

# Reducing the noise of Micro–Air Vehicles in hover

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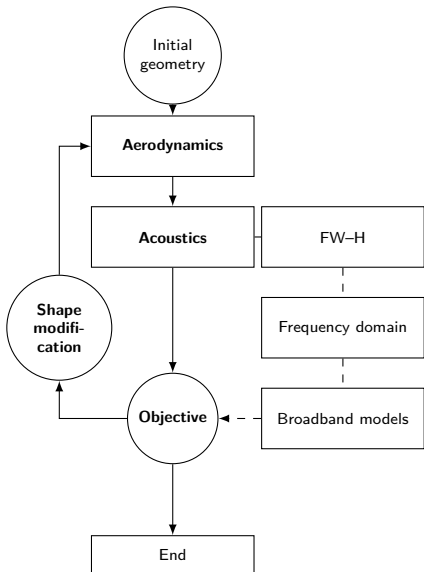
9<sup>th</sup> International Micro Air Vehicles Conference  
Toulouse, France

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Numerical modeling
- 3 Step-by-step optimization
- 4 Experiment
- 5 Results and discussion
- 6 Conclusions

- Context :**
- intensive use of Micro Air Vehicles
  - sound perceived as “annoying”

- Motivations :**
- improve discretion
  - allow sound recordings

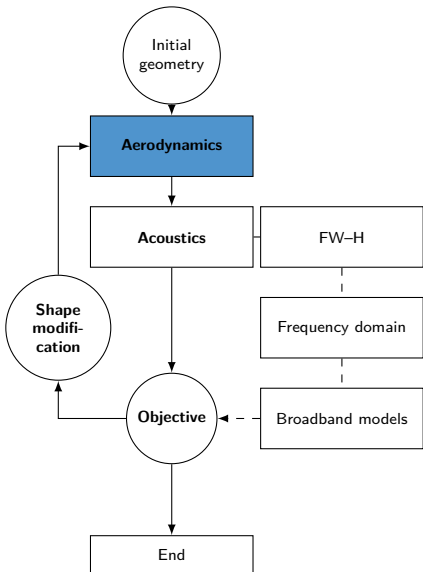
- Objectives of the method :**
- effective optimization procedure
  - reduce noise
  - maintain endurance





## Aerodynamics

- Aerodynamic coefficients : Xfoil [Drela and Giles, 1987]
- Blade Element and Momentum Theory [Winarto, 2004]
- Steady loading

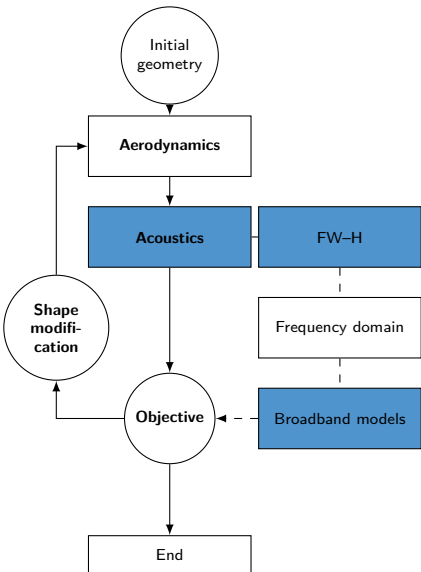


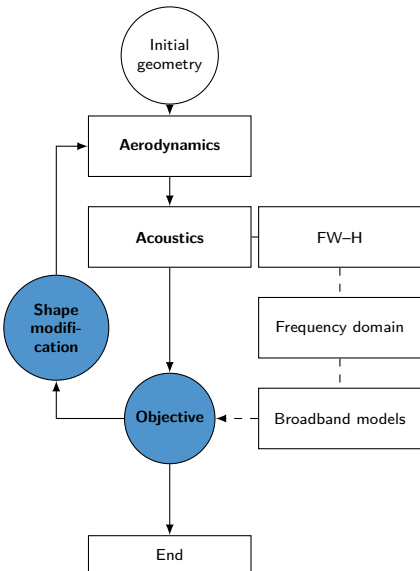
## Aerodynamics

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## Acoustics

- Ffowcs-Williams & Hawkings [Casalino, 2003] : tonal noise
  - ↳ velocity and loading (BEMT)
- Broadband noise models [Roger and Moreau, 2010] :
  - ↳ trailing-edge noise : boundary-layer data (Xfoil)
  - ↳ interaction noise : turbulence statistics
  - ↳ separation noise





