Photogrammetry On A Hypersonic Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerator

March 26, 2013

AAIA Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Technology Conference
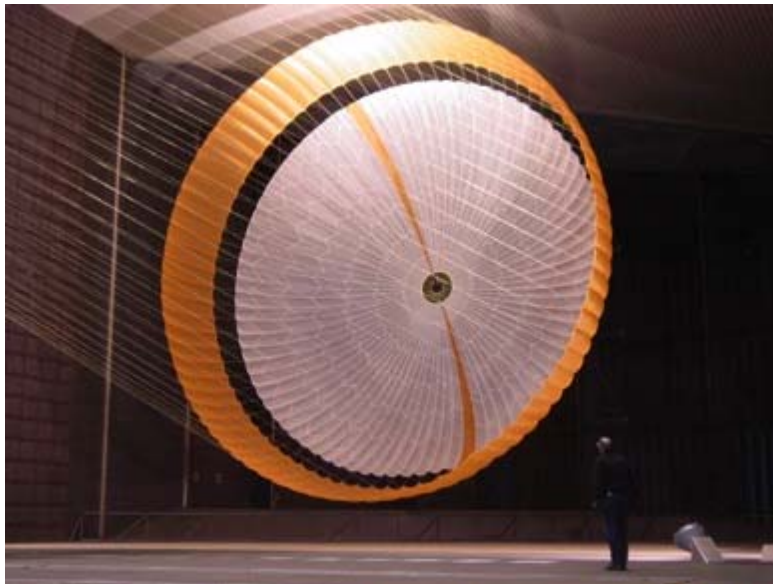
Laura Kushner, Justin Littell, Alan Cassell
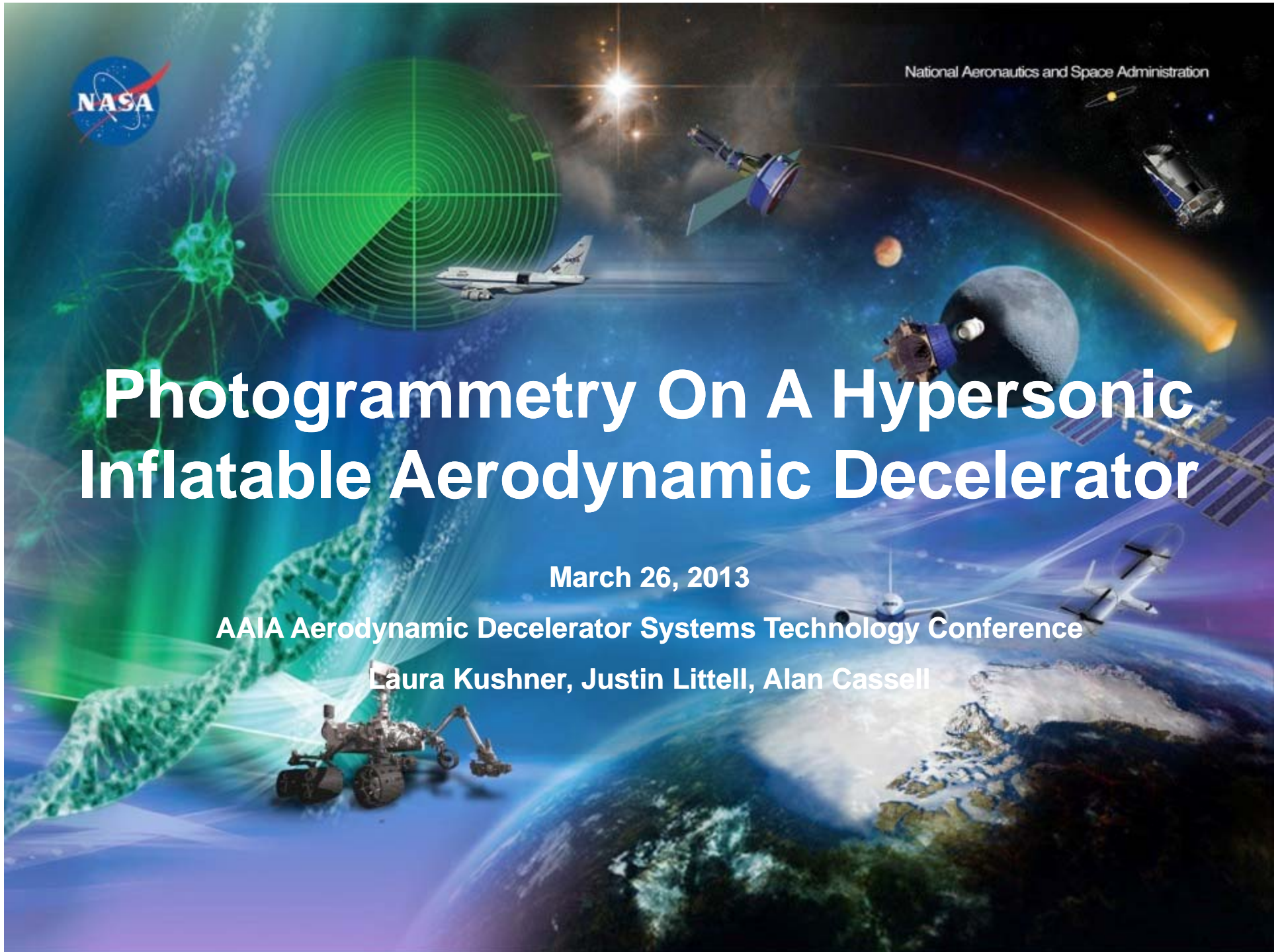
HIAD/Decelerator Overview

- Current Entry Decent and Landing Technology: Disk Gap Band Parachutes and rigid Thermal Protection Systems (TPS)

  - 1.5 metric ton limit on Mars

- New methods of landing higher masses on bodies with thin atmospheres are needed.

