# [PROJECT MORBIUS](https://github.com/eyobghiday/project-morbius)



#### **AIAA 50-PASSENGER HYBRID ELECTRIC TURBOPROP**

*[Proposal for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics](https://github.com/eyobghiday/project-morbius) October* 20th*, 2022*

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#### Team Structure

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<sup>1</sup> Lead Systems Engineer, Aerodynamics, Trade Studies & Optimization, Dynamic Stability & Control.

<sup>2</sup> Propulsion Lead, Avionics, Deputy for Structures & Integration

<sup>3</sup> Cost Analysis Lead, Efficiency Merit & Quality Control

<sup>4</sup> Structures Lead, CAD Drawing, Landing Gear & Material Selection.

Homepage: *[Project Morbius](https://github.com/eyobghiday/project-morbius)* Created on *August* 25th*, 2022* Published on *October* 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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# **Contents**





## <span id="page-4-0"></span>**1 Introduction**

This report contains the conceptual design, analysis, and preliminary design of a hybrid engine turboprop aircraft. World renowned aircraft maker, Embraer released its most recent market outlook on turboprops and has estimated a demand for 1,080 turboprops around the world. This demand was seen to be led by Asia Pacific China, and US, with 490 aircraft allocated there [\[3\]](#page-40-0). Europe was the next largest segment, with 190 aircraft forecasted. For its own aircraft, due to enter into service in 2027-2028, it estimated demand of around 500 units alone from the company.

## <span id="page-4-1"></span>**1.1 Project Summary**

This project dubbed "IMT-22" short for It's Morbin Time 2022, is a hybrid turboprop aircraft designed for commercial air travel at an economic fare. Turboprop's generally strike a balance between the features of both piston-prop and turbojet airplanes. The specifications for this airplane design is carefully chosen, keeping with the guidelines proposed under the FAA 14 Part-25, ICOA Code-B and Code-C. This conceptual design report details each step of the design, analysis and optimizing process. Here the aerodynamic performances are explored, followed by stability, propulsion, and structural integrity to produce an optimal aircraft. The IMT-22 is expected to enter the market by 2035.

### <span id="page-4-2"></span>**1.2 Team Organisation**

<span id="page-4-4"></span>The team is made of four members in total and their roles are shown in Table [4.1.](#page-12-2) Each role has a lead and a deputy that represent their significance and the tasks delegated.

Subsystem	Lead	Deputy
Spokesperson	James Szewczyk	
Aerodynamics	Eyob Ghebreiesus	James Szewczyk
Propulsion	James Szewczyk	Matthew Tobin
<b>Structures</b>	Matthew Tobin	James Szewczyk
Stability	Eyob Ghebreiesus	James Szewczyk
Cost Analysis	Marek Jelen	Eyob Ghebreiesus
Trade Studies	Eyob Ghebreiesus	James Szewczyk

**Table 1.1** – Team Organization Chart

## <span id="page-4-3"></span>**2 Mission Overview**

To ensure our project results in designing an effective and efficient aircraft, we have made a project plan to provide the best out put parameters in Figure [2.1.](#page-5-2) After initial mission definition, and requirements the project is closely followed by historical studies. Numerous data for existing turboprop aircrafts were collected firsthand. This data will be used to compare performance metrics of IMT-22 with existing planes. Once we select the design metrics like Aspect Ratio,

Take off Weight, Wing Loading, we use Python scripts, Initial sizing Matrix and other methods to graph the data and see where we land. After that we proceed into XFLR5 Airfoil analysis to test the values in the simulation. After reading the feedback from the simulation; if the findings are feasible, we proceed to component design phase. If not, we go back to refine our mission definition and operational requirements. This is an agile project managing system where we select the performance parameters and perceive the coverage, operation orbit and bypass simultaneously to decide the best fit. This allows us to be flexible with the little time provided.



<span id="page-5-2"></span>

#### <span id="page-5-0"></span>**2.1 Mission Requirements**

Our mission begins with developing new regional aircraft to satisfy the 50-seat portion of the market that meets the US domestic that has significantly better fuel burn and economics than existing options. The overall goal is to be at least 20% better than existing 50 seat regional turboprops in 500nmi block fuel per seat with a cost to build that is comparable to the existing aircraft, including the hybrid propulsion system. The specific requirements are listed below in Table [2.1.](#page-6-0)

## <span id="page-5-1"></span>**2.2 Initial Sizing**

As per the requirements listed in Table [2.1,](#page-6-0) the team proceeded on to look at currently existing turboprops to understand their performances. In order to improve the efficiency of hybrid engines,

<span id="page-6-0"></span>

#### **Table 2.1** – Specification Requirements

<span id="page-6-1"></span>and attain the required target, a mission profile is defined in Figure [2.2](#page-6-1) to estimate weight fractions.



**Figure 2.2** – Mission Profile

Where:

- 0 1: Engine Taxi/Takeoff
- 1 2: Climb
- 2 3: Cruise (Turbine Powered)
- 3 4: Cruise (Electric Powered)
- $4 5$ : Loiter (45m minute)
- 5 6: Diversion Cruise
- 6 7: Diversion Loiter (20 min)
- 7 8: Land

The mission profile accounts for additional diversion in case a first landing attempt is deemed

impossible. It also serves as a safety factor, providing better aircraft analysis for commercial purposes. The electric cruise section is placed at the end of the expected cruise segment to maximize range from the electric propulsion. The segment cannot be done before the diversion, as the crew would not have knowledge of the additional cruise section prior to the diversion.

