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**Agenda Item 3: Europe - Southeast / South Asia**  
**Contingency planning (scenarios, procedures)**  
**Kabul FIR unavailability - impact on traffic flows**  
**Europe - Asia and vice-versa**  
**EUROCONTROL Modelling Tool Evaluations**

**THE THIRD AD HOC AFGHANISTAN CONTINGENCY GROUP MEETING**

**11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

**Muscat, Oman**

**Presented by: ICAO EUR / NAT Office - EUROCONTROL NM**

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Head of Section Airspace Design

Operations Planning

Network Operations Management Division

Network Manager Directorate

EUROCONTROL



# Evaluation Objective



- ❖ To present a modelling tool theoretical findings on potential daily distance and environmental savings/losses on traffic flow Europe - Asia and vice-versa, in case of unavailability of air navigation services within the Kabul FIR.
- ❖ To further facilitate proper decisions to be taken by the Organizations and States concerned in order to ensure the least possible disruption of operations affected by such unavailability.



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## **Modelling tool used**

**SAAM** - **S**ystem for **A**ssignment and **A**nalysis at a **M**acroscopic level



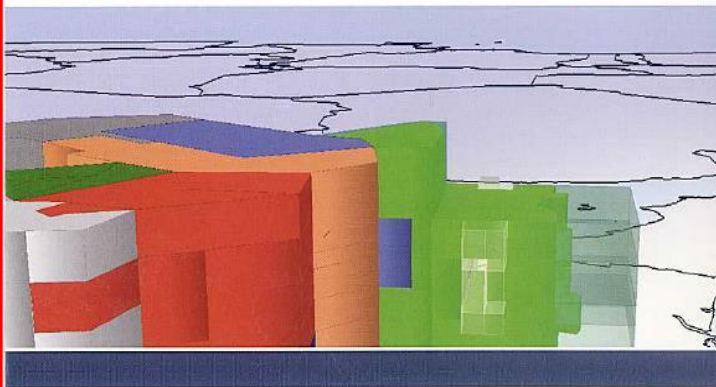
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# Airspace Design and Development Tool SAAM



## SAAM System for traffic Assignment and Analysis at a Macroscopic level

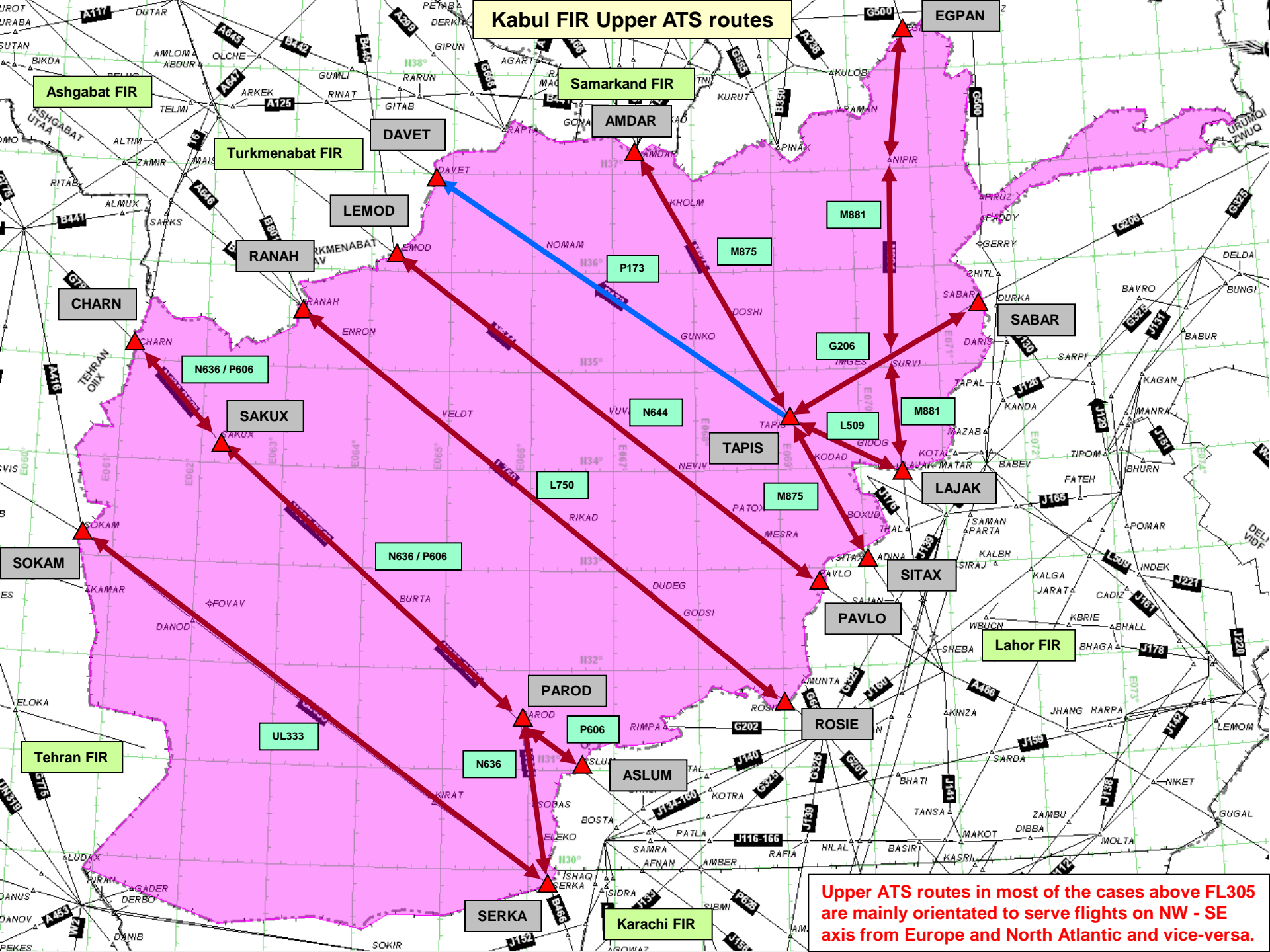
Airspace Network Design and Development



- ❑ The System for Assignment and Analysis at a Macroscopic level (SAAM) is an airspace modelling tool designed by EUROCONTROL to assess quantitative information in support of the development of the airspace structure, route network and sectorisation.
- ❑ The SAAM tool can assess current and future traffic demand at ECAC, ACC, route segment or sector level. It can evaluate proposals for changes to the route network and sectorisation and support the formulation of new proposals.
- ❑ 4D trajectories can be generated (based on traffic demand, route network and aircraft performance) and assessed against traffic volumes. SAAM will by default select the best trajectory option (shortest route, optimum flight profile) but operational rules can be applied such as flight level constraints or restricted route segments.
- ❑ In the context of airspace design activities, SAAM is used extensively to perform strategic traffic flow organization, and analyze proposals for route network and airspace optimization.
- ❑ Results from SAAM can refine the requirement for fast-time or real-time simulations.



- ❖ **Traffic data** - Include all flights through the European airspace for **24 APR 2015, Friday** with total **30547 flights**. It is the most loaded day for Europe for April 2015. **Evaluation includes only those flights via Afghanistan passing by European airspace.**
- ❖ **ATS route network** - European ATS route network model VST1505. The model includes current ATS route network/sectorisation and all airspace changes confirmed for implementation until 30 APR 2015. The model also includes the majority of ATS route network in Asia including Iranian TOS and GUGAL conditional use.
- ❖ **TMA airspace** - Current airspace organisation and changes until 30 APR 2015 are considered (arrival/departure ATS routes).
- ❖ **Airspace penalisation** - **Part of the airspace over Eastern Ukraine within Dnipropetrovsk FIR and Simferopol FIR is not available. Reduced use of Baghdad FIR and Damascus FIR has no impact on the evaluation.**
- ❖ **Assignment method** - **Aircraft are assigned on the shortest available ATS routes.** The existing strategic and structural traffic rules in Europe contained within the Route Availability Document (RAD) are taken into account. The things such as route charges values, meteorological conditions over Europe and the High Seas areas and others are not taken into account.
- ❖ **Flight Economy Indicators** - The FEI values - **distance** (NM), **fuel** (kg), **time** (min), **CO<sub>2</sub>** (carbon dioxide) **emissions** (kg) and **fuel NO<sub>x</sub>** (mono-nitrogen oxides NO/NO<sub>2</sub>) (kg) are calculated by using **EUROCONTROL Advanced Emission Model.**



**Kabul FIR Upper ATS routes**

Ashgabat FIR

Samarkand FIR

EGPA

Turkmenabat FIR

AMDAR

CHARN

LEMOD

RANAH

SOKAM

SAKUX

TAPIS

SABAR

Tehran FIR

PAROD

PAVLO

Lahor FIR

ASLUM

ROSIE

SERKA

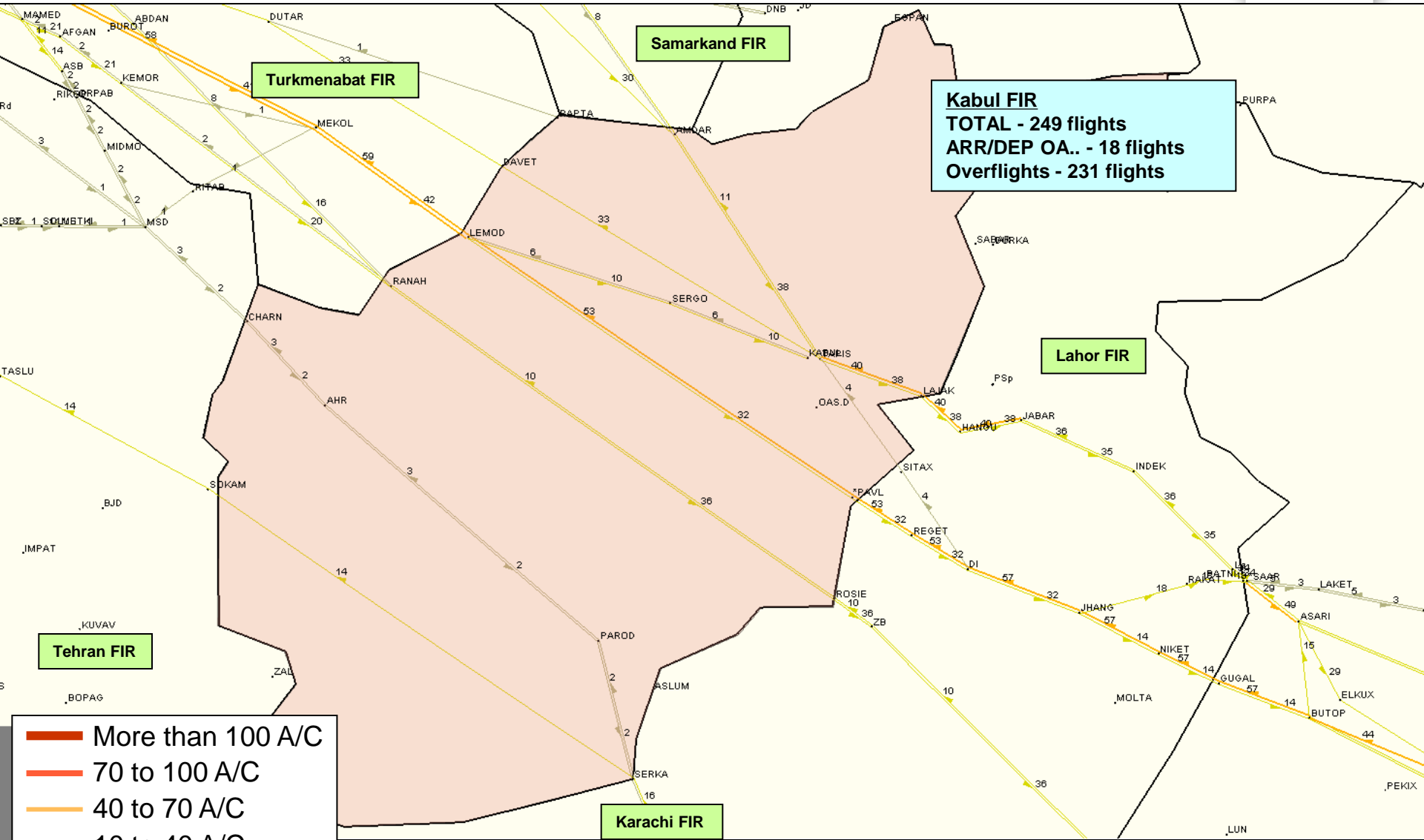
Karachi FIR

**Upper ATS routes in most of the cases above FL305 are mainly orientated to serve flights on NW - SE axis from Europe and North Atlantic and vice-versa.**



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**SAAM Shortest Route (SR) Assignment  
Traffic Load  
AFG OPEN  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



**Kabul FIR**  
**TOTAL - 249 flights**  
**ARR/DEP OA.. - 18 flights**  
**Overflights - 231 flights**

**Tehran FIR**

**Samarkand FIR**

**Lahor FIR**

**Karachi FIR**

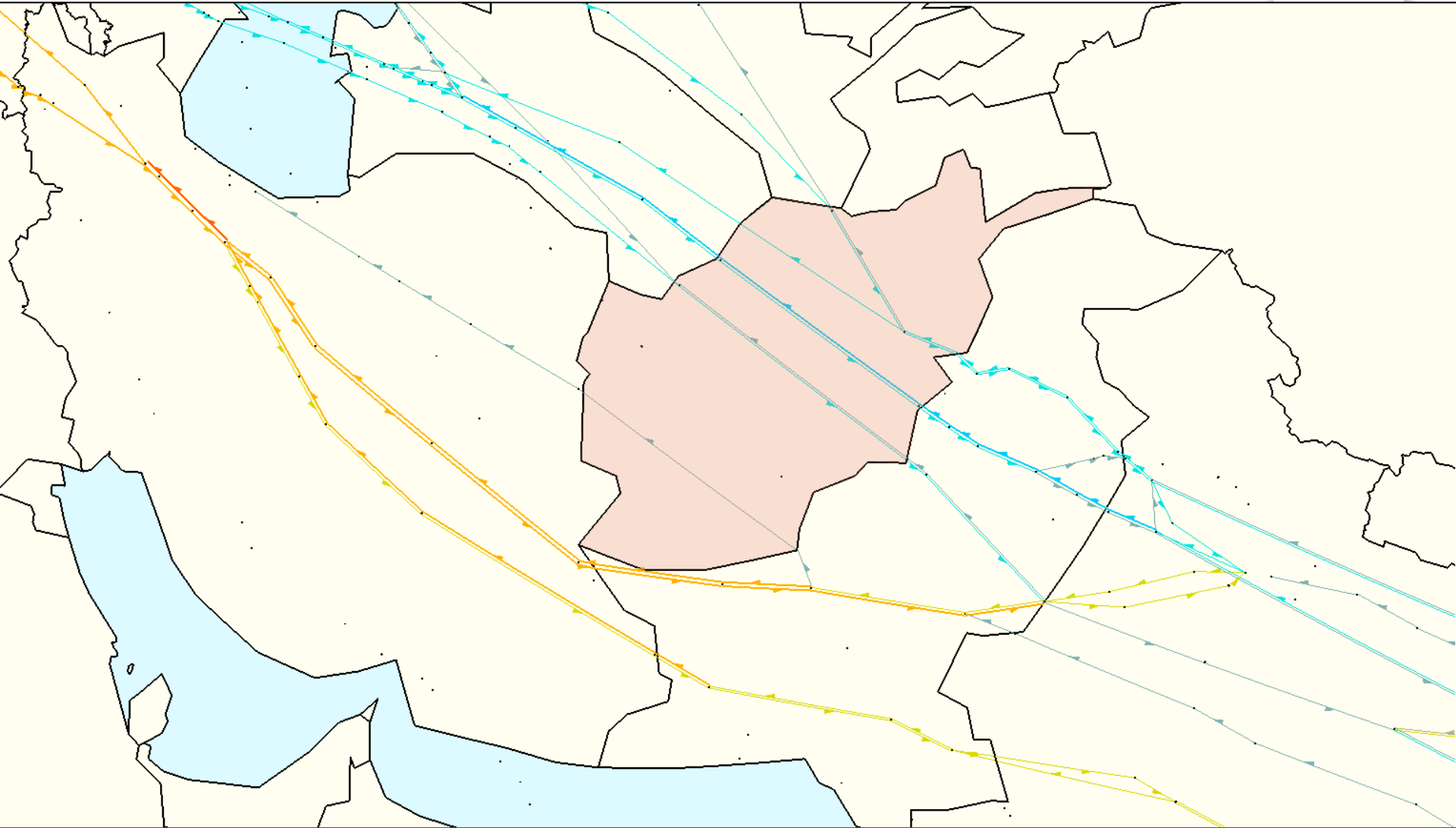
- ▬ More than 100 A/C
- ▬ 70 to 100 A/C
- ▬ 40 to 70 A/C
- ▬ 10 to 40 A/C
- ▬ 1 to 10 A/C





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**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
Zoom around Kabul FIR  
24 APR 2015 FRI**

