A MODEL FOR **FORECASTING FUTURE** AIR TRAVEL **DEMAND ON** THE NORTH **ATLANTIC**

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APRIL **1971**

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF **TECHNOLOGY**

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Flight Transportation Laboratory

Report FTL-R71-1

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TABLE OF **CONTENTS**

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Appendices

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LIST OF TABLES

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APPENDICES

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LIST OF FIGURES

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APPENDICES

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

one of the key problems in the analysis and planning of any transport properties and facilities is estimating the future volume of traffic that may be expected to use these properties and facilities. Estimates of this kind are now being made regularly as the transport system continues to expand. The future planning, implementation and operation of a successful transportation system requires accurate and realistic forecasts of traffic volumes. To achieve optimal policies, the planner needs to be able to predict the effect of alternate decisions.

Although the planning process involves much more than a forecast of the future traffic statistics, these statistics provide the essential quantitative dimensions for the planning process. Forecasts **of** expected traffic are an essential prerequisite to long-range planning. The link between planning and forecasting lies in recognizing that in order to bring an expected situation under control, the planner must be provided with the entire spectrum of situations that could be anticipated and, hence, could be planned for. The reasonableness and reliability of these traffic statistics is, therefore, of vital importance to the planner.

This study investigates the North Atlantic passenger travel demand.* The final goal is to make a forecast of the passenger traffic on this route. It is believed that such a

*The word "demand" is used in the marketing sense. **"De**mand" in economics refers to a schedule relating the quantity demanded with price, whereas in the marketing sense, it refers to the total industry sales with a given level of price, advertising, level of income, etc.

forecast would prove to be a critical tool for long-range planning of transport properties and facilities on both sides of the Atlantic. For this reason, it is important to be wellinformed about the technical and economic factors which will determine and limit the travel volume, especially for manufacturers of aircraft, domestic and international airlines, and the government. Governments, for example, must be provided with traffic forecasts if they are to provide adequate ground facilities and air traffic control systems.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is threefold:

- **1)** To identify, explain, and evaluate the critical factors which have influenced the North Atlantic air travel demand in the past and those which may become important in the next fifteen years,
- 2) To develop an analytical model to estimate the structural parameters of the North Atlantic air travel demand equation, and
- **3)** To make a reliable and realistic forecast of the air travel demand on the North Atlantic for the period **1970** through **1985.**

Methodology

Since World War II the demand for North Atlantic travel has grown immensely as a result of reductions in air fares, improvements in the quality of air service, and increases in income on both sides of the Atlantic. Chapter II discusses the influence of some of these factors on travel demand. Extensive

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use is made of airline passenger surveys to support the relevance of these factors as they contribute to the travel growth. Most of the surveys relate to the **U.S.** passenger demand and generally concentrate on the various socio-economic characteristics of airline passengers. The two most widely-used surveys in this area were carried out by the University of Michigan¹, Survey Research Centre, and the Port of New York Authority², Aviation Economics Division.

The analysis incorporates both time-series and crosssectional data. The time-series traffic data was obtained from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) annual reports and the cross-sectional traffic data from the **U.S.** Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) reports, The economic data was obtained from the publication of the **U.S,** Department of Commerce and the United Nations. The accuracy, extent, and limitations of the data are discussed in detail in Chapter III **-** The independent variables are projected in Chapter V, Section **5.2.**

An attempt is made in Chapter IV to relate these variables to the volume of travel **by** means of an analytical model. The number and type of variables in the model are limited **by** the quality and availability of the data. The mathematical formulation relates the total North Atlantic passenger traffic volume to two sets of independent variables: those related to the economic environment and those inherent to the transport mode. As detailed in Chapter **I,** the basic underlying hypothesis is the existence of a functional relationship between total North Atlantic passenger travel volume (air plus sea) and socio-economic and transport characteristics on both sides of the Atlantic. The model takes into account both European and **U.S.** economic data,

weighted **by** the average proportion of the traffic generated **by** each country during the period **1951** through **1969.**

Chapter IV presents the results of the various models tested and a discussion of the significance of the empirical. calibration of these models. The analytical model selected is then used to forecast the future traffic as shown in Chapter V. This chapter closes with a discussion of the projected traffic growth if a decision were made to abandon the supersonic transport aircraft, a topic which is further discussed in Appendix **E.**

Advanced aviation technology will influence the traffic growth. Possible areas of such improvements are pointed out in Appendix **A** through the use of sensitivity analysis. Appendix B shows the details of raw data incorporated in the model. Appendix **C** gives brief details of the computer program used to analyze this data, and Appendix **D** briefly highlights the results of two studies regarding the impact of aircraft noise regulation on airline economics.

Scope

The analysis concerns the passenger traffic on the North Atlantic between **U.S.** and Europe only. Although direct passenger traffic to and from Canada is not included, on-line traffic from Europe destined for the **U.S.** via Canada is included. Similarly, on-line traffic in the opposite direction via Canada is also included. In this study the words traffic, volume of travel, and travel demand all refer to the number of passengers in both directions. The future forecast is also presented in terms of the number of passengers in both directions.

Historical time-series data was taken from and including the year **1951,** a period which eliminates the possibly abnormal

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influences of World War II and its aftermath. The forecast period includes the years **1970** through **1985,** a total of **15** years. Although it is difficult to look too far ahead in the future without sacrificing reliability, the 15-year horizon was chosen for two reasons. First, during the next **15** years, the airline industry should have completed another major transition through the introduction of new and more sophisticated flight equipment. The operations in scheduled service of the supersonics, **jumbo** subsonics, and some type of V/STOL aircraft should be more or less routine. Secondly, if this forecast is to be used for properties and facilities planning, a planner is forced to select a time horizon on the order of **10** to **15** years, since it takes time to plan and build these facilities.

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CHAPTER I

METHODOLOGY FOR FORECASTING

The techniques for forecasting air travel demand can be broadly classified into three categories: judgemental, mechanical, and analytical. When using the judgemental method, the analyst makes an educated guess of the travel demand for the forecast period. The analyst's estimate is based on his experience of the past volume of traffic and his intuition of the future. Although the analyst does not use any specific travel demand model, he intuitively takes into account the factors which influence travel demand and weights these factors according to his judgement.

The mechanical method assumes that future travel demand is a time function of past experience. The application of the mechanical method varies from the simple extrapolation of historical trends to the use of complex mathematical growth curves, such as the Logistic and Gompertz curves. These are known as intrinsic models. Time is taken to be the only predictor variable, reflecting the interplay of economic, industry, and government activities. In other words, the mechanical method assumes that the demand generated over time is a function of time alone.

The use of direct extrapolation, in general, is not considered a satisfactory method for forecasting. It merely indicates that parameters exist which have influenced the demand in the past at a rate which is a function of time. it is, therefore, difficult to project the demand based on time alone unless one knows these time-based parameters and the extent of their influence. It is also difficult to forecast the time at which these influences may cease to operate or their effects will

change. For example, it is well-known that the sea traffic on the North Atlantic has been declining steadily. **A** direct mechanical extrapolation of this trend will produce a total disappearance of the sea traffic on this route after a certain time. **A** reasonable forecast, on the other hand, would set a minimum on the passenger market patronizing the water mode.

The analytical method explores and analyzes parameters which have affected the historical travel demand pattern and those parameters which may influence the future travel demand. This method utilizes past relationships between travel volume and other variables such as income and fares. These are known as the regression techniques of projecting travel volumes. It should be noted that although time can enter the relationship as a predictor variable, it cannot be the sole predictor variable, for then the model would be intrinsic, a time-series model. The analytical method employs the dependent variable traffic as it relates to the logically relevant independent variables through a mathematical expression. It must be emphasized, however, that statistical correlation does not **by** any means imply cause and effect.

The analytical method thus erects the basic framework for an analytical model. The results of this study are based on an analytical model which is used to test the following hypothesis:

> "There exists a functional relationship between the North Atlantic travel demand and two sets of exogenous independent variables: socio-economic and transport. Furthermore, a reliable and realistic long-range forecast of this travel demand can be determined through a forecast of the related independent variables."

The skeleton of the analytical model takes shape through identification of the logically relevant independent variables. The appropriate historical functional relationship between the dependent and independent variables is then derived through experimentation with the past data and the use of regression techniques. For a base period, various functional relationships are empirically manipulated. The object is to find the relationship which gives least variance between the derived demand and the actual demand. The steps involved are the following:

- **1.** Observed relationships between travel demand, economic, and transport variables are formulated in terms of a set of testable hypotheses.
- 2. The hypotheses are translated into precise mathematical equations.
- **3.** The parameters of the equation are estimated from past data for both dependent and the independent variables.
- 4. The values of the dependent variable of the model are forecast using projected values of the independent variables.
- **5.** The relative importance of each of the explanatory variables is assessed.
- **6.** The model is evaluated in terms of its effectiveness to explain and forecast travel demand. This step may lead to a reformulation of the model and, hence, repetition of the first five steps.

There are three fundamental assumptions underlying the analytical approach. First, it is assumed that most of the variation in the dependent variable can be explained **by** using a few selected independent variables. This assumption is neces-

sary due to the fact that we have limited data. Furthermore, in many cases it is difficult if not impossible to quantify all the variables even though we know that these variables have influenced the travel demand in the past and will continue to do so in the future. The second assumption is that it is easier and/or more accurate to forecast the independent variables than the dependent variable. Data for the projected values of these independent variables are obtained directly from external sources, giving the analyst two advantages. First of all, certain external specialists in various branches of the government, private industry, and/or academic institutions are probably better equipped to produce projections. Secondly, the results of this study are to be used to aid the planning process of these external sectors which are simultaneously planning for other activities. Therefore, the projections of economic activity should be consistent. The third assumption is that the functional relationship will remain valid throughout the forecast period.

The accuracy and reliability of the analytical method depends on the following:

- **1.** The accuracy, reliability, consistency and extent of the historical data,
- 2. The accuracy and reliability of the forecast of the independent variables, and
- **3.** The validity of the assumption that the historical relationship between the variables will remain the same during the forecast period.

The use of a mathematical model does not eliminate the need for estimating time-projected values. Estimation is merely shifted to variables which might be predicted with reasonable accuracy and reliability. The primary purpose of the

model is to reduce through computation, the predicting of travel to the predicting of the independent variables appearing in the model. It should be noted that the use of a model combines errors in the variables into a single error in the traffic prediction and that the extent of error will depend on the relative accuracy of the prediction used for each variable.

The third analytical model tested in Chapter **TV** is used to determine the total volume of passenger traffic on the North Atlantic. This total passenger market is then distributed among the various categories from which it was made up, in other words, sea traffic, air traffic on charter flights, and on scheduled flights. In this study forecast of air travel demand is based on total travel **by** air. Business and pleasure travel are not separated for the following reasons:

- **1.** Lack of adequate statistics prevents separate indepth analyses of business and pleasure travel demand.
- 2. The object of the study is to produce **a** macroforecast and not individual city-pair forecast. **A** few markets are heavily business-oriented, a few pleasureoriented, but most represent a mixture of both types of travel.
- **3.** Port of New York Authority (PONYA) surveys have shown that in the transatlantic market the ratio between business and pleasure travel has remained fairly stable at **30/70** during the whole post-war period (Table **1.1).** An increase in the ratio in any given market is assumed to be counterbalanced **by** the decline in the ratio in another market. Furthermore, historical changes in fare and trip time have influenced both the business and pleasure travelers in constant

TABLE **1.1**

Breakdown of Transatlantic Traffic Business vs. Pleasure

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Source: PONYA

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proportions. **If** the business and pleasure passenger traffic behaved differently with respect to reduction in price and trip time, this difference would already have been established.

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CHAPTER II

FACTORS AFFECTING THE NORTH ATLANTIC TRAVEL **DEMAND**

Factors affecting the North Atlantic travel demand can be grouped into two broad categories; socio-economic and transport., Socio-economic variables are those inherent to the general economic, geographic, social and political environment. Transport variables, on the other hand, are those inherent to the transport mode, that is, cost, travel time, comfort, safety and convenience. The volume of passenger traffic is influenced **by** a complex interaction of one or more of these variables.

2.1 Socio-Economic Variables

Factors in this group which can be related to the growth in passenger traffic over the North Atlantic fall into the follqwing categories:

> Population Economic Wealth Social Education Attraction for Europe/U.S.A. Political and Special Events Government Regulation

2.1.1 Population

The data used in this study refers to the seventeen countries shown in Appendix Table B.l. For those European countries considered, the population grew from **279.6** million to **317.1** million during the **15** year period of **1951** to **1966,** an annual average growth rate of **0.85** percent.3 The population of the **U.S.** for this same period increased from 154.9 million to **196.9** million,

an average annual growth of **1.65** percent. According to the longrange population forecast produced **by** the **U.S.** National Planning Association, this population is expected to increase to **235.2** million **by 1980,** an annual average growth of **1.3** percent. It stands to reason that other things being equal, North Atlantic traffic would increase in proportion to the population growth.

Wheatcroft 4 has shown that there are two other demographic factors which have influenced the traffic over the North Atlantic: the tendency of the **U.S.** population to shift towards the West Coast and the influence of immigration. Besse and Demas⁵ in their study reported that from 1940 to **1960** the centre of gravity of the **U.S.** population moved **160** km westwards. This might be regarded as an adverse influence for European travel, since it would imply that an increasing proportion of the **U.S.** population lives nearer other competitive areas of pleasure travel (Hawaii and the Orient). Wheatcroft, on the other hand, also points out that these influences have partially been offset **by** other factors. For example, in the period from **1952** to **1961** the proportion of Atlantic travelers residing on the **U.S.** West Coast increased from **10** percent to 14 percent. The percentage is even higher today due partly to the lower charter fares from the **U.S.** West Coast to Europe.

European immigrants in the **U.S.** represent a significant potential transatlantic market. Again, both Wheatcroft and Besse and Demas report that this section of the **U.S.** population has grown twice as fast as the rest of the population.

Table 2.1 shows the breakdown between **U.S.** and European traffic. It is pointed out that **U.S.** citizen traffic includes **U.S.** citizens and foreign nationals who are permanent residents in the United States. For the nineteen year period from **1951** to **1969, U.S.** citizens accounted for 61.7% of the North Atlantic

TABLE 2.1

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North Atlantic Traffic Breakdown (Thousands)

Traffic represented in this table is the air in both directions. sum of sea and

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Source: INS

market, and this percentage has been over sixty since **1956.** The data in Table 2.1 includes both air and sea traffic. Table 2.2 depicts data for air only. The ratio between the **U.S.** citizen traffic and European citizen traffic remains virtually the same as in Table 2.1.

European travelers account for almcs t forty percent of the North Atlantic travel. Table **2.3** (air plus sea traffic) shows tie breakdown of European travelers **by** country. For the nineteen year period European travelers provided **38.6** percent of the traffic, of which **11.9** percent was derived from the United Kingdom alone. In other words, the United Kingdom accounted for 30 percent and the rest of Europe **70** percent of the total transatlantic traffic originating in Europe.

2.1.2 Economic Wealth

Air travel demand is strongly determined **by** income, personal income in the case of pleasure travel and **GNP** in the case of business travel.

Pleasure Travel

There are at least three forms of per capita income that can be entered into the demand equation: national income is equal to domestic product at factor cost plus net factor income from abroad; disposable income is defined as personal income less taxes; discretionary income is that portion of disposable income in excess of the amount necessary to maintain a defined or historical standard of living. This last type of income may be saved or spent with no immediate impairment of living standards. Thus it would appear that discretionary income would be a better and more consistent predictor of air travel than either disposable or national income. This study, however, utilizes national in-

TABLE 2.2

U.S. and European Transatlantic Air Traffic (Thousands)

Traffic represented in this table is **by** air only in bothdirections. \sim Source: INS

TABLE 2.3

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European Transatlantic Traffic Breakdown

Source: INS

come for the following reasons:

- **1.** unavailability of consistent data for discretionary income
- 2. difficulty of quantification of discretionary income
- **3.** subjective definitions as to the size of discretionary income

Although data on disposable income per capita for the **U.S.** was readily available, similar and consistent data for some of the European countries was not available. On the other hand, each year the United Nations publishes data on national income in consistent form for the European countries and the **U.S.**

Prior to World War II, the majority of consumers had purchasing power which did not provide sufficient discretionary income to afford overseas travel. However, since 1948, industrial expansion, international trade and real incomes of consumers have increased sufficiently to create substantial discretionary income. Various studies 6.7 have shown that a factor which is even more important than the level of personal income is the distribution of family income. Tables 2.4 and **2.5,** constructed from References 1 and 2, present the data.on income distribution in current dollars.

Table 2.4 shows that, whereas in 1956 seventeen percent of the American traveling population had income less than **\$5,000** per annum, in **1966** only seven percent of this population was earning below this amount. The story is equally impressive for the European travelers. The percentage of the population with less than **\$5,000** income per annum fell from **33** percent to **19** percent in the period 1963 to 1966^{*} . Table 2.4 also indicates that

^{*}The percentage refers to the population that is traveling and not the whole population of the country.

TABLE 2.4

Distribution of Family Income For Transatlantic Passengers

Source: PONYA

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TABLE **2.5**

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Percent of **All** Air Trips Taken **by** Adults in Specified Income Group **--- 1962** (Percent Distribution of Trips and Adults)

Source: Survey Research Centre, University of Michigan

while the money at the disposal of Europeans, even in the most prosperous countries, is still considerably below that of the **U.S.** citizens, the gap is tending to narrow, implying that the ratio of Europeans to Americans on the North Atlantic may change in the future.

