



Presented by

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Research, Methods & Tools



## SESAR projects 9.11 & 9.30

Aircraft systems for wake encounter alleviation



# Outline



- **Introduction – Background – Motivation**
- **Description of solutions**
- **Scope of projects**
- **Work share – schedule**
- **Interdependencies**
- **Summary - Outlook**

# Introduction



- **Two wake vortex related projects are contained in SESAR WP9 „Aircraft systems“:**
  - P9.11 – Aircraft systems for wake encounter alleviation
  - P9.30 – Weather Hazards/Wake vortex sensor
- **Both projects have been launched by the SESAR Joint Undertaking (SJU) in June 2010 after a successful project initiation phase in early 2010**

# Background - Motivation



- **Safe and efficient air transport requires adequate aircraft separation**
  - For collision avoidance (incl. runway occupancy constraints)
  - For avoidance of severe wake turbulence encounters
- **Very few wake-related accidents to commercial transport aircraft but**
  - Number of events expected to increase with the increasing traffic density
  - Current horizontal separation minima in cruise may lead to strong encounters
- **Current wake turbulence separations are limiting air transport capacity**
- **Complementary mitigation strategies allow to safely reduce wake turbulence separation requirements:**
  - Benign vortex aerodynamic design
  - New ATM concepts (e.g. weather-dependent and/or pair-wise separations)
  - Ground-based wake prediction & monitoring systems
  - On-board wake encounter prediction, alerting & avoidance systems
  - On-board wake encounter alleviation systems

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  - On-board wake encounter prediction, alerting & avoidance systems → 9.11
  - On-board wake encounter alleviation systems → 9.30

- On-board systems for the prevention of severe wake encounters:

## Wake Encounter Prevention System (WEPS)

Two interacting & complementary system solutions:

(1) On-board wake encounter prediction, alerting & avoidance system

### WEPS-P (Prediction to Avoid) P9.11

- ▶ Identification of potential wake encounters based on air-to-air data link and model-based wake prediction
- ▶ Determination of small-scale, short-term avoidance maneuvers

(2) On-board wake encounter alleviation system enabled by detection

### WEPS-C (Control to Alleviate) P9.30

- ▶ Alleviation of wake encounter upsets through dedicated flight control function
- ▶ More robust, less vulnerable aircraft
- ▶ Based on current and new air data sensors, including forward-looking LiDAR

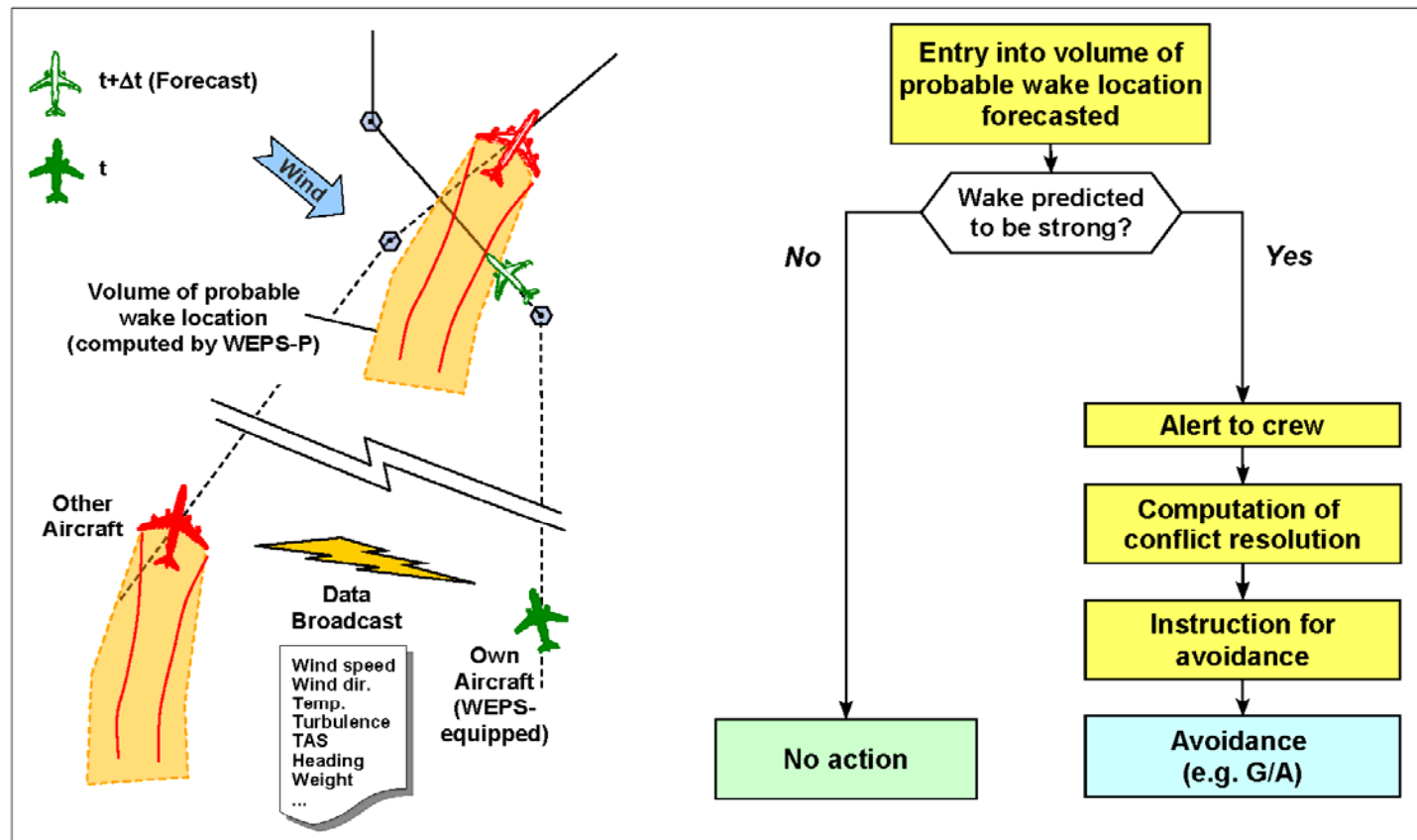
## Wake Encounter Prevention System (WEPS)

