



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
A United Nations Specialized Agency



PBN Procedure Design Course 2026

ICAO APAC FPP

Beijing, China

(7-25/Sep/2026)



TOLERANCE AND PROTECTION AREA

GNSS Sensor

Objectives



- Remind which **PBN application** can be used according to area of operation
- For each PBN application remind the key elements regarding procedure designer perspectives
- Know how to calculate the tolerances for RNAV and RNP
 - Identify the components of the **total system error**
 - Identify the components of the **cross track tolerance (XTT)**
 - Identify the components of the **along track tolerance (ATT)**
- Establish the link between lateral error (TSE) and protection area width
- Know and understand the global methodology to define **area width** for all specifications of navigation
- See examples for different applications

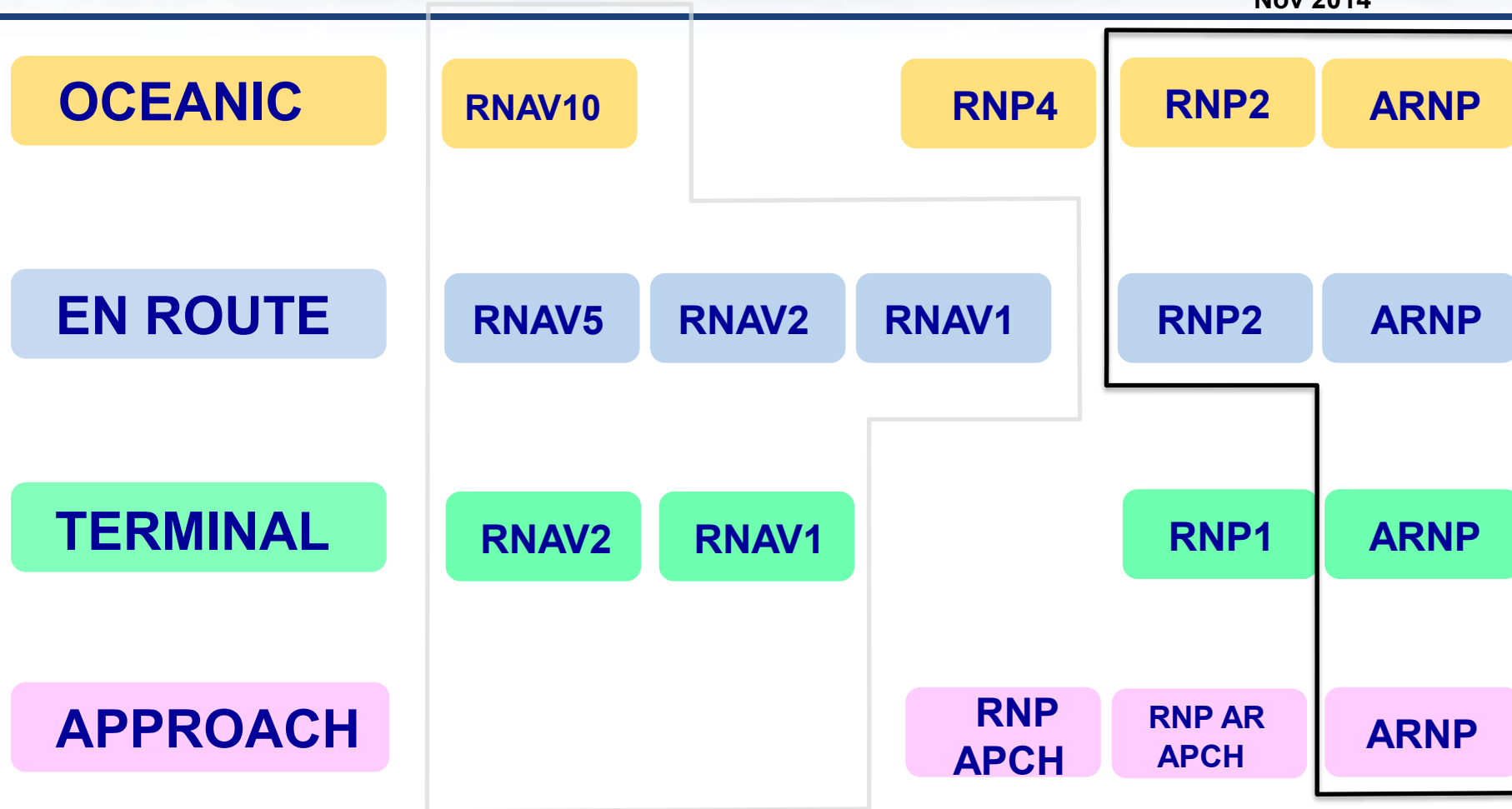
DOC 8168 Vol II Part III

- RNAV concept
 - Section 1 Chapter 1
- Area width for VOR/DME RNAV :
 - Section 1 Chapter 4
 - Tables III-1.4.1 to III-1-4-2
- Area width for DME/DME RNAV
 - Section 1 Chapter 3
 - Tables III-1-3-1 to III-1-3-8
 - Appendix to chapter 3
- Area width for GNSS RNAV
 - Section 1 Chapter 2

Application in relation with area of operation

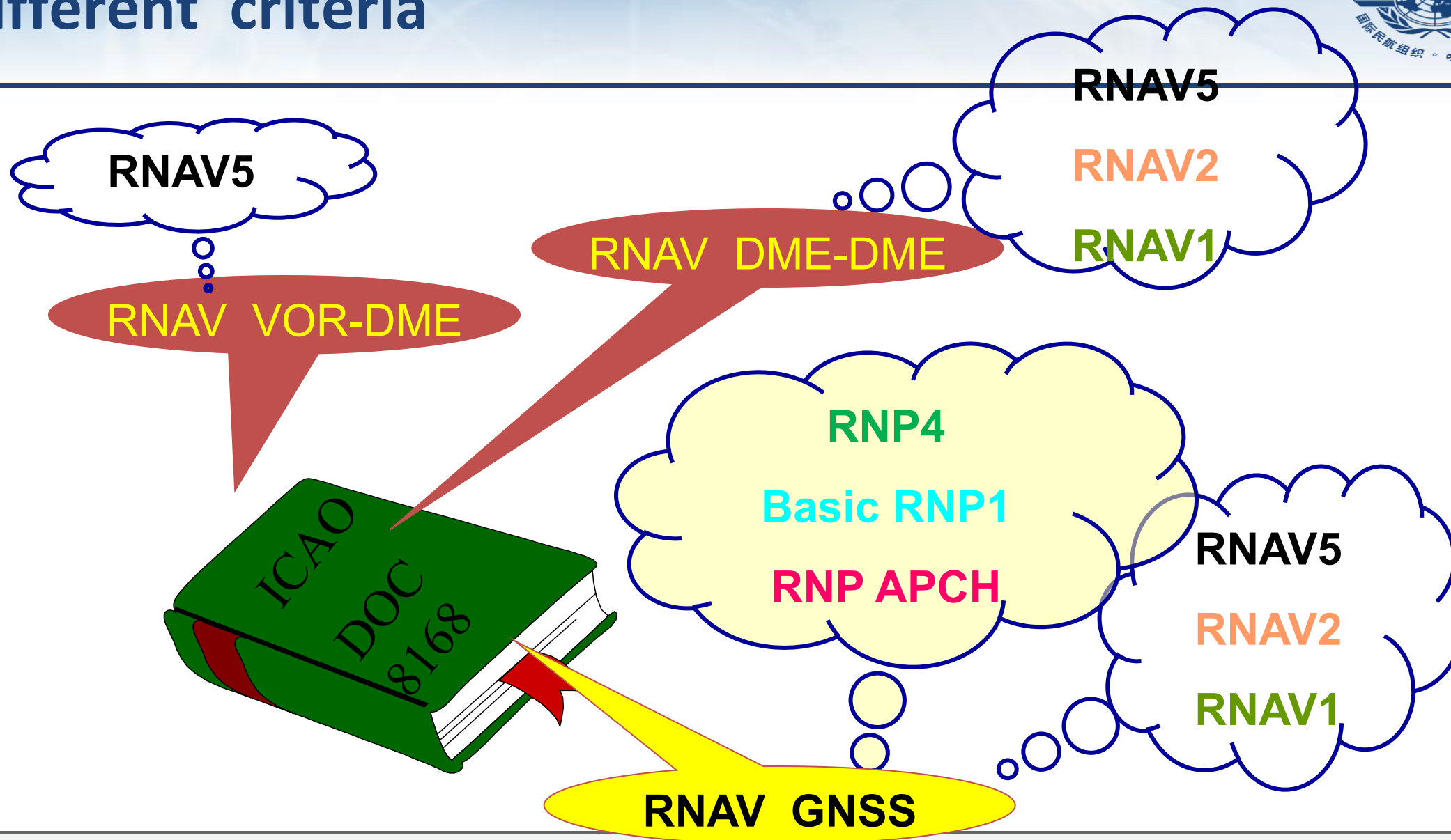


Nov 2014



Navigation specification		Navaid infrastructure	Leg type	Flyby	RNP (NM)	TSE (NM)
RNAV10	En route Oceanic	GNSS – INS	-	-	-	≤ 10
RNP4	En route Oceanic	GNSS	CF- DF TF	Yes	4	≤ 4
RNAV5	En route continental	VORDME DMEDME GNSS	-	-	-	≤ 5
RNP1	SID - STAR- Initial + intermediate + Missed approach	GNSS	IF CF TF DF VA VM VI CA FA FM	Yes	1	≤ 1
RNP2	En route Oceanic En route continental	GNSS		Yes	2	≤ 2
RNAV2	En route continental SID – STAR	DMEDME GNSS		Yes	-	≤ 2
RNAV1	En route continental SID - STAR- Initial + intermediate + Missed approach	DMEDME GNSS		Yes	-	≤ 1
RNP APCH	Approach • initial + intermediate + Missed approach • Final	GNSS	IF TF DF (CA FA)	Yes	1 0.3	≤ 1 ≤ 0.3
Advanced RNP (A-RNP)	En route continental SID - STAR- Initial + intermediate + Missed approach	GNSS	IF TF DF RF (CA FA)	Yes	2 1 0.3	≤ 2 ≤ 1 ≤ 0.3

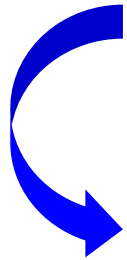
Different criteria



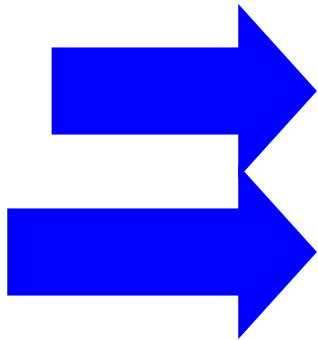
Goal



- **WHERE** are aircraft located when navigating on published procedure loaded from a data base ?



Identify an **ENVELOP** of **ACCEPTABLE**
aircraft position flying the procedure



What does mean **ACCEPTABLE** ?

What are the components to define the
envelop ?

Identify an envelop of acceptable aircraft positions flying the procedure



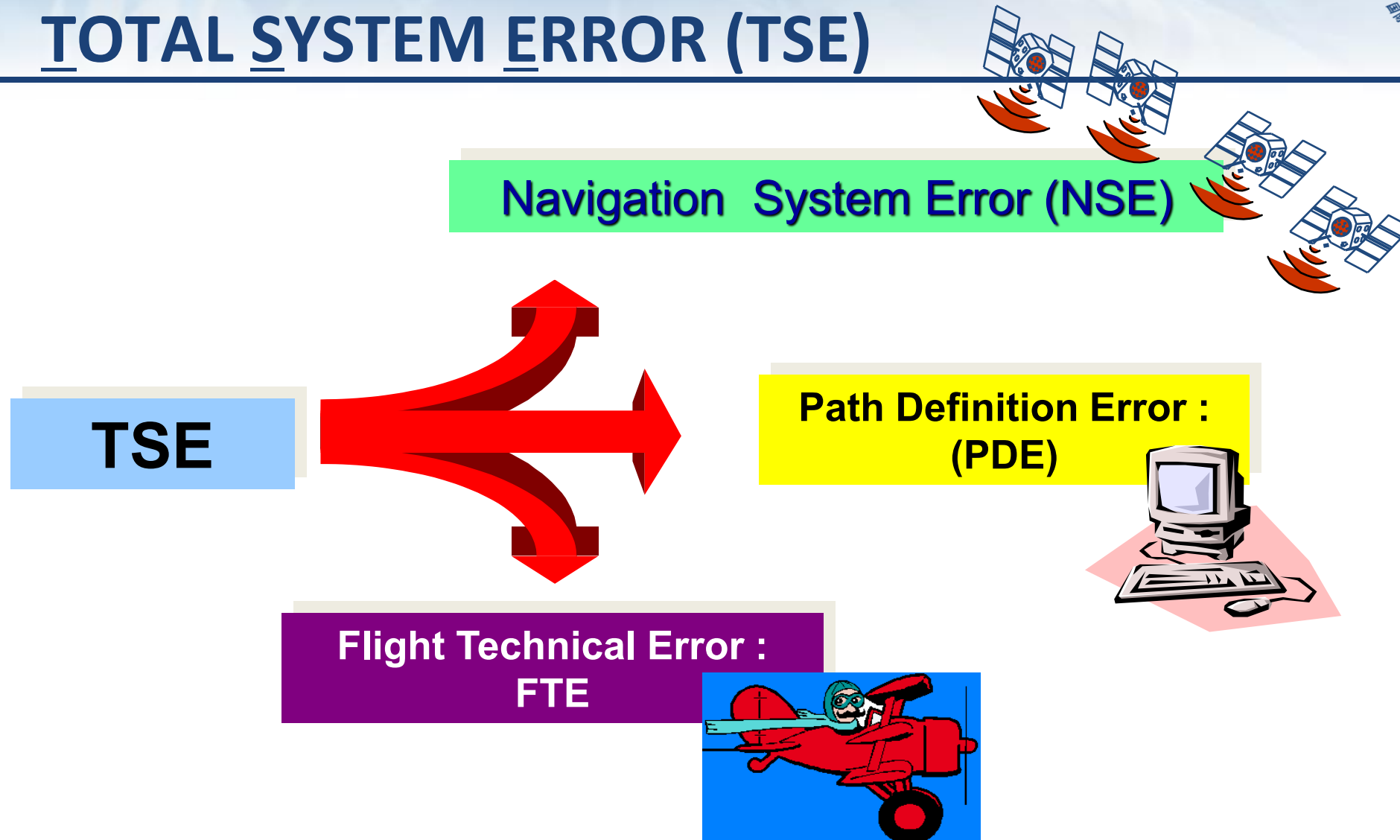
Question 1 : What does mean **ACCEPTABLE** ?

