



DLR

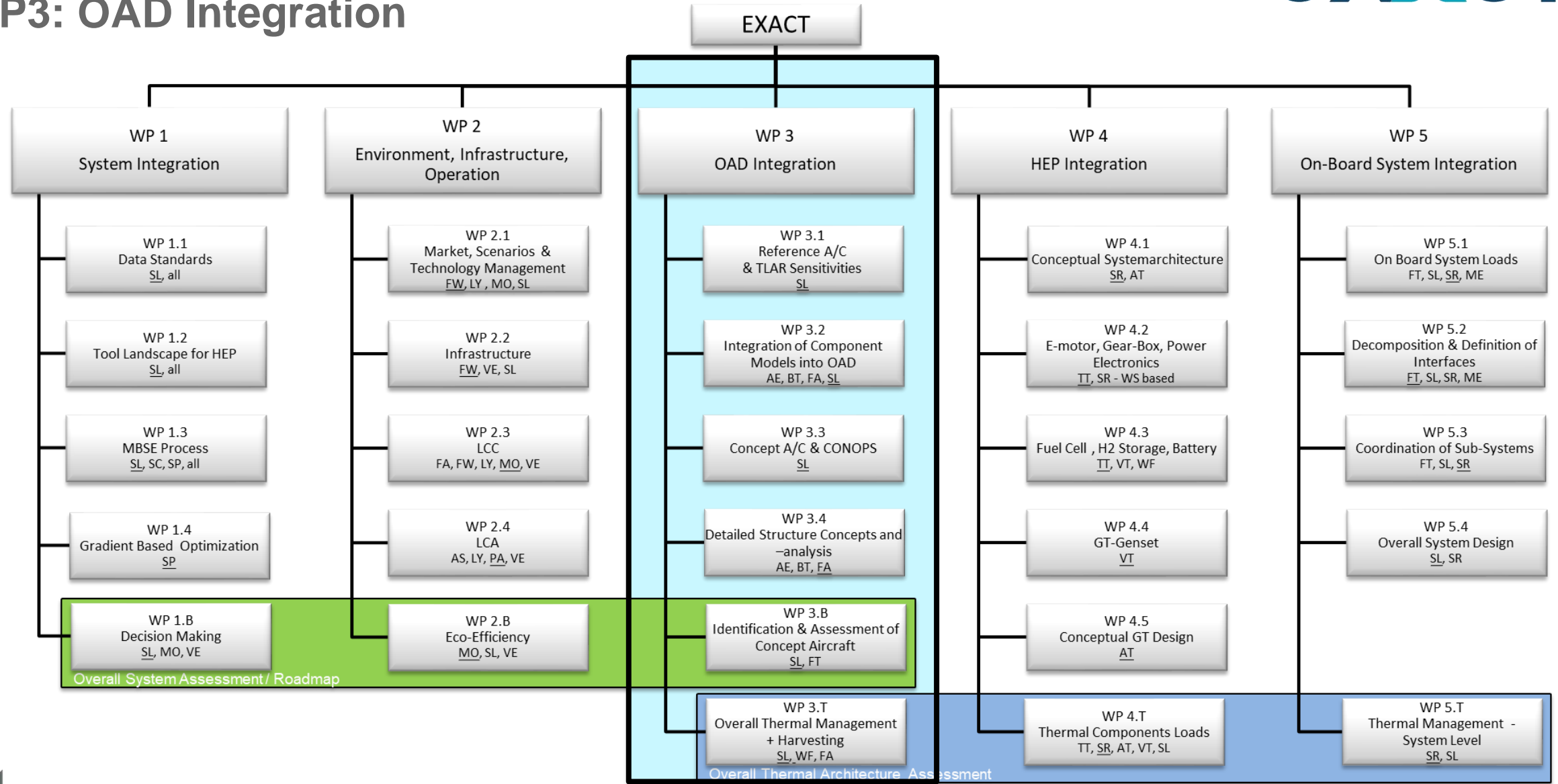
Deutsches Zentrum  
für Luft- und Raumfahrt

**exACT**<sup>®</sup>

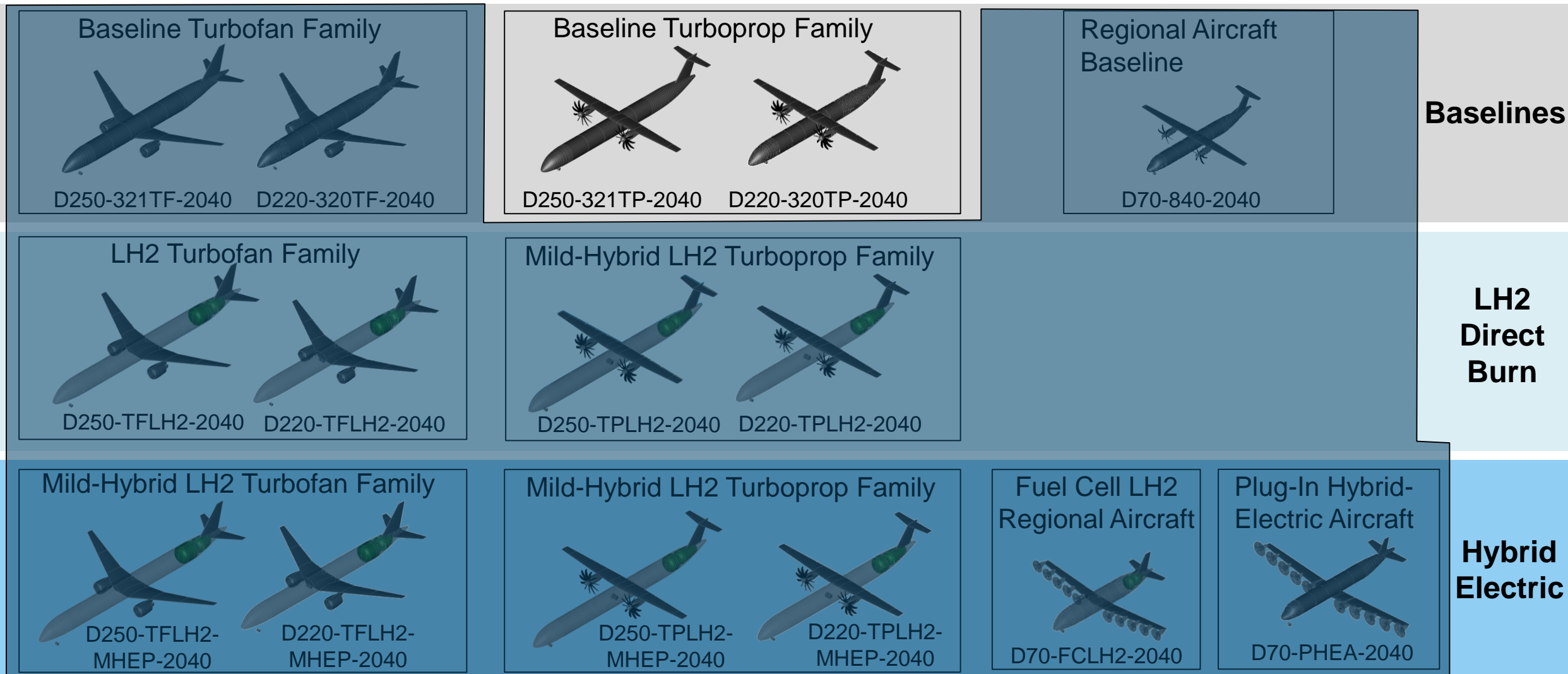


**Aircraft Modeling Results, Short-  
Range Turboprop Baselines  
(D250-321TP-2040, D220-320TP-2040)  
Author: Georgi Atanasov**

