

Enabling Cryogenic Hydrogen-Based CO₂-free Air Transport (ENABLEH2)



*Hamburg Aerospace Lecture Series
Hamburger Luft- und Raumfahrtvorträge*

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Cranfield University



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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4747806>

RAeS Hamburg in cooperation with the DGLR, HAW, VDI, & ZAL invites you to a lecture

Enabling Cryogenic Hydrogen-Based CO₂-Free Air Transport

Dr Bobby Sethi, Associate Professor in

Gas Turbine Combustion and Environmental Impact, Cranfield University

Date:

Thursday 6 May 2021, 18:00 CEST

Online:

<http://purl.org/ProfScholz/zoom/2021-05-06>

Lecture followed by discussion
No registration required !
Online Zoom lecture



Greening civil aviation is key to our global future. So radical aircraft propulsion technologies must be developed urgently. Most likely to succeed in this grand challenge (promising full decarbonisation) are hydrogen (H₂) and electrification. H₂ is an inevitable solution for a fully sustainable aviation future, via hybrid/fuel cell technologies for short to medium range and H₂ combustion in gas turbines for longer missions.

This presentation will provide an overview of the ongoing EU H2020 “ENABLING Cryogenic Hydrogen-Based CO₂-free Air Transport” (ENABLEH2) project being coordinated by Cranfield University. The case for LH₂ for civil aviation will be discussed followed by the strategic importance and overall scope of ENABLEH2. A summary of the key achievements to date will be presented for the ENABLEH2 research on: Ultra-low NO_x hydrogen micromix combustion; Fuel system heat management – to exploit the formidable heat sink potential of LH₂; Safety and LH₂ Aircraft “Technology Evaluation”

Upon completion of his PhD, Bobby joined the School of Engineering as a Research Fellow and was promoted to Lecturer in 2012. In 2019 he became Deputy Director of Research, School of Aerospace, Transport & Manufacturing and in 2020 he also became Associate Professor in Gas Turbine Combustion and Environmental Impact. He is currently Overall Project Coordinator and CU Principal Investigator for the ~ €4M EU H2020 “ENABLING Cryogenic Hydrogen-Based CO₂-free Air Transport” ENABLEH2 project (20+ key EU civil aviation stakeholders – partners and industry advisory board members).

HAW/DGLR
RAeS
VDI

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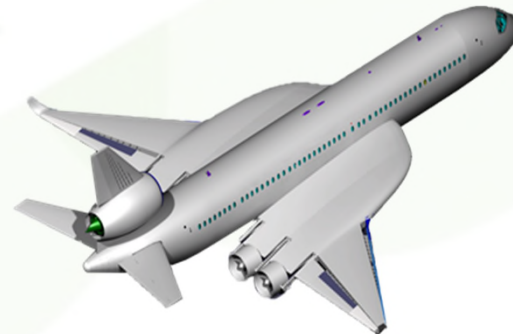
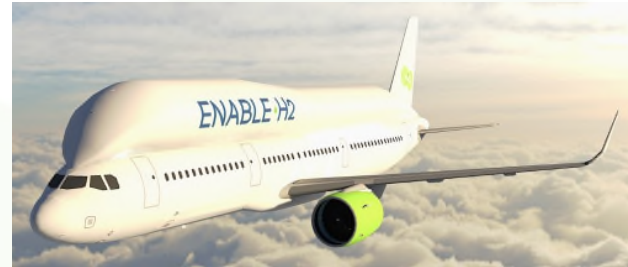
DGLR Bezirksgruppe Hamburg
RAeS Hamburg Branch
ZAL TechCenter
VDI Hamburg, Arbeitskreis L&R

<https://hamburg.dglr.de>
<https://www.raes-hamburg.de>
<https://www.zal.aero>
<https://www.vdi.de>



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- The Case for LH₂ for Civil Aviation
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 - WP3: Hydrogen Micromix Combustion
 - WP4: Safety
 - WP5: Roadmapping, Thought Leadership and Impact



SAFRAN Group, Isikveren and Turnbull

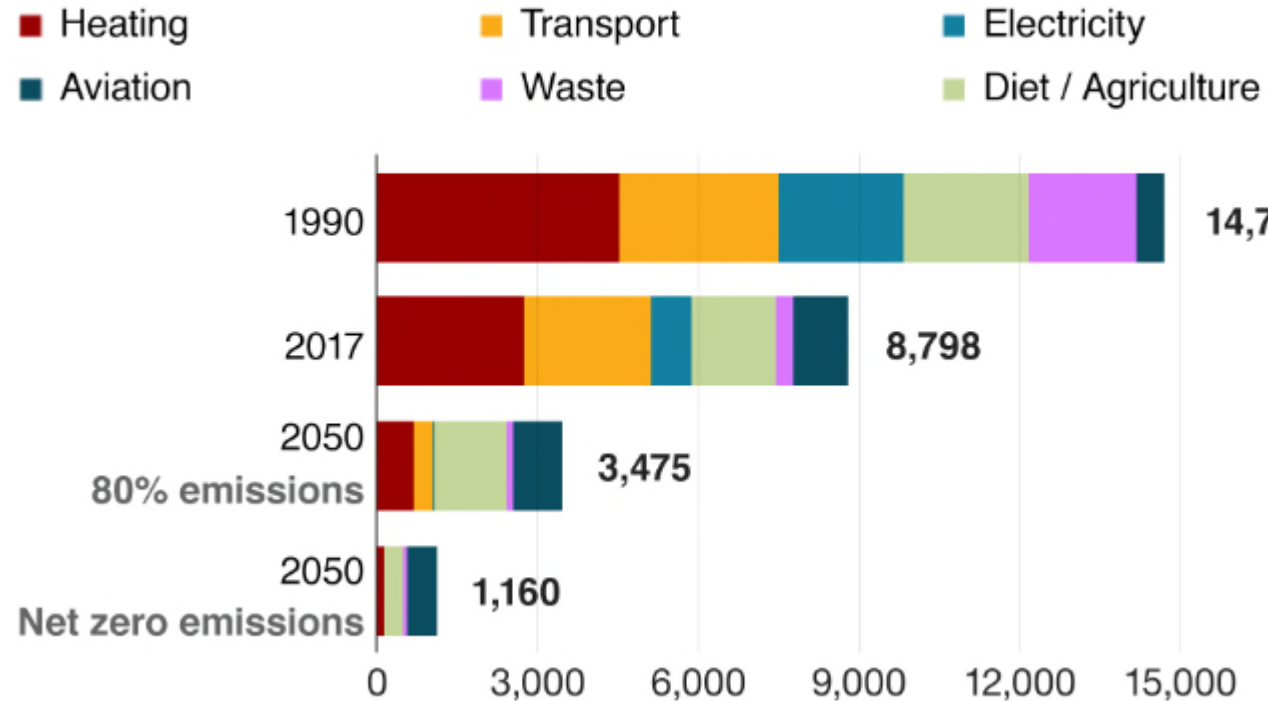


<https://www.enableh2.eu>

ENABLEH2 Strategic Importance: The need to Decarbonise Civil Aviation

Household emissions in 1990, 2017 and 2050

Annual emissions, kilogrammes of CO2



Source: Climate Change Committee/BEIS (2019)



Don't curtail flying!

Example: Barbados – 45% of GDP is tourism

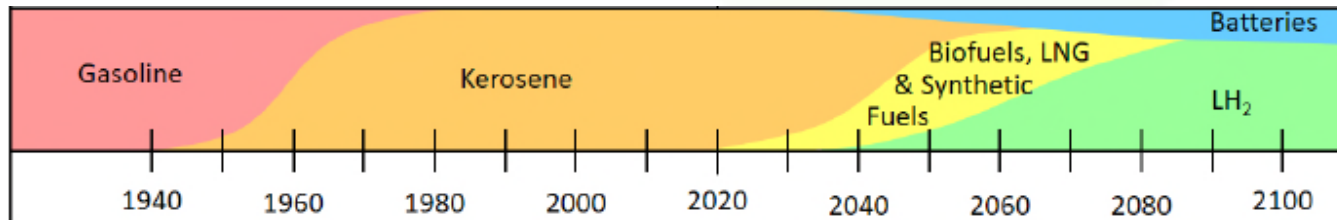
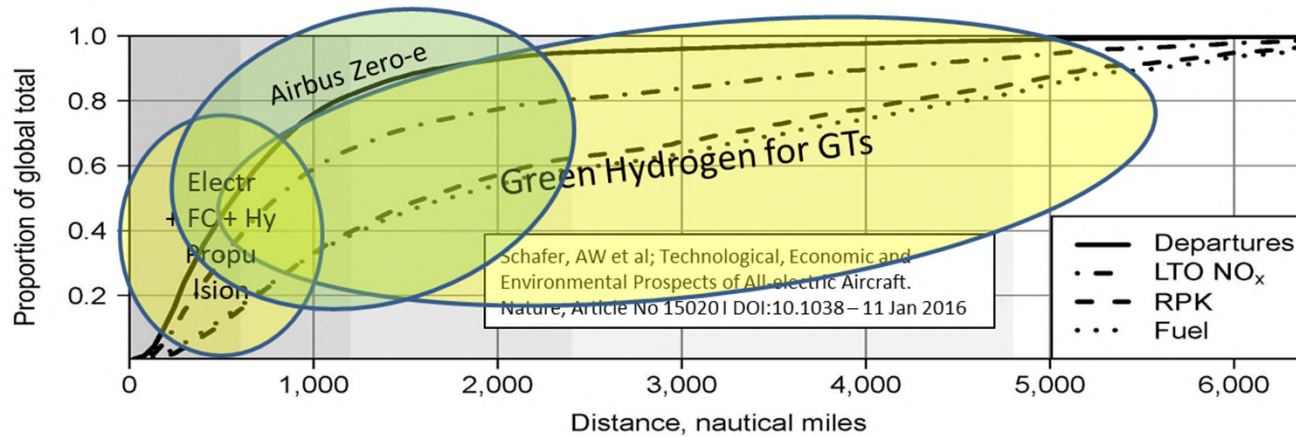
Technology investments to protect the environment AND wealth generation

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-48122911>

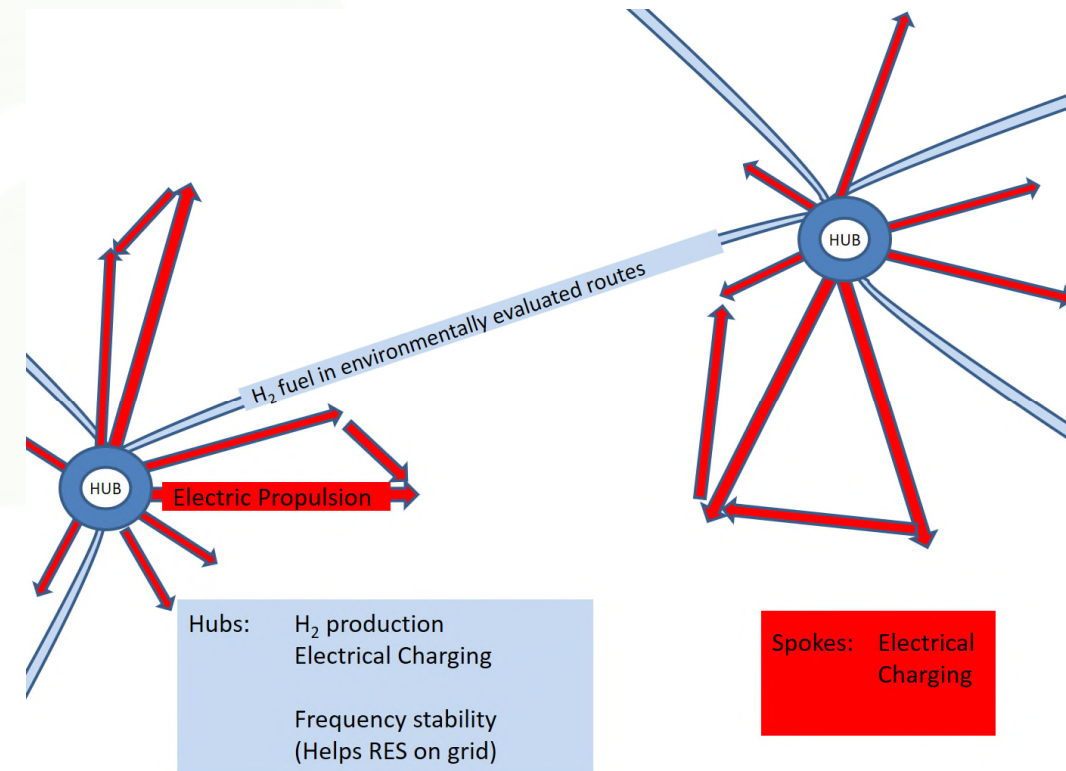
CU Research Strategy “Decarbonising Aviation”

Decarbonisation Portfolio

Opportunities for Decarbonisation and CU’s Vision for the Route Towards Decarbonisation

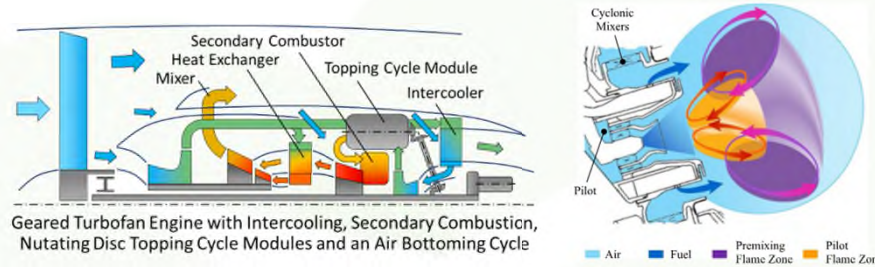


Judicious synergy between Electrification and Hydrogen



- Synergies with other industries e.g. power generation from renewables (frequency balancing in grids)

