

Università degli Studi di Padova – Dipartimento di Ingegneria Industriale

Corso di Laurea in Ingegneria Aerospaziale

# **Design solutions to overcome hydrogen-powered aviation challenges**

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# The impact of aviation on climate

- 3-7% of global CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent
- 900 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> today p.a.
- 3-5% increase of demand p.a.
- 1.5 % efficiency improvements p.a.
- 1.5-2 gigatons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2050

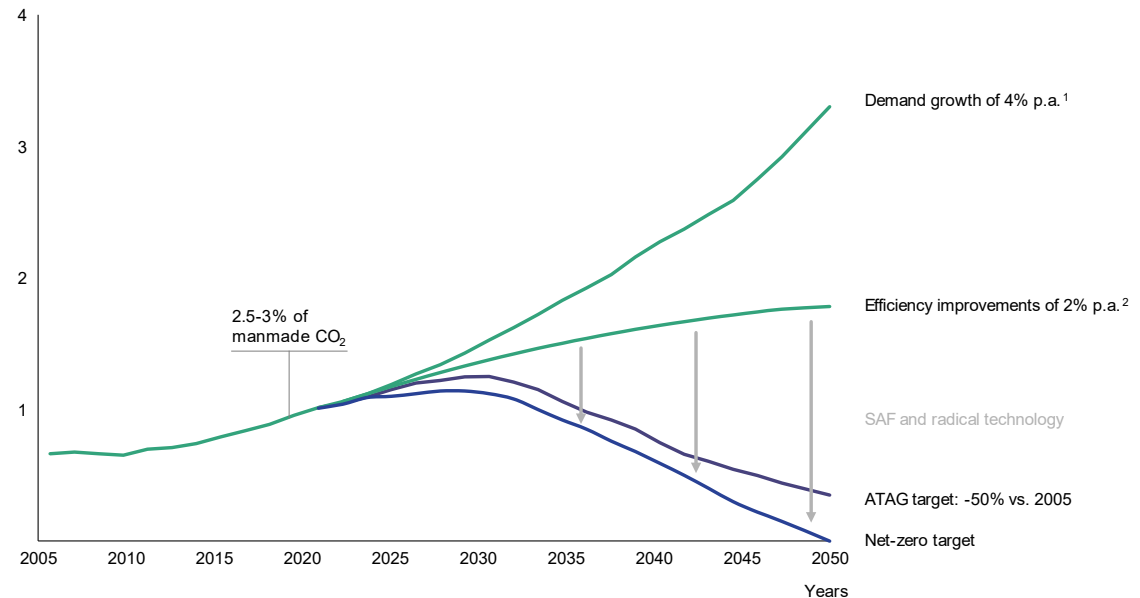


- Neutral growth starting from 2020
- 50% emission reduction in 2050

Exhibit 1

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

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



1. Assumption based on growth projections from ATAG, IATA, ICCT, WWF, UN

2. ICAO ambition incl. efficiency improvements in aircraft technology, operations and infrastructure

Projection of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from aviation, credits:[1]

