

Technological Innovations and Solutions in Aviation Training

ICAO EUR/NAT Aviation Training and Skills Workshop
ICAO EUR/NAT Office
Paris 11-12 March 2025

Federico Franchina – University of Messina

Education and Aviation

ICAO and University of Messina
(Corporate Partner for
Education)



Traditional Aviation Training Overview



Historical context



The traditional training pipeline



Instructor-led approach with
standardized syllabi and checkride
evaluations.



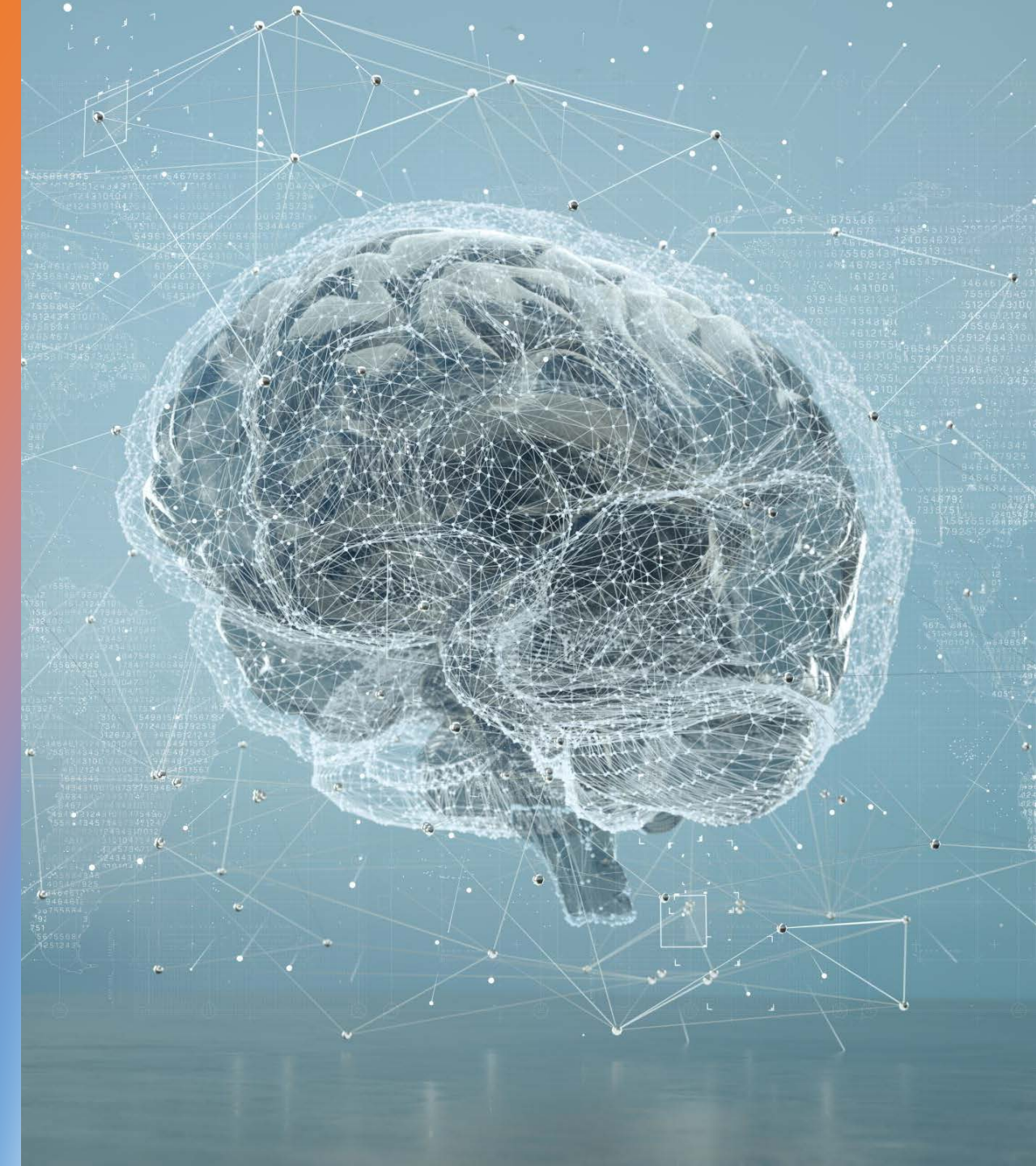
Driving Forces Behind Technological Transformation

- Safety Enhancement
- Cost Reduction
- Training Standardization
- Addressing Manpower Shortage
- Environmental Considerations

Aviation Training and New Technologies

- **Virtual Reality in Aviation Training**
 - Specific Applications
 - Pre-flight Procedures
 - Emergency Scenarios
 - Spatial Awareness Training
 - Airport Familiarization
 - Benefits
- **Augmented Reality**
 - Specific Applications
 - Maintenance Training
 - Ground Operations Training
 - In-flight Reference
 - Benefits



