



Engineering, Test & Technology  
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# Sonic Boom Propagation Predictions for AIAA SBPW3 (Orlando, FL, 2020)

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3<sup>rd</sup> AIAA Sonic Boom Prediction Workshop  
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# Introduction / Outline

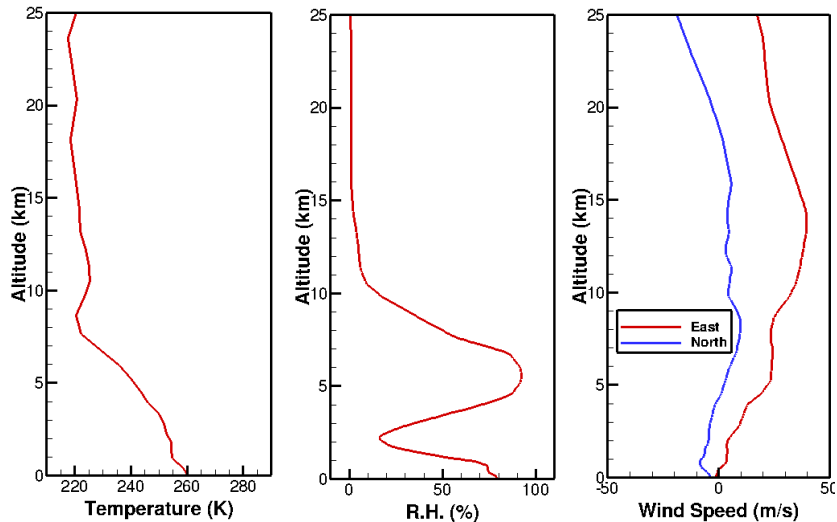
- Case descriptions
- General information for propagation codes
- Case 1 results and comparisons
- Case 2 results and comparisons
- Summary

# Cases Analyzed

## Case 1: NASA C25P

M = 1.6, Alt = 15760.0 m, Ground elevation = 264.069 m, Heading: East, R/L = 3.

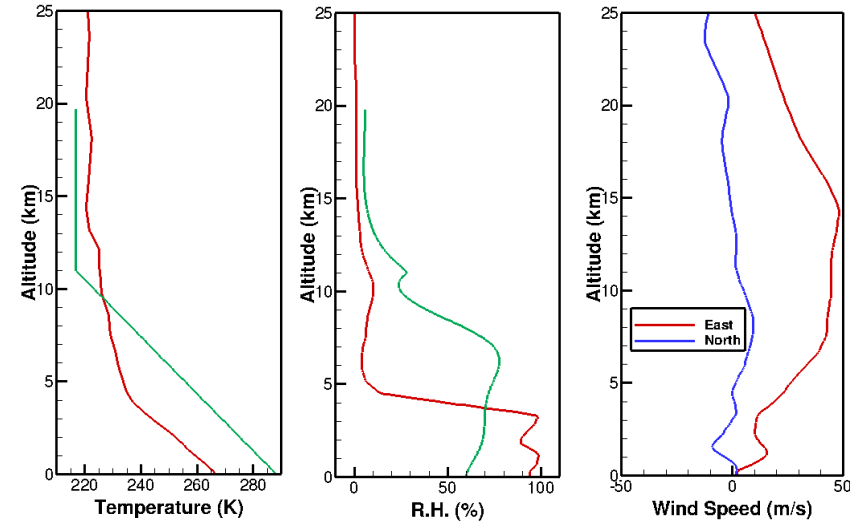
- Measured Atmosphere Profile (with wind)



## Case 2: NASA C609

M = 1.4, Alt = 16459.2 m, Ground elevation = 110.011 m, Heading: East, R/L = 3.

- Measured Atmosphere Profile (with wind)
- Standard Day Atmosphere Profile (no wind)



# Propagation Prediction Codes

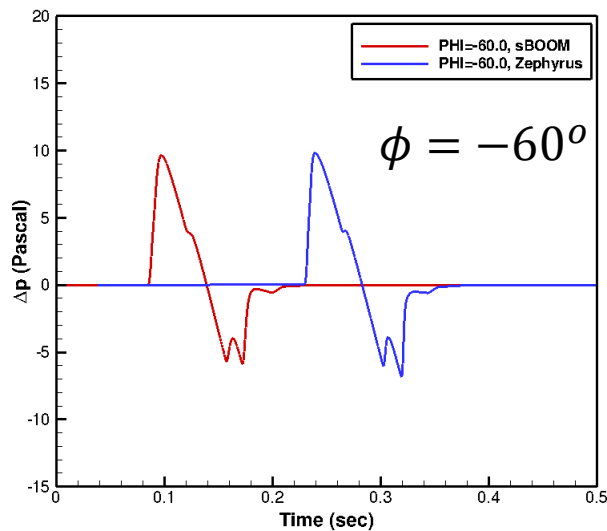
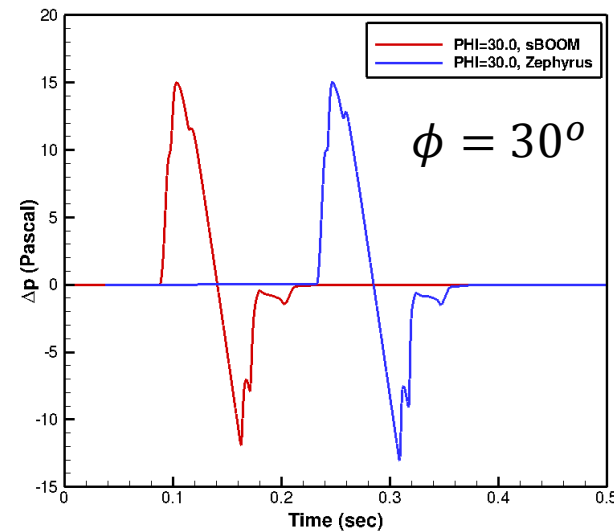
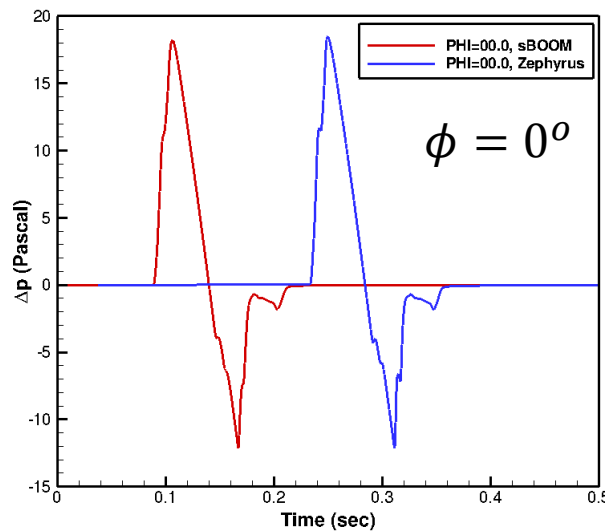
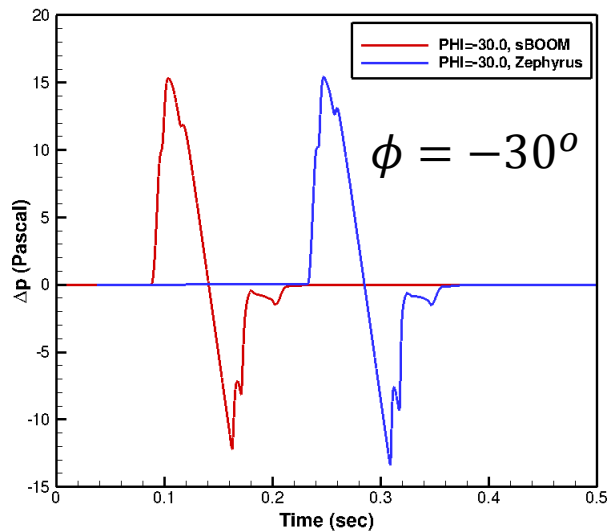
## NASA sBOOM code (v2.81)