ENABLEH2 Strategic Importance



ENABLE H2

Disruptive propulsion, aircraft and electrical technologies to improve propulsive efficiency and overall airframe and engine integration

Disruptive propulsion core technologies for enhancing thermal efficiency and reducing NOx

LH₂ is a key ENABLER for many of these advanced aircraft, propulsion system and more electrical disruptive technologies

CO₂ ↓, CO ↓, UHC ↓, Soot ↓ NOx ↓,
Environmental Impact ↓

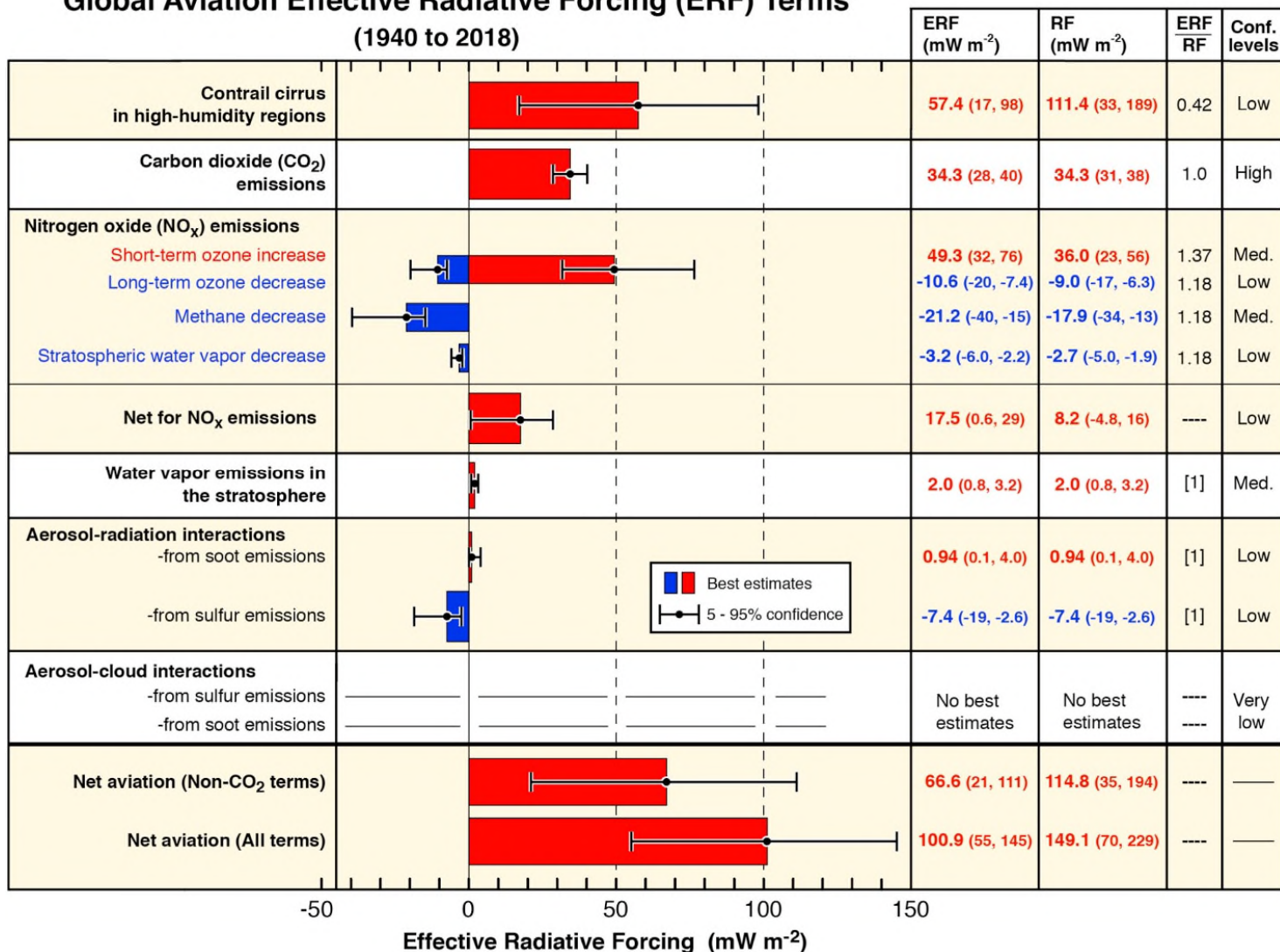
~~CO₂, CO, UHC, Soot~~, NOx ↓ ↓ ↓,
Mission Fuel Burn ↓ ↓ ↓
Environmental Impact ↓ ↓ ↓
(with appropriate mission management and LH₂ production methods)

Images courtesy of GE, NASA and EU H2020 ULTIMATE Project

The Case for LH₂ for Civil Aviation

Alternative Fuels and Production Routes		Drop-in replacements		LNG			LH ₂	
		Bio-fuels (from algae)	Synthetic Kerosene	Conventional / Fracking	Biomass	Synthetic LNG	Non-renewable	Renewable / Nuclear
Effect on Emissions relative to Jet-A1								
At Mission Level	CO ₂			Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
	Energy Efficiency			Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
	NO _x			Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
	CO and UHC			Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
	Soot / Particulates	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
	Water Vapour			Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
	Contrails	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern
Over the Life Cycle (well to wake)	CO ₂ emissions	Yellow	Pattern	Yellow	Yellow	Pattern	Yellow	Green
	CH ₄ emissions (leakage)			Red	Red	Red	Green	Green
	Long Term Sustainability	Pattern	Pattern	Red	Pattern	Pattern	Red	Green
Effect on Costs relative to Jet-A1								
Short-Medium Term (up to 2050)	Fuel Production Costs	Red	Red	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red
	Aircraft Engineering Costs			Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
	Airport Integration Costs			Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
	Life Cycle Costs			Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern
Long Term (beyond 2050)	Fuel Production Costs	Pattern	Pattern	Yellow	Pattern	Pattern	Green	Green
	Aircraft Engineering Costs			Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern
	Airport Integration Costs			Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern
	Life Cycle Costs	Pattern	Pattern	Red	Pattern	Pattern	Yellow	Green
Effect on Safety relative to Jet-A1								
Actual Safety Record in Transportation				Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Likely Public Perception of Safety				Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Red	Red
Key				Red	Yellow	Green	No clear benefit re. Jet-A1	
		Pattern	Indicates greater uncertainty	Yellow	Superior to Jet-A1	Green	Significant benefit re. Jet-A1	

Global Aviation Effective Radiative Forcing (ERF) Terms
(1940 to 2018)



- Fewer emissions of particulates
- Appropriate mission management (persistent contrail avoidance trajectories)
- Less aggressive cycles?

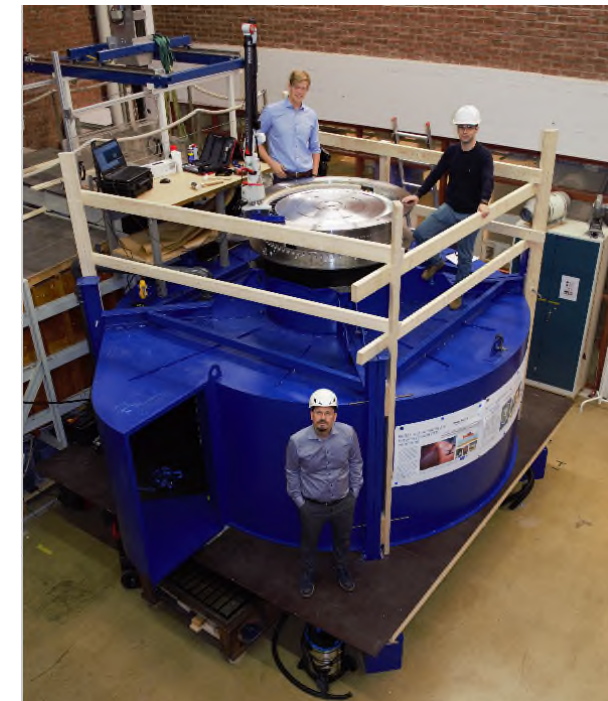
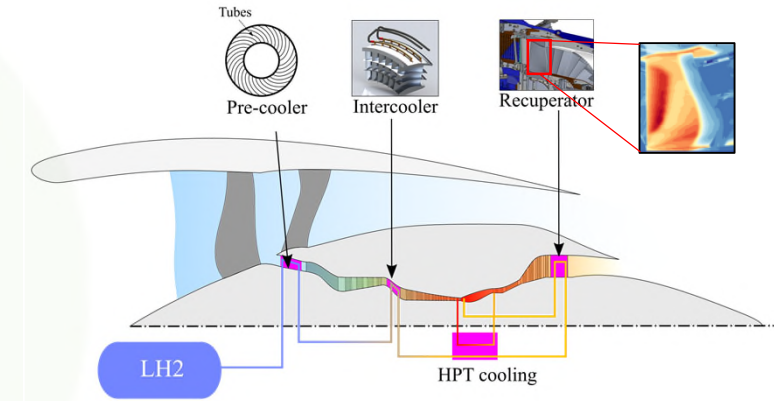
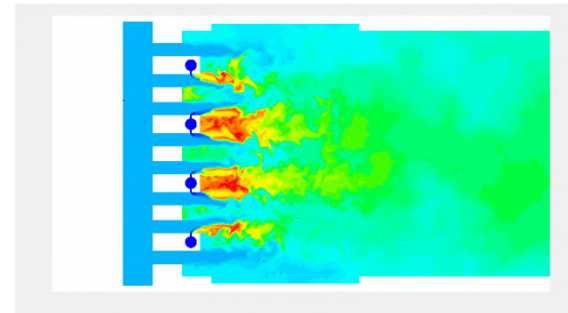
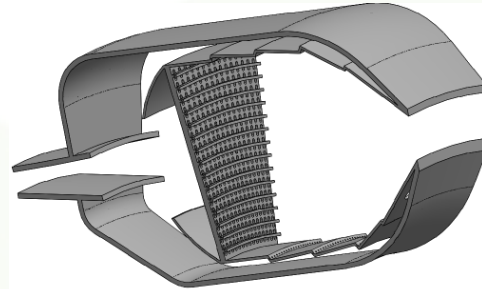
Ref: D.S. Lee, D.W. Fahey, A. Skowron, M.R. Allen, U. Burkhardt, Q. Chen, S.J. Doherty, S. Freeman, P.M. Forster, J. Fuglestvedt, A. Gettelman, R.R. De León, L.L. Lim, M.T. Lund, R.J. Millar, B. Owen, J.E. Penner, G. Pitari, M.J. Prather, R. Sausen, L.J. Wilcox, "The contribution of global aviation to anthropogenic climate forcing for 2000 to 2018". Atmospheric Environment, Volume 244, 2021, 117834, ISSN 1352-231

ENABLEH2 Project Overview



ENABLE H2

- EU H2020 Project ~4M€, 20+ Key Civil Aviation Stakeholders (partners + industry advisory board members)
- Maturing key enabling technologies for LH₂ which will contribute to decarbonising civil aviation (TRL 2 – TRL4):
 1. Hydrogen micromix combustion – ultra low NO_x
 2. Fuel system heat management – exploiting LH₂'s formidable heat sink potential
 3. Technology evaluation – Technoeconomic Environmental Risk Assessment (TERA)
- Addressing key challenges/scepticism – economic viability and safety
- Establishing roadmaps for the introduction of LH₂



ENABLEH2 – A World Class Team



Project Consortium

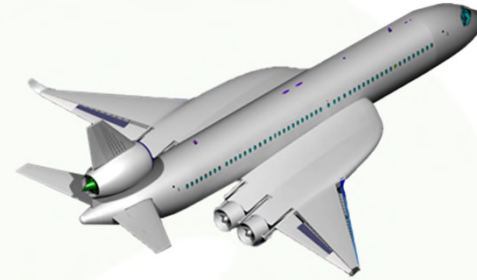
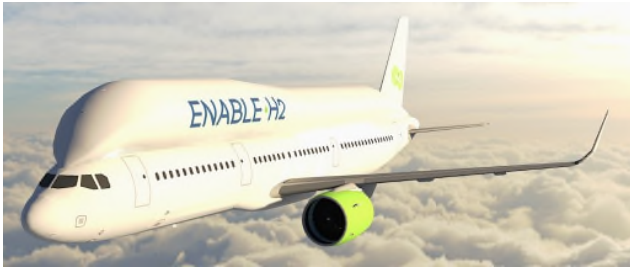