HIAD/Decelerator Overview

- One option: Inflatable Aerodynamic Decelerators (IADs)
- HIAD – Hypersonic IAD
  - Deployed before atmosphere
    - Controlled and longer deceleration
  - Mass/volume savings
  - Diameters unconstrained by launch vehicles
- HIAD Project
  - Stacked Toroid, spherical nose cone, flexible TPS
  - Ground Test Program
    - Improve and verify HIAD performance
    - Measure surface deflection
      - Photogrammetry
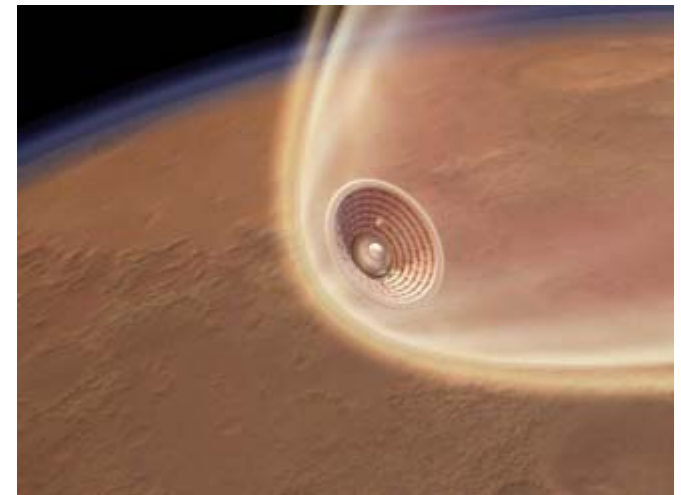
National Full-scale Aerodynamics Complex (NFAC)
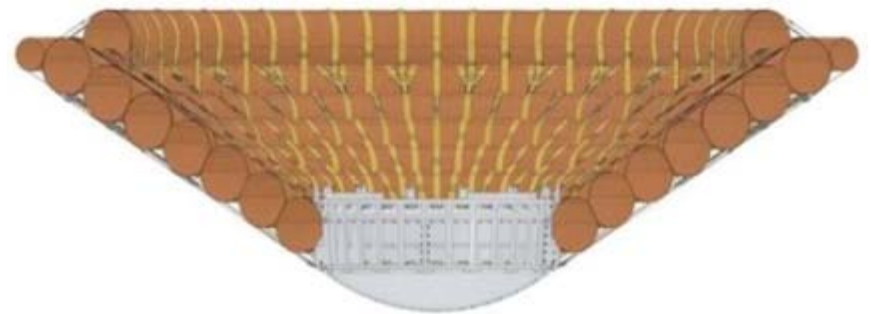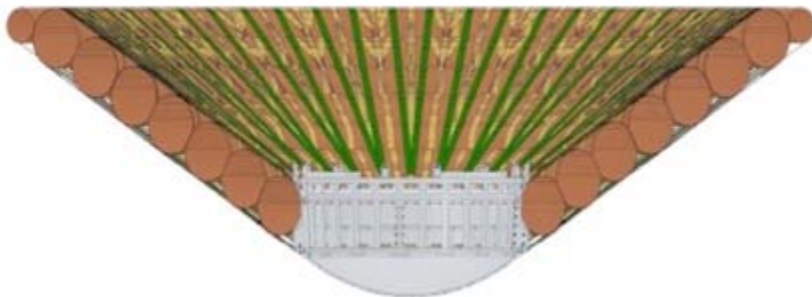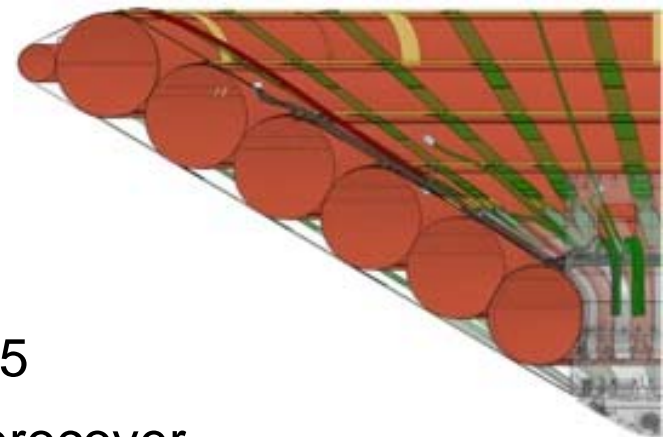
- 40- by 80- foot test section