- Ray tube for propagation path
- Nonlinear lossy Burger's equation for signature propagation
- Attenuation with classical dissipation and molecular relaxation
- Noise metrics calculated internally
- Linux and Windows platforms
- Reference:
  - Sriram Rallabhandi, Advanced Sonic Boom Prediction Using the Augmented Burgers Equation, Journal of Aircraft, Vol. 48, No. 4, July-August 2011.

## Boeing Zephyrus code (2001)

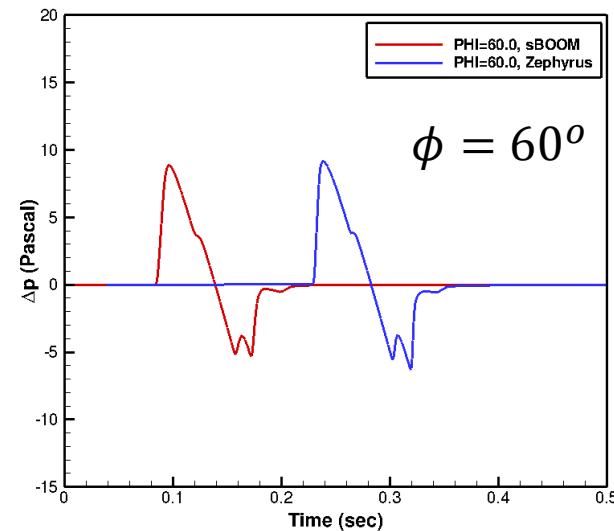
- Ray tube for propagation path
- Nonlinear lossy Burger's equation for signature propagation
- Attenuation with classical dissipation and molecular relaxation
- Noise metrics calculated externally (NASA LCASB)
- Windows platform
- Reference:
  - Leick Robinson (1992), A numerical model for sonic boom propagation through an inhomogeneous, windy atmosphere. The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America. doi: 10.1121/1.403061.

# Case 1 Prediction – Ground Signatures

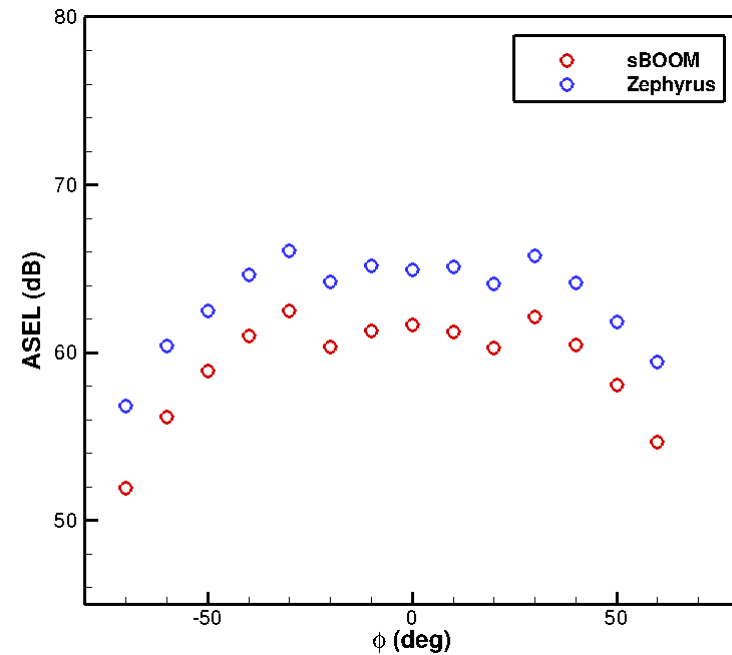
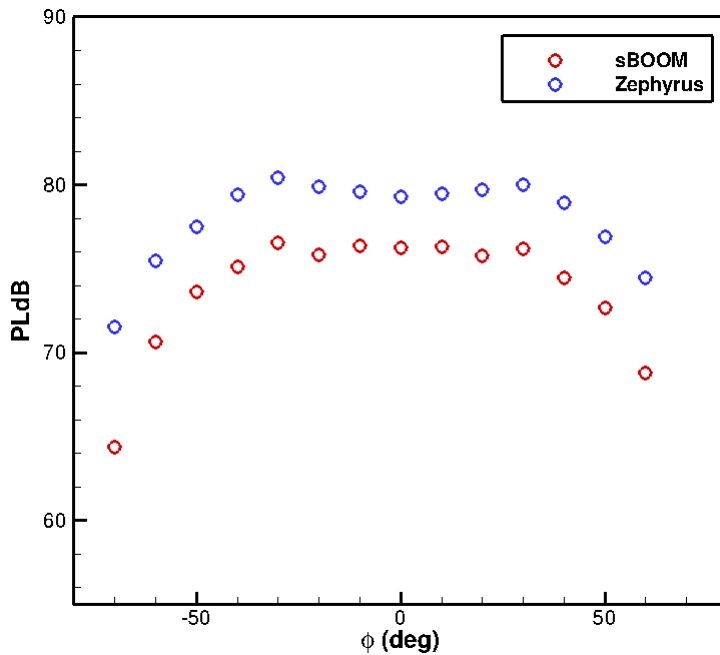


Ground signatures predicted by sBOOM and Zephyrus are in close agreement in terms of amplitude, overall rise time and shape.