Industry Advisory Board

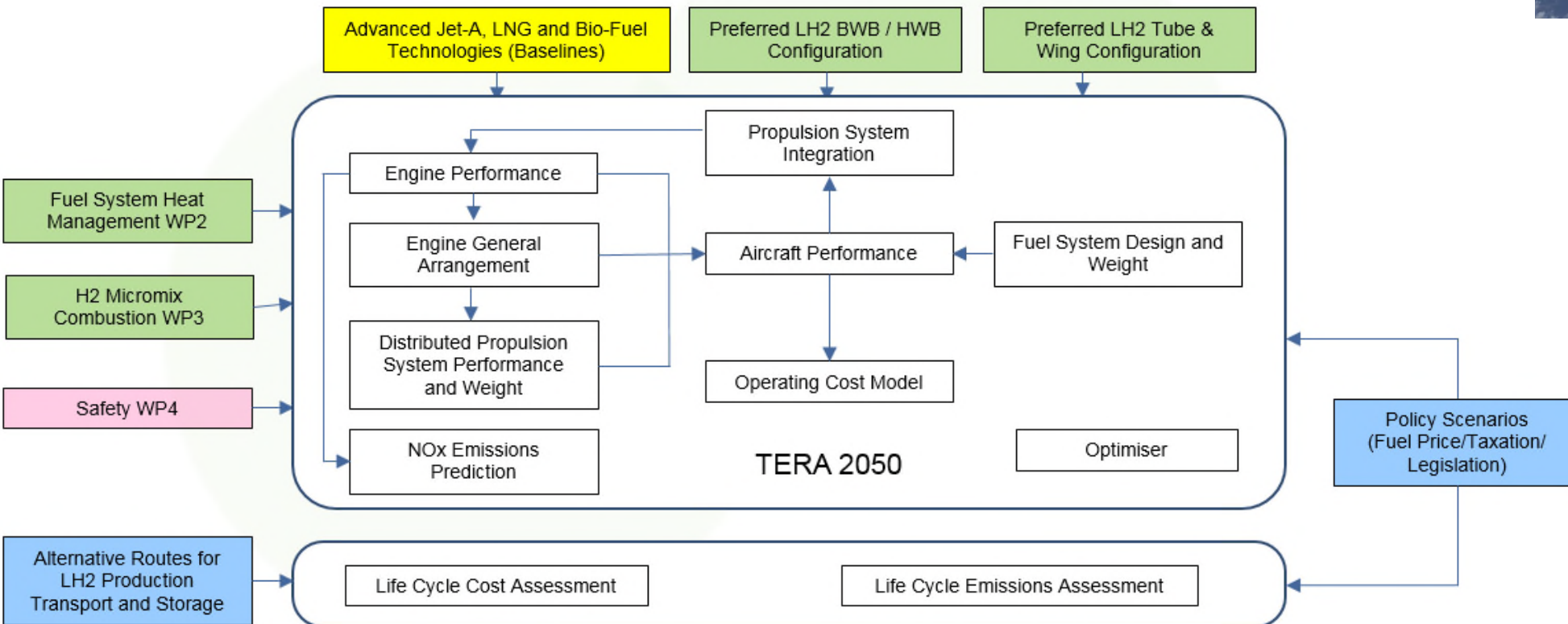


ENABLEH2 Project Overview

Technology Evaluation (WP1)



SAFRAN Group, Isikveren and Turnbull

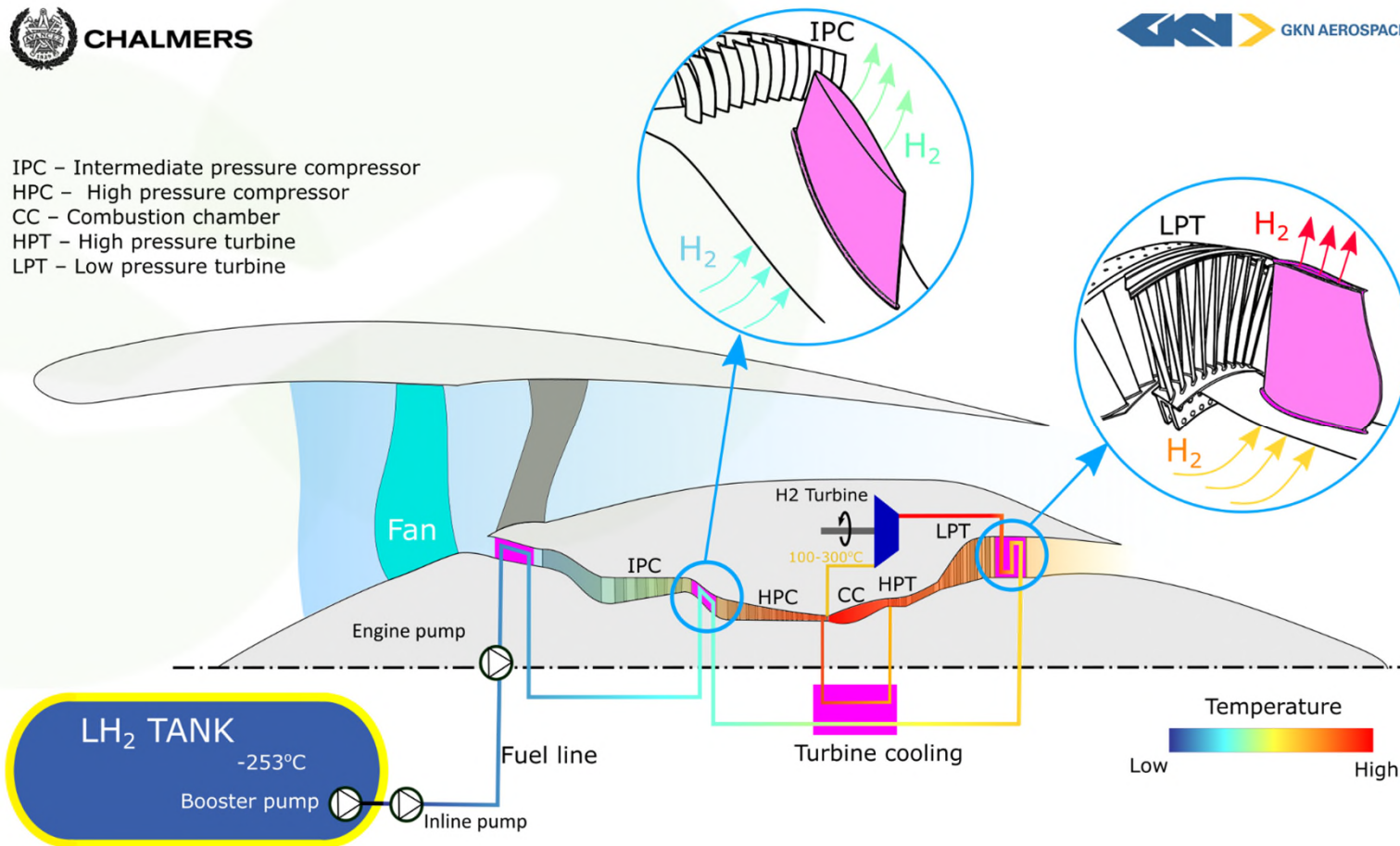


ENABLEH2 Project Overview

Fuel System heat Management (WP2)



IPC - Intermediate pressure compressor
 HPC - High pressure compressor
 CC - Combustion chamber
 HPT - High pressure turbine
 LPT - Low pressure turbine



Develop heat management concepts



Explore synergies



Investigate the integrated performance



CHALMERS

ENABLEH2 Project Overview

Fuel System heat Management (WP2)



ENABLE H2

Phase 1: Conceptual Design

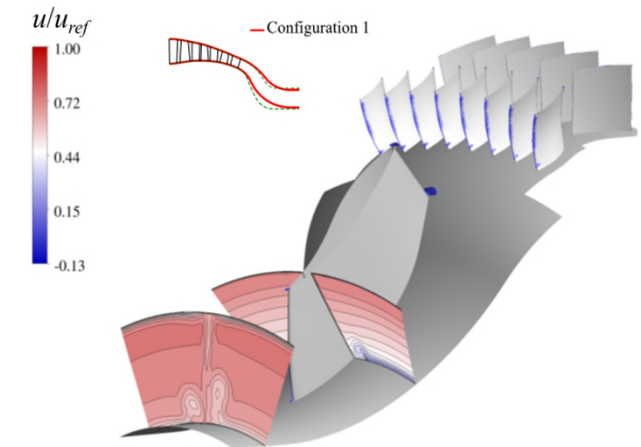
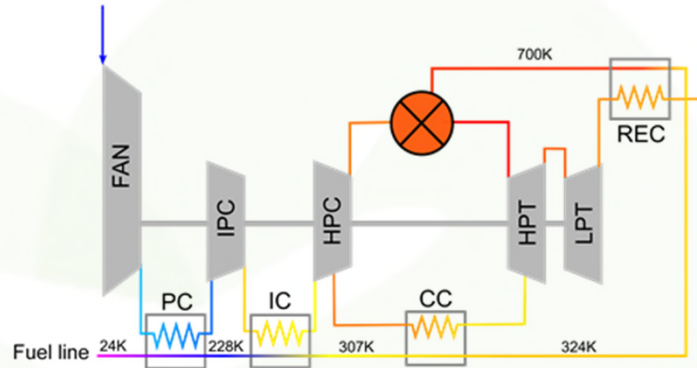
- System Model: Adaptation of components for cryogenic fuel simulation
- Parametric Studies

Phase 2: Preliminary design and validation

- Heat transfer, flow turning at representative conditions
- Core exhaust heat rejection
- Core flow cooling
- Low speed high Reynolds number annular test facilities

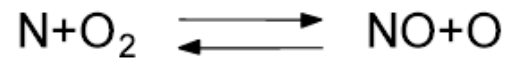
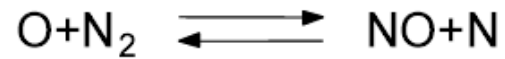
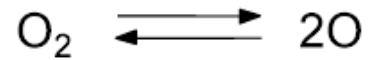
Phase 3: Heat Management System

- Final heat management system to be down-selected
- Optimize solutions applicable to the ENABLEH2 aircraft concepts
- TRL 2 achieved

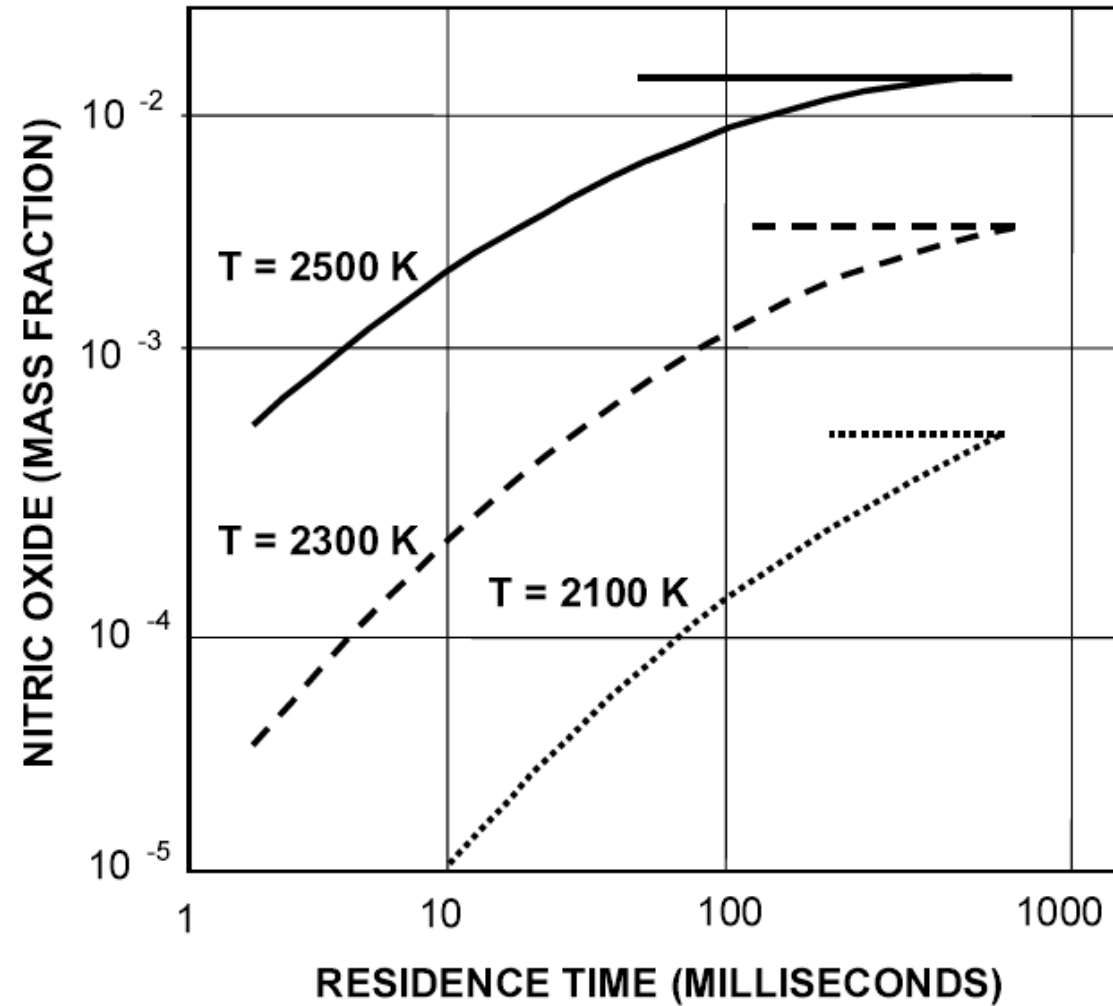
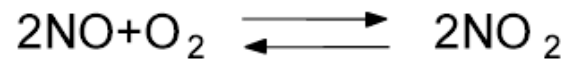