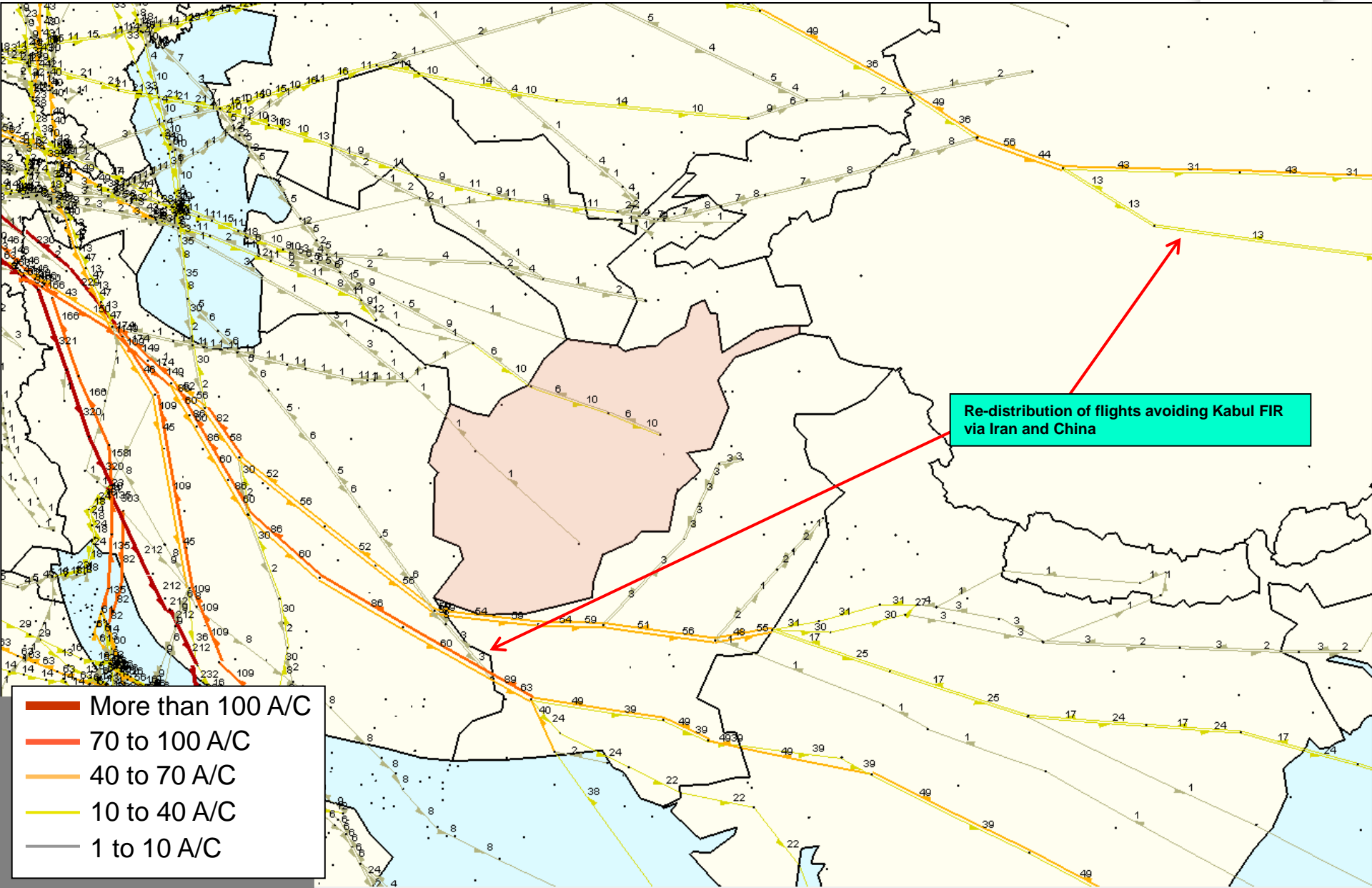






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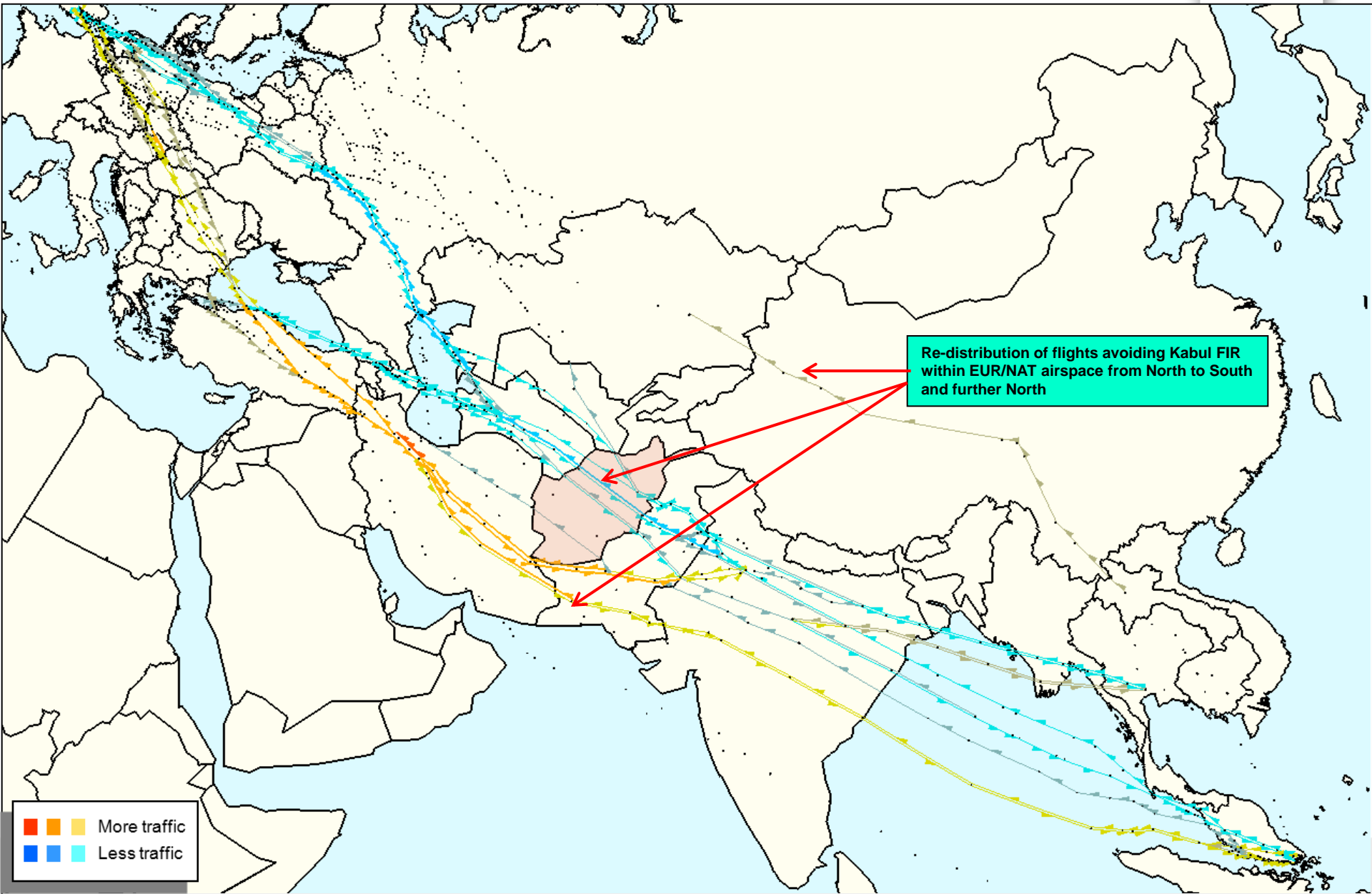
SAAM SR Assignment  
Traffic Load  
AFG CLOSE  
24 APR 2015 FRI





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**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
Europe - Asia wide zoom  
24 APR 2015 FRI**





# Flight Economy Indicators calculation

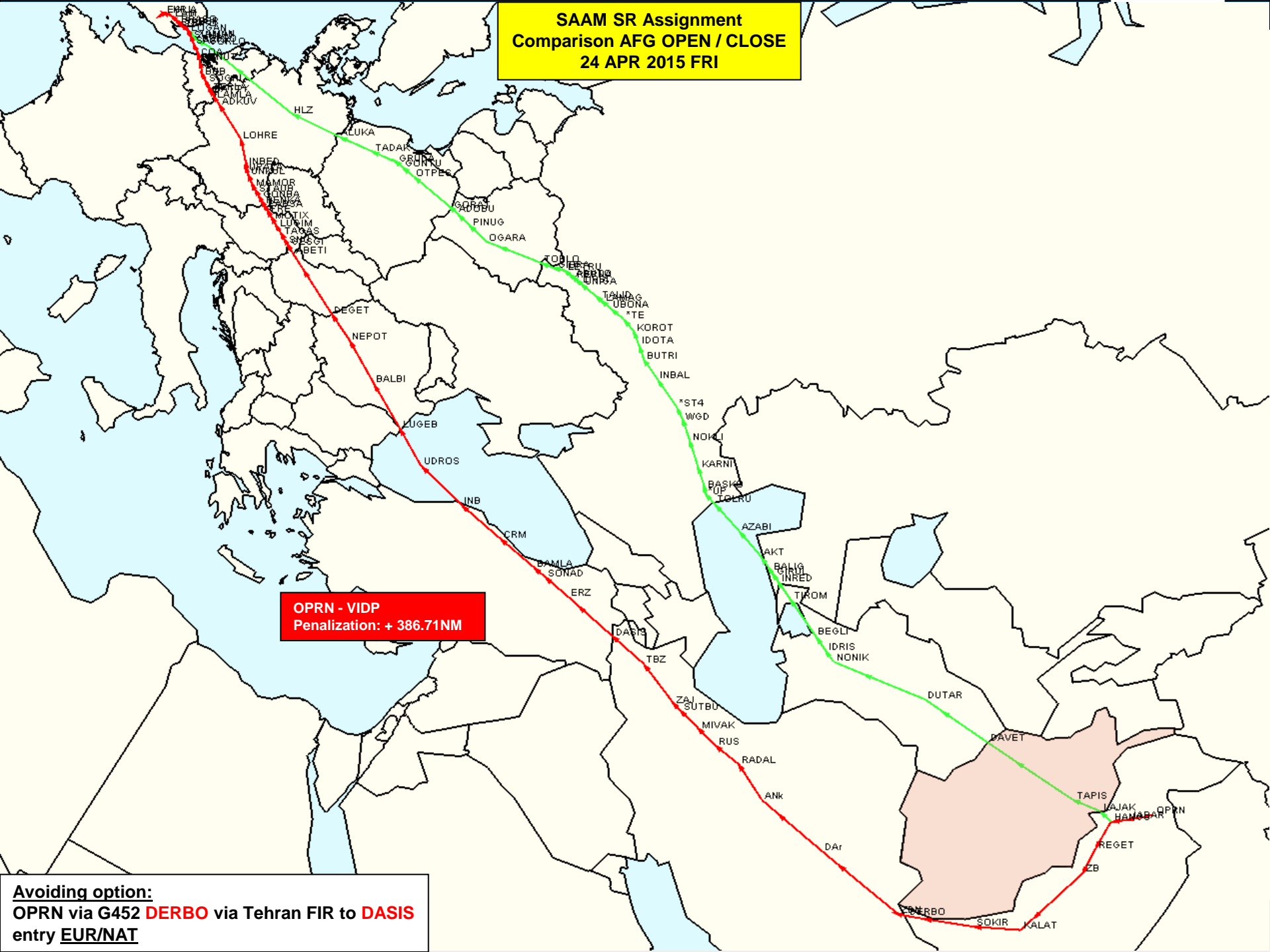


Scenario Economy for ... (Potential gains/losses)					
Total impacted flights	Length (NM)	Time (min)	Fuel (kg)	CO2 (kg)	NOx (kg)
<b>225</b>	<b>22836.100</b>	<b>3897.199</b>	<b>321864.890</b>	<b>1017073.200</b>	<b>5836.863</b>

10 most penalized city pairs							
ADEP	ADES	Acft Type	Length (NM)	Time (min)	Fuel (kg)	CO2 (kg)	NOx (kg)
OPRN	EGLL	GLF4	386,710	53,172	446,650	1411,500	3,852
EGCC	OPLA	B772	340,200	42,263	4171,800	13183,000	87,600
VIDP	EFHK	A333	340,180	43,430	3679,700	11628,000	50,287
OPLA	EGCC	B772	333,180	41,175	4090,300	12926,000	85,410
KJFK	VIDP	B77W	331,900	41,321	5400,000	17062,000	104,330
KEWR	VIDP	B772	331,900	41,322	4128,900	13047,000	87,000
KJFK	VIDP	B77W	331,900	41,321	5400,000	17062,000	104,330
OPRN	LBSF	A332	330,330	42,172	3620,500	11441,000	45,634
OPRN	LIMC	B772	330,330	41,126	4147,600	13106,000	87,352
LFPG	OPRN	B772	313,410	39,151	3918,800	12383,000	82,942

10 less penalized city pairs							
ADEP	ADES	Acft Type	Length (NM)	Time (min)	Fuel (kg)	CO2 (kg)	NOx (kg)
LIRF	WSSS	B772	22,400	2,789	271,300	858,000	5,760
LEBL	WSSS	B77W	22,400	2,789	363,600	1150,000	7,030
WSSS	LTBA	A333	18,100	2,308	185,700	587,000	2,467
WSSS	LTBA	B772	18,100	2,253	216,800	685,000	4,660
WSSS	LIRF	B772	18,100	2,254	216,800	685,000	4,660
WSSS	LTBA	A333	18,100	2,308	185,700	587,000	2,467
WMKK	LTBA	B772	14,490	1,804	173,600	549,000	3,740
WMKK	LTBA	A333	14,480	1,847	148,500	469,000	1,974
WMKK	LTBA	A332	14,480	1,849	158,700	502,000	2,001
LTBA	WMKK	A333	10,640	1,358	107,300	339,000	1,412

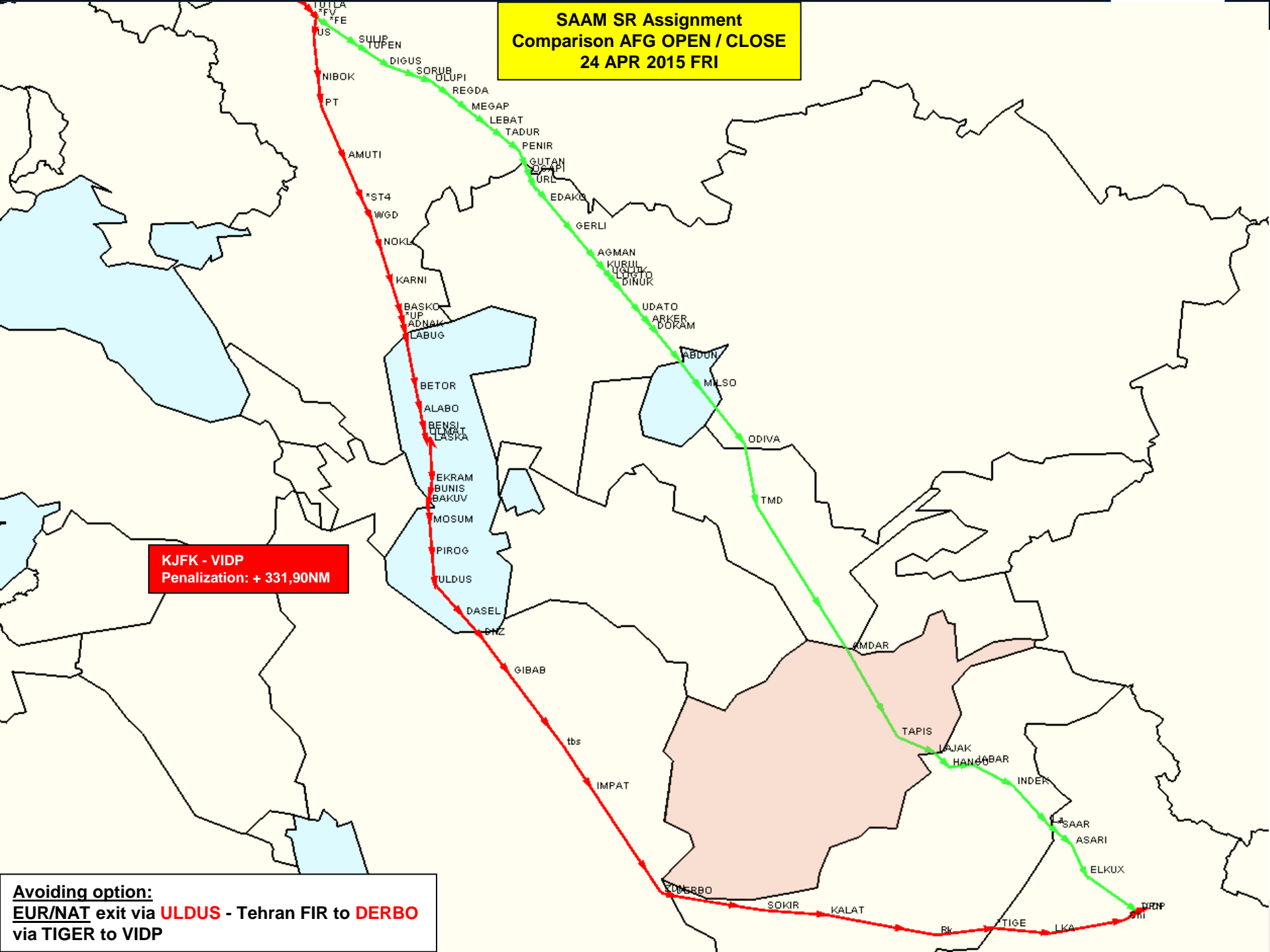
**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