**WEPS-P (Prediction to Avoid) P9.11**

# WEPS-P – Scetch of operational principle



- Model-based prediction, alerting & avoidance – all flight phases



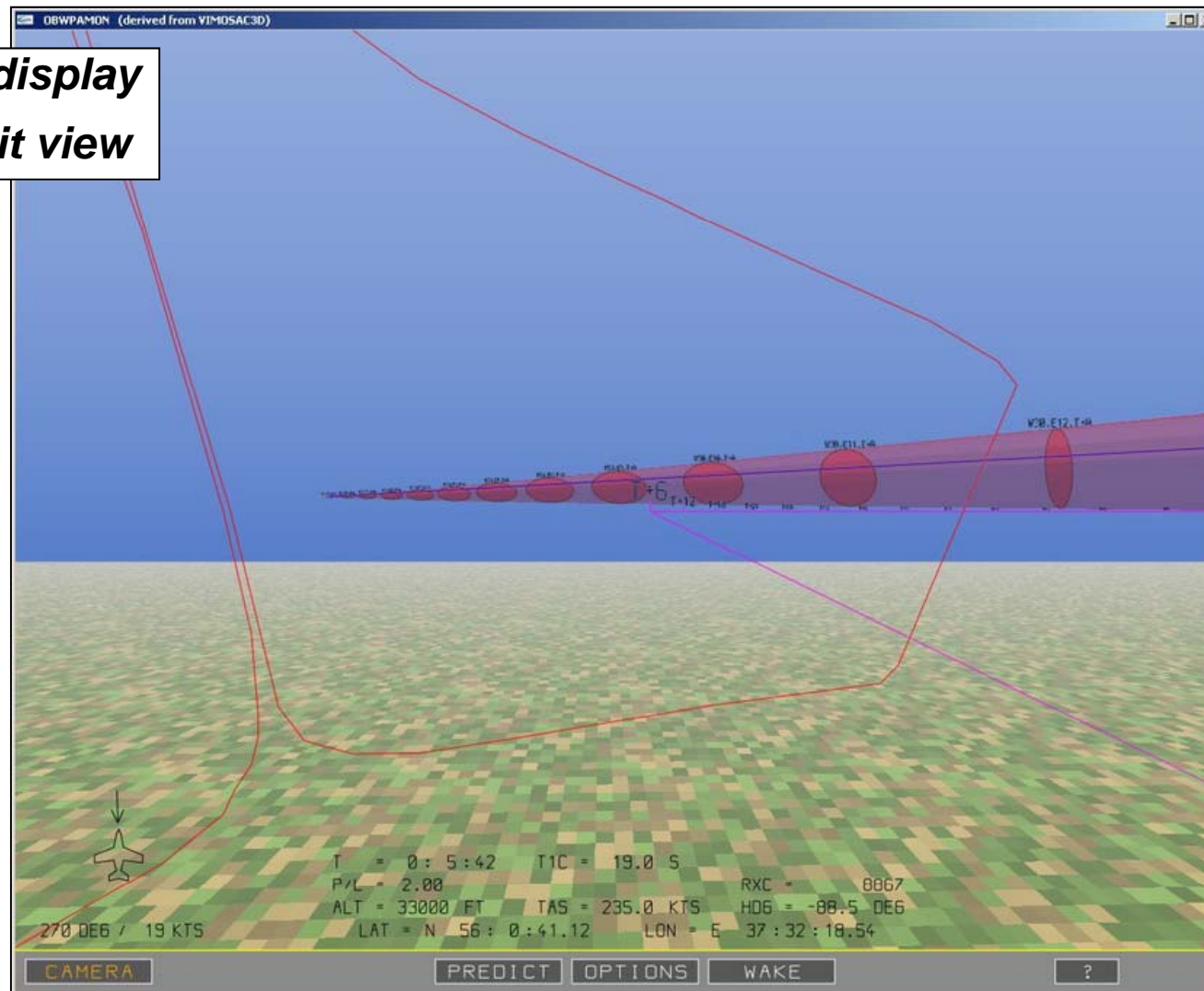


# WEPS-P – Scetch of operational principle



- Model-based prediction, alerting & avoidance – all flight phases

**Engineering display  
Out-of-cockpit view**

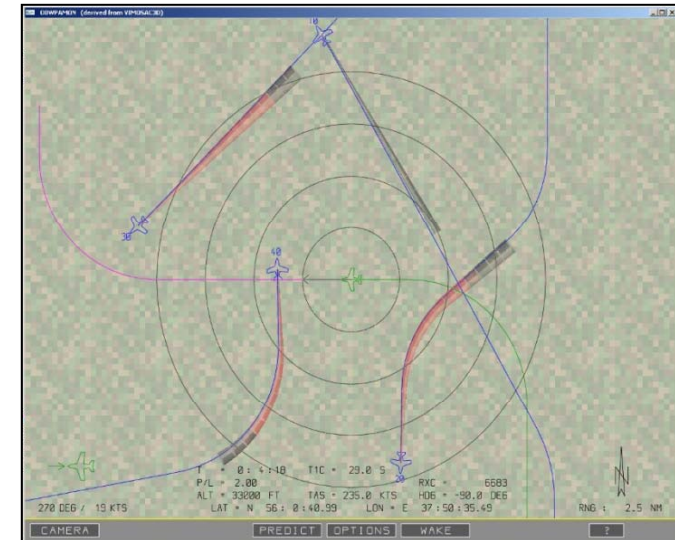


# WEPS-P – Specific sub-functions



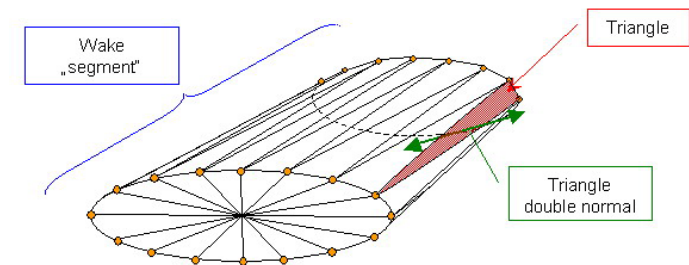
- **Prediction of evolution of wakes of surrounding aircraft enabled by**

- ▶ Probabilistic wake prediction models
- ▶ Broadcast of traffic and meteo data to WEPS-equipped A/C via ADS-B data link or comparable



- **Conflict Detection**

- ▶ Detection of conflict between intended flight path and predicted zone of wake location
- ▶ Decision for Alerting/Avoidance using encounter severity metrics developed and validated in P6.8.1

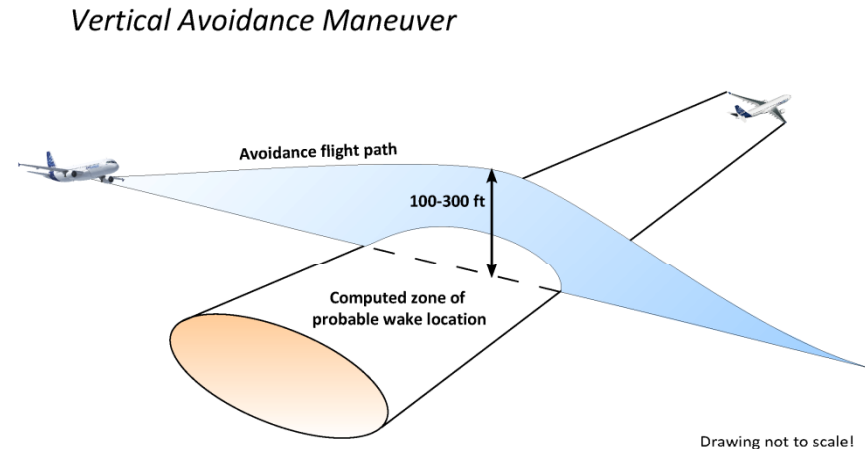


# WEPS-P – Specific sub-functions



- **Conflict Resolution**

- ▶ Vertical avoidance manoeuvre
- ▶ Lateral avoidance manoeuvre
- ▶ Vert. + Lat. avoidance manoeuvre
- ▶ Speed adjustment
- ▶ Go-Around



- **Human Machine Interface & Human Factors**

- ▶ Presentation of information to the pilots
- ▶ Alerting logic

- **System interfaces**

- ▶ Interaction with existing surveillance systems
- ▶ Inputs from other airborne systems



