

Introduction to aeronautics

Part 4. The era of the jet-propelled airplane

4.4 The design for breaking sound barrier

- **Flutter**
 - Ballast is used to eliminate flutter



4.4 The design for breaking sound barrier

- **Flutter**
 - The wing tip missile can eliminate flutter



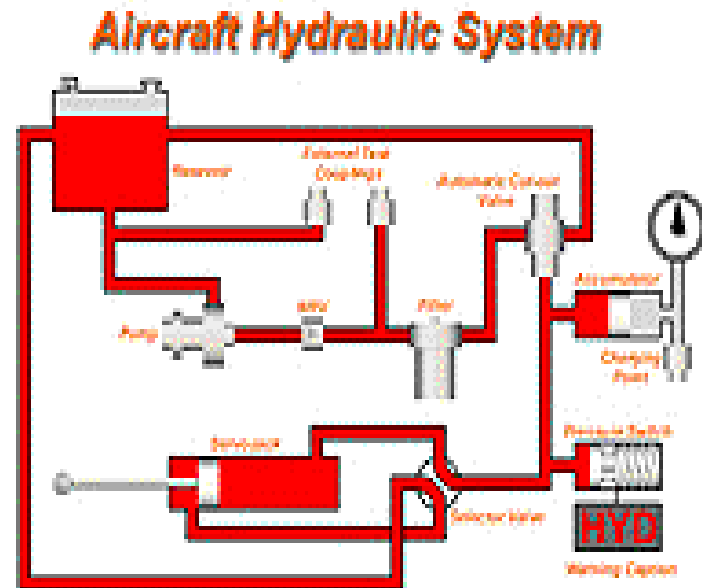
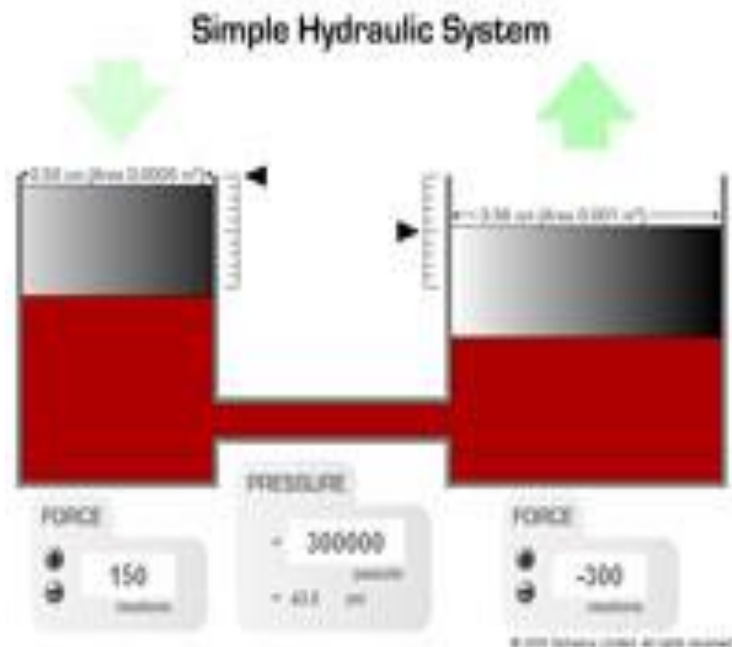
4.5 The flight control system

- **Mechanical control system**
 - The control surfaces are moved by cable, pushrods
 - Used by low speed and small aircraft



4.5 The flight control system

- **Hydro-Mechanical control system**
 - Used by high speed and large aircraft
 - The control surfaces are moved by hydraulic system
 - Artificial feel devices and stick shaker is required



4.5 The flight control system

- **Fly-By-Wire system**
 - The control command is transferred into electrical signal and transmitted by wires
 - The flight control computers will decide how to move the actuators



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

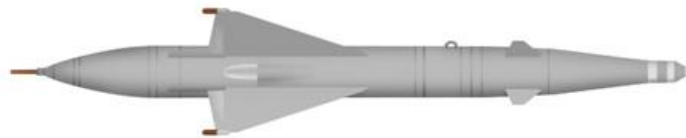
1. Fighter planes

The invention of jet engines lead to the world's
1st generation fighter planes



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

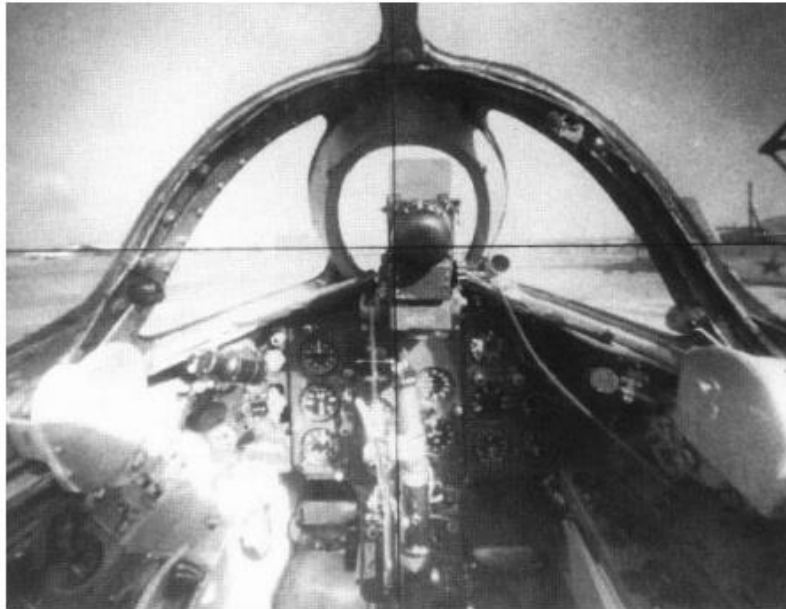
- **Features of 1st generation fighters**
 - Equipped with canons and rockets as primary weapon, Some of them can launch the 1st generation AAM



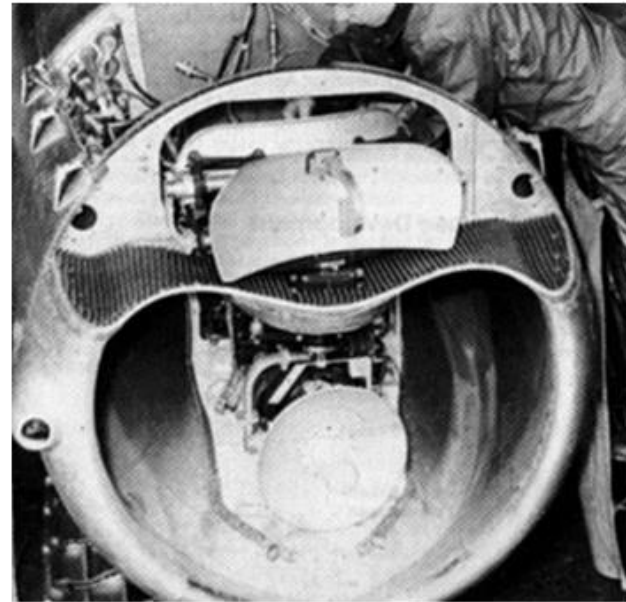
Kaliningrad K-5M (NATO: AA-1 "Alkali") missiles

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **Features of 1st generation fighters**
 - Equipped with simple radar and optical gun sight