Differences exist in small details



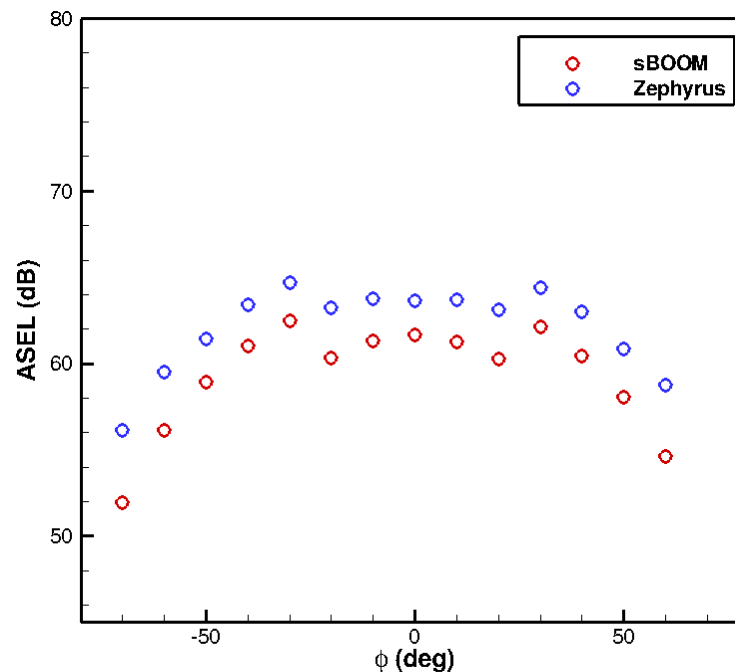
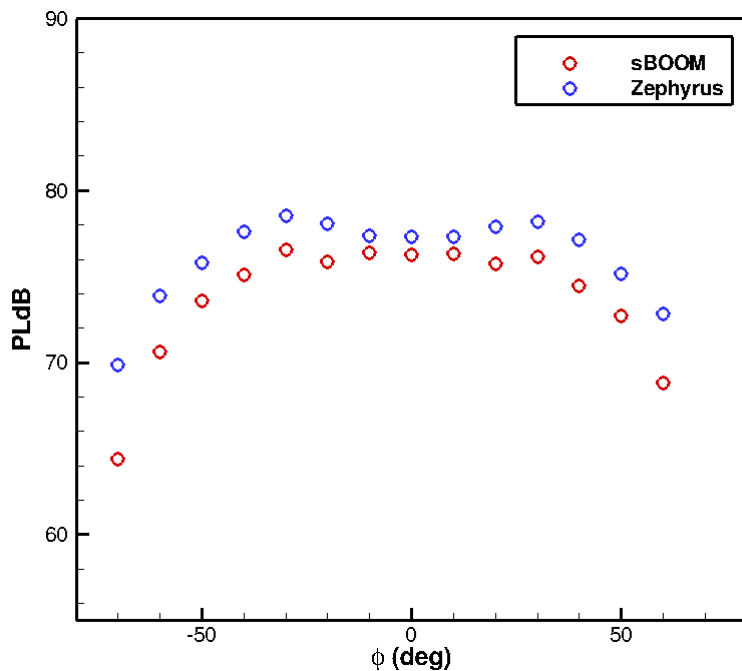
# Case 1 Prediction – Loudness Metrics



- Difference in loudness predictions: 3-4 PLdB
- Relatively large compared to previous experiences
- Caused by non-uniform and under sampled Zephyrus output

