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THE HONG KONG  
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

# Hydrogen-Powered Aircraft Sustainable Future Takes Flight

Tony Hays

Aircraft Design and Consulting

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# HYDROGEN-POWERED AIRCRAFT:

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE TAKES FLIGHT



**MAR 23**

ROOM **4621**

near lifts 31/32

**5:00 PM**

Registration and  
mingling session

**4:30 PM**

Refreshment  
will be provided

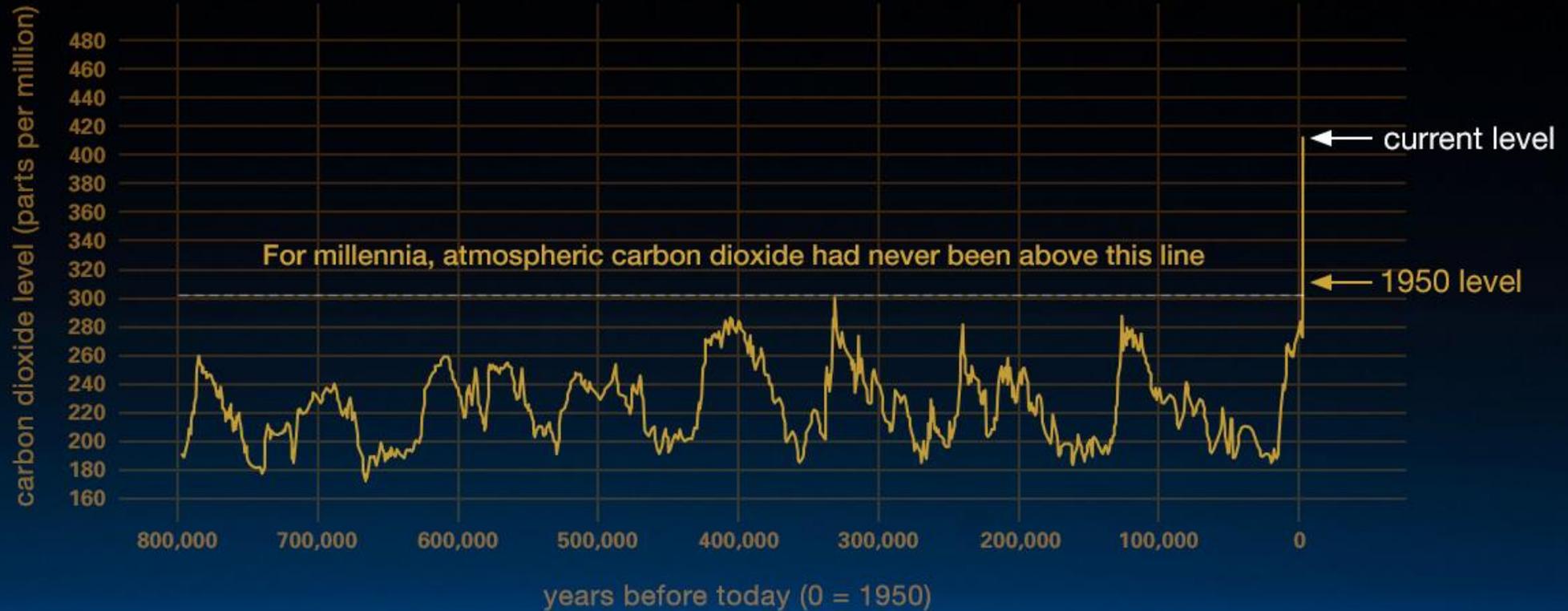


**Tony Hays**

Tony has 50 years of experience working in the aerospace industry -- with 30 years spent at Lockheed in aircraft conceptual design

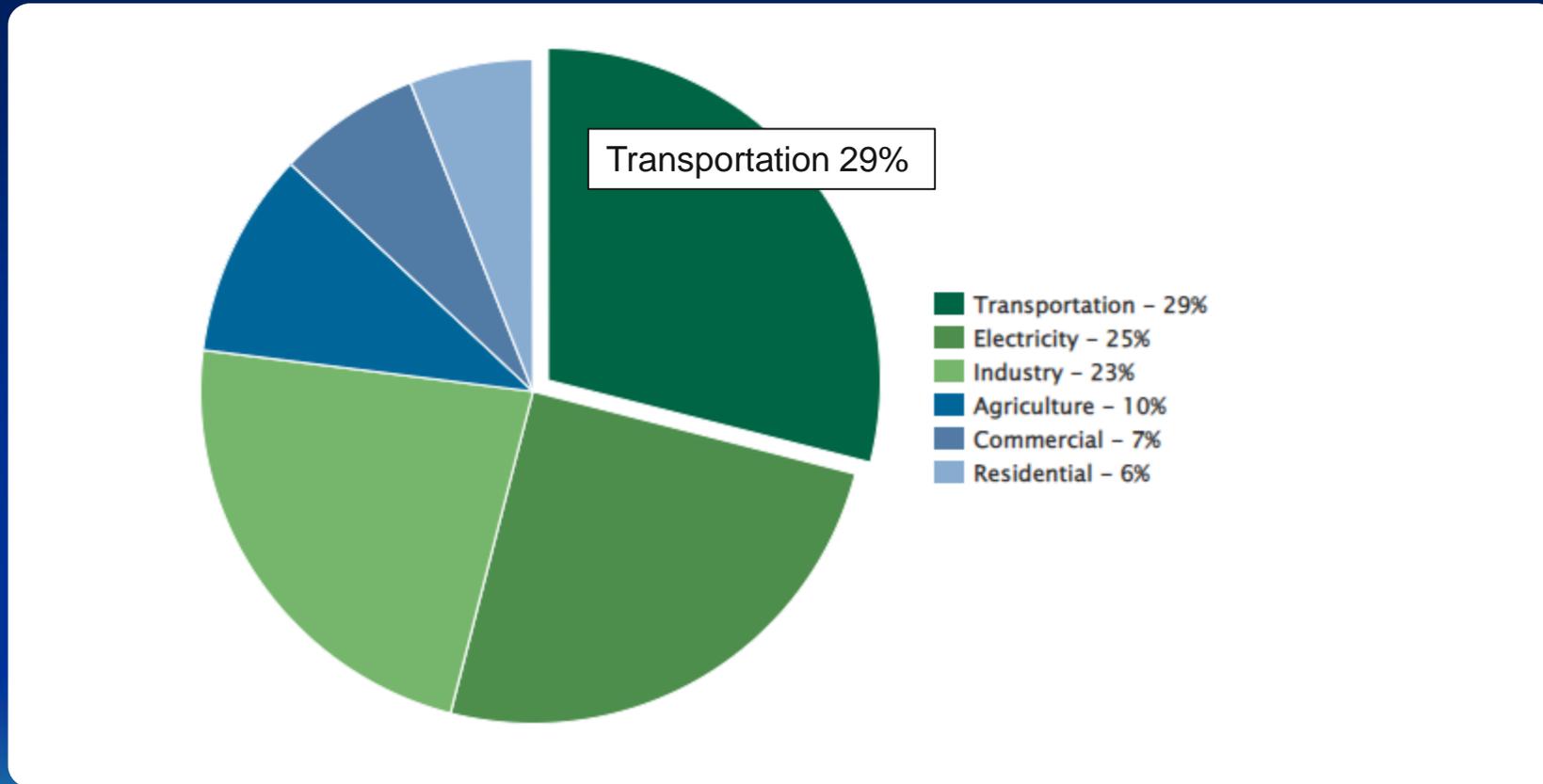
- **Need for Zero-Carbon Economy**
- Hydrogen vs. Batteries
- History of Hydrogen-powered Propulsion
- Hydrogen Generation and Distribution
- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
- The Future of Hydrogen
- Contrails
- Conclusions

# The Relentless Rise of CO<sub>2</sub>

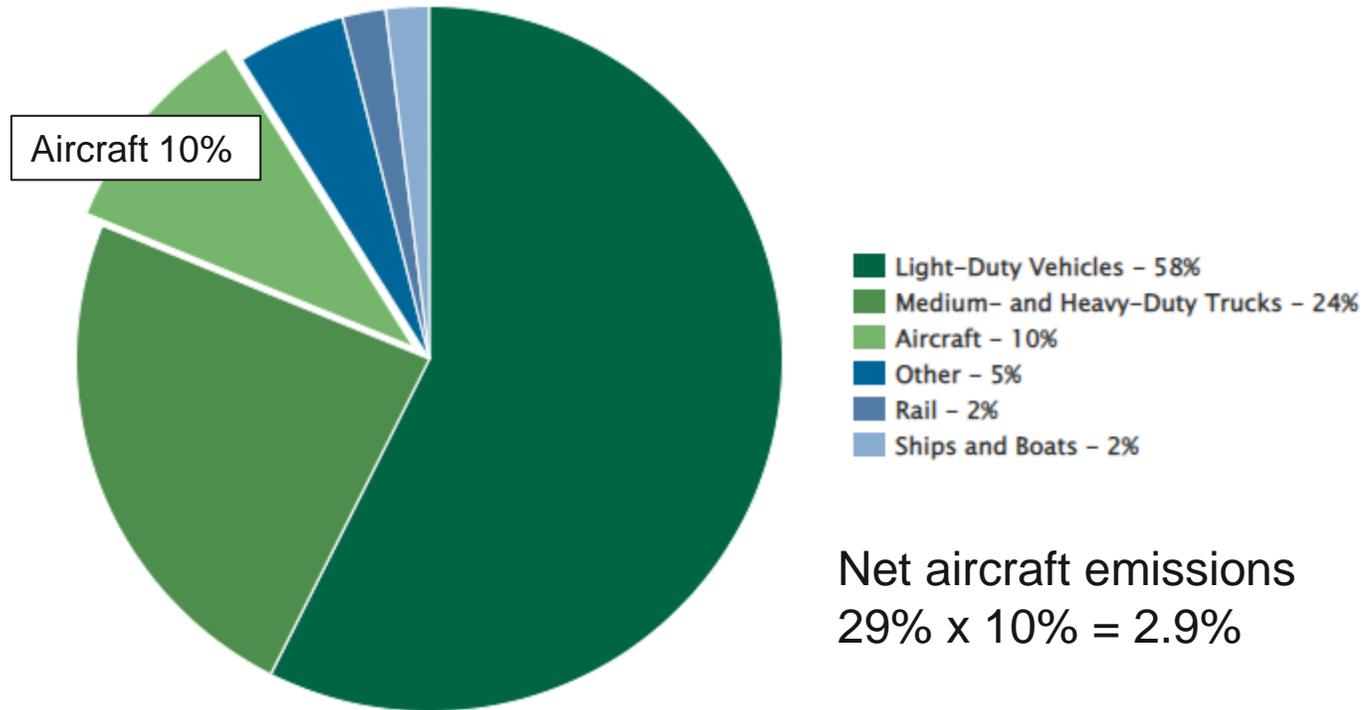


[https://climate.nasa.gov/climate\\_resources/24/graphic-the-relentless-rise-of-carbon-dioxide/](https://climate.nasa.gov/climate_resources/24/graphic-the-relentless-rise-of-carbon-dioxide/)

# 2019 U.S. GHG Emissions by Sector



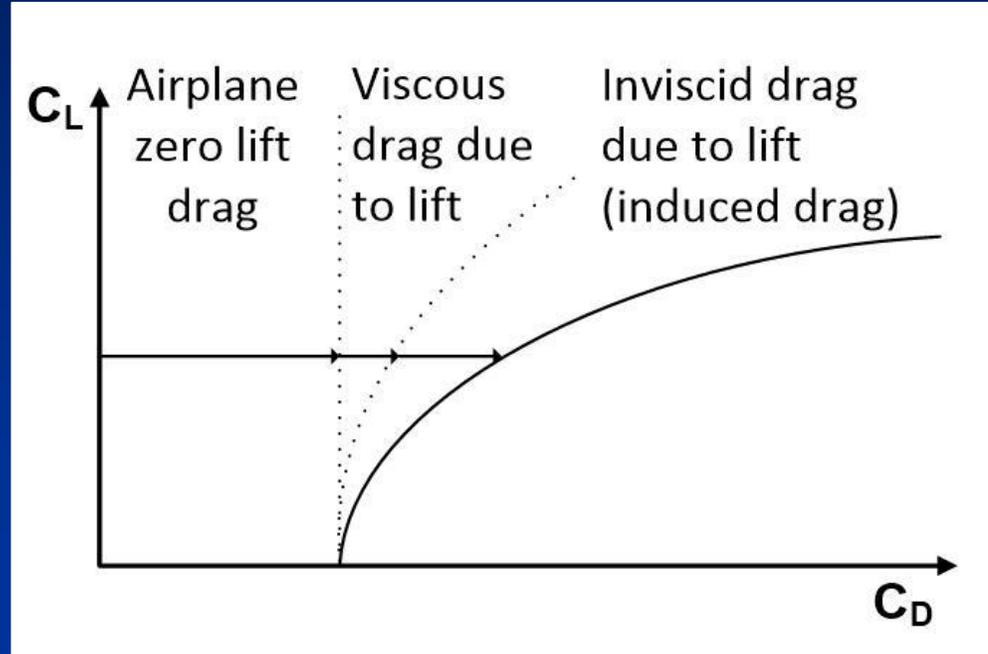
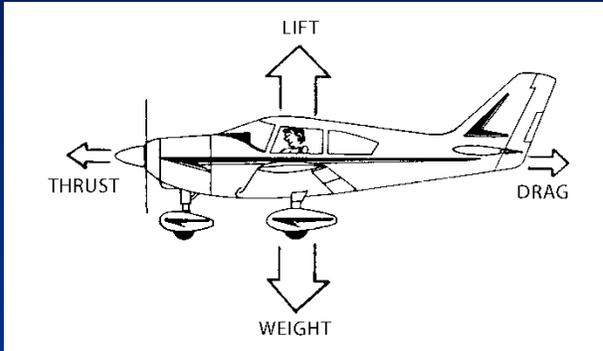
# 2019 U.S. Transportation Sector GHG Emissions by Source



- Need for Zero-Carbon Economy
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# Drag Polar

For an airplane, almost half the drag is directly dependent on weight



$$C_D = C_{D_0} + KC_L^2$$

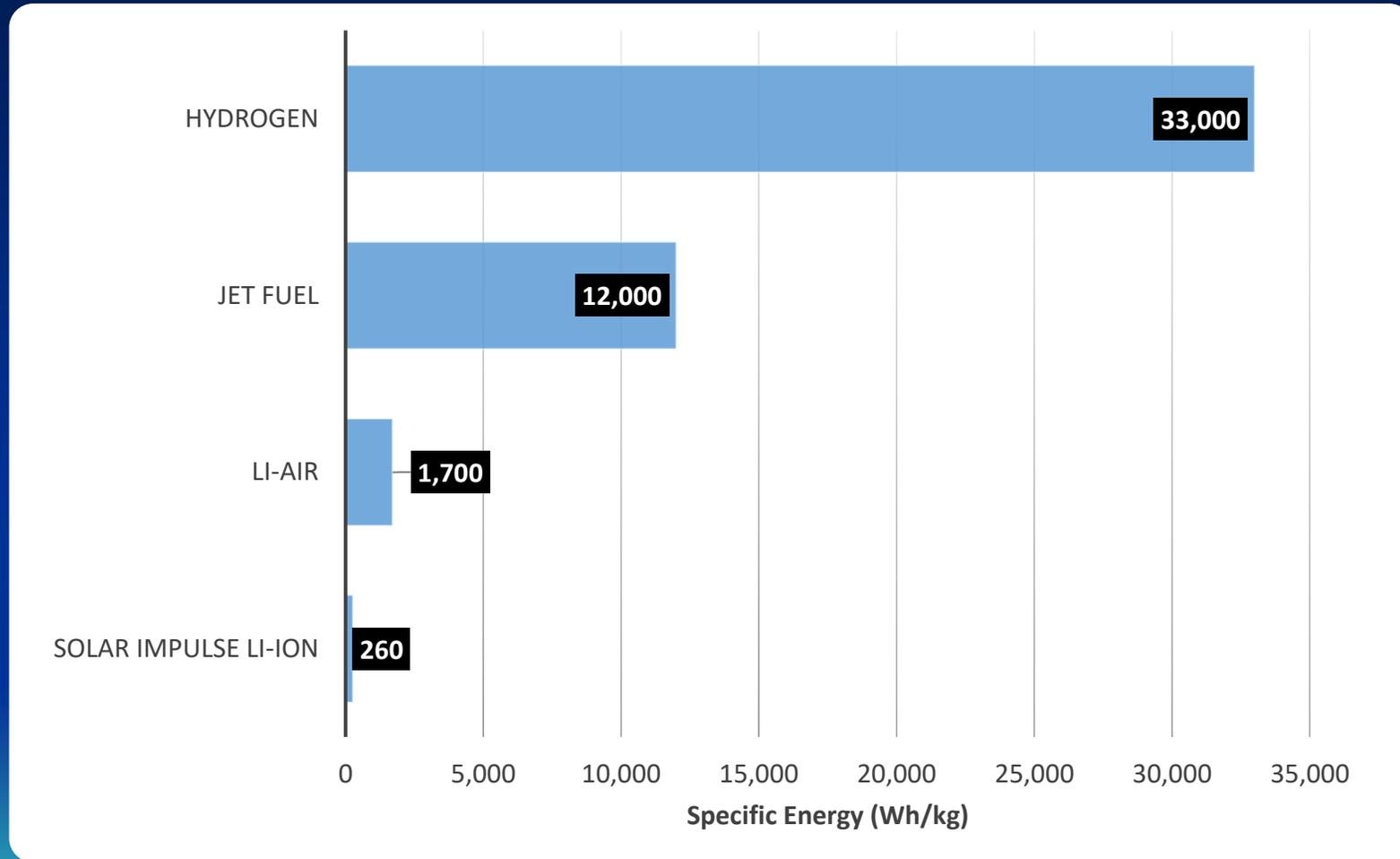
where  $C_L = \frac{L}{\frac{1}{2}\rho V^2 S}$

and  $L = W$

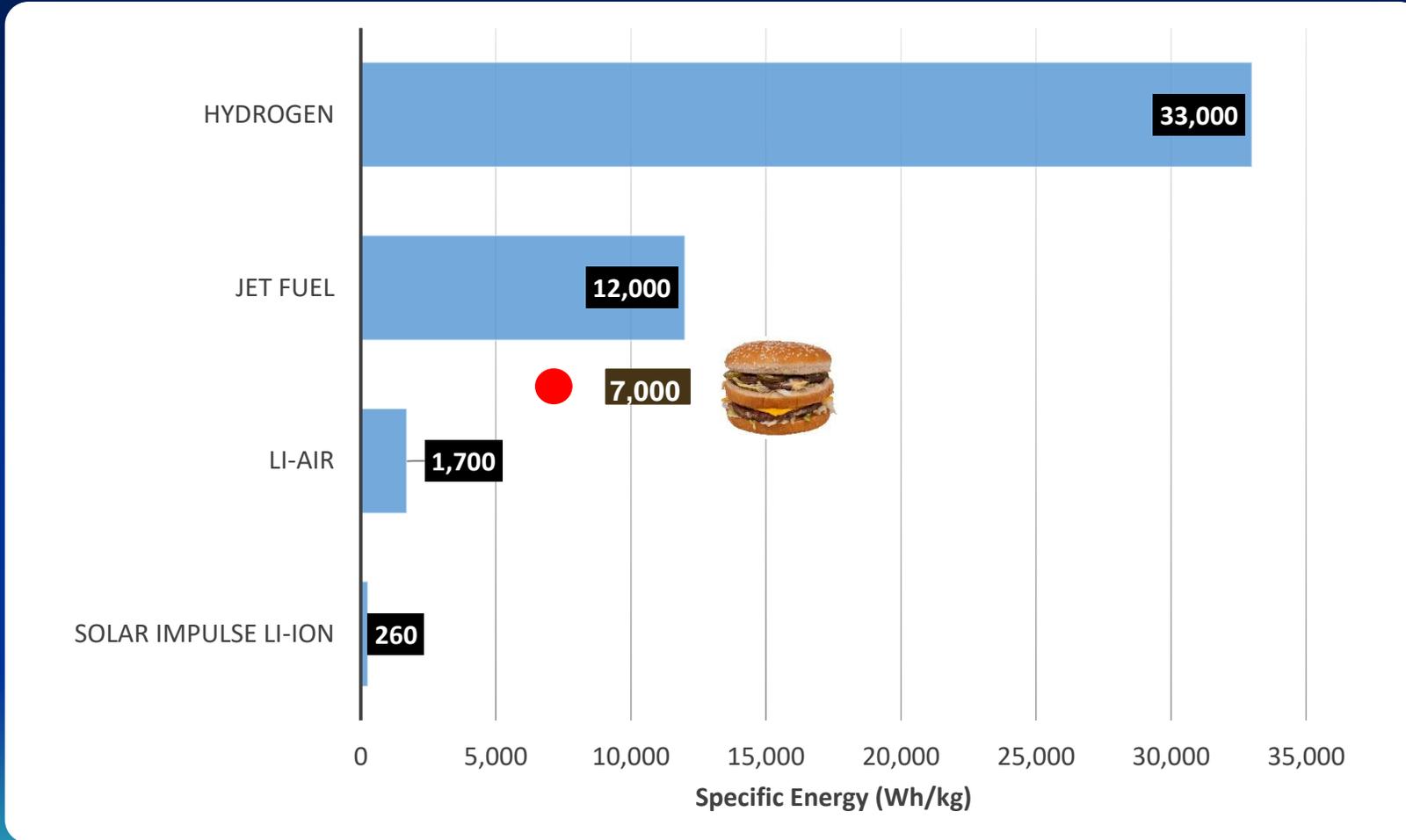
More weight > more lift req'd > more drag > more thrust req'd > more power req'd > more energy req'd > more battery weight



# Energy/Unit Weight is Important



# Energy/Unit Weight is Important

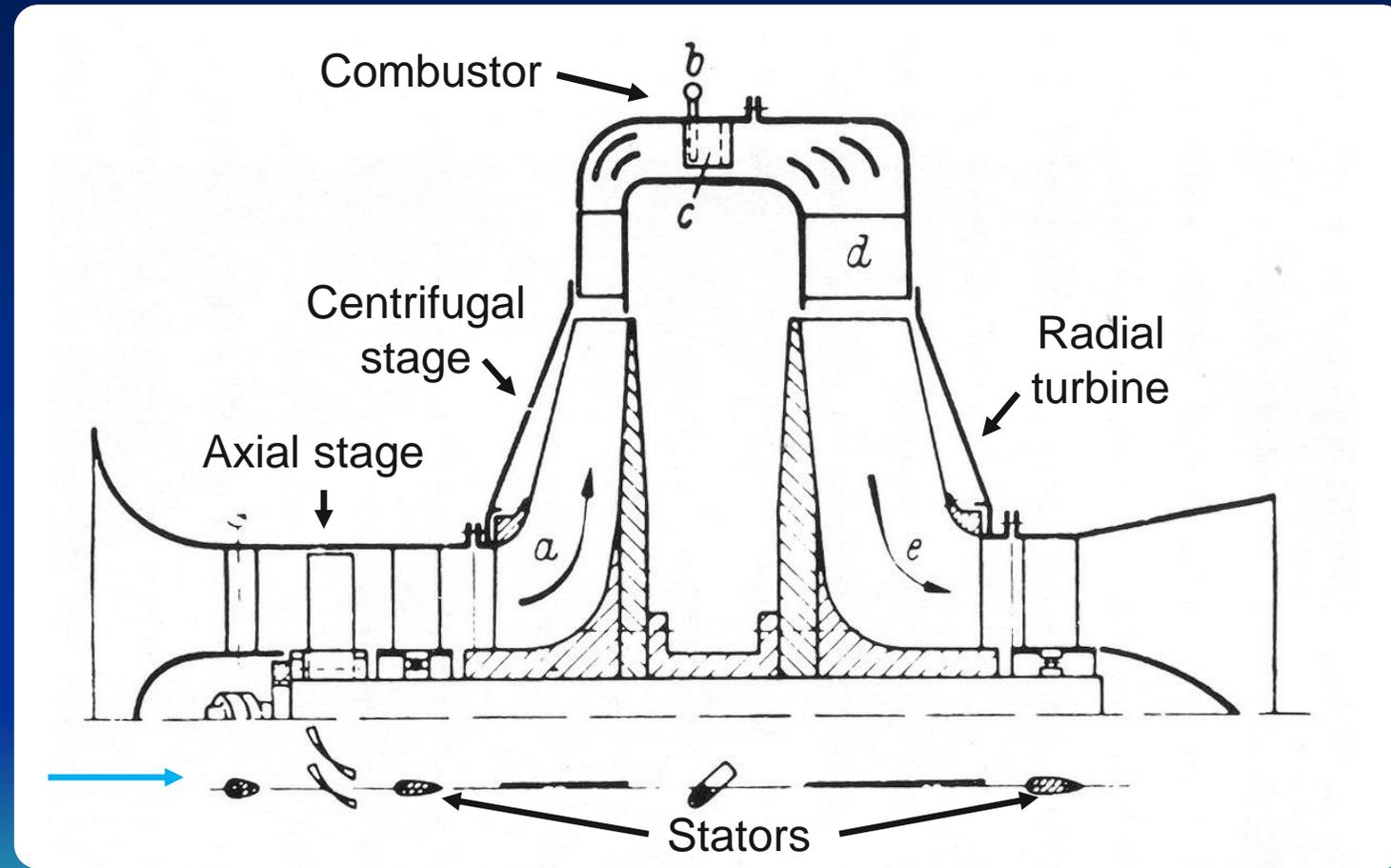


[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big\\_Mac](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Mac)

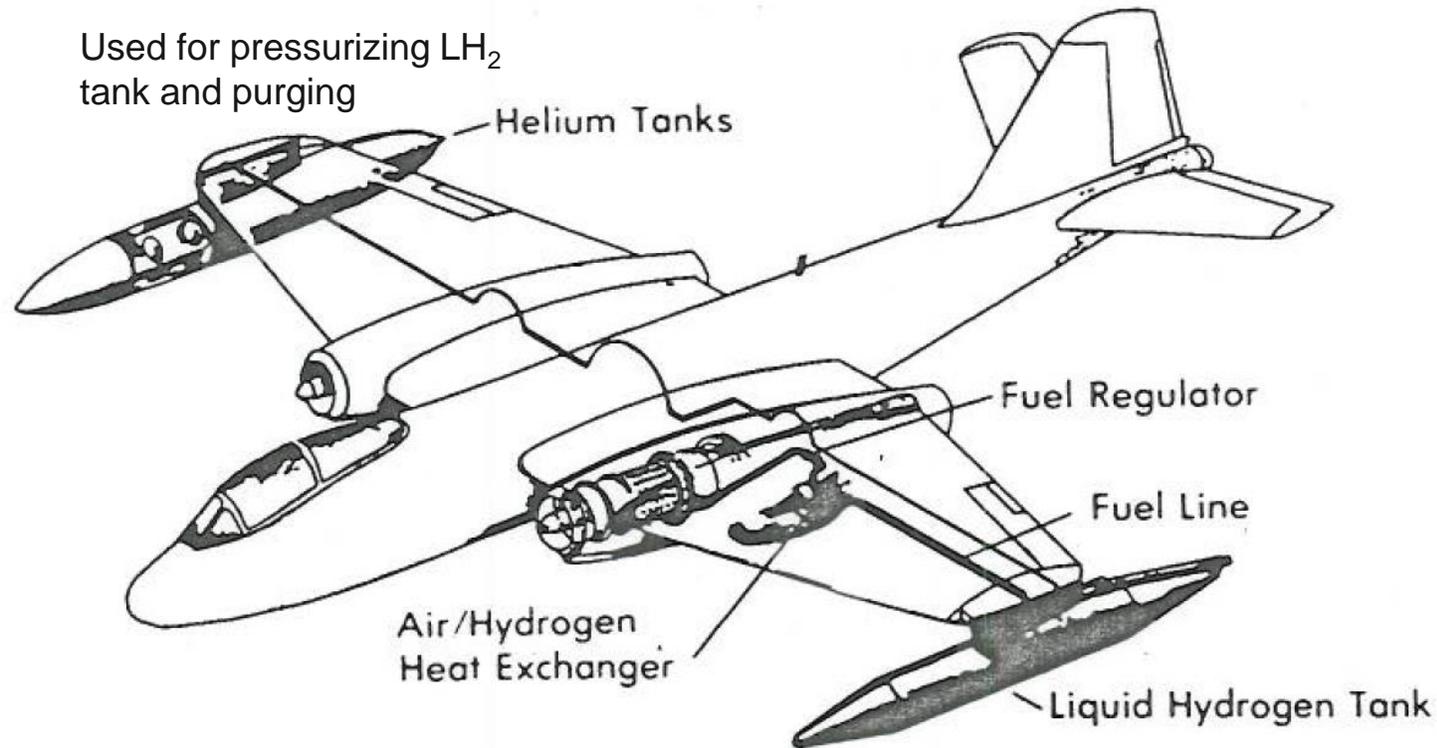
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# He S-1 Turbojet

