

## 2013-gupta-Presentation-tn8782

The Spot and Runway Departure Advisor (SARDA) is an integrated decision support tool for airlines and air traffic control tower enabling surface collaborative decision making (CDM) and departure metering in order to enhance efficiency of surface operations at congested airports. The presentation describes the concept and architecture of the SARDA as a CDM tool, and the results from a human-in-the-loop simulation of the tool conducted in 2012 at the FutureFlight Central, the tower simulation facility. Also, presented is the current activities and future plan for SARDA development. The presentation was given at the meeting with the FAA senior advisor of the Surface Operations Office.

# **SARDA: An Integrated Concept for Airport Surface Operations Management**

**SARDA Team**

**NASA Ames Research Center**

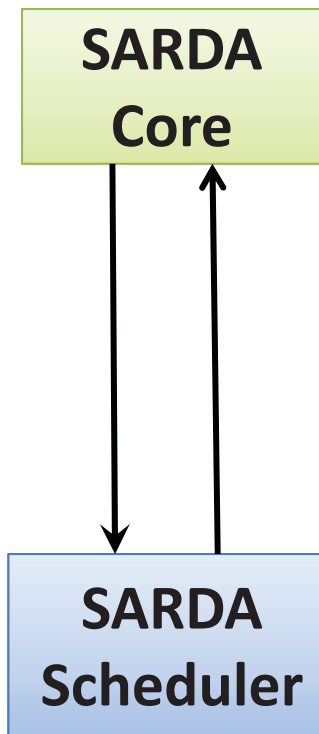
**March 7, 2013**

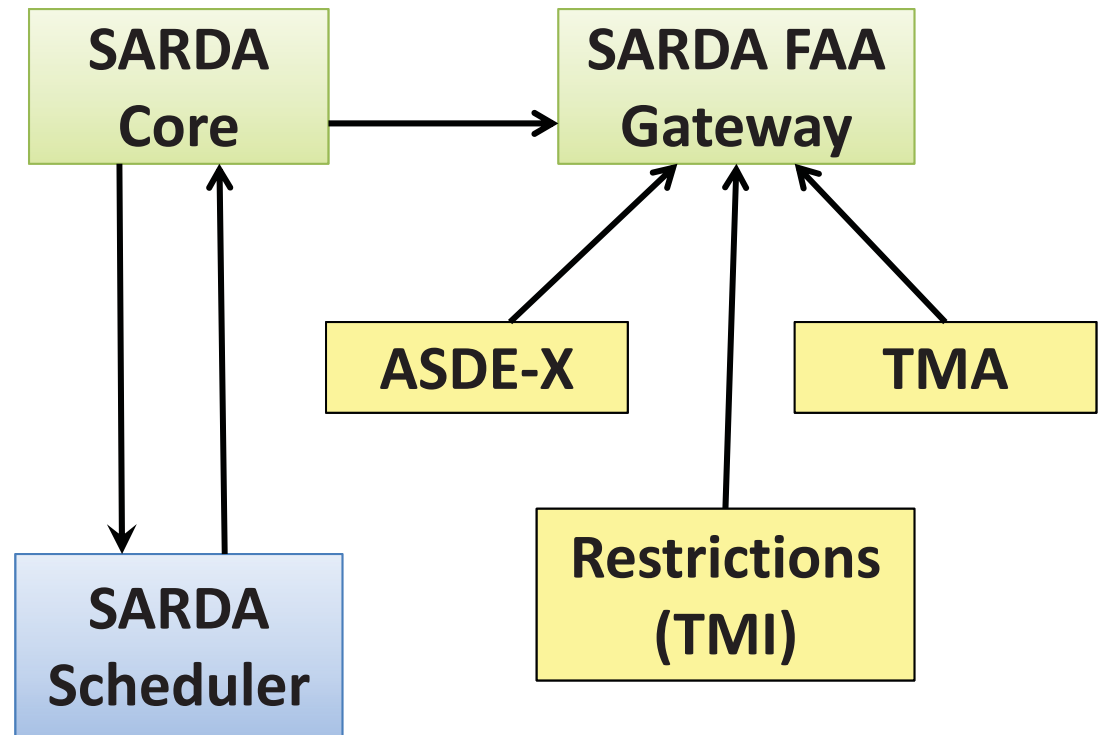


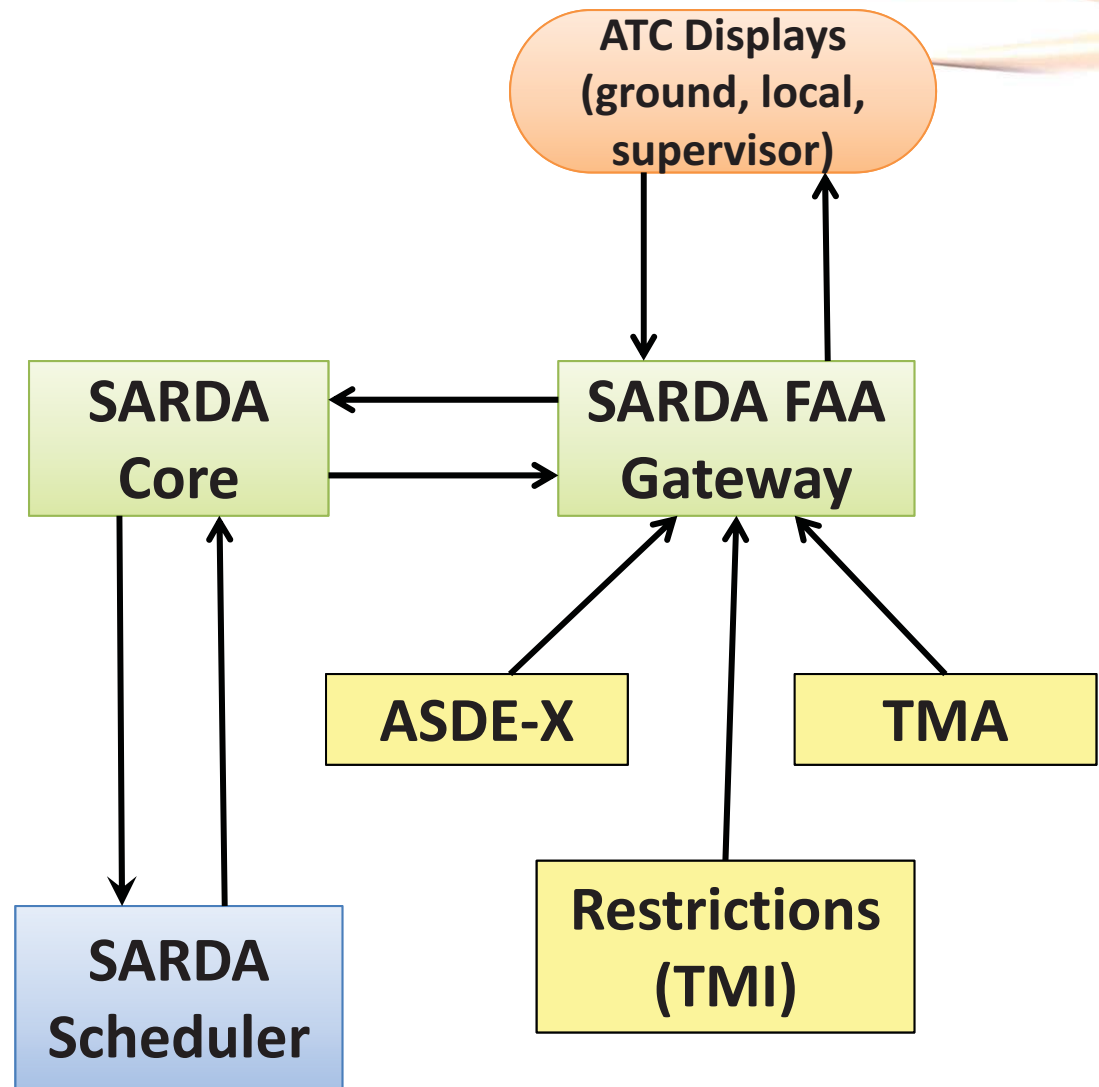
# Spot And Runway Departure Advisor (SARDA)



- Integrated tool for airlines and Air Traffic Control Tower enabling CDM and departure metering

