

A background image showing three people in business attire. A man on the left with glasses and a woman in the center are looking at a tablet held by a man on the right. They are in a professional setting, possibly an office or conference. The image has a blue tint and a white border.

ELECTRONICS & DEFENSE

ULTRA-COMPACT AVIONICS
Elevating eVTOL operations
with proven avionics technologies

eVTOL USA SHOW - OCTOBER 24, 2023

EDOUARD TAUFFLIEB
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, NEW AIR MOBILITIES
SAFRAN ELECTRONICS & DEFENSE

OUTLINE

1 AVIONICS & FLIGHT CONTROLS IN TRADITIONAL AVIATION & eVTOLs

2 CURRENT TECHNOLOGIES & BENEFITS

3 TRENDS FOR THE FUTURE :

1. FULL INTEGRATION OF AVIONICS & FLIGHT CONTROLS & POSITIONING
2. RESILIENT POSITION, NAVIGATION & TIMING

This presentation is based on eVTOL market trends put in perspective with general & commercial aviation as well as helicopter technology. No aim of completeness.



Avionics & Flight Controls in traditional aviation & eVTOLs



Avionics & Flight Controls Requirements (for piloted A/C)

FLY PAX SAFELY TO DESTINATION
KNOW FOR SURE WHERE YOU ARE
CERTIFY AIRCRAFT AND OPERATIONS

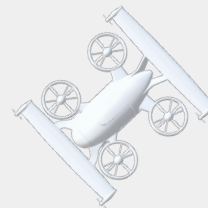
TRADITIONAL AIRPLANES & HELICOPTERS

- ➔ 1 TO 500 PAX
- ➔ UP TO 15,000 KM
- ➔ SMALL SET OF AERODYNAMIC ARCHITECTURES (USUALLY STABLE)
- ➔ LARGE A/C CAN AFFORD MULTIPLE BOXES



eVTOL

- ➔ 1 TO 7 PAX
- ➔ 20 TO 500 KM
- ➔ INNOVATIVE AERODYNAMIC ARCHITECTURES (OFTEN UNSTABLE)
- ➔ FEWER, MORE LIGHTWEIGHT BOXES DESIRED BETTER FOR ENERGY CONSUMPTION



Avionics & Flight Controls Implementation

TRADITIONAL AIRPLANES & HELICOPTERS

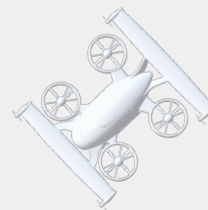
- ➡ FBW OR CONVENTIONAL (DIRECT COUPLING)
- ➡ AUTOPILOT $\neq$ FLIGHT CONTROL $\neq$ PROPULSION
- ➡ HYDRAULICS USUALLY IN PRIMARY FLIGHT CONTROL ACTUATION

➡ AVIONICS AND FLIGHT CONTROL COMPUTERS OFTEN SEGREGATED



eVTOL

- ➡ FBW ONLY $\rightarrow$ MORE COMPLEX MODING & CONTROL LAWS
- ➡ MERGE [PROPULSION + FLIGHT CONTROL + AUTOPILOT]
- ➡ ALL-ELECTRIC FLIGHT CONTROL ACTUATION



Current technologies & benefits



Current technology benefits - Computing



1990s

EXAMPLE: FCC NH90 H/C



- TWO REDUNDANT DIGITAL AND ANALOG CONTROLS
- 14 LITERS / KG
- 600 DMIPS X 1 CORE
- 2 COMPUTING LANES (COM/MON) ON DIGITAL CONTROL
- MANUAL CODE GENERATION IN LOW-LEVEL LANGUAGE FOR APPLICATIVE (FLIGHT CONTROL) SOFTWARE
- EMBEDDED INERTIAL MEASUREMENT UNIT (BACKUP)

TODAY

ULTRA COMPACT AVIONICS PLATFORM



- ONE FULL DIGITAL CONTROL
- 1.6 LITERS / KG
- 2400 DMIPS X 4 CORES
- 2 COMPUTING LANES (COM/MON)
- TIME-TRIGGERED RTOS SAFE & CERTIFIABLE BY CONSTRUCTION
- AUTOMATIC CODE GENERATION AND VALIDATION FOR APPLICATIVE SOFTWARE

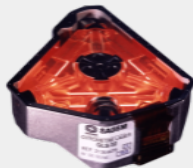
Current technology benefits – Positioning



TRADITIONAL AIRPLANES & HELICOPTERS

- **HYBRIDIZATION OF MULTIPLE SOURCES:**
 - Air data
 - Earth magnetic field
 - GPS
 - Radars (incl. DVR)
 - Radio signals (beacons...)
 - Inertia of different technologies and performances
 - Ground altimeters
 - Etc.
- **LONG MISSIONS/RANGES BUT LIMITED ACCURACY**

