



TOTAL BATTERY POWERED SUBMARINE DESIGN, A NEW WAY OF THINKING

Sven Los

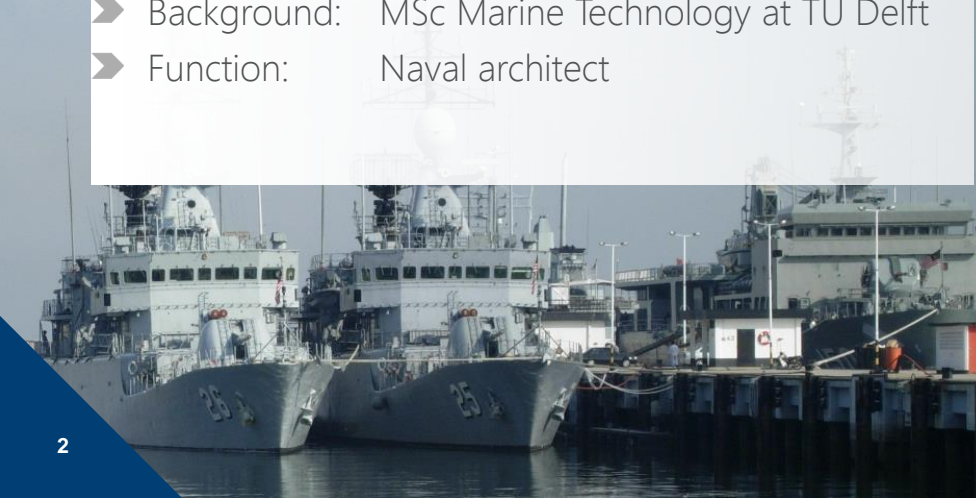
Nevesbu

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NEVESBU



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- Background: MSc Marine Technology at TU Delft
- Function: Naval architect



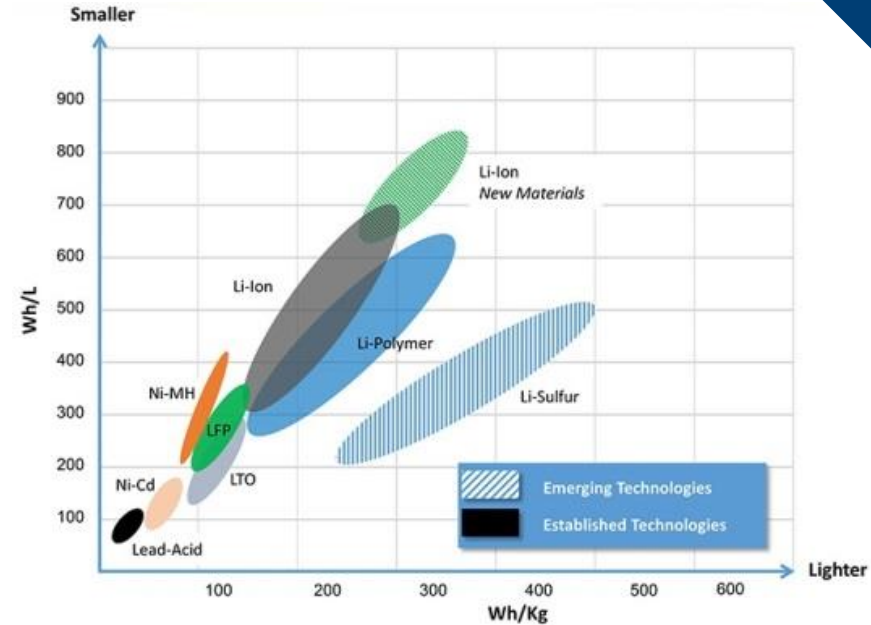
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- Potential benefits of total battery powered submarines
- Identified design challenges
- Feasibility study
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INTRODUCTION