Formation of Thermal NO_x: The Zeldovich Mechanism

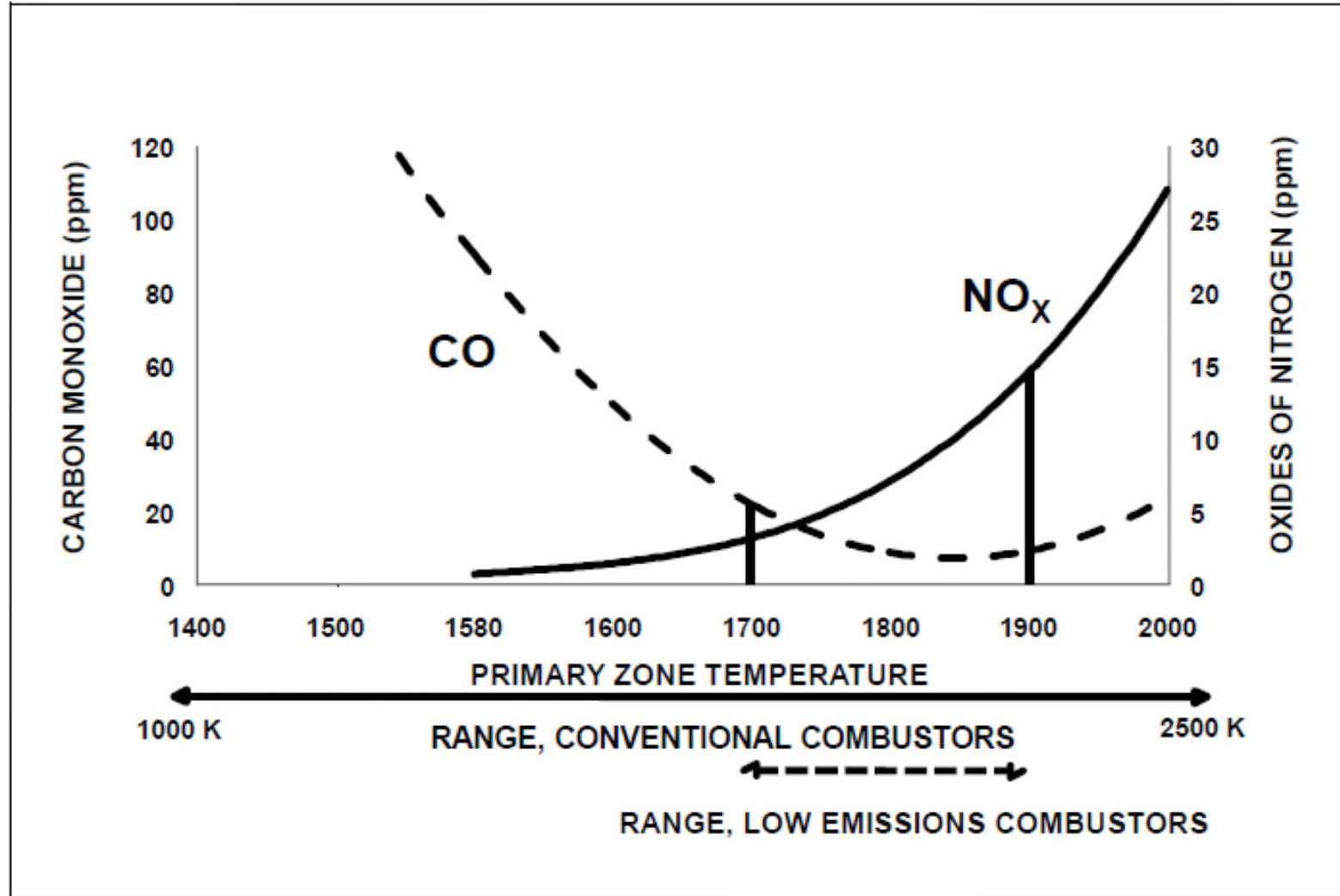
Zeldovich Mechanism



At Lower Temperatures

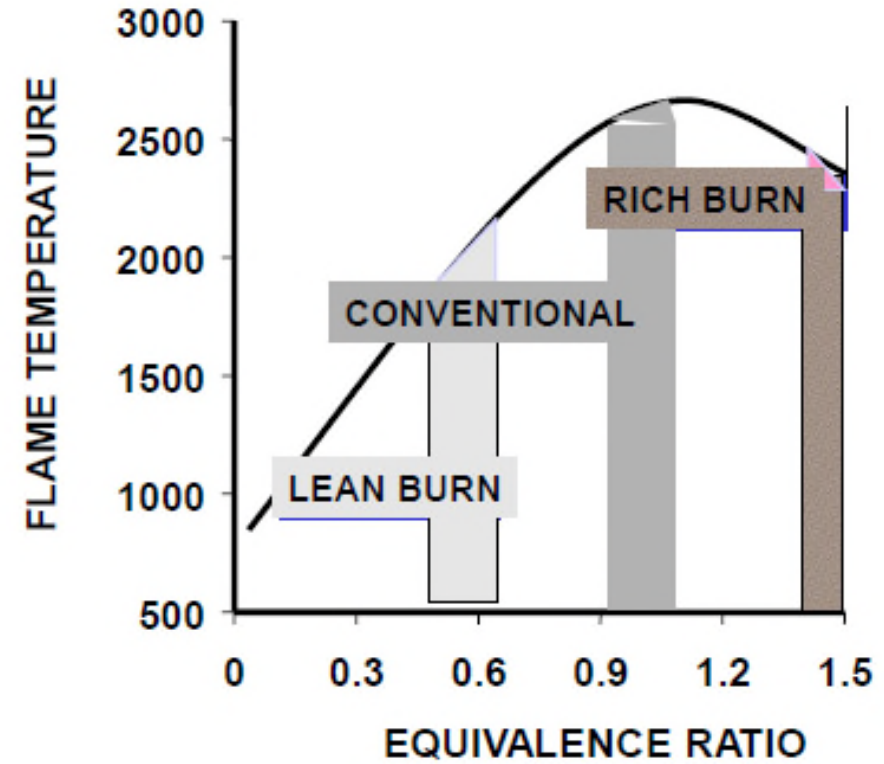
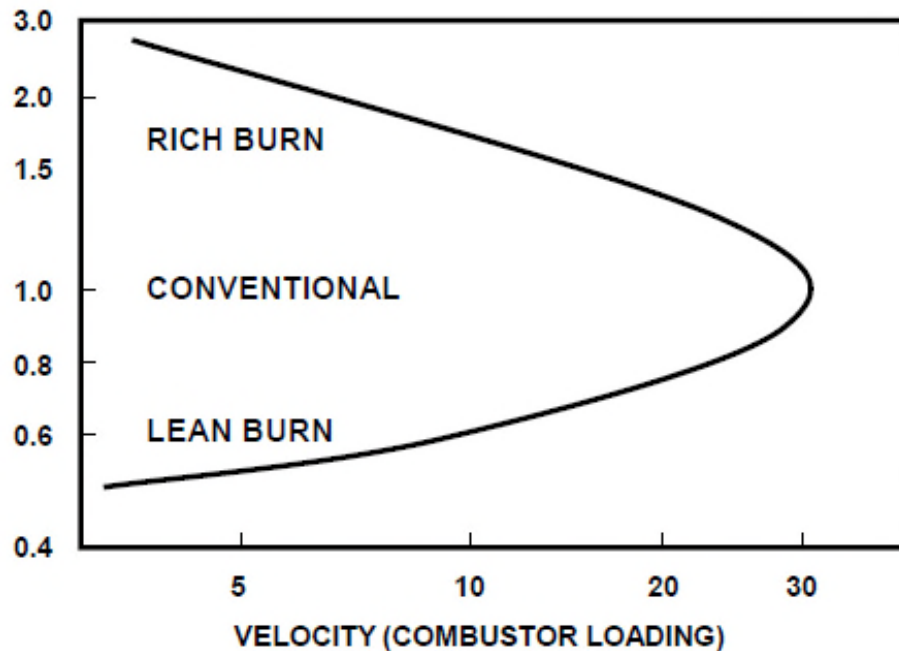


Effect of Primary Zone Temperature: NO_x and CO



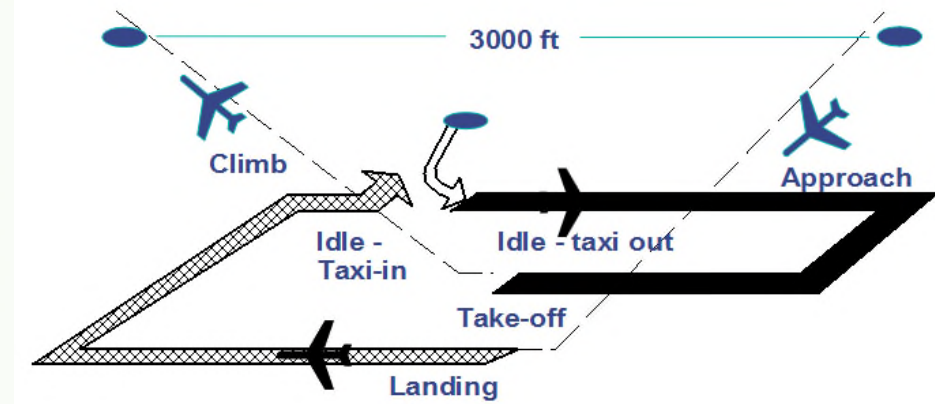
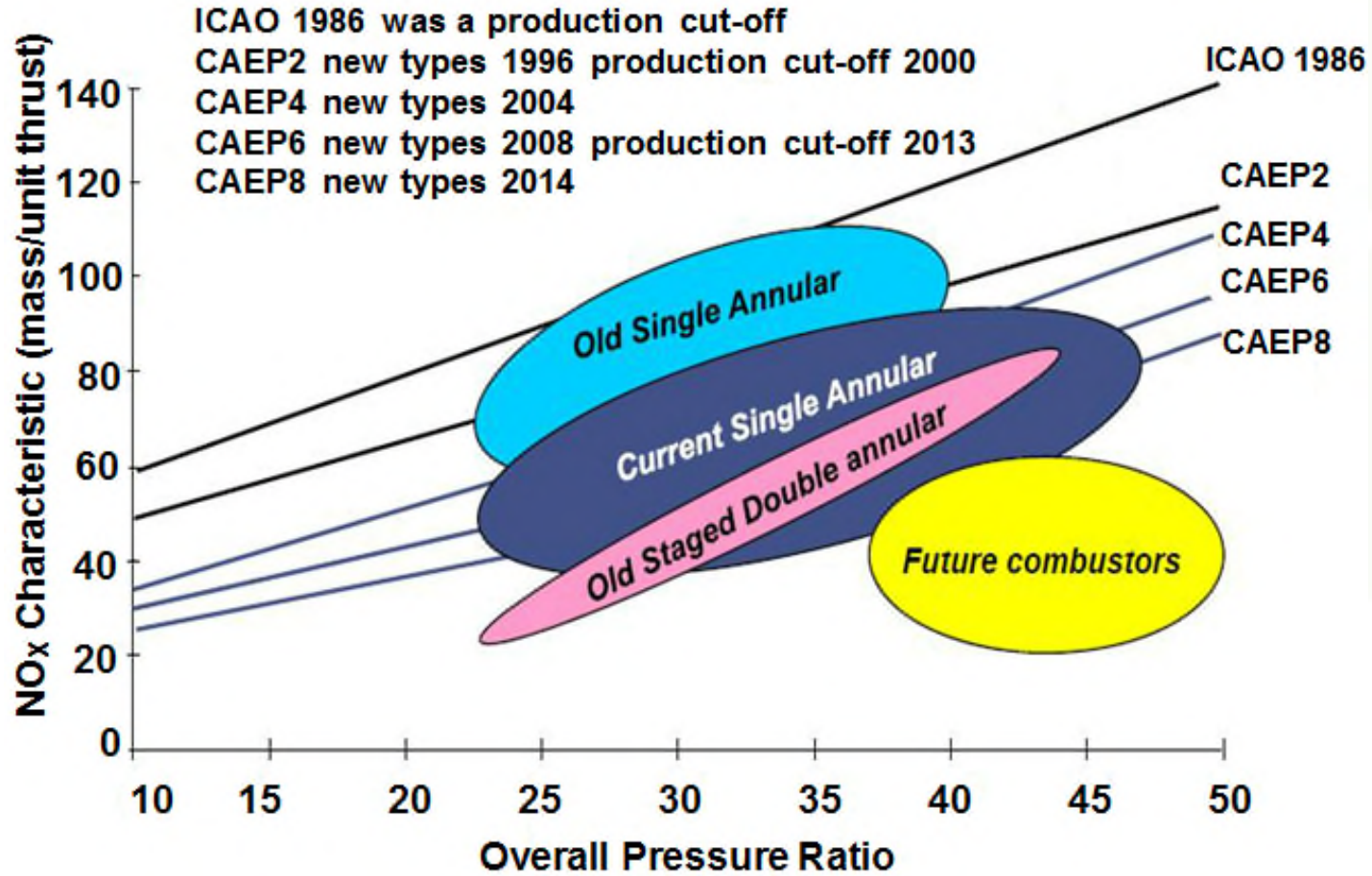
Effect of ϕ on Flame Temperature and Stability