- Built in 1936, tested in April 1937
- Manufacturer: Heinkel-Hirth Motorenbau
- Designer: Hans von Ohain
- Axial + centrifugal compressor
- Gaseous hydrogen-powered
- Rotor radius: ~ 30 cm (1 ft)
- Thrust: ~1,100 N (250 lb)



# Martin B-57 Canberra



- First flight 1955
- NACA Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory
- Standard B-57 with Wright J65 engine
- Mach 0.75 @ 50,000 ft
- Switched from JP-4 to H<sub>2</sub>
- 21 minutes on H<sub>2</sub>
- Switched back to JP-4

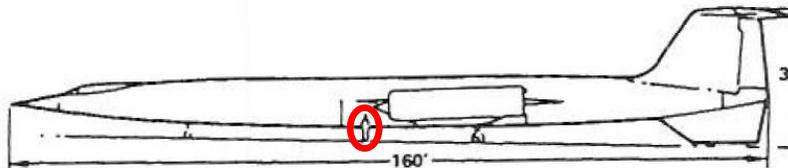
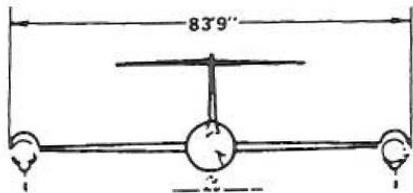
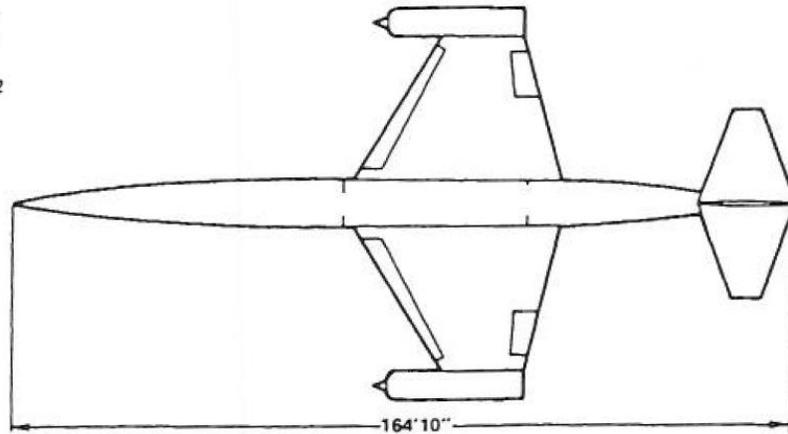
ADA505106 AMCs Future - Sustainable Air Mobility. A.D. Reiman.pdf

# Lockheed CL-400

## CL-400 DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS

T.O.G.W.	69,955 lb
ZERO F.W.	48,515 lb
FUEL LOAD	21,440 lb
PAYLOAD	1,500 lb
CREW	2
WING AREA	2,400 ft <sup>2</sup>
ASPECT RATIO	2.5
304-2 ENGINES	TWO

Overall length  
160 ft (49 m)

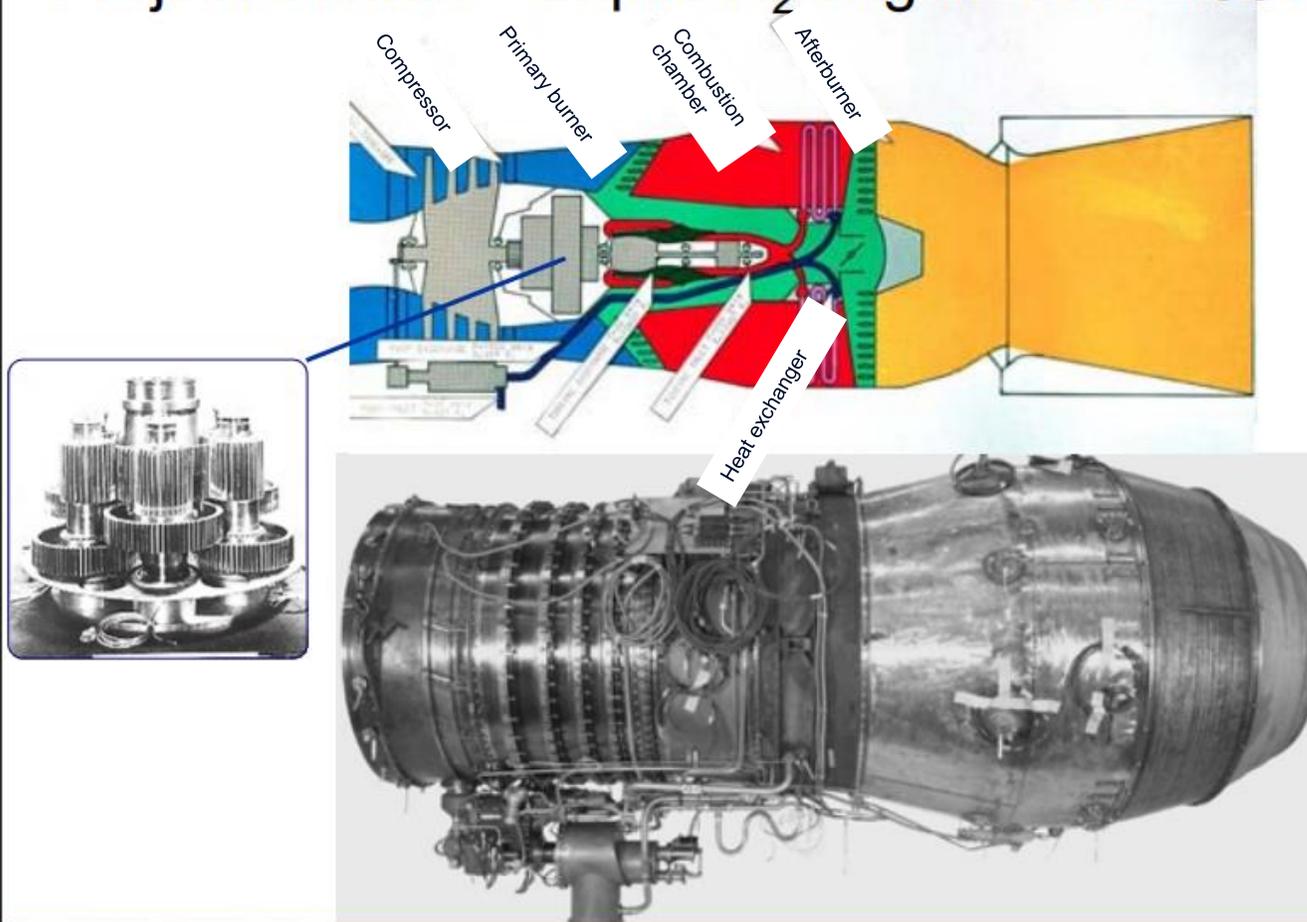


- 1956-1958
- Design Mach 2.5 @ 100,000 ft
- Engines placed on wingtips to vaporize LH<sub>2</sub> as it passed through hot wings
- Demonstrated that H<sub>2</sub> could be handled as safely and easily as hydrocarbon fuel
- **Not built, in part because of lack of H<sub>2</sub> infrastructure**

ADA505106 AMCs Future - Sustainable Air Mobility. A.D. Reiman.pdf

# P&W Hydrogen Fueled Aircraft Engine

## Project Suntan – Liquid H<sub>2</sub> engine circa 1957-58



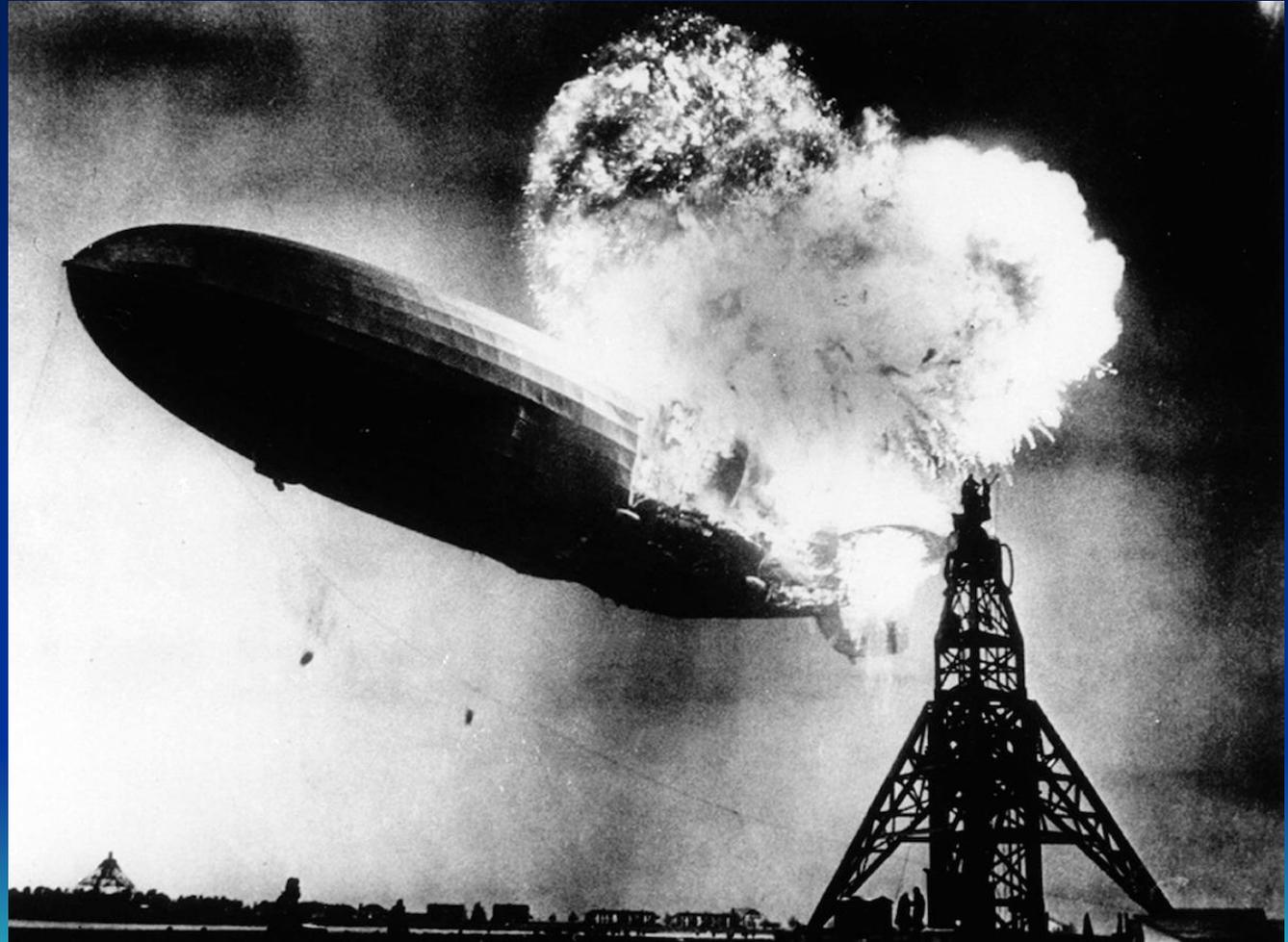
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# Hindenberg Disaster

Trenton, New Jersey 1937-05-06  
Of 97 pax and crew, 62 survived

Visible flames are from burning  
cotton skin and protective 'doping'  
(butyrate or cellulose nitrate)





# Safety of Hydrogen vs. JP-8

For most issues of practical importance, hydrogen is safer than JP-8

Source: Reiman, A.D., "AMC's Hydrogen Future: Sustainable Air Mobility", Air Force Institute of Technology, AFIT/IMO/ENS/09-13, June 2009

Hydrogen vs JP-8		
Safety		
Item	Information	Advantage
Detonation	Gun shot tests into liquid hydrogen tanks failed to result in detonation. Heavy impact tests of liquid hydrogen tanks failed to result in detonation. Detonation of a perfect mixture of hydrogen and air only takes place with a strong detonator, but it is improbable that a perfect mixture of hydrogen and air will occur at the time of a strong detonation. JP-8 has a lower detonability limit in air as a percentage of volume than hydrogen. (Brewer, 1991)	Hydrogen
Emissivity	Hydrogen has a lower emissivity than JP-8 making the thermal radiation during a fire less. If a large hydrogen spill occurs outside an aircraft, remain inside for the heat will not be likely to enter the fuselage due to the low emissivity. (Brewer, 1991)	Hydrogen
Frost Bite	Contact with minute amounts of liquid hydrogen can lead to severe frost bite, while JP-8 poses no frostbite hazard. (Praxair, 2007)	JP-8
Fuel Spills	Hydrogen evaporates much more rapidly than JP-8 and if ignited burns quicker than JP-8. A 12,600 kg hydrogen fuel spill will dissipate in 32 seconds, while a similar volume of JP-8 would take closer to 13 minutes. (Brewer, 1990)	Hydrogen
Ignition Temperature	Hydrogen has a higher autoignition temperature than JP-8, but a lower temperature in an air mixture. A lit cigarette will not ignite in pure hydrogen although it could light a hydrogen-air mixture. A lit cigarette could ignite JP-8. (Brewer, 1991)	JP-8
Invisible Flame	Hydrogen can be a burn hazard due to invisible flame, while JP-8 has a visible flame. (Praxair, 2007)	JP-8
Suffocation	The high diffusion rate of hydrogen can rapidly replace the oxygen in an unventilated room leading to possible suffocation, while JP-8 poses a lesser suffocation hazard. (Praxair, 2007)	JP-8
Toxicity	JP-8 is a liver toxin, kidney toxin, nerve toxin, blood toxin, lung aspiration hazard and a reproductive fetotoxin, while hydrogen is not toxic. (Dfdl, 2001).	Hydrogen

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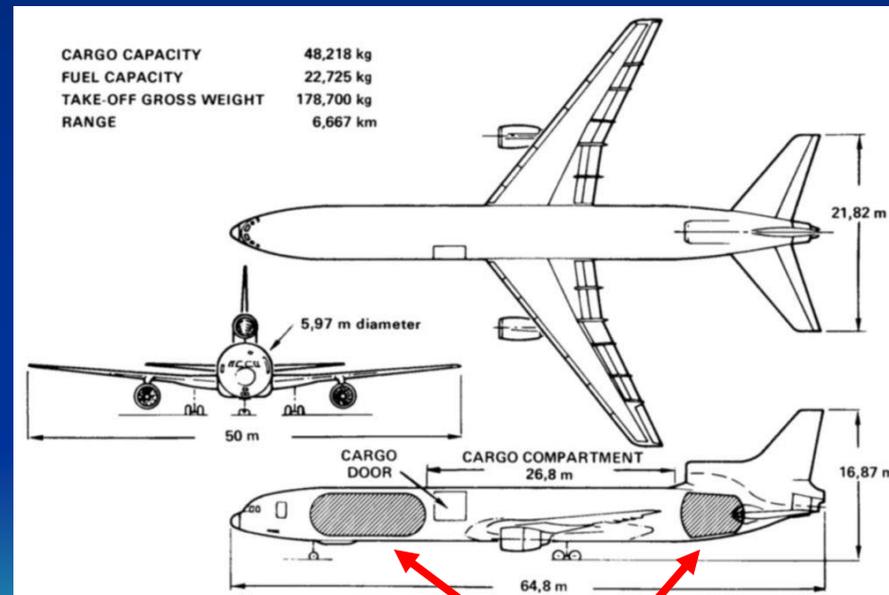
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# LH<sub>2</sub>-powered L1011

- Circa 1976
- No carbon footprint
- Energy/unit weight (specific energy) of H<sub>2</sub> about 3 x that of jet fuel (excluding weight of cryogenic tank)
- Requires about 4.2 x volume for same energy
- **Problems are mostly institutional**



Lockheed L1011-500 with 40 ft stretch to fuselage for fore and aft cryogenic tanks



Source: Lockheed

# Space Shuttle Initial Ascent

First operational flight 1981-04-12

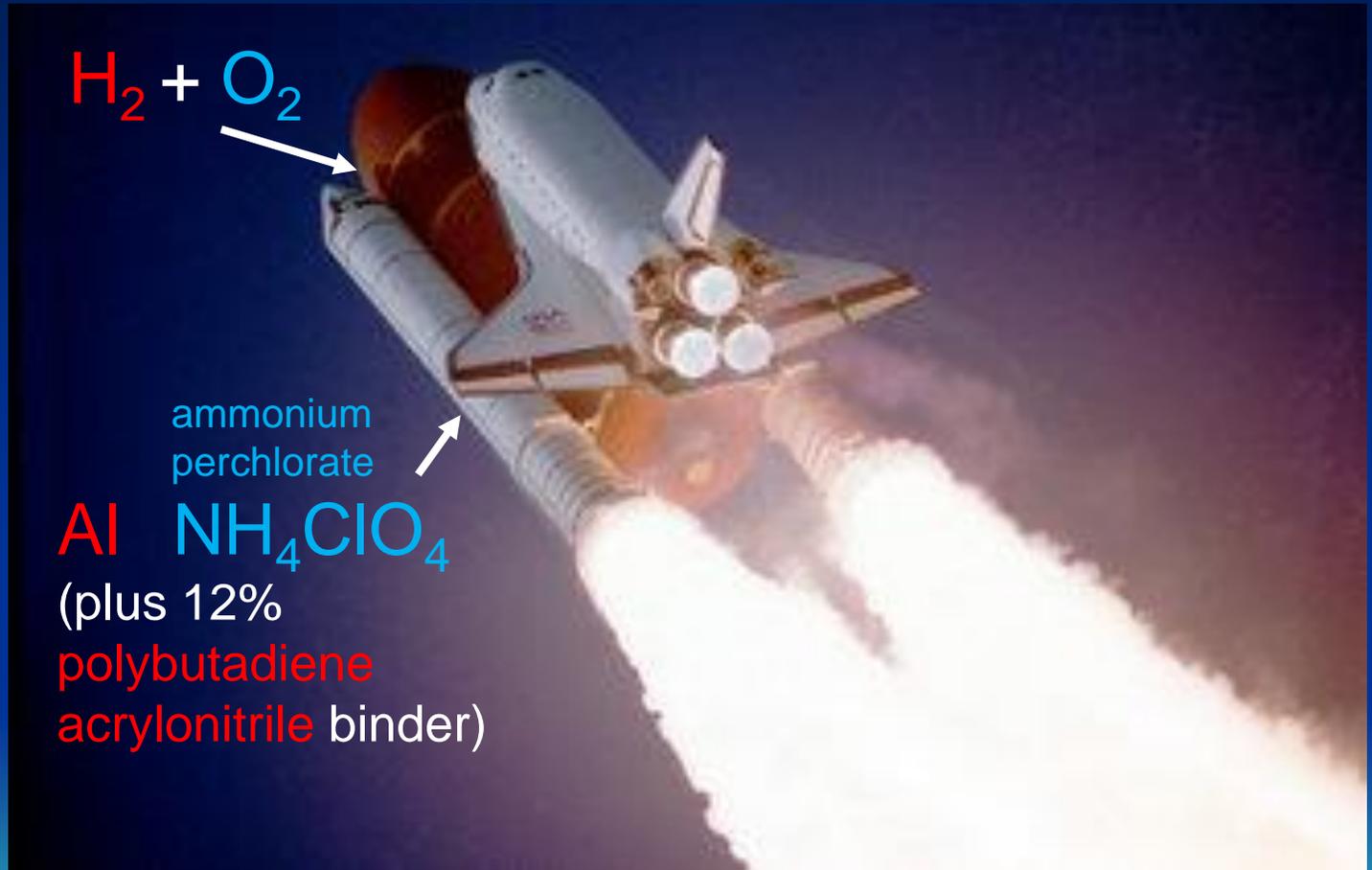
## Products of combustion:

Main engines

- $H_2O$

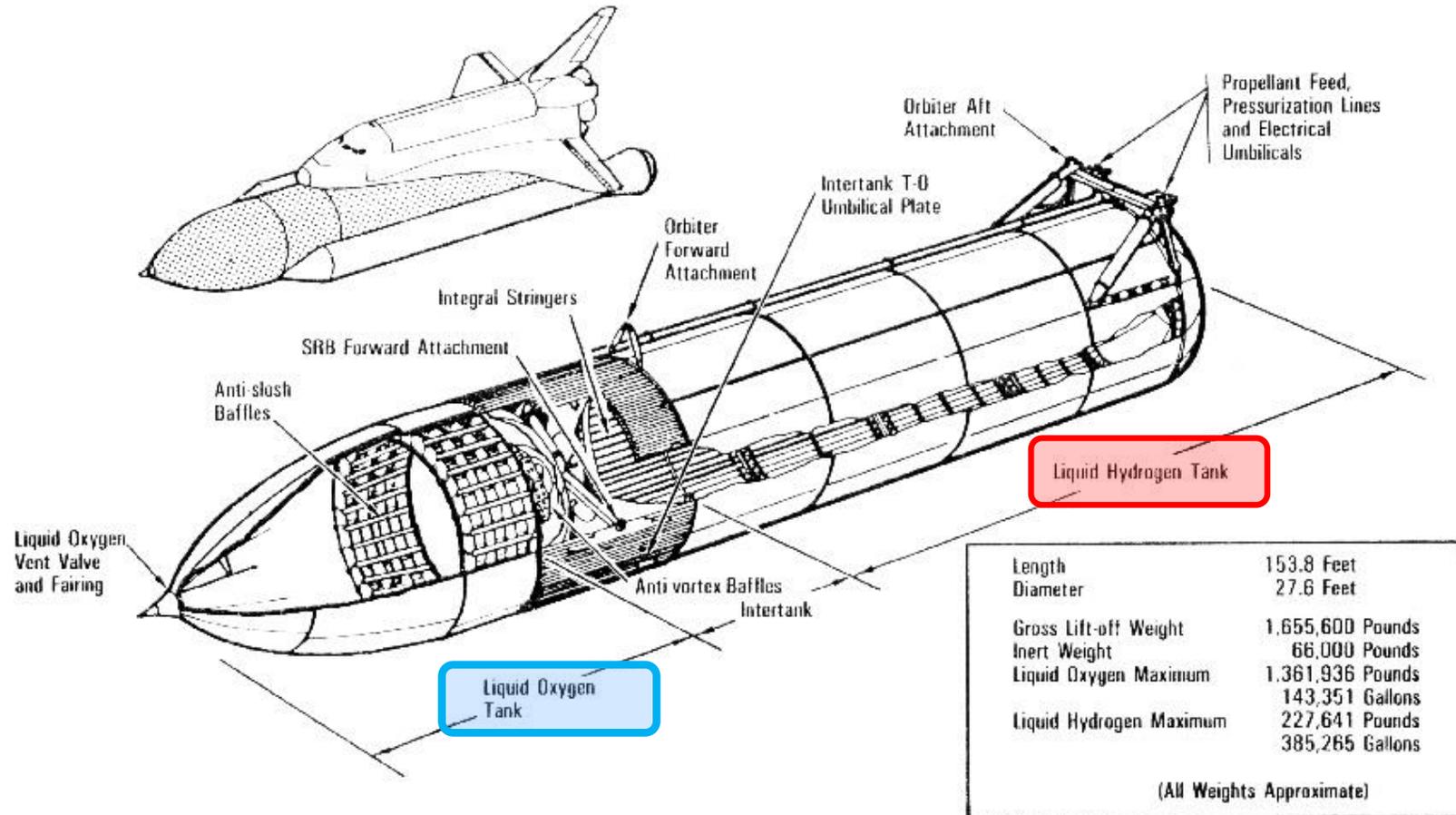
Solid Rocket Boosters (SRBs)

- $Al_2O_3$  (aluminium oxide)
- $AlCl_3$  (aluminium chloride, **anti-perspirant**)
- $H_2O$
- $N_2$



Source: nasa

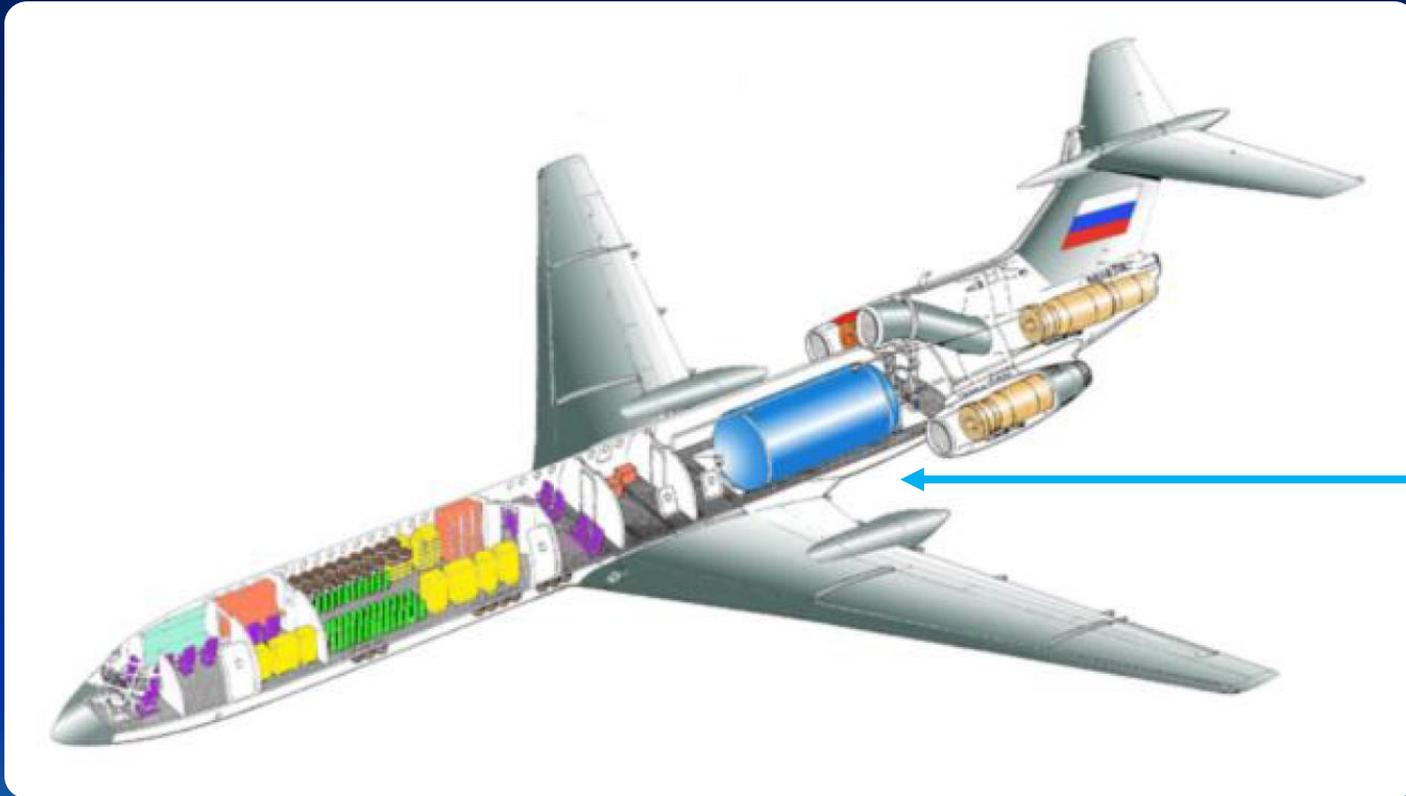
# Space Shuttle Main Tank



*Lightweight External Tank*

Source: science.ksc.nasa.gov

# LH<sub>2</sub>-powered Tu-155



- First flight: 1988-04-15
- Fuel: LH<sub>2</sub> (later LNG for #3 engine only)
- Propulsion: 3 x Kuznetsov NK-8-2 (later replaced #3 with NK-88)
- NK-8-2 can also burn jet fuel
- LH<sub>2</sub> tank diameter 3.1 m (10 ft 2 in), length 5.4 m (17 ft 8 in), AMG6 Al alloy
- 50 mm (2 in) foamed polyurethane lagging