Cockpit of Mig-19



RP-1 Izumrud radar

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

1. Fighter planes

- The experiences from Korean war and the advancement of technology leads to 2nd generation fighter planes



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The design philosophy behind the 2nd generation fighter planes
 - Aircraft with high speed will win the battle
 - AAMs will replace cannons. Therefore high speed is much more important than high maneuverability
 - Tactical bombers are slow and vulnerable. It needs escort planes, which is not efficient. Therefore multi-purpose fighters or fighter-bombers are preferred
 - Shall deploy interceptors with high speed and AAMs to attack nuclear bombers. Try to win the battle with one approach

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 2nd generation fighter planes
 - Delta wings are very popular. Maneuverability is neglected. Maximum speed reaches Ma 2.0



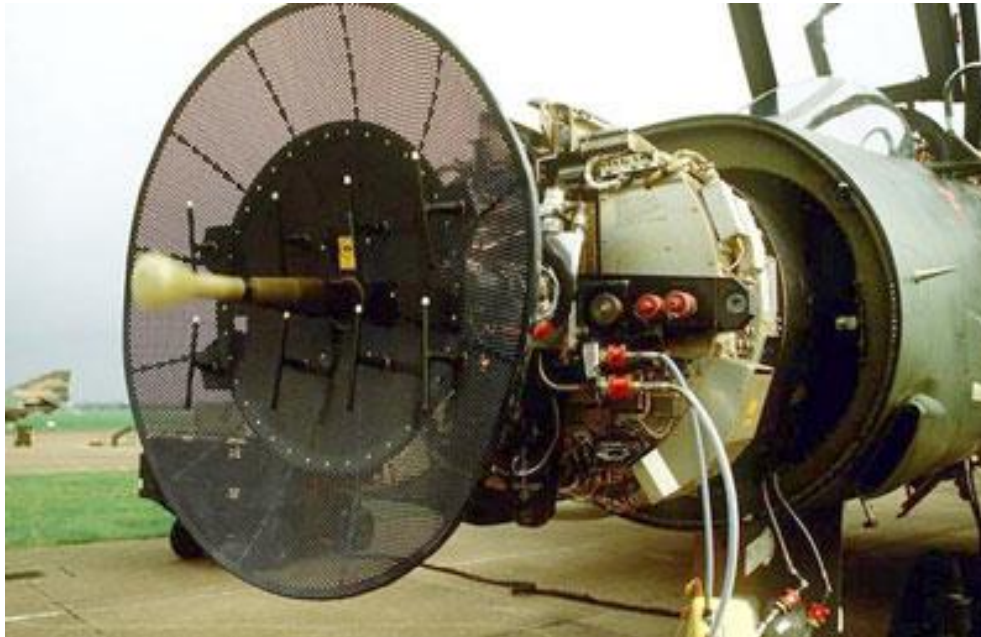
5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 2nd generation fighter planes
 - Multi-role fighters are favored
 - Some of them were not equipped with cannon, but totally counted on AAM.



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 2nd generation fighter planes
 - Some of them were equipped with on-board fire control computers, PD radar and CRT display



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

1. Fighter planes

- The bloody Vietnam war and the new technologies leads to the 3rd generation fighter planes



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **The design philosophy behind the 3rd generation fighter planes**
 - **The development of SAM makes high altitude bombing dangerous. Low altitude cruise is preferred**
 - **The air combat during Vietnam war occurs at sub-sonic speed and altitude from 1500m to 4500m. Dog fights are very common. Therefore the aircraft must have high maneuverability at subsonic speed**
 - **Cannon is essential for winning the combat**

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 3rd generation fighter planes



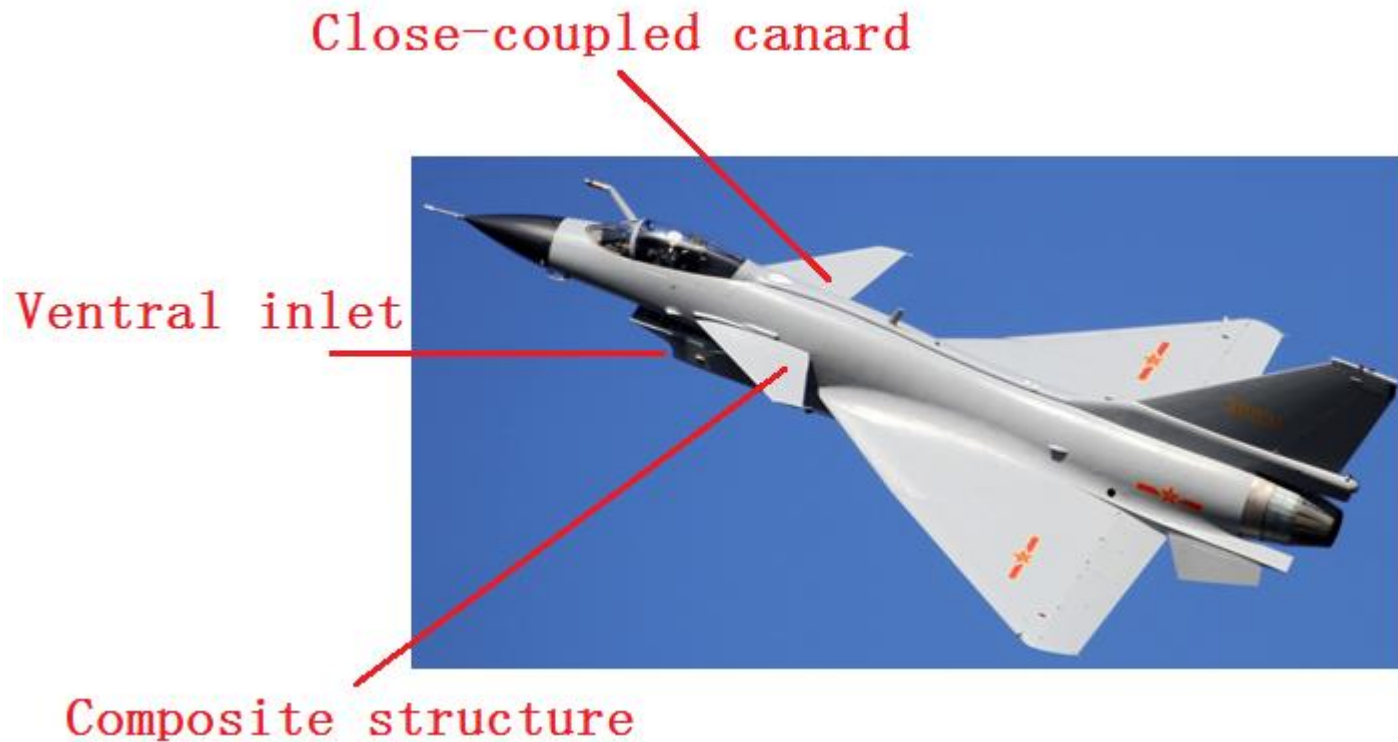
LEX

Wings with smaller Leading edge sweep back angle and larger A. R.