The higher the income level, the greater the likelihood of traveling abroad. In **1963,** 42 percent of the traveling **U.S.** citizens and **25** percent of the traveling Europeans had income above **\$15,000.** In **1966** this percentage of the population increased to **60** percent for the **U.S.** and **31** percent for Europe. The Survey Research Centre of the University of Michigan¹ has attempted to measure the personal economic conditions of travelers in order to measure the potential traffic. Even though this survey was restricted to the **U.S.,** it is felt that positive conclusions applicable to other geographical areas can be reached. The survey used a sampling of over **5093** respondents and measured the distribution per family income of air travelers in **1962.** The main conclusion reached was that the percentage of air trips taken is correlated to personal income; the higher the income, the higher the percentage of travel **(85%** of all trips were taken **by** persons with an income higher than **\$6,000** per year). See Table **2.5.**

Some analysts prefer to use the distribution of family income above a certain base level. Asher['] uses a base of \$7,500; in other words, the traveler's annual income is greater than or equal to **\$7,500** and the greater the income (above **\$7,500)** the greater the chances of his taking the trip. Such a distribution

as this was not incorporated in the models for the following reasons:

- **1.** The base level is a subjective measure and analysts differ in their views of its numerical value. Furthermore, the level would vary **by** country.
- 2. The data is very sketchy on the distribution of income especially for some of the European countries considered in this study.
- **3.** The variation in the income distribution is fairly difficult to forecast accurately.

Business Travel

It appears that business travel is not sensitive to personal income. Business reasons are not self-selected, and although **highly** paid senior management executives travel more than middle and lower level staff, income of the business traveler seldom seems to directly influence the frequency and, in some cases, the class of travel.

Business travel appears to depend,among other things, on **GNP** and particularly on exports, imports, level of investment abroad and balance of payments. It stands to reason that during recessions the amount of business travel diminishes. Conversely, during an expansion of the economy, business travel increases. During recessions when corporate profits are down and costs are rising, one of the means of reducing corporate costs is to curtail business travel. It can be seen from this that a relationship exists between the fluctuations in the economy on both sides of the Atlantic and the traffic trend. However, this relationship is very general, since fluctuations in the economy do not exactly coincide with fluctuations in traffic. The reason for this is twofold. First, there is never just one

factor at play. Every year's traffic is influenced **by** many factors simultaneously. Secondly, there is a time lag between the movement in the economy and the influence on traffic. To attempt to predict this time lag accurately would require very sophisticated techniques and numerous statistical data. It has been suggested that a variable time lag should be considered. The variation implied here is twofold. First, the time lag should be different for the pleasure and business markets. Secondly, it should reflect the economy at any given time as being in the state of expansion, recession or normality. The sophistication involved here is beyond the scope of the models presented in this thesis. In order to sacrifice accuracy for simplicity, a one-year lag was introduced in the first two models, that is to say, last year's income was correlated to this year's traffic.

The model incorporates **GNP** per capita as one of the predictor variables. The advantages of using **GNP** are:

- **1.** The economic conditions of two countries can be compared on a consistent basis.
- 2. Fairly accurate historical data is available.
- **3.** Many learned individuals and institutions have produced future long-range forecasts to a high degree of accuracy using the most sophisticated methods available.
- 4. These long-range forecasts are continuously reviewed and updated.

2.1.3 Social

It has been stated previously that the level of income is an explanatory variable which partially indicates the growth of the North Atlantic pleasure travel demand. While higher income families are more likely to travel, it is not income alone that influences them to travel. This section introduces other variables related to income which also influence the pleasure travel demand.

North Atlantic travel has been traditionally associated with the upper social class. It was initiated **by** the upper class, since they were the only ones who could afford this luxury. it was an expression of their life-style and a status symbol. over the years the social lines have become less distinct. Rising incomes, higher levels of education and greater leisure time for those in the middle and lower class both in the **U.S.** and Western Europe have led to some overlapping between social classes. The impact of this has been an increase in the proportion of the population with the desire and ability to take a transatlantic trip.

Knowledge of the social class with which a consumer affiliates and/or to which he aspires also provides an indication of the likelihood of his traveling overseas. The middle class considers North Atlantic travel prestigiousand a middle class person normally aspires to develop purchasing habits and attitudes similar to those of persons with higher social status.

This phenomenon also takes place within the same social class. For example, having relatives, friends or business accociates who traveled and enjoyed their trips appears to be an important determinent of a person's decision to travel.
As a result of social pressures such as status-seeking and a desire to conform, the travel decision of the individual may be a reflection of his friends' and associates' vacation preferences. This suggests the possibility that the analysis of the travel demand should not be limited to the purchasing power of the consumers and fares but should also include social influences on consumer behaviour.

On the other hand, conformity, can have a negative influence on the travel demand. For example, if a trend of buying expensive cars and replacing them every year developed, there probably would not be enough money left over for a North Atlantic trip. Conformity, therefore, can be seen to have a positive or a negative influence.

A certain amount of North Atlantic travel occurs because of family ties and associations with specific social groups. The decision to travel can be influenced **by** social relations, that is, relations between an individual and various groups of persons, such as members of a church or civic association. This is discussed further in Section **2.1.5.**

2.1.4 Education

The level of education attained has a high correlation with income, occupation, social status, human wants, buying habits and attitudes. The educated generally travel more. Even when income is held constant, the better educated population tends to outspend the lesser educated for all goods and services. In addition, the better educated respond strongly to innovations. Therefore, the amount of education

is increasingly important in estimating the demand for certain products.

Higher education inspires an interest in and a desire to see foreign places, and thus affects demand for North Atlantic travel. This cultural pursuit is dependent on the exercise of taste. As Triandafyllides 6 points out, in an age when millions travel abroad, the difference between a 3-week economy trip to London-Paris-Rome and a 6-week trip to Athens and Istanbul is not just the difference in cost but also in the sophistication of the itinerary. Today, there is a phenomenon which is not so much a pressure against heavy spending as a pressure to spend money as educated men are supposed to spend it.

The vital role education plays in North Atlantic travel is substantiated **by** many surveys. For example, in a **1955** survey of **U.S.** tourists in Europe, **57%** were found to be college and university graduates. Life magazine, in a survey in **1960** found that **72** percent of the respondents sampled had some college education **(19** October **1960).** National efforts to upraise the level of education, which in turn influences the composition of the work force, are expected to produce results after a somewhat prolonged period of time, and thus, are considered relevant for the present long-term forecast.

2.1.5 Attraction for Europe/U.S.A.

Europe has become increasingly attractive for the **U.S.** citizens and visa-versa. This attraction, due in part to heritage, culture, wars etc., has had a significant influence on the transatlantic travel. Over the time period considered

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in this study, the number of **U.S.** citizens traveling to Europe as a percentage of all other countries increased from **20.5%** in **1951** to 43.5% in **1969** (Table **2.6).** Table **2.7** shows that for Europeans traveling to the **U.S.** as a percentage of Europeans traveling to all other countries, increased from **26.1%** in **1951** to 41.3% in **1969.**

The air travel market to Europe is the largest overseas travel market from the **U.S.** Ethnic and family ties with Europe are very strong, and as pointed out in Section 2.1.1, this section of the **U.S.** population is growing twice as fast as the rest of the population. In addition to this a significant number of American ex-servicemen have been making trips to Europe, often with their families.

2.1.6 Political and Special Events

Throughout the base period, there have been political and special events which have exerted both positive and negative influences on the travel demand. Examples of some of these occurrences are given below. Although it is relatively easy to catalog these phenomena, it is nevertheless, difficult to isolate their exact influence on traffic. The process is further complicated in years during which both positive and negative events took place. In this model no separate account was taken for these occurrences.

Distribution of **U.S.** Citizen Traffic (Both Ways)

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Source: **INS**

 $\Delta \sim 10^4$

Distribution of Alien Traffic (Both Ways)

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Source: INS

Positive Factors

- . **1950** Holy Year in Rome
- . **1952** Olympics in Oslo and Helsinki
- . **1958** Lourdes Centenary Brussels Universal Exhibition
- . **1960** Olympics in Rome
- . 1964 New York World Fair
- . **1967** Expo in Montreal

Negative Factors

- . **1951** Korean Crisis
- . **1953** Disturbances in East Berlin
- . 1954 Algerian War
- . **1956** Hungarian Uprising and Suez
- . **1961** outrages in France

2.1.7 Government Regulation

Government regulation both in the **U.S.** and Europe has had a great deal of indirect influence on the travel demand. Three areas where this influence is significant are the certification of route structure, regulation of fares charged and regulation of aircraft operating rules.

The certification of U.S. darriers (and of foreign carriers operating in the **U.S.)** is subject to the approval of the **CAB** and the President when international operations are involved. The President, for example, in addition to the economic effects of carrier certification, must consider such factors as

the broad impact of international air transport on the national defense of the **U.S.**

The second area of regulation is in the control of international fares. The rate making machinery for most international operations is not the "free market", but the IATA, a price-fixing cartel. IATA sponsors Traffic Conferences at which time rates for all cargo and passenger flights **by** IATA members are established. Various members submit price schedules for particular routes. **A** vote of all carriers which provide service for these specific routes is then taken, and if the vote is unanimously in favour of the rate, it becomes binding. In the event that the vote is not unanimous, efforts are made to reach agreement on a compromise price schedule. If no agreement can be reached for a service, an "open-rate" situation prevails, and the carriers are free to charge any rate consistent with the aviation policy of their government.

When agreement has been reached on a particular rate, each carrier submits this rate schedule to the appropriate aeronautical agency in its country for approval. In the event that an agency does not approve the schedule of the rates set **by** the Traffic Conferences, IATA ordinarily will call supplementary conferences in order to work out some new agreement which will satisfy the dissident aeronautical authority.⁸

In the **U.S.,** the Civil Aeronautics Board and the President are empowered to control the entry of **U.S.** carriers into any international market. Foreign governments also control operation of their carriers outside of their own boundaries. Since international transport rates are determined **by** a price-fixing mechanism, both the structure and performance of the international transport industry are substantially

affected **by** the broad air transport aims of many individual countries.

The third area of regulation is concerned with aircraft operating rules. The recent contraversial environmental issues are an example of regulation in this area. Aircraft which are designed and flown in accordance with government specification regarding engine noise, sonic boom and pollution may cause an increment in direct operating costs. This may or may not be the case with aircraft presently in the design stage. However, modification of **B-707** and **DC-8** type aircraft may require expensive retrofits, Discussion of the impact of aircraft noise regulation on airline economics is presented in Appendix **D.**

2.2 Transport Variables

Factors included in this group which can be related to the growth in passenger traffic fall into the following general categories:

- **.** Trip Cost
- **.** Trip Time
- **.** Comfort, Spfety and Convenience

2.2.1 Trip Cost

The Marshallian law of demand is applicable to air travel: consumers will buy more at lower prices and less at higher prices, if other things are not different or do not change.

Both personal and business air travel demand is

dependent upon total trip cost and varies inversely with the trip cost as compared with other prices. The fact that the total cost of a trip has been declining since **1960** is shown in Table **2.8.** This is due to the decline in fares and the decline in average expenditures while traveling in Europe. The downward trend in expenditures abroad is explained partially **by** the growing number of **U.S.** citizens with limited funds who are now traveling and partially **by** the fact that air travelers have been staying shorter periods in Europe and spending less. The average stay has declined from about **66** days in **1950** to 45 days in **1963.** Similar conclusions can be drawn for Europeans traveling to the United States.

Apart from slight fluctuations, the transportation cost for a North Atlantic trip has also been steadily decreasing. Table **2.8** shows that the average round-trip transportation cost has been reduced from **\$610** in **1951** to \$455 in **1968.** This cost represents the average for sea and air travel. The second column in Table **2.9** shows the air fare for a typical scheduled carrier for New York-London round trip.

Yield is defined as revenue per revenue passenger mile. To compute yield the accounting procedure is to divide the total passenger revenue for a given time in a given market **by** the total revenue passenger miles in that time period. Only revenue passengers are counted. The product of one passenger traveling one mile constitutes a revenue passenger mile. Table **2.9** gives the historical trend of North Atlantic yield for a typical scheduled carrier. New York to London round trip is normally taken to be the basic gateway-to-gateway transatlantic routing. The product of yield and length of haul produces the approximate air fare. Although this method is **by** no means exact, it will suffice to illustrate the downward trend in transatlantic air fares. Yield on the North Atlantic varies from airline to

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Average Cost of a North Atlantic Trip

Source: Ref.(6) and the Annual Reports on Foreign Travel published in the Survey of Current Business, **U.S.** Department of Commerce.

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A Typical Cost of a Transatlantic Trip (Air) New York **-** London

Source: Trans World Airlines Yield (Revenue per revenue passenger mile) is multiplied **by** the round trip length **of** haul to obtain approximate cost of the air fare between New York and London. This method is **by** no means exact, but, nevertheless, serves the purpose of illustration.

airline due partly to variation in the route structure of each carrier and partly to the on-line traffic mix. The statistics for the Atlantic Division of Trans World Airlines shown in Table **2.9** depict the influence on yield of fare reductions and dilution due to passengers downgrading their tickets to lower class fares.

The reduction in air fares has been important in attracting new and repeat travelers. They have made it more attractive for consumers who had never traveled the North Atlantic before and others to take more frequent trips. Every reduction in fares between **1952** and **1963** was accompanied **by** an increased rate of growth of passenger traffic. In **1952,** air passenger traffic increased about **33.5** percent over **1951,** doubtless due in part to the introduction of tourist class service on May **1, 1952** (Table 2.10). Tourist class rate was \$417 compared to **\$610** for the first class for round-trip fare from New York to London during the off-season (October-March). This **31.6%** reduction of **\$193** had a tremendous impact on increasing the share of passengers going **by** air.

On April **1, 1958,** with the introduction of economy class, air travel cost dropped **\$113** below the **1958** tourist class and **\$259** below the **1958** first class on the New York-London round trip. The 24.2% increase in air passenger volume in **1958** over **1957** was related chiefly to the cut in price. In **1960** excursion fares were created which wpre about 28% below the economy class fares (the lowest normal fare). Group fares (for not less than **25** persons) were then introduced in **1962** and were **38** percent below economy class fares. Furthermore, these were available most of the year. In April 1964 the fare was again cut, 20 percent in first class and 21% in economy class, except during ten weeks

Transatlantic Passengers To and From the **U.S.** on IATA Carriers

Source: Monthly Reports of IATA.

in the summer when it was only **3%.** On 1st January **1967** the G.I.T. (Group Inclusive Tour) further reduced the fare to **\$230** and \$280 for peak summer period.

The above mentioned fare reductions are generally related to the normal fares. However, throughout the period under discussion there have been many special fares, adapted to certain categories of users. The big fare reductions brought about **by** the introduction of a new class are probably those which strike the public most, but it would be a mistake to underestimate the influence of special fares, which have certainly generated a constant and very substantial increase in traffic. Examples of such fares are:

- **-** Excursion fares, which presuppose a given length of stay, sometimes with departures only on certain days of the week. Often they are limited to certain times of the year which are staggered according to the point of origin of the passengers (Europeans or Americans).
- **-** Out-of-season fares, which also tend to lessen the seasonal nature of traffic while permitting certain categories of passengers to go on a transatlantic trip at a lower price.

- Family fares.

- Group fares granted automatically to parties comprising more than a certain number of members.

These special fares have been a useful addition to the considerable fare reductions made in **1952** (tourist class) and in **1958** (economy class) and have stimulated a substantial expansion in North Atlantic traffic.

At present there is a wide gap between first class fare **(\$750)** and charter fare **(\$190)** on the North Atlantic. It is expected that this differential **(\$560)** will not increase drastically due to the external forces of the regulatory body and the public.

Tourist fares, initiated in **1952,** produced a dilution effect on the traffic. Figure 2.1 shows that the demand for first class traffic declined sharply from **1952** and tourist class traffic boomed. First class traffic did not pick up again until, 1954. In **1958** the introduction of economy fares again diluted the traffic. This time, however, the switch was made from tourist to economy and very little from first class to economy. Excursion fares were created in **1960.** At that time the dilution of traffic involved all three classes of traffic but the effect was more severe on the first class traffic as shown in Figure 2.1. The net effect was an increase in the number of passengers and total revenue. Although some passengers downgraded their class of service, the lower fares expanded the market **by** making the trip within the reach of the more price-conscious population.

The major reductions in air fare took place in **1952** and **1958.** However, since **1958** and particularly since **1960** charter and package tours have extended the market and thereby enabled people in lower income groups to participate. Charter fares are lower than economy and even promotional fares offered on scheduled service, and their rapid growth appears to be a clear indication of theexpansionary impact of lower fares. This section shows the impact of the charter flights, particularly of supplemental carriers, on the traffic growth.

Historically, charter operations were started **by**

scheduled airlines using spare (unproductive) equipment at off-peak periods. However, advanced equipment, with higher productivity (increased capacity and speed) and lower unit operating costs brought about **by** high load factors made charter operations profitable.

In recent years charter traffic across the North Atlantic has been growing very rapidly relative to the traffic on scheduled carriers. Table 2.11 gives the average growth for charter and scheduled traffic from 1964 to **1969.** The supplemental charter traffic growth rates have been higher than the IATA* charter growth. The proportion of the traffic carried on total charter flights is shown in Table 2.12. As before the percentage of traffic carried on charter flights has been increasing, with supplemental charter traffic growing at the expense of both scheduled air traffic as well as IATA charter traffic.

