



# Industrial Perspective on Friction Drag Reduction in Turbulent flows

Workshop on Turbulent Skin Friction Drag Reduction  
Imperial College London

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04 December 2017

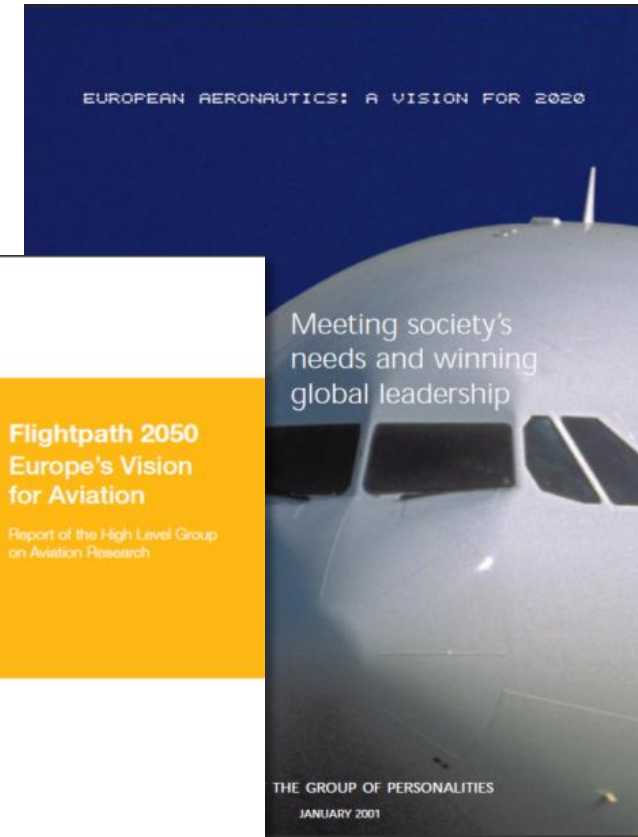
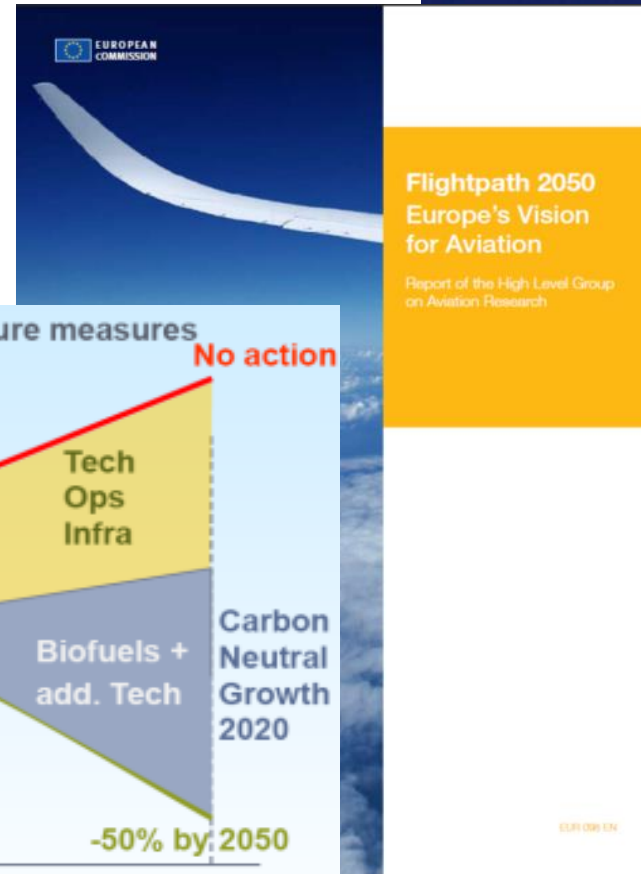
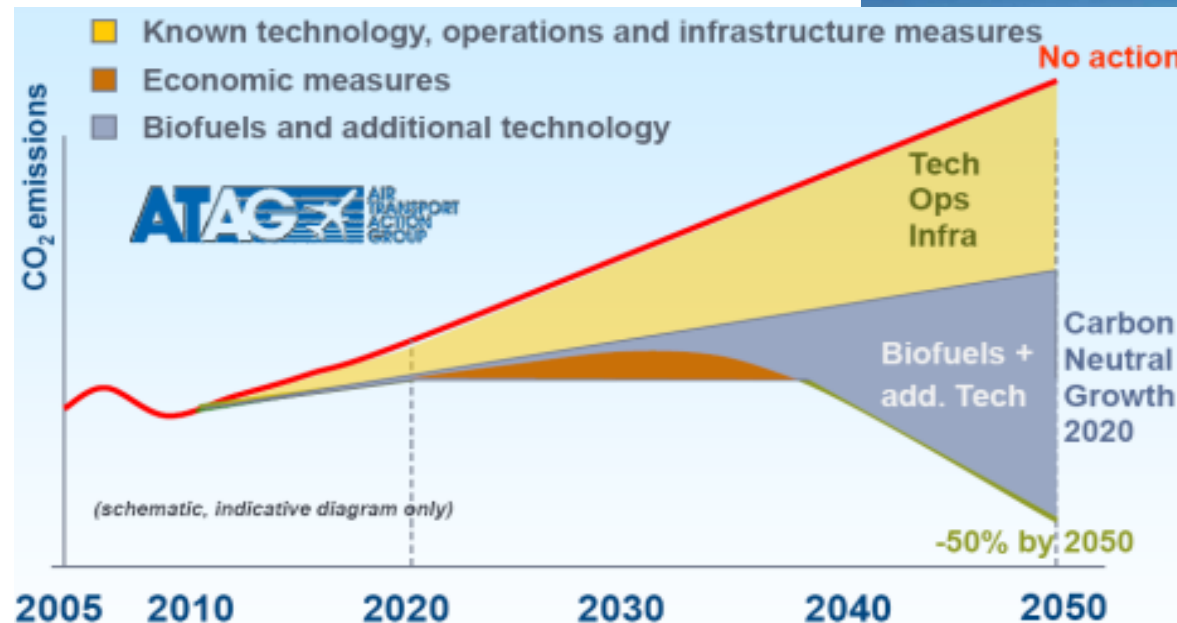
**AIRBUS**

