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Approach for CO₂ Emission Related Cost Functions in the Context of Trade-Off Investigations of a Future Energy Efficient European Aviation

Peter Förster ^{1,†} , Bekir Yildiz ^{1,2,†} , Thomas Feuerle ^{1,2} and Peter Hecker ^{1,2}

¹ Institute of Flight Guidance, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Braunschweig, Germany

² Cluster of Excellence SE²A – Sustainable and Energy-Efficient Aviation, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Germany

* Correspondence: peter.foerster@tu-braunschweig.de; Tel.: 0531 391 9862

† These authors contributed equally to this work.

Abstract: Aircraft emissions represent a relevant amount of human induced CO₂. Globally, up to 2.5 per cent of such emissions stem from the aviation industry. In order to investigate the effects within the atmosphere, realistic flight profiles are necessary to provide quantitatively tangible values of emissions. The flight profiles and the according fuel consumption can be calculated by using waypoints from flight plans and Base of Aircraft Data (BADA). This paper presents an approach to refine the fuel consumption by integrating the passenger load into the calculation. Since effects of emissions have to be assessed on a greater scale, such as on the European air traffic network, the presented approach provides cost functions for CO₂ emissions for different aircraft types and load factors. The cost functions were derived by means of regression analyses of BADA based calculated flight profiles with a step size of one second. The calculations are based on real historic traffic scenarios of several days. The derived aircraft specific fuel burn coefficients enable a simple and efficient integration of CO₂ estimations depending on the flight distance, load factor and aircraft type. This can be applied to large traffic scenarios to also study different set-ups such as travel restrictions, other disruptions or an alteration in the traffic system as a whole. In order to enable the assessment of further aspects of such changes to the European air traffic system at large and to foster reproducibility and comparability of related studies, we provide further general-purpose cost estimation functions for several important key characteristics. Besides fuel consumption, we develop cost estimations for air navigation fees and maintenance for conventional aircraft. Those functions are also provided for the design concept of a short-range all-electric aircraft. This propeller aircraft features game-changing technologies such as active laminar flow control, active load alleviation and advanced materials and structure concepts. The approaches discussed in this paper will focus on the generic aspects of aircraft related costs, which can be derived from general available data. For the sake of reproducibility, the results will be made publicly available.

Keywords: cost estimation; all-electric aircraft; European air traffic network

1. Introduction

The reduction of CO₂ emissions within the aviation industry is a significant goal that is pursued on a global scale. Besides improvements of current propulsion technologies and the progress achieved in aerodynamic facets, other technologies are being investigated as well with great effort. That addresses alternatives to the carbon based aviation, as well as radical new shapes of the aircraft cell. In line with the new propulsion technologies, changes in the flight performance of the aircraft are to be expected. With respect to the current models, climb rates as well as ranges of new aircraft will change. Furthermore, new propulsion units can contribute to less noise emissions, which can lead to different flight corridors or adapted night flight regulations.

Figure 1. SE²A short range all-electric aircraft [2]

Figure 1 shows the SE²A¹ short range (SR) aircraft with foldable wings and a high aspect ratio. The SE²A SR version 1 (SRV1) features an all-electric propulsion system with two fuselage-mounted electric motor-driven propellers. Concerning the battery energy, a cell energy density of 800Wh/kg was assumed to be reached by the year 2050 [1].

One field of research is engaged in the modeling and simulation of the future air traffic system which incorporates those new types of aircraft. The aim is to understand the implications with respect to current operations, which result from introducing the new aircraft types into the present air traffic system. This addresses areas such as the regulation of the aircraft flow or the necessary infrastructure to be provided on the ground. Especially on the ground, substantial changes in the involved processes are to be expected. An overview of the possible new aircraft configurations can be found in [3], where exemplary implications on the boarding process are investigated for the case of a blended wing body. The expected reduced ranges of electrically operated aircraft might lead to a different structure of the transport flow within the European Air Traffic System (ATS). That is, typical pairs of origin and destination operated by aircraft with distinct passenger capacities might not be available anymore when using electrically operated propulsion systems. Depending on the demand of passengers at each airport, the established flight connections of the ATS might have to be adapted to the new aircraft types that are introduced into the current model range. One aspect of modeling the future air traffic system is to assess the trade-off between reduced ranges and the benefit of saving emissions. To provide tangible results with respect to the atmospheric impact of conventional aircraft types, the simulation has to provide realistic emission values. Due to the variety of involved stakeholders and their multifaceted interactions, as well as the large amount of different operational procedures within the ATS, the complexity of the system generally poses a challenge with respect to computational costs. Therefore the calculations of emissions have to be efficient with respect to the computing demand.

To meet the above mentioned requirements, cost functions were derived. Those estimation functions aim to enable a spatially larger approach to the investigation of atmospheric impacts of conventional aircraft in an efficient fashion.

Besides emissions, this paper aims to provide a selection of estimation functions which need little computational effort to support the assessment of the system from a flow perspective. Detailed processes, such as new procedures on the ground or at the arrival phase are thereby neglected. The estimation functions aim to help related studies that compare different percentages of new aircraft types which are integrated into the ATS with regard to costs.

This study will present three aircraft related cost estimation functions addressing the fuel consumption (with the CO₂ emission respectively), the air navigation charges and maintenance costs. The navigation charges will be presented for all pairs of the selected

¹ The Cluster of Excellence SE²A - Sustainable and Energy Efficient Aviation - investigates future aircraft types, by following an interdisciplinary approach.

European airports. The three Direct Operating Cost (DOC) estimation functions will be generated for 9 different aircraft types which constitute the most prominent with regard to the European air traffic.

Figure 2. Airline cost structure by ECTL [4]

In Figure 2, Eurocontrol [4] provides an overview of an airline cost structure, covering data derived from 61 airlines. As shown in Figure 2, a variety of costs addresses the business model of an airline. Those are Indirect Operating Costs (IOC), such as the costs for sales and ticketing. The direct operating costs addressed in this paper are marked in blue and can be derived from general available data, such as the aircraft specifications or fees of air navigation service providers. The aim is to provide estimation functions which can be applied in various contexts with little computational effort and which are related to the particular characteristics of the aircraft type or the seat load factor. In a possible future step, other cost aspects of Figure 2, such as airport charges or specific airline business models, could be implemented additionally. Since IOC are not freely available, they will be omitted in this paper.