Charter sales have increased as the price spread between charters and schedulea services has increased. This gap in fares (estimated over **\$160** average in **1968)** from California to Europe has been largely responsible for the growth of supplemental charters in that market.

^{*} IATA charter traffic refers to charter flights offered **by** the scheduled carriers who are members of IATA. Supplemental charter traffic refers to the carriers offering charter service only. In the early sixties several carriers were authorized to supplement the scheduled carriers **by** concentrating on charters for bona fide groups. However, authorization was not for these carriers to sell individually ticketed, point-topoint, transportation to the general public.

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Transatlantic Air Market Annual Percentage Growth Rates

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Source: IATA, SARC, TWA

Transatlantic Passenger Traffic M<mark>arket Shares</mark> Charter vs. Scheduled Service

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Source: IATA, SARC, TWA

The fact that supplementals can provide low-cost transportation is not because of any high efficiency of operation relative to scheduled carriers but because costs per passenger are reduced if the load factor is very **high.** The supplemental carriers can operate with extremely **high** load factors **by** offering service on lucrative routes and during high seasons only. Unlike the scheduled carriers, they are not obliged to have regular service throughout the year on both **high** and low density markets. For a New York-London round-trip, the cost per passenger can range from **\$150** to **\$500** depending on whether the load factor **(B-707-145** seats) is **100** percent or only **30** percent. The higher the load factor, the lower the cost per passenger. Table **2.13** shows the impact of load factor on ticket price if each flight were priced to break-even on its own, without averaging between flights.

Scheduled carriers have developed fare structures which take into account operations throughout the year, high load factors as well as low load factors, thin markets as well dense markets. Supplemental carriers, however, offer fares which are applicable to full plane loads or almost full plane loads.

Table 2.12 shows the sharp upward trend of supplemental penetration in recent years. In **1969** the supplementals accounted for almost **15%** of the total traffic across the North Atlantic. In **1963** this percentage was less than two. Meanwhile IATA charter share dropped from **11.3%** to **8.3%** in the same six year period. It appears that the main reason for the tremendous growth in supplemental carriers traffic is simply that these carriers have misinterpreted their authorization and have carried traffic other than bona fide groups.

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Hypothetical Transatlantic Fares **If** Each Flight were Priced To Cover Its Own Operating Costs

Source **:** Trans World Airlines

Week Ending October **19, 1969.**

Governments on both sides of the Atlantic exercise a measure of control over the volume and nature of permitted charter flights, both **by** their own and other countries'operators. It appears that in the future regulatory action will be taken to ensure that the total charter services be related in some percentage manner to the scheduled service. In the long run one can anticipate that the total charter capacity offered will be restricted to about 20 percent of the total capacity offered. This process has already started to take place. Meetings are currently in progress between the European Civil Aviation Conference **(ECAC)** member states, the United States and Canadian authorities on the subject of non-scheduled services.

Great Britain has imposed a **1971** summer quota of **90** inclusive tour charters for **U.S.** supplemental airlines, although the carriers have already sold **118** such flights. Germany has restricted the number to **30** for the entire year. **All U.S.** supplemental flights originating on the eastern seaboard have been banned from Belgium.

Charters, although a small percentage of the total transatlantic market, are very important in several key markets. They account for one-third of the transatlantic traffic originating in California, and almost **85%** of these charters are on supplemental carriers. The price spread between charters and scheduled service depends on the length of travel, the ratio of ferry mileage to live mileage and the load factors.* In **1968,** for example, this spread was about **\$70** for New York-London round-trip and about **\$160** for Los Angeleb-Londoui round-trip.

^{*}One reason for the negligible supplemental charter activity on the North Atlantic during off-season is due to the high ferry to live mileage ratio.

The impact of lower fares depends among other things on the purpose of the trip. The pleasure traveler who uses charter services, does so to save money and is, therefore, willing to put up with a certain amount of inconvenience. Many surveys have shown (TWA on-board surveys, PONYA) that the two categories most attracted to charter travel are ethnic and religious groups and educational and youth organizations. Ethnic groups are often attracted to a particular destination with which they feel they have emotional ties, often a desire to visit the homeland. Their travel is generally for the purpose of visiting friends or relatives. Price in this case plays a very important role. The cost of the stay after arriving at their destination is small. Similarly, students are usually limited **by** cash, have a specific destination and the cost of their stay is small relative to the cost of transportation. Charters, therefore, are attracted to these groups because they can generate full plane-loads through established organizations.

Charters are also attracted to professional and cultural organizations. These include organizations from the upper income sections of the community, for example, the medical, legal, cultural organizations such as symphony and art societies and political organizations. Charitable organizations are also included in this group.

The previous discussion indicates that fares or cost of transportation play a very important role in determining the volume of traffic. This is evidenced **by** the result of many

surveys, one of which is quoted here¹. This survey measured the reaction of the air travelers to reduced fares. The main conclusion reached was that people are **highly** sensitive to trip costs. As Table 2.14 shows, only 12% of the people would not, or probably would not, take more trips if fares were reduced.

One question which should be raised is the cause of declining fares when the price of almost everything else has been going up. The answer can be seen in the continuous reductions in the unit operating costs (both direct and indirect) for the scheduled airlines due to the higher productivity of the successive generations of civil aircraft. The jet aircraft has considerably higher productivity being both bigger and faster than the piston-engined aircraft. Although the new aircraft also have higher operating costs per hour than their predecessors, the gain in productivity per hour was greater than their increase in costs per hour. Therefore, the net effect of their introduction was to produce a fall in the average unit operating costs.

The average productivity of an aircraft is defined as the product of the average block speed and the available payload. This figure provides one measure **by** which various types of aircraft can be measured. As for the ICAO states, for the period **1951-1967,** aircraft productivity increased at an average annual growth rate of 10.7 percent⁹. Aircraft productivity was rising fairly fast (at about 7.5% per year) between **1951** and **1959,** even before the introduction of the jets, due to the steady introduction of the larger piston-engined aircraft. As the larger and faster jets were introduced from **1960** onwards,

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Reaction to Reduced Fares and Free Plane Trips **By** Experienced Air Travelers, **1962** (Percent of Distribution of Respondents) $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ and

Reaction **Percentage of Travelers**

If Plane Fare Were Half

If Plane travel Were Free

Source: Survey Research Centre, University of Michigan

productivity increased steeply for four years (at about **18.5** percent per year) and then settled down to a steady increase of about **9.5** percent per year as the transference to jets continued at a (relatively) slower pace.

For the same time period, 1951-1967, the average operating costs only increased at an annual rate of **7.6** percent. The aircraft operating costs per hour had been increasing steadily between **1951** and **1959** and began to increase rapidly as jets were introduced in the early 1960's.

These increases, however, were not as rapid as those in aircraft productivity so that unit operating costs were forced down at about 1 percent per year from **1951** to **1960** and about **5** percent per year from **1960** to **1967.** The net effect of higher operating costs and even higher productivity was that the average unit operating cost declined at an annual rate of **2.9** percent.

The increases in operating costs per aircraft hour were chiefly due to the fact that it costs more to operate a large aircraft than a small aircraft and more to operate a fast aircraft than a slower aircraft, but not enough to offset the increase in productivity. It is generally true in most forms of transport that hourly costs tend to rise and costs per unit of transport capacity tend to fall as the size of the vehicle is increased. In the case of the jets, the increases in costs per hour were kept down **by** the greater technical efficiency of the jet engine and the lower cost of its fuel, so that costs per ton-mile of capacity produced fell more than they would have done otherwise.

The other cost related factor **is,** of course, inflation, which had the effect of increasing prices and reducing the value of money **by** an average of 2% per year throughout the world. The main effect of this inflationary trend on airline operating costs was not so much that it increased the price of things the airlines had to buy, since some of their main purchases were cheaper in **1967** than in **1951** (jet fuel was cheaper than fuel for the piston engines and initial prices of the jet aircraft themselves were less in relation to equivalent productive capacity) but that they had to absorb rapid increases in the wages and salaries of airline personnel. United States Air Transport Association has reported that the average salaries paid **by** the **U.S.** domestic airlines increased **60** percent over the decade from **1957** to **1967.** ICAO reported9, from statistics provided **by** some of the foreign carriers, that, in general, wages and salaries increased from 1957 to 1967 **by** between **50** to **100** percent in most parts of the world. Table **2.15** gives the distribution of operating costs **by** category.

Figures 2.2. and **2.3** show two examples of the historical trend of unit airline cost and revenue, the Atlantic Division of Pan American Airways (Figure 2.2) and Trans World Airlines (Figure **2.3).** The difference in cost and revenue data in the two charts is basically due to variation in route structure, aircraft fleet and on-line traffic mix. The term revenue applies to total transport revenue, passenger as well as cargq carried on passenger aircraft. Total transport revenue was selected rather than passenger revenue alone because expenses (costs) are usually published for total operations and because of the difficulty in accurately

Operating Costs (Scheduled Airlines **of** ICAO States)

Cost* **= U.S.** Cents Per Ton-km Available

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Source: **ICAO** Circular **89-AT/15.** Ref.9

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Source **:** Ref. **10**

allocating part of the costs of cargo carried on passenger aircraft. It is clear from the charts that the unit operating costs have been declining in the last twenty years due to **.** the higher productivity of newer aircraft. Reduction in unit costs have been followed fairly closely **by** reduction in fares.

Table **2.16** shows the historical trend of the various cost components. It is clear that the greatest cost savings have been realized in the cost component 'flying operations'. Table **2.15** also shows that not only is this category the largest single cost item, but also that from **1957** to **1967,** it decreased from **30** percent to **26** percent of the total costs.

It seems probable that the rate of increase in operating costs per hour will continue to increase less than aircraft productivity. In the case of the SST's, the hourly costs are expected to rise more than productivity, particularly in the case of the first generation, but this will be more than offset **by** the effect of the B-747 and various types of "airbuses" whose volume of operations will probably be greater than those of the SST's at least until **1980.** Reductions in transatlantic fares brought about **by** advanced technology, are discussed in detail in Appendix **A.**

2.2.2 Trip Time

The decision to go **by** air is mainly a function of trip time. Speed is the primary competitive advantage of air travel over sea travel, for the transatlantic journey has become both shorter and more reliable with speed improvements in newer aircraft.

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Operating Expenses per Available Ton-Mile (cents) Pan American **-** Atlantic Division

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Note. Maintenance includes flight equipment and ground equ ipment, both direct and indirect.

Source: Ref. **10**

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PAA's **1939** flying-boat service (B314-cruising speed of 145 m.p.h.) from New York to Lisbon theoretically took about **25** 1/2 hours. Headwinds sometimes seriously affected such slow aircraft and made it necessary to refuel in the Azores if there was a headwind. Due to the adverse weather conditions the route was impracticable in winter. For example, only **56%** of the flights were completed in the winter of 1939–40¹¹. As regular flights on the Northern route began in 1945, DC-4's required 20 hours eastbound and at least **27** hours westbound against prevailing winds between New York and London, stopping three or four times enroute. By 1955, stretched and improved models of the Douglas and Lockheed series reduced the travel times on New York-London route to about 21 hours eastbound and about **17** hours westbound. The **DC-7C** in **1956,** although slower than earlier Douglas piston aircraft, flew non-stop in both directions on the New York-London route.

The intercontinental jets have now reduced travel times to about **6** 1/2 hours eastbound and **7** 1/2 hours westbound. The improvements in aircraft cruising speeds have been reflected almost completely in decreased travel times from about **25** 1/2 hours to an average of just over **7** hours. Table **2.17** gives the cruising speeds of representative aircraft in the past.

Representative Aircraft Speeds

Source: Ref. 12

The increases in non-stop range of aircraft have also led to shorter point-to-point travel times through the elimination of intermediate stops. **A** longer-range capability was not necessarily combined with higher cruising speed in newer aircraft. The **DC-7C** is an example in which range was increased making it the first airliner capable of non-stop transatlantic operation in either direction while cruising speed was actually slightly decreased (around **310** M.P.H. compared with about **330** M.P.H. for the **DC-7,** which preceded it **by** three years in service).

Reduction in trip time, basically due to the higher speeds of aircraft, has affected both the business traveler as well as the pleasure traveler. Higher speeds have meant that the businessman can reach his destination in less time.

Higher speeds also mean that the pleasure traveler can visit more distant places in a given time.

The supersonic transport will not only reduce the total trip time across the North Atlantic, but it could make a one-day trip possible between city-pairs which presently require an overnight stay. For example, on a New York-Paris trip, the **U.S.** Boeing-2707 is expected to complete the trip in about 2 hours and 40 minutes. This includes time for take-off, landing and subsonic cruise to and from supersonic flight points. **A** passenger can leave New York at **7:00** AM arriving in Paris at **3:00** PM local time. On the return journey he could leave Paris at **9:00** PM local time and be in New York the same evening at **7:00** PM. It is difficult to predict the stimulation in travel demand due to the possibility of a "one-day" return trip. An attempt was made to investigate the travel demand between Chicago and Los Angeles before and after the introduction of subsonic jets to see if the "same-day" return travelers could be identified. Lack of adequate data proved this to be an impossibility.

The introduction of the subsonic jet demonstrated that increased speed generated increased travel. In theory the SST's projected reduction in travel time should be at least equally effective.

The total demand for air travel (pleasure and business) varies inversely with the time required to complete a given trip. The value placed upon travel time for both pleasure and business purposes would presumably be related to some measure of the traveler's earning rate. One such measure is the wage rate. There are, of course, many reasons why the value of time

spent in travel might be larger or smaller than the traveler's wage rate. To the extent that the business traveler works during part of the flight or the pleasure traveler reads or watches a movie, travel does not take time away from other activities that have value. In addition, traveling might be sufficiently relaxing, exciting or prestigious to the extent that travelers would pay for these pleasures **by** placing a lower rate on their value of time. Conversely, those for whom travel is boring, fatiguing or frightening would value travel time at rates higher than otherwise. Thus, although it is reasonable to expect that the higher the traveler's earnings, the higher the value he would place upon his time, the exact value he places upon his time might actually be either greater than or less than his earning rate['].

2.2.3 Comfort, Safety, Convenience

It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to determine the exact effect of comfort, safety and convenience on the volume of traffic. The difficulty lies in the fact that these variables are difficult to quantify and that their relative numerical value is rather subjective. Nevertheless, they do affect travel demand even if the contribution may be small. It has been suggested that changes in these variables such as comfort and convenience tend to occur more or less evenly over time. It is assumed in this study that while each of these variables may be quite difficult to measure empirically, the net effect of all these factors may be approximated **by** a time trend function.

Comfort

Comfort is related to the comfort in the aircraft
as well as comfort at the airport. With respect to comfort in the aircraft, there have been gradual product improvements related to the transatlantic trip. The newer aircrafts have gradually improved the quality of the air service. Major innovations which have led to greater comfort are the pressurized cabins and the reduction in cabin noise and vibration on the **B-307** "stratoliner" in 1940. The early post-war L-049 "constellation" allowed a cabin altitude of **8000** feet flying at 20000 feet. The **DC-7C,** at the same altitute, dropped the cabin pressure equivalent to **500** feet and the jets have cabin pressurized to **3500** feet at **30,000** feet and about **6500** feet at **13** 40000 feetl. The improvement in the cabin noise level has been less significant. The **B-707** is just as noisy as the L-049. However, the jets produce less vibration than the piston-engine aircraft.

Although the type of meal provided on international flights is regulated **by** IATA to prevent competition taking this form, the quality of food service has improved significantly. Other factors contributing to inflight comfort have been items such as special meals, vast quantities and variety of reading material, inflight stereo multi-channel music and movies.

The level of inflight comfort has also been increased due to lower values of seating density, the classical example being the B-747. The distance between seats and their individual width vary with the type of service which the passenger buys.

The comfort level at the airport has also been steadily improving. Modern facilities at the airports, easy and comfortable access to the aircraft (covered ramps, mobile lounges) have increased the level of comfort.

Access times to and egress times from the airports have generally increased around some larger cities. This is partly due to the movements of the airports to locations more distant from the city centres but mostly due to the increasing traffic congestion on the roads.

Safety

It is true that a certain percentage of the traveling public will always be diverted to other modes for safety reasons. For this group, fear plays a large role in keeping them away from the airlines. This remains true even though the relative improvement in the safety of airline service, according to the measures usually presented, has been greater than for major surface transport media. For example, the passenger fatality rate has been constantly declining. **Of** course, the absolute number of passenger deaths due to aircraft accidents has been growing but the number of passengers has been increasing more rapidly. Convenience

Factors contributing to greater convenience have been excess capacity, an increased number of flights in any given market, increasing number of origins and destinations, more and more direct flights, city-centre baggage check-in locations, etc. Excess capacity implies that the passengers are not forced to plan their trips well in advance. This is especially important to the business traveler whose plans cannot be confirmed too far ahead of his departure.

Increased frequency reduces the waiting time at the terminals and provides greater flexibility in making connections. **A** greater number of origins and destinations also implies a reduction in connecting time and, hence, a reduction in the

total trip time. Direct flights also have the same effect. The success of non-stop flights from the **U.S.** West Coast to Europe have shown the convenience of direct flights. Where a traffic market does not justify direct flights, the carriers have offered through-plane service. For example, Cleveland-New York-London, Los Angeles-London-Paris and Detroit-Boston-London are specific instances of through-plane service. In these cases stop-over times are lower than connecting times and passengers are assured of being on the plane and not missing a connection.