- Acoustically lined

    - Limited optical access

HIAD Models

- 2 Stacked Toroid models
  - 6-meter
  - 3-meter
- 60 degree half-angle
- 2 configurations
  - 6-meter: with and without torus T6.5
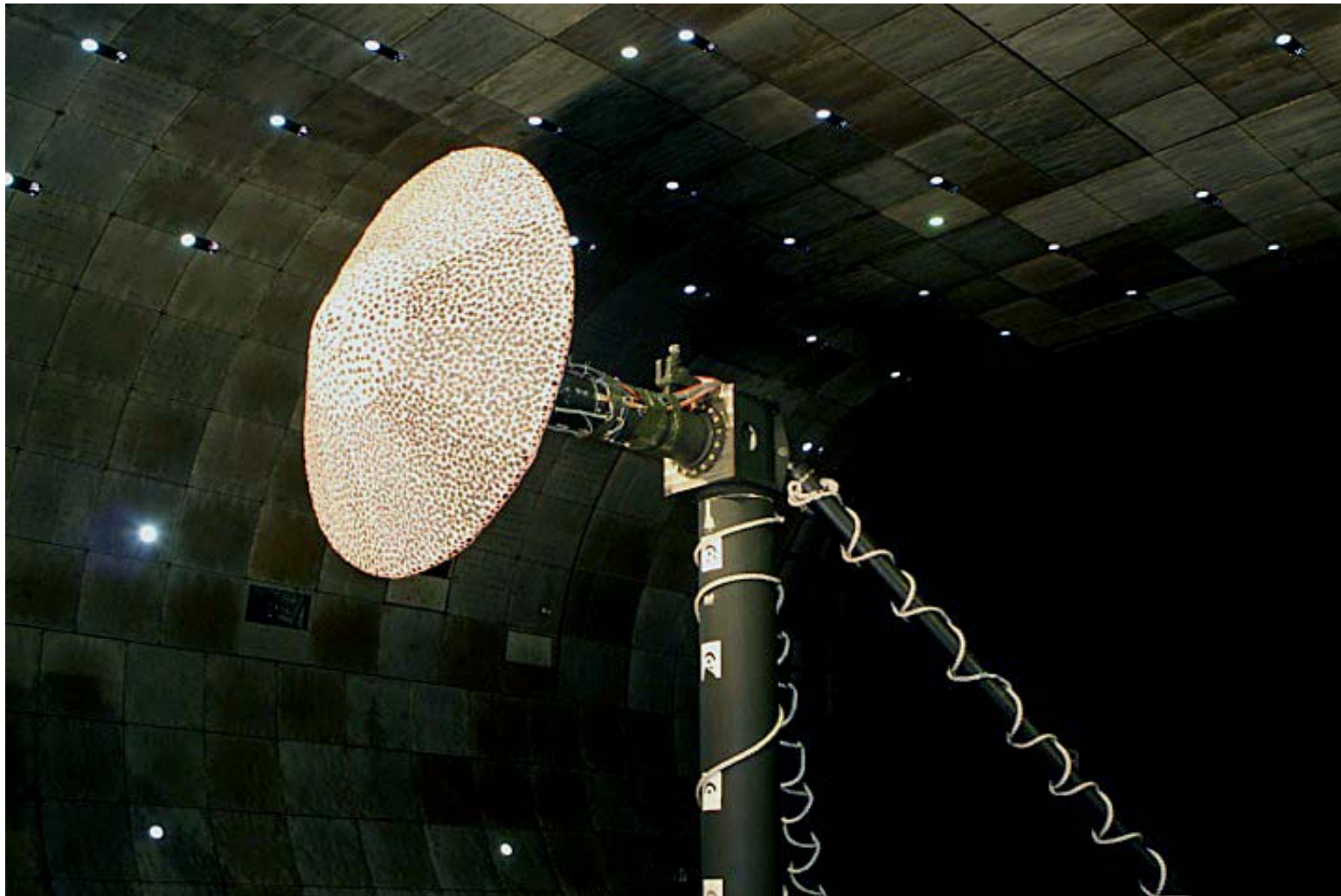 - 3-meter: with a TPS and flexible aerocover

6-meter HIAD Test Article in the 40- by 80- foot Test Section

3-meter HIAD Test Article in the test section, with TPS

Photogrammetry

- Optical method for measuring the spatial coordinates of points on an object.
- Two or more cameras are used to image a Region of Interest (ROI) on a model.
- Cameras calibrated by imaging an object with targets of known spacing.
- Spatial coordinates located from image-plane coordinates and camera coefficients determined during calibration.
- Targets or speckles

- Requirements:
  - Measure entire front face of 8.5 meter model
 - Full range of model attitudes