**OPRN - VIDP  
Penalization: + 386.71NM**

**Avoiding option:  
OPRN via G452 DERBO via Tehran FIR to DASIS  
entry EUR/NAT**

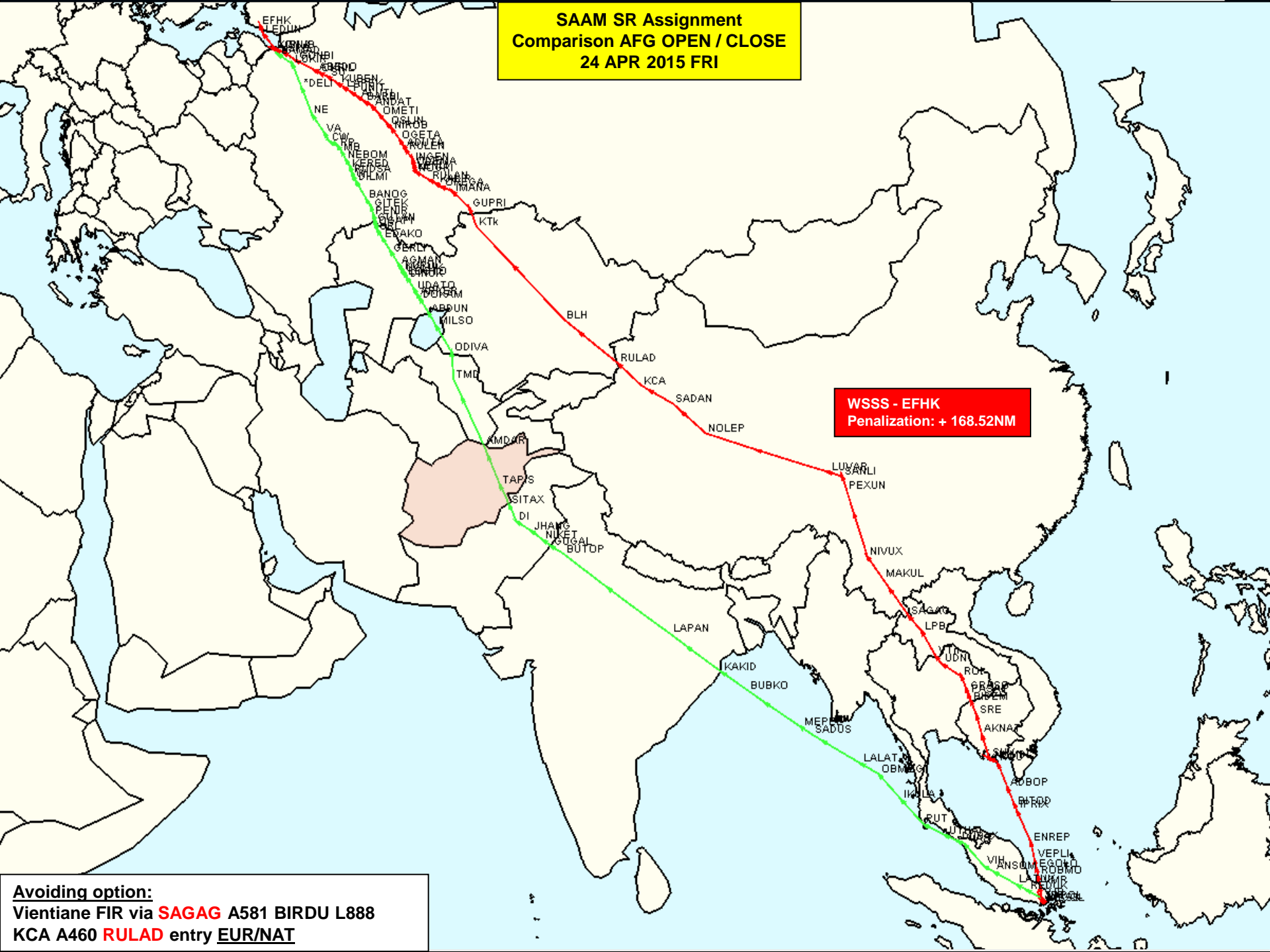
**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



**KJFK - VIDP  
Penalization: + 331,90NM**

**Avoiding option:  
EUR/NAT exit via ULDUS - Tehran FIR to DERBO  
via TIGER to VIDP**

**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



**WSSS - EFKH  
Penalization: + 168.52NM**

**Avoiding option:  
Vientiane FIR via SAGAG A581 BIRDU L888  
KCA A460 RULAD entry EUR/NAT**



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# Possible Avoiding Options for Europe - Asia Axis





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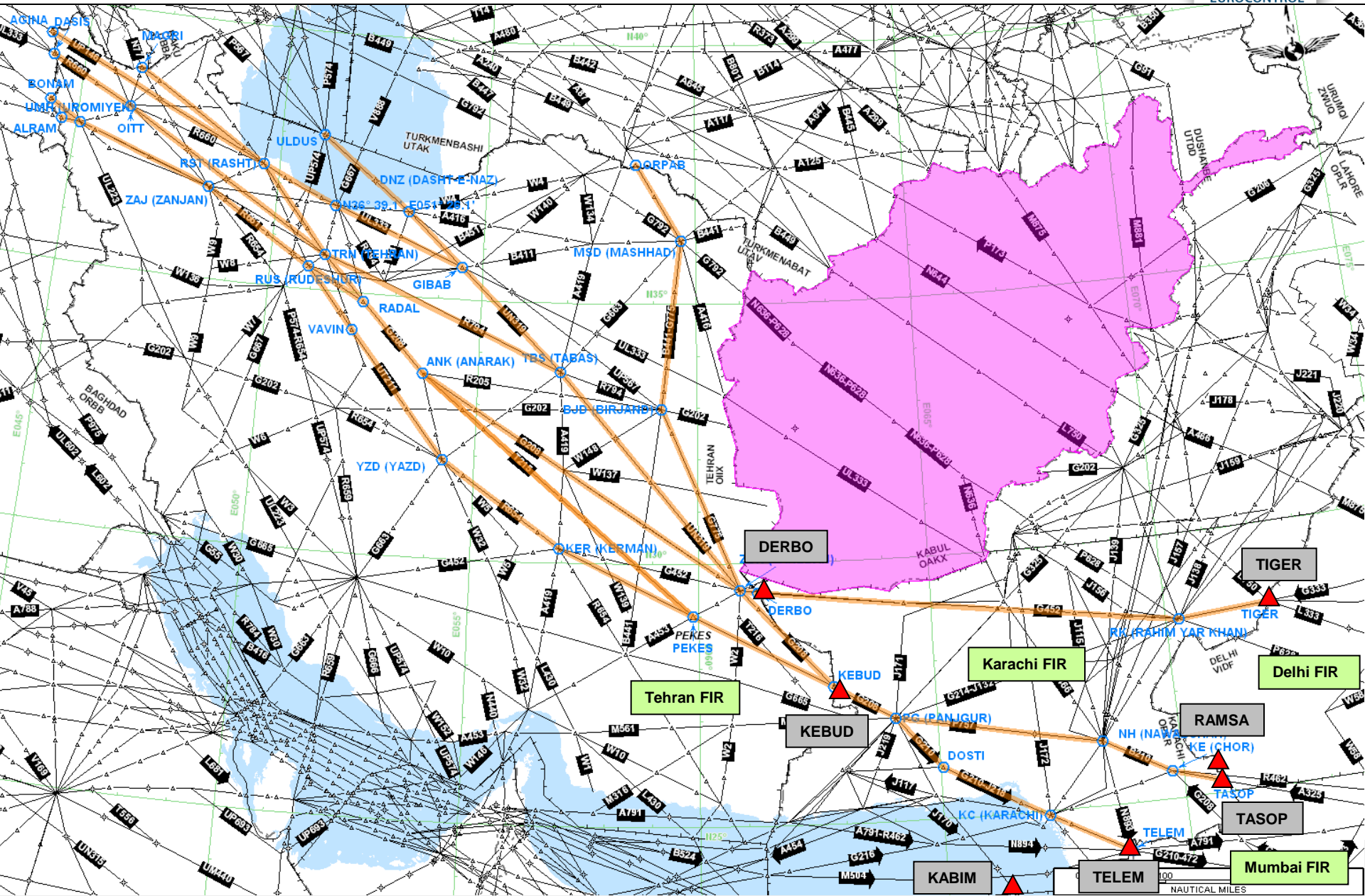


# South of the Himalayas



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# Avoidance via Iran





# Avoidance via Iran



- ❖ ATS route options avoiding Kabul FIR are available on axis Delhi FIR / Mumbai FIR - Karachi FIR - Tehran FIR and vice-versa.
- ❖ To / From EUR/NAT Region airspace via Tehran FIR ATS route options are available via Ankara FIR, Yerevan FIR, Baku FIR and Ashgabat FIR.
- ❖ The most loaded TCPs are as follows:
  - ✓ TELEM / KABIM between Mumbai FIR and Karachi FIR;
  - ✓ TIGER / RAMSA / TASOP between Delhi FIR and Karachi FIR;
  - ✓ DERBO / KEBUD between Karachi FIR and Tehran FIR;
  - ✓ ALRAM / BONAM / DASIS between Tehran FIR and Ankara FIR.
- ❖ The general traffic distribution via the TCPs is as follows:
  - ✓ “V” area - TELEM, TIGER, KABIM and VIKIT;
  - ✓ “W” area - KABIM, TASOP and RAMSA;
  - ✓ “OP” area - DERBO and KEBUD.
- ❖ Possible shortest option ATS routes at interface Karachi FIR / Tehran FIR to accommodate re-routed traffic flows are:
  - ✓ G208, G452, G775;
  - ✓ L/UL124, UL125, UN319, UT211, UT215.

The shortest option G208 / UL125 is merging with G208 over ZDN inside Tehran FIR immediately after the FIR boundary near DERBO but Iranian TOS prevents possible additional ATC workload. G208 / UL125 is limited only for flights to / from Ashgabat FIR.



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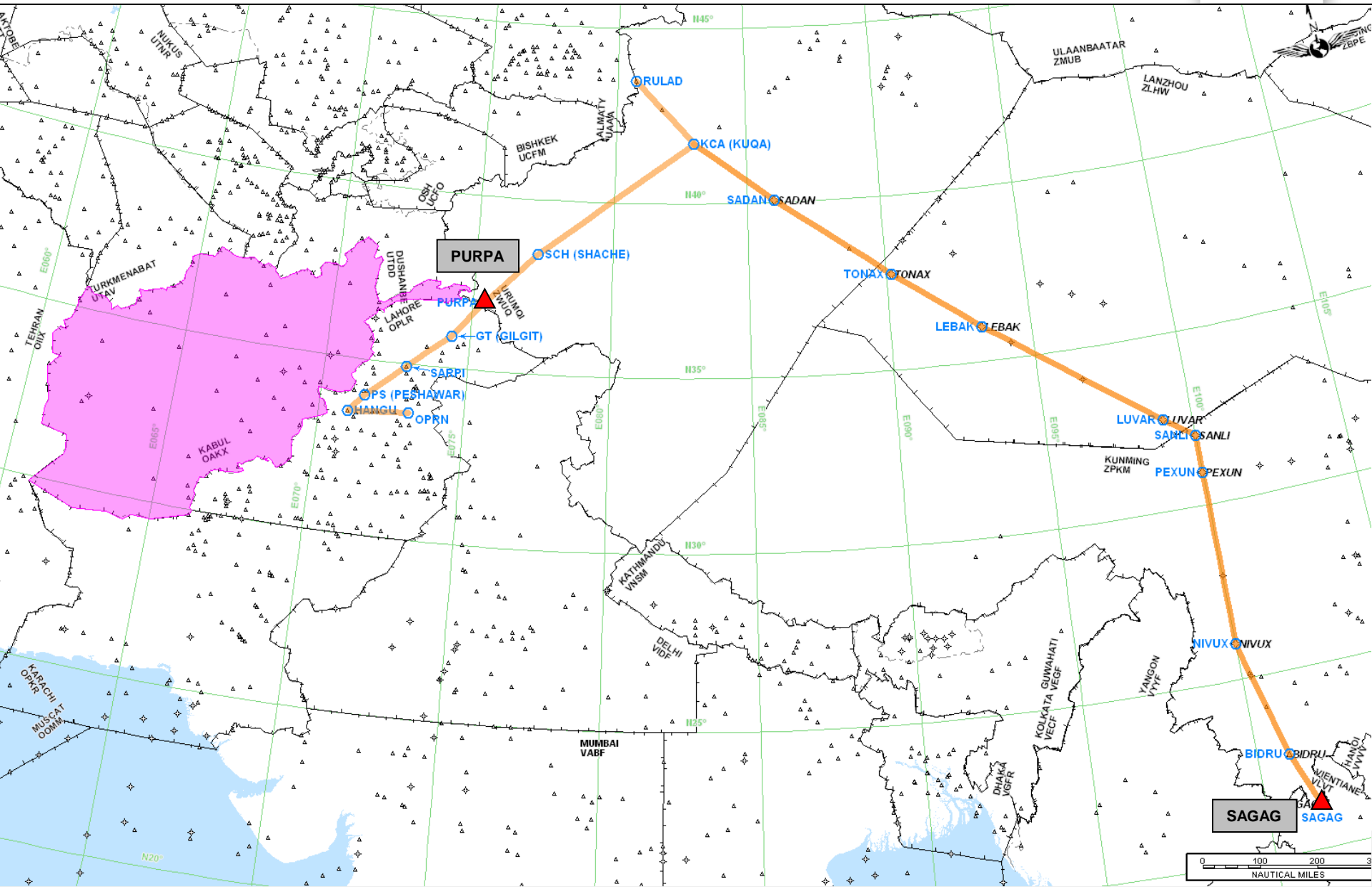


# North of the Himalayas



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# Avoidance via China





# Avoidance via China

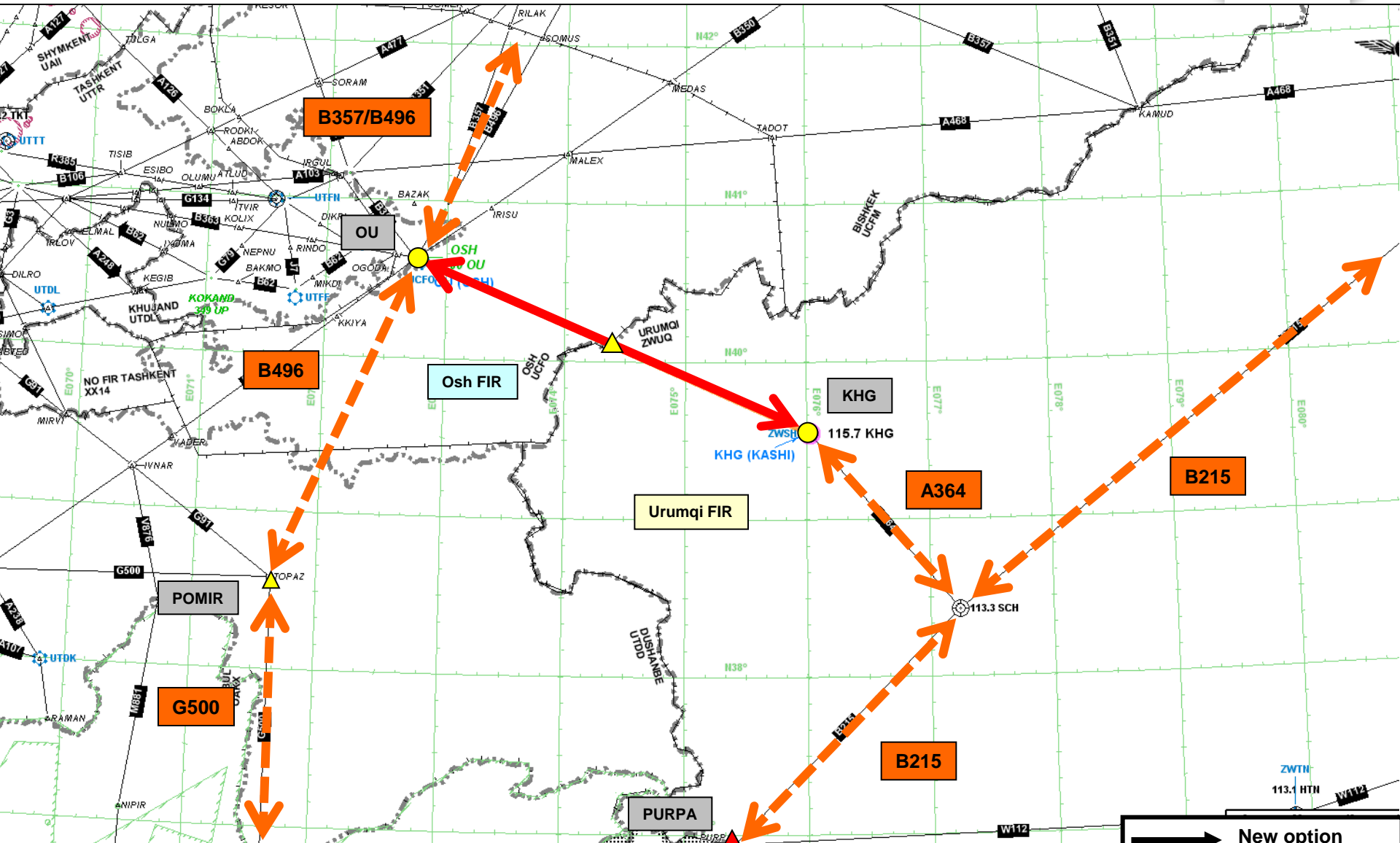


- ❖ ATS route options avoiding Kabul FIR are available on axis Karachi FIR - Urumqi FIR and Vientiane FIR - Kunming FIR and vice-versa.
- ❖ To / From EUR/NAT Region airspace via China the shortest ATS route option out of Kabul FIR airspace is available via Almaty FIR. Bi-directional option P500 / G500 FARUZ - PADDY delegated from Kabul ACC to Dushanbe ACC is also possible following the extension of B496 between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.
- ❖ The most loaded TCPs are as follows :
  - ✓ PURPA between Karachi FIR and Urumqi FIR, in case P500 not available:
    - Mainly for DEP OP to North Atlantic Area (“C” and “K” areas);
  - ✓ SAGAG between Vientiane FIR and Kunming FIR:
    - Mainly for flights between VTBS, VVTS, WSSS and Europe (EF, ES, EN, ED, LF...) and vice-versa.
- ❖ Possible shortest option ATS routes via China to accommodate re-routed traffic flows are:
  - ✓ B215;
  - ✓ A581 / L888.