City-centre check-in locations save the passenger carrying his baggage to the airport and thus avoid lengthy check-in queues at the airport. It also reduces his pre-flight check-in time at the origin. The net effect of all these factors is to increase passenger convenience and to reduce the total trip time.

CHAPTER III

HISTORICAL **DATA** FOR MODEL CALIBRATION

This chapter describes the sources of historical data and its limitations. The chapter is divided into three sections. The first section describes sources of data on the dependent variable "traffic". The next two sections describe the data sources for the independent variables: socio-economic (Section **3.2)** and transport related (Section **3.3).** Projections of this data are described in the forecasts, Chapter V.

Table **3.1** gives a summary of the calibration data for both the dependent and the independent variables. The statistical data used in this study was derived from the annual reports of **IATA,** INS, ICAO and the **U.S.** Department of Commerce. Other library sources include analytical studies, reports and articles published in the **U.S.** and in Europe regarding economic, demographic, political and technological factors which influence the demand for overseas travel.

It is necessary to point out that something which occurred in the past is not necessarily a completely known quantity. This applies in particular to the macroeconomic variables which were discussed in Chapter II and are tabulated in the present section. None of these variables can directly be observed in a way in which they can be verified. To find the value which such a variable takes in a certain year it is necessary to add numerous figures from various files, to divide **by** (deflation), and so on. For this reason the basic data will generally be incomplete in the first few months after a certain year, and therefore, the first preliminary estimate will frequently be subject to rather sizeable observational errors. The preliminary estimates are

TABLE **3.1**

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Summary of Historical Data for Model Calibration

followed **by** revised estimates, which are based on less imperfect data, and so on, until the time when it is not considered worthwhile to continue the process of revision. This does not mean, of course, that the "final" or "definitive" data are perfect in the sense of having zero observational errors.

3.1 Traffic Data **-** Dependent Variable

The time-series traffic data (Table **3.2)** was taken from the annual IATA reports. The cross-sectional data was taken from the annual reports of INS. Since they exclude the passenger traffic of Icelandic Airlines, the only non-IATA carrier with scheduled service across the North Atlantic, the statisticsof the **IATA** are not complete. Furthermore, the IATA statistics exclude passengers carried on non-scheduled flights **by** non-member carriers and military transport aircraft.

The INS publishes statistics on passengers arriving in and departing from the **U.S., by** air and sea, **by** country of origin or destination. Again, this data is incomplete because several types **of** passengers are not included. For example, **U.S.** military personnel using commercial and military transports are not included although civilians on military transport planes are counted. Despite these deficiencies, the statistics published **by** the **INS** are the best available, and these were used to analyze the cross -sectional data in the development of the travel demand between the **U.S.** and Europe.

3.2 Socio-Economic Data **-** Independent Variables

The Gross National Product of the specific European countries used in this study (Table **3.3)** was obtained from a

History of Transatlantic Traffic

(000)

***** This is **U.S.** traffic.only. Canadian traffic is excluded.

Traffic for these years was estimated. The statistics were given for the period 1st April through 30th September for each year. These numbers were increased **by 15 %** to obtain the annual traffic.

⁺Traffic for these years was estimated and taken to be equal to 20 **%** of the **U.S.** Supplemental traffic.

TABLE 3.2

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TABLE **3.3**

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History of Gross National Product of Europe in **1966** Prices

***** Billions *#* Millions Source: Ref. **3** and **16** report of the Agency for International Development. The United Nations reference books provided the source for the population statistics. Tables 3.4 and **3.5** give the corresponding economic data for the United States. Gross National Product of the **U.S.** was obtained from ref. 14 in current dollars. The same reference also published the Consumer Price Index (C.P.I.), thus enabling the **GNP** to be determined in **1966** constant dollars. Gross National Product of the individual European countries considered is given in Appendix B, Tables B.1, B.2 and B.3. In order to calculate the composite **GNP** as described in Chapter IV, one needs the traffic breakdown, that is, the percentage of traffic deriving from each of the European countries and Europe compared to the United States. Tables B.4, B.5 and B.6 show this breakdown for European traffic and **B.7,** B.8 and B.9 for the **U.S.** traffic. Using the **GNP** (Tables B.4 through B.6) together with the methodology developed in Chapter IV, the Composite **GNP** of Europe was constructed. The results of this are shown in Table B.10 and B.11.

Appendix B, Tables B.12 through B.14, give the National Income for European countries in each country's national currency. These figures were converted into equivalent **U.S.** dollars using the official exchange rate of the time, which is given in reference **15.** The National Income in **U.S.** dollars was then divided **by** the population to determine per capita income. These are shown in Tables B.15 and B.16. To determine the composite national income per capita, the procedure was repeated as in the case of **GNP** above and as outlined in Chapter IV. The results are shown in **B.17** and B.18.

TABLE 3.4

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History of Gross National Product of the **U.S.** Current and Constant Dollars

***** Billions P=Preliminary Source: Ref. 14-pages **177** and 229

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TABLE *3.5*

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U.S. Gross National Product Per Capita In **1966** Prices

14-page **177** and Ref. **17** Source: Ref.

3.3 Transport Related Independent Variables

Typical fare values of given time periods were discussed in Chapter II. Typical cost of transportation was taken to be the average New York-London fare calculated **by** using typical Atlantic yields and length of haul. The figures and calculations are shown in Chapter II, Table **2.9.**

Typical aircraft cruising speeds were taken for the Lockheed series of aircraft and later the Boeing jets. Table **3.1** shows the historical average speed of aircraft on the North Atlantic. Figure **3.1** shows the historical introduction of high speed aircraft on the North Atlantic. The dotted curve represents an estimate of the average speed of the aircraft for the industry. The average aircraft cruise speed for a given fleet is lower during the period of introduction of faster aircraft. This is due to the "phasing in" of new aircraft, when there are both slower and faster aircraft in service simultaneously. Figure **3.1** also shows an estimate of this speed trend during the supersonic transport age. This part of the trend is discussed further in Chapter V.

Figure **3.1**

CHAPTER IV

MODEL **DEVELOPMENT AND** EVALUATION

This chapter presents the results of several regression analyses using the data and assumptions outlined in the next chapter. It was stated in the introduction that the forecasts of the air travel demand are derived **by** means of an econometric macromodel. The purpose of the present chapter is to consider this procedure in some detail **by,** first, showing what these models look like and, secondly, **by** presenting the calibration results and the predictive accuracy of the models.

The choice of the independent variables of the models is restricted to Gross National Product and National Income, which represent the'socio-economic factors, and average fare and speed, representing the transport variables. As described in Chapter II, the selection of the variables is limited due to the availability of data and the difficulty of quantification. **A** stochastic term is included to account for the remaining variables described in Chapter II but which are excluded in the models shown here.

4.1 General Structure of Econometric Models

The total travel demand on the North Atlantic is related to a number of systematic variables such as those discussed in Chapter II and a stochastic variable. Normally, the right-hand side of a demand equation would contain an impractically large number of predictor variables. In this case, however, it was decided to represent demand as an explicit function of a small number of systematic variables which are presumably more important and let the net effect of the excluded variables be repre-

sented **by** a stochastic variable. This variable accounts for all forces which should be included explicitly in the behavioural demand equation but are unquantifiable or subjective. Variation of these forces is, therefore, allowed through the use of a time trend function. The assumption here is that the effect of the stochastic variable is similar to that observed in the past and, furthermore, on the long-term basis, this time function will satisfactorily account for many of the secondary variables.

A multiplicative type of extrinsic model has been formulated, justified **by** the historical traffic across the North Atlantic which appears curvilinear when plotted on an arithmetic grid. Furthermore, a straight multiplicative type of model was preferred over a difference (first difference and percentage difference) type, since the latter is normally used for shortterm forecasting. An attempt was made to incorporate the delays with which the socio-economic factors exert their influence on the volume of traffic. For example, the family income in year t may affect the North Atlantic travel demand in year t , $(t-1)$, or $(t+1)$.

In general, the mathematical formulation of these models can be represented **by** Equations 4.1 and 4.2.

$$
T_{ij}(t) = K \cdot X_{1}^{\alpha} (t^{\pm} \varepsilon_i) \cdot X_{2}^{\beta} (t^{\pm} \varepsilon_2) \dots \dots \varepsilon(t) \qquad \text{---Eq.4.1}
$$

Log T_{ij}(t) = log K
\n
$$
+ \alpha \log X_{1} \frac{(t \pm \epsilon_{1})}{i j}
$$
\n
$$
+ \beta \log X_{2} \frac{(t \pm \epsilon_{2})}{i j}
$$
\n
$$
+ \log f(t)
$$

where:

 $T_{i,i}$ (t) = $\frac{total}{total}$ traffic between i (U.S.) and j (Europe) in period t.

 $K = constant$

 $X_i = i$ th variable ϵ . = lag or lead for the i th variable **ij** = value of variable between i and **j** (e.g., fare) or weighted average value of the variable (e.g,, weighted **GNP** of **U.S.** and Europe)

f(t) **=** function of time period.

The exponents in the model represent partial elasticities, one elasticity coefficient for each factor which may be regarded as an average elasticity over the range of data. The implicit assumption here is that the partial elasticities are constant and will not change during the forecast period. The general form of the model does not contain terms which represent cross-elasticity. This is to say that first class traffic is not separated from the economy or excursion traffic, and business travel demand is not separated from the pleasure travel demand. This is due to the substantial limitations of the data available to reflect the price upon which the traveler makes his decision and the lack of techniques to secure homogeneity so that the price and income effects may be isolated.

4.2 Model Development

It is emphasized that even though a more complex model may be required to attain the degree of accuracy desired, its construction may be deterred **by** the limited availability and degree

of quantification of the data. In the models presented here, the explanatory variables were reduced to a minimum for three reasons:

- **1.** If accuracy can be obtained using a few explanatory variables, then introduction of a larger number of explanatory variables would produce the unnecessary and complicated task of predicting their future values for forecasting traffic.
- 2. Many of the so-called "independent" variables are interrelated and thus produce statistical difficulties such as multicollinearity.
- **3.** Because the length of the base period is limited **(19** data points), it is desirable to reduce the number of variables in the estimating equation to a minimum in order to keep the number of degrees of freedom relatively high.

The first model (represented in Equation 4.3) was constructed using five explanatory variables. For simplicity the time lag is set at one year and is restricted to the variables Gross National Product and National Income. Population growth was introduced in the equation **by** expressing the socio-economic variables in per capita form. Its direct influence is, therefore, incorporated in the time trend function. Other factors, such as those discussed in Chapter II are also important. **Al**though individually each of these may be of a secondary nature, together they do offer valuable information regarding the overall traffic trend, and, therefore, are included in the model **by** the time trend.

The time trend represents a natural growth function which resembles a compound interest type of formulation. The model

thus depicts the idea that traffic grows at a certain constant rate due to changes in the secondary variables such as those mentioned earlier. This growth rate is then superimposed **by** variation in the systematic variables thus producing a variation in the total growth rate around this "natural growth." Figure 4.1 shows this in the graphic form.

$$
T_{ij}(t) = A \cdot G'(t-1) \cdot D' \qquad (t-1) \cdot F'_{ij}(t) \cdot V_C \qquad (t) \cdot (1+g)^{t} \text{ --Eq.4.3}
$$

$$
T_{ij}(t) = \text{Total traffic between } i(U.S.) \text{ and } j(Europe)
$$

in period (t).

 $T = \sum_{AIR} T_A + \sum_{SER} T_S$ \sum_{ATR} **T**_A = **T**_{i.s} + **T**_{i.c} + **T**_{n.i} + **T**_s T. **=** IATA scheduled traffic **1.S** T. **=** IATA charter traffic **1.c** T **. = NON-IATA** traffic n.1 $T_{\rm s}$ = supplemental charter traffic **Y_ =** Total sea traffic **SEA**

$$
G(t-1)
$$
 = composite GNP in period (t-1)

$$
G = f_{g1}^{n}(G_{u,s}, G_{e})
$$

Time

G_ =-GNP of United States **U.S**

 G_{α} = GNP of Europe n $G_e = f'' \t(G_n \t\t(G_n \t\t(\ldots \t\ldots \t\tG_m)$ where $n \ldots m$ are the

individual countries to be considered in "Europe". **D** (t-1) = composite national income/capita in period (t-1) $D = f_{d1}^n$ (D_{u.s'} D_e

 $D_{\text{u.s}}$ = national income/capita of the **U.S.**

= national income/capita of Europe D_{α}

 $D = f_a^n$ $e^{} = f_{d_2}^{\text{th}} (D_{n'} \cdot D_{m})$

 $F(t)$ = average cost of transportation from i to j

V (t) **=** average cruise speed of aircraft in operation on the North Atlantic at time t

$$
(1 + g)^{\mathsf{c}} =
$$
 function of time trend a natural growth term. This implies that if GNP, Income, Fares and speed of aircraft were constant, the traffic would grow at "g" percent due to all other factors such as population, improvement in service and effect of variation in tastes. $t = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, 35$. (Year 1951=1, 1985=35)

Having defined the model in general terms, the functions should be defined explicitly. The composite **GNP** and National Income per capita functions are obtained **by** using a unique

weighting system. The desired weighting system is the one which represents, on a relative basis, the ability and desire of each country's population to take a transatlantic trip. In this study each country's **GNP** and National Income per capita. in year t was weighted **by** the percentage of total transatlantic passengers generated **by** that country in year t. At this point the input to the model interrelates cross-sectional traffic data to the time-series economic data.

$$
G_e(t) = G_n(t) \cdot i_n(t) + \dots + G_m(t) \cdot i_m(t)
$$

where $i_n(t)$ is the percentage of round trip transatlantic European traffic accounted **by** the nationals of country n in the year (t).

$$
G(t) = G_{u,s}(t) \cdot i_{u,s}(t) + G_e(t) \cdot i_e(t)
$$

Where $\mathrm{i_{u,s}}$ and $\mathrm{i_{e}}$ are the percentages of total transatlantic (European and **U.S.** citizens) traffic accounted **by** the **U.S.** citizens and Europeans respectively in the year t.

Similarly,

$$
D_e(t) = D_n(t) \cdot i_n(t) + \dots + D_m(t) \cdot i_m(t)
$$

$$
D(t) = D_{u.s}(t) \cdot i_{u.s}(t) + D_e(t) \cdot i_e(t)
$$

The term "fare" represents the cost of transportation. **A** typical cost of a transatlantic trip (New York-London) is

shown in Table **2.9** for air travel only. Furthermore, this table indicates the average price paid **by** all passengers. No attempt was made to weight air and sea fares. It was possible to obtain the annual yield data for air traffic, which takes into account all classes of fare, that is, charter rates as well as fares paid on scheduled services. Similar yield data for the sea fares was not available.

The justification offered for using the average air fare only is as follows. Tables **2.8** and **2.9** show that the air fare and the sea fare trends are very similar. Secondly, the passengers who now travel **by** sea do so for reasons other than cost. It may be the sheer pleasure and relaxation of spending five days on the sea or the fear of flying. In either case the modal choice is not dependent on the cost of the trip.

The other simplification incorporated in the fare index is the assumption that the New York-London fare trend is a fair representation for the whole North Atlantic. Again this can be justified on the basis that almost all fares are "pegged" to this route, as has been historically true in the case of IATA members operating on the North Atlantic. Occasionally a new fare would be introduced on a particular route, for example, New York-Rome. In this case the New York-London and almost all other fares would be changed accordingly.

Model **1**

The first model, shown **by** Equation 4.3, was calibrated using the historical data from **1951** through **1969.** The calibration of the models, that is, the estimation of the coefficients, was performed **by** employing regression analysis. Appendix **C** gives a brief outline of the computer program used to determine

the regression coefficients.

Table 4.1 shows the results of the regression analysis. The next step is the determination of the adequacy of the estimated coefficients. The estimated values of these coefficients are **by** nature averages or means. If we plot the "estimated" value of traffic T (using Equation 4.3 with coefficients as in Table 4.1), it is quite possible that no one value of traffic T will equal exactly the "actual" value of traffic T. This implies the possibility that no one point in the scatter diagram (actual versus estimated) lies exactly on the curve, but the values of estimated T may be close to actual T. Since errors are to be expected in all such estimations, it is necessary to measure the amount of error and infer from this the degree of confidence that can be attributed to the estimated coefficients.

The standard error of the regression coefficients is one such statistic to test the adequacy of the estimated coefficients. If the "errors" (difference between actual traffic and traffic estimated using the regression equation) in the analytical model are random, independent, and normally distributed, then the principles of statistical estimation show that the quantity "t" follows the t-distribution with (N-N_C) degrees of freedom for each estimated coefficient α , β , γ' , δ , etc. For example, for the coefficient α , partial elasticity with respect to GNP per capita, t is determined from the expression:

$$
t = \frac{\vec{\alpha} - \alpha}{\Delta_{\vec{\alpha}}}
$$

where:

t **=** Students' distribution

 $\vec{\alpha}$ = estimated regression coefficient

TABLE 4.1

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}$, and $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{X}}$

Empirical Results **-** Model 1.

***** Ten Percent Level of Significance

 \mathbf{r} , \mathbf{r}

 ~ 10

O< = hypothetical coefficient, if there were no errors present in the estimating Equation 4.3

 Δ $\vec{\alpha}$ = standard error of the regression coefficient

N = sample data points

 N_{α} = number of independent variables

The statistic t (as shown in Table 4.1) is a measure of the difference between the empirical coefficient and the hypothetical coefficient, taking account of the sampling variability. It is useful for establishing confidence limits and tests of significance.²⁰

The usual procedure is to execute a test of significance, that is, to test the statistical significance of each of the empirical coefficients, α , β , γ , etc. For example, if there is no relationship between traffic T and income **D** in the sample data, than $\beta = 0$. The hypothesis to be tested is that $\beta = 0$, and a confidence level is chosen. If we reject this hypothesis, we conclude that the empirical coefficient is statistically different from zero. If, on the other hand, we accept this hypothesis, then β is not significant and there is probably no relation between traffic T and income **D** in the sample data.

