

# Combustion noise investigation in helicopter engines

2005~2015 a European history ...



E.Bouty

09/03/2016

# CONTEXT

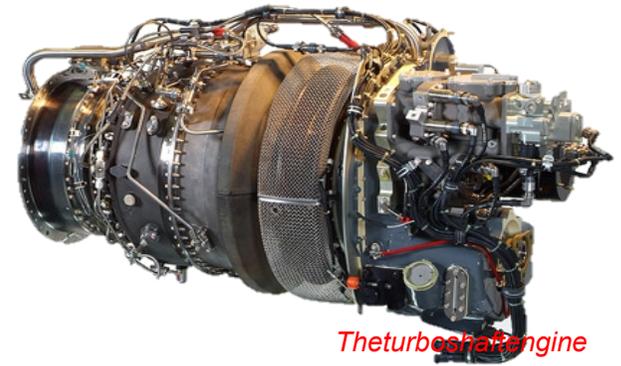
→ Noise sources on a helicopter are multiple and cover a wide frequency range !

*The main rotor*



*The tail rotor*

*The fuselage*



*The turboshaft engine*

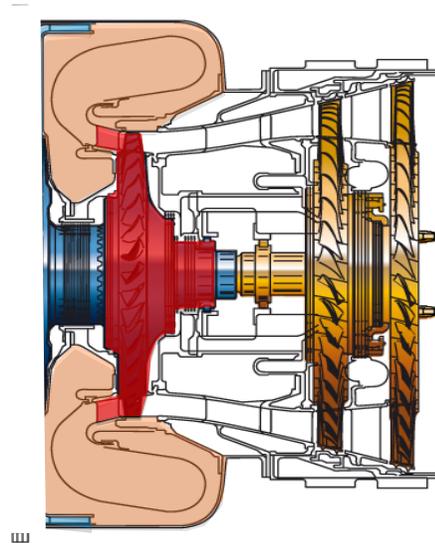
→ Reducing rotors noises leads to increase relative contribution of the engine.

→ Acoustic certification (in-flight) limits will become more stringent

# A TURBOSHAFT ENGINE : ARDIDEN

## Annular combustion chamber

- RQL burners
- Turbulent combustion Air/Kerosene
- Low-frequency & broadband noise generation<sup>[5]</sup>



This study focuses on downstream, low frequency radiated noise, coming from combustion chamber.  
(Exhaust speed is so low that jet noise is neglected)

# Noise signature of a turboshaft engine « alone »

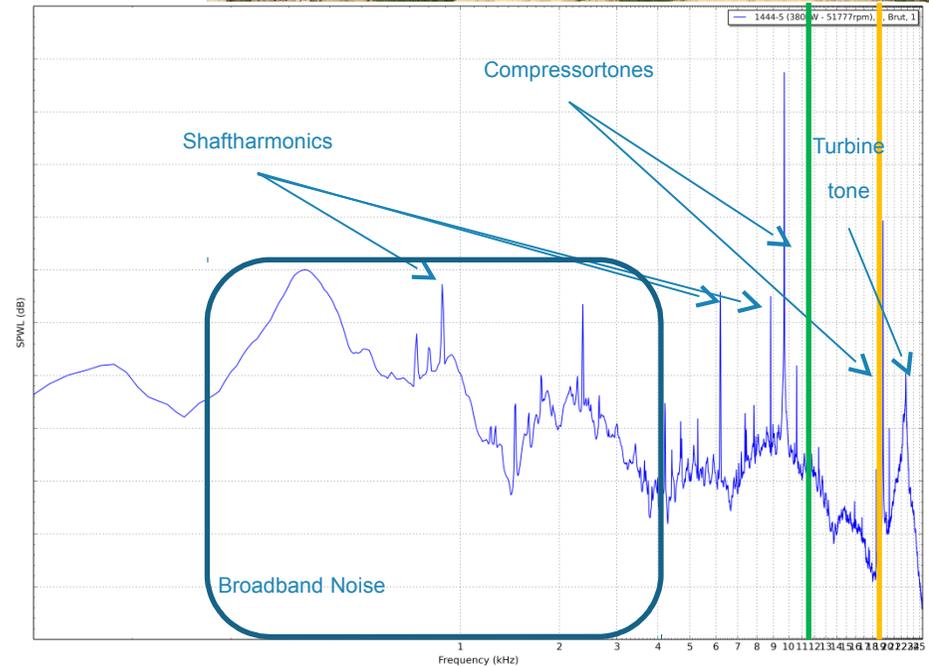
→ Turbomeca has an open-air test bed located at Uzein (close to Pau airport)



→ ... and the capability of producing certification-quality measurements



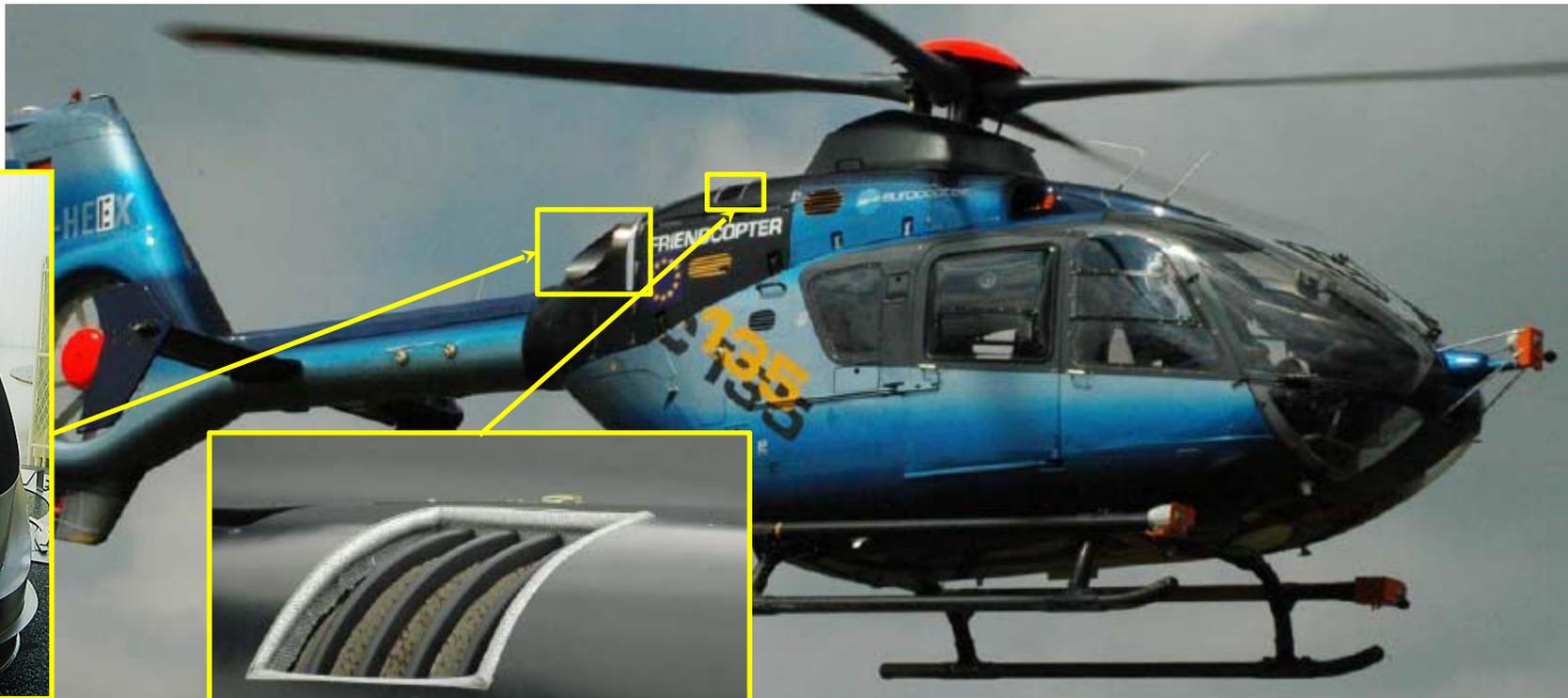
→ Typical noise Turboshaft engine spectrum



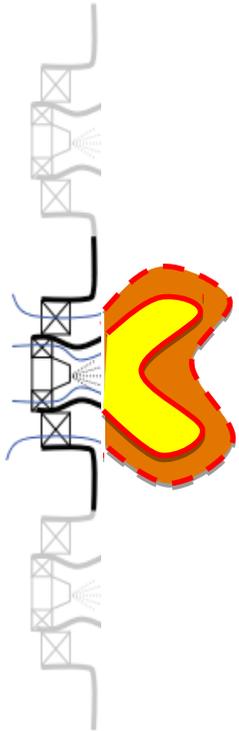
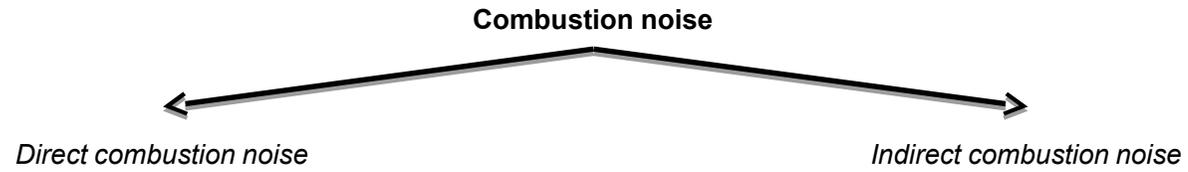
# NOISE SOURCES WEIGHT IN FLIGHT: THE FRIENDCOPTER PROJECT (2005~2008)

→ Treating exhaust pipes on both engines on EC135

→ BENEFIT : 1.2EPNdB@ T/O

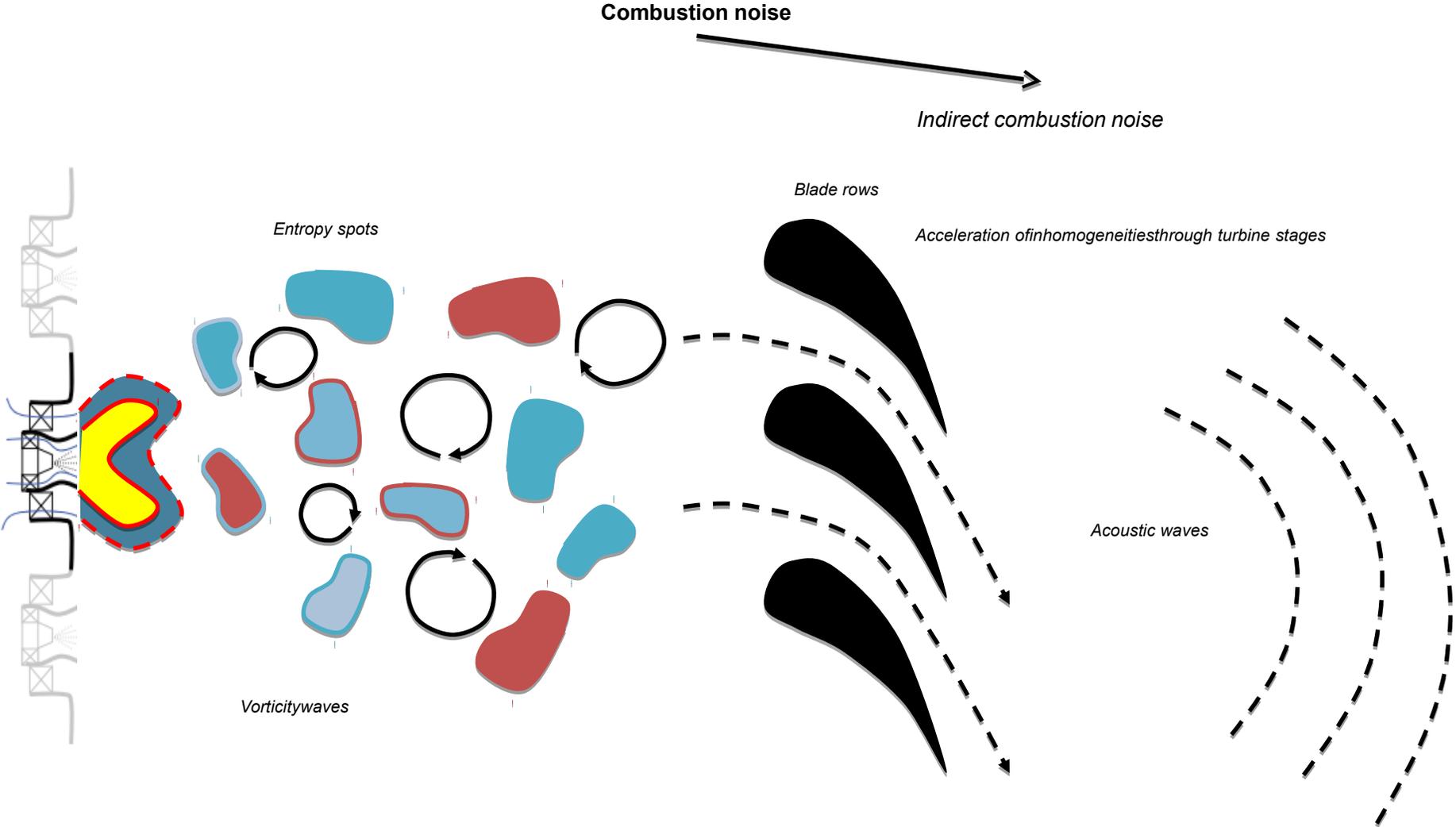


# What is Combustion Noise ?





# What is Combustion Noise ?



# COMBUSTION NOISE KNOWLEDGE

## → Combustion noise was fully investigated in academic cases

### *Direct noise*

- Free-field turbulent and laminar flames where reactive zones can be acoustically seen as a collection of sound pulses<sup>[1,2]</sup>
- Acoustic
- Phenom

### *Indirect noise*

- Noise generation through a 1-D subsonic and supersonic nozzles using a compact assumption and frequency dependent formulation<sup>[7,8,9]</sup>.