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# Possible improvement China / Kyrgyzstan Presented at EAT SCM/2 (22 - 23 SEP 2014, Beijing, China)



- New option
- Existing option

**Note:** Option might be also feasible today with initial potential load of 16 flights per week





## Avoidance via South



- ❖ Upper ATS routes inside Kabul FIR in most of the cases available above FL305 are mainly orientated to serve flights on NW - SE axis from Europe and North Atlantic to Asia and vice-versa.
- ❖ Flights to Africa and Gulf area and beyond normally are not routed via Kabul FIR.
- ❖ In case of such flights re-routing is possible either via Tehran FIR for North African States or Tehran FIR / Muscat FIR for the rest of African States and beyond.
- ❖ In all cases closures or warnings for North African FIRs shall be considered.



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# Possible Impact of Kabul FIR unavailability



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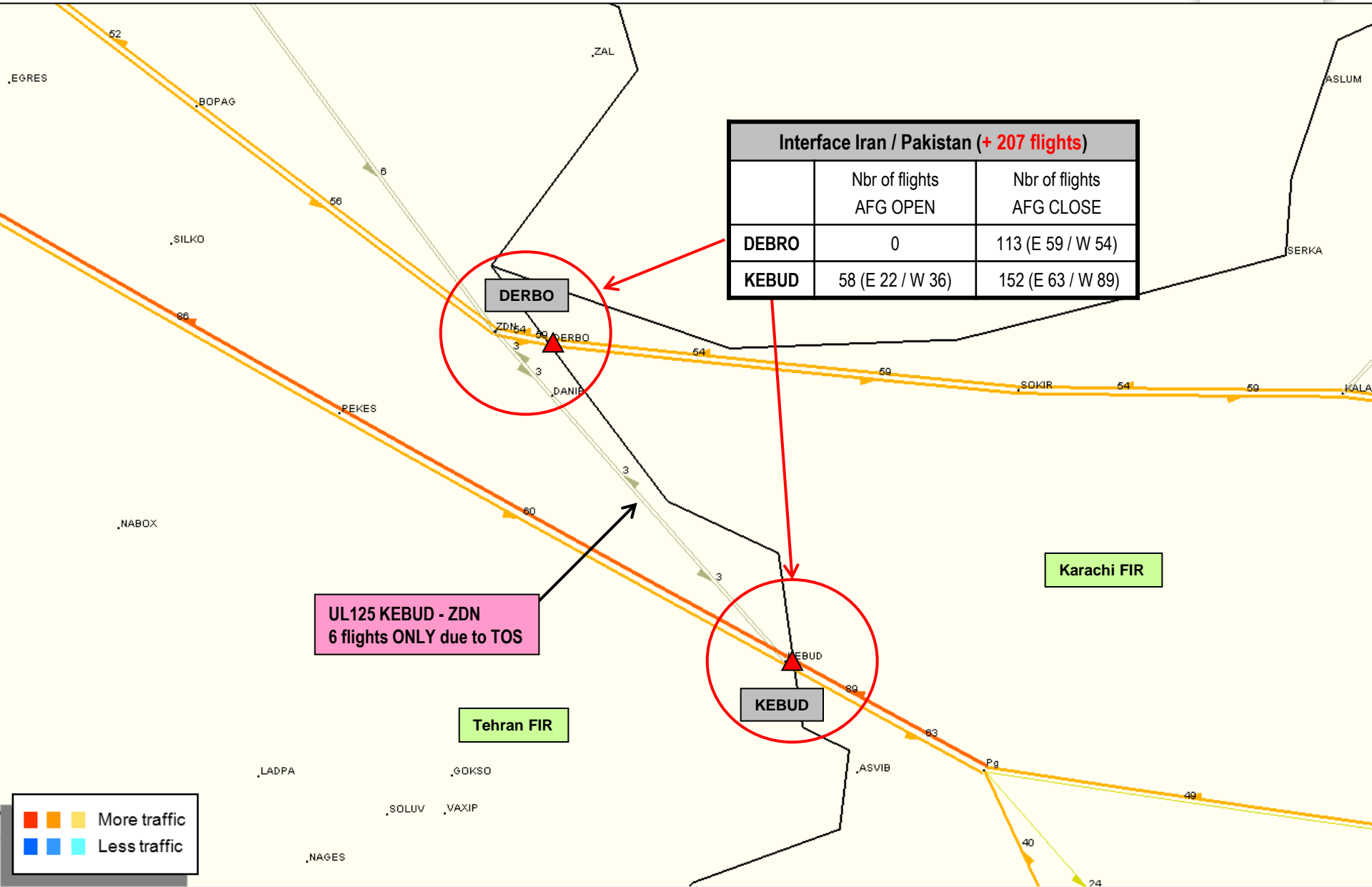


# Possible Impact on common interfaces



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**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
Interface Iran / Pakistan  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



Interface Iran / Pakistan (+ 207 flights)		
	Nbr of flights AFG OPEN	Nbr of flights AFG CLOSE
DERBO	0	113 (E 59 / W 54)
KEBUD	58 (E 22 / W 36)	152 (E 63 / W 89)

UL125 KEBUD - ZDN  
6 flights ONLY due to TOS

Karachi FIR

Tehran FIR

			More traffic
			Less traffic

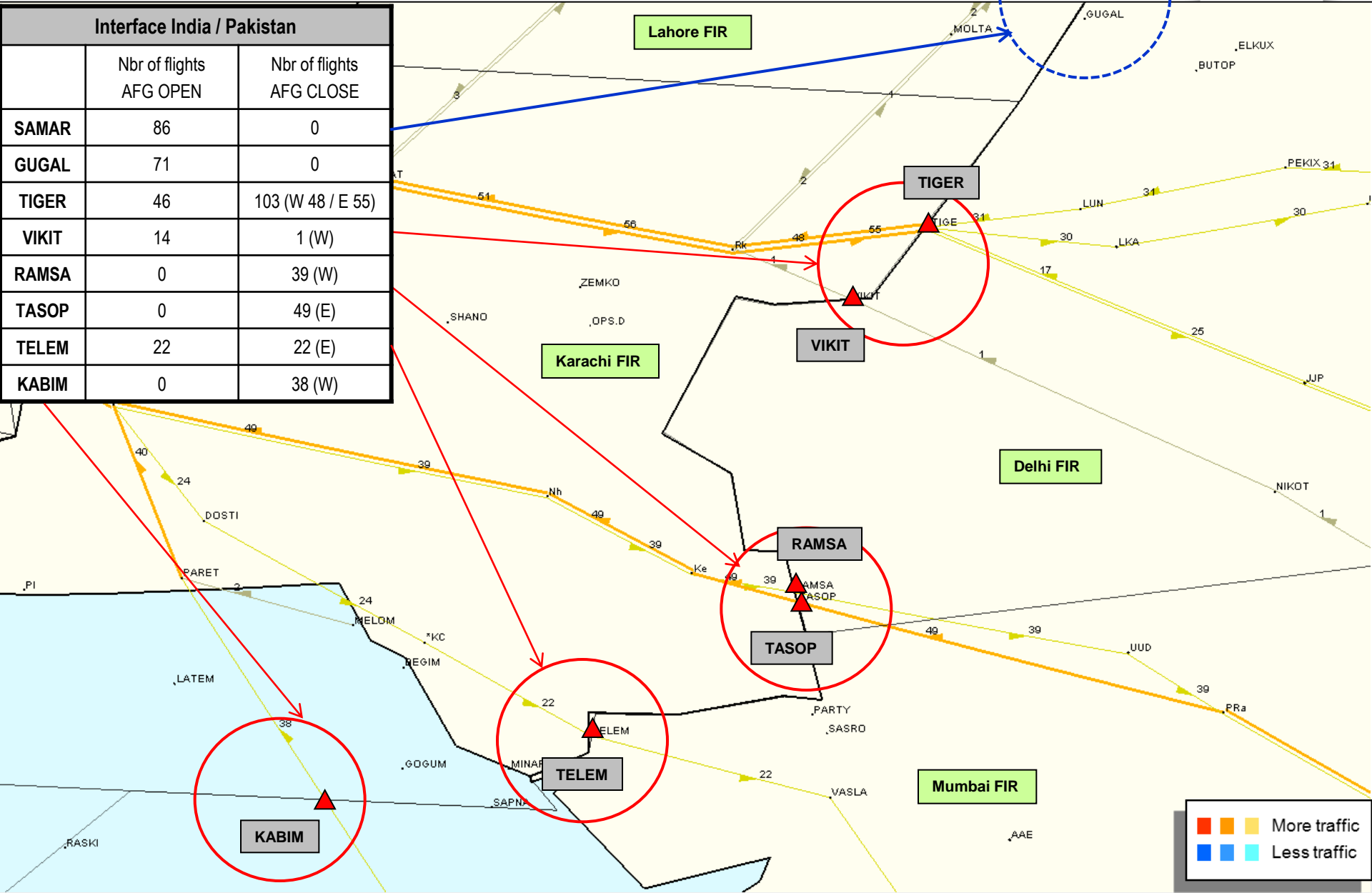


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**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
Interface Pakistan / India  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



Interface India / Pakistan		
	Nbr of flights AFG OPEN	Nbr of flights AFG CLOSE
SAMAR	86	0
GUGAL	71	0
TIGER	46	103 (W 48 / E 55)
VIKIT	14	1 (W)
RAMSA	0	39 (W)
TASOP	0	49 (E)
TELEM	22	22 (E)
KABIM	0	38 (W)

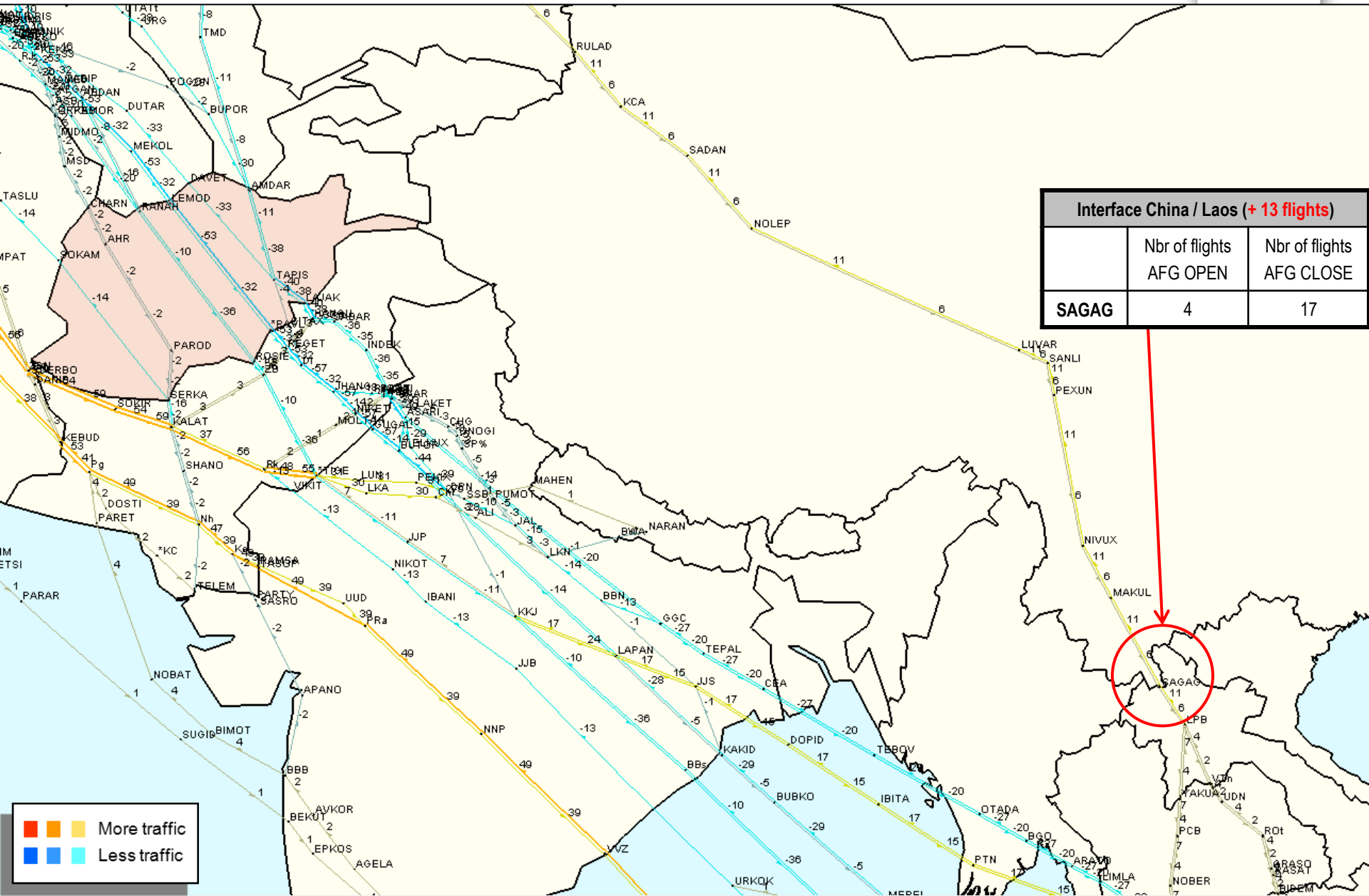


<span style="color: red;">▬</span>	<span style="color: orange;">▬</span>	<span style="color: yellow;">▬</span>	More traffic
<span style="color: blue;">▬</span>	<span style="color: cyan;">▬</span>		Less traffic



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**SAAM SR Assignment  
Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE  
Interface with China / Laos  
24 APR 2015 FRI**



Interface China / Laos (+ 13 flights)		
	Nbr of flights AFG OPEN	Nbr of flights AFG CLOSE
<b>SAGAG</b>	4	17

■ ■ ■ More traffic  
■ ■ Less traffic



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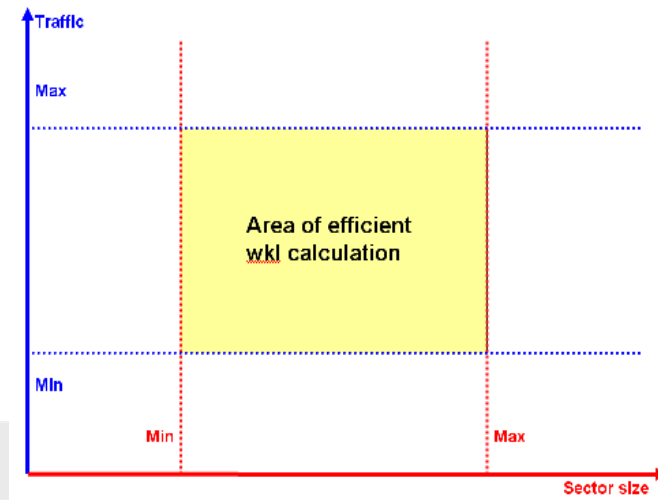
# **Possible Impact on States (ACC / Sectors)\***

**\* *FIR, ACC or ATC Sector boundaries are as per State AIPs***





- ❖ **SHER** (Sliding Hourly Entry Rate) represents the Hourly Entry rate expressed in number of aircraft entering the sector per hour. This figure is calculated every minute. The maximum of 15 min time-frame is displayed.
- ❖ **AVG TIME** (Average Time) represents the average number of minutes spends in the sector for all aircraft crossing that sector for that hour.
- ❖ **Conf** (conflict) represents the number of potential conflicts found in the sector during an hour (a conflict is a pair of flights for which a loss of vertical or horizontal separation is detected).
- ❖ **wkl** (workload) represents the effective workload curve. The unit is expressed in percentage. It is commonly accepted that the maximum continuous work for a controller is around 42 minutes per hour, so 70%. The calculation is based on AVG TIME, SHER and Conf. In theory if the wkl is above 70% for more than 2 hours the opening of an additional sector is required.
- ❖ **70%** represent the commonly accepted limit for a **controller workload (70%)**.
- ❖ **90%** should represent the absolute limits to not overpass the workload of a controller (90% so 54 minutes of continuous work).
- ❖ **Maximum Occupancy Count** - Instantaneous number of aircraft, which gives the number of aircraft that are observed within the sector at any minute during the interval. An aircraft is counted during the time it actually flew in the sector.





