Innovative Engine Integration Solutions for Transport Aircraft : Current Research and Future Challenges

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1. Introduction

Context, why new engine integration concepts?

2. Boundary Layer Ingestion

- 3. Towards Distributed Hybrid Electric Propulsion
- 4. Conclusions



Introduction (1)

• Evolution of major transport aircraft products:



- No revolution in aircraft architecture!
- More a continuous evolution through incremental improvements and optimisation of components with frozen architecture:
 - tube-and-wing architecture,
 - under-wing mounted engines (>100 pax),
 - from 4-engines to 2-engines
- Advantages of under-wing, podded engines architectures:
 - Engine ingesting unperturbed flow (better from the engine perspective)
 - Clear separation between engine and airframe:
 - Independent design & manufacturing
 - Clear industrial breakdown, responsibilities between engine and airframe manufacturers



Introduction (2)

• Overall A/C performance (Breguet-Leduc) formula :

$$Range = c M \frac{L}{D} \frac{1}{g \cdot TSFC} \ln \left(\frac{W_{empty} + W_{fuel}}{W_{empty}} \right)$$

- · Major trends (from an aircraft architecture point of view) :
 - Better aerodynamics (L/D): higher wing aspect ratio, winglet, …
 - Better engines (TSFC): higher bypass ratio (bigger engine), thermodynamic cycle,...
 - Lighter structures (W_{TO}/W_{empty})



Introduction (3)

Why investigating new engine integration solutions?

- 1. Limits of under-wing, podded engines architectures:
 - Current BPR of 10-12
 - Envisaged UHBR of 15-20 for N+1 A/C generation
 - Integrating such big engines under the wing raises intricate issues:
 - Longer landing gear needed
 - Stronger engine-airframe aerodynamics coupling
 - Nacelle weight/drag



2. Maximising overall aero-propulsive efficiency of the aircraft+engine as a whole can push us away from podded engine architectures





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Basic principles/physics of Boundary Layer Ingestion gains

• How can we expect to gain with BLI :



- For the same net longitudinal force («thrust=drag»)
- Less mechanical power is required in the case of BLI to produce the same thrust (ΔV) :
 - the fan accelerates a slower flow ($V_0^{BLI} < V_0^{non-BLI}$) and power scale as V_0^2

Experimental BLI investigation in ONERA-L1 WT

- <u>Objectives</u> of the RAPRO2 L1-WT tests:
 - to acquire accurate and detailed aerodynamic data for validation of CFD-based BLI evaluation methodology
 - to confirm BLI concept potential (Mach 0.2)



RAPRO2 test in ONERA L1 WT (Mach 0.2)

Electric powered nacelle (Schübeler EDF)



Experimental BLI investigation in ONERA-L1 WT

Analysis of the BLI efficiency: $PSC = \frac{P_{non BLI} - P_{BLI}}{P_{non BLI}}$ as a function of net axial force



Aero/propulsive efficiency improvement through BLI is confirmed experimentally @ M 0.2 : ~ 20% (D_w/D_A=1)



Validation of numerical methods for BLI investigations



Use of overset and Cartesian grids techniques (elsA)



CFD simulation of the powered nacelle using Actuator Disk (elsA)



- Importance of CFD-based simulation for the design
 of efficient BLI aircraft
- Require careful validations of the capability of CFDbased process to capture all the flow physics involved by BLI:
 - BL development and wake advection
 - Fan/BL interaction





Development of NOVA Aircraft Configurations for Large Engine Integration Studies

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return on innovation

NOVA Targeted architectures for UHBR



✓Baseline

- ✓ UHBR engine
- ✓ Wide lifting fuselage
- ✓ High AR wing
- Downward oriented winglets

✓ Gull wing

 Increased inner wing dihedral to limit landing gear length

✓Podded

 Engines mounted on aft fuselage side

√BLI

 Engine inlet ingesting the fuselage boundary layer

NOVA BLI configuration



- By embedding the engine into the fuselage, savings in fuel (due to reduced wetted area and jet/wake losses) and mass are expected
- ✓ Deliberately « agressive » design:
 - ✓ engine~40% burried
 - ✓ short inlet (inlet length/fan diameter ratio~1)





When ingesting the fuselage boundary layer, the engines tend to minimize the aircraft footprint in the surrounding airflow, indicating better thrust-drag balance

NOVA Power saving VS stream-wise force



ONERA

and Vertering addressing the







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BLI → Distributed propulsion → Electric propulsion

- Links between BLI and Distributed Propulsion :
 - Efficiency \uparrow with fraction of BL ingested (D_w/D_A)
 - Many architectures can be envisaged:



(Source: A. Steiner et al., BHL, ICASE2012)

- Distributed propulsion has additional advantages:
 - Redundancy/reconfiguration (safety)
 - Use differential thrust for control
- Links between Distributed Propulsion and (Hybrid) Electric:
 - Electric ducted fan is a enabling technology for multifan and "massively" Distributed Propulsion architectures
 - Distributed propulsion calls for <u>separation of thrust and power production</u> <u>functions</u>, making the use of hybrid energy source more natural.

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Distributed Electric Propulsion studies

in the AMPERE Project



Technologies and associated A/C concepts roadmap



AMPERE Overview



✓ Objective: Increase maturity of DEP technology

- Aerodynamics of Electric Ducted Fan (EDF) integration
- A/C Control/command through EDF and conventional moving surfaces (considering potential resizing)

Means: Numerical and experimental approaches

- Aerodynamic design of EDF integration
- Wind tunnel experiments
 - ✓L2 very low speed WT (Lille, France)
 - ✓ Powered 1:5 scale Mock-up with on the shelf components



- Control Law definition using both control surfaces and EDF
- ✓ 6DoF Simulation tool using aerodynamic model and Control law for robustness analysis and demonstration

AMPERE Aircraft Pre-design





Example of arrangement of electrical propulsion architecture





Estimated weight of advanced power architecture (Propulsion) ~890 kg



Estimated MTOW ~2400 kg



Numerical investigation of DEP with blowing effect (2D)







Engine location sensitivity analysis

Selection criteria upon Cz_{max}, stall behavior (stability and progressivity)





Numerical investigation of DEP with blowing effect (3D)





CFD 3D computations, viscous, stationnary (RANS), on a wing section with 1 EDF (which models a wing with an infinity of EDF)





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- Fan modelled by an actuator disk (pressure gap)
- Guide vanes integrated into computations ٠
 - 3D effects integrated to handle «squaring the circle» issue (to go from a circle section to an square one)



 Cz_{max} in 3D close to 4.7 instead of 5.7 with 2D CFD assessment



AMPERE Testing in ONERA L2 WT





- ✓ Tests were ended early 2017
- ✓ Analysis on going





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- 4. Conclusions: Future challenges of BLI and DEP



Conclusions: Main challenges of BLI



Performance in transonic conditions

 Experimental proof of benefits at Low-Speed (Take-off and Landing)

Impact of DP architecture on structure and mass



✓ Engine integration issues

Thermal aspects for large passenger Aircraft

Electromagnetic compatibility





Thanks for your attention. Any questions?



Far-field exergy based breakdown Rationale







ted Version additioners into

Design tool: post-processing code



Far-field exergy based breakdown Application to BLI



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