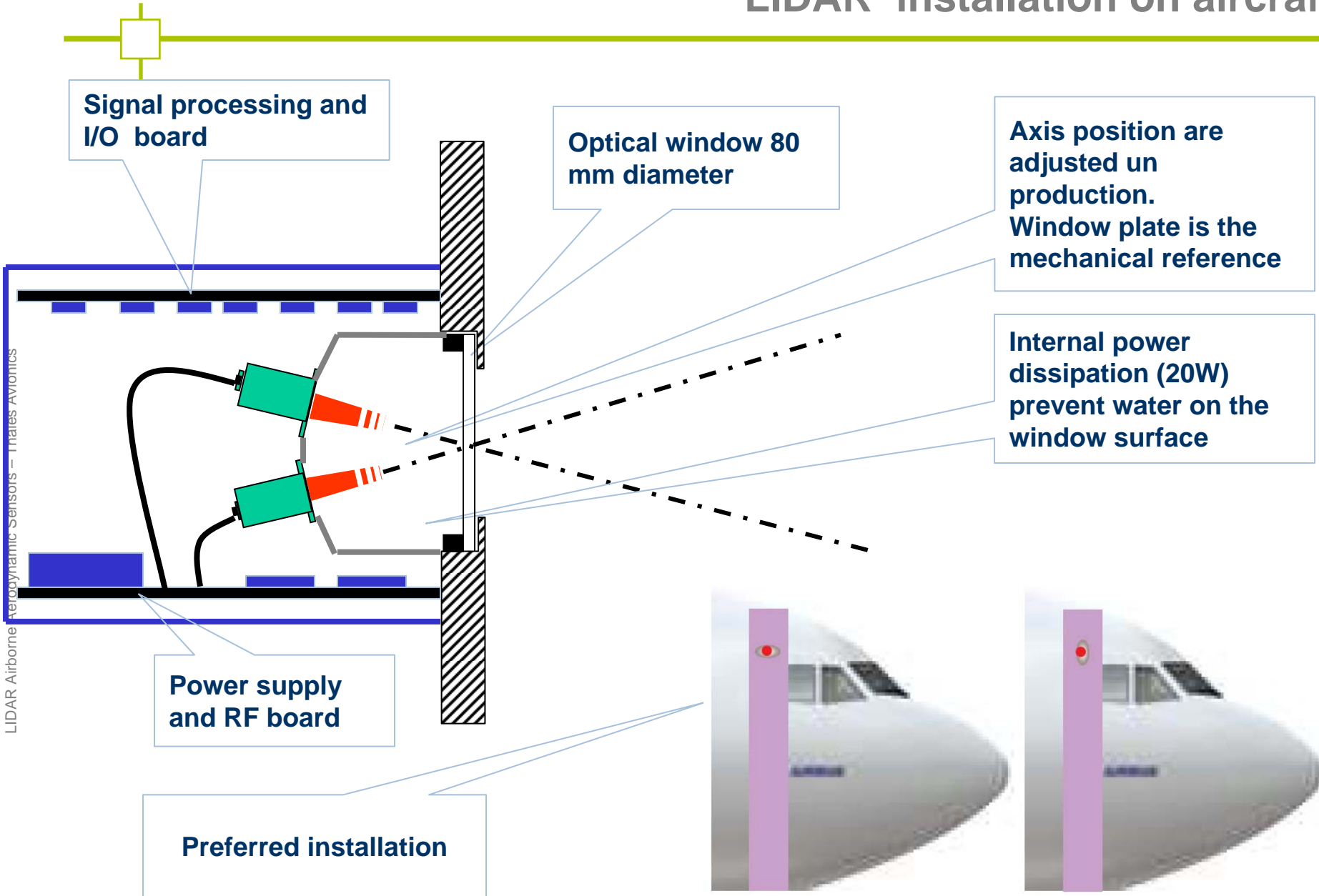
- Robustness against external aggression bird collision, passenger stairs mishandling or hailstone
- Less dependency on aerodynamic compensation
- No de-icing power : a classical ADS require around 4 KW
- Improved MTBF thanks to fully static equipments well protected inside the aircraft
- Improved integrity due to dissymmetric system
- Reduced maintenance costs