Effect of ϕ on Stability



Effect of ϕ on Flame Temperature

Technology Goals and Challenges for NO_x



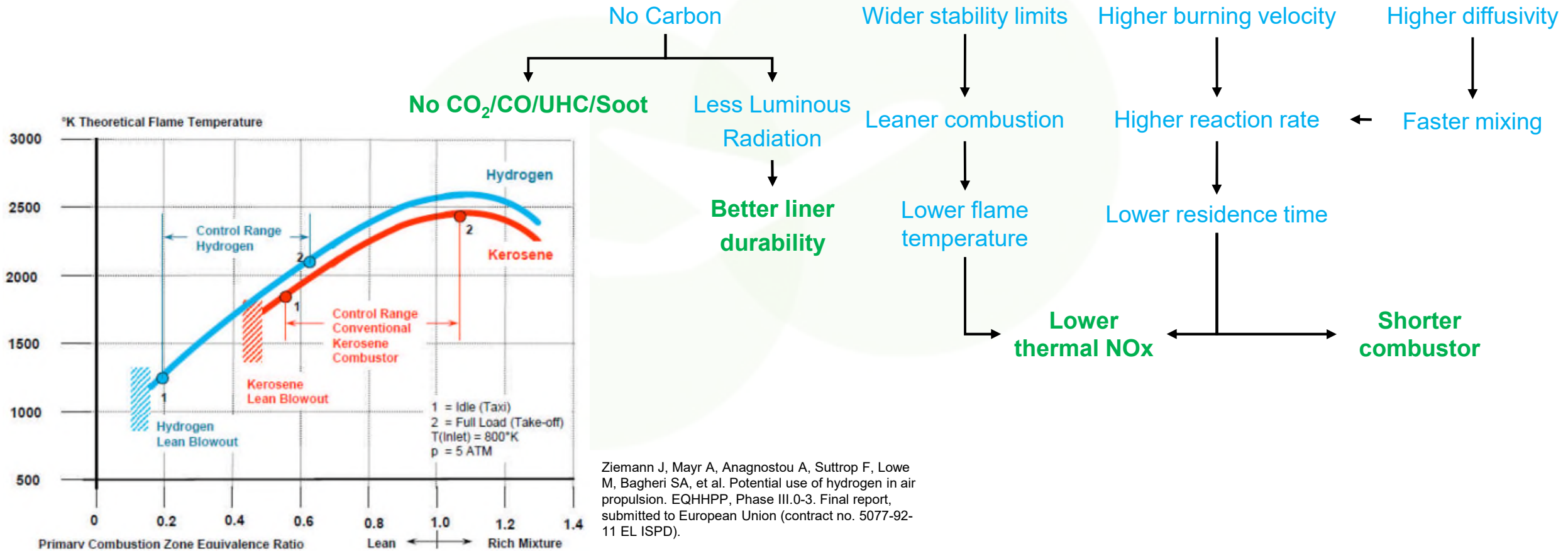
Typical Operation

	Power Setting (%)	Time in Mode (min)
Taxi (In and Out)	7	26
Final Approach	30	4
Take-Off	100	0.7
Climb	85	2.2

P. Madden, "CAEP Combustion Technology Review Process and CAEP NO_x Goals," Rolls-Royce, 7 2014.

Hydrogen Micromix Combustion

Why Hydrogen?



Ziemann J, Mayr A, Anagnostou A, Suttrop F, Lowe M, Bagheri SA, et al. Potential use of hydrogen in air propulsion. EQHPPP, Phase III.0-3. Final report, submitted to European Union (contract no. 5077-92-11 EL ISPD).

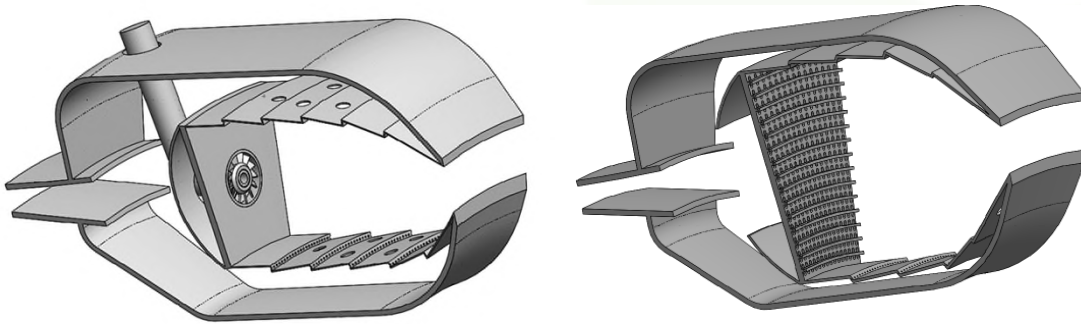
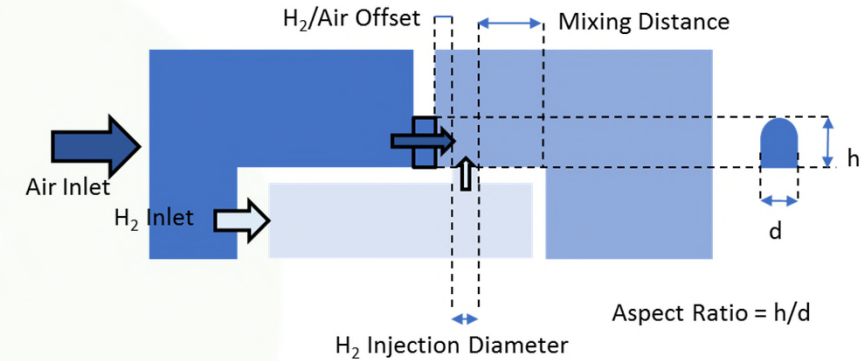
Hydrogen Micromix Combustion

Why Micromix?

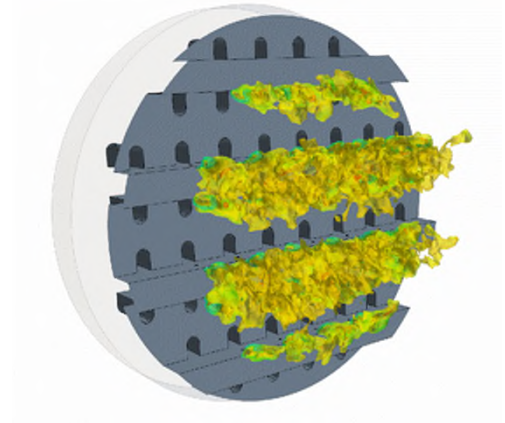
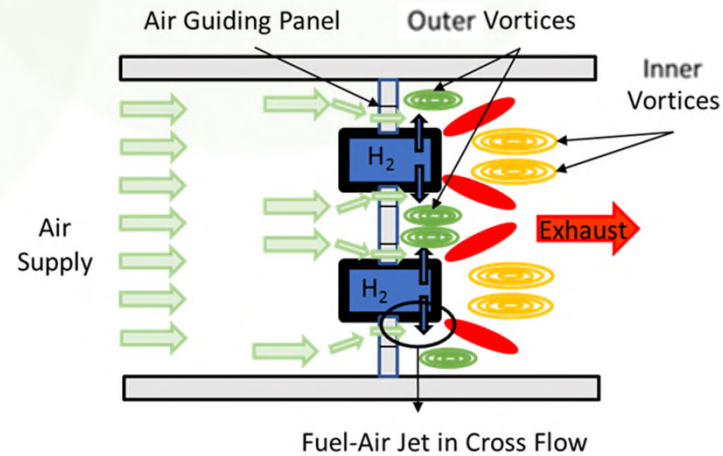


ENABLE H2

- Mixing length scale minimised while mixing intensity maximised
- Diffusion flame - reduces risk of flashback
- More flexibility for customised fuel scheduling:
 - Tailor outlet temperature distribution (without dilution zone)
 - Control of thermoacoustic instabilities

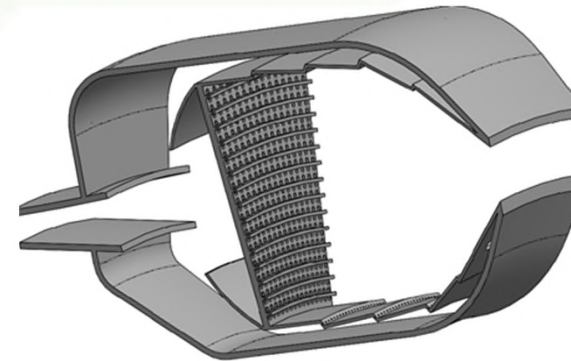
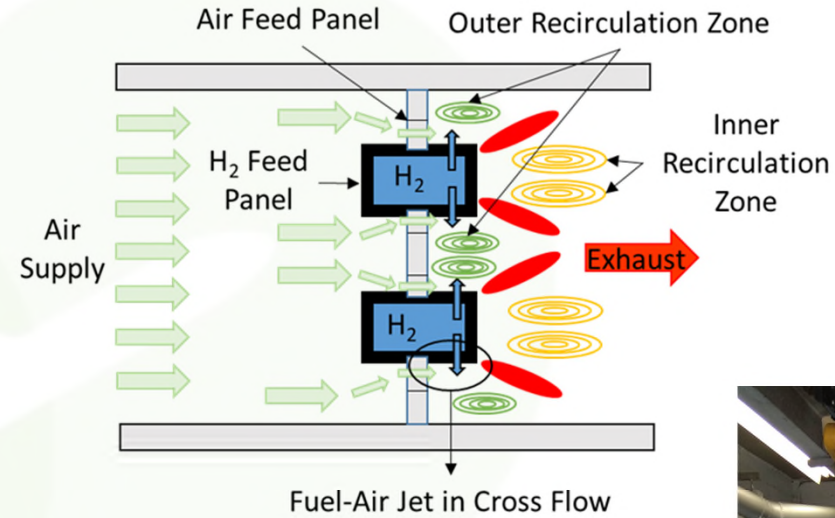
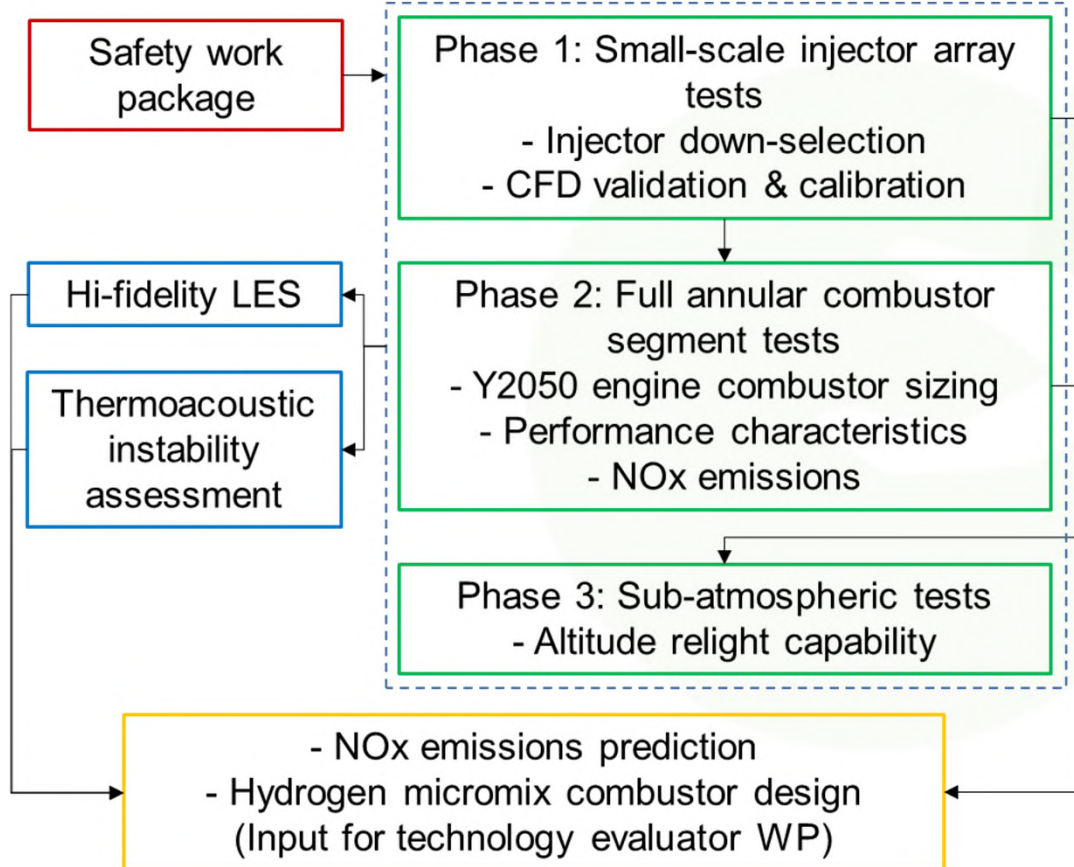


Conventional annular kerosene vs micromix combustor (conceptual)



ENABLEH2 Project Overview

Hydrogen Micromix Combustion (WP3)