Now that we have our mission profile, the weight fractions are calculated for each mission profile in Table [2.2.](#page-7-0) Note that since the aircraft is hybrid, some of the coefficients had to be adjusted instead of just using Raymer's values.A more detailed explanation of the electrical values is found in the Propulsion [5](#page-16-1) section.

<span id="page-7-0"></span>

<b>Section</b>	Fraction	Value	<b>Notes</b>
Taxi/Takeoff	$w_1$ W <sub>0</sub>		<b>Fully Electric</b>
Climb	$\underline{w_2}$ $W_1$	0.985	Raymer
Main Cruise	$\frac{W_3}{W_3}$ W <sub>2</sub>	0.946	55.7% Turboprop Engine
Electric Cruise	$\underline{w_4}$ $W_3$	1.00	44.3% Fully Electric
Loiter for Planned Landing	$\underline{\mathsf{w}_5}$ $W_4$	0.978	Raymer
Diversion Cruise	$\underline{w_6}$ $W_5$	0.986	Breguet's Range
Diversion Loiter	$W_7$ W <sub>6</sub>	0.99	Breguet's Endurance
Landing	$\underline{w_8}$ W <sub>7</sub>	1.00	<b>Fully Electric</b>
<b>Hybrid Efficiency</b>	$\eta_{\text{hvb}}$	0.91	Empirical
<b>Fuel Mass Fraction</b>	$w_f$ W <sub>0</sub>	0.201	Multiplying Fractions

**Table 2.2** – Mission Weight Fractions

Data from current existing turboprop regional transports average a cruise SFC of 0.477. The SFC target is around 0.3816 lb/hr for cruise and an SFC of .32 for loiter. This SFC follows the expected increase in fuel efficiency of the recent Pratt and Whittney 127XT series turboprops. The 127XT series are already 18% more efficient than the current regional turboprop engines, with most using the PW150 series. With a 2% further increase in efficiency expected in the next decade, the SFC's targeted should be attainable before the 2035 delivery date.

$$
SFC_{target} = 0.80 * SFC_{known} = 0.80 * 0.477 = 0.3816
$$

From Raymer's Table 3.1, the empty weight fraction for a twin turboprop aircraft accounted for composite material structure (factor of 0.95) is:

$$
\frac{W_e}{W_0} = 0.95 * 0.96 * W_0^{-0.05}
$$

Now using Raymer's Equation 3.4, accommodating our battery and crew as total payload our estimated  $W_0$  becomes:

$$
W_0 = \frac{W_{\text{crew}} + W_{\text{battery}}}{1 - \frac{W_f}{W_0} - \frac{W_e}{W_0}} = \frac{12260 + 6288}{1 - 0.201 - 0.95 * 0.96(W_0)^{-0.05}} = 68343\text{lbf}
$$

<span id="page-8-4"></span>With the mission weight fraction listed in Table [2.2](#page-7-0) the summary of the calculated value is listed below.

Category	<b>Note</b>	lbf
Crew Weight	$W_{C$ rew	660
Passenger Payload	$W_{pass}$	12000
Fuel Weight	$W_{\text{field}}$	13941
Battery Weight	$W_{hat}$	6288
Empty Weight	$W_{\rho}$	35723
Max Gross Takeoff	$W_0$	68343

**Table 2.3** – Summary of Weights

### <span id="page-8-0"></span>**2.3 Baseline Plane Dimension**

<span id="page-8-3"></span>Therefore our baseline plane dimension will be as shown in Table [2.4.](#page-8-3)





## <span id="page-8-1"></span>**3 Trade Study**

## <span id="page-8-2"></span>**3.1 Aspect Ratio and Wing Loading**

It is known that Aspect Ratio greatly affects the wing loading and lifting capability. Aspect ratio is wing span divided by the wing area. But to determine the best AR (greater than 9 at least – Raymer [\[8\]](#page-40-1)) we need to determine our wing loading. Raymer's Table 5.4 provides wing loading for turbo prop  $(40\frac{b}{\hbar^2})$ , but those values are based on very old data and are low when compared to currently existing turboprops. First hand most older turboprops are flying at Mach=0.44, However the required cruise Mach for this design is 0.53-0.58 @ 28,000 altitude. Thus in order to meet the required specification we plotted  $Span$  vs  $W<sub>o</sub>$  to study the Wingloading for several existing turboprop planes (see Figure [3.1a\)](#page-9-2). For the baseline maximum gross take off weight of  $W_0 = 68343$ lbs and an AR of 12 we got around  $(80 \frac{b}{\hbar^2})$  wing loading. This in return sets our wing span to be about  $b = 102 \text{ft} (30 \text{m})$  or which is within the limits of ICOA Code-C requirement. This way we can relief some of the wing loading (green shade) overhead without having to increase the overall cost of the plane.

<span id="page-9-2"></span>

(a) Span *vs*  $W_0$  *against*  $W/S$ *. Red bar indicates the highest of wing loading in*  $\frac{1bf}{\hbar^2}$  *for the displayed* AR. **(b)** *Aspect Ratio of common existing turboprops and turbofans courtesy of Pasquale [\[9\]](#page-40-2).*

**Figure 3.1** – Aspect Ratio and Wing loading

### <span id="page-9-0"></span>**3.2 T-W vs W-S Optimization**

Like Raymer said, the  $\frac{T}{W}$  vs  $\frac{W}{S}$  is the "granddaddy" of the trade studies [\[8\]](#page-40-1). For this design trade, the approach speed ( $V_{app} \le 141$ kn), take off distance  $S_{to} \le 4500$ ft and fuel reduction  $F_{red} \ge 20\%$ are used as constraints based on the report specification (see Table [3.1\)](#page-10-0). The baseline highlighted in center is obtained from the initial trade studies, the rest are computed iteratively by varying the wing loading and thrust to weight values. Refer to the codes in the Appendix [10](#page-36-0) section.