The empirical values of statistic t are shown in Table 4.1 forall five regression coefficients and the constant term. Next, the hypothesis that the coefficients α, β , etc., are zero at **10** percent level of significance and for 12 degrees of freedom is tested. Students' t-distribution tables (Ref. 21, **p.226)** suggest that we may expect a positive or negative value of t that may be as large as **1.782,** if the hypothesis were true. That is, if the regression coefficients are in fact zero, we

may expect a difference between zero and the empirical values α , β , etc., which is the result of chance or sampling errors. This difference, however, can not be so great as to lead to a value of t that exceeds \pm 1.782. In our case, Table 4.1 shows that β , δ , and log (1+g) coefficients meet this requirement; hence, we will reject the hypothesis that $\beta = \delta = \log(1+g)$ **= 0,** that is, that there is no relationship between traffic and income, average aircraft speed, and the time dependent trend. The results of the regression analysis, therefore, indicate that the terms income, average aircraft cruising speed, and the time trend are significant at the **10** percent level of significance.

We can test the hypothesis that each of the significant regression coefficients has a special value. This is equivalent to computing the confidence interval for the coefficient. If the hypothetical value of the coefficient is enclosed **by** the confidence interval, the hypothesis is accepted; if not, it is rejected. Thus, in our significance test we used the **10** percent significance level. This really amounts to the error of excluding the correct value of the coefficient from the confidence interval. Hence, the probability of including the correct value of the coefficient in the confidence interval is **0.90.** For example, (income coefficient) is significant at the **10** percent level of significance implies that the probability is **0.90** that the confidence limits will enclose the true coefficient.

Confidence limits are established for a confidence coefficient of **90** percent **by** substituting the value of t **(= 1.782)** at **10** percent level of significance and for 12 degrees of freedom. For example, for the income coefficient β

$$
t = \frac{1.447 - \beta}{0.666} = \pm 1.782
$$

\therefore β = 2.634 or 0.260

The limits that enclose the true value of the coefficient $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ at the **90** percent probability level are **0.260** and 2.634. Chances are **90** out of **100** that the true value of **P** lies between these two limits. Table 4.1 gives the confidence limits for all coefficients at **10** percent level of significance.

The empirical values of t-statistic for **GNP,** fare, and the constant term are less than **1.782** for **90%** confidence. This implies that these terms are not significant in the regression equation. The difference between the value of these coefficients and zero is small enough to be accounted **by** chance alone. On the other hand, all the terms in the regression equation are significant at **50** percent level of significance. **(GNP** at 20%, Income at **5%,** Fare at **50%,** Speed at **10%,** Time trend at 2%, and the constant at 50%). The time trend turns out to be the most significant term in the model.

The multiple correlation coefficient, R, measures the degree of variation in the dependent variable, traffic, that is associated with the explanatory variables, income, fare, etc., relative to the total variation in the explained variable. The value of the multiple coefficient of determination, R², measures the percentage of the variance in the explained variable, traffic, which is accounted for **by** the variance of all explanatory variables in the regression equation taken in combination. The quantity (1-R²) measures the percentage of the total variance of traffic that can not be explained **by** the selected independent variables. Table 4.1 gives the R to be **0.9967** in the logarithmic form of the regression (Equation 4.2). In the original form of the regression (Equation 4.1) R^2 is 0.9943

which implies that the selected variables explain 99.4% of the variation in traffic in the sample data.

Table 4.1 also gives the F-statistic. This statistic essentially tests whether the regression equation is significant as a whole, that is to say, whether the independent variables are significantly explaining the dependent variable. The higher the F-statistic, the more confidence we can place in the regression equation as a whole. For five independent variables, a constant tern and **18** data points in the sample, the critical F-statistic is found to be **2.39** at a significance level of **10** percent (Ref. 24, **p.** 241). The F-statistic in our case **(725.563)** is far greater than the critical value.

The F-statistic has indicated that the regression equation is significant as a whole. The value of the multiple coefficient of determination (R^2) showed that most of the variance in the dependent variable has been explained **by** the selected independent variables. The Durbin-Watson coefficient indicated that the error terms in the regression equation were unrelated. In spite of the "goodness of fit," the model shows at least three weaknesses. First, the standard error of the regression coefficients are relatively large for all coefficients. Secondly, the arithmetic sign for the composite **GNP** coefficient, ϕ , is negative and should indeed be positive. Similarly, the arithmetic sign for the fare term is reversed. This is caused **by** the presence of multicollinearity and/or autocorrelation.

The problem of statistical estimation is usually complicated **by** the presence of multicollinearity and autocorrelation. It is very often the case with economic data that a relationship exists between **GNP** and National Income. When such a relation exists among two or more of the explanatory variables,

it is not possible to measure their separate influences upon the explained variable. Although the regression equation remains valid for prediction of the traffic from both **GNP** and National Income together, the effect of a change in **GNP** or National Income on traffic cannot be determined separately. This phenomenon is called multicollinearity. When multicollinearity exists, the standard errors of the estimated coefficients are very large. This implies that we will be very uncertain of the true value of the coefficients. With multicollinearity, it is possible to have very high multiple correlation and still be unable to reject the hypothesis that all the coefficients are equal to zero.

Multicollinearity is an inherent characteristic of the economic data. Simply leaving out one of the correlated variables does not solve the problem as it then leads to the problem of leaving out a significant variable. As in this case, where forecasting is the primary objective, multicollinearity does not present a serious problem as long as the systematic relationship of the explanatory variables may reasonably be expected to continue in the future. Multicollinearity, however, does prevent the determination of their separate influences.

Time-series economic data can seldom be regarded as random samples. Gross National Product, National Income, and other economic variables in a given year are usually correlated with their value in a previous year. The term autocorrelation is used to describe the lag correlation of a particular timeseries with itself, lagging **by** a number of time units. For example, **GNP** observed in a time-series is autocorrelated if its value in a period t is correlated with the value in period $(t-1)$. Autocorrelation would exist even if the value in period t is correlated with the value in period (t-2) or (t-3), etc. Some-

times the term "serial correlation" is used to describe this same concept, but some authors distinguish serial correlation from autocorrelation. When this distinction is made, serial correlation is used to describe the lag correlation between two different time-series rather than the lag correlation of the series with itself.

Several statistical tests have been developed to detect mutual dependence of successive observations in time-series. Two of these tests are described below. The Durbin-Watson* statistic **(d)** is a test to see whether the error term in the regression in one time period is related to the error term in the next period. If the errors were positively correlated, **d** would tend to be relatively small while if the errors were negatively correlate4 **d** would tend to be large. We would therefore, require a critical value of **d,** say **d',** such that if the observed value of **d** is less than **d'** we may infer that positive autocorrelation exists at the significance level concerned.

Durbin and Watson22 have shown that exact critical values of this kind can not be obtained. However, it is possible to calculate upper and lower bounds to the critical value $(d_{\tau}$ and $d_{\tau})$. If the observed value of d is less than d_{τ} , we conclude that the value is significant, while if the observed **d** is greater than d_{II} , we conclude that the value is not significant at the significance level concerned. If **d** lies between d_{τ} and d_{τ} , the test is inconclusive. In the first model with 18 data points and five independent variables, d_{L} and d_{H} are

^{*}The Durbin-Watson statistic is sometimes used to determine whether a significant variable has been left out. For example, if the value of **d** turns out to be fairly low (say **0.5),** the probability is high that an important independent variable has been left out.

0.71 and **2.06** at **5** percent. The observed value of **d** (2.4709) is higher than d_u and is, therefore, not significant.

Another relatively powerful test for autocorrelation is the one devised by B.I Hart.²³ This is the ratio of the mean square successive difference to the variance, sometimes called the "mean-square-successive-difference" method. This test can be used to test for randomness in the errors or residuals in the regression equation, since the foundations of regression analysis depends on the assumption that the residual or error terms be random. The residual or the error terms were computed using the model as represented **by** Equation 4.3 and the regression coefficients presented in Table 4.1. These calculations are shown in Table 4.2.

$$
m^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (u_{i+1} - u_{i})^{2}}{n-1} = \frac{720153}{17}
$$

$$
s^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (u_{i} - \overline{u})^{2}}{n} = \frac{487465}{18}
$$
---Eq.4.6

$$
k = \frac{n^{2}}{s^{2}} = 1.56
$$
---Eq.4.7

From B. I. Hart's tables²³ for 5 percent level of significance and for **18** data points, a lower permissible value of **k** is given as 1.34 and the upper permissible value is **2.89.** Our empirical **k** is about **1.56.** Hence, the conclusion is that our empirical **k** is not significant, that is, it is not significantly different from the permissible values and so it is unlikely that

 ~ 100

 $\langle \bullet \rangle$.

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}(\mathbf{X})$

 \blacklozenge

 \mathcal{L}^{\pm}

 \bullet

 $\bar{\gamma}$

T- Actual traffic - dependent

variable regression equation Computed traffic using the

=U Mean absolute error **= 99.2**

 \bullet

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 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

significant autocorrelation exists in the series of residuals u. The test is efficient in indicating the absence of autocorrelation where in fact none exists, but it must be kept in mind that this test may not indicate autocorrelation when in fact some does exist.²⁰

We can now conclude that the residuals or the regression errors are in fact random and thus regression analysis is justified and valid on the sample data. However, multicollinearity and autocorrelation are present among the independent variables in the first model (Equation 4.3). This then leads us to a reformulation of the first model.

Model 2

$$
T_{ij}(t) = K \cdot D
$$

 $\int_{0}^{\beta} (t-1) \cdot F$
 $\int_{0}^{\gamma} (t) \cdot (1+g)^{t}$
 $\int_{-1}^{1} (t) \cdot (1+g)^{t}$

It is noticed in Table 4.1 that the regression coefficient of composite **GNP** bears a negative sign. We would in fact expect this sign to be positive, that is, an increase in **GNP** should increase the travel demand. Besides the negative sign, the significance level tests show that the term **GNP** is not significant in this regression analysis. One final test is carried out to test the significance of the **GNP** term in the regression analysis. In statistical literature it is called the Chow test.²⁴ Full text of the Chow test is given in Reference **25.**

The Chow test is accomplished **by** comparing the least squares residuals of two separate regression analyses; the first regression analysis with the **GNP** as one of the explanatory variables and the second regression analysis with the **GNP** omitted as an explanatory variable. We already have the results of the first regression analysis (Equation 4.3 and Table 4.1). Equa-

tions 4.9, 4.10 and Table 4.3 give the similar results of the second regression model where the variable **GNP** has been omitted from the analysis.

$$
T_{ij}(t) = K \cdot D^{(1)}(t-1) \cdot F^{(2)}(t) \cdot V_{c}^{(2)}(t) \cdot (1+g)t
$$

\n
$$
I_{i,j}(t) = \log K + \beta \log D(t-1) + \log F(t) + \sum_{-\infty}^{+\infty} I_{i,j}(t) \cdot \log V_{c}(t) + \log (1+g) \cdot t
$$

\n
$$
= -\log 4.10
$$

The appropriate test is an F-test using the following statistic:

$$
F = \frac{(S*-S)/(N*-N)}{S/N}
$$
----Eq.4.11

- ***** represents results of second regression analysis, that is, with **GNP** omitted.
- **S** = Sum of Squared Residuals
- **N** = Number of degrees of freedom
	- = Number of observations less number of independent explanatory variables including the constant K.

S = 0.0174543, **N** = **(18-6)** = 12 **----- From** Table 4.1 $S^* = 0.0212448$, $N^* = (18-5) = 13$ -----From Table 4.3 $(S*-S) = 0.0037905$, $(N*-N) =1$

 $F = \frac{0.00377905}{2} = 2.$ 0.0174543/12

F-distribution Tables (Reference 21, **p.** 243) at **⁵** percent level of significance, **5** independent variables and 12

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degrees of freedom, give the permissible level for F to be **3.89.** Our empirical value of F **(= 2.6)** is below the permissible. Therefore, at the **5** percent level of significance we accept the hypothesis that the explanatory variable **GNP** in this regression analysis is insignificant.

The following section briefly investigates the significance of the second regression model. The first point to notice in Table 4.3 is that all coefficients, as well as the constant term, have the correct sign. The critical "t" value at **10** percent level of significance for **13** degrees of freedom is **1.771. All** four coefficients meet this requirement. The t distribution also indicates that the most important term in the regression equation is the time trend which is significant at less than one percent level of significance. The F-statistic value is higher than the first regression. The Durbin-Watson statistic with a value of 2.2618 is not significant $(d_{\tau_L} = 0.82)$, $d_{\text{II}} = 1.87$ at 5%). The conclusion, therefore, is that the second regression model has higher statistical validity than the first one. In other words, removal of the independent variable composite **GNP** improves the "goodness of the fit."

Model **3**

$$
T_{ij}(t) = K \cdot D^{\beta}(t) \cdot F^{\gamma}(t) \cdot V_c^{\gamma}(t) \cdot (1+g)^{t} - Eq. 4.12
$$

The results of the second model indicate that the standard errors around the estimated coefficients are still high. The third model introduces a small modification to the income variable in the second model. The time lag **(e)** has been eliminated. Current year's income is correlated with current year's traffic. The results are presented in Table 4.4. The statistics
TABLE 4.4

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Empirical Results **-** Model 3.

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shown indicate that this model represents an improvement over the previous model. The standard errors around the estimated coefficients show a slight improvement. In another case, not shown here, a model was formulated **by** leading the income variable. The results, although slightly better than those obtained **by** the second model, were inferior to the third model. The forecast presented in Chapter V is based on the empirical results of the third model. Figure 4.2 presents the scatter plot showing actual and estimated traffic using the third model.

At this point it seems necessary to point out briefly the significance of the numerical values of the regression coefficients or partial elasticities. The empirical results related to the third model **(Eq.** 4.12 and Table 4.4) show the income and price elasticities to be **0.5875** and **-0.2712** respectively. Many research analysts in the field and airline executives would question the numerical values of these elasticities. The author would like to point out clearly that the numerical value of these elasticities is a function of the demand model and the type of data. The elasticity estimates fluctuate wildly with the independent variables included in the demand model and with the model's mathematical formulation. The fourth model is included in the analysis to illustrate this very point.

Model 4

$$
T_{ij}(t) = K \cdot D^{\beta}(t-1) \cdot F^{\gamma}(t)
$$
 ---Eq.4.13

The independent variables are restricted to income and fare together with a constant. Equation 4.13 shows the model form. The empirical results are presented in Table 4.5. As seen in this table the income elasticity is found to be 1.4913 compared to **0.5875** in the previous case. Likewise, price elasticity is **-1.0996** compared to -0.2712. Comparison between various estimates of

Actual Total Traffic (Passengers x **106)**

TABLE 4.5

Empirical Results **-** Model 4.

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elasticities are, therefore, meaningless. It is the model which has to be justified on the basis of validity and forecasting capabilities rather than the regression coefficients or elasticities. In order to determine true values of demand elasticities, the analyst has to carry out motivational market research with the object of eliciting passenger response to different stated fares.

A question often raised regarding forecasting models is: "How much more accurate is this model compared to a direct extrapolation of the historical trend?" Although there is no direct way of comparing two models, an attempt is made here to compare the forecasting quality of two models **by** measuring the ratio of the standard error of regression of the forecast to the standard error of regression of the extrapolation. Theil²⁶ called this ratio relative index of forecasting quality and defined it as:

$$
RM = \frac{Mean Square Error of Forecast}{Mean Square Error of Extrapolation} = \frac{M}{M_X}
$$

If "good" forecasts are those that are superior to extrapolation, the relative standard error provides a natural scale for them: $0 \leq R M \leq 1$. If RM > 1, the forecast is, prima facie, inferior. One would assume that there is no advantage to be gained over direct extrapolation if RM is equal to unity. The closer the value of RM is to zero, the higher, presumably, the validity of the forecast over extrapolation.

The following results are obtained when model **3** is compared to a direct extrapolation model. The RM value is found tobe **0.161.** This would indicate that based on standard error criterion only, the forecast produced **by** Model **3** is superior to

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the one produced **by** direct extrapolation.

It is to be noted that some forecasts which would seem inferior on the basis of RM >1, are, nevertheless, relatively efficient. This occurs when extrapolation is applied to a timeseries which is very volatile.

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CHAPTER V

FORECASTS AND ANALYSES

The results of four analytical models were presented in the previous chapter. This chapter demonstrates the use of one of these models to forecast the volume of North Atlantic travel during the next fifteen years. The results of the forecast are based on the third model shown in the previous chapter together with the assumptions and the projected values of the independent variables as outlined in the first two sections of this chapter. The most probable forecast (Section **5.3)** is bounded **by** an upper and a lower limit produced through sensitivity analysis as shown in the last section of this chapter. Full details of the sensitivity analysis are shown in Appendix **E.**

5.1 Assumptions

Certain fundamental assumptions are necessary to develop a realistic traffic forecast. Most important are the future conditions that may reasonably be expected to prevail during the forecast time period. In this study the forecasts reflect the following general economic, political, and transport-related assumptions:

- **1.** No major economic depression which would curtail purchasing power and increase unemployment will occur during the forecasting period.
- 2. The economic development in the **U.S.** and Europe in matters affecting the demand for transportation on the North Atlantic (population, overseas investment, national incomes) will continue to expand approximately at the rate of the past twenty

year trend.