Answer : Correspond to the **system performance** required for each PBN application

e.g. RNAV1 required **1 NM** of lateral accuracy **95% of the flight time**

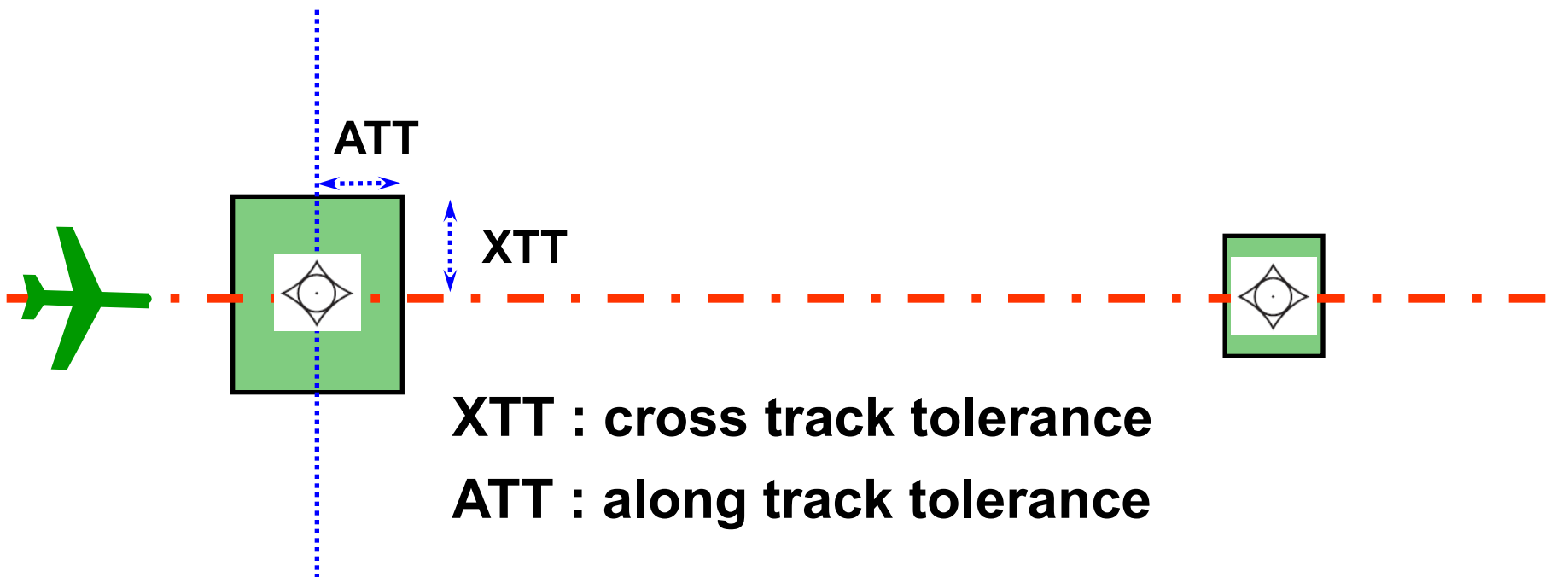
Lateral accuracy is named **TSE** (Total System Error)

Components of the Lateral TOTAL SYSTEM ERROR (TSE)



Waypoint tolerance

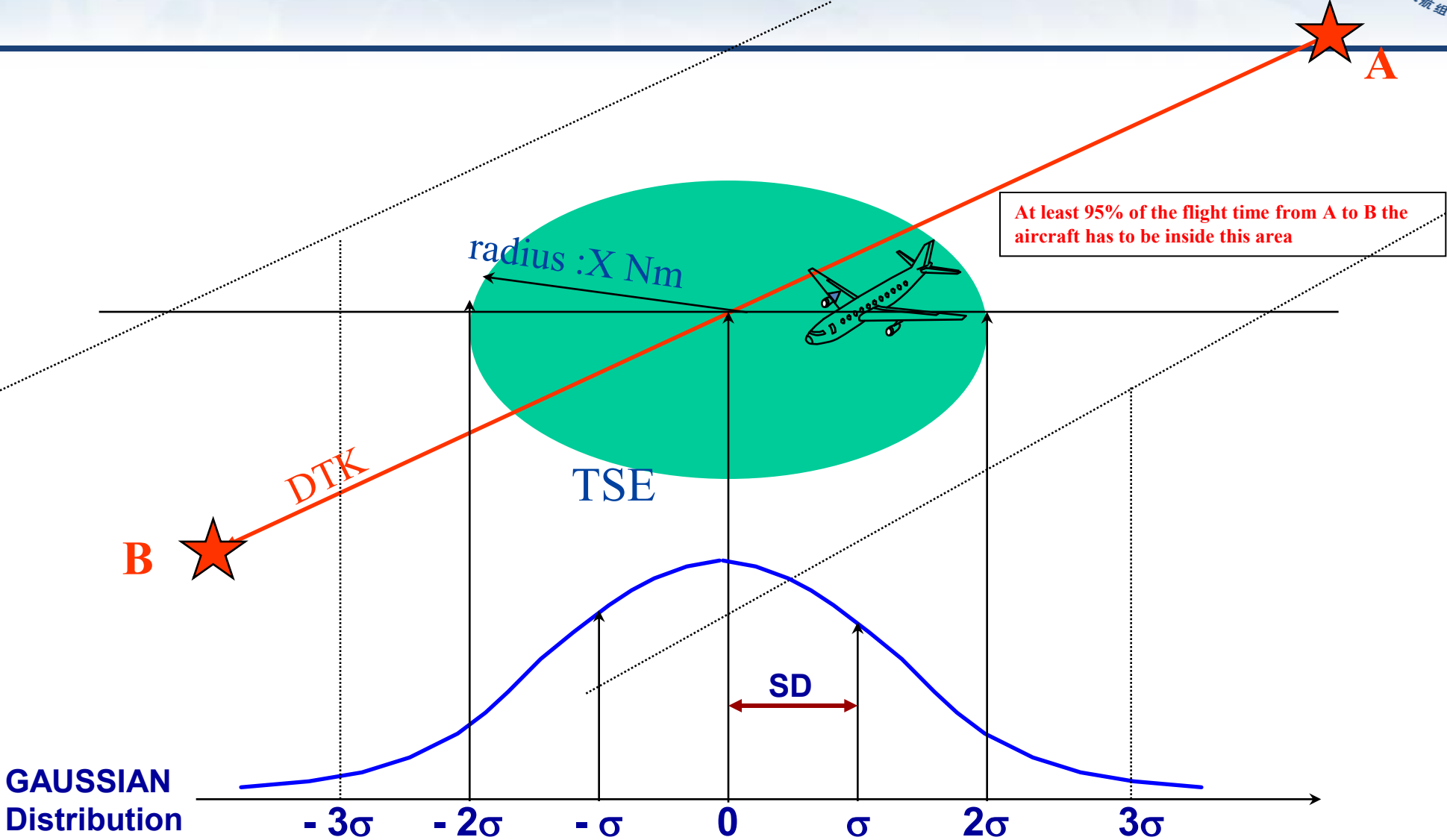
- The fix tolerance represents where A/C is assumed to be regarding the fix position and the **ACCEPTABLE PROBABILITY**
- The **tolerance** addresses a **2 SD (standard deviation)** value



How TSE is calculated ?

- As all the errors are **INDEPENDANT**
 - **Gaussian** distribution to address a **2SD** (Standard Deviation).
 - TSE = Root Sum Square (RSS) of different errors
- TSE is defined for each navigation specification

TSE Representation



How TSE is calculated ?

- Regarding TSE
 - **NSE** depends on the system performance
 - NSE for GNSS = 0.08 Nm
 - NSE for VORDME or DMEDME vary
 - **FTE** is a **fixed** value per **navigation specification**
 - For RNAV, FTE = $\frac{1}{2}$ required navigation accuracy
 - For $RNP \geq 0.5$, FTE = $\frac{1}{2}$ RNP
 - For $RNP \leq 0.5$, FTE = 463 m (0.25 NM)
 - **PDE** corresponds to the system computation tolerance **ST** and is a fixed value 0.25 Nm

XTT and ATT calculation for RNP application



- $XTT = TSE \text{ value} = RNP \text{ Value}$
- For ATT,
 - FTE do not affect longitudinal error
 - Raleigh distribution is considered so
 - $ATT = 0.8 \times XTT$

XTT and ATT calculation for RNAV application



- Sensor dependant
 - For ground based sensor
 - Tolerance depends on TSE
 - For GNSS sensor
 - Tolerance depends on either TSE or IMAL
 - If IMAL is GREATER than FTE, XTT depends on IMAL