For one selected new aircraft type, which is electrically powered, the three cost estimation functions will be obtained as well. The functions are developed from free available data and will be composed and published in order to provide a foundation for modelling and simulation from a flow perspective of the future air traffic system facilitating interdisciplinary research. The following paragraph will shortly address the flow problem of a changed network as a motivation for the estimation functions in more detail.

Besides the simulation of the ATS under the conditions of future propulsions system, the question of an optimized traffic flow for different percentages of new aircraft types is one driver for the generation of cost estimation functions presented in this paper. Optimized flow solutions are investigated with respect to minimizing the delay of the air traffic flow management (ATFM), which considers en-route sector as well as airport capacity and focuses on current aircraft configurations, see [5], [6] or [7]. As mentioned above, this might lead to a different shape of the system with respect to the present-day situation concerning the airport utilization and the set of connections among the European airports.

Optimization models have to consider the adapted ranges of the new aircraft types as well as airport capacity restrictions, in order to provide a new cost optimized set of connections among the European airports. Due to the complexity of the air traffic system, even by neglecting current economic realities or legal circumstances, it is crucial to produce computational efficient cost functions to facilitate the search for an optimum. In an optimization model, costs can also serve as constraint variables.

(a) Cutout of European airports, airfields and oil rigs and related waypoints of the so6-M3 data set of the 25th August 2018

(b) Corresponding heat map of the data set, using interpolated waypoints

Figure 3. Air traffic situation across Europe

In [8] distance and weight depending cost functions for different aircraft types are presented. To enable a better estimation of emitted CO_2 , this paper will extend this approach by proposing a calculation of the fuel consumption, which includes the particular Seat Load Factor (SLF), thus addressing the varying passenger demand. Since the capacity of a particular airport plays a pivotal role with regard to simulation and optimization problems of the ATS, the paper proposes an estimation for the capacity of all European airports based on the runway layout.

The paper is structured as follows. In Chapter 2 the data foundation for the computation of the estimation functions is discussed. Chapter 3 presents the assumption of airports capacity based on the available runway layout. Chapter 4 shows results of the fuel estimation function based on different load factors, which was derived by a regression of a variety of flight profiles. In Chapter 5 and 6 the computation of navigation charges and a selection of maintenance costs are presented. Chapter 7 applies the approaches of Chapter 4 - 6 to the new all-electric aircraft SRV1. In Chapter 8 an outlook for possible future applications is given.

2. Data foundation

The cost function of CO_2 emissions was founded on calculations of realistic flight profiles, using the Base of Aircraft Data (BADA) data set for specific types of aircraft [9].

The profiles of the particular aircraft were construed by using given waypoints and neglecting weather influences. The calculation of vertical and horizontal phases of the trajectory incorporates different aspects such as rate of climb or descent (ROCD), true airspeed V_{TAS} and fuel consumption which relates to the change of mass of the aircraft. With regard to the implementation of the turning flight, the lateral flight profile provides an adequate horizontal path defined by waypoints and legs as well.

As shown in Fig. 4, in the trajectory calculation, the transition from one nominal straight line to the other is simplified by a circular arc. Coming from the waypoint WP_{i-1} , if the aircraft reaches the switching point P_{zi-1} , then the next waypoint WP_{i+1} of the flight plan is targeted and the aircraft begins a turn to the next course prior reaching this waypoint. The turn arc or the curved path segment is centered in M_i with radius r_i . The rate of turn $\dot{\chi}$ can be calculated as follows:

Figure 4. Turn anticipation and geometry of the circular arc

$$\dot{\chi} = \frac{g_0}{V_{TAS}} \cdot \tan(\theta) \quad (1)$$

Here, g_0 is the gravitational acceleration. The control input, bank angle θ , is based upon the amount of course angle change $\Delta\chi$ between the two flight legs and ranges between 15° and 35° . The distance x_s between the initial switching point and the so called fly-by waypoint WP_i is ensured by Expression (2) [10]. Thus, the switching point P_{zi-1} can be set, if WP_i is known.

$$x_s = r_i \tan\left|\frac{\Delta\chi}{2}\right| = \frac{V_{TAS}}{\dot{\chi}} \tan\left|\frac{\Delta\chi}{2}\right| \quad (2)$$

After the second switching point P_{zi} or the target course is reached, the turn is completed and the aircraft flies along the great circle path until the next waypoint of the flight plan is targeted. This procedure is repeated for all waypoints separating the two route segments.

The vertical flight profile is construed by the conjunction of several flight segments represented in the initial flight plan.

The waypoints from the flight plan, which were used to generate the flight mission profiles, were procured from the “so6” data set, provided by [11]. These data encompass all planned flights within Europe, including pairs of origin and destination, all planned waypoints and the type of aircraft. The data also represent international incoming and outgoing traffic. Besides the calculation of CO₂ emission, the “so6” data set was used to limit the amount of airports to the European flight network. This is due to the fact that the data set of other regions only contains European related flights. Since the European airspace is heavily connected with other regions in the world, a calculation of the interregional traffic flows was performed, in order to assess the amount of traffic related to other regions.

In that respect, the following paragraph will discuss the so6 data foundation in more detail. For the purposes of illustration, the 25th of August 2018 will serve as an example of the air traffic situation across Europe. Figure 3a and Figure 3b visualize the traffic flow over Europe, derived from the so6 data set considering updated waypoints. Both figures represent a Mercator projection. Figure 3a depicts a cutout of Europe with all 1216 airports, airfield or oil rigs and the waypoints filed for the planned data set. The underlying sample data embodies 33674 flights and approximately 2.6 million waypoints. Figure 3b aims to reveal the traffic density. Here, due to irregular distributed waypoints, with respect to flight profiles, an interpolation was carried out. To better visualize the traffic streams and focus areas from Figure 3a, a resolution of one second was chosen for interpolation. This procedure leads to approximately 324 million data points, illustrated in Figure 3b. The heat map clearly illuminates the focal areas of flight movements in Europe. The main streams of flow are also highlighted. Both figures illustrate the complexity of the European air traffic.

Figure 5. Percentages of traffic flow for the regions E and L of the ICAO classification, calculated for 4 different seasons

The following paragraph elaborates on the process of excluding airports in the context of traffic streams across different regions.

