

AIRCRAFT DESIGN AND SYSTEMS GROUP (AERO)

Hydrogen as Future Fuel Used in Minimum Change Derivatives of the Airbus A321

Dieter Scholz

Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

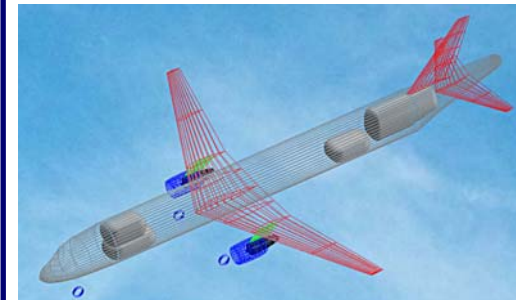
Leon Dib

Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4073172>

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Abstract

A new concept of a passenger aircraft using hydrogen as fuel is presented. Due to the future depletion of fossil fuels and growth of aviation within the next years, the aeronautical industry must get ready now for a realistic solution. Many projects were conducted for hydrogen-fueled aircraft designs in the past, however all the effort was focused on an expensive totally new aircraft design. In this work, research is based on the Airbus A320 with a requirement for 1510 NM range at 19.3 t maximum payload. Goal is to redesign the aircraft under the premise of minimum change and minimum costs. Hydrogen as the new energy carrier will be stored at cryogenically temperatures. Still it needs more tank volume. This extra volume is best generated with an aircraft stretch leading to an increase of aircraft length. A minimum change option would be to simply use A320 seating in an A321, using the additional space for the new hydrogen fuel tanks. Unfortunately, the additional volume on its own is not sufficient. Therefore, three different hydrogen-fueled versions are developed. 1.) The A321-HSO stretched beyond the length of the A321. 2.) The A321-HWO with A321 fuselage and additional under-wing podded hydrogen fuel tanks. 3.) A321-H19O with A321 fuselage and A319 cabin. All three versions were designed and optimized in OPerA, the in-house conceptual design and optimization program based on a genetic algorithm. Objective function for the optimization are minimum Direct Operating Costs (DOC). Assumed is a price for hydrogen, energy-equivalent to kerosene and estimated for 2030 to be 1.12 USD/kg. All three versions stayed in feasible dimensions. The weight of the aircraft is decreased between 3.4% (A321-H19O) and 0.7% (A321-HSO). Depending on the version considered, the DOC of the aircraft is increased by 20% to 30%. Hydrogen aircraft do not show CO₂ emissions, releasing only water vapor, NO_x and particles into the air. However, water emitted at altitude can form cirrus clouds. This effect on global warming is presently not fully understood. The result: If fossil fuels get near to depletion and kerosene gets so scarce that the price of hydrogen matches that of kerosene, passenger air transport remains available with hydrogen-fueled minimum change conversions of existing aircraft types.

Hydrogen as Future Fuel Used in Minimum Change Derivatives of the Airbus A321

Content

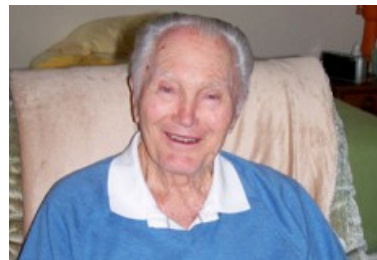
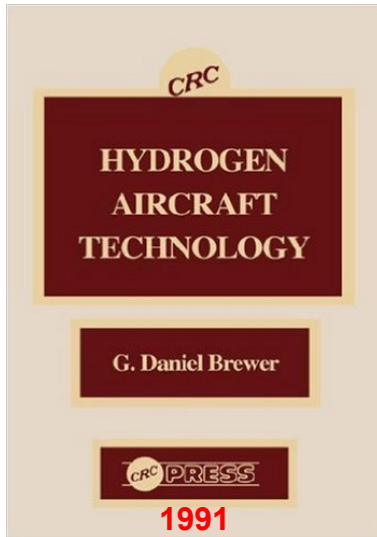
- Background
- Motivation
- Introduction

- Research Question
- Hypothesis

- Aspects of Hydrogen Tank Integration
- Overview of Aircraft Configurations in this Study
- Aircraft Design for Hydrogen
 - The Baseline Aircraft (A320)
 - Design of A321-HS (stretch)
 - Design of A321-HW (with wing mounted pods)
 - Design of A321-H19 (with A319 cabin)


- Conclusions
- References

Literature / Previous Projects



2012: Dan BREWER (93)
[1], [2]

**FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT
(PUBLISHABLE VERSION)**



CONTRACT N°: G4RD-CT-2000-00192
PROJECT N°: GRD1-1999-10014
ACRONYM: CRYOPLANE
TITLE: Liquid Hydrogen Fuelled Aircraft – System Analysis

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR : **Airbus Deutschland GmbH**

WESTENBERGER, Andreas: Liquid Hydrogen Fuelled Aircraft – System Analysis, CRYOPLANE / Final Technical Report, 2003 [3]



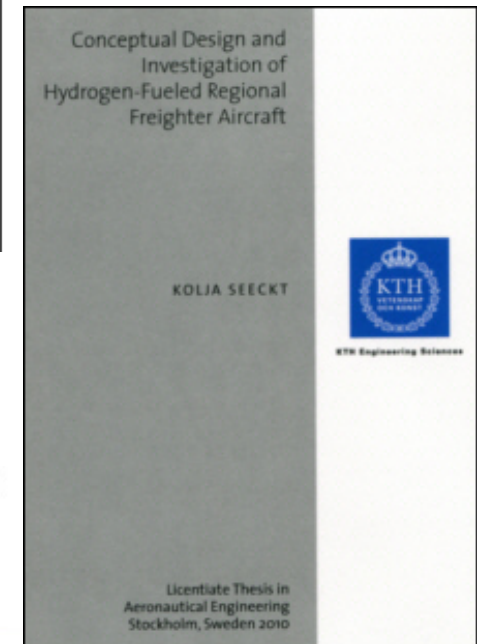
Green Freighter
HAW Hamburg (lead)
TU Braunschweig (IFL)
Airbus, Hamburg
Bishop GmbH
09/2006 to 04/2010



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

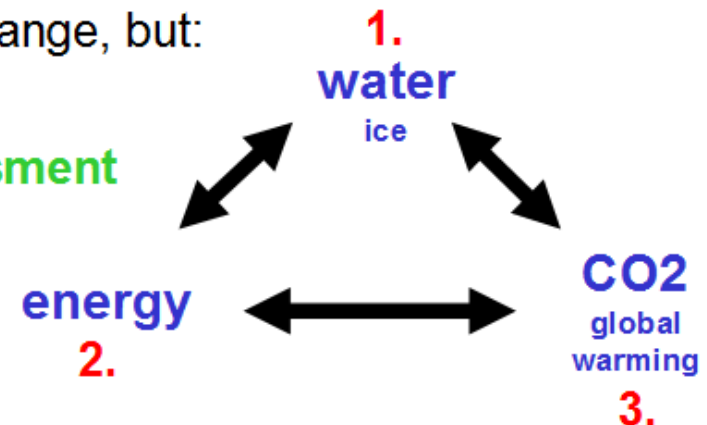
SEECKT, Kolja:

Conceptual Design and Investigation of Hydrogen-Fueled Regional Freighter Aircraft.
Stockholm, KTH, Licentiate Thesis, 2010 – In cooperation with **HAW Hamburg**. [4]



The Availability of Energy is Important!

- Depletion of fossile fuels => **aviation energy carrier** instead of **aviation fuel**
- The **search** for the aviation energy carrier of the future **is ongoing**:
 - # biofuel, synthetic fuel, drop-in fuel *advantage*: aircraft stay the same
 - # batteries *advantage*: direct use of electricity
 - # **hydrogen** *advantage*: **best known technology**
- Current focus: CO₂, Global Warming, Climate Change, but:
- **There are more issues than CO₂**
- **Needed: Balanced look with Life Cycle Assessment**
- **Ensure:**
Future availability of energy in aviation !
(or tell your kids the party is over)



SCHOLZ, DLRK 2012 [5]

Note the Scale of the Energy Consumption in Aviation!

- **Global energy consumption in aviation** (2009):
 - # **230 Mtoe** (million ton oil equivalent) per year
 - # with 0.8 t/m^3 this is **$9.1 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$** (flow of a smaller tributary of the river Elbe; *p.t.o.*)
 - # with heating value, $H = 41.9 \text{ MJ/kg}$ this is 300000 MW or
300 nuclear power plants (simple energy comparison)

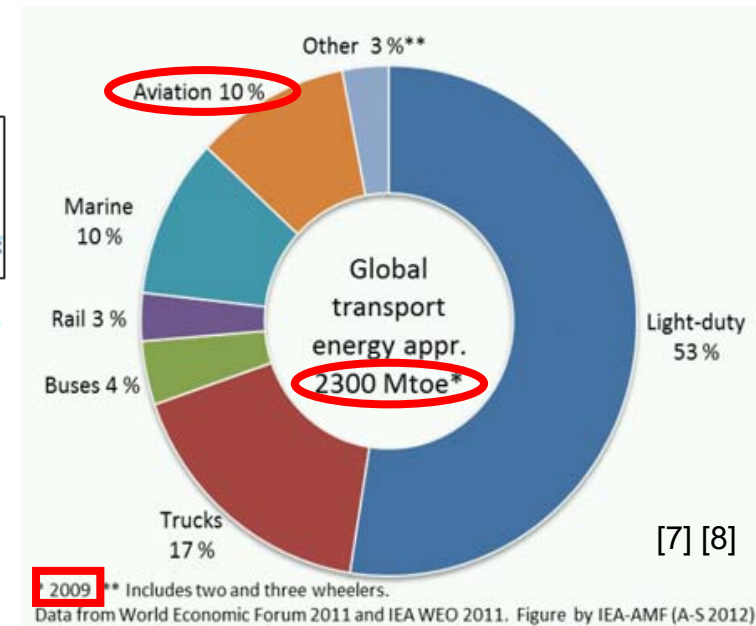
- How does this relate to **biofuel production?**

BIOREFLY Project

2,000 TON/Y INDUSTRIAL SCALE DEMONSTRATION BIOREFINERY
by 2018 ON LIGNIN-BASED AVIATION FUEL

This [6] is **0.00087 %** of global energy consumption in aviation.