# WP3: OAD Integration



# Models Overview



# Study Boundary Conditions

## Reference A/C:

A321neo  
interpretation  
(EIS2016)



**D239**

## Top-Level-Aircraft Requirements (TLARs)

Design Range	[nm]	2500
Design PAX (single class)	[-]	239
Mass per PAX	[kg]	95
Design Payload	[kg]	25000
Max. Payload	[kg]	25000
Cruise Mach number	[-]	0.78
Max. operating Mach number	[-]	0.8
Max. operating altitude	[ft]	40000
TOFL (ISA +0K SL)	[m]	2200
Rate of Climb @ TOC	[ft/min]	>300
Approach Speed (CAS)	[kt]	136
Wing span limit	[m]	<=36

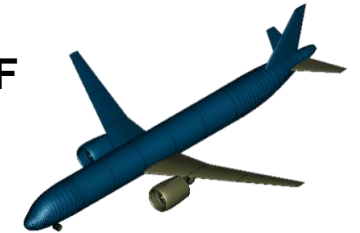
## Redesign for EIS2040:

- TLARS ISO
- Engine Performance: -10% sfc
- Fuselage Mass: -5%
- Wing Structural Mass: -15%
- Empennage Mass: -3%
- Systems Mass: ISO
- Furnishings Mass: ISO
- Operator Items Mass: ISO

The goal of the modelling is to compare the performance characteristics between the turbofan and the turboprop baseline.

## EXACT Turbofan Baseline

**D250TF**

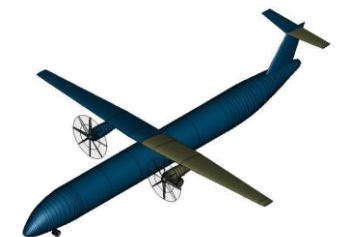


### TLAR Changes:

- Range 1500nm
- 250 PAX; Design Payload 23750kg
- TOFL 1900m (SL, ISA), VLS < 140 KCAS

## EXACT Turboprop Baseline

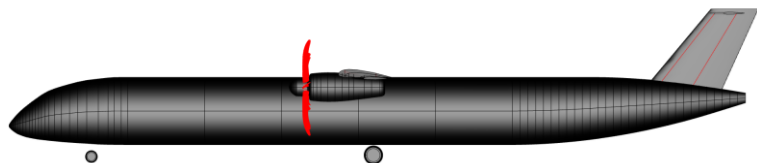
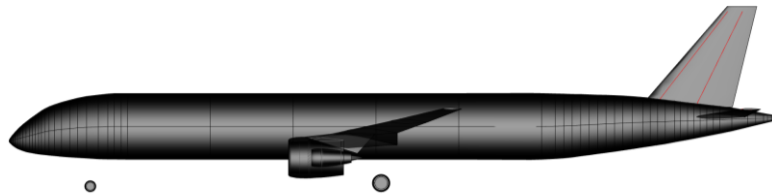
**D250TP**



### TLAR Changes:

- Range 1500nm
- Mach 0.62
- 250 PAX & Design Payload 23750kg
- TOFL 1900m (SL, ISA), VLS < 140 KCAS

# Family Concept Constraints



### ISO Systems, except:

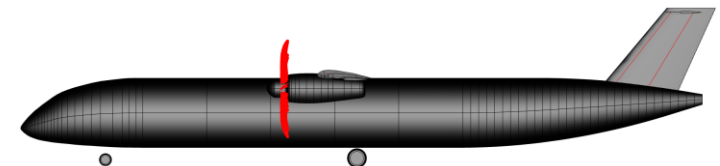
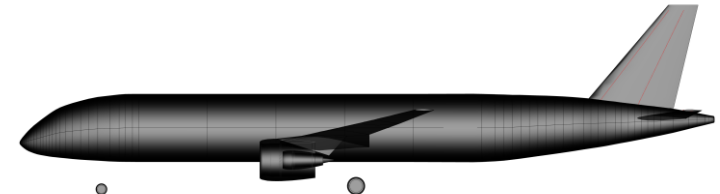
- Controls
- Hydraulics & Electrics
- Air conditioning

### Components:

- ISO Wing (incl. High-Lift)
- ISO Empennage
- ISO Engines
- Lighter Landing Gear

### TLARs:

- ISO design range (1500nm)
- Takeoff length and approach speed not additionally constrained  
→ a result for ISO engines & wing



### D250TP & D250TF:

- 250 PAX
- Standard Payload 23750kg
- Max Payload 25000kg

### D220TP & D220TF:

- 220 PAX
- Standard Payload 20900kg
- Max Payload 24200kg
- Fuselage ~3.9m shorter

The overall aircraft design process and optimization take into account both family members.

### For more details:

“Cabin Modelling and Operator Item Assumptions for a Green Aircraft Family” by Y. Cabac, J.N. Walter, C. Hesse