<https://leehamnews.com/2020/07/24/bjorns-corner-the-challenges-of-hydrogen-part-1-background/>

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# Hydrogen Challenges

- Production
  - Either methane reformation
    - Cost of methane
    - Cost of reformation
    - Cost of disposal of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Or electrolysis
    - Cost of electricity
    - Cost of electrolysis
- Cost of H<sub>2</sub> distribution and storage
- Cost and energy of H<sub>2</sub> liquefaction
- No existing infrastructure

# Typical Hydrogen Production

Step 1 Steam-methane reforming reaction



Or partial oxidation of methane reaction (produces less H<sub>2</sub>)



Step 2 Water-gas shift reaction

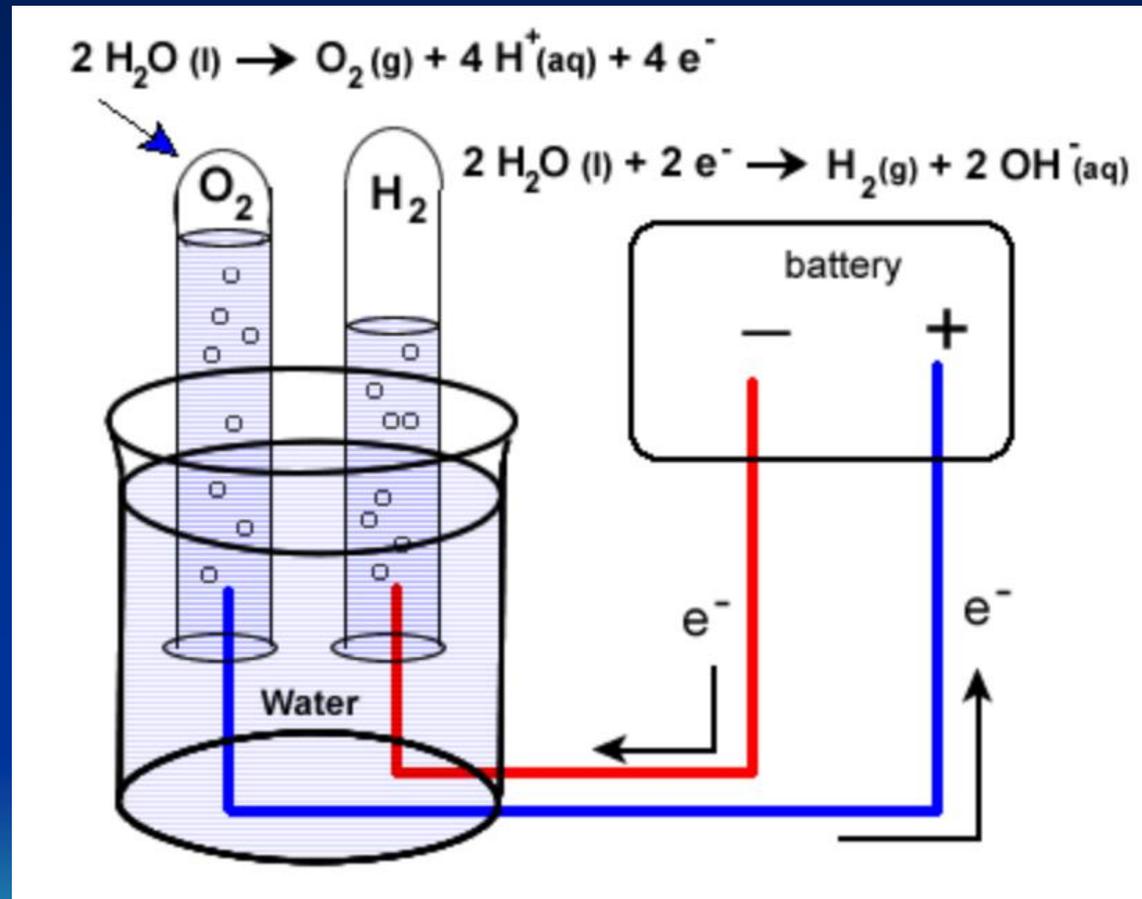


CO<sub>2</sub> is captured and either converted into a solid chemical or buried



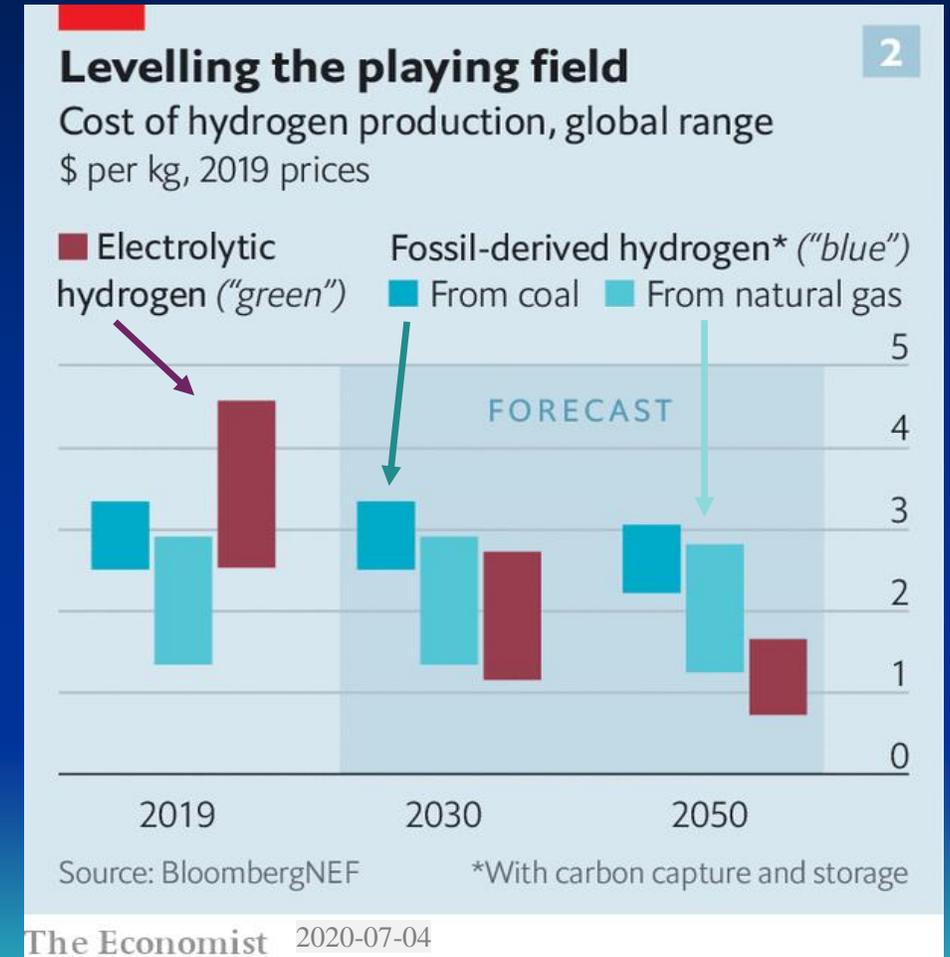
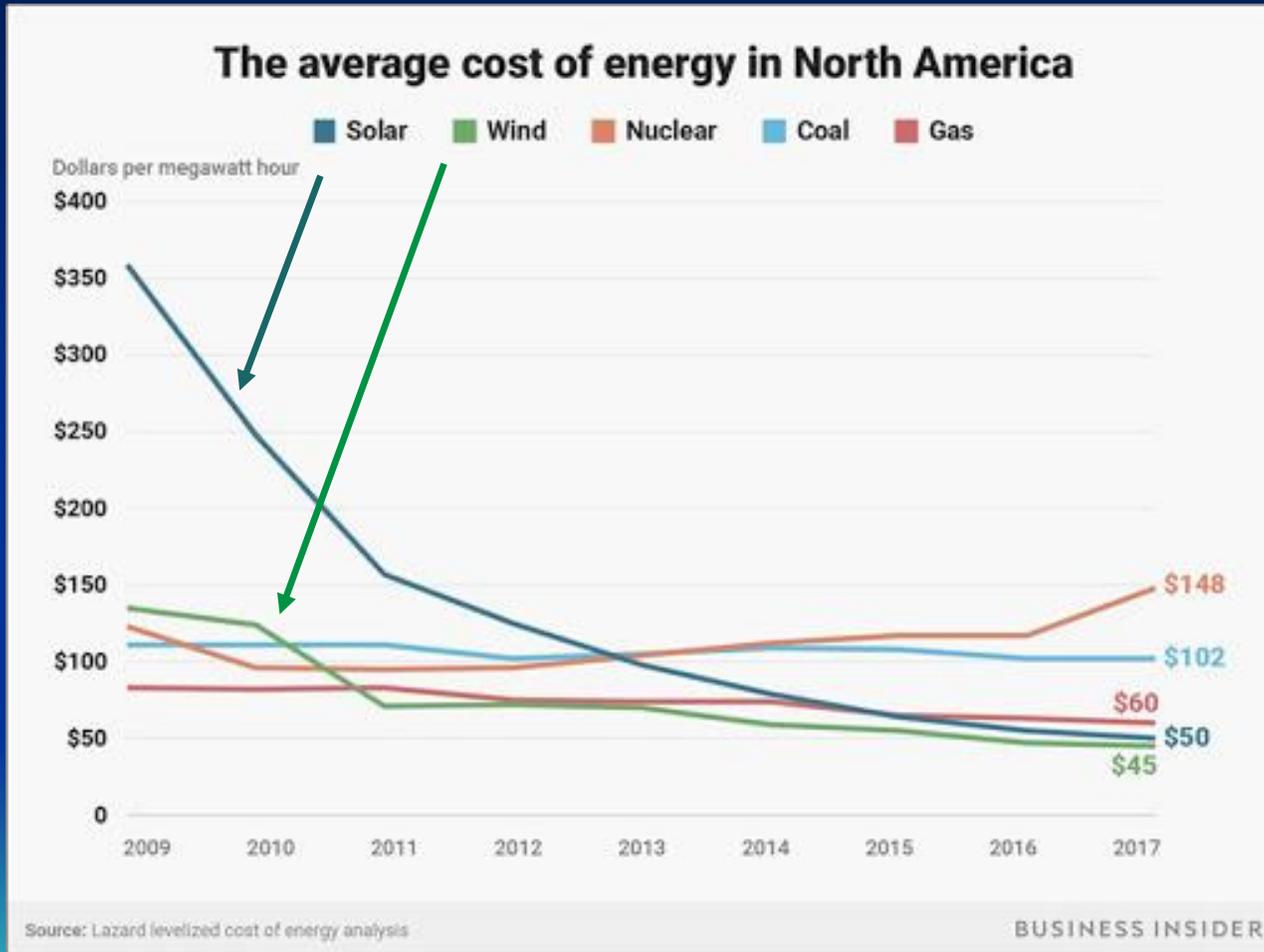
<https://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/hydrogen-production-natural-gas-reforming>

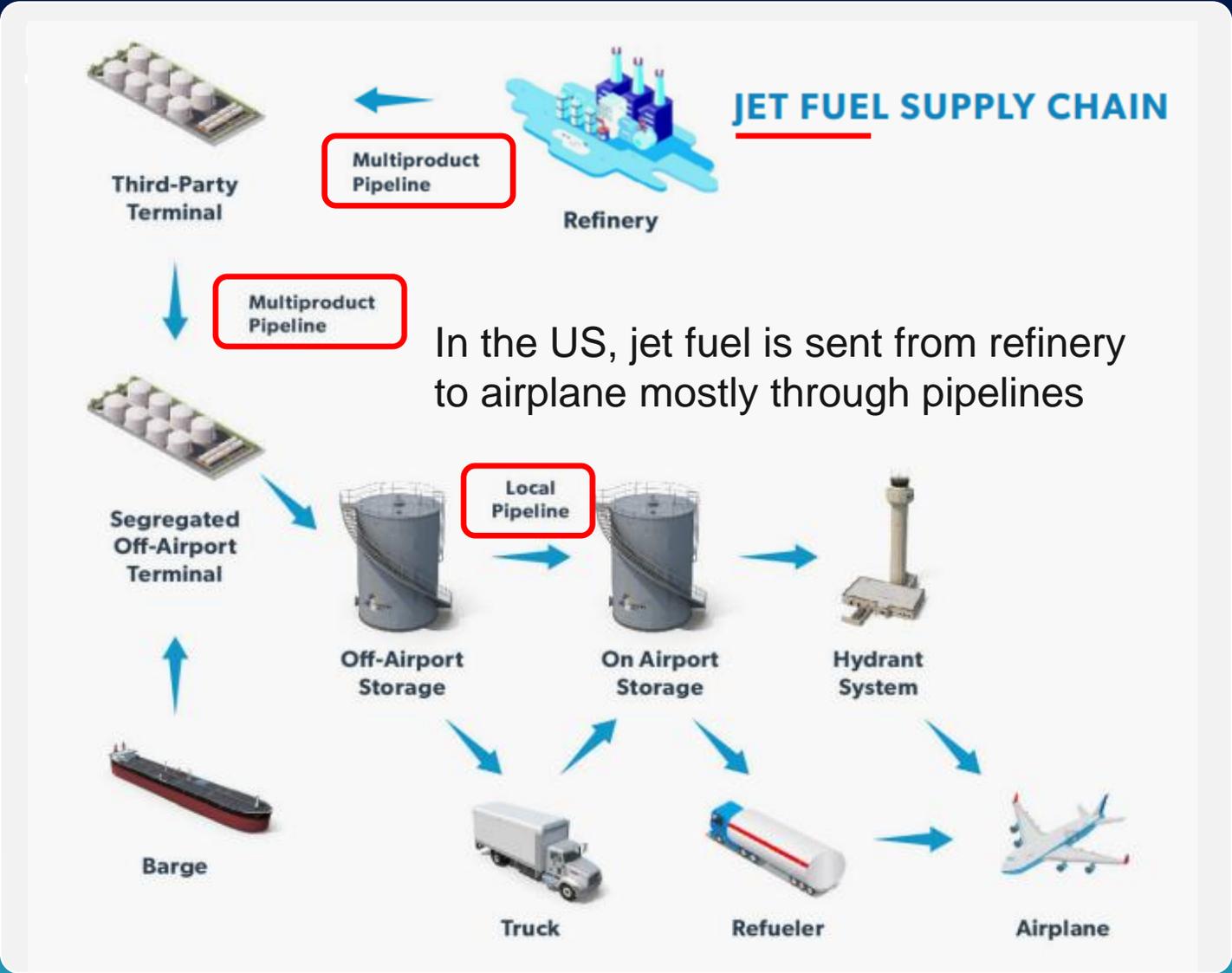
# Electrolysis of Water



[https://sites.prairiesouth.ca/legacy/chemistry/chem30/6\\_redox/redox3\\_3.htm](https://sites.prairiesouth.ca/legacy/chemistry/chem30/6_redox/redox3_3.htm)

# Electrolytic Hydrogen will get Cheaper



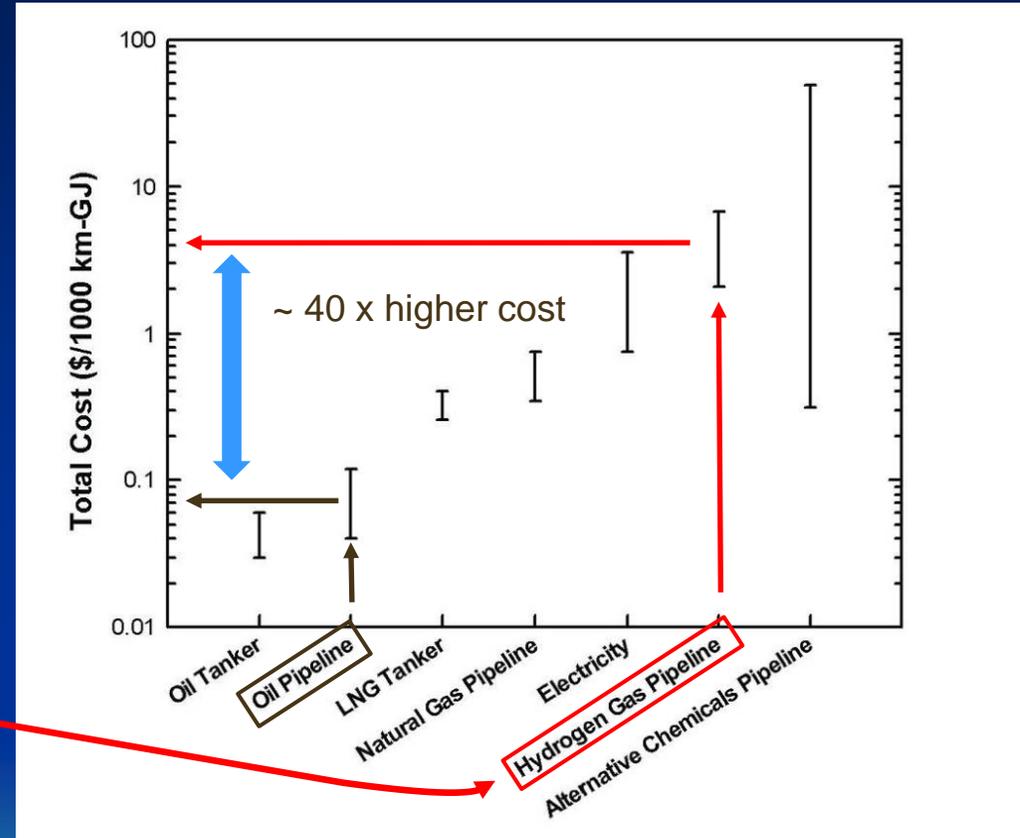


<https://www.airlines.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/jet-fuel-1.pdf>



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    - Cost of reformation
    - Cost of disposal of CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Or electrolysis
    - Cost of electricity
    - Cost of electrolysis
- Cost of H<sub>2</sub> transportation and storage
- Cost and energy of H<sub>2</sub> liquefaction
  - About 30% of H<sub>2</sub> energy
- No existing infrastructure



# Can you use jet fuel pipelines for hydrogen?

- In theory, yes – but
  - If sent at low pressure above atmospheric, then it won't leak significantly\*, but energy flow rate is too small
  - If sent at high pressure above atmospheric, hydrogen is likely to leak
  - If sent as liquid, then pipes would have to be thermally insulated

\*In the UK, “town gas” (used up until 1967)  
made from coal was 50% H<sub>2</sub>, 35% CH<sub>4</sub>, 10% CO, 5% C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>

The Economist 2020/07/04

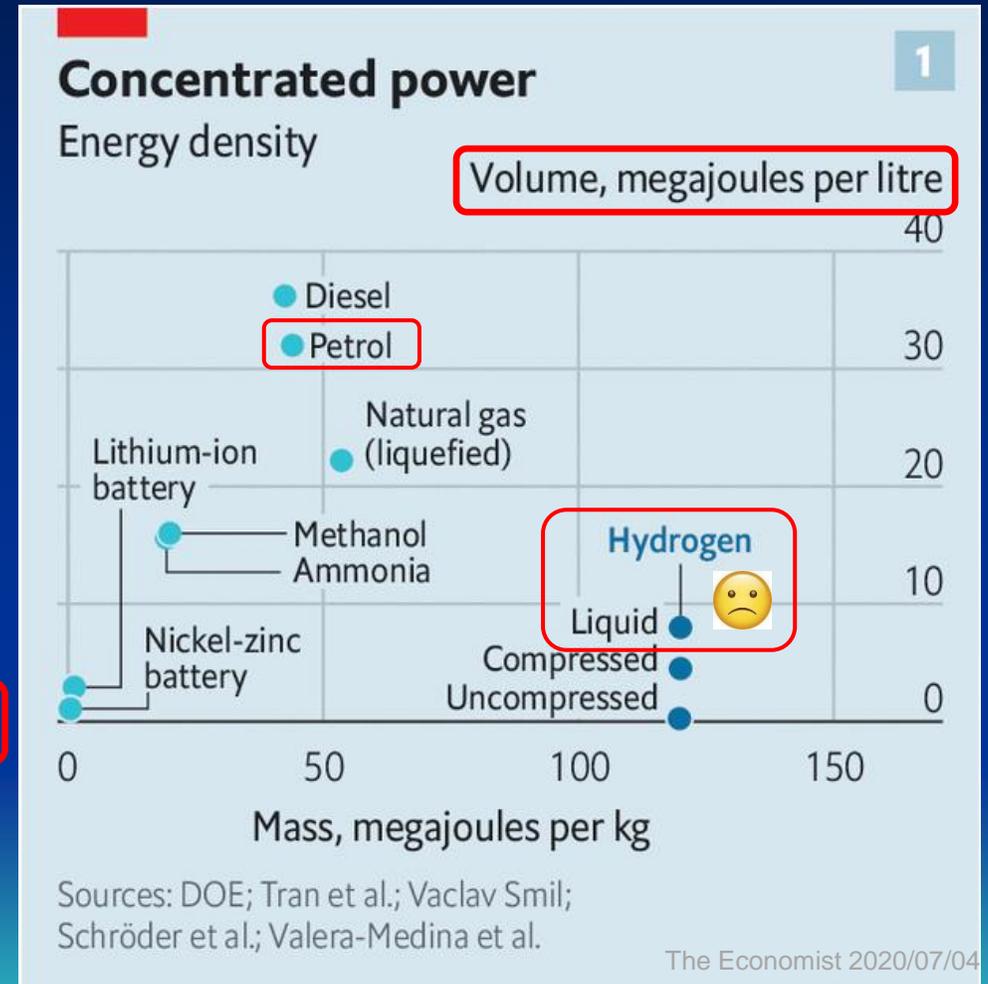


# Hydrogen Transmission

Even if liquified, for same flow velocity, energy flow rate of hydrogen (MJ/L x L/s)\* is about 1/4 that of petrol

\* i.e. MW

Probably better to produce H<sub>2</sub> locally using electrolysis





Hydrogen liquefaction modules

Liquid hydrogen storage tanks  
+ departure of cryo-pipes

Loading bays for  
refuelling trucks

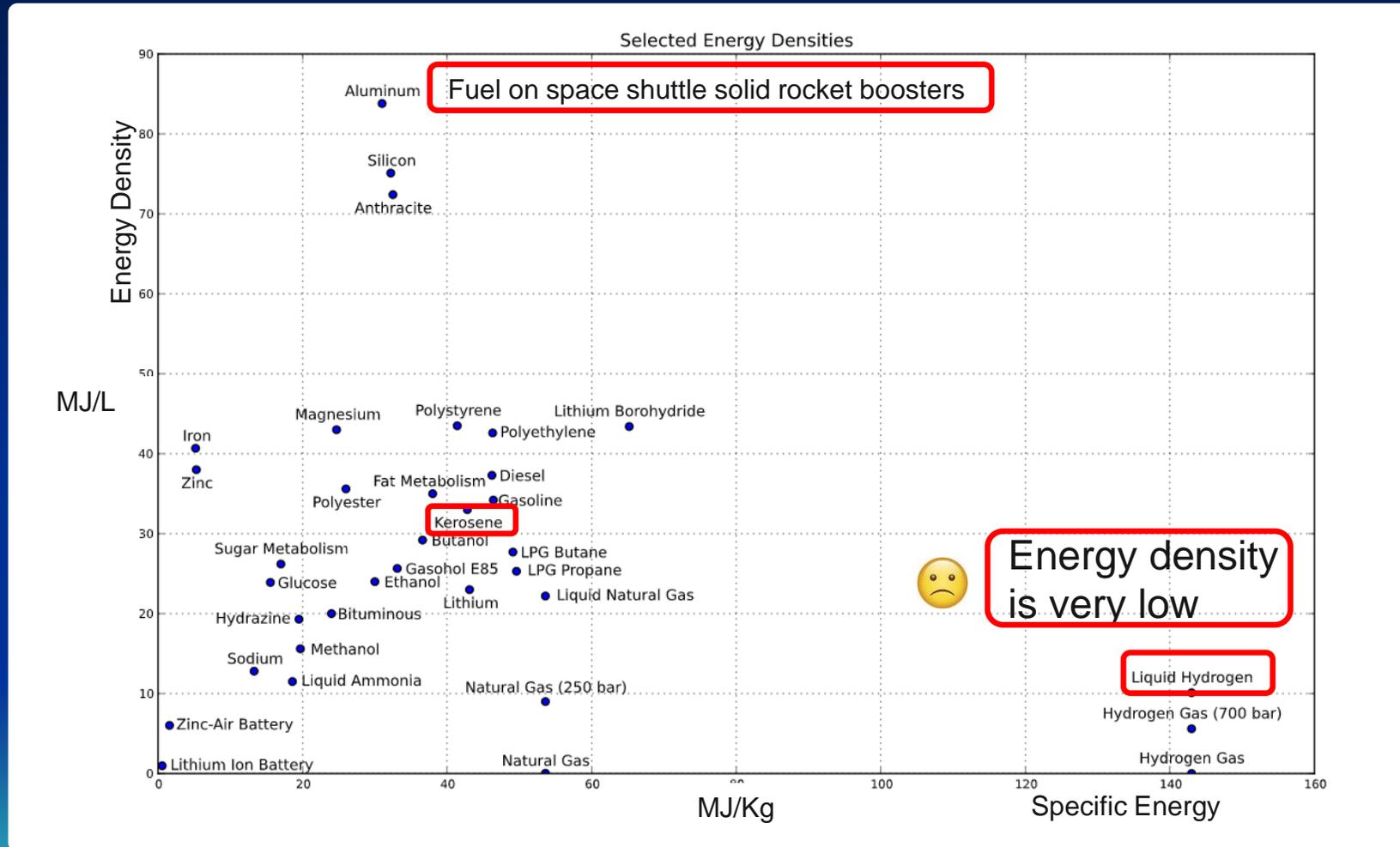
Electrolyser module

Electrical Transformers &  
Electrical rooms module

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- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
  - Hydrogen storage
  - Energy conversion