## Wake Encounter Prevention System (WEPS)

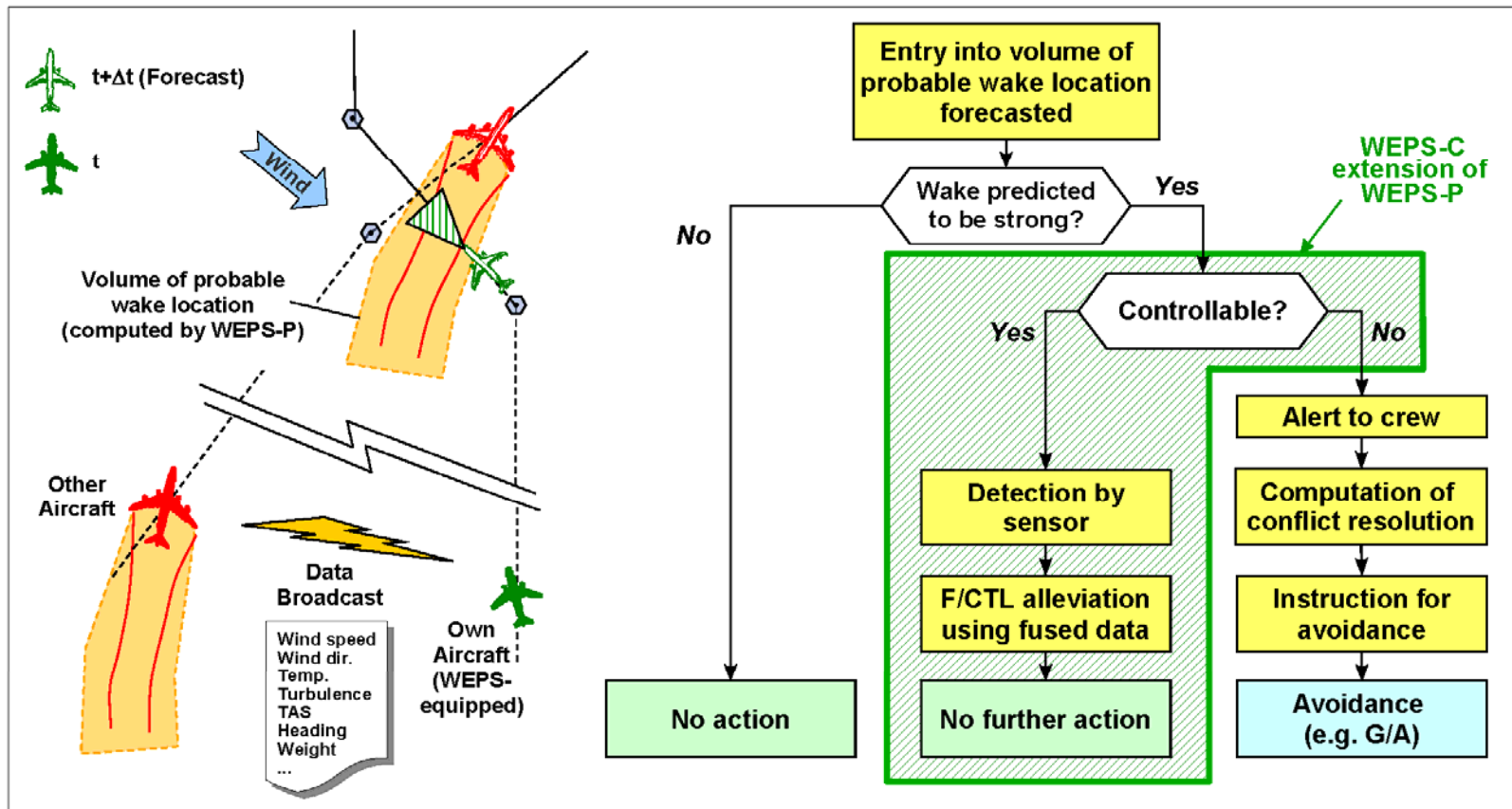
**WEPS-C (Control to Alleviate)**

**P9.30**

# WEPS-C – Scetch of operational principle



- Encounter alleviation system enabled by detection – all flight phases



► WEPS-C is an extension of WEPS-P functionality

# WEPS-C – Specific sub-functions



- **Alleviation flight control**
  - ▶ Today's Fly-by-Wire flight control already reduces the effect of a wake encounter
  - ▶ Further improvement of alleviation of wake encounter effects deemed possible
  - ▶ Different, new and dedicated control strategies are enabled if
    - Type of disturbance is known (through WEPS-P)
    - Measurement of disturbance can be improved (e.g. through new sensors)
- **New, forward-looking sensor**
  - ▶ Short-range, forward-looking LiDAR sensor capable of measuring line-of-sight velocity at several points in front of the aircraft
- **Human-Machine Interface & Human Factors**
  - ▶ Definition of pilot - flight control interaction
  - ▶ Mode annunciation