Aero engine H₂ micromix combustor concept

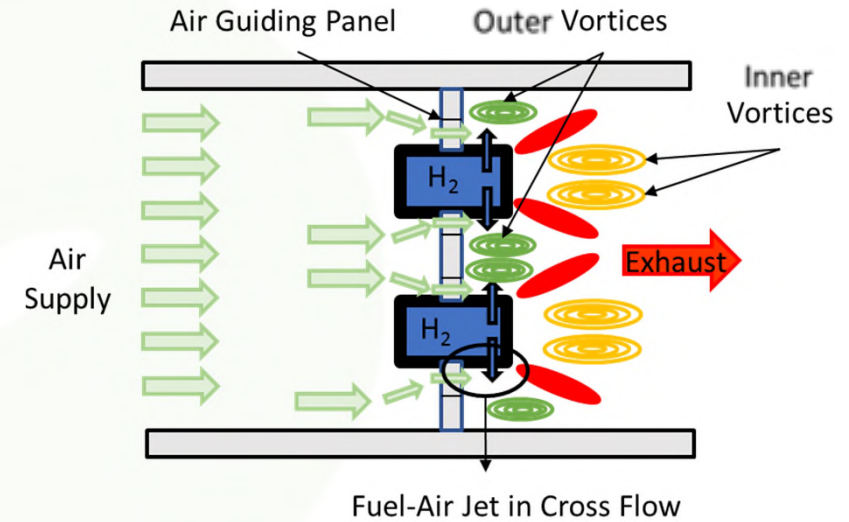


High Pressure air heater

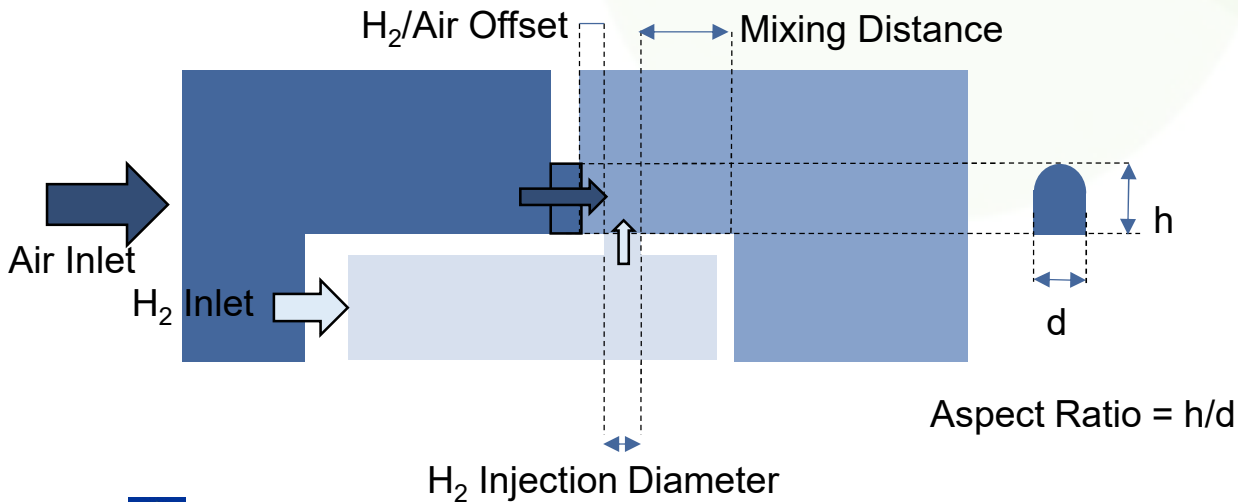
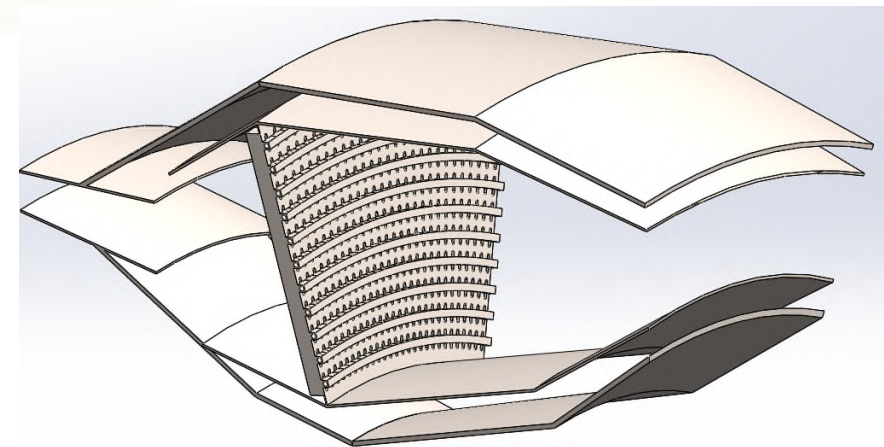
Hydrogen Micromix Combustion (WP3)

Micromix Injector Design

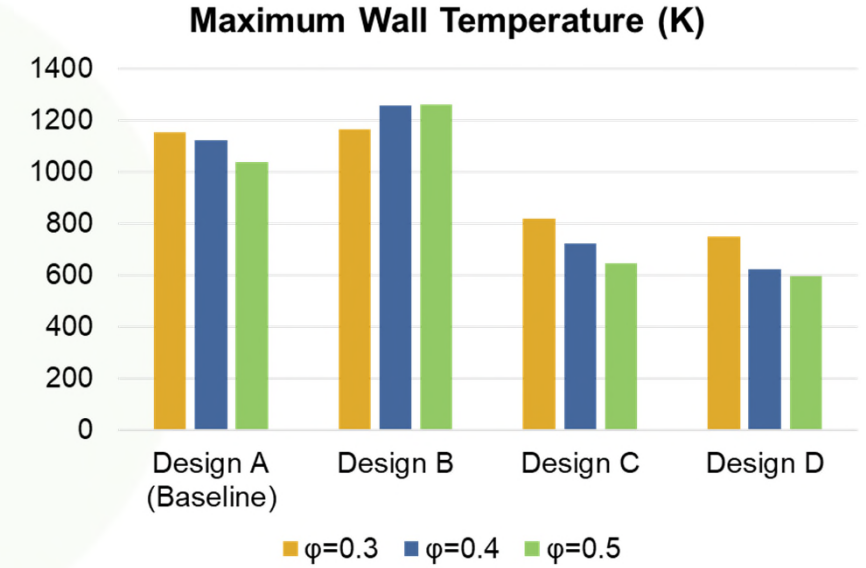
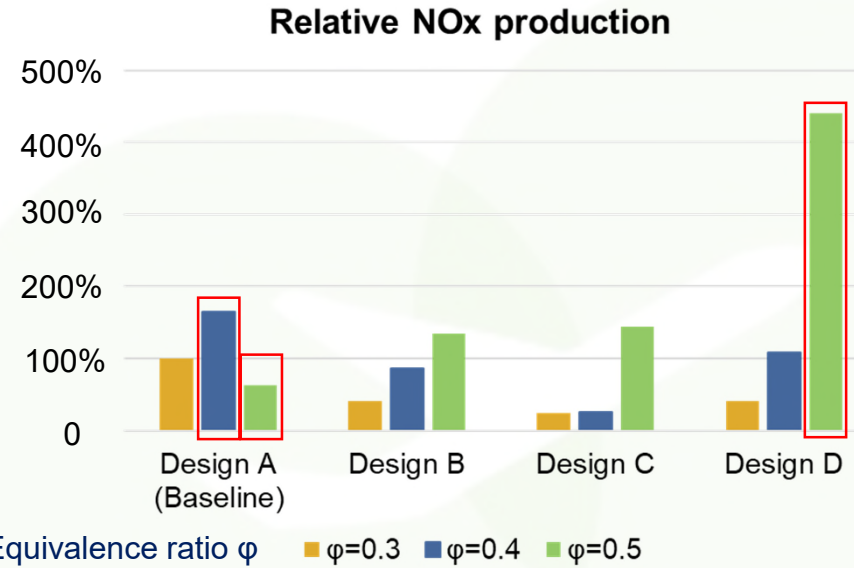
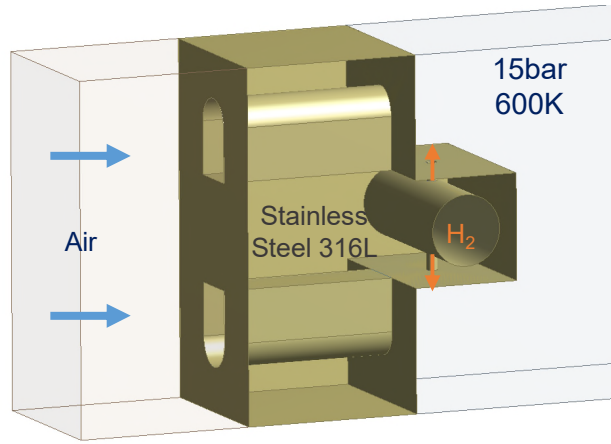
- Hydrogen Offset Distance (0.5mm – 5mm)
 - Mixing Distance (0.5mm – 2.5mm)
 - Hydrogen Inlet Diameter (0.3mm)
 - Air Feed Dimensions
 - Air Feed Height (1mm – 2.4mm)
 - Air Feed Diameter (1mm -2.5mm)
 - Aspect Ratio (1- 2)
- Momentum Flux Ratio $\sim 0.85 - 40$



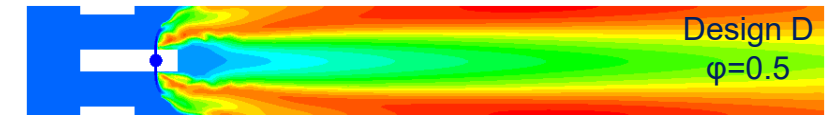
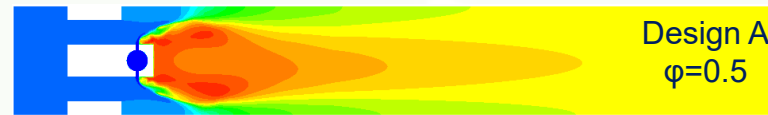
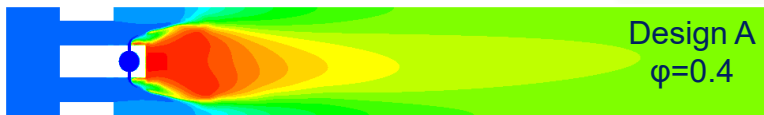
Annular combustor with micromix injector array



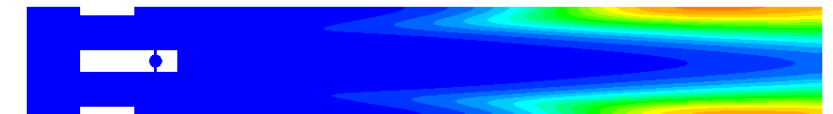
Hydrogen Penetration: Effect on Emissions and Wall Temperature



Temperature contour



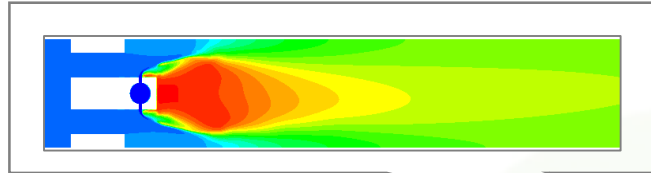
Mass fraction NO_x contour



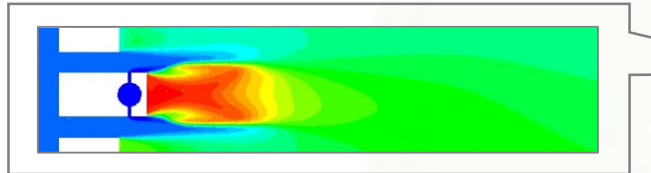
- High wall temperature at low penetration (low momentum flux ratio) due to flame attachment
- NO_x strongly dependent on flame interaction and recirculation of hot products

Hydrogen Micromix Combustion (WP3)

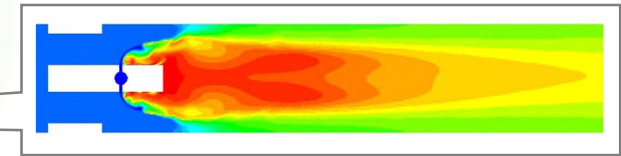
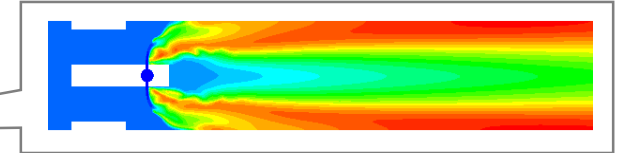
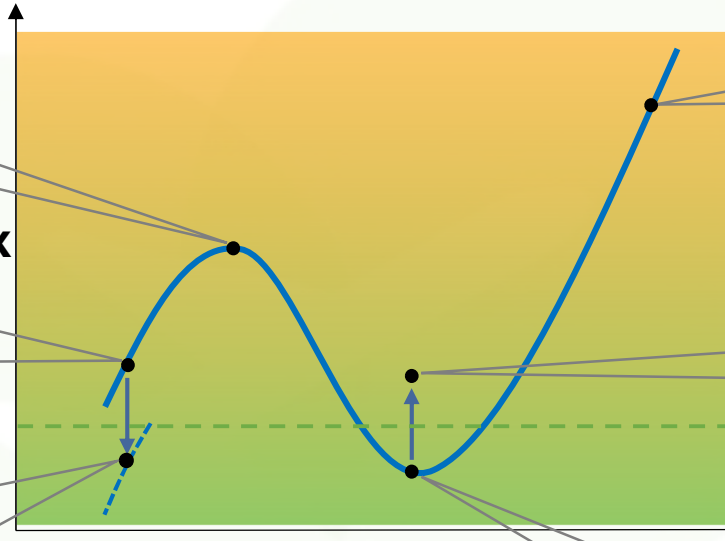
Micromix injector design space