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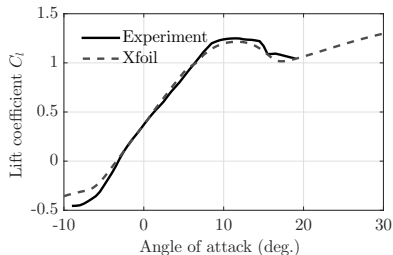
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## Optimization

- Multi-objective :
  - ↳ lower OASPL
  - ↳ lower aerodynamic power
- Shape modification :
  - ↳ systematic evaluation
  - ↳ evolutionary algorithms (NSGA-II)

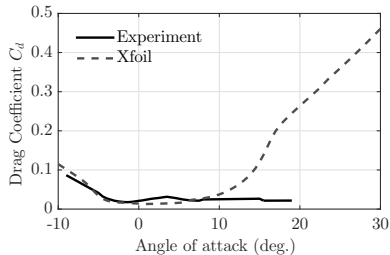
## Estimating the aerodynamic coefficients

E-387 airfoil section at Reynolds number  $Re = 100,000$ . Experiments from [Lyon et al., 1998]



### Xfoil lift prediction

Accurate and efficient but avoid high angles of attack



### Xfoil drag prediction

Severe overestimation of drag

## Trailing edge noise

$$S_{pp}(\vec{x}, \omega) = \left( \frac{\omega c x_3}{2\pi c_0 S_0^2} \right)^2 \frac{L}{2} \left| \Lambda_{TE} \left( \frac{\omega}{U_c}, \frac{\bar{k} x_2}{S_0} \right) \right|^2 \underbrace{\Phi_{pp}(\omega) l_y(\omega)}_{\text{input}}$$

- $\Phi_{pp}$  : wall pressure spectrum at trailing edge. Model : [Kim and George, 1982]
- $l_y$  : spanwise coherent length. Model : Corcco, in [Rozenberg et al., 2010]

## Turbulence interaction noise

$$S_{pp}(\vec{x}, \omega) = \left( \frac{\rho_0 k c x_3}{2S_0^2} \right)^2 \pi U_0 \frac{L}{2} \left| \Lambda_{TI} \left( x_1, \frac{\omega}{U_c}, \frac{k x_2}{S_0} \right) \right|^2 \underbrace{\Phi_{ww} \left( \frac{\omega}{U_c}, \frac{k x_2}{S_0} \right)}_{\text{input}}$$

- $\Phi_{ww}$  : cross-correlated upwash velocity fluctuation spectrum. Model : von Kármán, in [Amiet, 1975]

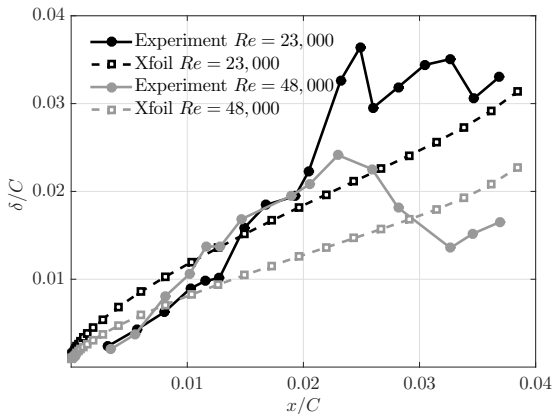
Main input data for trailing edge noise model

Boundary layer length scales

Main input data for interaction noise model

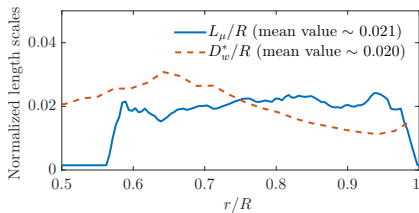
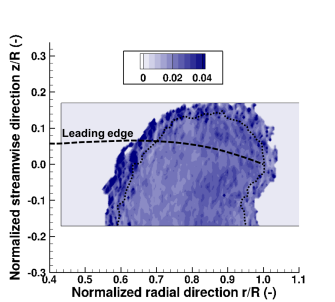
Turbulence length scale

## Estimating the boundary layer length scale



- Boundary layer thickness
- NACA 0012,  $6^\circ$  angle of attack
- Reynolds numbers  $Re = 23,000$  and  $Re = 48,000$
- Xfoil prediction
- Experiments by [Kim et al., 2009]