Though satisfying in terms of performances, classical pressure ADS suffered from lack of reliability and robustness against hailstone or bird collision

**How to survive  
such an event?**



# LIDAR installation on aircraft





# ATMOSPHERIC HAZARDS



# Atmospheric hazards

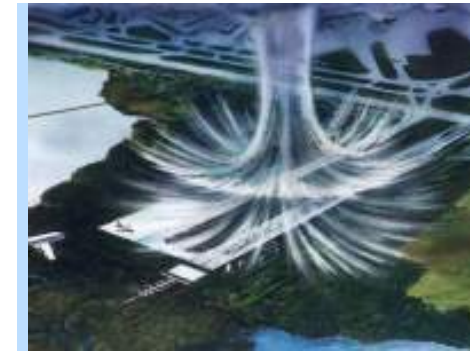
**Atmospheric hazards detection : The most difficult application because of complexity**



**Turbulence**



**Wake Vortex**



**Wind Shear**



# Turbulence description

From Advisory Circular AC 120-88A (FAA, 01/2006)

**Thunderstorm Turbulence**  
Turbulence associated within and in the vicinity of thunderstorms or cumulonimbus clouds  
⇒ **RADAR preferred domain**

**Clear Air Turbulence**  
High level turbulence (above 15000 ft) not normally associated with cumuliform cloudiness. Typically windshear turbulence even when in cirrus clouds

**Mountain wave Turbulence.**  
Turbulence as a result of air being blown over a mountain range or a sharp bluff causing a series of up and down drafts  
⇒ **LIDAR preferred domain**

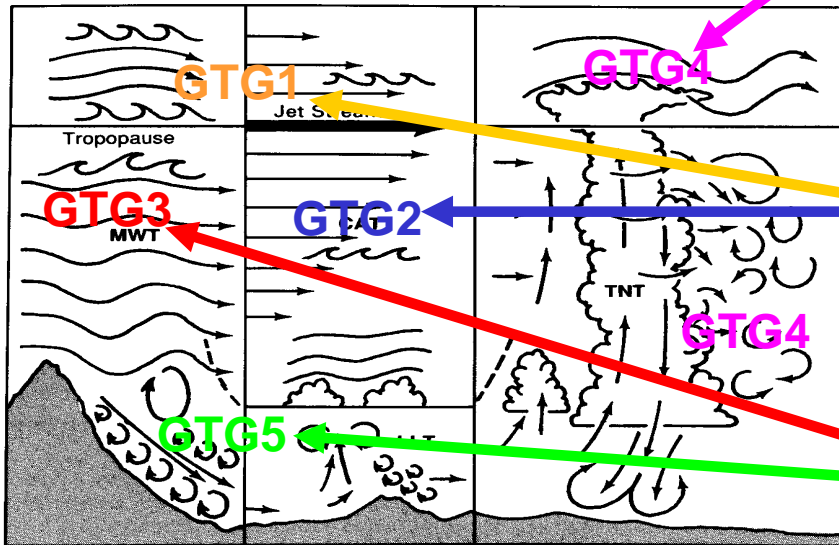


Figure 1-16. Aviation turbulence classifications. This figure is a pictorial summary of the turbulence-producing phenomena that may occur in each turbulence classification.

GTG = Graphical Turbulence Guidance

# Turbulences mitigation and avoidance

Turbulence effect can be managed through 3 different ways



## Avoidance

Long-range  
detection

Not  
achievable  
with  
foreseeable  
LIDAR  
technology



## Mitigation

Mitigation at passenger  
level

Detection medium range

DETAC / DELICAT

Autonomous single  
axis detection LIDAR

Mitigation at aircraft level

Measurement short range

SFWA

Redundant and tightly  
coupled with flight  
control measurement  
LIDAR