# Pollution analysis

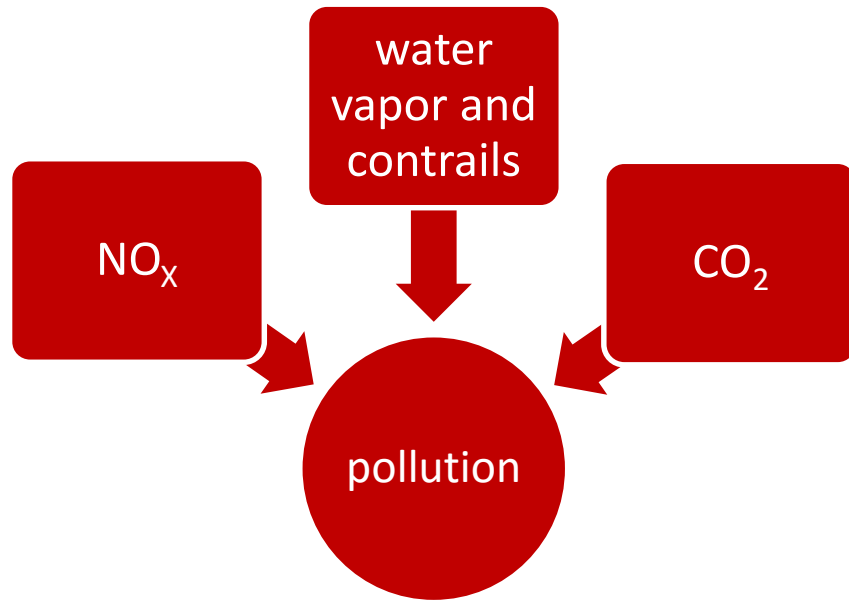
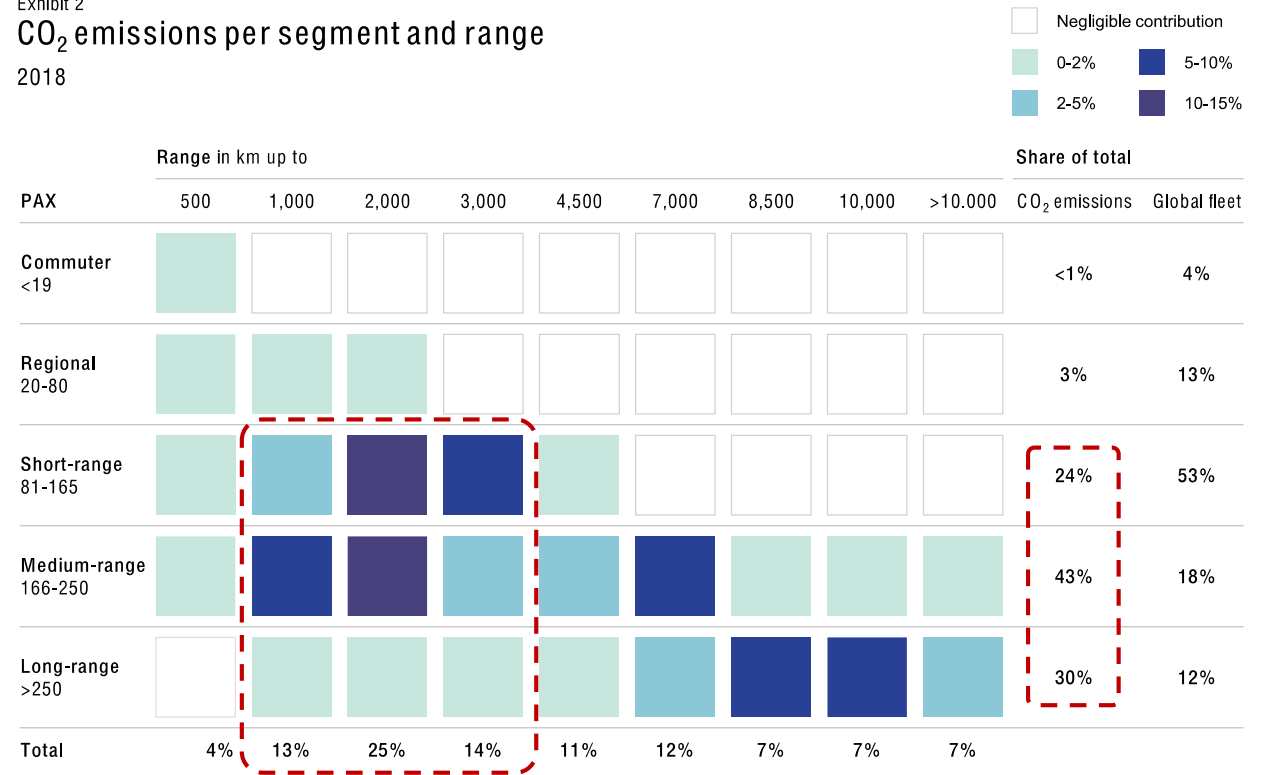


Exhibit 2  
CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per segment and range  
2018



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per segment and range credits: [1]

# New fuels benchmark

## Biofuels and synfuels

- Drop-in fuel
- Biomass production for biofuels
- Zero net impact if CO<sub>2</sub> from direct air capture for synfuels
- Energy required