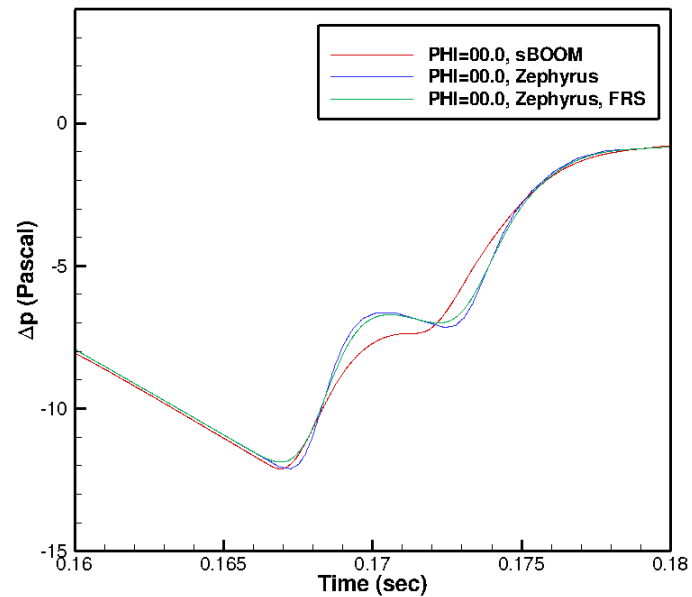
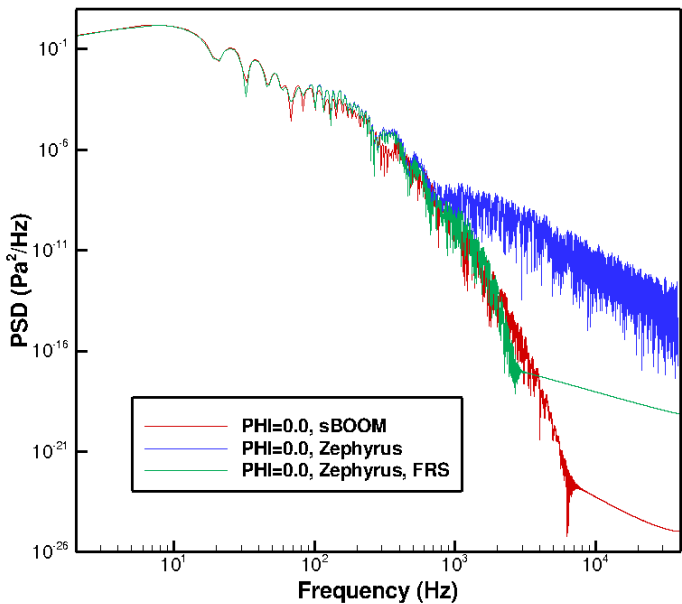
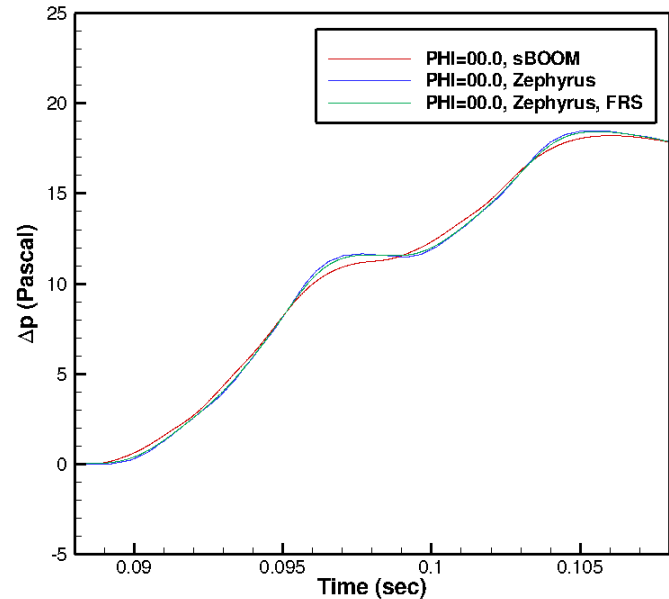
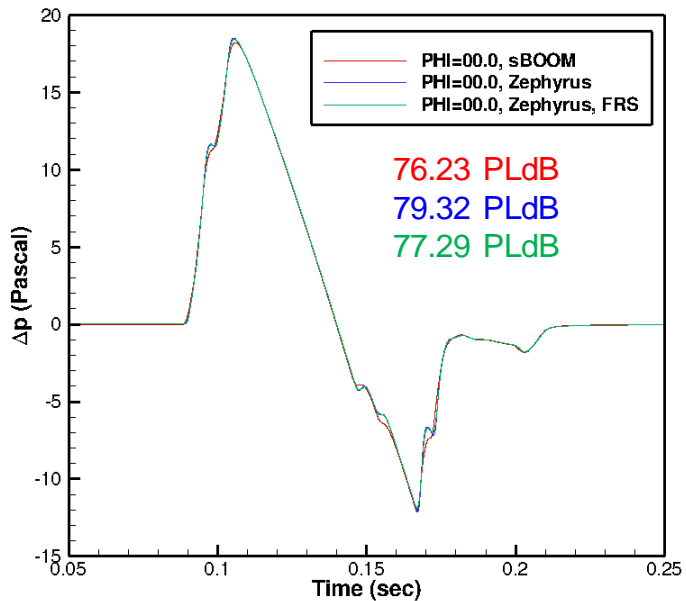
# Case 1 Prediction – Loudness Metrics

Using filtered resampling for Zephyrus results



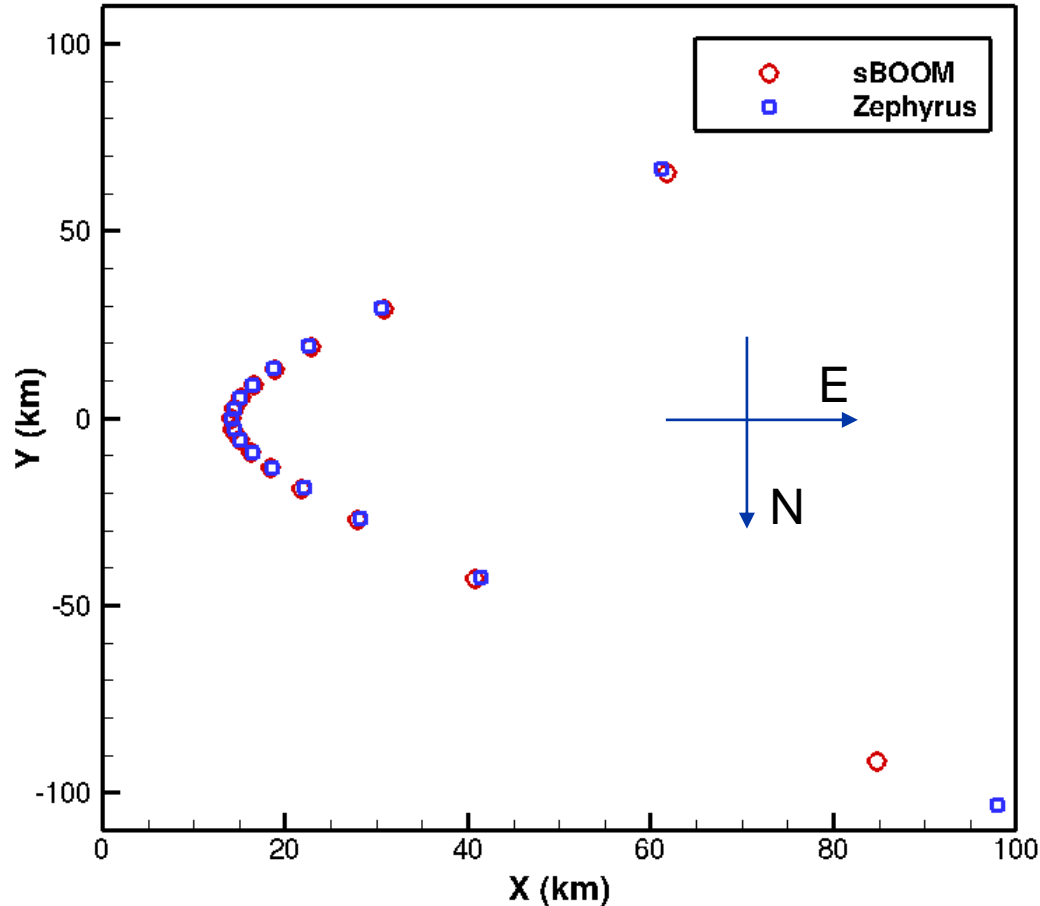
- Filtered resampling reduced the difference to: 1-2 PLdB