Now that we plot our design trade studies in Figure [4.3,](#page-15-0) the optimal combination of T/W and W/S is found from the intersection of the constraints. It shows that the initial estimation were shy away from the optimal values.

### <span id="page-9-1"></span>**3.3 VN Diagram**

The flight envelope defines operational limits for an aerial platform with respect to maximum speed and load factor given a particular atmospheric density. For the IMT-22 an aircraft cruises at 590ft/s (180m/s) as seen in the Figure [3.3.](#page-11-1) If it's flying anywhere outside the envelope lines it may suffer some structural damage, thus the limits should therefore never be exceeded. The blue dashed line represents the the limit of vertical gust load during cruise and the red dashed line indicates the limit of vertical gust at dive speed.

<span id="page-10-0"></span>



<span id="page-10-1"></span>

**Figure 3.2** – Design Trade  $\frac{T}{W}$  -  $\frac{W}{S}$ S

Now that we have our optimal configuration listed in Table [3.2,](#page-11-2) we move forward to the detail design phase.

<span id="page-11-1"></span>

**Figure 3.3** – V-n diagram) **Table 3.2** – Optimal Plane Configuration

<span id="page-11-2"></span><span id="page-11-0"></span>

## **4 Aerodynamics**

#### <span id="page-12-0"></span>**4.1 Airfoil Selection**

The airfoil selected for the proposed design depends upon the cruising speed, which in turn is related to the powerplant chosen. The target  $V_{\text{cruise}}$  is 350kts (*Mach* = 0.53) for this project. Sweepback is unnecessary in this speed range so aspect ratios can be high  $(>10)$ .

From Raymer's Equation 4.5 we get our  $Cl_{\text{design}}$  as:

$$
Cl_{\text{design}} = \frac{1}{q} * \frac{W}{S} \approx 0.2 \tag{4.1}
$$

Additionaly from Raymer[\[8\]](#page-40-1) Figure 5.3 our maximum lift coefficient for a single slotted flap is about  $CL_{max} = 2.1$ . Therefore, the  $Cl_{design} = 0.2$  multiplied by 10 tells us our airfoil number. The third digit starts with 2 and the last couple of digit's possible between 15-18% as a the root airfoil. Based on those values We narrowed down the list of airfoils to NACA 6-series and NACA-4 series for this aircraft. The NACA 6-series have smaller leading edge radii than the NACA 4-series and the NACA 5-series airfoils [\[9\]](#page-40-2). Keep in mind that due to XFLR limitation these airfoils are selected based on analysis of  $Re = 9 * 10^6$  for XFLR.

**Table 4.1** – Aifoils Considered

44 X X	63XXXX	64XXXX
		$\text{NACA-4415} \quad \text{NACA-63}(3)218 \quad \text{NACA-64}(2)415$

<span id="page-12-2"></span>It is recommended that the airfoil selected be chosen both on the value of  $Cl_{max}$  and upon the post stall variation of cl with angle of attack. An abrupt drop in section lift coefficient is to be avoided, and the airfoil with the smallest decrease in  $Cl$  for angles of attack above the stall is highly desirable, even at the expense of a smaller value of  $Cl_{\text{max}}$ .

Therefore NACA-63218 is the suggested airfoil section for the main wing because of its favorable stall characteristics.

The maximum thickness of the 4- and 5-digit airfoils is at 30% chord. The position of the maximum thickness of the 63, 64, and 65 series is located progressively aft. The 63 series airfoils might be considered for the turboprop aircraft. It is also possible to investigate those airfoil sections used by the competition (market survey aircraft) to aid in justifying the choice of airfoil.

### <span id="page-12-1"></span>**4.2 Main Wing**

For turboprops, a simple and efficient wing geometry is preferred [\[8\]](#page-40-1). Tapered wing generally have closer efficiency (78-80%) to that an elliptic wing (85%). Main factors that needed consideration were the Lift, Engine height clearance (turboprop) and ease of manufacturing. A typical trape-

<span id="page-13-1"></span>

**Figure 4.1** – Cl. vs. Cd at design Limit

zoidal plan form requires the wing root and tip have different airfoil sections. This is because thicker airfoils at the root are necessary to accommodate the high wing root bending moment. On the other hand the tip airfoil thickness can be reduced for better airfoil performance due to much lower bending moments. Since there is no twist, the amount of lift produced by each wing section will be proportional to the chord length keeping the aircraft stable and steady. Additionally, the wing will have a dihedral angle of  $\Gamma = 4$  to factor in the stability of the aircraft about the roll axis. Table [7.1](#page-27-3) shows the summary of our tapered wing dimension.

#### <span id="page-13-0"></span>**4.3 Flaps and Slats**

IMT-22 will ustilise a slotted flap. Typically the flap depth cF amounts to about 30% of the chord. The slotted flap increases lift by increasing the airfoil camber. Ailerons, elevators and rudders will be slotted flaps for this aircraft. This setting would accommodate the slightly small Cl values to about  $CL_{max} = 2.1$  hitting that required high lift during landing and takeoff.