- **3.** Balance of payments problems in the **U.S.** and in European countries will not materially restrict the normal growth of international travel or, at least, the influence will only be temporary.
- 4. No political developments will impede the natural growth of international trade and investments.
- **5.** There will be no major world wars and regional wars exceeding the present level of the Vietnamese conflict.
- **6.** No serious increase in international tensions.
- **7.** The Concorde will be introduced in 1974 and the **U.S. SST** in **1978.** Each of these new aircraft types will operate safely, obtain the operating economics now projected for them and will not be operationally restricted on the Atlantic.
- **8.** The new aircraft introduced into the airlines' fleet up to **1980** will continue to have progressively larger productivity (rising faster than costs except in the case of the 1st generation **SST)** and that this will cause the average fare to drop **by** 2.0% per year until 1974 and then **1.0%** per year through **1985.**
- **9.** There will continue to be an excess of transport capacity.
- **10.** .Airport facilities and hotel accomodations will be built to sufficiently accommodate the traffic increase and larger capacity aircraft.
- **11.** Forecast volumes are "unconstrained" in the sense that ground facilities are assumed not to limit

the growth of air traffic in any greater degree than in the past.

- 12. There will be no major change in the competition offered **by** sea vessels on the North Atlantic.
- **13.** The hypersonic transport and nuclear-powered aircraft will not be introduced before **1985.**

5.2 Projected Data

Chapter II, Table 2.1 showed the historical percentage breakdown of **U.S.** and European traffic. It is now assumed that during the forecast period the **U.S.** traffic as a percentage of the total traffic will remain at **60** percent. Appendix Tables B.19 and B.20 show the composite income per capita and **GNP** for the period **1951** through **1969.** The data shown in these tables indicates the following for the period, 1951 through **1969:**

- **1. U.S.** National Income per capita grew at an average rate of 4.6 percent per year.
- 2. European composite National Income per capita grew at an average rate of 6.4 percent per year
- **3. U.S. GNP** (constant **1966** dollars) grew at an average rate of 4.0 percent per year.
- 4. European composite **GNP** (constant **1966** dollars) grew at an average rate of **3.0** percent per year.

It was assumed that the average growth rate for income per capita and **GNP** for the next fifteen years will remain at the same level as the average rate during the period **1951-1969.** With these assumptions the projected values of composite income per capita and **GNP** were determined. The results are shown in Appendix Tables B.21 and B.22. It is difficult if not impossible to get an unanimous vote of economists on the future growth rates

of **GNP** and National Income. This process is difficult enough for one country let alone several. The author reviewed numerous forecasts and arrived at the conclusion that the average longterm growth rates for Europe as a whole and the **U.S.** are likely to follow the historical trend. Furthermore, the growth rates of national and international economy are not under aviation management control and, as such, are considered to be exogenous to the model.

The typical New York-London fare was assumed to decline at an average rate of 2% per annum until 1974 and **1%** per annum from 1974 to **1985.** This assumption is relaxed in the sensitivity analysis (Section 5.4) to determine the range in growth in travel market with variation in fares.

The decline in fares is tied directly to the net reduction in total operating costs. The basic assumption here is that if competition is not restrained for various reasons, that is, if it is operating perfectly, operating costs and fares are equal. This implies that marginal cost equals average total cost **-** the latter is at a minimum, and costs cover all the inducements necessary to attract resources to produce the available ton-miles. Fixed costs, although not a price-determining factor in the short-term analysis or individual city-pair analysis, should be considered and recovered in the long-term case. **Al**though the implication in the above arguments is that fares are based on precise and total economic and non-economic costs, the realities of air transport are such that this is not possible. The problem of ascertaining precise costs is complicated **by** allocation of economic vs. non-economic, joint and common and fixed vs. variable costs. Almost the only costs that can be precisely ascertained at a particular time are the variable ones that are specific. Pegrum¹⁸ discusses the cost allocation in

detail and points out clearly that the variable specific costs can only be used as a guide to minimum fare levels. Admittedly cost allocation is a problem in the transport industry, however, it is clear that on the long-term basis fare structure must recover total costs if service is to continue.

Returning to the question of projected fare levels, although inflation (both labour and material related) will increase operating costs, it is assumed that productivity (aircraft and labour) will increase at a greater rate than the increase due to inflation. The net result is assumed to be a reduction in total operating costs. Projections of the individual cost elements are beyond the scope of this thesis. However, it is interesting to note the result of the RAC study 19 with regard to cost-factor sensitivity. Appendix Figure **E.2** shows the sensitivity of total operating costs to changes in selected model parameters for the **U.S. SST.** This exercise was conducted to provide insight into critical areas of airline economics.

It was assumed that the Concorde will be introduced in 1974 and the **U.S. SST** in **1978,** and further that **by** 1974, all aircraft operating on the North Atlantic will be B-747. **By 1978,** the proportion will be **90** percent B-747 and **10** percent Concorde. **By 1982,** the fleet mix will have been changed to **70** percent B-747, 20 percent Concorde, and **10** percent **U.S. SST.** Table **5.1** gives the fleet mix ratios and the average weighted aircraft speed on the North Atlantic. Table **5.2** gives a summary of the projected values of the predictor variables similar to the calibration data in Table **3.1** in Chapter III.

5.3 Forecasts

This section presents the forecasts determined **by** using Model **3** which is shown here **by** Equation **5.1.**

TABLE **5.1**

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Projected Fleet Mix and Weighted Aircraft Speed

TABLE **5.2**

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Projected Data

Source: Appendix Tables B21 and B22

0.5875 -0.2712 0.0897 $T_{i,i}(t) = 53.7 \cdot D(t) \cdot F(t) \cdot V_{i}(t) \cdot (1+0.066)$ **----- Eq.5.1**

Using the results of regression analysis, that is, employing the estimated coefficients of the demand **Eq. 5.1** and values of the projected predictor variables in Table 5.2, total traffic volumes were projected for the period **1970** through **1985.** If we assume that the transatlantic sea traffic will remain at the present volume and that total charter traffic will be restricted to a level of 20% of the total air traffic, then the scheduled air traffic will grow at an average rate of **10.7** percent per year for the next fifteen years. This traffic growth pertains to the total scheduled carriers operating on the North Atlantic, including the non-IATA member Icelandic Airlines. Individual components of the traffic growth are shown in Table **5.3.**

Traffic on the North Atlantic route has a natural rate of growth of about **6.6%** per year due to increases in population, business and governmental activity in both **U.S.** and Europe and other factors such as improvements in air service, publicity, levels of education, social influences, etc. The influence of the population variable was not isolated, for the effect was implicitly accounted for in the income variable and the trend term. Because the length of the base period was limited, it was desirable to compress the explanatory data in the demand equation into the smallest number of variables. This has two advantages. There are fewer variables to forecast, and secondly, reduction in the number of independent variables increases the degrees of freedom in the statistical analysis of a given data base.

The traffic levels forecast **by** the model are presented

TABLE **5.3**

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

Forecast Scheduled Air Traffic **(000)**

Average Growth

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 $\frac{1}{2}$

 $\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{array}$

10.7 %

 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

 $\mathcal{A}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

in Table **5.3.** The exactness of the forecast will depend on four basic assumptions:

- **1.** The model remains valid throughout the forecast period.
- 2. The forecast of the input to the model remains valid.
- **3.** The operating parameters, such as aircraft capacity, frequency, number of aircraft and airport capacity, both with regard to aircraft and passenger handling, do not take on values incompatible with traffic growth.
- 4. The extent of influence of external factors, such as changes in the political sphere, does not change from the observed in the past twenty years.

The forecast represents what is considered the most

probable estimate based on the assumptions in Chapter V, Section **5.1.** The actual results will vary upwards or downwards from the forecast according to external influences or conditions exogenous to the model. For example, the travel demand on the North Atlantic would change significantly if fares on the Pacific were reduced drastically. The long-range trend may also be affected **by** changes in governmental attitudes towards international tourism, investment, fare policies and the tourist attraction of competing routes. On the other hand, the year-to-year traffic may change due to factors such as international exhibitions and Olympic games. Another basic assumption of the forecast is that the problem of providing adequate airports and airport-access can and will be solved. Forecast volumes are, therefore, "unconstrained" in the sense that ground facilities including hotel capacity are assumed not to limit the growth of air traf-

fic in any greater degree than in the past.

A study can only be as good as the data it depends on. In this study not all of the data used comes from official sources such as the government, IATA, the U.N.,etc. Reliance is placed upon surveys and estimates based on experience. The use of this type of data for establishing a model to project air passenger travel might introduce an element of error for several reasons. For example, the PONYA results were not incorporated directly into the model, for the following'reasons:

- **1.** The data was available for only three years. If one of the years was abnormal it would bias the results.
- 2. The survey covered passengers arriving and departing from the New York region only.
- **3.** It is data from a survey sample rather than a survey of the total population.

5.4 Sensitivity Analysis

The forecast traffic growth rate of **10.7** percent per annum reflects the assumptions and projected values of the independent variables in the first two sections of this chapter. The validity of these assumptions is, of course, debatable and the assumptions can easily be changed to obtain different results for the forecast. The purpose of this section is to do exactly that and observe the sensitivity of the model.

The single most debated question at present is the development of supersonic aircraft. There is no clear solution

for this question due to the uncertainty of its operating costs and public acceptance. The simple analysis shown in Appendix **E** demonstrates the use of the analytical model developed. Only the economics of the **SST** are considered, assuming that the aircraft

meets the noise and sonic boom requirements.

First, the empirical calibration of the analytical model will be used to determine the impact of the independent variables considered on traffic growth without the **SST.** It is again emphasized that, although there are no simple solutions, it is possible to make further assumptions and obtain preliminary results. Since the purpose here is not to present an indepth analysis, the results should be viewed with caution.

The inputs to the model are changed in at least two ways if we assume that the Concorde and the **U.S. SST** will not be introduced. The average speed across the Atlantic is reduced to **620** mph (B-747). Furthermore, it is assumed that the average fares will now decline at an annual rate of 2 percent (current prices) through the forecast period instead of 2 percent until 1974 and **1** percent beyond 1974 through **1985.**

This produces an average annual growth of **10.6** perecnt for the scheduled traffic compared to **10.7** percent with the **SST** in operation. There are two factors at play simultaneously. The decline in average aircraft speed reduces the traffic growth **by 0.3** percent per year and the bigger reduction in average fares increases the total traffic **by** 0.2 percent per annum. The net effect is a reduction **of** approximately one tenth of one percent in annual growth rate for the scheduled traffic. In terms of number of passengers, this implies that the demand in **1985** will be diminished **by** about **300,000** passengers.

In order to answer the question, should the **SST** be developed, the reader is referred to the preliminary analysis shown in Appendix **E.** This simple analysis indicates that the introduction of the **SST** in 1974 should provide the scheduled carriers on the North Atlantic with an average gross operating profit of \$140 million per year from **1975** through **1985** or \$1.54 billion for the eleven year period.

As indicated earlier, the most probable traffic growth for the scheduled air carriers across the North Atlantic will be **10.7** percent per annum. In order to introduce an upper and a lower bound to this forecast the following additional assumptions are made:

- **1.** The **SST** will be introduced as per current schedule and the average yield will decline **by** two percent per year (current dollars) through **1985.**
- 2. The **SST** will not be introduced and the average yield remains constant at the **1969** level of **5.1** cents per revenue passenger mile.

The author takes these assumptions to be realistic variation for determining an upper and a lower limit on the traffic growth. With these assumptions taken into consideration the model indicates the upper level to be at **10.9** percent and a lower level to be at **8.1** percent.

Finally, it should be made perfectly clear that the foregone sensitivity analysis investigates the variation of parameters which can be considered "industry controlled". The international airline industry has a direct control over transatlantic fares and speed. On the other hand, it has little control over parameters such as national income and population. Dramatic changes of the forecast level of these "exogenous" parameters can, therefore, have a significant effect on the traffic forecast presented above.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSIONS

Rational decision-making requires that the planner have some idea about what will happen in the future. This study tries to define in broad terms the prospect of travel demand on the North Atlantic route for the next fifteen years. The forecast is based on regression analysis using a past trend, an economic index represented **by** national income per capita and transport characteristics such as average transatlantic fare and speed. The economic index is a weighted average of the **U.S.** and Europe.

The representative model chosen is a multiplicative function of income, fare and speed raised to appropriate powers and a time trend function. An effort was made to take into account the delays after which the various factors exert their influence. The first model shown in Chapter IV takes five factors into account **-** the fifth being **GNP** per capita in constant dollars. Subsequently, due to the close relationship between **GNP** and National Income, **GNP** was shown to be insignificant in the model and was, therefore, dropped in Model 2. The third model introduces the income parameter without the delay effect. This is the model finally used to forecast the traffic in Chapter V. From the statistical evidence shown in Chapter IV, Model **3** is superior and performs better with the historical data.

The model appears to give valuable insights into longrange forecasting when the independent variables are predicted on a trend basis as well as on future expectations. The model is responsive to changes in the independent variables as shown in the sensitivity analysis in Chapter V. As such, the model can be used to determine the effects of major policy decisions in the

areas of transatlantic fares and the introduction of the **SST.**

As indicated in Chapter V, the most probable estimate **of** the scheduled air traffic growth is **10.7** percent per year through **1985.** Without the supersonic transport aircraft, preliminary analysis shows this average annual growth rate to be 10.4 percent. If, on the other hand, the supersonic transport was introduced and the fares did not decline from the present level, the traffic is likely to grow at **8.1** percent per year. The assumption of no fare changes is based on current prices. Therefore, even when we assume the existence of present level fares, there is an implicit reduction in fares due to the expected inflationary trend. The conclusion drawn from the sensitivity analysis in Chapter V is that the scheduled air traffic growth will lie between **8** and **11** percent per year based on the assumptions outlined in the text.

The supersonic transport has the potential of providing significant time savings. However, public acceptance is yet a major unknown. On the North Atlantic, the supersonic plane is expected to be competitive with the subsonic aircraft based on the present projected costs. The demand for the **SST** will depend on the public acceptance from the view point of noise, sonic boom, the nature of pricing and, in the case of carriers, from the view point of financing and scheduling.

The probable estimate of **10.7** percent growth assumes an average reduction in fares of 2 percent per year until 1974 and **1** percent beyond that until **1985,** based on current prices. The reductions would, in fact, be greater in real values for the average annual industry yield is forecast to decline, although individual fares may increase or decrease from year to year. Fare reductions will be possible as a result of reductions in operating costs for the industry. Although unit operating costs per tonmile on the North Atlantic vary from carrier to carrier due to

route structure, fleet composition and geographic location, the average unit costs for the industry are forecast to decline steadily. The statistics for the Atlantic division of Pan American and Trans World Airlines are shown in Figures 2.2 and **2.3.** These charts show a clear picture of fare reductions following cost reductions over the past eighteen years and suggest that the process is likely to continue, although probably at a slower pace. The main reduction in unit operating costs resulting from the introduction of jets between **1959** and 1964 has been diminished, but further reductions can be expected as these aircraft are fully depreciated and the newer subsonic'jets (B-747) are "run-in" from the point of view of maintenance and operation.

The continuous trend towards increasing the number of seats per aircraft (stretched versions) will also produce a reduction in unit operating costs. Although there has been some discussion about aircraft with a capacity of **750-1000** seats, it is unlikely that these aircraft would be introduced before **1985.** The present forecast of traffic growth would not justify their introduction. Secondly, the carriers are anticipating large capital expenditures for the Concorde and later the **U,S..SST** and will probably not approve the introduction of aircraft larger than an extended version of the Boeing **747.**

It is most likely that the actual results of the traffic will differ from the forecast as the actual traffic data comes in. Should the forecast be then revised and if so when? Longrange forecasts should not be revised based on one or two years of new data. However, it is recommended that the forecasts be revised when more is known about the **SST,** for example, the year of introduction, the level of penetration, its operating costs and the fare structure. New data should be introduced periodically and related to the previous data. It may be necessary to re-

consider the adopted model if it appears that the basic assumptions have become quite unlikely and that one or more of them must be revised.

There are still many areas that have to be explored more thcroughly, especially the composition of the market, passenger motivation and consumer choice. For example, rising standards of living are not in themselves sufficient for the growth of air travel, because the desire to travel has to be stronger than the ability to pay for it. If people started buying luxury cars and replacing them sooner, will they have enough money left over for foreign travel?

At the present time the traffic growth, in general, is low. It is, nevertheless, essential that long-range studies should not be influenced **by** impressions due merely to recent and shortterm developments. It would be a mistake for a mediocre year to lead to a revision of a forecast for the next fifteen years.

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APPENDIX **A**

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Future Aviation Technology

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Future North Atlantic traffic growth will be influenced **by** aviation technology in at least two ways. The supersonic transport will be affected **by** the greater speeds it can attain, the subsonic transport will be most affected **by** the reduction in the fares brought about through reduction in operating costs per seat-mile. The following section throws some light on aviation technology which may influence the North Atlantic growth either through reduction in fares or through increases in speed.

Aircraft

Looking ten years ahead, it is apparent that there will be two main lines of development in civil aircraft. One is the development of high capacity subsonic jets while the other is the introduction of supersonic transport.