# Case 1 Prediction – PLdB Differences





# Case 1 Prediction – Ground Interception



## Lateral Cutoff:

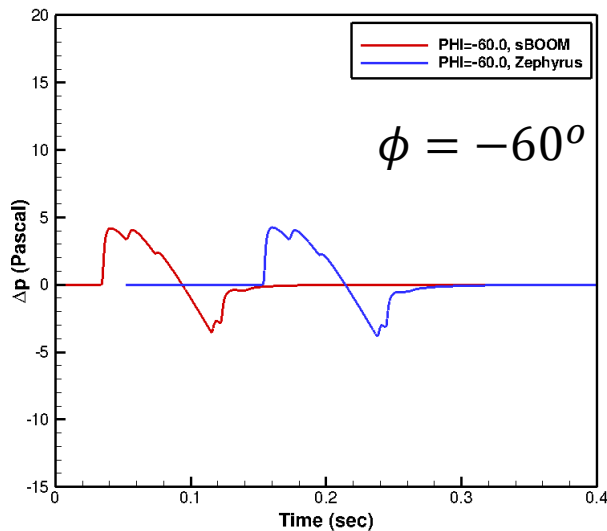
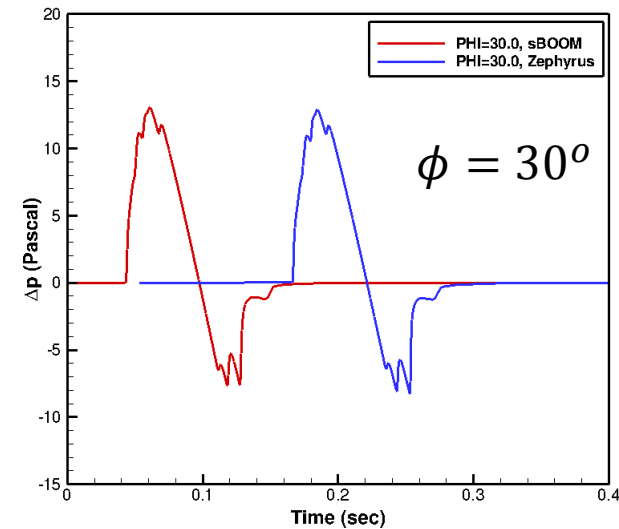
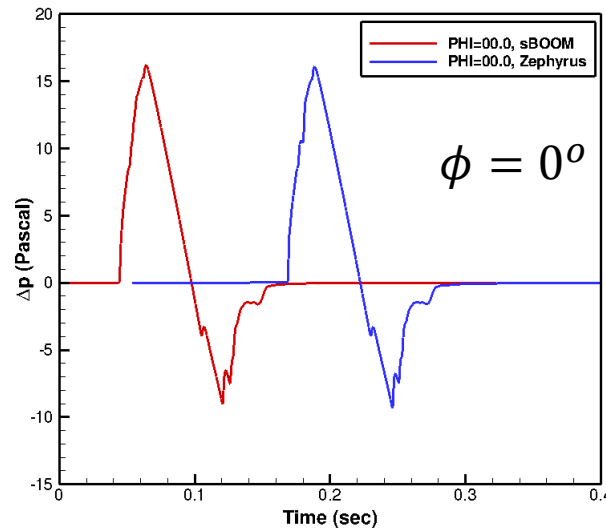
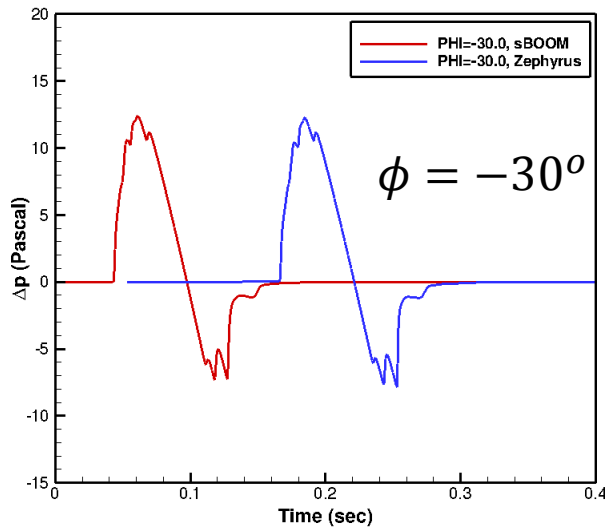
### sBOOM:

- $\phi = -78.40$ ,  $x=84720\text{m}$ ,  $y=-91460\text{m}$
- $\phi = 69.11$ ,  $x=61690\text{m}$ ,  $y=65525\text{m}$

### Zephyrus:

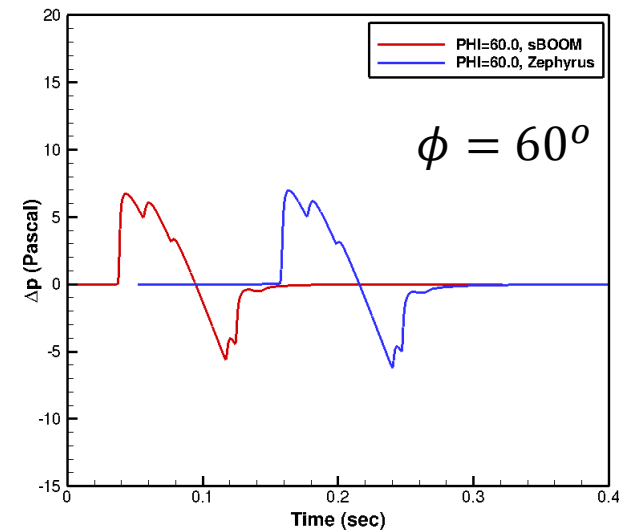
- $\phi = -78.50$ ,  $x=97864\text{m}$ ,  $y=-103109\text{m}$
- $\phi = 68.80$ ,  $x=61169\text{m}$ ,  $y=66505\text{m}$