Figure 6. Regions according to ICAO classification, adapted from [12]

Figure 6 depicts the international regions of air traffic, as classified by ICAO [12]. Since this paper aims to provide generic cost functions for the European air traffic, the regions E and L have been specially investigated. In the process of selecting relevant airports, firstly, oil rigs and airfields with no commercial air traffic were removed from the data. Secondly, a calculation of the traffic streams between the affected ICAO regions was carried out. The data show, that up to approximately 73% of all flights, listed in the so6 records take place within the regions E and L. We deem the regions E and L as sufficiently representative in the light of related European traffic streams. E and L will therefore define the system boundaries, though the influx of other regions, which will be excluded in the following considerations, is acknowledged.

Figure 5a and 5b illustrate the traffic flow among the different ICAO regions with respect to the European airspace for selected days. As one aspect, the differences between the particular summer and winter season are revealed in this depiction. For example, the flow between U and L in Figure 5a decreases by up to 48% between the month of July and January. Due to missing data of particular months of a year, the calculation illustrated in Figure 5a and 5b were performed by means of data of different years. This is because so6 data became unavailable for public access and not all data could have been secured.

3. Calculation of airport capacity

With respect to flow based simulations of the European air traffic or optimization problems, the airport capacity plays a pivotal role. This chapter proposes an estimation of the capacity of an airport, related to its particular runway layout. Generally, the capacity of an airport depends upon several factors, such as the number and layout of runways, the aircraft mix or operational aspects like the separation between aircraft that are imposed by the air traffic authorities as a result of the current demand, weather influences or noise constraints [13]. As a good rule of thumb to estimate the Declared Runway Capacity (DRC), the 5% peak hour movement is often applied, since it is expected that the DRC reaches at least the maximum number of aircraft movements per hour [13]. In their study of the capacity utilization of 75 European airports, Schinwald and Hornung [13] revealed that most airports only use low to moderate capacity and only seven operate at their highest capacity².

Since this paper aims to derive a generic approach to assess the airport capacity and furthermore, information on airport capacity are incomplete, the estimation is based on the particular runway configuration. This includes the number and layout of the runway as well as the particular mix of traffic. In this approach, the capacity of an airport is considered as the annual and hourly capacity. It is derived from the particular runway layout of an airport, which follows the methodology of [14], where an analysis of the annual service volume (in operations per year), was made for different combinations of fleet mixes, runway configurations and operational directions.

Since the average yearly fleet mix can be derived from the European so6 data set, the types of different runway configurations, which are assigned with a particular capacity, have to be identified. The fleet mix index is given by the following equation [14].

$$MI = C + 3D \quad (3)$$

C and D represent the percentage of aircraft of a distinct weight class of the total aircraft mix. Appendix A provides the weight classes used in the method. It should be noted, that since the classes A and B in Table 2 are not used in equation (3), they are a subset of the total aircraft mix.

Different operational directions of runways show similar or equal values. They were therefore summarized. The runway configurations were identified by means of a formal description of their relative position to each other. The necessary layout plans of each runway were procured from a freely available data set [15], which provides specific airport data. The calculation algorithm proposed in this paper covers most of the cases, that are represented in [14] and enables an automatic classification of airports. The capacities of the particular runway configurations, which are not listed, were assigned manually. The fleet mix MI is calculated for an annual time horizon based on the available so6 scenario data. Hereinafter, a formal description of the algorithm will be presented, which was used for the assignment of a particular runway layout which was then used to classify the respective capacity.

The available layout data of the individual airports (see [15]) provide start and end points (s, e) of the particular runways. In order to process conformal Cartesian values of those points, the provided latitude φ and longitude λ values are transformed into a Mercator image by $X = \lambda a_{WGS84}$ with $a_{WGS84} = 6378.137 \text{ km}$ and

$$Y = a_{WGS84} \cdot \ln \left[\tan \left(45^\circ + \frac{\varphi}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1 - e \sin \varphi}{1 + e \sin \varphi} \right)^{\varphi/2} \right] \quad (4)$$

² EGLL, EDDF, LTBA, LIML, LEMD, EDDM, LFPG

with

$$e^2 = \frac{a_{\text{WGS84}}^2 - b_{\text{WGS84}}^2}{a_{\text{WGS84}}^2}, b_{\text{WGS84}} = 6356.752 \text{ km}$$

respectively. The calculated Cartesian values are then arranged as vectors, leading to the start $\vec{r}_{m_s}$ and endpoints $\vec{r}_{m_e}$ of a runway m :

$$\vec{r}_{m_s} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{m_{sx}} \\ r_{m_{sy}} \end{pmatrix}, \vec{r}_{m_e} = \begin{pmatrix} r_{m_{ex}} \\ r_{m_{ey}} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{r}_m = \vec{r}_{m_e} - \vec{r}_{m_s} \quad (5)$$

In order to derive the particular type of a runway system, in comparison with the provided scheme by [14], the runways have to be examined with regards to parallelism, in between distances and possible intersections. Deducting if two runways m, n are parallel leads to:

$$\alpha_{r_m r_n} = \arccos \left[\frac{\vec{r}_m \cdot \vec{r}_n}{|\vec{r}_m| |\vec{r}_n|} \right], \text{ with } \alpha_{r_m r_n} \leq \varepsilon \quad (6)$$

with a given error bound ε . The distance d between two parallel runways m, n can be derived from the distance of both starting points $\vec{r}_{m_s}, \vec{r}_{n_s}$:

$$d = \frac{|\vec{r}_m \times (\vec{r}_{n_s} - \vec{r}_{m_s})|}{|\vec{r}_m|} \quad (7)$$

Lastly, in the case of nonparallel runways, possible intersections are calculated by solving the linear system, formed by equating both linear equations of $\vec{r}_m$ and $\vec{r}_n$:

$$a \frac{\vec{r}_m}{|\vec{r}_m|} - b \frac{\vec{r}_n}{|\vec{r}_n|} = \vec{r}_{n_s} - \vec{r}_{m_s}, \text{ or } \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \frac{r_{m_x}}{|\vec{r}_m|} & -\frac{r_{n_x}}{|\vec{r}_n|} \\ \frac{r_{m_y}}{|\vec{r}_m|} & -\frac{r_{n_y}}{|\vec{r}_n|} \end{pmatrix}}_R \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}}_{\vec{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} r_{n_{sx}} - r_{m_{sx}} \\ r_{n_{sy}} - r_{m_{sy}} \end{pmatrix}}_{\vec{r}_s} \quad (8)$$

and thus

$$\vec{x} = R^{-1} \vec{r}_s \quad (9)$$

with $0 \leq a, b \leq |\vec{r}_m|, |\vec{r}_n|$ in case of an intersection.