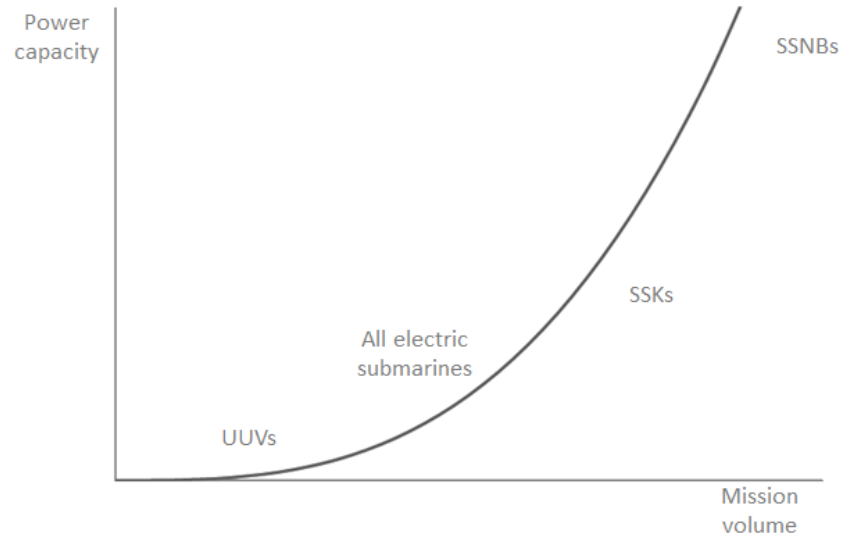


- Past decades; enormous developments in battery technology
- Research into battery technology still ongoing
- New battery technology has a high potential for the undersea defense industry



INTRODUCTION

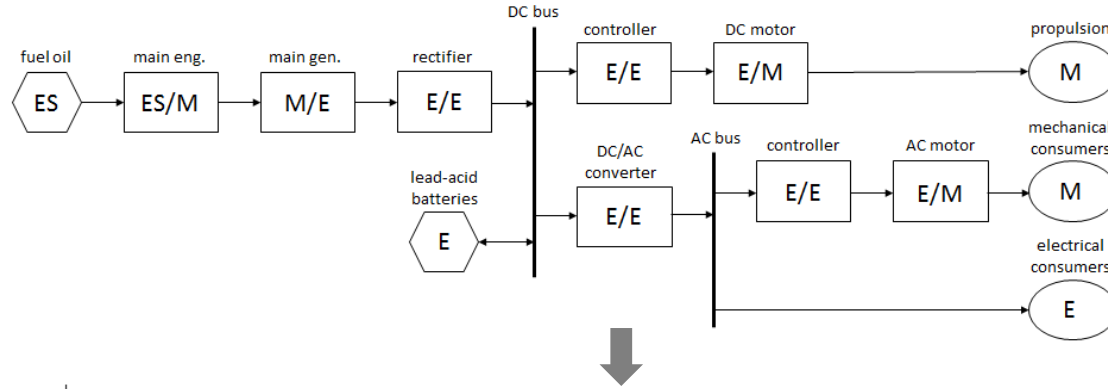
- Improved battery technology led to a revolution in the civil electric vehicle industry and is upcoming in civil shipping industry
- Use of total battery powered vessels in the undersea defense industry limited to UUVs and small manned vehicles
- Improved battery technology is expected to make total battery powered submarines feasible



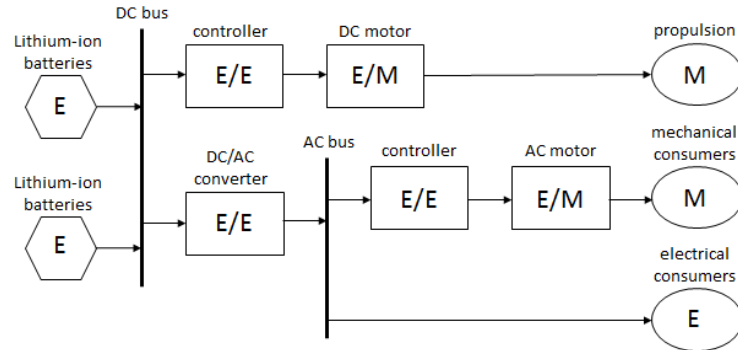
INTRODUCTION



➤ Diesel electric:



➤ Total battery powered:



Legend

ES	Energy Source
E	Electric Energy
M	Mechanical Energy
⬡	Source
◯	Consumer
▭	Transformation

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF TOTAL BATTERY POWERED SUBMARINES

Tactical advantages

- Air independent propulsion system
- Reduction in signature
 - Thermal
 - Acoustic
 - Visual
 - Radar cross section
- Safety characteristics
 - Lithium battery vs lead acid batteries
 - Less hot machine parts (no combustion engines), which will reduce the risks of fire
 - Less pressure hull penetrations

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF TOTAL BATTERY POWERED SUBMARINES

Reduction of complexity

- Decrease in amount of systems
 - Decrease of design complexity
 - Reduction in maintenance
 - Reduced workload for submarine crew
 - Improvement in availability and reliability
- Simplification of systems
- Potential for crew size reduction and automatization
 - Simplification of control propulsion plant
 - Simplification of control underwater systems
 - Reduction in required corrective and preventive maintenance

Overview achievable system reduction due to omission of DG-sets

Diesel engines
 Generators
 Lubrication oil system diesel engines
 Fresh water cooling system diesel engines
 Seawater cooling system diesel engines
 Diesel engine start – stop system
 Air intake system
 Exhaust gas system
 Fuel oil injection system
 Fuel oil service and conditioning system
 Fuel oil transfer and compensation system

IDENTIFIED DESIGN CHALLENGES

- Density lithium batteries
- Impact on platform design philosophies
- Safety aspects of battery integration
- Air quality control for prolonged submerged periods
- The loss of selfcharging capacity will make powerconsumption management a critical success factor

FEASIBILITY STUDY

Research goal and approach

➤ Research goal;

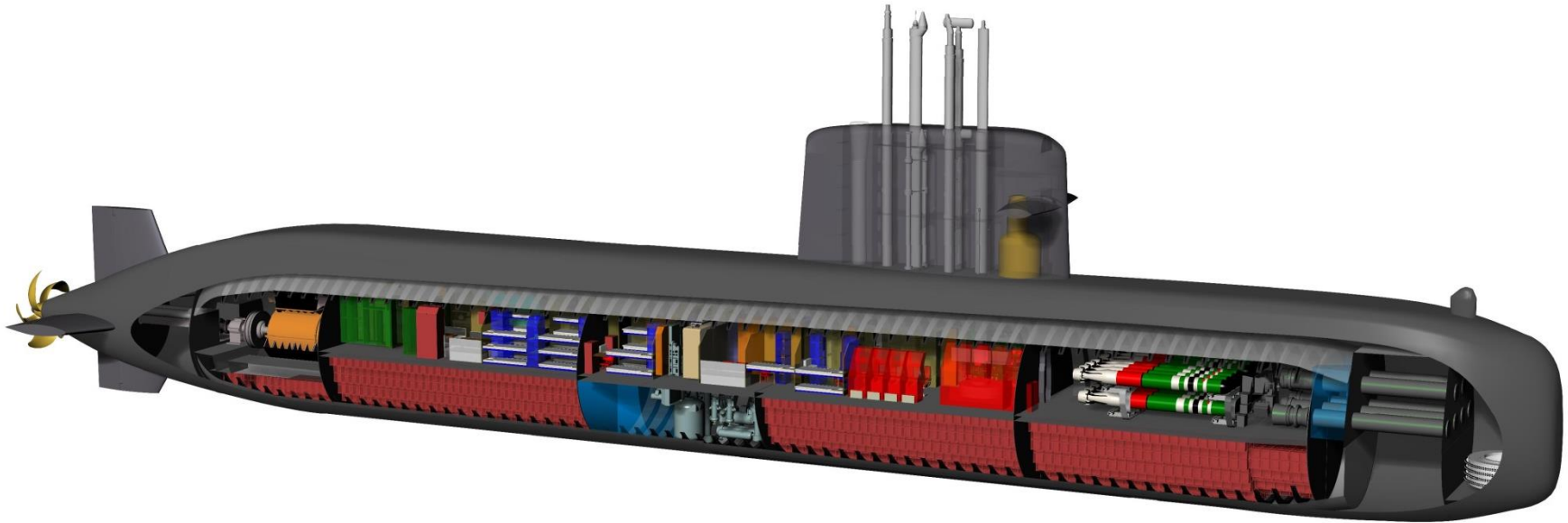
- Determining the feasibility of an entirely battery powered submarine design based on available technology
- Determining the limiting design factors