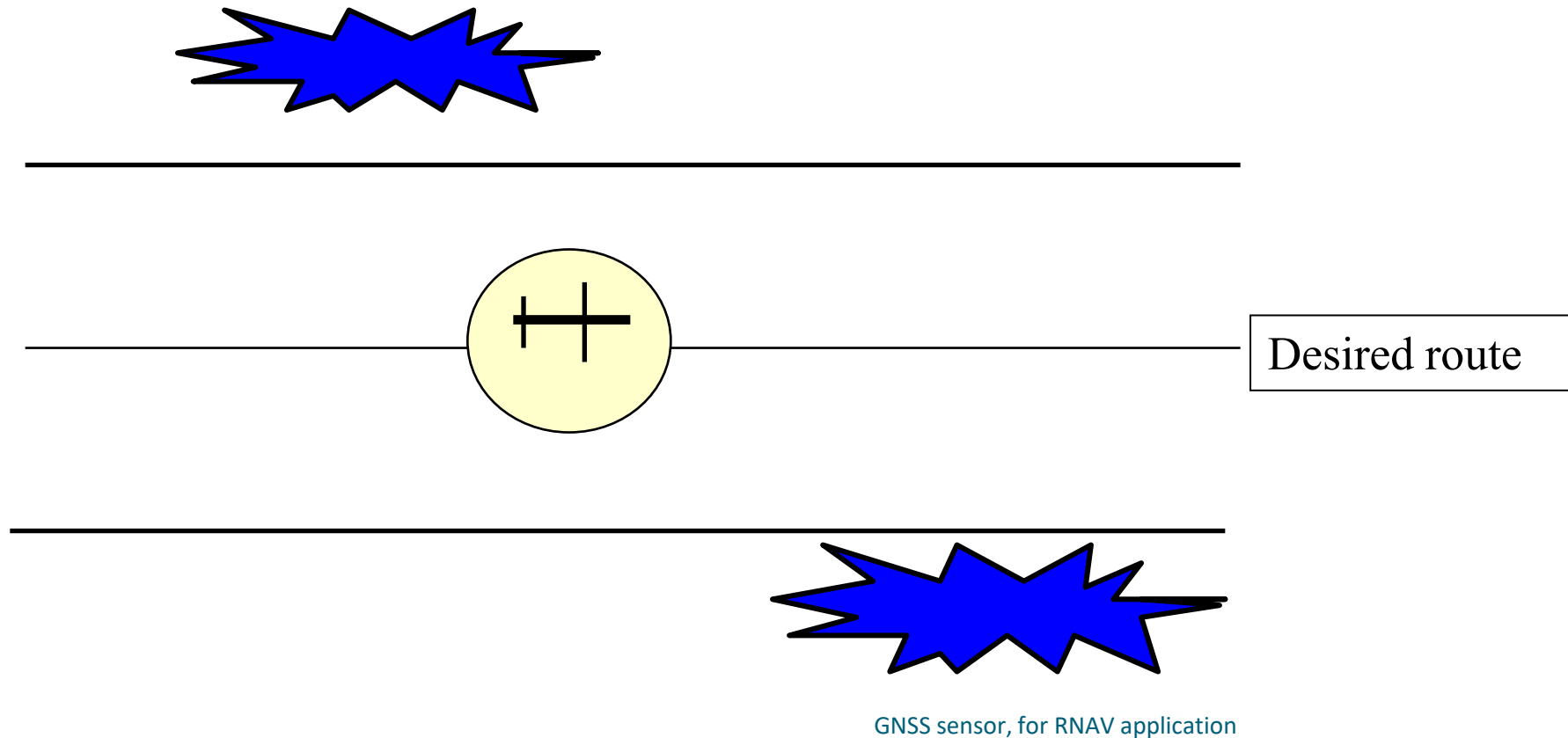
For GNSS sensor , RNAV application



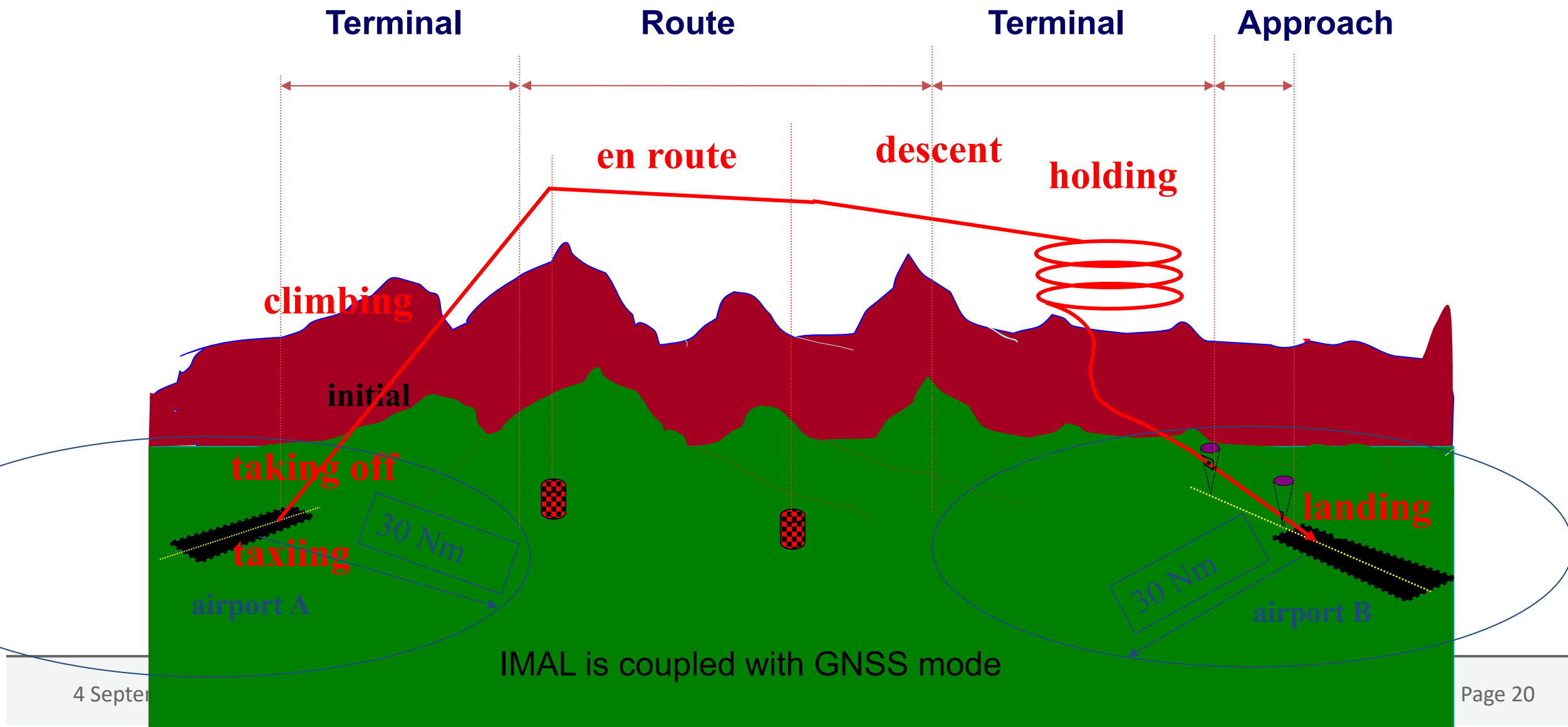
IMAL: Integrity Monitoring Alarm Limit



- IMAL allows AIRCREW to DETECT that the SIGNAL IN SPACE (NSE) is not achieving the navigation PERFORMANCE REQUIRED



GNSS mode



NSE and IMAL for GNSS



- Whichever the phase of flight
 - NSE = 0.08 NM
 - PDE (ST) is negligible
 - Regarding TSE, **FTE** is the **MAJOR** component
- IMAL is coupled with GNSS mode
 - En route (greater than 30 NM/ARP) : 2 Nm
 - Terminal (within 30 NM/ARP) : 1 Nm
 - Approach (2 Nm prior /FAF) : 0.3 Nm

GNSS sensor, for RNAV application

ATT – XTT calculation for RNAV application with GNSS sensor :



Tolerance
GNSS

WHERE $FTE > IMAL$

$$ATT = 0.8 \times XTT$$
$$XTT = \sqrt{NSE^2 + FTE^2 + ST^2}$$

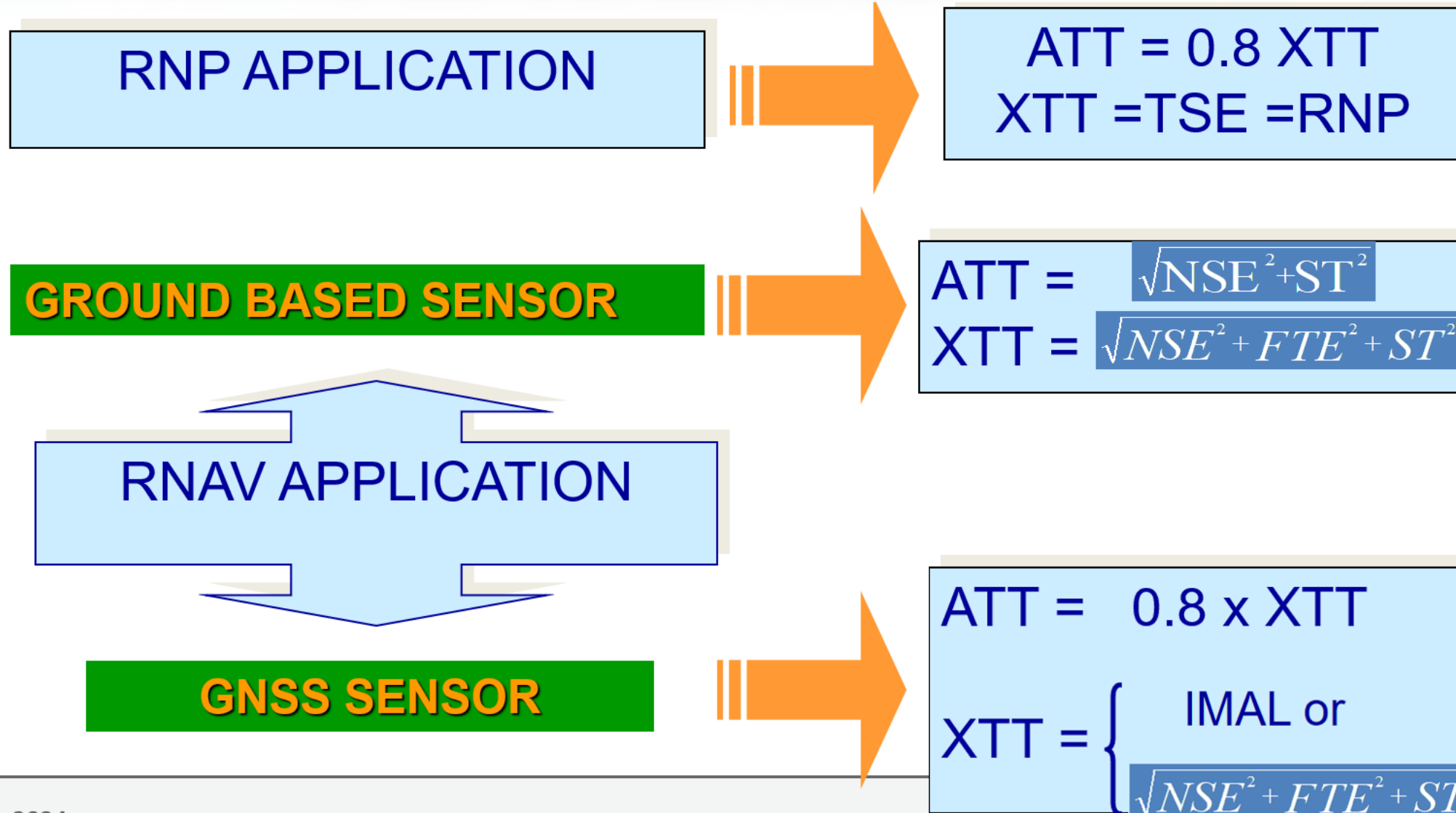
Tolerance
GNSS

WHERE $FTE \leq IMAL$

$$ATT = 0.8 \times IMAL$$
$$XTT = IMAL$$

GNSS sensor, for RNAV application

ATT - XTT calculation - summing up



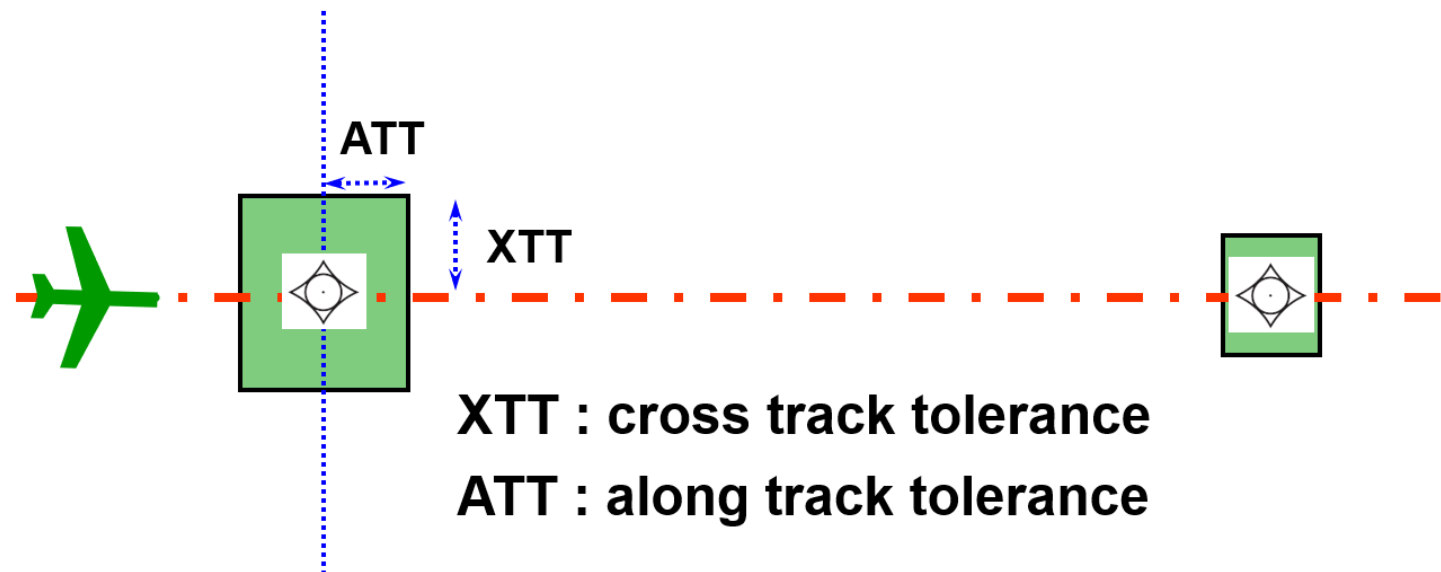
HOW TO CALCULATE THE AREA WIDTH ?