With the formal representation given above, we deducted the airport capacity based on the specific runway data of an airport given in [15] and the yearly fleet mix, which can be calculated using the so6 data that represent all aircraft using a particular airport. With regards to the classification available in [14], a couple of simplifications were made. Table 5 gives an overview of the different runway types with respect to the annual and yearly capacity. The cases of G & H and I & J were summarized for this calculation.

The complete list of the assigned airport capacity for all European airports can be found under <https://bitbucket.org/bekir114/input-data/downloads>.

Figure 7 depicts an example of European airports, which do not fit into the existing Runway Configuration (RWC). For the sake of transparency, the depiction in Figure 7 does not show a uniform scale. The following chapter will propose an estimation function for the calculation of CO₂ costs.

4. Estimation function of CO₂ emissions

The aim of this chapter is to provide a function, which estimates the amount of CO₂ emissions, depending on the aircraft type, the flown distance as well as the number of passengers. The available data of the flight plan (see [7]), which reflect the waypoints of a planned trajectory, are used to create this function by means of a regression analysis. It may be noted, that two different types of data, which vary in terms of completeness were used in this approach.

Figure 7. Examples of exceptional runway configuration layouts, generated by the algorithm, concerning the Horonjeff classification

As mentioned above, the first type of data comprises planned trajectories (so6-M1). The second part is called so6-M3. They represent an updated version of so6-M1, which is based on radar data and covers the flown trajectories.

For the sake of general application, the 39 most used aircraft types were considered in the estimation of fuel consumption. For those aircraft of type t , specifications of emissions e_t , range r_t and seat capacity s_t were considered. Taking into account the available flight plan of the selected time period, there are more than 300 different types of aircraft available.

Nevertheless, for many less frequent aircraft types, the flight plan does not provide enough data to perform a regression analysis. The regression which will be proposed in this chapter is performed on the basis of 100 different routes R_m , $m = 1 : 100$. Since only the two most prominent aircraft types of Airbus A320 and Boeing 738, with a coverage of 39.7% of all flights, provide a large amount of different routes, we decided to limit the number of routes to 100. Figure 8 illustrates the distribution of different flight routes per aircraft type for the reference day of August 25th, 2018. The selected 39 most used aircraft types represent 83.06% of all European flights.

The amount of emissions, in our case CO_2 , depends on the fuel burnt during a flight, the type of engine, as well as on the phase of flight (see ICAO data [16]). The number of passengers contributes to the fuel consumption, because a higher mass relates to a higher rate of fuel burn $\dot{m}_{fuel}$. A lower starting mass, which declines during the course of a flight, results in a lower amount of fuel burnt during this flight leg. Being a function of distance and mass, the optimum of fuel economy for an Airbus A320 for example ranges between 1500km and 5000km [19].

As a first simplified assumption for the amount of CO_2 emissions, we apply the commonly known emission index

$$EI_{\text{CO}_2} = 3.15 \frac{\text{kg}_{\text{CO}_2}}{\text{kg}_{\text{fuel}_{\text{burnt}}}}. \quad (10)$$

Figure 8. Cutout of the number of flight routes related to aircraft types, 25th August 2018

This factor is widely used for estimations of CO₂ emissions, such as in the SESAR Performance framework, where it serves to calculate relevant Key Performance Indicators (KPI) (see [17]). Other applications of the factor can be found in trade-off estimations with respect to optimized trajectories for less CO₂ emissions at great altitudes (see [18]).

The proposed approach calculates the amount of fuel burnt, depending on the distance of the particular flight leg between two airports i and j , l_{ij} and the respective seat load factor, S_{ijt} . The latter representing the utilization of the available seats s_i of a particular type of aircraft t at the flight between i and j . The amount of fuel burnt can thus be formulated as follows:

$$fuel_{ijt} = f(S_{ijt}, l_{ij}) \quad (11)$$

By means of BADA [9], the rate of fuel burn $\dot{m}_{fuel}$ and thus the amount of fuel used during the flight leg, can be calculated for specific types of aircraft and for particular routes R_m . The BADA data embody the particular aircraft performance envelopes, whereas the so6 data set provides scenarios of realistic flight profiles. The amount of emissions for a particular connection will therefore be calculated by

$$e_{ijt} = EI_{CO_2} \cdot fuel_{ijt} [kg] \quad (12)$$

As discussed above, the calculation of $fuel_{ijt}$ is governed by the mass of the aircraft, which also includes the mass of fuel necessary to reach a particular distance, $m_{tripfuel}$. The following equation reflects the particular components of the mass m of an aircraft of type t .

$$m = m_{OEW} + m_{pax} + m_{cargo} + m_{tripfuel} \leq MTOW \quad (13)$$

with $MTOW$ denoting the maximum take-off weight and OEW denoting the operating empty weight. In the proposed approach, the portion of cargo will be neglected, and we assume the average mass of a passenger with associated luggage to be 100kg. Given a starting mass of

$$m_{start} = m_{OEW} + m_{pax} + m_{tripfuel_{start}} \quad (14)$$

with $m_{start} = m_{ref}$ (m_{ref} as taken from BADA), the calculation of $\dot{m}_{fuel}$ for a particular flight leg is carried out iteratively.

For a given Route R_m and number of passengers, (expressed by the seat load factor S_{ijt}), the necessary fuel $m_{tripfuel}$ can be obtained by calculating the flight legs by means of the implemented BADA model, f_{BADA} . The model f_{BADA} computes the range r_n at simulation step n , which is obtained by the given starting mass m_{start_n} under the conditions of the given waypoints and the according procedures during the different phases of flight. The latter for example addressing the thrust during climb phases.

The range r that can be reached can be expressed with the placeholder for the implemented BADA function, with $R_{l_{ij}}$ representing a route between the airports i and j with the lateral distance l_{ij} .

$$r_n = f_{BADA}(m_{start}^n, S_{ijt}, R_{l_{ij}}) \quad (15)$$

m_{start}^n is changed at the next iteration step $n+1$ to match the given distance l_{ij} . As long as $r_{n+1} \neq l_{ij}$ holds, the procedure is being repeated.