# Objectives

- *Welcome and thank you for coming !*
- Workshop Objectives
  - To allow Academics to disseminate their work to Airbus and other researchers in the field of turbulent skin friction and viscous drag reduction research.
  - To give Airbus an increased visibility of progress to help inform its future research strategy in low TRL technologies associated to Turbulent Drag Reduction.

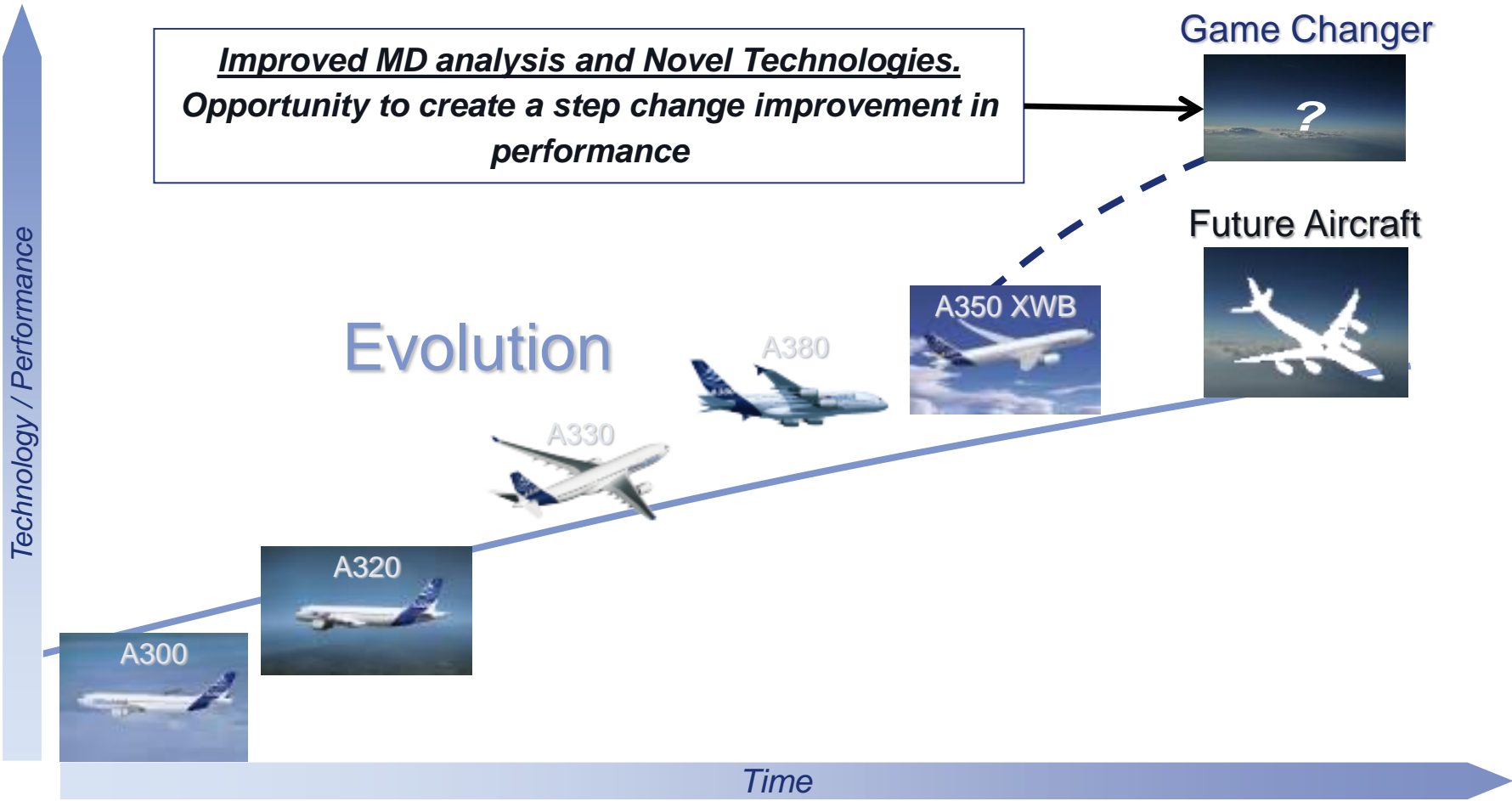
# The Need

- Flight Path 2050 – Reduce global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions due to aviation by 50% by 2050.....