<span id="page-14-1"></span>

**Figure 4.2** – Cl. vs Alpha **Table 4.2** – Wing Specification

<span id="page-14-2"></span>

## <span id="page-14-0"></span>**4.4 Tail Configuration**

Four different tail configurations were considered for this aircraft. Stability, Ease of Manufacture and drag. Table [4.3](#page-15-1) is a selection matrix that compares each of this based on weights. T-Tail's greatest advantage is keeping the elevators out of the disturbed airflow from the wing and fuselage. This also allows for improved glide ratio.

<span id="page-15-0"></span>

**Figure 4.3** – Cl/Cd vs. Alpha

<span id="page-15-1"></span>

Criteria					Weight V-Tail H-Tail T-Tail Conventional
Manufacturing	20				
Stability	30				
Drag	50				
<b>Total</b>	100	250	250	270	170

**Table 4.3** – Tail Configuration Matrix

For both Horizontal tail NACA0012 airfoil has been chosen.For vertical tail NACA0015 airfoil has been chosen.

#### **4.4.1 Horizontal**

Summary of the Horizontal Tail:

<span id="page-16-3"></span>

#### **Table 4.4** – Horizontal Tail

#### **4.4.2 Vertical**

<span id="page-16-4"></span>Similarly below is a summary of the vertical Tail:



Total Area  $111.0\textit{ft}^2$   $X_{Loc}$  56.2ft

c

**Table 4.5** – Vertical Tail

## <span id="page-16-0"></span>**4.5 Optimization**

## <span id="page-16-1"></span>**5 Propulsion**

## <span id="page-16-2"></span>**5.1 Hybrid Engine Configuration**

For the hybrid powertrain, there were 2 configurations analyzed to integrate the hydrocarbon and electrical propulsion systems. These options were:

**Series:** In a series system, the engine is connected to a generator rather than being directly connected to the driveshaft. This generator is used to power a single electric motor, with additional power supplied by a main battery. The battery can also be charged directly through the generator. A series system offers distinct efficiency advantages by allowing the turboprop engine to run at its highest efficiency at all times and using electrical motor to augment the power required. The series system is also a simple design that requires little additional development to adapt current engine technology $[1]$ . However, the addition of a generator reduces the efficiency of the system. The series system is shown in [5.1.](#page-17-0)

<span id="page-17-0"></span>

**Figure 5.1** – Series Powertrain

**Parallel:** A parallel system uses a single gearbox to mate both the electric and turboprop shafts to rotate one shared driveshaft that drives the propeller[\[1\]](#page-40-3). The parallel system is safer than the series configuration in the event of a single motor / engine failure, as well as more efficient than the series configuration. Parallel systems are more complex, and louder than series configurations. The parallel system is shown in [5.2.](#page-17-1)

<span id="page-17-1"></span>

**Figure 5.2** – Parallel Powertrain

**Distributed:** A distributed system uses a separate hydrocarbon system as well as an electrical system. Distributed hybrid systems are most similar to conventional hydrocarbon aircraft, as the electrical system is completely isolated from the engines. This is the heaviest, but simplest configuration.

The selection matrix shown below was used to determine the configuration used for the aircraft.

<span id="page-18-2"></span>

radic o.t	<b>Example 1</b> response to the content of the			
Criteria				Weight Series Parallel Distributed
Complexity	20			
Efficiency	45			
System Weight	35			
<b>Total</b>	100	235	225	140

**Table 5.1** – Propulsion Selection Matrix

### <span id="page-18-0"></span>**5.2 Battery Sizing**

To size the battery, the gravimetric energy density of the battery must first be estimated for the production year of 2035. The current energy density of cutting edge Lithium-Ion batteries is 245 kilowatt hours per kilogram. In 2035, using the Hepperle 2012 energy report [\[4\]](#page-40-4), the energy density of the best option available was pessimistically estimated to be  $1050 \frac{kWH}{kg}$  using Lithium-Sodium batteries.

<span id="page-18-1"></span>



The battery was sized by estimating the amount of energy required to power the aircraft for 30 minutes on electric power only. Using Table 5.2 from Raymer, the power to weight for the aircraft was estimated to be  $0.20 \frac{hp}{lb} = 14000$  hp. Using the following equations, the mass of the battery was calculated.

$$
M_{batt} = \frac{Pt}{e_{sb}\eta_{prop}} = 6288kg\tag{5.1}
$$

For electric aircraft, Brequet's Range equation can be re-derived to be:

$$
R = 3.6 \frac{L}{D} \frac{e_{sb} \eta b 2 s \eta_p}{g} \frac{w_b at}{w}
$$
 (5.2)

Using this equation, the additional range provided by the battery can be estimated. When initially sizing the aircraft, this equation was also used to attempt to find a battery mass fraction (BMF) to see if the mission could be done with electric power alone. The BMF was found to be over 60%, and with any reasonable empty weight fraction, this would not be valid.

From the electric range equation, as electric flight does not result in a loss of mass, the range from electric flight can be optimized by using the electric system as late as possible in the planned trip. As a result, our cruise estimates were broken up into two cruises:

**Normal Cruise:** The first section uses the turboshaft engines to power the generator. The power from the generator is then immediately used to power the electric motors.

**Electric Cruise:** This section uses only the energy stored in the battery to cruise. This section should always be done as late as possible in the mission to optimize efficiency.

With the current version of the aircraft, the electric cruise distance of the aircraft is 212 nmi when done at the end of the normal cruise section.