**How to evaluate combustion noise levels in a real aero-engine from the combustion chamber to the far-field ?**

overall noise

[1] Strahle, J. Fluid Mechanics, 1972

[2] Talei, J. Fluid Mechanics, 2011

[3] Hassan, J. Fluid Mechanics, 1974

[4] Chiu and Summerfield, Acta Astronautica, 1974

[5] Bailly et al., Int. J. of Aeroacoustics, 2010

[6] Bragg, J. Inst. of Fuel, 1963

[7] Rajaram, AIAA Journal, 2006

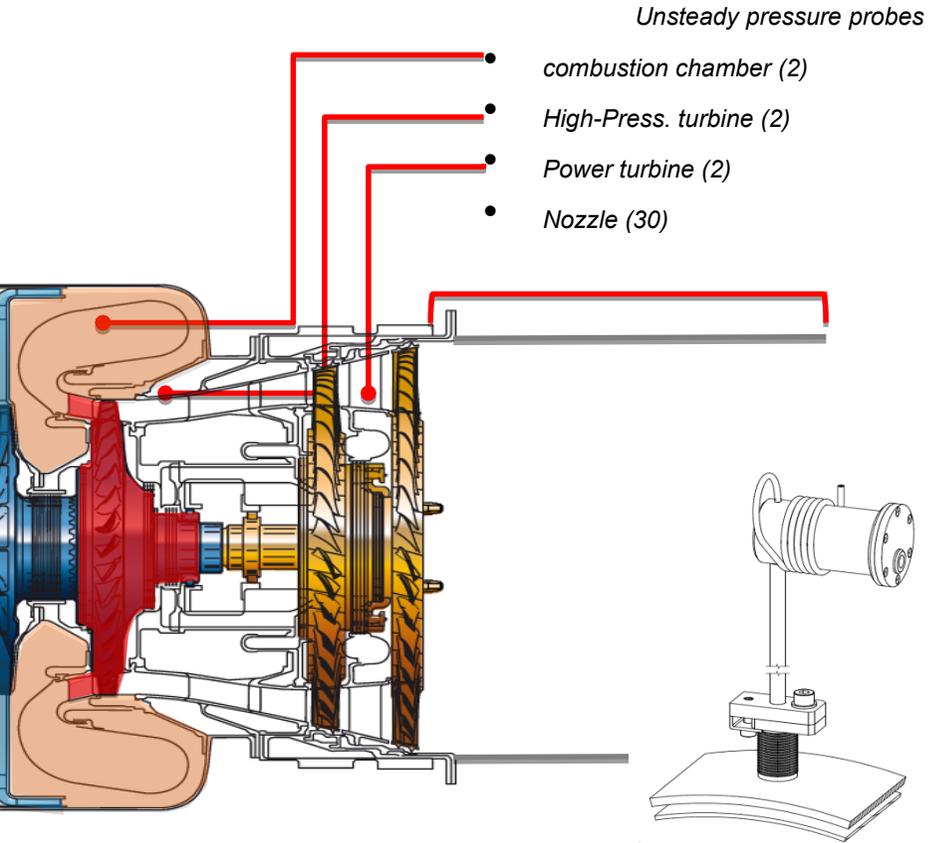
[7] Marble and Candel, J. Sound and Vib., 1977

[8] Giaque et al., J. Eng. Gas Turbines Power, 2012

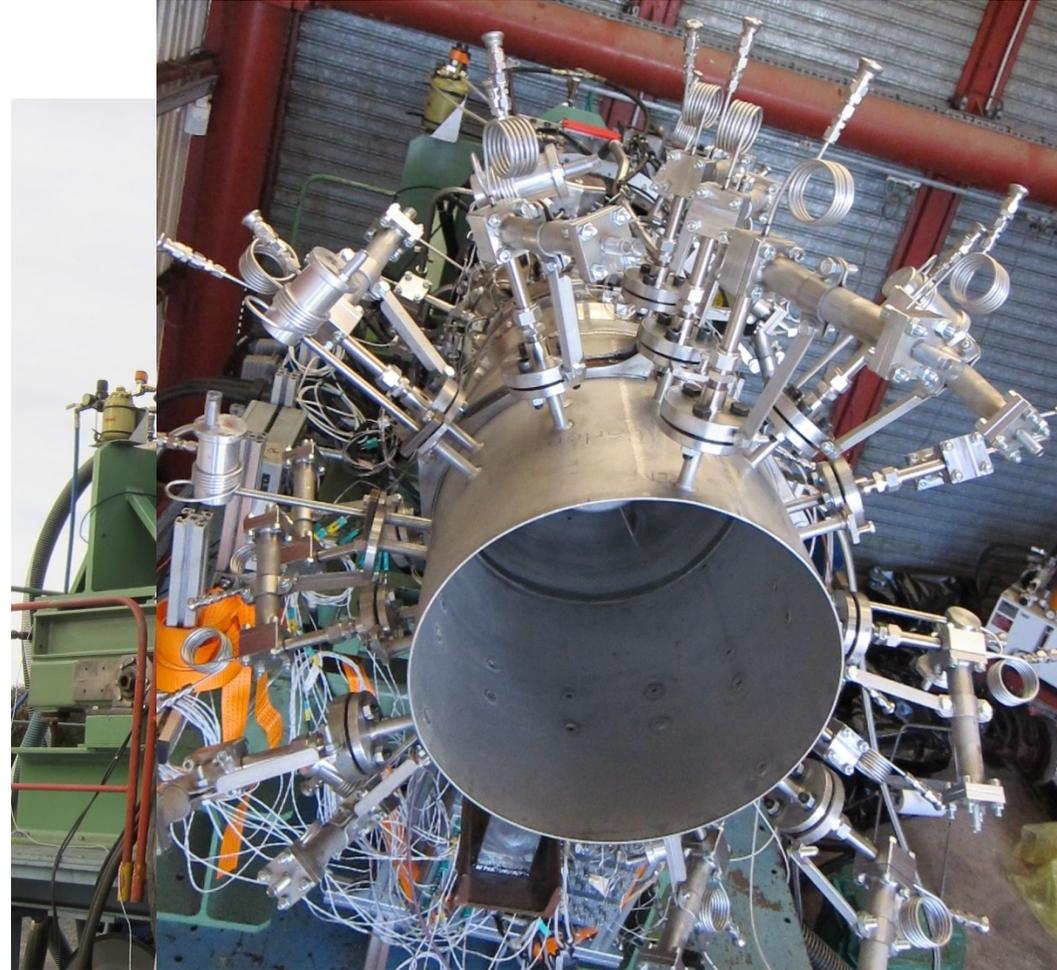
[9] Duran et Moreau, J. Fluid Mechanics 2013

[10] Bake et al., J. Sound and Vib., 2009

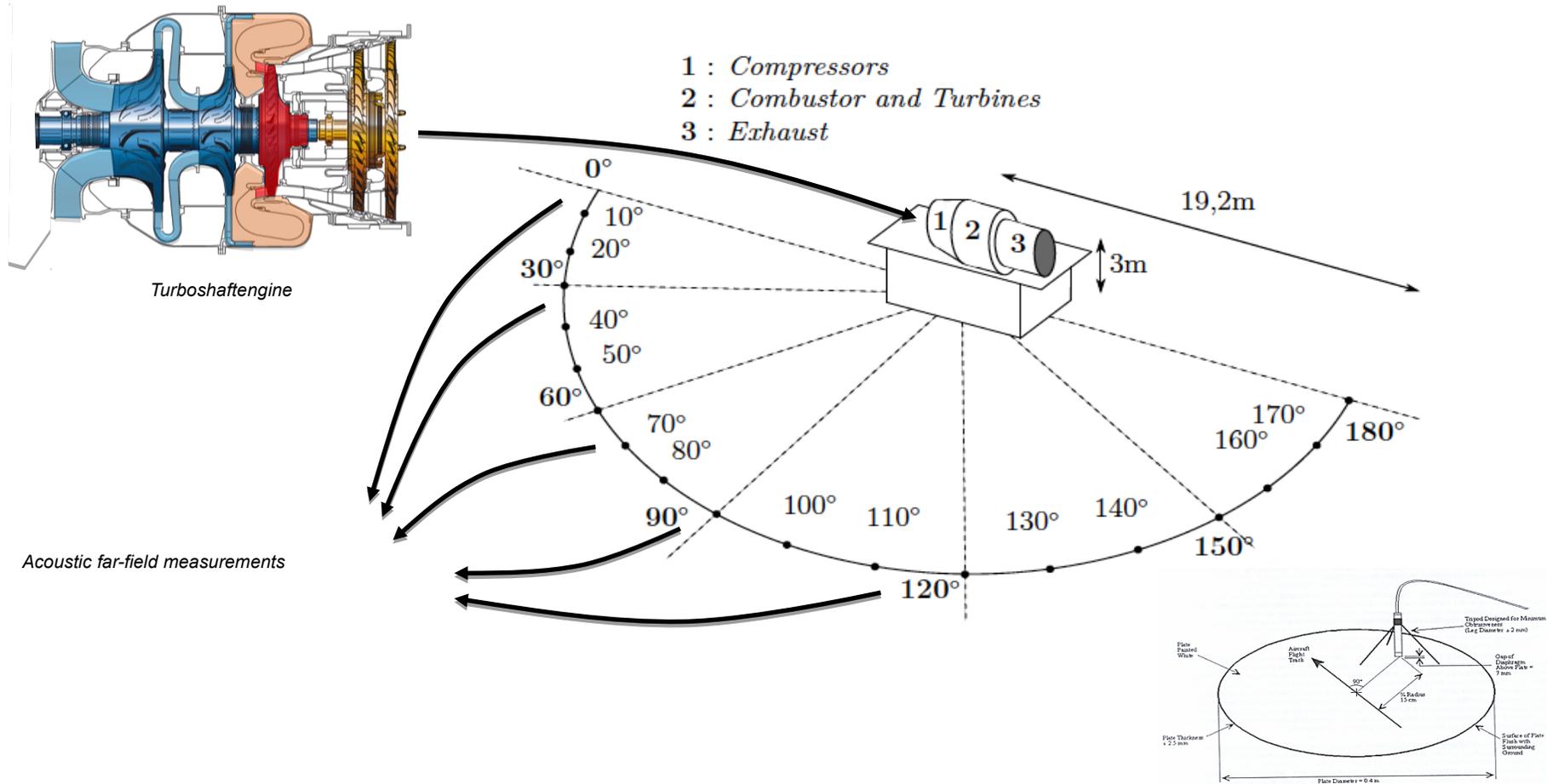
➔ Purpose : simultaneous measurement of internal and external sensors