Photogrammetry Setup Design

- Commercial system adapted to make measurements
  - ARAMIS 5M by GOM
    - Tabletop photogrammetry system-- analysis immediately after acquisition
    - 2 cameras
      - 5 megapixel, 3.45 micron pitch
      - 15 Hz
    - Rigid mounting bar
      - 15 to 25 degree convergence angle
      - Software assumptions add additional constraints
- Extensive system design to adapt to Production Environment
  - Virtual Imaging to optimize camera placement
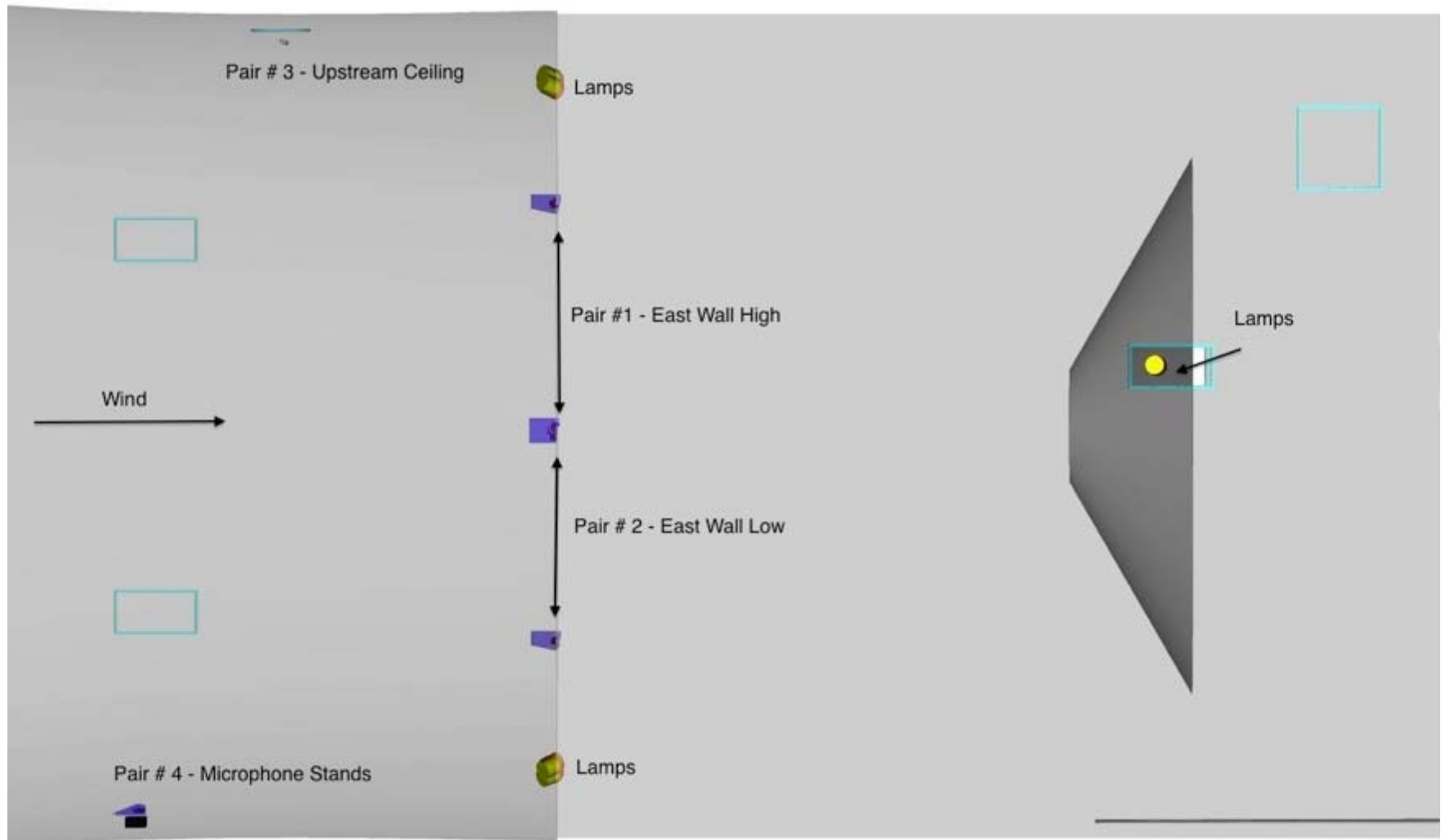 - Custom data flow scripts to adapt to production testing
  - Full coverage requires 4 ARAMIS 5M systems

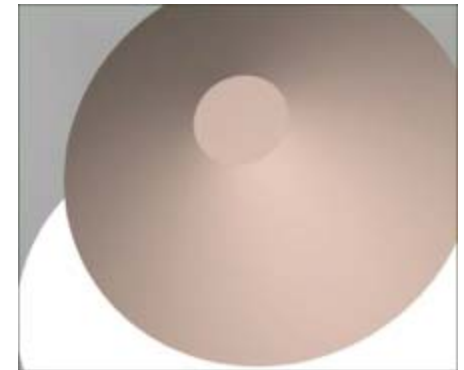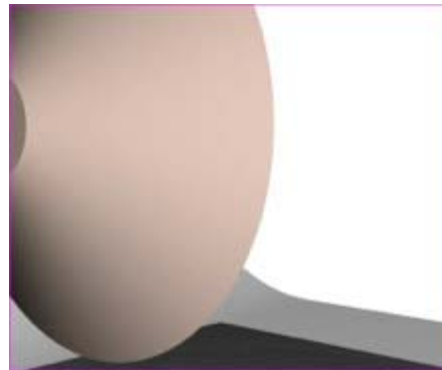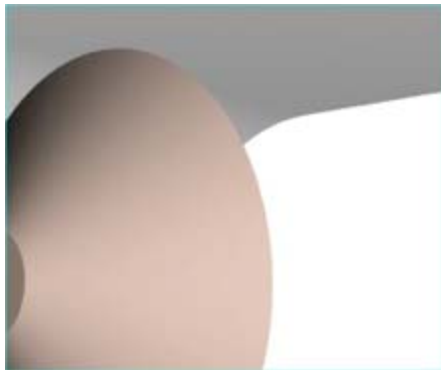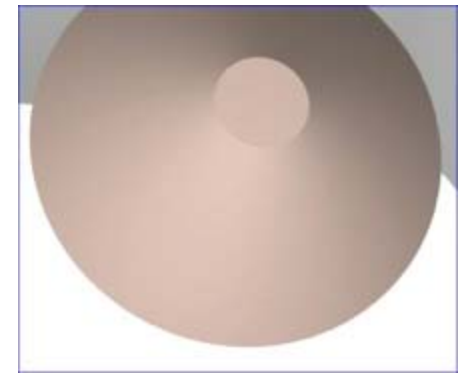# Virtual System Setup in the NFAC – Upstream View
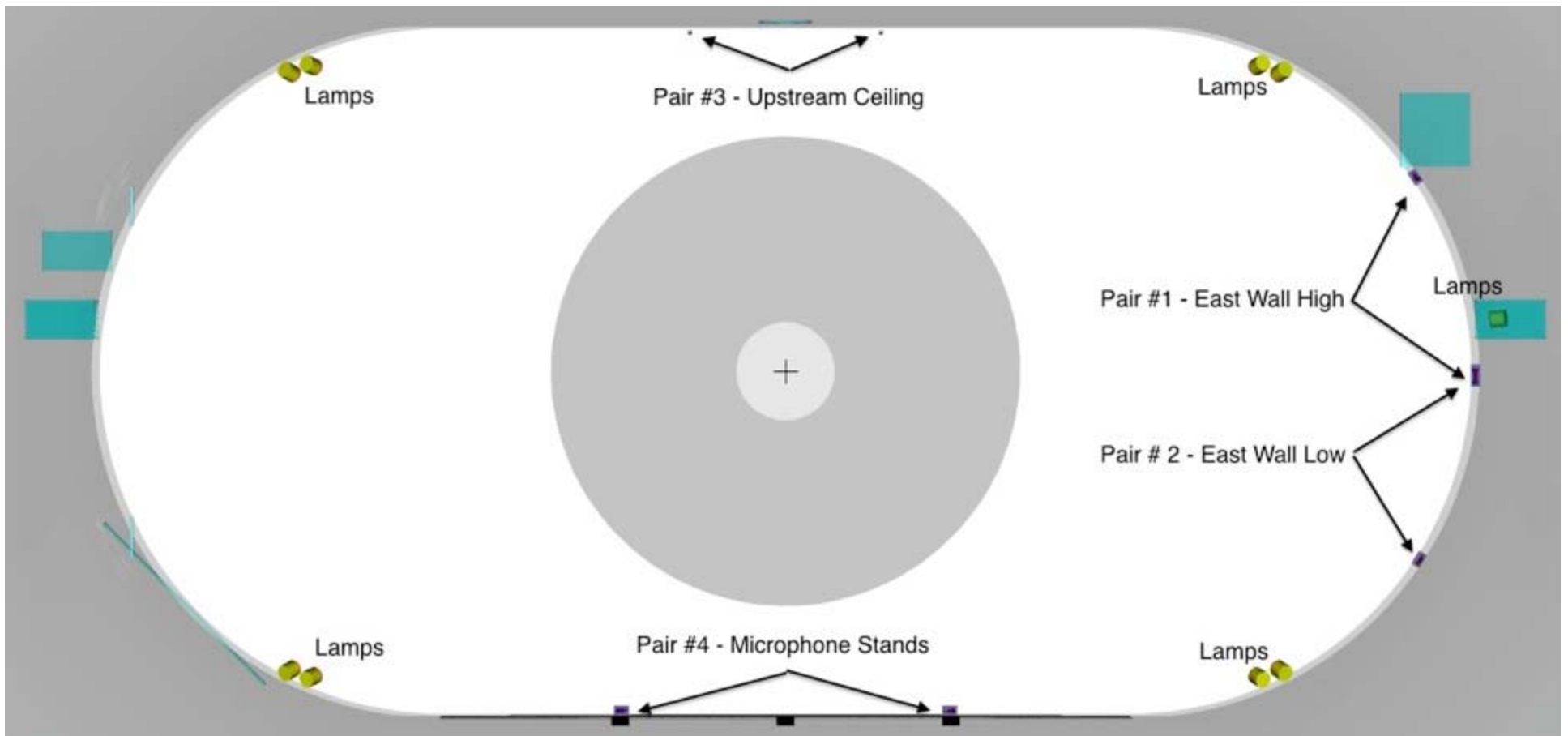
Virtual System Setup in the NFAC – Side View