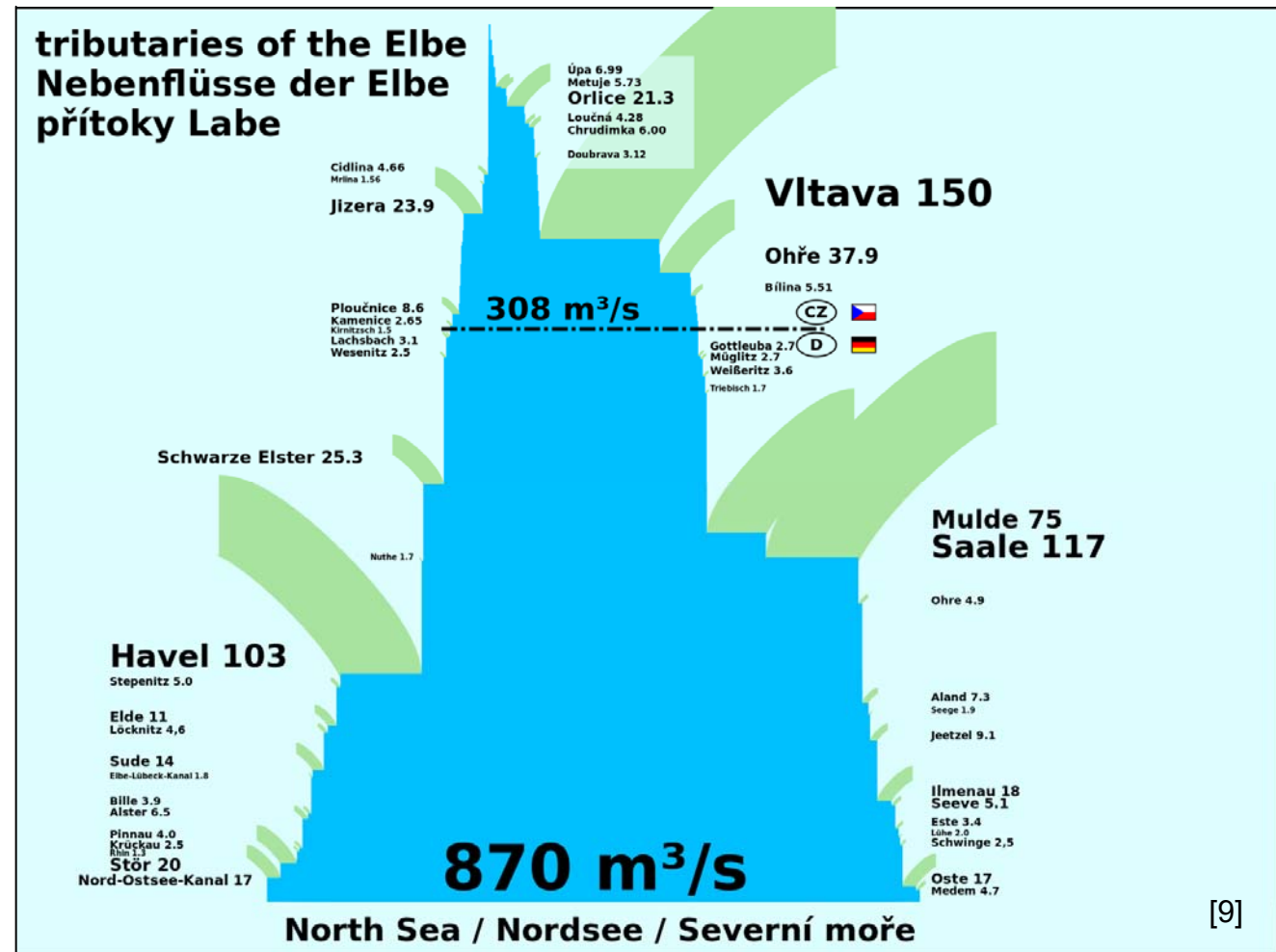
- Clearly, after peak oil (2050?) there will be **more than one energy carrier** in aviation => necessary. **Hydrogen** must be one of these energy carriers! Or we won't make it.



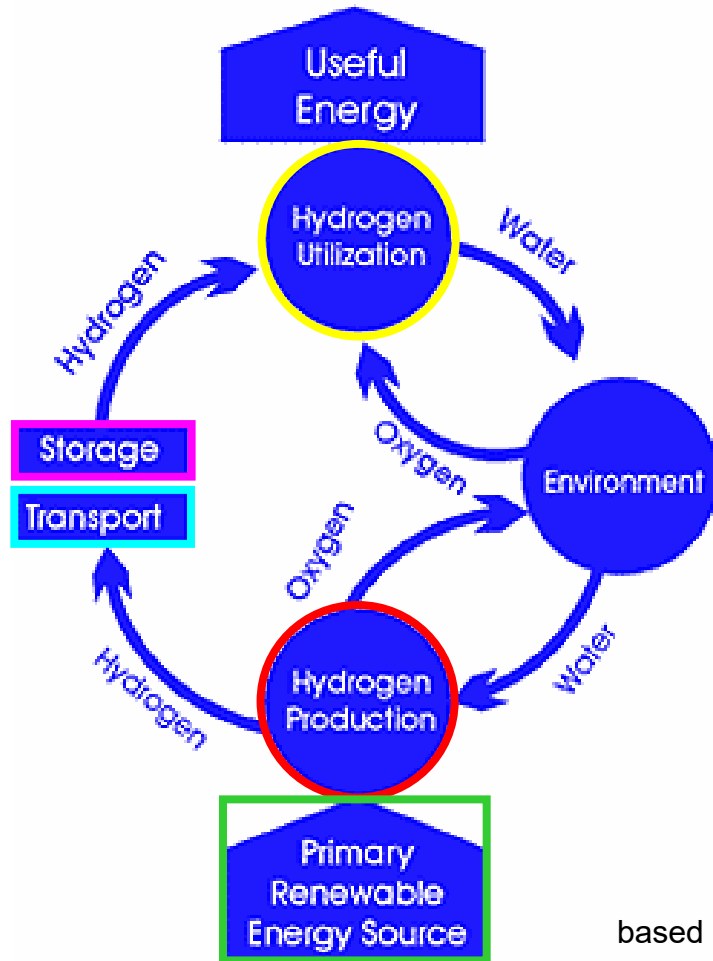
Note the Scale of the Energy Consumption in Aviation!

Global aviation
fuel consumption

9.1 m³/s is
roughly Hamburg's
water discharge
into the Elbe:



Hydrogen Life Cycle



Hydrogen Production ...

... with Natural Gas Steam Reforming

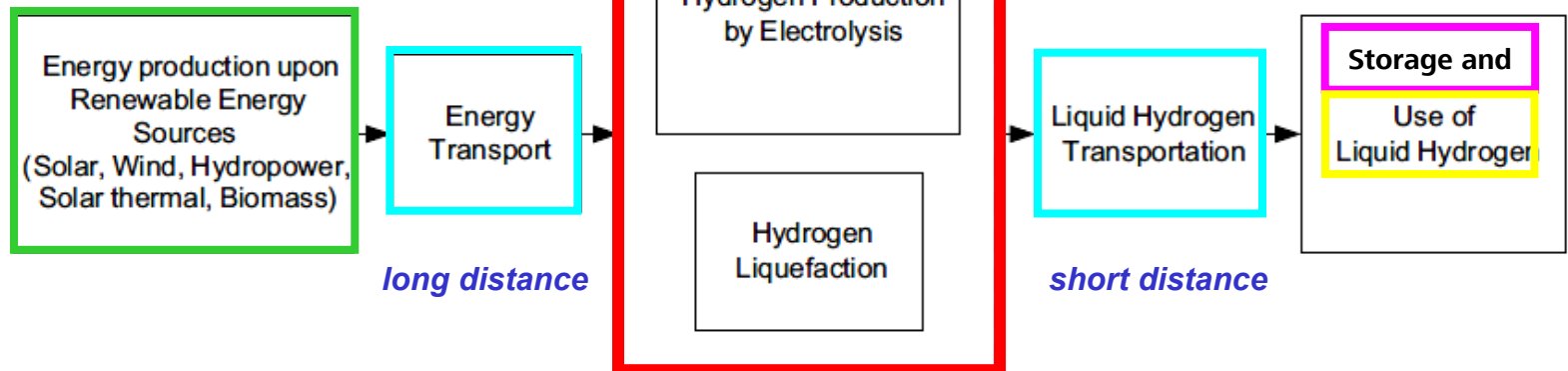
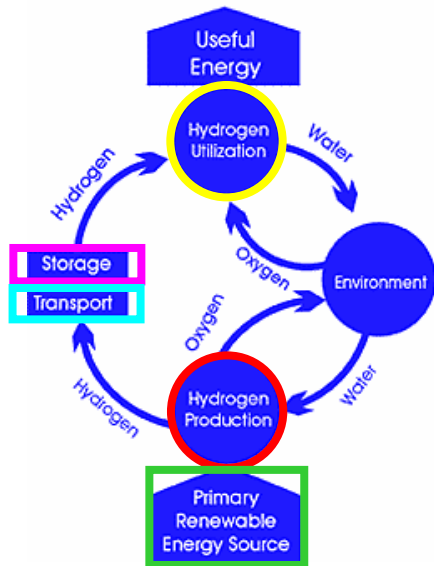
Hydrocarbons are catalytically splitted in the presence of a steam with a temperature near 900 °C. A gas is produced (syngas) mainly consists of **hydrogen** and CO. Inexpensive. Used in 97 % of the cases.

... with Renewable Energy

- # Solar energy using photovoltaics
- # Solar thermal energy
- # Wind power source
- # Hydro power source
- # Biomass energy source (Biomass gasification)

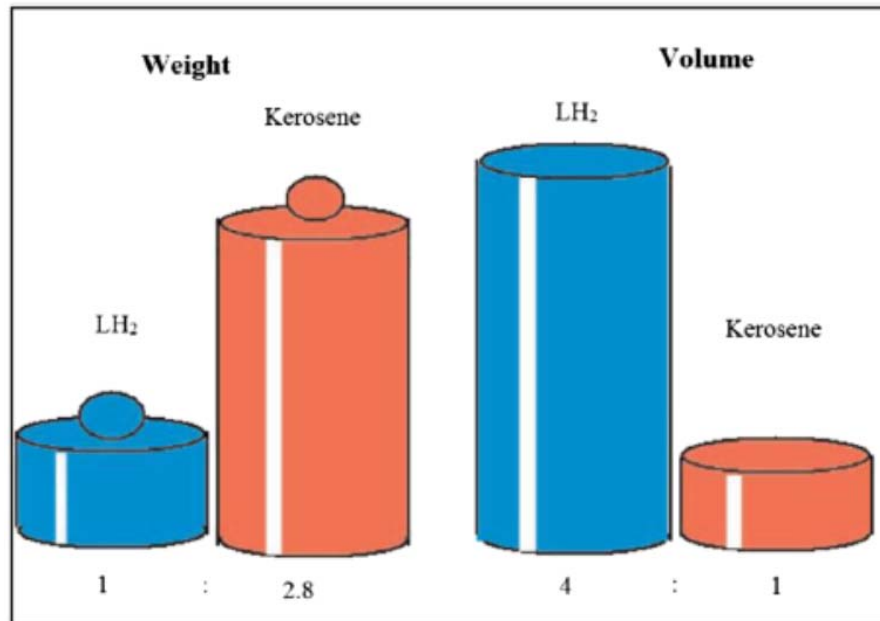
based on [10]

Hydrogen Life Cycle



Characteristics of Hydrogen – Important for Aircraft Design

- Comparison at equal energy:



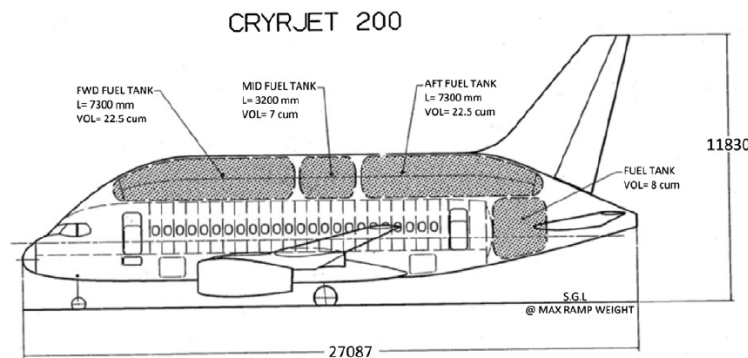
- Boil-off
- Hydrogen embrittlement (Wasserstoffversprödung) of materials

Hydrogen Aircraft Configurations

- The selection of a type of **aviation energy carrier** needs to be seen **together with the resultant aircraft configuration!**

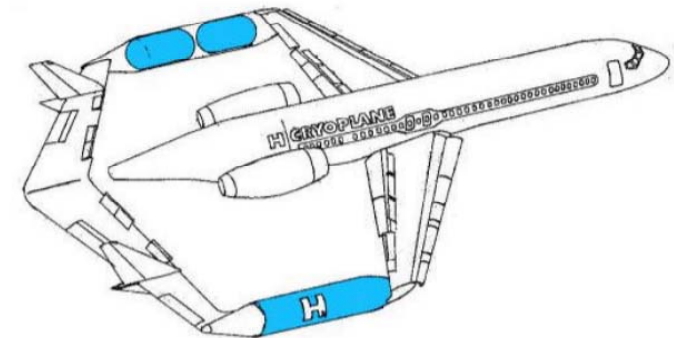


WESTENBERGER, Andreas: Liquid Hydrogen Fuelled Aircraft – System Analysis. CRYOPLANE, Final Technical Report, 2003 [3]