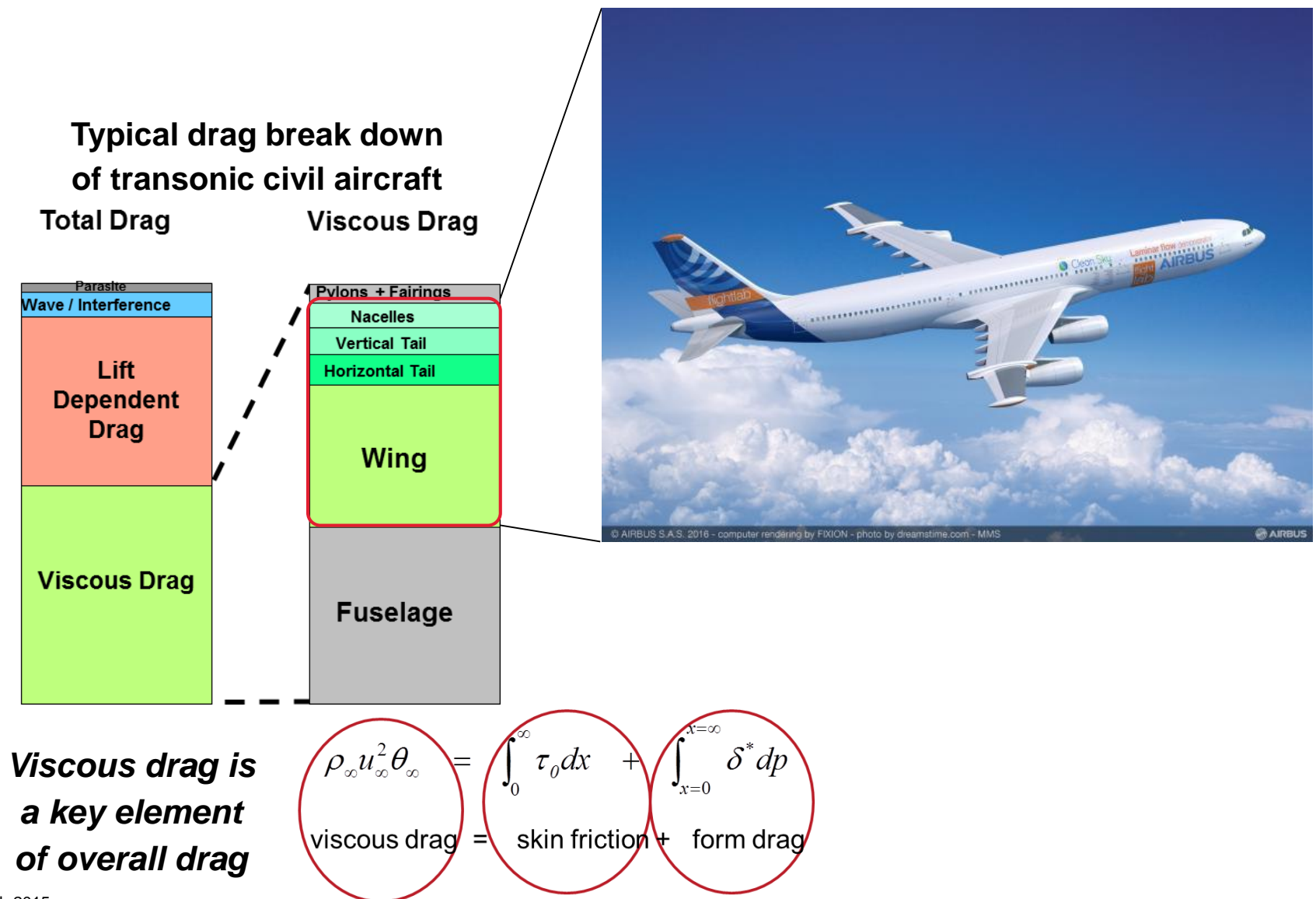


# Performance Evolution of Airbus Aircraft

## Indication of Saturation Effects

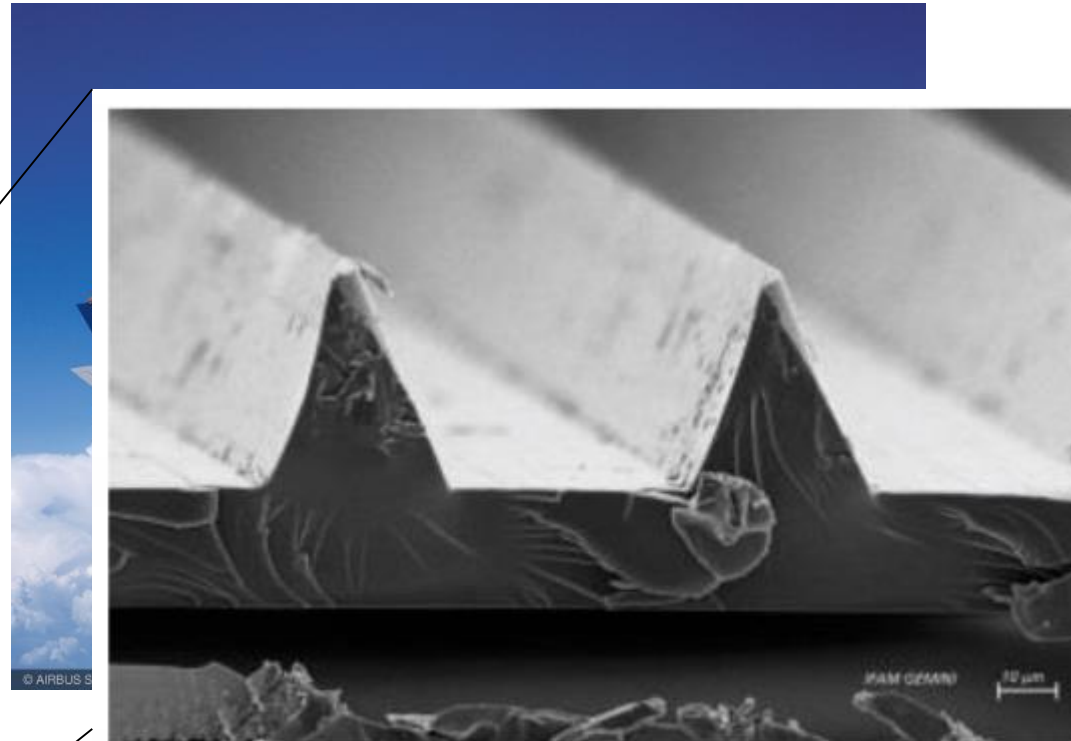
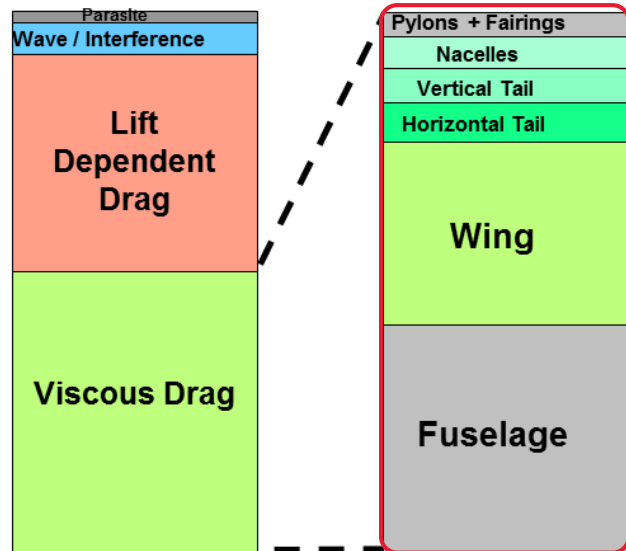


# Where are the technology opportunities for drag reduction?



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Typical drag break down  
of transonic civil aircraft