# WEPS – Expected Benefits

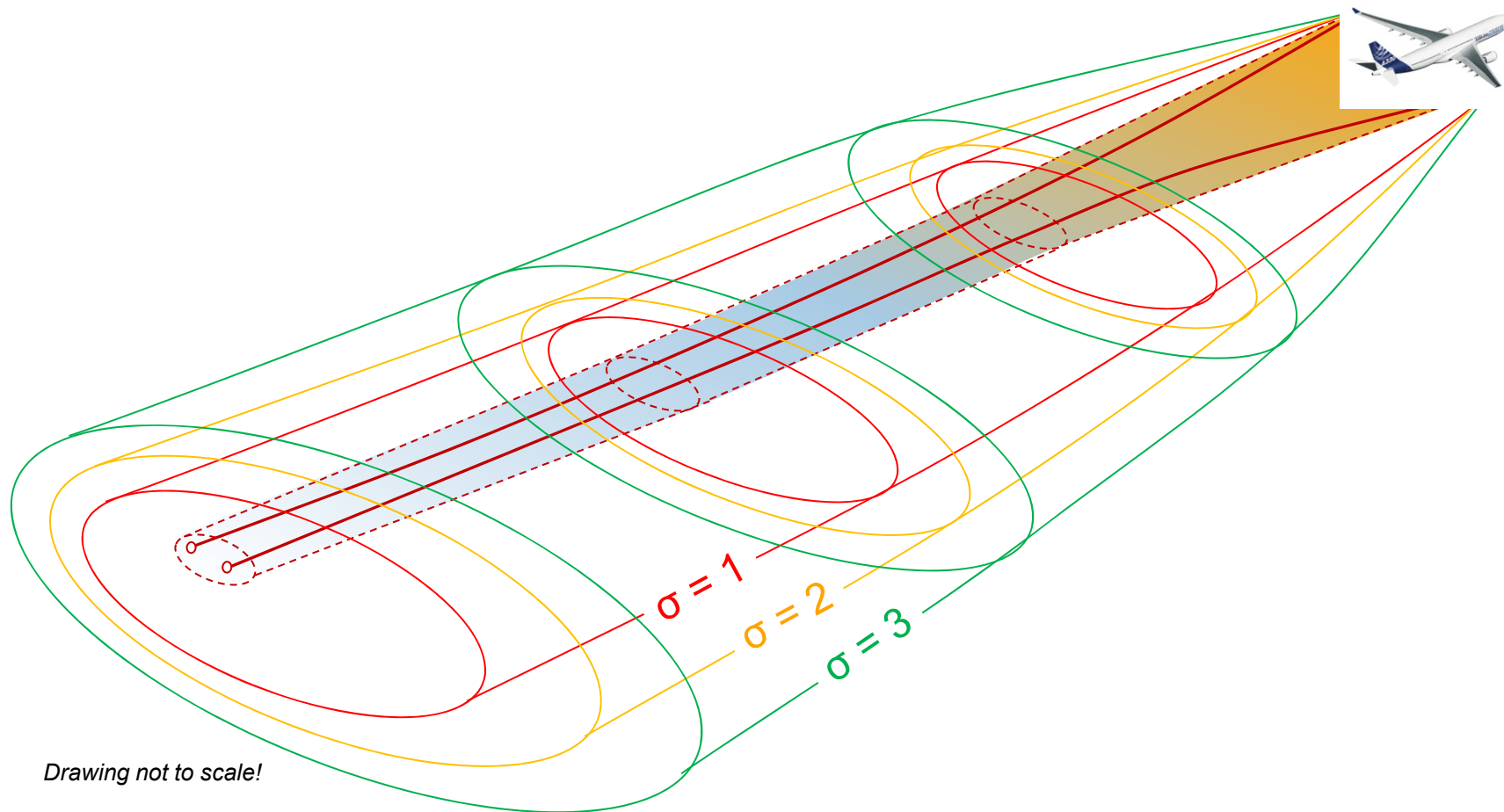


- **Solution delivers benefits in two main areas:**
  - ▶ **SAFETY**
    - By providing the means to predict an imminent wake encounter and determining an avoidance maneuver, the solution directly contributes to safety by reducing the number of wake encounter incidents
  - ▶ **CAPACITY**
    - When integrated into an appropriate new separation scheme, the solution allows reduced wake-related separations for equipped aircraft, thus directly contributing to runway capacity increases.

# WEPS – Expected Benefits



- **WEPS-P (prediction to avoid):**
  - ▶ Probabilistic prediction with uncertainty



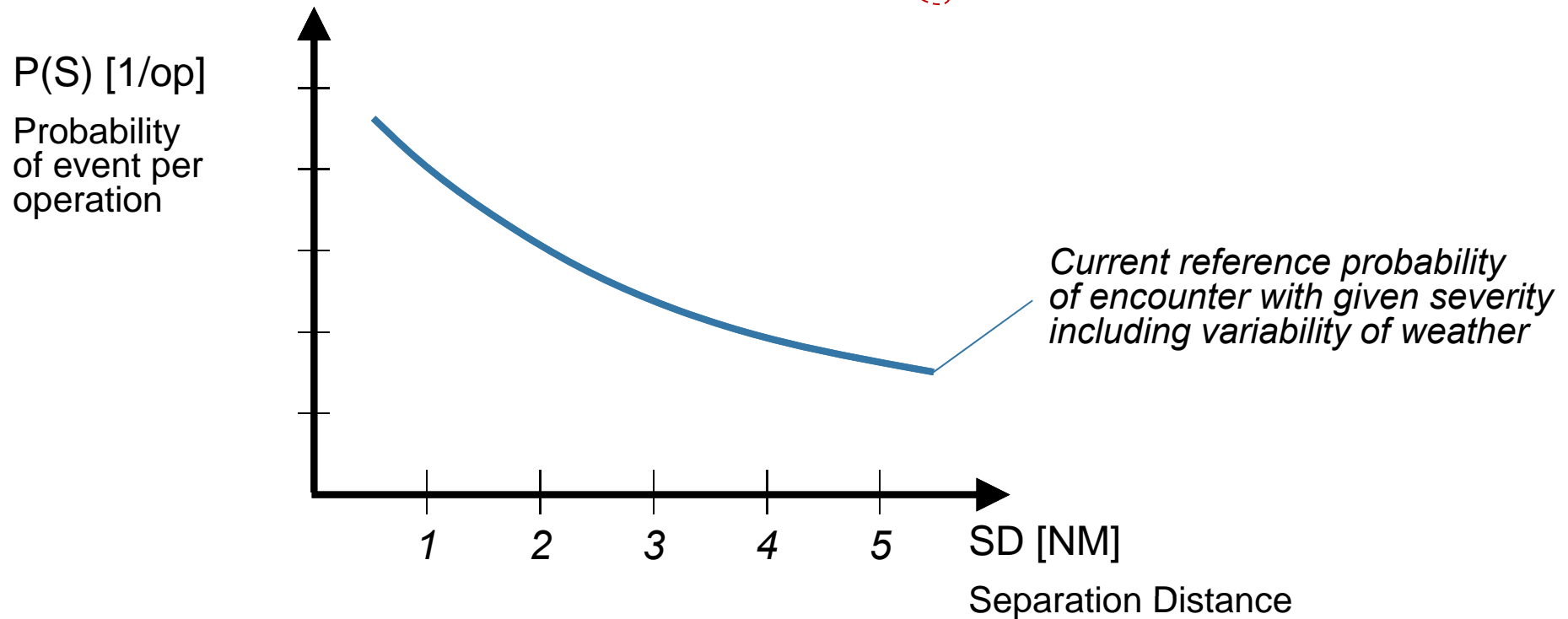
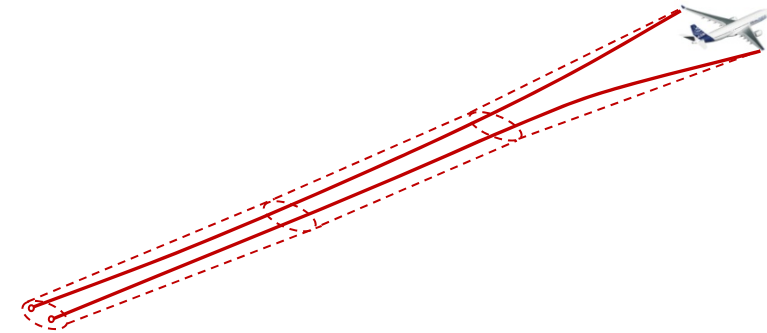
*Drawing not to scale!*