- FBW system
- CCV
- Aircraft thrust to weight ratio greater than 1.0
- Relaxed static stability
- Larger fuel fraction
- Engines with thrust to weight ratio greater than 8

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 3rd generation fighter planes



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 3rd generation fighter planes

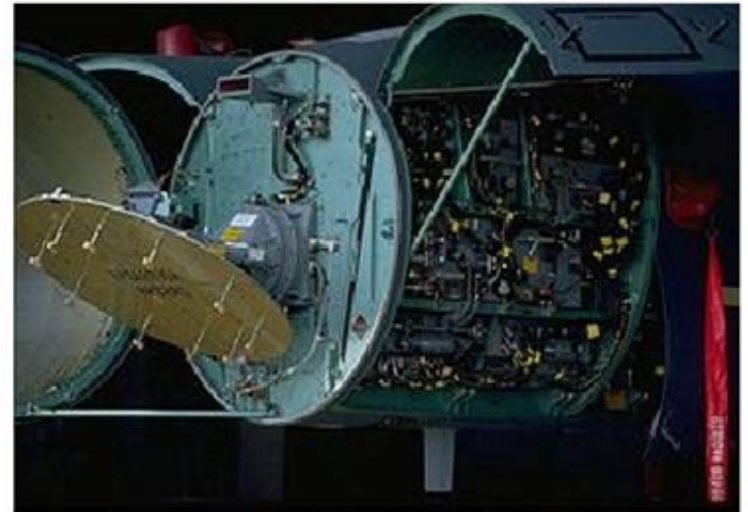


HUD

MFD

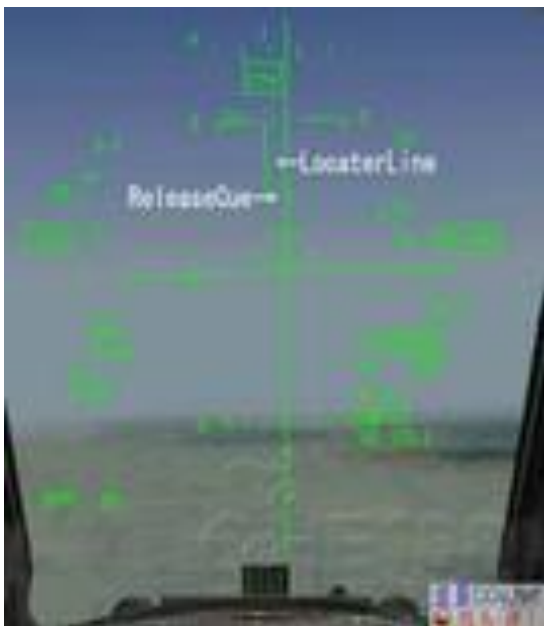
HOTAS

- INS
- TACAN
- ILS
- Infrared Search and Track



Versatile PD radar
(AGP-70)

HUD and MFD



HOTAS



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

1. Fighter planes

- The stealth technology, advanced jet engine and modern avionics leads to the 4th generation fighter planes



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- The features of the 4th generation fighter planes
 - Stealth
 - Infra red stealth
 - Radar stealth
 - Visual stealth
 - Aural stealth

• Infrared stealth

- The most effective approach is to reduce engine IR signal from engine
 - Approach 1: High bypass ratio engine
 - Approach 2: Try to cover/hide the exhaust nozzle
 - Approach 3: Use rectangle or slit nozzle
 - Approach 4: Circulate coolant fluids, such as fuel, cool air, to absorb heat
 - Apply coating to reduce the IR signal



• Infrared stealth



A-10

- TF34 High BPR engine
- Vent the nozzle by HT/VT

B-2

- Slit nozzle
- Exhaust nozzle above the wing
- Cool down the engine temperature with cold air taken from wing surface

• Radar stealth

- Radar stealth is achieved primarily by reducing RCS

- Cross-sectional area of a perfectly reflecting sphere that would produce the same strength reflection as would the object in question

- Unit: m^2 , dbsm

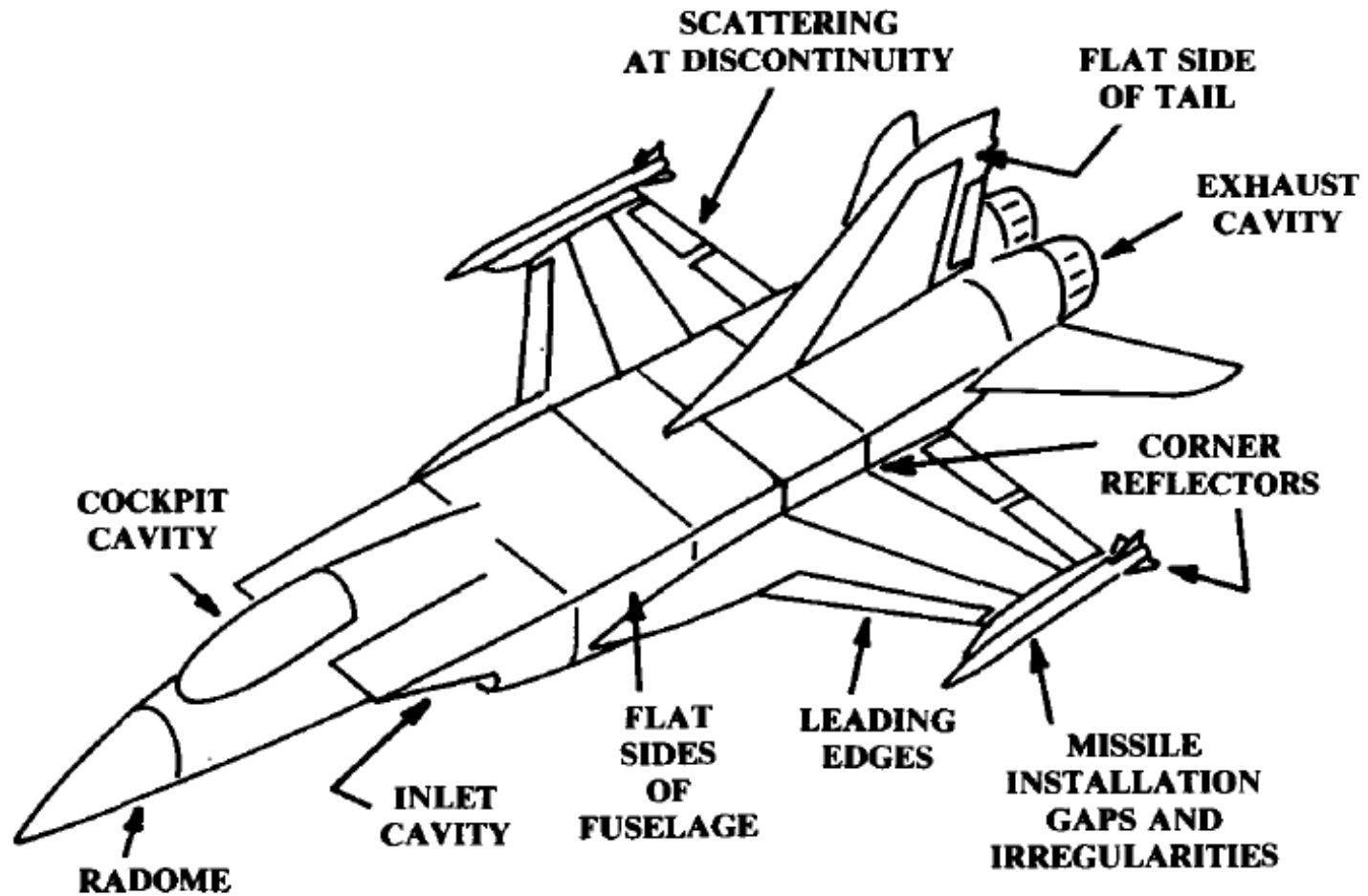
$$\sigma[\text{dB}(\text{m}^2)] = 10 \times \lg \text{RCS}[\text{m}^2]$$