## Estimating the turbulence length scale



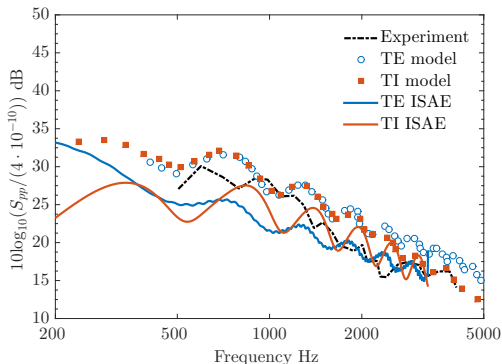
Wake width  $D_w^*$  scales as Taylor micro-scale  $L_\mu$  [Fukano et al., 1977] :

$$D_w^* = d_{AS} + \delta_p^* + \delta_s^*$$

- $d_{AS}$  : airfoil section thickness near trailing edge
- $\delta_p^*$  : boundary layer displacement thickness (pressure side)
- $\delta_s^*$  : boundary layer displacement thickness (suction side)

## Validating the models

Wing translating at  $\sim 40$  m/s with NACA 0012 airfoil section. From [Moreau and Roger, 2007]



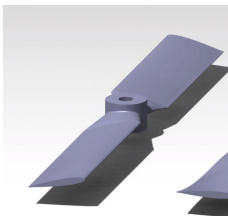
## Main input data for interaction noise model

- low frequencies underestimated
- high frequencies overestimated



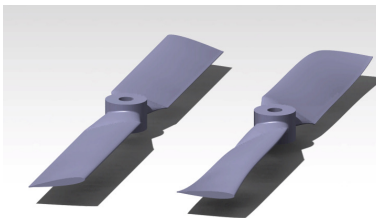
## Case #1 :

- constant twist
- constant chord
- NACA 0012 airfoil section



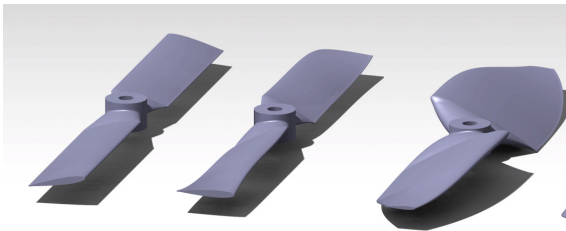
## Case #2 :

- optimized twist
- constant chord
- NACA 0012 airfoil section



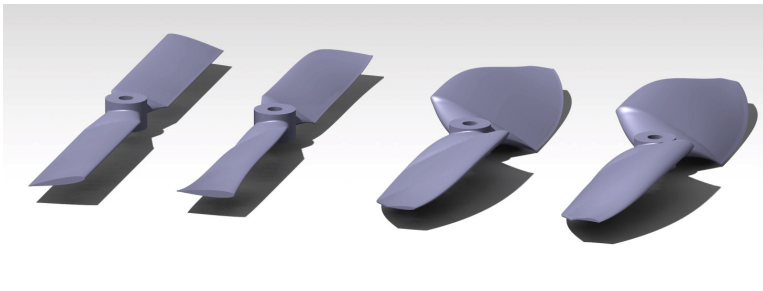
## Case #3 :

- optimized twist
- optimized chord
- NACA 0012 airfoil section



## Case #4 :

- optimized twist
- optimized chord
- optimized airfoil sections



## Optimization procedure :

- Twist :**
- combination method
  - 4 control points along the radius (twist imposed on the 4<sup>th</sup>);
  - 5 values at each control points
  - 5<sup>3</sup> evaluations
  - multi-objective : lower noise and lower aerodynamic power

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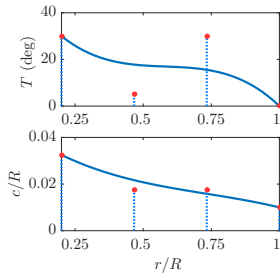
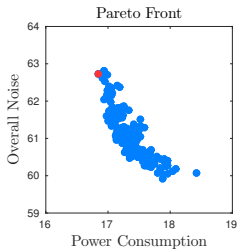
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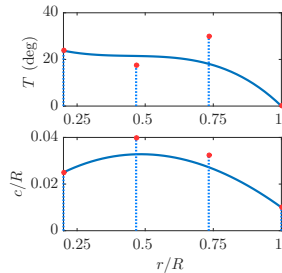
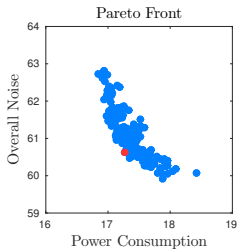
- Airfoil section :**
- 3 radial positions yielding Reynolds number and angle of attack
  - CST parameterization with 12 coefficients
  - Matlab's Genetic Algorithm
  - population : 100
  - generations : 55
  - mono-objective : higher lift-to-drag ratio
  - multipoints : average in Reynolds number and angle of attack

