# Flight Deck Surface Trajectory-Based Operations (STBO): A Four-Dimensional Trajectory (4DT) Simulation



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#### **Flight Deck Simulation**

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Flight Deck (B737NG) Simulation:
– Pilot-in-the-Loop Simulation
– Far-Term Concept for Surface Operations
– Human-Centered Systems Lab (HCSL)
– Airport and Terminal Area Simulator (ATAS)



#### **Airport Surface Operations**

- Concepts, research efforts, programs, and activities aimed at improving operations on the airport surface:
  - Coordinate surface movement to:
    - reduce congestion and excessive queues at departure runways
  - Improve the predictability of surface operations:
    - specifically, takeoff time
  - Reduce the environmental impacts of taxi operations:
     reduce inefficient stop-and-go-taxi

# Surface Trajectory-Based Operations (STBO) Concept:

- Incorporates a time-component into taxi operations



Current-DayNear-Term w/Far-Term withFar-TermSurfaceTarget TimesFlight DeckFull 4DTOperationsComponentOperations

Increasing Use of **Time Information** in Surface Trajectory-Based Operations (STBO)



























# Four-Dimensional Trajectory (4DT) Concept:

- Expected Location (x, y) based on 4DT Speed Profile
- At all times, t, along the taxi route
- Altitude is fixed on the surface

Okuniak, Gerdes, Jakobi, Ludwig, Hooey, Cheng, & Foyle (2014)





# Four-Dimensional Trajectory (4DT) Concept:

- Enables coordination of all surface traffic
- Ensures conflict-free taxi routes
- Goals: Improve efficiency, predictability; reduce fuel burn





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# Four-Dimensional Trajectory (4DT) Concept:

- Assumes the use of an ATC surface management system
- Schedules surface traffic, generates a 4DT clearance for each aircraft, monitors conformance, resolves conflicts





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#### 4DT Concepts of Operations (ConOps)

NASA/TM-2014-218354	
A Concept of Operations for Far-Term Surface Trajectory- Based Operations (STBO)	
Becky L. Hooey San Jose State University Foundation	
Victor H. L. Cheng Optimal Synthesis Inc.	
David C. Forfe X&SJ. Amer Research Contor	
June 2014	

#### Far-Term Surface Trajectory-Based Operations (STBO) ConOps

Hooey, Cheng, & Foyle (2014)

13-17 June 2036, Weshington, D 16th AUAA Aviation Technology DOI: 10.2514/6.2016.0753	C. Integration, and Operations Conference	CrossMark
	A Concept of Operations for Trajectory-Based Taxi	
	Operations	
	Nikolai Okuniek <sup>1</sup> , Ingrid Gerdes <sup>2</sup> , Jöm Jakobi <sup>3</sup> , and Thomas Ludwig <sup>4</sup> German Aerospace Center, Brannichweig, Germany, 38108	
	Beeky L. Hooey <sup>5</sup> San Jone State University at NASA Amer Research Center, Maffett Field, CA, USA, 94035	
	David C. Foyle <sup>6</sup> and Yoon C. Jung <sup>7</sup> NASA Amor Research Center, Moffett Field, CA, USA, 94035	
	and	
	Zhifan Zhu <sup>8</sup> Stünger Ghaffarian Technologies Inc., Moffett Field, C.4, US4, 94035	
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	Nomenclature	
4DT A-CDN ANSP ATC ATCO CADE	Four-Dimensional Trigicotoy     Anyor Collaborative Decision Making     Arr Navigation Service Provide     Ar Traffic Control     Ar Traffic Control     Ar Traffic Controller     Ar Control Controller     Ar Control Controller     Ar Control Controller	
<sup>1</sup> Reset <sup>2</sup> Reset <sup>4</sup> Reset <sup>4</sup> Reset <sup>5</sup> Sr. R. <sup>6</sup> Homa <sup>7</sup> Airro Sector <sup>8</sup> Sr. So	en minute Granna Aenopee Catte inforte of High Cristiane Department of Consoler Annual Sensitization Commun Aenopee Catter, Indiane Catter Consoler Annual et al. 2019 Commun Aenopee Catter, Indiane Catter (Catter Catter), and the Arrange- tent information Commun Aenopee Catter, Indiane Catter (Catter Catter), and annual et al. 2019 Console Catter, Indiane Catter (Catter), and annual Catter, Annual Information Commun Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Catter Catter, Catter Catter, Catter Catter, Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Annual Catter, Mander Mander Catter, Stinger Chaffinian T-chenologies et XASA Annua Fouenah Catter, MS 2014	tance on 262-4 4 210-6,
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
	American institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics	

#### Harmonized U.S. / European Trajectory-Based Taxi Operations ConOps

Okuniak, Gerdes, Jakobi, Ludwig, Hooey, Foyle, Jung, & Zhu (2016) (DLR and NASA)



# Supporting 4DT STBO on the Flight Deck:

- Previous pilot-in-the-loop 4DT Flight Deck simulation
- Airport Moving Map (AMM) augmented with 4DT taxi clearance information.