$$0\text{dbsm} \rightarrow 10^0 = 1\text{m}^2$$

$$20\text{dbm} \rightarrow 10^2 = 100\text{m}^2$$

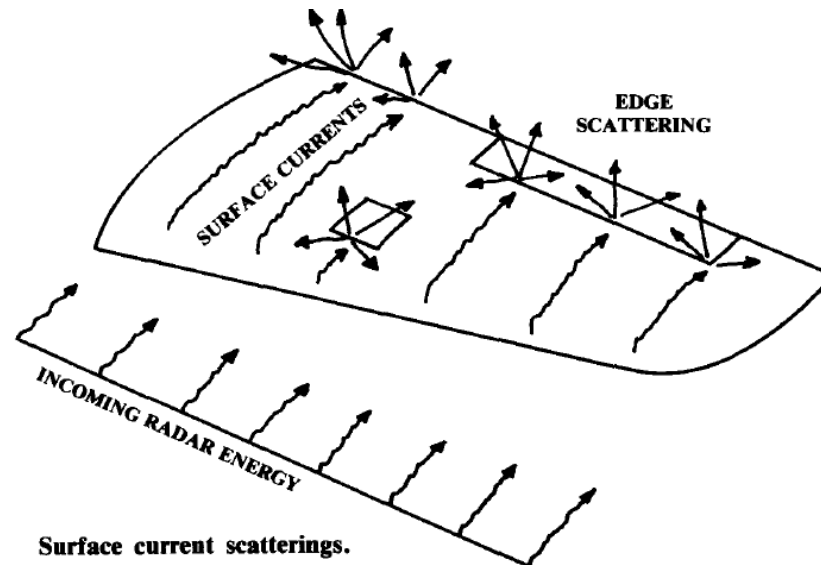
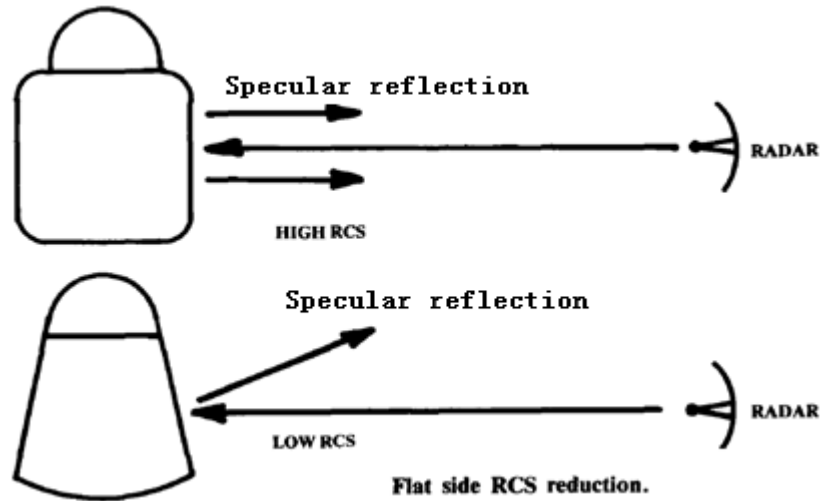
- Radar reflection is proportional to
If RCS reduces 90%, the detection range reduces less than a half ($\sqrt[4]{0.1} = 0.56$)
- The RCS increases, the detectability increases as well
- RCS is not the actual cross section of the object

- **Radar stealth**



Major RCS contributors

• Radar stealth



• Radar stealth

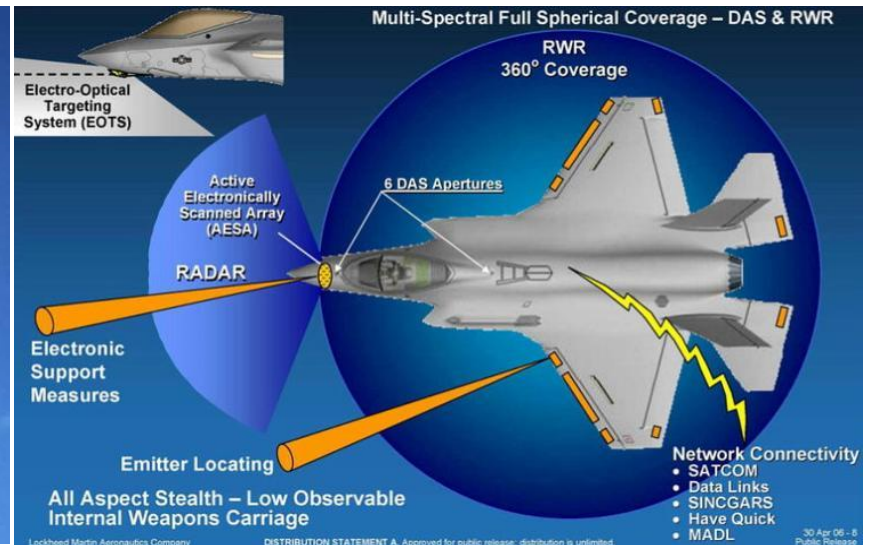
1. The way to reduce RCS

- Tilt the vertical stabilizer or remove stabilizer
- Use “S” inlet duct or fine mesh screen to shield the fan
- Use rectangle/slit jet exhaust
- Apply iridium tin oxide coating on canopy