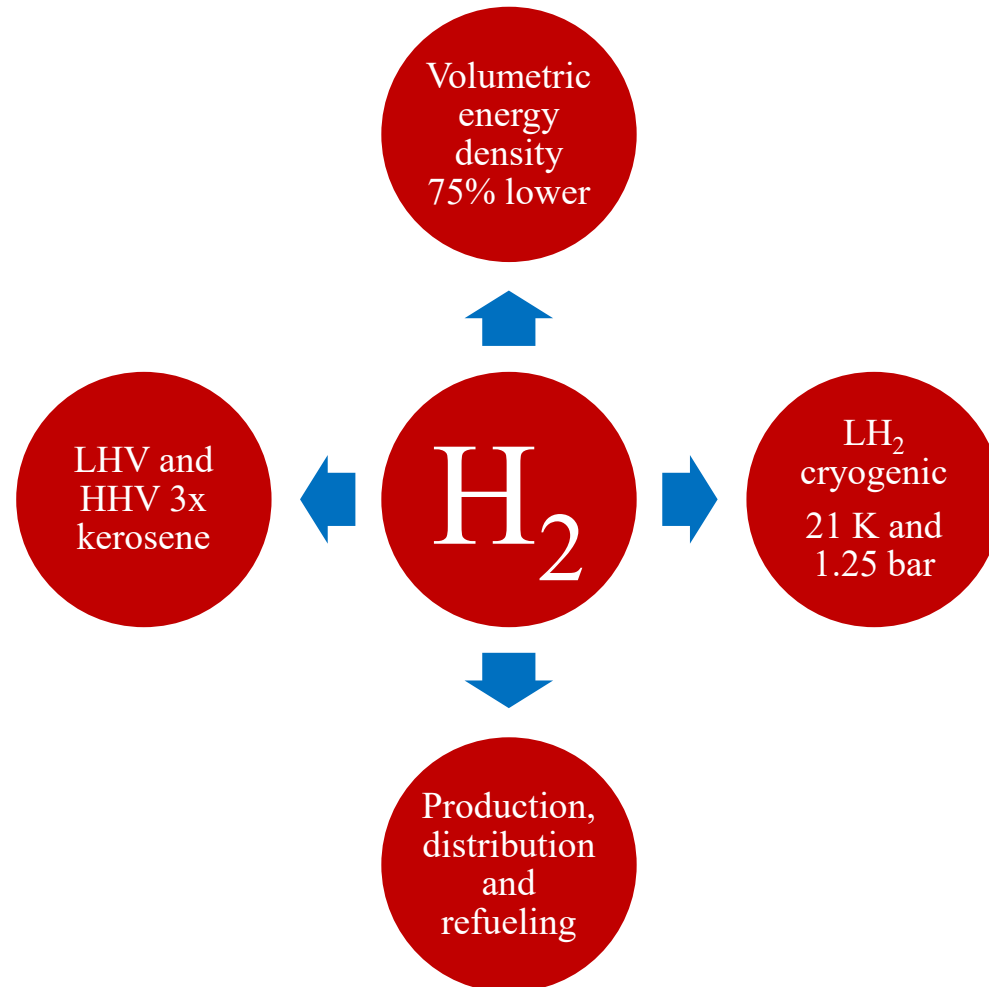
## H<sub>2</sub>

- Not drop in fuel
- Energy required
- Carbon-free
- Cryogenic



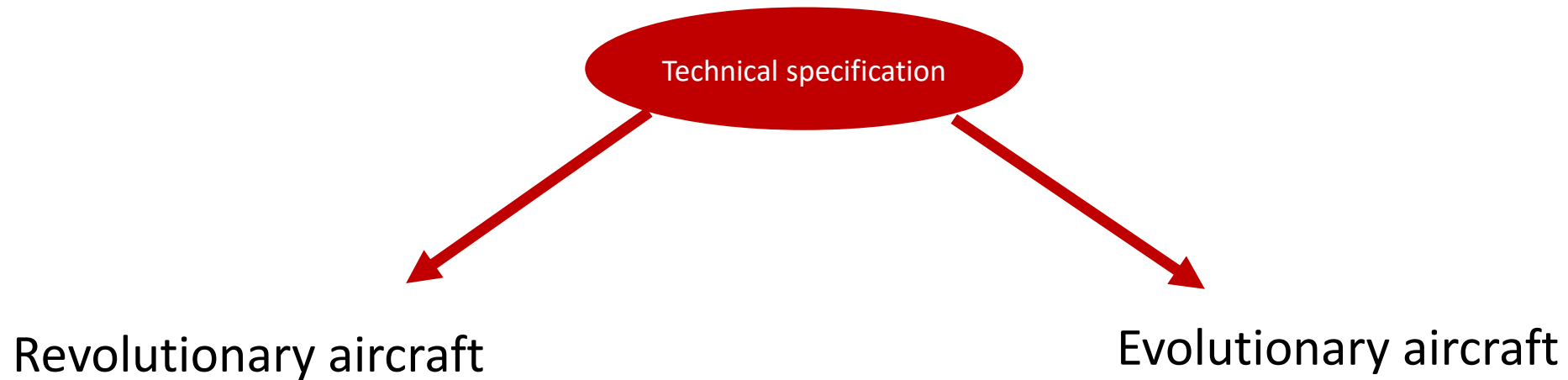
Synthetic fuel, credits efuelpacific.com