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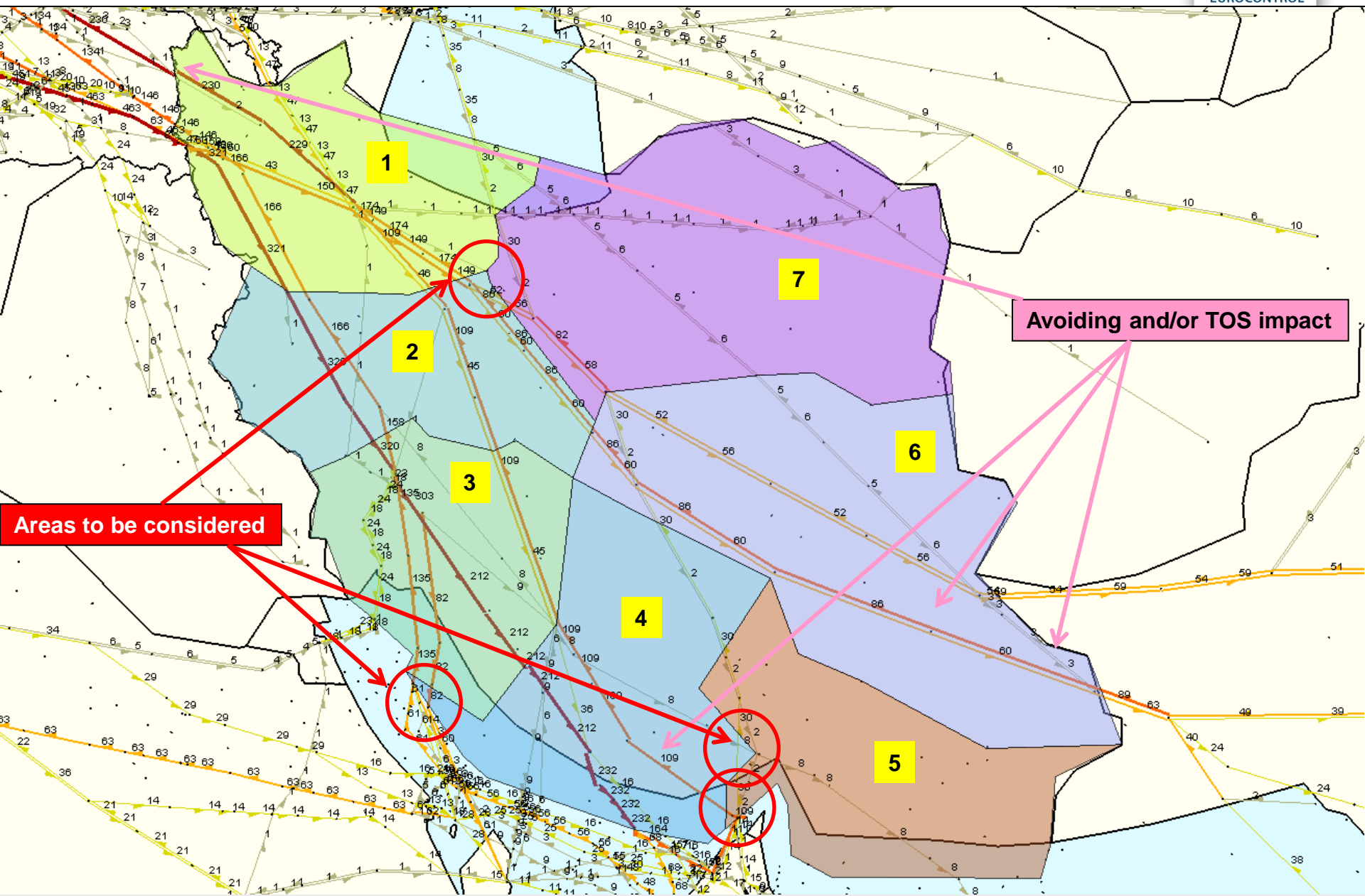
# Iran - Tehran ACC



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# Tehran ACC Sectorisation and Traffic Load

## AFG CLOSE



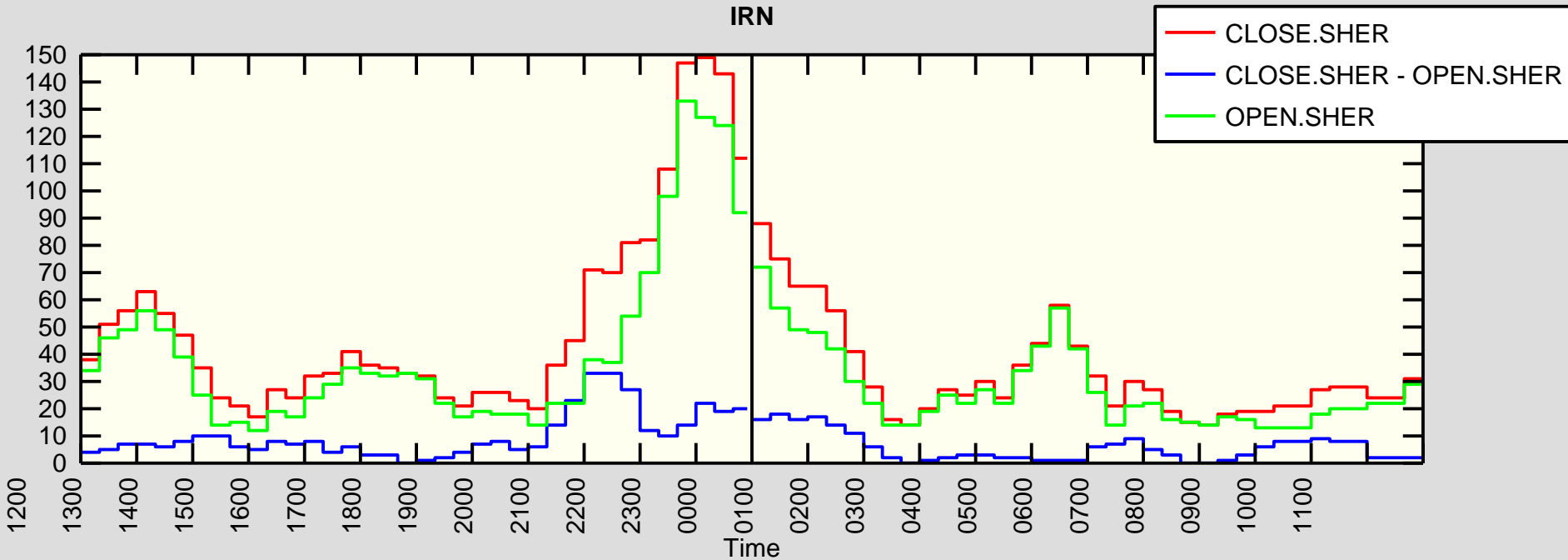
Avoiding and/or TOS impact

Areas to be considered



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# Tehran ACC Total Traffic Load Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE 24 APR 2015 FRI



Sector	AFG OPEN				AFG CLOSE			
	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count
Tehran ACC	829	776.9	99.4	198	1029	834.5	106.2	237



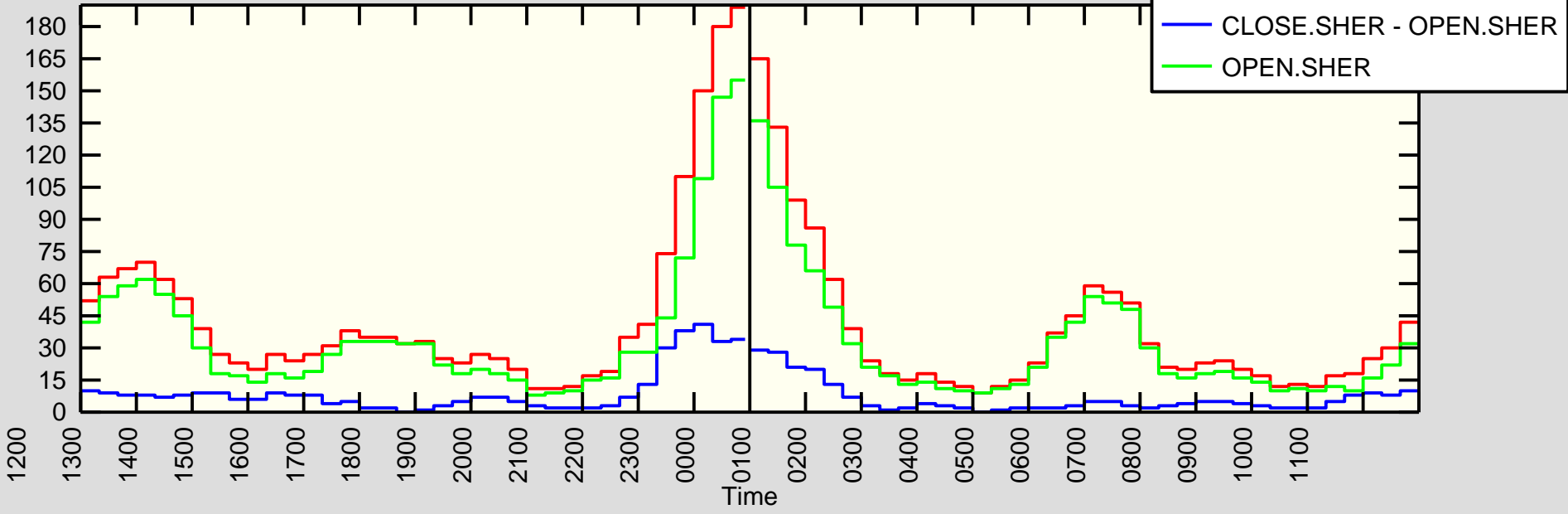
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# Tehran ACC Sector Load Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE 24 APR 2015 FRI

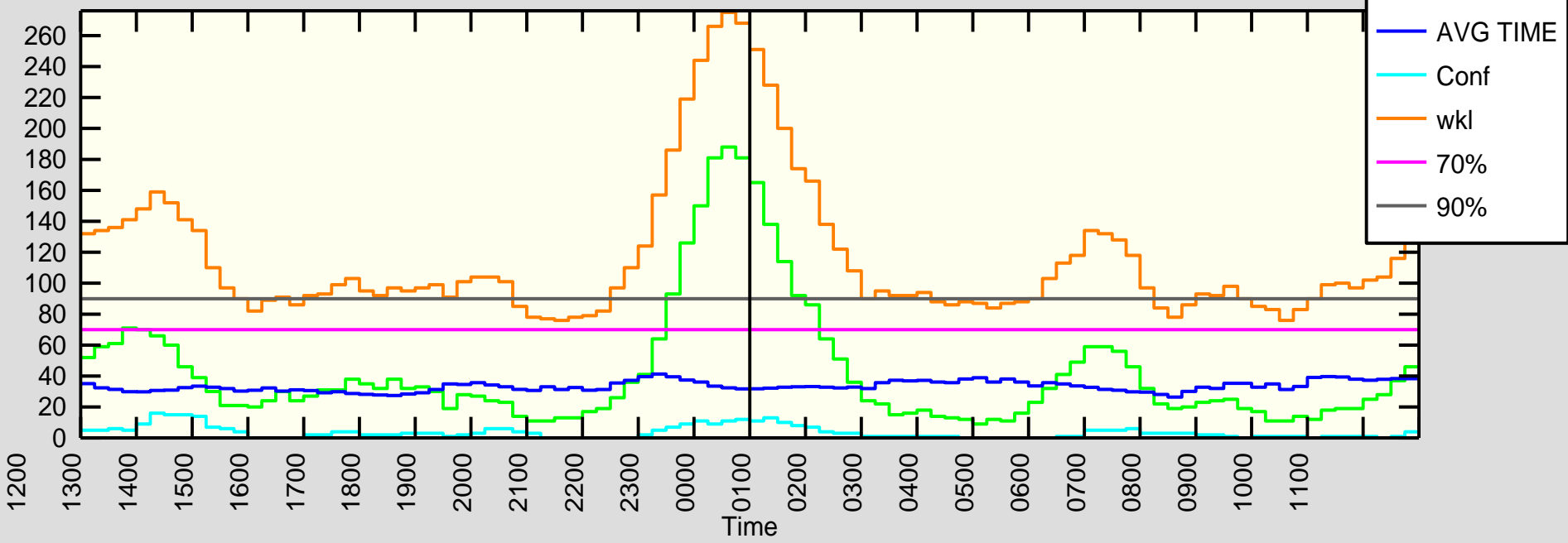


Sector	AFG OPEN				AFG CLOSE			
	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count
Sector 1	821	244.0	31.3	97	<b>1015</b>	260.1	33.2	121
Sector 2	769	167.9	21.6	62	<b>966</b>	159.2	20.4	70
Sector 3	641	246.0	31.3	52	642	246.1	31.4	52
Sector 4	628	148.1	18.8	32	629	148.3	18.8	32
Sector 5	148	152.1	6.8	8	149	153.3	6.9	8
Sector 6	90	436.2	55.2	13	<b>297</b>	491,2	61,8	52
Sector 7	57	296.0	37.9	14	<b>158</b>	174.2	22.2	11