In order to match $m_{tripfuel}$ with the given distance l_{ij} or r respectively, we decided to abort the calculation when the difference of mass of fuel falls below 10kg:

$$|m_{start}^{n+1} - m_{start}^n| < 10kg \quad (16)$$

Since $m_{OEI} + m_{pax}$ is known, $m_{tripfuel}$ can also be expressed in terms of the route and seat load factor

$$m_{tripfuel}^{n+1} = f_{BADA}(m_{tripfuel}^n, S_{ijt}, R_{l_{ij}}) \quad (17)$$

It has to be stressed that since different flight routes might resemble concerning l_{ij} , for example: $l_{ij}(R_m) = l_{ij}(R_{m+1})$, they can show differences in the given waypoints, which can lead to different fuel consumption.

Figure 9 illustrates the differences between the lateral flight path and according distance l_{ij} and vertically deviating waypoints for a Airbus A320.

Figure 9. Comparison of flight plans for an Airbus A320

Given the goal is to provide a simple function of e_{ijt} , that reduces computational effort when for example applied in a optimization model, a regression was applied. Therefore, values of $m_{tripfuel}$ were calculated for 100 different flight routes R_m for each of the selected 39 types of aircraft by means of the implemented BADA model f_{BADA} . Different seat load factor were chosen to represent a staggered occupancy of 0, 20, . . . 100% utilization to show the influences of passengers.

Figure 10. Fuel burn regression for a Airbus A340-300 with a coefficient of determination $R^2 = 0.9638$

Subsequently, a multivariate regression (linear regression model, using least square method) was applied to the dependent variable $m_{tripfuel}$ and the independent variables S_{ijt} and l_{ij} , leading to

$$m_{tripfuel} = C_{1t}l_{ij} + C_{2t}S_{ijt} + C_{3t} \quad (18)$$

In a second step, more detailed operational aspects, with respect to the necessary fuel were considered. This comprises fuel for contingency measures such as mandatory holdings and taxi time, $time_{taxi}$, as well as the consideration of alternate airports (with an assumption of being within a range of 50 nautical miles). It has to be stressed, that parts of those additional quantities do not represent the overall amount of fuel burnt, since they are only needed for safety issues. On the other hand they increase the mass and therefore the emissions. The contingency measures are commonly reflected by five percent of the necessary trip fuel. The alternate airport can be assumed as a completely new flight leg (given the aircraft does descend to the destination airport and is then informed to navigate to the alternate destination) and thus be considered by a new equation for the trip fuel:

$$m_{tripfuel_{extended}} = (C_{1t}l_{ij} + C_{2t}S_{ijt} + C_{3t})1.05 + (C_{1t}50NM + C_{2t}S_{ijt} + C_{3t}) \quad (19)$$

With the complete mass of trip fuel now available, the amount of fuel burnt, for a particular type of aircraft t was calculated by means of BADA data, analogue to Eq. (17):

$$m_{fuelburnijt} = f_{BADA}(m_{tripfuel_{extended}}, S_{ijt}, R_{l_{ij}}) \quad (20)$$

$m_{fuelburnijt}$ refers to the fuel which was actually used up during the flight under normal operations. A second regression analysis leads to:

$$m_{fuelburnijt} = D_{1t}l_{ij} + D_{2t}S_{ijt} + D_{3t} \quad (21)$$

After considering the fuel consumption related to the airborne aircraft, the effect of the taxi time on the ground will be considered. The taxiing speed was hereby set to 15 knots (the necessary thrust represents seven per cent of the maximum thrust). Furthermore, a position at sea level as well as the conditions of the norm atmosphere was assumed. As an applicable value of the average taxi time, $time_{taxi_{avg}} = 26min$ are proposed [20]. In order to reflect the operational circumstances at particular airports better, in a future step, more

average taxi times, depending on the specific airport, could be implemented. Considering Eq. (21) the taxi time leads to:

$$m_{fuelburnijtaxi} = D_{1t}l_{ij} + D_{2t}S_{ijt} + D_{3t} + D_{4t}time_{taxi} \quad (22)$$

The factor D_{4t} is directly derived from the implemented fuel consumption model for taxiing with the above mentioned assumptions. Equation (22) can now be used in equation (12) to calculate the emissions during a given distance

$$e_{ijt} = EI_{CO_2}(D_{1t}l_{ij} + D_{2t}S_{ijt} + D_{3t} + D_{4t}time_{taxi}) \quad (23)$$

Figure 10 illustrates the relationship between fuel, distance and seat load factor for a Airbus A340-300, as expressed in Eq. (21). With a coefficient of determination R^2 of 0.9638, the linear approximation seems to constitute a feasible approach. As mentioned above, for each S_{ijt} is represented by 100 different routes. It has to be noted, that the influence of the seat load factor comes into play at large distances. B provides the respective coefficients of Eq. (22) for 39 types of aircraft.

A field of application for the proposed CO_2 estimation function could be a flow optimization problem, where under the constraints of a CO_2 limit and the European wide passenger demand, an optimal network flow could be determined.

5. Estimation of air navigation charges

The following two chapters 5 and 6 will attend to the cost aspects of air navigation charges and maintenance and repair. With regard to similar results between the particular aircraft types, the aircraft types in those two chapters will be limited to nine. With respect to the flow optimization problem, we deem 9 different types³, which represent the most relevant aircraft in the European air traffic system as sufficient. According to Eurocontrol [21], these aircraft types represent the most used ones.

Figure 11. Transport capacity and number of flights over maximum passenger capacity for one selected day in Europe (complete so6 data)

At this point, in contrast to selecting the most used aircraft, a method considering the specific transport capacity, should be addressed briefly. The particular maximal transport capacity can be used as a measure for aggregating different types of aircraft with respect to their frequency within the European air traffic system.

³ Boeing 737-800, Airbus 320, Boeing 777-200, Airbus 330-300, Boeing 747-400, Airbus 340-300, Boeing 767-300, Airbus 380 and Embraer E-190.

Figure 12. Left: Sector boundaries used for the calculation of air navigation fees on the example of EDDS and LFPR. Right: depiction of a polygon of a sector used to apply the Jordan point-in-polygon test

Figure 11 illustrates the relationship between the transport capacity of a specific aircraft type t , TC_t and the seat capacity. According to the flight plan of the used data set and a seat load factor of 100%, the transport capacity follows to $TC_t = n \cdot t_{pax_{max}}$, with n as the total number of flights of an aircraft type t . This is depicted at the right y-axis of Figure 11, where the selected 9 types of aircraft are registered as well.