# H<sub>2</sub>: properties & challenges



Hydrogen, credits e3g.org

# Hydrogen propulsion integration



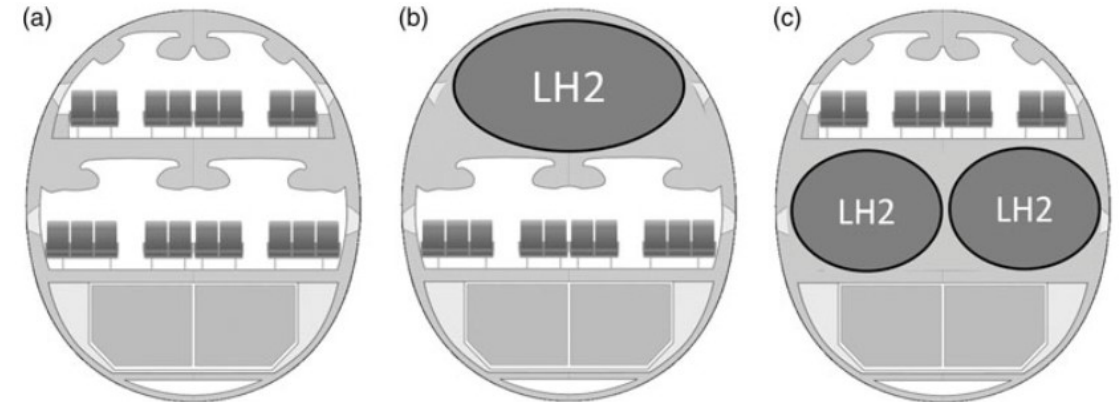
Blended Wing And Body, credits [5]



Tanks integration, credits [3]

# Evolutionary aircrafts

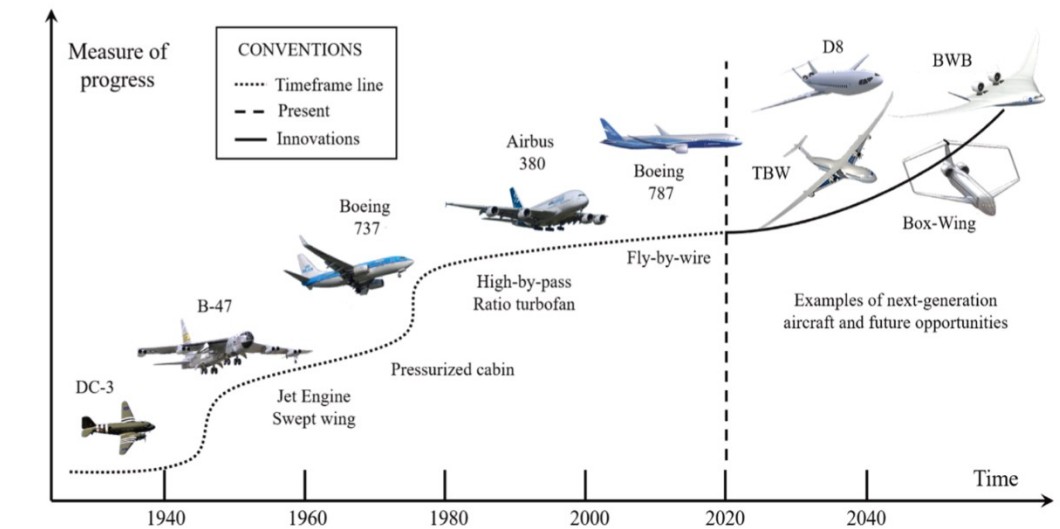
- Experience on manufacturing, safety and reliability
- Faster EIS
- New systems design
- Trade-off between range in kilometers and payload
- Autonomy constrains