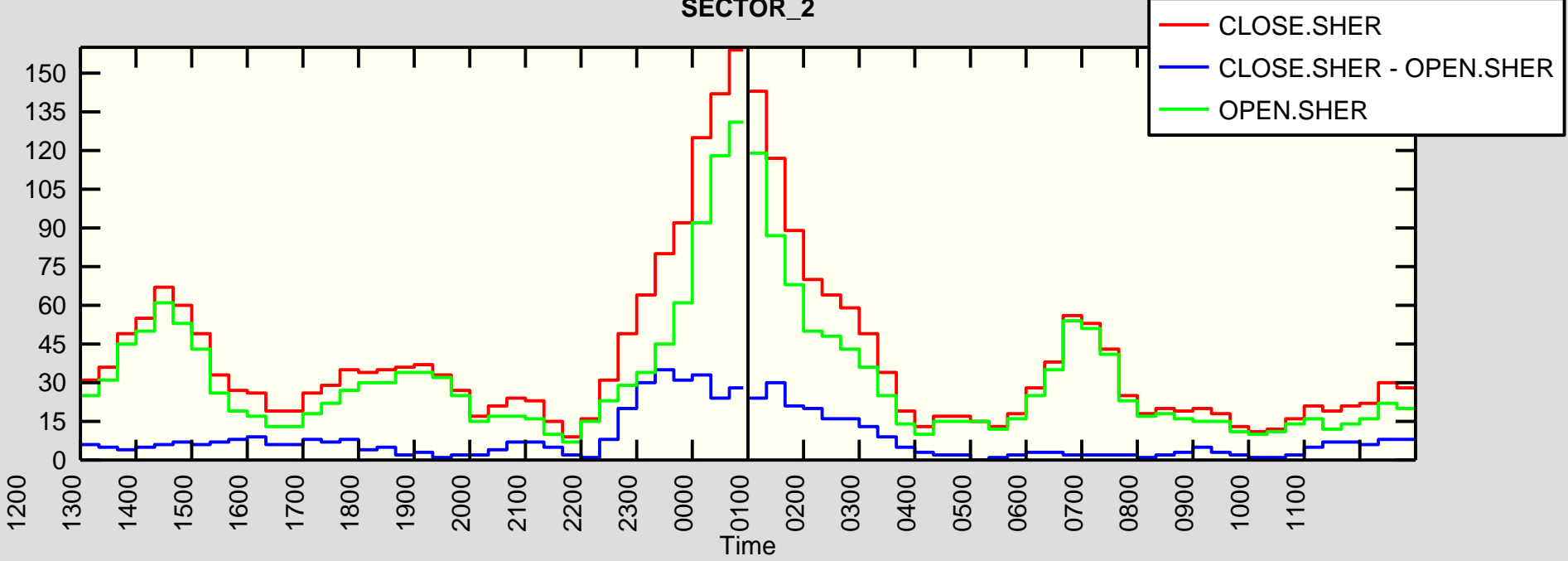
### SECTOR\_1



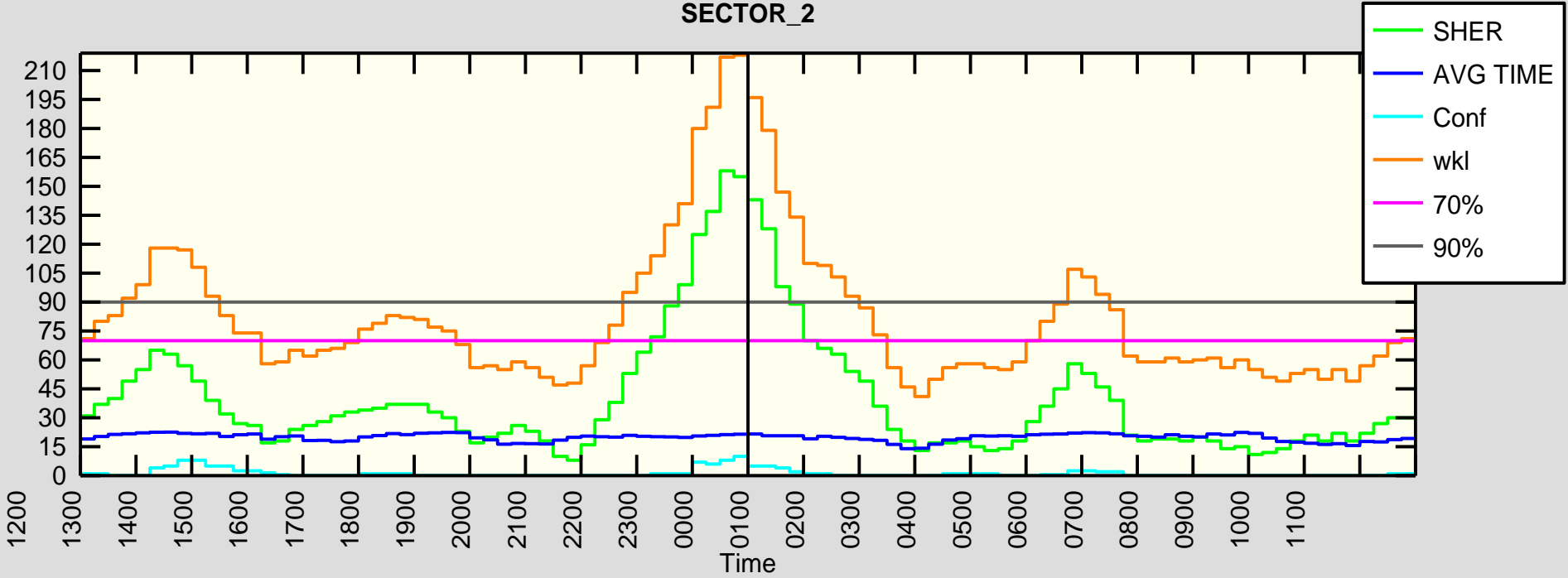
### SECTOR\_1



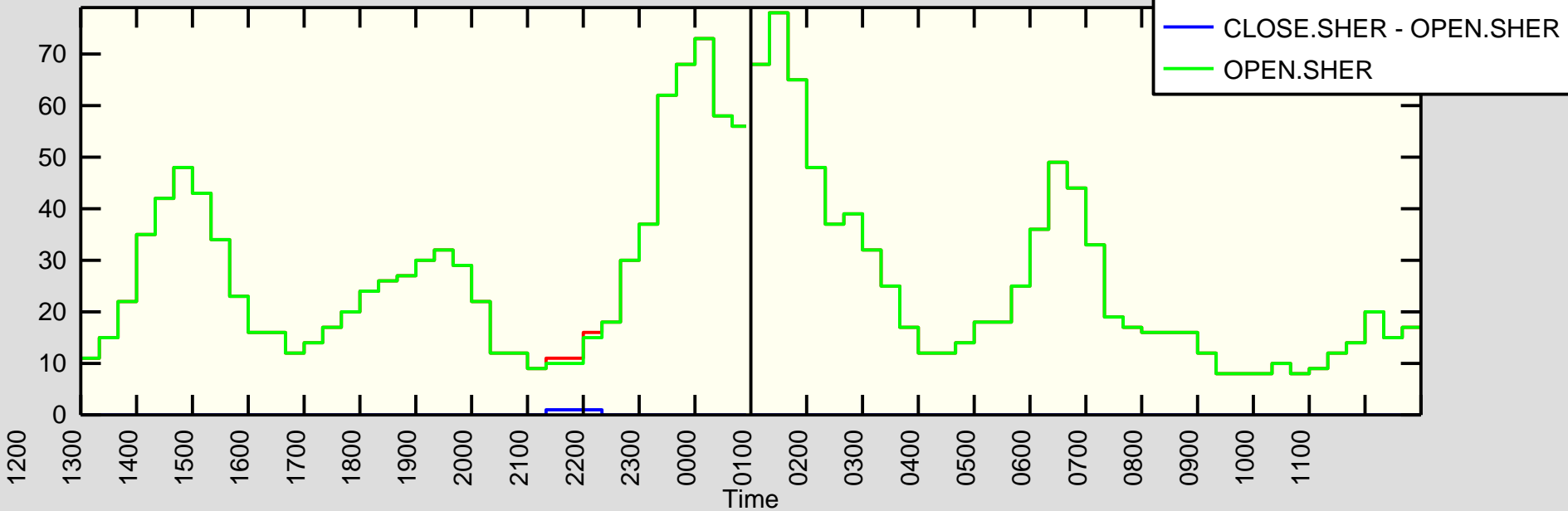
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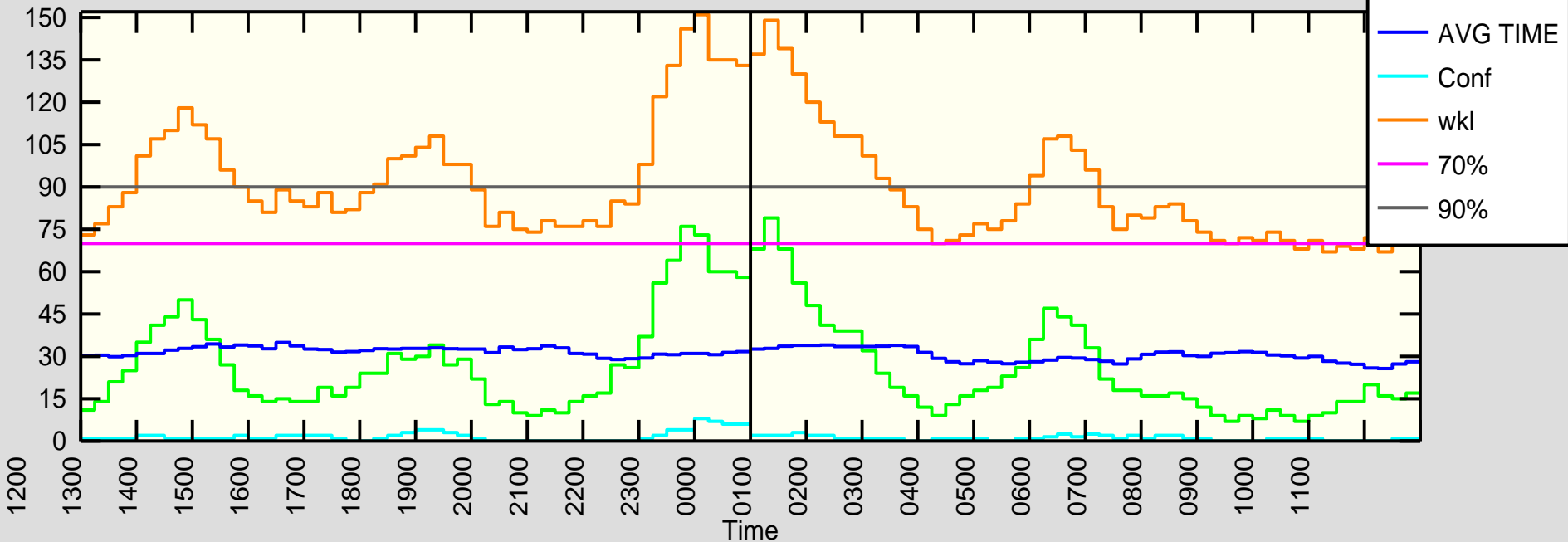
### SECTOR\_2



### SECTOR\_3

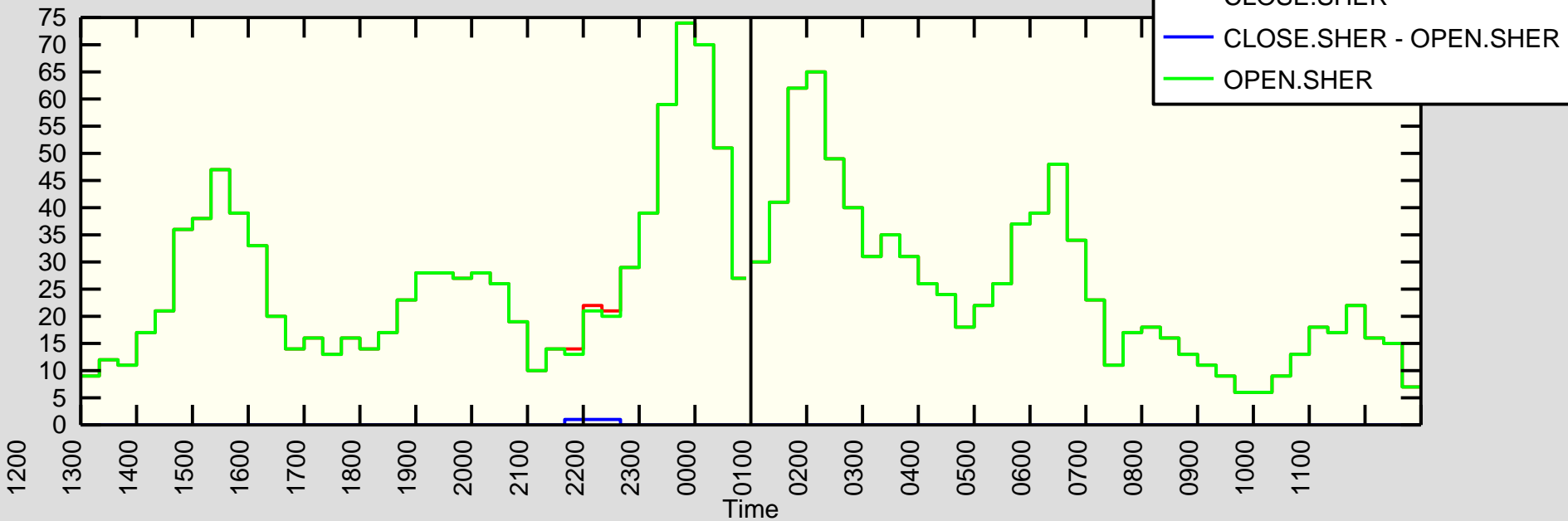


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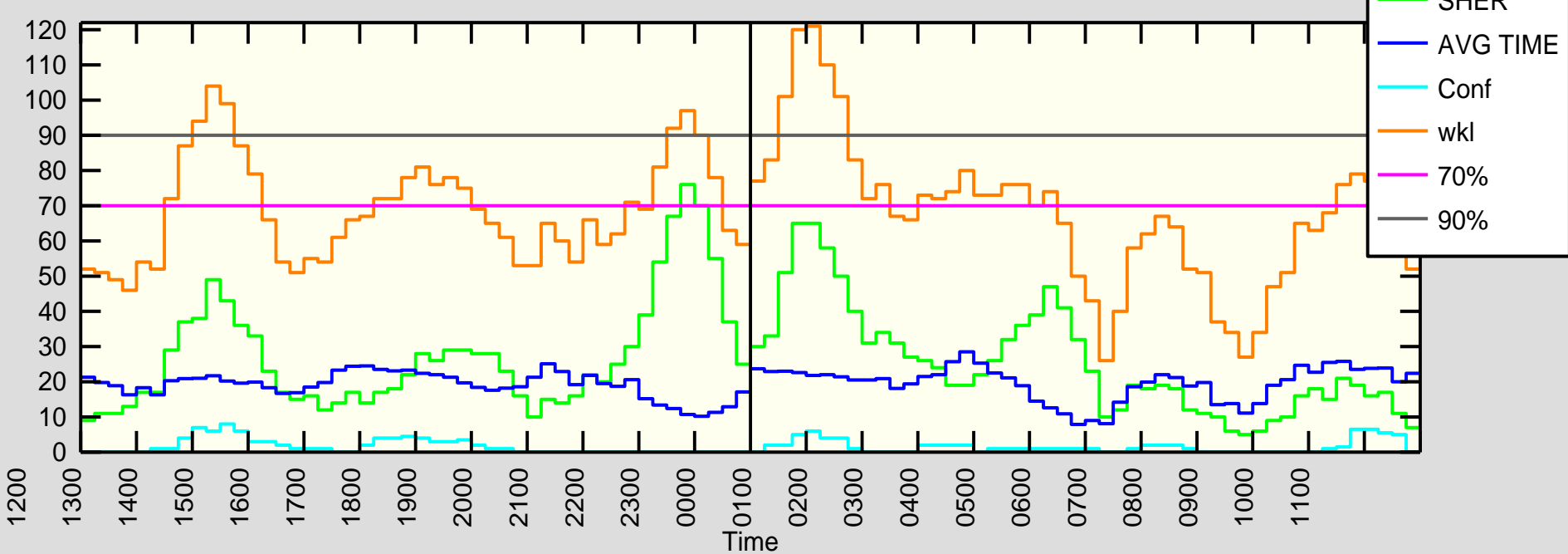