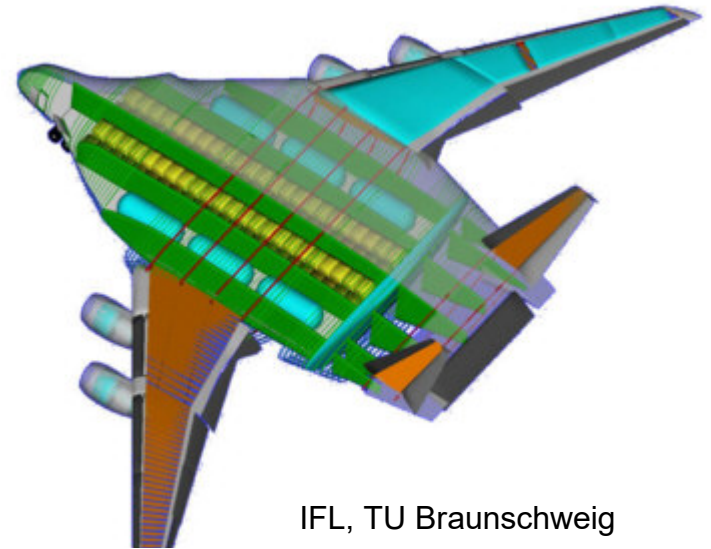
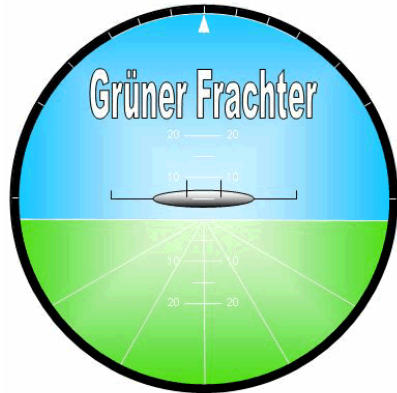


Introduction

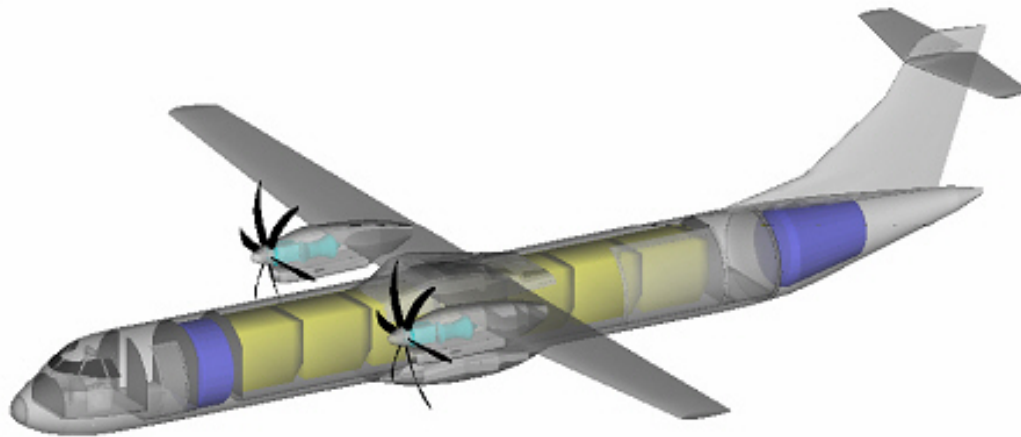
WESTENBERGER, Andreas:
Liquid Hydrogen Fuelled Aircraft –
System Analysis. CRYOPLANE, Final
Technical Report, 2003 [3]



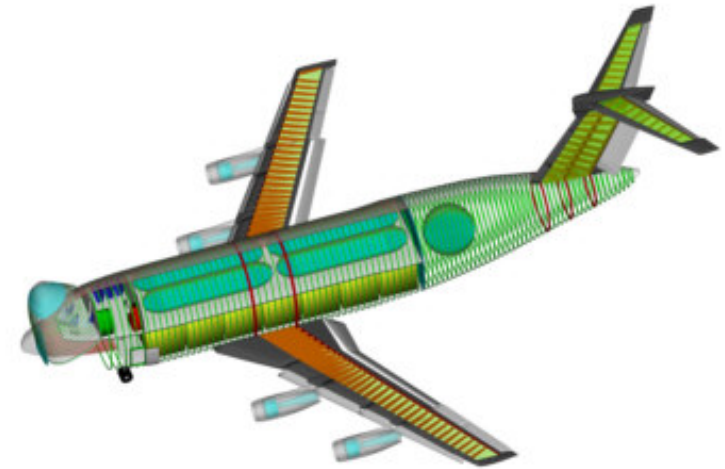
Introduction



IFL, TU Braunschweig



AERO, HAW Hamburg



Findings from CRYOPLANE

Various tank layouts appeared to be optimal depending on aircraft category. Crucial element is balancing of the aircraft's center of gravity. Due to the large and heavy tanks, aircraft empty weight will go up by some 25% compared to kerosene aircraft. However, due to the light LH2 maximum take-off weights will go down, especially with increasing fuel fraction. As a consequence of the bulky tanks the energy consumption increases as well, resulting in a 25 % increase in DOC as of today for a 1000 nm mission. When LH2 production cost drops to levels below that of kerosene, DOC's for LH2 and kerosene fuelled aircraft may reach a crossover point as far away as 2040. This is in line however with the motivation behind LH2 technology: a long-term alternative for kerosene when crude oil production comes to an end.


Erkenntnisse aus dem Projekt "Grüner Frachter"



Vorteile von LH2:

- **Fliegen bleibt auch nach dem Ende fossiler Kraftstoffe möglich!**
- Bereits heute ist die **LH2-Technologie im Flugzeug bekannt** und anwendbar.
- Die Verbrennung von Wasserstoff ist **umweltfreundlicher** als die von Kerosin.
- Wasserstoff ist leichter als Kerosin – aber Tanks schwer. MTOW sinkt leicht. **Induzierte Widerstand sinkt.**

Nachteile von LH2:

- **Herkömmliche Flugzeuge können nicht genutzt werden.**  **Doch, können – siehe dieser Vortrag!**
- Es ist eine **neue Infrastruktur am Flughafen erforderlich**: Wasserstoffproduktion, Wasserstoffverflüssigung
- Um die gleiche Nutzlast über die gleiche Reichweite zu transportieren müssen größere Unterbringungsräume für die (nahezu) zylindrischen LH2-Tanks gefunden werden. LH2-Flugzeuge sind aufgrund der großen Tanks größer und zeigen damit einen **höheren Nullwiderstand**.
- Alle untersuchten LH2-Flugzeugkonfigurationen haben leicht **höhere Betriebskosten**.
- Trotz der Isolierung der Tanks, erwärmt sich der Wasserstoff und wird teilweise wieder gasförmig.
 - # Im Flug kann dieser Wasserstoff verbraucht werden.
 - # **Am Boden** würde der Druck im Tank steigen und **Wasserstoff müsste abgeblasen werden**.
- Ein betanktes Flugzeug kann also nicht einfach so auf dem Vorfeld stehen gelassen werden. **Eine Betankung ist erst kurz vor dem Start sinnvoll.**
Der Flugbetrieb muss diesen Umstand berücksichtigen und wird damit etwas weniger flexibel.

LH2-Technology already Tested in Aviation

TU-155 was the first aircraft to fly on hydrogen already in 1988.



[11]

Hydrogen's **Show Stopper** in Aviation

Hydrogen's show stopper in aviation is the necessary **big investments**

- 1.) in new aircraft
- 2.) in new airport infrastructure
 - * liquid hydrogen production
 - * new refueling equipment at airports


In contrast:

Drop-in fuel (biofuel, synthetic fuel) needs **no investment in the aviation system**

- 1.) same aircraft
- 2.) same airport infrastructure
 - * no extra production facility at airport
 - * same refueling equipment

Hydrogen's **Show Stopper** in Aviation

Hydrogen's show stopper in aviation is the necessary **big investments**

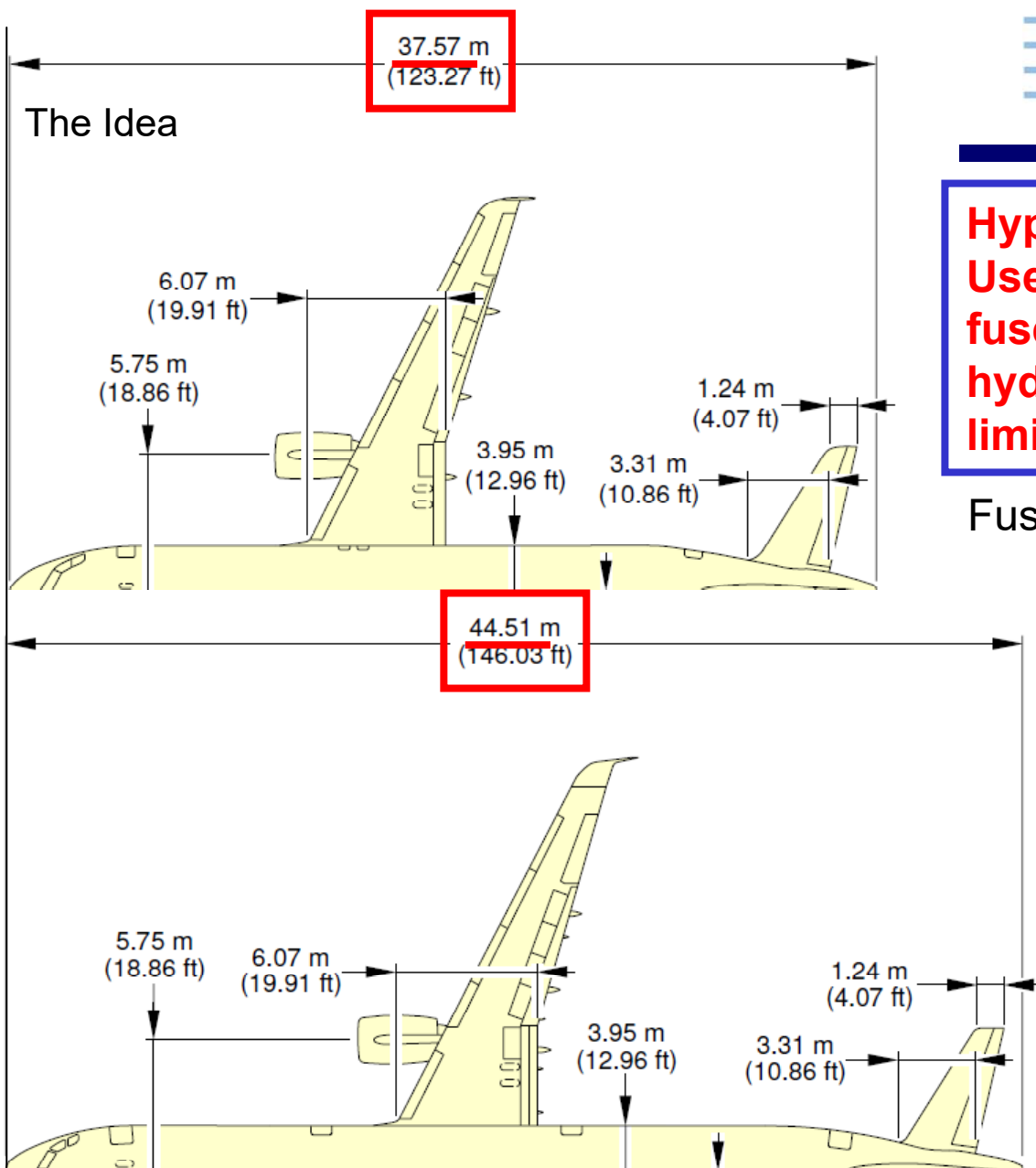
- 1.) **in new aircraft**  *Can we reduce the investment by using modified existing aircraft for the new energy carrier hydrogen?*
- 2.) in new airport infrastructure
 - * liquid hydrogen production
 - * new refueling equipment at airports