## Combination method :

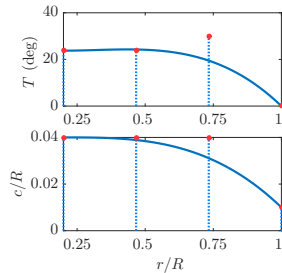
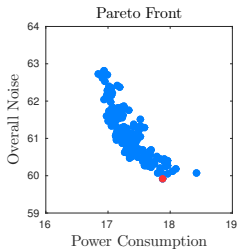




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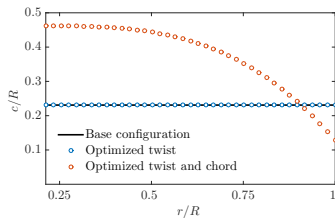
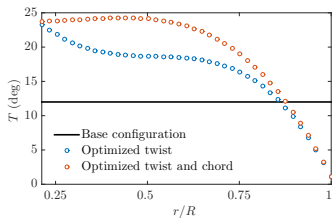


## Combination method :



Twist  $\in [5;30]$  degrees

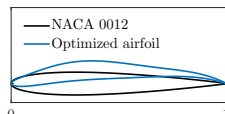
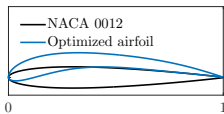
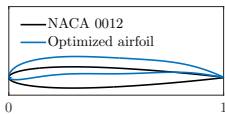
Chord  $\in [0.1;0.45] r/R$