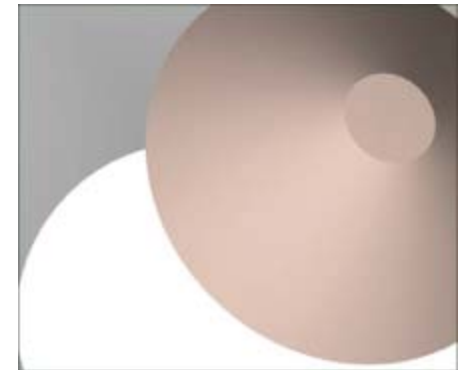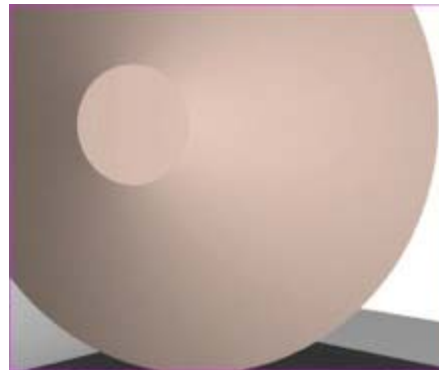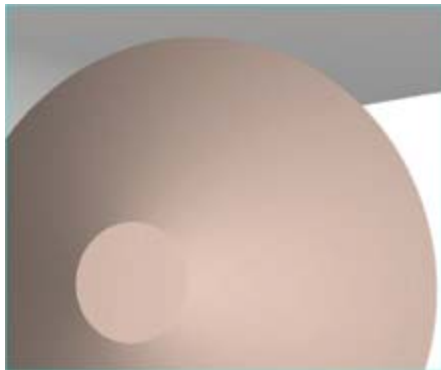# Predicted Camera Views – Yaw: 0 degrees
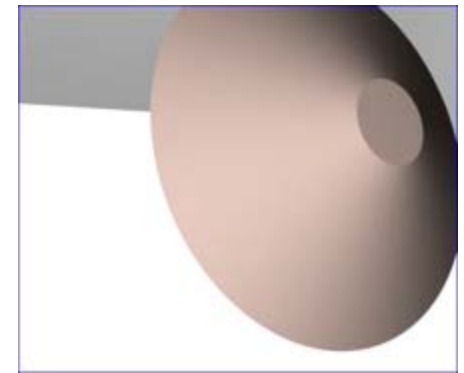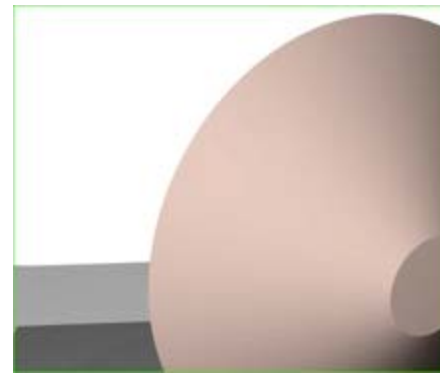