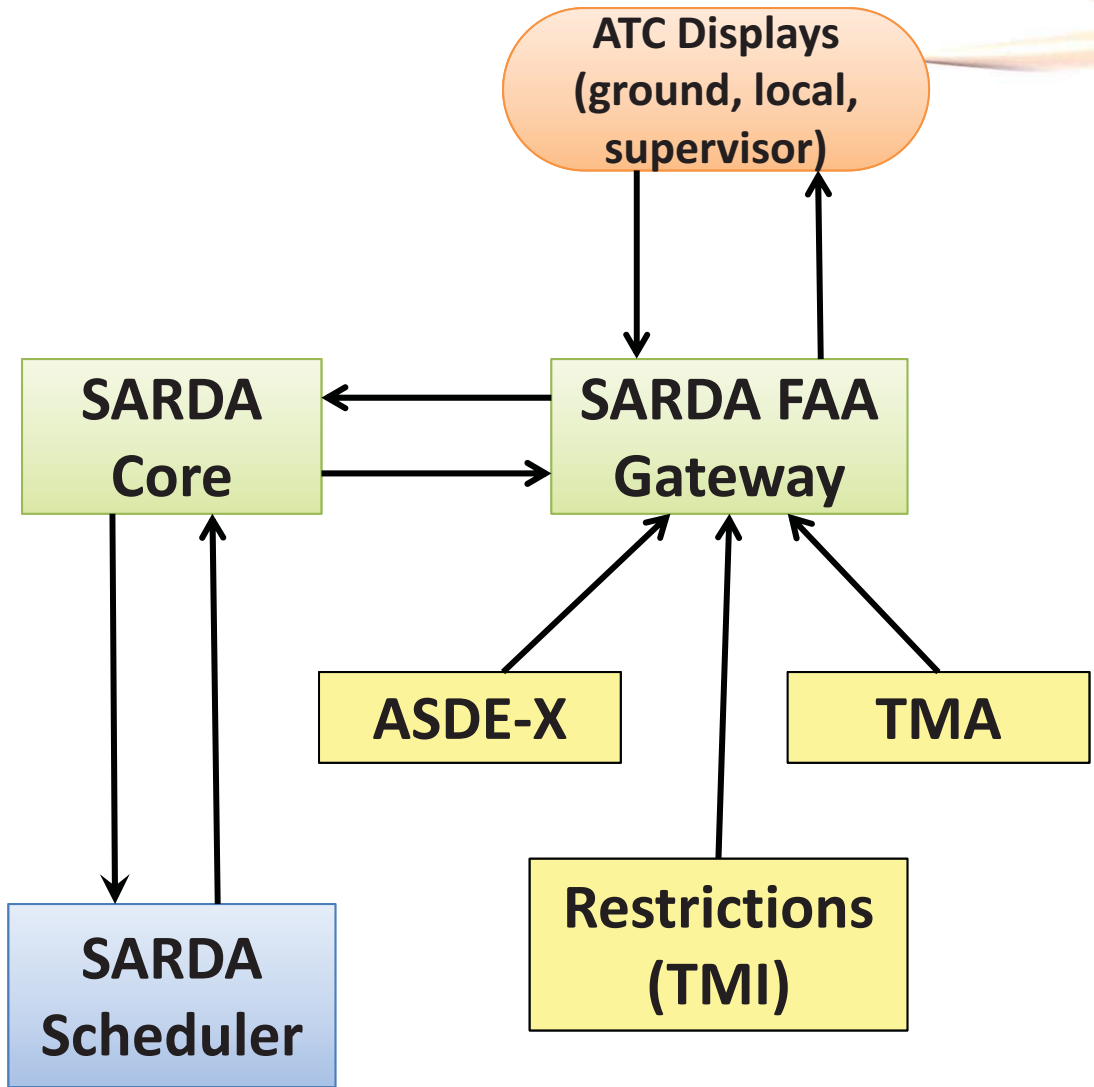


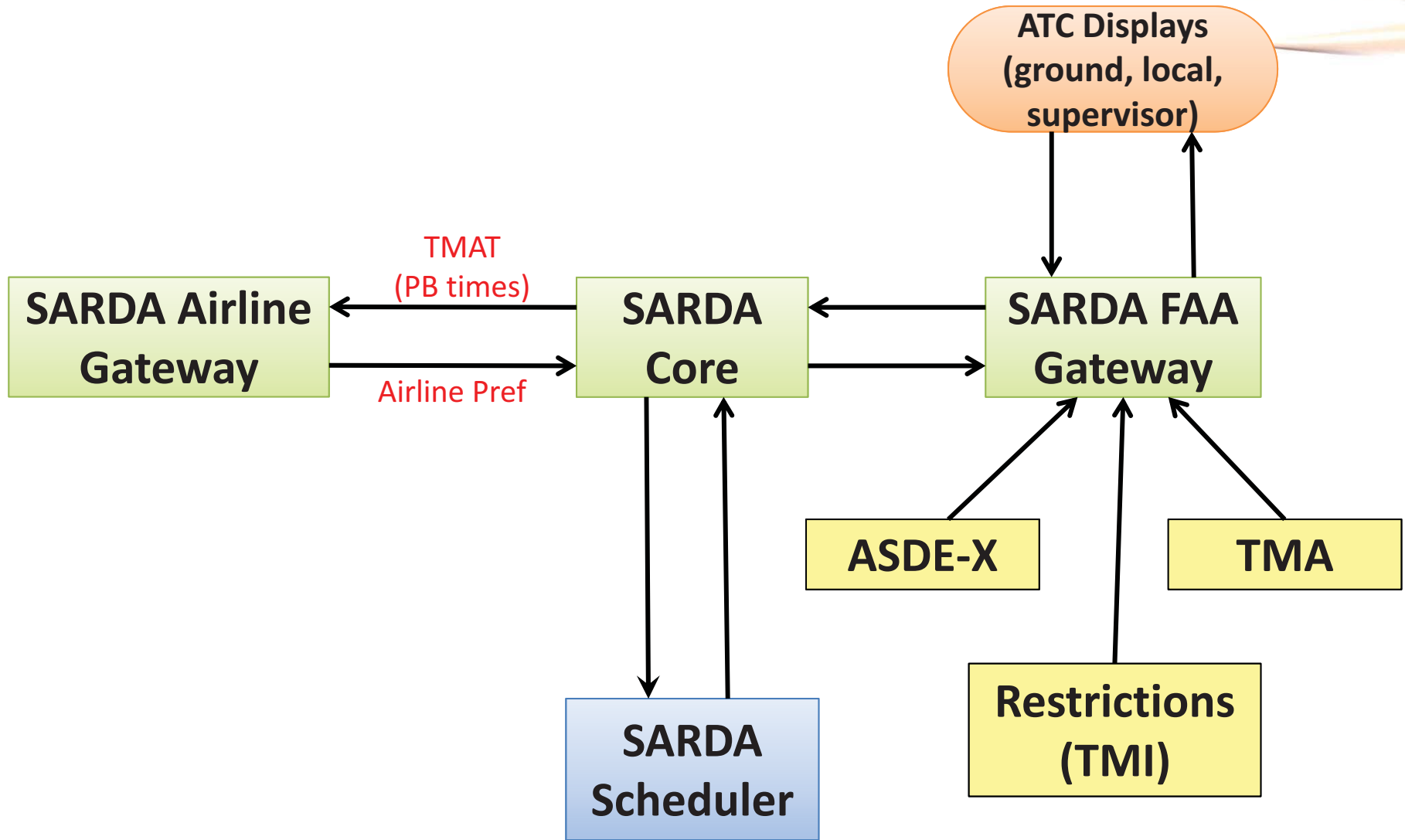




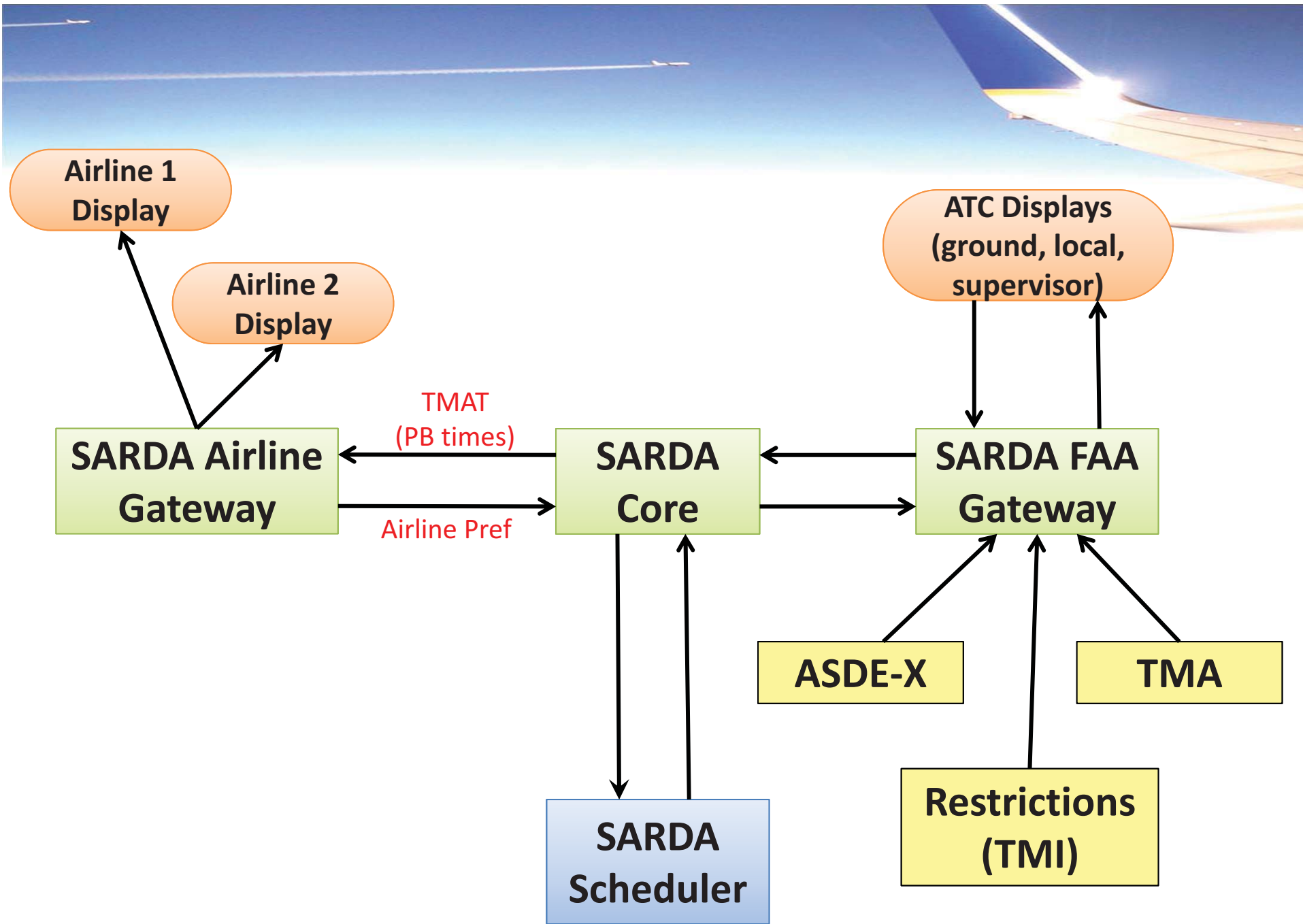


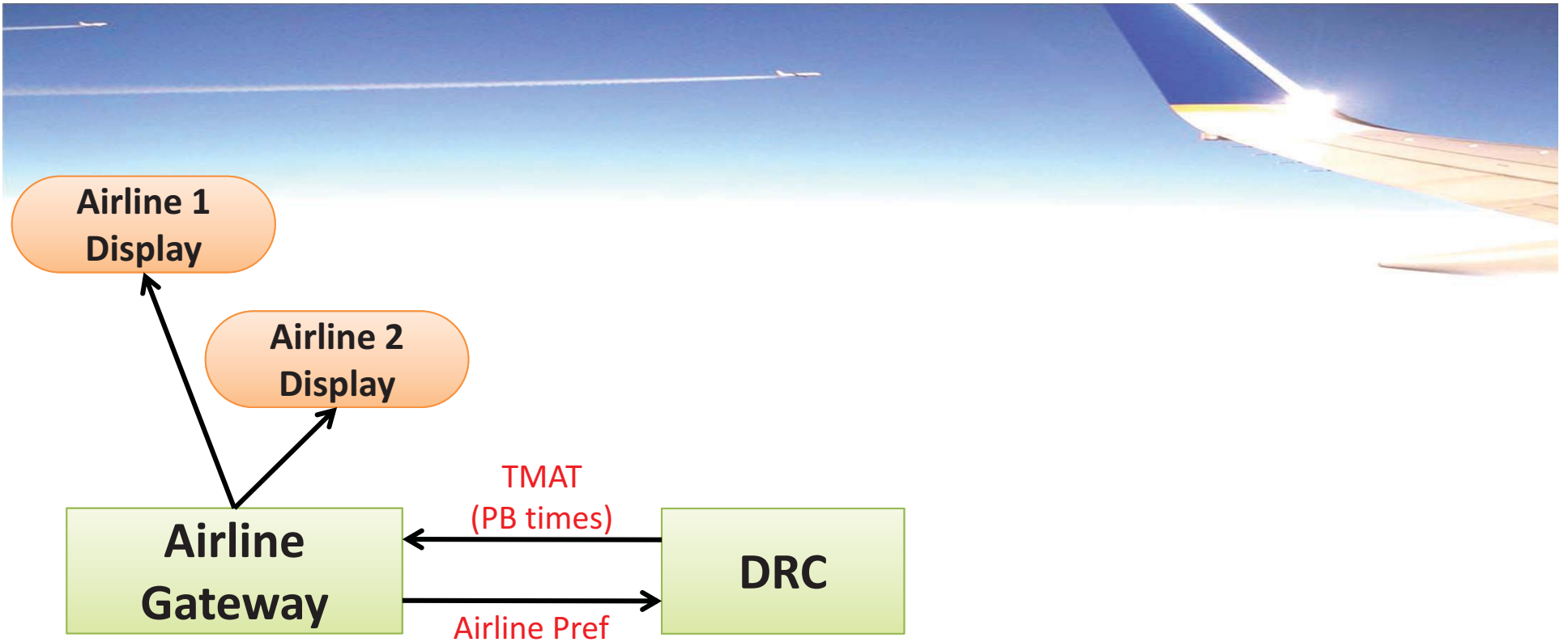
**SARDA Airline Gateway**











## Nominal JFK System

# Spot And Runway Departure Advisor (SARDA)

- Integrated tool for airlines and Air Traffic Control Tower enabling CDM and departure metering
- Based on managing scarce resource: Runway
- Strategic or tactical departure metering

# Spot And Runway Departure Advisor (SARDA)



- Integrated tool for airlines and Air Traffic Control Tower enabling CDM and departure metering
- Based on managing scarce resource: Runway
- Strategic or tactical departure metering
  - Strategic: gate/ramp hold fixed 30 or 60 mins before scheduled push-back
  - Tactical: gate/ramp hold assigned after pilot communicates push-back readiness
  - Both have tactical ATCT advisories

# Spot And Runway Departure Advisor (SARDA)

- Integrated tool for airlines and Air Traffic Control Tower enabling CDM and departure metering
- Based on managing scarce resource: Runway
- Strategic or tactical departure metering
- 4-D trajectory enabler

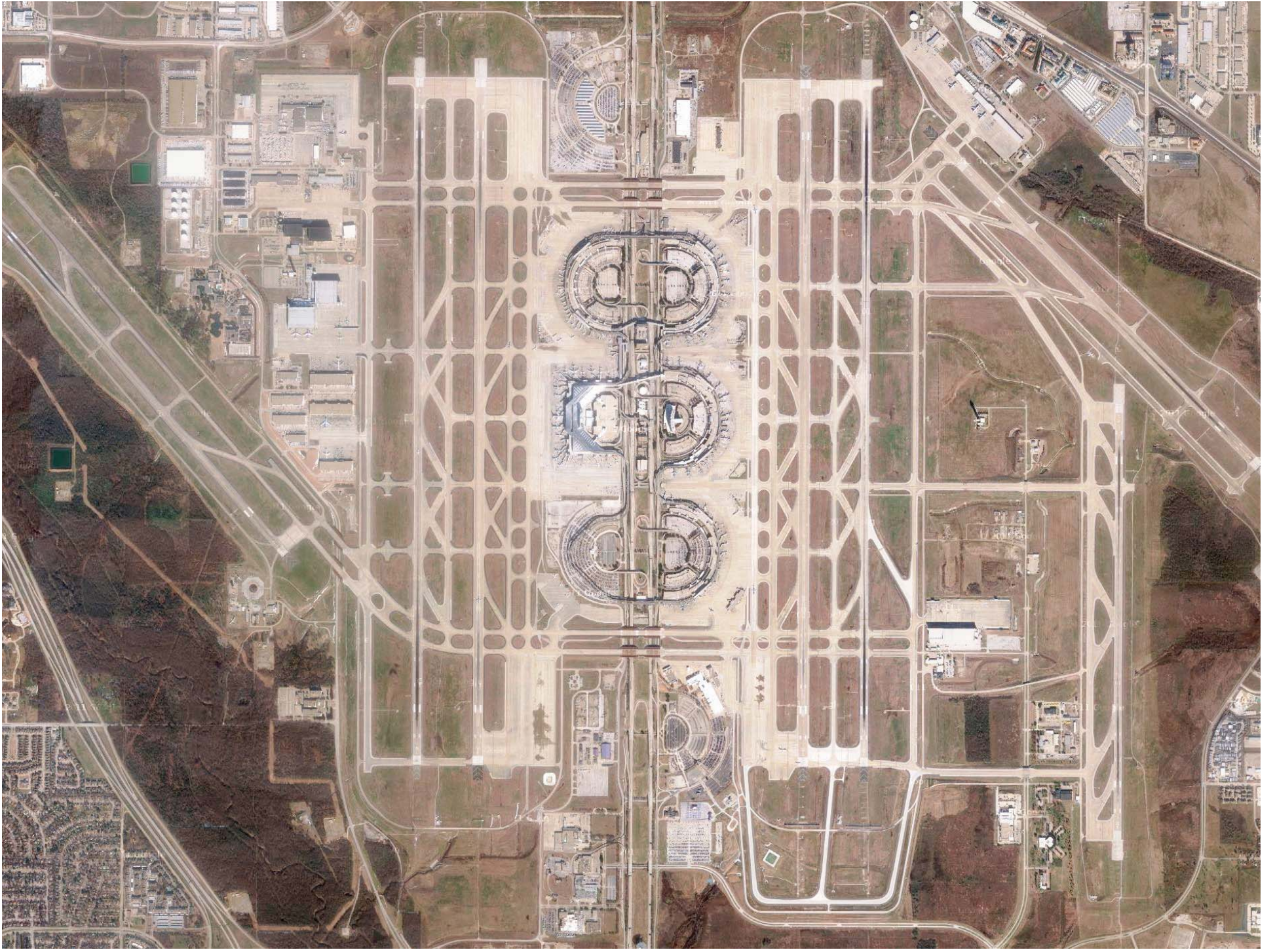


# **SARDA Strategic Gate Hold**

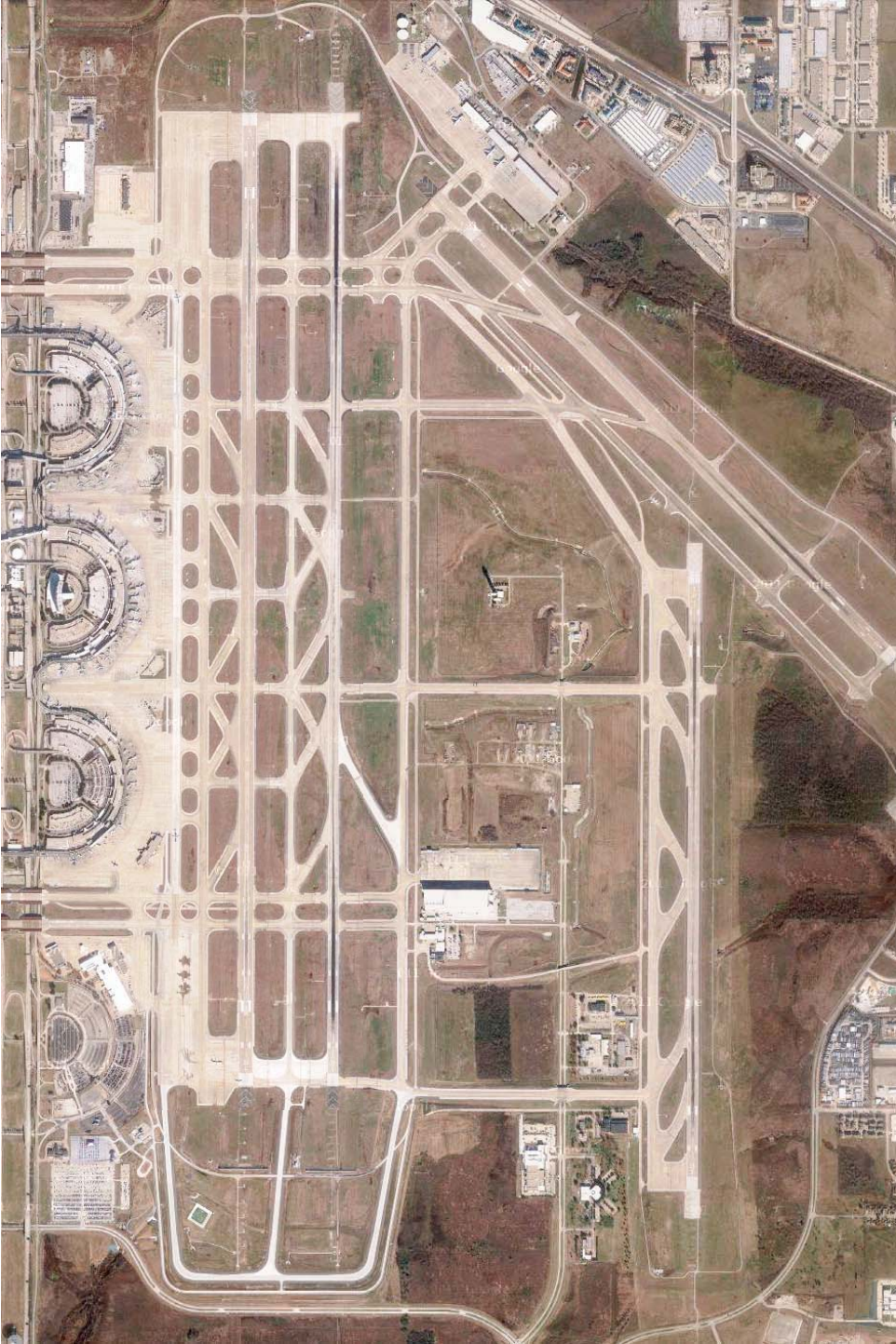


# Planning Definition

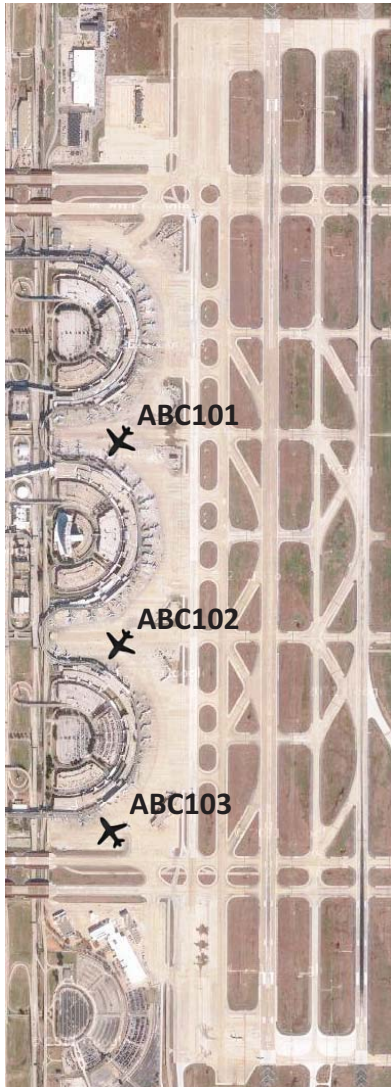
- Planning horizon (PH): how soon is planning done. E.g. 30 minutes



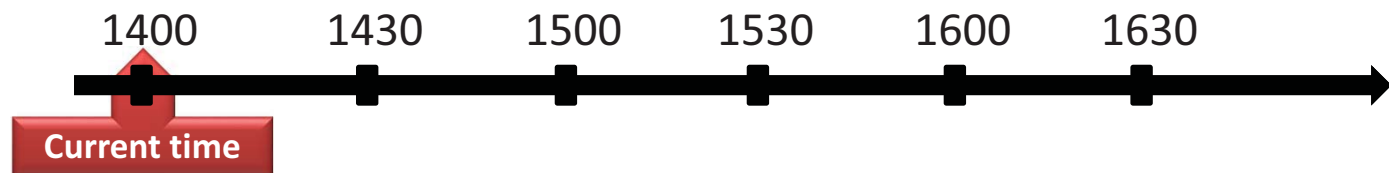




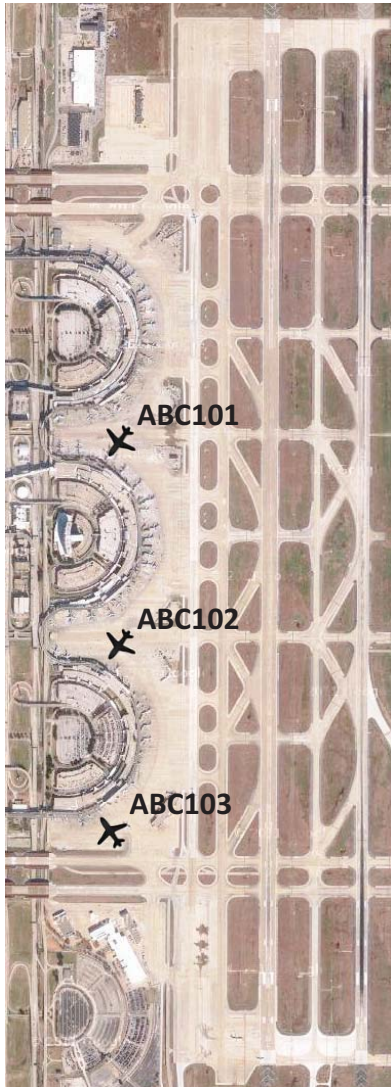
# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough



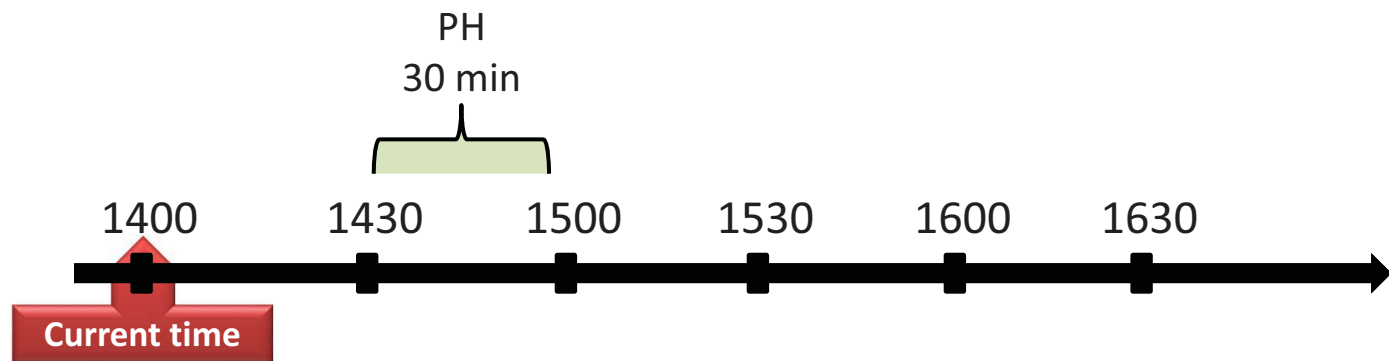
***Scheduled  
push-back***  
ABC101: 1502  
ABC102: 1504  
ABC103: 1507



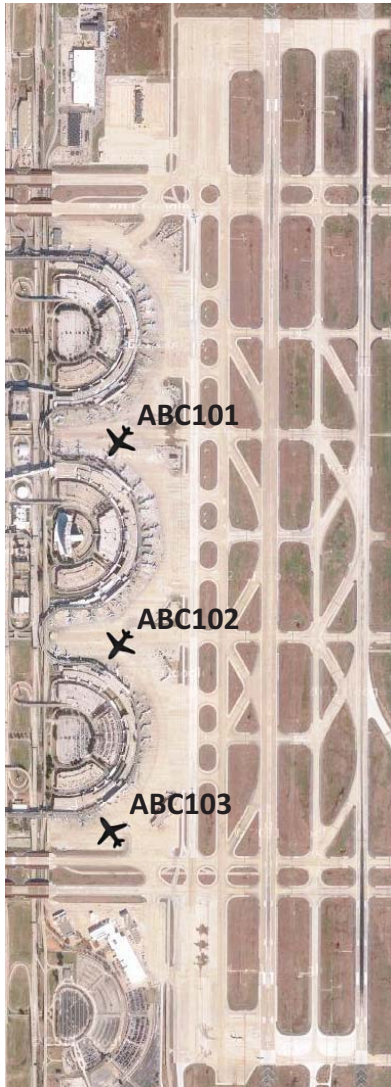
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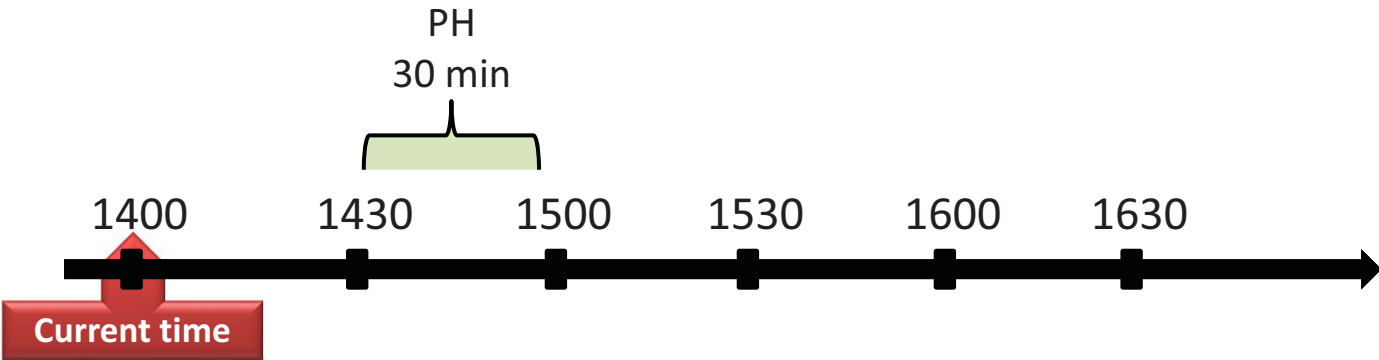


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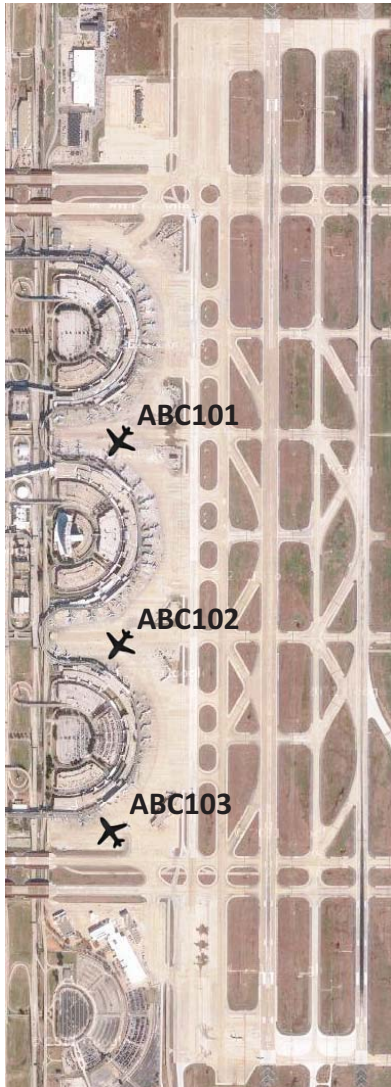


**Scheduled push-back**  
ABC101: 1502  
ABC102: 1504  
ABC103: 1507

- Flight restrictions (TMI)
- Flight details
- Airport config



# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough



**Stage 1**  
*Updated push-back*  
ABC101: 1504 (1502)  
ABC102: 1510 (1504)  
ABC103: 1508 (1507)

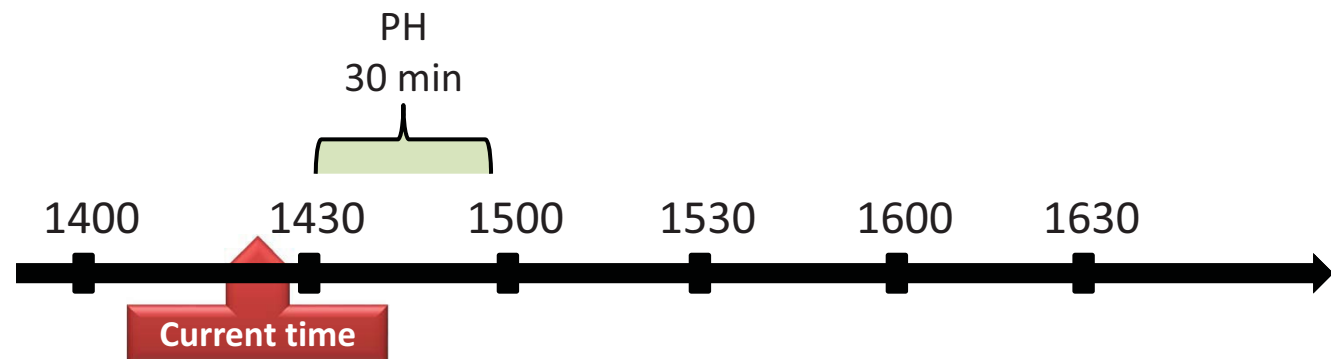
**Strategic Planning Component (SPC)**

**Strategic SARDA Scheduler**

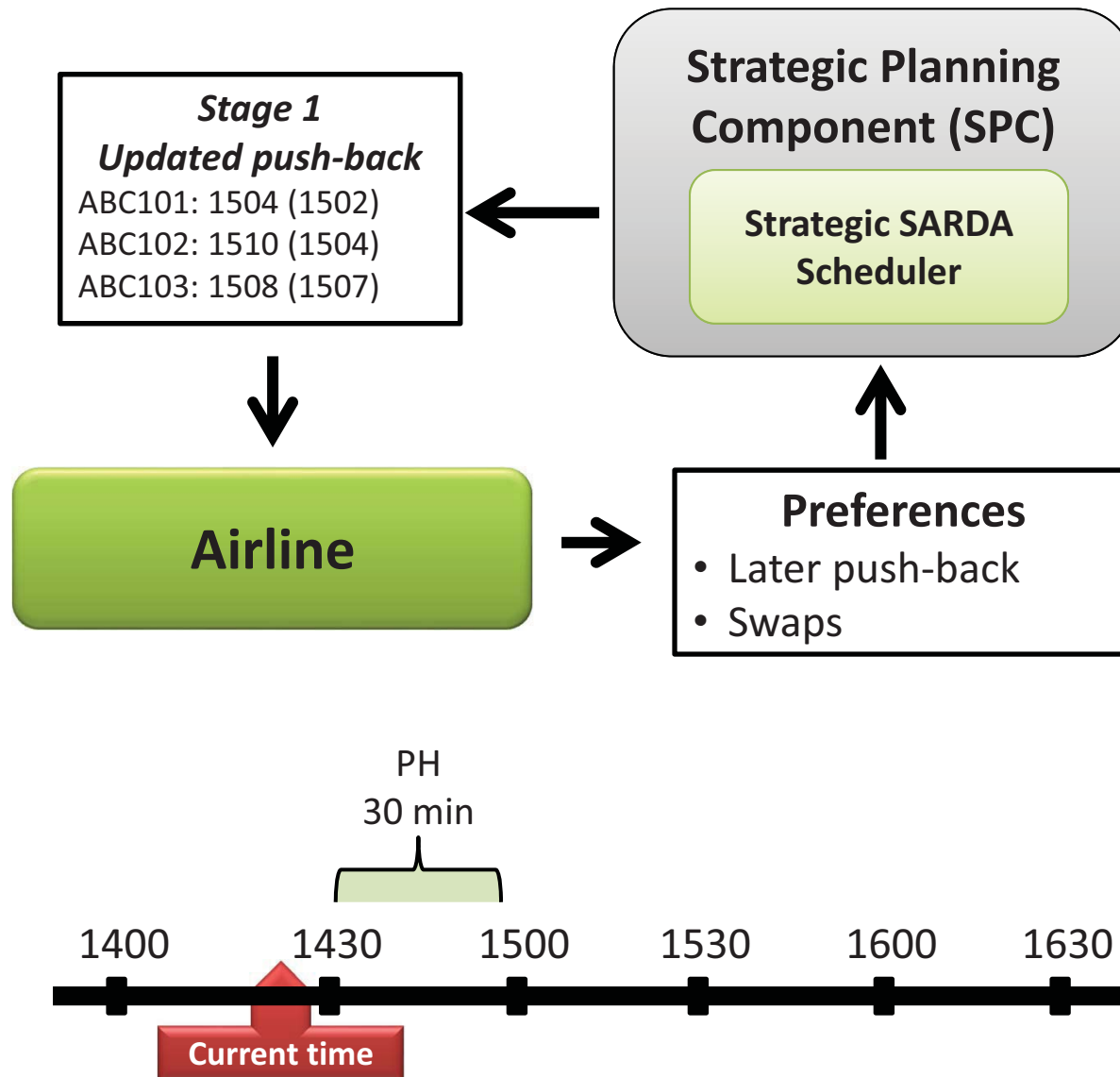
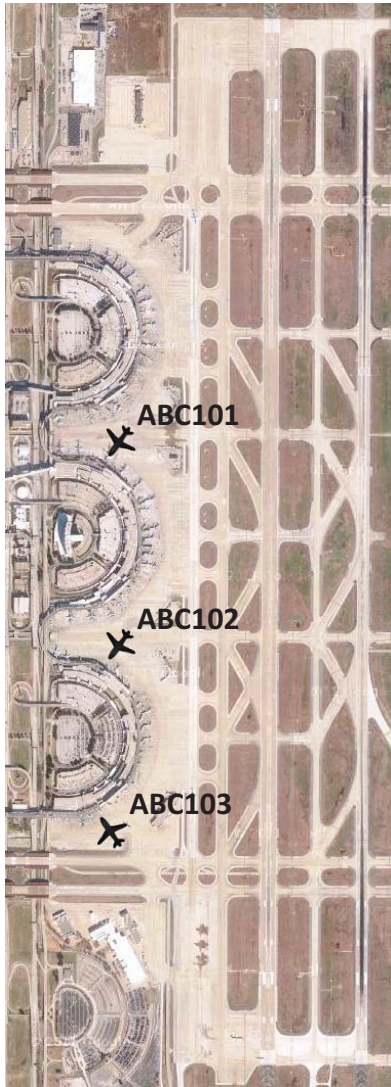
**Airline**

**Preferences**

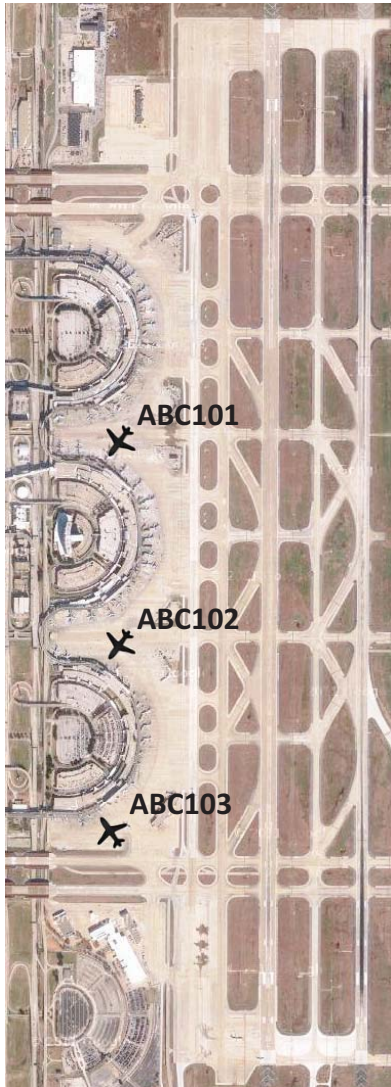
- Later push-back
- Swaps



# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough



# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough

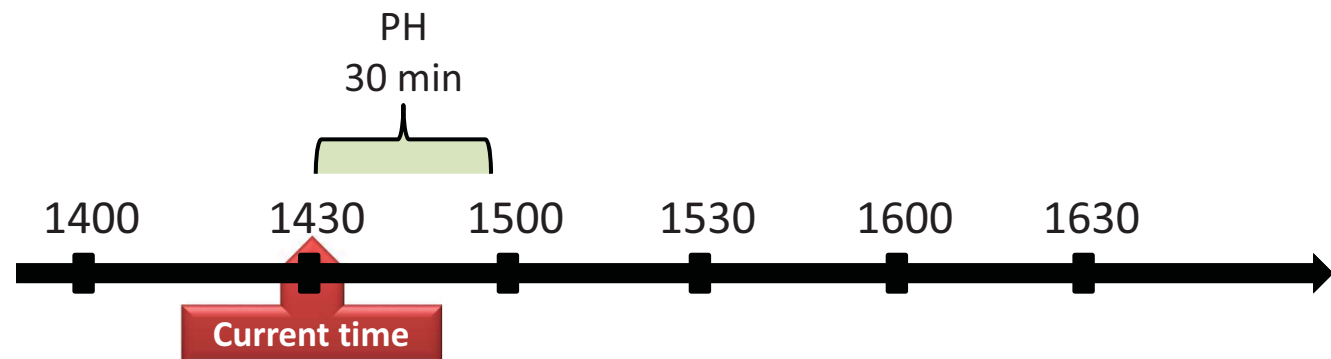


**Stage 2**  
**Updated push-back**  
ABC101: 1504 (no change)  
ABC102: 1510 (no change)  
ABC103: 1508 (no change)

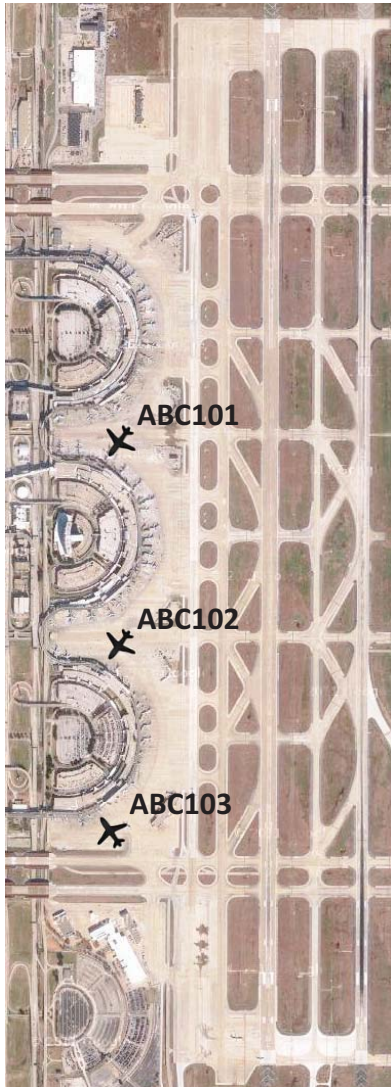
**Strategic Planning  
Component (SPC)**