Pressure probe designed by DLR



### → Purpose: simultaneous measurement of internal and external sensors



# Experimental investigation: Acoustic Far-field of the engine



Significant acoustic levels at low-frequency

Narrow-band hump at 200 Hz

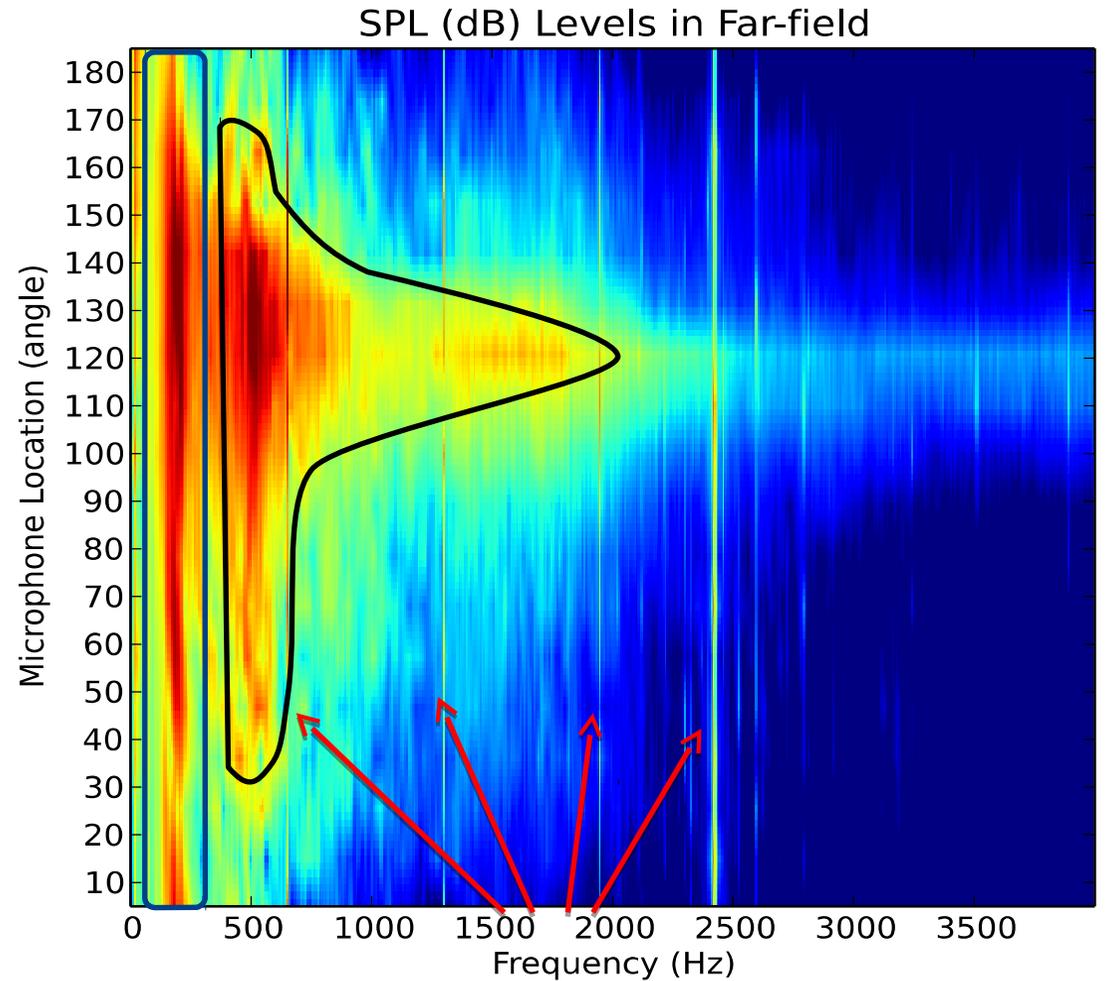
➤ No directivity

Broadband hump centered

around 500 Hz up to 1500 Hz

➤ Main directivity angle 120°-130°

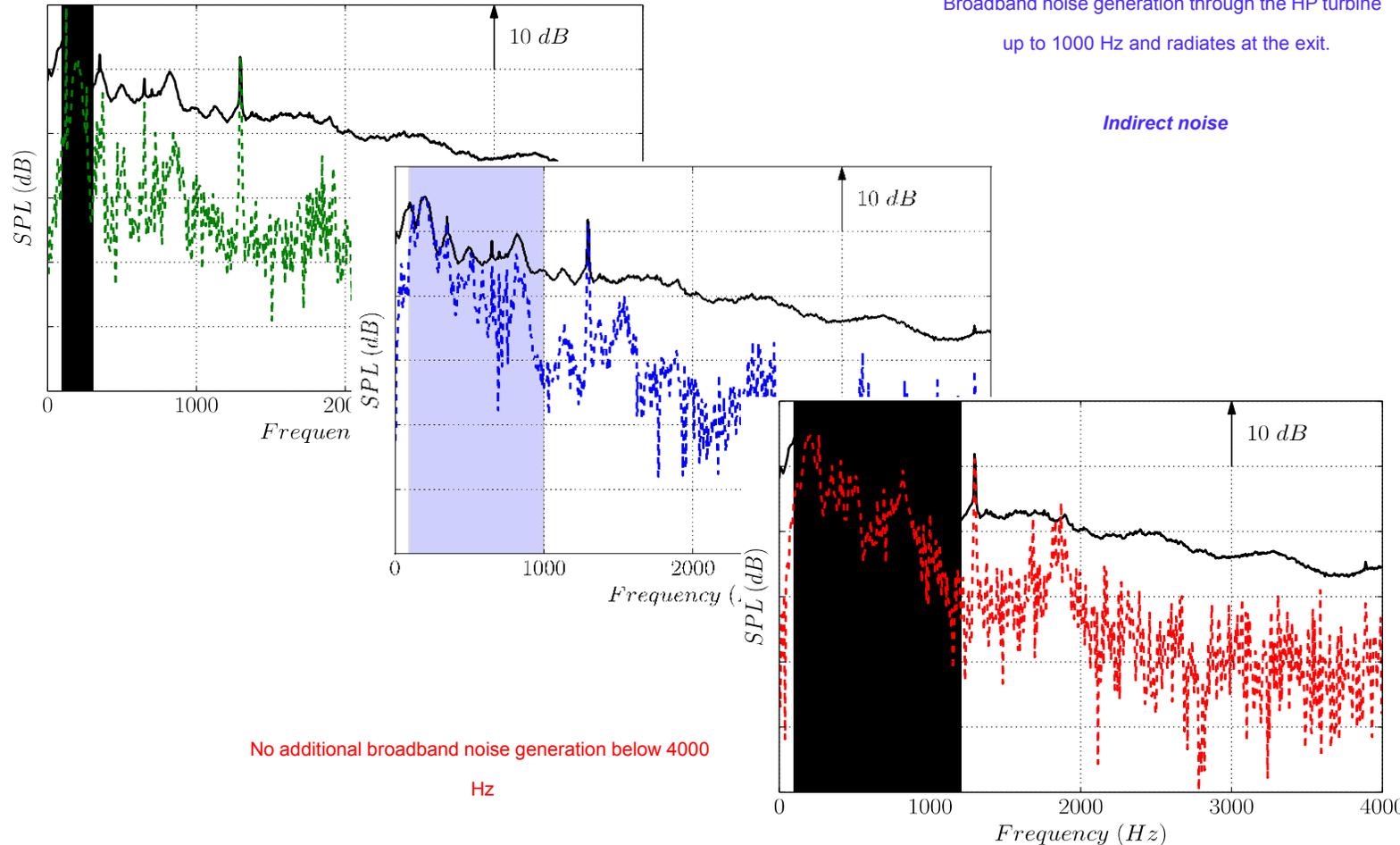
Tonal noise related to rotating devices within the engine



→ Three-sensors technique applied between two probes at a given internal location and a pressure probe at the turbine exit

Broadband noise generation through the HP turbine up to 1000 Hz and radiates at the exit.

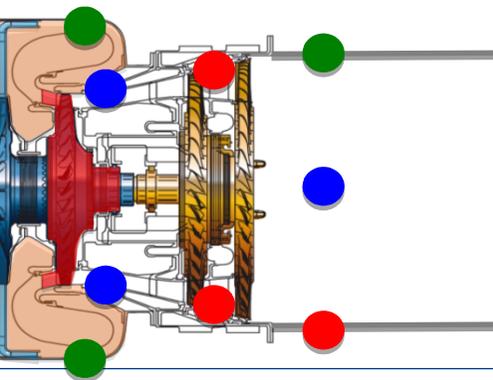
*Indirect noise*

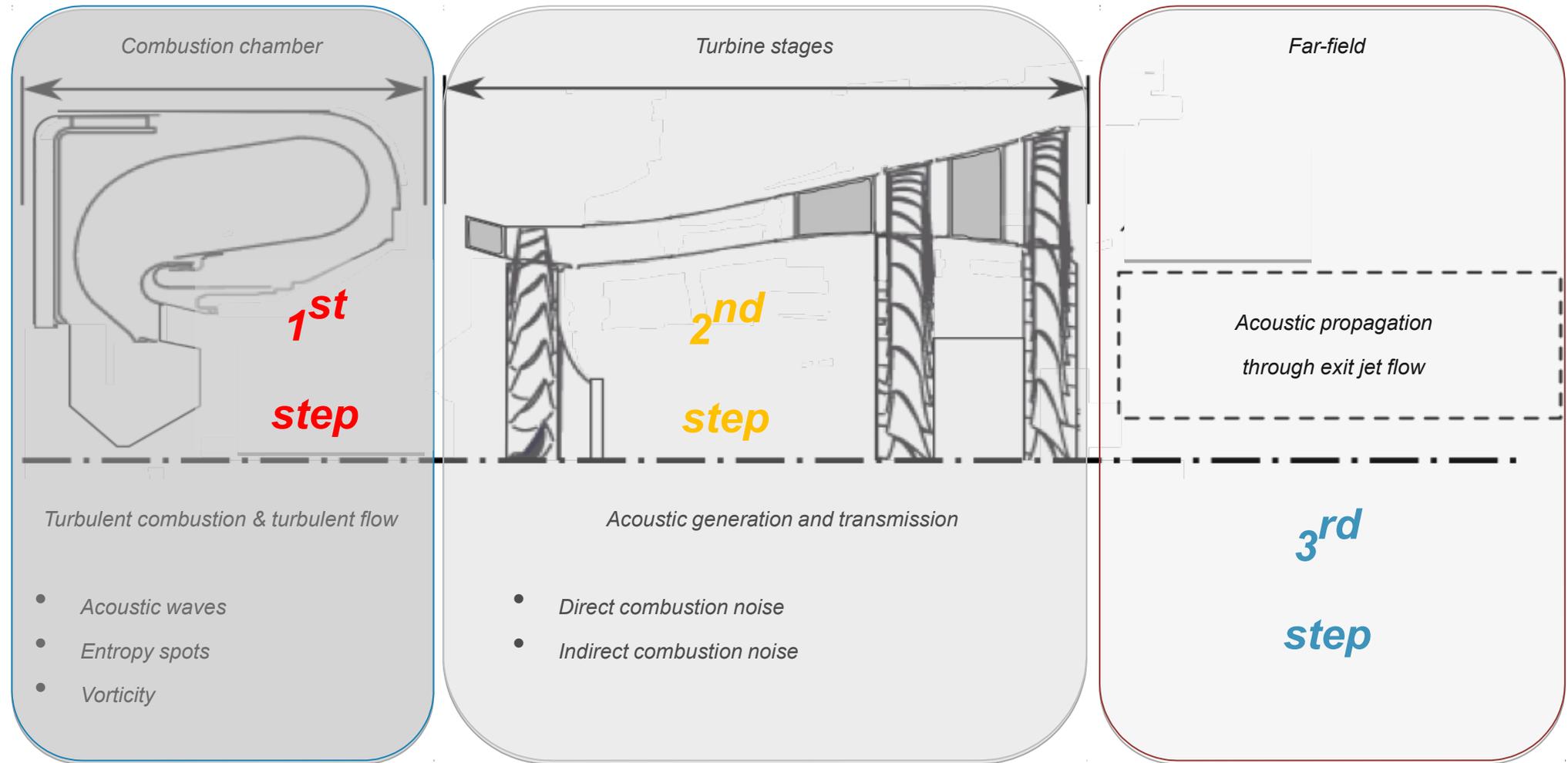


Narrow-band contribution at 200 Hz coming from the combustion chamber and propagated through turbine stages.