# Modelling Workflow

## openAD:

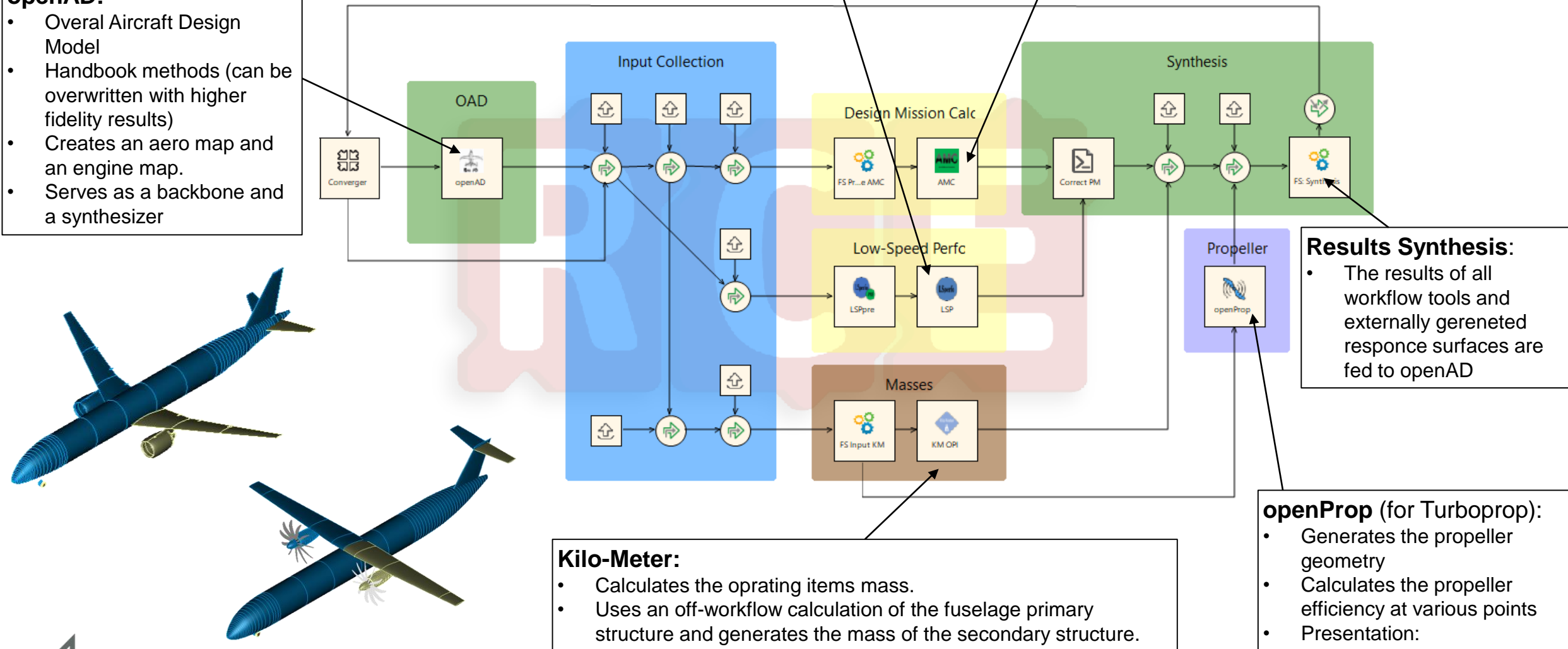
- Overall Aircraft Design Model
- Handbook methods (can be overwritten with higher fidelity results)
- Creates an aero map and an engine map.
- Serves as a backbone and a synthesizer

## LSP (Low-Speed Perfo):

- Calculates the low-speed trajectories of the aircraft
- Calculates the balanced field length

## AMC (Aircraft Mission Calculator):

- Calculates the mission trajectories of the aircraft
- Flexible mission definition (incl. step cruise)



## Results Synthesis:

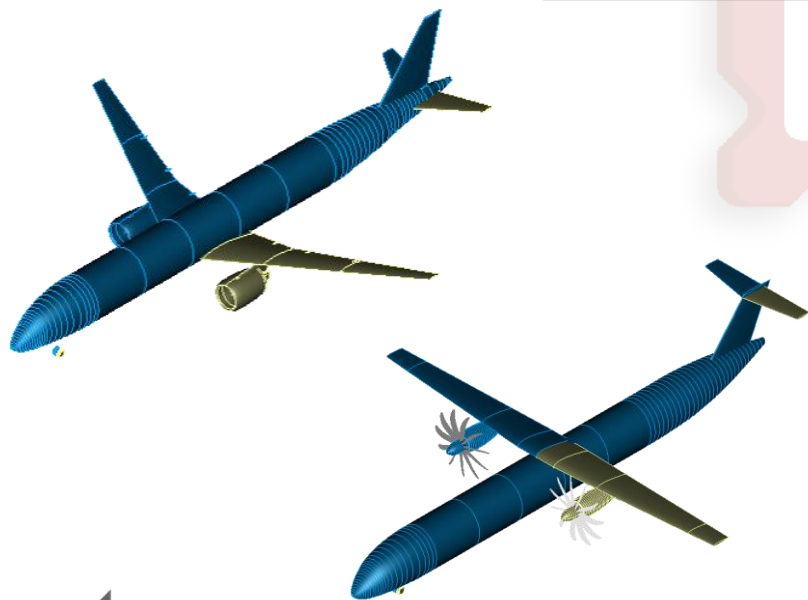
- The results of all workflow tools and externally generated response surfaces are fed to openAD

## Kilo-Meter:

- Calculates the operating items mass.
- Uses an off-workflow calculation of the fuselage primary structure and generates the mass of the secondary structure.

## openProp (for Turboprop):

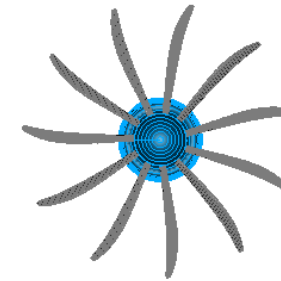
- Generates the propeller geometry
- Calculates the propeller efficiency at various points
- Presentation:



## Modelling – Design Studies

- A propeller geometry study, resulting in an 11-bladed propeller design  
For more details:

*“Propeller Design and Analysis based on BEMT for Target Setting Purposes within the Aircraft Conceptual Design Phase” by Yannic Cabac, Georgi Atanasov*



- Diameter = 5.9m
- AF = 77
- nBlades = 11

- The VTP size was determined by a response surface generated by CASCOT. For more details:

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# Turofan vs Turboprop Comparison



D250-321TF-2040  
(D250TF)

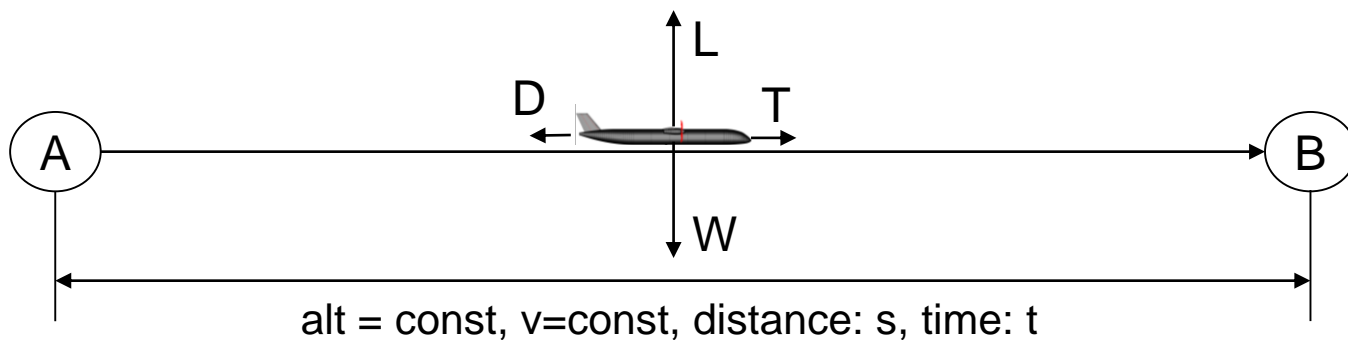


D250-321TP-2040  
(D250TP)





# Effect of Speed on Efficiency



In Cruise:

$$L = W = m \cdot g$$

$$T = D = \frac{m \cdot g}{L/D}$$

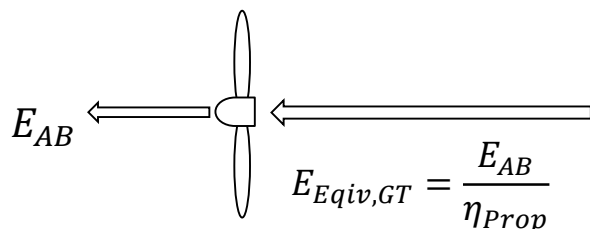
Flight speed can affect these parameters, thus indirectly affecting fuel.