**Strategic SARDA  
Scheduler**

**Airline**



# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough

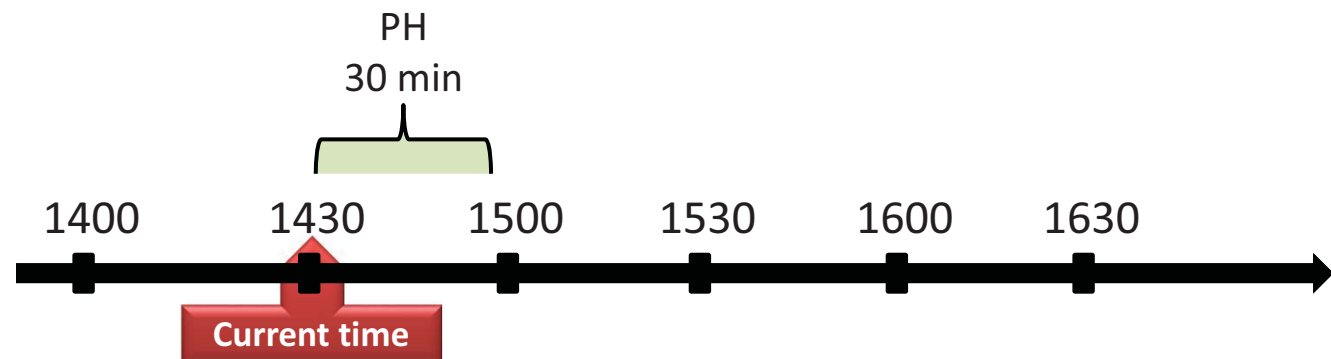


**Stage 2**  
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ABC101: 1504 (no change)  
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Component (SPC)**

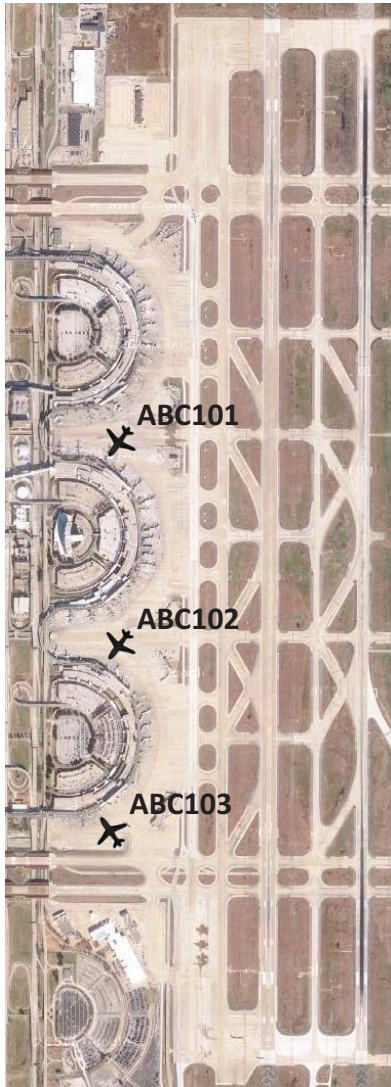
**Tactical Advisory  
Component (TAC)**

**Tactical SARDA  
Scheduler**





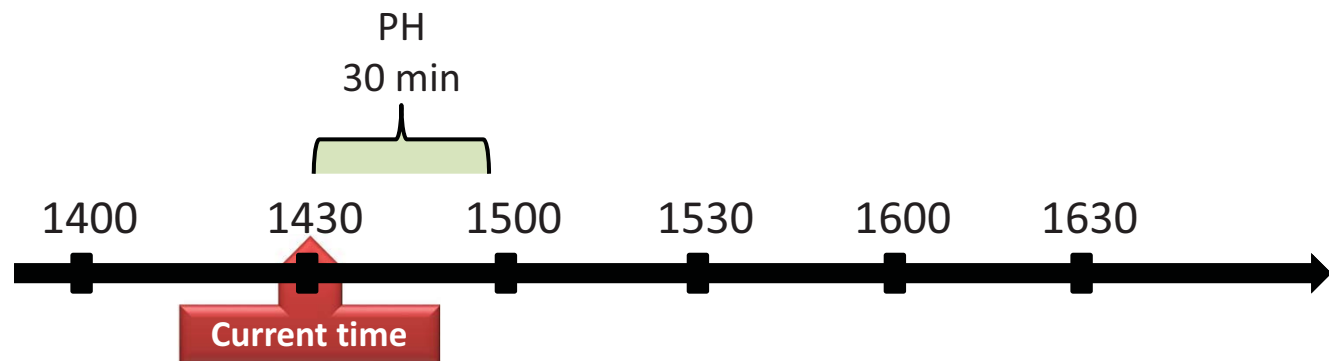
# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough



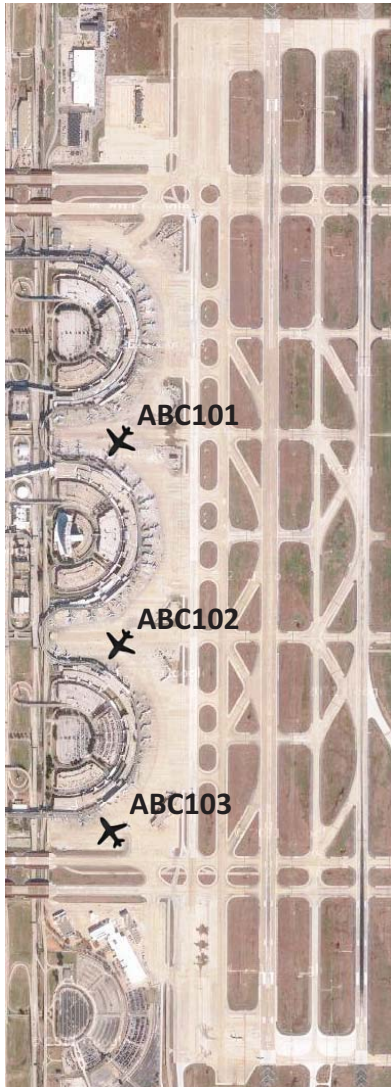
Strategic Planning Component (SPC)

↓ Agreed push-back times

Tactical Advisory Component (TAC)  
Tactical SARDA Scheduler



# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough



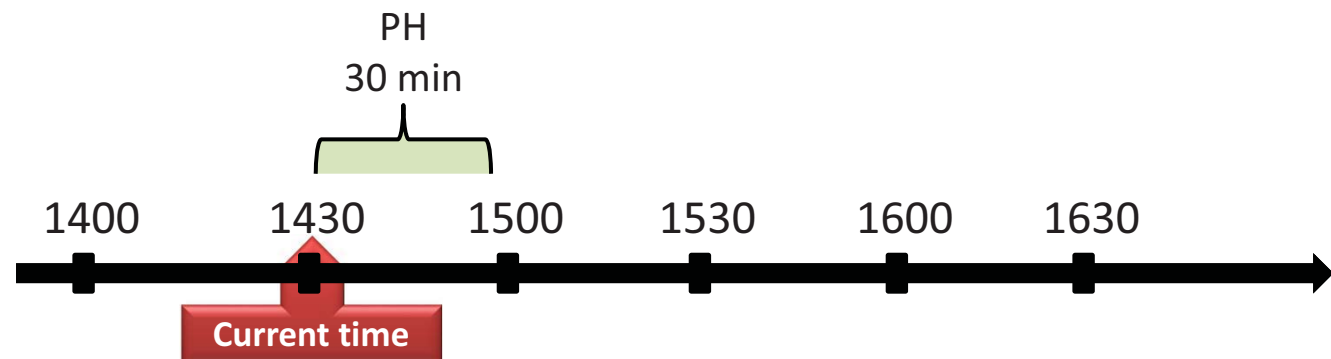
**Actual push-back**  
ABC101: 1507 (1504) **late**  
ABC102: 1500 (1510) **early**  
ABC103: 1508 (1508) **on-time**

10 sec update of all aircraft positions

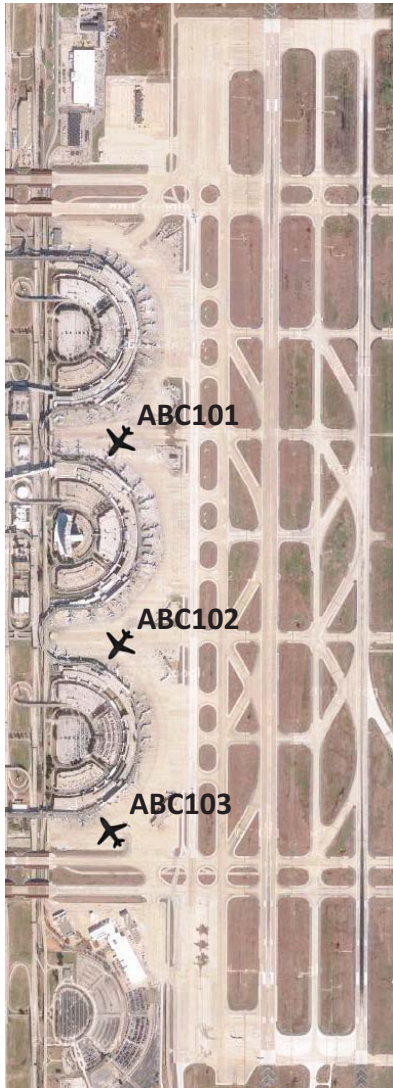
**Strategic Planning Component (SPC)**

Agreed push-back times

**Tactical Advisory Component (TAC)**  
Tactical SARDA Scheduler



# Strategic SARDA Walkthrough



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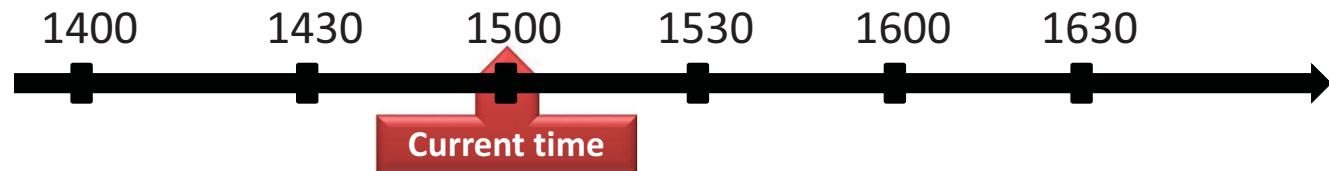
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**ATCT  
Advisories**

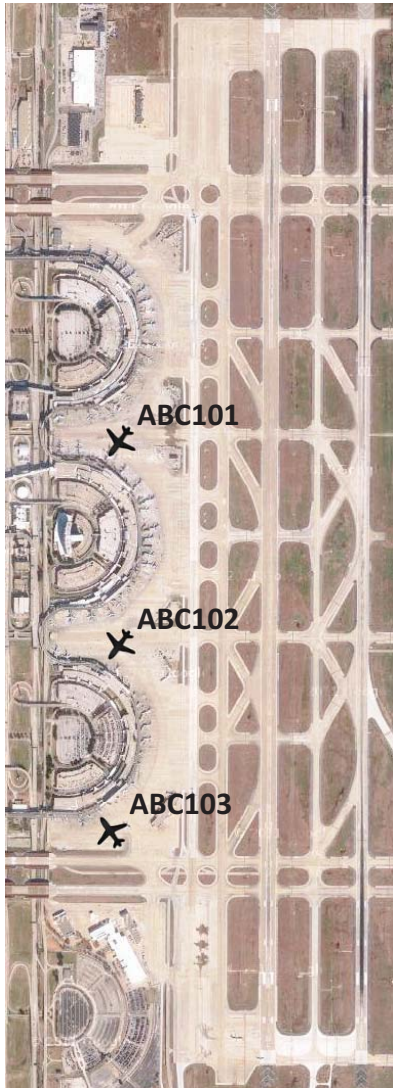
**Strategic Planning  
Component (SPC)**

Agreed push-back times

**Tactical Advisory  
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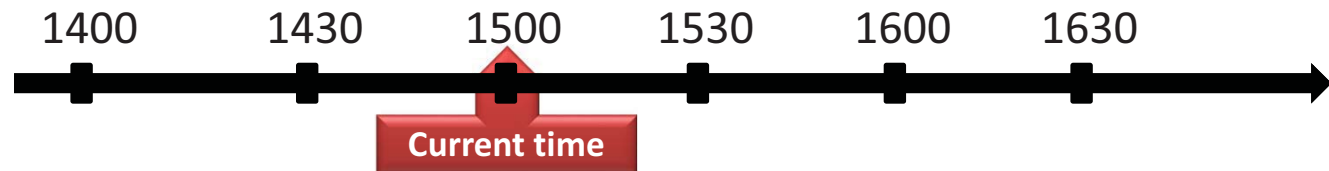
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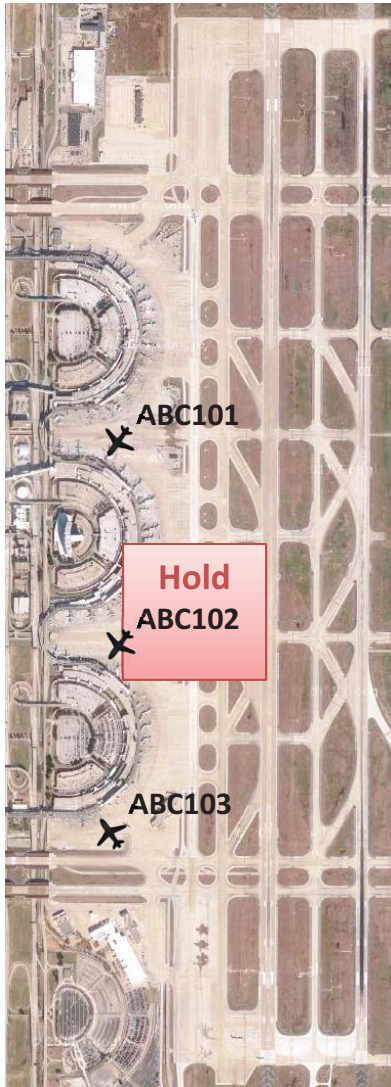
**Strategic Planning  
Component (SPC)**

Agreed push-back times

**Tactical Advisory  
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Tactical SARDA  
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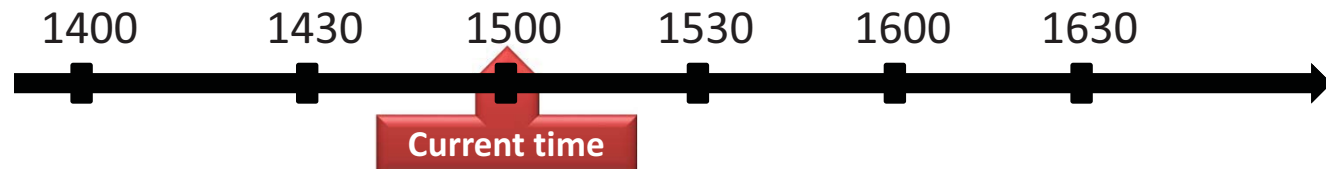
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aircraft positions

**ATCT  
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**Strategic Planning  
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Agreed push-back  
times

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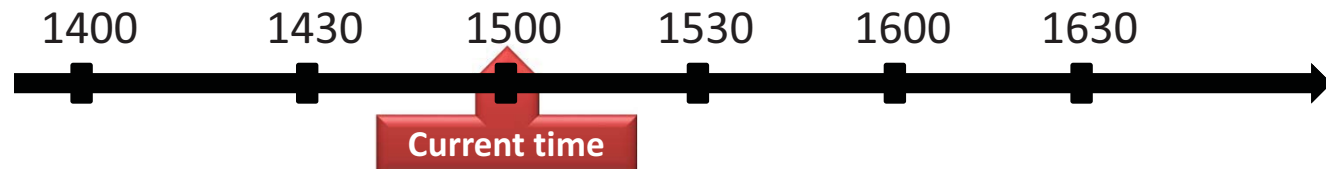
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**ATCT  
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Component (SPC)**

Agreed push-back  
times

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Component (TAC)**  
Tactical SARDA  
Scheduler





# Strategic SARDA Compliance

- After gate push-back agreement, three potential outcomes:
  - On-time push-back
  - Early push-back: ground controller holds till allotted time
  - Late push-back
    - Compliance encouraged by public performance metrics based on agreed push-back times
    - If late, spot release by ground controller as early as possible, **without affecting complying aircraft**



# Tactical SARDA Walkthrough

- Intended for airports with single majority carrier (CLT)
- Can work with airline or ramp control
- SARDA has flight plan
- Push-back time continuously updated based on current airport situation and airline input
- CLT version: When pilot calls “ready for push back”
  - Ramp Controller inputs in SARDA display, SARDA gives hold or release. If hold, gives hold time
  - Advisories for ATCT





# SARDA Components and Uses

- Airline (and/or ramp) collaboration
  - Move delays from runway queue to gate
  - Fuel and emission reductions
  - Potentially better connections
- Ground controller advisory
  - Compliance to SARDA for early push-back
- Local controller advisory
  - Improve predictability for downstream (TRACON) integration of departure aircraft
  - Improve predictability of arrival aircraft movement on taxiways



# Tactical SARDA HITL tests

- Conducted in May-June 2012
- SARDA implemented in SDSS
- East side DFW (17R departures and 17C arrivals)
- 2 controllers (Ground and Local)
- Pseudo-pilots
- Tactical gate hold through CDM (Idealized to reduce delays)
- No perimeter taxiway
- Ground Controller and Local Controller advisory – through EFS



# Tactical SARDA HITL

- Run traffic with SARDA advisories, and without SARDA (aka “Baseline”)
- 2 traffic levels - medium (1.2x) and heavy (1.5x)
- 3 weeks, 2 controllers per week, 48 runs
- Departure peaks in some scenarios
- Separation requirements for RNAV
- Traffic Management Initiatives (TMI) in all runs



# Simulation Caveats

- “Advisories” had to be followed
- Ramp area
  - Gate management not implemented
  - De-conflicted ramp movement under development