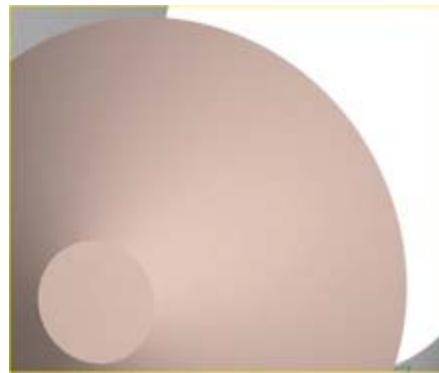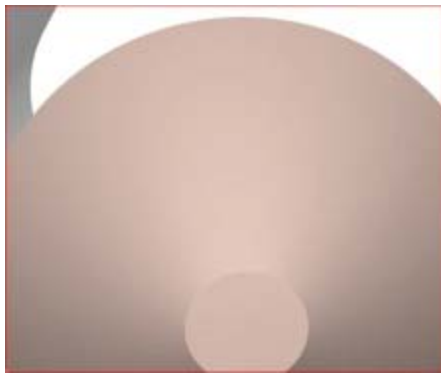**Pair 1**
East High

Pair 2
East Low

Pair 3
Upstream Ceiling

Pair 4
Microphone Stands

Predicted Camera Views – Yaw: -25 degrees

**Pair 1**
East High

Pair 2
East Low

Pair 3
Upstream Ceiling

Pair 4
Microphone Stands

Calibration

- ROI: 40 ft. x 30 ft. x 30 ft.
- No suitable calibration object
- Create calibration cross
    - 20 coded targets
    - Targets located with a commercial photogrammetry system, calibrated with a known calibration object
- Large Area Calibration – Reverse Logic
    - Move the cameras instead of the cross
    - Lens distortion: rotate cameras
    - Span measurement volume: reposition cameras throughout test section
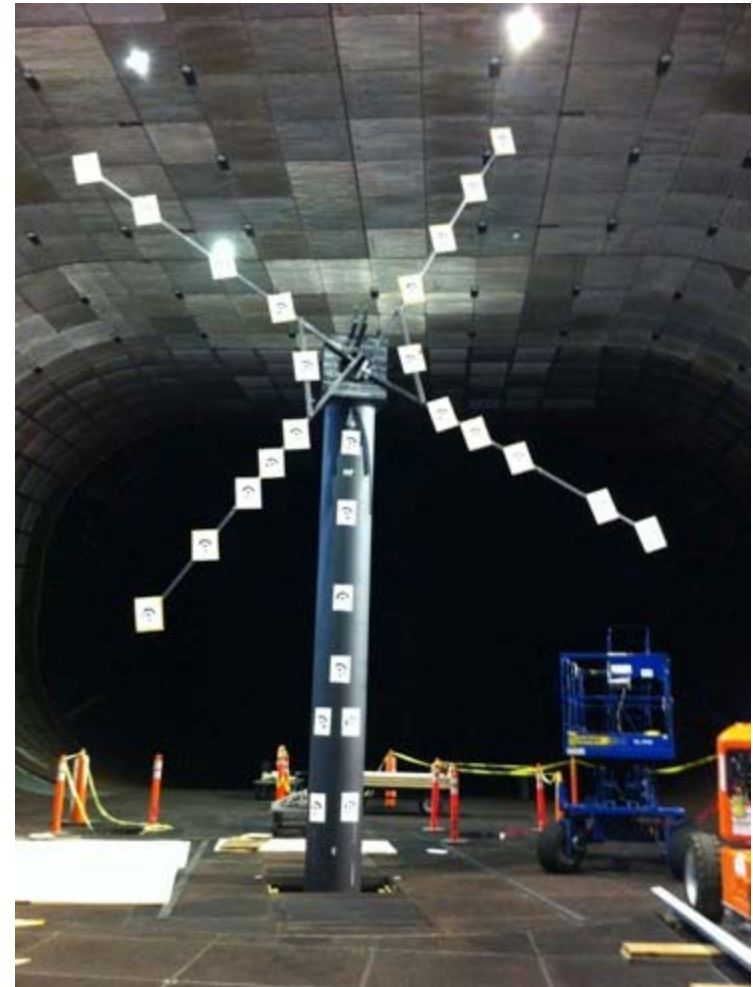
Camera Installation
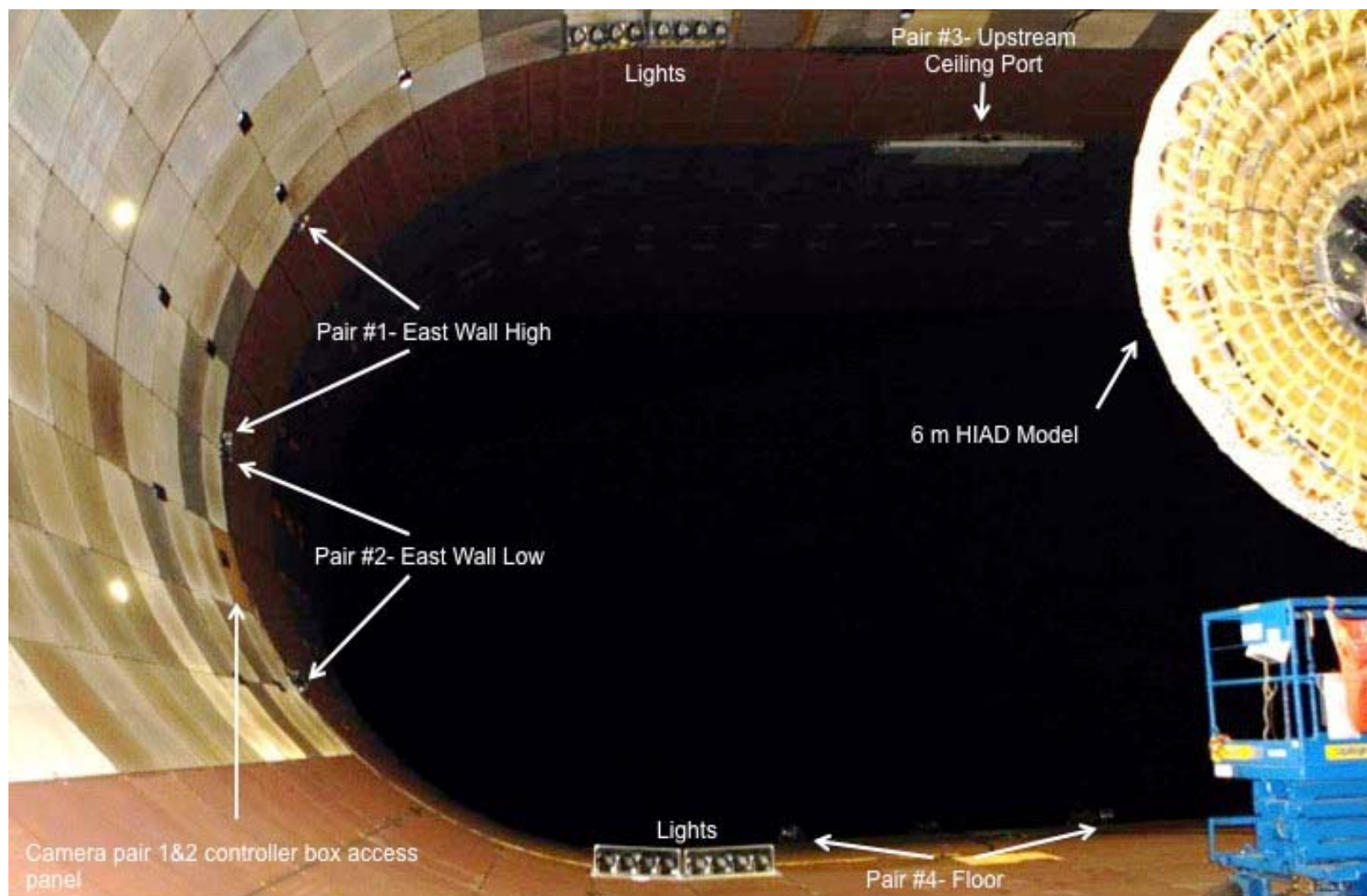
Camera Installation – Microphone Stands