Energy (work) A->B:  $E_{AB} \approx P_{ave} \cdot t = T_{ave} \cdot v \cdot t = T_{ave} \cdot \frac{s}{t} \cdot t = T_{ave} \cdot s$  (work equals force times distance)

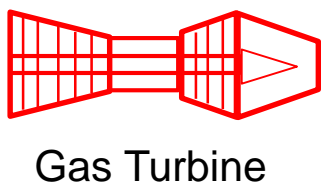
The amount of work needed to move the aircraft is not directly dependent on the flight time.

Energy (work) A->B:  $E_{AB} \approx T_{ave} \cdot s = \frac{m_{ave} \cdot g}{(L/D)_{ave}} \cdot s \Rightarrow$

Work to move the aircraft  $E_{AB}$



$$E_{Equiv,GT} = \frac{E_{AB}}{\eta_{prop}}$$



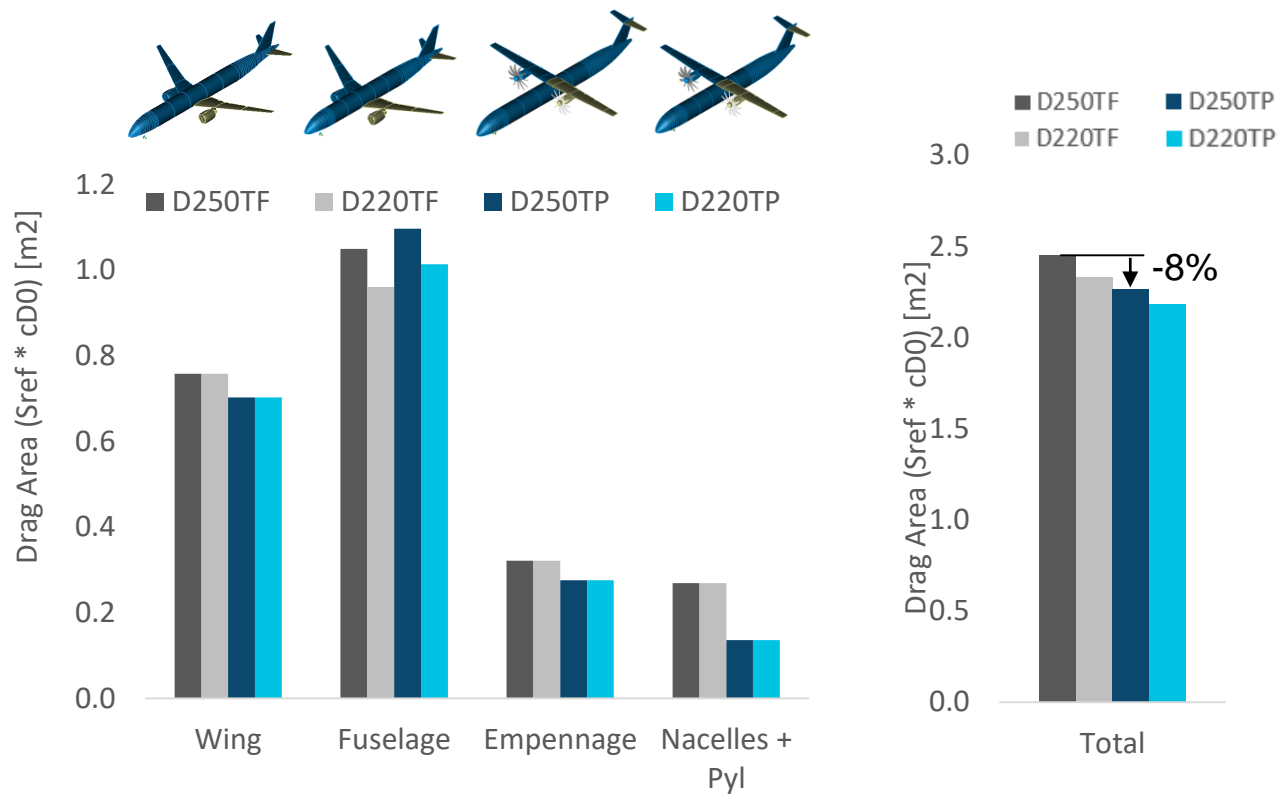
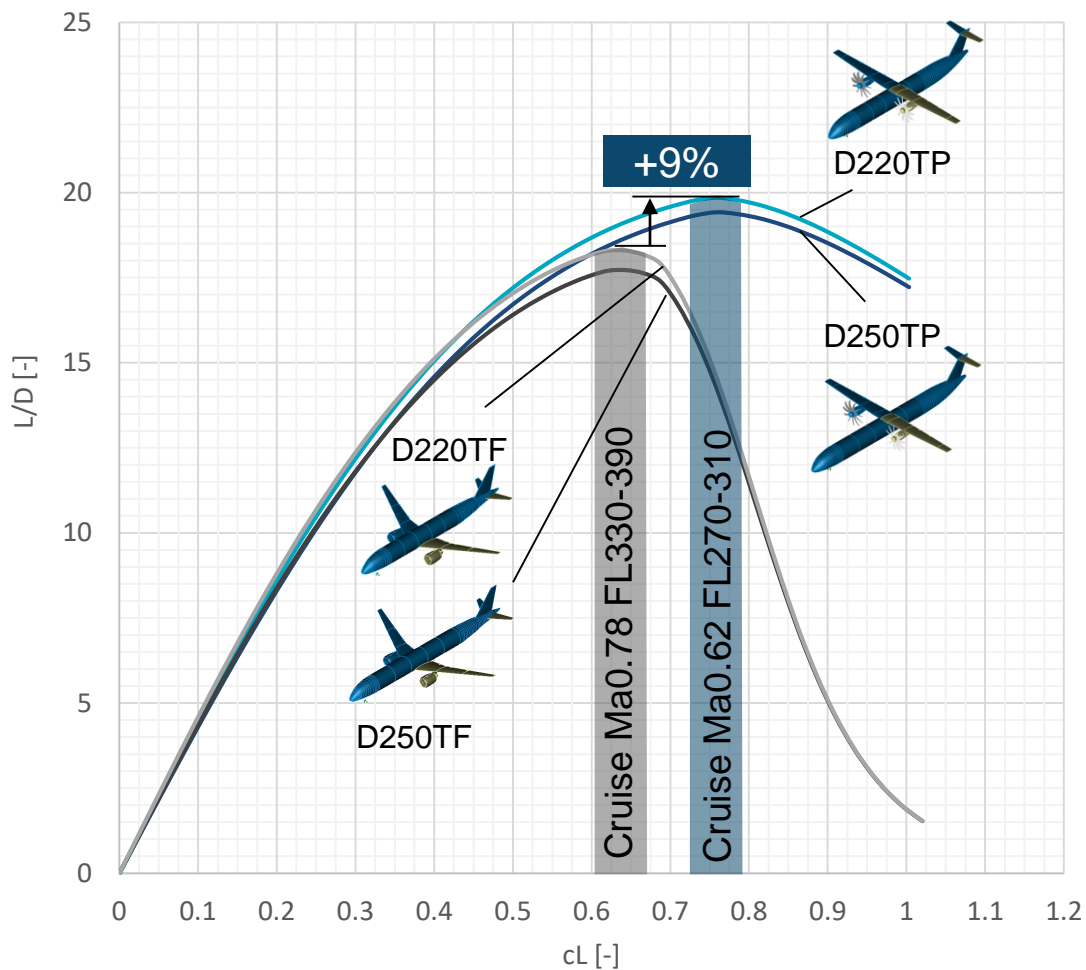
$$E_{fuel} = \frac{E_{Equiv,GT}}{\eta_{GT}} = \frac{E_{AB}}{\eta_{GT} \cdot \eta_{prop}}$$