➤ Approach;

- Re-designing an existing diesel-electric submarine design into a total battery powered submarine design
- The MORAY 1800 used as reference design
- Design volume and all design requirements (except required endurance and range) are kept constant
- The created total battery powered design is compared with reference design to determine the feasibility

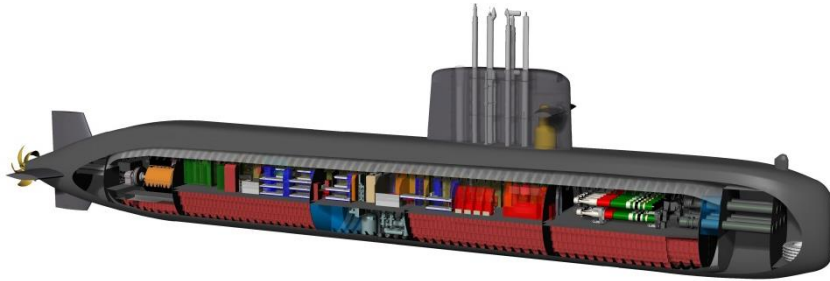
FEASIBILITY STUDY

Created concept design



FEASIBILITY STUDY

Created concept design – main characteristics



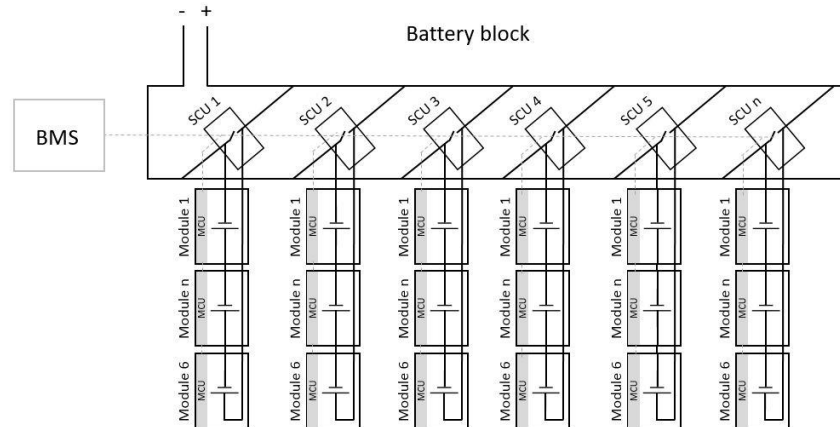
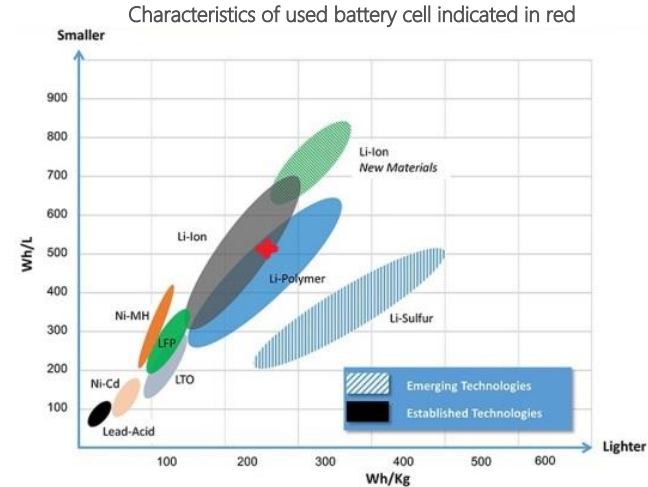
Dimensions	Length	66.5 m
	Hull diameter	6.5 m
Displacement	Surfaced	1700 ton
	Submerged	1900 ton
Diving depth	Max. operational	300 m
	Combat	6
Speed	Launching tubes weapons	20
	Max for one hour	20 kn
Accommodations	Burst	21.5 kn
	Crew & trainees	34+4