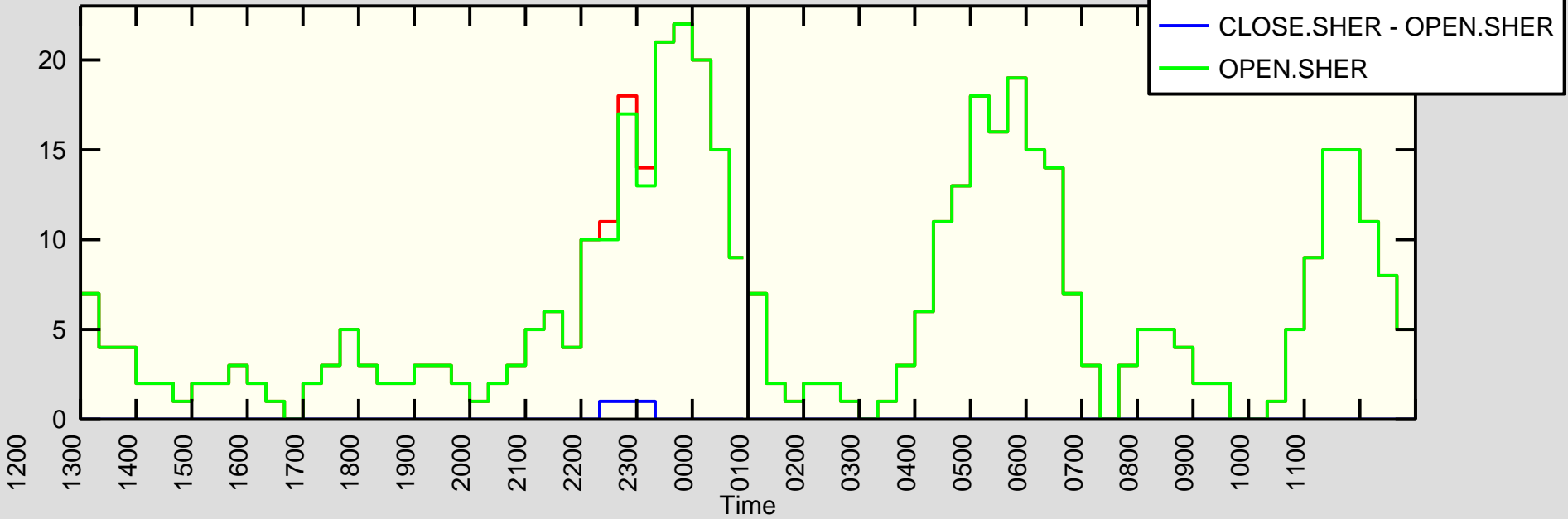
### SECTOR\_4



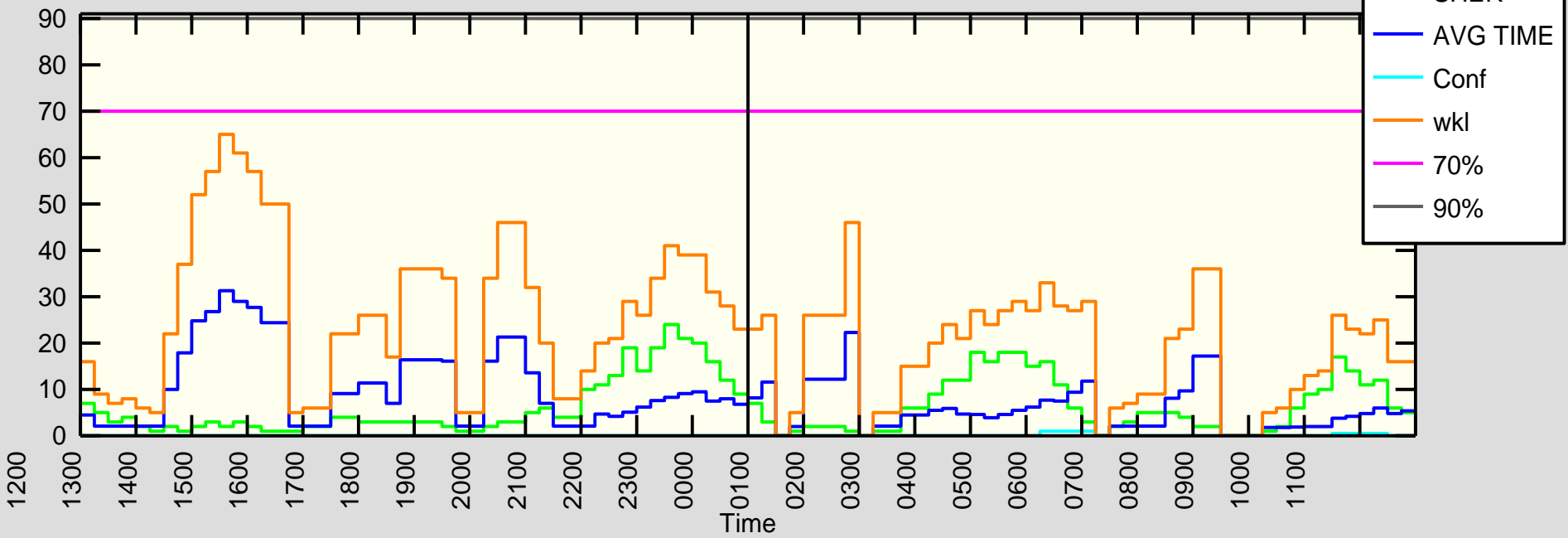
### SECTOR\_4



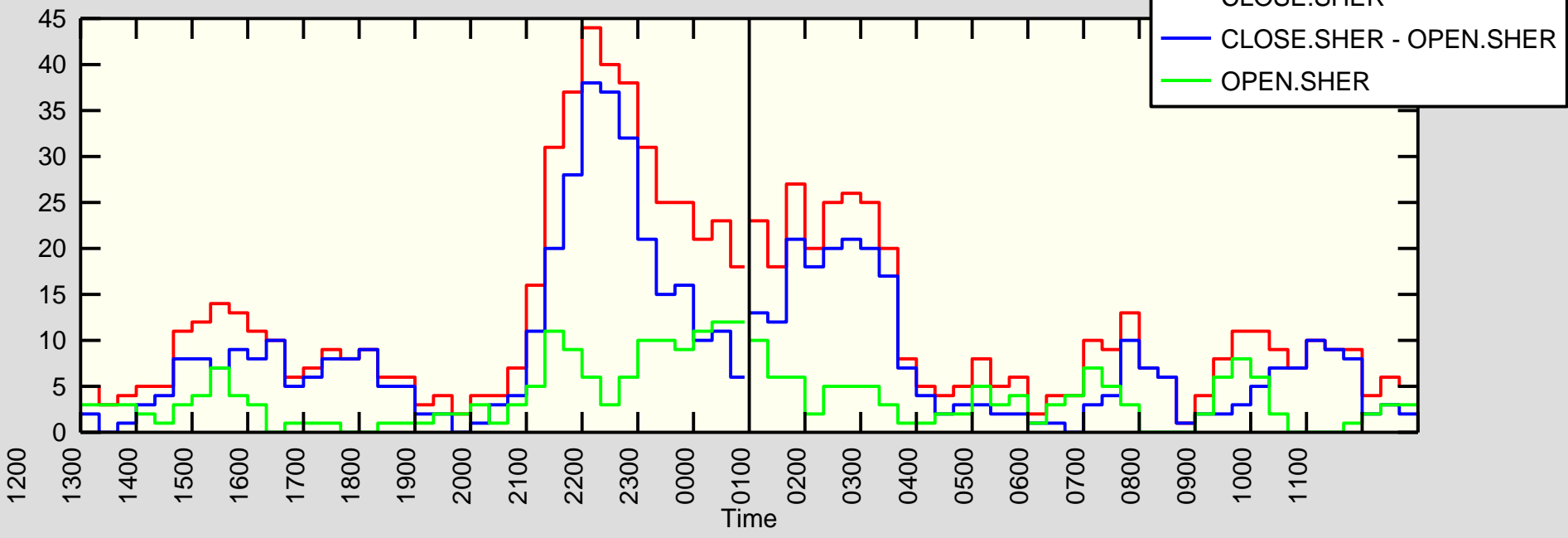
SECTOR\_5



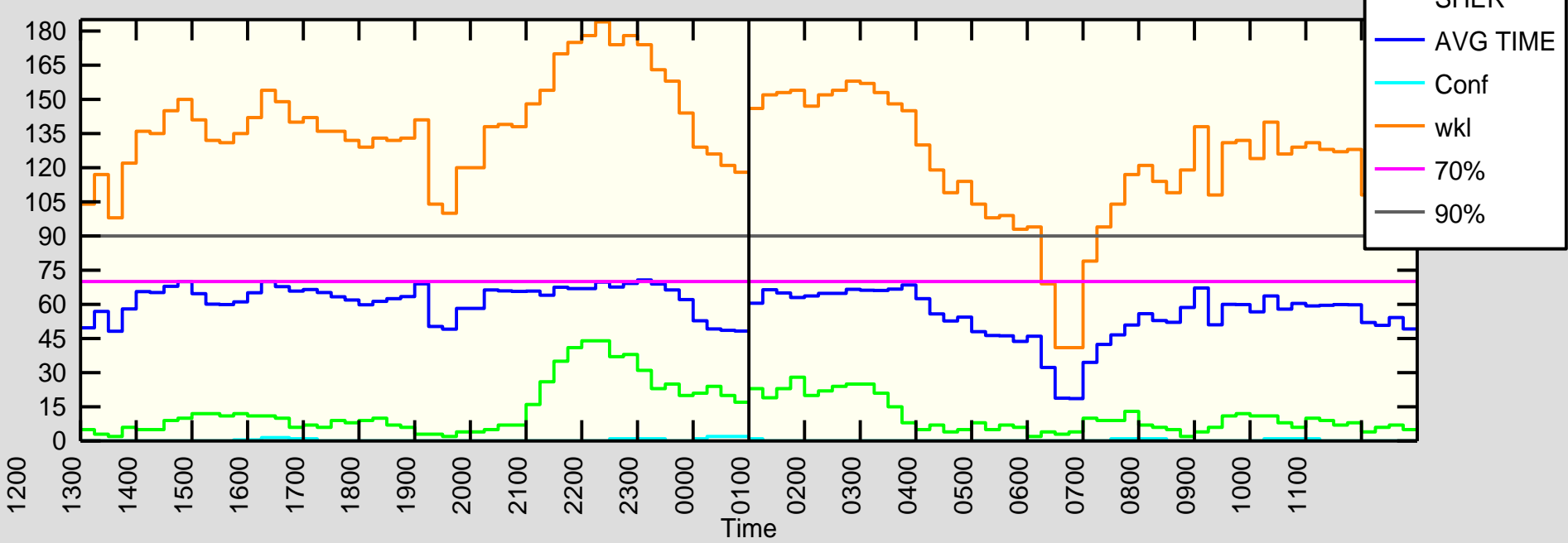
SECTOR\_5



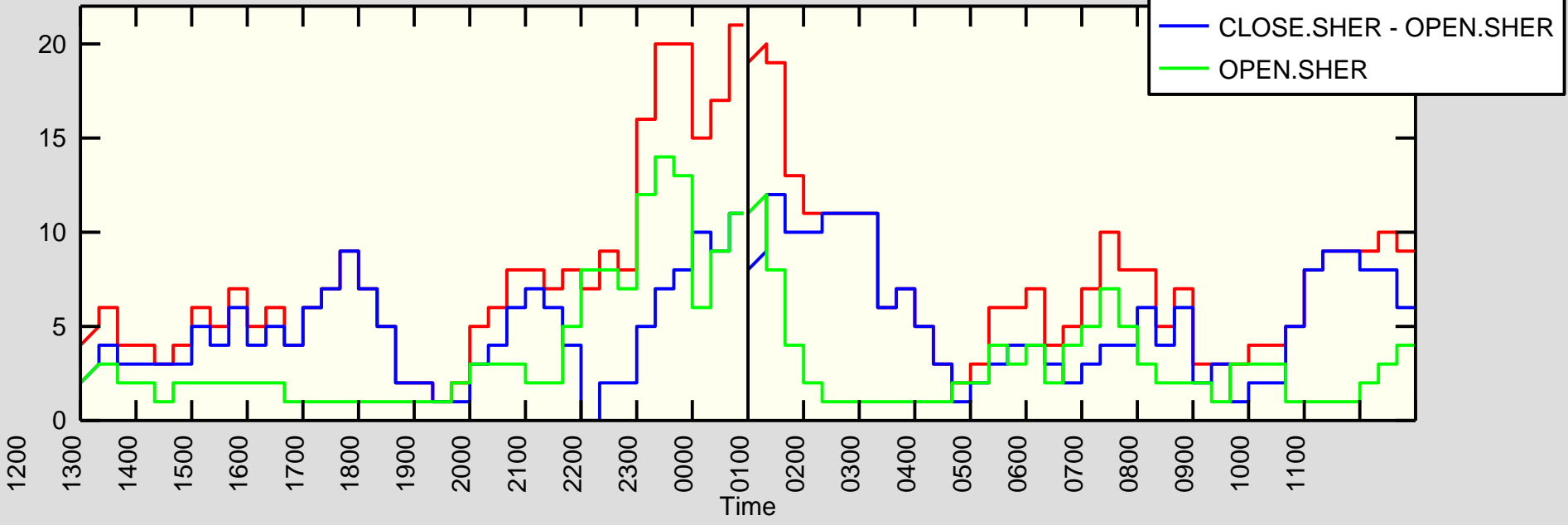
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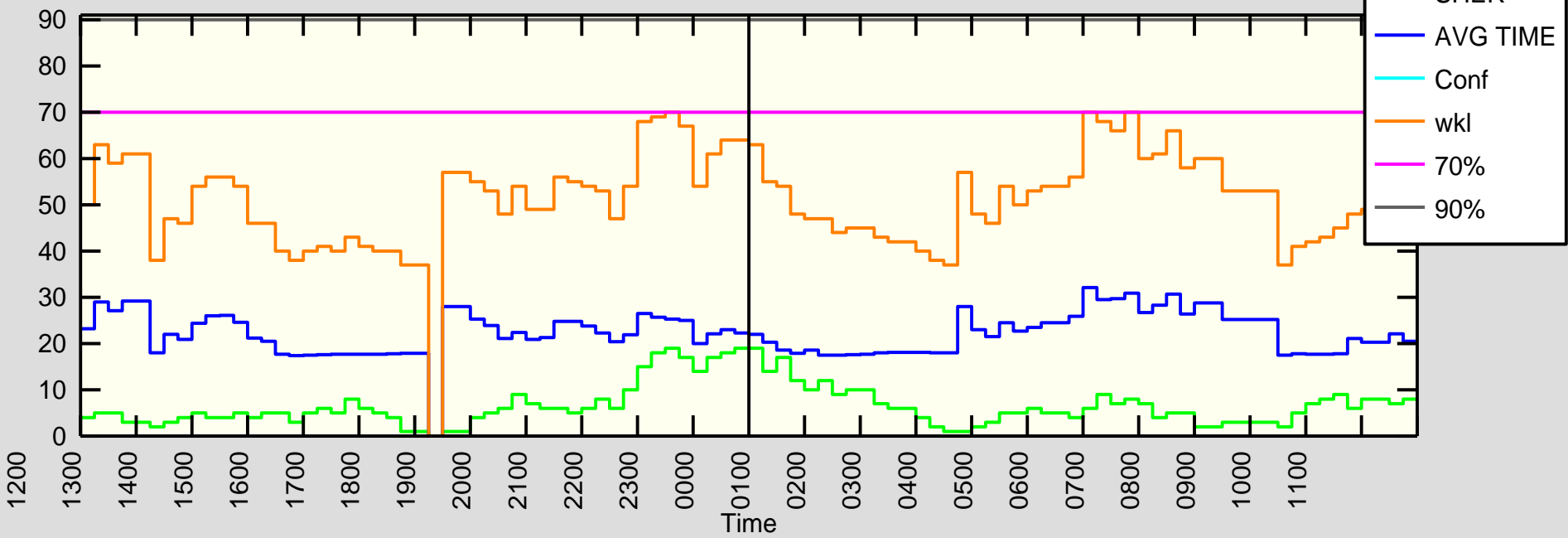
### SECTOR\_6



### SECTOR\_7



### SECTOR\_7





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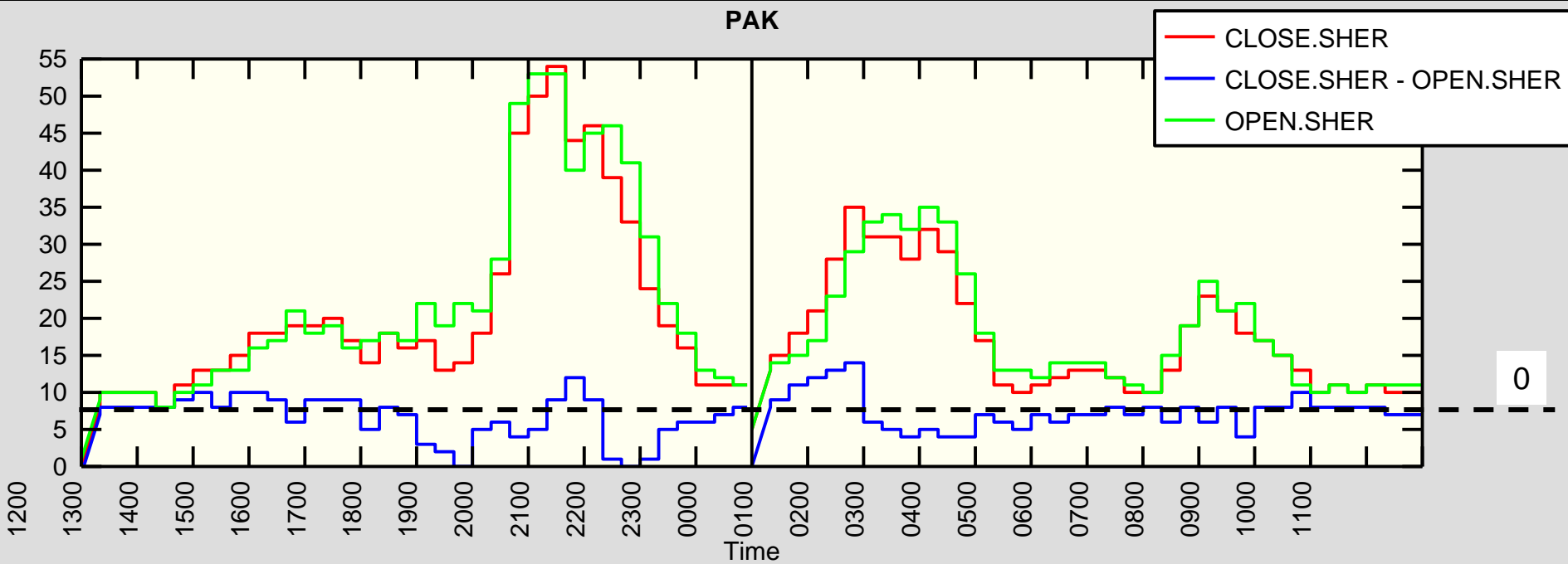


# **Pakistan - Karachi ACC / Lahore ACC**



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# Pakistan Total Traffic Load Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE 24 APR 2015 FRI



Sector	AFG OPEN				AFG CLOSE			
	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count
Pakistan	289	281.7	35.6	35	265	481.3	60.8	45



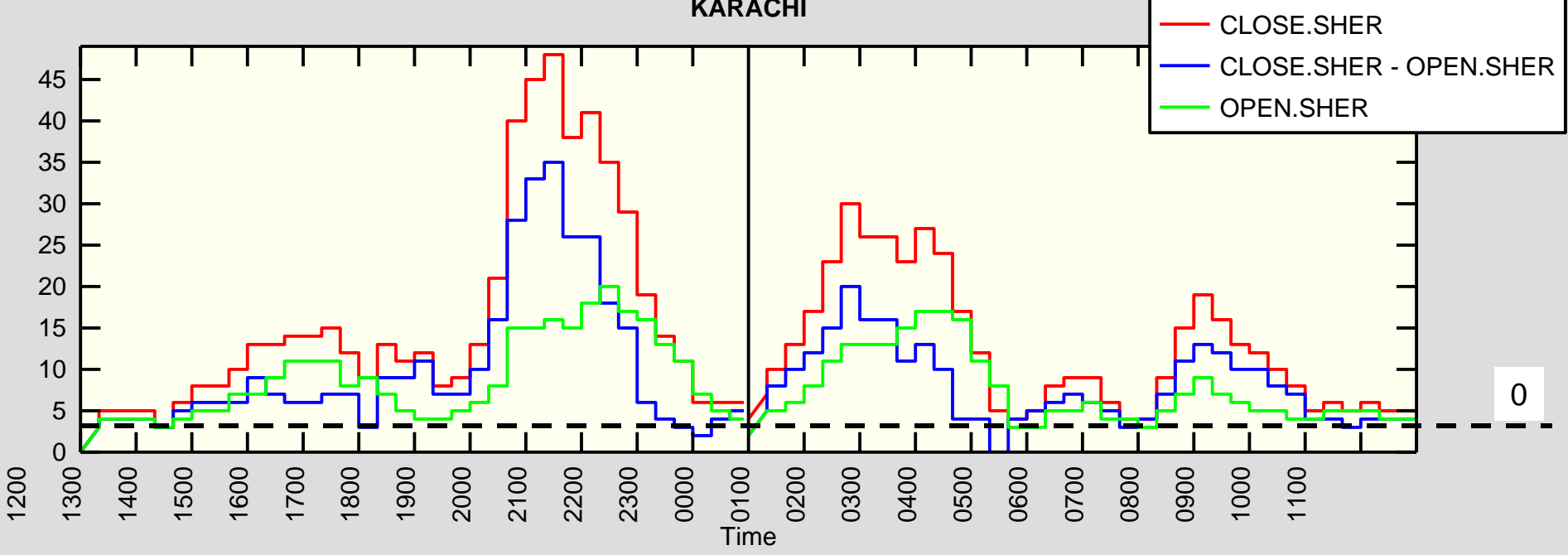
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# Karachi ACC / Lahore ACC Load Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE 24 APR 2015 FRI