Tanks integration, credits: [3]

# Revolutionary aircrafts

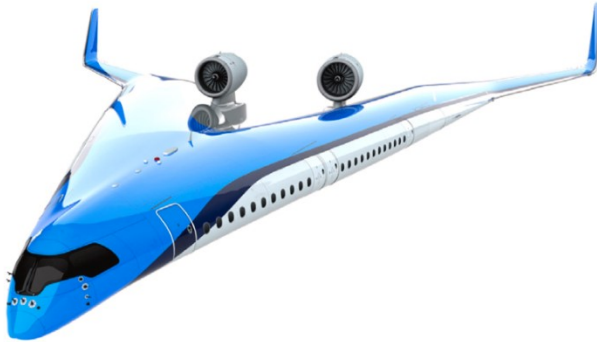
- CTW might not be suitable for future challenges
- Leverage of existing concept to exploit new design opportunities
- Completely new manufacturing
- Long EIS time



Airframe evolution, credits: [4]



## Revolutionary concepts



Flying V, credits [5]



BWB, credits: airbus.com

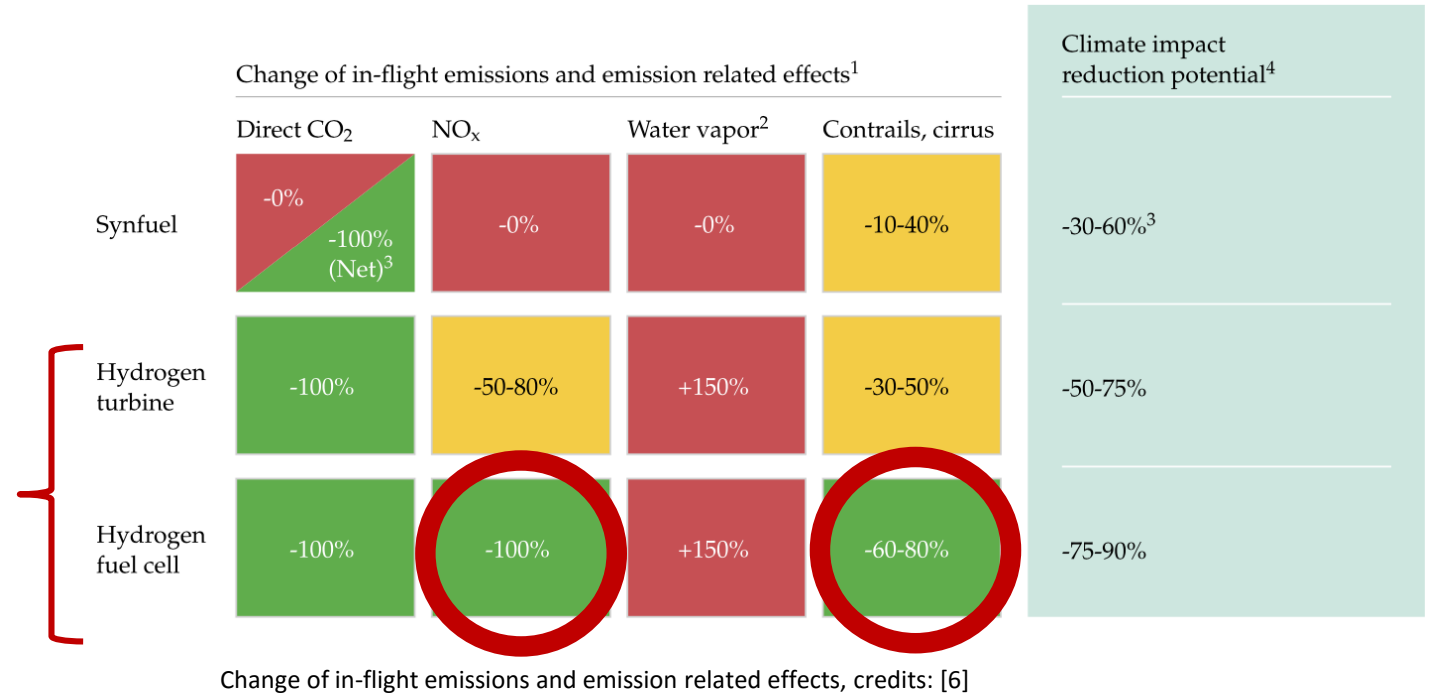


Strut-braced wings, credits [5]