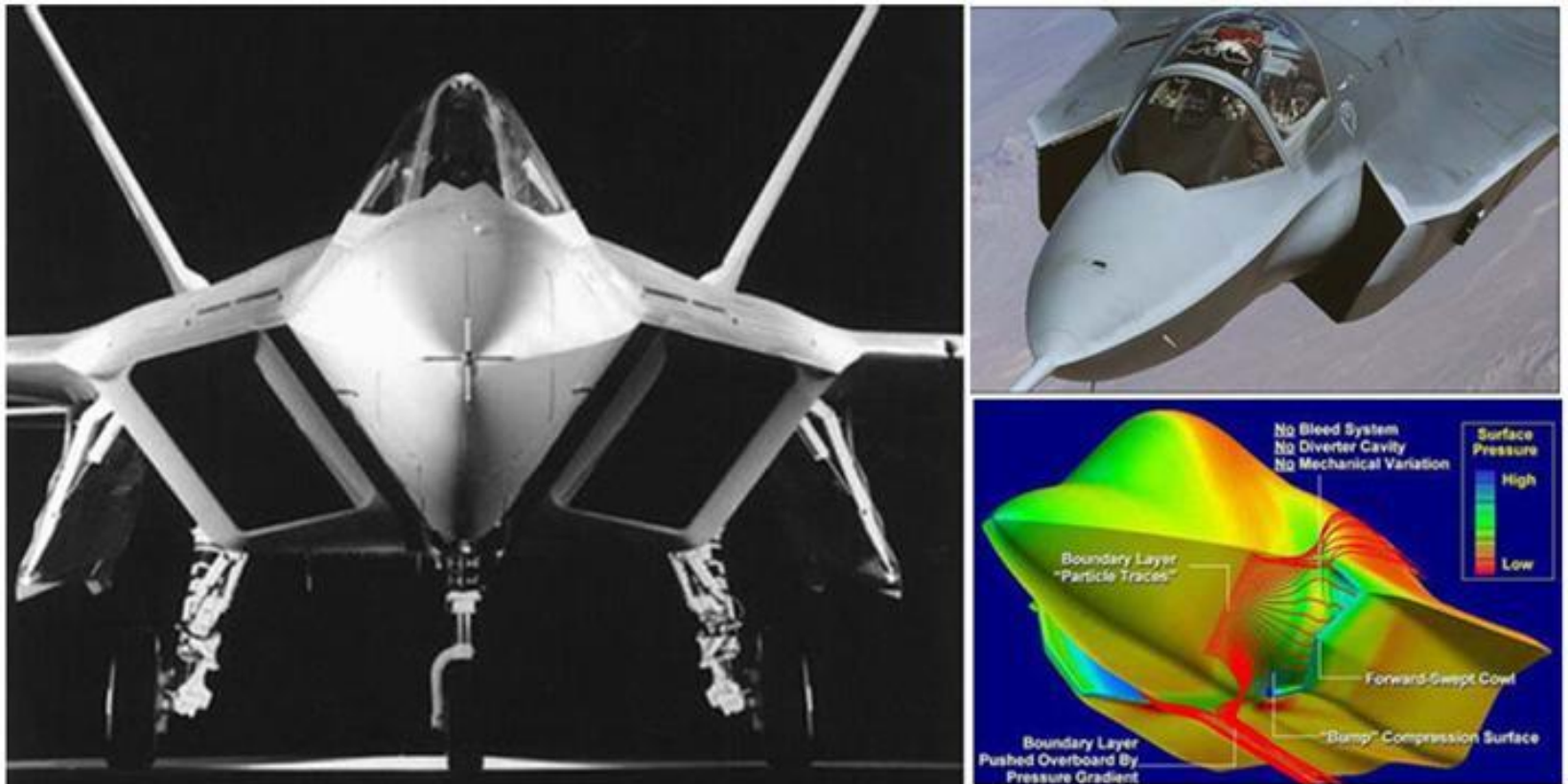


- **Radar stealth**

- Frequency Selective Surfaces (FSS)
- Hide missiles into internal weapon bays
- Mount conformal antenna