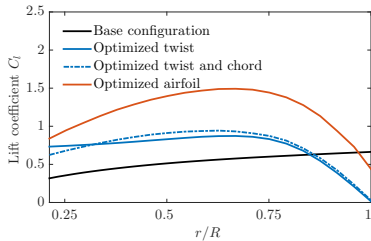
$r/R = 0.1, Re = 32,000$

$r/R = 0.5, Re = 82,000$

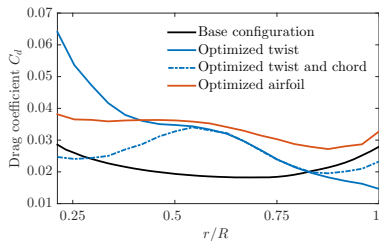
$r/R = 1.0, Re = 42,000$



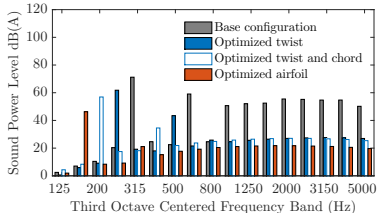
## Lift coefficients



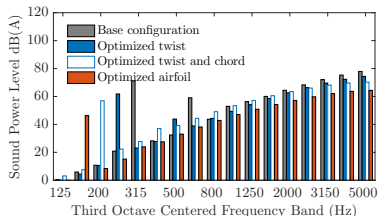
## Drag coefficients



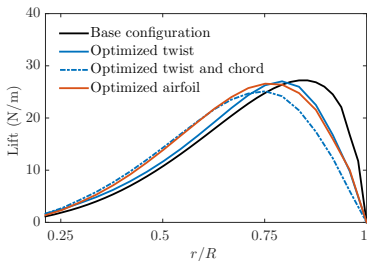
## Trailing edge noise



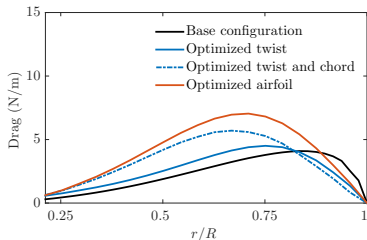
## Turbulence interaction noise



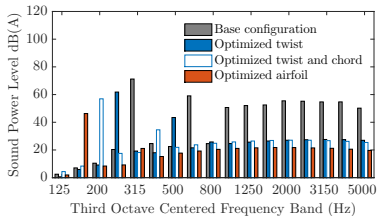
## Lift



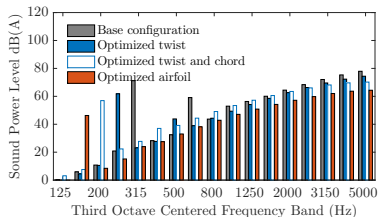
## Drag



## Trailing edge noise

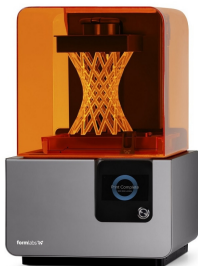


## Turbulence interaction noise



## Rapid prototyping :

3D-printer : FormLabs Form 2

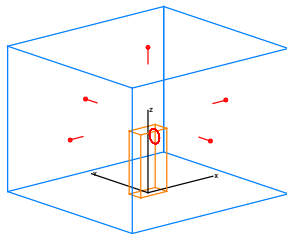
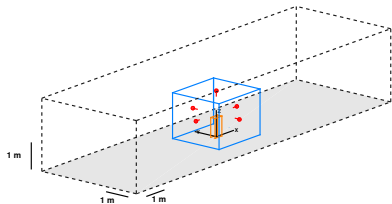


SLA technology, 50  $\mu\text{m}$  vertical resolution



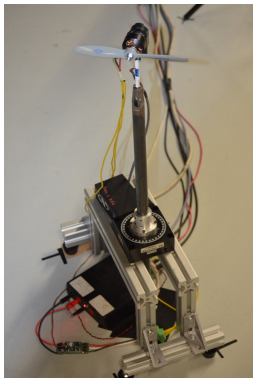
*Credits : Usine Nouvelle ©*

## Experimental set-up :



- $(l_x \times l_y \times l_z) = (14.9 \times 4.5 \times 1.8) \text{ m}^3$
- sound power level computed according to ISO 3746 : 1995 standard
- 5 measurement points
- Brüel & Kjær 1/2'' free-field microphone
- Nexus frequency analyzer (3.125 Hz of frequency resolution)
- Measurement distance :  $\sim 1 \text{ m}$  ( $\sim 5$  rotor diameters)

## Experimental set-up :



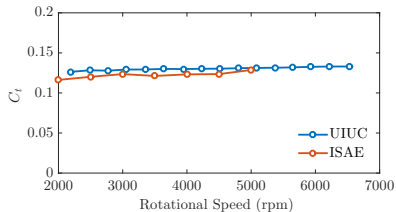


## Validation of the aerodynamic balance : Graupner SlimProp 9x6 propeller, UIUC online database

Thrust coefficient

$$C_t = \frac{T}{\frac{1}{2}\rho(\omega R)^2\pi R^2}$$

- $T$  : thrust
- $\rho$  : ambient density
- $R$  : tip radius

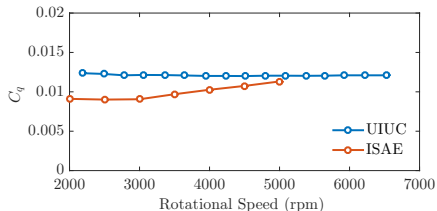


- underestimated torque
- leads to overestimation of Figure of Merit

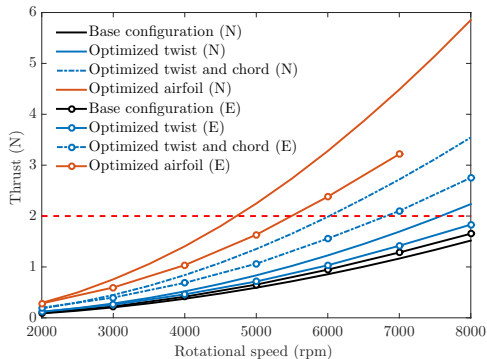
Torque coefficient

$$C_q = \frac{Q}{\frac{1}{2}\rho(\omega R)^2\pi R^3}$$

- $Q$  : torque
- $\omega$  : rotational frequency



## Thrust from numerical tool and experiment

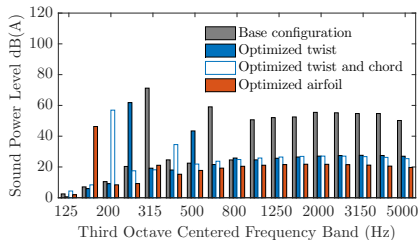


## Rotational speed (and BPF) for a 2 N thrust

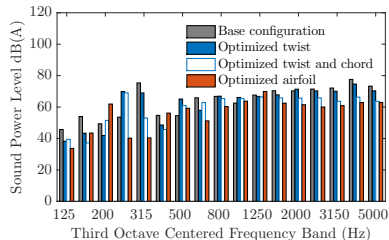
	Numerical	Experimental	Deviation
Base configuration	9310 rpm (310 Hz)	9800 rpm (325 Hz)	5%
Optimized twist	7630 rpm (255 Hz)	8400 rpm (280 Hz)	9%
Optimized chord and twist	6010 rpm (200 Hz)	6650 rpm (220 Hz)	10%
Optimized airfoil	4880 rpm (165 Hz)	5450 rpm (180 Hz)	10%