*Direct Noise*

No additional broadband noise generation below 4000 Hz



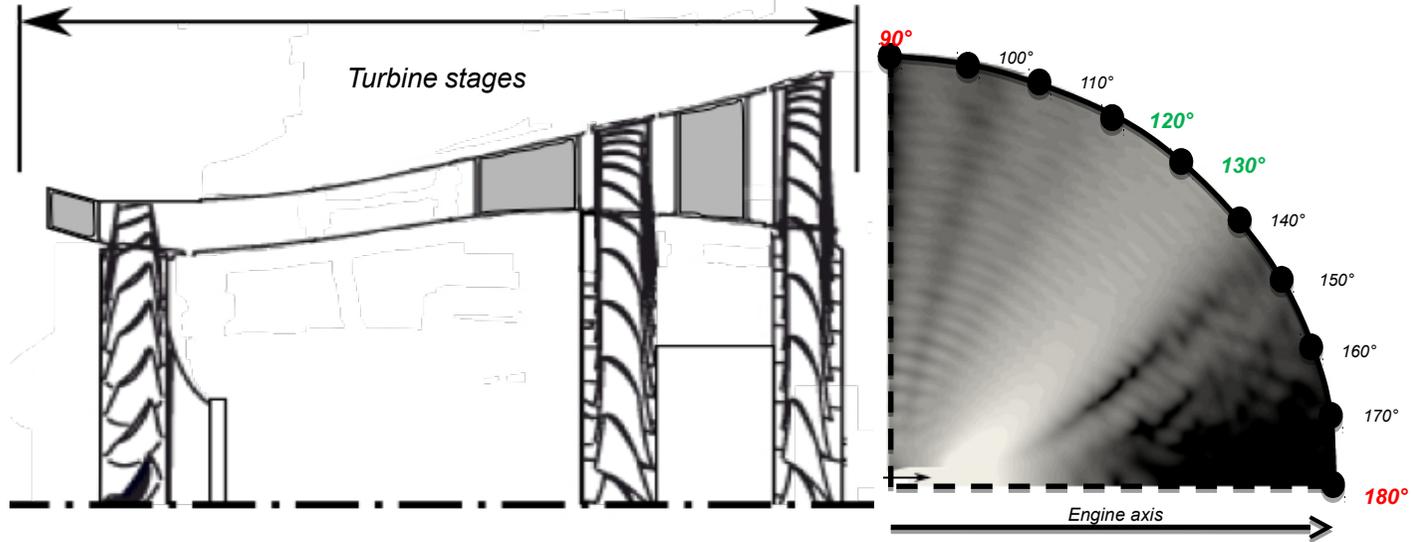
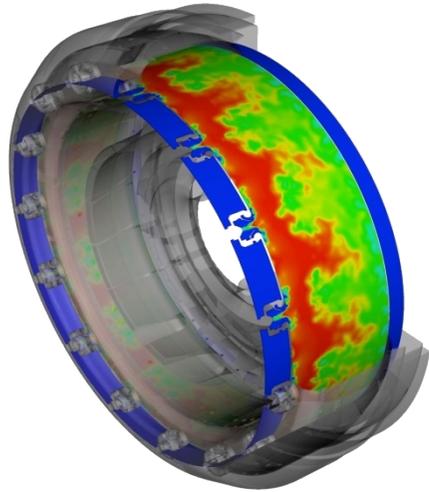


# Modelling combustion noise : Which Tools?

RECORD Project (2012-2015)



RECORD



*Capture of flow unsteadiness generated by the turbulent combustion*



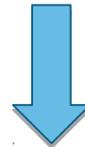
*Turbulent, compressible and reactive LES solver*  
**AVBP**

*Modeling of the acoustic behavior of turbine stages in the scope of combustion noise*



*2D actuator disk theory***CHORUS**

*Propagation of acoustic waves through low-Mach number hot jet and to the far-field*



*No-Mach Helmholtz solver*  
**AVSP-f**

### CONOCHAIN

Hybrid method

*Turbulent, compressible and reactive LES  
solver  
AVBP*

*2D actuator disk theory CHORUS*

*No-Mach Helmholtz solver  
AVSP-f*

*3D complex geometry*

*Cheap analytical method for acoustic  
0D mean flow information between the blade  
rows*

*Acoustic propagation in frequency domain*

*3D complex geometry of the exit nozzle*

*Operating conditions*

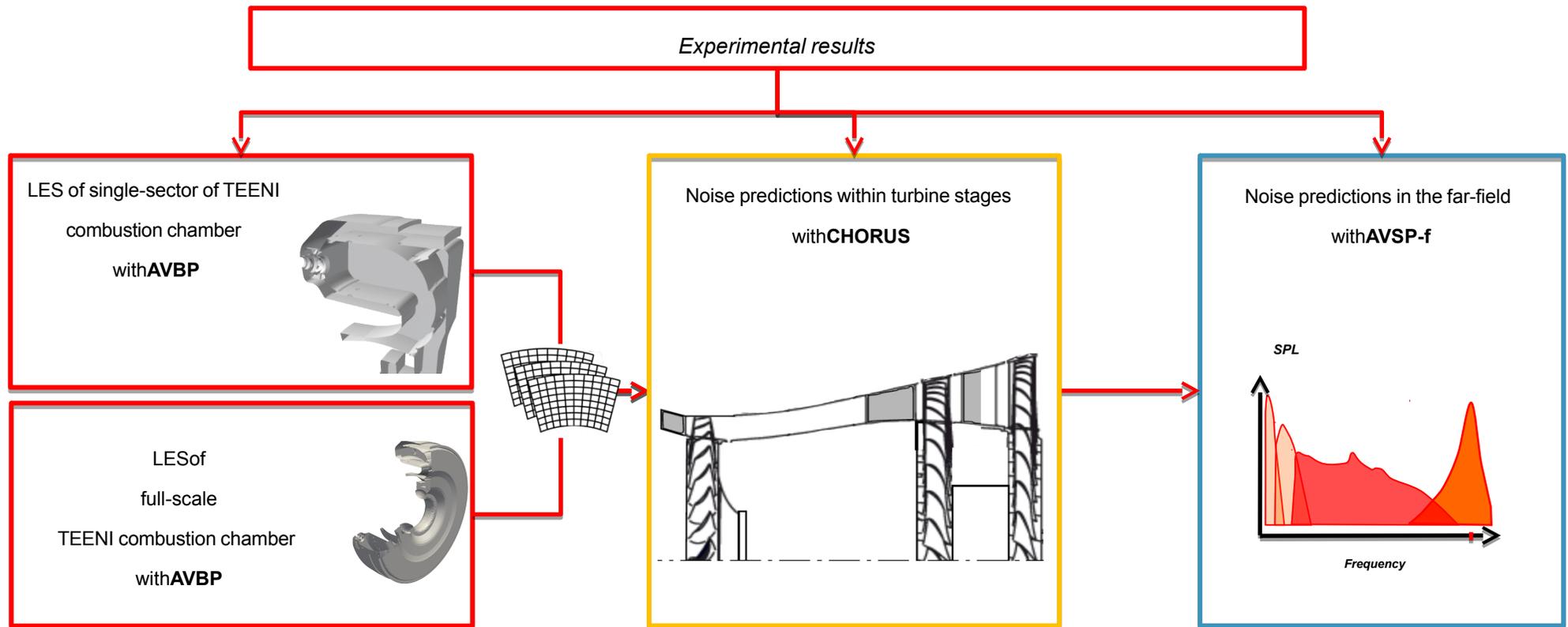
*of the combustion chamber*

*Geometry of the turbine stages*

*Exit mean flow predictions*

# ValidationFlowchart

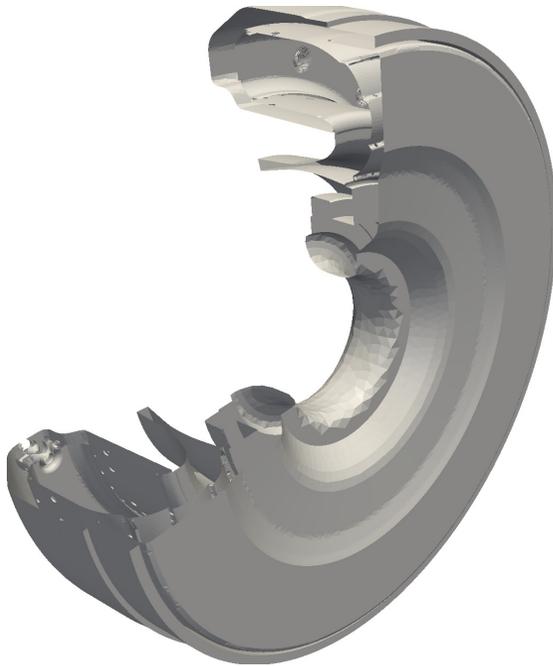
→ Do we need a full 360° LES of a combustion chamber to compute combustion noise levels within a helicopter engine ?



# LES Calculations in the Combustion Chamber

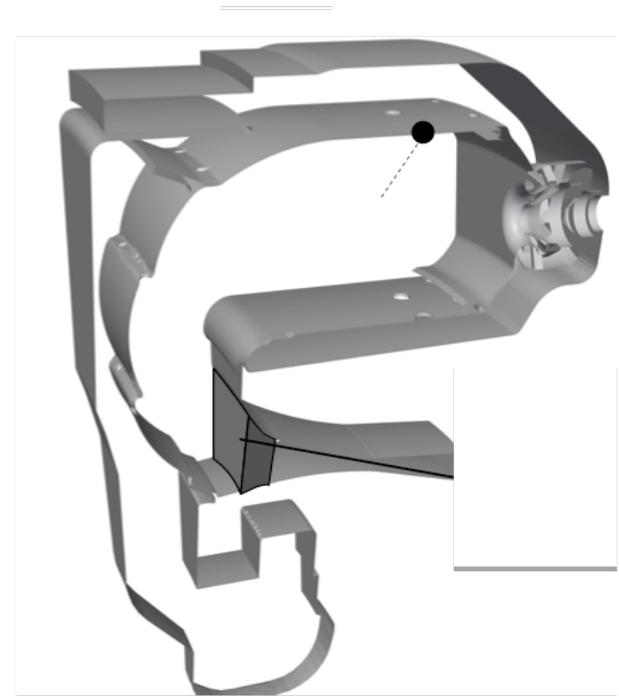
## → Full-scale combustion chamber

- Provides high-fidelity predictions of the unsteadiness at the combustor exit
- Most realistic case to compute combustion noise
- High computational cost



## → Single-sector of the annular combustion chamber

- Flow is supposed to be periodic (impacts the extraction of fluctuations at the combustor exit)
- Reasonable CPU cost



# LES of the combustion chamber

→ Operating point corresponding to high power case (take-off)

→ In the LES domain

- Gaseous fuel
- Flame tube + Casing
- Remove of the first stator
- Building of an equivalent nozzle
  - Identical Mach number variation vs. curvilinear abscissae

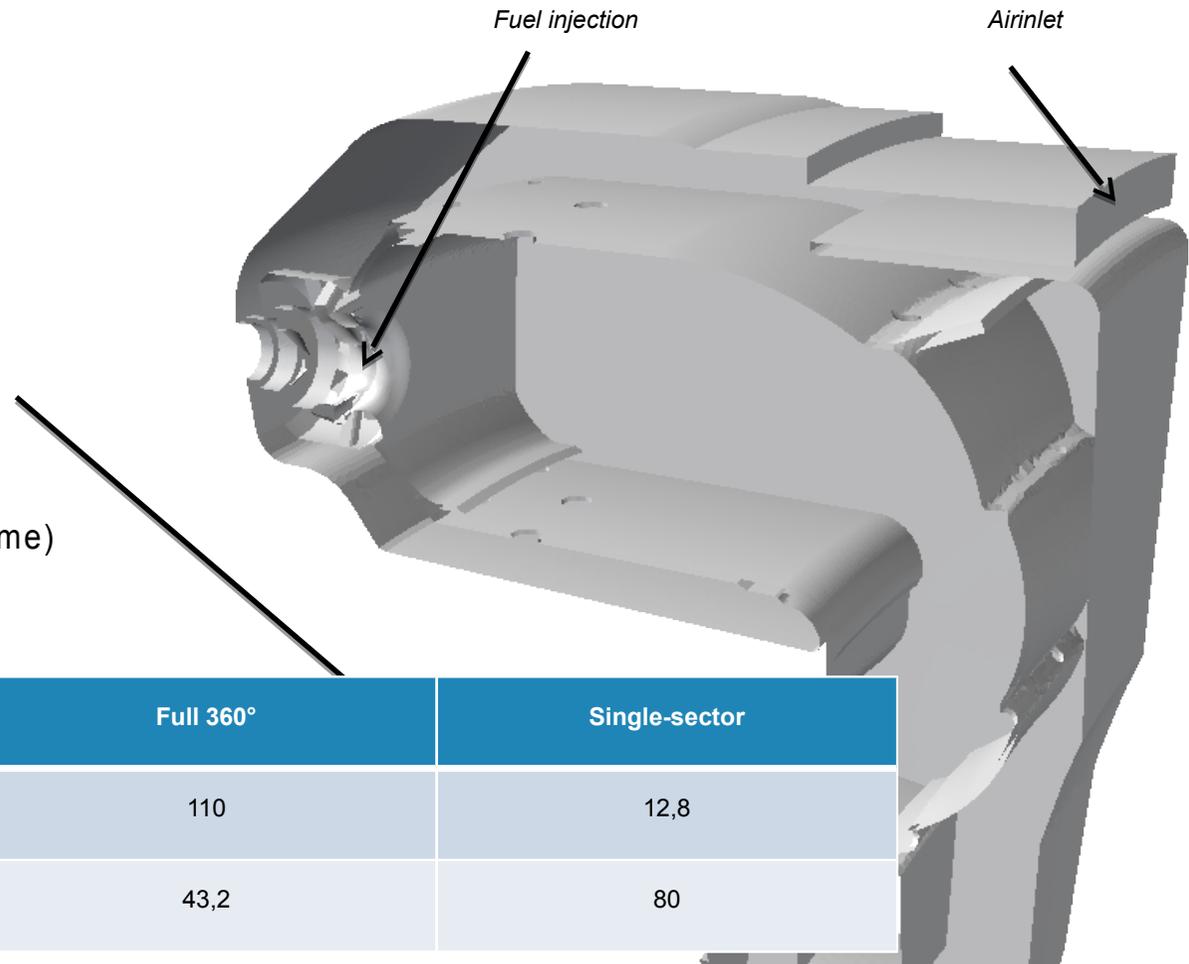
→ Numerical parameters

- TTG scheme (Third order in space and time)
- SGS model : Smagorinsky
- Chemical scheme for kerosene/air flame:

Two reactions and 6 species

- Turbulent
- Pressure

	LES	Full 360°	Single-sector
Mesh size (TETs)(Moc)		110	12,8
Physical time (ms)		43,2	80

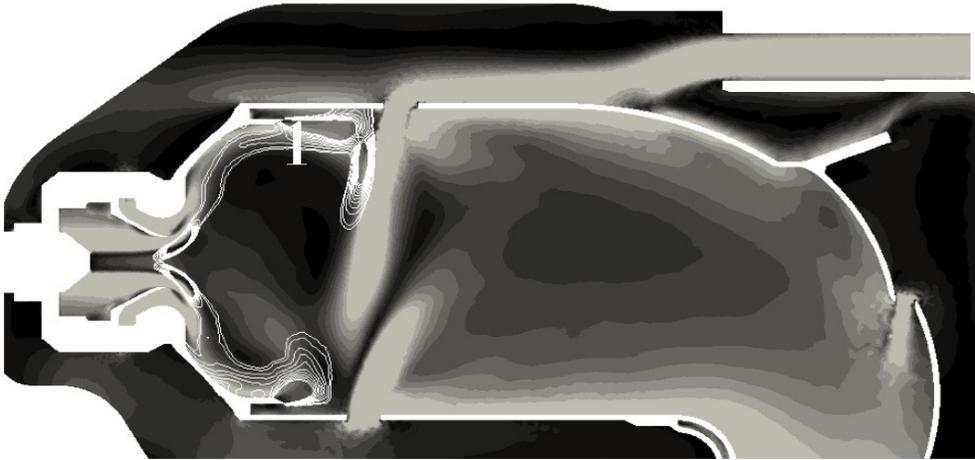


# Comparisons between single-sector and full 360°LES

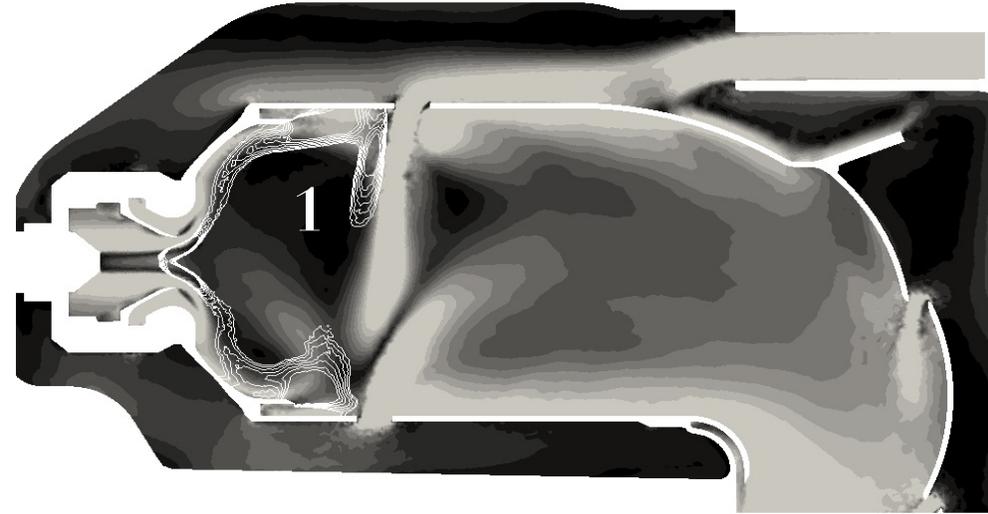
## Averaged quantities

→ Magnitude of the mean velocity field

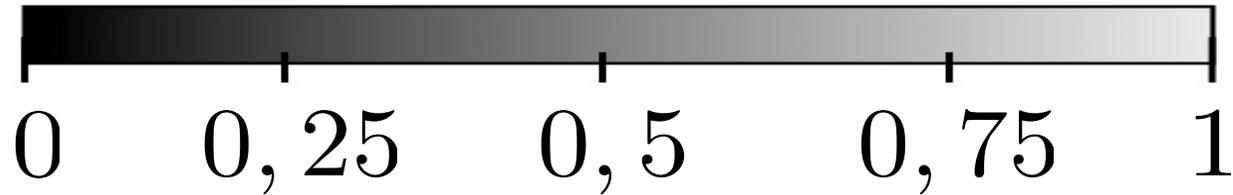
Single-sector



Full 360°



$$\frac{U}{U_{inlet}}$$

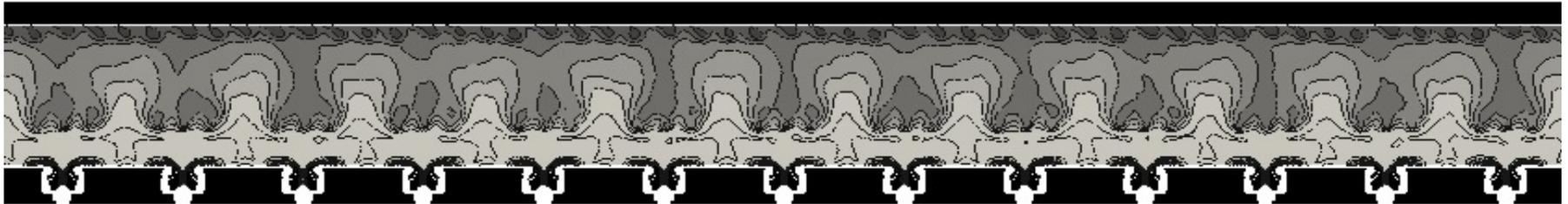


# Comparisons between single-sector and full 360°LES

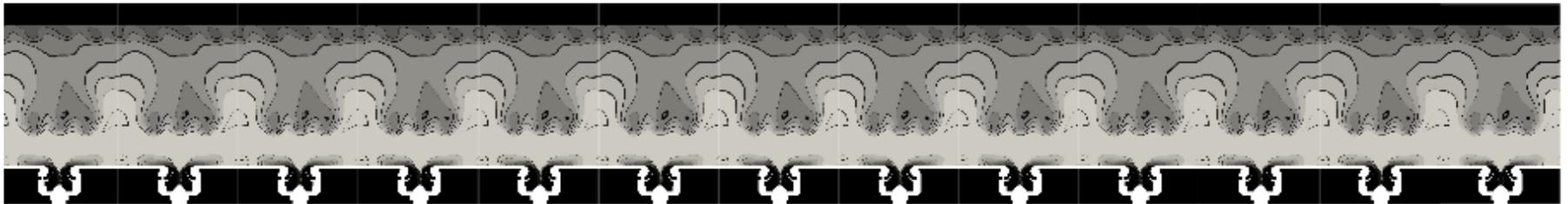
## Averaged quantities

→ Magnitude of the mean temperature field over a meridian plane

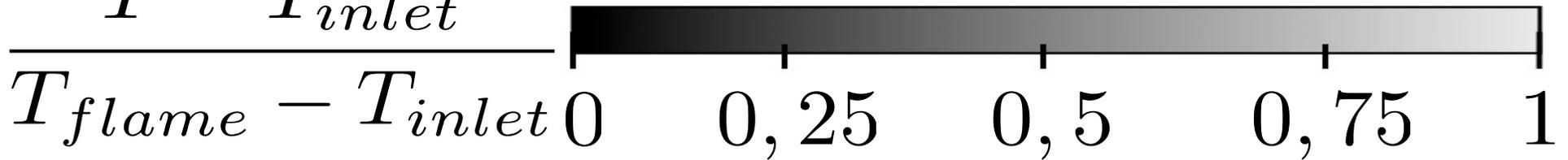
Full 360°



Single-sector



$$\frac{T - T_{inlet}}{T_{flame} - T_{inlet}}$$



# Comparison to unsteady pressure measurements inside the combustion chamber

→ Unsteady pressure behaviour is significantly different between full-scale and sectorized computations

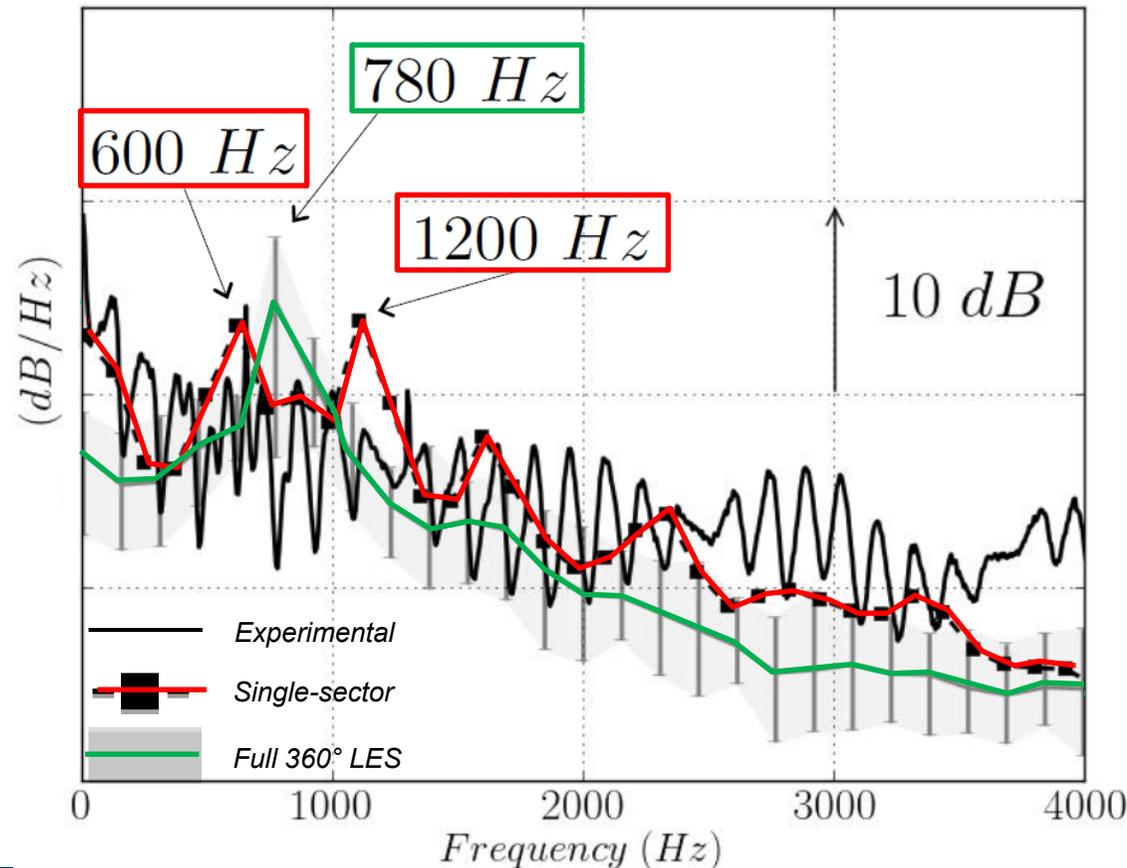
→ Peaks correspond to calculated modes

→ Longitudinal modes found by single sector calculations

→ Azimuthal modes found by 360° calculation

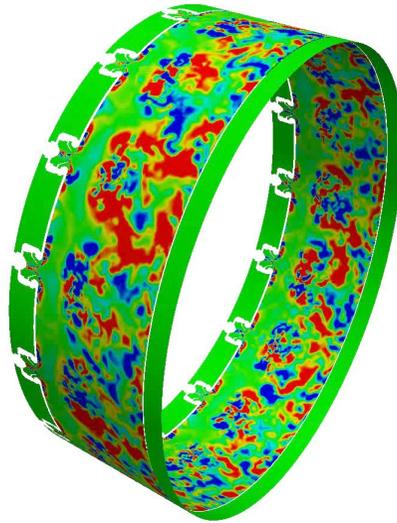
→ Periodicity imposed on sectorized computation masks early azimuthal modes

