National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Contractor and

# Modeling the Environmental Impact of Air Traffic Operations

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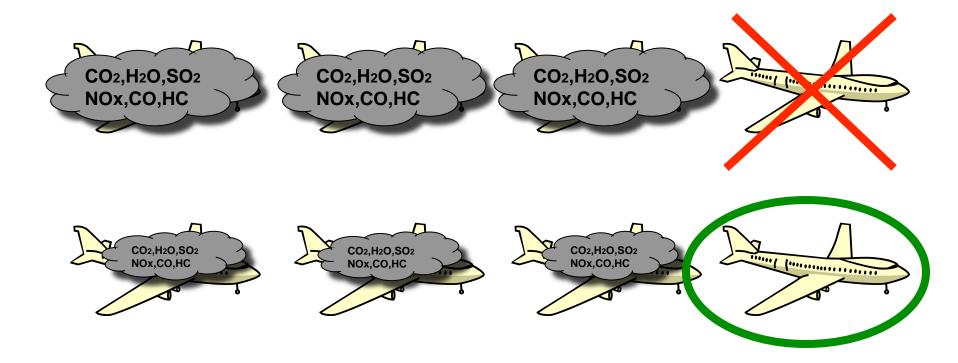
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# **Environmental Impact - Emissions**

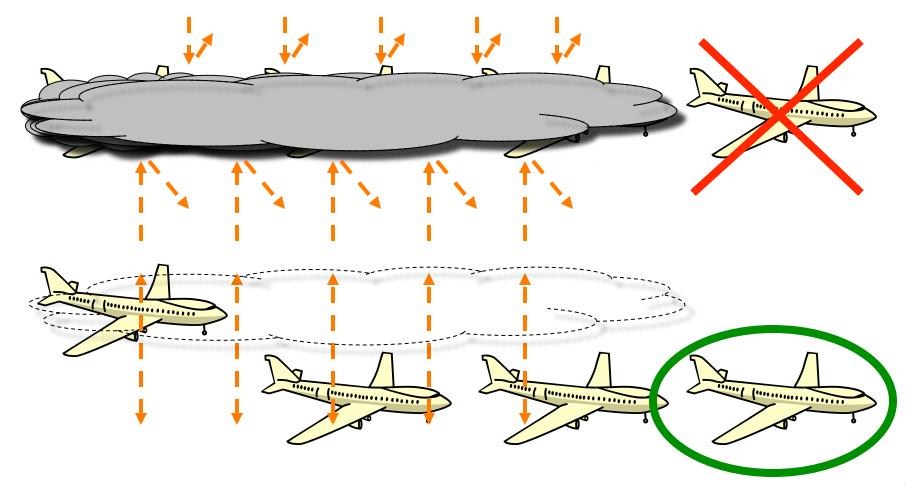
Aviation-induced environmental impacts include

- Direct emissions:  $CO_2$ , Water vapor and other greenhouse gasses
- Indirect effects:  $NO_x$  affecting distributions of Ozone and Methane



#### **Environmental Impact - Contrails**

Aviation-induced environmental impacts also include effects associated with contrail formation



# **Contributions**

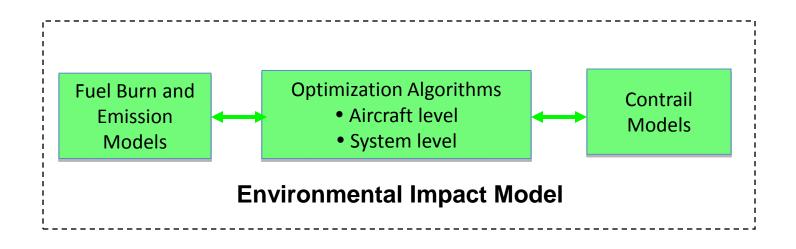
- Integrate environmental models to air traffic system models
- Enable trade-offs study among contrail formations and emissions
- Provide capability for evaluation of environmental policy based on scientific findings

# Outline

- Environmental Impact Model
- Air Traffic System Model
- Integrated System
- Trade-off Study
- Conclusions