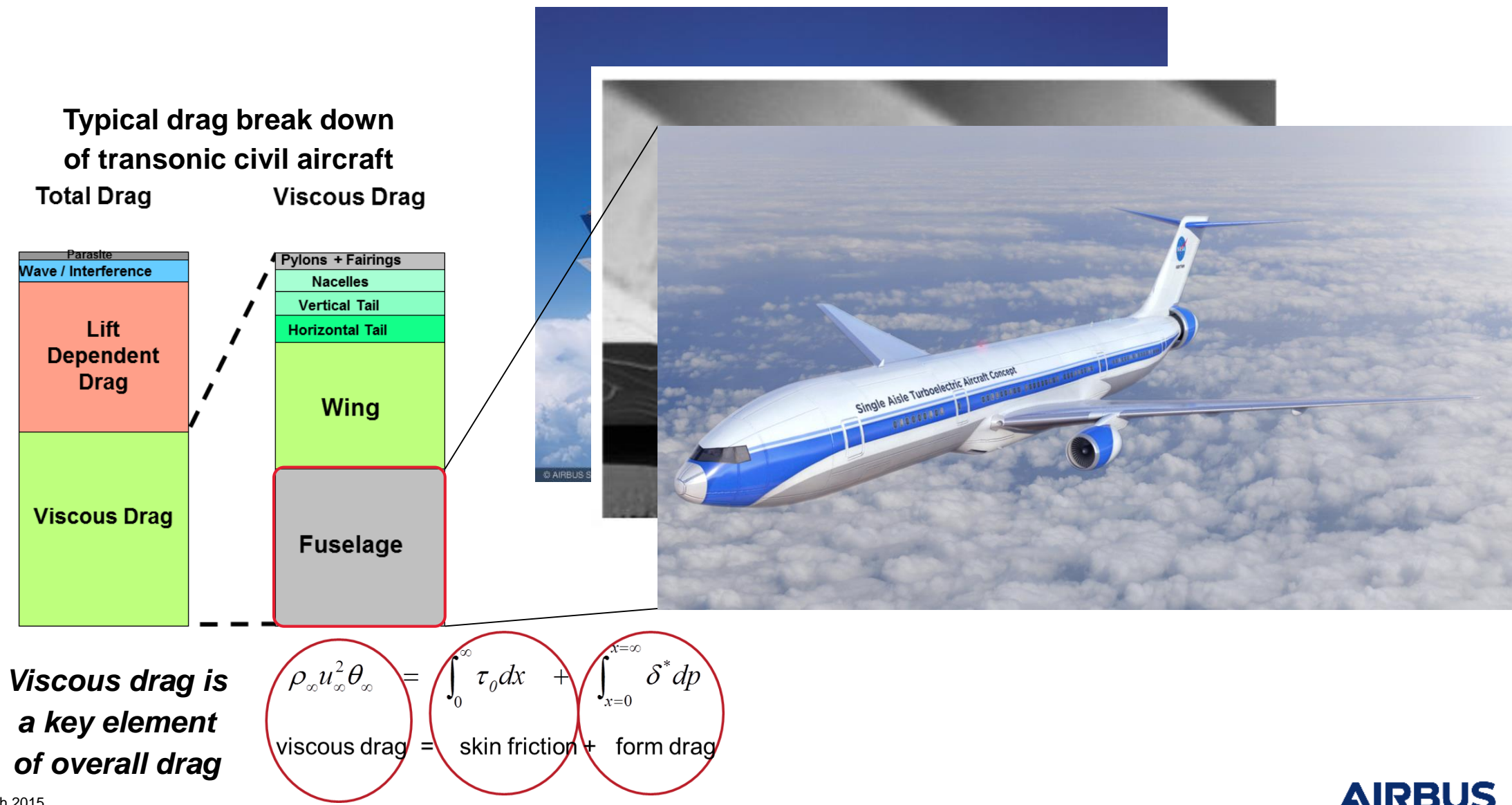
**Viscous drag is  
a key element  
of overall drag**

$$\rho_{\infty} u_{\infty}^2 \theta_{\infty} = \int_0^{\infty} \tau_0 dx + \int_{x=0}^{x=\infty} \delta^* dp$$

viscous drag = skin friction + form drag

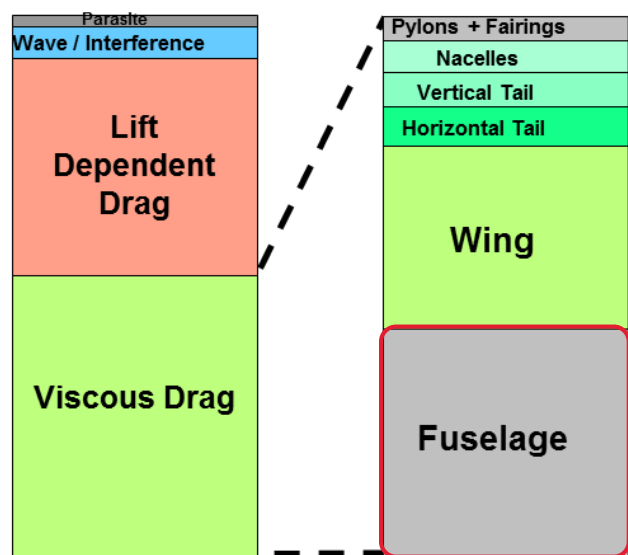


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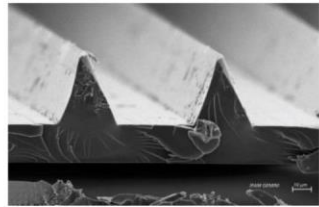
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# Riblets

Significant breakthrough on the industrialisation of riblets at AIRBUS.