Area width (A/W) - Calculation method

- Semi area width is based on 3σ standard deviation
 - 2σ value corresponds to XTT
 - 3σ value corresponds to $1/2$ A/W

$$3\sigma = 1.5 \text{ XTT}$$

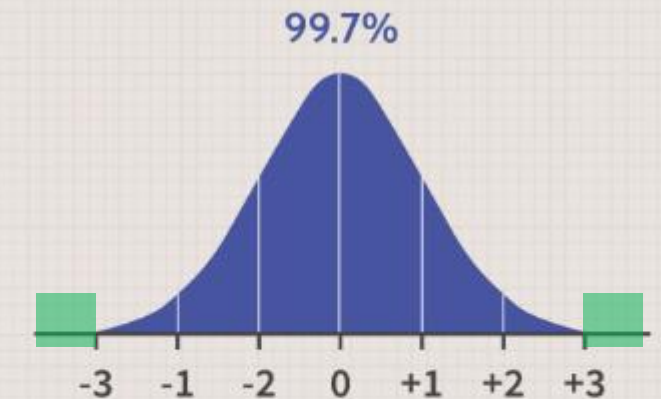
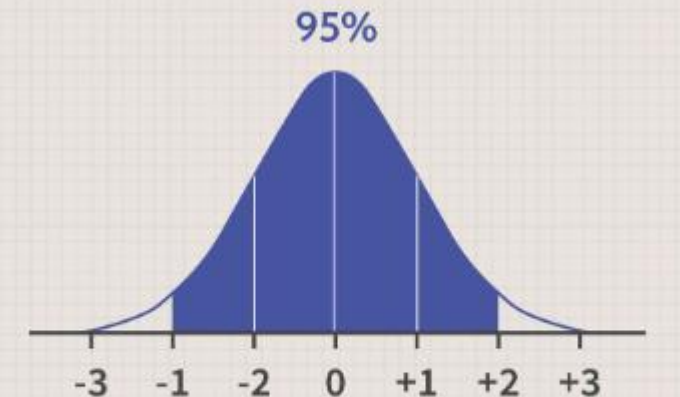
- The **tolerance** addresses a **2 SD (standard deviation)** value



Area width (A/W) - Calculation method

$$1/2 A/W = 1.5 XTT + BV$$

- Why Buffer Value (BV)?
 - to cater for **BLUNDER ERRORS**
 - to cater for **TAIL OF DISTRIBUTION**
- Buffer Value depends on
 - **PHASE OF FLIGHT**
 - **AIRCRAFT** characteristic (helicopter or airplane)



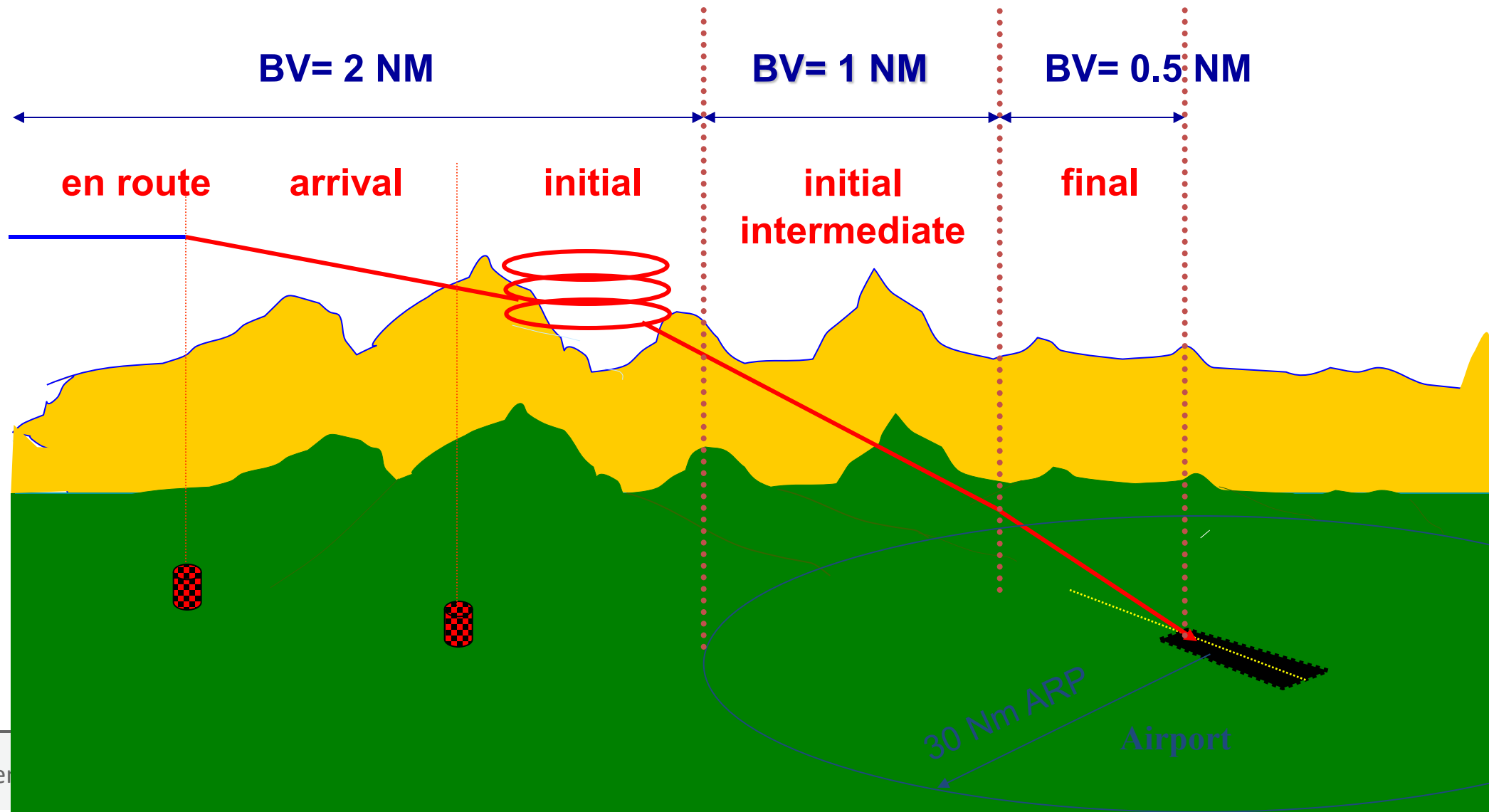
99% of all values are within 3 standard deviations of mean value

Buffer Value Table

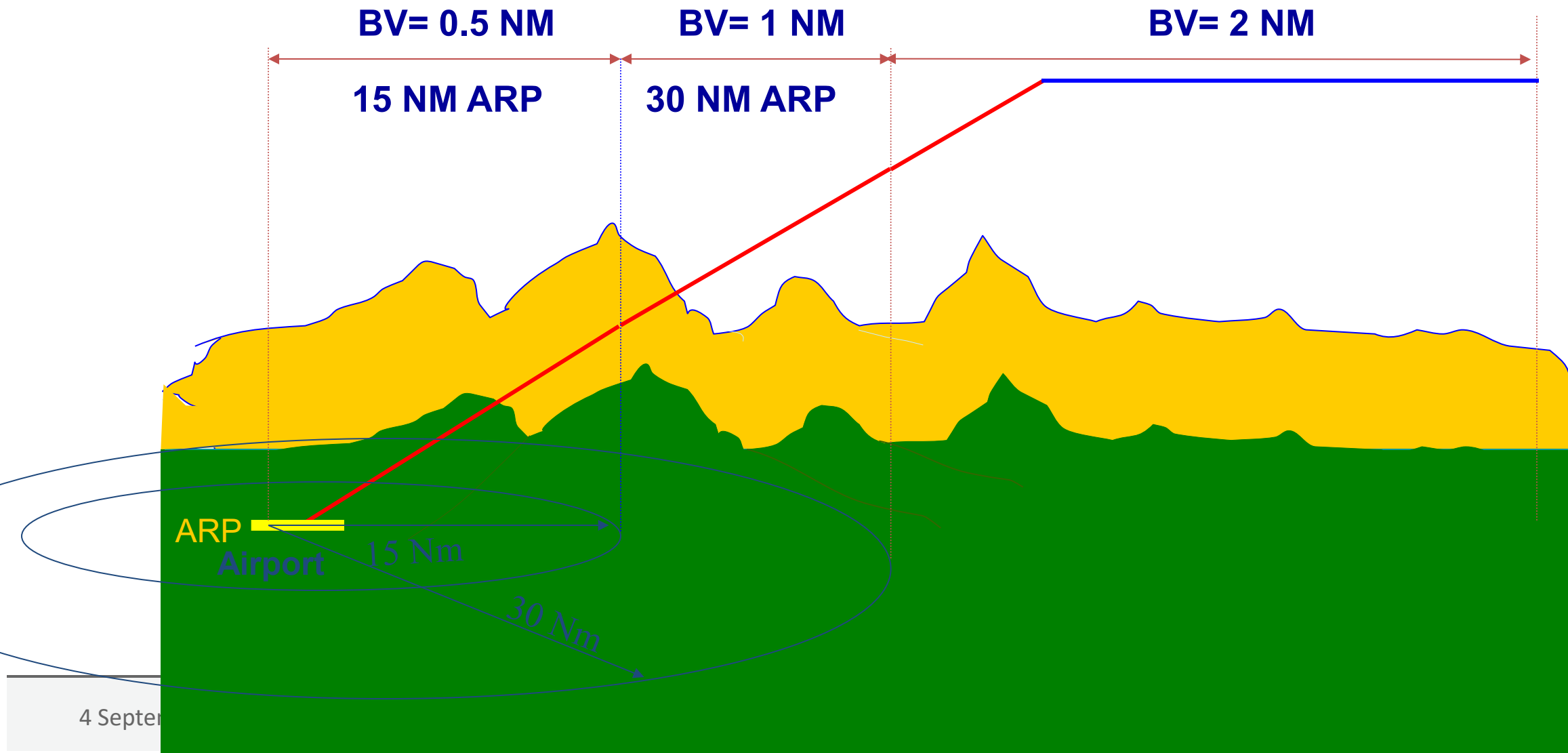


<i>Phase of Flight</i>	BV for CAT A-E	BV for CAT H
En-route (More than 30 NM from departure or destination ARP)	2 NM	1 NM
Terminal (STARs, Initial and Intermediate Approaches within 30 NM of the ARP; and SIDs and Missed Approaches within 30 NM of the ARP but more than 15 NM from the ARP)	1 NM	0.7 NM
Final Approach	0.5 NM	0.35
Missed Approaches and SIDs WITHIN 15 NM OF the ARP	0.5 NM	0.35

Buffer Value and phase of flight except climbing phase



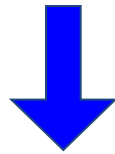
Buffer Value and different phases of flight for climbing phase



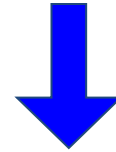
General method for calculation of protection Area Width



XTT calculation



Identify phase of flight
For Buffer Value (BV)