# WEPS – Expected Benefits



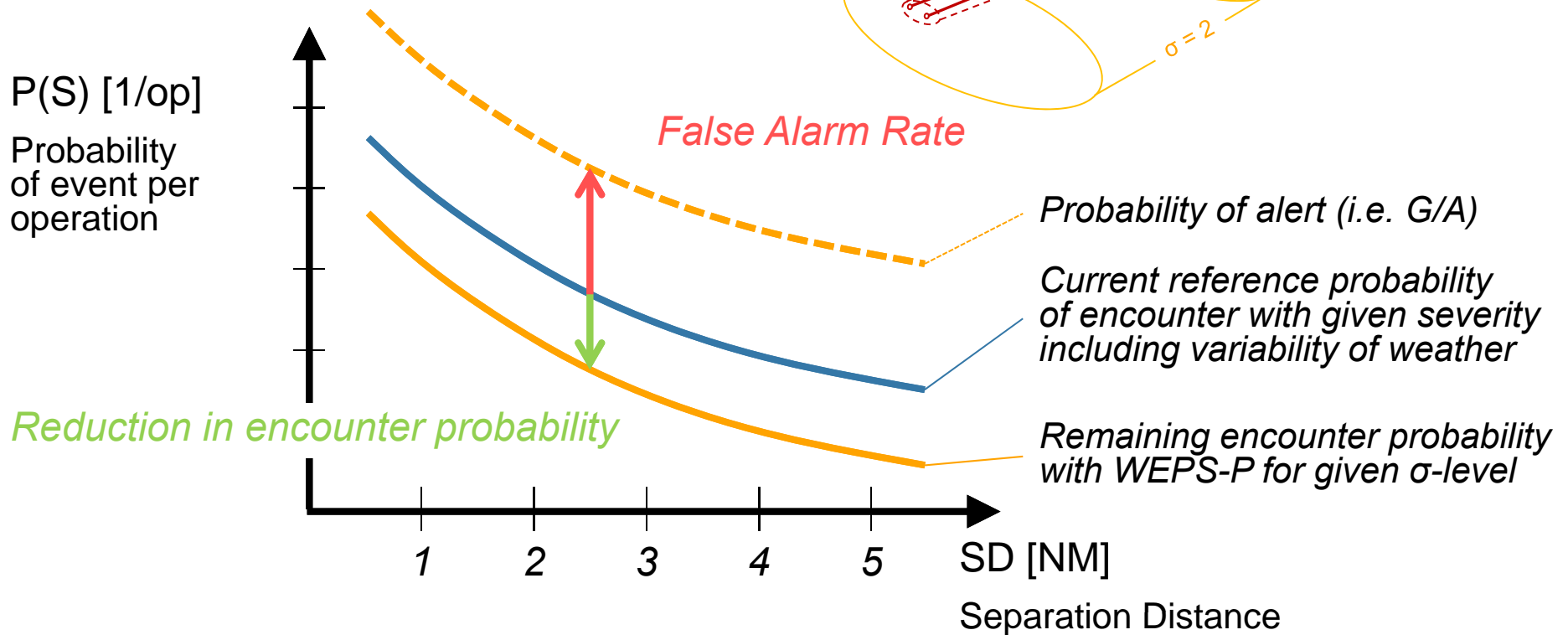
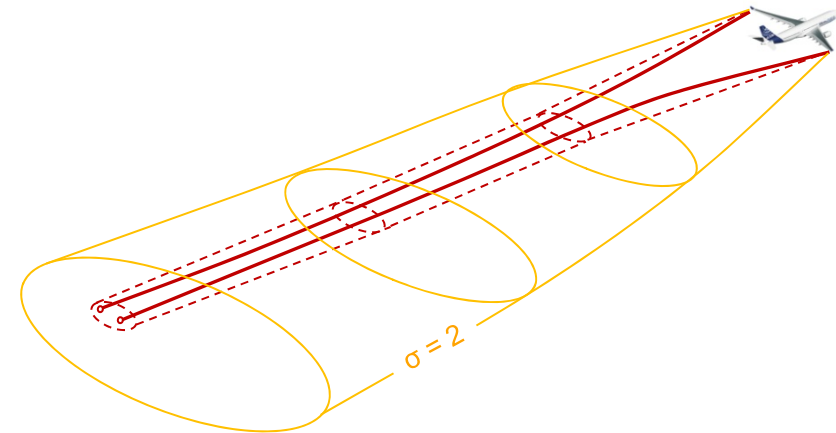
- **WEPS-P (prediction to avoid):**
  - ▶ Capacity gain vs. number of alerts



# WEPS – Expected Benefits



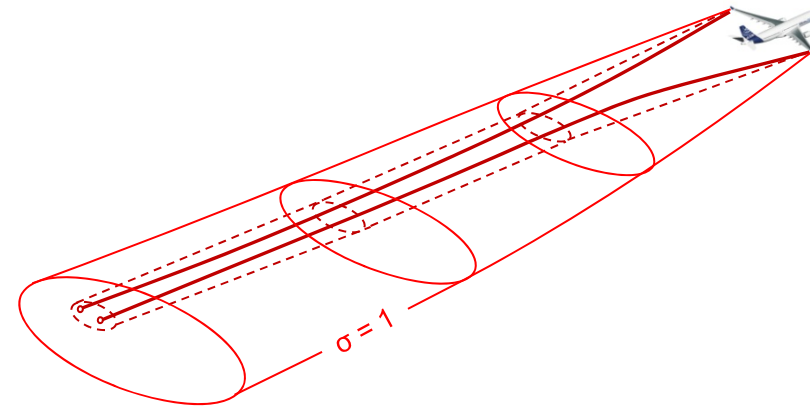
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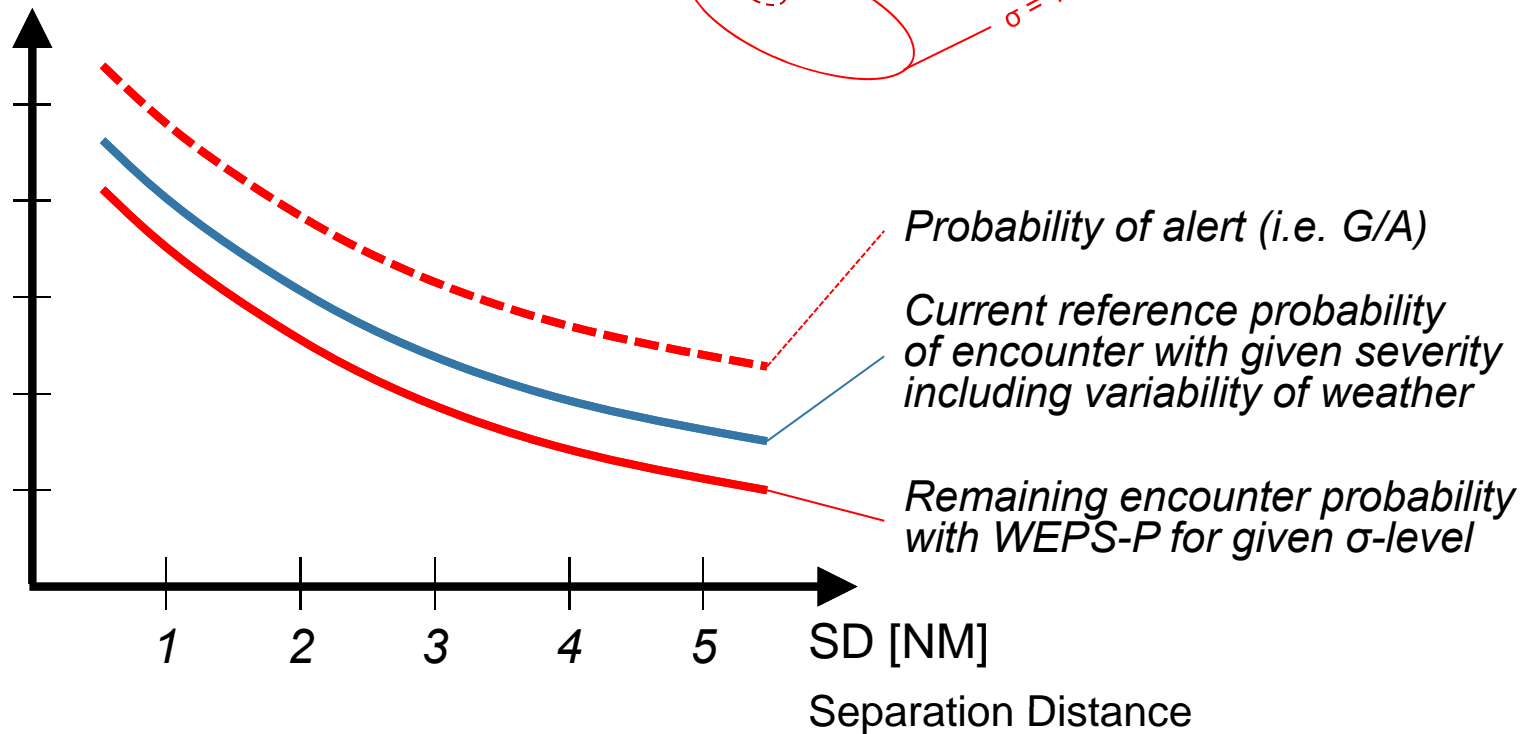
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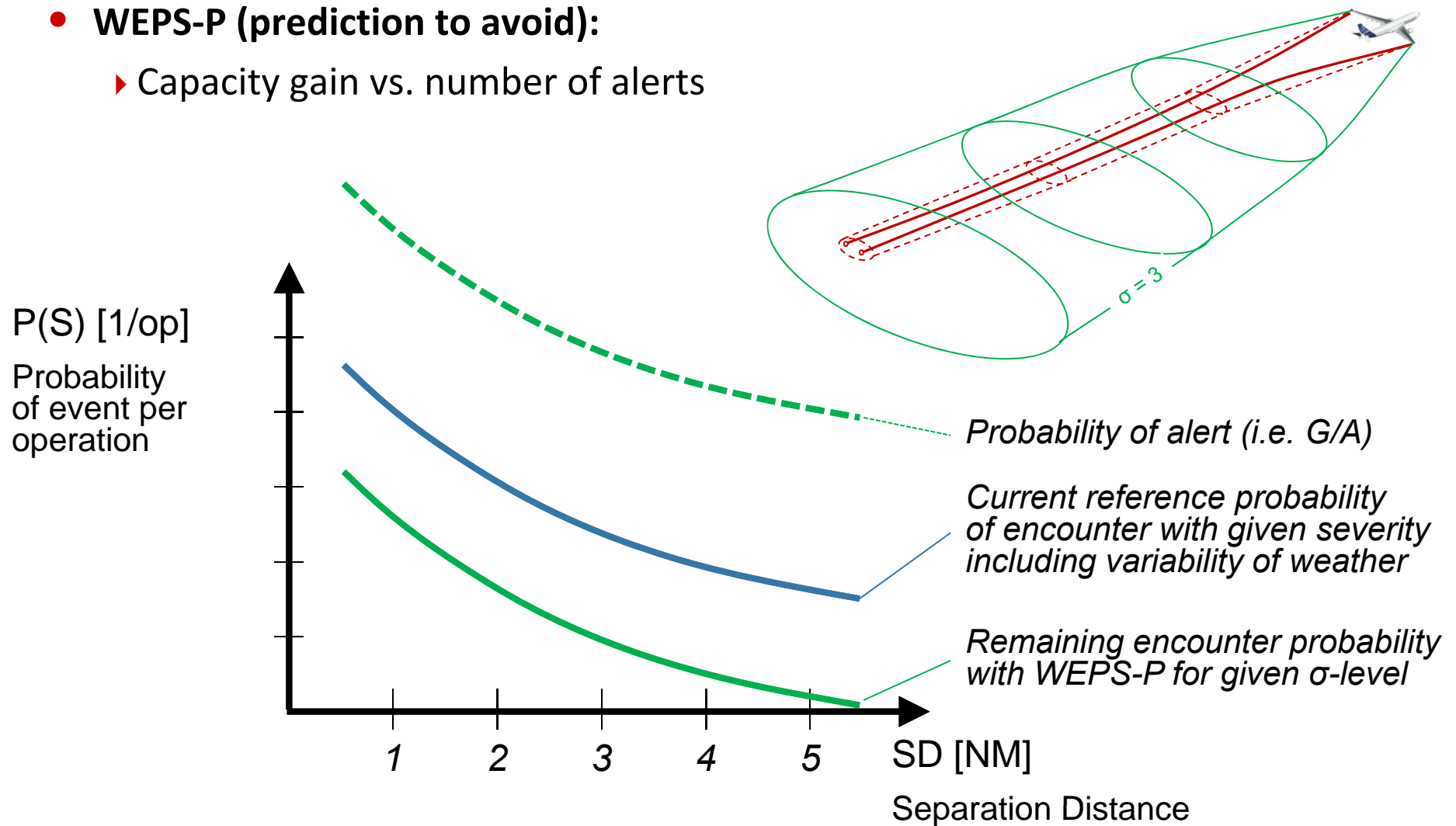
$P(S)$  [1/op]  
Probability  
of event per  
operation