$E_{Fuel} (H_F \cdot m_F)$

- $\sim m_{ave}$
- $\sim \frac{1}{(L/D)_{ave}}$
- $\sim \frac{1}{\eta_{GT} \cdot \eta_{prop}}$

Cruise fuel is proportional to the aircraft mass and inversely proportional to L/D, propulsor efficiency and gas turbine efficiency.

# Turbofan vs Turboprop: Aerodynamics

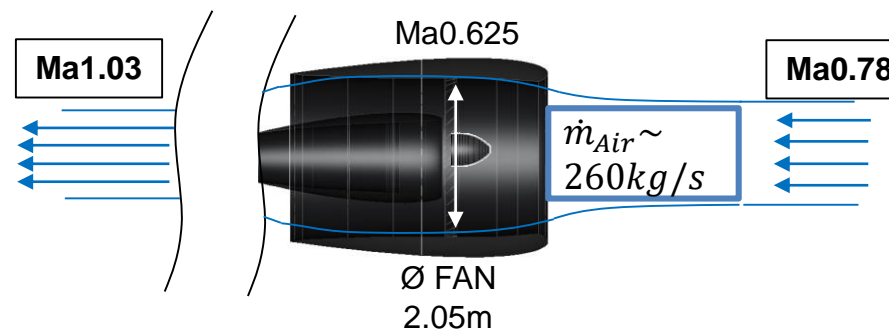
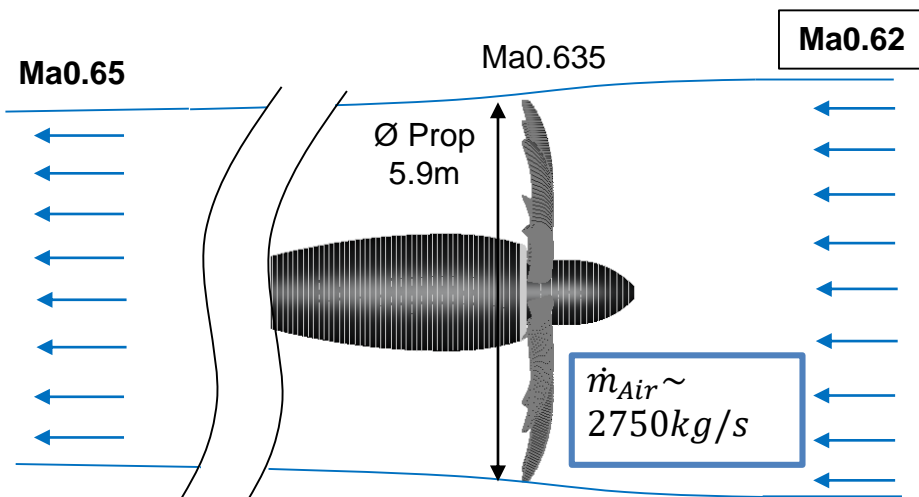
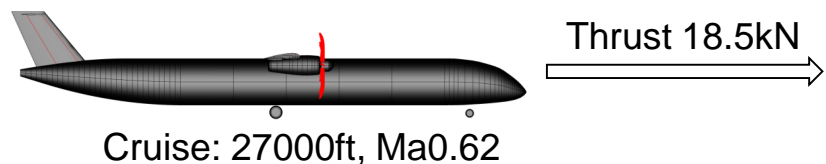


~9% improvement in L/D due to:

- smaller nacelles, wing and empennage
- increase in cruise CL due to less transonic effects limitations for the wing design, as well as relaxer engine-aero matching due to the lower speed.



# Turbofan vs Turboprop: Propulsor Efficiency



$$\eta_{Propulsive} = \frac{2}{1 + v_e/v_0} = 0.99$$

Propeller Losses

$$\eta_{Propeller} \approx 0.85$$

$$\eta_{Propulsive} = \frac{2}{1 + v_e/v_0} = 0.86$$

Fan & Duct Losses

$$\eta_{DuctedFan} \approx 0.76$$

The propeller is ~12% (relatively) more efficient than the fan, mainly due to the large diameter.



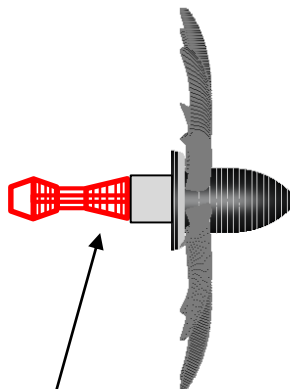
# Turbofan vs Turboprop: Engines

Top of Climb Point (FL270, Ma0.6):

- TET = 1600K
- Thrust ~21.5kN
- $\eta_{\text{Prop}} = 84\%$

=> **Gas Turbine Equivalent Power\* = 4.6MW**

\*Equiv. Power is the total useful power including residual thrust

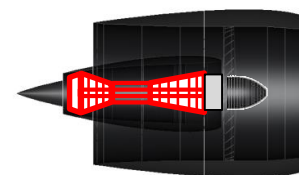


Top of Climb Point (FL330, Ma0.76)

- TET = 1600K
- Thrust ~24.5kN
- $\eta_{\text{Fan}} = 75\%$

=> **Gas Turbine Equivalent Power\* \* = 7.5MW**

\*Equiv. Power is the total useful power including core thrust.



