# Probabilistic Characterization of Operational Uncertainties in Transport Aircraft using OpenSky

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# Knowledge for Tomorrow

### Introduction

#### **Motivation**

- Aerodynamic design takes place at a representative but limited range of flight conditions
- In practice airliners do not fly at the conditions they were designed to operate
- Lack of real operational data necessary to characterize uncertainty sources in flight

#### Objective

 The characterization and quantification of operational uncertainty sources for taylored aerodynamic design based on aircraft surveillance data





### **Gathering OpenSky Surveillance Data**

- 1. Select ICAO24 codename for given aircraft type operated by a given airliner Aircraft\_Names
- 2. Select records for previous ICAO24 codenames for a given day flights\_data4
- 3. Access flight data (Mode-S) from given icao24 airplane from firstSeen to lastSeen: BDS [1, 2]
- 4. For given departure and arrival airports, obtain Initial and Final Fuel Weight : AircraftWeight



[1] Integrating pyModeS and OpenSky Historical Database, Junzi Sun, Jacco Hoekstra[2] pyModeS: Decoding Mode-S Surveillance Data for Open Air Transportation Research.



### **Gathering OpenSky Surveillance Data**

#### Altitude:

- Pressure altitude directly obtained from ADS-B Data
- Influences Reynolds number

#### **Mach Number**

- Directly obtained from BDS-60 code
- Freestream Boundary Condition, affects shock wave location

#### Lift Coefficient

- Weight exponentially decreases from take-off to landing
- Influences aircraft angle of attack





### **Filtering Data and Obtaining PDF for callsign**



#### **Analysis of A330 Operational Data**

- Surveillance data of A330 flights extracted for 5 major European airliners (A, B, C, D, E) for July-August 2019.
- Flights covering most of the time continental Europe, Middle East and USA
- Total of 2692 complete flights are extracted from 165 different callsigns (Average of 16 flights per callsign)





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### **Uncertainties of given flight route**

#### **XRF1** Configuration



### Conclusions

#### **Probabilistic Characterization of Operational Uncertainties**

- Mach Number, lift coefficient, altitude (Reynolds number)
- Gather operational data of specific callsigns / return routes / airliners / aircraft type

#### Methodology useful:

- To understand how aircraft are operated in reality by researchers / airliners/ OEMs
- To robustly design the next generation of aircraft
- To design special retrofits tailored to aircraft operations



### Thank you for your attention!

## Any Questions?

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