→ But broadband content not too bad in both cases

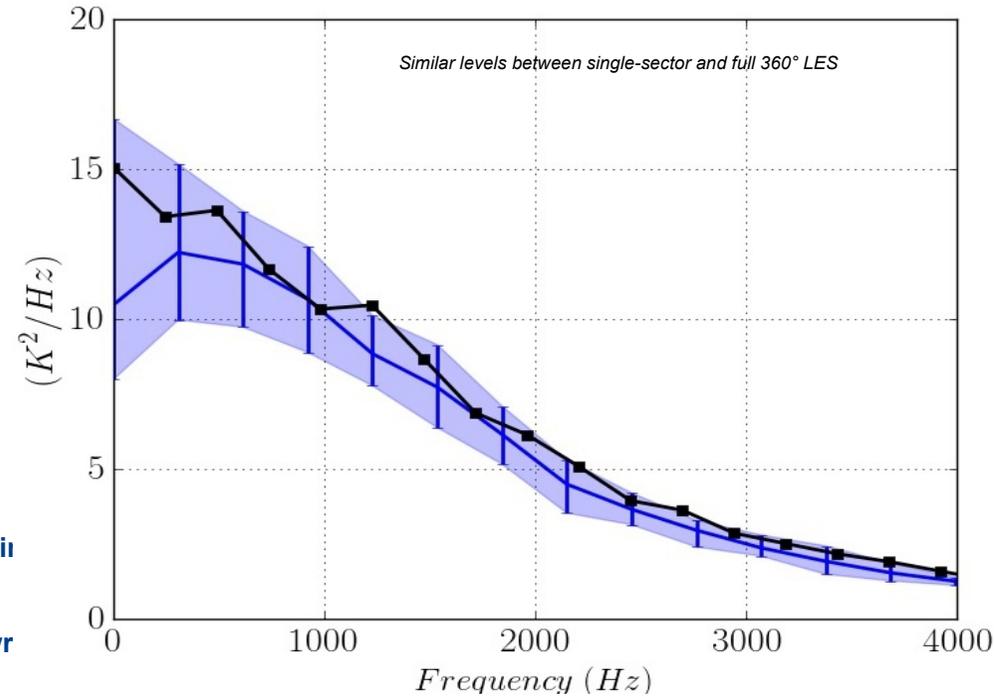


# Comparisons between temperature fluctuations PSDs

→ Entropy spots are mainly generated by interaction between burnt gases and dilution jetflows

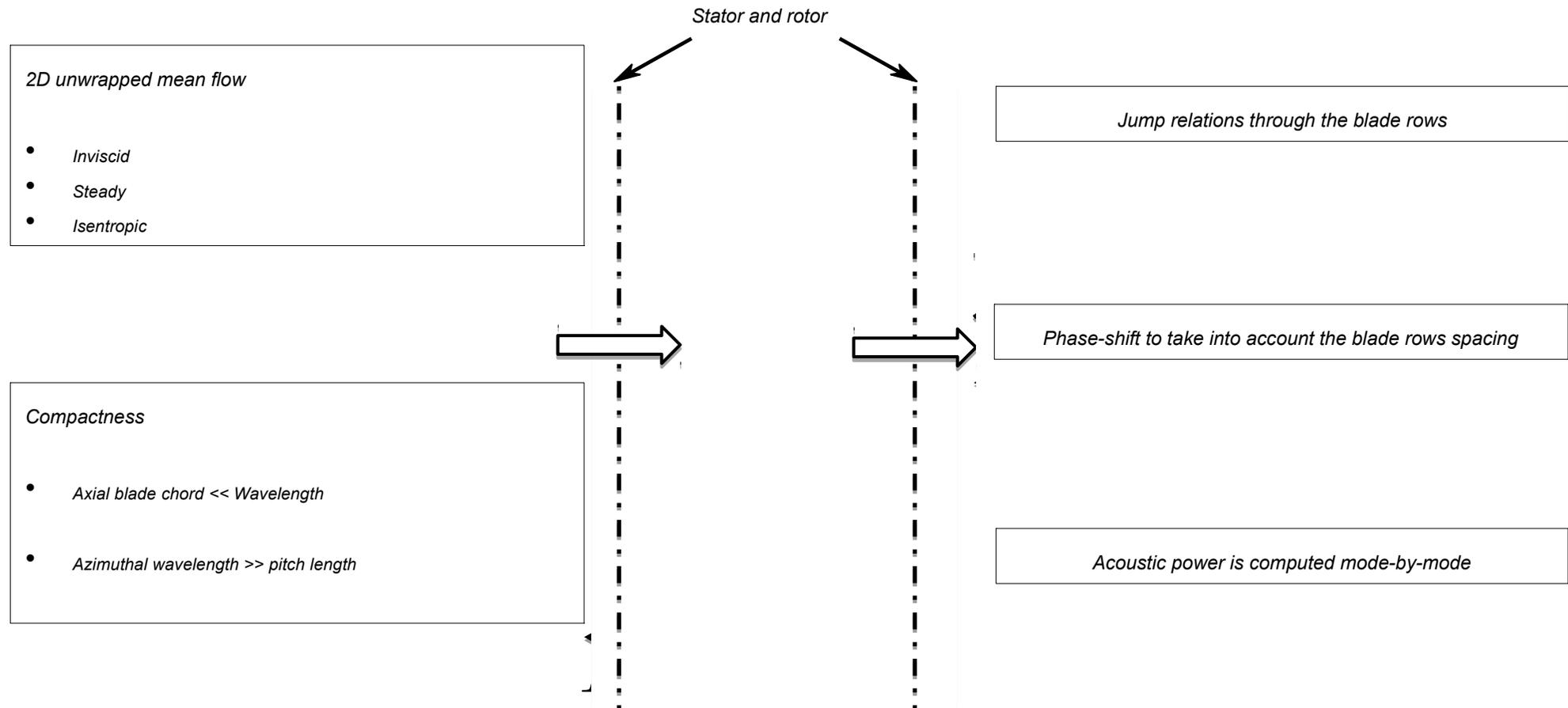


- Sector-by-sector
- But single-sector symmetry condition artificially forces the planar mode
- A smart phase-averaging (filtering) process can make single sector entropy planar mode more relevant for acoustic broadband noise calculation purpose



# CHORUS : an actuator disk theory

## → Acoustic modelling of turbomachine stages :



# CHORUS : an actuator disktheory

## → Jump relations for thestatorcase

- Conservation of the entropy fluctuation
- Conservation of the fluctuating mass flow rate
- Conservation of the stagnation temperature fluctuation (Isentropic expansion)
- For a subsonic flow at the trailing edge
  - Kutta'scondition
- For a supersonic flow
  - Conservation of the fluctuating mass flow rate for a isentropic1D choked nozzle

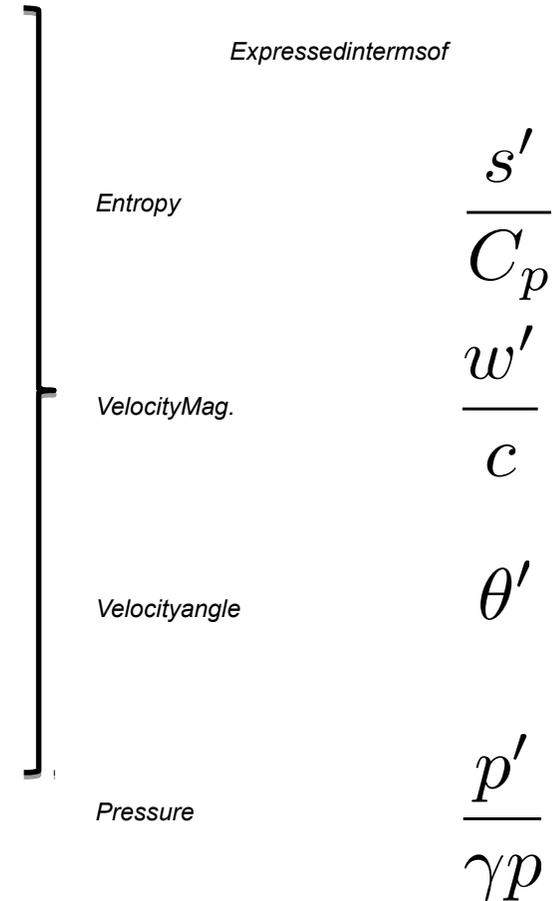
Expressed in terms of

Entropy	$\frac{s'}{C_p}$
Velocity Mag.	$\frac{w'}{c}$
Velocity angle	$\theta'$
Pressure	$\frac{p'}{\gamma p}$

# CHORUS : an actuator disk theory

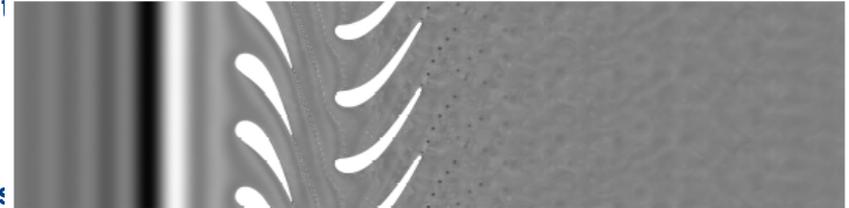
## → Jump relations for the rotor case

- Conservation of the entropy fluctuation
- Conservation of the fluctuating mass flow rate
- Conservation of the **enthalpy fluctuation**
- For a subsonic flow at the trailing edge
  - Kutta's condition **in the moving reference frame**
- For a supersonic flow
  - Conservation of the fluctuating mass flow rate for a isentropic 1D choked nozzle **in the moving reference frame**

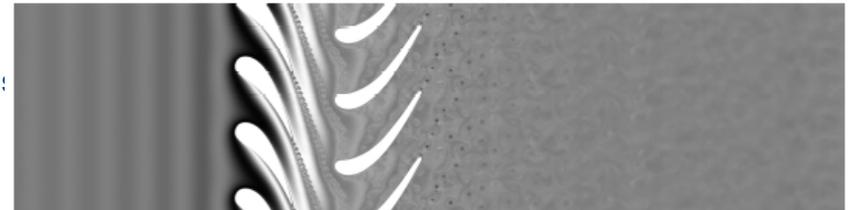


# CHORUS : an actuator disk theory

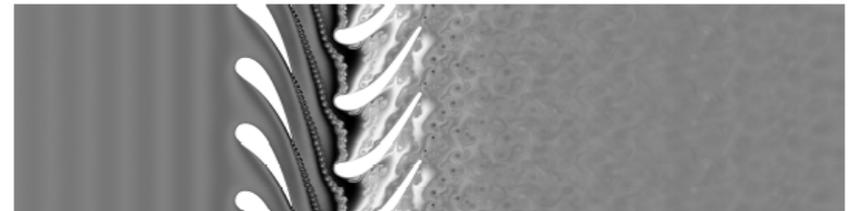
- 2-D and 3-D numerical simulations showed a scattering of the planar entropy waves through the blade rows.
- Mean flow distortion leads to a spatial scattering of the entropy waves.
- A damping function proposed by Leykois used to take into account this scattering mechanism through the blade rows.