# Case 2 Meas. Atm. Prediction – Ground Signatures

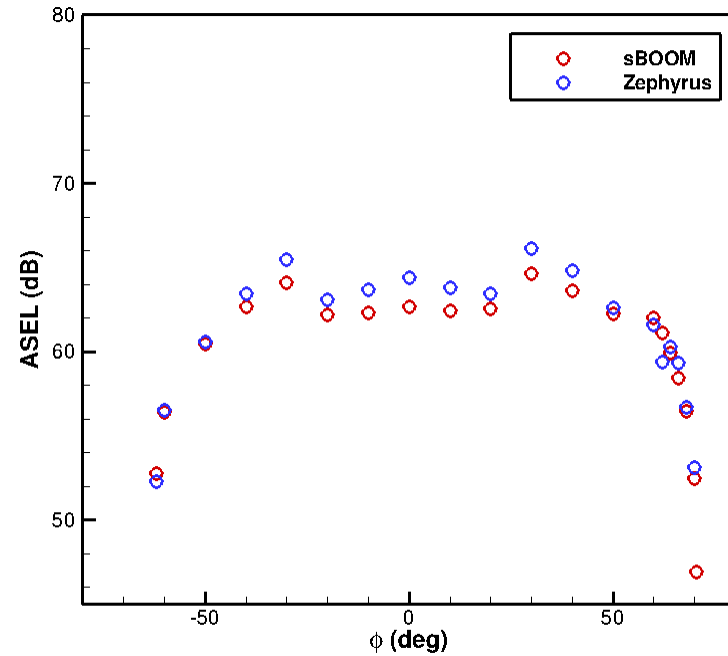
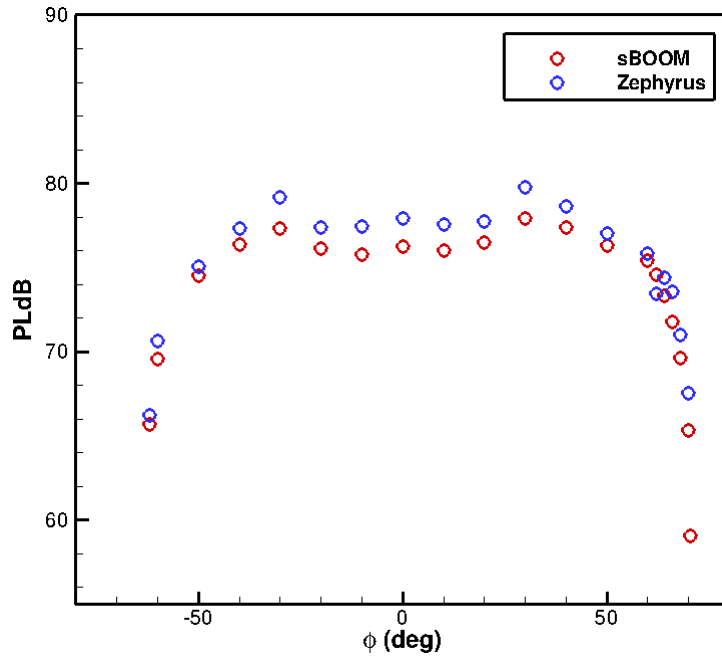


Ground signatures predicted by sBOOM and Zephyrus are in close agreement in terms of amplitude, overall rise time and shape.