Temperature contours from RANS FGM simulations



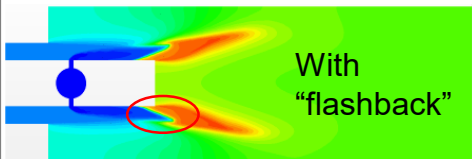
NOx



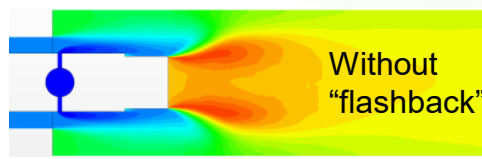
Promising designs

Momentum flux ratio J

- Partial premixing
- Flame "isolation" by vertical injector distance

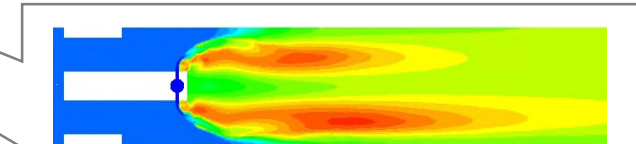


With "flashback"



Without "flashback"

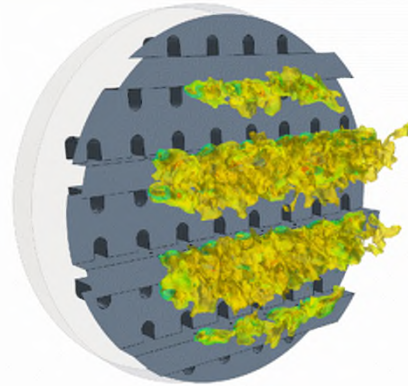
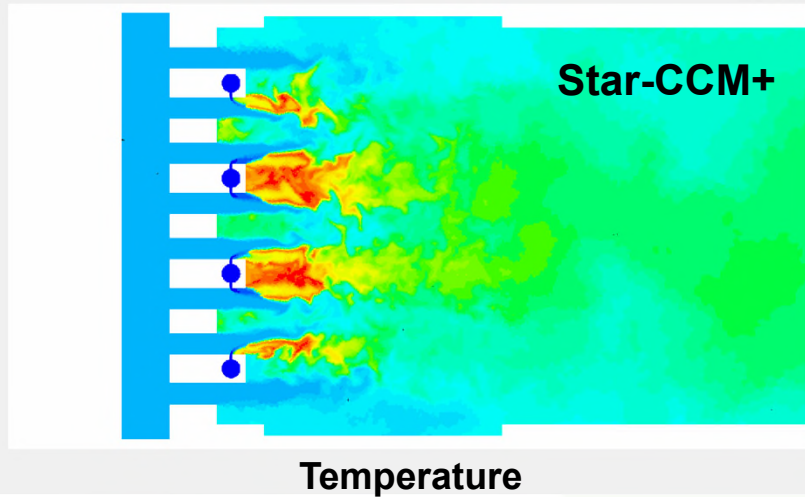
Beyond ENABLEH2 - Clean Aviation



- Purely diffusion
- Flame "isolation" by high jet penetration

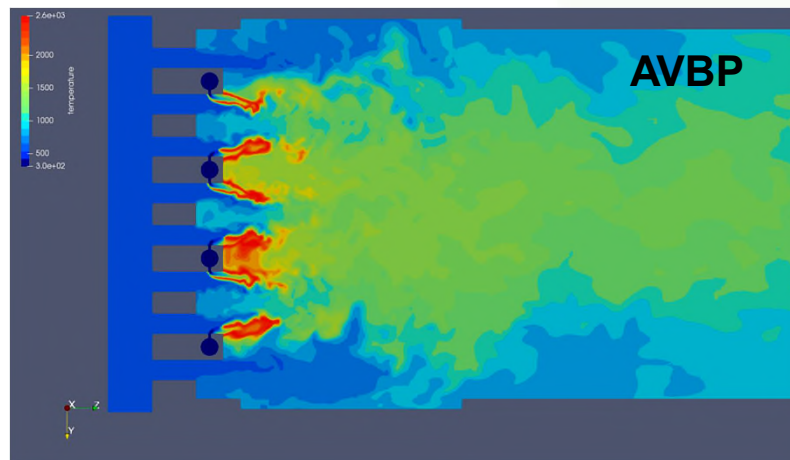
Hydrogen Micromix Combustion (WP3)

Small-Scale injector array design and modelling

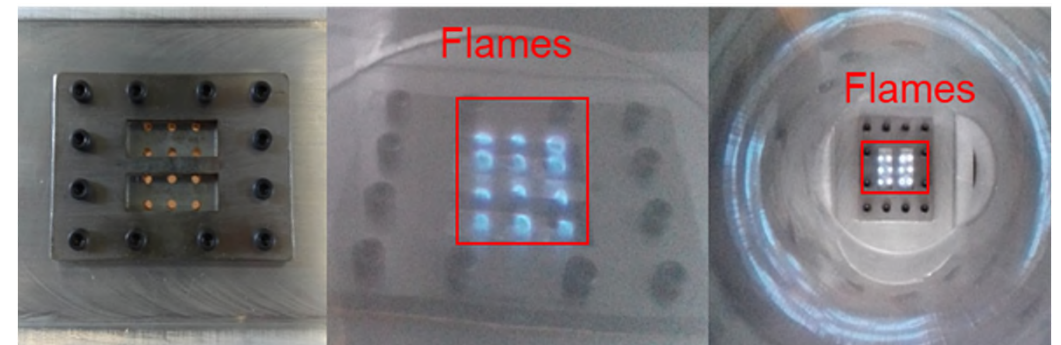


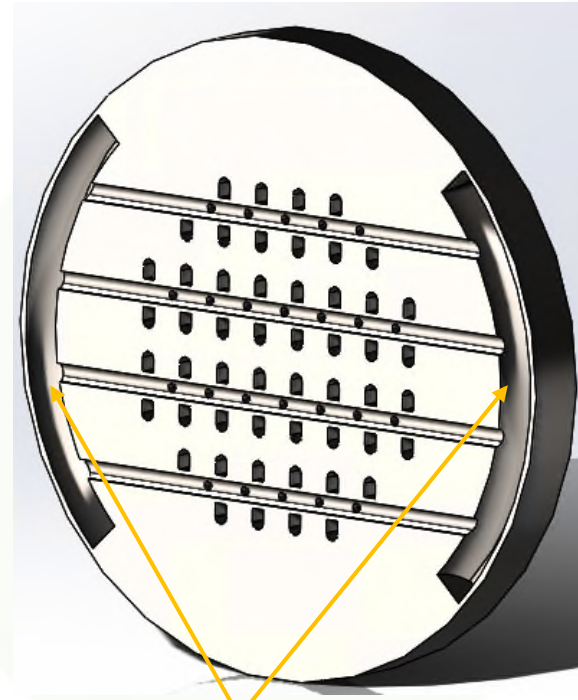
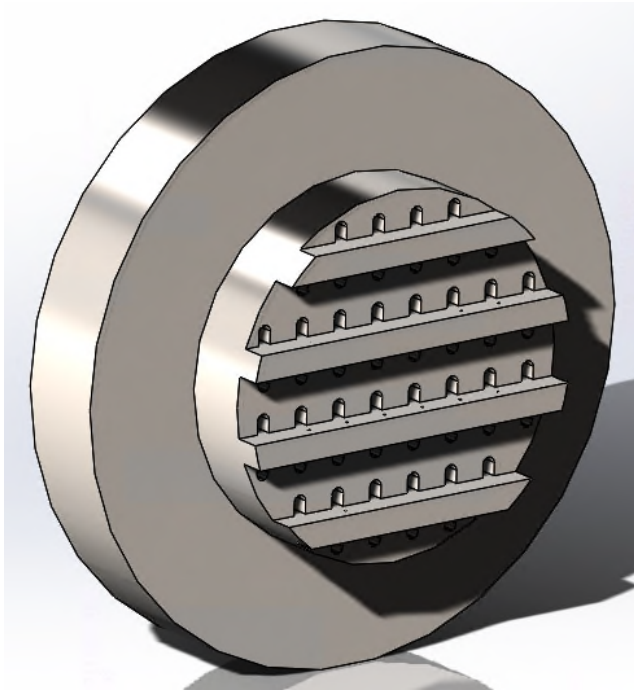
Several discrepancies between S-O-A CFD modelling software tools!

Data generated to be used to evaluate, validate and calibrate CFD models

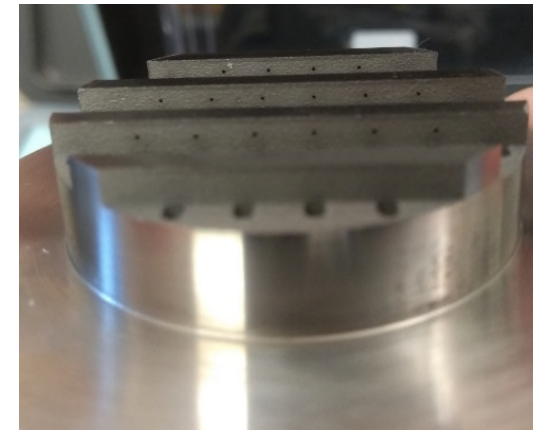
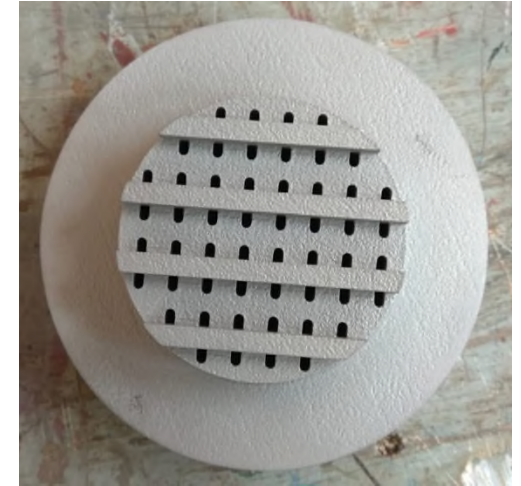
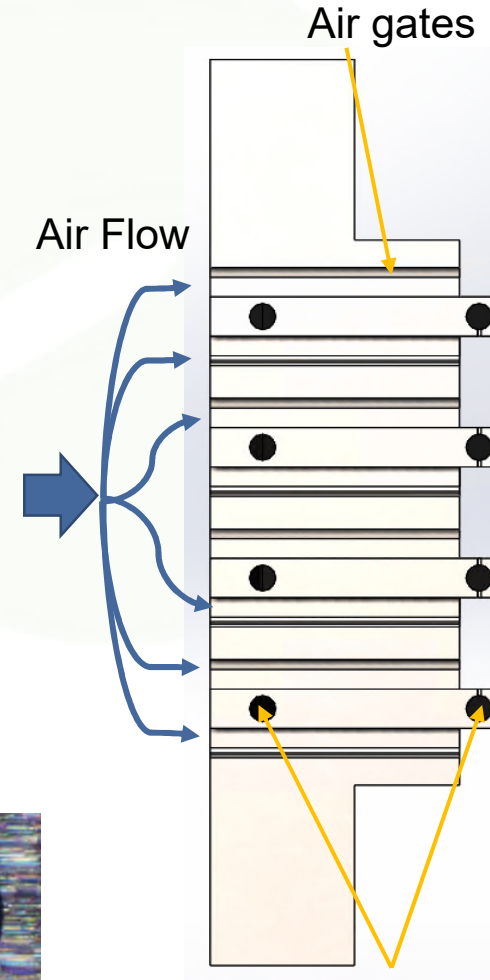


Initial test plate burning with propane

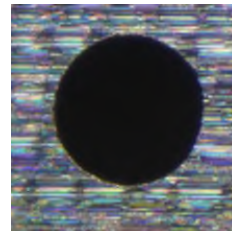




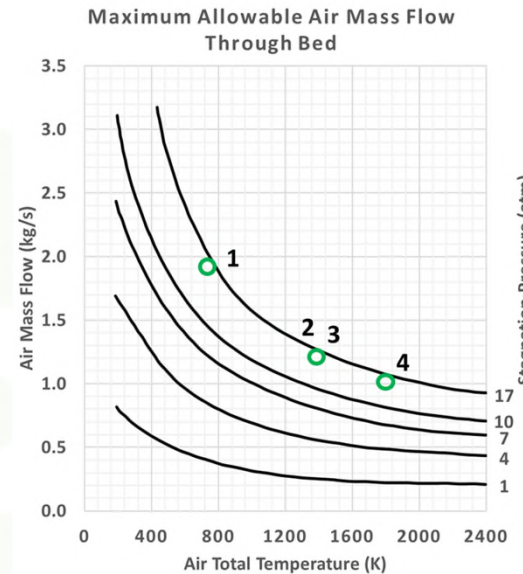
Fuel galleries



Hybrid manufacturing
3D printed plates (compromise on air gate)
Micro EDM hole drilling ($D \pm 10$ microns ,
concentricity 10-15 microns)