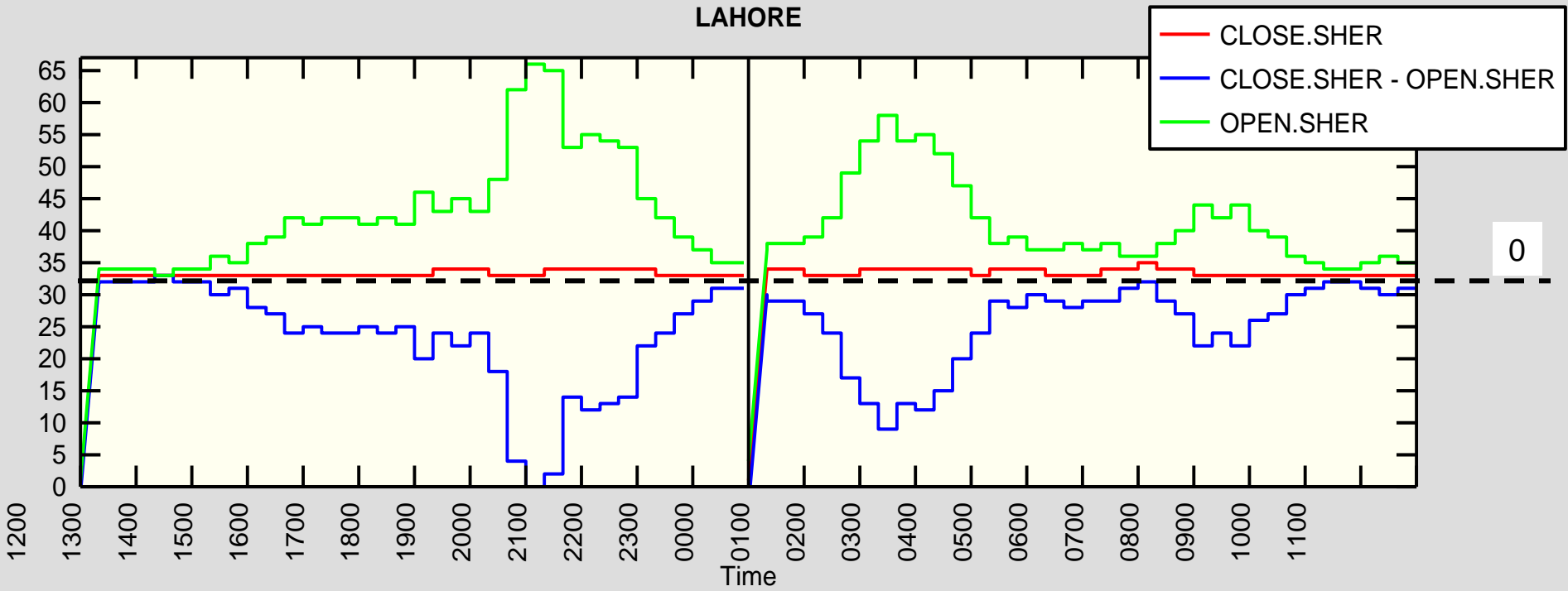


Sector	AFG OPEN				AFG CLOSE			
	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count
Karachi ACC	122	243.5	30.8	13	265	470.8	59.3	44
Lahore ACC	213	242.7	30.7	25	9	308.8	43.8	2

### KARACHI



### LAHORE







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# India - Delhi ACC / Mumbai ACC



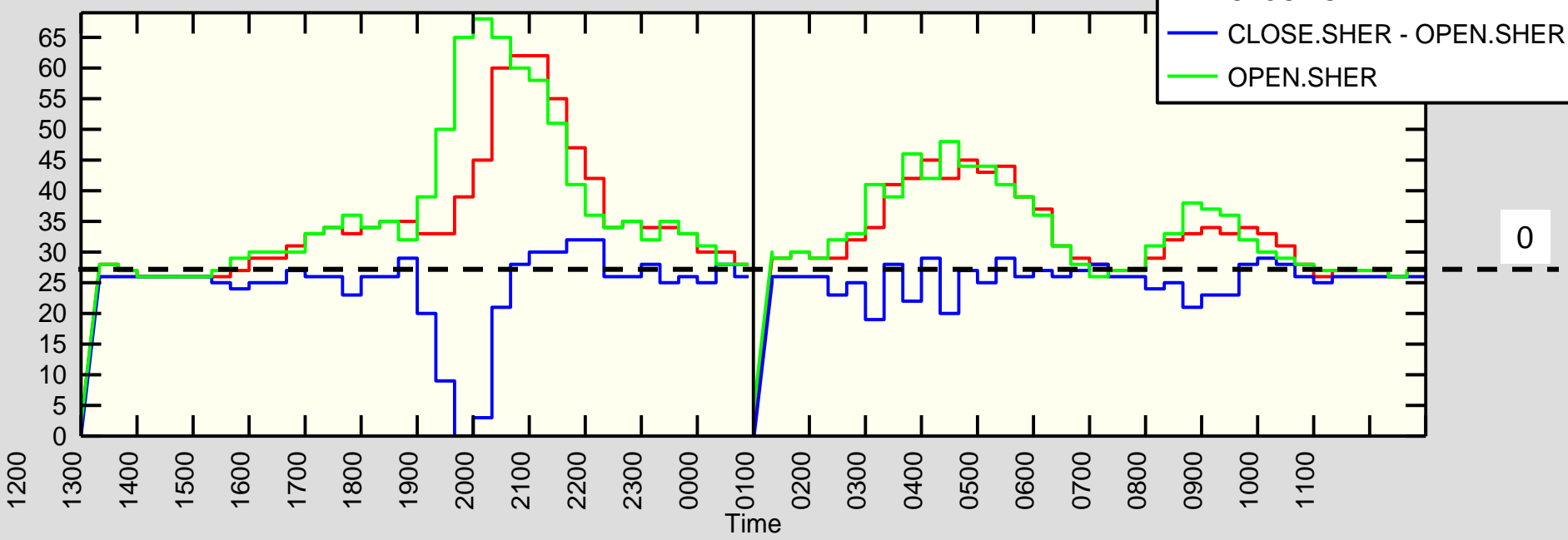
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# Delhi ACC / Mumbai ACC Load Comparison AFG OPEN / CLOSE 24 APR 2015 FRI

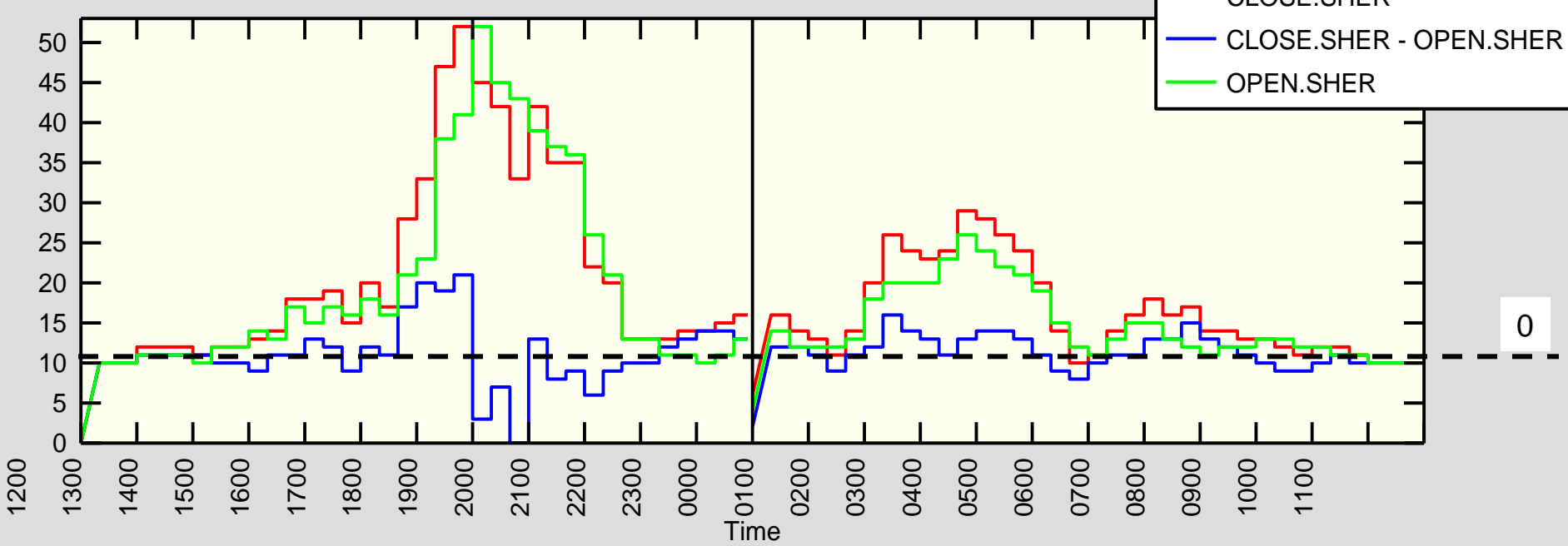


Sector	AFG OPEN				AFG CLOSE			
	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count	Number of flights	Average distance (NM)	Average time (min)	Maximum occupancy Count
Delhi ACC	217	418.2	53.7	45	192	222.5	29.2	25
Mumbai ACC	180	338.5	43.8	23	211	547.8	69.7	50

### DELHI



### MUMBAI





Findings are based on EUROCONTROL Evaluation including ONLY flights operating via European (ECAC) Airspace. Other local area flights shall be also considered in final conclusions and decisions.

## ❖ Tehran FIR:

- ✓ Might be concluded that established TOS works at sufficient level, redistributes traffic inside Tehran ACC and resolves congested area over ZDN.
- ✓ Existing, as published, 7 ACC Sectors theoretically are not able to fulfil its purpose even in current circumstances as most of them are overloaded.
- ✓ Opening of more ACC Sectors or re-shape of existing ones shall be considered.
- ✓ Additional load of currently off-loaded Eastern ACC Sectors are expected due to Kabul FIR unavailability.

## ❖ Interface Karachi FIR - Tehran FIR:

- ✓ Significant increase of additional 207 flights compare to normal situation.
- ✓ TCPs are loaded instantaneously during the night period.
- ✓ ZDN merge inside Tehran FIR is resolved by existing TOS.

## ❖ Interface Delhi FIR / Mumbai FIR - Karachi FIR / Lahore FIR:

- ✓ Similar number of flights but re-distribution from Lahore FIR to Karachi FIR is evident.
- ✓ Re-distribution inside Indian FIRs is not significant except the swap of VIDP flights from GUGAL to TIGER.

## ❖ Interface Vientiane FIR - Kunming FIR:

- ✓ Increase of 17 flight per day encountered with increase of around 3 flights per hour.

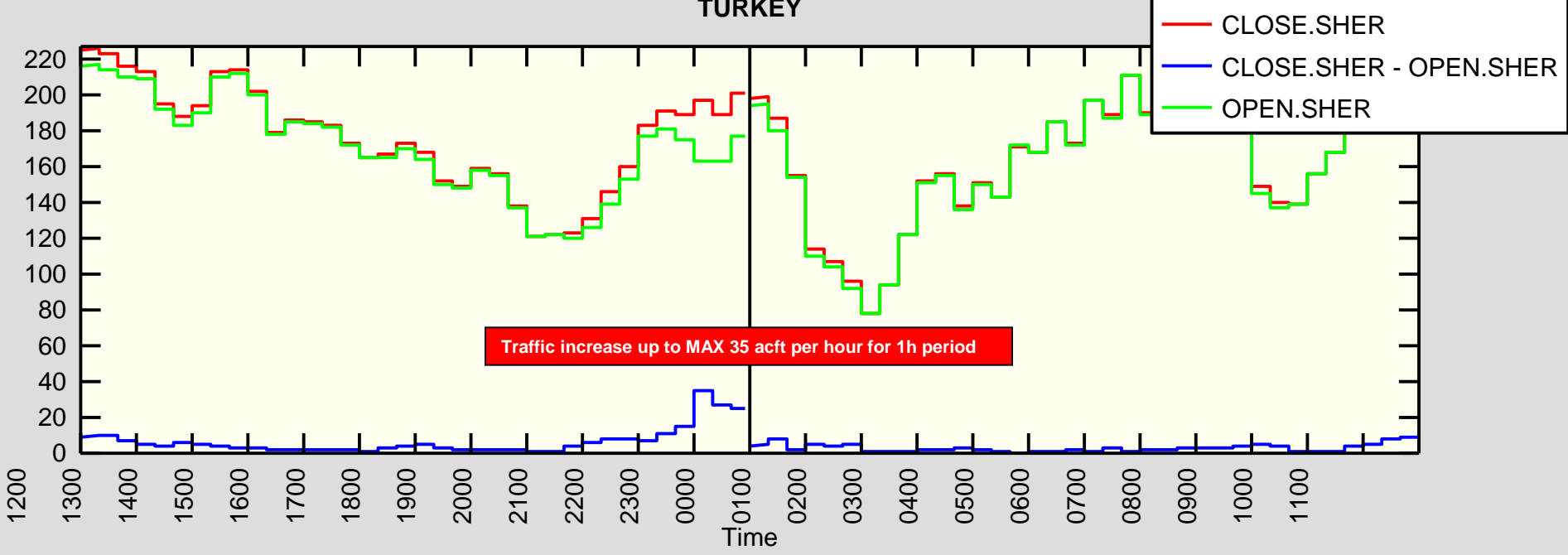


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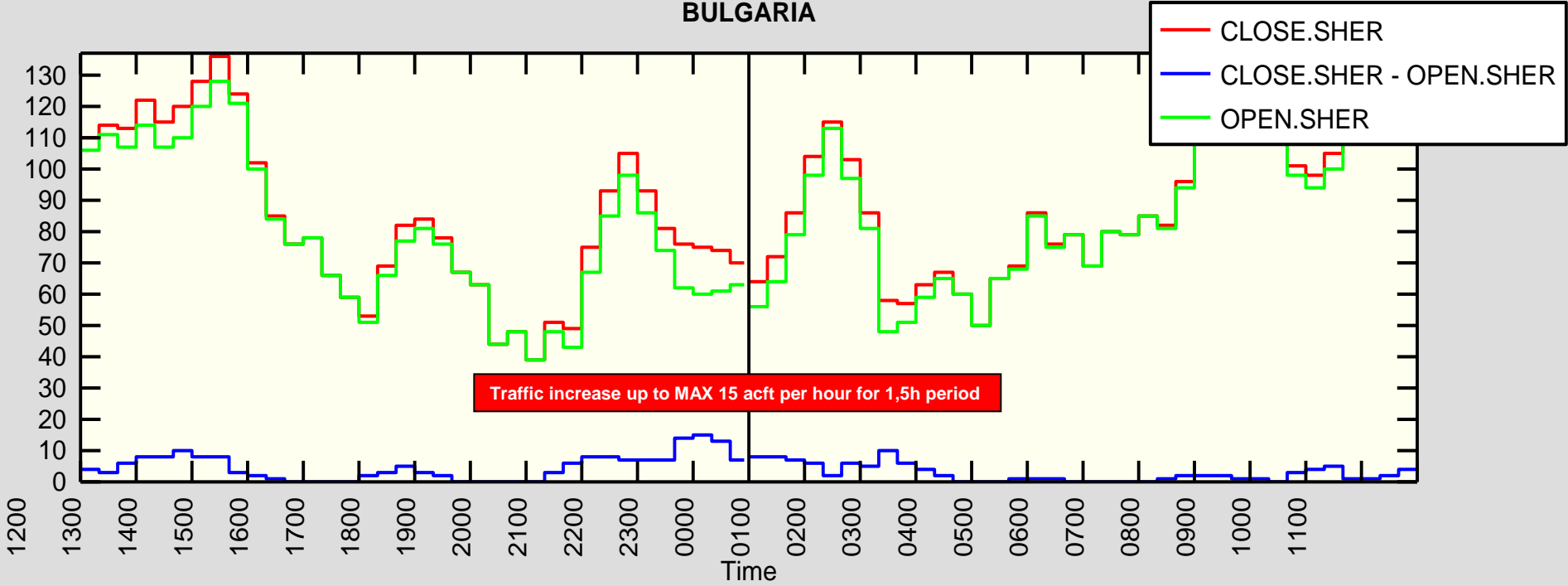


# ICAO EUR/NAT ACCs

### TURKEY



### BULGARIA





- ❖ In general no traffic increase inside EUR/NAT Region airspace except encountered re-distribution of more than 200 flights from North to South and further North.
- ❖ The main traffic concentration is on axis Ankara FIR - Sofia FIR - Bucuresti FIR and beyond where for all FIRs except Ankara FIR traffic increase might be expected.
- ❖ Reduction of flights via Caucasus Area (Yerevan FIR, Tbilisi FIR and Baku FIR).
- ❖ The most loaded TCPs are ALRAM / DASIS and ODERO / UDROS between Ankara FIR and respectively Tehran FIR and Sofia FIR. Airspace design discussion is still in progress to further improvement interface Ankara FIR / Sofia FIR / Bucuresti FIR.
- ❖ Prior information in case of unavailability of air navigation services within the Kabul FIR and traffic re-distribution inside EUR/NAT Region shall be properly communicated in order to assure necessary coordination inside the Region.



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**END**