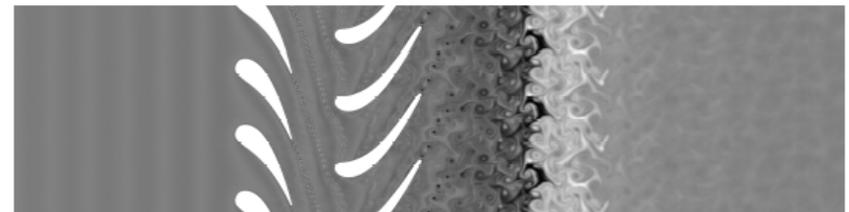
(a)  $t f_0 = 0.1$



(b)  $t f_0 = 0.15$



(c)  $t f_0 = 0.18$



(d)  $t f_0 = 0.24$

# Experimental / Calculations comparisons in turbines

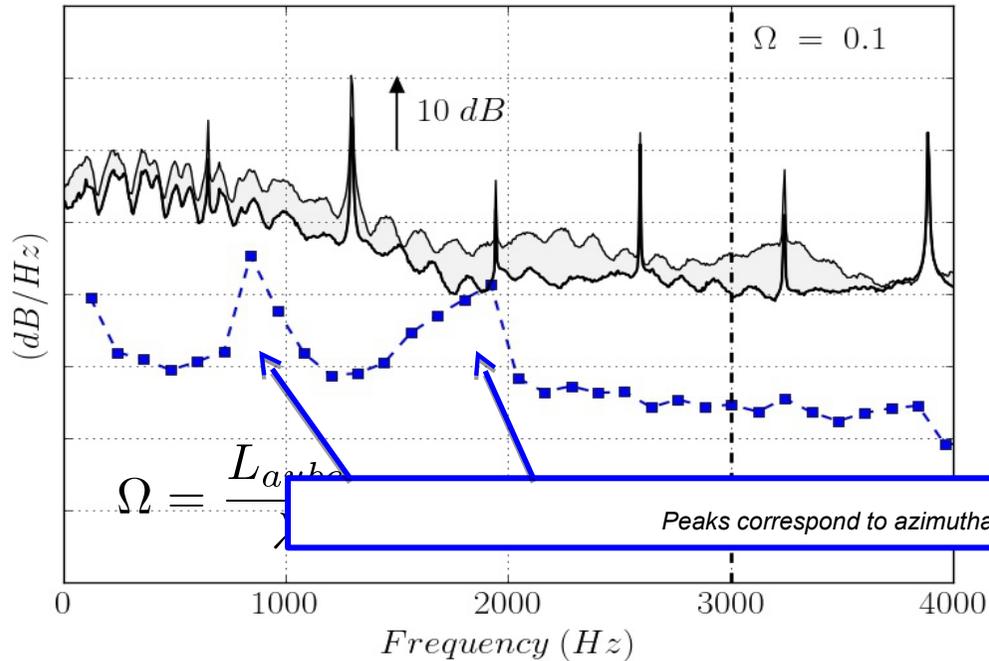
➔ Predictions of combustion noise levels using [-2, -1, 0, 1, 2] azimuthal modes extracted from the full 360° LES

Experimental results

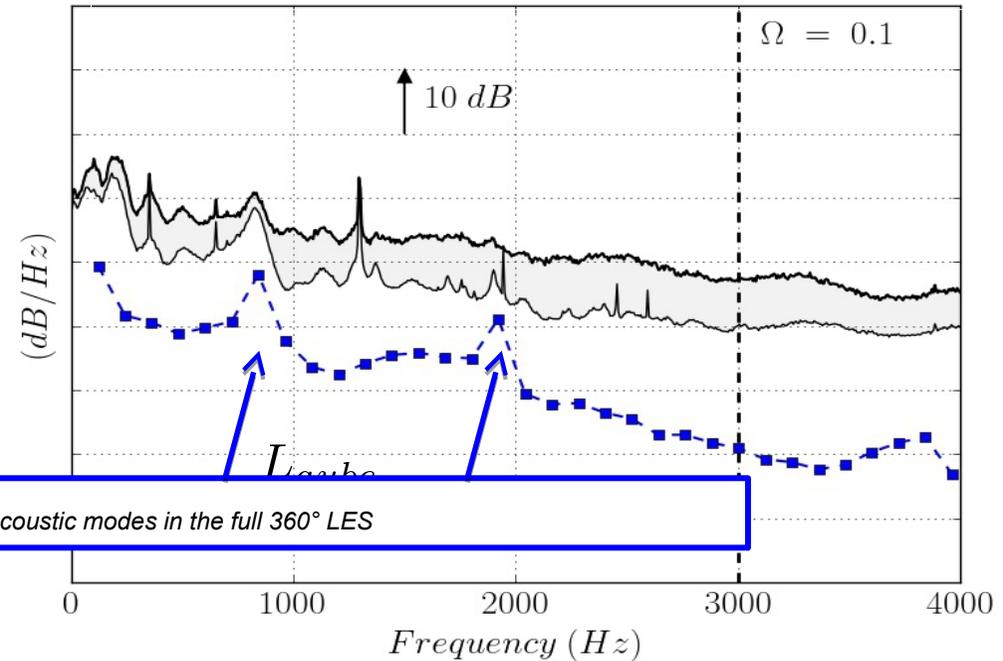


Direct noise

In the high-pressure turbine



At the turbine exit



# Experimental / Calculations comparisons in turbines

➔ Predictions of combustion noise levels using two first azimuthal modes extracted from the full 360° LES

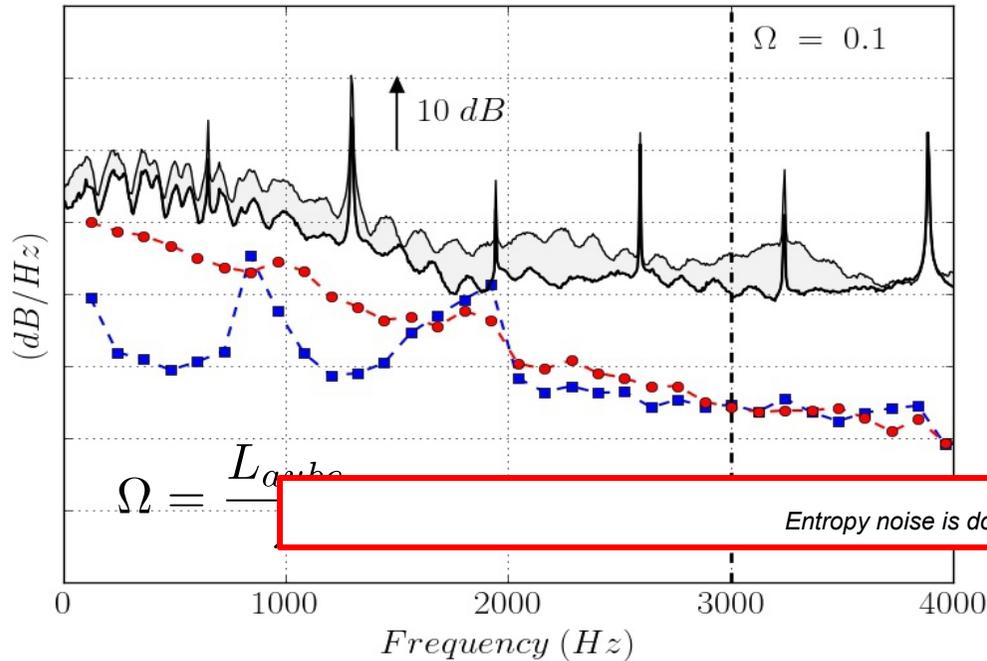
Experimental results



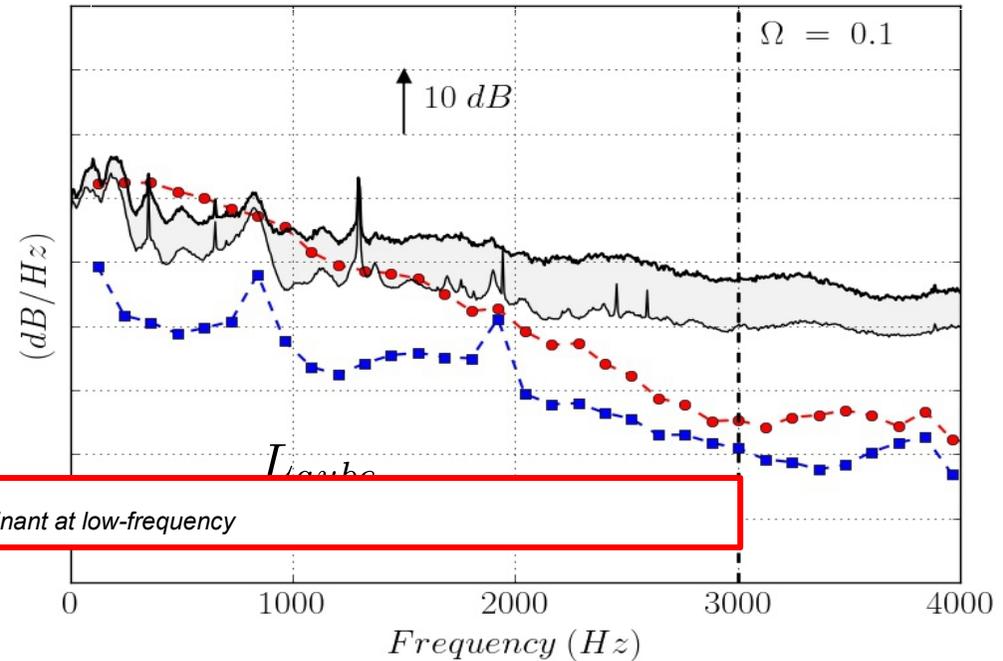
Direct noise

Entropy noise

In the high-pressure turbine



At the turbine exit



# Experimental / Calculations comparisons in turbines

➔ Predictions of combustion noise levels using two first azimuthal modes extracted from the full 360° LES

Experimental results



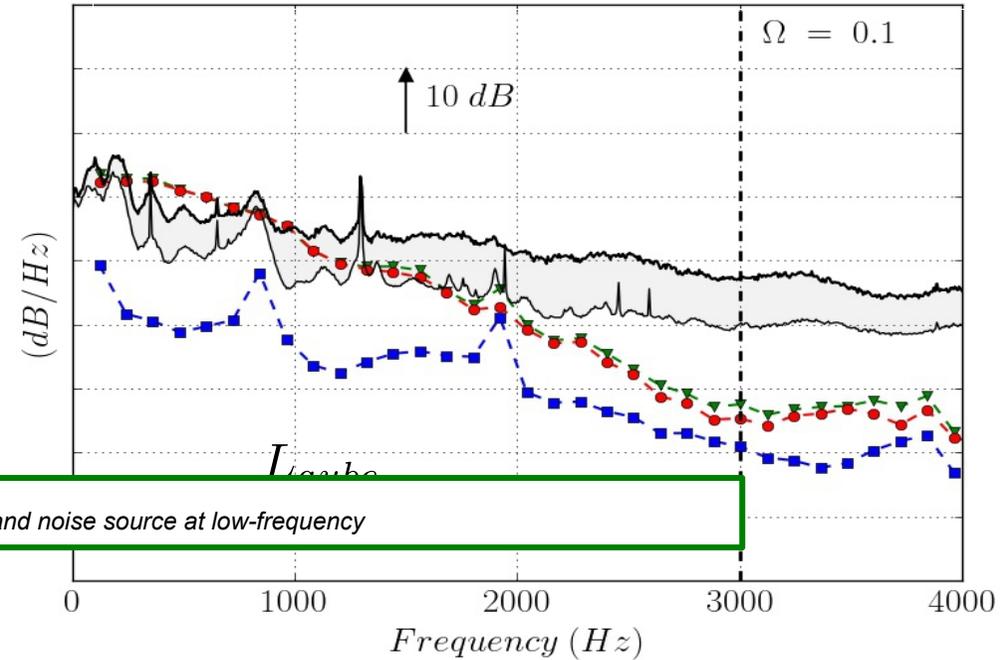
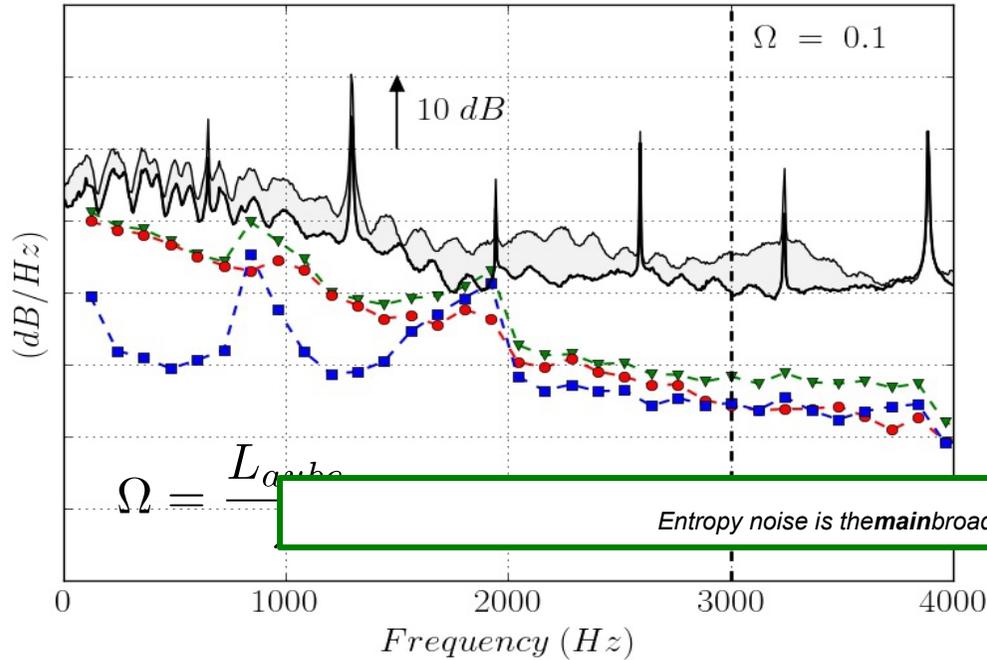
Direct noise

Entropy noise

Total noise

In the high-pressure turbine

At the turbine exit



# Experimental / Calculations comparisons in turbines

➔ At the turbine exit, total combustion noise predictions with a single-sector LES (planar modes) and a full 360° LES.