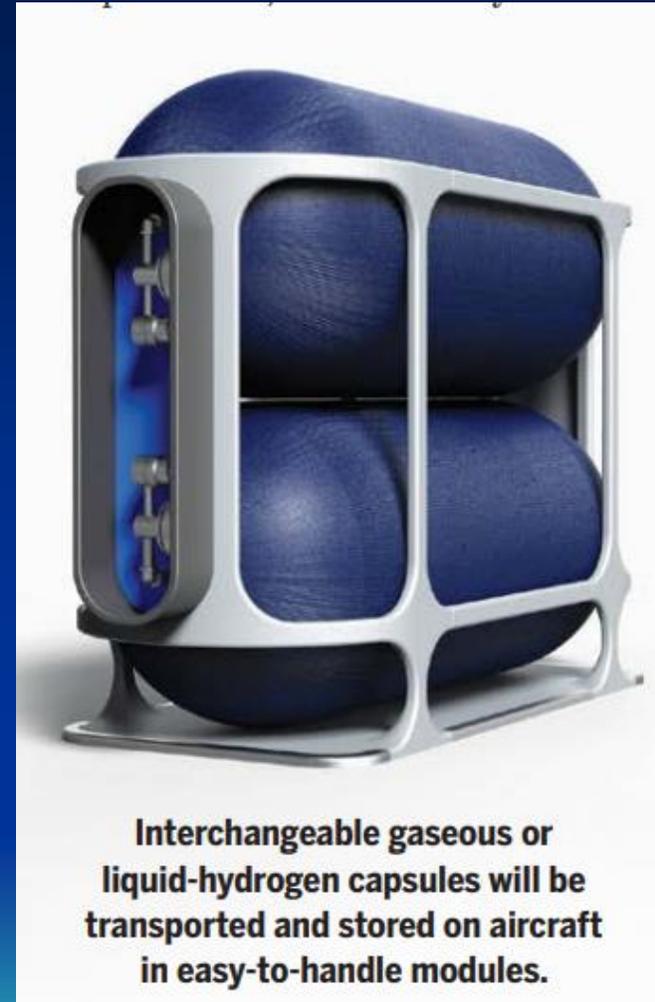
# Energy Storage



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrogen-powered\\_aircraft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydrogen-powered_aircraft)

# Reducing Distribution Cost

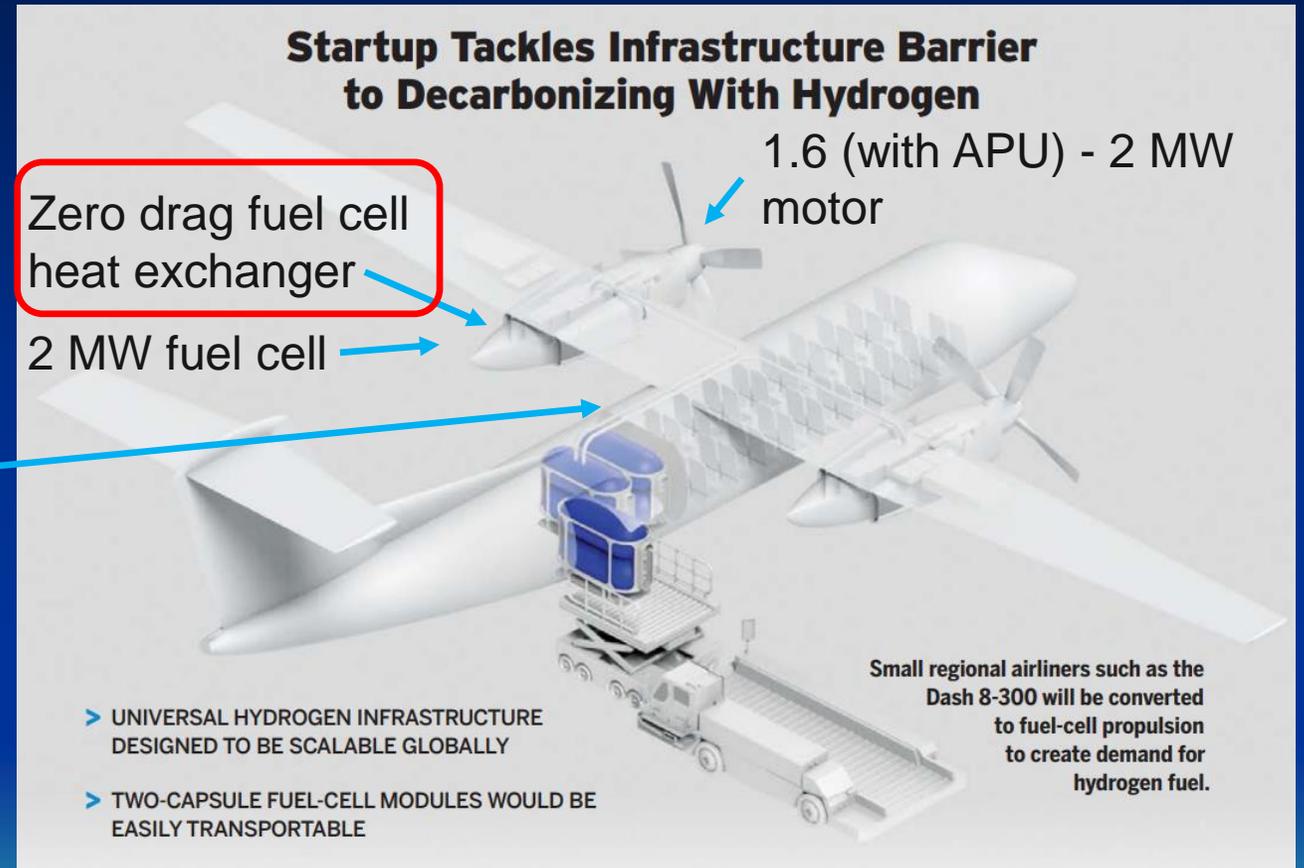
- 2020-09 Startup company Universal Hydrogen
  - 850 bar high pressure gas tanks, or
  - LH<sub>2</sub> tanks (40 hour dwell time between production and consumption)



[https://aviationweek.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/AWST\\_200914.pdf](https://aviationweek.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/AWST_200914.pdf)

# Universal Hydrogen

- For De Havilland Dash 8-300
  - 400 nmi range with gaseous H<sub>2</sub> tanks
  - 550 nmi range with LH<sub>2</sub> tanks
  - (Fleet average currently 300 nmi)
  - Fuel tank lines through dorsal fin, external to pressure hull
- Pax seats reduced from 50 to 40
- Maintenance costs 25% lower



[https://aviationweek.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/AWST\\_200914.pdf](https://aviationweek.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/AWST_200914.pdf)

# Dash 8 H<sub>2</sub> Fuel Cell Testbed

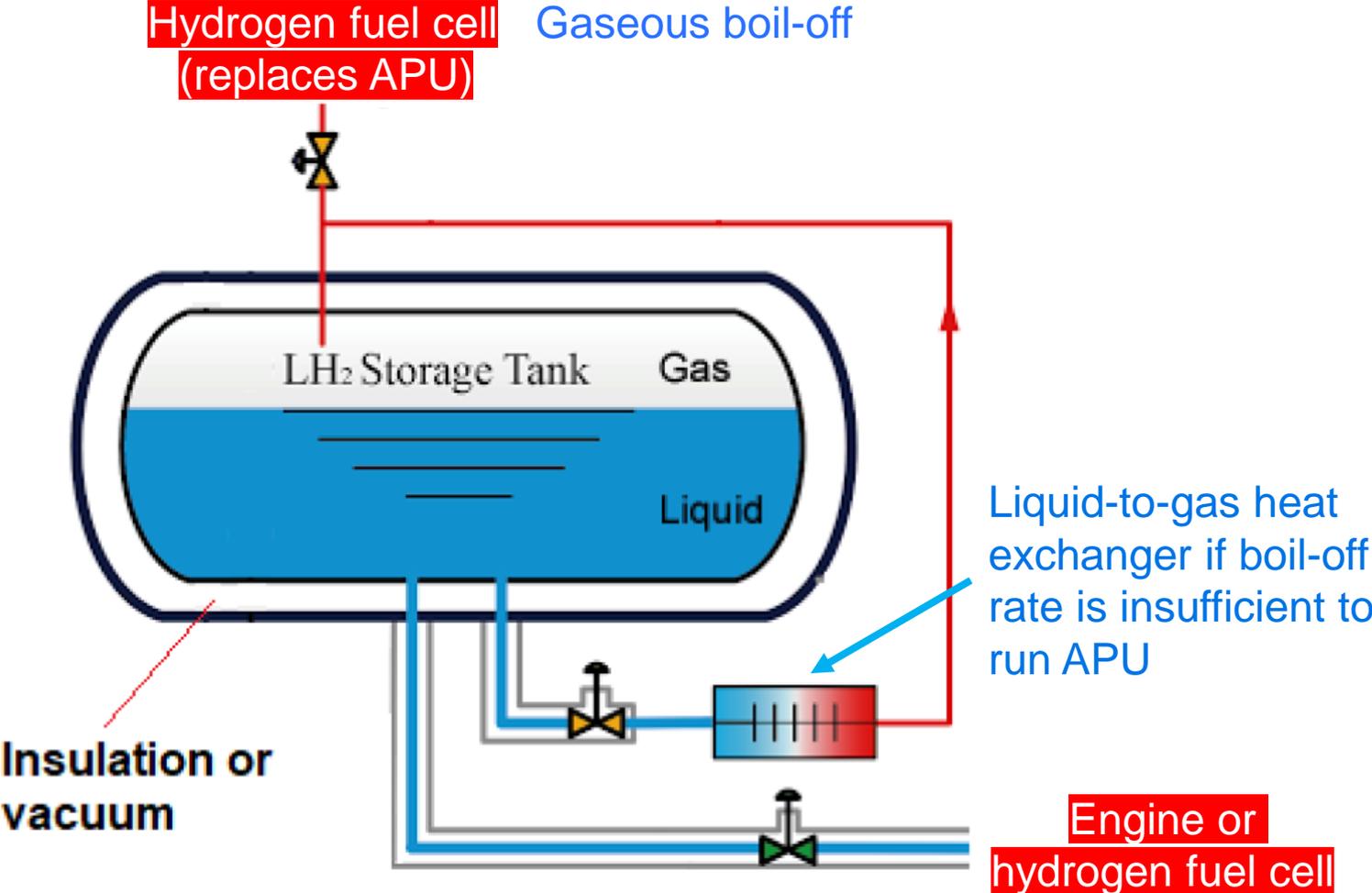


- #2 engine only.
- First flight 2023-03-02.
- Flight duration 15 minutes
- Inlets either side of nacelle for fuel cell cooling
- 560-640KW MagniX 650 motor
- Hartzell 91" propeller
- Orders for 247 conversions from 16 customers

The Economist 2020/07/04



# Typical Airplane LH<sub>2</sub> Tank



© LeeHamnews.com-Bjorns Corner The challenges of Hydrogen Pat 5 The Hydrogen tank.pdf

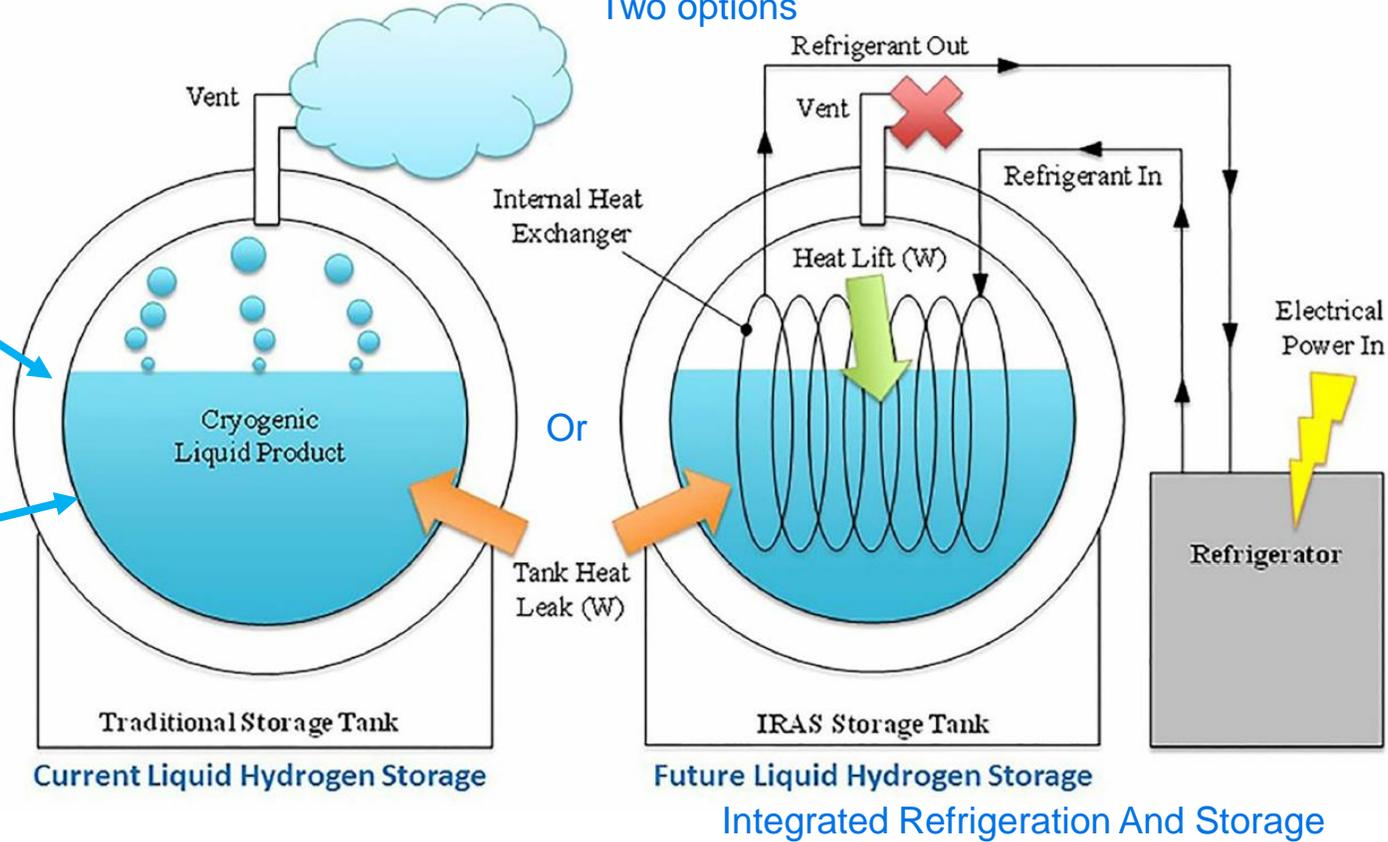
# Efficient Storage of Cryogenics

Two options

Vacuum and/or foam insulation

Aluminium tank

Maintain temp < 20 K



© LeeHamnews.com-Bjorns Corner The challenges of Hydrogen Part 5 The Hydrogen tank.pdf

IRAS system complexity and weight only pays off for missions > 15 hours

# H<sub>2</sub>-powered Britten-Norman Islander

Low-cost application of H<sub>2</sub> propulsion



<https://www.greencarcongress.com/2021/03/20210330-fresson.html>



<https://www.greencarcongress.com/2021/03/20210330-fresson.html>

- Project of Cranfield Aerospace
- First flight planned 2023
- Entry into service: early 2026
- Endurance: 1 hour, with 45 minutes reserves
- Projected use by Loganair (includes world's shortest scheduled flight of 1.5 minutes)

# Nacelles with Integrated Fuel Tanks

- Removable pods include
  - Propeller
  - Electric Motor
  - Power electronics
  - LH<sub>2</sub> tank
  - Cooling system
  - Auxiliary equipment

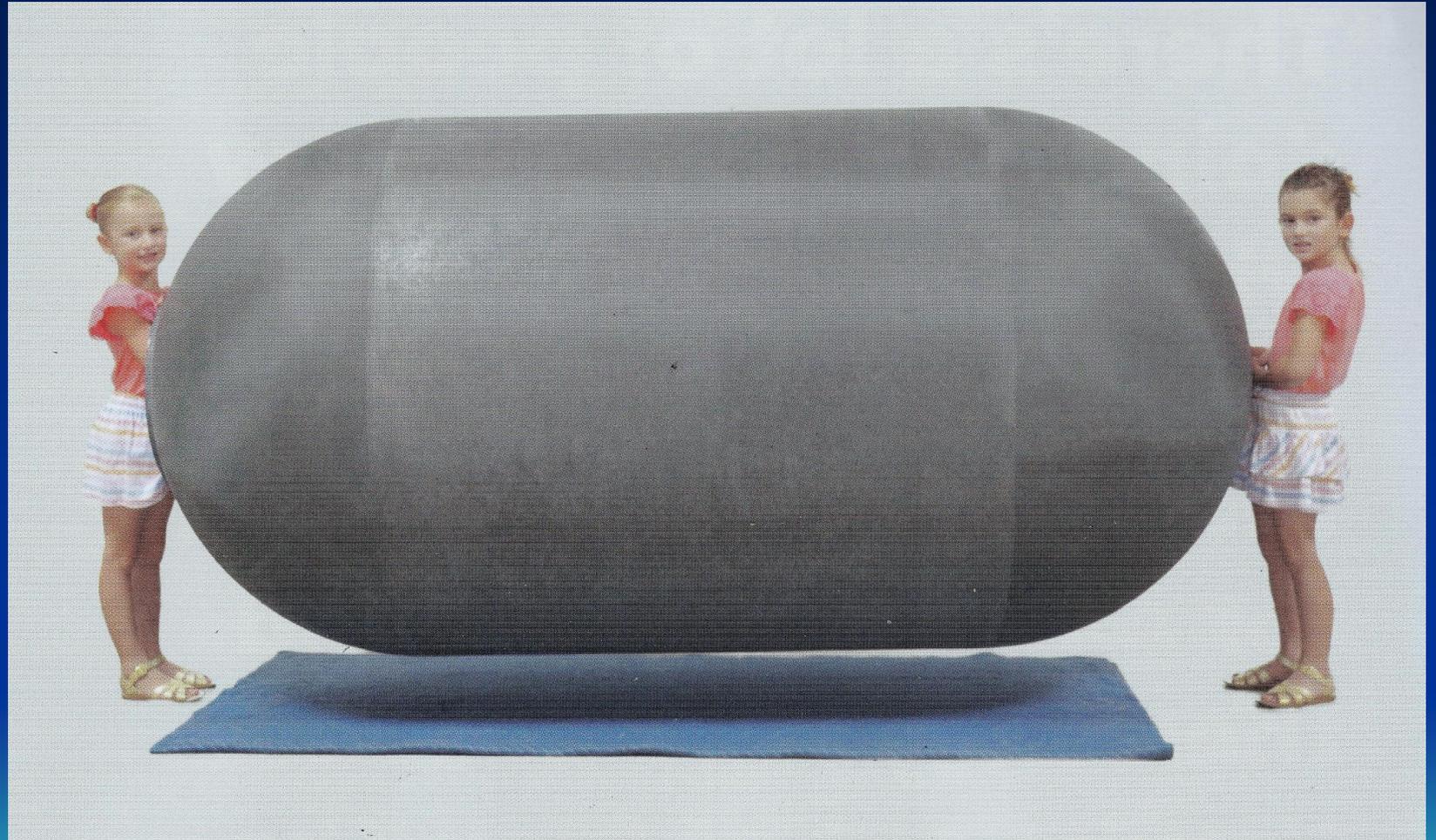


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Source: Leeham Company LLC

# Gloyer-Taylor Labs Composite Tank

- Double-walled vacuum
- Length: 2.4 m
- Weight: 12 kg
- Capacity: 150 kg LH<sub>2</sub>
- Weight/Capacity: 0.08

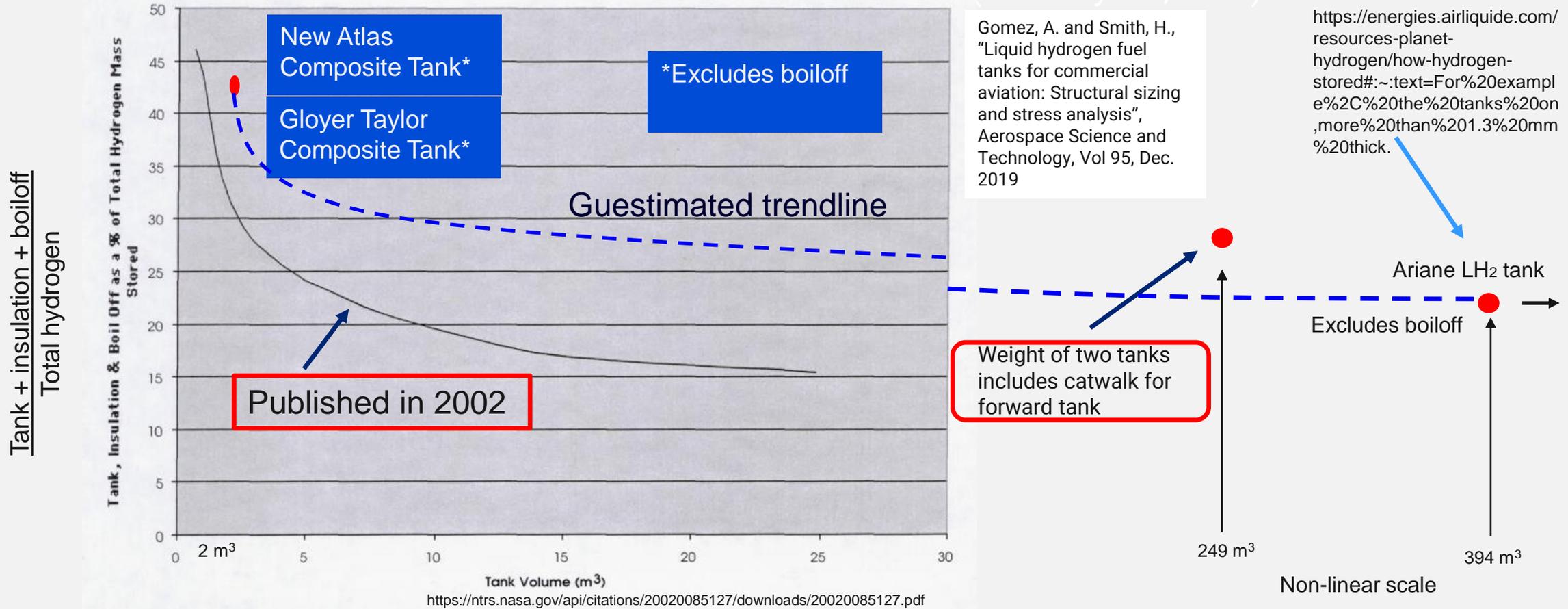


Source: Leeham Company LLL

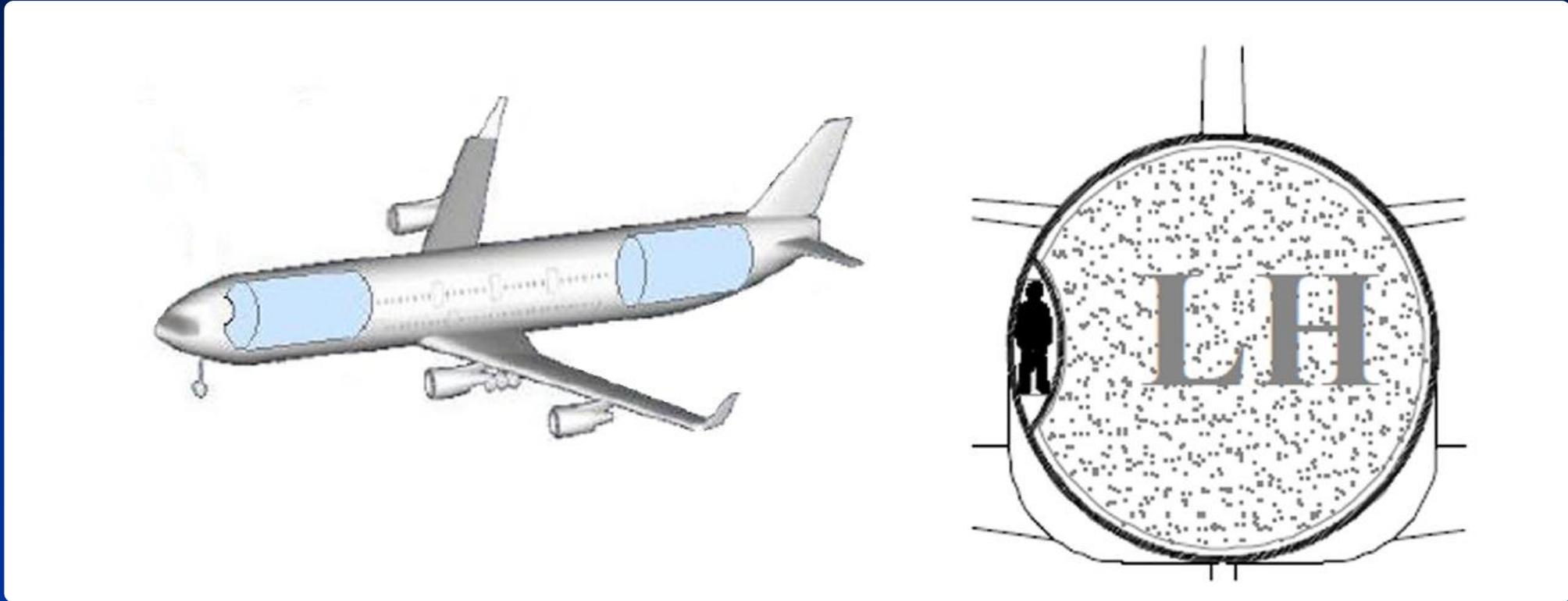
# Square-Cube Law in effect

IHCE '07

(February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1995)



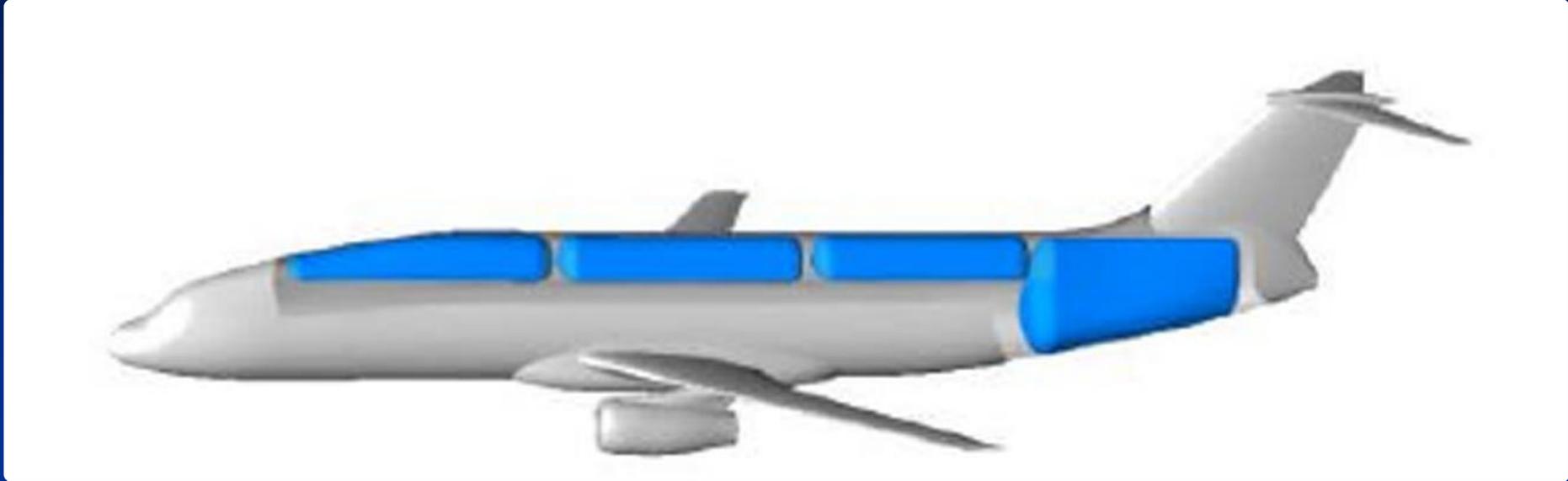
# Tank Location – Long Range



© Leehamnews.com-Bjorns Corner The challenges of Hydrogen Pat 6 Tank placement.pdf