Bakowski, Hooey, Foyle, & Wolter (2015)





### **Airport Moving Map (AMM)**

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#### Flight Deck Display: Airport Moving Map (AMM)





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#### **4DT Information on Airport Moving Map (AMM)**





#### **Previous Pilot-in-the-Loop 4DT Simulation:**

– Along-Route Conformance: % Time in Allowable Tolerance

#### **Speed-Advisory** 4DT +/- 30 sec (No 4DT on AMM) GS 14 001 s GS 14 271 34 Y UAL566 AAL262 HR EJ KB K +/- 30 DAL143 sec K > K8 > L > B > F > WP Start 18:46:43 16 KTS Queue 18:55:10

Bakowski, Hooey, Foyle, & Wolter (2015)

#### 4DT +/- 15 sec



Verbal Clearance: "Taxi at 14 kts"

4DT Info on AMM

#### 4DT Info on AMM



#### Previous Pilot-in-the-Loop 4DT Simulation:

– Along-Route Conformance: % Time in Allowable Tolerance





# **Present Flight Deck 4DT Study**

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## **Previous Simulation**

**One 4DT Display Format** 

4DT Straightaway Speed held constant in each trial

4DT Speeds: 14, 15, or 16 kts

4DT Route Start: Spot

Time-based Tolerance

Dallas/Fort-Worth Airport

Bakowski, Hooey, Foyle, & Wolter (2015)

# **Present Simulation**

- → 4DT Format Comparison
- 4DT Speed Changes Mid-Taxi



Range of Realistic Taxi Speeds: 8 kts – 25 kts



**Distance-based Tolerance** 



Charlotte Douglas Airport

Bakowski, Hooey, & Foyle (2017)



# Airport and Terminal Area Simulator SJSU





#### **Defined-Conformance Display Format**

- Distance-based Tolerance Bands (length constant)



Proposed distance threshold in DLR's TRACC system for conformance monitoring.



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Approximates the length of smaller band from the previous study.



## **Undefined-Conformance Display Format**

- 4DT Indicator: Expected 4DT location (x, y at all times, t)
- No Allowable Tolerance displayed; Undefined 4DT deviation





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#### **Instructions to Pilots**

#### **Defined-Conformance Format**



- "You are in compliance with the 4DT clearance when the ownship icon is within the tolerance band."
- "No need to track the 4DT reference markers precisely."

#### **Undefined-Conformance Format**



- "You decide how "close is close enough" to taxi to the dot and you can taxi ahead of, or behind, the 4DT dot."
- Pilots defined conformance as they saw fit.



#### **4DT Taxi Clearance**

- One continuous clearance from Gate to RWY Queue





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# **4DT Speed Changes**

- Each trial included 2 or 5 4DT Speed Changes during taxi
- Flight deck alerted to speed change by auditory tone

# 2 Speed Changes

(Segment distance: 1,645 ft - 2,834 ft)



(Segment distance: 887 ft - 1,630 ft)







#### Range of Realistic Taxi Speeds, 8 kts – 25 kts

- Assigned speeds to taxi segments in such a way as to create 'Slow' and 'Fast' average speed trials.
- Slower speeds used in the Ramp Area than in AMA because of proximity to terminal, other aircraft, and turns.





#### **Pilot Participants**

- Assumed the role of Captain in the simulation
- 12 Commercial/Cargo Pilots participated in the simulation:
  - 11 were Captains, one was a First Officer
  - 11 were Current, one was recently retired
  - Average age: 56 years
  - All 12 pilots had taxi experience



# A member of the research team assumed the role of the First Officer in the simulation to create 2-person crews:

- First Officer provided navigation and traffic awareness support in a consistent manner to each pilot
- Acknowledged 4DT speed changes, "Speed Change"



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#### **4DT Taxi Clearance**

- 4DT Taxi Clearance sent to the Flight Deck via DataComm
- 4DT information propagates into Flight Deck Avionics





#### DataComm Enables Flight Deck / ATC Coordination in 4DT Operations







# Charlotte Douglas Airport (KCLT)

- Departure taxi-out trials
- Two taxi routes
- 4DT Route extends from Gate to RWY queue
- Traffic in the Ramp Area and at the RWY (did not conflict)

#### **Concourse D to RWY 18C**



#### **Concourse A to RWY 18L**





#### **12 Experimental Trials**

- Created by repeating the four Speed Change/Speed trials:
  - 2 Speed Changes / 'Slow' Average Speed
  - 2 Speed Changes / 'Fast' Average Speed
  - 5 Speed Changes / 'Slow' Average Speed
  - 5 Speed Changes / 'Fast' Average Speed
- In each of the three Display Format conditions:







- Display conditions were blocked and counterbalanced
- Practice trial before each Display Format block



#### **Present Study**

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#### **Taxi Simulation Variables**

- 4DT Display Formats
  - Defined Tolerance +/- 164 ft (+/- 50 m)
  - Defined Tolerance +/- 405 ft (+/- 123 m)
  - Undefined Tolerance (dot)
- 4DT Speed Changes (2 or 5 per trial)
- 4DT Speeds (8 kts 25 kts) ('Slow' or 'Fast')

#### Results

- Conformance to the 4DT Clearance
  - Distance between Ownship and Expected 4DT Location
  - Percent Time Ownship within a Distance Range
- Eyes-Out Time (eye-tracker data)
- Pilot ratings of eyes-out time, safety, and workload









# **Distance (Absolute Value) from 4DT Indicator**

- Distance between Ownship and Expected 4DT Location
- Distance from 4DT Location recorded during taxi (20 hz)
- Absolute Value: Ownship in front of or behind 4DT location





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Distance (Absolute Value) between Ownship and Expected 4DT Location



**3 (4DT display format) by 2 (4DT speed) by 2 (4DT speed changes) repeated-measures ANOVA:** 4DT speed by number of 4DT speed changes interaction, F(1,11) = 5.13,  $p < .05^*$ 

#### Pilots taxied a greater distance from the expected 4DT location:

- In the +/- 405 ft Defined-Tolerance Condition (92.2 ft) than in +/- 164 ft (67.5 ft).
  - However, in both conditions, pilots taxi well-within the defined-conformance bounds.
- In the 'slow' avg. speed condition (93.8 ft) than in 'fast' avg. speed (75.9 ft).
  - Pilots indicated that it may be challenging to maintain slower speeds (8 or 9 kts) and may require more control inputs (e.g., braking). Pilots use their brakes sparingly during taxi.
- In the 5 4DT speed change condition (86.3 ft) than with 2 changes (83.3 ft).
  - Considerations for the frequency, and magnitude of, 4DT speed changes in 4DT operations.



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Distance (Absolute Value) between Ownship and Expected 4DT Location



**3 (4DT display format) by 2 (4DT speed) by 2 (4DT speed changes) repeated-measures ANOVA:** 4DT speed by number of 4DT speed changes interaction, F(1,11) = 5.13,  $p < .05^*$ 

#### Pilots taxied a greater distance from the expected 4DT location:

- Average distance in the +/- 405 ft and Undefined (dot) are similar.
  - However, the *range* of distances was larger in the Undefined-Tolerance Format (taxi strategy).
  - The Undefined-Tolerance (dot) Display Format allowed pilots to interpret 'conformance' and employ different taxi strategies.
  - One pilot maintained a distance well ahead of the 4DT indicator in the 'slow' average speed/fivespeed change trial to ensure precise arrival at the queue.\*



#### Percent Time Ownship in a Distance Range

- Percentage of total route time the ownship taxied within:
  - A tolerance bound in the Defined-Tolerance Display condition, or
  - A given distance range (+/- x ft) around the expected 4DT location









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#### 95% Conformance: Distance Range in which Pilots Taxied 95% of Route





#### **Conformance in the Defined-Tolerance Band Conditions**





#### **Eyes-Out Time**

#### Time spent scanning Out-the-Window (OTW) during taxi



**3 (4DT display format) by 2 (4DT speed) by 2 (4DT speed changes) repeated-measures ANOVA:** Main effect of 4DT Display Format F(2,16) = 3.17, p = .069; Main effect of 4DT Speed Changes F(1,8) = 5.24, p = .051

#### Less Time Scanning OTW:

- In the smaller +/- 163 ft Defined-Conformance Condition (61.8%).
- In the five-speed change condition (63.1%) vs. two changes (65.3%).



#### **Eyes-In Time Frequency**

During this trial, how often did you find yourself focusing on the speed and/or time displays when you should have been paying attention to the external taxiway environment?

# Eyes-In Time Acceptability

Rate the acceptability of the eyesin time required for each 4DT display format.

\*Pilots rated the +/- 405 ft band as more acceptable than +/- 164 ft band.



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# Workload / Safety (Subjective Ratings) SJSU

#### Workload

Overall workload required to successfully taxi each trial.

\*Pilots perceived workload to be higher with the +/- 164 ft band than with the +/- 405 ft band or the dot.

#### Safety

Rate the safety of taxiing with each of the 4DT display formats.

\*Pilots perceived safety to be higher with the +/- 405 ft band than with the +/- 164 ft band or the dot.