Hydrogen channels

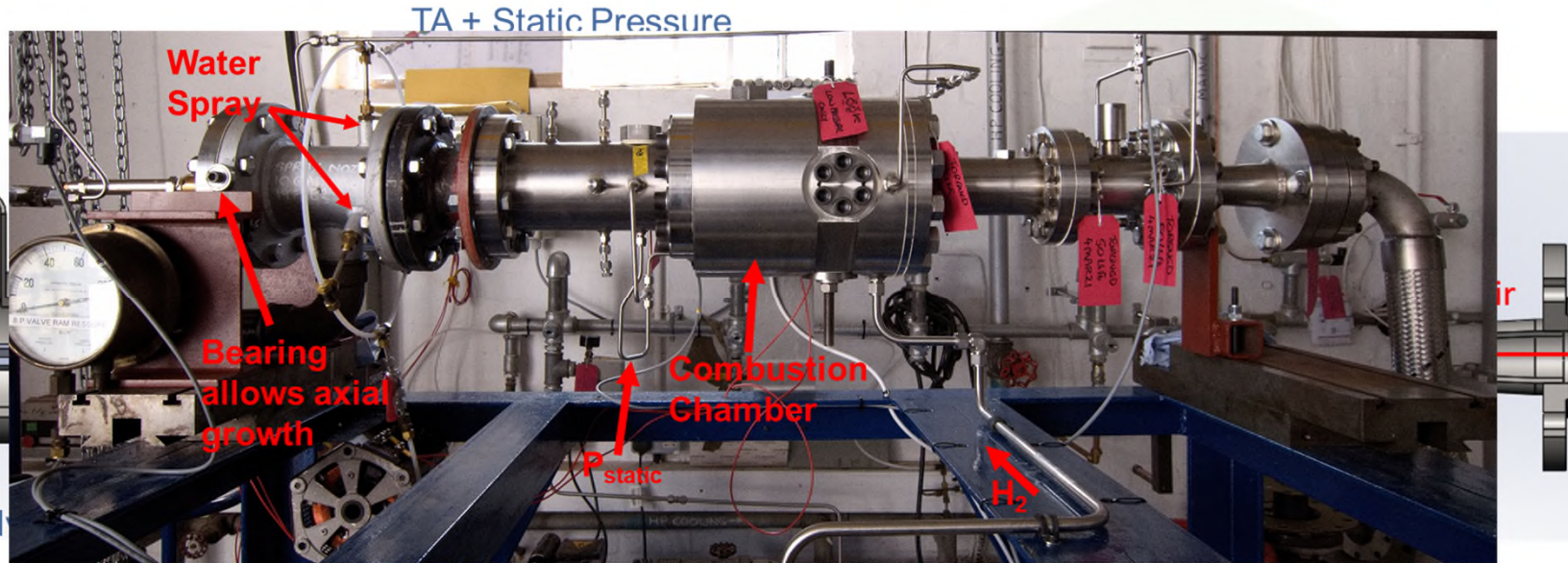


Condition No.	1	2	3	4
Pressure (bar)	15	15	15	15
Bed air temperature (K)	725	1400	1400	1800
Bed air mass flow (kg/s)	1.90	1.17	1.17	1.05
Dilution air mass flow (kg/s)	0.00	2.43	1.83	1.80
Test section inlet mass flow (kg/s)	1.90	3.60	3.00	2.85
Test section inlet temperature (K)	725	660	725	850

- The facility is able to provide high mass flow of non-vitiated air at high pressures (fed by a compressor) and high temperatures to reproduce representative gas turbine combustor inlet conditions (cruise for aero engines)
- By varying the combination of pebble bed and dilution air flow a wide range of test section inlet mass flows & temperatures can be produced
- It can be used for experimental R&D for both liquid (reacting and non-reacting) and gaseous (hydrogen and other) fuel low emissions combustion systems
- Data acquisition via state-of-the-art laser diagnostic, spray, thermoacoustic and gas analyser instrumentation
- Data generated is being used to evaluate, validate and calibrate SOA spray and combustion models in commercial CFD packages (STAR-CCM+ and ANSYS-Fluent)

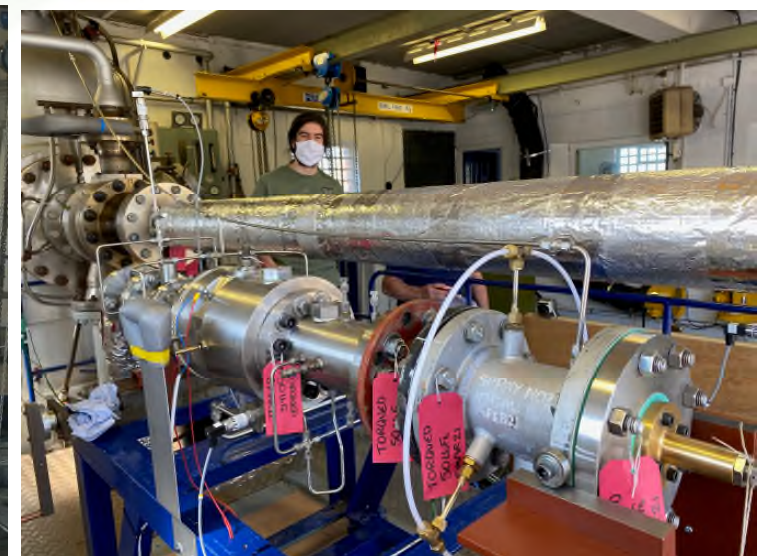
Hydrogen Micromix Combustion (WP3)

Phase 1 Experimental rig



- OH-PLIF
- Pressure loss
- NOx emissions
- Flame Transfer Functions

	Range of test conditions	
Pressure (bar)	1	15
Air Temperature (K)	300	600
Equivalence Ratio (-)	Lean Blow-out limit	0.5
Heat Release rate(kW)	5	150



ENABLEH2 Project Overview

Safety (WP4)



- Dispersion LH₂ clouds
 - Hazardous distance study
- RE test facility: LH₂ tank leak
 - LH₂ Leak – Dispersion
 - Explosion overpressure
- Aircraft crash scenarios
 - Pool Fire simulations
 - LH₂ vs LNG vs JET A
- Aircraft refuelling study
 - LH₂ leak + explosion o/p

- PHA at Heathrow: Aircraft manufacturers, Airline, fire service
- New hazards examined or increases in severity and/or likelihood of harm
- Overall pragmatic & positive
- Moving forwards will use FLACS data for future risk assessment

Storage, on-site generation

- Scale & location
- Explosion
- Existing mitigation

Fuelling (and ground transport)

- Underground/ vehicle/ robot supply
- Cryogenic/ fire hazards
- Many unknowns

Taxiing, take off, landing

- Fuel leaks
- Runway excursion
- Similar hazards and prevention to Jet A

Firefighting

- Largescale change
- Protocols & standards
- Training & equipment
- Whole fire service



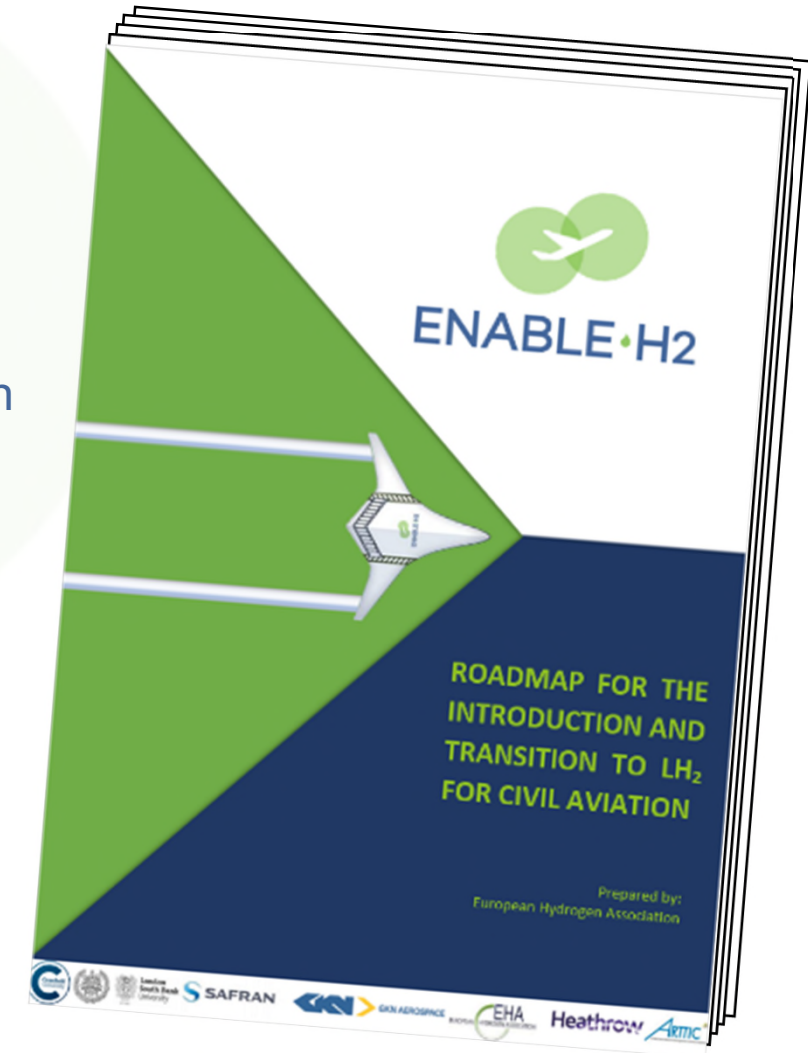
Enabling research strands for LH₂

ENABLEH2 Roadmapping (WP5)



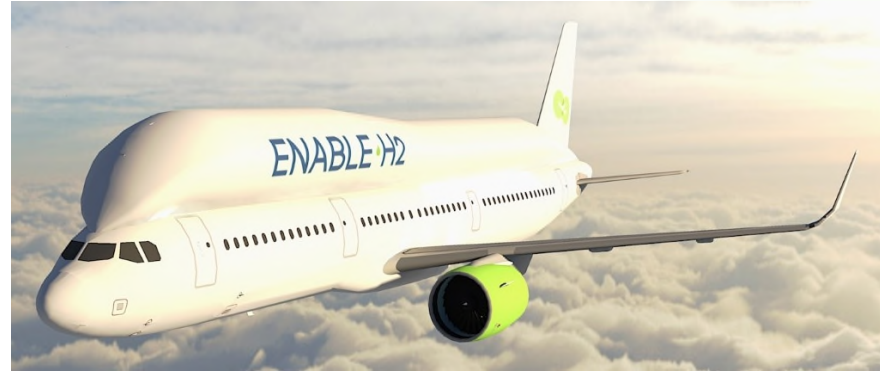
ENABLE·H2

- Ensuring safety with hydrogen-fuelled aviation
- Decarbonisation of power generation
- Hydrogen production, liquefaction and distribution
- Airport infrastructure and aircraft fuelling systems for LH₂
- Design of aircraft fuel systems for LH₂
- Propulsion systems using hydrogen as fuel (including distributed propulsion options)
- Combustor design and emissions reduction with hydrogen
- New commercial aircraft designs for LH₂
- Aircraft operation and maintenance with LH₂ fuel
- Aircraft economics with LH₂ v. alternative fuels
- Environmental impact research, and assessment of hydrogen v. alternative fuels
- Integration of research funding and timeframes for the introduction of LH₂ fuelled aircraft



ENABLE H2

Roadmapping – Presented at ICAO 2020 CO₂ Stocktaking Seminar



Main Challenges

Costs

- LH₂ production and liquefaction
- Design and manufacturing of new LH₂-fuelled aircraft
- Airport infrastructure development

Technical

- Ultra-low NOx combustor design
- Design of aircraft fuel systems for LH₂
- Propulsion systems using hydrogen as fuel
- New commercial aircraft designs for LH₂



CO₂ reductions per flight **100%**



Level of finance required **↑↑*1**



Timeframe **~2040*2**



Main challenges (see left)

¹ Justified considering the environmental and employment benefits

² Not fully optimised

ENABLEH2 Features in Key Publications

- ICAO:
 - 2019 Environmental Report
 - 2020 CO₂ Stocktaking Seminar
- European Commission:
 - Hydrogen Powered Aviation (Clean Sky)
 - Towards Climate Neutral Aviation (H2020)
- Aviation Week Magazine “H₂ in Aviation”
- RAeS Aerospace Magazine
- UK Parl. POSTNOTE “Low Carbon Aviation Fuels”
- Forbes Magazine “Aviation is the Driving Force for H₂”
- Airport World Magazine “LH₂ Powered Aircraft”
- The Times “Hydrogen-powered planes to clean up skies”

Prestigious Invitations

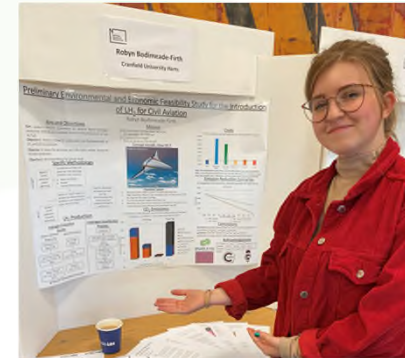
- Invitation to participate in UK Gov. Jet Zero Council
- Invited to serve on EUROCAE and SAE Working Group – Fuel Cells/H₂ for aeronautical applications
- Invited by Safran for “Clean Aviation” H₂-pillar bid
- Invited by CS2 CSO for “Low Emissions Workshop”
- Invited to serve on “Freedom Flight Prize” Tech. Panel
- Chairing H₂ sessions at EASN, ASME and ISABE
- Invited to contribute to AIAA “H₂ Aircraft” Panel
- Invitation for Hamburg Aviation Lecture Series

Wider Community Engagement

Examples:



Inauguration of the CU Low NOx H₂ Combustion experimental facility at the 2019 “CU Aviation and Environment Conf.”



Encouraging young and diverse high school students to consider university degrees and careers in STEM related to “Zero Emissions” (Nuffield Scheme)

Storage, on-site generation	Fuelling (and ground transport)	Taxiing, take off, landing	Firefighting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale & location • Explosion • Existing mitigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underground/ vehicle/ robot supply • Cryogenic/ fire hazards • Many unknowns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel leaks • Runway excursion • Similar hazards and prevention to Jet A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largescale change • Protocols & standards • Training & equipment • Whole fire service



PHA workshop at Heathrow for alleviating public concerns about LH₂ safety





ENABLE H2



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Thank you!



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