Forward and aft tanks with passageway for flight deck crew

# Tank Location – Short/Medium Range



© Leehamnews.com-Bjorns Corner The challenges of Hydrogen Pat 6 Tank placement.pdf

Combine aft tank with expanded fuselage crown



# Tank Location – Short/Medium Haul

For relatively low fuel fraction, ok to put tanks in aft location



© Leehamnews.com-Bjorns Corner The challenges of Hydrogen Pat 6 Tank placement.pdf

# Airbus ZEROe Program

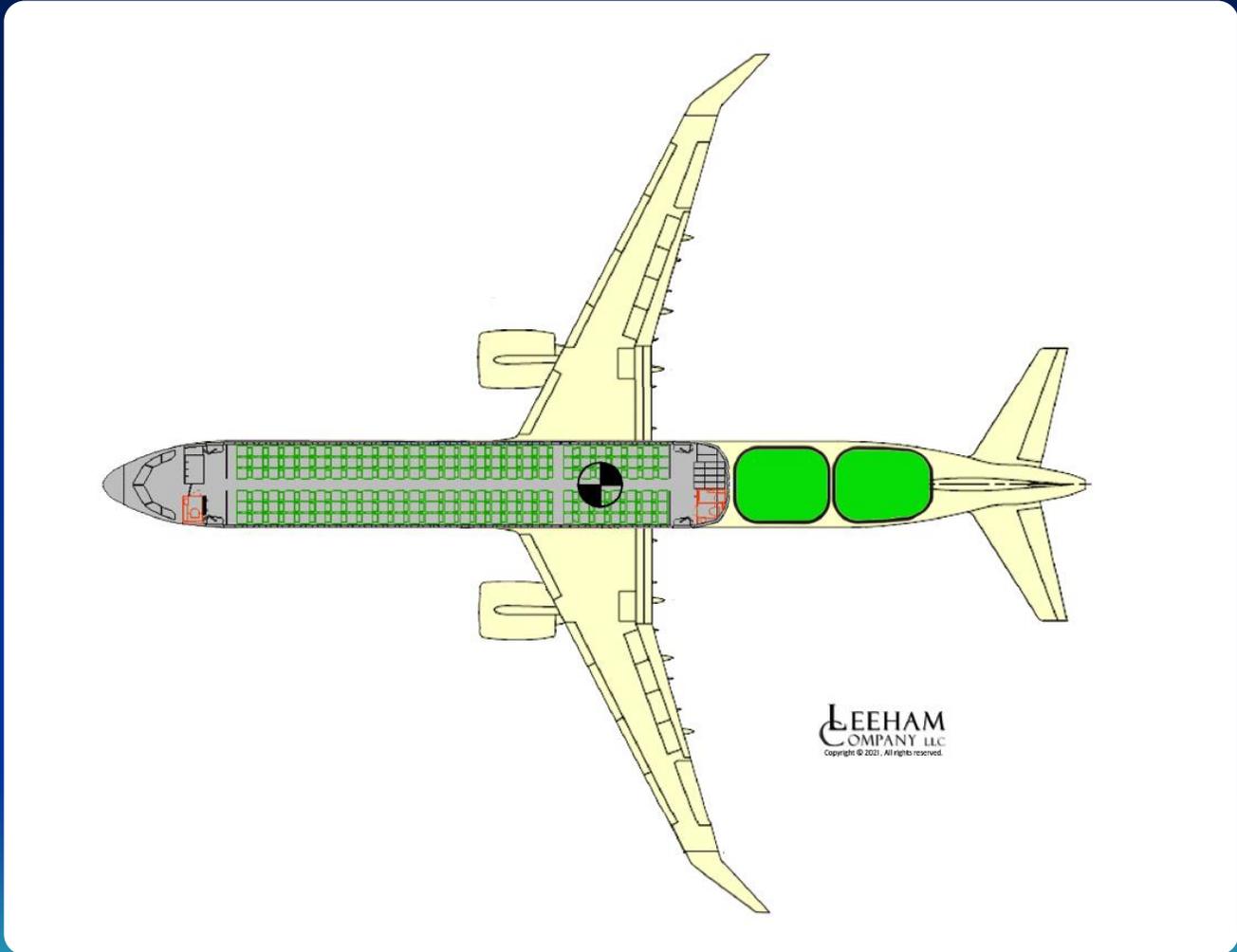


Credit: Airbus

# LH<sub>2</sub>-powered A320

6-abreast, single aisle  
160 seats, high density

Assume typical 800 nm  
(1,482 km) flight segment



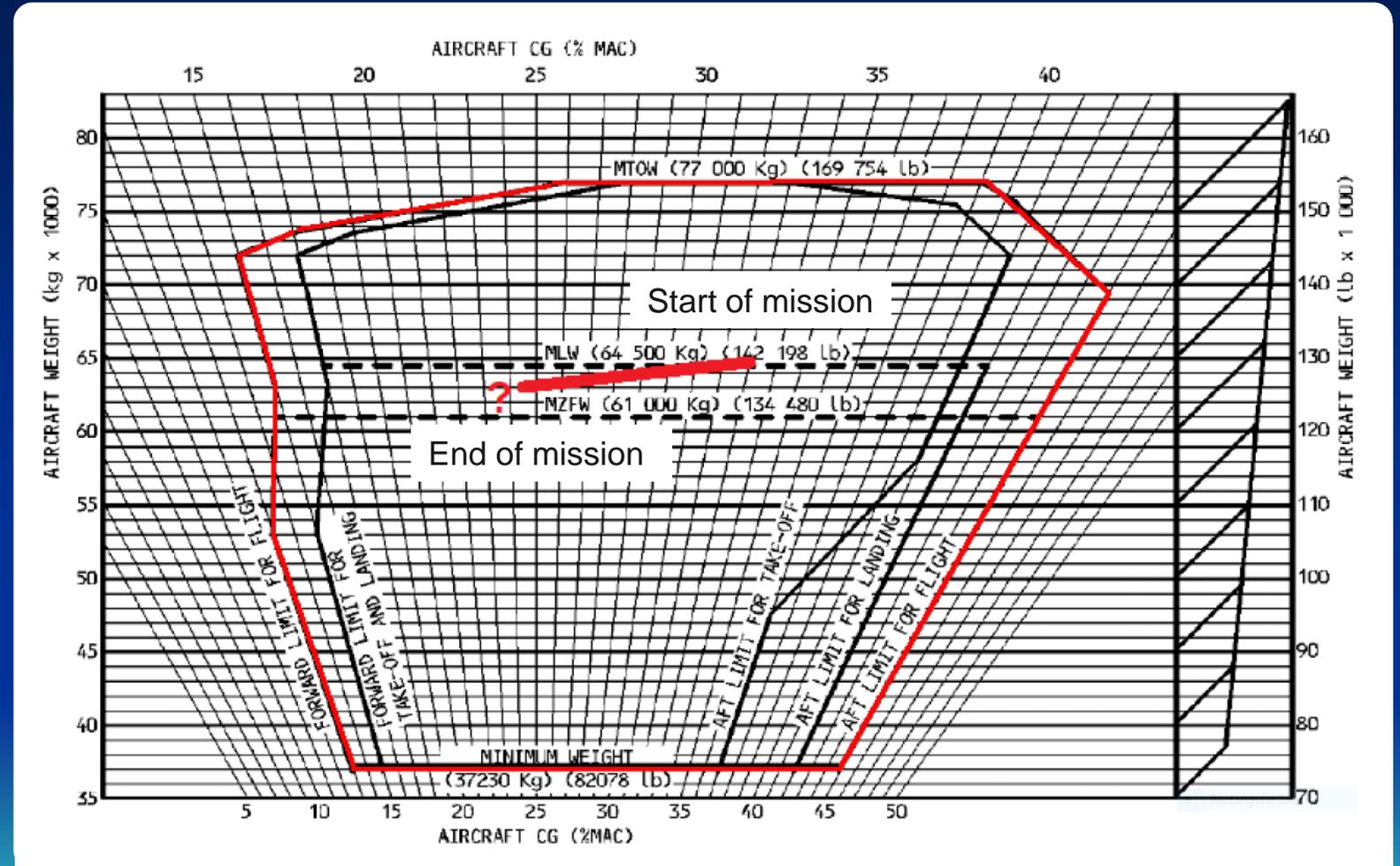
LEEHAM  
COMPANY LLC  
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Source: leehamnews.com – Bjorn’s Corner  
“The Challenges of Hydrogen Part 18”

Source: © Leeham Company LLC

# LH<sub>2</sub>-powered A320 c.g. travel

- Direct combustion of H<sub>2</sub>
- C.g. envelope for A320 →
- Assume 800 nmi stage length
- From forward tank, assume 1.4 t of LH<sub>2</sub> consumed during flight
- Assume c.g. at 33% MAC at start of flight
- C.g. moves forward as fuel is burned
  - Increases trim drag



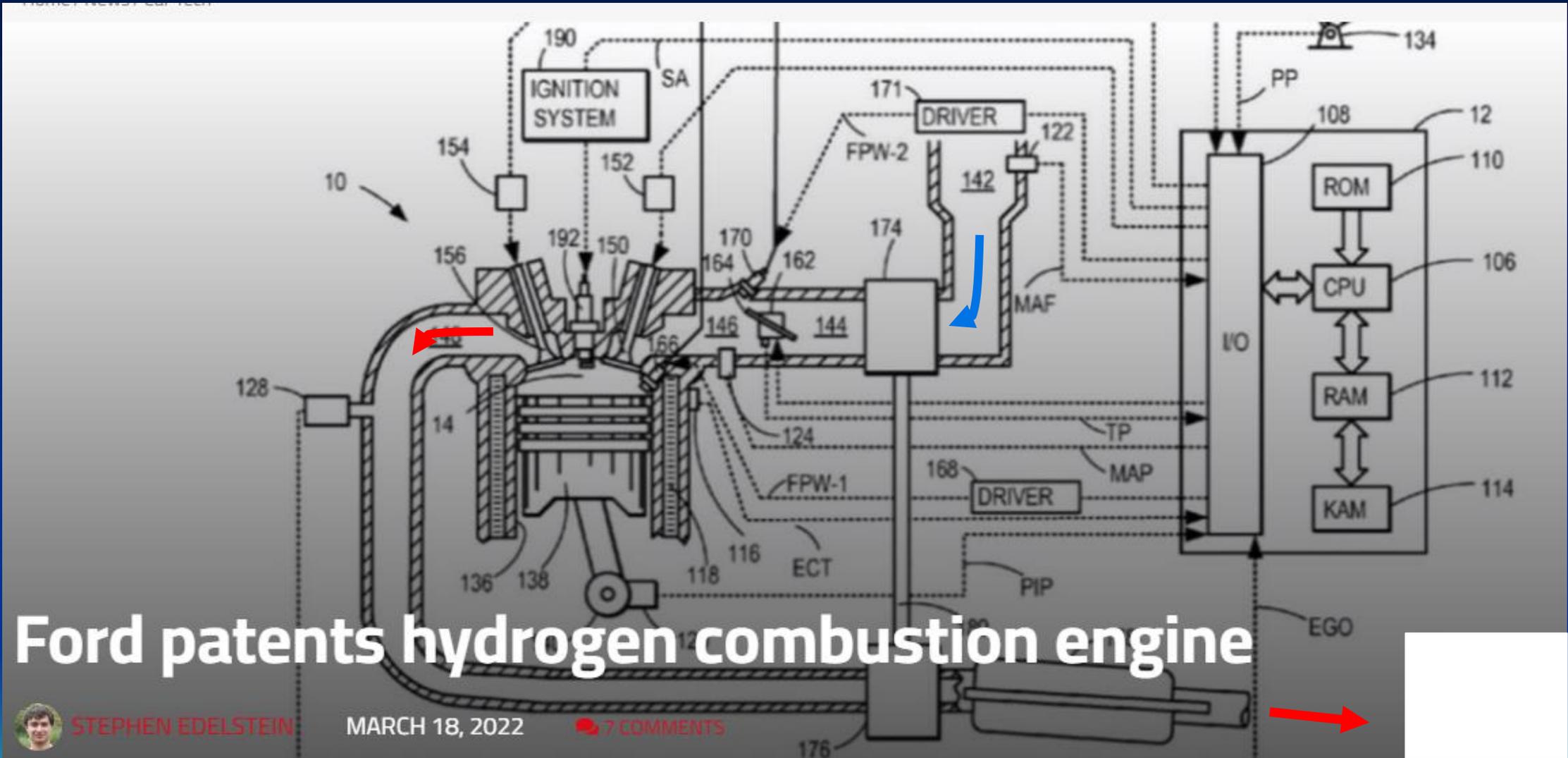
Source: leehamnews.com – Bjorn's Corner  
"The Challenges of Hydrogen Part 18"

Credit: Airbus

- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
  - Hydrogen storage
  - Energy conversion

## – Energy conversion

- Burn it directly with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) (reciprocating engine, gas turbine, or rocket)
- Combine it with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) in fuel cell to generate electricity
- Hybrid of direct burn and fuel cell
- Hybrid of battery and fuel cell



# Ford patents hydrogen combustion engine



STEPHEN EDELSTEIN

MARCH 18, 2022

7 COMMENTS

# Boeing Phantom Eye



Source: ainonline.com

- LH<sub>2</sub> fuel
- 2 x Ford 2.3 litre gasoline engines
- Multiple turbochargers
- First flight June 2012
- Program terminated Aug 2016
- Claimed performance up to 4 days at up to 65,000 ft
- Payload 450 lb
- Cruise speed 150 kt
- Possibly did not meet performance goals



# LH<sub>2</sub>-powered Airbus A310

- 2000-2002 study by consortium led by Airbus
- Larger wetted area: energy consumption increases 9% -12%
- OWE increases ~ 23%
- MTOGW varies from -ve 14.8% to +ve 4.4% depending on config.
- Increase in DOC of 4%-5% due to fuel only
- No fundamental technical roadblocks



<http://planetforlife.com/h2/h2vehicle.html>

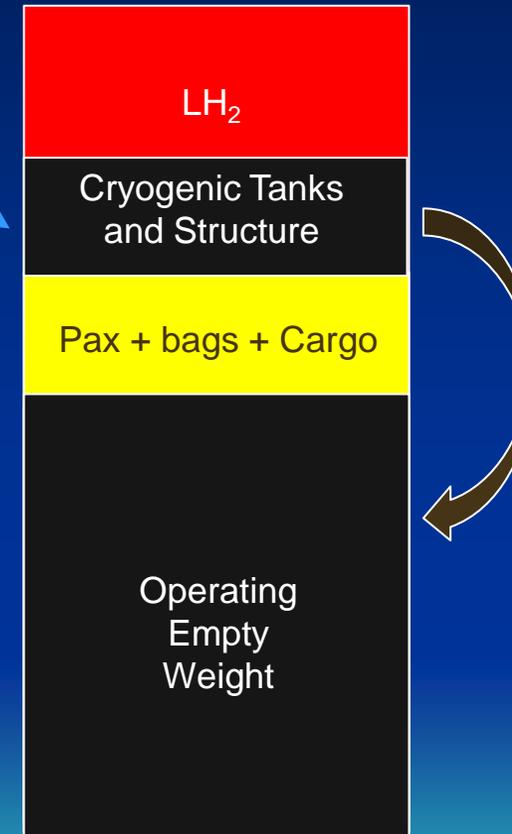
Airbus A310 H<sub>2</sub> Cryoplane Concept

# LH<sub>2</sub>-powered Airbus A310

- Trade reduced LH<sub>2</sub> weight for increased cryogenic tank and structural weight
- Not so much change in weight on long range flights



<http://planetforlife.com/h2/h2vehicle.html>



# ZEROe Hydrogen combustion demonstrator



## A380 multimodal test platform

with its capacity to store large hydrogen tanks



## Hydrogen combustion engine

located along the rear fuselage



## 4 liquid hydrogen tanks

stored in a caudal position



## Liquid hydrogen distribution system

**AIRBUS**

# Airbus ZEROe Program

- CFM (GE + Safran) will modify GE Passport engine
  - 79-84 kN thrust
  - OPR 45
  - BPR 5.6
  - Twin shaft
- 4 x 100 kg tanks of LH<sub>2</sub>



# FlyZero – Direct Burn Test Requirements

## Major tests

Hydrogen gas turbine architectures are applicable to all market segments considered in FlyZero: regional, narrowbody and midsize.

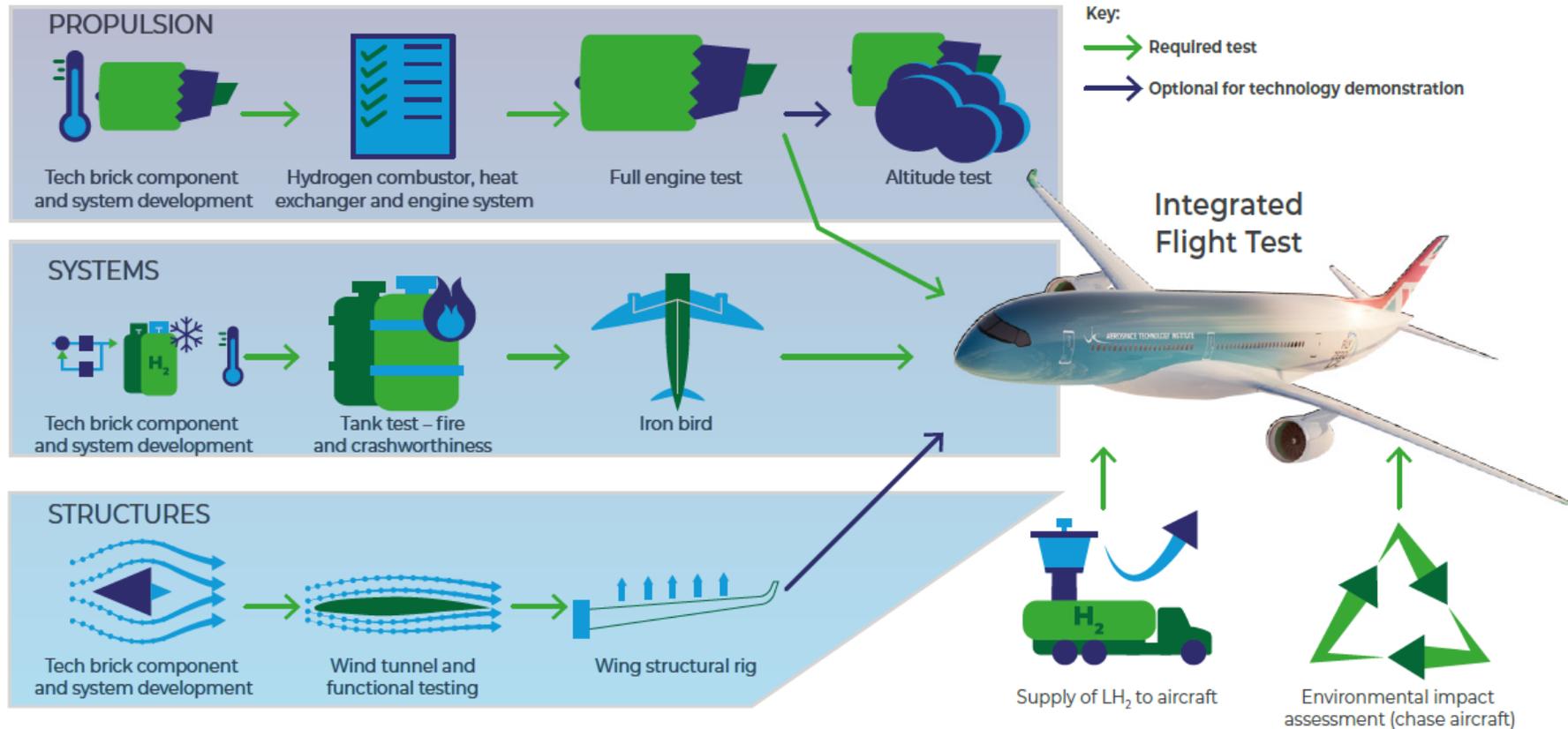
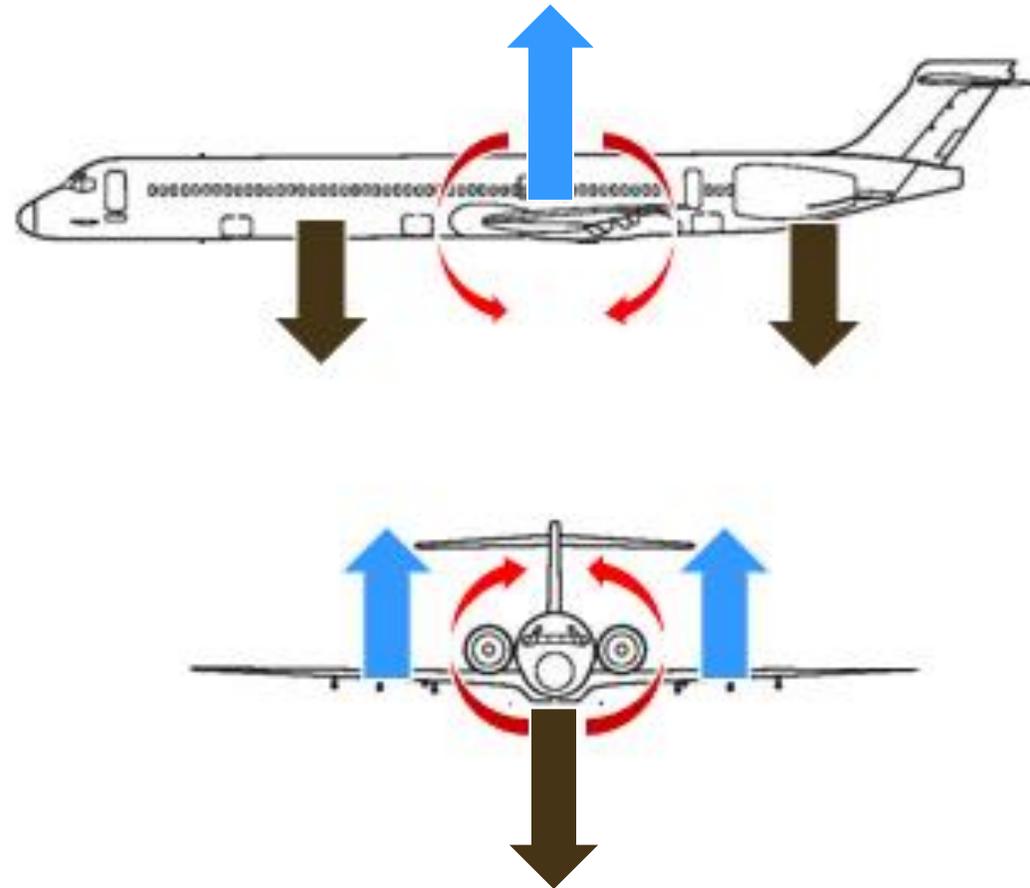


Figure 9 – Hydrogen gas turbine aircraft architecture - major tests.