FEASIBILITY STUDY

Battery design

- Applied battery technology
 - NMC chemistry lithium batteries
 - Specific energy modules: 200 Wh/kg
 - Energy density modules: 314 Wh/l

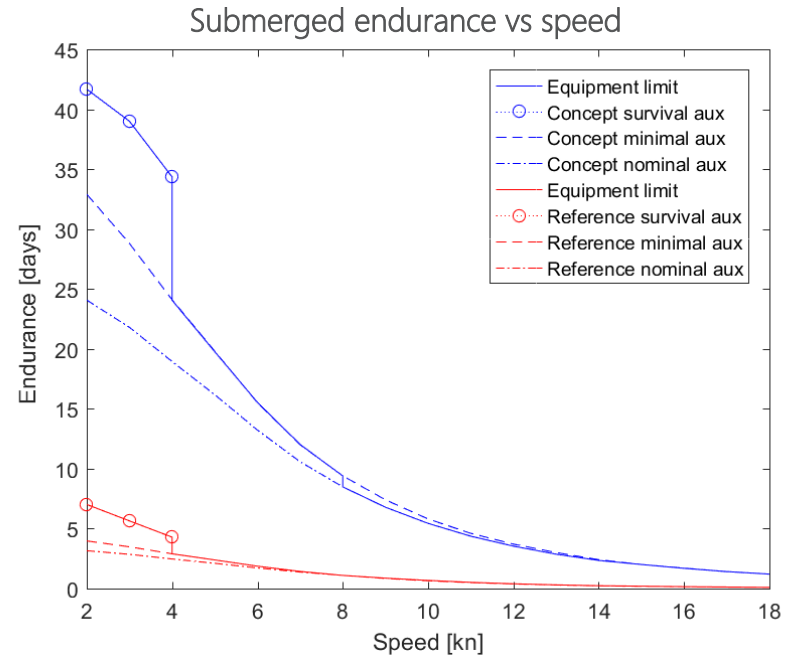
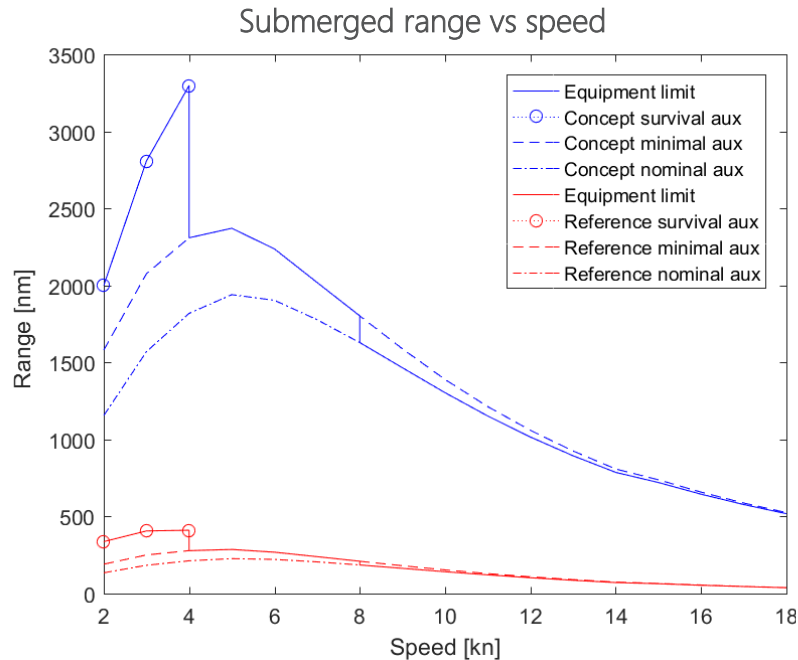
- Applied battery topology
 - Four battery blocks
 - Total amount of battery strings: 1476
 - Total installed battery capacity: 88.5 MWh