DOMINANT GYRO TECHNOLOGY:
RLG, RING-LASER GYRO



eVTOL

- **GNSS + AIR DATA = PRIMARY SOURCE OF POSITIONING**
 - Multi-constellation (GPS, Galileo, Glonass, Beidou)
 - Augmentation systems, special antennas,...
 - etc.
- **INERTIA COMPLEMENTS ATTITUDE & HEADING AND BACKS UP GNSS**
- **MEMS (LOW TO MID GRADE) AND HRG (HIGHER-GRADE) GYROSCOPES: ENABLERS FOR SMALLER AND RELIABLE INERTIAL SENSOR SYSTEMS**
- **SHORT MISSIONS/RANGES → SIMPLER, BUT INCREASED ACCURACY**

FUTURE: USE OF CERTIFIED VISION-BASED NAVIGATION

SUITABLE GYRO TECHNOLOGY:
HRG: HEMISPHERICAL RESONATOR GYRO



AT LEAST 4 TIMES SMALLER THAN RLG AT SAME PERF

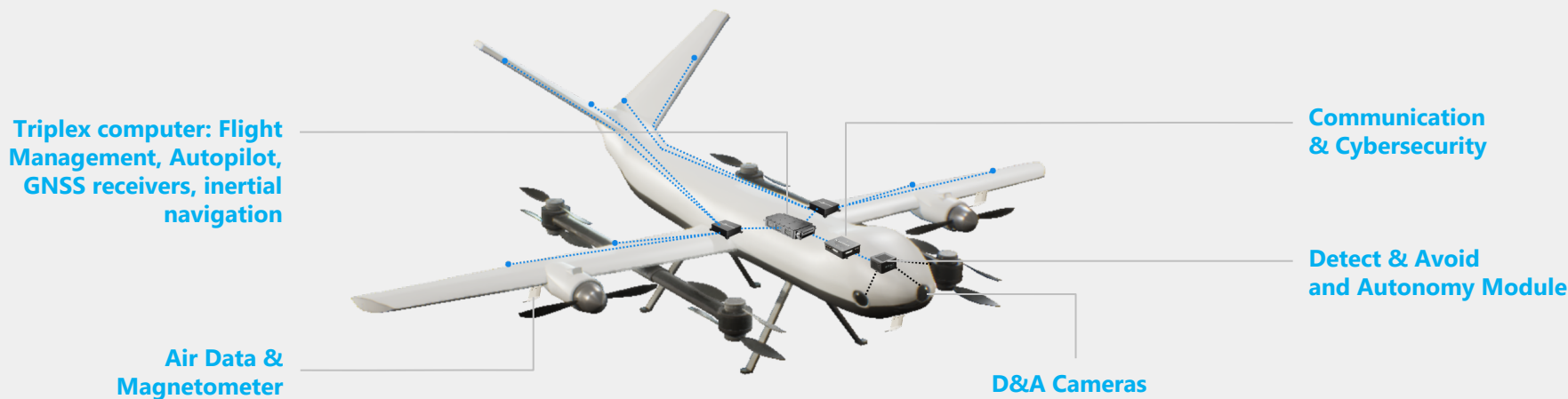
Trends for the future



1- Technology demonstrator: Full integration of [avionics + flight controls + positioning]

EXAMPLE: 100 KG CLASS UAV TO SAFELY OVERFLY POPULATED AREAS (CAT: 10⁻⁷/FH – SAIL VI)

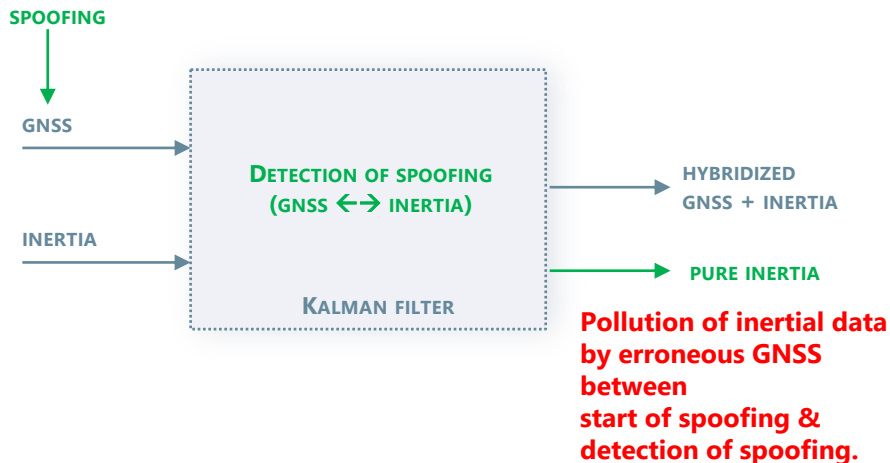
- ➔ SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT APPROACH TO AIR TAXI eVTOL, LOWER SAFETY ACCEPTABLE (NO PAX ON BOARD)
- ➔ SMALLER, LIGHTER, MORE INTEGRATED ARCHITECTURE: 2.5 KG FOR THE MODULES DESCRIBED IN THE PICTURE BELOW