## Acoustic power levels from numerical tool and experiment

N : trailing edge noise



Experiment

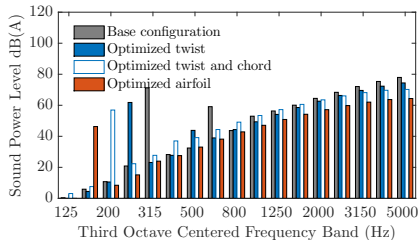


## Comments

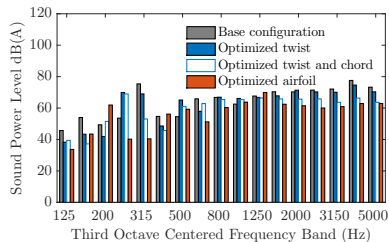
- lower BPF, shifted towards low frequencies
- lower broadband noise levels

## Acoustic power levels from numerical tool and experiment

N : turbulence interaction noise



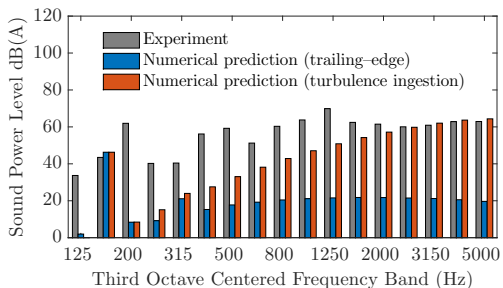
Experiment



## Comments

- lower BPF, shifted towards low frequencies
- lower broadband noise levels

## Acoustic power levels from numerical tool and experiment (final optimization)



## Comments

- higher BPF (and subharmonics) : unsteady loading and installation effects
- fine agreement at higher frequencies

## Final evaluation

	$A_p$ (N)	$A_p$ (E)	$L_{wA}$ (NTE)	$L_{wA}$ (NTI)	$L_{wA}$ (E)
Base configuration	19.6 W	25.2 W	72.0 dB(A)	85.0 dB(A)	83.3 dB(A)
Optimized twist	17.2 W	22.1 W	61.9 dB(A)	81.2 dB(A)	81.3 dB(A)
Optimized chord and twist	17.9 W	23.1 W	57.0 dB(A)	77.1 dB(A)	76.6 dB(A)
Optimized airfoil	16.9 W	21.3 W	46.6 dB(A)	71.1 dB(A)	74.5 dB(A)

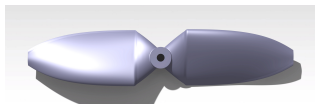
## Comments

- Aerodynamic power reduction : 4 W (15%)
- Acoustic power reduction : 9 dB(A) (10%)

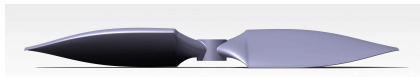
Side view



Top view



Front view



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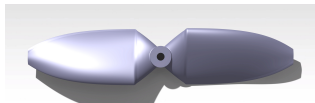
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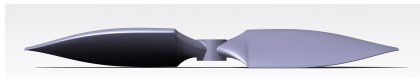
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Top view



Front view



- Results :**
- development of an aeroacoustic modeling environment with low-fidelity models
  - development of an optimization framework for aeroacoustic blade optimization
  - development of an experimental methodology for acoustic measurements
  - encouraging results (low fidelity models)



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  - broadband models (trailing edge noise and interaction noise)






- Future work :**
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  - unsteady aerodynamics model implementation
  - measurements in anechoic environment
  - high-fidelity modeling (optimization cost)

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## Aknowledgements

- funding agency (Direction Generale de l'Armement)
- technical team of DAEP

-  Amiet, R. K. (1975).  
Acoustic radiation from an airfoil in a turbulent stream.  
*Journal of Sound and Vibration*, 41(4) :407–420.
-  Casalino, D. (2003).  
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