- Aerodynamics
  - Light weight (GTOW)
  - Structural loads
  - Improved stability
  - Lower fuel consumption
- Compatibility with airport infrastructure
  - Technology readiness level

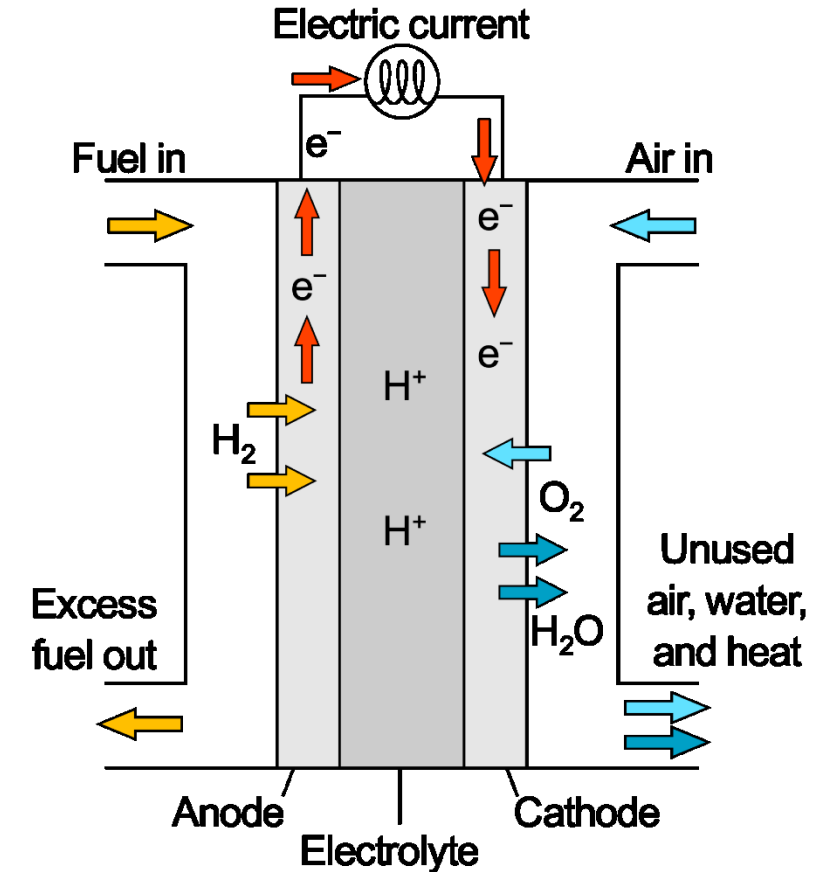
# Fuel cell vs Gas turbine

- Thrust requirements
- Emissions
- Fuel cells for commuters or regional aircrafts



# Fuel cell

- Specific power
- Advantage on using electric thrusters
- Oxygen intake
- Thermal control