Gas turbine model efficiency:

- Equivalent power efficiency\*: 52.5%
- 2-Stage Gearbox: 98.5% efficiency
- **Total equivalent efficiency\*\*: 51.6%**

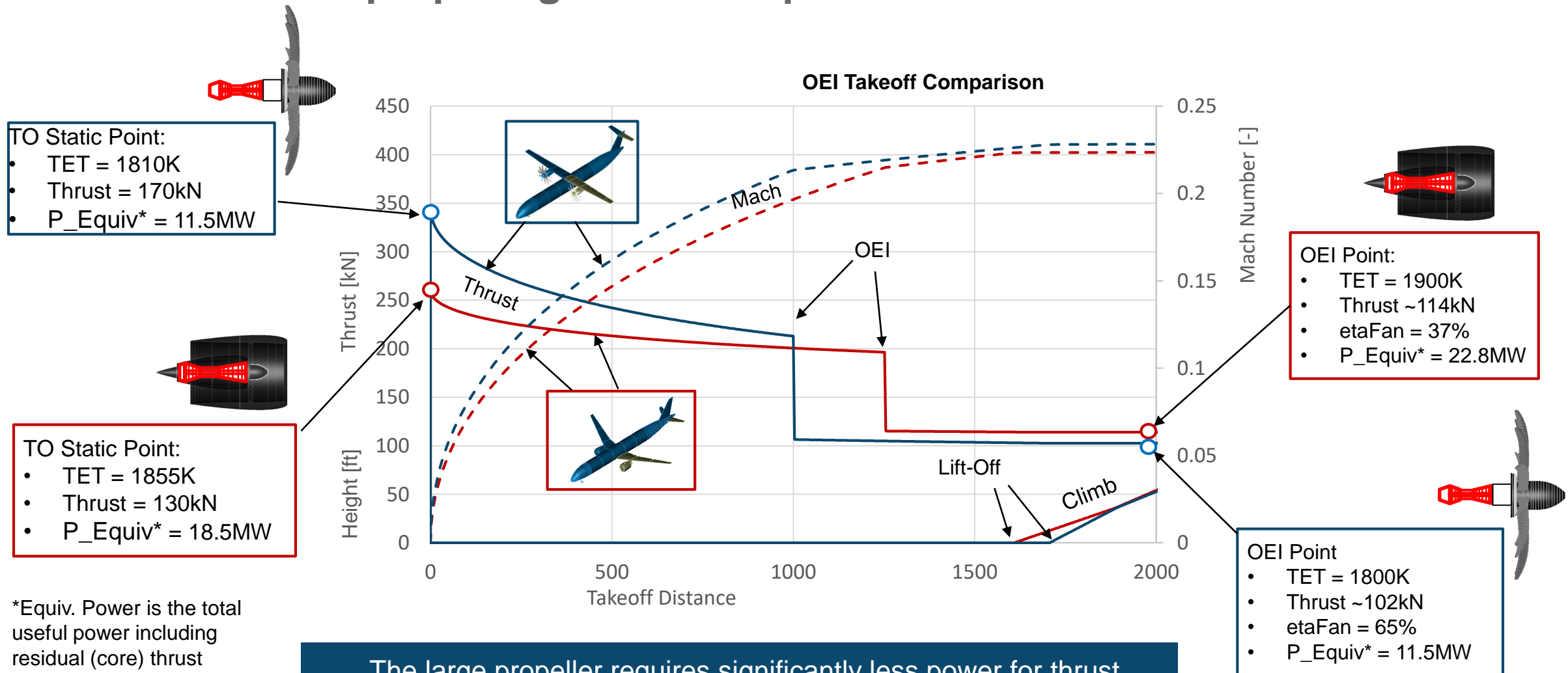
\*\*Equiv. efficiency is defined as the fraction of the fuel heating energy that can be transformed into equivalent power.

Gas turbine model efficiency:

- Equivalent power efficiency\*: 55.5% (more efficient due to size effect)
- 1-Stage Gearbox: 99.4% efficiency
- **Total equivalent efficiency\*\*: 55.1%**

The gas turbines of the turboprop are smaller and the propeller requires a 2-stage gearbox, which results in ~7% (relatively) lower efficiency of the power generation compared to the geared turbofan.

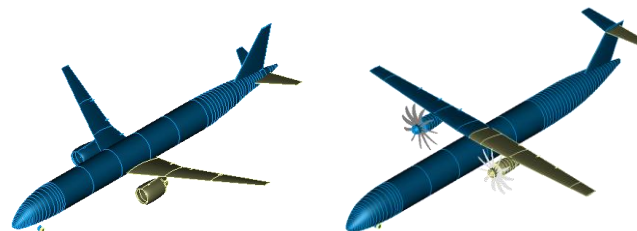
# Turbofan vs Turboprop: Engines Low-Speed



\*Equiv. Power is the total useful power including residual (core) thrust

The large propeller requires significantly less power for thrust production compared to the turbofan.

## Turbofan vs Turboprop: Allowances



<i>Fuel Allowances</i>	Units	D250TF	D250TP	Rel.
<i>Taxi-Out (9min)</i>	kg	92	61	-33%
<i>Take-Off and Climb to 1500ft</i>	kg	212	139	-35%
<i>Approach (from 1500ft) &amp; Landing (5min)</i>	kg	100	63	-37%
<i>Taxi-In (5min)</i>	kg	51	35	-31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>kg</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>-35%</b>

Taxi Idle assumes 10% of take-off fuel flow

Calculated with LSP (Low-Speed Perfo Tool)