## <span id="page-19-0"></span>**5.3 Efficiencies**

The mandatory efficiency requirement is a fuel reduction of 20% over the duration of a 500 nmi mission. All efficiencies used in this section describe the equivalent reduction in fuel used. The sources of efficiency identified were:

**Engine Advancements** Current turboprops use 1970's and 80's engines and have not seen the level of research as turbofan technologies. This can partially be contributed to the monopolization of the turboprop engine segment by Pratt & Whitney, who make 98% of the current civil aviation turboprop engines.However, Pratt and Whitney have developed the 127x series, with an engine in our horsepower class in production by 2025. The 127x series claims a SFC reduction of 18% when compared with the current PW150 series. Approximating another 2\% in SFC reduction in the 13 additional years until production, the fuel savings from the usage of updated engines was estimated to be 20%.

Our aircraft would also be a suitable candidate for propfan or open rotor style engines, should the technology ever come to market. With the higher bypass ratio and thrust promised in comparison to turboprop engines, the aircraft is in the correct weight class to benefit the most from this area of research. The additional cabin noise and vibrations would be areas of concern on this new design.

**Regenerative Braking** Much like the similar technology employed in electric vehicles, the rotational inertia of the propeller can be turned back into usable energy via the electric motor. The current estimates of regenerative braking efficiency is 70% energy recapture.

Regenerative braking can be used during taxi and descent phases to minimize energy usage. During descent and landing, the aircraft can utilize a low regenerative strength during the descent glide or propeller windmilling to recapture some of the energy for the next mission. This comes with the added benefit of taxing and descending only under electric power, further reducing the mass fuel fraction required. Additionally, like the 787, regenerative braking is used on the electric braking system. This form of braking is mostly used for weight savings and reliability, but in theory could result in a very small regeneration. The energy recoverable from the descent phase assuming a 5% net energy recovery is shown below:

$$
U = mgz = 45000 * 9.8 * 10668 = 4.7 \text{GJ} = 1306 \text{kWH}
$$
\n
$$
(5.3)
$$

$$
E_{poten} = U * 0.05 = 59.591 \, \text{kWH} \tag{5.4}
$$

**Conversion Inefficiencies:** Conversion of the turboshaft energy into electrical energy requires a generator, inverter, and wiring which all require an efficiency loss. The equation for the hybrid efficiency is shown in Equation 5.5.

$$
\eta_{\text{hyb}} = \eta_{\text{gen}} \eta_{\text{invert}} \eta_{\text{wiring}} = 0.912 \tag{5.5}
$$

This efficiency must be applied to all fuel-burning stages of flight, resulting in an efficiency loss of approximately 9%. This may improve before 2035, as significant work is being done to improve inverter efficiency and improving generator integration. Supercooling has been proposed to improve generator efficiency to over 99.99%, but this requires the storage of unstable and complex liquid hydrogen storage unsuitable for an aircraft of this size and needed reliability.

The overall efficiency of the aircraft was measured using the equation below using the efficiencies outlined in this section, as well as accounting for the lack of fuel used during electric cruise, taxi, and descent.

$$
\%f_{reduced} = \eta_{desc} + \eta_{taxi} + \eta_{wf} + \eta_{cruise} + \eta_{motor} - \eta_{hyb} = 0.276
$$
\n
$$
(5.6)
$$

### <span id="page-21-0"></span>**5.4 Integration**

Using a series configuration, there are two potential options for electric motor placements and sizes. A "rubber motor" large electric motor can provide the power needed similar to a conventional twin turboprop. A turboshaft engine is placed behind this motor in the nacelle to power the motor and recharge the battery. This configuration has the advantage of simplicity and convention, though it is heavier and more complex than a conventional twin turboprop. The electrical efficiency of such a large motor would also be quite poor. This configuration was chosen to allow for usage of historical data from existing twin turboprops.

The second configuration is a distributed style system, with the leading edge of the wing supporting 20 or more small electric motors[\[1\]](#page-40-3). These smaller motors offer better power to weight, efficiency, and thermal characteristics when compared with a single large motor. The large quantity of motors also improves reliability in the event of a motor failure. However, the faster spinning small propellers make this method unsuitable for a 350 knot cruise speed, as the propeller tip exceeds the speed of sound. This distributed system is better suited for high endurance aircraft and low speed applications. There is likely a compromise with 4-8 medium size motors, though this optimization is quite difficult without historical data for similar sized electric aircraft.

<span id="page-21-1"></span>

**Figure 5.4** – A Conceptual Distributed Electric Regional Aircraft

#### <span id="page-22-0"></span>**5.5 Engines**

<span id="page-22-4"></span>There were two engines of consideration for our power requirement of 6000-7000 ESHP per engine, the Pratt and Whitney PW150 and the Honeywell T-55-GA-715 [\[7\]](#page-40-5). The PW150 is the only civil option available, as this T-55 variant is for military applications only. Additionally, there would need to be adjustments to the PW150 to convert to a turboshaft version.

**Table 5.2** – Engine Options

			Engine   ESHP   TSFC   Weight $(lbs)$
PW150	6200	43	1521
T-55	6500	0.49	830

As mentioned in the Efficiencies section, the best candidate for the turboprop engines is the PW127x 6000+ hp variant that has not yet been produced [\[6\]](#page-40-6). The lowered SFC and weight will greatly improve performance, but the details of this mystery engine are unknown outside of the horsepower range, SFC target, and planned introduction in 2025. This would likely be our engines for the aircraft, or a comparable propfan design. The engines selected for the aircraft were initially sized to be 7050 hp each, for a total ESHP of 14,100 hp total. This estimate was based off of the Raymer value of  $0.20 \frac{hp}{lb}$  for twin turboprop aircraft. The 4-blade propeller was then sized to be:

$$
D = K_p P^{1/4} = 1.5(7050^{1/4}) = 9.16 \text{ft}
$$
\n(5.7)

## <span id="page-22-1"></span>**6 Stability & Control**

#### <span id="page-22-2"></span>**6.1 Weight & Balance**

<span id="page-22-3"></span>In order to obtain accurate stability, we need to accommodate all the component weights to a greater degree. A summary of weights and balances sheet is listed in [6.1](#page-22-3) below. Distances are with  $x = 0$  at the leading edge of the wing.





