

ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF NEW AIRCRAFT TECHNOLOGIES FOR SHORT RANGE AIRCRAFT: INSIGHTS FROM PROJECT EXACT

Jennifer Ramm

German Aerospace Center (DLR e.V.) Institute of Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul



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Rising global **climate impact** from **aviation** sector:

Innovative solutions for low-emission aircraft concepts









Overall EXACT Process







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Use Cases and Methodology



* Ramm et al. - Assessing the Feasibility of Hydrogen-Powered Aircraft: A Comparative Economic and Environmental Analysis, Journal of Aircraft 2024, DOI: 10.2514/1.C037463

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Fuel prices for different energy carrier* Cost progression over the years



- Average values calculated, weighted with the energy demand per airport
- Values interpolated between 2040 and 2050
- Values held constant after 2050, as it is uncertain how the trend will look that far into the future.



- 1990 to 2023: Historic fuel prices
- 2024 to 2050: Fuel price predictions from the Annual Energy Outlook
- 2051 to 2080: Extrapolation based on a regression from the years 2040 to 2050

* Veatriki Papantoni (DLR-VE-ESY)









Results are subject to current assumptions, among others:

- Mid capital cost and maintenance cost assumptions
- Turbofan LH₂ optimized network
- Fees are the same for all aircraft types except for landing fees
- No consideration of CO2 costs







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High fuel price

Mid fuel price

scenario

scenario



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30.0%

25.0%

20.0%

15.0%

10.0%

5.0%

0.0%

-5.0%

-10.0%

-15.0% -20.0%

-25.0%

16.0%

1



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2

Maintenance

1.7%

3

-18.5%

4

0.0%

25.4%

22.4%

5

6

Capital 18%

Crew

15%

Fees

23%

Maintenance

20%

12

Turbofan

Energy

24%





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Detailed NPV analysis variation - LH₂ tank exchange*

In comparison to the Turbofan aircraft using SynKerosene



* Ramm et al. - Uncertainty quantification in hydrogen tank exchange: Estimating maintenance costs for new aircraft concepts, International Journal of Hydrogen Energy 2024, DOI: 10.1016/j.ijhydene.2024.04.157



RECAP AND OUTLOOK

Recap and Outlook





- Maintenance plan and capital cost are based on multiple assumptions
- Only the medium and high fuel price scenarios were considered
- The assessment is subject to a lot of uncertainties

 \rightarrow include in next assessment

- Dependence of ticket prices on fuel prices can make assessment more realistic
- Eco-efficiency metric could be used to combine the economic and ecological assessment

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Thank you for your attention!



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