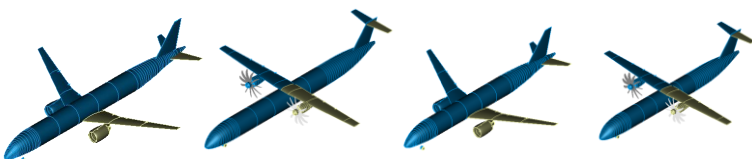
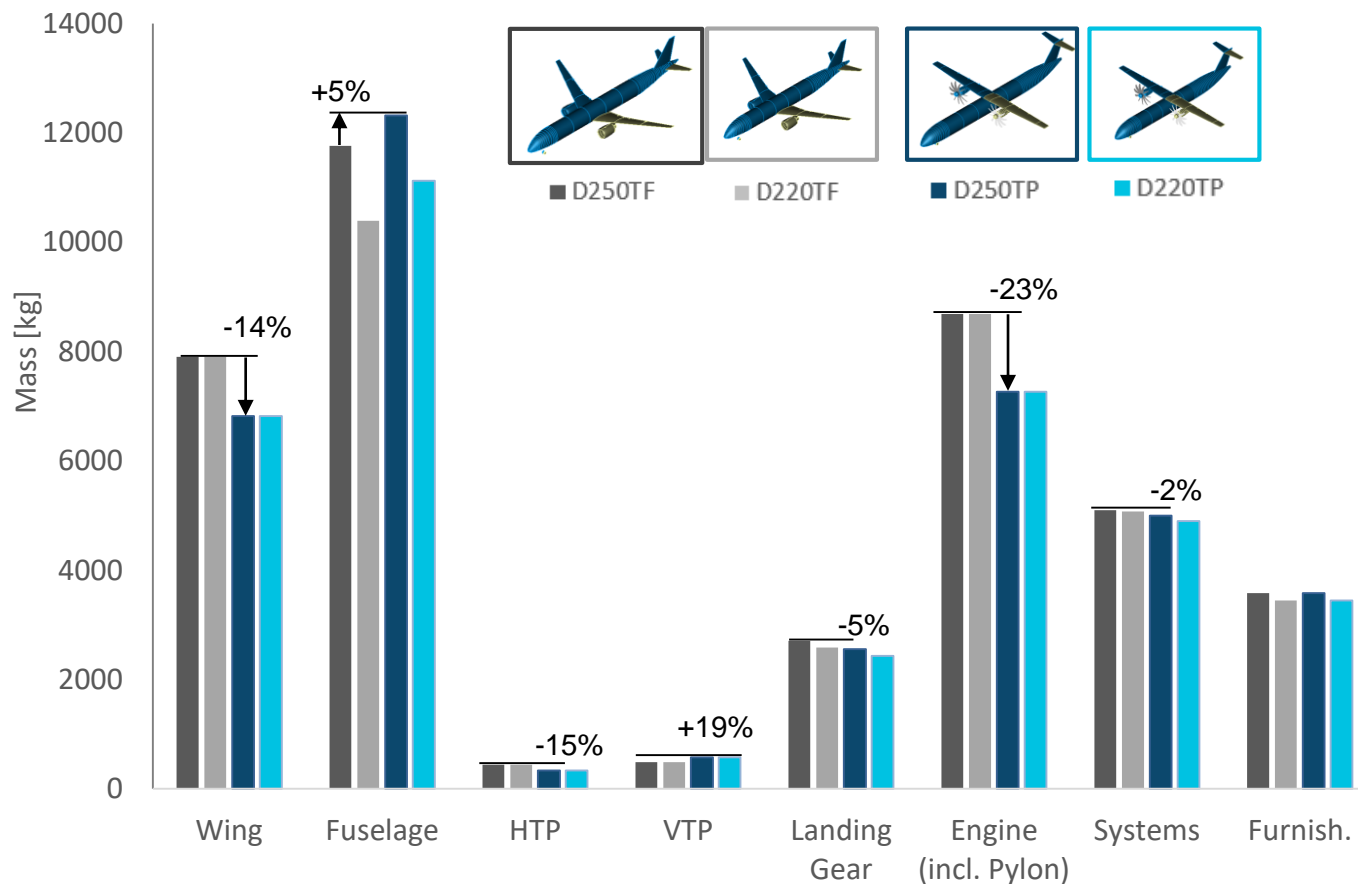
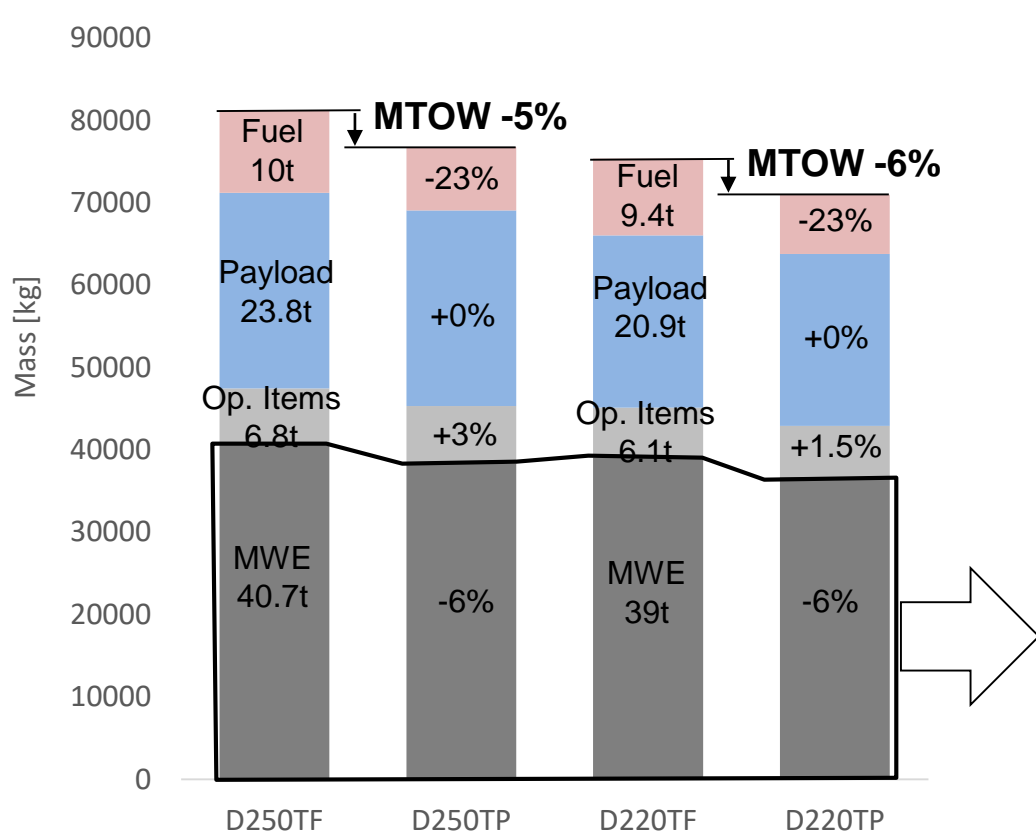
Taxi Idle assumes 10% of take-off fuel flow

The ~35% smaller gas turbines burn proportionally less fuel at idle power (taxi, approach&landing). The large propellers are significantly more efficient in producing thrust during take-off and initial climb.

The reduction of the fuel allowances is especially advantageous at shorter missions



# Turbofan vs Turboprop: Mass Breakdown



The MTOW of the turboprop is ~5% lighter, with ~6% empty mass reduction due to lighter wing and engines and ~23% less fuel.

# Turbofan vs Turboprop: Design Block Fuel Comparison



**D250TF**

**-5% Block Fuel**  
Due to reduced *A/C Mass.*

**-8.8% Block Fuel**  
Due to improved *L/D.*

**+0.9% Block Fuel**  
Due to turboprop with 2-staged gearbox vs geared fan with 1-staged gearbox.

**+6.4% Block Fuel**  
Due to reduced *Efficiency* of the smaller gas turbine

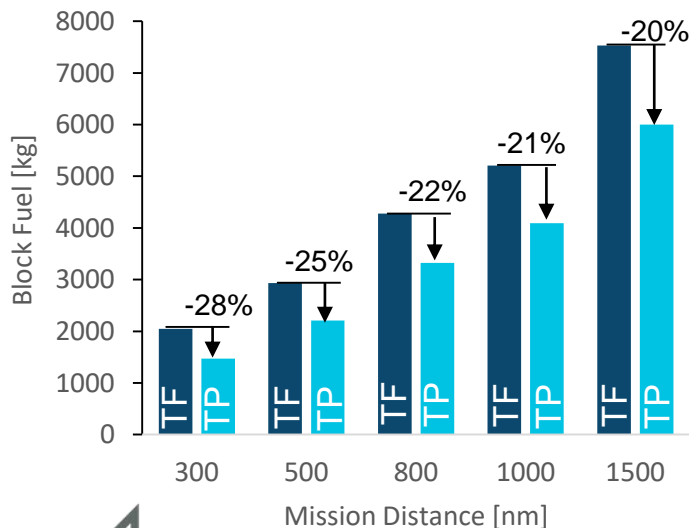
**-11.8% Block Fuel**  
Improved propulsive *Efficiency* of the propeller vs ducted fan.