In contrast:

Drop-in fuel (biofuel, synthetic fuel) needs **no investment in the aviation system**

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The Idea

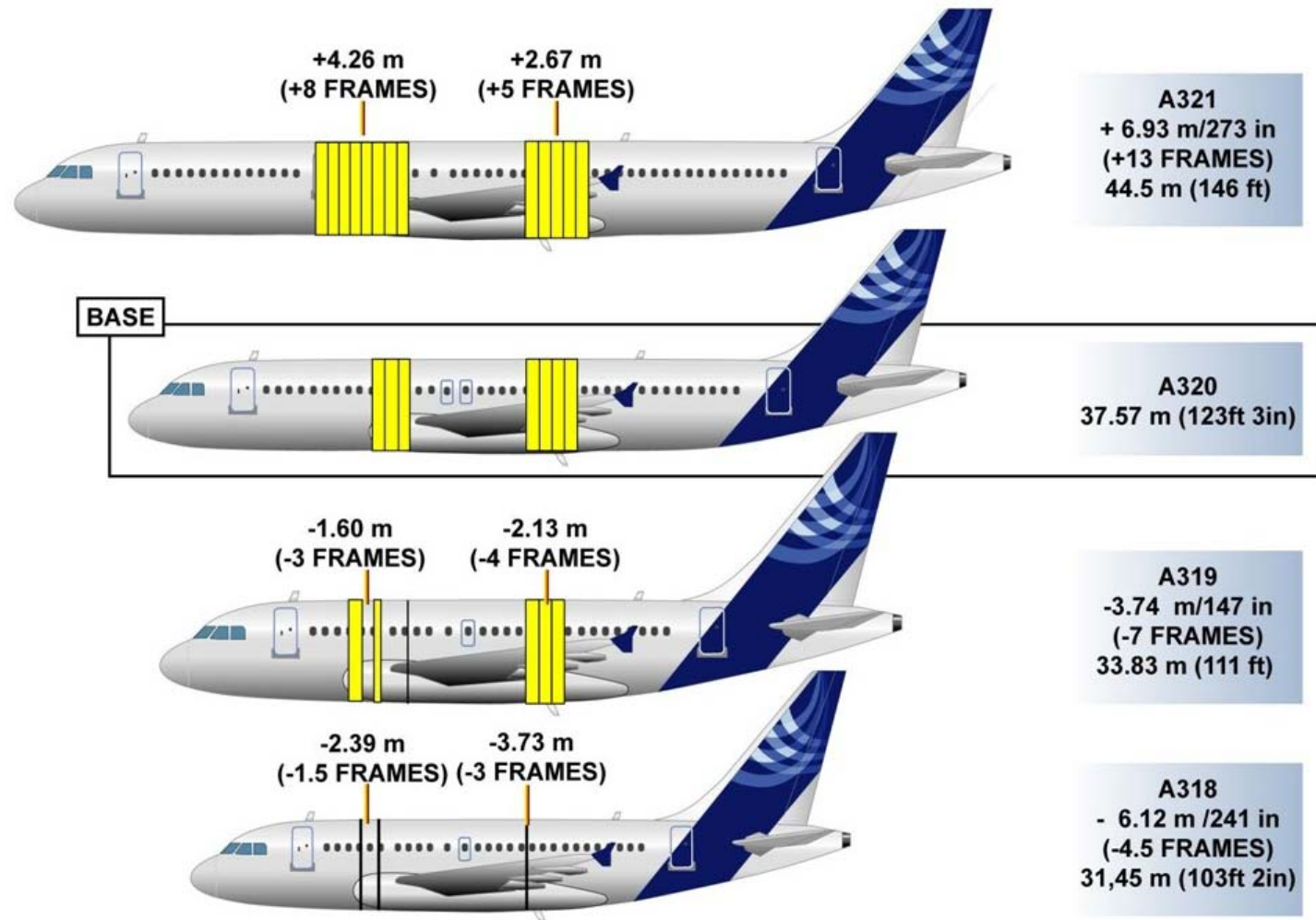


Hypothesis:
Use an existing (longer) fuselage to integrate the hydrogen tanks to limit investment!!!

Fuselage Length Compared:
A320

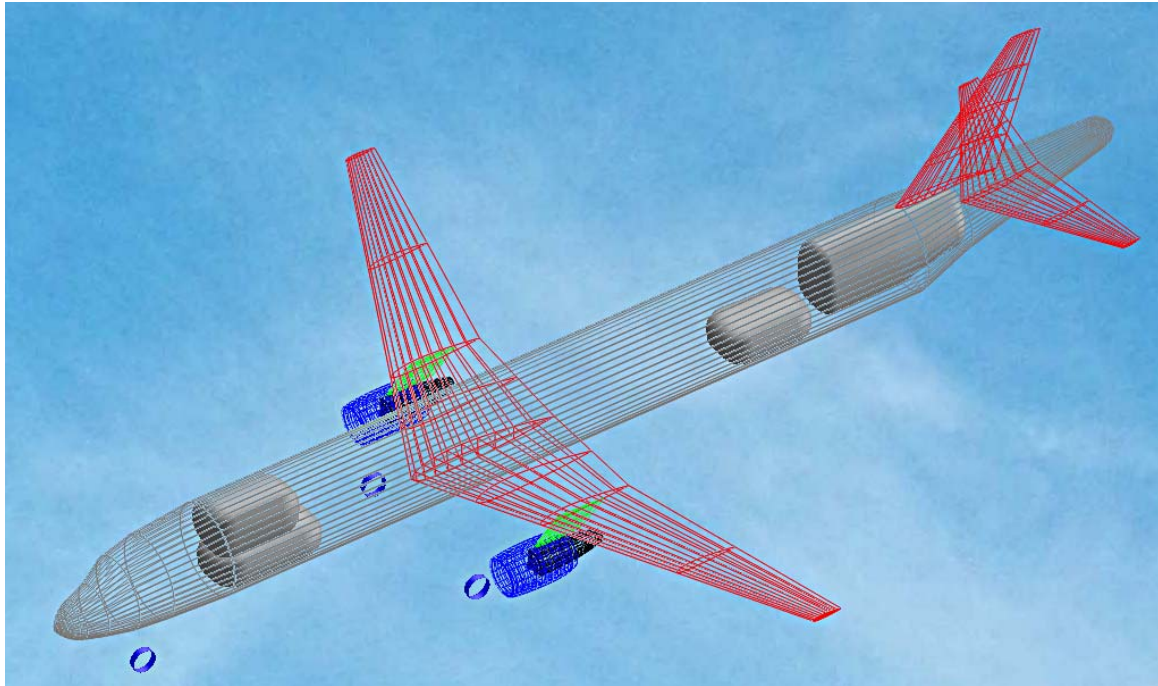
A321

A320 Family



Dimensions of the A320 family (Airbus Technical Data)

Hydrogen Storage **in** the Fuselage (Front and Rear)

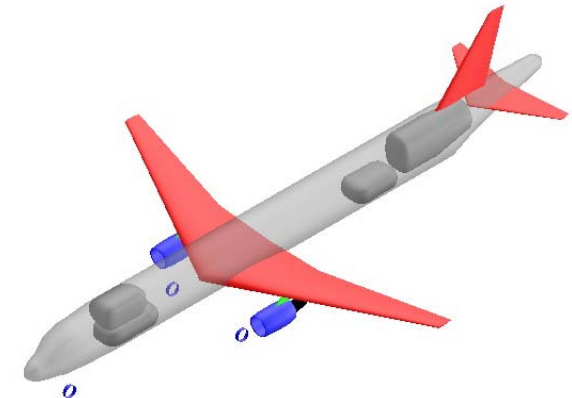


Distribution of the tank in the front and in the back to **balance CG**.

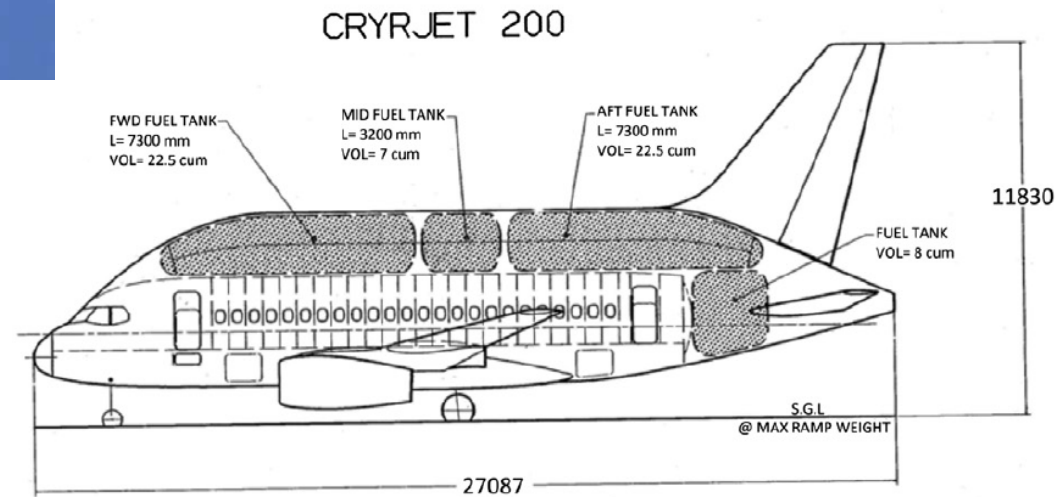
Two tanks forward and two tanks aft. Assume no double **tank failure** or aircraft robust against CG shift.

Use of some portion of the front and aft **cabin**.

Use of an even bigger portion of front and aft **cargo compartment**.



Hydrogen Storage **over** the Fuselage (Not Selected for this Project)



Aspects of Hydrogen Tank Integration

Trade-Off for Tank Location in Fuselage

Not compatible with fuselage stretch.