# WEPS – Expected Benefits



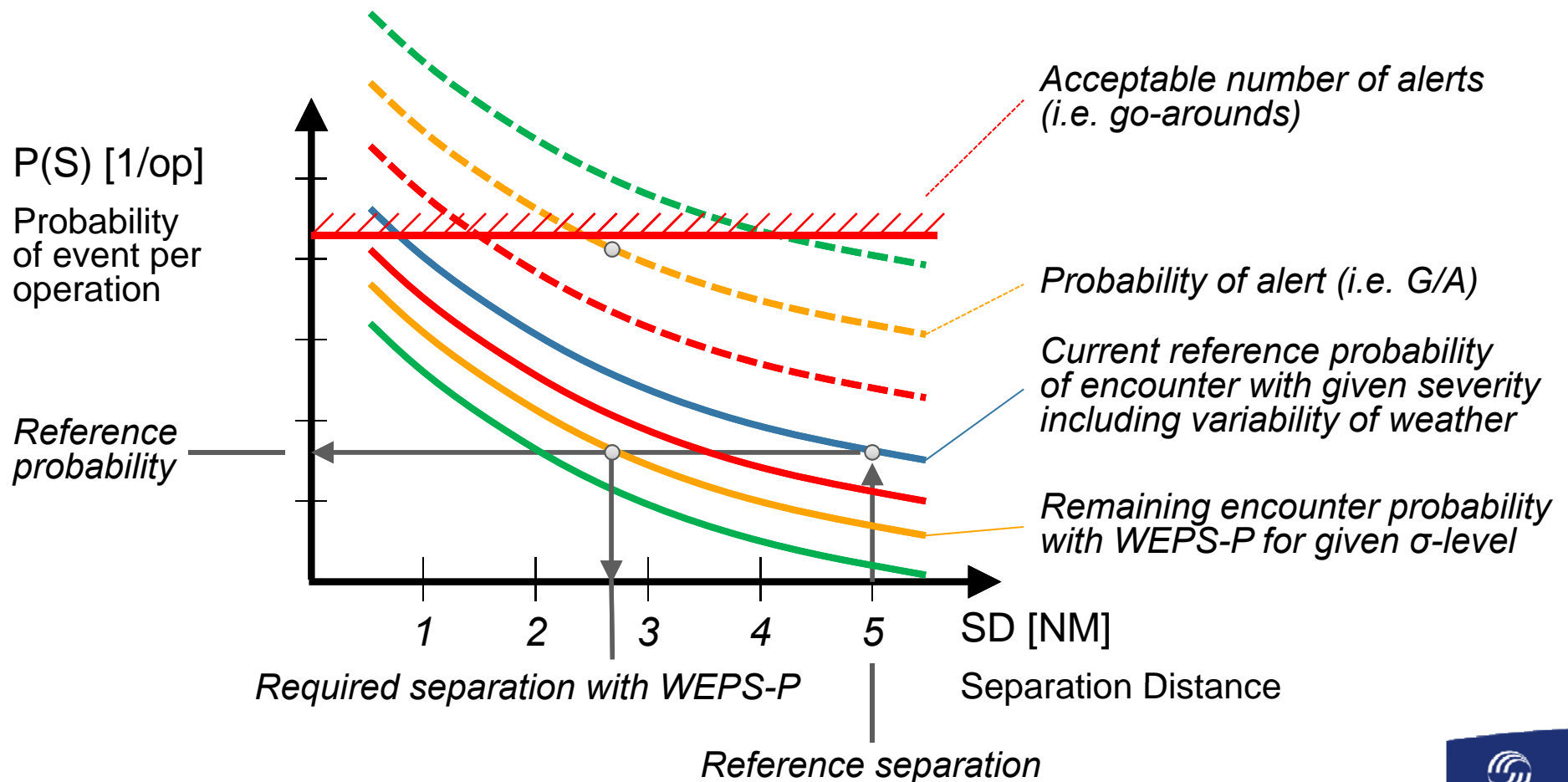
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# WEPS – Expected Benefits