**-2% Block Fuel**  
Due to reduced fuel allowances.

**-20.3%**

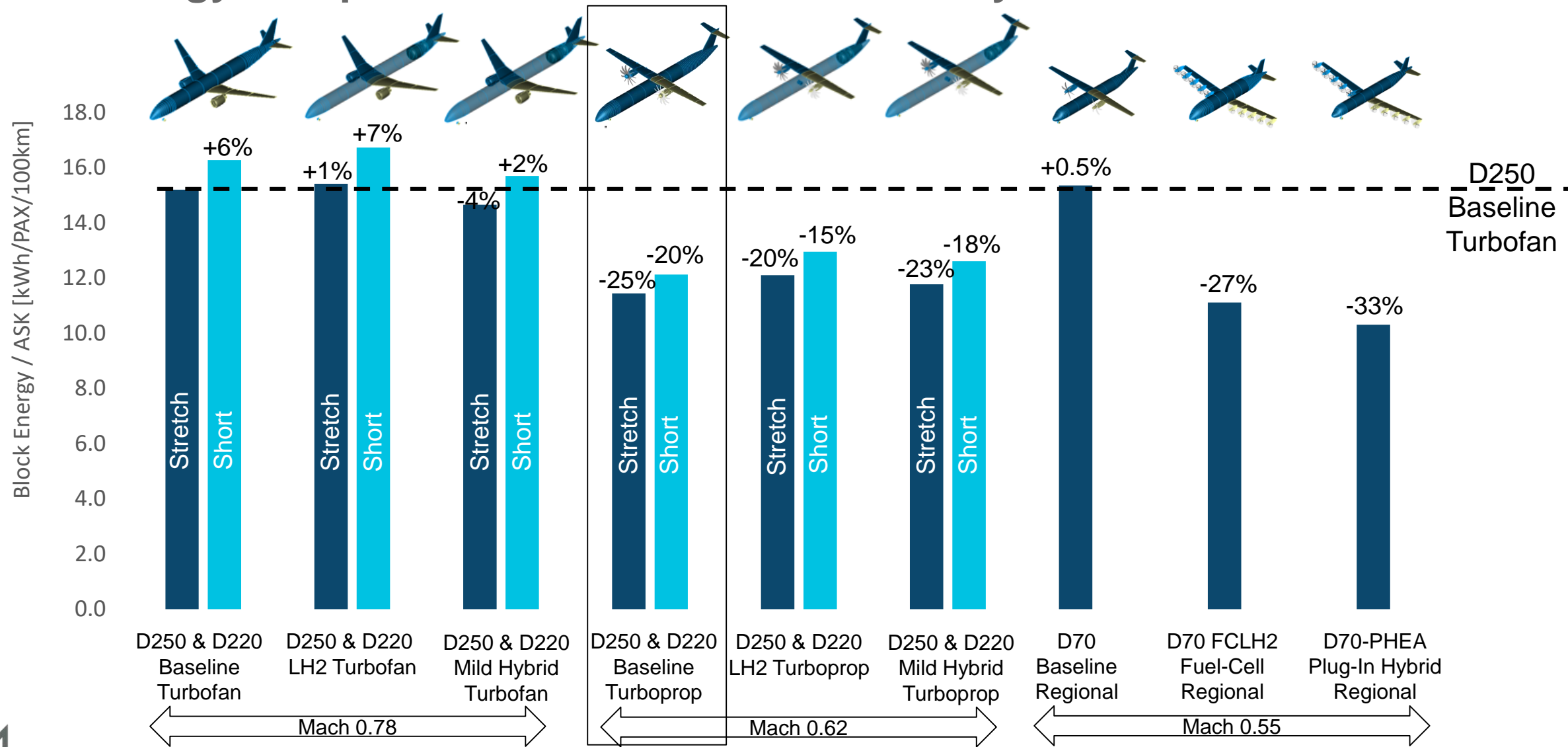
**Design Mission (1500nm) Block Fuel**

**D250TP**





# Block Energy Comparison @ 500nm & Standard Payload



# Summary and Outlook

- Summary
  - 20-25% block fuel reduction compared to a respective turbofan design.
  - Tendency for lower cruise altitudes → increased potential for climate impact reduction.



- Outlook
  - Higher-fidelity wing calculation.
  - Detailed Mach-number trade-off studies for the aircraft concepts.
  - Feeding back results from the other HAPs into the design.



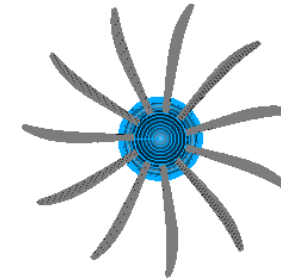
**Thank you for your attention!**

**Reach out to: [georgi.atanasov@dlr.de](mailto:georgi.atanasov@dlr.de)**

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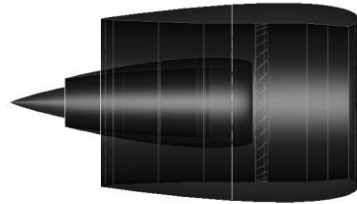
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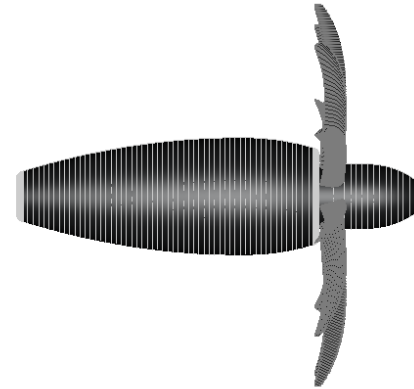


# Backup Slide Engine Mass Breakdown



## D250TF Engine Mass Breakdown

<i>Total Engine Mass</i>	<i>8800</i>
<i>Gas Turbines</i>	<i>4200</i>
<i>Gearboxes</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Fans (incl. inner ducts)</i>	<i>600</i>
<i>Nacelles (incl. thrust rev.)</i>	<i>1830</i>
<i>Pylons</i>	<i>960</i>
<i>Eng &amp; Nacelle Systems</i>	<i>510</i>



## D250TP Engine Mass Breakdown

<i>Total Engine Mass</i>	<i>7270</i>
<i>Gas Turbines</i>	<i>2720</i>
<i>Gearboxes</i>	<i>1280</i>
<i>Propellers</i>	<i>2100</i>
<i>Nacelles</i>	<i>410</i>
<i>Mounting Structure</i>	<i>340</i>
<i>Eng &amp; Nacelle Systems</i>	<i>420</i>