CONFIGURATION

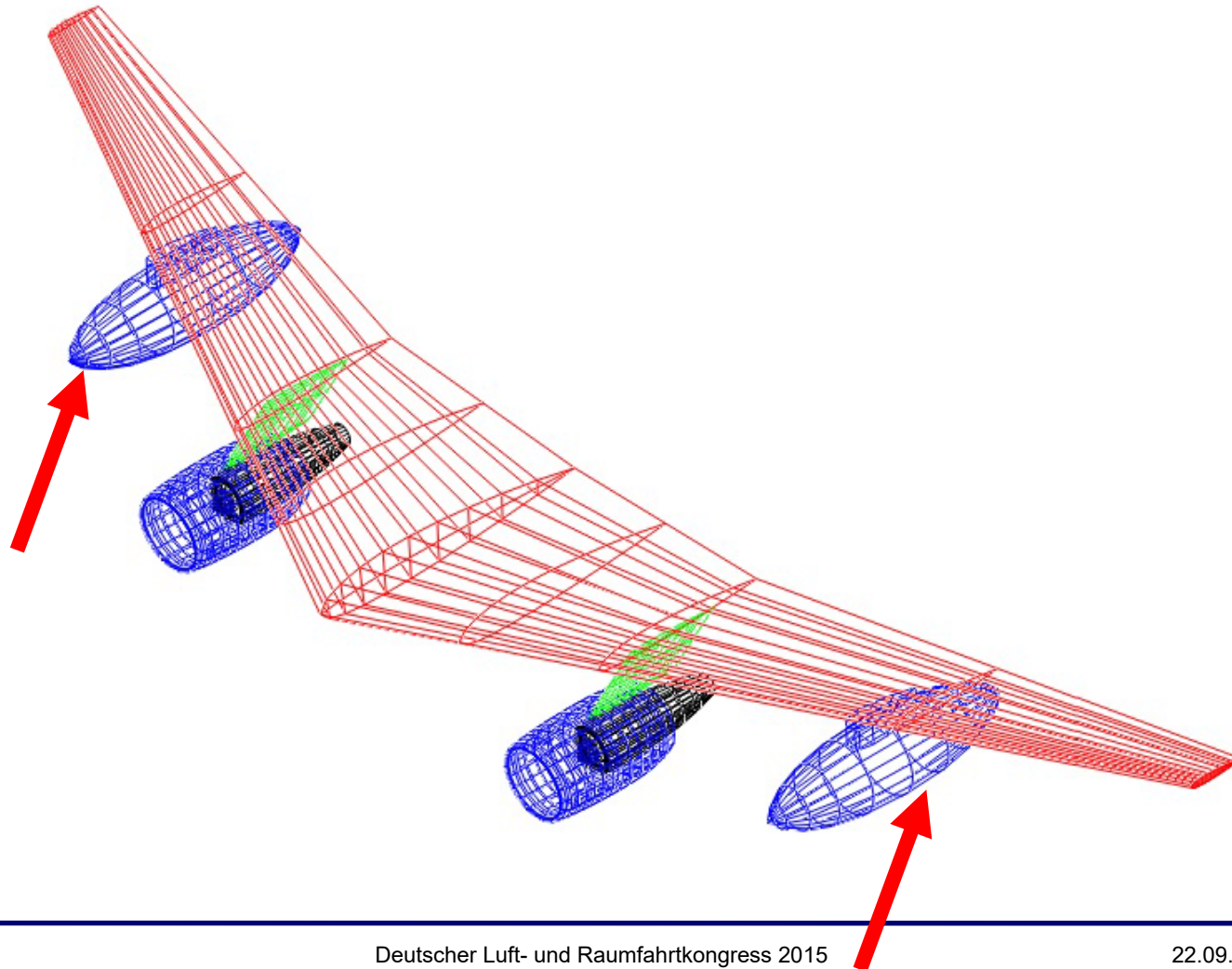
FEATURE	Over the fuselage	Front and Rear
Access for crew and passengers	3 [†]	1
Surface to volume considerations	1	3
Control of C.G.	2	3
Security in case of damage	3	2
Drag Increase	1	3
Weight increase	2	2
Manufacturing process consideration	1	3
TOTAL	13	17

Scoring Model

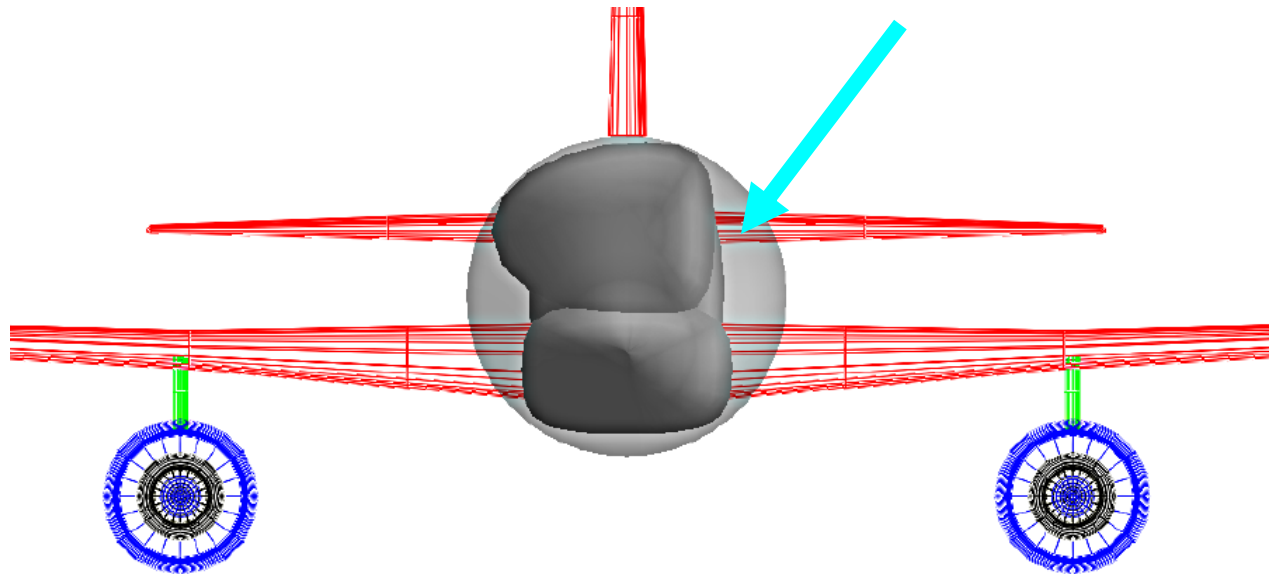
[†] 3 is High; 2 is Medium; 1 is Low

The winner!

Additional (!) Hydrogen Storage in Underwing Pods

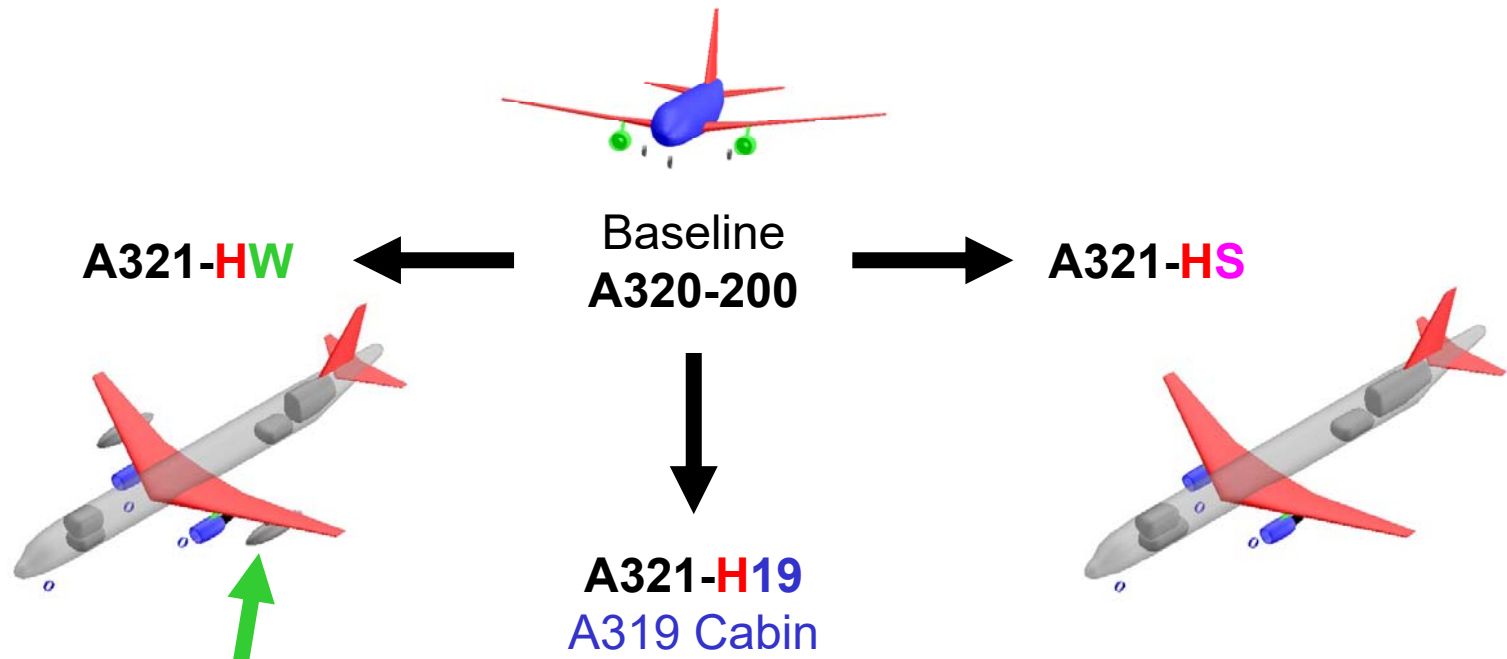


Passage Way for Cockpit Crew to Reach the Cabin



- For certification: No need for passage way (Roskam)
- Passage way selected here for convenience. But: Reduces tank volume in the front tank.
Leads to longer fuselage

Overview of Aircraft Configurations in this Study



- H:** LH2 Aircraft
- W:** A321 with additional hydrogen tanks under wing
- S:** A321 with additional stretch (to give more volume for LH2 tanks)
- 19:** A321 filled only with 156 (instead of 180) one-class passengers (more room left for LH2 tanks). Same payload & range kept

Baseline Aircraft: **A320**

List of fundamental aircraft and cabin variables with the values of the reference aircraft

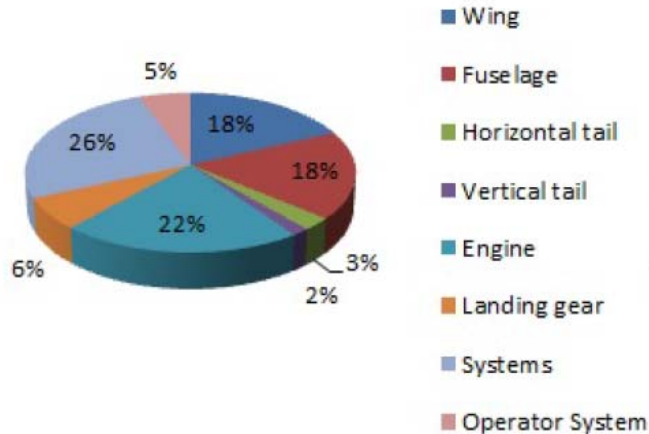
Parameter	Value
m_{MPL} [kg]	19256
R_{MPL} [NM]	1510
M_{CR}	0.76
$STOFL$ [m]	1767.8
$SLFL$ [m]	1447.8
n_{PAX}	180
m_{PAX} [kg]	93
SP [in]	29

Calculation tool adapted and used:
OPerA – Optimization in Preliminary Aircraft

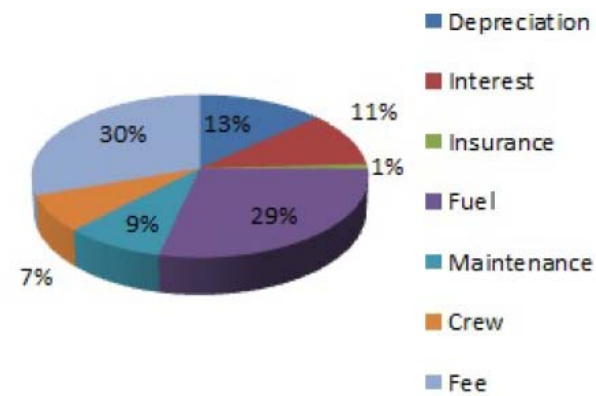
Parameter	Name	Value A320-200
Landing field length [m]	$SLFL$	1448
Take-off field length [m]	$STOFL$	1768
Max. lift coefficient, landing	$C_{L,max,L}$	3.14
Max. lift coefficient, take-off	$C_{L,max,TO}$	2.82
Mass ratio, max landing to max take-off	m_{ML}/m_{MTO}	0.88
Aspect ratio	A	9.5
Number of engines	n_E	2
Number of passengers	n_{PAX}	180
Number of seats abreast	n_{SA}	6
Wing sweep at 25 % chord [°]	ϕ_{25}	25
Taper ratio	λ	0.213
Position of the vertical tail in case of cruciform config.	z_H/b_V	0.56
Minimum distance from engine to wing over nacelle diam.	$z_{P,min}/D_N$	0.15
By-Pass ratio	BPR	6
Mach number, cruise	M_{CR}	0.76
Seat pitch [m]	SP	0.74
Aisle width [m]	w_{aisle}	0.51
Seat width [m]	w_{seat}	0.51
Armrest width [m]	$w_{armrest}$	0.051
Sidewall Clearance (at armrest) [m]	$s_{clearance}$	0.015