# SARDA Controller Display



Ground Controller Display

AAL454	MD82	7	04:00	S22/EK...EH	17R/SOL/ATL	TX-D
DAL849	B737	6	02:22	S47/K...EH	17R/DAR/IAH	TX-D
DAL281	B737	5	00:59	S37/K.EG	17R/TRI/TYS	TX-D
DAL274	B737	4	00:38	S33/K.EG	17R/AKU/STL	TX-D
AAL827	MD82	3	00:22	S11/K...EH	17R/SOL/ATL	TX-D
AAL1539	MD83	2	00:04	S11/K...EF	17R/SOL/ATL	1850 TX-D
AWE998	B737	1	-00:13	S33/K...EF	17R/AKU/BOS	1845 TX-D



Local Controller Display

AAL948	B772	9	EF	AKU/PIA	1835	LUAW	CFTO
AAL768	MD82	8	EG	NOB/LGA		LUAW	CFTO
UAL51	B763	6	S36	E GND			
AWE458	B737	6	S46	E GND			
UAL90	B763	5	EG	NOB/DTW		LUAW	CFTO
AAL394	B772	4	S13	E GND			
AAL6715	MD83	4	S13	E GND			
UAL395	B772	3	EG	TRI/ORF		LUAW	CFTO
AAL318	MD82	2	EG	AKU/BOS		LUAW	CFTO
AAL648	MD82	1	EF	SOL/ATL		LUAW	CFTO



# Results

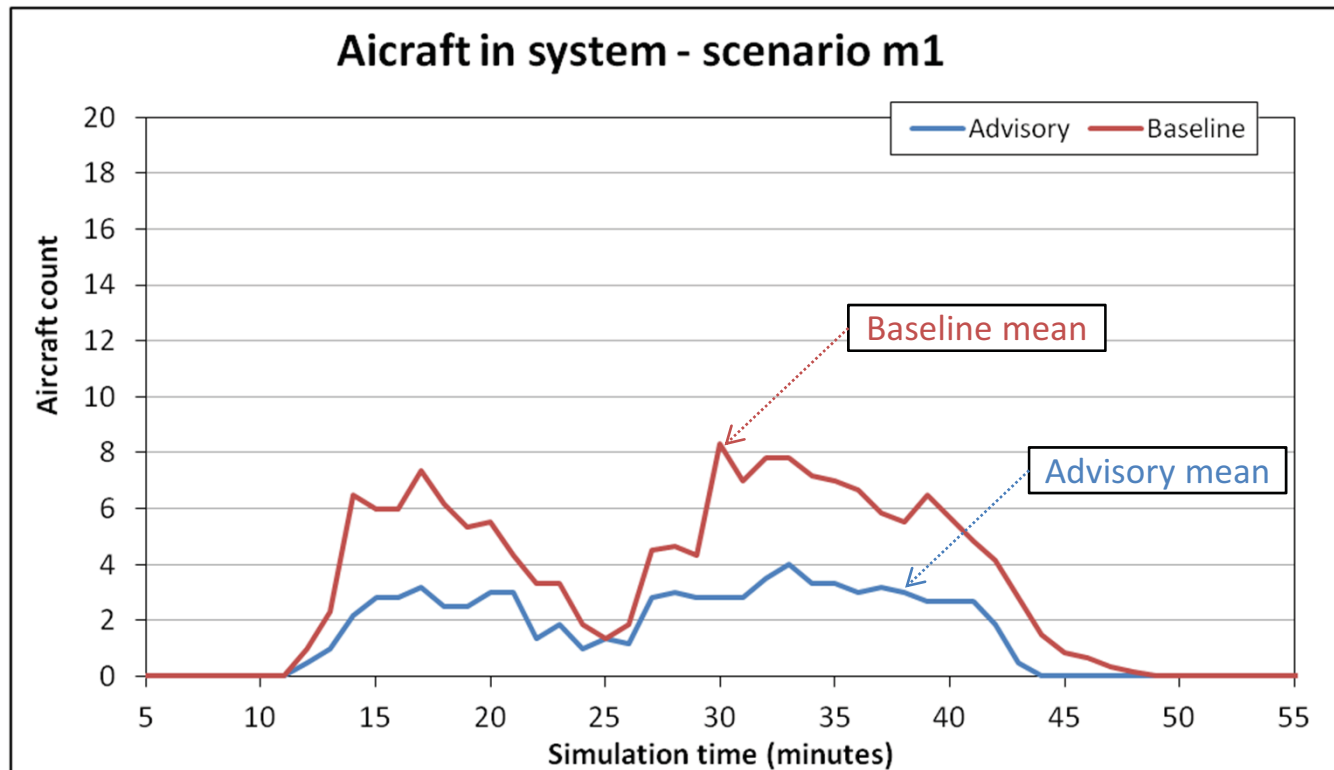
- Did we succeed in gate holding?
- Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?



# Gate Holding

- Aircraft “**waiting**” in the system:  
At every 1 minute, number of departure aircraft that
  - Have pushed back and
  - Have not taken off within unimpeded taxi time
- Expectation: lower for advisory

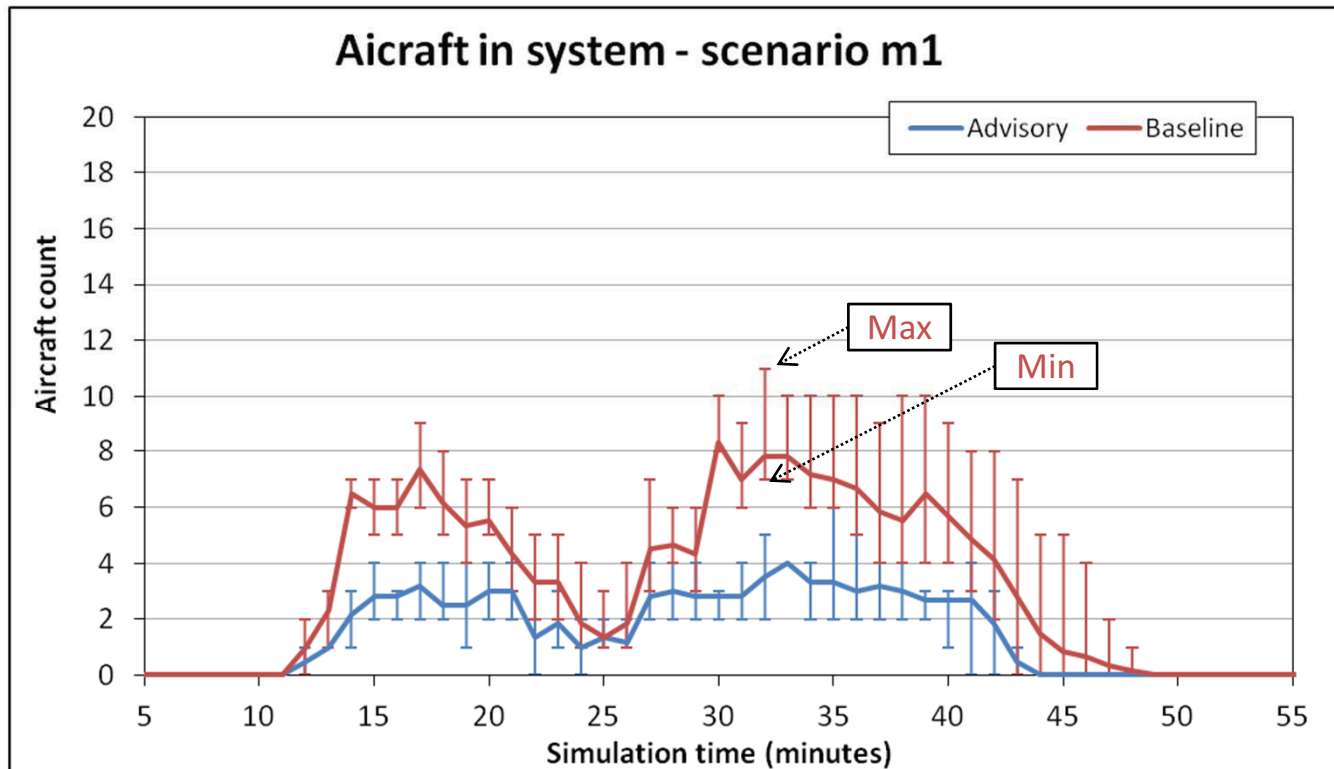
# Gate Holding



At every 1 minute, number of departure aircraft that have pushed back but not have not taken off

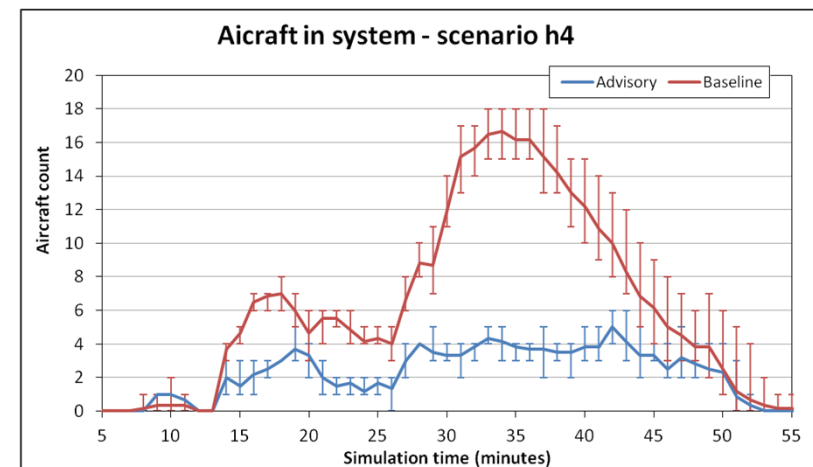
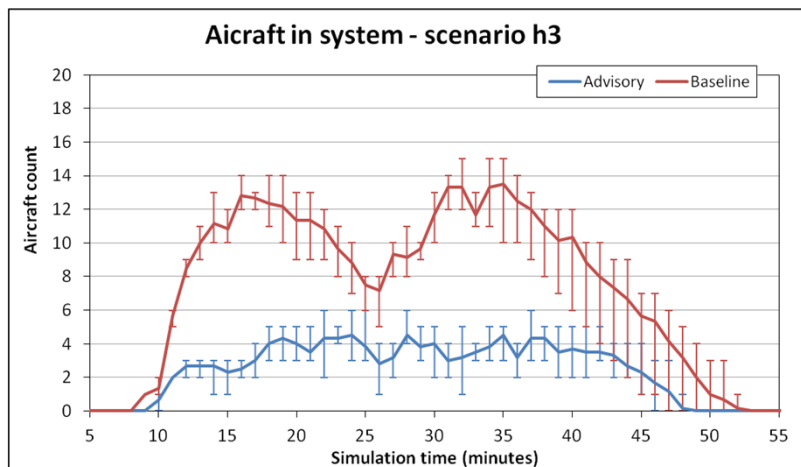
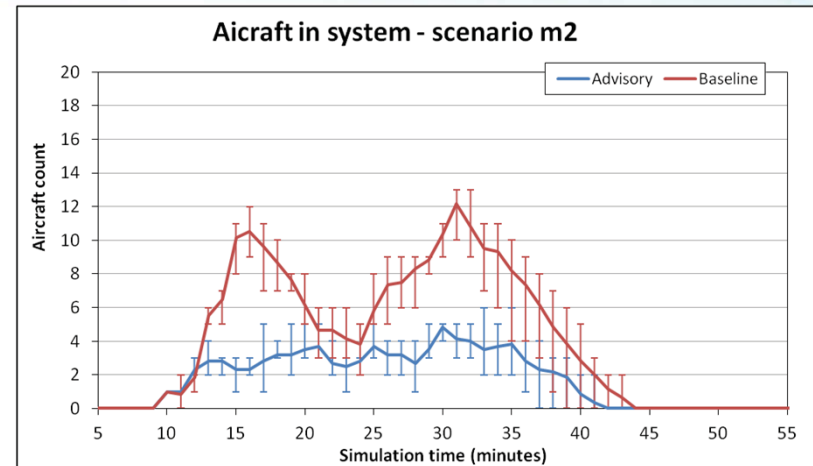
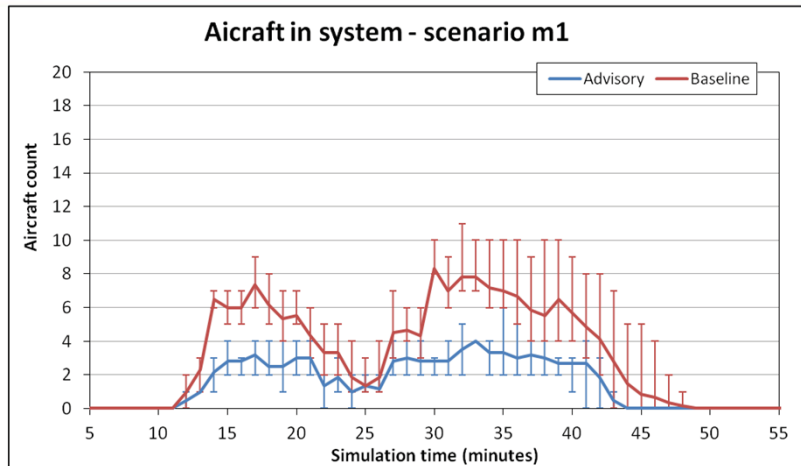


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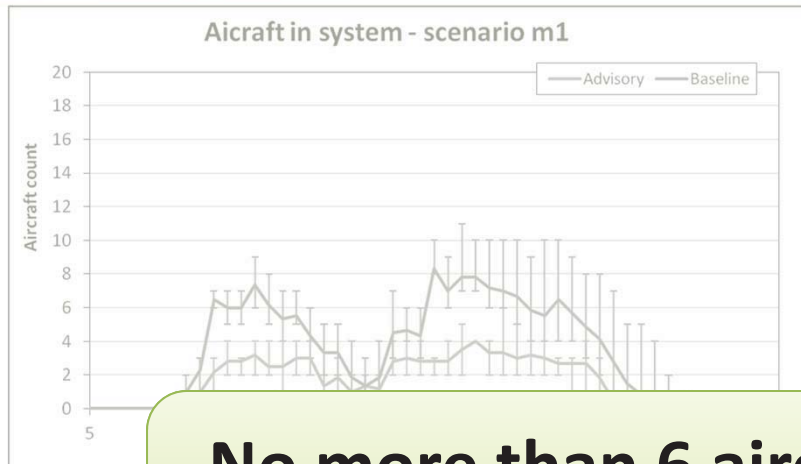
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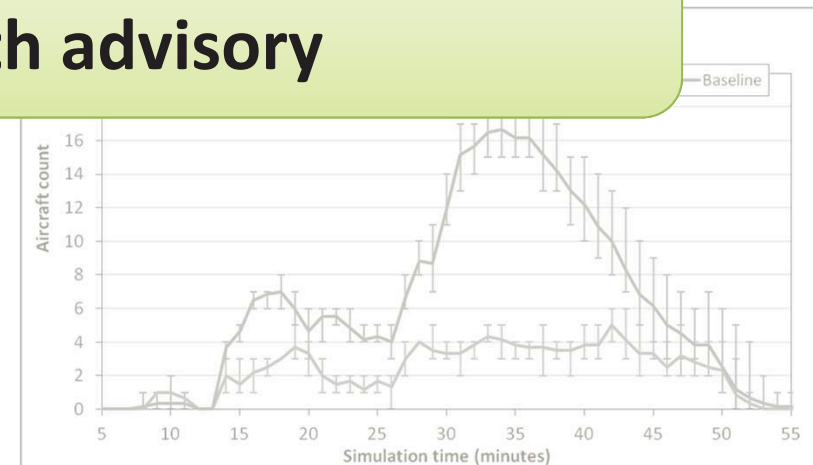
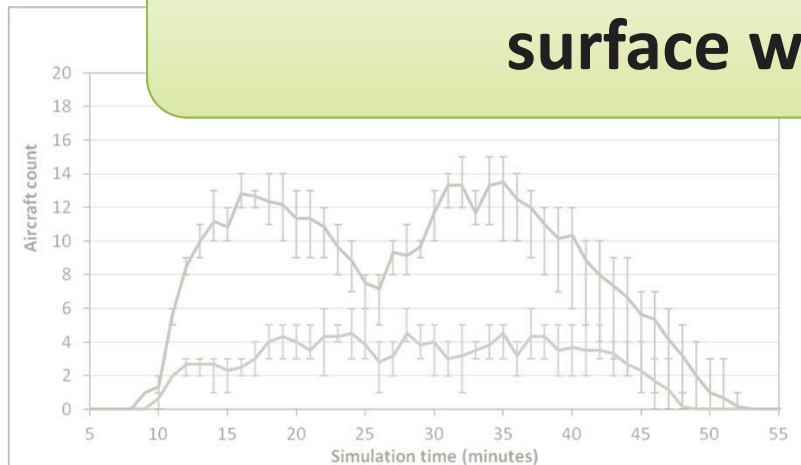


At every 1 minute, number of departure aircraft that have pushed back but not have not taken off

# Gate Holding



**No more than 6 aircraft “waiting” on the surface with advisory**



At every 1 minute, number of departure aircraft that have pushed back but not have not taken off



