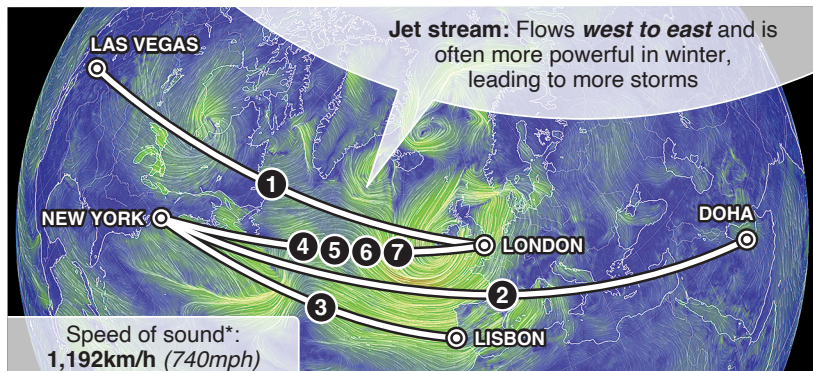


Intense jet stream boost to aircraft speed

Storms fuelled by an increasingly strong North Atlantic jet stream, believed to be linked to climate change, have elevated some recent transatlantic commercial flights to near-record-breaking speeds



FASTEST SUBSONIC TRANSATLANTIC COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS



FASTEST EVER TRANSATLANTIC COMMERCIAL FLIGHT

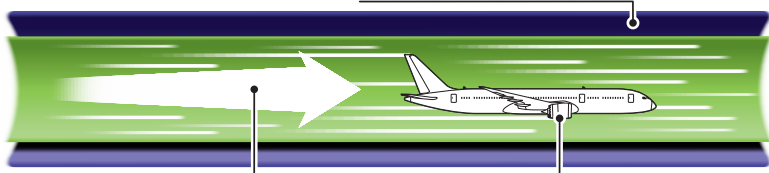


HOW SUBSONIC PASSENGER AIRCRAFT CAN TRAVEL FASTER THAN SPEED OF SOUND

Since supersonic **Concorde** retired in 2003, no commercial passenger jet can fly faster than speed of sound, except when this happens:

Altitude: 9,100m (30,000ft)

Slower moving air outside jet stream



Jet stream: On occasions can move at hundreds of kilometres (miles) per hour

Aircraft cruising speed: 960km/h (600mph) relative to air around it – which is itself moving very quickly

Note: Image (from earth.nullschool.net) depicts jet stream as of 1400GMT, Jan 27, 2025. *Sea level

Sources: Times, Dallas Morning News, BBC, Bloomberg, Independent, Nature

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