Baseline: Airbus A320

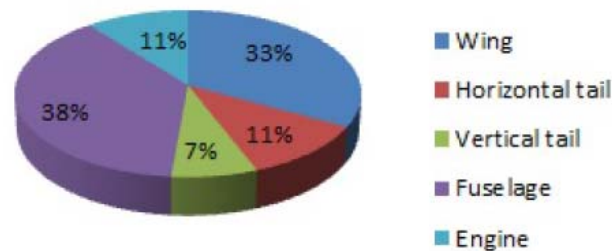
Operational Empty Mass



Direct Operating Cost

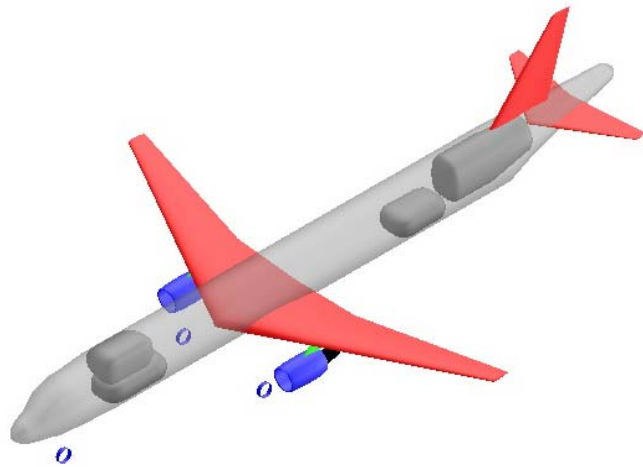


Component of Drag



Breakdown of the OEW, DOC and Drag Component for the A320-200

Comparison of A321-HS with A320-200



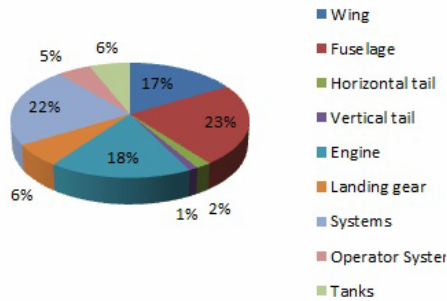
	Length [m]	Mass of tank [kg]	Mass of fuel [kg]
Rear upper tank	4.14	581.6	1600
Rear lower tank	5.24	315.4	1225
Back upper tank	6.92	1385	2874.4
Back lower tank	4.16	249.3	967.8
Total [kg]		2531.3	6667.2

Parameter	A321-HS	Variation (A320)	
m_{MTO} [kg]	73578	+1.8	
m_{OE} [kg]	47658	+18.6	
m_F [kg]	6664	-48.0	energy up 46 %
DOC (AEA) [€/NM/t]	1.68	+26.7	
DOC (TUB) [€/NM/t]	1.49	+29.3	
l_F [m]	49.4	+28.8	A321: $l_F = 44.5$ m Delta: 4.9 m
S_W [m ²]	131.1	+9.0	
$b_{W,geo}$ [m]	35.3	+4.4	
$A_{W,eff}$	9.5	0	
φ_{25} [°]	25	0	
λ	0.21	0	
E_{max}	17.6	+0.4	
T_{TO} [kN]	103.9	-5.0	
BPR	6	0	
SFC [kg/N/s]	5.79E-06	-65.0	
h_{CR} [ft]	37706	-3.0	
m_{MTO}/S_W [kg/m ²]	560.7	-6.6	

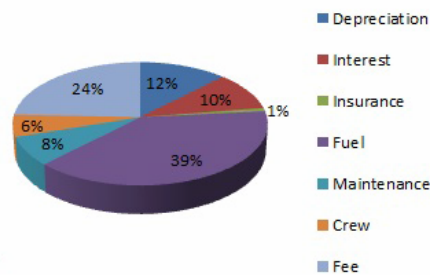
Details of the tanks for the A321-HS

Aircraft Design for Hydrogen

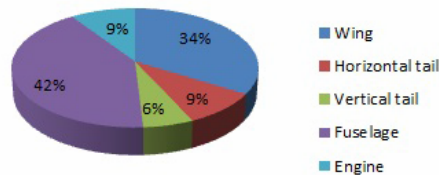
Operational Empty Mass



Direct Operating Cost

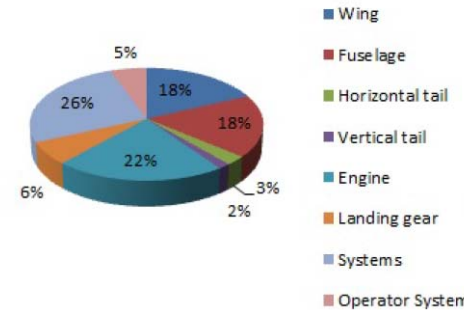


Component of Drag

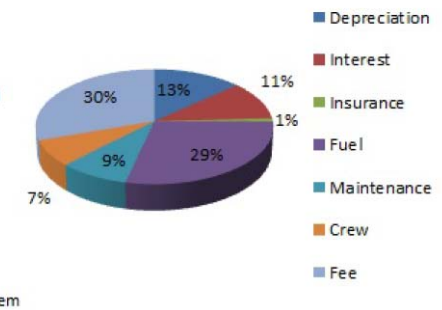


A320-200

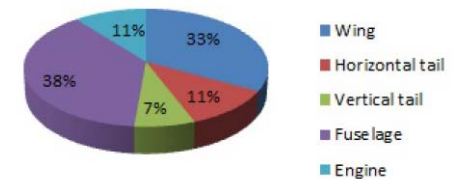
Operational Empty Mass



Direct Operating Cost



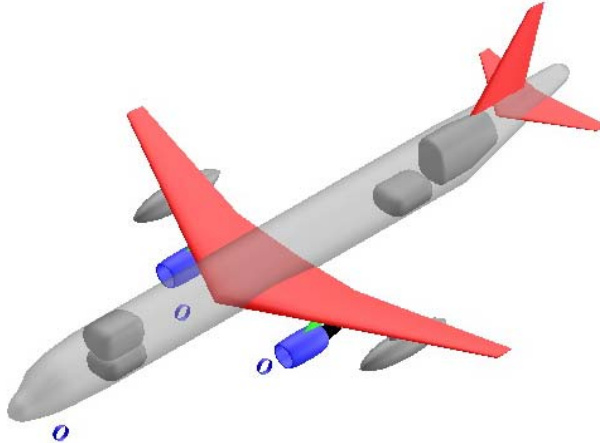
Component of Drag



A321-HS

Breakdown of the OEW, DOC and Drag Component

Comparison of A321-HW with A320-200

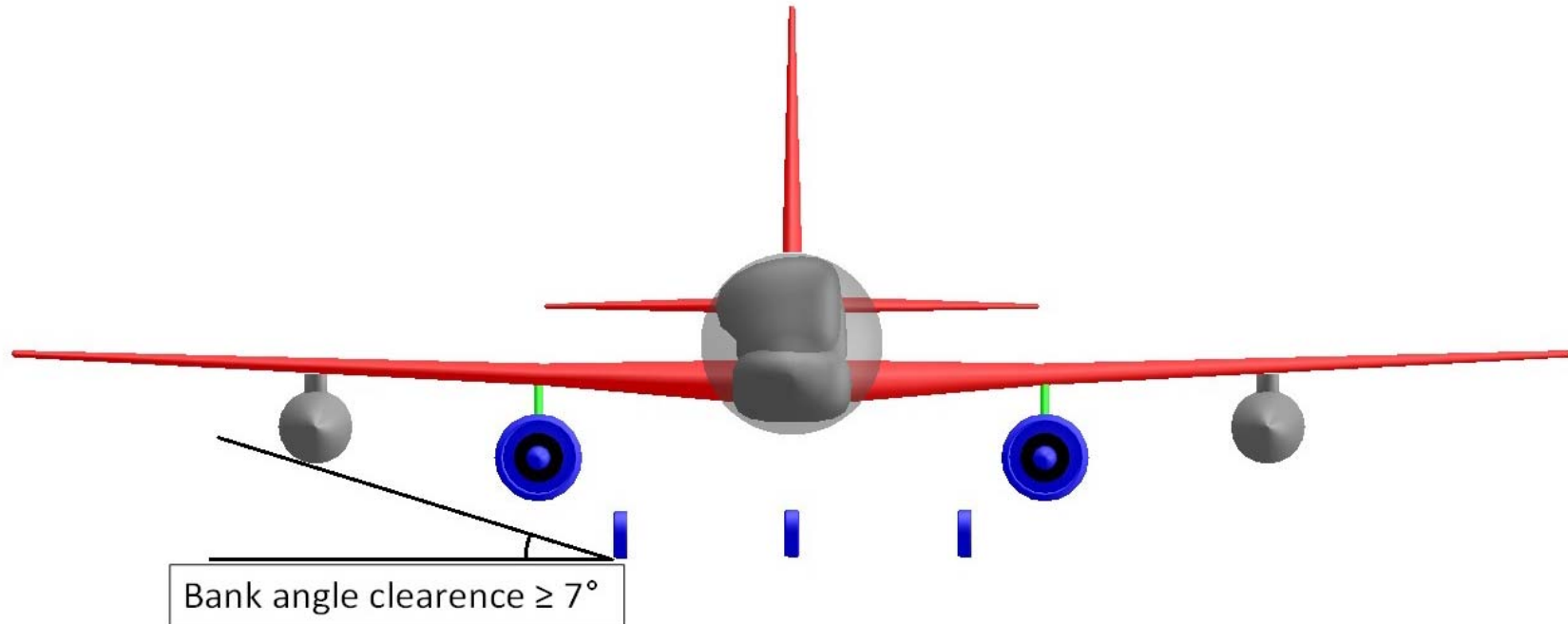


	Length [m]	Mass of tank [kg]	Mass of fuel [kg]
Rear upper tank	3.5	484.7	1333.5
Rear lower tank	3.5	207.7	805.3
Back upper tank	3.5	692.4	1300
Back lower tank	3.5	207.7	805.3
Wing tanks	6	880	2345
Total [kg]		2472.5	6589.1

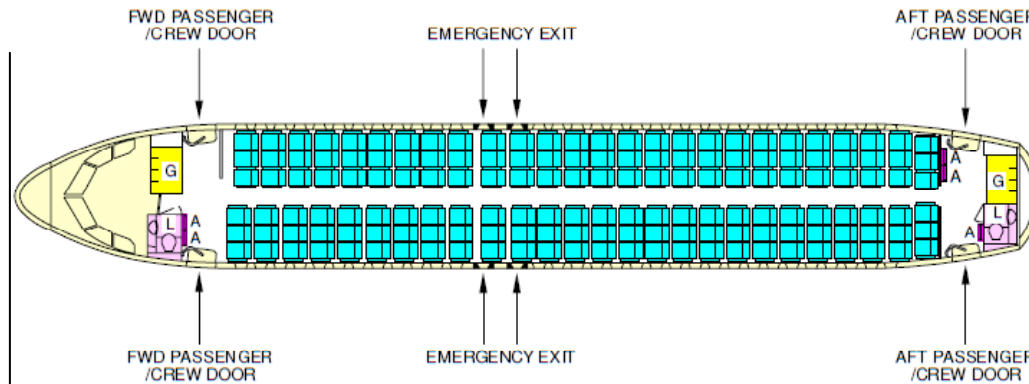
Parameter	A321-HW	Variation (A320)	
m_{MTO} [kg]	70716	-2.2	
m_{OE} [kg]	44871	+11.6	
m_F [kg]	6588	-48.6	energy up 44 %
DOC (AEA) [€/NM/t]	1.63	+23.3	
DOC (TUB) [€/NM/t]	1.45	+25.9	
l_F [m]	45.2	+18.0	A321: $l_F = 44.5$ m Delta: 0.7 m
S_W [m ²]	126.1	+4.8	
$b_{W,geo}$ [m]	34.6	+2.4	
$A_{W,eff}$	9.5	0	
ϕ_{25} [°]	25	0	
λ	0.21	0	
E_{max}	16.9	-3.9	
T_{TO} [kN]	99.8	-8.8	
BPR	6	0	
SFC [kg/N/s]	5.82E-06	-64.8	
h_{CR} [ft]	36720	-5.6	
m_{MTO}/S_W [kg/m ²]	560.7	-6.6	