# Fuselage And Wing Root Bending

- Engines mounted on rear fuselage induce additional fuselage and wing bending
- Made worse by
  - Stretched fuselage
  - Heavier engines
- Number of DC-9s and MD-80s still operating ~ 126
- Number of 737 and A320s operating ~ 11,000



# FlyZero – A320 Replacement

\*NASA report CR3970 'Design of Fuselage Shapes for Natural Laminar Flow'

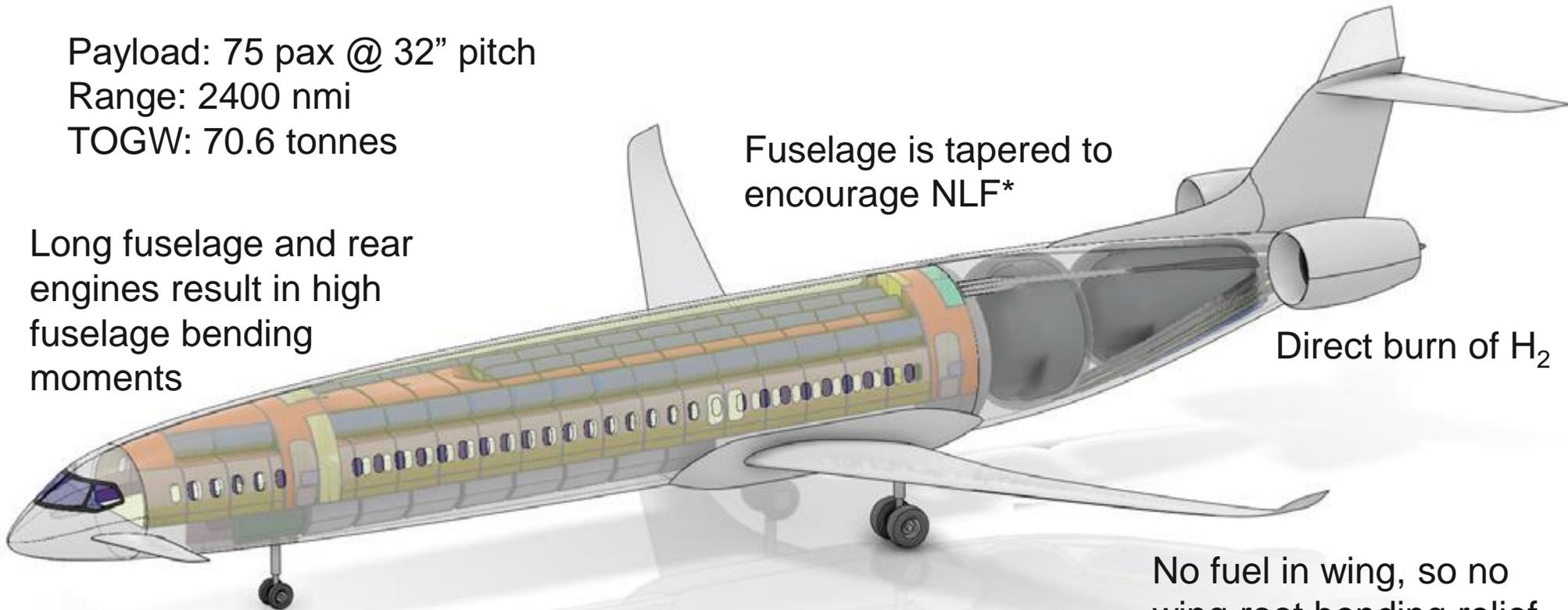
Payload: 75 pax @ 32" pitch  
Range: 2400 nmi  
TOGW: 70.6 tonnes

Long fuselage and rear engines result in high fuselage bending moments

Fuselage is tapered to encourage NLF\*

Direct burn of H<sub>2</sub>

No fuel in wing, so no wing root bending relief



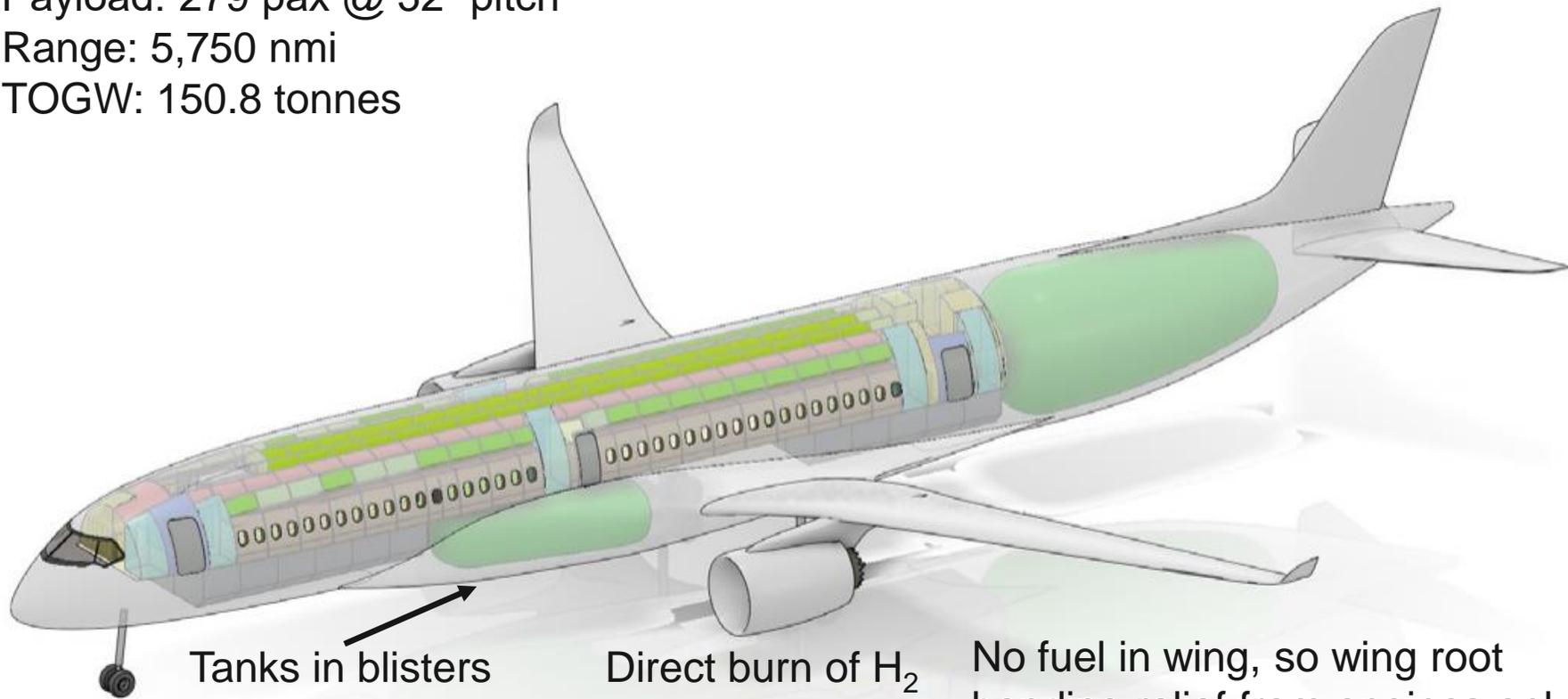
<https://www.ati.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/FZO-AIN-REP-0007-FlyZero-Zero-Carbon-Emission-Aircraft-Concepts.pdf>

# FlyZero – 767-200ER Replacement

Payload: 279 pax @ 32" pitch

Range: 5,750 nmi

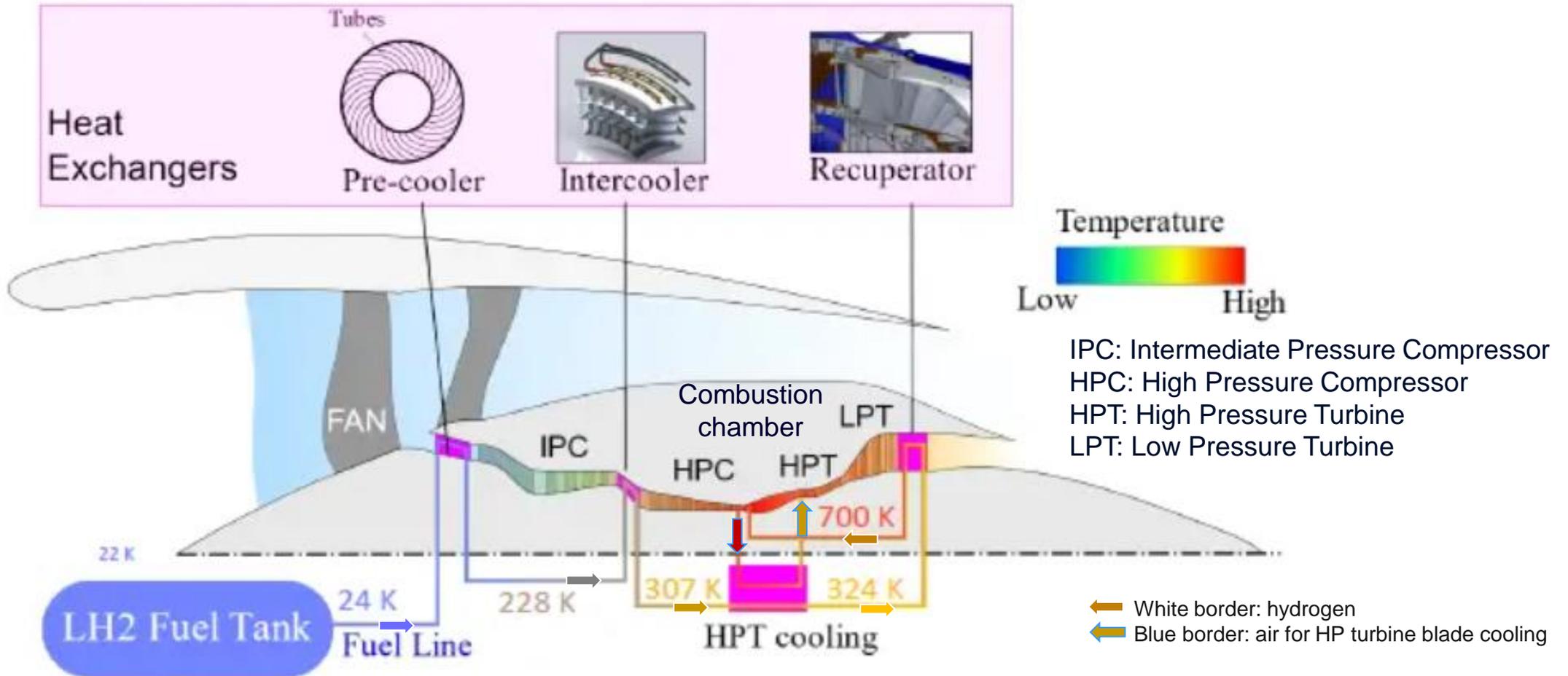
TOGW: 150.8 tonnes



<https://www.ati.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/FZO-AIN-REP-0007-FlyZero-Zero-Carbon-Emission-Aircraft-Concepts.pdf>



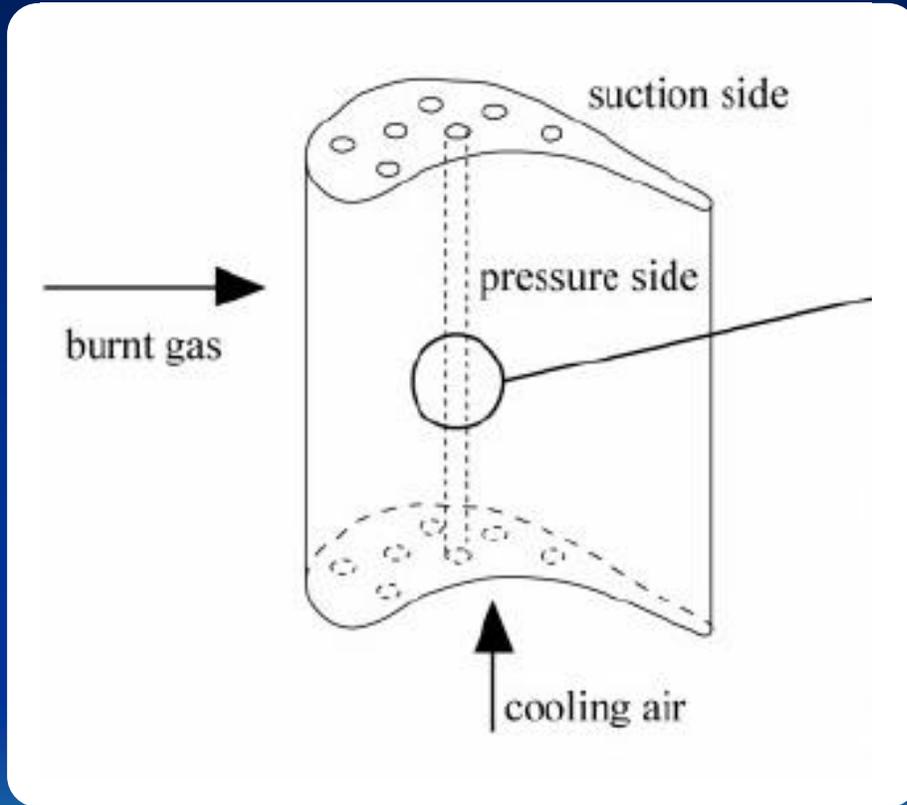
# EU ENABLEH2 Intercooled Turbine



<https://leehamnews.com/2022/05/06/bjorns-corner-sustainable-air-transport-part-18-advanced-hydrogen-gas-turbines/>

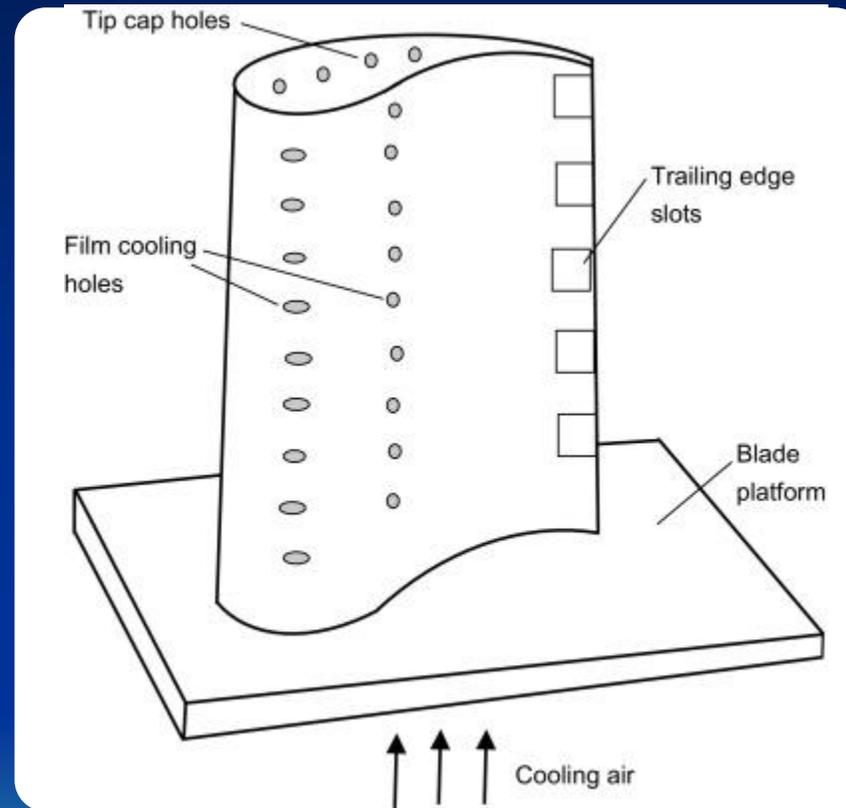
# Turbine Blade Cooling

Cooling holes – early configuration



[https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Turbine-blade-with-cooling-holes\\_fig1\\_225496222](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Turbine-blade-with-cooling-holes_fig1_225496222)

Cooling holes with film cooling

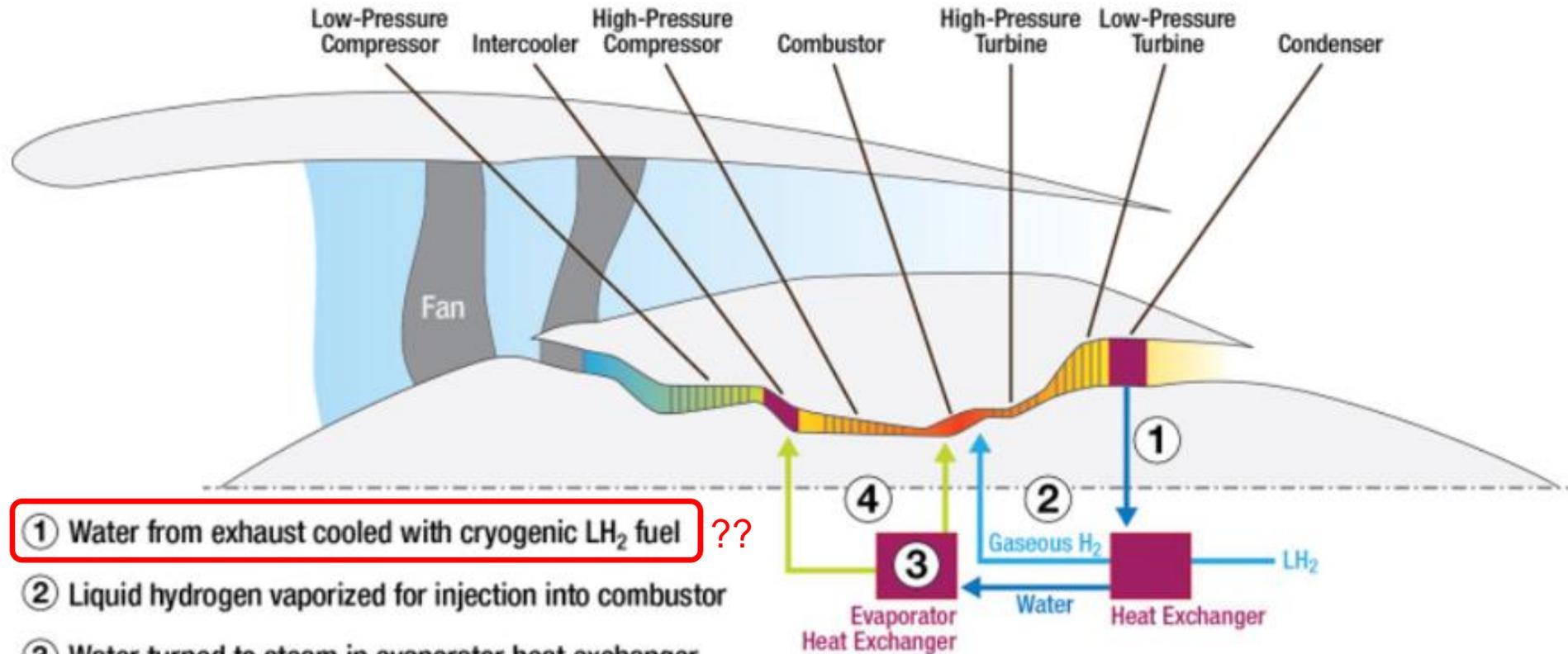


External and Internal Cooling Techniques in a Gas Turbine Blade - An Overview

Karthik Krishnaswamy  
Research Scholar  
National Institute of Technology  
Tiruchirappalli, India

Dr. Srikanth Salyan  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Aeronautical Engineering  
Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering, Bengaluru, India

# Notional Hydrogen Steam-Injected, Intercooled Turbine Engine (HySIITE) Cycle



- ① Water from exhaust cooled with cryogenic LH<sub>2</sub> fuel ??
- ② Liquid hydrogen vaporized for injection into combustor
- ③ Water turned to steam in evaporator heat exchanger
- ④ Steam fed to intercooler and injected into combustor

Source: Guy Norris/AW&ST

# SWITCH Engine Concept

Sustainable Water Injection Turbofan Comprising Hybrid-Electric

The hybrid-electric GTF powertrain will enable greater efficiency across all phases of flight by leveraging megawatt class electric motor generators, power electronics, and batteries to optimize the performance of the fuel-burning gas turbine. The WET concept recovers water vapor from the engine exhaust and re-injects it into the combustion chamber to significantly improve fuel efficiency, reduce NOx emissions, and lessen contrail forming emissions. These revolutionary technologies are designed to work together to deliver a step change reduction in emissions and energy use across the full operating system, while maintaining world class reliability and operability.

<https://www.militaryaerospace.com/commercial-aerospace/article/14286346/switch-project-aims-to-advance-hybrid-electric-and-water-enhanced-turbofan-tech>

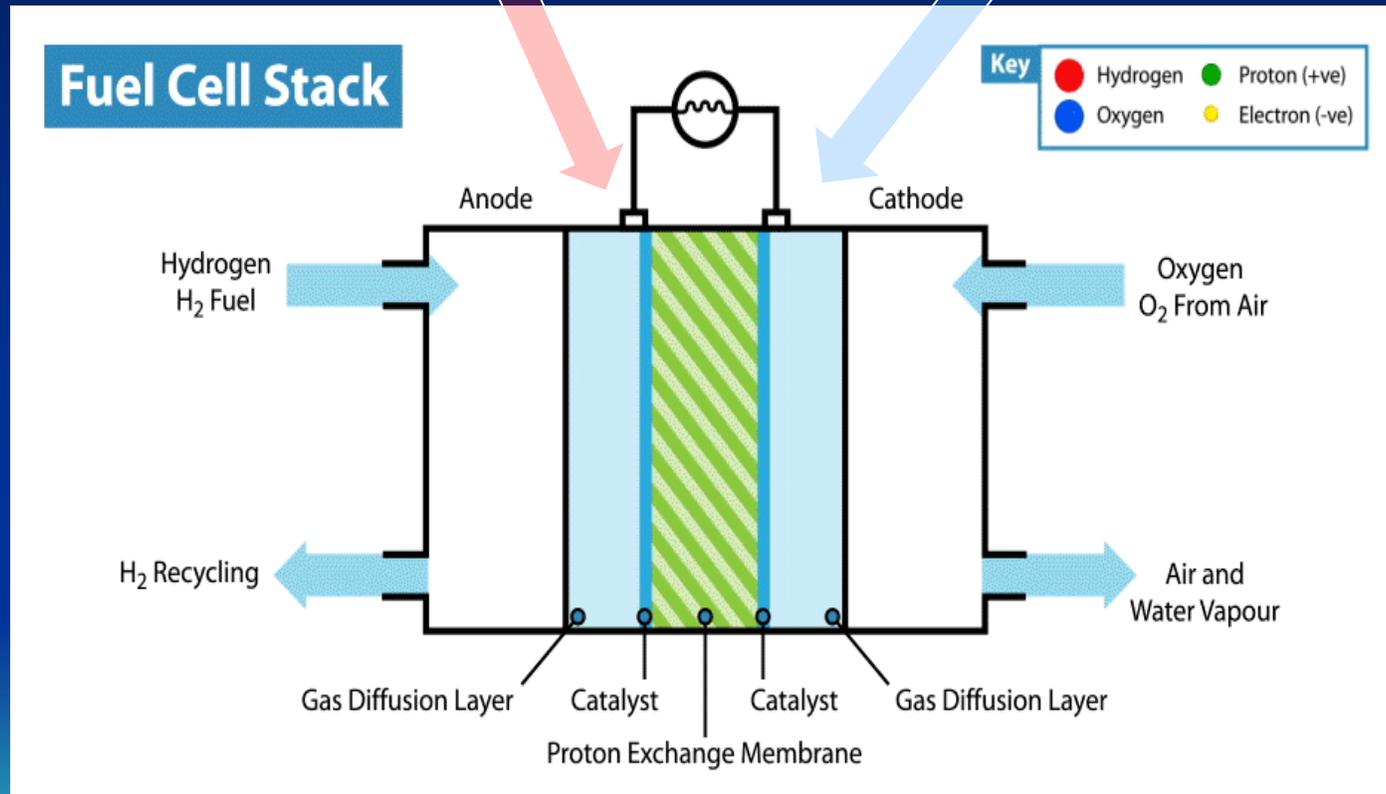
- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
  - Burn it directly with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) (rocket, gas turbine, or reciprocating engine)
  - Combine it with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) in fuel cell to generate electricity
  - Hybrid of direct burn and fuel cell
  - Hybrid of battery and fuel cell

- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
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  - Hybrid of direct burn and fuel cell
  - Hybrid of battery and fuel cell

- Areas where direct burn may be inferior
  - When multiple propulsors can be used for lift augmentation, drag reduction, or S&C
  - For short-haul turboprops flying at lower Mach numbers and shorter field length requirements
  - When propulsors are small and become very inefficient due to Reynolds Number effects (e.g., light aircraft)
  - When higher efficiency of electric motors outweighs weight of fuel cell\* and inverter for long range aircraft

\*can expect significant decrease in fuel cell weight in future

# Fuel Cell Operation



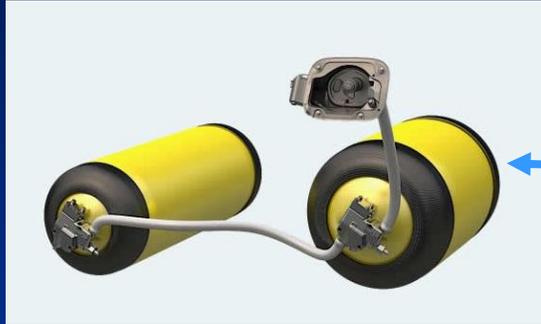
40-60% energy efficient  
(compared with i.c. engine  
efficiency of ~ 25%)

Source: [www.intelligent-energy.com/technology/technology-faq/](http://www.intelligent-energy.com/technology/technology-faq/)

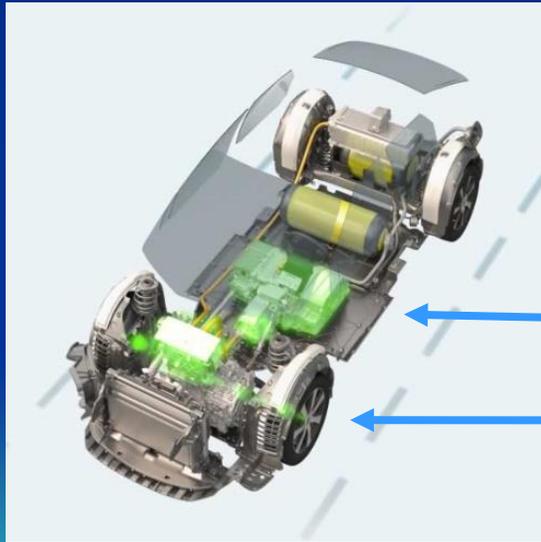


# Toyota Mirai

Starting price ~ \$50,100  
(excluding \$7,500 rebate)  
Range (2023 model) 400 mi  
(644 km)



Tanks with H<sub>2</sub>  
at 70 MPa  
(10,000 psi)



Fuel cell

Electric motor



Source:ssl.Toyota.com

Cost of H<sub>2</sub> ~ 17 ¢/mile  
Cost of gasoline ~ 17.2 ¢/mile  
at \$6/gal

# Alaka'i Technologies LH<sub>2</sub> fuel cell-powered VTOL

- MA-based (30 employees)
- Codesigned by BMW-owned Designworks
- 3 x LH<sub>2</sub> fuel cells
- 6 x 100 kW electric motors
- Payload: 456 kg (1000 lb)
- Range: up to 644 km (348 nmi)
- Endurance: up to 4 hours
- Speed: up to 190 km/h (103 kt)
- < 10 minute refueling time

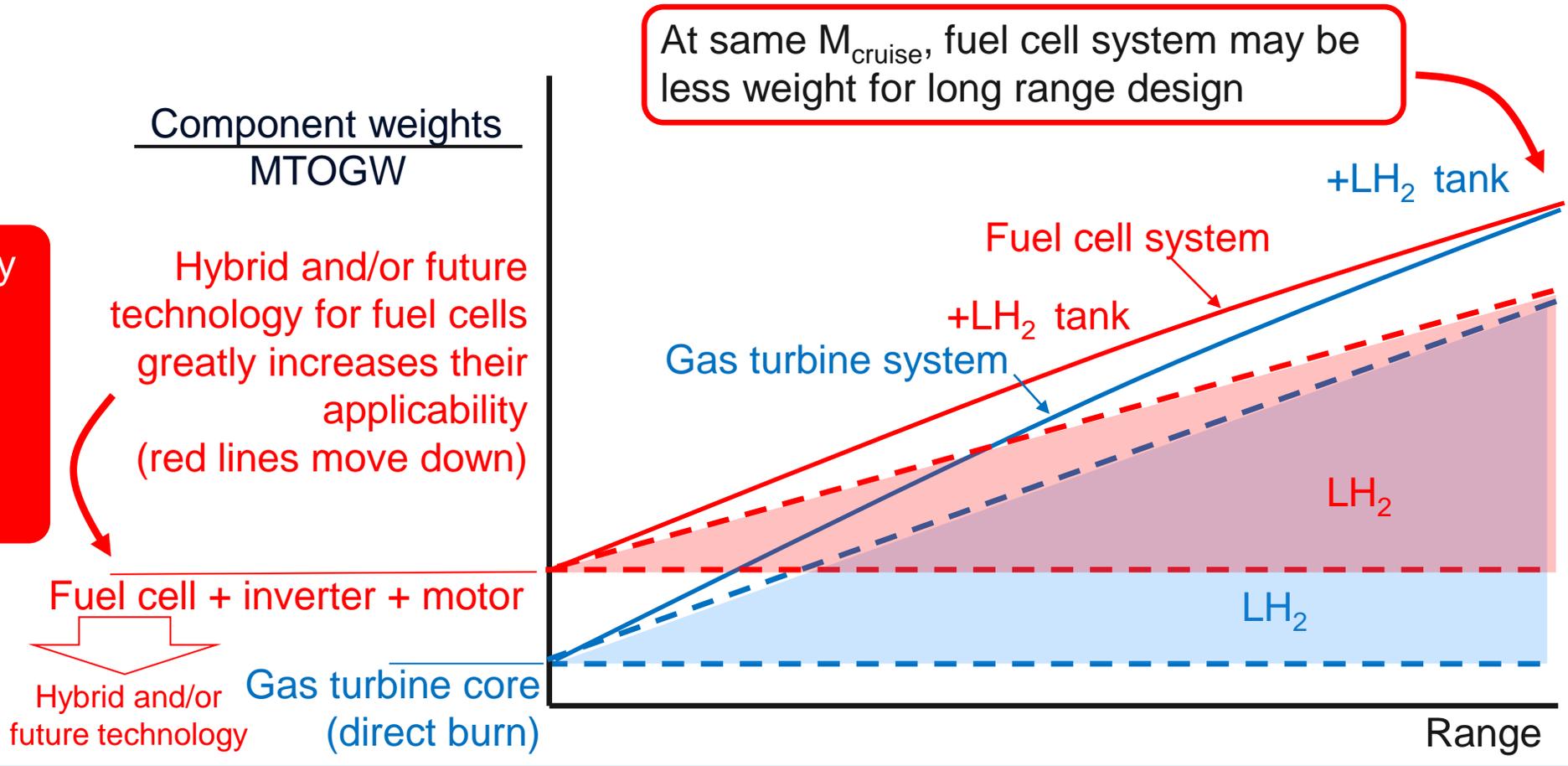


<https://www.designboom.com/technology/alakai-technologies-skai-evtol-hydrogen-fuel-cell-flying-car-03-20-2019/>  
Courtesy of alakai'I technologies