Subsonic

The most recent aircraft to go into transatlantic scheduled service was the Boeing **747.** It is anticipated that the B-747 will operate at about 20 **%** lower operating costs than the present **B-707** and **DC-8** and slightly lower than the present stretched **DC-8.** An important feature of the B-747 is believed to be its passenger appeal. Although the **747** is only slightly faster than the **707,** it will be more comfortable for long-haul operations. In high density configuration, that is, ten abreast with minimal seat-pitch, the **747** could carry 490 passengers. With nine abreast in the economy section and seats that are **10 %** wider than those in present jets, the **747** should have a high passenger appeal.

The next subsonic aircraft to go into North Atlantic service will most probably be the Lockheed L-10ll-8.4A. This is an extended -range version of the L-10ll-1, which was designed for high-

density **U.S.** domestic routes. This aircraft is expected to have a **5000-5500** mile range and a gross weight of approximately **600,000** pounds.

It is possible that **by 1975** Boeing will have produced a stretched version of the **747.** Such an aircraft will resemble the **C-5A** Galaxy with a seating capacity of approximately **650. A** commercial version of the **C-5A** is also another possibility. Due to the capability of carrying a greater payload, these aircraft will possess higher productivity and, therefore, maintain lower unit operating costs. These two high capacity subsonic jets will be the first type of aircraft to provide a cheap form of mass transportation. With high productivity and lower unit direct operating costs, one can expect the continuation of the downward trend in transatlantic fares. It is pointed out, however, that part of this decline in direct operating costs will be offset **by** an increase in indirect operating costs due to the continuous inflationary trend.

Supersonic

The first supersonic transatlantic aircraft to go into service could be the Russian **SST,** TU-144. If the airlines of the Western World decide to purchase the TU-144, it could be operating **by 1972,** a two-year lead over the Concorde. The TU-144 will offer seating for 120 and cruise at **1550** mph with a range of about 4000 miles.

The Concorde is scheduled to go into service in 1974. With a capacity for servicing **128** passengers, it will cruise at 1400 mph and have a range of 4000 miles. Approximately **200-250** Concordes are expected tobe in service **by 1980,** at an estimated cost per aircraft of 20 million dollars. Direct operating costs per seat-mile for the Concorde will be about **25 %** higher than the

present subsonic jets and about **30 %** above the **U.S. SST.** This estimate is based on a 3600-mile range. Therefore, it is anticipated that there will be a surcharge on the **SST** in order for the airlines to earn an equal rate of return on their investment. **SST** service, as a premium priced transportation, will attract those travelers to whom time is of prime importance and cost of transportation is secondary. The **SST** transatlantic fare will probably be somewhere between the economy and the first class fare on subsonic jets.

Speed has always been an important factor in the determination of air travel demand. The introduction of the piston aircraft over the North Atlantic followed **by** the jet has proved this quite conclusively. Speed has appealed to both the businessman and the pleasure traveler. To the businessman, time means money. The pleasure traveler, on the other hand, has been able to get farther as a result of the availabilty of higher speeds. It is believed that most of the passengers who presently travel first class and are willing to pay a substantial surcharge for comfort and luxury will pay the **SST** surcharge for the speed advantage. The decision, subsonic versus supersonic trip, will be based on some evaluation of the fare savings versus the trip time savings.

It is very likely that a stretched version of the Concorde will also emerge. This super Concorde will have a capacity of around **250** and approximately a 6000-mile range. It is unlikely that the super Concorde will enter the market before **1978** due, in part, to the heavy capital investment for research and development. The **U.S. SST, B-2707,** will probably go into service in **1978.** It will have a cruising speed of **1800** mph, a capacity of **280** seats, a range of around 4000 miles and cost per aircraft is estimated at 40 million dollars.

Successive generations of civil aircraft will be progressively faster, more comfortable, more economic to operate and have larger capacities. These qualities, a product of advanced aircraft design technology, will be a significant factor contributing to the air travel demand in the next fifteen years.

Aircraft in the 1980's

Technically it is possible to build nuclear-powered aircraft and hypersonic transport **by 1985** provided that financial support can be obtained **for** the necessary research and development. Until a few years ago nuclear power for aero-engines was considered impractical for two main reasons: the weight of the shield needed for protection from radiation and the danger involved in case of an accident. Recent calculations show that the weight of the shield is on the order of 400,000 pounds. This is the same order of magnitude as the weight of the fuel required for the B-747, **C-5A** and the **B-2707.** With added shielding, it will be possible to provide full crash protection for the reactor. That is to say, that in the worst possible accident, the reactor will not break out of its shield to release radiation, nor will its afterheat melt down or explode the shield. Current technology indicates the feasibility of a one-million pound aircraft with unlimited range cruising at Mach **0.7-0.8** and capable of carrying a 200,000-pound payload. Future technology, with advanced aerodynamic propulsion and weight design, could easily increase the above payload to 350,000 pounds with a speed up to Mach **0.9.**

Nuclear-powered aircraft are a potential source of lower cost transportation. The cost per unit of energy produced **by** nuclear fuel is about one-eighth that for chemical fuel. There are, of course, other factors to be considered, for example, original R&D investment, ground handling costs and maintenance costs.

Technological Advances in Special Areas

Structures

During the next fifteen years, it is anticipated that research into structures and materials will achieve higher strength/weight ratios. Improvement in strength and/or reduction in weight will be made possible through the use of advanced titanium alloys and composite materials instead of aluminum. Lighter structure weight, which could be as much as **30 %** improved, would enable greater payload and increased profitability of the aircraft. However, the composite materials would be very costly unless use can be found for these materials in industries other than aviation.

Propulsion

Regarding subsonic jet engines, it is expected that within the next fifteen years significant improvements will take place in the areas of specific fuel consumption and thrust to weight ratio. Specific fuel consumption can be improved **by** increasing thermal and propulsive efficiency through the use of advanced material technology and more effective methods of cooling. Coupled with increased pressure ratios, this will result in a much higher thermal efficiency. Propulsive efficiency, on the other hand, can be improved **by** increasing the by-pass ratio. Advanced turbofans with better component aerodynamics and higher thermal and propulsive efficiencies could reduce specific fuel consumption substantially.

Thrust to weight ratio will be improved **by** increasing thrust and/or reducing the weight. Higher operating temperatures

with increased airflow capacity will produce higher thrusts. The weight of the future jet engines will be significantly reduced through the use of new materials, especially the new composite products.

Aerodynamics

In aerodynamics there are two areas in which technological developments will improve the performance of jet aircraft and eventually reduce the direct operating costs. The first is the lift to drag ratio in cruise, and the second is the maximum lift coefficient of a wing.

Lift to drag ratios of around 20 at cruise Mach **0.9** and even around **30** at Mach **0.85** are possible **by** reducing wave drag, induced drag and profile drag. The next fifteen years will undoubtedly bring about improved wing aerofoil cross-section, more advanced lift distribution over the wing surfaces, sophisticated methods of controlling boundary layers and significantly reducing skin friction.

Air Traffic Control

A very serious obstacle facing the airlines is the inadequacy of the present air traffic control systems to handle the growing level of aviation traffic. Delays in aircraft movement on the ground and in the air around terminals are costing the airlines millions of dollars annually in fuel and inability to meet schedules on time. The problem, unless attacked systematically and scientifically, will deteriorate in the coming years for at least three reasons: the growing number of civil and general aviation aircraft, the introduction of high speed aircraft and the change in mix of fleet. Furthermore, the inability to handle the rapidly growing traffic will not only be costly
but will present a very serious threat to safety.

It is unlikely that arevolutionary **ATC** system will emerge in the coming decade. It is anticipated, however, that technological advances and a higher level of sophistication in equipment for navigation, communication, identification and improvement in the measurment and prediction of atmospheric conditions will produce a more responsive **ATC** system which is safe and capable of handling the future aviation traffic growth efficiently, both enroute as well as at the terminal. **A** factor which will increase the level of safety and efficiency would be the introduction of a high speed electronic computer in the **ATC** system.

The coming decade will also witness the **ATC** system at the terminal bring in all weather operations. **All** large aircraft, at least, will be capable of operating under zero visibility conditions. This will reduce spacing or separation minimums, thereby reducing delays, relieving congestion and implicitly increasing airspace and runway capacity. Furthermore, reduction in terminal delays will reduce effective block times and reduce direct operating costs of the fleet.

Enrcute over the North Atlantic the **ATC** system is expected to improve through advanced and **highly** accurate navigational equipment, which will improve flight efficiency **by** reducing direct operating costs and relieving congestion in the air. For example, reduction in separation standards would enable the pilot to select optimum flight profiles with respect to weather, cruise speed or fuel cost. This would increase the efficiency of air space usage without degrading safety.

It is anticipated that **by 1975** a North Atlantic Satellite will be in operation. The current state of the art indicates the feasibility of applying satellite technology to aeronautical communications and air traffic control. The costs, which would

136

be high, would most likely be borne **by** carriers operating on the North Atlantic, The satellite would provide improved communication and positive world-wide **ATC** surveillance through finite position determination. Surveillance in **ATC** will consist of providing a means of determining the position of each and every aircraft in real-time and communicating this position to the ground controller. At present an urgent need is foreseen for a communication satellite over the North Atlantic, for, according to one study, peak instantaneous number of aircraft operating today in the communication gap for the Atlantic, is **82.** This number is estimated to be 143 **by 1980.**

Sensitivity Analysis

In a competitive airline industry, fares will tend to be depressed **by** competition toward the point where they are just equal to the long-range marginal cost (including return on the investment) of providing a passenger trip on an aircraft. If we assume that the airlines will allocate their capital investment in operating equipment in such a way that all equipment earns essentially the same rate of return, and if it is further assumed that competition forces the load factor on all types of planes to very nearly the same level, then the fare differential must accurately reflect the cost of operating the two different aircraft. This then implies that fares are derived directly from the operating costs and capital costs of the various aircraft.

The following section will demonstrate the sensitivity of projected technological advances on the unit operating costs of an aircraft. It is emphasized that although the calculations performed in this section are **by** no means exact, they are useful in illustrating the sensitivity of expected technological ad-

137

vances on the ticket price. The technical material is taken from the lectures presented to a graduate class in Flight Transportation, M.I.T. Two examples are shown here. In the first example the typical unit operating costs are shown for a present **B-707** intercontinental aircraft. The second example shows the impact on unit operating costs, if the same aircraft were to be designed in **1980** with advanced technology in the following three areas:

- **1. A** reduction of **30** percent in the structural weight of the aircraft.
- 2. An increment of **100** percent in the ratio of thrust to weight of the propulsion unit.
- **3.** An increment of **10** percent in the ratio of lift to drag in cruise altitude.

In both examples the payload is kept constant. In the second example some arbitrary method is used to take account of the higher costs for composite material as well as higher labour costs.

EXAMPLE **1. A** Typical Present Boeing **707**

The direct operating costs consist of the following categories:

> Depreciation Maintenance Crew Fuel Insurance

The initial cost of the aircraft is made up of the cost of the aircraft less engines, cost of the engines and the cost of the spare parts. The cost of the aircraft less engines is given **by** the equation,

Cost of the aircraft/lb. wt. =
$$
C_0
$$
 + $\frac{N^{-P}}{1-P}$ C₁

This cost depends on the production run **(N)** and the learning curve (p). In this case $(C_0=5,000$ and $C_1=150)$ for a production run of **500** aircraft and an **85 %** learning curve, the cost per pound weight of the aircraft is found to be **56** dollars. In other words, for an aircraft frame weighing **100,000** pounds, the cost is **5.6** million dollars.

The engine cost is based on **\$15** per pound of thrust and a thrust to weight ratio of **3** for the engines. Then for a fourengined aircraft,

> Total Thrust = $4 \times 20,000 = 80,000$ lbs. Engine $Cost = 15 \times 80,000 = 1.2 million

We now assume that the spare parts consist of 40 percent for the engines and **10** percent for the airframe. The total cost for the spare parts is then'equivalent to \$1.04 million. The total cost of the aircraft is made up as follows:

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Depreciation Cost

$$
D = \frac{C}{U \times Y}
$$

where:

D = depreciation cost in \$/flight hour **C =** total initial cost of the aircraft **(\$7.84** million) **U =** annual utilization in hours (4000) Y **=** depreciation period in years (12)

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Maintenance Cost

We assume that maintenance costs in dollars per flight hour for the airframe is equal to that for the engines. We further assume that labour maintenance costs are about equal to materials maintenance costs. For commercial jet transport aircraft, it is generally true that one man-hour of maintenance is required per **15,000** pounds of airframe weight per flight hour. Since the airframe for our Boeing **707** weighs approximately **100,000** pounds, we require **7** man-hours of maintenance per flight hour for the airframe labour. According to our assumptions that labour and materials maintenance are equal in cost and that airframe and engines' maintenance are equivalent, we require a total of 28 man-hours per flight hour. If we price a man-hour at **\$** 4, the maintenance cost becomes **\$** 112 per flight hour. Applying an **80 %** burden or overhead, the total maintenance cost for the Boeing **707** per flight hour becomes **\$** 200.

Crew Cost,

The ATA formula for calculating the crew costs for subsonic international flights is based on the gross weight of the aircraft. This is given by the following equation:

 $\frac{\text{Crew Cost (\$)}}{\text{Flight How}}$ = (0.05 x $\frac{\text{G.W}}{1000}$ + 135) = \$ 145

where:

G.W = Gross Weight **=** 200,000 lbs.

Fuel Cost

The fuel costs are calculated using the fundamental Breguet Range Formula-. The simplified form of this formula is given **by** the equation,

$$
\frac{w_{f}}{w_{1}} = 1 - e^{\frac{R}{\sqrt{(L/D)}k_{2}}}
$$

where:

 w_f = weight of fuel W_1 = initial weight of the aircraft R **=** range **V =** block speed L/D **=** lift to drag ratio

^c⁼thrust specific fuel consumption

For the New York **-** London trip **(3,500** miles) with fuel reserves- for alternate, margin and hold **(1,000** miles), the range R is equal to 4,500 miles. If we assume W_1 to be 200,000 pounds,

V to be **500** mph, L/D to be **18** and c to be **0.7,** then the above formula produces the weight of the fuel required to be **60,000** pounds for this trip. Now if we assume the cost of the fuel to be **0.015** dollars per pound, the total cost for the fuel for the New York **-** London trip **(7** hours) is **\$ 900** or approximately **\$ 130** per flight hour.

Insurance Cost

Hull insurance is usually based on a rate of about 2 percent of the aircraft value. It is pointed out that the aircraft value does not include the value of the spare parts.

> Insurance Cost Flight Hour 0.02 x **6.8** x **10 6** $4,000 = 534$

Total Direct Operating Costs per Flight Hour

Assuming that the aircraft has **130** seats and that the average load factor is **50** percent, then the cost per seat-mile is **1.03** cents and the cost per passenger-mile is **2.06** cents. Indirect operating costs are usually taken to be equivalent to

* 100 percent of the direct operating costs. This, then, produces a total cost of 4.12 cents per passenger-mile. If we add 20 percent to this to account for profits, taxes, etc., the ticket price works out to be 4.95 cents per passenger-mile. Although the above calculations are approximate, the final results are of sufficient accuracy to illustrate the point. In this example the cost of a return trip New York **-** London **(7,000** miles) is found to be **350** dollars and that is fairly accurate when compared to the present day fare.

EXAMPLE 2. Boeing **707 -** Advanced Technology

It is assumed that ten years from now advanced technology will permit **30** percent reduction in structural weight, **100** percent increment in the thrust to weight ratio for the engine, and **10** percent increment in the lift to drag ratio together with a **10** percent increment in the block speed. It is further assumed that the cost per pound of the structure weight will double as well as cost per pound of thrust. Further, the inflationary trend will

This assumption may not be extremely accurate. If, for example, the demand for the composite materials was heavy, the price per pound could be as low as the present day cost or even lower. Such a demand can be envisaged if the composite materials were to be used in industries other than aviation.

^{*} This appears to be true for the scheduled carriers. However, the same rule of thumb does not apply to charter operations. For the total **U.S.** Supplemental industry, the indirect operating costs were 42.4 percent of the direct operating costs in **1967** and **51.1** percent in **1968.**

double the labour costs as well as the insurance costs. Finally, the crew costs will probably increase **50** percent. Calculations, similar to the previous example, indicate the following direct costs per flight hour.

Again assuming that the aircraft has **130** seats and that the average load factor is **50** percent, total cost for the New York **-** London trip can be determined.

> Direct costs per seat-mile **=** 0.84 cents Direct cost per passenger-mile **= 1.68** Indirect cost per passenger-mile **= 1.68** Total cost per passenger-mile **= 3.36** Ticket price $(1.2 \times \text{total cost}) = 4.05 \text{ cents/RPM}$ New York **-** London fare (bothways)= **285** dollars

The two examples show the impact of technological advances as translated into fares. The second example shows that the operating costs, and hence the ticket price, would be about **18** percent lower for the advanced aircraft on the basis of an equal rate of return on both types of equipment. Such an advanced design is within the realm of technology. **A** point which should be kept in mind is that both examples use an average load factor of **50** percent. This resembles the operations of the scheduled carriers

throughout the year. If, on the other hand, these aircraft were to be used for charter operations (90% load factor) the cost of the New York **-** London trip would then be **\$192** on the present Boeing **707** and **\$156** on an advanced aircraft. These costs, with a higher load factor, are more in line with what the charter carriers offer on the North Atlantic. The **\$192** trip is almost exactly the rate offered **by** present day supplemental carriers, which operate with load factors on the order of **90** percent. This also illustrates the point indicated earlier, that it is due to the high load factors that the charter carriers can offer transportation at a rate significantly below the scheduled carriers.