# Results

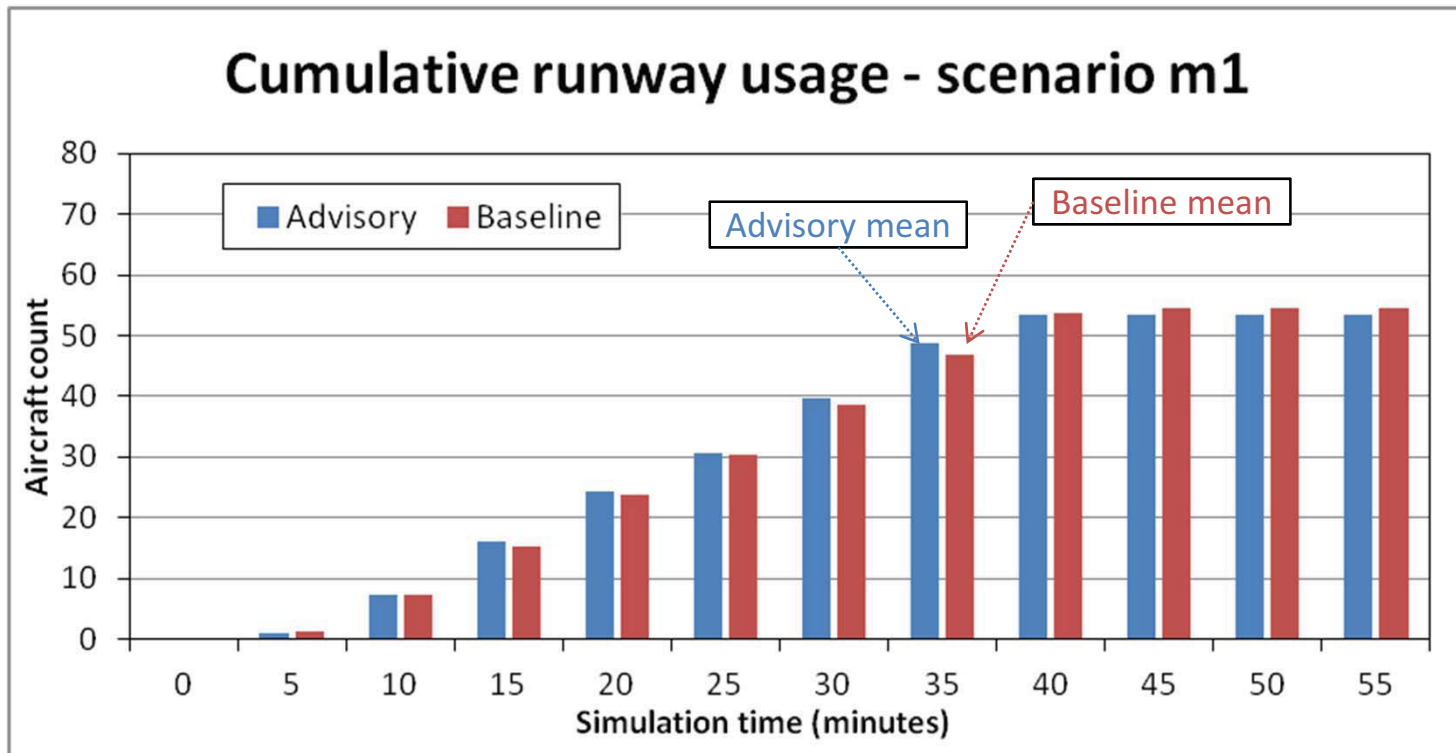
- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?

The header features a blue sky background with a white contrail from an aircraft in the distance and the wing of a plane in the foreground on the right side.

# Runway Usage Comparison

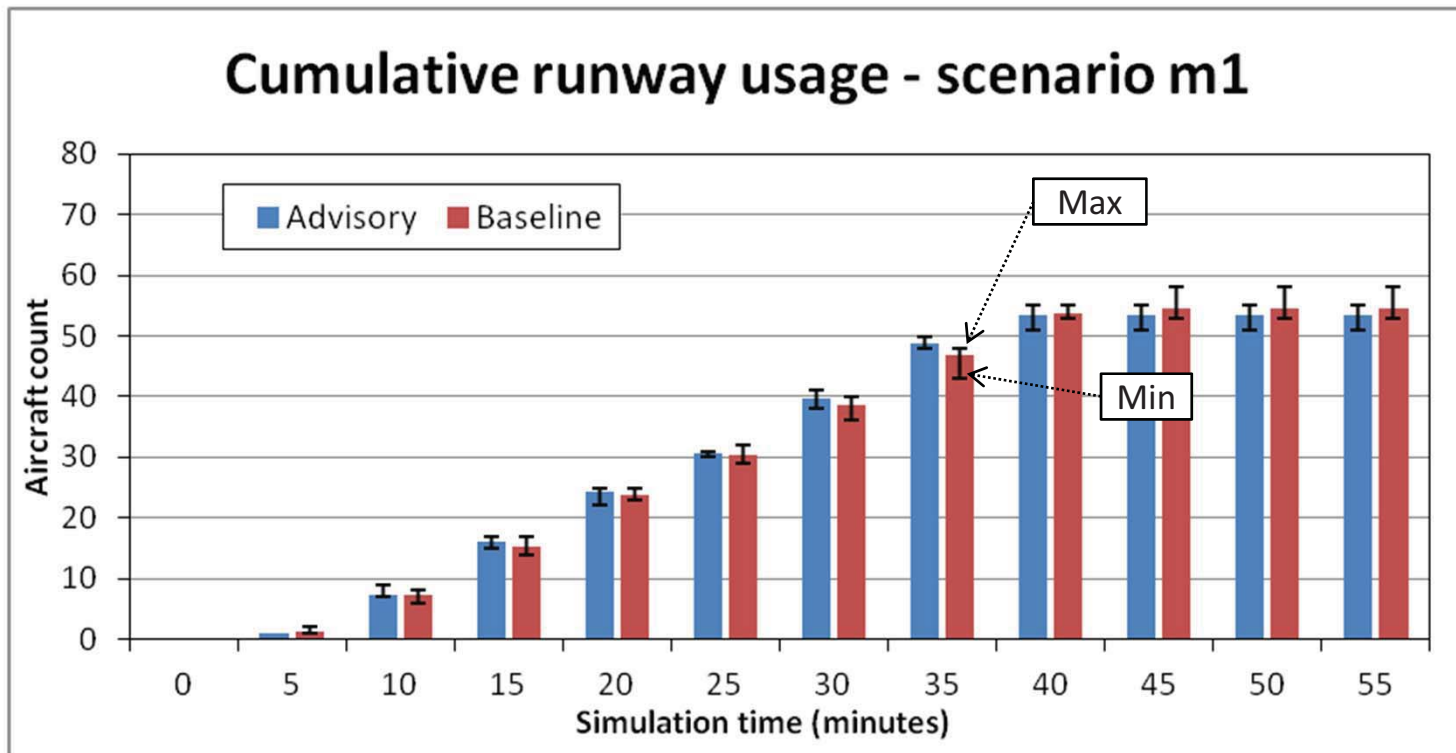
- Cumulative runway usage
  - Number of departure take-offs and arrival crossings **till** a particular time
  - Calculated every 5 minutes
- Expectation: No reduction in runway usage with advisory

# Runway Usage Comparison



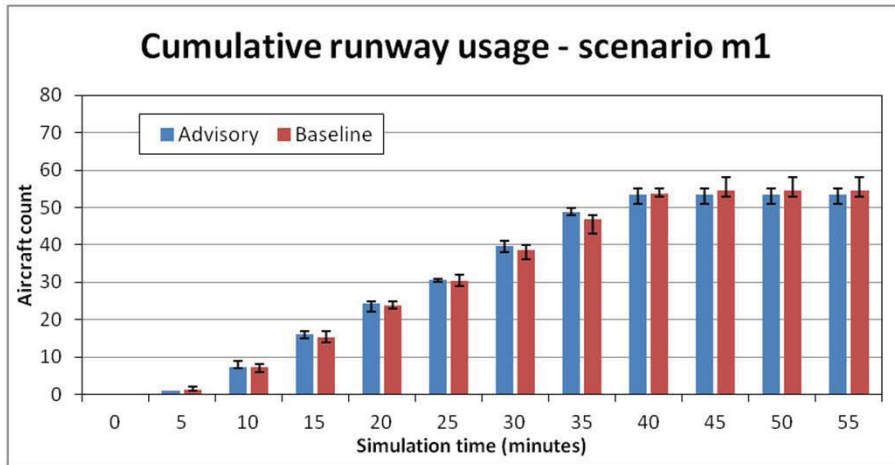
Number of departure take-offs and arrival crossings **till** a particular time

# Runway Usage Comparison



Number of departure take-offs and arrival crossings **till** a particular time

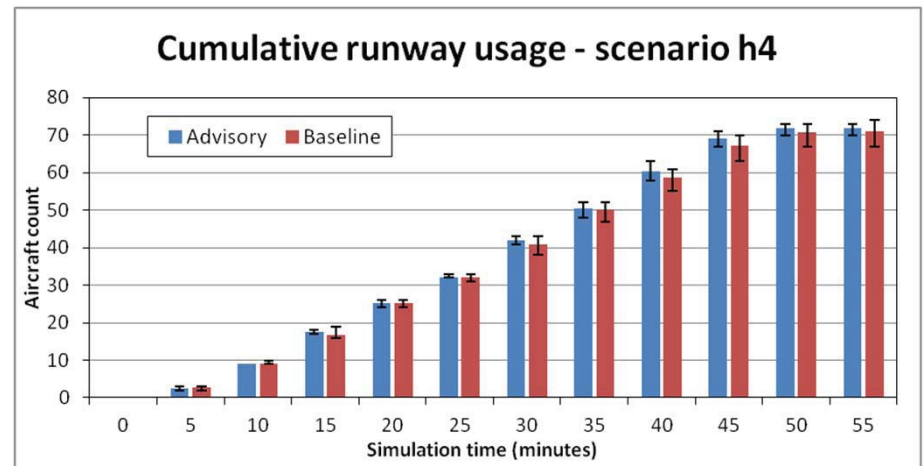
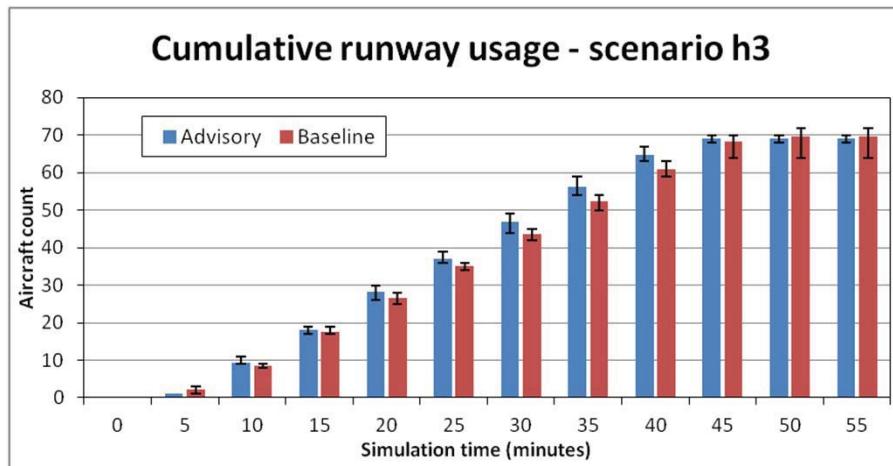
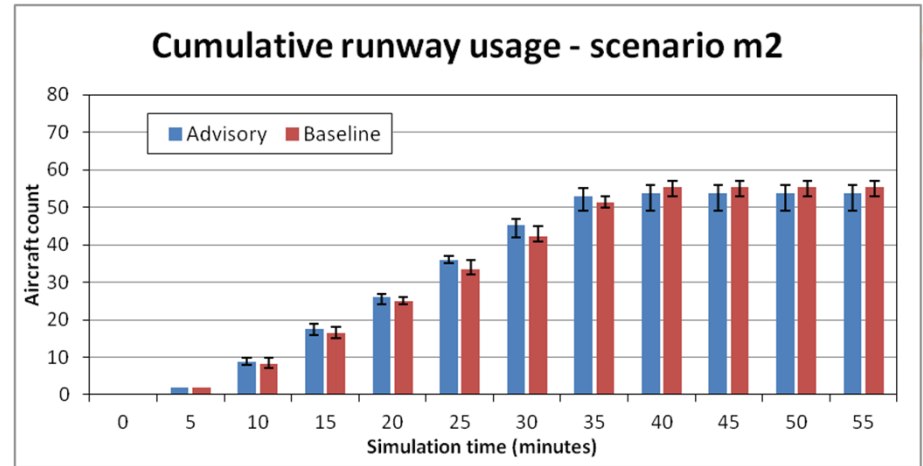
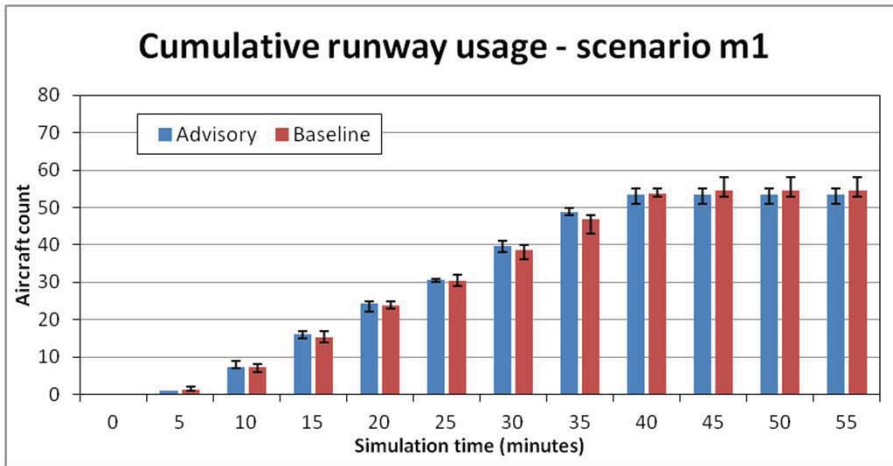
# Runway Usage Comparison



Number of departure take-offs and arrival crossings **till** a particular time

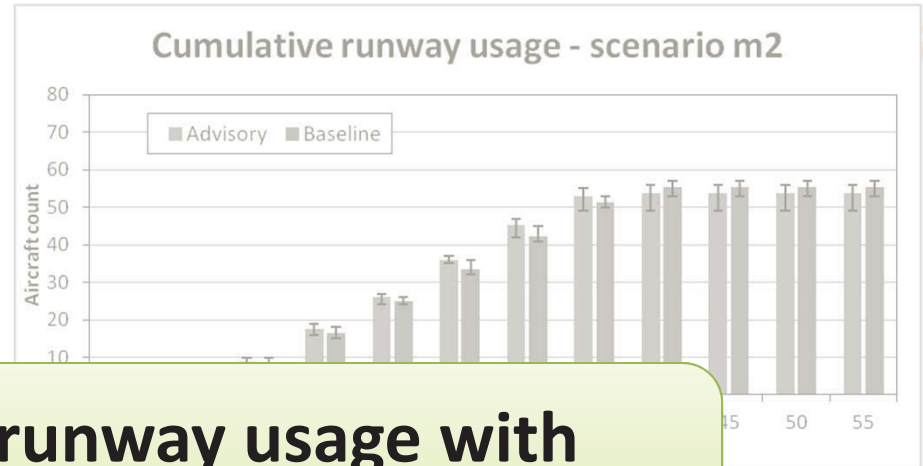
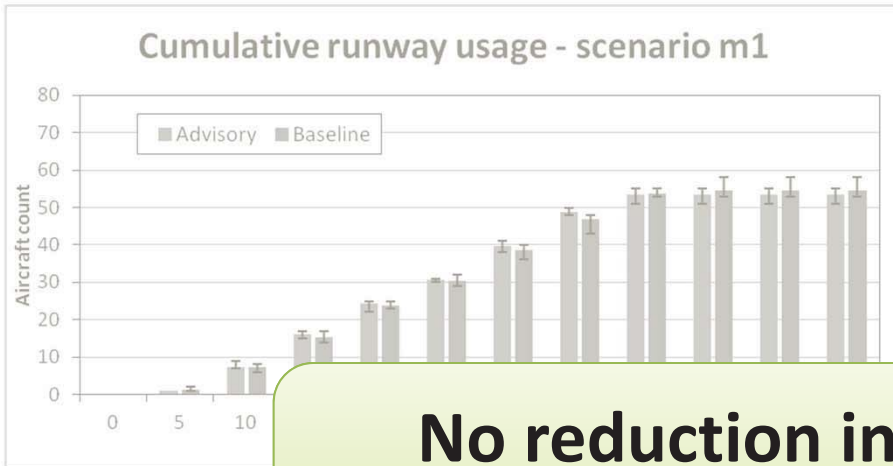


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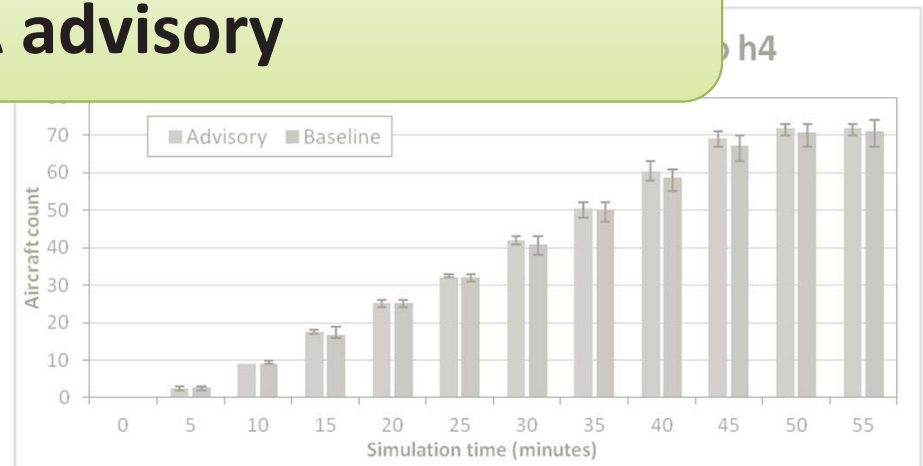
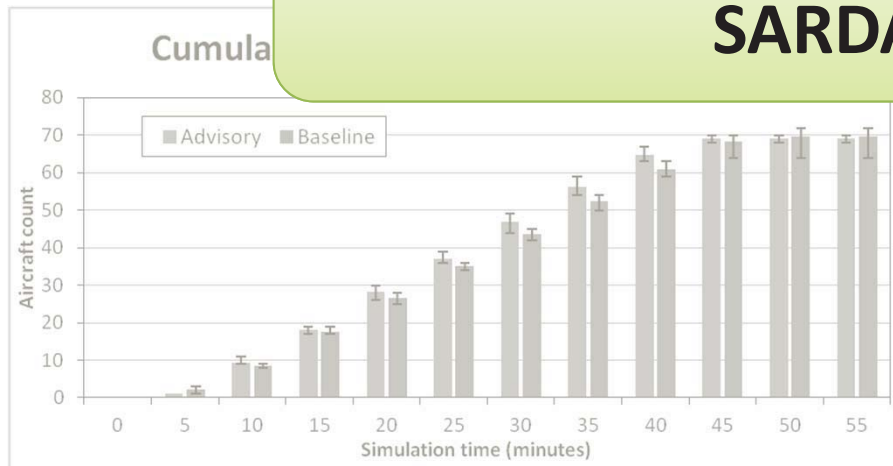


Number of departure take-offs and arrival crossings **till** a particular time

# Runway Usage Comparison



**No reduction in runway usage with SARDA advisory**



Number of departure take-offs and arrival crossings till a particular time



# Results

- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- ✓ Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?