Functioning of a proton exchange membrane fuel cell,  
credits: Wikipedia

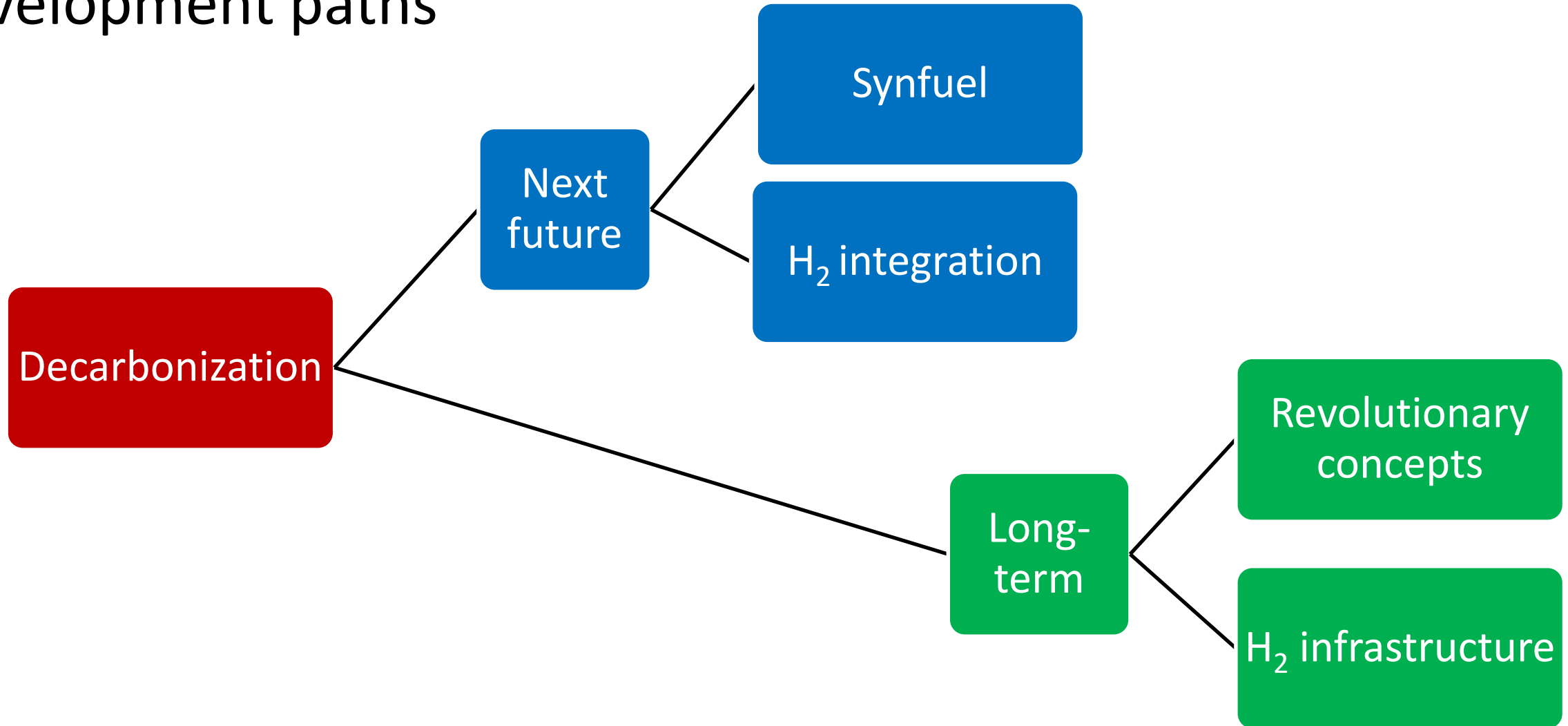
# Gas turbine

- Several tests with currently used engines
- No huge differences in terms of performance
- Lower specific fuel consumption
- $\text{NO}_x$  and lean combustion
- Development paths in CC



Turbofan inlet, credits: boldmethod.com

# Development paths



- [1] Clean Sky 2, FCH *Hydrogen-powered aviation*
- [2] Christina Penke, Christoph Falter, Valentin Battingen, *Pathways-and-environmental-assessment-for-the-introduction-of-renewable-hydrogen-into-the-aviation-sector Sustainable-Production-Life-Cycle-Engineering-and-Management*
- [3] J.Huete, D.Naiianda, P. Pilidis *Propulsion system integration for a first-generation hydrogen civil airliner*
- [4] Arun K. Sehra, Woodrow Whitlow Jr. *Propulsion and power for 21st century aviation*
- [5] Pedro D. Bravo-Mosquera, Fernando M. Catalano, David W. Zingg *Unconventional aircraft for civil aviation: A review of concepts and design methodologies*
- [6] Sebastian Nicolay, Stanislav Karpuk, Yaolong Liu, Ali Elham *Conceptual design and optimization of a general aviation aircraft with fuel cells and hydrogen*
- [7] M.Z. Wan Yahya, M.H. Azami, Mark Savill, Yi-Guang Li, S. A. Khan, Mahammad Salman Wariman *Modelling of a Three-Shaft High-Bypass-Ratio Engine Performance and Emission Prediction Using Hydrogen Fuels*
- [8] Ozgur Balli, Emre Ozbek, Selcuk Ekici, Adnan Midilli, T. Hikmet Karakoc *Thermodynamic comparison of TF33 turbofan engine fueled by hydrogen in benchmark with kerosene*
- [9] Halil Yalcin Akdeniz, Ozgur Balli *Impact of different fuel usages on thermodynamic performances of a high bypass turbofan engine used in commercial aircraft*
- [10] Parisa Derakhshandeh, Abolfazl Ahmadi, Reza Dashti *Simulation and technical-economic-environmental optimization of the General Electric GE90 hydrogen turbofan engine*