Skai H<sub>2</sub>-powered flying taxi

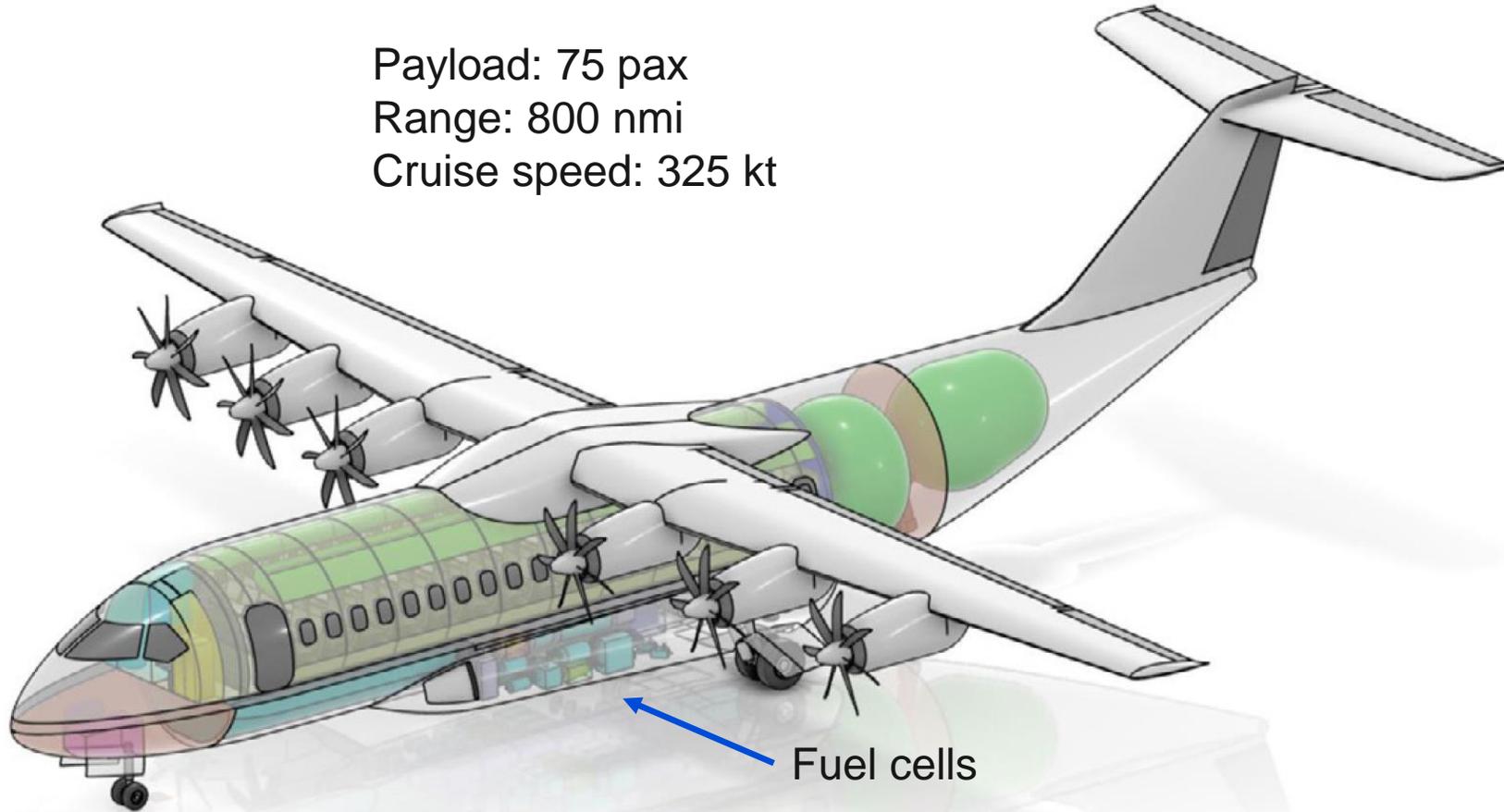
# Jet Propulsion Relative Weights

Fuel cell may be worth using for augmented lift for STOL aircraft



# FlyZero - Regional Airliner

Payload: 75 pax  
Range: 800 nmi  
Cruise speed: 325 kt



<https://www.ati.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/FZO-AIN-REP-0007-FlyZero-Zero-Carbon-Emission-Aircraft-Concepts.pdf>

- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
  - Burn it directly with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) (rocket, gas turbine, or reciprocating engine)
  - Combine it with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) in fuel cell to generate electricity
  - Hybrid of direct burn and fuel cell
  - Hybrid of battery and fuel cell

# Jet Propulsion Relative Weights

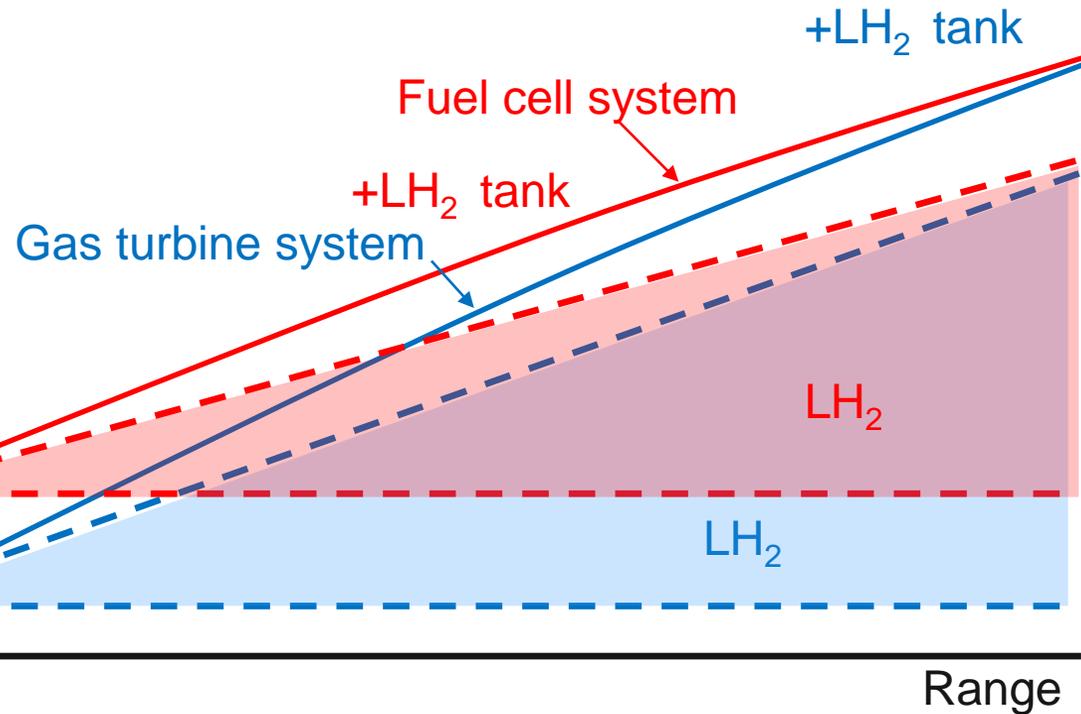
At same  $M_{cruise}$ , fuel cell system may be less weight for long range design

Component weights  
MTOGW

Following two charts apply to vertical axis

Hybrid and/or future technology for fuel cells greatly increases their applicability (red lines move down)

Fuel cell + inverter + motor  
Hybrid and/or future technology  
Gas turbine core (direct burn)



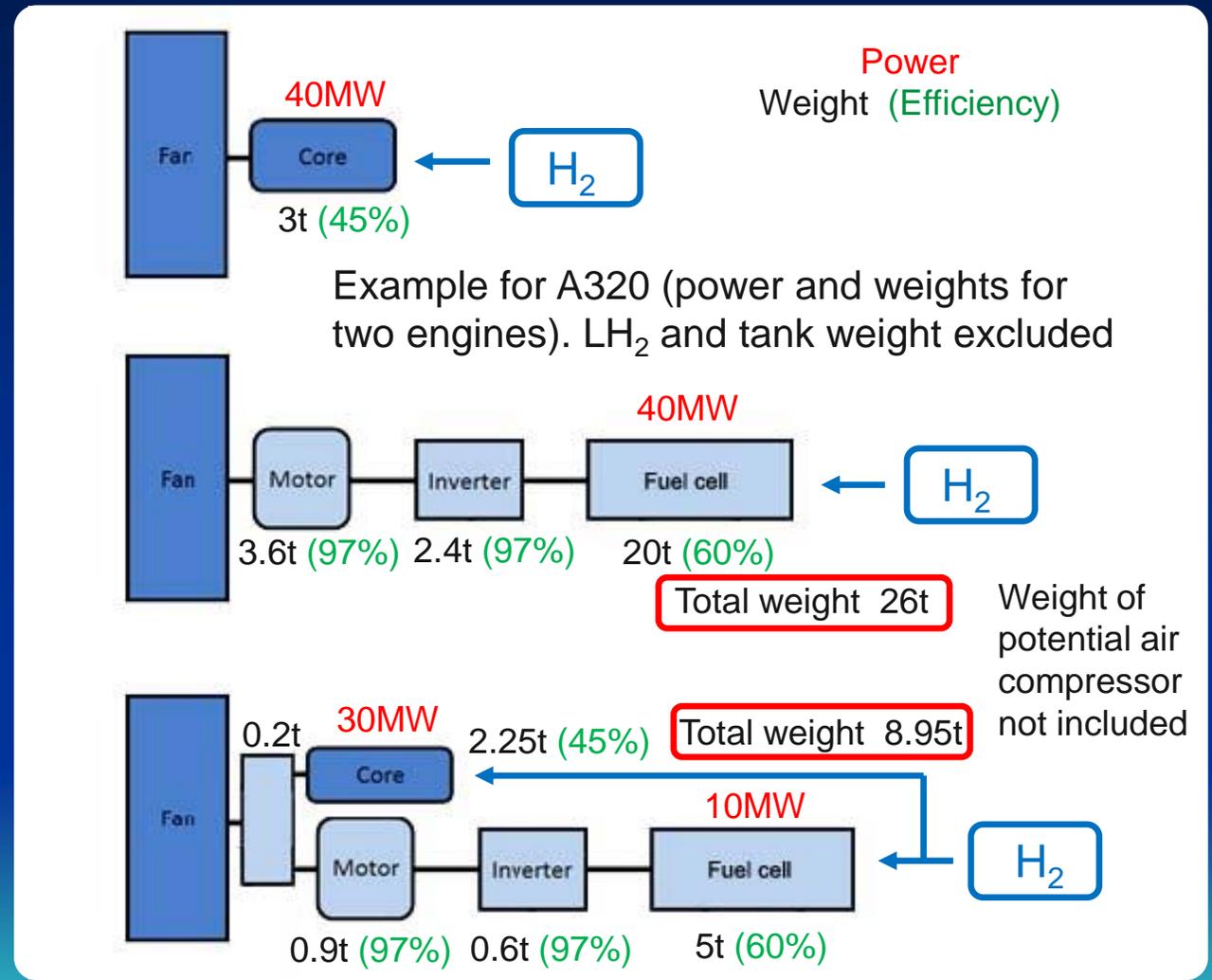
# H<sub>2</sub> Propulsion Options – Current Technology

Direct combustion of H<sub>2</sub> in conventional gas turbine

Weights for A320-sized aircraft

Combine H<sub>2</sub> with atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> in fuel cells to generate electrical power (maybe works for very long range)

Size electric power train for cruise, size core for extra power at takeoff

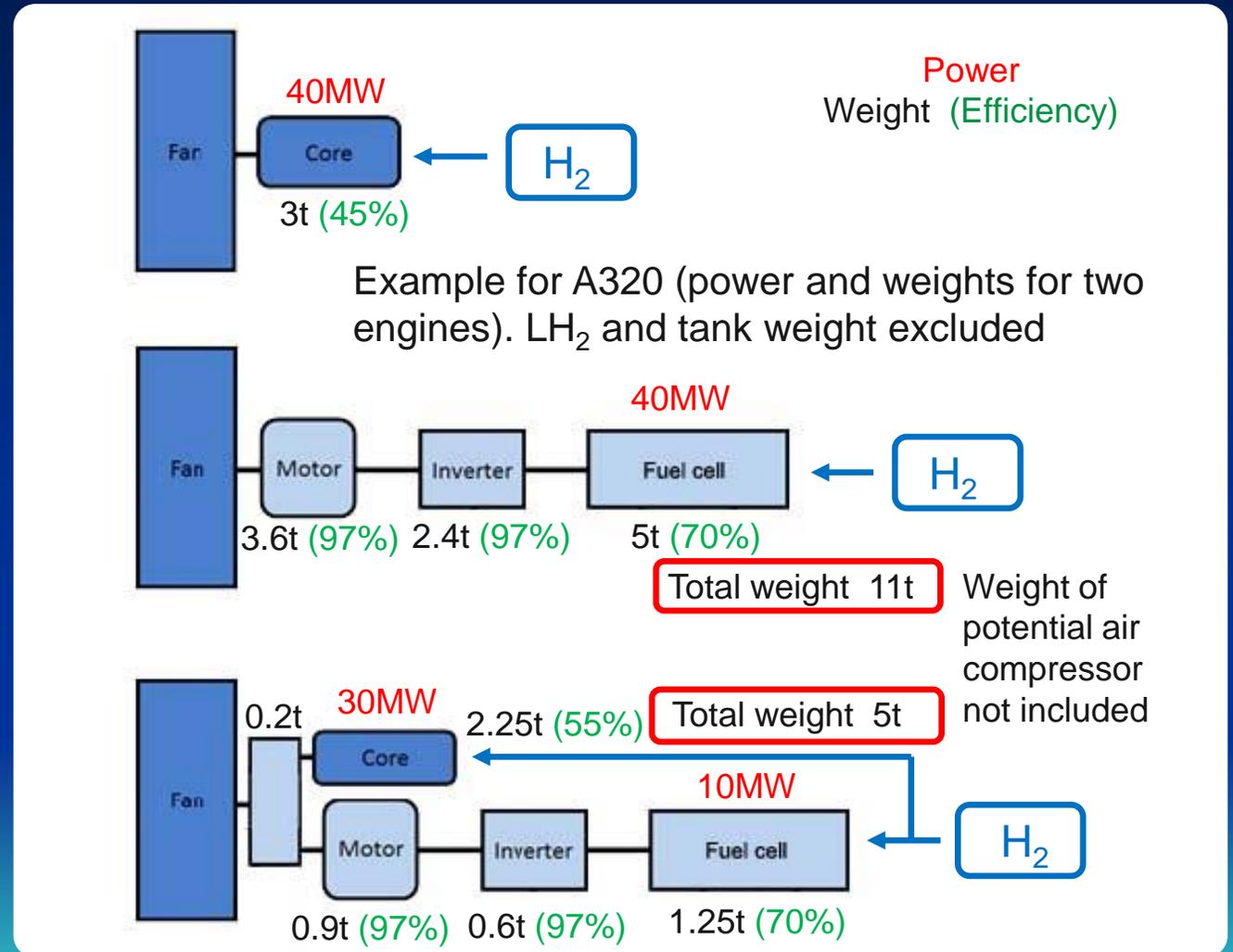


# H<sub>2</sub> Propulsion Options – Future Technology

Direct combustion of H<sub>2</sub> in conventional gas turbine

Combine H<sub>2</sub> with atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> in fuel cells to generate electrical power (maybe best for very long range)

Size electric power train for cruise, then size core for extra power at takeoff

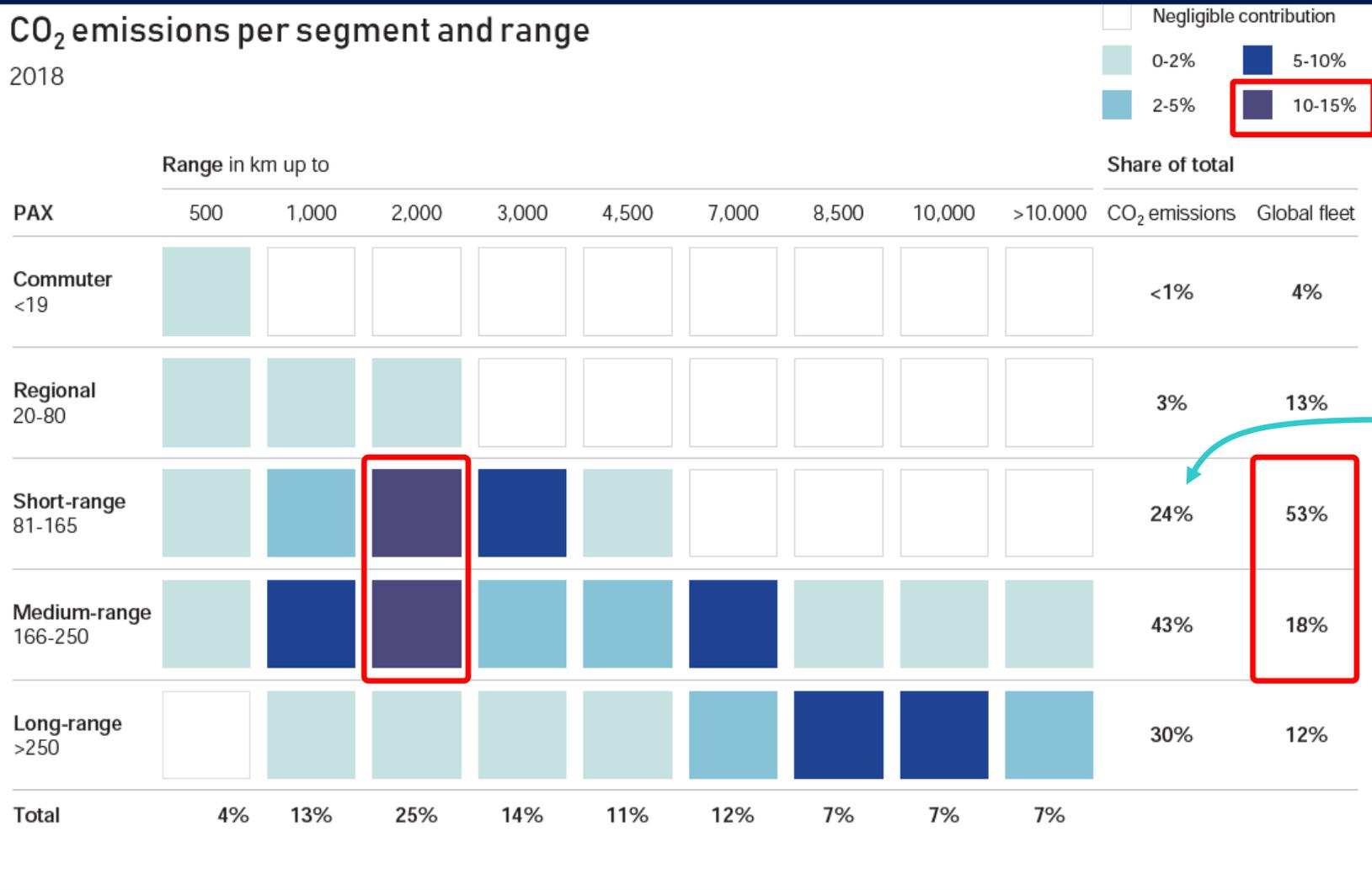




# Summary of EU-commissioned report

## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per segment and range

2018



- Range up to 2000 km and 81-250 pax create 67% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Source: EU Hydrogen Powered Aviation.

# Short-range aircraft powered by hybrid H<sub>2</sub> propulsion

Revolutionary aircraft

Design mission: 165 PAX, 2,000 km range, cruise speed Mach 0.72

- 2 LH<sub>2</sub> tanks behind PAX cabin -added weight: 4 tons
- Fuel cell system (11 MW) powering electric motors
- Electric motor driving main turbine fan shaft during cruise, while H<sub>2</sub> turbine is turned off

Fuel cells justified because of lower M<sub>cruise</sub>, less sweep, smaller engines

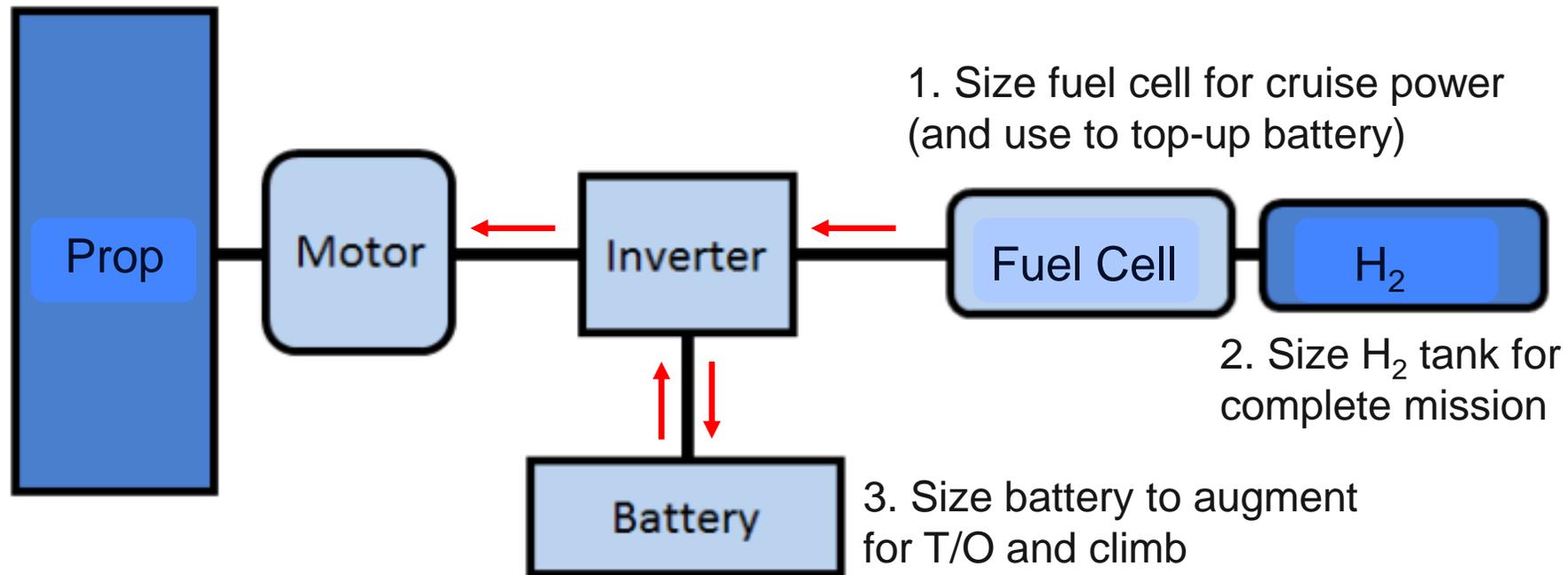


1. Major assumptions: 35% gravimetric index of LH<sub>2</sub> tank, 91% useable LH<sub>2</sub> fuel, FCS mass 2 kW/kg (incl. cooling) and 60% peak efficiency (LHV), e-motors and PMAD with 97% efficiency, battery with 0.6 kWh/kg, H<sub>2</sub>-turbine with 45% cruise efficiency
2. Cost per available seat kilometer
3. Maximum take off weight

Energy demand <sup>1</sup>		-4%
CO <sub>2</sub> reduction		100%
Climate impact reduction		70-80%
Additional cost		20-30% CASK <sup>2</sup>
Entry into service		15 years
Propulsion power		Hybrid
MTOW <sup>3</sup>		+14%

- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
  - Burn it directly with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) (rocket, gas turbine, or reciprocating engine)
  - Combine it with atmospheric  $O_2$  (or  $LO_2$ ) in fuel cell to generate electricity
  - Hybrid of direct burn and fuel cell
  - Hybrid of battery and fuel cell

# Hybrid Battery and Fuel Cell



Source: Wikipedia

Weight of battery more than offset by reduction in weight of fuel cell

# Boeing R&T Europe Dimona (Modified)

- Powered by hydrogen fuel cell and Li batteries (2008)
- Climb: Li battery + fuel cell
- Cruise: 20 minutes on fuel cell
- Cruise at 27 m/sec (51 kt)
- Paris Air Show 2009



Source: Wikipedia

# Liaoning Ruixiang GA Co. RX1E-A

辽宁锐翔通用飞机制造有限公司

- Developed at Liaoning General Aviation Academy at Shenyang Aerospace University
- In 2016 tested with combined hydrogen and battery power
- First flight of all-electric advanced config.: 2017-11-01 →
- Characteristics
  - Endurance: 60 minutes
  - TOGW: 600 kg (1,320 lb)
  - Two seats
  - Max speed: 165 km/h (90 kt)
  - Cost of electricity: ¥10/flight



Source: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/world/china-watch/technology/new-electric-aircraft/>

First flight of RX1E-A

# Liaoning Ruixiang GA Co. RX1E-A

辽宁锐翔通用飞机制造有限公司



RX1E  
Fuel cell + battery



RX1E-A  
Battery power only

- Need for Zero-Carbon Economy
- Hydrogen vs. Batteries
- History of Hydrogen-powered Propulsion
- Hydrogen Generation and Distribution
- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
- **The Future of Hydrogen**
- Contrails
- Conclusions



- The Future of Hydrogen
  - Technology
  - Reduction in Emissions

# ASuMED Superconducting Motor

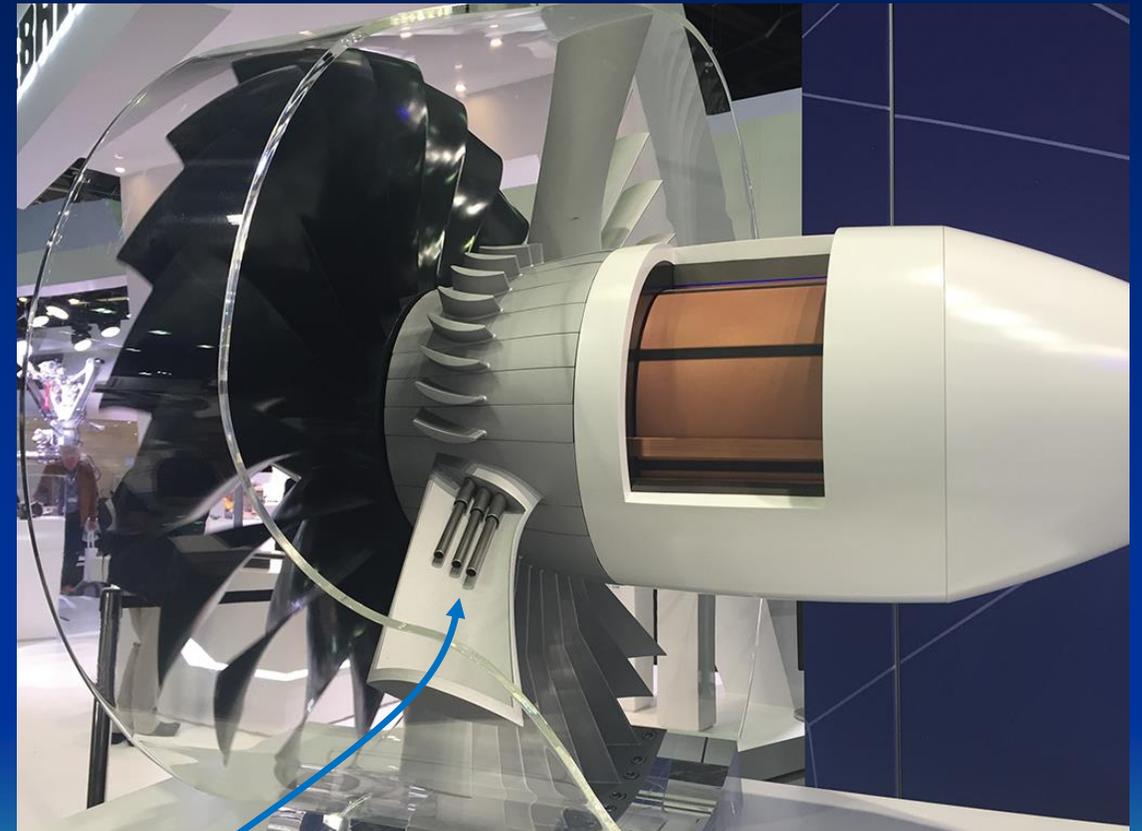
- Advanced Superconducting Motor Experimental Demonstrator
- Developed by Oswald Electromotoren
- High temperature superconductor @ 23 K (- 418 F)