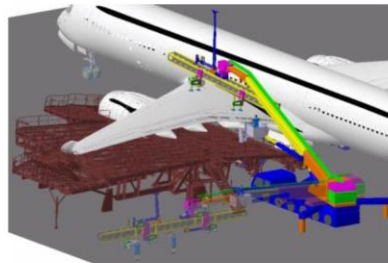
**Technology development**  
of riblet  
application

2013



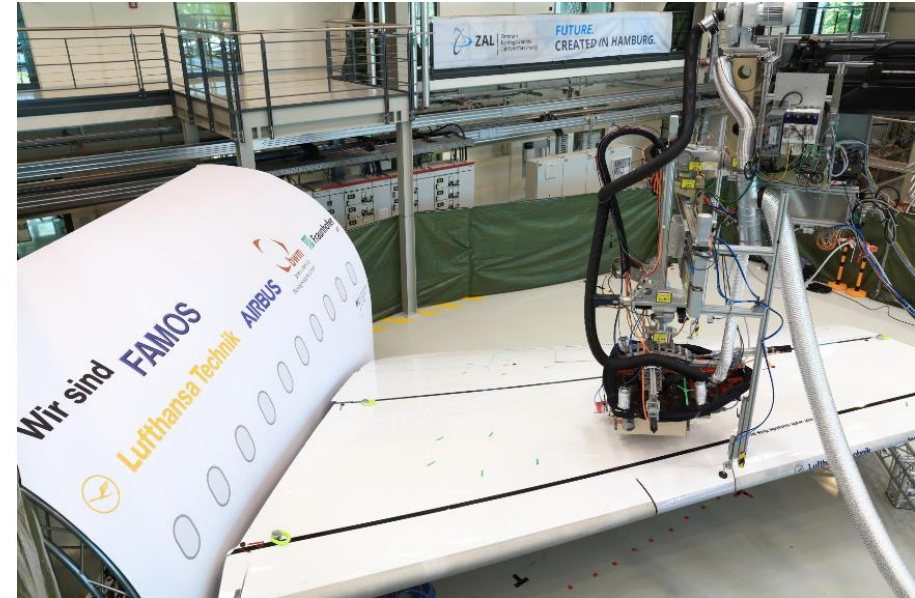
**Implementation  
& Testing**  
in near-industrial  
environment

2015



**“Full Scale System”**  
demonstrator in  
industrial environment

2017



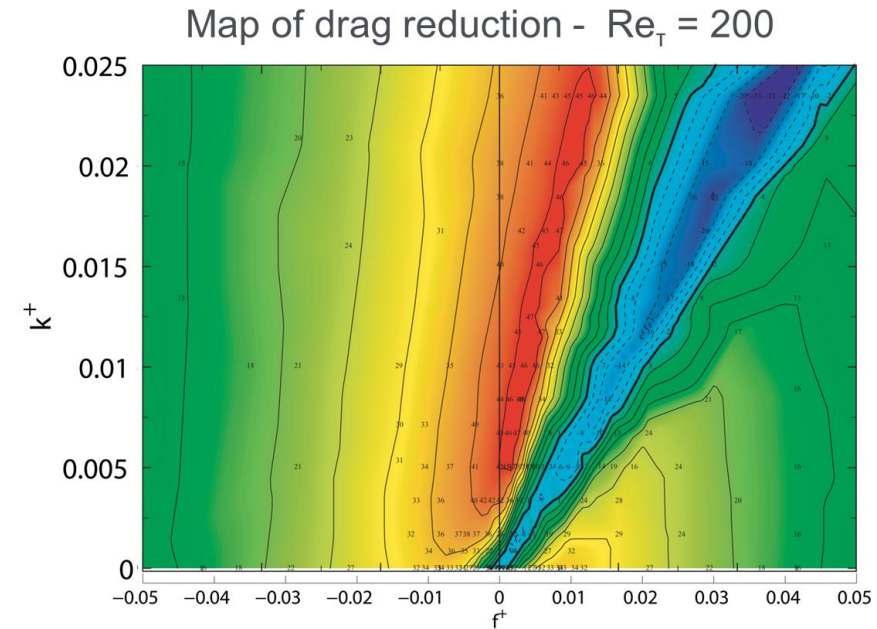
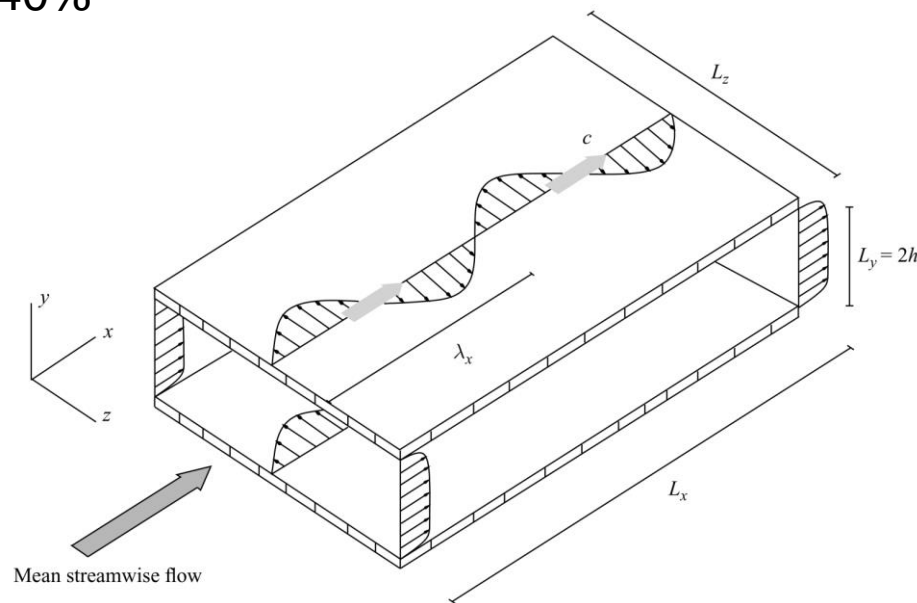
## Expected Benefits