Passenger CG and Fuel CG were intentionally located close to the quarter chord of the main wing to minimize the change in  $\frac{C_m}{\alpha}$  due to the usage of fuel or low passenger quantities. The engine masses were also placed at the same Z as the CG to align the center of thrust with the CG. The model used for stability analysis is shown in [6.1.](#page-23-2)

<span id="page-23-2"></span>

**Figure 6.1** – XFLR Plane with Masses

## <span id="page-23-0"></span>**6.2 Static Margin**

The static margin can be found from the equation:

$$
SM = \frac{X_{NP} - X_{CG}}{C_{MAC}} * 100 = \frac{6.099 - 2.908}{8.509} * 100 = 37.4\% \tag{6.1}
$$

This static margin is quite high, indicating a low level of maneuverability. This is desirable for a civil transport aircraft, but this if the plane if found to be too unresponsive, the angle of incidence of the main wing or elevator can be changed. The elevator incidence for these tests was at -1.5 degrees.

## <span id="page-23-1"></span>**6.3 Longitudinal Stability**

Preliminary aircraft CG was placed at the quarter chord location of the main wing plus 5 feet. Analysis was then run to determine trim angle by visually confirming a negative slope Cm vs *α* and a positive trim angle between 2.5 - 4 degrees.

<span id="page-24-1"></span>



<span id="page-24-0"></span>The trim angle for the aircraft at maximum takeoff weight was 3.28 degrees.

## **6.4 Lateral Stability**

To determine directional stability, a Type 5 analysis can be used to plot Cn vs Beta and examine the slope. A stable aircraft will have a  $\frac{dC_n}{d\beta} > 0$ , implying a restoring yaw moment.

<span id="page-25-1"></span>

**Figure 6.3** – Cn vs. Beta for the Max Takeoff Weight

The slope  $\frac{dC_n}{d\beta}$  was found to be 0.0053, implying the aircraft is directionally stable.

To examine lateral stability, a stability analysis T-7 VLM2 can be used to determine if  $\frac{dC_l}{d\beta}$  would be positive. Unfortunately, due to the Reynold's number limitation this analysis cannot be run for this size and speed of aircraft. The maximum Reynold's number found to function was 9,000,000. However, to run the T-7 analysis, a Reynold's number of 13,000,000 is required for the root airfoil. This technical issue has resulted in an inability to examine lateral stability for now. If the analysis was successfully run, a negative  $\frac{dC_l}{d\beta}$  would imply a stable aircraft. In the future, a scaled version of the aircraft may be used to attempt to run this analysis.

## <span id="page-25-0"></span>**6.5 Empty vs Full Weight**

During flight, the fuel weight will decrease as it is used, though the CG location can be constant by pumping fuel around. However, in the event of pure electric flight, the plane must still be stable without the mass of the fuel. Similarly, for lower capacity flights or transports, the aircraft must still be stable without passenger weights. To determine the empty stability, the longitudinal stability was examined for a no fuel case, a no passenger case, and a no fuel and no passenger case.

<span id="page-26-2"></span>

**Figure 6.4** – Cm vs. Alpha for Empty Weights

The trim angles were both lower for the empty cases, but still within acceptable ranges. The "no-fuel" case had a trim angle of 3.18 degrees, the "no-passengers" case had a trim angle of 2.70 degrees, and the "neither" case had a trim angle of 2.46 degrees. There is room for improvement through better organization of passenger seating and cargo, in addition to battery placement.

## <span id="page-26-0"></span>**7 Structures**

The structure of the airplane is one of the most important parts of an aircraft. It is what withstands all the aerodynamic forces as well as the stresses of the different varying weights on the plane, such as the passengers, wings and fuel. On top of all these, perhaps the most important aspects of the structure of an airplane, is that it makes sure that everyone gets to their destination in one piece by not breaking while in flight.

## <span id="page-26-1"></span>**7.1 Material Selection**

Materials can make or break an aircraft. Choosing the correct material for your aircraft will either make your plane famous on the news for a crash or not heard about at all because it never went down. With that being said, the material selection used for IMT22 can be seen in the Table 7.1. Table 7.1 was used to compare the properties of materials which allowed us to choose the best material for each section of the airplane. This data can be found in Matweb.com [\[5\]](#page-40-7). After consideration of materials, it was found that using composite materials reduced our initial weight, w0, by 14%. This was one of the reasons we chose it. In addition to composite materials being lighter than traditional materials such as Al-6061, they are also better suited for aspects of the aircraft.

<span id="page-27-3"></span>

#### **Table 7.1** – Material Selection

## <span id="page-27-0"></span>**7.2 Fuselage**

The fuselage was designed to have the passengers and flight attendant be in the main section with an overhead luggage section for their carry-on luggage, extra compartments for storage, the lavatory, as well as the food and drink storage the flight attendant will be using. Under the main section is the undercarriage and this runs the length of the fuselage. This section will be used to hold checked in luggage as well as the main battery.