Differences exist in small details

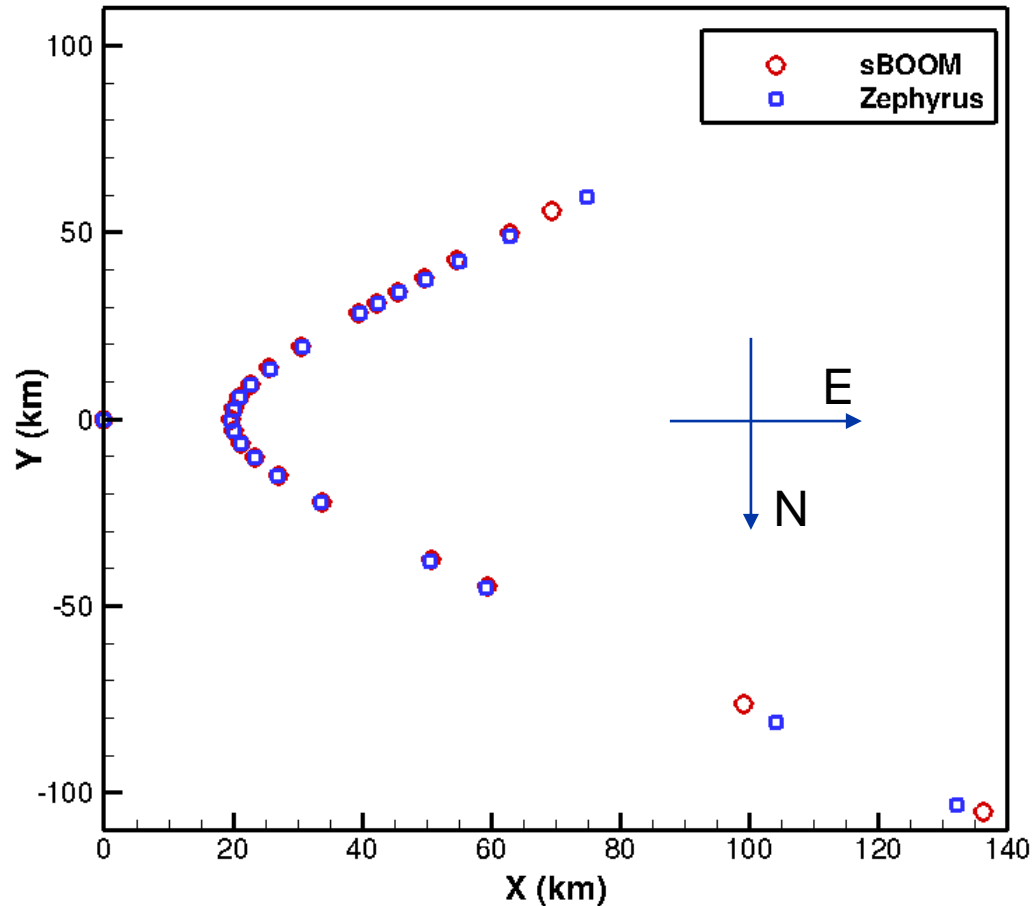


# Case 2 Meas. Atm. Prediction – Loudness Metrics



- Difference in loudness predictions: ~1 PLdB

# Case 2 Meas. Atm. Prediction – Ground Interception



## Lateral Cutoff:

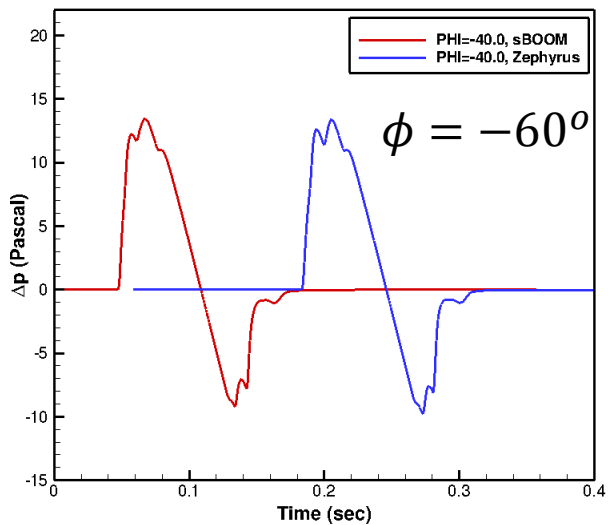
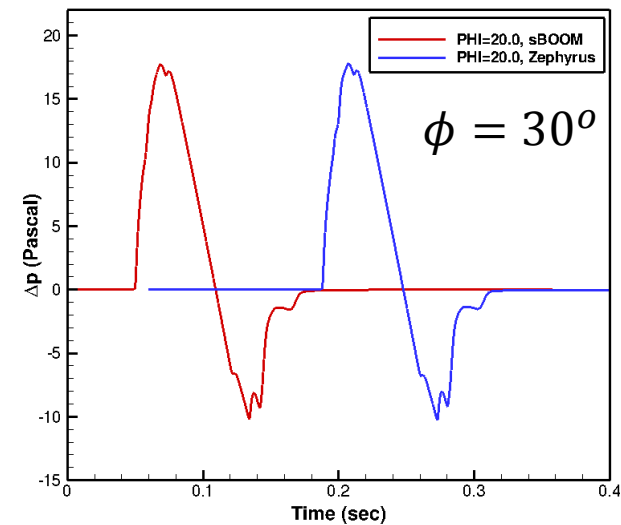
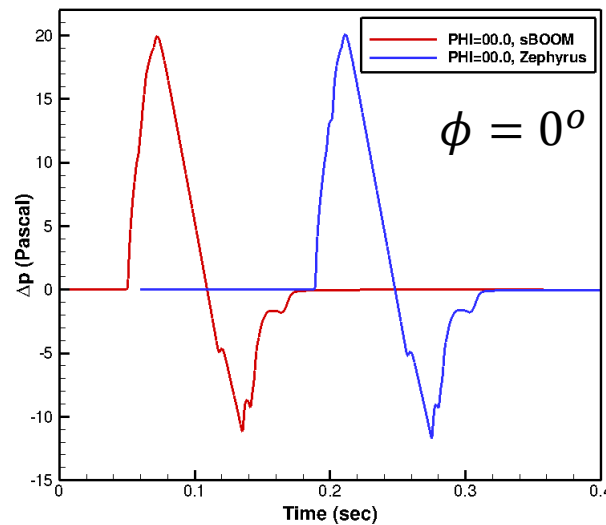
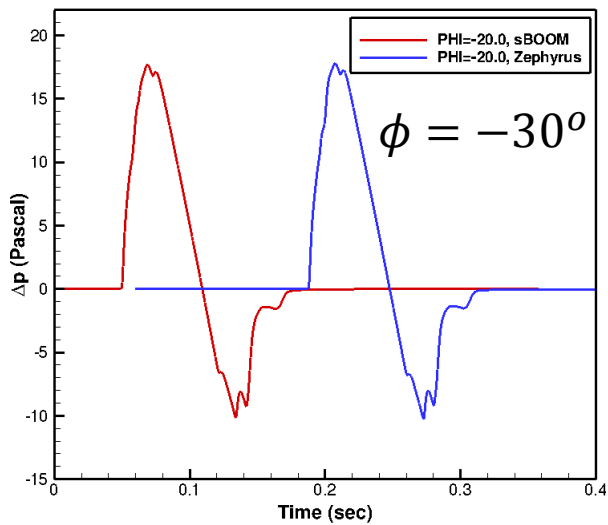
### sBOOM:

- $\phi = -64.07$ ,  $x=136164\text{m}$ ,  $y=-105074\text{m}$
- $\phi = 70.49$ ,  $x=69420\text{m}$ ,  $y=55631\text{m}$

### Zephyrus:

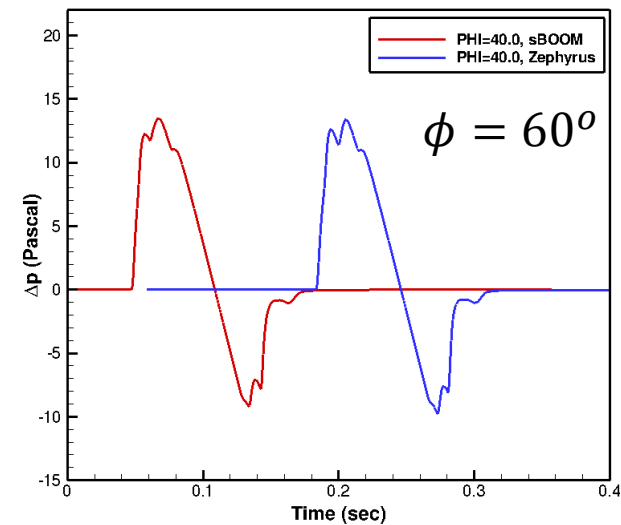
- $\phi = -64.06$ ,  $x=132007\text{m}$ ,  $y=-103100\text{m}$
- $\phi = 70.70$ ,  $x=74709\text{m}$ ,  $y=59557\text{m}$