When tackling the aspect of decreasing the amount of aircraft types, by incorporating the transport capacity TC_t , the class of aircraft can be considered as an approximated function, as derived from the diamond marked data points in Figure 11.

$$TC_t = f(t_{pax_{max}}) = f(t) \quad (24)$$

The resulting generic aircraft classes can then be weighted by TC_t . Depending on the boundaries t_b and t_a of a new generic class, $class_{ipax_{max}}$, the new maximum number of passenger of a new class would lead to

$$class_{ipax_{max}} = \vartheta \quad \text{with} \quad \int_{t_a}^{t_b} f(t) dt = \vartheta(t_b - t_a). \quad (25)$$

Nevertheless, taking into account the few data points for an approximation with regard to Figure 11 and the commonly used approach of Eurocontrol [21], we will refer to the nine types of most used aircraft.

With respect to calculating air navigation charges, the aforementioned nine aircraft types were processed. Air navigation charges can be derived from the so called “global unit rates” which constitute fees for the en-route phase and are established by each EUROCONTROL member state, see [22]. The fees are applied on a particular sector (or airspace) and a particular MTOW of the aircraft. For the computation we refer to [22] and [23]. The fees also depend on the distance flown in a specific sector. The boundaries of the sectors, which are mapped as polygons, were taken from [24]. The left hand side of Figure 12 illustrates the different sector-polygons over Europe.

Due to many possible variations in the flight plan and for the sake of completeness, the charges are estimated by using simplified great circle distances between origins and destinations, i and j . All distances between the airports of the ICAO regions E and L were

computed for the nine aircraft classes, considering the different global unit rates of the particular sectors. Due to data unavailability, particular terminal and airport charges were omitted at this step, but could be introduced in a refined approach. For further details with respect to the particular price structure of airport charges, we refer to ICAO [25].

The determination of the current sector, or polygon of which an aircraft passes through, was made by the Jordan point-in-polygon test⁴. The right hand side of Figure 12 illustrates the method by means of one sector.

The Jordan point-in polygon procedure is applied for each particular distance l_{ij} for the nine different types of aircraft t . In order to limit computation time, the resolution to detect in which sector an aircraft currently operates was limited to 5km.

Thereby, the number of kilometres an aircraft covers within a specific sector, the *DistanceFactor* [km/100], is derived. The navigation charges of a sector s , can then be calculated by

$$\text{charge}(s) = \text{WeightFactor}(t) \cdot \text{DistanceFactor} \cdot \text{UnitRate}(\text{country}) \quad (26)$$

with

$$\text{WeightFactor} = \sqrt{\text{MTOW}/50} \quad (27)$$

and the respective global unit rate, *UnitRate* in €, for the sector, see also [22] and [23].

For a given distance l_{ij} the particular charges are summarized and presented in <https://bitbucket.org/bekir114/input-data/downloads>. An excerpt of the calculated data can be found in D.

6. Estimation of maintenance and repair costs

This chapter addresses the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul costs of a flight, MRO. The costs for each flight leg in Eq. (28) result from the block time, time_{bl} , and the specific cost factor, cf_{MRO} [€/h], which can be derived from statistical figures, see also [26].

$$C_{MRO} = \text{cf}_{MRO} \cdot \text{time}_{bl} \quad (28)$$

cf_{MRO} encompasses the following factors:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cf}_{MRO} = & \left[13 + 4.15 \left(\frac{m_{AE}}{1000\text{kg}} \right) \right] + \left[22.5 \left(\frac{P_E}{\text{Mio.€}} \right) \right] \\ & + \left[0.375 \left(\frac{\text{MTOW}}{\text{kg}} \text{Ma}_{max} \right)^{0.523} \right] \\ & + \left[n_E \left(9.75 + 1.875 \left(\frac{T_{max}}{10000\text{N}} \right) \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

With the mass of airframe and equipment, except the engines, m_{AE} :

$$m_{AE} = m_{OEW} - n_E \cdot m_E \quad (30)$$

and m_{OEW} being the empty mass, and n_E and m_E the number and mass of the engines. MTOW in (31) represents the maximum take of weight, whereas Ma_{max} is the maximum Mach number. The price of the engines P_E adheres to:

$$P_E = c_E \cdot n_E \cdot T_{max} \quad (31)$$

⁴ This method states, that for any given polygon, the number of intersections of a ray, which is directed from the outside of the polygon to any point, in- or outside the polygon, defines the relative position of the point with respect to the polygon. An odd number of intersections between ray and polygon stands for the point being within the boundaries of the polygon. An even number locates the point outside the polygon.

Figure 13. Specific engine cost factor c_E [€/N]

where T_{max} denotes the maximum thrust of an engine at sea level. The specific cost factor c_E depends on T_{max} . Figure 13 illustrates the relation between c_E and T_{max} .

The data foundation in [26] is limited to T_{max} of 250kN. In order to evaluate c_E for larger engines (with a thrust of > 250 kN) an extrapolation was applied. The corresponding function for the engine cost factor can be stated as [28]:

$$c_E(T_{max}) = -4.0882 \cdot 10^{-7} T_{max}^3 + 4.8287 \cdot 10^{-4} T_{max}^2 - 0.1712 T_{max} + 36.85 \quad (32)$$

The second term in Eq. (28) equals $time_{bl} = time_{ij} + time_{taxi}$, with $time_{ij}$ and $time_{taxi}$ denoting the duration of the flight leg and the duration of the taxi time. The taxi times $time_{taxi}$ for the particular airports are currently not considered and a standard taxi time of 26 minutes, as in Chapter 4, was assumed. Though, it should be mentioned, that the taxi durations can be divided into three classes [27], depending on the capacity of airports. In a refined approach, taxi durations could be incorporated for each individual airport.

After computing the first term of Eq. (28), the block time $time_{bl}$ can be derived by using Eq. (21). Eq. (21) represents the amount of burnt fuel for a given flown distance l_{ij} in meter. The relation between l_{ij} and the time an aircraft is airborne $time_{ij}$ can be expressed also by $m_{fuelburnijt}$.

$$m_{fuelburnijt} = E_{1t} time_{ij} + E_{2t} S_{ijt} + E_{3t} \quad (33)$$

Equating of (21) and (33) leads to

$$time_{ij} = \frac{D_{1t}}{E_{1t}} l_{ij} + \frac{D_{2t} - E_{2t}}{E_{1t}} S_{ijt} + \frac{D_{3t} - E_{3t}}{E_{1t}} \quad (34)$$

Since $time_{bl}$ adheres to $time_{ij} + time_{taxi}$, the assumed average duration of the taxi time (26 min), $\overline{time_{taxi}}$, is added to (34), similarly to (22), which leads to

$$C_{MRO} = cf_{MRO}(time_{ij} + \overline{time_{taxi}}) = F_{1t} l_{ij} + F_{2t} S_{ijt} + F_{3t} \quad (35)$$

E provides the MRO coefficients for the nine selected aircraft types.