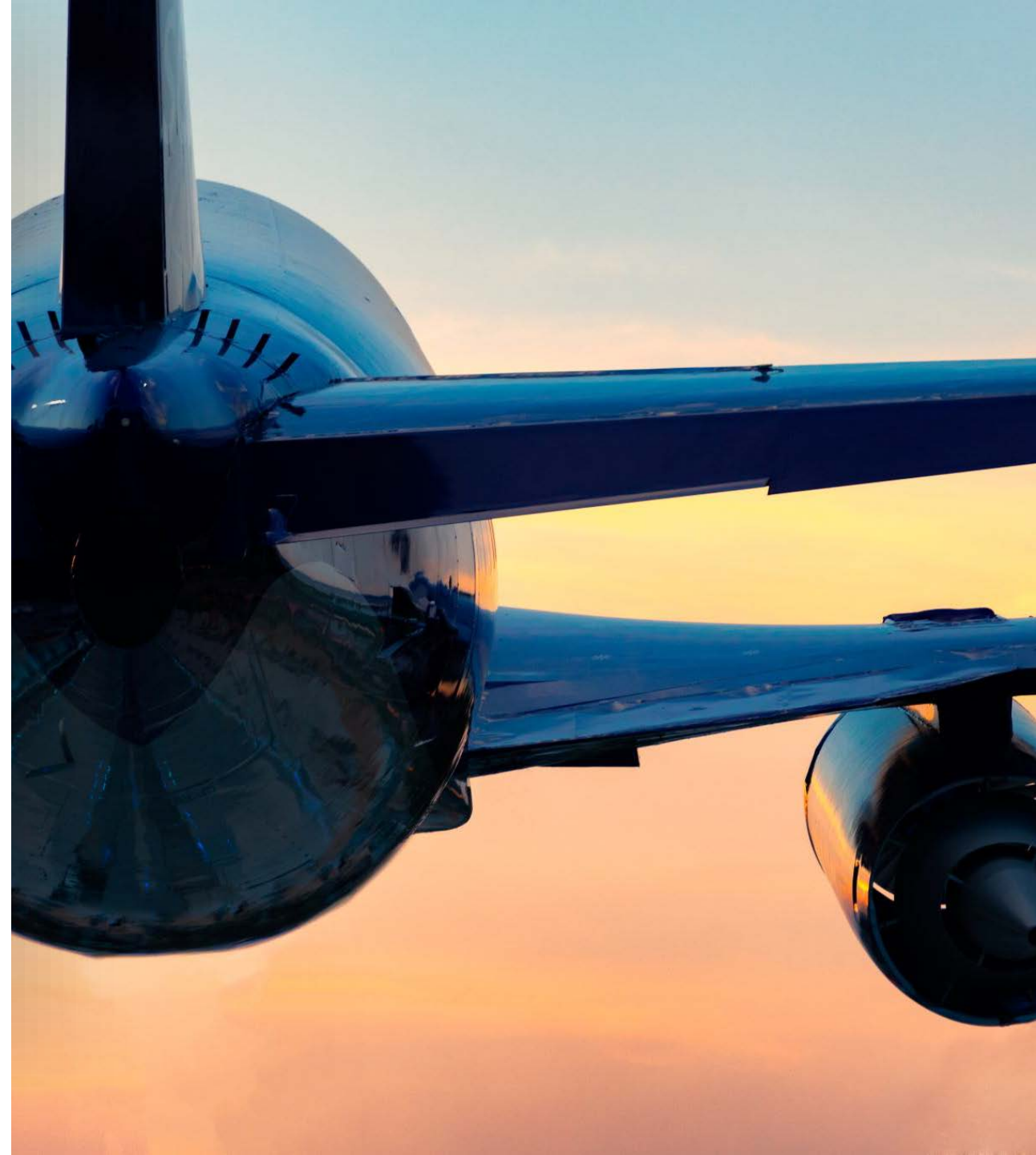


Aviation Training and New Technologies

- **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning**
 - Applications in Training
 - Performance Analysis
 - Predictive Training Needs
 - Automated Debriefing
 - Virtual Instructors
 - Benefits
- **Digital Twins and Advanced Simulation**
 - Application
 - Benefits

EU Regulatory Framework - Aviation

- **Commission Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011 (Aircrew Regulation):**
- **Commission Regulation (EU) No 290/2012 (Training Organizations):**
- **EASA Part-FCL (Flight Crew Licensing)**
- **EASA CS-FSTD (Certification Specifications):**
- **Classification System Challenges:**
- **Technical Requirements:**



+
•
◦ **EU
Regulatory
Framework
– External
to Aviation**

- **Data Protection Considerations**
 - Training Data
 - Cross-border transfer
 - Anonymization
- **EU AI Act Impact**
 - Risk Classification
 - Technical Requirements
 - Human Oversight Provisions
- **European Implementation**
- **Cross Border Recognition**



Challenges

- Human Factor
- Integration
- Technology Neutrality



Conclusion

- Reshaping the aviation training landscape
- Evolution of regulatory pathways (critical relevance, especially with “external” rules and regulations)
- Benefits in training efficiency, cost, and effectiveness
- Blended approach
- Technology as a competitive necessity (?)
- Need for industry-academia-regulator collaboration on implementation
- Shift from hours-based to competency-based training approaches (?)