## <span id="page-27-1"></span>**7.3 Landing Gear**

The landing gear configuration we chose for our turboprop were tricycle landing gear. This is because it is the most common type of landing gear used for turboprop planes. Tricycle landing gear are used with turboprops because they have good ground stability and they allow for a flat cabin floor since our design is for a passenger airplane.

## <span id="page-27-2"></span>**7.4 CAD Drawing**

Many of the dimensions for the IMT22 came from using measurements and parameters outlined in Rayemer's book [\[8\]](#page-40-1). These parameters and measurements led to the design all the way from the fuselage, seating arrangement, passenger and flight attendant chairs to the design of the lavatory. Figures 7.1-7.5 show the CAD model and Figures 7.6-7.7 show CAD Drawings of the IMT22. The figures show the following:

Figure [7.1](#page-28-0) shows a three-dimensional view.

Figure [7.2](#page-29-0) shows a side view.

Figure [7.3](#page-29-1) shows a front view.

Figure [7.4](#page-30-0) shows top view.

Figure [7.5](#page-30-1) shows a three-dimensional view with the plane cut right down the middle, the x-z plane, so that the following can be seen: half the passenger's seating arrangement, flight attendant's seat, lavatory (located on back of plane), the cockpit, the emegency exit, as well as the undercarriage.

The IMT22 CAD drawing shows all the dimensions for the following sections of the plane: Wingspan of the Main Wing, Vertical Wing and Horizontal Wing, the length of the Fuselage, as well as the length from leading edge of the Horizontal Wing to the leading edge of the Main Wing.

The IMTSEATS22 CAD drawing describes the layout and inner dimensions of the seats for the passengers as well as the aisle length.

<span id="page-28-0"></span>

**Figure 7.1** – Three-Dimensional View of aircraft

<span id="page-29-0"></span>

**Figure 7.2** – Side view of CAD Model

<span id="page-29-1"></span>

**Figure 7.3** – Front view of CAD Model

<span id="page-30-0"></span>

**Figure 7.4** – Top view of CAD Model

<span id="page-30-1"></span>

 $\bf{Figure}$   $\bf{7.5}$  – Three-Dimensional view with cut in half along x-z plane



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# <span id="page-33-0"></span>**8 Cost Analysis**

The ability of turboprops to operate with a lower carbon footprint is highly exceptional. Still, according to ICCT research [\[3\]](#page-40-0) these turboprops are an old technology, and their cost were certainly unmatched to to days standard. Which makes it very difficult to adjust the cost to today's standard. Therefore the DAPCA-IV model from Raymer [\[8\]](#page-40-1) won't highly accurate unless adjusted for yearly index. For this reason some of the values for the model has been adjusted reflect the cost estimation for IMT-22 aircraft.

## <span id="page-33-1"></span>**8.1 2022 Adjustments**

One of the factors to that will be adjusted are the wrap rates. We'll be using the 2021 wrap rate factor for the 2012 values listed in Raymer's book. This factor is shown in Equation [8.1](#page-33-4) from CAVU financial solutions [\[2\]](#page-40-8).

<span id="page-33-4"></span>
$$
W_{\text{rate}} \text{Fudge} = (1 + \text{Fringe}) * (1 + \text{Overhead}) * (1 + \text{GA}) = 1.11 \tag{8.1}
$$

Another adjustment to be accounted for is the design and fabrication section of the aircraft. Since most of the IMT-22 structure will be made from composite (CFPR), a fudge factor of 1.2 will be used to adjust the DAPCA-IV hours.

Additionally DAPCA tends to over-predict commercial aircraft costs. Instead Raymer advised those can be factored by (0.9-0.25) fudge. So a 0.7 fudge factor is a safe assumption to balance out the offset.

## <span id="page-33-2"></span>**8.2 R&D Cost**

The research and development costs are displayed in [8.1.](#page-34-1) The Avionics accounts for an adjustment of \$10, 000 per pound. Additionally the ITM-22 will be equipped with two PW150 engine valued at \$1, 300, 000 each in present day. Early guesstimates is that about 15 planes to be produced in 5 years.

## <span id="page-33-3"></span>**8.3 Operation** & **Maintenance**

To determine maintenance and operations cost, we need several other costs. For commercial aircraft (which fly many more hours per year), the fuel totals about 38% of OM costs, the crew salaries about 24%, and the maintenance about 25%. The depreciation of the aircraft purchase price is about  $12\%$  of total OM costs, and the insurance is the remaining  $1\%$ . Using a script listed in the appendix we get those values listed in the Table below. A 6\$ per gallon fuel cost will be used to estimate the total fuel cost per year.

<span id="page-34-1"></span>

Category	USD
Engineering	\$85, 128, 938
Tooling	\$36,791,539
Manufacturing	\$6,699,569,760
Quality Control	\$6,380,436
Development Support	\$16, 397, 164
Flight Test Cost	\$37, 378, 72
Material Manufacturing Cost	\$883, 859, 52
Flight Test Control	\$14,837,075
Total Engine Cost $(15x2)$	\$37,000,000
Avionics	\$109,000,000

**Table 8.1** – Research and Development Cost

<span id="page-34-2"></span>**Table 8.2** – Operational & Maintenance Cost

Category	<b>USD</b>
Fuel cost per year	\$167,076,000
O&M Total	\$439,673,684
Crew	\$105, 521, 684
Maintenance Cost	\$109, 918, 421
Depreciation Cost	\$52,760,842
Insurance Cost	43, 967, 368
Landing Fee	\$87,934,736

### <span id="page-34-0"></span>**8.4 Pricing and Revenue**

Based on a historical data planes like (ATR-600, the ITM-22 would sell at starting price of 12, 000, 000 with a 12% profit margin in present day. Compared to a total cost per plane (R&D and O&M) that is about 4, 440, 612, 777, it's break even point is after selling 37 planes.