7. Cost estimation functions for an all-electric aircraft

For the all-electric aircraft, introduced in chapter 1, an energy consumption estimation is proposed. The design concept of that aircraft provides different energy consumption rates for different phases of flight, see [1]. Those rates were applied using the same approach as in chapter 4. That is, depending on 100 different routes R_m , with particular waypoints, climb, cruise and descending rates could be deducted. Given a constant weight of the electric aircraft, a surrogate model was implemented in order to calculate the energy consumption.

Figure 14. Regression analysis for the SE²A SRV1 all-electric aircraft

The routes were derived from the conventional aircraft type ATR-72-200 with PW124 engines, which served as a reference type in the design concept, see [1]. Due to data unavailability concerning different seat load factors, the electric aircraft was considered with a seat load factor of 100%. Figure 14 illustrates the energy consumption of the future aircraft type.

The computation of air navigation charges follows the same approach as in chapter 5, neglecting any possible future tax allowances for electrically powered aircraft. Concerning the estimation of the MRO costs, Eq. (28) can be applied with a slight adjustment. Compared to conventional aircraft, it is assumed that the maintenance costs for the electric engines are around a third lower:

$$P_{E_{electric}} = (2/3) \cdot c_E \cdot n_E \cdot T_{max} \quad (36)$$

One of the reasons for this is that an electric motor has far fewer parts susceptible to wear and tear than an internal combustion engine, see also [29]. Table 1 gives a summary of the SE²A SRV1 aircraft technical data and specifications. The comprehensive data set for all cost estimation functions and European airport capacities can be found under <https://bitbucket.org/bekir114/input-data/downloads>.

Parameter	Value	Units
Maximum range	800	NM
Maximum number of passengers	100	-
Maximum take-off weight	59084	kg
Operating empty weight	49604	kg
Propulsion weight (both engines)	1807	kg
Battery weight	24812	kg
Maximum Thrust (both engines)	58	kN
Maximum Mach number	0.47	-
Take-off field length	1400	m
Landing distance	1100	m

Table 1: Aircraft characteristics of SRV1.

8. Conclusion and Outlook

The paper discussed various general purpose cost estimation functions for a particular set of current aircraft types. In this context, it was focused on a selection of direct operating costs. The main goal was to provide means for a computational efficient calculation of emissions, which can be used to assess the trade-off between the atmospheric impact of conventional aircraft and the reduced ranges of electrically powered aircraft. For a refined approach with regard to CO₂ emission, the calculation of the fuel consumption was extended with regards to incorporating the passenger load. As a second cost aspect, the air navigation charges for a particular aircraft type for each pair of all origins and destinations in the European airspace were computed. In a third step an estimation function for MRO costs was presented. With respect to the introduction of new aircraft types into the European air traffic system, the energy consumption of a selected all-electric aircraft was estimated by using the same flight data set as for conventional aircraft and the particular energy consumption rates for different flight phases presented in the design concept. Estimations for navigation charges and MRO cost were proposed for the electric aircraft as well.

Depending on the current passenger demand, new short range electrically powered aircraft might change the structure of the air transportation network. The proposed cost estimation functions aim to support flow based simulation models which incorporate new all-electric short range aircraft to evaluate the performance of the new network structure. In this context, flow optimization problems, which address the introduction of new short range electric aircraft with given European wide CO₂ limits, can use those cost estimations. In this context, the capacity of airports is relevant. An estimation of the airport capacity, based on the runway layout was presented as well.

The derived cost estimation functions will be made publically available to enable their use in related problems as mentioned above.

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Author Contributions: PF conceived the idea and performed the formal descriptions. BY conceived the idea and performed the implementation of the data analysis. TF and PH gave valuable guidance and reviewed the complete paper.

Data Availability Statement: The comprehensive data set for all cost estimation functions and European airport capacities can be found under <https://bitbucket.org/bekir114/input-data/downloads>.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

SE ² A	Sustainable and Energy-Efficient Aviation
SR	Short Range
SRV1	SE ² A SR Version 1
ATS	Air Traffic System
ATFM	Air Traffic Flow Management
DOC	Direct Operating Cost
IOC	Indirect Operating Cost
SLF	Seat Load Factor
BADA	Base of Aircraft Data
ROCD	Rate of Climb or Descent
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
DRC	Declared Runway Capacity
RWC	Runway Configuration
MTOW	Maximum Take-Off Weight
MRO	Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul
MI	Mix Index

Appendix A. MI and RWC

Aircraft mix class	Aircraft wake turbulence class	Number of engines	MTOW [lb]
A	Small	Single	12,500 or less
B	Small	Multiple	12,500 or less
C	Large	Multiple	12,500 - 300,000
D	Heavy	Multiple	300,000 or more

Table 2: Aircraft classification for determining the airport capacity [14].

1 Runway			2 Runways			3 Runways			≥ 4 Runways		
Airport	RWC	MI	Airport	RWC	MI	Airport	RWC	MI	Airport	RWC	MI
EBAW	A	58	EBLG	B	173	EKCH	K	114	EDDF	M	146
EBCI	A	94	EDDB	C	96	LIRF	L	126	LEMD	E	135
EBKT	A	37	EDDH	F	100	LTAI	D	108	LFPG	E	155
EBOS	A	101	EFIV	H	98	LTBA	M	159	EHAM	E	137

Table 3: Runway configuration (RWC) and Mix Index (MI) for a set of selected airports.