**-1.5% fuel burn**  
dependent on aircraft type, mission,  
area applied and riblet efficiency

<https://airwaysmag.com/industry/airbus-new-technologies-reinvent-aircraft-manufacturing/>

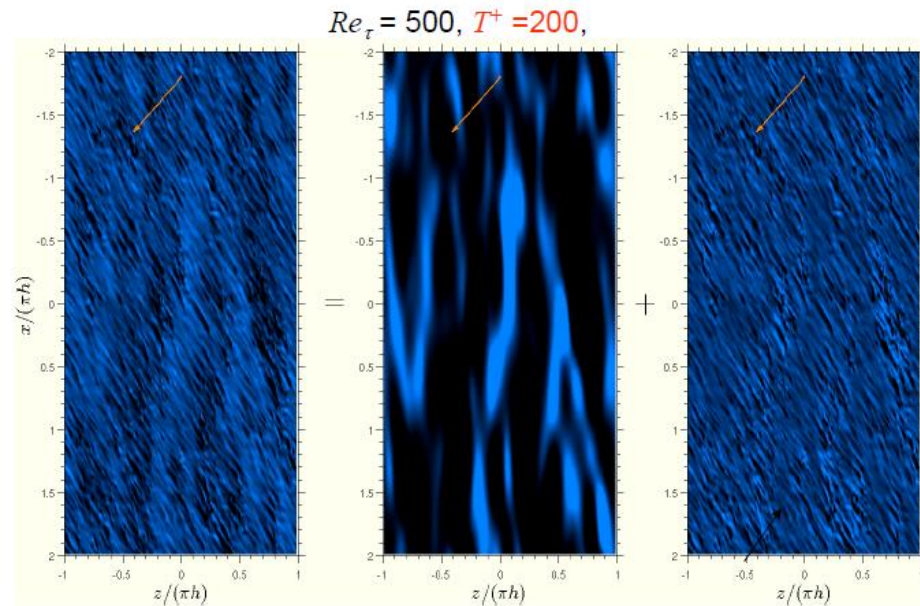
# New insights into Skin Friction Drag Reduction

Direct Numerical Simulation (DNS) of the production of turbulence has identified that spanwise wall motion can introduce significant reductions in skin friction drag – up to 40%



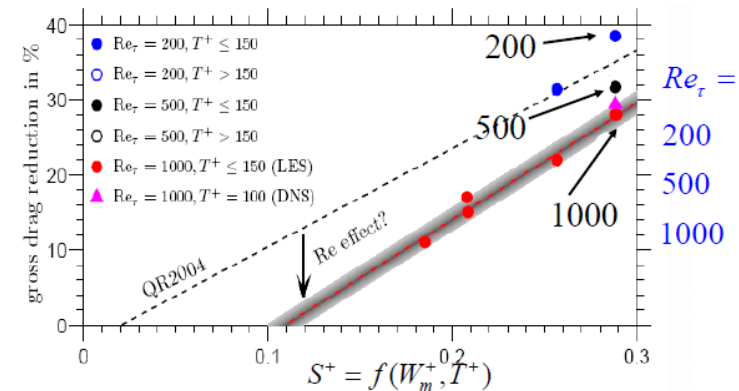
Quadrio (2009) "Streamwise-travelling waves of spanwise wall velocity for turbulent drag reduction"

# Scaling with Reynolds number and the role of the ‘Outer Layer’



- Near-wall structure dominated by streaks
- Modulation by outer large-scale motions
- Actuation suppresses near-wall streaks and turbulence

- Transverse motion generates unsteady Stokes layer
- Confined to  $y^+ \approx 20$  to be effective
- Ensured by  $T^+ \approx 100$
- Drag reduction, channel flow,  $Re_\tau = 200 \dots 1000$



$$\propto Re^{-0.2}$$

$$\Delta C_{f, \max} \approx$$

36%	} $T^+ = 100$
30%	
27%	

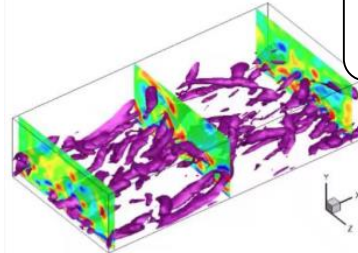
Touber & Leschziner,  
JFM 2012

M Leschnizer, S Chernyshenko D Lockerby Investigation of alternative drag-reduction strategies in turbulent boundary layers by using wall forcing EPSRC EP/G061556/1.