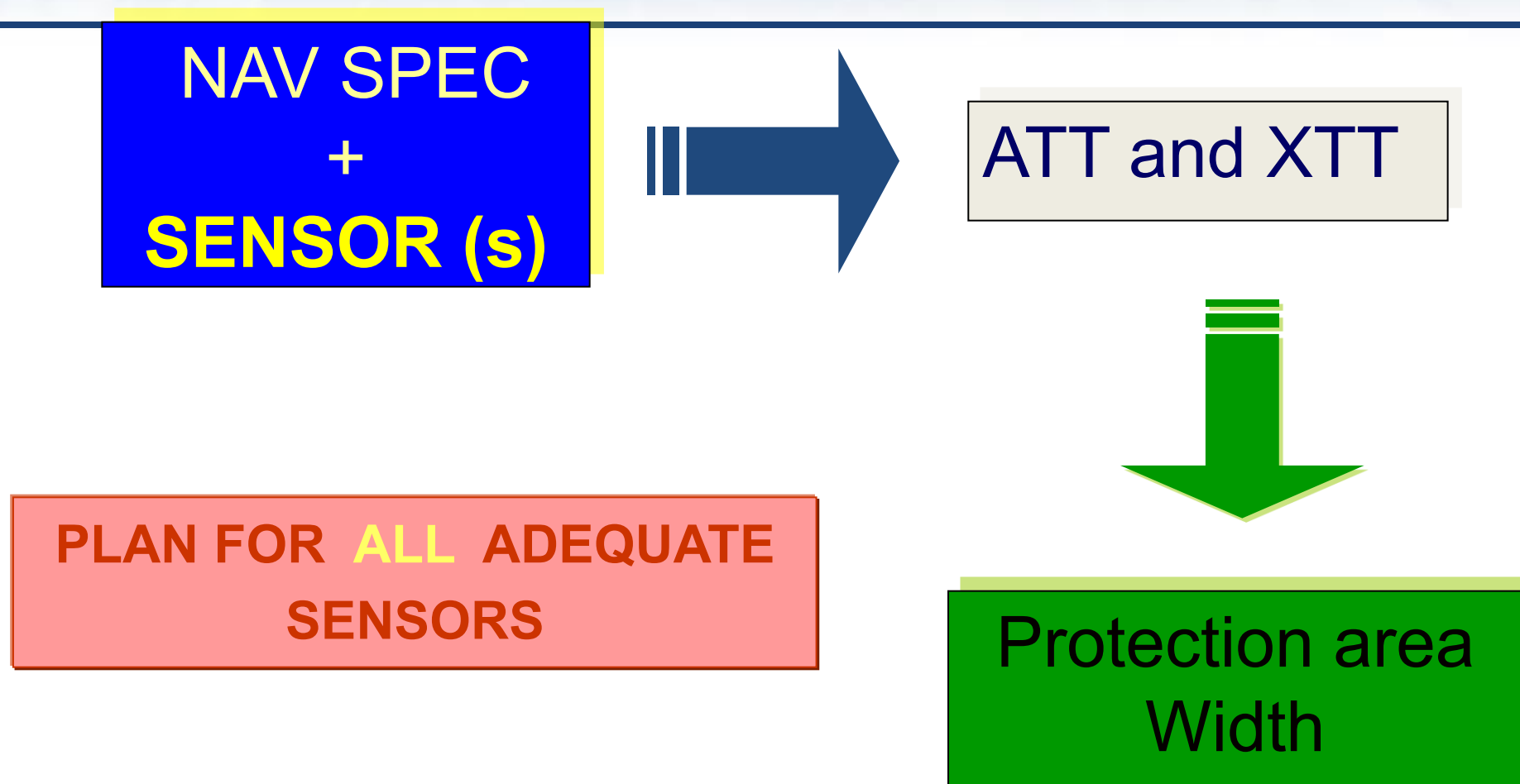


Semi-Area Width calculation

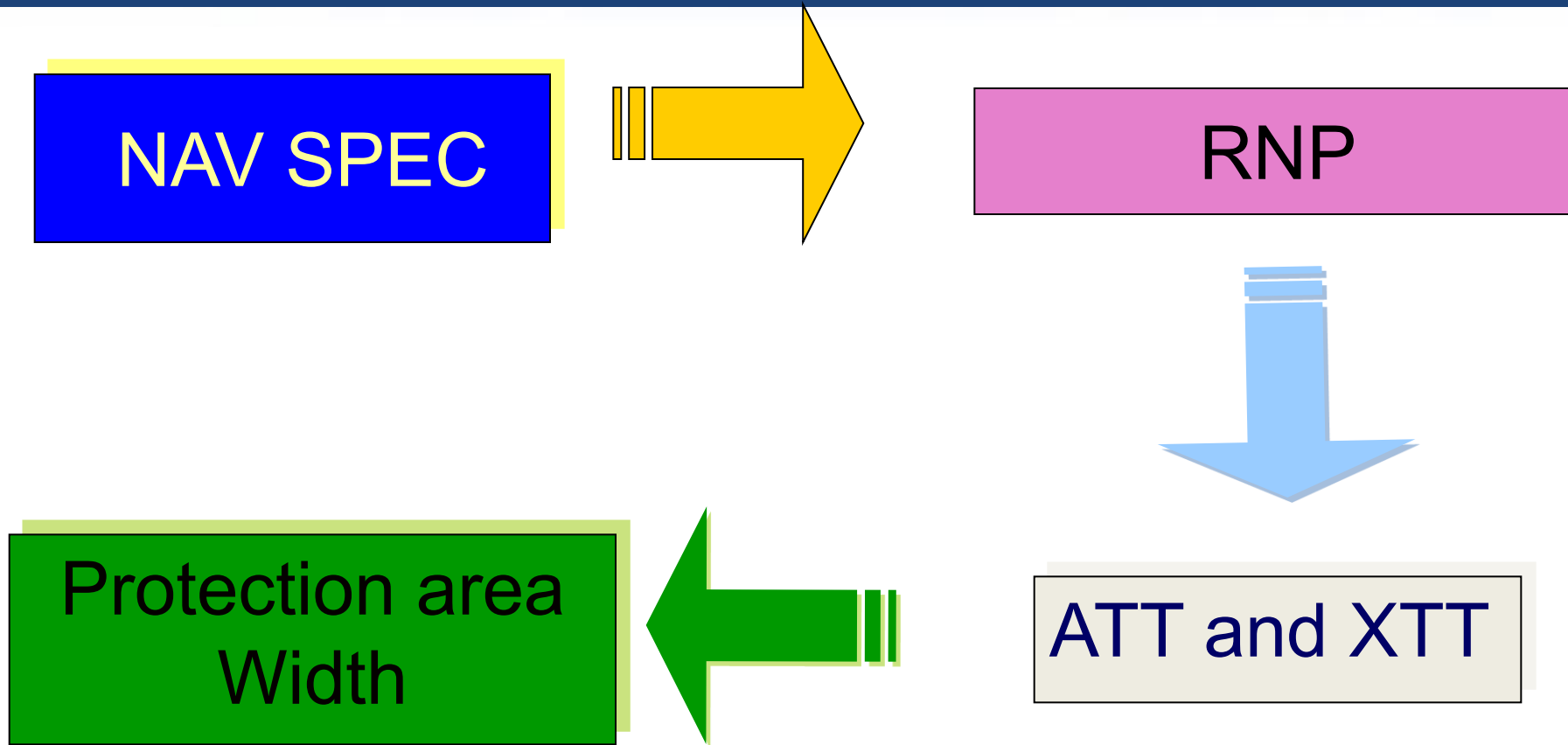
$$1/2 \text{ A/W } = 1.5 \text{ XTT } + \text{ BV }$$



Key point : Area Width for RNAV application



Key point: Area Width for RNP application



XTT- ATT- ½ AW calculation



Navigation specification		RNP	FTE	IMAL	ATT	XTT	BV	1/2AW
RNP4	En route	4	2				2	
RNAV5	En route		2.5	2			2	
RNP1	greater than 30 Nm ARP	1	0.5				2	
	< 30 Nm ARP	1	0.5				1	
	SID<15 NM	1	0.5				0.5	
RNAV2	greater than 30 Nm ARP		1	2			2	
	< 30 Nm ARP		1	1			1	
	SID <15 NM ARP		1	1			0.5	
RNAV1	greater than 30 Nm ARP		0.5	2			2	
	< 30 Nm ARP		0.5	1			1	
	SID<15 NM ARP		0.5	1			0.5	
RNP APCH	< 30 Nm ARP	1	0.5				1	
	FAF	0.3	0.25				1	
	MAPT	0.3	0.25				0.5	
	MA <15 NM ARP	1	0.5				0.5	

For RNAV NAVIGATION SPECIFICATION ,values in the table are applicable for airplane and for GNSS sensor only

XTT- ATT- ½ AW calculation



Navigation specification		RNP	FTE	IMAL	ATT	XTT	BV	1/2AW
RNP4	En route	4	2		3.2	4	2	8
RNP1	greater than 30 Nm ARP	1	0.5		0.8	1	2	3.5
	< 30 Nm ARP	1	0.5		0.8	1	1	2.5
	SID<15 NM	1	0.5		0.8	1	0.5	2
RNP APCH	< 30 Nm ARP	1	0.5		0.8	1	1	2.5
	FAF	0.3	0.25		0.24	0.3	1	1.45
	MAPT	0.3	0.25		0.24	0.3	0.5	0.95
	MA <15 NM	1	0.5		0.8	1	0.5	2

RNP APPLICATION



XTT = TSE = RNP
ATT = 0.8 XTT

½ AW= 1.5 x XTT + BV

XTT- ATT calculation for RNAV



NSE = 0.08 ST = 0.25

Navigation specification		RNP	FTE	IMAL	ATT	XTT	BV	1/2AW
RNAV5	En route		2.5	2	2.01	2.51	2	5.77
RNAV2	greater than 30 Nm ARP		1	2	1.6	2	2	5
	< 30 Nm ARP		1	1	0.8	1	1	2.5
	SID <15 NM		1	1	0.8	1	0,5	2
RNAV1	greater than 30 Nm ARP		0.5	2	1.6	2	2	5
	< 30 Nm ARP		0.5	1	0.8	1	1	2.5
	SID<15 NM		0.5	1	0.8	1	0,5	2

RNAV APPLICATION

GNSS sensor only

WHERE $FTE > IMAL$

WHERE $FTE \leq IMAL$

$$ATT = 0.8 \times XTT$$

$$XTT = \sqrt{NSE^2 + FTE^2 + ST^2}$$

$$ATT = 0.8 \times IMAL$$

$$XTT = IMAL$$

$$\frac{1}{2} AW = 1.5 \times XTT + BV$$

XTT- ATT- ½ AW calculation



RNP 2 in different phase of flight (NM)

En-route / STAR / SID (>30 NM ARP)

XTT	ATT	½ A/W
2.00	1.60	5.00

Advanced-RNP (ARNP) in all phases of flight (NM)

RNP	En-route (Continental & Remote)			STAR/SID (>30NM ARP)			STAR/SID (<30NM ARP) IAF/IF/Missed Approach			FAF			MAPt			Missed Approach / SID (<15NM ARP)		
	XTT	ATT	1/2 A/W	XTT	ATT	1/2 A/W	XTT	ATT	1/2 A/W	XTT	ATT	1/2 A/W	XTT	ATT	1/2 A/W	XTT	ATT	1/2 A/W
2	2	1,6	5															
1	1	0,8	3,5	1	0,8	3,5	1	0,8	2,5							1	0,8	2
0,3										0,3	0,24	1,45	0,3	0,24	0,95			

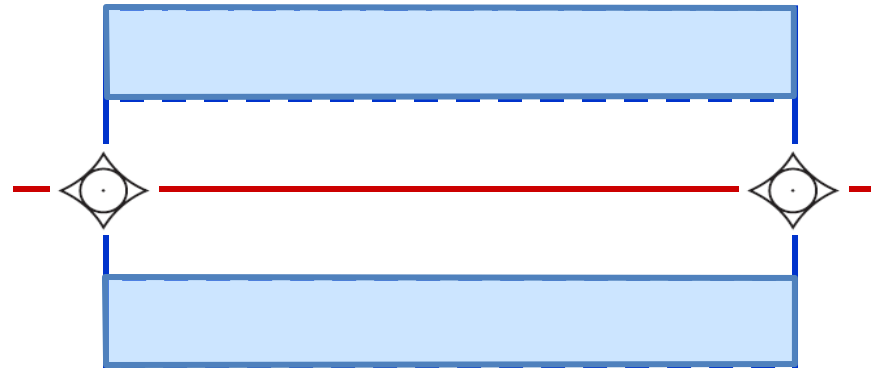
Area Width global methodology

- Whatever the navigation application is, area width depends on two elements:
 - XTT
 - BV
- Where NEITHER **XTT** NOR **BV** are changing
 - Area width is a CORRIDOR
- Where **at least one of the two** elements **changes**, to calculate the area width, three questions are to be answered:
 - Question 1 : **AT THE LOCATION** where **XTT** is changing which value is taken into account for area width calculation ?
 - Question 2 : **AT THE LOCATION** where **BV** is changing which value is taken into account for area width calculation ?
 - Question 3 : How to **CONNECT** the two areas ?

STRAIGHT AREA

Primary and secondary area apply

- Where no change of phase nor XTT :
- Area is a corridor



Area width value at the location where XTT change



- **AT THE LOCATION** where XTT is changing which value is taken into account for area width calculation?
 - First case :
when **PRECEDING** area width is **LARGER** than the **SUBSEQUENT** one
 - Second case :
when **PRECEDING** area width is **SMALLER** than the **SUBSEQUENT** one
- What are the conditions that induce the change of XTT?
 - Change of value of RNP
 - Change of accuracy for RNAV application

At the location where XTT is changing which value is taken into account for Area Width calculation?



- Assumption
 - At the point where the change of RNP / accuracy is required, the RNP/ accuracy is achieved.
- Conclusion and answer to the question :

1. When PRECEDING area width is LARGER than the SUBSEQUENT one

Where area 1 > area 2, AT the LOCATION where XTT is changing, take the XTT of the SUBSEQUENT phase.

At the location where XTT is changing which value is taken into account for Area Width calculation?



- Assumption
 - The A/C is assumed to maintain the most accurate performance until the point of change.
- Conclusion and answer to question :

1. When **PRECEDING** area width is **SMALLER** than the **SUBSEQUENT** one

Where area 1 < area 2 AT the LOCATION where XTT is changing, take the XTT of the PRECEDING phase.

Area Width value at the location where XTT change



- Summing Up

AT the LOCATION where XTT is changing, Take the SMALLER value of XTT.

Example :

- At FAF RNP changes from 1 to 0.3 Nm
- For RNP application : $XTT = RNP$

$XTT = 0.3 \text{ NM}$

Area Width value at the location where Buffer Value change



- **AT THE LOCATION** where **BV** is changing which value is taken into account for area width calculation ?
- Assumption
 - BV address tail of distribution
- Conclusion and answer to question :

AT THE LOCATION where **BV** is changing, take the **BV** of the **PRECEDING** phase.

Calculation for FAF



- At FAF BV changes from 1 to 0.5 Nm

AT THE LOCATION where BV is changing, take the BV of the
PRECEDING phase.

$$BV = 1 \text{ Nm}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} AW = 1.5 \times 0.3 + 1 = 1.45 \text{ Nm}$$

How to connect area width ?