Appendix B. Fuel burn coefficients

Aircraft	D1	D2	D3	D4
A20N	0.0018961	322.0967	290.7802	10.3329
A318	0.0018883	24.5155	653.055	10.0372
A319	0.0023529	79.9124	326.2536	11.5877
A320	0.0022307	378.9373	342.0944	12.1564
A321	0.0030955	336.251	71.8847	13.1154
A332	0.004321	2336.1886	-1003.1417	25.07
A333	0.0045824	2984.0723	-1068.143	25.4219
A343	0.0052502	2779.2621	-687.7043	27.2761
A388	0.010803	8339.3228	-11351.2703	54.8939
AT45	0.00082176	20.7657	71.5013	1.1025
AT72	0.00072226	51.6356	131.8868	1.2135
AT75	0.00090143	63.1776	76.1577	1.2153
B712	0.0017305	150.5113	391.5546	6.7788
B733	0.0023101	782.9896	-103.9938	11.3237
B734	0.0023615	886.2351	75.7369	12.0023
B735	0.0020417	275.7148	323.9107	10.6665
B737	0.0019398	494.9244	292.8281	11.6037
B738	0.0020382	292.205	466.4805	11.6635
B739	0.0022737	409.3189	226.5052	11.7031
B744	0.0075432	5759.8071	-3541.4171	45.1296
B752	0.0027478	1180.4001	-216.0449	15.4952
B763	0.0043206	2436.3709	-736.0163	26.9959
B772	0.0052216	3518.65	-3361.2039	26.1579
B773	0.0054792	2503.1438	-3307.2579	24.804
B77L	0.0055315	1864.8519	-318.5394	35.6201
B77W	0.0062402	2379.0181	-1958.6546	35.606
BE20	0.00039303	14.6535	67.8146	0.54968
BE9L	0.00051532	39.7046	15.9969	0.36971
C560	0.0003659	30.0301	113.855	0.5044
C56X	0.00054397	17.5392	165.985	2.1159
C750	0.000466	367.8864	35.7459	1.4152
CL60	0.00077628	94.6566	71.7781	2.1215
CRJ2	0.00085417	57.2784	199.8621	3.1426
CRJ9	0.0011746	68.0051	239.2516	4.957
DH8D	0.0015674	105.1928	119.575	2.1005
E145	0.0010692	2.4672	205.8938	3.9873
E170	0.001367	11.0413	450.1768	7.4721
E190	0.0015092	86.7393	500.9485	8.1092
F100	0.0017019	81.7194	371.195	6.0379

Table 4: Coefficients for the calculation of fuel burn, see Eq. (22): $m_{fuelburnijtaxit}[kg] = D_{1t}I_{ij}[m] + D_{2t}S_{ijt}[\%] + D_{3t} + D_{4t}time_{taxi}[min]$

Appendix C. Airport capacity

Runway configuration	Mix index [%]	Hourly capacity		Annual service volume
		VFR	IFR	
A	0-20	98	59	230,000
	21-50	74	57	195,000
	51-80	63	56	205,000
	81-120	55	53	210,000
	121-180	51	50	240,000
B	0-20	197	59	355,000
	21-50	145	57	275,000
	51-80	121	56	260,000
	81-120	105	59	285,000
	121-180	94	60	340,000
C	0-20	197	119	370,000
	21-50	149	114	320,000
	51-80	126	111	305,000
	81-120	111	105	315,000
	121-180	103	99	370,000
D	0-20	295	62	385,000
	21-50	219	63	310,000
	51-80	184	65	290,000
	81-120	161	70	315,000
	121-180	146	75	385,000
E	0-20	394	119	715,000
	21-50	290	114	550,000
	51-80	242	111	515,000
	81-120	210	117	565,000
	121-180	189	120	675,000
F	0-20	98	59	230,000
	21-50	77	57	200,000
	51-80	77	56	215,000
	81-120	76	59	225,000
	121-180	72	60	265,000
G	0-20	150	59	270,000
	21-50	108	57	225,000
	51-80	85	56	220,000
	81-120	77	59	225,000
	121-180	73	60	265,000
H	0-20	132	59	260,000
	21-50	99	57	220,000
	51-80	82	56	215,000
	81-120	77	59	225,000
	121-180	73	60	265,000
I	0-20	150	59	270,000
	21-50	108	57	225,000
	51-80	85	56	220,000
	81-120	77	59	225,000
	121-180	73	60	265,000
J	0-20	132	59	260,000
	21-50	99	57	220,000
	51-80	82	56	215,000
	81-120	77	59	225,000
	121-180	73	60	265,000
K	0-20	197	59	355,000
	21-50	145	57	275,000
	51-80	121	56	260,000
	81-120	105	59	285,000
	121-180	94	60	340,000
L	0-20	197	119	370,000
	21-50	149	114	320,000
	51-80	126	111	305,000
	81-120	111	105	315,000
	121-180	103	99	370,000
M	0-20	295	59	385,000
	21-50	210	57	305,000
	51-80	164	56	275,000
	81-120	146	59	300,000
	121-180	129	60	355,000
N	0-20	295	59	385,000
	21-50	210	57	305,000
	51-80	164	56	275,000
	81-120	146	59	300,000
	121-180	129	60	355,000
O	0-20	197	59	355,000
	21-50	147	57	275,000
	51-80	145	56	270,000
	81-120	138	59	295,000
	121-180	125	60	350,000

Table 5: Estimates of hourly and annual capacities [14].

Appendix D. Navigation charges

Airport	EBAW	EBBR	EBCI	EBKT	EBLG	EBMB	EBOS	EBSG	EBSH	...
EBAW	0	25	67	80	76	25	92	80	122	
EBBR	25	0	42	76	63	0	101	59	97	
EBCI	67	42	0	80	63	42	118	38	67	
EBKT	80	76	80	0	134	76	42	50	151	
EBLG	76	63	63	134	0	63	160	97	55	
EBMB	25	0	42	76	63	0	101	59	97	
EBOS	92	101	118	42	160	101	0	88	185	
EBSG	80	59	38	50	97	59	88	0	101	
EBSH	122	97	67	151	55	97	185	101	0	
⋮										

Table 6: Excerpt of calculated navigation charges in € for an Airbus-A320.

Appendix E. MRO costs

Aircraft	F1	F2	F3
B738	0.00030509	-2.4803	114.4612
A320	0.00029891	-2.6453	137.1579
B772	0.00089164	-14.9546	-296.7434
A333	0.00071983	-4.6921	429.1048
B744	0.0010803	-64.2703	437.4123
A343	0.00076361	-4.8058	326.2388
B763	0.00055659	-7.2506	286.3729
A388	0.0017044	-344.5348	-147.1463
E190	0.0002165	-1.794	100.1644

Table 7: Coefficients for the calculation of MRO costs, see Eq. (35).

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