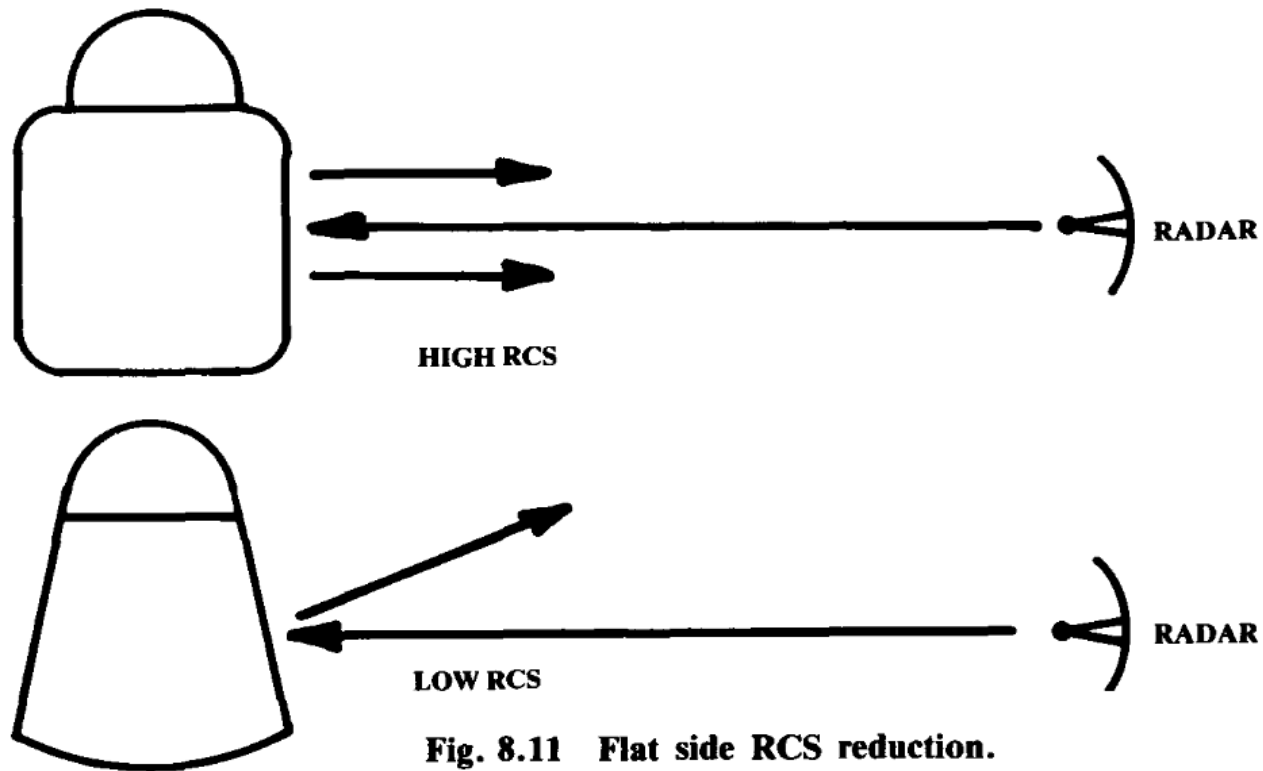


- **Radar stealth**
 - Replace conventional air intake by DSI air intake



- **Radar stealth**

- **Tilt both sides of fuselage**



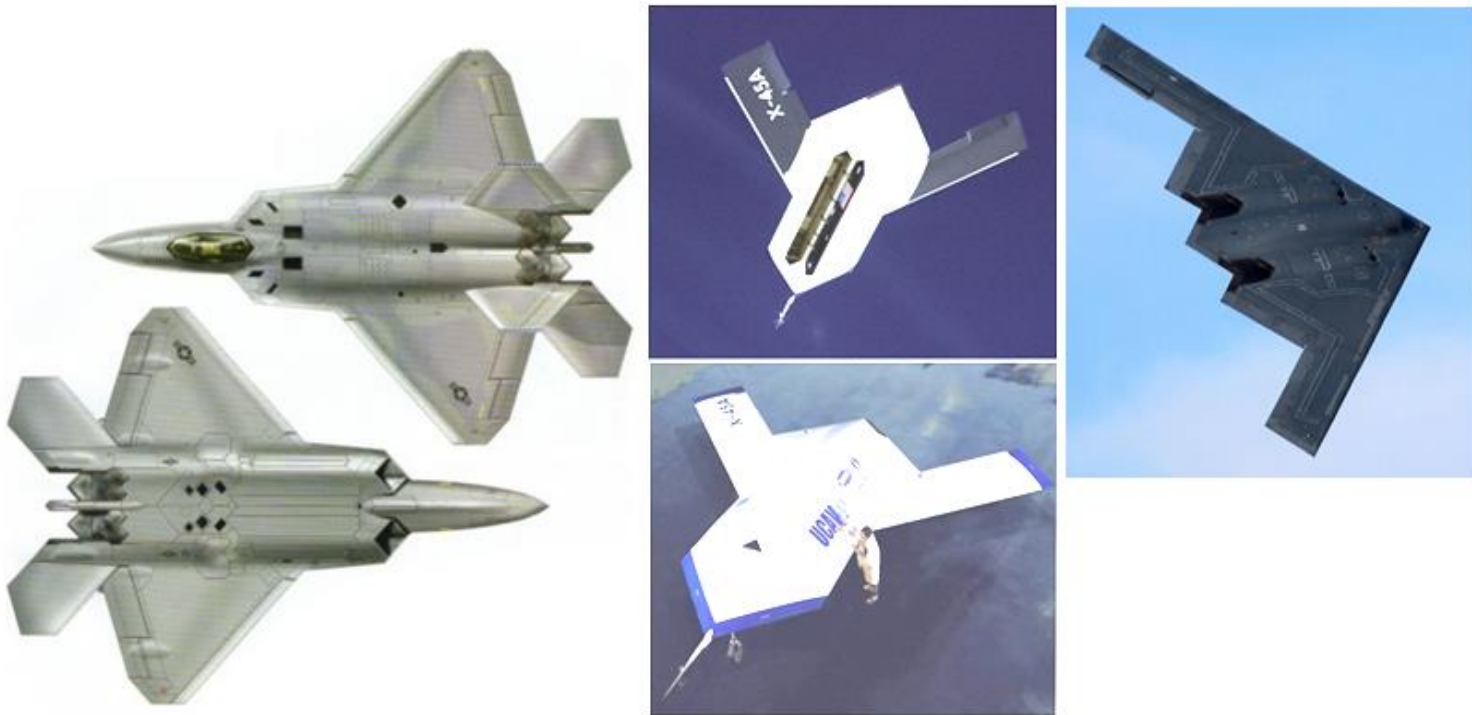
- **Radar stealth**

- Reduce reflection caused by creeping wave in the skin
 - Swept back/forward leading edge/trailing edge
 - Saw tooth on the edge of openings and doors



- **Radar stealth**

- **Limit reflection waves into a few direction**
 - **Try to make all leading edge and trailing edge parallel to each other**



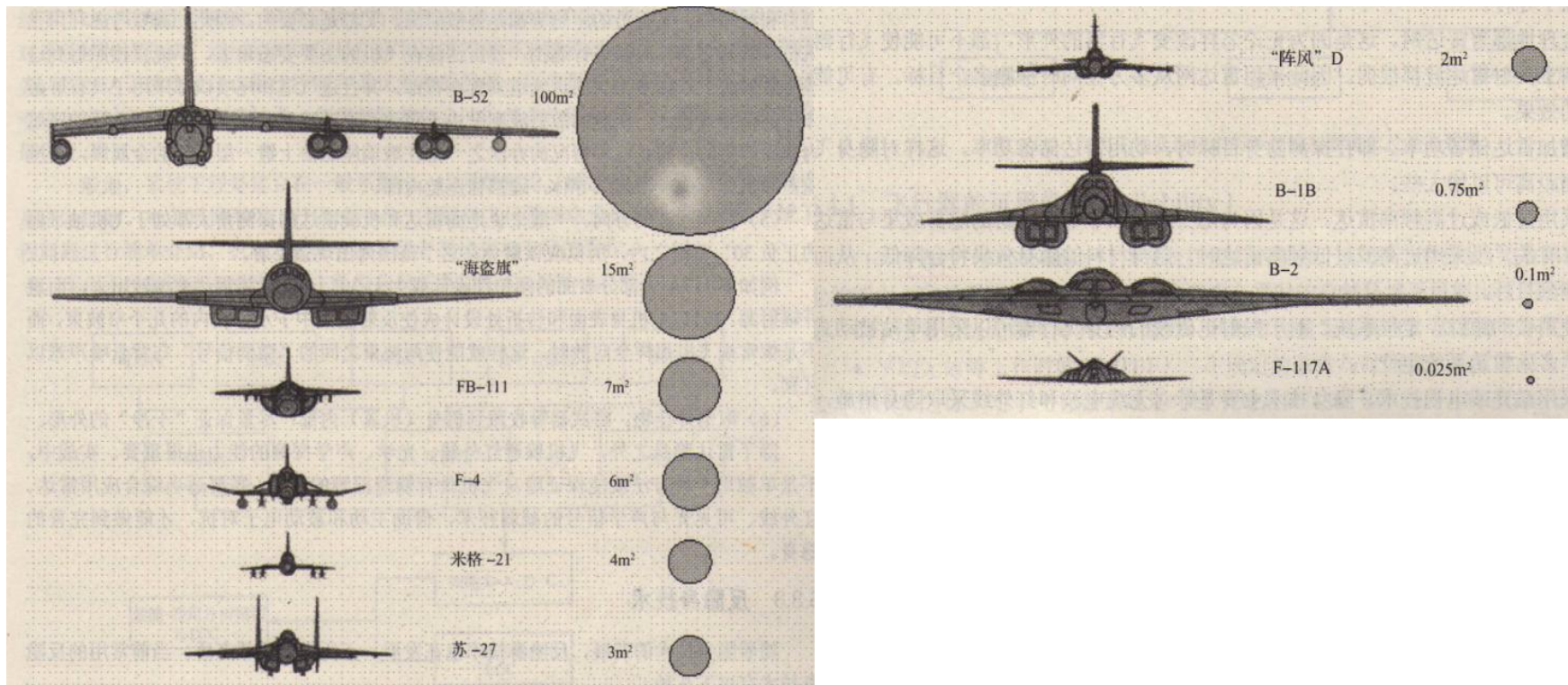
- **Radar stealth**

- **Apply radar-absorbent material on the aircraft (Iron ball paint . Etc.)**



• Radar stealth

• The effect of radar stealth technology



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **Super maneuverability**
 - Relaxed static stability (Statically unstable) and FBW
 - LEX
 - Vectored thrust
 - Advanced engine with thrust to weight ratio as high as 10



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **Superior Avionics for Battle Awareness and Effectiveness**
 - **Multi function phased array radar**
 - **Sensor fusion incorporates information from different types of sensor and enables pilots to focus on tactics and mission**

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **Superior Avionics for Battle Awareness and Effectiveness**

- ◆ **Avionics of F-35:**

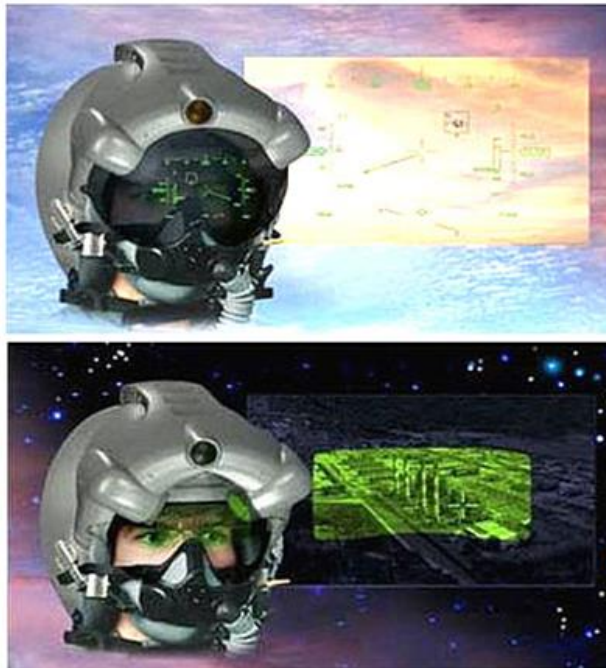
- **EOTS (Electro-Optical Targeting system)**
- **AN/AAQ-37 distributed aperture system (DAS)**
- **Multifunction Advanced Data Link (MADL)**