Camera Installation – Ceiling Dome and East Wall

Targets

- 3 and 5 pixels

- 0.75 and 1.25 inches in diameter

- 6-meter: printed directly to aerocover

- 3-meter: hand-stamped with ink

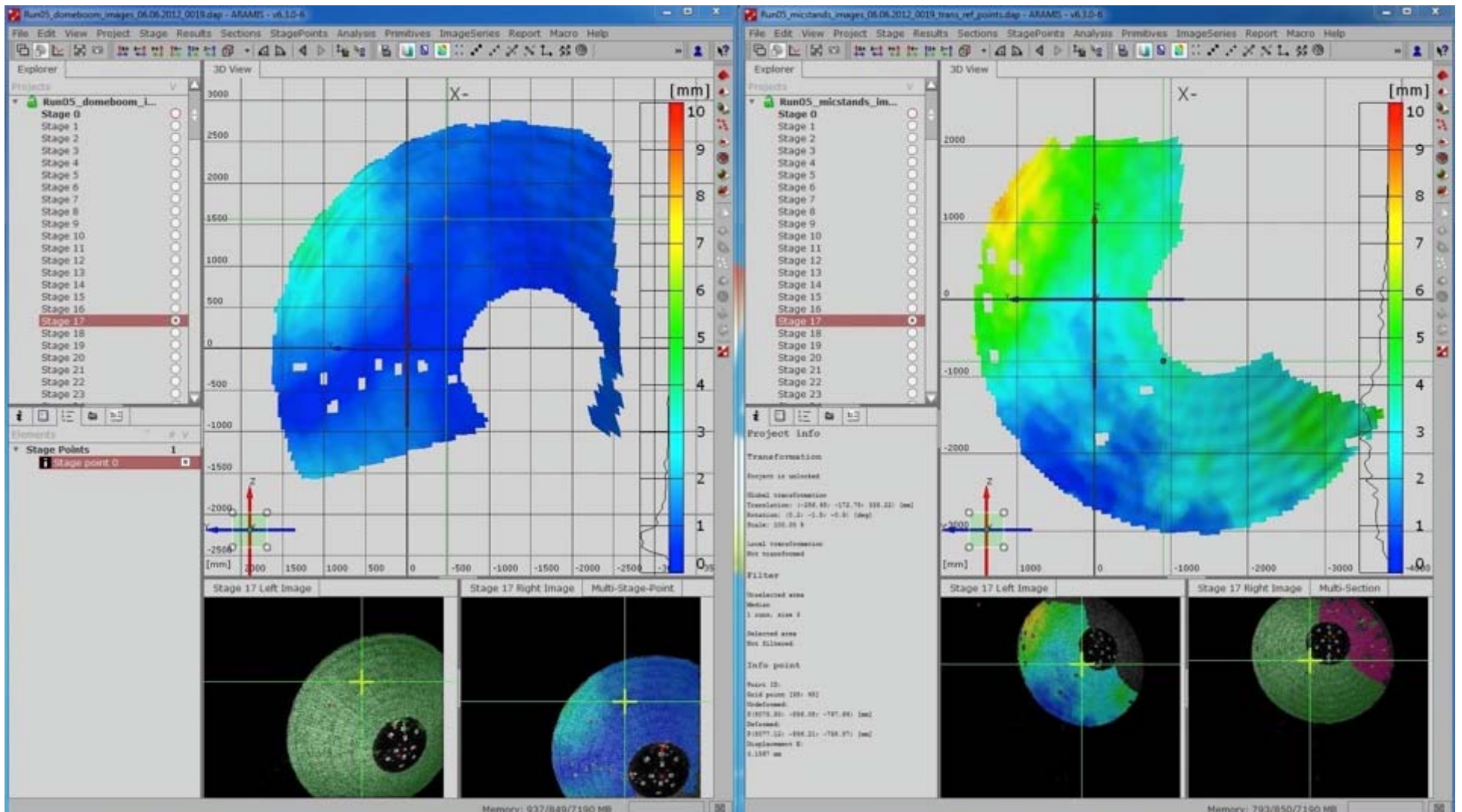| Model	Spatial Resolution (pixels/inch)
3-meter	4 to 9
6-meter	6 to 13
8-meter	5 to 13