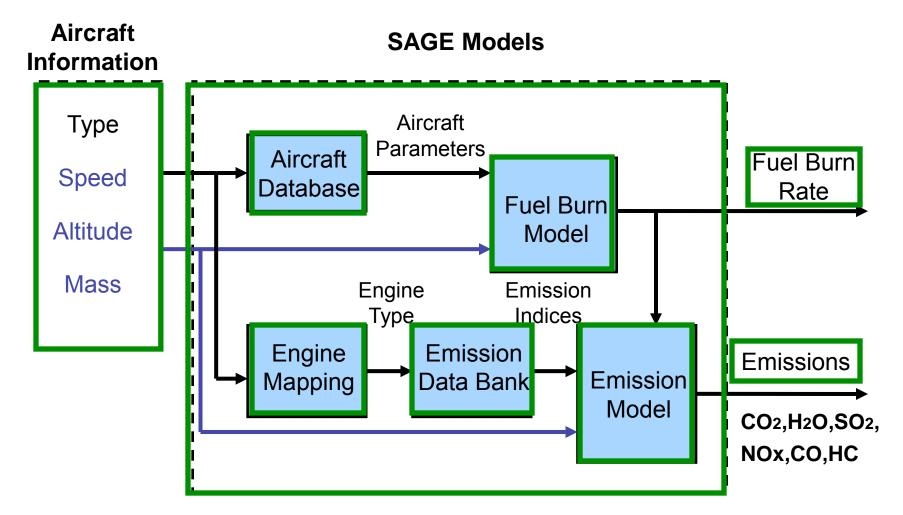


#### **Environmental Impact Model**

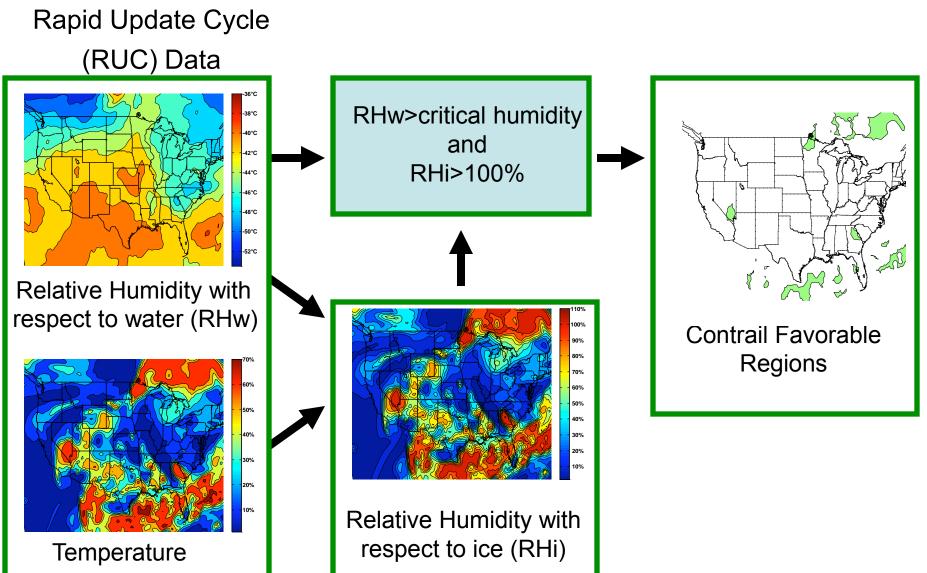


# **Fuel Burn and Emission Models**

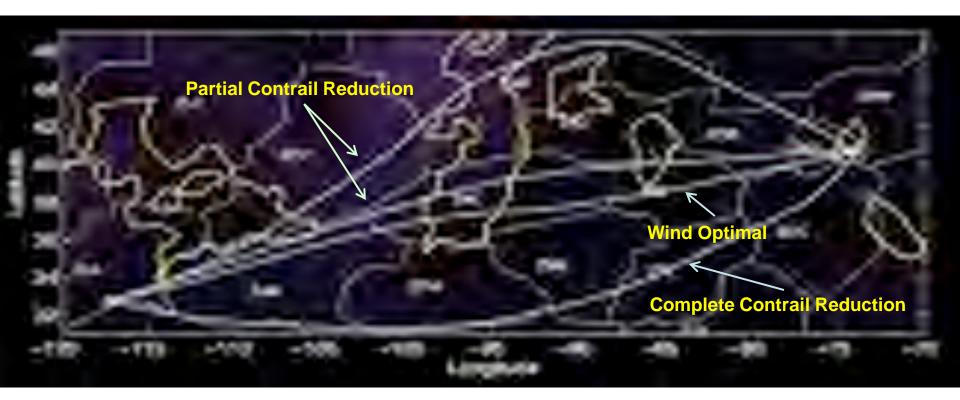
Use FAA's System for Accessing Aviation's Global Emissions (SAGE) Models