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

◆ Avionics of F-35:

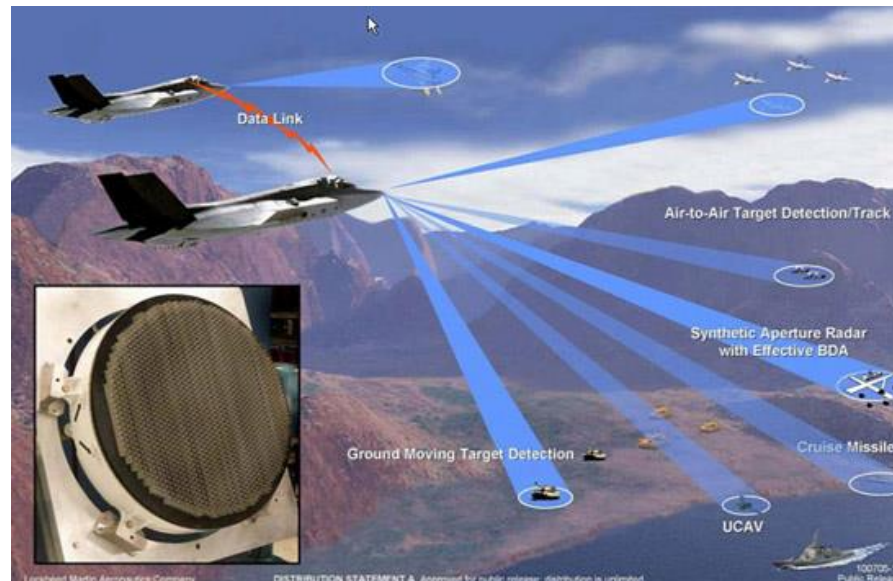
- User friendly MFD
- Head mounted display system to replace HUD



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

◆ Avionics of F-35:

- **Versatile and powerful AN/APG-81 Radar**
 - Data link
 - Air to air target detection/track
 - Synthetic aperture radar for topographic mapping
 - Ground target detection



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **Supersonic cruise**
 - **Advanced aerodynamics configuration**
 - **All weapons are in the weapon bay**
 - **Powerful engines with thrust to weight ratio as high as 10**
 - **Multidisciplinary design optimization incorporating aerodynamics, structure and stealth**

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

- **Limitations of current stealth fighters**
 - Too expensive to be deployed in a large number (F-22 costs \$13M for each!)
 - Stealth performance is not so good above the aircraft as beneath aircraft
 - When launching the weapons, the door is open and aircraft is able to be detected
 - Narrow internal weapon bay limits the count and type of payload
 - Stealth coatings are expensive to maintain. Its effectiveness is affected by weather or humidity

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

2. Ground Attack planes – An embarrassing member in the air force fleet



A-10



Su-25

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

2. Ground Attack airplanes – An embarrassing member in the air force fleet
 - Will ground attack be replaced by attack helicopters or fighter bombers?



A-12



AH-64



F/A-18 E/F

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

2. Ground Attack planes – An embarrassing member in the air force fleet

- **Pros:**

- Heavily armored. Can survive from harsh combat environment
- Heavily loaded. Can carry large amount of weapon with wide variety
- Superb maneuverability at low altitude and low speed
- Relatively cheap and cost effective. No complicated and expensive avionics
- Much faster than helicopters
- Very suitable for low value tactical targets

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

2. Ground Attack planes – An embarrassing member in the air force fleet

- **Cons:**
 - Vulnerable when under attack by fighter aircraft.
 - Many of its missions can be accomplished by fighter bombers
 - It is more cost effective to derive a fighter bomber from a fighter than develop an attack aircraft
 - Much shorter battle radius compared to fighter bomber
 - Avionics is too simple
 - Compared to attack helicopters, it still needs airport

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

3. Fighter bombers



F-15E



FBC-1

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

3. Fighter bombers

- **Features:**
 - Possessing at least partial fighter capabilities
 - Some of them are derived from fighters, thus significantly reduces the R&D cost
 - Usually much faster than attack aircraft
 - Equipped with advanced avionics
 - Almost equivalent maneuverability of fighters

5. The evolution of the fighter planes

4. UAVs --- The master of the future sky



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

4. UAVs --- The master of the future sky

- During the Korean war, U.S army deployed some UAVs
- During the Vietnam war, over 2500 U.S aircrafts are shot down and 5000 aircrew are dead. U.S deployed a lot of UAVs, such as AQM-34 “Firebee”



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

4. UAVs --- The master of the future sky

- UAVs primarily performs reconnaissance missions
- Now UAVs also carries AAM and AGM to perform target detection and attack mission simultaneously



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

4. UAVs --- The master of the future sky

— UCAVs



5. The evolution of the fighter planes

— Features of UCAVs

- Secure and efficient remote data link
- Fully autonomous based on artificial intelligence and sensor fusion technologies
- No human, no cockpit
 - High lift to drag ratio
 - High maneuverability
 - Low RCS
 - No KIAs

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

1. Airborne target detection system

- **IR sensors (FLIR)**
 - Detects infrared signal and convert it into image
 - Detects targets passively. Impossible for enemy to detect
 - Can detect “heat”, which is very hard to camouflage
 - Can detect objects whose temperature is 0.2° C different from the environment
 - Can see through smoke, fog etc.

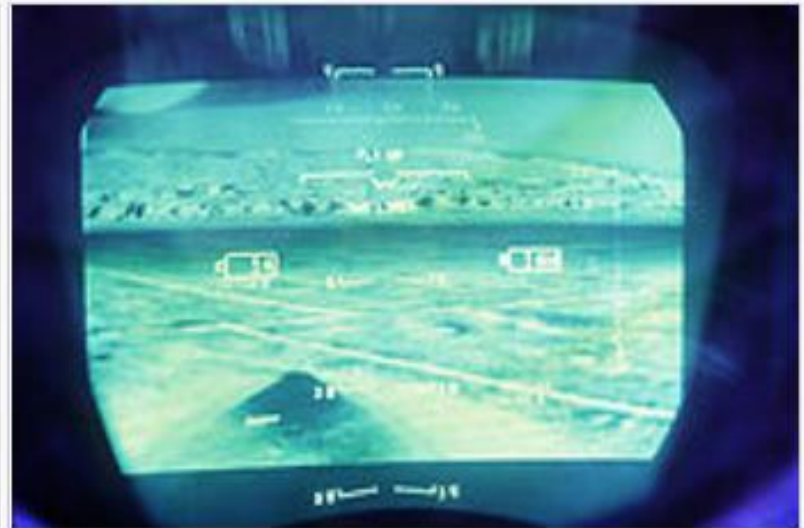
6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