Details of the tanks for the A321-HW

Aircraft Design for Hydrogen

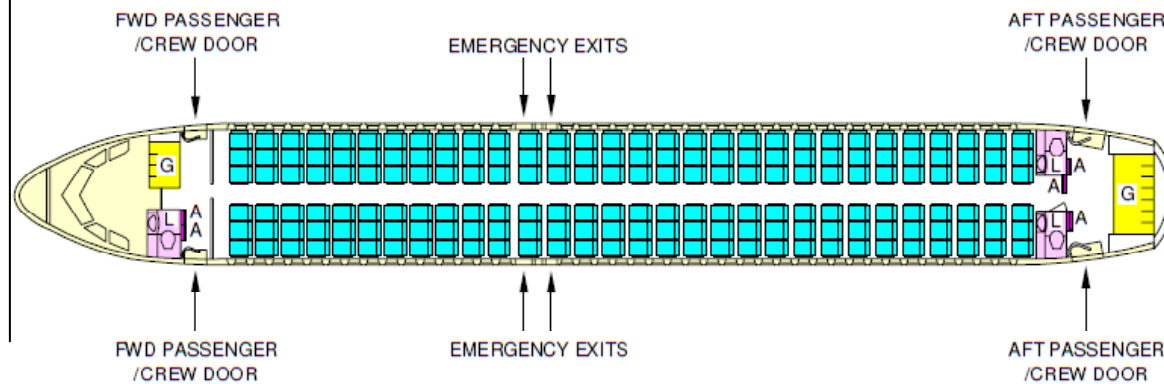


Bank angle clearance for the wing tanks of A321-HW



ITEM	DESIGNATION
G	GALLEY (2)
L	LAVATORY (2)
A	ATTENDANT SEAT (5)

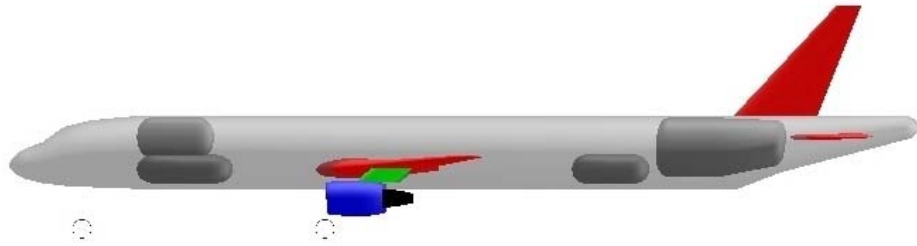
156 SEATS ALL TOURIST CLASS
28/30 in PITCH. 6 ABREAST. 3.3



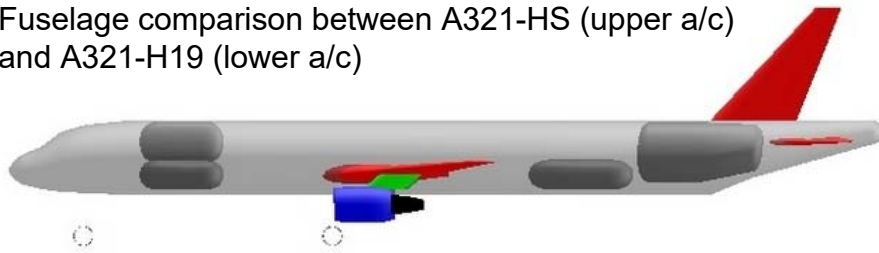
ITEM	DESIGNATION
G	GALLEY (2)
L	LAVATORY (3)
A	ATTENDANT SEAT (5)

180 SEATS ALL TOURIST CLASS
28/29 in PITCH. 6 ABREAST. 3.3

Comparison of A321-H19 with A320-200



Fuselage comparison between A321-HS (upper a/c) and A321-H19 (lower a/c)



Parameter	A321-H19	Variation (A320)
m_{MTO} [kg]	70916	-1.9
m_{OE} [kg]	45208	+12.5
m_F [kg]	6443	-49.7
DOC (AEA) [€/NM/t]	1.78	+34.9
DOC (TUB) [€/NM/t]	1.61	+39.8
l_F [m]	46.2	+20.5
S_W [m ²]	126.5	+5.1
$b_{W,geo}$ [m]	34.7	+2.5
$A_{W,eff}$	9.5	0
φ_{25} [°]	25	0
λ	0.21	0
E_{max}	17.6	+0.3
T_{TO} [kN]	100.2	-8.4
BPR	6	0
SFC [kg/N/s]	5.82E-06	-64.8
h_{CR} [ft]	37676	-3.1
m_{MTO}/S_W [kg/m ²]	560.7	-6.6

energy up 41 %

A321: $l_F = 44.5$ m
Delta: 1.7 m

If DOC are based on A319:
DOC (AEA) +17%
DOC (TUB) +21%

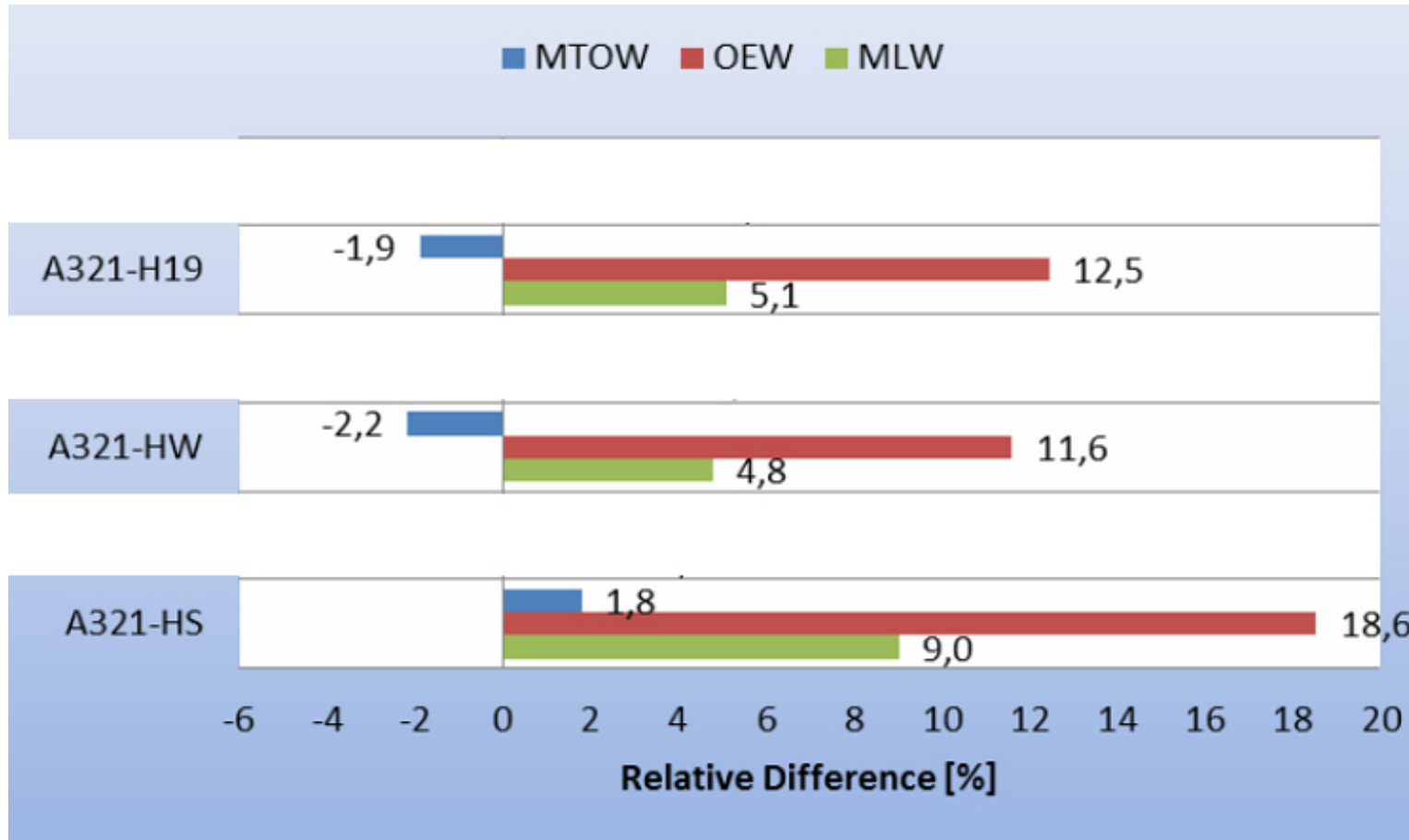
	Length [m]	Mass of tank [kg]	Mass of fuel [k]
Rear upper tank	4.36	612.5	1685
Rear lower tank	4.36	262.5	1017
Back upper tank	6.54	1312.5	2462
Back lower tank	5.47	329.5	127
Total [kg]		2517	6442