## <span id="page-35-0"></span>**9 Conclusion**

## <span id="page-35-1"></span>**9.1 Efficiency Merit**

As discussed in the Propulsion section, the efficiency target was met and exceeded by 7%. The aircraft is ICAO class C compliant, can carry 54 passengers with luggage including crew, and takes off in under 4500 ft. The plane also exceeds the minimum cruise speed of 275 knots with a cruise speed of 350 knots, in addition to an additional 200 nautical miles of range over the required 1000.

## <span id="page-35-2"></span>**9.2 Conclusion**

The IMT22 is a regional turboprop hybrid boasting a 1200 nautical mile range, 52 passenger capacity, and 12660 pounds of passengers or cargo, all while reducing fuel usage by 27% when compared with current turboprop competitors. Further efficiency gains may be found in future analysis through improved battery energy density, advanced composite techniques, and the addition of winglets to maximize the efficiency of the aircraft.

# <span id="page-36-0"></span>**10 Appendix**

wClimb = .985

## <span id="page-36-1"></span>**10.1 Codes and Scripts**

```
10.1.1 Plane Class and Equations
P_{\text{N}}Wmetric = 8 #KW/kg, 2035
P_W_motor = P_Wmetric * 1.34102 /2.2046
def motorWeights(P_W_motor,hp_req):
 return hp_req / P_W_motor
Tfactor = [motorWeights(P_W_motor,21200)-motorWeights(P_W_motor,28000),0,motorWeights(P_W_motor,28000)]
#print(Tfactor)
class Plane:
```

```
def __init__(self, number, T_W, W_S,L_D,SFC,n_hyb,Tfactor):
 self.number = number
 self.T_W = T_Wself.W_S = W_Sself.S = 833.35
 self.L_D = L_Dself.SFC = SFC
 self.n_hyb = n_hybself.w0 = W_S * self.S + Tfactordef set_w0(self,w0):
 self.w0 = w0def get_w0(self):
 return self.w0
def get_W_S(self):
 return self.W_S
def _{\sim}str_{\sim}(self):return ("Plane " + str(self.number) +", w0 = " + str(self.w0) + ", T_W = " + str(self.
        ", W S = " + str(self.w0/self.S) + ", To dist = " + str(self.T0distance())def wf_w0(self):
 KTAS = 350
 wTO = 1
```
33

```
wCruise1 = Cruise_wFrac(1000-239.2,self.SFC,KTAS,self.L_D)
  rangeElec = Range_electric(15,1050,.912,.80,6291,68343*wClimb*wCruise1) * 0.539957
  wLoit1 = End_wFrac(0.75, self.SFC, self.L_D*0.866) #45 minwCruise2 = Cruise_wFrac(200,self.SFC,KTAS,self.L_D)
  wLoit2 = End WFrac(0.33333, self.SFC, self.L D*.866)wLand = 1return 1.06 * (1- (wTO*wClimb*wCruise1*wLoit1*wLand*wCruise2*wLoit2)*self.n_hyb)
def we w0(self):
  if self.w0:
   return 0.912*self.w0**-0.05
  else:
    return "Still need w0!"
def Vstall(self): #USE IMPERIAL, returns ft/s
  return np.sqrt((2*self.w0)/(0.00238*self.S*2.2))
def Vapproach(self):
  return self.Vstall() * 1.3
def TOdistance(self):
  denSL = 0.00238
 vStall = self.Vstall()
 mu_r = 0.025K = 0.2Cl max = 2.2
  C d = 0.02v\_lof = 1.1 * vStallv avg = 0.707 * v lof
 Cl opt = mu r / 2*K
  D_avg = C_d + 2*K*C1_opt**2q_{avg} = (1/2) * denSL * v_{avg} * 2a_avg = (32.2/\text{self.w0}) * ((\text{self.T_W*self.w0)-(D_avg*q_avg*self.S)-mu_r*(self.w0-(q_avg*q_avg*self))return ((v_lof**2)/(2*a_avg))
```

```
10.1.2 Script for Trade Study
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
#Trade Study: W/S +- 10 and T/W +- 0.05; Constraints: TO_dist < 4500
delta t w = [-0.05,0,0.05]delta W S = [-10, 0, 10]L_{D} = 15SFC = 0.3818
n_hyb = 0.910425S = 833.35W_S = 82.01T_W = 0.205planes = []
for i in range(len(delta_W_S)):
 for j in range(len(delta_t_w)):
    planes.append(Plane(i*3+j+1,T_W + delta_t_w[j],W_S + delta_W_S[i],L_D,SFC,n_hyb,Tfactor
Neg_T_W = planes[::3]Neut_T_W = planes[1::3]
Pos_T_W = planes[2::3]for i in Neg_T_W:
 print(i.get_w0(),i.TOdistance(),(i.Vapproach()*0.592484))
  for i in Neut_T_W:
  print(i.get_w0(),i.TOdistance(),(i.Vapproach()*0.592484))
  for i in Pos_T_W:
  print(i.get_w0(),i.TOdistance(),(i.Vapproach()*0.592484))
```
# **List of Figures**



# **List of Tables**





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