- 1 mW output @ 6,000 rpm

- Specific power 20 kW/kg\* Biggest benefit

- Overall  $\eta$  99.9% Additional benefit

\* Compare with 5-6 kW/kg for conventional



LH<sub>2</sub> lines

<https://aviationweek.com/future-aerospace/full-superconducting-motor-readied-tests>

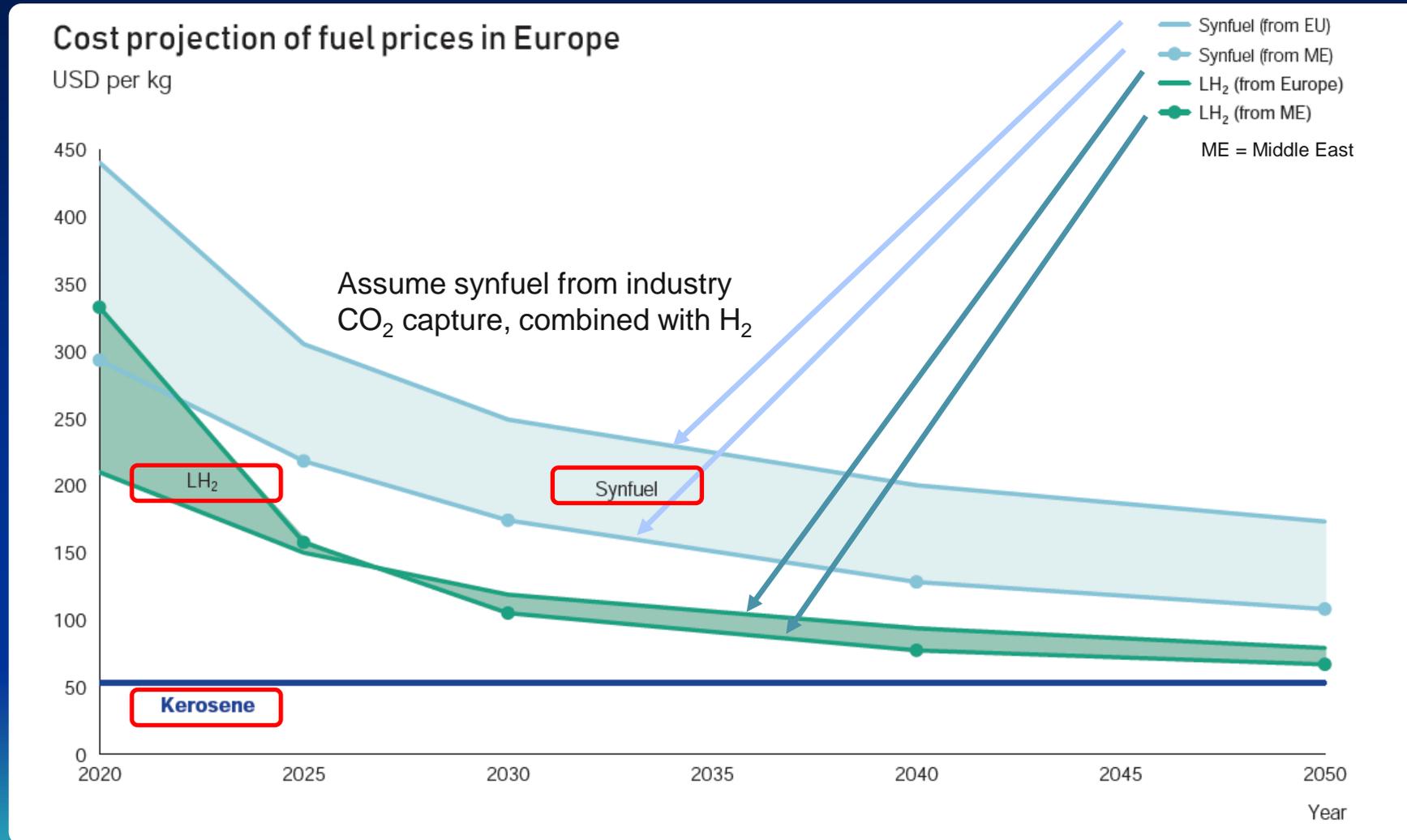
- The Future of Hydrogen
  - Technology
  - Reduction in Emissions

# Summary of EU-commissioned report

- Prepared by McKinsey & Company
- Commissioned by Clean Sky 2 Joint Undertaking and Fuel Cells and Hydrogen 2 Joint Undertaking
- Published 2020-05
- H<sub>2</sub> combustion could reduce climate impact by 50–75%
- Fuel cell propulsion by 75-90%



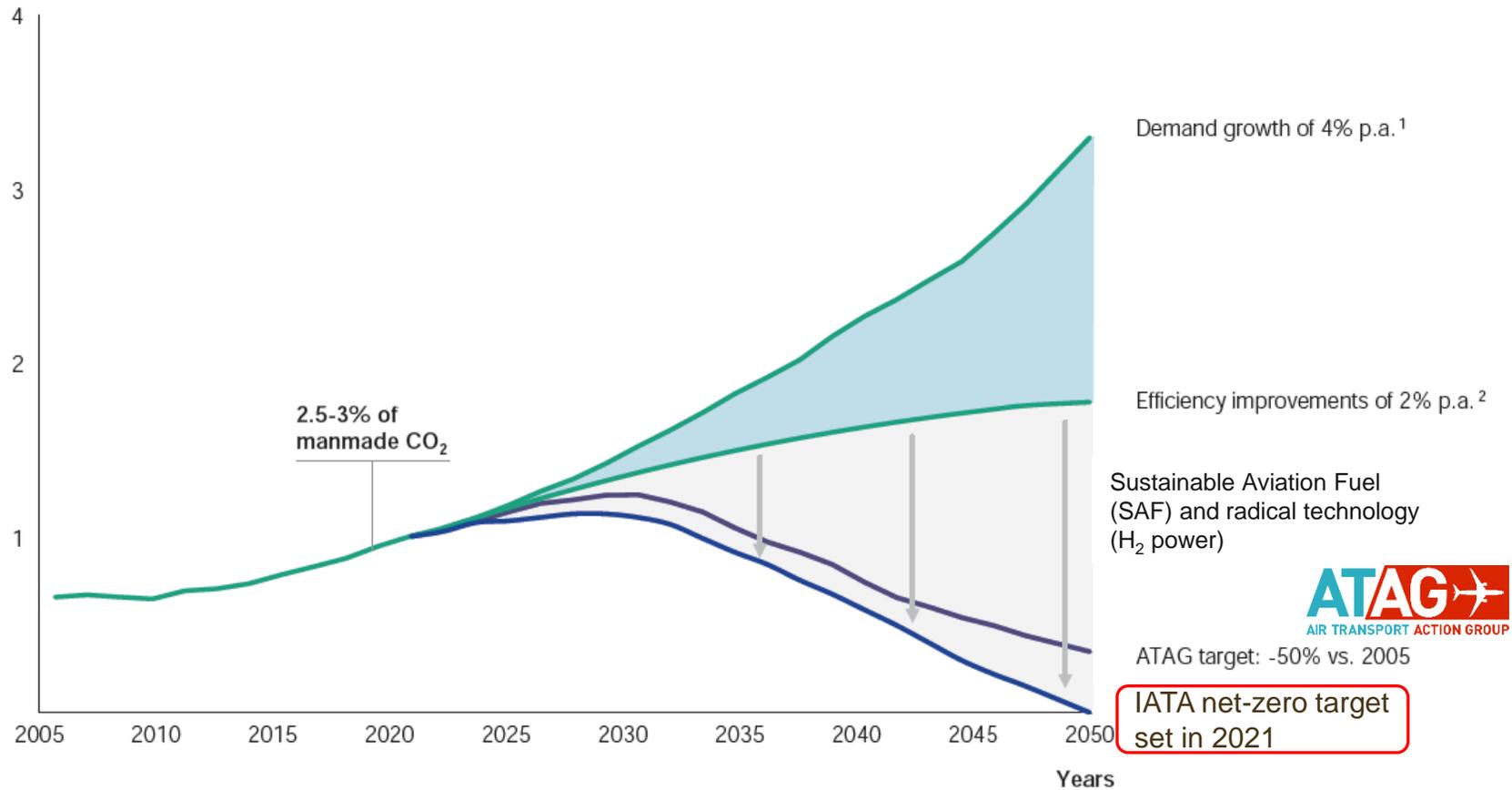
# Comparative Cost of Synfuel and LH<sub>2</sub>



# Summary of EU-commissioned report

## Projection of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from aviation

Gt CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from aviation  
Does not include compensation schemes



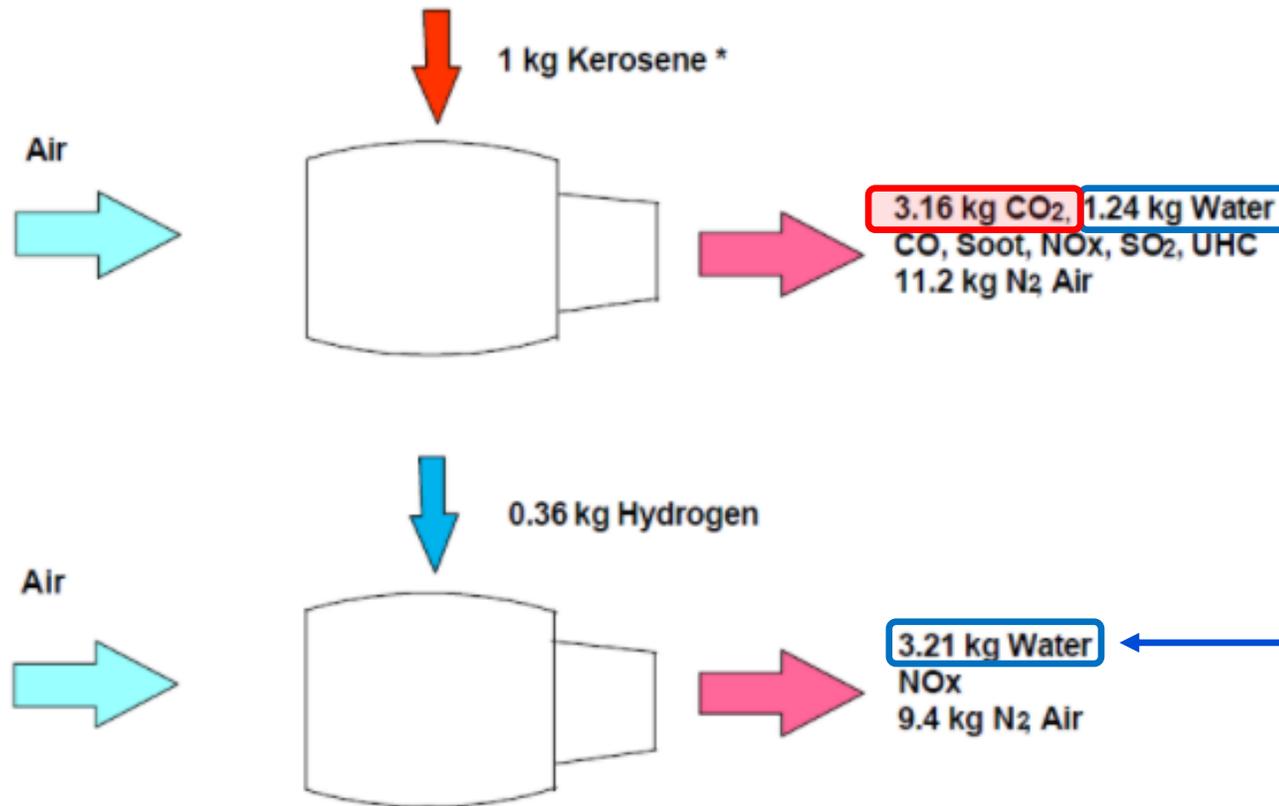
1. Assumption based on growth projections from ATAG, IATA, ICCT, WWF, UN
2. ICAO ambition incl. efficiency improvements in aircraft technology, operations and infrastructure

IATA = International Air Transport Association

- Need for Zero-Carbon Economy
- Hydrogen vs. Batteries
- History of Hydrogen-powered Propulsion
- Hydrogen Generation and Distribution
- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
- The Future of Hydrogen
- **Contrails**
- Conclusions

# Jet fuel vs. H<sub>2</sub> Emissions

Emissions (\*Fuel masses of equal energy content)



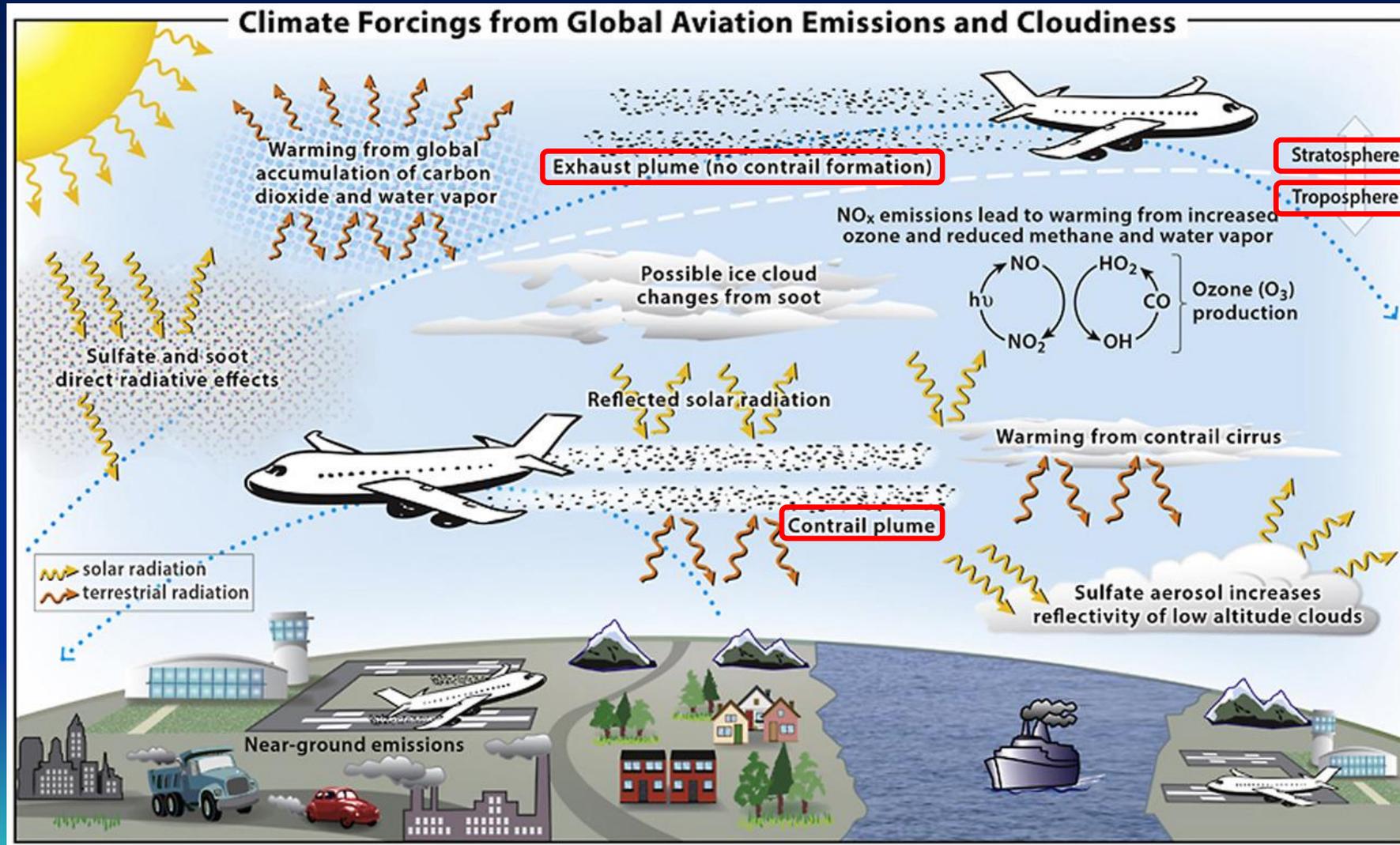
Compared with jet-fueled engine:

- No CO<sub>2</sub>
- 2.6 x water vapor results in **increased condensation trails**, which contribute to increased global warming

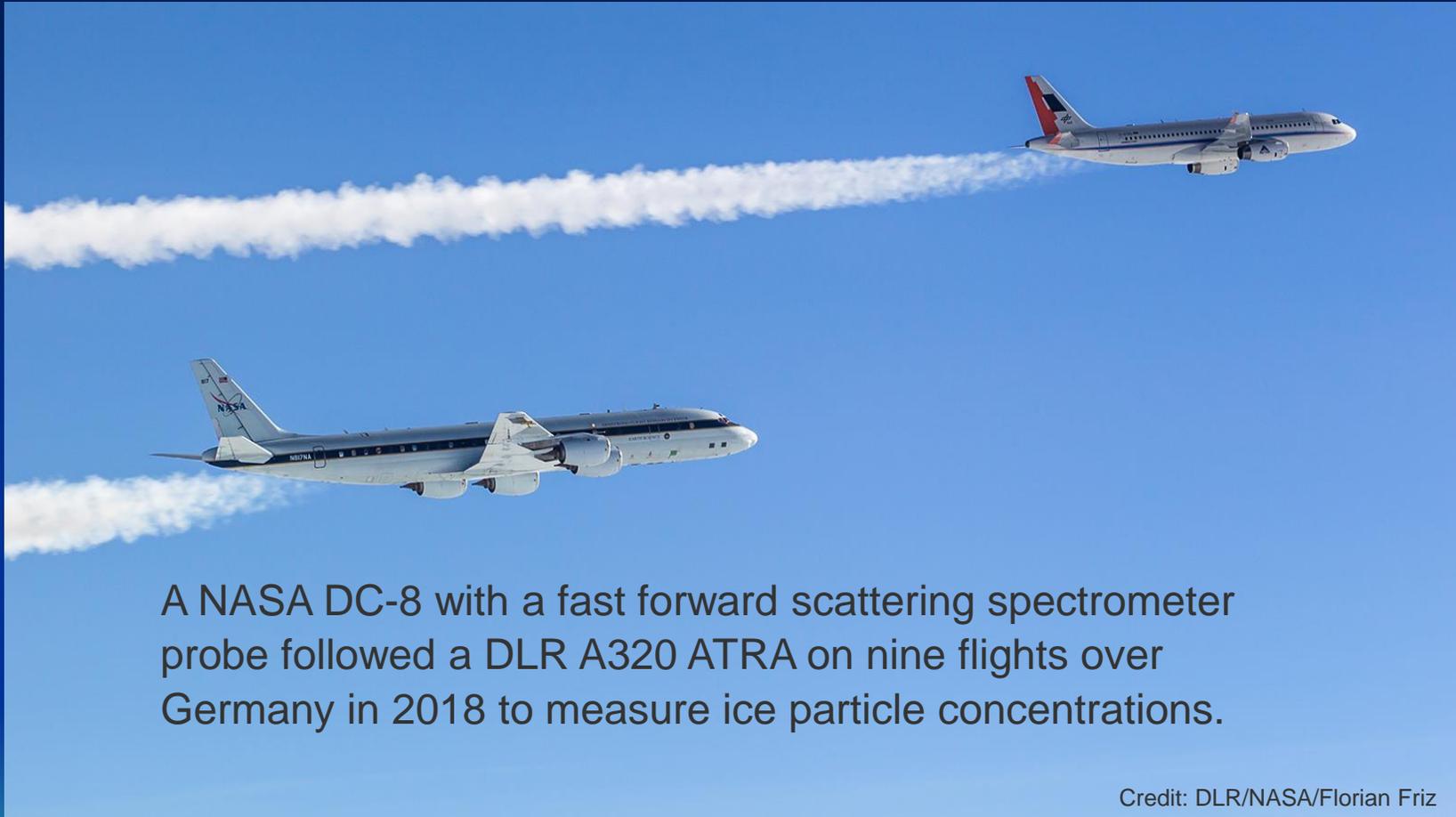
Source: Airbus Cryoplane study



# Condensation Trails from **Kerosene** Fuel



# Understanding Condensation Trails



A NASA DC-8 with a fast forward scattering spectrometer probe followed a DLR A320 ATRA on nine flights over Germany in 2018 to measure ice particle concentrations.

Credit: DLR/NASA/Florian Friz

Keith Button, Curbing Contrails, AIAA Aerospace America 2021-05

# Condensation Trails from Jet Fuel

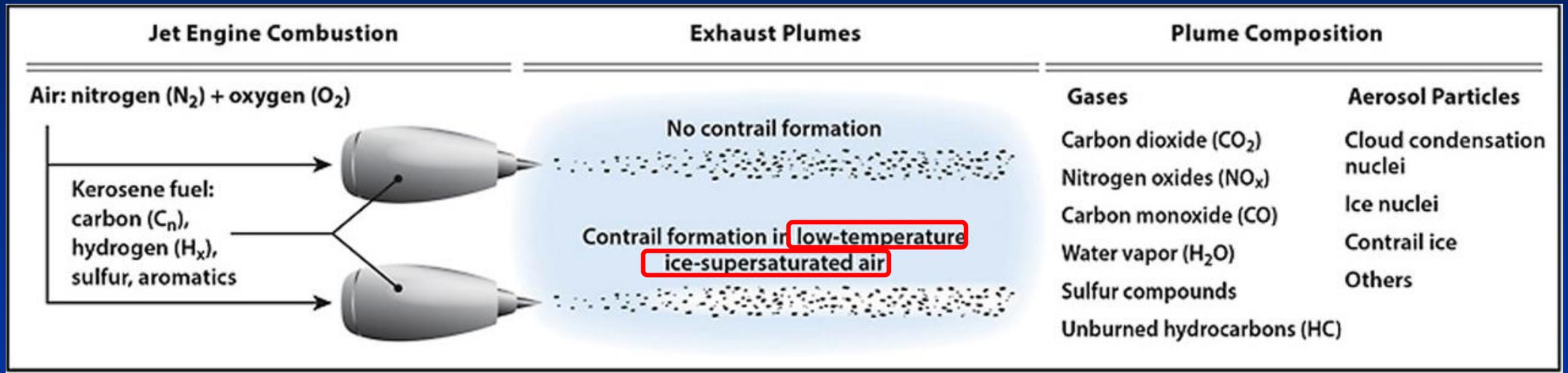
## The contribution of global aviation to anthropogenic climate forcing for 2000 to 2018

*Dedication:* This paper is dedicated to the memory of Professor Ivar S. A. Isaksen of the University of Oslo, whose scientific excellence, friendship, and mentorship is sorely missed.

D.S. Lee <sup>a</sup> ✉, D.W. Fahey <sup>b</sup>, A. Skowron <sup>a</sup>, M.R. Allen <sup>c, n</sup>, U. Burkhardt <sup>d</sup>, Q. Chen <sup>e</sup>, S.J. Doherty <sup>f</sup>, S. Freeman <sup>a</sup>, P.M. Forster <sup>g</sup>, J. Fuglestad <sup>h</sup>, A. Gettelman <sup>i</sup>, R.R. De León <sup>a</sup>, L.L. Lim <sup>a</sup>, M.T. Lund <sup>h</sup>, R.J. Millar <sup>c, o</sup>, B. Owen <sup>a</sup>, J.E. Penner <sup>j</sup>, G. Pitari <sup>l</sup> ... L.J. Wilcox <sup>m</sup>

Published in 'Atmospheric Environment', Elsevier, 2021-01-01

# Condensation Trails from Jet Fuel



D.S. Lee, et al. "The contribution of global aviation to anthropogenic climate forcing for 2000 to 2018"

Contrail formation depends on atmospheric conditions

# Condensation Trails from Jet Fuel

## Highlights

- Global aviation warms Earth's surface through both CO<sub>2</sub> and net non-CO<sub>2</sub> contributions.
- Global aviation contributes a few percent to anthropogenic radiative forcing.
- Non-CO<sub>2</sub> impacts comprise about 2/3 of the net radiative forcing. !!
- Comprehensive and quantitative calculations of aviation effects are presented.
- Data are made available to analyze past, present and future aviation climate forcing.

D.S. Lee, et al. "The contribution of global aviation to anthropogenic climate forcing for 2000 to 2018"

# Condensation Trails from Jet Fuel

NOVEMBER 24, 2020

## Airline contrails warm the planet twice as much as CO2, EU study finds

While airline contrails have featured less in our skies during the pandemic, an EU study published today finds they are among the non-CO2 emissions which contribute twice as much to global warming as aircraft CO2.[1] The research, by leading scientists, finds that jet engine emissions of nitrogen oxides, water vapor, soot and black carbon were responsible for two-thirds of aviation's climate impact in 2018. Transport & Environment (T&E) said it is an acknowledgement by the European Commission that contrails finally need to be addressed.

<https://www.transportenvironment.org/discover/airline-contrails-warm-planet-twice-much-co2-eu-study-finds/>

# Measuring Contrail Properties

Funded by German Aerospace Center (DLR)



Prof. Christiane Voigt at Mainz U. claims aircraft can avoid 80% of contrail-producing airspace with little cost



<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-5876>

# Airbus/DLR to Evaluate Hydrogen Combustion Emissions



Photo credit: James Darcy via Airbus

Purchased two Arcus J jet gliders, one with kerosene-fueled jet, other hydrogen-fueled jet



# Airbus/DLR to Evaluate Hydrogen Combustion Emissions



## Grob G 520:

- PT-6 powered long-endurance high-altitude reconnaissance (service ceiling: 50,000 ft)
- will tow gliders to altitude and carry equipment to measure jet contrail composition

- Need for Zero-Carbon Economy
- Hydrogen vs. Batteries
- History of Hydrogen-powered Propulsion
- Hydrogen Generation and Distribution
- Applications of Hydrogen Energy
- The Future of Hydrogen
- Contrails
- **Conclusions**

# Conclusions

- For VTOL and very short-range aircraft (i.e., small fuel mass fraction), batteries may be preferred
- For H<sub>2</sub>, hybrid turboprop + fuel cell may offer lightest weight for short haul, lower M<sub>cruise</sub> operations
- For medium and long range, H<sub>2</sub> direct burn (i.e., gas turbine) is currently best solution
- If fuel cell weight can be reduced, hybrid gas turbine + fuel cell may be preferable for long haul aircraft
- Zero net CO<sub>2</sub> must be achieved by 2050
- Contrail formation may be as important as emissions
- There are still many unknowns



香港科技大學  
THE HONG KONG  
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY

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Presentation will be posted at  
<https://www.adac.aero/class-presentations>



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