1st Merging methodology

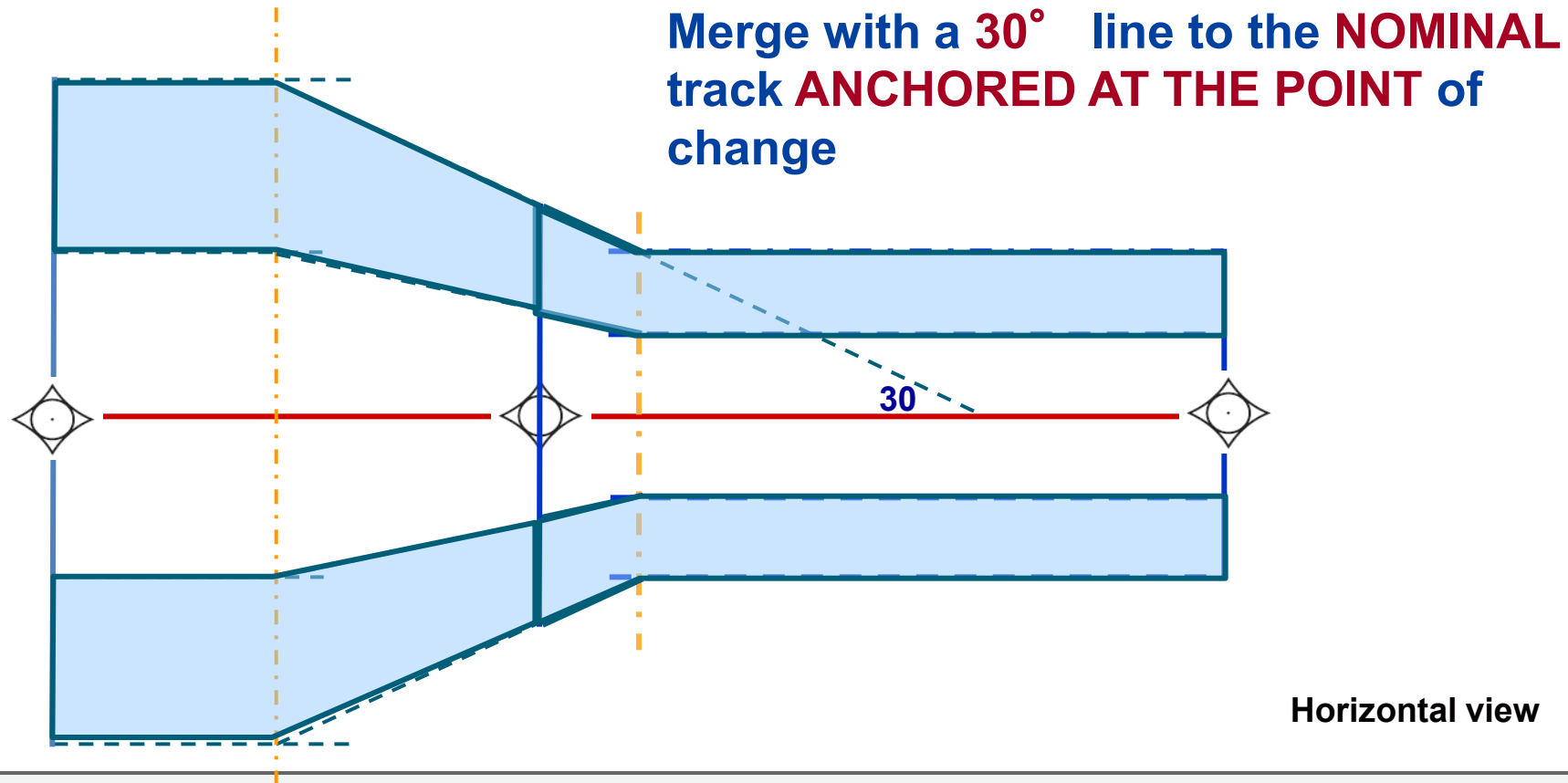


- Where **AREA WIDTH** of the **SUBSEQUENT** segment is **SMALLER** than area width of the **PRECEDING** one
 - When BV is changing merge with a **30°** line to the **NOMINAL** track **ANCHORED AT THE POINT** of change
- Where **AREA WIDTH** of the **SUBSEQUENT** segment is **GREATER** than area width of the **PRECEDING** one
 - Merge with a **15°** **SPLAY** from the **area WIDTH** of the **PRECEDING** segment at the **EARLIEST** limit of the point of change

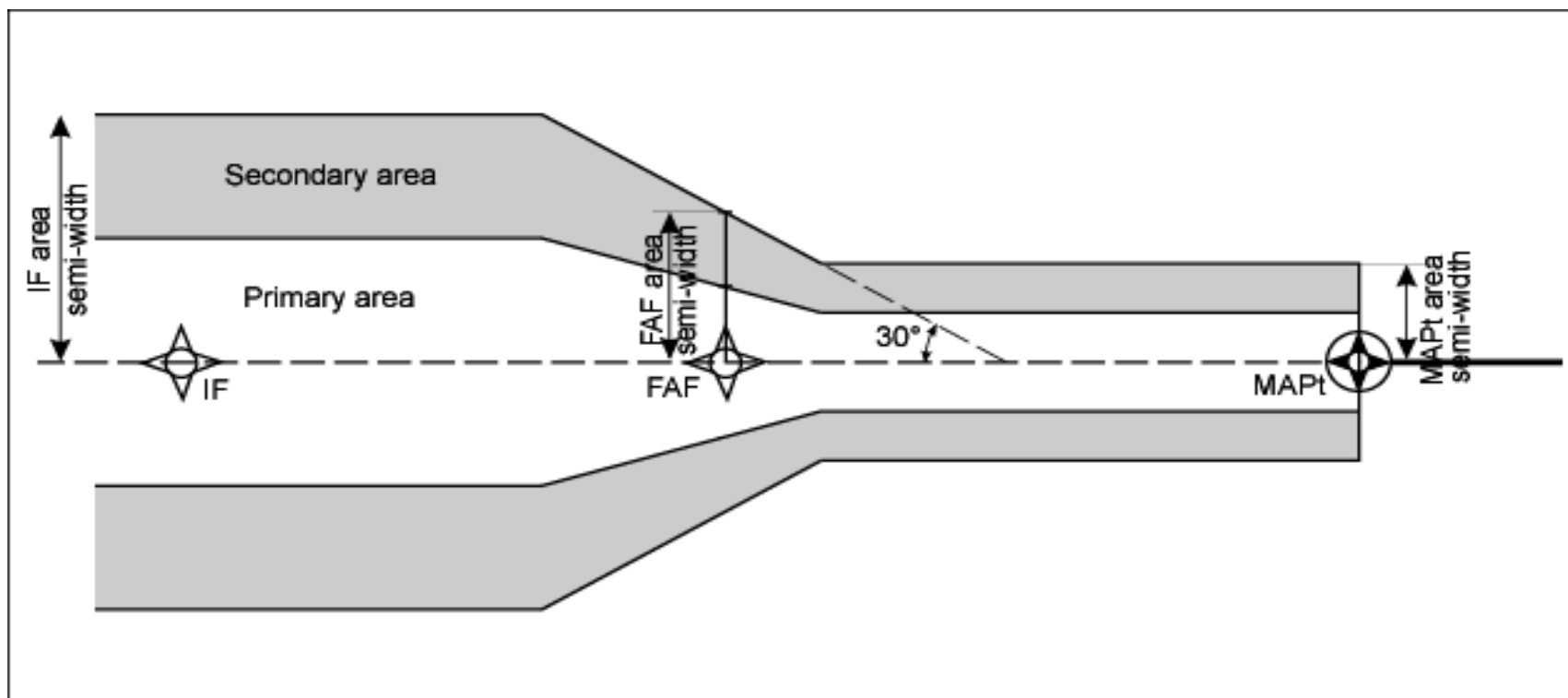
Straight area where change of phase or area width value occurs



- Case where area width of the subsequent segment is smaller than the preceding one



Example at FAF for RNP APCH



Location where a change of BV or XTT occurs

- For RNP1, RNAV 1/2 with GNSS sensor only, it occurs at
 - 30 NM of ARP
 - 15 NM of ARP
- For RNP APCH it occurs at
 - 30 NM of ARP
 - FAF
 - MAPt
 - 15 NM of ARP

These changes occur at a waypoint, or at a specific location whether a waypoint is located or not.

e.g.

CALCULATION FOR 30NM ? (RNAV2 / RNAV1)

Calculation for RNAV 1/2 STAR with GNSS sensor AT 30 NM ARP



- At 30 NM ARP XTT changes from 2 to 1 Nm

AT the LOCATION where XTT is changing, Take the SMALLER value of XTT.

$$\text{XTT} = 1 \text{ NM}$$

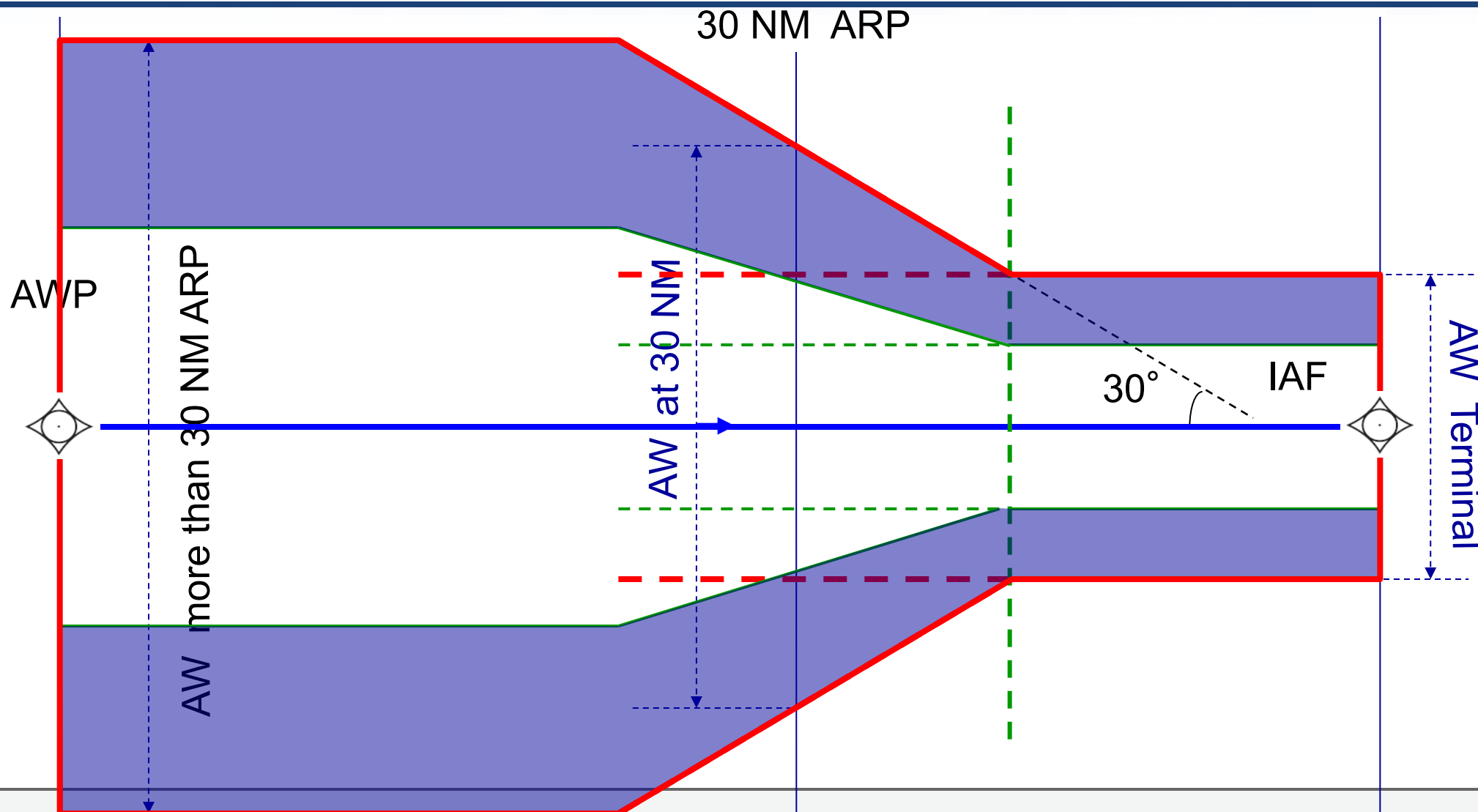
- At 30 NM ARP BV changes from 2 to 1 Nm

AT THE LOCATION where BV is changing, take the BV of the PRECEDING phase.

$$\text{BV} = 2 \text{ Nm}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \text{ AW} = 1.5 \times 1 + 2 = 3.5 \text{ Nm}$$

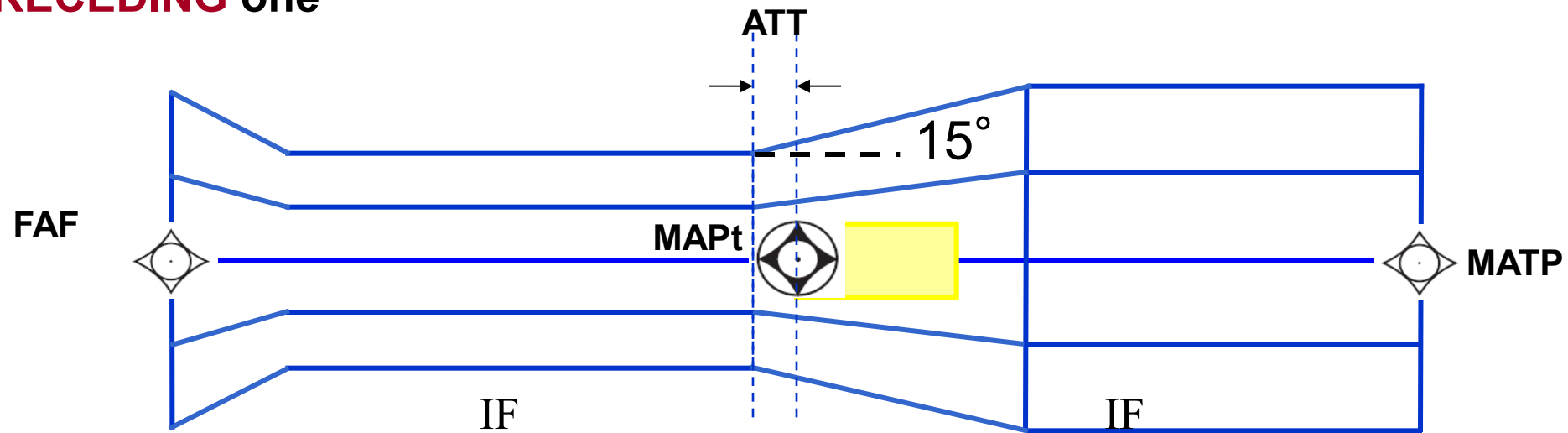
Merging method



Straight area where change of phase or RNP value occurs



Case where area width of the **SUBSEQUENT** segment is **GREATER** than the **PRECEDING** one