Experimental results

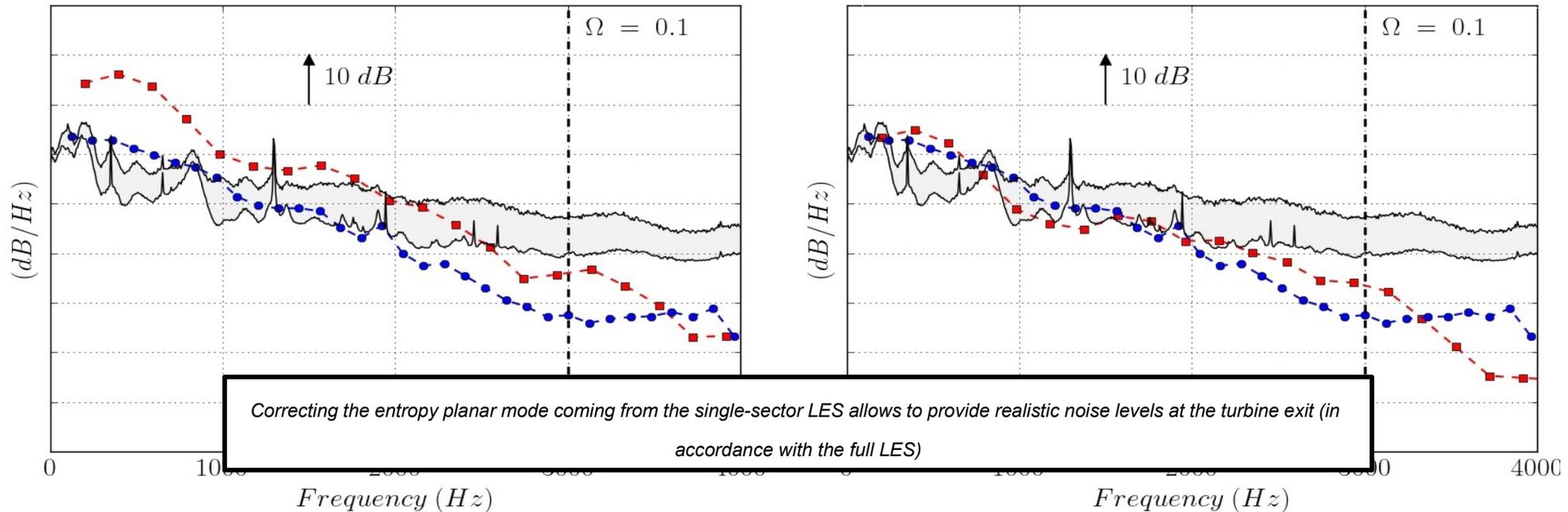


Full 360°

Single-sector

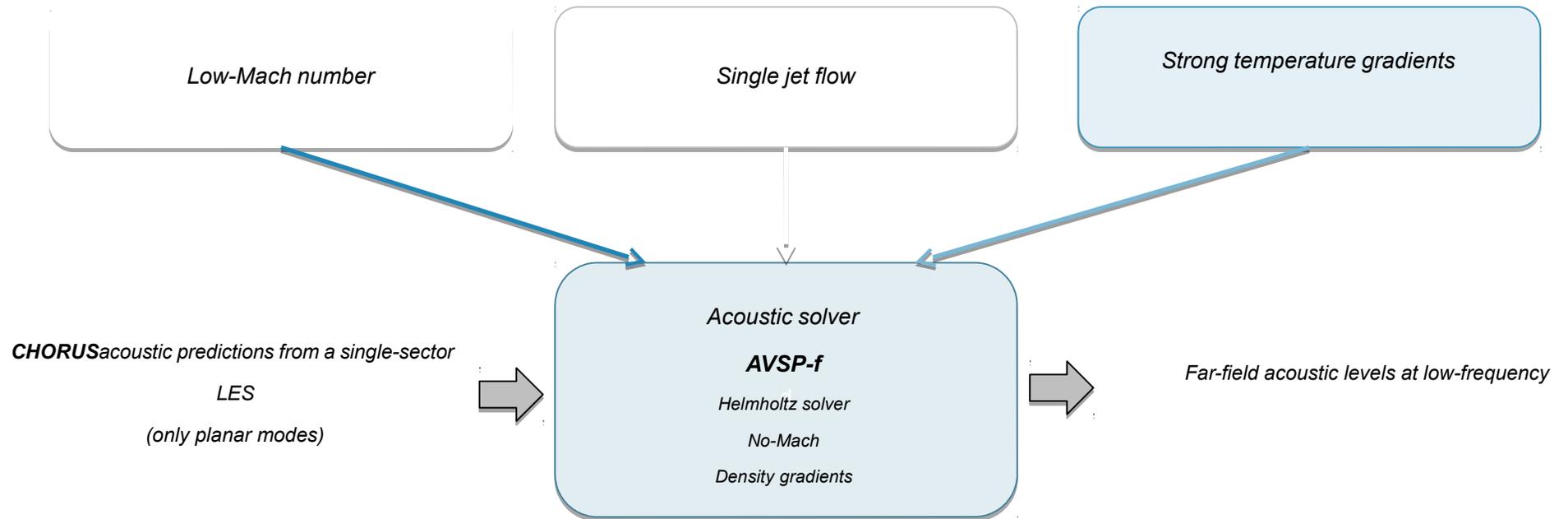
Without filtering

With filtering



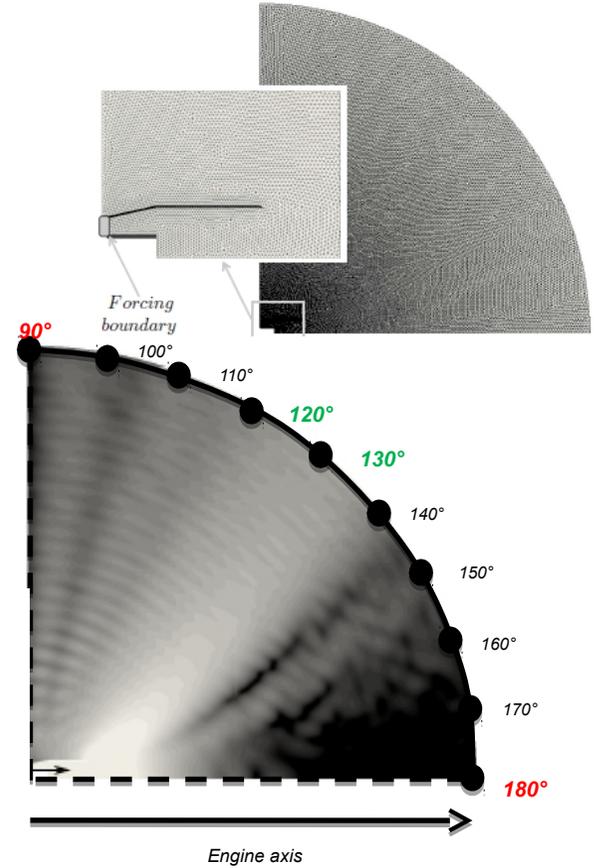
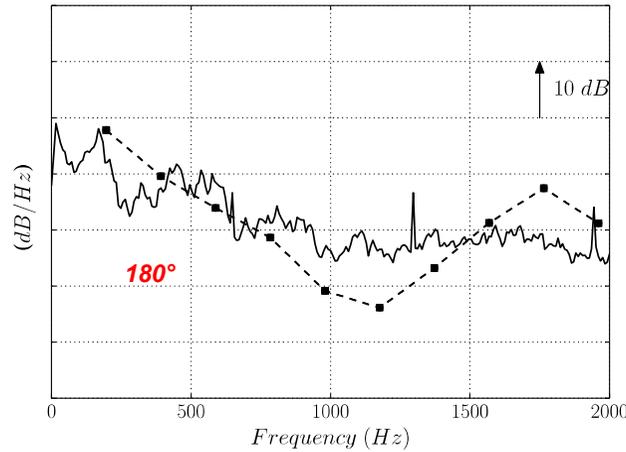
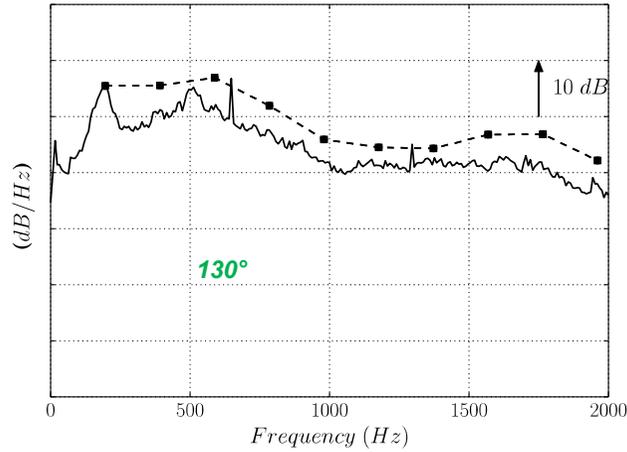
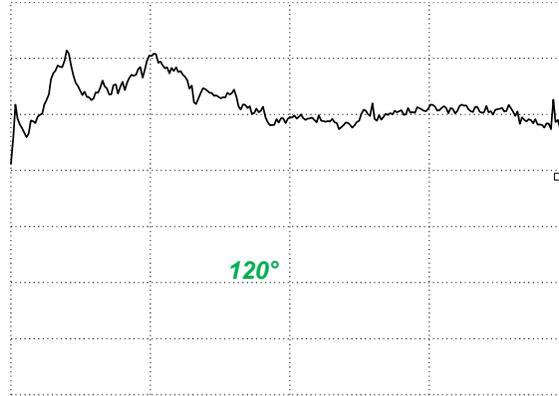
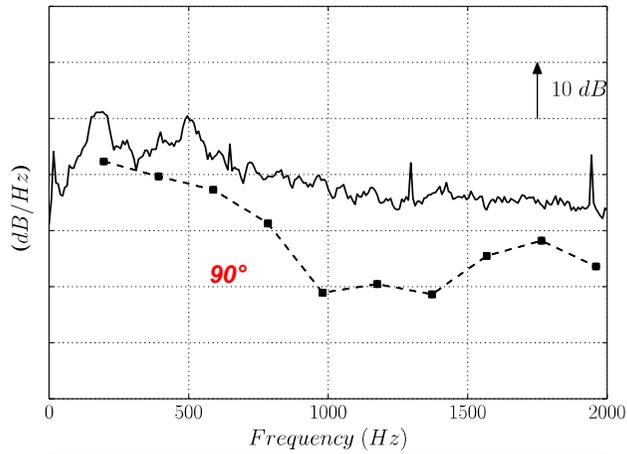
# The last step : Far-field computation

## → Characteristics of the exit mean flow of a turboshaft engine



# Comparison in Farfield

## → Comparison in far field (19,2m)



Deviations at the limits of the domain show that hypothesis on propagator model are probably too strong (M=0) + mesh frontier at 90°

# Conclusion

## → A mixed experimental / calculation approach has been applied for understanding combustion noise:

- New sensors and experimental analysis methods have been developed
- AVBP innovative use for acoustics
- Development of CHORUS and refinement of existing models for generation of indirect noise / propagation.
- Development of the CONOCHAIN methodology

## → Very good simulation results achieved for a first run without calibration !

- Good representation of acoustics inside the combustion chamber is only achievable with full 360° model
- ... but sectorized calculation seem sufficient for broadband noise prediction (coupled with CHORUS)
- Radiation model with no Mach induces side effects on the limit of the domain.

## → Indirect combustion noise is more important than Direct combustion noise for Turboshaft application

# Thank you for your attention