# New Enablers for Drag Reduction

These technology streams will continue their rapid development in future years independently of aerospace sector...

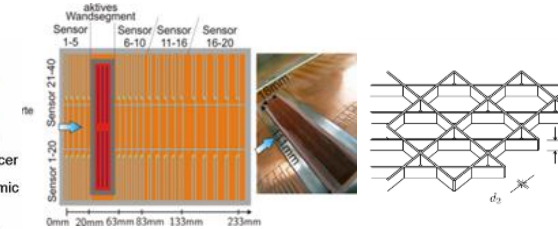
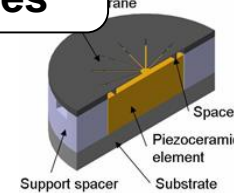
## Increased computing power



... can give us greater insight into the drag generating mechanisms in Turbulent boundary layers.

## Micro fabrication

### Experimental Techniques



... can give us the means to manipulate small scale Turbulent structures

***What new opportunities for drag reduction can these technologies deliver?***

***Can we identify future 'system' that could deliver a net saving in a 10-20 year timescale?***



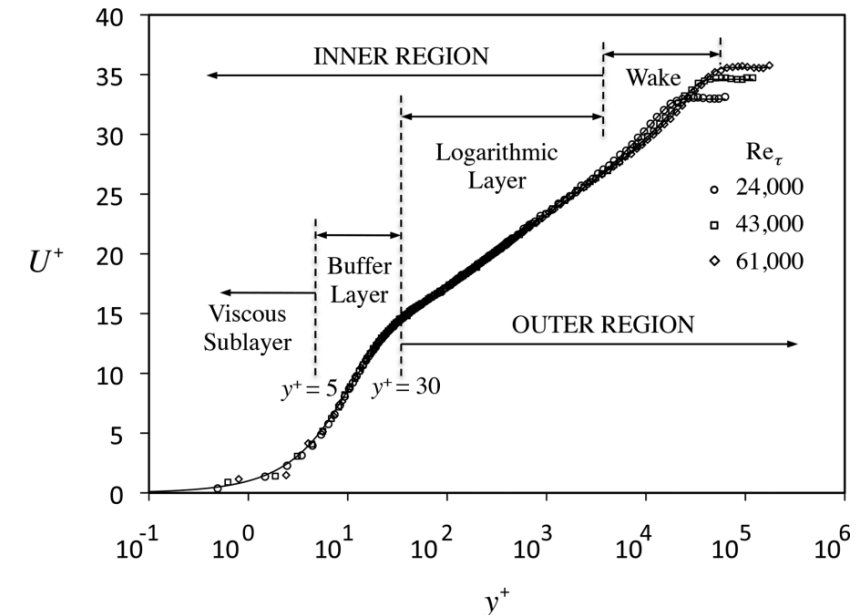
# Some things that cannot be (completely) forgotten

- For any technology that goes on the aircraft we must consider
  - Performance Readiness
    - *Does the technology deliver the necessary improvements in performance?*
  - Engineering Readiness
    - *Do we have the capabilities to deploy the technology on a real aircraft?*
  - Operational Readiness
    - *How will the technology fit into normal operation?*
  - Manufacturing Readiness
    - *Can the aircraft be built at a sufficient rate and quality?*
  - Value and Risk
    - *What are the risks associated with the technology and are they quantified?*
- If we are considering a technology far in the future some apparent ‘show stoppers’ can be overcome
  - But if some are impossible to overcome we must admit it!



# Some Questions to consider over the next few days ...

- Do we have any evidence today of a control concept that would be significantly better than riblets at aircraft scale  $Re$ .
  - *Significantly simpler to implement for a similar improvement or*
  - *Give a more effective net benefit*
- The outer layer's influence on drag increases with  $Re$  and cannot be ignored
  - Do we need to control the outer layer directly (or indirectly via the near wall)?
  - Is there a particular scale of turbulence that we need to control or must many scales be controlled?
- Have we any evidence today that control of outer layers can reduce drag?
- Do we foresee a SFDR concept that can give a net 'power' saving?
- Where could we be in (say) 10 years time in terms of:
  - $Re$  that can be achieved ('routinely') by DNS?
  - Experimental capabilities to support ground based demonstration?
  - System / Surface Fabrication to realise the control ?



Thank you