# Results

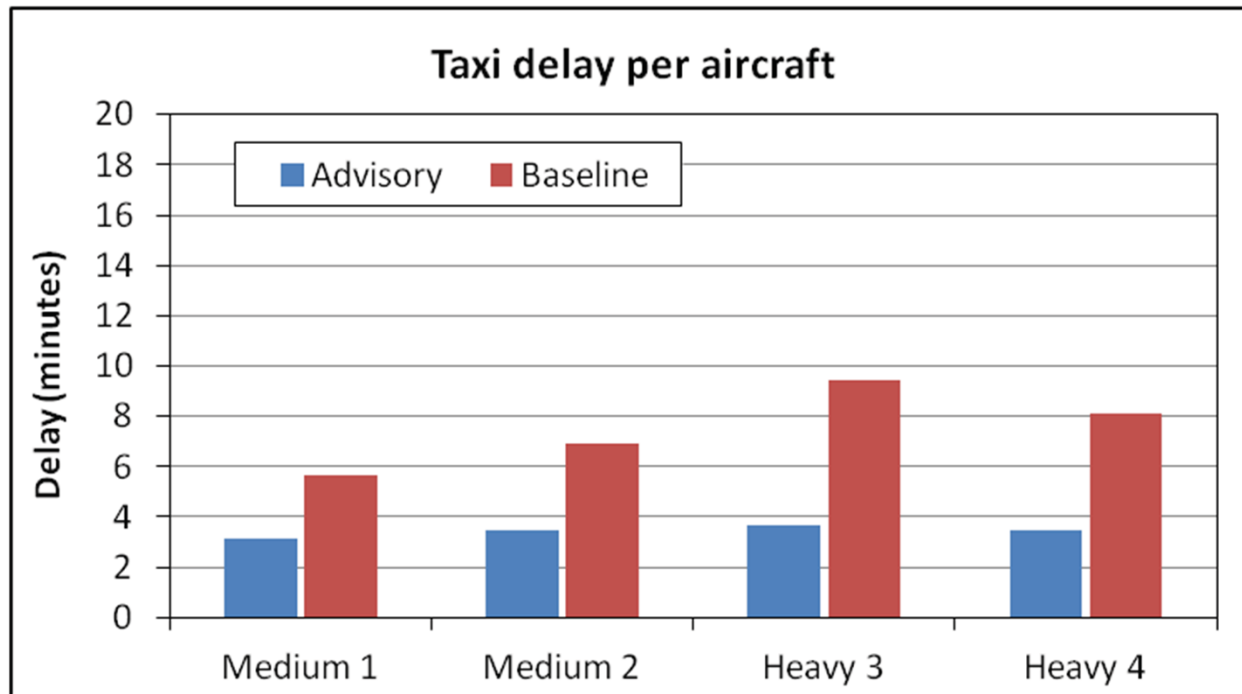
- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- ✓ Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?
  - Delay
  - Fuel



# Delay

- Delay definition
  - (Observed time – unimpeded time)
  - Unimpeded taxi time: time to travel on that route (gate-spot-queue combination) at 17 knots without stops
  - Unimpeded definition different from ASPM
- Taxiing delay: Delay in ramp, taxiways, queues and runway

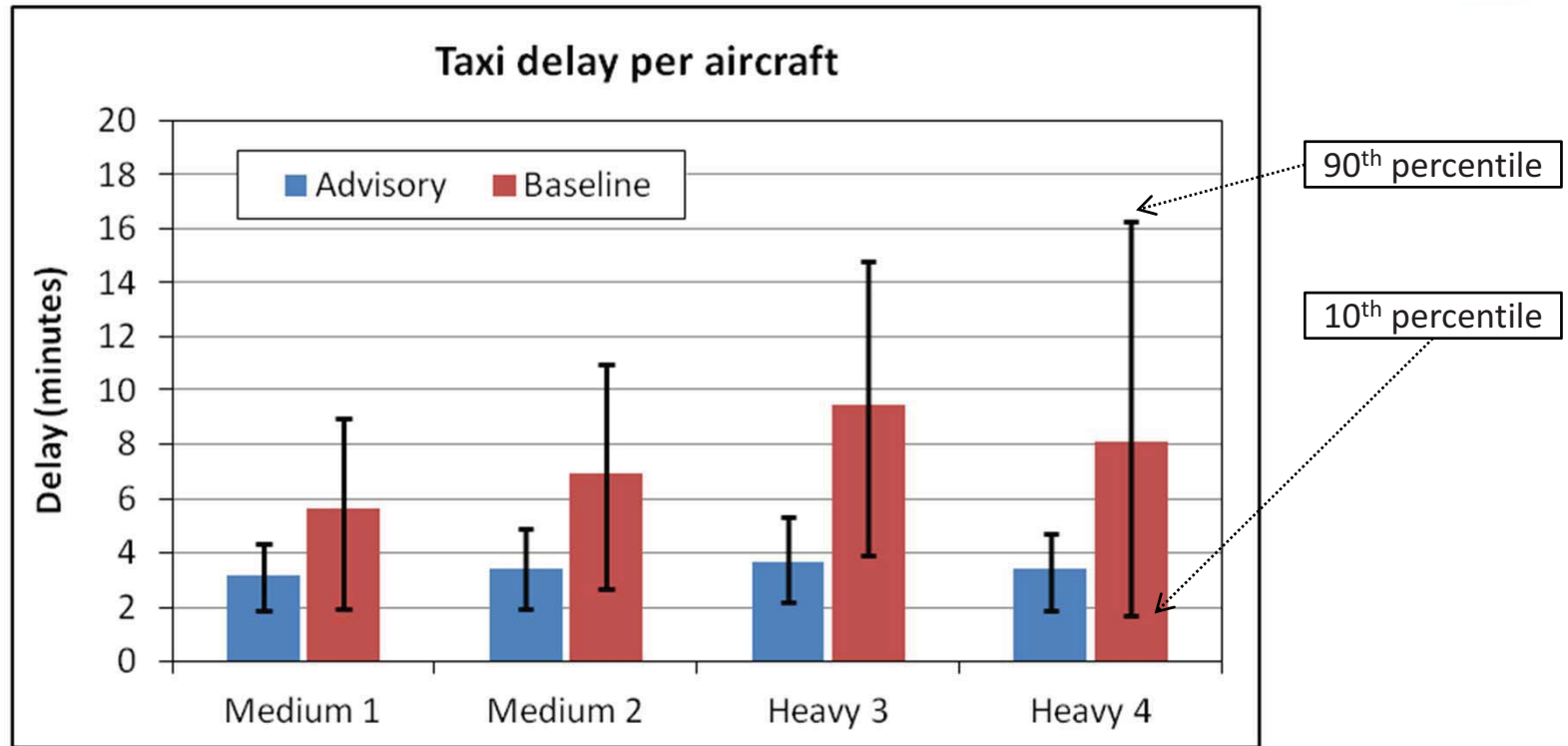
# Taxiing Delay for Departures (ramp, taxiway, queue)



**3 min** reduction in medium (45%)

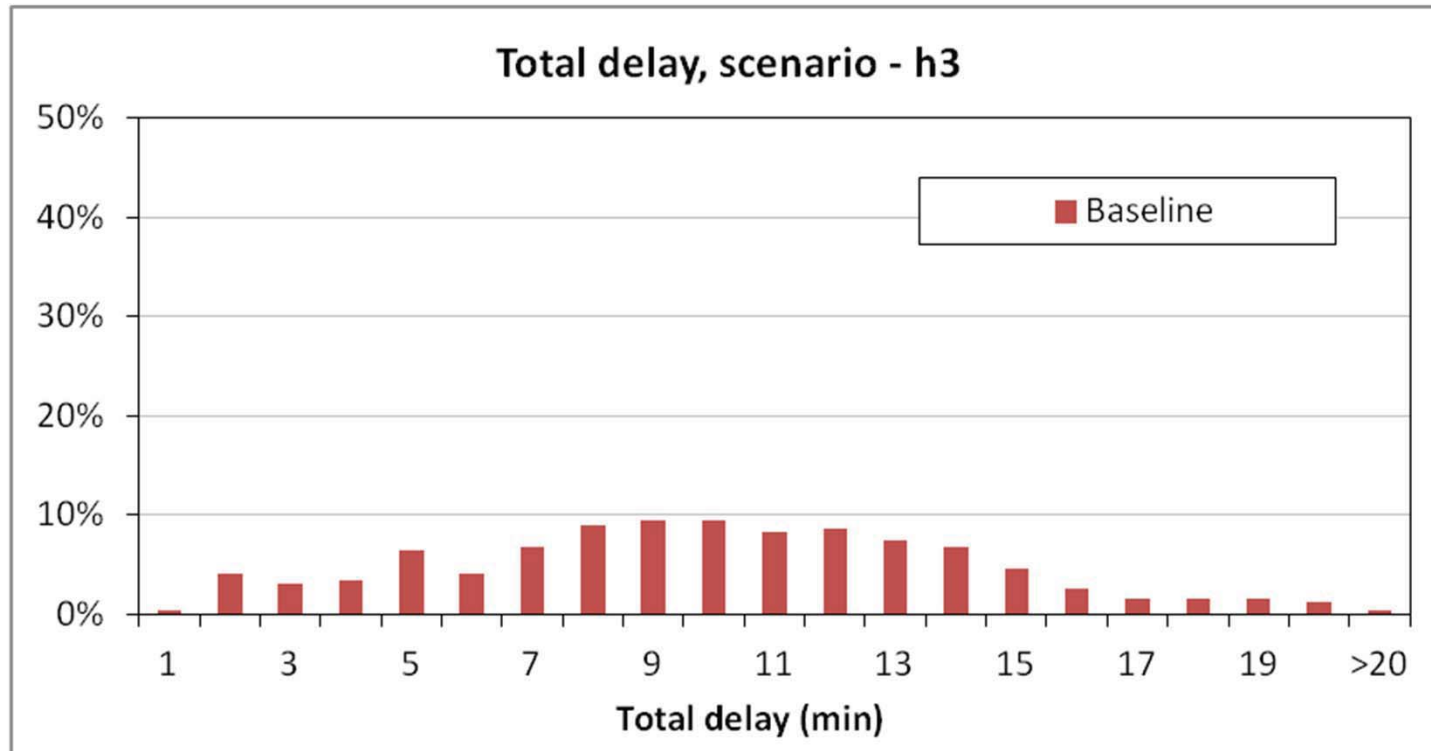
**5.5 min** reduction in heavy (60%)

# Taxiing Delay for Departures (ramp, taxiway, queue)



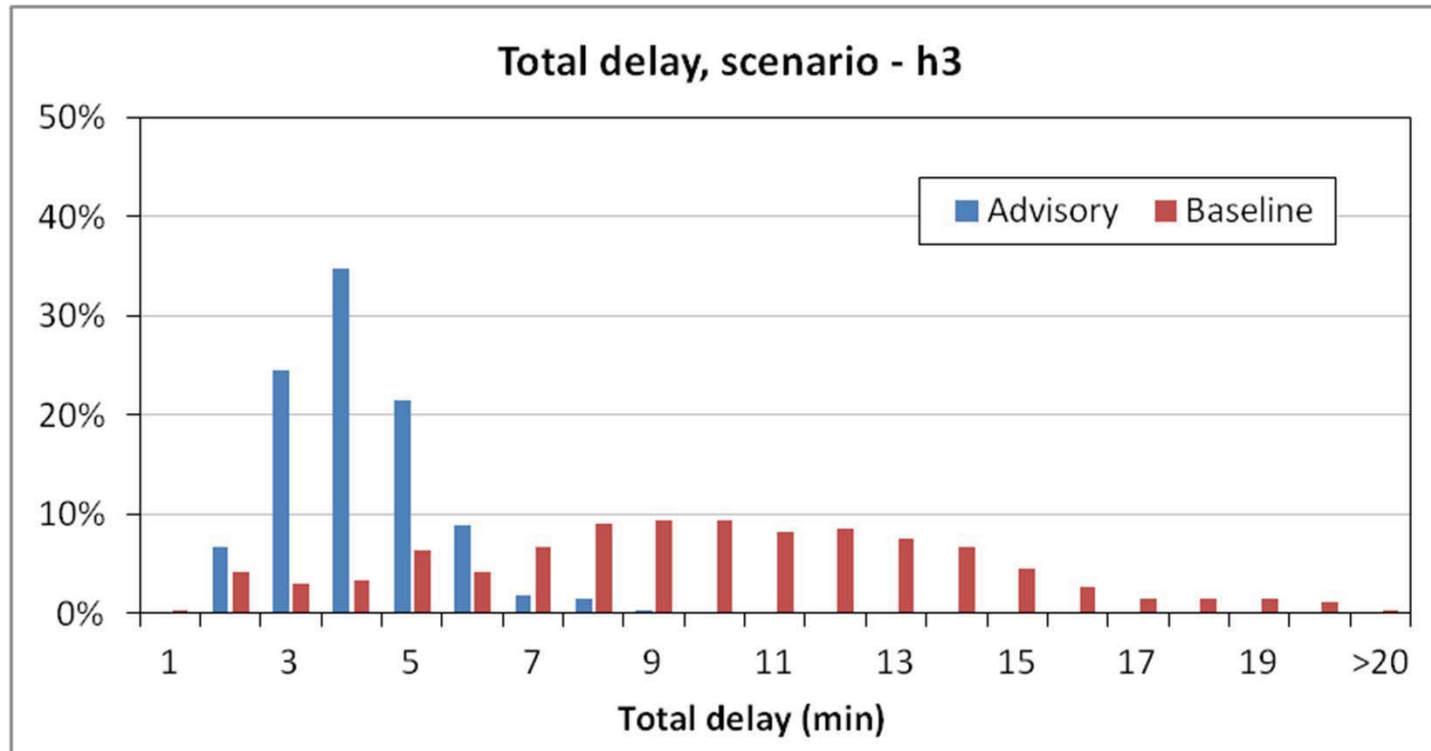
Mean and percentile over all aircraft for that scenario