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APPENDIX B

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Tables of Traffic and Economic Data

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Gross National Product of Europe In Constant **1966** Prices

Source: Agency for International Development. *Ref.27*

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Gross National Product of Europe
Th Constant 1966 Prices In Constant **1966** Prices

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Country 1964 **1965 1966 1967 1968 1969** Austria 9.4 **9.6 10.0 10.3 10.8** 11.4 Belgium **17.0 17.6 18.1 18.6** 19.4 20.2 Denmark 10.4 **10.9 11.1 11.5** 12.0 **12.5** France **92.5 96.7** 101.4 **105.8 110.8** 116.1 Germany **111.0 116.8 119.6 119.6** 124.8 **130.3** Greece **5.7 6.1 6.6 6.9** 1.3 **7.8** Iceland **0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5** Ireland **2.8** 2.9 2.9 **3.1 3.2** 3.4 Italy 56.3 **58.2** 61.4 **65.3 68.7 72.3** Luxemburg 0.6 **0.7 a.? .7 0.7 0,7** Netherlands 19.2 20.2 **20,8 21.9** 22.9 **23.9** Norway **6.9 7.3 7.6** 8.0 8.4 **8.6** Portugal **3.7** 4.0 4.1 4.3 **6.8 7.1** Spain 21.2 **22.8** 24.6 **25.5 27.1** 28.8 Sweden 20.1 **20.8 21.3** 22.0 **23.0** 24.1 Switzerland 14.0 14.6 **15.0 15.2 15.6** 16.2 United Kingdom101.4 **103.7** 105.3 106.7 **110.5** 114.5 Total 492.7 513.4 **522.0** 545.9 **571.3 597.1**

Gross National Product of Europe In Constant **1966** Prices

Source: Agency for International Development. Ref.27

TABLE B4 Breakdown of North Atlantic Traffic **-** Aliens

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Source: INS

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Breakdown of North Atlantic Traffic **-** Aliens

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Source: INS

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Breakdown of North Atlantic Traffic **-** Aliens

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Breakdown of North Atlantic Traffic **-** U.S.Citizens

Source: INS

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Source: INS

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TABLE B10 Composite Gross National Product of Europe In Constant **1966** Prices

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Source: Appendix Tables B4,5,6 and B15,16

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TABLE Bll

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Composite Gross National Product of Europe In Constant **1966** Prices

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National Income of European Countries At Current Prices (Billions)

Source: United Nations. Ref.28

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National Income of European Countries At Current Prices

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Source: Ref.28

National Income of European Countries and **U.S** At Current Prices

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Source: United Nations. Ref.28 and Economic Report of the President. Ref.14

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National Income Per Capita In Current Dollars

***** Estimated using historical growth rates. Source: Appendix Tables B12,13 and 14

National Income Per Capita In Current Dollars

***** Estima'ted using historical growth rates.

Source: Appendix Tables B12,13 and 14

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Composite National Income Per Capita of Europe In Current Dollars

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Source: Appendix Tables B15 and **16** and B4,5 and **⁶**

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Composite National Income Per Capita of Europe In Current Dollars

Source: Appendix Tables B4,5,6 and Tables **B15,16**

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Total Composite National Income Per Capita

Source: Appendix Tables B14,15,16,17,18 and Text Table 2.1

Total Composite Gross National Product

Source: Appendix Tables B10,11 and Text Tables 2.1 and **3.5**

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Forecast Total Composite National Income Per Capita

Source: Text Section **5.2**

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Forecast Total Composite Gross National Product

Source: Text Section **5.2**

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APPENDIX **C**

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A- Brief Description of the Computer Program

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 $\label{eq:2.1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^{1/2}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^{1/2}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^{1/2}.$

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The regression analysis was performed using an **ESP** canned computer program. **ESP** is a computer language for the statistical analysis of time series by ordinary least squares and two-stage least squares. It is designed to carry out all the computational steps which occur routinely in econometric research.

The basic unit of data within **ESP** is the variable, consisting of **N** observations numbered from 1 to **N. N** may be any number and may be different for different variables. **ESP** has a general method for selecting a subset of the observations of the time series it is operating upon. Through this facility, the user has an easy method for handling groups of time series which begin at different times.

The **ESP** has a number of special characteristics pertaining to regression analysis. For example, it is possible to submit variables in one format and regress in another. This procedure generates new variables **by** performing arithmetic operations on variables previously loaded or generated. For example, variables can be "lagged" and logarithms can be taken before regression takes place. The program can produce plots of actual and the fitted or estimated values.

Following is a list of the output from ordinary least . **29** squares regression.

1. Regression Coefficients.

 $b = (Z'Z)^{-1}$, $Z'Y$ where **: b** =vector of regression coefficients Z **=** matrix of right hand variables Z'= inverse Z **y =** left hand variable

2. Estimated Standard Errors

$$
s_{i} = \sqrt{\frac{v_{ii}}{v_{ii}}}
$$

where
$$
V =
$$
 variance-covariance matrix

 $\sim 10^7$

 $\sim 10^7$

t-statistic

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, where $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

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t = \frac{b}{s}
$$

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4. Multiple Correlation Coefficient

$$
R^2 = 1 - \frac{e \cdot e}{(y - \overline{y}) \cdot (y - \overline{y})}
$$

where e= residuals **= y-Xb y=** sample mean of **y**

F-statistic

$$
F(N-1, T-N) = \frac{R^2/(N-1)}{(1-R^2)/(T-N)}
$$

where:

T **=** Number of observations **N =** Number of Variables

6. Durbin-Watson Statistic

$$
d = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^{T} (e_t - e_{t-1})^2}{\sum_{t=1}^{T} e_t^2}
$$

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

7. Sum of squared residuals

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$$
SSR = \sum_{t=1}^{T} e_t^2
$$

8. Standard Error of Regression

$$
s = \sqrt{\frac{SSR}{(T-N)}}
$$

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9. Variance-covariance Matrix

$$
V = s^2 (Z'Z)^{-1}
$$

APPENDIX **D**

The Impact of Aircraft Noise on Airline Economics

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The purpose of this section is to highlight the impact of aircraft noise regulation on airline economics. The analysis of aircraft noise suppression is restricted to the production of quieter engines through:

- (a) New aircraft designs
- **(b)** Retrofitting the existing aircraft

On January **11,1969,** the **U.S.** Federal Administration issued **30,** its Notice of Proposed Rule Making No. **69-1** (NPRM **69-1)** . The pertinent regulation is described below.

" Noise Measuring Points

- (a) For takeoff, at a point **3.5** nautical miles from the start of the takeoff roll on the extended centreline of the runway.
- **(b)** For approach, at a point one nautical mile from the threshold on the extended centreline of the runway; and
- (c) For sideline, at a point, on a parallel line with and **0.25** nautical miles from the extended centreline of the runway; where the noise level after lift-off is greatest.

Noise Levels

............ do not exceed the following:

- **(1)** For approach and sideline, **108 EPNdB** (effective perceived noise decibels) for maximum weights of **600,000** lbs. or more, less 2 **EPNdB** per halving of the **600,000** lbs. maximum weight down to 102 **EPNdB** for maximum weight of **75,000** lbs. and under.
- (2) For takeoff, **108 EPNdB** for maximum weights of **600,000** lbs. or more, less **5 EPNdB** per halving of the **600,000** lbs. maximum weight down to **93 EPNdB** for maximum weights of **75,000** lbs. and under."

Subsonic Transport

The Aerospace Industries Association carried out an indepth study of the economic impact on the air transportation **31** industry of the above **FAA** NPRM **69-1.** The study was performed in two steps:

- **(1)** Airplanes were designed for optimum performances only, and the resulting noise levels evaluated (baseline aircraft).
- (2) Additional airplanes were designed for optimum performance commensurate with the proposed noise requlations to determine the resulting economic penalty

The results of one category of aircraft design (international high capacity subsonic) are described below. Table **Dl** gives the baseline aircraft performance characteristics (i.e., aircraft designed without consideration to noise constraints). The AIA study indicated that if the same aircraft were designed with noise constraints as indicated in the NPRM **69-1,** the direct operating cost would increase **by** 7.4 percent. Furthermore, if the same aircraft were designed to meet additional noise constraints, say **5 EPNdB** less than those stated in NPRM **69-1,** the direct operating cost would increase **by** 14.1 percent, An increase in direct operating cost would produce either an increment in the ticket price or a reduction in the airline profitability.

McDonnell Douglas and Boeing Aircraft Corporations have been investigating the noise suppression problem through modification of the existing aircraft eng**i**nes. Poslusny³² summarizes the result of these investigations in his thesis, some of the findings of which are described in the following section.

TABLE **Dl**

Baseline Aircraft Performance Characteristics (High Capacity Subsonic **-** International Operations)

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Source: Table **1. of** Ref.31

The technique developed **by** McDonnell Douglas for noise suppression consisted of an acoustically treated fan inlet and fan duct. Specifically, their nacelle modifications were designed to be employed for **JT3D-3B** powered **DC-8-55** aircraft. Initial tests have indicated that it is possible to have a reduction of 6-14 **PNdB** during landing. This reduction in the noise level would be accompanied **by** an increment in the direct operating costs, resulting from a) non-recurring fixed costs for retrofit and **b)** recurring additional costs due to decreased aircraft performance.

For the McDonnell Douglas modification, the cost of the retrofit is estimated to be \$545,000 per aircraft (4 new nacelles). Coupled with this are the following changes in aircraft performance: an increase in empty operating weight of **332** lbs., a **0.6** percent increase in cruise specific fuel consumption, a 2.1 percent decrease in maximum cruise thrust, a **2.3** percent reduction of takeoff thrust, and a **50** nautical mile reduction in maximum range. The resulting changes in the direct operating cost are:

Depreciation increases, due to the added cost of the retrofit, represent the greatest increase in direct operating costs. In these calculations the depreciation period was taken

to be five years for the nacelles and 12 years for the aircraft. **A** higher depreciation period would naturally reduce the operating costs.

Boeing's approach to noise reduction through the 'use of an acoustically treated modified nacelle was similar to that of McDonnell Douglas, the major difference being that Boeing designed a long-duct modification to be employed to **JT3D-3B** powered **707-320B** aircraft. The initial tests indicated the possibility of a **9-16 PNdB** reduction during approach and a **5-7 PNdB** reduction during takeoff. The cost for retrofit for this system, including installation in **1972** dollars, was estimated to be **\$900,000** and **\$1,150,000** per aircraft. Performance changed **by** a **5.1** percent increase in drag, an operating empty weight increase of **3360** lbs., and a reduced range capability of **180** nautical miles.

The results of Boeing's calculations indicated that there would be a **7** to **10** percent increment in the direct operating costs. These figures are almost solely a function of the **\$0.9** million and **\$1.15** million estimated retrofit costs and the five year depreciation period.

Supersonic Transport

The engine noise history of the **U.S. SST** has been summarized bya recent ad hoc committee in Reference **33.** The same noise level restrictions apply to the **SST** as to the subsonic transport aircraft. The **U.S SST** is the first aircraft for which the aircraft and the engines were strongly affected **by** environmental considerations, in particular the aspect of community noise. The **SST** engines had to be large and powerful in order to deliver the necessary performance under supersonic cruise conditions at high altitudes. To meet the stringent takeoff noise

requirement, the wing design was strongly influenced **by** the necessity to attain sufficient altitude at a **3.5** nautical mile reference point. Recent unexpected lift increases due to new flap designhave improved the situation significantly. The improved subsonic efficiency of the wing resulting from the takeoff requirement helped the design in a number of ways, but at a small cost in supersonic efficiency.

The approach requirement was less of a problem. The large engine size permitted the efficient fitting of noise suppression lining material in the intake to reduce the engine compressor noise or "whine". In addition, the unique design of the variablegeometry inlet permits the pilot to "choke" the inlet flow and thereby further reduce the compressor noise which exhibits particularly severe annoyance frequencies.

The most severe **SST** problem has been the sideline noise. This was expected to be large, on the order of **119 EPNdB,** because the engine design utilized an afterburner (burning fuel downstream of the turbine) to meet the thrust requirement for takeoff. In February, 1971, a basic change in the engine was announced: **by** a slight increase in overall diameter, and with performance improvements made possible **by** intensive research efforts, it became possible to eliminate the use of the afterburner during takeoff. This change reduced the basic jet-noise **by** about **5 EPNdB** below the prototype noise level. In addition, the cooler, lower velocity jet permitted the use of a much more effective new jetnoise suppressor reducing sideline noise **by** about **8** more **EPNdB,** thereby making it possible within present technology to meet the imposed noise requirements. The weight penalty of the redesigned engines (partly offset **by** the improved flap design) is not expected to affect the original performance estimates for the production design.

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APPENDIX **E**

Application of the Model to Forecast the Feasibility of the **SST**

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This appendix contains the results of the model application to determine the economic feasibility of the **SST.** In order to answer the question, should the **SST** be developed, the following additional assumptions are made.

- (a) Assume that both the Concorde and The **U.S. SST** are developed and meet all operating requirements such as noise, sonic boom, etc.
- **(b)** The aircraft operating costs are as shown in Table **El.**
- (c) The average air fare on scheduled carriers declines 2 percent per year until 1974 and **1** percent per year beyond 1974, as shown in Table **5.2.** It is further assumed that this fare level is the average for the industry as a whole. This implies that if the **SST** is to operate with a surcharge, then the subsonic fare drop will be more than **1** percent per year, The subsonic drop in fares will then be a function of the percentage distribution of seats **by** aircraft type and the load factor **by** aircraft type.
- **(d)** The average annual load factor will be **50** percent for the subsonic fleet and **70** percent for Concorde and the **U.S. SST.**
- **(e)** The percentage distribution of seats **by** aircraft type is as shown in Table **E2.**
- **(f)** The average transatlantic length of haul remains constant at **3700** miles.
- **(g)** The analysis excludes cargo carried on passenger flights.

Table **E3** shows the total scheduled traffic as forecast in Chapter V. This total traffic is separated into two groups, subsonic and supersonic. The split is determined using the seat breakdown **by** type of aircraft as shown in Table **E2.** The forecast

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Aircraft Operating Costs Per Available Seat-Mile International Operations **- 3500** Statute Miles

Source: Ref.19. Volume **1,** page **59.**

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Percentage Distribution Seats **by** Aircraft Type

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Forecast Traffic **(000)**

of passenger traffic is converted into available seats using **50** percent load factor for the subsonic and **70** percent for the supersonic fleet. The available seats are shown in Table E4. These available seats are then separated **by** type of aircraft using the ratios of Table **E2.** The final results are shown in Table **E5.**

Total operating costs are determined (Table **E6)** using the cost estimates shown in Table **El** and a one-way length of haul of **3700** miles. Total passenger revenue is obtained through the product of the total number of passengers (traffic forecast **-** Section 5.3)and the average projected fare (Section **5.2).** Table **E7** shows the total passenger revenue, total operating expenses and the gross operating profit through the year **1985.**

The preliminary economic analysis shows that the **SST** should be developed and should prove to be profitable. The analysis is based on present projections of **SST** operating costs, and furthermore assumes that the **SST** will meet all operating requirements such as noise constraints and public acceptance. The analysis also assumes that enough R&D funds will be available to develop the **U.S. SST,** that the project will not be scrapped as has presently been announced and that the **ATC** system will be advanced enough to accept all future aircraft movements, that is, the system will be capable of handling both the growth in aircraft movements as well as the change in the fleet mix.

As mentioned above, the analysis shown here considers only the economics, and even from the point of view of economics, the analysis is without sophistication and based on many assumptions. However, accepting the assumptions and the novice approach, it does seem feasible to introduce the **SST.**

Table **El** shows the direct and the indirect operating costs per available seat-mile **by** aircraft type, as taken from an in-

Available Seats **(000)**

Available Seats **by** Type of Aircraft **(000)**

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Total Operating Costs **by** Type of Aircraft (\$M)

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Gross Operating Profit

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¹⁹ depth study **.** The direct operating costs appear to be in line with many other reports. However, the indirect operating costs need some justification, for they are a function of the number of passengers carried rather than a function of the type of aircraft, as analyzed in the cited report. Furthermore, the analysis assumes that these costs will remain constant. Costs per available seat-mile have been declining steadily, as Figure **E.l** shows for the two **U.S.** international carriers. This figure also shows that indirect operating costs vary from airline to airline just as in the case of the direct costs. It is anticipated that the indirect costs will continue to decline in a manner similar to the historical trend. The reductions will be brought about as a result of further automation in the airline industry and also possibly as a result of economies of scale. These reductions in indirect operating costs should raise the gross operating profit figures even further.

Projections of the individual cost elements are beyond the scope of this thesis. However, it is interesting to note the result of the RAC¹⁹ study with regard to cost-factor sensitivity. Figure **E2** shows the sensitivity of the total operating costs to changes in selected model parameters for the **U.S. SST.** This exercise was conducted to provide insight into critical areas of airline economics. The factors considered were: load factor, aircraft price, fuel cost, aircraft utilization, aircraft seats, and maintenance costs. Table **E8** summarizes the result of a **10 %** change in each of these parameters.

Source: Ref. **10**

Figure **E.2**

Cost Sensitivity to Various Parameters **U.S,** SST-Int'l Operations-2000 Miles

Source: Ref. 19,Volume 1, page 46.

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Percent Change in Total Cost from **10 %** Change in Parameters **-** International Operations

Source: Ref.19, Volume **1,** page 47.

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