FUTure PRopulsion and INTegration towards a hybrid-electric 50-seat regional aircraft An optimal battery sizing algorithm for future aircraft systems studies

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Batteries basics

A battery is a device that converts chemical energy directly to electrical energy.

Key figures:

- Capacity [Ah]: quantity of electricity stored: 1 Ah = 3600 A.s = 3600 C
- Charge/discharge rate (**C-rate**) [1/h] xC is a rate that allows a battery to be charged/discharged in x hours under a constant current
- Mass, volume, temperature range, aging...
- **Power density** [W/kg] [W/L] (specific power)
- Energy density [Wh/kg] [Wh/L] (specific energy)









Batteries basics

Pack \rightarrow modules \rightarrow cells







requires less space

1.00

requires less storage space

1.25

Why don't we have electric aircrafts yet?



Energy density comparison of several transportation fuels (indexed to gasoline = 1) e_{ia} energy content per unit weight 3 lighter than gasoline light lighter than cooled liquid but requires more space gasoline and weight hydrogen compressed requires less hydrogen gas space 2 liquefied natural compressed natural gas (CNG) gas (LNG) gasoline diesel 1 heavier than gasoline compressed and requires more space heavier than propane ethano gasoline but several battery types methanol heavy

energy content per unit volume

https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=9991

0.75

0.50

 H_2 33 kWh/kg Jet fuel 12 kWh/kg 0.3 kWh/kg -> pack 0.15 kWh/kg LiB cell

0.25

requires more storage space

0

0.00





Why don't we have electric aircrafts yet ?

Safety !!



24t

Two competitive challenges for flying batteries

In order to fly batteries, we must (**objectives**):

- Decrease mass
- Increase safety
- (Without forgetting aging and TCO...)

Three key architectures (constraints and decision variables):

- Mechanical architecture
- Electrical architecture
- Thermal architecture









One optimization...



- discrete, continuous or from database



One optimization integrated into a global and complex aircraft architectures optimization







Aircraft architectures optimization tools





Battery sizing : current situation in aircraft design studies

Simple battery models give approximated results







Only electrical performances sizing with **expert rules** for :

- Aging
- Casing mass

No retroaction of safety on battery sizing

We need **more accurate** battery models





Advanced battery models : electrochemical performances and aging



U = f(current, temperature, SoC, SoH)



Advanced battery models : safety









Advanced battery models: module casing mechanical model







0

Reality check



Surrogate models and two steps sizing algorithm





Development of a mechanical model based on experimental tests

Objectives :

- Mechanical model validation of a battery casing under thermal runway pressure
- Sizing validation from the Finite Elements Analysis (FEA) simulation to the analytic model



Methodology



Development of an experimental module

Requirements from CEA feedback:

- 3 bar max
- About 1 to 2 liters max
- Cube geometry (127 mm x 127 mm x 127 mm)
- 2 vents
- 1 cell in thermal runway
- 30% free space inside
- Free face displacement
- Several sensors (TC, Strain gauges, pressure)
- Rapid camera







Experimental module design

Square cube model

- 1. Mesh detail for the 1/8 of the square cube
 - 3 nodes minimum in the thickness
 - Analytic solution not available for the complete casing

127 mm

- 2. FEA simulation
 - Experimental designs and trade off mass
 - Metal sheet of **3 mm thick**

127 mm

• Material : AL 5454 H111











127 mm



Experimental module design

Casing design for thermal runway

- Tests with thermal runway of one cell
- Temperature sensor (TS), cell voltage measurement (V_{cell}) and heating wire







Experimental module design

<u>Test plan</u>

- 1× test under pressure with water
 - 1 x test up to plastic deformation (waterproof casing)
 - 1 x test elastic limit (Final casing)





- 2× tests with thermal runway of the cell inside
 - x1 additional test with parameters variations and reproducibility











FEA model of the battery casing

@0.6 bar

Results of the safety test





Check of the elastic deformation Plan surface after test



| DISPLACEMENT | | DEFORMATION | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------------|----------|
| Measured (Dial indicator) : | 120 µm | Measured (Gauges) : | 160 µm/m |







Finite Elements Analysis (FEA) model of the battery casing

FEA Cubic model

@0.6 bar (from experimental tests)









| DISPLACEME | DISPLACEMENT | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------|--|--|--|
| FEA model | | 97 µm | | | |
| Measured (D | vial indicator) : | 120 µm | | | |
| Error | | 20% | | | |

| DEFORMATION | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|--|--|--|
| FEA model | 140 µm/m | | | |
| Measured (Gauges) : | 160 µm/m | | | |
| Error | 14% | | | |



Analytical vs FEA model of the battery casing

@0.6 bar

Square plate model

GOULD hypothesis (1994) vs FEA Analysis

- Plane stress and deformation: $\varepsilon_{zz} = \sigma_{zz} = 0$
- Linear elastic constitutive law
- Constante pressure







Mechanical model overview











Results Before Only electrical performances sizing with expert rules for : • Aging • Casing mass estimation No retroaction on safety

Fast and more accurate algorithm for battery presizing and aircraft design exploration

Key parameters:

- Electrical performances
- Temperature dependency
- Aging
- Safety
- Casing sizing



Now





THANK YOU!



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The FUTPRINT50 project

FUTPRINT50 is an **EU** funded collaborative research project set out to **identify** and **develop** technologies and configurations that will accelerate the entry-into-service of a commercial **hybrid-electric aircraft** In a class of up to 50 seats by **2035/40**.

FUTPRINT50 focuses on **energy storage**, **energy recovery** and the **thermal management** of hybrid systems. In addition to improving existing technologies, it will research and share an **open-source tool** for **designing new hybrid-electric aircraft**, hybrid-electric aircraft designs and reference data sets







The French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA)



French public research organization with 20 000 employees

Defense and security, low carbon energies (nuclear and renewable energies), technological research for industry, fundamental research in the physical sciences and life sciences.

Cez



Energy roadmap