# Case 2 STD. Atm. Prediction – Ground Signatures

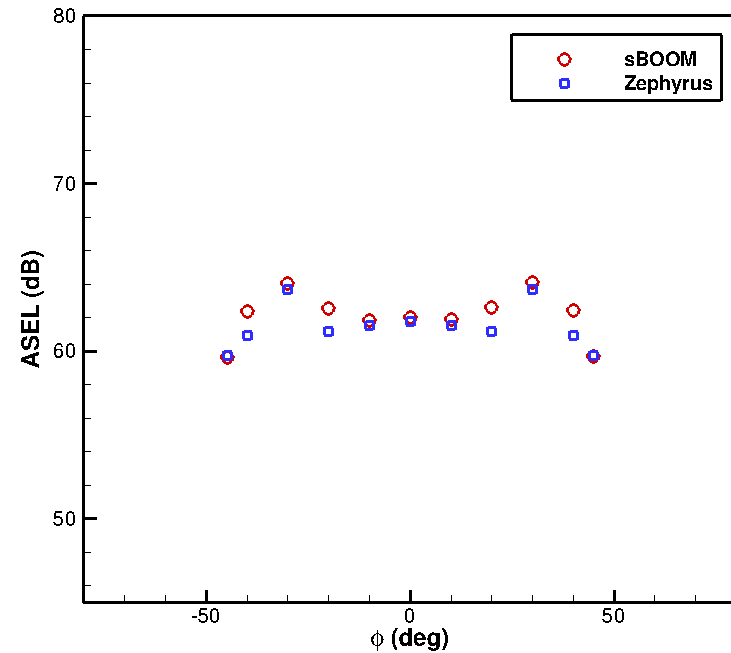
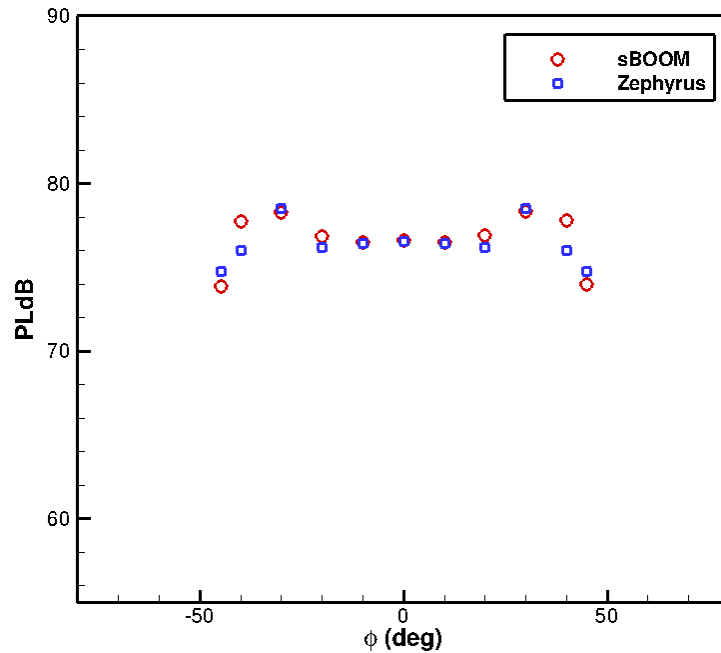


Ground signatures predicted by sBOOM and Zephyrus are in close agreement in terms of amplitude, overall rise time and shape.

Differences exist in small details

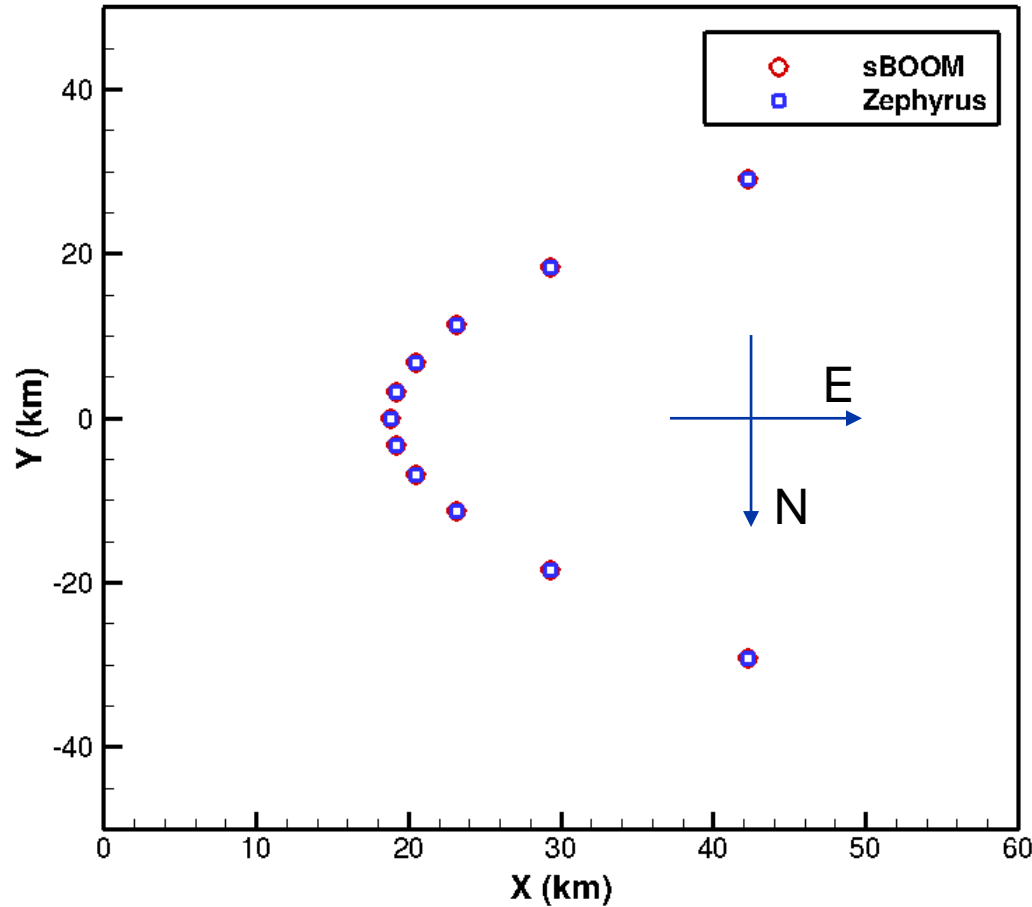


# Case 2 STD. Atm. Prediction – Loudness Metrics



- Difference in loudness predictions: ~1 PLdB

# Case 2 STD. Atm. Prediction – Ground Interception



## Lateral Cutoff:

### sBOOM:

- $\phi = -44.85$ ,  $x=42242\text{m}$ ,  $y=-29189\text{m}$
- $\phi = 44.85$ ,  $x=42242\text{m}$ ,  $y=29189\text{m}$

### Zephyrus:

- $\phi = -44.84$ ,  $x=42213\text{m}$ ,  $y=-29165\text{m}$
- $\phi = 44.84$ ,  $x=42213\text{m}$ ,  $y=29165\text{m}$

# Summary

- Cases 1 and 2 are analyzed using NASA sBOOM and Boeing Zephyrus codes.
- Overall ground signature amplitude, rise time and shape predicted by sBOOM and Zephyrus are very close to each other for both cases.
- Acoustical ray path ground interception and boom carpet edge predicted by sBOOM and Zephyrus are very close to each other for the two cases.
- For Case 1, loudness levels for sBOOM predictions and Zephyrus predictions with linear resampling are different between 3 to 4 PLdB. With filtered resampling on Zephyrus predictions the difference drops to 1 to 2 PLdB.
- For Case 2, loudness levels predicted from sBOOM and Zephyrus ground signatures are very close to each other.
- Modifications in Zephyrus output options and numerical control is needed for more reliable comparisons.