Illumination

- 34 Sourcefour Par EA-A theater lamps

  - 750 Watts

  - Tungsten
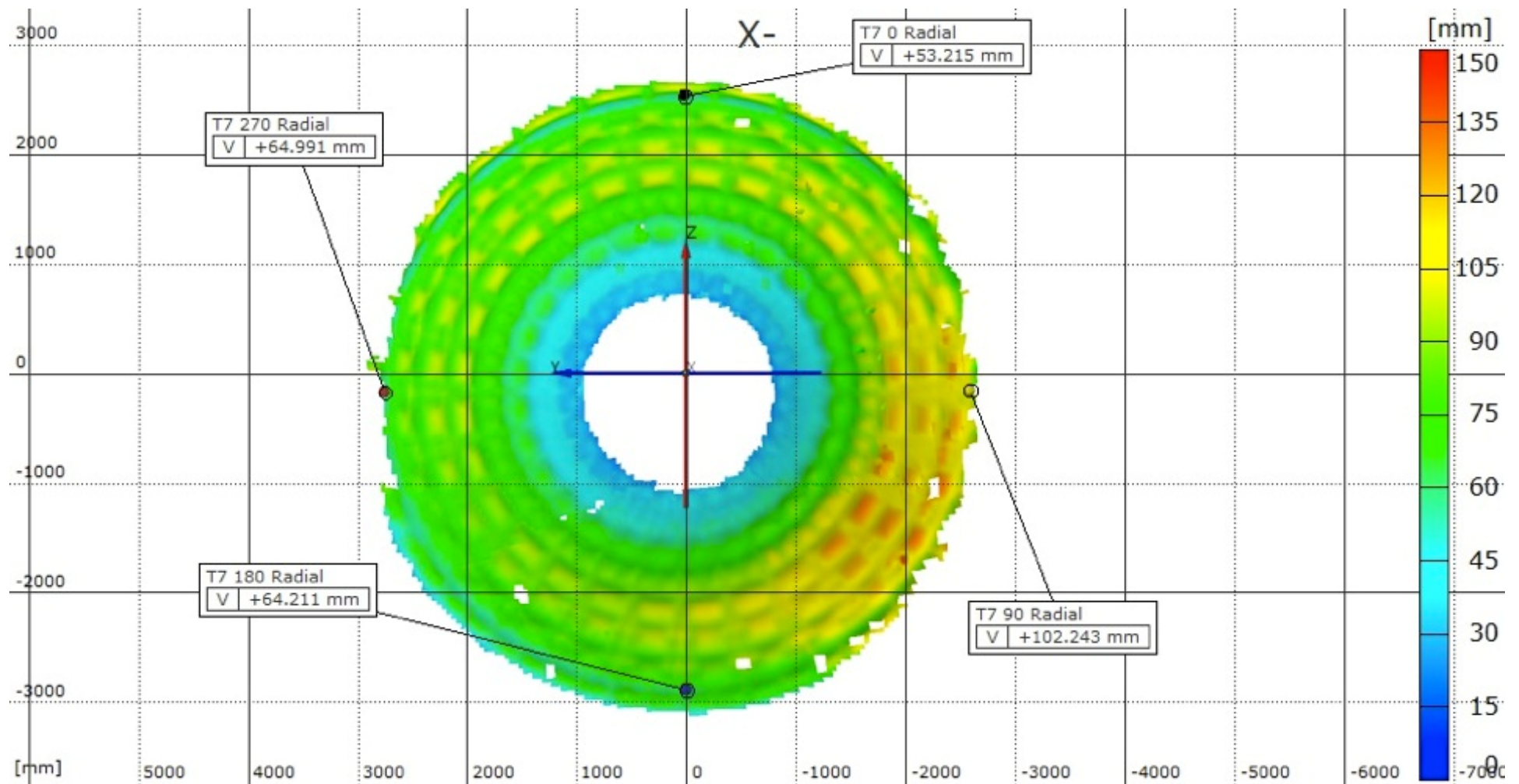
  - 20 degree Fresnel lens

Quick Look Data

Stitched Data

Summary

- Two large-scale HIADs were successfully tested.
- The main objective of measuring model deflections under aerodynamic loading that approximated expected flight conditions with stereo photogrammetry was met.
- Four commercial ARAMIS 5M photogrammetry systems were successfully adapted to measure the deformation of HIAD.
- The data will be used for comparisons to and refinement of Fluid Structure Interaction models.

- Image Credits:
    - NASA/JPL-Caltech
    - NASA Ames Research Center
    - Alan Cassell
    - Justin Littell