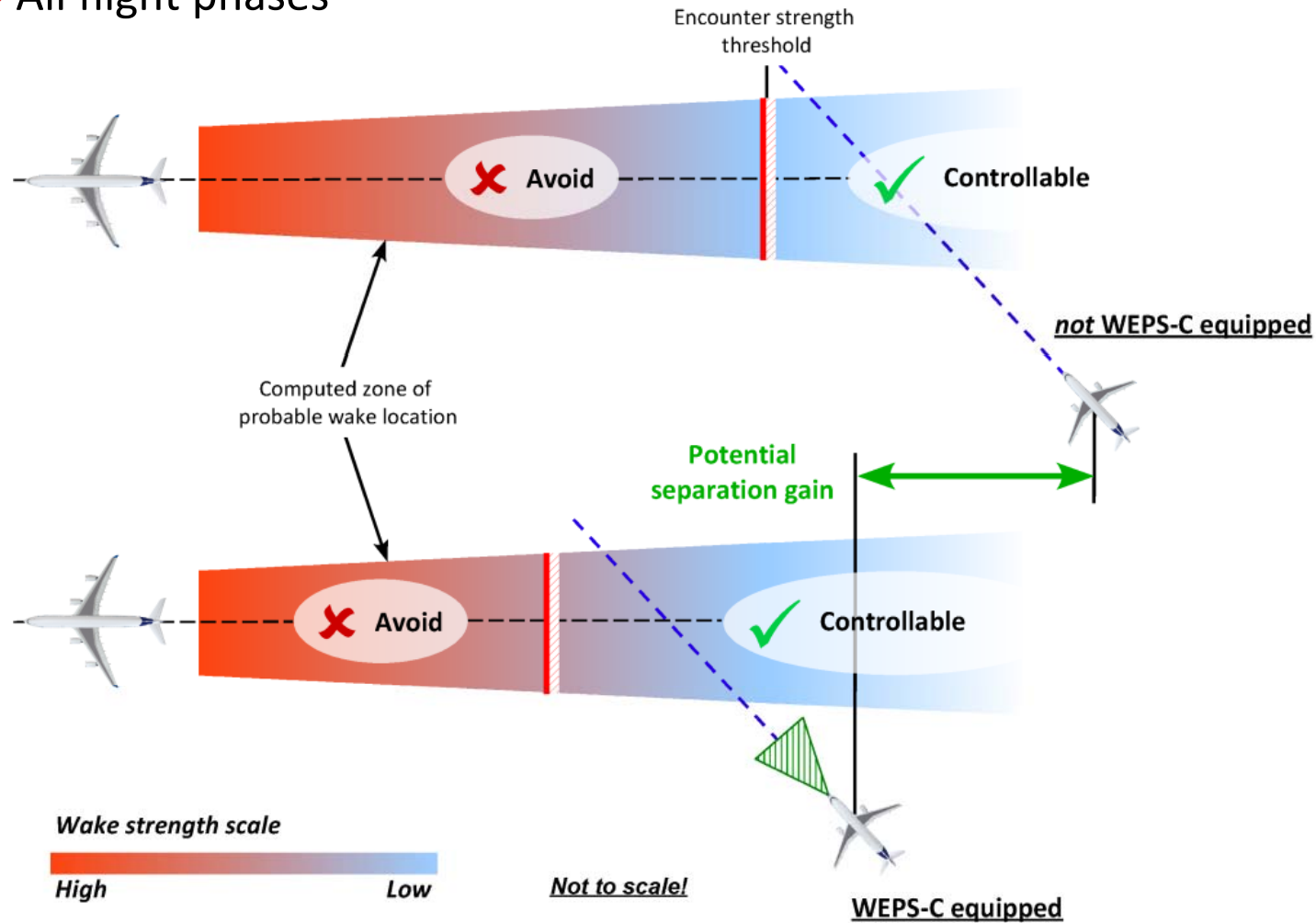


- **WEPS-P (prediction to avoid):**
  - ▶ Capacity gain vs. number of alerts



# WEPS – Expected Benefits

- **WEPS-C : Additional capacity gain through alleviating flight control**
  - ▶ All flight phases



# WEPS – Specific issues



- **Meteo data fusion onboard the WEPS-equipped aircraft**
  - ▶ Accuracy of the weather data received by surrounding a/c impacts the wake prediction algorithm – sensitivity?
- **Traffic data fusion onboard the WEPS-equipped aircraft**
  - ▶ Accuracy of the traffic data received impacts the conflict detection
- **Integration with existing Collision Warning/Avoidance systems**
  - ▶ WEPS must not lead to TCAS/EGPWS and other alerts
- **Integration with Flight Guidance and/or Autopilot systems**
  - ▶ How will the avoidance manoeuvre be initiated/performed?  
Manual/automatic guidance?

# WEPS – Specific issues



- **Sensor capabilities**
  - ▶ Which sensor capabilities (accuracy, number of measurements, frequency of measurements...) are necessary for an efficient alleviation flight control?
  - ▶ When are those sensor capabilities available?
- **Operational procedures**
  - ▶ How would the selected alleviation strategy impact cockpit procedures?
- **Safety and benefit assessment**
  - ▶ Scope of modeling required for certification



# SESAR 9.11 & 9.30 – Scope

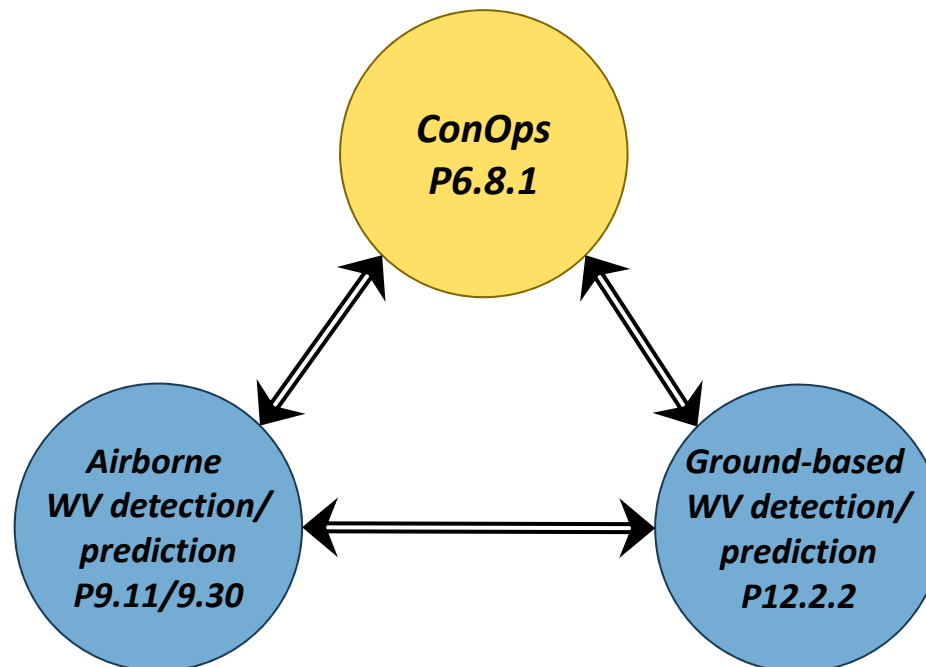


- **Develop and explore the concepts with regard to operational feasibility, benefits and acceptance:**
  - ▶ Concept of Operations
  - ▶ HMI and operating procedures
  - ▶ Human Factors
  - ▶ System integration & certification aspects
- **Target Levels of Maturity:**
  - ▶ Advance WEPS-P & WEPS-C to TRL6 (End of R&T)
  - ▶ Integration into verification & validation platforms and means
  - ▶ Evaluation of system level behaviour and performance on validation platforms (incl. research flight simulator)
  - ▶ Validation of functions with flight test results