#### Summary:

- The larger +/- 405 ft Defined-Tolerance display afforded several positive findings:
  - 4DT Conformance was higher than the smaller band.
  - More "eyes out-the-window" time than the smaller +/-164 ft Defined-Tolerance band.
  - The "eyes-in" time associated with the larger Defined-Tolerance band was rated as **more acceptable** than the smaller Defined-Tolerance band.
  - Pilots also rated taxiing with the larger Defined-Tolerance band as safer than the smaller Defined-Tolerance Band.



#### Summary:

- Considerations for Pilots / Aircraft in 4DT Operations:
  - Frequency and magnitude of 4DT speed changes.
  - Pilots indicated that it may be challenging to maintain slower speeds (e.g., 8 or 9 kts) in an actual aircraft, and may require more control inputs (e.g., braking) to do so.
  - Pilots reported that they would be unlikely to maintain faster taxi speeds (e.g., 21–25 kts) while approaching a turn or the departure queue area, and therefore would increase brake use.
  - Might managing safety concerns on the flight deck (e.g., hot brakes) make pilots less responsive to 4DT speed changes (braking / throttling)?



#### **Future Research**

#### Flight Deck / ATC Communications

- Rejecting a 4DT clearance (before, or during, taxi)
- Renegotiating a 4DT clearance with ATC
- DataComm vs. voice communication

#### **Mixed-Equipage**

Weather, Low-Visibility

#### Traffic

- How to communicate an aircraft's intent? "Is that guy going to stop?"
- How to display another aircraft's 4DT?

#### **4DT Conformance**

#### Contaminated Taxiways

- How is non-conformance defined?
- What will the system do in the event of non-conformance?

#### **4DT Revisions**

- How much notice does the Flight Deck need for speed or taxi route revisions?
- How long does it take for the Flight Deck to make a speed or taxi route change?

Aircraft Safety Considerations		Flight Deck Off Nominals
(e.g., hot brakes)		- Mechanical issue
- Slower / fast taxi speeds		- Passenger stands-up during taxi
- Airport geometry		- Final weights are late; fix changes

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### **Future Research**

Bakowski, D. L., Hooey, B. L., Foyle, D. C., & Wolter, C. A. (2015). NextGen Surface Trajectory-Based Operations (STBO): Evaluating Conformance to 4-Dimensional Trajectories (4DT). In T. Ahram et al. (Eds.), 6th International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics (AHFE 2015) and the Affiliated Conferences, Procedia Manufacturing Vol. 3, (pp. 2458–2565). Elsevier Procedia. https://hsi.arc.nasa.gov/groups/HCSL/publications/AHFE15\_Bakowski\_Hooey\_Foyle\_Wolter.pdf

Gerdes, I. & Temme, A. (2012). Taxi routing for aircraft: Creation and Controlling – Ground movements with time constraints. *Second SESAR Innovation Days, November 27–29, 2012.* <u>https://www.sesarju.eu/sites/default/files/SID\_2012-05.pdf</u>

Hooey, B. L., Cheng, V. H. L., Foyle, D. C. (2014). *A concept of operations for far-term Surface Trajectory-Based Operations (STBO).* (NASA TM–2014–218354). Moffett Field, CA: NASA ARC. <u>https://hsi.arc.nasa.gov/groups/HCSL/publications/STBO%20ConOps\_TM\_2014\_218354.pdf</u>

Okuniek, N., Gerdes, I., Jakobi, J., Ludwig, T., Hooey, B. L., Foyle, D. C., Jung, Y. C., & Zhu, Z. (2016). A concept of operations for trajectory-based taxi operations. *Proceedings of the 16th AIAA Aviation Technology, Integration, and Operations Conference, Paper AIAA-2016-3753, Washington, DC, June 13–17, 2016.* 

https://hsi.arc.nasa.gov/groups/HCSL/publications/AIAA\_ATIO\_2016\_NASA\_DLR\_4DT\_ConOps.pdf





# **Additional Slides**





#### **Definition of Conformance to the 4DT:**

- Ownship icon is within the Allowable Tolerance Band

#### Ownship Out of Conformance with 4DT



#### Ownship In Conformance with 4DT





# **Previous Pilot-in-the-Loop 4DT Simulation:**

- Taxied on the surface of Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) Airport
- 4DT Speeds: 14, 15, 16 kts Bakowski, Hooey, Foyle, & Wolter (2015)





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#### **4DT Start Time**

- Accompanied by an auditory chime on the flight deck
- 4DT Indicator begins to accelerate





## **4DT Speed Changes**

- Predetermined locations along the taxi route (speed profile)
- Two or five speed changes per trial
- Accompanied by an auditory tone on the flight deck
- AMM text display updated
- First Officer acknowledged, "Speed Change"
- Accel / Decel Rate = 1 kt/sec



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