# Taxi Delay - Distribution



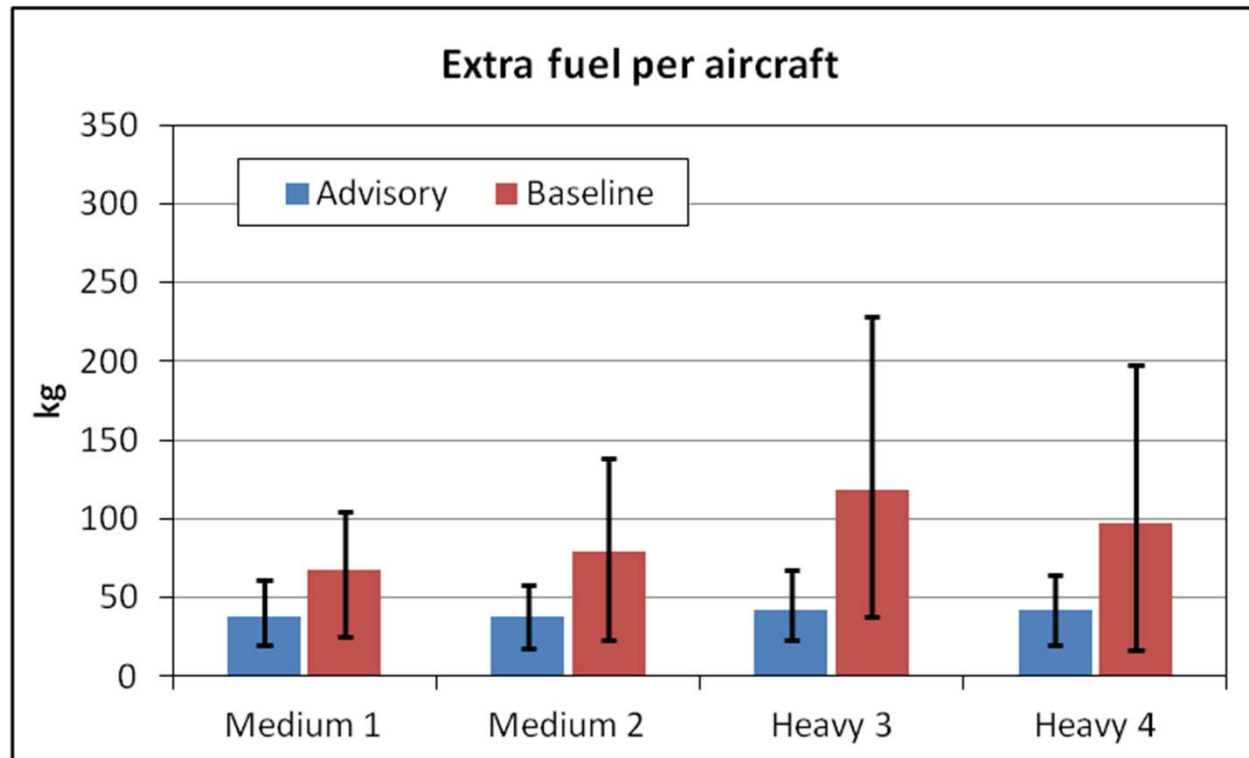


# Taxi Delay - Distribution



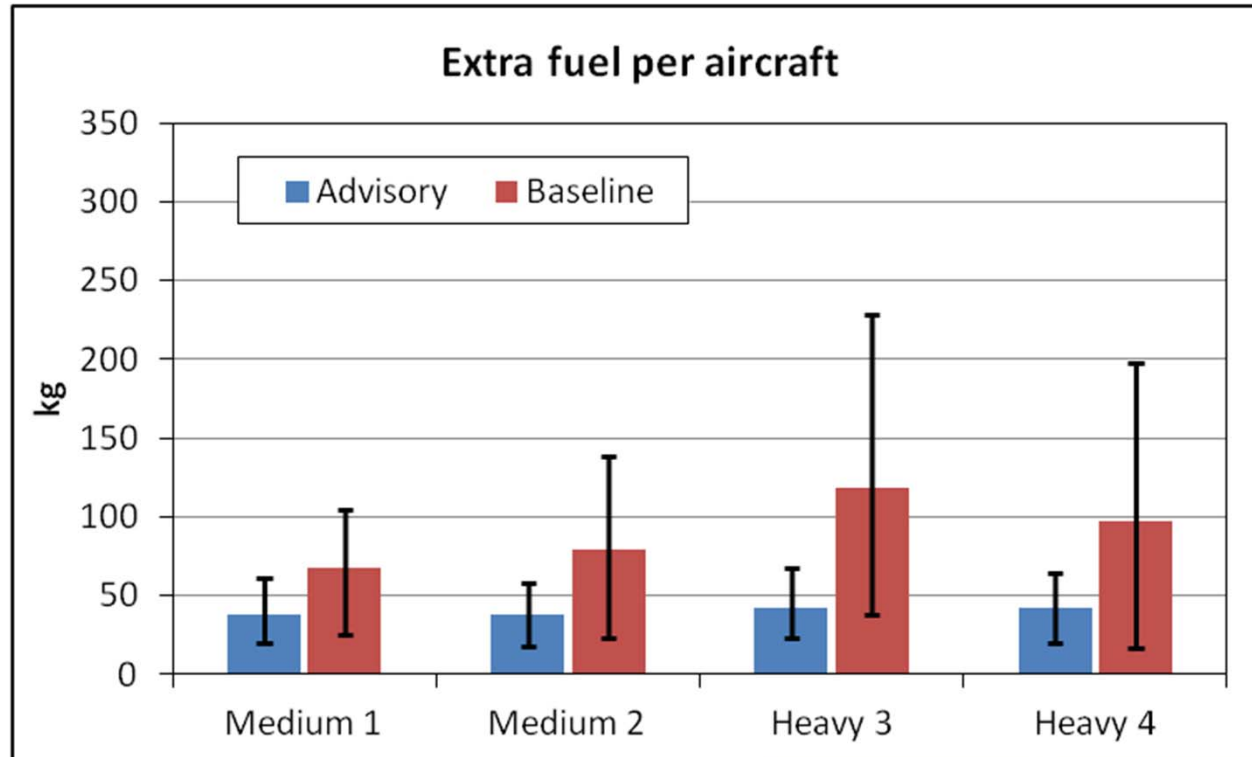
Large variation in delay in baseline

# Fuel Consumption



**22%** reduction in medium  
**34%** reduction in heavy

# Fuel Consumption



kg =  
aircraft

ns:  
s of 50

annual  
ion USD



# Results

- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- ✓ Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?
  - Delay
  - Fuel
  - TMI (Traffic Management Initiatives)

# TMI



- Details

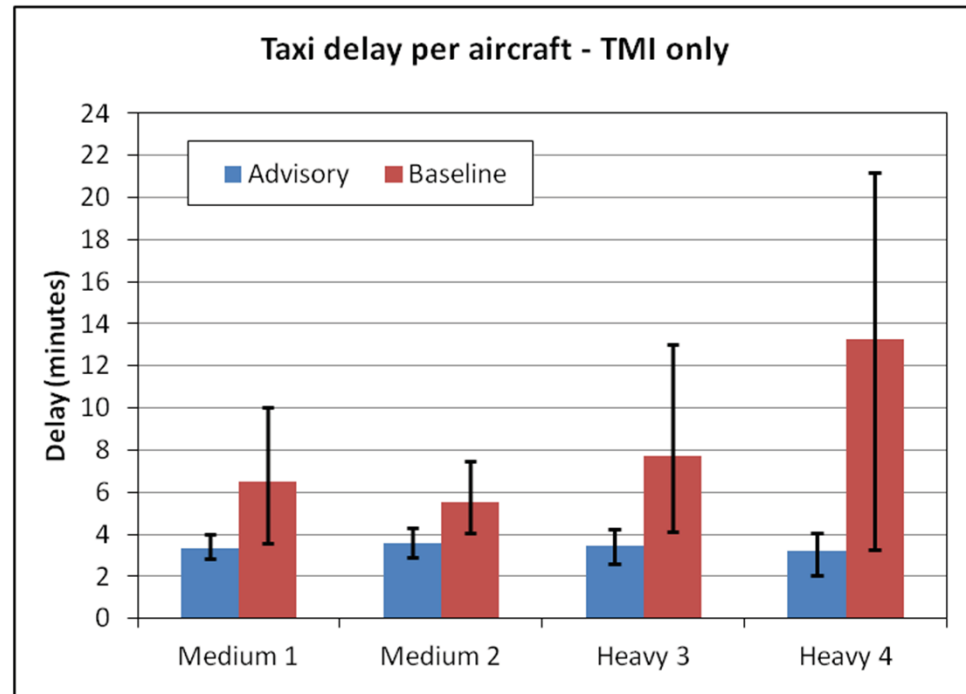
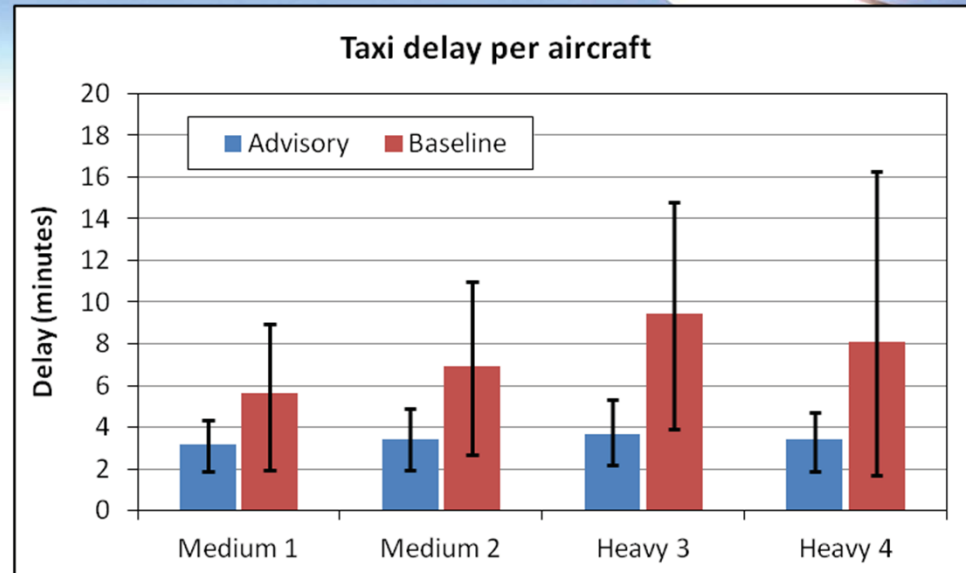
- Each TMI aircraft has a scheduled take-off time (displayed in Electronic Flight Strips)
- Aircraft should take off within 1 minute before or 1 minute after this time
- If cannot be done, release as close to time as possible (no new TMI time issued)

- Compliance?

Scenario	Baseline	Advisory
m1	93%	100%
m2	100%	100%
h3	86%	100%
h4	93%	100%

# TMI

Less variation in TMI aircrafts' delays in advisory

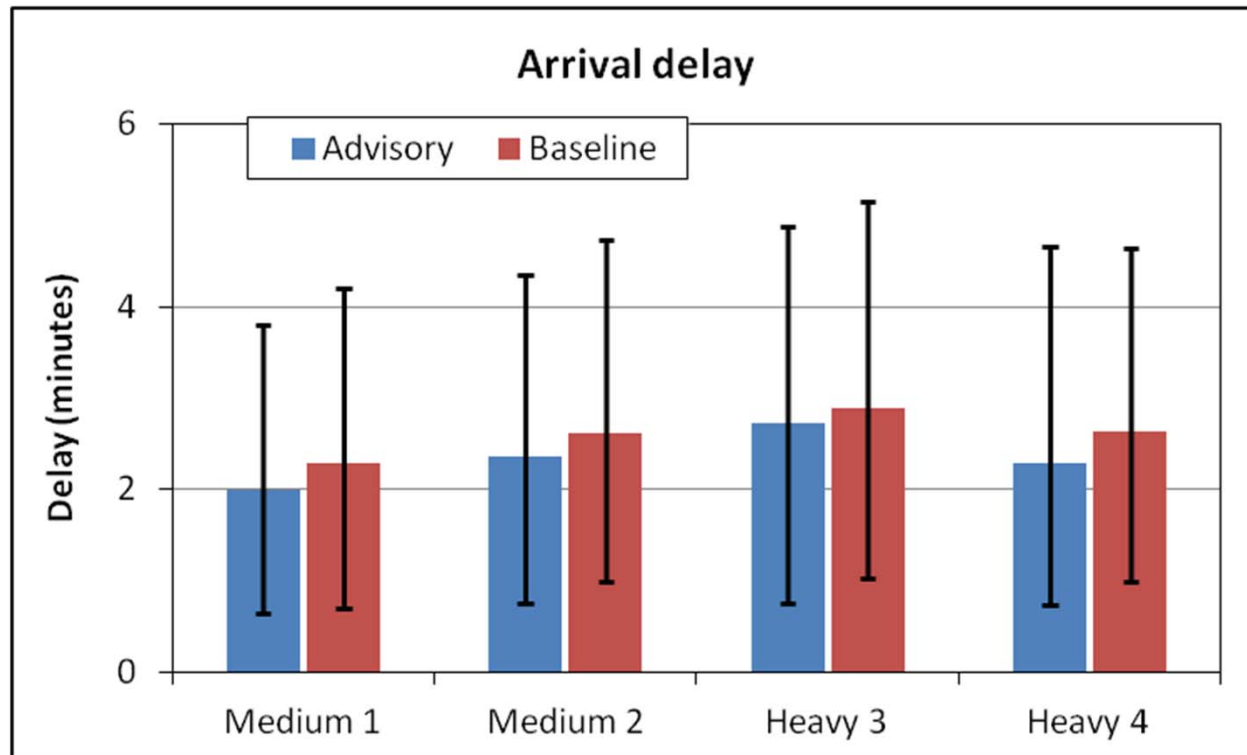




# Results

- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- ✓ Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?
  - Delay
  - Fuel
  - TMI (Traffic Management Initiatives)
- Effect on arrivals

# Arrival Delay



No effect on arrival aircraft

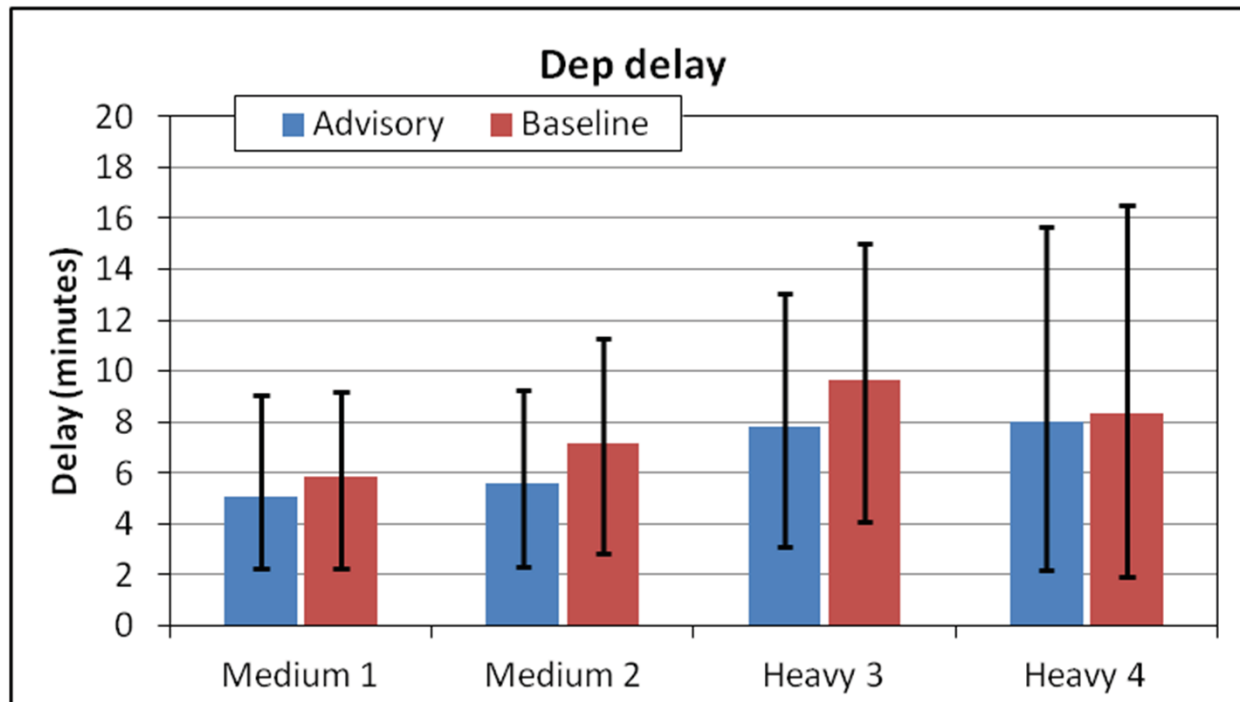




# Results

- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- ✓ Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?
  - Delay
  - Fuel
  - TMI (Traffic Management Initiatives)
- Effect on arrivals
- Reduction in overall delay

# Departure Delay



Statistically significant effect of advisory on  
**departure delay**



# Results

- ✓ Did we succeed in gate holding?
- ✓ Was there any loss in runway usage due to holding?
- What are the benefits?
  - Delay
  - Fuel
  - TMI (Traffic Management Initiatives)
- Effect on arrivals
- Reduction in overall delay
- Increased predictability



# Beyond 2012 HITL

- Idealized push back holds – what happens under push back uncertainty
  - Real-time automated simulations
  - Even with increasing uncertainty in gate push-back ( $\pm 3$  mins), there is little increase in taxiing delay
  - For the 2 scenarios tested, loss in runway usage with  $\pm 3$  mins push-back uncertainty not substantial

# Spot And Runway Departure Advisor (SARDA)



- Integrated tool for airlines and Air Traffic Control Tower enabling CDM and departure metering
- Based on managing scarce resource: Runway
- Strategic or tactical departure metering
- 4-D trajectory enabler
  - Currently 3 advisories: gate/ramp, spot and runway
  - SARDA can provide times for more “nodes” – full datalink based movements



# Current Activities

- NRA teams are wrapping up studies of implementing SARDA concepts at airports: PHL, LAX, CLT, JFK, and BOS
- Preparation for the next HITL in 2014
  - Developing a second airport model (adaptation), Charlotte
  - Expanding SARDA scheduler to provide full airport scheduling
  - Developing ramp controller interface (GUIs)
  - Enhancing simulation facility to host multiple & concurrent participants (ramp and tower controllers)



# Upcoming Activities

- 2014 Charlotte ramp control HITL
  - Simulation characteristics
    - Two hour long scenario, to capture arrival-departure push
    - Includes turnaround traffic
  - Ramp side
    - Staffing: 4-ramp controllers + 1-supervisor
    - Participants: airline operator personnel
    - Using Electronic Flight Strips (EFS) and other GUI to interact with SARDA and manage traffic
  - Tower side
    - Staffing: 1-ground + 1-local controller
    - Participants: 1-ground controller + 1-local controller (pool of participant is TBD)
    - Using Electronic Flight Strips (EFS) and other GUI to interact with SARDA and control traffic
- Future Work
  - Strategic SARDA with airline interface
  - Accepts changes to miles-in-trail restrictions in real-time.