FEASIBILITY STUDY

Operational capability study

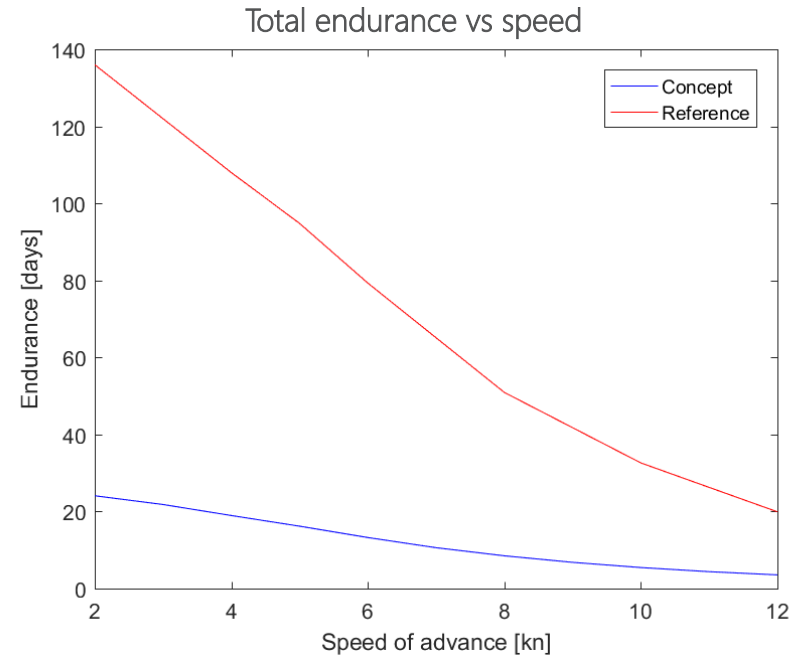
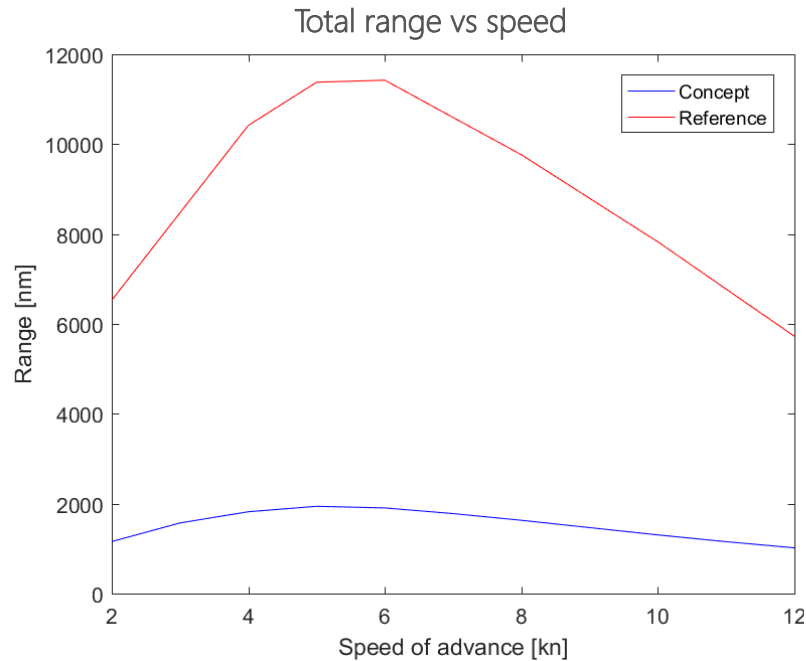
► Submerged range and endurance comparison between concept and reference design