Details of the tanks for the A321-H19

Overall Comparison

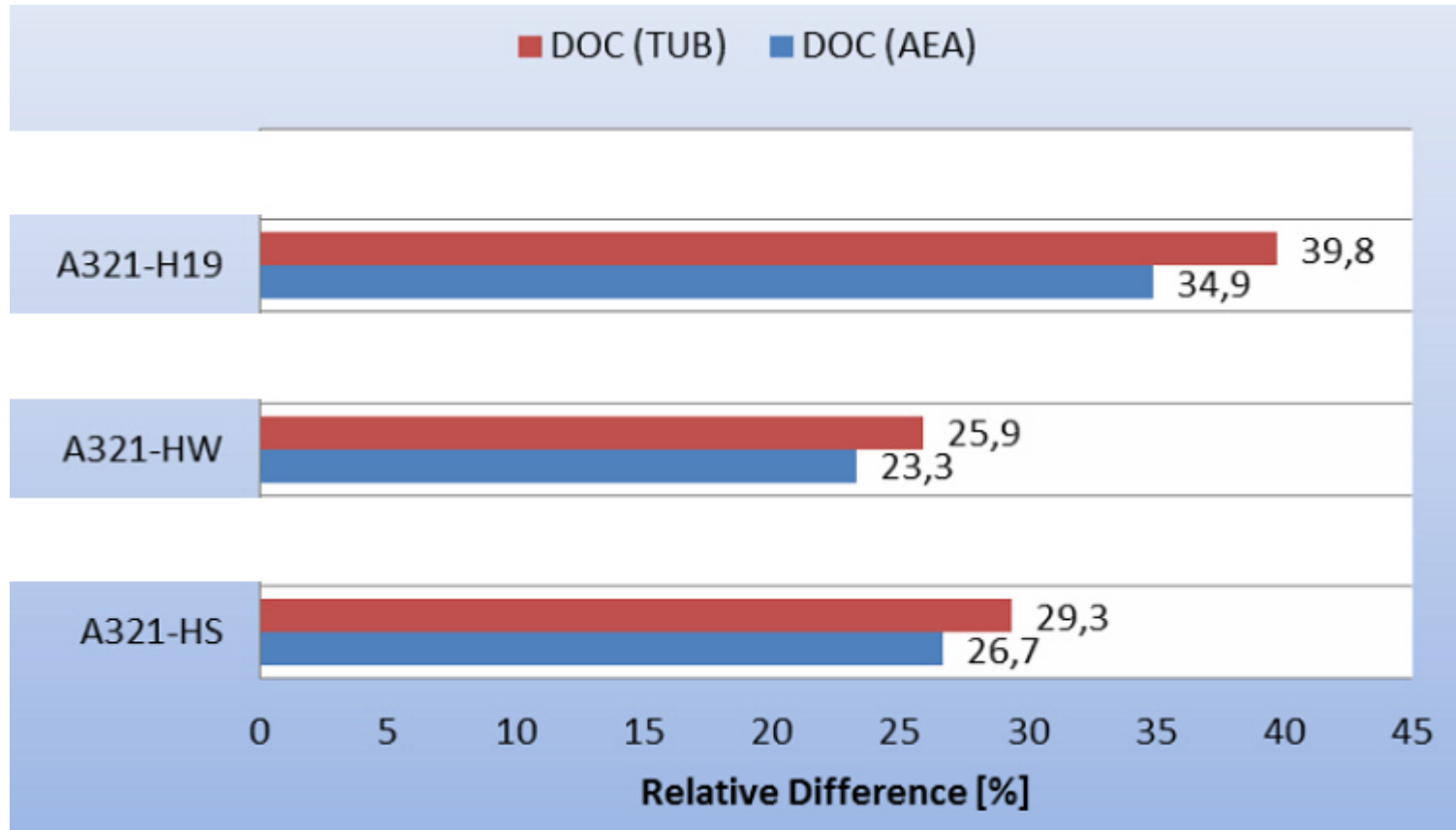
	A320-200	A321-HS	A321-HW	A321-H19	
l_F [m]	38.4	49.4	45.2	46.2	A321: $l_F = 44.5$ m
m_{MTO} [kg]	72274	73578	70716	70916	
m_{OE} [kg]	40199	47658	44871	45208	
m_{ML} [kg]	63457	69164	66473	66661	
m_F [kg]	12819	6664	6588	6443	
E_{max}	17.5	17.6	16.9	17.6	
T_{TO} [kN]	109.4	103.9	99.8	100.2	
BPR	6	6	6	6	
SFC [kg/N/s]	1.65E-05	5.79E-06	5.82E-06	5.82E-06	
m_T [kg]	-	2531	2473	2517	
n_{PAX}	180	180	180	156	
DOC [€/NM/t]	1.32	1.68	1.63	1.78	
DOC [€/NM/t]	1.15	1.49	1.45	1.61	

Overall Comparison



Comparison of MTOW, OEW, MLW related to the original A320-200

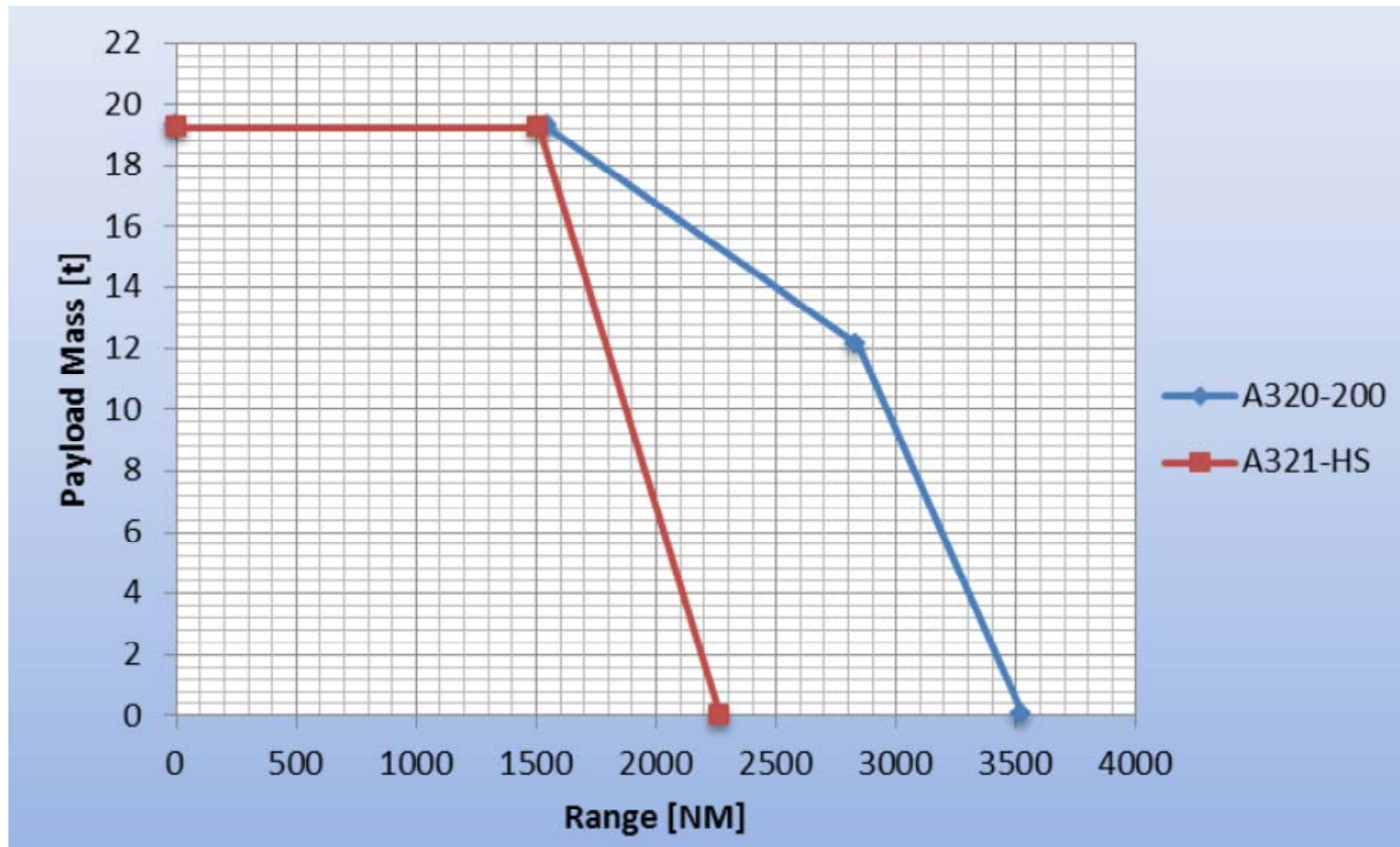
Overall Comparison



If DOC are based on A319:
DOC (AEA) +17%
DOC (TUB) +21%

Comparison of DOC related to the original A320-200

Overall Comparison



Payload-Range diagram comparison between a kerosene and a hydrogen-fueled aircraft

Conclusions

News where at one time distributed via Newspapers –

- then via Newspapers and Radio,
- then via Newspapers and Radio and TV,
- then via Newspapers and Radio and TV and Internet,
- ...

We will say: Aircraft flew at one time with Kerosene –

- then with Kerosene and Drop-In Fuel,
- then with Kerosene and Drop-In Fuel and Hydrogen,
- ...

The question will NOT be **one or the other energy carrier?**, but
what mixture of energy carriers for the aviation system?



Hydrogen as Future Fuel Used in Minimum Change Derivatives of the Airbus A321

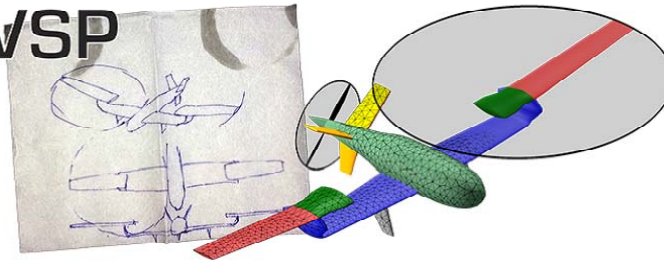
Contact:

Info@ProfScholz.de

<http://AERO.ProfScholz.de>

Aircraft Sketches Done with **OpenVSP** (NASA) and **OpenVSP-Connect** (HAW Hamburg)

OpenVSP



OpenVSP.ProfScholz.de

vehicle sketch pad

join us

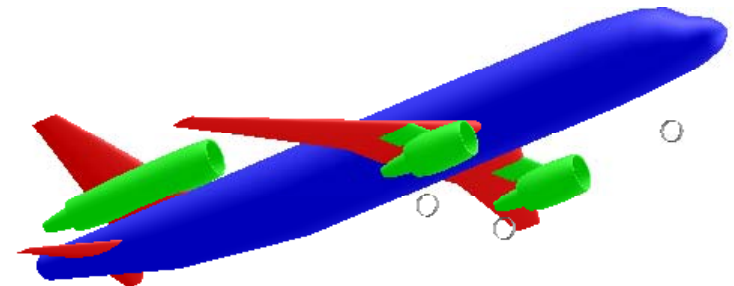
innovate

analyze

get it

NASA open source parametric geometry

www.openVSP.org



This presentation is strongly based on the coauthor's thesis:

DIB, Leon: *The Aviation Fuel and the Passenger Aircraft for the Future – Hydrogen*. Master Thesis. Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Aircraft Design and Systems Group (AERO), 2015. – Download: <http://library.ProfScholz.de>

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- [2] The Davis Enterprise: *Dan Brewer, 93, Really is a Rocket Scientist*. Yolo County News. 2012-04-04. – URL: <http://www.davisenterprise.com/special-editions/dan-brewer-93-really-is-a-rocket-scientist>
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- [11] VanZON, Nout: Liquid Hydrogen Powered Commercial Aircraft. Technical University of Delft, Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, 2012. – <http://www.noutvanzon.nl/files/documents/spaceforinnovation.pdf>

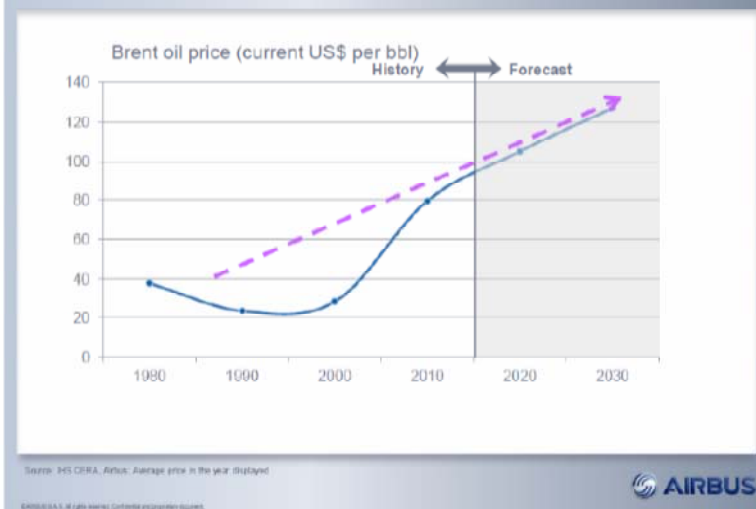


Price Increase of Kerosene

Aircraft Design &
Aero Structures

- ▶ The increase of kerosene price in the future is predicted by Airbus to be linear: 2 US\$/bbl/year
- ▶ Barrel: 1bbl (US) = 159 l; 1,3 US\$/€; 0,8 kg/l
- ▶ Future fuel price: current fuel price (2013: 0,53 €/kg) plus price increase

High oil prices here for the long-term



0.012 €/kg/year

J. LEAHY. *Navigating the Future*. Global Market Forecast 2012-2031.
Airbus, 2012

D. Scholz

05.11.2013

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