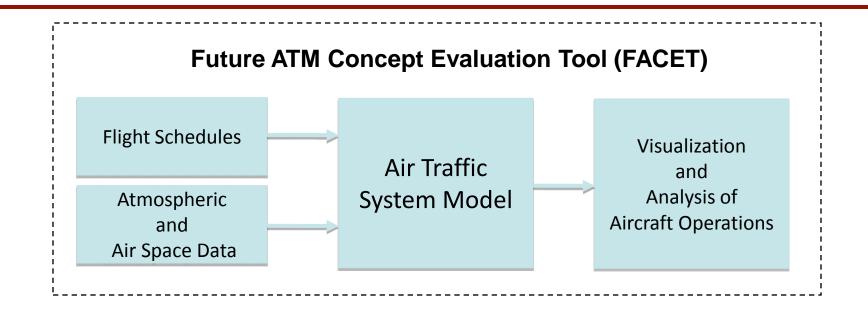
# **Contrail Models**



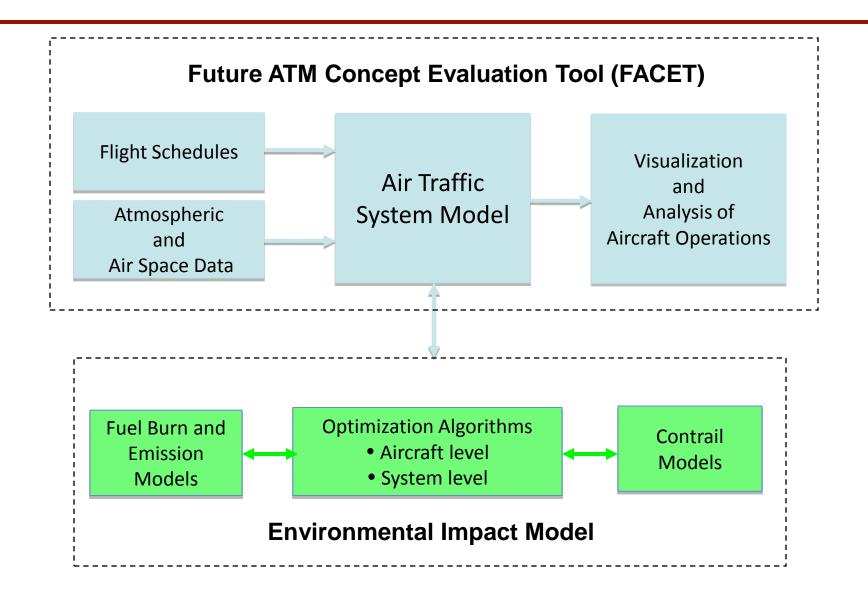
### **Optimization Algorithms**



### **Air Traffic System Model**



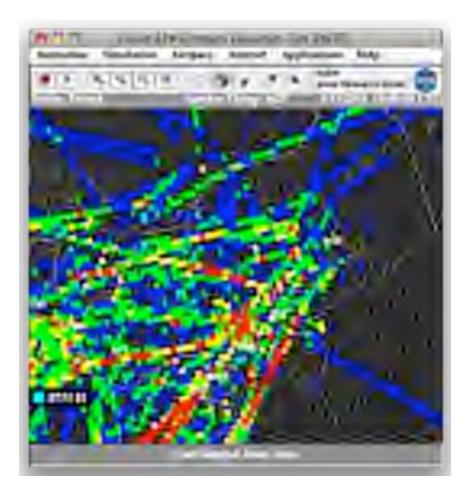
#### **Integrated System**



# **Integrated System Display - Emissions**

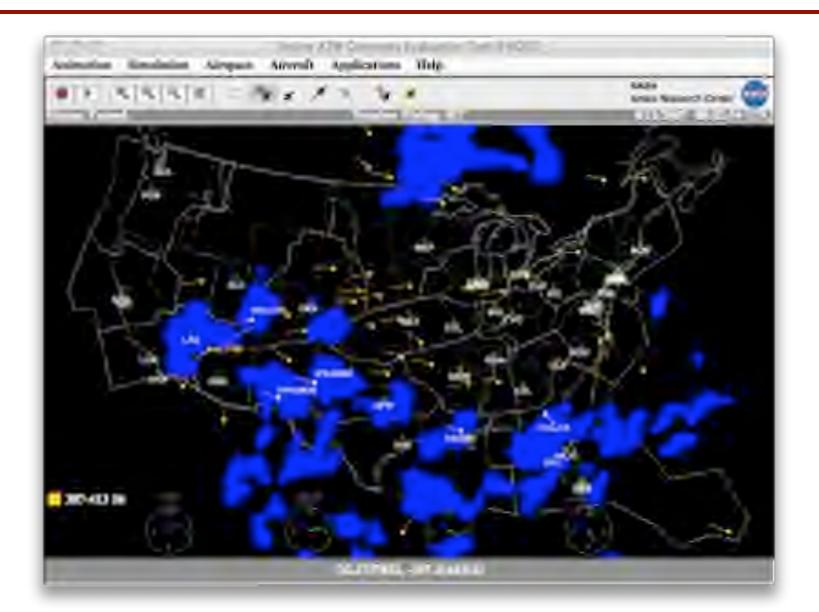


Entire US



Zoom-In around New York Area

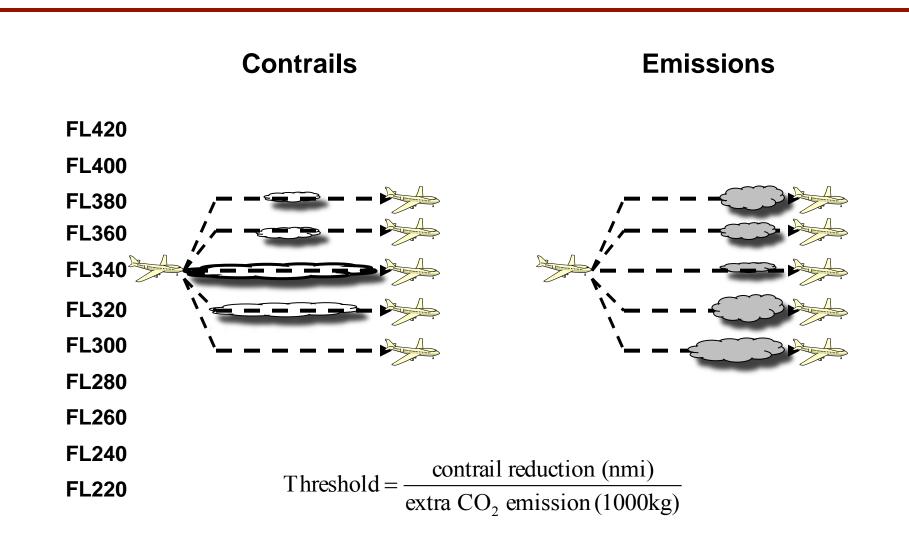
#### **Integrated System Display – Contrails**



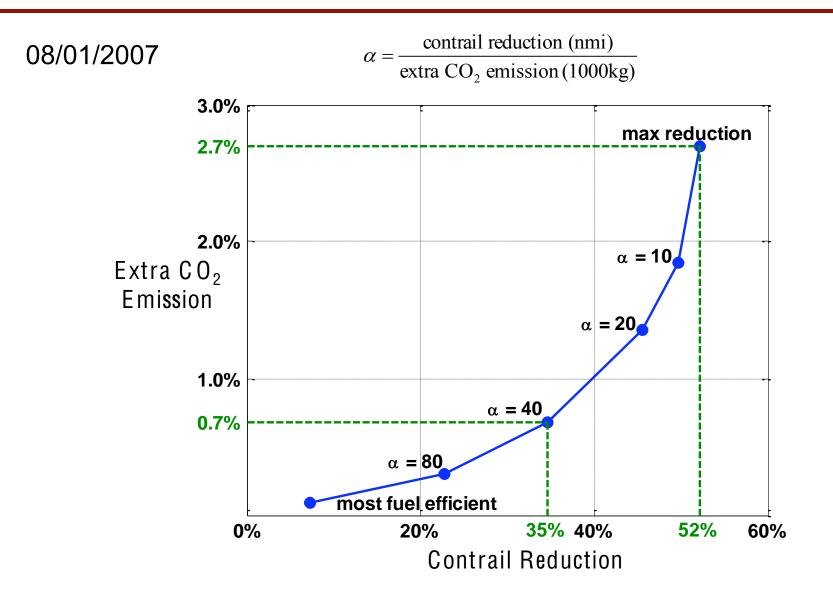
# **Trade-off Study – Contrails and Emissions**

- Reduce contrail formation by changing aircraft pre-departure cruising altitudes
  - 1. find aircraft at the same cruising altitude
  - 2. compute total contrails formed and emissions at different cruising altitudes
  - 3. select altitude with least contrails
- Contrail reductions result in extra emissions

### **Contrail Reduction Strategy**



### **Result of the Trade-offs Study**



### Conclusions

- Integrate environmental models to air traffic system models
- Enable trade-offs study among contrail formations and emissions
- Provide capability for decision maker to evaluate environmental policy based on scientific findings