1. Airborne target acquiring system

- Application of IR sensors (FLIR)
 - LANTIRN



AN/AAQ-13 LANTIRN navigation pod aboard an F-15E

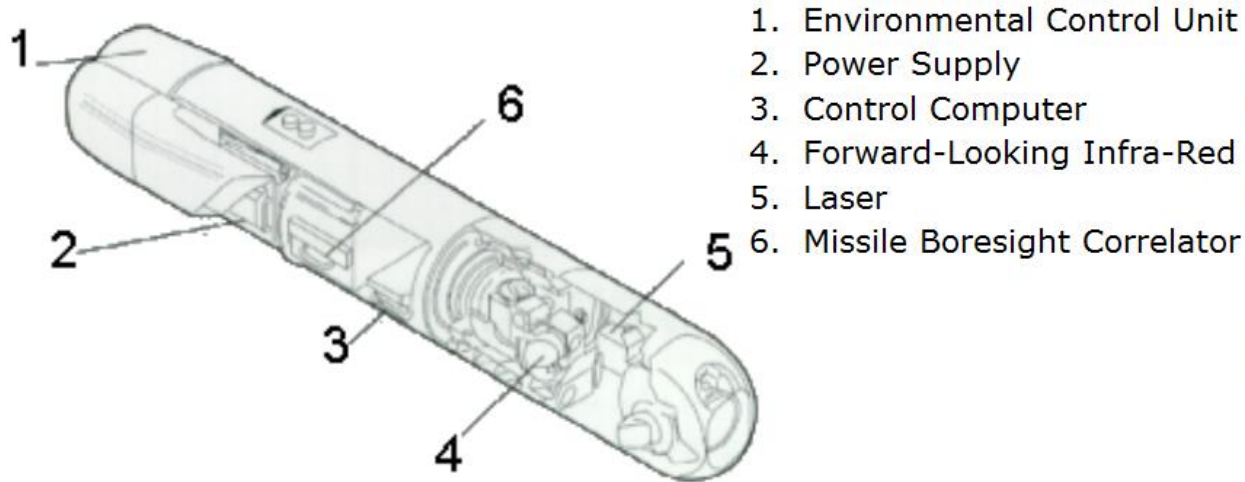


F-15E Heads-up display of infrared image from the AN/AAQ-13 LANTIRN navigation pod

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

1. Airborne target acquiring system

- Application of IR sensors (FLIR)
 - LANTIRN

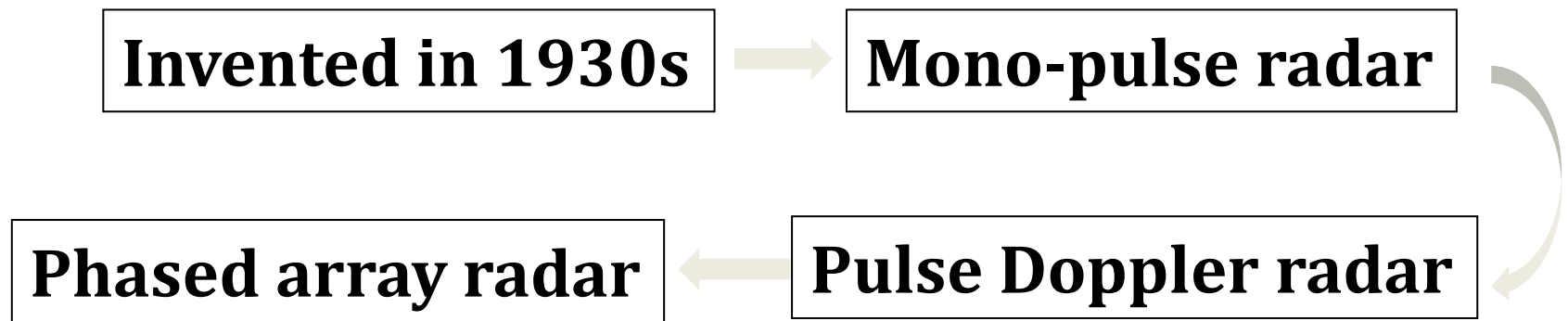


AN/AAQ-14 Targeting Pod

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

1. Airborne target acquiring system

- Radar



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

Airborne target acquiring system

- **Phased array radar**
 - **Active electrically scanned array (AESA)**
 - Composed of numerous small solid-state transmit/receive modules (TRMs)
 - Transmit radio waves across a band of frequencies to remaining stealthy
 - **Passive electrically scanned array(PESA)**
 - Has only one central radio frequency source and one receiver
 - Inferior to AESA on band width, sign proccession. But superior to mechanically scanned array

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Radar**
 - **Active phased array radar**
 - **Can keep working even 10% of modules are damaged**
 - **Electronic scanning is much faster and more efficient than mechanical scanning**
 - **Detect, track, indentify and guide a lot of targets simultaneously**
 - **Can be integrated with more functions such as electrical warfare, ultra high bandwidth communications**

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- Cockpit and helmet systems
 - Early cockpit is full of instruments and switches



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- Cockpit and helmet systems
 - Some of them equipped with CRT to work as a navigation or radar screen



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- Cockpit and helmet systems
 - In the late 1970's, MFD appears in the cockpit of F-18 Hornet



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- Cockpit and helmet systems
 - Wide angle HUDs that can mix FLIR image with characters appears in the cockpit of F-15/F-16



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- Cockpit and helmet systems
 - Now in the F-35 cockpit, HMD replaced HUD



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Weapons**

- 5th generation Infrared guided AAMs**

- **Low drag configuration designed for high maneuverability**
 - **Equipped with imaging infrared (IIR) to distinguish aircraft from infrared countermeasures (IRCM) such as flares (Focal plane has 128X128 sensors)**
 - **Can synchronize with HMD to attack targets within front hemisphere of aircraft**
 - **Greater sensitivity means longer range or the ability to identify UAV**

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

Weapons

5th generation Infrared guided AAM



AIM-9X



ASRAAM



Python-5

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

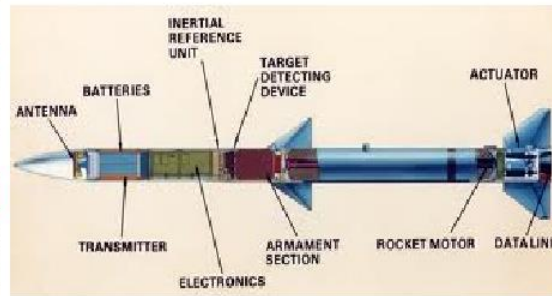
- **Weapons**

- 4th Generation radar guided AAM**

- **Long range (50km~80km)**
 - **Attack multiple targets simultaneously**
 - **Fire and forget improves survivability of aircraft**



SD-10



AIM-120



AA-12

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Weapons**

AGM

- Radar, Laser, GPS, INS, TV/IR guided

- Trend of modern AGMs:

- Long range, stand off
- Apply stealth coatings and higher speed to penetrate enemy defense
- High precision
More powerful war head to destroy targets at one attack
- Cluster war head to destroy targets at once



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Weapons**

Modern guided bombs

- High precision attack
- Much more powerful than AGMs
- Longer range than traditional bombs
- More simple and cheaper than AGMs
- Usually needs only one guided bomb to destroy targets. Very cost effective
- More flexible. Can attack various types of targets

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Weapons**

Modern guided bombs

- **Laser guided Bombs**



6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Weapons**

Modern guided bombs

– **GPS/INS guided Bombs**



LS-6

6. Modern avionics and weapon systems

- **Weapons**
 - Cluster Bombs



CBU-105 Sensor fused weapon



Skeet war heads



BLU-108