FEASIBILITY STUDY

Operational capability study

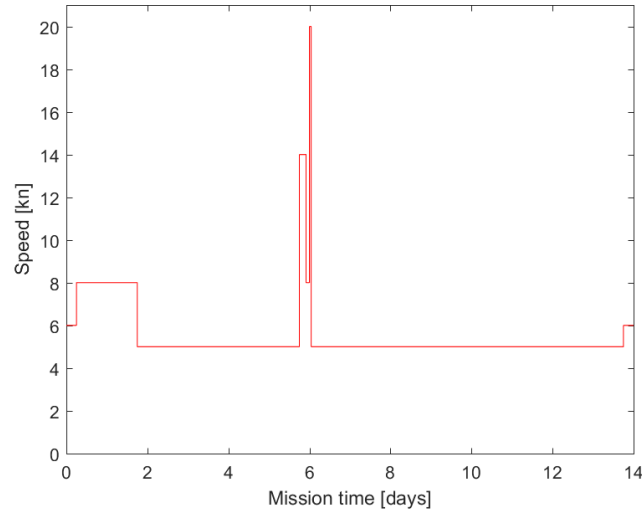
➤ Total range and endurance comparison between concept and reference design



FEASIBILITY STUDY

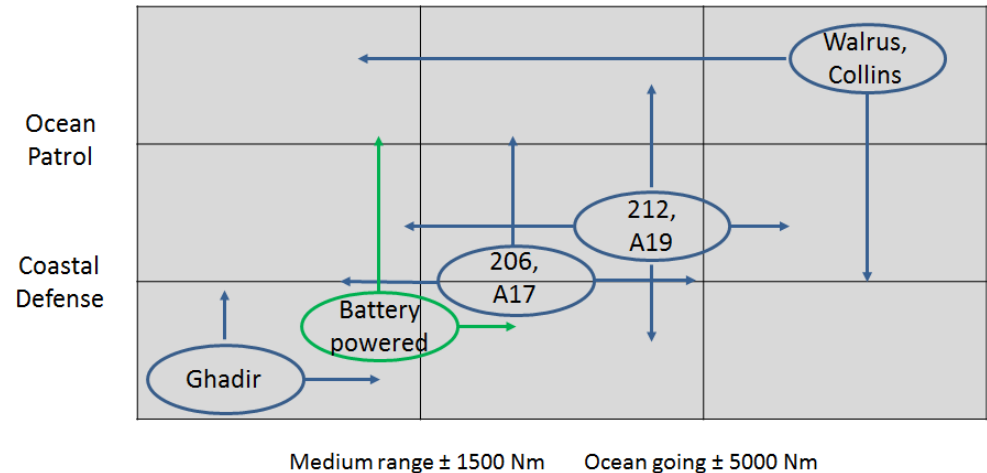
Mission capabilities

- Local to medium range mission feasible for total battery powered design
- Example of two week mission given below:



MARKET POTENTIALS

- Total battery powered design; most suitable for coastal defense missions
- Low design complexity, which leads to a less complex production and maintenance
- Improvement in availability and reliability
- Expected reduction in investment and lifecycle costs
- Battery technology is still improving; potential of total battery powered design will increase



CONCLUSION

Conclusion

- Total battery powered submarines can be seen as new players in the market of naval submarines
 - High potential for small displacement submarines used for coastal defense missions
 - They will have advantage from a design, maintenance, costs and operational perspective

- The option of a total battery powered submarine should be kept in mind when the design/purchase process of new submarines is started

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