Merge with a **15° SPLAY** at the **EARLIEST** limit of the point of change

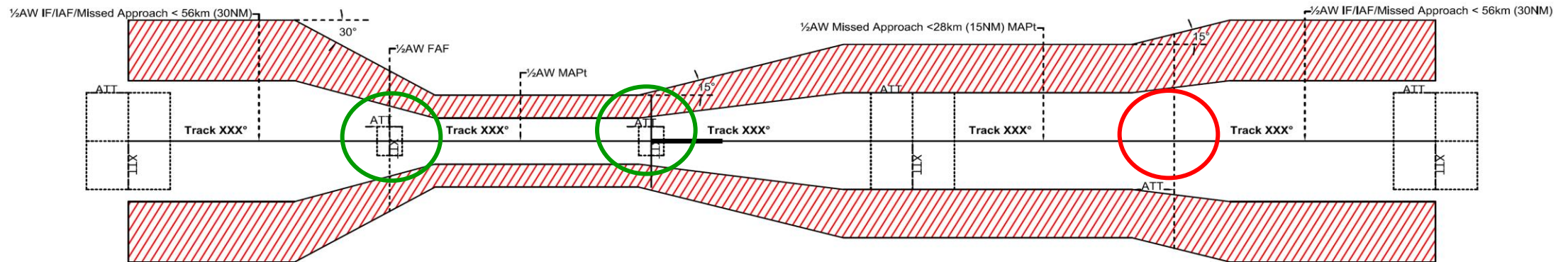
Complete RNP APCH



Figure III-3-3-2

Change of RNP

Change of BV



IAF IF

FAF

MAPt

MATF

28km

MATF

15NM

ARP

Change of RNP and BV

15 NM ARP

30 NM ARP

Change of BV Figure III 1-1-2



- Case where area width of the subsequent segment is greater than the preceding one

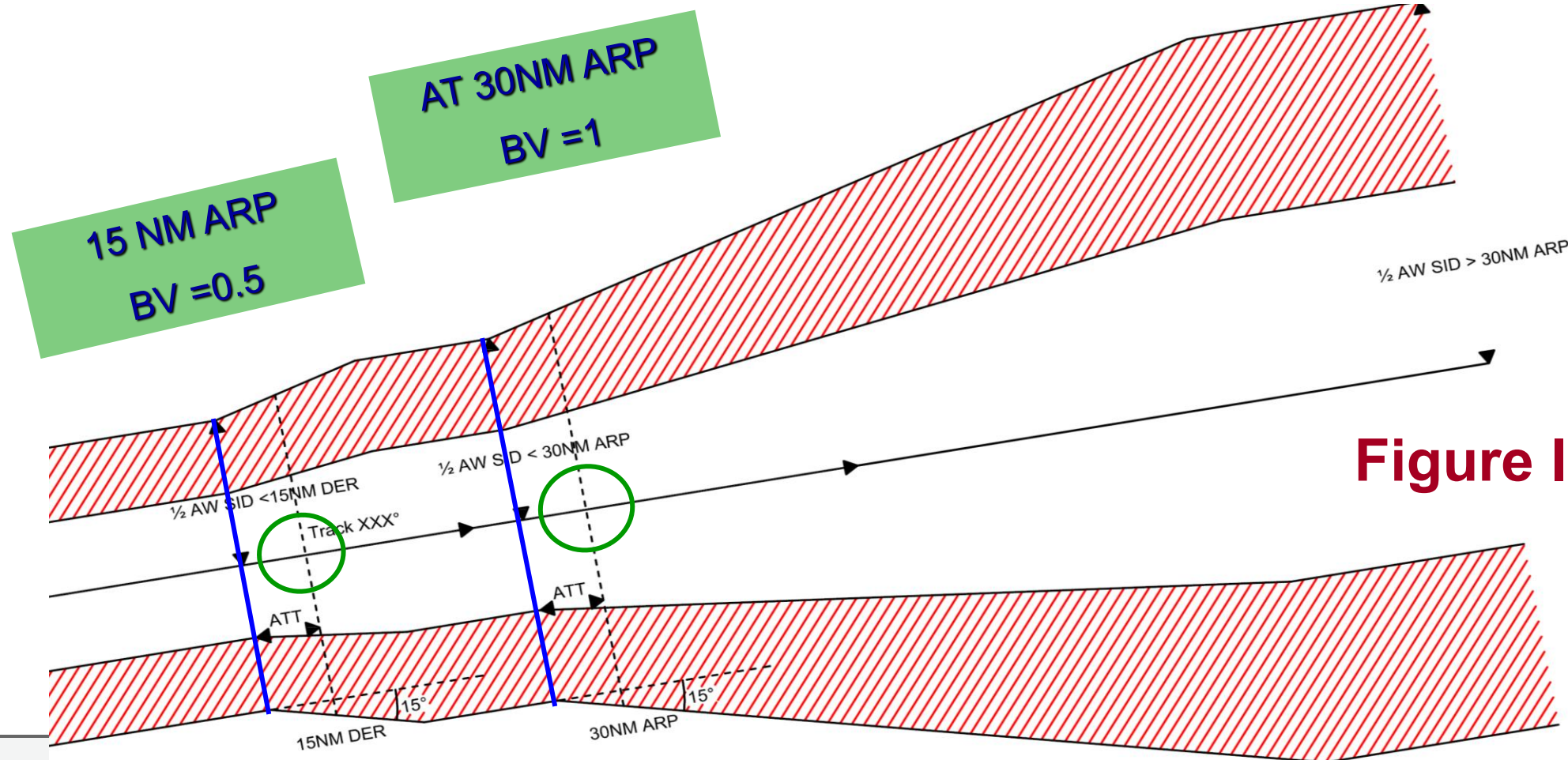


Figure III 1-1-2

How to connect area width ?

2nd Merging methodology in case of **change of XTT Only**



- Where **AREA WIDTH** of the **SUBSEQUENT** segment is **SMALLER** than area width of the **PRECEDING** one
 - When XTT only is changing merge with a **30°** line to the **NOMINAL** track **ANCHORED** at the **LATEST XTT** of the point of change
- Where **AREA WIDTH** of the **SUBSEQUENT** segment is **GREATER** than area width of the **PRECEDING** one
 - Merge with a **15°** **SPLAY** from the **area WIDTH** of the **PRECEDING** segment at the **EARLIEST** limit of the point of change

2nd MERGING METHOD applicable in case of **change of XTT Only**



- When XTT only is changing merge with a **30°** line to the **NOMINAL** track **ANCHORED** at the **LATEST XTT** of the point of change

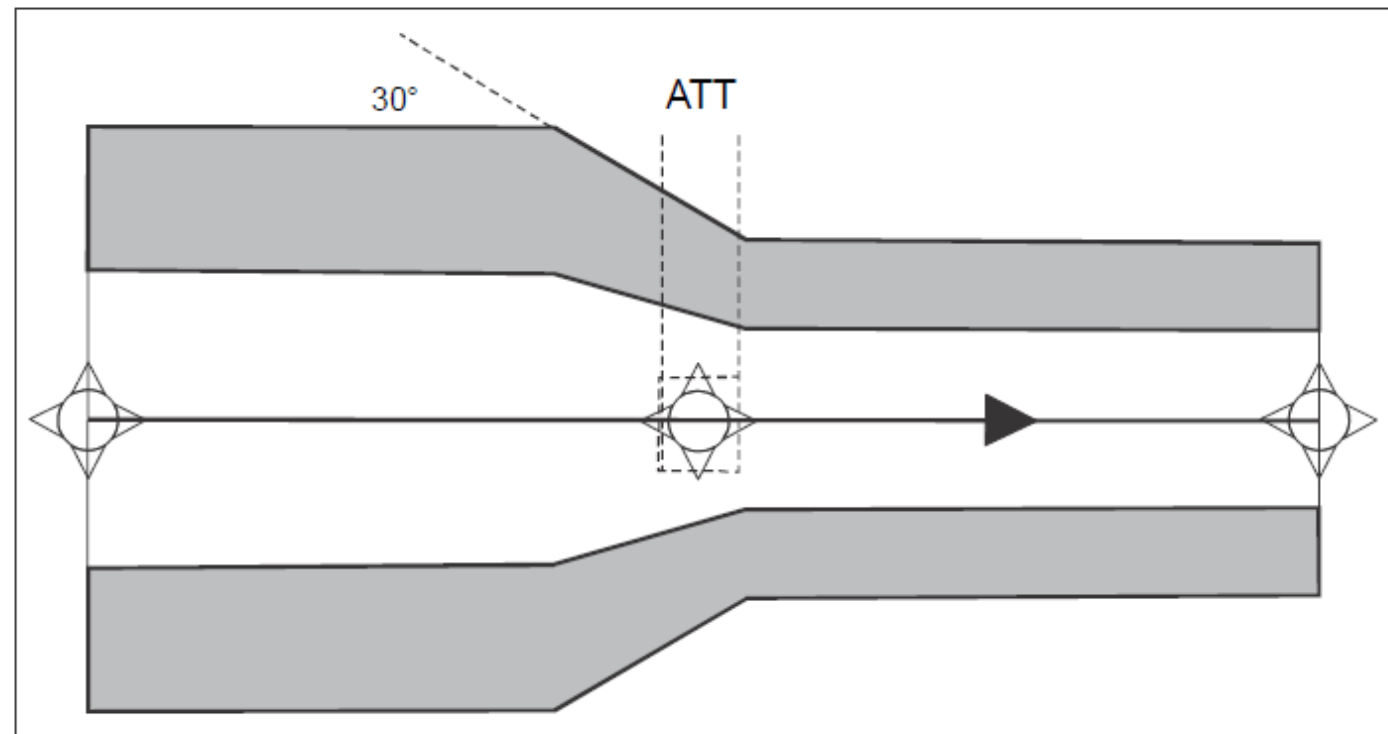


Figure III-1-1-1. Merging segments of different widths

Merging methodologies key points



- MERGING methodologies apply
 - Each time there is a **CHANGE OF XTT**
 - Each time there is a **CHANGE OF BV**
 - **Whether a waypoint is located or not**

TOLERANCE AND PROTECTION AREA

DME/DME SENSOR

REGULATORY REFERENCE



DOC 8168 Vol II Part III (P 635)

- RNAV concept
 - Section 1 Chapter 1
- Area width for DME/DME RNAV
 - Section 1 Chapter 3
 - Tables III-1-3-1 to III-1-3-8
 - Appendix to chapter 3

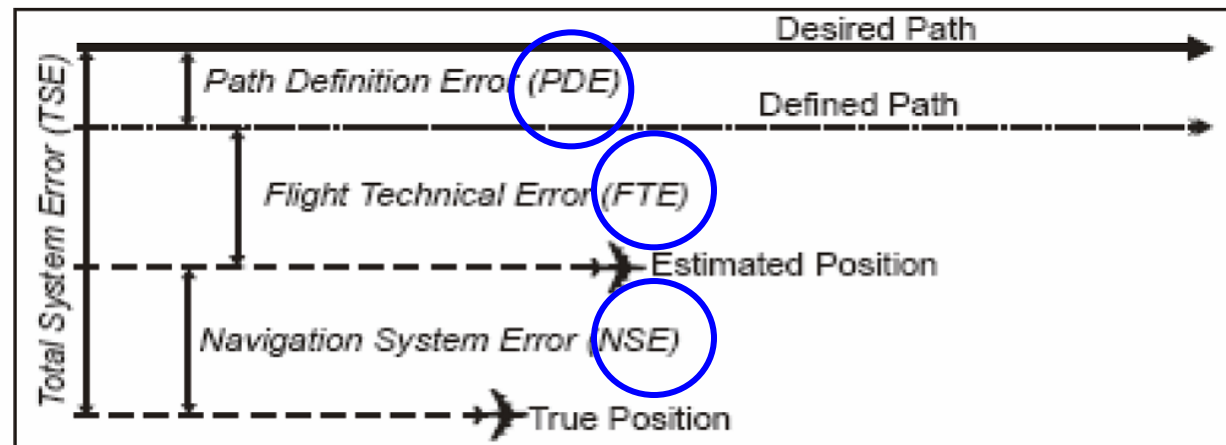
Navigation specification



Navigation specification		Navaid infrastructure	Leg type	Flyby	RNP (NM)	TSE (NM)
RNAV5	En route continental	VORDME DMEDME GNSS	-	-	-	≤5
RNAV2	SID - STAR- Initial	DMEDME GNSS	IF CF TF DF VA VM VI CA FA FM	Yes	-	≤ 2
RNAV1	SID - STAR- Initial	DMEDME GNSS		Yes	-	≤ 1