# SESAR 9.11 & 9.30 – Interdependencies



- **Both projects are closely related to**
  - ▶ P6.8.1 "Flexible and Dynamic Use of Wake Turbulence Separations"
    - develops ConOps taking into account ground-based and onboard solutions
  - ▶ P12.2.2 "Runway WV detection, prediction and decision support tools"
    - develops ground-based wake prediction & detection solutions



# SESAR 9.11 & 9.30 – Interdependencies

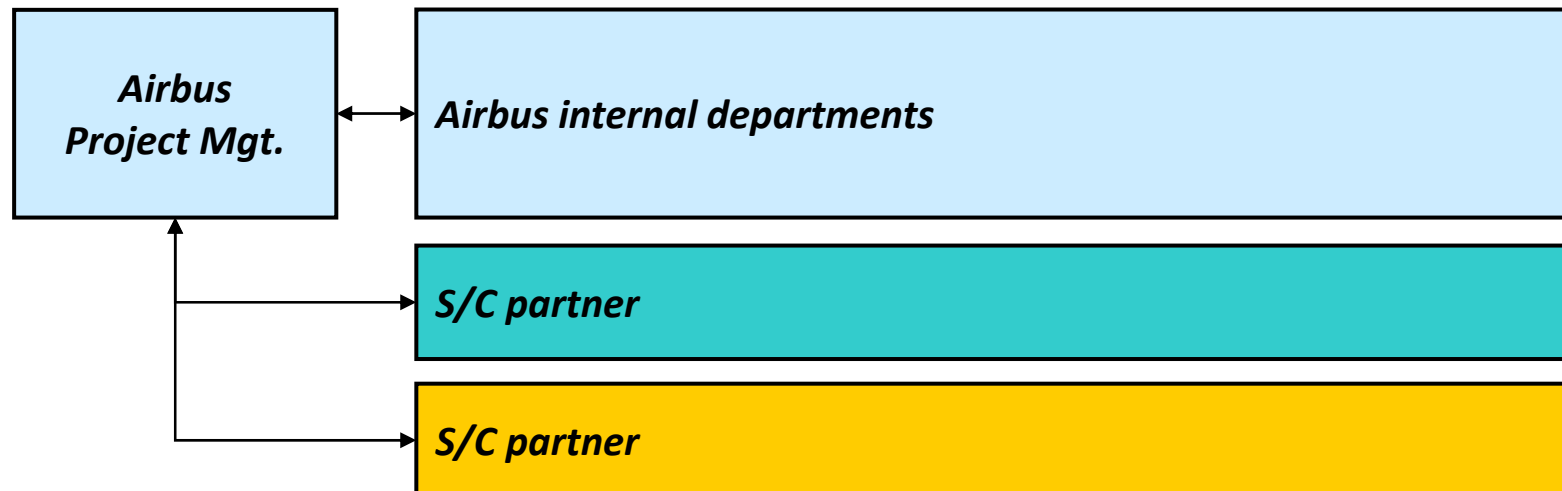


- **Additional interdependencies with other SESAR projects, e.g:**
  - ▶ P9.21/9.22 ADS-B capabilities evolution
  - ▶ P9.47 New TCAS evolution
  - ▶ WP 4/5 Consideration of solution in high-level en-route and TMA concepts
- **Links outside SESAR include:**
  - ▶ Standardization bodies (RTCA, EUROCAE)
  - ▶ ICAO Wake Vortex Study Group
  - ▶ LiDAR sensor manufacturers
  - ▶ WakeNet
  - ▶ GreenWake project

# SESAR 9.11 & 9.30 – Workshare



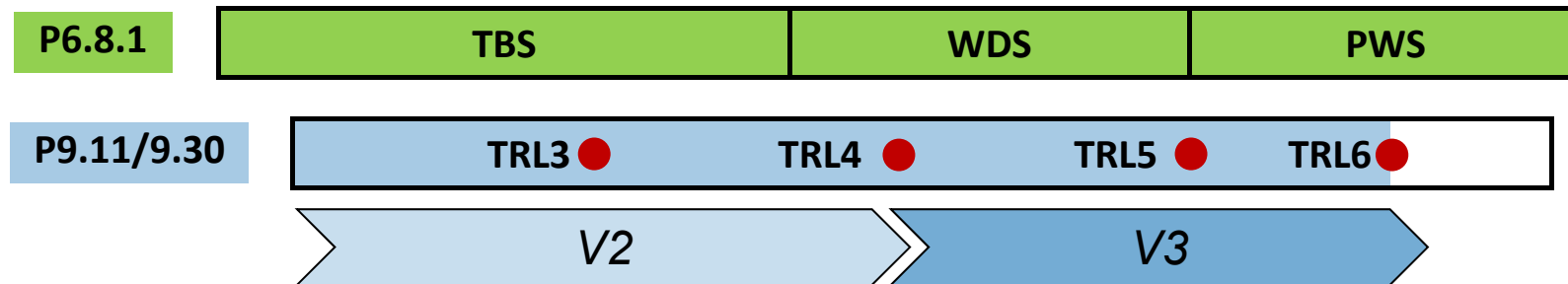
- **Airbus is sole project member in both projects**
- **Several Airbus departments contributing to projects**
  - ▶ Cockpit Functions
  - ▶ Human Factors
  - ▶ Communication/Navigation/Surveillance
  - ▶ Flight & Integrations tests ...
- **Some specific tasks will be subcontracted to external partners**



# SESAR 9.11 & 9.30 – Global schedule



- **Projects follow**
  - ▶ a TRL schedule
  - ▶ the E-OCVM validation lifecycles
- **Major interaction with P6.8.1 foreseen in definition of Pairwise Dynamic Separation concept (PWS)**



**TBS:** *Time-Based Separations*

**TRL:** *Technology Readiness Level*

**WDS:** *Weather-Dependent Separations*

**PWS:** *Pair-Wise Separations*

# Summary & Outlook



- **SESAR projects 9.11 & 9.30 will develop an airborne system that helps**
  - ▶ Improving wake turbulence safety in all phases of flight
  - ▶ Enabling more efficient wake turbulence separation schemes
- **Projects specifically address**
  - ▶ Operational concepts
  - ▶ Technical feasibility and maturity
  - ▶ Validation of safety and capacity gains
- **Outlook**
  - ▶ Evaluate extended operational concepts and adaptation of functions in support of other separation systems like ASAS



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