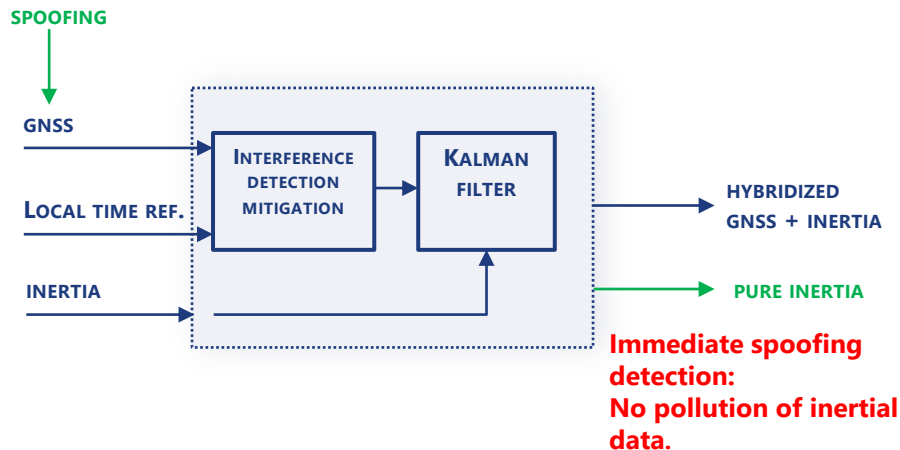
2- Resilient Position, Navigation & Timing (GNSS & inertia)

INCREASE THE INTEGRITY OF POSITIONING & ADHERENCE TO DEFINED TRAJECTORY

TODAY

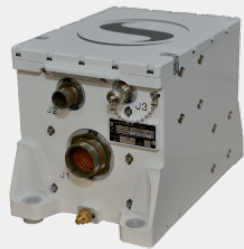


FUTURE



2- Concept implementation and operational validation for military naval application (non-certified)

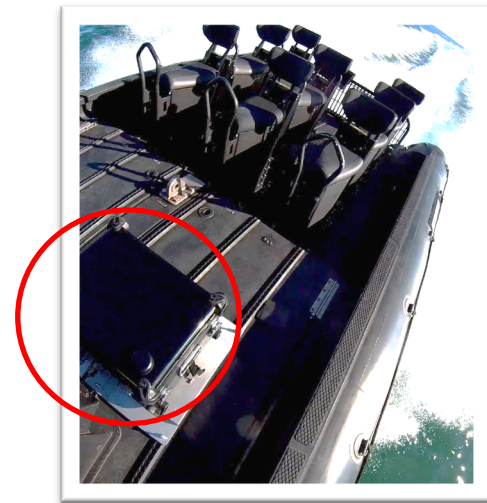
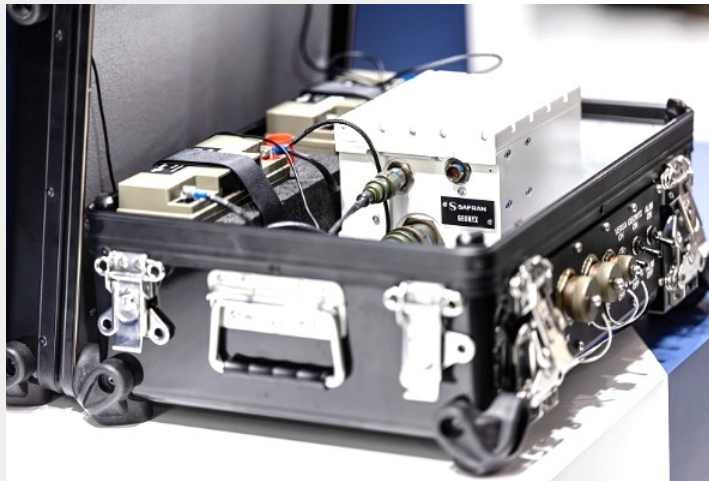
NAVKITE: COUPLING OF AN INERTIAL NAVIGATION SYSTEM WITH A TIME REFERENCE, INTERFERENCE, DETECTION & MITIGATION



GEONYX™ M INERTIAL NAVIGATION SYSTEM



VERSASYNC® LOCAL TIME REFERENCE AND INTERFERENCE, DETECTION & MITIGATION



NAVKITE: development by Safran with the French Navy's commandos.

Conclusion



Conclusion



PERSISTING

- Safety – Certification
(and associated development effort)

TODAY

- Integration (equipment & function)
- Miniaturization
- Move to all-electric

FUTURE

- Resilient PNT
- Single set of critical computers in aircraft ?

**POWERED
BY TRUST**