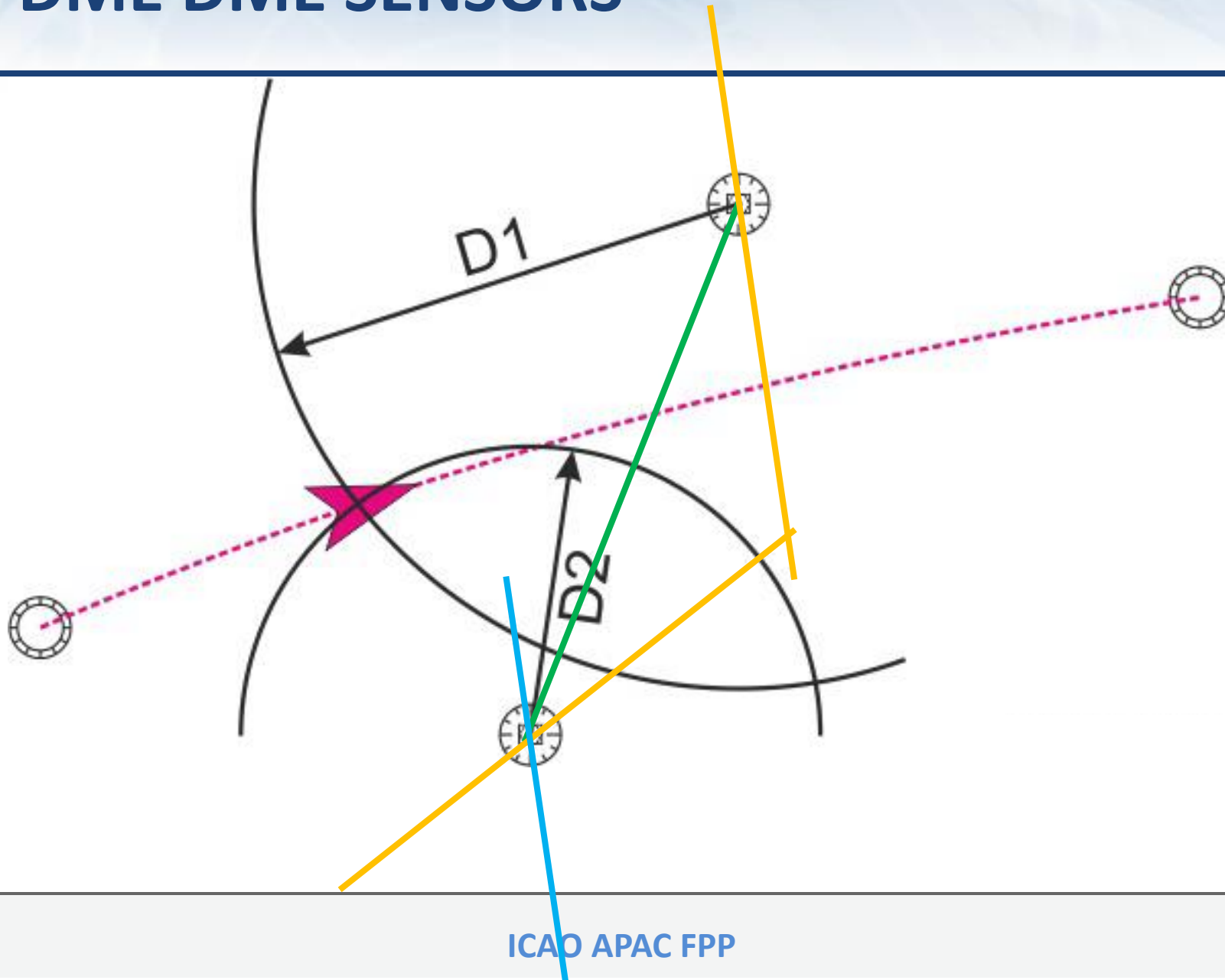
DME-DME TSE

- The **LATERAL** Total system error depends on



- The **LONGITUDINAL** system error depends on
 - NSE and PDE

TSE FOR DME DME SENSORS



TSE FOR DME DME SENSORS



- Vol II part 3 section 1 chapter 3
- **NSE** is considered as the system use accuracy of airborne receiving system called **DTT** (**DME system use accuracy**)
- Acceptability of geometry between DME stations and aircraft is within 30° to 150°
- DTT is based on assumed angle of 90° at any point of the track when more than two DMEs are available
- DTT is based on assumed angle of 30° at any point of the track when only two DMEs are available

ASSESSMENT OF DME/DME COVERAGE

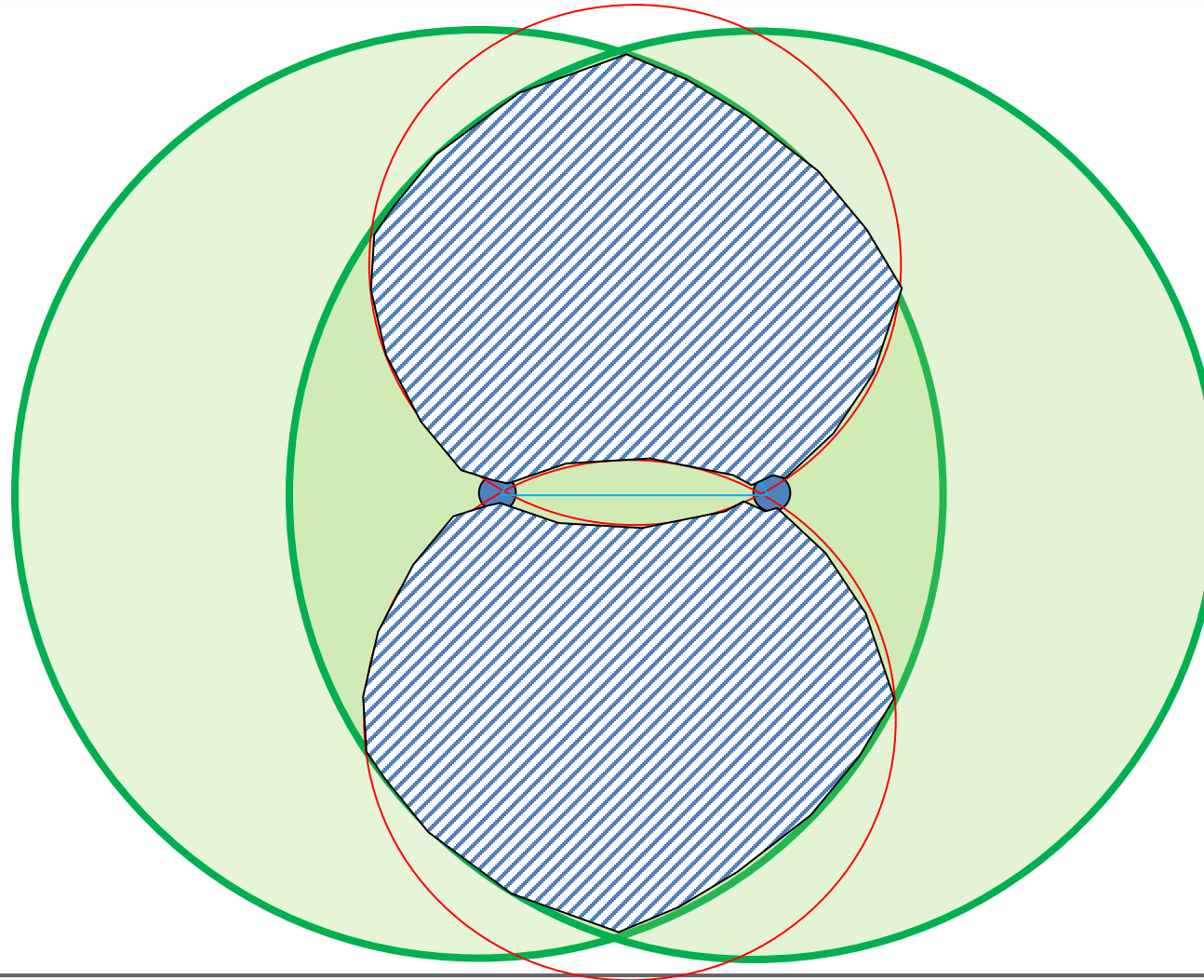


- Manual assessment
- Computer aided assessment : e.g. DEMETER
 - Some Principal Inputs
 - Flight level
 - Route
 - Navaids with DOC (designated operational coverage) and areas of no reception
 - Terrain elevation data
- Can lead to critical DME
- When no DME coverage : possibility to use Dead Reckoning segment (max 10NM)
 - 15° splay from primary area to next primary area protection

DME DME Coverage : Manual assessment

- Circle on each DME
 - radius = DOC (designated operational coverage)
- 30° /150° intercept DME circle
 - radius = distance between DMES
- No update zone circle
 - radius = 3 Nm / DMEs

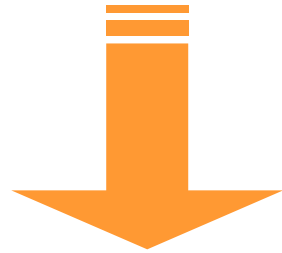
Area of simultaneous use of two DME stations



DME-DME : DTT



System accuracy:
DME / DME



$$2\sigma = 2 \frac{\sqrt{(\sigma_{1,air}^2 + \sigma_{1,sys}^2) + (\sigma_{2,air}^2 + \sigma_{2,sys}^2)}}{\sin\alpha}$$

$\sigma_{air} = \text{Max} (0.085 \text{ Nm} , 0.125\% \text{ D})$

$\sigma_{sys} = 0.05 \text{ Nm}$

💣 « α » is 30° for 2 DMEs

💣 « α » is 90° for more than 2 DMEs

DME- DME : Which Altitude ?

- D is the theoretical radio horizon: $D = 1.23 \sqrt{\text{Alt}(\text{ft})}$
- Altitude :
 - ARRIVAL : Min altitude of previous segment
 - MOCA or
 - Procedure altitude only if procedure altitude is due to a lack of DME coverage
 - SID : Altitude obtained at the point with the min PDG

DME-DME SENSOR ATT – XTT CALCULATION



Tolerance:
DME / DME

- 💣* « ST » in doc 8168 means « PDE » in PBN manual
💣* « DTT » in doc 8168 means « NSE » for DME-DME

$$ATT = \sqrt{DTT^2 + ST^2}$$
$$XTT = \sqrt{DTT^2 + FTE^2 + ST^2}$$

DME DME : DTT, ATT and XTT computation



- Ref. Table III.1.3.1 to III.1.3.6
- Parameters:
 - RNAV1
 - STAR within 30NM ARP
 - Altitude 10000 ft
 - with appropriate DME coverage.

DME DME : DTT, ATT and XTT computation

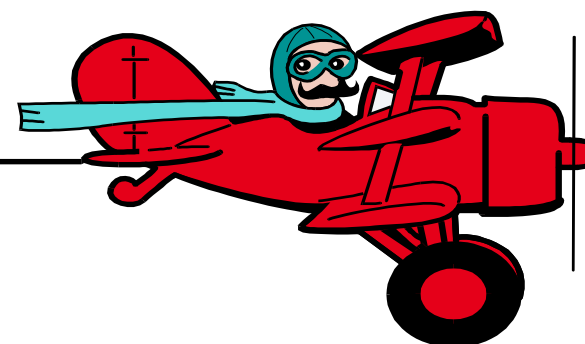


Table III-1-3-2. XTT, ATT and area semi-width for DME RNAV (RNAV 1) in en-route, arrival, initial/intermediate approach and departure phases of flight (NM)

Table based on availability of two DME update stations

<i>Altitude (ft)</i>	<i>En-route/STAR/SID (>30 NM ARP)</i>			<i>STAR/IF/IAF (<30 NM ARP)</i>			<i>SID (<15 NM DER)</i>			<i>FAF</i>		
	<i>XTT</i>	<i>ATT</i>	<i>½ A/W</i>	<i>XTT</i>	<i>ATT</i>	<i>½ A/W</i>	<i>XTT</i>	<i>ATT</i>	<i>½ A/W</i>	<i>XTT</i>	<i>ATT</i>	<i>½ A/W</i>
15 000	For all altitudes			1.24	1.13	2.85	1.24	1.13	2.35			
14 000	1.24	1.13	3.85	1.20	1.10	2.81	1.20	1.10	2.31			
13 000				1.17	1.06	2.76	1.17	1.06	2.26			
12 000				1.14	1.02	2.71	1.14	1.02	2.21			
11 000				1.11	0.99	2.66	1.11	0.99	2.16			
10 000				1.07	0.95	2.61	1.07	0.95	2.11	0.98	0.95	1.97
9 000				1.04	0.91	2.55	1.04	0.91	2.05	0.94	0.91	1.91
8 000				1.00	0.86	2.50	1.00	0.86	2.00	0.90	0.86	1.85
7 000				0.96	0.82	2.44	0.96	0.82	1.94	0.86	0.82	1.79

Any questions?





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Let's **F**ocus/**P**ropose/**P**lan
Together